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A PRE-DETERMINATION ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
ON LAND ADJACENT TO BURR LODGE,
BURR LANE,
SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

National Grid Reference: TF 2431 2047
Site Code: BLSP16
Accession No: LCNCC: 2016.167
Planning Reference: H16-0349-16

PREPARED FOR MR. BOB MERCHANT OF G. R. MERCHANT LTD. ON BEHALF OF THEIR
CLIENTS - MR. & MRS. B. TURNER

By

Neville Hall

November 2016

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Summary

- *A pre-planning determination archaeological evaluation comprising the mechanical excavation of two trial trenches prior to the proposed construction of a new residential development on land adjacent to Burr Lodge, Burr Lane, Spalding, Lincolnshire was undertaken by Neville Hall on the 11th of January 2016.*
- *No archaeological activity was identified on this assessment site and there were no finds.*
- *Within Trench 1, a deposit sequence that comprised a topsoil/ploughsoil horizon, a relatively thin layer of alluvial silts, a thin layer of humic peat, (which appeared to be discontinuous) and an alluvial layer of clays at the base of the excavation was recorded within one representative section. A large degree of modern disturbance which consisted of a large soakaway at the northern end of the trench along with a line of a further three modern cuts to the south of this were also identified here.*
- *Within Trench 2, a second deposit sequence was identified which consisted of the topsoil/ploughsoil horizon, a more substantial layer of alluvial silts and a further deposit of alluvial clays at the base of the excavation. This deposit sequence was recorded within a second representative section. An isolated lens of peat was also identified at the south-western end of the trench.*

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Neville Hall was commissioned by Mr. Bob Merchant of G. R. Merchant Ltd. on behalf of his clients - Mr. and Mrs. B. Turner to undertake a pre-planning determination archaeological evaluation prior to the proposed construction of new residential dwellings on land adjacent to Burr Lodge, Burr Lane, Spalding, Lincolnshire, centred at National Grid Reference TF 2431 2047. The archaeological evaluation was carried out at the development site on the 11th of November 2016.
- 1.2 The work was carried out in order to inform and accompany a current planning application for outline planning consent for a proposed new residential development on this site. The requirement for the pre-determination archaeological assessment of this proposal site through trial trenching was requested by Ms. Louise Jennings of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team, in her capacity as archaeological advisor on planning issues to South Holland District Council, the Local Planning Authority (LPA). This report documents the results of this pre-planning determination archaeological evaluation, which was undertaken in accordance with a Specification prepared by Neville Hall. This document was submitted to and approved by Ms. Louise Jennings, 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* (CHIfA, 2014).
- 1.3 Copies of the final report will be deposited with the clients, Ms. Louise Jennings (on behalf of the local planning authority), the Planning Department of South Holland 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 immediate west of and on land adjacent to Burr Lodge. The proposed development site is also situated off the southern frontage of Burr Lane and approximately 1km to the south of the southern outskirts of the town of Spalding. The proposed development site is located within the modern civil parish of Spalding, administrative district of South Holland, County of Lincolnshire [Figures 1 and 2].
- 2.2 Topographically, the development site is situated on a flat, low-lying area of the Lincolnshire Fens 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 deposits of marine alluvium and Oxford Clays and Kellaway Beds of the Middle Jurassic [BGS, 1992; Soil Survey, 1983].

3. Planning Background

- 3.1 An application for outline planning consent for a proposed new residential development on land adjacent to Burr Lodge, Burr Lane, Spalding, Lincolnshire has been submitted to South Holland District Council (the Local Planning Authority) [Figure 3].
- 3.2 It was considered that the proposal site lay within an area of high archaeological potential. Consequently, a request was made by Ms. Louise Jennings of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team that the proposal site be archaeologically assessed for this potential through trial trenching prior to the granting of outline planning

consent for this aforementioned planning application. This report, which documents the results of this archaeological field assessment, will be submitted in order to inform the granting of outline planning permission for the proposed development on this site.

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



Figure 1: Site location at scale 1:25,000. The site is shown in red. (O.S. copyright licence number 100048723)

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 would be generated from the results of this work, which would enable the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team, (on behalf of South Holland District Council, the Local Planning Authority), 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.

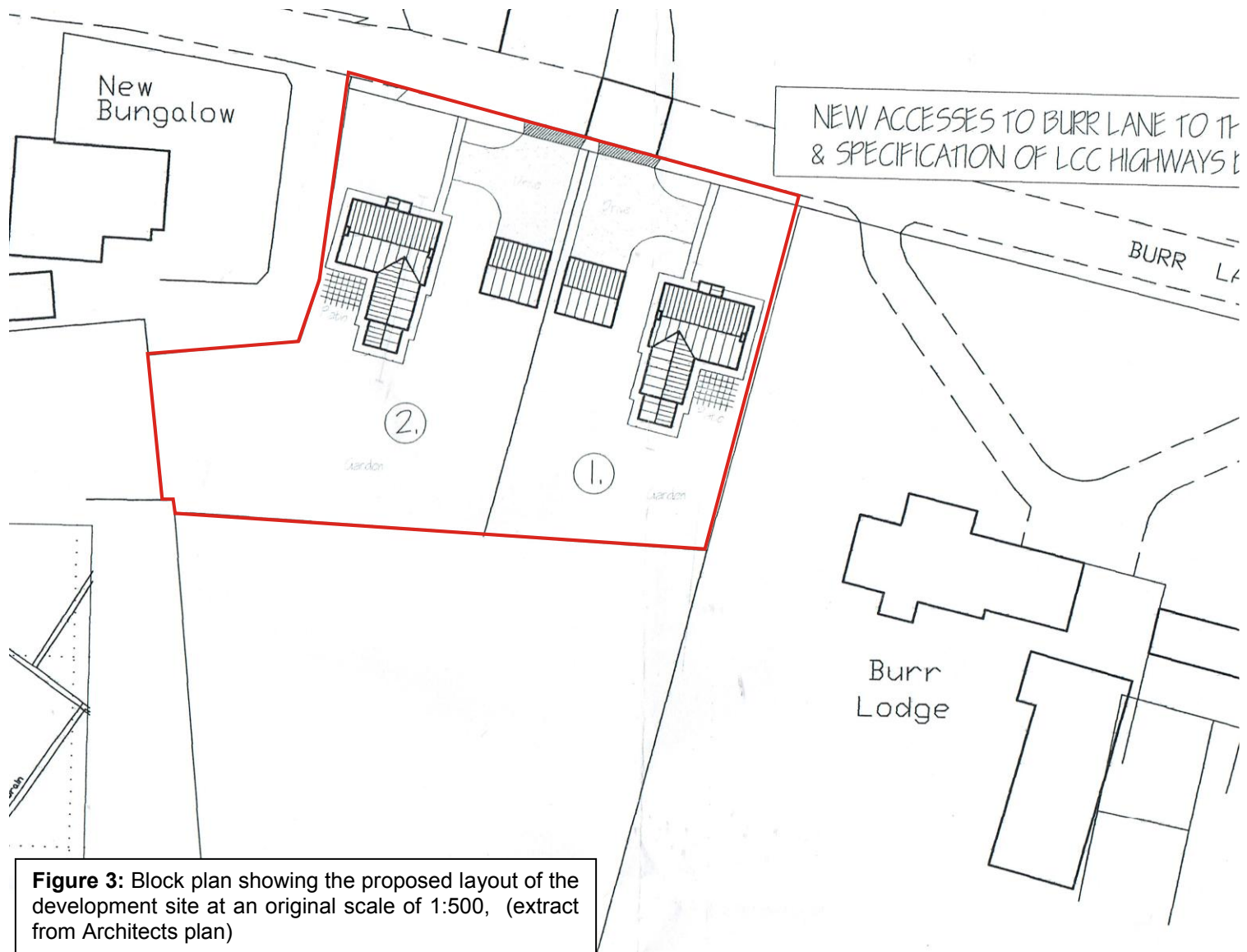


Figure 2: Site location at an original scale of 1:2,500, (not to scale), (extract from Architects plan)

To allow the preservation by record of archaeological deposits.

To gain information about heritage assets identified within the area of the proposed development site.

To mitigate potential threats.



To inform proposals for further archaeological investigations, if necessary.

To interpret the archaeology of the site within its local, regional and national context.

- 4.3 The proposed development site lies in an area of high archaeological potential. The cropmarks of Roman and undated settlement activity have been plotted from aerial photographic sources in the vicinity of this site. From both field observations and from the results of previous archaeological investigations in the area, the remains of dylings or field systems which may date from the medieval to the post-medieval periods have also been identified in the vicinity of this site. The specific objectives of the archaeological evaluation were to record any archaeological features, structures, deposits or finds associated with this known Roman settlement activity along with the possible remains of medieval and/or post-medieval field systems within the context of local and regional archaeological research frameworks in terms of Romano-British settlement activity and of pre-parliamentary enclosure medieval and/or post-medieval field systems as detailed in *The Archaeology of the East Midlands, An Archaeological Resource Assessment and Research Agenda* (2006).

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 the vicinity of the development site.
- 5.2 An assemblage of Romano-British pottery was found at Clay Lake in 1969 (HER 22376). This was found during the widening of a drainage dyke. An ash filled depression here was cut by the northern side of the dyke. The depression produced sherds of Roman pottery.
- 5.3 The cropmarks of possible Roman settlement activity have been plotted from aerial photographic sources to the north and to the north-east of the development site (HER 23605).
- 5.4 A medieval lead seal matrix was found near the New River in 1960 (HER 22385).
- 5.5 Dylings surviving as earthworks and comprising a medieval darland field system have been identified at Locks Farm in 1997 to the north of the development site (HER 23626).
- 5.6 A 17th century trade token was found in a garden in Cowbit Road in 1979 (HER 22349).
- 5.7 A former Primitive Methodist Chapel is situated on London Road, Little London (HER 25678). The first chapel was built in 1829 and subsequently rebuilt in 1842. The chapel closed in 1985 and is now used as a storehouse.
- 5.8 The cropmarks and soilmarks of a large number of undated curvilinear features have been plotted from aerial photographic sources to the west of this development site (HER 25756). Although undated, the cropmarks appear to comprise a number of possible trackways and enclosures which may be related to other nearby Roman or medieval settlement activity.
- 5.9 There have been other previous archaeological investigations within the search area. An archaeological watching brief was undertaken on the groundworks for a new dwelling at The Bungalow, The Raceground in 2013 (HER 25758, ELI11837; Site code RASP13). This identified an infilled curvilinear ditch of probable early-mid 19th century date. The

ditch ran in an arc from the south to the north-east and appeared to continue on an alignment that would take it under the adjacent railway line. The ditch was probably backfilled as the result of the construction of this railway. No finds were made.

- 5.10 A geophysical survey was carried out in advance of mineral extraction at the Spalding By-pass Minerals extraction site in 1993 (HER ELI440). Anomalies were found which were thought to represent features seen as cropmarks. Anomalies relating to industrial activity were also found relating to an early post-medieval brick making site at Tointons Farm (HER 23516). Pit features containing wasters were found during subsequent archaeological trial trenching here in 1994 (HER 23516, Site code SB93). These were interpreted as relating to brick manufacture. However, no kiln features or working surfaces were encountered.
- 5.11 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken in 1994 on the line of the proposed A16 Spalding By-pass Borrow Pit (HER ELI6819; Site code: SB93). Remains relating to a palaeochannel, undated cropmark features and a brick kiln were found. A subsequent archaeological watching brief was also carried out at this location in 1993 during the groundworks associated with mineral extraction (HER ELI6820, Site code: SB93).
- 5.12 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Drain Bank North to the south-east of the development site in 2014 (HER 25786, ELI2166; Site code: SDBN14). The evaluation identified a sequence of Romano-British and undated archaeological features. Located towards the south-eastern corner of the site were ditches and pits which probably dated to the 2nd-3rd centuries AD. The ditches belonged to a contemporary field system along with probable rubbish pits. The undated archaeological features consisted of ditches which based on their form were typical dyling ditches of probable post-medieval date. These comprised a series of regularly spaced parallel ditches, which were also recorded across this site. Although no dating material was recovered from any of them, two distinct phases of dyling construction were determined with the later phase according well with the 19th century field arrangement. The finds from the evaluation consisted mostly of Roman pottery of 2nd-3rd century AD date [Cope-Faulkner, 2014].
- 5.13 An archaeological evaluation took place in 2013 on land at Barrier Bank to the south and south-east of the proposed development site (HER 25797; ELI2356; Site code: SPBB13). The remains of post-medieval agricultural activity was identified in the form of a large number of linear infilled flat-bottomed dylings. No other archaeological remains were identified and no finds were made. Dyings were first recorded in the 14th century and appear to have been used for the pasturing of sheep by creating higher ground between the parallel ditches. Early maps of Spalding indicated that these dyings were infilled in the 19th century to create larger fields [Peachey, 2013].
- 5.14 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 a 19th century map of the parish of Spalding (Archive ref: Misc dep 23). This map shows the area of the proposed development site as being occupied then by several small enclosures with intervening enclosure ditches.
- 5.15 An extract from the First Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1889 shows these former smaller enclosures having gone from the area of the proposed development site by this time. By 1889, the area of this site is now contained within one larger enclosure to the south of Burr Lane. Two small ponds are also featured within this enclosure.
- 5.16 An extract from the Second Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1905 shows that no change took place to the area of the proposed development site between 1889 and 1905.

- 5.17 An extract from the 1932 Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S. map shows that little change took place to the area of the proposed development site between 1905 and 1932. One of the ponds has gone from the site by this time.
- 5.19 An extract from the Provisional Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1951 shows that no change took place to the area of the proposed development site between 1932 and 1951.
- 5.20 An extract from the 1:10,000 scale O.S. map of 1982, shows that the second pond had also gone from the site by this time, otherwise there is no change to the area of the proposed development site.
- 5.21 **Figure 2** shows the current layout of the proposed development site.

6. Methodology

- 6.1 This pre-planning determination archaeological evaluation was undertaken on the proposed development site by Neville Hall on the 11th of November 2016. This comprised the mechanical excavation under archaeological supervision of two archaeological trial trenches [designated **Trenches 1-2**] within the area of the proposed new residential development according to the Specification for this project previously compiled by Neville Hall [**Figure 4**]. The trenches were excavated by a JCB 3cx mechanical excavator that was fitted with a 1.60m wide toothless bucket. All two archaeological trial trenches were excavated to the agreed dimensions and to the agreed original trial trench layout proposal.
- 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 sequences were recorded on standard *pro-forma* context recording sheets. Plans of the two trial trenches were compiled on site at a scale of 1:20 and are reproduced here at the reduced scale of 1:100 on **Figure 5** of this report. A total of two sections of the identified deposit sequences [designated as **Representative Sections 1-2**] were also compiled on site at a scale of 1:10. These are also reproduced in this report at the reduced scale of 1:20 also on **Figure 5**. A complimentary digital colour photographic record was also maintained, which are reproduced as **Plates 1-8, Appendix 1**.
- 6.4 All deposits were levelled in from a site TBM, which was in turn plotted from a spot height detailed on an Architects plan. This was located within the road at the easternmost entrance to Burr Lodge with a value of 2.70m AOD.
- 6.5 A monitoring visit to the site was scheduled to be made by Ms. Louise Jennings of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team on the 11th of November 2016. However, this visit was cancelled by same and the trenches subsequently backfilled with the consent of same.
- 6.6 All work was carried out according to the approved Specification and to the Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists (CHIfA) standards and guidance for archaeological evaluations.

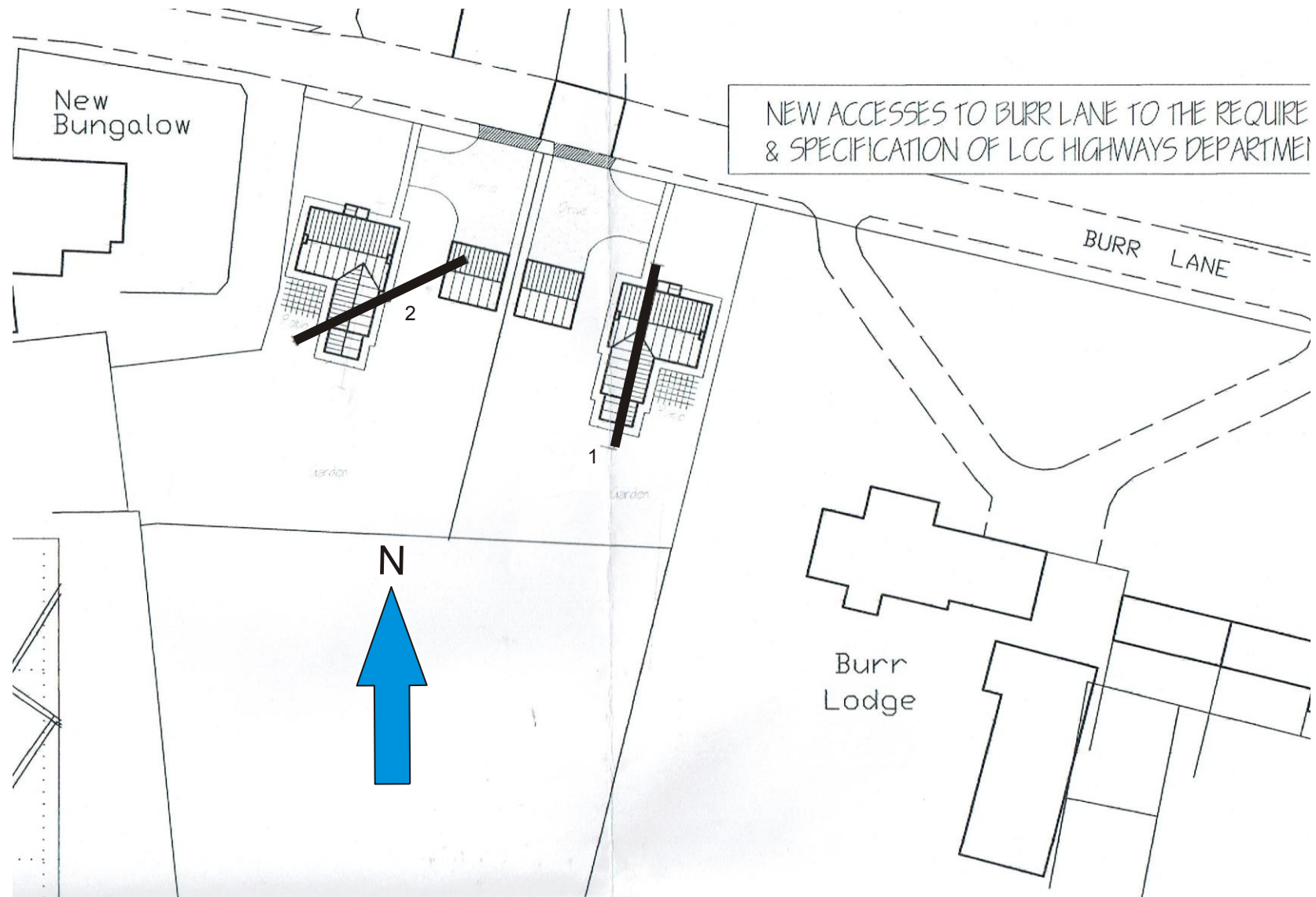


Figure 4: Plan of the proposed and final layout of trial trenches, at an original scale of 1:500 (extract from Architects plan)

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

The assessment site comprised an open field which was under grass and rough scrubland [Plates 1-2].

7.1 Trench 1

7.1.1 **Trench 1** was positioned at the eastern side of the assessment area and was orientated from north-south. **Trench 1** was excavated to a length of 20.0m, to a width of 2.0m and to depths of between 0.71m-0.81m below ground levels [Plates 3-4]. The mechanical excavation of this trench extended through a topsoil/ploughsoil horizon (101), a relatively thin deposit of alluvial silt (102), a thin layer or lens of peat (103), (which was discontinuous) and a natural horizon of alluvial clays (104), which extended to the base of this excavation. This deposit sequence was recorded within the west facing **Representative Section 1** [Plate 5].

7.1.2 No archaeological activity or finds were identified within **Trench 1**. At the northern end of this trench, a large modern soakaway, which was associated with the construction of the adjacent Burr Lodge in the early 1980s was identified. This soakaway was contained within a large rectangular shaped machine cut excavation. To the south of this large modern disturbance, a series or line of an additional three modern rectangular shaped machine cuts with vertical sides were also identified. Two of these were investigated by hand excavation. These were undoubtedly associated with the modern soakaway, but their function or purpose could not be determined.

7.2 Trench 2

7.2.1 **Trench 2** was positioned within the western portion of the survey area and to the west of **Trench 1**. **Trench 2** was aligned from north east-south west and was excavated to a length of 20.0m, to a width of 2.0m and to depths of between 0.95m-1.03m below ground levels [Plates 6-7]. The mechanical excavation of this trench extended through a topsoil/ploughsoil horizon (201), a layer of alluvial silts (202) and a further alluvial layer of clays (203), which extended to the base of this excavation. This deposit sequence extended nearly all of this trench and was recorded within **Representative Section 2** [Plate 8]. Towards the south-western end of this trench, a small isolated area or lens of peat (204) was identified below the alluvial silt horizon (202) and above the alluvial clay horizon (203).

7.2.2 No archaeological activity or finds were identified within **Trench 2**. The excavation extended through a redundant modern water pipe trench, which had originally fed a modern greenhouse, which had formerly stood to the west of this trench.

8. Discussion and Conclusions

8.1 The two excavated archaeological trial trenches were all positioned within the area of the proposed new residential development according to the agreed original trial trench layout proposal and were both excavated under archaeological supervision.

8.2 No archaeological activity was identified on this assessment site and there were no finds.

8.3 Within Trench 1, a deposit sequence that comprised a topsoil/ploughsoil horizon, a relatively thin layer of alluvial silts, a thin layer of humic peat, (which appeared to be discontinuous) and an alluvial layer of clays at the base of the excavation was recorded within one representative section. A large degree of modern disturbance which consisted

of a large soakaway at the northern end of the trench along with a line of a further three modern cuts to the south of this were also identified here.

- 8.4 Within Trench 2, a second deposit sequence was identified which consisted of the topsoil/ploughsoil horizon, a more substantial layer of alluvial silts and a further deposit of alluvial clays at the base of the excavation. This deposit sequence was recorded within a second representative section. An isolated lens of peat was also identified towards the south-western end of the trench.

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 sequences 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. Bob Merchant of G. R. Merchant Ltd. and his clients - Mr. and Mrs. B. Turner for commissioning this work. Thanks are also extended to Ms. Louise Jennings 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 a 19th century map of the parish of Spalding (Archive ref: Misc dep 23).

Extract from the First Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1889, map sheet no. Lincolnshire 142NW.

Extract from the Second Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1905, map sheet no. Lincolnshire 142NW.

Extract from the 1932 Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S. map, map sheet no. Lincolnshire 142NW.

Extract from the Provisional Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1951, map sheet no. Lincolnshire 142NW.

Extract from the 1:10,560 scale O.S. map of 1956, map sheet no. TF 22 SW.

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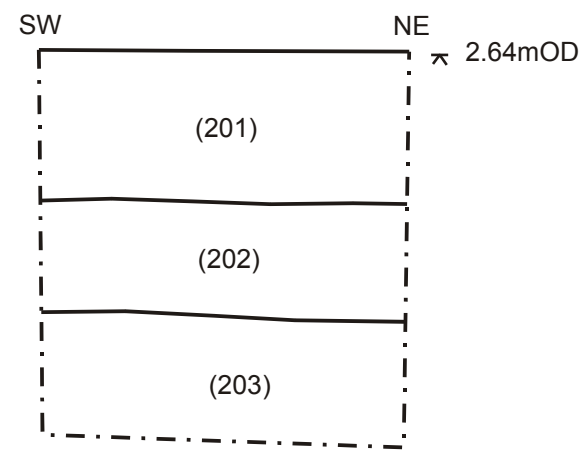
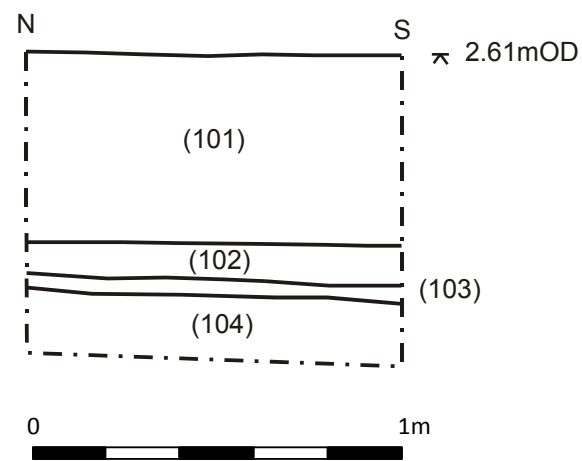
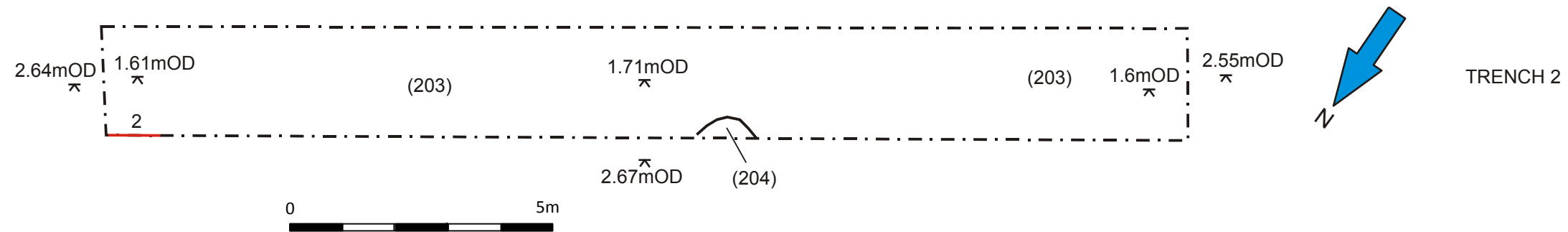
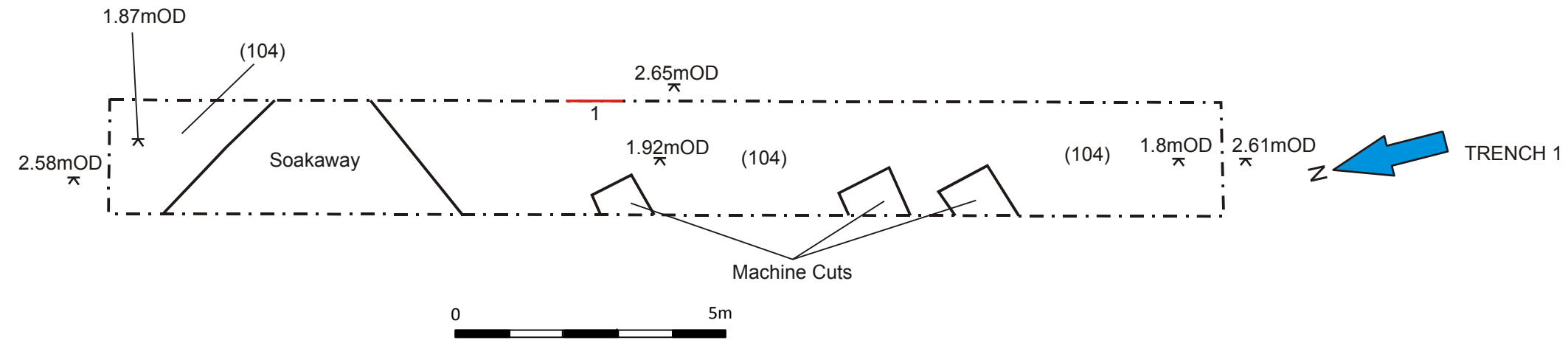


Figure 5: Trenches 1-2 at a scale of 1:100 & Representative Sections 1-2 at a scale of 1:20

Appendix 1: Plates



Plate 1: Pre-assessment, from the north



Plate 2: Pre-assessment, from the north-east



Plate 3: Trench 1, from the south



Plate 4: Trench 1, from the north



**Plate 5: Representative Section 1,
Trench 1, from the west**



Plate 6: Trench 2, from the north-east



Plate 7: Trench 2, from the south-west



**Plate 8: Representative Section 2,
Trench 2, from the south-east**

Appendix 2: List of Contexts

Trench 1

- 101** Topsoil/ploughsoil horizon. Friable, dark orange brown clayey silt with no inclusions. Above **(102)**. Same as **(201)**. Recorded within **Representative Section 1**. Depth - 0.50m.
- 102** Alluvial deposit. Soft, light orange brown sandy silt with no inclusions. Below **(101)** and above **(103)**. Recorded within **Representative Section 1**. Depth - 0.10m.
- 103** Thin layer or lens of peat, which is not continuous. Soft, dark grey brown peat with high humic content. Below **(103)** and above **(104)**. Same as **(204)**. Recorded within **Representative Section 1**. Depth - 0.05m.
- 104** Natural horizon of alluvial clays. Soft, light blue grey silty clay with light orange brown mottling. No inclusions. Below **(103)**. Recorded within **Representative Section 1**. Depth - >0.20m.

Trench 2

- 201** Topsoil/ploughsoil horizon. Friable, dark orange brown clayey silt with no inclusions. Above **(202)**. Same as **(101)**. Recorded within **Representative Section 2**. Depth - 0.40m.
- 202** Alluvial deposit. Friable, dark orange brown clayey silt with no inclusions. Below **(201)** and above **(203)**. Recorded within **Representative Section 2**. Depth - 0.30m.
- 203** Natural horizon of alluvial clays. Soft, Light orange brown silty clay with no inclusions. Below **(204)**. Recorded within **Representative Section 2**. Depth - >0.35m.
- 204** Thin and isolated layer or lens of peat above **(203)**. Soft, dark grey brown peat with high humic content. Below **(202)** and above **(203)**. Same as **(103)**. Recorded within **Representative Section 2**. Depth - >0.04m.

Appendix 3: The Archive

The archive consists of:

Eight context records

Plans of the two trial trenches at a scale of 1:20 and two section drawings at a scale of 1:10 on two sheets 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: 2016.167** and the site code **BLSP16**

Appendix 4: Photographic Register

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD SHEET

Camera No.	Date Loaded	Time Loaded	Comments		B&W Col. Digi.
	/ /	:			<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Frame	Comments	View	Scale	Init & Date	Site
	Identification Shot	N/A	N/A		
1	Pre-assessment	N		11/11/16	BLSP16
2	" "	NE		" "	"
3	Trench 1	S		" "	"
4	" "	N		" "	"
5	Representative Section 1 Trench	W		" "	"
6	Trench 2	NE		11/11/16	BLSP16
7	" "	SW		" "	"
8	Representative Section 2 Trench	SE		" "	"
2					

Appendix 5: OASIS Summary Sheet

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

Land Adjacent to Burr Lodge, Burr Lane, Spalding, Lincolnshire - Neville Hall MIFA

OASIS ID - nevilleh1-268999

Versions

View	Version	Completed by	Email	Date
View 1	1	Neville Hall	nevillehallmifa@gmail.com	17 November 2016

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?	

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OASIS:

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Appendix 6: Specification for Archaeological Monitoring

**Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation on
Land Adjacent to Burr Lodge, Burr Lane,
Spalding, Lincolnshire.**

**Prepared for Mr. Bob Merchant of G. R. Merchant
Ltd on behalf of their clients Mr. & Mrs. B. Turner**

National Grid Reference: TF 2431 2047

Site Code: BLSP16

Accession No: LCNCC: 2016.167

Planning Reference: H16-0349-16

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

October 2016

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 adjacent to Burr Lodge, Burr Lane, Spalding, Lincolnshire.*
- S2 *The proposed development site lies in an area of high archaeological potential. The cropmarks of Roman and undated settlement activity have been plotted from aerial photographic sources in the vicinity of this site. From both field observations and from the results of previous archaeological investigations in the area, the remains of dyings or field systems which may date from the medieval to the post-medieval periods have also been identified in the vicinity of this site. The specific objectives of the archaeological evaluation will therefore be to record any archaeological features, structures, deposits or finds associated with this known Roman settlement activity along with the possible remains of medieval and/or post-medieval field systems.*
- 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 adjacent to Burr Lodge, Burr Lane, Spalding, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 2431 2047.

2. Site location [Figures 1 and 2]

- 2.1 The proposed development site currently comprises an enclosed field that is situated to the immediate west of and on land adjacent to Burr Lodge. The proposed development site is also situated off the southern frontage of Burr Lane and approximately 1km to the south of the southern outskirts of the town of Spalding. The proposed development site is located within the modern civil parish of Spalding, administrative district of South Holland, County of Lincolnshire.

3. Planning background

- 3.1 An application for outline planning consent for the proposed construction of a new residential development on land adjacent to Burr Lodge, Burr Lane, Spalding, Lincolnshire (Planning reference: H16-0349-16) has been submitted to South Holland District Council (the Local Planning Authority) **[Figure 3]**.
- 3.2 However, as this proposed development may be situated within an area of high 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 outline 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 Fens 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 Oxford Clays and Kellaway Beds of the Middle Jurassic.

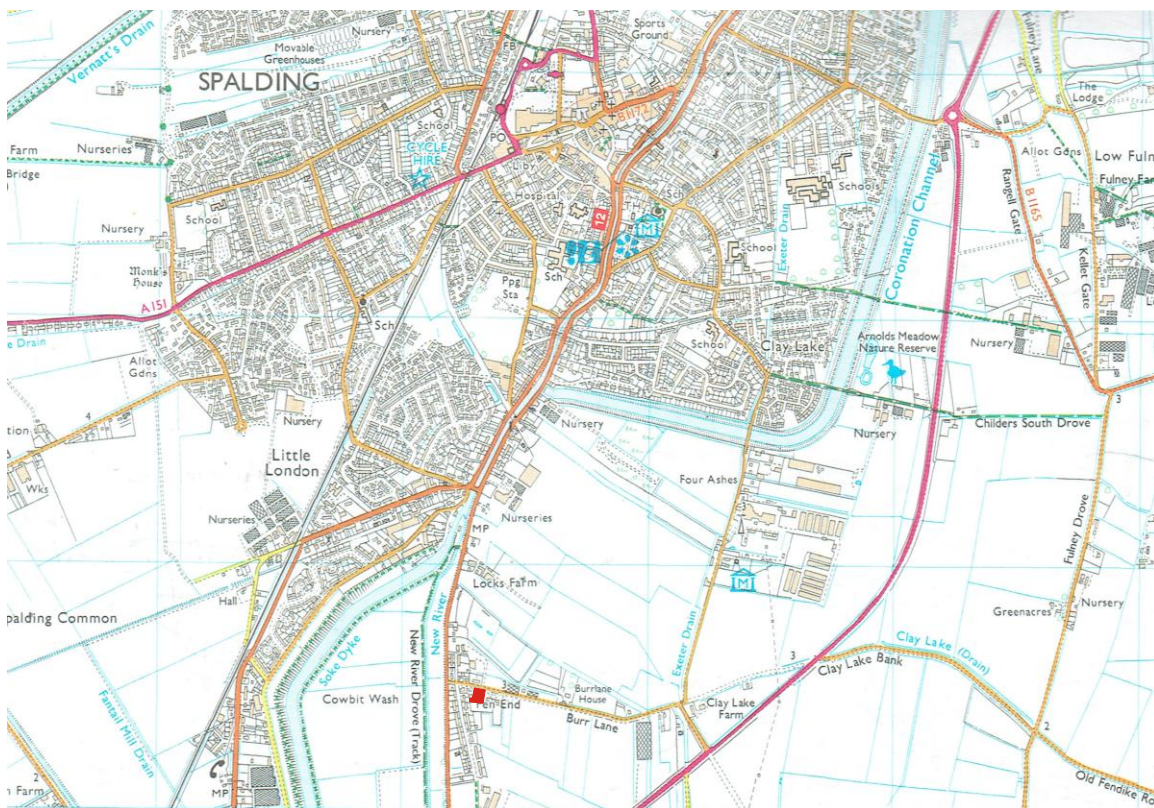


Figure 1: Site location at scale of 1:25,000. The site is shown in red. (O.S. copyright licence no. 100048723)

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 the vicinity of the development site.
- 5.2 An assemblage of Romano-British pottery was found at Clay Lake in 1969 (HER 22376). This was found during the widening of a drainage dyke. An ash filled depression here was cut by the northern side of the dyke. The depression produced sherds of Roman pottery.
- 5.3 The cropmarks of possible Roman settlement activity have been plotted from aerial photographic sources to the north and to the north-east of the development site (HER 23605).
- 5.4 A medieval lead seal matrix was found near the New River in 1960 (HER 22385).
- 5.5 Dylings surviving as earthworks and comprising a medieval darland field system have been identified at Locks Farm in 1997 to the north of the development site (HER 23626).
- 5.6 A 17th century trade token was found in a garden in Cowbit Road in 1979 (HER 22349).

- 5.7 A former Primitive Methodist Chapel is situated on London Road, Little London (HER 25678). The first chapel was built in 1829 and subsequently rebuilt in 1842. The chapel closed in 1985 and is now used as a storehouse.



Figure 2: Site location at an original scale of 1:2,500, (not to scale), (extract from Architects plan)

- 5.8 The cropmarks and soilmarks of a large number of undated curvilinear features have been plotted from aerial photographic sources to the west of this development site (HER 25756). Although undated, the cropmarks appear to comprise a number of possible trackways and enclosures which may be related to other nearby Roman or medieval settlement activity.

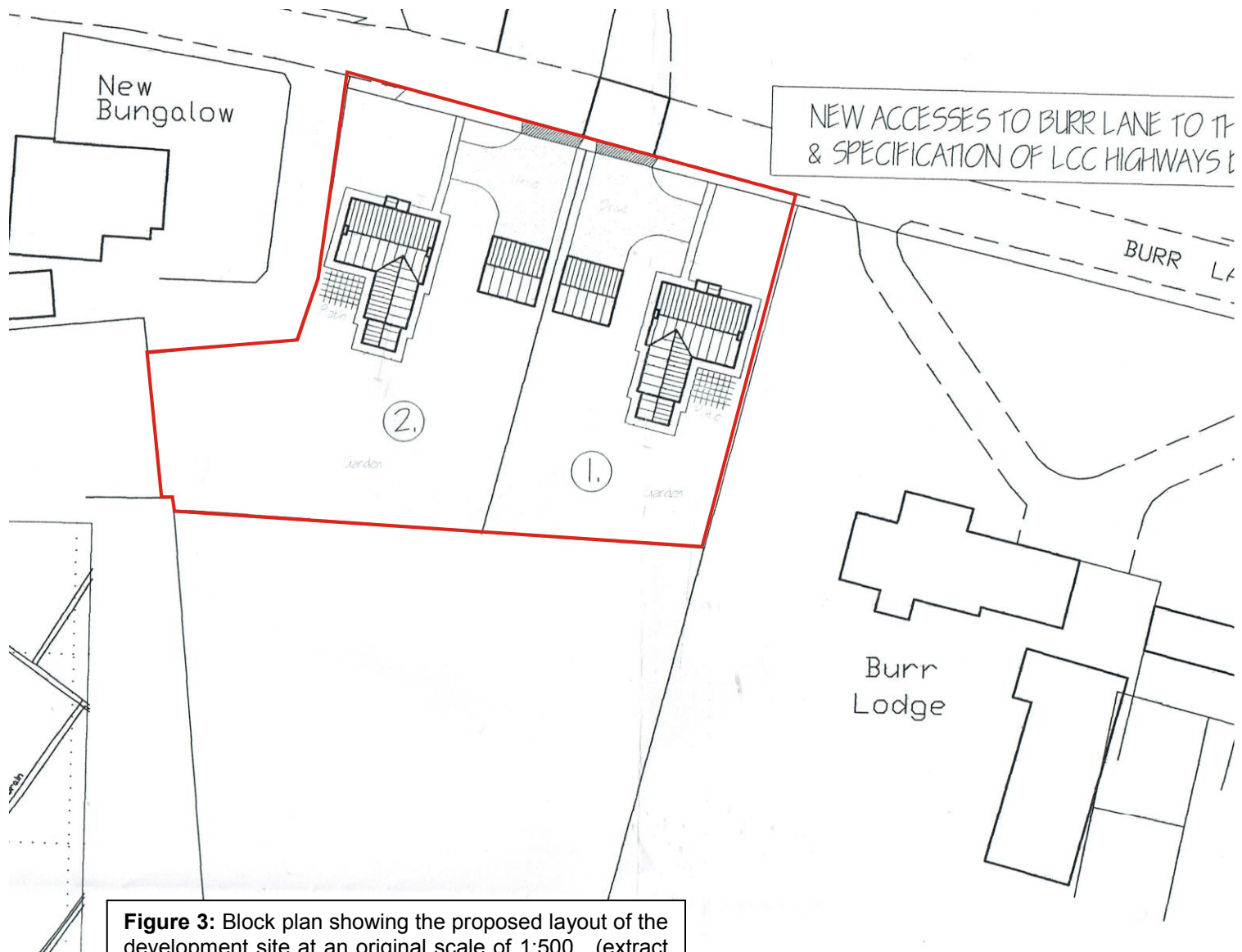


Figure 3: Block plan showing the proposed layout of the development site at an original scale of 1:500, (extract from Architects plan)

- 5.9 There have been other previous archaeological investigations within the search area. An archaeological watching brief was undertaken on the groundworks for a new dwelling at The Bungalow, The Raceground in 2013 (HER 25758, ELI11837; Site code RASP13). This identified an infilled curvilinear ditch of probable early-mid 19th century date. The ditch ran in an arc from the south to the north-east and appeared to continue on an alignment that would take it under the adjacent railway line. The ditch was probably backfilled as the result of the construction of this railway. No finds were made.
- 5.10 A geophysical survey was carried out in advance of mineral extraction at the Spalding Bypass Minerals extraction site in 1993 (HER ELI440). Anomalies were found which were thought to represent features seen as cropmarks. Anomalies relating to industrial activity were also found relating to an early post-medieval brick making site at Tointons Farm (HER 23516). Pit features containing wasters were found during subsequent archaeological trial trenching here in 1994 (HER 23516, Site code SB93). These were interpreted as relating to brick manufacture. However, no kiln features or working surfaces were encountered.
- 5.11 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken in 1994 on the line of the proposed A16 Spalding Bypass Borrow Pit (HER ELI6819; Site code: SB93). Remains relating to a palaeochannel, undated cropmark features and a brick kiln were found. A subsequent archaeological watching brief was also carried out at this location in 1993 during the groundworks associated with mineral extraction (HER ELI6820, Site code: SB93).
- 5.12 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Drain Bank North to the south-east of the development site in 2014 (HER 25786, ELI2166; Site code: SDBN14). The evaluation identified a sequence of Romano-British and undated archaeological features. Located towards the south-eastern corner of the site were ditches and pits which probably dated to the 2nd-3rd centuries AD. The ditches belonged to a contemporary field system along with probable rubbish pits. The undated archaeological features consisted of ditches which based on their form were typical dyling ditches of probable post-medieval date. These comprised a series of regularly spaced parallel ditches, which were also recorded across this site. Although no dating material was recovered from any of them, two distinct phases of dyling construction were determined with the later phase according well with the 19th century field arrangement. The finds from the evaluation consisted mostly of Roman pottery of 2nd-3rd century AD date.
- 5.13 An archaeological evaluation took place in 2013 on land at Barrier Bank to the south and south-east of the proposed development site (HER 25797; ELI2356; Site code SPBB13). The remains of post-medieval agricultural activity was identified in the form of a large number of linear infilled flat-bottomed dylings. No other archaeological remains were identified and no finds were made. Dyings were first recorded in the 14th century and appear to have been used for the pasturing of sheep by creating higher ground between the parallel ditches. Early maps of Spalding indicated that these dyings were infilled in the 19th century to create larger fields.
- 5.14 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 a 19th century map of the parish of Spalding (Archive ref: Misc dep 23). This map shows the area of the proposed development site as being occupied then by several small enclosures with intervening enclosure ditches.
- 5.15 An extract from the First Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1889 shows these former smaller enclosures having gone from the area of the proposed development site by this time. By 1889, the area of this site is now contained within one larger enclosure to the south of Burr Lane. Two small ponds are also featured within this enclosure.

- 5.16 An extract from the Second Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1905 shows that no change took place to the area of the proposed development site between 1889 and 1905.
- 5.17 An extract from the 1932 Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S. map shows that little change took place to the area of the proposed development site between 1905 and 1932. One of the ponds has gone from the site by this time.
- 5.19 An extract from the Provisional Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1951 shows that no change took place to the area of the proposed development site between 1932 and 1951.
- 5.20 An extract from the 1:10,000 scale O.S. map of 1982, shows that the second pond had also gone from the site by this time, otherwise there is no change to the area of the proposed development site.
- 5.21 **Figure 2** shows the current layout of the proposed development site.

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 South Holland 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.

To gain information about heritage assets identified within the area of the proposed development site.

To mitigate potential threats.

To inform proposals for further archaeological investigations, if necessary.

To interpret the archaeology of the site within its local, regional and national context.

- 6.3 The proposed development site lies in an area of high archaeological potential. The cropmarks of Roman and undated settlement activity have been plotted from aerial photographic sources in the vicinity of this site. From both field observations and from the results of previous archaeological investigations in the area, the remains of dyings or field systems which may date from the medieval to the post-medieval periods have also been identified in the vicinity of this site. The specific objectives of the archaeological evaluation will therefore be to record any archaeological features, structures, deposits or finds associated with this known Roman settlement activity along with the possible remains of medieval and/or post-medieval field systems within the context of local and

regional archaeological research frameworks in terms of Romano-British settlement activity and of pre-parliamentary enclosure medieval and/or post-medieval field systems as detailed in *The Archaeology of the East Midlands, An Archaeological Resource Assessment and Research Agenda* (2006).

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 two trenches; each measuring 20.0m in length by 1.60m in width. These trenches will all be positioned within the build footprints of the proposed new residential dwellings. 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 Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists (CHIFA) standards, and will be under the management of a Member of the CHIFA (CHMIFA).
- 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 and 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. 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 South Holland 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.
- 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*.

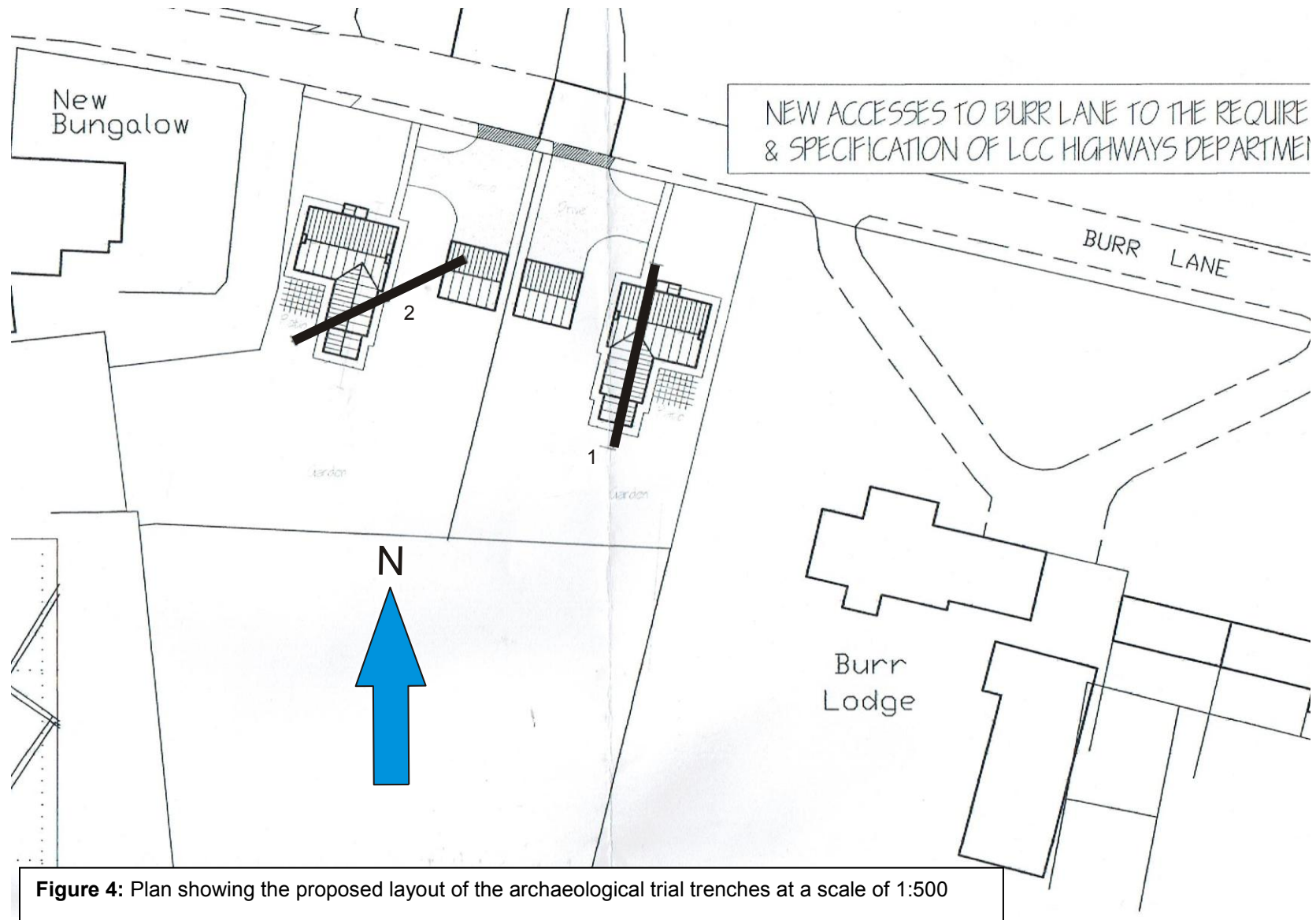


Figure 4: Plan showing the proposed layout of the archaeological trial trenches at a scale of 1:500

- 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 April 2017.

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 and a copy of the approved specification.

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), South Holland 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, 2016).
- 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 and private indemnity insurance of £200,000 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.