

ERECTION OF RECEPTION / DISABLED TOILET  
AND CONSTRUCTION OF HARDSTANDING  
FOR A CARAVAN CLUB CERTIFIED SITE,  
LAND WEST OF ORCHARD COTTAGE,  
WETWANG ROAD, FRIDAYTHORPE,  
EAST YORKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION,  
INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING

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HU17 8NU

On behalf of

N & J Thompson Properties  
Orchard Cottage  
Lodge Farm  
Fridaythorpe  
East Yorkshire HU17 0LF

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION, INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING,  
ERECTION OF RECEPTION / DISABLED TOILET AND CONSTRUCTION OF  
HARDSTANDING FOR A CARAVAN CLUB CERTIFIED SITE,  
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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In November 2011, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by Mr Neil Thompson of N and J Thompson Properties to undertake a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording (a watching brief) during groundworks associated with the erection of a reception/disabled toilet block and the construction of a hardstanding for a caravan club certified site, on land to the west of Orchard Cottage, Wetwang Road, Fridaythorpe, East Yorkshire (NGR SE 8870 5930 centred). The watching brief was made a condition of full planning permission (application DC/11/04291/PLF/WESTWW).

Despite the area in question having some archaeological potential, the watching brief carried out produced nothing of archaeological interest. The observed stratigraphy was either late 20th century in date or natural deposits.

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 In November 2011, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by Mr Neil Thompson of N and J Thompson Properties to undertake a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording (a watching brief) during groundworks associated with the erection of a reception/disabled toilet block and the construction of a hardstanding for a caravan club certified site, on land to the west of Orchard Cottage, Wetwang Road, Fridaythorpe, East Yorkshire (NGR SE 8870 5930 centred).
- 1.2 The archaeological work was made a condition of full planning permission, granted by East Riding of Yorkshire Council on 15th November 2011 (application DC/11/04291/PLF/WESTWW). The condition (number 2) stated that: "No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents 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. Development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details (Circular 11/95, Model Clause 55). A 'Written Scheme of Investigation' was subsequently produced by EDAS (see Appendix 2); this was approved by East Riding of Yorkshire Council on 16th January 2012 (application DC/11/30613/CONDET/WESTWW) following advice from the Humber Archaeology Partnership (ref. SMR/PA/CONS/17328).

## **2 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION**

- 2.1 The development site lies immediately to the west of Orchard Cottage, which itself is just west of Lodge Farm (see figure 2). Lodge Farm lies on the north side of the A166 road, c.1km east-south-east of Fridaythorpe village in East Yorkshire (see figure 1). The site of the proposed reception/toilet block lies on the east side of a grass paddock, and is accessed by a track that runs around the south side of Lodge Farm and Orchard Cottage.
- 2.2 The site lies at c.149m above Ordnance Datum (AOD). The soils of the area are classified as a brown renzina calcareous earth of the Andover 1 Association (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983) while the solid geology is Upper Cretaceous Chalk (Institute of Geological Sciences 1979).

## **3 METHODOLOGY**

- 3.1 The watching brief was defined by the 'Written Scheme of Investigation' (see Appendix 2). More general advice produced by the Institute of Field Archaeologists in relation to watching briefs (IFA 1999) was also considered. The aim of the work was to monitor the groundworks (topsoil stripping and excavation of foundation and service trenches), in order to record and recover information relating to the nature, date, depth and significance of any archaeological features which might be present and which might be damaged by the development. All excavated material was also visually inspected for any finds.
- 3.2 The watching brief was carried out during a single visit, in fine and dry conditions, on 27th January 2012. A wheeled mechanical JCB excavator with both a toothed and straight-edged bucket was used to strip off the areas of grass and topsoil; a toothed bucket also had to be used due to the compacted ground conditions. The stripped area for the reception/toilet block measured 6.0m north-south by 2.5m east-west by up to 1.0m deep while an east-west aligned drainage trench measured 20.5m long by 0.5m-0.6m wide and up to 1.20m deep. No

archaeological recording was undertaken during the construction of the hardstanding, as this involved the laying down of extra surfacing over an existing gravelled track.

- 3.3 Following standard archaeological procedures, each discrete stratigraphic entity (e.g. a cut, fill or layer) was assigned an individual three digit context number and detailed information was recorded on *pro forma* context sheets. A total of seven archaeological contexts were recorded (see Appendix 1), which are referred to in the following text as three figure numbers (e.g. 102). In-house recording and quality control procedures ensured that all recorded information was cross-referenced as appropriate. The positions of the monitored groundworks were marked on a general site plan at 1:50 scale, and two more detailed section drawings were produced at 1:20 scale. A photographic record was maintained using a digital camera.
- 3.4 Given the absence of significant archaeological results or finds, and in accordance with current East Riding of Yorkshire Museum policy, no archive for the project was deposited with the museum, although site notes, plans and photographs have been retained by EDAS (site code OCF 12).

#### **4 OUTLINE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 Information from the Humber Archaeology Partnership states that the site of the proposed development lies within an extremely sensitive archaeological landscape containing significant heritage assets dating to the prehistoric period.
- 4.2 To the west of the application site, the former Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments for England has identified a number of cropmarks on aerial photographs (Stoertz 1997). These cropmarks show a number of ditches, enclosures and a possible trackway. To the north-east of Lodge Farm, there is a large cropmark complex that extends for over 1500m from north to south, where it joins with another extensive cropmark complex. The features associated within the complex include enclosures, ditches and hut circles, the form and location of which suggest a date of prehistoric and/or Romano-British. The complex to the south is more extensive than the one mentioned above, and includes at least 40 enclosures aligned along the north-south trackway, and there are also various ditches and other trackways associated with the complex.
- 4.3 It is likely therefore that any groundworks in this area will encounter previously unknown heritage assets dating to the prehistoric and/or Romano-British periods.

#### **5 RESULTS FROM THE WATCHING BRIEF (see figure 3)**

- 5.1 Within the trench excavated for the reception/toilet block, a natural undisturbed chalk brash (103) appeared at a depth of c.0.20m-0.25m below the present ground level (BGL); this deposit extended beyond the base of the trench. The south-east corner of the trench contained a firm light brown clay (102), 0.10m thick and possibly a natural deposit, lying directly over the chalk brash (103). The west side of the north end of the trench was excavated to c.1.0m BGL, becoming shallower to c.0.40m deep on its east side. Here, there was a 0.20m thick layer of re-deposited modern chalk/hardcore rubble (104) directly overlying the natural chalk brash (103). Abutting both this rubble (104) and the light brown clay (102) was a 0.15m thick layer of re-deposited loose topsoil with frequent brick fragments (107), which extended across the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment (see plate

1). A shallow cinder/industrial residue track surface (106) up to c.0.10m thick sealed all the deposits forming the present ground surface.

5.2 The east-west drainage trench was excavated on a parallel alignment to the south paddock fence, but c.1.0m to the south of it, for a distance of 20.5m. It was c.0.50m-0.60m wide and 1.20m deep BGL (see plate 2). The natural chalk bedrock (105) appeared at c.0.90m BGL and extended below the base of the trench. A mixed chalk brash (103), between 0.50m-0.70m thick, lay over the bedrock (105) to c.0.40m BGL. This was sealed by the thick brown clay (102) noted above and over this was a 0.30m depth of a loose dark grey/black clay loam topsoil containing numerous chalk fragments (101).

5.3 No artefacts were observed or recovered from the excavations, and no environmental samples were taken.

## **6 CONCLUSIONS**

6.1 Despite the area in question having some potential, the watching brief carried out during the development of the site produced nothing of archaeological interest - the observed stratigraphy was either late 20th century in date or natural deposits.

## **7 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

IFA (Institute of Field Archaeologists) 1999 *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (and subsequent revisions)

Institute of Geological Sciences 1979 *Geological Map of the United Kingdom (South)*, 3rd edition solid, Scale 1:625,000

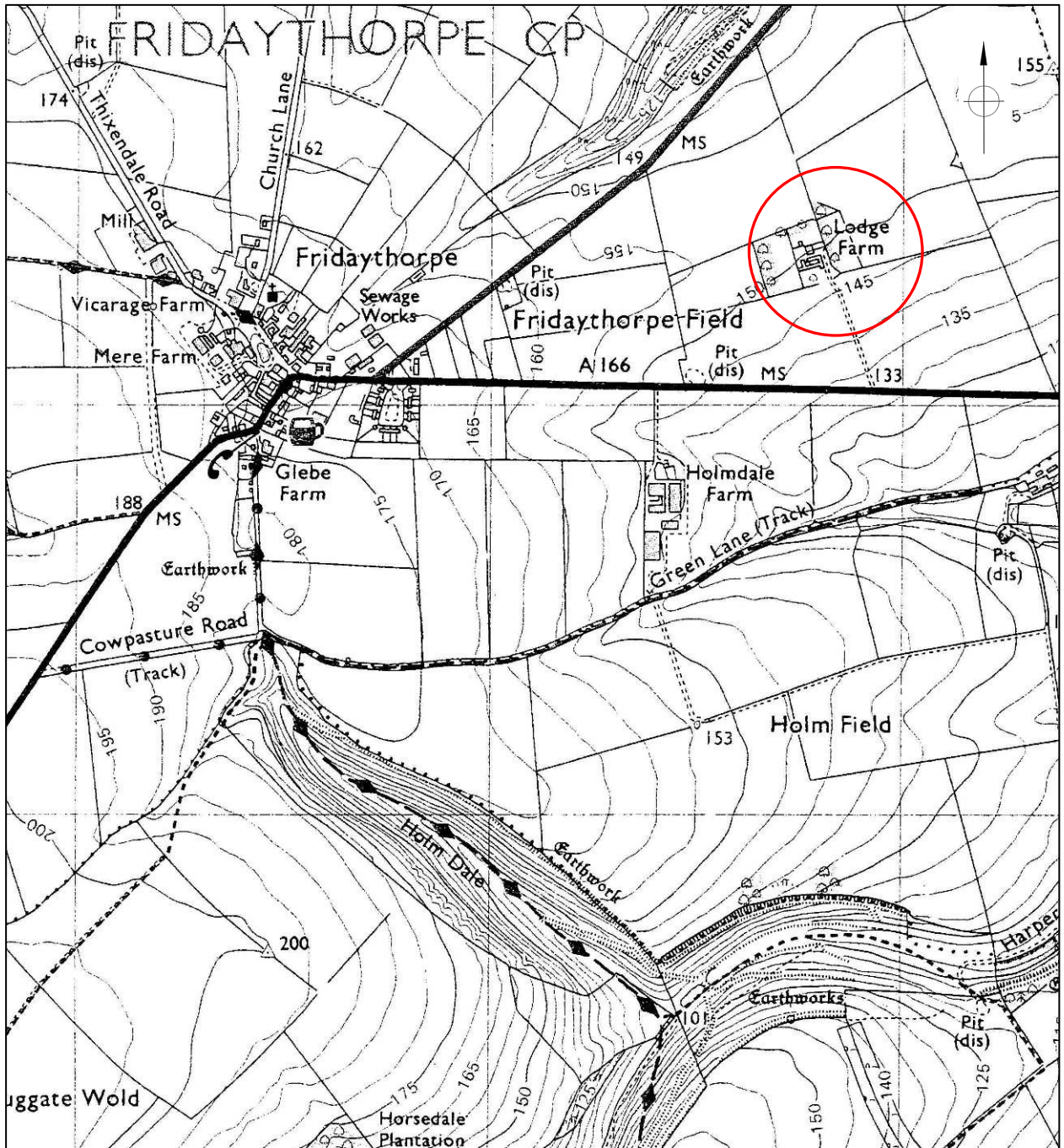
Stoertz, K 1997 *Ancient Landscapes of the Yorkshire Wolds*

Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983 *Soils of Northern England* (Sheet 1), Scale 1:250,000

## **8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

8.1 The archaeological watching brief was commissioned and funded by N and J Thompson Properties, and EDAS would like Mr Neil Thompson for his co-operation in carrying out the work.

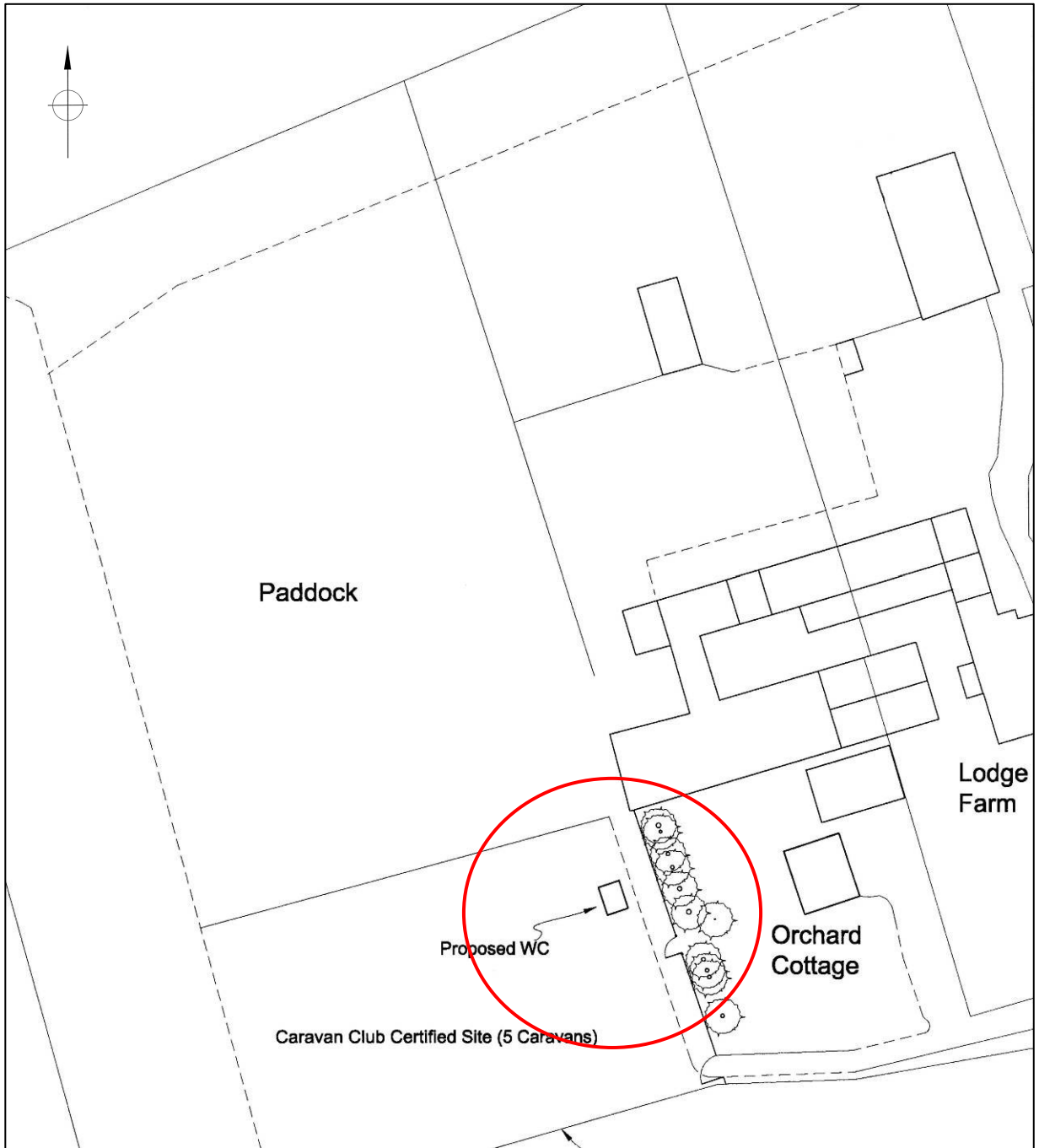
8.2 The site recording was undertaken by John Tibbles of East Riding Archaeology on behalf of EDAS, who also produced the fieldwork records. Ed Dennison produced the final report and drawings, and the responsibility for any errors or inconsistencies remains with him.



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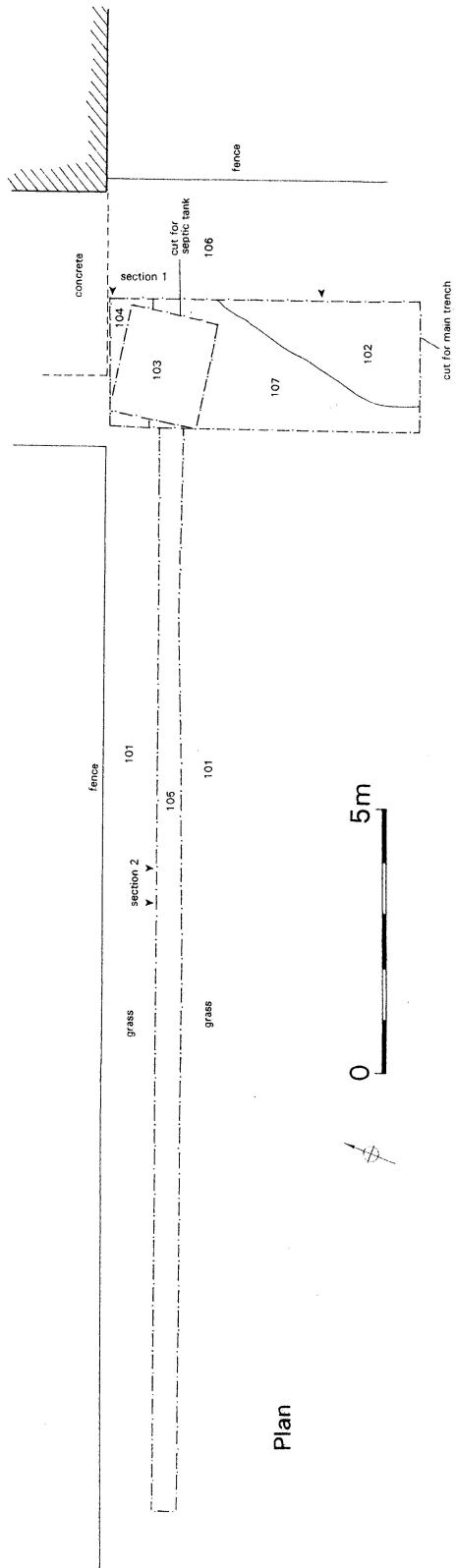
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TITLE		GENERAL LOCATION	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	MAR 2012
EDAS		FIGURE	1



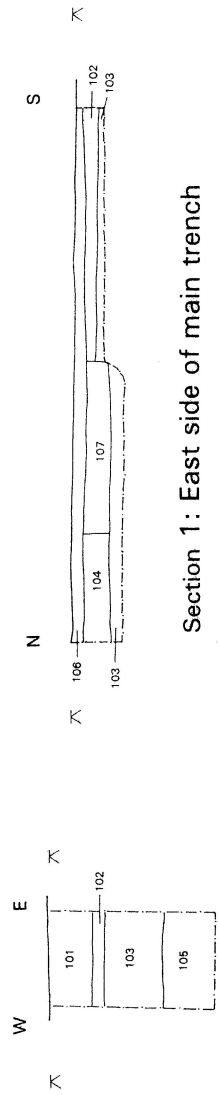


Plan supplied by Paul Taylor  
Architectural Services.

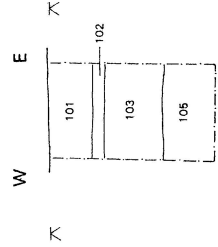
PROJECT		ORCHARD COTTAGE, LODGE FARM	
TITLE		DETAILED LOCATION	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	MAR 2012
EDAS		FIGURE	2



Plan



Section 1: East side of main trench



Section 2: Representative section of drainage trench

PROJECT	ORCHARD COTTAGE, LODGE FARM		
TITLE	WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS		
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	MAR 2012
	EDAS	FIGURE	3



Plate 1: Exposed stratigraphy in main trench after removal of cinder track, looking NW.



Plate 2: Start of excavations for drainage trench, looking W.

## **APPENDIX 1**

## APPENDIX 1: LIST OF CONTEXTS

<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>
101	Loose dark grey/black clay loam, 0.30m thick, with numerous chalk fragments - topsoil.
102	Firm light brown clay, 0.10m thick - natural clay.
103	Chalk brash, 0.5m-0.7m thick.
104	Chalk/hardcore rubble, 0.20m thick - modern.
105	Natural chalk bedrock.
106	Cinder/industrial residue, up to 0.10m thick - former track.
107	Topsoil with frequent brick fragments, 0.15m thick - re-deposited material.

## APPENDIX 2

## **APPENDIX 2: EDAS WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION**

### **WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR A PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION, INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING (WATCHING BRIEF) DURING THE ERECTION OF A RECEPTION/DISABLED TOILET AND CONSTRUCTION OF HARDSTANDING FOR A CARAVAN CLUB CERTIFIED SITE, LAND WEST OF ORCHARD COTTAGE, WETWANG ROAD, FRIDAYTHORPE, EAST YORKSHIRE**

#### **1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) details the work required to undertake a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording (a watching brief), to be carried out during groundworks associated with the erection of a reception/disabled toilet and the construction of hardstanding for a Caravan Club certified site, on land to the west of Orchard Cottage, Wetwang Road, Fridaythorpe, East Yorkshire (NGR SE 8870 5930). This written scheme has been produced by Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS), at the request of the developers of the site, N & J Thompson Properties.
- 1.2 This document forms the 'Written Scheme of Investigation' stipulated in condition 2 of the planning permission (application DC/11/04291/PLF/WESTWW), approved by East Riding of Yorkshire Council on 15th November 2011. Its content has been discussed and agreed with the Humber Archaeology Partnership, who act as archaeological advisors to the East Riding of Yorkshire Council.

#### **2 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION**

- 2.1 The development site lies immediately to the west of Orchard Cottage, which itself is just west of Lodge Farm (See figure 1). Lodge Farm lies on the north side of the A166 road, c.1km east-south-east of Fridaythorpe village, East Yorkshire. The site of the proposed WC/reception block lies on the east side of a grass paddock, and is accessed by a track that runs around the south side of Lodge Farm and Orchard Cottage.

#### **3 PLANNING BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Full planning permission for the development was approved by East Riding of Yorkshire Council on 15th November 2011. Condition 2, which relates to archaeology, states: "*No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents 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. Development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details (Circular 11/95, Model Clause 55)*".

#### **4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST**

- 4.1 Information from the Humber Archaeology Partnership, as a consultee to the Local Planning Authority, states that the site of the proposed development lies within an extremely sensitive archaeological landscape containing significant heritage assets dating to the prehistoric period.
- 4.2 To the west of the application site, the Royal Commission for Historic Monuments has identified a number of cropmarks on aerial photographs. These cropmarks show a number of ditches, enclosures and a possible trackway. To the north-east of Lodge Farm, there is a large cropmark complex that extends for over 1500m from north to south, where it joins with another extensive cropmark complex. The features associated within the complex include enclosures, ditches and but circles, the form and location of which suggest a date of prehistoric and/or Romano-British. The complex to the south is more extensive than the one mentioned above, and includes at least 40 enclosures aligned along the north-south trackway, and there are also various ditches and other trackways associated with the complex.

- 4.3 It is likely therefore that any groundworks in this area will encounter previously unknown heritage assets dating to the prehistoric and/or Romano-British periods.

## **5 NATURE OF THE DEVELOPMENT**

- 5.1 The proposals involve the construction of a new single storey WC and reception building which will serve an adjacent caravan site for five caravans (see figure 2). There will be a septic tank for the WC dug just to the north of the new building. Overall, the area of development measures c.10m north-south by c.3m east-west, and the septic tank will require a c.3m deep hole. A small trench excavated last year through this area (to relieve drainage problems) shows a 300mm depth of topsoil lying directly over chalk of an undetermined depth, and part of the development site was previously occupied by an underground tank to collect pig slurry. A number of trenches will also be dug to the south of the building to facilitate drainage, and the access track will be improved by the laying down of extra surfacing over the existing.

## **6 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY**

- 6.1 The aim of the archaeological recording is to record and recover information relating to the nature, date, depth, and significance of any archaeological features and deposits which might be affected by the proposed development. In addition to the methodology set out below, EDAS will also adhere to more general advice produced by the Humber Archaeology Partnership and the Institute of Archaeologists in relation to watching briefs (IFA 1999).
- 6.2 The topsoil strip and the excavation of any foundation and/or drainage trenches etc will be subject to archaeological monitoring as they are being dug, so that any archaeological deposits that might be uncovered can be immediately identified and recorded. Where mechanical equipment is to be used for the groundworks (e.g. JCB or mini-digger), the contractor will use a toothless bucket, to facilitate the archaeological recording.
- 6.3 If it becomes clear during the monitoring work that little of archaeological interest is likely to survive in the site, the recording work may be halted, in consultation with the Curatorial Officer of the Humber Archaeology Partnership (HAP). However, if structures, features, finds or deposits of archaeological interest are exposed or disturbed, EDAS will be allowed time to clean, assess, and hand excavate, sample and record the archaeological remains, as necessary and appropriate according to the nature of the remains, to allow the archaeological material to be sufficiently characterised (see 6.7 below). Excavators will not be operated in the immediate vicinity of any archaeological remains until those remains have been recorded, and EDAS has given explicit permission for operations to recommence at that location.
- 6.4 The archaeological recording work should not cause undue delay to the overall programme of site works, and much can be achieved through liaison and co-operation with the main contractor. However, the main contractor and client will ensure that the EDAS has sufficient time and resources to ensure compliance with all elements of this WSI. It is likely that the archaeological recording will be accomplished through a number of separate site visits, the number and duration of which will be determined by the speed of the development and/or excavations. Access to the site will therefore be afforded to EDAS at all reasonable times.
- 6.5 Reasonable prior notice (minimum one week) of the commencement of development should be given to EDAS, who will then inform the HAP, so that they may attend or monitor the recording work if they so wish.
- 6.6 The actual areas of ground disturbance, and any features of archaeological interest, will be accurately located on a site plan and recorded by photographs (35mm black and white/colour prints and digital shots), scale drawings (plans and sections at 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 scales as appropriate), and written descriptions as judged adequate by EDAS,



using appropriate proforma record sheets and standard archaeological recording systems.

- 6.7 If, in the professional judgement of the archaeologist on site, unexpectedly significant or complex discoveries are made that warrant more recording than is covered by this WSI, immediate contact will be made with the developer and the Curatorial Officer of the HAP. This will allow appropriate amendments to be made to the scope of the recording work, in agreement with all parties concerned; these amendments might, for example, include the requirement to sample archaeological and/or environmental deposits, and/or detailed excavation of specific structures. The possibility of temporarily halting work for unexpected discoveries will be discussed with the developer in advance of the development, and sufficient time and resources will be made available to ensure that proper recording is made prior to any removal.
- 6.8 If human remains are encountered during the course of the groundworks, they will be removed under the conditions of a Ministry of Justice burial licence, to ensure that they are treated with due dignity. The preferred option would be for them to be adequately recorded before lifting, and then carefully removed for scientific study, and long-term storage with an appropriate museum; however, the burial licence may specify reburial or cremation as a requirement.
- 6.9 The terms of the Treasure Act (1996) will be followed with regard to any finds which might fall within its purview. Any such finds will be removed to a safe place, and reported to the local coroner as required by the procedures laid down in the Code of Practice. Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft. A finds recovery and conservation strategy will also be discussed and agreed with the developer in advance of the project commencing.

## **7 REPORTING AND ARCHIVING**

- 7.1 On completion of the archaeological fieldwork, any samples taken will be processed and any finds will be cleaned, identified, assessed, spot dated, marked (if appropriate) and properly packaged and stored in accordance with the requirements of national guidelines. The level of post-excavation analysis will be appropriate to the quality and quantity of the finds recovered, and specialists would be consulted as necessary.
- 7.2 A fully indexed and ordered field archive will be prepared, following the guidelines produced by English Heritage and the Institute for Archaeologists. The archive will comprise primary written documents, plans, sections and photographs, and an index to the archive should also be prepared. Subject to the agreement of the landowner, and depending on whether significant artefacts are recovered, the site archive may be deposited with the East Riding of Yorkshire Museum Service. The museum will be contacted at the beginning of the project. A copy of the Archive Index and the name of the recipient museum will be sent to the HAP. EDAS will make an allowance for a minimum of one box in calculating estimates for the museum's storage grant.
- 7.3 With the exception of human remains, and finds of treasure (as defined under the 1996 Treasure Act - see above), all finds are the property of the landowner. However, it is generally expected that the finds will be deposited with the site archive. A finds recovery and conservation strategy will be agreed with the developer in advance of the project commencing, and this will include contingency arrangements for artefacts of special significance. Any recording, marking and storage materials will be of archival quality, and recording systems will be compatible with the recipient museum. Copies of all recording forms and manuals will be submitted to the HAP prior to the commencement of site works, if these have not been submitted previously.
- 7.4 Within six weeks of the completion of the site work, a report will be produced by EDAS. This report will include the following (as appropriate):

- A non-technical summary;
- Site code/project number;
- Planning reference number and SMR casework number;
- Dates for fieldwork visits;
- Grid reference;
- A location plan, with scale;
- A copy of the developer's plan showing the areas monitored;
- Sections and plan drawings with ground level, Ordnance Datum and vertical and horizontal scales;
- General site photographs, as well as photographs of any significant archaeological deposits or artefacts that are encountered;
- A written description and analysis of the methods and results of the watching brief, in the context of the known archaeology of the area;
- Specialist artefact and environmental reports, as necessary.

7.5 Three copies of the final report will be supplied, for distribution to the developer, the Local Planning Authority and the HAP SMR. A copy of the final report will also be included within the site archive. The HAP SMR will also receive an electronic version of the report in line with their current guidance, namely as a pdf file.

7.6 Where a significant discovery is made, allowance will be made for the preparation of a short note for inclusion in a local journal.

## **8 MONITORING**

8.1 The archaeological recording work may be monitored by the HAP, and appropriate site meetings and liaison will be arranged as necessary.

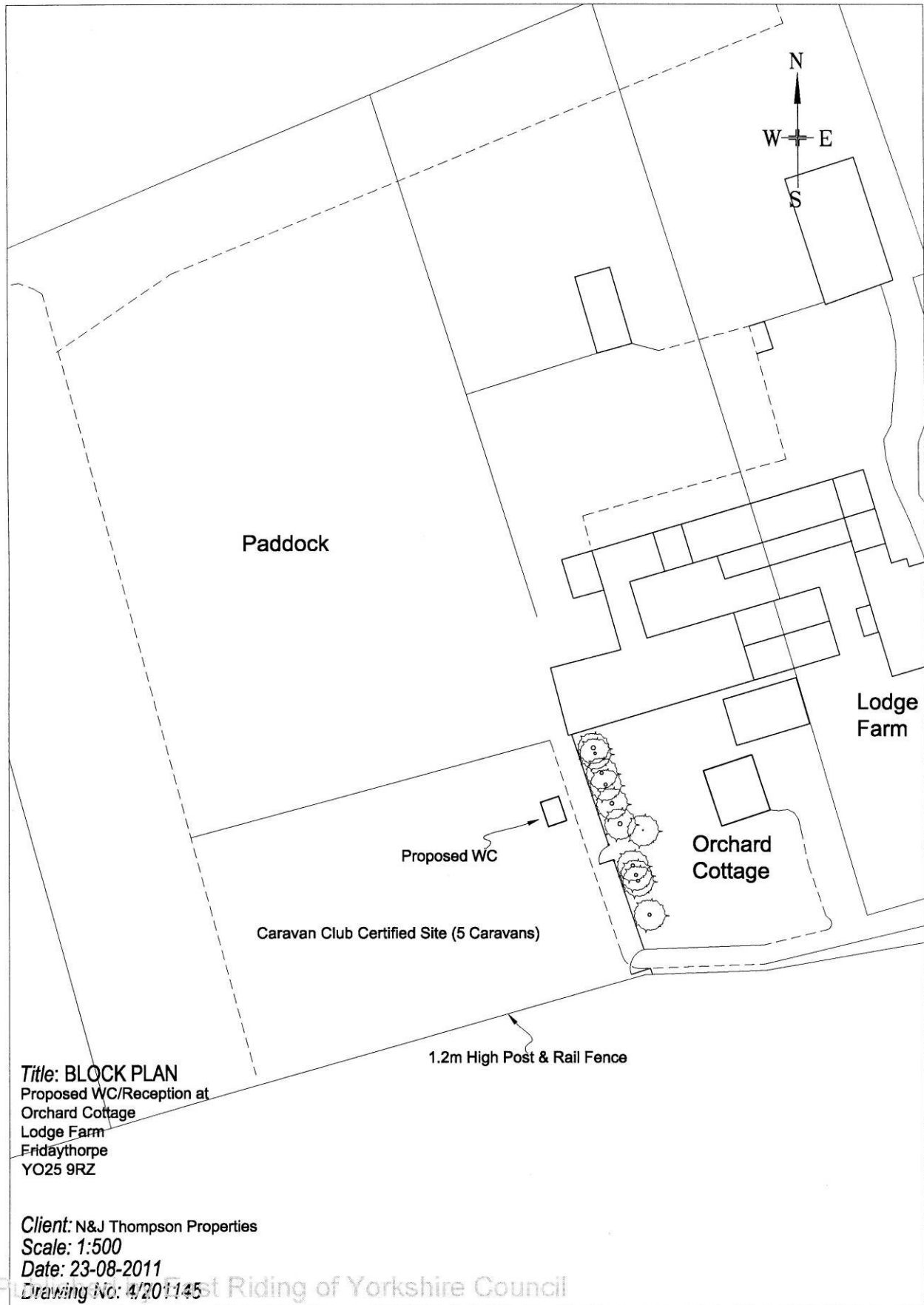
## **9 HEALTH AND SAFETY, AND INSURANCE**

9.1 EDAS will comply with the Health and Safety at Work Act of 1974 while undertaking the archaeological recording work, and Health and Safety issues will take priority over archaeological matters. EDAS are appropriately for all eventualities, including risks to third parties.

## **10 REFERENCES**

IFA (Institute for Archaeologists) 1999 *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (and subsequent revisions)

E Dennison, EDAS  
10 December 2011



**FIGURE 1: SITE LOCATION**  
 (not to scale - plan supplied by Paul Taylor Architectural Services)

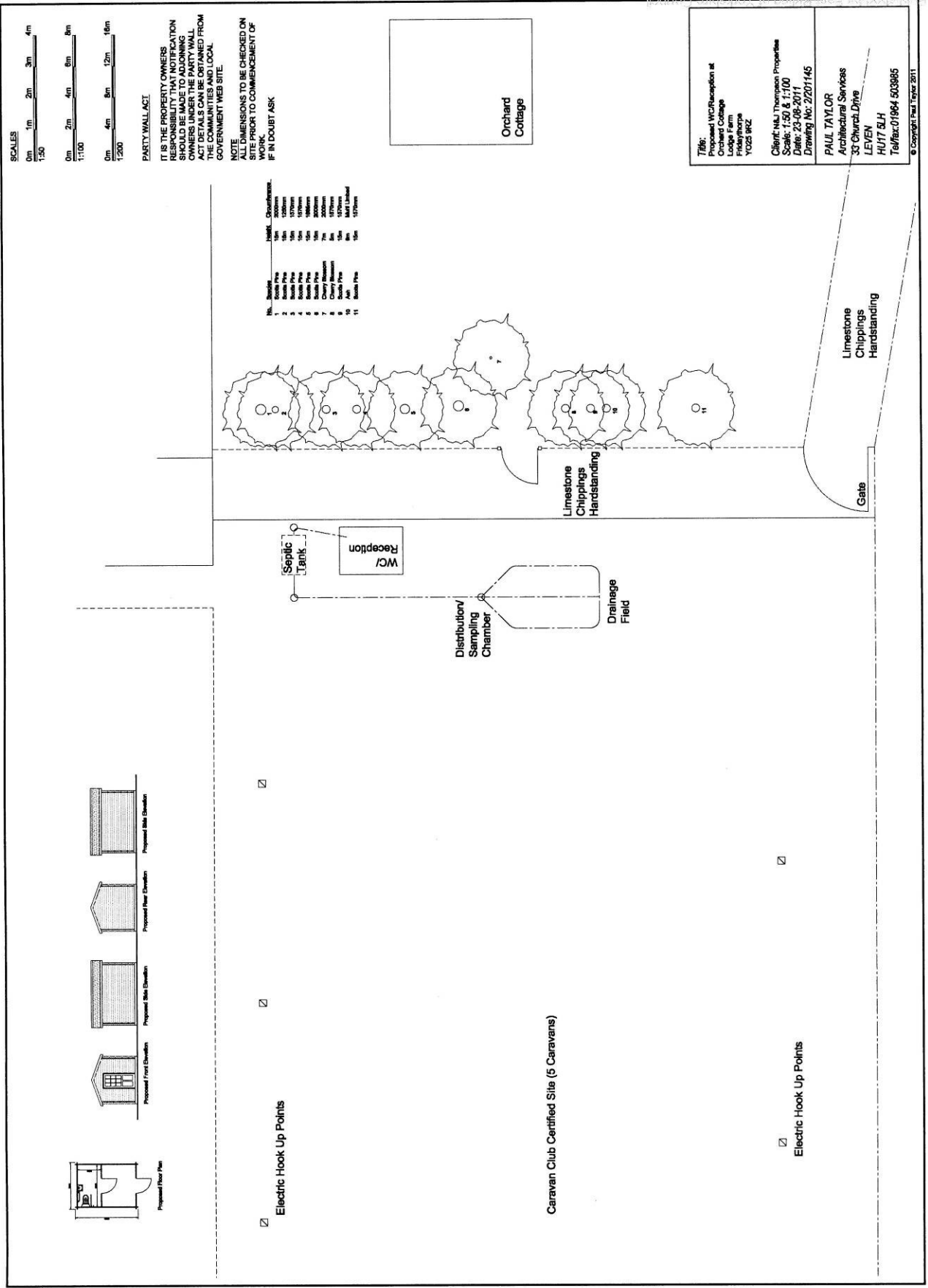


FIGURE 2: DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS (not to scale - plan supplied by Paul Taylor Architectural Services)