

# Humber Field Archaeology

*Archaeological Consultants and Contractors*



Archaeological observation, investigation and  
recording

at the

York Field Development Project, Easington  
Terminal, East Riding of Yorkshire

Site Code: EYF 2011

National Grid Reference: TA 400 201 (centre)

Planning Reference: DC/11/01238/STPLFE/STRAT

for

Centrica Storage Ltd.

Watching Brief Report Number: 1351

May 2013

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## Summary

Between October 2011 and May 2012, a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording was undertaken by Humber Field Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of the proposed onshore works at the Centrica Storage Ltd. (CSL) Easington Terminal, as part of the York Field Development Project.

The following elements were subject to archaeological monitoring: development of land to the north of the existing CSL car park as a construction compound (Area 1); the excavation of a vertical shaft at the eastern side of the current CSL terminal (Area 2); insertion of coffer dam trenching from the cliff edge eastwards across the beach out to sea (Area 3); the removal of existing infrastructure within the south-eastern part of the CSL terminal (Area 4); and, the construction north of Area 1 of another works compound and a beach access ramp (Area 5).

Archaeological features were only encountered during excavation for the shaft in Area 2. A soil-filled ditch and two adjacent postholes were noted in plan, though they were not able to be examined due to health and safety constraints. Though undated, the alignment of the ditch and the relative paleness of its fill, suggest that this group of features may be of a medieval or earlier date. A topsoil layer over these features was sealed beneath a substantial depth of material imported during modern landscaping and construction. Evidence of the raising of ground levels through the deposition of thick layers of imported material was also recorded in Areas 1 and 4.

Work on the beach for the insertion of the coffer dam (Area 3) was subject to limited archaeological monitoring, the working methods employed making examination of anything other than excavated soils impracticable. No finds or features of archaeological significance were noted.

# 1 Introduction

This report presents the results of a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording undertaken by Humber Field Archaeology (HFA), on behalf of Centrica Storage Ltd. (CSL), during groundworks associated with the York Field Development Project, Easington, East Riding of Yorkshire (Figure 1).

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The onshore facilities of the York Field Development Project are to be located within and adjacent to CSL's Easington Terminal, some 0.5km to the north of the village of Easington. The principal elements of the proposed onshore development are a new gas processing plant, modifications to existing plant, pipeline landfall works and associated construction compounds. Planning consent for the scheme was granted with a condition requiring archaeological mitigation, because the site lies in an area of archaeological interest, with substantial and well-preserved evidence of settlement of Iron Age and Roman date having been identified to the south and south-west of the site, and within the CSL site itself.

The archaeological mitigation proposed was a scheme of observation, investigation and recording (or 'watching brief'), as advised by the Humber Sites and Monuments Record Office (HSMR), advisors to East Riding of Yorkshire Council on archaeological matters. Accordingly, a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was produced by Peter Cardwell (archaeological and heritage consultant) for CSL in order to satisfy the requirements of the proposed condition (Cardwell 2011), and the WSI was submitted to HSMR for their approval.

HFA were subsequently appointed and the watching brief took place between October 2011 and May 2012.

## 2 Archaeological background

The following represents a brief summary of the archaeological context of the development site, derived principally from the Archaeological Background section in the WSI (Cardwell 2012, 4-9). Archaeological sites and finds within this area are identified by their Humber Sites and Monuments Record (HSMR) number where applicable.

### *Early prehistoric*

A henge (HSMR 20437) of late Neolithic or early Bronze Age date has been recorded on the beach at Easington, together with evidence of Neolithic occupation (HSMR 20439) identified beneath a later Bronze Age round barrow (Evans 2001, 69-73). These sites are located some 1.7km and 1.8km respectively to the south-east of the areas of development. Residual flint artefacts of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age date were recovered from a later Iron Age or Roman period settlement to the south-west of the CSL terminal during the construction of the Easington to Ganstead gas pipeline (Network Archaeology 2009, 152), while finds of a deer antler and other

animal bone recovered from the sea cliff to the south-east of the development areas (HSMR 17853) are also likely to be of prehistoric date.

A possible round barrow of Bronze Age date (HSMR 19495) was recorded through air photography towards the northern edge of the CSL terminal, but no further information on this site is available and it is likely to have been destroyed or significantly damaged by the development of the existing facility. This possible barrow may have been one of a number located along the coastline in the vicinity of Easington, including those (HSMR 3383 and 20438) on the site of, and close to, the earlier Neolithic occupation recorded on the beach to the south-east of Easington. In addition, two Bronze Age cremations and residual flint artefacts were recorded within the area of the later Iron Age and Roman period settlement site (HSMR 21490) investigated within the area of the Langed receiving facilities (Richardson 2011, 63) to the west of the CSL terminal.

Evidence of Bronze Age occupation (HSMR 21495), consisting of worked flint and pottery, has also been identified in the cliff section to the south of the development, while a bronze spearhead (HSMR 15168) was recovered from the beach to the east. Animal bone, pottery and a wooden spear (HSMR 15112), of late Bronze Age or Iron Age date, have also been recovered from the cliff nearby, together with two Iron Age coins (HSMR 8096). An earlier Iron Age cremation was recorded on the site of the Langed receiving facilities (see below).

#### *Late Iron Age and Roman*

Relatively extensive evidence of settlement of later Iron Age and Roman date has been recorded recently to both the west and the south-west of the CSL terminal. That to the west (HSMR 21490) consisted of an area of two intersecting trackways, field systems, roundhouses and kilns recorded in advance of the construction of the Langed receiving facilities (Richardson 2011, 59–100). Finds recovered support a 1st to 3rd century AD date for this settlement. Further evidence of late Iron Age and Roman period settlement was recorded to the south and south-west during the construction of the Easington to Ganstead gas pipeline (Network Archaeology 2009, 144–53). This included a field system, roundhouses and enclosure ditches, the settlement being dated to the later Iron Age or early Roman periods on the basis of the hand-made pottery recovered. An extension to the areas investigated during the construction of the Easington to Paull gas pipeline identified two further roundhouses within a network of enclosure ditches and drainage gullies (Oxford Archaeology North 2010, 9–10). An undated linear cropmark (HSMR 18782) to the north-west could be associated with this area of settlement.

Further occupation of this date within the vicinity of the development is represented by the recovery of pottery of Roman date from Easington (HSMR 15099) and the beach to the east of the CSL terminal (HSMR 15197).

#### *Medieval*

Sites of pre-Conquest date within the vicinity of the development include possible occupation represented by a pit (HSMR 21621) containing animal bone and pottery dated to the mid-Saxon period from the sea cliff near Easington, while four burials of 6th century date were recorded on the site of the earlier Iron Age and Roman period settlement investigated at the Langed receiving facilities (HSMR 21490).

The area of the development within the CSL terminal is located between the two recorded medieval settlements of Easington and Dimlington; both settlements are recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 and pre-date the Norman Conquest. The Old English origin for their names (*Esitone* and *Dimelton*) is indicative of Anglian settlement and suggests that the occupation at these locations pre-dates the conquest by several centuries. While Easington has continued as a settlement through to the present day, Dimlington is recorded as only a farmstead by the 19th century. The further medieval settlement of Turmarr (HSMR 3397) ceased to exist in the 14th century and the site has been lost to coastal erosion and is not accurately known, but was probably between Easington and Dimlington.

Other sites of medieval date within the vicinity of the development include that of a rectangular enclosure from which sherds of 14th century pottery have been recovered (HSMR 3377 and 8988), now lost to coastal erosion. The site of a windmill (HSMR 10873) recorded from the 13th century onwards is recorded within the area of the existing Langed receiving facilities.

#### *Post-medieval and modern*

The landscape within the vicinity of the development was enclosed in 1771. Within the area of the CSL terminal, the fields were relatively large and open with some irregular boundaries, while those nearer Easington were linear fields typical of the enclosure of former medieval open field systems. Evidence of post-medieval ridge and furrow cultivation (HSMR 21488) has been recorded immediately to the east of the CSL terminal, but most in this area has been ploughed out, lost to the sea or covered by the gas terminals. A banked enclosure (HSMR 21493) of probable post-medieval date to the south-east of the CSL terminal has been lost to coastal erosion. Some of the field boundaries within the CSL site had been straightened by the time of the early Ordnance Survey mapping of the mid-19th century.

Sites of post-medieval date are mostly buildings within the existing village of Easington, though early Ordnance Survey mapping shows a windmill (HSMR 10873) and Rail Hall and Easington Cottage (HSMR 11585) to the west of the development and High House (HSMR 11385) to the south-west. The majority of the sites of modern date within the vicinity of the development are related to Second World War coastal military defences, including the site of a radar station, pillboxes, and other installations such as weapon pits, trenches, tank traps, barbed wire defences and minefields.

### **3 Methodology**

The work associated with this project was carried out by staff from Humber Field Archaeology, in accordance with the WSI. The scheme of works comprised the monitoring of topsoil stripping, ground reduction and drainage works within the five areas described below (see Fig. 1):

Area 1: The main site establishment areas to the north of the existing CSL terminal, rough grassland with two woodland plantations to the west, ground stripped and levelled;

Area 2: An area containing a vertical shaft some 8m in diameter, located adjacent to the eastern boundary fence of the existing CSL terminal;

Area 3: A cofferdam trench across the beach for new pipelines to be connected to the base of the shaft by directional drilling

Area 4: Removal of existing infrastructure (cables and foundations) in the area of the new gas processing plant within the south-eastern part of the CSL terminal;

Area 5: Stripping of an area, north of Area 1, for compound for the contractors (Land and Marine) working in Area 3, and a beach access ramp created.

Any exposed areas of subsoil and lower stratigraphic units were examined for archaeological features or deposits, and the depth sequences of any exposed stratigraphy were recorded; context numbers were assigned to exposed deposits, and photographs were taken of deposits in plan and section where conditions allowed. Plans and/or sections were drawn of archaeological features.

A total of 21 visits were made to the site between 31st October 2011 and 10th May 2012, as follows:

31st October 2011; 1st November 2011; 21st November – 1st December 2011; 5th December – 7th December 2011; 16th December 2011; 4th January 2012; 20th January 2012; 5th and 6th March 2012; 20th April 2012; and, 10th May 2012.



## 4 Results

### AREA 1

#### *Site visits:*

31/10/11-1/11/11: Monitoring cable trenches;

21/11/11-01/12/11: Recording of two machine-cut drainage pipe trenches and monitoring of the topsoil strip, ground reduction and levelling;

05/12/11-07/12/11: monitoring the excavation of the drainage trenches.

Lying north of the existing CSL terminal, Area 1 measured approx 8,070m<sup>2</sup>, being bounded by the boundary fence of the car park to the south and the boundary fence of the sub-station to the north, stopping several metres short of the existing pipeline extending along the cliff. Access onto and off the site was via a gateway off the eastern side of Dimlington Road. Prior to groundworks commencing, the area was rough grassland with a wooded plantation, the latter to be reduced in size through removal of its western end. Ground level across the area varied from around 17.1m to 17.4m OD.

The initial works comprised the excavation and exposure of known cable trenches across the site; these were located in the north-west and south-west corners, exploratory trenches being machine- and hand-dug down to approximately 0.80m-1.0m, until the known electricity cables were uncovered, checked and backfilled (Plates 1 and 2).

Two 1.3m-deep test trenches were machine-excavated in the south-western and south-eastern corners of the area to locate large drainage pipes which crossed the southern edge (Plates 3 and 4). The basal deposit within both trenches was natural boulder clay, an orange-brown silt-clay (103) with rounded stones and chalk flecks, above which was a ground-raising deposit of red-brown silt-clay (105), at least 0.50m thick, containing modern ceramic building material (CBM) fragments, stone, modern metal and plastic. Cutting through layer 105 were the pipe trenches (e.g 107), backfilled with mid orange brown fine sandy clay (106), containing modern CBM, stone and modern hardcore, over the round plastic pipe. Sealing the deposits was 0.30m of modern topsoil, being dark brown fine coarse sandy clay (101).

The topsoil strip of Area 1 occurred over several days, beginning at the access gates on the western edge (Plate 5), then proceeding south towards the CSL car park. A small excavator removed the western arm of the woodland plantation (Plate 6). Stripping of 0.30m depth of the topsoil (101) exposed deposit 105 over much of that part of the area (Plates 7-10). Ground reduction around the access gates involved taking off a further 0.30-0.60m of deposit (105), which exposed a light grey stone hardcore in concentration, indicating the backfill of cable trenches, and a brick rubble hardcore (108). In the very north-western corner, a higher concentration of brick rubble hardcore (108) was exposed, representing a previous access route into the area (Plate 14).

Continuation of topsoil stripping along the northern and eastern edge the area, between the remainder of the woodland plantation and the fenced-off area along the cliff, exposed more of deposit 105, and following this phase of stripping (Plate 13), reduction of the ground level took place along the southern edge (Plates 11 and 12)

and along the eastern edge, with subsequent dumping of hardcore onto these reduced areas and elsewhere (Plates 15 and 16).

Upon completion of the laying and levelling of the hardcore surface, narrow drainage trenches were excavated, extending from the north, along the northern side of the plantation, turning again to the south, along the western edge of the area; these trenches, 1m deep, were cut through 0.4m depth of newly-laid hardcore and 0.6m deep into earlier ground-raising deposit 105. No archaeological features were seen within the trenches.

The stripping and ground reduction did not expose any archaeological features in Area 1, with natural boulder clay only being seen at a depth of 1.0-1.30m below the ground surface within the test trenches for the drainage pipes. Substantial ground-raising deposit 105, at least 0.5m deep, was found to be present in all stripped areas, being overlain in the north-west corner by rubble hardcore 108. No artefacts were recovered.

## AREA 2

### *Site visits:*

- 1/12/11, 6/12/11, 16/12/11: monitoring of the cable trenches and ground reduction, maintaining photographic record;
- 6/3/12: monitoring of shaft excavation to boulder clay.

Situated within the CSL terminal, adjacent to the eastern fence line, Area 2 covered 2,172m<sup>2</sup>. Much of the groundworks involved the exposure of cable trenches, with a limited amount of ground reduction and excavation of the shaft.

Ground reduction work was largely based on the removal of the modern gravel surface (201) and underlying hardcore (202); existing ground levels were generally at around or just above 13m OD. Initially, three separate test holes were hand-dug to locate buried cables at the northern end of the area (Plate 17), after which ground reduction took off an additional 0.80m of hard core (202), exposing the cable trenches, which consisted of a single north-south trench (Plate 18) with an extension off to the east and a short extension to the west. Beneath the hardcore, the cable trenches (see Plate 19) were cut into a layer at least 0.5m thick of dark brown silty clay (203) containing CBM fragments, a deposit of material imported for modern ground-raising. All the deposits observed were the result of modern landscaping and construction and no archaeological features were seen within the cable trenches.

On completion of the ground reduction, work commenced further south on the excavation of the shaft. The initial excavation of the shaft was of a circular trench measuring approximately 7m in diameter to a depth of 1.75m below the ground surface (Plate 20), excavated from a level of approximately 13m OD. The shaft was then stepped in by approximately 1.35m, and a second circular trench approximately 4.5m in diameter was excavated centrally (Plate 22). The total depth reached during archaeological monitoring was 2.55m, at which point excavation reached the natural boulder clay; excavation below this point would involve concrete collars being driven into the deposits, the full excavation depth of the shaft being expected to be around 18m.

In the sides of the shaft it was possible to see the full depth of deposits above the natural orange brown boulder clay (214). Immediately above was a mid orange-grey silty clay (213), around 0.7m deep, interpreted as a buried subsoil. Cutting into layer 213 was a ditch (212), extending east to west across the northern part of the shaft (Fig. 2; Plate 21), represented by a band of mid blue-grey silty clay (211). The feature, which was approximately 0.60m wide and 0.45m deep, was principally seen in plan, and only partially in section (Plate 22), it not being possible to enter the trench due to health and safety constraints. At the eastern end of the ditch were observed two similarly-sized circles of darker soil, around 0.10m in diameter, considered to represent postholes: posthole 208 lay to the south of the ditch and posthole 210 to the north; both fills (207 and 209, respectively) were dark grey silty clay. It was not possible to investigate the feature, so no dating evidence was able to be recovered. Although it remains undated, the alignment of the ditch was seen to differ from that of the field boundaries marked on early Ordnance Survey maps in this area, suggesting that it at least pre-dates the late 18th-century enclosure of this area. The relatively pale colour of its fill, furthermore, may suggest that it is of a considerably earlier date.

Cutting through the western part of the ditch, extending north to south across the shaft trench, was a post-medieval ceramic land-drain (206) of horse-shoe profile, set in a cut of 0.30m width. Sealing this and the earlier features was a buried topsoil, 0.30m deep, of mid-dark grey silty clay (205), above which was a 1.25m thick ground raising deposit of red-brown, sandy clay (204), possibly re-deposited natural clay. The uppermost 0.30m of the section comprised a mixture of hardcore deposit (202) and the gravel surface (201).

### AREA 3

#### *Site visits:*

5/3/12, 20/04/12: To monitor and assess the potential for the examination and recording of archaeological deposits, maintaining photographic record;  
10/5/12: As above.

Area 3 focused mainly on works associated with the coffer dam trench, excavations at the foot of the cliff, and the excavation from the beach to the base of the shaft within Area 2, including observation of any deposits removed. In the event, the method used to complete these processes meant that there was very little in the way of deposits exposed, and little which could be seen or recorded in a stratigraphic context. The only opportunities for the examination of deposits was from the spoil heap on the beach, the excavated deposits brought from the excavation through the cliff, and the bases of the three pits excavated at the foot of the cliff, leading onto the coffer dam trench out to sea.

The three pits were excavated down to around 6-8m below the beach level (Plates 23 and 24). All three had sheet metal siding, were low-tide dependent and all exposed the natural boulder clay in their bases. Pit 1 was located at the base of the cliff on the beach to the east of the shaft within Area 2; it is within this pit that the excavations took place through the cliff and connecting with the shaft. Pits 2 and 3 lay east of Pit 1, with the coffer dam trench extending a further 250m plus, out to sea. The construction of the winch platform involved no excavation.

The excavation of the coffer dam trench out to sea (Plate 25) involved the sheet piling being set out using a dredger which was side-casting spoil, with a muck skip coming ashore, the spoil then being compacted at the cliff base on the beach.

#### AREA 4

*Site visits:*

31/10/11, 21/11/11, 25/11/11, 6/12/11, 16/12/11: Monitoring the excavation of cable trenches, maintaining a photographic record;  
4/1/12: Monitor and record deposits reached during removal of infrastructure;  
20/4/12: Monitor and record deposits reached during ground reduction and last fragments of infrastructure removal, natural boulder clay exposed.

Situated in the south-eastern part of the CSL terminal, Area 4 measured approximately 3,425m<sup>2</sup>, comprising a rectangular area orientated north to south. Current ground levels were around 12.9 to 13.1m OD.

The first phase of work involved the exposure of inactive electricity cables (Plates 26 and 27). The trenches were opened using a small 360 degree machine, with the exposure of the cables being completed by hand-digging to a depth of about 0.40m from the existing ground surface, which was primarily made up of a multi-coloured, variably-sized stone gravel (401). The cable trenches extended both north to south and east to west, around the existing infrastructure foundations. The exposed sections of the trenches showed a modern ground-raising deposit, over 0.40m deep, consisting of a mix of orange-brown coarse sandy clay and coarse orange sand (402). In some places, secondary, deeper laid sets of cables were also exposed and removed.

Subsequent to removal of the cables, groundworks consisted of the breaking and removal of the remaining concrete infrastructure foundations. Following the removal of the structures, the ground surface was taken down in two stages, initially to around 1m below ground level (Plates 28-30), being subsequently reduced to around 1.60m below ground level (Plates 31 and 32). The exposed sections showed (from top down): 0.20m depth of gravel layer 401; over 0.50m depth of ground-raising clay 402; over 0.30m of mid brown coarse sand (403), also though to be imported material to raise ground levels; over 0.60m exposed depth of the natural boulder clay (404), heavily contaminated with modern debris from the construction of the overlying structures.

Examination of the natural boulder clay within Area 4 showed no signs of any archaeological features.

#### AREA 5

*Site visits:*

12/01/12: Photographic record maintained, no archaeological deposits or features exposed.

Area 5 focused on the ground works associated with the construction of the Land and Marine compound north of Area 1 on the cliff top, and access down to the beach from the compound.

The groundworks involved a 250mm deep topsoil strip (Plate 33), no ground reduction or levelling, with terram and hardcore being laid as a surface for the accommodation units. As was the case in Area 1, the material exposed through stripping was material brought in to raise and level the ground.

The work on the access route to the beach (Plate 34) involved excavation of material which had been brought in relatively recently, with no exposure of undisturbed natural or archaeological deposits on the cliff or beach.

## **5 Discussion**

Archaeological monitoring, investigation and recording of groundworks associated with elements of the proposed onshore facilities for the York Field Development Project recorded a small number of features of archaeological interest, though in the majority of the areas examined, only deposits and/or features of relatively recent date were recorded.

The earliest features were recorded in Area 2, in a trench for a vertical shaft cut close to the current cliff edge. A ditch and two flanking postholes were recorded cutting into a shallow subsoil layer overlying the natural boulder clay, at a depth of over 2m below current ground level. The ditch and postholes remain undated – it was not possible to investigate them due to health and safety constraints – though their contrary alignment to boundaries shown on 19th-century Ordnance Survey maps, and the relative paleness of their fill, may suggest that they significantly pre-date late 18th-century enclosure of the area, being of medieval or earlier date. Indeed, it is not inconceivable that they may represent activity of Iron Age/Roman date, numerous settlement remains of these periods having been recorded in the vicinity of the terminal.

The features discussed above lay beneath a topsoil layer which was in turn sealed by a substantial depth of material imported during modern landscaping and construction. Evidence of the raising of ground levels through the deposition of thick layers of imported material was also recorded in other areas within or adjacent to the existing facility (Areas 1, 4 and 5). In these areas, the natural boulder clay was only identified in a few places where excavation went particularly deep, and there were no indications of the presence of archaeological features or deposits cut into the natural in the small areas which were able to be examined. While it is likely, given the discoveries in Area 2, that archaeological features or deposits may be present beneath these areas of made ground, it is considered that they lie at sufficient depth, and are afforded sufficient protection by the thick imported deposits sealing them, to remain unaffected by the proposed development.

Work on the beach for the insertion of a coffer dam (Area 3) was subject to limited archaeological monitoring, the working methods employed making examination of anything other than excavated soils impracticable. No finds or features of archaeological significance were noted.

Given the results of the fieldwork, it is not considered necessary that any further analysis or publication is required.

## **6 Acknowledgements**

Thanks are accorded to the staff of Centrica Storage Ltd. (CSL) and the contractors, Sangwin and Land & Marine, for their help and co-operation during the course of this project.

The on-site archaeological work was principally carried out by Claire Rose of Humber Field Archaeology, in accordance with a WSI prepared by Peter Cardwell on behalf of CSL and approved by the Humber Sites and Monuments Record Office.

The account of the results of the archaeological monitoring was produced by Claire Rose, the photographs were taken by Claire Rose, and the figures reproduced here were produced by Claire Rose and Dave Atkinson. The report was compiled and edited by Ken Steedman, who also contributed to the Introduction and Discussion.

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## 8 Appendices

### Appendix 1 – context list

#### *Area 1*

- 100 – Unstratified.
- 101 – Topsoil, mid-dark orange brown, fine coarse sandy clay, root disturbance, some small flecks of ceramic building material and stone fragments.
- 102 – Same as 105.
- 103 – Red brown, silty clay, moderate rounded stone and stone fragments, natural boulder clay.
- 104 – Fill of modern drainage cut [106].
- 105 – Build up/levelling layer, orange/red-brown, silty clay modern CBM fragments, stone and stone fragments, metal, plastic. Varying depth: 0.60m+ within one test trench and 0.90m+ at the south-east corner of the wooded area.
- (106) – Fill of drainage cut and modern pipe.
- [107] – Cut for the drainage pipe seen in test trenches.
- (108) – Brick rubble hardcore from previous access and lay down into Area 1.

#### *Area 2*

- 200 – Unstratified.
- 201 – Modern surface, multi-coloured stone gravel.
- 202 – Hardcore, light grey, rough stone.
- 203 – Ground raising, brown sandy clay, with CBM fragments, more towards the northern end of Area 2, around the cable trenches; does not seem to appear within the shaft section.
- 204 – Ground raising, red brown silty clay, more modern inclusions, CBM fragments.
- 205 – Probable buried topsoil horizon – mid-dark grey, silty clay.
- 206 – Land drain, horse-shoe profile, narrow cut, dark grey fill, 0.30m in width, 7.40m + in length.
- 207 – Fill of possible posthole, dark grey, silty clay.
- 208 – Cut of possible posthole, situated to the south of the linear seen within the well shaft, 0.10m x 0.10m .
- 209 – Fill of possible posthole, dark grey, silty clay.
- 210 – Cut of possible posthole, situated to the north of the linear seen within the well shaft, 0.10m x 0.10m.
- 211 – Fill of linear, mid orange-blue grey, silty clay.
- 212 – Cut of ditch, east-west extending ditch; of ?early date.
- 213 – Deposit, mid orange-grey silty clay.
- 214 – Natural boulder clay.

#### *Area 3*

- 300 – Unstratified.
- 301 – Present topsoil.
- 302 – Beach.
- 303 – Natural boulder clay seen in the base of the coffer dam pits.

#### *Area 4*

- 400 – Unstratified.
- 401 – Modern surface, multi-coloured stone gravel.
- 402 – Ground-raising deposit, orange-brown sandy clay and coarse orange sand.
- 403 – Levelling/ground make up, mid brown coarse sand.
- 404 – Natural boulder clay.



## Appendix 2 – Archive listing

**Project Details:** Archaeological observation, investigation and recording at York Field Development Project, Easington Terminal, East Riding of Yorkshire

**Site Code:** EYF 2011

**National Grid Reference:** TA 400 201 (centre)

**Planning Reference:** DC/11/01238/STPLFE/STRAT

**Author:** Claire Rose

**Date of fieldwork:** 31st October 2011 - 10th May 2012

**Report Number.** Humber Field Archaeology Watching Brief Report Number: 1351  
May 2013

### Quantity

5 x clear plastic A4 wallets contain the paper archive

A digital copy of the report will be lodged with ERYMS (East Riding of Yorkshire Museums Service) but the physical archive remains with HFA. A digital copy of the report and archive will also be lodged with OASIS (Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigation scheme).

### Summary of work

Between October 2011 and May 2012, a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording was undertaken by Humber Field Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of the proposed onshore works at the Centrica Storage Ltd. (CSL) Easington Terminal, as part of the York Field Development Project.

The following elements were subject to archaeological monitoring: development of land to the north of the existing CSL car park as a construction compound (Area 1); the excavation of a vertical shaft at the eastern side of the current CSL terminal (Area 2); insertion of coffer dam trenching from the cliff edge eastwards across the beach out to sea (Area 3); the removal of existing infrastructure within the south-eastern part of the CSL terminal (Area 4); and, the construction north of Area 1 of another works compound and a beach access ramp (Area 5).

Archaeological features were only encountered during excavation for the shaft in Area 2. A soil-filled ditch and two adjacent postholes were noted in plan, though they were not able to be examined due to health and safety constraints. Though undated, the alignment of the ditch and the relative paleness of its fill, suggest that this group of features may be of a medieval or earlier date. A topsoil layer over these features was sealed beneath a substantial depth of material imported during modern landscaping and construction. Evidence of the raising of ground levels through the deposition of thick layers of imported material was also recorded in Areas 1 and 4.

Work on the beach for the insertion of the coffer dam (Area 3) was subject to limited archaeological monitoring, the working methods employed making examination of anything other than excavated soils impracticable. No finds or features of archaeological significance were noted.

**Site Code:** EYF 2011

**National Grid Reference:** TA 400 201 (centre)

### Index to Archive

#### 1 Background:

1.1 Specification

1.2 Correspondence

#### 2 Site Data:

2.1 Context register and context sheets

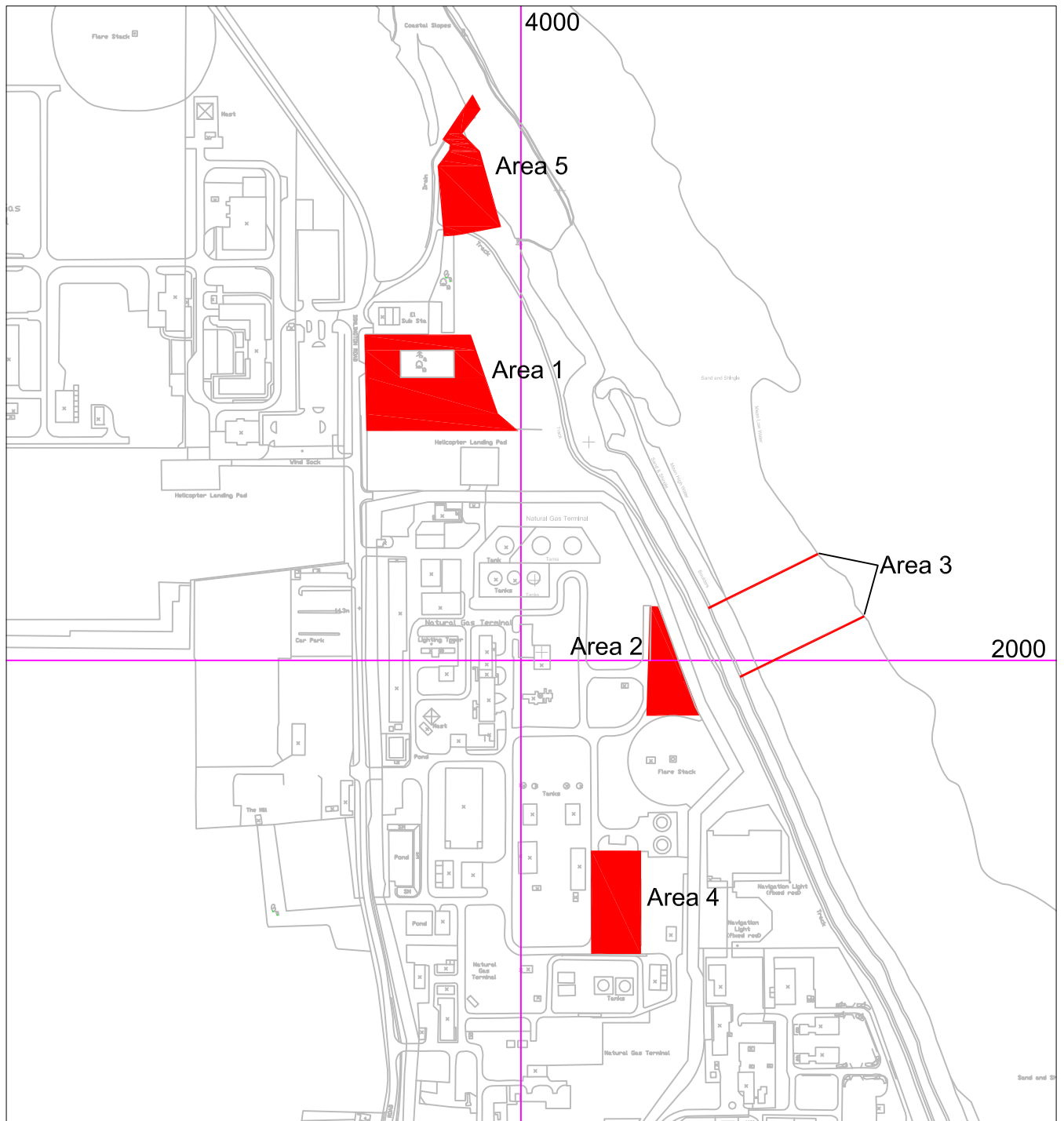
- 2.2 Staff site visit log
- 2.3 Site plans
- 2.4 Level transcriptions

### **3 The Photographic Record:**

- 3.1 Photographic Catalogue
- 3.2 Digital Contact Sheets
- 3.3 Digital Reference Prints

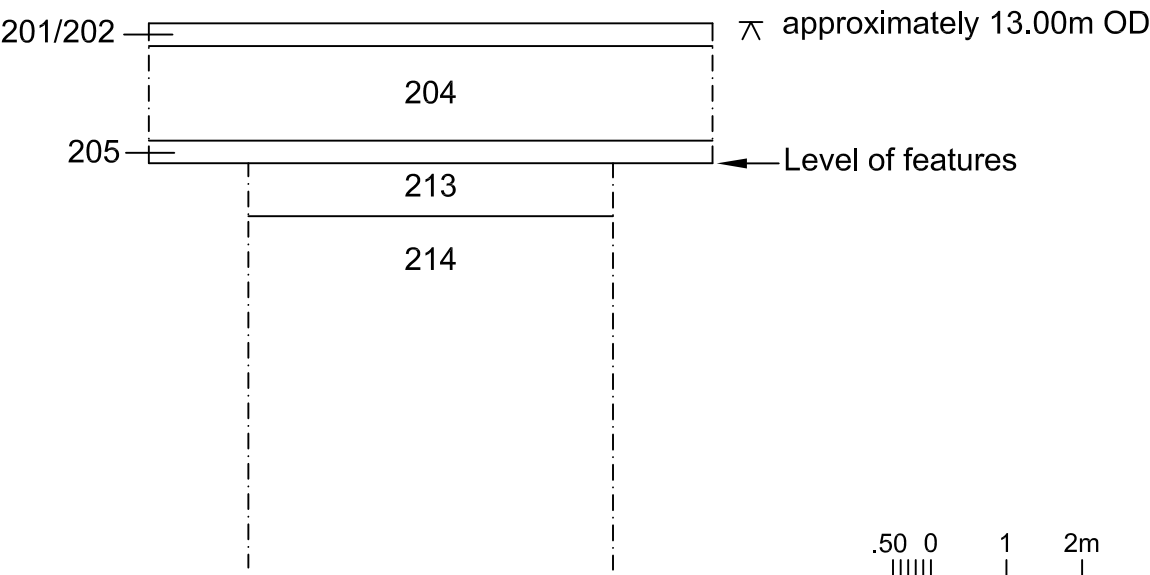
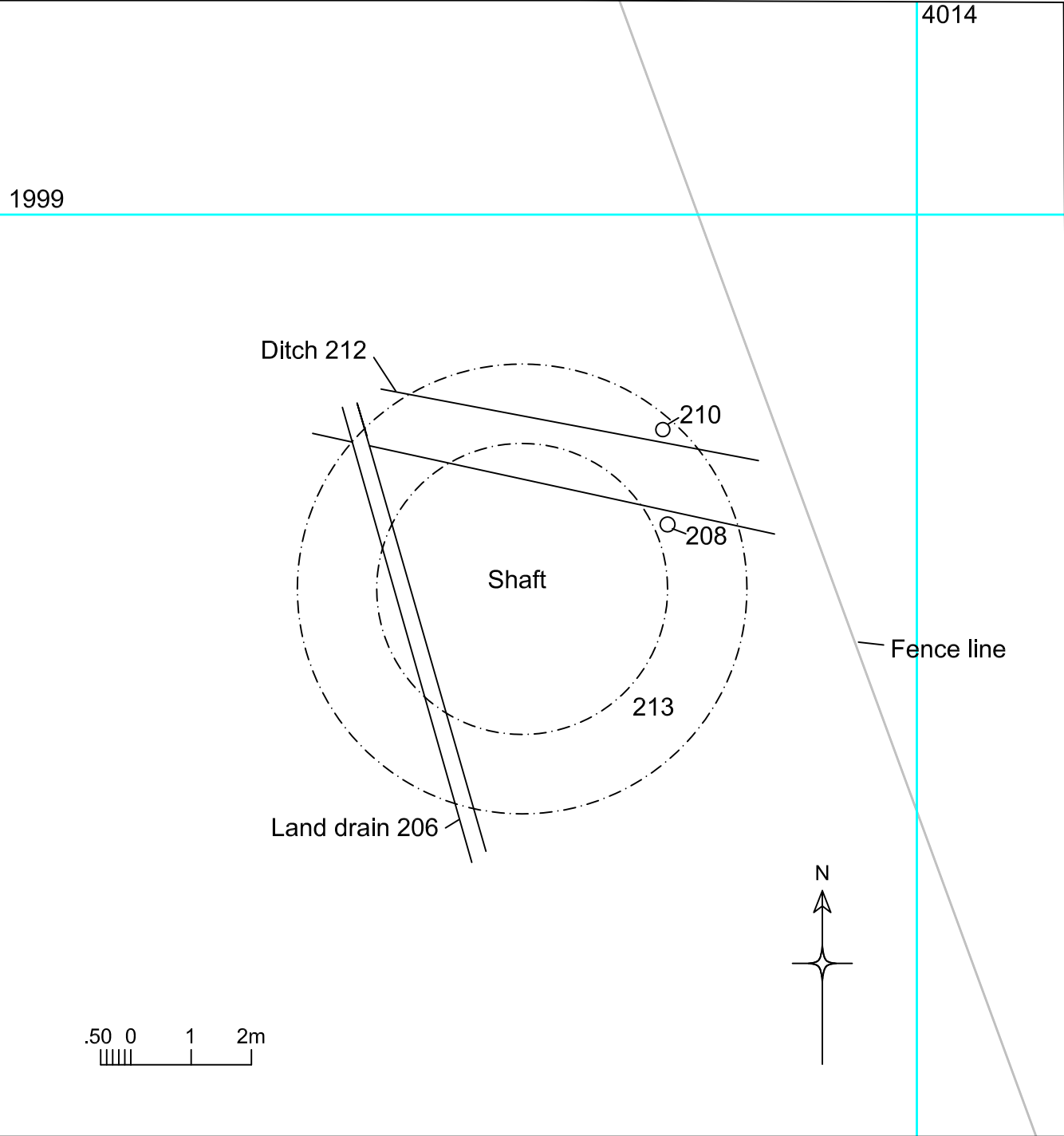
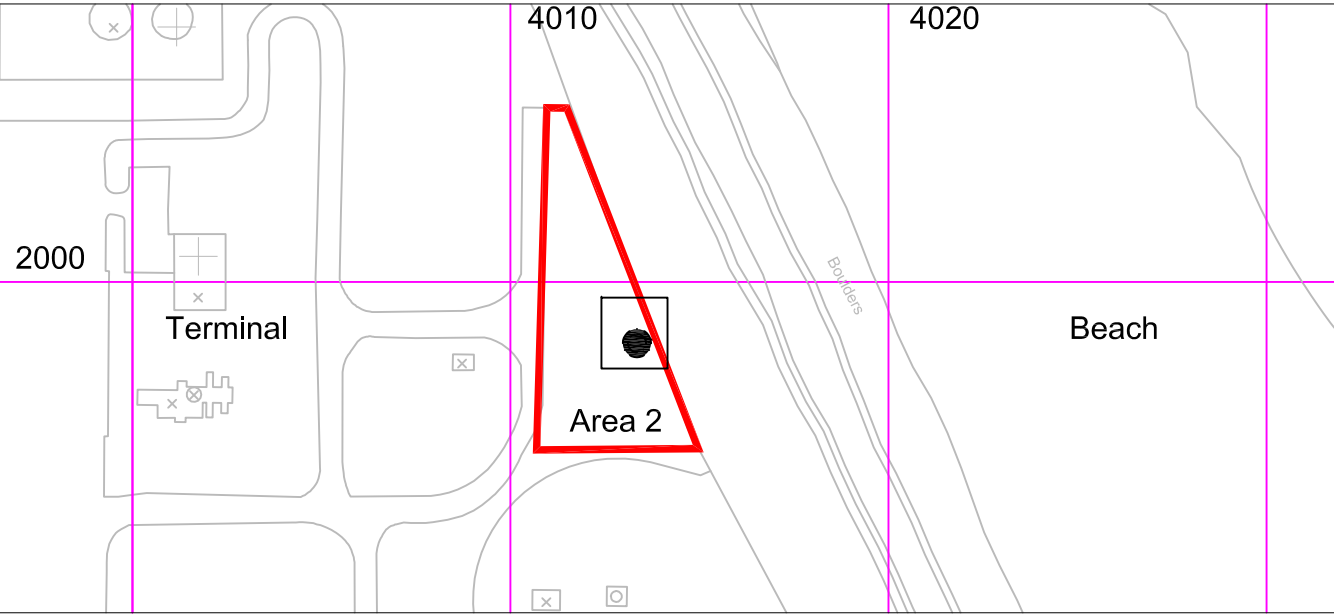
### **4. Final Report:**

Archaeological observation, investigation and recording at the York Field Development Project, Easington Terminal, East Riding of Yorkshire. Humber Field Archaeology Watching Brief Report Number 1351, May 2013.



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Figure 1 Easington York Field Location plan showing monitored areas 1 - 5



Schematic section of deposits in shaft

Figure 2 Easington York Field  
Features recorded in Area 2





*Plate 1: Cable trenches in Area 1, looking west.*



*Plate 2: Cable trenches in Area 1, looking south.*





*Plate 3: Drainage trench in Area 1, looking east.*



*Plate 4: West-facing section in drainage trench, Area 1 (1m scale).*





*Plate 5: Area 1, stripping in the north-western corner, looking north towards the sub-station.*



*Plate 6: Removal of the woodland plantation in Area 1, looking north.*





*Plate 7: Topsoil strip along the western edge of Area 1, looking north-east.*



*Plate 8: Completed topsoil strip along the western edge of Area 1, looking north.*





*Plate 9: Area 1, southern edge prior to topsoil strip.*



*Plate 10: Topsoil strip along the southern edge of Area 1, looking east.*





*Plate 11: Ground reduction, southern edge of Area 1.*



*Plate 12: Ground reduction in centre of Area 1, looking south.*





*Plate 13: Topsoil strip along the northern edge of Area 1, looking east.*



*Plate 14: Topsoil strip, north-west corner Area 1, looking east.*





*Plate 15: Final ground level eastern edge of Area 1, looking north.*



*Plate 16: Final ground level, southern edge of Area 1, looking west.*





*Plate 17: Area 2, cable test holes, looking south.*



*Plate 18: Area 2, looking south along cable trench (0.50m scale).*





*Plate 19: Area 2, west-facing section of cable trench (0.50m scale).*



*Plate 20: Area 2 shaft, looking south.*





*Plate 21: Area 2, shaft; close up of east-west ditch 212 (grey diagonal band on left) and flanking post-holes (208 and 210).*



*Plate 22: Area 2, excavation of inner shaft trench, looking east, with surface of natural boulder clay exposed; pale grey fill of ditch 212 seen partially in section on left side of inner trench, cutting into clay 213.*





*Plate 23: Area 3, looking west over pits 1 and 2.*





*Plate 24: Area 3, pit 1; excavation through cliff to well shaft, looking west.*



*Plate 25: Area 3, coffer dam trench and dredger, looking south-east.*





*Plate 26: Cable trenches, Area 4, looking west.*



*Plate 27: Area 4, west-facing section, cable trenches (0.50m scale).*





*Plate 28: Area 4, east-facing section, following removal of cables and foundations (1m scale).*



*Plate 29: Area 4, ground reduction, looking east (1m scale).*





*Plate 30: Area 4, ground reduction, looking south (1m scale).*



*Plate 31: Area 4, east-facing section (1m scale).*





*Plate 32: Area 4, looking south following removal of cables and foundations.*



*Plate 33: Area 5, stripped compound for Land and Marine, looking north.*

# Humber Field Archaeology

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Project Management • Desk-based Assessment • Field Survey • Fieldwork • Finds Research  
• Post-excavation Analysis • Inter-tidal Work

Humber Field Archaeology is an independently-funded part of the Humber Archaeology Partnership, a partnership serving The East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Kingston upon Hull City Council