



WYAS
**Archaeological
Services**

St Paul the Apostle Church

Monk Bretton

South Yorkshire

Archaeological Watching Brief

Report no. 3411

April 2020

Client: PCC of St Paul the Apostle Church



**St Paul the Apostle Church ,
Monk Bretton,
South Yorkshire**

Archaeological Watching Brief

Summary

An archaeological watching brief on excavations for ground drainage works at St Paul the Apostle, Monk Bretton was undertaken. The aim of the works was to excavate a drainage trench and associated soakaway at the east end of the church. During the monitored excavations, no archaeological features or deposits were encountered.



Report Information

Client: St Paul the Apostle PCC
Address: Burton Road, Monk Bretton, Barnsley, S71 2HQ
Report Type: Archaeological Watching Brief
Location: St Paul the Apostle Church, Monk Bretton
County: South Yorkshire
Grid Reference: SE 36372 07626
Period(s) of activity represented: Victorian-modern
Report Number: 3411
Project Number: X128
Site Code: MBN20
Faculty Reference No.: 2018-018480
Museum Accession No.: TBC
Date of fieldwork: 7th February 2020
Date of report: April 2020
Project Management: Jane Richardson PhD MCIfA FSA
Fieldwork supervisor: Konrad Dziurawiec
Report: Jane Richardson
Illustrations: Kevin Moon
Photography: Konrad Dziurawiec

Authorisation for
distribution

© Archaeological Services WYAS 2020
Nepshaw Lane South, Morley, Leeds LS27 7JQ
Telephone: 0113 535 0163
Email: admin@aswyas.com



Contents

Report information	ii
Contents.....	iii
Document Issue Record	iv
List of Figures	iv
List of Plates.....	iv
1 Introduction.....	1
Site location, topography and land-use.....	1
Soils and geology.....	1
2 Archaeological and Historical Background.....	1
3 Aims and Objectives	2
4 Methodology	2
5 Results	2
6 Conclusion	2

Figures

Plates

Appendices

Appendix 1: Written Scheme of Investigation

Appendix 2: Inventory of primary archive

Appendix 3: Concordance of contexts

Bibliography

Document Issue Record

Ver	Status	Author(s)	Reviewer	Approver	Date
1.0	Draft	JR	DW	KM	April 20
2.0	Final	JR	DW	KM	April 20

List of Figures

- 1 Site location
- 2 Site plan

List of Plates

- 1 Working shot showing excavated trench and excavation of the soakaway, facing east
- 2 Working shot showing excavation of the soakaway, facing northeast
- 3 General shot of the excavation area, facing east
- 4 Section of the soakaway, facing west towards the church

1 Introduction

Archaeological Services WYAS (ASWYAS) were commissioned by PPIY Architects + on behalf of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Paul the Apostle Church, Monk Bretton to carry out an archaeological watching brief during groundworks at the church. The archaeological work was undertaken in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by ASWYAS (Appendix 1). The work was carried out to the standards laid down by Historic England (2006; 2008) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014), as well as the Guidance for Best Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England (2017).

Site location and topography and land-use

St Paul the Apostle Church sits on the corner of Burton Road and Cross Street, Monk Bretton. The church is centred on SE 36372 07626 (Fig. 1). It is bounded by a graveyard. The land is generally flat and situated at around 102m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).

Soils and geology

The underlying bedrock comprises Oaks Rock – Sandstone, a Emley Rock, a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 315 to 318 million years ago in the Carboniferous Period (BGS 2020). No superficial deposits are recorded and the soils are unsurveyed in this urban location (SSEW 1983).

2 Archaeological and Historical Background

Although the nearby Priory formed a Christian community (until dissolution by Henry VIII), Monk Bretton did not possess a church until 1838. The village formed part of the extensive parish of Royston. In 1838 the foundation stone for the first church was laid on a site donated by Sir George Wombwell, at the corner of Cross Street and Burton Road. A new chapelry district, separating Monk Bretton (with Cudworth) from Royston parish and enabling 'baptisms, churchings and burials', was created by Queen Victoria by an order in Council on 22 July 1843. The first church was replaced (on the same site) by the present St Paul's Church in 1878. The church, built in the late Decorated style by Luigi and H. Solaini of Liverpool, is now a grade II listed building (list entry number 1315009). The church is built in tooled stone with a Welsh slate roof and square west tower. The churchyard, which is now closed, contains sixteen burials from the 1866 Oaks Colliery Explosion.

3 Aims and Objectives

Archaeological monitoring of the work was to ensure that no archaeological deposits or features, or extant historic fabric, were disturbed unnecessarily. Where such disturbance was

unavoidable, the commissioned archaeologist ensured that an appropriately detailed archive was created, such that the remains were regarded as having been preserved by record.

The work was carried out to nationally recognised standards and was discharged through the production of a detailed report and the deposition of the archive with Barnsley Museum.

4 Methodology

The work comprised excavation at the east end of the church to facilitate drainage and a soakaway for a new sink in the vestry (Fig. 2). The pipe trench was excavated to a depth of no more than 0.3m and was only 0.3m wide. The soakaway was up to 1m in depth and 1m by 2m in plan.

To avoid any unnecessary disturbance, all excavations were undertaken by hand under archaeological supervision. Stripping took place in level spits of no more than 100mm to the required depth. The resulting surface was inspected for archaeological remains. Where necessary, the relevant area was cleaned by hand.

The excavation limits were surveyed by a 1:20 hand drawn plan. All excavated deposits were fully recorded, giving details of location, composition, shape, dimensions, relationships, finds and cross-references to other elements of the record, in order to meet the aims and objectives outlined in the WSI. All contexts were given unique numbers.

The photographic archive comprised monochrome negative photographs at a minimum format of 35mm. The black and white record was supplemented by a colour digital photographic record using cameras with a resolution of at least 10 megapixels.

An inventory of the archive is provided in Appendix 2 and a concordance of contexts is given in Appendix 3.

5 Results

The works involved the hand excavation of a pipe trench and soakaway to the east of the church (Fig. 2; Plates 1 and 2). A trench followed the modern path which involved the lifting of flags (Plate 3) to reveal a thin 0.1m deep topsoil (100) of brown-grey sandy silt. This overlay a levelling surface of orange-brown sand and gravel (101), beneath which was a second levelling layer of grey-brown stony sand (102). Within the soakaway, a compact grey-yellow clay natural (103) was observed (Plate 4). No other deposits were noted.

6 Conclusion

Paving slabs were lifted to reveal topsoil overlying two levelling layer over natural deposits. No other deposits were encountered during these works and no human remains or other archaeological material were disturbed.

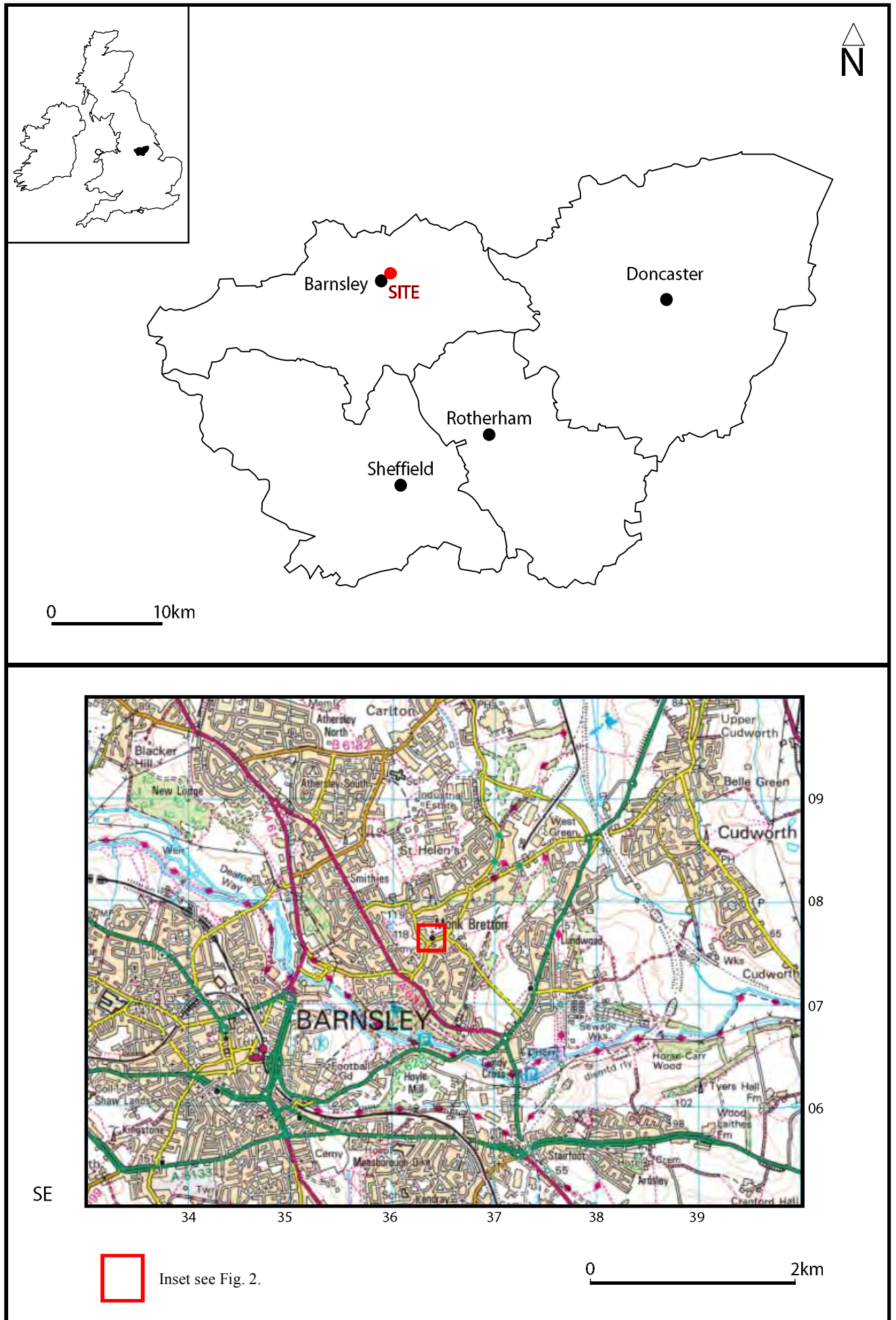


Fig. 1. Site location

Reproduced with the permission of the controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Archaeological Services WYAS: licence LA076406, 2020.



Fig. 2. Site plan



Plate 1. Working shot showing excavated trench and excavation of the soakaway, facing east



Plate 2. Working shot showing excavation of the soakaway, facing northeast



Plate 3. General shot of the excavation area, facing east



Plate 4. Section of the soakaway, facing west towards the church

Appendix 1: Written Scheme of Investigation



**St Paul the Apostle Church
Monk Bretton
South Yorkshire**

Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief

Prepared by: Jane Richardson
Archaeological Services WYAS
Nepshaw Lane South
Morley
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS27 7JQ

On behalf of: St Paul the Apostle Church PCC

Nat. grid ref.: SE 36372 07626

February 2020



Project Design for an Archaeological Watching Brief at St Paul the Apostle Church, Monk Bretton, South Yorkshire

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This Project Design has been prepared by Archaeological Services WYAS (ASWYAS) for St Paul the Apostle Church PCC, Monk Bretton, South Yorkshire. It details a scheme of archaeological watching brief at St Paul the Apostle Church during groundworks associated with a new sink in the vestry and associated drainage.
- 1.2 This document details a programme of archaeological watching brief and has been produced to the standards laid down in Historic England's guidelines: *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE): Project Managers Guide* (2006), *MoRPHE Project Planning Note 3: Archaeological Excavation (PPN3)* (2008) and *Guidance for Best Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England* (2017).

2. Site Location, Description and Topography

- 2.1 The church is centred on SE 36372 07626. It is bounded by a graveyard. The land is generally flat and situated at around 102m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).

3. Geology and Soils

- 3.1 The underlying bedrock comprises Oaks Rock – Sandstone, a Emley Rock, a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 315 to 318 million years ago in the Carboniferous Period (BGS 2020). No superficial deposits are recorded and the soils are unsurveyed in this urban location (SSEW 1983).

4. Archaeological and Historical Background

- 4.1 The following information is taken from the church's website (<http://www.stpaulmonkbretton.com/>).
- 4.2 Although the nearby Priory formed a Christian community (until dissolution by Henry VIII), Monk Bretton did not possess a church until 1838. The village formed part of the extensive parish of Royston. In 1838 the foundation stone for the first church was laid on a site donated by Sir George Wombwell, at the corner of Cross Street and Burton Road. A new chapelry district, separating Monk Bretton (with Cudworth) from Royston parish and enabling 'baptisms, churchings and burials', was created by Queen Victoria by an order in Council on 22 July 1843. The first church was replaced (on the same site) by the present St Paul's Church in 1878. The church, built in the late Decorated style, is now a grade II listed building. The churchyard, which is now closed, contains 16 burials from the 1866 Oaks Colliery Explosion

5. Aims and Objectives

- 5.1 Archaeological monitoring of the work will ensure that no archaeological deposits or features, or extant historic fabric, are disturbed unnecessarily. Where such disturbance is unavoidable, the commissioned archaeologist shall ensure that an appropriately detailed archive is created, such that the remains can be regarded as having been preserved by record.
- 5.2 The work shall be carried out to nationally recognised standards and be discharged through the production of a detailed report and the deposition of the archive with Barnsley Museum.

6. Methodology

- 6.1 The work comprises groundworks at the east end of the church associated with drainage and a soakaway.
- 6.2 All excavations will be undertaken in line with the ClfA's *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (2014a), and in compliance with the English Heritage MoRPHE *PPN3: Archaeological Excavation* (2008) and *Guidance for Best Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England* (2017).
- 6.3 If required all necessary excavations shall be carried if possible using a mechanical excavator equipped with a **toothless ditching bucket** under archaeological supervision. Should this not be possible all excavations will be undertaken by hand, again under archaeological supervision. Stripping will take place in level spits of no more than 100mm to the top of the first archaeological horizon, undisturbed natural or the maximum depth of the foundations. The resulting surface will be inspected for archaeological remains. Where archaeological remains require clarification, the relevant area will be cleaned by hand. Under no circumstances will the machine be used to cut arbitrary trenches down to natural deposits.
- 6.4 The intention of the archaeological watching brief is not to unduly delay the work of other contractors on site, however, a degree of flexibility is also expected of the developer in order that the archaeologist can fulfil the terms of this Written Scheme.
- 6.5 An archaeologist will be present on site **during any excavation**. The archaeologist will view the area as it is being dug and any trench sections after excavation has been completed. Where archaeology is judged to be present, the excavated area will be rapidly cleaned and the need for further work assessed. Where appropriate, any features and finds will then be quickly hand excavated, sampled if appropriate, and recorded.
- 6.6 No graves, grave furniture, and any other archaeological features, are to be disturbed unless it is required in order to mitigate the ground works required to fulfil the needs of the reordering works. Any archaeological features/deposits

which need to be mitigated through preservation by record will be manually excavated in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner, in order to meet the aims and objectives outlined above.

6.7 Features will be excavated and recorded employing the following strategy:

- Non-burial features: sufficient excavation will be carried out to investigate the depth, profile and fills of any ditches, pit and post-holes to recover dating and environmental evidence from their fills;
- Any buried walls, tombs, vaults or memorial stones etc. will be recorded in plan and elevation, and will only be dismantled/excavated to facilitate the required works being carried out;
- If exposed, grave cuts will be recorded in plan, but graves will only be excavated to the depth required of the re-ordering works;
- In the event of human remains being encountered they will, in the first instance, be left in situ, covered and protected. Human remains shall only be removed in accordance with a **faculty variation**. A faculty may be granted to proceed with the works, but this will not normally sanction the removal of human remains. This will have to be applied for (to the Chancellor of the Diocese, via the DAC Registrar) once the nature and circumstances of the remains is known.
- Human remains shall only be removed in accordance with this faculty variation. Typically, disarticulated remains may be removed and reburied close by under the supervision of a priest, but encountering articulated human remains will lead to a cessation of works until further direction is obtained from the Chancellor of the Diocese (via the DAC Registrar).

6.8 The excavation limits will be surveyed with hand drawn plans of features, at 1:20 or 1:50 being created as appropriate. Sections of linear and discrete features will be drawn at 1:10. All sections, plans and elevations will include spot-heights related to Ordnance Datum in metres, as correct to two decimal places. Tie-in information will be undertaken during the course of the evaluation and will be fixed in relation to nearby permanent structures and roads and to the National Grid.

6.9 All excavated archaeological contexts shall be fully recorded by written records, giving details of location, composition, shape, dimensions, relationships, finds, samples, and cross-references to other elements of the record. All contexts, and any small finds and samples from them will be given unique numbers. Any bulk finds (e.g. pottery CBM, bone etc.) will be collected by context.

6.10 The photographic archive will comprise monochrome negative photographs at a minimum format of 35mm. The black and white record should be supplemented by a colour digital photographic record taken using cameras with a resolution of at least 10 megapixels. Digital images must be supplied in three file formats (RAW, DNG and JPEG files). Metadata included in the DNG file must include the name

of the site, an O.S. six-figure grid reference, the date of the photograph, the subject and the organization creating the image.

- 6.11 Artefacts may only be removed from the consecrated area and be subject to assessment and, if justified, further analysis, if permitted by the Chancellor of the Diocese. Artefacts taken during the watching brief are to be stored in the church until permission for their removal has been obtained. Artefacts removed from the site for assessment and analysis and, where it is appropriate, their find spots shall be recorded three dimensionally. Non-modern artefacts from the excavated topsoil and subsoil will be collected. Finds material will be stored in controlled environments, where appropriate. All artefacts recovered will be retained, cleaned, labelled and stored as detailed in the guidelines laid out in the ClfA (2014b). Any necessary conservation work will be undertaken by approved conservators working to UKIC guidelines.
- 6.12 Soil may not be removed from the consecrated area unless specifically permitted by the Chancellor of the Diocese. Soil samples taken during the watching brief are to be stored in the church until permission for their removal has been obtained. If appropriate, a soil-sampling programme shall be undertaken during the course of the investigation for the identification and recovery of carbonised and waterlogged remains, vertebrate remains, molluscs and small artefactual material. Historic England's Regional Science Advisor, environmental and soil specialists may be consulted during the course of the excavation with regard to the implementation of this sampling programme, should waterlogged deposits be identified. Particular attention will be paid to the sampling of primary feature fills, any surviving buried soils beneath banks or other positive features, and basal deposits within graves. Environmental material removed from site will be stored in appropriate controlled environments. The collection and processing of environmental samples will be undertaken in accordance with guidelines set out by the Association for Environmental Archaeology (1995) and English Heritage's Environmental Archaeology Guidelines (<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/environmental-archaeology-2nd/environmental-archaeology-2nd.pdf>). In addition, the processing of environmental samples will only take place within facilities approved for such purposes by Historic England's Regional Science Advisor.
- 6.13 All finds of gold and silver and associated objects shall be reported to HM Coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act 1997.

7. Analysis and Reporting

- 7.1 Within four weeks of the watching brief finishing, a report shall be produced. This may be subject to extension if archaeological/artefactual/ecofactual evidence of particular significance is identified that requires a longer period of study.
- 7.2 The site archive will be assembled in line with the recommendations provided in Historic England's MoRPHE Project Planning Note 3: Archaeological Excavation (PPN3).

- 7.3 In addition to the site records, artefacts, ecofacts and other sample residues, the archive shall contain all the data collected during the excavations, including records, finds and environmental samples. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent. Adequate resources will be provided during fieldwork to ensure that all records are checked and internally consistent. Archive consolidation will be undertaken immediately following the conclusion of fieldwork and will involve:
- the site record being checked, cross-referenced and indexed as necessary;
 - all retained finds being cleaned, conserved, marked and packaged in accordance with the requirements of the recipient museum;
 - all retained finds being assessed and recorded using pro forma recording sheets, by suitably qualified and experienced staff. Initial artefact dating will be integrated within the site matrix; and
 - all retained environmental samples being processed by suitably experienced and qualified staff and recorded using pro forma recording sheets.
- 7.4 In addition to the site records, artefacts, ecofacts and other sample residues, the archive shall contain:
- site matrices where appropriate;
 - a summary report synthesising the context record;
 - a summary of the artefact record; and
 - a summary of the environment record.
- 7.5 The integrity of the primary field record will be preserved. Security copies will be maintained where appropriate.
- 7.6 Provision will be made for the deposition of the archive, artefacts and environmental material, subject to the permission of the Church of England (and if no further archaeological work is to be initiated), with Barnsley Museum. The museum will be advised of the timetable of the proposed investigation prior to excavation commencing. The archive will be prepared in accordance with industry guidelines (United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, 1990; Museums and Galleries Commission 1994). Provision will be made for the stable storage of paper records and their long-term storage.
- 7.7 Upon completion of the investigations, the artefacts, ecofacts and stratigraphic information shall be assessed as to their potential and significance for further analysis.
- 7.8 A report will include the following:
- a non-technical summary of the results of the work;
 - a summary of the project's background.
 - the dates the fieldwork took place;
 - the site location, including National Grid Reference;

- an account of the method;
 - the results of the excavations, including phasing and interpretation of the site sequence;
 - plan(s) showing the location of the proposed development site at least 1:10,000;
 - general and detailed plans at appropriate scales, showing the location of the trenches accurately positioned on an up-to-date Ordnance Survey base;
 - detailed plans and sections of individual features where necessary;
 - all scales used on any drawings should be standard scales such as would appear on a normal scale rule;
 - the analysis of each category of data;
 - conservation assessment;
 - an assessment of the stratigraphic and other written, drawn and photographic records;
 - a catalogue of the archaeological material recovered during the excavations;
 - a summary of the contents of the project archive and its location.
- 7.9 The report will outline the archaeological significance of the deposits identified, and provide an interpretation of the results in relation to other sites in the vicinity where appropriate.
- 7.10 One copy of the complete draft report including figures will be submitted to the PCC for review. In finalising the report, ASWYAS will take into account all comments and remedy any faults identified.
- 7.11 Copies of the report (paper and/or digital as required) will be supplied to the PCC and the DAC as required.
- 7.12 Upon completion of the work, ASWYAS will make their work accessible to the wider research community by submitting digital data and copies of reports online to OASIS (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/>).
- 8. Copyright, Confidentiality and Publicity**
- 8.1 Copyright in the documentation prepared by ASWYAS and specialist sub-contractors should be the subject of additional licences in favour of the repository accepting the archive to use such documentation for their statutory educational and museum service functions, and to provide copies to third parties as an incidental to such functions.
- 8.2 Under the Environmental Information Regulations 2005 (EIR), information submitted to the HER becomes publicly accessible, except where disclosure might lead to environmental damage, and reports cannot be embargoed as 'confidential' or 'commercially sensitive'.
- 8.3 Requests for sensitive information are subject to a public interest test, and if this is met, then the information has to be disclosed. ASWYAS should inform the client of EIR requirements, and ensure that any information disclosure issues are

resolved before completion of the work. Intellectual property rights are not affected by the EIR.

- 8.4 Unless the client commissioning the project wishes to state otherwise, the copyright of any written, graphic or photographic record and reports will rest with the originating body (ASWYAS).

9. Health and Safety

- 9.1 Archaeological Services WYAS has its own Health and Safety policy which has been compiled using national guidelines. These guidelines conform to all relevant Health and Safety legislation.
- 9.2 In addition each project undergoes a 'Risk Assessment' which sets project specific Health and Safety requirements to which all members of staff are made aware of prior to on-site work commencing. Health and Safety will take priority over archaeological matters. Necessary precautions will be taken over underground services and overhead lines at the outset of the project. Archaeological Services WYAS will ensure that Health and Safety requirements of the main contractor are adhered to.

10. Insurance

- 10.1 ASWYAS is covered by the insurance and indemnities of the West Yorkshire Joint Services Committee. Insurance has been effected with: Zurich Municipal, Zurich House, 2 Gladiator Way, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 6GB (policy number QLA-03R896-0013). Any further enquiries should be directed to: Head of Finance, Wakefield Council, Wakefield One, PO Box 700, Wakefield, WF1 2EB.

11. Monitoring

- 11.1 The project will be monitored for the DAC by their Archaeological Advisor, who may inform the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service. The DAC will be given at least a week's notice of work commencing, in order that their advisors may attend site while work is in progress.
- 11.2 If appropriate, the advice of the Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science (Yorkshire and the Humber Region) at Historic England may be called upon.
- 11.3 The archaeological contractor will ensure that any significant findings/results are brought to the attention of the PCC, their architect and the DAC Archaeological Advisor as soon as possible.

Bibliography

Association for Environmental Archaeology, 1995, *Environmental Archaeology and Evaluations*

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014a, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation*

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014b, *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials*

Historic England, 2006, Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment. The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide

Historic England, 2008, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE). PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation*

Historic England and The Church of England, 2017, 'Guidance for Best Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England'

Museums and Galleries Commission, 1994, *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections*

Pratt, C. T. 1882, *A History of Cawthorne*, Manchester

<http://www.stpaulmonkbretton.com/>

Thompson, D. 2007, *The National Soil Map and Soil Classification*, Cranfield University

United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, 1990, *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage*



© Archaeological Services WYAS 2020
Nepshaw Lane South, Morley, Leeds LS27 7JQ
ISOQAR ISO 9001:2008
Cert. No. 125QM8003



Appendix 2: Inventory of primary archive

Phase	File/Box No	Description	Quantity
Watching brief	File no.1	Context register sheets	1
		Drawing register sheets	1
		Permatrace	1
		Digital photo register sheets	1
		Watching brief sheets	2
		Trench record sheets	1
		Context sheets (nos. 100-103))	4

Appendix 3: Concordance of contexts

Context	Description	Artefacts and environmental samples
100	Topsoil	
101	Levelling layer	
102	Levelling layer	
103	Natural	

Bibliography

British Geological Survey, 2020, <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>
(viewed September 2020)

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014, Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological
Watching Brief

Historic England, 2006, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment. The
MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide*

Historic England, 2008, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment
(MoRPHE). PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation*

Historic England and The Church of England, 2017, *Guidance for Best Practice for the
Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England*

Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983, *Soils of Northern England Sheet 1*