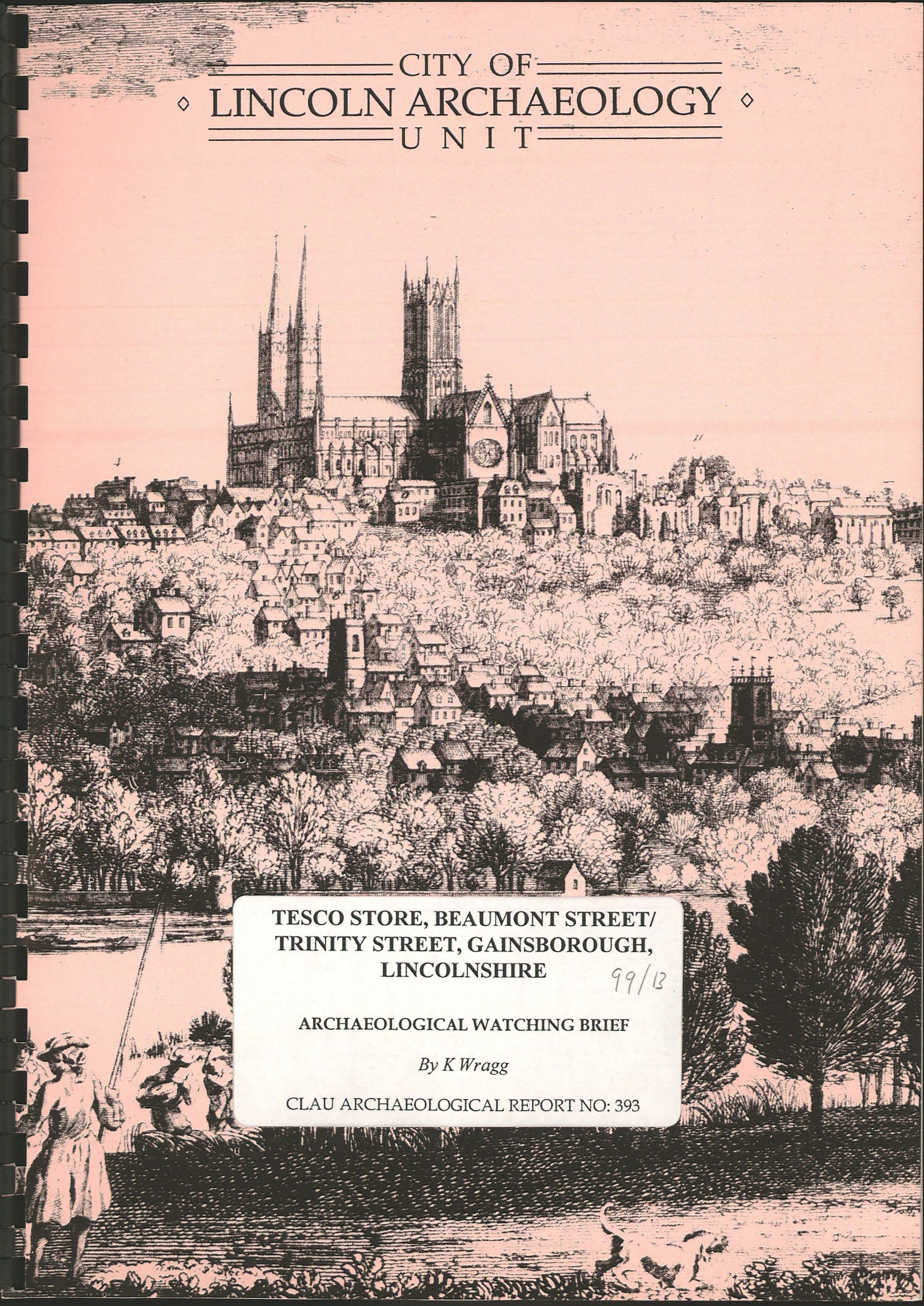


— CITY OF —  
◇ LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY ◇  
— U N I T —



**TESCO STORE, BEAUMONT STREET/  
TRINITY STREET, GAINSBOROUGH,  
LINCOLNSHIRE**

99/13

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

*By K Wragg*

**CLAU ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT NO: 393**





copy 2 of 2  
Lincolnshire County Council  
Archaeology Section  
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EVENT L14386 SOURCES L18977 L18978  
NEGATIVE

A  
Report to  
*Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd.*  
on behalf of  
*Tesco*

August 1999

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Prepared by

*The City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit*  
*Charlotte House*  
*The Lawn*  
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*LNI 3BL*

*Tel: Lincoln (01522) 545326*  
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*Site Code: GTS99*  
*LCCM Accession No.: 34.99*  
*NGR: SK 8180/8965*

**TESCO STORE, BEAUMONT STREET/  
TRINITY STREET, GAINSBOROUGH,  
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# TESCO STORE, BEAUMONT STREET/ TRINITY STREET, GAINSBOROUGH, LINCOLNSHIRE

## *Archaeological Watching Brief*

<i>Contents</i>	<i>Page</i>
NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY.....	1
1.0 INTRODUCTION.....	2
2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.....	3
3.0 RESULTS.....	3
4.0 DISCUSSION OF RESULTS & CONCLUSIONS.....	3
5.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	3
6.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	3
7.0 LHA NOTES/ARCHIVE DETAILS.....	4
7.1 LHA Note Details.....	4
7.2 Archive Details.....	4
APPENDIX A - Archive Deposition.....	5
APPENDIX B - Colour Plates.....	6

### *List of Illustrations*

- Fig.1 Site location plan - scale 1:50000 & 1:2500
- Fig.2 Extracts from the 1899 & 1947 Ordnance Survey maps - not to scale
- Fig.3 Proposed site layout plan - scale 1:1250



# **TESCO STORE, BEAUMONT STREET/ TRINITY STREET, GAINSBOROUGH, LINCOLNSHIRE**

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

### ***NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY***

This project was prompted by plans to construct a new Tesco superstore on a former industrial site in Gainsborough. The site had been occupied by various engineering concerns during its 100+ year history, but is probably best remembered (in Gainsborough, at least) as the site of the Marshall's factory.

The development area is situated close to the town-centre, fronting on to Beaumont Street/Trinity Street to the west. The eastern boundary of the site is delineated by the (former Great Central) railway line to Brigg. The boundary to the north is formed by Station Hill, while to the south, Colville Terrace and Sandsfield Lane enclose the site.

A much smaller site, on the west side of Beaumont Street/Trinity Street, was also included in the development plan, providing the location for a petrol filling station.

The proposed new store itself occupied only approximately one-quarter of the total site area, with the remainder proposed as car-parking space, delivery areas, etc.

The redevelopment proposals firstly involved the demolition of the existing structures on the site. This was then to be followed by consolidation and levelling, using imported hardcore material as required. Piling for the new store foundations would then take place.

The result of this approach was that, other than the works required to initially clear the site, no major excavation would be required on the main site, and the only element of deep excavation would be for the purpose of tank installation at the site of the petrol station.

However, as little was known about the archaeological background of the site, it was decided by West Lindsey District Council, in consultation with the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section, that an archaeological watching brief was required on the groundwork phases of the redevelopment.

As a result, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of February 1999, the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit was commissioned by Taylor Woodrow Construction Limited, on behalf of Tesco, to carry out an intermittent watching brief on the groundworks.

Excavation on the site was largely confined to the removal of surviving elements of the engineering works, and was therefore limited to areas of previous disturbance.

Observations were carried out on the site between the 25<sup>th</sup> of February and the 25<sup>th</sup> of May 1999. However, given the nature of the site and the groundworks involved it is not too surprising to report that no archaeological deposits or features were encountered during this project.

The only find recovered from the site (by the contractor) was a single piece of animal bone (probably a vertebra from a cow or horse), and its provenance could not be confirmed, having originated from the spoil-heap.

However, it should be noted that this particular site was subject to peculiar circumstances which combined to limit the potential for archaeological investigation. The negative results in this area do not therefore preclude the possibility of archaeological discoveries in other surrounding locations.



# **TESCO STORE, BEAUMONT STREET/ TRINITY STREET, GAINSBOROUGH, LINCOLNSHIRE**

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

This project was prompted by plans to construct a new Tesco superstore on a former industrial site in Gainsborough. The site had been occupied by various engineering concerns during its 100+ year history, but is probably best remembered (in Gainsborough, at least) as the site of the Marshall's factory.

The development area is situated close to the town-centre, fronting on to Beaumont Street/Trinity Street to the west. The eastern boundary of the site is delineated by the (former Great Central) railway line to Brigg. The boundary to the north is formed by Station Hill, while to the south, Colville Terrace and Sandsfield Lane enclose the site.

A much smaller site, on the west side of Beaumont Street/Trinity Street, was also included in the development plan, providing the location for a petrol filling station.

The proposed new store itself occupied only approximately one-quarter of the total site area, with the remainder proposed as car-parking space, delivery areas, etc. (see Fig.1).

The redevelopment proposals firstly involved the demolition of the existing structures on the site. This would then be followed by consolidation and levelling, using imported hardcore material as required. Piling for the new store foundations would then take place.

The result of this approach was that, other than the works required to initially clear the site, no major excavation would be required on the main site, and the only element of deep excavation would be for the purpose of tank installation at the site of the petrol station.

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The information in this document is presented with the proviso that further data may yet emerge. The Unit, its members and employees cannot, therefore, be held responsible for any loss, delay or damage, material or otherwise, arising out of this report. The document has been prepared in accordance with the terms of the Unit's Articles of Association, the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and *The Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (English Heritage, 1991).



## **2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

Gainsborough has a long history dating at least from the Anglo-Saxon period. The name ending *-borough* is a derivation of the Old English word *burh*, meaning 'a fortified place', possibly indicating that the settlement originated as a fort to control a landing place on the River Trent (Sawyer, 1998).

To the north of the town, at Thonock, are the remains of a medieval ring and bailey, probably dating from the 11<sup>th</sup> century (Everson *et al*, 1991).

The majority of the present town, however, stands as testament to its role as an inland port and heavy engineering centre. Many of the buildings in the town show 19<sup>th</sup> century origins and influences, although there are several notable exceptions, including All Saints church and the Old Hall, elements of which date to the mid-late medieval period.

The site currently under development was once the location of the Marshall's engineering works (later Track Marshall, and other subsequent engineering & industrial concerns), and originally built in the mid-late 19<sup>th</sup> century (Pevsner *et al*, 1989).

The works appears to have expanded gradually throughout the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, eventually taking over the site of the Vicarage of Holy Trinity church (the church itself lay to the south of the site, and is now the Trinity Arts Centre, see Figs.1 & 2).

No previous archaeological discoveries have been recorded on this site.

## **3.0 RESULTS**

The industrial background of the site, and the nature of that industry, resulted in the presence of extensive intrusive foundations, reinforced-concrete machine bases, and other substantial modern features (see colour plates).

The combination of these intrusive features, and the relatively limited extent of the excavations involved, provided little or no opportunity of observing undisturbed deposits.

Even on those parts of the site where deeper excavation was required (primarily the site of the filling station petrol tanks), the strata had either been extensively disturbed by modern intrusion, or obscured by the protective support-work required by the contractors.

As a consequence, only the presence of extensive modern deposits and features can be reported from this site.

## **4.0 DISCUSSION OF RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS**

Excavation on the site was largely confined to the removal of surviving elements of the engineering works, and was therefore limited to areas of previous disturbance.

Given the nature of the site and the groundworks involved it is not too surprising to report that no archaeological deposits or features were encountered during this project.

The only find recovered from the site (by the contractor), was a single piece of animal bone (probably a vertebra from a cow or horse), and its provenance could not be confirmed, having originated from the spoil heap.

However, it should be noted that this particular site was subject to peculiar circumstances which combined to limit the potential for archaeological investigation. The negative results in this area do not therefore preclude the possibility of archaeological discoveries in other surrounding locations.

## **5.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit would like to thank the following for their assistance during this project: Tesco and Taylor Woodrow Construction Limited, for commissioning this project; Messrs. M.Price (Project Manager), L.Hayden (Site Manager), and all on-site staff of Taylor Woodrow Construction Limited; Mr J.Bonnor, Archaeology Officer, Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section, Highways & Planning Directorate, City Hall, Lincoln, LN1 1DN.



## 6.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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*Change and Continuity - Rural Settlement in  
North-West Lincolnshire*, RCHM(E), London

## 7.0 LHA NOTE/ARCHIVE DETAILS

### 7.1 LHA NOTE DETAILS

CLAU CODE: GTS99

PLANNING APPLICATION No.:

FIELD OFFICER: K. Wragg

NGR: TF 4550/9020

CIVIL PARISH: Gainsborough

SMR No.: n/a

DATE OF INTERVENTION: 25/02/99 -  
25/05/99

TYPE OF INTERVENTION: Watching Brief

UNDERTAKEN FOR: Taylor Woodrow  
Construction Ltd, Lingfield Way, Darlington,  
County Durham, DL1 4PS, on behalf of Tesco.

### 7.2 ARCHIVE DETAILS

PRESENT LOCATION: City of Lincoln  
Archaeology Unit, Charlotte House, The  
Lawn, Union Road, Lincoln, LN1 3BL.

FINAL LOCATION: The City and County  
Museum, Friars Lane, Lincoln.

MUSEUM ACCESSION No.: 34.99

ACCESSION DATE: -



## **APPENDIX A - ARCHIVE DEPOSITION**

The archive consists of:

No.	Description
1	Site diary
1	Report
3	Scale drawings
1 set	Colour slides
1	Stratigraphic matrix

The primary archive material, as detailed above, is currently held by :

**The City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit,  
Charlotte House,  
The Lawn,  
Union Road,  
Lincoln,  
Lincolnshire,  
LN1 3BL.**

It is intended that transfer to the City and County Museum, Friars Lane, Lincoln, in accordance with current published requirements, under Museum Accession Number 34.99, will be undertaken following completion of this project.



**APPENDIX B - COLOUR PLATES**



*Plate 1: General view of site stripping/level reduction groundworks underway at the northern end of the site - looking north-east*



*Plate 2: View of excavated area, central part of the site, showing modern intrusive material - looking east*



**APPENDIX B - COLOUR PLATES (continued)**



*Plate 3: View of site following demolition of majority of former engineering works - looking south*

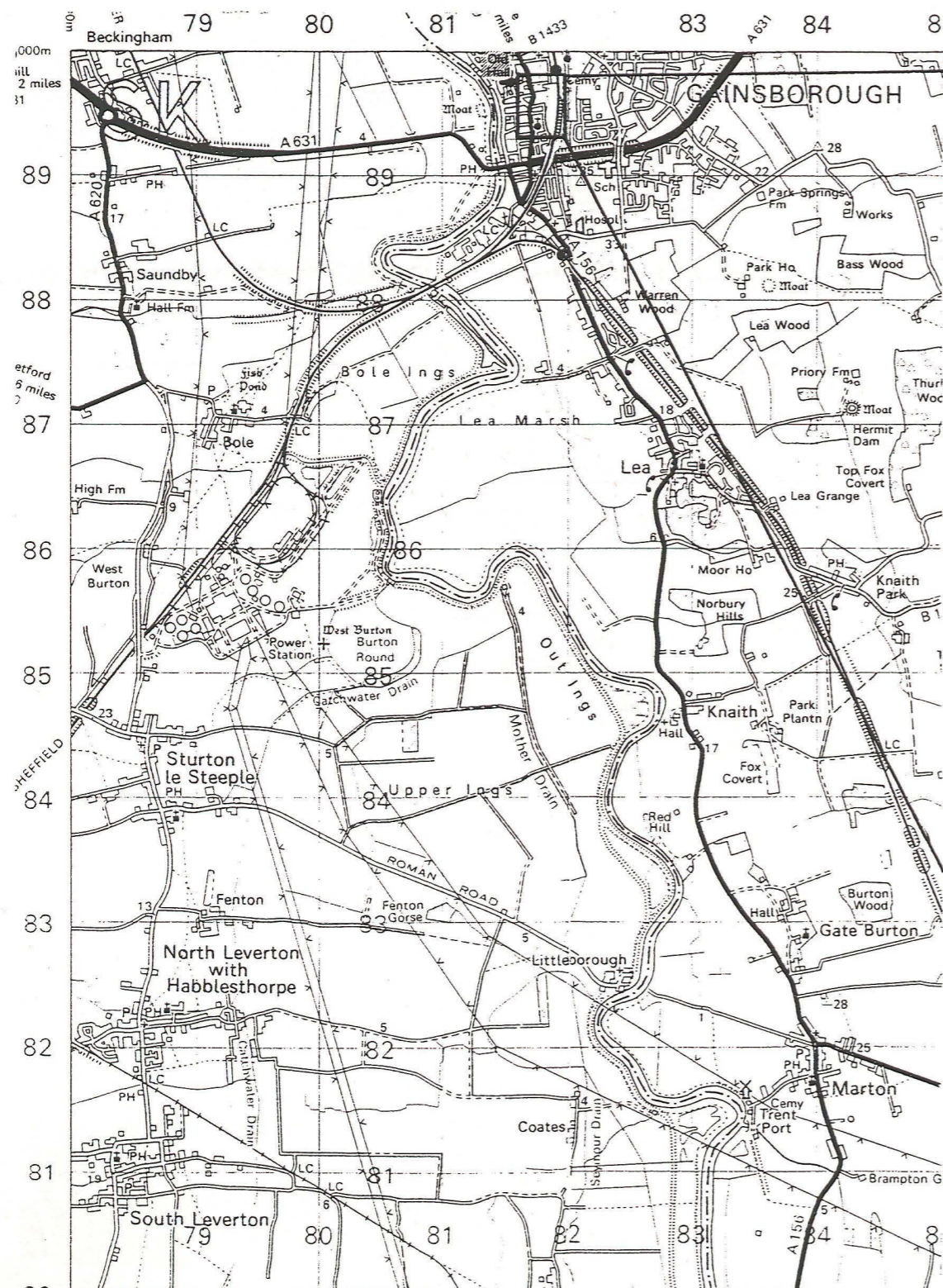


*Plate 4: View of hardcore 'piling mat', in advance of piling operations, main store area - looking north-west*





1:50 000

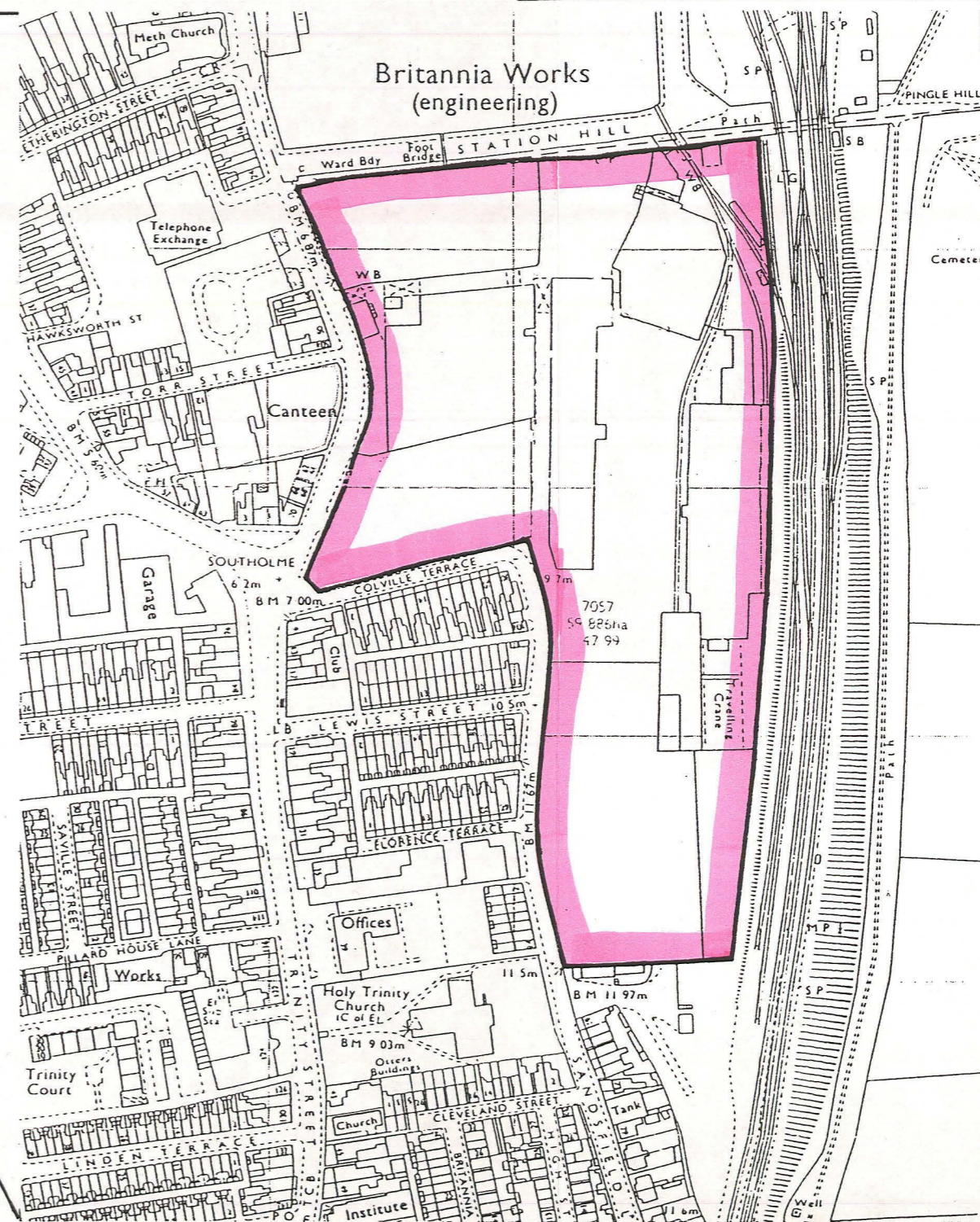


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KEY

Location of Site

1:2500



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CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
SITE CODE: GTS99	PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:	
CLIENT: Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd on behalf of Tesco		
DESCRIPTION: Site Location Plan		
SCALE:	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY:	CHECKED:	DATE:
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 34.99		

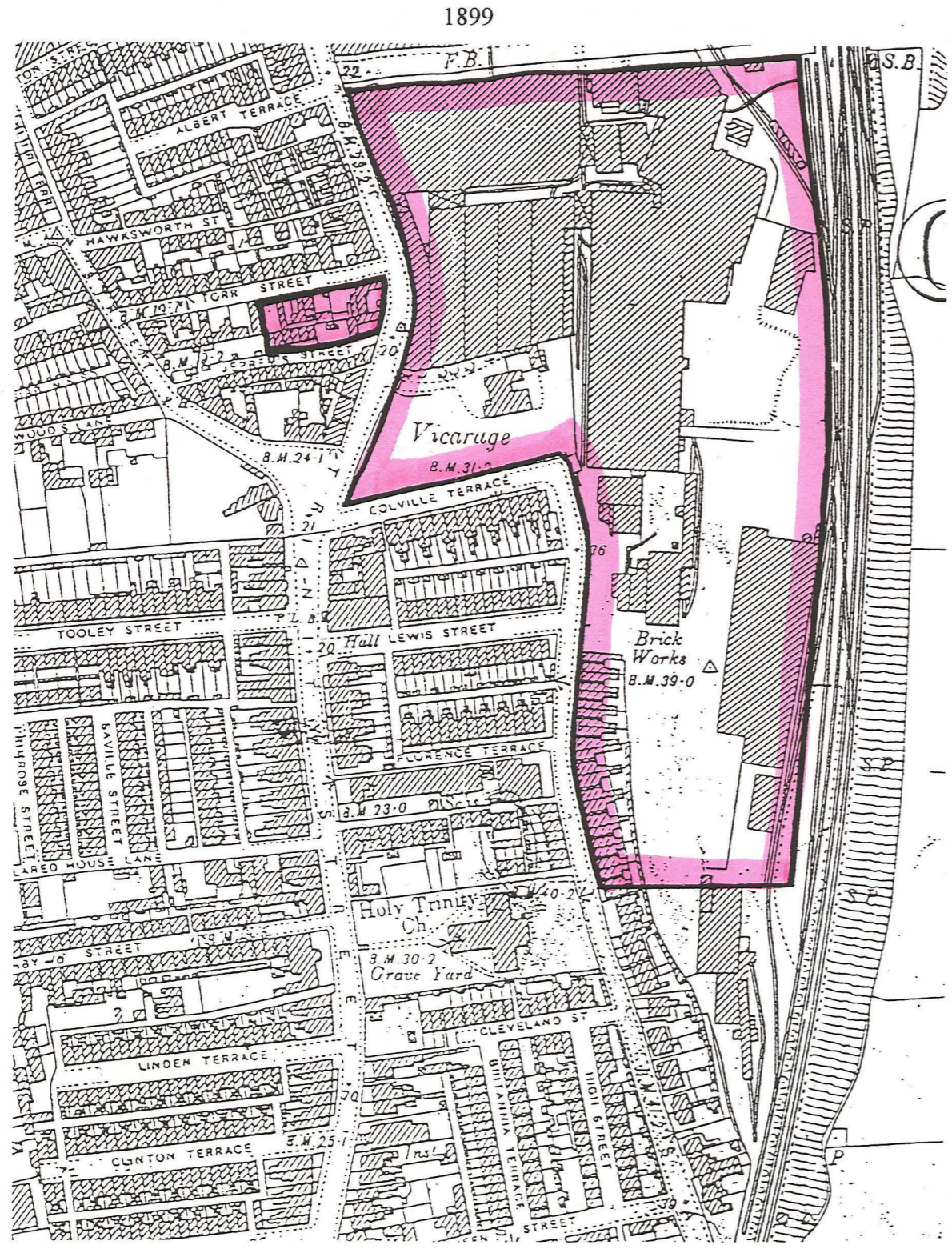




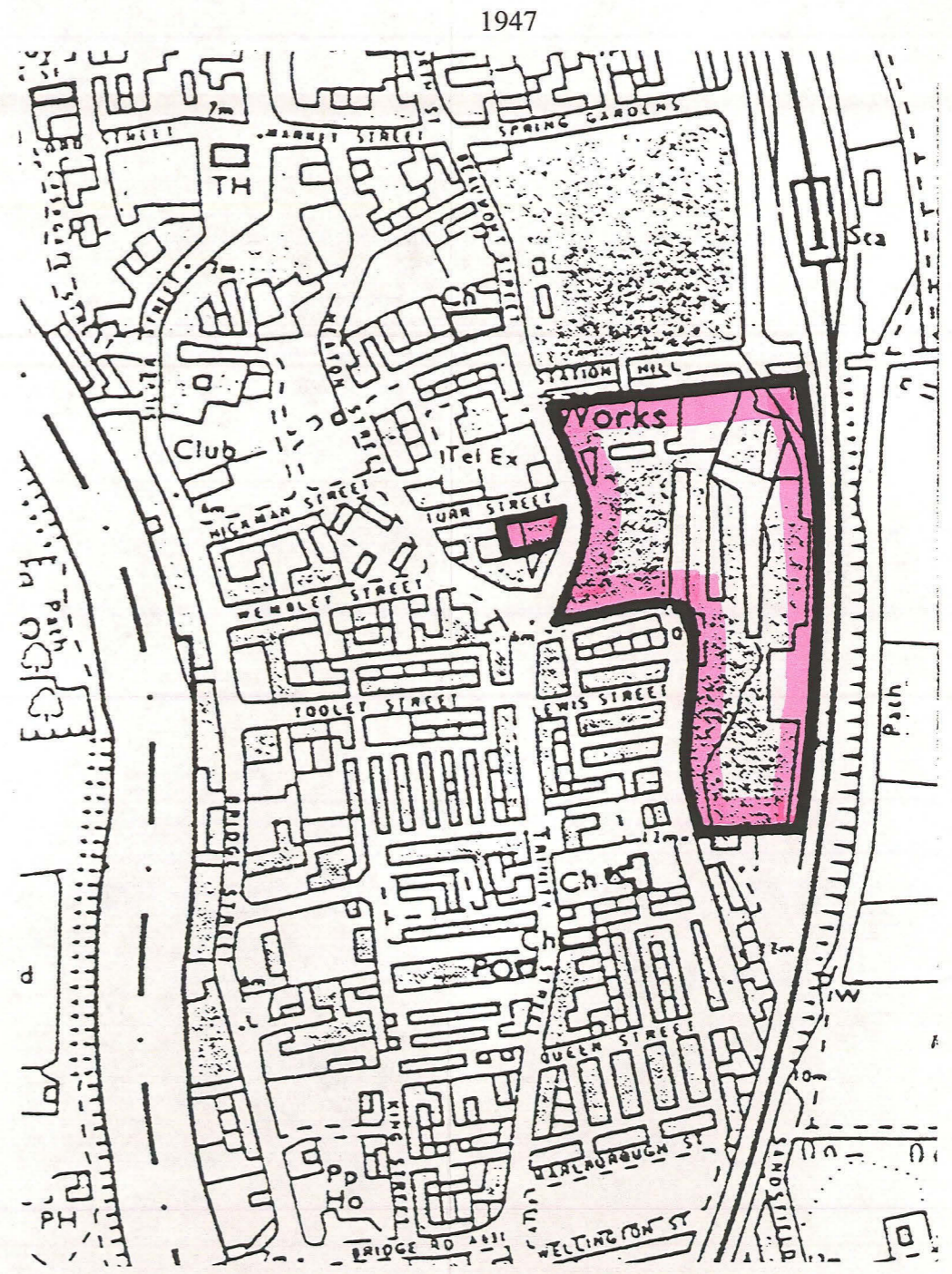
KEY

Location of Site

CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
SITE CODE: GTS99	PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:	
CLIENT: Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd on behalf of Tesco		
DESCRIPTION: Extracts From 1899 and 1947 Ordnance Survey Maps		
SCALE: N.T.S.	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY:	CHECKED:	DATE:
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 34.99		



Based upon the 1899 Ordnance Survey map.

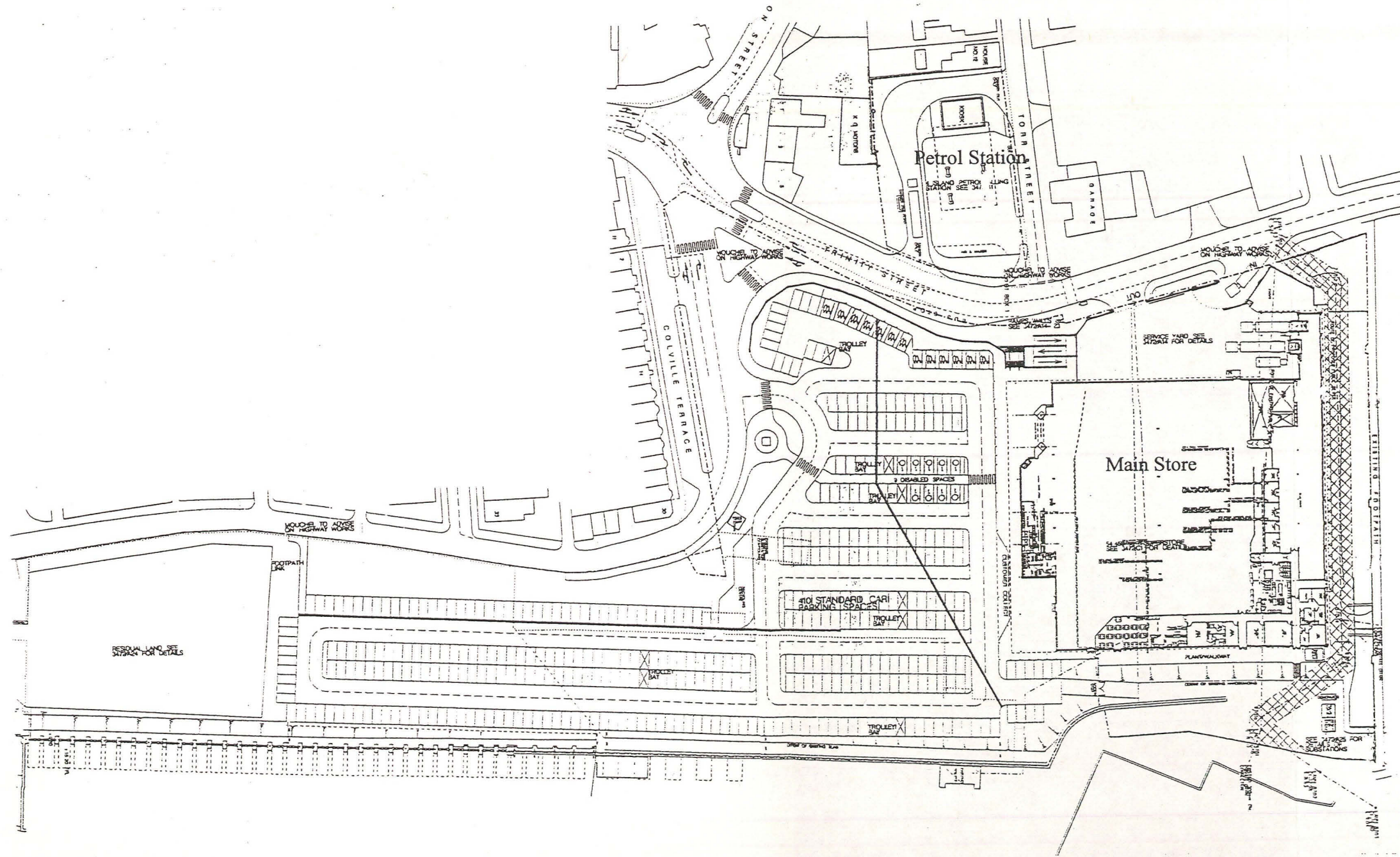


Based upon the 1947 Ordnance Survey map.





<b>CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT</b>		
SITE CODE: GTS99	PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:	
CLIENT: Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd on behalf of Tesco		
DESCRIPTION: Proposed Site Layout Plan		
SCALE: 1:1250	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY:	CHECKED:	DATE:
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 34.99		



Based upon Smith Smalley Architects' drawing no. A1 Amendment D

Fig.3