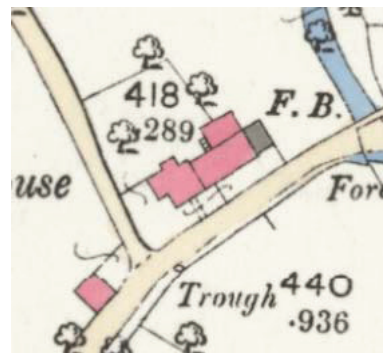


# BARN AT MANOR HOUSE, HOWGILL LANE, RIMINGTON, LANCASHIRE

## Archaeological Watching Brief



Client:  
Brent and Gillian Taylor

Planning Application Reference:  
3/2018/0036

NGR: 382521 446029

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November 2021



<b>The Site</b>	
Site Name	Barn at Manor House, Howgill Lane, Rimington
County	Lancashire
NGR	382521 446029

<b>Client</b>	
Client Name	Brent and Gillian Taylor

<b>Planning</b>	
Pre-planning?	No
Planning Application No.	3/2018/0036
Plans (e.g. conversion, extension, demolition)	Conversion of a former barn
Condition number	23
Local Planning Authority	Ribble Valley Borough Council, following advice by the Lancashire Archaeological Advisory Service
Planning Archaeologist	Peter Iles, Lancashire County Council
Groundworks subject to watching brief	Excavation of foundation trenches inside building

<b>Archiving</b>	
Relevant Record Office(s)/Archive Centre(s)	Preston, Lancashire
Relevant HER	Lancashire
Relevant Museum	Clitheroe Castle

<b>Staffing</b>	
Desk-based assessment	Dan Elsworth
Watching brief	Tom Mace
Report writing	Tom Mace Dan Elsworth
Report editing	Jo Dawson
Illustrations	Tom Mace
Date(s) site work carried out	20 <sup>th</sup> October and 27 <sup>th</sup> October 2021

Greenlane Archaeology Ltd,  
Lower Brook Street, Ulverston,  
Cumbria, LA12 7EE

Tel: 01229 588 500  
Email: [info@greenlancearchaeology.co.uk](mailto:info@greenlancearchaeology.co.uk)  
Web: [www.greenlancearchaeology.co.uk](http://www.greenlancearchaeology.co.uk)

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## Non-Technical Summary

Following the submission of a planning application for the conversion of a former barn at Manor House, Howgill Lane, Rimington, Lancashire into a dwelling, a condition was placed on the decision notice by Ribble Valley Borough Council, following advice by the Lancashire Archaeological Advisory Service, requiring that a record of the structure be made beforehand, and that groundworks be monitored. Following the provision of a project design by Greenlane Archaeology a building recording was undertaken in June 2018 and the watching brief element was carried out on 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021. This report deals with the watching brief element of the planning condition. The results of the building recording form a separate report.

The site is located within a wider area of archaeological remains spanning the prehistoric period onwards, although significantly it is thought to be on the line of the Roman road between the fort at Ribchester and Elslack/Ilkley. The origins of the house are uncertain although the name Manor House, which is used from at least the 1890s, suggests that it related to a local manor but it is not clear which one. Rimington and Middop are both mentioned in the Domesday survey; Rimington is an Old English name suggesting even earlier origins, and Rimington manor is recorded from the 12<sup>th</sup> century but there was another property in Rimington itself known as the Old Manor House. The map regression shows that the main north-east/south-west block of buildings at Manor House was built before 1846 and the block to the rear was added before 1893. Another possibly open-sided building stood to the north-east end of the main block at this point, but this has since been removed.

The buildings at Manor House retain much of their original fabric and there is evidence for late medieval fabric surviving within the barn building, which perhaps indicates that it was indeed the site of an early manor house, however, substantial changes have been made to the building, including the conversion of the upstairs space to the rear in the 1970s or 80s, removal of cattle stalls on the ground floor, and various window and door openings have been added to the exterior. The building as it now stands is not considered to be of great historical significance with the majority of it dating to the 18<sup>th</sup> century or later and demonstrating a fairly typical range of alterations for a building of this type.

The watching brief monitored excavation of trenches along the inside edge of the walls of the building after the removal of the internal floors and dividing walls. Although no archaeological features were observed, an unstratified pipkin handle demonstrates medieval activity at the site. The remainder of the few finds that were recovered were all of post-medieval date.

## Acknowledgements

Greenlane Archaeology would like to thank Brent and Gillian Taylor for commissioning the project.

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Circumstances of the Project

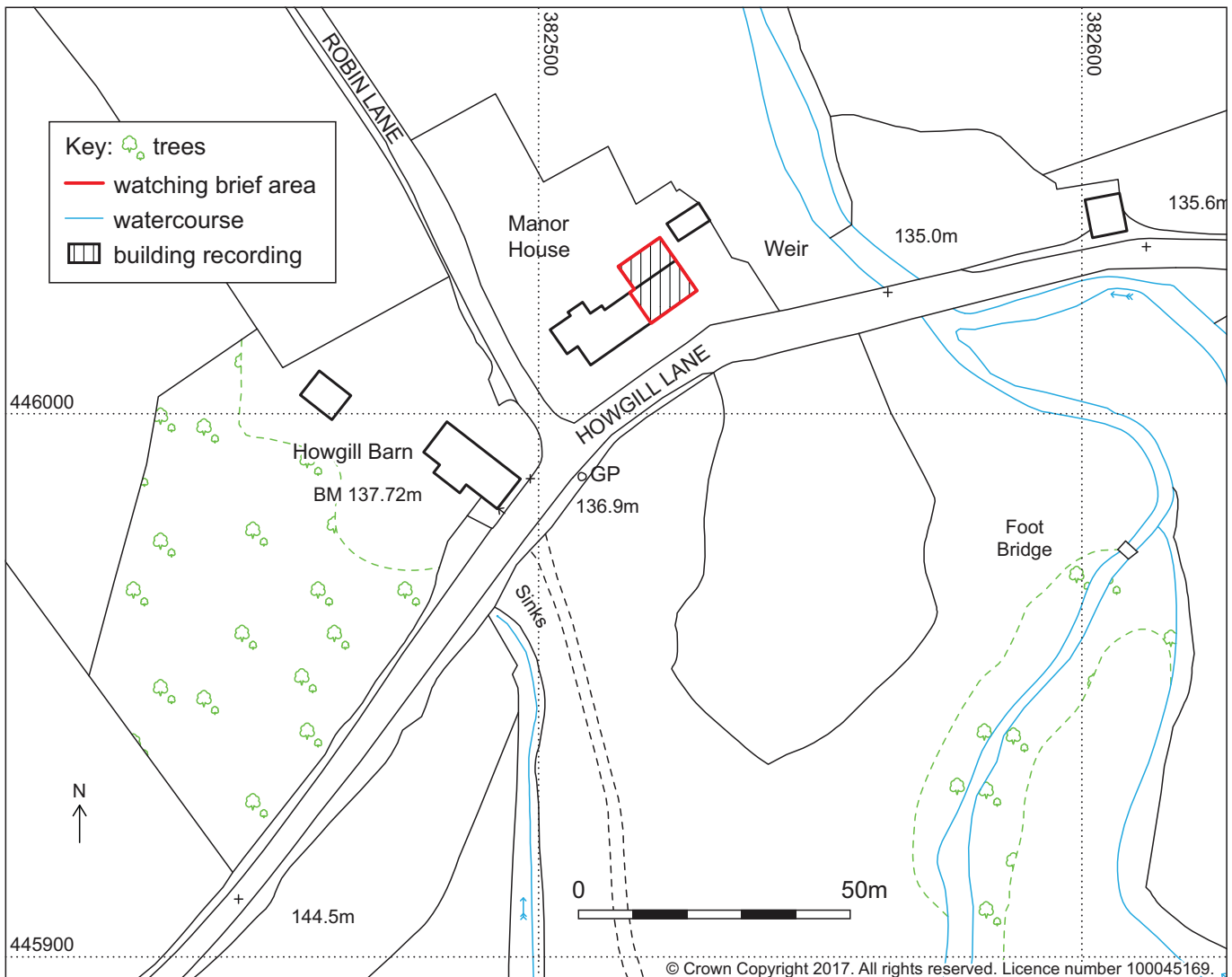
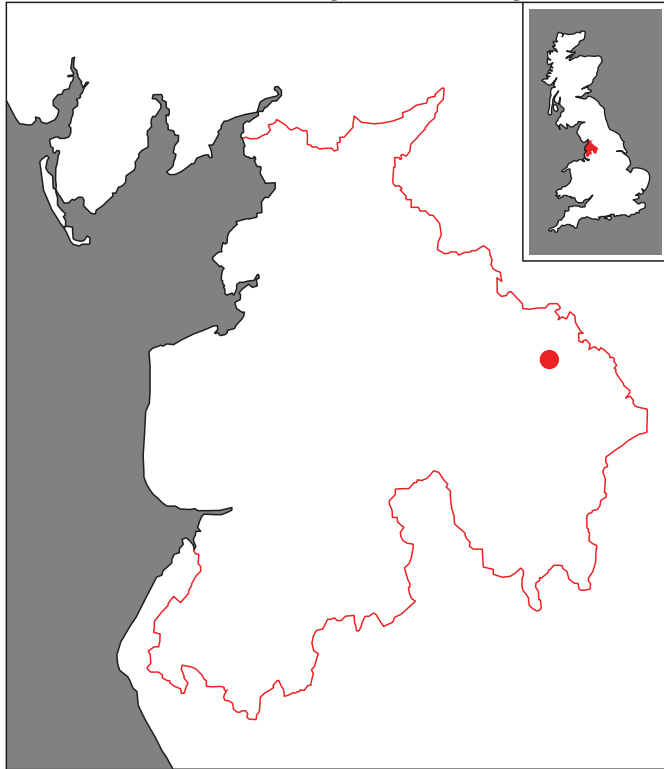
1.1.1 The circumstances of the project are set out in the tables on the inside cover of this report.

### 1.2 Location, Geology, and Topography

1.2.1 The barn occupies the east end of a long rectangular block of buildings at Manor House fronting onto Howgill Lane and a shorter block to the rear with steps to the side. The buildings are to the north-east side of the junction of Howgill Lane and Robin Lane in the hamlet of Howgill, and lie at approximately 136m above sea level (Figure 1). Howgill is on the south-east side of the Ribble Valley, approximately 2km south of Gisburn and 8.5km north-east of Clitheroe.

1.2.2 The Ribble Valley is to the south-east side of the upland core of the Bowland Fells. The Bowland Fringe and Pendle Hill area is a transitional landscape between the coastal plain and the high fells, characterised by undulating pasture, with well-maintained hedgerows, and semi-natural woodland (Countryside Commission 1998, 91). The small villages, hamlets and scattered farmsteads of the area are connected by winding hedge-lined country lanes (*ibid*).

1.2.3 The underlying solid geology of the fringes comprise mudstones and limestones, and outcrops of hard lime mud banks, known as 'reef knolls', form distinctive features within the landscape (Countryside Commission 1998, 93). The solid geology is overlain by glacial deposits mainly of thick tills and mounds of sand and gravel, including a tract of drumlins to the east of Gisburn (*ibid*).



Client: Brent and Gillian Taylor

**Figure 1: Site location**

## 2. Methodology

### 2.1 Desk-Based Assessment

2.2.1 A desk-based assessment was produced as part of an archaeological building recording carried out on the barn at Manor House in 2018 (Greenlane Archaeology 2018). 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:

- **Lancashire Record Office, Preston (LRO(P))**: this was visited in order to examine early maps and plans of the site and relevant primary and secondary sources;
- **Clitheroe Library**: this was visited in order to examine local histories of the area, and additional original sources;
- **Heritage Asset Statement**: pertinent information included in the previous heritage impact statement (JWPC Ltd 2018) is included here;
- **Online resources**: early maps and other historical information about the site were collected from a number of online sources;
- **Greenlane Archaeology**: additional primary and secondary sources held in Greenlane Archaeology's library were also examined to provide information for the site background and map regression.

### 2.2 Archaeological Watching Brief

2.2.1 The watching brief monitored groundworks associated with the project set out in the tables on the inside cover of this report. As outlined in the site history (*Section 3.2* the site is thought to be located on the line of the Roman road between Ribchester and Elslack and within a settlement of early medieval origin, that is recorded from at least the late 11<sup>th</sup> century.

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 2014a) 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 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**: drawings were produced on site as follows:
  - i. a site plan was produced at a scale of 1:100 based on plots of 'as existing' architect's drawings provided by the client which were hand-annotated as part of the building recording (Greenlane Archaeology 2018, figure 4).

### 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 The archive of the project will be deposited with the relevant Record Office or Archive Centre, as detailed on the cover sheet of this report, together with a copy of the report. The archive has been compiled according to the standards and guidelines of the ClfA guidelines (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. A copy of the report will be provided to the client and a digital copy of the report will be provided for the relevant Historic Environment Record, as detailed on the cover sheet of this report.

### 3. Desk-Based Assessment

#### 3.1 Map Regression

3.1.1 **Introduction:** early maps of the area tend to be relatively lacking in detail and the most useful maps for understanding the development of the site therefore date from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century onwards.

3.1.2 **Tithe Map, 1846:** the footprint of Manor House is shown in some detail on the tithe map (LRO PR 3432/3/7 1846a; Plate 1). The north-east end of the block is filled in and although small buildings appear to be marked to the north-west of that the large block to this side has yet to be built (cf. Plate 3). The land containing the main part of the building is labelled 309, which the accompanying schedule describes as a 'homestead' owned by 'Wilson & Remington' and occupied by Joseph Jackson (LRO PR 3432/3/7 1846a). The east end of the building, which includes the site, is part of plot 308, which is named 'Factory Croft', which is probably a reference to a building to the north that operated as cotton mill, and has the same owners and occupiers in the accompanying schedule (LRO PR 3432/3/7 1846b).

3.1.3 **Ordnance Survey, 1853:** this map, surveyed in 1849, lacks detail (Plate 2) and is difficult to reconcile with both the earlier tithe map (cf. Plate 1) or later editions of the Ordnance Survey (cf. Plate 3). The tithe map and later Ordnance Survey maps more closely match each other, so it remains unclear which elements of the current buildings at Manor House are represented here.

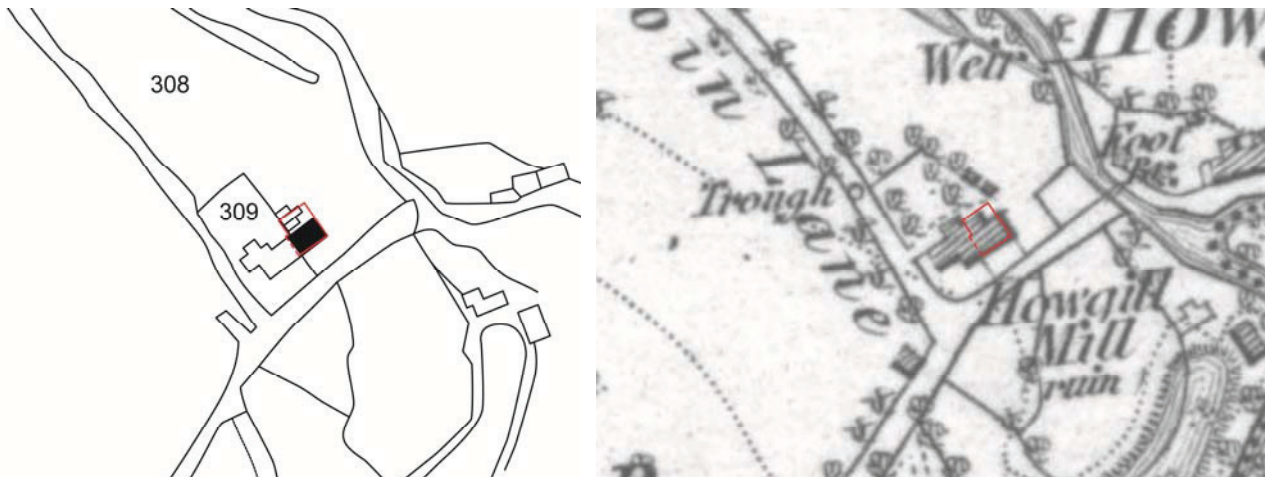


Plate 1: Extract from the tithe map for the Township of Rimington, 1846 (LRO PR 3432/3/7 1846a)

Plate 2: Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1853

3.1.4 **Ordnance Survey, 1894:** this is the first 1:2,500 scale map of the area produced by the Ordnance Survey (surveyed in 1893) and is therefore much more detailed than the previous map, which was produced at a scale of 1:10,560 (Plate 3; cf. Plate 2). The footprint of the building, which is labelled 'Manor House' (coloured in pink) is the same as it appears today. The site occupies the north-east end of the long rectangular block and the shorter rectangular block to the north-west side at the north-east end of that, and a dividing line is shown between the two blocks. Steps are shown to the south-west side of the shorter block to the rear and a block coloured grey is shown to the north-east end of the buildings at the front.

3.1.5 **Ordnance Survey, 1909:** this map shows much the same information as the previous edition of the Ordnance Survey mapping (Plate 4; cf. Plate 3).



Plate 3 (left): Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1894

Plate 4 (right): Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1909

3.1.6 **Summary:** the main north-east/south-west block of buildings at Manor House had clearly been built by 1846, although the block to the rear had not been constructed by that date. The buildings at Manor House are poorly depicted on the 1853 edition of the Ordnance Survey map, however, and it is not until the first 1:2,500 edition, surveyed in 1893, that the footprint of the current arrangement of buildings at the site, including the block to the rear, becomes clear. There is also a structure marked to the north-east end of the block, which may have been open-sided, but this has since been removed.

## 3.2 Site History

3.2.1 **Prehistoric to Early Medieval:** while there is generally limited evidence for human activity in the wider region in the period immediately following the last Ice Age, there are occasional finds that demonstrate that the wider area was occupied from an early date, although probably not very intensely. Approximately 35km north-west of the site the so-called Poulton Elk was discovered in 1970; this comprised a skeleton of a male elk, later carbon dated to the early post-Glacial period, associated with antler harpoon points, at least some of which were evidently lodged in its body, which, with other injuries, show that it had been hunted by humans (Hallam *et al* 1973). Elsewhere in the wider region habitation of this date is typically found in cave sites, with a number known on the northern edge of Morecambe Bay and east into Yorkshire, with excavations at a small number of cave sites revealing the remains of animal species common at the time but now extinct in this country and artefacts of Late Upper Palaeolithic type (Cowell 1996, 20-21; Young 2002). Human remains from one of these have also recently been dated to approximately 7,100 BC (Smith *et al* 2013). 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 from across Lancashire (Barrowclough 2008, 48-53). Sites of this date typically comprise collections of distinctive artefacts, microliths, often discovered during field walking and eroding from river banks (*ibid*). 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 Brennan 2006, 26). However, on the higher ground, in areas such as the North Pennines, numerous such artefacts have been discovered where they have eroded from peat (Cowell 1996, 21; Spikins 1999).

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. One of the most recognisable tool types of this period, the polished stone axe, is found in large numbers across the county, particularly in the north (Barrowclough 2008, 76), having been manufactured at Langdale in the central Lake District (Hodgson and Brennan 2006, 45). There is clearly, in general, some continuity from the preceding Mesolithic, with recent work at New Laund Farm, Whitewell in the Forest of Bowland revealing evidence for continued occupation into the Iron Age (Anon nd). During the Bronze Age (c2,500 – 600 BC) monuments, particularly those thought to be ceremonial in nature, become more common still; with substantial examples including the multi-period Bleasdale Circle which comprised a number of different elements

including a circle of timber posts (Dawkins 1900; Varley 1938). There is also a stone circle at Mosley Heights near Burnley, which contained a range of burials alongside the stones (Barrowclough 2008, 121-123). Funerary monuments, including stone circles, have typically been examined more often than settlement sites (*op cit*, 108-129) with burials of 'Beaker' type more commonly found around the higher ground in the east of Lancashire (*op cit*, 130-133), with a large collection of material retrieved during excavations in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century at Whitehall near Darwen probably the closest example (*op cit*, 124-125). One characteristic of the lower areas, which have more wetland, is the ritual deposition of metal artefacts, particularly weapons, in water, with one style of metalwork being characteristic of the Fylde area (*op cit*, 152). Sites of Iron Age date are considerably less common in Lancashire, or at least examples that are well dated. Throughout the county settlement sites (burials are almost unknown) tend to comprise small enclosed groups of hut circles, although these are very difficult to identify in the archaeological record (*op cit*, 192) with larger hill-top hillforts found where there is suitable topography. There is likely to be considerable continuity in settlement sites from the end of the Bronze Age, with the Iron Age representing a period of even greater land enclosure and management, but the excavated sites of this period are mostly in the south of the county (*op cit*, 193), with the exception of a recently excavated site near Poulton-le-Fylde, which is, at present, unpublished (Wardell Armstrong Archaeology 2014; 2018). There is likely to have been a considerable overlap between the end of the Iron Age and the beginning of the Romano-British period, at least in terms of 'native' settlement; it is evident that in rural parts of the wider region, initially at least, the Roman invasion had a minimal impact on settlement patterns (Philpott 2006, 73-74).

3.2.3 Rimington lies approximately 20km north-east of the Roman fort at Ribchester, and considered to be on the route of the Roman road between it and the fort at Elslack near Skipton or Ilkley (Margary 1957, 104-105). The Roman heritage of Ribchester, which was known as *Bremetanacum*, is well documented and has occasioned several large excavations and important finds, including the 2<sup>nd</sup> century Ribchester parade helmet. Past excavations have demonstrated the well-preserved nature of the Roman archaeology, which encompasses a complete sequence from the 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> centuries AD (Buxton and Howard-Davis 2000). The history of the fort and *vicus* are also relatively well known through inscriptions and documentary evidence. These demonstrate that the VI and XX Legions, the *Ala Secundae Asturum* (a Spanish cavalry unit), and Sarmatian auxiliary cavalry units were stationed there (Buxton and Howard-Davis 2000).

3.2.4 It is becoming increasingly evident that activity in the post-Roman period continued at many major sites, such as Ribchester. A wooden church dedicated to St. Wilfrid is alleged to have been built within the remains of the standing fort in the late 6<sup>th</sup> century, which was supposedly replaced by a stone structure in the 7<sup>th</sup> century (Baines 1870). The situation in more rural areas is typically less certain, with evidence generally very limited and relies on a much smaller range of evidence (Newman 1996, 93-106). However, place-name evidence demonstrates that many settlements in the area were in existence from at least this period, with Rimington including the Old English suffix 'tun' meaning a hamlet or small settlement existed in the early medieval period (Ekwall 1922, 18).

3.2.5 **Rimington:** a settlement at Rimington was in existence from at least the late 11<sup>th</sup> century as it is recorded in the Domesday survey of 1086, as Renitone, and seems to have formed its own manor along with nearby Middop, which is recorded from a similar date (Ashton and Scott 2003, 11). A family of de Rimington is recorded from c1154 but by c1250 the manor of Rimington was held by Alan de Catherton before passing through various hands until it came to the Pudsey family who were forced to part with it in order to pay debts incurred in part because of their support for the Royalist cause during the Civil War (*ibid*). By the early 18<sup>th</sup> century it had become the property of Lord Bingley, whose family held it until 1918 after which time the estates were sold off (*ibid*).

3.2.6 **The Manor House:** given that the site is named 'Manor House' on the Ordnance Survey maps from 1894 onwards, it was presumably associated with one of the local manors. The actual village of Rimington had a building known as 'the Old Manor House', although this was a thatched cottage, and a new manor house was built beside it sometime in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century (as demonstrated by photographs held in the local studies collection at Clitheroe Library and the sales particulars of 1924; Clitheroe Library L25/RIM 1924). The site was therefore perhaps associated with the manor of Middop, although it lies just outside the township or parish of Middop in a small hamlet called Howgill.

**3.2.7 Building recording:** certain features of the barn, including a chamfered doorway and mullion window, are of an early 'sub-medieval' form (Brunskill 2000, 140-141), and, given the odd arrangement they produce, these are thought likely to represent the remnants of an earlier building that was retained in the present structure, perhaps even an early manor house given the relatively high status of the doorway. The style of the trusses and the presence of a probable Baltic timber mark in the main part of the barn both indicate a late 18<sup>th</sup> or early 19<sup>th</sup> century date (Brunskill 2002, 152-153; Vandenanbeelee *et al* 2016). The building to the rear clearly butts against the range to the south-east and is obviously a later extension, possibly comprising a first-floor granary with a cart shed below, and it is not until the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century that the footprint of the current arrangement of buildings at the site becomes clear. While the building retains a number of elements of its original fabric it is now difficult to determine the original purpose of many of its constituent parts since it stopped being part of a working farm and was subject to various alterations in the 1970s or 80s.

## 4. Watching Brief

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The watching brief was carried out over the course of two days. The two rooms to the south-east side of the block (G1 and G2 from the building recording) had been stripped of all internal features to create a single, large open space and the concrete floor had been removed ahead of the watching brief (Plate 5 and Plate 6), which was conducted in this room on 20<sup>th</sup> October. The same was true of the rooms to the north-west side of the block (G3 and G4), which had also been opened out by the removal of internal walls (Plate 7 and Plate 8), and groundworks in this room were monitored on 27<sup>th</sup> October.

4.1.2 Trenches c0.7m to 0.8m wide were excavated around the inside edge of room G1/G2 along the south-west, north-east and south-east sides. A small section of the area of the footings could not be monitored in the south corner of the room due to a requirement for access. The internal space had also been reduced slightly and made level with the removal of the concrete floor prior to the excavation of the trenches. However, a further reduction in the depth of the internal area was monitored when the trenches around the outside edge of the room were completed as far as practicable.



**Plate 5 (left): General view of the south-west end of G1/G2 following the removal of the concrete floor and dividing wall**



**Plate 6 (right): General view of the north-east end of G1/G2 following the removal of the concrete floor and dividing wall**

4.1.3 In room G3/G4, the trenches were excavated along the south-west and north-west sides. It was not practical to monitor the area in front of the large arched opening to the north-east side of the room because of the requirement for access and because of the risk of water entering the trench once opened at this point. The tracks of the dumper had already churned this area, which, based on observations in the far end of the trench which could be observed, was probably straight onto the underlying clay natural (see below). Removal of the floors in this room and making the surface level had already overcut the natural across most of the area.



**Plate 7 (left): General view of the south-east side of G3/G4 following the removal of the floors and dividing wall**



**Plate 8 (right): General view of the north-west side of G3/G4 following the removal of the floors and dividing wall**

4.1.4 The conditions under which the excavation was conducted were not ideal from an archaeological standpoint and some compromise was necessary in order that the required construction work could go ahead. Monitoring the groundworks was hampered by a lack of lighting inside the building, especially with regard to colour changes within the underlying deposits (see Plate 9 and Plate 10). Pinches of the deposits revealed during the course of digging the trenches were taken to the nearest open door or window to be examined in the daylight; however, it is possible that subtler variations within them will have been missed. In addition, a toothed bucket was used, which can churn deposits, leaving an uneven finish within the base of each trench and making it more difficult to detect changes within deposits. To counteract this, trench sections were examined frequently, but at times it often became merely an exercise in finds retrieval.



**Plate 9 (left): Working shot in G1/G2**

**Plate 10 (right): Working shot in G3/G4**

Based on 'as existing' floor plans © Sunderland Peacock & Associates Ltd 2017.

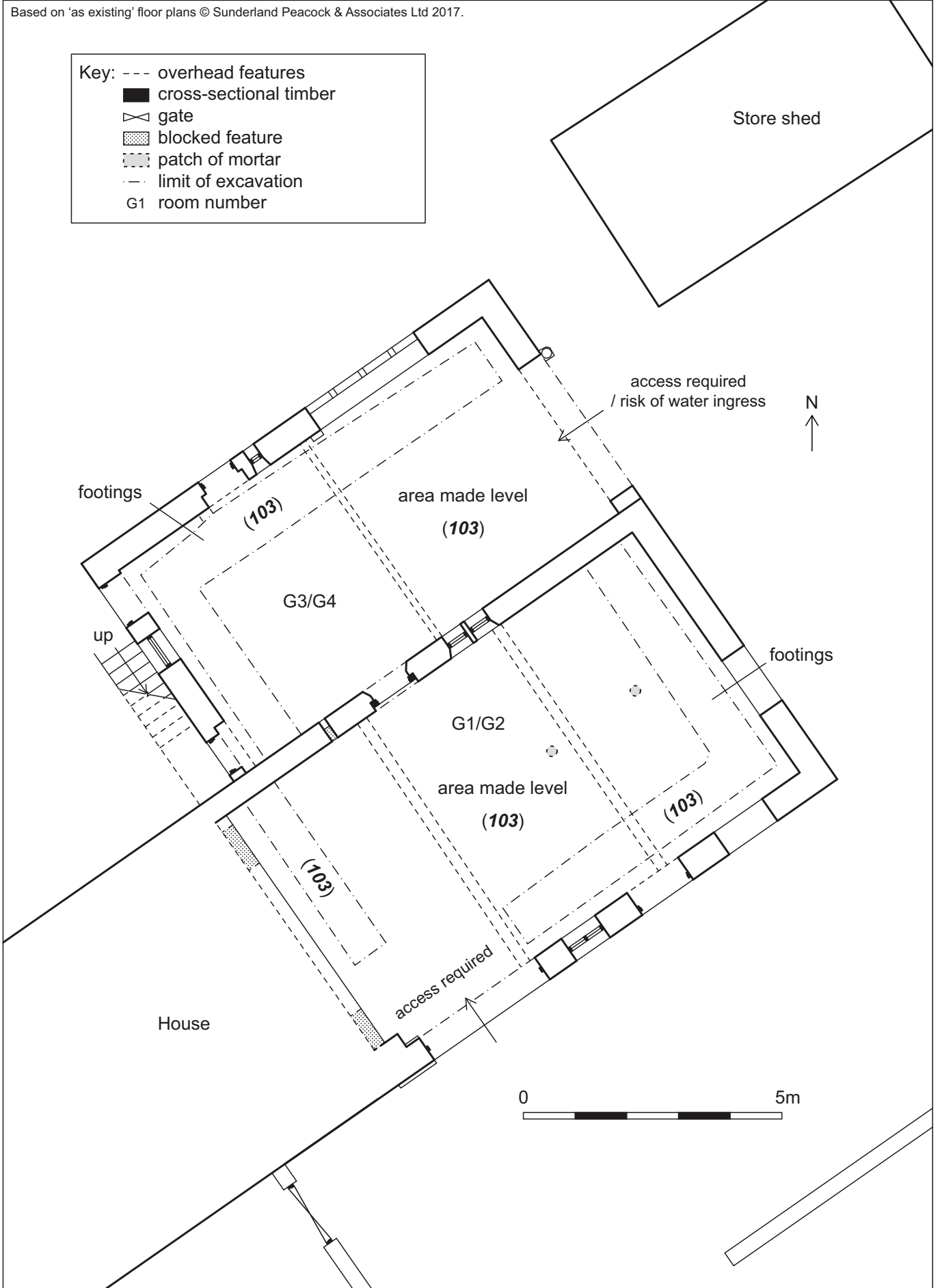


Figure 2: Site plan

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## 4.2 Results

4.2.1 **Room G1/G2:** the area was examined for finds following the removal of internal walls and c0.3m of concrete floor and stalls and any unstratified material was recovered, including a fragment of medieval pottery.

4.2.2 Removal of the concrete had exposed a thin layer of dusty grey sandy material (**100**) in the north-east corner (Plate 11), up to 0.1m thick, which appeared to peter out to the south-east, which contained some whitish grey flecks of crumbly mortar. Below that was a dark, brownish-grey silty clay with frequent sub-rounded cobble-size and larger stones (**102**). This became less silty and lighter brown to the south-west side, appearing to be simply a variation of the same deposit, and was excavated to 0.5m to 0.6m thick and continued beyond the depth of the trench (Plate 12). This deposit, including variations within it, is considered to probably be the underlying 'natural' boulder clay.



Plate 11 (left): Trench along the north-east side of G1/G2

Plate 12 (right): Trench along the south-east side of G1/G2

4.2.3 Immediately below the concrete in the west corner of the room, in the trench to the south-west side of the room, was a sandier clay (**103**). It was mid-to-light greyish-brown (Plate 13), with fewer inclusions than noted in the 'natural' to the north-east end of the room. Some cattle-size bone was removed from the upper extent of this deposit; however, these finds are considered likely to be intrusive to this deposit, either from an overlying deposit or from the fill of a cut which was not detected during the course of the groundworks. It is possible that this deposit was simply a variation of **102**.



**Plate 13: Trench along the south-west side of G1/G2**

4.2.4 Some of the overlying deposit was also scraped off in the central area. This revealed two small patches of crumbly white mortar to the north-east above a thin blackish deposit, c0.02m thick. This discontinuous and amorphous blackish deposit (**101**) was not evidently charcoal-rich or coal-infused and contained no finds. It did not appear to have resulted from burning and may simply have been a thin, patchy deposit of dumped 'industrial' waste material of unknown derivation. It is possible that the patches of mortar relate to former stalls or possibly infilling or packing the very base of postholes relating to those, but this is highly uncertain. Their location could not be accurately recorded because of the movement of machinery on site.

4.2.5 **Room G3/G4:** demolition rubble had been cleared to a depth of c0.6m at the south-west end of the room and the area levelled across the room to the arched opening to the north-east. The area previously sloped up from north-east to south-west and had now been made level (the slope rising up towards the doorway in the south-east elevation of G3/G4 can be seen in Plate 7), meaning that relatively more material had been removed from the south-west end of the room, where a firm, mid-to-light brown sandy-clay had been overcut in places by c0.25m. The extent to which the sandy-clay layer had been overcut is visible in section in Plate 14 and Plate 15. This brown deposit appeared to be a continuation of **103** from G1/G2 and extended across the area (see Plate 14 to Plate 19). Generally, the former flooring across the area lay on top of this uniform deposit, which appeared 'natural', the only exception being towards the south-west end of G3/G4. Overall, the trench was cut a further 0.4m into **103**.

4.2.6 To the south-west end of the room there was a slightly darker, grey silty-clay (**104**) above **103** (see Plate 16). It was up to 0.15m thick, at its nearest point to the south-west wall, and petered out within perhaps 1.5m to 2.0m to the north-east. Some animal bone that was recovered from here probably came from this context. It may have been what was left of the old floor in G4 from the building recording, although the concrete floor of G3 seems to have been laid straight on to the boulder clay at the north-east end of G3/G4. G4 was previously a calf pen and then used as a coal store and storage, so the spread of a darker silty deposit could easily relate to the area's former use for either of these two

functions. A piece of post-medieval pottery, recovered from the exposed 'cleaning' layer of **103** upon arrival, has been attributed to **104**.



**Plate 14 (left): Trench section below the south-east elevation of G3/G4**

**Plate 15 (right): Trench along the south-west side of G3/G4**



**Plate 16 (left): Trench along the south-west side of G3/G4**

**Plate 17 (right): Trench excavated in the west corner of G3/G4**



Plate 18 (left): Oblique view of the trench along the north-west side of G3/G4

Plate 19 (right): Trench along the north-west side of G3/G4

### 4.3 Finds

4.3.1 **Introduction:** a total of 13 finds were recovered during the watching brief. These are discussed by type below and a complete list of all the finds is provided in *Appendix 3*.

4.3.2 **Medieval pottery:** a hooked handle from a medieval pipkin (a type of cooking pot) was recovered from the 'cleaned' surface in Room G1/G2 upon arrival on site following the removal of the concrete. The fabric is broadly comparable, at least in descriptive terms, with Partially Reduced and Lightly Gritted wares, which date from the 12<sup>th</sup> century onwards and dominate late 13<sup>th</sup>- and 14<sup>th</sup>-century assemblages in the region (McCarthy and Brooks 1992; Brooks 2000; Bradley and Miller 2009, 663-664). Although this fragment is essentially unstratified it demonstrates activity at the site from the medieval period.

4.3.3 **Animal bone:** nine unidentified animal bone fragments of uncertain date were recovered from the upper limits of trenches in both rooms. Material recovered from the top of **103** is considered intrusive to this deposit. The material is mostly from long bones and includes cattle-size bone fragments with fresh breaks. None of the material showed signs of having been burnt or gnawed or butchery marks.

4.3.4 **Post-medieval pottery:** three fragments of post-medieval pottery were recovered during the watching brief. These comprised brown-glazed red earthenware, Staffordshire-type slipware, and factory-produced buff-bodied earthenware with a white slip-coated interior. They are all likely to represent domestic rubbish accidentally deposited on the site.

## 5. Discussion

### 5.1 Results

5.1.1 The conditions under which the groundworks were monitored on site were less than ideal, in particular due to the poor weather. In addition, monitoring was hampered by the poor lighting inside the building and use of a toothed ditching bucket to excavate the trenches. This was countered as much as possible by examining deposits in the light of the nearest open door or window, frequently examining trench sections, and finds retrieval, albeit reliant in some instances on a 'best guess' allocation of finds to contexts.

5.1.2 Thin, greyish deposits (**100** and **104**), containing flecks of mortar, were observed on both sides of the building following the removal of internal walls and floors; however, it was not possible to determine if it was bedding material for the later concrete floor, earlier floors or simply residual demolition rubble. The underlying boulder clay 'natural' was encountered across the area, which varied from a silty- to a sandy-clay, being slightly darker and siltier in places (**102** and **103**). However, no features were observed during the course of the groundworks.

5.1.3 Finds ranged from medieval to post-medieval in date, including a medieval pipkin handle and a fragment of late 17<sup>th</sup> to early 18<sup>th</sup> century Staffordshire-type slipware, but none were recovered from specific features.

### 5.2 Significance

5.2.1 The results of the watching brief add a little to our understanding of the history and development of the Manor House, although the recovery of a pipkin handle, despite being unstratified, shows there was at least c14<sup>th</sup> century activity at the site. No evidence relating to the Roman road that is thought to pass through the site was discovered, although, assuming the route did come through Manor House, this would presumably have been truncated by the present buildings and any earlier structures.

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## Appendix 1: Project Design

# BARN AT MANOR HOUSE, HOWGILL LANE, RIMINGTON, LANCASHIRE

Archaeological Building Recording and Watching Brief Project Design



Client: Brent and Gillian Taylor

NGR: 382521 446029

Planning application ref.: 3/2018/0036

June 2018

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Client: Brent and Gillian Taylor

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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Following the submission of a planning application (ref. 3//2018/0036) for the conversion of a former barn at Manor House, Howgill Lane, Rimington, Lancashire (NGR 382521 446029), a condition (No. 23) was placed on the planning consent, following advice by the Lancashire Archaeological Advisory Service (LAAS), requiring that an archaeological building recording be carried out and that groundworks associated with the development be monitored. Greenlane Archaeology was appointed by Brent and Gillian Taylor (hereafter 'the client') to carry out the work and this project design was produced in response.

## 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 a combined total of over 25 years continuous professional experience working in commercial archaeology, 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 building recording and watching brief will be carried out according to the Standards and Guidance of the CIfA (CIfA 2014a; 2014b).

## 1.3 Project Staffing

1.3.1 The project will be managed by **Dan Elsworth (MA (Hons), ACIfA)**. Daniel 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 a number of recent projects in Cumbria and Lancashire including several archaeological building recordings. Recent projects include the recording of a former public house in Dalton-in-Furness (Greenlane Archaeology 2011a), lock keeper's cottage in Ulverston (Greenlane Archaeology 2011b), former school in Millom (Greenlane Archaeology 2011c) and industrial and commercial buildings in Barrow-in-Furness (Greenlane Archaeology 2009; 2011d). He is very experienced at building recording, having carried out numerous such projects, mainly in Cumbria and Lancashire, over the past 18 years.

1.3.2 The building recording and watching brief will be carried out by **Tom Mace (BA (Hons), MA, MCIfA)**. Tom has been working at Greenlane Archaeology since 2008, having previously work at Archaeological Solutions and Oxford Archaeology North in Lancaster. He has a wide range of experience of projects of various types and is involved in all aspects of fieldwork as well as report production, and is responsible for all of the illustrations used in Greenlane Archaeology's reports.

# 2. Objectives

## 2.1 Desk-Based Assessment

2.1.1 A Heritage Impact Statement has already been compiled for the building (Architectural History Practice 2017) and so it is not anticipated that any new desk-based research will be carried out, rather information will be extracted from this report as necessary and utilised during the project in order to better understand the dating and development of the building, and set it in its historic context.

## 2.2 Building Recording

2.2.1 To undertake a programme of archaeological building recording of the building to a Level 2-type standard (Historic England 2016). This will provide relatively detailed record of the building, as well as providing information about its development, form and function, not necessarily incorporating all of the available documentary evidence.

## 2.3 Watching Brief

2.3.1 To identify any surviving archaeological remains and to investigate and record any revealed archaeological remains or deposits.

## 2.4 Report

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Client: Brent and Gillian Taylor

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2.4.1 To produce a report detailing the results of the building recording and watching brief, which will outline the character, form and development of the historic fabric of the building.

## 2.5 Archive

2.5.1 Produce a full archive of the results of the building recording and watching brief.

# 3. Methodology

## 3.1 Desk-based Assessment

3.1.1 Information included in the previous heritage impact statement will be extracted from the existing report for inclusion in the final report.

## 3.2 Archaeological Building Recording

3.2.1 A programme of archaeological building recording to English Heritage Level 2-type standards is required (Historic England 2016). This is a relatively detailed level of investigation intended to record the form, function, and phasing of the building, while not necessarily incorporating any known historical information, in order to aid the interpretation of its development. It will comprise three types of recording:

- **Drawn Record:** plans of all of the principal floors will be produced, indicating alterations to the building and the location of each photographed feature of architectural or historic interest. These are compiled through hand measured survey techniques utilising 'as existing' plans and survey drawings. These are then drawn up to produce the final illustrations. In addition, a plan showing the location of the building in relation to other nearby buildings, structures and landscape features will also be produced;
- Drawings of all of the elevations will be produced showing, as a minimum, all of the detail relevant for understanding the development of the building. In addition at least one cross-section will be produced, which will show the detail of the roof structure and will be useful in explaining the relationship between different elements of the building or showing features of architectural or historic interest. These drawings will be produced through hand-annotating 'as existing' drawings on site to produce finished drawings, which will be drawn up for inclusion as figures in the report;
- **Written Record:** descriptive records of all elements of the building will be made on Greenlane Archaeology standard *pro forma* record sheets. These records will describe the building's plan, form, function, age, and construction materials. They will then be used to provide an account of the development of the building. In addition, the landscape and historic setting of the building will be described, in particular its relationship with other nearby buildings, streets, settlements and other structures;
- **Photographic Record:** photographs in colour digital format (both RAW files and JPEG format at 12meg resolution) will be taken. These will cover both general and detailed shots of the external elevations, individual rooms and circulation areas, but also scaled photographs of specific features of architectural or archaeological interest. In addition, a record of the associated landscape and nearby buildings will also be made where practical to do so. A selection of these photographs will also be used for illustrative purposes within the report, and a written record will be kept of all of the photographs that are taken.

## 3.3 Watching Brief

3.3.1 Where the groundworks involve excavation of a depth of more than six inches (15cm) below the surface these 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.

3.3.2 The watching brief methodology will be as follows:

- All excavation will be carried out under supervision by staff from Greenlane Archaeology;
- 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 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 (see *Section 1.3.4* above), 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 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 LAAS and ground works in that area halted so that the need for further work can be determined. Any additional work (which would result in additional costs) will be agreed with LAAS, and subject to a variation to this project design.

## 3.4 Report

3.3.1 The results of the building investigation and 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 building recording;
- Results of the watching brief;
- 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 of the building in relation to nearby structures and the local landscape;

- plans of all of the principal floors of the building showing the location of each photographed feature of architectural or archaeological interest, and a phase plan if appropriate;
- elevations of the building;
- a cross-section or cross-sections showing the cruck/truss structure;
- a plan of the areas monitored by watching brief and detailed plans and/or sections of any features of interest revealed;
- photographs of the building, features of architectural/historic interest and its landscape, accompanied by appropriate descriptions, including rectified views of the principal elevations;
- photographs of the areas monitored during the watching brief and any features of archaeological interest revealed;
- copies of selected historic maps and plans of the building relevant to understanding its development.

### 3.4 Archive

3.4.1 The archive, comprising the drawn, written, and photographic record of the building, formed during the project, will be stored by Greenlane Archaeology until it is completed. Upon completion it will be deposited with the Lancashire Record Office in Preston, together with a copy of the report. The archive will be compiled according to the standards and guidelines of the ClfA (ClfA 2014c). 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. Copies of the photographs taken as part of the project are kept on two hard drives by Greenlane Archaeology, one in the office and a backup that is removed every evening or stored in a fire-proof safe on site, but a set will be transferred to LAAS for storage on request.

3.4.2 A paper copy of the report will be provided to the client and a digital copy of the report will be provided for the Lancashire Historic Environment Record. In addition, Greenlane Archaeology Ltd will retain one copy.

## 4. Work timetable

4.1 Greenlane Archaeology will be available to commence the project from **26<sup>th</sup> June 2017**, 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:** on-site building recording;
- **Task 2:** 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). In addition, the building will be cleared by the client in order to allow internal photographs to be taken without obstructions. Greenlane Archaeology reserves the right to increase the price if the building has not been cleared at the time of recording, if this results in additional time on site to photograph the building's interior once it has been cleared. This also applies if the exterior is not accessible or obstructed to the extent that it prevents the building recording taking place as required.

### 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.

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## Appendix 2: Summary Context List

Location	Context	Type	Description	Interpretation
G1/G2	<b>100</b>	Deposit	Dusty grey sandy matrix in the north-east corner of G1/G2; up to 0.1m thick; petered out to the south-east; contained crumbly, whitish grey flecks of mortar	Unclear: possible make-up layer below the concrete floor, an old floor surface or simply relating to demolition rubble following removal of the concrete floor
G1/G2	<b>101</b>	Deposit	Thin amorphous blackish deposit, c0.02m thick	Patchy deposit of dumped 'industrial' waste material of unknown derivation
G1/G2	<b>102</b>	Deposit	Dark, brownish-grey silty-clay with frequent sub-rounded cobble-size and larger stones; less silty and lighter brown to the south-west side	Possibly silty and stony variation within geology; 'boulder clay'
G1/G2 and G3/G4	<b>103</b>	Deposit	Present at the south-west side of G1/G2 and across G3/G4; firm, mid-to-light greyish-brown, sandy-clay; <b>note: finds from this deposit are considered intrusive</b>	Boulder clay
G3/G4	<b>104</b>	Deposit	Present at the south-west side of G3/G4; dark grey silty-clay, up to 0.15m thick; petered out within perhaps 1.5m to 2.0m to the north-east	Probably post-medieval deposit encountered in the area of what was previously a calf pen and then a coal store -- could easily relate to spread of material from either of these two functions

### Appendix 3: Summary Finds List

Context	Type	Qty	Description	Date range
<b>Unstratified</b>	Pottery	1	A very ergonomic straight, strap handle, made from a slightly flattened piece of clay with a hooked end (curled round at the end away from the side of the vessel). It would have projected horizontally from the side of the vessel, probably a pipkin, which is a type of earthenware cooking pot. Sadly, the break, where it would have connected to the side or rim of the vessel, appears relatively fresh. It comprises a fairly hard-fired, lightly gritted sandy fabric, with a reduced dark grey core and oxidised pale orange external margins and surfaces beneath traces of light olive green glaze. <b><u>Note: this fragment was recovered from the 'cleaned' surface in Room G1/G2 upon arrival on site following the removal of the concrete.</u></b>	c13 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> century
<b>Unstratified</b>	Pottery	1	Factory-produced white glazed buff-bodied earthenware hollowware body fragment with white slip-coated interior	19 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> century
<b>Unstratified</b> / on top of <b>103</b>	Pottery	1	Staffordshire-type slipware hollowware body fragment with handle terminal <b><u>Note: this fragment was retrieved from the 'cleaning' surface (above 103) in Room G3/G4.</u></b>	Late 17 <sup>th</sup> – early 18 <sup>th</sup> century
Top of <b>103</b>	Animal bone	6	Unidentified, large, long bone fragments, with fresh breaks, missing end sections. <b><u>Note: these fragments were retrieved from the upper extent of 103 in Room G1/G2, however, they are considered intrusive to this context.</u></b>	Uncertain
<b>104</b>	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed red earthenware hollowware body fragment	Late 17 <sup>th</sup> – early 20 <sup>th</sup> century
<b>104</b>	Animal bone	3	Unidentified, large, long bone fragments (including cattle-size radius and tibia), with fresh breaks	Uncertain

## Appendix 4: Archive Index

<b>Project name:</b>	Barn at Manor House, Howgill Lane, Rimington, Lancashire: Archaeological Watching Brief		
<b>Project Code:</b>	G1391	<b>Site Code:</b>	MH18
<b>Description</b>	<b>Material</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
Report	Paper, comb-bound	A4	15 sheets printed double-sided
Watching brief record sheet	Paper	A4	2 sheets, double-sided
Photo record sheet	Paper	A4	1 sheet, double-sided
Drawings	Paper	A4	1 sheet, single-sided
Digital archive index	Paper	A4	1 sheet, single-sided
Digital archive	DVD	-	1