



**East Street,
Dowlais**

**Written Scheme
of Investigation
for
Archaeological
Works**

Prepared by:
**The Environmental
Dimension
Partnership Ltd**

On behalf of:
Merthyr Tydfil
Housing Association

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Section 1

Introduction

- 1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Archaeological Works has been prepared by the Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd (EDP) for Merthyr Tydfil Housing Association (MTHA), identified as the 'Client' for Land at East Street, Dowlais.
- 1.2 The content and the scope of works it sets out have been agreed through consultation with the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT, the 'Curator'), in its role as archaeological advisor to Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council (MTCBC), the Local Planning Authority (LPA).
- 1.3 This WSI has been commissioned and prepared in order to address Condition 10 of the planning permission (P/18/0330) issued for Land at East Street, Dowlais, which states that:

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No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured agreement for a written scheme of historic environment mitigation which has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority. Thereafter, the programme of works will be fully carried out in accordance with the requirements and standards of the written scheme.

Reason: To identify and record any features of archaeological interest discovered during the works in order to mitigate the impact of the works on the archaeological resource.

- 1.4 The area of investigation covered by this WSI (hereafter known as the 'site' is described below and shown on **Plan EDP 1**.

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Section 2

The Site and Archaeological Background

Location and Boundaries

- 2.1 The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) SO 06711 07815. Its location and layout are shown on **Plan EDP 1**.
- 2.2 The development is located to the north-east of Merthyr Tydfil and to the west of Dowlais centre. The land to be investigated for archaeology (the site; that encompassed by this WSI) comprises an L-shaped area of scrubland, sandwiched between East Street, Upper Union Street and Commercial Street. This area is identified on **Plan EDP 1**.
- 2.3 A modern Cancer Aid building and associated car park bounds the north-east of the site and a car park and footpath bounds the west. Commercial Street bounds the east of the site, East Street bounds the south and Upper Union Street is located to the north of the site.

Geology and Topography

- 2.4 The site occupies land that rises relatively steeply up from the south to the north. It rises from circa 302m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the south-western corner of the site to c.315 in the north of the site.
- 2.5 A geotechnical assessment was undertaken within the site in 2018. This identified that the site is underlain by Glacial Till comprising clay with boulders over the South Wales Lower Coal Measures Formation.
- 2.6 An average of 1.8m of made ground exists within the site, which also contains building material pertaining to the 19th century buildings that formerly existed within the site prior to being made vacant and then levelled during the 20th century (Jubb, 2018).

Archaeological Background

- 2.7 An archaeological desk based assessment was undertaken for the site in 2017 by Archaeology Wales Ltd (Archaeology Wales, 2017).
- 2.8 The assessment did not identify any potential for archaeology to be within the site dating to the prehistoric, Roman or medieval periods. Historic mapping depicts that the site was developed for residential housing, with an inn located on East Street, during the 19th century.
- 2.9 Although the buildings within the site were demolished and cleared during the 1970s it was determined that there was a high potential for building remains and foundations to be located within the development's footprint.

- 2.10 A geotechnical assessment of the site was subsequently undertaken on behalf of the Client in October 2018 (Jubb, 2018). Made ground was identified within all exploratory holes across the site. This made ground extended to a minimum depth of 0.85m and a maximum depth of 2.95m across the site and included brick, tile, ash and concrete, with old brick foundations noted in areas. It is clear from these investigations that there are remains relating to the former 19th century buildings located within the site.
- 2.11 The depth at which intact archaeological remains may be found at the site is hard to pin down with confidence from the information available, but the likelihood is that it will be overlain by at least 0.85 metres of unconsolidated made ground and by as much as circa 3.0 metres.

Consultation

- 2.12 A letter of recommendation from GGAT to the LPA stated the need for archaeological mitigation within the site and advised that a watching brief on all groundworks would cover the programme of archaeological work required to address the condition. The details are set out in a letter which is dated 23 January 2019; ref. MTY0157/JBHD.
- 2.13 Subsequent discussions with the Client indicated that the constricted nature of the site, coupled with the high probability that post-medieval archaeology is present, meant that a watching brief during construction could be problematic. This was both from the standpoint of interruptions to the groundworks programme, and in terms of ensuring quality archaeological recording. It was therefore considered that a more effective programme of investigation, allowing comprehensive recording of any remains, would be a strip, map and record exercise for all areas of the site that are proposed for to involve construction groundworks for the development.
- 2.14 This alternative approach to mitigation was discussed with GGAT and it was agreed that it was appropriate mitigation for the land within the site and adequate to discharge the planning condition (email: Judith Doyle to Harriet Sharp, date 25/02/20). The scope and methodology for this investigation are discussed below.

Knotweed

- 2.15 Whilst it is not an archaeological matter, the identification of Japanese knotweed within the site by David Clements Ecology (in the Ecological Assessment they completed in May 2017) has a significant bearing on the completion of the archaeological mitigation.
- 2.16 This is on the basis that there is a requirement to remediate the Japanese knotweed ahead of construction commencing and where the nature and extent of the remediation works necessary would affect the ability to complete either an excavation or a watching brief. As a result, there have been discussions with Landcraft, the specialists advising MTHA on the Japanese knotweed remediation, to design a co-ordinated approach which enables the archaeological impact of the development to be mitigated and not impair or restrict its effectiveness.

- 2.17 The outcome of that internal discussion is the '*Japanese Knotweed Control*' document which is included as **Appendix EDP 1**.

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Section 3

Scope and Methodology

Scope

- 3.1 The scope of the archaeological mitigation defined by this WSI is an archaeological excavation comprising the strip, map and record of all areas of the site to be impacted by the groundworks associated with the consented development.
- 3.2 The extent and effectiveness of the 'strip, map and record' excavation will not be limited or in any way impaired by the remediation of Japanese knotweed, and instead the processes can take place in parallel without their effectiveness being compromised.

Methodology

- 3.3 Archaeological excavation (based on a 'strip, map and record' approach) is a programme of controlled, intrusive fieldwork with defined research objectives, which examines, records and interprets archaeological deposits, features and structures and as necessary and appropriate retrieves artefacts, ecofacts and other remains within a defined area.
- 3.4 The records made and objects gathered during fieldwork are studied and the results of that study published in detail appropriate to the project design. A more detailed description of the excavation methodology is given in **Appendix EDP 2**.
- 3.5 Excavation will apply to any areas of the site that will experience an impact from intrusive groundworks. A plan of the area to be stripped is given on **Plan EDP 1**; this is indicative only, to show the approximate extents. These groundworks will extend to considerable depth and are anticipated to involve the removal of all the unconsolidated made ground.
- 3.6 More specifically, the Landcraft Japanese Knotweed Control document (see **Appendix EDP 1**) makes clear that *'To facilitate construction within areas where knotweed has been identified the knotweed and contaminated soils will need to be excavated and removed off site to a licensed landfill facility'* before thereafter adding that *'The contaminated area will need to be excavated up to seven metres past the last visible signs of knotweed growth in all directions and up to a depth of 2 metres'*. Therefore, any archaeological remains within 2.0 metres of the existing ground surface would be adversely impacted by the requirement to bulk excavate those deposits for Japanese knotweed remediation before construction even commences.
- 3.7 In terms of the methodology for the archaeological excavation, the unconsolidated made ground will be removed in layers by machine, under the full supervision of an experienced archaeologist and a suitably qualified operative who will continually inspect the excavations to identify whether and where coherent archaeological remains are present, and for signs indicating the presence of knotweed rhizome.

- 3.8 Where archaeological remains are identified (e.g. intact foundations, floors or cellar structures) they will be hand cleaned and recorded. To some extent the exact approach will depend on what archaeology is revealed, its perceived value/interest and any practical and/or health & safety considerations which may apply (particularly working depths within trenches). If necessary, this can be discussed with the Curator once any archaeological remains at the site are revealed in plan and characterised.
- 3.9 It is assumed that the research aims of this excavation will focus on the retrieval of information about the former 19th-century housing once present on the site.
- 3.10 In basic terms, this will comprise the preparation of basic building and floor plans and identifying any phasing (i.e. subsequent alterations). Material culture may also be of interest. This will tie in with a number of research objectives for South Wales, including the study of internationally significant industrial communities in the Heads of the Valleys and the synthesis of early industrial towns (RCAHMW, 2003).
- 3.11 The Landcraft Japanese Knotweed Control document (**Appendix EDP 1**) sets out a methodology for exposing, investigating, sampling and recording archaeological remains within the site in a way that will not impair or restrict the effectiveness of the Japanese knotweed remediation. The completion of the strip, map and record style excavation will not be restricted or impaired by the need to deal with the Japanese knotweed.
- 3.12 Once any archaeological remains of significance within the site have been exposed, investigated and recorded, it is expected that the Japanese knotweed remediation can proceed again without the need for further archaeological involvement.
- 3.13 The excavation will be carried out by a specialist archaeological contractor, preferably a Registered Organisation with ClfA, in line with the *Standard and Guidance for archaeological excavation* (ClfA 2014b). The Contractor's Method Statement, detailing specific information concerned with the project team, programming and health and safety, will be submitted separately, prior to the commencement of the fieldwork.
- 3.14 The appointed contractor will need to give careful thought, within the Method Statement (MS), to the working requirements of the Japanese knotweed remediation, in terms of the control of access to and from the site and for the movement and storage of spoil and overburden, created by the stripping and cleaning of any archaeological remains which are present.
- 3.15 The primary aim of the excavation is to ensure that any archaeological remains are treated in accordance with the planning policy set out in Planning Policy Wales (Version 10; 2018) and Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24. As a principle, the excavation will aim to:
- (i) Establish the location, extent, nature and heritage significance of any archaeological deposits or materials within the excavated area;
 - (ii) Make an appropriate record of such deposits and material;
 - (iii) Disseminate the results of the archaeological works, proportionate to the findings of the

fieldwork; and

(iv) Deposit a well-ordered archive in an appropriate repository following completion.

- 3.16 In circumstances under which archaeological excavation is requested as a form of mitigation, it is likely that archaeological remains will be encountered. In these situations, the completion of an interim process of post-excavation assessment may be appropriate to define the strategy for dissemination and/or publication of the fieldwork results.

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Section 4

Project Management, Resourcing and Timetable

- 4.1 All archaeological fieldwork, post-excavation assessment, analysis, reporting and archiving for the project will be managed by an appropriately qualified ClfA Registered Organisation (RAO), acting in their role as agents to the Client.
- 4.2 In its role, the appointed organisation will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the WSI, in addition to the ClfA Code of Conduct and the relevant ClfA Standard and Guidance documents (ClfA 2014a, 2014b, 2014c).
- 4.3 In doing so, and managing the archaeological contractor to complete the project, it will satisfy the requirements of ClfA *Standard and Guidance for Commissioning Work on, or Providing Consultancy Advice on, Archaeology and the Historic Environment* (ClfA 2014d).
- 4.4 All archaeological fieldwork, post-excavation works, reporting and archiving will be completed by the archaeological contractor. Details on the management and resourcing of the archaeological contractor's team will be set out in a separate MS.

Timetable

- 4.5 Subject to agreement of the scope of works, it is proposed to commence the archaeological works during the summer of 2020, prior to the groundworks commencing on site, but in tandem with the Japanese Knotweed remediation being undertaken.
- 4.6 EDP will notify the Curator in writing at least one week before the commencement of site work, of the completion of the excavation, and (where appropriate) in light of any significant milestones during the site work.

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Section 5

Monitoring and Review

- 5.1 All archaeological investigation and recording at the site will be subject to the approved WSI and the MS provided by the archaeological contractor, which will be submitted to and approved by the Curator in advance.
- 5.2 The Curator will be afforded access to visit the site, as required, to inspect the archaeological works and to ensure that they are being conducted both to the proper professional standards and in accordance with the WSI and MS. A projected timetable for the site work will be agreed in advance between the managing organisation and the Curator to facilitate this.
- 5.3 The managing organisation will represent the client in any site monitoring/review meetings which take place during the course of the archaeological fieldwork.

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Section 6

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Appendix EDP 1

Japanese Knotweed Control Document (Landcraft)

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EAST STREET, DOWLAIS Development Land

JAPANESE KNOTWEED CONTROL



PREPARED FOR Merthyr Tydfil Housing Association (MTHA)

*Revision B
Dated 04/06/20*

Identification

Japanese knotweed was identified on site by David Clements Ecology within their Ecological Assessment undertaken in May 2017.

Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) is a non-native invasive species of plant which has thrived and spread across the UK since its introduction as an ornamental garden plant in the mid-nineteenth century.

In the UK the plant is mainly spread through rhizome fragments or cut stems. Tests have shown that a 0.7gramme piece of rhizome (approx 10mm long) will regenerate and form a new plant. Freshly cut stems which are in contact with ground are also able to regenerate. Knotweed plants in the UK are female and currently the seeds produced are not viable and do not therefore pose a risk for spreading.



Japanese Knotweed leaf and flowers



Japanese Knotweed – Early growth

During early spring new shoots emerge which are purple in colour as are the early leaves and look similar to asparagus spears. The main stems are hollow and soon turn green with distinctive purple spots and can grow upto 10cm per day.

The underground rhizomes are thick and woody with a knotty appearance and when broken reveal a bright orange-coloured centre which bears a resemblance to a carrot.

The rhizomes can extend to over 2 metres depth and can spread laterally upto 7 metres from the parent plant

The dead canes are easily visible during winter months and are very brittle when touched. Unsightly growth such as this can easily be trashed down and either left in-situ or removed as in this state it poses no risk.



Japanese Knotweed rhizome

Treatment

There are two primary methods of treating Japanese Knotweed. Herbicide treatment or physical removal. The method employed being dependant on the location of the knotweed and the timescale available for treatment.

MTHA treated all Japanese Knotweed growth with 'Garlon Ultra' herbicide on 16th October 2019

Proposed Construction Zone and Areas of Intrusive Groundworks – Treatment Plan 1

To facilitate construction within areas where knotweed has been identified the knotweed and contaminated soils will need to be excavated and removed off site to a licensed landfill facility.

The contaminated area will need to be excavated upto seven metres past the last visible signs of knotweed growth in all directions and upto a depth of 2 metres.

To ensure that contaminated soils are not spread into neighbouring areas that do not have knotweed growth a temporary fence is to be installed around the contaminated area and maintained for the duration of the works. No personnel to breach the fencing at any time.

Traditionally the contaminated soils would be removed via bulk excavation using a mechanical excavator, with excavation continuing until no knotweed rhizome was evident. However, in this instance the presence of buried archaeology and the requirement to expose and record this during the excavation works will require a phased approach.

During the first phase, to avoid disturbing the archaeology the contaminated soils are to be carefully stripped in layers (depth of each layer to be confirmed by the archaeologist) using a mechanical excavator under the supervision of an archaeologist and a suitably qualified operative who will continually inspect the excavations for signs of knotweed rhizome.

The soils will be stripped such that the buried archaeology is sufficiently exposed for the archaeologists to inspect and record as required and the arisings ideally loaded directly onto a lorry for removal. Where direct loading is not possible then the soils are to be stockpiled within the confines of the fenced area for as minimal period as possible before being removed.

Final cleaning of the archaeology may need to be completed manually and in this instance all material removed is to be placed onto a stockpile within the contaminated area whilst awaiting removal. Again, all works to be supervised by an operative experienced in the identification of knotweed rhizome.

Mechanical excavation will cease whilst the archaeology is inspected and recorded but pedestrian movement within the contaminated area should be kept to the minimum.

To ensure no contaminated soils are removed from the contaminated area during the archaeological inspection and recording operations a small, stone hardstand is to be created at the access point to the working area with a washing station containing a sump where all footwear, tools etc that have been in contact with the soils are to be washed before leaving the working area. The washings being collected in the sump before being added to the site stockpile for removal.

Once the archaeological works have been completed all pedestrian access into the contaminated area is to be ceased and the bulk excavation will continue under the supervision of suitably qualified operative who will continually inspect the excavations for signs of knotweed rhizome.

Excavation will continue until there is no visible evidence of any knotweed rhizome remaining.

The contaminated material is to be excavated and where possible placed directly into a disposal lorry in one operation, with care taken to ensure that no material spills onto surrounding ground. Any spilled material is to be removed and placed onto the lorry for removal immediately and the area over which the contaminated material has been loaded is to be scraped clean with the arisings placed into a lorry for removal.

The tracks and bucket on the excavator are to be cleaned of any soils before it leaves the contaminated area as will all hand tools, footwear etc with the arisings again placed into the lorry for disposal. The hard stand area will also be excavated and placed onto the lorry for removal.

Disposal lorries must only be part filled to ensure no spillage can occur in transport and all loads are to be covered prior to leaving site. Any spillage on the access roads is to be removed immediately and the arisings placed back into the contaminated area for removal.

Where excavations are upto a neighbouring boundary where knotweed is known to exist a suitable rootbarrier is to be installed to a depth of upto 3 metres between the neighbouring property and the site to ensure knotweed is not able to encroach back into the site.

Proposed Undeveloped Land - Treatment Plan 2

Where Japanese Knotweed has been identified on areas that are not proposed to form part of the construction area and are located in excess of seven metres from the construction zone then this can be treated with herbicide.

Prior to commencing any construction works on site a suitable fence is to be installed a minimum of seven metres from all knotweed stands to prevent any ingress into the contaminated areas. The fence to remain in place for the duration of the construction phase.

Allow for trashing down knotweed as required to gain access through the stands and apply glyphosate based herbicide to all visible growth prior to senescence in late Summer/early Autumn of each year

Methodology

The Japanese Knotweed should be treated with herbicide containing Glyphosate such as Roundup Pro-Biactive 360 or 450.

Glyphosate is a systemic herbicide which acts by blocking a plant's enzyme system. The herbicide is absorbed through growing leaves and stems where it is translocated throughout the plant and root network. It kills virtually all annual and perennial weeds including grasses. Glyphosate is quickly broken down in soil or sediment and is harmless to animal life.

Roundup Pro Biactive is a very safe herbicide and when used in accordance with the directions on the label is non hazardous as defined by COSHH and does not carry a hazard symbol. However, it is recommended that people and animals should be kept out of the treated areas until the herbicide is dry.

To maximize the effects of the herbicide the knotweed must be left to grow unchecked until the point of treatment which will be prior to senescence in late summer/early autumn thus providing maximum leaf cover for chemical uptake.

The herbicide should be applied using a knapsack sprayer by operatives who hold as a minimum NPTC PA1 and PA6 qualifications.

The herbicide must be applied to all visible growth, ensuring as much leaf contact as possible.

The remaining vegetation should be cut down manually using a scythe/sickle or mechanically using reciprocating blades, such as those on mechanical hedgecutters, once the knotweed stems and leaves have died back fully. Avoid the use of mechanical trimmers, especially if knotweed growth has not fully died back, as they have the potential to spread live knotweed vegetation.

Programme

A visit to apply herbicide should be programmed for mid-late September/early October 2020, prior to the on-set of senescence.

Treatment to be undertaken during dry weather with minimal wind to avoid chemical drift.

A follow up visit should be undertaken during late Spring or early Summer 2021 to inspect the treated areas for knotweed re-growth. The findings from the inspection to be reported to MTHA

The above treatment and inspection regime to be repeated annually for a further 4 years with the final inspection being completed in Spring 2024.

Following the Spring 2024 inspection a report is to be presented to MTHA detailing the findings and any recommendations for continued treatment if knotweed re-growth is evident.

If knotweed regrowth is evident then further herbicide treatment is to be completed in Autumn 2024 with a inspection undertaken in Spring 2025. This process to be continued until no regrowth occurs.

If no knotweed growth is evident a further inspection is to be undertaken in Spring 2025 and again in 2026.

Japanese Knotweed rhizome has the ability to remain dormant within the ground for several years (20 years has been suggested but is as yet unconfirmed) with dormancy often broken through ground disturbance during construction.

Appendix EDP 2 Standard Excavation Methodology

- A2.1 The purpose of excavation will be to record and sample features and deposits in detail, and will be undertaken by the appointed archaeological contractor.
- A2.2 All works will be undertaken with reference to the Archaeological Research Framework for the region. Any evidence retrieved during the works will be analysed in light of the objectives contained in this framework.
- A2.3 Although the precise sampling methodology will be determined on site, it is provisionally proposed that the following approach will be used.
- A2.4 Deposits will be excavated by hand, using appropriate tools. All archaeological features should be subject to appropriate levels of excavation. In summary, these are likely to equate to:
- Any deposits relating to funerary/ritual activity (e.g. burials, cremations,) and domestic/industrial activity (e.g. walls, post-holes, hearths, floor surfaces/floor make-up deposits) will be investigated by removing 100% of the deposit from each feature depending on its state of preservation, age and relative rarity; and
 - Features relating to other activities will be subject to the following provisional sampling levels which will be reviewed again depending on their state of preservation, age and relative rarity: pits will require a minimum of a 50% sample of the deposits from each feature; linear features (e.g. ditches/gullies, paths/tracks) will require a minimum of a 10% sample of the deposits from each feature.
- A2.5 It is recognised that there may be cases when individual features do not merit these levels of sampling. Nonetheless, any variation to these levels would need to be approved by the Curator following on-site discussion.
- A2.6 If machine work, i.e. additional stripping, is required to facilitate the works, this must be completed under archaeological supervision and should cease immediately if significant evidence is revealed. Care should be taken to ensure plant and machines do not damage underlying remains, particularly in soft conditions or across stripped areas.
- A2.7 The machine used should be powerful enough for a clean job of work and all spoil will need to be stored at a safe distance from excavation edges. All spoil should be observed, and metal detected for any archaeological finds.
- A2.8 Any human remains that are encountered will initially be left *in situ* and reported to the appropriate authorities. Subsequent removal will comply with the relevant government regulations and current archaeological best-practice.

- A2.9 All finds of gold and silver, or hoards of prehistoric metals, will be moved off site to a safe place and reported to the coroner's office according to the procedures set out in the '*Treasure Act 1996*'. Where removal cannot be completed on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures will be taken to protect the artefacts from theft or damage.
- A2.10 Suitable contexts will be subjected to environmental sampling at an appropriate scale. This work will meet the minimum standards recommended by the Curator. Decisions regarding which contexts are suitable for environmental sampling will be made on site in consultation between the managing organisation and the Curator.
- A2.11 All artefactual and ecofactual remains, whether stratified or not (including material from spoil tips), will be collected, bagged and labelled. Artefacts will be subject to preliminary study on site in order to help date excavation contents.

Recording Systems

- A2.12 The recording system must be compatible with the most widely used in the county. Pro-forma context sheets should include all relevant stratigraphic relationships and, for complex stratigraphy, a separate matrix diagram should be employed. The following plans and sections are required:
- An overall site plan of the excavated area will be prepared detailing archaeological deposits, as well as the extent of the area relative to the National Grid on a 1:2500 plan. An overall excavation plan will be prepared at 1:100 scale;
 - Sections containing significant deposits, including half sections, should be drawn as appropriate. Section drawing should include heights aOD;
 - All archaeological plans and sections should be on drawing film and at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20 and should include context numbers and aOD spot heights for all principal strata and features; and
 - An adequate photographic record of any significant archaeological remains is required, in both plan and section.

Finds and Samples

- A2.13 A high priority should be given to dating any remains, and so all artefacts and finds will be retained. Consideration will also be given to the recovery of specialist samples for scientific analysis, particularly samples for absolute dating, structural materials and cultural/environmental evidence. Environmental samples will be taken from suitable deposits and examined for carbonised remains, macroscopic plant remains, pollen, seeds, insects, molluscs etc.

- A2.14 All finds and samples will be treated in a proper manner to prevent deterioration. This will involve cleaning and conservation, where necessary, and labelling, cataloguing and secure storage in appropriate containers.
- A2.15 The contractor will submit, as part of the Method Statement for the excavation, a strategy for palaeo-environmental sampling on the site and for processing and analysis of samples. This work should accord with the minimum standard guidance provided by the Curator. The contractor will carry out an assessment of the palaeo-environmental potential of the site and shall submit this assessment in concise form in writing within the full post-excavation assessment report. The contractor will seek the advice of a palaeo-environmental specialist in this connection.
- A2.16 The archaeological contractor will need to demonstrate that arrangements are in hand to cover all necessary processing, conservation and specialist analysis of finds and samples, including if necessary the conservation of organic and composite materials, and dendrochronological and environmental analysis of samples.
- A2.17 Every effort will be made to ensure that finds analysis is consistent with existing local systems.

Post-Excavation

- A2.18 The archive will be prepared, and a post-excavation assessment undertaken, immediately after site works are completed. In lieu of equivalent Welsh guidance, this will be prepared in accordance with the specification given in Appendices 4 and 5 of *MAP2* (English Heritage 1991) and will conform with the format outlined in the *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records* (Welsh Archaeological Trusts 2018).
- A2.19 Each category of finds will be assessed by specialist staff and recommendations prepared for further study. Funds will be made available for any additional works required and for conservation purposes where applicable. All artefacts and ecofacts will be processed in accordance with standard practice. No artefacts, ecofacts or environmental samples will be discarded without written permission from the Curator.
- A2.20 One draft copy of the report will be made available to the managing organisation as soon as it is ready. It will be evaluated and (if necessary) recommendations made for its improvement. Four copies of the finished report (three bound and one unbound) will subsequently be submitted to the managing organisation, along with digital data, for approval by the client, before submission to the Local Planning Authority and the Curator.
- A2.21 Arrangements will be made for deposition of the finds (with the written permission of the landowner) and the site archive with the relevant museum within 12 months of completion of fieldwork. Written confirmation of this will be provided to the Curator.
- A2.22 Provision will be made for an appropriate level of academic publication of the results of the excavations. A summary report will be submitted for publication in the relevant local journal. Additional publication requirements will be agreed where necessary.

A2.23 The excavation report should include:

- A review of the aims and methods used in the excavation;
- A table summarising the descriptive text showing the features, classes and numbers of artefacts and their interpretation, with reference to the county artefacts type series;
- Artefact analysis to include the production of a descriptive catalogue, with finds critical for dating and interpretation illustrated;
- The report should be illustrated with appropriate material including site and excavation area plans, sections (1:10), plans of any archaeological features (1:20) and general and detailed photographs;
- The nature, extent, date, condition and significance of the archaeological and environmental material uncovered with specialist opinions and parallels from other sites in the area;
- An interpretation of the results should be produced and attention should be given to the significance of the remains in local, regional and national terms, if appropriate; and
- A reconsideration of the methodology used, including a confidence rating of the strategy and the results.

A2.24 In addition, the report will conform with the required content as outlined in the *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records* (Welsh Archaeological Trusts, 2018).

A2.25 Copies of any reports arising from the excavation will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record.

Archiving

A2.26 The site archive, which will comprise records of the archaeological excavations and any materials recovered, including written elements, plans and drawings, digital photographs and other primary data recovered during the investigation, must be quantified, ordered, indexed and made internally consistent. It will also contain as a minimum requirement a site matrix, site summary (a short report giving a preliminary account of the discoveries) and brief written observations on the artefactual and environmental data.

A2.27 All artefacts (e.g. pottery, metalwork, objects in worked flint and stone, wood, bone, horn, leather and slag) and ecofacts (organic finds such as bones, preserved ancient plant remains, seeds, pollen and charcoal, soil samples), recovered during the archaeological investigation will be made available to the contractor pending completion of the excavation report, to be stored during the course of the archaeological investigation at the contractor's secure offices or usual place of secure storage of archaeological finds.

- A2.28 All artefacts recovered during the archaeological investigation will be suitably washed (where the condition of the artefacts allows) and marked by the contractor, and all artefacts and ecofacts bagged and boxed by the contractor, in accordance with current United Kingdom Institute for Conservation/RESCUE publication *First Aid for Finds* (3rd. ed. 1998). All 'small finds' will be boxed together, separate from bulk finds.
- A2.29 In preparing cost estimates for the archaeological investigation, the contractor will include provision for at least a basic minimum level of conservation of finds liable to deterioration after excavation.
- A2.30 Within 12 months of completion of the written and drawn site archive, a copy of these elements of the archive will be deposited by the contractor in the Royal Commission for the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) National Monuments Record, and they shall send confirmation in writing of such deposition at the same time to the council's advisor, except if further excavation/post-excavation work is required, when, by agreement, the period may be extended. Due reference will be given to *The National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales 2017* (National Panel for Archaeological Archives in Wales).
- A2.31 Subject to the legislation of the *Treasure Act 1996*, all artefacts and ecofacts unearthed from the investigation and all other elements of the site archive (as defined in the *English Heritage's The Management of Archaeological Projects* (1991)) will be deposited by the contractor in an appropriate public museum, registered or provisionally registered by the Museums and Galleries Commission and acceptable to the Local Planning Authority. No artefacts or ecofacts from the site shall be deposited in the relevant museum without the prior written consent of the landowner.
- A2.32 Prior to the deposition of finds in the recipient museum, the contractor should agree with that museum the sample or quantity of bulk finds (pottery, animal and (if appropriate) human bone, other ecofactual material, building material, burnt flint, worked flint and stone) to be deposited.
- A2.33 All excavated artefacts and ecofacts and all other elements of the site archive will be delivered by the contractor to the recipient museum as one deposit. Where this arrangement is not practicable, lists will be submitted by the contractor to the recipient museum of objects not deposited, together with information as to the quantity involved and their current location, reasons why items have not been deposited, and a timetable for their ultimate deposition.
- A2.34 The contractor will contact the recipient museum prior to preparing cost estimates for the work in order to discuss any special requirements for the deposition of finds.
- A2.35 Subject to the resources available and to discussion with the recipient museum, all items needing conservation will be properly stabilised by the contractor prior to their deposition at the recipient museum and records of their treatment lodged with the museum. Those items for which available resources do not permit stabilisation will be separately packed and listed by the contractor.

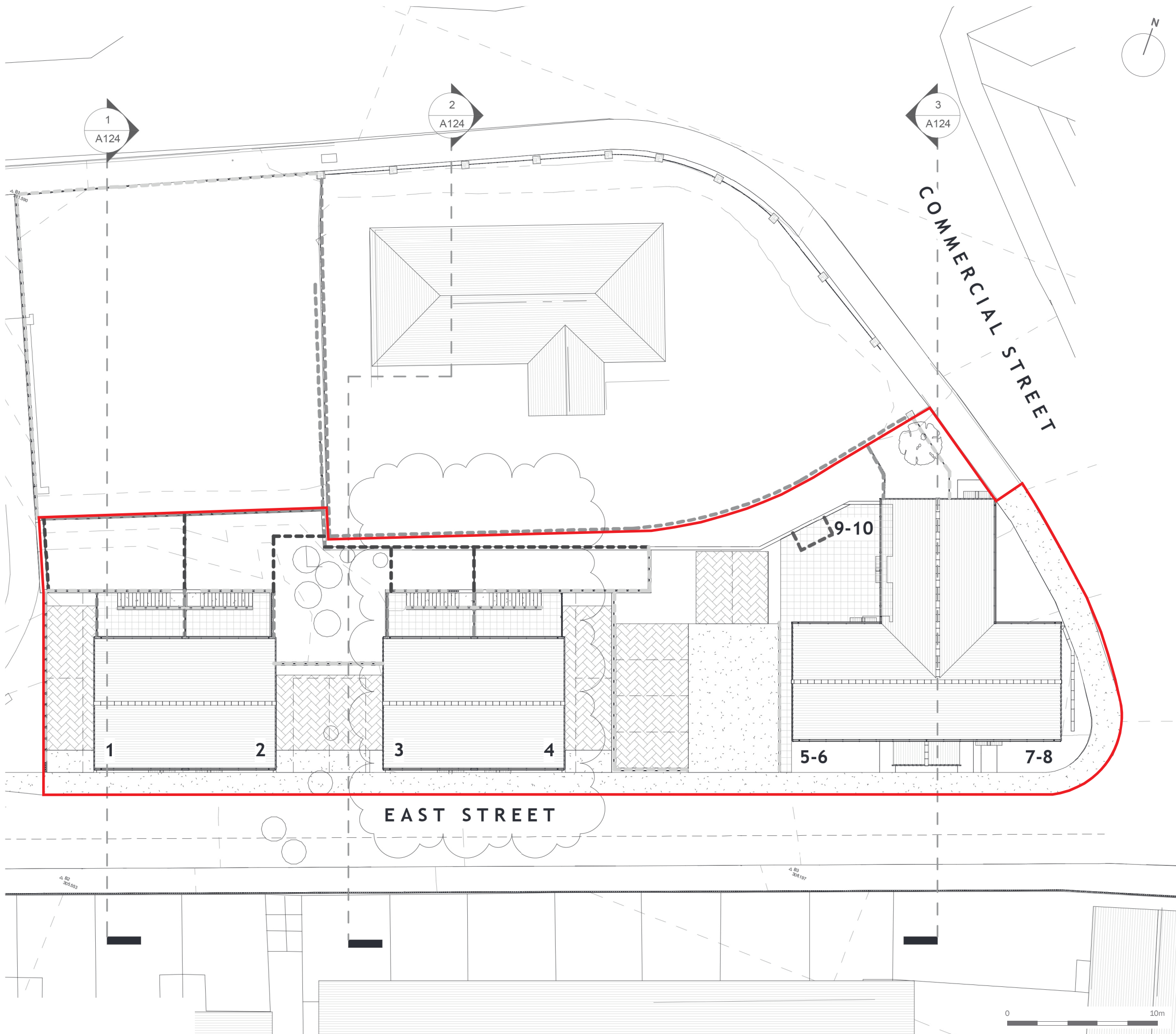
- A2.36 Prior to commencement of the archaeological investigations, the contractor will obtain from the recipient museum an accession number for excavated artefacts and ecofacts from the project and any guidelines regarding deposition of such artefacts and ecofacts specific to the recipient museum.
- A2.37 All finds, save those specifically excluded by the recipient museum or excluded on grounds of size/material, will also be marked by the contractor with the recipient museum's accession number.
- A2.38 Artefacts and ecofacts deposited by the contractor in the recipient museum will be accompanied by the remainder of the original site archive or by a complete duplicate record thereof. A copy of the site archive should also be supplied by the contractor to the recipient museum.
- A2.39 Subject to the agreement of the landowner, all artefacts and ecofacts recovered from the archaeological evaluation will be deposited by the contractor within the recipient museum within five years from the date of completion of the investigation.
- A2.40 Work on the site archive will be completed within twelve calendar months of completion of the archaeological field investigation. Upon completion of the site archive the contractor shall arrange a meeting with the council's advisor to present the archive for inspection prior to its deposition in an appropriate museum.
- A2.41 Copyright of the written, drawn and photographic elements of the site archive shall be vested jointly with the contractors/site owners and the recipient museum.
- A2.42 The following documents should be adhered to:
- Museum and Galleries Commission, *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections* (1992); and
 - English Heritage, *Management of Archaeological Projects* (MAP2) (1991).

Plan

Plan EDP 1

Site Location and Excavation Area
(edp6330_d001a 28 May 2020 GY/HS)

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Excavation Area

client

Merthyr Tydfil Housing Association

project title

East Street, Dowlais

drawing title

Plan EDP 1: Site Location and Excavation Area

date

26 MAY 2020

drawn by **GY**

drawing number

edp6330_d001a

checked **HS**

scale

Refer to scale bar @ A3 QA JTF



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