

MOAT FARM, ALDINGHAM, ULVERSTON, CUMBRIA

Archaeological Watching Brief



Client: John Poole
Planning Ap. Ref: SL/2008/0270
NGR: SD 2787 7009

© Greenlane Archaeology Ltd
July 2008



Greenlane Archaeology Ltd,
2 Albrights Yard, Theatre Street,
Ulverston, Cumbria, LA12 7AQ

Tel: 01229 588 500
Email: info@greenlancearchaeology.co.uk
Web: www.greenlancearchaeology.co.uk

Contents

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------|----|
| Non-Technical Summary..... | 2 |
| Acknowledgements | 2 |
| 1. Introduction..... | 3 |
| 2. Methodology..... | 5 |
| 3. Desk-Based Assessment Results | 7 |
| 4. Watching Brief Results..... | 10 |
| 5. Discussion and Conclusion | 15 |
| 6. Bibliography..... | 16 |
| 7. Illustrations | 18 |
| Appendix 1: Project Brief..... | 19 |
| Appendix 2: Project Design..... | 23 |
| Appendix 3: Summary Context and Finds List..... | 30 |

Non-Technical Summary

Following a planning application for the conversion of farm buildings to a riding school at Moat Farm, Aldingham, Cumbria an archaeological brief was requested by the South Lakeland District Council following consultation with the Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service. This watching brief took place during the excavation of a pipe trench and pit for a septic tank. In the vicinity of the farm buildings the original soil horizon was not impacted by the groundworks. The groundworks at the northeast end of the site revealed the original horizon although no archaeological features were revealed. Any surviving archaeological features would not have been impacted by the work. The work was carried out by Greenlane Archaeology in June 2008.

Acknowledgements

Greenlane Archaeology would like to thank John Poole for commissioning the project and Tony Rawlings for his help during the fieldwork. Additional thanks are due to Jeremy Parsons and Jo Mackintosh at Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service for their comments and information about the site. The desk-based assessment was carried out by Dan Elsworth and Steve Clarke and the watching brief was carried out by Steve Clarke. The report was written by Steve Clarke, who also produced the illustrations. The project was managed by Dan Elsworth, and the report was edited by Dan Elsworth and Jo Dawson.

1. Introduction

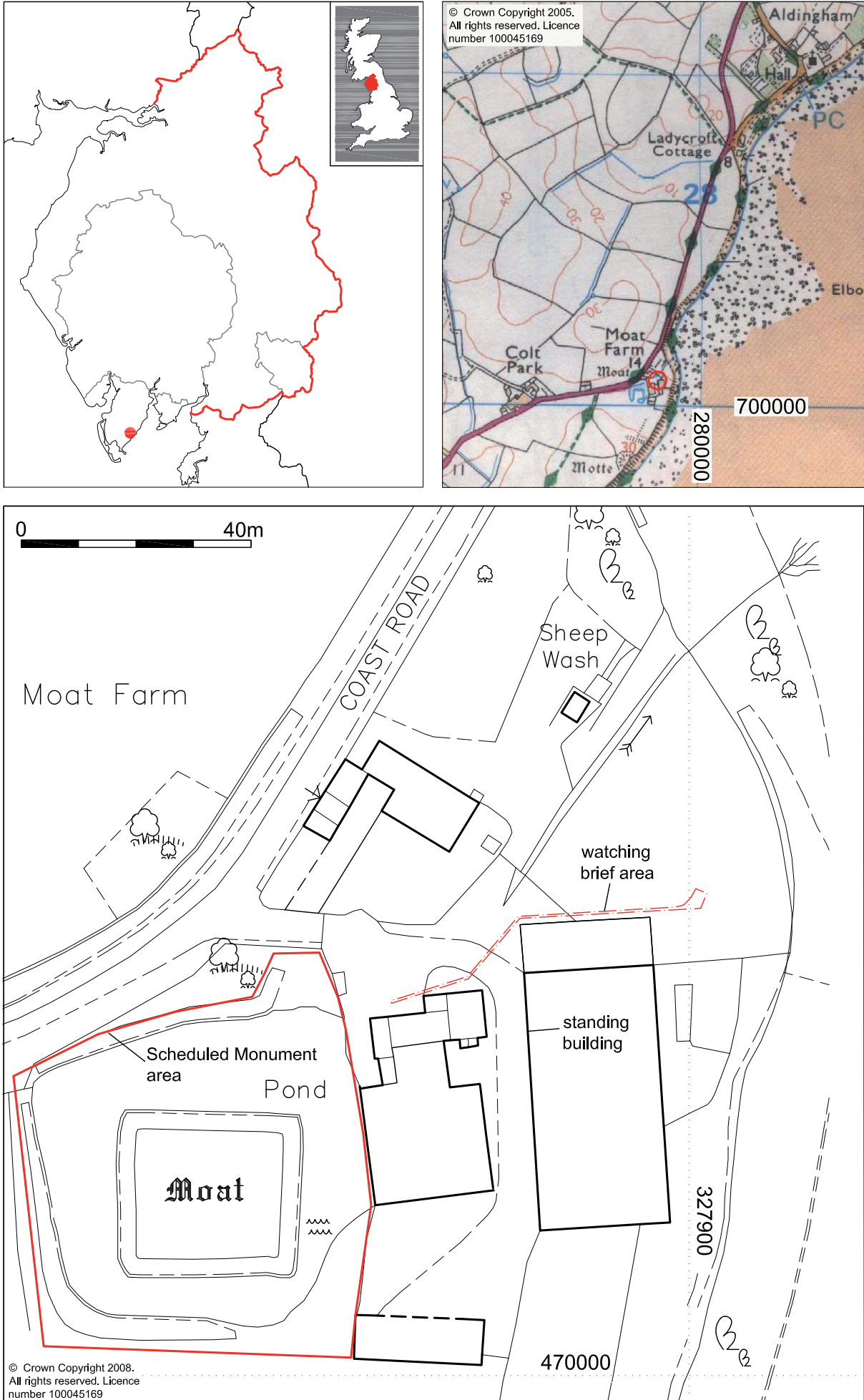
1.1 Circumstances of the Project

1.1.1 A planning application (5/08/0270) was made by John Poole to create a riding school at Moat Farm, Aldingham, Ulverston, Cumbria (Planning Application No. 5/08/0270; NGR SD 2787 7009). A programme of archaeological work was required by South Lakeland District Council following consultation with the Cumbria County Historic Environment Service (CHES). This was to comprise a watching brief during any ground works associated with the installation of a new septic tank (CHES 2008).

1.2 Location, Geology, and Topography

1.2.1 Moat Farm is just over a mile to the south of Aldingham village on the A5067. Situated on the southern edge of the parish of Aldingham, it is immediately adjacent to the coast of Morecambe Bay (Fig 1). To the west the undulating landscape comprises a mix of rough pasture, limestone walls, narrow lanes and widespread semi-natural deciduous woodland (Countryside Commission 1998, 70). The site is situated at approximately 10m above sea level (Ordnance Survey 2005; Fig 1).

1.2.2 The site is situated on the boundary between an area of Namurian millstone grit to the south-west and Carboniferous limestone to the north-east (Moseley 1978, plate 1), which is typically overlain by glacial deposits of boulder clay, although these have been much affected by inundations caused by changing sea levels (Countryside Commission 1998, 72).



Client: John Poole

Figure 1: Site location

© Greenlane Archaeology Ltd, July 2008

2. Methodology

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 This project comprised two separate elements intended to establish the extent, nature and, where possible, date of any buried deposits of archaeological interest present on the site. The first element of this was the completion of a desk-based assessment in order to establish the extent of the known archaeological resource in the area and produce an outline history of the site environs. The second part was the watching brief during the excavation of the service trench and pit to record any archaeological features that may be revealed.

2.1.2 All aspects of the desk-based assessment and watching brief were carried out according to the standards and guidance of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA 2001).

2.2 Desk-Based Assessment

2.2.1 An area of approximately 200m diameter was examined in order to identify sites of archaeological interest within the development area, and gauge the type of archaeological remains present in the general area surrounding it. In addition, the results of previous pieces of archaeological work from a slightly larger area were also examined in order to assess the level of survival of archaeological remains, periods present, and significance. Several sources of information were consulted in order to compile a history of the site and assess the presence of any known remains of historical or archaeological interest.

- **Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Record (CCCHER):** this is a list of all the known sites of archaeological interest within the county, which is maintained by Cumbria County Council and is the primary source of information for an investigation of this kind. A list of all of the known sites of archaeological interest within 200m of the centre of the proposed development area was acquired; each identified site comes with a grid reference, description and source and any additional information referenced was also examined as necessary;
- **Cumbria County Record Office, Barrow (CRO(B)):** this was visited in order to examine early maps and plans of the site, original documents relating to properties on the site, and local and regional histories and directories;
- **Greenlane Archaeology Library:** additional secondary sources, used to provide information for the site background, were examined.

2.3 Watching Brief

2.3.1 A single pipe trench was excavated with a rectangular pit at one end for a new septic tank (see Figs 1-3), running in an east to west direction at the north end of the farmyard. The archaeological features were then recorded in the following manner:

- **Written record:** descriptive records of all deposits and cuts were made using Greenlane Archaeology *pro forma* record sheets. In addition, a general record of each trench and the day's events was also made;
- **Photographs:** photographs in both 35mm colour print and colour digital format were taken of all archaeological features uncovered during the watching brief, as well as general views of the trenches, the surrounding landscape and working shots. A selection of the colour digital photographs is

included in this report, and the remainder are presented on the accompanying CD. A written record of all of the photographs was also made on Greenlane Archaeology *pro forma* record sheets;

- **Drawings:**
 - i. A trench location plan was produced at a scale of 1:500;
 - ii. sections were drawn at a scale of 1:50.

2.3.2 The location of the area subject to watching brief was recorded relative to the known location of nearby buildings and other structures that were evident on the site plans and Ordnance Survey maps.

2.4 Finds

2.4.1 **Processing:** all of the artefacts were washed, they were then naturally air-dried and packaged appropriately in self-seal bags with white write-on panels.

2.4.2 **Assessment and recording:** the finds were assessed and identified and were recorded on *pro forma* record sheets. A catalogue of the finds was produced (*Appendix 3*), and the finds were summarised and discussed in *Section 4.2*.

2.5 Archive

2.5.1 A comprehensive archive of the project has been produced in accordance with the project design (*Appendix 2*), and current IFA and English Heritage guidelines (Brown 2007; English Heritage 1991). The paper and digital archive and a copy of this report will be deposited in the Cumbria Record Office in Barrow-in-Furness on completion of the project. Three copies of this report will be deposited with the Cumbria Historic Environment Record (HER), one with the client, and one will be retained by Greenlane Archaeology. In addition, a digital copy will be offered to the NMR and a record of the project will be made on the OASIS scheme.

2.6.2 It is envisaged that all of the artefacts recovered will be discarded.

3. Desk-Based Assessment Results

3.1 Background History

3.1.1 **Introduction:** the background history is intended to place the results of the watching brief in their local historical and archaeological context. In addition, details relating to specific sites of archaeological interest in close proximity to the development site are included where relevant. Much of the information included in this section has been extracted from a previous report (Greenlane Archaeology 2006).

3.1.2 **Prehistoric to Roman period:** the area around Moat Farm is rich in archaeological remains and some of the earliest recorded in the county, dating to the period immediately after the last Ice Age, has been recorded in caves near Scales (Young 2002). Probable prehistoric urn burials, perhaps of Neolithic or Bronze Age date, are known to have been found near Aldingham in the early 19th century (Close in West 1805, 392); these are thought to have been discovered close to Colt Park Farm (HER No. 2612), although a recent evaluation nearby failed to find any evidence for such deposits (Headland Archaeology 2006). More recently a burnt mound, a pile of fire-cracked stones thought to be used for cooking or as a form of 'sauna', dated to the early Bronze Age date, was excavated on the edge of the village (Morecambe Bay Archaeological Society 2006). In addition, it has been reported that during the earlier installation of a silage tank at Moat Farm a 'wall of deer skulls' was discovered; this is likely to be the result of natural phenomena whereby animal remains are deposited in water and gather at certain points, but research on such collections has shown that they are often of great antiquity (Turner *et al* 2002). Remains from the following Iron Age are less common, although a 'hillfort' at Skelmore Heads that was partially excavated in the 1950s (Powell 1963) probably belongs to this period. There were perhaps several more such enclosures in the local area and recently one has possibly been identified on Hoad near Ulverston (Elsworth 2005). There is negligible evidence for Roman activity in Furness, apart from a few coins and other items, although these do indicate a considerable degree of contact following the conquest (Shotton 1995). Recent research indicates that earlier suggestions that there was a road across the peninsula and a military site at Dalton have more credence than previously suspected (Elsworth 2007).

3.1.3 **Medieval period:** the village of Aldingham is known to have at least medieval origins and is mentioned in the Domesday book (Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 321), although the exact extent of the village at this time is uncertain. Throughout the medieval period, and no doubt before, Aldingham has had a difficult relationship with the sea, and flooding has led to the loss of a great deal of the village. Legend has it that a large part of the village was washed away, and that the church originally stood near its centre. There is some historical evidence for this being the case, as on several occasions during the 1550s Aldingham was severely damaged by the sea, to the extent that the wall surrounding the churchyard was washed away in 1555 and 1558. This seems to have been part of a more wide-spread period of flooding, which caused considerable damage to the coasts of Furness and Walney Island at this time. At least one midden comprising fish bones and shells thought to be of medieval date has been exposed on the shore to the north of Moat Farm (Craig Appley pers comm.), and this may add credence to the suggestion that much of the village was lost to the sea.

3.1.4 As its name suggests, Moat Farm is located immediately north-east of a medieval moat (HER No. 2613) with associated ditch (HER No. 16082), and what is thought to be a slightly later moated manor house site (HER No. 2337), both of which are Scheduled Monuments, and between which are other earthworks. The moat is

thought to have originated in the 11th century as a result of the le Fleming family being granted land in the area following the Norman Conquest (Kelly 1924, 276-277; Stewart 1968; Anon 1968; Higham 1991). They seem to have abandoned it during the 12th or 13th century and established a new home at the moated manor house (*ibid*). This too was ultimately abandoned as the family's descendants eventually moved to a stone castle at Gleaston Castle (Kelly 1924, 277). The abandonment and gradual retreat inland is perhaps also likely to have been as a result of the substantial loss of land caused by flooding. The only other medieval remains recorded in the vicinity of the site are part of an arch built into a granary at Colt Park Farm (HER No. 2336), although it is thought to have come from Furness Abbey and is therefore not in its original location (Anon 1948, 12).

3.1.5 Post-medieval period: Aldingham has probably changed very little in since the medieval period. One of the major additions was the construction of Aldingham Hall in the early 19th century by the Rector, John Stonard (Greenlane Archaeology 2006, 15). This was originally intended to be for his retirement but following an incident crossing the sands of Morecambe Bay, in which his servant Edward Jones Schollick saved his life, it was left to him and his family (*ibid*). Scollick went on to become involved in ship building in Ulverston as well as a number of enterprises before finally emigrating to Australia (*ibid*). Indeed, throughout the post-medieval period the most historically interesting events to occur in Aldingham all centred around the rectory, the valuable living of which always attracted connected and wealthy rectors and therefore some important visitors, including William Wordsworth, Queen Victoria, and Margaret Thatcher (*op cit*, 16). There is only one post-medieval site of interest recorded in the vicinity of the site; a limekiln on the shore immediately north of the Moat Farm (HER No. 18072).

3.2 Map Regression

3.2.1 Introduction: available early maps of the site were examined in order to establish the presence of any features of potential archaeological interest within the proposed development area and also establish the proximity of remains associated with the two Scheduled Monuments. Only the moated manor house is particularly close to the development site, although it is far enough away to remain unaffected.

3.2.2 Tithe Plan of 1846 (Plate 1): although not detailed by comparison with some later maps, this plan shows the farm with the moat perhaps outlined on the west side (CRO(B) BPR/21 1846). The road to the west is now the A5067.

3.2.3 Ordnance Survey 1851: this is slightly less detailed than the earlier Tithe Map but shows much of the same information (Plate 2). The position of the moated manor house is clearly marked however, and labelled '*Supposed site of Aldingham Hall*' (meaning the original medieval hall rather than the one associate with the rectory (see *Section 3.2.2*) as is the motte, labelled '*Moat Hill*'.

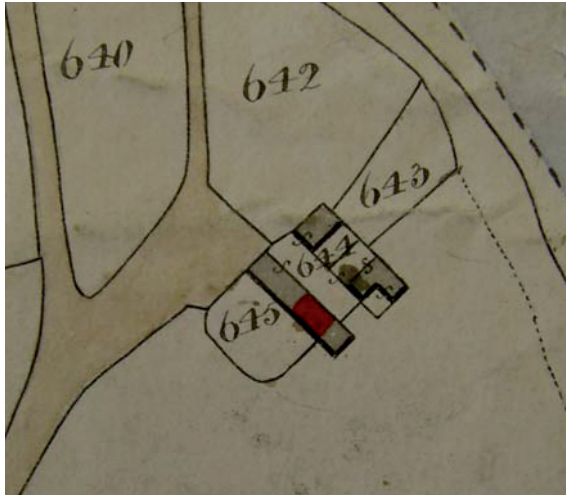


Plate 1 (left): Extract from the Tithe map of 1846



Plate 2 (right): Extract from the 1851 Ordnance Survey map showing 'Moat House' in relation to the two moated sites

3.2.4 **Ordnance Survey 1891** (Plate 3): this map shows that the farm has expanded and perhaps been reorganised since 1846 with the rebuilding of the farmhouse to the north, other farm buildings being enlarged and new ones built.

3.2.5 **Ordnance Survey 1913** (Plate 4): this map shows little has changed since 1891. The buildings on the east side of the site have since been replaced with a single large steel framed barn.

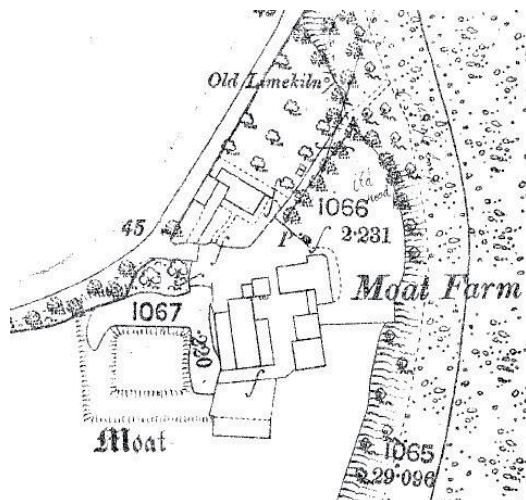


Plate 3: (left) Extract from the 1891 Ordnance Survey map

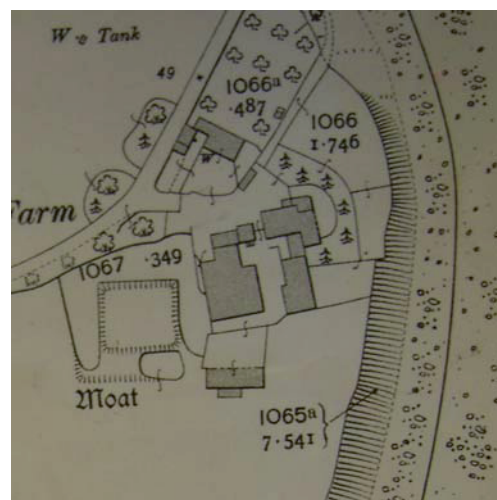


Plate 4: (right) Extract from the 1913 Ordnance Survey map

4. Watching Brief Results

4.1 Pipe Trench Excavation

4.1.1 **Introduction:** the excavation was situated in the farmyard to the north of the main barns (Fig 2). A single pipe trench orientated east/west, with a total length of 57.5m, was excavated. A 3.6m by 2m pit was excavated at the east end to house the new septic tank. For ease of description the trench has been divided into four parts (Figs 3 and 4).

4.1.2 **Trench 1:** this part of the trench ran in an east/west direction for 14.5m approximately 3m and parallel with the north end of the west barn. The width of the trench was 0.4m with a depth of 0.4m at the west end sloping to 0.65m at the east end. The north facing section (Plate 5 Fig 4) revealed layers of redeposited topsoil, gravel and sand (**101** and **102**). The east end revealed a deposit of sub-rounded stones, (**104**) 0.10m to 0.15m in size, which were probably discarded cobblestones (Plate 5). At the west end beneath the redeposited soils was a layer of medium to large sub-rounded and sub-angular stones (**105**), which were contained within a fairly waterlogged matrix, suggesting they had been laid down to aid drainage (Plate 6).



Plate 5: (left) East end of north facing section, Trench 1

Plate 6: (right) West end of north facing section, Trench 1

4.1.3 **Trench 2:** this part of the trench continued on from the east end of Trench 1 in a north-easterly direction for a distance of 14.5m, crossing the main thoroughfare of the farmyard (Plate 7). The width of this section was 0.4m and it was 0.65m deep at the south-west end, and 0.4m deep at the north-east end. The north-west facing section (Fig 4) revealed a made ground comprising layers of gravels sand and compacted limestone chippings (**200**). The north east end revealed a large modern service trench (**202**), which has been backfilled with sand and chippings (**201**; Plate 8).

© Crown Copyright 2008.
All rights reserved. Licence
number 100045169

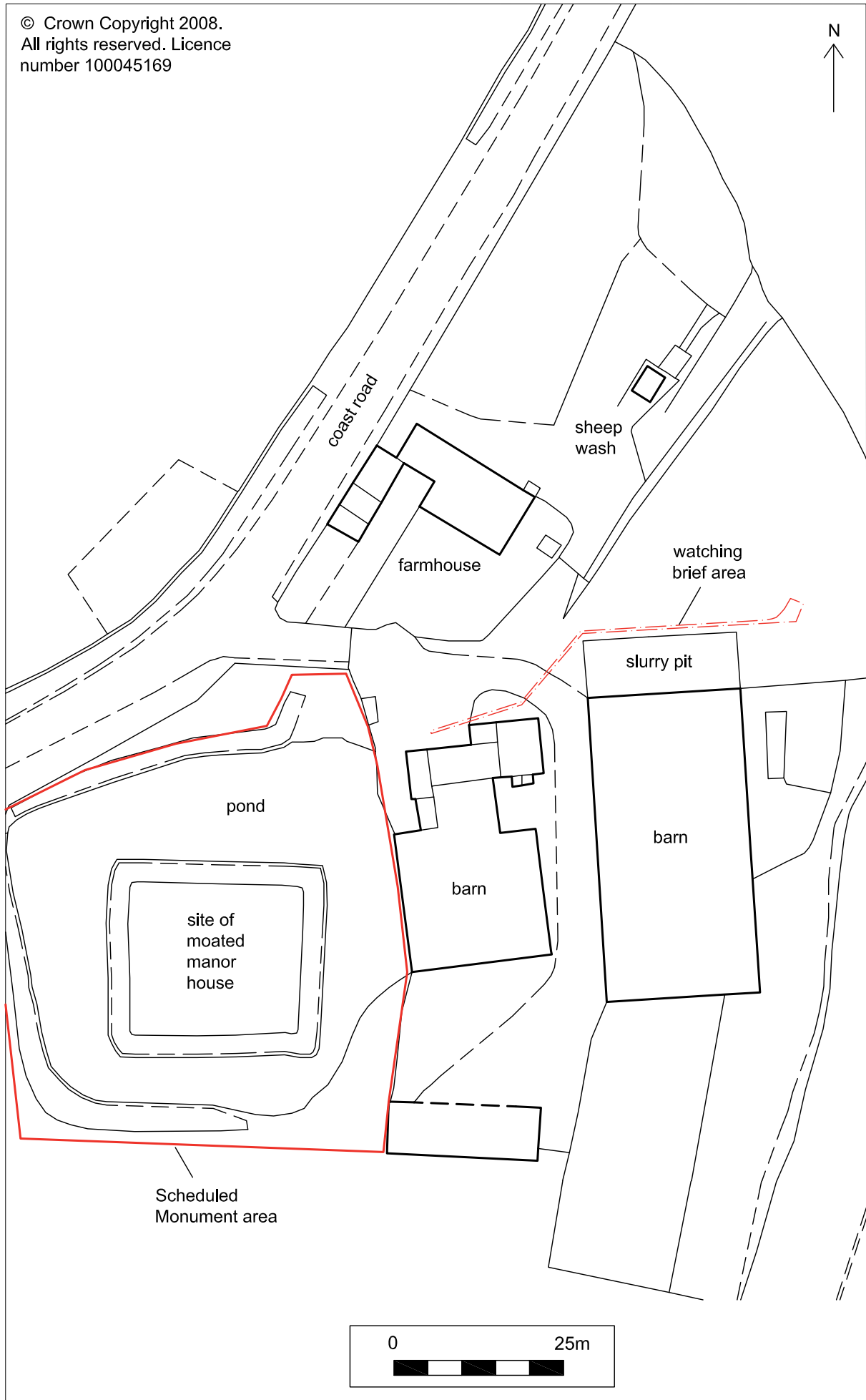


Figure 2: Trench location

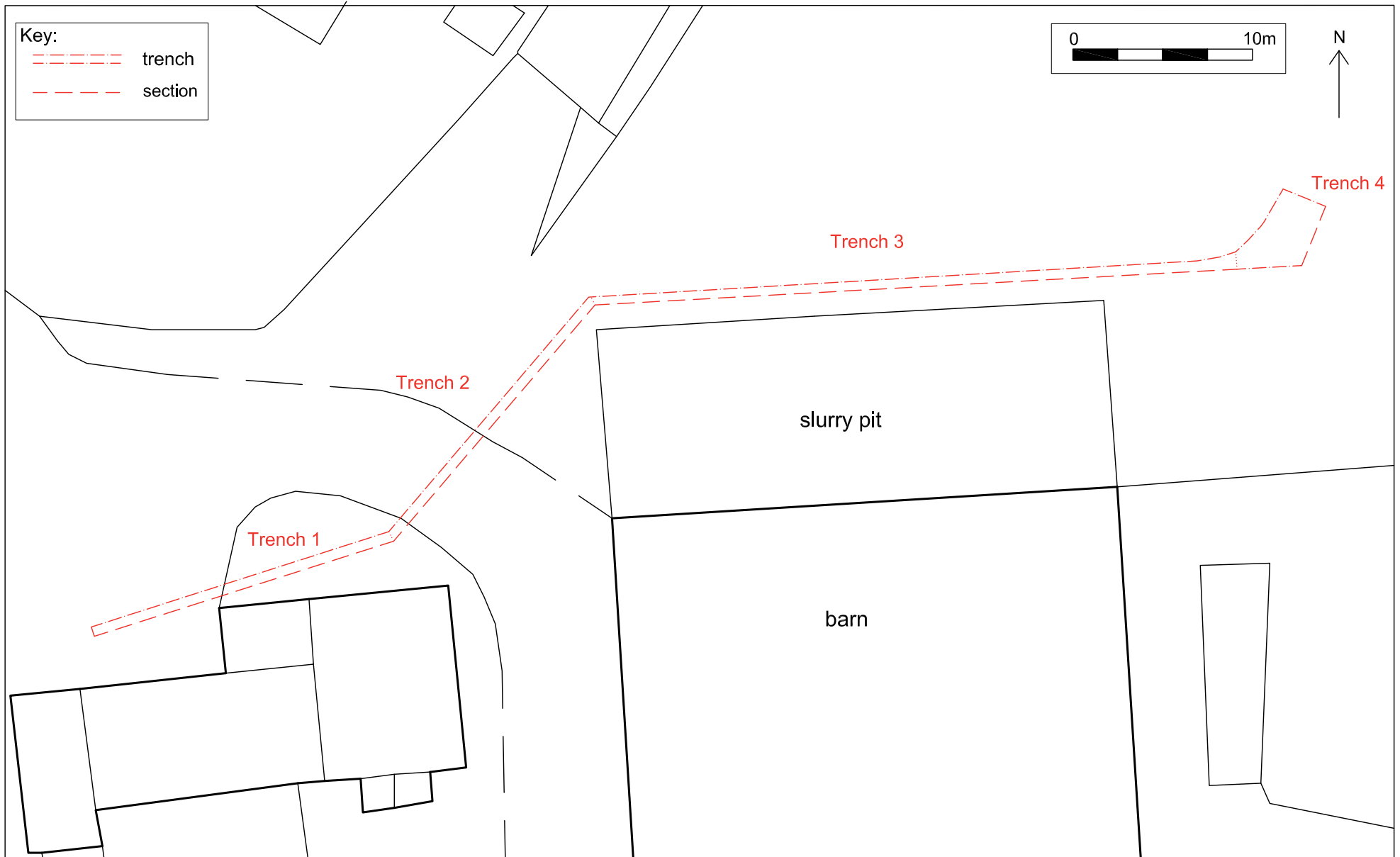
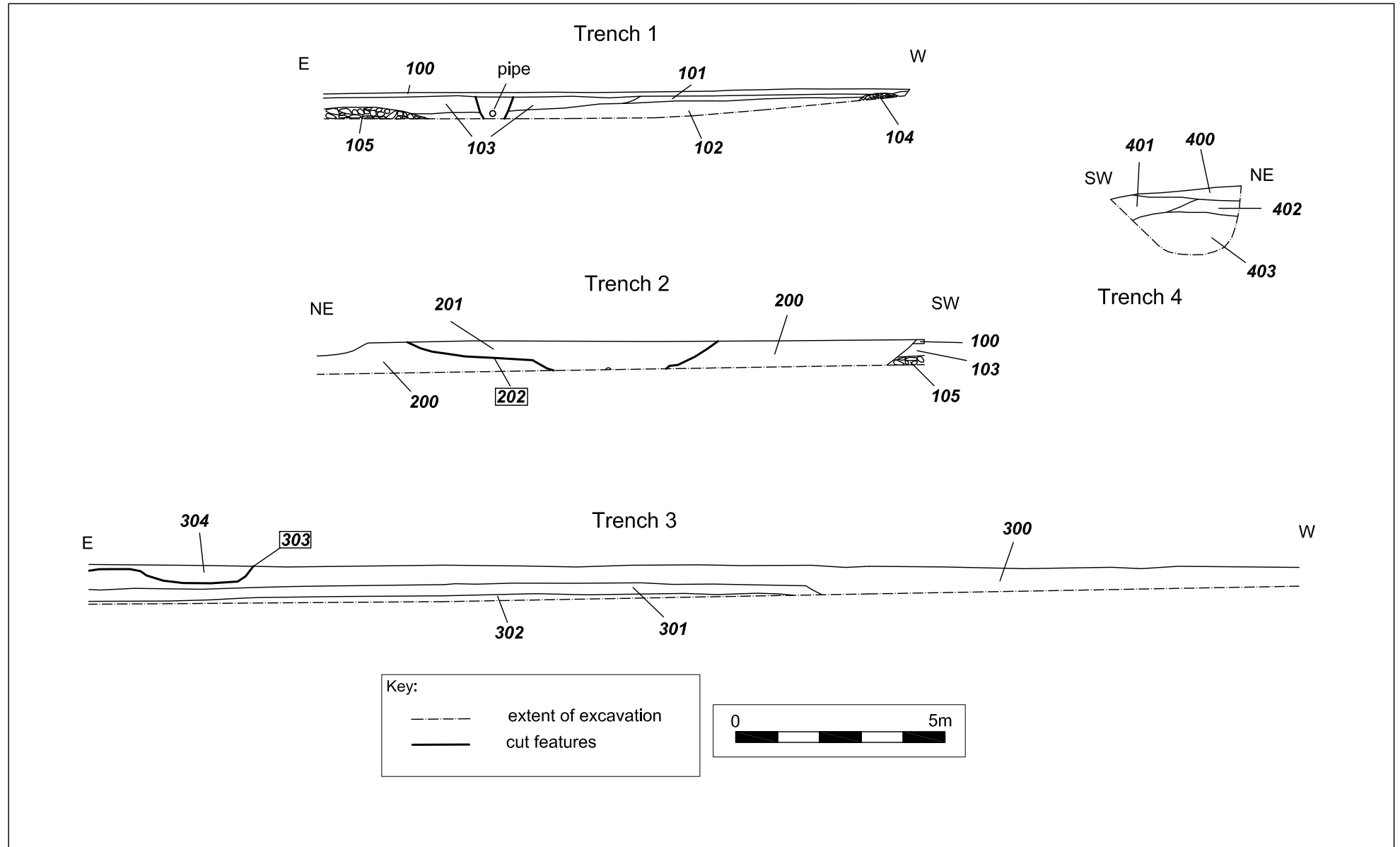


Figure 3: Detailed trench location



Client: John Poole

© Greenlane Archaeology Ltd, July 2008

Figure 4: Sections



Plate 7: (left) General shot of Trench 2 from the south-west



Plate 8: (right) The centre of the north-west facing section, Trench 2

4.1.4 **Trench 3:** this part of the trench continues in an east/west direction from the north-east end of Trench 2 for a distance of 28.9m. The trench was situated 1m from and running parallel to the slurry pit at the north end of the east barn. The width of the trench was 0.4m, and the depth varied from 0.4m at the west end to 1.1m at the east end. The north facing section (Fig 4) showed that the ground has been made up with redeposited topsoil (**300**). Below this layer is a another layer of soil, which is probably the original soil horizon (**301**) with the bottom 0.05m revealing the natural sandy clays (**302**). At the east end was a large shallow pit (**303**) backfilled with crushed brick and mortar (**304**).



Plate 9: (left) East facing section of Trench 4



Plate 10: (right) West facing section of Trench 4

4.1.5 **Trench 4:** the final part of the trench was situated at the east end and was 3.8m long by 2m wide with a depth of 1.95m (Plate 9). The west facing section (Plate 10) revealed the natural ground sloped down fairly steeply from the south to the east. The ground had been made up to a level of 1.10m above the high point of the natural (**403**) with redeposited clays (**400**) and topsoils (**401**). Beneath these layers was the original soil horizon (**402**; Fig 4).

4.2 Finds

4.2.1 Only two pieces of pottery were recovered from the watching brief, and were recovered from layer **401** in Trench 4. Both pieces were post-medieval in date, one being the base of a stoneware vessel, and the other a piece of white earthenware. The details of these are presented in *Appendix 3*.

5. Discussion and Conclusion

5.1 Discussion

5.1.1 Due to the build-up and levelling of the ground in the vicinity of the farm buildings the original soil horizon was not revealed by the groundworks, except at the north-east end of the site. At the north-east end of the site the natural sloped down to the coastline and the section in Trench 4 showed that the extent of the made ground in this area.

5.2 Conclusion

5.2.2 There were no archaeological features revealed at the northeast end of the site where the groundworks went deeper than the natural horizon, and the remaining groundworks did not penetrate beyond the made ground. Any surviving archaeology that might be present is below the depth of the groundworks.

6. Bibliography

6.1 Primary and Cartographic Sources

CRO(B) BPR/21, 1846 *Plan of the Parish of Aldingham in the County of Lancashire*

Ordnance Survey, 1851 *Lancashire Sheet 22*, surveyed 1847

Ordnance Survey, 1891, *Lancashire Sheet 22.7*, surveyed 1889, 1:2500

Ordnance Survey, 1913, *Lancashire Sheet 22.7*, 1:2500, revised 1913

6.2 Secondary Sources

Anon, 1948 Discoveries and Re-discoveries of the Geological and Antiquarian Section, 1945-47, *Proc Barrow Naturalists' Field Club*, n ser, **6**, 12-15

Anon, 1968 Uncovering Secrets of a Norman Fort, *Barrow News*, 23rd May

Brown, DH, 2007 *Archaeological Archives: A Guide to Best Practice in Creation, Compilation, Transfer, and Curation*, IFA, Reading

CHES, 2008 *Brief for an Archaeological Watching Brief at Moat Farm, Aldingham, Ulverston, Cumbria*, unpublished

Countryside Commission, 1998 *Countryside Character, Volume 2: North West*, Cheltenham

Elsworth, DW, 2005 *Hoad, Ulverston, Cumbria: Archaeological Landscape Investigation*, unpubl rep

Elsworth, DW, 2007 The 'Streetgate' at Conishead, the 'Castellum' at Dalton, and Roman Furness, *Trans Cumberland Westmorland Antiq Archaeol Soc*, 3rd ser, **7**, 31-48

English Heritage, 1991 *The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edn, London

Farrer, J, and Brownbill, J, 1914 *The Victoria History of the County of Lancashire*, **8**, London

Greenlane Archaeology, 2006 *House History: The Old Rectory, Aldingham*, unpubl rep

Headland Archaeology, 2006 *Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Targeted Archaeological Evaluation (Phase 1) at Colt Park, Aldingham, Ulverston, Cumbria: Date Structure Report*, unpubl rep

Higham, MC, 1991 The Mottes of North Lancashire, Lonsdale and South Cumbria, *Trans Cumberland Westmorland Antiq Archaeol Soc*, 2nd ser, **91**, 79-90

Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), 2001 *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment*, revised edn, Reading

Kelly, PV, 1924 Aldingham Motte and Grange, *Trans Cumberland Westmorland Antiq Archaeol Soc*, 2nd ser, **24**, 271-277

Morecambe Bay Archaeological Society, The, 2006 Evaluation of a Burnt Mound, Aldingham, Cumbria, *Trans Cumberland Westmorland Antiq Archaeol Soc*, 3rd ser, **6**, 17-26

Moseley, F (ed), 1978 *The Geology of the Lake District*, Yorkshire Geological Society, occ publ **3**, Leeds

Powell, TGE, 1963 Excavations at Skelmore Heads near Ulverston, 1957 and 1959, *Trans Cumberland Westmorland Antiq Archaeol Soc*, 2nd ser, **63**, 1-30

Stewart, EM, 1969 Forts by the Sea, *Cumbria*, March 1969, 601-603

Turner, A, Gonzalez, S, and Ohman, JC, 2002 Prehistoric Human and Ungulate Remains from Preston Dock, Lancashire, UK: Problems of River Finds, *J Archaeol Science*, **29**, 423-433

West, T, 1805 *The Antiquities of Furness*, 2nd edn with additions by W Close, Ulverston

Young, R, 2002 The Palaeolithic and Mesolithic Periods in Northern England: an Overview, in C Brooks, R Daniels, and A Harding (ed), *Past Present and Future: The Archaeology of Northern England*, Architect Archaeol Soc Durham Northumberland res rep **5**, Durham, 19-36

7. Illustrations

7.1 List of Figures

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|----|
| Figure 1: Site location..... | 4 |
| Figure 2: Trench location..... | 11 |
| Figure 3: Detailed trench location..... | 12 |
| Figure 4: Sections..... | 13 |

7.2 List of Plates

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Plate 1 (left): Extract from the Tithe map of 1846..... | 9 |
| Plate 2 (right): Extract from the 1851 Ordnance Survey map showing 'Moat House' in relation to the two moated sites..... | 9 |
| Plate 3: (left) Extract from the 1891 Ordnance Survey map..... | 9 |
| Plate 4: (right) Extract from the 1913 Ordnance Survey map | 9 |
| Plate 5: (left) East end of north facing section, Trench 1 | 10 |
| Plate 6: (right) West end of north facing section, Trench 1 | 10 |
| Plate 7: (left) General shot of Trench 2 from the south-west | 14 |
| Plate 8: (right) The centre of the north-west facing section, Trench 2 | 14 |
| Plate 9: (left) East facing section of Trench 4..... | 14 |
| Plate 10: (right) West facing section of Trench 4 | 14 |

Appendix 1: Project Brief

BRIEF FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

AT MOAT FARM, ALDINGHAM, ULVERSTON, CUMBRIA

Issued by the

County Historic Environment Service

Environment Unit, Economy, Culture and Environment



Date of Brief: 09 May 2008

This Design Brief is only valid for 1 year after the above date. After this period the County Historic Environment Service should be contacted. Any specification resulting from this Brief will only be considered for the same period.

SITE DESCRIPTION AND SUMMARY

Site: Moat Farm, Aldingham

Grid Reference: SD 2787 7009

Planning Application No.: 5/08/0270

Detailed proposals and tenders are invited from appropriately resourced, qualified and experienced archaeological contractors to undertake the archaeological project outlined by this Brief and to produce a report on that work. The work should be under the direct management of either an Associate or Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, or equivalent. Any response to this Brief should follow IFA Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief, 2001. No fieldwork may commence until approval of a specification has been issued by the County Historic Environment Service.

PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) has been consulted by South Lakeland District Council regarding a planning application for the change of use of the farm buildings to an equestrian centre at Moat Farm, Aldingham.
- 2.2 The scheme affects an area of archaeological significance, as it lies close to the earthwork remains of a moat that are protected as a Scheduled Monument. Consequently, a condition has been placed on planning consent requiring an archaeological watching brief during the course of the ground works of the installation of a septic tank.
- 2.3 This advice is in accordance with guidance given in Planning Policy Guidance note 16 (Archaeology and Planning) and with local planning policy.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Moat Farm was the focus of medieval activity with the Le Fleming family building initially a motte and bailey castle and subsequently a moated manor house. The earthwork remains of these sites are legally protected as Scheduled Monuments.
- 3.2 Also of particular interest is the report that the farmer at Aldingham Moat farm discovered what was described as a 'wall of deer skulls' when constructing a new silage tank relatively recently, possibly referring to layers of peat with deer bones.

SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

- 4.1 *Objectives*
 - 4.1.1 To identify, investigate and record any surviving archaeological remains revealed during the course of the development ground works which, it is understood, solely comprise the installation of a septic tank.
- 4.2 *Work Required*
 - 4.2.1 Before any on site work commences the County Historic Environment Record should be consulted and a **rapid** desk-based survey of the existing resource undertaken. This should include an assessment of those primary and secondary sources referenced in the County Historic Environment Record.
 - 4.2.2 All ground reduction and the excavation of footings and service trenches must be carried out under archaeological supervision. Any putative archaeological features must then be cleaned by hand and if possible a stratigraphic record made. Finds and environmental samples should be retrieved as appropriate. A reasonable period of uninterrupted access should be allowed to the archaeologist for all necessary archaeological recording.

SPECIFICATION

- 5.1 Before the project commences a specification must be submitted to and approved by the County Historic Environment Service.
- 5.2 Proposals to meet this Brief should take the form of a detailed specification prepared in accordance with the recommendations of *The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd ed. 1991, and must include:
- ❖ A description of the methods of observation and recording system to be used
 - ❖ A description of the finds and environmental sampling strategies to be used
 - ❖ A description of the post excavation and reporting work that will be undertaken
 - ❖ Details of key project staff, including the names of the project manager, site supervisor, finds and environmental specialists and any other specialist sub-contractors to be employed
 - ❖ Details of on site staffing, e.g. the number of people to be employed on site per day
 - ❖ A projected timetable for all site work and post excavation work (through to final publication of results)
- 5.3 Any significant variations to the proposal must be agreed by the County Historic Environment Service in advance.

REPORTING AND PUBLICATION

- 6.1 The archaeological work should result in a report, this should include as a minimum:
- ❖ A site location plan, related to the national grid
 - ❖ A front cover/frontispiece which includes the planning application number and the national grid reference of the site
 - ❖ A concise, non-technical summary of the results
 - ❖ A date when the project was undertaken and by whom
 - ❖ A description of the methodology employed, work undertaken, and the results obtained
 - ❖ Plans and sections at an appropriate scale showing the location and position of deposits and finds located
 - ❖ A brief photographic record of the site must be included, showing any features of archaeological interest. Where the results of the project revealed no significant archaeological remains a single photograph showing an indicative section of trench will suffice.
 - ❖ A list of, and dates for, any finds recovered and a description and interpretation of the deposits identified
 - ❖ A description of any environmental or other specialist work undertaken and the results obtained
- 6.2 Three copies of the report should be deposited with the County Historic Environment Record within six months of completion of fieldwork. This will be on the understanding that the report will be made available as a public document through the County Historic Environment Record.
- 6.3 A summary report should be submitted to a suitable regional or national archaeological journal within one year of completion of fieldwork. If archaeological remains of significance are identified, one or more full reports should also be submitted to a suitable journal or other publication in due course.
- 6.4 Cumbria HER is taking part in the *Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS) project. The online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis> must therefore also be completed as part of the project. Information on projects undertaken in Cumbria will be made available through the above website, unless otherwise agreed.

THE ARCHIVE

- 7.1 An archive must be prepared in accordance with the recommendations in Brown, DH, 2007, *Archaeological Archives A Guide To Best Practice In Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Curation*, Archaeological Archives Forum. Arrangements must be made for its long term storage and deposition with an appropriate repository. A copy shall also be offered to the National Monuments Record.
- 7.2 The landowner should be encouraged to transfer the ownership of finds to a local or relevant specialist museum. The museum's requirements for the transfer and storage of finds should be discussed before the project commences.
- 7.3 The County Historic Environment Service must be notified of the arrangements made.

PROJECT MONITORING

- 8.1 One weeks notice must be given to the County Historic Environment Service prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 9.1 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to establish safe working practices in terms of current health and safety legislation, to ensure site access and to obtain notification of hazards (eg. services, contaminated ground, etc.). **The County Historic Environment Service bears no responsibility for the inclusion or exclusion of such information within this brief or subsequent specification.**
- 9.2 The Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists must be followed.
- 9.3 The involvement of the County Historic Environment Service should be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information regarding this Brief, contact

Jeremy Parsons

Historic Environment Officer

Cumbria County Council

County Offices

Kendal

Cumbria LA9 4RQ

Tel: 01539 773431

Email: Jeremy.Parsons@cumbriacc.gov.uk

For further information regarding the County Historic Environment Record, contact

Jo Mackintosh

Historic Environment Records Officer

Cumbria County Council

County Offices

Kendal

Cumbria LA9 4RQ

Tel: 01539 773432

Email: jo.mackintosh@cumbriacc.gov.uk

Appendix 2: Project Design

MOAT FARM, ALDINGHAM, ULVERSTON, CUMBRIA

Archaeological Watching Brief Project Design



Client: John Poole

June 2008

Planning Application Ref.: SL/2008/0270

1. Introduction

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Following a proposal by John Poole (hereafter 'the client') to create a riding school at Moat Farm, Aldingham, Ulverston, Cumbria (Planning Application No. 5/08/0270; NGR SD 2787 7009), a programme of archaeological work was required by South Lakeland District Council following consultation with the Cumbria County Historic Environment Service (CHES). This was to comprise a watching brief during any ground works associated with the installation of a new septic tank (CHES 2008).

1.1.2 The site is located immediately north-east of two Scheduled Monuments; a medieval moat, and what is thought to be a slightly later moated manor house site, between which are other earthworks. In addition, it has been reported that during the earlier installation of a silage tank at Moat Farm a 'wall of deer skulls' was discovered; this is likely to be the result of natural phenomena whereby animal remains are deposited in water and gather at certain points, but research on such collections has shown that they are often of great antiquity (Turner *et al* 2002). The general area is rich in archaeological remains beside those known from the immediate proximity of Moat Farm including Late Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic occupation of caves near Scales (Young 2002), a burnt mound situated between Moat Farm and Aldingham proper (Morecambe Bay Archaeological Society 2006), and at least one midden comprising fish bones and shells thought to be of medieval date exposed on the shore line (Craig Appley pers comm.).

1.2 Greenlane Archaeology

1.2.1 Greenlane Archaeology is a private limited company based in Ulverston, Cumbria, and was established in 2005 (Company No. 05580819). Its directors, Jo Dawson and Daniel Elsworth, have a combined total of over 16 years continuous professional experience working in commercial archaeology, principally in the north of England and Scotland. Greenlane Archaeology is committed to a high standard of work, and abides by the Institute of Field Archaeologists' (IFA) Code of Conduct. The watching brief will be carried out according to the Standards and Guidance of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA 2001).

1.3 Project Staffing

1.3.1 The project will be managed by **Jo Dawson (MA (Hons), AIFA)**. Since graduating from the University of Glasgow in 2000 with a joint honours degree in Archaeology and Mathematics, Jo has worked continuously in commercial archaeology. Her professional career started at Glasgow University Archaeological Research Division (GUARD), for whom she worked for six months, following which she worked for Headland Archaeology, in Edinburgh, for two years, and for Oxford Archaeology North, in Lancaster, for three years. During this time she has been involved in a range of different archaeological projects, and, over the past few years, has concentrated on desk-based assessments and environmental impact assessments, as well as finds reports. She has extensive experience of both planning and pre-planning projects, and has undertaken assessments of all sizes. Since establishing Greenlane Archaeology, she has managed projects in Cumbria, including several recent watching briefs.

1.3.2 The watching brief will be carried out by **Dan Elsworth (MA (Hons); AIFA)** or **Steve Clarke**, depending on scheduling. Daniel graduated from the University of Edinburgh in 1998 with an honours degree in Archaeology, and began working for

the Lancaster University Archaeological Unit, which became Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) in 2001. Daniel ultimately became a project officer, and for over six and a half years worked on excavations and surveys, building investigations, desk-based assessments, and conservation and management plans. These have principally taken place in the North West, and Daniel has a particular interest in the archaeology of the area. He recently carried out the watching brief at Castle Street. Steve began working for Albion Archaeology in 2001, before moving to OA North in 2004, where he worked in a supervisory capacity principally on excavation projects, and has carried out large numbers of watching briefs on sites across the north west of England. He joined Greenlane Archaeology in 2008.

1.3.3 All artefacts will be processed by Greenlane Archaeology, and it is envisaged that they will initially be examined by Jo Dawson, who will fully assess any of post-medieval date. Finds of earlier date will be assessed by specialist sub-contractors as appropriate, and in this case it is envisaged that medieval pottery will be examined by Ian Miller at Oxford Archaeology North. CHES will be notified of any other specialists, other than those named, who Greenlane Archaeology wishes to engage, before any specialist contracts are awarded, and their approval will be sought.

1.3.4 Environmental samples and faunal remains will be processed by Greenlane Archaeology. It is envisaged that charred plant remains will be assessed by Scott Timpany of Headland Archaeology Ltd, and faunal remains by Steve Rowland or Andy Bates, both at Oxford Archaeology North. CHES will be informed and their approval will be sought for these arrangements.

2. Objectives

2.1 Rapid Desk-Based Assessment

2.1.1 To examine information held in the Cumbria Historic Environment Record (HER), and also those primary and secondary sources referenced in the HER.

2.2 Watching Brief

2.2.1 To identify any surviving archaeological remains and to investigate and record any revealed archaeological remains or deposits.

2.3 Report

2.3.1 To produce a report detailing the results of the desk-based assessment and watching brief.

2.4 Archive

2.4.1 Produce a full archive of the results of the watching brief.

3. Methodology

3.1 Rapid Desk-Based Assessment

3.1.1 A rapid desk-based assessment will be conducted, and sources will be consulted at the following locations:

- **Cumbria Historic Environment Record (HER):** this is a list of all of the recorded sites of archaeological interest recorded in the county, and is the primary source of information for a study of this kind. Each site is recorded

with any relevant references, a brief description and location related to the National Grid. All of the references relating to sites identified in the HER will be examined in order to verify them and add any necessary background information. In addition, relevant secondary sources, particularly previous archaeological investigations in the immediate area, will also be examined;

- **Cumbria Record Office (Barrow-in-Furness):** any primary and secondary sources referred to by the HER but not available for consultation there will be examined at the Cumbria Record Office in Barrow-in-Furness;
- **Greenlane Archaeology:** a number of copies of maps, local histories, unpublished reports, and journals are held in Greenlane Archaeology's library. These will be consulted as necessary.

3.2 Watching Brief

3.2.1 The groundworks are to be monitored, with one archaeologist on site.

3.2.2 The watching brief methodology will be as follows:

- Foundation trenches and/or trenches for services will be excavated by machine under supervision by staff from Greenlane Archaeology;
- All deposits of archaeological significance will be examined by hand if possible in a stratigraphic manner, using shovels, mattocks, or trowels as appropriate for the scale;
- The position of any features, such as ditches, pits, or walls, will be recorded and where necessary these will be investigated in order to establish their full extent, date, and relationship to any other features. If possible, negative features such as ditches or pits will be examined by sample excavation, typically half of a pit or similar feature and approximately 10% of a linear feature;
- All recording of features will include detailed plans and sections at a scale of 1:20 or 1:10 where practicable or sketches where it is not, and photographs in both colour print and colour digital format;
- All deposits, drawings and photographs will be recorded on Greenlane Archaeology *pro forma* record sheets;
- All finds will be recovered during the watching brief for further assessment as far as is practically and safely possible. Should significant amounts of finds be encountered an appropriate sampling strategy will be devised;
- All faunal remains will also be recovered by hand during the watching brief as far as is practically and safely possible, but where it is considered likely that there is potential for the bones of fish or small mammals to be present appropriate volumes of samples will be taken for sieving;
- Deposits that are considered likely to have preserved environmental remains will be sampled. Bulk samples of between 10 and 40 litres in volume, depending on the size and potential of the deposit, will be collected from stratified undisturbed deposits and will particularly target negative features (gullies, pits and ditches) and occupation deposits such as hearths and floors. An assessment of the environmental potential of the site will be undertaken through the examination of samples of suitable deposits by specialist sub-contractors (see *Section 1.3.4* above), who will examine the potential for further analysis. All samples will be processed using methods appropriate to the preservation conditions and the remains present;

- Any human remains discovered during the watching brief will be left *in situ*, and, if possible, covered. CHES will be immediately informed as will the local coroner. Should it be considered necessary to remove the remains this will require a Home Office licence, under Section 25 of the Burial Act of 1857, which will be applied for should the need arise;
- Any objects defined as 'treasure' by the Treasure Act of 1996 (HMSO 1996) will be immediately reported to the local coroner and secured stored off-site, or covered and protected on site if immediate removal is not possible;
- Should any significant archaeological deposits be encountered during the watching brief these will immediately be brought to the attention of CHES so that the need for further work can be confirmed. Any additional work and ensuing costs will be agreed with the client and according to the requirements of CHES, and subject to a variation to this project design.

3.3 Report

3.3.1 The results of the desk-based assessment and watching brief will be compiled into a report, which will include the following sections:

- A front cover including the appropriate national grid reference (NGR);
- A concise non-technical summary of results, including the date the project was undertaken and by whom;
- Acknowledgements;
- Project Background;
- Methodology, including a description of the work undertaken;
- Results of the rapid desk-based assessment;
- Results of the watching brief including descriptions of any deposits identified, their extent, form and potential date, and an assessment of any finds or environmental remains recovered during the watching brief;
- Discussion of the results;
- Bibliography;
- Illustrations at appropriate scales including:
 - a site location plan related to the national grid;
 - a plan showing the location of the study area in relation to nearby structures and the local landscape;
 - copies of early maps, plans, drawings, photographs and other illustrations of elements of the site, as appropriate;
 - a plan showing the location of the ground works;
 - plans and sections of the watching brief ground works, as appropriate, showing any features of archaeological interest;
 - photographs of the watching brief, including both detailed and general shots of features of archaeological interest and the trenches;

- photographs of individual artefacts as appropriate.

3.4 Archive

3.4.1 The archive, comprising the drawn, written, and photographic record of the watching brief, formed during the project, will be stored by Greenlane Archaeology until it is completed. Upon completion it will be deposited with the Cumbria Record Office in Barrow-in-Furness (CRO(B)). The archive will be compiled according to the standards and guidelines of the IFA (Brown 2007), and in accordance with English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991). In addition details of the project will be submitted to the Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological investigationS (OASIS) scheme. This is an internet-based project intended to improve the flow of information between contractors, local authority heritage managers and the general public.

3.4.2 A copy of the report will be deposited with the archive at the Cumbria Record Office in Barrow-in-Furness, one will be supplied to the client, and within six months of the completion of fieldwork, three copies will be provided for the Cumbria Historic Environment Record (HER). In addition, Greenlane Archaeology Ltd will retain one copy, and digital copies will be deposited with the NMR and OASIS scheme as required.

3.4.3 The client will be encouraged to transfer ownership of the finds to a suitable museum. Any finds recovered during the watching brief will be offered to the Dock Museum in Barrow-in-Furness or Kendal Museum, depending on what they are. If no suitable repository can be found the finds may have to be discarded, and in this case as full a record as possible would be made of them beforehand.

4. Work timetable

4.1 Greenlane Archaeology will be available to commence the project on **16th June 2008**, or at another date convenient to the client. It is envisaged that the project will involve tasks in the following order:

- **Task 1:** rapid desk-based assessment;
- **Task 2:** watching brief;
- **Task 3:** post-excavation work on archaeological watching brief, including processing of finds and production of draft report and illustrations;
- **Task 4:** feedback, editing and production of final report, completion of archive.

5. Other matters

5.1 Access

5.1.1 Access to the site for the site visit will be organised through co-ordination with the client and/or their agent(s).

5.2 Health and Safety

5.2.1 Greenlane Archaeology carries out risk assessments for all of its projects and abides by its internal health and safety policy and relevant legislation. Health and safety is always the foremost consideration in any decision-making process.

5.3 Insurance

5.3.1 Greenlane Archaeology has professional indemnity insurance to the value of **£250,000**. Details of this can be supplied if requested.

5.4 Environmental and Ethical Policy

5.4.1 Greenlane Archaeology has a strong commitment to environmentally and ethically sound working practices. Its office is supplied with 100% renewable energy by Good Energy, uses ethical telephone and internet services supplied by the Phone Co-op, is even decorated with organic paint, and has floors finished with recycled vinyl tiles. In addition, the company uses the services of The Co-operative Bank for ethical banking, Naturesave for environmentally-conscious insurance, and utilises public transport wherever possible. Greenlane Archaeology is also committed to using local businesses for services and materials, thus benefiting the local economy, reducing unnecessary transportation, and improving the sustainability of small and rural businesses.

6. Bibliography

Brown, DH, 2007 *Archaeological Archives: A Guide to Best Practice in Creation, Compilation, Transfer, and Curation*, Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), Reading

CHES, 2008 *Brief for an Archaeological Watching Brief at Moat Farm, Aldingham, Ulverston, Cumbria*, unpublished

English Heritage, 1991 *The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edn, London

HMSO, 1996 *Treasure Act*, <http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts1996/1996024.htm>

IFA, 2001 *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief*, revised edn, Reading

Morecambe Bay Archaeological Society, The, 2006 Evaluation of a Burnt Mound, Aldingham, Cumbria, *Trans Cumberland Westmorland Antiq Archaeol Soc*, 3rd ser, **6**, 17-26

Turner, A, Gonzalez, S, and Ohman, JC, 2002 Prehistoric Human and Ungulate Remains from Preston Dock, Lancashire, UK: Problems of River Finds, *J Archaeol Science*, **29**, 423-433

Young, R, 2002 The Palaeolithic and Mesolithic Periods in Northern England: an Overview, in C Brooks, R Daniels, and A Harding (ed), *Past Present and Future: The Archaeology of Northern England*, Architect Archaeol Soc Durham Northhumberland res rep **5**, Durham, 19-36

Appendix 3: Summary Context and Finds List

| Context | Type | Location | Description | Interpretation |
|------------|---------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 100 | Layer | Trench 1 | Blackish brown silty sandy clay, occasional sub-rounded gravels | Build up of loose soil on yard surface |
| 101 | Layer | Trench 1 | Pale yellow sand | Levelling layer |
| 102 | Layer | Trench 1 | Brown friable sandy clay and pea gravel (60-7%) | Make up layer |
| 103 | Layer | Trench 1 | Mid brown friable sandy clay, sub-rounded gravels (50%) | Make up layer |
| 104 | Deposit | Trench 1 | Sub-rounded cobbles, 0.10-0.15m in size | Discarded cobblestones |
| 105 | Deposit | Trench 1 | Sub-angular and sub-rounded cobbles | Drainage |
| 200 | Layer | Trench 2 | Gravels and limestone chippings | Make up and levelling layers |
| 201 | Fill | Trench 2 | Sand and limestone chippings | Fill of 202 |
| 202 | Cut | Trench 2 | Wide shallow trench | Cut for service trench |
| 300 | Layer | Trench 2 | Blackish brown friable sandy clay, moderate small – sub-rounded cobbles | Make up layer of redeposited topsoil |
| 301 | Layer | Trench 3 | Greyish brown firm sandy clay, occasional sub-rounded gravels | Original soil horizon |
| 302 | Natural | Trench 3 | Orangey brown slightly sandy clay with bands of grey, occasional gravels and cobbles | Glacial till |
| 303 | Cut | Trench 3 | Shallow wide depression | Pit |
| 304 | Fill | Trench 3 | Orangey red loose mix of crushed house bricks and mortar | Fill of 303 |
| 400 | Layer | Trench 4 | Friable mid brown sandy clay, moderately stony, sub-rounded cobbles and boulders | Redeposited topsoil |
| 401 | Layer | Trench 4 | Dark greyish brown firm sandy clay, occasional small – sub-rounded cobbles | Original soil horizon? |
| 402 | Natural | Trench 4 | Orangey brown slightly sandy clay with bands of grey, occasional gravels and cobbles | Glacial till |

Table 1: Summary context list

| Context | Type | Quantity | Description | Date range |
|------------|---------|----------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 401 | Pottery | 1 | White earthenware, possibly creamware | 18 th – 19 th century |
| 401 | Pottery | 1 | Brown glazed grey bodied stoneware jar base | 18 th – 19 th century |

Table 2: Summary finds list