Humber Field Archaeology

Archaeological Consultants and Contractors





ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION BY

TRIAL EXCAVATION AT

CRANSWICK COUNTRY FOODS

STAITHES ROAD, PRESTON

EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE

January 2024

Humber Field Archaeology Report no. 2251

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION BY TRIAL EXCAVATION AT CRANSWICK COUNTRY FOODS STAITHES ROAD, PRESTON EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE

January 2024

Work carried out for Gabbitas Gill Partnership Ltd T/A GGP Consult

on behalf of

Cranswick Country Foods Plc Staithes Road Preston East Riding of Yorkshire HU12 8TB

Planning Reference: 21/02002/STPLF HHER Casework Number: PA/CONS/28626 National Grid Reference: TA 18448 30800

HFA Site Code: CCP2024

Museum Reference: Pending from ERYMS

Douglas Jobling

HUMBER FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY, The Old School, Northumberland Avenue, KINGSTON UPON HULL, HU2 0LN

February 2024

Humber Field Archaeology Report no. 2251

REPORT DETAILS				
An Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Excavation at Cranswick Country Foods Plc, Staithes Road, Preston, East Riding of Yorkshire.				
Fieldwork report				
2251				
Gabbitas Gill Partnership Ltd. T/A GGP Consult on behalf of Cranswick Country Food Plc				
CCP2024				
TA 18448 30800				
1				
14/02/2024				
Douglas Jobling Project Officer;				
Dave Atkinson Project Manager				
Dave Atkinson Project Manager				

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- Plate 5 Trench 10, viewed from the north-north-west, with modern pit/intrusion (1003) taking up the northern half of the trench (1m scales).

1 SUMMARY

In January 2024 a programme of evaluation by trial trenching was undertaken by Humber Field Archaeology in advance of the construction an extension to the production facility, creation of a new vehicular access, re-location of the principal site entrance with in site circulation and extension to the existing car park and the creation of visitor and HGV parking, erection of a security building and vehicle wash at Cranswick Country Foods Plc, Staithes Road, Preston, East Riding of Yorkshire.

Previously, in January 2021, 6 of 10 trenches had been excavated, in proposals for the new development, but large areas of standing water meant that the rest could not be completed. It was then suggested and agreed by the HHER that a programme of monitored topsoil stripping could be undertaken during the development phase in the areas of the un-excavated trenches. However, following consultation with the contractors, and with agreement again with HHER, it was decided to complete the excavation of the evaluation trenches (Trenches 3, and 8 to 10).

To this end, the trenches were cut in January 2024. Trench 3 was blank, Trench 8 cut longitudinally along a medieval agricultural ridge, Trench 9 cut across a medieval agricultural furrow and Trench 10 cut across a mid to late 20th century dump or pit.

With the combination of the previous work (SRP2024) and the current work (CCP2024), it is recommended that no further archaeological work be undertaken in the current development areas.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Circumstances of the fieldwork

- 1.1.1 This report presents the results of a programme of archaeological evaluation by trial excavation undertaken by Humber Field Archaeology (HFA) on the 9th January 2024, prior to the construction an extension to the production facility, creation of a new vehicular access, re-location of the principal site entrance with in site circulation and extension to the existing car park and the creation of visitor and HGV parking, erection of a security building and vehicle wash at Cranswick Country Foods Plc., Staithes Road, Preston, East Riding of Yorkshire, (centred at National Grid Reference TA 18448 30800; HFA Site Code CCP2024 see Figs. 1 and 2). The site lies within a landscape containing heritage assets dating from the medieval and later periods.
- 1.1.2 An application made for this development, reference 21/02002/STPLF was submitted to the Local Planning Authority (LPA), The East Riding of Yorkshire Council on the 21st May 2021. Permission was subsequently granted on 5th January 2022 subject to a condition (no. 5) which states:
- 1.1.3 A) No development shall commence until a written scheme of investigation has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme shall include an assessment of significance and research questions; and:
 - 1. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording
 - 2. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording.
 - 3. The programme for post investigation assessment.
 - 4. Proposals for the preservation in situ, or for the investigation, recording and recovery of archaeological remains and the publishing of the findings, it being understood that there shall be a presumption in favour of their preservation in situ wherever feasible
 - 5. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation and a timetable for publication.
 - 6. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation.
 - 7. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.
 - B) No development shall take place other than in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under part (A) or any subsequent written scheme of investigation to secure a programme of archaeological mitigation. The

archaeological programme shall be carried out as approved.

This pre-commencement condition is imposed in accordance with planning policy ENV3 of the East Riding Local Plan and to determine the archaeological potential of the site and allow for suitable mitigation strategies to be agreed.

- 1.1.4 The Historical Environment Record of Humber Archaeology Partnership (HAP), archaeological advisors to East Riding of Yorkshire Council, had recommended a programme of archaeological evaluation by trial trenching in their consultation response to the application ref. HER/PA/CONS/28626, dated 25th October 2021. An initial specification (Atkinson, 2021) was used for the previous archaeological evaluation (SRP2022), and a newer specification was submitted and approved in 2023 (Atkinson, 2023) for monitored topsoil strip, but the archaeological scheme was reverted to trial trenching at the request of the client's contractor, which was agreed by HHER.
- 1.1.5 Humber Field Archaeology (HFA) were appointed to undertake the archaeological work and produced a site-specific written scheme of investigation (WSI) which was submitted to and approved by HHER and the local planning authority in advance of any work commencing on site.

2.2 Site topography and geology

- 2.2.1 The area of the evaluation covers approximately 2.1ha and is currently pasture with an access road running through it. It is bordered to the north by Neat Marsh Road, to the east and west by agricultural land and to the south by the existing facility.
- 2.2.2 The site lies at around 5m OD. The superficial geology is Till overlying the bedrock of Chalk (data from Geology of Britain viewer | British Geological Survey (BGS). Overlying soils are described as slowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils (http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/).

2.3 Archaeological background

- 2.3.1 This archaeological background is reproduced from the consultation document to East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ref: HER/ PA/CONS/28626).
- 2.3.2 The site lies within an area of archaeological importance, on the western side of the village of Preston. The main axis of the medieval village ran east to west, with the church at the eastern end. This particular part of the township was known as West End and had its own discrete manorial focus in the field to the west of the application site. After the 18th century, the orientation of the village changed to that of the modern settlement with a north to south lane (Kirkholme Street, now Main Street) becoming the main road through the village, and much of the West

- End was abandoned. The village itself is a pre-Conquest settlement, which has origins in the Saxon period.
- 2.3.3 The manorial site which lies in the field to the west of Blundells Farm took the form of a moated enclosure. This survived as a clearly defined earthwork into the 18th century and was first recorded on Ordnance Survey maps on the 1855 six inch to one mile edition. The moat survived as a ditch visible on the west, north and east sides. There is the suggestion of an entrance on the west side, and there may also have been one on the east side, though which of these was original could only be ascertained by excavation. The chief house on the estate was called West Hall in the 13th century, and West Garth in the 16th century; it is safe to assume that this moated seignurial residence is that of West Hall. This was probably the home of the Preston family. In 1287 John of Preston held 3 carucates and 2 bovates of the Aumale fee in Preston. This estate was occasionally referred to as Preston Manor in the 16th century, and by the 17th century it was held by William Alford, who sold it in 1611 to Henry Alured. In 1759 much of the land surrounding the site was sold to Joseph Thompson, and it included 8 boyates called Priors, and several closes, among them Prior Garth (so-called because some of the adjoining land had been held by Warter Priory). By the time of the Inclosure of the parish in 1777 there was no longer any house on the site of the former moated manor. On grounds of form the moated site is most likely to have been constructed between the 12th and 14th centuries, probably as the chief residence of the de Preston family; and, whilst the documentary references to West Hall Garth suggest that the manor house was still standing in the 16th century, it was probably demolished in the 17th or early 18th century.
- 2.3.4 To the south of the proposal site an archaeological evaluation in the form of trial trenching discovered the remains a former hedgerow trench and a land-drain. Also recovered during this work was a small finds assemblage of post medieval pottery. The assemblage included a single sherd of late 17th or early 18th century Staffordshire slipware, the rest of the material was mostly 18th and 19th century in date. Another programme of archaeological evaluation work undertaken to the east of the application site identified a series of undated gullies possibly representing crofts and tofts associated with medieval Preston. Dating and sampling from one of the trenches suggests that there is potential for earlier occupation in the vicinity. The fabric, form and deposition of the pottery suggests that they have been discarded not too far from a domestic setting.

3 THE EXCAVATIONS

3.1 Methodology

- 3.1.1 The work associated with this project was carried out by staff from HFA, in accordance with the written scheme of investigations for archaeological evaluation by trial excavation and also one by monitored topsoil strip produced by HFA, (Atkinson, 2021 and 2023), HER Reference: PA/CONS/28626 and with reference to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation (2023a) and Standard and Guidance for archaeological excavation (2023b).
- 3.1.2 The scheme of works comprised the excavation and recording of four (4) 20m long and 2m wide trenches using a tracked machine excavator.
- 3.1.3 Standard Humber Field Archaeology recording procedures were used throughout; each identified feature was allocated a context number, with written descriptions recorded on pro forma sheets. Plans and sections were drawn to scale on pre-printed permatrace sheets where necessary. A digital photographic record was maintained. The locations of the trenches and the level of the features were surveyed relative to the Ordnance Survey National Grid and Ordnance Datum respectively, using survey-grade GPS equipment. Finds encountered were recorded to professional standards using recognised procedures and numbering systems compatible with the accessioning system employed by the recipient museums service (in this case the East Riding of Yorkshire Museum Service).

3.2 Results

3.2.1 Analysis of the stratigraphic sequence, along with a brief analysis the artefacts, has enabled two (2) broad chronological phases to be assigned to the site, as follows:

Phase 1	Medieval (12 th to 16 th century)
Phase 2	Modern (20 th century)

- 3.2.2 Context numbers allocated to archaeological deposits and features are referred to in the text below and Figure 2 show them as recorded in plan. A selection of photographs has also been included (Plates 1-5).
- 3.2.3 **Trench 3** (Fig 2, Plate 2)
- 3.2.4 Trench 3 was oriented west-north-west to east-south-east, was 16m long and 2m wide. Ground level was at 5.55mOD, and the depth of the trench was around 0.50m. The slightly shorter length of the trench in this area was due to the presence of standing ground water at the east and a large spoil heap at the west.

- 3.2.5 The basal level in the trench was at around 5.05mOD which exposed context (302) dark orange yellow brown, gritty glacial clay-till which contained occasional pebble and small cobble. Sealing this was the Phase 2 modern topsoil horizon (301) soft, dark grey, friable clay-loam.
- 3.2.6 **Trench 8** (Fig 2, Plate 3)
- 3.2.7 Trench 8 was oriented north-north-west to south-south-east, was 20m long and 2m wide. Ground level was at 5.50mOD, and the depth of the trench was around 0.60m.
- 3.2.8 The basal level in the trench was at around 4.90mOD which exposed context (802) dark orange yellow brown, gritty glacial clay-till which contained occasional pebble and small cobble. Sealing this was the Phase 2 modern topsoil horizon (801) soft, dark grey, friable clay-loam, which may have been cutting along a shallow former agricultural ridge.
- 3.2.9 **Trench 9** (Fig 2, Plate 4)
- 3.2.10 Trench 9 was oriented west to east, was 20m long and 2m wide. Ground level was at 5.25mOD, and the depth of the trench was around 0.40m.
- 3.2.11 The basal level in the trench was at around 4.85mOD which exposed context (903) dark orange yellow brown, gritty glacial clay-till which contained occasional pebble and small cobble. Overlying this in the eastern half of the trench was Phase 1 medieval furrow (902) which was 5.75m wide and consisted of very dark grey soft, friable silt clay. The full depth of this feature was not ascertained. Sealing this was the modern topsoil horizon (901) soft, dark grey, friable clay-loam.
- 3.2.12 **Trench 10** (Fig 2, Plate 5)
- 3.2.13 Trench 10 was oriented north-north-west to south-south-east, was 20m long and 2m wide. Ground level was at 5.50mOD, and the depth of the trench was around 0.45m.
- 3.2.14 The basal level in the trench was at around 5.05mOD which exposed context (1002) dark orange yellow brown, gritty glacial clay-till which contained occasional pebble and small cobble. Cutting into this was Phase 2 modern large pit cut (1004), which was 5.75m wide north to south and greater than the width of the trench. The pit was not excavated. The fill (1003) was mid to dark grey friable clay sill containing plastics, metals, broken ceramic building material and rubble. Sealing this was the modern topsoil horizon (1001) soft, dark grey, friable clay-loam.

4 DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Discussion of the results

- 4.1.1 The earliest archaeological feature recorded in the four (4) trenches at the site was the base of a *Phase 1 Medieval* agricultural furrow. None were seen in Trenches 3 or 10 but one was possibly seen in the thicker topsoil of Trench 8 and in plan in the base of Trench 9 (903). Traces of medieval furrows were recorded in the previous archaeological evaluation trenches in the same field (George, 2022). Together with that report, and this one, demonstrates that the furrow bases lie below ground at around a depth of between 0.50m and 0.60m, and tie in with the general earthwork survey also undertaken in that earlier piece of work (Fig 2).
- 4.1.2 A single *Phase 2 Modern* large pit (1004) was seen in the northern half of Trench 10. The fill (1003) contained fragments of modern material including a mid-20th century Nescafé instant coffee jar lid. The cut for the pit extended outside to the east and west of the trench and was nearly 6m north to south indicating a large area of modern dumping in this part of the site.
- 4.1.3 Sealing all of the trenches was the modern topsoil horizon and the earthwork remains of the medieval agricultural ridges.

4.2 Recommendations

- 4.2.1 Two phases of archaeological trial trenching have been undertaken at the site over the past 2 years, with a gap in the works due to excessive flooding of the site. With the earthwork GPS recording of the extant furrows in 2022 along with the recoding of the bases of the furrows in the trenches and with a lack of evidence of the furrows sealing any earlier (i.e. prehistoric) features, it is unlikely that any new archaeological information is to be gained from any further monitoring or work at the site. During the current excavation of the latter four (4) trenches, the site was in the process of being set up for development, which is currently continuing.
- 4.2.2 No further archaeological work is recommended in this field which was designated Area 2.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are accorded to Gabbitas Gill Partnership Ltd, T/A GGP Consult, Cranswick Country Foods Plc and Hobson and Porter for their help and co-operation during this project.

The site recording was undertaken by Douglas Jobling, as was the report, figures, plates and archive.

Administrative support was provided by Georgina Richardson.

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Cranswick Country Food PLC, Staithes Road, Preston, East Riding of Yorkshire: Written scheme of investigation for archaeological evaluation by trial trenching.

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Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014c

Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives December 2014 (updated 2020)

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2023d

Standard and Guidance for an archaeological monitoring and recording, December 2023

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities 2023
National Planning Policy Framework

George, R., 2022

Archaeological evaluation by trial excavation at Cranswick Country Foods, PLC, Staithes Road, Preston, East Riding of Yorkshire. Humber Field Archaeology Report Number 2190.

Online

Cranfield Soil and Agrifood Institute http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/

The British Geological Survey
BGS Geology Viewer (BETA)

APPENDICES Appendix 1

Context	Phase	Trench/Area	Context Type	Fill Of	Interpretation	Photo	ProvDate
301	2	T3	DEP		Topsoil - soft, dark grey, friable clay-loam 0.3m	Yes	MOD
302		Т3	NAT		Natural - dark orange yellow brown, gritty glacial clay-till which contained occasional pebble and small cobble	Yes	
801	2	T8	DEP		Topsoil - soft, dark grey, friable clay-loam 0.3m	Yes	MOD
802		T8	NAT		Natural - dark orange yellow brown, gritty glacial clay-till which contained occasional pebble and small cobble	Yes	
901	2	T9	DEP		Topsoil - soft, dark grey, friable clay-loam 0.3m	Yes	MOD
902	1	T9	DEP		Furrow - 5.75m wide, very dark grey soft, friable silt clay.	Yes	MED
903		Т9	NAT		Natural - dark orange yellow brown, gritty glacial clay-till which contained occasional pebble and small cobble	Yes	
1001	2	T10	DEP		Topsoil - soft, dark grey, friable clay-loam 0.3m	Yes	MOD
1002		T10	NAT		Natural - dark orange yellow brown, gritty glacial clay-till which contained occasional pebble and small cobble	Yes	
1003	2	T10	FIL		Fill of large modern pit - mid to dark grey friable clay silt containing plastics, metals, broken brick and rubble	No	MOD
1004	2	T10	CUT		Modern pit for dumping refuse, up to 8.25m wide	No	MOD

Appendix 2

Archive

Project Details: An Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Excavation at Cranswick

Country Foods Plc, Staithes Road, Preston, East Riding of Yorkshire.

Site Code: CCP2024

National Grid Reference: TA 18448 30800 SMR Casework Reference: PA/CONS/28626 Planning Reference Number: 21/02002/STPLF

Museum Reference or Accession Number: Pending from ERYMS

Author Douglas Jobling Date of fieldwork January 2024

Report Number. Humber Field Archaeology Report Number 2251

Quantity

4 x A4 plastic wallets contain the paper archive

The digital archive is stored on Hull City Council Servers. Index to Archive

1. Project summary						
Archive component	Hard Copy	Digital Copy	Notes			
1.1 Site Summary/ Abstract	\boxtimes	\boxtimes				
1.2 Archive Index	\boxtimes	\boxtimes				
1.3 Guide to Elements of the Archaeological Archive						
2. Project Planning						
2.1 Planning Documentation	\boxtimes	\boxtimes				
2.2 Written Scheme of Investigation/ Project Design/ Project Specification						
2.3 Risk Assessment	\boxtimes	\boxtimes				
2.4 Correspondence (date order)						
2.5 Miscellaneous documentation (flow charts, bills, receipts, administration, staffing etc.)						
3. Initial Survey and Documer	ntary Resea	rch				
3.1 HER Information						
3.2 Historic Maps						
3.3 Documentary Research	П					

3.4 Desk-Based Assessment			
3.5 Geophysical Survey Report			
3.6 Aerial Photographs			
3.7 Other Survey material			
4 Site Fieldwork Data			
4.1 Site notes and diaries			
4.2 Context Index and Context Sheets			
4.3 Level Books			
4.4 Plan Index and Plans			
4.5 Section Index and Section Drawings			
4.6 Survey and Sketch	\boxtimes	⊠	
5 Photographic Record:			
5.1 Photographic Site Record Sheets			
5.2 Photographic Concordance Table (database printout)			
5.3 Contact Sheets			
5.4 Negatives			
5.5 Colour Transparencies (slides)			
5.6 Prints			
5.7 Digital Images (computer printout)	\boxtimes	⊠	
6 Post-excavation Fieldwork D	ata:		
6.1 Matrices and Phasing Information			
6.2 AutoCAD Site Drawings			
6.3 Site Structural Report Draft			
7 Digital Archive			
7.1 Digital Archive Storage Statement			
7.2 Contents of digital archive			
7.3 CD / DVDs			
7.4 Other Discs			
7.5 Metadata for Digital Record (data about data, e.g. what the codes mean)			
8 Material Archive Record			
8.1 Post-excavation Finds Progress Checklist Sheet			

8.2 Recorded Finds Index and Sheets			
8.3 Context Finds Sheets			
8.4 Bulk Finds Sheets			
8.5 Recorded Finds			
Assessment Draft			
8.6 Recorded Finds Database			
Copy			
8.7 Recorded Finds			
Illustrations 8.8 Bulk Finds Assessment			
Draft			
8.9 Bulk finds Illustrations			
8.10 Pottery Database Copy			
8.11 Spot Dating Record			
8.12 Pottery Assessment			
Report Draft			
8.13 Pottery Illustrations			
8.14 Ceramic Building			
Materials Assessment Draft	_	_	
8.15 Industrial Residues			
Assessment Draft			
8.16 Scientific Analysis and			
Dating Reports	_	<u>_</u>	
8.17 Finds Digital Photographs Index			
8.18 Finds Digital Images	П		
(computer printout)			
8.19 Box Index			
8.20 Material Archive	П		
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8.21 Finds Archive Contents			
Sheet			
9 Conservation Record	T		
9.1 Conservation Assessment			
Report 9.2 V rovo			
9.2 X-rays			
9.3 Conservation Record Sheets for Individual Objects			
9.4 Further conservation			
Report			
10 Biological Material Rec	ord		
10.1 Sample Index and			
Sample Sheets			
10.2 Biological Material Data			
10.3 Biological Material			
Assessment Report Draft			

10.4 Animal Bone Assessment (if a separate report)					
10.5 Shell Assessment (if a separate report)					
10.6 Human Bone Data					
10.7 Human Bone Assessment					
11-13 Dissemination					
11. Publicity: Press releases, paper cuttings, recordings of interviews both on the radio and T.V.					
12. Final Assessment Report: The complete Assessment Report. Including illustrations and plates, as sent to the client and Historic Environment Record					
13. Additional Reports: Interim Statements, watching brief report copy, papers and articles written for journals or other publications.	⊠	⊠	SRP2022 ARCHIVE AND REPORT		
14 Watching Brief Archive					
14. Watching Brief Archive					
Publication Archive Did this site proceed to publication after assessment?					

REPORT DETAILS				
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National Grid Reference:	TA 18448 30800			
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Date:	14/02/2024			
Author(s): Position(s):	Douglas Jobling Project Officer;			
Checked by: Position:	Dave Atkinson Project Manager			
Approved by: Position:	Dave Atkinson Project Manager			
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 - 6. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation.
 - 7. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.
 - B) No development shall take place other than in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under part (A) or any subsequent written scheme of investigation to secure a programme of archaeological mitigation. The

archaeological programme shall be carried out as approved.

This pre-commencement condition is imposed in accordance with planning policy ENV3 of the East Riding Local Plan and to determine the archaeological potential of the site and allow for suitable mitigation strategies to be agreed.

- 1.1.4 The Historical Environment Record of Humber Archaeology Partnership (HAP), archaeological advisors to East Riding of Yorkshire Council, had recommended a programme of archaeological evaluation by trial trenching in their consultation response to the application ref. HER/PA/CONS/28626, dated 25th October 2021. An initial specification (Atkinson, 2021) was used for the previous archaeological evaluation (SRP2022), and a newer specification was submitted and approved in 2023 (Atkinson, 2023) for monitored topsoil strip, but the archaeological scheme was reverted to trial trenching at the request of the client's contractor, which was agreed by HHER.
- 1.1.5 Humber Field Archaeology (HFA) were appointed to undertake the archaeological work and produced a site-specific written scheme of investigation (WSI) which was submitted to and approved by HHER and the local planning authority in advance of any work commencing on site.

1.2 Site topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The area of the evaluation covers approximately 2.1ha and is currently pasture with an access road running through it. It is bordered to the north by Neat Marsh Road, to the east and west by agricultural land and to the south by the existing facility.
- 1.2.2 The site lies at around 5m OD. The superficial geology is Till overlying the bedrock of Chalk (data from Geology of Britain viewer | British Geological Survey (BGS). Overlying soils are described as slowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils (http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/).

1.3 Archaeological background

- 1.3.1 This archaeological background is reproduced from the consultation document to East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ref: HER/ PA/CONS/28626).
- 1.3.2 The site lies within an area of archaeological importance, on the western side of the village of Preston. The main axis of the medieval village ran east to west, with the church at the eastern end. This particular part of the township was known as West End and had its own discrete manorial focus in the field to the west of the application site. After the 18th century, the orientation of the village changed to that of the modern settlement with a north to south lane (Kirkholme Street, now Main Street) becoming the main road through the village, and much of the West

- End was abandoned. The village itself is a pre-Conquest settlement, which has origins in the Saxon period.
- 1.3.3 The manorial site which lies in the field to the west of Blundells Farm took the form of a moated enclosure. This survived as a clearly defined earthwork into the 18th century and was first recorded on Ordnance Survey maps on the 1855 six inch to one mile edition. The moat survived as a ditch visible on the west, north and east sides. There is the suggestion of an entrance on the west side, and there may also have been one on the east side, though which of these was original could only be ascertained by excavation. The chief house on the estate was called West Hall in the 13th century, and West Garth in the 16th century; it is safe to assume that this moated seignurial residence is that of West Hall. This was probably the home of the Preston family. In 1287 John of Preston held 3 carucates and 2 bovates of the Aumale fee in Preston. This estate was occasionally referred to as Preston Manor in the 16th century, and by the 17th century it was held by William Alford, who sold it in 1611 to Henry Alured. In 1759 much of the land surrounding the site was sold to Joseph Thompson, and it included 8 boyates called Priors, and several closes, among them Prior Garth (so-called because some of the adjoining land had been held by Warter Priory). By the time of the Inclosure of the parish in 1777 there was no longer any house on the site of the former moated manor. On grounds of form the moated site is most likely to have been constructed between the 12th and 14th centuries, probably as the chief residence of the de Preston family; and, whilst the documentary references to West Hall Garth suggest that the manor house was still standing in the 16th century, it was probably demolished in the 17th or early 18th century.
- 1.3.4 To the south of the proposal site an archaeological evaluation in the form of trial trenching discovered the remains a former hedgerow trench and a land-drain. Also recovered during this work was a small finds assemblage of post medieval pottery. The assemblage included a single sherd of late 17th or early 18th century Staffordshire slipware, the rest of the material was mostly 18th and 19th century in date. Another programme of archaeological evaluation work undertaken to the east of the application site identified a series of undated gullies possibly representing crofts and tofts associated with medieval Preston. Dating and sampling from one of the trenches suggests that there is potential for earlier occupation in the vicinity. The fabric, form and deposition of the pottery suggests that they have been discarded not too far from a domestic setting.

2 THE EXCAVATIONS

2.1 Methodology

- 2.1.1 The work associated with this project was carried out by staff from HFA, in accordance with the written scheme of investigations for archaeological evaluation by trial excavation and also one by monitored topsoil strip produced by HFA, (Atkinson, 2021 and 2023), HER Reference: PA/CONS/28626 and with reference to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation (2023a) and Standard and Guidance for archaeological excavation (2023b).
- 2.1.2 The scheme of works comprised the excavation and recording of four (4) 20m long and 2m wide trenches using a tracked machine excavator.
- 2.1.3 Standard Humber Field Archaeology recording procedures were used throughout; each identified feature was allocated a context number, with written descriptions recorded on pro forma sheets. Plans and sections were drawn to scale on pre-printed permatrace sheets where necessary. A digital photographic record was maintained. The locations of the trenches and the level of the features were surveyed relative to the Ordnance Survey National Grid and Ordnance Datum respectively, using survey-grade GPS equipment. Finds encountered were recorded to professional standards using recognised procedures and numbering systems compatible with the accessioning system employed by the recipient museums service (in this case the East Riding of Yorkshire Museum Service).

2.2 Results

2.2.1 Analysis of the stratigraphic sequence, along with a brief analysis the artefacts, has enabled two (2) broad chronological phases to be assigned to the site, as follows:

Phase 1	Medieval (12 th to 16 th century)
Phase 2	Modern (20th century)

- 2.2.2 Context numbers allocated to archaeological deposits and features are referred to in the text below and Figure 2 show them as recorded in plan. A selection of photographs has also been included (Plates 1-5).
- 2.2.3 **Trench 3** (Fig 2, Plate 2)
- 2.2.4 Trench 3 was oriented west-north-west to east-south-east, was 16m long and 2m wide. Ground level was at 5.55mOD, and the depth of the trench was around 0.50m. The slightly shorter length of the trench in this area was due to the presence of standing ground water at the east and a large spoil heap at the west.

- 2.2.5 The basal level in the trench was at around 5.05mOD which exposed context (302) dark orange yellow brown, gritty glacial clay-till which contained occasional pebble and small cobble. Sealing this was the Phase 2 modern topsoil horizon (301) soft, dark grey, friable clay-loam.
- 2.2.6 **Trench 8** (Fig 2, Plate 3)
- 2.2.7 Trench 8 was oriented north-north-west to south-south-east, was 20m long and 2m wide. Ground level was at 5.50mOD, and the depth of the trench was around 0.60m.
- 2.2.8 The basal level in the trench was at around 4.90mOD which exposed context (802) dark orange yellow brown, gritty glacial clay-till which contained occasional pebble and small cobble. Sealing this was the Phase 2 modern topsoil horizon (801) soft, dark grey, friable clay-loam, which may have been cutting along a shallow former agricultural ridge.
- 2.2.9 **Trench 9** (Fig 2, Plate 4)
- 2.2.10 Trench 9 was oriented west to east, was 20m long and 2m wide. Ground level was at 5.25mOD, and the depth of the trench was around 0.40m.
- 2.2.11 The basal level in the trench was at around 4.85mOD which exposed context (903) dark orange yellow brown, gritty glacial clay-till which contained occasional pebble and small cobble. Overlying this in the eastern half of the trench was Phase 1 medieval furrow (902) which was 5.75m wide and consisted of very dark grey soft, friable silt clay. The full depth of this feature was not ascertained. Sealing this was the modern topsoil horizon (901) soft, dark grey, friable clay-loam.
- 2.2.12 **Trench 10** (Fig 2, Plate 5)
- 2.2.13 Trench 10 was oriented north-north-west to south-south-east, was 20m long and 2m wide. Ground level was at 5.50mOD, and the depth of the trench was around 0.45m.
- 2.2.14 The basal level in the trench was at around 5.05mOD which exposed context (1002) dark orange yellow brown, gritty glacial clay-till which contained occasional pebble and small cobble. Cutting into this was Phase 2 modern large pit cut (1004), which was 5.75m wide north to south and greater than the width of the trench. The pit was not excavated. The fill (1003) was mid to dark grey friable clay sill containing plastics, metals, broken ceramic building material and rubble. Sealing this was the modern topsoil horizon (1001) soft, dark grey, friable clay-loam.

3 DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Discussion of the results

- 3.1.1 The earliest archaeological feature recorded in the four (4) trenches at the site was the base of a *Phase 1 Medieval* agricultural furrow. None were seen in Trenches 3 or 10 but one was possibly seen in the thicker topsoil of Trench 8 and in plan in the base of Trench 9 (903). Traces of medieval furrows were recorded in the previous archaeological evaluation trenches in the same field (George, 2022). Together with that report, and this one, demonstrates that the furrow bases lie below ground at around a depth of between 0.50m and 0.60m, and tie in with the general earthwork survey also undertaken in that earlier piece of work (Fig 2).
- 3.1.2 A single *Phase 2 Modern* large pit (1004) was seen in the northern half of Trench 10. The fill (1003) contained fragments of modern material including a mid-20th century Nescafé instant coffee jar lid. The cut for the pit extended outside to the east and west of the trench and was nearly 6m north to south indicating a large area of modern dumping in this part of the site.
- 3.1.3 Sealing all of the trenches was the modern topsoil horizon and the earthwork remains of the medieval agricultural ridges.

3.2 Recommendations

- 3.2.1 Two phases of archaeological trial trenching have been undertaken at the site over the past 2 years, with a gap in the works due to excessive flooding of the site. With the earthwork GPS recording of the extant furrows in 2022 along with the recoding of the bases of the furrows in the trenches and with a lack of evidence of the furrows sealing any earlier (i.e. prehistoric) features, it is unlikely that any new archaeological information is to be gained from any further monitoring or work at the site. During the current excavation of the latter four (4) trenches, the site was in the process of being set up for development, which is currently continuing.
- 3.2.2 No further archaeological work is recommended in this field which was designated Area 2.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The site recording was undertaken by Douglas Jobling, as was the report, figures, plates and archive.

Administrative support was provided by Georgina Richardson.

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Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities 2023
National Planning Policy Framework

George, R., 2022

Archaeological evaluation by trial excavation at Cranswick Country Foods, PLC, Staithes Road, Preston, East Riding of Yorkshire. Humber Field Archaeology Report Number 2190.

Online

Cranfield Soil and Agrifood Institute http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/

The British Geological Survey
BGS Geology Viewer (BETA)

APPENDICES Appendix 1

Context	Phase	Trench/Area	Context Type	Fill Of	Interpretation	Photo	ProvDate
301	2	T3	DEP		Topsoil - soft, dark grey, friable clay-loam 0.3m	Yes	MOD
302		Т3	NAT		Natural - dark orange yellow brown, gritty glacial clay-till which contained occasional pebble and small cobble	Yes	
801	2	T8	DEP		Topsoil - soft, dark grey, friable clay-loam 0.3m	Yes	MOD
802		T8	NAT		Natural - dark orange yellow brown, gritty glacial clay-till which contained occasional pebble and small cobble	Yes	
901	2	T9	DEP		Topsoil - soft, dark grey, friable clay-loam 0.3m	Yes	MOD
902	1	T9	DEP		Furrow - 5.75m wide, very dark grey soft, friable silt clay.	Yes	MED
903		Т9	NAT		Natural - dark orange yellow brown, gritty glacial clay-till which contained occasional pebble and small cobble	Yes	
1001	2	T10	DEP		Topsoil - soft, dark grey, friable clay-loam 0.3m	Yes	MOD
1002		T10	NAT		Natural - dark orange yellow brown, gritty glacial clay-till which contained occasional pebble and small cobble	Yes	
1003	2	T10	FIL		Fill of large modern pit - mid to dark grey friable clay silt containing plastics, metals, broken brick and rubble	No	MOD
1004	2	T10	CUT		Modern pit for dumping refuse, up to 8.25m wide	No	MOD

Appendix 2

Archive

Project Details: An Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Excavation at Cranswick

Country Foods Plc, Staithes Road, Preston, East Riding of Yorkshire.

Site Code: CCP2024

National Grid Reference: TA 18448 30800 SMR Casework Reference: PA/CONS/28626 Planning Reference Number: 21/02002/STPLF

Museum Reference or Accession Number: Pending from ERYMS

Author Douglas Jobling Date of fieldwork January 2024

Report Number. Humber Field Archaeology Report Number 2251

Quantity

4 x A4 plastic wallets contain the paper archive

The digital archive is stored on Hull City Council Servers. Index to Archive

1. Project summary					
Archive component	Hard Copy	Digital Copy	Notes		
1.1 Site Summary/ Abstract		\boxtimes			
1.2 Archive Index	\boxtimes	\boxtimes			
1.3 Guide to Elements of the Archaeological Archive					
2. Project Planning					
2.1 Planning Documentation	\boxtimes	\boxtimes			
2.2 Written Scheme of Investigation/ Project Design/ Project Specification	×	⊠			
2.3 Risk Assessment	\boxtimes	\boxtimes			
2.4 Correspondence (date order)					
2.5 Miscellaneous documentation (flow charts, bills, receipts, administration, staffing etc.)					
3. Initial Survey and Documer	ntary Resea	rch			
3.1 HER Information					
3.2 Historic Maps					
3.3 Documentary Research	П				

3.4 Desk-Based Assessment			
3.5 Geophysical Survey Report			
3.6 Aerial Photographs			
3.7 Other Survey material			
4 Site Fieldwork Data			
4.1 Site notes and diaries			
4.2 Context Index and Context Sheets			
4.3 Level Books			
4.4 Plan Index and Plans			
4.5 Section Index and Section Drawings			
4.6 Survey and Sketch	\boxtimes	⊠	
5 Photographic Record:			
5.1 Photographic Site Record Sheets			
5.2 Photographic Concordance Table (database printout)			
5.3 Contact Sheets			
5.4 Negatives			
5.5 Colour Transparencies (slides)			
5.6 Prints			
5.7 Digital Images (computer printout)	\boxtimes	⊠	
6 Post-excavation Fieldwork D	ata:		
6.1 Matrices and Phasing Information			
6.2 AutoCAD Site Drawings			
6.3 Site Structural Report Draft			
7 Digital Archive			
7.1 Digital Archive Storage Statement			
7.2 Contents of digital archive			
7.3 CD / DVDs			
7.4 Other Discs			
7.5 Metadata for Digital Record (data about data, e.g. what the codes mean)			
8 Material Archive Record			
8.1 Post-excavation Finds Progress Checklist Sheet			

8.2 Recorded Finds Index and Sheets			
8.3 Context Finds Sheets			
8.4 Bulk Finds Sheets			
8.5 Recorded Finds			
Assessment Draft			
8.6 Recorded Finds Database			
Copy			
8.7 Recorded Finds			
Illustrations 8.8 Bulk Finds Assessment			
Draft			
8.9 Bulk finds Illustrations			
8.10 Pottery Database Copy			
8.11 Spot Dating Record			
8.12 Pottery Assessment			
Report Draft			
8.13 Pottery Illustrations			
8.14 Ceramic Building			
Materials Assessment Draft	_	_	
8.15 Industrial Residues			
Assessment Draft			
8.16 Scientific Analysis and			
Dating Reports	_	<u>_</u>	
8.17 Finds Digital Photographs Index			
8.18 Finds Digital Images	П		
(computer printout)			
8.19 Box Index			
8.20 Material Archive	П		
Rationalisation Sheet	_	_	
8.21 Finds Archive Contents			
Sheet			
9 Conservation Record	T		
9.1 Conservation Assessment			
Report 9.2 V rovo			
9.2 X-rays			
9.3 Conservation Record Sheets for Individual Objects			
9.4 Further conservation			
Report			
10 Biological Material Rec	ord		
10.1 Sample Index and			
Sample Sheets			
10.2 Biological Material Data			
10.3 Biological Material			
Assessment Report Draft			

10.4 Animal Bone Assessment (if a separate report)						
10.5 Shell Assessment (if a separate report)						
10.6 Human Bone Data						
10.7 Human Bone Assessment						
11-13 Dissemination						
11. Publicity: Press releases, paper cuttings, recordings of interviews both on the radio and T.V.						
12. Final Assessment Report: The complete Assessment Report. Including illustrations and plates, as sent to the client and Historic Environment Record						
13. Additional Reports: Interim Statements, watching brief report copy, papers and articles written for journals or other publications.	⊠	⊠	SRP2022 ARCHIVE AND REPORT			
14 Watching Brief Archive						
14. Watching Brief Archive						
Publication Archive Did this site proceed to publication after assessment?						



Figure 1 Approximate location of the proposed development (red) (Ordnance Survey © Crown Copyright; Licence no. 100034493).





Plate 1 The development site as viewed from the north-west.



Plate 2 Trench 3, as viewed from the west-north-west (1m scales).



Plate 3 Trench 8, viewed from the north-north-west (1m scales).



Plate 4 Trench 9, viewed from the east. Furrow (903) is located under the waterlogged area in the foreground (1m scales).



Plate 5 Trench 10, viewed from the north-north-west, with modern pit/intrusion (1003) taking up the northern half of the trench (1m scales).

