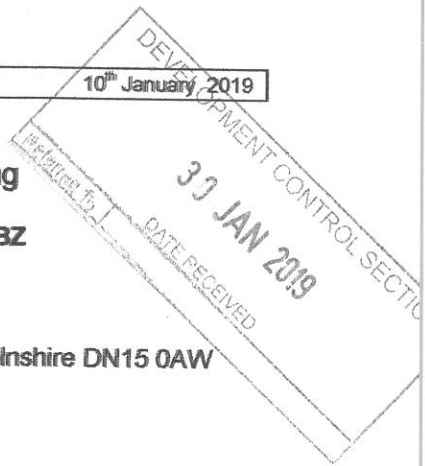


**A Written Scheme of Investigation for a  
Programme of Archaeological Observation and Recording**  
associated with the development of  
**9a, Darwin Street, Kirton in Lindsey, North Lincolnshire DN21 4BZ**  
Planning Reference Number: PA/2017/1410

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## 1 Summary

This written scheme of investigation details an archaeological mitigation strategy which, if approved, will be implemented during groundworks associated with the construction of two dwellings at 9a Darwin Street, Kirton in Lindsey, North Lincolnshire DN21 4BZ.

## 2 Site Location and Description

The site of the proposed development is located on the north side of Darwin Street, in the north-western part of the settlement of Kirton in Lindsey, and 0.26km to the north-north-west of the parish church of St Andrew. The site straddles the 30m contour on the west-facing slope of the Trent Cliff. Until recently, the site of the proposed development was occupied by a number of workshops and sheds surrounded by areas of hard-standing. The site is centred on National Grid Reference 493288 398806.

## 3 Planning Background

Outline planning permission (PA/2017/1410) has been granted for the erection of two dwellings subject to archaeological conditions requiring the preparation of an archaeological mitigation strategy and the implementation of a programme of archaeological observation and recording during construction groundworks.

A timetable for the development will be drawn up when reserved matters have been dealt with and a discharge notice has been issued for the first archaeological condition. The NLHER Officer will be notified of the precise start date and works programme when these have been confirmed.

## 4 Archaeological Background

The site of the proposed development lies within an area of pre-Enclosure Award enclosures, in the north-western part of the historic settlement of Kirton in Lindsey. The enclosure which is bounded on its south side by Darwin Street has the potential to be of prehistoric origin.

Roman features and finds are relatively common in the area of Kirton; there is a Roman villa to the north of the site and a Roman pavement was apparently seen in the north side of the parsonage garden (now The Grove) to the south of the development site. Other features dating from the Romano-British period, including ditches, pits and post holes, and finds including pottery and roof tile have been found in the vicinity.

Medieval features and finds are also known from the area and these, like many of those relating to Roman occupation, are most numerous in the upper part of the west-facing Trent Cliff, where well-drained ground was ideally placed between upland and lowland resources.

The site of the proposed development clearly lies within an area used for settlement over many centuries, and it is likely therefore that construction groundworks will encounter archaeological deposits of prehistoric, Romano-British and medieval date. It is also possible that the site may yield remains of a different character and date to those indicated by the evidence which is currently available.

## 5 Aims of the Archaeological Project

It is the aim of the project to investigate and interpret the exposed archaeological evidence for previous use of the site and to record that evidence, which would otherwise be destroyed by the proposed groundworks, for future use in local research projects. The specific objectives of the project are:

To identify and record all archaeological features and artefacts exposed during construction groundwork.

To determine the form, function, spatial arrangement and sequence of the archaeological features encountered.

To recover dating evidence from the archaeological features.

To retrieve environmental evidence relating to the environment and economy of the site.

To interpret the archaeological features and finds within the context of the known archaeology of the site and surrounding area.

## 6 Methodology

### 6.1 SITE WORK

- 6.1.1 All groundworks associated with site preparation and the construction of the two dwellings will be carried out, using machines fitted with toothless buckets, under archaeological supervision. Spoil will be monitored to ensure recovery of artefacts. The NLHER Officer will be kept informed of the observations made during the development in order that the need for continued supervision, reduction to inspection of the open trenches prior to their back-filling, or suspension of the watching brief may be determined.
- 6.1.2 The developer will allow adequate time and access for the archaeological contractor, who for this project is Caroline Atkins, to make a full and detailed record of any archaeological deposits which are uncovered within the limits of the development excavations. The archaeological work will be carried out in accordance with the development timetable and will cause no significant delay to the development unless otherwise agreed if, for example, human remains or other major archaeological finds are encountered (see paragraphs 6.1.8 and 6.1.9).
- 6.1.3 All archaeological features encountered will be located on a copy of the developer's plan, at a scale of 1:50 or 1:100, with levels relative to Ordnance Datum, and details of each feature or deposit will be recorded to enable the determination of their form and function and stratigraphic sequence. Any significant features will also be recorded at a scale of 1:20 and/or 1:10, as appropriate, and in sectional drawings.
- 6.1.4 A photographic record, both digital and on 35mm film, will be made of archaeological features, where appropriate, and general views of the site will be taken to record the context.
- 6.1.5 All finds made during the groundworks will be collected, located and assessed for later analysis. In the event that ceramics are encountered, specialist Jane Young, who is familiar with ceramics from these periods and the local area, will be consulted. Kevin Leahy will be consulted on all finds of potential Anglo-Saxon date.
- 6.1.6 In the event that the development groundworks expose waterlogged deposits which have the potential to contain environmental remains, an appropriate number of samples, each 10 to 40 litres in total, will be collected for analysis and submitted to the most readily available and appropriate specialist at the time (probably PRS). Samples will only be collected from well-stratified deposits which lie in excess 0.50m below the current ground level, or below known modern intrusive features, to minimise the potential for contamination. The relevant specialists will be afforded the opportunity to make site visits in the event that exceptional or large quantities of artefacts are encountered.
- 6.1.7 In the event that deposits relating to industrial activity are encountered, samples and/or assemblages of slags and residues will be submitted to the appropriate specialists for analysis. Even a small sample of any of these materials may have the potential to provide information on the industrial processes concerned.

- 6.1.8 In the event that any human skeletal remains are discovered, the coroner and North Lincolnshire Environmental Protection Team will be informed and, if lifting of the remains cannot be avoided, a licence will be obtained from the Ministry of Justice. If preservation *in situ* beneath the development is not possible, and the lifting of human skeletal remains is necessary, then work on the development will be suspended and a detailed record will be made before the remains are removed from site for scientific study and before any further work is permitted on the development. If the skeletal remains are of particular archaeological or scientific interest, and the current interpretation of the existing legislation permits it, the remains will be prepared for analysis and long-term storage with an appropriate museum but otherwise reburial will be the preferred option.
- 6.1.9 In the event that a major archaeological find is identified, the archaeological contractor will immediately inform the NLHER and a site meeting will be convened with the developer, the archaeological contractor and relevant specialists at the earliest opportunity, and a representative of Historic England will be invited to attend the meeting. A decision regarding the treatment of the remains to ensure their preservation will be made in agreement with the developer. The preferred mitigation option will be to secure the *in situ* preservation of the remains, beneath the development. Completion of the groundworks in the relevant part of the site will not be permitted until a mitigation strategy has been agreed and implemented.
- 6.1.10 All relevant Health and Safety Legislation will be complied with throughout the period of the watching brief. The supervising archaeologist will be covered by current Public Liability Insurance.

## 6.2 ANALYSIS & REPORT

- 6.2.1 All saved finds will be recorded and reported upon by appropriately skilled archaeologists, as identified in Section 6.1. The finds will also be assessed for their suitability for inclusion in the site archive.
- 6.2.2 Within six months of the completion of the watching brief a written description and analysis of the methods and results of the watching brief will be produced, incorporating specialist artefact and environmental reports where necessary and/or available.
- 6.2.3 Copies of the report will be supplied to the North Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record Office and to the developer. The developer will be responsible for submitting a supplied copy of the report to the Local Planning Authority.
- 6.2.4 Whatever the outcome of the archaeological watching brief, a short note will be prepared for inclusion in the local journal, 'Lincolnshire History and Archaeology', and the OASIS recording project.
- 6.2.5 Caroline Atkins will retain copyright of the report relating to the programme of archaeological investigation associated with the development of 9a Darwin Street, Kirton in Lindsey (PA/2017/1410) but agrees that the North Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record has licence to reproduce any or all material contained in the report and archive for reference purposes on the understanding that this licence does not cover commercial use of the material by the NLHER or any third party. In all cases Caroline Atkins retains the right to be identified as the originator of the work.

## 6.3 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

- 6.3.1 A paper and electronic archive, ordered to MoRPHE PPN3 standards, and containing all primary and secondary written and photographic material will be prepared and lodged with the North Lincolnshire Museums Service.
- 6.3.2 The developers will deposit the paper and general artifact archive with the North Lincolnshire Museums Service. The finds judged suitable for inclusion in the site archive will be appropriately packaged, in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the North Lincolnshire Museum Service.
- 6.3.3 A copy of the archive index, including the location of archive materials, will be supplied to the NLHER.

Caroline Atkins  
10<sup>th</sup> January 2019