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To: YorksHumberCCSPipeline

Subject: Written Representation regarding Application by National Grid Carbon Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Yorkshire and Humber Carbon Capture Transportation and Storage (CCS) Cross Country Pipeline

Reference Number 070001

Unique Reference Number 10029807

Dear Sir/Madam

Further to the Accompanied Site Visit which took place on my clients land on 27th January 2015, I attach herewith a report from Dr Peter Halkon MA FSA regarding Roman remains at Throlam, Holme on Spalding Moor, East Yorkshire.

My clients, Mr J P and Mrs O J Thompson of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] are concerned that the route of the proposed pipeline will damage the pottery kilns located on their land. Mr and Mrs Thompson request that the contents of the attached report are taken into account and consider that the route of the proposed pipeline should be realigned in order to minimise damage to the pottery kilns.

Yours faithfully

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Roman remains at Throlam, Holme-on-Spalding Moor, East Yorkshire.

The significance of Throlam was first recognised by the Reverend W. Smith, who was investigating a supposed Roman well at Holme on Spalding in 1923 and the ubiquity of Roman pottery there was remarked upon (Smith 1923). Subsequently the site was visited by Thomas Sheppard, Curator of Hull Museum who remarked:

“There, in a large field arising out of a flat peaty area, was “Pot Hill”...We picked up as many pieces of earthenware rims, bases, and handles as we could carry. The hill was 100ft across and 6ft high and said to be a solid mass of pottery fragments. On seeing the mound I felt like repeating what the American said when he first saw a giraffe, “I don’t believe it!” (Sheppard in Corder 1932, 3).

Sheppard collaborated with Philip Corder, school master at Bootham, School, York, who eventually became Assistant Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries of London and President of the Royal Archaeological Institute. Corder was keen to find opportunities to excavate Roman pottery production sites in order to provide comparisons with those he had excavated at Crambeck, near Castle Howard (Corder 1928). In May 1930, Corder together with Dr J. L. Kirk and two ‘trained men’ from Malton excavated several kilns there (Corder 1930(a), 6) and Sheppard provides the following account of the first day’s work:

“Subsequently ... with the aid of a large double-decker bus lent by the Hull Corporation, a party of the Hull Grammar School boys interested in historical work was conveyed to Pot Hill and carried with them a score of spades, shovels and pickaxes, supplied by the city engineer, and some new large tin drums lent by Mr Douglas of the Hull Corporation Sanitary Department. A full day was spent and something like 12cwt of pottery was brought away as a result of the day’s digging” (Sheppard in Corder1930 (a), 7)

Pot Hill turned out to be almost entirely made up of “wasters”(Fig 1a) and other debris from the kilns. Two superimposed kilns were found, (Fig 1b) the latest in quite a good state of preservation. Corder remarked on straw still being preserved and incorporated into the kiln structure and the impressions of branches and other vegetation left in the temporary kiln roof. The finger prints left by the kiln builders fascinated people at the time and were reported in the *Daily Mail* (Atlantic edition).

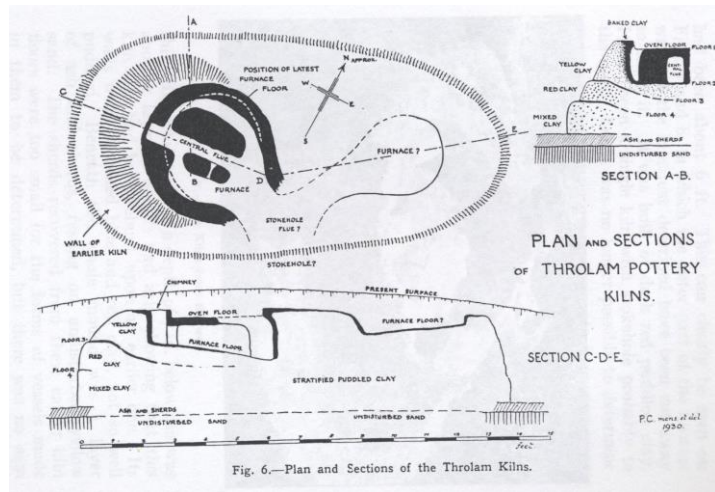


Fig 1a) Excavations at Pot Hill Throlam, May 1930. The trench through the heap of Roman pottery wasters. b) Plan of the Roman pottery kilns

Little was done on the site until In March 1964, when the mound of pottery “wasters” was reported by Mr G. M. Pidgeon as being over 1.22 metres high and a bronze coin of the Emperor Magnetius (AD350 to 353) was found on the surface. In March 1965, the mound was recorded as 1 metre high by J.D.Hicks and B. Lavin in Feb.1970 (Hull Museum Site Index; Loughlin and Miller, 1979, 42).

As part of the research for an MA dissertation for Durham University (Halkon 1987; Halkon and Millett 1999) 'Pot Hill' was visited in December 1983 by the present writer. Material was collected at SE 821355 and the mound was still very visible but less than half a metre above the rest of the field. A large number of pottery sherds, some large, as well as kiln material could be seen, spread over an area of around 500m square. This concentration coincided with a series of enclosures visible as cropmarks in aerial photography (Loughlin and Miller, 1979, 42) interpreted as a large complex of enclosures and buildings (Swan, 1984; Fiche 0 5. 682-3).

The site was subsequently photographed by the writer in 1995 (**Fig 2**) and the crop marks plotted as part of the English Heritage National Mapping Programme of the Vale of York (**Fig 3**)



Fig. 2 Aerial photograph Taken in August 1995 showing the complex of enclosures and other features at Throlam Farm. Enhanced crop growth is caused by the contrast in between the in-filled ditches and surrounding soil. (Photo: P. Halkon)

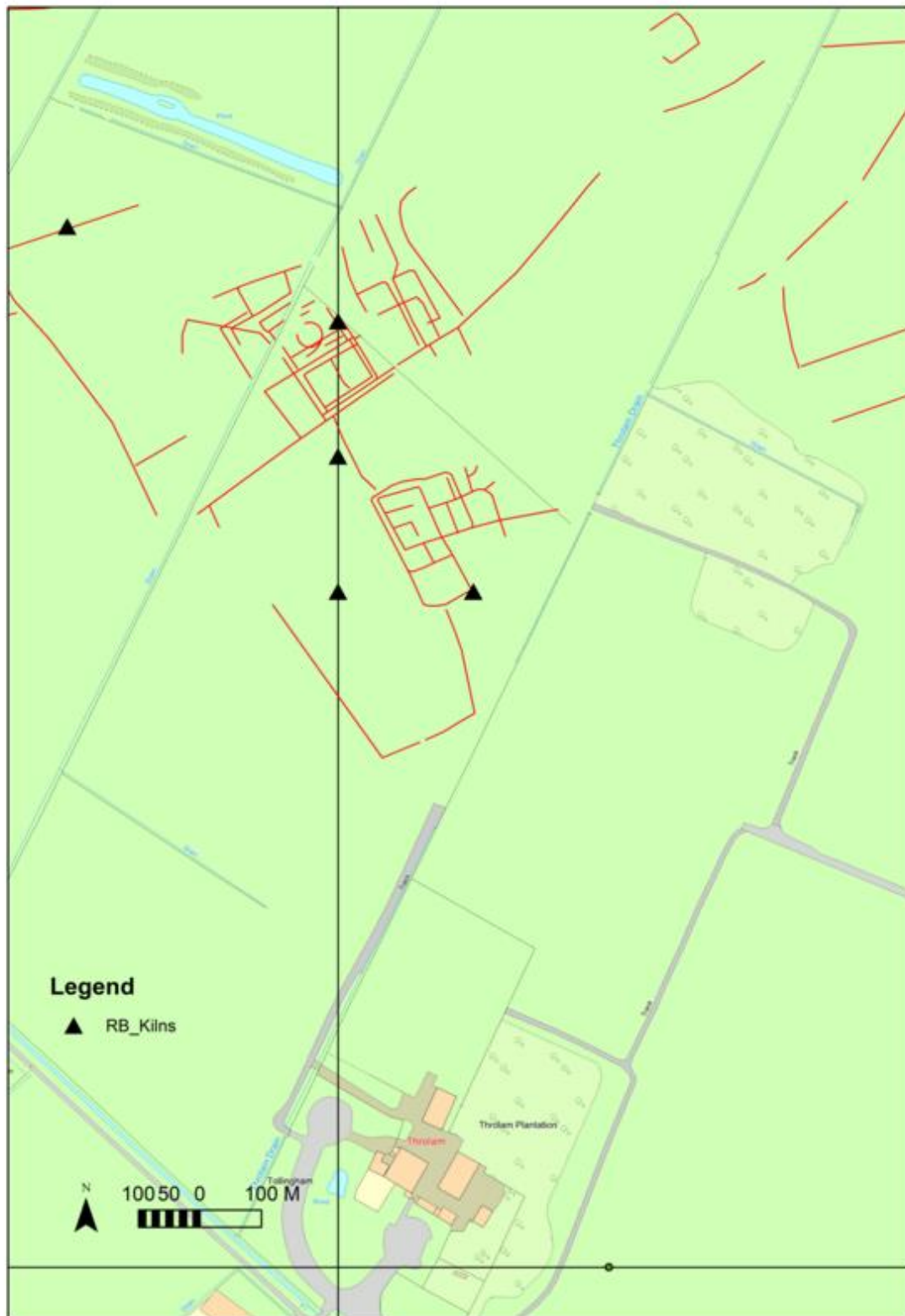


Fig. 3 Plot of crop marks by English Heritage as part of the Vale of York National Mapping Programme and the position of pottery kilns. (P. Halkon)

Evidence collected during the research work in the Foulness Valley (Halkon and Millett 1999; Halkon 2002; Halkon 2008; Halkon 2013) shows that pottery production here began in the later second and third centuries AD, reaching its height in the fourth with 38 kiln sites being identified, around Holme-on-Spalding Moor, making this one of the most significant pottery industries in the northern portion of Roman Britain and products from the Holme pottery kilns have been identified as far afield as Hadrian's Wall (Evans 1988). The areas nearest the

main channel of the River Foulness, close to the estuarine creek system appears to have been exploited first, with the major centre of pottery production moving to the Throlam/Tollingham area in the fourth century AD. The concentration of sites discovered during fieldwalking and cropmark features demonstrates that activity here was more intensive than previously supposed.

Despite some erosion by ploughing, recent visits (the last on 13.2.15) confirm the impressive nature of the site even now. Nowhere else in the region can so much Roman pottery be seen on the surface of a field. It has been recognised by leading authorities on Roman pottery as being of Regional and National significance (Swan 1984; Swan 2002) and remains one of the iconic sites of Roman Yorkshire. I am aware of the track of the National Grid Carbon Capture pipeline and was shown its proposed track, currently running straight through the main part of the Pot Hill site. From the evidence of the site visit and my aerial photograph I feel that every step should be taken to preserve this site for the future and that moving the pipeline the relatively short distance of 40m or so to the east would greatly minimise damage to it and associated archaeological remains visible on the aerial photography.

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