

PRIORY CHURCH OF ST BEES, ST BEES, CUMBRIA

Archaeological Watching Brief



Client: Priory Church of St Bees

NGR: 296902 512127

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April 2019



The Site	
Site Name	Priory Church of St Bees, St Bees
County	Cumbria
NGR	296902 512127

Client	
Client Name	Priory Church of St Bees
Client's architect/agent	Chloe Granger, Crosby Granger

Planning	
Pre-planning?	n/a
Planning Application No.	n/a
Plans (e.g. conversion, extension, demolition)	Installation of new gas pipe
Condition number	n/a
Local Planning Authority	Copeland Borough Council
Planning Archaeologist	Diocesan Advisory Committee
Groundworks subject to watching brief	Excavation for installation of pipe, only in area not included in previous archaeological excavation

Archiving	
Relevant Record Office(s)/Archive Centre(s)	Whitehaven
Relevant HER	Cumbria
Relevant museum	The Beacon, Whitehaven

Staffing	
Desk-based assessment	Dan Elsworth
Watching brief	Dan Elsworth
Report writing	Dan Elsworth
Report editing	Jo Dawson
Illustrations	Tom Mace
Date watching brief carried out	13 th March 2019

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Non-Technical Summary

Following proposals to re-route a gas pipe and other utilities across a courtyard adjacent to the priory church at St Bees, Cumbria, the diocesan advisory committee requested an archaeological watching brief of the associated groundworks. Greenlane Archaeology was appointed by the Priory Church of St Bees to carry out the work, which was undertaken in March 2019.

While there is evidence for human activity in the wider area from at least the end of the last Ice Age, evidence for prehistoric activity in the immediate vicinity of St Bees is relatively limited and it is not known if there was a site there forming part of the extensive range of defences extending down the West Coast from Hadrian's Wall. St Bees was almost certainly home to a religious community or at least a church in the early medieval period; it is connected to St Bega, an Irish saint, one of several to become associated with West Cumbria during the period during which Vikings crossed the Irish Sea from Ireland. The priory was established in c1120 as a daughter house of the Benedictine priory of St Mary's in York and while it largely held territory in Copeland it also had properties in Ireland and on the Isle of Man, as well as a number of industrial sites. The site is famous for the discovery, during archaeological excavations in 1981, of the incredibly well preserved 'St Bees Man', who was identified as Anthony de Lucy. After the Dissolution a grammar school was established in St Bees late in the 16th century and in the early 19th century a theological college, which involved the rebuilding of the original chancel of the church and later the construction of a New College building.

The groundworks comprised the hand excavation of a narrow trench across a small courtyard between the Old College and New College buildings, which was largely within the area excavated in 1981. The overlying deposit comprised the loose gravel surface of the yard, below which was a uniform deposit of dumped sandy gravel extending to the depth of excavation (0.4m below the surface), containing large amounts of angular stone, lime, and roofing slate, which probably represents demolition material backfilled from the earlier excavation. A number of finds were recovered, primarily post-medieval pottery, glass, and clay pipe as well as animal bone, but also plastic items, including a self-seal bag, which were presumably left during the previous excavation. A small part of the plinth of the footings of the priory church was also observed where the trench met the Old College.

Although very limited in scope the watching brief did reveal that there is still archaeological material within this area, albeit of post-medieval date and redeposited in the backfill of the previous excavations, and so earlier finds might still be present. In addition some information about the construction of the priory church was also revealed. However, it is apparent that most of the area has been substantially disturbed by the previous excavation.

Acknowledgements

Greenlane Archaeology would like to thank the Priory Church of St Bees for commissioning the project, in particular Ian McAndrew and John Kennedy, and their agent Chloe Granger at Crosby Granger Architects. Special thanks are also due to the staff at Engineering Pipework Services Ltd who carried out the groundworks for their assistance during the project.

The watching brief was carried out by Dan Elsworth who also wrote this report. The finds were processed by Dan Elsworth and assessed by Jo Dawson (post-medieval finds) and Tom Mace (clay tobacco pipe and animal bone). The illustrations were produced by Tom Mace and the report was edited by Jo Dawson. Dan Elsworth managed the project.

1. Introduction

1.1 Circumstances of the Project

1.1.1 Following a proposal to reroute an existing gas pipeline and other services below a small courtyard between the Old College and New College at St Bees Priory, St Bees, Cumbria (NGR 296902 512127) a condition was placed by the diocesan advisory committee requiring an archaeological watching brief to be carried out on the associated groundworks. Greenlane Archaeology was approached by the Priory Church of St Bees (hereafter 'the client'), to carry out the archaeological watching brief. A project design was prepared by Greenlane Archaeology in response to this (*Appendix 1*), and the relevant groundworks were carried out on March 13th 2019.

1.2 Location, Geology, and Topography

1.2.1 The Priory Church at St Bees is located a few hundred meters north-west of the centre of St Bees (Figure 1). It is approximately 10m above sea level (Ordnance Survey 2011). St Bees is located at the westernmost tip of the West Cumbrian Coast, approximately 6km south of the centre of Whitehaven. The surrounding landscape is primarily rural in character typified by areas of improved pasture subdivided by hedges or field walls (Countryside Commission 1998, 27).

1.2.2 The solid geology comprises Permo-Triassic red sandstone named after St Bees (Moseley 1978, plate 1), with overlying drift deposits of glacially derived clay with sand and gravel in the more low-lying coastal areas (Countryside Commission 1998, 27).

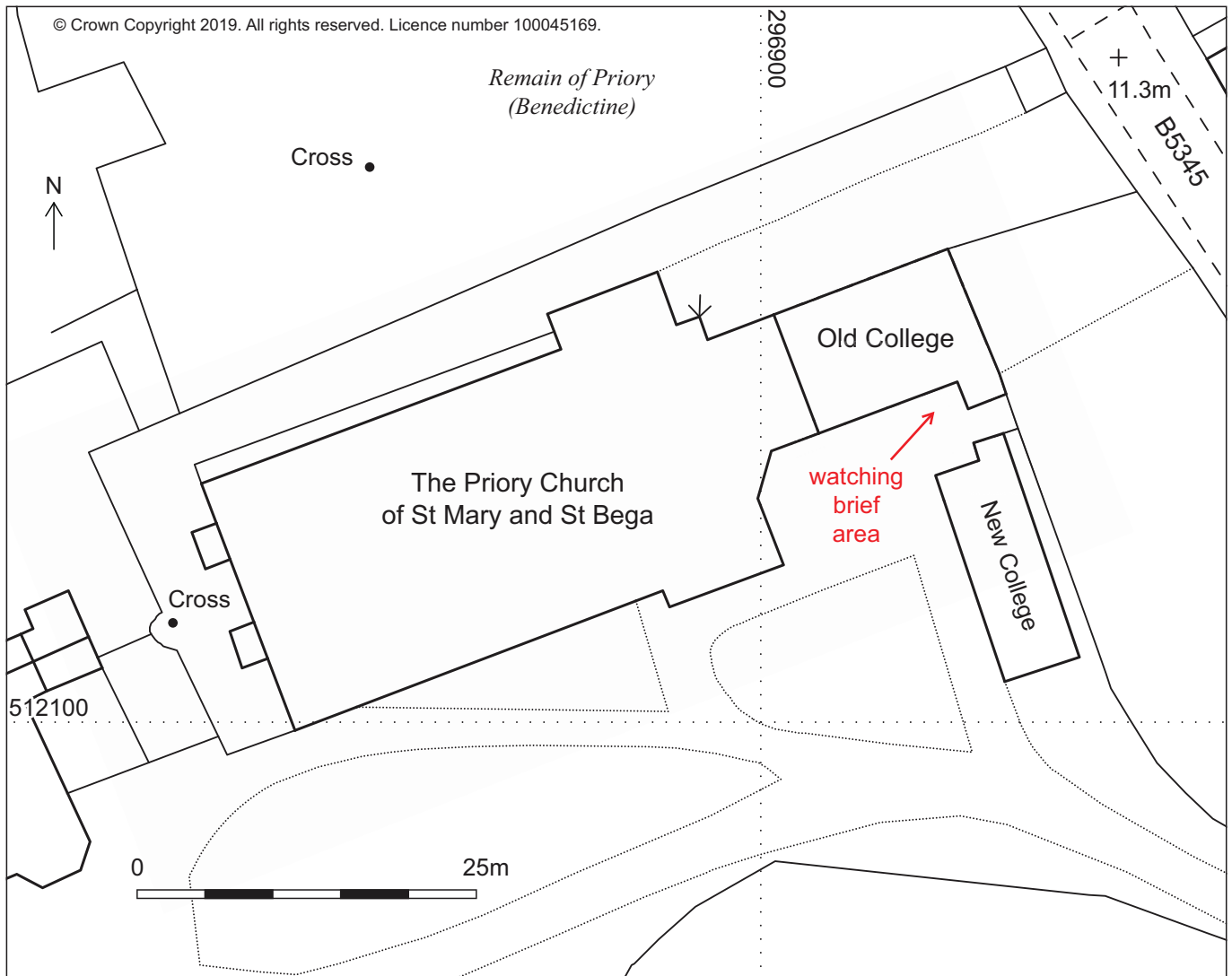
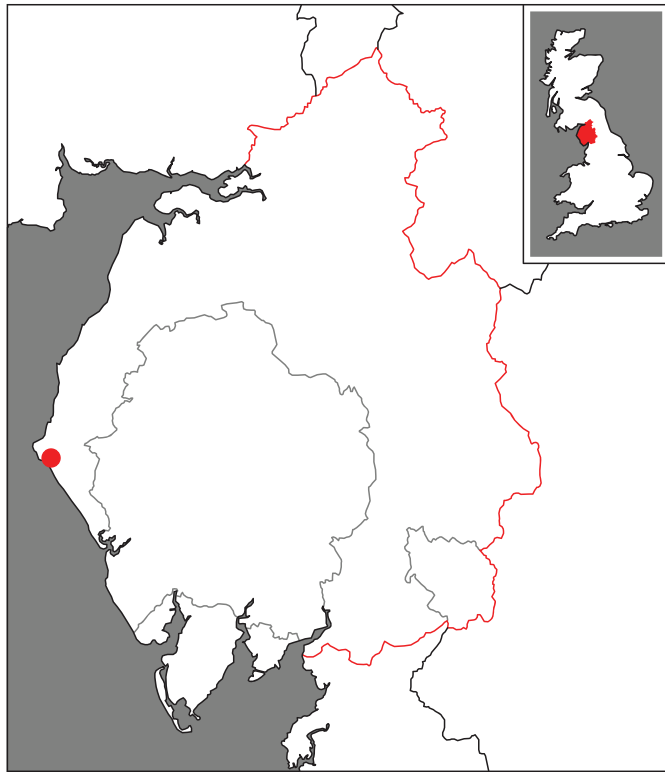


Figure 1: Site location

Client: Priory Church of St Bees

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2. Methodology

2.1 Desk-Based Assessment

2.1.1 A rapid desk-based assessment was carried out in accordance with the guidelines of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014a). This principally comprised an examination of early maps of the site and published secondary sources. A number of sources of information were used during the compilation of the desk-based assessment:

- **Online resources:** early maps of the site were compiled from a variety of online resources in order to show the manner in which the building had developed and identify any features that might have impacted on the area being monitored;
- **Greenlane Archaeology:** Greenlane Archaeology holds copies of some of the relevant early maps of the area in its library, as well as a number of additional secondary sources. These were consulted in order to provide information for the site background.

2.2 Archaeological Watching Brief

2.2.1 The groundworks comprised the excavation of a single trench across a small courtyard between the Old College to the north and the New College to the South. The watching brief therefore monitored the hand excavation of this, which involved digging down by up to 0.4m below the current ground level.

2.2.2 All aspects of the archaeological recording were carried out according to the standards and guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014b) and Greenlane Archaeology's own excavation manual (2007). The deposits encountered were recorded in the following manner:

- **Written record:** descriptive records of all deposits were made using Greenlane Archaeology's *pro forma* record sheets;
- **Photographs:** photographs in 35mm colour print and colour digital format (both 12 meg JPEG and RAW file format) were taken of the site as well as general working shots. A selection of the colour digital photographs is included in this report. A written record of all of the photographs was also made using Greenlane Archaeology's *pro forma* record sheets;
- **Drawings:** a plan of the watching brief area was produced at a scale of 1:100 based on a site plan supplied by the client.

2.3 Environmental Samples

2.3.1 No environmental samples were taken as no appropriate deposits were encountered.

2.4 Finds

2.4.1 **Processing:** all of the artefacts recovered from the watching brief were washed, with the exception of metal objects, which were dry-brushed. They were then naturally air-dried and packaged appropriately in self-seal bags with white write-on panels.

2.4.2 **Assessment and recording:** the finds were assessed and identified in the first instance by Jo Dawson. The finds were recorded directly into the catalogue produced as part of this report (*Appendix 3*).

2.5 Archive

2.5.1 A comprehensive archive of the project has been produced in accordance with current CIfA standard and guidance (CIfA 2014c). The paper and digital archive and a copy of this report will be deposited in the Cumbria Archive Centre in Whitehaven on completion of the project. A digital and/or paper copy of this report will be provided for the client, as required, and one will be retained by Greenlane Archaeology. In addition, a digital copy of the report will be provided to the Cumbria Historic

Environment Record (HER) in Kendal and a digital record of the project will be made on the *Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS) scheme.

3. Site History

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 While the village of St Bees is now primarily a post-medieval settlement the site is located within the area of the medieval priory of St Bees. This almost certainly has early medieval origins but there is evidence for activity in the wider area from shortly after the last Ice Age onwards.

3.2 Prehistoric Period (c11,000 BC – 1st century AD)

3.2.1 While there is limited evidence for human activity in the county in the period immediately following the last Ice Age, this is typically found in the southernmost part on the north side of Morecambe Bay. Excavations of a small number of cave sites have found the remains of animal species common at the time but now extinct in this country and artefacts of Late Upper Palaeolithic type (Young 2002; Smith *et al* 2013). No remains of this date are known from the immediate area of the site, although the coastal strip along the west side of Cumbria was undoubtedly a favourable location for early settlement. The county was clearly more densely inhabited during the following period, the Mesolithic (c8,000 – 4,000 BC), as large numbers of artefacts of this date have been discovered during field walking and eroding from sand dunes along the west coast area and on the uplands around the Eden Valley (Cherry and Cherry 2002). More recently a particularly large assemblage has been recovered during excavations, directly on the edge of the River Eden, outside Carlisle (Clark 2010) and field walking has found additional scatters of some significance also in the Eden valley near Penrith (Clarke *et al* 2008). Coastal areas and river valleys are notably places where such material is frequently found in the wider region (Middleton *et al* 1995, 202; Hodgkinson *et al* 2000, 151-152; Hodgson and Brennand 2006, 26).

3.2.2 In the following period, the Neolithic (c4,000 – 2,500 BC), large scale monuments such as burial mounds and stone circles begin to appear in the region and one of the most recognisable tool types of this period, the polished stone axe, is found in large numbers across the county, having been manufactured at Langdale in the central Lake District (Hodgson and Brennand 2006, 45). During the Bronze Age (c2,500 – 600 BC) monuments, particularly those thought to be ceremonial in nature, become more common still. It is also likely that settlement sites thought to belong to the Iron Age have their origins in this period, although few have been studied in enough detail to ascertain this with any certainty. Sites of this type, while not present in the study area, are recorded, typically as crop marks revealed in aerial photographs, in the wider area although they are typically undated and little understood. In addition, there is likely to have been a considerable overlap between the end of the Iron Age and the beginning of the Romano-British period; it is evident that in this part of the country, initially at least, the Roman invasion had a minimal impact on the native population in rural areas (Philpott 2006, 73-74).

3.3 Romano-British to Early Medieval Period (1st century AD – 11th century AD)

3.3.1 The Roman military entered Cumbria in the late 1st century AD probably via a central route but supported by the navy along the coast, with a fort being established at Carlisle by AD 71 (Shotter 2004, 27-28). In the following centuries the Roman control of the region was gradually increased, although the exact chronology of the establishment of each fort is not always certain, so that by the early 2nd century a network of sites connected by roads existed (*op cit*, 76). St Bees is located towards the southern end of the defensive system dominated by Hadrian's Wall but continuing along the Cumbrian Coast at least as far as Ravenglass (see Wilson 1997, 18) and while there is no specific evidence for a fort or even fortlet at St Bees something was likely to have been there (*op cit*, 19) especially given the prominent headland and its positioning relative to known forts (Clare 2004, 49). By the 3rd and 4th centuries the Roman military and the local native population had, to a large extent, become essentially indistinguishable with both having lived alongside each other and interacted for a considerable period of time, the latter gradually becoming more Romanised and the former becoming more and more a part of the local population (see Shotter 2004, 102-147). When the final collapse of Roman administration came, therefore, the

transference of power to local war lords, in at least some cases probably based around the former fort garrisons, was perhaps not as traumatic as historically suggested (*op cit*, 167-170).

3.3.2 The early medieval period is not well represented in the area in terms of physical archaeological remains, which is a common situation throughout the county. One of the exceptions is the distribution of cross fragments, primarily dating from the 7th to 10th centuries, which are found across the region, particularly up the west coast of Cumbria. A number of different examples of these are known from the site of St Bees Priory (Bailey and Cramp 1988, 145-147). There is less certainty regarding the origins of the monastic site at St Bees. It is dedicated to St Bega, legendarily a devout Irish princess who escaped betrothal to a Scandinavian prince and fled across the Irish Sea settling at St Bees, which is named after her, and establishing a religious community there. However, there has been considerable debate regarding whether she is real or legendary and over the nature of a sacred armband associated with her (see Last 1952; Butler 1966; Todd 1980; 2003; Downham 2007). Nevertheless there is more than enough circumstantial evidence to indicate that St Bees was occupied by a religious house of some form before the establishment of the priory; the early forms of the place-name St Bees include both *cherchebi* and *kirkby* indicating a church was present before the early 12th century and *becocch* demonstrating that it was dedicated to St Bega (Armstrong *et al* 1950, 430). There are also a number of other examples of saints' cults that were brought to the west coast of Cumbria in the Viking Age, including that of St Bega (Edmonds 2014).

3.4 Medieval Period (11th century AD – 16th century AD)

3.4.1 A settlement at St Bees certainly existed from the early 12th century although the land ownership was entirely connected to the priory with the manor of *St Bees or Kirkby Beacock* granted to the priory in c1120 (Winchester 2016, 255), which the place-name evidence confirms (Armstrong *et al* 1950, 430). Whether the village grew up as a result of the development of the priory or was already present is uncertain but its form suggests it was a planned settlement evidently established for the use of the customary tenants of the priory (Todd and Todd 1999, 185).

3.4.2 **St Bees Priory:** as already stated the dominant factor in the development of St Bees in the medieval period was the establishment of the priory, which was founded by monks from the Benedictine abbey of St Mary in York in c1120 (McAndrew 2011, 9). The foundation was enabled by William Meschin Lord of Egremont and blessed in 1126 by Archbishop Thurstan of York (*op cit*, 8). The priory was soon granted a number of endowments, the majority in Copeland but others came from further afield including from families in Galloway and property in Ireland and the Isle of Man (Wilson 1915, viii-xv). In this respect it is possible it was attempting to rival Furness Abbey, which had extensive holdings in both places. The priory church became relatively famous as the place in which St Bega's bracelet was held on which oaths were sworn and from which substantial revenues were collected (*op cit*, xxxiii; Todd 1980). The bracelet was previously thought to have been stolen from the church during an attack by Scottish border raiders in the 13th or 14th century, but documentary evidence shows that it was still in place in the early 16th century although it is not clear what happened to it at the Reformation (Todd 1980, 25). The extensive register for the priory details many of the day to day dealings of the priory but in terms of physical development there is less available information, although in c1250 it was responsible for the construction of a mill leat over a substantial distance taking water from the valley of Rottington Beck to the neighbouring Pow Beck (Todd 1985; McAndrew 2011, 17). It was also involved in a number of local industries, with fishing, iron mining and salt production all recorded (Bouch 1948, 32-36). The most significant archaeological discovery made within the priory is that of a crypt found during excavations in 1981, which contained the burial of a man wrapped in lead sheeting and linen, which resulted in incredible preservation, and the skeleton of a woman (see McAndrew 2011, 26-28 and *Section 3.7* below).

3.5 Post-medieval Period (16th century AD – present)

3.5.1 The priory at St Bees was closed as part of the Dissolution on 16th October 1539 and while the rest of the buildings were demolished the priory church was retained as a parish church (McAndrews 2011, 13). The devastating effect this must have had on the local community was mitigated to some extent at least by the establishment, by Edmund Grindal and Edwin Sandys, of a grammar school at St

Bees in 1583, both of whom were from the immediate area (*op cit*, 18-19). This was followed in 1815 by the establishment of a theological college, which involved the restoration of the chancel, which was funded by the Lowther family and completed in 1817 (*op cit*, 20-21). At the time this was the only such college outside of Cambridge or Oxford and it was successful enough to require enlarging, which led to the construction of the New College Hall in 1863 (*op cit*, 21). However, as similar colleges developed across the country and student numbers diminished it was forced to close in 1895 (*ibid*). During the later part of the post-medieval period the area around St Bees, as with the rest of the county, became increasingly industrialised, in part because of the expansion of the local coal mines to the north (Fletcher 1878), but also the coming of the railway in 1849 (McAndrew 2011, 24). This opened up St Bees and the rest of the West Coast to increased visitors.

3.6 Map Regression

3.6.1 An examination of the available maps revealed that there is no tithe map covering the site so the earliest useful maps of the area are the Ordnance Survey maps, which are available from the 1860s.

3.6.2 **Ordnance Survey, 1865:** this shows the church much as it is now, with the site comprising an open space to the south of its east end (Plate 1). The small section of wall from the original priory is also shown but the area is otherwise undeveloped.

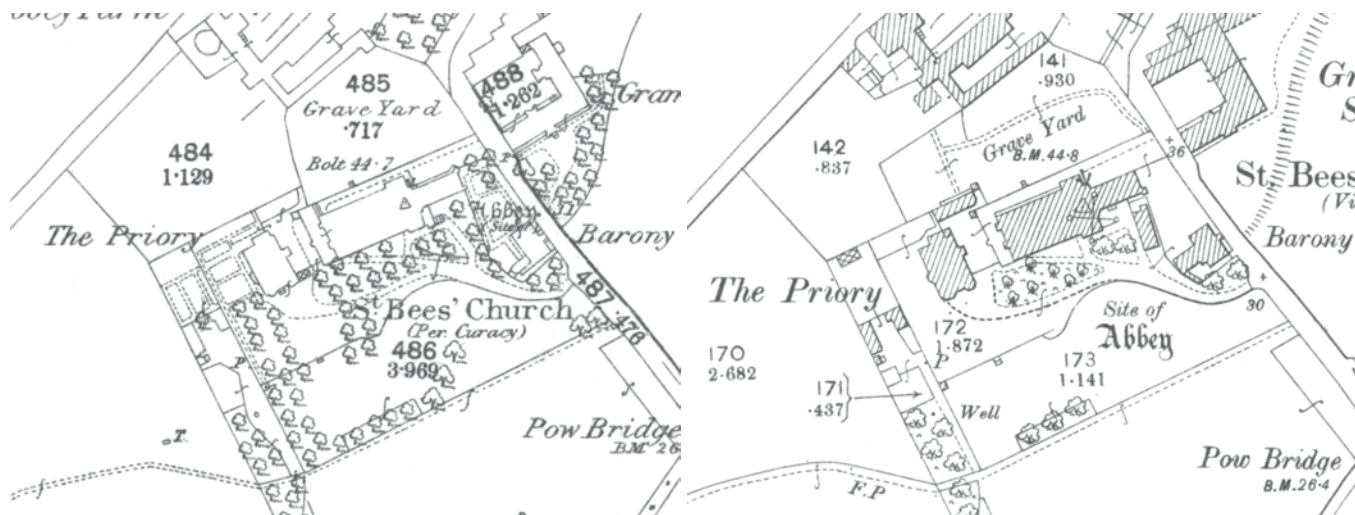


Plate 1 (left): Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1865

Plate 2 (right): Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1899

3.6.3 **Ordnance Survey, 1899:** by this date the New College has been constructed to the south of the church and the small courtyard that is now present has developed (Plate 2). The section of wall from the original priory projecting from the east side of the south arm of the church is not shown, although it was presumably still present as it is shown on the subsequent plan.

3.6.4 **Ordnance Survey, 1924:** the arrangement of the site is essentially the same with the New College clearly shown and the projecting wall of the original priory (Plate 3).



Plate 3: Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1924

3.7 Previous Archaeological Work

3.7.1 The area between the Old College and the New College was extensively excavated in 1981 as part of a larger programme of work carried out by Leicester University (McAndrew and Robson 2016, 2-8). The most significant discovery during this was a stone burial vault within what had been an aisle of the original church, which contained a lead coffin with an extremely well preserved body and also a separate skeleton (see Plate 4). Research into the remains subsequently revealed the well preserved body to be that of Anthony de Lucy who died in 1368 during the siege of Kaunas Castle in what was then Prussia while taking part in the Northern Crusade (*op cit*, 9-14). Later research on the skeleton concluded that this represented the remains of Maud de Lucy, sister of Anthorhy (*op cit*, 302-305).

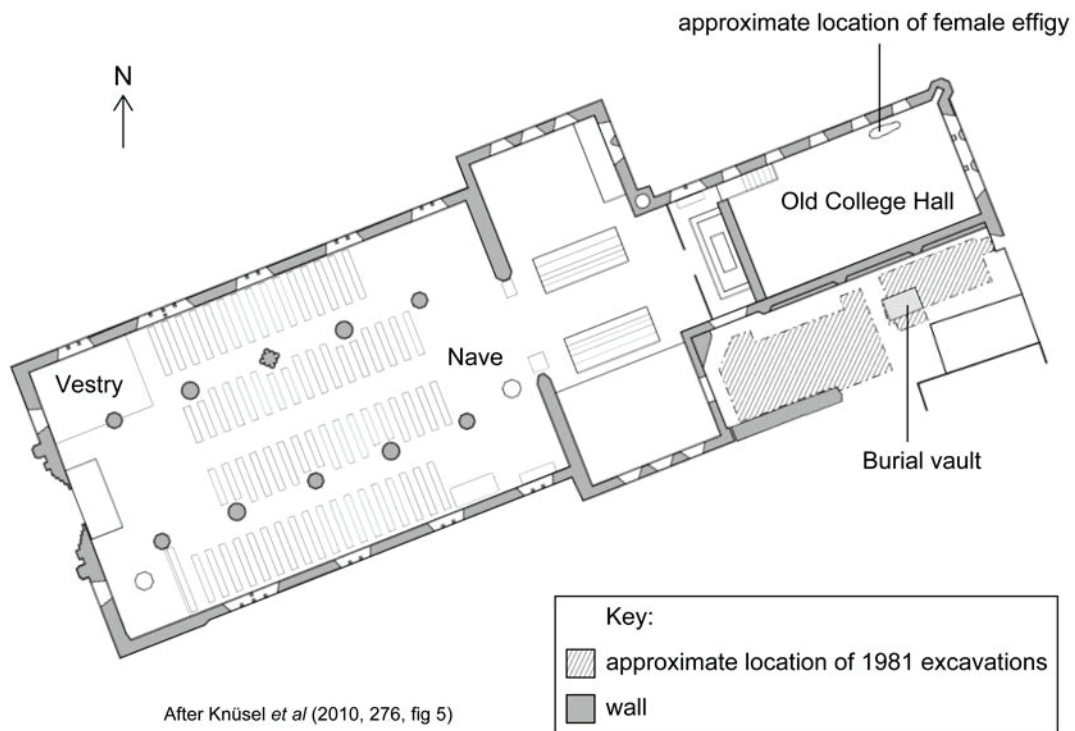


Plate 4: Plan showing the location of the excavations in 1981

4. Watching Brief

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The excavation area comprised a single essentially S-shaped trench cutting across the courtyard between the south side of the undercroft below the Old College and the north side of the New College. It was typically 0.3m wide and 0.4m deep. The excavation was entirely carried out by hand, with spoil deposited on site, which was periodically checked for artefacts.



Plate 5 (left): The watching brief area pre-excavation, viewed from the south-west

Plate 6 (right): The watching brief area pre-excavation, viewed from the south-east

4.2 Results

4.2.1 Excavation of the trench revealed that the uppermost deposit comprised a layer of loose grey gravel less than 0.1m thick (**100**); this had been scraped aside before the watching brief took place. Below this was a uniform 0.3m thick deposit (**101**) of more compacted dark reddish brown gravelly sand with numerous fragments of angular red sandstone (including some dressed pieces), lumps of lime mortar, and grey roofing slate, although at the south end it was softer and also contained some large lumps of concrete. Cutting across the line of the trench near its centre, on a north-east/south-west alignment, was a plastic water pipe, laid on loose rounded gravel. Where the trench met the south wall of the Old College a large block of stone, presumably part of the footings, was exposed below which was a plinth, approximately 0.1m deep, protruding from the wall line.



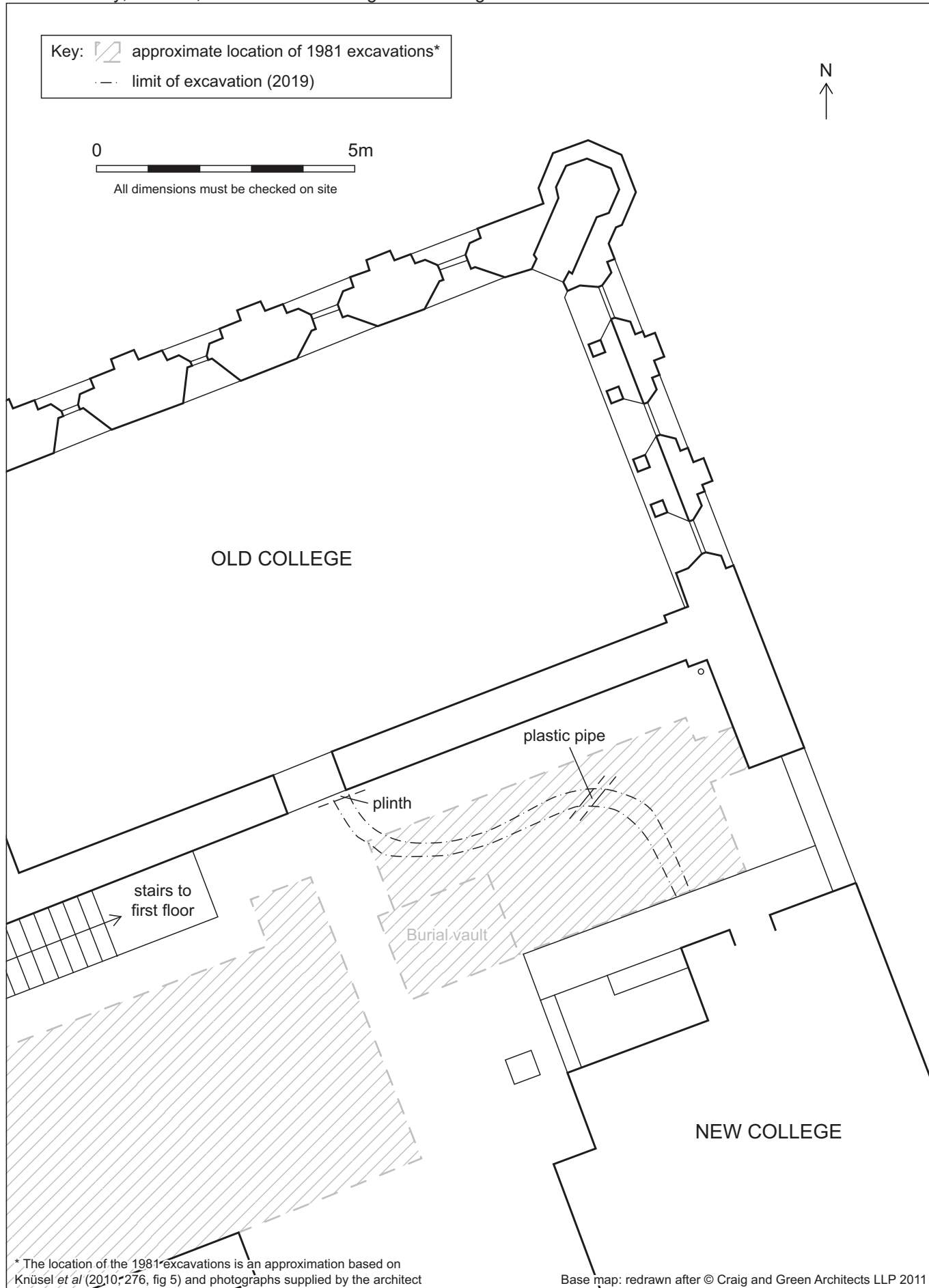
Plate 7 (left): The north end of the trench, viewed from the south

Plate 8 (right): The south end of the trench, viewed from the north-west



Plate 9 (left): The plastic pipe at the centre of the trench, viewed from the east

Plate 10 (right): The foundation and plinth exposed below the wall of the Old College, viewed from the south



* The location of the 1981 excavations is an approximation based on Knüsel *et al* (2010:276, fig 5) and photographs supplied by the architect

Base map: redrawn after © Craig and Green Architects LLP 2011

Client: Priory Church of St Bees

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Figure 2: Trench plan

4.3 Finds

4.3.1 **Introduction:** a total of 45 finds were recovered during the watching brief from the deposit underlying the gravel surface (**101**), comprising post-medieval pottery and glass, a clay tobacco pipe fragment, fragments of potash, and iron and plastic objects.

4.3.2 **Post-medieval pottery:** four fragments of post-medieval pottery were recovered all of which represent typical domestic wares of the 18th to 19th century.

4.3.3 **Glass:** 12 fragments of glass were recovered, the majority of which comprised fragments of window glass. These were typically difficult to date but are likely to be 19th century or later. The vessel fragments were all 20th century in date and probably represent domestic rubbish dumped in the area.

4.3.4 **Clay tobacco pipe:** a stem/bowl junction was recovered from **101**. The bore size possibly indicates an 18th century date for the pipe (after Davey 2013), however, stem-bore analysis on a single fragment is unreliable and the near vertical rear side of the bowl is more like a 19th century profile (e.g. Ayto 1994, 8-9), which is probably when this example dates from. There was some possible decoration remaining on the rear of the bowl and the sides of the stem, but the pattern has not been identified (see *Appendix 3*).

4.3.5 **Animal bone:** a small quantity of mostly cattle-size animal bone fragments were recovered from **101**. Two fragments refit and form part of a cattle-size humerus, which was identified using Schmid's *Atlas of Animal Bones* (1972). There were no obvious butchery marks or gnaw marks and none of the bone appeared to have been burnt.

4.3.6 **Iron:** two corroded and re-fitting fragments of cast iron gutter and a long round sectioned nail or possible tent peg were recovered. The former are probably late 19th or early 20th century in date while the latter is more difficult to date but is more likely to be 20th century.

4.3.7 **Plastic:** a self-seal plastic bag and a clothes peg were recovered as well as a fragment of packaging and piece of a box. While the plastic bag is clearly a finds bag left by the previous excavation in 1981, it is possible that all of these items were left at this time.

5. Discussion and Conclusion

5.1 Discussion

5.1.1 The nature of the groundworks and their location inevitably means that deposits of archaeological interest were very shallow and clearly disturbed. The uppermost deposit (**100**) comprised the modern gravel surface, which cannot have been put in place before 1981. The underlying deposit (**101**) was evidently a mixture of material redeposited as backfill following the excavations of 1981; features of archaeological interest and even the various pipes known to exist in this area were clearly much deeper than 0.4m below the surface.

5.1.2 The finds comprise a mixture of items discarded by the original excavators in 1981, in particular the plastic bag but also probably the nail and plastic clothes peg, and other material presumably excavated but not retained 1981. All of the finds are post-medieval in date, with many probably 20th century, and presumably represent objects deliberately not retained as part of the 1981 excavation or deposited at that time, although it is possible that some material was brought onto the site to level the ground after the excavation was completed. The inclusion of numerous fragments of red sandstone, including dressed pieces, roof slate, and lime mortar suggests that deposit **101** is essentially reworked demolition rubble. However, the presence of animal bone and other domestic material also indicates that rubbish was being dumped in this area from a nearby dwelling. The discovery of the shallow plinth against the south wall of the Old College was of some interest in understanding the construction of the building but the area exposed was very small.

5.2 Conclusion

5.2.1 The relatively limited investigation has revealed that at that depth no deposits of archaeological significance are present in this area. However, it is clear that there are finds of post-medieval date that were apparently not recovered during the excavation in 1981, and some information about the manner in which the medieval priory church was constructed can also be gleaned from the surviving below-ground remains.

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Appendix 1: Project Design

Archaeological Watching Brief Cover Sheet and Project Design

The Site	
Site Name	Priory Church of St Bees, St Bees
County	Cumbria
NGR	296902 512127

Client	
Client Name	Priory Church of St Bees
Client's architect/agent	Chloe Granger, Crosby Granger

Planning	
Pre-planning?	n/a
Planning Application No.	n/a
Plans (e.g. conversion, extension, demolition)	Installation of new gas pipe
Condition number	n/a
Local Planning Authority	Copeland Borough Council
Planning Archaeologist	Diocesan Advisory Committee
Groundworks subject to watching brief	Excavation for installation of pipe, only in area not included in previous archaeological excavation

Archiving	
Relevant Record Office(s)/Archive Centre(s)	Whitehaven
Relevant HER	Cumbria
Relevant museum	The Beacon, Whitehaven



1. Introduction

1.1 Project Cover Sheet

1.1.1 All the details specific to this project are set out on the cover sheet of this project design. The project design itself covers all elements that are involved in an archaeological watching brief.

1.2 Greenlane Archaeology

1.2.1 Greenlane Archaeology is a private limited company based in Ulverston, Cumbria, and was established in 2005 (Company No. 05580819). Its directors, Jo Dawson and Daniel Elsworth, have worked continuously in commercial archaeology since 2000 and 1999 respectively, principally in the north of England and Scotland. Greenlane Archaeology is committed to a high standard of work, and abides by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) Code of Conduct. The watching brief will be carried out according to the Standards and Guidance of the CIfA (CIfA 2014a).

1.3 Staff

1.3.1 **Dan Elsworth (MA (Hons), ACIfA)** graduated from the University of Edinburgh in 1998 with an honours degree in Archaeology, and began working for the Lancaster University Archaeological Unit, which became Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) in 2001. Daniel ultimately became a project officer, and for over six and a half years worked on excavations and surveys, building investigations, desk-based assessments, and conservation and management plans. These have principally taken place in the North West, and Daniel has a particular interest in the archaeology of the area. He has managed many recent projects in Cumbria and Lancashire including several archaeological building recordings and watching briefs. He is very experienced at building recording, having carried out numerous such projects, mainly in Cumbria and Lancashire.

1.3.2 **Tom Mace (BA (Hons), MA, MIfA)** has extensive experience of working on a variety of archaeological projects, especially watching briefs, but also excavations, evaluations, and building recordings, as well as report writing and illustration production. He joined Greenlane Archaeology in 2008 having worked for several previous companies including Archaeological Solutions and Oxford Archaeology North. He currently works on a broad range of projects and is also responsible for the production of all illustrations for reports and publications as well as some post-excavation assessments. He is a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

1.3.3 **Jo Dawson (MA (Hons), ACIfA)** graduated from University of Glasgow in 2000 with a joint honours degree in Archaeology and Mathematics, and since then has worked continuously in commercial archaeology. Her professional career started at Glasgow University Archaeological Research Division (GUARD), following which she worked for Headland Archaeology, in Edinburgh, and then Oxford Archaeology North, in Lancaster. During this time she has been involved in a range of different archaeological projects. She has extensive experience of both planning and pre-planning projects, and has undertaken assessments of all sizes. Since establishing Greenlane Archaeology in 2005 she has managed numerous projects in south Cumbria, including desk-based assessments and evaluations. She currently mainly carries out quality control of reports and post-excavation assessments. She is an Associate member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

1.3.4 **Specialists:** Greenlane Archaeology have a range of outside specialists who are regularly engaged for finds and environmental work. Engagement is dependent upon availability, but specialists typically engaged are as follows:

Specialism	Specialist
Animal bone	Naomi Sewpaul
Ceramic building material, medieval and Roman	Phil Mills
Conservation	York Archaeological Trust
Clay tobacco pipe	Peter Davey (or Tom Mace in house for smaller assemblages)
Flots	Headland Archaeology, Edinburgh
Human bone	Malin Holst
Industrial residue	Gerry McDonnell
Medieval pottery	Chris Cumberpatch for assemblages from the North East of England
Miscellaneous find types, for example Roman glass and medieval and earlier metalwork	Chris Howard-Davis
Prehistoric pottery	Blaise Vyner
Radiocarbon dates	Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre
Roman pottery	Ruth Leary
Samian	Gwladys Monteil
X-ray of metal finds	York Archaeological Trust

2. Objectives

2.1 Desk-Based Assessment

2.1.1 Where an archaeological desk-based assessment has not already been carried out in a previous phase of work, the objective will be to examine early maps of the site and any other relevant primary and secondary sources in order to better understand its dating and development, and set it in its historic context.

2.2 Watching Brief

2.2.1 To carry out an archaeological watching brief on the relevant areas of groundworks, in order to identify any and record surviving any archaeological remains that are revealed.

2.3 Report

2.3.1 To produce a report detailing the results of the watching brief.

2.4 Archive

2.4.1 Produce a full archive of the results of the project.

3. Methodology

3.1 Desk-Based Assessment

3.1.1 Where an archaeological desk-based assessment has not already been carried out in a previous phase of work, an examination of various sources, particularly early maps and plans relating to the site, will be carried out, including other relevant primary and secondary sources. The sources that will be used as part of the desk-based assessment will include:

- **Record Office/Archive Centre:** the majority of original and secondary sources relating to the site are deposited in the relevant Record Office(s) or Archive Centre(s), as specified in the cover sheet of this project design. Of principal importance are early maps of the site. These will be examined in order to establish the development of the site, date of any structures present within it, and details of land use, in order to set the site in its historical, archaeological, and regional context. In addition, any details of the site's owners and occupiers will be acquired where available;
- **Online Resources:** where available, mapping such as Ordnance Survey maps and tithe maps will be consulted online;
- **Greenlane Archaeology:** Greenlane Archaeology's office library includes maps, local histories, and unpublished primary and secondary sources. These will be consulted where relevant, in order to provide information about the history and archaeology of the site and the general area.

3.2 Watching Brief

3.2.1 The relevant area of groundworks will be monitored, with one archaeologist on site. If there are several areas being excavated concurrently it may be considered necessary to have more than one archaeologist on site.

3.2.2 The watching brief methodology will be as follows:

- All excavation will be carried out under supervision by staff from Greenlane Archaeology. Should the excavation technique utilised be deemed liable to have an adverse effect on any archaeological deposits that might be present an alternative method will be sought, where feasible;
- All deposits of archaeological significance will be examined by hand if possible in a stratigraphic manner, using shovels, mattocks, or trowels as appropriate for the scale;
- The position of any features, such as ditches, pits, or walls, will be recorded and where necessary these will be investigated in order to establish their full extent, date, and relationship to any other features. If possible, negative features such as ditches or pits will be examined by sample excavation, typically half of a pit or similar feature and approximately 10% of a linear feature;
- All recording of features will include detailed plans and sections at a scale of 1:20 or 1:10 where practicable or sketches where it is not and photographs in both colour print and colour digital format. In addition, photographs will also be taken of the site before work begins and after completion;

- All deposits, drawings and photographs will be recorded on Greenlane Archaeology *pro forma* record sheets;
- All finds will be recovered during the watching brief for further assessment as far as is practically and safely possible. Should significant amounts of finds be encountered an appropriate sampling strategy will be devised;
- All faunal remains will also be recovered by hand during the watching brief as far as is practically and safely possible, but where it is considered likely that there is potential for the bones of fish or small mammals to be present appropriate volumes of samples will be taken for sieving;
- Deposits that are considered likely to have, for example, preserved environmental remains, industrial residues, and/or material suitable for scientific dating will be sampled. Bulk samples of between 20 and 60 litres in volume (or 100% of smaller features) where possible, depending on the size and potential of the deposit, will be collected from stratified undisturbed deposits and will particularly target negative features (e.g. gullies, pits and ditches) and occupation deposits such as hearths and floors. An assessment of the environmental potential of the site will be undertaken through the examination of samples of suitable deposits by specialist sub-contractors, who will examine the potential for further analysis. All samples will be processed using methods appropriate to the preservation conditions and the remains present;
- Any articulated human remains discovered during the watching brief will be left *in situ*, and, if possible, covered. The client will be immediately informed as will the local coroner. Should it be considered necessary to remove the remains this will require a Home Office licence, under Section 25 of the Burial Act of 1857, which will be applied for should the need arise. Any loose human bones discovered during the watching brief will be retained and removed from site for specialist assessment before being returned in order to be reinterred;
- Any objects defined as 'treasure' by the Treasure Act of 1996 (HMSO 1996) will be immediately reported to the local coroner and securely stored off-site, or covered and protected on site if immediate removal is not possible;
- Should any significant archaeological deposits be encountered during the watching brief these will immediately be brought to the attention of the Planning Archaeologist so that the need for further work can be confirmed. Any additional work will be carried out following discussion with the Planning Archaeologist and subject to a new project design, and the ensuing costs will be agreed with the client. It is considered unlikely in this case that the excavation will be deep enough to reach the significant archaeological deposits encountered during a previous period of archaeological investigation.

3.3 Report

3.3.1 The results of the watching brief will be compiled into a report, which will provide a summary and details of any sources consulted. It will include the following sections:

- A front cover including the appropriate national grid reference (NGR);
- A concise non-technical summary of results, including the date the project was undertaken and by whom;
- Acknowledgements;
- Project Background;
- Methodology, including a description of the work undertaken;
- Results of the watching brief, including finds and samples;;
- Discussion of the results including phasing information;
- Bibliography;
- Illustrations at appropriate scales including:
 - a site location plan related to the national grid;
 - a plan showing the location and extent of the area subject to archaeological watching brief;
 - plans and sections of any features discovered during the watching brief;

- photographs of any features encountered during the watching brief;
- copies of selected historic maps and plans of the site relevant to the understanding of its development.

3.4 Archive

3.4.1 The archive, comprising the drawn, written, and photographic record of any deposits of archaeological interest and/or working shots identified during the watching brief, formed during the project, will be stored by Greenlane Archaeology until it is completed. Upon completion it will be deposited with the relevant Record Office or Archive Centre, as detailed on the cover sheet of this project design, together with a copy of the report. The archive will be compiled according to the standards and guidelines of the ClfA (ClfA 2014b). In addition details will be submitted to the Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigations (OASIS) scheme. This is an internet-based project intended to improve the flow of information between contractors, local authority heritage managers and the general public.

3.4.2 A copy of the report will be provided to the client and a copy will be provided for the relevant Historic Environment Record, as detailed on the cover sheet of this project design.

4. Work timetable

4.1 Greenlane Archaeology will be available to commence the project on the date specified on the Order Form, or at another date convenient to the client. It is envisaged that the elements of the project will be carried out in the following order:

- **Task 1:** rapid desk-based assessment (where this has not already been carried out as a previous phase of archaeological work);
- **Task 2:** archaeological watching brief;
- **Task 3:** production of draft report including illustrations;
- **Task 4:** feedback on draft report, editing and production of final report;
- **Task 5:** finalisation and deposition of archive.

5. Other matters

5.1 Access and clearance

5.1.1 Access to the site will be organised through co-ordination with the client and/or their agent(s). It is assumed that the watching brief will be able to be undertaken without obstruction. Greenlane Archaeology reserves the right to increase the price if problems with access result in delays to the work.

5.2 Health and Safety

5.2.1 Greenlane Archaeology carries out risk assessments for all of its projects and abides by its internal health and safety policy and relevant legislation. Health and safety is always the foremost consideration in any decision-making process.

5.3 Insurance

5.3.1 Greenlane Archaeology has professional indemnity insurance to the value of **£1,000,000**. Details of this can be supplied if requested.

5.4 Environmental and Ethical Policy

5.4.1 Greenlane Archaeology has a strong commitment to environmentally and ethically sound working practices. Its office is supplied with 100% renewable energy by Good Energy, and uses ethical telephone and internet services supplied by the Phone Co-op. In addition, the company uses the services of The Co-operative Bank for ethical banking, Naturesave for environmentally-conscious insurance, and utilises public transport wherever possible. Greenlane Archaeology is also committed to using local businesses for services and materials, thus benefiting the local economy, reducing unnecessary transportation, and improving the sustainability of small and rural businesses.

6. Bibliography

ClfA, 2014a *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*, Reading

ClfA, 2014b *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives*, Reading

Appendix 2: Summary Context List

Context	Type	Description	Interpretation
100	Deposit	Loose grey gravel less than 0.1m thick	Yard surface
101	Deposit	Compacted dark reddish brown gravelly sand with fragments of angular red sandstone, lumps of lime mortar and grey roofing slate	Dumped material/backfill from 1981 excavation

Appendix 3: Summary Finds List

Context	Type	Quantity	Description	Date range
101	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed red earthenware	Late 17 th – early 20 th century
101	Pottery	1	Black-glazed red earthenware	Late 17 th – early 20 th century
101	Pottery	2	Creamware	Mid – late 18 th century
101	Glass	8	Window pane fragments	19 th – 20 th century
101	Glass	3	Colourless bottle and jar fragments	20 th century
101	Glass	1	Brown bottle/jar fragment	20 th century
101	Ceramic building material	1	Brown-glazed fireclay sewage pipe fragment	Late 19 th – 20 th century
101	Clay tobacco pipe	1	Stem/bowl junction – approximately 38mm of stem remaining – there is possibly the remains of ‘trailed’ decoration to the rear of the bowl, in a line up the back, and a short way along the centre of the sides of the stem from the (mostly missing) bowl; possibly some present on the bowl – none of the rim remains and only a small section of the back of the bowl is present; the stem is 8mm diameter with a round section and central 6/64” borehole; the back of the bowl is near vertical, which is probably more akin to a 19 th century profile (e.g. Ayto 1994, 8-9)	?19 th century
101	Animal bone	19	Unidentified fragments – two refit and form part of a cattle-sized humerus (R), most of the others are cattle-size apart from two, which are also unidentified	Uncertain
101	Fe	3	2x cast iron gutter fragments, 1 x long round-section nail or tent peg	19 th – 20 th century
101	Industrial residue	2	Potash	Post-medieval
101	Plastic	3	Grey clothes peg, grip seal finds bag with white write-on panels, white durable plastic packaging strip and colourless edge of box lid(?)	Late 20 th century