

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT:
PLOT 1, PALMER LANE, BARROW UPON HUMBER,
NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE**

Planning Application Reference: PA/2004/1114
NGR: TA 0725 2120
AAL Site Code: BAPL 10
North Lincolnshire Museum Site Code: BFAN
OASIS Reference Number: allenarc1-94899



Report prepared for Truelove Property and Construction Limited

By
Allen Archaeology Limited
Report Number 2011013

March 2011



The
Authority on
Archaeological
Planning
Services



Contents

Summary	1
1.0 Introduction	2
2.0 Site Location and Description	2
3.0 Planning Background	2
4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background	2
5.0 Methodology	3
6.0 Results	3
7.0 Discussion and Conclusions	3
8.0 Effectiveness of Methodology	4
9.0 Acknowledgements	4
10.0 References	4

List of Appendices

Appendix 1: Colour Plates	5
Appendix 2: Context Summary List	6

List of Figures

- Figure 1:** Location of site outlined in red at scale 1:25,000
Figure 2: Monitored plot outlined in green. Previous evaluation trenches in red superimposed over proposed development plan at scale 1:1000. Archaeological deposits shown in black, with former surfaces shown in blue
Figure 3: Plot 1 plan at scale 1:100 and representative section at scale 1:20

List of Plates

- Plate 1:** General view of site, looking south-west
Plate 2: General working shot and view of stratigraphic sequence, looking south-west

Document Control

Element	Name	Date
Report prepared by:	Maria Piirainen	01/03/2011
Illustrations prepared by:	Maria Piirainen	28/02/2011
Report edited by:	Chris Clay	02/03/2011
Report produced by:	AAL2011013	02/03/2011

In line with AAL environmental policies, this document is printed double sided on 100% recycled paper to reduce our carbon footprint

Summary

- Truelove Property and Construction commissioned Allen Archaeology to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks for a single dwelling on land off Palmer Lane in Barrow upon Humber, North Lincolnshire.
- The site lies within an area of high archaeological potential. A preceding evaluation in advance of the development exposed a complex of Romano-British settlement features of 2nd to 4th century AD. The site was abandoned possibly due to extensive flooding, as approximately one metre of alluvial silt sealed the earlier archaeological deposits and features. The evaluation trench nearest to the house plot monitored during the current phase of works was devoid of features however.
- A single house plot (Plot 1) was monitored in the north-east corner of the development area. No finds or features were recorded in the house plot, confirming the results of the previous evaluation in this area.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Allen Archaeology Limited (hereafter AAL) was commissioned by Truelove Property and Construction Limited, to carry out an archaeological watching brief during groundworks for Plot 1 of a residential development on land off Palmer Lane in Barrow upon Humber, North Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The watching brief conforms to current national guidelines, as set out in the Institute for Archaeologists '*Standard and guidance for archaeological watching briefs*' (IfA 1994, revised 1999 and 2008). All appropriate English Heritage guidelines on archaeological practice were also followed (www.helm.org/server/show/nav.7740) as well as a specification prepared by this company (Allen 2010).
- 1.3 The documentary archive will be submitted to North Lincolnshire Museum within six months of the completion of the project and will be stored under the Museum Site Code BFAN.

2.0 Site Location and Description

- 2.1 Barrow upon Humber lies 4.2km to the east-south-east of the centre of Barton upon Humber and c.20.7km north-east of Scunthorpe. The site lies to the immediate south-east of the High Street, off Palmer Lane, within an area of waste ground that has estate roads for the development already in place. The site is centred on NGR 5072 4215 and lies at approximately 5m above Ordnance Datum.
- 2.2 The bedrock geology of the area is recorded as Upper Cretaceous Burnham Chalk, overlain by a superficial geology of Till and alluvium (British Geological Survey 1983).

3.0 Planning Background

- 3.1 A planning application was submitted in June 2004 for a residential development comprising 48 dwellings with garages and associated works (Planning Reference PA/2004/1114). This was approved in December 2008, with conditions, including '*a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation*'.
- 3.2 The first phase of work comprised an evaluation by trial trenching, which was undertaken in September 2010 (AAL 2010). Following this, the North Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record (NLHER) Officer requested an archaeological watching brief be undertaken during the groundworks for Plots 1 and 2 of the new development. As the foundation designs for the other 46 plots are prepared, the archaeological implications will be reviewed by the NLHER Officer to ascertain if further work is necessary across the site. The current report is on the monitoring of Plot 1, with Plot2 to be completed at a later date and reported upon separately.

4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 4.1 Information held at the North Lincolnshire Historic Environment Records Office indicates that the site lies within an area of archaeological interest with the potential for settlement remains of pre-medieval date (Alison Williams letter 23rd September 2004).
- 4.2 Construction work in the 1970s in the surrounding area uncovered pottery of Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval date, whilst an earlier housing development on The Island in 1961 exposed between 30 and 40 inhumations which are likely to be part of an extensive cemetery associated with the monastery of St Chad (*ibid.*). The monastery is the first known church to

have been built in Lincolnshire outside of Lincoln, with Chad bishop of the church from 669 until his death in 672 AD (Sawyer1998).

- 4.3 The settlement of Barrow is first mentioned by Bede in 731 as *Bearuwe*, from the Old English meaning ‘a grove’ (Cameron 1998).
- 4.4 In the Domesday Survey of 1086, the settlement had one major land owner, Drogo of La Beuvriere, with Theodbald, Drogo’s man also owning land (Morgan and Thorn 1986). Drogo had land for 4 ploughs, with 50 Freemen on 2 carucates of land, and 7 villagers with 8 ploughs. There was also 1 mill recorded at the time (*ibid.*).
- 4.5 A previous archaeological evaluation of the development area showed that it lies within a landscape containing abundant archaeological remains of Romano-British date, mainly of 2nd to 4th century AD (AAL 2010). These remains included pits, postholes, gullies, a gravel bank and several cobbled surfaces, all suggestive of settlement activity on the site, within a grassland habitat that was seasonally wet and flooded, on the basis of palaeoenvironmental evidence. Following abandonment of the site, it appears flood deposits buried the site under c.1m of alluvial deposits. Plot 1 of the development area is located in the north-east corner of the site, near to Trench 1 of the previous evaluation, where no archaeological deposits of significance were encountered.

5.0 Methodology

- 5.1 The archaeological monitoring was carried out on 6th December 2010 by Mr Ian Rowlandson on behalf of AAL. The groundworks were carried out using a tracked 360° excavator fitted with a 0.6m wide toothless bucket.
- 5.2 All exposed plan and section surfaces were inspected for any archaeological features and deposits to determine the stratigraphic sequence. Each context observed was recorded on pro-forma AAL context record sheets, accompanied by section drawings at appropriate scales. A photographic record was maintained throughout the watching brief with selected digital shots included as an appendix to this report (see Appendix 1).
- 5.3 Each layer identified was allocated a unique identifier (context number), and accorded a written description, a summary of these are included in Appendix 2.

6.0 Results

- 6.1 The uppermost deposit was a redeposited topsoil layer of dark grey/brown sandy silt, 01 sealing a former topsoil horizon 02, comprising a grey brown sandy silt. Beneath 02 was a subsoil layer of mid brown silt, 03, which sealed a mid brown chalky clay 04, interpreted as the natural geology. The natural geology was encountered approximately 1.2m below the modern ground surface.

7.0 Discussion and Conclusion

- 7.1 The results of the watching brief accorded well with the adjacent Trench 1 of the preceding evaluation. The earliest deposit on site was the natural glacial till, sealed by subsoil, topsoil and a redeposited topsoil horizon.

8.0 Effectiveness of Methodology

- 8.1 The archaeological watching brief methodology was appropriate to the scale and nature of the proposed development. The investigations have shown that the area of Plot 1 was devoid of archaeological finds or features.

9.0 Acknowledgements

- 9.1 Allen Archaeology would like to thank Truelove Property and Construction for this commission.

10.0 References

AAL, 2010, *Archaeological Evaluation Report: Trial Trenching On Land Off Palmer Lane, Barrow upon Humber, North Lincolnshire*. Allen Archaeology Limited report number 2010063

Allen, M., 2010, *Specification for an archaeological watching brief on land off Palmer Lane, Barrow upon Humber, North Lincolnshire*, Allen Archaeology Limited

British Geological Survey, 1983, *Kingston upon Hull. England and Wales Sheet 80. Drift Edition. 1:50,000 Series*. Keyworth, Nottingham: British Geological Survey

Cameron, K., 1998, *A dictionary of Lincolnshire place-names*, English Place-Name Society, University of Nottingham, Nottingham

Cooper, N. (ed.), 2006, *The Archaeology of the East Midlands: an Archaeological Resource Assessment and Research Agenda for the East Midlands*. Leicester Archaeology Monograph No. 13. University of Leicester

English Heritage, 2006, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*. Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England. London

IfA., 1999, *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluations*, Institute for Archaeologists, Reading.

Morgan, P. and Thorn, C., (eds.), 1986, *Domesday Book: vol.31: Lincolnshire*, Phillimore & Co. Ltd, Chichester

Sawyer, P., 1998, *Anglo-Saxon Lincolnshire*. History of Lincolnshire Committee for the Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology. Lincoln

Appendix 1: Colour Plates



Plate 1: General view of site, looking south-west



Plate 2: General working shot and view of stratigraphic sequence, looking south-west

Appendix 2: Context Summary List

Context No.	Type	Description	Interpretation
01	Layer	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with angular gravel, seals 02	Redeposited topsoil
02	Layer	Grey brown sandy silt, sealed by 01, seals 03	Former topsoil
03	Layer	Mid brown silt, sealed by 02, seals 04	Subsoil
04	Layer	Mid brown clay with chalk flecks, sealed by 03	Natural geology

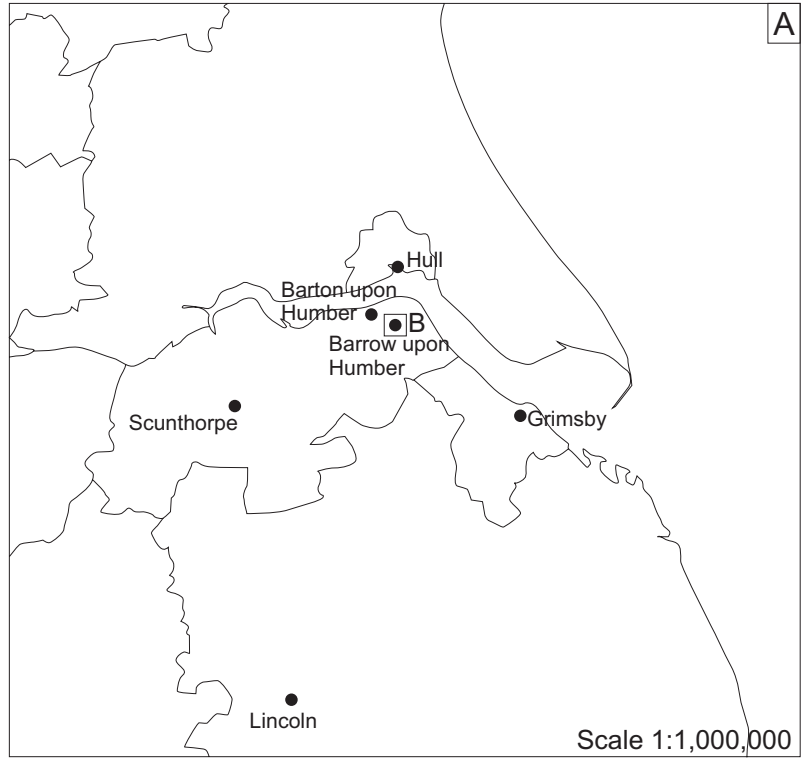


Figure 1: Site location at scale 1:25,000, with site outlined in red
 Crown Copyright 2006. All rights reserved. Licence Number 100047330

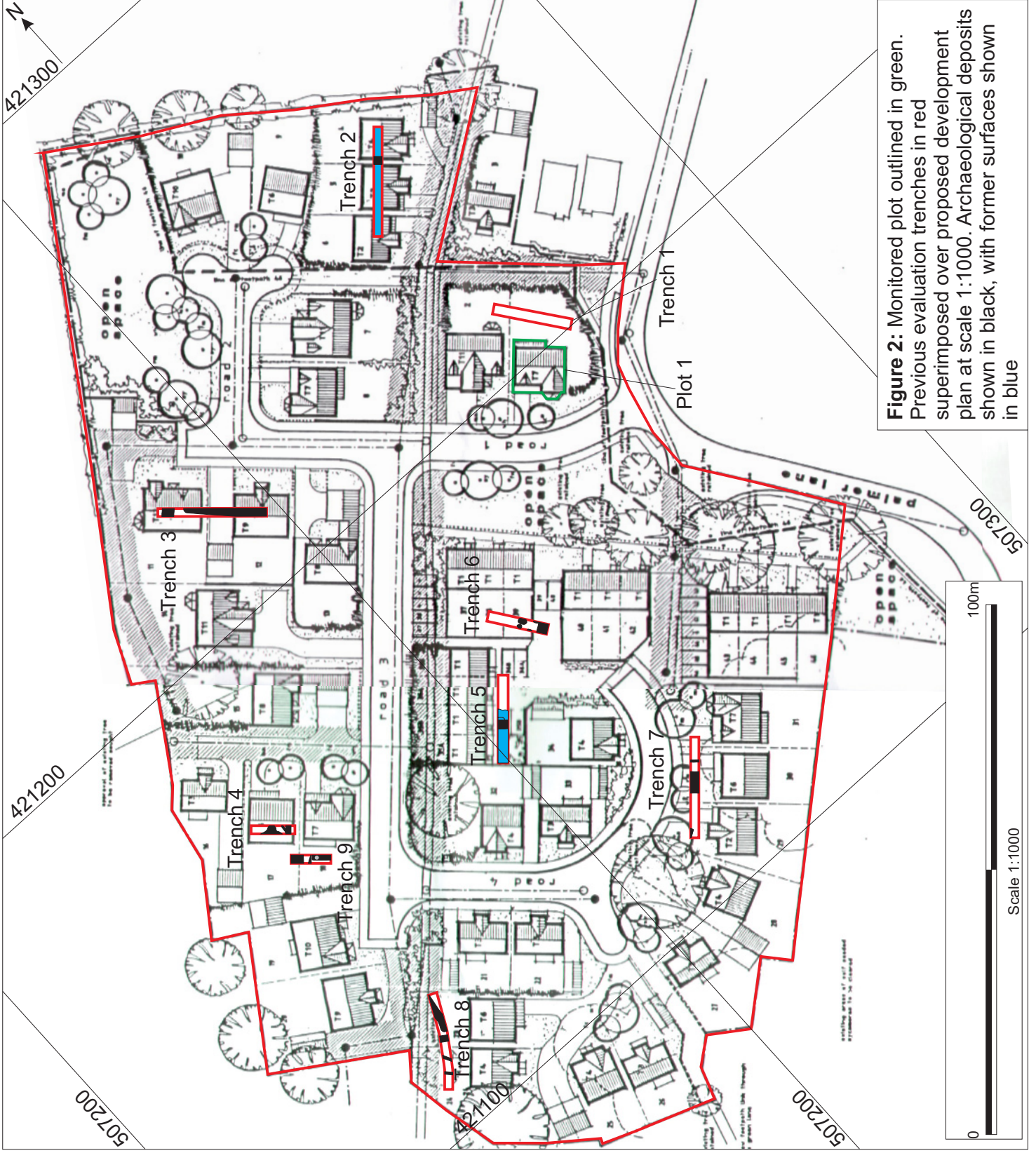
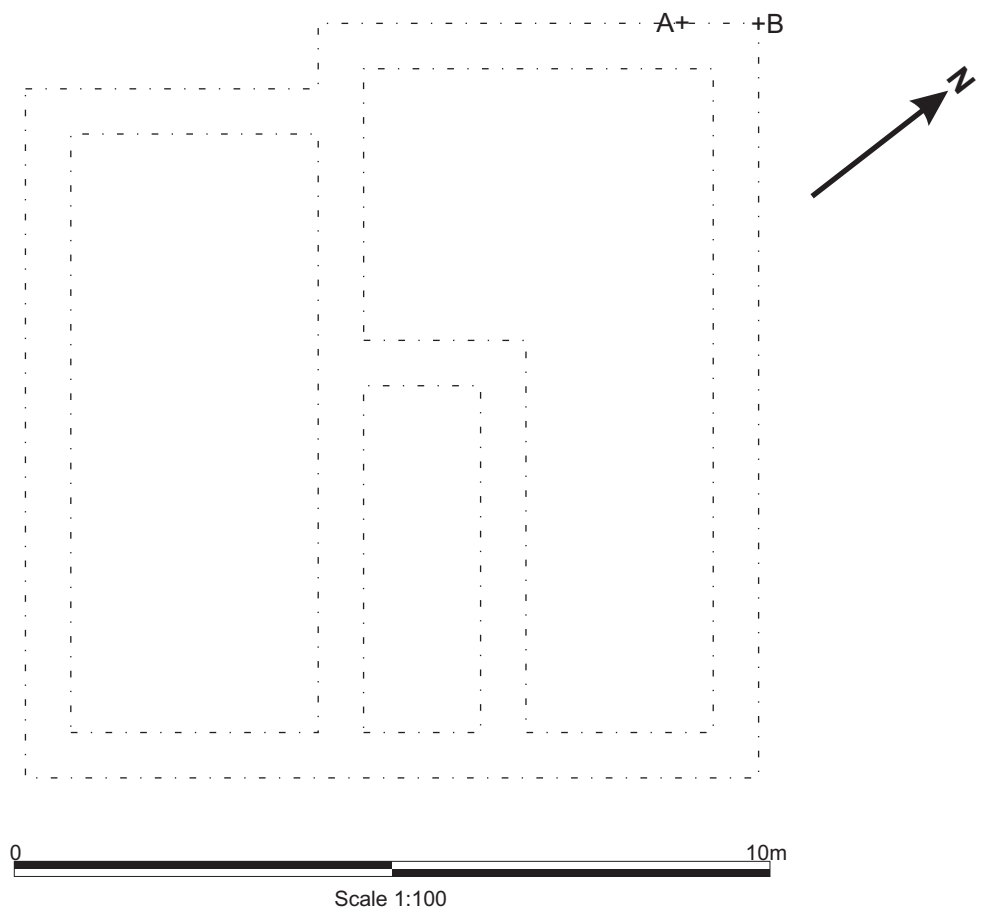


Figure 2: Monitored plot outlined in green. Previous evaluation trenches in red superimposed over proposed development plan at scale 1:1000. Archaeological deposits shown in black, with former surfaces shown in blue



South-East Facing Section

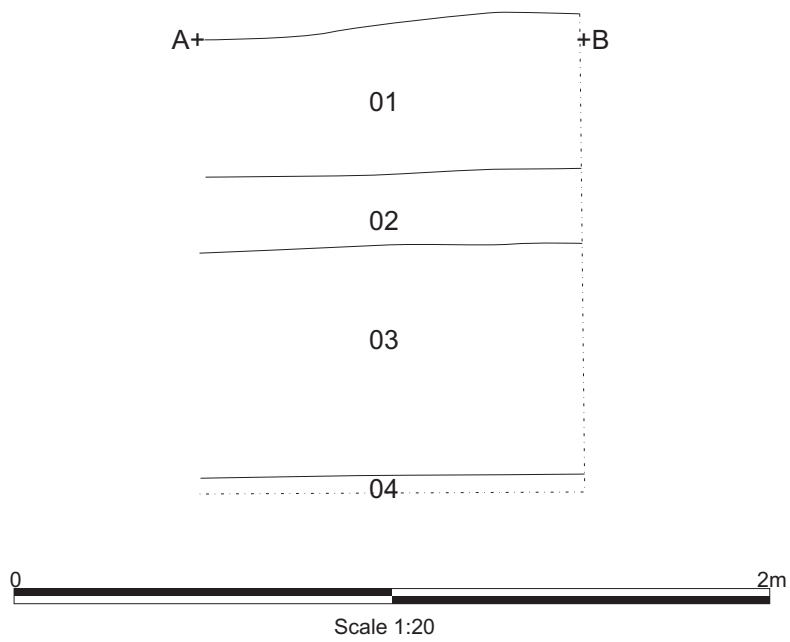


Figure 3: Plot 1 plan at scale 1.100 and representative section at scale 1.20