

Archaeological Evaluation Report

MIDDLE LODGE ROAD BARROW

For Bloor Homes Ltd

Cornelius Barton BA AIfA

L~P:ARCHÆOLOGY

Archaeological Evaluation Report

MIDDLE LODGE ROAD BARROW

Client: Bloor Homes Ltd

Local Authority: Ribble Valley Borough Council

NGR: 373960,438039

Planning App: 3/2013/0771

Author(s): C. Barton

Doc Ref: LPI623L-AER-v1.1

Site Code: 1623

Date: May 14

L-P: ARCHAEOLOGY

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Abstract

An archaeological evaluation was carried out at Middle Lodge Road, Barrow, BB7 9WA. The evaluation was implemented because of the potential for archaeological remains on the site. The work was carried out by L - P : Archaeology. This report has been prepared by Cornelius Barton of L – P : Archaeology on behalf of Bloor Homes.

The evaluation was implemented because of the potential for Prehistoric and Roman archaeological remains as the site is adjacent (but not within) an area of potential identified in an ALSF archaeology assesment of the RibbleValley. A geophysical survey identified several potential features and these were targeted by the evaluation trenching.

Despite the survey results no archaeological remains were identified. As such no further archaeological work is considered necessary.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This evaluation report has been prepared by Cornelius Barton of L - P : Archaeology on behalf of Bloor Homes. Additional research was carried out by Matt Williams. The fieldwork was carried out by Cornelius Barton of L - P : Archaeology between 13th-16th May 2014.
- 1.2. The site is located in at Middle Lodge Road, Barrow, Lancashire BB7 9WA (FIGURE 1). The NGR is 373960,438039.
- 1.3. The site code allocated by L - P : Archaeology is 1623.
- 1.4. The work was carried out in accordance with the Specification for Archaeological Evaluation agreed with the client and Ribble Valley Borough Council.

2. Site Background

2.1. PLANNING

2.1.1. Planning permission has been granted for redevelopment of the site. The proposed development consists of 102 dwellings with associated roads and services. The application reference is 3/2013/0771.

2.1.2. The Lancashire County Council Planning Officer (Archaeology) (LCCPOA) recommended in his letter to Ribble Valley Borough Council of 10th September 2013 that the following condition is attached to any planning consent granted:

No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agent or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Planning Authority.

2.2. GEOLOGY

2.2.1. The British Geological Survey GeoIndex for the site records the superficial (drift) deposits as Hodder Mudstone deposits and the solid deposits as Devensian Till (BRITISH GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, 2013).

2.3. TOPOGRAPHY

2.3.1. The site is located 1.5km north of the village of Whalley, on flat land 3km east of the River Ribble (FIGURE 1). It is bounded to the south and west by modern housing development, to the east by the A59 and to the north by commercial development comprising open land, a print works and a pond (FIGURE 2). The site is flat at approximately 87m OD.

2.3.2. The site is within the southern area of the Bowland Fringe and Pendle Hill Countryside Character Area as defined by Natural England. It is currently under pasture.

2.4. ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

2.4.1. As no specific study of the site had been undertaken prior to the geophysical

survey, a 1km search of the Lancashire Historic Environment Record (LHER) was undertaken. This area is henceforth referred to as the hereafter referred to as the 'study site', and records from the LHER are referenced by number e.g. (PRN12345)

- 2.4.2. Additional material was taken from the 'ALSF Aggregate Extraction in the Lower Ribble Valley' report by Oxford Archaeology North and the University of Liverpool (2007).
- 2.4.3. Mesolithic and Bronze Age sites tend to occur within the Ribble Valley floodplain rather than in upland areas, although this may be due to more ground works taking place in the valley since the late 19th century (OAN ET AL 2007).
- 2.4.4. A polished stone axe (PRN 178) was found 600m southeast of the site. There is an undated 'large mound' (PRN1889) recorded in the LHER 330m south of the site and an undated sub-circular enclosure (PRN28044) 420m northwest of the site. These features, especially the enclosure, suggest late Prehistoric activity in the vicinity.
- 2.4.5. Although the site is just outside the ALSF study area, it is adjacent to an area defined as of high potential for prehistoric remains (OAN ET AL 2007).
- 2.4.6. During the Roman period this part of the Ribble Valley probably formed an agricultural landscape that helped provide supplies for the military. The Roman road running north from Ribchester is just over 1km northwest of the site and adjacent to the Barrow Brook, both which would have acted as trade and travel routes and therefore are likely to have attracted settlement (OAN ET AL 2007).
- 2.4.7. Although the site is just outside the ALSF study area, it is adjacent to an area defined as of high potential for Roman archaeology (OAN ET AL 2007) due to the presence of the Roman road and Barrow Brook.
- 2.4.8. Throughout the Medieval period the Ribble Vally became an increasingly important trade route between Preston and Clitheroe. Although there is little evidence for Medieval activity in the study site, the presence of the Barrow Brook may have attracted settlement (OAN ET AL 2007) it is adjacent to an area

defined as of high potential for Roman archaeology (OAN ET AL 2007).

2.5.GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

- 2.5.1. In order to target evaluation trenches effectively a geophysical survey of the site was commissioned. The work was undertaken in March 2014.
- 2.5.2. The survey identified a number of anomalies within the site (FIGURE 4) . The survey did not identify any targets that were interpreted as Prehistoric or Roman features but there were some features of possible interest.
- 2.5.3. These included the double and triple boundary feature (10), which was interpreted as a possible historic bank and ditch boundary that has continued in use, and the line of double post holes (20-47), a possible feature of unknown form.
- 2.5.4. There were also a series of linear anomalies identified as probable ridge and furrow.

3. Aims

3.1. The general aims of the evaluation are:

- ◆ To determine the presence or absence of archaeological deposits or remains.
- ◆ To assess the character, date, location and preservation of any archaeological remains on the site.
- ◆ To assess the nature and extent of any previous damage to archaeological remains on the site.
- ◆ To assess the anticipated impact of the development proposals on any surviving archaeological remains.
- ◆ To collect enough information to allow a suitable mitigation strategy to be devised, if required. Any such strategy could consist of further fieldwork followed by a programme of post excavation analysis, reporting and possible publication and dissemination.

4. Methodology

- 4.1. For a full description of the archaeological methodology please refer to section 4 of the SAE (WILLIAMS 2014).
- 4.2. Ten trenches were excavated in total (FIGURE 3). The trenches were excavated by a 23 ton mechanical excavator under the supervision of a qualified archaeologist.
- 4.3. The trenches were targeted on anomalies detected by the geophysical survey which were interpreted as possible archaeological features.

5. Results

- 5.1. Results are given below. Trench is abbreviated below to Tr. Deposit numbers are given in (parentheses) and cut numbers are given in [square brackets]. Stratigraphic group numbers are in {curly braces}.
- 5.2. There were no archaeological remains present in any of the trenches. The stratigraphic sequence across the site consisted of a deposit of mid red-brown silty clay topsoil {2001}. This deposit was between 0.20m and 0.30m thick.
- 5.3. Below this was a deposit of stiff dark red-brown silty clay subsoil {2002}. {2202} contained occasional glass fragments, sherds of 20th century glazed pottery and flecks of charcoal. This deposit was between 0.25m and 0.35m thick.
- 5.4. Below this was a deposit of stiff dark grey-brown clay with blue-grey patches {2003}. This was the natural drift geology. The interface between {2002} and {2003} was very diffuse in places, although there was a clear difference in colour and composition.
- 5.5. Trench 1, in the north west of the site, contained a broad modern land drain on a east-to-west alignment (PLATE 1).



Plate 1: Modern Land Drain Tr 1. View From East,
2x1m Scale

- 5.6. Trench 8, in the north east corner of the site, contained two modern land drains on a

north- south alignment (see section xx, Pla). The drains were of early 20th century construction, made from slate slab. They were cut in an alignment matching the anomalies identified as possible ridge and furrow.



Plate 2: Modern Land Drain in Tr 8. From South, 1x1m Scale

5.7. There were no other features or material of archaeological interest in any of the trenches.

6. Finds

6.1. The only artefactual material found was of late 19th or 20th century date, consisting of glass and brick fragments and modern glazed pottery. This material was noted but not retained.

7. Summary and Conclusions

- 7.1. A site at Middle Lodge Road, Barrow, Lancashire is approved for redevelopment. The development consists of 102 dwellings with associated roads and service
- 7.2. The area around the site is considered to have some potential to contain archaeological remains. A geophysical survey of the site identified a number of anomalies which were interpreted as possible archaeological features.
- 7.3. Archaeological trenches targeted on the anomalies did not expose any archaeological remains. The only features present were modern land drains, several of which matched the geophysical survey anomalies.
- 7.4. Further archaeological works on the site are not considered necessary.

8. Archive

8.1. The paper archive consists of:

- ◆ 1 x Drawing Register
- ◆ 4 x Drawing Film
- ◆ 1 x Photographic Register
- ◆ 1 x CD Digital Images
- ◆ 10 x Trench Sheets
- ◆ 1x Context Register

8.2. The archive is to be deposited with Lancashire County Museum Service.

SOURCES CONSULTED

BIBLIOGRAPHIC

OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY NORTH AND LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY 2007 ALSF Aggregate
Extraction in the Lower Ribble Valley, Final Report Volume 1. English Heritage

L - P : ARCHAEOLOGY 2014 Specification for Archaeological Evaluation at Middle Lodge Road, Barrow. L
- P : Archaeology LLP

ELECTRONIC

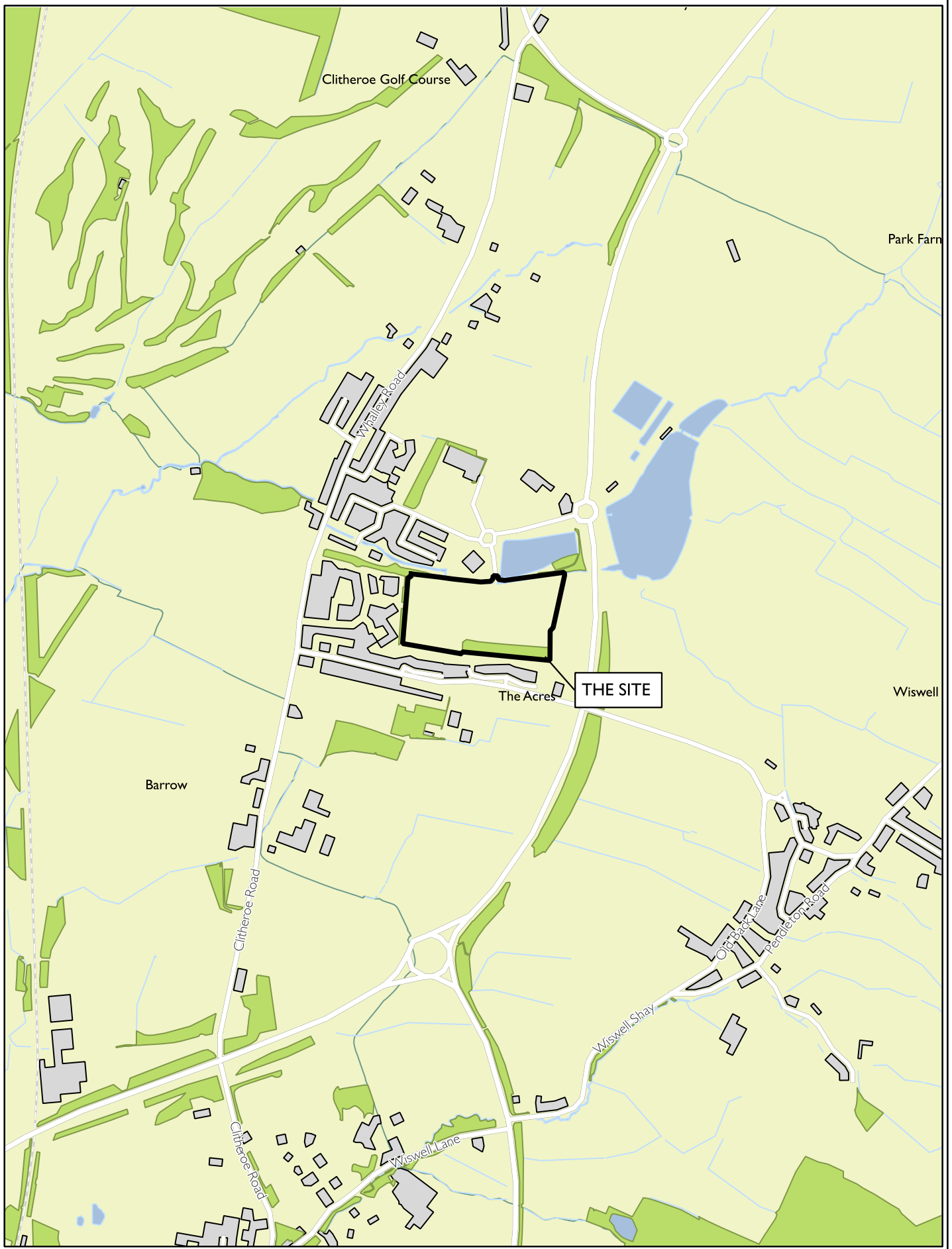
BRITISH GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, 2013. British Geological Survey GeoIndex [WWW Document]. URL
<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/geoindex/> accessed 01/12/13

STATUTORY AND GUIDANCE

STANDARD AND GUIDANCE FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION Institute for
Archaeologists 2008

FIGURES

FIGURE I // Site Location - General



PROJECT // 1623M - Middle Lodge Road, Barrow

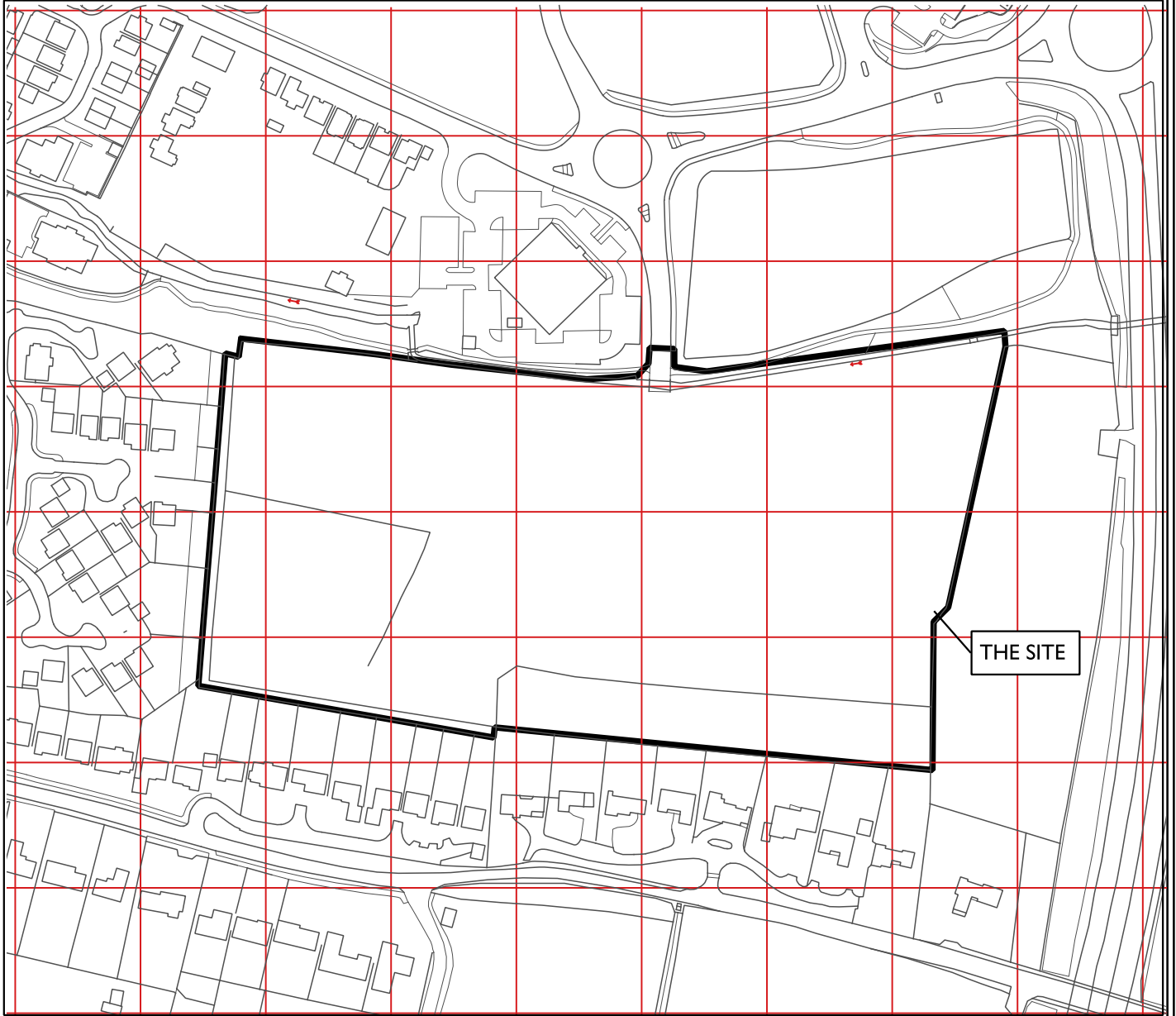
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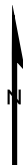
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FIGURE 2 // Site Location - Detail



0 50 m



PROJECT // 1623M - Middle Lodge Road, Barrow

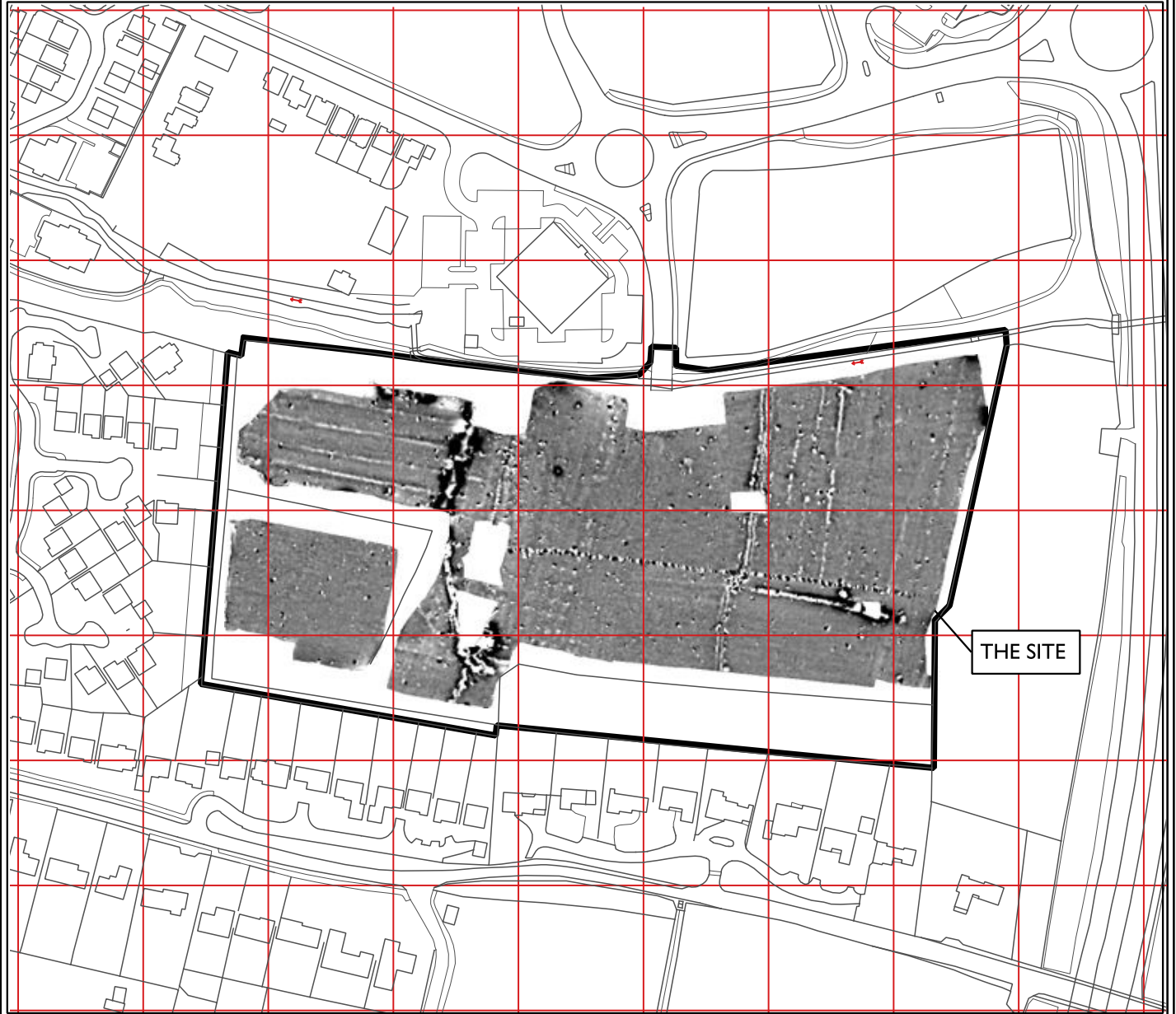
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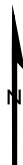
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FIGURE 3 // Magnetic Survey Results



0 50 m



PROJECT // 1623M - Middle Lodge Road, Barrow

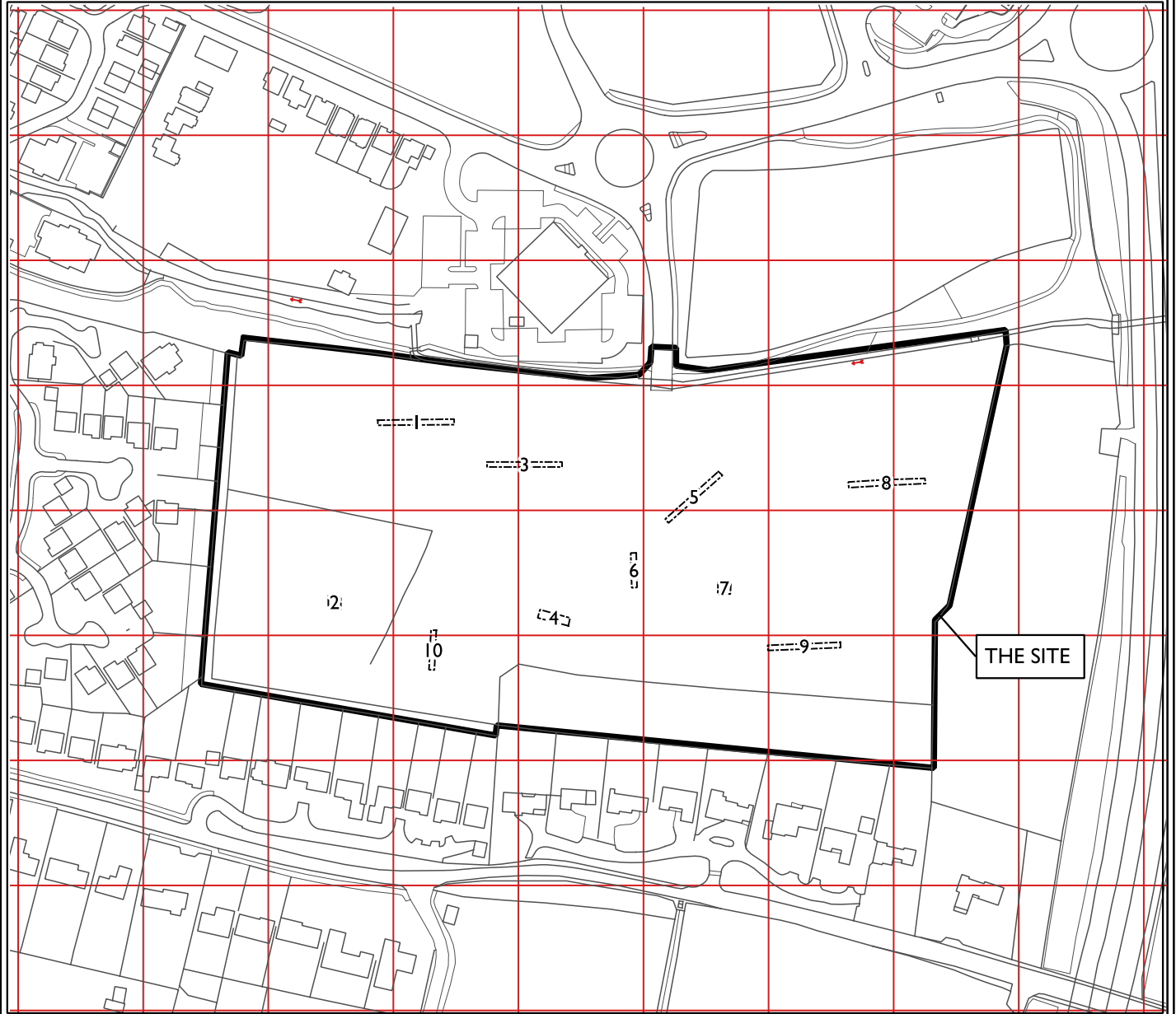
DESCRIPTION // Magnetic Survey Results

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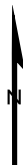
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FIGURE 4 // Trench Locations



0 50 m



PROJECT // 1623M - Middle Lodge Road, Barrow

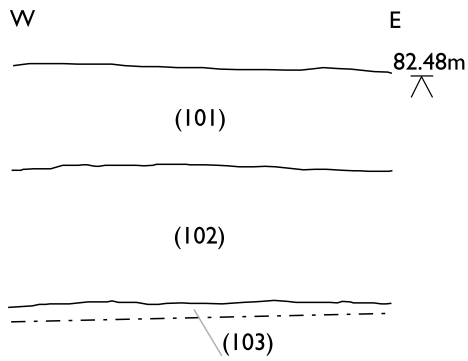
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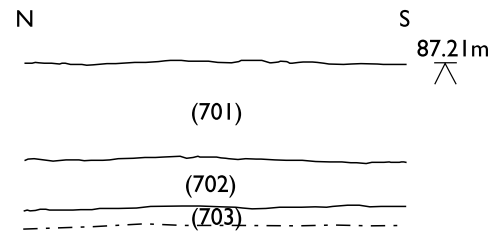
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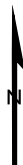
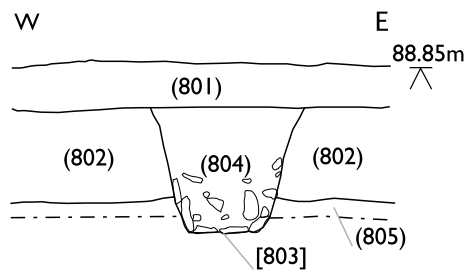
Trench I



Trench 7



Trench 8



PROJECT // 1623M - Middle Lodge Road, Barrow

DESCRIPTION // Sample Sections of trench 1, trench 7 and trench 8

DOC REF: LPI623M-AER-v1

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OASIS FORM

APPENDIX I

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: lparchae1-180233

Project details

Project name	Middle Lodge Road Barrow
Short description of the project	10 trench evaluation in a greenfield site next to area of Prehistoric and Roman potential as identified in ALSF Ribble Valley archaeological assessment (OA and EH).
Project dates	Start: 13-05-2014 End: 16-05-2014
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	1623 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Monument type	FIELD DRAIN Modern
Significant Finds	N/A None
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	LANCASHIRE RIBBLE VALLEY WISWELL Middle Lodge Road
Postcode	BB7 9WA
Study area	4.20 Hectares
Site coordinates	SD 73960 38039 53.8377398152 -2.3957586285 53 50 15 N 002 23 44 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 87.00m Max: 87.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation L - P : Archaeology
 Project brief originator Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
 Project design originator L - P : Archaeology
 Project director/manager Matthew Williams
 Project supervisor Cornelius Barton
 Type of sponsor/funding body Developer
 Name of sponsor/funding body Bloor Homes

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No
 Digital Archive recipient Lancashire Museum Service
 Digital Contents "Stratigraphic","Survey"
 Digital Media available "GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Text"
 Paper Archive recipient Lancashire Museum Service
 Paper Contents "Stratigraphic","Survey"
 Paper Media available "Context sheet","Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
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