



THE ARCHAEOLOGY CO.

320200124P

20 Abbey Fields, Whalley
Written Scheme of Investigation

April 2019

1: Introduction

Steven Price of The Archaeology Co. has been commissioned to prepare a WSI for monitoring works to be carried out during the excavation of all foundations and footings proposed for the erection of one new dwelling in garden of 20 Abbey Fields. Condition 17 of the planning permission consent (3/2018/0119) states that:

No development, site clearance/preparation, or demolition shall commence until the applicant or their agent or successors in title has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which shall be submitted to, and approved in writing by, the local planning authority. The programme of work shall include a formal archaeological watching brief during the excavation of all foundations and footings for the new development, as well as the compilation of a report on the work undertaken and the results obtained. All archaeological works shall be undertaken by an appropriately qualified and experienced professional archaeological contractor and comply with the standards and guidance set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). The development shall be carried out in accordance with the agreed details.

Reason: To ensure and safeguard the recording and inspection of matters of archaeological/historical importance associated with the site in accordance with Policy DME4 of the Ribble Valley Core Strategy.

2: Site Location

20 Abbey Fields is located to the northwest corner of the plot of land encircled by Abbey Fields. Abbey Fields itself is accessed from the south side of Station Road. The site lies c. 400m west of Whalley centre and c. 5.5km south of Clitheroe. The postal address is 20 Abbey Fields, Whalley, Clitheroe BB7 9RS and the National Grid Reference is SD 72968 36377. The site is relatively flat, sloping up slightly to the west and is in use as a lawned garden. The site is c. 0.036ha in size, measuring approximately 30m x 15m at the longest/widest points.

3: Historical Background

Although Whalley lies close to the Roman town of Ribchester, no Roman presence is known in Whalley itself. An Anglo Saxon church is thought to have existed on the site of St Mary's Church, which still incorporates some of the early fabric, and three stone crosses from this period also survive.

In 1066 the church had two ploughlands and these formed the later manor which passed to the monks of Stanlaw and Whalley. Whalley Abbey was erected as a 'Locus Benedictus de Whalley' in 1296. After the confiscation of the abbey's estates in 1537 the Crown held the manor until 1553. It was then purchased for £2,132 by Richard Assheton of Great Lever, and John Braddyll of Brockhall (Farrer & Brownbill 1911).

By the time of the Civil War, Ralph Assheton had made Whalley the principle residence. Like other members of the family he took the Parliamentary side of the War. He was appointed a justice of the peace and sequestrator by the Parliament (Farrer & Brownbill 1911).

The historic mapping for 1848 shows the site as a part of an open field, although the site lies partly over a feature, noted as "remains of trench". To the north of the site a well is shown and on the other side of Station Road is an almshouse. To the south of the site was the vicarage for All Saints Church to the southeast. The railway line is shown to the west with Whalley Station to the northwest.

By the time of the 1910 map the site had changed very little. The remains of trench feature were still present, as it was on the 1929 OS map. The 1938 Map shows little change again, although a row of housing had been erected to the east, and Abbey Road constructed. This cut across the eastern end of the trench feature.

4: Methodology

4.1: Aims

The purpose of a watching brief is to allow the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works. It also provides an opportunity for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.

4.2: Method

An Archaeologist shall be present during all excavation of foundations and footings for the new dwelling. Ground excavation is to be carried out with a toothless bucket or toothless ditching bucket in level spits, with opportunities for archaeological observation. The attending archaeologist will be given opportunity to direct the machine to stop to allow inspection, excavation and/or recording of potential archaeological features. Where archaeological features are deemed to be present they shall be archaeologically exposed and recorded.

Context sheets shall be used for recording on site features. Photographic recording shall take the form of digital photography (DSLR 10 Megapixel minimum). An appropriate photo scale shall be present in each of the shots and a photo register compiled, recording the direction and subject of each shot. Features shall be located in plan at 1:50 scale. If the features warrant it, details of will be drawn at 1:20 and sections also produced.

All possible features and deposits will be examined and tested. Any encountered archaeological remains will be cleaned manually to define their extent, nature, form, condition and, where possible, date. Hand excavation will be undertaken by trained professional archaeologists. Discreet features shall be half sectioned and linear features 10% sampled (at least). Where there are intersecting features, these intersections shall be targeted.

Finds recovery and sampling programmes will be in accordance with best practice, (following current Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' guidelines) and subject to expert advice in order to minimise deterioration. All finds are to be recorded by context. Significant "small finds" should be located within three dimensions to the nearest 10mm and bagged and labelled separately, numbered and a simple description made so that they can be identified within the assemblage. Finds storage during fieldwork and any site archive preparation will follow professional guidelines (UKIC). Any gold and silver artefacts recovered during the course of the excavation will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local Coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act, 1996.

Those involved with recovery, treatment and packing and subsequent analysis of archaeological material will be familiar with accepted methods for its care and storage. All finds and samples shall be collected, processed and sorted. They shall then be quantified and recorded for the report.

Human remains are not expected to be present, but if they are found they will, if possible, be left in-situ covered and protected. The removal of human remains will only take place in compliance with environmental health regulations and following discussions with, and with the approval of, the Ministry of Justice. If human remains are identified, the Ministry of Justice and curator will be informed immediately.

Where a licence is issued, all human skeletal remains must be properly removed in accordance with the terms of that licence. Where a licence is not issued, the treatment of human remains will be in accordance with the requirements of Civil Law, ClfA Technical Paper 13 (1993) and Historic England guidance (2005).

Post excavation shall involve the digitisation of drawings and the compilation of a report. Finds shall be cleaned and processed. Where the assemblage is large, a sample of finds should be photographed for the report purposes. Any special finds should be photographed separately.

The results will be presented within a fully illustrated report, which will include the following:

- A non-technical summary of the survey's findings;
- Aims and objectives;
- The background to the survey, which will include an outline of the planning context, the survey dates and location details;
- An outline of the survey methodology;
- Results of the watching brief;
- Finds and environmental data report
- Conclusions;
- A set of measured scaled drawings;
- A photograph register including the direction of shot as well as details of the subject;
- A copy of the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations form (OASIS);
- A catalogue of photographs and other archive items;
- Archive location; and
- Appendices containing a copy of the WSI and other essential technical and supporting detail.

The work will be carried out in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists "Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief" (2014).

5: Archive

The results of the archaeological investigation will form the basis of a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current Historic England guidelines ("The Management of Archaeological Projects", 2nd edition, 1991), the "Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage" (UKIC 1990), and current ClfA "standards and guidance for the creation, compilation, transportation and deposition of archaeological archive" (published October 2009). 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 the ClfA in that organisation's code of conduct.

The written, drawn and photographic archive will be placed with Lancashire Record Office within a reasonable time of completion of the project. A digital copy of the report and photographs shall be deposited with ADS through the OASIS database. A copy of the final report will also be deposited with the Lancashire HER as a digital PDFa file. Should the results warrant it, a summary report, or detailed article on the work shall be submitted for publication in a regional or national journal, appropriate to the significance of the results and findings of the project. This shall be done no later than one year after the completion of the work.

Should the project produce archaeologically significant finds then the planning archaeologist shall be notified at the earliest opportunity. Decisions on the significance of finds archives should be supported by the recommendations/assessments of suitably qualified specialists. The OASIS record shall also be completed, including an upload of the report and digital images.

6: Staff

Steven Price of the Archaeology Co. is nominated to carry out the works, although the client may choose otherwise. All fieldwork will be undertaken by Steven Price BA (Hons.) MA, MPhil, PCifA as well as other trained staff under his guidance, should it be warranted. Finds of ceramic, bone and metal shall be examined and a report written by Peter Middleton. Other specialists shall be contacted at the Centre for Applied Archaeology as required.

7: Health and Safety

Health and Safety regulations and requirements cannot be ignored no matter how imperative the need to record archaeological information. Hence health and safety will take priority over archaeological matters.

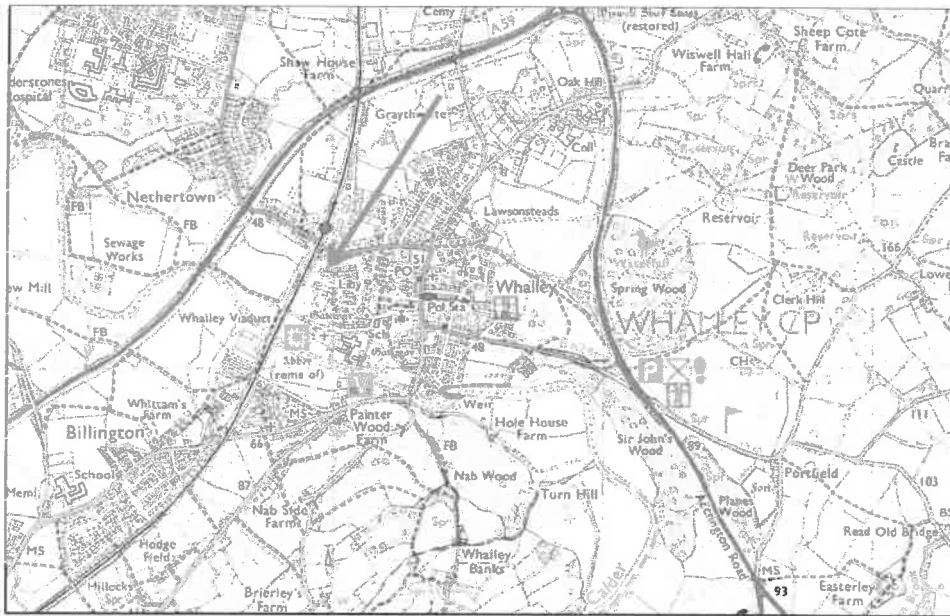


Figure 1: Location Plan (OS Licence Number: 100057911)

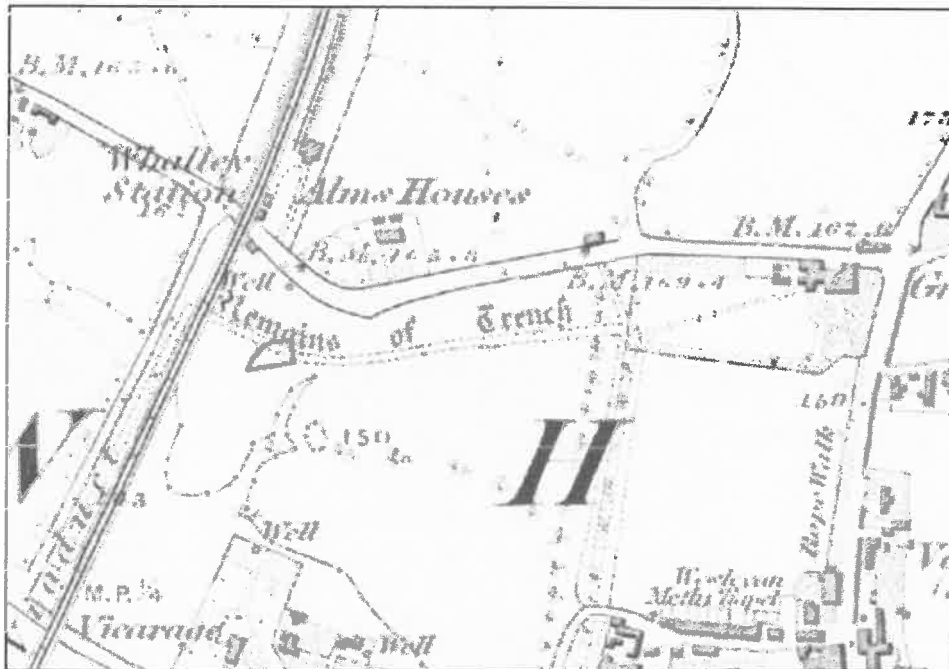


Figure 2: 1848 OS map Lancashire Sheet LV 1:10,00 scale showing site location

9: Timetable

The watching brief is largely dependent on the contractor. The start date is unknown. 2 weeks' notice shall be given prior to commencement. The project is expected to take no more than 1 day and the reporting completed within 6 weeks

10: General

All project staff will adhere to the Code of Conduct of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. The project will follow the requirements set down in the appropriate Standard and Guidance notes prepared by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and all staff will wear appropriate PPE.

Full regard will be given to all constraints during the course of the project. A Health and Safety Statement, along with a risk assessment, will be provided. All site procedures shall be in accordance with the guidance set out in the Health and Safety Manual compiled by the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers.

- The Health and Safety at Work Act (1974);
- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (1999);
- Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 (as amended in 2002);
- The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (2015);
- The Control of Asbestos Regulations (2006);
- The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations (1992);
- Construction (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations (1996);
- The Health and Safety (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations (2002);
- The Work at Height Regulations (2005);
- The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (2002);
- The Health and Safety (First-Aid) Regulations (1981);
- The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (1998);
- Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (1998).

8: Monitoring

Monitoring shall follow the guidelines set out in the CIfA's Standard and Guidance for archaeological watching briefs. Monitoring will be undertaken against the WSI and visits will be documented. Non-compliance with the agreed WSI or project design must be pointed out by the monitor to the archaeologist undertaking the work, and their client if appropriate, at the earliest opportunity. The archaeologist on site shall keep the Lancashire Archaeological Advisory Service (LAAS) abreast of the works, so that they may monitor the work. They should also be notified immediately of any significant findings.

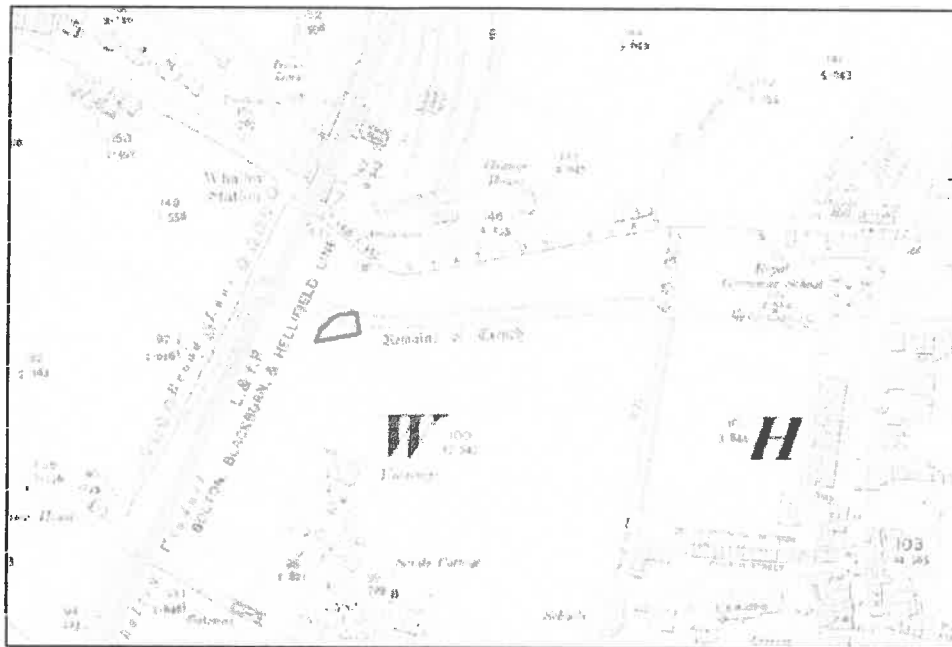


Figure 3: 1910 OS map Lancashire Sheet LV.10 1:2,500 scale showing site location

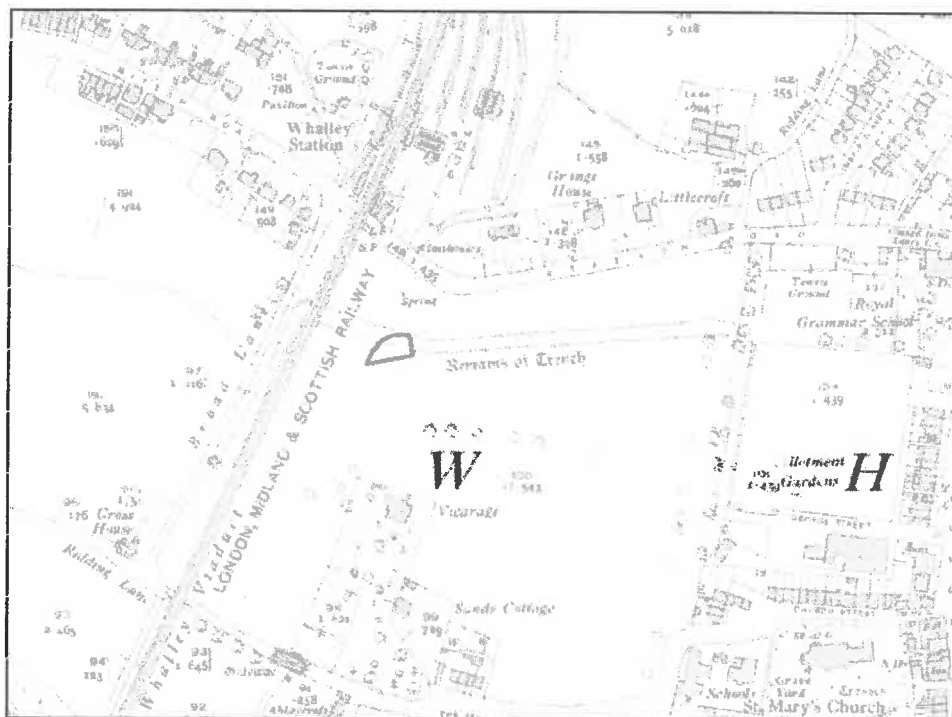


Figure 4: 1929 OS map Lancashire Sheet LV.10 1:2,500 scale showing site location

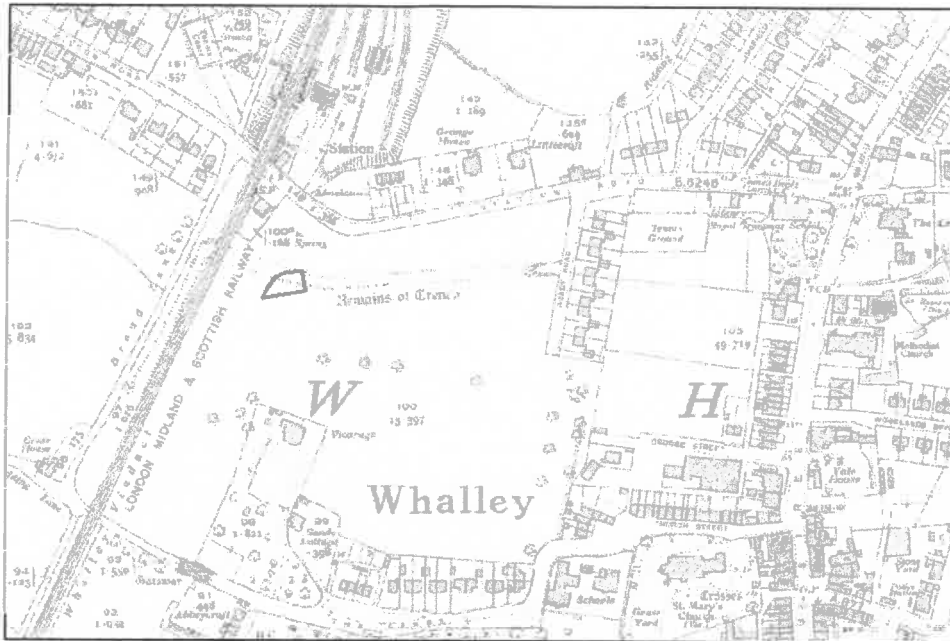


Figure 5: 1938 OS map Lancashire Sheet LV.10 1:2,500 scale showing site location