ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF OF DRAINAGE WORKS AT, ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, HOUGHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE (HAS 99)



00/1

A P S ARCHAEOLOGICAL P R O J E C T S E R V I C E S

Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section

27. JAN 00 ack 27/1/00



"

ſ

30383 -red-modern Guent LI 1001

OVIENTS

Lint of States

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF OF DRAINAGE WORKS AT, ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, HOUGHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE (HAS 99)

> Work Undertaken For Benton and Co. Architects on behalf of The Parochial Council

> > January 2000

Report Compiled by Paul Cope-Faulkner BA (Hons) AIFA

National Grid Reference: SK 8866 4422 City and County Museum Accession No: 2000.6

A.P.S. Report No. 5/00

NO124SIN40

CONTENTS

1

1

1

1

`

List of Figures

List of Plates

1.	Summary 1
2	Introduction
2.	2.1 Definition of a Watching brief
	2.2 Planning Background 1
	2.3 Topography and Geology 1
	2.4 Archaeological Setting 1
3.	Aims
4.	Methods
5.	Results
6.	Discussion
7.	Conclusions
8.	Acknowledgements
9.	Personnel 3
10.	Bibliography 3
11.	Abbreviations

Appendices

1	Context Descriptions
2	Glossary

3 The Archive

List of Figures

Figure 1 General location plan

Figure 2 Site location plan

Figure 3 Plan of All Saints' church showing position of drainage trench and drawn section

Figure 4 Section 1

List of Plates

Plate 1 General view of All Saints' church

Plate 2 Section 1

Plate 3 The skeleton as revealed in the disturbed subsoil (004)

An exchancelogical matching barel is defined as in filment programmer of vice realism and inversignations combineted during any operations exercises and for interors broad operat resource within a specified area, where shock is a prosability that are heredogic wintercore map he is simpled or destroying (USA 1997).

L2 Planning Mackground

(b) the 11° December 1976 a Matching based was understation that ing the recording of a substance tracely and sent arous in AB Barrer (Second). Recording: Concellenting: The substantion and Co. Ar duters on the behalf of Barrier and Co. Ar duters on the behalf of Barrier and Co. Ar duters on the behalf of Barrier and Co. Ar duters on the behalf and a photospheric pairs are really

Houghum is spanned block source of Grandware and Thing Overst of Scientians in Grante Kesteven District, Grandwalere (Dig. 19

ed subsoli (004)

2.4 Archaeological Setting

All Sebilis' different. Houghan it located in an area of knowin archaeological remains daving from the Anglo-Sexon period. A loce 10th century deporated grave never is reused as a door finitely walter the courch (Evensor and Stocker 1999, 186). A possible window, tank in the south walt may also date to the state period (Previner and Hours 1989, 1981).

Hoogham is first memoried in the Domestay Survey of c 1086 Referred to us House, the name derives from the Old English and means the hamlet belonging to House, in this case Hough-on-the-Holl (Exwed) 1974, 253) The Domesday Survey records a church, a priest named Robert. In halls and 36 acres of metidow with the land belonging to the Bishop of Lincoln, Column and the Counters hidth (Foster and Londey 1976).

l

1. SUMMARY

A watching brief was undertaken during drainage works at All Saints' church, Hougham, Lincolnshire.

The church largely dates to the early medieval period (AD 1066-1200) although a grave cover and a possible window jamb are believed to be Late Saxon in date (AD 850-1066).

The investigations revealed a disturbed subsoil, which contained a juvenile human skeleton, overlain by dumped deposits, which may indicate a period of repair or rebuilding of the church. The only finds retrieved from the investigation were several fragments of brick and tile.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as 'a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for nonarchaeological reasons within a specified area,..., where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed,' (IFA 1997).

2.2 Planning Background

On the 21st December 1999 a watching brief was undertaken during the excavation of a drainage trench and soakaway at All Saints' Church, Hougham, Lincolnshire. The archaeological recording was commissioned by Benton and Co. Architects on the behalf of the Parochial Church Council, and carried out by Archaeological Project Services.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Hougham is situated 9km north of Grantham and 17km west of Sleaford in South Kesteven District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

All Saints' parish church is located on the southern edge of the village adjacent to the River Witham at National Grid Reference SK 8866 4422 (Fig.2). The drainage trench and soakaway were located at the southeast corner of the church (Fig. 3).

Local soils are of the Blackwood Association, typically deep permeable sandy and coarse loamy soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 127). The soils are developed on a drift geology of older river sand and gravel which in turn overlies a solid geology of Jurassic Lower Lias clay with siltstones and sandstones (GSGB 1972). Natural deposits encountered during the investigation comprised brownish clay.

2.4 Archaeological Setting

All Saints' church, Hougham is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Anglo-Saxon period. A late 10th century decorated grave cover is reused as a door lintel within the church (Everson and Stocker 1999, 186). A possible window jamb in the south wall may also date to the same period (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 398).

Hougham is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as *Hacam*, the name derives from the Old English and means the hamlet belonging to *Haugh*, in this case Hough-on-the-Hill (Ekwall1974, 253). The Domesday Survey records a church, a priest named Robert, 3 mills and 56 acres of meadow with the land belonging to the Bishop of Lincoln, Colsuain and the Countess Judith (Foster and Longley 1976).

The church largely dates to the Norman period (late $11^{\text{th}} - 12^{\text{th}}$ century) with additions in the 14^{th} century and possibly the 18^{th} century (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 398).

3. AIMS

The aim of the archaeological investigation was to ensure that any archaeological features exposed during the drainage works should be recorded and, if present, to determine their date, function and origin.

4. METHODS

The drainage trench and soakaway were both excavated by machine to the required depth. The exposed sections were cleaned and examined by hand. Each archaeological deposit or feature revealed within the trench was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10.

Finds recovered from the deposits identified in the watching brief were examined and a date was assigned where possible. Records of the deposits and features recognised during the investigation were also examined. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 1. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them, supplemented by artefact dating where relevant. A stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced.

5. **RESULTS**

Three phases were identified:

Phase 1 Natural deposits

Phase 2 Undated deposits Phase 3 Modern deposits

Archaeological contexts are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

Phase 1 Natural Deposits

The earliest deposit encountered during this investigation was a layer of mottled brown clay (005) exposed at the base of the soakaway. Interpreted as a natural deposit, it may have formed as a result of glacial or alluvial processes.

Phase 2 Undated deposits

Overlying the natural deposit was a 0.87m thick deposit of greyish brown sandy clay (004). This was identified as a disturbed subsoil and also contained a juvenile human skeleton at a depth of 0.9m from the present ground surface (The skeleton was left *in situ* and not excavated).

The disturbed subsoil was overlain by a 0.12m thick dumped deposit of mid yellowish brown sandy clay (003) which became more clayey with angular limestone/sandstone fragments closer to the church (002)

Phase 3 Modern Deposits

Sealing all deposits was a topsoil of brown clayey sand (001), measuring 0.25m thick.

6. **DISCUSSION**

Natural (Phase 1) deposits are represented by a brown clay deposit which is probably a localised deposit of glacial or alluvial origin and differs from the geological map of the area. Undated (Phase 2) deposits include a disturbed subsoil containing a human skeleton as well as a number of fragments of disarticulated bone. This deposit is unlikely to be a grave fill as it is quite extensive but may have formed as a result of continual grave digging since the church was founded. Overlying this are two dumped deposits that may relate to a series of rebuilding or repair at the church, which may have happened in the 18th or 19th centuries.

Finds comprise fragmentary pieces of roofing tile or brick and were retrieved from topsoil and the disturbed subsoil.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at All Saints' church, Hougham because the site lay within an area of known remains dating to the Late Saxon and medieval periods.

A disturbed subsoil was the earliest archaeological layer discovered and contained the skeleton of a child. Two later dumped deposits may relate to repair or rebuilding at the church.

Although human bone occurred in abundance there was no indications of other environmental evidence or waterlogging. Therefore, conditions are thought to be generally unsuitable for the survival of plant remains (eg, seeds, pollen, plant macrofossils) other than through charring, although other environmental indicators (snail shells, insect remains, bone) may be preserved.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr T.R.

Benton of Benton and Co. Architects who commissioned this investigation on behalf of Parochial Church Council. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor and this report was edited by Tom Lane. Jo Simpson, the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist, kindly permitted examination of the relevant parish archaeological files.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor Supervisor: Tobin Rayner Finds Processing: Denise Buckley Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner Post-excavation Analyst: Paul Cope-Faulkner

10. **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Ekwall, E., 1974 The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place-Names (4th edition)

Everson, P. and Stocker, D., 1999, Corpus of Anglo-Saxon Stone Sculpture: Lincolnshire, Vol. V

Foster, C.W. and Longley, T. (eds), 1976 *The Lincolnshire Domesday and the Lindsey Survey*, The Lincoln Record Society **19**

GSGB, 1972 Grantham, Solid and Drift geology, 1:50,000 map sheet 127

Hodge, C.A.H., Burton, R.G.O., Corbett, W.M., Evans, R., and Seale, R.S., 1984 *Soils and their use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales **13**

IFA, 1997 Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs

Pevsner, N. and Harris, J., 1989 Lincolnshire, The Buildings of England (2nd edition, revised Antram, N.)

1

Π

T

11. ABBREVIATIONS

GSGB	Geological Survey of Great Britain

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

gare 1 - General location in



Figure 1 - General location map





Figure 3 - Plan of All Saints' Church showing position of drainage trench and drawn section



I

I



]

]

]

]

1

]

]

1]

]

]

]

I

Plate 1 - General view of All Saints' church, looking west



Plate 2 - Section 1, looking south



Plate 3 - The skeleton as revealed in the disturbed subsoil (004), looking west

Appendix 1

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Section	Description	Interpretation
001	1	Loose mid brown clayey sand, 0.25m thick	Topsoil
002		Loose mid yellowish brown clayey sand with frequent angular limestone fragments, unexcavated	Dumped deposit
003	1	Firm mid yellowish brown sandy clay, 0.12m thick	Dumped deposit
004	1	Firm mid greyish brown sandy clay, frequent bone (including a juvenile skeleton) and limestone gravel, 0.87m thick	Disturbed subsoil
005	1	Firm mottled brown clay, > 0.1 m thick	Natural deposit

Appendix 2

GLOSSARY

Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004).		
Layer	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of contained within a cut.	soil or other material that is not	
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1	066-1500.	
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have acc human activity.	cumulated without the influence of	
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 w tribes from northern Germany.	hen England was largely settled by	

The decourse and another provided in this apport are based on the archeering provider for the first and provide entropy of the second set the firstwork. Archinecky provide the firstworks cannot content the these arch a support article first second by not that any inclusion provide there is of a sample character to fighter other are support article in weather the firstwork. Archineckogy present there is of a sample character to fighter other are supported article in weather the fighter of the any inclusion of a sample character to fighter other are not the top of the content of the fighter.

Automobility of the part of the second shall relate the opening of the commissional inputs such the Contract of the upper and Parton Act 1988 with all dights reserved, escripting out it hantly provide an exclusive former to the client for the state of such decenteries by the client in all matters directly relating to the present as described in the Project Specification.

Appendix 3

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 5 Context records
- 1 Photographic record sheets
- 2 Drawing sheets
- 1 Bag of finds
- 1 Stratigraphic matrix

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services The Old School Cameron Street Heckington Sleaford Lincolnshire NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Lincolnshire City and County Museum 12 Friars Lane Lincoln LN2 1HQ

The archive will be deposited in accordance with the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives*, produced by the Lincolnshire City and County Museum.

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number:	2000.6
Archaeological Project Services Site Code:	HHAS99

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright*, *Designs and Patents Act* 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

