



Morgan Ashurst

**Newton Close, Residential
Development**

**Archaeology and Cultural Heritage
Statement**

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1.0 Introduction

This Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Statement has been prepared by Kirsten Holland, Senior Archaeologist, WYG on behalf of Morgan Ashurst to accompany a full planning application for the development of residential housing at Newton Close, Barrow on Soar, Leicestershire.

2.0 Site and Development Description

The development site is located within an existing residential area adjacent to houses fronting Newton Close. The site is centred on SK 58150 17755 (458150, 317755) and is at approximately 50m above Ordnance Datum. The new development site extends to an area of approximately 0.16 hectares and is split to the north and south of Newton Close. The site can currently be accessed directly from Newton Close. The southern half of the development site is currently hard standing to the front of the site with four garages separating it from the rear which is currently a lawn. The northern half of the development site is predominantly hard standing with eight garages to the western boundary. The north of this portion of the site is covered in mature shrubs and is overgrown. The east of the site is bounded by mature trees and Fishpool Brook. A photograph of the site can be seen in Appendix A.

The development site application boundary and proposed layout for the development can be seen in Appendix B. The development is for the construction of a residential house comprising a single detached two bedroom bungalow with two parking spaces to the front and surrounding gardens within the southern half of the development site and the creation of sixteen parking spaces to the north of the development site.

3.0 Methodology

A study area of approximately 500m radius from the approximate centre of the site (SK 58150 17755) has been examined to assess the nature of the surrounding cultural heritage sites and place the recorded sites within their context.

This study has been undertaken taking into consideration the historical and archaeological background of the proposed development area. The sources consulted were:

- Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER);



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- National Monuments Record (NMR);
- English Heritage for designated sites;
- Historic Ordnance Survey maps
- Geotechnical Site Investigation results

4.0 Legislation and Planning Policy Context

Legislation and Planning Policy relevant to cultural heritage includes

National

- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979
- Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas Act 1990
- Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment, 2010

Regional

- The East Midlands Regional Plan– 2009
 - Policy 26 Protecting and Enhancing the Region’s Natural and Cultural Heritage
 - Policy 27 Regional Priorities for the Historic Environment

Local

- The Borough of Charnwood Local Plan “saved policies”- 2003
 - Policy EV/2 Nationally Important Archaeological Sites
 - Policy EV/8 Buildings of Local Historic or Architectural Interest
 - Policy EV/9 Historic Parks and Gardens



5.0 Consultation

Consultation was undertaken with the Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record and English Heritage for the provision of data for this report. Consultation will be undertaken with the Charnwood Assistant Conservation & Design Officer (Mark Fennell) in their role as advisor to the local planning authority following the completion of this report.

6.0 Baseline Data

6.1 Designated Sites

There are no World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Battlefields or Registered Parks and Gardens within the study area.

There are nine Listed Buildings within the study area and these are identified below. The site are all located sufficiently distant from the development site that the intervening built environment means that their settings will not be affected.

Identifier	Grid Reference	Description	Grade
189260	SK 57650 17431	35-37 Beveridge Street	II
189261	SK 57660 17390	22-24 Beveridge Street	II
189263	SK 57704 17364	49 and 49A Beveridge Street	II
189264	SK 57709 17356	51 Beveridge Street	II
189271	SK 57650 17533	The Round House, Church Street	II
189272	SK 57652 17640	3-11 Church Lane	II
189273	SK 57703 17593	13-21 Church Street	II
189274	SK 57732 17587	23-29 Church Street	II
189280	SK 57704 17704	Wall, Gate Piers and Gates to Numbers 24-32, North Street	II



Barrow on Soar Conservation Area is located just within the west of the study area around the historic core of Barrow on Soar. The intervening built heritage means that the character of the area or the views into and out of the Conservation Area will not be affected.

6.2 Archaeological and Historic Background

The Historic Environment Record holds details for sixteen sites within the study area and a further two sites are recorded on the National Monuments Record. These recorded sites are all located at a sufficient distance from the development site that they will not be affected. Background archaeological information for Barrow on Soar has been summarised in a non-technical booklet identified within the bibliography.

Identifier	Grid Reference	Period	Description
MLE6045	SK 584 174	Palaeolithic	Palaeolithic flake found east of Barrow Church. It is a Levallois flake with signs of use.
MLE16038	SK 576 177	Medieval	An archaeological evaluation at North Street revealed a wall and cobbled surface with 13-16th century pottery abutting the wall.
MLE16039	SK 580 173	Iron Age / Roman	A sherd of Middle/late Iron Age pottery and a Roman glass bead were found in the garden of no 68 Melton Road.
MLE16525	SK 584 174	Mesolithic	Three Mesolithic flints were recovered from Briggs's Field during field walking in 2003/5.
MLE16526	SK 584 174	Medieval	Six early and nine late medieval pottery sherds recovered from Briggs's Field during fieldwalking in 2003/5.
MLE16041	SK 580 173	Medieval	Sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from allotments on Melton Road in the 1990s including three sherds of Potters Marston ware,
MLE16042	SK 580 173	Roman	Possible Roman pottery from Melton Road including a sandy fabric sherd and tile.
MLE480	SK 577 175	Unknown	Undated wells and burials, Hall Orchard. In c.1908 a limestone pit in Barrow was being dug and two wells were found. One (square and oak lined) had a leather bucket with iron fittings. The second was round and stone lined. Human remains were found on the side of the field towards the churchyard.



Identifier	Grid Reference	Period	Description
MLE475; NMR317023	SK 577 174	Medieval	Possible site of the medieval manorial complex, Hall Orchard. Documents from 1273 mention a house, garden and dovecot. It was thought to have fallen out of use by the 15th century.
MLE16282	SK 579 175	Post-Medieval	Post-medieval lime kilns, The Banks. Six lime kilns are shown on the first edition OS map (1888), but the time of the 1904 map only four are mapped and all were gone by 1922.
MLE16283	SK 577 176	Post-Medieval	Post-medieval lime kilns, Bryan Close. Two kilns were shown on the first edition map (1888) but both had gone by 1904.
MLE16284	SK 581 173	Post-Medieval	Post-medieval lime kiln at 80a Melton Road shown on the first edition map (1888) but gone by 1904.
MLE16285	SK 583 175	Post-Medieval	Three post-medieval lime kilns at 84 Melton Road shown on the first edition map (1888) but not by 1904.
MLE16286	SK 579 178	Post-Medieval	Post-medieval lime works, Brook Lane. Ten kilns were identified on the first edition map (1888), six by 1904 and by 1922 it was labelled as "old lime kilns" indicating the site was no longer in use.
MLE16524	SK 584 173	Neolithic / Bronze Age	Neolithic/Bronze Age flint scatter recovered from Briggs's Field in 2003/5. The majority were concentrated in the north-east corner of the field.
MLE488	SK 575 173	Medieval / Post-Medieval	Medieval and post-medieval historic settlement core of Barrow upon Soar identified from historic landscape features, historic mapping and other documentary sources. From the late 14th century onwards there are references to limestone quarries and pits. There is also evidence for a windmill, location unknown.
NMR31700	SK 5765 1755	Medieval / Post-Medieval	The remains of a churchyard cross of possible medieval date. Shaft 1.4m high in a partially buried socket stone.
NMR964575	SK 583 174	Post-Medieval	Two circular soil marks on the south side of Melton Road likely to represent old limestone pits.
NMR1119098	SK 58 18	Early Medieval	Barrow upon Soar was a royal estate in the Saxon period and suspected of having a Saxon minster. This estate may have fragmented in the late Saxon period as a fragment of the Rothley estate, implying that Barrow was a secondary minster.

There are several recorded sites of prehistoric artefacts found within the study area. These artefacts have been largely been recovered as isolated finds without associated features and therefore probably represent casual loss rather than settlement sites, although a concentration of Neolithic and Bronze Age artefacts in



Briggs Field may represent a focal areas for activity. The Soar Valley was likely to be utilised as a transport route for hunter-gatherers migrating around the region until the Neolithic period. A single ring ditch of possible Bronze Age date has been recorded in the village, however it has not been excavated and therefore the function and date can not be confirmed.

During the Iron Age the region would have fallen under the control of the Coreltavian tribe that had a substantial base at Ratae (Leicester). This settlement would have provided the impetus for the establishment of the Roman town and civic centre at Ratae. Excavations to the north of the study area at Willow Road have identified two probable Iron Age roundhouses and a field system and there have been other findspots of isolated cultural material within the village and surrounding area.

Barrow on Soar does not lie directly on a major Roman transport route, however the Fosse Way lies to the east of the area and the village is anticipated to have lain on a minor road (Ordnance Survey, 1994). A cemetery was discovered in the 19th century within the village and there have been sufficient levels of Roman artefacts recovered from the surrounding area that it is considered likely that there was a reasonable size settlement in the area. There have been isolated findspots of artefacts within the study area unassociated with archaeological features within the study area.

The village remained an important site into the early medieval period under royal ownership. It has been suggested that it may have had a minster during this period. The settlement is anticipated to have been located in the historic core to the west of the development site and study area during this period.

The village itself is first recorded in the 1086AD Domesday Survey as *Barhou*. It means place at the wood or grove and is derived from Old English. Soar is a Celtic or pre-Celtic river name meaning flowing one (Mills, 2003). The medieval prosperity of the village was linked to its previous importance in the early medieval period and it remained part of a large estate throughout this period. There is substantial evidence of medieval buildings within the historic core of the village. Lime pits and quarrying was also established in this period. The excavations in the north of the study area at Willow Road recorded lime pits from this period. This industry carried on throughout the post-medieval period and into the 20th century.

The historic core of the medieval and post-medieval village has been identified as lying to the west of the study area focussed around Holy Trinity Church and Beveridge Street. The development site lies outside of this historic core and therefore it is anticipated to have formed part of the agricultural hinterland and therefore settlement sites are not anticipated. The main period of enclosure of common land occurred in



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the mid 18th century. The pattern of settlement continued into the post-medieval period and the historic mapping indicates that the development site was not developed until the post-war expansion period.

7.0 Historic Mapping Survey

Examination of historic mapping from online sources has indicated that the development site was in agricultural use from the date of the first edition OS mapping (1884). Fishpool Brook was located to the east and there were enclosed fields to the west until the edge of the historic core of the village. There were several lime pits to the east of Fishpool Brook and to the south of the study area. There were no alterations to the development site or its immediate surroundings through subsequent mapping editions including the 1938 edition map.

The development of the road layout and residential development dates from the post-war expansion period. By the mid 1950s the road for Ellis Close to the north of the development site had been established, however the housing was not constructed until between 1955 and 1966. The development site was shown as located within an area of rough grassland at this date. Newton Close and the residential housing fronting it was constructed by 1978 and the development site was occupied by garages. There have been no subsequent alterations to the development site to the present day.

8.0 Archaeological Potential and Impact Assessment

There are no identified cultural heritage sites within the development site boundary. The development site is located within an area which has already been developed for residential housing in the 20th century and the construction works from the surrounding development have caused some disturbance. Although the garages within the development site do not appear to have deep foundations there will have been some impact when the hardstanding was laid. Three window samples were advanced for geotechnical purposes within the southern half of the site. These indicated that the tarmac and gravel sub-base extends to a depth of 0.6-0.75m below ground level. This is then underlain by made ground comprising clay with carbonaceous inclusions and rootlets to a depth of 1.3 to 2.0 m below ground level overlying the natural mudstone strata (BSP, 2010).

The potential to discover previously unrecorded archaeological remains within the development site is considered to be negligible due to the previous disturbance, the lack of identified archaeological features in the immediate vicinity and the location of the site away from the historic settlement core.



There are no designated heritage sites within the immediate vicinity of the development site. Due to the built environment surrounding the site the setting of the heritage assets within the study area are not considered to extend to the development site and therefore there is no impact upon their setting from the development.

9.0 Conclusions

There is considered to be a negligible potential for cultural heritage remains to be impacted by the proposed development. There will not be any conflicts with identified planning policies at a national, regional or local level.

No further archaeological assessment or mitigation is recommended.



10.0 References

Barrow upon Soar Heritage Group (n.d.) The Archaeology of Barrow Upon Soar

BSP Consulting (2010) Newton Close, Barrow upon Soar, Combined Phase I Desk-Study and Phase II Exploratory Investigation. Unpublished client report

Charnwood Borough Council (2003) Local Plan for Charnwood Borough

DCLG (2010) Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment

Government Office for the East Midlands (2009) The East Midlands Regional Plan.

HMSO (1979) Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act.

HMSO (1990) Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act.

Mills AD (2003) Oxford Dictionary of British Place names. Oxford: Oxford University Press

Multi Agency Geographical Information for the Countryside (www.magic.gov.uk). Accessed May 2010.

Ordnance Survey (1994) Roman Britain

Historic Mapping

Ordnance Survey mapping 6" to 1 mile/1:10,560 1887-90, 1904-5, 1922, 1938, 1952

Ordnance Survey mapping 25" to 1 mile/1:2500 1884, 1903, 1921, 1966, 1978, 1987, 1994, 1995, 1996

Ordnance Survey mapping 1:10,000 1955, 1973, 1995, 2000, 2006, 2009



Appendices



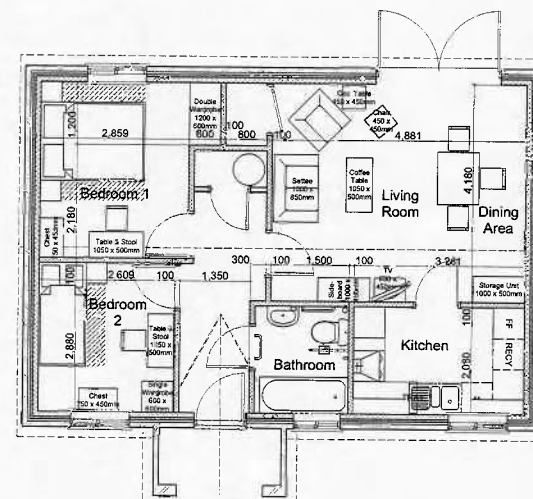
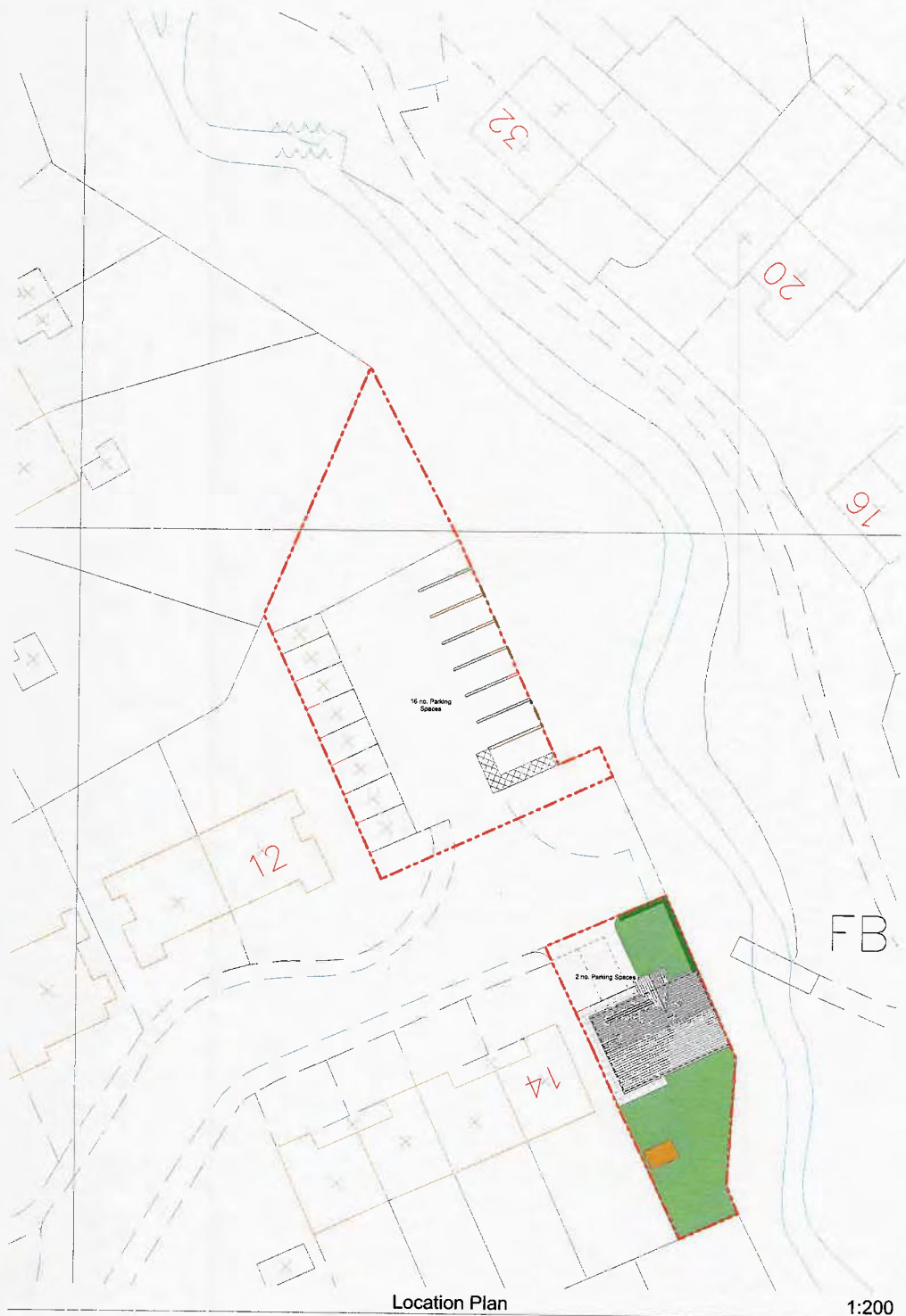
Appendix A – Site Photographs



Photograph 1: Typical view of garages in south of site



Appendix B – Development Site Application Boundary & Proposals



Social Housing

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Revisions

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Drawing
Status Client

Charnwood
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Project
Social Housing

Drawing Title
Site Plan -
Newton Close

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T3309 - 202 A

DESIGN

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Project

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Appendix C – Report Conditions



Cultural Heritage Statement, Newton Close, Residential Development, Barrow on Soar, Leicestershire

This report is produced solely for the benefit of **Morgan Ashurst** and no liability is accepted for any reliance placed on it by any other party unless specifically agreed in writing otherwise.

This report is prepared for the proposed uses stated in the report and should not be used in a different context without reference to WYG. In time improved practices, fresh information or amended legislation may necessitate a re-assessment. Opinions and information provided in this report are on the basis of WYG using due skill and care in the preparation of the report.

This report refers, within the limitations stated, to the environment of the site in the context of the surrounding area at the time of the inspections. Environmental conditions can vary and no warranty is given as to the possibility of changes in the environment of the site and surrounding area at differing times.

This report is limited to those aspects reported on, within the scope and limits agreed with the client under our appointment. It is necessarily restricted and no liability is accepted for any other aspect. It is based on the information sources indicated in the report. Some of the opinions are based on unconfirmed data and information and are presented as the best obtained within the scope for this report.

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Whilst skill and care have been used, no investigative method can eliminate the possibility of obtaining partially imprecise, incomplete or not fully representative information. Any monitoring or survey work undertaken as part of the commission will have been subject to limitations, including for example timescale, seasonal and weather related conditions.

Although care is taken to select monitoring and survey periods that are typical of the environmental conditions being measured, within the overall reporting programme constraints, measured conditions may not be fully representative of the actual conditions. Any predictive or modelling work, undertaken as part of the commission will be subject to limitations including the representativeness of data used by the model and the assumptions inherent within the approach used. Actual environmental conditions are typically more complex and variable than the investigative, predictive and modelling approaches indicate in practice, and the output of such approaches cannot be relied upon as a comprehensive or accurate indicator of future conditions.

The potential influence of our assessment and report on other aspects of any development or future planning requires evaluation by other involved parties.

The performance of environmental protection measures and of buildings and other structures in relation to acoustics, vibration, noise mitigation and other environmental issues is influenced to a large extent by the degree to which the relevant environmental considerations are incorporated into the final design and specifications and the quality of workmanship and compliance with the specifications on site during construction. WYG accept no liability for issues with performance arising from such factors

November 2008

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