# Appendix 12C: Report on Archaeological Observations Of Geotechnical Investigations

# LAND AT ROSPER ROAD, SOUTH KILLINGHOLME, IMMINGHAM, NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE:

# AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION

**LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:**

**North Lincolnshire Council**

**November 2022**

**PCA Report NO. R15178**

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

**DOCUMENT VERIFICATION**

# Land at Rosper Road, South Killingholme, Immingham, North Lincolnshire:

# An Archaeological Observation

Quality Control

| **Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd** | |
|---|---|
| Project Number | K7989 |
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| | Name & Title | Date |
|---|---|---|
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| Revision No. | Date | Checked | Approved |
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# LAND AT ROSPER ROAD, SOUTH KILLINGHOLME, IMMINGHAM, NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE:

# AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION

| | |
|---|---|
| **NLMS Site Code:** | **SKAW** |
| **Local Planning Authority:** | **North Lincolnshire Council** |
| **Planning Application:** | **N/A** |
| **Central National Grid Reference:** | **TA 1690 1694** |
| **Written and Researched by:** | **Iain Pringle & Charlie Crawford** |
| **Project Manager:** | **Gary Taylor** |
| **Commissioning Client:** | **Geotechnics Ltd** |
| **Contractor:** | **Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd**<br>**Newark Office**<br>**Office 8**<br>**Roewood Courtyard**<br>**Winkburn**<br>**Newark**<br>**Nottinghamshire**<br>**NG22 8PG** |
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**November 2022**



## PCA Report Number: R15178

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## FIGURES



## APPENDICES

## SUMMARY

*This report describes the results of an archaeological observation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land at Rosper Road, South Killingholme, North Lincolnshire. Geotechnics Ltd commissioned the archaeological work and the observation took place from 5th September to 15th September 2022. The aim of the work was to identify, investigate and record any archaeological remains during the groundworks.*

*No archaeological features were observed in the boreholes and CPT (cable percussion test) pits during the monitoring. However, several modern made-ground and redeposited chalk layers were observed which may have masked or destroyed any archaeological features within this area.*

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 General Background

1.1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Geotechnics Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording during geotechnical investigations on land at Rosper Road, South Killingholme, North Lincolnshire.

1.1.2 South Killingholme lies 3.5km northwest of Immingham and approximately 26km east of Scunthorpe in North Lincolnshire. The site is located in an extensive industrial zone about 2km east of the village. Lying on the west side of Rosper Road, the site is centred on National Grid Reference TA 1690 1694 (Figure 1).

1.1.3 The aim of the archaeological work was to identify and record the location, date, extent, character, and condition of any archaeological remains on the site and to assess the significance of any such remains in a local, regional, or national context. This report describes the results of the archaeological observation.

## 1.2 Planning Background

1.2.1 National Planning Policy on archaeology and built heritage is set out in National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

1.2.2 Revised in July 2021, National Planning Framework: Planning for the Historic Environment (NPPF) provides guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the investigation and preservation of archaeological remains.

1.2.3 In considering any planning application for development, the local planning authority will be guided by the policy framework set by government guidance, in this instance NPPF, by Local policy and by other material considerations.

1.2.4 Geotechnical investigations at the site do not require planning consent. The developer is undertaking the work to inform future applications for planning permission.

1.2.5 All works were undertaken in accordance with the following documents:

- This Written Scheme of Investigation;
- Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage 1990);
- Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (CIfA 2020a).

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited is a Registered Organisation (number 23) with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and operates within the Institute's 'Code of Conduct (CIfA 2020)'.

# 2 Geology and Topography

## 2.1 Geology

2.1.1 The solid geology at the site is Burnham Chalk Formation of the Cretaceous period. This is overlain by Tidal Flat deposits of clay and silt formed between 11.8 thousand years ago and the present during the Quaternary period (British Geological Survey Viewer www.bgs.ac.uk).

## 2.2 Topography

2.2.1 The site is on fairly flat, level land at *c*. 4m OD.

# 3 Archaeological and Historical Background

3.1.1 The North Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record (HER) indicates that the application site lies within an area of archaeological potential.

3.1.2 A scatter of prehistoric flintwork, ranging in date from the Late Mesolithic to the Early Bronze Age, was recovered from the northern part of the present site and on land immediately to the north during fieldwalking and subsequent excavations (MLS21544).

3.1.3 A complex of soil-marks of ditched enclosures and boundaries has been identified in the same area as the aforementioned flint scatter, that is the northern part of the present site and on land immediately to the north. These are associated with an Iron Age and Romano-British settlement (MLS19771). By the southern edge of this settlement complex was a cropmark of a small square enclosure of unknown date (MLS21321). Along the road that runs alongside the southeast edge of the site previous archaeological investigations revealed two ditches containing Iron Age pottery (MLS22428). Further north along the road, geophysical survey recorded an L-shaped anomaly. Subsequent trial trenching however, revealed only natural deposits (MLS21315).

3.1.4 East of Rosper Road but intruding into the site is a system of creeks that indicate the former shoreline (MLS20141). Peat deposits, considered to be former salt-marsh ground surface, identified at about 1m depth were buried by estuarine alluvium. In the vicinity, alluvium was also found to overlie mid-late Iron Age remains.

# 4 Project Aims and Research Objectives

## 4.1 Project Aims

4.1.1 The project was ‘threat-led’ with potential to disturb or destroy important sub-surface archaeological remains, if present. Therefore, the broad aim of the archaeological project was to inform the local planning authority and the client regarding the character, date, extent and degree of survival of archaeological remains at the site. Archaeological monitoring of works was selected as the most appropriate investigative tool to test the

archaeological potential of the site.

4.1.2 Additional aims of the project were:

- To compile a site archive consisting of all site and project documentary and photographic records, as well as all artefactual and palaeoenvironmental material recovered;
- To compile a report that contains an assessment of the nature and significance of all data categories (e.g. stratigraphic, artefactual etc.).

### 4.2 Research Objectives

4.2.1 The online *East Midlands Historic Environment Research Framework, Interactive Digital Resource* will be referenced for specific research criteria. In addition, *The Archaeology of the East Midlands, An Archaeological Resource Assessment and Research Agenda*, Leicester Archaeology Monograph 13, ed. N Cooper (2006), along with *East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands*, ed. D. Knight, B. Vyner & C. Allen (2012) will be referenced for specific research criteria. The archaeological evaluation addressed the following objectives:

- To record the nature, extent, date, character, quality, significance and state of preservation any archaeological remains affected by the investigation;
- To assess, where appropriate, any ecofactual and palaeo-environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features from within the site;

4.2.2 In addition, the evaluation addressed the following research objectives:

- To set the site and its potential archaeological remains into the context of the wider landscape
- To confirm the presence or absence of any late prehistoric to Roman activity in the area
- To confirm the presence or absence of any medieval settlement or funerary remains
- To confirm the presence or absence of any post-medieval activity
- identify and investigate any evidence of prehistoric, Roman, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval settlement or agricultural activity on the site

## 5 Methodology

### 5.1 Fieldwork Methodology

5.1.1 The investigation included archaeological monitoring of the geotechnical investigations, to include boreholes and test pits. This involved the archaeological monitoring of the plant and the hand excavation of the test pits.

5.1.2 The examination of spoil heaps for archaeological material was carried out.

5.1.3 The boreholes and test pits were scrutinised to identify, characterise and record any archaeological features or deposits and geological conditions. Column samples were taken from boreholes 1 and 2 for potential pollen analysis, though these were not processed/assessed as they were taken from the natural deposits.

5.1.4 Borehole 2 was terminated at 0.9m below ground level due to the presence of concrete. Borehole 2 was moved slightly to the south (Borehole 2A). Boreholes 3 and 4 were not drilled for logistical reasons.

### 5.2 Recording Methodology

5.2.1 A written description relating to the nature of the deposits, features and fills that were encountered during the geotechnical work was compiled on Pre-Construct Archaeology pro-forma record sheets.

5.2.2 Photography formed an integral part of the recording strategy, and all photographs incorporated scales, an identification board and directional arrow. A photographic record was compiled throughout the archaeological observation.

### 5.3 Post-Fieldwork Methodology

5.3.1 Historic England's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers Guide* (HE 2015) was used as the framework for post-excavation work.

5.3.2 The stratigraphic data for the project comprises written, drawn and photographic records. A total of 24 contexts were defined within the 19 test pits and four boreholes. Post-excavation work involved checking and collating site records and phasing the stratigraphic data (**Appendix 2**). A written summary of the archaeological finds was then compiled, as described in **Section 4** with a discussion and chronological sequencing of the site in **Section 5**.

5.3.3 No artefactual material was observed or collected during the archaeological monitoring.

5.3.4 No other categories of organic or inorganic artefactual material were represented.

5.3.5 The complete site archive will be packaged for long-term storage and curation. In preparing the site archive for deposition, all relevant standards and guidelines documents referenced in the Archaeological Archives Forum guidelines document (Brown 2011), the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) document (Walker 1990), and the relevant CIfA publication (CIfA 2020b) will be adhered to. The depositional requirements of the body to which the site archive will be ultimately transferred will be met in full.

# 6 Results

## 6.1 Natural Deposits

6.1.1 Natural deposits at the site consisted of limestone bedrock. Overlying the bedrock were deposits of limestone fragments, flint and mid brown clay. These deposits were overlaid by friable mid brown clay and discoloured dark grey clay, and occasional reddish brown silty clay patches in the northern part of the site.

## 6.2 Additional Deposits

6.2.1 A thin layer of grass and gravel was present in the northern part of the site. This consisted of a dark greyish brown silty clay and silty gravel in the northern extent of the site and in the area of CPT pit 20. It measured up to 0.02m thick.

6.2.2 A layer of hardstanding was present around the northwest edge of site. It varied between 0.1m and 0.3m in depth.

6.2.3 Seven different layers of made ground were identified across the north-western half of the site. These consisted of mid brown, mid greyish brown and bluish grey clays, dark grey stones and light-yellow sandy gravel, mid greyish brown stones and limestone fragments, crushed limestone and breeze block fragments, and light yellowish brown sand. These varied in depth between 0.2m and at least 1.1m.

6.2.4 In addition to the several layers of made ground identified on site, three different layers of redeposited chalk were also present. The fragments of chalk varied between each identified layer. These layers measured between 0.15m and 0.35m thick.

6.2.5 In CPT pits and boreholes where made ground and redeposited chalk were present, these directly overlaid the natural geology and were, in turn, overlaid by turf in the south-eastern half of the site and hardstanding in the north-western half of the site. However, in CPT pit 16, the hardstanding was overlaid by turf.

6.2.6 No CPT pits or boreholes contained any archaeological features or deposits.

# 7 Discussion and Conclusion

## 7.1 Summary

7.1.1 The archaeological sequence is described by placing stratigraphic sequences within broad phases, assigned on a site-wide basis in this case. Interpretation has been added to the data, and these phases have been correlated with recognised historical and geological periods. The following describes the archaeological sequence as determined by the relative dates of the layers and deposits that were observed on site.

7.1.2 No archaeological features were identified during the watching brief.

7.2 **Phase 1: Natural Sub-Stratum**

7.2.1 Phase 1 represents the natural geological material exposed within all four boreholes and 19 CPT pits. This geological material is represented by Tidal Flat deposits of clay and silt formed during the Quaternary period which overlaid the Burnham Chalk Formation of the Cretaceous period.

7.3 **Phase 2: Modern**

7.3.1 The turf, hardstanding, made ground and redeposited chalk layers on site are modern and relate to the previous, likely industrial, use of this site.

7.4 **Discussion**

7.4.1 No evidence for archaeological activity on the site was found during the archaeological observation. The CPT pits and boreholes observed and recorded, however, only offered a limited insight into the natural geology and potential archaeological deposits on the site. Additionally, it was evident that the north-eastern half of the site had largely been impacted by modern disturbance, as demonstrated by the presence of several made ground layers and hardstanding. These may have masked or destroyed any archaeological features within this area.

7.5 **Conclusion**

7.5.1 The main aim of the archaeological observation was to inform the Local Planning Authority and their archaeological advisor, and the client regarding the location, nature and extent of archaeological remains within the location of the proposed development.

7.5.2 In summary, no archaeological features were observed in any of the CPT pits or boreholes. Several layers of made ground and redeposited chalk were discovered as well as a layer of hardstanding which were all confirmed to have a modern origin.

7.5.3 Based on the results of the watching brief, further archaeological works are unlikely to be required. Any decision regarding further archaeological work will be at the discretion of the archaeological advisors to North Lincolnshire County Council.

## 8 Personnel

The evaluation was managed by Gary Taylor of PCA Newark and was carried out by the fieldwork team at PCA Newark, supervised by Iain Pringle and Joanne Lathan. Figures accompanying this report were prepared by Diana Valk of PCA's CAD department.

## 9 Acknowledgements

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Geotechnics Ltd for commissioning the work.

# 10 Bibliography

## Written Sources

Brown, D. H., 2011 *Archaeological Archives A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation,* Archaeological Archives Forum (revised edition)

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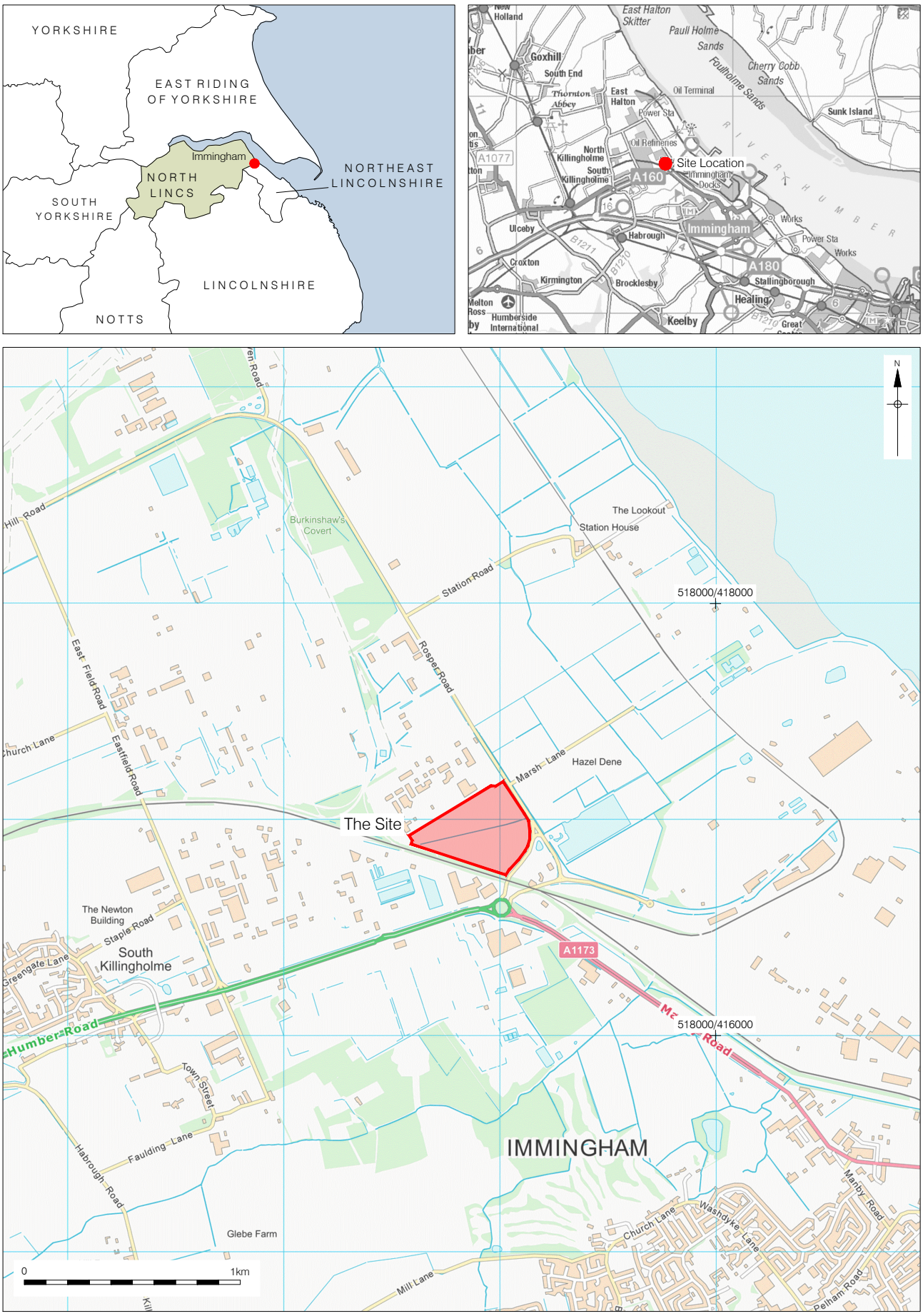
Taylor, J. & Brown, G., 2009 *PCA Fieldwork Operations Manual 1*

Walker, K., 1990 *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage*, United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC)

## Websites

*East Midlands Historic Environment Research Framework, Interactive Digital Resource*

The British Geological Survey (BGS) website: http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html

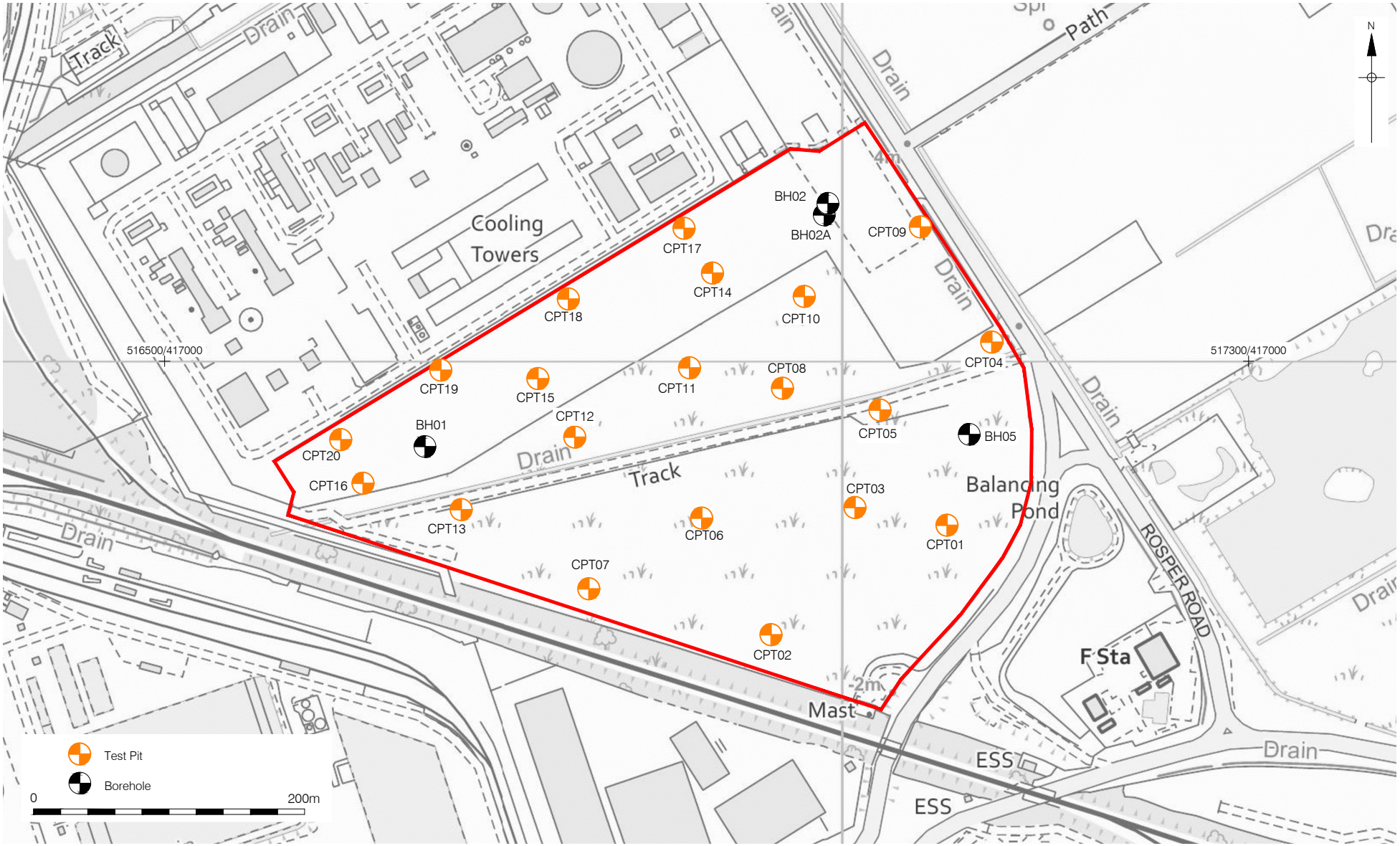




04/11/2022 DV

Figure 1
Site Location
1:2,000,000, 1:250,000, 1:25,000 at A4

P:\PROJECT DATA\Out of London\North Lincolnshire\Land off Rosper Road, South Killingholme\CAD\WB\Fig 02_DSL_REV.dwg





07/11/2022 DV

Figure 2
Detailed Site Location
1:4,000 at A4

## Appendix 1: Site Photographs


**Plate 1**: CPT pit 1, showing turf and natural deposits. Scale: 0.4m.


**Plate 2**: CPT pit 10, showing turf, made ground (107) and natural deposits. Scale: 0.4m.


**Plate 3**: CPT pit 14 showing turf, made ground (101), re-deposited chalk (111) and natural deposits. Scale: 0.4m.


**Plate 4**: CPT pit 17 showing hardstanding, redeposited chalk (109), made ground (114) and (115) and natural deposits. Scale: 0.4m.

## Appendix 2: Context Index

Abbreviations: UE means 'unexcavated'; N/A means 'not applicable'; > means 'greater than'; < means 'up to'; Context numbers are followed by a brief description and interpretation; their dimensions in metres (in the order length x width x depth; or diameter x depth); and their critical stratigraphic relationships.

| CPT Pit | Context No | Type | Description (soil colour and texture/ cut description) | Interpretation | Depth/ Thickness (m) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 106 | Layer | Turf | Turf | 0.15 |
| 1 | 108 | Deposit | Mid brown clay | Natural | >1.05 |
| 2 | 106 | Layer | Turf | Turf | 0.10 |
| 2 | 108 | Deposit | Mid brown clay | Natural | >1.10 |
| 3 | 106 | Layer | Turf | Turf | 0.10 |
| 3 | 108 | Deposit | Mid brown clay | Natural | >1.10 |
| 4 | 106 | Layer | Turf | Turf | 0.25 |
| 4 | 108 | Deposit | Mid brown clay | Natural | >0.95 |
| 5 | 106 | Layer | Turf | Turf | 0.25 |
| 5 | 108 | Deposit | Mid brown clay | Natural | >0.95 |
| 6 | 106 | Layer | Turf | Turf | 0.10 |
| 6 | 108 | Deposit | Mid brown clay | Natural | >1.10 |
| 7 | 106 | Layer | Turf | Turf | 0.10 |
| 7 | 118 | Layer | Dark grey clay | Discoloured natural | 0.20 |
| 7 | 108 | Deposit | Mid brown clay | Natural | >0.90 |
| 8 | 106 | Layer | Turf | Turf | 0.30 |
| 8 | 108 | Deposit | Mid brown clay | Natural | >0.90 |
| 9 | 100 | Layer | Overgrown gravel | Turf | 0.05 |
| 9 | 110 | Layer | Dark grey stones and light yellow sandy gravel | Made ground | 0.40 |
| 9 | 105 | Deposit | Mid reddish brown silty clay | Natural | >0.75 |
| 10 | 106 | Layer | Turf | Turf | 0.01 |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10 | 107 | Layer | Mid greyish brown clay | Made ground | 0.30 |
| 10 | 108 | Deposit | Mid brown clay | Natural | >0.89 |
| 11 | 100 | Layer | Overgrown gravel | Turf | 0.10 |
| 11 | 107 | Layer | Dark greyish brown and bluish grey | Made ground | 0.30 |
| 11 | 108 | Deposit | Mid brown clay | Natural | >0.80 |
| 12 | 100 | Layer | Overgrown gravel | Turf | 0.10 |
| 12 | 109 | Layer | Crushed limestone and breeze block fragments | Made ground | 1.00 |
| 12 | 108 | Deposit | Mid brown clay | Natural | >0.10 |
| 13 | 100 | Layer | Overgrown gravel | Turf | 0.10 |
| 13 | 119 | Layer | Mid brown clay and limestone fragments | Made ground | 0.70 |
| 13 | 108 | Deposit | Mid brown clay | Natural | >0.40 |
| 14 | 100 | Layer | Overgrown gravel | Turf | 0.05 |
| 14 | 101 | Layer | Light yellowish brown sand | Made ground | 0.20 |
| 14 | 111 | Layer | Chalk fragments | Re-deposited chalk | 0.55 |
| 14 | 112 | Deposit | Dark grey clay | Natural | >0.40 |
| 15 | 100 | Layer | Overgrown gravel | Turf | 0.25 |
| 15 | 111 | Layer | Chalk fragments | Re-deposited chalk | 0.30 |
| 15 | 116 | Layer | Chalk fragments (smaller than 111) | Re-deposited chalk | 0.20 |
| 15 | 117 | Layer | Large chalk fragments | Re-deposited chalk | 0.35 |
| 15 | 112 | Deposit | Dark grey clay | Natural | >0.10 |
| 16 | 100 | Layer | Overgrown gravel | Turf | 0.05 |
| 16 | 113 | Layer | Hardstanding | Hardstanding | 0.10 |
| 16 | 109 | Layer | Chalk fragments | Re-deposited chalk | 0.15 |
| 16 | 116 | Layer | Small chalk fragments | Re-deposited chalk | 0.20 |
| 16 | 112 | Deposit | Dark grey clay | Natural | >0.70 |
| 17 | 113 | Layer | Hardstanding | Hardstanding | 0.25 |
| 17 | 109 | Layer | Chalk fragments | Re-deposited chalk | 0.15 |
| 17 | 114 | Layer | Dark grey stones | Made ground | 0.10 |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 17 | 115 | Layer | Mid grey brown stones and limestone fragments | Made ground | 0.30 |
| 17 | 112 | Deposit | Dark grey clay | Natural | >0.40 |
| 18 | 113 | Layer | Hardstanding | Hardstanding | 0.30 |
| 18 | 107 | Layer | Dark greyish brown and bluish grey | Made ground | 0.10 |
| 18 | 109 | Layer | Chalk fragments | Re-deposited chalk | 0.20 |
| 18 | 112 | Deposit | Dark grey clay | Natural | >0.60 |
| 19 | 113 | Layer | Hardstanding | Hardstanding | 0.30 |
| 19 | 109 | Layer | Chalk fragments | Re-deposited chalk | 0.20 |
| 19 | 115 | Layer | Mid grey brown stones and limestone fragments | Made ground | 0.30 |
| 19 | 112 | Deposit | Dark grey clay | Natural | >0.40 |
| 20 | 100 | Layer | Overgrown gravel | Turf | 0.10 |
| 20 | 109 | Layer | Chalk fragments | Re-deposited chalk | 0.30 |
| 20 | 116 | Layer | Chalk fragments | Re-deposited chalk | 0.20 |
| 20 | 112 | Deposit | Dark grey clay | Natural | >0.60 |

| **Borehole** | **Context No** | **Type** | **Description** (soil **colour and texture/ cut description)** | **Interpretation** | **Depth/ Thickness (m)** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 100 | Layer | Overgrown gravel | Turf | 0.10 |
| 1 | 110 | Layer | Dark grey stones and light yellow sandy gravel | Made ground | 0.10 |
| 1 | 109 | Layer | Chalk Fragments | Re-deposited chalk | 0.40 |
| 1 | 108 | Layer | Mid brown clay | Natural | 0.40 |
| 1 | 105 | Deposit | Mid reddish brown silty clay | Natural | 13.00 |
| 1 | 120 | Deposit | Limestone fragments | Natural | 7.70 |
| 1 | 121 | Deposit | Limestone bedrock | Natural | - |
| 2 | 100 | Layer | Overgrown gravel | Turf | 0.02 |
| 2 | 101 | Layer | Light yellowish brown | Made ground | 0.17 |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 102 | Layer | Concrete | Concrete | 0.10 |
| 2 | 103 | Layer | Mid greyish brown clay | Made ground | 0.50 |
| 2 | 104 | Layer | Concrete | Concrete | - |
| 2.2 | 100 | Layer | Overgrown gravel | Turf | 0.02 |
| 2.2 | 103 | Layer | Mid greyish brown clay | Made ground | 1.68 |
| 2.2 | 105 | Deposit | Mid reddish brown silty clay | Natural | 17.80 |
| 2.2 | 121 | Deposit | Limestone bedrock | Natural | - |
| 5 | 106 | Layer | Overgrown gravel | Turf | 0.30 |
| 5 | 108 | Layer | Mid brown clay | Natrual | 14.80 |
| 5 | 122 | Deposit | Limestone and flint gravel | Natural | 0.50m |
| 5 | 123 | Deposit | Mid brown clay | Natural | 1.90m |
| 5 | 124 | Deposit | Limestone brash | Natural | 3.00m |
| 5 | 121 | Deposit | Limestone bedrock | Natural | - |

# Summary for preconst1-510732

| | |
|---|---|
| OASIS ID (UID) | preconst1-510732 |
| Project Name | Field Observation (Visual Assessment) at Land at Rosper Road, South Killingholme, Immingham |
| Sitename | Land at Rosper Road, South Killingholme, Immingham |
| Activity type | Field Observation (Visual Assessment) |
| Project Identifier(s) | |
| Planning Id | |
| Reason For Investigation | Planning: Pre application |
| Organisation Responsible for work | Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd |
| Project Dates | 05-Sep-2022 - 15-Sep-2022 |
| Location | Land at Rosper Road, South Killingholme, Immingham<br>NGR : TA 16900 16940<br>LL : 53.6359328592503, -0.233450523290599<br>12 Fig : 516900,416940 |
| Administrative Areas | Country : England<br>County : Lincolnshire<br>District : North Lincolnshire<br>Parish : South Killingholme |
| Project Methodology | Nineteen cable percussion test pits and four boreholes were excavated during the observation. |
| Project Results | No archaeological features were observed in the boreholes and CPT (cable percussion test) pits during the monitoring. However, several modern made-ground and redeposited chalk layers were observed which may have masked or destroyed any archaeological features within this area. |
| Keywords | |
| Funder | |
| HER | North Lincolnshire HER - unRev - STANDARD |
| Person Responsible for work | I, Pringle |
| HER Identifiers | |
| Archives | |

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