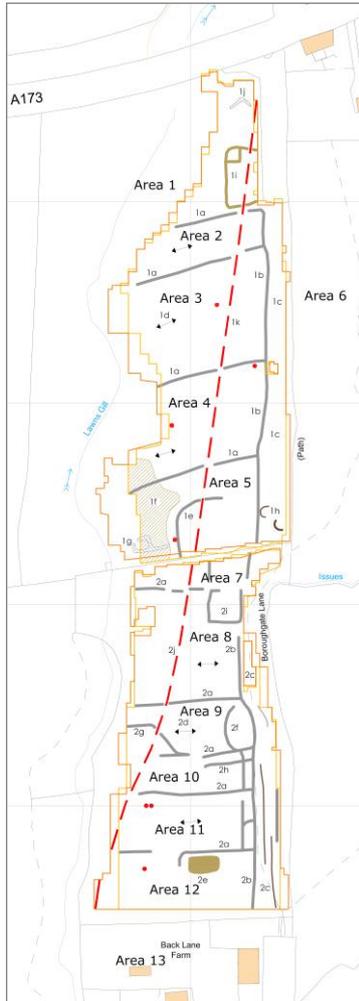


Skelton Excavation and open day

As part of the Skelton Townscape Heritage Project, Tees Archaeology is leading a project with local people and volunteers to investigate and record the medieval earthworks at Boroughgate, Skelton. The excavation will be taking place during the last week of June and the first week of July, and there will be an open day on Sunday 1st July.

The excavation will focus on the probable locations of buildings, and aims to discover how they were built and to examine differences between the northern and southern parts of the site, as well as trying to identify any of the craft activities that are mentioned in medieval documents about the site.

The results of geophysical survey at Boroughgate, Skelton, showing the burgrave plots



Recording a Y-station

Alan Betteney has recently led a project to record the WWI wireless station (Y-station) in Stockton on Tees, which has been identified as the first purpose-built Admiralty listening station in the country. The work was carried out as part of the Teesside Archaeological Society Heritage Lottery funded project on the First World War in the Tees Valley. The building, now a private home, was given [Grade II listed status](#) on 31 July 2017.



The generator house

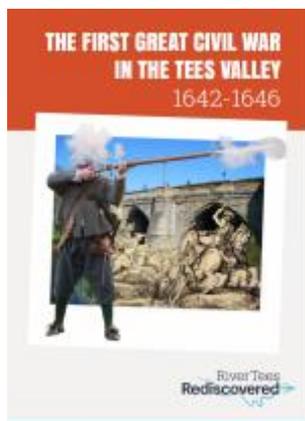
The recorded buildings and features on the site included the main house, the generator house, the gated perimeter fence, 3 rectangular concrete anchor point sites for the mast stay cables, 3 smaller possible anchor points, a concrete pad, and the concrete pad with the mast base fixings. Analysis of the buildings and structures has given a better insight into the site and its history. Further research was carried out on a gravestone previously identified as associated with the operators of the wireless station.



The mast base

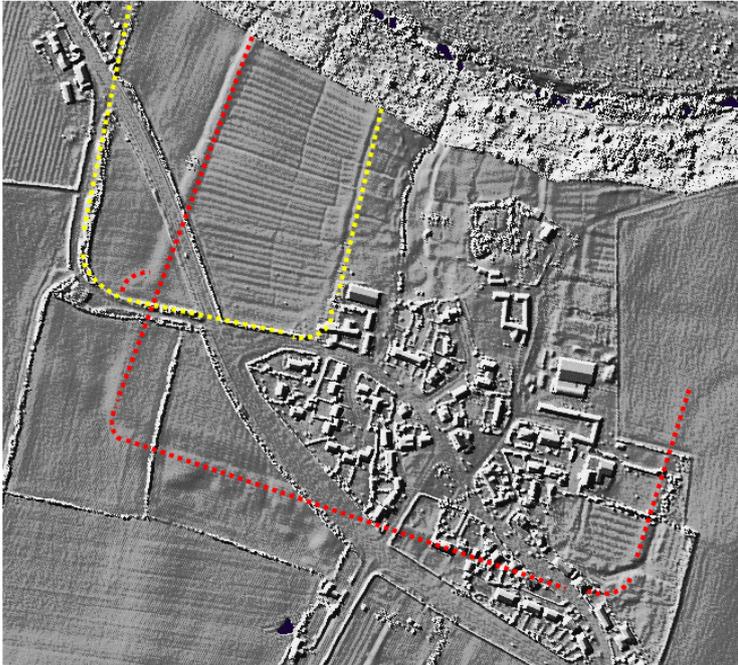
English Civil War booklet

Tees Archaeology recently launched a new booklet, part of a series being produced by River Tees Rediscovered, called *The First Great Civil War in the Tees Valley 1642-1646*. It has been written by Robin Daniels & Phil Philo, and is available from our website to purchase or as a free download.





Excavations at Dalton-on-Tees



LiDAR image showing the location of the probable Roman fort (red) and the possible earlier fort (yellow)

Investigations at Dalton-on-Tees have continued as part of the Heritage Lottery funded River Tees Rediscovered Project.

Following on from the trial pits which were excavated in 2016, in October 2017 Tees Archaeology excavated three trenches focused on the major earthwork surrounding the village, and carried out research on the 'moated' site to the south of the village. Trenches 1 and 2 were sited across earthworks visible both on LIDAR and on the ground, and trench 3 was sited across the mound at the Manor House which had previously been sampled.

Trench 1 examined an area to the southwest of the village. Three parallel ditches and a timber slot were revealed in this trench. The excavators believed that these were dug in succession and not opened all at once. A gap between the easternmost ditch and the timber slot indicated a berm. The timber slot was sharply cut through the deposits; a spread of stones was to the immediate east, interpreted as the base of a rampart. One sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from a ditch. A narrow gully was also revealed in this trench.

Excavations in Trench 2 exposed a north-south aligned ditch. No finds were recovered.



Ditch in Trench 2

The earliest feature in Trench 3 was a post-trench or gully. This feature continued out of the area of the excavation to the south. To the north of this was a ditch which ran parallel to the earthwork; this ditch had been re-cut in later times. 24 sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from the ditch fill. The re-cut of the ditch truncated a cobbled surface. This surface appeared to be contemporary with the east-west aligned stone revetment directly to the north; the revetment was constructed of unbonded medium sized cobbles. The earth mound was cut by a number of features including pits, a gully, a stone hearth and an east-west wall foundation at the north end of the trench.



Excavations underway in Trench 3

A report on the project will be available shortly.