

Written Scheme of Investigation



for

Land to the East of, Monmouth Road

Westonzoyland

Bridgwater

Somerset

TA7 0HF (nearest)

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1 Introduction

A S Archaeology & Heritage Services (ASAHS) has been commissioned by Mr & Mrs Hall to undertake Archaeological Observation and Investigation during groundworks prior to development on land to the east of Monmouth Rd, Westonzoyland. The work is being undertaken as a condition of Planning Permission (Planning Ref: 53/20/0009) (Fig. 1).

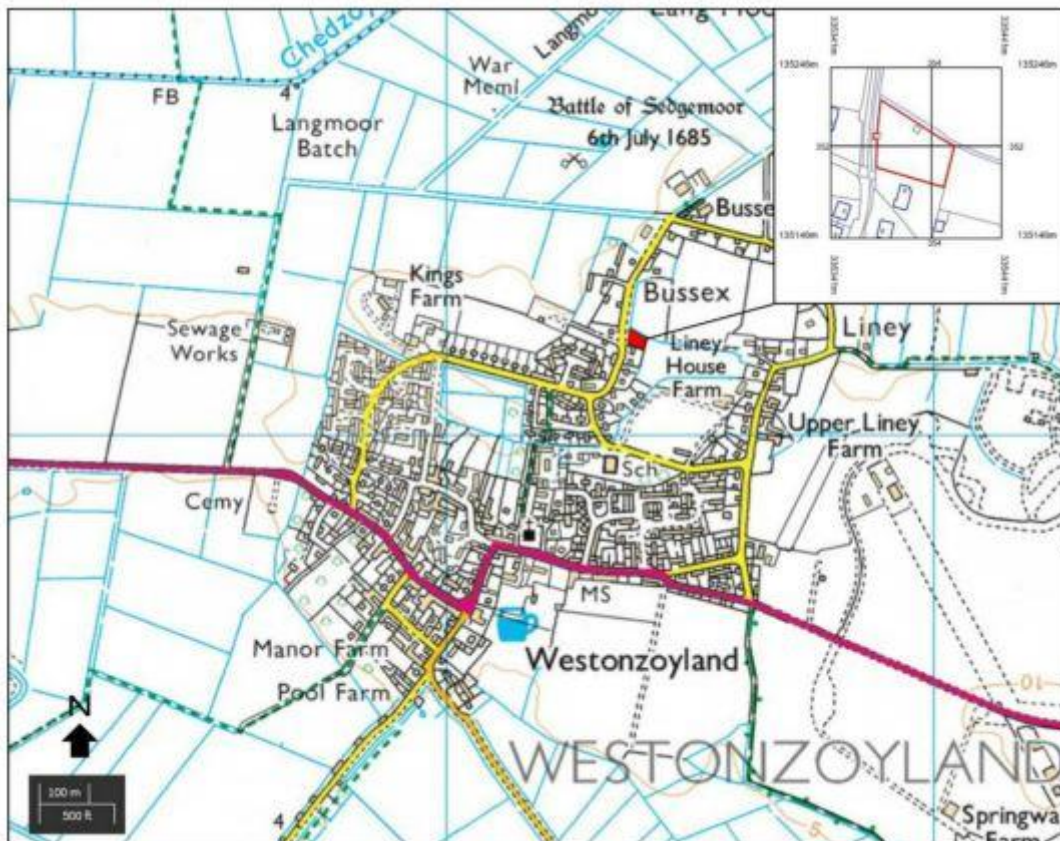


Fig. 1: Site location plan (Site marked in red with detail insert upper right)

Outline planning permission was granted on 12/02/2021 by Sedgemoor District Council. One of the Conditions related to archaeological works, it stated: -

“Before the commencement of the development hereby permitted the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, shall have secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which has been submitted and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. The WSI shall include details of the archaeological investigation, the recording of the heritage asset, the analysis of evidence recovered from the site and publication of the results. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the approved scheme.

Reason: This is a pre-commencement condition as the application site is situated on the southern edge of an area which is Registered by Historic England (Number: 1000032) as being the site of the 1685 Battle of Sedgemoor. There is therefore the potential for the recovery of materials associated with the battle (lead

shot etc) and also evidence from the surrounding area for Prehistoric and Romano British settlement activity, as concluded in the submitted Heritage Statement. The condition will ensure the site is appropriately investigated and any finds recorded in accordance with Sedgemoor Local Plan 2011-2032 Policy D26.”

This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) sets out a methodology to satisfy the above planning condition.

2 Location, Topography & Geology

The site is situated toward the N outskirts of the village of Westonzoyland. It comprises a trapezoid parcel of land of approximately 995m² in size.

The site is currently laid out as a grassy paddock and bordered by a modern bungalow (54 Monmouth Road) to the S, to the E by arable farmland, and a deep tree-lined drainage ditch to the N. A small modern outbuilding is located roughly midway along the N boundary of the site. It has a single gated entrance providing access to Monmouth Road. The site has most recently been used for stabling and grazing of horses (Plate 1 & 2).

The geology of the Somerset Levels is underlain by Triassic mudstones about 240 million years old. Overlain by extensive alluvial deposits laid down during frequent flooding events of the inter-glacial and post-glacial periods of the Quaternary which resulted in deposition of marine clays and peats and includes the Burtle Beds.

3 Site Specific Archaeological & Historical Background

The following narrative has been extracted from the Heritage Statement submitted by A S Archaeological & Heritage Services Heritage Statement by the client with the planning application (Oct 2020). Map regression plates are contained in this document and not included here.

Prehistoric

The site of the proposed development is located within the western portion of a former island on a spur of Burtle Sands, lying between the King's Sedgemoor Drain (formerly the River Cary) to the N and the River Parrett to the S. This elevated location, slightly above the surrounding low-lying marshland of the Somerset Levels has offered potential for human habitation since early prehistory and this is reflected in the rich, multi-period nature of the archaeological resource recorded in the vicinity of the site.

The peat soils in the surrounding moorlands also have significant potential for the preservation of organic remains and waterlogged wooden structures which would have formerly extended across the Levels, connecting areas of higher ground.

In connection with this, it may be noted that the cropmarks of a probable trackway has been identified from aerial photographs, about 75m NNE of the site, represented by two parallel curvilinear ditches oriented NE-SW and up to 9m apart, extending from NGR ST 3547 3528 to ST 3549 3535 (HER 18910). It is possible that the cropmarks may represent the remains of a medieval routeway between Westonzoyland and Bussex, although the fact that there are no visible earthworks of the trackway might point to an earlier, possibly prehistoric origin. Based on its presumed alignment, it is possible that this

trackway may once have extended SW across the site; however, there is no positive indication from late 1940s RAF vertical photos or more recent aerial imagery that it crossed the site.

Within the 500m search radius selected for this study, evidence for early prehistoric activity is represented by a scatter of flints found within a ploughed field to the NE of Liney (c. 390m E of the site), comprising a Neolithic brown chert implement, a possible flint scraper and flint flake of Neolithic date and two further flint flakes of unspecified prehistoric date (HER 12112; NGR ST 3583 3529).

Later prehistoric activity is well-attested in the archaeological record for this area. An archaeological programme of works on land to the E of Liney Road, about 380m SE of the site (HER 41458; 37339), comprising a desk-based assessment and geophysical survey in 2016 followed by an evaluation (2017) and further excavations in 2019 revealed significant evidence of Bronze Age funerary activity and associated pit and linear ditch features, mostly focused in Trench 2 within the western part of the site (HER 40063; Steinmetzer 2017, 17-18). These features were cut into the natural geology (encountered at a depth of 0.8m) and sealed by topsoil and subsoil, exhibiting significant evidence of erosion by ploughing.

The evaluation trenching revealed evidence of a crouched inhumation burial, dated to the Middle Bronze Age, as well as the remains of two cremations, which were radiocarbon dated to the Middle to Late Bronze Age date. Located within the same trench were the remains of two heavily ploughed out pits which contained Middle Bronze Age pottery dated to c. 1500-1100 BC. To the northwest of these features was a double enclosure (Steinmetzer 2017). The results of the excavation in 2019 await publication (Wessex Archaeology).

Further evidence of Bronze Age funerary activity has been identified further to the SE of Liney, in the vicinity of Westonzoyland airfield, where recent aerial survey work as part of the Aggregate Landscapes of Somerset Project undertaken by Somerset Council has identified a series of ring ditch features (HER 11905-11907) which may have formed part of a more extensive barrow cemetery of possible Bronze Age date, the full extent of which has yet to be determined (Truscoe 2008, 14-15). It may also be noted that an ovoid enclosure of unknown, possibly prehistoric origin has been recorded from recent aerial imagery as a cropmark to the N of Bussex Farm at NGR ST 352 355, about 310m NNW of the site (HER 28129).

The archaeology shows the area was exploited during the prehistoric period: aerial photographic evidence attests to early habitation with enclosure sites identified in the near vicinity. The remains of a prehistoric settle (SHER No. 11264) is situated approximately 550m to the WSW of the site, a ring ditch slightly to the N (SHER No. 11921) and a second enclosure approximately 300m to the NNW (SHER No. 11920). These are of possible Bronze Age date.

Roman

A significant focus of late Iron Age and Roman settlement has been identified about 380m S of the site in Westonzoyland itself, which was revealed during the construction of a housing estate, covering an area of 12 acres, on the E side of the village between 1966 and 1968 (HER 10928; NGR ST 353 348).

Initial discoveries consisted of two inhumations without grave goods found at a depth of 0.91m (3ft) during the excavation of a sewer trench in 1966, followed by the discovery of large quantities of pottery

and another two burials of an adult male and female with infant, again without grave goods found in July 1968. The two latter burials were not oriented E-W and coffin nails were found in association with them, suggesting an early to mid- Roman date although this could not be confirmed.

Excavations undertaken by the Ministry of Public Building Works undertaken in late 1968 revealed two main phases of activity on the site (HER 30218). Evidence was found of a substantial late Iron Age/early Roman settlement extending across an area measuring approximately 90m 45m (if not larger), Features identified included several Iron Age pits in Oakley Close and Southview Road, with the latter containing clay hearth or oven fragments with charred grain and late Iron Age pottery including Meare and Glastonbury-type jar sherds.

Further excavations in Southview Road also revealed evidence of an enclosure which may have defined the settlement boundary, represented by two parallel linear ditches running NE-SW which had been infilled, with the fills containing pottery of Late Iron Age date, together with animal bones and burnt clay (Miles & Miles 1969,17-44).

More recently, evidence of Late Iron Age settlement was found in the same area during a watching brief on groundworks at No. 23 Southview Road in 2010 (HER 28548). Several features were found cutting the natural sands, sealed by thick cultivation soil. Finds recovered from the upper fills of these features and the overlying deposits, including pottery, stone and animal bone, appeared to indicate a late Iron Age/pre-Roman date, similar to the settlement features revealed during the 1968 excavations (Brigers 2010).

Evidence of Late Iron Age/Roman activity has also been identified in the wider surrounding area, particularly to the SE of the site in the vicinity of Liney and Westonzoyland Airfield. Excavations carried out at the airfield in 1938 for new sewage pits and drains revealed a human skull together with small sherds of coarse greyish black Roman potter and a Cu alloy coin of the Emperor Trajan (AD 98-117) (HER 10927). Further to the SE, cropmarks of two sub-rectangular enclosures of possible Late Iron Age or Roman date have recently been identified from aerial reconnaissance on the eastern edge of the airfield site HER 12718; 12719; Truscoe 2008, 19). More recently, the evaluation carried out in 2017 on land to the E of Liney Road revealed evidence of a substantial ditched enclosure feature in four of the trenches, associated with pottery dated to the 3rd-4th centuries AD (Steinmetzer 2017, 18).

While these sites are located at some distance from the site of the proposed development at Monmouth Road, there would nevertheless appear to be good potential for further evidence of Late Iron Age and Roman occupation and burial activity to be found in this area, particularly in view of the fact that the underlying geology (Burtle Sands) is identical to that found in those sites which have exhibited significant evidence of Iron Age and Roman remains.

Medieval

The Little archaeological evidence for medieval activity has been identified in the immediate vicinity site. It is likely that, throughout this period, the site lay within pasture on the NE fringes of the village of Westonzoyland, a nucleated settlement of Anglo-Saxon origin. The place name refers to the 'westerly manor of the estate called Sowi', which denotes a larger landholding of pre -Conquest date, first

recorded in a charter of AD725, which formerly encompassed the manors of Westonzoyland and Middlezoy to the SE (Mills 2003, 492; Dunning 2004, 190).

The estate of Westonzoyland appears to have been a possession of the monks of Glastonbury from the early 8th century (when King Ine reputedly granted it to the Abbey) to 1539 when the Abbey was dissolved. By the mid-13th century, Westonzoyland was clearly regarded as a separate landholding within the larger manor of Sowey and by the early 16th century it was clearly the principal estate within the manor (Dunning 2004, 193) The chief focus of medieval settlement at Westonzoyland appears to have been centred on the parish church of St Mary, first recorded in 1189 (Dunning 2004, 204).

Its importance is attested by the fact that it was the 'mother church' of Sowey, with dependent chapels at Middlezoy and Othery. The existing church, largely of 14th-15th century date, is Grade I listed (HER 10169). Documentary evidence indicates that there had been an expansion of settlement to the NE of Westonzoyland by the mid-13th century, with the creation of a small hamlet at Liney (HER 36449), however the earliest documentary reference to the hamlet of Bussex (within which the site is located) does not appear until c.1600, when it is described as a 'new settlement' of nine cottages (Dunning 2004, 192).

Documentary records indicate the presence of a large medieval common arable field to the E of Westonzoyland village, but it is unlikely that the site lay within the bounds of this common field. It is more likely that, during the medieval period, the site lay within a large area of sparsely settled, unenclosed moorland extending to the N and NE of the village, which was gradually drained and reclaimed for pasture, a process which continued well into the early post-medieval period.

Post-Medieval

The proposed development is located within the hamlet of Bussex, a small hamlet of early postmedieval origin to the NE of Westonzoyland which appears to have been in existence by c.1600, when it was referred to as a newly established settlement of nine cottages (HER 36450; Dunning 2004, 192).

The site is recorded by the Somerset HER as lying just within the southern boundary of the Registered Battlefield Area associated with the Battle of Sedgemoor (first designated by English Heritage in 1995) which was fought on 6th July 1685 between a Royalist force led by the Duke of Feversham and a rebel army led by the Duke of Monmouth (HER 10926; Historic England List Entry No. 100032). The battle resulted in the decisive defeat of the rebel army by the Royalists and represented the end of Monmouth's short-lived rebellion against King James II; it is usually regarded as the last pitched battle to be fought on English soil.

The course of the Battle of Sedgemoor is well-documented in several contemporary or nearcontemporary accounts (including two plans of the battle drawn up shortly after it took place) and there are a number of authoritative, modern accounts of the battle, the landscape over which it was fought and the respective composition of the Royalist and rebel armies to which reference should be made for further detailed information (English Heritage 1995; Burne 1996, 271-290; Foard 2003). The Royalist army under Feversham were deployed to the north of Westonzoyland village and to the S of the Bussex Rhyne, a former drainage channel, about 15m wide and 1m deep which once ran around the northern outskirts of the village (HER 27003). The irregular, curvilinear course of the rhyne (which lies

about 500m NE of the site at its closest point) is only partially visible as a hollow feature today, but its full extent has been identified on the basis of modern aerial photographs (Curran 1980, 167-69).

The main body of Feversham's force consisted of six regiments of foot (comprising roughly 1900 men) deployed roughly from W to E across the moorland between the rhyne to the N and the hamlet of Bussex to the S, with a contingent of some 150 dragoons to the E of the main body close to a cattle crossing of the rhyne called the 'Upper Plungeon' (which appears to have been situated somewhere N of Liney) with another 500 horse based in Westonzoyland itself.. Monmouth's forces attempted a night attack, with a large contingent of cavalry crossing the Upper Plungeon to outflank the Royalist army, however the attack was repulsed and after a short but fierce engagement between Monmouth's infantry (which had only just arrived on the field of battle on the N side of the Bussex Rhyne) and the Royalist foot, Feversham's forces counterattacked across the rhyne, outflanking and decisively routing the rebels, who fled with heavy losses (English Heritage 1995).

The site at Monmouth Road appears to have lain well to the S of the moorlands on either side of the Bussex Rhyne, where the main fighting took place. However, it is possible that the right flank of the Royalist army may have been encamped fairly close to this location on the eve of the battle. Some archaeological evidence for the battle has been identified, particularly in terms of finds of human remains. The OS 1st edition map of 1886 marks the site of graves to the NW of Langmoor Drove about 540m NW of the site; it is unclear whether this represents the mass grave which was discovered beneath sandy deposits in a ditch between Bussex and Bussex Rhyne in the late 1850s. Human bone was found close to this location within the side of a ditch during trenching works in 1982 (NGR ST 3505 3560).

Archaeological investigations undertaken in 2002 by Glasgow University Archaeological Research Division on part of the Sedgemoor battlefield (including geophysical survey, metal detecting and excavation) identified evidence for the Bussex Rhyne and the area where the Royalists were encamped; however, the full results await publication (HER 30255-30257). It may be noted that two watching briefs undertaken in 2000 and 2019 on groundworks at Bussex Farm (about 340m N of the site) failed to yield evidence of remains associated with the battle, although ditch features and quarrying activity of post-medieval were observed (HER 11316; 41491)

The pre- inclosure map of the King's Sedgemoor (dated c.1790) provides little useful detail regarding the pattern of land use and field boundaries in the immediate vicinity of the site and consequently the earliest plans to show the study area in appreciable detail is an Ordnance Survey drawing of the Sedgemoor district dated 1806. The 1806 map shows the site as lying within the NW corner of a large field extending E of Monmouth Road towards the hamlet of Liney, although the depiction of the fieldscape should be treated with some caution.

More detail is provided by the Westonzoyland tithe map of c. 1840 (Plate 3) which depicts the site as lying within a small irregularly shaped enclosure marked as an orchard (Plot No. 143), one of several orchards depicted along the E side of Monmouth Road. It would appear that the large field enclosure extending eastwards towards Liney as shown on the 1806 map then consisted of several smaller enclosures (mostly under orchards or pasture) the haphazard pattern of which suggests piecemeal enclosure of early post-medieval date.

The N boundary of the plot is marked by a linear boundary extending E towards Liney Farm which may be identified with the existing drainage ditch marking the northern extent of the present site. The tithe award lists the owner of the plot as Charles Noel Welman, one of the principal landowners in Westonzoyland in the mid-19th century, while the tenant of the land was one Susan Jennings.

The OS 1st edition map of c. 1888 shows that Plot No. 143 as marked on the tithe map had been combined with other fields to the S and E to form one large roughly 'T - shaped' orchard enclosure extending E from the Monmouth Road towards Liney Farm. The linear ditch defining the N boundary of the site is clearly shown as water filled.

Minor change is depicted on the OS 2nd edition map of 1904; however, by 1936 it appears from the Land Utilisation Survey Map that the orcharding within the site had been cleared and the site was under pasture, which is confirmed by a RAF aerial photograph taken in 1946. The 1946 AP shows a number of regularly spaced linear features extending E-W across the pasture field which may be associated with the orcharding which formerly occupied the site.

There is little evidence of significant landscape change in the vicinity of the site until the late 1960s, when the existing modern bungalow at Elmbridge had been constructed to the immediate S of the site and the boundaries of the existing paddock had been established, as shown on an OS National Survey 1:2500 map of 1969.

There are no built heritage assets within the study impacted by the development represents no change to fabric or setting (Table 2).

4 Research Aims and Objectives

The aims of the phased investigations are to:

- Explain the presence and extent of any buried archaeological remains within the Site that may be impacted by development;
- Identify, within the constraints of the archaeological programme of work, the date, character and condition of any surviving remains within the Site;
- Assess the degree of existing impacts to sub-surface horizons and to document the extent of archaeological survival of buried deposits;
- Allow for the preservation in situ or preservation by record of archaeological remains impacted by the proposed development;
- Produce a report of the results of the archaeological programme of work which will enable assessment of any additional archaeological investigations which may form a mitigation for further archaeological work (Phase 2):
- Analyse and interpret the results of the Phase 2 investigations; and
- Produce a subsequent report which will present the results of the Phase 2 works.

5 Methodology

All archaeological site works will be undertaken in accordance with the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Manager's Guide* (Lee 2015), *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014) and *Standard and guidance for the collection,*

documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (ClfA 2014). ASAAHS adheres to the ClfA Code of conduct (2014).

ClfA (2014) defines an archaeological watching brief as follows:

“An archaeological watching brief will record the archaeological resource during development within a specified area using appropriate methods and practices. These will satisfy the stated aims of the project, and comply with the Code of conduct and other relevant regulations of ClfA.”

Definition of an archaeological watching brief:

“The definition of an archaeological watching brief is a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.

This definition and Standard do not cover chance observations, which should lead to an appropriate archaeological project being designed and implemented, nor do they apply to monitoring for preservation of remains in situ.”

Purpose of a watching brief

“The purpose of a watching brief is

- a. to allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works*
- b. to provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.*

A watching brief is not intended to reduce the requirement for excavation or preservation of known or inferred deposits, and it is intended to guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.

The objective of a watching brief is to establish and make available information about the archaeological resource existing on a site.”

5.1 Treasure Act 1996

A S Archaeology & Heritage Services is fully cognisant of the requirements of the Treasure Act 1996 with which it complies.

5.2 Community engagement & outreach

Wherever practicable and within constraints of site-specific health & safety and public liability insurance restrictions community and volunteer participation is encouraged.

5.3 Site Specific

Undifferentiated topsoil and made-ground will be removed by machine equipped with a toothless bucket/blade under archaeological supervision. Topsoil and subsoil will be stored separately at a nominated location within the site. Machine-use will cease when a clear archaeological or geological horizon has been reached. All features of archaeological significance will be identified, planned at a suitable scale, accurately located and investigated in accordance with established criteria for the excavation of archaeological remains (ClfA 2014).

The following archaeological sampling strategy will be adhered to:

- Linear features 20% - Investigation to comprise slots of c.2m located at appropriate intervals along the exposed extent of the feature consistent with the sampling ratio. Termini and intersections to be excavated as a matter of course.
- Settlement features 33% (minimum), rising to include full investigation, if features are found to contain substantial quantities of settlement evidence.
- Pits 50-100% depending upon date and quantity of material culture present.
- Structural remains 100%

Prior to removal of topsoil a metal detector survey will be undertaken following guidance issued by English Heritage (Our Portable Past 2013), SW Heritage Trust (Somerset Archaeological Handbook 2017- (SAH, 2017)) and the Portable Antiquities Scheme (2006). The position of ferrous objects will be recorded *pro form* recording sheet prior to removal. In addition, once topsoil/sub-soil has been removed it will be re-scanned with a metal detector.

5.4 Archaeological Science Contingency (ASC)

A S Archaeological & Heritage Services is cognisant of the requirement within SAH, 2017 which states the following:

“In addition to normal contingency provisions allocated by the contracting archaeological unit, HES requires a compulsory archaeological science contingency (ASC) to be included in all projects. A standard level of 15% of the total tender for archaeological work (with a minimum level equivalent to the cost of obtaining one radiocarbon date) will normally be specified (or included in the PD or WSI). This level may be varied in response to the specific potential of the project and must only be used for full analysis not assessment. The ASC must be clearly identified as a separate cost in tender documents. The ASC may be used for:

- *Scientific dating (not including artefact typology);*
- *Geoarchaeological analysis;*
- *Biological analysis;*
- *Artefactual conservation and investigative analysis;*
- *Analysis of technological residues; or,*
- *Other science-based methods of investigation, which are considered appropriate.*

The ASC may only be spent by the contractor after the HES has received and approved an assessment of potential and a proposal for analysis.”

6 Recording

Records will include:

- All exposed archaeological deposits will be recorded using a *pro-forma* context recording system for each stratigraphic unit examined
- A full graphic record of all excavated areas will be made with the primary record consisting of hand-drawn plans and sections (produced on gridded, archive-stable polyester film) to show the extent of the area, the extent of all stratigraphic units and appropriate detail within stratigraphic units, at scales of 1:10, 1:20 or appropriate scale and referenced to the site grid which is further referenced to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD) height of all drawn features and levels will be calculated with plans/sections annotated with adjusted OD heights.
- All site drawings will be produced on archive-stable polyester film. These will be numbered and listed in a drawing register, with drawing numbers being cross-referenced to written site records
- A detailed photographic record of all stratigraphic units and representative photographs showing the progress of archaeological work. The record will be made using a high-resolution digital camera (not less than 20 megapixels) and comprise photographs of archaeological features and appropriate groups of features and structures. The photograph of each recorded feature will include a board showing context information, N arrows and scales.
- All records will be indexed and cross-referenced. Details concerning subject and direction of view will be maintained in a photographic register, indexed by frame number.
- Temporary Benchmarks (TBMs) will be established as required.

7 Human Remains

In the event of discovery of any human remains (articulated or disarticulated, cremated or unburnt), a Ministry of Justice Licence will be obtained prior to any further disturbance (including where remains are to be left *in situ*).

Initially the remains will be left *in situ*, covered and protected, pending discussions between the Client, the site archaeologist, osteology specialist and the SHEO regarding the need for and appropriateness of excavation or sampling as part of the works. Where deemed appropriate, the human remains will be fully recorded, excavated and removed from the Site in compliance with the Ministry of Justice Licence.

Should human remains require removal, all excavation and post-excavation will be undertaken in accordance with current guidance documents (e.g. McKinley 2013) and the standards & guidelines set out in ClfA Technical Paper 13 *Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed remains*. Appropriate specialist guidance/site visits will be undertaken if required.

Final deposition of human remains will only be made after the appropriate level of osteological analysis and other specialist sampling/examinations will be undertaken in accordance with requirements set out in the Ministry of Justice Licence

8 Recovery, processing and curation of artefactual data

Samples will be collected according to guidance set out by English Heritage (Historic England) in *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (2nd edition) (Campbell, Moffet & Straker 2011).

Site-specific considerations and potential reflect research themes and priorities set out in the SWARF and local research agendas. They include potential for the following:

- Faunal remains in large assemblages providing better datasets for analysis. Additionally, recovery of small mammal bones may indicate niche habitats
- Retrieval of charred plant remains to further understanding of crop-selection and dating of species introduction, in addition to assessment of site status (consumer or producer)
- Cremations: Wood identification may elucidate species selection for pyres
- Enclosures: Spatial sampling highlighting differentiation in palaeoenvironmental remains may indicate layout of activity areas within a settlement or suggest areas of vegetation
- Industrial activity: Recognition of hammerscale and other micro-indicators of industrial activity may assist analysis of the macro-assemblages
- Identification of chronology of palaeoenvironmental signatures to assist phasing

Samples of at least 40ℓ will be taken wherever possible and practicable using numbered sample buckets of 10ℓ capacity. Bulk environmental soil sample sizes will be as per the EH guidelines, with the option to review this following on site discussion / preliminary processing of samples. Samples will be taken from well-sealed and dated or datable archaeological features for plant macrofossils (charred and/or waterlogged and wood charcoal), small animal bones and small artefacts.

Where appropriate monolith and/or contiguous column samples will be taken will be taken from key and representative sequences on the Site. These will be examined in laboratory conditions by a geoarchaeologist to further elucidate the depositional history of the Site and enable sub-sampling for microfossils and radiocarbon samples as appropriate. Attention will be paid to stabilisation horizons and buried land surfaces, with soil micromorphology considered.

Bulk environmental soil samples will be processed by flotation and scanned to assess the environmental potential of deposits but will not be fully analysed. The residues and sieved fractions will be recorded and retained with the project archive. Any monoliths will be subject to detailed description by a geoarchaeologist and sub-samples taken as appropriate for microfossils and radiocarbon dating, should suitable material exist. Samples may include those for pollen, diatoms, foraminifera, ostracods as deemed appropriate by the geoarchaeologist.

8.1 Finds

Finds are herein defined in accordance with ClfA *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2014) as 'all artefacts, building materials, industrial residues, environmental material, biological remains (including human remains) and decay products' (2014, 3).

In accordance with *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014) and *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson & Neal 2001), all such materials will be labelled with the site code and context number before being removed off-site. All such materials will be stored in accordance with *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson & Neal 2001) and with Historic England technical standards and other relevant sources of information, including standards for data-gathering set out by Brown (2011, 18-20). Each retained assemblage will be examined according to typological or chronological criteria and conservation needs identified.

The process of selection and retention will also be informed by principles set out by Brown (2011, 23), which specify that this process should be sufficient 'to produce a project archive that allows a full re-examination and interpretation of all the results of the project whilst avoiding replication, repetition or the retention of materials not germane to future analysis', decisions regarding retention generally being made at the pre-analysis stage of the project.

All conservation work, including cleaning sensitive finds, will be carried out by York Archaeological Trust (YAT) nominated specialist. X-ray photographs of archaeological metalwork will be produced off-site by YAT.

9 Archive Review, Compilation & Deposition

The Archive will be assembled in accordance with the guidelines published in *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (ClfA 2014), *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage* (Walker 1990), *Standards in the museum care of archaeological collections* (Museums & Galleries Commission 1992) and *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (Brown 2011).

All records created during fieldwork will be checked for consistency and accuracy and will form part of the Site Archive (Brown 2011, 3, par. 1.2.1). The archive will contain all data collected, including records, ecofacts, artefacts and other specialist materials and will be ordered, indexed, adequately documented, internally consistent, secure, quantified, conforming to standards required by the archive repository and signposted appropriately to ensure future use in research, as detailed in the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) methodology* (Lee 2015).

ASAHS undertakes that the following issues will be addressed and concluded to the satisfaction of SHEO within a reasonably defined timescale:

- The written, drawn and photographic records will be of sufficient quality to facilitate publication in an appropriate specialist journal
- Data concerning complete identifiable and itemized objects will be transferred to specified object record sheets
- A post excavation archive review will be undertaken following fieldwork to quantify the fieldwork data and to identify materials suitable for submission to nominated specialists for Assessment.

10 Post-fieldwork Assessment and Reporting

Post-fieldwork Assessment Reports will be compiled in accordance with Section 3.4 of Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation (CifA 2014, 12-15). Discussion of the data will include:

- Appraisal of the extent to which the site archive might enable the data to meet the research aims of the project
- A statement of the potential of the data in developing new research aims, to contribute to other projects and to advance methodologies

Sufficient supporting data, tabulated or in appendices, will also be provided to permit interrogation of the stated conclusions.

Publication: Full Technical Report (FTR)

The specific requirements of the report will necessarily vary according to the scope of works, the nature of the results or other factors (CifA 2014, 13-14). However, the FTR will contain the following sections and illustrative components:

- Non-technical summary
- Introduction
- Site background
- Aims & Objectives
- Methodology
- Results & discussion
- Conclusions (considering, where appropriate, the results of archaeological projects undertaken in the wider area)
- Archive location
- Appendices providing detailed context records & the results of all specialist assessment and analysis undertaken
- Location plans based on the current Ordnance Survey at an appropriate scale (reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO)
- Plans showing; the Ordnance Survey Grid; site survey stations; the location of the Ordnance Survey Benchmarks used during the fieldwork and the site Temporary Bench Marks
- Plans showing the extent of identified archaeology
- Illustrations including plans and sections of features recorded
- Photographs of principal finds and features

The primary physical archive material (notebooks, plans, survey drawings, photographic records etc.) will be deposited with the Archives & Record Service at the Somerset Heritage Centre.

Two copies of the report (only) will be submitted to the Somerset Historic Environment Record (HER): one paper copy and one digital copy in .pdf/a format following approval.

The actual compilation of the archive and its long-term preservation will be arranged in accordance with s.6.2 SAH 2017.

A S Archaeology & Heritage Services shall retain full copyright of the client report under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the Client for the use of the report by the Client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the specification.

A detailed submission will be also presented to the editors of Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society or appropriate journal within one year of completion of the works outlined in this document.

An OASIS form will be completed and submitted to the local Historic Environment Record.

11 Staff & Monitoring

The site will be subject to monitoring by SHEO or his representative. Issues of a technical nature should be addressed to Andrew Tizzard MCIfA who will be the site archaeologist.

ASAHS will inform the SHEO at least two days prior to commencement of fieldwork and in accordance with s.6.2 SAH, 2017, and the progress of the investigations on the Site.

Variations to the WSI will be agreed in advance with representatives of the Client and the SHEO.

12 Specialists

The following specialists have been appointed to provide, where required, sampling, consulting, analysis & reporting services.

1. Geoarchaeology: Dr Keith Wilkinson MCIfA ARCA Winchester
2. Prehistoric Pottery: Dr Alex Gibson MCIfA University of Bradford
3. Late Prehistoric & Roman Pottery: Rob Perrin BA M.Litt FSA MCIfA
4. Samian Ware: Dr Felicity Wild
5. Post-Roman, Medieval & Post-Medieval Pottery: Paul Blinkhorn BTech (Hons)
6. Coins: Dr Peter Guest University of Cardiff
7. Flint: Rebecca Devaney ACIfA
8. Glass: Nicola Powell MA MCIfA
9. Metal Objects: Nicola Powell MA MCIfA
10. Archaeometallurgy: Dr David Starley
11. Glass working: John Shepherd MCIfA
12. Artefact and materials conservation: Ian Panter York Archaeological Trust
13. Building Materials: Dr Ruth Shaffrey MCIfA
14. Faunal Remains: Jennifer Wood MA, ACIFA Osteoarchaeology & Faunal Services
16. Human Remains: Jennifer Wood MA, ACIFA Osteoarchaeology & Faunal Services

17. Palaeoenvironmental: Durham University
18. Charcoal & wood ID: John Carrott Paleoecology Research Services Hull
19. Additional and/or specialist archaeobotanical ID: John Carrott Paleoecology Research Services Hull
20. Leather: Quita Mould MA FSA

13 Bibliography

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