



ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCHING LAND NORTH OF BRYN LANE, WREXHAM, CLWYD WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

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APPENDICES

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been commissioned by Net World Sports Ltd for a programme of archaeological works as part of a mixed-use development, which is predominately employment use (B-use) on land known as Land North of Bryn Lane in Wrexham, North Wales (hereafter referred to as 'the application site').
- 1.2 This WSI has been prepared by The Environment Partnership (TEP) Ltd, a Registered Organisation (RO) with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) in accordance with CIfA guidance (CIfA, 2020) and Cadw guidance. It has been authored and approved by a member of CIfA.
- 1.3 A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) has been produced by TEP (2023). The assessment identified 17 non-designated heritage assets of low heritage significance within the application site boundary, including areas of visible ridge and furrow, surviving and infilled marl pits and ponds, a post medieval homestead, and the recorded crash site of a Second World War aircraft. Due to the low heritage significance of these assets, the significance of the effects from the proposed development was assessed to be low.
- 1.4 A geophysical survey undertaken at the application site confirmed the presence of the superficial sub-surface ridge and furrow remains of the medieval cultivation system, as well as confirmed the locations of former post-medieval field boundaries and marl pits (Brunning, 2022).
- 1.5 A programme of archaeological works in the form of trial trench evaluation was recommended to confirm the results of the geophysical survey and assess the site's potential for sub-surface archaeological remains. The archaeological works are in response to comments received from Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT), the archaeological advisors to Wrexham County Borough Council, during the planning application process.
- 1.6 The local planning authority is Wrexham County Borough Council (WCBC). The Historic Environment Record is held by Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) who also provide advice to the local authority on planning applications.

2.0 Policy context and guidance

Statutory Legislation

2.1 The statutory legislation most relevant to this document comprises;

- Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016: This Act provides amendments to the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 for the protection and management of the Welsh historic environment. It also contains new stand-alone provisions relating to historic place names, historic environment records and the establishment of the Advisory Panel for the Historic Environment in Wales.
- Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023: This Act brings together the principal legislation for the conservation of the historic environment in Wales. Whilst it has received royal assent, it will not come into force until supporting secondary legislation, guidance and administrative documents have been made, revised, and updated. This is likely to be in late 2024.
- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, 1979: It is a criminal offence to carry out any works on or adjacent to a Scheduled Monument without Scheduled Monument Consent. This Act makes no reference to the setting of Scheduled Monuments.
- Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990: In considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a listed building or its setting, the decision maker shall have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting (section 66). Special attention shall be paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of a conservation area (section 72).
- Hedgerow Regulations Act, 1997: A local authority can prohibit the removal of an 'important' hedgerow. Hedgerows can be considered important on grounds of historical or archaeological value or association.
- Protection of Military Remains Act, 1986: An act to secure the protection from unauthorised interference of the remains of military aircraft and vessels that have crashed, sunk or been stranded and of associated human remains.

National Planning Policy

- 2.2 Planning Policy Wales (PPW) Edition 12 (2024) provides the national planning policy framework for the consideration of the historic environment and is supplemented by guidance in Technical Advice Note 24 and Cadw best practice guidance. The historic environment is discussed in Chapter 6: Distinctive and Natural Places, which recognises the importance of such areas and features to the Country.
- 2.3 Chapter 6 states that "[T]he special and unique characteristics and intrinsic qualities of the natural and built environment must be protected in their own right" (paragraph 6.0.2).

- 2.4 Section 6.1 deals specifically with **The Historic Environment** and includes the statement that "Any decision made through the planning system must fully consider the impact on the historic environment and on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets and their contribution to the character of place" (paragraph 6.1.9).
- 2.5 PPW includes details for requirements of development proposals affecting Listed Buildings (paragraphs 6.1.10-13), Conservation Areas (paragraphs 6.1.14-17), Historic Parks and Gardens (paragraphs 6.1.18-19), Historic Landscapes (paragraphs 6.1.20-21), World Heritage Sites (paragraph 6.1.22) and Archaeological Remains (paragraphs 6.1.23-27).
- 2.6 Paragraph 6.1.26 provides further details stating "Where archaeological remains are known to exist or there is a potential for them to survive, an application should be accompanied by sufficient information, through desk-based assessment and/or field evaluation, to allow a full understanding of the impact of the proposal on the significance of the remains. The needs of archaeology and development may be reconciled, and potential conflict very much reduced, through early discussion and assessment."
- 2.7 Paragraph 6.1.27 states "If the planning authority is minded to approve an application and where archaeological remains are affected by proposals that alter or destroy them, the planning authority must be satisfied that the developer has secured appropriate and satisfactory provision for their recording and investigation, followed by the analysis and publication of the results and the deposition of the resulting archive in an approved repository. On occasions, unforeseen archaeological remains may still be discovered during the course of a development. A written scheme of investigation should consider how to react to such circumstances or it can be covered through an appropriate condition for a watching brief..."

Local Planning Policy

Wrexham Local Development Plan (LDP2) 2013-2028, Adopted December 2023

- 2.8 Wrexham County Borough Council (WCBC) have prepared a Local Development Plan (LDP) which replaces the Unitary Development Plan. The LDP is a land use plan that sets out the planning requirements for achieving sustainable development in the Borough over the period 2013-2028. The LDP was adopted by the Council on 20th December 2023.

Policy SP9: Wrexham Industrial Estate

- 2.9 The Wrexham Industrial Estate is a primary focus for new employment development for B class employment and other ancillary related development. The policy seeks to protect a strategic ecological network across the estate to maintain ecological resilience of habitats and species but does not specify any heritage constraints or mitigation.
- 2.10 The following policy relates to the historic environment and is relevant to this document:

Policy SP15: Historic and Cultural Environment

- 2.11 Development will only be supported where it conserves, protects, and enhances cultural and heritage assets of the Borough and, their settings including archaeological remains.

Guidance

- 2.12 Best practice guidance notes and standards relevant to the historic environment, and consulted in the production of this report comprise:
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct* (2022),
 - CIfA, *Standard and Universal Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (2023),
 - CIfA, *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2020),
 - CIfA, *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (2020),
 - Planning Policy Wales Technical Advice Note 24: the Historic Environment (2017), and
 - Welsh Archaeological Trusts, *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)* (2022).
- 2.13 Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: the historic environment (2017) provides guidance on how to consider the historic environment in development plans and planning decisions. It provides support for the policies in PPW.

3.0 Background

Site Location and Geology

- 3.1 The application site is located within the Borough of Wrexham in North Wales, on the boundary between the townships of Holt and Ridley. The application site is immediately to the north of Bryn Lane and Wrexham Industrial Estate, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) SJ 38557 51096. The application site is bounded to the north by Francis Lane, to the east by existing field boundaries and a public right of way, to the south by Bryn Lane, and to the west by Hugmore Lane / Industrial Estate Road.
- 3.2 The application site comprises predominantly arable land divided into eight fields by intact and defunct hedgerows with intermittent trees, with a total area of 37.21 ha. The fields are numbered 1-8, starting clockwise from Field 1 located in the south-west of the application site (see Drawing G9134.02.001).
- 3.3 A cluster of buildings and associated hardstanding is located in the central southern part of the application site, adjacent to Bryn Lane. This includes a residential property and barn structures, which are currently in use. An access road linking these buildings with Bryn Lane is also present in the south of the application site. A residential property is located within the central northern part of the application site, located off Francis Lane. The application site also includes an area of publicly accessible highway around the Bryn Lane / Industrial Estate Road, as well as small areas of the adjacent verge.
- 3.4 The application site is located to the north of the Wrexham Industrial Estate in an area predominantly comprised of low-lying agricultural fields divided by regular hedgerows. The application site lies at an average topography of 35m Above Ordnance Datum (aOD) with a west to east decline of c40-32m and a gradual decline towards the north.
- 3.5 The solid geology is recorded by the British Geological Survey as Kinnerton Sandstone Formation and Salop Formation, the former Triassic fluviatile and aeolian red-yellow coloured sandstone and the latter Permian fluvial red-brown mudstone. The application site and surrounding area are overlain by Devensian till (glacial deposits).

Archaeological and Historic Background

- 3.6 The archaeological and historic background of the application site is described in detail the heritage impact assessment (TEP, 2023; see Drawing G9134.02.002). A summary is provided here.
- 3.7 Clwyd has few Palaeolithic sites; however, these include caves at Pontnewydd, Cefn, Cae Gwyn, and Ffynnon Beuno (CAS 1991). These sites represent very early human occupation and finds from the cave sites included stone tools and the bones of animals and humans. Examples of important Mesolithic sites identified in Clwyd include those at Rhuddlan, Prestatyn, Tandderwen and Brenig and Llyn Aled Isaf.

- 3.8 A number of Neolithic settlement sites have been identified in Clwyd including at Rhuddlan and Delyn from which arrow heads, pottery, and manufacturing debris for axes have been recovered (CAS 1991). Archaeological work at nearby Borrass Quarry (2km to north-west of the application site) has provided evidence for a Neolithic settlement including pits and post holes with evidence for cooking activities, as well as a single cremation pit.
- 3.9 The Bronze Age is much better represented in the archaeological record in Wales than the preceding periods. At Borrass Quarry the archaeological excavation at the Neolithic site revealed a later phase of activity dating to the Bronze Age period (Grant and Jones, 2009).
- 3.10 Little evidence for Iron Age settlement outside of hillforts has been uncovered in Clwyd, however in other areas of Wales evidence has been found for undefended settlements with associated field systems, enclosed farmsteads, isolated round huts, concentric enclosures, and palisades and earthworks. The closest known asset is Bryn Alyn Camp (Cadw ref DE057), an Iron Age hillfort located approximately 5km to the north-east of the application site.
- 3.11 At the time of the Roman invasion the population of Britain was organised into individual tribes and the area of southern Clwyd was controlled by the Iron Age tribe of the Deceangli whose territory extended east to the River Dee. In 47AD a campaign under Ostorius Scapula was begun against the Deceangli with further campaigns taking the Romans further west to Anglesey. This incursion was temporarily halted with the withdrawal of the army due to a Brigantian revolt. The conquest of Wales resumed in 69AD following the ascent of Vespasian and Roman control was established across the whole of Wales under the governorship of Julius Agricola.
- 3.12 A Roman settlement (also referred to as the Legionary works depot) at Holt to the east is protected as a Scheduled Monument (Cadw ref DE013). The settlement is interpreted as serving as an industrial works serving the legionary fortress at Chester, accommodating a supervising centurion and soldiers. Three Roman roads are known in Clwyd including one linking the Holt settlement with Watling Street. A Roman milestone was found at Gaenysgor in 1956. The legionary fortress of Deva Vitrix (Chester) was located 11km to the north of Holt.
- 3.13 The early medieval history of Wales and north-west Britain is poorly understood with relatively few finds or sites of this period being recorded in the Historic Environment Record of east and north-east Wales (Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales 2023). The geographic position of the Clwyd area is on the transition between the English lowlands and Welsh uplands; this border position would have influenced the historical uses and social development of the area particularly during the transition between Roman imperial governance to British regional kingdoms. To the west of the border developed the Kingdom of Gwynedd and parts of the Clwyd area were part of the Kingdom of Powys. To the east of the border rose the Kingdom of Mercia in the 7th century. The application site would have historically been part of the Kingdom of Mercia.

- 3.14 In the Medieval period, the Villages of eastern Clwyd were recorded in the Domesday book but had been delimited prior to 1086. The early origins of Wrexham are uncertain; it is suggested from place name evidence that it was a Saxon foundation and that a Welsh lord had his court there in the 12th century, with the church originating as a private chapel on the lord's estate (CPAT 2016a).
- 3.15 A possible medieval moated site (PRN 106433) was discovered during field walking to the east of Ridleywood in 1986, approximately 1.5km to the east of the application site. This comprised a raised platform c48m in length and surrounded by ridge and furrow with a possible pond.
- 3.16 A prevalence of ridge and furrow earthworks within the application site and surrounding area attests to the largely agricultural character of the area with small settlements and isolated farmsteads surrounded by large areas of open fields. Three areas of ridge and furrow survive within the application site and demonstrate that the present field boundaries reflect the contemporary medieval landscape.
- 3.17 In the Post Medieval period, the earliest available historic map of the study area, the Tithe Maps of 1843, confirm an agricultural landscape with extensive ridge and furrow cultivation and numerous scattered farmsteads frequently located adjacent to the roads. A further characteristic feature of the post medieval landscape of the study area are marl pits and ponds, frequently occurring as single or pairs of oval or rectangular excavated depressions often at the centre of each field. Twelve marl pits / ponds are recorded within the application site of which five remain as open features with the remainder having been infilled.
- 3.18 The modern Wrexham Industrial Estate to the south of the application site occupies the former Marchwiel Royal Ordnance Factory (PRN 72200) for which construction began in 1939. The site was defended against air and ground attack with multiple pillboxes on the ground and the proximity of the nearby RAF Wrexham which housed a fighter squadron. Several of the former buildings, now derelict, are recorded as being still extant within the industrial site.
- 3.19 The Second World War airfield, RAF Wrexham (PRN 44422) (referred to locally as Borrass Airfield and deriving its name from an old township) was built by the Air Ministry as a response to problems with waterlogged ground at RAF Sealand and RAF Hawarden. The site had been used as landing fields for training squadrons since 1917 and was also in use by the Lancashire and the Liverpool and District Aero Clubs, as well as air displays (Hankinson and Spencer, 2012). Several aircraft crash sites dated to the 1940s and associated with activity at RAF Wrexham are recorded near the application site, including one whose location is recorded within the application site boundary (PRN 86027). Research undertaken as part of the heritage impact assessment indicated that the wreckage would have been removed very soon after the crash event and conclude that there is a low potential for wreckage to be present within the application site.

Previous Archaeological Events

Brunning, E. (2022) *Land North of Bryn Lane, Wrexham, Clwyd, Geophysical Survey*, WYAS Archaeological Services, Report No. 3800

- 3.20 Consultation with the Senior Planning Officer at CPAT undertaken during the desk-based assessment stage highlighted a potential for sub-surface archaeological remains pre-dating the post-medieval period to be present. A programme of geophysical survey was subsequently undertaken of 36 hectares within the application site. The survey identified a range of anomalies the majority of which were interpreted as the remains of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation, former field boundaries, and former marl pits. No archaeological remains likely to pre-date the medieval period were identified. The survey assessed that the archaeological potential of the application site was low. Further consultation with CPAT highlighted a potential that the ridge and furrow may mask earlier and underlying features and it was recommended that a programme of archaeological evaluation trenching be carried out to assess the below ground potential of the application site.

4.0 Scope of the Archaeological Works

- 4.1 This WSI sets out the methodology and procedures for a programme of archaeological works comprising trial trenching.
- 4.2 The scope of the archaeological works has been defined through consultation with the Senior Planning Archaeologist (SPA) of Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT), as advisor to Wrexham County Borough Council.
- 4.3 Drawings provided in support of this WSI are as follows:
 - G9134.2.011A - Proposed Trench Locations
 - G9134.02.010A - Proposed Trench Locations Overlying Ordnance Survey Map of 1873
 - G9134.02.012 - Proposed Trench Locations Overlying Geophysical Survey Results

The Proposed Development

- 4.4 The proposed development is commercial development and includes a detailed component comprising demolition of existing buildings, site clearance and preparation works including removal of vegetation and re-profiling of topsoil, and the construction of several warehouse units, road infrastructure, servicing, parking and landscaping. The outline component includes construction of new buildings for employment uses. Site wide there will be provision for access and parking including new access junctions, internal roads, service yards and car and HGV parking.
- 4.5 Development within the application site has the potential to impact on as yet unknown buried archaeological remains which are likely to be of low heritage significance.

Aims and Objectives

- 4.6 The aim of the evaluation is to gather sufficient information to establish the extent, condition, character and date (as far as circumstances permit) of any archaeological features and deposits within the area of interest. The information gained will allow the SPA of CPAT, as advisor to Wrexham County Borough Council, to make a reasonable and informed decision as to whether an archaeology mitigation strategy would be required for further archaeological works.
- 4.7 Comments provided by the SPA at CPAT stated that the evaluation should consist of a series of 100m x 2m randomly sited trenches amounting to 2% of the application site. The SPA recommended that the evaluation trenching should avoid damage to the preserved earthworks located in Field 5 and Field 6, and that at least one trench be aligned near the recorded location of the aircraft crash site (PRN 86027) within Field 2.
- 4.8 This approach is in accordance with paragraph 6.1.26 of PPW (2021) and paragraph 4.7 of TAN (2017).

4.9 The research objectives of the programme of work will be determined by what archaeological remains are present within the application site. However, relevant suggested research opportunities within the Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales (2023) could include:

- Land use and enclosure (including transport and defence) in the Early Medieval to Modern periods.
- The use and exploitation of natural resources in the Post Medieval period.
- Airfields and military uses of the Modern period.

4.10 Subsequent assessment and analysis will be in accordance with relevant priorities outlined in the Research Framework of Wales (2023).

Monitoring

4.11 Prior to commencement of the evaluation works, the Archaeological Contractor will give a minimum of one week's notice to the Senior Planning Archaeologist at Clywd Powys Archaeological Trust. The implementation of the works outlined in this WSI will be monitored by the Senior Planning Archaeologist (SPA) on behalf of Wrexham County Borough Council.

4.12 The LPA will be kept up to date with progress during all phases of the archaeological works, and provision will be made for the SPA to undertake site visits where appropriate during the archaeological fieldwork.

4.13 All archaeological fieldwork will be undertaken by Salford Archaeology (CIfA Registered Organisation), working under the direction of Amir Bassir MCIfA, Principal Historic Environment Consultant at TEP (CIfA Registered Organisation).

5.0 Programme of the Archaeological Works

Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

- 5.1 The archaeological works will comprise the excavation of up to 31no. trenches (each 100m x 2m, excepting trenches 13 and 31 which will measure 50m in length due to constraints). The number of trenches is based on a 2% sample of the available survey area, (c.30ha) and avoid impacting on ridge and furrow in fields 5 and 6. Proposed locations for additional trenches within the area of ridge and furrow are included should evaluation of this area be required.
- 5.2 The locations of the trial trenches are informed by the results of the geophysical survey, historic mapping, and the recorded crash site of a Second World War aircraft (NDHA94), shown in Drawing G9134.02.011A.
- 5.3 Several constraints are recorded within the site including an intermediate gas main, 11kv overhead line, and a sewer. Other constraints include root protection areas for trees. Appropriate exclusion buffers have been placed on these features which form a constraint to the positioning of the evaluation trenches.

Method of Excavation

- 5.4 Prior to the archaeological trial trenching, a visual inspection of the areas to be evaluated will be undertaken by the Archaeological Contractor.
- 5.5 The trial trenches will be set out using a GPS. The trial trenches will be mechanically excavated using an appropriate powered machine fitted with a 1.8m toothless ditching bucket. Under archaeological instruction the topsoil and overburden will be removed down to the first significant archaeological horizon in successive level spits of a maximum 0.1m thickness, or the natural geology, whichever occurs first.
- 5.6 All machine work will be carried out under direct archaeological supervision and the machine will be halted if significant archaeological deposits are encountered. The top of the first significant archaeological horizon can be exposed by the machine but will then be cleaned by hand and inspected for features and then hand excavated. At each soil horizon change, the supervising archaeologist will indicate to the machine driver that each stratum should be stored separately.
- 5.7 All archaeological remains will be hand excavated in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner sufficient to meet the aims and objectives of the project. The excavation will record the complete stratigraphic sequence, down to naturally occurring deposits and will investigate and record all inter-relationships between features.
- 5.8 All artefacts will be retained for processing and analysis except for unstratified 20th and 21st century material, which can be noted and discarded. Finds will be stored in secure, appropriate conditions following the guidelines in *First Aid for Finds* (Third edition, 1998).

- 5.9 Following the results of the evaluation works TEP's heritage team will enter discussions with the SPA at CPAT (as advisor to the WCBC) to discuss next steps and if required prepare a mitigation strategy to investigate and record any archaeological remains identified within the application site.

Unexpectedly Significant or Complex Discoveries

- 5.10 Should the works encounter unexpectedly significant or complex discoveries that warrant, in the professional judgement of the archaeologist on site, more detailed recording than is appropriate within the terms of the fieldwork requirements provided by the SPA, then TEP will contact the Client and the SPA with the relevant information to enable them to resolve the matter.
- 5.11 Should archaeological remains or features of possible national archaeological importance be observed, fieldwork will cease on the relevant part of the site until these remains have been inspected by the SPA.

Method of Recording

- 5.12 The archaeological works will be recorded according to the normal principles of stratigraphic excavation. The stratigraphy of each trial trench will be recorded even where no archaeological deposits have been identified. Where no archaeological features are present representative sections or soil profile will be recorded and illustrated in the report.
- 5.13 Discrete features will be half-sectioned, or fully excavated if features are part of recognisable structures, contain deposits or artefacts of particular value, or likely to hold significant artefact or environmental assemblages. Intersections will be investigated to establish strategic relationships. Representative sections of linear and curvilinear features will be sample excavated away from intersections or other features or deposits, to obtain unmixed samples of material.
- 5.14 The areas of trenching and any features of possible archaeological interest present within the trenches will be accurately located on a site plan with levels at the top and base of features and recorded by photographs, summary scale drawings and written descriptions sufficient to permit the preparation of a report on the material. The site grid will be accurately tied into the National Grid and located on the largest scale map available of the area (either 1:2500 or 1:1250).
- 5.15 Care will be taken to record artefacts in their correct stratigraphic position, when present to facilitate accurate dating of deposits and features.

Photography

- 5.16 Digital photography will form the primary photographic record. This will be undertaken using a digital SLR camera with a sensor of a minimum of 12 megapixels; each image will be supplied as both a JPEG and a TIFF versions (version 6 file of not less than 25Mbs). The Archaeological Contractor will also include metadata embedded in the TIFF file, which will include the following: the commonly used name for the site being photographed, the relevant centred OS grid coordinates for the site to at least six figures, the relevant township name, the date of photograph, the subject of the photograph, the direction of shot and the name of the organisation taking the photograph.
- 5.17 All photography will be undertaken in accordance with Historic England (2015) *Digital Image Capture and File Storage: Guidelines for Best Practice*. Photographic scales of appropriate sizes will be placed within all shots if possible.

Use of Metal Detectors on Site

- 5.18 The site will be scanned during machine excavation to attempt to obtain a sample of artefacts from the top and sub-soils. The exposed site and, spoil heaps will also be scanned for both ferrous and non-ferrous metal artefacts using a metal detector capable of making this discrimination, operated by an experienced metal detector user (if necessary, operating under the supervision of the contracting archaeologist). Modern artefacts are to be noted but not retained (19th-century material and earlier will be retained).
- 5.19 The make and model of the instrument used will be given in the methodology section of the Archaeology Contractor's report and metal detected finds identified in the relevant section.

Aircraft Crash Site

- 5.20 All military aircraft crash sites in the United Kingdom, its territorial waters, or British aircraft in international waters, are controlled sites under the Protection of Military Remains Act 1986 (PMRA). The Ministry of Defence licences aviation archaeology under the PMRA (MOD 2014). In the event of the discovery of such remains a licence for the disturbance and removal would need to be obtained from the Joint Casualty and Compassionate Centre (JCCC) under the Protection of Military Remains Act 1986.
- 5.21 In the event that aircraft wreckage is identified during the works it will be left in-situ, covered and protected and TEP will notify the Client and SPA. If it is deemed appropriate to excavate the remains an application for licence of excavation will be requested in accordance with the PMRA.
- 5.22 Small finds likely to have derived from an aircraft crash will be appropriately packed, recorded and processed as archaeological finds.

Human Remains

- 5.23 If human remains are encountered during the excavations, they will be left in situ, covered and protected, and the Client, SPA and the Coroner are to be notified. If it is deemed appropriate to excavate human remains, this will be done in accordance with appropriate Historic England and Chartered Institute for Archaeologists guidance (e.g., ClfA, 2017). Excavation, removal from site, analysis and final placing will all be subject to the requirements of the appropriate Ministry of Justice licence and any local environmental health regulations.

Treasure

- 5.24 If any artefacts are encountered that would constitute 'treasure' as defined by The Treasure Act, 1996 and the Treasure (Designation) (Amendment) Order 2023, they will be reported to the local Coroner and relevant Finds Liaison Officer. Any artefacts deemed to be Treasure should be excavated on the day they are discovered and removed to a secure site. If this is impractical, then appropriate security provided until full excavation and removal can occur.

Environmental Sampling Strategy

- 5.25 Paleo-environmental assessment aims to identify areas within the development site where conditions are such that deposits suitable for the study of past environments are preserved. These most commonly occur in the form of subsurface peat layers but are also taken to include all waterlogged deposits. The identification of any suitable areas for sampling will take place during the archaeological evaluation.
- 5.26 Should any such deposits exist within the development site, samples will be taken by a suitably qualified specialist sub-contractor. The samples would be assessed for their potential by internal or external specialists of the Archaeological Contractor, and suitable techniques applied to sample from select cores to determine the preservation and taxonomic diversity within the samples. This is likely to include assessing for one or more of the following:
- Pollen (focussing on organic units)
 - Diatoms (focussing upon lithological transitions within and at the base of the Holocene sediment stack)
 - Foraminifera (focussing on mineral strata and in particular on transitions)
 - Plant macro-remains (focussing on organic units)
- 5.27 Samples for scientific dating (radiocarbon dating, archaeomagnetic dating, dendrochronology, optically stimulated luminescence etc.) will be taken if suitable material is encountered during the evaluation and assessed for suitability by an environmental specialist prior to submission to a dating laboratory. Any human remains submitted for C14 dating will also have carbon ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$) and nitrogen isotope analysis carried out by the radiocarbon laboratory.
- 5.28 Bulk samples will be taken from all securely stratified deposits using a strategy which combines systematic and judgement sampling, but which also follows the methodologies outlined in guidance from English Heritage (2011) *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation*.

- 5.29 All samples will be processed and scanned with a magnet to recover micro-slugs. A statement on the environmental potential of the excavated deposits will be a distinct part of the environmental report.

Finds

- 5.30 On completion of the fieldwork, any samples taken will be processed and any finds will be cleaned, identified, assessed/analysed, dated (if possible), marked (if appropriate) and properly packed and stored in accordance with the requirements of national guidelines and best practice.
- 5.31 All finds and biological material will be analysed by a qualified and experienced specialist and treated in accordance with current best practice as set out in Chartered Institute for Archaeologists guidance.
- 5.32 Salford Archaeology and their specialists will develop an archive material selection plan based on the significance of the material excavated and its ability to answer the project's and other more general research questions. The archive selection plan will be detailed in the archaeological report.

Ownership

- 5.33 All artefacts, except articles defined as treasure under the Treasure Act 1996 or other legal requirements that are discovered during the archaeological investigation will remain the property of the Client. Salford Archaeology will encourage the client to donate any artefacts to an appropriate museum as part of the project archive. Salford Archaeology will make arrangements with the Client regarding deposition of artefacts following completion of the onsite activities of the project.

Programme

- 5.34 It is anticipated that the works will happen in accordance with the following programme:
- 1st Quarter of 2024 - undertake a programme of archaeological works
 - +4 weeks - report
 - +8 weeks - deposit archive

Organisation and Key Personnel

- 5.35 TEP is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). The heritage team is under overall management of Jason Clarke BSc MA MCIfA, Associate Director (TEP).
- 5.36 The archaeological works will be undertaken by appropriately qualified archaeologists from Salford Archaeology, a Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Registered Organisation.
- 5.37 A projected timetable for work on site, including machine hire time and staff structure and numbers, and for all post excavation work, including staff numbers and specialist sub-contractors will be provided by the Archaeological Contractor in the form of a separate RAMS document.

List of Specialists

5.38 The following specialists may analyse the finds from the project:

- Post-med pottery - Jeremy Bradley (University of Salford)
- CBM - Jeremy Bradley (University of Salford) and Phil Mills (independent specialist)
- Clay tobacco pipes - Jeremy Bradley (University of Salford)
- Glass - David Dungworth (independent specialist)
- Iron/Steel objects - David Dungworth (independent specialist)
- Industrial residues - Gerry McDonnell (independent specialist)
- Animal bone - Andrew Bates (SLR Consulting)
- Leather - Quita Mould (independent specialist)
- Conservation - Karen Barker (independent specialist)

6.0 Reporting

- 6.1 In accordance with the principles of Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2015), a programme of post-evaluation assessment and reporting will be undertaken, to commence on completion of the archaeological fieldwork.
- 6.2 A report will be produced detailing the results of fieldwork within four weeks of the end of fieldwork and archived within six months. The report will include:
- a front cover to include the NGR, and HER/Accession reference number
 - a concise, bi-lingual non-technical summary of the results,
 - the circumstances of the project and the dates on which the fieldwork was undertaken,
 - description of the methodology, including the sources consulted,
 - a very brief summary of the historical background of the study area,
 - a copy of this project design, and indications of any agreed departure from that design,
 - the report will also include a complete bibliography of sources from which data has been derived, and a list of any further sources identified but not consulted,
 - a site location plan related to the national grid,
 - appropriate plans showing the location and position of trenches, features or sites,
 - plans and sections showing the positions of deposits and finds,
 - a list of and spot date for any significant finds recovered,
 - a description and interpretation of the deposits identified,
 - illustrative photographs as appropriate,
 - coordinates (latitude/longitude) of relevant sites if archaeological remains have been discovered.
- 6.3 Section drawings will be provided in all evaluation trenches which contain archaeological features (at a minimum scale of 1:20). These will include heights O.D. Plans (at a minimum scale of 1:50), and O.D. spot heights for all principal strata and any features. Drawings of one long section of trenches without archaeological deposits will also be provided.
- 6.4 Artefact analysis will include the production of a descriptive catalogue, quantification by context and discussion/interpretation if warranted, with finds critical for dating and interpretation illustrated.
- 6.5 Environmental analysis will include identification of the remains, quantification by context, discussion/interpretation if warranted, and a description of the processing methodology. Radiocarbon results will be presented in full (laboratory sample number, conventional radiocarbon age, delta C13 value, calibration programme). Copies of the laboratory-issued dating certificates will be included as an appendix to the report.
- 6.6 Pottery reports will refer to the appropriate type series.

7.0 Archiving

- 7.1 The results of the archaeological investigation will form the basis of a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current Cadw and RCAHMW guidelines, and current ClfA guidance (2020), *The National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales* (NPAAW 2017), and *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)* (2022).
- 7.2 The project archive represents the collation and indexing of all the data and material gathered during the course of the project. The deposition of a properly ordered and indexed project archive in an appropriate repository is considered an essential and integral element of all archaeological projects by ClfA in that organisation's code of conduct.
- 7.3 The site archive will be so organised as to be compatible with other archaeological archives produced. All drawn records will be transferred to and stored in digital format, in systems which are easily accessible. The final archive will be deposited with a suitable receiving institution (Wrexham Museum) who will be notified prior to the commencement of any on-site works.
- 7.4 The archaeological archive will consist of the following:
- All original records created throughout the course of the project;
 - All original drawings, whether created during fieldwork or post-investigation;
 - Indexes to the drawings;
 - Indexes to the photographic archive;
 - All digital material;
 - Digital material created from written, drawn or photographed original records;
 - The final project report;
 - A list of contents of the archive.
- 7.5 It is likely that a large element of the project archive will be in digital format. It would thus be appropriate to deposit a copy of the archive generated from the archaeological investigation with the Archaeological Data Service (ADS), through ADS-Easy should this be required as part of the mitigation strategy. Any records that are created in hard copy during the course of the project will be scanned and added to this digital archive.
- 7.6 Image metadata will be created in accordance with the *RCAHMW Guidelines for Digital Archives* (RCAHMS 2015).
- 7.7 A copy of the digital archive will be submitted to the Historic Environment Record, Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust. Copies of the digital report will be submitted to the National Monuments Record, RCAHMW, Aberystwyth.

The data management plan for this project is included as an appendix to this document and will be updated throughout the project lifespan as appropriate.

8.0 Health and Safety

- 8.1 The archaeologists on site will naturally operate with due regard for Health and Safety regulations. Where archaeological work is carried out at the same time as the work of other contractors, regard should also be taken of any reasonable additional constraints that these contractors may impose.
- 8.2 All work on site would be undertaken strictly in accordance with the project health and safety plan and task specific risk assessments. All companies working on the project will adhere to required quality, health, safety and environment controls.
- 8.3 Access routes to working areas would be specified by the Client and access would only be permitted to those routes and the area of the fieldwork. The Client will provide the archaeologist with the details for any known constraints prior to the start of the archaeological works. The Archaeological Contractors will be responsible for locating any drainage pipes, service pipes, cables etc. which may cross any of the trench lines, and for taking the necessary measures to avoid disturbing such services. TEP will provide this information to the Archaeological Contractors.
- 8.4 All site staff, including subcontractors and visitors will have the necessary competencies (e.g., CITB training for machine operators and CSCS cards) and any other necessary health and safety qualifications.
- 8.5 All site staff will familiarise themselves with the following:
- site emergency and evacuation procedures;
 - the site's health and safety coordinator;
 - the first aider; and
 - the location of the nearest hospital and doctor's surgery.
- 8.6 The Archaeological Contractor will maintain a record of site attendance for each day that they attend site for the archaeological works.
- 8.7 All site staff personnel will wear PPE consisting of gloves, hardhat, steel toe-capped boots with mid-sole protection and high visibility vest or jacket at all times. All equipment must be 'fit for purpose' and be maintained in a sound working condition that complies with all relevant Health and Safety regulations and recommendations, including;
- Coronavirus (COVID-19) Government Guidance for Working Safely;
 - Health & Safety at Work Act 1974;
 - Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations 1999; and
 - COSHH Regulations 2005.
- 8.8 The Archaeological Contractor will have their own Health and Safety policies compiled using national guidelines, which conform to all relevant Health and Safety legislation and best practice. The RAMS provided by the Archaeological Contractor will include a specific section covering Coronavirus (COVID-19) for working safely.

References

Data Sources

Archaeological Data Services: <http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archsearch>

Archwilio, Historic Environment Records of Wales: <https://archwilio.org.uk/wp/>

British Geological Survey, Geology of Britain Viewer: <https://www.bgs.ac.uk/map-viewers/geology-of-britain-viewer/>

Cadw, Cof Cymru - National Historic Assets of Wales:
<https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/cof-cymru/search-cadw-records>

National Library of Scotland, Map Images: <https://maps.nls.uk/index.html>

National Library of Wales, tithe maps of Wales: <https://places.library.wales/>

Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales:
<https://www.archaeoleg.org.uk/intro.html>

Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW):
<https://rcahmw.gov.uk/>

RCAHMW, Coflein: <https://coflein.gov.uk/en/>

Legislation and Policy

Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, 1979.

Historic Environment (Wales) Act, 2016

Historic Environment (Wales) Act, 2023.

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990.

Planning Policy Wales, Edition 12, February 2024.

Protection of Military Remains Act, 1986.

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The Treasure (Designation) (Amendment) Order 2023

Wrexham County Borough Council, *Wrexham County Borough Local Development Plan 2013-2028*, Adopted 20 December 2023

Best Practice and Guidance

Cadw (2011) *Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales*. Cardiff: Cadw.

Cadw (2017) *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales*. Cardiff: Cadw.

CIfA (2017) *Updated Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains*. Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

ClfA (2020) *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives*. Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

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English Heritage (2011) *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation*. Swindon: English Heritage.

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NPAAW (2017) *The National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales*, The National Panel for Archaeological Archives in Wales

Planning Policy Wales, *Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment*, May 2017

RCAHMW (2015) *RCAHMW Guidelines for Digital Archives*, Available at: <https://rcahmw.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/RCAHMW-Guidelines-for-Digital-Archives.pdf>

The Welsh Archaeological Trusts (2022) *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)*, Available at: https://ggat.org.uk/cms/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Guidance-for-the-Submission-of-Data-to-Welsh-HERs-V2_reducedEN.pdf

Other sources

Brunning, E. (2022) 'Land North of Bryn Lane, Wrexham, Clywd: Geophysical Survey'. ASWYAS Report No. 3800.

CPAT (2016a) *Historic Settlement Survey – Wrexham County Borough*. Wrexham, Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust.

CPAT (2016b) *Historic Settlement Survey – Wrexham County Borough*. Holt, Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust.

Clwyd Archaeology Service (CAS) (1991) *The Archaeology of Clwyd*, Clwyd County Council.

Grant I. and Jones N.W. (2009) *Excavations at Borrass Quarry, Wrexham, 2009*, Interim Report, Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust, Report No. 1018.

Hankinson R. and Spencer J. (2012) *Twentieth Century Military Airfields, Scheduling Enhancement Programme*. Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust, CPAT Report No. 112.

MOD (2014) *Crashed Military Aircraft of Historical Interest, Licensing of Excavations in the UK; Notes for Guidance of Recovery Groups*, Ministry of Defence

TEP (2023) *Land North of Bryn Lane, Wrexham, Clwyd, Heritage Impact Assessment*, Document Reference 9314.02.003, Market Harborough: The Environment Partnership (TEP) Ltd.

APPENDIX A: Drawings



KEY

- Site boundary
- Fields
- NDHA94, aircraft crash site
- Trench location
- Trenches 32-36, additional trenches if required

Constraints

- Existing 11kV overhead line
- Intermediate gas main
- Sewer
- Existing 11kV overhead line - 10m buffer
- Intermediate gas main - 15m buffer
- Sewer - 10m buffer
- Tree root protection area
- No development zone to the residential area

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Rev	Description	Drawn	Approved	Date
A	Additional constraints; trench location amendments.	CW	AB	02/02/2024

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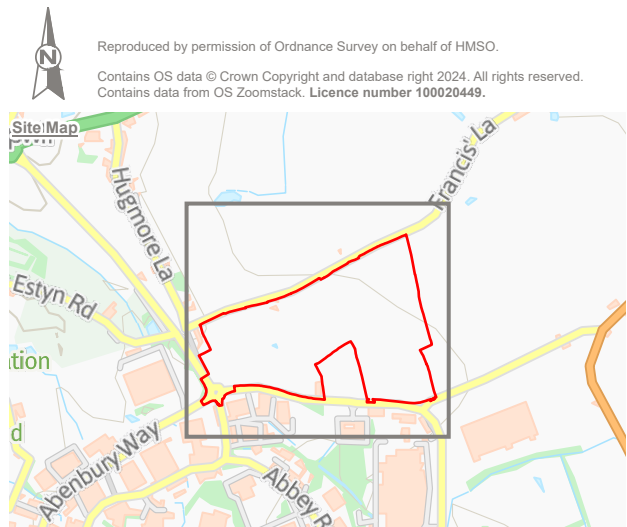
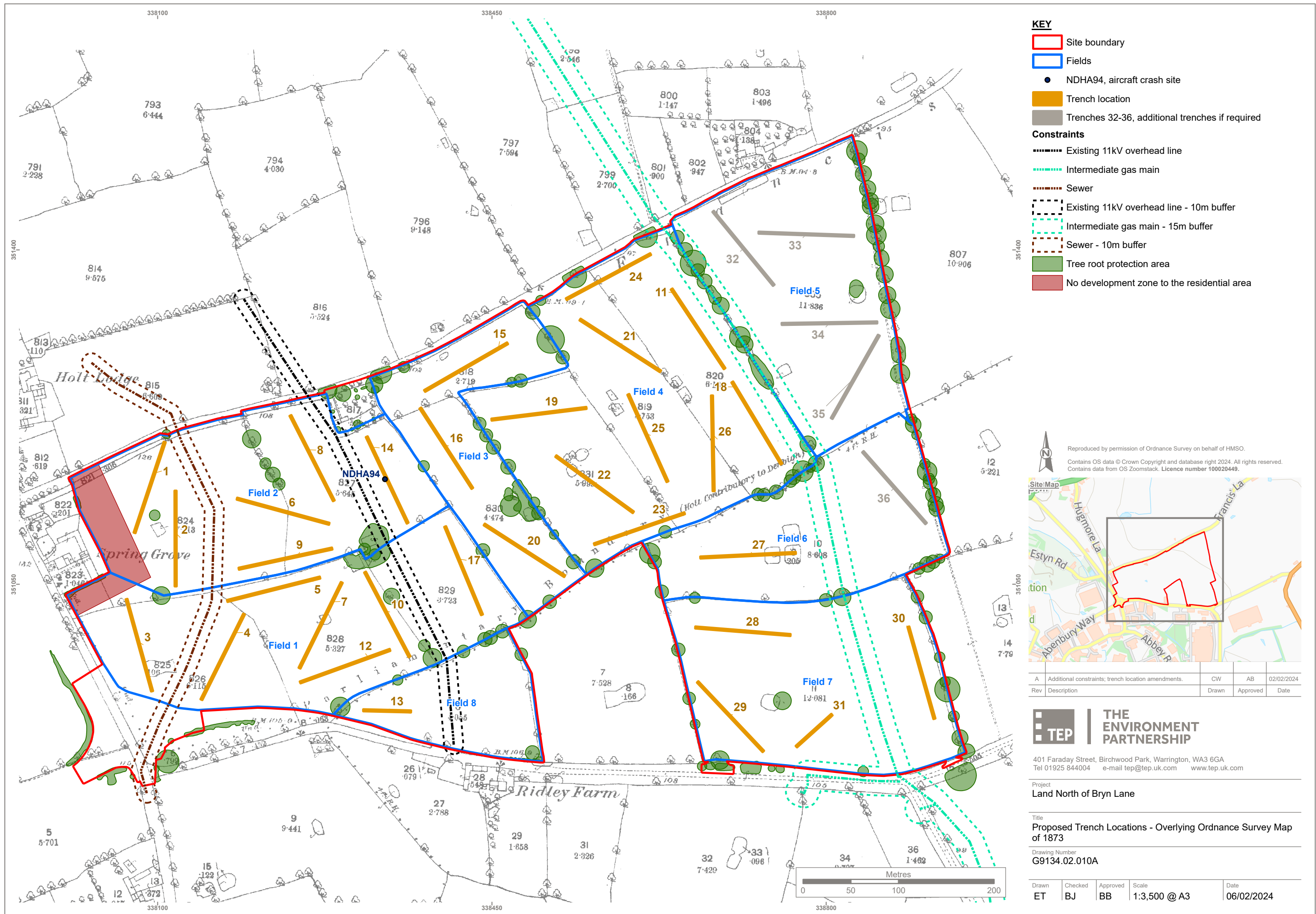
401 Faraday Street, Birchwood Park, Warrington, WA3 6GA
Tel 01925 844004 e-mail tep@tep.uk.com www.tep.uk.com

Project
Land North of Bryn Lane

Title
Proposed Trench Locations - OS

Drawing Number
G9134.02.011A

Drawn	Checked	Approved	Scale	Date
ET	BJ	BB	1:3,500 @ A3	06/02/2024



A	Additional constraints; trench location amendments.	CW	AB	02/02/2024
Rev	Description	Drawn	Approved	Date

TEP | **THE ENVIRONMENT PARTNERSHIP**

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Project
Land North of Bryn Lane

Title
Proposed Trench Locations - Overlying Ordnance Survey Map of 1873

Drawing Number
G9134.02.010A

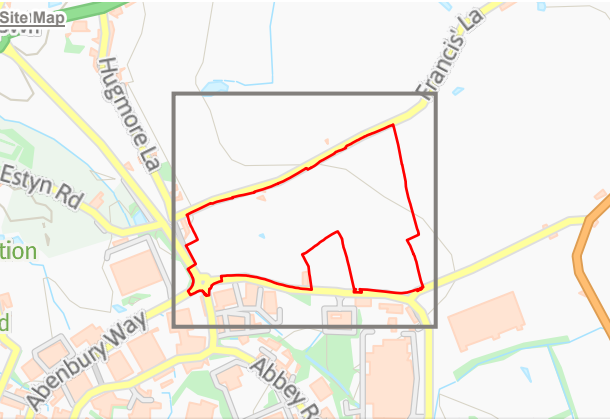
Drawn	Checked	Approved	Scale	Date
ET	BJ	BB	1:3,500 @ A3	06/02/2024



KEY

- Site boundary
- Trench location
- Trenches 32-36, additional trenches if required

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Geophysical survey provided by West Yorkshire Archaeological Services (WYAS).



Rev	Description	Drawn	Approved	Date

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Project
Land North of Bryn Lane

Title
Proposed Trench Locations Overlying Geophysical Survey Results

Drawing Number
G9134.02.012

Drawn	Checked	Approved	Scale	Date
CW	BJ	AB	1:3,500 @ A3	06/02/2024

APPENDIX B: Data Management Plan

Land North of Bryn Lane Wrexham - Data Management Plan

Project Name	Land North of Bryn Lane Wrexham	Author	Stephenie Dalby BA (Hons) MA MCIfA
Project ID	9134.02	Checked	Amir Bassir BSc (Hons) PG Cert MCIfA
Date Created	17/11/2023	Approved	Jason Clarke BSc (Hons) MA MCIfA
Version	1.1	Purpose	Data Management Plan
Date Last Updated	31/01/2023	Project Funder	Net World Sports Ltd

Rev	Date	Description of Amendment	Authorised by
1.0	17/11/2023	Creation of DMP	JC
1.1	31/01/2024	Updates and new format	JC

1.0 Project Administration

1.1	Project Description
1.1.1	Trial Trench Evaluation
1.2	Project Manager
1.2.1	Jason Clarke
1.3	Principal Investigator / Researcher
1.3.1	Salford Archaeology
1.4	Data Contact Person
1.4.1	Amir Bassir
1.5	Related data management policies
1.5.1	ClfA (2020) <i>Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives</i> , Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
1.5.2	ClfA Data Management Plans Toolkit https://www.archaeologists.net/digdigital/planning
1.5.3	The Welsh Archaeological Trusts (2022) <i>Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)</i>

2.0 Data Collection

2.1	Data to be collected
2.1.1	Text / documents - .docx and .pdf format
2.1.2	Images - .jpeg files, estimated <100
2.1.3	GIS – ESRI shapefiles and .pagx
2.2	Method of data collection
2.2.1	Standard methods of data collection will be applied throughout the project, working to best practice and guidance where applicable / available.
2.2.2	Specification for recording and data collection is provided in the WSI.
2.2.3	All project data will be securely stored within TEP and Salford Archaeology servers and data stores on the premises. Project data will be stored in two locations: firstly, a file share data store for all GIS data and secondly MS SharePoint Environment for MS documents. All project data will be referenced using an internal project reference number and name in line with TEP and Salford Archaeology's Quality Assurance Policies.
2.2.4	Data is securely backed up using three methods; incremental and daily snapshots of data to tape, off site storage in UK Cloud location and replication to servers in other TEP office locations.
2.2.5	Project folders and files will be named following established organisational procedures.

3.0 Documentation and metadata

3.1	What documentation and metadata will accompany the data
3.1.1	Trial trench evaluation report with accompanying tables, illustrations, photos, drawings.

4.0 Ethics and Legal Compliance

4.1	Management of ethical, copyright and Intellectual Property Rights issues
4.1.1	The copyright for any report resulting from the archaeological work will be deemed the intellectual property of Salford Archaeology as the archaeological contractor.
4.1.2	All data will be treated according to Salford Archaeology's Data Protection Policy which sets out the rules on data protection and the legal conditions that must be satisfied in relation to the obtaining, handling, recording, editing, revising, use, storage, transfer and destruction, and other processing of personal information.
4.1.3	Where formal permissions and/or license agreements are linked to data, such as map licensing and HER data, they will be included in the project documentation folders and will accompany the archaeological project archive.

5.0 Data Security and Backup

5.1	How will the data be stored, accessed and backed up during the research?
5.1.1	All project data is stored within Salford Archaeology servers and stores on the premises. Access to the domain is secured through two factor authentication. The staff user account includes requires both a username and password (governed by TEP's password procedure) and requirement for 2 factor authentication through a mobile device.
5.1.2	Project files will be shared with external specialists and contractors directly using the same system, with the wider project team gaining access to only the files needed using permissions-based access. Data will not be shared with third parties if prohibited by licensing agreements.

6.0 Selection and Preservation

6.1	Which data should be retained, shared and / or preserved
6.1.1	Selection of data will be informed by the project design and the aims and objectives of the project.
6.1.2	A digital copy of the final project report will be deposited with the Clwyd-Powys Historic Environment Record via email to the HER Officer at CPAT HER or Historic Environment Record Data Deposit Online System HEDDOS at https://cpat.org.uk/heddos.html and National Monuments Record, RCAHMW, Aberystwyth.
6.1.3	The data archive will be ordered, with files named and structured in a logical manner, and accompanied by relevant documentation and metadata.
6.1.4	Upon project completion all project data is checked to ensure all data and information is stored within the project files. Any data required to be removed and deleted (e.g. GDPR Regulations) will be removed from project files before archive. On completion of a job closure form, all project data is removed from live servers accessible to staff and is added to an independent archive with additional access controls.
6.2	Long term preservation plan for the dataset and data repository
6.2.1	The project report in .pdf format will be deposited with the Clwyd-Powys Historic Environment Record.
6.2.2	The digital archive will be retained on the Salford Archaeology archive server for long-term storage and access.
6.3	Costs of archiving
6.3.1	Sufficient resources are included in the project budget to cover the costs of archiving.

7.0 Data Sharing

7.1	Sharing of data and accessibility
7.1.1	Wales does not currently participate in the OASIS mechanism for reporting and deposition. However, Welsh HERs contribute to the Archaeology Data Service grey literature library and event records.
7.1.2	A digital copy of the final report in .pdf format will be made available to the Clywd-Powys Historic Environment Record, as detailed in 6.1.2.
7.1.3	No specific arrangements for data sharing have been identified.
7.2	Restrictions on data sharing
7.2.1	No specific data restrictions have been identified at this stage.
7.2.2	A temporary embargo may be required on the sharing of the project results. If this is the case, specific details once agreed will be included in the updated version of this DMP and will be documented in the overarching Project Collection Metadata.

8.0 Responsibilities

8.1	Who will be responsible for implementing the data management plan?
8.1.1	The project manager and project lead, as detailed in Section 1, will be responsible for implementing the DMP and ensuring that it is reviewed and updated.
8.1.2	Data capture, metadata production and data quality are the responsibility of the Project Team, assured by the Project Manager, as detailed in Section 1.
8.1.3	Data archiving is undertaken by the project team under the guidance of the relevant Archives Officer, who is responsible for the transfer of the Archaeological Project Archive to the agreed repository.



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