Allen Archaeology Ltd

SPECIFICATION FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION BY TRIAL TRENCHING: LAND OFF BARTONS ROAD, HAVANT, HAMPSHIRE

Planning Reference:	**DC/19/01217/PLF**
Client:	**Redrow Homes**
National Grid Reference:	**SU 7333 0805**
Date:	**7th April 2021**
AAL Site Code:	**HABR 20**
Museum Accession Number:	**HMCMS:A2021.14**

1.0 Summary

This document is the specification for an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching on land off Barton's Road, Havant, Hampshire, which will be undertaken as a condition of planning consent for a residential development. The site works and reporting will conform to current national guidelines as set out in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists '*Standard and guidance for an archaeological evaluations'* (CIfA 2020), and the Historic England document '*Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*' (Historic England 2015). All relevant Historic England guidelines on archaeological best practice will also be followed.

2.0 Site Location

Havant is located in the administrative district of Havant Borough Council, approximately 28km east-southeast of the centre of Southampton. The proposed development area comprises a c.2.6ha block of agricultural land on the northeast edge of the town, located to the north of Bartons Road. The site centres on NGR SU 7333 0805.

The bedrock geology comprises London Clay Formation clay, silt and sand, overlain in the eastern part of the site by superficial head deposits of clay and gravel (http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html).

3.0 Planning Background

Planning permission has been granted by Havant Borough Council for *'Outline Application for access with all other matters reserved, for up to 72 new homes plus associated green infrastructure including community orchard'* (Reference DC/19/01217/PLF). As a condition of planning consent, the County Archaeologist at Hampshire County Council, advising Havant Borough Council has recommended a programme of archaeological evaluation by trial trenching, in order to provide further information concerning the nature and extent of the archaeological resource, and to provide information to allow the planning authority to make a reasoned decision as to whether any further intrusive investigations will be required to establish any mitigation measures that may be appropriate. This work follows on from a non-intrusive geophysical survey of the site (AAL 2021).

The approach adopted is consistent with the recommendations of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), with the particular chapter of relevance being '*Section 16. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment'* (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government 2019).

4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

The site lies in an area of some archaeological interest. Early prehistoric activity has been recorded in the study area in the form of occasional Palaeolithic implements, as well as a possible temporary camp at Wakeford's Copse, to the northwest of the site (Enlander 2014).

Roman activity is fairly well represented, with a number of find spots in the area, including pottery scatters and metal finds (Hampshire Historic Environment Record References (hereafter HHER) 23365, 23421, 23422 and 23473). Possible kiln sites are noted in the area around Rowlands Castle, to the north of the site, as well as a possible villa near Wakeford's Copse, to the northwest (Enlander 2014).

There is no evidence for Anglo-Saxon activity in the vicinity of the site, but the place name Havant is Old English in origin, meaning 'Hama's spring' (http://kepn.nottingham.ac.uk/ map/place/Hampshire/Havant), and the church of St. Thomas a Beckett, in the southern part of the town has Anglo-Saxon origins. In the Domesday Book, Havant is recorded as land of the Bishop of Winchester, both before and after 1066, and was populated by 20 villagers, as well as including two mills and three salthouses (https://opendomesday.org/place/SU7106/havant/).

Evidence for medieval activity in the vicinity is limited. The site lies outside the settled area of the town, and was within the royal estate of the Forest of Bere (HCC 2012). It is likely the forest was gradually cleared during the post-medieval period, becoming enclosed for agriculture and for clay pits for brick making.

Trial trenching was undertaken immediately to the west of the site in advance of a residential development (Douglas 2016). Seven trenches were excavated on the site, and were largely devoid of archaeological remains other than an undated pit and undated ditch.

Trial trenching undertaken to the south of Bartons Road, comprising 50 trenches, exposed a number of features of late Iron Age to Roman date, comprising pits and possible enclosure ditches, mostly in the central and northern parts of the site (Marshall 2018).

A geophysical survey of the site identified a small number of features of potential archaeological interest, comprising parallel linear features that may be flanking a trackway and a possible enclosure feature, as well as areas of probable natural variation (AAL 2021).

5.0 Aims and Objectives

The objectives of the project are as follows:

- To establish the presence/absence, nature, date and quality of survival of archaeological deposits and remains and to assess the importance of such remains in terms of their local, regional and national context.
- To assess the possible impact of development on any archaeological remains.
- To provide information to allow the planning authority to make a reasoned decision as to whether any further intrusive investigations will be required, and to establish any mitigation measures that may be appropriate.

6.0 Methodology

The trial trenching methodology entails a 4% sample of the proposed development area, comprising 19no 30m x 1.8m trenches located as shown on the attached plan, or as near as site conditions will allow. The fieldwork will be undertaken by a team of experienced field archaeologists over a period of approximately five working days, commencing at a date yet to be agreed, provisionally in May 2021.

The evaluation trenches will be accurately located using a Leica GS08 RTK NetRover GPS. In each trench a mechanical excavator fitted with a smooth ditching bucket will be used to remove overburden, subsoil and underlying non-archaeological deposits in spits no greater than 100mm in depth. The process will be repeated until the first archaeologically significant or natural horizon is exposed. All further excavation will then be by hand. Machine excavation will be monitored at all times by an experienced field archaeologist.

In the event of positive results in the excavated trenches, all features will be investigated unless otherwise agreed with HNET. It is not anticipated that the complete excavation of features will be necessary at this stage. Metal detecting will be carried out during the initial machine excavation of the trenches as well as of archaeological deposits and spoil heaps with a unit not set to discriminate against iron.

All excavation by machine and hand must be undertaken with a view to avoid damage to archaeological deposits or features which appear worthy of preservation in situ or more detailed investigation than for the purposes of evaluation. Where structures, features or finds appear to merit preservation in situ, they must be adequately protected from deterioration.

Archaeological deposits will be excavated and recorded as appropriate to establish the stratigraphic and chronological sequence of deposits, recognising and excavating structural evidence and recovering economic, artefactual and environmental evidence. This should normally encompass a minimum sample excavation of: 50% of each discrete feature; 10% of each linear feature plus terminals and intersections, with slots measuring at least 1m in width wherever possible; 100% of special features/deposits including burials, structural remains, kilns, etc., unless otherwise agreed with the Planning Archaeologist.

A full written record of the archaeological deposits will be made on standard Allen Archaeology Limited context recording sheets. Sections to be excavated will be marked with string and nails and allocated an individual drawing number. A comprehensive record of all drawings will be maintained, and the location of every section drawing plotted onto the site master plan and correctly referenced. All excavated sections will then be drawn at an appropriate scale (1:10, 1:20 or 1:50), with Ordnance Datum heights being displayed on each drawing.

All archaeological deposits and features will be recorded in digital image photography, with an identification number board, appropriate metric scales and a north arrow. General site shots will also be taken to show the location of the groundworks and the stratigraphic sequence. The following will also be applied:

- Photographs should only be taken by staff who have been trained properly to use the camera;
- All photographs should be taken in colour;
- Photographs should be taken either on a manual, aperture or shutter priority setting;
- A low ISO setting should be used. Higher ISO settings generate additional noise (equivalent to the graininess on 'wet processed' film).
- The aperture setting should be appropriate to the required depth of field of the image;
- Where light levels are low, a tripod should be used so that a long exposure shot (slower shutter speed) can be taken;
- Low light levels should not be compensated for by using a higher ISO and/or larger aperture;
- All photographs (except large general or publicity shots) must include a suitable scale bar or rod. People, buckets, trowels or pens are not appropriate scales for archaeological photographs;
- All photographs of features must include a north arrow;
- All photographs (except general shots) must include a legible information board displaying the Site Code or Accession Number and the principal context number;
- Photographs should be taken in appropriate light conditions (i.e. not strong sun). When this is

not feasible, measures must be taken to ensure the features that photograph is aiming to capture are clear;

- A photographic register must be kept of each shot;
- Where 'bracketed shots' are taken (where it may not be possible to check an image for quality immediately or where lighting levels may affect contrast), only one image from the bracketed shots should be archived, the rest should be deleted.
- Photographs should be taken with a high-resolution digital SLR camera with sensors exceeding 12 Mega pixels;
- All photographs must be taken using the highest quality setting. TIFF format images are required for archive purposes and will produce large, high quality images and associated data files. For other purposes JPEG images should be of a sufficient quality, as long as they are taken on a suitable camera (see above), set up to take the highest quality images (largest file size and least compression (finest))

If human burials or cremations are exposed during the groundworks, in the first instance the LCC Historic and Natural Environment Team (HNET) will be contacted to discuss an appropriate strategy for the management of the human remains. Wherever possible the burials will remain in suit during the evaluation stage. However, there will be a need to clearly establish the date, state of preservation of the burials, and as far as possible the number likely to be present and may necessitate the full excavation of a sample burial and the use of scientific dating techniques. In this circumstance Allen Archaeology Limited will obtain a Ministry of Justice licence authorising the removal of the remains. The burial will be cleaned, photographed and recorded on standard Allen Archaeology Limited human skeletal remains recording sheets, prior to removal for cleaning at the offices of Allen Archaeology Limited and subsequent analysis by the named specialist.

Any artefacts found during the investigation that are deemed to be 'treasure' (as defined by the Treasure Act 1996) will be removed from site to a secure store and reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

All finds of all classes will be collected, other than obviously modern finds from topsoil and subsoil contexts. The spoil from the excavated areas will be examined for further artefact recovery. Finds collected during the fieldwork will be bagged and labelled with the appropriate deposit context number, while registered finds will be 3D located and bagged individually with the deposit context number and small find number. If necessary, the relevant specialist will visit the site during fieldwork to advise on the artefact collection and retention strategies. All finds will be processed (cleaned, marked and labelled as appropriate) at the offices of Allen Archaeology Limited. These will then be submitted for specialist reporting to the following organisations/persons (depending on their availability):

Sarah Percival	Early prehistoric pottery
Dr David Griffiths and Alice Beasley	Later prehistoric and Romano-British pottery
Sarah Bates	Worked lithic materials
Sue Anderson	Post-Roman pottery and CBM
Dr Hannah Russ	Animal bone
Tania Kausmally	Human bone
Adam Daubney	Other artefacts
Ellen Cooper/ Val Fryer	Environmental analysis
Norfolk Museums Services	Conservation

If the project results in the recovery of unstable artefactual remains (e.g. metallic objects, preserved wood/leather), Allen Archaeology Limited will commission the services of the Norfolk Museum Services to advise and implement conservation of unstable artefacts; to undertake x-ray analysis and to provide an assessment of potential summary, which will then be attached to the main report. Once assessed, all

material will be packed and stored in optimum conditions, as described in First Aid for Finds. Any waterlogged organic materials recovered will be dealt with, following the English Heritage documents, *'Guidelines for the care of waterlogged archaeological leather, and Guidelines on the recording, sampling, conservation and curation of waterlogged wood'* (English Heritage 2012).

All environmental sampling, processing, analysis and reporting will be undertaken in line with the guidance set out in the Historic England document '*Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*' (English Heritage 2011).

Where required, the Historic England Science Advisor will be contacted for support and advice.

Mrs Ellen Cooper or Mrs Val Fryer (dependent upon availability) is the named environmental consultant, who will be responsible for liaising with other specialists. Samples will be taken from deposits that have the potential to provide information on the preservation conditions and potential of analysis of all biological remains. If appropriate during the investigation, specialist advice will be sought from the environmental archaeologist, including a site visit to develop the sampling strategy. Processing of environmental remains will be undertaken by Allen Archaeology Limited.

Bulk samples will be taken from deposits with obvious potential for palaeoenvironmental remains (e.g. burnt pit fills) and a selection of stratified contexts that have produced good dating evidence, and sufficient in number to establish the range and quality of the environmental evidence. Where feasible, bulk samples will be taken as scatter samples, whereby tubs will be filled from different locations within the designated fill to avoid spatial preservation bias or missing biological remains invisible to the naked eye which can form discrete 'clusters' within the fill (English Heritage, 2011, 10). Artefacts recovered during the processing of the sample or material may be available for C14 dating.

Animal bone will be hand collected from all excavated features. These will be identified and assessed by the named specialist (Dr Hannah Russ), with any recommendations for future archaeological work on the site.

7.0 Post-Fieldwork Methodology

On completion of site operations, the records produced during the fieldwork will be checked and ordered. A fully illustrated report text will then be prepared that will contain the following information:

- A non-technical summary of the results
- A description of the archaeological setting of the site
- Description of the topography and geology of the investigation area
- Description of the methodologies used during the works and discussion of their effectiveness in the light of the results
- A text describing the results of the trenching
- Overall plan of the site showing excavated areas, trenches and test pit locations, accurately located to the national grid
- Plans of the trenches showing the archaeological features exposed
- Location plan of all test pits
- Sections of the trenches and archaeological features
- Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site
- Appropriate photographs of the site, and specific archaeological features or groups of features
- A consideration of the significance of the remains found, in local, regional, national and international terms, using recognised evaluation criteria

- A consideration of the impact of the development upon the known archaeological resource.

The timescale for completion of the post-excavation works is 3 days, with the report to be completed within three months of the completion of the fieldwork. If required, specialists will propose their own timescales during the post-fieldwork stage.

The report will include:

- The archaeological significance of the development site and any archaeological deposits encountered during the fieldwork.
- The evidence in its local, regional and national context, as appropriate, also aiming to highlight any research priorities where applicable.
- The results from any archaeological science investigations.

8.0 Archive

The documentation and records generated by the evaluation will be assembled in accordance with the national guidelines in *'Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation'* (AAF 2011) and will be converted into an appropriate format in accordance with guidelines set out in the Leicestershire Museums Service document, The Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Leicestershire County Council Museum Collections (LMS 2013). The archive will be deposited with the Leicestershire County Museum Service, within 12 months of completion of the report. A museum accession code has been requested and a response is awaited.

9.0 Report Dissemination

The report will be completed three months of the completion of the fieldwork, and digital copies will be sent to the client, to the Local Planning Authority and to HNET. A summary account on the results of the investigation in the form of an OASIS form will be forwarded to the ADS in York following the completion of the works.

10.0 Curatorial Monitoring

HNET will be kept informed of developments during the scheme by Allen Archaeology Limited. It is recognised that they may visit the site during the fieldwork element to monitor the archaeological work and confirm that the archaeological works are being done to the highest possible standard. Internal monitoring will be by the author of this specification.

11.0 Variations to the Proposed Scheme of Works

Variations to the proposed scheme will only be made following written confirmation from HNET.

Should any further investigation be required beyond the scope of this specification, then the cost and duration of those supplementary examinations will be negotiated between the client and the contractor.

12.0 Health and Safety

All work will be carried out in a way that complies with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and its related regulations and codes of practice. Employees of Allen Archaeology Limited will perform their duties in accordance with company safety policy, with senior staff responsible for monitoring compliance with health and safety requirements and legislation. All works will be undertaken in accordance with the most current and up to date advice issued by the Government and the Construction Leadership Council guidance on Site Operating Procedures (https://builduk.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Site-Operating-Procedures-23-March-2020.pdf).

The archaeological site supervisor will be responsible for ensuring that all on-site archaeological work is carried out in a safety-conscious, sensible and responsible manner with due regard for the relevant health and safety requirements and legislation. All staff involved in the scheme will be provided with a Risk Assessment document prior to commencement of site operations.

13.0 Insurances

Allen Archaeology Limited maintains Employers Liability Insurance to £10,000,000.00, Public Liability Insurance to £5,000,000.00 and Professional Indemnity Insurance to £2,000,000.00. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied upon request.

14.0 Copyright

Allen Archaeology Limited shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that an exclusive license is hereby provided to the clients for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project described in this document.

License is also given to the archaeological curator to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes. This license does not cover commercial use of the material by Leicestershire County Council or a third party.

In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Allen Archaeology Limited. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Allen Archaeology Limited to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Allen Archaeology Limited that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 and may result in legal action.

The author of any specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes for further publication.

15.0 References

AAF, 2011, *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*, Archaeological Archives Forum

AAL, 2021, *Archaeological evaluation report: geophysical survey by magnetometry on land off Bartons Road, Havant, Hampshire*, Allen Archaeology Limited, report number 2021002

CIfA, 2014, S*tandard and guidance for archaeological evaluation*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, Reading

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Historic and Natural Environment Team, 2020, Generic Brief for Archaeological Field Evaluation (Trial Trenching)

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