The JESSOP Consultancy
Sheffield + Oxford

LAND TO THE NORTH OF SHEPLEY STREET, GLOSSOP
DERBYSHIRE

Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Works

December 2014

Document No: TJC2014.36

SUMMARY OF PROJECT DETAILS

OASIS ID:	Thejesso1-124306
TJC Project Code:	SHP15
Project Type(s):	Archaeological Investigations – evaluation; watching brief
National Grid Reference:	SK 043 948 (centered)
County:	Derbyshire
Parish:	Glossop (All Saints Church)
Local Authority:	High Peak, Derbyshire County Council
Designation Status(s):	None
HER Record No:	Derbyshire 6149
Planning Reference:	HPK/2013/0056
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Reviewed by:	Karen E Walker MIfA FSA
Date:	December 2014
Version:	Final

1 INTRODUCTION

Summary

This document forms a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for a programme of archaeological works to address a planning condition (HPK/2013/0056, No.28) associated with the proposed development of existing industrial premises and waste land at the Firth Rixson Superalloys Facility to the north of Shepley Street, Glossop in Derbyshire (**Figure 1**). The scheme will clear the Site of the redundant factory buildings and construct 44 new dwellings, with associated parking and landscaping. A previous archaeological report for the Site was prepared by The JESSOP Consultancy in 2012 (Jessop 2012), which provides a detailed overview of the history and impact of the proposed development upon the archaeological resource.

This document has been prepared for approval by the Local Planning Authority and their archaeological advisors in accordance with the planning conditions placed upon the proposed housing development.

2 SITE LOCATION, LAYOUT AND GEOLOGY

Site Location

The Site is located to the northeast of Glossop (**Figure 1**), centered on National Grid Reference (NGR) SK 043 948. The red line boundary is approximately rectilinear in plan, with an extension to the northeast. It encompasses an area of approximately 0.97 hectares. The ground level falls across the Site, being c.178m AOD to the north and c.169m AOD to the south.

The Site can be subdivided into two areas, which are separated by a steel fence. The southern section (0.43 hectares) falls within the boundary of a former cotton mill, 'Meadow Mills', which fronts on to Shepley Street.

The northern section (0.54 hectares) is accessed via a gap in the building line along Hope Street, between house numbers 23 and 23a. The northern area is bounded to the west by the rear of houses fronting Wesley Street, to the north by the rear of properties along Hope Street and to the east by a raised earthwork bank and steel fence defining a millpond that still holds a body of water. The northern area comprises an open area of rough grassland, with patches of scrub.

The southern area has a single storey factory building towards the east with an attached loading hoist. This structure dates to the 1960s and displays typical design elements that were common during the period. To the west of the built structures is an open expanse of tarmac and concrete continuing to the Site boundary.

Geology

The underlying bedrock geology of the Site is formed from the Millstone Grit Group, comprising Mudstone, Siltstone and Sandstone (British Geological Society data 2014). The superficial deposits are River Terrace Deposits, comprising of sand and gravel. No Site specific geotechnical, or borehole data was available during the preparation of this WSI.

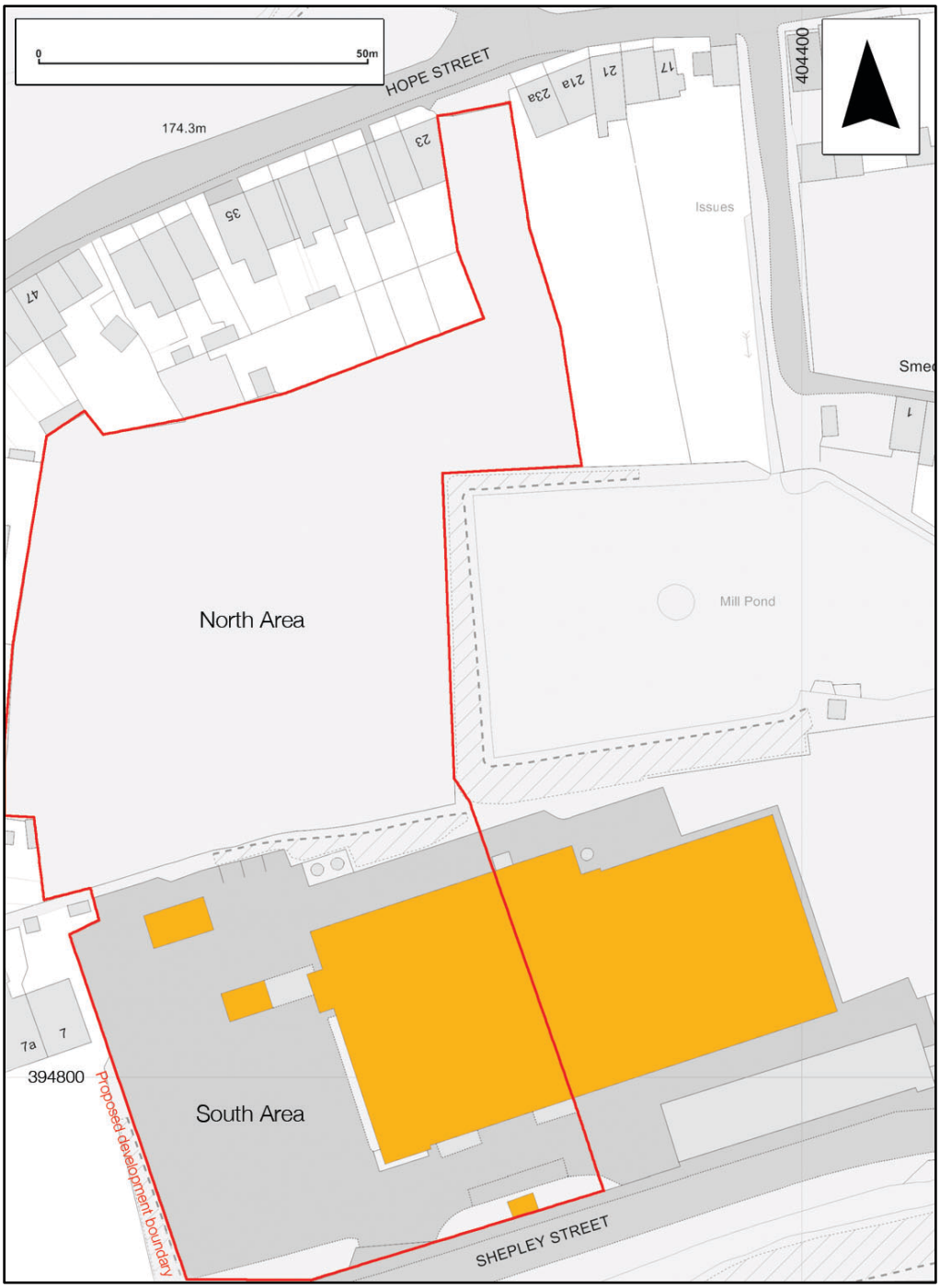

Figure 1: Location map of site (Site boundary oulined in red; buildings to be demolished coloured orange)

3 PROJECT BACKGROUND AND MONITORING

Background

Prior to the late 18th century, the Site appears to have been undeveloped as marginal grassland. The earliest development within the proposed development area was a cotton mill, *c.*1785, and a row of workers' cottages along Shepley Street. To the rear of the cottages was a millpond which formed part of an water management system providing water for at least five mills within this part of Glossop. The pond was in-filled following the demolition of the cottages in the 1950s.

The northern part of the Site comprises rough grassland, bounded on two sides by largely 19th-century residential development, and to the east by a surviving millpond surrounded by a raised earthwork bank and steel fence. This area appears to have been maintained as open ground since the 18th century, although a small gasometer is depicted on the 1880 Edition Ordnance Survey Map in the centre of the Site.

Summary of Archaeological Potential and significance (after Jessop 2012)

No designated heritage assets exist within the Site, although immediately to the west is the Old Glossop Conservation Area. Within this is a converted (undesignated) nonconformist chapel on Wesley Street. The southern half of the Site is included within the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record (HER) entry for Meadow Mills (no.6149), an adjacent mill complex which was extensively altered during the 20th century.

The archeological potential of the Site is regarded as low in the northern half under the area of open ground, but medium in the central area in the vicinity of the former gasometer. The standing structures forming the factory buildings and boundary fencing are regarded as having negligible significance, whilst the potential buried remains of the former Wrath Mill, millpond and cottages along Shepley Street are regarded as having medium significance.

Monitoring and Consultation

This document has been submitted to The High Peak Borough Council for approval and to incorporate any comments required by their archaeological officers. As such, following issue of the final version, it should be regarded as fit for purpose, however any alterations to the scope of archaeological recording, will need to be agreed with all parties beforehand in writing.

The JESSOP Consultancy have prepared this WSI, however, it should be noted that they would be retained in a role that would act in a consultancy role on behalf of the developer of the Site, to ensure that an approved archaeological subcontractor undertakes the work as specified within this document (Ifa 2013).

During the fieldwork investigations and subsequent reporting, it is anticipated that the Derbyshire County Council planning archaeologist would act as principal monitor of all work that is undertaken.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC CONTEXT

Summary History (after Jessop 2012)

The growth of the domestic woollen industry in Glossopdale appears to have begun by the early 17th century, with the earliest known textile mill in Glossopdale being a water-powered fulling mill built in 1764 on the River Etherow. The cotton spinning industry blossomed in the late-18th century, as Glossop was ideally placed to capitalise on the lapse of Arkwright's patents in 1785 with its established connections with the Manchester textile trade, the humidity necessary for the spinning of yarn under tension, and an abundant flow of soft water both for power and for the finishing processes of bleaching, dyeing and printing (after Stroud 2001, 21).

Early Development along Shelf Brook

Between 1784 and 1791 the first mills were built in this area on land which had previously been open meadow known as the Warth. Construction began with Warth Mill and Shepley Mill on the Shelf Brook. Further development on adjacent sites included the completion of Rolfe's Mill in 1785, and Thread Mill in Tanyard Meadow in 1789. Wesley Street and Shepley Street were created as a result of this new development on this marginal land at the edge of Old Glossop.

The mills had varying levels of success. Rolfe's Mill was only ever marginally profitable and closed in 1806. The building was converted to cottages, which still stand in Wesley Street today. In contrast, Thread Mill continued in use until 1845, Shepley Mill closed in the 1850s, Barrack Mill continued until *c.*1874 and Old Water Mill until 1880.

Shepley Mill was incorporated into a much larger concern following its closure in the 1850s, named Meadow Mills. A new mill was built in 1852, and the complex included a rope walk and machinery that produced driving ropes, double looped cotton bands, round edged driving tape and perfect leather edged hair, or cotton belting.

During the Second World War, the Site was requisitioned to produce munitions. During the second half of the 20th-century firms working the site included Pentoxide, London and Scandinavian Metallurgical, and Union Carbide. The existing office building along Shepley Street, was built for Union Carbide in the 1960s, following the demolition of the cottages along Shepley Street in the 1950s and the infilling of the millpond for Warth Mill.

Warth Mill, Platt's Mill, Knott's Mill

On what is now the southern part of the proposed development Site, a water-powered mill was built in 1784 by Joseph Hallam, who named it Warth Mill. In the early 1790s the mill appears to have been idle, and was sold to Jason Goodison and Jason Dixon. The fortunes of the mill were poor, and in 1800, Goodison and Dixon were bankrupt, selling the mill to Robert Bennett, with John Knott as a tenant, and the mill became referred to as Knott's Mill. John Knott was still a tenant in 1814 where he was assessed £30 for the mill, although only eleven years later in 1825 it was being operated by Jason Platt. Platt had ceased operations by 1828, although the mill appears to have been renamed for a third time as Knott's Mill. In 1833 there was a new tenant, William Robinson, who was assessed for 3648 spindles, although this was short lived and in 1846 William Bramhall was the registered tenant.

The earliest reliable depiction of the proposed development Site is a plan produced in c.1840 for improvements to the water supply in Glossop. There The northern part of the site is depicted as open land. The south area contains an L-shaped structure orientated northwest-southeast, which represents the former Warth Mill. Shepley Street forms

the southern boundary of the Site, adjacent to the Shelf Brook. A long narrow rectangular structure, comprising sixteen cottages, extends from the Mill building along Shepley Street, behind which is a rectilinear millpond.

The 1st edition OS map published in 1880 is the most detailed depiction of the 19th-century layout of the Site. The arrangement of buildings, and their associated spaces, is essentially the same as in 1840, although houses with rear yards have been built on the land on either side of the Methodist Chapel along Wesley Street and Hope Street. The internal layout of buildings and yards that comprise Warth Mill (labeled as a cotton mill). The main structure oriented with the street has an L-shaped plan, with the long part of the L projecting along the west boundary of the site. This presumably housed a water wheel. Opposite this pond is a smaller area of water connected to a millpond with a sluice that cuts through the retaining earth bank. Immediately to the north of this is a small reverse L-shaped building, with a weighing machine located adjacent to the southwest corner. In the centre of the mill is a second L-shaped building that connected with the north end of the main mill building,. This is labeled as a boiler house and would have provided additional motive power to the water wheel, possibly replacing it in the early-mid 19th century.

To the north of this, a narrow yard separates a second row of buildings, which can also be accessed from the north and east. The northeastern part of the mill complex, is demarked by a boundary wall that terminates in a curved section adjacent to the northwest corner of the millpond. Positioned in the northeast corner of the mill is a T-shaped structure, labeled as a chimney. This is likely to have been connected to the boiler house via an underground flue. The final feature of note is between the chimney and the northwest corner of the millpond. This is a circular structure, labeled as a gasometer. This would have held coal gas, presumably to light the mill and prolong the working day during the winter months. The individual footprints of each of the sixteen cottages along Shepley Street are clearly illustrated, some with outshuts and narrow yards to the rear.

By 1898 the buildings comprising Wrath Mill are labeled as a 'saw mill', although this might only refer to a partial change of use. There is a footpath running approximately west-east across the centre of the Site and the gasometer appears to have been removed as is not illustrated. The only other feature is a rectangular tennis court in the centre of the northern area, which presumably is a grass court.

By 1921 additional houses have been built along the northern section of Hope Street, although there is still an open area providing access into the central area of open ground. The tennis court has been removed and a well is depicted against the chimney in the northeast corner of the mill yard. The southern area of the Site has been totally changed by 1967, whilst the northern half appears to have undergone no additional development still being an area of open ground. The former millpond, row of cottages along Shepley Street and buildings comprising Warth Mill in the southwest section of the Site have been removed. They have been replaced by the factory buildings that survive today, with an area of open ground covered by tarmac.

5 PROJECT AIMS

AIMS

The aims of this archaeological scheme of investigations are to identify and record any significant archaeological remains that are revealed during the course of the development of the Site into 44 residential properties, paying particular regard to:

- Any evidence for pre 18th century human activity;
- Any evidence for the origins of Wrath Mill and its subsequent change in form and use;
- To record and explore any evidence for the former terrace of cottages along Shepley Street;
- To interpret any results with reference to the previous archaeological surveys and research that has been undertaken.

The historic photographs and mapping (Jessop 2012) indicates that following the demolition of the historic buildings that stood on the Site in the 1950s, the ground appears to have been leveled and either covered with the existing hard standing of tarmac and concrete, or built upon by the existing single-storey factory building. The impact of these works is likely to have had a negative impact upon any buried archaeological remains, and the archaeological investigations in the southern part of the Site will aim to understand those areas, or features that have suffered little or minimal disturbance. For example footings, or associated infrastructure from the former cottages and structures associated with the operation of Warth Mill may, however, be encountered.

PRINCIPAL DELIVERABLES DERIVING FROM THIS WORK:

- A structured archaeological archive, comprising site notes, measured drawings and record photographs to document features of archaeological significance;
- The preparation of an interpretative report that provides a discussion of any archaeological features that are identified with reference to previous relevant archaeological discoveries;
- The deposition of a fully indexed fieldwork archive and any artefacts with the Buxton Museum once permission has been granted from the Client;
- To issue digital and bound copies of the report to The Client, the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record, and upload a summary to the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) OASIS (Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological investigations);
- If the findings are deemed to add to the existing level of knowledge of the development and history of Old Glossop the publication of the results will be explored, for example in the Journal of Industrial Archaeology, or the Derbyshire Archaeological Journal.

Research Interest

This programme of archaeological work will be undertaken in such a manner that the interpretation of any remains, or features that are encountered are understood and interpreted in regards to similar industrial sites within Glossop and the surrounding region.

The English Heritage Regional Research Framework (East Midlands) published in 2012 does identify that development sites such as at Shepley Street in former industrial districts have the potential to improve our existing a lack of understanding about the inter-relationship between settlement patterns in areas of industrial activity. Especially where processing of raw material such as cotton spinning, manufacture, in rural settlements, which required open space and location of workers' housing (Research Objective 8F).

The interrelationship between the work place and home, would therefore be an area of particular research interest that would benefit, not only our understanding of the development of Glossop, but other upland industrial settlements in the central Pennines.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

SUMMARY

The previous archaeological desk-based assessment for the Site (Jessop 2012) concluded that the likelihood of buried archaeological features varied across the Site, being associated with the former industrial uses and associated activity. It is for this reason, and to allow the Principal Contractor to adopt a staged programme of work, it is suggested that the archaeological investigations are divided into phases.

Phase 1 – North Area (**Figure 1**)

This area has never been developed and archeological potential of the Site is regarded as low. In order to assess this it is proposed that four evaluation trenches are excavated across the area to confirm the presence or absence of any subsurface archaeological remains. An arbitrary layout of trenches is proposed, but positioned to give a general coverage across the area. Each trench would be excavated by a machine under archaeological supervision, with dimensions of 1m x 20m in length.

Assuming that no features, or remains of archaeological significance are exposed, then an assessment report would be prepared and no further archaeological requirement would be necessary in the North Area and any development activity could then proceed as required.

Phase 2 – South Area (**Figure 1**)

The South Area of the Site has been identified as having a medium potential for encountering buried archaeological remains, being associated with the former gasometer, the former mill buildings, wheelpit, millpond and cottages along Shepley Street. The ground surface below the existing factory buildings and boundary fencing are regarded as having negligible significance.

The first stage of Site preparation would be to demolish the standing structures within this area which rquire no archaeological input. The removal of the concrete slab and surrounding sections of tarmac surfacing does have the potential to require an archaeological monitoring, especially in the western half of the Site. An archaeological watching brief is proposed during these ground works, and care will be necessary to prevent the grubbing up of any foundations that may be associated with the earlier mill, or gasometer. Due to the potential contamination of the ground below the building and in the proximity of the gasometer, archaeological monitoring of investigations may be restricted upon Health & Safety grounds, however, until the slab and tarmac is lifted this cannot be quantified.

Once a safe working area has been established, a strip, map and recording exercise is proposed, which is perhaps the most effective approach to understand the nature and extent of any surviving archaeological features, and then target available resources to the survey and record those that are of significance. A series of excavation trenches would enable any buried remains to be assessed, and whether any further mitigation, or in-situ preservation would be beneficial. To allow for the evaluation of the historical features that may have survive as archaeological remains, between 4-6 trenches of varying sizes may be necessary up to c.3m x 10m in size. Once the South Area has been evaluated in this manner a second assessment report would be prepared.

If further targeted mitigation in localized areas is deemed to be appropriate at this stage, then an archaeological watching brief could be implemented.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

General guidelines

The archaeological fieldwork will be undertaken in accordance with recognised guidelines (IfA 2008a, b) and industry best practice.

Topsoil and overburden will be removed by a mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket, under close archaeological supervision. Machine excavation would stop at the top horizon of any buried archaeological deposits or natural subsoil is reached, or to a maximum safe working depth. A CAT scan survey will be undertaken prior to excavation and known service routes will be established prior to fieldwork commencing. Spoil generated by machine excavation will be briefly examined for any archaeological material.

Excavation of archaeological deposits that are identified following any machining, or open area cleaning will proceed by hand. Trenches where no archaeological features are present will also be recorded as negative evidence.

Archaeological features will be cleaned by hand and care will be taken to establish their stratigraphic relationship to surrounding deposits to ensure that their form, extent and archaeological significance within the confines of the excavation area can be established. Any discrete features that are exposed such as post holes, pits, linear features or buried deposits will be half sectioned and recorded in plan, profile and with photography. This will be accompanied by a written contextual description as appropriate. It would be assumed that sampling and excavation of archaeological features would comprise of 20% of linear features and 50% of discrete features.

A standard single context recording system will be used to keep a document record of all archaeology encountered. The individual contexts will be cross-referenced as appropriate to associated features and recorded on pro-forma recording forms. Any discrete archaeological features will in addition, be drawn in plan and section at 1:50, or 1:20 scale as appropriate on an archive stable medium, such as permatrace. If a stratified sequence is identified, a Harris Matrix will be prepared to aid the understanding and interpretation of the archaeological sequence. The use of digital recording in the form of mobile GPS units, Total Station Survey, or photogrammetry may be adopted to increase the speed of field survey and ensure that a high degree of accuracy is maintained.

Photography

All archaeological features of significance will be photographed using both an 8 megapixel digital camera (Jpeg and RAW files), to record specific archaeological features that are encountered. A general digital photographic record of site works will also be maintained, to enable the various stages of the archaeological process to be understood. Metric ranging poles will be used as a scale in record photographs and details of each image will be recorded on a pro-forma recording form.

Soil samples

Bulk samples from the fills of all cut features, and from any other deposits that have the potential to provide environmental or economic information will be collected. In particular, given the industrial history of the Site, industrial residues and waste from craft and manufacturing processes are also routinely sampled. The size of sample collected and assessed will depend on the apparent potential value of the deposits and will be agreed with the Derbyshire County Council Archaeologist, and or English Heritage Regional Scientific Advisors. If, however, sealed deposits are encountered where a potential is identified for the survival of palaeo-environmental ecofacts or remains, double bagged samples will be taken and advice sought from the English Heritage Regional Science Advisor in regards to their assessment.

Artefacts

All artefacts will be recorded by context, with a summary listing of artefacts by category to provide simple quantification in accordance with English Heritage (2005) and Institute for Archaeologists (2008a,b) guidance and the First Aid For Finds manual (Watkinson and Neal 2001). All stratified archaeological finds pre-dating c.AD1900 will be collected. Later (post 1950) finds will be noted but not necessarily retained as part of the archaeological archive. Unstratified finds will only be retained if they are deemed to be of particular archaeological significance and materially contribute to the project as a whole. Finds will be subject to specialist assessment as appropriate and where statistically significant. On completion of work any finds and samples will be processed, cleaned, conserved, suitably stored and catalogued, in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists guidance (2008a, b).

Following completion of the post excavation assessment of all recovered artefacts, advice will be sought from the relevant specialists as to whether they are worthy of retention and deposition with as part of the archaeological archive.

Unexpected features of archaeological significance

If unexpected discoveries are made during the course of the archaeological works, then arrangements will be made to temporarily cease site works to ensure that an appropriate mitigation strategy can be devised and agreed by the Principal Contractor, the Derbyshire County Council Archaeologist, and Client. This may include specialist archaeological conservation. It is anticipated that if features of potential archaeological interest are exposed, then the lake works can continue elsewhere on the Site, so as not to cause any noticeable delay to the programme.

Scientific Dating

Samples of material suitable for scientific dating techniques including AMS C14 dating, archaeomagnetism (for example, charred seeds or in situ burnt clay from appropriate contexts), or thermoluminescence will be collected where appropriate. Recommendations for dating may be made in an assessment report.

Human Remains

In the event of discovery of human remains, they will be left *in situ*, covered and protected until English Heritage, the Client, Coroner and archaeological monitor have been informed. An appropriate mitigation strategy, and funding package, would then be agreed by all parties prior to any work proceeding. This will require consultation with the Ministry of Justice and an application for a burial licence.

Treasure

In the event of discovery of artefacts covered or potentially covered by the Treasure Act 1996, their excavation and removal will be undertaken following notification of Derbyshire County Council, the Client, and Coroner.

7 REPORTING AND PROJECT ARCHIVE

Reporting

The proposed reporting for this project would be undertaken in stages, firstly assessment reports following the evaluation trenching of the North Area, the strip, map and record exercise of the South Area and any subsequent watching brief during ground works. Dependent upon the nature of these investigations, a final report would then be prepared if results are deemed to be of particular archaeological significance.

Interim statements would also be produced as necessary during the various stages of fieldwork.

Post-excavation assessment

Upon completion of the individual stages of fieldwork a report will be prepared which will present the results, and interpretations in the form of an assessment of the excavated material (IfA 2008a, b; English Heritage 2006). The assessments will incorporate each class of artefact and sample that has been recovered from the site, to determine the potential of the material for further analysis, and to establish any conservation requirements.

As a minimum it will include:

- Project specific fieldwork codes and dates
- Non-technical summary
- Aims, purpose and research objectives of the fieldwork
- Methodology
- Summary statement of the results
- Conclusion and recommendations for further analysis
- Bibliography and References
- Supporting data in the form of specialist appendices
- Illustrations and photographs

The report will be illustrated with an appropriate selection of drawings, plans and photographs that will be cross-referenced to the statement of results and discussion.

Final Report

If the results from the post-excavation assessments determine that there is material that would require further analysis and investigation, then a final report would be prepared to include this data and an overall interpretation for the Site as a whole. This document would adopt a similar format to the assessment report, however, would consider the results of all the archaeological discoveries in more detail, making reference to the research aims and objectives.

Archive

The completed archaeological archive comprising site notes, context records, drawings, photographs and any artefacts will be prepared, in accordance with standard guidance (IfA 2009; Walker 1990) and deposited to the Buxton Museum once permission has been granted from the Client who would have to agree to the transfer of ownership. Dependent upon the quantity of boxes that form the Site archive, a deposition charge would be calculated by the Museum.

Dissemination

Printed and digital copies of the report will be distributed to the Client, Principal Contractor, Derbyshire County Archaeologist, and the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record. In addition, a digital summary will be uploaded to OASIS (Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological investigations).

8 QUALITY ASSURANCE

Health & Safety

The appointed archaeological contractor will operate within health and safety regulations, in accordance with the *1974 Health and Safety at Work Act*, and will be equipped with the necessary Personal Protective Equipment.

Fieldwork will be undertaken in accordance with HSE rules and regulations determined by the Main Contractor and the Site owner, or their Agents. A project specific Risk Assessment will be prepared by the appointed contractor for inclusion within the Main Contractor's Health and Safety File.

Personnel

The archaeological contractor who will undertake the ground investigations and watching brief will be suitably experienced and qualified to undertake all aspects of work that is detailed within this WSI, and with a knowledge of the investigation of industrial archaeological remains. It is expected that the standards and guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists will be maintained at all times.

External specialists will undertake any post-excavation analysis of the finds and environmental data. Key specialists, would include experts upon ceramics, animal bone, human bone, small finds, building materials and waterlogged remains, and would be chosen by the appointed archaeological contractor as appropriate.

Code of Conduct

All archaeological work will be undertaken in accordance with the Code of Conduct of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. The JESSOP Consultancy is a Registered Archaeological Organisation (RAO) and adheres to the guidelines and professional standards required by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

Copyright

9 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

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