

## Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment

For any site which might have archaeological implications, an important component of the documentation needed to accompany the Planning Application is an indication of the likely impact of the scheme on any buried remains. This is presented in a standard format, known as a Desk-Based Assessment (DBA), prepared by an archaeological consultant on behalf of the applicant, to a specification drawn-up by the Tyne and Wear Archaeology Service. The DBA will utilize a number of sources, national as well as local, including all relevant documentary records, (such as local history books, journals, papers, documents, county histories, trade directories, census returns, council minutes, court rolls, wills, newspaper cuttings, historic photographs and postcards, prints and engravings etc.) and cartographic records (including historic mapping, archive plans, surveys, Building Control Plans, Goad Insurance Plans, estate plans, tithe maps and OS mapping) relating to the vicinity. Information on the condition of the site and the survival of remains are also important, for example, bore-hole logs and cellar surveys. Given the local character of many of the most relevant sources, in order to meet the requirements of the specification, the archaeologist who undertakes this work must be suitably qualified and familiar with Tyneside sources.