

**LAND TO THE REAR OF ORCHARD GRANGE, BISHOP NORTON
ROAD, GLENTHAM, WEST LINDSEY, LINCOLNSHIRE**

SCHEME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING

NGR: SK 99967 90937
Planning application: 133175
PCAS job no. 1901
Site code: OGGM 17
Archive acc. no.: LCNCC: 2017.110

Prepared for

Mr J Grady

by

Feenagh Johnson (BA Hons)

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Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd
47, Manor Road
Saxilby
Lincoln
LN1 2HX

Tel. 01522 703800
e-mail info@pre-construct.co.uk

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Summary

- PCAS Archaeology Ltd. (PCAS) was commissioned by Mr. J. Grady to undertake a scheme of archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks on Land to the rear of Orchard Grange, Bishop Norton Road, Glentham, Lincolnshire. This was to satisfy a planning condition issued by West Lindsey District council.
- The site is situated within an area of archaeological importance: a Scheduled Ancient Monument, comprising the cropmark remains of a Middle Neolithic D-shaped barrow, is situated approximately 850m north-north-west of the site. This feature is considered to be nationally important because of its rarity. Archaeological work in the vicinity has also indicated that the site lay on the periphery of both the early medieval and medieval settlement of Glentham.
- The monitored area consisted of the footing for a building measuring approximately 16.5m x 17m and an approximately 45m long drainage channel, with the excavated depth not exceeding 1.0m below current ground level.
- No deposits or artefacts of archaeological interest were encountered during the monitoring, suggesting that site was most likely situated on the periphery of any settlement activity.

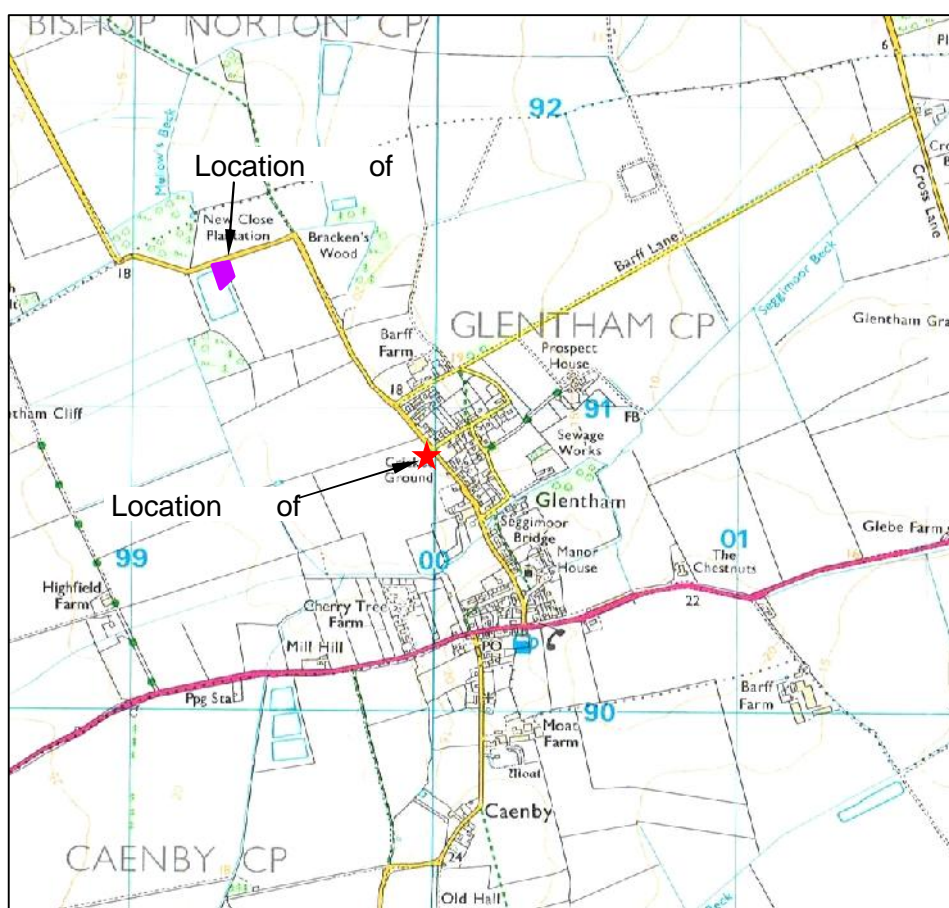


Figure 1: Site location plan at scale 1:25,000. Site location shown in red and the Scheduled Ancient Monument in purple. OS mapping © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. PCAS licence no. 100049278.

1.0 Introduction

PCAS Archaeology Ltd. (PCAS) was commissioned by Mr. J. Grady to undertake a scheme of archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks on Land to the rear of Orchard Grange, Bishop Norton Road, Glentham, Lincolnshire, to satisfy a planning condition issued by West Lindsey District council.

The fieldwork recording and reporting conformed to current national guidelines, as set out in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 'Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief' (ClfA 2014), and the English Heritage documents 'Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment' (Historic England 2015). All relevant local guidelines outlined in the 'Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook' (LCC 2012) were also followed, as well as a specification for the works prepared by this company (Savage 2017).

The documentary archive for this scheme will be submitted to The Collection, Lincoln within six months of the completion of the report, where it will be stored under the museum accession code LCNCC: 2017.110.

2.0 Site Location and Description (Figures 1 and 2)

The village of Glentham is within the West Lindsey district of Lincolnshire, approximately 19km to the north of Lincoln and 10km to the west of Market Rasen, at the junction of the A631 – the main road between Gainsborough and Market Rasen – with the minor road connecting the chain of villages that runs along the eastern side of the Lincoln Edge, all having Ermine Street as their western parish boundaries. It lies near the foot of the eastward slope of the Lincoln Edge limestone ridge down to the clay vale of the River Ancholme, whose course, prior to its canalisation, marked the eastern boundaries of many of these parishes.

The development site is located towards the north side of the village, on the north-east side of Bishop Norton Road at a central NGR of SK 99967 90937. It lies outside the northern edge of Glentham's Conservation Area (WLDC 1995) and consists of a roughly rectangular area of land to the rear of Orchard Grange, previously forming part of its back garden. The plot is bordered to the north-west by the reduced boundary of Orchard Grange, and on the other three sides by fences and high evergreen hedges bounding the back gardens of neighbouring properties; a new access has been constructed at the west corner, running along the reduced boundary of Orchard Grange.

3.0 Topography and Geology

Glentham is situated on undulating ground at the point where the foot of the eastward-facing slope of the Lincoln Edge levels out into the Ancholme Valley. The majority of the villages along the east side of the Lincoln Edge are sited on the course of becks that rise on the high ground to the west: the Seggimoor Beck flows through Glentham before being straightened to act as a drain for the fields on the lower-lying land to the east, eventually falling into the River Ancholme.

The site is raised some 3m above the height of Bishop Norton Road, at an approximate Ordnance Datum height of 18m above sea level: the new site access slopes steeply upwards from the road, while the site itself is relatively level, with a slope of approximately 0.3m from east to west.

With the exception of a narrow band of alluvium along the course of the Seggimoor Beck, no drift geology is recorded in the area of Glentham, although the Till deposits of the clay vale begin a short distance to the east. The exposed solid geology varies across the slope of the Lincoln Edge; Kellaways Formation mudstone is most likely to be present on the site, although Cornbrash Formation limestone and Kellaways Formation sandstone may also be encountered (BGS, 1999).

4.0 Planning Background

Subject to conditions, full planning permission for the construction of a one and a half-storey dwelling was granted by West Lindsey District Council in December 2015 (planning application number 133175).

The approach adopted is consistent with the recommendations of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), particularly Conditions 3,5,6,7 and 8 (Department for Communities and Local Government 2012)

Condition 3 of the grant of planning permission stipulates that a written scheme of archaeological investigation is to be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to the commencement of groundworks, while Conditions 5 and 6 respectively require the Local Planning Authority to be notified in writing of the intention to commence the archaeological investigations at least 14 days in advance and the archaeological site work to be undertaken only in full accordance with the approved WSI.

Following the completion of site works, Condition 7 requires a written report of the findings of the archaeological work to be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority within three months, while Condition 8 requires the deposition of the site archive with an approved receiving museum within six months of completion.

5.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

A Scheduled Ancient Monument is situated at the northern boundary of Glentham parish, approximately 850m north-north-west of the site (marked in purple on Figure 1). The monument consists of the cropmark of a D-shaped ditched enclosure within a larger rectilinear enclosure, and has been interpreted as the remains of a Middle Neolithic D-shaped barrow, a feature considered to be nationally important because of its rarity (List entry no. 1017333). The only other evidence for prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the site is a flint bladelet of possible Mesolithic date, found during archaeological evaluation trenching to the south of Barff Lane (HER ref. MLI83860).

There is little evidence for Roman activity in Glentham, although the western parish boundary is formed by the line of the major Roman road Ermine Street. The find of a coin of the Emperor Valentinian has been recorded on land to the north of Middlefield Lane, within the eastern edge of the development site, although it is possible that this record is an accidental duplication of one for the find of a coin of the same date in 1964 on land south of Barff Lane, within a house plot fronting on to Bishop Norton Road and bordering the site entrance and the south-west side of the site (HER refs. MLI51038 and MLI51021). A scatter of Roman pottery was recorded in 1963 on land now occupied by the Barff Meadow housing development to the north of the site (HER ref. MLI51036).

The Domesday Survey of AD 1086 (Williams and Martin 2002) records Glentham as a large and prosperous settlement, divided into three manors held respectively by the Bishop of Bayeux, the Bishop of Lincoln and the Norman noble Ivo Taillebois.

The Bishop of Lincoln's land was an outlying holding of his manor of Stow, while the other two holdings were manors in their own right. The agricultural land of all three manors was partly under arable cultivation and partly meadow; no other land use is recorded in any Manor. The settlement had a total population of 65 taxable households, but no profitable enterprises such as mills are listed, nor is any manor recorded as having a church (although a fragment of a late Saxon grave slab was found during building work on the present parish church (HER ref. ML 53938)). Cultivation appears to have been intensive at the time of the Domesday Survey, as the two manors whose taxable values are quoted had both increased significantly in value since the Norman Conquest (Foster and Longley 1924).

A programme of archaeological investigation in advance of and during the construction of the Barff Meadow housing development, bordering the north side of Orchard Grange, retrieved three sherds of early Saxon pottery during evaluation trenching; the subsequent watching brief identified two ditches and sixteen pits, one surrounded by stake-holes: the majority of these features were undated, but Saxon and Saxo-Norman pottery were retrieved from three of the pits (HER ref. MLI83862).

The village diminished in the mid-14th century, and in this context it is probably significant that the current parish church, St. Peter's, dates chiefly to the Perpendicular period (HER ref. MLI51051): funds to enlarge and update it were never again available. The earthwork remains of the medieval settlement survive in several closes within and on the fringe of the modern village: they were previously more extensive, but earthworks to the east of the village and to the north of the Seggimore Beck have now been ploughed out. The village appears to have been divided into two by the beck, probably representing the boundary between the two manors.

A programme of non-intrusive archaeological investigation on land on the west side of Bishop Norton Road, near the centre of the village, recorded a variety of earthwork features including a hollow-way, possible house platforms, ditches bounding small medieval fields or closes, and the probable former course of the Seggimoor Beck, which is known to have been diverted as part of a land drainage programme at the time of Parliamentary Enclosure in 1764.

No earthworks are known on the proposed development site, although areas of ridge-and-furrow have been recorded on the cricket ground on the west side of Bishop Norton Road, a short distance to the south of the site, and linear earthworks denoting the boundaries of plots or closes have been recorded directly to the north and east of the site (HER ref. MLI51053).

During the construction of the Barff Meadow housing development, bordering the north side of Orchard Grange, unstratified pottery dating from the 14th to the 16th century, as well as 18th to 19th-century material, was retrieved (HER ref. MLI51023).

6.0 Methodology

The scheme of works was implemented in accordance with all relevant national and local guidelines regarding agreed best practice for such projects. It comprised the archaeological monitoring of all groundworks and recording of any archaeological remains exposed, effectively 'preserving archaeology by record'. The monitored areas were excavated using a tracked 360° excavator fitted with a toothless bucket to a maximum depth of 1.00m below current ground level. Fieldwork was undertaken over a period of two working days in May and June 2017 and an experienced field archaeologist was present during all groundworks.

A full written, drawn and photographic record of deposits was made on standard PCAS context recording forms. Significant deposits were then recorded in plan and section at an appropriate scale (1:10; 1:20, 1:50 or 1:100) with OD heights being displayed on each class

of drawing. Each deposit or layer was allocated a unique context number and given a written description, a summary of these are included in Appendix 1.

A photographic record in digital format was maintained during the course of the archaeological intervention. Where appropriate these photographs incorporated an identification board, scale and directional arrow.

7.0 Results (Figure 3)

The stratigraphic sequence proved consistent across the site, comprising a 0.2m to 0.25m thick topsoil layer of friable, dark grey sandy silt, 001, which overlay a 0.4m to 0.5m thick subsoil of friable mid brown sand, 002. This in turn sealed the natural till of the site, 003, a soft mottled yellow and brown sand with occasional fragments of limestone brash.

No archaeological features of any period were observed.



Plate 1: West-southwest facing representative section, scales 1m and 0.5m

8.0 Discussion and Conclusions

The monitored area consisted of the footing for a building measuring approximately 16.5m x 17m and an approximately 45m long drainage channel, with the excavated depth not exceeding 1.0m below current ground level.

A ubiquitous stratigraphic sequence was revealed across the extent of the site, comprising a modern topsoil, 001; a subsoil, 002; and the natural geology 003. No features of archaeological significance were encountered during the monitoring, suggesting that site is of low archaeological interest and was most likely situated on the periphery of any settlement activity

9.0 Effectiveness of Methodology

The methodology employed during this project achieved its primary objective, ensuring that any archaeological remains that might have been present on the site would not have been destroyed unrecorded, while causing the minimum of disruption to the construction process. It has proven that the groundworks had no impact upon any archaeologically sensitive deposits.

10.0 Project Archive

The project archive, consisting of the site recording and the finds, will be deposited with printed copies of this report and the forthcoming full report at The Collection, Lincoln, in or before April 2018; following deposition, the archive will be available for consultation under the LCNCC accession number 2017.110. A copy of the full report will also be uploaded to the Archaeology Data Service OASIS (Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigationS) database, where it will be publicly accessible online.

11.0 Acknowledgements

PCAS Archaeology Ltd. would like to thank Chestnut Homes for this commission. Thanks also go to the ground workers for their cooperation during the fieldwork.

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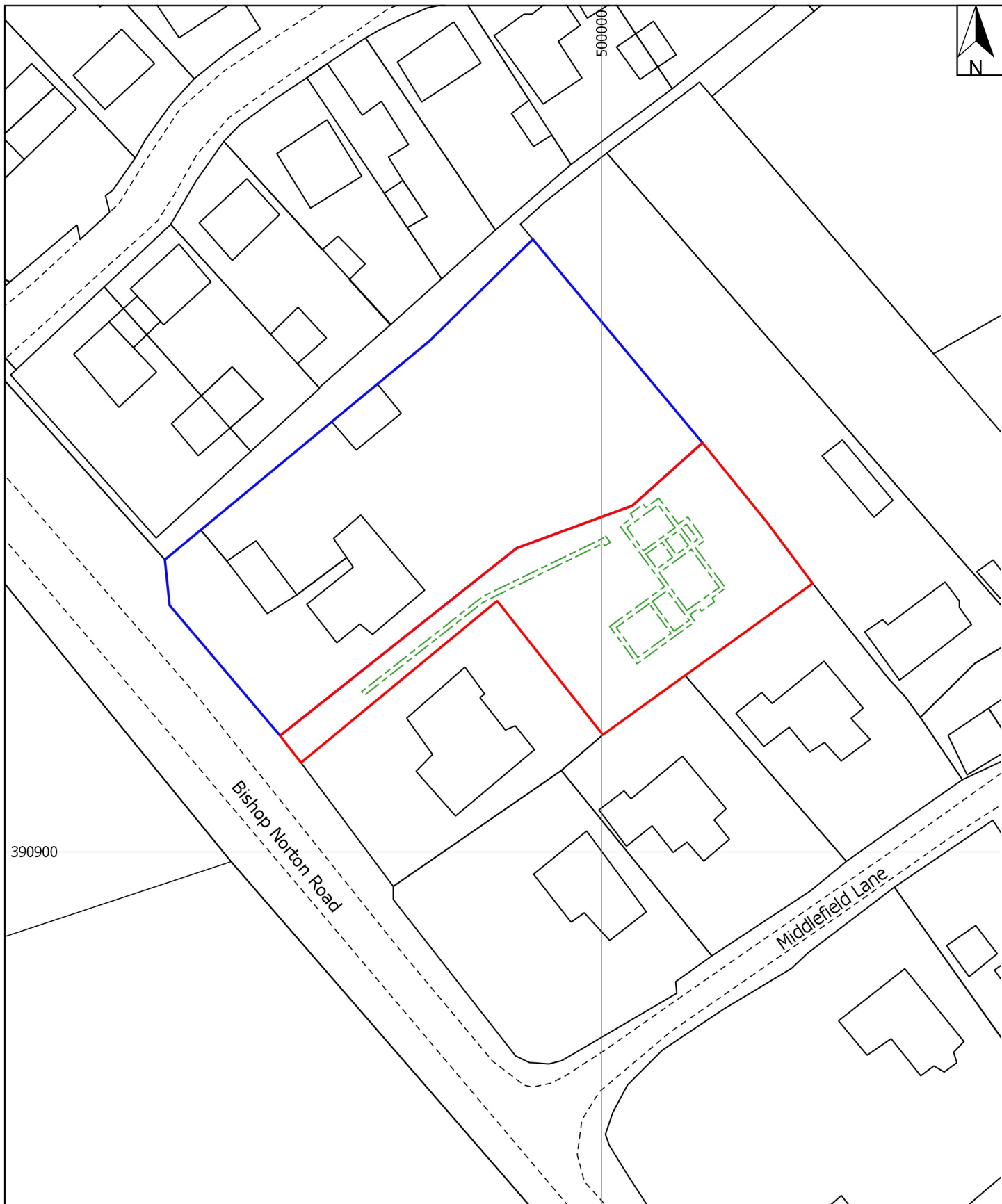
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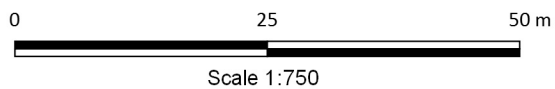
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Appendix 1: Context Summary List

Context	Type	Description	Thickness/ depth (m)	Interpretation
001	Layer	Friable, dark grey sandy silt with occasional small sub rounded stones and limestone fragments	0.2 – 0.25	Topsoil
002	Layer	Friable, mid brown sand	0.4 – 0.5	Subsoil
003	Layer	Soft, mottled yellow and brown sand with occasional fragments of limestone brash	-	Natural geology



Orchard Grange, Bishop Norton Road
OGGM 17



Draughter:
FJ

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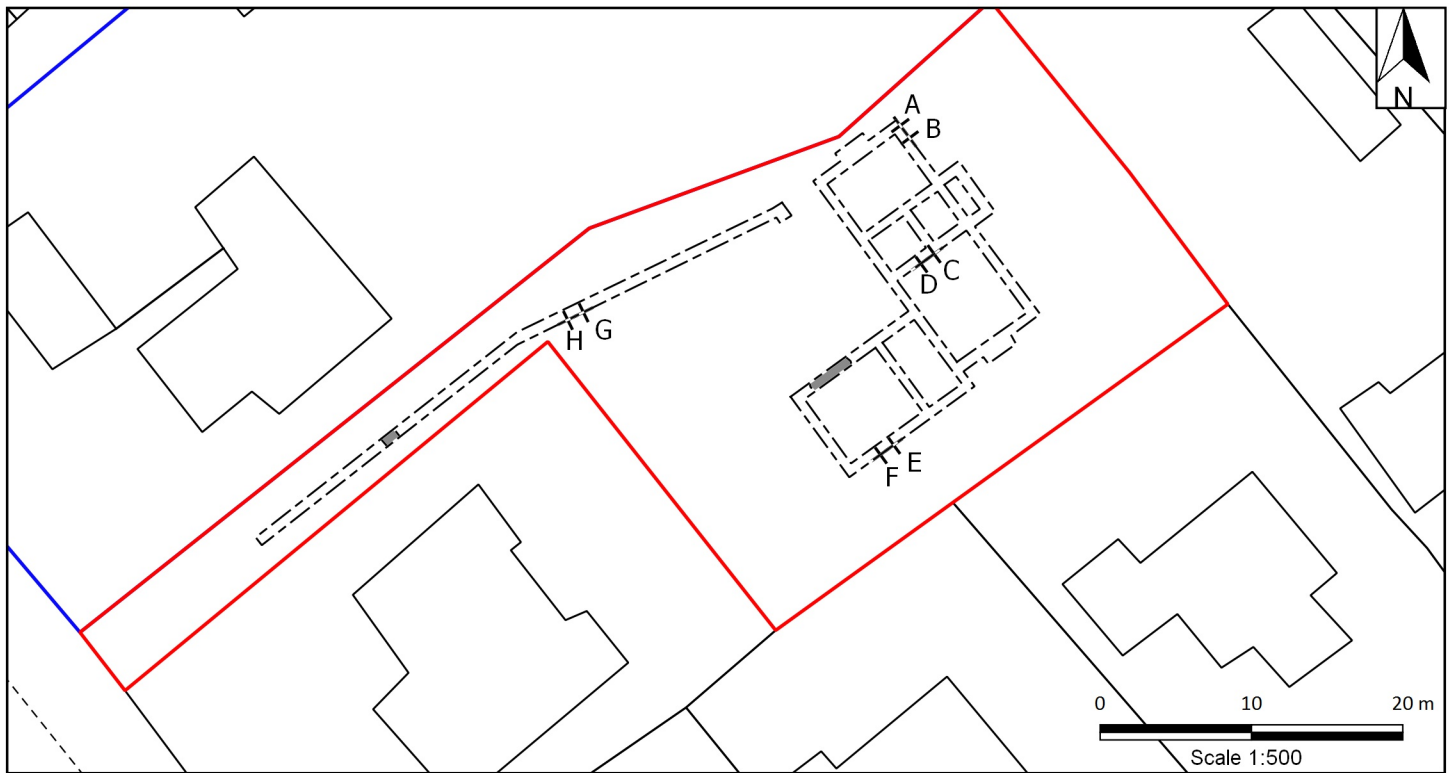
Archaeologist:
SAS

Figure 2: Plan of monitored areas, shown in green, with site boundary outlined in red and the new boundaries of the existing Orchard Grange in blue.

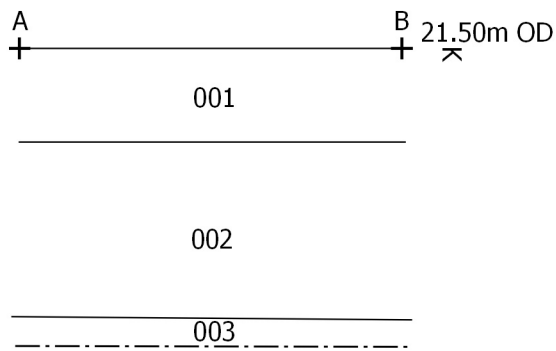


Scale:
1:750 @ A4

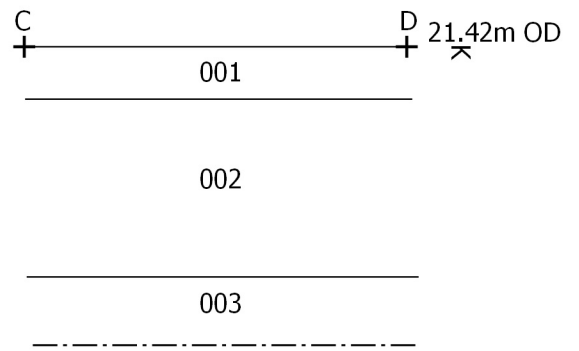
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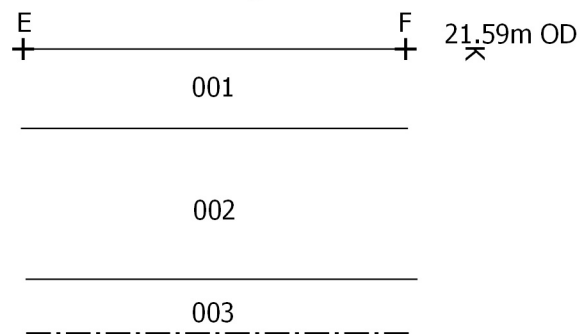
Southwest facing section



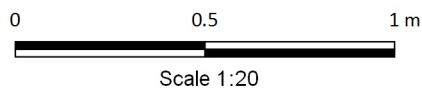
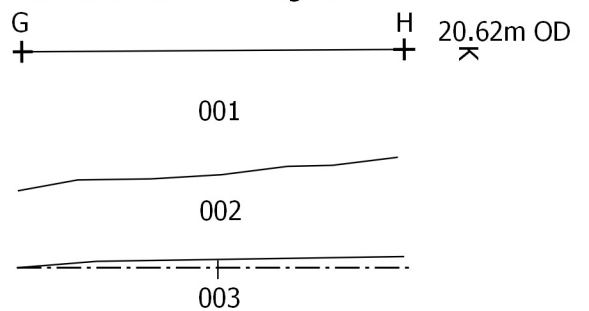
Northwest facing section



Northwest facing section



North-northwest facing section



Orchard Grange, Bishop Norton Road
OGGM 17

Draughter:
FJ

Surveyed by:
SAS

Archaeologist:
SAS

Figure 3: Plan and sections of monitored areas. Site boundary outlined in red with modern intrusions indicated in grey.



Scale:
1:500, 1:20 @ A4

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08/01/2018