Archaeology Wales

Scarrowscant Lane, Haverfordwest Pembrokeshire

Geophysical Survey



By Jennifer Muller BA MA

Report No. 1744



Archaeology Wales

Scarrowscant Lane, Haverfordwest Pembrokeshire

Geohpysical Survey

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Edited by: Rowena Hart

Signed: RHAD

Position: Regional Director

Date: 19/12/2018

Authorised by: Rowena Hart

Signed: RHAD

Position: Regional Director

Date: 19/12/2018

By Jennifer Muller BA MA

Report No. 1744

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Non-Technical Summary

This report results from a geophysical survey carried out by Archaeology Wales Ltd (AW) for, Persimmon Homes West Wales Ltd following recommendations made by Dyfed Archaeological Trust — Development Management (DAT-DM), in their capacity as archaeological advisors to Pembrokeshire County Council (PCC). It draws on the results of a magnetometer survey undertaken on the site of a proposed residential development on land to the south of Scarrowscant Lane, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, centred on NGR SM 94025 14578.

The aim of the geophysical survey was to determine the nature and extent of any buried archaeological features within the proposed development area. The work was undertaken using a Bartington Grad601 dual fluxgate gradiometer.

A few linear and discrete features were identified throughout the survey area. The results appear to be associated with modern ploughing, a former field boundary, and the result of other modern features, possibly drainage and certainly buried services. One oval-shaped feature was identified that has no obvious interpretation. The modern, narrow ploughing together with frequent brick and tile along with modern ferrous objects across the site could mask any archaeological features beneath it.

The work was carried out to the Standard and Guidance set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists for archaeological geophysical survey (ClfA 2014) and completed in accordance with EAC Guidelines for the Use of Geophysics in Archaeology (Historic England 2016).

Crynodeb Annhechnolegol

Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn deillio o arolwg geoffisegol a gynhaliwyd gan Archaeoleg Cymru (AW) ar gyfer Persimmon Homes West Wales Ltd yn dilyn argymhellion a waned gan Reolaeth Datblygu - Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeoleg Dyfed (DAT-DM) yn rhinwedd eu swydd fel cynghorwyr archaeolegol i Gyngor Sir Benfro (PCC). Mae'n gal war ganlyniadau arolwg magnetomedr a gynhaliwyd ar safle datblygiad preswyl arfaethedig ar dir i'r De o Scarrowscant Lane, Hwlffordd, Sir Benfro, sydd wedi'i ganoli ar NGR SM 94025 14578.

Nod yr arolwg geoffisegol oedd pennu natur a maint unrhyw nodweddion archaeolegol claddedig o fewn yr ardal datblygu arfaethedig. Ymgymerwyd ar waith gan ddefnyddio gradiomedr deuol Bartington Grad601.

Nodwyd ychydig o nodweddion llinol ac arwahanol ledled ardal yr arolwg. Mae'n ymddangos bod y canlyniadau'n gysylltiedig â marciau aredig modern, hen ffin cae, a chanlyniadau nodweddion modern eraill, nodweddion draenio o bosib ac yn sicr gwasanaethau wedi'u claddu. Nodwyd un nodwedd hirgrwn nad oes iddi unrhyw ddehongliad amlwg. Gallai'r aredig modern, cul ynghyd â brics a theils gyda'r gwrthrychau fferrus modern ar draws y safle guddio unrhyw nodweddion archaeolegol oddi tano.

Cafodd y gwaith ei wneud i'r safon a'r canllawiau a bennwyd gan Chartered Institute for Archaeologist for archaeological geophysical survey (CIfA 2014) ac fe'u cwblhawyd yn unol â EAC Guidelines for the Use of Geophysics in Archaeology (Historic England 2016)

1 Introduction

Location and scope of work

In December 2018, Archaeology Wales Ltd (AW) carried out a geophysical survey on the site of a proposed residential development on land near to the south of Scarrowscant Lane, in Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire (the site), centred on NGR SM 94025 14578 (Figs 1 & 2). The local planning authority is the Pembrokeshire County Council (henceforth – PCC).

The site covers an area comprising one large open field of arable land gently-sloping from 55mOD at the northern edge to 43mOD at the south. The site is bounded to the north by Scarrowscant Lane and to the west by Bethany Road. The site is bounded to the east and south by residential homes.

Dyfed Archaeological Trust – Development Management (Henceforth – DAT-DM), in their capacity as archaeological advisors to PCC, recommended that a geophysical survey of the site was undertaken prior to determination of any further mitigation requirements.

Subsequently, a Written Scheme of Investigations (WSI) was prepared by AW at the request of Persimmon Homes West Wales Ltd. It provided information on the methodology to be employed by AW during a geophysical survey of the site. The WSI was submitted to, and approved by, DAT-DM, on behalf of the PCC, prior to the survey being undertaken.

The work was managed by Rowena Hart Regional Director – Archaeology Wales, Project Manager, and the site work was undertaken by Daniel Moore, Jennifer Muller, Alice Hardy and Victoria Alexander.

Site Description and Geology

The development area covers an area of a single open field of arable land, broken up at the north by trees, and bounded by some small sections of hedgerows and trees. It occupies a gently-sloping south-east facing aspect.

The lower field comprises an area of ploughed land with a gradual slope down to the south-east, occupying an area of approximately 3.8 hectares. The field is made up of relatively even ground. Plough marks are evident, and the field is covered with recently harvested hay and scattered with fragments of ceramic building material and modern pot. The north-western half of the field is separated by an overgrown area with trees and there are signs of a previous structure.

The entire field is bounded by trees and hedgerows. On the western side is bounded by a row of trees beyond which lies Bethany Road. The south-western end is bounded by trees, beyond which is another field. The east and north-east end of the field is bounded by trees and hedges, beyond which lie a housing estate. The northern and north-western end of the field is bounded by hedgerows, trees, and in places a stone wall, beyond which lies Scarrowscant Lane. At the northern end the field wraps around a house and its grounds. The main access is from the north.

The site lies on the south-western edge of Haverfordwest, the main settlement of which lies on the south side of the A487 Thomas Parry Way. The traditional centre of the town lies some 800m to the southeast. Haverfordwest lies on the Western Cleddau in central Pembrokeshire.

The underlying bedrock of the proposed development area comprises mudstones of the Portfield and Haverford Formation, partly overlain by sand and gravel glaciofluvial deposits (BGS 2018).

Archaeological and Historical Background

The following information is taken from the Desk Based Assessment (Pannett 2011) and subsequent work undertaken by AW within Haverfordwest (Poucher 2016).

A number of prehistoric monuments lie in the surrounding landscape demonstrating activity from throughout the prehistoric period. Recent work in the Withybush area to the north-east has identified Mesolithic activity. Other monuments include a Neolithic chambered tomb, and a pit circle to the north. Bronze Age barrows, standing stones and burnt mounds are also recorded in the wider landscape. Prominent Iron Age hillforts and other defended and undefended settlements are known surrounding Haverfordwest.

Haverfordwest itself was founded in the early 12th century, focused on a castle established by Tancred the Fleming in 1110. The town originally grew to the north and west of the castle, with town walls constructed in 1270. The town prospered as a trading port, lying on the main land route through Pembrokeshire and within the tidal reaches of the Cleddau River. The town suffered a decline following the Black Death of 1349 but remained the main port for Pembrokeshire. Medieval coins have been recovered to the north of the medieval town, and to the east of the survey area, which has led to suggestion this may have been the site of a medieval fair. Trackways and farmsteads in this area may also have medieval origins. The survey area itself lies close to the traditional route between Haverfordwest and St David's.

In the post-medieval period the town attracted wealthy local landowners and industry, undergoing an extensive period of rebuilding in the late 18th and 19th century. The arrival of the railway in the mid-19th century, and the establishment of major ports further down-river within the Milford Haven area meant the town declined in importance until the mid-20th century. The survey area likely lay in agricultural land surrounding the town during much of the post-medieval period. No archaeological sites have previously been recorded within the survey area.

DAT-DM highlighted several heritage assets in the wider landscape including, within a 300m radius, a Mesolithic flint working site (PRN 7350) and a medieval enclosure (PRN 13,295) as well as the misplaced HER point of Skerryford Bridge (PRN 15,147).

To the south and the west of the site, within a 300m radius, are a number of Medieval sites including quarries (PRN 17824, PRN 17794), Holy wells (PRN 3336, PRN 8647) and an enclosure (PRN 13295).

There are no sites of archaeological interest shown on the tithe mapping or the 1st-3rd edition Ordnance Survey mapping within the area of the development. No previously known archaeological investigations have been carried out within the development area.

2 Aims and Objectives

Geophysical Survey

The geophysical survey was undertaken in order to:

- Locate and describe archaeological features that may be present within the development area. The archaeological work was designed to attempt to elucidate the presence or absence of archaeological material that might be affected by the scheme, in particular its character, distribution, extent and relative significance.
- Provide sub-surface data to inform any future on-site works.

3 Methodology

Geophysical Survey

A Bartington Grad601 dual-fluxgate gradiometer was used to undertake the survey. The machine consists of two high stability fluxgate sensors suspended on a single frame, accurately aligned, which can detect localised magnetic anomalies compared

with the general magnetic background. When mapped in a systematic manner, this allows changes in the magnetic field resulting from differing features in the soil to be plotted. Previous research has shown that fired, or cut and backfilled archaeological features such as kilns and hearths, ditches and pits often have an anomalously higher magnetic susceptibility than the surrounding subsoil due to burning and biological processes. Data from this may be mapped at closely spaced regular intervals, to produce an image that may be interpreted to locate buried archaeological features (Clark, 1997) (Aspinall *et al*, 2011).

Detailed survey was carried out in grids of 30m x 30m along zig-zag traverses spaced at 1m intervals, recording data points spaced at 0.25m intervals to a maximum instrument sensitivity of 0.1nT in accordance with Historic England Guidelines. The survey mode was set to bi-directional (traverses walked alternately south-north/north-south). Incomplete survey lines resulting from irregular area boundaries or obstacles were completed using the 'dummy log' key. At regular intervals the data was downloaded in the field onto a laptop computer for storage and assessment.

Data Processing and Presentation

Following the completion of the detailed survey, processing and analysis took place using the TerraSurveyor v.3 software package. After downloading, the results were plotted in 2D. The most typical method of visualising the data is as a greyscale image. In a greyscale, each data point is represented as a shade of grey, from black to white at either extreme of the data range. A number of standard operations (including destriping) were carried out to process the data. The data was then analysed using a variety of parameters and styles and the most useful of these were saved as *JPEG images and displayed using Adobe Illustrator software. Due to the presence of strong magnetic anomalies, the data displayed was clipped to a range of +/-5 nT to allow finer details to be discerned. The results of the survey were then overlaid onto a digital map of the study area. This was then used to produce interpretation figures.

All works were undertaken in accordance with the CIfA's Standards and Guidance for a Geophysical Survey (2014) and current Health and Safety legislation.

4 Geophysical Survey Results

Limitations

The survey was undertaken during a period of wet and windy weather. This prevented surveying to the edges of the south-western part of the field due to health and safety issues.

The north-western end of the field, separated by the overgrowth of trees, presented some difficulties. A trackway through this area was difficult to access. The area just east of this was almost impossible to survey due to a fallen tree in combination with an upright tree in the centre of the drive and paving at the entrance.

Results of the Survey (Figs 3 - 6)

General

There was a scatter of strong magnetic, dipolar readings. Such strong responses are likely to be associated with modern activity, and indicate ferrous anomalies, or 'spikes', characteristic of small pieces of ferrous debris or brick/tile in the topsoil. This is strongly reinforced by evidence of recent ploughing and noting brick and tile on the surface of the site.

Discrete Features

A small number of dipolar responses appeared throughout the field. A fragment of iron pipe was noted on the surface. This produced a strong positive response and is labelled as Feature 1. Another strong response was noted and labelled as Feature 2. Nothing was visible here on the surface so it was likely buried ferrous debris.

In the centre of the field, directly south of the boundary to the house, was an area with strong magnetic responses and labelled as Feature 3. These might be related to clearance and dumping of stone up against the historic field boundary (see Field Boundary below). One response is located directly on the boundary itself and the others next to and in line with it.

Linear Features

Most clearly represented in the survey data are the regular linear features, interpreted as ploughing, in the main part of the field. These are orientated north- north-east to

south-south-west in the western half of the field (Feature 4) and orientated slightly more north-east to south-west (Feature 5) in the eastern side of the field. The slight difference in their direction could be explained by the presence of a former field boundary that lies between them (see Field Boundary below). Also visible are the plough marks created by the vehicle driving around the edge of the field.

Two faint linear features are noted (Feature 6) in the south-western end of the field, all orientated north-west to south-east. Since they are all lying in a similar orientation, they may be agricultural in nature, possibly earlier plough marks. Another interpretation might be that they are drainage to draw water to the bottom of the hill.

Two linear features were also noted in the south-west part of the field (Feature 7) They are approximately north-south aligned and measure c. 25m each and lie c.25m apart.

Three other linear striations are modern services (Feature 8). These lie in the north-west section of the field, two running north-west to south-east and the other east to west.

One linear feature running north-east to south-west is clearly visible in the north-eastern end of the field (Feature 9). Its width may suggest a ditch or possibly a field boundary, continuing from the west.

Field Boundary

Feature 10 is a pair of linear features running north-west to south-east. This feature aligns with a previous field boundary visible on the late 19th century historic map. The strong responses are therefore likely to be from the modern disturbance and infilling created by its removal.

Curvilinear Feature

In the southwest section of the field is a small, oval-shaped anomaly (Feature 11) that measures approximately 14m lengthwise (north to south).

5 Interpretation and Discussion

The survey data is dominated by ploughing that has the potential to mask any archaeological features below. Some features are discernible through the ploughing after standard processing techniques have been applied. This might suggest that significant archaeological features would not be hidden.

Although several features were discernible, these were either readily relatable to modern activity, or are likely associated with agricultural activity and modern services and are of limited archaeological interest.

The faint sub-circular anomaly is more difficult to interpret. This feature is however indistinct and apparently isolated. The prevalence of agricultural activity in the survey results in this area may also suggest that this could also be an agricultural feature.

The remaining features appear to be agricultural in nature, and of limited archaeological interest, correspond to ploughing activity and removed field boundaries.

6 Bibliography and References

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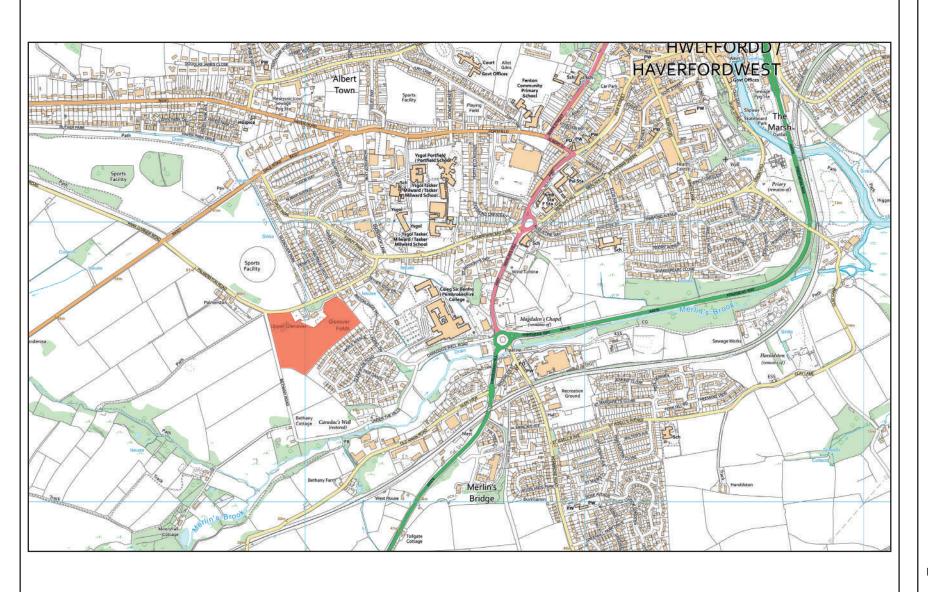
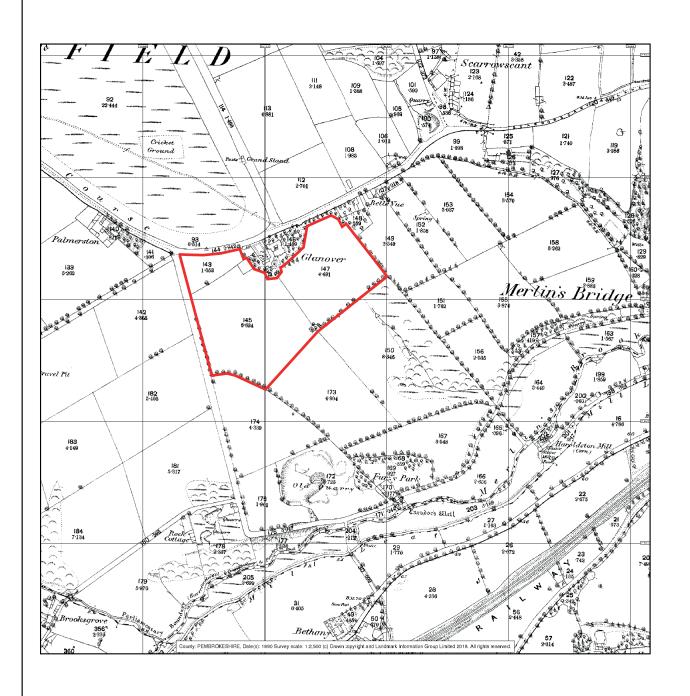


Figure 1. Site location (red)







Landmark Historical Map County: PEMBROKESHIRE Published Date(s): 1890 Originally plotted at: 1:2,500

Figure 2. Survey are outlined in red on the OS First edition map 1890





Figure 3. Magnetometer Raw data





Figure 4. Magnetometer data Destriped -20 to 20 nT

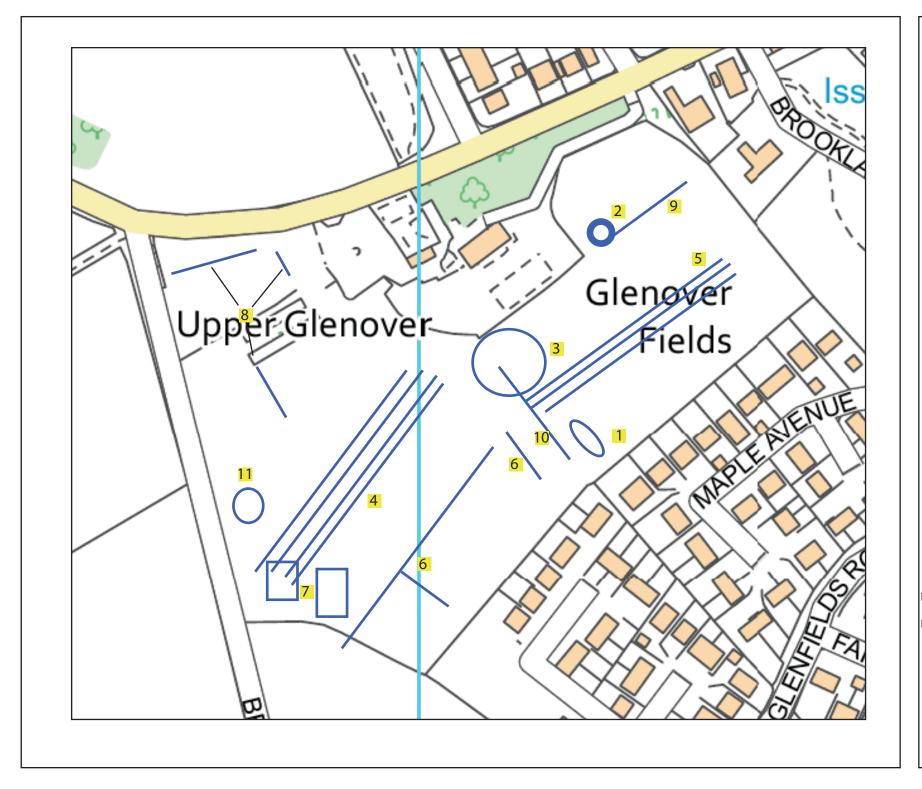




Figure 5. Magnetometer data Destriped -10 to 10 nT

Features labelled referred to in text





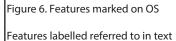








Plate 1: View to the north-east from the middle of the site

Plate 2: View to the south-west from the middle of the site







Plate 3: View to the south-east from the western end of the site

Plate 4: View to the west-south-west from the western end of site





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Written Scheme of Investigation

For a Geophysical Survey:

Land south of Scarrowscant Lane, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire

Prepared for: Persimmon Homes West Wales

Project No: 2685

December 2018

Archaeology Wales Limited The Reading Room, Town Hall, Great Oak St., Llanidloes, Powys, SY18 6BN

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NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) details the proposal for geophysical survey of land on the site of a proposed residential development on land to the south of Scarrowscant Lane, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire. It has been prepared by Archaeology Wales Limited for Persimmon Homes West Wales.

1. Introduction

The proposed development comprises plans for the construction of a new residential development on land to the south of Scarrowscant Lane, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire (henceforth – the site), centred on NGR SM 94025 14578 (Figure 1 and 2). The local planning authority is the Pembrokeshire County Council (henceforth – PCC).

The recommendations for a geophysical survey on the site have been proposed by Dyfed Archaeological Trust – Development Management (Henceforth – DAT-DM), in their capacity as archaeological advisors to PCC. DAT-DM noted "The proposed development site is located within Registered Historic Landscape HLW(D) 3: Milford Haven Waterway (Cadw, 1998), further defined as Historic Landscape Character Area 309: Haverfordwest, which comprises the historic core of the town and modern development within and on the town's fringes. There is one recorded heritage asset within the site boundary: Skerryford Bridge (PRN 15,147), the HER point for which appears misplaced. There are several heritage assets in the wider landscape including, within a 300m radius, a Mesolithic flint working site (PRN 7350) and a medieval enclosure (PRN 13,295)".

This WSI has been prepared by Charley James-Martin, Archaeology Wales Ltd (Henceforth - AW) at the request of Persimmon Homes West Wales. It provides information on the methodology that will be employed by AW during a geophysical survey of the site. This WSI is to be approved by DAT-DM, on behalf of the local planning authority, prior to the survey being undertaken.

All work will conform to the Standard and Guidance for Geophysical Survey (CIfA December 2014) and be undertaken by suitably qualified staff to the highest professional standards.

2 Site Description & Archaeological Background

The site covers an area of 4.416ha comprising a single irregularly shaped field with a small field adjoining the north west side. The site is largely bounded by hedgerows, occupying sloping south facing land at falling from 60mOD to 40mOD at the southern end. The site lies to the south of Scarrowscant Lane and east of Bethany Road.

To the south and partially to the north and east, the site is bounded by residential development. Agricultural land extends to the west and north west. To the north of the site, also to the south of Scarrowscant Lane is the former Glenover House/Redhill Preparatory School.

Haverfordwest lies on the Western Cleddau in central Pembrokeshire. The site is located to the south west of the centre of Haverfordwest, the town centre lies around 1km to the north east of the site.

The underlying bedrock of the proposed development area comprises mudstones of the Portfield and Haverford Formation (BGS 2018).

The plans for the development comprise the construction of 179 dwellings and associated works.

DAT-DM highlighted several heritage assets in the wider landscape including, within a 300m radius, a Mesolithic flint working site (PRN 7350) and a medieval enclosure (PRN 13,295) as well as the misplaced HER point of Skerryford Bridge (PRN 15,147).

To the south and the west of the site, within a 300m radius, are a number of Medieval sites including quarries (PRN 17824, PRN 17794), Holy wells (PRN 3336, PRN 8647) and an enclosure (PRN 13295).

There are no sites of archaeological interest shown on the tithe mapping or the 1st-3rd edition Ordnance Survey mapping within the area of the development. No previously known archaeological investigations have been carried out within the development area.

3 Objectives

This WSI sets out a program of works to ensure that the geophysical survey will meet the standard required by The Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard and Guidance for archaeological geophysical survey (2014)*.

The primary objective of the work will be locate and describe, by means of geophysical survey, archaeological features that may be present within the development area. The proposed archaeological work will attempt to elucidate the presence of absence of archaeological material that might be affected by the scheme, in particular its character, distribution, extent and relative significance.

A report will be produced that will provide information which is sufficiently detailed to allow informed planning decisions to be made that can safeguard the archaeological resource. The information could then be used to determine further archaeological investigation or appropriate mitigation strategies for any archaeological remains within the area to be implemented prior to or during the proposed development.

4 Methodology for geophysical survey

The area to be surveyed will include all of the accessible development area (see the attached plan, Figure 2). On-site adjustments may be required to avoid areas of magnetic interference or inaccessibility. For example, the wooded area between the two fields will be unsuitable for survey.

The site grid will located by GPS. All survey points will be located with a total station or similar survey equipment and plotted onto an O.S. base map.

The survey will be carried out using a Bartington Grad601 Magnetometer. This is

chosen as an efficient and effective method of locating archaeological anomalies on this type of site. The machine consists of two high stability fluxgates gradiometers suspended on a single frame, accurately aligned, that can detect localised magnetic anomalies compared with the general magnetic background. When mapped in a systematic manner this allows changes in the magnetic field resulting from differing features in the soil to be plotted. Strong magnetic anomalies will be generated by iron-based objects or areas of heat-activity, such as hearths and kilns. More subtle anomalies may be generated by changes, typically in the iron-oxide content, of underlying soils, compared to the natural subsoil. This helps to detect infilling material of features such as ditches and pits, as well as overlying material such as wall lines.

Relatively level fields of low pasture, such as this site, provide ideal locations for this type of survey. The surface of the field is relatively uniform allowing rapid traverses and readings to be taken at consistent heights above the ground surface, and the upper ploughsoil is generally both neither deep enough to mask features cutting into the underlying subsoil, and unlikely to contain a significance amount of material that could interfere with the magnetic readings.

Each survey area will be divided into 20m or 30m square grids along a common alignment. Within each grid, parallel traverses 1m apart will be walked at rapid pace along the same orientation. Instrument readings will be logged at 0.25m intervals, with an average cycle of 4 using an ST1 internal sample trigger. Incomplete survey lines resulting from irregular area boundaries or obstacles will be completed using the "dummy log" key.

Further survey information will be completed on the relevant pro-forma sheet. All data will be downloaded in the field into a laptop computer. The location of the grid corners will be recorded using a total station or similar survey equipment so that results can be accurately placed onto an OS map.

A composite of each detailed survey area will be created and processed using the software package *Terrasurveyor v.3.* A variety of processing tools will be used to enhance any potential archaeology. The final results will be presented at an appropriate scale tied to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

5 Monitoring

DAT-DM will be contacted approximately one week prior to the commencement of site works, and subsequently once the work is underway.

Any changes to this WSI that AW may wish to make after approval will be communicated to DAT-DM for approval on behalf of the Planning Authority.

DAT-DM will be given access to the site so that they can monitor the progress of the work, they will be kept regularly informed about developments, both during the site works and subsequently during the post-fieldwork programme.

6 Post-fieldwork programme

Site archive

An ordered and integrated project archive will be prepared in accordance with *The National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales 2017* (National Panel for Archaeological Archives in Wales) and the guidelines of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists upon completion of the project.

Final reporting

The client report will contain, as a minimum, the following elements:

- Concise non-technical summary of the results
- Description of, and reasoning behind, geophysical survey technique
- Detailed plans of the site and survey results
- Site illustrations, related to Ordnance Datum
- Written description
- Written interpretation of results along with illustrated interpreted site plan
- · Statement of local and regional context
- Conclusions as appropriate
- Bibliography
- A copy of the AW Specification

Copies of the report will be sent to the Client, and a copy of the report will be sent to DAT-DM for approval. Following approval a copy will also be sent to PCC and the regional Historic Environment Record. Digital copies will be provided in pdf format if required.

A summary report of the work will be submitted for publication to a national journal no later than one year after the completion of the work.

7 Resources and timetable

Standards

AW works to the standards and guidance provided by the *Chartered Institute for Archaeologists*. AW fully recognise and endorse the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct, Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology* and the *Standard and Guidance for archaeological geophysical survey* currently in force. All employees of AW, whether corporate members of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists or not, are expected to adhere to these Codes and Standards during their employment.

Staff

The project will be undertaken by suitably qualified AW staff. Overall management of the project will be undertaken by Philip Poucher.

Fauinment

The project will use a Bartington Grad601 set to standard specifications.

Timetable of archaeological works

The work will be undertaken at the convenience of the client. No start date has yet been agreed. An anticipated length of fieldwork can be provided once the boundaries

of each area to be surveyed have been agreed.

Insurance

AW is fully insured for this type of work, and holds Insurance with Aviva Insurance Ltd and Hiscox Insurance Company Limited through Towergate Insurance. Full details of these and other relevant policies can be supplied on request.

Arbitration

Disputes or differences arising in relation to this work shall be referred for a decision in accordance with the Rules of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators' *Arbitration Scheme for the Institute for Archaeologists* applying at the date of the agreement.

Health and safety

Prior to the commencement of work AW will carry out and produce a formal Health and Safety Risk Assessment in accordance with *The Management of Health and Safety Regulations* 1992. A copy of the risk assessment will be kept on site and be available for inspection on request. A copy will be sent to the client (or their agent as necessary) for their information. All members of AW staff will adhere to the content of this document.

AW will adhere to best practice with regard to Health and Safety in Archaeology as set out in the FAME (Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers) health and safety manual *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology (2002)*.





Archaeology Wales





