

BLKD19



LAND NORTH OF ALLOTMENTS, BACK LANE, KILHAM, EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

PLANNING REF. S/2018/1783/EIA

commissioned by Harrison Farms

February 2019

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PROJECT INFO:

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PROJECT SUMMARY

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd was commissioned by Harrison Farms to undertake an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching, prior to the determination of a planning application for the creation of a pig finishing building and associated infrastructure, on land north of Back Lane, on the western periphery of Kilham, East Riding of Yorkshire. Three trial trenches were excavated. A single shallow ditch/gully, which may locate the continuation of a cropmark feature recorded immediately to the north of the application area, has been identified. No finds were recovered from the fill of the feature which remains undated.

CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	1
1.1	PLANNING BACKGROUND	1
1.2	SITE DESCRIPTION (LOCATION AND GEOLOGY)	1
1.3	ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND	1
2	OBJECTIVES	1
3	METHODOLOGY	2
3.1	EXCAVATION	2
3.2	RECORDING	2
4	RESULTS	2
4.1	INTRODUCTION	2
4.2	GENERAL SITE STRATIGRAPHY	2
4.3	NON ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES	4
4.4	POSSIBLE ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES	4
5	CONCLUSION	4
6	REFERENCES	4
7	APPENDICES	6
	APPENDIX 1 SITE REGISTERS	6

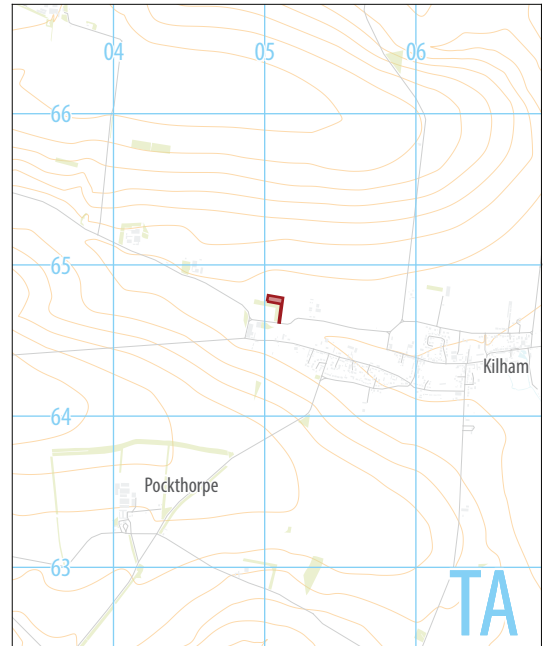
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

ILLUS 1 SITE LOCATION	VIII
ILLUS 2 SITE PLAN	3
ILLUS 3 TRENCH 1 LOOKING SOUTH-WEST	4
ILLUS 4 NORTH FACING SECTION OF DITCH [00104]	4
ILLUS 5 NORTH FACING SECTION DRAWING OF DITCH [00104]	4

Land north of allotments
Back Lane, Kilham
Driffield
East Riding of Yorkshire



0 200km
1:12,500,000 @ A4



0 50m
1:2,5000 @ A4

 development boundary



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PLANNING BACKGROUND

Headland Archaeology was commissioned by Harrison Farms to carry out a programme of trial trenching on land north of allotments, Back Lane, Kilham, East Riding of Yorkshire (Illus 1), to inform a planning application (DC/18/03945/PLF) for a pig finishing building and associated infrastructure. The trial trench evaluation was required to provide information regarding the presence or absence, character, extent, state of preservation and date of any archaeological features or deposits within the application area (AA).

The work was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Harrison 2019), which was submitted to, and approved by, the archaeological advisor to the East Riding of Yorkshire Council. The trial trench evaluation conforms to industry best practice (ClfA 2014a, b and c) and was carried out on the 22nd January 2019.

1.2 SITE DESCRIPTION (LOCATION AND GEOLOGY)

The application area (AA) is located north of Back Lane, on the western periphery of Kilham, East Riding of Yorkshire, centred on TA 0506 6478 and comprises a rectangular block of land which is connected to Back Lane by a farm access track. It is bounded by a small plantation to the south, by a hedged field boundary to the east and by open arable farmland to the north and west.

The site is flat at 35m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD).

The bedrock geology comprises Flamborough Chalk overlain by glacial till (NERC 2019). The soils are classified in the Soilscape

3 association which comprise shallow lime-rich soils over chalk (Cranfield University 2019).

1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The AA lies within an important archaeological landscape containing numerous prehistoric and Romano-British remains. To the north of the AA a number of trackways and ditches have been recorded by the National Mapping Programme orientated north to south direction, with at least one cropmark orientated towards the AA and visible on recent satellite imagery.

To the west of the AA the cropmarks of a circular enclosure are recorded, with similar features to the south and east (Harrison 2019).

2 OBJECTIVES

The scale and approach of the trial trench evaluation was designed to clarify the effects of the proposed development on any unknown heritage assets by establishing the presence or absence, extent, character and significance of any archaeological remains within the AA. This would help inform the local authority of any potential impact caused by the proposed development on any archaeological remains (if present), determine areas of particular significance and help identify areas of high archaeological interest which may require further mitigation works.

The objective was to be achieved by the excavation of three trenches covering 120m², approximately 4% of the proposed development footprint. The aim was to provide a representative sample across the footprint of the proposed development, Trench 2 and Trench 3 and also to sample across the projected line of a linear cropmark, Trench 1, recorded north of the AA by the National Mapping Programme.

The archaeological investigations were undertaken to:

- › investigate any as yet unknown archaeological evidence, features and deposits, within the evaluation trenches and establish their location, extent, date, character, condition, significance, quality and state of preservation of the potential archaeological remains;
- › assess the artefactual and environmental potential of any archaeological deposits encountered;
- › inform the formulation of further measures to mitigate the impacts of the proposed development on surviving archaeological remains; and
- › produce a site archive for deposition with an appropriate museum and to provide information for access to the HER.

The resulting archive (finds and records) will be prepared in accordance with the Archaeological Archive Deposition Policy for Museums in Yorkshire and the Humber (Turnpenney 2012) and organised and deposited with the local museum to facilitate access for future research and interpretation for public benefit.

3 METHODOLOGY

Three trenches were excavated, each measuring 20m x 1.6m. All trenches were set out in accordance with the agreed trench layout plan in the WSI.

3.1 EXCAVATION

The trenches were set out using a Trimble GNSS device in order that they could be relocated in relation to existing features and located within the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

All trenches were excavated in spits to the archaeological horizon or natural deposits (whichever was reached first) by a tracked mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket. The excavator operated under archaeological supervision at all times. All subsequent excavation was carried out by hand. Topsoil and subsoil were temporarily stored on the side of each trench.

Archaeological investigation was carried out over the full area of each trench and after cleaning to establish the presence or absence of archaeological deposits. Features that were identified were then excavated, recorded and photographed as appropriate.

All features exposed were preliminarily sample excavated, in order to ascertain their extent and character. Hand excavation using shovel, mattock and trowel was undertaken to evaluate depth, dimension and preservation of archaeology, and to ensure recovery of sufficient artefactual and environmental evidence to enable dating and assessment of the archaeology to be achieved.

The trial trenching included a metal detector survey of all cleaned trench surfaces and spoil heaps after stripping. This did not result in any metallic artefactual material being recovered.

3.2 RECORDING

All recording followed the guidance laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014a) and was in line with the approved WSI (Harrison 2019). All trenches and contexts were given a unique number and all recording was undertaken on proforma recording sheets which conform to archaeological standards.

A plan of the trenches, features and levels across the entire site was recorded digitally using a Trimble GNSS device. The section of a single fill linear feature was also recorded with a Trimble GNSS device.

A written description of each trench was recorded on standard Headland Archaeology proforma sheets using an appropriate context recording system.

A full photographic record was taken using a digital camera. An appropriately sized metric scale was clearly visible within all record photographs apart from general shots showing the site (eg working shots or post-excavation shots).

4 RESULTS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

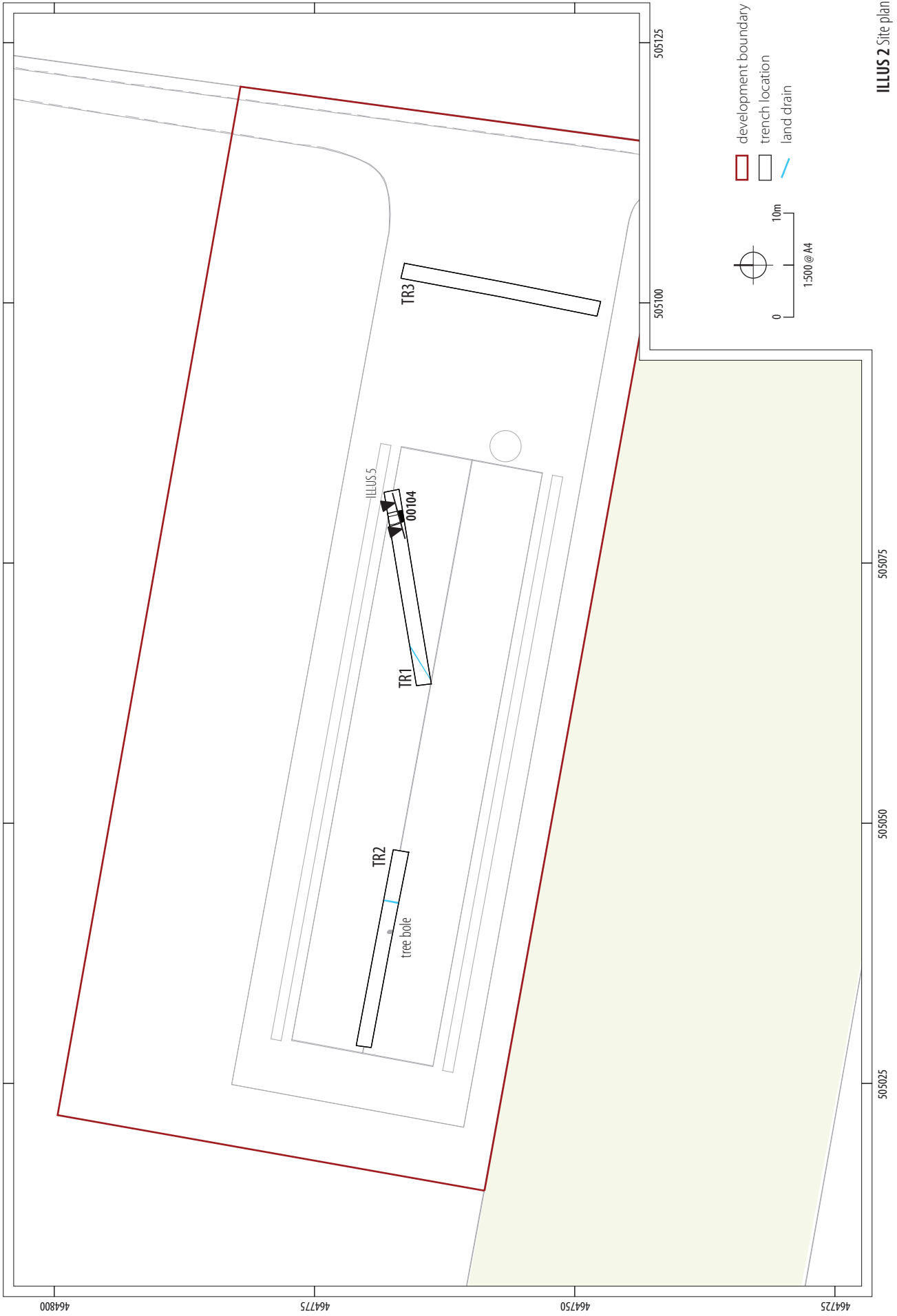
Full context descriptions and trench descriptions are presented in Appendix 1 and a full photographic register is presented in Appendix 2. Contexts are identified numerically by trench ie Trench 1 (00101), Trench 2 (00201). Cuts are indicated by squared brackets and deposits by rounded brackets. Selected technical detail is utilised below in order to describe the remains found and to inform the interpretation and dating completed and presented in this report. This structure reflects adherence to the CIfA guidance on report production, which states that 'descriptive material should be clearly separated from interpretative statements' (CIfA 2014b, 14). Drawing upon the same document it is imperative to create a narrative which uses the evidence gathered to assign significance to heritage assets (remains) encountered:

If archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their significance in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate.

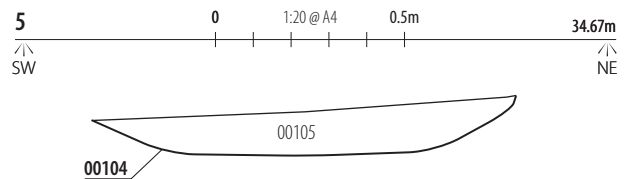
(CIfA 2014b, 4)

4.2 GENERAL SITE STRATIGRAPHY

Topsoil comprised mid-brown silty sandy clay up to 0.36m in depth. Subsoil was only recorded in Trench 2 where the topsoil was much shallower and the subsoil was 0.15m in depth. Natural deposits comprised mid-brownish red sandy clay, fairly compact with very frequent small and medium angular stones and frequent chalk fragments.



ILLUS 2 Site plan



ILLUS 3 Trench 1 looking south-west **ILLUS 4** North facing section of ditch [00104] **ILLUS 5** North facing section drawing of ditch [00104]

4.3 NON ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES

A single field drain was recorded in Trenches 1 and 2. A tree bole was also recorded in Trench 2.

4.4 POSSIBLE ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES

A single, very shallow (up to 0.12m deep and 1m wide), flat bottomed ditch or gully was recorded crossing the eastern end of Trench 1 on a NNW to SSE alignment (Illus 4 and 5). No finds were recovered. The feature broadly aligns with a linear cropmark identified immediately north of the AA, which has been interpreted as a possible trackway.

5 CONCLUSION

A single shallow ditch or gully has been identified which broadly aligns with a cropmark to the north of the AA. This feature is interpreted as of possible archaeological origin. No other possible archaeological features were present.

6 REFERENCES

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014a *Code of Conduct* (Reading) <http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CodesofConduct.pdf> accessed 23 January 2019

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- Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) 2019 *British Geological Survey* <http://www.bgs.ac.uk> accessed 23 January 2019
- Turnpenny M 2012 *Archaeological Archive Deposition Policy for Museums in Yorkshire and the Humber*

7 APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 SITE REGISTERS

Appendix 1.1 Trench and context register

* DBGL = Depth Below Ground Level

*NFE= Not Fully Excavated

TR01				
L (M)	W (M)	MIN. D (M)	MAX. D (M)	ORIENTATION
20	1.6	0.38	0.55	NE-SW
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			*D BGL (M)
00101	Topsoil: Mid-brown silty clay, crumbly and friable. Frequent small sub-angular stones. Light rooting			0-0.18
00102	Subsoil: Mid greyish brown sandy clay. Frequent sub-angular stones. Firm. Chalk fragments			0.18-0.33
00103	Natural: Mid/dark orangish brown, silty/sandy clay, compact. Frequent small inclusions of chalk fragments and frequent small sub-angular stones. (stones include natural flint fragments and gravelly pebbles)			0.35-0.45+ NFE
00104	Cut of shallow ditch/gully trackway [00104] on a north/south alignment, extending across TR01			0.48-0.60
00105	Single fill (00105) of ditch/gully [00104]. Very similar in colour to the natural (00103) with a less density of gravelly stones. Appears to be natural infilling over time			0.48-0.60
SUMMARY				

One feature (ditch/gully) at the eastern end of the trench

TR02				
L (M)	W (M)	MIN. D (M)	MAX. D (M)	ORIENTATION
20	1.6	0.35	0.44	E-W
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			*D BGL (M)
00201	Topsoil: Mid-reddish/brown sandy clay, friable. Very frequent small angular stones (gravelly). Heavy rooting			0-0.36
00202	Natural: Mid-brownish red sandy clay, fairly compact. Very frequent small/medium angular stones, frequent chalk fragments. Occasional small natural flintstones			0.36-0.44+ NFE
SUMMARY				

One feature, probably a tree bole

TR03				
L (M)	W (M)	MIN. D (M)	MAX. D (M)	ORIENTATION
20	1.6	0.39	0.42	N-S
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			*D BGL (M)
00301	Topsoil: Mid-greyish brown sandy clay, friable. Very frequent small angular stones (gravelly). Heavy rooting			0-0.33
00302	Natural: Mid-brownish red sandy clay, fairly compact. Frequent small angular stones, frequent chalk fragments and occasional natural flint fragments. Very occasional charcoal flecks and small CBM flecks			0.33-0.39+ NFE
SUMMARY				

Sterile trench

Appendix 1.2 Photographic register

PHOTO	CAMERA	B/W	DIGITAL	DIRECTION FACING	DESCRIPTION
01	Camera 200	N/A	100-0001	N/A	Pre-excavation
02	Camera 200	N/A	100-0002	N/A	Pre-excavation
03	Camera 200	N/A	100-0003	N/A	Pre-excavation
04	Camera 200	N/A	100-0004	N/A	Pre-excavation
05	Camera 200	N/A	100-0005	N/A	Pre-excavation
06	Camera 200	N/A	100-0006	SW	Trench 1 north-east end
07	Camera 200	N/A	100-0007	NE	Trench 1 south-west end
08	Camera 200	N/A	100-0008	NE	Trench 1 south-west end (reshoot)
09	Camera 200	N/A	100-0009	SE	North-west facing 1 metre representative section of Trench 1
10	Camera 200	N/A	100-0010	W	Trench 2 east end
11	Camera 200	N/A	100-0011	E	Trench 2 west end
12	Camera 200	N/A	100-0012	S	North facing 1 metre representative section of Trench 2
13	Camera 200	N/A	100-0013	S	Trench 3 north end
14	Camera 200	N/A	100-0014	N	Trench 2 south end
15	Camera 200	N/A	100-0015	E	West facing 1 metre representative section of Trench 3
16	Camera 200	N/A	100-0016	S	North facing section of ditch/gully [00104]
17	Camera 200	N/A	100-0017	S	North facing section of ditch/gully [00104]
18	Camera 200	N/A	100-0018	N	South facing section of ditch/gully [00104]
19	Camera 200	N/A	100-0019	N	South facing section of ditch/gully [00104]
20	Camera 200	N/A	100-0020	N	Trench 3 south end (reshoot)
21	Camera 200	N/A	100-0021	SW	Tree bole in Trench 2
22	Camera 200	N/A	100-0022	N/A	Post-excavation and backfill
23	Camera 200	N/A	100-0023	N/A	Post-excavation and backfill
24	Camera 200	N/A	100-0024	N/A	Post-excavation and backfill

Appendix 1.3 Sample register

SAMPLE	CONTEXT	SAMPLE TYPE	VOL (LTR)	% OF CONTEXT	QTY	SHORT DESCRIPTION/ REASON FOR SAMPLING
1	(00105)	Bulk	40	20	4 buckets	Single fill of ditch/gully



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