

BAMBURGH RESEARCH PROJECT



PRIORY HOUSE LINDISFARNE NORTHUMBERLAND

REPORT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCHING

Compiled for Mr Bill Howard by The Bamburgh Research Project: Commercial Projects Section

BRP 14/05b

June 2014

Contents:

SUMMARY	3
1.0 Introduction	4
2.0 THE SITE	4
2.1 Location	4
2.2 Archaeological background	4
2.3 Impact of the development	5
3.0 OBJECTIVES	5
4.0 METHODOLOGY	5
4.1 Watching brief during excavation	5
4.2 General standards	6
5.0 MONITORING	7
6.0 RESULTS	7
6.1 Trial Trench 1	7
6.2 Trial Trench 2	7
6.3 Pottery analysis (Jenny Vaughan NCAS)	8
7.0 DISCUSSION	8
8.0 CONCLUSIONS	9
REFERENCES	10
APPENDIX I POTTERY ANALYSIS (Jenny Vaughan NCAS)	11
APPENDIX II WSI	13
Figure 1	Location plan
Figure 2	The Current Building and Proposed Extension
Figure 3	Trial Trenches 1 and 2, Plans and Sections
Plate 1:	Test-Pit 1, facing south
Plate 2:	Test-Pit 2, facing south

SUMMARY

This report has been compiled by The Bamburgh Research Project on behalf of Mr Bill Howard. The work was undertaken in compliance with a Written Schedule of Investigation compiled by the Bamburgh Research Project in May 2014, following advice from the Northumberland County Council Conservation Team. The site is located within the grounds of Priory House, on the west side of The Green, which itself adjoins Prior Lane and Marygate, on the western side of Holy Island Village, Lindisfarne, Northumberland. The site lies within a rectangular garden plot and measures broadly 20m east to west by 26m north to south (NGR NU 1244 4192) (Figures 1 and 2).

The two trenches were located within the grounds of Priory House and sited to investigate the potential for encountering archaeological material within the foundations of two proposed developments. Trial Trench 1 was located in the area proposed for an extension to the present house and Trial Trench 2 was located, a little further to the west, in an area allocated for future work. Trial Trench 1 revealed the presence of a masonry structure, believed to be a culvert, and a negative cut feature at a depth of some 0.6m (11.97, OD) below ground level. They were sealed by a medieval midden layer, indicating that the two features were of medieval date. Trial Trench 2 demonstrated the presence of a developed midden sequence, to a depth of at least 1.2m (11.49m OD) below ground level, including a medieval component in the lower 0.5m of the sequence.

**PRIORY HOUSE
LINDISFARNE
NORTHUMBERLAND**

**REPORT OF
ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCHING**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.0.1 This report was compiled by The Bamburgh Research Project, Commercial Section for Mr Bill Howard. The document sets out the results of archaeological trial trenching, undertaken as a first phase of evaluation, associated with the proposed construction of an extension to Priory House, Lindisfarne, Northumberland.
- 1.0.2 The work was undertaken in compliance with a Written Schedule of Investigation compiled by the Bamburgh Research Project in May 2014, following advice from the Northumberland County Council Conservation Team. The OASIS reference is: bamburgh1-182901.

2.0 THE SITE

2.1 Location

- 2.1.1 The site is located within the grounds of Priory House, on the west side of The Green, which itself adjoins Prior Lane and Marygate, on the western side of Holy Island Village, Lindisfarne, Northumberland. The site lies within a rectangular garden plot and measures broadly 20m east to west by 26m north to south (NGR NU 1244 4192) (Figures 1 and 2).

2.2 Archaeological background

- 2.2.1 Mesolithic activity on the island is demonstrated by the presence of midden deposits at Ness End, on the northern side of the island, adjacent to Jenny Bell's Well and in the vicinity of the Fort on the Heugh. Neolithic activity within the village is indicated by a ¹⁴C date for a single post-hole identified off Marygate, an un-provenanced find of a Neolithic axe near to St Cuthbert's Square and a rock carving from The Palace.
- 2.2.2 The Anglo-Saxon monastery on Lindisfarne was founded in AD 635 as a daughter house to the Monastery of Iona, in Scotland. The focus of the monastery almost certainly lay beneath the later medieval priory site, but the monastic enclosure would originally have been much more extensive. O'Sullivan has proposed the line of Marygate as the northern boundary to the site. The aceramic structural remains identified during the evaluation of the Winery site by Northern Archaeological Associates in 2000 are likely, in part, to be early medieval in date and would support this hypothesis as they are more likely to be monastic than secular (NAA 2001). The site, proposed for development, lies some 50m to the west of the Winery site, though beyond the western boundary of the monastic perimeter, as proposed by O'Sullivan.
- 2.2.3 The village on Holy Island existed from at least the medieval period, possibly being founded to service the early medieval monastery. Evidence for complex medieval archaeology was identified at the Castle View (Stewart and Bailey 2006) and during the

Winery and Palace evaluations (NAA 2001). This indicates that stratified medieval archaeology is extensive within the village footprint.

- 2.2.4 Priory house is depicted on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map of c.1860, almost certainly the structure that is currently standing on the site today. It can be speculated that The Green represents a medieval street frontage.

2.3 Impact of the development

- 2.3.1 The proposed first phase of development, comprises the construction of a, two-storey, extension to the present building, measuring some 10m by 4m, together with its associated services. It is currently proposed that the foundations be rafted and not impact to a depth greater than 0.6m below the present ground surface. It is clear though, due to the historic nature of the area, and the presence of preserved archaeological stratigraphy, only tens of metres to the east, that the new development will have the potential to impact on preserved archaeological remains.

3.0 OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objective of the evaluation is to investigate the archaeological potential of the development area by the excavation of two trial trenches, each in the order of 1.2-1.5m square. One sited directly in the area of the proposed development and the second close by, to add an additional sample, aimed at understanding the extent of archaeological material in the site area, and also sited in the vicinity of a second potential future addition to the dwelling. The trenches are to exceed the proposed depth of the foundations by a margin, being excavated to a maximum safe depth of 1.2m below ground level, or to the first significant archaeological horizon, in order to properly investigate the potential for impact on preserved remains (Figure 2).
- 3.2 The excavation of the trial trenches will identify the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the development area. Any archaeological remains encountered will be sampled in order to establish the location, extent, date and nature of any areas of archaeological activity and the degree of preservation of any remains encountered.
- 3.3 The results of the evaluation will enable the impact of the proposed development, on any deposits of archaeological significance, to be more accurately assessed in order that an appropriate mitigation strategy can be devised.

4.0 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Watching brief during excavation

- 4.1.1 The evaluation will comprise the investigation of two c. 1.5m² trial trenches, located to investigate the area to be impacted by the footprint of the extension and to provide a representative sample of the site down to a safe working depth, or to the first significant archaeological horizon.
- 4.1.3 All work will be carried out in compliance with the codes of practice of the Institute for

Archaeologists (IfA 2010) and their Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation (IfA 2008), and Field Evaluation (IfA 2008).

- 4.1.4 Excavation will be undertaken by appropriately trained members of the archaeological staff, excavating by hand. Excavation will continue until a depth of 1.2m has been reached or until significant archaeological deposits are encountered or subsoil revealed. The trench will then be cleaned and recorded.

4.2 General standards

- 4.2.1 All archaeological features identified will be sample excavated according to their type and

50% of all discrete features.

25% of the area of a linear/curvilinear features with a non-uniform fill.

10% of the area of linear/curvilinear features with a uniform fill.

- 4.2.2 A 40 litre bulk palaeoenvironmental sample will be taken from all features recognised as suitable for the preservation of palaeoenvironmental remains.

- 4.2.3 Secure contexts will be sampled for dating where appropriate, whether on site or as sub samples of bulk samples. Any concentrations of charcoal or other carbonised material recovered on site will usually be retained.

- 4.2.4 Pottery and Animal Bone will be collected as bulk samples whilst significant artefacts will be three-dimensionally recorded prior to processing. All finds will be recorded and processed according to the BRP system and submitted for post-excavation assessment. Finds recovery and storage strategies will be in accordance with published guidelines (English Heritage 1995 and IfA Guidelines for Finds Work). Should artefacts of gold or silver covered by the 1996 Treasure Act be recovered, appropriate procedures will be followed.

- 4.2.5 In the event of Human burials being revealed they will be left *in situ* and treated in an appropriate manner. After consultation with the County Archaeological Officer, if excavation is required, work will comply with the relevant home Office regulations.

- 4.2.6 Any archaeological features encountered will be hand-cleaned, excavated and recorded:

1. A photographic record will be taken using black and white print, colour slide film at 35mm format. In addition a digital photographic record will be compiled.
2. A written description of features will be recorded using the BRP *pro forma* context recording system.
3. All features will be drawn at an appropriate scale using pre-printed permatrace. Plans will normally be drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10.

- 4.2.7 All archaeological features and horizons will be accurately tied into the Ordnance Survey grid. All levels will be tied in to Ordnance Datum.

- 4.2.8 Arrangements will be made with the appropriate museum for the deposition of the site archive within 6 month of the completion of the post-excavation report.

5.0 MONITORING

- 5.1 Access was made available at all reasonable times to the archaeological representatives of the Northumberland County council Conservation Team to inspect the excavation site.
- 5.2 Access to the site was on the basis of prior notification and subject to relevant health and safety considerations.

6.0 RESULTS

- 6.0.1 The two trenches were located within the grounds of Priory House and sited to investigate the potential for encountering archaeological material within the foundations of two proposed developments. Trial Trench 1 was located in the area proposed for an extension to the present house and Trial Trench 2 was located, a little further to the west, in an area allocated for future work.

6.1 Trial Trench 1

- 6.1.1 Trial Trench 1 measured 1.2m by 1.14m and was 0.62m deep, the extent in plan being constrained by the presence of a concrete pathway running alongside Priory House, and a fence line. The excavated area was further constrained, during excavation, due to the presence of modern services.
- 6.1.2 An orange-brown silty clay layer (106), identified as subsoil, was encountered in the northern part of the trench some 0.64m below ground level (11.93m OD). It was cut on its south side by a feature (107) that extended for 0.48m east to west and 0.6m north to south. The feature extending beyond the limit of excavation to north, east and west, such that its extent could not be determined. It was excavated to 0.22m in depth, but not bottomed, excavation ceasing once its excavation became awkward in the constrained space. The feature contained a single fill, a mid greyish-brown silty clay (108) that produced no diagnostically datable finds. The excavation area was too constrained to discern the nature of the feature.
- 6.1.3 A linear stone feature (105), composed of irregularly shaped and dressed medium sized sandstone blocks, set in a dark grey-brown silty clay matrix, was exposed for 1.15m north to south along the east side of the trench. Some 0.15m of the width of the feature was exposed, but the full extent of the feature remains uncertain. At present it is tentatively interpreted as a culvert. It, and the cut feature, were both sealed by a midden deposit (104), comprised of a mid grey-brown silty clay that contained 5 sherds of pottery of broadly 13th to 14th century date. Two further midden layers (103 and 102), overlay 104. Midden 103 a dark orange-brown sandy silt, contained a substantial charcoal and shell content, but did not produce any datable finds. Midden 102, a dark grey-brown silty clay could be dated to the 18th to 19th century from finds evidence. The midden layers were sealed by a modern topsoil (101).

6.2 Trial Trench 2

- 6.2.1 Trial Trench 2 measured 0.9m by 1.5m and was excavated through an area covered by paving slabs (200). It was excavated through a series of midden deposits to a depth of 1.2m (11.49m OD), when excavation ceased at what was believed to be a maximum safe depth.
- 6.2.2 The earliest layer encountered was a medieval midden deposit (202), which comprised a

dark grey-brown clay silt, that contained pottery of broadly 13th to 14th century date. This layer was 0.5m thick and overlain by a further midden layer, a very dark grey-brown clay silt, that was 0.7m thick. This midden, encountered directly beneath the modern paving slabs, was of more modern date, containing a mix of pottery, glass, bone and ceramic building material.

6.3 Pottery analysis (Jenny Vaughan NCAS)

- 6.3.1 A very small assemblage of 33 sherds of pottery weighing 281 grams was recovered from the site. In addition to this there were five pieces of ceramic building material (Appendix I). Ten of the sherds were medieval, of broadly 13th to early 14th century date. The other sherds spanned the 17th to 19th centuries.
- 6.3.2 Amongst the small medieval group a rim fragment (from (104)) with patchy brown external glaze was in the distinctive fabric which has been provisionally named 'Bamburgh ware' because it is common on the Bamburgh Castle site. This is quite hard with sparse large quartz inclusions in a fine smooth matrix. The inclusions give a pimpled texture to unglazed surfaces with some breaking the surface. From the same context were three green-glazed sherds in a sandy iron-rich fabric, one is a strap handle. The other medieval sherds are not particularly diagnostic but are unlikely to be other than reasonably locally made.
- 6.3.3 Amongst the post-medieval material sherds of white-glazed white refined earthenware were most numerous although a number were very small, two were possibly creamware. There were two fragments of red earthenware with slip-trailed decoration of 17th/early 18th century date. A plain glazed redware sherd might also be 18th century. Three other sherds with internal slip were of later redware. Two other fragments of refined earthenware (off white), a small piece of a white salt-glazed stoneware base and a rim of china decorated with pink lustre completed the post-medieval group.
- 6.3.4 The presence of similar material to some of the pottery from Bamburgh Castle in context (104) is of interest, although as yet this can only be dated broadly to the 13th to early 14th centuries. One other context, (202), produced exclusively medieval pottery, also broadly of the same date range. The slip-trailed redware is of some intrinsic interest because of the possibility that this is locally produced at Tweedmouth. Unfortunately, at the moment little is known about the range and variety of the Tweedmouth products. The rest of the pottery is of no particular interest. The group is too small and fragmented to have any potential for further study.

7.0 DISCUSSION

- 7.0.1 The village on Lindisfarne is known to be a site of particular historical and archaeological importance, dating back to at least the early medieval period and with substantial potential for earlier finds. The present assessment, although limited in scope, has demonstrated the clear presence of medieval archaeological material, of some significance, including a masonry-built feature and a cut feature of uncertain form, within Trial Trench 1, together with the presence of a developed midden 8m to the west in the area of Trial Trench 2.

8.0 CONCLUSIONS

- 8.0.1 The presence of a masonry-built feature, together with a negative feature of uncertain form, that can be dated to the medieval period, from the evidence of the overlying midden layer, within Trial Trench 1, is significant. As is the the location of this potentially sensitive material at a below ground level depth of only 0.6m (11.97, OD).
- 8.0.2 The developed midden sequence within Trial Trench 2 is of a lesser level of archaeological importance, but may contain environmental evidence that could enhance our understanding of the settlement pattern of medieval Lindisfarne.

Text and Illustrations: Graeme Young

BRP 14/05b

June 2014

REFERENCES

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| BRP | Finds Manual, 2000 |
| BRP | Health and Safety Document |
| English Heritage | <i>Management of Archaeological Projects 2</i> , 1991. |
| English Heritage | <i>A strategy for the Care and Investigation of Finds</i> . Ancient Monuments Laboratory, 1995. |
| IfA 2008 | Standard and Guidance for Excavation. |
| IfA 2008 | Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation. |

APPENDIX I

POTTERY ASSESSMENT (JENNY VAUGHAN)

Introduction/summary

A very small assemblage of 33 sherds of pottery weighing 281grams was recovered from the site. In addition to this there were five pieces of ceramic building material, see below. Ten of the sherds were medieval of broadly 13th to early 14th century date. The other sherds spanned the 17th to 19th centuries.

Pottery present (see catalogue for details)

Amongst the small medieval group a rim fragment (from (104)) with patchy brown external glaze was in the distinctive fabric which has been provisionally named 'Bamburgh ware' because it is common on the Castle site. This is quite hard with sparse large quartz inclusions in a fine smooth matrix. The inclusions give a pimpled texture to unglazed surfaces with some breaking the surface. From the same context were three green-glazed sherds in a sandy iron-rich fabric, one is a strap handle. This is similar to a type also found at Bamburgh Castle.

The other medieval sherds are not particularly diagnostic but are unlikely to be other than reasonably locally made.

Amongst the post-medieval material sherds of white-glazed white refined earthenware were most numerous although a number were very small, two were possibly creamware. There were two fragments of red earthenware with slip-trailed decoration of 17th/early 18th century date. A plain glazed redware sherd might also be 18th century. Three other sherds with internal slip were of later redware. Two other fragments of refined earthenware (off white), a small piece of a white salt-glazed stoneware base and a rim of china decorated with pink lustre completed the post-medieval group.

Discussion

The presence of similar material to some of the pottery from Bamburgh Castle in context (104) is of interest, although as yet this can only be dated broadly to the 13th to early 14th centuries. One other context, (202), produced exclusively medieval pottery, also broadly of the same date range. The slip-trailed redware is of some intrinsic interest because of the possibility that this is locally produced at Tweedmouth (see Haggerstone Castle pottery assessment for PCA). Unfortunately, at the moment little is known about the range and variety of the Tweedmouth products. The rest of the pottery is of no particular interest. The group is too small and fragmented to have any potential for further study.

OTHER ITEMS

Four fragments of pantile (17th century or later) and another abraded piece of ceramic building material came from context (201).

Context (102) produced two pieces of clay pipe stem, one with a spur. Stem bores were about 5/64". These could be 18th century but probably later.

Pottery Catalogue

Abbreviations used in fabric names:

ew	earthenware
gl	glaze/glazed (ggl = green glazed)
lgresl	later glazed redware with internal slip coat
rg	reduced green glazed ware
ref ww	refined white glazed white earthenware, dec = decorated
sl tr	slip trail
...w	ware

Additional – used in comments:

ext external
int internal
misc miscellaneous

Context	pot type	type number	form_sh	count	weight	comments
102	orange-buff	7	r	1	13	Rounded/clubbed rim, buff to light orange-brown with some mid-grey reduction. No glaze
102	red sl tr	27		1	13	Dish or plate
102	wsglst	31	b	1	6	Ring base
102	lgresl	32		2	21	
102	gre	32		1	8	Possibly C18th.
102	refww dec	33	2r	6	8	Misc small decorated sherds
102	creamw	33		2	6	
102	refww	33	b	3	13	One bit of ring base
102	refew	34	r b	2	22	White gl int (slipped surface) on base, yellowish buff gl elsewhere.
102	china	36	r	1	4	With pink lustre dec.
104	Bamgl	3	r	1	19	Simple expanded flat-topped rim, some brown flaking gl ext. Mid grey with orange int and part ext.
104	sandy ggl	6	h	3	71	Mid to light grey reduced core, orange surfaces with some patchy glaze. Inclusions in handle quite coarse. Strap.
104	pink	10	b	1	6	Pinkish buff with light grey int margin and pale pink surface. Occ quartz incl.
201	red sl tr	27		1	7	
201	lgresl	32		1	3	Small flake with brown mottling on slipped surface.
201	refww	33	r	2	25	Rim of jar.
202	buff ggl	4		1	17	Fabric mainly reduced light grey. Ungl patch has buff ext margin
202	rg	7		1	7	
202	ox ungl	10		2	12	Light red with darker ext surface and paler, buff int margin and surface.

APPENDIX II

PRIORY HOUSE HOLY ISLAND VILLAGE LINDISFARNE NORTHUMBERLAND

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION WRITTEN SCHEDULE OF INVESTIGATION

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.0.1 This Written Schedule of Investigation has been compiled by The Bamburgh Research Project, Commercial Section for Thomas Stewart. The document sets out the project design for an archaeological evaluation in advance of a proposed extension to Priory House, Holy Island Village, Lindisfarne, Northumberland. The evaluation is to comprise the excavation of two small trial trenches, each circa 1.2 -1.5m square in area, with a contingency for a further trench of the similar size
- 1.0.2 The Written Schedule of Investigation details the proposed scheme of works for the evaluation. The document has been prepared in order to fulfil a requirement for an archaeological evaluation in advance of the consideration of the planning application, and in order to inform the decision.

2.0 THE SITE

2.1 Location

- 2.1.1 The site is located within the grounds of Prior House, which lies on the west side of The Green, which adjoins Prior Lane and Marygate, itself on the western side of Holy Island Village, Lindisfarne, Northumberland. The site lies within a rectangular garden plot and measures broadly 20m east to west by 26m north to south (NGR NU 1244 4192) (Figures 1).

2.2 Archaeological Background

- 2.2.1 Mesolithic activity on the island is demonstrated by the presence of midden deposits at Ness End, on the northern side of the island, adjacent to Jenny Bell's Well and in the vicinity of the Fort on the Heugh. Neolithic activity within the village is indicated by a ¹⁴C date for a single post-hole identified off Marygate, an un-provenanced find of a Neolithic axe near to St Cuthbert's Square and a rock carving from The Palace.
- 2.2.2 The Anglo-Saxon monastery on Lindisfarne was founded in AD 635 as a daughter house to the Monastery of Iona, in Scotland. The focus of the monastery almost certainly lay beneath the later medieval priory site, but the monastic enclosure would originally have been much more extensive. O'Sullivan has proposed the line of Marygate as the northern boundary to the site. The aceramic structural remains identified during the evaluation of the Winery site by Northern Archaeological Associates in 2000 are likely, in part, to be early medieval in date and would support this hypothesis as they are more likely to be monastic than secular (NAA 2001). The site, proposed for development, lies some 50m to the west of the Winery site, though beyond the western boundary of the monastic perimeter, as proposed by Deidre O'Sullivan.
- 2.2.3 The village on Holy Island existed from at least the medieval period, possibly being founded to service the early medieval monastery. Evidence for complex medieval archaeology was identified at the Castle View (Stewart and Bailey 2006) and during the Winery and Palace evaluations (NAA 2001). This indicates that stratified medieval archaeology is extensive within the village footprint.

- 2.2.4 Priory house is depicted on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map of c.1860, almost certainly those currently standing on the site. It is quite conceivable that The Green represents a medieval street frontage.

2.3 Impact of the development

- 4.1.1 The development, comprises the construction of a, two-storey, extension to the present building, measuring some 10m by 4m, together with its associated services. It is proposed that the foundations be rafted and not impact to a depth greater than 0.6m below the present ground surface. It is clear though, due to the historic nature of the area and the presence of preserved archaeological stratigraphy, only tens of metres to the east, that the new development will have the potential to impact on preserved archaeological remains.

3.0 OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objective of the evaluation is to investigate the archaeological potential of the development area by the excavation of two trial trenches, each in the order of 1.2-1.5m square. One sited directly in the area of the proposed development and the second close by, to add an additional sample, aimed at understanding the extent of archaeological material in the site area, and also sited in the vicinity of a second potential future addition to the dwelling. The trenches are to exceed the proposed depth of the foundations by a margin, being excavated to a maximum safe depth of 1.2m below ground level, or to the first significant archaeological horizon, in order to properly investigate the potential for impact on preserved remains (Figure 2).
- 3.2 The excavation of the trial trenches will identify the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the development area. Any archaeological remains encountered will be sampled in order to establish the location, extent, date and nature of any areas of archaeological activity and the degree of preservation of any remains encountered.
- 3.3 The results of the evaluation will enable the impact of the proposed development on any deposits of archaeological significance to be more accurately assessed in order that an appropriate mitigation strategy can be devised.

4.0 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Watching brief during excavation

- 4.1.1 The evaluation will comprise the investigation of two c. 1.5m² trial trenches, located to investigate the area to be impacted by the footprint of the extension and to provide a representative sample of the site down to a safe working depth or to the first significant archaeological horizon.
- 4.1.3 All work will be carried out in compliance with the codes of practice of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2010) and their Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation (IfA 2008), and Field Evaluation (IfA 2008).
- 4.1.4 Excavation will be undertaken by appropriately trained members of the archaeological staff, excavating by hand. Excavation will continue until a depth of 0.7m has been reached or until significant archaeological deposits are encountered or subsoil revealed. The trench will then be cleaned and recorded.

4.2 General standards

4.2.1 All archaeological features identified will be sample excavated according to their type and form.

50% of all discrete features.

25% of the area of a linear/curvilinear features with a non-uniform fill.

10% of the area of linear/curvilinear features with a uniform fill.

4.2.2 A 40 litre bulk palaeoenvironmental sample will be taken from all features recognised as suitable for the preservation of palaeoenvironmental remains.

4.2.3 Secure contexts will be sampled for dating where appropriate, whether on site or as sub samples of bulk samples. Any concentrations of charcoal or other carbonised material recovered on site will usually be retained.

4.2.4 Pottery and Animal Bone will be collected as bulk samples whilst significant artefacts will be three-dimensionally recorded prior to processing. All finds will be recorded and processed according to the BRP system and submitted for post-excavation assessment. Finds recovery and storage strategies will be in accordance with published guidelines (English Heritage 1995 and IfA Guidelines for Finds Work). Should artefacts of gold or silver covered by the 1996 Treasure Act be recovered, appropriate procedures will be followed.

4.2.5 In the event of Human burials being revealed they will be left *in situ* and treated in an appropriate manner. After consultation with the County Archaeological Officer, if excavation is required, work will comply with the relevant home Office regulations.

4.2.6 Any archaeological features encountered will be hand-cleaned, excavated and recorded:

1. A photographic record will be taken using black and white print, colour slide film at 35mm format. In addition a digital photographic record will be compiled.
2. A written description of features will be recorded using the BRP *pro forma* context recording system.
3. All features will be drawn at an appropriate scale using pre-printed permatrace. Plans will normally be drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10.

4.2.7 All archaeological features and horizons will be accurately tied into the Ordnance Survey grid. All levels will be tied in to Ordnance Datum.

4.2.8 Arrangements will be made with the appropriate museum for the deposition of the site archive within 6 month of the completion of the post-excavation report.

5.0 CONTINGENCY

5.0.1 A contingency has been allowed within the evaluation program for the excavation of an additional 1.5m square trench, in order to answer particular issues that may arise during fieldwork. This additional work will be undertaken after discussion with, and with the agreement of the client and the Assistant County Archaeological Officer.

6.0 MONITORING

5.1 Access will be made available at all reasonable times to the archaeological representatives of the Northumberland County council Conservation Team to inspect the excavation site.

- 5.2 Access to the site will be on the basis of prior notification and subject to any relevant health and safety considerations.

6.0 POST-EXCAVATION WORK, ARCHIVE AND REPORT COMPILATION

- 6.1 On completion of the excavation an assessment of the site records and finds will be undertaken in accordance with English Heritage (1991) guidelines and the IfA Standard and Guidance for field Evaluation (IfA 2008). This will include:

1. collation of all site records
2. compilation of a report
3. production of context, photographic, finds and illustration databases
4. analysis of the finds assemblage by relevant specialists
5. environmental assessment of selected bulk samples

- 6.2 The assessment report, with each page and paragraph numbered and with cross referenced illustrations, will include:

- summary of the project background
- site location
- methodology
- results of the watching brief
- site location plans and illustrations of results at appropriate scales
- interpretation of the results in an appropriate context
- post-excavation assessment of the site archive
- catalogue and assessment of the artefactual archive
- catalogue and assessment of the faunal remains
- catalogue and assessment of the palaeoenvironmental samples recovered
- appendix containing a list and summary of each recorded context

- 6.3 A copy of the report should be submitted by the archaeologist to the commissioning client, and the County Council Conservation Team within 15 working days of completion of the work. A summary will be prepared for 'Archaeology in Northumberland' and an article will be submitted to a local or national journal if appropriate.

- 6.4 The site archive will be prepared to the standard specified in the Management of Archaeological Projects, appendix 3 (HBMC 1991) and in accordance with the Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage (UKIC 1990). A summary account of the context record will be included and written by the supervising archaeologist. The archive will be deposited at the specified museum within 6 months of completion of the work on site.

- 6.5 An online OASIS form will be completed for the project as part of the post-excavation assessment process.

7.0 PERSONNEL

- 7.1 The designated project manager Graeme Young, is one of the five directors of the Bamburgh Research Project. A graduate of Newcastle University, with 26 years of experience in field archaeology including directing a number of excavations of urban medieval sites in Newcastle and Durham. He is an Associate Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

- 7.2 Additional field staff, with appropriate archaeological experience, will be engaged as required.

8.0 SUB-CONTRACTED SPECIALISTS

- 8.0.1 Although it is not possible to predict the range of artefacts that may be recovered provision has been made for the analysis of the most common artefacts.

Material	Specialist
Medieval pottery	Jenny Vaughan
Post-medieval pottery	Jenny Vaughan
Prehistoric pottery	Blaise Vyner
Roman Pottery	Blaise Vyner
Animal bone	Durham University Archaeological Services
Palaeoenvironmental	Durham University Archaeological Services
Conservation	Durham University Archaeological Services

9.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 9.0.1 The Bamburgh Research Project complies with the 1974 Health and Safety Act and its subsequent amendments in all its operations. The SCAUM manual and the Bamburgh Research Project Health and Safety Policy Document is followed for all site works. A designated and appropriately trained first aider is present at all times during working hours. A First Aid kit, Accident Book and telephone are provided for each project. Safety footwear is mandatory on all excavation sites. Where required safety helmets and reflective jackets are provided. It is policy for a vehicle to be present at an excavation and staff must be appropriately equipped for bad weather.
- 9.0.2 All staff undergo a safety induction prior to commencing work on site. A written risk assessment is undertaken specific for each site. The safety assessment is reviewed on a daily basis and changes to the working conditions monitored continually during adverse weather conditions.

Text: Graeme Young.
BRP 14/05a
Revised GY 28/5/2014

May 2014

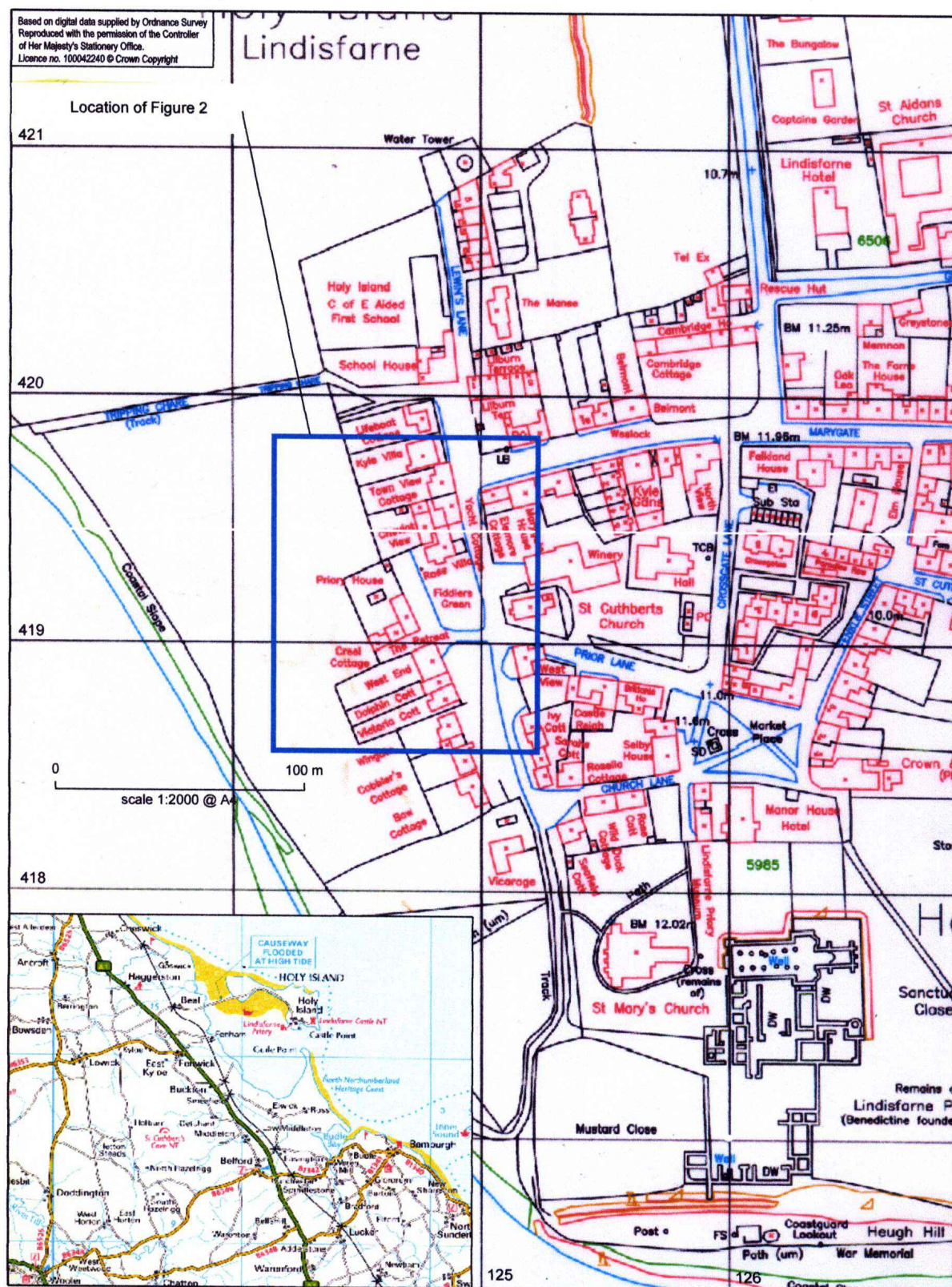




Figure 2 The current building and proposed extension

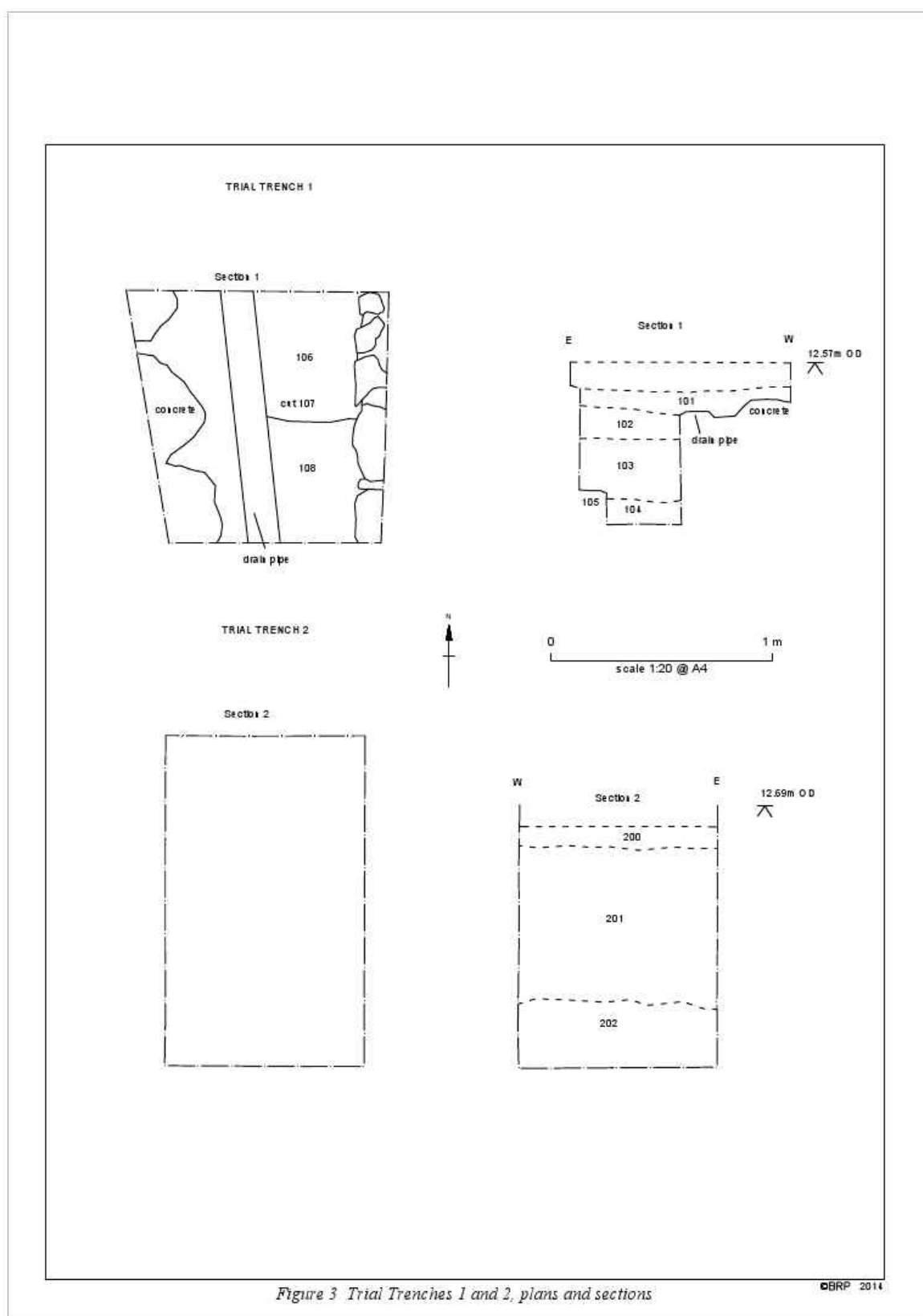


Figure 3 Trial Trenches 1 and 2, plans and sections

BBRP 2014



Plate 1: Test-Pit 1, facing south



Plate 2: Test-Pit 2, facing south