

Humber Field Archaeology

Archaeological Consultants and Contractors



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION, INVESTIGATION
AND RECORDING**

**LAND SOUTH OF ALKBOROUGH LANE
WEST HALTON
NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE**

MAY & JUNE 2017

Humber Field Archaeology Report no. 2021

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N. G. Adamson and D.P. Rawson, August 2017

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Summary

A programme of archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken by Humber Field Archaeology during groundwork associated with the construction of a portal-framed agricultural building on land to the south of Alkborough Lane, West Halton, North Lincolnshire.

Despite the site's location, within an area with a high potential for the presence of archaeological materials, nothing of archaeological significance was seen during the course of the programme of archaeological observation and recording.

1. Introduction

This report presents the results of a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording undertaken by Humber Field Archaeology (HFA), on behalf of S.M Spink and Sons Ltd, during groundwork associated with the construction of a general-purpose agricultural building and stoned-up area on land south of Alkborough Lane, West Halton, North Lincolnshire (Figure 1, Plate 1).

Site Code:	WB2017.009
National Grid Reference:	SE 9010 2081
Planning Reference:	PA/2017/9
North Lincolnshire Museums Reference:	WHTAN

2. Planning Background

An application, for this development, reference PA/2017/9 was submitted to North Lincolnshire Council on 3rd January 2017. Permission was subsequently granted on 1st March 2017 subject conditions. Conditions 5, 6 and 7 relate to the archaeology:

Condition 5

No development shall take place until an archaeological mitigation strategy, as defined in a brief prepared by the North Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record, has been submitted to, and approved in writing, by the local planning authority. The strategy shall include details of the following:

- i. Measures to ensure the preservation in situ, or the preservation by record, of archaeological features of identified importance.
- ii. Methodologies for the recording and recovery of archaeological remains including artefacts and ecofacts.
- iii. Post-fieldwork methodologies for assessment and analyses.
- iv. Report content and arrangements for dissemination, and publication proposals.
- v. Archive preparation and deposition with recognised repositories.
- vi. A timetable of works in relation to the proposed development, including sufficient notification and allowance of time to ensure that the site work is undertaken and completed in accordance with the strategy.
- vii. Monitoring arrangements, including the notification in writing to the North Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record Office of the commencement of archaeological works and the opportunity to monitor such works.
- viii. A list of all staff involved in the implementation of the strategy, including sub-contractors and specialists, their responsibilities and qualifications.

Reason: To comply with policy HE9 of the North Lincolnshire Local Plan because the site lies in an area of archaeological interest

Condition 6

The archaeological mitigation strategy shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details and timings, subject to any variations agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: To comply with policy HE9 of the North Lincolnshire Local Plan because the site lies in an area of archaeological interest

Condition 7

A copy of any analysis, reporting, publication or archiving required as part of the mitigation strategy shall be deposited at the NLHER within six months of the date of completion of the development hereby approved by this permission or such other period as may be agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: To comply with policy HE9 of the North Lincolnshire Local Plan because the site lies in an area of archaeological interest

3. Archaeological Background

The site of the development lies within an area of archaeological interest. There is evidence of widespread prehistoric and Roman occupation and agricultural activity. Immediately north and west of the proposed site aerial photographs have revealed cropmarks of former enclosures and field systems with two possible ring ditches that may be the remains of Bronze Age burial mounds or Iron Age/Romano-British roundhouses (MLS 11048). To the southwest a ring ditch 11m in diameter (MLS20870) has also been identified on aerial photographs. To the east, Bronze Age round barrows, Anglo-Saxon settlement and medieval manorial Settlement remains on the village green have recently been designated a Scheduled Monument (NHLE 145726). To south lies another ring ditch (MLS19438) though this may be part of a WWII searchlight site as it lies close to the searchlight battery HQ at Glebe Farm (MLS21410). There are also cropmark remains of several rectangular pits (MLS19437). In addition, numerous artefacts have been discovered in the surrounding area and reported through the portable antiquities scheme.

4. Methodology

The work associated with this project was carried out by staff from HFA, in accordance with the archaeological written scheme of investigation produced by David Atkinson of HFA, Date: 29th March 2017, Planning Reference: PA/2017/9 and with reference to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014 'Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief'.

The scheme of works comprised the monitoring of the removal of an existing farm track where it crossed the site; the ground reduction or levelling; the excavation of a trench for disposal of the excavated track and other debris, and the excavation of foundation pits for the portal-frame shed. Four visits were made to the site between the 9th May and the 2nd June 2017.

Any exposed areas of subsoil and lower stratigraphic units were examined for archaeological deposits. The excavated dimensions of the foundation trenches were recorded, as were the depth sequences of any exposed stratigraphy. Where necessary, plans were made, contexts assigned and a photographic record maintained.

5. Results

The farm track

The farm track ran north to south across the western part of the site (Figure 2) and this portion of the track was removed before general ground reduction began. The track was around 3m wide and was removed for a length of around 42m. The track (1001) comprised a highly compacted layer around 0.40m thick of very dark grey-brown cinder that contained occasional fragments of ceramic building material (Plate 2). The ceramic building material became a more prominent component in the southern portion of the track. Underlying the track there was an orange-brown sandy silt clay subsoil of unknown thickness (1003).

The ground reduction

The ground reduction extended for around 70m from east to west and up to 40m from north to south (Figure 2). The main area of reduction was in the west where the reduction reached a maximum depth of 0.40m (Plate 3). Towards the east the reduction was negligible. A dark orange-brown rather clayey topsoil (1002) that was up to 0.30m thick was removed to reveal the (1003) described above.

No archaeological features were observed during the ground reduction.

The trench excavation

The trench measured 22m from north to south and was generally around 1.80m wide (Figure 2, Plate 4). It was up to 1m deep. Within the base of the trench there was a layer at least 0.10m thick of dark orange-brown clay (1004), above which there was a 0.60m thick layer of (1003) and the (1002) (Plate 5).

No archaeological features were observed during the trench excavation.

The foundation pits

The ground level in the eastern part of the site (Figure 2, Plate 6) was then raised with a deposit of hardcore around 0.20m thick prior to the excavation of a series of 25 foundation pits for the steel stanchions of the shed (*ibid*, Plates 7-10).

The foundation pits were 1.70m square and around 1m deep. In the base of some the pits a clay (1004), was observed that was at least 0.20m thick. Here it was rather more of a yellow-brown colour than further to the west. Above the clay was the (1003) described earlier.

There were no obvious archaeological features evident within the exposed pit sections, and no archaeological material was found amongst the spoil generated.

6. Discussion

The following is solely the opinion of Humber Field Archaeology, and may not reflect that of Humber Sites and Monuments Record Office, archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority (LPA).

Despite the location of the site within an area rich in archaeological and historic sites, nothing of archaeological significance was evident over the course of this programme of archaeological investigation and recording. The cinder track had undergone considerable compaction and had probably been laid down in the mid-20th century if not earlier.

7. Acknowledgements

Thanks are accorded to Mr Spink and the staff of Collets contractors for help and co-operation during the course of this project.

The work was carried out in accordance with a written scheme of investigation prepared by HFA. The report was edited by David Atkinson and administrative support was provided by Georgina Richardson.

8. References

Atkinson, D. 2017. *Alkborough Lane, West Halton, North Lincolnshire: Written scheme of investigation for archaeological monitoring and recording*

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014a. *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief*

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014b. *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*

English Heritage. 1991. *Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)*

9. Appendices

Appendix 1 Contexts

- (1001) Farm track. A highly compacted layer of very dark grey-brown cinder that contained occasional fragments of ceramic building material, around 0.40m thick
- (1002) Dark orange-brown rather clayey topsoil, up to 0.30m thick
- (1003) Orange-brown sandy silt clay subsoil, 0.50m thick
- (1004) Orange-brown/yellow-brown clay, at least 0.20m thick

Appendix 2

Archive

Project Details: A programme of archaeological monitoring and recording on land south of Alkborough Lane, West Halton, North Lincolnshire

Site Code: WB2017.009

National Grid Reference: SE 9010 2081

Planning Reference: PA/2017/9

Accession Number or Museum Reference: WHTAN

Authors: N. G. Adamson & D. P. Rawson **Date of fieldwork:** 09.05.17 – 02.06.17

Report Number: Humber Field Archaeology Report no. 2021

Quantity

There were no finds

4x A4 plastic sleeves contain the paper archive

Summary of work

A programme of archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken by Humber Field Archaeology during groundwork associated with the construction of a portal-framed agricultural building on land to the south of Alkborough Lane, West Halton, North Lincolnshire.

Despite the site's location, within an area with a high potential for the presence of archaeological materials, nothing of archaeological significance was seen during the course of the programme of archaeological observation and recording.

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1.2 Correspondence

2 Site Data:

2.1 Staff site visit log

2.2 Site notes

3 The Photographic Record:

3.1 Photographic Catalogue

3.2 Contact Sheets

3.3 Reference Prints

4. Final Report: Archaeological monitoring and recording on land south of Alkborough Lane, West Halton, North Lincolnshire. Humber Field Archaeology Report no. 2021, June 2017

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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

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OASIS ID: humberfi2-294765

Project details

Project name	Alkborough Lane, West Halton
Short description of the project	A programme of archaeological monitoring and recording undertaken during groundwork associated with the construction of a portal-framed agricultural building on land to the south of Alkborough Lane, West Halton, North Lincolnshire. Despite the site's location, within an area with a high potential for the presence of archaeological materials, nothing of archaeological significance was seen during the course of the programme of archaeological observation and recording.
Project dates	Start: 09-05-2017 End: 02-06-2017
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	WB2017.009 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	WHTAN - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	PA/2017/9 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE WEST HALTON Alkborough Lane, West Halton
Postcode	DN15 9AS

<http://oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm>

04/09/2017

Study area 3000 Square metres
 Site coordinates SE 9010 2081 53.675746954609 -0.635874437027 53 40 32 N 000 38 09 W
 Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation Humber Field Archaeology
 Project brief originator Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
 Project design originator Humber Field Archaeology
 Project director/manager David Atkinson
 Project supervisor D. Rawson
 Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No
 Digital Archive recipient Humber Field Archaeology
 Digital Archive ID WB2017.009
 Digital Contents "none"
 Digital Media available "Database", "Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Text"
 Digital Archive notes The digital archive is stored on Hull City Council servers
 Paper Archive recipient North Lincolnshire Museum Service
 Paper Archive ID WHTAN
 Paper Contents "none"
 Paper Media available "Correspondence", "Drawing", "Map", "Miscellaneous Material", "Notebook - Excavation", "Research", "General Notes", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

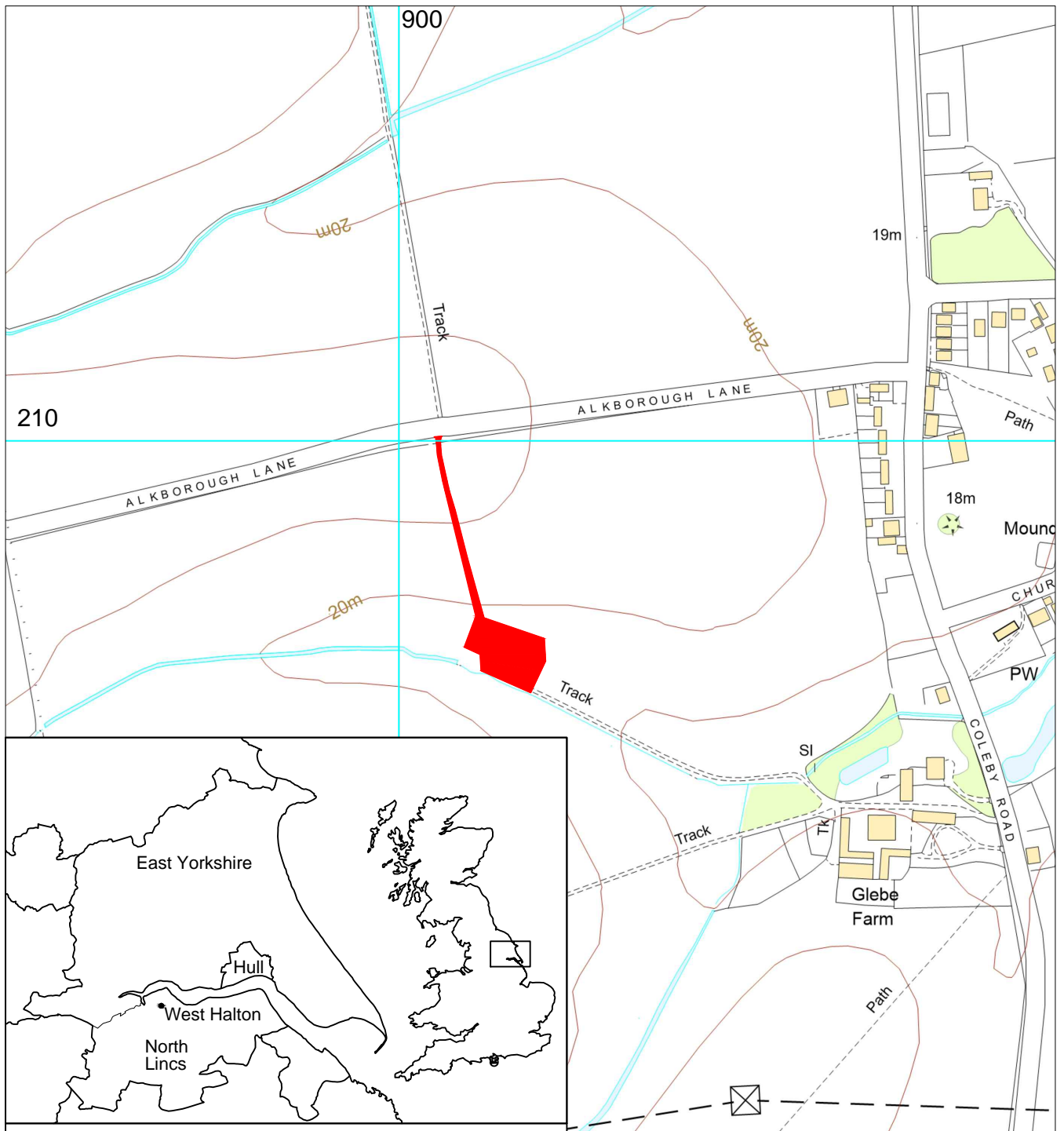
Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
 Title Archaeological monitoring and recording on land south of Alkborough Lane, West Halton, North Lincolnshire
 Author(s)/Editor(s) 'Adamson, N.' and 'Rawson, D.'
 Other bibliographic details Humber Field Archaeology Report no. 2021
 Date 2017
 Issuer or publisher HFA

Place of issue or
publication Hull

Description A4

Entered by David Atkinson (dave.atkinson@hullcc.gov.uk)

Entered on 4 September 2017



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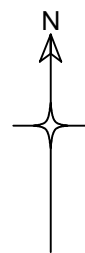


Figure 1 Site Location plan

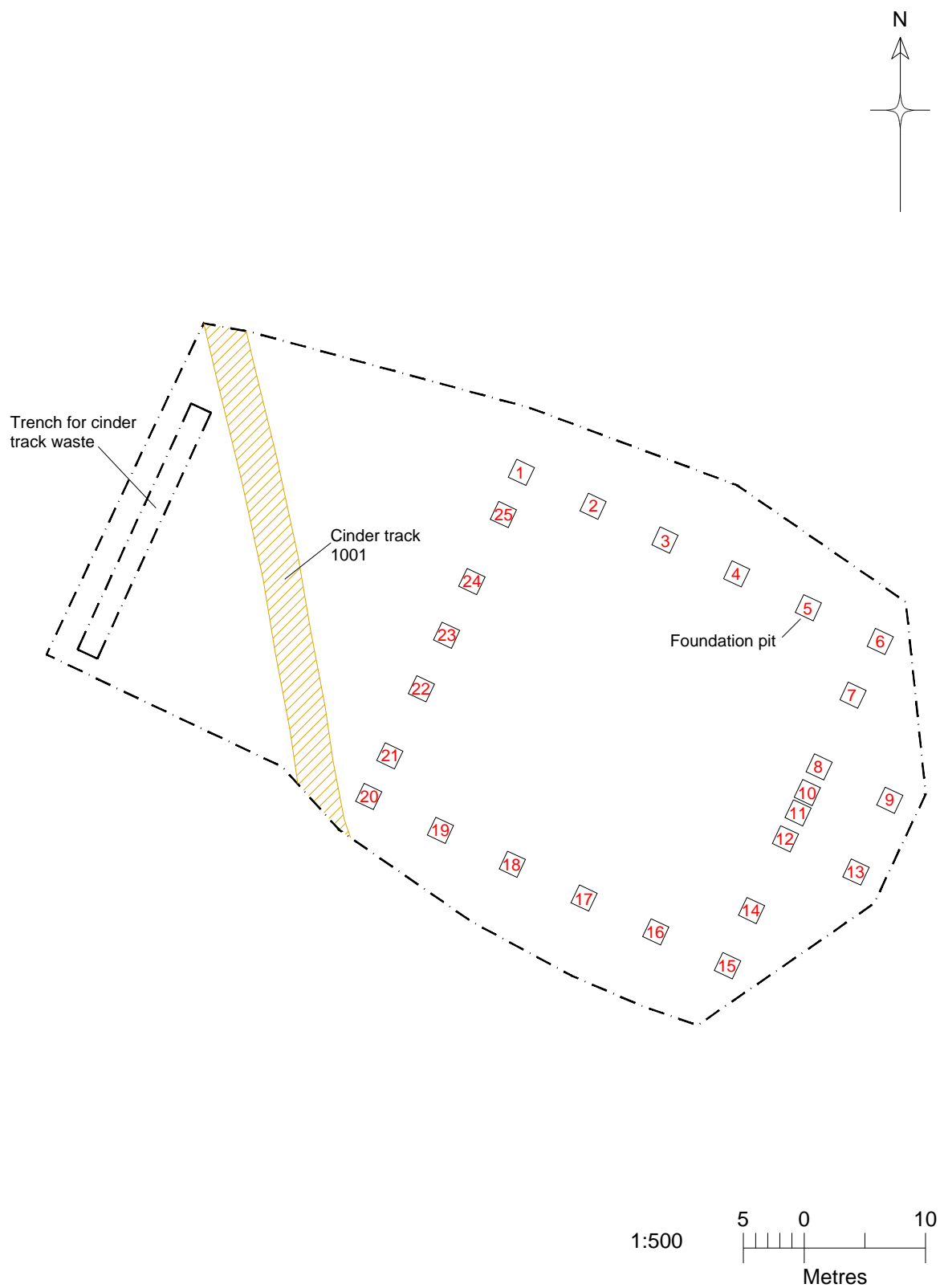


Figure 2: Levelled area, trench for cinder track waste and foundation pits



Plate 1: General view of site location, looking south-east



Plate 2: The cinder track being stripped, looking south-east (0.5m scale)



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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