

SOUTH LANE, HESSLE,
EAST YORKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION,
INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING

Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd
18 Springdale Way
Beverley
East Yorkshire
HU17 8NU

SOUTH LANE, HESSLE,
EAST YORKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION,
INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING

Report no: 2008/328.R01
Version: Final
Date: September 2008
Author: Ed Dennison

Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd
18 Springdale Way
Beverley
East Yorkshire
HU17 8NU

On behalf of

Newlife Developers Ltd
58 West End
Swanland
East Yorkshire
HU14 3PE

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION, INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING,
SOUTH LANE, HESSLE, EAST YORKSHIRE**

CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1	INTRODUCTION.....	1
2	SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION	1
3	OUTLINE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	1
4	RESULTS FROM THE WATCHING BRIEF	4
5	DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS.....	5
6	BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	5
7	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	5

Appendices

1	List of Contexts
2	EDAS Methods Statement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In April 2008, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by Newlife Developers Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording (a watching brief) during groundworks associated with the erection of nine dwellings on a site in South Lane, Hessle, East Yorkshire (NGR TA03182610). The archaeological work was made a condition of planning permission (application DC/07/06595/PLF/WESTES).

The archaeological recording was undertaken in two phases, during the topsoil stripping for an access road and for the excavations of new dwellings. The deposits exposed in the area of the access track, particularly an orange silty sand (002) and clay (003), appear to be undisturbed natural layers. The excavations for the main part of the site also only revealed natural deposits. This confirms 18th and 19th century cartographic evidence which shows that the site remained open during this period, when it was presumably used as agricultural land.

The single archaeological feature exposed in the area of the access road was a rectangular cut (004), which had the appearance of a cut for a minor structure or wall footing. There was also evidence for an earlier strip across the site, probably in the early 20th century, in the eastern part of the site. A modern path was also noted in the section along the northern boundary of the site. These features are almost certainly late 19th or 20th century in date, and may have been associated with a rear yard or garden of a house shown on the historic maps to have been erected on the South Lane street frontage before 1911.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In April 2008, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by Newlife Developers Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording (watching brief) during groundworks associated with the erection of nine dwellings on a site which included a disused former Sunday School building, in South Lane, Hessle, East Yorkshire (NGR TA03182610).
- 1.2 The archaeological work was made a condition of planning permission, granted by the East Riding of Yorkshire Council on 17th January 2008 (application DC/07/06595/PLF/WESTES). At the request of the developer, EDAS produced a methods statement detailing the methodology to be used for the archaeological watching brief (see Appendix 2). The contents of this methods statement were discussed and agreed with the Humber Archaeology Partnership, in their capacity as advisors to the Local Planning Authority, and it formed the “written scheme of [archaeological] investigation” stipulated in condition 6 of the planning permission.

2 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

- 2.1 The development site lies on the west side of South Lane, close to its junction with Station Road, in Hessle (NGR TA03182610), some two miles to the west of Hull (see figure 1). South Lane lies close to the south-west corner of the historic village, in an area of late Victorian / Edwardian suburban development (see figure 2). The site is located within the Town Centre Conservation Area, and covers an area of 0.097 hectares.
- 2.2 At the time of the initial site visit, the site was redundant and overgrown. The western (rear) half of the plot was occupied by a disused single storey Sunday School building, built in the 1920s and belonging to the Trinity United Reform Church. The remaining, eastern, part of the plot consisted of paving and raised walled flower beds, with a number of trees along the street frontage. There is a new housing development (Laburnum Court – the Anchor Housing Scheme) to the south of the site and late Victorian / Edwardian terraced housing to the north.

3 OUTLINE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Information from the Humber Sites and Monuments Record (HSMR) shows that the development site lies within a wider Romano-British and medieval landscape. Hessle itself was a medieval settlement, although it was to be superseded by the planned port of Wyke to the east, which later became Kingston upon Hull. However, Hessle remained an important ecclesiastical centre throughout the medieval period.
- 3.2 Advice from the Humber Archaeology Partnership initially suggested that the development site lay within the historic core of the medieval village, although subsequent research showed that it lay on the outer edge, on the south-west side. Nevertheless, a few sherds from a 14th century Brandsby-type decorated jug have been found immediately adjacent to the development site.
- 3.3 Historic maps show that the site remained open, and was presumably used as agricultural land, in the 18th and 19th centuries, with a house first depicted on the street frontage on the Ordnance Survey map of 1911 (sheet 239NE). The Trinity Congregational Chapel, built in 1900, is also shown to the south at this date and, given that the house is located within the same plot, it is probable that the two structures were connected. The Sunday School building is first depicted on the 1938 Ordnance Survey map, although it appears to have been built in the 1920s.

The congregational chapel was still in use in 1989, but it has since been demolished and the site developed by the Anchor Housing Scheme buildings. It is not known when the street frontage house within the current development plot was demolished.

4 METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The archaeological work followed the EDAS methods statement (see Appendix 2), and 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 construction of the new dwellings, to recover information relating to any archaeological features or deposits which might be uncovered or disturbed.

Nature of the Development and the Archaeological Response

- 4.2 The development proposals involved the demolition of the existing Sunday School building, and the erection of nine apartments within three three-storey blocks, linked by an enclosed winter garden space. Access into the complex was from South Lane and along the southern boundary of the site. The new dwellings were to be placed in the centre of the site, with car parking to the rear (west) and gardens to the front (east). A large existing lime tree on the street frontage was retained as part of the development and, apart from the access route, the majority of the eastern third of the site was not to be disturbed so as to maintain a root protection zone; this zone equated to a circular area with a radius of 8.0m centred on the existing tree. Over the rest of the site, it was envisaged that the existing ground levels would be reduced by c.0.25m and that the new apartment blocks would have standard strip foundations.
- 4.3 Advice from the Humber Archaeology Partnership to the Local Planning Authority initially suggested that the programme of archaeological work required by the planning condition should comprise an archaeological evaluation, achieved by means of a topsoil strip followed by the detailed cleaning and recording of the exposed surfaces. This may then have been followed by targeted excavation of identified archaeological deposits. However, following further research into the site by EDAS (see below), the programme of work was downgraded, and it was considered sufficient that archaeological observation, investigation and recording (a watching brief) should be undertaken during the groundworks for the development, together with an appropriate level of reporting.

Fieldwork Methodology

- 4.4 The existing Sunday School structures at the west end of the site were demolished prior to the commencement of the watching brief on the 7th July 2008. The footings of the buildings were removed using an excavator with a toothed bucket, reducing the ground level over the western half of the site by between 0.70m to 0.80m below ground level (BGL) (c.7.10m to 7.20m AOD). The resulting hole was then backfilled using the demolition rubble and the remnants of the flower beds and paved areas which had been stripped from the eastern half of the site. There was no requirement to undertake any archaeological recording during the demolition of the 1920s Sunday School buildings.
- 4.5 Prior to the start of the watching brief, the ground surface across the site sloped gently upwards from east to west, from 6.86m AOD adjacent to South Lane to 7.90m AOD at the western boundary; as has already been noted, the western half of the site had been extensively disturbed to a depth of 0.80m BGL prior to the

commencement of the watching brief following the clearance of the Sunday School buildings.

- 4.6 The main groundworks for the development, which were monitored by the archaeological watching brief, were undertaken in two main phases. The first phase involved the excavation of an access track which ran west from South Lane along the south side of the site, initially to allow the site compound to be established in the south-west corner of the site, but eventually to form the new access route; the stripped area measured between 5.85m and 6.40m wide (north-south) by 24.00m long (east-west) and the excavation mostly took place on the 7th July 2008. The excavation was undertaken using a tracked Daewoo excavator equipped with a 1m wide scraper bucket. The reduced ground level of the access track followed the slope of the existing ground surface, increasing in depth from 0.15m BGL (6.71m AOD) adjacent to South Lane to 0.70m BGL (7.00m AOD) c.25m to the west of South Lane.
- 4.7 During the second phase, the central part of the site, measuring c.23m east-west by c.15m north-south, was stripped to a depth ranging from 0.20m BGL in the north-east corner to 0.55m BGL at the south-west corner (see plate 1). These excavations were also undertaken using a tracked Daewoo excavator equipped with a 1m wide scraper bucket. On completion of the excavations, the ground level to the east was 7.04m AOD and 7.16m AOD in the central and western areas. This work was not monitored on a regular basis, given the absence of results from the access road, but the stripped area was inspected for archaeological features soon after the event.
- 4.8 The foundation trenches for the new buildings were then excavated over a period of several days between 14th and 25th July 2008, with a total of five visits being made by appointment. The trenches were cut using a mechanical JCB excavator using a 0.90m wide ditching bucket. These foundations covered an area measuring 18.58m east-west and up to 14.65m north-south (208.63m² over a perimeter of 66.82m). The trenches were between 0.70m deep in the south-eastern corner and up to 1.40m deep for the remainder, although in the western part of the site they were slightly deeper at 1.50m average (see plate 2). Overall the average trench depth was 5.75m AOD.
- 4.9 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 14 archaeological contexts were recorded over the two phases of work; these are all described in the following text as three digit numbers (e.g. 005). In-house recording and quality control procedures ensured that all recorded information was cross-referenced as appropriate. The positions of all groundworks monitored were marked on a general site plan, and more detailed drawings were made of each area as necessary; a photographic record was also maintained using 35mm and digital colour prints.
- 4.10 With the agreement of the developer and landowner, the project archive, comprising written and photographic elements, has been deposited with the East Riding of Yorkshire Museum Service (site code SLH 08; accession number 2008/100). No artefacts were retained from the watching brief.

5 RESULTS FROM THE WATCHING BRIEF (see figure 4)

Phase 1: Access track

- 5.1 The reduced ground level of the access track followed the slope of the existing ground surface, increasing in depth from 0.15m BGL (6.71m AOD) adjacent to South Lane to 0.70m BGL (7.00m AOD) c.25m to the west of South Lane.
- 5.2 Following the removal of a 0.15m thick layer of loose mid brown sandy silt containing a high proportion of demolition material (001) (c.6.71m AOD adjacent to South Lane; c.7.64m AOD 25m to the west of South Lane), a layer of clean compacted silty orange sand (002) was exposed. This sand had an average depth of 0.35m (0.15m to 0.50m BGL or c.7.29m AOD 25m to the west of South Lane). The sand overlay a stiff orange-brown silty clay (003), which was at least 0.20m thick and continued beneath the base of the reduced area (0.70m BGL or c.7.09m AOD 25m to the west of South Lane). The phase 1 watching brief was discontinued at this point, as the access track entered the area of disturbance and backfilling noted above associated with the recent demolition of the Sunday School building, and the depth of ground reduction required for the track was to be less than the depth of the previous disturbance.
- 5.3 A single feature was recorded during this phase of the watching brief. Towards the west end of the north side of the access track, a poorly-defined rectangular cut (004) was noted adjacent to the north section of the stripped area. This cut was aligned approximately east-west (running parallel to the north section), measured 4.40m in length and projected 0.40m from the section face; the cut itself was 0.20m wide. It appeared to be sealed by the sandy silt (001) but was cut through silty orange sand (002); the base of the cut extended to 0.40m BGL (c.7.30m AOD). The cut was filled with a loose black gritty silt (005), containing a high proportion of ash, coke / coal and some fragments of 19th / 20th century blue and white transfer printed pottery. At its west end, the cut appeared to have been disturbed by a north-south aligned 0.12m wide ceramic drainpipe (006), although no clear construction cut for the pipe was visible; the top of the pipe was set at 0.70m BGL (c.7.05m AOD). The cut (004) was not visible in the sides of the later foundation trenches.

Phase 2: House positions

- 5.4 The area surrounding the new build, set within the site and back from the street frontage by 8.20m, was stripped of the modern overburden and topsoil (101) down to the underlying natural mid to dark orange-brown clays (102 - same as 003 above). Set within the clays were the remains of a number of disused salt-glazed drains, which are likely to be associated with 19th century activity on the site. These drains will have been cut from a higher level, likely the topsoil, although their archaeological importance is minimal and so their locations were noted but not planned.
- 5.5 An examination of the section along the northern edge of the site, which had been exposed by the topsoil stripping, revealed a sequence of deposits relating to the modern usage of the site (see figure 4). Cutting into the orange-brown clay (102) was a former cut surface (104) likely to relate to an earlier 20th century site strip. This cut was seen in section over a distance of 14.10m east-west, and was up to 0.10m deep. The cut began near the west end of the section (at 7.85m AOD) and continued below the level of excavation at the east end (at 7.59m AOD). The cut was filled with the remains of former hardcore surfacing / hard standing which consisted of mid brown-grey silt clays containing small chalk pieces, brick fragments and cinder (103). It is likely that this previous construction work had taken place

earlier during the 20th century as a 0.10m to 0.30m thick layer of topsoil (101) had accumulated over the top of the deposit.

- 5.6 The only feature noted cutting into the topsoil (101) along this northern section was the remains of a garden or yard path (108) which appeared to be orientated north-west/south-east. The path is situated 25m south-west from the north-eastern corner of the site, although nothing remained in plan following the stripping. The cut for the path (108) was up to 0.96m wide with generally straight sides leading to a slightly concave base at a depth of 0.17m BGL (7.92m AOD). The basal fill (107) consisted of a pebble-based hardcore foundation 0.11m thick sealed by a 0.02m thick layer of concrete (106) which formed the surface. A very thin deposit of modern infill (105) consisting of dark brown clays 0.04m thick sealed the concrete (106).
- 5.7 Within the foundation trenches themselves, no features or deposits other than the natural clays (102) were noted. Excavation of the foundation trenches at the western end of the site demonstrated the presence of the same deposit (102). In places within the natural clays (102), there were several 0.02m to 0.10m thick lenses of coarse yellow brown sands at depths of 1.00m (at 6.25m AOD) below the stripped ground level. No other intrusions or deposits were noted in the monitored areas.

6 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 The deposits exposed in the area stripped for the access track, particularly the orange silty sand (002) and the clay (003), appear to be undisturbed natural layers. The excavations for the main part of the site, and the foundation trenches, also only revealed natural deposits. This confirms 18th and 19th century cartographic evidence which shows that the site remained open during this period - it was presumably used as agricultural land and the drains seen to cross the site were probably associated with this activity.
- 6.2 The single feature exposed in the area of the access road was a rectangular cut (004), which had the appearance of a cut for a minor structure or wall footing. There was also evidence for an earlier strip of the site, probably in the early 20th century, in the eastern part of the site. A modern path was also noted in the section along the northern boundary of the site. These features are almost certainly late 19th or 20th century in date, and may have been associated with a rear yard or garden of a house shown on the historic maps to have been erected on the street frontage before 1911 and probably around 1900. None of this structure was affected by the current proposed development, as the former house site lay almost wholly within the tree root protection zone on the street frontage.

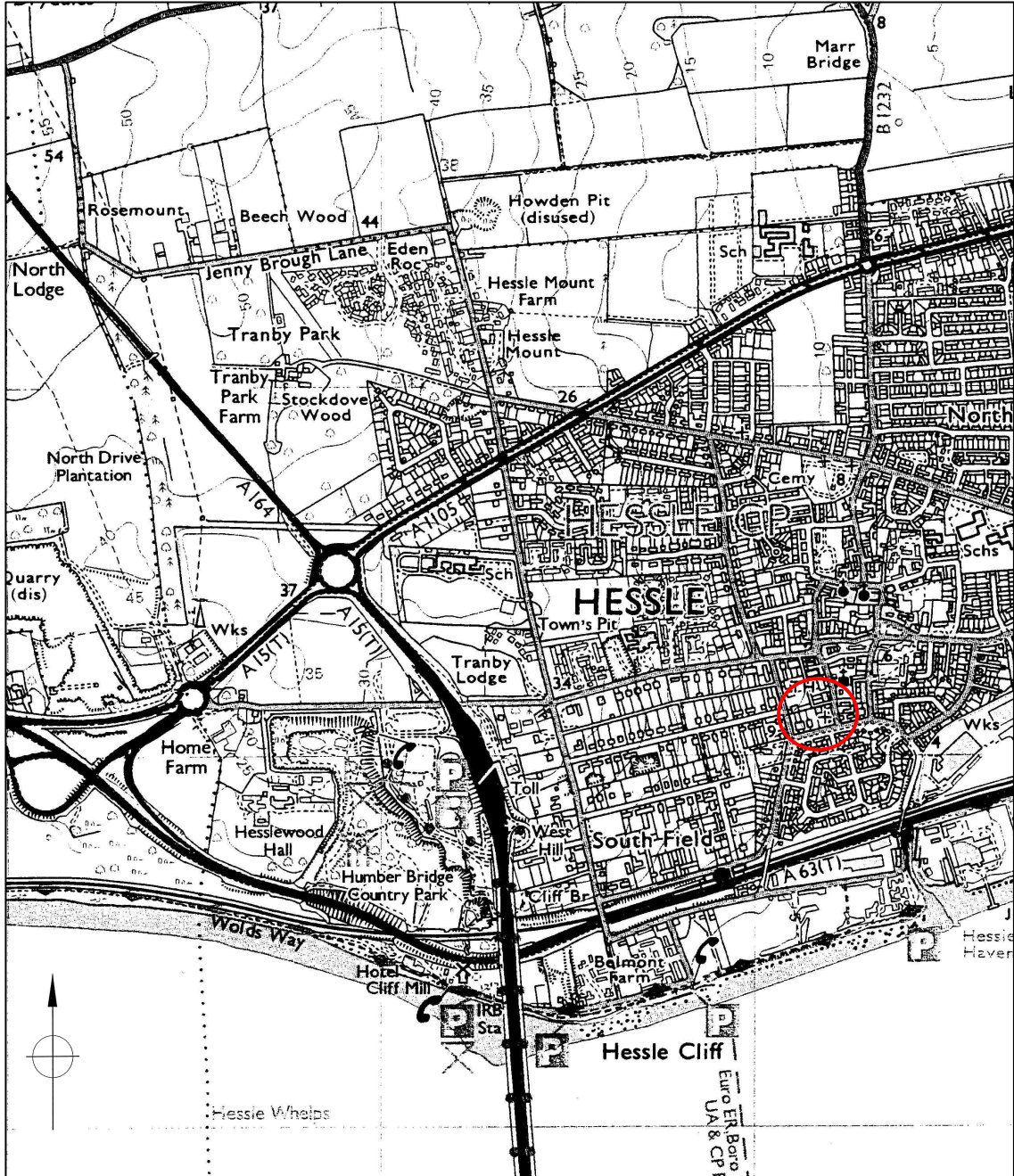
7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 8.1 The archaeological watching brief at South Lane, Hessle, was commissioned by the developer and site owner, Newlife Developers Ltd, through Salt Architects. EDAS would like to thank Mr Mathew Spurr of Newlife Developers and Jonathan Smith of Salt Architects, as well as the site contractors, for their co-operation in carrying out the archaeological recording.

8.2 The Phase 1 on-site recording was undertaken by Shaun Richardson of EDAS, while the Phase 2 work was done by Doug Jobling of Humber Field Archaeology on behalf of EDAS. Both produced relevant parts of the site archive. The final report was produced by Ed Dennison of EDAS, with whom the responsibility for any errors remains.



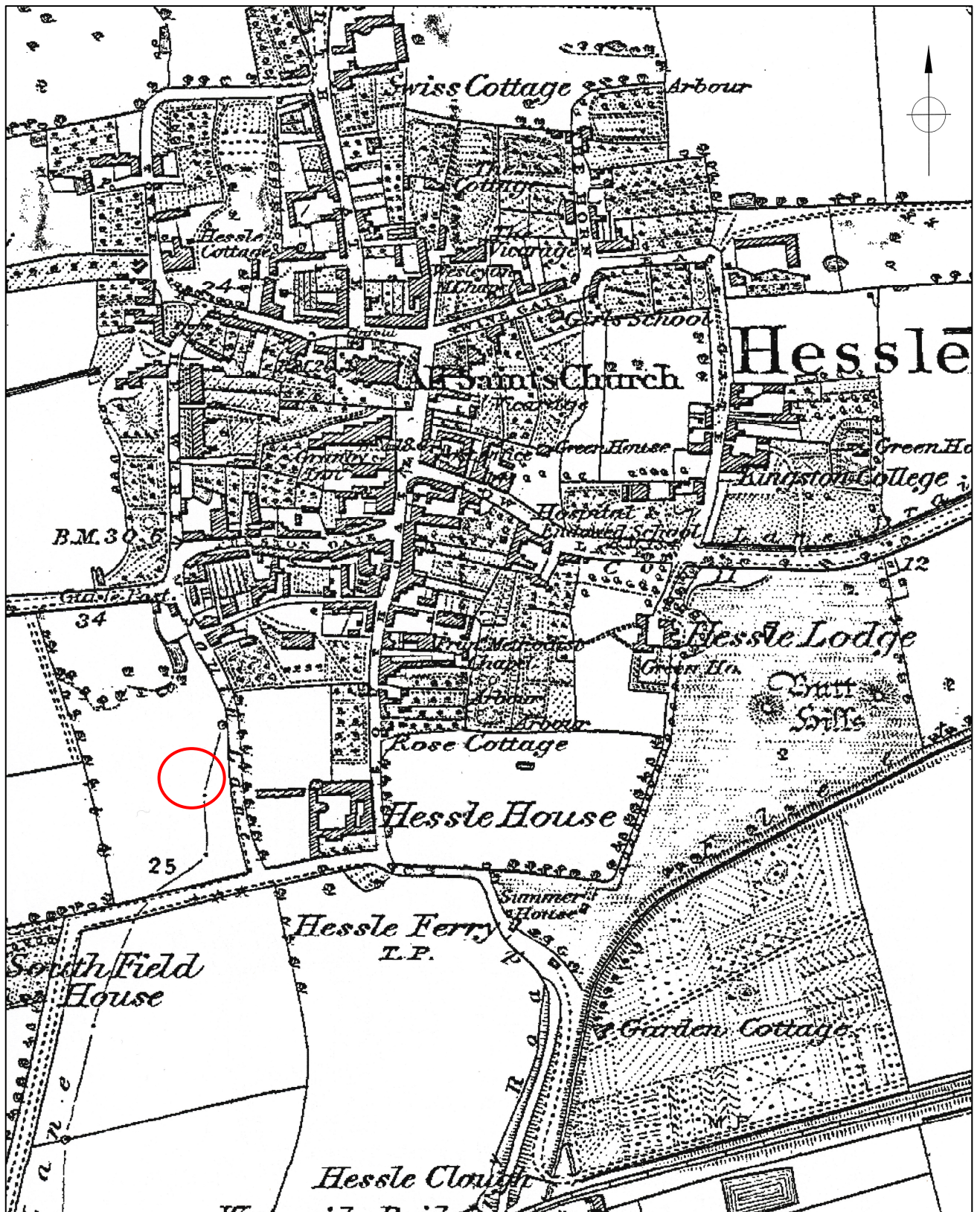
Reproduced from the 1:25,000 scale map by permission of Ordnance Survey® on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright 2000. All rights reserved. Licence AL100013825

PROJECT		SOUTH LANE, HESSE	
TITLE		GENERAL LOCATION	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	SEPT 2008
EDAS		FIGURE	1



Plan provided by SALT Architects.

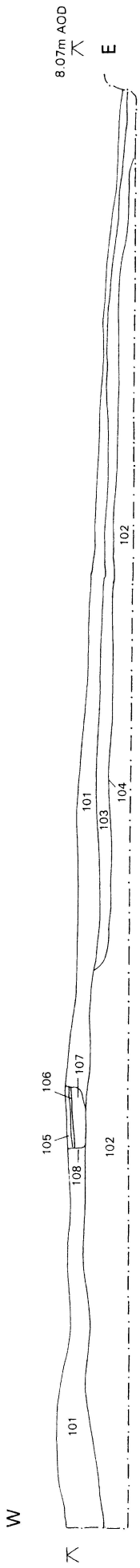
PROJECT	SOUTH LANE, HESSEL	
TITLE	DETAILED LOCATION	
SCALE	NTS	DATE SEPT 2008
EDAS		FIGURE 2



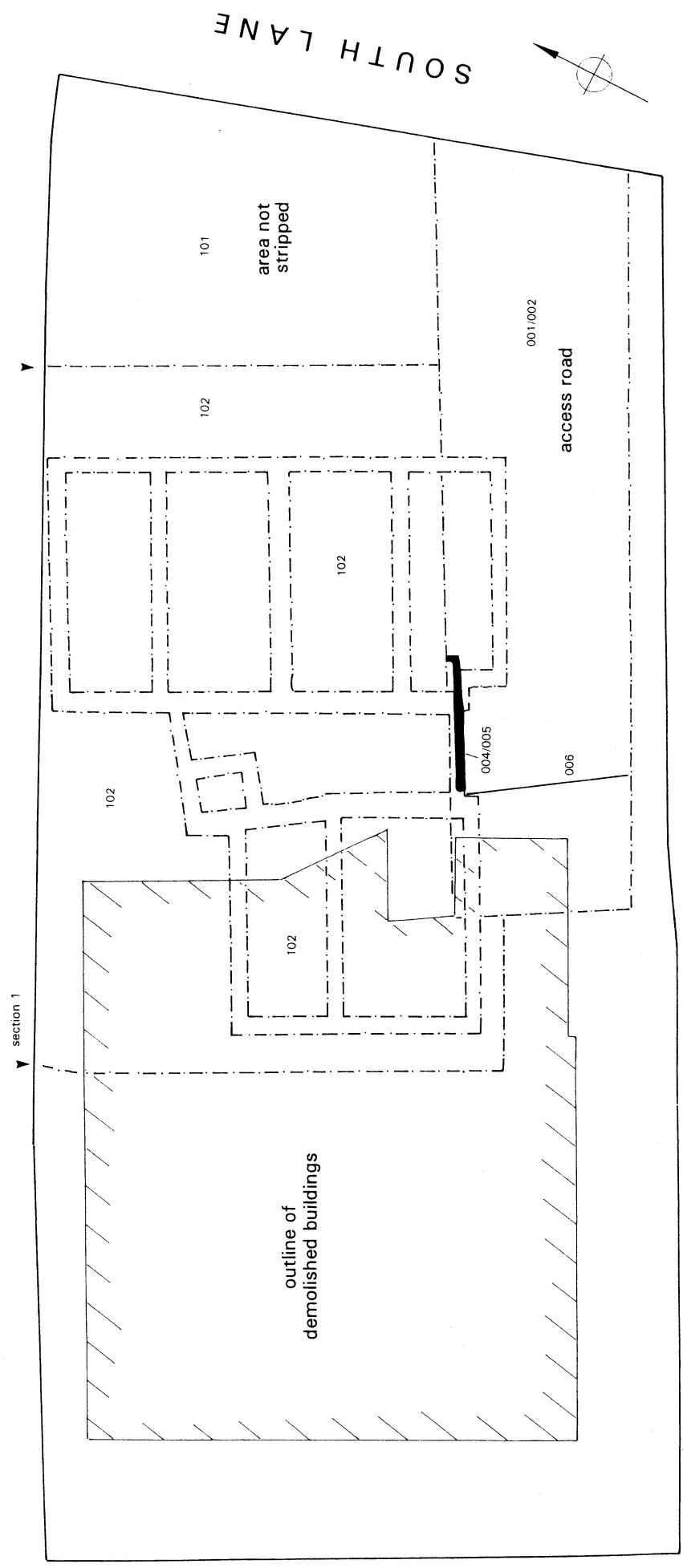
Source: Ordnance Survey 1855 6"
map sheet 239.

PROJECT	SOUTH LANE, HESSELE	
TITLE	1855 MAP	
SCALE	NTS	DATE SEPT 2008
EDAS	FIGURE	3

PROJECT	SOUTH LANE, HESSLE		
TITLE	WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS		
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	SEPT 2008
	EDAS	FIGURE	4



Section 1: north side of site



Plan



Plate 1: General view of stripped site, looking NE.



Plate 2: Excavated foundation trenches, looking NW.

APPENDIX 1

APPENDIX 1: LIST OF CONTEXTS

Phase 1 (access road)

- 001 Loose mid-brown sandy silt, average 0.15m thick, containing high proportion of demolition rubble.
- 002 Clean compacted orange silty sand, average 0.35m thick.
- 003 Stiff orange-brown silty clay, at least 0.20m thick.
- 004 Poorly defined E-W rectangular cut, 4.40m long and 0.20m wide.
- 005 Loose black gritty silt c.0.40m thick with 19/20th century pottery, ash, coke, coal.
- 006 N-S ceramic pipe 0.12m diameter.

Phase 2 (House positions)

- 101 Loose mid-brown silty loam up to 0.60m thick - topsoil noted in section.
- 102 Mid-light orange-brown silty clay, more than 0.40m thick - natural (as 003).
- 103 Fill of 103 - mid off-white/mid-grey-brown silty clay containing chalk pieces, bricks and cinder.
- 104 Cut surface, angled slightly downwards to east.
- 105 Upper fill of 108 - dark brown clay 0.04m thick.
- 106 Fill of 108 - concrete 0.02m thick.
- 107 Lower fill of 108 - pebble-based hardcore, 0.11m thick.
- 108 Cut for path 0.96m wide and 0.17m deep.

APPENDIX 2

APPENDIX 2: EDAS METHODS STATEMENT

METHODS STATEMENT FOR A PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION, INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING, SOUTH LANE, HESSLE, EAST YORKSHIRE

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This methods statement 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 nine dwellings on the site of a former Sunday School building belonging to the Trinity United Reformed Church, in South Lane, Hessle, East Yorkshire. This methods statement has been produced by Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS), at the request of the developer of the site, Newlife Developers Ltd.
- 1.2 The contents of this methods statement have been discussed with the Humber Archaeology Partnership, and it forms the “written scheme of [archaeological] investigation” stipulated in condition 6 of the full planning permission (application DC/07/06595/PLF/WESTES) for the development, approved by East Riding of Yorkshire Council on 17th January 2008.

2 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

- 2.1 The development site lies on the west side of South Lane, close to its junction with Station Road, in Hessle (NGR TA03182610), some 2 miles to the west of Hull. South Lane lies close to the south-west corner of the historic village, in an area of late Victorian/Edwardian suburban development (see figures 1 and 2). The site is located within the Town Centre Conservation Area, and covers an area of 0.097 hectares.
- 2.2 The site is currently redundant and is becoming overgrown. The existing single storey Sunday School buildings, built in the 1920s, are no longer in use and they occupy the western half of the site. The remainder, eastern part, is consists of paving and walled flower beds, with a number of trees along the street frontage. There is a new housing development (Laburnum Court - the Anchor Housing Scheme) to the south and a late Victorian/Edwardian terrace of houses to the north.

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Full planning permission for the demolition of the existing Sunday School and the erection of nine dwellings with associated car parking and landscaping was granted by the East Riding of Yorkshire Council in 17th January 2008, with one condition which is relevant to the archaeological investigations (application DC/07/06595/PLF/WESTES).
- 3.2 The condition (number 6) states 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 Local Planning Authority”.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Information from the Humber Sites and Monuments Record (HSMR) shows that the development site lies within a wider Romano-British and medieval landscape. Hessle itself was a medieval settlement, although it was to be eclipsed by the planned port of Wyke to the east, which later became Hull. However, it remained an important ecclesiastical centre throughout the medieval period.
- 4.2 Advice from the Humber Archaeology Partnership initially suggested that the development site lay within the historic core of the medieval village, although subsequent research has shown that it lay on the outer edge, on the south-west side. Nevertheless, a few sherds from a 14th century Brandsby-type decorated jug have been found immediately adjacent to the development site. Historic maps show that the site remained open, presumably used as

agricultural land, in the 18th and 19th centuries, with a house first depicted on the street frontage on the Ordnance Survey map of 1911. The Trinity congregation chapel, built in 1900, is also shown to the south at this time and, given that the house is located within the same plot, it is possible that the two structures were connected. The hall building is first depicted on the 1938 Ordnance Survey map, although it appears to have been built in the 1920s. The congregational chapel was still in use in 1989, but it has since been demolished and the site developed by the Anchor Housing Scheme buildings. It is not known when the house within the current development plot was demolished.

5 NATURE OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESPONSE

- 5.1 The development proposals involve the demolition of the existing Sunday School building, and the erection of nine apartments within three three-storey blocks, linked by an enclosed winter garden space. The form, scale and massing of the new development has been designed to respect the architectural merit of the adjacent Victorian terrace. Access into the complex will be from South Lane and along the southern boundary of the site. The three blocks of apartments will be grouped in the centre of the site, with car parking to the rear (west) and gardens to the front (east).
- 5.2 A large existing lime tree on the street frontage will be retained as part of the development and, apart from the access route, the majority of the eastern third of the site will not be disturbed so as to maintain a root protection zone; this zone equates to a circular area with a radius of 8m centred on the existing tree. Over the rest of the site, existing ground levels will be reduced by approximately 250mm and the apartment blocks will have standard strip foundations.
- 5.3 Advice from the Curatorial Officer of the Humber Archaeology Partnership initially suggested that the programme of archaeological work should comprise an archaeological evaluation, achieved by means of a topsoil strip followed by the detailed cleaning and recording of the exposed surfaces. This may then need to be followed by targeted excavation of identified archaeological deposits. However, following further research into the site (see above), this requirement has been downgraded. It is now considered sufficient to undertake a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording (a watching brief) during the groundworks for the new buildings, followed by an appropriate level of reporting. There is no requirement to undertake any archaeological recording during the demolition of the existing building or garden structures on the site.

6 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 The aim of the archaeological work 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 construction of the new buildings and associated car park and gardens.
- 6.2 The proposed scheme of works will be as follows. Any trenches/pits etc excavated for the new buildings (foundations, drainage works 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. Any areas subject to stripping or levelling below the 250mm depth generally considered to be adequate for the build will also be subject to archaeological monitoring, and this will be followed by detailed cleaning and recording of the exposed ground surface. Where mechanical equipment is to be used for the excavations (e.g. JCB or mini-digger), the main 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 specific parts of the site, the recording work may be halted in that part of the site, in consultation with the Curatorial Officer of the Humber Archaeology Partnership. However, if structures, features or finds of archaeological interest are exposed or disturbed, the archaeological contractor will be allowed time to clean, assess, and quickly hand excavate, sample and record the archaeological remains, as necessary and appropriate to allow the archaeological material to be sufficiently characterised. Heavy plant or excavators will not be

operated in the immediate vicinity of any archaeological remains until those remains have been recorded and the archaeological contractor has given explicit permission for operations to recommence at that location.

- 6.4 The archaeological recording work should not cause undue delay 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 should ensure that the archaeological contractor has sufficient time and resources to ensure compliance with all elements of this methods statement. 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/excavations. Access to the site will therefore be afforded to archaeological contractor at all reasonable times.
- 6.5 The archaeological contractor must also be acceptable to the Local Planning Authority, after consultation with the Curatorial Officer of the Humber Archaeology Partnership.
- 6.6 Reasonable prior notice (minimum one week) of the commencement of development should be given to the archaeological contractor, who will then inform the Humber Sites and Monuments Record, so that they may attend or monitor the recording work if they so wish.
- 6.7 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 colour slides), scale drawings (plans and sections at 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 scales as appropriate), and written descriptions as judged adequate by the archaeological contractor, using appropriate proforma record sheets and standard archaeological recording systems.

7 UNEXPECTED SIGNIFICANT OR COMPLEX DISCOVERIES

- 7.1 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 methods statement, immediate contact will be made with the developer and the Curatorial Officer of the Humber Archaeology Partnership. This will allow appropriate amendments to be made to the scope of the recording work, in agreement with all parties concerned. The possibility of temporarily halting work for unexpected discoveries has already been discussed with the developer.
- 7.2 Although it is considered unlikely, it is possible that human remains may be uncovered by the proposed groundworks. In this case, any human remains will be adequately recorded and left *in situ*, and not be unnecessarily disturbed, unless their removal is absolutely necessary to complete the groundworks. If this is the case, sufficient time and resources will be made available to ensure that proper recording is made prior to any removal, which will be carried out in accordance with a Ministry of Justice licence.
- 7.3 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.

8 REPORTING AND ARCHIVING

- 8.1 On completion of the 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.
- 8.2 A fully indexed and ordered field archive should be prepared, following the guidance produced by English Heritage. The archive will comprise primary written documents, plans,

sections and photographs, and an index to the archive would also be prepared. Subject to the agreement of the landowner, the site archive will be deposited with any finds in the appropriate registered museum (East Riding of Museum Service). 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 Humber SMR. The archaeological contractor should make an allowance for a minimum of one box in calculating estimates for the museum's storage grant.

- 8.3 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 site archive. A finds recovery and conservation strategy should be agreed with the developer in advance of the project commencing, and this should include contingency arrangements for artefacts 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 should be submitted to the Humber SMR prior to the commencement of site works, if these have not been submitted previously.
- 8.4 Within six weeks of the completion of the site work, a report will be produced by the archaeological contractor. This 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;
 - National grid reference;
 - A location plan, with scale;
 - A plan 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.
- 8.5 Three copies of the final report will be supplied, for distribution to the developer, the Local Planning Authority and the Humber SMR. A copy of the final report will also be included within the site archive. The Humber SMR will also receive an electronic version of the report in line with their current guidance, namely as a pdf file.
- 8.6 Where a significant discovery is made, consideration will be given to the preparation of a short note for inclusion in a local journal.

9 MONITORING

- 9.1 The archaeological recording work may be monitored by the Humber Archaeology Partnership, and appropriate site meetings and liaison will be arranged as necessary.

10 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 10.1 All archaeological work on site will be carried out with due regard for all Health and Safety considerations, and Health and Safety will take priority over archaeological matters.
- 10.2 The archaeological contractor must 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. The archaeological contractor undertaking the work must ensure that they are adequately insured, to cover all eventualities, including risks to third parties.

Ed Dennison, EDAS, 24th April 2008