



Land east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswick Road, Buckley, CH7 2EH.

March 2022 V 1.0



Archaeological Watching Brief

Project Code: A0351.1

Report no. 0333

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PRN: 213706



æon archaeology

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Archaeological Watching Brief

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Project Code: A0351.1
Date: 15/03/2022
Client: EMW Developments Ltd.
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1.0 NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Comisiynwyd Aeon Archaeology gan EMW Developments Ltd, i gynnal brîff gwylio archeolegol yn ystod y gwaith sylfaenol sy'n gysylltiedig â chodi dwy annedd newydd ar dir i'r dwyrain o'r Eglwys Gatholig Rufeinig – Ty Offeiriad, Brunswick Road, Bwcle, CH7 2EH.

Yn ystod y gwaith archeolegol darganfuwyd rychwant bach o wyneb brics gwres yn ardal dde-ddwyreiniol y safle a chredir bod y nodwedd hon yn ymwneud â hen Grochendy Bwcle a elwid yn Daisy Hill Works neu Hancock's Pottery. Gall yr arwyneb fod naill ai'n gysylltiedig ag odyd newydd neu'n gysylltiedig â chynllun corfforol yr iard yn y gwaith blaenorol o'r 18fed ganrif.

Aeon Archaeology was commissioned by EMW Developments Ltd, to carry out an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks associated with the erection of two new dwellings on land east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswick Road, Buckley, CH7 2EH.

During the archaeological works a small portion of a heat brick surface was uncovered in the south eastern area of the site and this feature is thought to pertain to the former Buckley Pottery known as Daisy Hill Works or Hancock's Pottery. The surface may be either associated with an unrecorded kiln or be related to the logistical layout of the yard at the former 18th century works.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

Aeon Archaeology was commissioned by EMW Developments Ltd, hereafter ‘the Client’, carry out an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks associated with the erection of two new dwellings on land east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswick Road, Buckley, CH7 2EH (centred on **NGR SJ 28454 63905**) (figures 01-03).

Full planning permission (**ref: 062775**) was secured by the Client from Flintshire County Council, hereafter ‘the Council’, on the 16th November 2021 for the demolition of an existing timber building and construction of two dwellings. The following condition concerning archaeology was applied to the permission:

Condition 8

No development shall take place within the application area until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

The archaeological programme of work will be undertaken and completed in accordance with the relevant Standards and Guidance laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. A copy of the resulting report should be submitted to the Local Planning Authority and the Planning Archaeologist, (Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, The Offices, Coed y Dinas, Welshpool, SY21 8RP Email: sophie.watson@cpat.org.uk Tel: 01938 553670). After approval by the Local Planning Authority, a copy of the report and resulting archive should be sent to the Historic Environment Record Officer, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust for inclusion in the regional Historic Environment Record and also to the National Monuments Record, RCAHMW, National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth.

REASON: To secure preservation by record of all archaeological remains which will be impacted by the development in accordance with policy HE7 of the Flintshire Unitary Development Plan.

The work will adhere to the guidelines specified in *The Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2020).

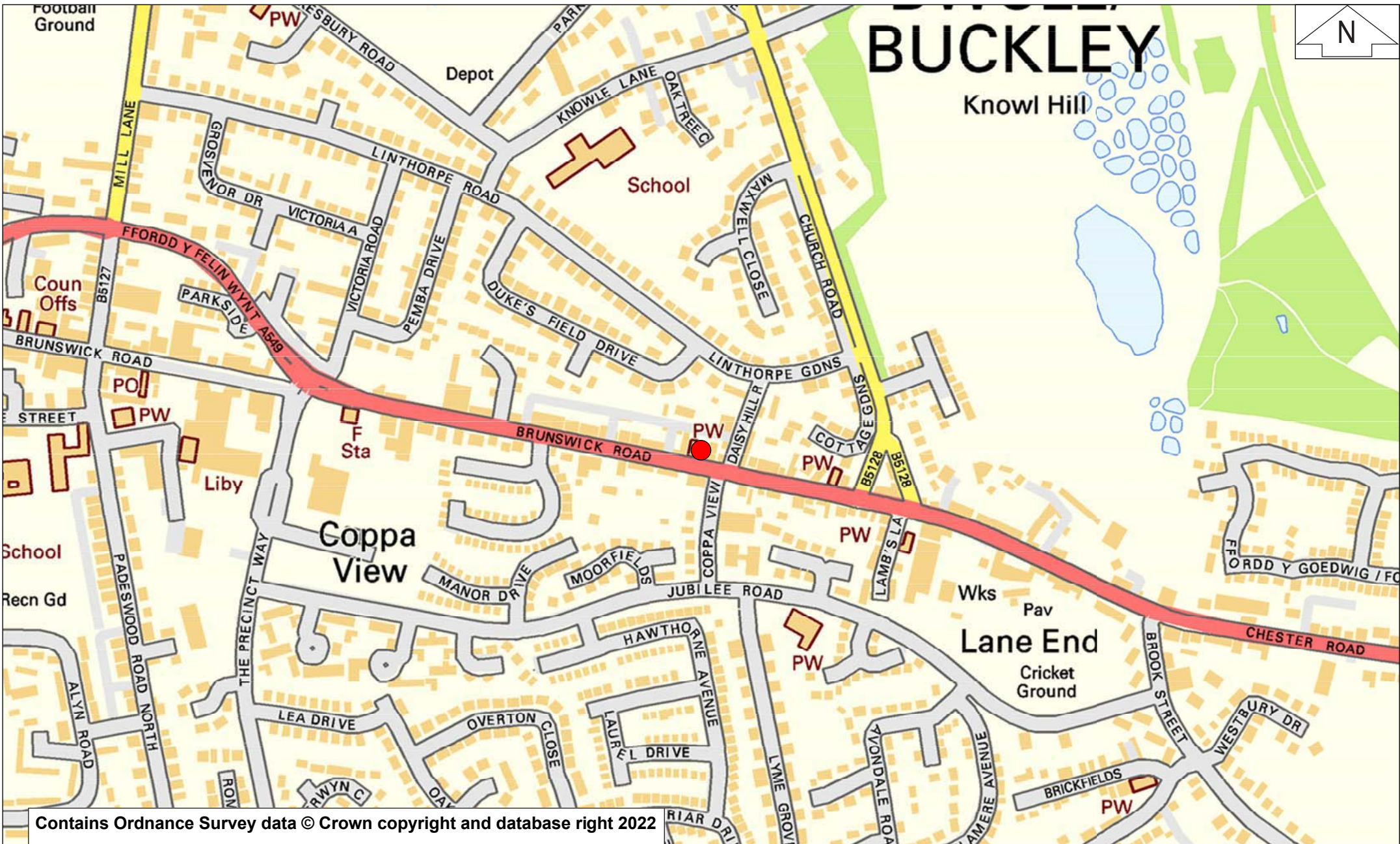


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Figure 01: Location of proposed development site on land east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswick Road, Buckley, CH7 2EH. Scale 1:20,000 at A4.

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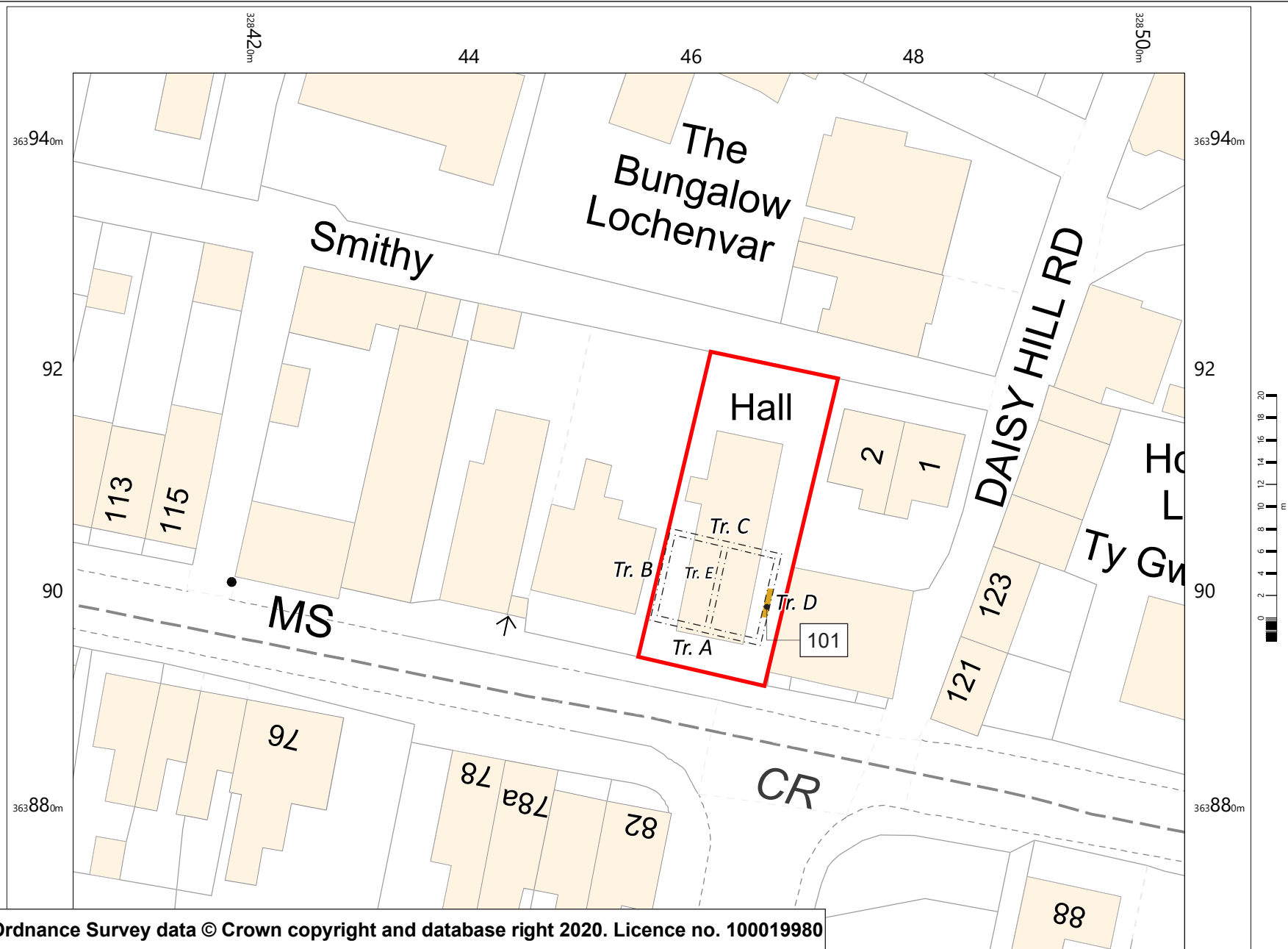


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Figure 02: Location of proposed development site on land east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswick Road, Buckley, CH7 2EH. Scale 1:5,000 at A4.

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Figure 03: Location of proposed development site on land east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswick Road, Buckley, CH7 2EH. Scale 1:500 at A4.

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3.0 POLICY CONTEXT

At an international level there are two principal agreements concerning the protection of the cultural heritage and archaeological resource – the UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage and the European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage, commonly known as the Valetta Convention. The latter was agreed by the Member States of the Council of Europe in 1992, and also became law in 1992. It has been ratified by the UK, and responsibility for its implementation rests with Department for Culture Media and Sport.

The management and protection of the historic environment in Wales is set out within the following legislation:

- The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (As amended)
- The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016
- The Town and County Planning Act 1990
- The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979
- The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development Order) 1995 (As amended)

The Historic Environment (Wales) Act is the most recent legislation for the management of the Historic Environment and amends two pieces of UK legislation — the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. The new Act has three main aims:

- to give more effective protection to listed buildings and scheduled monuments;
- to improve the sustainable management of the historic environment; and
- to introduce greater transparency and accountability into decisions taken on the historic environment.

With respect to the cultural heritage of the built environment the Planning (Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings) Act 1990 applies. The Act sets out the legislative framework within which works and development affecting listed buildings and conservation areas must be considered. This states that:-

“In considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a listed building or its setting, the local planning authority or, as the case may be, the Secretary of State shall have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses” (s66(1))

Other known sites of cultural heritage/archaeological significance can be entered onto county-based Historic Environment Records under the Town and Country Planning 1995.

Planning Policy Wales sets out the land use planning policies of the Welsh Government. Chapter 6 covers the historic environment and emphasises that the positive management of change in the historic environment is based on a full understanding of the nature and significance of historic assets and the recognition of the benefits that they can deliver in a vibrant culture and economy.

Various principles and policies related to cultural heritage and archaeology are set out in the Planning Policy Wales which guide local planning authorities with respect to the wider historic environment.

The following paragraphs from Planning Policy Wales are particularly relevant and are quoted in full:

Paragraph 6.1.5 concerns planning applications:

The planning system must take into account the Welsh Government's objectives to protect, conserve, promote and enhance the historic environment as a resource for the general well-being of present and future generations. The historic environment is a finite, non-renewable and shared resource and a vital and integral part of the historical and cultural identity of Wales. It contributes to economic vitality and culture, civic pride, local distinctiveness and the quality of Welsh life. The historic environment can only be maintained as a resource for future generations if the individual historic assets are protected and conserved. Cadw's published Conservation Principles highlights the need to base decisions on an understanding of the impact a proposal may have on the significance of an historic asset.

Planning Policy Wales is supplemented by a series of Technical Advice Notes (TAN). Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment contains detailed guidance on how the planning system considers the historic environment during development plan, preparation and decision making on planning and listed building consent applications. TAN 24 replaces the following Welsh Office Circulars:

- 60/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology
- 61/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Historic Buildings and Conservation Areas
- 1/98 Planning and the Historic Environment: Directions by the Secretary of State for Wales

4.0 PROJECT AIMS

The archaeological watching brief shall be maintained:

1. During the excavation of foundations for the new dwellings.

The CIfA maintains a standard for archaeological watching brief which states that:

An archaeological watching brief will record the archaeological resource during development within a specified area using appropriate methods and practices. These will satisfy the stated aims of the project, and comply with the Code of conduct and other relevant by-laws of CIfA.

An archaeological watching brief is defined by the CIfA as ‘a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons’ (CIfA 2020). The watching brief will take place within a specified area within the Site where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed.

The CIfA further identifies the purpose of a watching brief ‘as allowing, within the resources available, 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’ (ibid).

It is also important to note that a watching brief provides an opportunity, if needed, for a signal to be made to all interested parties, before the destruction of the archaeological materials, 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.

A watching brief is, therefore, not intended to reduce the requirement for excavation or preservation of known or inferred deposits, and it is intended to guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.

The aims of the watching brief are:

- To allow, within the resources available, the opportunity to gain information about and record the presence/absence, nature and date of archaeological remains on the Site affected by excavations and groundworks, the presence and nature of which could not be established with sufficient confidence in advance of works which may disturb them.
- To provide the facility to signal to the relevant authorities, before irreversible impact to remains that an archaeological and/or historic find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are inadequate to support their treatment to an adequate and satisfactory standard.

The specific objectives of the watching brief are:

- To observe and recover any artefacts of archaeological significance.
- To record the location, dimensions and nature of any deposits, features, structures or artefacts of archaeological significance.
- To recover samples of any deposits considered to have potential for analysis for paleoenvironmental data should the opportunity arise.

5.0 METHODOLOGY – ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

5.1 Watching Brief

The CIfA maintains a standard for archaeological watching brief which states that:

An archaeological watching brief will record the archaeological resource during development within a specified area using appropriate methods and practices. These will satisfy the stated aims of the project, and comply with the Code of conduct and other relevant by-laws of CIfA.

An archaeological watching brief is defined by the CIfA as a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons (CIfA 2014a). The watching brief will take place within a specified area within the Site where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed.

The CIfA further identifies the purpose of a watching brief as allowing, within the resources available, 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 is also important to note that a watching brief provides an opportunity, if needed, for a signal to be made to all interested parties, before the destruction of the archaeological materials, 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.

A watching brief is, therefore, not intended to reduce the requirement for excavation or preservation of known or inferred deposits, and it is intended to guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.

All excavations were undertaken using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. A photographic record was maintained throughout, using a digital SLR camera (Canon 6000D) set to maximum resolution and any subsurface remains were to be recorded photographically, with detailed notations and measured drawings being undertaken if required.

In the event of archaeological discovery features were to be excavated by hand and fully recorded using Aeon Archaeology pro-formas, digital photographs, and plan and section drawings taken at a suitable scale (usually 1:20 for plan drawings and 1:10 for section drawings).

The archive produced is held at Aeon Archaeology under the project code **A0351.1**.

5.2 Data Collection from Site Records

A database of the site photographs was produced to enable active long-term curation of the photographs and easy searching. The site records were checked and cross-referenced and photographs were cross-referenced to contexts. These records were used to write the site narrative and the field drawings and survey data were used to produce an outline plan of the site.

All paper field records were scanned to provide a backup digital copy. The photographs were organised and precisely cross-referenced to the digital photographic record so that the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) Historic Environment Record (HER) can curate them in their active digital storage facility.

5.3 Artefact Methodology

All artefacts were to be collected and processed including those found within spoil tips. They would be bagged and labelled as well any preliminary identification taking place on site. After processing, all artefacts would be cleaned and examined in-house at Aeon Archaeology. If required artefacts would be sent to a relevant specialist for conservation and analysis.

The recovery policy for archaeological finds was kept under review throughout the archaeological watching brief. Any changes in recovery priorities would be made under guidance from an appropriate specialist and agreed with the Client and the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) Development Control Archaeologist. There was a presumption against the disposal of archaeological finds regardless of their apparent age or condition.

5.4 Environmental Samples Methodology

The sampling strategy and requirement for bulk soil samples was related to the perceived character, interpretational importance and chronological significance of the strata under investigation. This ensured that only significant features would be sampled. The aim of the sampling strategy was to recover carbonised macroscopic plant remains, small artefacts particularly knapping debris and evidence for metalworking.

Advice and guidance regarding environmental samples and their suitability for radiocarbon dating, as well as the analysis of macrofossils (charcoal and wood), pollen, animal bones and molluscs would be obtained from Oxford Archaeology if required.

5.5 Report and dissemination

A full archive including plans, photographs, written material and any other material resulting from the project was prepared. All plans, photographs and descriptions were labelled, and cross-referenced, and will be lodged within a suitable repository to be agreed with the archaeological curator within six months of the completion of the project.

A draft copy of the report has been sent to the client and upon written approval from them paper and digital copies of the report will be sent to the regional HER, the CPAT Development Control Archaeologist, and will be logged with the RCAHMW. Copies of all notes, plans, and photographs arising from the watching brief will be stored at Aeon Archaeology under the project code **A0351.1** with the originals being lodged in a suitable repository to be agreed with the archaeological curator.

6.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The Buckley Potteries

The Buckley Pottery industry became established following an increased demand for ceramic vessels which developed from the mid-17th century. This vibrant market emerged following the decline in the popularity of pewter as the favoured tableware and the relatively high price of glass vessels (Davey & Longworth, 2006). Nationwide trends motivated entrepreneurs to invest in local potteries industries such as the one that emerged in Buckley. The small Flintshire town had been a focal point for the production of ceramics since at least the 15th century, serving localised markets in north-east Wales and the wider region of west Cheshire. However, by the early 17th century a series of cottage industries had begun around Buckley Mountain in order to produce a range of cheap and hard-wearing earthenware for both kitchen and domestic usage (Longworth 2005).

Buckley was uniquely situated to exploit a useful collection of natural resources required in the production of these modern earthenware's – abundant deposits of boulder clay from which to fashion vessels, coal from the measures to fire kilns and fireclay for the provision of saggars and refractory bricks for kiln making, whilst the lead required for glazing was obtainable from the local vicinity being mined at Halkyn Mountain (Davey & Longworth, 2006, Jones 2019). The industry continued to thrive throughout the 18th century as evidenced by the acquisition of land on the mountain and the increase in the number of small-scale country potteries which continued to emerge within the township. Another key to understanding the success of the Buckley Potteries was its proximity to the river Dee which permitted the export of goods from the production sites; river and canal routes provided access to inland markets as well as larger national markets via sea trade.

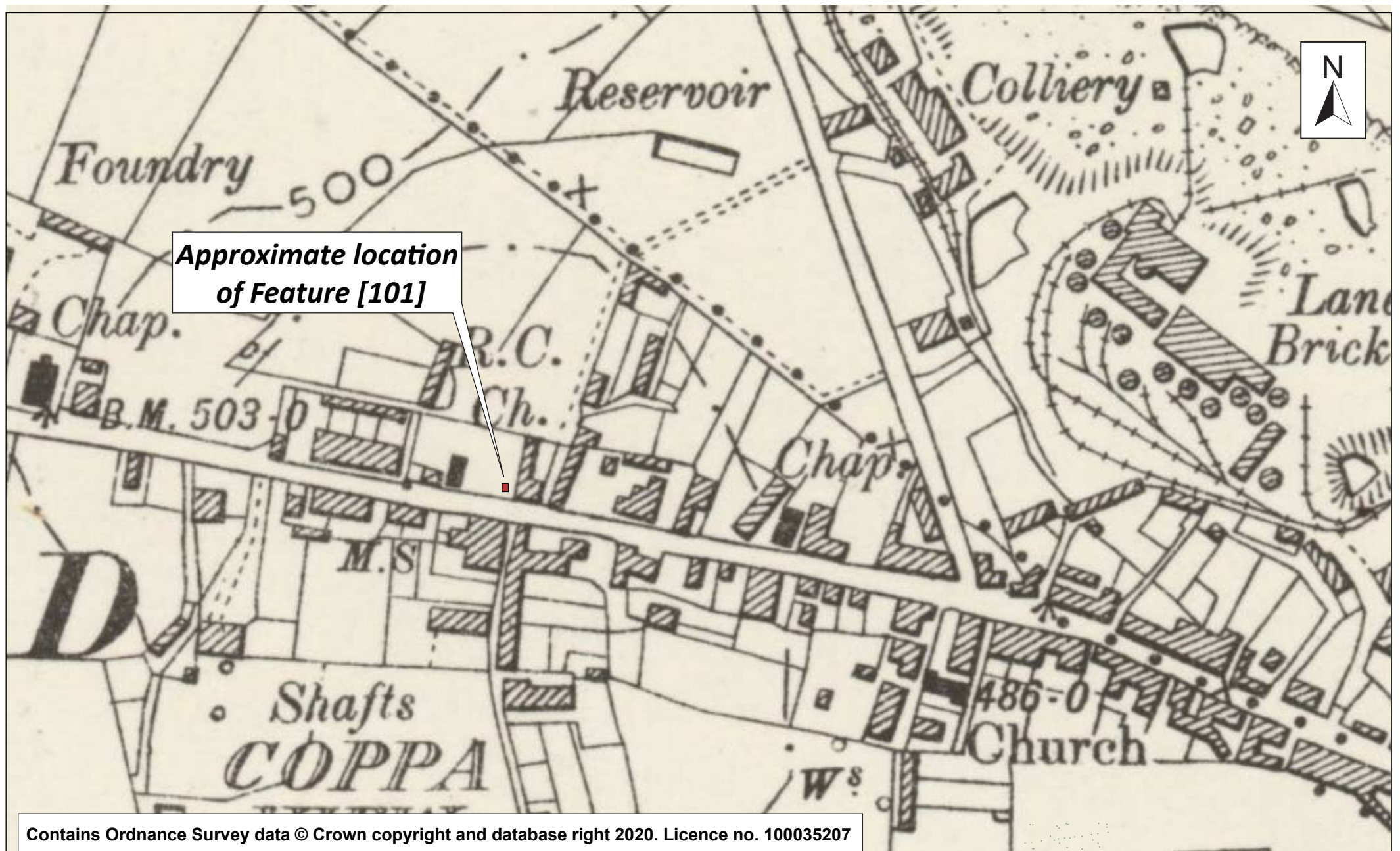
Hancock's Pottery – Daisy Hill Work's

(The following is largely reproduced from *A Gazetteer of Buckley Potteries* a section within *The Buckley Potteries: Recent Research and Excavation* (Jones 2019) – see section 11.0 Sources of this report for a full reference).

The *Daisy Hill Work's Pottery* or *Buckley Potteries Site 14, Hancock's Pottery (PRN 101665)* was built in the late 18th century on land bought by John Rigby and William Hancock. The site occupied a field enclosure on commons pasture within the parish of Mold. It was founded by William Hancock whose mother was the daughter of the first Jonathan Catherall - self-styled 'potter of buckley' and possible progenitor of the Buckley industry (Messham 1956). John Rigby was an ironmaster and Hancock founded the brick and colliery company of Rigby and Hancock in 1792, and later the pottery firm of William Hancock and Company.

The firm became one of the main brick and pottery concerns in Buckley throughout the 19th century. The Daisy Hill Works was the only pottery yard to be supplied with a with a purpose-built tramway - *Lane End/Buckley tramway (PRN 98341)*. This line was constructed in partnership with Rigby, which allowed for the transportation of coal and bricks from the *Lane End Colliery* and goods to the River Dee at Aston (Jones 2019). This tramway is shown on the *1st edition Ordnance Survey (25")* map of 1875 leading directly into the Daisy Hill Works complex. The complex features three suspected kilns within a yard with pottery buildings and workshops located to the south and east.

A large waste area is depicted to the north of the site where an archaeological excavation was conducted in 1974-75 by the *Flintshire Historical Society, Chester Archaeology Society* and the *Buckley Society*, directed by Davey and Williams. This excavation recovered a large assemblage of domestic and

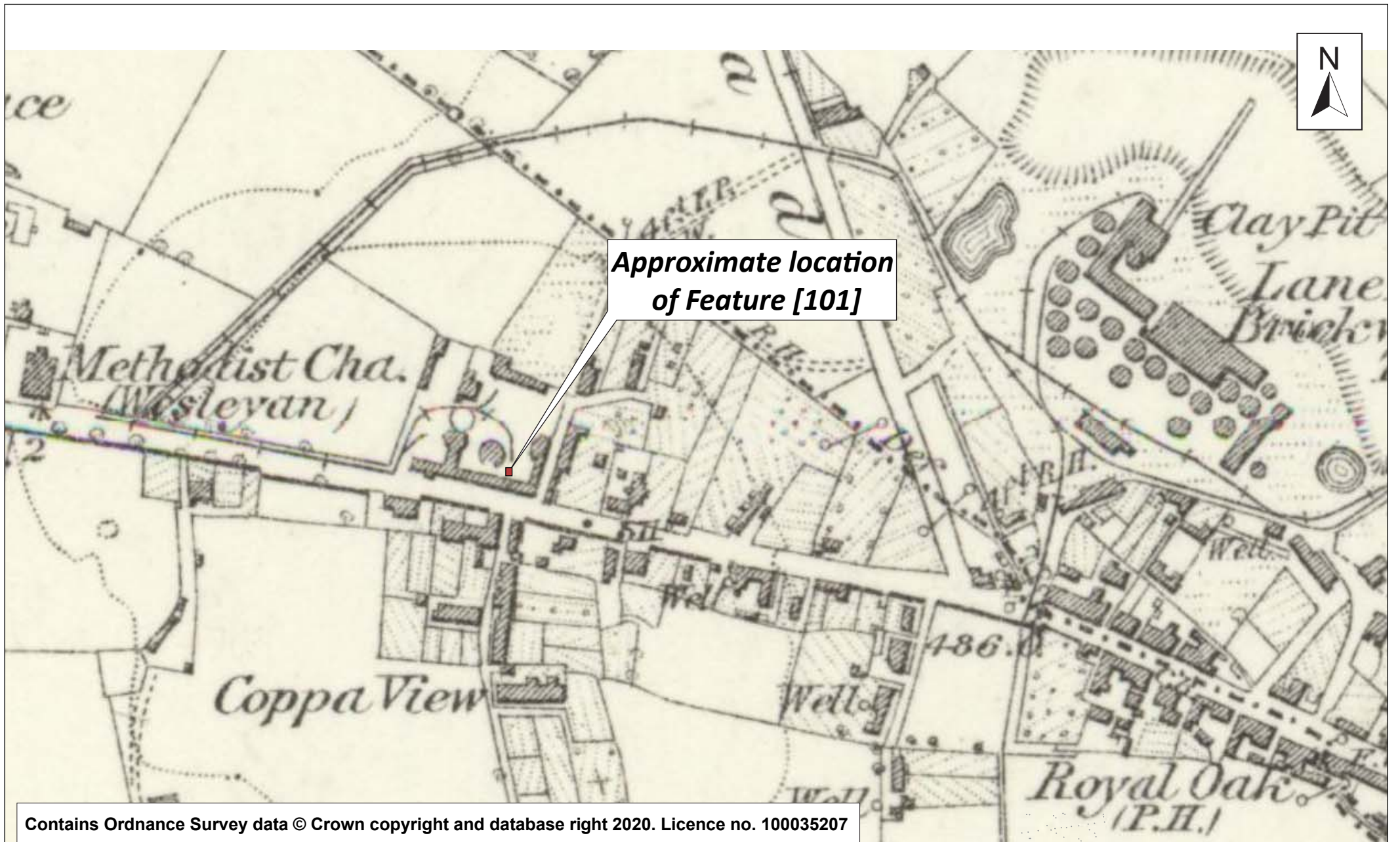


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Figure 04: Six inch ordnance survey map (1900) showing location of archaeological feature at site of Priest House, Brunswick Road, Buckley, Flintshire, CH7 2EH.

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**Approximate location
of Feature [101]**

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Figure 05: Six inch ordnance survey map (1871) showing location of archaeological feature at site of Priest House, Brunswick Road, Buckley, Flintshire, CH7 2EH.

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industrial pottery and stoneware. The excavation also confirmed that the dump extended further to the north than shown by the Ordnance Survey. The peak production at the Daisy Hill Works is considered to be around 1803 followed by a closing in 1886. The two major production types were vessels for the lead industry and domestic cooking and storage vessels. The domestic wares were black-glazed and slipware storage vessels and bowls, black- and brown-glazed fine ware and stoneware.

7.0 QUANTIFICATION OF RESULTS

7.1 The Documentary Archive

The following documentary records were created during the archaeological watching brief:

Watching brief day sheets	1
Context Sheets	10
Digital photographs	36

7.2 Environmental Samples

No environmental samples were taken as part of the watching brief as no suitable archaeological deposits were encountered.

7.3 Artefacts

This section will summarise the finds recovered during the watching brief on land east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswick Road, Buckley. The ceramic evidence recovered from the site was limited to a small assemblage recovered from the ubiquitous demolition deposit (103) found to persist across the southern and eastern areas of the development area.

The pottery was quantified by sherd count, weight, and maximum number of vessels (MNV), according to ware names commonly in use by archaeological ceramic specialists across the North West and West Midlands regions. Codes shown thus: (BLACK) relate to the identification system used for medieval and post-medieval ceramics used by The Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA) and this will be used where possible – should codes not exist for specific wares then the symbol (N/A) will suffice; meaning that MOLA codes were not available.

Ceramic Wares and Forms

Context	Ware	Sherd Count	MNV	Weight (g)
103	Annular Ware	1	1	12
	Brownware	5	5	279
	Lead Glazed Blackware	12	12	912
	Separator	1		40
	Yellow Glazed Earthenware	1	1	27

Table 1: Table showing assemblage of ceramic finds from demolition deposit (103).

Banded Annular Ware (N/A) - 1790-1820

A single sherd of *Banded Annular Ware (N/A)* representing 1 individual vessel (MNV), weighing 12g, was produced from the demolition fill (103). This example has alternating white and blue bands with the blue bands being raised. Annular ware is an example of a wheel thrown earthenware, popular between 1790 and 1820. The exterior decoration is characterized by horizontal bands of various widths and colours. Earth tones were seen on early annular ware. Later, there was a shift towards varying shades of brown, green, orange, tan, grey and blue-green. Designs were pressed or rolled on to the vessel, or were cut into the vessel by engine turning. (Van Rensselaer, 1966).

Brownware (N/A) - 1780-1900

5 sherds of *Brownware (N/A)* representing 5 individual vessels (MNV), weighing 279g, were also found in the demolition fill (103). Reminiscent of the vessels described at Price's Pottery (Jones 2019), this 'brown ware' was under-coated with a red slip. The vessel then appears to have been given a clear glaze – producing a brown glazed vessel. These vessels may constitute additional/different variations of the large upright jars and other similar forms being traditionally referred to in Buckley as pancheons or 'pan-mugs' seen in the blackware assemblage. These are thick bodied vessels with a single example of a thickened rounded rim sherd and a flat, internally glazed base sherd.

Lead Glazed Blackware (BLACK) - 1780-1900

12 sherds of *Lead Glazed Blackware (BLACK)* representing 12 individual vessels (MNV), weighing 912g, were found to persist in the south eastern corner of the site and were recovered from the demolition fill (103). Presumably produced at the former Daisy Hill works late-18th to late-19th centuries. There are a number of variations within the blackware assemblage recovered but have a red slip which was applied beneath the glaze. A portion of the blackware sherds also demonstrate an iridescent, mirror-like glaze, and according to Watson (Jones 2019) this style that did not appear in Buckley until the 1850s.

Of the vessels recovered two sherds were glazed on the internal face but were glazed externally by allowing the glaze to 'drip down' towards the base on the exterior - but most were glazed on both the external and internal faces. The majority of sherds possess a fired body fabric which appears as a well oxidised bright red with sparse, angular, moderately well sorted, buff-coloured grains of a soft mineral inclusions. The majority of the vessels form a range of wheel-thrown, highly-fired, thick-bodied wares such as large upright vessels - probably storage jars and traditional pancheons also referred to as 'pan-mugs' in Buckley (Jones 2019).

These types of black lead glazed wares made from either red and yellow clays (yellow clays in these examples) were being produced in Wales and England, particularly Northwest England, by the mid-17th century, and continued to be made into the 19th century (Cresswell & Davey 1989). These ubiquitous lead glazed blackware sherds found at the site are all most likely associated with the ceramic works in and around Buckley but may relate specifically to the *Daisy Hill Works*. The township of Buckley has been related with the production of pottery from the medieval period to the mid twentieth century. The most productive time was in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries.

Clay Separator

A single fired clay separator was found within the demolition fill (103), weighing 40g. These separators were essentially pieces of clay which were strategically placed around the rims of vessels in order to prevent sticking *or* binding with other vessels as they were stacked prior to being fired. This was an example of a larger spacer *or* separator and appears to have been used to separate larger, wide rimmed vessels which fits with the assemblage observed at the site. Separators would have subsequently been removed following the firing and could sometimes leave distinctive depressions or marks on rims (Boothroyd & Courtenay 2003, Jones 2019).

English Yellow-Glazed refined Earthenware (EYGE) - 1785-1835

A single sherd of *English Yellow-Glazed refined Earthenware (EYGE)* representing 1 individual vessel (MNV), weighing 27g, also came from the demolition fill (103). One body sherd of this ware was recovered, which may be early 19th century in date. This may possibly have been part of a large flared

bowl or basin but this is difficult to tell given the small size of the sherd, but it is unlikely to have been produced at the site given the prevalence of the other wares.

Conclusion

The watching brief produced a total of 20 sherds of post-medieval ceramic. The ceramic finds had a combined weight of 1.27kg, representing 20 individual vessels. The pottery was in good condition overall although fragmented, with all sherds representing single individual vessels. The pottery is in a stable condition and requires no long-term storage requirements. Furthermore, it is possible that these sherds were produced on site at the *Daisy Hill Works* during the late 18th – late 19th century as they were recovered from a sealed demolition deposit, however it is also possible that this deposit may have constituted an imported demolition deposit possibly transported to the site on the tramway which once connected the site with the *Lane End Brickworks*.

8.0 DIGITAL DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN

8.1 Type of study

An archaeological watching brief during the groundworks associated with the erection of two new dwellings on land east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswick Road, Buckley, CH7 2EH (centred on **NGR SJ 28454 63905**)

8.2 Types of data

Photographs, measured plans, context sheets, context register, photographic register, trench sheets.

8.3 Format and scale of the data

Photographs taken in *RAW* format and later converted to *TIF* format for long term archiving and *JPEG* format for use in the digital report, converted using *Adobe Photoshop*. All photographs renamed using *AF5* freeware with the prefix (*project code frame number*) and a photographic metadata created using Microsoft Excel (*.xlsx*) or Access (*.accdb*).

8.4 Methodologies for data collection / generation

Digital data will be collected / generated in line with recommendations made in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives* (2020). Sections 3.3.1 and 3.3.3 are relevant:

3.3.1 Project specifications, research designs or similar documents should include a project specific Selection Strategy and a Data Management Plan.

3.3.3 Project designs or schedules of works etc should outline the methodology used in recording all information, in order to demonstrate that all aspects of archive creation will ensure consistency; for instance in terminologies and the application of codes in digital data sets, highlighting relevant data standards where appropriate

8.5 Data quality and standards

Consistency and quality of data collection / generation shall be controlled and documented through the use of standardised procedure as outlined in the WSI. This will include the use of standardised data capture file formats, digital proformas, data entry validation, peer review, and use of controlled vocabularies.

8.6 Managing, storing and curating data.

All digital data will be organised into Aeon Archaeology proforma project file systems and backed up to the cloud using *Digital River's Crashplan* with additional copies made to external physical hard drive.

8.7 Metadata standards and data documentation

Digital metadata created using Microsoft Excel (*.xlsx*) or Access (*.accdb*) of all photographic plates.

Paper metadata created from Aeon Archaeology proformas for contexts, artefacts, environmental samples, watching brief day sheets, trench sheets, and basic record sheets and then scanned to create digital .PDF copies.

8.8 Data preservation strategy and standards

Long term data storage will be through the submission of digital (.PDF) reports to the regional Historic Environment Record (HER); submission of digital (.PDF) reports and a project completion form to the Oasis database; submission of the scanned (.PDF) archive, photographic plates (.TIF), and metadata (.xlsx) (.acddb) to the Archaeology Data Service (ADS); and retention of copies of all digital files at Aeon Archaeology on physical external hard drive and uploaded to the cloud.

8.9 Suitability for sharing

All digital data will be placed within the public realm (through the channels in 6.8) except for where project confidentiality restricts the sharing of data. All data sets will be selected / discriminated by the Senior Archaeologist at Aeon Archaeology and written permission will be sought from all project specific Clients prior to the sharing of data.

8.10 Discovery by potential users of the research data

Potential users of the generated digital data (outside of the organisation) will be able to source the data and identify whether it could be suitable for their research purposes through access granted via the RCAHMW website. Requests can also be made for data through the regional HER's and directly to Aeon Archaeology (info@aeonarchaeology.co.uk).

8.11 Governance of access

The decision to supply research data to potential new users will be via the associated website request (RCAHMW) or via the Senior Archaeologist when made directly to Aeon Archaeology.

8.12 The study team's exclusive use of the data

Aeon Archaeology's requirement is for timely data sharing, with the understanding that a limited, defined period of exclusive use of data for primary research is reasonable according to the nature and value of the data, and that this restriction on sharing should be based on simple, clear principles. This time period is expected to be six months from completion of the project however Aeon Archaeology reserves the right to extend this period without notice if primary data research dictates.

8.13 Restrictions or delays to sharing, with planned actions to limit such restrictions

Restriction to data sharing may be due to participant confidentiality or consent agreements. Strategies to limit restrictions will include data being anonymised or aggregated; gaining participant consent for data sharing; and gaining copyright permissions. For prospective studies, consent procedures will include provision for data sharing to maximise the value of the data for wider research use, while providing adequate safeguards for participants.

8.14 Regulation of responsibilities of users

External users of the data will be bound by data sharing agreements provided by the relevant organisation or directly through Aeon Archaeology.

8.15 Responsibilities

Responsibility for study-wide data management, metadata creation, data security and quality assurance of data will be through the Senior Archaeologist (Richard Cooke BA MA MCIfA) at Aeon Archaeology when concerning data generation and early/mid-term storage. Upon deposition with digital depositories the study-wide data management, metadata creation, data security and quality assurance of data will be the responsibility of the specific organisations' themselves.

8.16 Organisational policies on data sharing and data security

The following Aeon Archaeology policies are relevant:

- Aeon Archaeology Archive Deposition Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Quality Assurance Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Conflict of Interest Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Outreach Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Digital Management Plan 2020

9.0 RESULTS OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

9.1 Overview

The archaeological watching brief was maintained by Josh Dean BA, archaeological contractor for Aeon Archaeology. The site was attended on the 07th March 2022 and the weather conditions were overcast with episodes of sunshine. The site had been reduced by 0.20m prior to the arrival of the archaeologist: when viewed in section this had consisted of a full 0.12m deposit of soft, dark black brown, topsoil and 0.08m of an overburden deposit (description below). The excavation of the trenches for the new dwellings were conducted using a 6 tonne - tracked 360° excavator. Visible within this plot were the foundation walls of the community centre hut which was formerly located to the east/southeast of the Presbytery (Priest House). These consisted of a single course of red bricks which were bonded with Portland cement and formed a rectangular cell which demarcated the location of the former building (*see Plates 12 - 16 & Figures 07-08*)

9.2 The Trenches A, B, C & E (*Plates 5-11*)

The plot for the two dwellings consisted of 5 trenches (A, B C, D & E) and covered an area 9.90m long by 8.90m and all the trenches were excavated to 0.60m in width:

Trench A cut through 0.15m of soft, yet friable, overburden (104) which consisted of dark black-brown, clay-silt with frequent fragments of lead glazed blackware and post medieval ceramic and occasional fragments of broken red brick, mortar, slate and plastic inclusions. Beneath this was 0.62m of soft, friable demolition infill (103) which consisted of light brown-grey, clay-silt with abundant broken red brick fragments, slate, mortar and occasional fragments of lead glazed blackware. This lay above >0.20m of a firm, vivid yellow (with occasional white marbling), clay natural (109).

The eastern 2/3rds of the trench contained the former wall foundation (*which faced onto Brunswick Road*) of the community centre hut. This was excavated out and revealed to consist of two courses of stretcher bricks which were situated upon 3 courses and 2 wythe of stretchers and headers; these formed a foundation which was situated upon 0.25m of concrete foundations which was located on >0.20m of yellow clay natural (109).

At its western end the stratigraphic depth of the trench was increased as it cut through 0.15m of overburden (104), which lay above 0.72m of demolition (104), which lay above 0.12m of soft, mid grey-brown, silt-clay (110) which may have been basal fill of a depression or pit. This lay above >0.12m of yellow clay natural (109).

Trench A cut through 0.15m of soft, yet friable, overburden (104) which consisted of dark black-brown, clay-silt with frequent fragments of lead glazed blackware and post medieval ceramic and occasional fragments of broken red brick, mortar, slate and plastic inclusions. Beneath this was 0.23m of soft, friable demolition infill (103) which consisted of light brown-grey, clay-silt with abundant broken red brick fragments, slate, mortar and occasional fragments of lead glazed blackware. This lay above >0.20m of a firm, vivid yellow (with occasional white marbling), clay natural (109).

(NB. *The following trench descriptions are very similar to the descriptions already given, but are noted in detail here for consistency – the stratigraphy of Trench D is where the archaeological feature was uncovered and as such has been discussed in a separate section*).

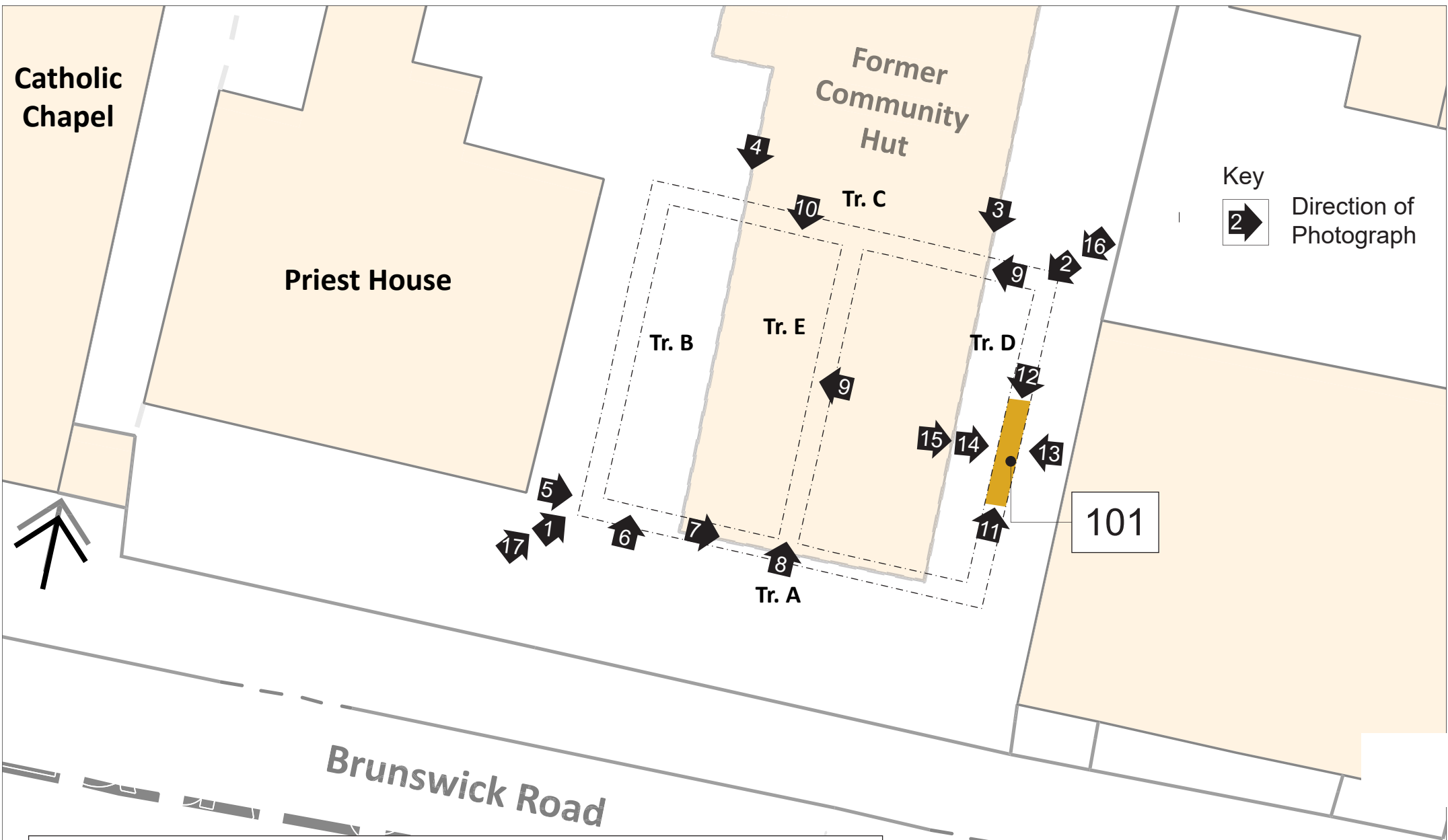
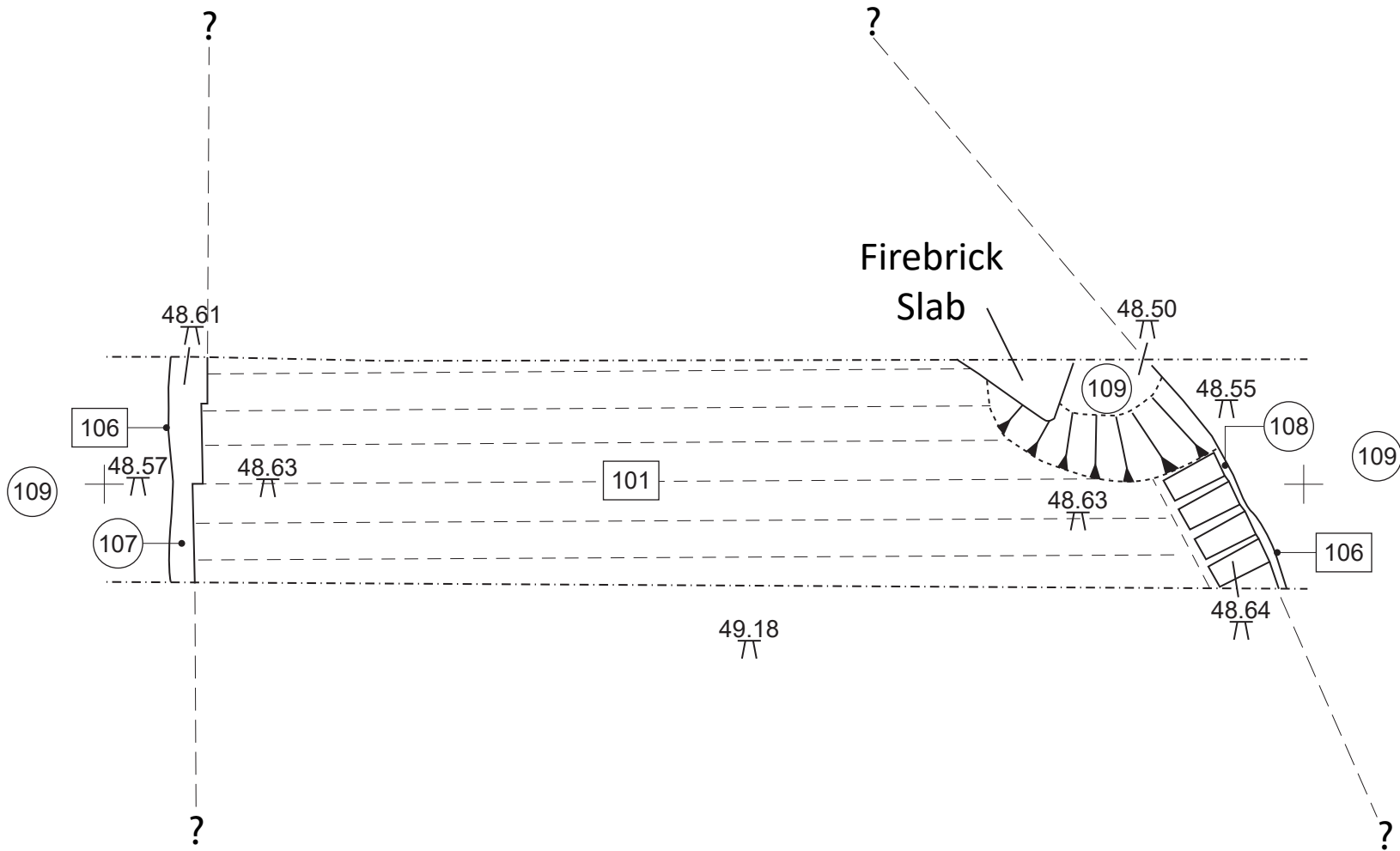


Figure 06: Location of photographic plates on site at the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswick Road, Buckley, CH7 2EH. Scale 1:100 at A4.



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Plan of heat brick surface (refractory brick) with projected alignment



1:20



Figure 07: Plan of Brick Surface [101] at Priest House, Brunswick Road, Buckley, Flintshire, CH7 2EH. Scale 1:20 at A4.

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Southwest facing section of feature [101]

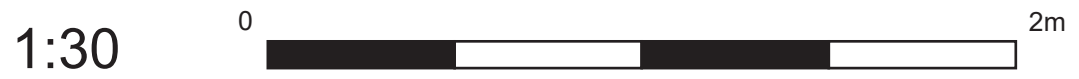
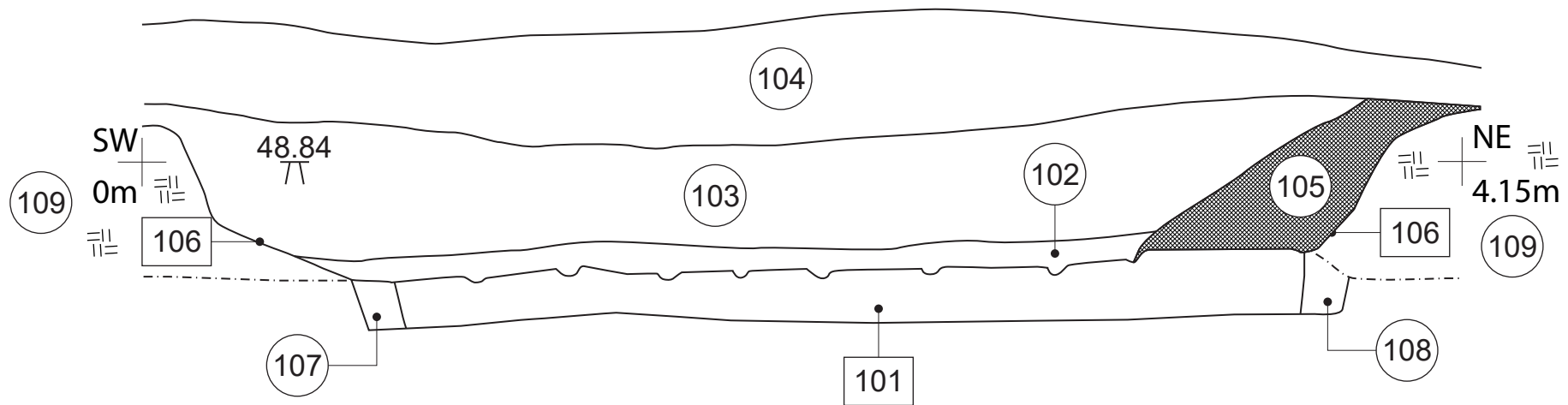




Plate 01: Pre excavation shot of site east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswich Road, Buckley, - from the southwest - 1.00 scale



Plate 02: Pre excavation shot of site east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswich Road, Buckley, - from the northeast - 1.00 scale



Plate 03: Eastern wall of former community hut on site east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswich Road, Buckley, - from the north/northeast - 1.00 scale

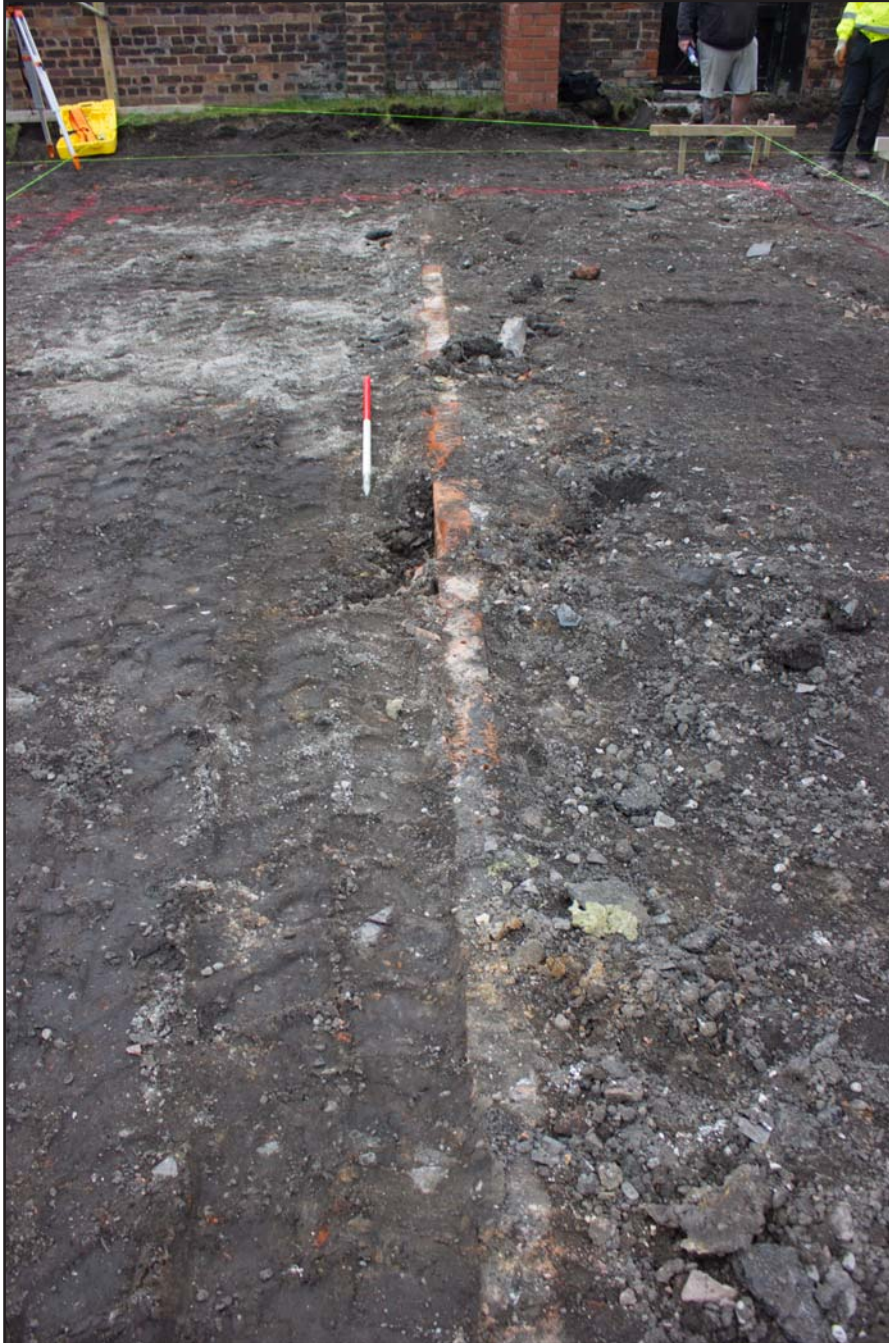


Plate 04: Western wall of former community hut on site east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswich Road, Buckley, - from the north/northeast - 1.00 scale



Plate 05: Wall foundation within Trench A on site east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswick Road, Buckley, - from the west/northwest - 1.00 scale

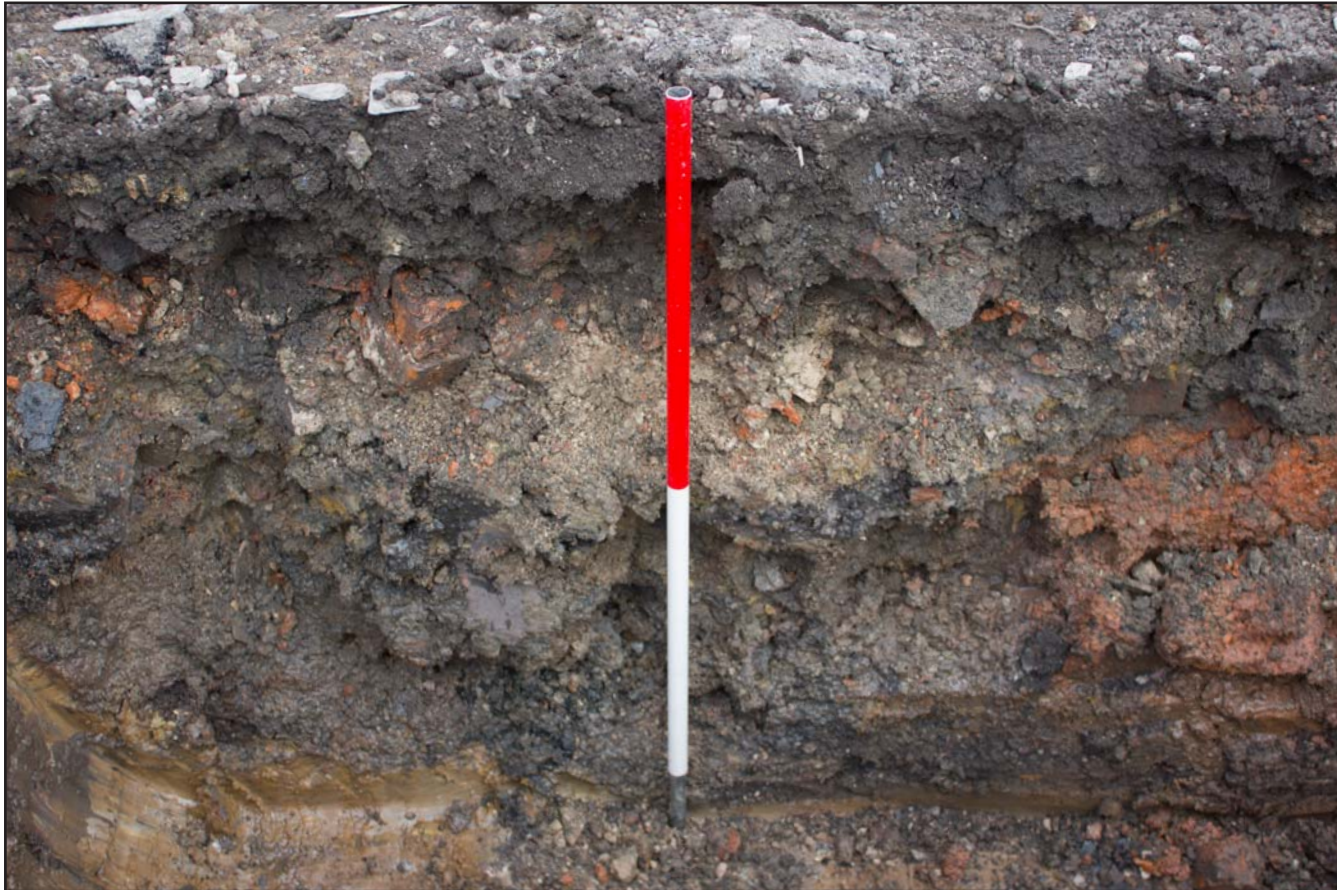


Plate 06: Demolition deposit within Trench A on site east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswich Road, Buckley, - from the south/southwest - 1.00 scale



Plate 07: Post ex shot of Trench A on site east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswick Road, Buckley, - from the west/northwest - 1.00 scale



Plate 08: Post ex shot of Trench E on site east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswick Road, Buckley, - from the south/southwest - 1.00 scale

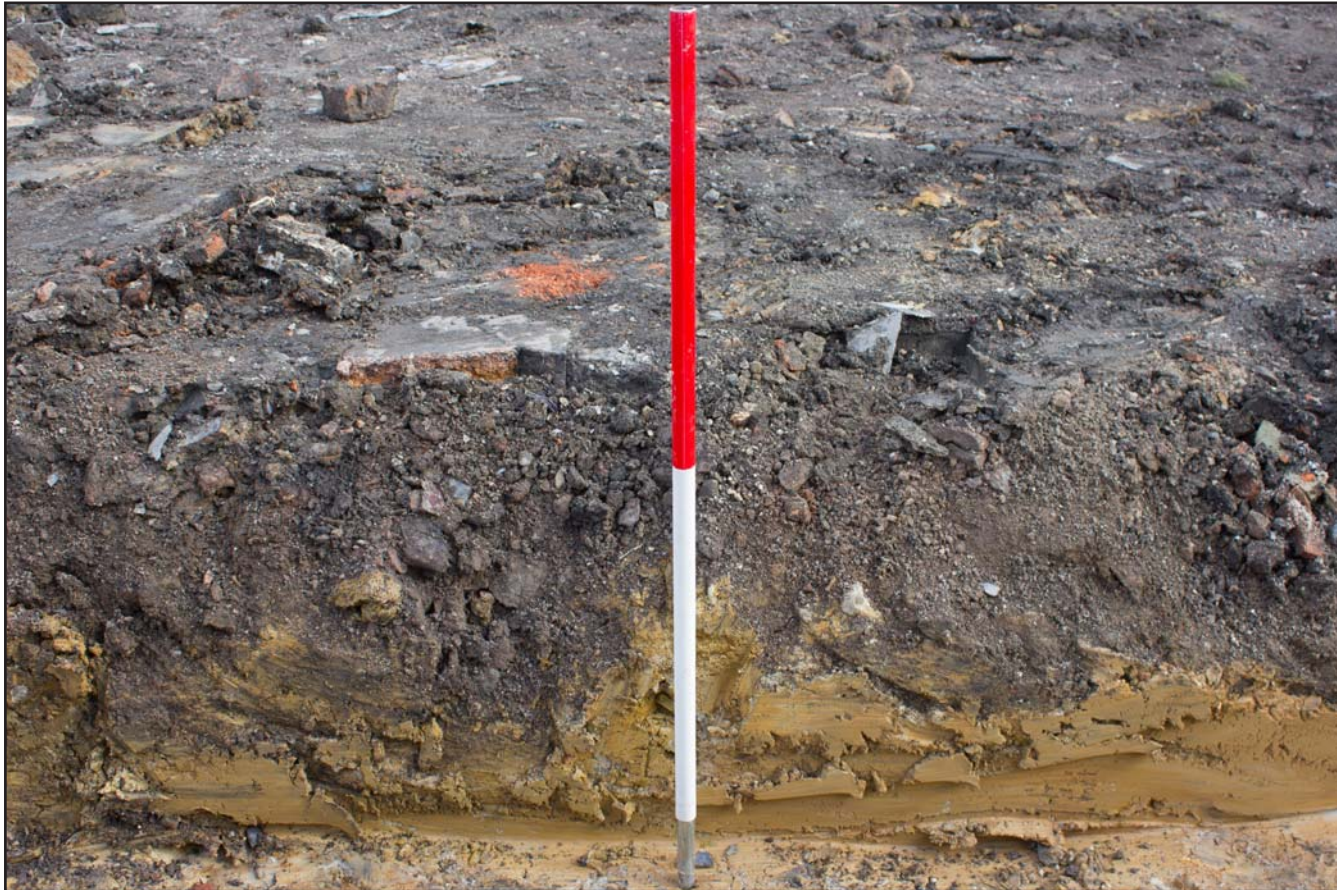


Plate 09: Generic section of Trench E on site east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswich Road, Buckley, - from the east/southeast - 1.00 scale



Plate 10: Post ex shot of Trench C on site east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswich Road, Buckley, - from the east/southeast - 1.00 scale



Plate 11: Generic section of Trench E on site east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswich Road, Buckley, - from the east/southeast - 1.00 scale

Trench B cut through 0.21m of soft, yet friable, overburden (104) which consisted of dark black-brown, clay-silt with frequent fragments of lead glazed blackware and post medieval ceramic and occasional fragments of broken red brick, mortar, slate and plastic inclusions. Beneath this was 0.20m of soft, friable demolition infill (103) which consisted of light brown-grey, clay-silt with abundant broken red brick fragments, slate, mortar and occasional fragments of lead glazed blackware. This lay above >0.18m of a firm, vivid yellow (with occasional white marbling), clay natural (109).

Trench C cut through 0.12m of soft, yet friable, overburden (104) which consisted of dark black-brown, clay-silt with frequent fragments of lead glazed blackware and post medieval ceramic and occasional fragments of broken red brick, mortar, slate and plastic inclusions. Beneath this was 0.23m of soft, friable demolition infill (103) which consisted of light brown-grey, clay-silt with abundant broken red brick fragments, slate, mortar and occasional fragments of lead glazed blackware. This lay above >0.20m of a firm, vivid yellow (with occasional white marbling), clay natural (109).

Trench E cut through 0.15m of soft, yet friable, overburden (104) which consisted of dark black-brown, clay-silt with frequent fragments of lead glazed blackware and post medieval ceramic and occasional fragments of broken red brick, mortar, slate and plastic inclusions. Beneath this was 0.23m of soft, friable demolition infill (103) which consisted of light brown-grey, clay-silt with abundant broken red brick fragments, slate, mortar and occasional fragments of lead glazed blackware. This lay above >0.20m of a firm, vivid yellow (with occasional white marbling), clay natural (109).

Overburden - This material appeared to be the result of the former demolition deposit having been turned over and worked in modern history.

9.3 Trench D – The heat brick surface (Plates 12-16)

The general stratigraphy of *trench D* is very similar to the other trenches as it cut through 0.22m of soft, yet friable, overburden (104) which overlay, 0.23m of soft, friable demolition infill (103) which in turn lay above >0.20m of a firm, vivid yellow clay natural (109). However, near the centre of this trench and cut into the natural was a yellow heat brick surface [101] – this was a linear feature, aligned east/northeast to west/southwest, measured 3.28m in width and extended beyond the eastern and western limits of excavation. The size of the bricks varied considerably; 26-22cm long by 12-9cm wide by 8-6.5cm deep and also appeared to be handmade. These refractory bricks appear to be made with fire clay probably excavated from local beds; a typical cross section of the brick presents as a bright orange body which fades slightly to a buff or lilac around the margins, furthermore there are abundant poorly sorted inclusions of white, black and grey stone distributed throughout.

The bricks were generally aligned north to south in six visible rows – when uncovered these bricks appeared dark blue but upon closer examination were found to be range from yellow – dark red. Along the northern edge of the feature were a single row of four stretcher bricks which shared a different alignment more akin to northeast to southwest (however still part of the same feature) this angled line of brick work may suggest a junction or turn located to the east/northeast. Also of note was a very firm concrete residue (102) affixed to the majority of surface of the brick feature [101], this was 0.07m thick in places and was a yellow/orange/brown mottled colour with black flecks – this material was coarse and partially vitrified suggesting it had been subjected to heating and cooling processes – possibly in association with the exchange of gases in a kiln setting.



Plate 12: Brick surface [101] within trench D east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswich Road, Buckley, - from the south/southwest - 1.00 & 0.50m scales



Plate 13: Brick surface [101] within trench D east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswich Road, Buckley, - from the north/northeast - 1.00 & 0.50m scales



Plate 14: Brick surface [101] within trench D east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswich Road, Buckley, - from the east/southeast - 1.00 & 0.50m scales



Plate 15: Brick surface [101] within trench D east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswich Road, Buckley, - from the west/southwest - 1.00 & 0.50m scales



Plate 16: West facing section above Brick surface [101] within trench D east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswich Road, Buckley, - from the west/southwest - 1.00 & 0.50m scales

The feature [101] was situated within a linear cut [106] which had been made into the clay (109). Near the break of slope the cut was quite steep, becoming more gradual near the bottom and the base was observed to be flat – in order to accommodate the brick surface [101]. The cut was 2.98m wide and 0.43m deep and aligned east/northeast to south/southwest and was filled initially by the surface [101], the demolition deposit (103) and the tip line (105). Along the margins of the cut [106] and bounding with the feature [101] to the north and south were small areas of backfill (107/108) these were soft, dark black-brown, silt-clay, borders to the feature measuring 0.04/0.06m in width by 0.09m deep.

At the northern side of the cut [106] into the clay (109) was a tip line (105) which was 0.34m deep and 0.70m wide – this consisted of a friable/loose, dark black, clinker-ash with abundant fragments of coal and another vitrified material. This was located on the northern bank of the cut [106] and may relate either to a stoking location or to an area of deposition.

Therefore, the cut [106] into the clay which had a brick base [101] could have been a channel or possible flue given the presence of vitrified material (102) which had adhered to the bricks. This channel/flue was subsequently closed down with a demolition infill which was 0.32m deep by 2.90m wide (103), this consisted of a soft, yet friable, light brown-grey, clay-silt with abundant broken red brick fragments, slate, mortar and occasional fragments of lead glazed blackware. This deposit may relate to a former building located on the site or could have been redeposited on the site from another location.

This layer had then been sealed by the generic 0.22m of soft, yet friable, overburden (104) which consisted of dark black-brown, clay-silt with frequent fragments of lead glazed blackware and post medieval ceramic and occasional fragments of broken red brick, mortar, slate and plastic inclusions. Which had been found to be extant across the site.

Discussion

This feature was found to persist in an area of the site which had previously been part of the *Daisy Hill Work's Pottery or Buckley Potteries Site 14, Hancock's Pottery (PRN 101665)* associated with *William Hancock*. Following an examination and comparison with the 1871 *Ordnance Survey Map* the feature [101] appears to inhabit the south eastern corner of what is presumed to be *Daisy Hill Work's yard* – and is located to the southeast of what appears to be a bottle kiln and to the south of the termination point for the *Lane End/Buckley tramway (PRN 98341)*.

Given the termination point of the tramway located to the north of the feature it is possible that coal was being transported from the Colliery at Lane End Brick Works and unloaded here. Given the use of heat bricks or refractory bricks in the construction of the surface, the lack of mortar and the accumulation of the concreted/vitrified residue (102) on the surface – it would seem as if this may have possibly been a former flue or intake for a kiln. The coal tip line (105) on the northern bank appears to suggest that coal may have been barrowed into the site from the north.

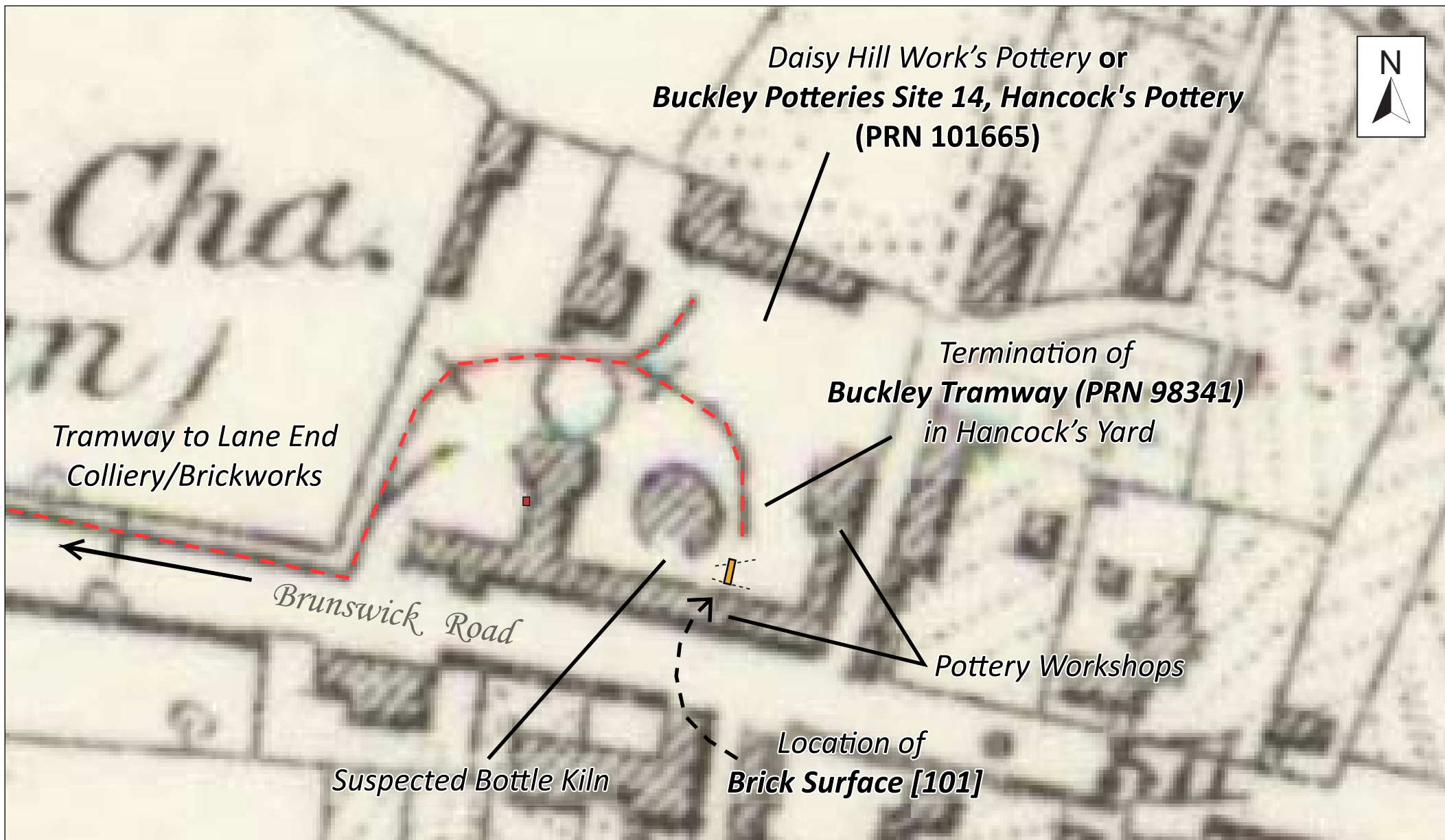
Therefore, the feature [101] could be part of a previously unknown former kiln in the south eastern corner of the site or it may relate to the storage of coal which was delivered from the tramway. The inclination of the surface to the west/northwest could suggest an association with the bottle kiln shown on the 1871 OS Map – perhaps associated with site logistics as opposed to firing the kiln.



Plate 17: Post excavation shot of site east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswich Road, Buckley, - from the northeast -
1.00 scale



Plate 18: Post excavation shot of site east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswich Road, Buckley, - from the southwest -
1.00 scale



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Figure 09: Contextualised map showing location of archaeological feature within former Daisy Hill Works or Hancock's Pottery (PRN 101665) at modern day site of Priest House, Brunswick Road, Buckley, Flintshire, CH7 2EH.

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10.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

During the archaeological works on land east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswick Road, Buckley, it was found that a small area of brick surface was found to survive in the south eastern area of the site approximately 0.85m below the existing ground level. This feature is thought to pertain to the former Buckley Pottery known as Daisy Hill Works or Hancock's Pottery (*PRN 101665*). The surface may be either associated with an unrecorded kiln or be related to the logistical layout of the yard at the former 18th century works. This brick surface was the only archaeological feature observed during the watching brief and is thought that any other remains at the site were probably removed sometime after the closure of the former pottery.

Following an examination and comparison with the 1871 *Ordnance Survey Map* it appeared that the location of the brick surface most likely correlates with the former south eastern corner of the *Daisy Hill Work's* yard – and more specifically, it is located to the southeast of what appears to be a bottle kiln and to the south of the termination point for the Lane End/Buckley tramway (*PRN 98341*).

Given that the assumed point of termination for the tramway is located to the north of the feature it is possible that coal was being transported from the Colliery at Lane End Brick Works and unloaded in this general location. Furthermore, given the use of heat bricks or refractory bricks in the construction of the surface, the lack of mortar and the accumulation of the concreted/vitrified residue on the surface – it would seem as if this may have had a function with regards to stoking a kiln; possibly been as a former flue or input pathway toward a kiln. There was also a visible coal tip line observed in section (on the northern bank) above the feature and this appears to suggest that coal may have been barrowed into the site from the north – the tip line resulting from overspill from barrows as they descended the clay bank onto the brick surface perhaps.

Therefore, this feature might be described as part of a previously unknown former kiln in the south eastern corner of the site or it may relate to an area for the storage of coal, which was delivered from the tramway. When viewed in plan and plotted onto a map (*figure 09*) the alignment of the surface towards the west/northwest could suggest an association with the suspected bottle kiln shown on the 1871 OS Map – perhaps associated with site logistics as opposed to firing the kiln. There were no other remains associated with possible archaeological remains relating to a previously unknown kiln encountered during the watching brief. Although in the western area (*northwest end of trench A*) of the development area there was a deep deposit (*0.62m – plate 06*) of demolition infill observed in section which may relate to a former structure which was thoroughly demolished.

The archaeological watching brief can be seen as having addressed the archaeological condition in that no archaeological features were present at the site. Considering the results of the archaeological watching brief it is therefore the recommendation of this report that the condition be discharged.

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**APPENDIX I: WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL
WATCHING BRIEF**



**Land east of the Roman Catholic
Presbytery, Brunswick Road,
Buckley, CH7 2EH (062775)**

**Written Scheme of Investigation for
Archaeological Watching Brief**

February 2022 v1.0

aeon archaeology



Project Code: A0351.1
Planning Ref: 062775



Land east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswick Road, Buckley, CH7 2EH (062775)

February 2022 v1.0

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Aeon Archaeology has been commissioned by EMW Developments Ltd, hereafter ‘the Client’, to provide a written scheme of investigation (WSI) for carrying out an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks associated with the erection of two new dwellings on land east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswick Road, Buckley, CH7 2EH (centred on NGR SJ 28454 63905) (figures 01-03).

Full planning permission (**ref: 062775**) was secured by the Client from Flintshire County Council, hereafter ‘the Council’, on the 16th November 2021 for the demolition of an existing timber building and construction of two dwellings. The following condition concerning archaeology was applied to the permission:

Condition 8

No development shall take place within the application area until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

The archaeological programme of work will be undertaken and completed in accordance with the relevant Standards and Guidance laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. A copy of the resulting report should be submitted to the Local Planning Authority and the Planning Archaeologist, (Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, The Offices, Coed y Dinas, Welshpool, SY21 8RP Email: sophie.watson@cpat.org.uk Tel: 01938 553670). After approval by the Local Planning Authority, a copy of the report and resulting archive should be sent to the Historic Environment Record Officer, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust for inclusion in the regional Historic Environment Record and also to the National Monuments Record, RCAHMW, National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth.

REASON: To secure preservation by record of all archaeological remains which will be impacted by the development in accordance with policy HE7 of the Flintshire Unitary Development Plan.

This written scheme of investigation (WSI) details the aims and objectives of the project and the methods by which they will be met in order to meet the spirit and intent of the archaeological condition of permission 062775.

The work will adhere to the guidelines specified in *The Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2020).

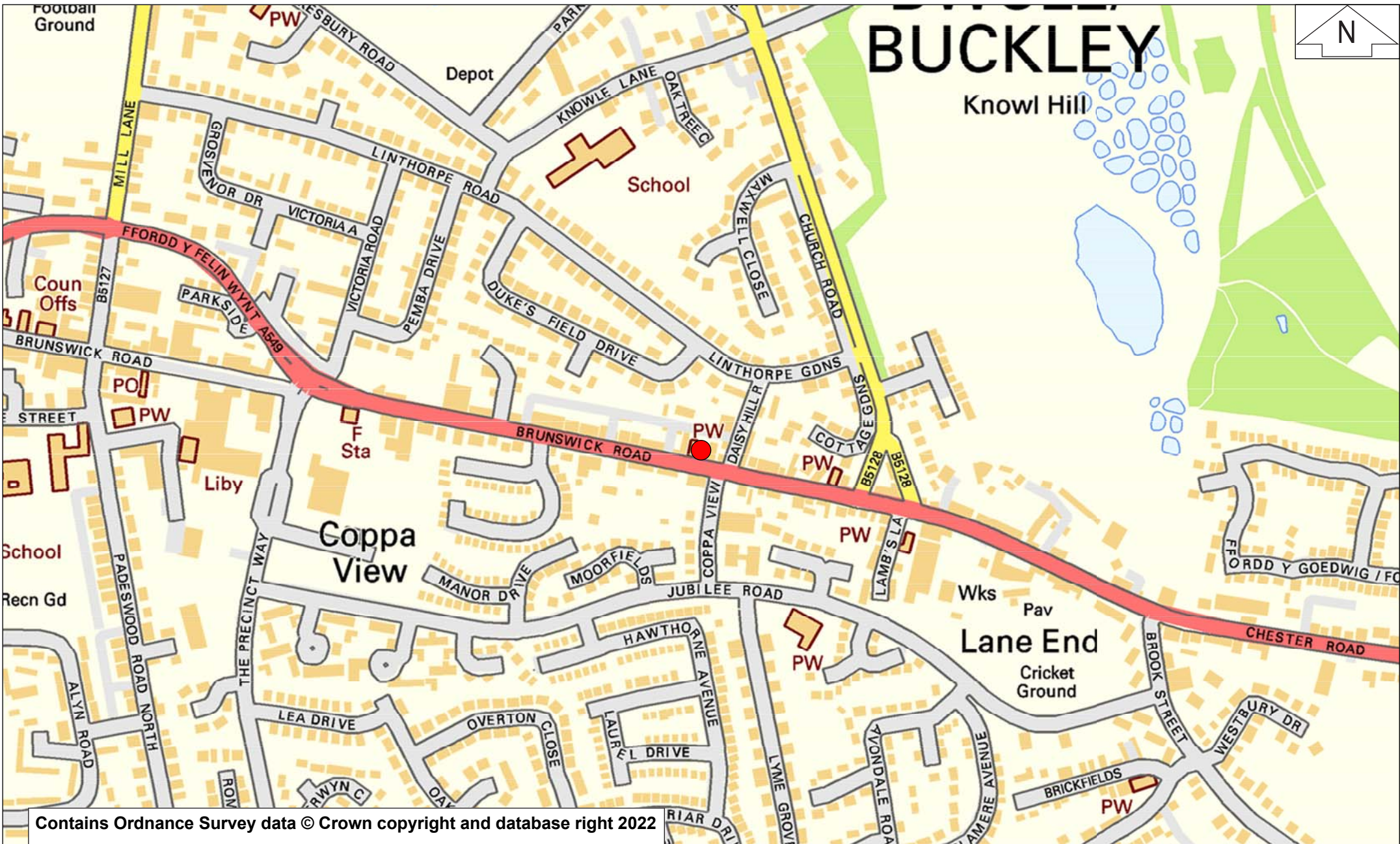


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Figure 01: Location of proposed development site on land east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswick Road, Buckley, CH7 2EH. Scale 1:20,000 at A4.

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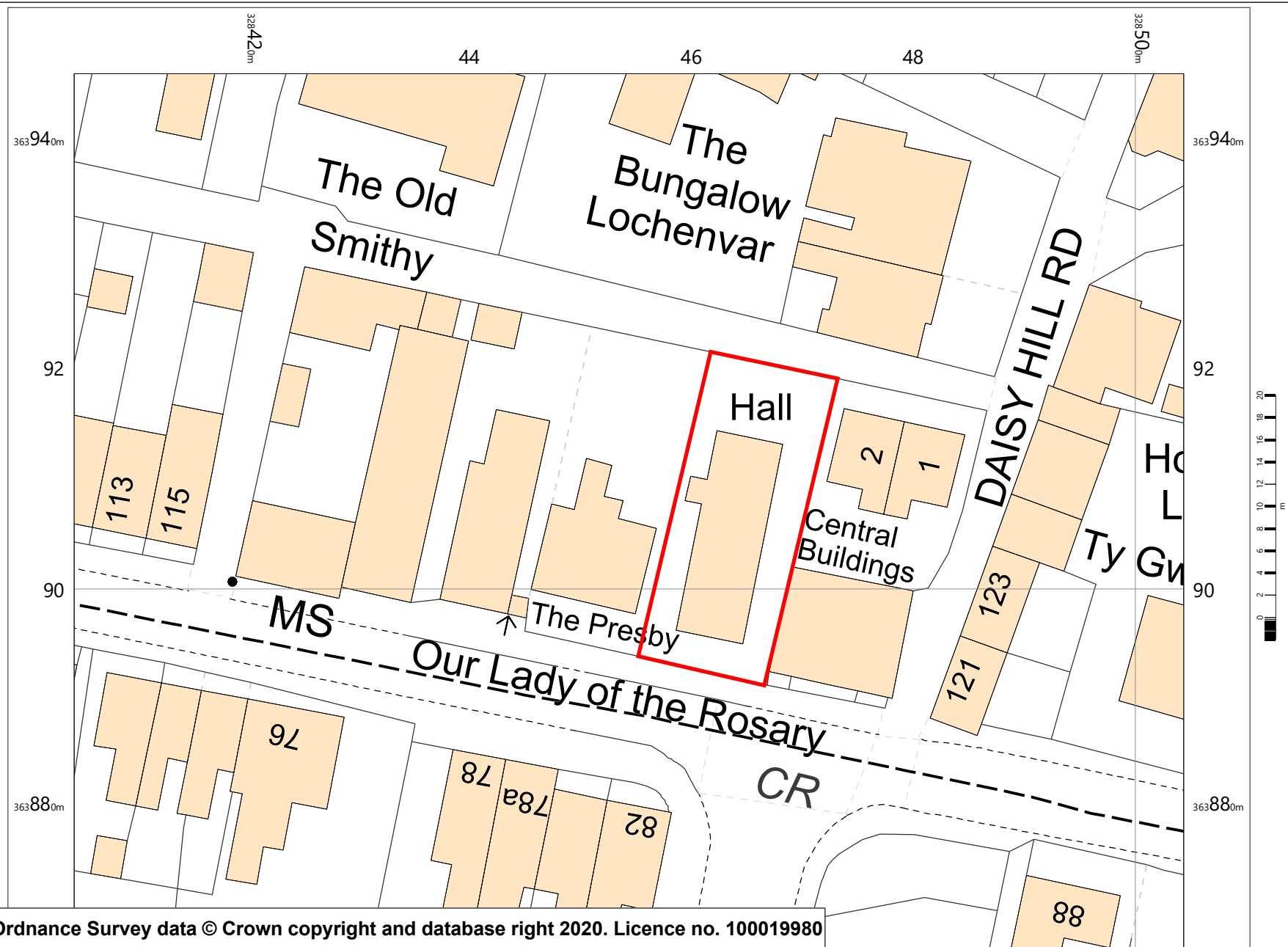


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Figure 02: Location of proposed development site on land east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswick Road, Buckley, CH7 2EH. Scale 1:5,000 at A4.

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Figure 03: Location of proposed development site on land east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswick Road, Buckley, CH7 2EH. Scale 1:500 at A4.

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2.0 POLICY CONTEXT

At an international level there are two principal agreements concerning the protection of the cultural heritage and archaeological resource – the UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage and the European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage, commonly known as the Valetta Convention. The latter was agreed by the Member States of the Council of Europe in 1992, and also became law in 1992. It has been ratified by the UK, and responsibility for its implementation rests with Department for Culture Media and Sport.

The management and protection of the historic environment in Wales is set out within the following legislation:

- The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (As amended)
- The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016
- The Town and Country Planning Act 1990
- The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979
- The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development Order) 1995 (As amended)

The Historic Environment (Wales) Act is the most recent legislation for the management of the Historic Environment and amends two pieces of UK legislation — the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. The new Act has three main aims:

- to give more effective protection to listed buildings and scheduled monuments;
- to improve the sustainable management of the historic environment; and
- to introduce greater transparency and accountability into decisions taken on the historic environment.

With respect to the cultural heritage of the built environment the Planning (Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings) Act 1990 applies. The Act sets out the legislative framework within which works and development affecting listed buildings and conservation areas must be considered. This states that:-

“In considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a listed building or its setting, the local planning authority or, as the case may be, the Secretary of State shall have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses” (s66(1))

Other known sites of cultural heritage/archaeological significance can be entered onto county-based Historic Environment Records under the Town and Country Planning 1995.

Planning Policy Wales sets out the land use planning policies of the Welsh Government. Chapter 6 covers the historic environment and emphasises that the positive management of change in the historic environment is based on a full understanding of the nature and significance of historic assets and the recognition of the benefits that they can deliver in a vibrant culture and economy.

Various principles and policies related to cultural heritage and archaeology are set out in the Planning Policy Wales which guide local planning authorities with respect to the wider historic environment.

The following paragraphs from Planning Policy Wales are particularly relevant and are quoted in full:

Paragraph 6.1.5 concerns planning applications:

The planning system must take into account the Welsh Government's objectives to protect, conserve, promote and enhance the historic environment as a resource for the general well-being of present and future generations. The historic environment is a finite, non-renewable and shared resource and a vital and integral part of the historical and cultural identity of Wales. It contributes to economic vitality and culture, civic pride, local distinctiveness and the quality of Welsh life. The historic environment can only be maintained as a resource for future generations if the individual historic assets are protected and conserved. Cadw's published Conservation Principles highlights the need to base decisions on an understanding of the impact a proposal may have on the significance of an historic asset.

Planning Policy Wales is supplemented by a series of Technical Advice Notes (TAN). Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment contains detailed guidance on how the planning system considers the historic environment during development plan, preparation and decision making on planning and listed building consent applications. TAN 24 replaces the following Welsh Office Circulars:

- 60/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology
- 61/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Historic Buildings and Conservation Areas
- 1/98 Planning and the Historic Environment: Directions by the Secretary of State for Wales

3.0 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Development Management Archaeologist (DMA) at the Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT), as advisors to the Council, made the following comments regarding the archaeological condition:

We understand that the rear of the plot intended for the garden and car parking spaces has already been scraped to 200mm and a hardcore gravel surface laid over this. If this is the case (please send current plot photos to confirm) and no additional ground reduction is completed here, then no additional archaeological work would be required. This area contained a former circular pottery kiln, the base of which may have been present at sub-surface levels.

On the frontage the old mapping shows less archaeological potential with a possible tramway track around the former pottery kilns and a possible small building on the south east corner also associated with the pottery. The former community centre hut foundations may have disturbed these features, but it is worth maintaining a watching brief on the new dwelling foundation excavations to obtain a record of any surviving archaeology.

We understand that the c. 1970's pre-fabricated building on the frontage has already been entirely demolished and consequently no recording of this building is required.

4.0 WATCHING BRIEF - ARCHAEOLOGICAL AIMS

The archaeological watching brief shall be maintained:

1. During the excavation of foundations for the new dwellings.

The CIfA maintains a standard for archaeological watching brief which states that:

An archaeological watching brief will record the archaeological resource during development within a specified area using appropriate methods and practices. These will satisfy the stated aims of the project, and comply with the Code of conduct and other relevant by-laws of CIfA.

An archaeological watching brief is defined by the CIfA as ‘a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons’ (CIfA 2020). The watching brief will take place within a specified area within the Site where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed.

The CIfA further identifies the purpose of a watching brief ‘as allowing, within the resources available, 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’ (ibid).

It is also important to note that a watching brief provides an opportunity, if needed, for a signal to be made to all interested parties, before the destruction of the archaeological materials, 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.

A watching brief is, therefore, not intended to reduce the requirement for excavation or preservation of known or inferred deposits, and it is intended to guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.

The aims of the watching brief are:

- To allow, within the resources available, the opportunity to gain information about and record the presence/absence, nature and date of archaeological remains on the Site affected by excavations and groundworks, the presence and nature of which could not be established with sufficient confidence in advance of works which may disturb them.
- To provide the facility to signal to the relevant authorities, before irreversible impact to remains that an archaeological and/or historic find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are inadequate to support their treatment to an adequate and satisfactory standard.

The specific objectives of the watching brief are:

- To observe and recover any artefacts of archaeological significance.
- To record the location, dimensions and nature of any deposits, features, structures or artefacts of archaeological significance.
- To recover samples of any deposits considered to have potential for analysis for palaeoenvironmental data should the opportunity arise.

5.0 METHODOLOGY

5.1 Archaeological Watching Brief

The methodology for the watching brief has been prepared with reference to the CIFA's document *The Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (2020) and will be kept under constant review during the project, in order to see how far it is meeting the terms of the aims and objectives, and in order to adopt any new questions which may arise.

Curatorial monitoring of the archaeological work on behalf of the Council will be carried out by the DMA at CPAT. To facilitate the curatorial monitoring, the officer shall be provided with a minimum of two weeks' notice of the start of the archaeological work.

A suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist(s) from Aeon Archaeology will be commissioned for the maintenance of the watching brief. On arrival on site, the archaeologist(s) will report to the site manager and conform to the arrangements for notification of entering and leaving site. The archaeologist(s) will keep a record of the date, time and duration of all attendances at site, the names and numbers of archaeologists deployed and any actions taken. The archaeologist will be provided with a Health & Safety Induction by the construction contractor and wear a safety helmet, safety footwear and high visibility jacket/vest at all times.

If deposits and or artefacts are exposed during excavations for the development which require recording and recovery, it may be necessary to delay works whilst the proper investigation and recording takes place. Watching brief recording can often be undertaken without delay to groundworks, depending upon the specific circumstances and flexibility of all the staff on site.

Within the constraints of the terms of the watching brief work, the archaeologist will not cause unreasonable disruption to the maintenance of the work schedules of other contractors on site. In the event of archaeological discoveries the treatment of which (either arising from the volume/quantity of material and/or the complexity/importance of the material) is beyond the resources deployed the Client will be notified and a site meeting/telephone consultation arranged with the DMA at CPAT. The aim of the meeting will be to confirm 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 and identify measures which would be sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard prior to destruction of the material in question.

Any archaeological deposits, features and structures identified which can be investigated and recorded under the terms of the watching brief will be excavated manually in a controlled and stratigraphic manner sufficient to address the aims and objectives of the project – subject to the limitations on site access.

It may not be necessary to excavate the complete stratigraphic sequence to geologically lain deposits but the inter-relationships between archaeological deposits, features and structures will be investigated sufficient to address the aims and objectives of the project and the complete stratigraphic sequence to geologically lain deposits will be investigated where practicable.

The method of recording will follow the normal principles of stratigraphic excavation and the stratigraphy will be recorded in written descriptions even where no archaeological deposits have been identified. The archaeologist will record archaeological deposits using proformae recording forms and locate them on a large-scale site plan related to the Ordnance Survey National Grid and Datum references.

The groundworks excavations shall be undertaken using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket.

The drawn record will comprise plans at scale 1:20 and sections at scale 1:10; propriety electronic hardware and software to prepare site drawings may be used as appropriate.

The photographic record will be maintained throughout using a digital SLR camera (Canon 600D) set to maximum resolution (72 dpi) and all archaeological features will be recorded photographically with photographs taken in RAW format and later converted to TIFF format for long-term storage and JPEG format for presentation and inclusion in the archive. The standards for the digital archive will adhere to those set out in '*Guidelines for Digital Archaeological Archives*' (RCAHMW, 2015).

The archive produced will be held at Aeon Archaeology under the project code **A0326.1**.

5.2 Watching brief report

5.2.1 Post-excavation Assessment

A report on the results of the watching brief, in accordance with the recommendations in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment Project Manager's Guide* (English Heritage 2006; 2015), and in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (2020) will be required to be produced upon conclusion of the archaeological fieldwork. The report will be completed within a maximum of two months of completion of work on site and may include examination and quantification leading to the identification of function, form, date, method of manufacture, material/fabric type, source, parallels, attributes and condition of artefacts; of the exploitation of wild or domesticated resources; the reconstruction of environments; and the nature of human populations.

Full analysis of the results of the project, including: dating and interpretation of excavated features; pottery and other finds analysis; analysis of industrial residues by an appropriate specialist or specialists; analysis of samples for environmental data (including pollen, plant macrofossils and beetles) by an appropriate specialist or specialists; radiocarbon dating; discussion of the results in their local, regional and national context, including relating the excavated features and palaeoenvironmental data to evidence from nearby sites, and discussion of the results in their local, regional and national context may be required.

The scope of post-excavation assessment will subject to a specification for approval by the DMA at CPAT, upon the conclusion of the fieldwork project and preliminary report.

5.2.2 Post-excavation Report

Following completion of the stages outlined above, a report will be produced that will include:

- A non-technical summary.
- A table of contents.
- An introduction with acknowledgements, including a list of all those involved in the project and the location and description of the site.
- A statement of the project aims.
- An account of the project methodology undertaken, with an assessment of the same to include a statement on preservation bias and the means of data collection and sampling strategies.
- A factual summary of the history, development and use of the site.
- A statement setting out the nature, quantity and condition of the material archive (artefacts and ecofacts) including commentary on any bias observed due to collection and sampling strategies and commentary on long-term storage requirements.
- A statement setting out the nature and quantity of the documentary archive (notes, photographs, drawings, digital data).
- A general site plan indicating the position and size of the areas subject to watching brief and the locations of archaeological deposits identified and recorded during the works.
- Plans and sections at appropriate scales, augmented with appropriate photographs. All plans and sections will be related to the Ordnance Survey datum levels and to the National Grid.
- Other maps, plans, drawings, stratigraphic matrices and photographs as appropriate.
- Summary assessment reports on the artefact, bio-archaeological, dating and other assessments/analyses.
- A discussion of the location, extent, date, nature, condition, quality and significance of any archaeological deposits and finds identified during the project.
- A discussion of any research implications arising from the archaeological work.
- Notes on consultations with conservators and the nominated archive repository related to the immediate and long-term conservation and storage requirements for the data held in the site archive and recommendations of retention/discard of artefacts and ecofacts.
- A bibliography of sources consulted.
- Appendices to the report will include artefact catalogues, reports on assessments/analyses and an index to the project archive and a statement on its location/proposed repository.
- In addition the post-excavation report will summarise and draw together the findings of all of the phases of work.

Illustrations will include plans of the location of the study area and archaeological sites. Historical maps, when appropriate and if copyright permissions allow, will be included. Photographs of relevant sites and of the study area where appropriate will be included.

A draft copy of the report will be sent to the DMA at CPAT and to the client for comment and approval prior to production of the final report.

6.0 DIGITAL DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN

6.1 Type of study

A watching brief during the groundworks associated with the erection of two new dwellings on land east of the Roman Catholic Presbytery, Brunswick Road, Buckley, CH7 2EH (centred on **NGR SJ 28454 63905**).

6.2 Types of data

Photographs, photograph register, scaled drawings.

6.3 Format and scale of the data

Photographs taken in *RAW* format and later converted to *TIF* format for long term archiving and *JPEG* format for use in the digital report, converted using *Adobe Photoshop*. All photographs renamed using *AF5* freeware with the prefix (*project code_frame number*) and a photographic metadata created using Microsoft Excel (*.xlsx*) or Access (*.accdb*).

All written registers, pro-formas, and scaled drawings scanned as *.PDF* files.

6.4 Methodologies for data collection / generation

Digital data will be collected / generated in line with recommendations made in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives* (2014. Rev 2020). Sections 3.3.1 and 3.3.3 are relevant:

3.3.1 Project specifications, research designs or similar documents should include a project specific Selection Strategy and a Data Management Plan.

3.3.3 Project designs or schedules of works etc should outline the methodology used in recording all information, in order to demonstrate that all aspects of archive creation will ensure consistency; for instance in terminologies and the application of codes in digital data sets, highlighting relevant data standards where appropriate

6.5 Data quality and standards

Consistency and quality of data collection / generation shall be controlled and documented through the use of standardised procedure as outlined in the WSI. This will include the use of standardised data capture file formats, digital proformas, data entry validation, peer review, and use of controlled vocabularies.

6.6 Managing, storing and curating data.

All digital data will be organised into Aeon Archaeology proforma project file systems and backed up to the cloud using *Digital River's Crashplan* with additional copies made to external physical hard drive.

6.7 Metadata standards and data documentation

Digital metadata created using Microsoft Excel (*.xlsx*) or Access (*.accdb*) of all photographic plates.

Paper metadata created from Aeon Archaeology proformas for contexts, artefacts, environmental samples, watching brief day sheets, trench sheets, and basic record sheets and then scanned to create digital .PDF copies.

6.8 Data preservation strategy and standards

Long term data storage will be through the submission of digital (.PDF) reports to the regional Historic Environment Record (HER); submission of digital (.PDF) reports and a project completion form to the Oasis database; submission of the scanned (.PDF) archive, photographic plates (.TIF), and metadata (.xlsx) (.acddb) to the Archaeology Data Service (ADS); and retention of copies of all digital files at Aeon Archaeology on physical external hard drive and uploaded to the cloud.

6.9 Suitability for sharing

All digital data will be placed within the public realm (through the channels in 6.8) except for where project confidentiality restricts the sharing of data. All data sets will be selected / discriminated by the Senior Archaeologist at Aeon Archaeology and written permission will be sought from all project specific Clients prior to the sharing of data.

6.10 Discovery by potential users of the research data

Potential users of the generated digital data (outside of the organisation) will be able to source the data and identify whether it could be suitable for their research purposes through access granted via the ADS and RCAHMW websites. Requests can also be made for data through the regional HER's and directly to Aeon Archaeology (info@aeonarchaeology.co.uk).

6.11 Governance of access

The decision to supply research data to potential new users will be via the associated website request (ADS, RCAHMW, HER) or via the Senior Archaeologist when made directly to Aeon Archaeology.

6.12 The study team's exclusive use of the data

Aeon Archaeology's requirement is for timely data sharing, with the understanding that a limited, defined period of exclusive use of data for primary research is reasonable according to the nature and value of the data, and that this restriction on sharing should be based on simple, clear principles. This time period is expected to be six months from completion of the project however Aeon Archaeology reserves the right to extend this period without notice if primary data research dictates.

6.13 Restrictions or delays to sharing, with planned actions to limit such restrictions

Restriction to data sharing may be due to participant confidentiality or consent agreements. Strategies to limit restrictions will include data being anonymised or aggregated; gaining participant consent for data sharing; and gaining copyright permissions. For prospective studies, consent procedures will include provision for data sharing to maximise the value of the data for wider research use, while providing adequate safeguards for participants.

6.14 Regulation of responsibilities of users

External users of the data will be bound by data sharing agreements provided by the relevant organisation or directly through Aeon Archaeology.

6.15 Responsibilities

Responsibility for study-wide data management, metadata creation, data security and quality assurance of data will be through the Senior Archaeologist (Richard Cooke BA MA MCIfA) at Aeon Archaeology when concerning data generation and early/mid-term storage. Upon deposition with digital depositories the study-wide data management, metadata creation, data security and quality assurance of data will be the responsibility of the specific organisations' themselves.

6.16 Organisational policies on data sharing and data security

The following Aeon Archaeology policies are relevant:

- Aeon Archaeology Archive Deposition Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Quality Assurance Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Conflict of Interest Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Outreach Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Digital Management Plan 2020

7.0 FURTHER ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS DESIGNS (FAWDs)

The discovery of substantial archaeological remains and/or features during the archaeological works may result in the requirement for an extended programme of archaeological mitigation. This may require the submission of revised quotes to the client as well as a new specification which will be required to be approved by the DMA at CPAT prior to implementation.

8.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES

Relevant archaeological deposits will be sampled by taking bulk samples (a minimum of 10.0 litres and maximum of 30.0 litres) for flotation of charred plant remains. Bulk samples will be taken from waterlogged deposits for macroscopic plant remains. Other bulk samples, for example from middens, may be taken for small animal bones and small artefacts.

Bulk environmental samples will also be taken from any fills, deposits or structures which yield archaeological artefacts, charcoal flecks/ fragments, bone, or any other historic remains.

Advice and guidance regarding environmental samples and their suitability for radiocarbon dating, as well as the analysis of macrofossils (charcoal and wood), pollen, animal bones and molluscs will be obtained from Oxford Archaeology.

For guidance purposes the following volume criteria represent the minimum feature sampling requirements:

- 50% of each discrete feature (e.g. pits and postholes)
- 25% of the exposed areas of each linear feature and all terminals/intersections
- 50% of structural features (e.g. beamslots, ring-ditches)
- 50%-100% of domestic/industrial working features (e.g. hearths and ovens)

9.0 HUMAN REMAINS

Any finds of human remains will be left *in-situ*, covered and protected, and both the coroner and the DMA at CPAT informed. If removal is necessary it will take place under appropriate regulations and with due regard for health and safety issues. In order to excavate human remains, a licence is required under Section 25 of the Burials Act 1857 for the removal of any body or remains of any body from any place of burial. This will be applied for should human remains need to be investigated or moved.

10.0 ARTEFACTS

All artefacts and ecofacts will be retrieved for identification and recording and will be treated in accordance with CIfA 2008 Guidelines for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014).

All artefacts are the property of the landowner but it is recommended that finds are deposited with the rest of the project archive within an appropriate museum. Furthermore, the client agrees to granting access to all artefacts recovered by Aeon Archaeology for analysis, study and publication as necessary. All finds would be treated according to advice provided within *First Aid for Finds* (Rescue 1999). Aeon Archaeology staff will undertake initial identification, but any additional advice would be sought from a wide range of consultants.

The recovery policy for archaeological finds will be kept under review throughout the archaeological works. Any changes in recovery priorities will be under guidance from an appropriate specialist and

agreed with the DMA at CPAT. There will be a presumption against the disposal of archaeological finds regardless of their apparent age or condition.

All finds will be collected and processed including those found within spoil tips. Their location and height will be plotted; finds numbers attributed, bagged and labelled as well any preliminary identification taking place on site. Where specialist advice is required provision will be made to do so at the earliest possible convenience.

After processing, artefacts which are suitable will be cleaned and conserved in-house. Artefacts requiring specialist cleaning and conservation will be sent to the relevant specialist. All artefacts will then be sent to a specialist for analysis, the results of which will then be assessed to ascertain the potential of the finds assemblage to meet the research aims of the project. The value of the finds will also be assessed in terms of the wider educational and academic contributions.

Depending upon the material of the remains the following experts will be consulted regarding the conservation of waterlogged material:

- Organic material: Mr Phil Parkes, Cardiff Conservation Services (tel: +44(0)29 2087 5628)
- Non-organic material: Mr Phil Parkes, Cardiff Conservation Services (tel: +44(0)29 2087 5628)

Depending upon the material of the remains the following experts will be consulted regarding the conservation and analysis of artefacts:

- Bone: Nora Bermingham
- Glass: Hilary Cool, Barbican Research Associates.
- Metal artefacts: Phil Parkes, Cardiff Conservation Services, Cardiff.
- Slag, burnt clay, hammerscale: Dr. Tim Young, Geoarch, Cardiff.
- Stone artefacts: George Smith, Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, Bangor.
- Wood artefacts: Jane Foley, Foley Conservation, Builth Wells.
- Leather: Quita Mould, Barbican Research Associates.
- Environmental Material: Dr Mike Allen, Allen Environmental Archaeology.
- Numismatics: Peter Guest, Barbican Research Associates.
- Ceramics: Leigh Dodd

If well preserved materials are found it may be necessary to employ additional staff. Furthermore, it may be necessary to suspend work within a specific region of the site, or across the whole site, while conservation and excavation/recording takes place. Aeon Archaeology accepts no responsibility for any costs incurred from delays as a result of unexpected archaeological finds.

11.0 UNEXPECTED DISCOVERIES: TREASURE TROVE

Treasure Trove law has been amended by the Treasure Act 1996. The following are Treasure under the Act:

- *Objects other than coins* any object other than a coin provided that it contains at least 10% gold or silver and is at least 300 years old when found.
- *Coins* all coins from the same find provided they are at least 300 years old when found (if the coins contain less than 10% gold or silver there must be at least 10. Any object or coin is part of the same find as another object or coin, if it is found in the same place as, or had previously been left together with, the other object. Finds may have become scattered since they were originally deposited in the ground. Single coin finds of gold or silver are not classed as treasure under the 1996 Treasure Act.
- *Associated objects* any object whatever it is made of, that is found in the same place as, or that had previously been together with, another object that is treasure.
- *Objects that would have been treasure trove* any object that would previously have been treasure trove, but does not fall within the specific categories given above. These objects have to be made substantially of gold or silver, they have to be buried with the intention of recovery and their owner or his heirs cannot be traced.

The following types of finds are not treasure:

- Objects whose owners can be traced.
- Unworked natural objects, including human and animal remains, even if they are found in association with treasure.
- Objects from the foreshore which are not wreck.

All finds of treasure must be reported to the coroner for the district within fourteen days of discovery or identification of the items. Items declared Treasure Trove become the property of the Crown.

The British Museum will decide whether they or any other museum may wish to acquire the object. If no museum wishes to acquire the object, then the Secretary of State will be able to disclaim it. When this happens, the coroner will notify the occupier and landowner that he intends to return the object to the finder after 28 days unless he receives no objection. If the coroner receives an objection, the find will be retained until the dispute has been settled.

12.0 ARCHIVING

A full archive including plans, photographs, written material and any other material resulting from the project will be prepared. All plans, photographs and descriptions will be labelled, and cross-referenced, and lodged with the National Monument Record, RCAHMW within six months of the completion of the project.

A draft copy of the report will be produced within six months of the completion of the fieldwork and sent to the Client and the DMA at CPAT for comment prior to finalisation of the report and dissemination. Bound copies of the report and an archive CD will be sent to the regional HER, the CPAT Development Control Archaeologist and to National Monument Record, of the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) for long term archiving.

Furthermore, a summary of the project will be sent to *Archaeology in Wales* for publication. Copies of all digital files (inc. photos, report as PDF and Word, spreadsheets, databases, survey data etc) to be presented to each of above on optical disc (ie DVD).

The project report and archive will adhere to the Welsh Trusts' and Cadw's *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)* (2018) including the translation of a non-technical summary into the medium of Welsh.

13.0 PERSONNEL

The work will be managed by Richard Cooke BA MA MCIfA, Archaeological Contractor and Consultant at Aeon Archaeology.

14.0 MONITORING AND LIAISON

Regular liaison and site monitoring meetings will take place during all stages of work. The DMA at CPAT will be informed of the start date and of discreet subsequent stages.

15.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY

Aeon Archaeology has a Health and Safety Policy Statement which can be supplied upon request. Furthermore, site-specific Risk Assessments and Method Statements are compiled and distributed to every member of staff involved with the project prior to the commencement of works.

16.0 INSURANCE

Liability Insurance

Employers' Liability: Limit of Indemnity £10m in any one occurrence

Public Liability: Limit of Indemnity £2m in any one occurrence

Legal Defence Costs (Health and Safety at Work Act): £100,000

The current period expires 07/09/22

Professional Indemnity Insurance

Limit of Indemnity £500,000 any one claim

The current period expires 07/09/22

