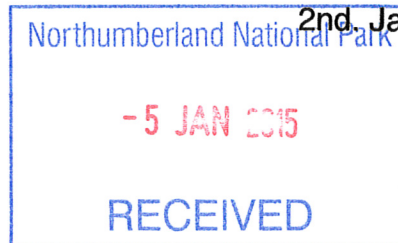


Glebe House,  
Holystone,  
Morpeth,  
Northumberland,  
NE65 7AJ

2nd January 2016



Ms Rebecca Adams  
Northumberland National Park Authority, Eastburn  
South Park  
Hexham  
Northumberland  
NE46 1BS

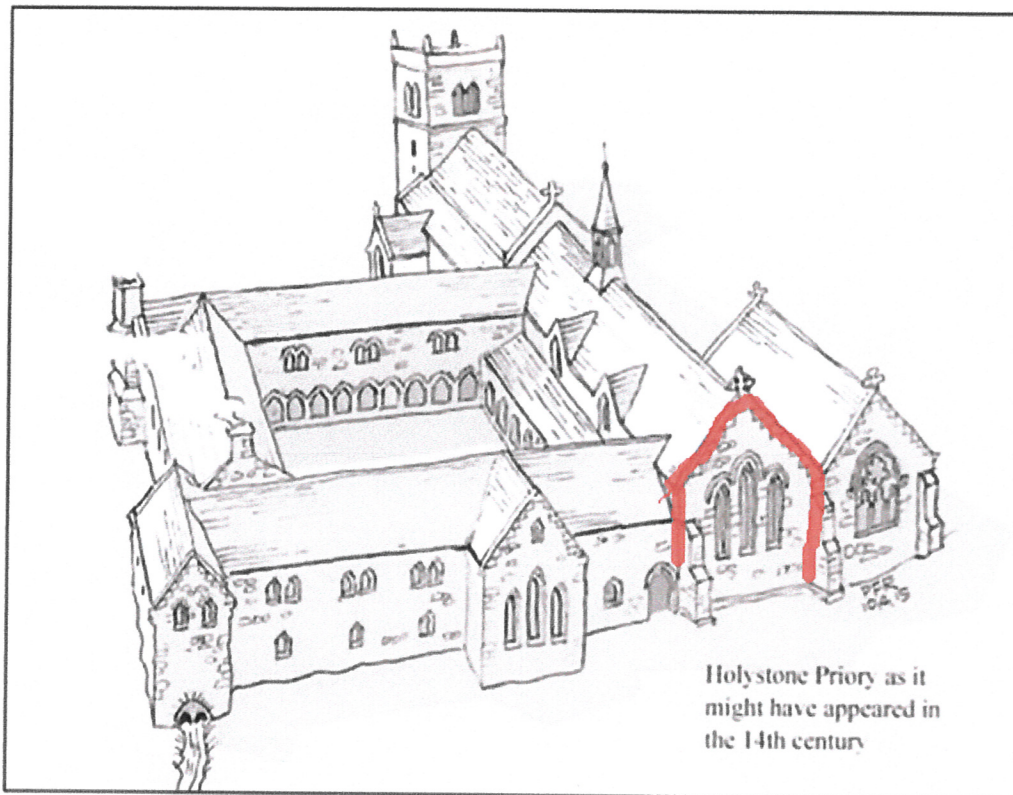
Dear Ms Adams,

**Arrangements for Handling Heritage Applications Direction 2015 &  
T&CP (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 GLEBE HOUSE,  
HOLYSTONE, MORPETH, NORTHUMBERLAND, NE65 7AJ Application No 15NP0109**

I understand that Historic England has advised that the Planning Authority should obtain archeological advice prior to reaching a decision regarding our application. Whilst the decision as to whether to seek such advice lies with the Authority, I would point out that I do not believe that there are significant remains beneath our property. Some years ago Coquetdale Community Archeology Group, which has been searching for the remains of the Holystone Augustinian Priory for some years, commissioned a geophysical survey of the area, including part of our land, with our consent. No remains were found below our ground, which lies directly to the east of the current church building. Following the successful dig in March 2015, when significant remains were found beneath the grassed area immediately to the south of the current church, a report was written by Mr Richard Carlton, Visiting Fellow in Archeology, University of Newcastle. He envisaged the priory site lies beneath the current church, along the north and south sides of the church, and to its west. That is to say, that the Priory extended away from what is now our property, not towards it. I reproduce an illustration and a little text from Mr. Carlton's report at the head of the next page. On it I have edged in red one gable end wall of the Priory, which coincides exactly with the east end gable of the current Church, and on whose foundations the current church has been built.

Should I be incorrect in my viewing there are indeed remains on our site, the question arises as to what their condition might be. In the mid-1960's a sawmill was erected here, whose position I indicate on the attached plan. Indeed, where our patio overlies the site of the mill the paving is laid directly onto the workshop floor of the mill. The bases of two of the walls are still visible, and form the retaining walls of the patio. The mill walls and roof were demolished to make way for the current house. The previous owner advised that the foundations of the mill were cut through to make way for new foundations. Picture postcards from the early years of the twentieth century show the tail race of the former water mill which stood on this site was an open ditch. It was at some point enclosed in a

Based on this new information, an interpretive drawing of the Priory as it may have appeared in the 14<sup>th</sup> century is provided below, with the Parish church and its west tower at the west end of the complex, the Priory church east of it with Lady Chapel attached to its north side, and on its south side the cloister and conventual buildings.



*Illus. 24: Interpretive reconstruction drawing of the site by Peter Ryder - based on information available up to April 2015.*

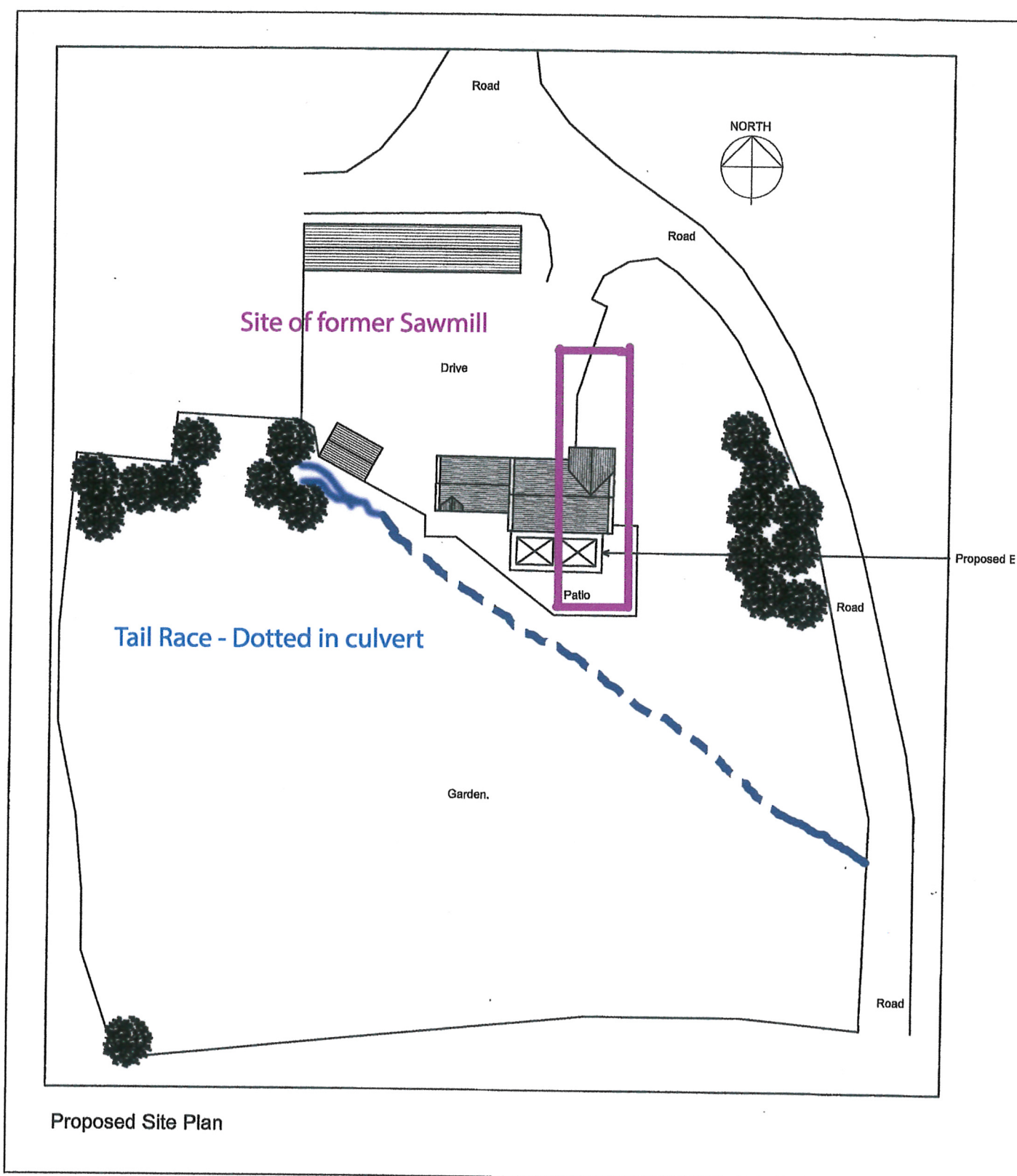
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culvert. All this construction work would have disrupted any remains, should any ever have existed, making it very unlikely in my view that there is anything worth preserving on the site.

I hope you find these points useful.

Yours sincerely,

(JA Farndale)



Proposed Site Plan