

Land off Prospect Avenue Rushden Northamptonshire

*Written Scheme of Investigation for
an Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Investigation*

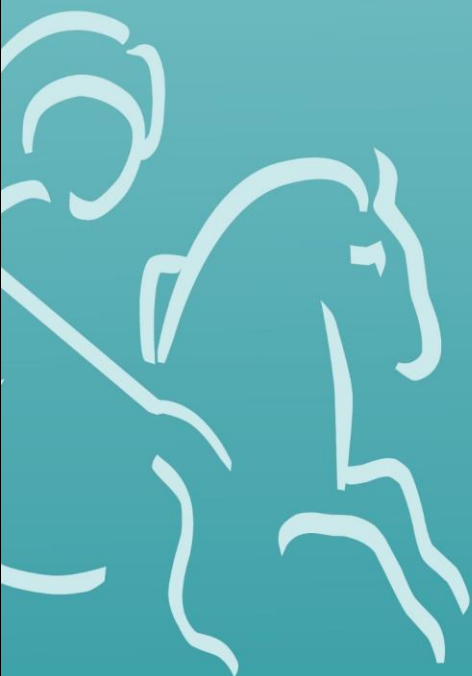


for:
RPS Consulting

on behalf of:
Ilke Homes

CA Project: MK0675
CA Site Code: PRAV 22
HER Ref: ENN110591

March 2022



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Fig. 1 Site location plan (1: 25,000)

Fig. 2 Proposed excavation area (1: 2,500)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This document is a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by Cotswold Archaeology (CA) for an archaeological strip, map and sample (SMS) investigation to be carried out on land off Prospect Avenue, Rushden, Northamptonshire (centred at NGR: 495940 267524; Fig. 1). This WSI has been prepared at the request of RPS Consulting, acting on behalf of Ilke Homes.
- 1.1.1. A planning application (ref. NE/21/00498/FUL) has been submitted to North Northamptonshire Council for the *construction of 133 dwellings, internal roads, public open space, landscaping and other ancillary works, including creation of a new vehicular and pedestrian access from Prospect Avenue and pedestrian access from Shirley Road* within the Site. If planning permission is granted for the development this will be subject to a suite of conditions, one of which will relate to a programme of archaeological works.
- 1.2. A geophysical survey was undertaken in August-September 2020 (Magnitude 2020) which identified anomalies of possible archaeological and uncertain origin, including a potential rectilinear enclosure in the south-western portion of the Site. Discussions with the Archaeological Advisor at North Northamptonshire Council (AANNC; Liz Mordue) identified a need for trial trench evaluation of the Site in order to further characterise these possible remains. An evaluation was therefore undertaken in November 2021 (CA 2021), which identified two pits and four ditches in the south-western part of the site, and dated to the Roman period, which may relate to the rectilinear enclosure. Plough furrows associated with medieval and/or early post-medieval ridge and furrow cultivation within the Site were also observed.
- 1.3. The scope of the SMS excavation was defined in consultation with the AANNC, and this WSI has also been guided in its composition by the *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (ClfA 2014; updated 2020), the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2015) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (Historic England 2015), and any other relevant standards or guidance contained within Appendix B. This WSI will be submitted to the AANNC for review and approval prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

The site

- 1.4. The Site comprises a disused open field measuring approximately 3.3ha and bounded to the north by residential properties fronting onto Prospect Avenue, to the west and south by residential and commercial development, and to the east by a section of historic railway line associated with the Rushden Historical Transport Society museum located further to the south-west. An area of hardstanding formerly associated with a railway coal yard is present in the central-eastern part of the Site. Ground levels within the Site slope from a maximum of between 67m-70m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) along the northern and eastern Site boundaries, down to 62m aOD at the western end.
- 1.5. The underlying bedrock geology of the Site is mapped as limestone of the Blisworth Limestone Formation, formed approximately 166 to 168 million years ago in the Jurassic Period. This is overlain along the northern Site boundary by Bozeat Till diamicton, formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period, and in the central portion of the Site by Glaciofluvial Deposits, Mid Pleistocene sands and gravels, formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period (BGS 2022). No superficial deposits are recorded in the southern corner of the Site.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The Site has been the subject of an Archaeological Desk-based Assessment (RPS 2021), a programme of geophysical survey (Magnitude 2020), and trial trench evaluation (CA 2021). The following represents a summary of these sources.

Prehistoric

- 2.2. Only one Historic Environment Record (HER) relating to pre-Iron Age activity occurs within the search area utilised for the Desk-based Assessment, namely a record of a worked flint recovered as an unstratified find at the Ferrers School (HER 3186/0/4).

Roman

- 2.3. Although a pattern of dispersed Iron Age and Roman settlement is known from cropmarks, fieldwalking and excavated evidence throughout this part of the middle Nene valley, there are no records of Iron Age or Roman sites or finds from the Site or the immediately surrounding area.
- 2.4. A Late Iron Age and early Romano-British rural settlement site is known 400m-600m north-east of the Site, comprising a complex series of inter-cutting enclosures, gullies

and ditches forming an extended settlement cluster orientated on a north-east-south-west axis and suggested by trial trenching to have been occupied from the 1st century BC through the 2nd century AD (HER 3186 & constituent parts). Settlement remains (HER 5354/1; 5354/2) recorded immediately to the north-east are likely to represent further parts of this settlement site.

2.5. A second probable Iron Age / Roman settlement site (HER 2514/4) has been identified from features visible on aerial photographs 750m east of the Site, while a probable settlement (HER 6895) has been identified by trial trenching 1km north-west of the Site.

2.6. Finds of Roman period material have also been made at a number of locations across the DBA search area, indicating extensive utilisation of the local area in this period. (e.g. HER 5374/0/0, 3195/0/0, 3194/0/1; 3190/0/0, 3206/0/0, 9099/0/0, 5374/00).

Anglo-Saxon/Early Medieval

2.7. There are no confirmed early Saxon sites or finds within the search area. A possible Saxon period ploughsoil (HER 8255/0/0) was noted in archaeological trial works at Higham Ferrers castle in 1991 but no contemporary settlement sites are recorded. Both Higham Ferrers and Rushden pre-date the Norman conquest, with Higham Ferrers (HER 1679) being the larger and higher-status settlement. Although evidence for later Saxon period strip-field cultivation may be present within the site, given its location away from the historic core of both of both of the above settlements, it is considered to have a low potential for the presence of any significant archaeological remains of Saxon date.

Medieval

2.8. The HER data for the medieval period within the search area used for the Desk-based Assessment is heavily biased towards sites and features within the medieval core of Higham Ferrers, circa 600m to the north of the Site (HER 1679 & constituent elements).

2.9. By 1086 Higham (HER 1679) was one of only four places in Northamptonshire with a recorded market, reflecting its early tenurial and administrative importance. The early and middle Saxon focus of the settlement seems to have lain just beyond the northern edge of the medieval settlement, although another focus may have lain in the area of the later castle and church.

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- 2.10. Probably in the 10th century, in association with the creation of the hundredal manor, the primary focus may have shifted to create the manor (HER 1679/5), church (HER 1679/2) and marketplace (HER 1679/1), which was to form the core of the medieval settlement. What was probably a market village in the 11th century grew to true urban status in the 12th and earlier 13th century.
- 2.11. In the medieval period Rushden (HER 7203) was a much smaller, agricultural, village. The medieval settlement core is located towards the southern end of the later post-medieval and modern town centre, circa 700m south-west of the Site.
- 2.12. Medieval period remains recorded outside the settlement cores of Higham Ferrers and Rushden comprise two small areas of former strip-field cultivation: one area in Spencer Park, Rushden (9995/0/2) 700m west of the Site, and at High Haydens Farm, east of Rushden (9995/0/8), approximately 900m east). The Site itself is conjectured to lie within the former open arable fields of Rushden and may retain further buried evidence for medieval strip cultivation.

Post-medieval & modern

- 2.13. The HER does not include any records relating to post-medieval or modern period features within the Site, although a former branch line of The Midland Railway, running from Wellingborough through Rushden to Higham Ferrers and providing both passenger and freight service, forms the eastern boundary of the Site (HER 6292/1).
- 2.14. A station and large goods facility (HER 6292/2) was constructed south of the Site, while the site of the former Shirley Road Gas Works lies a short distance to the south-west (HER 7203/115). The gasworks were established in 1892, producing town gas from coal. The only other HER monument recorded in the immediate vicinity of the Site are a group of gravel quarries (HER 3188/1/1) identified from historic OS maps. The gravel pits lie immediately west of the Site and are not show extending into the Site itself.
- 2.15. An historic map review undertaken as part of the Desk-based Assessment identified the site of a small group of early 20th century buildings and a later 20th century coal yard on the south-east side of the Site, but these were not assessed as having sufficient heritage significance to meet the definition of a non-designated heritage asset. The map review established that the remainder of the site has remained open, undeveloped land since at least the early 19th century (RPS Consulting 2021).

Geophysical Survey

- 2.16. A fluxgate gradiometer was completed across c.2.4ha of the survey area, c.0.9ha of which was unsurveyable due to overgrown vegetation (Magnitude 2020). Two portions of the Site proved unsuitable for survey due to the level of modern disturbance, including a section of hardstanding related to the former coal yard located in the centre of the Site and magnetic disturbance produced by a burnt-out car in the centre of the northern portion of the Site. Further magnetic disturbance was noted from fences at field edges and other metal detritus across the survey area, as expected in an urban setting.
- 2.17. In the northern portion of the Site (survey Area 1) linear anomalies led from a former building recorded on historic mapping (OS Mapping 1926). These anomalies were partially obscured by ferrous noise from a nearby burnt-out car, which makes it difficult to make a certain interpretation of these anomalies and would also obscure any further potential underlying anomalies. Area 3 (the southern and south-western portions of the Site) contained linear anomalies; some of which were relatively well defined and strong. While an archaeological origin cannot be discounted, they were considered more likely to relate to industrial activity, such as the coal yard or the former gasworks immediately to the south and west of the Site. This includes a spread of strongly magnetic material present on the western edge of the survey area (OS Mapping 1902).
- 2.18. Several weak linear anomalies were identified across the Site, mostly grouped along the northern boundary in a north-south orientation across the slope. These were considered likely indicative of downslope natural drainage.

Trial trench evaluation

- 2.19. The trenching, carried out in August – September 2021 (CA 2021) identified archaeological remains only in the southwest part of the Site, on a brashy/ degraded limestone outcrop in the south field. No archaeological remains were identified in the north part of the south field or the north field. Where archaeological remains were present then it was noted that due to the shallow nature of the ploughsoil and resulting heavy plough truncation feature preservation had been adversely affected, with plough scarring of the natural substrate clearly visible.
- 2.20. Activity during the Roman period was represented by two pits and four ditches located as a concentration of features on the elevated clay and degraded/ brashy limestone

geology in trenches 14 and 17, in the southwest of the Site. Three sherds of pottery in the Late Iron Age – Early Roman tradition may point to a genuine Late Iron Age origin for the activity but the amount of material of this date recovered from the site is too small to be considered definitive evidence. The Roman pottery assemblage indicates a broad mid-1st to 3rd century date for the activity, with the material comprising for the most part of locally produced, domestic vessel types. This suggests that the activity was relatively low status and not heavily Romanised.

- 2.21. The evaluation also identified plough furrows associated with the medieval and/or early postmedieval ridge and furrow cultivation of the site. These features showed a mixed correlation with anomalies identified by the geophysical survey.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1. The general objectives of the archaeological SMS investigation are to:

- identify, investigate and record any significant buried archaeological deposits/features at the site prior to their destruction by the proposed development;
- recover and analyse any artefactual evidence;
- sample and analyse environmental remains to create a better understanding of past land use and economy;
- report on and publish the archaeological results at a level appropriate to their significance; and
- compile a stable, ordered, accessible project archive.

- 3.2. The specific objective of the SMS investigation is to further investigate and record the possible rectilinear enclosure recorded by the previous geophysical survey (Magnitude 2020) and a cluster of Roman pits and ditches identified in trenches 14 and 17 during the trial trench evaluation (CA 2021). In the event that no evidence for the enclosure is identified during the SMS area strip, then the objective will be to provide additional context to aid in the interpretation and characterisation of the features identified in trenches 14 and 17.

- 3.3. During the course of the fieldwork the results will be assessed and, where relevant, reference will be made to the regional research objectives outlined in the online *East Midlands Historic Environment Research Framework* (ALGAO 2022), as well as *The Archaeology of the East Midlands: An Archaeological Resource Assessment and*

Research Agenda (Cooper 2006) and *East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands* (Knight, Vyner and Allen 2012), so that a project-specific research agenda can be implemented. In addition, a contribution will be made, if appropriate, to the East Midlands Historic Environment Research Framework Wiki Initiative at:

<http://archaeologydatabaseservice.ac.uk/researchframeworks/eastmidlands/wiki/>

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1. A single SMS investigation area measuring 0.25ha will be opened in the location shown in Figure 2. This has been located to investigate features identified by the previous geophysical survey and confirmed during the trial trench evaluation phase (see *Archaeological background*, above).
- 4.2. The SMS area will be set out on OS National Grid co-ordinates using Leica GPS and scanned for live services by trained CA staff using CAT and genny equipment, in accordance with the *CA Safe System of Work for avoiding underground services*. The positions and sizes of the excavation areas may be adjusted on site to account for services or other constraints, with the approval of the AANNC.
- 4.3. Overburden will be stripped from the SMS area by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket. All machining will be conducted under archaeological supervision and will cease when the first significant archaeological horizon or natural substrate is revealed (whichever is encountered first).
- 4.4. The following excavation strategy will be employed:
 - all funerary/ritual activity and domestic/industrial deposits will be 100% excavated;
 - all discrete features (e.g. postholes, pits) will be sampled by hand excavation (average sample unlikely to exceed 50% of each individual feature), unless their common/repetitious nature suggests they are unlikely to yield significant new information;
 - all linear features will be sampled to a maximum of 10% of their lengths;
 - linear features associated with settlement, industrial structures or areas of specific activity will be sample excavated to a minimum of 25% of their lengths;

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- bulk horizontal deposits will as a minimum be 10% by area hand excavated, after which a decision may be taken in conjunction with the AANNC to remove the remainder with machinery.
- 4.5. The sampling strategy, which will be determined on site dependent on the nature and extent of the deposits, will be agreed with AANNC prior to implementation.
- 4.6. Archaeological features will be investigated, planned and recorded in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*. Records will be entered directly into the CA Digital Recording System (DRS) and/or onto pro-forma site recording sheets. Hand-drawn sections of excavated archaeological features will be prepared (scale 1:10 or 1:20, as appropriate). Features/deposits will be recorded in plan using Leica GPS or Total Station (as appropriate), in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 4: Survey Manual*. Photographs (digital colour) will be taken as appropriate.

Artefacts

- 4.7. Artefacts will be recovered and retained for processing and analysis in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*. Artefacts will be collected and bagged by context. Artefacts from topsoil, subsoil and unstratified contexts will normally be noted but not retained unless they are of intrinsic interest. All artefacts from stratified excavated contexts will be collected, except for large assemblages of post-medieval or modern material. Such material may be noted and not retained or, if appropriate, a representative sample may be collected and retained.

Environmental remains

- 4.8. The selection, collection and processing of environmental samples will follow the guidelines outlined in *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011) and *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*.
- 4.9. Due care will be taken to identify deposits which may have environmental potential and, where appropriate, a programme of environmental sampling will be initiated. The sampling strategy will be adapted for the specific circumstances of the site, in close

consultation with the CA Environmental Officer and the AANNC but will follow the general selection parameters set out in the following paragraphs.

- 4.10. Secure, phased deposits, especially those related to settlement activity and/or structures, will be considered for sampling for the recovery of charred plant remains, charcoal and mineralised remains. Any cremation-related deposits (where excavated; see *Human remains*, below) will be sampled appropriately for the recovery of cremated human bone and charred remains. If any evidence of *in situ* metal working is found, suitable samples will be taken for the recovery of slag and hammerscale.
- 4.11. Where sealed waterlogged deposits are encountered, samples will be considered for the recovery of waterlogged remains (including insects, molluscs and pollen) and any charred remains. The taking of sequences of samples for the recovery of molluscs and/or waterlogged remains will be considered through any suitable deposits, such as deep enclosure ditches, barrow ditches, palaeochannels, or buried soils. Monolith samples may also be taken from suitable deposits as appropriate to allow soil and sediment description/interpretation, as well as sub-sampling for pollen and other micro/macrofossils such as diatoms, foraminifera and ostracods.
- 4.12. The need for more specialist samples (such as OSL, archaeomagnetic dating and dendrochronology) will be evaluated on site. If required, any such samples will be taken in consultation with the relevant specialists.
- 4.13. Sample processing will be carried out in conjunction with the relevant specialists. Flotation or wet sieve samples will be processed to 0.25mm. More specialist samples, such as those for pollen, will be prepared by the relevant specialists.

Treasure

- 4.14. Upon discovery of Treasure CA will notify the client, the AANNC and the Northamptonshire Portable Antiquities Scheme Finds Liaison Officer (FLO). Findings will be reported to the coroner within 14 days of discovery, in accordance with procedures relating to the Treasure Act 1996 (and the 2003 amendment to the Act to include prehistoric objects such as Bronze Age metalworking hoards and other nonprecious metal items). All finds of gold and silver will be moved to a safe place. Where removal cannot be effected immediately, suitable security measures will be

taken to protect the artefacts from theft or damage. CA will comply fully with the provisions of the Treasure Act 1996 and the Code of Practice referred to therein.

Human remains

- 4.15. In the event that human remains are encountered as part of the SMS excavation the client and AANNC will be informed immediately. Any human remains (skeletal or cremated) will be treated with due decency and respect at all times.
- 4.16. Where human remains are encountered exhumation will be conducted following the provisions of the Coroner's Unit in the Ministry of Justice. All excavation of human remains and associated post-excavation processes will be in accordance with the standards set out in *Updated Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains* (ClfA 2017), *The Role of the Human Osteologist in an Archaeological Fieldwork Project* (Historic England 2018) and *Guidance for Best Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England* (Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England 2017).

5. PROGRAMME

- 5.1. It is anticipated that the project fieldwork will require approximately two weeks on site to complete, dependent on ground and weather conditions and the level and complexity of the archaeological remains encountered. Subsequent analysis of the results and reporting will be completed within a maximum of six months after the completion of the fieldwork, dependent on the complexity of the archaeological remains and the volume of finds and environmental material recovered.

6. PROJECT STAFF

- 6.1. This project will be under the management of Adrian Scruby, Project Manager, CA. The Project Manager will direct the overall conduct of the excavation during the period of fieldwork. Day-to-day responsibility will, however, rest with the Project Leader, who will be on-site throughout the project.
- 6.2. The field team will consist of a maximum of six staff (one Project Officer and five Archaeologists).
- 6.3. Specialists who may be invited to advise and report on specific aspects of the project as necessary are:

- **Ceramics:** Ed McSloy MCIfA (CA), Alejandra Gutierrez MCIfA (CA) and Peter Banks LLB LLM PCIfA (CA)
- **Metalwork:** Ed McSloy MCIfA (CA)
- **Flint:** Jacky Sommerville PCIfA (CA)
- **Animal bone:** Andy Clarke ACIfA BA (Hons) MA (CA) and Matilda Holmes PhD BSc MSc ACIfA (freelance)
- **Human bone:** Sharon Clough MCIfA (CA)
- **Environmental remains:** Sarah Wyles MCIfA (CA)
- **Conservation:** Pieta Greeves BSc MSc ACR (Drakon Heritage and Conservation)
- **Geoarchaeology:** Dr Keith Wilkinson (ARCA)

6.4. Depending on the nature of the deposits and artefacts encountered, it may be necessary to consult other specialists not listed here. A full list of specialists currently used by CA is given as Appendix A.

7. POST-EXCAVATION, REPORTING AND ARCHIVING

Reporting

7.1. The level of post-excavation analysis and reporting required will depend upon the nature of the archaeological results and will be confirmed with the AANNC once the archaeological fieldwork has been completed. At present, it is anticipated that, as a minimum, a Post-excavation Assessment (PXA) will be undertaken and a PXA report will be issued. The PXA report will include:

- an abstract preceding the main body of the report, containing the essential elements of the results;
- a summary of the project background;
- a description and illustration of the site location;
- a methodology of the works undertaken;
- a description of the project results;
- an interpretation of the results in the appropriate context;
- a summary of the contents of the project archive and its location (including summary catalogues of finds and samples);
- a plan showing the location of the excavation areas and the exposed archaeological features and deposits in relation to the site boundaries;

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- detail plans of archaeological features as appropriate. These will be at an appropriate scale to allow the nature of the features to be shown and understood. Plans will show orientation in relation to north. Section drawing locations will also be shown. Archaeologically sterile areas will not normally be illustrated;
 - appropriate section drawings of excavation areas and features will be included, with OD heights and at scales appropriate to the stratigraphic detail being represented. The orientations of the drawings in relation to north/south/east/west will be shown;
 - site matrices, if appropriate;
 - photographs showing significant features and deposits that are referred to in the text. All photographs will contain appropriate scales, the sizes of which will be noted in the illustration captions;
 - a consideration of the results within their wider local/regional contexts;
 - a summary table and descriptive text showing the features, classes and numbers of artefacts recovered and soil profiles with interpretation; and
 - specialist assessment or analysis reports (where undertaken). Specialist artefact and palaeoenvironmental assessments will take into account the wider local/regional contexts and will include:
 - specialist aims and objectives;
 - processing methodologies (where relevant);
 - any known biases in recovery, or problems of contamination/residuality;
 - quantities of material; types of material present; distribution of material;
 - for environmental material, a statement on abundance, diversity and preservation;
 - a summary and discussion of the results, to include significance in a local and regional context.

7.2. The draft PXA report will be distributed to RPS Consulting and the AANNC for review prior to finalisation. All copies of the report (draft and final) will be issued in pdf format.

Academic and public dissemination

7.3. Should the PXA identify the potential for further analysis and/or reporting, then an updated project design (UPD) will be prepared for inclusion in the PXA report. This

UPD will detail the further analysis/reporting to be carried out, for the agreement of RPS Consulting and the AANNC. Depending on the excavation results, the UPD may detail arrangements for an appropriate level of academic publication. As a minimum, a short note on the project results will be produced for inclusion in an appropriate local archaeological journal.

- 7.4. Subject to any contractual constraints, a summary of information from the project will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain. This will include a digital (pdf) copy of the final report, which will also appear on the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) website once the OASIS record has been verified.
- 7.5. A digital (pdf) copy of the final report will also be made available for public viewing via CA's *Archaeological Reports Online* web page, generally within 12 months of completion of the project (<http://reports.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk>).

Archive deposition

- 7.6. All artefacts and environmental samples will be processed, assessed, conserved and packaged in accordance with CA technical manuals and *Northamptonshire Archaeological Archives Standards* (Donnelly-Symes 2020).
- 7.7. An ordered, indexed, and internally consistent site archive will be prepared in accordance with *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (CIfA 2014; updated October 2020), *Archaeological Archives: A Guide to Best Practice in Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Curation* (Archaeological Archives Forum 2007) and *Standard and Guide to Best Practice for Archaeological Archiving in Europe: EAC Guidelines 1* (Europae Archaeologia Consilium 2019), as well as the relevant *Northamptonshire Archaeological Archives Standards* (Donnelly-Symes 2020).
- 7.8. Depending on the nature and scope of any subsequent programme of archaeological works at the site (if applicable), the excavation archive may be combined with that for any subsequent works and deposited as a single archive. Confirmation of this will be included in any forthcoming WSI.
- 7.9. CA will make arrangements with the Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre at Chester Farm, Northamptonshire for the deposition of the site archive and, subject to agreement with the legal landowner(s), the artefact collection.

Selection strategy

- 7.10. As noted in para. 4.6, artefacts from topsoil, subsoil and unstratified contexts will normally be noted but not retained unless they are of intrinsic interest. All artefacts from stratified excavated contexts will be collected, except for large assemblages of post-medieval or modern material. Such material may be noted and not retained or, if appropriate, a representative sample may be collected and retained.
- 7.11. The site-selected material archive returned to the CA offices will be reviewed following analysis. Stakeholders will make selection decisions based on CA Finds Manager/Officer reports and selection recommendations. The selection will take place during archive compilation. After discussion with the relevant museum Curator and the CA Finds Managers/Officers, it is possible that no material postdating AD 1800 will be retained for inclusion in the preserved archive.

Digital archive

- 7.12. A digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). This archive will be compiled in accordance with the *ADS Guidelines for Depositors*.

Data management

- 7.13. All born-digital and digitally- transferred project data created during fieldwork and post-excavation (other than duplicated files) will be stored by CA. Upon project completion and deposition, the data will be transferred to a secure external server. Data will be selected for inclusion in the final digital archive, as detailed below. It is proposed that data selection will occur following completion of post-excavation work.
- 7.14. Selected digital files will be transferred to the Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre with the documentary and material archive and to the ADS, in line with the relevant guidance and standards for both organisations. In adherence to CA's *Guidelines for essential archive tasks and the preparation of archives* (2017), it is proposed that the selected files will include final versions only. Digital photographs will be selected for inclusion in the archive in line with CA's *Guidelines for essential archive tasks and the preparation of archives* (2017) and *Digital Image Capture and File Storage: Guidelines for Best Practice* (Historic England 2015). Data produced by external specialists or sub-contractors will be granted under license to CA to allow inclusion in the digital archive as required.

8. HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT

- 8.1. CA will conduct all works in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and all subsequent health and safety legislation, as well as the CA Health and Safety and Environmental policies and the CA Safety, Health and Environmental Management System (SHE). Any client/developer/Principal Contractor policies and/or procedures will also be followed. A site-specific Construction Phase Plan (form SHE 017) will be formulated prior to commencement of fieldwork.

9. INSURANCES

- 9.1. CA holds Public Liability Insurance to a limit of £15,000,000 and Professional Indemnity Insurance to a limit of £10,000,000.

10. MONITORING

- 10.1. Notification of the start of site works will be made to the AANCC so that there will be opportunities to visit the site and check on the quality and progress of the work.

11. QUALITY ASSURANCE

- 11.1. CA is a Registered Organisation (RO) with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (RO Ref. No. 8). As a RO, CA endorses the Code of Conduct (CIfA 2019) and the *Standard and guidance for commissioning work or providing consultancy advice on archaeology and the historic environment* (CIfA 2014; updated October 2020). All CA Project Managers hold Member status within the CIfA.
- 11.2. CA operates an internal quality assurance system as follows: projects are overseen by a Project Manager, who is responsible for the quality of the project. The Project Manager reports to the Chief Executive, who bears ultimate responsibility for the conduct of all CA operations. Matters of policy and corporate strategy are determined by the Board of Directors and, in cases of dispute, recourse may be made to the Chairman of the Board.

12. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT, PARTICIPATION AND BENEFIT

- 12.1. It is not anticipated that this excavation will afford opportunities for public engagement or participation during the course of the fieldwork. However, the excavation results will be made publicly available on the ADS and CA websites, as set out in Section 7.

13. STAFF TRAINING AND CPD

- 13.1. CA has a fully documented mandatory performance management system for all staff. This system reviews personal performance, identifies areas for improvement, sets targets and ensures the provision of appropriate training within CA's adopted training policy. In addition, CA has developed an award-winning career development programme for its staff. This ensures a consistent and high-quality approach to the development of appropriate skills.
- 13.2. As part of CA's requirement for continuing professional development, all members of staff are required to maintain a personal development plan and an associated log; these are reviewed within the performance management system.

14. REFERENCES

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- (Magnitude) Magnitude Surveys Ltd 2020, *Geophysical Survey Report Prospect Avenue, Rushden*
- (MHCLG) (Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government) 2019 *National Planning Policy Framework*
- (RPS) RPS Consulting, 2021 *Land off Prospect Avenue, Rushden. Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment*

APPENDIX A: COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY SPECIALISTS

Ceramics

Neolithic/Bronze Age	Ed McSloy BA MCIFA (CA) Emily Edwards (freelance) Dr Elaine Morris BA PhD FSA MCIFA (University of Southampton) Anna Doherty MA (Archaeology South-East) Sarah Percival MA MCIFA (freelance) Steve Benfield BA (CA)
Iron Age/Roman	Ed McSloy BA MCIFA (CA) Peter Banks LLB LLM PCIfA (CA) Kayt Marter Brown BA MSc MCIFA (freelance) Steve Benfield BA (CA)
(Samian)	Gwladys Montell MA PhD (freelance) Steve Benfield BA (CA)
(Amphorae stamps)	Dr David Williams PhD FSA (freelance)
Anglo-Saxon	Alejandra Gutierrez (CA) Paul Blinkhorn BTech (freelance) Dr Jane Timby BA PhD FSA MCIFA (freelance) Sue Anderson, M Phil, MCIFA, FSA (freelance)
Medieval/post-medieval	Alejandra Gutierrez (CA) Ed McSloy BA MCIFA (CA) Kayt Marter Brown BA MSc MCIFA (freelance) Stephanie Ratkai BA (freelance) Paul Blinkhorn BTech (freelance) John Allan BA MPhil FSA (freelance) Richenda Goffin BA MCIFA (CA) Sue Anderson M Phil, MCIFA, FSA (freelance)
South-West	Henrietta Quinnell BA FSA MCIFA (University of Exeter)
Clay tobacco pipe	Reg Jackson MLitt MCIFA (freelance) Marek Lewcun (freelance) Kieron Heard (freelance) Richenda Goffin BA MCIFA (CA)
Ceramic building material	Ed McSloy MCIFA (CA) Peter Banks LLB LLM PCIfA (CA) Richenda Goffin (Roman painted wall plaster) CBM, BA MCIFA (CA) Steve Benfield BA (CA) Dr Peter Warry PhD (freelance) Sue Anderson M Phil, MCIFA, FSA (freelance)

Other finds

Small finds	Ed McSloy BA MCIFA (CA) Richenda Goffin, (non-metalwork) BA MCIFA (CA) Steve Benfield CA Dr I Riddler (freelance) Dr Alison Sheridan, National Museum of Scotland
Metal artefacts	Ed McSloy BA MCIFA (CA) Dr Jörn Schuster MA DPhil FSA MCIFA (freelance) Dr Hilary Cool BA PhD FSA (freelance) Dr I Riddler (freelance)

Lithics	Ed McSloy BA MCIFA (CA) Jacky Sommerville BSc MA PCIFA (CA) Michael Green (CA) Sarah Bates BA (freelance)
(Palaeolithic)	Dr Francis Wenban-Smith BA MA PhD (University of Southampton)
Worked stone	Dr Ruth Shaffrey BA PhD MCIFA (freelance) Dr Kevin Hayward FSA BSc MSc PhD PCIFA (freelance)
Inscriptions	Dr Roger Tomlin MA DPhil, FSA (Oxford)
Glass	Ed McSloy MCIFA (CA) Dr Hilary Cool BA PhD FSA (freelance) Dr David Dungworth BA PhD (freelance; English Heritage) Dr Sarah Paynter (Historic England) Dr Rachel Tyson (freelance) Dr Hugh Wilmott (University of Sheffield)
Coins	Ed McSloy BA MCIFA (CA) Dr Ruth Beveridge (CA) Dr Peter Guest BA PhD FSA (Cardiff University) Dr Richard Reece BSc PhD FSA (freelance) Jude Plouviez (freelance) Dr Andrew Brown (British Museum) Dr Richard Kelleher (Fitzwilliam Museum) Dr Philip de Jersey (Ashmolean Museum)
Leather	Quita Mould MA FSA (freelance)
Textiles	Penelope Walton Rogers FSA Dip Acc. (freelance) Dr Sue Harrington (freelance)
Iron slag/metal technology	Dr Tim Young MA PhD (Cardiff University) Dr David Starley BSc PhD Lynne Keys (freelance)
Worked wood	Michael Bamforth BSc MCIFA (freelance)
<i>Biological remains</i>	
Animal bone	Dr Matilda Holmes BSc MSc ACIFA (freelance) Julie Curl (freelance) Lorrain Higbee (Wessex Archaeology)
Human bone	Sharon Clough BA MSc MCIFA (CA) Sue Anderson M Phil, MCIFA, FSA (freelance)
Environmental sampling	Sarah Wyles BA MCIFA (CA) Sarah Cobain BSc MSc ACIFA (CA) Emma Aitken BSc MSc PCIFA Dr Keith Wilkinson BSc PhD MCIFA (ARCA) Anna West BSc (CA) Val Fryer (freelance)
Pollen	Dr Michael Grant BSc MSc PhD (University of Southampton) Dr Rob Batchelor BSc MSc PhD MCIFA (QUEST, University of Reading)
Diatoms	Dr Tom Hill BSc PhD CPLHE (Natural History Museum) Dr Nigel Cameron BSc MSc PhD (University College London)
Charred plant remains	Sarah Wyles BA MCIFA (CA) Sarah Cobain BSc MSc ACIFA (CA)

Wood/charcoal	Sarah Cobain BSc MSc ACIFA(CA) Dana Challinor MA (freelance) Dr Esther Cameron (freelance)
Insects	Enid Allison BSc D.Phil (Canterbury Archaeological Trust) Dr David Smith MA PhD (University of Birmingham)
Mollusca	Sarah Wyles BA MCIFA (CA) Emma Aitken BSc MSc PCIfA Dr Keith Wilkinson BSc PhD MCIFA (ARCA) Dr Mike Allen (Allen Environmental Archaeology)
Ostracods and Foraminifera	Dr John Whittaker BSc PhD (freelance)
Geoarchaeology	Dr Keith Wilkinson BSc PhD MCIFA (ARCA)
Soil micromorphology	Dr Richard Macphail BSc MSc PhD (University College London) Dr Mike Allen (Allen Environmental Archaeology)
Scientific dating	
Dendrochronology	Robert Howard BA (NTRDL Nottingham)
Radiocarbon dating	SUERC (East Kilbride, Scotland) Beta Analytic (Florida, USA)
Bayesian chronological modelling	Dr Derek Hamilton (SUERC) Professor John Hines (Cardiff University)
Archaeomagnetic dating	Dr Cathy Batt BSc PhD (University of Bradford)
TL/OSL Dating	Dr Phil Toms BSc PhD (University of Gloucestershire)
Conservation	Karen Barker BSc (freelance) Pieta Greaves BSc MSc ACR (Drakon Heritage and Conservation) Julia Park-Newman (Conservation Services, freelance)



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PROJECT TITLE
Prospect Avenue
Rushden, Northamptonshire

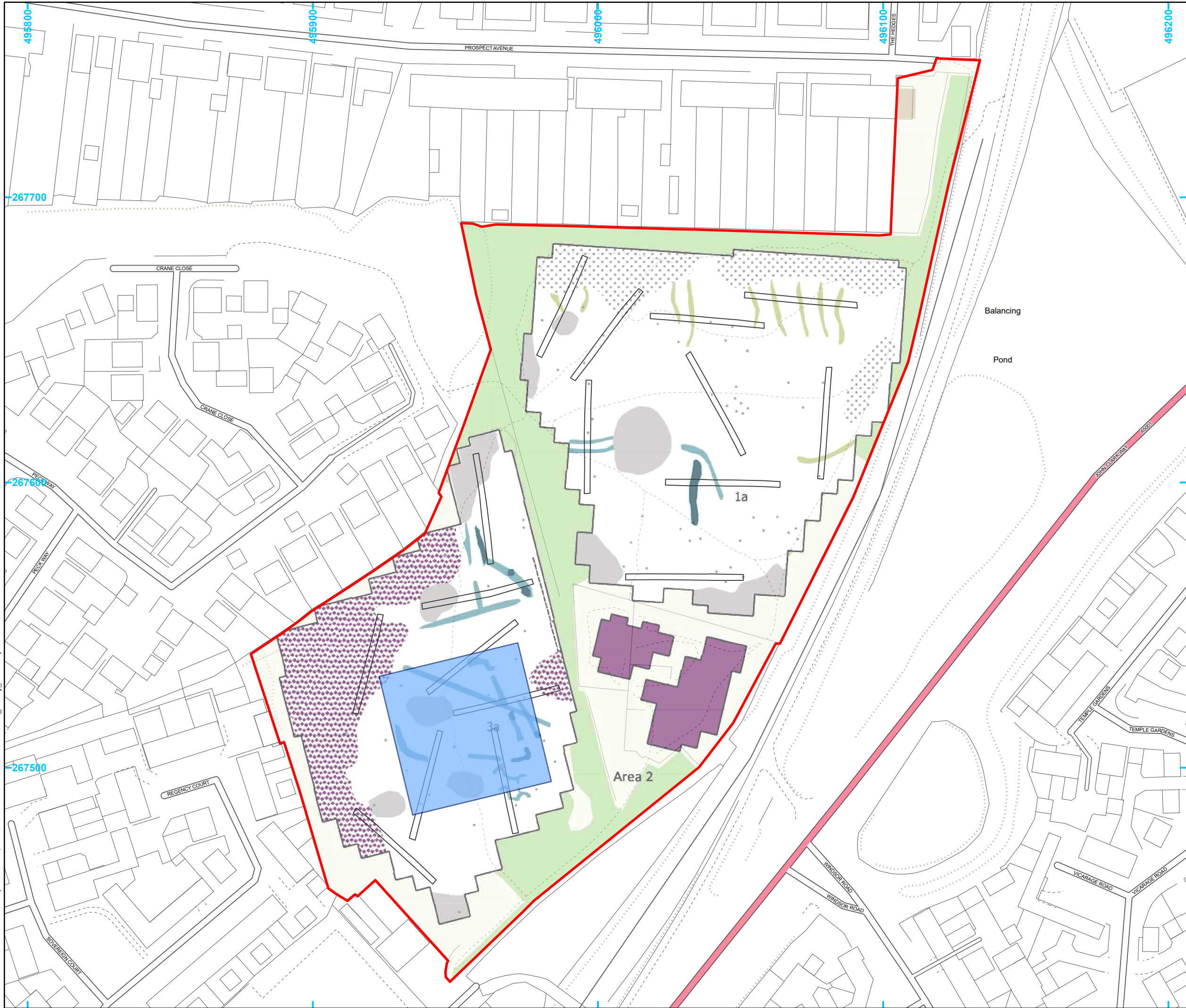
Site location plan

DRAWN BY	KW	PROJECT NO.	MK0675
CHECKED BY	AS	DATE	16/11/2021
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE @ A4	1:25,000

FIGURE NO.
1

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Document Path: P:\MK0675 - Prospect Avenue, Rushden - EXGIS\ArcGIS Pro\MK0675_survey_master.aprx



Legend

- Site Boundary
- Proposed excavation area
- Previous trial trenches

Undetermined (Strong)

Undetermined (Weak)

Hardstanding

Industrial/Modern (Spread)

Natural (Weak)

Magnetic Disturbance

Ferrous/Debris (Spread)

Ferrous (Spike)

0 50m

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PROJECT TITLE

Prospect Avenue, Rushden

FIGURE TITLE

Proposed excavation area

DRAWN BY	SF	PROJECT NO	MK0675	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	AS	DATE	10/03/2022	2
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE@A3	1:1,250	

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