

**NEVILLE HALL MIFA  
FREELANCE ARCHAEOLOGIST & CONSULTANT**

A PRE-DETERMINATION ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION  
ON LAND TO THE WEST OF  
MIDDLEGATE LANE,  
ORBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

**National Grid Reference: TF 4971 6712**  
**Site Code: MLOR14**  
**Accession No: LCNCC: 2014.246**  
**Planning Reference: N/134/02121/14**

PREPARED FOR MR. TOM FORDYCE

By

Neville Hall MIFA

January 2015

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## **Summary**

- *A pre-determination archaeological evaluation comprising the mechanical excavation of three trial trenches prior to the excavation of land to create a new fishing pond with embankments along with the construction of a new vehicular access was undertaken by Neville Hall MIFA on land to the west of Middlegate Lane, Orby, Lincolnshire on the 24<sup>th</sup> of January 2015.*
- *This pre-determination archaeological evaluation did not identify any archaeological activity on this site and there were no finds. This field assessment identified a simple deposit sequence which comprised a modern topsoil horizon, an undated buried ploughsoil horizon and an underlying natural horizon of clays. This deposit sequence was recorded within three Representative Sections.*
- *No archaeological activity or finds which could be associated with either the medieval settlement of Orby or with the postulated line of the medieval road from Orby to Addlethorpe were identified.*

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Neville Hall MIFA was commissioned by Mr. Tom Fordyce to undertake a pre-determination archaeological evaluation prior to the excavation of land to create a new fishing pond with embankments along with the construction of a new vehicular access on land to the west of Middlegate Lane, Orby, Lincolnshire, centred at National Grid Reference TF 4971 6712. The archaeological evaluation was carried out at the development site on the 24<sup>th</sup> of January 2015.
- 1.2 The work was carried out in order to inform and accompany a forthcoming planning application for proposed development on this site. The requirement for the pre-determination archaeological assessment of this proposal site through trial trenching was requested by Ms. Jan Allen of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team, in her capacity as archaeological advisor on planning issues to East Lindsey District Council, the Local Planning Authority (LPA). This report documents the results of this pre-determination archaeological evaluation, which was undertaken in accordance with a Specification prepared by Neville Hall MIFA. This document was submitted to and approved by Ms Jan Allen, prior to the commencement of the on-site works. This is in accordance with the principles established in *NPPF: Planning for the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide* (Department of Culture, Media and Sport, 2012), *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 1991) and *Standard and guidance for archaeological evaluations* (IFA, 2008).
- 1.3 Copies of the final report will be deposited with the client, Ms. Jan Allen (on behalf of the local planning authority), the Planning Department of East Lindsey District Council, the Lincolnshire Heritage Environment Record (HER) and The Collection, Lincoln, along with an ordered project archive for long term storage and curation.

## 2. Site Location and Description

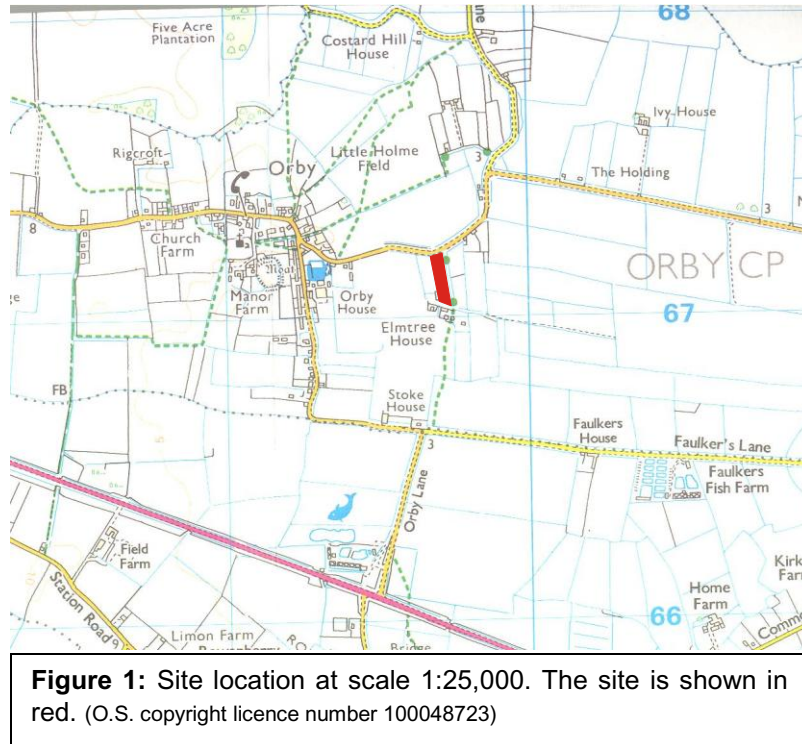
- 2.1 The proposed development site currently comprises an enclosed field that is situated to the west of Middlegate Lane and some 0.35km to the east of the village of Orby. The village of Orby is situated some 26km to the south-east of Louth and 23km to the east of Horncastle. The modern settlement of Orby is located within the modern civil parish of the same name, administrative district of East Lindsey, County of Lincolnshire [**Figures 1 and 2**].
- 2.2 Topographically, the development site is situated in a flat, low-lying area of the Lincolnshire Marshes at a height of approximately 3m AOD. The development site is located on deep stoneless clayey calcareous soils and deep calcareous silty soils of the Wallasea 2 Series, which in turn overlie gaults, greensands and clays of the Lower Cretaceous [BGS, 1996; Soil Survey, 1983].

## 3. Planning Background

- 3.1 A planning application for the proposed excavation of land to create a new fishing pond with embankments along with the construction of a new vehicular access on land to the west of Middlegate Lane, Orby, Lincolnshire will be submitted shortly to East Lindsey District Council (the Local Planning Authority) [**Figure 3**].
- 3.2 It was considered that the proposal site lay within an area of archaeological potential. Consequently, a request was made by Ms. Jan Allen of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team that the proposal site be archaeologically assessed for this potential through trial trenching prior to the submission of this aforementioned planning

application. This report, which documents the results of this archaeological field assessment, will be submitted in order to inform and to accompany this forthcoming planning application.

- 3.3 A specification or a written scheme of works that included a trench plan proposal for this pre-determination archaeological evaluation was subsequently submitted to and approved by Ms. Jan Allen of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team (on behalf of the LPA) prior to the commencement of the on-site works.



#### 4. Aims and objectives of the Archaeological Evaluation

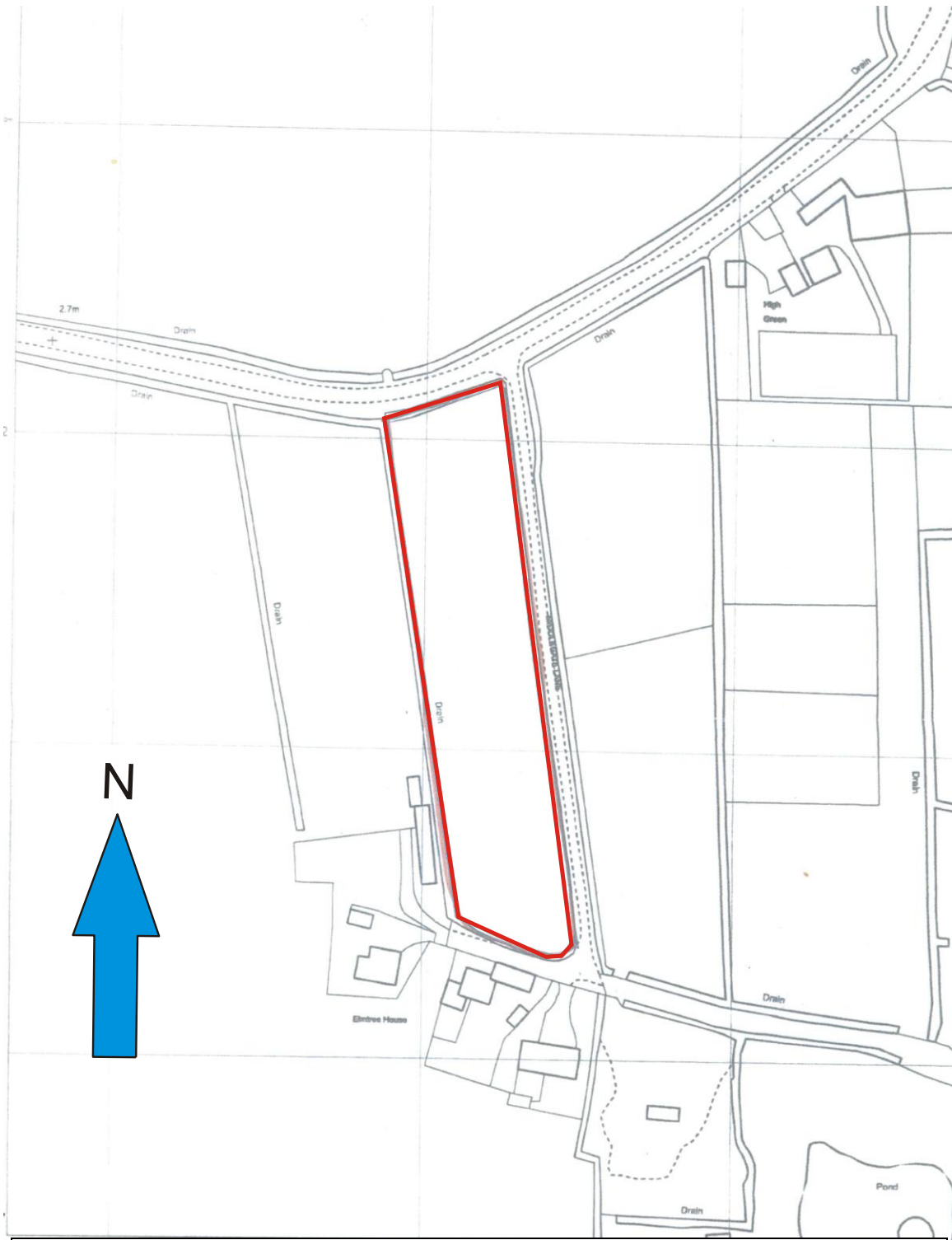
- 4.1 The general aim of the archaeological evaluation of this site was to ensure that sufficient information was generated from the results of this work, which will enable the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team, (on behalf of East Lindsey District Council), to formulate a policy for the management of the archaeological resource (if any) on the site in the event that further archaeological work may be required, either pre- or post determination.

- 4.2 The objectives of the project were to:

To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the area of the development site.

To determine the type, extent, condition, nature, character, quality, function, and date, of any archaeological remains encountered.

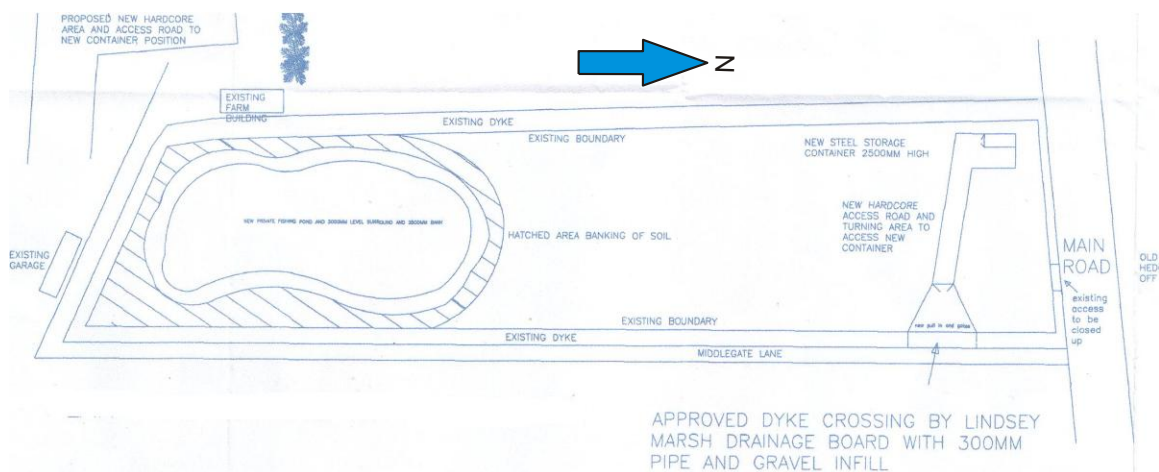
To allow the preservation by record of archaeological deposits.



**Figure 2:** Site location at a scale of 1:2,500. The site is shown outlined in red. (O.S. copyright licence no. 100048723)

4.3 This assessment site is situated within an area of high archaeological potential. The line of the former medieval road from Orby to Addlethorpe was believed to traverse the site from west-east. To the west of the assessment site are a number of linear cropmarks and

the earthwork cultivation remains of ridge and furrow, all thought to be associated with the medieval settlement of Orby further to the west. It was considered that further archaeological remains associated with this settlement may extend into the area of this assessment site. The specific objectives of the project were to record any archaeological features, structures and/or deposits and finds associated with this medieval settlement along with the postulated line of the medieval road from Orby to Addlethorpe.



**Figure 3:** Proposed layout of the development site at an original scale of 1:500 (not to scale), (extract from Architects plan)

## 5. Archaeological and Historical Background

- 5.1 Background research sources were consulted at the Lincolnshire Archives, the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Record (HER) and the Lincoln Local Studies Library. A search of the Lincolnshire HER was conducted within a 0.5km radius of the centre of the development site.
- 5.2 Orby is first documented in the Domesday Survey of AD1086 as *Heresbi*. It is clear therefore that the settlement of Orby would appear to have had late Anglo-Saxon origins from place name evidence. The place name itself is derived from an Old Norse personal name of *Orri* and *by*, hence the 'farmstead/village of a man called Orri'. At the Domesday Survey, the manor of Orby was held by the Bishop of Durham. By the time of the Lindsey Survey of cAD1115, Robert de Haia is documented as holding fifteen bovates of land in *Orreby*. Other medieval documentary sources various refer to this settlement as *Orebia* (AD1148-56); *Orrebi* (AD1200) and as *Orebi* (AD1166) [Mills, 1991; Cameron, 1998; Ekwall, 1991; Morris, 1986, Foster & Longley, 1976].
- 5.3 To the immediate east of Manor Farm is a scheduled moated manorial site (HER 43552, SM No. 1016045). The moat partially encloses an asymmetrical curvilinear shaped island, which measures approximately 80m in length and 70m in width. On the south-western, southern, eastern and northern sides, the moat is up to 15m in width and approximately 3m in depth and has steep and well defined sides. A disturbed area within the island indicates the probable site of the early manor house. Three sub-rectangular shaped embanked platforms are also visible on the island and suggest the presence of structures or garden features associated with the site of the medieval manor house located on the island. This is undoubtedly the location of the medieval manor of Orby and the focal point of the contemporary settlement. An O.S. field observation in 1964 identified a number of co-joined rectangular shaped ditched enclosures that formerly

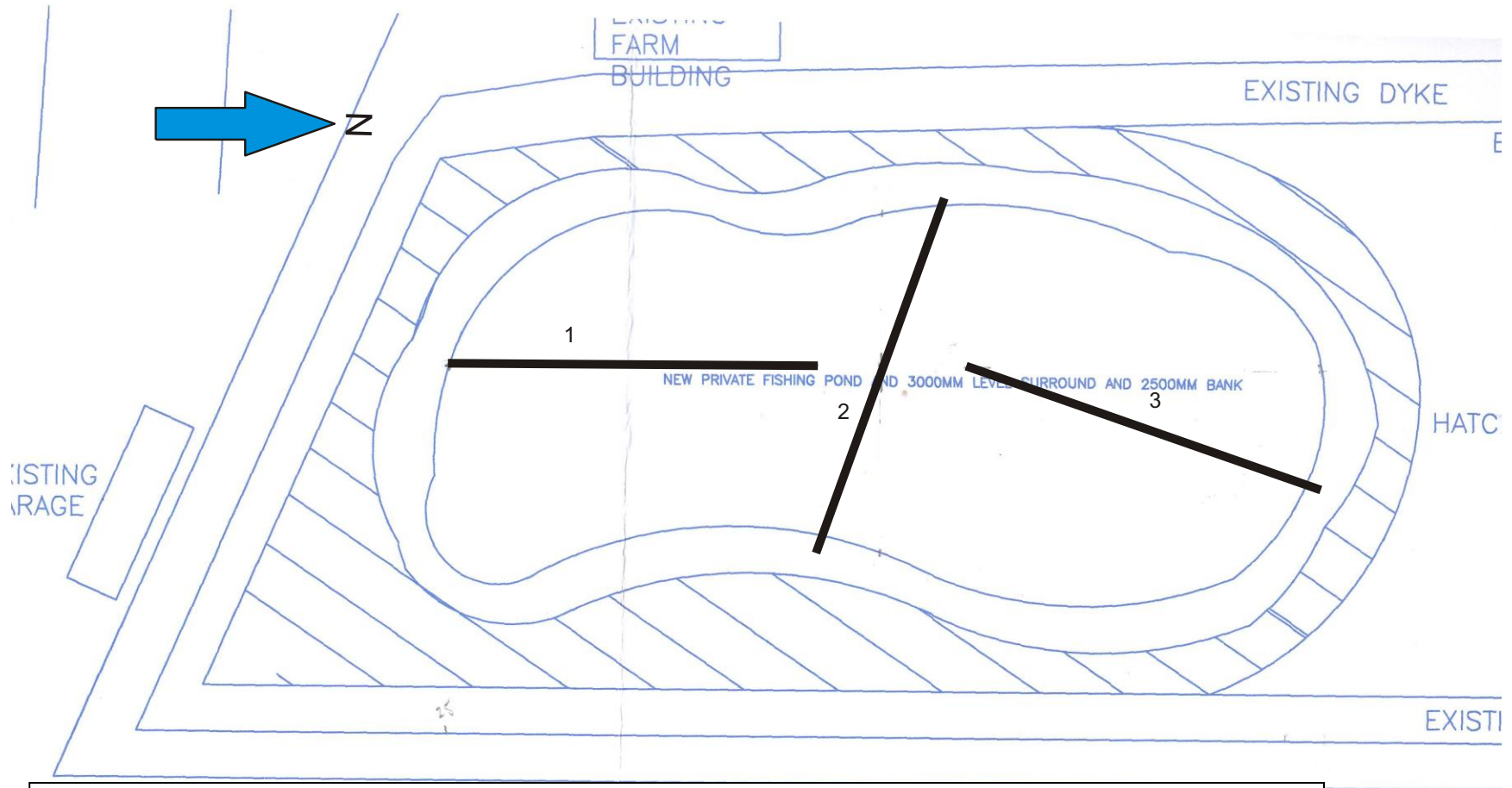


- existed to the south and east of the moat. These were interpreted as the remains of manorial enclosures and crofts.
- 5.4 Evidence for the medieval settlement of Orby survives in the form of earthworks and cropmarks which are visible at various locations in and around the village. Some of these are situated in the fields to the west of the assessment site (HER 43701e). These comprise a number of linear cropmarks and ridge and furrow to the east. These have been identified from prior aerial photographic analysis.
  - 5.5 The earthwork cultivation remains of medieval ridge and furrow are situated to the north-east of Orby and to the north of the development site (HER 43047). These have been identified from prior aerial photographic analysis. A linear east-west orientated bridleway associated with this settlement may extend into the area of the assessment site. The line of it is featured on the O.S. maps of 1892 and 1907.
  - 5.6 The Wesleyan Methodist Chapel at Orby was built in 1837 (HER 48861). A schoolroom was added to this in 1870. This chapel closed in 1924 when a new chapel was opened further down the Marsh Road. This building has since been converted into a residential dwelling.
  - 5.7 English Heritage have compiled a national survey of historic farmsteads. Elm Trees House, which is situated to the immediate south of this development site has been designated by them as a partially extant 19th century unlisted farmstead (UID 5127). It has a dispersed clustered plan with the farmhouse detached from the main farm working complex. There has been a partial loss of traditional buildings and the site is in an isolated location.
  - 5.8 There have been several previous archaeological investigations within the search area and which have all been situated within the village of Orby to the west. A geophysical survey took place on land at The Green in 2000 (HER ELI1497). This detected a significant number of curvilinear and localised anomalies of potential archaeological significance, which was thought to represent several phases of archaeological activity relating to possible medieval settlement remains [Bunn & Hardwick, 2000]. Following this geophysical survey, an archaeological evaluation took place on this site in 2000 (HER ELI1501; Site code: TGO00). This produced evidence of *in situ* archaeological remains and archaeological features which dated from the late Anglo-Saxon to the medieval period and consisted of ditches, gullies and a metalled surface. The evaluation identified late Anglo-Saxon boundary features which were dated to the 10th century. Several 12th-13th century ditches were also recorded and were boundary features with various realignments and included a trackway and a holloway.
  - 5.9 The archaeological evaluation at The Green in 2000 also identified a north-west-south-east orientated metalled surface which was thought to have been constructed in the 12th-15th centuries as a sherd of 13th-15th century pottery was recovered from it. The line of this surface was projected southwards and appeared to be a continuation of the road from Orby to Addlethorpe, which was realigned in the 16th-17th centuries based on pottery found in deposits which were used to level over the now redundant road [Rylatt, 2000].
  - 5.10 An archaeological watching brief took place in 2003 on the groundworks for a new residential dwelling and associated detached garage at Plot 3, The Green (HER 45518, Site code: OTOG 03). This identified three undated linear features, which were thought either to be ditches or to represent medieval plough furrows. Other findings comprised a circular shaped pit feature within the garage area, which was probably a former geotechnical borehole. Finds from this watching brief included fragments of fired clay,

- animal bone and pottery. Three sherds of 13th-15th century pottery were recovered from the topsoil, but also produced finds of 19th-20th century date [Bradley-Lovekin, 2004a].
- 5.11 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken on the groundworks for a new house and detached garage in 2003 at Plot 2, The Green (Site code: OTGS 03). This did not identify any archaeological activity and no finds were made [Bradley-Lovekin, 2004b].
- 5.12 An archaeological watching brief was carried out on the groundworks for a new detached house and associated garage at Plot 5, The Green in 2003 (HER ELI4998, Site code: OTG03). This identified fifteen archaeological features which mostly comprised pits and ditches. Five of these features were dated to the 12th-15th centuries from pottery finds. This indicated that this area formed part of the late medieval settlement. This was demonstrated by the finding of thirty-one sherds of medieval pottery and only a small quantity of post 15th century finds were made, suggesting in turn that the site had been abandoned by this time. Four of these archaeological features remained undated and included a small pit, a north-south aligned ditch, a sub rectangular shaped pit and an east-west aligned ditch [Bradley-Lovekin, 2003a].
- 5.13 An archaeological watching brief undertaken on the groundworks for a new house and associated garage at Plot 4, The Green in 2003 identified four undated archaeological features, which included two pits and a ditch (HER 43701d, 45518, ELI4997, Site code: OTG403). This shows that this plot was less intensively occupied in the medieval period than the nearby Plot 5 [Bradley-Lovekin, 2003b].
- 5.14 An archaeological watching brief undertaken on the groundworks for a new tennis court on land adjacent to Burgh Road in 1996 did not identify any archaeological features or deposits. The finds from this watching brief consisted of quantities of building material including two sherds of medieval pottery, a fragment of post-medieval tile and a fragment of medieval glazed tile (HER 43701b; Site code: OBR96) [Cope-Faulkner, 1996].
- 5.15 An archaeological watching brief was carried out within the churchyard of All Saints Church in 2004 (HER 43701E; Site code: OASC04). This recovered two sherds of medieval pottery, but did locate any further archaeological remains.
- 5.16 Copies of manuscript and published Ordnance Survey maps were obtained from the Lincolnshire Archives and from the local studies collections of Lincoln Central Library. The earliest map consulted comprised an extract from the tithe map for the parish of Orby of 1843 (Archive ref: A303). This map shows the development site as lying within its current boundaries as plot no. 147. An extract from the First Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1892 shows the same layout to the area of the development site. This same layout is repeated on the subsequent Second Edition map of 1907, on the Provisional Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1950 and on the 1:10,560 scale O.S. map of 1956.

## 6. Methodology

- 6.1 This pre-determination archaeological evaluation was undertaken on the development site by Neville Hall MIFA on the 24<sup>th</sup> of January 2015. This comprised the mechanical excavation under archaeological supervision of three archaeological trial trenches [designated **Trenches 1-3**] within the area of the proposed new fishing lake according to the Specification for this project previously compiled by Neville Hall MIFA [**Figure 4**]. The trenches were excavated by a JCB 3cx mechanical excavator that was fitted with a 1.40m wide toothless bucket. All three archaeological trial trenches were excavated to the agreed dimensions and to the agreed original trial trench layout proposal.



**Figure 4:** Plan of the proposed and final layout of trial trenches, at an original scale of 1:500 (extract from Architects plan)

- 6.2 The trial trenches were surveyed in using tapes and offsets utilising an architect's plan at an original scale of 1:500. This plan is reproduced as **Figure 4** in this report.
- 6.3 Where necessary, surfaces were hand cleaned for examination and recording, and the identified deposit sequence was recorded on standard *pro-forma* context recording sheets. Plans of the three trial trenches were compiled at a scale of 1:20 and are reproduced here at the reduced scale of 1:100 [**Figure 5**]. A total of three sections of the identified deposit sequence [designated as **Representative Sections 1-3**] were also compiled at a scale of 1:20. These are also reproduced in this report at this scale [**Figure 5**]. A complimentary digital colour photographic record was also maintained, which are reproduced as **Plates 1-8, Appendix 1**.
- 6.4 All archaeological features and deposits were levelled in from a site TBM, which was in turn plotted from an Ordnance Survey benchmark located on the roadside at the northern site hedgerow boundary.
- 6.5 A monitoring visit to the site was scheduled to be made by Ms. Jan Allen of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January 2015. However, following the communication of the negative results of this field assessment by the author to same, it was decided that a site monitoring visit would no longer be necessary.
- 6.6 All work was carried out according to the approved Specification and to the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) standards and guidance for archaeological evaluations.

## 7. Results [**Figure 5; Appendix 1, Plates 1-8**]

### 7.1 Trench 1

- 7.1.1 **Trench 1** was positioned within the southern portion of the survey area and was orientated from north-south. **Trench 1** was excavated to a length of 30.0m, to a width of 1.40m and to depths of between 0.84m-0.92m below ground levels [**Plate 1**]. The removal of the topsoil horizon (**001**) revealed an undated buried ploughsoil horizon (**002**), which in turn overlay a natural horizon of clays (**003**). The deposit (**003**) extended to the base of this excavation. This deposit sequence was recorded within **Representative Section 1** [**Plate 2**].

### 7.2 Trench 2

- 7.2.1 **Trench 2** was situated to the north of **Trench 1** and was orientated from north west-south east. **Trench 2** was excavated to a length of 30.0m, to a width of 1.40m and to depths of between 0.94m-1.04m below ground levels [**Plates 3-4**]. The same deposit sequence that was identified within **Trench 1** was also recorded in this trench within **Representative Section 2** [**Plate 5**]. The natural horizon (**003**) extended to the base of this excavation.

### 7.3 Trench 3

- 7.3.1 **Trench 3** was located to the north of **Trench 2** and within the northern portion of the survey area. **Trench 3** was orientated from north east-south west and was excavated to a length of 30.0m, to a width of 1.40m and to depths of between 0.91m-0.99m below ground levels [**Plates 7-8**]. The same deposit sequence that was identified within **Trench 1** was also recorded in this trench within **Representative Section 3** [**Plate 8**]. The natural horizon (**003**) extended to the base of this excavation.

## **8. Discussion and Conclusions**

- 8.1 The three excavated archaeological trial trenches were all positioned within the area of the proposed new fishing lake according to the agreed original trial trench layout proposal. This field evaluation provided a thorough and a comprehensive sampling of the area of the proposed development.
- 8.2 This archaeological evaluation did not identify any archaeological activity on this site and there were no finds. This field assessment identified a simple deposit sequence which comprised a modern topsoil horizon, an undated buried ploughsoil horizon and an underlying natural horizon of clays. This deposit sequence was recorded within three Representative Sections.
- 8.3 No archaeological activity or finds which could be associated with either the medieval settlement of Orby or with the postulated line of the medieval road from Orby to Addelethorpe were identified.

## **9. Effectiveness of Methodology and Confidence Rating**

- 9.1 The methodology chosen clearly demonstrated the absence of archaeological activity and finds on this site; while providing sufficient time to record the deposit sequence observed. A more detailed level of archaeological assessment and investigation comprising full site excavation or archaeological monitoring clearly would not have been necessary. It is considered that the implemented methodology was sufficient to record the lack of archaeological activity and finds and the nature of the deposit sequence present within the area of the development site with a high degree of confidence.

## **10. Acknowledgements**

- 10.1 Thanks are gratefully extended to Mr. Tom Fordyce for commissioning this work. Thanks are also extended to Ms. Jan Allen of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team and to the staff of the Lincolnshire Heritage Environment Record, the Lincoln Local Studies Library, and the Lincolnshire Archives for their kind assistance.

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Extract from the Second Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1907, map sheet no. Lincolnshire 83NE.

Extract from the Provisional Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1950, map sheet no. Lincolnshire 83NE.

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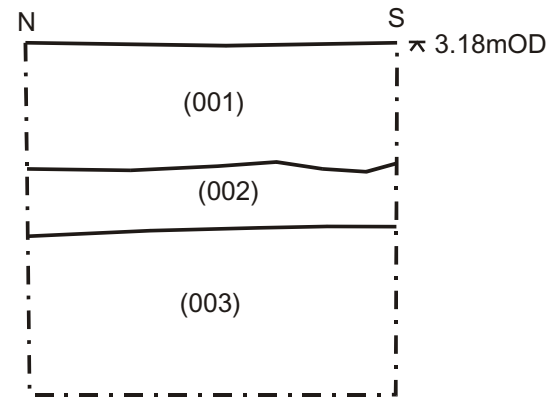
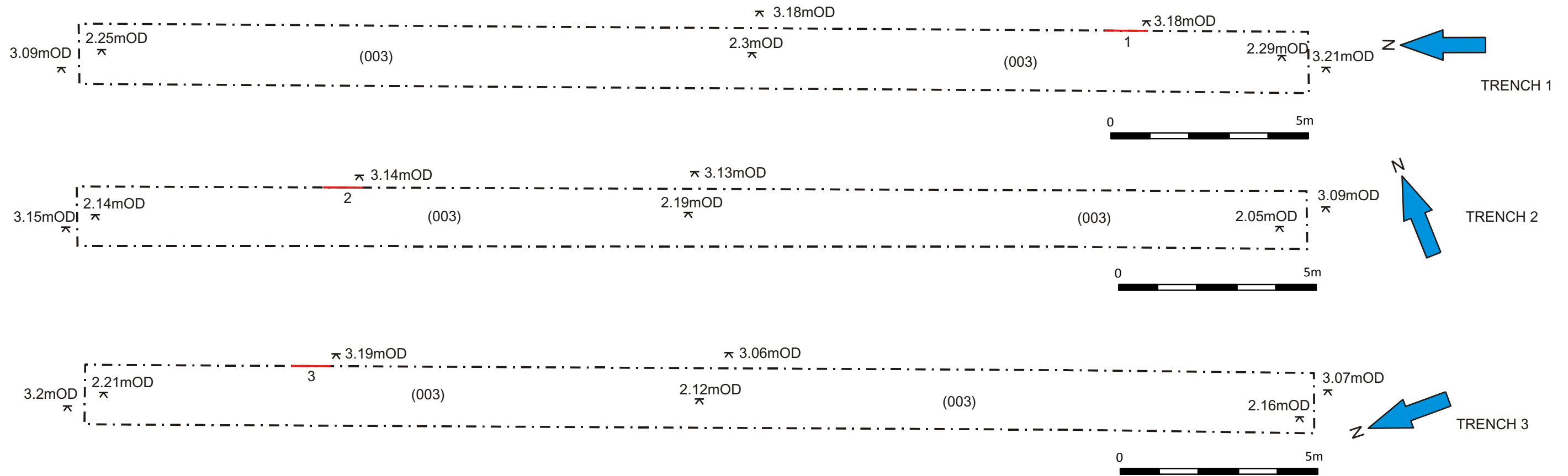
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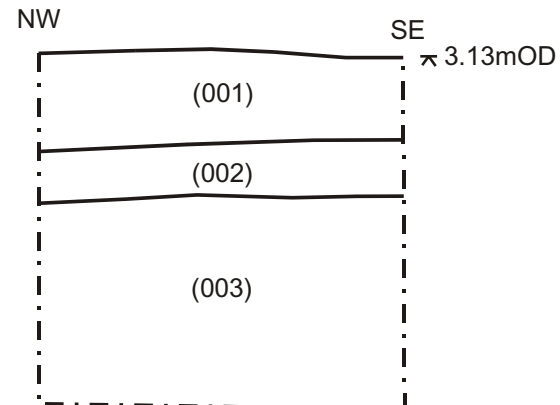
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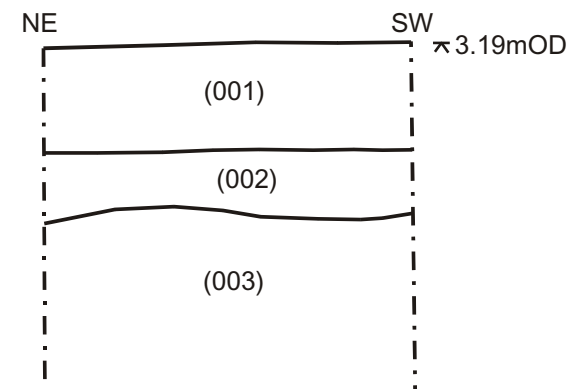
Soil Survey of England & Wales, (1983), *Soils of Eastern England*, Sheet 4.



Representative Section 1, Trench 1, East Facing Section, Scale 1:20



Representative Section 2, Trench 2, South-West Facing Section, scale 1:20



Representative Section 3, Trench 3, South-West Facing Section, scale 1:20



Figure 5: Plan of Trenches 1-3 at a scale of 1:100 & Representative Sections 1-3 at a scale of 1:20

**Appendix 1: Plates**



**Plate 1: Trench 1, from the south**



**Plate 2: Representative Section 1, Trench 1, from the east**



**Plate 3: Trench 2, from the north-west**



**Plate 4: Trench 2, from the south-east**





**Plate 5: Representative Section 2, Trench 2, from the south-west**



**Plate 7: Trench 3, from the south-west**



**Plate 6: Trench 3, from the north-east**



**Plate 8: Representative Section 3, Trench 3, from the north-west**

## Appendix 2: List of Contexts

- 001** Topsoil horizon. Soft, dark brown clayey silt with occasional small angular stones. Above **(002)**. Recorded within **Representative Sections 1-3**. Depth - 0.33m.
- 002** Undated buried ploughsoil horizon. Soft, mid orange brown silty clay with occasional small angular stones. Below **(001)** and above **(003)**. Recorded within **Representative Sections 1-3**. Depth - 0.16m.
- 003** Natural horizon. Soft, dark orange brown gleyed clay with no inclusions. Below **(002)**. Recorded within **Representative Sections 1-3**. Depth - >0.56m.

### **Appendix 3: The Archive**

The archive consists of:

Three context records

Plan of the three trial trenches at a scale of 1:20 on one sheet of drawing film

Four section drawings at a scale of 1:20 on one sheet of drawing film

One context register

One photographic register

All records are currently held at:

38 Finningley Road

Lincoln

LN6 0UP

And will be deposited in due course at:

The Collection

Danes Terrace

Lincoln

LN2 1LP

Under the accession number **LCNCC: 2014.246** and the site code **MLOR14**

## Appendix 4: Photographic Register



## Appendix 5: OASIS Summary Sheet

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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## Land to the West of Middlegate Lane, Orby, Lincolnshire - Neville Hall MIFA

OASIS ID - nevilleh1-201580

### Versions

View	Version	Completed by	Email	Date
View 1	1	Neville Hall	nevillehallmifa@gmail.com	27 January 2015

### Completed sections in current version

Details	Location	Creators	Archive	Publications
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	1/1

### Validated sections in current version

Details	Location	Creators	Archive	Publications
No	No	No	No	0/1

### File submission and form progress

Grey literature report submitted?	Yes	Grey literature report filename/s	Sent by other means
Boundary file submitted?	No	Boundary filename	
HER signed off?		NMR signed off?	

Email Lincolnshire HER about this OASIS record

## OASIS:

Please e-mail English Heritage for OASIS help and advice

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Cite only: <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/formct1.cfm?OID=nevilleh1-201580> for this page

## **Appendix 6: Specification for Archaeological Monitoring**



**Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation  
On Land to the West of  
Middlegate Lane,  
Orby, Lincolnshire.**

**Prepared for Mr. Tom Fordyce**

**National Grid Reference: TF 4971 6712  
Site Code: MLOR14  
Accession No: LCNCC: 2014.246  
Planning Reference: N/134/02121/14**

**Prepared by Neville Hall MIFA, Freelance Field  
Archaeologist & Consultant**

**December 2014**

## **S Non-technical summary**

- S1 *This document comprises a specification or a written scheme of investigation for a pre-determination archaeological field evaluation of land to the west of Middlegate Lane, Orby, Lincolnshire.*
- S2 *This assessment site is situated within an area of high archaeological potential. The line of the former medieval road from Orby to Addlethorpe is believed to traverse the site from west-east. To the west of the assessment site are a number of linear cropmarks and the earthwork cultivation remains of ridge and furrow, all thought to be associated with the medieval settlement of Orby further to the west. It is considered that further archaeological remains associated with this settlement may extend into the area of this assessment site. The specific objectives of the project will be to record any archaeological features, structures and/or deposits and finds associated with this medieval settlement along with the postulated line of the medieval road from Orby to Addlethorpe.*
- S3 *On the completion of the evaluation, a report will be produced detailing the results of the archaeological investigation. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 This document comprises a specification or a written scheme of investigation for a pre-determination archaeological field evaluation of land to the west of Middlegate Lane, Orby, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 4971 6712.

### **2. Site location [Figures 1 and 2]**

- 2.1 The proposed development site currently comprises an enclosed field that is situated to the west of Middlegate Lane and some 0.35km to the east of the village of Orby. The village of Orby is situated 26km to the south-east of Louth and 23km to the east of Horncastle. The modern settlement of Orby is located within the modern civil parish of the same name, administrative district of East Lindsey, County of Lincolnshire.

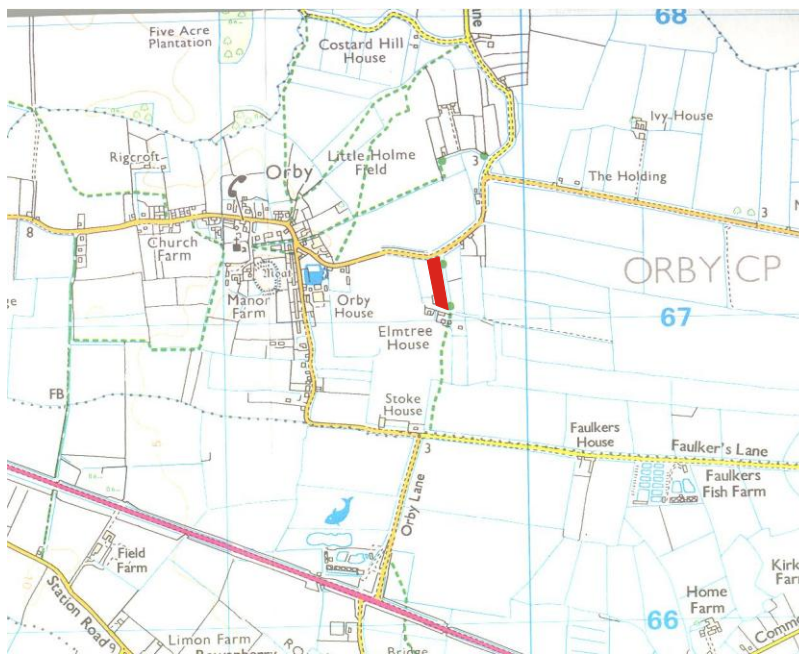
### **3. Planning background**

- 3.1 An application for planning consent for the proposed excavation of land to the west of Middlegate Lane, Orby, Lincolnshire to create a new private fishing pond along with the construction of encompassing embankments and the construction of a vehicular access (Planning reference: N/134/02121/14) has been submitted to East Lindsey District Council (the Local Planning Authority).
- 3.2 However, as this proposed development may be situated within an area of archaeological potential, a requirement has been made by the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team (on behalf of the Local Planning Authority) for sufficient supporting information to be made available by the applicants in order to inform and determine the granting of planning consent for this proposed development. This requirement will comprise a programme of archaeological site assessment of the archaeological potential of the proposal site through trial trenching.

### **4. Soils and Topography**

- 4.1 Topographically, the development site is situated in a flat, low-lying area of the Lincolnshire Marshes at a height of approximately 3m AOD. The development site is located on deep stoneless clayey calcareous soils and deep calcareous silty soils of the

Wallasea 2 Series, which in turn overlies deposits of marine alluvium and gaults, greensands and clays of the Lower Cretaceous.

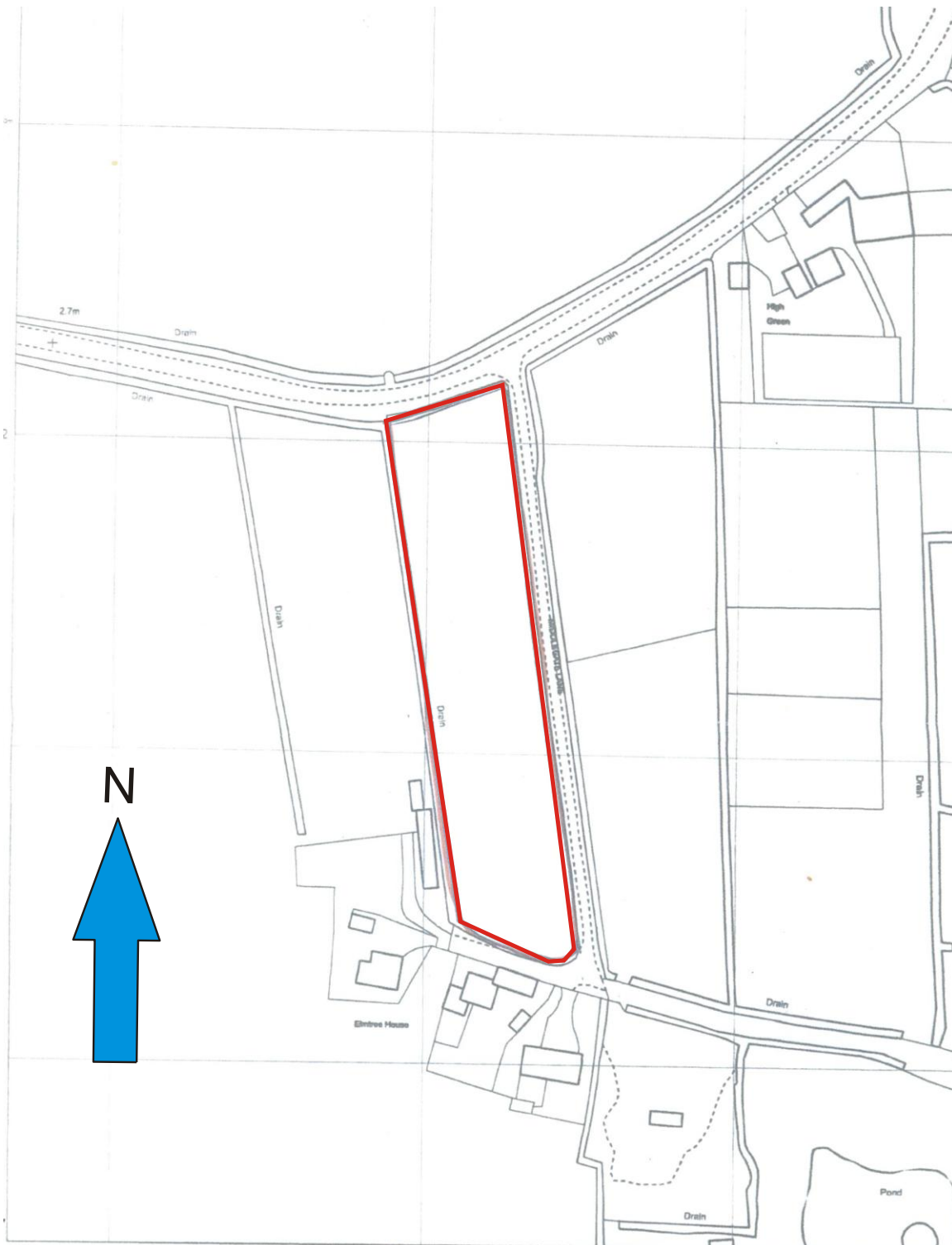


**Figure 1:** Site location at scale of 1:25,000. The site is shown in red. (O.S. copyright licence no. 100048723)

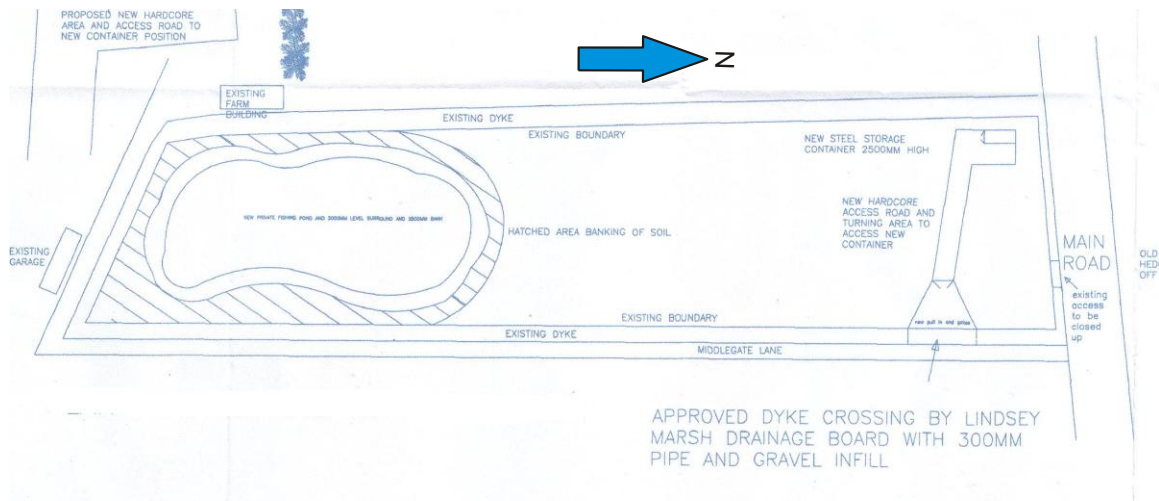
## 5. Historical and Archaeological Background

- 5.1 Background research sources were consulted at the Lincolnshire Archives, the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Record (HER) and the Lincoln Local Studies Library. A search of the Lincolnshire HER was conducted within a 0.5km radius of the centre of the development site.
- 5.2 Orby is first documented in the Domesday Survey of AD1086 as *Heresbi*. It is clear therefore that the settlement of Orby would appear to have had late Anglo-Saxon origins from place name evidence. The place name itself is derived from an Old Norse personal name of *Orri* and *by*, hence the 'farmstead/village of a man called Orri'. At the Domesday Survey, the manor of Orby was held by the Bishop of Durham. By the time of the Lindsey Survey of cAD1115, Robert de Haia is documented as holding fifteen bovates of land in *Orreby*. Other medieval documentary sources various refer to this settlement as *Orebia* (AD1148-56); *Orrebi* (AD1200) and as *Orebi* (AD1166).
- 5.3 To the immediate east of Manor Farm is a scheduled moated manorial site (HER 43552, SM No. 1016045). The moat partially encloses an asymmetrical curvilinear shaped island, which measures approximately 80m in length and 70m in width. On the south-western, southern, eastern and northern sides, the moat is up to 15m in width and approximately 3m in depth and has steep and well defined sides. A disturbed area within the island indicates the probable site of the early manor house. Three sub-rectangular shaped embanked platforms are also visible on the island and suggest the presence of structures or garden features associated with the site of the medieval manor house located on the island. This is undoubtedly the location of the medieval manor of Orby and the focal point of the contemporary settlement. An O.S. field observation in 1964 identified a number of co-joined rectangular shaped ditched enclosures that formerly

existed to the south and east of the moat. These were interpreted as the remains of manorial enclosures and crofts.



**Figure 2:** Site location at scale of 1:2,500. The site is shown outlined in red. (O.S. copyright licence no. 100048723)



**Figure 3:** Proposed layout of the development site at an original scale of 1:500 (not to scale), (extract from Architects plan)

- 5.4 Evidence for the medieval settlement of Orby survives in the form of earthworks and cropmarks which are visible at various locations in and around the village. Some of these are situated in the fields to the west of the assessment site (HER 43701e). These comprise a number of linear cropmarks and ridge and furrow to the east. These have been identified from prior aerial photographic analysis.
- 5.5 The earthwork cultivation remains of medieval ridge and furrow are situated to the north-east of Orby and to the north of the development site (HER 43047). These have been identified from prior aerial photographic analysis. A linear east-west orientated bridleway associated with this settlement may extend into the area of the assessment site. The line of it is featured on the O.S. maps of 1892 and 1907.
- 5.6 The Wesleyan Methodist Chapel at Orby was built in 1837 (HER 48861). A schoolroom was added to this in 1870. This chapel closed in 1924 when a new chapel was opened further down the Marsh Road. This building has since been converted into a residential dwelling.
- 5.7 English Heritage have compiled a national survey of historic farmsteads. Elm Trees House, which is situated to the immediate south of this development site has been designated by them as a partially extant 19th century unlisted farmstead (UID 5127). It has a dispersed clustered plan with the farmhouse detached from the main farm working complex. There has been a partial loss of traditional buildings and the site is in an isolated location.
- 5.8 There have been several previous archaeological investigations within the search area and which have all been situated within the village of Orby to the west. A geophysical survey took place on land at The Green in 2000 (HER ELI1497). This detected a significant number of curvilinear and localised anomalies of potential archaeological significance, which was thought to represent several phases of archaeological activity relating to possible medieval settlement remains. Following this geophysical survey, an archaeological evaluation took place on this site in 2000 (HER ELI1501; Site code: TGO00). This produced evidence of *in situ* archaeological remains and archaeological features which dated from the late Anglo-Saxon to the medieval period and consisted of ditches, gullies and a metalled surface. The evaluation identified late Anglo-Saxon boundary features which were dated to the 10th century. Several 12th-13th century

ditches were also recorded and were boundary features with various realignments and included a trackway and a holloway.

- 5.9 The archaeological evaluation at The Green in 2000 also identified a north-west-south-east orientated metalled surface which was thought to have been constructed in the 12th-15th centuries as a sherd of 13th-15th century pottery was recovered from it. The line of this surface was projected southwards and appeared to be a continuation of the road from Orby to Addlethorpe, which was realigned in the 16th-17th centuries based on pottery found in deposits which were used to level over the now redundant road.
- 5.10 An archaeological watching brief took place in 2003 on the groundworks for a new residential dwelling and associated detached garage at Plot 3, The Green (HER 45518, Site code: OTOG 03). This identified three undated linear features, which were thought either to be ditches or to represent medieval plough furrows. Other findings comprised a circular shaped pit feature within the garage area, which was probably a former geotechnical borehole. Finds from this watching brief included fragments of fired clay, animal bone and pottery. Three sherds of 13th-15th century pottery were recovered from the topsoil, but also produced finds of 19th-20th century date.
- 5.11 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken on the groundworks for a new house and detached garage in 2003 at Plot 2, The Green (Site code: OTGS 03). This did not identify any archaeological activity and no finds were made.
- 5.12 An archaeological watching brief was carried out on the groundworks for a new detached house and associated garage at Plot 5, The Green in 2003 (HER ELI4998, Site code: OTG03). This identified fifteen archaeological features which mostly comprised pits and ditches. Five of these features were dated to the 12th-15th centuries from pottery finds. This indicated that this area formed part of the late medieval settlement. This was demonstrated by the finding of thirty-one sherds of medieval pottery and only a small quantity of post 15th century finds were made, suggesting in turn that the site has been abandoned by this time. Four of these archaeological features remained undated and included a small pit, a north-south aligned ditch, a sub rectangular shaped pit and an east-west aligned ditch.
- 5.13 An archaeological watching brief undertaken on the groundworks for a new house and associated garage at Plot 4, The Green in 2003 identified four undated archaeological features, which included two pits and a ditch (HER 43701d, 45518, ELI4997, Site code: OTG403). This shows that this plot was less intensively occupied in the medieval period than the nearby Plot 5.
- 5.14 An archaeological watching brief undertaken on the groundworks for a new tennis court on land adjacent to Burgh Road in 1996 did not identify any archaeological features or deposits. The finds from this watching brief consisted of quantities of building material including two sherds of medieval pottery, a fragment of post-medieval tile and a fragment of medieval glazed tile (HER 43701b; Site code: OBR96).
- 5.15 An archaeological watching brief was carried out within the churchyard of All Saints Church in 2004 (HER 43701E; Site code: OASC04). This recovered two sherds of medieval pottery, but did locate any further archaeological remains.
- 5.16 Copies of manuscript and published Ordnance Survey maps were obtained from the Lincolnshire Archives and from the local studies collections of Lincoln Central Library. The earliest map consulted comprised an extract from the tithe map for the parish of Orby of 1843 (Archive ref: A303). This map shows the development site as lying within its current boundaries as plot no. 147. An extract from the First Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1892 shows the same layout to the area of the development site. This

same layout is repeated on the subsequent Second Edition map of 1907, on the Provisional Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S, map of 1950 and on the 1:10,560 scale O.S. map of 1956.

## **6. Aims and objectives of the project**

6.1 The general aim of the archaeological evaluation of this site will be to ensure that sufficient information is generated from the results of this work, which will enable the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team, (on behalf of East Lindsey District Council), to formulate a policy for the management of the archaeological resource (if any) on the site in the event that further archaeological work may be required, either pre- or post determination.

6.2 The objectives of the project will be to:

To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the area of the development site.

To determine the type, extent, condition, nature, character, quality, function, and date, of any archaeological remains encountered.

To allow the preservation by record of archaeological deposits.

6.3 This assessment site is situated within an area of high archaeological potential. The line of the former medieval road from Orby to Addlethorpe is believed to traverse the site from west-east. To the west of the assessment site are a number of linear cropmarks and the earthwork cultivation remains of ridge and furrow, all thought to be associated with the medieval settlement of Orby further to the west. It is considered that further archaeological remains associated with this settlement may extend into the area of this assessment site. The specific objectives of the project will be to record any archaeological features, structures and/or deposits and finds associated with this medieval settlement along with the postulated line of the medieval road from Orby to Addlethorpe.

## **7. Methodology [Figure 4]**

7.1 Prior to the commencement of the archaeological evaluation, the proposed layout of the trial trenching shall be submitted to and agreed with the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team (on behalf of the Local Planning Authority) to ensure that this proposed scheme of archaeological works fulfils their requirements.

7.2 The trial trenching will consist of the excavation of three trenches; each measuring 30.0m in length by 1.40m in width. These trenches will all be positioned within the excavation area of the proposed new pond. The trenches will be excavated to a maximum safe working depth of up to 1.20m.

7.3 All work will be carried out according to the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) standards, and will be under the management of a Member of the IFA (MIFA).

7.4 All work will be undertaken following all statutory Health and Safety requirements and legislation in operation at the time of the investigation including the *Health and Safety at Work Act* (1974). Due consideration shall be given to keeping the assessment site secure at all times particularly if the field assessment is to continue overnight into a second day.

7.5 A Risk Assessment will be prepared for the site.

- 7.6 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to come under the provisions of the *Treasure Act* (1996), will be removed from the site to a secure location, and will be promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office. The local Finds Liaison Officer will also be contacted in the first instance for advice.
- 7.7 The excavation of the archaeological features and/or deposits exposed will be undertaken as far as is required to determine their date, sequence, density and nature. The investigation will also determine, as far as is reasonably practicable, the level of the natural and undisturbed subsoil deposits to ensure that the depth of the archaeological sequence present on the site is established.
- 7.8 The removal of the topsoil and/or of any other overburden will be undertaken by a tracked JCB or 360° mechanical excavator of sufficient power using a toothless ditching bucket. This will be carried out under constant archaeological supervision. Following the removal of topsoil and/or other overburden, the nature of the exposed and underlying deposits will be assessed by hand excavation. The trenches will then be cleaned by hand to enable the identification and analysis of any archaeological features and/or deposits exposed.
- 7.9 The spoil generated during the investigations will be mounded at a minimum distance of 1.0m from the edges of each trench with the topsoil being retained separately from other excavated material for subsequent backfilling.
- 7.11 Archaeological excavation may sometimes require the use of manual work by mattock and shovel, or by the occasional further use of a mechanical excavator. This will only be employed to remove homogenous and/or non archaeological layers.
- 7.12 The hand excavation of any exposed archaeological features and/or deposits will be undertaken to determine their date, form and function etc. This work will consist of the half sectioning of discrete individual archaeological features, the hand excavation of at least 10% by length of discrete linear features and the sectioning of discrete individual archaeological layers as required. Should archaeological features be located, which are deemed to be worthy of preservation *in situ*, then hand excavation will be limited to the absolute minimum necessary to interpret the form, function, date etc. of the features.
- 7.13 All archaeological features and/or deposits will be recorded on *pro-forma* context recording sheets.
- 7.14 All archaeological features and/or deposits and the trial trenches themselves will be drawn at a scale of 1:20, and sections (including representative sections of deposit sequences within each trench) at a scale of 1:10.
- 7.15 Throughout the investigations, a digital photographic record will be maintained, and will comprise an overview of the site prior to work starting and during as well as after completion of the work, and will include any excavated features, sections and other relevant details that aid interpretation.
- 7.16 All archaeological features and/or deposits, as well as sections will be levelled in, in relation to a Temporary Site Benchmark (TBM), which will be turned to be surveyed in from a nearby Ordnance Survey benchmark. The site grid will be tied into the National Grid.
- 7.17 The precise location of each trial trench will be measured in using hand tapes.
- 7.18 Should human remains be encountered, they will be left *in situ*, and will only be excavated if absolutely necessary. Proper respect will be accorded to these remains, which will be cleaned to allow positive identification. Should removal be required, the appropriate Department for Constitutional Affairs Licence will be obtained prior to the



removal of the remains. In addition, any remains will be reported to the local Environmental Health Department, coroner and the police will be informed, where appropriate.

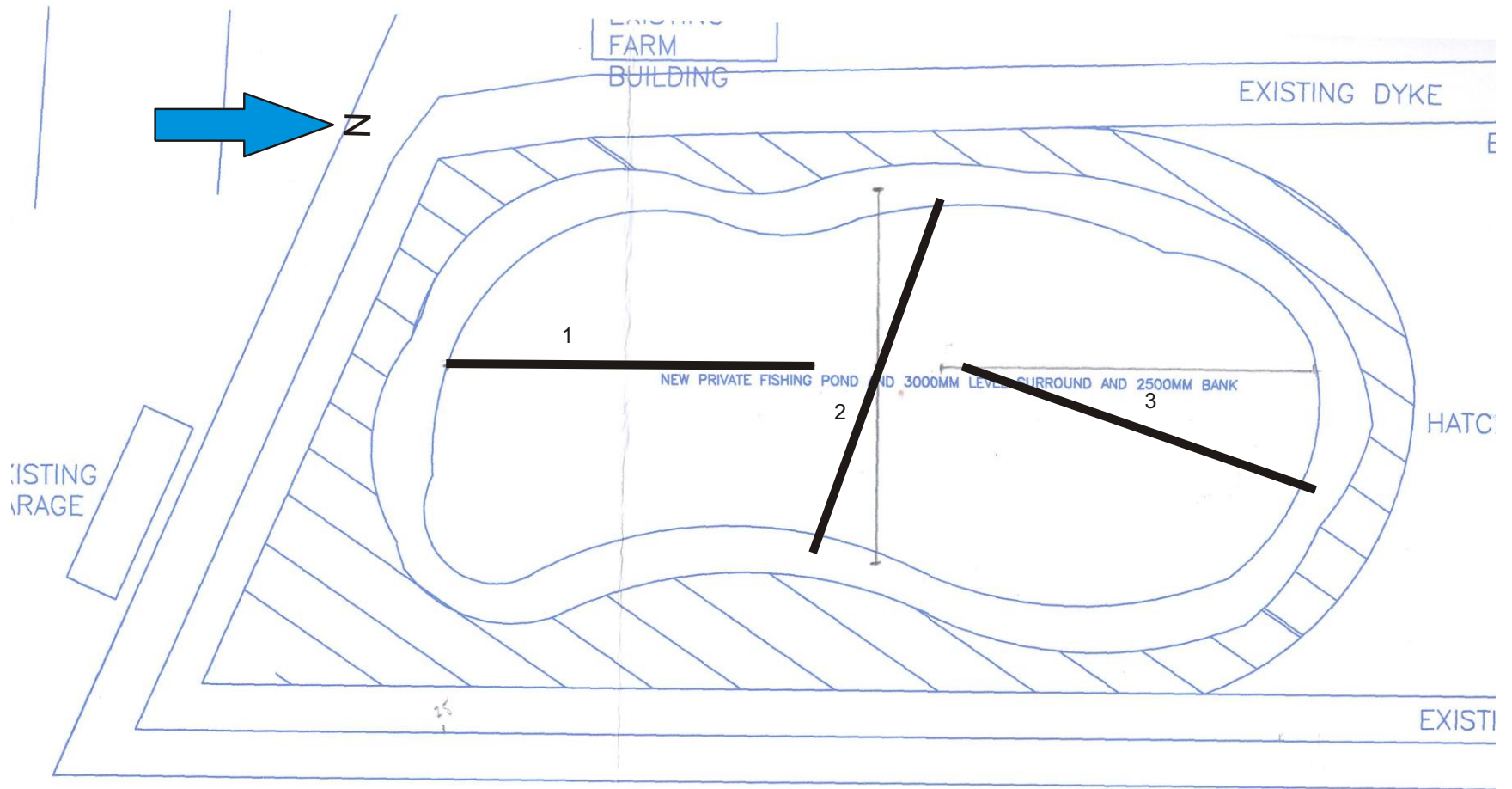
- 7.19 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled according to the individual context from which they were recovered for later washing and further analysis. All relevant finds will be ordered into an archive. Most modern material will not be retained, although notes will be made of the appropriate context. An appropriate sample of materials such as ceramic building materials will be made.
- 7.20 All finds shall be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed in accordance with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation *First Aid for Finds* (1998).
- 7.21 Environmental sampling will be undertaken (where appropriate) of the fills of relevant archaeological features and/or significant archaeological deposits. Sample sizes of not less than 40 litres will be taken from each fill/deposit or a 100% sample from smaller features.
- 7.22 If appropriate, during the investigation, specialist advice will be obtained from an environmental archaeologist, who will prepare a report detailing the nature of the environmental material present on the site and its potential for additional analysis should further stages of archaeological work be required. The results of this specialist assessment will be incorporated into the final evaluation report. A site visit by the nominated environmental specialist (Val Fryer) may be required. Where appropriate, further advice may be sought from the English Heritage Regional Scientific Advisor.
- 7.23 The fieldwork will be undertaken by Neville Hall MIFA and Kevin Wragg. Additional personnel may be appointed if required.

## **8. Post-fieldwork methodology**

- 8.1 On the completion of the fieldwork, all of the written, drawn and photographic records produced by the archaeological evaluation will be checked, ordered, labelled (where appropriate) and catalogued to compile a distinctive site archive, whose integrity shall be maintained. A stratigraphical matrix of the archaeological features and/or deposits present on the site will be compiled.
- 8.2 All finds recovered during the fieldwork will be washed, marked and packaged according to the individual context from which they were recovered. They will also be ordered into (and form part of) the site archive. An assessment of significant finds will be made in light of general site information. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and/or conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at The Collection, Lincoln, and in consultation with the relevant curator.
- 8.3 The site archive will be examined to enable the determination of various phases of activity on the site (if appropriate).
- 8.4 Relevant finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

## **9. Monitoring arrangements**

- 9.1 Provision will be made for the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team (on behalf of East Lindsey District Council, the Local Planning Authority) to monitor the works during the fieldwork stage and any other aspect of the archaeological project as required including the post fieldwork analysis and report preparation stages of the project.



**Figure 4:** Plan of the proposed layout of trial trenches, at an original scale of 1:500 (extract from Architects plan)

- 9.2 A minimum notice period of fourteen days will be given to the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team of the start date of works on the site.
- 9.3 All aspects of the archaeological programme will be undertaken in accordance with this project specification.
- 9.4 Any variation to the project programme in terms of works or recording on or off site will be fully discussed and agreed with the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team.
- 9.5 Should the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment team require any additional investigation which is beyond the scope of this document, then the cost and duration of these supplementary works will be negotiated between the client and the contractor.
- 9.6 Arrangements will be made for the representative of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team for access to the site to undertake monitoring visits, and such visits will be accounted for in the final report preparation.
- 9.7 The Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team shall be kept fully informed of any unexpected or unforeseen discoveries made during the course of the archaeological investigations.

## **10. Archive preparation and deposition**

- 10.1 The documentation and records generated by the archaeological evaluation including all written records, drawings, photographic images and the project report will be sorted and ordered in the format acceptable to The Collection, Lincoln, and to the standards and requirements as laid out in their *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives*.
- 10.2 The archive will be deposited at The Collection, Lincoln.
- 10.3 A unique accession number will be obtained from The Collection for the site archive.
- 10.4 It is anticipated that the preparation of the project archive for deposition will take one working day.
- 10.5 It is anticipated that the project archive will be deposited with The Collection, Lincoln by February 2016.

## **11. Reporting procedures**

- 11.1 A report detailing the findings of the archaeological evaluation will be completed within two months after the finalisation of the fieldwork. Any delays will be related to the relevant authorities.
- 11.2 It is anticipated that the report preparation will take 1-3 working days to compile.
- 11.3 The report will consist of:

A title page with project name and location, national grid reference, planning reference, site code, accession number, client name, author and date;

A contents page listing report sections, illustrations and appendices;

A non-technical summary of the results of the evaluation;

An introduction, site description and location;

Planning background to the project;

A section on the archaeological and historical background to the project;

A description of the methodology used in the project;

A section describing the results of the evaluation;

A section on the discussion and results of the project including a consideration of the archaeological potential of the assessment site and its environs and a consideration of these findings of the project in a local and regional context;

A consideration of the effectiveness of the project methodology and a confidence rating of the results;

A full bibliography of all published references and other references consulted;

Illustrations including site location plans, plans of the areas which have been investigated including the position of the trial trenches, individual trench plans, plans of all archaeological features and sections thereof (including trench representative sections) with levels and horizontal and vertical scales, as appropriate; and

Appendices comprising appropriate photographs of the site including pre-site works, working shots and of specific and significant archaeological features and representative sections, a list of contexts and of any artefacts recovered from them, a summary of archive contents, their location and the date of deposition, a photographic register and any specialist reports on finds from the site.

An electronic copy of the report will be deposited with the OASIS project (On-line Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations) <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/index.cfm>.

## **12. Publication and dissemination**

- 12.1 Copies of the final report will be deposited with the clients, the local curator (on behalf of the local planning authority), East Lindsey District Council and with the Lincolnshire Heritage Environment Record (including a digital copy in a .pdf format).
- 12.2 A note will be placed in 'Lincolnshire History and Archaeology' describing the results.
- 12.3 The deposition of the site archive will be in accordance with guidelines outlined in the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook (LCC, 2012).
- 12.4 Should the results of the archaeological investigation merit it, a note will also be placed in appropriate national journals e.g. *Medieval Archaeology*.

## **13. Other factors (including contingency)**

- 13.1 In the event of the discovery of any unexpected remains of archaeological importance, or of any changed circumstances, it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to inform the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team.
- 13.2 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation, additional financial resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.

- 13.3 Any additional financial contingency requirement for additional fieldwork or post-excavation analysis outside the scope of the proposed scheme of works will only be activated following full consultation with the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team and the client.

#### **14. Variations to the proposed scheme**

- 14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme will only be made following written confirmation with the archaeological curator.

#### **15. Resources**

- 15.1 The fieldwork is expected to take between 1-2 working days, and will be undertaken by Neville Hall using standard archaeological field techniques.
- 15.2 Post-excavation analysis will be undertaken by Neville Hall and is expected to take up to two working days. Where available specialist analysis will be carried out by:-

Jane Young	Anglo-Saxon, Medieval and Post-medieval Ceramics
Ian Rowlandson	Iron Age and Roman Ceramics
Val Fryer	Environmental
Carol Allen	Neolithic and Bronze Age
Malin Holst	Osteoarchaeology
Jane Cowgill	Metallurgy

- 15.2 Small finds requiring conservation will be conserved by the City and County Museum Laboratory.
- 15.3 Recognised specialists will be sought in the event that other data are retrieved in the course of the investigations.

#### **16. Insurance statement**

- 16.1 Public indemnity of £2,000,000 with Towergate Insurance.

#### **17. Copyright**

- 17.1 Copyright will remain that of the author. Licence will be given to the client to present any reports, copyright of the author, to the planning authority in good faith of satisfactory settlement of account.

#### **18. Ownership**

- 18.1 It will be asked of the client, at the outset, that the ownership of any portable objects discovered in the course of the evaluation be donated along with the archive.