



ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING
SURVEY

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THE LODGE, CLARKE GARDENS,
ALLERTON, LIVERPOOL

prepared for
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Report Number	20-31
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<i>Issue 1</i>	31/03/2020
<i>Issue 2:</i>	

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Location Springwood Avenue, Liverpool L25 7UN

District Liverpool

Planning Ref 19H/2684

Grid Ref (NGR 41571 85419)

Oasis No. Northern1-388591

**THE LODGE, CLARKE GARDENS, ALLERTON, LIVERPOOL:
ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING**

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THE LODGE, CLARKE GARDENS, ALLERTON, LIVERPOOL: ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

Summary

Northern Archaeological Associates Ltd was commissioned by Atelier 2 Architects on behalf of Andrew Booth to undertake a programme of archaeological building recording at The Lodge, Clarke Gardens, Springwood Avenue, Allerton, Liverpool (NGR: SJ 41571 85419) (the Site).

The work was undertaken to fulfil Condition 5 of a planning application (19H/2684) for development proposals on the Site that include the erection of a two-storey side and rear extension to an existing property (The Lodge) with associated external alterations, a new detached garage, the repair of a dilapidated sandstone building (surviving upstanding remains of a T-shaped former stable block), and layout of an associated parking area, landscaping and new boundary treatments.

Prior to the archaeological work, vegetation clearance work had been carried out, and groundworks associated with driveway had already been undertaken, reducing levels across the footprint of the former stables. Other groundworks, including service runs, had also already been implemented. Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS) had recommended to the Local Planning Authority that a programme of works – a Historic England Level 1 building survey of the upstanding remains, together with a watching brief during any groundworks within the footprint of the former extent of the building – was required.

However, due to the reduction in ground levels in the area of the footprint of the former extents, MEAS agreed that a watching brief was not required and that the previously stripped area should be recorded photographically during the Level 1 recording of the upstanding remains of the stable block.

The building recording was undertaken in accordance with an agreed Written Scheme of Investigation. The remains comprise a rectangular structure, which appears to have been an extension to the north wall of the stable block, as indicated from cartographic evidence. Physical evidence in the surviving remains suggests that the existing structure was formerly taller, possibly two storeys, and that walls formerly extended west and east from the south-west and south-east corners.

There was no evidence observed for any remains associated with the former stable block within the area where groundworks had been undertaken in relation to the driveway.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Northern Archaeological Associates Ltd was commissioned by Andrew Booth (hereafter the 'Client') to undertake a programme of archaeological building recording at The Lodge, Clarke Gardens, Springwood Avenue, Allerton, Liverpool (NGR: SJ 41571 85419; Fig. 1) (hereafter the 'Site').
- 1.2 In 2015, a non-intrusive visual structural inspection was undertaken by Blakett-Ord Conservation Engineering (Blakett-Ord 2015) and a statement of significance was issued in 2019 by Atelier 2 Architects, in support of a planning application (Atelier 2 Architects 2019).
- 1.3 The work was undertaken as part of a planning application (19H/2684) for development proposals on the Site which include the erection of a two-storey side and rear extension to an existing property (The Lodge) with associated external alterations, a new detached garage, the repair of a dilapidated sandstone building (surviving upstanding remains of a T-shaped former stable block), and layout of an associated parking area, landscaping and new boundary treatments.
- 1.4 Planning consent was granted by Liverpool City Council on 7th February 2020 (the Local Planning Authority) subject to a number of conditions, one of which (Condition 5), stated that no development should take place until a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological work is approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority (LPA). The work shall be carried out in accordance with the approved scheme.
- 1.5 MEAS, in its capacity of archaeological advisor to Liverpool City Council, was consulted by the council and issued recommendations to be applied to any planning permission in the form of conditions. As the proposed development will impact upon a non-designated heritage asset on the Merseyside Historic Environment Record (HER), MME16031 (the former stables possibly of 18th-century date), a programme of works taking the form of a Historic England (2016) Level 1 building survey of the upstanding remains, together with a watching brief during any groundworks within the footprint of the former extent of the building, was recommended.
- 1.6 During consultation with the Client and a follow-up site visit by NAA, it was revealed that vegetation clearance work had been carried out and that groundworks associated with the driveway had already been undertaken, reducing levels across the footprint of the former stables. Other groundworks, including service runs, had also already been

implemented. The proposed garage area in the east part of the Site will be piled and no groundworks will be carried out in this area. Ground reduction was carried out in order to prepare the Site for a driveway and no further groundworks are proposed. No remains pertaining to the former footprint are visible, and any remains that may be present will be preserved in situ as the ground level is being raised to provide a base for the proposed drive.

- 1.7 NAA was subsequently commissioned by the Client to undertake consultation with MEAS during which, it was agreed that there would be no requirement for a watching brief and that the previously stripped area be recorded photographically during the Level 1 recording of the upstanding remains of the stable block.
- 1.8 NAA issued a WSI in March 2020, outlining the proposed scheme of works (NAA 2020), which was subsequently accepted by MEAS who recommended it be approved by the LPA.

Aims and objectives

- 1.9 The primary aims, as outlined in the WSI, are to provide a photographic record of the remains of the former stable block within the development area (Fig. 2), equivalent to Level 1 guidance (Historic England 2016). This is a basic visual record supplemented with the minimum information needed to identify the building's location, age and type.
- 1.10 A photographic record was also to be undertaken of the area of groundworks associated with the new driveway.
- 1.11 In achieving this aim the following objectives were identified and met:
- a photographic record of the remains of the former stable block;
 - a photographic record of the area of groundworks for the driveway;
 - the preparation of a single, illustrated report in accordance with recommended guidelines. A digital copy of the report will be produced for the Merseyside HER; and,
 - to prepare a suitably labelled and catalogued digital photographic and report archive to be entered onto the Merseyside HER.

2.0 METHODOLOGY

Photographic building recording

- 2.1 The building recording was undertaken on the 19th March 2020. The weather was generally dry.
- 2.2 Existing drawings supplied by the Client were used as a basis for the photographic location plans (Fig. 3). Photographic locations and directions were annotated on site. Drawings supplied by the Client were not checked for dimensional accuracy and no additional survey was required or carried out.
- 2.3 A general exterior digital photographic record was compiled of the building within the wider surrounding landscape. Oblique views were also captured of most elevations (where accessible).
- 2.4 The photographic archive was produced using a digital SLR camera and selection of appropriate lenses. The images were captured in the camera's proprietary RAW format and converted to JPEG for inclusion in the report and 8-bit TIFFs for archiving purposes in accordance with Historic England Guidance (Historic England 2015a).

Record of groundworks

- 2.5 The photographic record was compiled concurrently with the building survey on the 19th March 2020.
- 2.6 Existing drawings supplied by the Client were used as a basis for the photographic locations.

Standard and guidance

- 2.7 All the work was carried out in accordance with accepted best practice and national guidance (CIfA 2014 and 2019; Historic England 2015a, 2015b and 2016).

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Location

- 3.1 The Site is located within the Hunts Cross area of Liverpool, approximately 0.9km to the south-west of Allerton Hall. The Site is accessed via a track leading from Springwood Avenue (Fig. 1).

- 3.2 The building that is the subject of this building recording is located to the north side of the Site, north of The Lodge (Fig. 2). The national grid coordinates of the four corners of the buildings are:

North-west corner: 341568, 385444

North-east corner: 341575, 385446

South-west corner: 374569, 385438

South-east corner: 341576, 385440

Geology

- 3.3 The solid geology comprises the Chester Formation – pebbly (gravelly) sandstone. There are no recorded superficial deposits (BGS 2020).
- 3.4 The soils across the whole Site are classified as naturally wet, very acid sandy and loamy soils (Cranfield University 2020).

Topography

- 3.5 The area of the development site slopes gently from north to south, lying at around 40m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The Site was formerly overgrown with trees and shrubbery that has since been removed and the site levels reduced. There are mature trees to the north and east of the boundaries.

4.0 HISTORIC BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The following background is a precis of information presented in the heritage statement of significance (Atelier 2 Architects 2019).
- 4.2 The Site is situated approximately 0.9km to the south-west of Allerton Hall, a Grade II* listed mansion. The central portion and west wing were built after 1736, probably for John Hardman; the building was extended and completed to the east in around 1810–1812 for William Roscoe (Historic England 2020). It was altered in the 19th century and converted into a pub in the late 20th century. The reasons for its Grade II* designation is as a ‘fine merchant’s house, it was built as a country residence which introduced Palladianism to Liverpool’. It contains a complete early 19th-century panelled room, and the main historical interest of the building is in its association with prominent Liverpool figures, including the abolitionist William Roscoe (*ibid.*).

- 4.3 Clarke Gardens obtained its name from the Clarke family who acquired the hall in 1886. Charles Samuel Clarke gave the hall to the City of Liverpool in 1923 (Atelier 2 Architects 2019).
- 4.4 The upstanding sandstone building on the Site (former stable block) may have been associated with the hall, and cartographic analysis reveals that it was present (as a short northward projection of the main stable block), together with other buildings (most since removed) on the 1840 'Township of Allerton' tithe map. Although not mentioned specifically, the general plot is labelled 'Yard and Plantations in Hall', owned and occupied by Ellames Pattinson Esq., in the accompanying schedule. The building was not, however, present on Wm Yates and George Perry's 1768 map 'A Map of the Environs of Liverpool, Drawn from an Actual Survey Taken in the Year 1768'.
- 4.5 The whole building is present on all subsequent mapping until 1947, by which point only the surviving portion is illustrated. The current property, The Lodge, dates to the immediate post-war era; its construction may have necessitated the demolition of the main part of the stable block, leaving the current structure.
- 4.6 The current building, which is the subject of the archaeological building recording, exhibits features consistent with it once having been attached to a much larger structure and may well have extended to two storeys (Atelier 2 Architects 2019).

5.0 LEVEL 1 BUILDING RECORDING RESULTS

- 5.1 The photographic record of the building is provided as Plates 1 to 20 at the end of this report. The directions of the photographs are shown on Fig. 3.
- 5.2 The remains of the former stable block survive as a rectangular structure constructed of coursed red sandstone, measuring approximately 7.4m by 5.5m, orientated west/east. It currently stands to a height of approximately 2.5m, but there is evidence that it was formerly taller as suggested by the presence of a string course along the west, north and east elevations. The current roof is relatively modern and consists only of corrugated sheeting laid on timber beams.
- 5.3 The walls measure approximately 0.5m thick, apart from the set back wall in the north elevation which contains a doorway that measures c.0.3m in thickness. The doorway in the north elevation measures 2.01m in width; the lintel is missing and there is no

evidence for any door fittings. There are alternating long and short quoins on the north-west and north-east corners.

5.4 In the west and east elevations there is a single small lunette (half-moon) window placed centrally, the surrounds of which are constructed of sandstone.

5.5 The south elevation contains evidence for former walls that extended west and east, although the eastern side has suffered significant movement due to water damage. There are five ventilation slits in the south elevation; three of which have been infilled. The slits measure 0.13m in width and 0.39m in height. There is a central doorway that measures 1.42m in width and 2.05m in height. The presence of the ventilation slits in this elevation indicates that the structure was utilised for housing animals or animal fodder.

6.0 SUMMARY OF RECORD OF GROUNDWORKS

6.1 The ground level to the west and south of the remains of the former stable block had been reduced by a maximum of approximately 0.25m at the time of survey (Plates 19 and 20). The whole groundwork area was reduced to levels that appear to be natural ground.

6.2 Some dressed sandstone blocks that were probably derived from a structure or boundary wall, were placed to the north-west side of the extant building. There was no evidence, however, for any structural remains within the area that had been reduced for the driveway which may have related to the foundations of the former stable block.

6.3 To the east of the groundwork area, in the location of a proposed garage the former ground level was observed. This area will be piled, and no groundworks are expected.

7.0 DISCUSSION

7.1 The archaeological building recording involved the photographic survey of the remains of a former stable block, believed to have been associated with Allerton Hall. The remains comprise a rectangular structure, which appears to have been an extension to the north wall of the former, much larger stable block, as indicated from cartographic evidence.

- 7.2 There is also physical evidence in the surviving remains that the existing structure was formerly taller, possibly two storeys in height, and that walls extended west and eastwards from the south-west and south-east corners.
- 7.3 There was no evidence observed for any remains associated with the former stable block within the area where ground levels had been undertaken in preparation for the driveway.
- 7.4 There are no further ground reduction works planned; as such, no further archaeological works are recommended.

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PLATES



Plate 1: the remains of the former stable block (left) in relation to The Lodge (right). View looking south-east



Plate 2: the remains of the former stable block (right) in relation to Beech Cottage (left). View looking north-west



Plate 3: north elevation. View looking south-east (scale = 2m)



Plate 4: detail of alternating quoins and string course above, north-west corner. View looking south



Plate 5: north elevation with Beech Cottage in background. View looking west



Plate 6: doorway in north elevation. View looking south



Plate 7: detail of wall thickness (0.3m), doorway in north elevation. View looking west

Plate 8: north elevation, east side of doorway. View looking south-west



Plate 9: east elevation with Beech Cottage in the background. View looking west



Plate 10: detail of lunette window, east elevation. View looking west



Plate 11: south elevation. View looking north

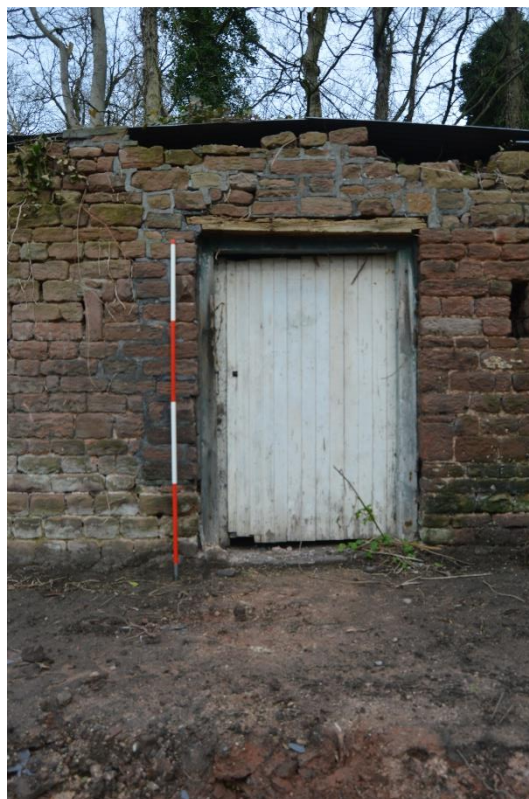


Plate 12: detail of doorway, south elevation. View looking north (scale = 2m)



Plate 13: south elevation, east side, showing area of wall collapse. View looking north (scale = 2m)



Plate 14: south elevation, west side, showing ventilation slits. View looking north (scale = 2m)



Plate 15: south elevation as seen from the south-west, showing remains of former wall which extended westwards (left of scale). View looking north-east



*Plate 16: west elevation, with remains of former wall right of photograph. View looking east
(scale = 2m)*



Plate 17: west elevation. View looking east (scale = 2m)



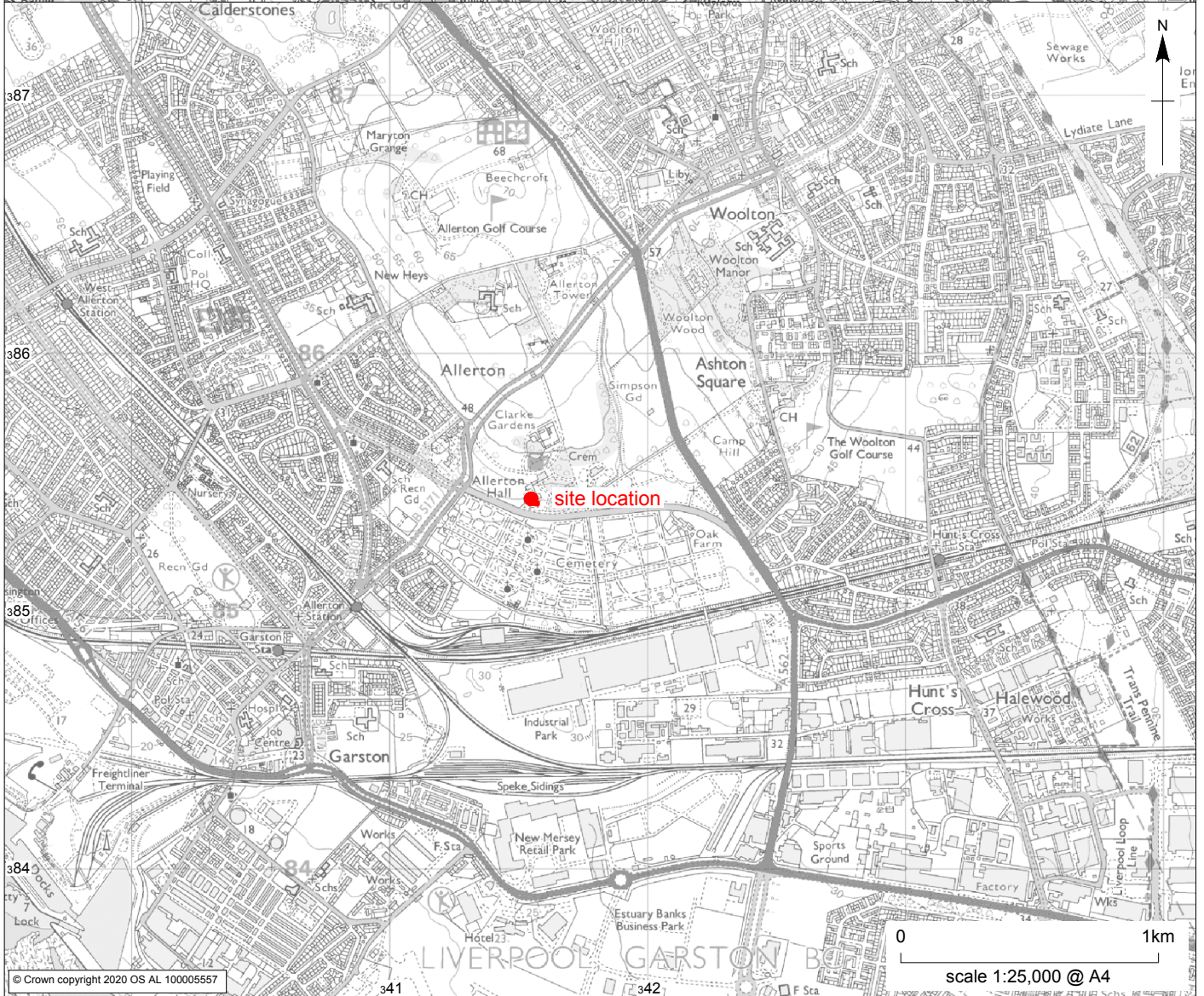
Plate 18: detail of lunette window, west elevation. View looking east



Plate 19: view looking north-east showing groundworks undertaken from driveway



Plate 20: view looking east showing the west elevation and reduced ground level in foreground

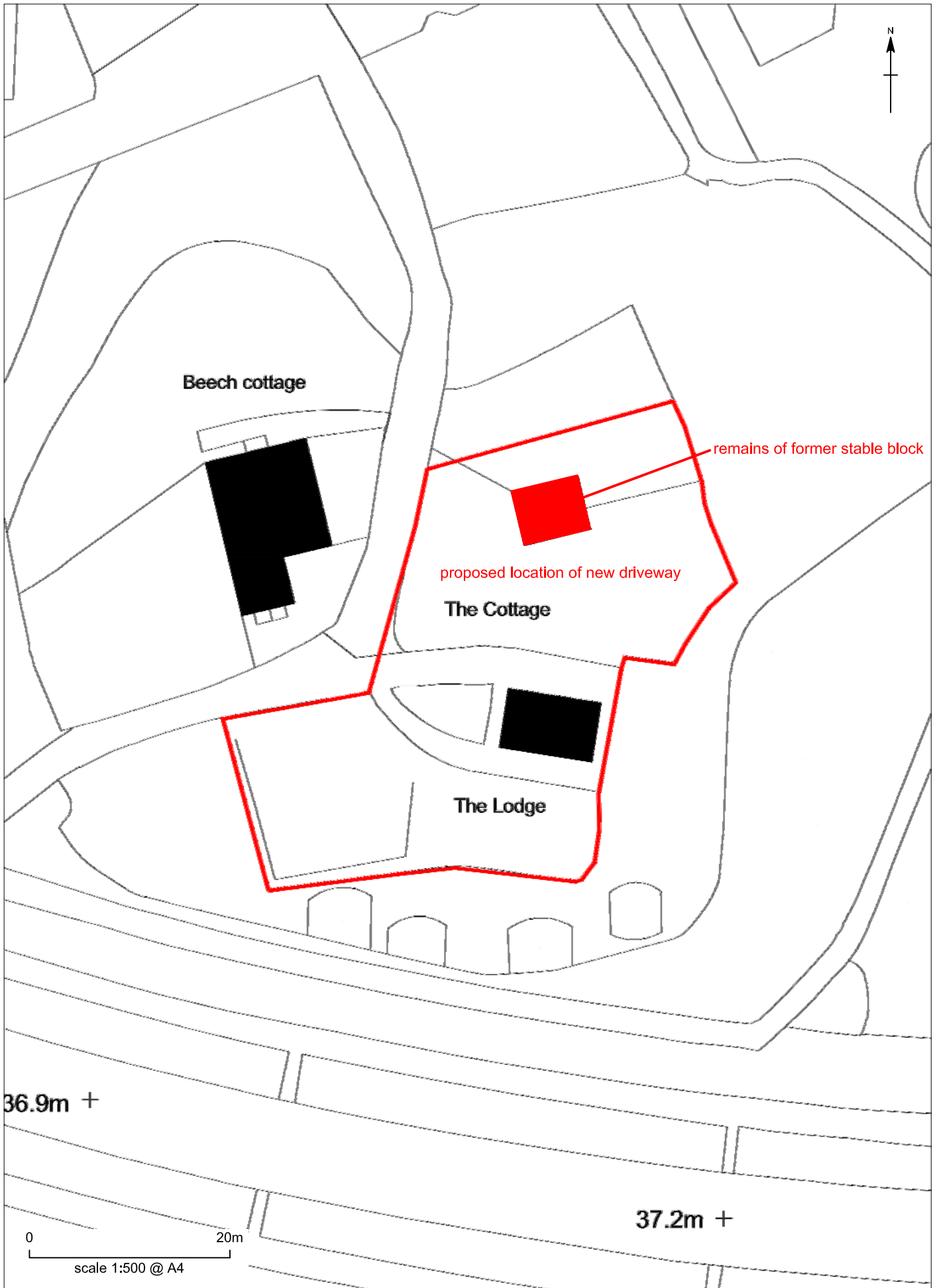


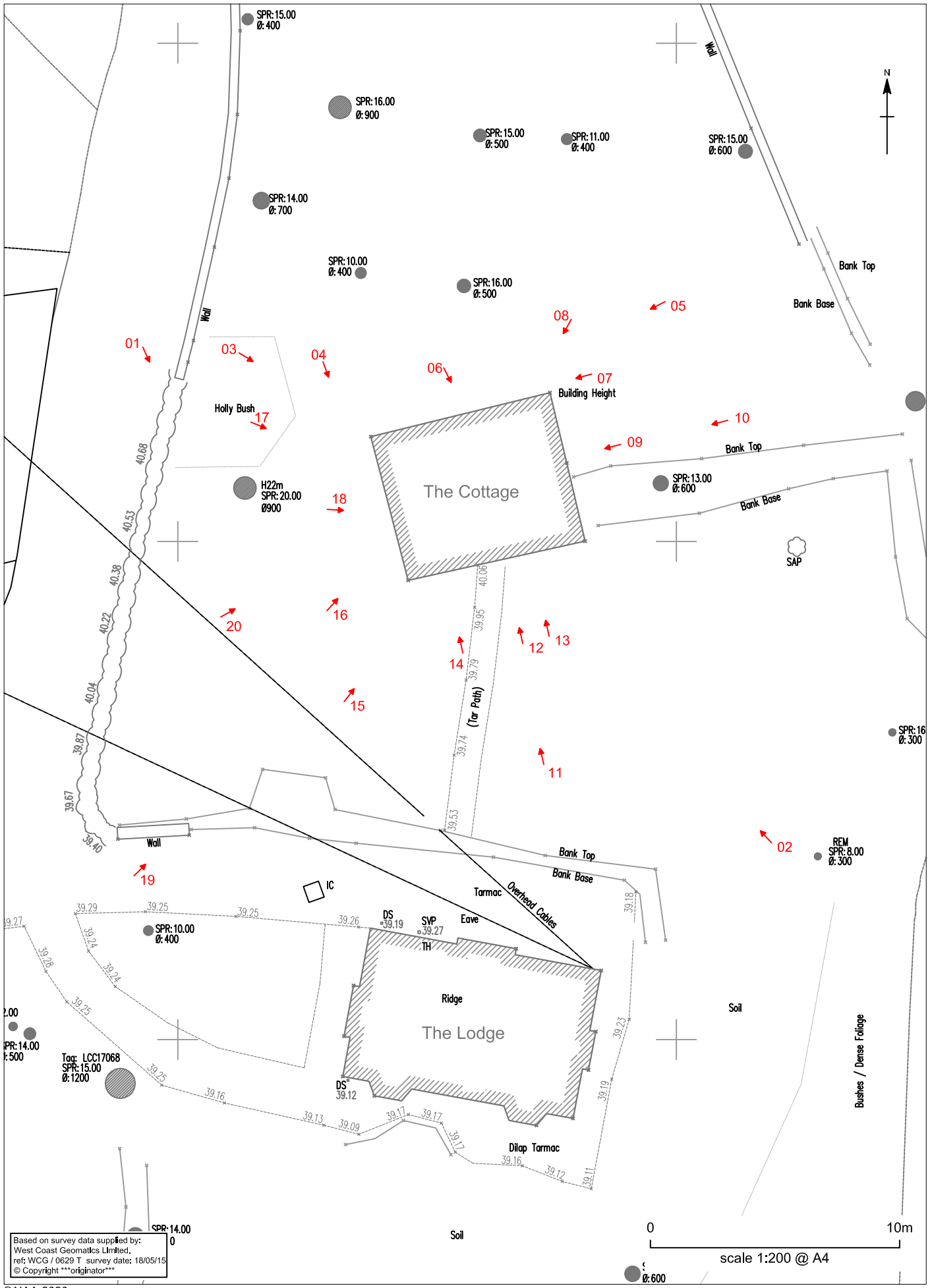
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Clarke Gardens, Allerton: site location

Figure 1





Clarke Gardens, Allerton: location of photo vantage points

Figure 3