

## **9.0 ARCHAEOLOGY & CULTURAL HERITAGE**

### **9.1 Introduction**

9.1.1 This ES Addendum chapter updates the ES for archaeology and cultural heritage issues arising from the revisions to the development proposals as shown in the Revised Application Master Plan (Figure 4.1; the 'revised masterplan'), and changes to the baseline environmental conditions arising from additional survey work undertaken since submission of the ES in January 2007.

9.1.2 It details additional baseline information not available in 2007, and describes changes to the impacts assessed in the ES resulting from the updated baseline conditions and the revised development proposals. It also responds to requests for clarification and additional information made following review of the 2007 ES, and other comments on the ES made by WNDC, DDC and consultees. As details are not included in this Addendum where previously-identified impacts are unchanged by the revised masterplan and baseline conditions, this Addendum chapter should be read in conjunction with ES Chapter 9.

### **9.2 Methodology**

9.2.1 Preparation of the submitted ES Chapter involved establishment of baseline conditions from desk-based research collating information held in Northamptonshire's historic environment record, documentary and cartographic research; an aerial photographic assessment; and additional site data obtained from a programme of geophysical survey. The effects of the proposed development on these baseline conditions were assessed with regard to the identified potential of the site, the relative importance of monuments and remains, and the scale or magnitude of the development effect on these resources (ES Chapter 9 paragraphs 9.2.3 – 9.2.8).

9.2.2 For the current ES Addendum the baseline conditions were reviewed and re-established to take account of any new information added to the county's historic environment record and the results of additional geophysical survey work undertaken in the north-west part of the site in Autumn 2008. The previous assessment of development impacts and their significance was reviewed against both the updated baseline conditions and the amended development

proposals to identify any significant changes to the previously-identified impacts and any additional impacts, and to assess their significance.

9.2.3 The county's historic environment record, the Northamptonshire Sites and Monuments Record, was consulted in November 2008 to establish whether additional archaeological monuments had been identified within the site since the original desk-based research was undertaken for the ES, or significant new information had been added for existing monuments or sites.

9.2.4 Additional geophysical survey was undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology in October 2008 of previously un-surveyed areas along the north-west side of the site. The additional survey was commissioned, in order to provide additional clarification of the potential and baseline conditions in this part of the site, following the request by WNDC for further information in response to the ES on the extent of original survey, and also the discovery of previously un-known archaeological remains on the adjacent Monksmoor development site. The survey methodology previously employed in 2005 was not reprised for the new survey following publication of revised methodological guidance from English Heritage (*Geophysical Survey in Archaeological Field Evaluation* published 2008).

9.2.5 The additional survey methodology involved ten large blocks of detailed magnetometer survey, located to allow examination of each of the land parcels in this part of the site. A total of 27ha of additional survey was carried out. Within each survey block, detailed magnetometer survey was undertaken using Bartington Grad601-2 fluxgate gradiometers. All fieldwork was carried out in accordance with English Heritage and Institute for Archaeologists (IFA) Guidelines. The survey methodology was discussed and agreed with Entec (*emails from CgMs to Entec, dated 24 October 2008*), in their role as advisors to WNDC on the archaeological issues of the Church Fields planning application. Details of the survey and analysis methods are provided in the full geophysical survey report (included as **Appendix 9.4** to the current ES Addendum).

### 9.3 Baseline Conditions

9.3.1 Review of update information provided by the county's historic environment record did not identify any new archaeological sites or monuments that had been added within the site since the desk-based research was undertaken for the existing ES. The baseline conditions

described in the *History and Archaeological Background* section of the ES (Chapter 9, Section 9.3; paragraphs 9.3.4 – 9.3.20) do not require significant revision or amendment, although the possible link between the Roman enclosures and buildings identified adjacent to the A5 in Area 2 (see **Figure 9.2**) and the Roman Town of *Bannaventa* to the south should be noted, with Area 2 forming part of an outer zone of ribbon development extending north from *Bannaventa* along Watling Street (the modern A5).

9.3.2 No additional Scheduled Monuments or Listed Buildings have been designated within the site, and no amendments to the adjacent Grand Union Canal Conservation Area are recorded. It is however noted that at the time this ES Addendum was prepared (November 2008), Daventry District Council were in the process of consulting on the designation of a new Conservation Area at Daventry Reservoir, immediately west of the site.

9.3.3 The additional geophysical survey carried out in the (previously-unsurveyed) north-west part of the site confirms earlier indications that no extensive areas of buried archaeological remains exist in this part of the site. Localised areas of archaeological potential were identified along the north-west margins of the site, immediately adjacent to the Daventry Reservoir and Country Park, a few other isolated anomalies were recorded in areas further to the northeast. The new additional areas of archaeological potential, and the previously identified areas, are indicated on **Figure 9.2**. The additional areas are described below; descriptions of the original nine areas of archaeological potential are provided in ES Chapter 9, Section 9.3; paragraphs 9.3.22 – 9.3.30, and are unchanged. The full results of the additional geophysical survey form **Appendix 9.4** to the current ES Addendum.

9.3.4 Area 10 contains a group of two or three adjoining rectangular enclosures along the western periphery of the site, with evidence for a possible roundhouse in the westernmost enclosure; a number of pit-type anomalies were identified to the east of the enclosures. The features are likely to represent remains of a small late prehistoric or Roman period settlement. The remains are considered to be of District importance. Part of a further, larger, enclosure or field boundary ditch is recorded to the east of this area, which may be associated with the ditch recorded in the adjacent Area 12.

9.3.5 Area 11 contains part of a probable pit alignment, a prehistoric form of land division typically dating from the late Bronze Age or early Iron Age in Northamptonshire. The pit alignment runs east-west from the edge of Daventry reservoir into the site. The remains are

considered to be of District importance. A large curved ditch-type linear anomaly was also recorded in Area 11 and the area to the south-west following the western edge of the site. Although the interpretation of this ditch-type feature cannot be confirmed and an early date of construction cannot be entirely ruled out, its location immediately adjacent to the modern field edge and its route following the edge of the field and the adjacent Daventry reservoir suggest that it may be a field boundary or infilled field ditch of nineteenth century or later date (i.e. post-dating construction of the reservoir in 1804). Such remains would be of Local importance at most. Should an earlier origin for this feature be established, its significance as an archaeological feature might increase to District importance.

9.3.6 Area 12 contains a single straight ditch-type anomaly that appears to be of archaeological origin. From the data available it may represent a former field boundary of uncertain date, and should be considered of Local importance.

9.3.7 Area 13 also contains a single ditch-type anomaly. As with the similar feature in Area 12, this feature is likely to be of Local importance.

9.3.8 In summary, review of the earlier desk-based research and the additional geophysical survey have not resulted in significant revision to the baseline archaeological and cultural heritage conditions established in the 2007 ES. No revisions or alterations are required to the previously-described conditions across the major part of the site; the additional geophysical survey has identified two additional small archaeological sites of District importance on the north-west margins of the site, and two further areas of lesser, Local, importance.

## 9.4 Impacts of the Proposed Development

9.4.1 This section of the Addendum chapter details *revisions* to the development's impacts identified in the ES Chapter. It identifies additional direct or indirect impacts resulting from revisions to the masterplan and the updated baseline conditions; it also considers situations where the magnitude of previously-identified impacts has been significantly altered as a result of the revisions. Additional clarification and information is also provided on a number of previously-identified impacts in response to the request for further information made by WNDC and Entec following submission and review of the ES.

*Relocation of formal playing fields north of the realigned B4036*

- 9.4.2 Relocation of the formal playing fields west of the proposed realigned B4036 – identified as a key amendment in the revised masterplan, and retention of the area south of the B4036 in its current agricultural use, will remove potential development impacts on any buried archaeological remains that might be present in this area south-east of Areas 5, 7 and 8. (REVISED - REDUCED - IMPACT)

*Landscaping and water detention basins along the north-west side of the site*

- 9.4.3 Construction of landscaping and drainage features (detention basins) along the north-west side of the site may impact on the buried archaeological remains identified in Area 10 and Area 11. With reference to the criteria set out in the ES Chapter, this would be a moderate adverse impact if mitigation was not provided. The other archaeological features identified in Area 12 and Area 13 will also be affected by this part of the development, resulting in an adverse impact of minor significance. (ADDITIONAL IMPACTS).

*Relocation of Primary school south of District Centre: Impact on setting of Borough Hill SAM*

- 9.4.4 Relocation of the proposed primary school and housing development in the area north of the re-aligned B4036 and south-west of Open Space 10 (OS10; see Figure 4.8), will result in changes to the nature and appearance of this part of the setting of Borough Hill SAM. The ES identified limited built development on the lower slopes of the hill on which the monument is situated and assessed the potential impact of this on the setting of the monument with regard to the ‘amber constraint’ and ‘yellow constraint’ zones previously defined for Daventry District Council (ES Chapter 9 paragraphs 9.4.1- 9.4.2, ES Figure 9.1). The revised masterplan removes the previously proposed residential built development from the ‘amber constraint’ area (i.e. ‘area unsuitable for large-scale development’) around Borough Hill SAM. The relocated primary school site lies partly within the ‘amber constraint’ zone, but the school buildings are located outside the ‘amber constraint’ zone and the parts of the school site within the constraint zone are proposed for open space playing fields. These revisions, in conjunction with the adjacent secondary school playing fields to the north-east, will have the effect of removing residential development from the areas of highest constraint closest to the SAM.

9.4.5 The extent of built development within the wider 'yellow constraint' area to the north of Borough Hill (i.e. area 'capable of accommodating development subject to mitigation') is unchanged by the revisions to the masterplan. The relocation of school and residential development will reduce the extent of new built development in the areas closest to the Scheduled Ancient Monument. The impact of new development within the amber and yellow constraint areas on the setting of the monument has been reduced to a degree by the revisions to the masterplan, but the impact should still be considered to have a moderate significant negative impact on this part of the setting of the monument, subject to appropriate mitigation measures (SLIGHTLY REDUCED IMPACT).

*Cumulative effects of development on the setting of Borough Hill SAM*

9.4.6 The effects of the Church Fields development on the northern part of the SAM's setting are assessed above (9.4.4 – 9.4.5).

9.4.7 The Danetree ES's Cultural Heritage & Archaeology chapter (Chapter C) includes assessment of the development determining it as 'not significant'; further discussion of the impact on Borough Hill as a landscape feature is provided in the Landscape & Visual Assessment chapter, where significant changes in the open countryside character of land east of Borough Hill are identified (Danetree ES Chapter I, para 4.2); the changes in views down in an eastward direction from the eastern side of the hill (View Point 27) are described as being significant (para 4.47). The Danetree development includes extensive open green space around the lower slopes of the hill, retaining a separation between the new development and the Scheduled Monument; effects on the setting of the monument are proposed to be further reduced by landscape planting. Potential effects on longer-distance views from the monument are not explicitly covered.

9.4.8 The Monksmoor ES does not include any assessment of the proposals' effects on the SAM; in view of the development site's location in relation to Borough Hill, the effect on the visual setting of the SAM will be negligible.

9.4.9 Cumulative effects of the three developments on the setting of the monument will be more related to perception of the monument's surroundings (i.e. views out from the monument itself) rather than views of the hilltop location of the monument itself. There is potentially adverse effect on the character of views from the SAM as a result of loss of its open

countryside setting to north and east, adding to the existing urban character of land to the west (i.e. Daventry).

- 9.4.10 Cumulatively, development will potentially result in loss of surviving buried archaeological remains of settlement and the immediate landscape contemporary with construction and use of the hillfort SAM. The impact of this loss is however mitigated by the increase in understanding of this landscape that would result from archaeological investigations in advance of development. (UNCHANGED IMPACT)

*Cumulative effects on the setting of the Grand Union Canal Conservation Area*

- 9.4.11 Chapter 9 of the ES provides an assessment of the likely effects of the Church Fields development on the adjacent Conservation Area, (ES Chapter 9, para 9.4.9). This considers the changes in setting as having a Moderate adverse effect, reducing to Minor adverse as proposed mitigation parkland landscaping matures.
- 9.4.12 The setting of the Conservation Area is not addressed within the Archaeology & Cultural Heritage chapter of the Monksmoor ES, although some consideration of the visual impact is provided in the Landscape & Visual Impact chapter (Chapter 9). This chapter notes (para 6.92) that the Conservation Area has no significant impact on the character of the Monksmoor development site due to the effective existing buffer created by trees and the canalside embankments. The embankment and vegetation alongside the canal separates much of the canal from the Monksmoor development. The Monksmoor ES recognised that the Monksmoor development would have an impact on the canal at the north-eastern corner of the site (i.e. the area closest to the Church Fields site) where views will be possible into the development site.
- 9.4.13 Development at the Danetree site, more than 1.5km to the south, will not have an effect on the Conservation Area's setting.
- 9.4.14 Cumulatively the Church Fields and adjacent Monksmoor developments will lead to changes to the character and use of land south of the canal Conservation Area over a distance of around 1.6km. The existing buffer and embankments present between much of the Monksmoor site and the Conservation Area reduce the area in which visible changes to the Conservation Area's setting would be apparent to approximately 1km, principally lying

within the areas adjacent to the Church Fields site. The cumulative visual effect of the two developments will be only slightly different to the effects of the Church Fields site in isolation, and can be considered to be a moderate adverse effect reducing to a minor adverse effect as the proposed mitigation planting matures. (UNCHANGED IMPACT)

*Other revisions to masterplan*

- 9.4.15 Other impacts identified in the ES, both direct and indirect, are not significantly affected by the revisions to the masterplan and baseline conditions. Improvements to the A5 / B4036 junction may be required in the future and the area is safeguarded within the current application, although junction improvement works do not form part of the current application. If/when these improvements are required, that development scheme will be designed to minimise the impact on surviving buried remains as far as possible, and to ensure archaeological excavation and recording of remains where physical preservation in situ cannot be achieved.

*Potential impact on setting of potential future Daventry Reservoir Conservation Area*

- 9.4.16 Development of the Church Fields site will alter the eastern setting of the proposed Conservation Area through replacement of the existing rural character with one of a more built nature. The masterplan proposals include a significant area of open space, with planting and sustainable drainage features/ basins along the northwestern side of the development (safeguarding the route of the proposed Daventry Canal Arm), which would buffer and separate new built development from the potential future Conservation Area. Whilst development of the site would change the eastern setting of the potential future Conservation Area it is considered that with the proposed mitigation in place the effect will be moderate adverse reducing to minor adverse as planting and landscaping matures (ADDITIONAL POTENTIAL IMPACT).

## **9.5 Mitigation**

- 9.5.1 Section 9.5 of the ES identified a number of mitigation measures associated with the development proposals, including design measures at the detailed design stage to ensure a sensitive approach to development affecting the setting of Borough Hill SAM; and measures to mitigate impacts on buried archaeological remains by ensuring their physical preservation

in situ or by appropriate archaeological investigation, recording and archiving measures where preservation was not warranted or feasible. (ES Chapter 9 paragraphs 9.5.1 – 9.5.4).

- 9.5.2 No additional types of mitigation measure are required as a result of the revised masterplan and updated baseline conditions. The severity of the additional or revised development impacts identified above as a result of the revised masterplan and the updated baseline conditions can be reduced through application of measures previously identified or proposed in the ES as follows:

*Parkland landscape and sustainable drainage features along the north-west side of the site*

- 9.5.3 The development of a parkland landscape (including sustainable drainage features/ basins) along the north-west side of the site (Open Space areas OS2 and OS3, see Figure 4.8) will impact on the District importance buried archaeological remains in Area 10 and Area 11, and on the locally-important remains in Areas 12 and 13. These impacts will be mitigated by a scheme of further archaeological fieldwork to investigate and record these surviving buried remains in advance of their removal. Prior recording of such features would reduce the severity of the effect from moderate adverse to minor adverse. It is anticipated that the scheme of further archaeological investigation, recording and excavation will be prepared, submitted to and agreed with the local planning authorities under the terms of a suitably worded planning condition, as is standard planning practice. It is also possible that detailed design work on areas of proposed water detention basins may identify additional opportunities to allow localised preservation in situ of surviving buried remains (although the extent of such retention remains uncertain and cannot be assumed).

*Relocation of Primary school south of District Centre:: Impact on setting of Borough Hill SAM*

- 9.5.4 The details of the revised masterplan have reduced the impact of the development proposal on the setting of Borough Hill. Application of the mitigation design measures previously stated in the ES (para 9.5.2 and Table 9.1), will ensure that the impact of development on the setting of the SAM is mitigated to the fullest possible extent. With mitigation the impact would reduce over time from an initial moderate adverse effect, to a final minor adverse effect as measures mature.

## 9.6 Summary

- 9.6.1 The ES established baseline conditions for the archaeology and the cultural heritage issue through a programme of desk-based research, aerial photographic assessment and geophysical survey within the development site.
- 9.6.2 This ES Addendum has reviewed baseline conditions following a further geophysical survey of areas not previously surveyed. It has considered the effects of the revised development masterplan on these updated baseline conditions, and assessed the significance of additional or revised effects. Further mitigation measures, additional to those proposed in the ES, have been proposed where these are necessary as a result of the revised assessments.
- 9.6.3 The ES Addendum has identified a small number of additional impacts or revisions to previously-identified impacts; however the majority of the original ES Chapter and the assessment of development effects are not affected by the updated baseline conditions or revisions to the masterplan, and no substantial revisions are required to the overall assessment of the development impact or the scope of mitigation measures proposed.
- 9.6.4 Additional geophysical survey in the previously-unsurveyed north-west part of the development site has provided no evidence for extensive areas of buried archaeological remains in this area, confirming the earlier indications and assessments made in the ES. The survey work did however identify two small areas of buried archaeological remains adjacent to the Daventry Reservoir, which would be affected by proposals for a parkland landscape and sustainable drainage features in these areas. The development impact on these areas of remains will be mitigated by further archaeological investigation and recording works in advance of construction; such measures would reduce the impact from a moderate adverse to a minor adverse effect. It may also be possible to avoid impacting on certain features through detailed design measures.
- 9.6.5 The revised masterplan has removed potential development impacts in the area south-east of the B4036 through relocation of formal playing fields to the north of the road and retention of the existing agricultural use of this area.
- 9.6.6 The effects of the proposed development on part of the setting of Borough Hill SAM have been reduced slightly by masterplan revisions to the location of a primary school and

residential area in the identified 'constraint zones' to the north of Borough Hill. Adoption of sensitive design measures at the detailed design stage, in line with the proposal made in the ES, would ensure that effects are adequately mitigated, resulting in a moderate adverse or minor adverse effect on this part of the setting of the Scheduled Monument.

9.6.7 Additional information has been provided to confirm that proposed development north and east of Daventry will not have a significant adverse impact on the settings of Borough Hill SAM and the Grand Union Canal Conservation Area.

9.6.8 Other effects of the development and mitigation measures previously identified in the ES have not been changed as a result of the revised masterplan and updated baseline conditions, and do not require further amendment.