

KESTERS FARM, NAFFERTON,  
EAST YORKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION,  
INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING

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On behalf of

Mr & Mrs K Templeman  
Kesters Farm  
Nafferton  
East Yorkshire  
YO25 0LE

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION, INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING,  
KESTERS FARM, NAFFERTON, EAST YORKSHIRE**

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In March 2005, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by Mr and Mrs K Templeman to undertake a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording (a watching brief) during groundworks associated with alterations and extensions to the farmhouse, and the change of use of a redundant foldyard to a garden, at Kesters Farm, Nafferton, East Yorkshire (NGR TA 0500 6230). The watching brief was made a condition of planning permission and Listed Building consent.

The watching brief produced little of archaeological interest, although it should be noted that large parts of the site had already been stripped before archaeologists were in attendance. Other drainage and sewage runs were also excavated without archaeological supervision, although in some case some inspection and recording was able to be carried out.

The farmhouse dates from the mid 18th century, and it is likely that the farmstead was built soon after the surrounding land was enclosed in 1772. This is a common occurrence on the Yorkshire Wolds, and the farmsteads were usually designed around a foldyard, often open to the south. A trench dug through the southern side of the foldyard at Nafferton Kesters revealed two phases of boundary wall, which formed a revetment against a pond to the south. On the north side of the wall there was a buried floor or yard surface with a foundation layer beneath. This could be associated with a small yard shown in this approximate position on the Ordnance Survey map of 1854 or even possibly be part of the previously demolished east end of the south range.

The watching brief also recorded a brick-built underground water storage tank close to the north-east corner of the farmhouse. This was a domed structure, measuring 1.72m in diameter and 1.65m deep internally, which was capped by a large stone slab. These structures are relatively common, and examples have been recorded elsewhere in domestic, agricultural and even ecclesiastical contexts. They were used to store rainwater gathered through guttering and downpipes to ensure a constant supply for domestic use.

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 In March 2005, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by Mr and Mrs K Templeman to undertake a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording (a watching brief) during groundworks associated with alterations and extensions to the farmhouse, and the change of use of a redundant foldyard to a garden, at Kesters Farm, Nafferton, East Yorkshire (NGR TA 0500 6230) (see figure 1). The watching brief was made a condition of Listed Building consent (application DC/01/05555/PLB/BRIDW – condition 3) and full planning permission (application DC/01/05551/PLB/BRIDW - condition 3), both granted on 9th April 2003.

## **2 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION**

- 2.1 Nafferton Kesters lies in an isolated located c.2.2km to the south of Kilham and c.3.2km to the north of Nafferton, on the Yorkshire Wolds in East Yorkshire. The farmstead is situated on a small plateau on the south side of a north-west/south-east aligned dry valley known as Slatterdale, at a height of c.46m AOD. The underlying geology is chalk.
- 2.2 The farmstead is surrounded by open agricultural land and is reached by a track which runs north from a sharp bend at the point where Green Dikes Lane meets Wold Road; the north-south section was formerly known as Hagg Lane. The track originally continued north to link with Pockthorpe Lane and Shepherdton Mere, at Little Pockthorpe (see figure 1). The house dates to the mid 18th century and is a Grade II Listed Building (see Appendix 2). The farmstead has lost its agricultural function and the remaining original outbuildings are now in a dilapidated condition. A large modern agricultural shed, used as an indoor riding centre, has also been built to the north-west of the farm complex (see figure 2). Within the site, the ground slopes down to the south-east towards a former pond located on the south-east side of the foldyard.
- 2.3 The farmstead is aligned north-west/south-east (see figure 2) but, for ease of description in this report, it is considered to be north-south.

## **3 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY**

- 3.1 The watching brief took account of, and followed, a specification produced by the local archaeological curators, the Humber Archaeology Partnership (see Appendix 3). More general advice produced by the Institute of Field Archaeologists in relation to watching briefs (IFA 1999) was also considered. The aim of the watching brief was to monitor the groundworks associated with the erection of a new extension to the farmhouse and the change of use of the former foldyard to a garden, to recover any information relating to any archaeological features or deposits which might be uncovered or disturbed. There was no requirement to monitor or record any of the outbuilding demolition works.
- 3.2 The watching brief was undertaken in difficult conditions. EDAS were not given the required advance notification of the commencement of the development, and site work was already well advanced when archaeologists first arrived on 5th March 2005. A modern brick extension on the north side of the 18th century farmhouse and an associated carport had already been demolished, together with a range of farm buildings running parallel to the farm track, along the north side of the former foldyard. A large area, measuring c.22m by c.12m, had already been excavated for the new west wing of the house, by a 360° tracked mechanical excavator with an 2m

wide ditching bucket. The range of derelict farm buildings enclosing the west side of the yard had been demolished some time ago.

- 3.3 At the time of the first inspection, the area for the new west wing had been excavated to form two separate terraces cut into the natural north-south slope. The lower terrace, representing the west part of the west wing, measured c.15m by c.8m and this had been cut well into the natural clay and underlying chalk, leaving a standing section 13m long and over 2m in height along the upper (north) side of the platform; the removal of the upper layers later reduced this section to 1.7m in height. The upper terrace lay nearer the farmhouse and measured c.8m square, with an additional area to the north corresponding to the position of a new garage. The depths of these excavations were such that any archaeological deposits that might have been present in these areas would already have been removed, and the inspection of any foundation trenches for the new west wing was no longer of any value.
- 3.4 The remaining groundworks, i.e. the excavation of a semi-circular area at the back (north) of the new house, adjacent to the farm track, were monitored on 7th March 2005. Some monitoring also took place within the area of the former foldyard, where recently dumped demolition debris together with turf and topsoil was being stripped. However, little could be seen or recorded as the contractor had mixed and contaminated the different contexts.
- 3.5 Seven months later, in October 2005, excavations were recommenced for the sewerage and drainage runs immediately to the north-east of the farmhouse and in the area of the former foldyard. Near the farmhouse, trenches were dug to a depth of up to 1.1m and were c.0.5m wide. Additional surface drainage, not shown on the original architects plans, was found to be necessary in the area of the former foldyard and a number of trenches 0.3m wide were cut to a depth of c.0.4m from the stripped surface to take pipes leading towards a pond area. A trench 2.5m long and 0.9m wide was then dug to take the pipes into the former pond area through a hole cut through the lower part of a retaining wall, 1.0m from the ground surface. All these works were monitored during a series of site visits undertaken between 17th October and 19th November 2005, and on 6th March and 4th April 2006, although the main drainage trenches through the former foldyard were excavated and half-filled without notification.
- 3.6 Following standard archaeological procedures, each discrete stratigraphic entity (e.g. a cut, fill or layer) was assigned an individual context number and detailed information was recorded on *pro forma* context sheets. A total of 29 archaeological contexts were recorded; these are all described in the following text as three digit numbers (e.g. 005) (see also Appendix 1). In-house recording and quality control procedures ensured that all recorded information was cross-referenced as appropriate. The positions of all monitored groundworks were marked on a general site plan at 1:100 scale, and more detailed section drawings at 1:10 and 1:20 scale were made as necessary. A photographic record was maintained using 35mm colour prints and colour digital images.
- 3.7 With the agreement of the developer, the project archive, comprising written and photographic elements, has been deposited with the East Riding of Yorkshire Museum Service (site code KFN 05; accession number 2007/001). No artefacts were retained during the watching brief.

## 4 OUTLINE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 As noted in the Humber Archaeology Partnership specification (see Appendix 3), the development site lies within a widespread and extensive archaeological landscape, dating back to at least the Bronze Age. English Heritage has mapped and interpreted all the visible cropmarks seen on aerial photographs of the Yorkshire Wolds (Stoertz 1997), and these show a complex of features in and around the area. The most prominent is a dyke system, comprising several closely spaced and parallel banks and ditches. One dyke forms part of the boundary between Kilham and Nafferton parishes, while another (Green Dikes) runs north-west/south-east to the south of Nafferton Kesters, along Green Dikes Lane. These dykes are thought to represent major territorial or agricultural land divisions dating from the Bronze Age, although the latter was still prominent in the 13th century when it formed part of the internal manorial division between Nafferton and Pockthorpe (Allison 1974, 283). There are also further cropmarks of field systems and boundaries on Nafferton Wold further to the south, but none around the farmstead, probably because they have been masked by hillwash running into the dry valley.
- 4.2 The earthworks of the deserted medieval village of Pockthorpe lie c.1.5km to the north-west of Nafferton Kesters, and much of the land around the farmstead originally formed part of this manor. The early history of the village has not been traced, but it is named in the Domesday Book (Smith 1937, 95). The name of Nafferton Kesters occurs at least as early as the 16th century, and it is possible that land called “Kirestoff” in the early Middle Ages and “Nafferton Christofts” in 1609 is associated with the farmstead (Allison 1974, 284). However, a large block of land to the north of Pockthorpe Lane is also called “Kesters” on the early Ordnance Survey maps, and so the early names may alternatively apply to this area. As noted above, the farmhouse dates to the mid 18th century, and it may have been built around 1772 when the 700 acres of land within Pockthorpe were enclosed and allocated to Robert McFarland (Allison 1974, 289-290). The building of new farmsteads away from the villages in the centre of newly-enclosed land is a common characteristic of the Yorkshire Wolds, and the farmsteads were designed around a square foldyard, often open to the south, with stables and barns to the north, and cattle sheds to the east and west (Pevsner & Neave 1995, 84-85; Allison 1998, 164).
- 4.3 The Ordnance Survey 1st edition 1854 6” map (sheet 145) depicts the farmstead, named as “Nafferton Kester”, as a typical Wolds complex formed by agricultural ranges built around a square open foldyard (see figure 3). The east range, containing the house at the south end, has two small extensions to the east while the north range is a single long building. The west range is similarly depicted, although this returns to the east at the south end, for half the width of the foldyard; this return appears to contain a horse engine house and there is a small pond adjacent. The entrance into the foldyard lies in the south-east corner, adjacent to the house. There is a garden or orchard on the east side of the house, and an isolated outbuilding near the north-west corner of the farmstead. The later 1910 25” map (sheet 145/13) depicts a similar arrangement (see figure 3), although the west end of the north range has been demolished and the remainder has been widened, the house has an extension to the east, the pond appears much larger, and the isolated outbuilding has been replaced and there is another right-angled building to the north-east.

## 5 WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS (see figures 4 and 5)

### *North of the house*

- 5.1 The topsoil (001) across the site, where visible, was c.0.10m deep and contained considerable amounts of demolition debris, including chalk rubble, brick, tile, mortar and concrete. The subsoil (002), probably representing the original plough soil, was a brown friable loam, c.0.26m thick. Beneath this was a fine clean reddish-brown clay (003) up to 0.75m thick, overlying the natural chalk (004). Occasional small lumps of black material were visible in the lower levels of red-brown clay (003) and a narrow layer of iron pan occurred at the sharply delineated junction between the clay and the chalk.
- 5.2 The surface of the natural chalk (004) was typically fragmented into small/medium sized chalk gravel, to an unknown depth. The long east-west section exposed along the north side of the lower terrace, corresponding to the west part of the new west wing, showed that the chalk surface was incised with a series of V-shaped cuts, resulting from ice action and/or the downward flow of water in immediate post-glacial times.
- 5.3 At the east end of the upper part of the terrace, near the north end of the farmhouse, a small rectangular depression (005) measuring 0.59m long by 0.48m wide had been cut into the red-brown clay (003). The depression was 0.04m deep from the stripped surface, and was filled with a greyish brown compacted gritty loam (006) with small chalk gravel and brick fragments. It was probably associated with the demolished carport and may have been a pit for a supporting stanchion or its base plate.
- 5.4 Slightly to the north-east, and visible from a higher level but cutting into the same platform, a chalk rubble filled pit (007) was exposed. This pit measured 1.04m long by 0.75m wide and had at least two very clean vertically-cut sides, and appeared to have been mechanically cut. It was filled with medium/large chalk rubble, with no fine component and no loam infill (008). Many voids were apparent and the lower fill had a hollow sounding ring to it. No further excavation was carried out on this feature, as it was assumed to be either a modern test pit or more likely a relatively recently infilled soak-away, related to nearby ceramic surface water drains.
- 5.5 One course of brickwork (010), c.5.0m long and c.0.2m high, relating to the north-east wall of the demolished farm buildings running parallel to the farm track, was visible but it was not recorded in detail. No other archaeological features were apparent during this first phase of work, but anything present would have been destroyed during excavation of the crucial levels carried out when archaeologists were not present on site.
- 5.6 Adjacent to the area of drainage work immediately to the north of the original farmhouse, the domed brick roof of an underground water storage tank (012) was noted and recorded, although it was not to be affected by the works. The circular tank measured 1.72m in diameter by 1.65m deep internally (see Section 2). The brick neck (022) was in a poor condition although the shoulder and the internal, rendered, surface appeared to be undamaged. Pottery fragments and part of a narrow clay pipe stem in a deposit of fine chalk rubble with yellow-brown sand and mortar (011) immediately over the shoulder of the tank were of 18th-19th century date. This material was overlain by a brown clayey loam (025), disturbed by the construction work, which probably represented the former garden topsoil.



- 5.7 The neck of the water storage tank was covered by a large single stone flagstone, 1.0m long by 0.58m wide and 0.06m thick (013). The tank itself (012) appeared to be made from a variety of sizes of re-used brick, the header face on the lowest visible brick at the neck being 120mm by 120mm. Some 3.0m to the west, a degraded metal pipe exposed in one of the sewage pipe trenches appeared to be leading from the old house towards the tank, but no inlets were visible in the tank from the surface, and the unstable condition of the neck precluded further detailed inspection. The Ordnance Survey 1910 map marks a "Pump" in the same location as the storage tank (see figure 3), and it was probably used as a domestic water supply.
- 5.8 Under the brown clayey loam topsoil (025) of the former garden, the remains of successive former brick and chalk rubble yard surfaces (023) were visible in the various sewage pipe trenches which crossed this area, extending to a thickness of 0.47m overall.

#### *Former foldyard*

- 5.9 A trench 2.5m long and 0.9m wide had been dug by the contractor to take a surface water drainage pipe through the southern boundary wall of the former foldyard and into the area of the former pond. The upstanding boundary wall (015) was c.13.5m long overall and 0.24m wide with an extensive section of modern concrete block repair (016); this wall retained the former pond to the south. The section exposed by the trench showed that the wall was built over an earlier, slightly wider (0.36m) wall (018) made of 2¼" (58mm) bricks with 12 courses remaining. The remains of a row of headers (024) were visible forming the top of the earlier wall. This earlier wall (018) is presumably that which is shown on the Ordnance Survey 1910 map, and perhaps also on the 1854 map.
- 5.10 The early maps show that there was also a small pond in the yard on the north side of the boundary wall (see figure 3). The 0.9m wide trench, although in approximately the correct position, did not reveal any evidence for this. However, the remains of a rusted metal pipe (017), embedded in concrete (020) and supported on a cement rendered brick step (019) which may be remains of a small buttress or repair, passed through an area of cement and brick repair beneath the narrower wall (015), and this may have provided a drain or other connection between the two bodies of water.
- 5.11 A very compacted deposit of chalk rubble (021), at least 2.3m wide and up to 0.3m deep, was exposed in the east side of the trench, adjacent to walls 015/018; it was cut away on the north side by one of the groundwater drainage trenches but it had not been evident in the remainder of the foldyard area. This deposit, which had some roughly dressed and possibly coursed chalk at the north end, may be the remains of a yard surface or the floor of an earlier building abutting the pond, although none is shown on the 1910 map. It is difficult to closely align the structures and walls as shown on the 1854 map with the excavated trench, but this surface could be associated with a small yard shown in this approximate position in 1854, or even possibly be part of the demolished east end of the south range (see figure 3). The compacted chalk rubble (021) overlay a deposit of firm fine chalk (027) containing brick fragments and cobbles, which might have been a hardcore base for the floor or yard surface above. At the base of this deposit was a possible cut (028) into the natural chalk (004), with cleaner chalk beneath; this might be associated with an earlier structure, although this was not able to be confirmed.

- 5.12 A small pit dug on the south side of the boundary wall (015) revealed a firm brown clay (029) representing the silting of the former pond depicted here on the earlier maps. Nothing else of significance was seen in the various drainage trenches crossing the former foldyard area, although a demolition layer containing brick and chalk rubble and other building debris (026) was noted in the area of the former west range. The remains of a similar modern demolition layer (014) were noted against the southern boundary wall (015), although the majority of this deposit had been removed from the foldyard area prior to inspection.

## 6 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 The watching brief at Nafferton Kesters produced little of archaeological interest, although it should be noted that large parts of the site had already been stripped before archaeologists were in attendance. This was especially the case in the area of a new western extension, built on to the existing mid 18th century farmhouse, where an area measuring c.22m by c.12m had already been excavated to a variety of levels, some into the natural chalk. Other drainage and sewage runs were also excavated without archaeological supervision, although in some cases some inspection and recording was able to be carried out.
- 6.2 The farmhouse dates from the mid 18th century, and it is likely that the farmstead was built soon after the surrounding land was enclosed in 1772. This is a common occurrence on the Yorkshire Wolds, and the farmsteads were usually designed around a foldyard, often open to the south. A trench dug through the southern side of the foldyard at Nafferton Kesters showed that the extant boundary wall had earlier origins, and it formed a revetment against a pond to the south. On the north side of the wall there was a buried floor or yard surface with a foundation layer beneath. The limited size of the trench meant that it was not possible to confirm the true nature of this deposit, although it could be associated with a small yard shown in this approximate position on the Ordnance Survey map of 1854 or even possibly be part of the previously demolished east end of the south range.
- 6.3 The watching brief also recorded a brick-built underground storage tank close to the north-east corner of the farmhouse. This was a domed structure, measuring 1.72m in diameter and 1.65m deep internally, which was capped by a large stone slab. These structures are relatively common, and examples have been recorded in domestic, agricultural and even ecclesiastical contexts (Richardson 2005, 243-244; Dennison 2006; Richardson 2007). They were used to store rainwater gathered through guttering and downpipes to ensure a constant supply for domestic use; such “softwater” supplies are often referred to in 19th century farm sale catalogues.

## 7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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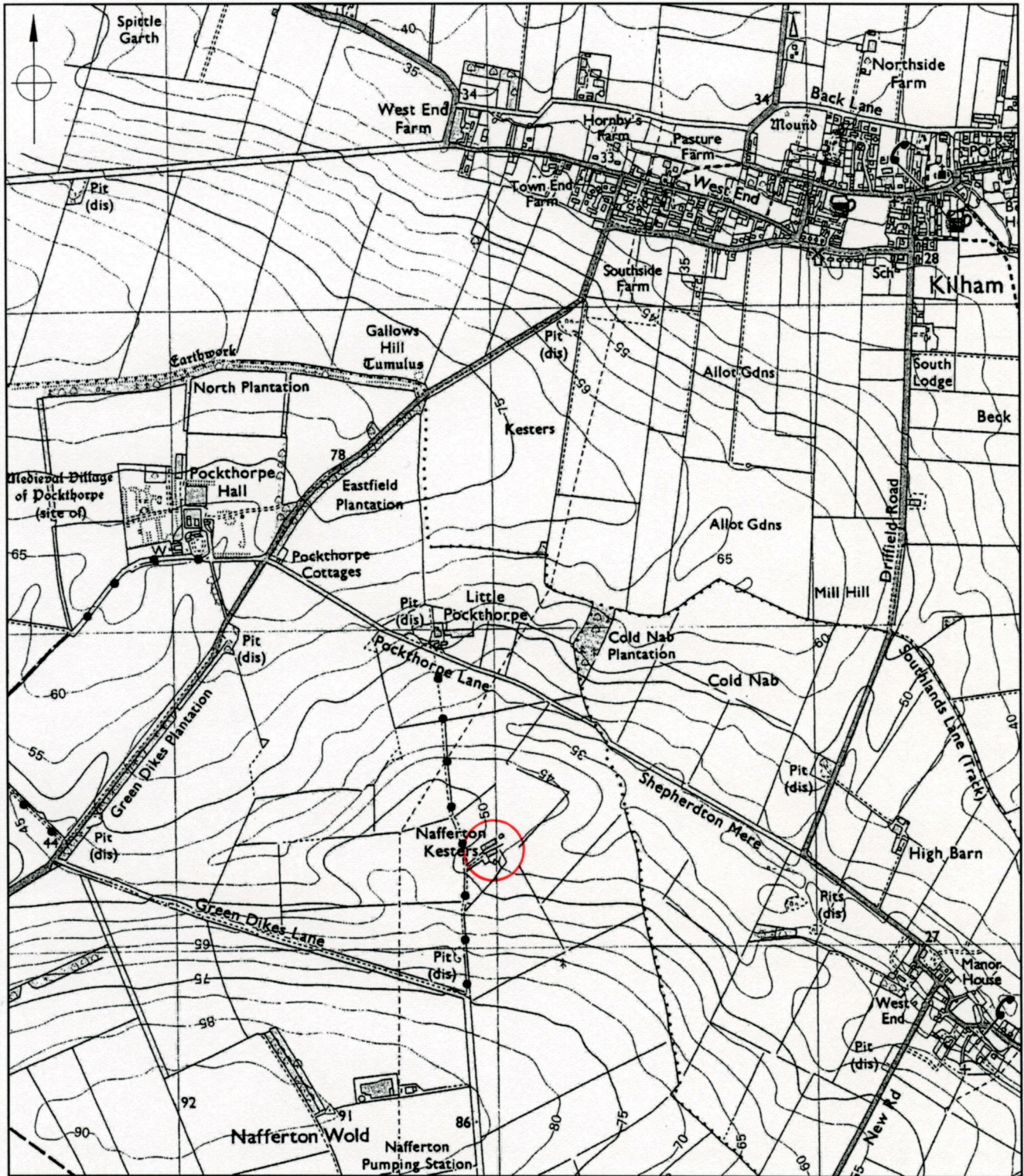
Stoertz, C 1997 *Ancient Landscapes of the Yorkshire Wolds*

## **8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

8.1 The archaeological watching brief at Nafferton Kesters was commissioned and funded by the site owners, Mr and Mrs Templeman. EDAS would like to thank them, their architect Jonathan Hobson of Ingleby and Hobson, and the building contractors Brian Fell (Leven) Ltd for their co-operation in carrying out the work.

8.2 The site recording was undertaken by Kate Dennett on behalf of EDAS, and she produced the fieldwork records. Ed Dennison produced the final report and drawings, and the responsibility for any errors or inconsistencies remains with him.

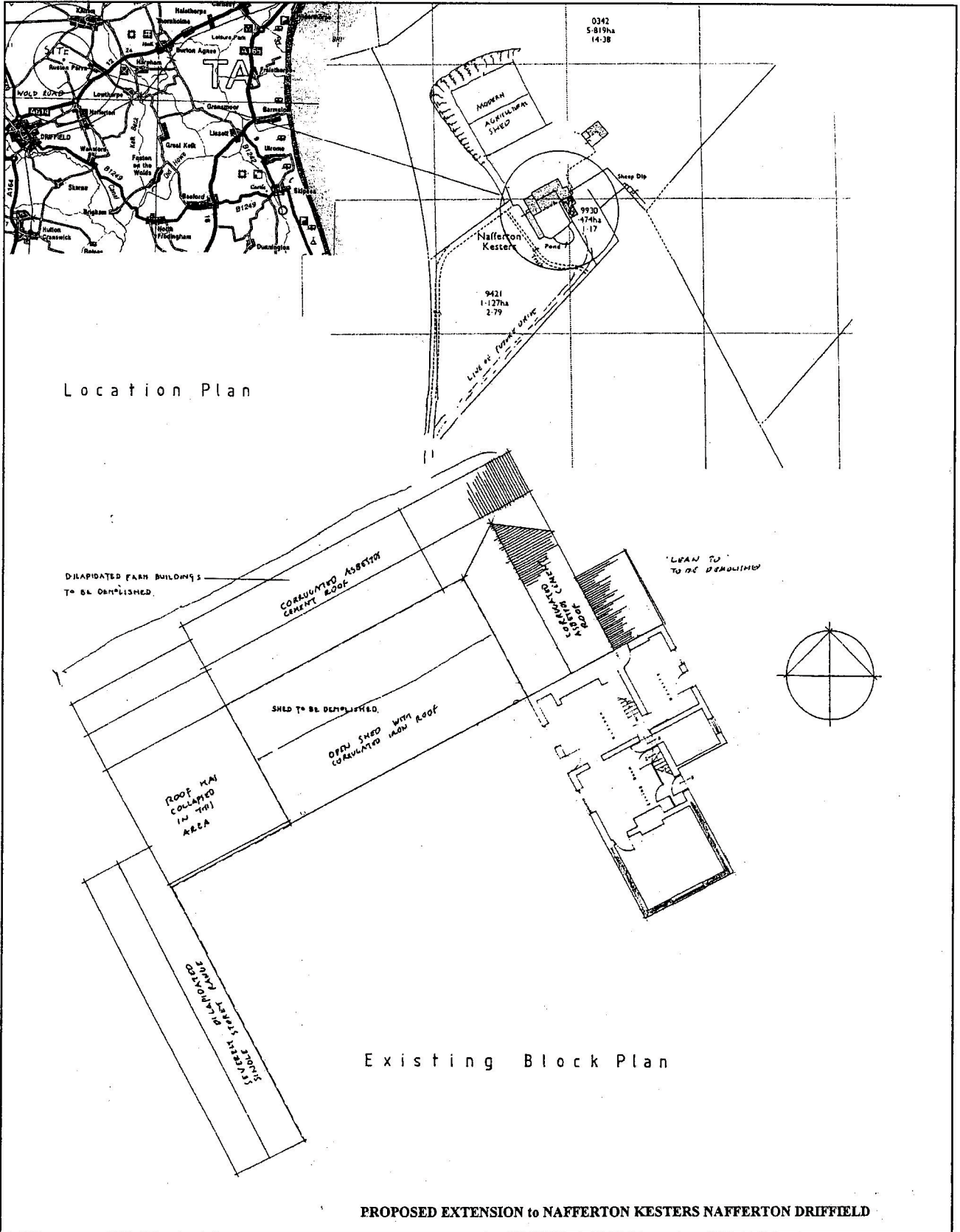




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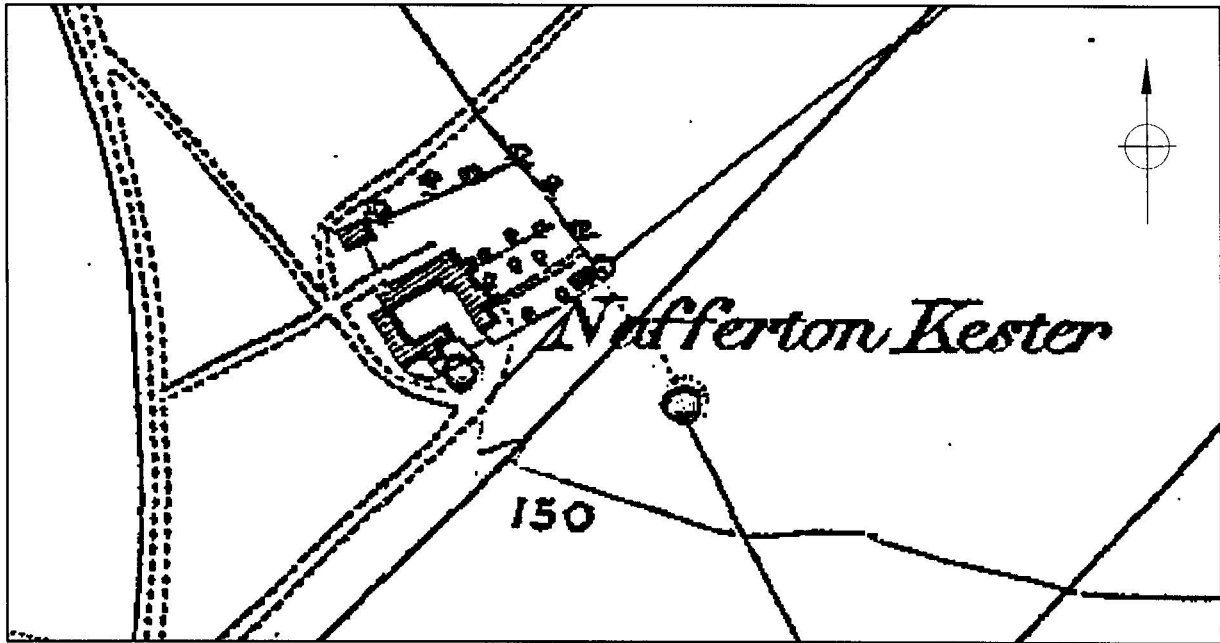
PROJECT	NAFFERTON KESTERS	
TITLE	GENERAL LOCATION	
SCALE	NTS	DATE JAN 2007
	EDAS	FIGURE 1



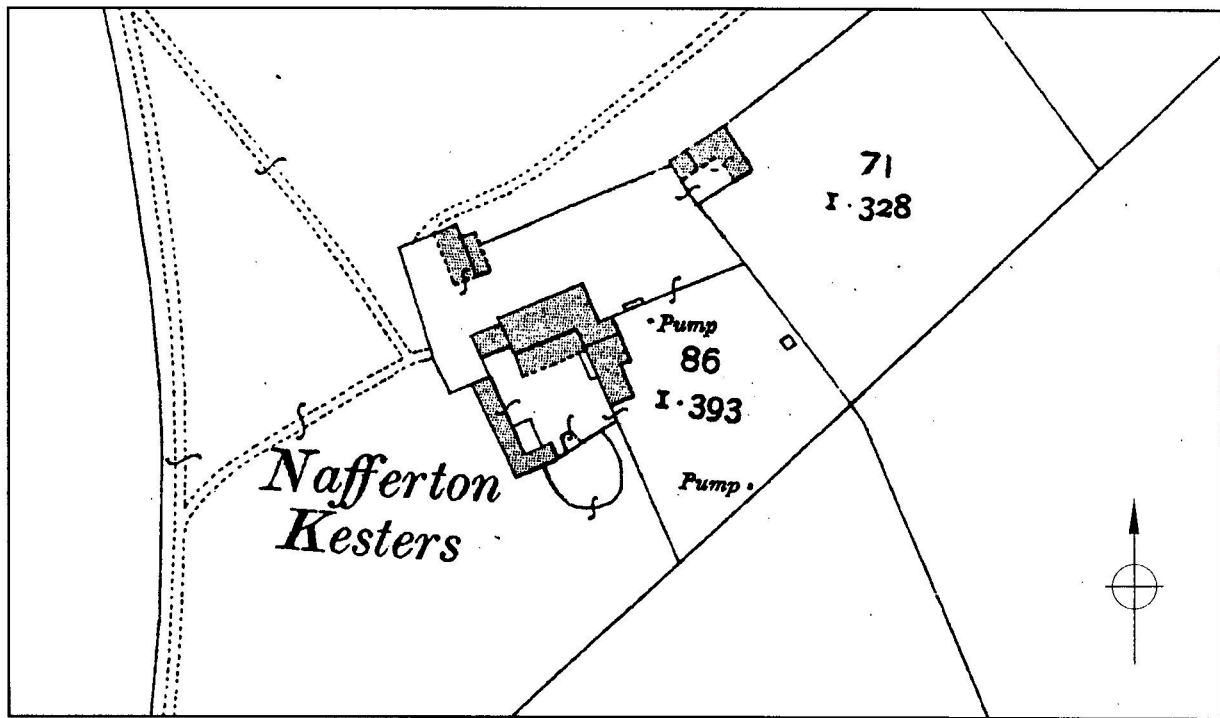


Plan based on drawing 1448/01 supplied by Ingleby & Hobson (Architects), reproduced with permission.

PROJECT	NAFFERTON KESTERS	
TITLE	LOCATION AND PLAN AS EXISTING	
SCALE	NTS	DATE JAN 2007
	EDAS	FIGURE 2

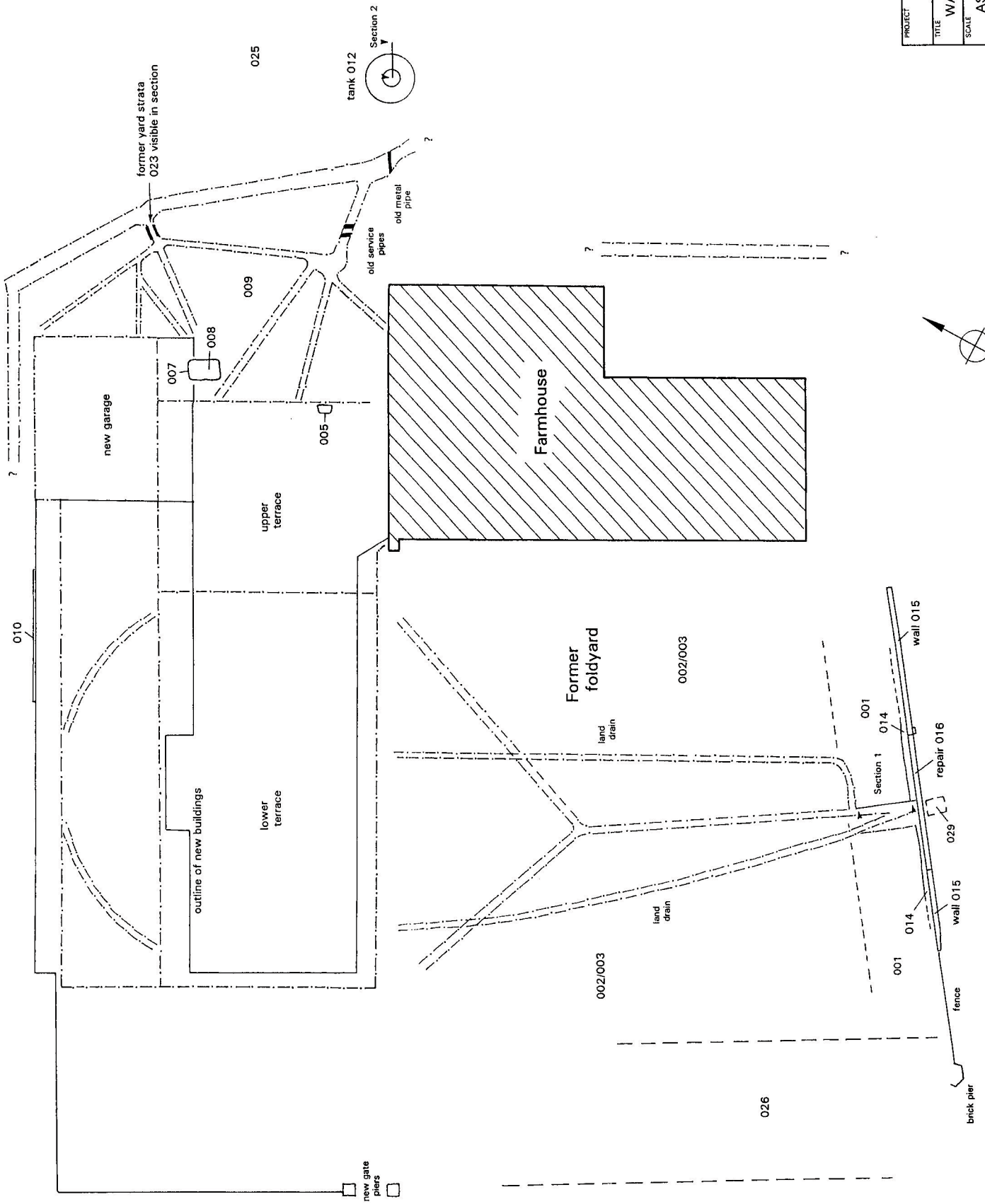


Source: Ordnance Survey 1854 6" map (sheet 145)



Source: Ordnance Survey 1910 25" map (sheet 145/13)

PROJECT		NAFFERTON KESTERS	
TITLE		ORDNANCE SURVEY MAPS	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	JAN 2007
EDAS		FIGURE	3

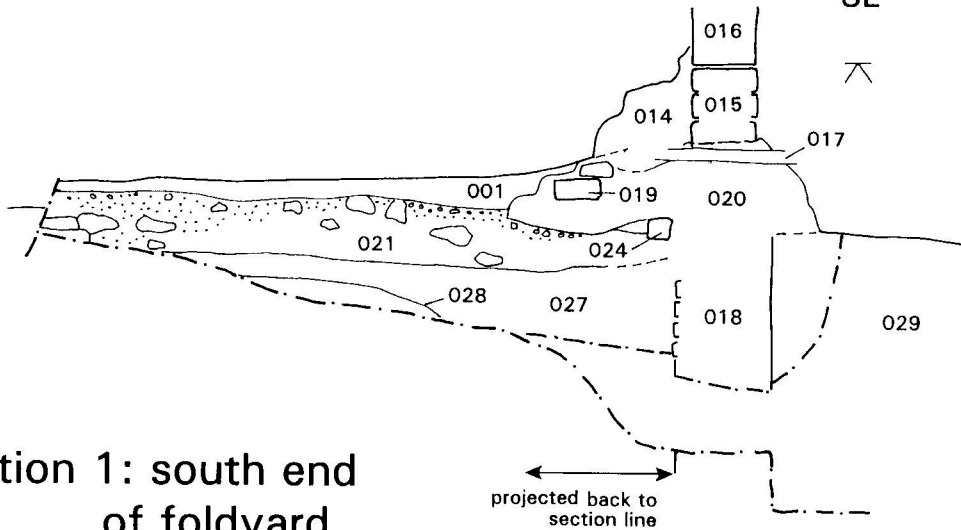


PROJECT	NAFFERTON KESTERS		
TITLE	WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS: PLAN		
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	JAN 2007
	EDAS	FIGURE	4

NW



SE

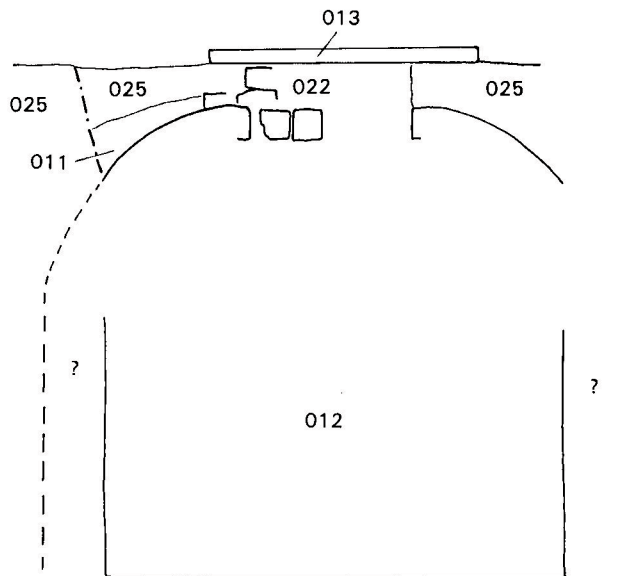


Section 1: south end of foldyard

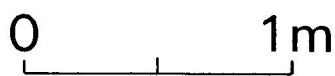
SW



NE



Section 2: through underground tank



PROJECT		NAFFERTON KESTERS	
TITLE		WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS: SECTIONS	
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	JAN 2007
	EDAS	FIGURE	5





Plate 1: General view showing stripped and excavated areas to the west of the farmhouse, looking east.



Plate 2: Top of underground water tank (012), showing vaulted shoulder and neck.

## **APPENDIX 1**

## APPENDIX 1: LIST OF CONTEXTS

- 001 Dirty brown loam with rough turf and demolition rubble – topsoil <0.10m thick.
- 002 Subsoil: brown friable loam with flint and chalk gravel c.0.26m thick.
- 003 Natural red/brown clay <0.75m thick.
- 004 Natural chalk.
- 005 Cut or small depression, 0.59m x 0.48m x 0.04m deep.
- 006 Fill of 005 – dirty grey/brown loam with brick fragments and chalk gravel.
- 007 Cut for rectangular pit 1.04m x 0.75m with unknown depth – test pit or soak-away.
- 008 Fill of 007 – chalk rubble.
- 009 Dirty chalk gravel and brick fragments, c.0.1m thick – demolition layer.
- 010 Brick foundations of demolished agricultural range.
- 011 Sandy mortar / fine chalk gravel, <0.16m thick forming top of underground tank.
- 012 Circular brick underground water storage tank, 1.72m diameter by 1.65m deep.
- 013 Stone slab 1.0m x 0.58m x 0.06m thick covering neck of water storage tank.
- 014 Deposit of brick rubble, tile, chalk, domestic rubbish c.0.35m thick.
- 015 Brick wall over 12m in length, 0.24m wide.
- 016 Concrete repair to wall 015.
- 017 Metal pipe passing through/under wall 015.
- 018 Brick wall 0.36m wide, underlying wall 015.
- 019 2 courses of brickwork adjacent to wall 015.
- 020 Cement and cement render around bricks 019.
- 021 Chalk rubble – compacted floor or yard surface <0.3m thick.
- 022 Brick neck of water storage tank.
- 023 Successive deposits of brick/chalk rubble forming yard surfaces, <0.47m thick overall.
- 024 Single course of brickwork associated with wall 018.
- 025 Brown clayey loam topsoil of former garden, <0.24m thick.
- 026 Loose brown loam with vegetation, brick and chalk rubble, other building material – modern demolition layer.
- 027 Brick and chalk rubble, and cobbles in a grey chalk, <0.21m thick, forming foundation layer for 021.
- 028 Possible cut into 006 for earlier structure associated with 027.
- 029 Firm brown clay loam >1.0m thick of former pond.

## **APPENDIX 2**

## APPENDIX 2: LISTED BUILDING DESCRIPTION

Location : NAFFERTON KESTERS FARMHOUSE, HAGG LANE (north side), NAFFERTON, EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE, EAST YORKSHIRE  
IoE number : 166927  
Date listed : 25 JANUARY 1985  
Date of last amendment : 25 JANUARY 1985  
Grade : II

TA06SE

NAFFERTON

HAGG LANE  
(north end, off)

4/68

Nafferton Kesters  
Farmhouse

House. Mid C18. Brown brick, rendered to main elevation, pantiled roof. 2 storeys, 3 bays. C20 door to left flanked by C19 tripartite sliding sashes. Sliding sashes with glazing bars to first floor. Stepped brick eaves cornice, end and axial stacks, tumbled-in brick to raised gables. Interior retains many original features including 2 rooms to ground and one to first floor with raised and fielded panelling. First floor bedroom also retains panelled overmantel with beaded surround. First floor joists with quarter-rounded mouldings, chamfered bressumer over large, formerly open, fireplace in kitchen.

Source: Images of England website ([www.imagesofengland.org.uk](http://www.imagesofengland.org.uk))

## **APPENDIX 3**

## **APPENDIX 3: HUMBER ARCHAEOLOGY PARTNERSHIP SPECIFICATION**

### **SPECIFICATION FOR A PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION, INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING**

Prepared by the Humber Sites and Monuments Record Office, for Mr Ed Dennison.

Site Name: Kesters Farm, Nafferton YO25 0LE  
Development: The change of use of re-building a redundant foldyard shed, demolition and extension of farmhouse and change of use of redundant foldyard to garden (amended proposals)  
NGR: Centroid TA 0500 6230 (MBR: 10m by 10m)  
Planning ref.: DC/01/05551/PLF/BRIDW; DC/01/05555/PLF/BRIDW  
SMR case no.: SMR/PA/CONS/7509 (2002.536); SMR/PA/CONS/7510 (2002.537)  
Date of issue: 3-Mar-05

*This brief is valid for one year from the date of issue. After this period, the Humber Sites and Monuments Record Office should be re-consulted. This document should be read in conjunction with the Notes for Archaeological Contractors proposing to work in the area covered by the Humber SMR (dated January 1999); these notes are available on request from the Humber SMR.*

#### **1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This brief is for a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording to be carried out during groundworks associated with the change of use of re-building a redundant foldyard shed, demolition and extension to farmhouse and change of use of redundant foldyard to garden (amended proposals)
- 1.2 The brief should be used by archaeological contractors as a basis for submitting a costed tender for the work required.

#### **2 SITE LOCATION**

- 2.1 The development plot is located one mile south of Kilham. The site is bounded to the north by Pockthorpe Lane and Shepherdton Mere, to the east by New Road, to the south by Green Dikes Lane and Wold Road and to the west by the road leading north into Kilham and south towards Driffield.

#### **3 PLANNING BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Application for full planning permission and listed building consent for this development were received by the East Riding of Yorkshire Council on the 16th and 17th October 2001 (application nos. DC/01/05551/PLF/BRIDW and DC/01/05555/PLF/BRIDW).
- 3.2 Subsequent amended proposals were received by the Humber Archaeology Partnership on 10th March 2003.
- 3.3 Planning permission was subsequently granted on 9th April 2003 subject to an archaeological condition (no. 3) to secure a programme of archaeological work; the condition stated that:

“No development shall take place on the site 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 in writing by the Local Planning Authority (PPG 16, paragraph 30)”.

## 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Kesters Farmhouse is a Grade II listed building built around the mid 18th century, with later additions. We are pleased to note that the proposals no longer involve the demolition of third bay of this historic building and, as such, there is no longer any requirement for architectural recording to take place. The site of the proposed development lies within an archaeological landscape. The landscape around the farm is criss crossed by a number of linear earthworks, which probably date from the late Bronze Age period. Aerial photographs also show cropmarks of enclosures and ring ditches in the area. According to the Victoria County History, the name Nafferton Kesters occurs at least as early as the late 16<sup>th</sup> century. It is also possible that land called Kirestoft in the early Middle Ages and Nafferton Christofts in 1609 may be identified with Nafferton Kesters. It is likely therefore, that any groundworks in this area will encounter archaeological deposits of the prehistoric, Romano British, medieval and later periods.

## 5 METHODOLOGY

*Should the contractor consider continued monitoring unnecessary at any stage in advance of the completion of all groundworks, they should consult with the SMR Office as a matter of priority.*

- 5.1 The proposed scheme of works shall comprise the monitoring of any stripped topsoil, and the digging of foundations and service trenches: these should be undertaken under archaeological supervision, or provision should be made for an archaeologist to view the open trenches after machining but before they are infilled. This is to enable the identification and recording of any archaeological material that might be uncovered.
- 5.2 The developer's chosen archaeologist must be acceptable to the Local Planning Authority after consultation with the Sites and Monuments Record Office. Access to the site will be afforded to the developer's chosen archaeologist at all reasonable times.
- 5.3 Reasonable prior notice of the commencement of development is to be given to the archaeological contractor. A two-week period is suggested, where possible. The Sites and Monuments Record Office should be notified of the chosen contractor in advance of the programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording.
- 5.4 On completion of the work, an ordered archive should be prepared by the archaeologist and deposited with a registered museum. The proposed recipient museum must be contacted at the beginning of the project. A copy of the Archive Index and the name of the recipient museum should be sent to the Sites and Monuments Record. Contractors should make an allowance for a minimum of one box in calculating estimates for the museum's storage grant.
- 5.5 With the exception of human remains, and finds of treasure (as defined under the 1996 Treasure Act) which should be reported to the coroner, all finds are the property of the landowner. However, it is generally expected that the finds will be deposited with the archive. A find's recovery and conservation strategy should be agreed with the developer in advance of the project commencing. This should include contingency arrangements for artifacts of special significance. Any recording, marking and storage materials should be of archival quality, and recording systems must be compatible with the recipient museum. Copies of all recording forms and manuals must be submitted to the Archaeology Manager, prior to the commencement of site works, if these have not been submitted previously.
- 5.6 Within six weeks of the completion of the work, a report will be produced by the archaeologist, and submitted to the developer, the Local Planning Authority and the SMR Office. The final report should 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 plan of the developer's plan showing the areas monitored (i.e. house block, garage, service trenches etc) and indicating the position of archaeological features in relation to the foundations etc
- Sections and plan drawings (where archaeological deposits are exposed) with ground level, Ordnance Datum and vertical and horizontal scales
- General site photographs (a minimum 35mm format), 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 programmes of archaeological and architectural observation, investigation and recording, in the context of the known archaeology of the area
- Specialist artefact and environmental reports, as necessary

5.7 The archaeological contractor should also supply a digital copy of the report in PDF format to the Humber Sites & Monuments Record Office.

5.8 Where a significant discovery is made, consideration should be given to the preparation of a short note for inclusion in a local journal.

5.9 All work shall be carried out in accordance with the developer's proposed timetable and shall not cause undue delay to the development unless otherwise agreed.

## **6 MONITORING**

6.1 The work will be monitored under the auspices of the Sites and Monuments Record Office, who should be consulted before the commencement of site works.

## **7 HEALTH AND SAFETY**

7.1 Health and safety will take priority over archaeological matters. All archaeologists undertaking fieldwork must comply with all Health and Safety Legislation. The archaeologist or archaeological organisation undertaking the work should ensure that they are adequately insured, to cover all eventualities, including risks to third parties.

Any queries relating to this brief should be addressed to The Sites and Monuments Record, Humber Archaeology Partnership, The Old School, Northumberland Avenue, Hull, HU2 0LN (tel: 01482 217466, fax 01482 581897).