

PROPOSED EXTENSION TO CARAVAN PARK,
LONG ASHES, THRESHFIELD, NORTH YORKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY

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On behalf of

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In January 2010, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by Humberts Leisure on behalf of Warfield Park Homes Ltd, via Mr Peter Cardwell, archaeological and heritage consultant, to undertake an archaeological survey adjacent to the Long Ashes Caravan Park, near Threshfield, North Yorkshire (NGR SD 979 643 centred).

The area of the proposed survey covers a sub-rectangular pasture field measuring c.90m wide (north-east/south-west) by c.157m long (north-west/south-east). The work was required to record the visible earthworks within the field, to be part of and to inform an archaeological mitigation strategy which will support a planning application for a proposed extension to the caravan park.

The archaeological survey identified and recorded a total of eight sites within the survey area. Two of these (Sites 1 and 2) had previously been recognised as contour lynchets, and a third (Site 3) was noted. One possible building platform (Site 4) and the sites of two potential structures (Sites 5 and 6) were also recorded, close to the central lynchet. On the basis of the currently available evidence, it is difficult to firmly date any of these earthworks, but comparison with other similar sites and their landscape context would suggest a medieval date for the lynchets and structures. The central lynchet appears to overlie the building platform (Site 4), in which case it could represent an Iron Age or Romano-British site. However, the degree of modern disturbance at the latter site is such that it could have been created only in the past 20 years or so, and indeed all these minor earthworks may equally be due to modern disturbance.

Although the field walls forming the boundaries of the survey area are broadly comparable, two different types were identified (Sites 7 and 8). Based on previously recorded field walls elsewhere in the Yorkshire Dales, they would appear to be of 17th or early 18th century date, although that more collapsed example forming the north-east boundary (Site 8) might be the earlier of the two. Both wall types clearly post-date the lynchet field system, although the north-east boundary wall incorporates part of one lynchet's alignment.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In January 2010, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by Humberts Leisure on behalf of Warfield Park Homes Ltd, via Mr Peter Cardwell, archaeological and heritage consultant, to undertake an archaeological survey adjacent to the Long Ashes Caravan Park, near Threshfield, North Yorkshire (NGR SD 979 643 centred).
- 1.2 The area of the proposed survey covers a sub-rectangular pasture field measuring c.90m wide (north-east/south-west) by c.157m long (north-west/south-east). The work was required to record the visible earthworks within the field, to be part of and to inform an archaeological mitigation strategy as part of an evaluation which also includes geophysical survey. These surveys are being undertaken to support a planning application for a proposed extension to the caravan park.
- 1.3 The proposed development site, and its immediate environs, has already been the subject of a desk-based assessment by Peter Cardwell (Cardwell 2009). A site inspection carried out as part of this work identified two possible lynchets within the site, with one of them possibly being utilised as a trackway. Although no archaeological sites were previously recorded in the area, these terraces may relate to part of a field system associated with a probable Iron Age and Romano-British settlement site recorded immediately to the south-east (a Scheduled Monument), or be part of a possible medieval field system which has been identified further to the west.

2 SITE DESCRIPTION

- 2.1 The proposed development site is located c.1.2km to the north-west of Threshfield, and c.2km west-north-west of Grassington (at NGR SD 979 643 centred). The site lies on the south-western side of the existing caravan park, on the south-western slopes of the River Wharfe valley (see figure 1). The single field which forms the site and survey area is sub-rectangular in plan, aligned north-west/south-east, with maximum dimensions of c.157m long by c.90m wide (see figure 2). The ground surface slopes downwards from south to north, from a maximum height of c.215m AOD in the south-west corner to c.207m AOD to the north-east corner. To the north and north-east, the survey area is bounded by static caravans and to the north-west by a rough pasture field containing further earthworks. To the west, there is further pasture, within which the ground surface rises steeply from east to west, and to the south is an area of plantation. The solid geology of the area comprises carboniferous limestone of the Dinantian sub-system, while the soils within the survey area consist of shallow, stoneless humose clay of the Wetton 2 Association (Cardwell 2009, 2-3).
- 2.2 At the time of the earthwork survey, the majority of the field was in use as pasture, and covered with short grass, although the north-west corner was covered with chopped brushwood and also some dumped stonework. There was further dumping of stone and soil in the north-east corner, adjacent to a caravan. An area in the south-west part of the field had been recently planted with saplings and fenced off with post-and-net fencing, and the grass was generally longer within this part; there was also some intensive burrowing by rabbits.
- 2.3 Vehicular and pedestrian access into the field is via a gateway at the north-east corner. A footpath runs along and parallel to the south-east side of the field, while a vehicle track runs approximately east-west across the field between two gates. Both are causing some erosion through wear, but that from the vehicle track is

particularly intrusive and appears to have been taking place for some time, as the earthworks here have been significantly affected by rutting. Finally, a power line, supported on one set of poles within the survey area, runs on a north-east/south-west alignment across the southern half of the field.

- 2.4 The boundaries to the survey area are formed by limestone drystone field walls on all sides. These are described in more detail below, but are semi-ruinous in several sections, particularly along the north-east side of the survey area.

3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The extent and scope of the archaeological survey work was defined by an EDAS methods statement (see Appendix 2), which was approved by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority in advance of the site survey. The work corresponds to a Level 3 survey as defined by English Heritage (2007, 23-24), and the position and form of all features considered to be of archaeological and/or historic interest were recorded.
- 3.2 The survey was carried out using EDM total station equipment. Sufficient information was gathered to allow the survey area to be readily located through the use of surviving structures, fences, walls, water courses and other topographical features, and the survey recorded the ground level position of all earthworks, structures, walls, wall remnants and revetments, water courses, paths, stone and rubble scatters, fences, hedges and other boundary features, and any other features considered to be of archaeological or historic interest. The site survey was integrated into the Ordnance Survey national grid by resection to points of known co-ordinates, and previously gathered topographical survey data. Heights AOD were obtained by reference to the previous survey data. Control points were observed through trigonometric intersection from survey stations on a traverse around and through the site. The maximum error in the closure of the traverse was less than 25mm. The EDM data was plotted at a scale of 1:500 which was then re-checked in the field as a separate operation; any amendments or additions were surveyed by hand measurement. The resulting earthwork survey has been produced at a scale of 1:500 and is presented as a hand-drawn hachure plan using conventions analogous to those used by English Heritage (1999; 2007, 31-35).
- 3.3 The existing walled boundaries of the survey area were also examined, and any items of wall furniture noted and recorded as archaeological sites. The field boundaries themselves were also recorded, using the methodology and typology previously employed by EDAS on other walling surveys in the Yorkshire Dales (e.g. Dennison 2004, 34).
- 3.4 Each identified individual site within the survey area was given a unique identifier, and a written description has been produced based on notes taken in the field. The description includes a preliminary interpretation of extant remains (e.g. dimensions, plan, form, function, date, sequence of development), locational information, and mention of relevant documentary, cartographic or other evidence (the latter obtained from the existing desk-based assessment).
- 3.5 Each identified site was also photographically recorded using a digital camera with 10 megapixel resolution. English Heritage photographic guidelines were followed (English Heritage 2007, 14) and each photograph was normally provided with a scale. More general digital photographs were also taken showing the landscape context of the survey area and of specific parts. All photographs were clearly

numbered and labelled with the subject, orientation, date taken and photographer's name, and were cross referenced to digital files etc (see Appendix 1).

- 3.6 The EDM total station survey was undertaken by EDAS on the 21st January 2010, and the survey data was plotted and re-checked on the 28th January 2010.
- 3.7 With the agreement of the landowner, the survey archive, comprising written, drawn and photographic elements, will be deposited with Peter Cardwell (EDAS site code LAC 10) for transfer to a recognised repository with other elements of the project archive.

4 SUMMARY HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Long Ashes/Threshfield part of upper Wharfedale contains a particular concentration of significant archaeological remains of prehistoric, Roman, medieval and post-medieval date, the majority of which survive as earthworks. The following chapter provides a brief account of the development of the survey area and its surrounding landscape, drawn entirely from the previous desk-based assessment (Cardwell 2009, 4-10).

Pre-medieval Sites

- 4.2 The earliest archaeological evidence of activity in the vicinity of Long Ashes is represented by finds of Mesolithic and Neolithic material, including bone and antler implements recovered from higher ground c.1.8km to the west near Height House. Three flints and a piece of chert were recovered from archaeological investigations immediately to the south of the proposed development site and, although they are probably later in date, they are still from the prehistoric period.
- 4.3 Proven evidence of Bronze Age settlement within the localised area remains limited, but the closest settlement of probable Iron Age date is an unenclosed hut circle settlement and associated field system in Little Wood, immediately to the east of the proposed development site. At least six hut circles up to 11m in diameter have been noted here, together with the remains of a series of paddocks and enclosures formed from rubble walls 0.5m high and up to 4m thick; the resultant fields varying in width between 20m and 60m. This field system is considered to have originally extended to the west and south but few traces now survive, with the possible exception of a series of earthworks represented by curvilinear banks or possible lynchets (agricultural terraces) noted during archaeological investigations immediately to the south and east of the proposed development site. Two possible lynchets surviving within the survey area were tentatively suggested as being of Iron Age or Roman date, on the basis of the proximity to the settlement in Little Wood and associated boundaries to the south-east, although a medieval date (or later) is equally possible (see below).

Medieval and Post-Medieval Sites

- 4.4 The closest known settlement of probable medieval date to the proposed development is the hamlet at Skirethorns, located some 400m to the south, while Threshfield, centred some 1.2km to the south-east, is recorded at the time of Domesday Book in 1086 but probably has earlier origins. Evidence of earlier settlement within the wider area is also suggested at Height House to the west, where rectangular building foundations have been associated with the Norse settlement of Hubbercove. Further pre-Norman activity within the area is also suggested by the recovery of an early medieval knife from the site of the Roman

period settlement at Chapel House Wood, while some of the buildings have been tentatively interpreted as being medieval in date.

- 4.5 In addition to recorded settlements, there are a number of enclosures, field systems and boundaries of presumed medieval date located close to the survey area. The closest lie to the immediate north-west, just beyond the field wall defining the northern limit of the survey area, with others to the west and also further to the north-east, between the caravan park and the B6160 Kilnsey to Threshfield road. A number of linear boundaries and lynchets were also investigated within the area of the Caravan Club site to the south of the proposed development site but were undated, and so could be of medieval rather than Iron Age date.
- 4.6 In the post-medieval and modern periods, in addition to the expansion of existing settlement, a number of farmsteads were established in the area, including that at Long Ashes itself, some 300m to the north of the proposed development site within the existing caravan park. The agricultural development of the area during this period is reflected in the field walls and associated barns which are present throughout the surrounding landscape; these features are best seen on the 1844 tithe map and 1st edition Ordnance Survey maps, which show the area prior to modern developments.
- 4.7 The proposed development site and the field adjacent to it to the south-west are both called "Bell Bank", and were owned and occupied by James Ripley. These field names do not suggest the presence of any archaeological remains, and reflect the former area of woodland of the same name shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey 6" map just to the south (sheet 133 dated 1852 and sheet 134 dated 1853). In addition to the continued development of the agricultural landscape during this period, there was an increase in the number and importance of limestone-related industries, which is reflected in the number of quarries in this area and associated features such as kilns and tramways.

5 RESULTS FROM THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY (see figure 3)

- 5.1 A description of the earthworks and field walls recorded within the survey area is given below. Appendix 1 provides a catalogue and thumbnails of all the photographs taken, and some are reproduced in this report for illustrative purposes. The principal features crossing the survey area are the two possible lynchets identified during the previous walkover survey (Cardwell 2009, 7), although some other potential features were noted.

Earthwork Descriptions

Site 1: Lynchet

- 5.2 This lynchet is aligned north-west/south-east and can be traced for 60m within the survey area, although arguably for much further along its north-eastern boundary. The south-east end lies adjacent to a gateway in the field wall forming the south-east boundary of the survey area. The lynchet runs right up to the wall, although immediately adjacent to the wall it has been somewhat disturbed by a low north-west facing scarp created by footpath erosion. As it moves north-west, the lynchet is represented by a very spread north-east facing scarp, 4.0m wide by barely 0.7m high, broadly following the 208m contour and containing at least one apparent concentration of stone rubble (see plate 1). It gradually becomes better defined as it runs north-west, reaching a maximum width of c.6m. Just before it meets the

ruinous field wall on the north-east side of the survey area, a smaller east-west aligned north-facing scarp is visible to the east. After meeting the ruinous field wall, the lynchet may continue further to the north-west as a steep north-east facing scarp over 1.2m high. It may then be traced intermittently for a further 90m as a scarp on the northern side of the wall; the scarp sometimes contains a high proportion of rubble, although it is probable that at least part of this is derived from the adjacent collapsed field wall. The scarp curves around to the north at its north-western end, rising to almost 2.0m in height. It is then disturbed by previous landscaping associated with the caravan park.

Site 2: Lynchet

- 5.3 This lynchet is also aligned north-west/south-east and runs for 145m across the survey area. It is a more prominent earthwork than the northern lynchet although, like the latter, the very south-east end has been somewhat disturbed by a low north-west facing scarp created by footpath erosion. The south-eastern end of the lynchet is the better defined, being formed by a steep north-east facing scarp up to 9.0m wide and 1.5m high (see plate 2). As it continues north-west, the lynchet becomes less well defined and the central section has been markedly flattened by parallel vehicle ruts; a representative sample of these are shown on the survey plan. A faint possible counterscarp is visible to the west of this section, perhaps the remnant of a c.3m wide bank running along the top of the lynchet. There is also an L-shaped area of disturbance here, formed by a series of sub-circular conjoined depressions, perhaps the remains of scrub or bushes recently grubbed up.
- 5.4 Beyond the central section, the lynchet maintains a width of between 7.0m to 9.0m, although it is not much more than 1.0m in height. Beyond a possible structure (see Site 5 below), the lynchet continues north-west for a short distance before angling slightly to the west. It then curves around to the north-east to merge with a much steeper and higher south-facing scarp which is surmounted by the field wall here.

Site 3: Lynchet

- 5.5 There may be a third possible lynchet located on the south-west side of the survey area, largely located within the fenced-off recently established woodland. It is represented by a very spread north-east facing scarp, 3.0m to 4.0m wide but less than 1.0m high. It can be traced on an approximate north-west/south-east alignment for c.60m but it does not run directly parallel to the southern lynchet, diverging from it at the north-west end. To the north, within the fenced-off area of recent planting, there is an irregularly shaped linear mound, almost certainly the result of rabbit burrowing.

Site 4: Potential building platform

- 5.6 There is a possible low angled mound or platform, 0.5m high, at the base of the central lynchet (Site 1), close to its south-east end and the footpath. It measures 15.0m long by 7.0m wide overall, and may represent a building platform although this is not certain. It is possible that the toe of the lynchet overlies the platform, although the true relationship between the two earthworks is difficult to determine due to some modern disturbance.

Site 5: Potential structure

- 5.7 At the base of the central lynchet (Site 1), there is a sub-square concentration of stone rubble (c.4.0m square), apparently with an “edge” on the northern end, and with a poorly defined low bank some 5m to the south-east. Taken together, these features might be interpreted as the remains of a structure running roughly parallel to the base of the lynchet, but they may equally be no more than modern disturbance.

Site 6: Potential structure

- 5.8 To the west of the northern part of the central lynchet (Site 1), there is an east-west aligned shallow linear depression, c.15.0m long and c.4.0m wide, with a smaller sub-square depression at the east end (see plate 4). Again, this might be interpreted as the remains of a structure, but it could also result from modern disturbance.

The Field Walls

- 5.9 As has been noted above, the drystone field walls forming the boundaries of the survey area are semi-ruinous in sections, particularly that along the north-east side. The walls are of two main types, and all are depicted on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition 6” map and the 1844 tithe map.

Site 7: Field walls forming the south-east, south-west and north-west boundaries

- 5.10 The drystone walls forming the south-east, south-west and north-west boundaries of the survey area are all broadly similar in terms of form and construction. The three entrance gateways in the north-east corner of the field, in the south-eastern boundary, and at the south end of the south-west boundary all appear to relatively recent creations; the two former gateways are fitted with modern metal gates and no examples of *in situ* or *ex situ* stone stoops were noted anywhere within the survey area. Similarly, the opening in the north-west boundary at one end of the vehicle track crossing the survey area is clearly also a modern creation. It is not certain where historic access points to the field were located, and it is possible that one of the gateways noted above has replaced or enlarged an earlier feature.

- 5.11 The walls themselves stand on average up to 1.4m in height and retain some upright coping. They have a marked batter in profile, being between 0.8m and 1.1m wide at the base, narrowing to 0.5m at the top and are built of sub-angular limestone rubble; there are no throughstones (see plate 3). The rubble is generally graded so that the larger pieces are set towards the base, but there are no concentrations of larger stones or other features that might denote earlier structures incorporated into the wall. The single exception to this is where the top of the central lynchet (Site 2) crosses the south-east boundary wall; a significantly larger stone is incorporated into the wall footing at this point, but there are no others to suggest orthostats. There might be some joints at a low level in the south-west boundary wall, adjacent to the north end of the fenced-off area, but these could equally result from the technique used in the original construction. No examples of wall furniture were noted.

Site 8: Field wall forming the north-east boundary

- 5.12 Even after allowing for later collapse, the field wall forming the north-east boundary of the survey area, and part of that to the north-west, is of slightly differing

construction to the others, although there are no clear joints between the two. As has been previously noted, the wall is ruinous for large sections, particularly in the central section, but it survives to a maximum height of 1.80m at its north-western end, with upright coping (see plate 5). In general, the wall is broader than the others, measuring 1.4m at the base and 0.5m at the top, with a marked batter. It is built of sub-angular rubble, slightly larger on average than that used in the other walls, and also has no throughstones. No wall furniture was noted, but in the north-western part, there may be a possible joint, with a possible narrow blocking some 6m or 7m to the north-west. A low mound runs parallel to the south side of the wall at this point, and taken together, it is possible that these features might indicate a structure incorporated into the wall line, although they are not particularly convincing. The wall does however partly incorporate a number of mature ash trees on its line (marked on survey plan); on the north side of the wall, adjacent to the possible structure described above, there are several coppiced hazels. Several trees are depicted along this boundary on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map (sheet 134 dated 1853).

Other Features

- 5.13 To the immediate west of the northern end of the survey area, the rough pasture field encloses a series of earthworks described in the previous assessment as of possible medieval date. One of these is shown on the survey plan (see figure 3), but they are of a quite different form to those within the survey area, incorporating high proportions of limestone rubble. In some sections, this rubble appears to represent collapsed revetments, whereas in others it more closely resembles collapsed walls or banks. A walled trackway runs towards the northern end of the survey area but does not enter it. A footpath from the caravan park crosses this trackway, through a squeeze stile on its north side.

6 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 Without wider detailed earthwork survey and primary documentary research over a much larger area, it is difficult to place the recorded earthworks within the survey area within any wider landscape context. Recent fieldwork by Moorhouse (2003) and Beaumont (2006) in Upper Wharfedale stresses the importance of the medieval township boundaries in the formation of the field systems. For example, within Kettlewell township, the medieval field system perpetuated an earlier co-axial field layout, whereas in Conistone township to the south, a virtually uninterrupted system of contour lynchets overlying the earlier fields runs to the Grassington township boundary (Horne & MacLeod 2005; Moorhouse 2003, 318). Closer to the survey area, within Grass Wood, presumed medieval enclosures of possible 12th century date also appear to reflect an earlier, prehistoric, co-axial layout (Dennison & Richardson 2007). It is highly likely that a similar process has taken place around the survey area, with a complex series of prehistoric, Romano-British and medieval field systems having developed, those of later periods perhaps being partly determined by the layout of the earlier systems.
- 6.2 Although difficult to date closely on the available evidence, the two main earthworks (Sites 1 and 2) crossing the survey area almost certainly represent contour lynchets, and there may be a third poorly defined lynchet (Site 3) to their south-west. They may represent part of a Romano-British field system, but they are more likely to be medieval in date, and they certainly pre-date the field walls (see below). Although it is possible, as has been previously suggested on the basis of the gateway at its south-east end, that the northern lynchet (Site 1) might have been used as a trackway (Cardwell 2009, 7), the form of the earthwork indicates that it originated as

a lynchet. Although the northern half has been subject to disturbance, the remaining scarp runs parallel to the central lynchet (Site 2), replicating the slight change in angle.

6.3 Given what has been noted above about the development of field systems in this part of Wharfedale, it is possible that the other minor earthworks provisionally identified as two potential structural features (Sites 5 and 6) could be part of the medieval system, perhaps field barns or shelters. The possible platform (Site 4) at the south-east end of the central lynchet, appears to be earlier and so might be of an Iron Age or Romano-British date. However, the degree of modern disturbance at the latter site is such that it could have been created only in the past 20 years or so, and indeed all these sites may equally be due to modern disturbance. Only further investigation (e.g. geophysical survey and/or trenching etc) would provide the answers.

6.4 Of the two identified types of field wall, although both forms of construction are broadly comparable, it is probable that that forming the north-east boundary of the survey area (Site 8) is the earlier of the two. The orientation of the wall, and its juxtaposition with the trackway running towards the northern end of the survey area, perhaps suggests that the trackway may once have continued along the north side of the wall, partly respecting the northern contour lynchet (Site 1). Although the curvilinear form of the other wall type (Site 7) forming part of the north-west boundary of the survey area appears to follow that of the presumed medieval earthworks to the north, the other alignments run across the earlier earthworks, for example the south-east boundary of the survey area. The form of construction would put both wall types into the "Type 4" category, as defined by previous EDAS surveys (e.g. Dennison 2004, 34), which would suggest a 17th or early 18th century date.

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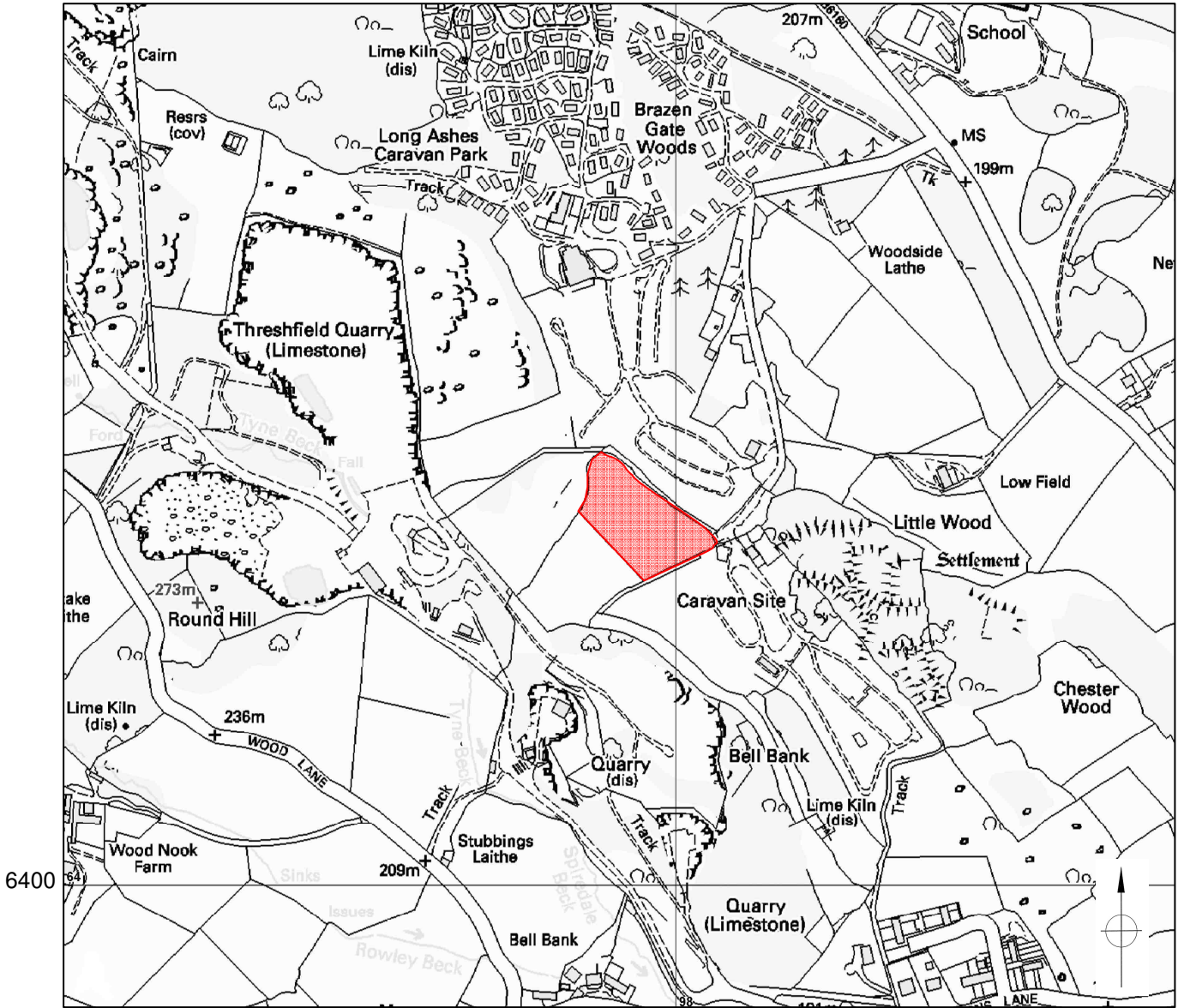
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8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

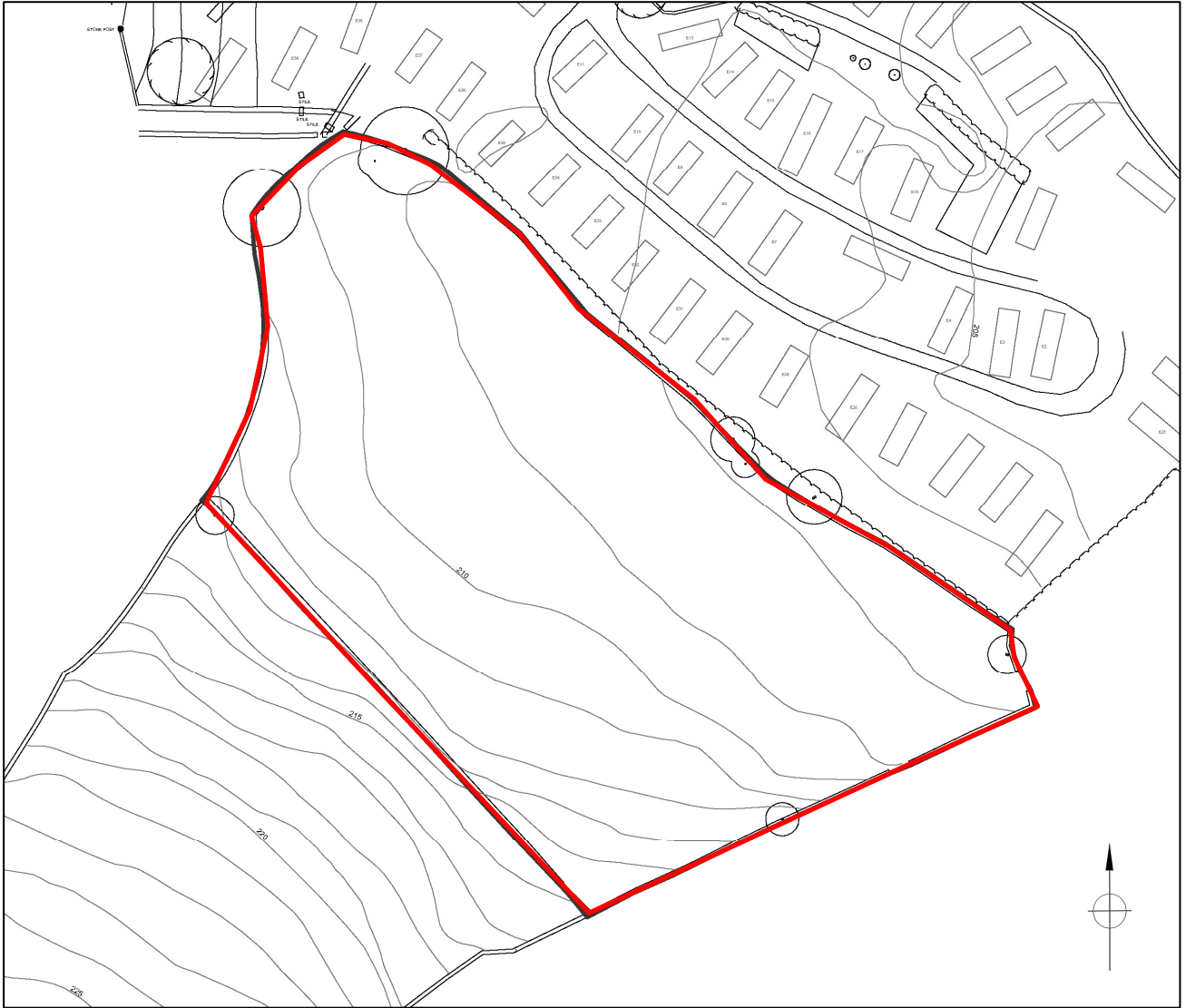
- 8.1 The archaeological survey was commissioned by Humberts Leisure on behalf of Warfield Park Homes Ltd, via Mr Peter Cardwell, archaeological and heritage consultant. EDAS would like to thank Peter Cardwell for his help and co-operation in carrying out the archaeological recording.
- 8.2 The on-site recording was undertaken by Shaun Richardson of EDAS, with Benchmark Land Surveys of Leeds. Shaun Richardson also took the site photographs and produced the site archive. The final report was produced by Ed Dennison of EDAS, with whom the responsibility for any errors remains.



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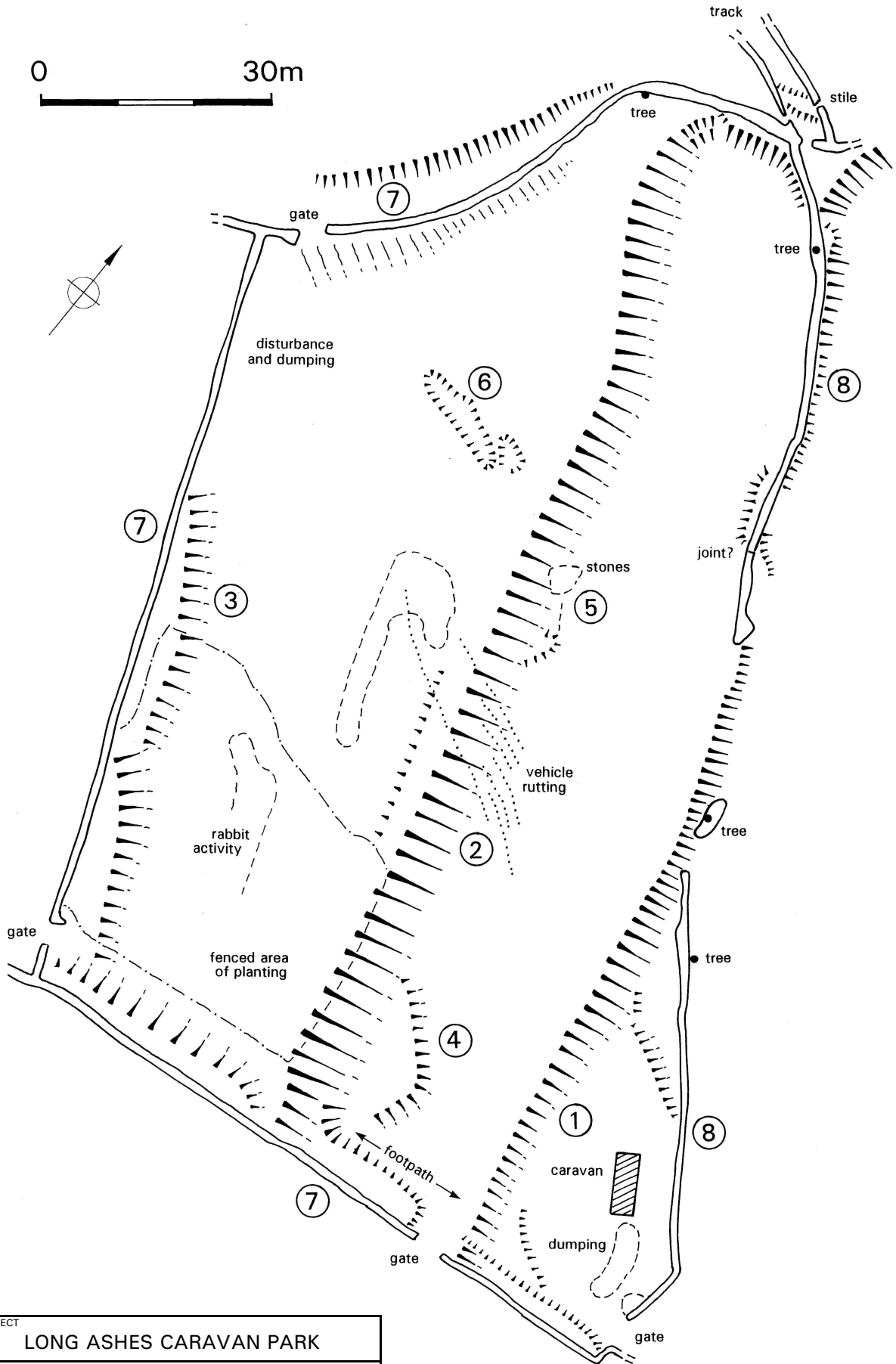
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PROJECT		LONG ASHES CARAVAN PARK	
TITLE		LOCATION OF SURVEY AREA	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	FEB 2010
EDAS		FIGURE	1



Plan provided by Peter Cardwell.

PROJECT		LONG ASHES CARAVAN PARK	
TITLE		SURVEY AREA	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	FEB 2010
EDAS		FIGURE	2



PROJECT LONG ASHES CARAVAN PARK	
TITLE IDENTIFIED SITES	
SCALE AS SHOWN	DATE FEB 2010
EDAS	FIGURE 3



Plate 1: View along northern lynchet (Site 1), looking SE.



Plate 2: View along central lynchet (Site 2), looking NW.



Plate 3: Field wall along south-east boundary of field (Site 7), looking NE.



Plate 4: Linear depression (Site 6), looking SW.



Plate 5: Field wall along north-east boundary of field (Site 8), looking NE.

APPENDIX 1

APPENDIX 1: PHOTOGRAPHIC CATALOGUE

Film 1: Colour digital photographs taken 28th January 2010

Film	Frame	Subject	Scale
1	335	Modern dumping at SE corner of site, looking NW	1m
1	336	Wall type A (Site 7), N end of SE boundary of field, looking NE	1m
1	337	Footpath erosion along SE side of field, looking SW	1m
1	338	View along northern lynchet (Site 1), looking NW	1m
1	339	Wall type A (Site 7), SE boundary of field, looking SW	1m
1	340	Large stone in SE boundary wall at SE end of central lynchet (Site 2), looking SE	1m
1	341	View along central lynchet (Site 2), looking NW	1m
1	342	Recently established woodland, looking NW	1m
1	343	Wall type A (Site 7), SW boundary of field, looking NW along lynchet (Site 3)	1m
1	344	Concentration of stone (Site 5), E side of central lynchet, looking S	1m
1	345	View along central lynchet (Site 2), looking SE	1m
1	346	Typical presumed medieval bank, NW of survey area, looking SW	1m
1	347	Survey area looking NE along vehicle track	-
1	348	Wall type A (Site 7), NW boundary of field, looking NW	1m
1	349	Linear depression (Site 6), S of central lynchet, looking SW	1m
1	350	Squeeze stile, trackway to NE of survey area, looking N	1m
1	351	Trackway to NE of survey area, looking W	1m
1	352	Wall type B (Site 8), NE boundary, with tree, looking SE	1m
1	353	Wall type B (Site 8) to full height, NE boundary, looking NE	1m
1	354	Possible joint in NE boundary wall, looking N	1m
1	355	Possible joint in NE boundary wall, with coppiced trees, looking NW	1m
1	356	Northern lynchet (Site 1) where field wall collapsed, looking NW	1m
1	357	Northern lynchet (Site 1), looking SE	1m
1	358	Wall type B (Site 8), NE boundary, looking SE	1m
1	359	Wall type B (Site 8), NE boundary, looking N	1m
1	360	General view of survey area, looking NW	1m

APPENDIX 2

APPENDIX 2: EDAS METHODS STATEMENT

LEVEL 3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AREA, LONG ASHES, THRESHFIELD, NORTH YORKSHIRE

Introduction

A Level 3 archaeological survey (as defined by English Heritage) is required adjacent to the Long Ashes Caravan Park, near Threshfield, North Yorkshire (NGR SD 979 643 centred). The area of the proposed survey covers a sub-rectangular pasture field measuring c.75m wide (north-east/south-west) by a maximum of 150m long (north-west/south-east) (see attached figure). The work is required to record the earthworks within the field, to be part of and to inform an archaeological mitigation strategy which will include a geophysical survey and possibly trial trenching. This mitigation strategy is being undertaken to support a planning application for a proposed extension to the caravan park.

Background Information

The proposed development site, and its immediate environs, has already been the subject of a desk-top assessment by Peter Cardwell, archaeological and heritage consultant (Cardwell 2009). A site inspection carried out as part of this work has identified two possible lynchets within the site, with one of them possibly being utilised as a trackway. Although no sites were previously recorded in the area, these terraces may relate to part of a field system associated with a probable Iron Age and Romano-British settlement site recorded immediately to the south-east (a Scheduled Monument), or be part of a possible medieval field system recorded to the west.

Objective of the Project

The objective of the project is:

- to identify and record any archaeological sites and monuments that survive as upstanding earthworks or structures within the survey area, to be part of and to inform a subsequent archaeological mitigation strategy.

Survey Methodology

A detailed Level 3 survey (as defined by English Heritage 2007, 23-24) of the whole field would be carried out to record the position and form of all features considered to be of archaeological and/or historic interest.

The survey would be carried out at a scale of 1:500 using EDM total station equipment. Sufficient information would be gathered to allow the survey area to be readily located through the use of surviving structures, fences, walls, water courses and other topographical features. The survey would record the position at ground level all earthworks, structures, walls, wall remnants and revetments, water courses, paths, stone and rubble scatters, fences, hedges and other boundary features, and any other features considered to be of archaeological or historic interest.

The site survey would be integrated into the Ordnance Survey national grid by resection to points of known co-ordinates, and previously gathered topographical survey data. Heights AOD would be obtained by reference to the previous survey data. Control points would be observed through trigonometric intersection from survey stations on a traverse around and through the site. The maximum error in the closure of the traverse would be less than +/- 25mm.

On completion of the EDM survey, the field data would be plotted and re-checked on site in a separate operation. Any amendments or additions would be surveyed by hand measurement, and the results digitised back into the electronic survey data. The resulting site survey would be produced at a scale of 1:500 and presented as an interpretative hachure plan using conventions analogous to those used by English Heritage (1999; 2007, 31-35). It should be noted that the final product arising from the site survey would be a hand-drawn hachure plan, although AutoCad (or equivalent) electronic data would also be provided.

The existing boundaries of the survey area would also be examined, and any items of wall furniture noted and recorded as archaeological sites. The field boundaries themselves will also be recorded, using the methodology and typology previously employed by EDAS on other walling surveys in the Yorkshire Dales (e.g. Dennison 2004, 34).

Each identified individual component within the survey area would be given a unique identifier number, and detailed written description provided based upon notes taken in the field. The description will include a preliminary interpretation of extant remains (e.g. dimensions, plan, form, function, date, sequence of development), locational information, and mention of relevant documentary, cartographic or other evidence (the latter obtained from the existing desk-top assessment). Each identified component would also be photographically recorded using a digital camera with 10m megapixel resolution. English Heritage photographic guidelines would be followed (English Heritage 2007, 14) and each photograph would normally be provided with a scale. More general digital photographs would also be taken showing the landscape context of the area and of specific parts. All photographs would be clearly numbered and labelled with the subject, orientation, date taken and photographer's name, and would be cross referenced to digital files etc.

Survey Products

Archive survey report

An EDAS archive survey report for the site will be produced, based on the detailed field survey and information gathered on site and through research. The report will assemble and summarise the available evidence for the survey area in an ordered form, synthesise the data, comment on the quality and reliability of the evidence, and how it might need to be supplemented by further site work or desk-based research.

It is expected that the report would include (as appropriate):

- a contents list;
- acknowledgements;
- a non-technical executive summary;
- site code/project number;
- dates of fieldwork visits;
- national grid reference and address;
- overall site plan;
- statutory designations;
- a brief account of the project plan, research objectives, survey methodology, procedures and equipment used;
- a summary of the historical and archaeological background to the site;
- an account of the overall form and development of the site and of the evidence supporting any interpretation;
- preliminary conclusions, including an assessment of the importance of the findings in relation to the other remains on the site and in the region as a whole;
- preliminary recommendations for improved public interpretation;
- details of any identified management issues and preliminary recommendations for improvement;
- a bibliography and list of sources consulted;
- selected colour digital images, at no less than 5" by 4";
- selected figures e.g. historic maps and plans;
- final survey drawings, reduced to A4 or A3 size.

The survey report would also contain various appendices, including photographic registers and catalogues, and a copy of this Methods Statement, together with the details of any departures from that design.

One draft copy of the report would be made available for discussion with Peter Cardwell. Upon approval, five copies of the final survey report would then be provided in hard copy format as comb bound reports, in addition to an electronic copy (pdf format). Copyright of all survey material and the report would pass to the client on payment of final invoices.

Archive deposition

A properly ordered and indexed project archive (paper, magnetic and plastic media) would be deposited with Peter Cardwell at the end of the project, for inclusion into the overall survey archive. It is expected that the archive will contain field and final ink drawings, written accounts, structured catalogues and indices, and

project management records. Any drawn records would be presented as wet ink plots on standard "A" size matt surface stable polyester film sheets.

Modifications

The programme of recording work may be modified in accordance with the professional judgement of the staff undertaking the work, insofar as the overall provisions and objectives of this methods statement would not be changed. Any variations in the project would be discussed and agreed in advance with Peter Cardwell, the client and the YDNPA.

Health and Safety, and Insurance

EDAS would comply with the Health and Safety at Work Act of 1974 while undertaking the project. A full copy of their Health and Safety Policy is available on request.

The site is privately owned and EDAS would indemnify the landowners in respect of their legal liability for physical injury to persons or damage to property arising on site in connection with the survey, to the extent of EDAS's Public Liability Insurance Cover (£5,000,000).

Programming and Resources

The project would be undertaken by EDAS, who are registered as an Archaeological Organisation with the Institute for Archaeologists.

The project would be undertaken by Ed Dennison and Shaun Richardson of EDAS. Both have some 20 years experience in non-intrusive earthwork and topographical survey, and they have undertaken numerous walkover and detailed surveys of specific monuments and of areas of historic landscape throughout the Yorkshire Dales. These surveys have included land uses of all types and have required the identification of a wide range of archaeological remains. Detailed CV's can be provided if necessary.

The nature of the ground conditions means that it is desirable that the site survey work is undertaken during periods of low vegetation growth. The site work would therefore ideally be carried out over the winter in January 2010 (depending on speed of commission and other access arrangements), with reporting complete within three weeks of the completion of site work.

References

Cardwell, P 2009 *Long Ashes Caravan Park Extension, Threshfield, North Yorkshire: Archaeological Assessment* (unpublished report 34/1 for Warfield Park Homes Ltd)

Dennison, E 2004 "An Historical Landscape Survey: The Swinithwaite Estate, West Witton". In White, R F & Wilson, P R (eds) *Archaeology and Historic Landscapes of the Yorkshire Dales*, 25-37

English Heritage 1999 *Recording Archaeological Field Monuments: A Descriptive Specification*

English Heritage 2007 *Understanding the Archaeology of Landscapes: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*

Ed Dennison, EDAS
January 2010