

RHFK20



LAND NORTH EAST OF RAVEN HILL FARM, SHEEP RAKE LANE, KILHAM, EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL STRIP, MAP AND RECORD EXCAVATIONS

PLANNING REF. 20/01971/STPLFE

commissioned by Ian Pick Associates
on behalf of SJ Saville & Sons

December 2020

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PROJECT INFO:

HA Project Code **RHFK20** / NGR **TA 03797 66912** / Parish **Kilham** / Local Authority **East Riding of Yorkshire Council** / OASIS Ref. **headland5-408956** / Archive Repository **Humber Historic Environment Record**

PROJECT TEAM:

Project Manager **David Harrison** / Author **Phil Roberts** / Fieldwork **Phil Roberts** / Graphics **Julia Bastek-Michalska**

Approved by **David Harrison**



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part of the **RSK** Group



PROJECT SUMMARY

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd was commissioned by Ian Pick Associates Ltd on behalf of SJ Saville & Sons (the client) to undertake an archaeological strip, map and record excavation on land to the north-east of Raven Hill Farm, Sheep Rake Lane, Kilham, East Riding of Yorkshire. This was carried out in support of planning application (20/01971/STPLFE) submitted by the client for the construction of an extension to an existing pig finishing unit. The excavations revealed a single undated ditch, Ditch 1, which was aligned north-east to south-west and measured 54m in length. This was a continuation of a ditch found in a previous phase of work carried out to the south of the site by Humber Field Archaeology. No further archaeological remains were uncovered.

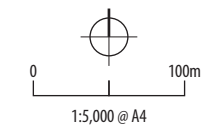
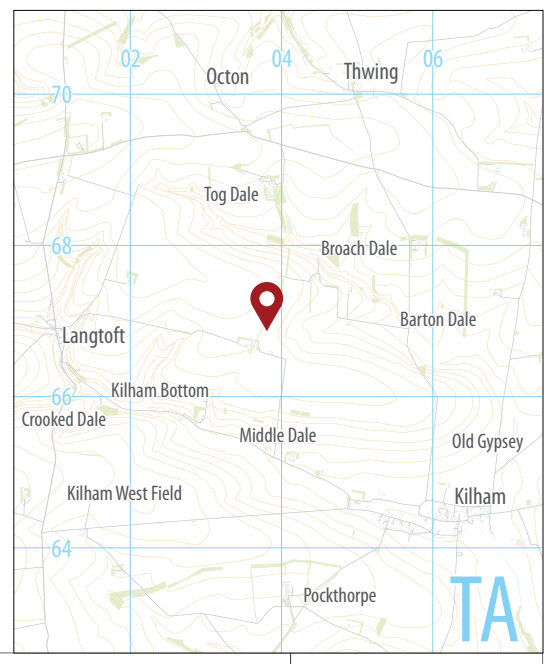
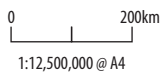
CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	1
	1.1 PLANNING BACKGROUND	1
	1.2 SITE DESCRIPTION (LOCATION AND GEOLOGY)	1
	1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND	2
2	OBJECTIVES	2
3	METHODOLOGY	3
	3.1 EXCAVATION	3
	3.2 RECORDING	3
4	RESULTS	5
	4.1 INTRODUCTION	5
	4.2 GENERAL SITE STRATIGRAPHY	5
	4.3 DITCH 1	5
5	CONCLUSION	5
6	REFERENCES	5
7	APPENDICES	6
	APPENDIX 1 SITE REGISTERS	6
	APPENDIX 2 OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: ENGLAND	8

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

ILLUS 1 SITE LOCATION	VIII
ILLUS 2 SITE PLAN	2
ILLUS 3 SOUTH FACING 1M REPRESENTATIVE SECTION	3
ILLUS 4 GENERAL POST-EXCAVATION VIEW OF SITE, FACING NORTH-EAST	4
ILLUS 5 SOUTH-WEST FACING SECTION OF [01004] IN DITCH 1	4
ILLUS 6 DITCH 1 [01006], FACING NORTH-EAST	4

Raven Hill Farm
Kilham
East Riding of Yorkshire



development boundary
 archaeological feature

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ILLUS 1 Site location

LAND NORTH EAST OF RAVEN HILL FARM, SHEEP RAKE LANE, KILHAM, EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL STRIP, MAP AND RECORD EXCAVATIONS

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PLANNING BACKGROUND

Headland Archaeology was commissioned by Ian Pick Associates Ltd ('the consultant') on behalf of S J Saville & Sons ('the client') to carry out an archaeological strip, map and record excavation (SMR) on land to the north-east of Raven Hill Farm, Sheep Rake Lane, Kilham, East Riding of Yorkshire (Illus 1). The works were carried out to fulfil a condition on a planning application (Ref 20/01971/STPLFE) for the construction of an extension to an existing pig finishing unit.

The strip, map and record excavation was requested by James Goodyear, Archaeological Advisor to the East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Hull City Council, who stated that the application area potentially contained features and materials of archaeological sensitivity. The following condition was applied:

'No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Planning Authority. Development will be carried out in accordance with the approved details, and to comply with Policy ENV3 of the East Riding Local Plan and guidance within the National Planning Policy Framework (section 16. A pre-commencement condition is required to ensure adequate recording and mitigation measures can be identified and incorporated into the scheme.'

The work was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (James 2020) which was submitted to and approved by the archaeological advisor, James Goodyear. All work was undertaken in accordance with industry best practice (CIfA 2014a; 2014b; 2014c) and the National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2019).

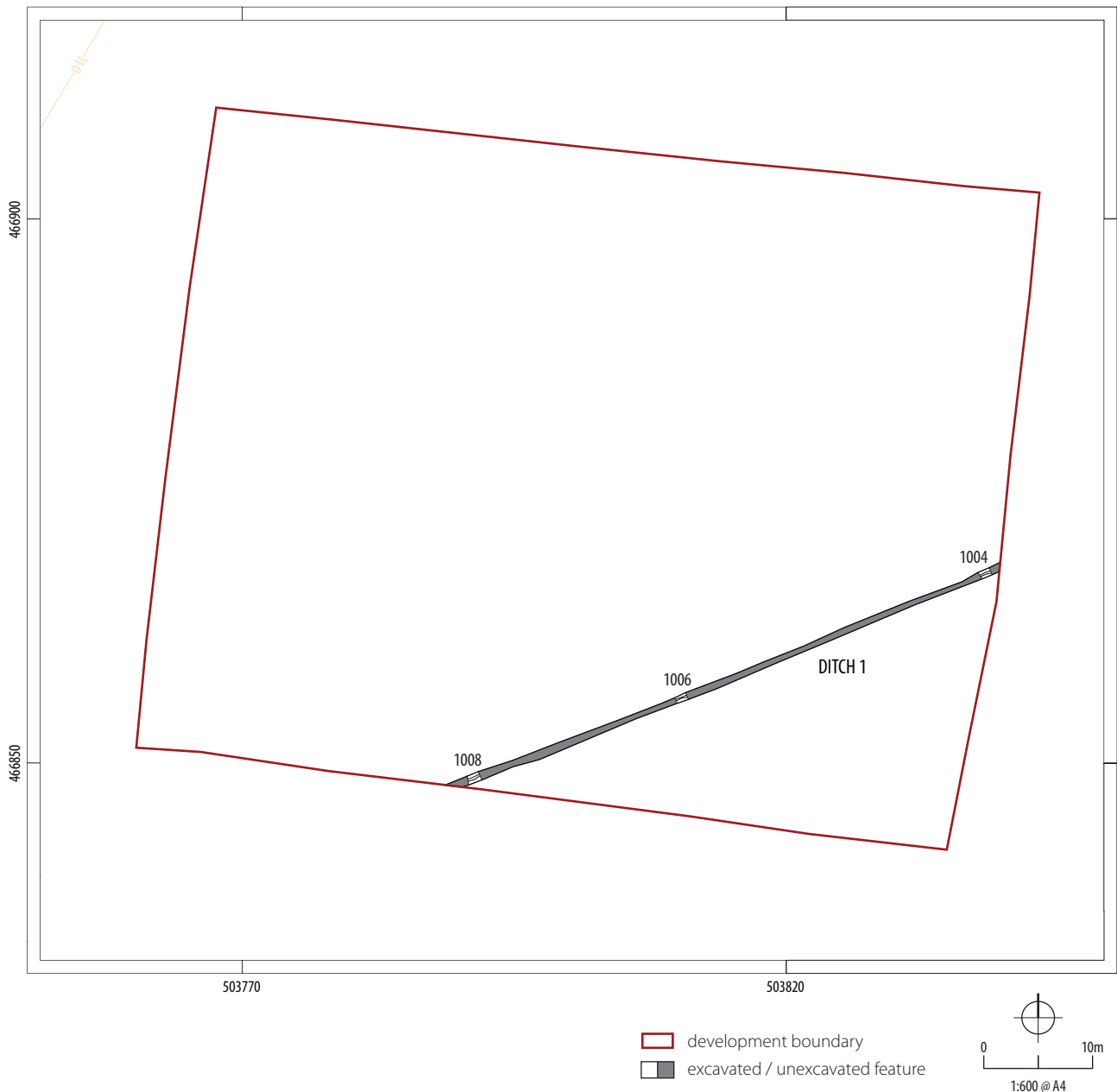
The excavation was carried out between the 2nd and 5th of November 2020.

1.2 SITE DESCRIPTION (LOCATION AND GEOLOGY)

The site is located off Sheep Rake Lane on agricultural land associated with the nearby Raven Hill Farm to the south-west. It is immediately adjacent to an existing pig finishing unit and centred on NGR TA 03797 66912 (Illus 1). The site sits in the south-west corner of an arable field bounded by hedgerows and drainage ditches, on flat land between 112 and 115m AOD. The village of Kilham lies approximately 3.2km to the south-east and the site is surrounded by further arable fields.

The excavation comprised of a single area measuring 75m by 60m (Illus 1 & 2) immediately adjacent to the existing pig finishing unit.

The bedrock geology comprises Flamborough Chalk Formation - a sedimentary bedrock formed between 72 and 86 million years ago during the Cretaceous period (NERC 2020).



ILLUS 2 Site plan

1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The following is a summary of information from the WSI (James 2020).

The site resides in a sensitive archaeological landscape represented by various cropmarks dating from the prehistoric and Romano-British periods.

In the immediate vicinity of the site lies cropmarks of an extensive linear trackway that can be traced for approximately 3,000m with associated ditch systems and enclosures indicative of settlement and associated agricultural activities.

Prior to the construction of the existing pig finishing unit (to the immediate south of this site), an SMR excavation was carried out by

Humber Field Archaeology which exposed three undated ditches forming part of an enclosure and field system (Kennedy and Atkinson 2018). This activity was expected to continue within this site.

2 OBJECTIVES

The general aim of the fieldwork was to secure the discharge of the planning condition by investigating and recording any buried archaeological features and materials indicative of activities from past societies and cultures. This was achieved by following guidance and research objectives set out in the Yorkshire Archaeological Research Framework (Roskams and Whyman 2005).



ILLUS 3 South facing 1m representative section

The specific objectives of the archaeological fieldwork were to:

- › establish the presence/absence, character, and preservation of any archaeological remains;
- › define the date, nature, extent and possible significance of archaeological remains across the site of any period;
- › make a competent record of the location and character of any such remains;
- › recover any archaeologically significant artefacts;
- › recover samples of any material which had potential for the survival of palaeoenvironmental or dating evidence from archaeological contexts or significant deposits;
- › prepare a report on the findings and material recovered and their significance;
- › provide information to the LPA such that a decision can be made regarding whether or not further mitigation works are necessary; and
- › preserve the known remains at the site 'by record' – through creation and deposition in a suitable repository of a permanent descriptive and interpretive written and drawn archive, and if necessary, publication.

The resulting archive (finds and records) will be prepared in accordance with guidance issued by the Archaeological Archives Forum (AAF) (Brown 2011) and deposited with an agreed depository.

3 METHODOLOGY

The excavation area comprised a rectangular block measuring 75m by 60m located immediately to north of the existing pig finishing unit. The area was set out by the clients' sub-contractors and subsequently scanned by a cable avoidance tool (CAT scanner) prior to breaking ground.

3.1 EXCAVATION

Overburden (ie topsoil and subsoil) was mechanically excavated using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless (ditching) bucket under archaeological supervision. A moxy dumper was used to transport all overburden to a designated storage area at the side of the excavation and the subsoil and topsoil were separated for ease of reinstatement. Under instruction from the supervising archaeologist, 'spits' were removed, 50–100mm at a time. Excavation stopped on reaching either the archaeological horizon or the natural horizon, whichever was encountered first.

After reaching the archaeological or natural horizon, all subsequent excavation was carried out using appropriate hand tools. Archaeological investigation was carried out across the whole of the site after cleaning to establish the presence or absence of archaeological deposits. Features that were identified were then excavated, recorded and photographed as appropriate.

Where exposed, archaeological features were recorded and excavated stratigraphically, and all relationships investigated

3.2 RECORDING

All recording followed the guidance laid out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014c) and was in line with the approved WSI (James 2020). All excavation areas and contexts were given a



ILLUS 4 General post-excitation view of site, facing north-east
ILLUS 5 South-west facing section of [01004] in Ditch 1 **ILLUS 6** Ditch 1 [01006], facing north-east

unique number and all recording was undertaken on *pro-forma* recording sheets which conform to archaeological standards.

A plan of the excavation areas, archaeological features and any interventions across the site was recorded digitally using a Trimble GNSS dGPS device. Appropriately scaled sections at 1:10 of features were hand drawn on permatrace where required.

A full photographic record was taken using a digital camera (high resolution TIFF (uncompressed) images). An appropriately sized metric scale was clearly visible within all record photographs apart from general working or post-excitation shots.

4 RESULTS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

Full context descriptions and trench descriptions are presented in Appendix 1.1 and a full photographic register is presented in Appendix 1.2. Contexts are identified numerically by (ie (01001), (01002)). Cuts are indicated by squared brackets and deposits by rounded brackets. Selected technical detail is utilised below to describe the remains found and to inform the interpretation and dating completed and presented in this report. This structure reflects adherence to the ClfA guidance on report production, which states that 'descriptive material should be clearly separated from interpretative statements' (ClfA 2014c, 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. (ClfA 2014c, 14)

4.2 GENERAL SITE STRATIGRAPHY

The general stratigraphy was consistent across the site (Illus 3 & 4). Topsoil 01001 consisted of a mid-orange brown silty clay measuring 0.26m in thickness. The natural geological deposit 01002 was chalk with a light brown silty clay mixed in, measuring 0.33m in thickness and observed directly underneath the topsoil. After the initial strip and investigation of all archaeological features, the area was stripped to a depth of 0.85m below ground level (bgl) and revealed the chalk bedrock 01009.

4.3 DITCH 1

A single linear feature, Ditch 1 ([01004], [01006] and [01008]) was exposed during the excavations (Illus 5–7). This corresponded with Ditch 11 found in the earlier phase of SMR carried out by Humber Field Archaeology (Kennedy and Atkinson 2018). Ditch 1 was aligned north-east to south-west, continuing outside the limit of excavation, and measured 54m in length. It varied in width from 0.62m to 0.7m and was between 0.15m to 0.2m deep with a shallow 'U' shaped profile. It was filled with (01003), (01005) and (01007), a dark reddish brown silty clay with rare small chalk inclusions. No finds were retrieved from this ditch.

No other archaeological remains were identified.

5 CONCLUSION

The strip, map and record excavation has allowed additional investigation of archaeological features identified during the previous SMR phase. This phase of archaeological fieldwork has revealed the continuation of a probable enclosure ditch. The lack of dating evidence precludes any conclusions pertaining to the feature's origin, although a prehistoric date seems likely. The ditch extends beyond the current limit of the site.

No further archaeological work will be required on this site.

6 REFERENCES

- Archaeological Archives Forum (AAF) 2011 *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practise in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (2nd edn) (ClfA: Reading) https://www.archaeologyuk.org/archives/aaf_archaeological_archives2011.pdf accessed 6th November 2020
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- Roskams S & Whyman M 2005 *Yorkshire Archaeological Framework Project* No.2936 RFRA
- Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) 2020 *British Geological Survey* <http://www.bgs.ac.uk> accessed 6th November 2020

7 APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 SITE REGISTERS

Appendix 1.1 Context register

* DBGL = depth below ground level

CONTEXT	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSIONS (LXWXD)
(01001)	deposit	Topsoil: Mid orange-brown silty clay. Soft, sticky and plastic. Moderate small to medium sub angular chalk fragments.	D:0.26m
(01002)	deposit	Natural: Chalk mixed with light brown silty clay and large patches of reddish-brown clay scattered throughout.	D: 0.08–0.33m (max)
(01003)	fill	Fill of [01004]: Mid reddish-brown silty clay. Firm and plastic. Rare very small sub angular chalk fragments. No finds recovered. Same as (01005) and (01007).	D: 0.2m
[01004]	cut	Cut of Ditch 1: Linear feature - possible field boundary or drainage ditch. Aligned north east to south west. Rounded sides and concave base. Same as [01006] and [01008].	1m x 0.7m x 0.2m
(01005)	fill	Fill of [01006]: Mid reddish-brown silty clay. Firm and slightly friable. Rare very small sub angular chalk fragments. No finds recovered. Same as (01003) and (01007).	D: 0.15m
[01006]	cut	Cut of Ditch 1: Linear feature – possible field boundary or drainage ditch. Aligned north east to south west. Rounded sides and a slightly flat base. Same as [01004] and [01008].	1m x 0.62m x 0.15m
(01007)	fill	Fill of [01006]: Mid reddish-brown silty clay. Firm and plastic. Rare very small sub angular chalk fragments. No finds recovered. Same as (01003) and (01007).	D: 0.15m
[01008]	cut	Cut of Ditch 1: Linear feature - possible field boundary or drainage ditch. Aligned north east to south west. Rounded sides and concave base. Same as [01004] and [01006].	1m x 0.62m x 0.15m
(01009)	deposit	Bedrock: Natural chalk bedrock. Lies under (01002) and revealed after site was further striped upon completion of archaeological investigations.	D: 0.18m (as excavated)

Appendix 1.2 Photographic register

PHOTO	DIGITAL	CONTEXTS/TR SHOWN	FACING	DESCRIPTION	PHOTO	DIGITAL	CONTEXTS/TR SHOWN	FACING	DESCRIPTION
RHFK20-001	100-0001	N/A	N/A	ID Shot	RHFK20-013	100-0013	Ditch 1 [01004]	NE	South facing section of ditch
RHFK20-002	100-0002	N/A	N/A	Pre excavation shot of site	RHFK20-014	100-0014	Ditch 1 [01004]	NE	General plan shot of ditch
RHFK20-003	100-0003	N/A	N/A	Pre excavation shot of site	RHFK20-015	100-0015	Ditch 1 [01006]	NE	General plan shot of ditch
RHFK20-004	100-0004	N/A	N/A	Pre excavation shot of site	RHFK20-016	100-0016	Ditch 1 [01006]	NE	South west facing section of ditch
RHFK20-005	100-0005	(01001) and (01002)	N	South facing 1m representative section	RHFK20-017	100-0017	Ditch 1 [01006]	NE	South west facing section of ditch
RHFK20-006	100-0006	N/A	E	General working shot of excavation in progress	RHFK20-018	100-0018	Ditch 1 [01008]	SW	North east facing section of ditch
RHFK20-007	100-0007	N/A	E	General working shot of excavation in progress	RHFK20-019	100-0019	Ditch 1 [01008]	SW	North east facing section of ditch
RHFK20-008	100-0008	(01009)	W	General shot of chalk bedrock	RHFK20-020	100-0020	Working shot	E	General shot of machine excavation to bedrock (01009)
RHFK20-009	100-0009	Site	SW	General shot of excavation area (complete)	RHFK20-021	100-0021	Working shot	E	General shot of machine excavation to bedrock (01009)
RHFK20-010	100-0010	Site	SE	General shot of excavation area (complete)	RHFK20-022	100-0022	Working shot	E	General shot of machine excavation to bedrock (01009)
RHFK20-011	100-0011	Site	NE	General shot of excavation area (complete)	RHFK20-023	100-0023	Working shot	E	General shot of machine excavation to bedrock (01009)
RHFK20-012	100-0012	Ditch 1 [01004]	NE	General plan shot of ditch					

APPENDIX 2 OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: ENGLAND

OASIS ID: *headland5-408946*

PROJECT DETAILS	
Project name	Land north-east of Raven Hill Farm, Sheep Rake Lane, Kilham
Short description of the project	Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd was commissioned by Ian Pick Associates Ltd on behalf of S J Saville and Sons (the client) to undertake an archaeological strip, map and record excavation on land to the north-east of Raven Hill Farm, Sheep Rake Lane, Kilham, East Riding of Yorkshire. This was carried out in support of planning application (20/01971/STPLFE) submitted by the client for the construction of an extension to an existing pig finishing unit. The excavations revealed a single undated ditch, Ditch 1, which was aligned north-east to south-west across the site. This was a continuation of a ditch found in a previous phase of work carried out to the south of the site by Humber Field Archaeology. No further archaeological remains were uncovered.
Project dates	Start: 02.11.2020 End: 05.11.2020
Previous/future work	Yes/No
Any associated project reference codes	RHF20 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Open-area excavation"
Prompt	Planning condition
PROJECT LOCATION	
Country	England
Site location	East Riding of Yorkshire Kilham Land North-East of Raven Hill Farm, Sheep Rake Lane, Kilham
Postcode	YO25 4EG
Study area	3000 square metres
Site coordinates	TA 03797 66912 54.087450688068-0.41296610755 54 05 14 N 000 24 46 W Point
PROJECT CREATORS	
Name of Organisation	Headland Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Headland Archaeology
Project director/manager	Harrison David
Project supervisor	Roberts Phil
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	SJ Saville and Sons
PROJECT ARCHIVES	
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	East Riding of Yorkshire Museum
Digital Contents	"Survey"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography";"Survey";"Text"

Paper Archive recipient	East Riding of Yorkshire Museum
Paper Contents	"Survey"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet";"Report";"Section";"Survey";"Unpublished Text"

PROJECT BIBLIOGRAPHY 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land North-East of Raven Hill Farm, Sheep Rake Lane, Kilham, East Riding of Yorkshire: Archaeological Strip Map and Sample Excavation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Roberts Phil
Date	2020
Issuer or publisher	Headland Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Cleckheaton
Description	Short grey literature report, including plan and photos, detailing results of the strip, map and sample excavation.
Entered by	Emma West (emma.west@headlandarchaeology.com)
Entered on	25 November 2020



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