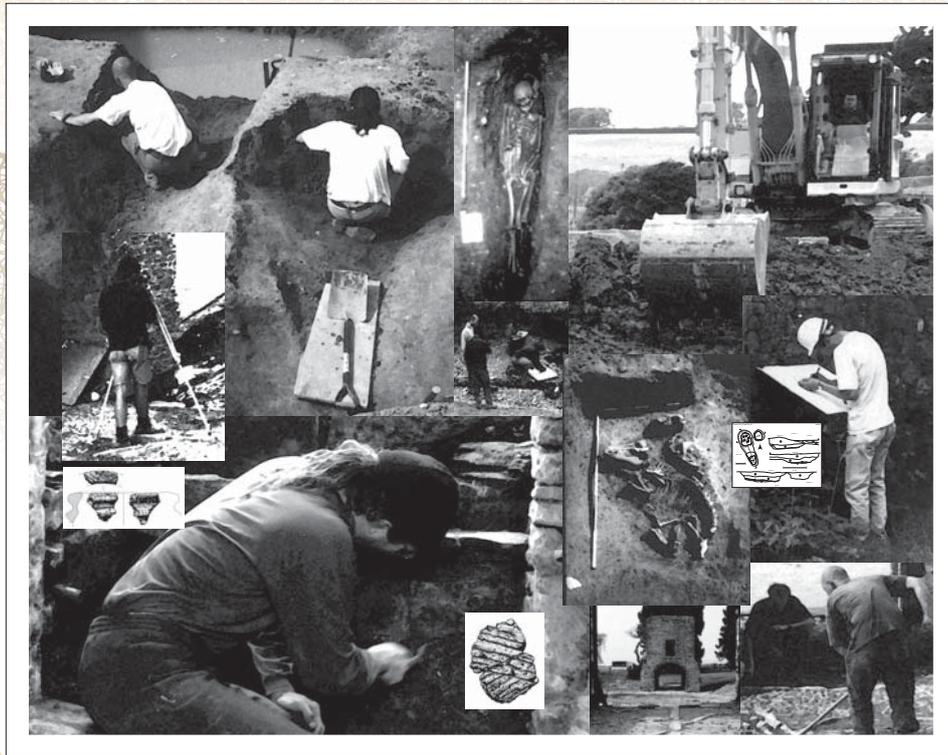


CAMBRIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS LTD.

Laughton Wind Farm, Lincolnshire

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY



By
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CAP Report No. 378

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

**Laughton Wind Farm,
Lincolnshire**

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Prepared for:
Your Energy Ltd

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Contents

i) LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY	1
1. INTRODUCTION	1
2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	1
3. METHODOLOGY	2
4. RESULTS OF THE SURVEY	2
5. INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION	2
6. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES	2
APPENDIX I: Archive Cover Sheet	

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i) List of Illustrations

Figures

Fig 01: Genera Site Location Plan

Fig 02: Detailed Site Location Plan

Fig 03: EDM Survey Contour Plot

Fig 04: EDM Survey Coloured Relief

Fig 05: EDM Survey Coloured Relief Isometric Views

Non Technical Summary

This report results from work undertaken by Cambrian Archaeological Projects on the site of a proposed wind farm in Laughton, Lincolnshire, on behalf of Your Energy. This phase of the project included a detailed topographic contour survey of the proposed area of Turbine 10 using a Topcon GTS 725 Electronic Distance Measurer.

1 Introduction

1.1 Location and scope of the work

In June 2005 Cambrian Archaeological Projects carried out a detailed topographic survey on the area of the archaeological site adjacent to Turbine 10 at the proposed wind farm site of Laughton, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1). The site is centred on NGR: SK487000397000.

1.2.1 Geology and Topography

The area of the proposed development is located to the east of the village of Laughton (Fig. 1) and covers two kilometres of land between Park House Farm (SK397400 48900) and Grange Farm (SK 397500 488400). The site is composed of gently undulating agricultural land.

The underlying solid geology is comprised of Triassic mudstones (including 'Keuper Marl', Dolomitic conglomerate and Rhaetic). (*Soils of England and Wales, 1993*). The Lincolnshire Edge forms a distinctive backbone to Lincolnshire running like a thread through the county from Whitton on the Humber Estuary in the north, down to Grantham in the south. It is a diverse landscape with a number of local variations. To the west of the edge is the gently undulating Trent Vale which eventually flows into the moors and levels of Humberhead, draining into the Humber Estuary. To the east there is a gently transition into the Central Lincolnshire Vale between the Humber and Lincoln, while south of the Lincoln the edge is bounded by a narrow finger of Fenland, which follows the River Witham into Lincoln. To the south the Edge merges into the more undulating Kesteven Uplands.

1.3 Archaeological and Historic Background

The area surrounding the proposed wind farm development contains several archaeological features such as a Roman Villa (SK 4850 3978), a medieval settlement (SK 4855 3971), a prehistoric enclosure (SK 4855 3971) and various other crop marks and undated boundaries. Royal Commission archive notes by Paul Everson tell of much pre-medieval evidence in the form of small finds. Bronze Age flints and metal work are known from several locations and a complex of rectangular enclosures has revealed much Romano-British pottery. Within the proposed turbine construction areas finds visible on the ploughed surface consist mainly of 18th/19th century tile and pottery, clay pipe fragments and sherds of broken land drains (Phillips, 2004).

2 Aims and Objectives

The main aim of the topographic survey was to attempt to identify and accurately survey any surviving earthworks of features noted in previous work undertaken by Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd. Previous work undertaken included a desk

based assessment (Phillips, 2004, CAP Report no. 269) and a geophysical survey (Smith, 2004, CAP Report no. 342). In the area close to Turbine 10 Phillips (2004) noted a possible field boundary (PRN L1.645.2.1) associated with a probable house platform or enclosure. This feature was also highlighted by the geophysical survey (Smith, 2004).

3 Methodology

Following the accurate placing of a GPS survey peg over the centre of the proposed wind turbine the topographic survey was carried out over a 50 x 50m area (Fig 2) encompassing the previously noted earthworks. The EDM was set up over the pre-existing survey peg (SK 48626 39689) in order that exact location co-ordinates could be used. A survey area of 50 x 50m was then laid out using both tapes and the general measure facility on the EDM. During the survey traverses one metre apart were walked with readings being recorded every 1 metre. This allowed for a highly detailed contour survey to be carried out with results being interpreted in 5cm increments.

The survey was hampered, however, by the fact that the field was under three feet of broad bean crop at the time of the survey thus rendering the identification of any surface features extremely difficult.

For the purposes of this survey all contour heights are given in relation to the base of the GPS survey peg at N 48626 E 39689 Z 00000.

4 Results of the Survey

Although the survey was carried out to a high degree of accuracy the results are somewhat negative (Figs 3, 4 & 5). The results show a largely flat area rising slightly towards the east of the survey area; however, over the 50m survey area a change of no more than 0.5m was encountered. It is possible that the slight rise towards the east of the survey represents the field boundary (PRN L1.645.2.1) running north south previously noted by Phillips (2004).

5 Interpretation and Discussion

It seems likely that the rise to the east of the survey area represents the field boundary previously noted by Phillips (2004) and possibly located by the geophysical survey (Smith, 2004) as it does appear to be aligned on a north south axis. The survey highlighted no earthwork features likely to be impacted upon in the area immediately surrounding the GPS survey peg (the centre of turbine 10), this was further supported by the lack of sub surface features noted during the excavation of an evaluatory trench adjacent to said peg (Evans, 2005).

6 Bibliography and References

- EVANS, P. 2005. Laughton, Lincolnshire. An Archaeological Evaluation. CAP Report no. 377
- PHILLIPS, N. 2004. Laughton, Lincolnshire. A Desk Based Assessment. CAP Report no. 269
- SMITH, C, E. 2004. Laughton, Lincolnshire. A Geophysical Survey. CAP Report no. 342

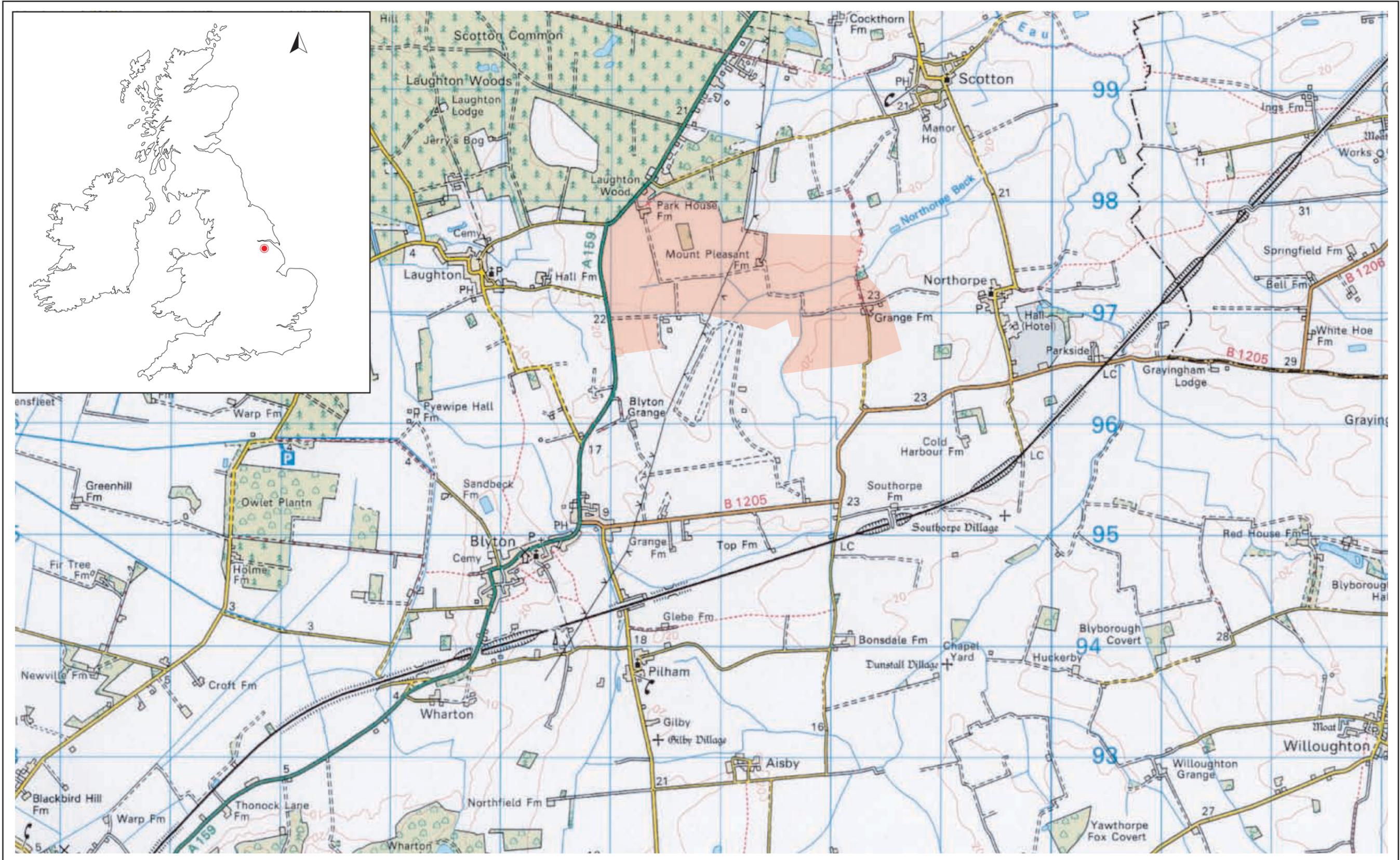


Fig 1: General Site Location Plan