

**Written Scheme of Investigation:  
Archaeological Monitoring and Recording**

**Land at 46-48 High Street, Epworth, North Lincolnshire, DN9 1EP**

NGR: SE 78222 03878  
Planning Authority: North Lincolnshire Council  
Planning app.: PA/2017/2089  
PCAS Job No.: 2044  
PCAS Site Code: HSEM 18  
OASIS ref: preconst3-314886  
NLM sitecode (acc): EPBO

Prepared by

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For

Rob Bradley Building Design Ltd.

April 2018



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**Fig. 1:** Site location map at scale 1:25,000. OS Explorer map sheet 280. (OS mapping © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. PCAS licence no. 100049278).

Inset site location plan 1:1250. Rob Bradley Building Design Ltd.

**Fig. 2:** Extract from 1886 OS map of Epworth, showing the High Street as it was. Not to scale.

**Fig. 3:** Development layout 1:50 @ A3 (check scale at time of fieldwork). Drawing courtesy of Rob Bradley Building Design Ltd.

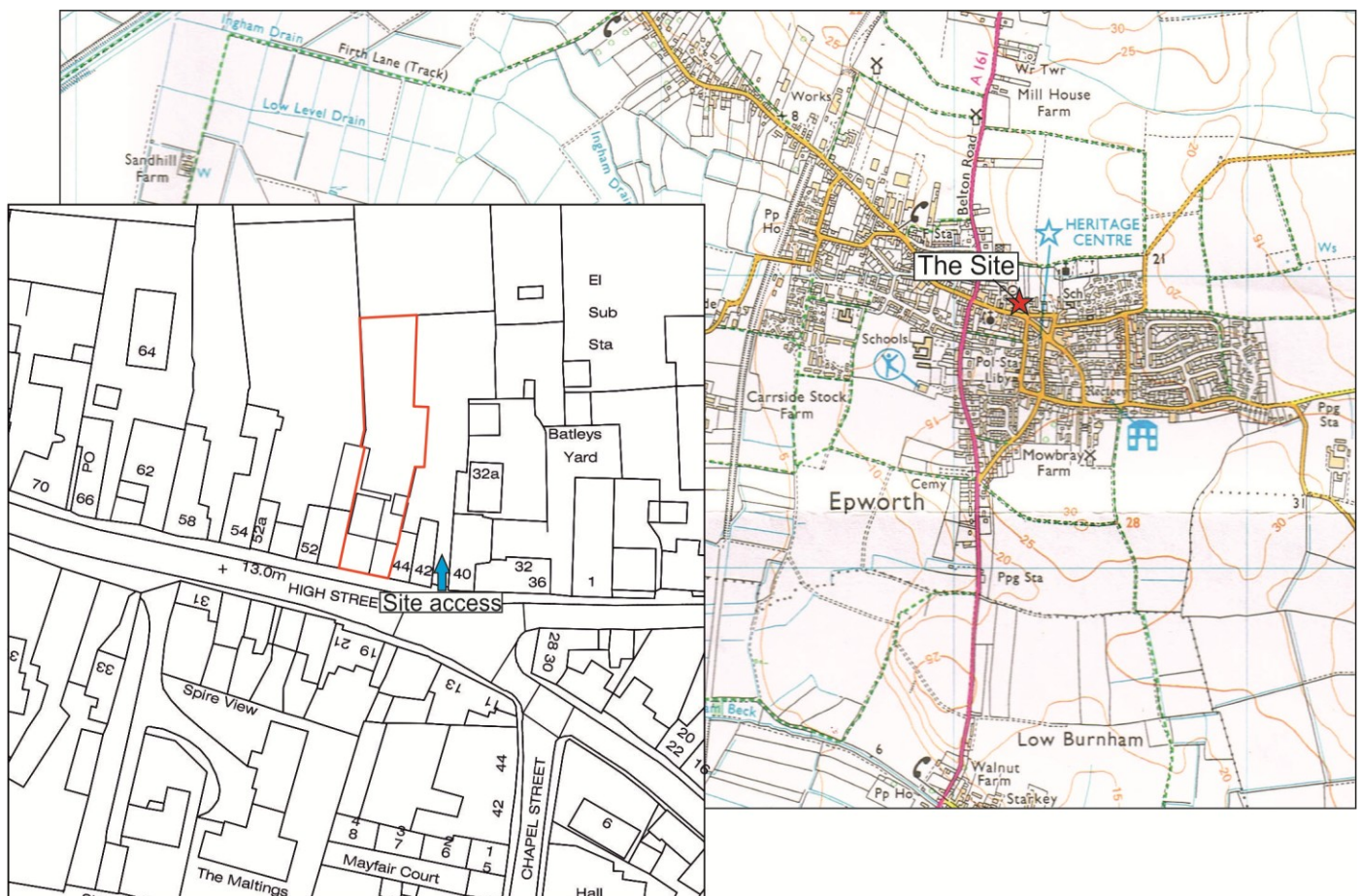
Top left: New building location plan.

## Non-technical summary

*This document is a written scheme of investigation prepared for Rob Bradley Building Design Ltd. for a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording to be undertaken during groundworks for a new dwelling on land to the rear of No.46-48 High Street, Epworth.*

*The site lies on the north side of the High Street, which follows the historic road pattern of the village. There is a Listed Victorian building currently in use as shops and offices at the road front, with the new dwelling set behind with no visibility from the road. Historic mapping indicates there has been little disturbance of the ground to the rear of the existing property throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and it is considered there is the potential for buried remains relating to the medieval High Street and its development to be encountered during the groundworks for the new dwelling.*

*This document details the methodology to be employed during the archaeological monitoring and recording, which will take place during all development groundworks. This methodology is subject to the approval of the Historic Environment Officer for North Lincolnshire Council.*



**Figure 1:** Site location map at scale 1:25,000. Site location is shown in red. (OS mapping © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. PCAS licence no. 100049278). Inset site location plan 1:1250. Rob Bradley Building Design Ltd.

## **1.0 Introduction**

PCAS Archaeology Ltd. (PCAS) was requested by Rob Bradley Building Design Ltd. to prepare a specification for a scheme of archaeological monitoring and recording to be undertaken during development groundworks at 46-48 High Street, Epworth. A planning application for the construction of a new two-storey dwelling (application ref: PA/2017/2089) has been conditionally granted by North Lincolnshire Council.

The site lies on the north side of the historic High Street, in the heart of the medieval town, with historic mapping indicating little modern disturbance. There is the potential for the good survival of buried remains relating to medieval and early post-medieval activity and occupation within the site which may be encountered during the development groundworks. Therefore the Historic Environment Officer has recommended a program of monitoring and recording to ensure that any encountered archaeological remains are identified and recorded.

This WSI details the methodology to be employed during the fieldwork, and the post-excavation reporting and archiving procedures. It follows current best practice and appropriate national guidance including:

- NPPF, National Planning Policy Framework (2012)
- ClfA Code of Conduct (2014);
- ClfA Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief (2014)
- Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)
- The Lincolnshire Archaeology Handbook (2012)

This strategy is subject to the approval of the Historic Environment Officer for North Lincolnshire Council.

## **2.0 Site location and description (Fig. 1 & 3)**

The town of Epworth is situated in the Isle of Axholme in North Lincolnshire, lying approximately 11km southwest of Scunthorpe. The town lies some 5.5km from the west bank of the River Trent, on the N-S aligned A161 which meanders along the west side of the River Trent linking the towns and villages of the Isle. The town extends east and west away from the A161 along High Street and Station Road.

The historic core of Epworth is protected by a Conservation Area; the Site lies close to the centre of this Conservation Area.

The Site lies in the heart of the village, on the north side of the High Street close to the junction with Church Street and behind the commercial properties at no.46-48 (an art gallery and a takeaway restaurant) housed in a Grade II Listed Victorian building. The area of the site is given as 387m<sup>2</sup>. The site has a pedestrian right of way part-way along the east boundary, with vehicular access from the High Street via a driveway between No.40-42, a little further along the street.

The approximate central NGR of the Site is SE 78222 03878.

## **3.0 Topography and geology**

The solid geology for Epworth is Mercia Mudstone Group – Mudstone, formed in the Triassic period. The west side of the town is dominated by drift deposits of Sutton Sand, a windblown

sand of medium-fine grained material forming lens' beds and dunes (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>).

Epworth is sited within the Isle of Axholme, an area of slightly raised land, later artificially drained, among the low-lying wetlands of the Humberhead Levels. The site itself occupies a slight west facing slope at c.15m OD.

#### **4.0 Planning Background**

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) came into force in March 2012. This places the responsibility for dealing with heritage assets affected by development proposals with the developer. Developers are required to 'record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible' (NPPF, s141).

A planning application for a single new 2-storey dwelling associated with the existing commercial properties at the address was submitted to North Lincolnshire Council in December 2017, application ref: PA/2017/2089.

The North Lincolnshire Historic Environment Officer advised that as the site lay on the historic High Street that there was the potential for buried remains relating to the medieval village and its later development to be encountered during the works. Additionally, the site of the proposed dwelling to the rear of the existing building does not appear in historic mapping to have been previously developed, therefore the preservation of any encountered remains is likely to be good. Therefore the planning permission was subject to archaeological conditions:

*6. No development shall take place until an archaeological mitigation strategy, as defined in a brief prepared by North Lincolnshire's Historic Environment Record, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The strategy shall include details of the following:*

- i. Measures to ensure the preservation by record of archaeological features of identified importance.*
- ii. Methodologies for the recording and recovery of archaeological remains including artefacts and ecofacts.*
- iii. Post-fieldwork methodologies for assessment and analyses.*
- iv. Report content and arrangements for dissemination, and publication proposals.*
- v. Archive preparation and deposition with recognised repositories.*
- vi. A timetable of works in relation to the proposed development, including sufficient notification and allowance of time to ensure that the site work is undertaken and completed in accordance with the strategy.*
- vii. Monitoring arrangements, including the notification in writing to the North Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record Office of the commencement of archaeological works and the opportunity to monitor such works.*
- viii. A list of all staff involved in the implementation of the strategy, including sub-contractors and specialists, their responsibilities and qualifications.*

*7. The archaeological mitigation strategy shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details and timings, subject to any variations agreed in writing by the local planning authority.*

*8. A copy of any analysis, reporting, publication or archiving required as part of the mitigation strategy shall be deposited at the North Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record within six months of the date of completion of the development hereby approved by this permission or such other period as may be agreed in writing by the local planning authority.*

#### **Reason**

*To comply with NPPF 141, policy CS6 of the Core Strategy and policy HE9 of the North Lincolnshire Local Plan because archaeologically significant remains may be destroyed during construction groundwork; the proposed archaeological mitigation strategy will ensure that any remains are appropriately recorded and a permanent archive created.*

This document details the fieldwork methodology and the post-excavation reporting and archiving procedures and timetable anticipated for the project. It is subject to the approval of the Historic Environment Officer for North Lincolnshire Council.

## 5.0 Archaeological and historical background

Early prehistoric activity around Epworth is largely represented by flint scatters during fieldwalking exercises from around the town periphery. These flints date from the Mesolithic – Bronze Age, however to date there have been no reported confirmed features dating from this early period identified in the area. Scatters of Roman artefacts have also been recovered from the periphery of the village; Iron Age – Romano British agricultural features have been revealed c.1km to the west of the centre of Epworth however to date there is little evidence of Roman occupation in this immediate area.

A single sherd of Saxon dated pottery is the only physical evidence of occupation in Epworth in the post-Roman period, however the place name derives from the Old English personal name *Eoppa* and the Old English *worth*, ‘enclosure’ (Cameron, 1998, p. 42), suggesting an Anglo-Saxon origin for the settlement. The first documentary reference for *Epeurde* comes in the Domesday Survey of AD 1086, when the manor of Epworth was held by Geoffrey de la Guerche who held a large agricultural estate, with 8 carucates of ploughland, 16 acres of meadow and a league of woodland pasture. The population was also moderately large, with 30 listed households, and 11 fisheries (along the River Trent, c. 5km to the east).

The Isle of Axholme was granted to Nigel de Albini in the very early 12<sup>th</sup> century by Henry I, whose son and successor took the name of Mowbray, becoming the first of the Lords Mowbray of Axholme who held the Manor of Epworth – then contiguous with the Isle itself – throughout the Middle Ages. 19<sup>th</sup>-century gazetteers record that the Mowbrays had ‘a small castle near the church, on the site now called Vine-garth (White, 1842 and 1856, p. 549 and p.628). The medieval manor house has been investigated and largely located; brick foundations were observed during the eastward extension of the graveyard of St. Andrew’s church in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, and several patterned floor tiles, some of which bore the Mowbray arms, were retrieved, and an archaeological evaluation carried out in the 1970s in the field still known as Vinegarth (along the south side of the churchyard) located the kitchen and part of the hall of the Mowbrays’ manor, with a cloistral walk and the foundations of service buildings. The manor was in use between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries (Tann and Field, 2007; HER ref. 2447).

The earliest building now standing in Epworth is the Grade I Listed 12<sup>th</sup> century parish church of St. Andrew, lying c.200m to the northeast of the site (List entry ID 1068692).

The existing building at No.46-48 High Street is itself a Grade II Listed Building (List entry ID 1356121). Originally built as a house and since converted into the existing shops, the building dates from the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century with an early 20<sup>th</sup> century shop front.

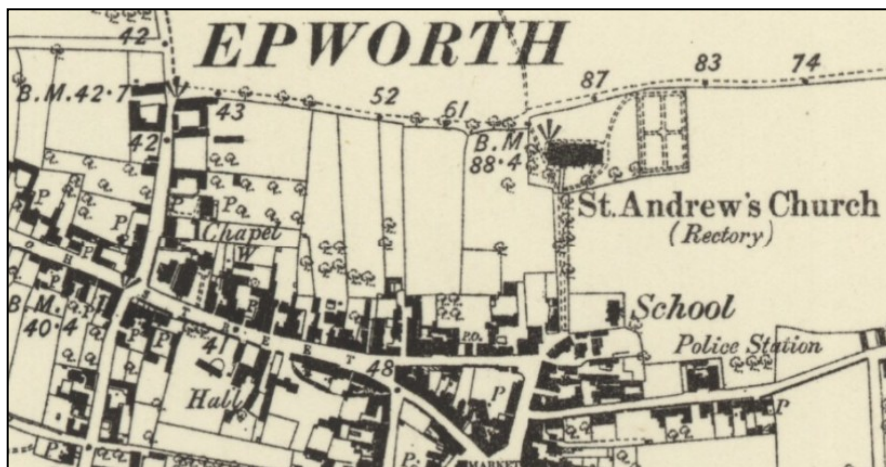


Fig. 2: Extract from 1886 OS map of Epworth, showing the High Street as it was. Not to scale.

## 6.0 Archaeological Requirement (Fig. 3)

The Historic Environment Officer will be informed of the intention to commence groundworks, to allow for a monitoring visit to be arranged if considered necessary.

The site lies within the historic core of the village, where medieval and post-medieval remains may be encountered. To ensure that any encountered archaeological remains are identified, archaeological monitoring and recording is required during all development groundworks.

All groundworks within the site require archaeological monitoring. This is anticipated to include (not exhaustively):

- Removal of any hardstanding associated with the development;
- Excavations for access / parking;
- Excavation of footings for the new dwelling;
- Excavation of services / drainage features;
- Landscaping of open spaces.

The purpose of the monitoring scheme should be to gather sufficient information to establish the presence or absence, extent, depth, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits and to create a permanent record. Environmental evidence should be taken into account as appropriate.

The site should not be treated in isolation, and reference should be made to relevant historical sources and previous archaeological work in the area when interpreting the results.

An online record of the project data has been initiated with the Archaeological Data Service (OASIS database), ref: **preconst3-314886**. This online record shall be updated and completed as the project progresses, and will include an uploaded digital copy of the final report of the results of the monitoring.

The archaeological fieldwork will be completed in accordance with the methodology detailed below.

## 7.0 Fieldwork methodology

All archaeological monitoring and recording will be undertaken by suitably qualified/experienced professional archaeologists/ PCAS Project or Field Officers.

Unless ground conditions dictate otherwise, all machine excavation subject to archaeological monitoring will be undertaken using a mechanical excavator fitted with a flat toothless blade. If a toothed blade is required to remove tarmac etc, the excavator will revert to using a smooth blade as soon as possible to allow for archaeological features to be identified.

The archaeologist monitoring the ground-works will cause the least possible disruption to the development programme, but at any time may request a pause in groundworks to assess any potential features or deposits; and to allow for the careful cleaning, excavation and recording of any features that have been identified. The archaeologist will keep the groundworkers informed of developments and progress.

If significant archaeological remains are identified, it may be necessary in liaison with the Historic Environment Officer, to formulate a strategy for the more complete establishment of the character, distribution, extent, condition, dating and further treatment of any such remains.

Subject to Health & Safety regulations, all archaeological deposits and features manually cleaned and examined sufficiently to determine their date, character and survival condition.

The basis for field recording will be measured scale plans based on plans supplied by the developer. Any archaeological remains within the site area will be accurately plotted on the master plan by triangulation, or where possible by GPS.

A full written, drawn and photographic record of each significant stratigraphic horizon and archaeological feature will be made. A description of each horizon will be made on standard PCAS context recording forms. All sections will be drawn at scales 1:10 or 1:20 where appropriate, and plotted on plans of the groundworks.

These will be supplemented by a narrative account in the form of a site diary. The archaeologist will pay due attention to the landscape aspect of any exposed remains – both the cultural and the natural landscape – which may necessitate a rudimentary assessment to be made of neighbouring conditions (e.g. visible earthworks in adjacent areas, surface observation, standing buildings, vegetation cover etc).

A colour slide photographic record, supplemented with digital photography, will be maintained during the course of the archaeological intervention. If significant remains are revealed monochrome photography will also be employed. The photographic record will include:

- general site shots;
- specific stages of fieldwork;
- individual features and, where appropriate, their sections;
- groups of features, where relationships are important.

#### *Artefacts*

All artefacts will be treated in accordance with UKIC guidelines, First Aid for Finds (Watkinson & Neale 1998). All finds will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered, ready for later cleaning, marking and analysis. A specialist assessment will be made of the artefacts recovered with a view to their potential for further study. Allowance will be made for preliminary conservation and stabilisation of all objects and an assessment of long-term conservation and storage needs.

All finds that qualify as 'treasure' under the 1996 Treasure Act (Treasure Act Code of Practice – 2002 revision) will be treated in accordance with the Act; HM Coroner will be informed and the finds will be safely stored. The North Lincolnshire Finds Liaison Officer may be contacted for advice in the first instance.

#### *Human Remains*

The legislation concerning the exhumation of human remains was updated in 2014 (Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure 2014, No. 1 Section 2).

If human remains are encountered, they will be left *in situ* where possible, and only disturbed if their continued presence will severely hinder the development processes, or if there are sound academic/scientific justifications for removal. If appropriate, an Exhumation License will be requested from the Secretary of State/Ministry of Justice and the local Environmental Health Officer advised.

Excavators should be aware of current legislation regarding human remains, and pay due attention to requirements of Health and Safety. All work involving human remains will be carried out according to the standards and guidelines recommended by the British Association of Biological Anthropologists and Osteologists in conjunction with the ClfA guidelines.

All reasonable requests of interested parties concerning the methods of removal, re-interral or disposal of the remains and associated items will be complied with, and attempts will be made at all times not to cause offence to interested parties.

### *Environmental Sampling*

Any securely stratified dated or undated archaeological deposits considered suitable will be sampled for the retrieval and assessment of the preservation conditions and potential for analysis of biological and environmental remains. Industrial residues and waste from craft and manufacturing processes are also routinely sampled. Where possible, deposits will be sampled in 40l quantities, less if necessary, and returned to PCAS offices prior to dispatch to the appointed specialist for processing and assessment. Sampling techniques and methods will be undertaken in accordance with the Historic England guidance as set out in *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-Excavation* (Campbell *et al*, 2011, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition).

## **8.0 Post-fieldwork methodology**

Following completion of site works, all archaeological records, environmental samples and finds will be taken to the offices of PCAS prior to processing, dispatch and/or analysis.

Stable finds (e.g. pottery, bone) will be washed, marked and packaged at PCAS prior to dispatch. Unstable finds will be dispatched for remedial conservation as a prelude to assessment, and bulk samples will be dispatched for processing.

PCAS have used the services of a variety of specialists in the past and may use any/all of the following depending on suitability/availability etc:

### Archaeological Contractors':

- University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) staff – provides a comprehensive service in all areas of post excavation analysis.
- Durham University Archaeological Services (DUAS) staff – provides environmental archaeology services.
- York Archaeological Trust (YAT) staff – identification and assessment of registered special finds; X-Ray analysis and Conservation Services.
- Archaeological Project Services (APS) staff – provides a comprehensive service in most areas of post excavation analysis.

### Other Freelance Specialists:

- Dr Phil Mills & Dr J Evans – specialising in the identification / assessment of Roman pottery, and Roman & Medieval ceramic building materials
- I Rowlandson – specialising in the identification / assessment of Iron Age & Roman pottery.
- Sarah Percival – specialising in the identification of Pre-Historic pottery /ceramics
- J Young / J. Grey / Z. Tomlinson – specialising in the identification / assessment of post Roman pottery, ceramic building materials & fired clay.
- M Taylor / M Bamford – specialising in the identification / assessment of waterlogged wood
- Dr D Underhill / J Rylatt– specialising in the identification / assessment of lithic materials and tools.

- Dr Rachel Tyson – specialising in the identification / assessment of glass.
- Dr Rod Mackenzie – specialising in the identification / assessment of waste metal working residues.
- Dr K Leahy – specialising in the identification / assessment of post Roman & early Medieval artefacts inc metal work.
- J Wood – specialising in the identification / assessment of animal bone & human remains.
- Q Mould – specialising in the identification / assessment of leather artefacts.

Subject to the receipt of any specialist accounts/archive reports, within 3 months of the completion of fieldwork a fully illustrated and appended text will be prepared in accordance with current guidelines and sent to the Historic Environment Officer for NLC for approval. All electronic submissions will be in single .PDF format. The final report will include the following minimum information:

- A non-technical summary
- Museum accession number, site code and project number
- Planning reference number
- Grid reference, site location, topography and geology
- Archaeological and historical background
- A statement of aims and objectives of the project
- A description and analysis of the fieldwork undertaken
- A geo-referenced location plan at a minimum scale of 1:10,000
- Scaled section and plan drawings of archaeological features encountered within the excavated area.
- Discussion and conclusions, including the importance of the findings in local, regional and national basis and a critical review of the effectiveness of methodology
- Tables summarising features and artefacts with full descriptions and brief interpretation
- Specialist artefact and environmental reports, as necessary, with reference made to appropriate published type-series
- Colour photographs, including general views and appropriate detail
- Acknowledgements
- Bibliography of sources used
- Archive deposition location and agreed deposition date
- A summary of the report's presence and location on the OASIS online database

Copies of the approved report shall be sent to the HER officer, the client and the Lincolnshire HER. The data from the project, along with a digital copy of the report, will be uploaded to the Archaeology Data Service OASIS (Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigationS) database for public consultation.

Deposition of the report with the HER, where it will be incorporated into their database for public consultation, and uploading the project data to OASIS will be considered as placing the results of the project in the public domain. However, wider publication of the results will be considered,

although the content and place of publication will be dependent on what is found, and be subject to discussion with the archaeological advisor to the planning authority. For example, where a significant discovery is made, consideration will be given to the preparation of a short note for inclusion in a local journal.

Working under the terms of the Copyright, Design and Patents Act 1988, PCAS shall retain full copyright with regard to written, digital and graphic material. However, following project completion, both the commissioning body, the North Lincolnshire HER and the Archaeology Data Service may, in the interest of informing and advancing the profession, make responsible use of the data, provided that any material copied or cited in reports is duly acknowledged and all copyright conditions observed.

Following acceptance of the report, an inventoried project archive (documentary and material) will be prepared in accordance with the guidelines contained in *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (UKIC 1990) and *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections* (Museums and Galleries Commission 1992). The entire archive will be prepared and stored at the offices of PCAS until deposition with North Lincolnshire Museums can be arranged. A unique museum sitecode EPBO has been assigned by the archive; an accession number will be assigned by the museum at the time of deposition. No variation of this arrangement will take place without the prior written consent of the NLP.

## **9.0 Timescale and personnel**

The anticipated start date for the works is Summer 2018, according to instruction from the client. The Historic Environment Officer will be notified of the intention to start groundworks to allow for a site visit to be arranged.

Monitoring works will progress according to the construction timetable. The client shall inform PCAS whenever groundworks are taking place so arrangements for monitoring can be made.

A full report on the results of the project will be submitted within 6 months of the completion of the onsite groundworks. The project archive will be prepared and deposited with the receiving archive within 12 months of the completion of fieldwork.

The site team will include an experienced Project Officer as a minimum. Details of the site team and CVs will also be provided if requested.

## **10.0 Health and Safety**

All work will be carried out in compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and its related regulations and codes of practice. Employees and sub-contractors of Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd will perform their duties in accordance with company safety policy (revised 2011). Where PCAS employees are temporarily engaged at other workplaces, they are to respect relevant local regulations, both statutory and as imposed by other employers within the Health and Safety at Work Act (1974).

A site risk assessment will be prepared prior to any site works taking place.

## **11.0 Monitoring arrangements**

Internal monitoring will be the responsibility of PCAS Director Will Munford. The Historic Environment Officer for NLC will be informed of the start of the archaeological intervention. She will be kept informed of any unexpected discoveries and regularly updated on the project's progress, and will be free to visit the site by prior arrangement with the site director.

Land at 46-48 High Street, Epworth  
WSI: Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

All phases of fieldwork shall be carried out in accordance with the approved WSI, with any variations to the specification being agreed in writing with the Historic Environment Officer.

## 12.0 Other factors

Any potential financial outlay which may be activated over and above rudimentary costs (i.e. fieldwork, basic reporting and archive arrangements) will be calculated as provisional sums/contingencies.

## 13.0 Contacts

Alison Williams, North Lincolnshire Council (01724) 297 471

Will Munford, Director, PCAS (01522) 703 800

## 14.0 Insurance

Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd has the following insurance cover:

Employers' Liability: £10,000,000

Public Liability: £5,000,000

Professional Indemnity: £1,000,000

## 15.0 References

Cameron, 1998, *A Dictionary of Lincolnshire Place-Names*, The English Place-Name Society, Nottingham

OS Explorer Map, 2010, *Sheet 280: Isle of Axholme, Scunthorpe and Gainsborough*. Ordnance Survey, Southampton. (OS mapping © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. PCAS licence no. 100049278).

Websites:

<http://domesdaymap.co.uk/>

<http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk>

<http://list.historicengland.org.uk/mapsearch.aspx>

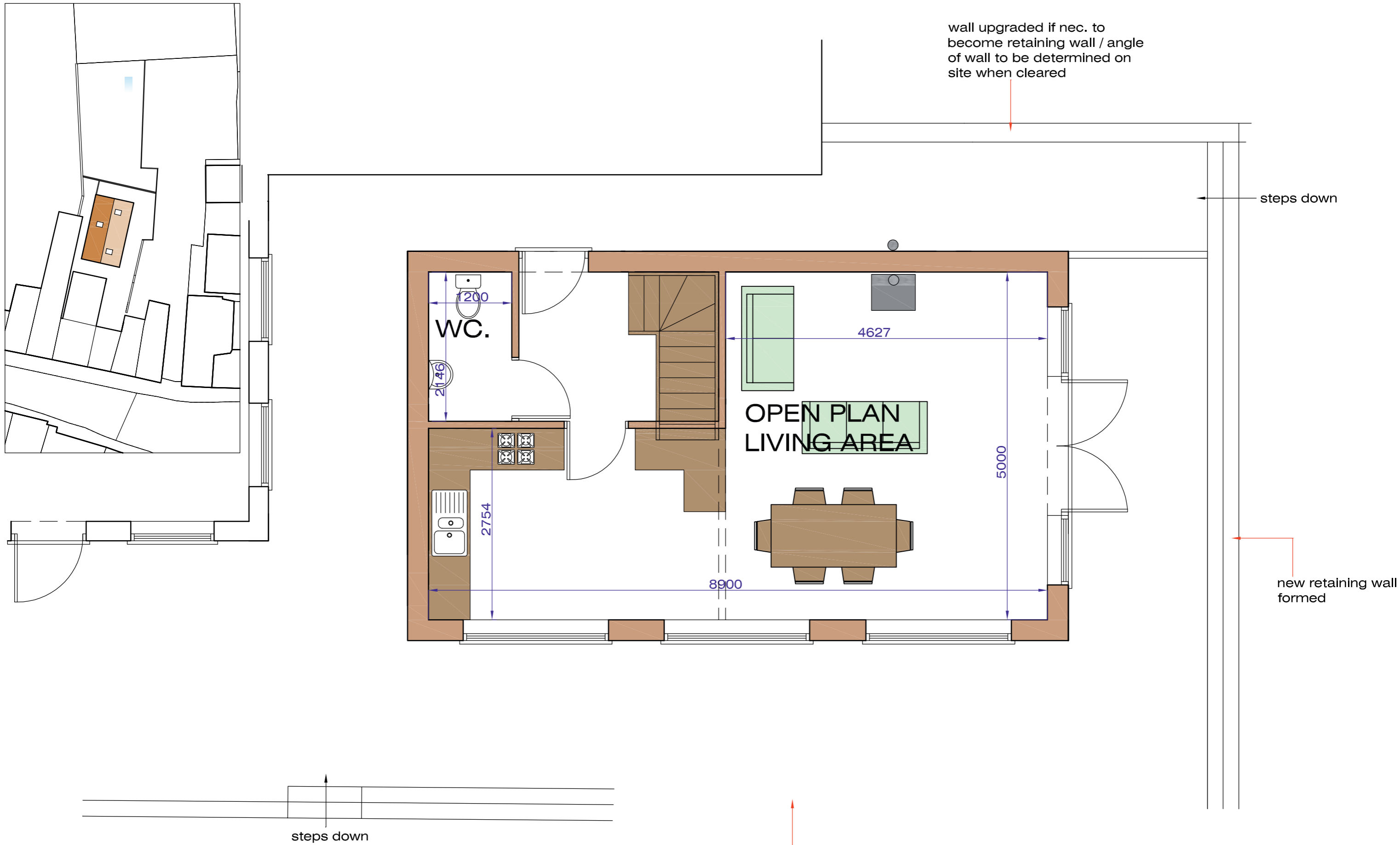
<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>

<https://www.old-maps.co.uk/>

<http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/benchmarks/>

Planning documents accessed online 22/12/16

<http://www.planning.northlincs.gov.uk/api/Cached/PlanningWeb?ReqType=F&Refno=PA/2017/2089>



**Figure 3:** Development layout 1:50 @ A3 (check scale at time of fieldwork)  
 Drawing courtesy of Rob Bradley Building Design Ltd.  
 Top left: New building location plan.