

**Humber Field Archaeology**  
*Archaeological Consultants and Contractors*



**DUNELM FARM**

**MAIN STREET**

**RICCALL**

**NORTH YORKSHIRE**

**Assessment of Archaeological Potential**

**Humber Archaeology Report No.387**

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<b>Planning Refs</b>	<b>8/15/18G/PA 2011/1048/FUL</b>
<b>NGR</b>	<b>SE 6202 3773</b>
<b>Site Code</b>	<b>DFR 2011</b>

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**Humber Archaeology Report No.387**



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## 1 SUMMARY

This archaeological Desk-Based Assessment was undertaken by Humber Field Archaeology in November 2011 on behalf of Linden Homes North. It provides an assessment of the archaeological potential of a proposed residential development to the rear of Dunelm Farm, 27 Main Street, Riccall, North Yorkshire (approximate central NGR SE 6202 3773).

The assessment takes into account a walkover survey of the proposed development area, a recent geotechnical survey, and an evaluation of documentary and cartographic sources. This has allowed an appraisal to be made of the potential importance of any surviving archaeological remains within the development area boundary and the likely impact of the proposed work.

The survey has revealed features of archaeological or historical interest outside the proposal area which suggest that the site may have potential for the survival of similar features on the site, principally relating to the medieval/post-medieval village.

As on any site, there is also the potential for early activity, which may include Iron Age, Romano-British and early/middle Anglo-Saxon settlement: features of prehistoric or Romano-British date have been identified within and around the Riccall area, while the location of the village on a sandy ridge overlooking the River Ouse and the early form of the placename itself suggests that the present village may have been founded relatively early. Any settlement features in the area of the village form part of a much wider early landscape extending east across Riccall and neighbouring Skipwith parishes and west towards the River Ouse.

The report concludes, therefore, that there is the general potential for features of at least local significance in the proposal area, although the results of the geotechnical report and walkover survey suggest that there may have been significant recent damage, disturbance and truncation.

The report makes some recommendations for the scope of any potential fieldwork, but the final decision on any programme of archaeological work would be determined by the Local Planning Authority.

## **2 INTRODUCTION**

### **2.1 Background**

The proposal area occupies a large irregularly-shaped land block, c 120 x 50m at its widest points centred on SE 6202 3773, (Fig 1). It is bounded to the east by Main Street, to the south by Carr Lane, and to the west and north by existing residential developments including the vicarage to St Mary's Church. The eastern half of the site was formerly occupied mainly by farm buildings, which have now been demolished leaving extensive areas of concrete floor slabs and external yards. The western half of the site was gardens or orchards, and is now occupied by overgrown trees, shrubs and invasive weeds including Giant Hogweed.

This Desk-Based report is intended to assess the archaeological resource of the area, following standard requirements for this type of document as normally specified by local authorities.

### **2.2 Definition of the study area**

The study area is defined as the proposed 'redline' realignment area shown on Figure 1, although the surrounding area has also been examined to determine the general archaeological potential of the area to an approximate radius of 150m (Fig 2). The study area is located within the historic core of the medieval village of Riccall, and comprises a block of properties defined by historic streets comprising Main Road (east), Back Lane (south), Church Street (west) and Silver Street (north), bisected by Carr Lane, which passes the south side of the site.

Monuments within the study area have been included in the gazetteer (Appendix 1) and discussions (sections 5.2, 6.1).

### **2.3 Statutory Status and Constraints**

There are no listed buildings in the development area, although a number are present in the study area as a whole, including St Mary's Church, located north of the development area, No 41 Main Street (the 'Red House) and No 10 Church Street.

The site does, however, lie within Riccall Conservation Area (NYCC Ref DNY1441): under the terms of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (Sections 69 and 70), Conservation Area status governs the treatment of existing buildings and influences the design of new developments within the designated boundary. In this instance, no standing structures remain on site.

### **2.4 Local and National Archaeological Planning Policy**

Chapter 4 (Environment) of the Selby District Local Plan Adoption Draft: Part One (General Policies) February 2005 states that:

*4.164 Archaeological remains are a finite and non-renewable resource, in many cases highly fragile and vulnerable to damage and destruction. Appropriate management is therefore essential to ensure that they survive in good*

*condition. In particular, care must be taken to ensure that archaeological remains are not needlessly or thoughtlessly destroyed. They can contain irreplaceable information about the past and the potential for an increase in future knowledge. They are part of our sense of national identity and are valuable both for their own sake and for their role in education, leisure and tourism.*

*4.169 The Country Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) contains information on both scheduled and unscheduled archaeological sites of national, regional and local importance as well as areas of archaeological potential. The SMR is continually being updated as sites are reassessed and new finds are made. Developers need to be aware that archaeological remains, including fossil spoil deposits, such as peat, river wash gravels and other alluvial soils, can occur almost anywhere and that the true nature and importance of remains cannot be established without appropriate archaeological evaluation.*

*4.170 Applications for development affecting sites of known or potential archaeological interest should be accompanied by an archaeological evaluation in order for the District Council to make a reasonable and informed decision. Such an investigation could take the form of a desk top study or a field evaluation and be carried out in accordance with detailed advice contained in Paragraphs 21 and 22 of PPG16 (Archaeology and Planning). Planning permission will not be granted without adequate assessment of the nature, extent and significance of the remains present and the degree to which the proposed development is likely to affect them.*

*4.171 Where the Council decides that development affecting archaeological remains should proceed, and in situ preservation is not justified, the Council will wish to satisfy itself that the developer has made appropriate and satisfactory provision for the excavation and recording of the archaeology either through a planning condition or voluntary legal agreement. However, there may be very rare occasions when the presence of archaeological remains only becomes apparent once development has commenced. Developers may wish to insure themselves against the risk of a substantial loss while safeguarding archaeological remains unexpectedly discovered on site.*

*ENV28*

*(A) Where development proposals affect sites of known or possible archaeological interest, the District Council will require an archaeological assessment/evaluation to be submitted as part of the planning application.*

*(B) Where development affecting archaeological remains is acceptable in principle, the Council will require that archaeological remains are preserved in situ through careful design and layout of new development.*

*(C) Where preservation in situ is not justified, the Council will require that arrangements are made by the developer to ensure that adequate time and resources are available to allow*



*archaeological investigation and recording by a competent archaeological organisation prior to or during development.*

This Policy is in accordance with Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (PPS5), which sets out the Government's planning policies on the conservation of the historic environment. This replaced Planning Policy Guidance Note 15: Planning and the Historic Environment (PPG15), published on 14th September 1994; and Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning (PPG16) published on 21st November 1990. In terms of initial desk-based assessments, PPG5 Policy HE6 (Information requirements for applications for consent affecting heritage assets) is applicable:

*HE6.1 Local planning authorities should require an applicant to provide a description of the significance of the heritage assets affected and the contribution of their setting to that significance. The level of detail should be proportionate to the importance of the heritage asset and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on the significance of the heritage asset. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets themselves should have been assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary given the application's impact. Where an application site includes, or is considered to have the potential to include, heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where desk-based research is insufficient to properly assess the interest, a field evaluation.*

*HE6.2 This information together with an assessment of the impact of the proposal should be set out in the application (within the design and access statement when this is required) as part of the explanation of the design concept. It should detail the sources that have been considered and the expertise that has been consulted.*

*HE6.3 Local planning authorities should not validate applications where the extent of the impact of the proposal on the significance of any heritage assets affected cannot adequately be understood from the application and supporting documents.*

## **2.5 Objectives**

The general aim of this archaeological Desk-Based Assessment is satisfy local and national policy relating to the cultural heritage resource by collating information relating to the known or potential resource within the study area, including its character and extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and relative quality, in order to make an assessment of its worth.

This will contribute significantly towards the overall evaluation aim, which is to provide sufficient information for planning purposes to enable:

- (a) The formulation of a strategy to ensure the recording, preservation or management of any significant archaeological material or built cultural heritage feature;
- (b) The formulation of a strategy for further investigation, whether intrusive or not, where the character and value of the resource is not sufficiently defined to permit a mitigation strategy or other response to be devised.

## **3 METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Introduction**

The information upon which this study is based was collated from existing written, published, graphic and unpublished information, directly or indirectly relating to archaeological remains of features of historical interest within the study area. A walkover survey of the area has supplemented the other sources.

The sources of information consulted are noted below and the data derived from them are presented in the gazetteer of archaeological remains in tabulated format in Appendix 2 of this study; gazetteer numbers (**Gaz No xx**) are also given at appropriate points in the text. Additional published and unpublished sources are quoted in the report text and their details are noted in the bibliography. The combined results are shown on Figure 2.

### **3.2 Sources**

Various cultural heritage research and other sources were consulted during this assessment, which included:

- The North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record (NYHER)
- The Hull History Centre
- The National Monuments Record events and monuments databases
- The National Monuments Record aerial photographic collections
- Geoenvironmental Appraisal (Lithos Consulting Ltd)
- Victoria County History

Cultural heritage information for the study area was obtained from visits to NYHER and Hull History Centre. This information is summarised in Appendix 1 and is shown plotted on Figure 2. The map sources and archives consulted are listed in Appendix 2; a quantity of cartographic and other information was photographed and a selection of this data has been reproduced as Plates 25, 26.

Cultural heritage data was also obtained from the National Monuments Record. This information similarly is also summarised in Appendix 1 and is shown plotted onto Figure 2.

The Victoria County History (County of York: Vol 3: Ouse and Derwent Wapentake and Part of Harthill Wapentake) was also consulted, and provided the main source for the historical background.

A walkover or conditions survey of the area was undertaken by Humber Field Archaeology, adding to the result of a previous survey for the RCZA. The relevant results of this survey are summarised in Section 4 of this report. Photographs taken as part of the survey have been included in the report as Plates 1–24.

A geotechnical report by Lithos Consulting Ltd, commissioned by the client and produced in July 2011 provided an important source of information regarding the

state of preservation of potential archaeological deposits across the site (Lithos Consulting 2011).

### 3.3 Assessment of the significance of cultural heritage sites in the study area

An assessment of the effect of a proposal will depend upon an assessment of the significance of the archaeological sites and features affected and the degree of impact of the proposals. There are occasions when insufficient is known to make informed judgements and an assessment of risk is all that can be offered. The definitions of the various categories of significance are set out below. Although Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 has been superseded by Planning Policy Statement 5, the criteria of importance set out in Annexe 4 of PPG16 are still relevant. These are:

- **National:** the highest status of cultural heritage site: *eg* scheduled monuments, listed buildings Grade I & II\*, well preserved historic landscapes;
- **(County)/Regional:** includes the bulk of cultural heritage sites with reasonable evidence of occupation, ritual, industry etc, listed buildings Grade II; reasonably preserved historic landscapes;
- **Local:** cultural heritage sites with some evidence of human activity, but in a fragmentary or poor state, buildings of local importance, dispersed elements of historic landscapes.
- **Unknown:** insufficient evidence or data to make an informed judgement of importance.

An assessment of the degree of importance of each cultural heritage site identified by this assessment within the study area has been made according to the above categories, and is presented in the Gazetteer (Appendix 1).

### 3.4 Assessment of impact on the cultural heritage resource

There may occasionally be temporary reversible adverse impacts when a site or monument is affected during the course of construction activities. Impacts upon the cultural heritage resource are, however, predominantly permanent adverse impacts resulting from the loss of elements of the resource base as a consequence of new development.

A site or monument may be affected directly in this way, but it may also be affected indirectly by adversely altering its setting or its physical or chemical environment in some way. Conversely, in some cases, a well-designed development can result in permanent beneficial impacts where the setting of a historic building or landscape is enhanced, or the archaeological resource is preserved.

Impacts upon the archaeological cultural heritage resource can therefore take one of two forms:

- Direct – resulting from clearance of obstructions and remediation (*eg* old foundations, services, contaminated soils), ground reduction to a new

formation level or to reach a solid substrate, and excavation for new foundations, access routes, lift shafts, service runs and temporary works;

- Indirect – caused by vibration, compaction, shrinkage, contamination, or alteration of prevailing ground conditions (*eg* lowered or raised water table). This is particularly significant where fragile remains are involved (*eg* those preserved by waterlogging or desiccation, or by prevailing anaerobic conditions).

The significance of impact reflects both the importance of the heritage resource and the degree to which the resource would be affected (*ie* magnitude of impact). Significance is determined as follows:

- Major Beneficial
- Moderate Beneficial
- Minor Beneficial
- Neutral
- Minor Adverse
- Moderate Adverse
- Major Adverse

The following table defines these terms.

*Table 1 Assessment of significance*

<b>Significance</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Major beneficial	The proposals would: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide potential benefits, through removal of damaging or discordant existing impacts (direct or indirect) on regionally or nationally important heritage resources, for significant or extensive restoration or enhancement of characteristic features or their setting.</li> <li>• Remove existing visual intrusion, such that the integrity, understanding and sense of place of a highly valued area, a group of sites or features of national or regional importance is re-established.</li> </ul>
Moderate beneficial	The proposals would: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance existing historic landscape/townscape character through beneficial landscaping and/or good design.</li> <li>• Restore or enhance the form, scale, pattern or sense of place of the cultural heritage resource through good design.</li> <li>• Remove or reduce existing impacts affecting nationally important cultural heritage resources or their setting/context.</li> </ul>
Minor beneficial	The proposals would: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove or reduce existing impacts (direct and indirect) affecting locally or regionally important cultural heritage resources or their setting/context.</li> </ul>
Neutral	The proposals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have no appreciable impacts, either positive or negative, on any known or potential cultural heritage assets</li> </ul>
Minor adverse	The proposals would: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Result in severe damage to, or loss of, locally important cultural heritage resources.</li> <li>• Result in damage to regionally important cultural heritage resources.</li> <li>• Compromise or degrade the setting or context of locally or regionally important cultural heritage resources.</li> </ul>
Moderate	The proposals would:

adverse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Result in severe damage to, or loss of, regionally important cultural heritage resources.</li> <li>• Result in damage to nationally important cultural heritage resources.</li> <li>• Severely compromise or degrade the setting or context of regionally important cultural heritage resources.</li> <li>• Compromise or degrade the setting or context of nationally significant cultural heritage resources.</li> </ul>
Major adverse	<p>The proposals would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Result in severe damage to, or loss of nationally important cultural heritage resources.</li> <li>• Severely compromise or degrade the setting or context of nationally important cultural heritage resources.</li> </ul>

In addition, the term ‘Negligible’ may be used where the significance of an impact is measurable, but less than ‘Minor’ (eg a slight impact to the setting of a locally significant cultural heritage resource).

It is not the intention of this DBA to detail the level of impact at this stage; this cannot be achieved until details of proposed developments within the area are finalised. However, the potential impact on the archaeological resource can generally be classified as **Minor Adverse** in the cases of the majority of monuments; more significant damage would be classifiable as **Moderate Adverse** (see section 6.2).

Impacts can be offset to a degree by programmes of archaeological recording, donation of artefacts to a suitable museums service for potential research and display, and where applicable, publication (**Minor Beneficial**).

### 3.5 General and specific impacts by phase

#### *Site Clearance Phase*

The eastern half of the existing proposal area consists largely of concrete and tarmac slabs resting on a hardcore base and general makeups, representing the sites of former farm buildings. The western half by contrast mainly comprises an overgrown garden or orchard, with trees and bushes of various sizes and ages covering much of the area. This includes areas of giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*), an invasive phototoxic plant. Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 14(2), it is an offence to plant giant hogweed or cause it to grow in the wild. Safe removal of the weed and the soil it grows in is a legal requirement of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 Part II; the soil must be disposed of as controlled waste.

The removal of slabs and makeups, and the remediation of the western area, are operations which both have a potential archaeological impact. It will not, however, be desirable or possible to enter or archaeologically excavate within an exclusion zone boundary drawn at least 7m from the area contaminated with hogweed until it has been made safe.

#### *Construction Phase*

All construction processes are potentially destructive where any archaeological remains are concerned, including the excavation of foundation and service trenches,

site strips within building footprints or in areas of access routes, drives and parking bays.

The construction process normally includes some 'temporary works', which are potentially damaging if insufficient consideration is given to their design and implementation. These can include the construction of site work compounds, car/vehicle parks, access ramps, the formation and grading of banks or spoilheaps, temporary support structures, consolidated crane/plant bases and bunded fuel tanks for plant resupply.

The impact of the construction phase will be uneven across the area, depending on the site layout and local variations in topography.

### *Occupation Phase*

The area, once completed, is likely to be subjected to change and improvements relating to the use and evolution of the site; this may include, for example, the construction of extensions or garages. Any archaeological work undertaken prior to and during the site clearance and construction phases will, however, ensure that planners will have an enhanced body of information to draw on; any subsequent changes which have potential impact on the archaeological resource will continue to be dealt with through the planning system as at present, in accordance with PPS5 and its successors.

## 4 WALKOVER SURVEY

### 4.1 Introduction and methodology

A walkover or conditions survey of the development site and the wider study area was undertaken on 11th November 2011. A photographic record of the survey was taken for the assessment archive to reflect the nature of existing land use and conditions, and a selection has been made for use in this report (Plates 1–24).

The area of hogweed contamination was avoided for Health and Safety reasons.

### 4.2 The survey

The survey consisted of a visual inspection of the proposal area itself and a more general examination of the wider study area from existing public rights of way and highways, broadly concentrating on the area defined by Church Street, Silver Street, Main Street and Back Lane. The inspection chiefly recorded the existing streetscape; no sites of archaeological or historical interest were noted on the site itself, but the condition and extent of concrete/tarmac floor slabs and undergrowth were noted.

The site itself was divided broadly into two main areas. In the east, a track leads from the Main Street frontage (Plates 1, 2) immediately south of the existing late 18th-century farmhouse (27 Main Street), which is now separated from the former farmyard by a hedge around the private garden. Either side of the track are substantial areas of concrete and tarmac, with small areas of rubble, representing demolished buildings of several periods, including a former Primitive Methodist chapel south of the entrance (**Gaz No 8**: Plates 3, 5) and a series of farm buildings dating from the 19th and 20th centuries (**Gaz No 7**: Plates 4, 6).

To the west of the buildings, the area is almost completely overgrown, reflecting the former use of this part of the site as gardens or orchards (Plate 7). The vegetation includes trees, bushes and weeds, although there was no clear trace of giant hogweed stems, which have been identified as growing in the area. The potential presence of hogweed prevented HFA from entering this part of the site, although it was possible to photograph it from several angles, including Carr Lane to the south (Plates 8, 9). The rear of the site appears to merge with the garden of the vicarage of St Mary's Church which was constructed to the west in the 1970s to replace a succession of earlier buildings elsewhere in the village.

The general area was inspected to gain a general impression of the history of this part of central Riccall. The most prominent monument is St Mary's Church to the north (**Gaz No 3**: Plates 13, 15), but 18th- and 19th-century buildings form the bulk of the remaining streetscape (Plates 10–24).



## 5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL OF THE STUDY AREA

*Note: Figure 2 shows the location of cultural heritage sites (gazetteer entries) in the development area. Gazetteer numbers refer to Appendix 1.*

### 5.1 Geology and topography

#### Geology and topography

The village stands at *c* 9–10m OD on a ridge overlooking the River Ouse, which passes on a meandering course to the west. The surface falls to the river to *c* 3–4m OD, although flood banks protect the lower-lying areas which were historically seasonally-flooded ‘ings’.

The subsoil below Riccall is classified by the Soil Survey of England and Wales as deep permeable sandy soil of the Blackwood soil association (821b), overlying sands deposited as glaciofluvial drift. These deposits were covered to the west of the village near the Ouse by marine alluvium of the Romney association (532b). Below this at a depth of *c* 20m is Permian and Triassic Sandstone.

The sandy soil has encouraged the formation of heathland; the partly windblown nature of the subsoil can be seen in relic dunes to the east on Riccall and Skipwith Commons.

### 5.2 Historical and Archaeological Background

#### Historical and archaeological summary

##### *General background*

The prominent topographic location of the site suggests that it may have been attractive to early settlers. Two Neolithic stone axes were found in the parish prior to 1919, when they were donated to the British Museum. On Riccall and Skipwith Commons to the east of the Selby Road there are Bronze Age and Iron Age burial mounds, banks and ditches, Iron Age/Romano-British enclosures, field systems and trackways. A small section of a Romano-British ditch was examined on Riccall Common *c* 1975, while pottery, roof tile and stone foundations suggest a possible villa site at SE 629 374. An incomplete enclosure and integral trackway of probable Romano-British date were identified west of the village on aerial photographs at SE 6133 3757. Similar features are undoubtedly present across the Riccall area as a whole.

The present village (**Gaz No 10**) lies on the York to Selby road and has its origins in the Anglo-Saxon period, appearing as *Richale* in Domesday Book (1086). The name possibly derived from *Ricas+halh*, ‘corner of land belonging to Rica’; the ‘corner’ element (*halh*) probably refers to the prominent bend in the River Ouse below the village to the west. This is an early placename formation, possibly suggesting an early or middle Saxon settlement. Certainly light, well-drained sandy land close to rivers or watercourses seem to have attracted early Saxon settlers elsewhere in Britain, in contrast to the heavier claylands: East Heselton (North Yorkshire), Dryham Lane and Sancton (East Yorkshire), Flixborough (North Lincolnshire) and Lakenheath, West Stow and Sutton Hoo (Suffolk) are all settlements or cemeteries located on sandy subsoil. The presence of

a settlement or cemetery on a ridge next to a river bend would have made the site of Riccall prominent, particularly for waterborne travellers, although it also lies on the road from Selby to York. It was probably this combination of factors which caused the Norwegian army of Harald Hardrada to land at Riccall in 1066 before marching to Fulford, York, where he was defeated by Harold II (Harold Godwinson).

At the time of Domesday, there were two estates or manors in the village, one belonging to the Archbishop of York, the other to Harold II. The former ('St Peter's Liberty') descended through various hands, and was administered from at least as early as *c* 1295 from a moated manor house located to the west of the village; this was used from 1869 as the vicarage of St Mary's Church, and buildings still remain at the site on the outskirts of the village, with traces of a moat visible. The second manor became part of the Bishop of Durham's estate ('St Cuthbert's Fee') after Harold was defeated at Hastings; the manor house, called Wheel Hall, remained as part of the see of Durham until 1836, eventually being sold to Lord Wenlock. Again the site of Wheel Hall remains west of the village next to the Ouse and the York Road, although occupied now by an 18th-century farmhouse, also with surviving traces of the moat.

A third holding emerged in the 16th century, based on Riccall Hall, located just outside the study area to the south of Back Lane. The Hall itself was demolished in 1951–2, and the present house of that name was converted from outbuildings and stables within the remains of the gardens.

The medieval village was fairly large, with 269 poll tax payers in the two manors in 1377–9; over 300 people were of an age to take holy sacrament in 1548. This might suggest a total population of *c* 450–500 by the mid 16th century. The village included 128 houses in the 1672 hearth tax returns, which would suggest a population of *c* 550. Although the number of families had fallen to 86 in 1743 and 110 in 1764, indicating possible populations of 350–400, rising again to 450–500. Although the measures used are different and not directly comparable, this may suggest a fall in population and the number of inhabited houses between the late 17th and mid 18th centuries, possibly rising again in the later 18th century, when there was a national increase in family sizes. The earlier dip may reflect a drift to urban centres, particularly York. The population had more certainly reached 517 in the first census of 1801, 599 by 1821, reaching a 19th-century peak of 795 in 1871. The population remained in the 700s into the 1960s, but has risen steadily since, most rapidly since World War 2, which saw the expansion of both social and private sector housing estates, reaching 2317 in 2001.

The present layout of the village broadly represents its medieval form, with Silver Street and Main Street forming the principal framework, and Church Street, Coppergate and Station Road as subsidiary centres. Silver Street forms two sides of a triangular area which may have been an early market place next to the church, although there is only a reference to a market and fair being granted in 1350. The Grade I Listed St Mary's Church (**Gaz No 3**: Plates 13, 15) includes a 12th-century doorway and other 12th- and 13th-century elements, although the remainder of the church has been substantially rebuilt several times, including a through 19th-century reconstruction of the tower. There is a late medieval churchyard cross immediately to the west (**Gaz No 2**: Plate 12). Much of the present village is made up of 18th- to 20th-century buildings, including several farmsteads; at least one earlier timber-framed building survives, Bangram Hill Farm,

north-east of the village centre; there are two Grade II Listed buildings in the study area: 10 Church Street (**Gaz No 1**) and the 'Red House', 41 Main Street (**Gaz No 6**).

A watching brief to the north-west of the site at 3 Church Street (**Gaz No 4**) revealed 19th-century occupation, including several refuse pits, although there were several undated features which could have been earlier. A second watching brief to the north-east at 1 Station Road (**Gaz No 9**) revealed probable post-medieval deposits cut by a series of 19th- and 20th-century features, including pits and robbed-out foundation trenches.

Changes in the layout of properties, particularly as a result of rapid 19th- and 20th-century developments, means that it is difficult to discern a medieval/early post-medieval pattern of burgage plots, even on the first edition Ordnance Survey (1851). The east side of Coppergate and the west side of Main Street may be exceptions; in both cases there were still traces of what may be long, narrow plots into the 20th century. The pattern elsewhere in Riccall, however, appears to have been dominated by relatively short, wide plots with fields to the rear, although the majority had clearly been amalgamated or altered by 1851. This may suggest early reorganisation and amalgamation, including the creation of a large number of early enclosures in and around the village, although enclosure of the village's remaining common fields and wastes were enclosed very late, in 1883, with the enclosures of part of Riccall Common altered as late as 1907. Traces of ridge-and-furrow cultivation and enclosures of medieval or post-medieval date have been identified in several locations east and west of the village, including Hawthorn Farm on the edge of the study area at SE 6165 3775.

### ***The development area***

The first edition 6" series Ordnance Survey (1851) shows that the site was originally subdivided into two narrow east-west plots which could suggest that the area was occupied in the medieval period by tenements, although they could reflect part of the original West Field. These plots widened considerably towards the west where they abutted yards or gardens to the rear of buildings fronting Church Street. In the northern plot was the farm house itself (**Gaz No 7**) with several outbuildings in an adjacent yard and a paddock or orchard extending westward. At the frontage of the southern plot south of an entrance track next to the farmhouse was a smaller building with a possible attached outshot or extension to the rear, within a small yard or garden. There seems to have been a gap in the fence or hedge to the rear of the yard leading into an orchard, implying that the rear of the southern property had already been amalgamated with the northern property.

As the site already formed part of the village's built up area, it was not affected by the 1883 enclosure, and the enclosure plan consequently shows no detail. The second edition 1:10560 (6") Ordnance Survey of c 1890 shows that a Methodist Chapel had been built on the frontage of the southern plot (**Gaz No 8**); this was probably one recorded as being constructed for the Primitive Methodists in 1857, last used as a place of worship in the 1930s, and only recently demolished. It replaced an earlier chapel, possibly the building shown on the same site in 1851, although not labelled as such. By this time, the fields to the rear had been subdivided differently; instead of being split longitudinally into two relatively narrow strips, a single L-shaped western field was created by amalgamating the rear of the two properties and dividing it from the area to the rear of the farm and

chapel using a north–south hedge or wall. The chapel was now clearly only left with a small yard, with the farmstead wrapped around the west side. The 1:2500 (25”) 1910 Ordnance Survey shows the layout of the farm much more clearly, and by now it included the L-shaped farmhouse itself with an open-fronted building, probably a cart shed, immediately to the rear, and three further buildings surrounding a yard which was open to the south-east. There was a new building to the rear of the existing farmstead, which may have been an open-sided ‘Dutch’ barn located parallel to the field boundary.

The 1937 1:2500 edition showed a further east–west ‘Dutch’ barn to the south and a new building at the north end of the earlier barn. The Methodist Chapel also had outbuildings to the rear, which may have been a hall and/or schoolroom, as these were common features of chapels in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The enlarged L-shaped field to the rear had lost the ‘tail’ at the west end to the property to adjacent house fronting Church Street, reducing it to a simpler rectangle.

Around the time of World War 2, the chapel changed use, and it was no longer shown as such in post-war map editions, although the building layout appears to have remained the same until final demolition of all the buildings on the site with the exception of the farm, in the early 21st century.

Clearly, there is some potential for medieval and earlier post-medieval remains to be present within the proposal area. It is less certain whether the recently-demolished structures, including substantial areas of floors and hardstandings, have damaged or destroyed any potential remains. The presence of prehistoric, Romano-British and earlier medieval features should also not be ruled out.

## 6 DISCUSSION & RECOMMENDATIONS

### 6.1 Discussion

#### Discussion

##### *Prehistoric/Romano-British*

Early features have been identified in the Riccall area as a whole, including Iron Age and Bronze Age funerary sites, Iron Age/Romano-British field systems and a possible villa site. There is, however, no evidence for early occupation in the vicinity of the site, although as is the case on any site, the presence of artefacts and features cannot be ruled out.

##### *Medieval/Post-medieval*

The village clearly existed in the later Anglo-Saxon period, although the form of the placename would suggest an early or middle Saxon origin. Occupation of any of these periods may be present in the vicinity, but none has as yet been identified. The earliest parts of the church of St Mary date from the 12th century, and there is at least one timber-framed building in the village, Bangram Hill Farm. Traces of medieval enclosures and field systems have been identified east and west of the village, the closest at Hawthorn Farm, where an earthwork survey was carried out.

There is some evidence for fluctuations in the village population, with an apparent decrease in the number of households between the later 17th to mid 18th centuries, followed by a slow recovery. If this were the case, it might indicate that the historic street frontages include a number of vacated burgage plots which reverted to fields, and in some cases were not built on for several centuries, by which time the boundaries had often been altered or several plots amalgamated. The proposal site could have been subdivided into two possible medieval plots: the presence of medieval and earlier post-medieval structures on the frontage, with pits, boundary ditches, outbuildings etc to the rear cannot therefore be ruled out.

##### *Modern*

The present and recent features of the site date to between the late 18th and 20th centuries. Excepting the farmhouse, which is not included in the redevelopment and lies outside the redline boundary, these now consist entirely of the foundations and floors of the former chapel (built 1857), outbuildings and farm buildings, including several phases of 19th- and 20th-century barns, stores and a cartshed. Most of these are represented on successive Ordnance Survey editions, and appear to have been of purely local interest. The north, south and west site boundaries were in place by 1851, and may represent the remains of medieval plots or fields.

### 6.2 Impact assessment

General impacts relating to the site clearance, construction and occupation phases have been considered in section 3.4. Areas where the potential impact is classifiable as **Minor Adverse** (affecting locally important monuments) include:

- There is general potential for archaeological remains of the medieval and post-medieval periods to be present, including precursors of the farmhouse and chapel;
- There is a much smaller possibility that remains of the prehistoric, Romano-British or early medieval periods are present;
- The site's outer boundaries may preserve the late 18th-century and possible medieval layout.

There are no known areas where the potential impact can be classified as **Moderate Adverse** (affecting monuments of potential regional significance) or above.

### 6.3 Recommendations

*This section consists of recommendations made by Humber Field Archaeology on the basis of the collated information relating to the potential archaeological resource and site conditions: the final methodology and extent of any archaeological work required in relation to the proposed scheme will be determined by the LPA.*

Various levels of mitigation are possible (see section 3.4). The presumption since the introduction of Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (PPG16) in 1990 has been towards preservation *in situ*. Although PPG16 was replaced by PPS5 in 2010, preservation is still the preference of local authorities and English Heritage (section 2.4).

Where features have been identified, or there is good reason to suspect their presence, a staged scheme of archaeological investigation is normally required where there is a clear development impact.

The first stage would normally include preliminary non-destructive site investigation (such as geophysical survey and possibly fieldwalking) to establish the presence and extent of cultural assets, including those already known or suspected. These techniques are not appropriate in this instance.

Where features have been identified, a second stage of investigation would be required. This may include archaeological observation, investigation and recording ('watching brief'), recording of historic structures, earthwork surveys, and evaluation by means of trial trenching or monitored site stripping ('map, strip, record').

- In this instance, the possibility of trial trenching in the western half of the trench is affected by giant hogweed infestation, requiring early remediation (Lithos Consulting 2011). It will not be possible on Health & Safety grounds, or in terms of potential infringements of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 Part II, to work in this area until it has been made safe and any possibility of cross-contamination has been removed. The removal of areas of topsoil, either wholesale or in selected areas, will potentially make trial trenching in this area difficult, and it is therefore recommended that evaluation by means of monitored site stripping is adopted.
- In the eastern half of the site, extensive areas of concrete slabs (*c* 1200m<sup>2</sup>) and makeups have been identified, to a depth of 700mm bgl (*ibid*). 'Relict topsoil'

was noted in 6 of 13 trial pits excavated in the area as part of a geotechnical investigation, and as medieval/early post-medieval occupation is more likely in this area, sample trial trenching is considered to be more appropriate to examine the historic street frontage.

Where extensive areas of features or early landscapes have been identified as a result of the first two stages, and are considered likely to be of considerable importance, the third stage may consist of open area excavation ('preservation by record'). This may be targeted in principal areas of disturbance, or to agreed depths.

The final stage would comprise publication and dissemination of the findings.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This assessment was commissioned and carried out on behalf of Linden Homes North. A walkover survey was carried out for this report by Karen Adams, who also provided the photographs selected for use in this report (Plates 1–24). Documentary and cartographic research was undertaken at Hull History Centre by Doug Jobling and at North Yorkshire Heritage Environment Record by John Buglass of John Buglass Archaeological Associates; HFA are grateful to the staff of both institutions for their kind assistance.

The main report, recommendations and gazetteer were written and edited by Trevor Brigham. The figures were produced by Dave Atkinson.

Administrative support was provided by June Rooney.

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## Appendix 1: Cultural Heritage Sites

The locations of all Gazetteer entries are shown on Figures 1, 2.

Table 2 Gazetteer of cultural heritage sites

Gaz Ref	Type	Name	Summary	Period	Easting	Northing	SMR/NMR Ref	Sources	Significance
1	Building	10 CHURCH STREET	Early–mid 18th-century house with later additions and alterations. Pinkish-brown brick with pantile roof. Originally lobby-entry plan with range to rear. 2 storeys, 3 first-floor windows. Off-centre entrance. Openings to ground floor under elliptical arches. 2-course, first-floor band. Dentil eaves band. Swept roof. Brick coping to gable ends. Ridge stack. Grade II listed.	PMED	461900	437740	DNY13558, LBS326313	NYHER, EH	Local/Regional
2	Monument	CHURCHYARD CROSS	The base and shaft of a medieval churchyard cross survive, with a carved penner and inkhorn (cases for pens and ink), traditionally the sign of a scrivener (scribe).	MED	461929	437812	MNY17624, NMR58024	NYHER, NMR	Local/Regional
3	Building	ST MARY'S CHURCH	Mid-late 12th-century nave with early 13th-century arcades and late 13th-century chancel and north chapel, and probable 15th-century south chapel with later additions and alterations including restorations of 1864–5 by J L Pearson: rebuilding of west tower, south aisle wall and building of porch. Magnesian limestone ashlar with Welsh slate roof. Two stage W tower, south porch, 5-bay aisled nave, 2-bay chancel with single-bay chapels to each side. Fine 12th-century S doorway with rosettes, beakheads, then animals, faces and interlace to inner arches. Pointed N doorway has similar studding within chamfered surround under hoodmould. Grade I listed.	MED	461959	437833	MNY12070, LBS326312	NYHER, EH	National
4	Monument	EMOD OCCUPATION,	A watching brief undertaken by Humber	?PMED/EMOD	461970	437760	ENY2339	NHER,	Local

		3 CHURCH STREET	Field Archaeology during groundwork on land to the rear of 3 Church Street in 2004 revealed evidence of 19th-century occupation in the form of several refuse pits, although some undated pits may have been of an earlier date. Artefacts recovered included pottery, ceramic building material fragments and butchered animal bone.					HFA	
5	Monument	FORMER VICARAGE	Site of former vicarage in the NE corner of St Mary's churchyard. First recorded in 1535, it comprised a hall, parlour, bedroom and kitchen in 1649 and a study, kitchen parlour and outshot in 1764. It was replaced in 1849 by a larger house in York Road and demolished to allow the churchyard to be extended, although it still appeared on the 1851 OS as 'The Vicarage'.	PMED	462000	437850	MNY12075	NYHER, VCH	Local
6	Building	RED HOUSE, 41 MAIN STREET	Early 19th-century house with later additions and alterations. Reddish-brown brick in Flemish bond with hipped Welsh slate roof. Central hallway plan. 2 storeys, 3 bays. Grade II listed.	EMOD	462031	437842	DNY13433, LBS326318	NYHER, EH	Local/Regional
7	Building	DUNELM/DUNELMS FARM, 27 MAIN STREET	Dunelm (var Dunelms) Farm now stands alone and is of mid to late 18th-century appearance, red brick with pantiled roof. The front section has a room either side of a central passage, leading from the N room into the rear wing. The farm is shown on the 1st Edn 6" OS as an L-shaped structure, probably identical to the present farm, with two E-W outbuildings to the rear. There are additions to the outbuildings in the 2nd Edn (c 1890), and again in 1910, with the addition of a probable N-S Dutch barn to the W, reaching their fullest extent in the post-war period, although a number of the original buildings had been replaced by more modern prefabricated types. The	PMED-MOD	462061	437764		Historic OS	Local

			farm may originally have been confined to the northern of 2 relatively narrow properties occupying the site, but it seems to have taken over much of the S strip, probably following the construction of the Primitive Wesleyan Chapel S of the site entrance (Gaz No 8). The strips were amalgamated to form a large field at the W end of the site to the rear of the enlarged farmyard.						
8	Monument	PRIMITIVE WESLEYAN CHAPEL, MAIN STREET	Chapel, established in 1857 to replace an earlier building, possibly on the same site, as a structure is shown in the same location on the 1st Edn OS (1851). It seems to have been rectangular with a small extension at the NW corner. Several outbuildings were added to the rear in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, which may have comprised a schoolroom and hall, although this cannot be confirmed without documentary research. The building was still named on the 1937 OS, but was disused thereafter, and possibly attached to the farm. The main building survived into the 21st century and appears to have been c 11 x 8.5m with a grey slate hipped roof.	EMOD-MOD	462078	437748		Historic OS, VCH	Local
9	Monument	PMED-EMOD OCCUPATION, 1 STATION ROAD	A watching brief undertaken by Humber Field Archaeology on land adjacent to 1 Station Road, in 2008 revealed a sequence of probable post-medieval deposits underlying later 19th- and 20th-century waste, occupation and demolition material. The excavations at the development site have demonstrated the presence of archaeological deposits dating to the post-medieval and later periods (MNY25473). The post-medieval period was characterised by a buried landscape surface, pits and probable robbed out foundation trenches in plots 6-7. There	PMED-EMOD	462084	437830	ENY4210, MNY25473, MNY25474	NHER, HFA	Local

			was also an undated north-south boundary ditch in Plot 1(MNY25474). Later probable 19th century occupation evidence was present in the form of a series of intercutting waste pits in Plot 3, together with 19th-century and later occupation in Plot 4 with the areas of brick flooring and later service installations. A small assemblage of artefacts consisting of animal bone, ceramic building material and pottery dating to the post-medieval period were recovered.						
10	Monument	RICCALL EMED–MOD SETTLEMENT	Settlement appearing as <i>Richale</i> in Domesday (1086), possibly an early or middle Saxon settlement, but the site of Harald Hardrada’s landing with his Norwegian army in 1066 on the way to defeat at Fulford. The village was located at the junction of the York–Selby and Kelfield roads. The principal streets, Silver Street, Main Street, Church St, Coppergate, Station Road, may have been in place quite early, centred on a triangular area in front of St Mary’s Church. There were two manors, one which had entered the hands of the Archbishops of York by 1066, the other held by Harold II in 1066, but the soke of the bishop of Durham’s manor of Howden by 1086. Both moated manor houses were to the W of the village near the Ouse, now the Manor House and Wheel House. A third substantial holding was centred on Riccall Hall to the S of Back Lane. The population, as far as can be discerned from various tax returns, grew until the late 17th century, but may have declined in the following decades before starting a slow but steady growth from c the mid 18th. The open fields seem to have been	EMED–MOD			HNY22362	VCH	–

			subject to early enclosures, but were finally enclosed in 1883.						
11	Monument	STONE-LINED WELL	Stone-lined well recorded in 1892, possibly relating to the church. The exact location is not recorded.	?MED/PMED			MNY12071	NYHER	Local

## Appendix 2: Map and Archive Sources

Source	Description	Date	Scale
Historic maps	Ordnance Survey	1851	1:10560
	Ordnance Survey	1892	1:10560
	Ordnance Survey	1910	1:2500
	Ordnance Survey	1937	1:2500
	Ordnance Survey	1995	1:2500
	Riccall Enclosure Plan	1884	–
	Altered apportionment of rent in lieu of tithes	1889	1:2376
	New enclosure of Riccall Common	1907	–



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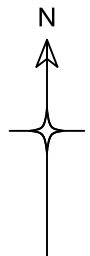
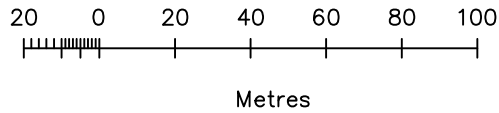
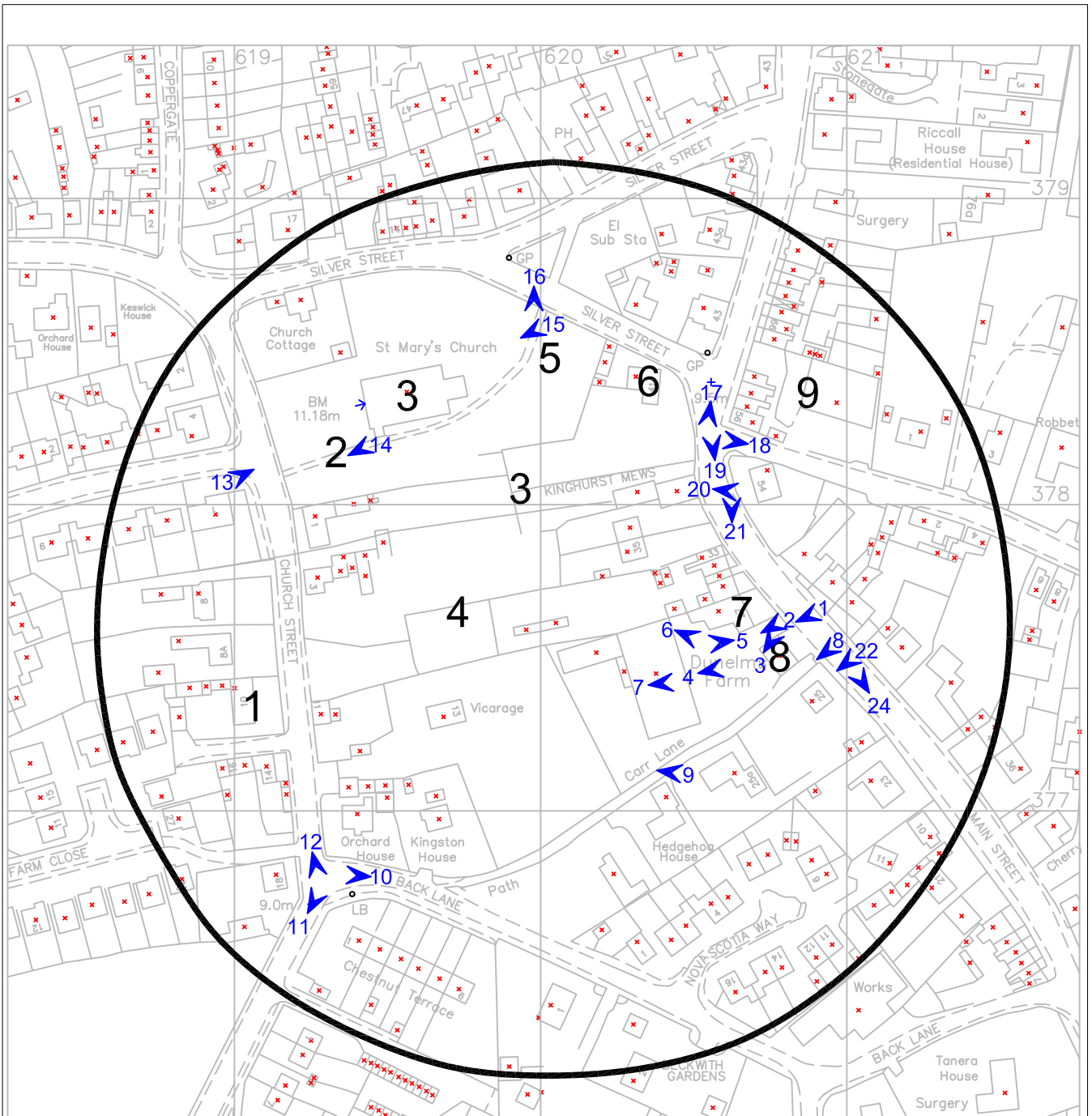
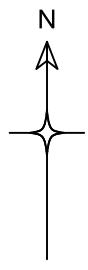
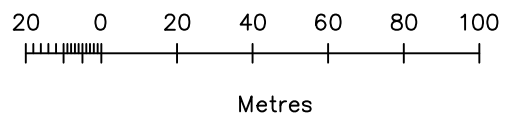


Figure 1 Site location within Riccall



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- 4** Gazetteer reference
- 9** Plate number

Figure 2 Cultural heritage sites with the study area (black line) including the walkover survey plate numbers





*Plate 1 Site entrance, looking west across Main Street*



*Plate 2 Entrance track through farm from Main Street, looking west*



*Plate 3 Area of former chapel (Gaz No 8) south of entrance track, looking south-west*



*Plate 4 Farm outbuilding and yard slabs, looking west*



*Plate 5 Looking back towards Main Street towards farm Gaz No 7 (left) and former chapel Gaz No 8 (right)*



*Plate 6 Remains of demolished outbuildings, looking west*



*Plate 7 Overgrown area to rear of outbuildings, looking west*



*Plate 8 Looking west along Carr Lane, with site to right*



*Plate 9 Looking north into rear of site from Carr Lane*



*Plate 10 West end of Carr Lane from Back Lane, looking east*



*Plate 11 Riccall Mill, looking south-west across Church Street*



*Plate 12 Church Street from junction with Back Lane, looking north*



*Plate 13 St Mary's Church (Gaz No 3), looking east across Church Street*



*Plate 14 Remains of churchyard cross (Gaz No 2), looking west*



*Plate 15 St Mary's Church (Gaz No 3), looking south-west*



*Plate 16 Part of possible triangular market place, Silver Street, looking north-east*





*Plate 17 Main Street, junction with Silver Street (left), looking north*



*Plate 18 Station Road, looking east*



*Plate 19 Main Street, junction with Station Road (left), looking south towards site entrance (between cars)*



*Plate 20 Former warehouse or workshop, No 39 Main Street, looking west*



*Plate 21 19th-century cottage, No 33 Main Street north of site entrance, looking south-west*



*Plate 22 No 25 Main Street south of site entrance, looking west*



*Plate 23 Main Street, looking north from near site entrance*



*Plate 24 Main Street, looking south from site entrance*



*Plate 25 Site area from 1884 enclosure map (site entrance marked)*



*Plate 26 Site area from 1889 map of altered rate apportionments in lieu of tithes (site entrance marked)*

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Project Management • Desk-based Assessment • Field Survey • Excavation  
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