
LAND EAST OF 132 – 144 SCARBOROUGH ROAD,
BRIDLINGTON,
EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION
FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

September 2023

OSA

ON SITE ARCHÆOLOGY LTD

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OSA Method Statement.

SITE LOCATION: Land east of 132-144 Scarborough Road, Bridlington, East Riding of Yorkshire.

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE: TA 17135 68490

PLANNING REFERENCE NUMBER: 21/01745/PLF

LANDUSE: Former garden / paddock

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1.0 Summary.

1.1 This brief is for a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording (watching brief) to be carried out during groundworks associated with the erection of four detached dwellings at Land east of 132-144 Scarborough Road, Bridlington, East Riding of Yorkshire.

1.2 The proposed development has received planning consent (Planning reference 21/01745/PLF), with a condition (14) to secure a programme of archaeological work. Prior to commencement of development the condition requires the submission of a Written Scheme of Investigation.

1.3 This Written Scheme of investigation has been prepared by *On-Site Archaeology Ltd.* to detail the mitigation programme to be employed to satisfy the first element of the condition.

2.0 Site Location.

2.1 The site is located in the northwestern part of Bridlington on land east of Scarborough Road, centred at approximately NGR TA 17135 68490. (Figure 1). The site comprises two small former gardens / paddocks, located to the east of nos 132-144 Scarborough Road. The site is bounded by residential housing to the south, and agricultural land to the north and east.

2.2 The bedrock geology consists of chalk of the Flamborough Chalk Formation. (<https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk/>).



Figure 1. Site Location.



Figure 2. Detailed location plan.

3.0 Planning Background

3.1 Planning permission has been granted for the proposed development (Planning reference 21/01745/PLF). Condition 14 states:

No development shall take place on site until a Written Scheme of Archaeological Investigation comprising a scheme of observation, investigation and recording conducted during all below ground works has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

This pre-commencement condition is imposed in order to provide a reasonable opportunity to record the history of the site which lies within an area of archaeological interest in accordance with policy ENV3 of the East Riding Local Plan and Section 16 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

Consultation from Humber Historic Environment Record, who act as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority, has confirmed that the programme of archaeological works should comprise a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording to be undertaken during construction works (watching brief).

4.0 Archaeological Interest.

4.1 The site lies in an area of known archaeological activity dating from prehistoric times onwards. The earliest archaeological evidence found within the Bridlington area comes from finds spots of Mesolithic date. Artefacts including flints blades and flakes, flint cores, pebble maceheads, axes and picks have been discovered in the wider vicinity of Bridlington.

4.2 The next phase of archaeological activity within this area has been dated to the Neolithic period from about the middle of the 4th millennium BC. This prehistoric evidence was found during archaeological investigations at Sewerby Cottage Farm, to the east of the current site, undertaken by On-Site Archaeology between 1999 and 2004. Settlement evidence was found in the form of three Neolithic houses; the largest number of dwellings of this period found on one site in the north of England. Furthermore, Neolithic flints were found in other parts of the site and to the west of this site indicating a wider area of prehistoric activity within the vicinity of the settlement area (Fenton-Thomas, C, 2009, *A Place by the Sea: Excavations at Sewerby Cottage Farm, Bridlington*, Oxbow Books, Oxford). On a site to the northeast of the current development site an isolated pit containing Neolithic pottery and hazelnut shells was found (Langley, K, 2018, *Archaeological Investigations to the east of Pinfold Lane, Bridlington*. East Riding Archaeologist Vol. 17, 114-137). Sherds of a Middle Neolithic impressed ware bowl were found in a small, isolated pit further to the northeast of this site (OSA, 2023, *Land off Bempton Lane, Bridlington, East Riding of Yorkshire*. Report on an Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching. OSA Report No. OSA22EV21). Further pottery provisionally dated to the Neolithic or Bronze Age was found on a site off Scarborough Road located to the north of the current site (OSA, 2021, *Land off Scarborough Road, Bridlington, East Riding of Yorkshire*. Interim Report on an Archaeological Excavation. OSA Report No. OSA20EX06).

4.3 Bronze Age activity within the vicinity of Bridlington has been primarily identified as funerary monuments. Two bowl barrows of Bronze Age date had been discovered to the north of the current site. These two barrows have been classified as Scheduled Monuments. A number of Bronze Age finds have also been recovered from in and around Bridlington. These finds included a flanged bronze axe head, which now resides at Hull Museum. A late Bronze Age or early Iron Age bronze razor was found during excavations on the nearby Scarborough Road site (OSA, 2021, *Land off Scarborough Road, Bridlington, East Riding of Yorkshire*. Interim Report on an Archaeological Excavation. OSA Report No. OSA20EX06).

4.4 Evidence of the Iron Age period from this area comes from archaeological investigations and aerial photographs. A number of rectangular enclosures and ditches have been identified within the vicinity of the development site, probably of either Iron Age and/or Romano-British date. Several large-scale excavations near to the current site undertaken within the last 20 years have also provided archaeological evidence from this period. To the northeast of the current site a late Iron Age trackway was identified during excavations undertaken by On-Site Archaeology in 2014 (Langley, K, 2018, *Archaeological Investigations to the east of Pinfold Lane, Bridlington*. East Riding Archaeologist Vol. 17, 114-137.). This trackway consisted of two sets of intercut small ditches on a roughly north-south alignment.

A single burial, radiocarbon dated to 165BC-20AD, was found cut into the trackway ditches. A further site from this period was identified during archaeological excavation undertaken by On-Site Archaeology in 2020-2021 to the north of this site just off Scarborough Road (OSA, 2021, Land off Scarborough Road, Bridlington, East Riding of Yorkshire. Interim Report on an Archaeological Excavation. OSA Report No. OSA20EX06). Recent pottery and finds analysis, as well as C14 dating, has revealed a late Iron Age through to early Roman date for the majority of the activity identified on that site. Archaeology on the site from this period includes a set of three enclosures with possible internal industrial buildings as well as a number of human and animal burials.

4.5 Evidence from the Anglo-Saxon period within this area comes primarily from an inhumation cemetery located at Home Farm in Sewerby to the southeast of Bridlington. Part of this cemetery was excavated in the 1950s and 1970s when 59 skeletons were exhumed. Male and female adult skeletons and infant remains were recovered, as well as numerous grave goods. The burials were dated, through the artefacts, to the mid 6th to mid 7th centuries. It has been suggested that the placing of the cemetery commemorates the landing of King Ida of the Angles in AD 557. The remainder of the cemetery is now scheduled. During the Anglo-Scandinavian period many Scandinavians settled in East Yorkshire. The nearest definite settlement to Bridlington is at Flamborough. Many place names around this part of East Yorkshire have Scandinavian influences. Information from the Domesday Book shows that the land around Bridlington was ruled by three Anglo-Scandinavians – Morcar, Torchil and Carle, in 1066 just prior to the Norman invasion.

4.6 Bridlington was referred to in the Domesday Book of 1086 as Bretlington. In 1113 a Priory of Augustine Canons was constructed possibly on the site of the original church of Bridlington, mentioned in the Domesday Book. The priory continued to grow through the medieval period through grants issued by a number of kings. King John granted the prior permission to hold a weekly market and Henry VI gave permission for three annual fairs to be held. King Henry V visited the priory in 1415 to give thanks for the victory at Agincourt. The settlement of Bridlington grew as the prominence and wealth of the priory grew.

5.0 Objectives.

5.1 The objective of the mitigation strategy is to ensure that any archaeological deposits that might be uncovered can be recorded.

5.2 The results of the watching brief will be made public.

6.0 Methodology.

6.1 The watching brief shall comprise the archaeological monitoring of groundworks required for the development. The excavations will be undertaken under archaeological supervision. This is to enable the identification and recording of any archaeological material that might be uncovered. Whilst details of the main contractor's methodology will be agreed on site it is anticipated that the works will initially involve the removal of topsoil across the

7.0 Report Preparation, Contents & Distribution.

- 7.1 Within six weeks of the completion of the work a report will be produced and submitted to the developer, the Local Planning Authority and the Humber HER Office.
- 7.2 A report shall be prepared to include the following:
- a) A non-technical summary of the results of the work.
 - b) An introduction page to include the site code, planning reference number and HER Casework number, dates when the fieldwork and post-excavation analyses took place, and a National Grid Reference. A location plan with scale will be included.
 - c) An account of the methods and results of the fieldwork in the context of the known archaeology of the area. This shall be supported by an overall plan of the site accurately identifying the location of trenches; individual trench plans as excavated indicating the location of archaeological features, with at least one section detailing the stratigraphic sequence of deposits within each trench; and photographs, which will include general views of site and images of any significant archaeology.
 - d) A specialist assessment of the artefacts recovered with a view to their potential for further study.
 - e) A specialist assessment of environmental samples taken, with a view to their potential for subsequent study.
- 7.3 Copies of the report will be submitted to the commissioning body, the Local Planning Authority, and the Humber Historic Environment Record, within an agreed timetable and subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality. A digital copy of the report will be provided to the Humber HER in PDF format.

8.0 Copyright, Confidentiality & Publicity.

- 8.1 Unless the organisation commissioning the project wishes to state otherwise, the copyright of any written, graphic or photographic records and reports rests with *On-Site Archaeology*. Agreements on copyright should be agreed with the commissioning body at the outset of the project.
- 8.2 The circumstances under which the report or records can be used by other parties should be identified at the commencement of the project, as should the proposals for distribution of the report (see 7 above). *On-Site Archaeology* will respect the commissioning body's requirements over confidentiality, but will endeavour to emphasise their professional obligation to make the results of archaeological work available to the wider archaeological community within a reasonable time (normally 6 months).

8.3 *On-Site Archaeology* has a duty of confidence to the client commissioning the work. All aspects of publicity must be agreed at the outset of the project between the commissioning body and *On-Site Archaeology*.

9.0 Monitoring, Health And Safety, Staffing & Insurance.

9.1 The work will be monitored under the auspices of the Partnership Manager who will be contacted before the commencement of site works.

9.2 Health and safety will take priority over archaeological matters. All archaeologists undertaking fieldwork will comply with all Health and Safety Legislation.

9.3 *On-Site Archaeology* will ensure that they are adequately insured, to cover all eventualities, including risks to third parties.

10.0 Personnel.

All work will be under the overall supervision of Mr. N Pearson MIFA (Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists). Other project staff may include: -

<i>Project Officer</i>	Tim Robinson
<i>Palaeo-environmental advisor</i>	Ellen Simmons Sheffield Archaeobotanical Consultancy University of Sheffield
<i>Human Remains</i>	Katie Keefe
<i> Finds Analysis</i>	Dr Chris Cumberpatch Ruth Leary Hillary Cool
<i>Conservation</i>	Ian Panter, York Archaeological Trust
<i>Radiocarbon Determinations</i>	Beta Analytic Inc.