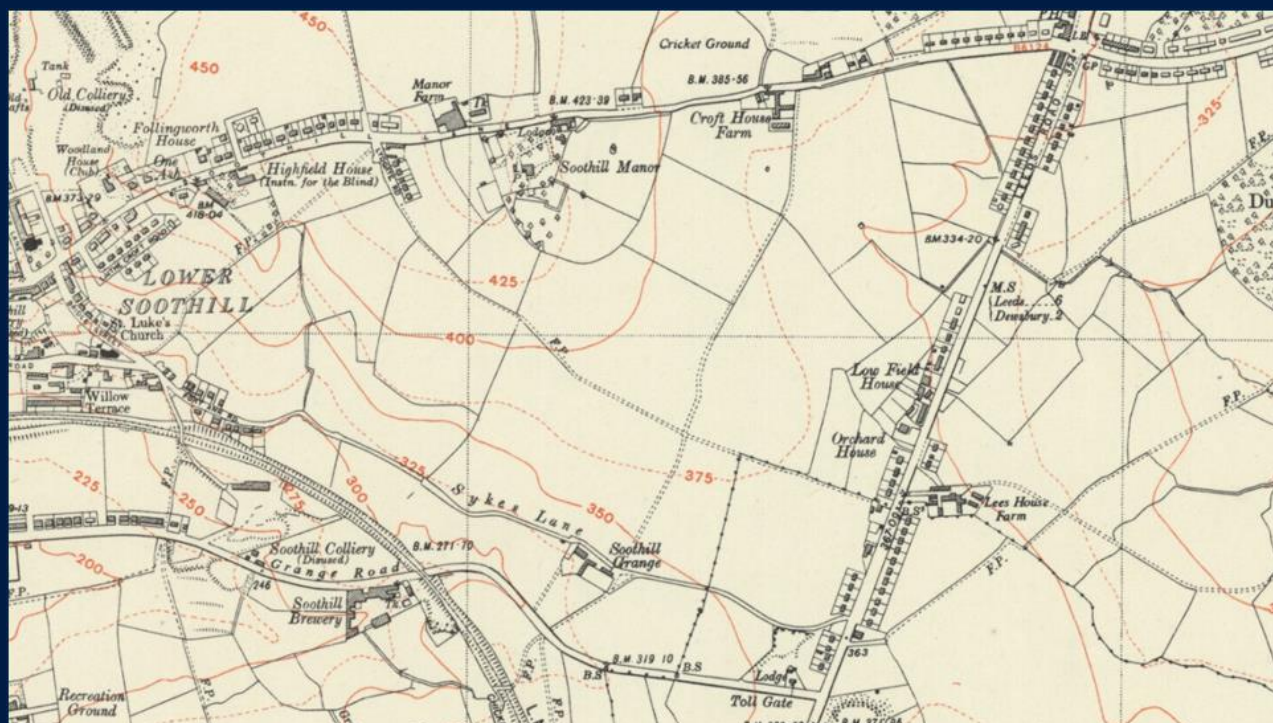


Soothill Lane, Batley

Archaeological Desk-based Assessment



Project: Land off Soothill Lane, Batley

Client: Kirklees Council – Economy and Infrastructure Service

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Abbreviations and Conventions used in the text

aOD	above Ordnance Datum
BGS	British Geological Survey
c.	circa
CA	Conservation Area
ha	hectares
HA	Heritage Asset
HE	Historic England
HER	Historic Environment Record
km	kilometres
LB	Listed Building
LPA	Local Planning Authority
m	metres
NHLE	National Heritage List for England
NPPG	National Planning Practice Guidance
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
OS	Ordnance Survey
RPG	Registered Park and Garden
SM	Scheduled Monument
WB	Watching Brief
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

Periods referred to in the text

Palaeolithic	900,000 to 10,000 BC
Mesolithic	10,000 to 4000 BC
Neolithic	4000 to 2200 BC
Bronze Age	2200 to 800 BC
Iron Age	800 BC to AD 43
Romano-British	AD 43 to 410
Anglo-Saxon	410 to 1066
Medieval	1066 to 1540
Post-medieval	1540 to 1700
18th century	1701 to 1799
19 th century	1801 to 1900
20th century/Modern	1901 to present

Assumptions and Limitations

This report is compiled using secondary information derived from a variety of sources, only some have been directly examined. The assumption is made that this data, as well as that derived from other secondary sources, is reasonably accurate.

1.0 Introduction and Scope

1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Savills (UK) Ltd was commissioned by Kirklees Council – Economy and Infrastructure Service to prepare a Heritage Appraisal to inform a forthcoming Planning Application 2018/94189 Outline application for residential development of up to 366 dwellings with details of access points only Land off Soothill Lane, Batley (hereafter, 'the Site').
- 1.1.2 A desk-based review of national and local heritage datasets, including the National Heritage List for England (NHLE), Heritage Gateway and West Yorkshire HER, and historic maps available online, has been undertaken to provide an understanding of the designated and non-designated heritage assets within the area.
- 1.1.3 Following a summary of the heritage assets, key points to be noted when considering the proposed development scheme are outlined.

1.2 The Site and its wider context

- 1.2.1 The Site is located c.1.6km east of Batley and immediately south of Soothill Lane and east of Mill Forest Way. Batley is 3.1km north of Dewsbury, and 2.7 km from Heckmondwike to the south-east, and Birstall to the north-east.
- 1.2.2 The site comprises 12.2 hectares of pasture land, which is roughly 'U' shaped. The site is within a mixed residential and agricultural area. Agricultural land extends from the southern site boundary to the south and east, and to the west and north-east are large residential areas.
- 1.2.3 An industrial estate is located to the south-east. Figure 1 (below) shows an aerial image of the Site and its landscape surrounds, and Figure 2 shows the red-line boundary.



Figure 1: Aerial view of the Site and its wider environs



Figure 2: Red line boundary of the application site

2.0 Assessment Methodology

2.1 Aims, objectives and scope

2.1.1 The purpose of this Heritage Statement is to determine, as far as is reasonably possible from existing records, an understanding of the historic environment resource in order to provide:

- 1) A heritage baseline assessment to understand the archaeological and historical background to the Site;
- 2) Where susceptible to impact an assessment of the importance/sensitivity of the known or potential heritage assets considering their archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interests; and,
- 3) A preliminary assessment of the impact of the proposed development on the significance of the known heritage assets.

2.2 Assessment Methodology

2.2.1 Local planning authorities require an applicant to provide an assessment of the significance of any heritage assets affected by a proposal, including any contribution made by their setting.

2.2.2 The importance/sensitivity of some heritage assets is formally recognised through designation (Scheduling of a monument, or the Listing of a built structure). The following terminology has been adopted within this assessment for classifying and discussing the historic environment:

- 1) A **Heritage Asset** is a building, monument, site, place; area or landscape identified as meriting consideration in planning decisions because of its heritage interest (NPPF, Annex 2 Glossary);
- 2) The **Setting** of a heritage asset is the surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed, can extend beyond the asset's curtilage and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral (NPPF, Annex 2 Glossary);

- 3) **Significance** (for heritage policy), as defined in the NPPF (Annex 2 Glossary) is used to describe the heritage interest of an asset to this and future generations. This interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives from not only a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting (see **Table 1**).
- 4) **Value** is used in reference to the components of a heritage asset that determines its significance.

2.2.3 Guidance provided by English Heritage (English Heritage, 2008) introduced the concept of values when weighing the significance of heritage assets with reference to the following value criteria (bracketed terms indicate corresponding values identified in NPPF):

- 1) **Evidential** (Archaeological) value. Deriving from the potential of a place to yield evidence about past human activity.
- 2) **Historical** value. Deriving from the ways in which past people, events and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present. It tends to be illustrative or associative.
- 3) **Aesthetic** (Architectural or Artistic) value. Deriving from the ways in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from a place.
- 4) **Communal** value. Deriving from the meanings of a place for the people who relate to it, or for whom it figures in their collective experience or memory. Communal values are closely bound up with historical (particularly associative) and aesthetic values, but tend to have additional and specific aspects.

2.2.4 The criteria for assessing the importance of heritage assets in terms of their evidential, historic, aesthetic and communal values are set out in more detail in Appendix 1 and the definitions of heritage significance and importance are set out in **Table 1**.

Table 1: Definitions of heritage significance/importance

Very High Of International Importance	- World Heritage Sites and the individual attributes that convey their Outstanding Universal Value. - Areas associated with intangible historic activities as evidenced by the register and areas with associations with particular innovations, scientific developments, movements or individuals of global importance.
High Of National Importance	- Scheduled Monuments - Listed Buildings (Grade I, II*) - Registered Historic Parks and Gardens (Grade I, II*). - Grade II Listed Buildings which can be shown to have exceptional qualities in their fabric or historic associations - Registered Battlefields. - Non-designated sites and monuments of schedulable quality and/or importance discovered through the course of assessment, evaluation or mitigation. - Unlisted assets that can be shown to have exceptional qualities or historic association, and may be worthy of listing at Grade II* or above. - Designated and undesignated historic landscapes of outstanding interest, or high quality and importance and of demonstrable national value. - Well-preserved historic landscapes, exhibiting considerable coherence, time-depth or other critical factors.
Medium Of Regional Importance	- Conservation Areas - Grade II Listed Buildings - Grade II Registered Historic Parks and Gardens - Historic townscapes and landscapes with reasonable coherence, time-depth and other critical factor(s). - Unlisted assets that can be shown to have exceptional qualities or historic association, and may be worthy of Grade II listing. - Designated special historic landscapes. - Undesignated historic landscapes that would justify special historic landscape designation, landscapes of regional value. - Averagely well-preserved historic landscapes with reasonable coherence, time-depth or other critical factors. - Archaeological features and deposits of regional importance.
Low Of Local Importance	- Locally Listed Buildings - Sites of Importance within a district level. - Heritage Assets with importance to local interest groups or that contributes to local research objectives - Robust undesignated assets compromised by poor preservation and/or poor contextual associations. - Robust undesignated historic landscapes. - Historic landscapes with importance to local interest groups. - Historic landscapes whose value is limited by poor preservation and/or poor survival of contextual associations.
Negligible	Assets with little or no archaeological, architectural or historical interest

Table 2: Guidelines for the Assessment of Magnitude of Impact

Major	Change to most or all key archaeological materials, such that the resource is totally altered. Comprehensive changes to Setting and consequential impact on significance.	Change to key historic building elements, such that the resource is totally altered. Comprehensive changes to setting and consequential impact on significance.	Change to most or all key historic landscape elements, parcels or components; extreme visual effects; gross change of noise or change to sound quality; fundamental changes to use or access; resulting in total change to historic landscape character unit.
Moderate	Changes to many key Archaeological materials, such that the resource is clearly modified. Considerable changes to setting that affect the character of the asset and impact some aspects of the assets significance.	Change to many key historic building elements, such that the resource is significantly modified. Considerable changes to setting that affect the character of the asset and impact some aspects of the assets significance.	Changes to many key historic landscape elements, parcels or components, visual change to many key aspects of the historic landscape, noticeable differences in noise or sound quality, considerable changes to use or access; resulting in moderate changes to historic landscape character.
Minor	Changes to key archaeological materials, such that the asset is slightly altered but remains understandable. Slight changes to setting that are tangible but without clear impact on significance.	Change to key historic building elements, such that the asset is slightly different but remains appreciable. Change to setting of an historic building, such that it is noticeably changed but without clear impact on significance.	Changes to few key historic landscape elements, parcels or components, slight visual changes to few key aspects of historic landscape, limited changes to noise levels or sound quality; slight changes to use or access: resulting in limited changes to historic landscape character.
Negligible	Very minor changes to archaeological materials, or setting without any consequential effect on significance.	Slight changes to historic buildings elements or setting without any consequential effect on significance.	Very minor changes to key historic landscape elements, parcels or components, virtually unchanged visual effects, very slight changes in noise levels or sound quality; very slight changes to use or access; resulting in a very small change to historic landscape character.
No change	No change	No Change	No change to elements, parcels or components; no visual or audible changes; no changes arising from in amenity or community factors.

2.3 Historical and Archaeological Baseline

2.3.1 Baseline conditions were established through consideration of all recorded heritage assets within a 250m study area buffered from the Site and a desk-based review of existing sources of publicly accessible primary and synthesised information, comprising:

- 1) National heritage datasets including The National Heritage List for England (NHLE), Images of England, PastScape, Viewfinder, NMR Excavation Index, and Parks and Gardens UK;
- 2) West Yorkshire Historic Environment Record (HER); and
- 3) Historic manuscripts and maps available online.

2.3.2 A consideration of setting is given to all identified heritage assets, particularly those situated within close proximity to the Site, in accordance with Historic England guidance (March 2015) as outlined above.

2.3.3 As designated heritage assets are considered more sensitive to change, the potential effects, particularly complex or cumulative changes resulting from the development of the Site, have been considered for a distance of up to 250m. It is recognised that the 250m study area creates an arbitrary line within which to consider effects and so the topography, elevation and landform around the Site was also considered in order to adjust/augment this study boundary as and where deemed necessary.

2.3.4 A bibliography of documentary, archive, and cartographic sources consulted is included in the **References** section of this report.

2.4 Compliance

2.4.1 This document has been prepared in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF; (Department for Communities and Local Government, February 2019), National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG; (Department for Communities and Local Government, 2014), and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for desk-based assessment (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, December 2014).

3.0 Legislation and Planning Policy

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 There is national legislation and guidance relating to the protection of, and development on, or near, important archaeological sites or historical buildings within planning regulations as defined under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. In addition, local authorities are responsible for the protection of the historic environment within the planning system.

3.2 Legislation

Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953

- 3.2.1 Historic England (formerly English Heritage) is enabled by the Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953 (as amended) to maintain a register of parks, gardens and battlefield sites which appear to Historic England to be of special historic interest. Registration in this way makes the effect of proposed development on the sites and their settings a material consideration. Historic England is a statutory consultee in relation to works affecting Grade I/II* Registered Parks and Gardens and Registered Battlefields.

Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979

- 3.2.2 Scheduled Monuments and Areas of Archaeological Interest are afforded statutory protection under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (as amended) and the consent of the Secretary of State (Department of Culture, Media and Sport), as advised by Historic England, is required for any works affecting a scheduled monument. Historic England is a statutory consultee in relation to schemes which may directly or indirectly affect a scheduled monument.

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990

- 3.2.3 Works affecting Listed Buildings or structures and Conservation Areas are subject to additional planning controls administered by LPAs under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
- 3.2.4 In considering development which affects a Listed Building or its setting, the LPA shall have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses (Section 66).

3.2.5 The statutory criteria for listing are the special architectural or historic interest of a building. Buildings on the list are graded to reflect their relative architectural and historic interest (DCMS, 2010a, para 7, page 4):

- Grade I: Buildings of exceptional interest;
- Grade II*: Particularly important buildings of more than special interest;
- Grade II: Buildings of special interest which warrant every effort being made to preserve them.

3.2.6 Historic England is a statutory consultee in relation to works affecting Grade I/II* Listed Buildings.

Hedgerow Regulations 1997

3.2.7 Under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997, as amended by The Hedgerows (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2002, hedgerows are deemed to be historically important if they are over 30 years old and either: incorporate, or are associated with, a Scheduled archaeological feature or site; mark the boundary of a pre-1600 estate or manor recorded at the relevant date in a Sites and Monuments Record; or forms an integral part of a pre-1845 field system.

3.3 National Planning Policy Framework (February 2019)

3.3.1 Section 16 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the Government's current planning policy in relation to conserving and enhancing the historic environment. The key requirements are summarised below.

3.3.2 Applicants are required to provide proportionate information on the significance of designated and non-designated heritage assets affected by the proposals and an impact assessment of the proposed development on that significance. This should be in the form of a desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation (NPPF, para. 189).

3.3.3 LPAs are required to take into account the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation; the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring; the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a

place (NPPF, para. 192).

3.3.4 In determining planning applications, great weight should be given to the conservation of designated heritage assets - World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields, Protected Military Remains or Conservation Areas - designated under the relevant legislation. Substantial harm to or loss of such designated heritage assets should be wholly exceptional (NPPF, paras. 193/ 194).

3.3.5 Where a proposed development will lead to substantial harm or total loss of significance of a designated heritage asset, LPAs should refuse consent unless it can be demonstrated that the substantial harm or loss is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that outweigh that harm or loss (NPPF, para. 195).

3.3.6 In weighing applications that affect directly or indirectly the significance of a non-designated heritage asset, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset (NPPF, para. 197).

3.4 Local Planning Policy Context

3.4.1 The Kirkless Local Plan was adopted in February 2019. The Local Plan sets out the council's planning vision for the district, delivering growth, jobs, homes, facilities and environmental protection. The following policies are of relevance to the Site:

Policy LP35: Historic environment

1. Development proposals affecting a designated heritage asset (or an archaeological site of national importance) should preserve or enhance the significance of the asset. In cases likely to result in substantial harm or loss, development will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that the proposals would bring substantial public benefits that clearly outweigh the harm, or all of the following are met:

- a. the nature of the heritage asset prevents all reasonable uses of the site;*
- b. no viable use of the heritage asset itself can be found in the medium term through appropriate marketing that will enable its conservation;*
- c. conservation by grant-funding or some form of charitable or public ownership is demonstrably not possible; and*
- d. the harm or loss is outweighed by the benefit of bringing the site back into use.*

2. Proposals which would remove, harm or undermine the significance of a non-designated heritage

asset, or its contribution to the character of a place will be permitted only where benefits of the development outweigh the harm having regard to the scale of the harm and the significance of the heritage asset. In the case of developments affecting archaeological sites of less than national importance where development affecting such sites is acceptable in principle, mitigation of damage will be ensured through preservation of the remains in situ as a preferred solution. When in situ preservation is not justified, the developer will be required to make adequate provision for excavation and recording before or during development.

3. Proposals should retain those elements of the historic environment which contribute to the distinct identity of the Kirklees area and ensure they are appropriately conserved, to the extent warranted by their significance, also having regard to the wider benefits of development. Consideration should be given to the need to:

- a. ensure that proposals maintain and reinforce local distinctiveness and conserve the significance of designated and non-designated heritage assets;*
- b. ensure that proposals within Conservation Areas conserve those elements which contribute to their significance;*
- c. secure a sustainable future for heritage assets at risk and those associated with the local textile industry, historic farm buildings, places of worship and civic and institutional buildings constructed on the back of the wealth created by the textile industry as expressions of local civic pride and identity;*
- d. identify opportunities, including use of new technologies, to mitigate, and adapt to, the effects of climate change in ways that do not harm the significance of heritage assets and, where conflict is unavoidable, to balance the public benefit of climate change mitigation measures with the harm caused to the heritage assets' significance;*
- e. accommodate innovative design where this does not prejudice the significance of heritage assets;*
- f. preserve the setting of Castle Hill where appropriate and proposals which detrimentally impact on the setting of Castle Hill will not be permitted*

4.0 Land at Soothill Lane: Archaeological and Historical Background

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The following section provides a baseline summary of the archaeological background and historical development of the Site and its immediate environs, and is compiled from the sources listed in the methodology described above (Section 2).

4.1.2 The aim of this section of the report is to establish the nature and extent of any known heritage assets within and immediately surrounding the Site that could be affected by the development to provide the baseline conditions upon which any potential impact is assessed. Should any heritage assets be considered susceptible to impact a further assessment of their significance (and the contribution made by their settings) will follow.

4.2 Archaeological and Historical background

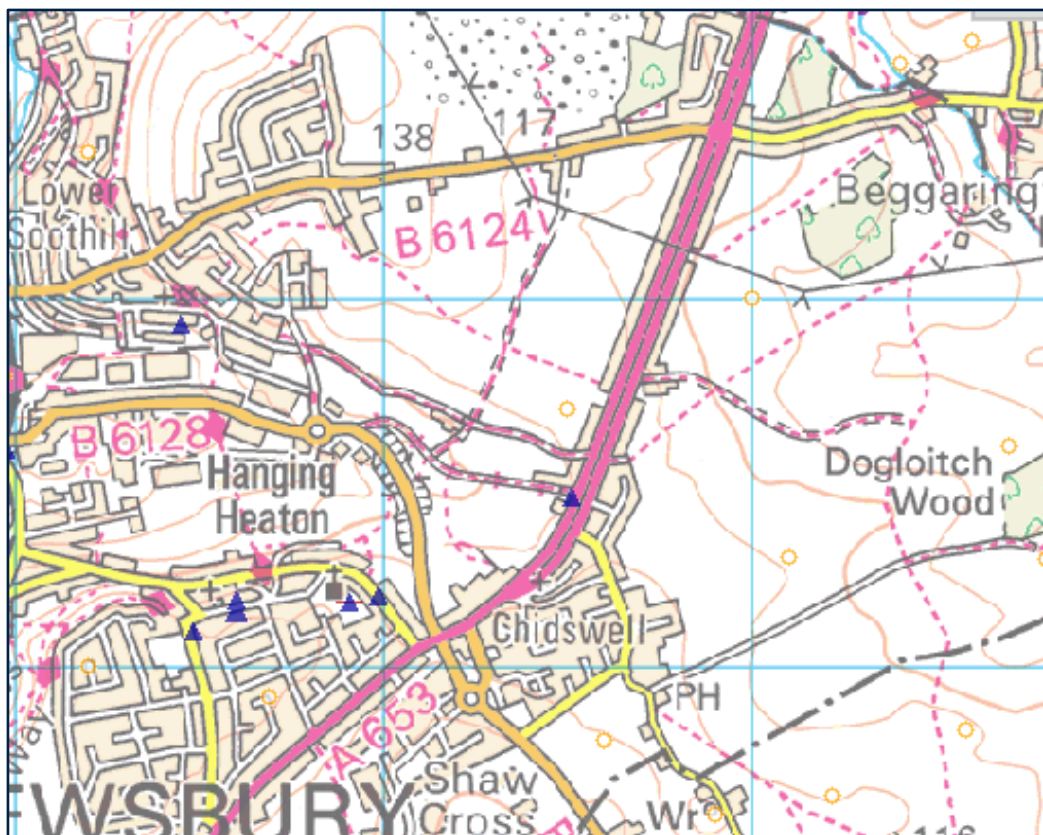


Figure 3: Heritage assets and events surrounding the Site (after Heritage Gateway)

Previous Archaeological Investigations

- 4.2.1 There are no previous archaeological investigations recorded on the within or immediately surrounding the Site which would provide any further indication of the Site's archaeological potential. However, geophysical survey undertaken in 1998 by GSB Prospection at Windsor Farm (noted under PRN 4544) identified a previously unknown ring ditch related to the earlier field systems.
- 4.2.2 Archaeological Recording was undertaken by Wessex Archaeology (2012) on behalf of Kirklees Council at Batley Parish Church, however no data of relevance to this application was identified.

Designated Heritage Assets

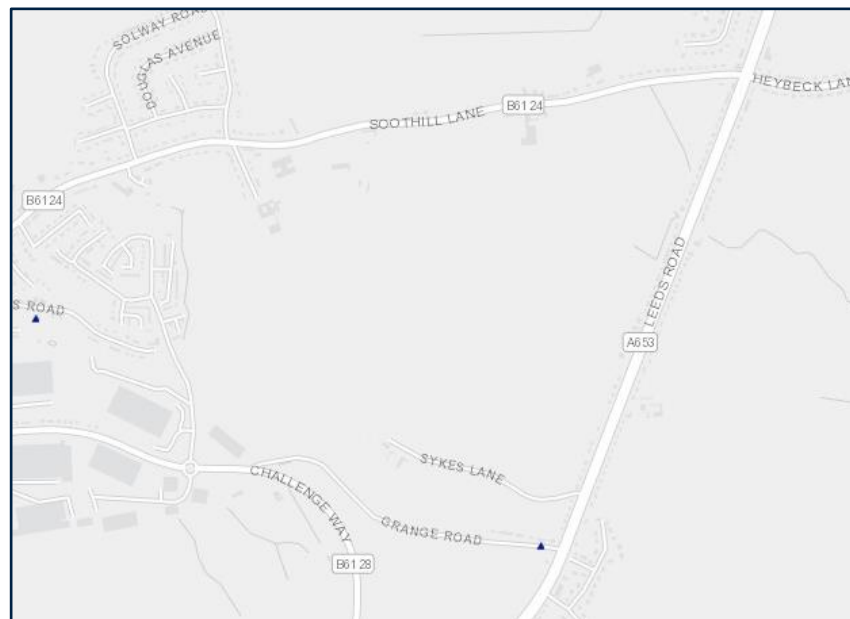


Figure 4: Designated heritage assets within the vicinity of the Site (after Historic England)

- 4.2.3 There are only two designated heritage assets within proximity of the Site, and none within the Site itself (Figure 4).
- 4.2.4 The two nearby assets comprise a Grade II Listed Toll Gate to the south of the Site, situated along Grange Road, and a Grade II Listed building at No. 110, situated off Oaks Road to the west.
- 4.2.5 Given the intervening built form and topography (Figures 5 and 6), which prevents any direct intervisibility, and the nature of the heritage assets themselves, neither of these designated assets are

considered to be susceptible to direct or indirect impacts by the proposals and no consequential change is posed to their settings or significance.



Figure 5: View south-west across the Site

Non-designated heritage assets

- 4.2.6 There are no recorded non-designated heritage assets within the Site itself.
- 4.2.7 There is one non-designated heritage asset recorded immediately adjacent to the Site to the east (Figure 3). The record (Ref: 4060) refers to crop marks recorded through aerial imagery which appear to be indicative of two linear ditches which potentially pertain to a pre-modern field system.
- 4.2.8 Further to the south and east a series of crop marks are recorded, which refer to potential earlier field systems as possible prehistoric enclosure sites (PRN 4542, 4543, 1510, 9019), as well as a sub-rectangular enclosure and probable ring-ditch confirmed through geophysical survey (PRN 4544, noted in 4.2.1).

- 4.2.9 Following the assessment of the existing historic environment record, the archaeological potential of the Site is therefore considered to moderate, given the evidence attested in the surrounding area for prehistoric through to medieval archaeological remains.



Figure 6: View south-east across the Site

Historic Mapping

- 4.2.10 Historic map progression (Figures 7 – 10) shows that Soothill underwent substantial development between the mid-1800s and mid-1900s. Despite the growth of the adjacent residential and industrial areas, the Site itself, has remained remarkably unaltered throughout this century of development.
- 4.2.11 A number of previously unrecorded features pertaining to its industrial past are evidenced on the mapping. The 1st Edition Ordnance Survey in 1854 indicates the presence of coal pits and quarries beyond the boundary of the Site (to the north and south-west), but which may be indicative of other potential post-medieval industrial remains being present, albeit unmapped.



Figure 7: Extract from the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Yorkshire 232, Surveyed: 1847 to 1851, Published: 1854

4.2.12 The later 2nd Edition Ordnance Surveys, and the subsequent revisions from 1895 onwards, show increasing development around the sites periphery, and the growth of the earlier Manor House (1854) into Croft House (1895) and later Soothill House (1949). The Site itself and the majority of the field boundaries within it remain unaltered.

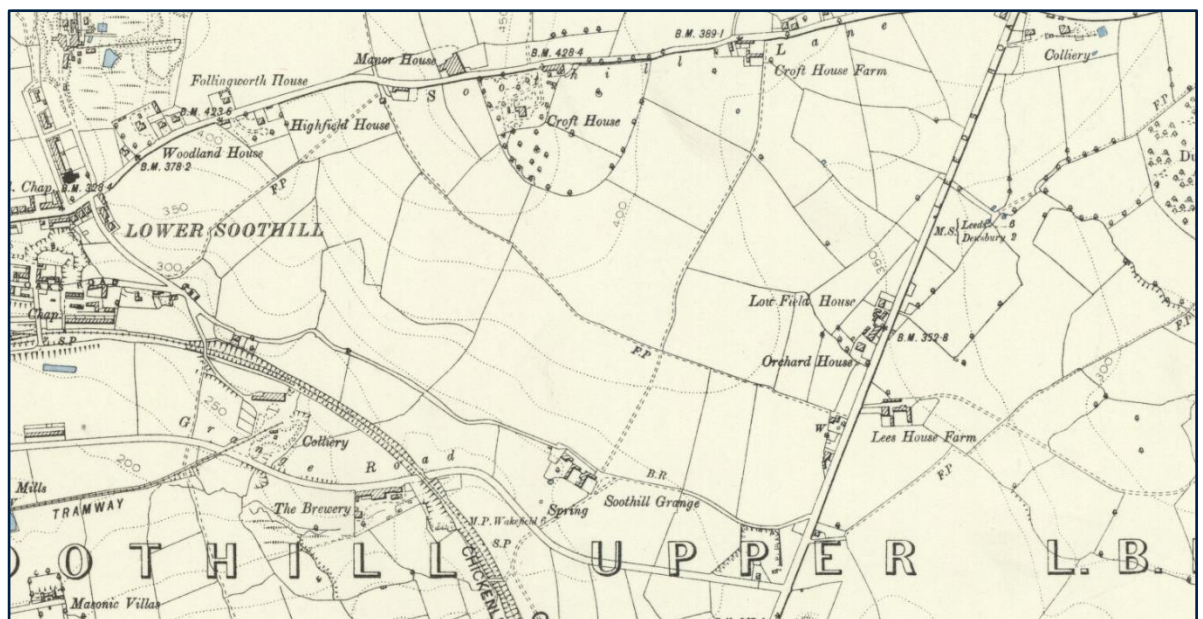


Figure 8: Extract from the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey, Yorkshire CCXXXII.SE, Surveyed: 1888 to 1892, Published: 1895

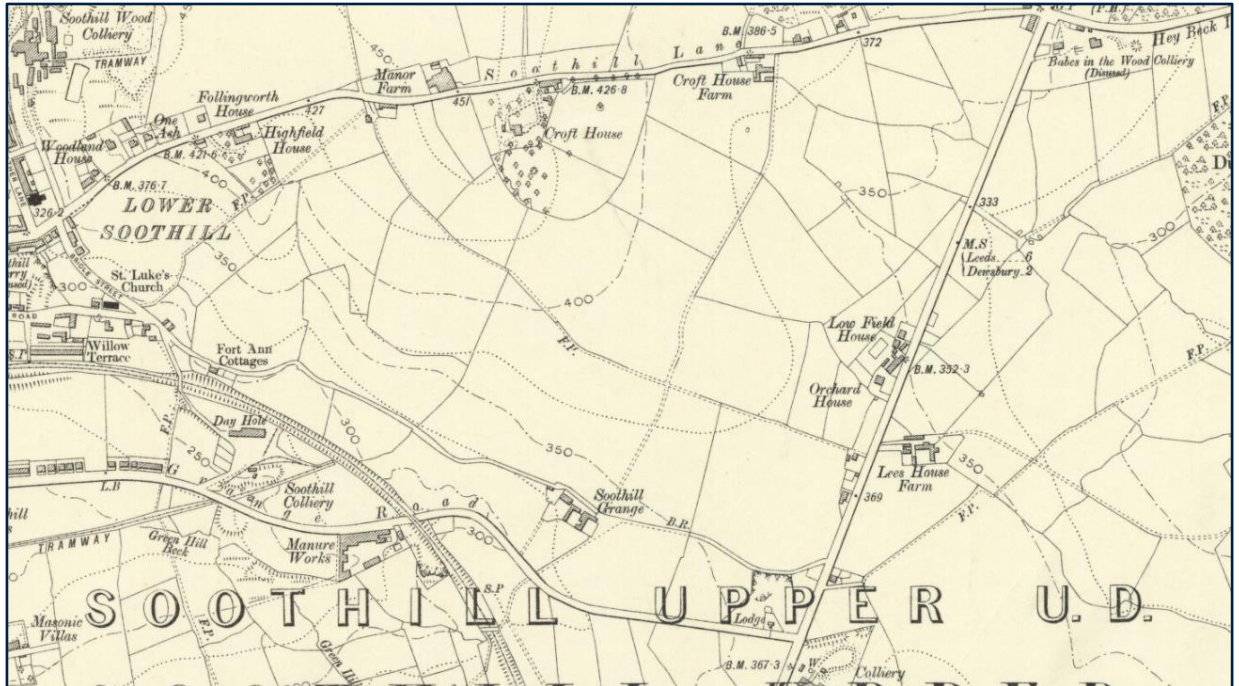


Figure 9: Extract from the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey, Yorkshire CCXXXII.SE, Revised: 1905, Published: 1908

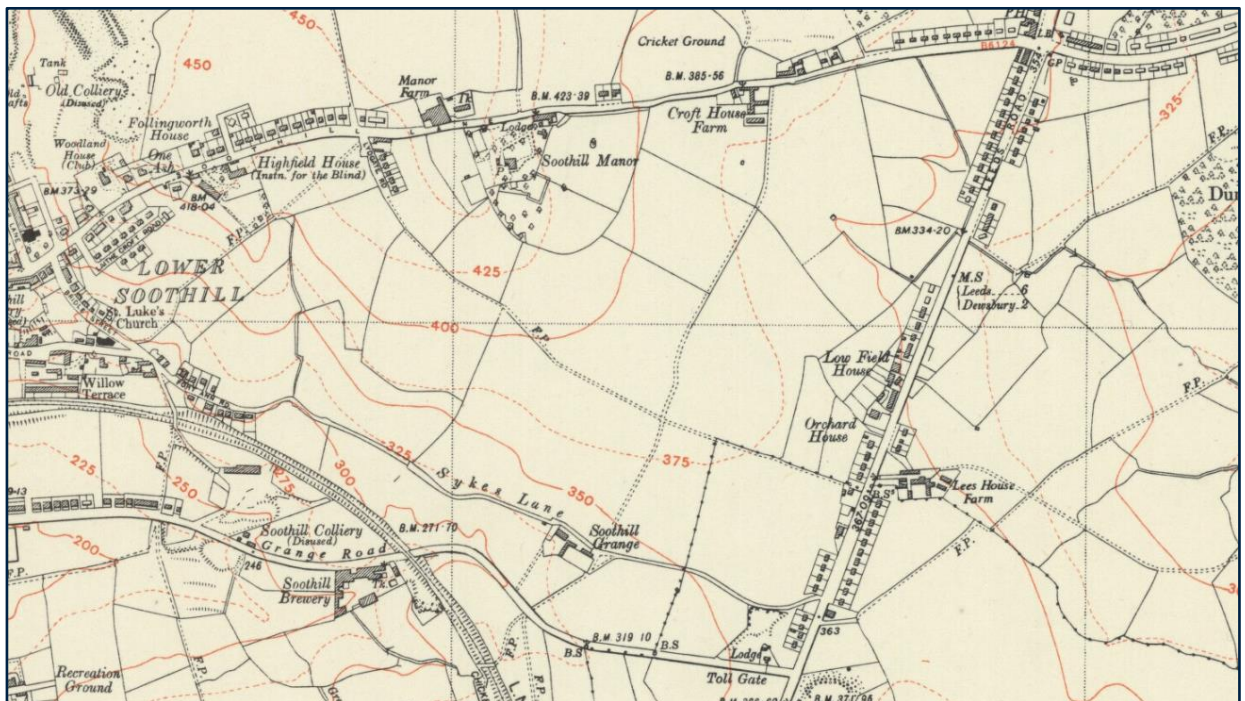


Figure 10: Extract from the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey, Yorkshire CCXXXII.SE, Revised: 1948, Published: 1949

5.0 Impact Assessment

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 The management and mitigation of change to the heritage resource resulting from development is based on the recognition within Government planning objectives that “...*heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource*...” (NPPF para. 184). Impacts to the historic environment and its associated heritage assets arise where changes are made to their physical environment by means of the loss and/or degradation of their physical fabric or setting, which in turn leads to a reduction in the significance of the historic environment record and its associated heritage assets.
- 5.1.2 The following section outlines the proposed development and whether this would affect the significance of the designated and non-designated heritage assets outlined in Section 4.

5.2 Proposed development

- 5.2.1 The development principally comprises an outline application for:
- Up to 366 dwellings; and,
 - Access off Soothill Lane.
- 5.2.2 The application was submitted in outline form and a resolution to grant permission has been secured at planning committee. Therefore layout, scale, appearance and landscaping constitute the reserved matters.

5.3 Assessment of Impact

- 5.3.1 No designated heritage assets were identified during the assessment which are considered susceptible to direct or indirect impacts by the proposals. No heritage assets were identified for which settings impact assessment was deemed necessary.
- 5.3.2 The intrusive nature of the groundworks associated with residential development are sufficient to damage or destroy any previously unrecorded remains, and therefore the archaeological potential of the site is considered to be the overriding heritage constraint requiring mitigation.

- 5.3.3 The archaeological potential of the Site has been found to be moderate, and crop marks in adjacent fields (some of which have been confirmed to be of archaeological origin by geophysical survey) provide a sound indication that the area possesses the potential for hitherto unrecorded buried archaeological remains to be present.
- 5.3.4 The historic map progression showed relatively little change and no substantial development from c.1850 onwards within the site itself, and would suggest that there is therefore potential for previously undisturbed archaeological remains to be present.
- 5.3.5 While it is not possible to ascertain the level of significance of any buried archaeological remains (if and where present within the site) it is considered that if identified they would be of at least low and potentially of moderate significance should they relate to prehistoric periods, for which there is currently a very limited record.
- 5.3.6 Given the growth of industrial activity within the area throughout the 19th and 20th centuries it is also possible that archaeological remains relating to this activity may be present within the site. Historic map progression did not identify specific features within the site itself, but confirmed their presence immediately beyond its boundaries.
- 5.3.7 Geophysical survey would be required in order to confirm or deny the potential indicated by the desk-based assessment and would provide an indication of the most sensitive areas (if any) within the site, the likelihood of significant archaeological features, and their extent.
- 5.3.8 Pending the outcome of geophysical survey, additional archaeological monitoring during groundworks may be required in order to mitigate any further potential impact, however, the scope of any required programme of archaeological works should be agreed in advance through an approved Written Scheme of Investigation in consultation with the Local Authorities County Archaeologist.

6.0 References

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Available at: <https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/setting-heritage-assets/>

Appendix 1: Summary of factors for determining the importance of known and potential heritage assets

Summary of factors for determining the importance of known and potential heritage assets

Value	Importance	Factors determining the relative importance
Evidential	High	There is a high potential for the heritage assets to provide evidence about past human activity and to contribute to our understanding of the past. This potential relates to archaeological sites that are likely to survive (both below and above ground) and, in the absence of written records, provide the only source of evidence about the past, resulting in enhanced understanding of the development of the area. It also relates to other physical remains of past human activity, such as historic fabric within buildings and surviving elements in the historic landscape which contribute to its historic character.
	Medium	The potential for heritage assets to yield physical evidence contributing to the understanding of the development of the area is recognised, but there may be fewer opportunities for new insights to be deduced due to the nature of the heritage assets in question, our knowledge of the past of the area or subsequent changes to the development of the area throughout history. The potential for archaeological deposits to contribute to an understanding of the development of area may not be fully recognised due to the current level of understanding of the local and regional history. The potential may also be impacted, in a limited way, by later development.
	Low	The physical remains are preserved in a limited way – limited assets survive, very few are recorded or assets are known to have been partially or significantly damaged. Low evidential value of archaeological deposits may be affected by the current lack of research within the area, but this does not preclude for further remains of higher value to be discovered.
	None	There are no surviving physical remains from which evidence about past human activity could be derived (assets are known to have been removed or destroyed by later activity)
Historical	High	The legible heritage assets are clearly perceptible in the landscape/townscape and the links between the assets and the history or prehistory of the area (illustrative value) or to historical events or figures associated with the area (associative value) are easily visible and understandable. The high value is not precluded by some degree of the 20th/21st century alterations to the historic buildings and landscapes.
	Medium	The legible heritage assets are present in the area, but their legibility may have been compromised by some form of alteration to the asset or its surroundings (i.e. rural parish church now situated within a suburban residential development). Even in their present form, such assets enable the local community to visualise the development of the area over time as there are potential associations between assets. The presence of these assets may contribute to an understanding of the development of the area. Further research, including archaeological investigations, may clarify these associations and elucidate the contribution of these assets to the history of the wider area.
	Low	The historical associations of the asset are not clearly understood, as a result of severe changes to the asset or its surroundings

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Archaeological Desk-based Assessment



Value	Importance	Factors determining the relative importance
	None	There are no legible heritage assets and their associations are not understood.
Aesthetic	High	The aesthetic values of the heritage assets are visually perceptible within sympathetic surroundings, developed through conscious design or fortuitously, throughout prehistory and history. The completeness or integrity of the heritage assets within the landscape is clear and their contribution to the aesthetics of the surrounding area is significant.
	Medium	The aesthetic qualities of the individual assets or landscapes are legible, but there may have been considerably impacted upon by the modern, unsympathetic development.
	Low	The aesthetic qualities of the individual assets or landscapes have been significantly impacted upon by the modern development as a result of which the aesthetic value is not clear, however, there may be a possibility for improvement.
	None	Assets have no aesthetic values as they have been removed by inconsiderate modern development. Buried archaeological remains are not ascribed aesthetic values as, whilst buried, they are not visible/perceptible in their context.
Communal	High	Heritage assets which provide a sense of togetherness for those who experience it. Assets that hold the ability for people to feel a sense of collective experience or memory, and in which a collective identity can be understood. They may provide a feeling of reverence, remembrance or commemoration. The asset represents something which may be larger than the asset itself, and may represent an event or being despite any loss of fabric or character of the asset.
	Medium	The sense of a collective identity or collective commemoration may be limited by the lack of understanding of the event or asset. The process of time has lessened the meaning of the event or asset for the community or that meaning may be limited to specific groups or at a regional or local level.
	Low	The ability of the asset to create or reinforce a sense of togetherness for a community may be limited by later development which has encroached upon the asset or its setting. The ability of the asset to elicit a shared reaction or understanding has been severely impacted by the loss of, or major change to, the setting of the asset.
	None	Heritage assets that do not bring people together by providing a shared experience, memory or place of commemoration.

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Heritage Appraisal



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