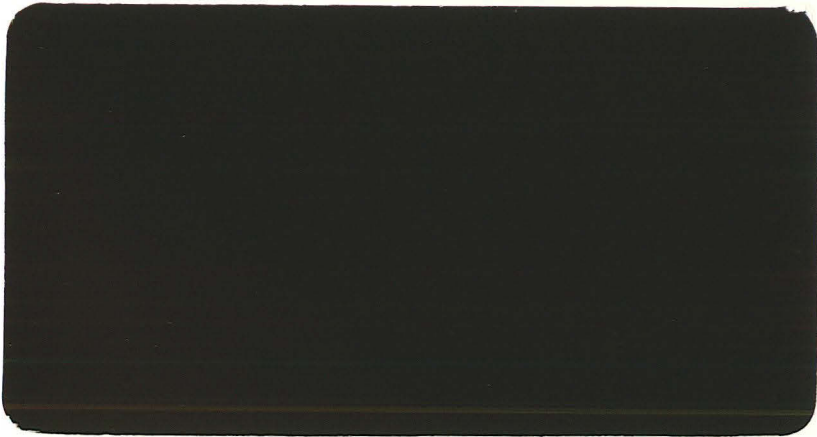


**ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT  
& EARTHWORK SURVEY  
LAND OFF SKEGNESS ROAD, CHAPEL ST LEONARDS,  
LINCOLNSHIRE**

Site Code: CSL99  
LCNCC Acc No. 6.99  
NGR TF55757235  
TF55560 71950

app 5/03/1499/98



Lincolnshire County Council  
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Report prepared for Willsons Chartered Surveyors  
on behalf of their client  
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January 1999

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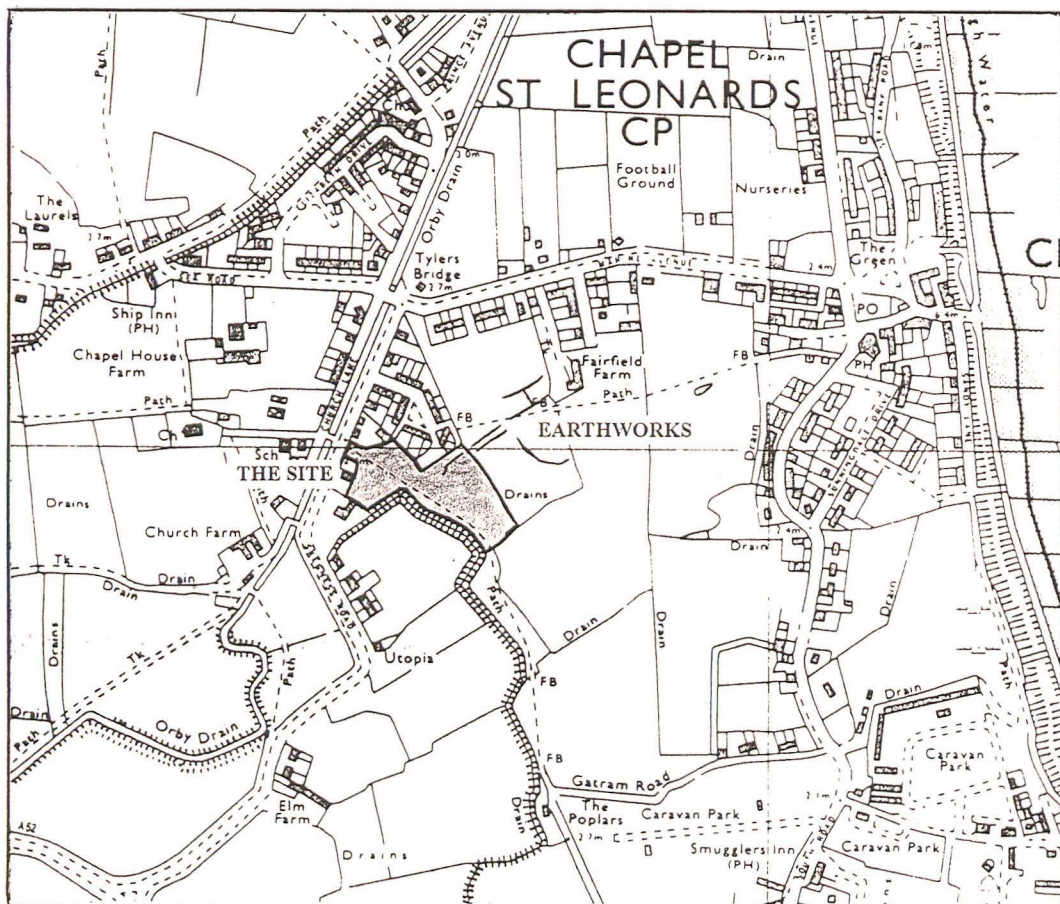
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- Fig. 1** Site location showing a sketch plot of the adjacent earthworks (1:10000)
- Fig. 2** Sketch of the extract of the 1807 map showing the site area.
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- Fig. 4** Enlarged extract of 1st edition Ordnance Survey map (1824) showing Chapel St Leonards.
- Fig. 5** Enlarged extract of the 25" to the mile Ordnance Survey map showing the site and the surrounding area.
- Fig. 6** Plan of the site showing the results of the earthwork survey.



### Summary

- \* *An archaeological desk-based assessment and earthwork survey were carried out on land off Skegness Road, Chapel St Leonards, Lincolnshire.*
- \* *Possible medieval linear earthworks were known to extend into the site area.*
- \* *The earthwork survey identified traces of ridge and furrow and one element of the previously identified earthworks.*
- \* *It was established that the previously located earthworks post-dated the ridge and furrow and related to a 'house and homestead' that cartographic sources showed to still be extant in the early nineteenth century.*
- \* *A range of other earthworks were identified during the survey. It is suggested that these are of modern date and relate to the excavation of a number of drains on and adjacent to the site.*



**Fig. 1: Site Location showing sketch plot of adjacent earthworks. (1:10000)**  
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## 1.0 Introduction

An archaeological desk-based assessment and earthwork survey were carried out on land off Skegness Road Chapel St Leonards, Lincolnshire (fig. 1). The project was commissioned by Willsons Chartered Surveyors to fulfil a condition attached to the renewal of planning permission for residential development (Planning Ref: S/31/1499/98).

## 2.0 Location and Description

Chapel St Leonards is situated on the Lincolnshire coast 9 km to the north of Skegness, in the administrative district of East Lindsey. The modern settlement is dispersed over a wide area. The historic core lies at the west of the settlement close to the church and more recent development extends along sea front (caravan parks etc.).

The site is located to the south-east of Skegness Road at NGR ~~TF 5575 7255~~ <sup>TF 55560 71950</sup>. The site is presently under pasture. The north west part of the site is mostly bounded on three sides by houses and gardens of various dates and a farmyard associated with Ivy Lodge. The south east part of the site is adjacent to farmland on three sides and is separated by drains and hedges. The site lies at a height of between 1.7m and 3.0m above OD.

## 3.0 Aims and Objectives

The purpose of the assessment and earthwork survey is to identify, and where possible, to quantify the known archaeological resource of the site in terms of period, type, extent and significance. The potential archaeological resource of the site would also be considered, based on information from its immediate area.

## 4.0 The Desk-Based Assessment

### 4.1 Methodology

The following sources of information were consulted during the course of the assessment;

Archaeological data for the whole parish of Chapel St. Leonards held at the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), including map overlays of air photographic data produced by the Royal Commission in the Historic Monuments of England (RCHME).

Cartographic and Documentary records held at the Lincolnshire Archives Office (LAO)



Published and unpublished information held at Lincoln Central Library Local Studies Section (LCL)

#### 4.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

The archaeological records for the whole parish of Chapel St. Leonards are summarised chronologically in Table 1.

The earliest archaeological evidence from Chapel St. Leonards is a Neolithic Flint Axe which was found on the beach. Other worked flints of Bronze Age date have also been found on and close to the beach.

A possible saltmaking site of Iron Age or Roman date has been identified on the coast in the south of the parish. Small quantities of Roman pottery have been found at various points along the coastline within the parish and these may also relate to eroded saltmaking sites. Roman greyware and Dales ware pottery has been found during a watching brief on Sea Road to the north of the church.

The early medieval period is not represented within the SMR data for the parish. A variety of evidence of medieval date has been found, including possible saltmaking sites exposed on the foreshore, quantities of pottery and earthworks relating to the shrunken settlement of Mumby Chapel. Earthworks have been noted in fields adjacent to the site and are recorded on RCHME map overlays (these are sketch plotted on Figure 1). These features appear to represent boundary ditches, some of which are associated with enclosures and are suggested to be of medieval date.

The historical background to Chapel St. Leonards is relatively sparse. The settlement appears to have originally been named Mumby Chapel and was a subsidiary of that settlement, which lies to the north west.

The settlement is not mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086 (Morris 1986). The earliest certain reference to the settlement that could be found, dates to the sixteenth century. This is a reference to the flood of the 5th of October 1570, which has recently been discussed in detail by Owen (1996). An early nineteenth century chronicle contains a reference to this flood, stating that at Mumby Chapel, "...the whole town was lost, except three houses. ...Likewise the church was wholly overthrown except the steeple..." (Holinshead 1808, cited in Owen 1996).

The church was restored and remained in use up until the construction of the present. The surviving church was built in 1794 on the same site and reused masonry from the earlier structure. It was restored in 1891 and given a new tower in 1901 (Pevsner et al 1995, 219).

The most significant historical change in the history of Chapel St. Leonards is its development into a seaside resort. This change took place very rapidly, within a five year period (Robinson 1989, 160). It went from being described as a, "*tiny watering-place uninvaded by excursionists*" in 1890 (Murray, 170) to, "*an increasingly popular watering place*" ten years later (Wilkinson 1900, 213).



PRN	NGR	Period	Description	Notes
41616	TF56307200	Neolithic	Flint axe	Found on the beach
41622	TF56347306	Bronze Age	Flint dagger	Found on the beach
41614	TF56307320	Bronze Age	Flint scraper	
41613	TF56207350	Prehistoric	Worked flint flake	Found in 1972
43342/43347	TF56907050	Iron Age/Roman	Briquetage (handbricks and evaporating troughs)	
41625	TF56277260	Roman	Fragment of a C3 pottery jar	Found in 1960
41623	TF56207330	Roman	Greyware pottery rim	Found in 1965 on the beach
41615	TF56807080	Roman	Sherd of pottery	Found at low tide mark in 1967
41612	TF56407220	Roman	Base of a pottery vessel. Frag of human skull found close by	Found on the beach
41611	TF55907100	Roman	Greyware vessel	Found at a depth of 10' in blue clay
43304	TF55207220	Roman	Greyware and Dalesware pottery fragments and briquetage	
41627	TF54107420	Medieval	Two house sites	
41626	TF56687101	Medieval	Twelve pottery jugs and cooking pots. Possible saltpans.	
41624	TF56277332	Medieval	Possible saltpans	Located on foreshore
41610	TF55357237	Medieval	Pottery and possible earthworks	
41629	N/A	Medieval	Two silver pennies.	Found near Trunch Lane
41618	TF55807210	Medieval	Earthworks. Square mound and ditches	
41619	TF55307220	Medieval	Shrunken settlement remains. Ewks to the north of the church	
41620/41621	TF55237207	Med/Post-Med	St Leonards Church. Built on site of earlier church in 1794	
41628	TF53957422	Post-Medieval	Large quantity of pottery	From a newly ploughed field
41617	TF55207070	Post-Medieval	Seal-topped latten spoon with makers mark. dates 1580-1600	
43348	TF57007030	Undated	45+ sub-rectangular features. ? Post-Med oyster beds	
43273	TF54707420	Modern	Type 22 pill box	Relocated from adjacent field
43279	TF56307320	Modern	Hexagonal pill box	
43278	TF55007370	Modern	Type 22 pill box	

Table 1: Archaeological data for Chapel St. Leonards from Lincolnshire County Council SMR.



### 4.3 Cartographic Information

The following cartographic sources were consulted during assessment;

'A Map of the Publick Roads, Foot Paths and Private Occupation Roads; Set out by the Commissioners for the Inclosure of Mumby-cum-Chapel with Hogsthorpe. 1st May 1807.' LAO Lindsey Encl. 123.

'A Plan of the Parishes of Hogsthorpe and Mumby-cum-Chapel in the County of Lincoln, by Christopher Epworth'. c.1811. LAO Lindsey Encl. 123.

1st edition Ordnance Survey Map of Great Britain Sheet 30. 1824.

2nd edition Ordnance Survey Map of Great Britain. 25" to the mile. 1905.

2nd edition Ordnance Survey Map of Great Britain. 6" to the mile. 1955 revision.

1:10 000 Ordnance Survey Map Sheet TF57SE. Revised c.1970.

The map of 1807 (Fig. 2) only showed the north west part of the site in detail. This area lay within a large triangular field belonging to William Fenwick which was part of Chapel Common. The boundary between the north west and south east parts of the site divided Chapel Common from an area of 'Old Inclosures'. The step in the boundary between Chapel Common and the Old Inclosures is particularly important and will be referred to below. It is also worth noting that Skegness Road was formerly known as Chapel Addlethorpe Road

The 1811 map (Fig. 3) related to the enclosure of the parish and showed the whole of the site area in more detail. The north west area of the site (Field No. 259) is the same unit of land which was shown on the earlier map. Notes on this map state that this field was the property of William Jacklin 'purchased of the Revd. Edward Walls'. Details of the south east part of the site (Field No. 732) were not listed on the map itself.

Information given in the Schedule of the Enclosure Award (LAO Lindsey Encl. 123) differs from that given on the map itself. The fields surrounding the site area were listed as follows;

No.	Name	Owner
259	Three Arce	The Revd. William Bywater. Rector of Anderby.
260	West Arce & Half	The Revd. William Bywater. Rector of Anderby.
731	Six Arce	William Jacklin. Purchased of Revd. Edward Walls.
732	House & Homestead	William Jacklin. Purchased of Revd. Edward Walls.
733	Eyeon Garth	George Manners Esq.
749	Six Arce	Representatives of John Taylor
750	Two Arce	William Jacklin. Purchased of Revd. Edward Walls.
751	Two Arce	George Manners Esq.

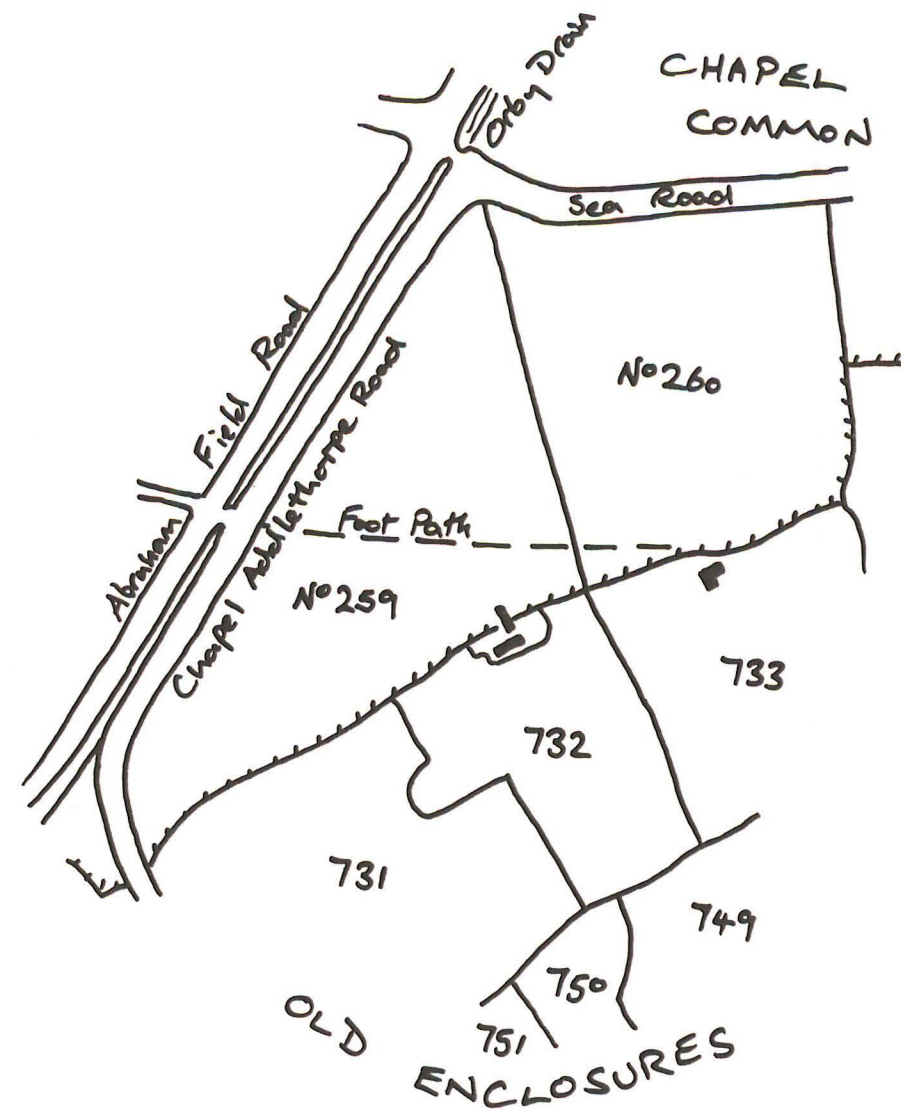
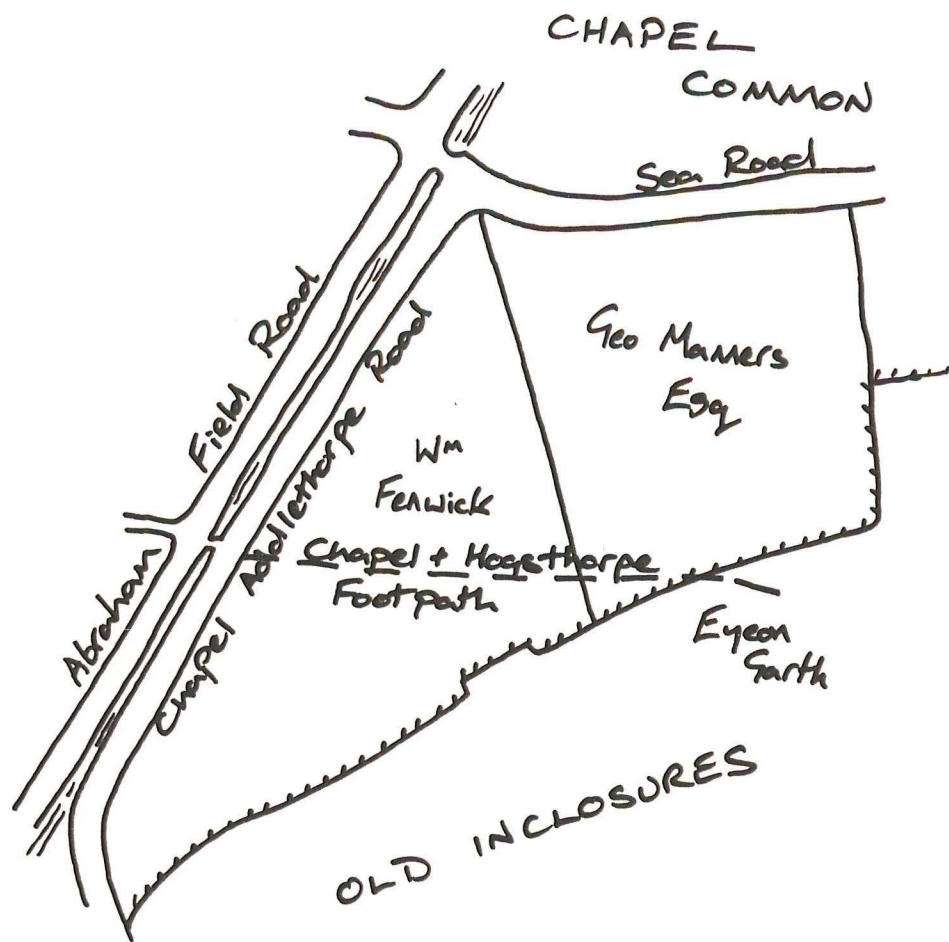


Fig. 2: Sketch of Extract of the 1807 Map showing the Site Area.

Fig. 3: Sketch of Extract of the 1811 Map showing the Site Area.



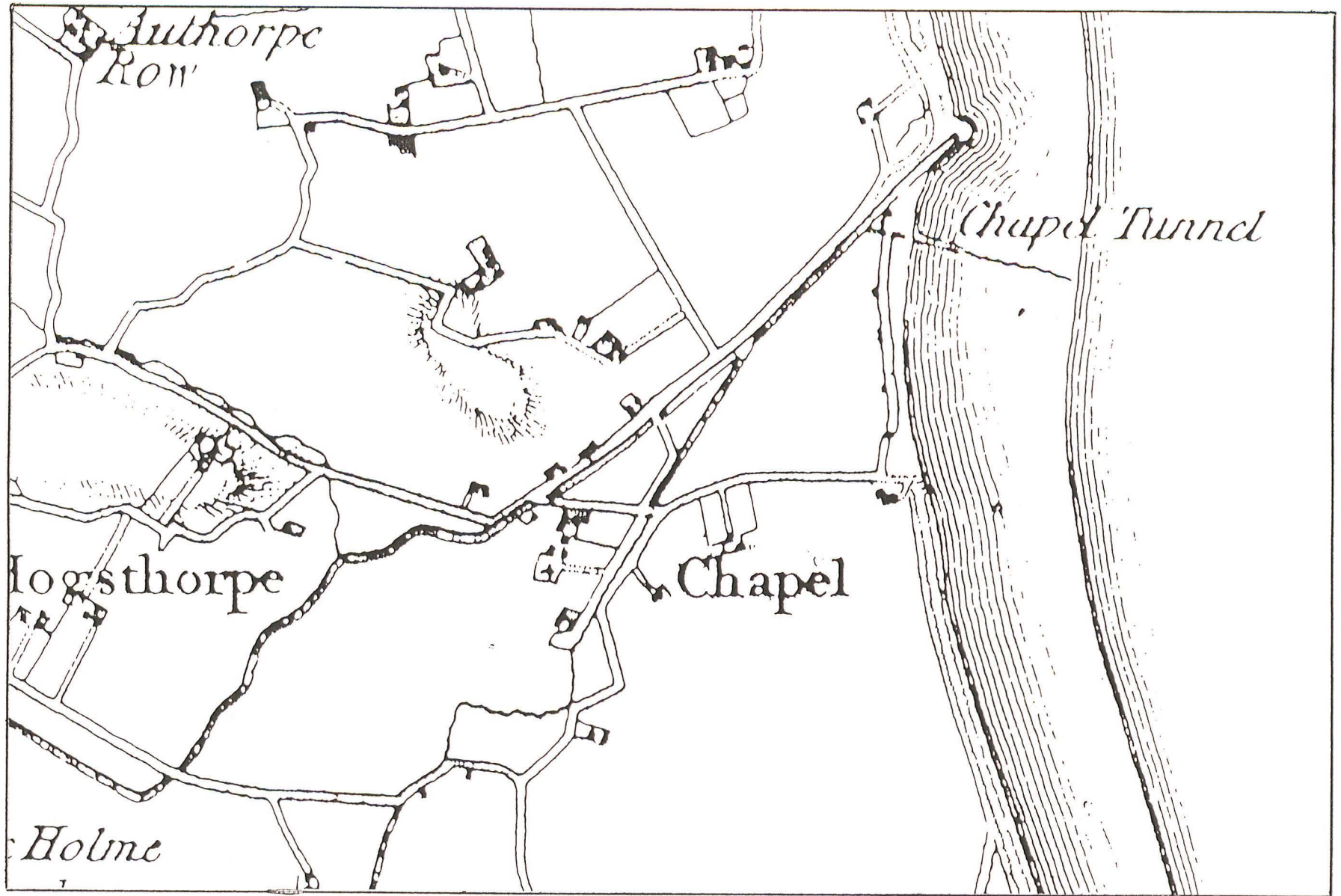


Fig. 4: Enlarged Extract of the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map (1824) Showing Chapel St Leonards.





(The word 'acre' was consistently misspelled 'arce' throughout the document.)

The most important piece of information which can be gained about the site from this map is the existence of the 'House and Homestead' in Field 732. This lies within the site under investigation and appears to consist of two buildings. One of these buildings is aligned across the boundary between fields 732 and 260. This seems strange given that these two fields were in different ownership. It would appear that the step in this field boundary that is shown on the 1807 map respects the existence of these buildings.

The step in the south west boundary of Field 723 is difficult to explain. It is possible that this represents an earlier enclosure which had already been amalgamated into Field 732.

The first edition of the Ordnance Survey map dating to 1824 (Fig. 4) clearly shows these buildings (to the left of the 'C' of Chapel) with a track connecting them to Chapel Addlethorpe Road. The scale of the map is too small to show any other detail in the site area.

The 1905 edition of the Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 5) shows several important changes. The 'house and homestead' had disappeared and had probably been replaced by Ivy Lodge on Skegness Road. The site boundaries as they exist at present are shown to have existed by 1905. The north east boundary of the site may well run along the line of the track between the former house and homestead, and Skegness Road. The Vicarage had been constructed within part of Field 260 creating the south west boundary of the site.

The 1955 edition of the Ordnance Survey map (not reproduced in this report) shows no major changes within the site area. The 1:10000 Ordnance Survey shows that Vicarage Drain had been excavated between 1955 and c.1970. This drain straightened the boundary of the site removing the step which had existed since at least 1811.

## **5.0 The Earthwork Survey**

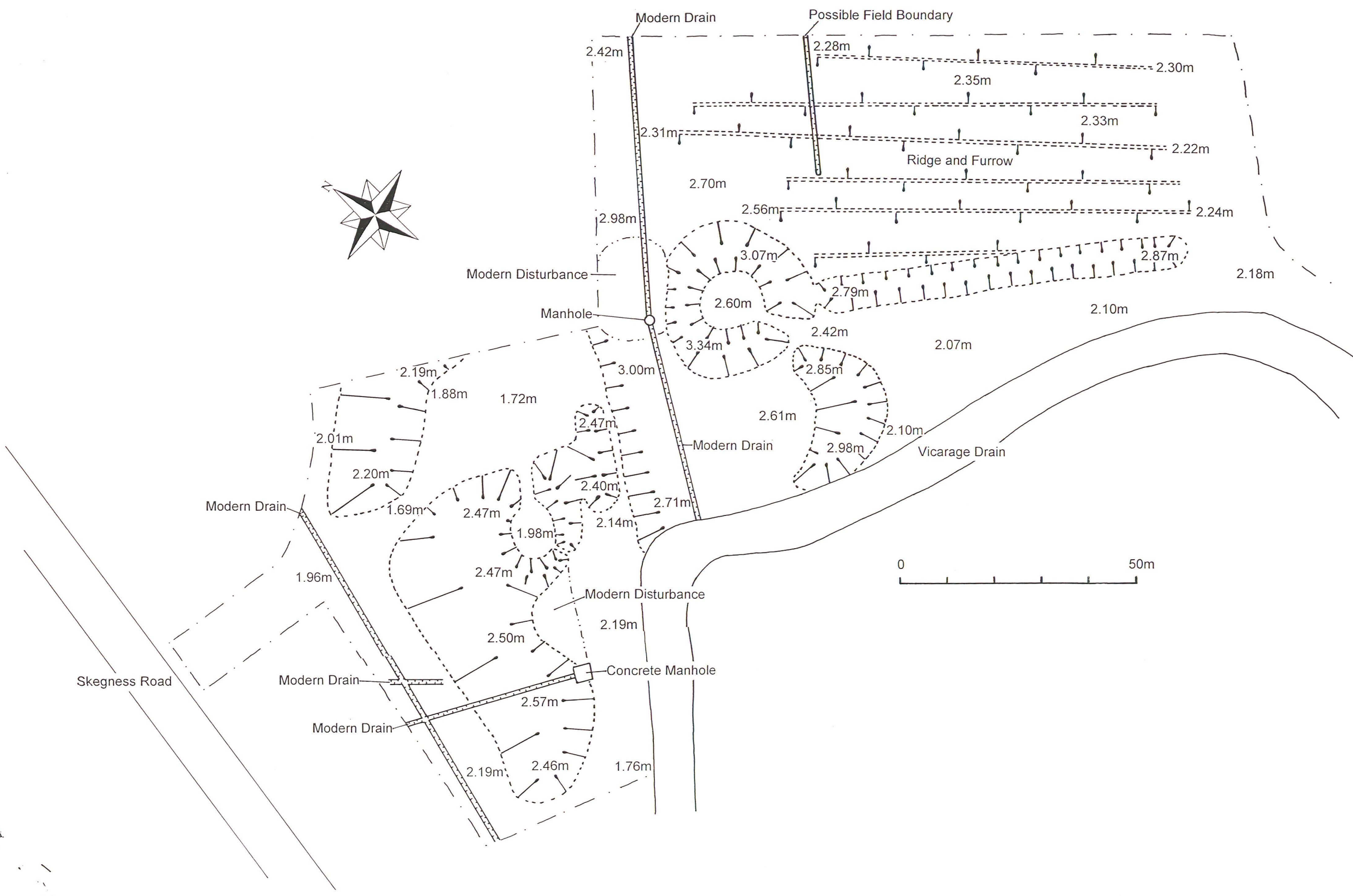
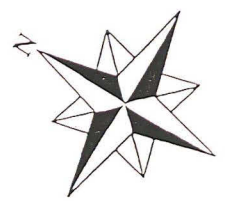
### **5.1 Methodology**

The earthworks were initially assessed during a rapid walkover of the site. The survey was carried out using a level which was set up over a known point on the site (the manhole on the existing north-south sewer through the site). Bearings and stadia readings were taken to plot the location of observed features. The survey was carried out by Mr J. Snee and the writer on 17 December 1998.

### **5.2 Results**

The results of the earthwork survey are shown on Figure 6. Evidence of medieval, post-medieval and modern activity were recorded.







Probably the earliest archaeological features identified on the site were faint traces of north west to south east ridge and furrow of medieval date. This was present only in the eastern part of the site. The ridge and furrow was cut by a south west to north east gully or shallow ditch. This feature aligns with one of the ditches noted on the RCHME map overlays (see Fig. 1). This relationship shows that this feature is later than the ridge and furrow, and a post-medieval date is proposed.

The large ditch which divides the two areas of the site is the remains of the southern boundary of field 260 as shown on the 1811 map (see Fig. 3). As has been discussed above, this boundary separated Chapel Common from an area of old enclosures and can be traced back to 1807 (Fig. 2).

The raised earthworks on the site, consisting of ring, crescent and linear / curvilinear features are possibly all contemporary. It is suggested that these features relate to the excavation of Vicarage Drain along the south west boundary (mounding of spoil) and to subsequent ground disturbance associated with the laying of drains through the site. Evidence of these drains was observed as shallow linear features during the survey.

## 6.0 Discussion and Conclusions

The suggested medieval earthworks which lay to the north east of the site appear to only just extend into the area itself. The step in the earthwork which has been plotted on the site by the RCHME corresponds well with part of the enclosure around the 'house and homestead' shown on the 1811 map. On the basis of this correlation it is suggested that the earthworks plotted by the RCHME are probably contemporary with the 'house and homestead'. It is important to note that although these dwellings can be traced back to the early nineteenth century, the date of their construction is unknown, and may be of a much earlier post-medieval date. However, these remains are clearly shown to be later than the medieval ridge and furrow. The state of preservation of the 'house and homestead' remains cannot be expected to be good. The area has been cut by a deep mains sewer and the c.5m wide ditch between the site and the post-war housing estate to the north.

The suggestion that the remaining earthworks on the site relate to spoil created by modern drainage works means that the *known* archaeological potential of the site is relatively low, being limited to the 'house and homestead' and ridge and furrow already discussed.

The potential for buried archaeological remains is difficult to assess on the basis of the information available. The site lies within the area of the shrunken settlement of Mumby Chapel but is away from the main focus close to the church. The Roman finds from the watching brief on Sea Road suggest that salting activity of this period may extend as far inland as the assessment site.

## 7.0 Acknowledgements

Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) would like to thank Willsons Chartered Surveyors for this commission. The writer would also like to thank Mark Bennet and Judy O'Neill of the County SMR and the staff of Lincolnshire Archives Office for their assistance during the research.

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**P.1** General view of the north-west field, looking north-west.



**P.2** General view of the south-east field, looking south-east.