

Rachel Tibbetts

From: Planning
Sent: 20 February 2024 13:38
To: DC Support
Subject: FW: Land north of Station Road, Hook Norton -archaeology
Attachments: Ironstone Quarries map.pdf; OS 6-in map.pdf; OS 6-in map no boundary.pdf

From: Green, Victoria - Oxfordshire County Council <Victoria.Green@Oxfordshire.gov.uk>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 12:58 PM
To: Planning <Planning@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>
Subject: FW: Land north of Station Road, Hook Norton -archaeology

Dear Sir/Madam,

Ref: 21/00500/OUT (APP/C3105W/21/3278536)

We recommended that an archaeological investigation take place prior to this development commencing, however, the archaeological contractor employed by the applicant has found further evidence to suggest that the entire site has been subject to previous quarrying (see below and attached images). I am therefore satisfied that no archaeological remains are likely to survive on this site, and therefore, could the archaeology conditions be removed?

Kind regards,

Victoria

Victoria Green BA (Hons.) MA PCIfA
Planning Archaeologist
Oxfordshire County Archaeological Services

Tel: 07922 848811
victoria.green@oxfordshire.gov.uk

From: Thames Valley Archaeological Services <tvas@tvas.co.uk>
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 4:06 PM
To: Green, Victoria - Oxfordshire County Council <Victoria.Green@Oxfordshire.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Land north of Station Road, Hook Norton -archaeology

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Dear Victoria,

Steve has asked me to look into the quarrying of the site to see if we can determine its full extent. I've looked at the freely-available Lidar data and OS mapping as well as a paper by the Hook Norton local history group on the Ironstone Industry, 1887-1948 (<https://hook-norton.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Ironstone-Industry.pdf>).

There is a map reproduced in the Ironstone Industry paper which appears to show the limits of the workings around the village. I georeferenced this and overlaid the site boundary and it does appear to show the workings extending beyond the site to the east. The OS map from 1900 when overlaid on the Lidar data shows an earthwork ditch on the eastern edge of the site and the cable-towed tramway running along the western boundary at the base of the working face.

Reading the Ironstone Industry paper the farmer whose land this was and who organised the ironstone extraction here, Henry Baker, ensured that the overburden was divided into topsoil and subsoil when being stripped so that it could be replaced correctly to reinstate the fields. Looking at the height difference between the field and the road to the south and field boundary to the west it would seem that extraction took place across the area and the resulting workings were backfilled with enough material to make the field useable but not bring it back to its original level.

If trenching is to be undertaken could this be in the form of test pits along the site's eastern boundary with the potential to extend them to full trenches if unworked ground was encountered?

Kind regards,

Tim Dawson

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd (TVAS)

0118 926 0552
47-49 De Beauvoir Road
Reading, Berkshire RG1 5NR
<http://www.tvas.co.uk>

On 05/02/2024 16:00 GMT Green, Victoria - Oxfordshire County Council
<victoria.green@oxfordshire.gov.uk> wrote:

Dear Steve,

Thank you for your email. Though the site has been largely quarried, the DBA does point out that it is not clear where the eastern extent of these quarries lay, and so there may be surviving remains on the eastern edge of the site, and along the baulk of the former tramway. We would like for a limited number of trenches to be excavated to confirm that these areas do not contain any surviving remains.

Kind regards,

Victoria

Victoria Green BA (Hons.) MA PCIfA

Planning Archaeologist

Oxfordshire County Archaeological Services

Tel: 07922 848811

victoria.green@oxfordshire.gov.uk

From: TVAS <tvass@tvass.co.uk>

Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 9:33 AM

To: Green, Victoria - Oxfordshire County Council <Victoria.Green@Oxfordshire.gov.uk>

Cc: Wesley McCarthy <Wesley.McCarthy@deanfieldhomes.co.uk>

Subject: Land north of Station Road, Hook Norton -archaeology

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Dear Victoria,

The site is in Cherwell District, and I hope you are still helping Richard with this District. Anyhow, we have been asked to help with the two conditions on this appeal site (21/80500/OUT) (APP/C3105W/21/3278536). However, now I have looked more closely at the desktop study (appended) I note that the site lies within an old restored ironstone quarry. As such the site cannot have any archaeological potential. Unless I have missed something.

Could you advise please as the two archaeological conditions seem superfluous in this instance.

yours

Steve Ford

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TVAS <tvass@tvass.co.uk>

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