

# WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

Park Cottage  
Fenton Road,  
Stubton,  
Lincolnshire  
NG23 5DB



Planning ref: S23/1974

Prepared for: Mr and Mrs Wright

Site code: FRSL24

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## Document Control

<b>Client</b>	<b>Mr and Mrs Wright</b>	
<b>Site Address</b>	<b>Park Cottage, Fenton Road, Stubton, Lincolnshire</b>	
<b>Site Code</b>	<b>FRSL24</b>	
<b>Element:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
WSI prepared by:	Callum Warr BA (Hons), Hazel Taylor BA (Hons) MSc	07/10/2024
WSI reviewed and QA by:	R Birtwistle BA (Hons) MA ACIfA	
Version no:	5.0	

# 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Past to Present Archaeology was commissioned by Mr and Mrs Wright to undertake an archaeological evaluation at land at Park Cottage, Fenton Road, Stubton, Lincolnshire, NG23 5DB (Figure 1).
- 1.2 This document presents a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which outlines the proposed methodology for undertaking the required scheme of works.
- 1.3 The document has been completed with reference to current national guidelines, as set out in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 'Standard and guidance for an archaeological field evaluation' (CIfA 2023), and the Historic England documents 'Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment' (Historic England 2015) and in reference to Chapter 16 of the Department for Communities and Local Government (2019) 'National Planning Policy Framework'.

## 2. Site Location and Description

- 2.1 The proposed development area (PDA) is located on land at Park Cottage, Fenton Road, Stubton, Lincolnshire. The PDA lies approximately 10.3km southeast of the town of Newark-on-Trent and 17.7km from the town of Grantham (Figure 1).
- 2.2 The PDA measures approximately 1850m<sup>2</sup> and is presently occupied by a residential buildings and associated greenspace. The site is centred at National Grid Reference (NGR) 487278 349026 and is c.25.8m above Ordnance Datum.
- 2.3 The bedrock geology comprises of Beckingham Member mudstone and limestone, a sedimentary bedrock formed between 199.3 and 190.8 million years ago during the Jurassic period. The superficial geology consists of clay, silt, sand and gravels formed between 2.5 million years ago and the present during the Quaternary period (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>).

## 3. Background of the Proposed Development

- 3.1 A planning application (ref: S23/1974) has been submitted to South Kesteven District Council for the demolition of existing dwelling and replacement with three traditional dwellings, landscaping and existing access retained. This consent was granted subject to 1 condition relating to archaeology listed below:
- 3.2 Condition 3 of the Planning Consent states:

*No development shall be commenced until a detailed scheme of archaeological investigation has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme shall include for evaluation works. Thereafter the archaeological investigations shall be undertaken in accordance with the agreed scheme.*

*No further work or commencement of development shall take place until a report setting out the findings of the archaeological investigations, and proposals for any further investigation or recording work (if necessary) has been submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.*

Reason: *In order to provide a reasonable opportunity to record the history of the site and in accordance with Policy EN6 of the adopted South Kesteven Local Plan and the NPPF (section 16).*

## 4. Archaeological Background

- 4.1 This section sets out the historic environment data for the PDA and study area. It summarises the historic environment by historic periods, and the archaeological significance and potential of the PDA. HER data was supplied by the Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record and the location of the sites and findspots mentioned in the text are presented in Figure 3.

Period	Date Range
Earlier prehistoric: Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic	before ca. 2400 BC
Bronze Age	2400-800 BC
Iron Age	800 BC-AD 43
Roman	AD 43-410
Anglo-Saxon	AD 410-1066
Medieval	1066-1539
Post-medieval and Early Modern (Industrial)	1539-1700, 1700-1939
Modern	1939-Present

*Table 1: Date ranges for the archaeological periods used in this report*

### Prehistoric

- 4.2 There is evidence of various Prehistoric cropmarks (MLI30229) within 1km of the PDA, including enclosures and trackways (MLI30229, MLI35090, MLI35096), boundaries (MLI35100) and cropmarks (MLI35092).

### Roman

- 4.3 There are no remains of Roman date within 1km of the PDA.

### Early medieval and Medieval

- 4.4 There are no remains of Early Medieval date within 1km of the PDA.
- 4.5 The village of Stubton is mentioned in the Domesday Book as being in the hundred of Loveden and had 1 smallholder, 1 ploughland and 34 acres of meadows (Powell-Smith, 2024).
- 4.6 There is evidence of Medieval activity with 1km of the PDA. The village itself is of Medieval origin (MLI35101). Approximately 275m east from the PDA lies the site of the original St Martins Church, although there are no longer remnants of the church it is thought to have been of Decorated to Perpendicular in age and was demolished due to being in disrepair and was situated in front of the portico of the present hall (MLI30227).



- 4.7 On the western and southern outskirts of the village, there is evidence of Medieval ridge and furrow that are presently seen in the form of earthworks (MLI35088, MLI35089, MLI99366). There is also evidence of a possible Medieval trackway approximately 130m northeast of the PDA (MLI35091). To the east of the village, there is evidence of a cropmark and earthwork of a possible Medieval road (MLI35093).
- 4.8 On Fenton Road, approximately 100m south of the site, during a watching brief in 2007, a single Medieval pit was uncovered with two sherds of Medieval pottery being present within the feature and a further four unstratified whilst machining (MLI91293).

### **Post-medieval and modern**

- 4.9 There is an abundance of Post-Medieval remains, largely in the form of standing buildings, within 1km of the PDA. Stubton Hall lies approximately 200m east of the PDA and is a large country house constructed from gault brick with ashlar dressings and a hipped concrete tile roof with late 18<sup>th</sup> Century red brick service wings (MLI95300). It was a formally a residential dwelling and has an inscription on the south elevation reading 'This house was erected by Robert and Amelia Heron in the years 1813 and 1814. Jeffery Wyatt, Architect' however, since 2006, it has been a hotel and wedding (MLI95300). There is an associated park to the hall recorded on an OS map of 1880 and 1905 (MLI92364).
- 4.10 St Martins Church is located to the east of the village and was built by Sir Robert Heron in 1800 after demolishing the previous church which was in disrepair (MLI30226). In the churchyard, there is Grade II listed monument of Sir Robert Theraubar dated from 1854 with a partially legible inscription reading 'Beneath are deposited the remains of Sir Robert Heron Bart the last of his family who died May XXIX MDCCCLIV aged LXXXVIII and of Amelia his wife' (MLI95086).
- 4.11 There are numerous Grade II listed buildings within 1km of the PDA. There is a red brick domed Icehouse built in the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century that lies approximately 570m northeast of the PDA. Within the village of Stubton, there is a Grade II listed cottage of coursed limestone and red brick with a pantile roof dating from the 18<sup>th</sup> Century but altered in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century (MLI95299). Also within the village, there is the former school building of a single storey colourwashed brick building with a slate roof of mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century date and also has modern alterations and extensions with the school closing in 1971 and becoming a residential dwelling (MLI126797). There are also two 19<sup>th</sup> Century farmsteads located around the village, one is Hilltop Farm to the west of the village and Rectory Farm to the south of the village (MLI121316).
- 4.12 During a watching brief in 2001 at Rectory Farm on Brandon Road, pottery sherds recovered from two pits and two ditches dated from the 18<sup>th</sup> Century (MLI82385).

## **5. Proposed Archaeological Works**

- 5.1 This WSI sets out the methodology and protocols for archaeological scheme of works of the PDA in order to fulfil a planning condition. This will include the following scope:
- Recording the location, extent, nature, and date of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present.
  - Record the integrity and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present.

- An appraisal of the results of the fieldwork and their significance with regard to the development site and the wider context in a client report.
- 5.2 Consideration of research themes is key to understanding the potential evidential significance of archaeological remains. Is the PDA close to areas of Prehistoric, Medieval and Post-Medieval heritage assets.
- 5.3 Key additional archaeological research agendas include:
- East Midlands Archaeological Research Framework <https://researchframeworks.org/emherf/research-agenda/>
  - Historic England (formerly English Heritage) archaeological guidance, advice notes and research agendas (e.g. EH 2005), and thematic strategies such as those for prehistory (EH 2010), and the historic industrial environment (EH 2010).
- 5.4 The Specific aims of the archaeological scheme of works are to:
- Identify what if any archaeological remains survive within the PDA through trial trenching.
- 5.5 The General aims of the archaeological scheme of works are to:
- Generate a reliable predictive model of the location, extent, date, character, date, condition and quality of any archaeological remains within the PDA;
  - Ascertain their significance
  - Determine the amount of truncation to buried deposits
  - Assess the state of preservation of deposits within any negative features that may be present
  - Elucidate site formation processes
  - Define the extent of any areas of made ground and previous ground disturbance which may have destroyed archaeological deposits;
  - Engage in a programme of post-excavation archiving, synthesis and study, leading to publication and dissemination of results, and
  - Ensure the long-term survival of the information through deposition of a project archive

## 6. Fieldwork Procedures

- 6.1 All fieldwork will follow the guidance as set out in the ClfA standards and guidance. A notice period of at least 10 days will be given to the Historic Environment Officer at Heritage Lincolnshire in charge of this project, Dale Trimble.

- 6.2 Fieldwork will comprise the excavation of two 10m long by 3m wide trenches (Figure 2). Trenches have been placed to avoid services and an active driveway. Trenches will be located on the ground by an experienced archaeologist from Past to Present Archaeology using a Geomax Zenith 60 GPS unit. The depth of the trenches will be determined on whether natural deposits or bedrock are uncovered, or the depth of 1.20m is reached, whichever occurs first. The project will be staffed with a single Past to Present Archaeological Supervisor with the capacity of an archaeologist being present should a large number of archaeological features be present within the trenches.
- 6.3 The archaeological trenches will be dug using a mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket unless ground conditions dictate otherwise. All machine work will be under the continuous direct supervision and control of a suitably experience Past to Present Archaeologist. Plant is to be provided and driven by the client.
- 6.4 Overburden will be removed in spits to the top of the first archaeological deposit/structure or natural geology, whichever is reached first. Deposits of potential archaeological origin will be hand-investigated sufficiently to determine origin. If judged by the Past to Present Archaeologist to be non-archaeological, machining will recommence. Excavated modern material and subsoil will be stored at an appropriate distance from the edge of the trench, in separate stacks, to assist with reinstatement. All spoil and trenches will be scanned with a metal detector to obtain any metal objects that may be present.
- 6.5 Upon completion of the evaluation, the excavated material will be reinstated in the reverse order within each trench, to a state where the ground is level and considered to be safe for both pedestrians and animals. No trenches will be backfilled until they have been inspected by the LPA (Local Planning Archaeologist) or permission obtained in writing to this effect from the LPA.
- 6.6 Any archaeology exposed will be examined and investigated by hand and recorded both in plan and section, with a focus on the relationships with the surrounding geological stratigraphy. Work will focus upon obtaining a thorough record and good understanding of the stratigraphic sequence with a view to achieving the stated objectives.
- 6.7 All archaeological remains will be hand-excavated in a controlled and stratigraphic manner, with linear features having an appropriate width (0.5m- 1m) sondage and pits and postholes having 50% excavated to establish their date, nature, extent and condition. Each investigated deposit will be given a unique context number and will be recorded on its own pro-forma context sheet.
- 6.8 The location of archaeological deposits and interventions will be recorded by means of measured plan or GPS. Measured plans and sections will use appropriate scales (normally 1:20 and 1:10 respectively) and will record the OD height of all principal strata.
- 6.9 Digital photographic records (10 megapixel or higher digital formats) will incorporate an identification board that will include the site code and context number, appropriately sized scales and a directional arrow. The photographic archive will include general site images as well as detailed feature shots and those suitable for publication if required. Digital images will be stored as high quality TIFFs or RAW formats for archiving purposes.



- 6.10 All stratified finds will be collected and bagged. All bags will be labelled with the project code and context number. Initial handling and packaging will conform to best practice (Watkinson & Neal 2001). National guidance documents will be consulted in order to provide a strategy for the excavation, field treatment and conservation of delicate organic materials (Historic England 2018).
- 6.11 All finds that qualify as “treasure” under the Treasure Act 1996 (as amended) will be excavated and removed from site to a secure location on the day of their discovery. Where removal cannot be affected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft. All finds of “treasure” will be reported to the client and the Lincolnshire finds liaison officer within 2 days of discovery and notified to the local coroner within 14 days of their discovery.
- 6.12 If human remains are encountered, the presumption is that they will be cleaned and recorded with minimal disturbance, left in situ and covered over until an appropriate strategy can be agreed. It is presumed that the discovery of human remains would require subsequent planned mitigation excavation where they could be excavated, recorded and lifted under best practise with an appropriate Ministry of Justice (MOJ) license in future work. If necessary, adequate security measures will be put in place. If there is doubt over the antiquity of the remains, work will cease and the Police will be contacted.
- 6.13 All environmental sampling will comply with current best practise (Historic England 2011). Samples will be taken from securely dated contexts that will contribute to understanding the archaeological resource on site. Copies of any reports will be provided to the Historic England Science Advisor.
- 6.14 All work shall be carried out in compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and its related regulations and codes of practice.
- 6.15 A Safety, Health & Environment Risk Assessment Method Statement (RAMS) will be prepared in advance of site works. The RAMS will detail any identified constraints to groundworks, including the location of live services, Tree Preservation Orders and public footpaths.

## 7. Insurance

- 7.1 Past to Present Archaeology Ltd carries appropriate levels of public liability and employer’s liability, up to the amount of £10,000,000. The underwriters of the insurance policy are Chaucer Insurance Company under policy number SQP003441. Further details of insurance details can be given upon request.

## 8. Client Report

- 8.1 A programme of post-fieldwork assessment and reporting will be initiated upon completion of archaeological fieldwork. This will include the preparation, processing, research, assessment, analysis and investigative conservation necessary to prepare the project archive for preservation in a usable form and to produce an archive. This work will be carried out in accordance with current national guidelines (Historic England, formerly English Heritage 2008).

- 8.2 Upon the completion of the fieldwork, the document archive will be checked and quantified, and a phased matrix of contexts will be prepared. Stable finds will be washed, marked and re-bagged. Unstable finds will be subject to remedial conservation. A full archive catalogue will be prepared. The archive will conform to current national standards (Brown 2011) and those of the recipient museum.
- 8.3 Finds and samples will be sent to appropriate specialists for assessment where they are recovered, along with stratigraphic information and copies of relevant plans and sections. All specialist reports will conform to national standards.

Material	Specialist
Animal bone	Jennifer Wood
Artefact conservation	York Conservation Trust
Ceramic building material	Jane Young or Zoe Tomlinson
Clay tobacco pipe	Mike Wood
Flint	Rupert Birtwistle
Human remains	Dr Emma Green
	Jennifer Wood
Palaeo-environmental analysis	Val Fryer
	Bryn Leadbetter
Production process residues	Dr Roderick Mackenzie
Post-Roman pottery	Jane Young
Prehistoric pottery	Sarah Percival
Romano-British pottery	Ian Rowlandson or Ruth Leary
Registered/Small finds	Adam Daubney or Mike Wood

*Table 2: Proposed specialists*

8.4 The report will contain as a minimum:

- Non-technical summary
- Introduction – incl. description of the scheme and its physical environment, planning background, archaeological/ historical background and aims and objectives of the project;
- Methodologies;
- A description of the results;
- An interpretation and discussion of the results;
- Conclusions – incl. consideration of the archaeological evidence from within the site set in its broader landscape setting, recommendations for further reporting, assessment of the methodologies employed and confidence rating in the results;

- References;
  - Location plan tying the results into the Ordnance Survey national grid;
  - Detail plans and sections;
  - Plan showing both actual and, where possible, predicted archaeological deposits, in relation to previous site data (e.g. geophysical survey data);
  - Plates;
  - Appendices (e.g. specialist reports);
  - Details on composition and location of archive.
- 8.5 Copyright of all documents will remain in the ownership of Past to Present Archaeology Ltd under the Copyright Designs and Patent Act, 1988, although they will grant an exclusive licence to the client and Lincolnshire County Council in respect of this work, to reproduce all or part of any report, drawing or other documentation produced by them as part of this project. Past to Present Archaeology Ltd retains the right to be identified as the author in any such reports, drawings or documentation.

## 9. Archive Deposition

- 9.1 Lincolnshire County Council Museums has assigned the recipient museum as being The Collection, Lincoln under the accession number 2024.188.
- 9.2 On completion of the reporting stages of the project, the archive will be prepared for long-term storage, and in a format agreed in advance with the recipient museum, and in accordance with national guidelines (Walker 1990; Museums & Galleries Commission 1992; Society of Museum Archaeologists 1995; Ferguson & Murray 1997; ClfA 2014b) and regional guidelines '*Archaeological Archives Deposition Guidelines*' (Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook, 2017).
- 9.3 The deposited archive will include all written, drawn and photographic records, including copies of relevant reports and any finds generated from the archaeological works.
- 9.4 Digitally generated material will be supplied 'as is' (i.e. in its native format). Hand drawn / written material of A4 size or smaller will be submitted as scanned copies, at a resolution of 150dpi, and for all hand drawn material of larger than A4 size, at a resolution of 150dpi and at 300dpi.
- 9.5 A copy of the completed report will be sent to both the LPA at Heritage Lincolnshire and to the Lincolnshire HER.
- 9.6 Upon completion of the archiving stage of the project, a full digital archive will be made publicly accessible on [www.pasttopresent.org](http://www.pasttopresent.org) and a copy of the full completed archive of digitally born and digitally transferred data will be uploaded to the ADS, along with an OASIS V grey literature report. If the project is sterile and no archaeological features or finds are recorded as being present at the site, then if agreed upon by LCC Museums and the LPA, a digital archive will not be deposited on ADS, however an OASIS V grey literature report will still be deposited. The LCC Museums will be linked to the OASIS V report.

## 10. References

Brown D. H, 2011, *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*. Archaeological Archives Forum 2<sup>nd</sup> edition

ClfA, 2014 *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

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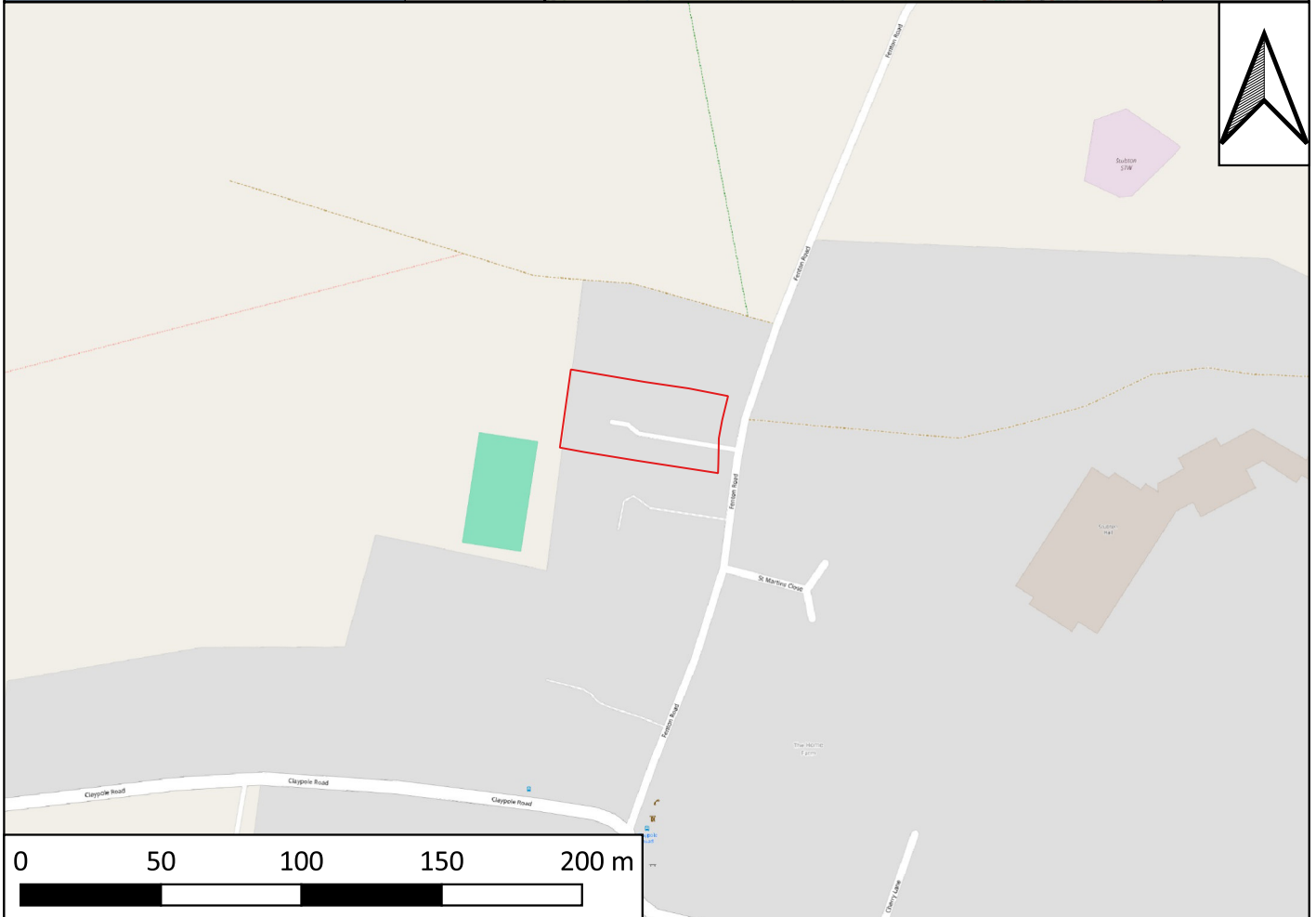
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Walker, K, 1990, *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage*. UKIC Archaeology Section, London



**Figure 1: Site location outlined in red**

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- ★ Site location
- Site boundary

Site address: Park Cottage, Fenton Road, Stubton  
 Site Code: FRSL 24  
 Drawn by: C Warr  
 Date: 13/09/24



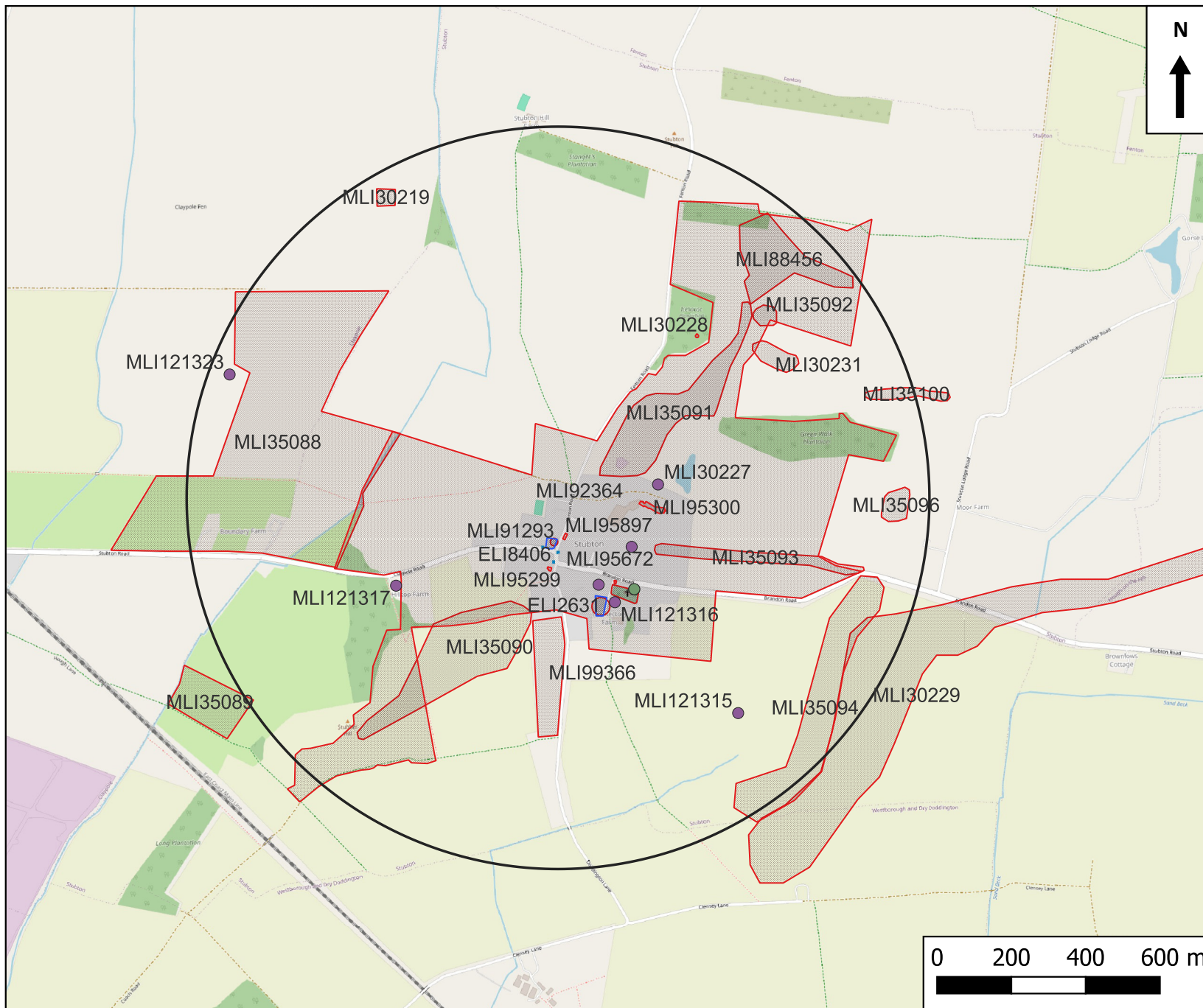


Figure 2: Plan of proposed development (outlined in red) and proposed trenches (outlined in blue). Base map provided by client

Site Address:  
 Park Cottage, Fenton Road, Stubton, Lincs

Site Code: FRSL 24  
 Scale: 1:300@ A4  
 Drawn by: C Warr  
 Date: 01/10/2024





Key:

-  Search Radius
-  Event
-  Event
-  Monument
-  Monument

Figure 3: HER search results

Site Address:

Park Cottage, Fenton Road, Stubton, Lincs

Site Code: FRSL 24

Scale: 1:15000 @ A4

Drawn by: C Warr

Date: 13/09/2024



PAST TO PRESENT ARCHAEOLOGY LTD  
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