



Archaeological trial trench investigations
at Smeathorns, Moorsholm
North York Moors National Park

Project Design and Written Scheme of Investigation
for a Community Archaeology Excavation

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Archaeological trial trench investigations at Smeathorns,
Moorsholm, North York Moors National Park

Project Design and Written Scheme of Investigation

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Purpose of document

This document has been prepared as a Project Design and Written Scheme of Investigation for the community archaeology excavation on a site at Smeathorns, Moorsholm in the North York Moors National Park. It is intended to provide an outline of planned fieldwork, aims and objectives of the work, and methodology to be employed for the NYMNPA project team and other stakeholders.

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Project summary

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Acknowledgements

We'd like to begin with a sincere thank you to the North York Moors National Park Authority for inviting us to be part of such an exciting project and for guiding us through the project initiation and set-up.

We would also like to thank those at the Anglo American Lockwood Beck and Lady Cross site for their generous assistance with parking and welfare location for our staff. Thanks are extended to Graeme Skinner from Naturally Wild Consultants for his ecological walkover survey and for approving our trench locations in line with the National Park's requirements.

The Project Executive for DigVentures is Lisa Westcott Wilkins, with Manda Forster as Project Manager and Brendon Wilkins as Projects Director. The project will be managed by Kimberley Teale, Programme Manager, along with Stephanie Duensing, Programme Manager, Nat Jackson as Site Director, Ben Swain, Indie Jago and David Wallace in the field, and Maiya Pina-Dacier organising the Dig Programme and recruitment with Ginny Cole managing the social media content and bookings.



Executive summary

This document has been compiled in support of an archaeological trial trench investigation at Smeathorns, Moorsholm in the North York Moors National Park (NZ 67260 13602). The project fieldwork will take place between the 1st of April 2022 and the 12th of April 2022 and will comprise a community-based archaeological investigation. Following analysis of LIDAR data, the North York Moors National Park Authority identified and selected several potential archaeological features for further investigation through trial trenching, which this project will focus upon.

The approach to this work is evidenced through the following MoRPHE / PRINCE2 compliant document, outlining key archaeological research questions, roles, procedures, stages, and outputs. This will be achieved through a community-based archaeological research project designed to provide:

- a stimulus for encouraging local tourism to the National Park
- improved evidence base for statutory protection, decision making and adaptation strategies
- increased knowledge and awareness of heritage assets across the National Park
- innovative data capture, modelling and visualisation projects including integration of open access shared spatial data infrastructure.

The results of a LIDAR study and Landscape Survey undertaken in 2021 have informed the locations of the trenches and test pits for the community excavation.

This Project Design provides an outline of methodology and planned intervention to complete:

Targeted excavation Targeted archaeological investigation will aim to date and characterise key aspects of the possible settlement remains. Initially four trenches will be established, with a further two as contingency. The field school will work their way through these trenches which are situated over features identified through a previous LIDAR and earthwork survey, to establish dating sequences, evidence for structures, and to establish feature relationships amongst other objectives.

Public engagement The project is supported by a comprehensive learning, engagement and activity plan which aims to both raise awareness to the site and provide tangible learning outcomes. Specially developed learning materials will be used to deliver field school sessions, underpinned by a digital and audience building strategy, aiming to engage the local community and a global audience in the project being conscious of the sensitive location of the works.



Table of contents

1	INTRODUCTION	8
1.1	The Project	8
1.2	The North York Moors National Park Authority Historic Environment Strategy	8
2	BACKGROUND	10
2.1	Project context	10
2.2	Site visit	12
3	RESEARCH AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	12
3.1	Project Model	12
3.2	Aim 1 – Establish a date and sequence for the enclosure complex	13
3.3	Aim 2 – Investigate the hollow at the junction of Features D2 and D3 and establish whether evidence of a structure exists	13
3.4	Aim 3 – Establish the relationship and stratigraphic sequence between D2, D3 and potential associated features within the area of the hollow	13
3.5	Aim 4 – Investigate the nature and stratigraphic sequence of the earthworks D4 and D5	13
3.6	Aim 5 – Making recommendations, analysis and publication	14
3.7	Aim 6 – Public engagement and communication	14
4	INTERFACES	14
5	COMMUNICATIONS	15
5.1	Project Team	15
5.2	Project Management	16
5.3	Outreach and engagement	16
5.4	Dissemination and Reporting	17
5.5	Project archive	18
6	PROJECT REVIEW	18
7	HEALTH AND SAFETY	19
8	PROJECT TEAM STRUCTURE	20
8.1	Team and responsibilities	20
9	METHODOLOGY	20
9.1	Introduction	20
9.2	Stage 1 – Project Start-Up and Design	21
9.3	Stage 2 – Archaeological Excavation / Field School	21
9.4	Stage 3 - Public engagement & talks	22
9.5	Stage 4 – Assessment, analysis, reporting and archive	22
10	STAGES, PRODUCTS AND TASKS	22
10.1	Methodological Linkages	22



11 OWNERSHIP	24
12 RISK LOG	24
13 BIBLIOGRAPHY	25
APPENDIX 1 – METHOD STATEMENT	28
APPENDIX 2 – CORE TEAM CVS	33

List of tables

Table 1: Project interfaces	15
Table 2: Project review stages	19
Table 3: Team and responsibilities	20

List of figures

Figure 1 Site Location	26
Figure 2 Trench locations	27



1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Project

1.1.1 DigVentures has been appointed by the North York Moors National Park Authority (NYMNPA) to undertake an archaeological trial trench investigation at Smeathorns, Moorsholm in the North York Moors National Park (NZ 67260 13602) (see [Figure 1](#)). Following analysis of LIDAR data, the North York Moors National Park Authority (hereafter the NYMNPA) have commissioned this community-led archaeological investigation to further inspect through trial trenching some possible prehistoric features discovered through LIDAR and a landscape survey. The overarching aim of the fieldwork is to help date and characterise aspects of these possible prehistoric features and to understand their relationship with one another.

1.1.2 This document provides a Project Design and Written Scheme of Investigation for the delivery of two weeks of field investigations at a site in Smeathorns, Moorsholm (hereafter 'the site'). The fieldwork will take place between the 1st of April and the 12th of April 2022. This document defines how DigVentures intends to deliver this phase of the project and outlines how research aims and participation targets will be met. All DigVentures projects are managed according to the Historic England MoRPHE project model (Management of Archaeological Research Projects in the Historic Environment) – itself based on a PRINCE2 public sector project delivery framework.

1.1.3 The Project Design is presented in two parts; *Part 1: Description of the Project* provides the project context, including a summary of proposed methodology, key sources, and intrusive and non-intrusive activities, required to support the delivery outcomes. *Part 2: Resources and Programming* identifies responsibilities of individual project staff members, outlines individual tasks, and provides an expected delivery programme.

1.2 The North York Moors National Park Authority Historic Environment Strategy

1.2.1 The site at Moorsholm forms one of 20,000 sites of archaeological or historic interest within the National Park, and investigation at the site will contribute significantly to research and knowledge of prehistoric activities across the North York Moors. The Historic Environment Strategy is divided into four themes, which DigVentures will aim to address as follows;

- **Research and Understanding** – the archaeological investigations and report will feed directly into the North York Moors HER database, helping the authority to make sound evidence-based decisions for future conservation works. The data from the site will also feed into the development and implementation of the new Research Framework for the moors, to better inform the next theme.
- **Conservation and Management** – the archaeological investigations will help to understand the state of preservation for the supposed archaeological remains which will in turn help to understand the conservation and management needs of the site and its immediate environs.
- **Education and Engagement** – a key part of DigVentures' ethos is education and engagement for all in archaeology. We actively seek to include local communities from all backgrounds and abilities in our excavations to help them discover and engage with their local heritage. Our excavation would strengthen participatory

engagement and involvement for the NYMNPA and encourage new visitors and new audiences to engage with the conservation of the park and its heritage.

- **Delivery** – the project will not only collaborate closely with the project managers and park rangers, but relationships with other stakeholders and associated projects within the NYMNPA will be sought so as best to fulfil the project brief and aims and to satisfy the nature of the investigations as thoroughly as possible.

1.2.2 The archaeological project at Moorsholm has the capacity to contribute to all the above objectives. Our proposed public engagement programme will raise awareness to the area, in terms of destination experience and utilising heritage as a draw for physical visitors and online tourists. The works will provide detailed information about the nature and character of the archaeological site, adding to our understanding of the remains and aiding ongoing management of the monument. The research findings will be evaluated within the broader context of other upland moor-based sites, as well as period-based comparators. Understanding how sites related to one another and providing easily accessible information about the archaeology, will help increase knowledge of the historic environment. Finally, our full site archive will be available online once we have excavated the site, and our work is very much undertaken in the spirit of open access and FAIR principles. On completion, our data archive will be prepared and deposited in full with the NYMNPA HER, and signposted from the site's OASIS record and our own website.

Part 1: Description of the project

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Project context

- 2.1.1 Following analysis of LIDAR data, the NYMNP identified a number of potential archaeological features at Smeathorns in Moorsholm in the North York Moors National Park (NZ 67260 13602). The site is located on an area of open moorland, directly to the west of Smeathorns Road and to the east of Lockwood Beck Reservoir, approximately five miles east of the town of Guisborough, in Redcar and Cleveland, North Yorkshire (Figure 1).
- 2.1.2 The site comprises of moorland heather and tussocky grass with nesting birds and grazing sheep, and the topography of the site slopes gently down towards the north-west creating excellent visibility, ranging from approximately 225m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) to 200m aOD. The bedrock of the site is listed as Jurassic sandstone of the Osgodby member, with a thin band of Jurassic limestone and mudstone of the Cornbrash Formation in the very east of the site, with no recorded superficial deposits (British Geological Survey, 2022).
- 2.1.3 The site is located within a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSi) as the North York Moors contains the largest continuous tract of heather moorland in England, and is of a national importance due to its mire and heather moorland vegetation communities and its breeding bird populations, in particular the merlin and golden plover. The site also forms part of the North York Moors Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) due to recovering areas of heath and blanket bogs, and part of the North York Moors Special Protection Areas (SPA) due to the presence of nesting merlin and golden plover. Due to this, an ecological walkover will be undertaken to approve trench locations and special care will be taken during excavation and reinstatement of turf and heather, including maintenance of the removed turf throughout the excavations.
- 2.1.4 A detailed walkover survey and earthwork survey, undertaken by Solstice Heritage (Brightman 2019, Brightman 2020) confirmed the presence of earthworks suggestive of the presence of archaeological remains, including possible barrows, late prehistoric enclosures and settlements including platforms and lynchets, and field systems (Figure 2). A summary of the site, taken from the Brightman 2020 earthwork survey report, summarises the site as follows;

'The demonstrably earliest features recorded are the definite and possible barrows within Area A, falling into two broad types based predominantly on size. The largest barrow (A), sits at the high point of the ridge, echoing the landscape position of large Neolithic and Early Bronze Age barrows in the wider landscape. The smaller barrow and possible barrow down slope at the north end of Area A falls within a slightly later, though still Bronze Age, tradition of cairns that are often found in clusters or cairnfields.

The most significant element of the earthwork remains at Smeathorns is the complex of late prehistoric enclosures in Area A, presumably originally

linked to or associated with the substantial coaxial field system that runs downslope to the east. The main focus of possible settlement earthworks is at the northern point of the high ground to the west of the road, commanding long-range views west, north and east. The earthworks comprise a series of roughly linked small enclosures, platforms and lynchets with evidence of phased development and alterations to the use or focus of the complex as a whole. The earliest phase of the complex is respected by two small blocks of cord rig cultivation to the west, indicating a late prehistoric (probably Iron Age) date. Following this, a larger area appears to have been enclosed to the south, including possible cultivation lynchets downslope to the west, though elements of this phase may have been lost beneath 19th and 20th-century enclosure and quarrying. The visible later developments of the complex include further small rectilinear enclosures extending downslope to the north, some of which appear to cut or overlie the cord rig. The only potential structure visible within the complex is a small hollow in one of the earlier phases.

Within Areas B and C, there are parts of a considerably larger coaxial field system which extends to the east and north on the east-facing slopes above Foul Sikes. The overall field system is defined by long coaxial or parallel banks running downslope at reasonably regular intervals, dividing the land within into strips of approximately 35 m width. The majority of the field system lies outside the area surveyed during this project, but the general axes of orientation are roughly the same as the complex of enclosures in Area A, and the generally accepted period of use for coaxial field systems is also within the later prehistoric or Romano-British periods.

The earthworks within Area C are of interest in relation to the overall form of the field system, despite differences to the majority of the system to the north. The defining features of this element of the field system are the regularly spaced cross-slope or transverse banks and lynchets dividing the strip field into smaller portions. The less regular earthworks in the centre of Area C appear to define smaller enclosures within the larger field and also extend this area beyond the line of one of the axial banks, disrupting the regular form seen to the north.

The later phases of earthworks on the site predominantly relate to 19th-century exploitation of what had been unimproved and agriculturally unproductive moorland, at least for the previous millennium or so. The enclosure of, and introduction of extensive drainage to, the sloping land on the east side of Smeathorns Road appears to have happened between the tithe mapping of 1839 and the 1st edition Ordnance Survey mapping of 1853. The rectilinear enclosure to the west of the road, defined by banks very similar to that of the enclosures to the east, was added between 1853 and 1893 as it first appears on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey mapping. This defined plot, and portions of the south-east limit of the mid-19th-century enclosed land, have preserved narrow ridge and furrow within them, demonstrating the drive for bringing previously unworkable land into some form of arable cultivation.

The latest set of earthworks mapped through this project are those of the small-scale quarrying immediately to the west of Smeathorns Road in Area A and cutting back upslope into parts of the late prehistoric enclosure complex. The form of the quarry scoops, the adjacency of the road and the fact it respects the late 19th-century rectilinear enclosure indicate a late 19th or 20th-century date for this activity."

2.2 Site visit

- 2.2.1 A site visit was conducted on the 9th of March 2022 with Kimberley Teale, Programme Manager from the DigVentures project team, and Miles Johnson, Head of Historic Environment from the NYMNPA. The visit assessed the suitability of the site for the excavation in terms of heather cover, nesting birds and earthworks and it was decided not to excavate in Area B to the east of Smeathorns Road. It was decided instead to focus the excavation on the key probable settlement area to the east of Smeathorns Road.
- 2.2.2 Access and parking for the volunteers was discussed and it was agreed that laybys near to site or on a small grass verge directly next to site would be the most logical and safest option. The location of the chemical toilets was agreed next to an area of woodland to the north of site, and the location of the staff welfare unit and parking was agreed as the Anglo American contractor's carpark on Swindale Lane, which was confirmed by Kimberley in direct emails with Anglo American.
- 2.2.3 It was also agreed that on the 31st of March 2022, Kimberley would attend site with Miles and ecologist Graeme Skinner from Naturally Wild Consultants Ltd to stake out the location of the proposed excavation areas and check for ground nesting birds before the locations were signed off. If birds were discovered during this, then the trenches would be moved to mitigate risk and stress to the nesting birds. The results of the walkover discovered no ground nesting birds, however adders were found to the west of the site and so volunteers would need to be advised to avoid this area as part of their health and safety inductions when attending site.

3 RESEARCH AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Project Model

- 3.1.1 The overarching aim of the archaeological excavation is to define and characterise several identified features in the site through a programme of intrusive excavations, obtaining data which will better characterise and understand the site. As highlighted in the ITT (NYMNPA 2022), the goal of this work is to date and characterise aspects of the possible archaeological remains and immediate environs. This will be a structured community volunteer assisted project, providing a range of physical and digital opportunities to participate and/or watch findings. The project model is framed as overarching aims and key questions/objectives that provide a framework for the methods, stages, products and tasks set out in Section 5 and Appendices 1 and 2.
- 3.1.2 Specifically, the project requirements are to:
- establish a date and sequence for the enclosure complex,

- investigate the hollow at the junction of Features D2 and D3 and establish whether evidence of a structure exists,
- establish the relationship and stratigraphic sequence between D2, D3 and potential associated features within the area of the hollow,
- investigate the nature and stratigraphic sequence of the earthworks D4 and D5,

3.2 Aim 1 – Establish a date and sequence for the enclosure complex

3.2.1 A possible complex of late prehistoric enclosures was identified in Area A. Targeted trenching will address the following questions:

- Q1: Can the nature of the enclosures be established?
- Q2: Can a chronological sequence and stratigraphic phasing for the enclosures' archaeological evidence be established (assisted by investigating Aim 2)?
- Q3: Is there any evidence for multi-period occupation of the site?

3.3 Aim 2 – Investigate the hollow at the junction of Features D2 and D3 and establish whether evidence of a structure exists

3.3.1 Within the complex located in Area A, a set of earthworks indicate a series of roughly linked small enclosures, platforms and lynchets with evidence of phased development. A hollow in one of the earlier phases suggests the presence of a structure within the complex, and targeted trenching will address the following questions:

- Q4: Is the hollow at the junction of Features D2 and D3 evidence of a structure?
- Q5: Can dating evidence be gained through excavation?

3.4 Aim 3 – Establish the relationship and stratigraphic sequence between D2, D3 and potential associated features within the area of the hollow

- Q6: Can the nature of the earthworks D2 and D3 be established?
- Q7: Can a chronological and stratigraphic phasing of the features, the complex and the hollow be established?

3.5 Aim 4 – Investigate the nature and stratigraphic sequence of the earthworks D4 and D5

- Q8: Can the nature of the earthworks D4 and D5 be established?
- Q9: Can a chronological and stratigraphic phasing of the features, the complex and the hollow be established?

3.6 Aim 5 – Making recommendations, analysis and publication

3.6.1 This aim will require all data from Aims 1 to 4 to be collated, with an integrated analysis of the archaeological and palaeoenvironmental resource at the site, making recommendations to conserve, enhance and interpret the heritage significance of the site.

- Q10: What can an integrated synthesis of the results of this work with previous studies of contemporary regional sites tell us about the site and its setting?
- Q11: Considering evidence recovered from this and previous work, can we articulate the multi-phased use of the site and its immediate environs?
- Q12: Can we formulate recommendations for further archaeological and palaeoenvironmental analysis at the Site based on Aims 1-4, and implement a programme to publish and disseminate the results or continue fieldwork?

3.7 Aim 6 – Public engagement and communication

3.7.1 This aim is integral to the success of the project and sits with equal importance alongside our research aims. The excavation will involve participation from volunteers, who will be trained and mentored in the techniques of archaeological excavation. Our site team will deliver an in-person programme at a ratio of 1:3 throughout the dig, with online social media updates to engage and inform the public about the archaeological discoveries. In summary, the project will offer a range of opportunities for local community members and visitors to the area to get involved and learn more about the archaeology of Smeathorns and the North York Moors.

3.7.2 Over the course of the excavation, our targets for engagement would be to:

- train a minimum of 20 community volunteers in excavation and post excavation tasks (see Appendix 5)
- broadcast online content across multiple social media channels
- provide access to our online course, *How To Do Archaeology*, for 20 dig participants (see Appendix 4)
- host an online site tour and Q&A session with the project team, to be released after the dig has closed, reaching an expected 120 individuals and a global online community.

4 INTERFACES

4.1.1 This project will interface with a series of other projects, stakeholders and initiatives, summarised in the table below:



Interfaces	Description
<i>NYMNPA Project Team</i>	The project will be led and managed by Miles Johnson, the Head of Historic Environment for the NYMNPA
<i>Project Manager</i>	Kimberley Teale BSc ACIfA is DigVenture's Programme Manager and will be project managing the Moorsholm community excavation. Kimberley's diverse archaeological career spans across non-intrusive survey methods, digital delivery, excavation and research in both not-for-profit and commercial environments. Having project managed a variety of different aspects of archaeological investigation, she is adept at bringing projects through from initiation to completion and for mentoring staff along the way.
<i>Site Director</i>	Nat Jackson, MA, is a professional field archaeologist with a decade of experience working on and running complex, multi-phase sites and larger fieldwork projects in academic research and commercial settings across the UK. He specialises in prehistoric archaeology with a particular interest in the Neolithic and Bronze Age. Nat has directed sites ranging from the Palaeolithic through to the modern day, and everything in between. He has worked on sites throughout the world, from Turkey and Greece to Iraq and the UK. He enjoys teaching all about archaeology, especially excavation techniques and understanding sites with a passion and interest in the field.
<i>Core Project Team</i>	The core project team and specialist staff have consulted widely during the project planning and will continue to build on these connections as the project develops, forging strong links with local, national and international professionals.

Table 1: Project interfaces

5 COMMUNICATIONS

5.1 Project Team

- 5.1.1 The following section details specific staff responsibilities, drawing on terminology devised by Historic England for the MoRPHE project management framework (see Section 8.1). The project will be overseen by the NYMNPA Project Team.
- 5.1.2 Project Assurance will be undertaken by the Project Executive (Lisa Westcott Wilkins, DigVentures) who will monitor compliance against the deliverables detailed in this document.
- 5.1.3 The project team have all worked closely together over a number of research projects, including Leiston Abbey (2013-2016), Lindisfarne (a joint project with the University of Durham, 2016 - 2021) and Barrowed Time (community investigation of a Bronze Age

hoard site, 2016). There will be four core DigVentures archaeological and community archaeology fieldwork staff on site throughout the fieldwork. Kimberley Teale (Programme Manager - Digital) will undertake off-site day-to-day management of the project, with Nat Jackson (Project Officer) as Site Director for the excavations with help from Stephanie Duensing, as well as from Indie Jago, Ben Swain and David Wallace, our Community Archaeologists. Maiya Pina-Dacier (Head of Community) will liaise with and coordinate volunteers and visitors to the site alongside help from Ginny Cole. Core staff will remain consistent and retained throughout the post-excavation phase of the project. All core staff are employed in line with ClfA guidelines, and are practicing field archaeologists at PCIfA level or above. Senior project staff are both Members of ClfA in good standing.

5.2 Project Management

- 5.2.1 The Project Manager will produce weekly status reports for the NYMNPA Project Team throughout the community excavation up to the review of the Assessment Report/UPD. This will present an overview of progress, list tasks completed or part completed, including any on-going work and issues affecting progress. The Project Manager will also be responsible for ensuring that the project runs to schedule, keeping track of key resources. The Project Team will have a project meeting at each milestone described to ensure that all major tasks are briefed/debriefed as necessary. Provision will be made for the project in 'Basecamp', which is a web-based project communication package used by DigVentures, enabling project participants to generate and record notes, tasks, milestones, and other project-related communication.
- 5.2.2 Projects are undertaken under the direction of the Projects Director who is responsible for the successful completion of all aspects of the project. All work is monitored and checked whilst in progress on a regular basis, and the Projects Director/Managing Director reviews all reports and other documents before being issued. A series of guideline documents or manuals form the basis for all work.
- 5.2.3 The project management team are all accredited members of the Institute for Archaeologists. DigVentures is an ClfA Registered Organisation (No. 102), and fully endorses the Code of Conduct, the Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology, and the Standards and Guidance documents of the Institute for Archaeologists. All DigVentures staff are employed in line with the Institute's Codes and will usually be members of the Institute.

5.3 Outreach and engagement

- 5.3.1 As a crowdfunded and crowdsourced archaeological organisation, every aspect of the DigVentures approach is cognisant of a wider outreach agenda. Running alongside the community excavation, DigVentures will include a dedicated educational and events programme designed to increase local awareness of the NYMNPA's archaeology and heritage, and amplify this with a coordinated digital and social media strategy.
- 5.3.2 Our engagement strategy is flexible and adaptive; should we need to pivot our engagement to virtual only audience, we are able to do so. Our proposed activity programme will include:

- **Skills training for volunteers**, to support project participants in the co-production of the archaeological archive. This includes our robust field school curriculum, with structured training for volunteers to join the team and get hands-on with the archaeology, looking at the materials recovered alongside expert archaeologists.
- **Public engagement activities**, to include a virtual site visits to the trenches. The excavation will be framed by online posts which tell the tale of the site and the project. During the excavation, the site team will provide real time updates on the dig, with a video diary which will be collated and released as part of the site tour after the excavation has closed. Experts visiting the site will also provide additional talks for participants and the wider public watching our site tour to learn about the site, archaeology, and the NYMNP.

5.3.3 The impact of this outreach work will be measured with a quantitative and qualitative evaluation of all participants to establish baseline audience awareness data and assist with future management strategies and promotion. This will be undertaken with a visitor survey conducted throughout the field season, targeting both excavation participants and casual visitors, and critically assessing the breadth, depth and diversity of engagement.

5.4 Dissemination and Reporting

5.4.1 Rapid dissemination of the results to, and involvement of, stakeholders of the project is vital throughout. This will take place through multiple channels, addressing a multitude of established and new audiences. Dissemination outlined below will all be undertaken during 2022, and will include, but not be limited to:

- Daily news updates and all major DigVentures and NYMNPA social media channels (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) amplified through third-party coverage by the networked blogging community (being mindful of the sensitive location of the excavation).
- Dedicated digital archive of the excavation data.
- Wide circulation of the project assessment and the final report, and links to the OASIS record.
- Site publication in an appropriate local/national journal commensurate with the final results.
- Wide circulation of Assessment and Final Report, Updated Project Design and links to the OASIS record: Oasis ID: digventu1-507237.
- Final site publication in an appropriate local/national journal commensurate with the final results.

5.4.2 In addition to the evaluation of the project, several products will underpin the longer-term impact of the excavation. Our technical report will provide detailed analysis of the archaeological site and finds, with specialist reporting, scientific analysis and interpretation linking directly to the evidence presented online (such as 3D models, context descriptions and finds profiles). The online archive, including both the microsite and Digital Dig Team will be maintained for five years beyond the close of

the excavation, and a stable and comprehensive archive will be prepared and deposited with the appropriate body.

- **Technical report** – a post excavation assessment will be produced in line with the ClfA Standards and guidance, to include an illustrated and detailed assessment of the archaeology recorded and recommendations for further work. The archive report will be submitted to the HER and the final version made available via the DigVentures website, and will be attached to the OASIS record of the site.
- **Research archive** – the project will result in the co-production of an accessible and usable research archive. In addition to the online report, a stable and comprehensive archive will be prepared and deposited with the appropriate bodies, including the NYMNPA and, where appropriate, a digital archive deposited with ADS.
- **Evaluation data** – included within the technical reporting, our ongoing evaluation of participants and visitors will provide the data for feedback around of what was delivered, who took part and how they benefitted. The report will present qualitative and quantitative data collected from dig participants and public visitors to the site, linked to our Theory of Change.

5.5 Project archive

- 5.5.1 The project archive will be prepared in accordance with the York Museums Trust Archaeological Archive Deposition Policy and in line with DigVentures guidelines for Archive Preparation, following Appendix 1, P1 of MoRPHE PPN 3 (English Heritage 2011), fulfilling the Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage (UKIC 1990). All reports produced by the project will be openly and freely disseminated through the regional HER and attached to the OASIS record of the site. Copyright on all reports submitted will reside with DigVentures, although a third party in-perpetuity license will automatically be given for reproduction of the works by the originator, subject to agreement in writing with the NYMNPA.

6 PROJECT REVIEW

- 6.1.1 The project will be continually reviewed by the Project Executive and Project Manager, with a formal review undertaken at the end of each Stage as follows:

Stage	Description	Review Point	Completion Date
Initiation	Consideration of Project Proposal (submitted for competitive tender)	RV1 – Assemble Project Team and liaise with stakeholders	Completed
Stage 1	Project Start-up, finalising Project Design and Method Statement and definition of scope, RAMS	RV2 – Sign-off on MoRPHE Project Design, and liaison with stakeholders and landowners	End March 2022
Stage 2	Archaeological Excavation / Field School	RV3 – assemble site archive and distribute pertinent data to specialists	April 2022
Stage 3	Other public engagement & talks	RV4 – Post-Ex blog, Virtual talk	Spring and Summer 2022

Stage	Description	Review Point	Completion Date
Stage 4	Assessment, analysis, reporting and archive	RV5 – critically review findings, making recommendations for further work or closure, final publication sign off, archive deposition	Summer 2022

Table 2: Project review stages

7 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 7.1.1 DigVentures will undertake the works in accordance with Health and Safety requirements and a Health and Safety Plan. This document will take account of any design information pertaining to above and below ground hazards. DigVentures will ensure that all work is carried out in accordance with its company Health and Safety Policy, to standards defined in *The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974*, and *The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992*, and in accordance with the SCAUM (Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers) health and safety manual *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology* (1996).

Part 2: Resources and Programming

8 PROJECT TEAM STRUCTURE

8.1 Team and responsibilities

- 8.1.1 DigVentures' Project Team will be as follows. A summary CV, setting out the skills and expertise of DigVentures core team members is set out in Appendix 1, with CVs for the wider specialist team available on request.

Name	Initials	Project Role	Key Responsibility
Lisa Westcott-Wilkins	LWW	Project Executive	Overall project responsibility, assistance with the below activities
Manda Forster	MF	Operations	Operations and budget responsibility, project assurance
Kimberley Teale	KT	Programme Manager acting as Project Manager	Archaeological co-direction (off-site), liaison with project team, partners and Stakeholders
Nat Jackson	NJ	Site Director	Archaeological co-direction (on and off-site), liaison with project team
Stephanie Duensing	SD	Archaeologist	On-site field-work, and responsible for field school, archaeological co-direction (on and off-site)
Indie Jago	IJ	Community Archaeologist	On-site field-work, and responsible for field school
Ben Swain	BS	Community Archaeologist	On-site field-work, and responsible for field school
David Wallace	DW	Community Archaeologist	On-site field-work, and responsible for field school
Maiya Pina-Dacier	MPD	Community Manager	Community engagement and programme management

Table 3: Team and responsibilities

9 METHODOLOGY

9.1 Introduction

- 9.1.1 The methods reflect the project Stages set out in Section 7 and a task list, with allocation of staff time and team members, along with a GANTT chart setting out a provisional programme. Detailed method statements relating the specific techniques or approaches included below can be found in Appendix 1 at the end of this document.

9.2 Stage 1 – Project Start-Up and Design

- 9.2.1 A site visit was conducted with the NYMNPA project team in March to discuss logistics and project specific details. Following this, the Project Design and Method Statement has been designed and written and put through critical review.
- 9.2.2 A RAMS has also been produced following the site visit, taking into account the hazards observed on site at the time of the visit and those perceived to be a potential issue during the excavations, including the presence of adders and ecologically sensitive vegetation.

9.3 Stage 2 – Archaeological Excavation / Field School

- 9.3.1 The fieldwork – scheduled from 1st to 11th April 2022 will comprise the first fieldwork stage required to meet Aims 1 to 4 and will entail targeted trenching across the site, with a total of six trenches laid out, comprising of four main and two contingencies (see [Figure 2](#)). It will aim to answer the following research questions:

- Q1: Can the nature of the enclosures be established?
- Q2: Can a chronological sequence and stratigraphic phasing for the enclosures' archaeological evidence be established (assisted by investigating Aim 2)?
- Q3: Is there any evidence for multi-period occupation of the site?
- Q4: Is the hollow at the junction of Features D2 and D3 evidence of a structure?
- Q5: Can dating evidence be gained through excavation?
- Q6: Can the nature of the earthworks D2 and D3 be established?
- Q7: Can a chronological and stratigraphic phasing of the features, the complex and the hollow be established?
- Q8: Can the nature of the earthworks D4 and D5 be established?
- Q9: Can a chronological and stratigraphic phasing of the features, the complex and the hollow be established?

- 9.3.2 Specific archaeological intervention will include six trenches; four main (Trenches 1-4) and two as contingencies (Trenches 5 and 6).

- Trench 1, measuring 2 x 6m, will target the hollow at the junction of features D2 and D3 to establish whether evidence of a structure exists. It will also investigate the relationship and stratigraphic sequence between D2, D3 and any potential features discovered within the area of the hollow.
- Trench 2, measuring 2 x 4m, aims to investigate the internal area of feature D4. This area is being targeted to look for any possible evidence of structures within the feature, hoping to characterise the function of the feature.
- Trench 3, measuring 2 x 6m, is aimed at the relationship between features D4 and D5. It is investigating the nature and stratigraphic sequence of both features. It is also hoped that this trench will establish a chronological phasing of the features.
- Trench 4, measuring 2 x 5m, will investigate the relationship between features D1 and D2. It is targeting an area where the two features may interact and will investigate the nature of and chronological and stratigraphic sequences of the features.
- Trench 5, measuring 2 x 4m, will target the ditch and bank on the south side of feature D4, this is where the ditch and bank are most intact, and as such it is hoped

that the trench will establish a chronological and stratigraphic sequence of the ditch and bank, and characterise the construction of the features.

- Trench 6, measuring 2 x 4m, aims to investigate the internal space of enclosure D6, the northern most enclosure seen on the site. It is targeting the area with an aim to characterise the function of the enclosure, if it was habitation or enclosing livestock.

9.3.3 A Project Design (this document) has been prepared (Review Point 2).

9.4 Stage 3 - Public engagement & talks

9.4.1 Over the course of the excavation, our targets for engagement would be to:

- train a minimum of 20 community volunteers in excavation and post excavation tasks (see Appendix 5)
- broadcast online content across multiple social media channels
- provide access to our online course, *How To Do Archaeology*, for 20 dig participants (see Appendix 4)
- host an online site tour and Q&A session with the project team, to be released after the dig has closed, reaching an expected 120 individuals and a global online community.

9.5 Stage 4 – Assessment, analysis, reporting and archive

9.5.1 This Stage will address Aim 5, culminating in Review Point 4, and focusing on answering the following research questions:

- Q10: What can an integrated synthesis of the results of this work with previous studies of contemporary regional sites tell us about the site and its setting?
- Q11: Considering evidence recovered from this and previous work, can we articulate the multi-phased use of the site and its immediate environs?
- Q12: Can we formulate recommendations for further archaeological and palaeoenvironmental analysis at the Site based on Aims 1-4, and implement a programme to publish and disseminate the results or continue fieldwork?

10 STAGES, PRODUCTS AND TASKS

10.1 Methodological Linkages

10.1.1 Following an assessment of the scope of works (as detailed in Section 7 of the Project Brief), it is anticipated that the project will be undertaken in four stages. These are set out in the table below and are set against the project aims and questions that will be met at each stage, the products that will be produced and the tasks undertaken.

Stage	Description	Project Aims/ Questions	Products	Task & ID Number
Stage 1	Project Start-up and Design	Aim 1-6 Q1-12	1. Permissions	1. Consult with wider project team and



Stage	Description	Project Aims/ Questions	Products	Task & ID Number
			2. Finalised PD & Risk Log 3. Educational Plan 4. Digital Communication Plan 5. Risk Assessment	stakeholders to define milestones and delivery timetable.
Stage 2	Archaeological Fieldwork	Aim 1 Q1-3 Aim 2 Q4-5 Aim 3 Q6-7 Aim 4 Q-8-9	6. Field Archive 7. Survey Archive 8. 3D Survey Archive	2. Site Preparation 3. Fieldwork (excavation) 4. RV3 – assemble site archive & distribute to specialists
Stage 3	Public engagement and communication	Aim 6	9. Blog posts 10. Online talks	5. Publish on social media 6. RV4 - Host online event
Stage 4	Assessment Report & Recommendations	Aim 5 Q10-12	11. Stratigraphic & Assessment Report	7. Specialist finds and palaeoenvironmental assessments 8. Integrated assessment report 9. RV5 – recommendations for further work

11 OWNERSHIP

- 11.1.1 The Copyright on all reports submitted will reside with DigVentures and NYMNPA, although a third party in-perpetuity licence will automatically be given for reproduction of all products, subject to agreement with the NYMNPA. The original copyright holder will retain copyright in pre-existing data.

12 RISK LOG

Risk number	1	2	3	4
Description	Inclement weather - prolonged periods of rain	Exceptional weather (drying exposed archaeology)	Absence of core team member	Absence of specialist team member
Probability	Medium	Medium-low	Low	Low
Impact	Delay programme of work	Slow progress	Delay programme of work	Delay programme of work
Countermeasures	Provision of site hut, and planned indoor archiving tasks with flexible programme	Provision of water bowser + spray	Reallocate responsibilities or appointment of alternative	Reallocate responsibilities or appointment of alternative
Estimated time/cost	3 Days	None	Minimal if done by adjustment	Minimal if done by adjustment
Owner	MF/NJ	MF/NJ	MF/KT/NJ	MF/KT/NJ
Risk number	5	6	7	
Description	Equipment theft/breakages	Serious site injury	Risk of COVID	
Probability	Medium	Medium	Medium	
Impact	Delay programme of work	Delay programme of work	Delay programme of work	
Countermeasures	Removal of finds material and digital equipment from site	Detailed H&S Risk Assessment + daily safety briefing	Detailed H&S Risk Assessment + daily safety briefing	
Estimated time/cost	3 days	3 days	Minimal if done by adjustment	
Owner	KT/SD/NJ	KT/SD/NJ	KT/SD/NJ	

13 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Historic England. 2017. Photogrammetric Applications for Cultural Heritage: Guidance for Good Practice.

MOLAS 1994. Archaeological Site Manual (3rd ed.). Over Wallop: Museum of London Archaeology Service.

NYMNPA - Brief for archaeological trial trench investigation (2022)

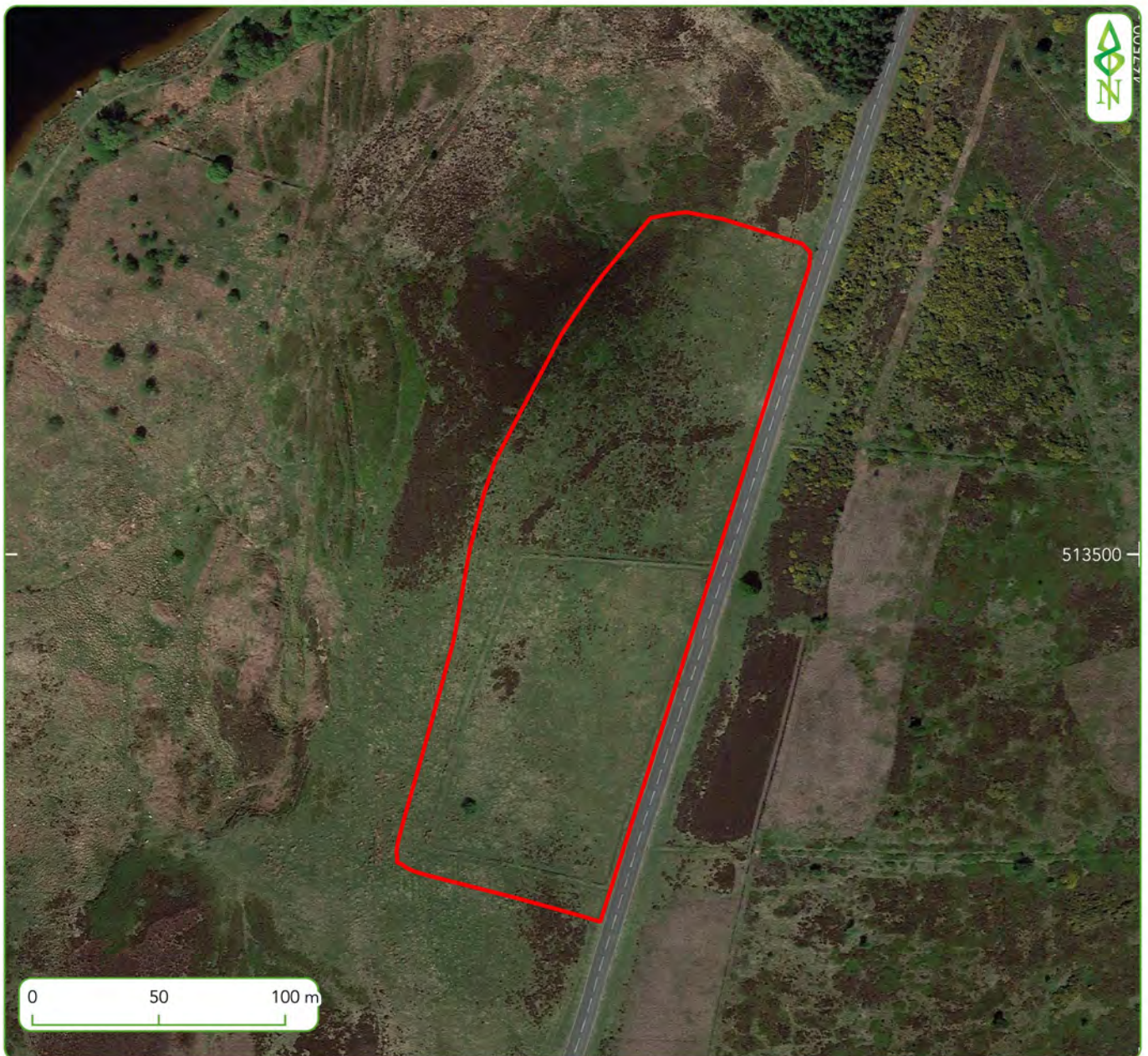
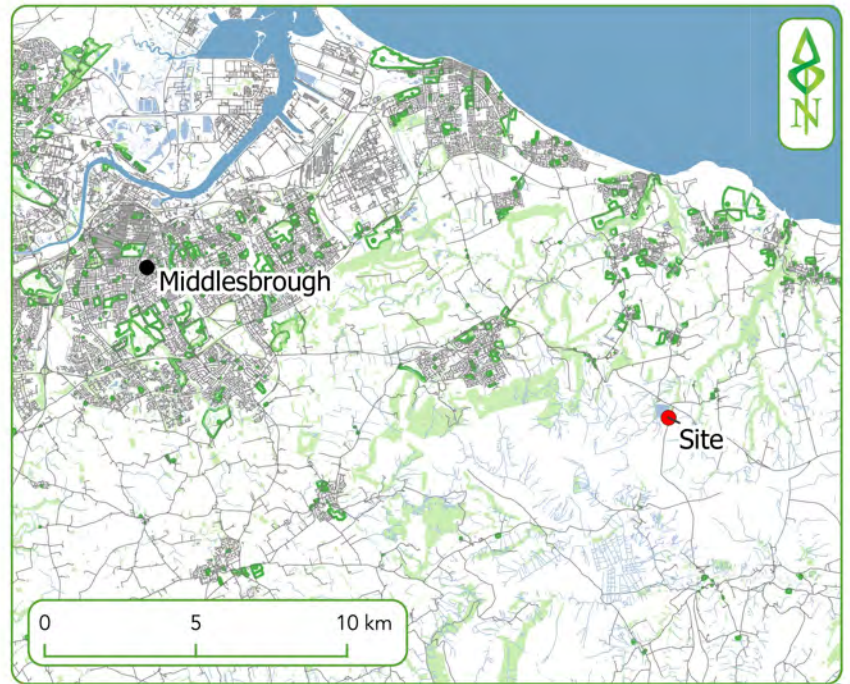


Figure 1. Site location



Figure 2. Trench Locations over targeted earthworks

APPENDIX 1 – METHOD STATEMENT

Excavation

As outlined in the Project Specification, the Moorsholm Project Team requires the evaluation excavation across two areas. Proposed trench locations have been decided following desk-based research, examination of the detailed geophysical data and in discussion with the core project team and other project partners and are provided in Figure 2) and are described below. In summary, proposed targets include six trenches

- Trench 1, measuring 2 x 6m, will target the hollow at the junction of features D2 and D3 to establish whether evidence of a structure exists. It will also investigate the relationship and stratigraphic sequence between D2, D3 and any potential features discovered within the area of the hollow.
- Trench 2, measuring 2 x 4m, aims to investigate the internal area of feature D4. This area is being targeted to look for any possible evidence of structures within the feature, hoping to characterise the function of the feature.
- Trench 3, measuring 2 x 6m, is aimed at the relationship between features D4 and D5. It is investigating the nature and stratigraphic sequence of both features. It is also hoped that this trench will establish a chronological phasing of the features.
- Trench 4, measuring 2 x 5m, will investigate the relationship between features D1 and D2. It is targeting an area where the two features may interact and will investigate the nature of and chronological and stratigraphic sequences of the features.
- Trench 5, measuring 2 x 4m, will target the ditch and bank on the south side of feature D4, this is where the ditch and bank are most intact, and as such it is hoped that the trench will establish a chronological and stratigraphic sequence of the ditch and bank, and characterise the construction of the features.
- Trench 6, measuring 2 x 4m, aims to investigate the internal space of enclosure D6, the northern most enclosure seen on the site. It is targeting the area with an aim to characterise the function of the enclosure, if it was habitation or enclosing livestock.

Topsoil will be removed by hand, then cleaned, planned and photographed prior to any further excavation. A representative section, not less than 1m in width, of the entire deposit sequence encountered will be recorded. If complex stratigraphy and/or significant remains (e.g. structural remains, artefact scatters, remains clearly of a funerary nature etc.) are encountered, these may only be excavated to the minimum requirement in order to satisfy the project objective, to avoid compromising the integrity of remains that may be either (a) preserved in situ, or (b) excavated in detail during any next phase of research excavation. Interventions will focus on feature intersections to establish relative chronologies, and 'clean' sections to maximise retrieval of stratigraphically secure dating evidence and environmental samples.

Written, drawn and photographic records will be made of each trench and test pit, even where no archaeological remains are identified. A plan at an appropriate scale (1:50 or 1:100) will be prepared, showing the areas investigated and their relation to more permanent topographical features, and the location of contexts observed and recorded during the investigation. Plans, sections and elevations of archaeological features and deposits will be drawn as necessary at

an appropriate scale (normally 1:20, or 1:10 for complex features). Drawings will be made in pencil on permanent drafting film.

Each trench or test pit, will be recorded using a digital first format created for Digital Dig Team, following the DigVentures single context recording system. Digital photography will be used for all photography of significant features, finds, deposits and general site working. The photographic record will illustrate both the detail and the general context of the principal features and finds excavated, and the Site as a whole.

Backfilling and reinstatement

Where turf is removed it will be stacked away from the trench edge, maintaining their integrity by ensuring that the turves are placed in a correct position (turf side up) and are watered frequently and monitored daily. Topsoil and subsoil will be removed and retained separately for reinstatement.

Palaeoenvironmental sampling

All deposits with good palaeoenvironmental potential will be sampled; bulk samples shall be taken from the section as appropriate, under advisement from the project specialist. Context specific samples will be taken by the most appropriate means (kubiena tins, contiguous columns, incremental block, bulk etc.) for multi-disciplinary analysis. All aspects of the collection, selection, processing, assessment and reporting on the environmental archaeology component of the evaluation shall be undertaken in accordance with the principles set out in *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011) and with reference to the *Association for Environmental Archaeology's Working Paper No. 2, Environmental Archaeology and Archaeological Evaluations* (1995).

Bulk sampling strategy

Bulk samples will usually be 40-60 litres in size, depending on the likely density of macrofossils. Ten litre samples will only be used for the recovery of plant macrofossils from waterlogged contexts. Samples will be stored in ten litre plastic buckets with lids and handles. A waterproof label will be fixed to the bucket and will record site code, context number and sample number and number of buckets in comprising the sample. A duplicate label will be retained inside the bucket. Samples will be protected from temperatures below 5° and above 25° Celsius and will be prevented from either wetting or drying out.

- Bulk samples selected for processing shall be wet sieved/floated and washed over a mesh size of 250 microns for the recovery of palaeobotanical and other organic remains, and refloated to maximise recovery;
- Non-organic residues shall be washed through a nest of sieves of 10mm, 5mm, 2mm, 1mm and 250-micron mesh to maximise finds recovery;
- Both organic and non-organic residues shall be dried under controlled conditions.
- The dried inorganic fractions shall be sorted for small finds or any non- buoyant palaeoenvironmental remains, and scanned with a magnet to pick up ferrous debris such as hammerscale.
- The dried organic fractions shall be sorted under a light microscope to identify the range of species or other material on a presence/absence basis, the degree of

preservation of the bio-archaeological material and the rough proportions of different categories of material present.

- In the event that waterlogged deposits are identified and sampled, further processing shall be undertaken as appropriate and agreed, including paraffin flotation to recover insect remains. Any such remains shall be scanned to identify and assess their potential.
- Selection of other types of sample for processing and the methods to be used for processing and assessment shall be undertaken on the advice of the relevant specialist and shall be agreed with the Consultant before implementation.

Contexts that are well stratified and potentially datable are all of value, so a systematic approach to selecting samples for processing and assessment will be taken. These will be divided into three categories:

- Category A (always sampled): contexts where the composition of the sediments are likely to inform us of the use of a particular structure or feature or if the deposits are waterlogged. These will include: *in situ* occupation deposits and fills/layers associated with particular activities; hearths; destruction deposits; basal pit/slot trench fills; waterlogged deposits, cesspits or latrines.
- Category B (always sampled, though discretion should be exercised): deposits identified as containing material that could yield information regarding their origin or the process that produced them. These will include: dumps, middens, upper pit fills with evidence for charred material, shell, bone and industrial waste.
- Category C: deposits containing material which is not necessarily related to the function of the feature to which they are related, but which can characterise deposits from different areas of the site. These will include: secondary and tertiary fills, postholes, levelling deposits, spreads etc.

Category A and B deposits should always be sampled, and Category C deposits sampled on a random basis (such as 1 in 5). These samples can help to characterise the background noise of a site, so as to highlight spatial or temporal trends and provide material that can be directly compared with those from Category A and B. All samples will be taken in large white 10 litre tubs, with labels placed inside with the deposit and attached to the bucket. All samples will be processed on site in a dedicated floatation and wet sieving area.

Zooarchaeology

If large deposits of bone or marine shell are encountered advice of the project zooarchaeologist (Hannah Russ) will be sought as regards further sampling. If large deposits of bone or marine shell are encountered the project zooarchaeologist advice will be sought as regards further sampling. If articulated groups of bones are encountered, they will be surveyed, recorded *in situ*, (including digital photography and planning), and then excavated to retain the group's integrity. Bones from each articulated limb will be bagged separately. If inhumations or cremation burials are encountered and excavated the surrounding soil will be sampled to retrieve any loose teeth or bone fragments.

All hand collected animal bones and bones from processed samples will be assessed, following English Heritage Environmental Archaeology guidelines (2002). If warranted by the size of the recovered assemblage, it will be assessed using two different quantification methods to determine the most suitable for full analysis, taking into account methods used in comparative assemblages. The assessment will not distinguish between certain taxonomic groups, for

example equids (horse and donkey); full speciation should be carried out as part of any recommended analysis, using a vertebrate comparative collection. In addition to quantification of domestic species and occurrence of wild species, the assessment will consider the number of articulated bone groups, and the prevalence of aging, sexing and osteometric data available for full analysis, following standard published conventions. The assessment report will comment on the potential of the assemblage, particularly in the context of the excavation's research questions and current understanding of comparative assemblages. It will also provide recommendations for any necessary future analysis.

Human osteoarchaeology

In the event of the discovery of human remains (inhumations, cremations and disarticulated fragments) they should be left in situ, covered and protected, until the English Heritage Inspector of Ancient Monuments has been informed. If a decision is taken to remove them, they will be fully recorded and excavated in compliance with the relevant Ministry of Justice Licence. The excavation of human remains will be carried out in accordance with the procedures detailed in the document Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed human remains (McKinley and Roberts 1993, IFA Technical Paper 13). Significant assemblages of human remains will be subject to an assessment of DNA preservation to establish potential familial relationships.

Inhumations will be scanned with a metal detector prior to excavation, and the position of possible metallic grave goods will be noted. Wherever possible, each burial will be excavated within a single working day, particularly with regard to visible grave goods. To minimise unauthorised disturbance of human remains, partially exposed remains will be covered overnight, though in such a way as to not draw undue attention, using loose excavated spoil. Excavation of inhumations will be undertaken using a trowel, plasterer's leaf, plastic spoon and paintbrush as appropriate depending on the condition of the bones. When lifted the bones will be bagged by skeletal area (skull, axial, upper and lower limbs) with separate bags for the left and right side. A standard series of samples will be taken from each inhumation burial to ensure full recovery of any remaining osseous tissues or small artefacts. Once human remains are removed from inhumation graves, any soil residue remaining at the base of the grave will be retrieved for bulk processing.

Inhumations and cremations will be drawn at a scale of 1:10 and photographed prior to lifting. They will be recorded on Skeleton Record Sheets that form an integral part of the site pro forma recording system. The recording will include condition, completeness, articulation, orientation and posture. Fragile objects found within graves will be lifted with appropriate care and handling to minimise breakage. This may include subsequent controlled excavation under laboratory conditions. A trained conservator will be employed on the site if necessary.

All cremation burials and cremation-related contexts will be excavated and sampled in quadrants to ascertain the distribution of any archaeological components within the fills, with division into spit also if appropriate. Cremation-related features other than burials may be subject to more detailed sub-divisions, the appropriate strategy being developed by a specialist as the size and nature of the remains becomes clear. Undisturbed and slightly disturbed, but largely intact, urned cremation burials will be lifted *en masse* for excavation under laboratory conditions. The urns will be wrapped in crepe bandages and securely boxed for transportation. Where a vessel has been crushed, thereby disrupting any original internal deposition of the cremated remains, it will be lifted *en masse* after separate recovery of displaced sherds. All cremation-related contexts will be subject to whole-earth recovery from

the point at which any cremated bone or other pyre debris is observed. If deposits of placed human bone are encountered in features, these may be excavated in spits if appropriate. The soils from these features will be bulk sampled.

Finds

Finds will be treated in accordance with the relevant guidance given in the *Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (2008), excepting where statements made below supersede them. All artefacts will be retained from excavated contexts, except features or deposits undoubtedly of modern date. In these circumstances sufficient artefacts will only be retained to elucidate the date and function of the feature or deposit. All artefacts from the evaluation works will, as a minimum, be washed, marked, counted, weighed and identified.

Conservation

Artefacts will be recovered as a matter of routine during the excavation. When retrieved from the ground finds will be kept in a finds tray or appropriate bags in accordance with *First Aid for Finds* (Walker 1990). Where necessary, a conservator may be required to recover fragile finds from the ground depending upon circumstances.

After the completion of the fieldwork stage, a conservation assessment will be undertaken which will include the X-radiography of all the ironwork (after initial screening to separate obviously modern debris), and a selection of the non-ferrous finds (including all coins). A sample of slag may also be X-rayed to assist with identification and interpretation. Wet-packed material, including glass, bone and leather will be stabilised and consolidated to ensure their long-term preservation. All finds will be stored in optimum conditions in accordance with *First Aid for Finds* and *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-Term Storage* (Walker, 1990).

The conservation assessment report will include statements on condition, stability and potential for further investigation (with conservation costs) for all material groups. The conservation report will be included in the updated project design prepared for the analysis stage of the project.

Scientific dating

Where uncontaminated deposits are recorded which are able to inform understanding of the research aims (in particular, relating to the construction of the banks and ditches), appropriate samples will be taken. Radiocarbon dating will be appropriate for clarifying and linking aspects of archaeological and environmental chronologies, and a strategy for this will be agreed following discussion with Cadw Science Advisor and the relevant specialists.

APPENDIX 2 – CORE TEAM CVS





Lisa Westcott Wilkins

MANAGING DIRECTOR

BA MA MCIFA FRSA
LISA@DIGVENTURES.COM
@LISAWWILKINS

Lisa has extensive experience delivering high-profile projects in the heritage and culture sectors, having held leadership posts in several organisations including LOCOG, Current Archaeology and the Palaeontological Research Institution. An accredited coach and facilitator, Lisa is skilled in brokering and developing partnerships and building communities. She has a track record of implementation for profile-building activities, evaluation, interpretation and events, and is a sector innovator in engagement with digital technology and consumer trends in a heritage context. She is a Clore Fellow and Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.



EXPERIENCE

MANAGING DIRECTOR | 11.2011 - PRESENT
DIGVENTURES

PROJECT MANAGER | 2011 - 2012
LONDON ORGANISING COMMITTEE FOR THE OLYMPIC
GAMES (CULTURAL OLYMPIAD, EVALUATION)

EDITOR | 2007- 2011
CURRENT ARCHAEOLOGY

FREELANCE | 2010 - 2015
CHARTERED INSTITUTE FOR ARCHAEOLOGISTS,
GLOBAL HERITAGE FUND UK, ITV (SHIVER)



KEY COMPETENCIES

- Heritage sector project design and delivery
- Digital techniques and workflows for heritage activities
- Crowdfunding campaign design, execution and consultancy
- Strategic and business planning for cultural programmes
- Stakeholder relationship management
- Community-focussed archaeological fieldwork and skills training
- Historic research (Desk Based Assessment)
- Writing and editing for digital and print publication



EDUCATION AND AFFILIATIONS

MEMBER | 2014

CHARTERED INSTITUTE FOR ARCHAEOLOGISTS

CIFA is the leading professional body representing archaeologists working in the UK and overseas.

FELLOW | 2011

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS

The RSA's mission is to create the conditions for the enlightened thinking and collaborative action needed to address today's most pressing social challenges.

FELLOW | 2010

CLORE LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

The Clore Leadership Programme was set up to develop outstanding cultural leaders in the UK.

MENTOR: Sandy Nairne, Director, National Portrait Gallery (former)

MA ARCHAEOLOGY (DISTINCTION) | 2002

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

BA CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS | 1993

ITHACA COLLEGE, ITHACA NY USA



SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS

'BEYOND DIGITAL - WHAT IS IT ABOUT?'

Keynote Speaker, AMA Digital Marketing Day, November 2019

'AMPLIFYING PHYSICAL EXPERIENCES THROUGH CROWDFUNDING AND DIGITAL CONTENT'

Presentation, Remix London, January 2017

'CROWDFUNDING AND THE HERITAGE SECTOR'

New Philanthropy Capital leadership roundtable, June 2015.

THE 'REAL TIME' TEAM: THE FUTURE OF FIELDWORK

Current Archaeology, May 2015, p36-40.



Brendon Wilkins

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Brendon is an award-winning field archaeologist and researcher, with over twenty years of experience directing and managing large, complex sites in advance of major construction projects. He has held senior posts in two of the largest commercial contractors in the EU. Brendon has a consistent publications record, and has lectured internationally on digital archaeology, wetland archaeology, mortuary archaeology and quality assurance on large-scale archaeology projects. He is currently pursuing a PhD at the University of Leicester, entitled: 'Digging the Crowd: the future of archaeology in the digital and collaborative economies'.



EXPERIENCE

PROJECTS DIRECTOR | 11.2011 - PRESENT
DIGVENTURES

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR | 2012 - 2013
RUBICON HERITAGE SERVICES LTD (LONDON)

SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER | 2011- 2012
WESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY

FIELD ARCHAEOLOGIST | 1999 - 2011
LICENSED SITE DIRECTOR (IRELAND) AND OTHER
ROLES AT VARIOUS LEVELS OF RESPONSIBILITY



KEY COMPETENCIES

- Design and management of archaeological works
- MORPHE project design and Scheduled Monument Consent
- Fieldwork and survey management
- Strategic and business planning for cultural programmes
- Digital techniques and workflows for heritage activities
- Historic research (Desk Based Assessment)
- Stakeholder relationship management
- Community-focussed archaeological fieldwork and skills training



EDUCATION AND AFFILIATIONS

COUNCIL MEMBER | 2013

MEMBER | 2004

CHARTERED INSTITUTE FOR ARCHAEOLOGISTS

CIfA is the leading professional body representing archaeologists working in the UK and overseas.

MEMBER | 2004

INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGISTS OF IRELAND

IRISH LICENSE ELIGIBILITY | 2004

DEPARTMENT OF ARTS, HERITAGE, REGIONAL, RURAL
AND GAELTACHT AFFAIRS

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY | EXPECTED 2020
UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

MA ARCHAEOLOGY (DISTINCTION) | 2008
UNIVERSITY OF BRADFORD

BSC ARCHAEOLOGY | 1999
UNIVERSITY OF BRADFORD



SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS

A THEORY OF CHANGE AND EVALUATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR
MEASURING SOCIAL IMPACT IN ARCHAEOLOGY
Wilkins, B. 1999 Post Classical Archaeologies, 9.

'DIGGING THE CROWD: THE FUTURE OF
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH IN THE DIGITAL AND
COLLABORATIVE ECONOMY'
European Association of Archaeologists, Glasgow, September 2015
Digital Pasts, Llandudno, 2014

'THE THINGS WE THINK AND DO NOT SAY - THE
FUTURE OF OUR BUSINESS'
Institute for Archaeologists, 2014

KNOWLEDGE, VALUE AND THE CELTIC TIGER

In Aitcheson, K., Jameson, J. and Eogan, J. (eds.) Archaeologists of
the world: globalizing archaeological practice. Springer



Manda Forster

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Manda's diverse archaeological career stretches across research, education, not-for-profit and commercial environments. Having held senior management roles in several organisations, she is particularly adept at post-excavation management, mentoring staff and developing learning materials. Manda has a track record delivering membership and audience development programmes for professional bodies and heritage organisations. She is research-active, with academic interests in standards development for the archaeological sector and the manufacture and distribution of worked stone goods in the North Atlantic region.



EXPERIENCE

PROGRAMME MANAGER | 2016 - PRESENT
DIGVENTURES

STANDARDS PROMOTION MANAGER | 2011 - 2015
CHARTERED INSTITUTE FOR ARCHAEOLOGISTS

RESEARCH FELLOW | 2011-2011
INSTITUTE FOR ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTIQUITY, BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY

POST-EXCAVATION MANAGER | 2004 - 2011
BIRMINGHAM ARCHAEOLOGY



KEY COMPETENCIES

- Heritage sector project design and delivery
- Designing and delivering vocational training
- Research and university-based teaching, including programme design
- Archaeological post-excavation programme management
- Volunteer, staff and stakeholder management and engagement
- Strategic and business planning for cultural programmes
- Community-focussed archaeological fieldwork and skills training
- Writing and editing for academic and technical publications



EDUCATION AND AFFILIATIONS

MEMBER | 2004

CHARTERED INSTITUTE FOR ARCHAEOLOGISTS

CIFA is the leading professional body representing archaeologists working in the UK and overseas.

TRUSTEE (CO OPTED) | 2019

SOCIETY FOR THE ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND

TREASURER AND TRUSTEE | 2011 - 2019

BIRMINGHAM AND WARWICKSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY | 2004

UNIVERSITY OF BRADFORD

BSC ARCHAEOLOGY (FIRST CLASS HONOURS) | 1998

UNIVERSITY OF BRADFORD

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS



WORK DIGITAL / THINK ARCHIVE - GUIDANCE FOR DIGITAL DATA MANAGEMENT IN ARCHAEOLOGY

Forster, A K, produced as CIFA guidance / HE Funded project

FROM HOMELAND TO HOME; STEATITE, MIGRATION AND SETTLEMENT IN THE NORSE NORTH ATLANTIC

Forster, A K and R E Jones, in Gitte Hansen and Per Storemyr (eds) *From Prehistoric Vessels to Medieval Cathedrals*, Universitetet i Bergens arkeologiske serier UBAS.

DRIVING MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT THROUGH MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS *Membership Excellence*, London, 2015

A CHARTERED PROFESSION: CIFA AND THE NEXT GENERATION

Theoretical Archaeology Group Conference, Manchester, 2014

CIFA CLIENT GUIDE

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014



Kimberley Teale

PROGRAMME MANAGER - DIGITAL

BSc ACIFA

KIMBERLEY@DIGVENTURES.COM

@SURVEYLIKEAGIRL

Kimberley is an archaeological geophysicist, experienced in project management and delivery with a demonstrated history of working in the heritage sector. With a background of running large scale infrastructure and linear survey schemes, Kimberley is committed to providing high quality data and deliverables. Digital innovation and development are a key part of her role and she is integral to the development of DigVentures' existing GIS capabilities and non-intrusive digital survey techniques.



EXPERIENCE

PROGRAMME MANAGER - DIGITAL
04.2021 – PRESENT | DIGVENTURES

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR – ARCHAEOLOGY
09.2020 – 03.2021 | WARDELL ARMSTRONG LLP

PROJECT MANAGER – GEOPHYSICS
08.2018 – 08.2020 | AOC ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT OFFICER / SUPERVISOR – GEOPHYSICS
03.2016 – 08.2018 | AOC ARCHAEOLOGY

ARCHAEOLOGICAL GEOPHYSICIST
01.2015 – 03.2016 | GSB PROSPECTION

ARCHAEOLOGIST / SITE ASSISTANT
07.2010 – 12.2011 | WESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY /
MOLA / ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES WYAS



KEY COMPETENCIES

- Geophysical survey, illustrating and reporting
- Landscape survey and assessment
- Geographical Information Systems (GIS)
- Desk-based research and assessments
- Project and team management
- Digital techniques and development
- 3D photogrammetry
- Problem solving and solution finding



EDUCATION AND AFFILIATIONS

ASSOCIATE | 2020

CHARTERED INSTITUTE FOR ARCHAEOLOGISTS

CiFA is the leading professional body representing archaeologists working in the UK and overseas.

MEMBER OF

- INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROSPECTION (ISAP)
- NEAR SURFACE GEOPHYSICS GROUP (NSGG)
- CIFA SCOTTISH SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP
- HISTORIC ENGLAND LANDSCAPE SURVEY GROUP

BSc HONS GEOLOGY & ARCHAEOLOGY | 2009
UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM



GEOPHYSICAL PROJECT EXPERIENCE

HS2 NORTH AND CENTRAL
400+ Ha Geophysical survey and reporting

EAST WEST RAIL

A9 / A96 DUALLING PROGRAMME
Scotland (various 2016 - 2020)

HORNSEA 4 OFFSHORE WINDFARM
400+ Ha geophysical survey and reporting

BIRMINGHAM RESILIENCE PIPELINE



Stephanie Duensing

COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGIST
(PROJECT OFFICER)

BA BSOC MA PHD ACHA
STEPHANIE@DIGVENTURES.COM

Stephanie is a professional field archaeologist with substantial experience working on complex, large-scale investigation and fieldwork projects. She specialises in excavation and recording methodology, and has investigated a diverse range of sites, locations and periods. She is fabulous at running training field schools and mentoring those who want to learn more about archaeological techniques. Prior to her field based career, Stephanie completed a PhD at Manchester, exploring post medieval consumption practices through archaeological assemblages recovered from taverns, inns and alehouses in London. As a result, she is also an expert in post medieval ceramics and glass artefacts.



EXPERIENCE (SELECTED)

COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGIST (PROJECT
OFFICER) | 2021 - PRESENT
DIGVENTURES

PROJECT OFFICER | 2017 - 2021
JOHN MOORE HERITAGE SERVICES

SUPERVISOR | 2016 - 2017
JOHN MOORE HERITAGE SERVICES

ARCHAEOLOGIST | 2015 - 2016
COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY



KEY COMPETENCIES

- Directing complex excavations in all environments and conditions
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Photographic and 3D recording of sites and artefacts
- Digital techniques and workflows for heritage activities
- Archaeological fieldwork and skills training
- Writing and editing for technical publications
- Extensive knowledge of British archaeology
- Post excavation techniques and finds analysis (ceramics and glass)
- On site Health and Safety



EDUCATION AND AFFILIATIONS

ASSOCIATE | 2014

CHARTERED INSTITUTE FOR ARCHAEOLOGISTS

CIfA is the leading professional body representing archaeologists working in the UK and overseas.

PhD ARCHAEOLOGY | 2015

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

Taverns, Inns and Alehouses? An Archaeology of Consumption Practices in the City of London, 1666–1780

MA ARCHAEOLOGY | 2010

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

BSOC ANTHROPOLOGY | 2007

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND



SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION AT RADLEY,
OXFORDSHIRE

2021 Duensing, S. N. JOHN MOORE HERITAGE SERVICES.

POST EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EXCAVATION AT STANTON HARCOURT, OXFORDSHIRE

2020 Duensing, S. N. JOHN MOORE HERITAGE SERVICES.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT ST MARY'S CHURCH,
WARGRAVE, BERKSHIRE

2019 Duensing, S. N. and Boston, C. JOHN MOORE HERITAGE
SERVICES: <https://doi.org/10.5284/1084272>.



Maiya Pina-Dacier

HEAD OF COMMUNITY

BSc MSc
MAIYA@DIGVENTURES.COM
@MUCKYMAIYA



Maiya is an experienced community builder for both on- and offline communities, specialising in deep-touch engagement and growth. Having started her career in commercial archaeology liaising with local interest groups and running community events, she has worked on excavations as far afield as Rwanda, Spain, the Caribbean and Coventry. Maiya went on to develop content strategies to drive online engagement as a Marketing Consultant for start-ups in the financial sector, and is now the hub of DigVentures' community management, including participant experience and online communities, and is responsible for an ever-expanding worldwide network.



EXPERIENCE

HEAD OF COMMUNITY | 2018 - present
DIGVENTURES

COMMUNITY MANAGER | 2014 - 2018
DIGVENTURES

MARKETING CONSULTANT | 2011 - 2014
AGEAS PROTECT

FIELD ARCHAEOLOGIST | 2009 - 2011
AOC ARCHAEOLOGY, PHOENIX CONSULTING



KEY COMPETENCIES

- Designing content marketing strategies
- Using social media to build, manage and maintain online audiences
- Writing and editing for digital and print publication
- Digital techniques and workflows for heritage activities
- Crowdfunding campaign design, execution and consultancy
- Community-focussed archaeological fieldwork and skills training
- Historic research (Desk Based Assessment)
- Writing and editing for digital and print publication



EDUCATION AND AFFILIATIONS

MSC IN SKELETAL AND DENTAL BIOARCHAEOLOGY
(DISTINCTION) | 2009
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

BSC ARCHAEOLOGY (FIRST CLASS HONOURS) | 2008
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON



SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS

THE DIGVENTURES SITE HUT

Driven by social content, Maiya is building new and existing audiences into sustainable online communities. She has grown the worldwide DigVentures audience by nearly 200% since joining the team, and has strategic oversight of coordinated content publishing and interaction across all DV channels including: Facebook, twitter, Instagram, YouTube, GooglePlus, and LinkedIn.

Content viewable here: digventures.com/archaeologynews/

Additionally, Maiya leads on populating the project-specific microsite archives built by DigVentures for all field projects:

<http://digventures.com/lindisfarne/>

<http://digventures.com/barrowed-time/>

<http://digventures.com/under-the-uplands/>

<http://digventures.com/leiston-abbey/>

<http://digventures.com/flag-fen/>

<http://digventures.com/costa-dos-castros/>

'IF YOU BUILD IT, WILL THEY COME? SCALING UP
SOCIAL INNOVATION IN ARCHAEOLOGY'

MicroPasts/AHRC, Royal Geographical Society, 31st March 2015

'UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL: 3D IMAGING, SOCIAL
MEDIA AND THE CROWD'

Theoretical Archaeology Group Annual Conference, Manchester,
2014



OUR TEAM



MAGGIE ENO BA MA
COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGIST

Maggie graduated from the University of British Columbia with a BA in Anthropology in 2010, and completed her MA in Archaeology for Screen Media from the University of Bristol in 2012. After digging in Jordan and England, she joined DV to film our first online course, 'How To Do Archaeology'. In addition to primary responsibility for producing top-notch video content, Maggie leads on our Unloved Heritage and Living Levels projects.



NAT JACKSON BA MSC
COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGIST

Nat is an experienced commercial field archaeologist, having worked for several contracting units throughout his career to date. He joined DV back in 2012 before taking the plunge and doing his degree at Liverpool. Since then, Nat has built up his skills in the field and has developed a keen interest in the archaeology of the Neolithic, especially in and around Suffolk.



HARRIET TATTON BA
COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGIST

Harriet graduated from Aberdeen University in 2014 with a BA in Archaeology. Following her studies she pursued a career in banking and finance, before joining DigVentures in 2018 as the Community Archaeologist for our Coldingham project. Harriet leads delivery for the HLF-funded Etched in Stone and Wellcome Trust-funded Miracles to Medicine projects, as well as the DV DigCamp young learners programme.



BEN SWAIN BA
COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGIST

Ben began his archaeological journey with DigVentures as a volunteer in 2012, and his enthusiasm grew with every muddy hole he encountered. Having qualified as an accountant in 2012, it didn't take long for him to realise he really was an archaeologist at heart. Reaching for his trowel, Ben joined DV in 2019 with his Archaeology Skills Passport in hand to undertake further training with our field archaeology team.



JOHANNA UNGEMACH BA MA
COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGIST

Johanna graduated from Saarland University in Germany in 2015 with a BA in History, after which she did her MA in Sustainable Heritage Management at Aarhus University, Denmark. She is responsible for post-excavation processes and volunteer training activities at DV company headquarters in Barnard Castle, and is leading the Development phase activities for our 'Windows to the World' partnership project with St Mary's Parish Church.



INDIE JAGO BA
COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGIST

Indie is a core member of our field archaeology team, having joined DigVentures for some field training experience as part of her degree in Archaeology from Durham University. After a spell working in the wider world of commercial archaeology after graduation, Indie joined DV as a fully fledged Community Archaeologist in 2019.



DAVID WALLACE BSc
COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGIST

David graduated from University of Winchester in 2017, obtaining his degree in Archaeological Practice. He has since continued to gain experience in field archaeology through both voluntary and commercial work, digging across the UK and further afield, including sites in Romania and Georgia. David joined the team at DV after a small break backpacking in the Far East.



FERGUS AND MONTY
SENIOR AND JUNIOR ASSISTANT SITE DOGS



Fergus is a key member of the DigVentures team, responsible for on site security, leisure activities, and finding chips on a Friday night. He does not believe in meetings, panels, working groups, forms, reports or KPIs, and has been known to accept bribes for access to the team. Monty isn't sure what he's good at yet but he's trying really hard at everything.