

**PROPOSED WILDLIFE LAKE, HAVEN LODGE, BARROW HAVEN, BARROW
UPON HUMBER, NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

NGR: TA 0693 2265
PCAS Job No.: 713
Site Code: BR CR
NLSMR Accn No.: BR CR

Report prepared for

Mr. and Mrs. Howard

by

H. Holderness

March 2011



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Non-technical summary

- An archaeological evaluation was undertaken to the northwest of Haven Lodge in response to a pre-planning application for the construction of a wildlife lake.
- One excavation trench was situated within the footprint of the proposed lake; the other in the northwest of the development site to investigate a cropmark. A very low density of archaeological features was exposed.
- Very few artefacts were recovered from either of the trenches, confirming that the proposed lake is not situated within an area of Romano-British or medieval settlement.



Figure.1: Site location (based on the 2000 Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 Explorer map, Sheet 281. © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. PCAS Licence No. 100049278).

1 Introduction

Mr. and Mrs. Howard commissioned Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd. (PCAS) to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation following a pre-planning consultation with North Lincolnshire Council Planning Authority concerning the construction of an ornamental wildlife lake at Barrow Haven.

The results of this evaluation are required in order to establish whether or not the development can proceed without further intervention, or if additional measures are required in order to mitigate any negative effects that development may have upon the archaeological/heritage asset.

Fieldwork was undertaken by Simon Savage and Julian Sleaf between 7th and 10th February 2011.

2 Location and description

The site lies to the east of Barrow Haven, 1km north of the village of Barrow upon Humber. It is on the north side of West Hann Lane, west of Haven Lodge (NGR: TA 0693 2265).

The c. 2ha site is currently arable land located at about 5m OD. The solid geology is chalk overlain by Devensian till to the south and tidal flat deposits to the north (<http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer>).

3 Planning background

An application is expected to be submitted to North Lincolnshire Council for the excavation of a small ornamental wildlife lake, measuring approximately 100m north to south by a maximum of 40m east to west, with stepped in sides reaching a maximum depth of 2m towards the centre. The excavated soil will be formed into landscaped banks directly on top of the ground surface surrounding the lake.

In response to a pre-application consultation, the North Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record Officer advised the developer of the potential archaeological implications of the proposal and that, in accordance with the recommendations of Planning Policy Statement 5 - *Planning for the Historic Environment* and Policy HE9 of the North Lincolnshire Local Plan, an archaeological evaluation report was required as part of the submission of the planning application. This was intended to compliment information gained previously by geophysical survey.

4 Archaeological and historical background

The proposed site lies to the east of Barrow Castles Motte and Bailey, a Scheduled Ancient Monument (78991), within an area of high archaeological potential: a complex of cropmarks (MLS 19718, MLS 17956 and MLS 362) has been identified from aerial photographs extending over a wide area north and south of the West Hann Lane and around the proposed lake (**Fig. 2**). This has been interpreted as an extensive Romano-British settlement located around the western edge of a low ridge of glacial till which lies between the coastal marshes to the north and The Beck to the south.

The cropmarks include a pair of parallel ditches approximately 15m apart and extending north-south for about 150m which may indicate the course of a trackway (MLS 19718). There is also a rectangular ditched enclosure (MLS 17956) and numerous other linear and amorphous features within its vicinity, situated to the south of the proposed lake footprint.

Fieldwalking in 1982 and 1991 of the field to the south side of West Hann Lane produced substantial amounts of 1st and 4th century Romano-British pottery, including imported samian ware. Large chalk blocks have been encountered at approximately 1m depths during drainage works, and these may have been associated with the cropmark features.

Approximately 70m to the west of the proposed lake site, a cropmark of a ring ditch (MLS 362) has been identified from a 1977 aerial photograph, and antiquarian sources reference barrows (ancient burial mounds) in this area.

Geophysical survey and evaluation trenching was conducted in the field adjoining the northern half of the proposed lake site in 2004 in conjunction with an earlier lake proposal. The survey detected a number of anomalies of potential archaeological origin but subsequent excavation of two trial trenches failed to reveal any features or finds (Bunn 2004, Jordan 2004).

A further geophysical survey of the current proposed development site in September 2008 identified a southeast by northwest aligned linear feature in the southeast corner of the site which may represent a buried ditch, but did not identify any indication of the trackway (Bunn 2008).

On the basis of the geophysical results, it was considered that some potential for activity of Romano-British or earlier date remains in the area and that further evaluation by trial excavation was desirable.

5 Methodology

Each of the 30m long trenches was located using GPS.

In each trench, ploughsoil was removed in graded spits using a mechanical excavator fitted with a smooth blade. This operation ceased when natural and/or archaeological deposits were encountered, after which all further excavation was by hand. Archaeological features or suspected archaeological features were sectioned with a view to establishing their character and recovering datable artefactual remains.

All features were photographed (in colour slide and digital formats) (see Appendix 1 for plates); after which plans and section drawings were prepared at scales of 1:50 and 1:20 respectively. Context descriptions were recorded on standard context record sheets (Appendix 2). Artefactual remains, where recovered, were stored in labelled finds bags prior to their removal to the offices of PCAS. Bulk soil samples were not recovered.

The project archive, currently in the custody of PCAS, will be deposited at North Lincolnshire Museum within three months following project completion (Accession no. BRCR).

6 Results

6.1 Characterisation of the natural and ploughsoil deposits

In Trench 1 the lowest natural deposit was typically orange silty clay with sand gravel patches (101). In Trench 2 the lowest natural deposits were orange-brown sandy gravels (201) which merged with a more sandy silt deposit (202) towards the northwest end of the trench. It is likely that the area has an irregular natural soil as there has been episodic flooding.

The friable dark grey brown topsoil (100 and 200) was between 0.3m and 0.4m deep.

6.2 Trench 1

Trench 1 (**Figs 3 and 4**) was orientated west-northwest to east-southeast, measured 30m by 2m and was positioned in the northwest of the proposed development site.

The only archaeological feature within the trench was a wide, shallow gully [104] which was north to south aligned. Within its fill (103) was a heavily mineralised cow tooth and it was filled with natural in-washed silty clay.

This feature was sealed with what appeared to be a flood deposit: grey and brown mixed clay deposits which covered the southeast end of the trench (102).

Investigation of a patch of discoloured soil in the central part of the trench established that it was naturally occurring.

Two other features were located within the trench: a ceramic field drain in the southwest corner, and a plough scar which ran longitudinally through the length of the trench.

A single piece of 15th- or 16th-century pottery was recovered from the topsoil

6.3 Trench 2

Trench 2 (**Figs 5 - 7**) focused on the central region of the lake footprint. It was 30m by 2m and north-northwest to south-southeast aligned.

The only investigated feature within the trench was a narrow, shallow gully [204], which ran northeast to southwest diagonally across the trench. Its fill was a washed in sandy silt: this contained no artefactual remains. The gully was on the same alignment as land drains recorded within the trench.

A single piece of worked flint was recovered from the topsoil.

7 Discussion and conclusion

The evaluation exposed a very low number of archaeological features. The gully in Trench 1 was on the same alignment as the field boundaries around the site and within the wider locale. The cattle tooth appears to have been randomly washed in rather than placed.

The gully in Trench 2 also appears to be related to agricultural practises as it was on the same alignment as the field drains located within the trench and probably represents an earlier manifestation of them.

There was no evidence of the ditch alignments noted on the Sites and Monuments Record (MLS19718) in either of the trenches, and further monitoring during development is considered unlikely to yield any further useful results.

8 Effectiveness of methodology

As a means of evaluation, trial excavation was the correct approach on this occasion. Geophysical survey is not always effective when conducted over sand-based, water logged deposits and, in areas where the natural soils are varied, can produce spurious results that have little interpretive value. The trial excavation has produced a body of data that is sufficient to inform the planning and development process.

9 Acknowledgements

Thanks are expressed to Mr. and Mrs. Howard for commissioning the evaluation and to Alison Williams (North Lincolnshire SMR Officer) for supplying HER information that has assisted with interpretation.

10 References

Bunn, D. 2004 *Fluxgate Gradiometer Survey: Land at Barrow Haven, North Lincolnshire* unpublished PCA Geophysical report

Bunn, D. 2008 *Fluxgate Gradiometer Survey: Land West of Barrow Haven North Lincolnshire* unpublished PCA Geophysical report

Jordan, M. 2004 *Archaeological Evaluation, Haven Lodge, Barrow Haven, North Lincolnshire* unpublished Lindsey Archaeological Services report No. 760

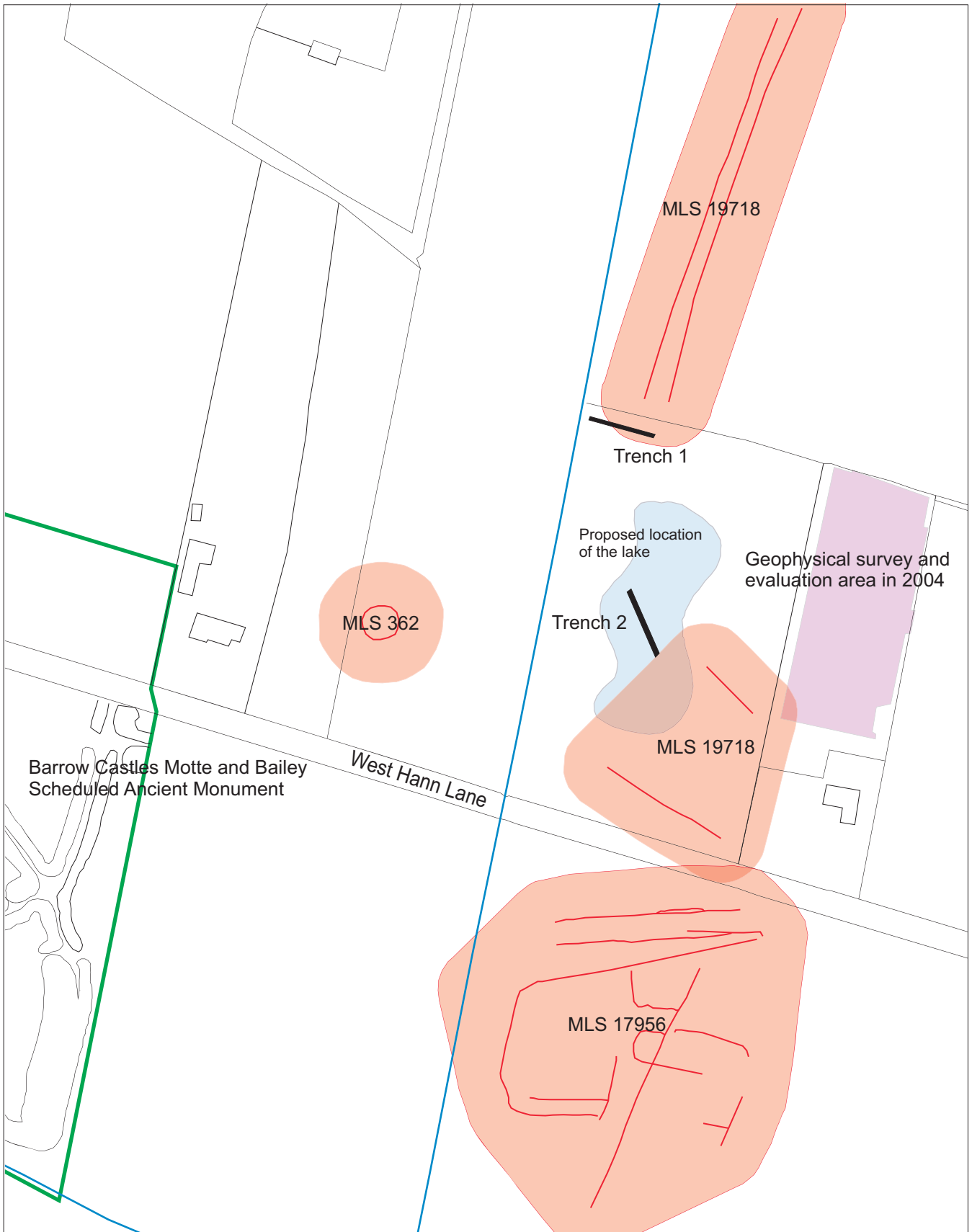
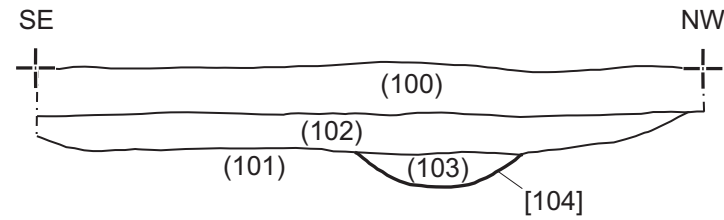
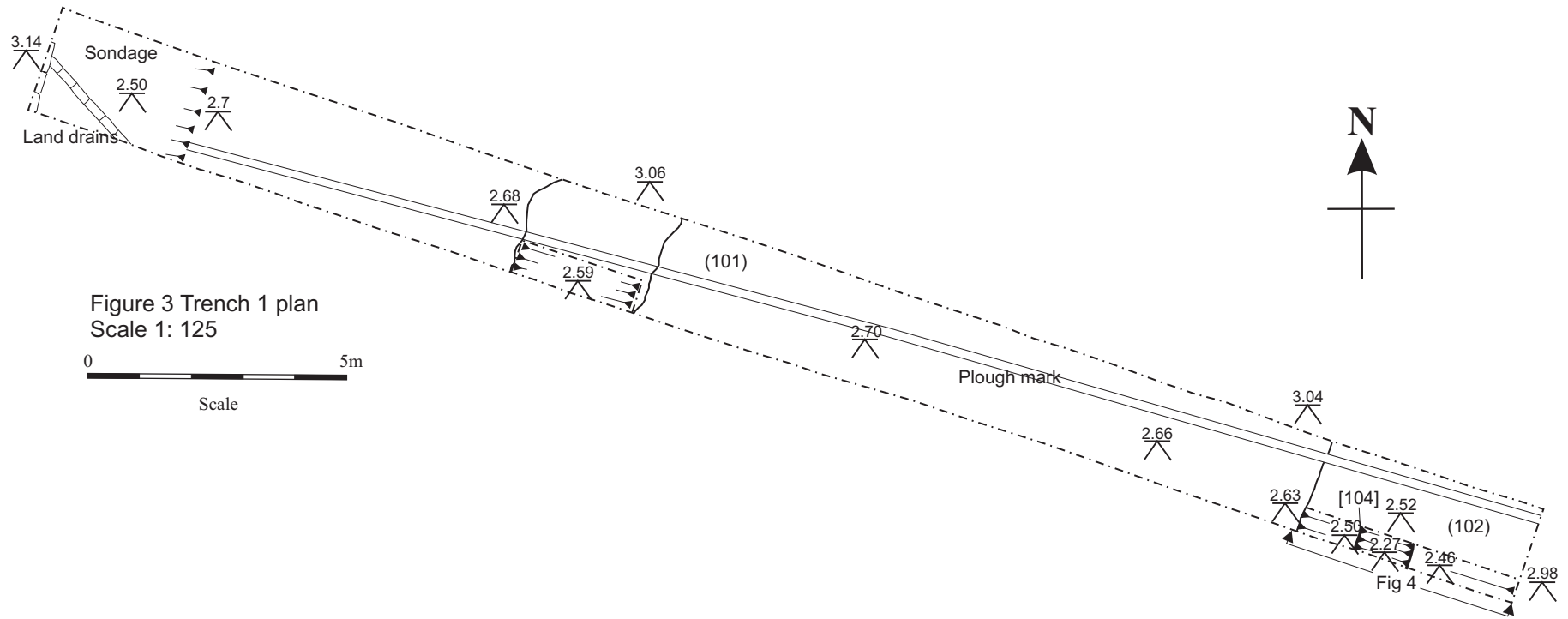


Figure 2 Trench location plan including selected monuments and previous evaluations
Scale 1:2500



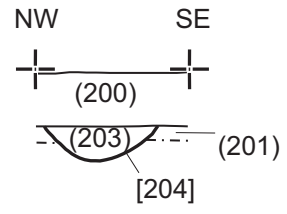
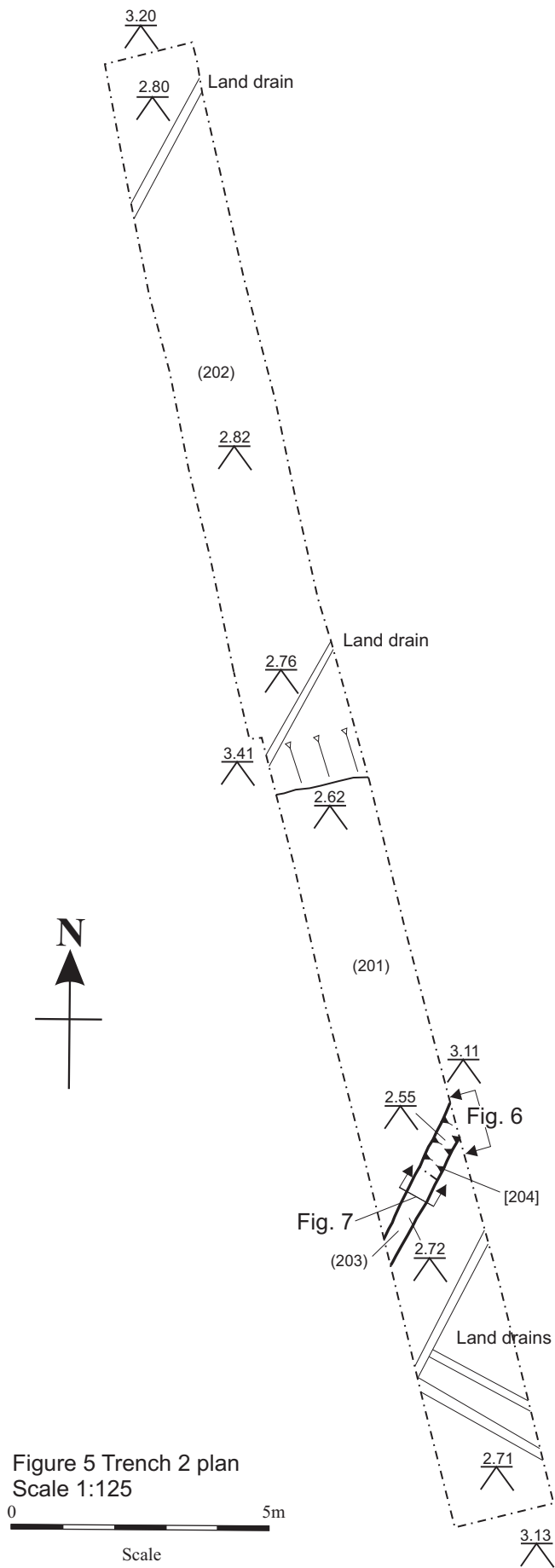


Figure 6 Southwest facing section through [204]
Scale 1:50

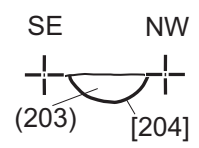
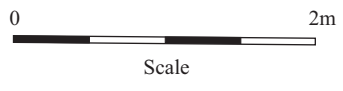
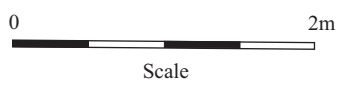


Figure 7 Northeast facing section through [204]
Scale 1:50



Appendix 1 – Plates



Plate 1 General shot of the site looking towards Trenches 1 and 2, looking north-northeast



Plate 2 General shot of Trench 1, looking east



Plate 3 Section of gully [104]. Scale 1m



Plate 4 General view of Trench 2, looking northeast



Plate 5 Section of gully [204]. Scale 0.5m

Appendix 2 – Context list

Context No	Type	Description
100	Layer	Topsoil
101	Layer	Natural - orange silt clay and gravels
102	Layer	Natural - silty grey leaching/wash
103	Fill	Fill of gully [104]
104	Cut	Cut of gully
200	Layer	Topsoil
201	Layer	Natural - orange gravel
202	Layer	Natural - orange sand
203	Fill	Fill of gully [204]
204	Cut	Cut of gully

Appendix 3 – Specialist reports

Lithic Material Assessment

Jim Rylatt

February 2011

1 Introduction

A single piece of worked flint was recovered during an archaeological evaluation of the proposed site of a wildlife pond at Haven Lodge, Barton Upon Humber. This artefact has diagnostic traits that are indicative of human activity during the Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age.

2 Method of study

The artefact was examined and its attributes were recorded and compiled to form a digital archive. Macroscopic analysis established its position in the reduction sequence, any observable characteristics of the reduction technology and an assessment of functional potential. Metrical data was recorded and the piece was weighed. It was also examined with a x6 hand-lens to determine whether there was evidence for localised modification indicative of use-wear.

3 Worked flint

3.1 Raw materials

The lithic artefact was manufactured from flint. It did not preserve any portion of a cortical surface (i.e. it was a tertiary flake).

3.2 Condition

It was recovered from (200), the topsoil horizon in Trench 2. As such, it is a residual artefact removed from its original context. Small invasive chips have been detached from the lateral and distal margins, damage that suggests the piece has been rolled in the topsoil.

4 Comments

The artefact is a tertiary flake; a piece of unmodified flake debitage. It has morphological characteristics that are indicative of Late Neolithic and Bronze Age industries: the butt is broad, with a pronounced bulb and no platform edge preparation (Butler 2005). The dorsal surface indicates the removal of at least three similar flakes from the same platform, two of these removals resulting in some crushing at the point where the hammer impacted.

The recovery of a single piece of worked flint provides evidence of some human activity during the Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age. The minimal quantity of worked flint that was recovered implies that there was no sustained activity or occupation in the immediate environs of the site and, suggests any visits may have been sporadic and relatively brief.

5 References

Butler, C. 2005 *Prehistoric Flintwork*. Stroud, Tempus.

Worked and modified lithic material

Context No.	Reduction Sequence	Type	Date	Weight	Dimensions (mm)	Cortex	Burnt	Retouch	Platform	Bulb	Termination	Post-depositional damage	Comments
200	T	flake	L.Neo/EBA	6.6g	28x26x11	-	-	-	flat	pronounced	feathered	yes	hard hammer flake, with scars of three similar removals from the same platform; large butt with some crushing of platform edge; some post-depositional damage to margins; greyish-brown translucent flint

Pottery Assessment

Jane Young

February 2011

Context	Cname	Full Name	Form type	Sherds	Weight	Part	Description	Date
100	HUM	Humberware	Large jug or jar	1	10	BS	Internal & external glaze; abraded; late – possibly even an early LHUM	Mid 15th to 16th

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OASIS ID: preconst3-94987

Project details

Project name	Haven Lodge, Barrow Haven
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation was carried out in the footprint of a proposed wildlife lake. In the vicinity various linear cropmarks have been noted and the trenches were sited to examine these. Two shallow gullies were exposed but both appear to be agricultural in nature: one is on the same alignment as the field boundaries and the other aligns with the field drain which cross the site. A single cow tooth was found in the backfill of one of the gullies. A late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age flint was found in the topsoil along with a sherd of Humberware pottery (15th or 16th century)
Project dates	Start: 07-02-2011 End: 10-02-2011
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	BRCR - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	713 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 2 - Operations to a depth less than 0.25m
Monument type	GULLY Uncertain
Significant Finds	JUG Medieval
Significant Finds	LITHIC IMPLEMENT Late Neolithic
Significant Finds	ANIMAL REMAINS Uncertain
Methods & techniques	'Targeted Trenches'
Development type	Wildlife lake creation
Prompt	Voluntary/self-interest
Position in the planning process	Pre-application

Project location

Country	England
Site location	NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE BARROW UPON HUMBER Haven Lodge
Postcode	DN19 7HD

Study area 2.00 Hectares
Site coordinates TA 06922 22622 53.6888537543 -0.380665525885 53 41 19 N 000 22 50 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd
Project brief originator Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd
Project director/manager Will Munford
Project supervisor S A Savage
Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient North Lincolnshire Museum
Physical Contents 'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Worked stone/lithics'
Digital Archive recipient North Lincolnshire Museum
Digital Contents 'none'
Digital Media available 'Images raster / digital photography'
Paper Archive recipient North Lincolnshire Museum
Paper Contents 'none'
Paper Media available 'Context sheet','Diary','Plan','Report','Section'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title Proposed Wildlife Lake, Haven Lodge, Barrow Haven, Barrow upon Humber, North Lincolnshire Archaeological Evaluation Report
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Other bibliographic details 713
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