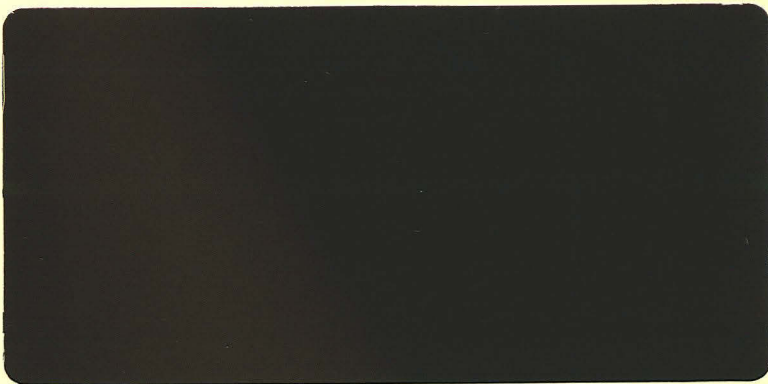


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**DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT OF  
LAND NORTHEAST OF SHARP'S LANE,  
LEVERTON,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(LSL00)**



**A P S**  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
SERVICES



05 MAY 00  
12/5/00

San Diego County Sheriff's Office

13542 - Med  
Event LI1231

**DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT OF  
LAND NORTHEAST OF SHARP'S LANE,  
LEVERTON,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(LSL00)**

Work Undertaken For  
Molsom and Partners

April 2000

Report Compiled by  
James Albone BSc (Hons), PIFA

National Grid Reference: TF 4065 4735



A.P.S. Report No. 051/00

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## 1. SUMMARY

*A desk-based assessment was undertaken to determine the archaeological implications of the construction of a workshop on land to the northeast of Sharp's Lane Leverton, Lincolnshire. Archaeological evidence dating from the medieval and post-medieval periods has been identified within the 750m assessment area around the proposed development site.*

*The site lies to the southeast of the present village of Leverton and is mainly under pasture. No archaeological remains have previously been identified from the site. A possible medieval moat earthwork has been recorded at Leverton Grange, close to the site. The Grange dates from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and it is possible that the earthwork is actually a ha-ha (garden boundary), separating it from surrounding parkland.*

*The site lies inland of a suggested Anglo-Saxon sea bank along the Highgate. In view of this, there is little or no potential for Saxon and medieval salt-making evidence at the site.*

*A walkover survey was carried out at the site to assess ground conditions and the presence of archaeological remains. Indistinct earthworks, of uncertain origin, are present on part of the site area. Well-preserved earthworks of dylings, a type of fenland ridge and furrow, survive in the parkland immediately northeast of the site. It is possible that the earthworks at the site are also the badly disturbed remains of dylings.*

*The site would be suitable for earthworks and geophysical surveys. However, the indistinct nature of the features may limit the usefulness of a topographic survey. Most of the site area is under pasture and is not*

*suitable for fieldwalking. No artefactual remains were observed during the walkover survey.*

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Planning Background

A planning application for the construction of a joinery workshop at Sharp's Lane, Leverton was submitted to Boston Borough Council (Planning ref. B/00/0049/FULL). Examination of records held by Heritage Lincolnshire, showed that the proposed development site lay within an area of archaeological potential. As a result, the Boston Community Archaeologist recommended that a desk-based assessment be carried out to establish the known and potential archaeology of the assessment area and allow appropriate mitigation measures to be implemented (Appendix 1).

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Molsom and Partners to undertake a desk-based assessment of the proposed development site. The archaeological assessment was undertaken in accordance with a Project Brief issued by the Boston Community Archaeologist and the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for the Preparation of Desk-Based Assessments* (IFA 1999).

### 2.2 Topography and Geology

Leverton village is situated in the Boston district of Lincolnshire, approximately 8km northeast of Boston (Fig. 1). The site is located to the southeast of the village on the northeast side of Sharp's Lane. It is centred on NGR TF 4065 4735 and lies at a height of c.3m above OD.

The site lies on calcareous alluvial gley soils

of the Wisbech Series developed on marine alluvium (Robson 1990, 36).

### 2.3 Definition of a Desk-Based Assessment

A desk-based assessment is defined by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) as an *'assessment of the known or potential archaeological resource within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. It consists of a collation of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the likely character, extent, quality and worth of the known or potential archaeological resource in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate'* (IFA 1999).

## 3. PROJECT AIMS

The purpose of the desk-based assessment is to obtain information about the known and potential archaeological resource of the proposed development site. In order to achieve this the assessment considers all archaeological remains within *c.* 750m of the site. The condition and extent of any remains at the site is then clarified to enable suitable mitigation measures to be devised to minimise their disturbance. In addition to the above, statutory and advisory heritage constraints are identified.

## 4. METHODS

All archaeological remains or documentary evidence relating to the area within *c.* 750m of the proposed development site were considered. Compilation of the archaeological and historical data relevant to the area of the proposed development site involved examination of all appropriate

primary and secondary sources available. These have included:

- Historical documents, held in Lincolnshire Archives Office.
- Enclosure, tithe, parish and other maps and plans, held in Lincolnshire Archives Office.
- Recent and old Ordnance Survey maps.
- Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.
- Parish files held by Heritage Lincolnshire.
- Aerial photographs.
- Archaeological books and journals
- Records at Boston Local Studies Library.

Information obtained from the literature and cartographic examination was supplemented by a walkover survey of the site to assess present land-use and ground conditions.

Results of the archival and field examinations were committed to scale plans of the area.

No geotechnical information relevant to the assessment site was available.

## 5. RESULTS

### 5.1 Historical Data

Leverton is first recorded as *Levretune* in the Domesday Survey in 1086. The place-name is Old English in origin and refers to 'the farmstead or village where the reeds grow' (Cameron 1998, 80).

At the time of the Domesday Survey land at Leverton was in the jurisdiction of Drayton manor and held by Count Alan. He had 12 carucates of taxable land and there were 25

freeman, 15 villagers and 24 smallholders. A priest, church and 60 acres of meadow are also recorded (Morris 1986, 12;65).

Many of the principal roads along the coastline of the Wash originated as sea banks. It has been suggested that Leverton Highgate was the original Anglo-Danish or Anglo-Saxon sea bank (Hallam 1965, 72). Consequently, all land between this road and the present coastline is a result of post-conquest reclamation. There is evidence to indicate that there was also a small haven between Benington and Leverton (*ibid.*).

Leverton church is dedicated to St. Helen. The tower and chancel arch are in the Perpendicular style which was copied during early 18<sup>th</sup> and late 19<sup>th</sup> century restorations. (Pevsner 1989, 434).

Two rectories were recorded at Leverton from at least the early 14<sup>th</sup> century. These were the north and south medieties and tithes were divided equally between them (Thompson 1856, 557). Tradition states that there were also two churches, one of which was, 'swallowed up by the sea'. The two rectories were joined together in 1800 and the parish was made tithe free in 1816 (*ibid.*).

During the medieval period, wool appears to have been among the produce of the parish. In 1342, Leverton were allowed to export 7 sacks, 19 stones and 7 pounds of wool duty free. This was a greater quantity than any other parish in the wapentake (*ibid.*, 552).

Although there appears to be no direct evidence for medieval salt-making at Leverton, it is likely that this industry also formed part of the economy. A total of 41 salterns are recorded at the adjacent parish of Leake in the Domesday Survey, and the industry continued along much of this coast

throughout the medieval period (Healey 1993, 28).

The low-lying nature of the land often presented problems with flooding. In 1735 Leverton complained that the neighbouring parish of Benington had allowed Scott's Dyke to overflow and damage their lands (Wheeler 1896, 74). In common with other parishes along the Wash, areas of salt marsh were reclaimed. A sea bank completed in 1801 enclosed 395 acres of marsh half a mile beyond the existing bank (*ibid.*). An Act of Parliament for the enclosure of Leverton parish was passed in 1810 but the award and plan were not produced until 1846.

Leverton Grange, which lies to the east of the site, is first referred to in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The earliest reference found dated to 1882 when it was owned by Charles Frederick Swain, a landowner and farmer (White 1882, 476). It is not mentioned in the *Post Office Directory* of 1876 (Kelly 1876) or any earlier directories.

## 5.2 Cartographic Data

The proposed development site is located to the southeast of Leverton village, close to the Grange. Appropriate maps of the vicinity were examined.

Armstrong's '*Map of Lincoln-shire*', which dates from 1778, is the earliest plan examined relevant to the assessment area (Fig. 3). It appears that the road with the '*High Tofts*' marked on it is Leverton Highgate. If this is the case, one of the areas of settlement depicted may be in the vicinity of the proposed development site. However, the small scale of the map and lack of reference points means that this is not certain.

Bryant's 1828 '*Map of the County of*



*Lincoln* is the earliest map on which the proposed development site can be accurately located (Fig. 4). A group of buildings are shown in the vicinity of the site. The dark area shown in the corner between Sharp's Lane and High Gate Lane appears to be woodland. This may be associated with the adjacent buildings.

The Leverton enclosure map of 1846 (LAO. Leverton Par.17) shows the site in detail (Fig. 5, Field 269). Three buildings are shown in an L-shaped enclosure immediately to the southeast of the site (Fig. 5, Field 268). The layout of these buildings differs from those shown on Bryant's map suggesting that some had been demolished. Sharp's Lane is shown on this map as *Fenkin Lane*. The origin of this name is unclear.

The first edition 1" Ordnance Survey map of 1867 (Fig. 6) shows a group of buildings in the vicinity of the site. However, the scale is too small to allow accurate interpretation.

The second edition 6" to 1 mile Ordnance Survey map of 1903 shows Leverton Grange (Fig. 7). The proposed development site appears to lie within a small enclosure to the rear of the farm buildings associated with the Grange. Trees are shown on the area immediately to the southeast of the site and it may have been an orchard or a survival from the woodland shown on Bryant's map. A small linear earthwork, probably part of the possible moat, is shown along the rear boundary of the Grange grounds, to the east of the site.

A later, revised, edition of this map which dates to 1956 shows that a building had been constructed to the southeast of the site (Fig. 8) No other major changes had occurred.

Further changes to the buildings at the

Grange are shown on the 1976 1:10,000 Ordnance Survey map (Fig.2).

### 5.3 Aerial Photograph Data

No aerial photographs relevant to the assessment area were contained in collections held by Heritage Lincolnshire or the Lincolnshire SMR.

An earthwork of a possible medieval moat at Leverton Grange is shown on a photograph held by Cambridge University (RC8-BG58). A photocopy of this vertical photograph was examined but no clear details of the earthwork were visible. The only other relevant photograph held by CUCAP was also a vertical view (RC8-GU80). However, it was taken from a higher altitude and did not provide any useful information.

A request has been made to the National Monuments Record for details of aerial photographic coverage of the Leverton area. However, at the time of writing the information had not been received.

### 5.4 Archaeological Data

Records of archaeological sites and finds are held in the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record. Other sources, including parish files held by the Boston Community Archaeologist, were also examined. Details of archaeological and historical remains falling within c.750m of the proposed development site are collated in Table 1 and located on Figure 2.

#### *Prehistoric, Romano-British and Saxon Archaeology*

No archaeological evidence relating to these periods was identified within the assessment area. It is possible that any remains from these periods are masked by later alluvial deposits.

Map Code No.	SMR Ref.	Boston Community Arch. Ref.	Description	National Grid Reference
1	13044	15/004	Earthwork of a possible medieval moat at Leverton Grange.	TF 408 473
2	12788	15/006	Medieval pottery and other finds. Possible manor site	TF 4125 4785
3	----	03/008	Possible medieval saltern mound	TF 4050 4680
4	12789	15/006	Post-medieval pottery finds. Possible manor site	TF 4125 4785

Table 1: Known archaeological sites and finds within c.750m of the proposed development site.

### *Medieval Archaeology*

Three sites of medieval date (1066-1500 AD) were identified within the assessment area. An earthwork moat at Leverton Grange is recorded as possibly being of medieval date (Fig. 2, No. 1). However, there are no finds from the site, and no other recorded evidence to confirm its age. The site is recorded from an aerial photograph and it is not clear whether it has ever been properly examined on the ground.

Medieval pottery and other finds, including knife handles and an iron spur, have been found at Leverton Highgate (Fig. 2, No. 2). The quality of these finds may indicate that this was a manor site.

An area of 'made-ground' is shown to the southwest of the site on geological maps. It has been suggested that it is a saltern mound of medieval date (Fig.2, No. 3). However, no field investigations have been carried out to confirm this.

### *Post-Medieval Archaeology*

Pottery of post-medieval date has been found at the possible manor site at Leverton Highgate associated with traces of

earthworks (Fig. 2, No. 4).

### **5.5 Historic Buildings Data**

A number of listed historic buildings are recorded at Leverton. However, these are mainly located in the village and none lie close to the proposed development site (DoE 1987, 53-7).

### **5.6 Walkover Survey**

A walkover survey of the proposed development site was undertaken on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2000. The site consisted of two areas which are shown on Fig.9.

Area 1 formed part of the yard associated with the existing workshops. Several steel containers were located in this area and ground inspection was not possible.

Area 2 consisted of part of a large pasture field. Irregular, low earthworks were observed on this part of the site (Pl. 1 & 2). Despite careful examination, no definable features could be determined. It is possible that the earthwork features in this part of the field have been extensively disturbed.

In the same field, to the northeast of the proposed development area, clear, well-preserved earthworks were observed. These consisted of a series of dylings which were aligned northwest to southeast. These had previously been identified by the Boston Community Archaeologist and were detailed in the project brief (Appendix 1, 4.3).

Dydings are a broad type of ridge and furrow that is characteristic of the fens (Healey 1997, 11). They were separated by shallow ditches, the soil from which was used to raise the adjacent strips. Although they are first recorded in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, they continued to be created into the 19<sup>th</sup> century, even in new enclosures. Early examples have an S-shaped plan with post-enclosure strips being straight (*ibid*).

The dydings at the site were in straight lines and on the same alignment as the present field boundaries. They also appeared to continue into the present grounds of the Grange. This would suggest that they date to the 19<sup>th</sup> century, between the enclosure of the parish and the construction of the Grange.

The pasture field, of which Area 2 is a part, has the appearance of parkland associated with either the present Grange or an earlier house.

The section of possible moat shown on the 6" Ordnance Survey map now lies within the grounds of the Grange and was not observed. However, a further linear depression was noted along the northeast boundary of the Grange garden. This earthwork sloped down towards the boundary, which appeared to lie at its lowest point. It seems unlikely that the present Grange boundary would be located along the base of a former moat earthwork as this would probably have been wet ground. It

seems more reasonable to assume that the present boundary, and any earlier ones, would have been positioned within the moated area. In view of this, it is suggested that the earthworks previously described as a moat could be a ha-ha created along the Grange boundary to separate it from the surrounding parkland.

The present Grange is a two-bay Victorian house of brick construction, with associated coach house and walled garden.

The pasture state of Area 2 meant that soil exposures were limited to a small number of molehills and no artefacts were observed. Further evaluation by fieldwalking would not be possible.

Earthwork survey would be possible across Area 2 of the site. However, the indistinct nature of the earthworks observed would probably not produce useful results. Geophysical survey would be possible on this part of the site. Minor disturbance to results would be caused by the presence of a concrete base located towards the southeast part of the area.

Due to current land-use no further evaluation is possible in Area 1 at the present time.

## 6. CONSTRAINTS

### 6.1 Heritage Constraints

#### *Statutory and Advisory Constraints*

No Scheduled Ancient Monuments protected by the Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act of 1979 (HMSO 1979) were located within the assessment area. All archaeological remains within the assessment area are protected only through the implementation of PPG16 (DoE 1990).

## 6.2 Other Constraints

No specific checks were carried out for the presence of active services (gas, water, electricity *etc.*) across the site and none were observed during the walkover survey.

## 7. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

For assessment of significance the *Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling ancient monuments* has been used (DoE 1990, Annex 4; See Appendix 2).

### Period

Activity dateable from the Saxon to modern periods has been recognised within the assessment area.

The Domesday Survey provides evidence that the settlement of Leverton existed by the end of the Saxon period. It has been suggested that Leverton Highgate runs along the route of the Anglo-Danish or Anglo-Saxon sea bank (Hallam 1965, 72). This period saw the development of many villages along the coastline, protected by sea banks.

The only positively identified medieval remains from within the assessment area are the artefacts found *c.*750m to the northeast of the proposed development site. The possible medieval saltern to the southeast of the site has not been confirmed by fieldwork. Salt-making and associated settlement is typical of medieval activity along the Wash coastline.

Although the possible earthwork moat at Leverton Grange has been assigned a medieval date in existing records, there is no evidence to support this. It is possible that this feature could be of a later date.

Post-medieval pottery has been found associated with low earthworks to the northeast of the site.

The proposed development site lies in an area of parkland. This area was shown as two separate fields in 1846 (Fig.5) suggesting that the park was created after this date. It is probable that it was laid out when the Grange was constructed between 1876 and 1882.

Earthwork remains of dyings were identified in part of the park. These were straight in plan and conformed to surviving field boundaries. In view of this it is likely that they are of late post-medieval or early modern date.

Although the present Grange dates to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, cartographic sources show a continuity of settlement activity along the Highgate since 1778 (Fig. 3). However, none of this appears to lie directly on the proposed development site. It is unlikely that any of the buildings depicted on the earlier maps, between 1778 and 1867, represented a large house which may have preceded the Grange. Large farmhouses, halls and other notable residences were usually named on these early maps and a predecessor to the Grange would probably have been indicated.

### Rarity

The presence of a settlement of assumed Saxon origin and sea bank at Leverton is typical of the northern coastline of the Wash.

If the moat earthworks at Leverton Grange are of medieval date, they are relatively rare. Evidence of medieval salterns, such as the possible one to the southwest of the site, is widespread from Old Leake northwards. There is no confirmed evidence of the

industry in Leverton. The rarity of the site associated with the medieval and post-medieval finds is difficult to assess.

The earthwork remains of the dyings in the parkland at Leverton Grange are rare. In this part of the county, remains of this type have mainly been destroyed by later agricultural activity (Appendix 1, 4.3).

### **Documentation**

Records of archaeological sites and finds made in the assessment area are kept in the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record and in parish files maintained by the Boston Community Archaeologist. No previous archaeological investigations have been carried out within the assessment area. The present report provides the first site-specific synopsis of the archaeological and historical evidence of the area.

### **Group value**

The medieval remains within the assessment area have a relatively low group value. This would be greatly increased if the moat earthwork proved to be of medieval date.

Post-medieval / early modern remains such as the dyings, Grange and parkland have a moderate group value.

### **Survival/Condition**

If any prehistoric or Romano-British remains lie buried beneath later alluvium within the assessment area they may be relatively well preserved.

The earthwork remains of the dyings in the Grange park, northeast of the site, are very well preserved. However, the earthworks at the proposed development site are low and indistinct. It appears that they have been disturbed and their original form is not apparent. Because of this surface disturbance, the survival characteristics of

any below ground remains cannot be assessed.

### **Fragility/Vulnerability**

Earthwork remains, such as those in the Grange park, are very susceptible to damage. This is well demonstrated by the poorly preserved remains in the site area. Any shallow buried remains which may exist at the site would also be susceptible to impact by groundworks associated with the proposed development.

### **Diversity**

A low period diversity is represented by the archaeological remains identified within the assessment area. Sites relating to settlement, communications, agriculture, industry and sea defences were identified, representing a high functional diversity.

### **Potential**

No prehistoric or Romano-British remains have been identified within the assessment area. Remains of this period may be masked by later alluvial deposits of unknown thickness. In view of this, it is not possible to accurately assess the potential for their existence at the proposed development site. However, evidence of Iron Age and Romano-British salt-making has been identified further up the coast, at Wrangle (Lane 1993, 74-75).

The proposed development site lies inland of Leverton Highgate which has been suggested, but not confirmed, as a mid- to late Saxon sea bank (Hallam 1965, 72). As a result of this it is possible that settlement activity from this period could exist in the vicinity of the site. Evidence of salt-making activity, pre-dating the construction of the bank, could also be present.

Medieval salt-making activity would have

been located on the seaward side of the Highgate bank. The industry would have advanced seawards as land was reclaimed and subsequent banks were constructed. Saltmaking did occur along the inland edges of the major creeks, as at Leake. However, no known equivalent channel existed at Leverton and, consequently, no remains of medieval salt-making are likely to be located at the proposed development site.

An earthwork adjacent to the site has previously been interpreted as a possible medieval moat. If this is correct then there is a moderate potential for associated remains of medieval date to occur in the vicinity of the proposed development site.

However, the identification of the earthwork as a moat is not definitive and lacks supporting evidence. It is possible that the earthworks are later, perhaps a ha-ha separating the 19<sup>th</sup> century Grange from its parkland. If this is the case then there would appear to be limited potential for medieval remains at the site.

Although the present Grange is only late 19<sup>th</sup> century in date, there is cartographic evidence to show settlement activity along Highgate since 1788. None of the buildings shown on the earliest map appear to have been located at the proposed development site. However, there is some potential for associated remains within the site area.

Unfortunately, the earthwork remains at the proposed development site are too poorly preserved to allow immediate interpretation. It is possible that they are the disturbed remains of dyings, which survive in the parkland to the northeast. The exact origins of these earthworks is not clear and their archaeological potential is uncertain.

## 8. CONCLUSIONS

No archaeological remains have previously been identified from within the boundaries of the proposed development site. The assessment identified evidence of archaeological activity dating from the medieval to modern periods in the vicinity of the site, and indicated, from Domesday, that the settlement was Saxon in origin.

A possible moat earthwork has been recorded at Leverton Grange less than 100m northeast of the proposed development site. However, there is no evidence to support its suggested date and it may never have been properly examined on the ground. It is possible that the earthworks are in fact a ha-ha, separating the Grange from its surrounding parkland.

The examined evidence indicates that the Grange was built between 1876 and 1882 and that it had no immediate predecessor. The parkland to its north is probably a contemporary creation. Earlier maps show settlement along this part of the Highgate from 1778. It is possible that remains associated with this activity may lie within the boundaries of the proposed development site.

Low and indistinct earthworks within part of the proposed development area were examined during the walkover survey. It is not clear to what these remains relate although it appears that they are poorly preserved. It is possible that they were originally dyings, well-preserved examples of which survive in the parkland adjacent to the site. No artefactual remains were observed during the walkover survey.

Highgate itself has been suggested as a Anglo-Saxon sea bank. Any subsequent salt-making activity would have been carried out

on its seaward side, away from the proposed development site.

Unidentified buried prehistoric and Romano-British remains may exist at the proposed development site. However, it is likely that any such remains are buried beneath later alluvial deposits and the potential for their disturbance is uncertain.

The pasture area of the site would be suitable for further evaluation in the form of earthworks or geophysical surveys. However, the ephemeral nature of the earthworks at the site may limit the usefulness of any earthworks survey results. Fieldwalking would not be possible at the site.

## 9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr. G. Molsom of Molsom and Partners who commissioned this report. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor who jointly edited this report with Tom Lane. Maps were computerised by Mark Dymond. Access to the County Sites and Monuments Record was kindly provided by Mark Bennet and Sarah Grundy of the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council. Susan Smith, the Community Archaeologist for Boston District Council, permitted access to the parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire. Thanks are also due to the staff of the Lincolnshire Archives Office and Boston Local Studies Library.

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## 11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS	Archaeological Project Services
CUCAP	Cambridge University Committee for Aerial Photography
DoE	Department of the Environment
HMSO	Her Majesties' Stationery Office
IFA	Institute of Field Archaeologists
LAO	Lincolnshire Archive Office
OS	Ordnance Survey
SMR	County Sites and Monuments Record Office



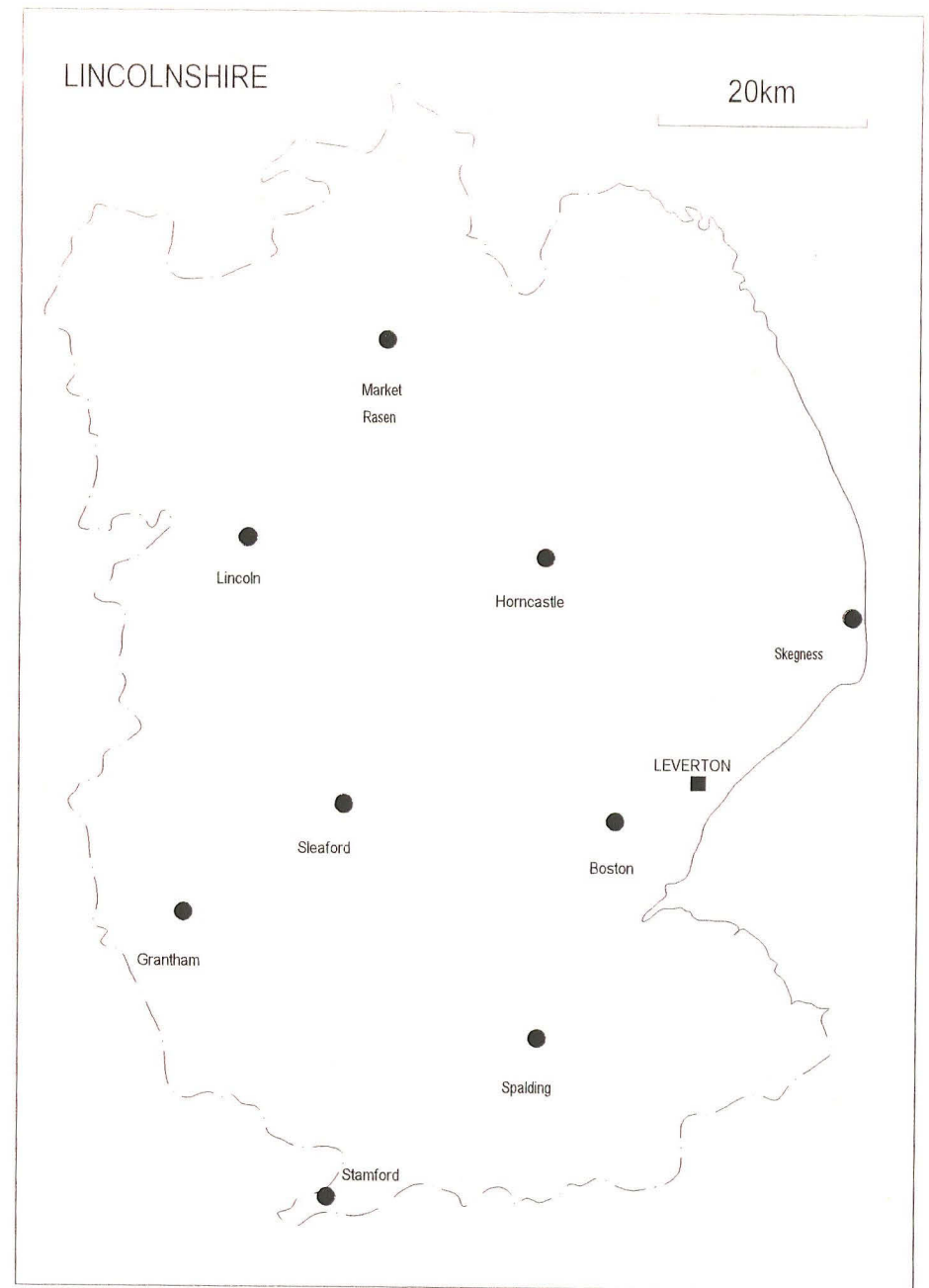


Figure 1 General Location Plan

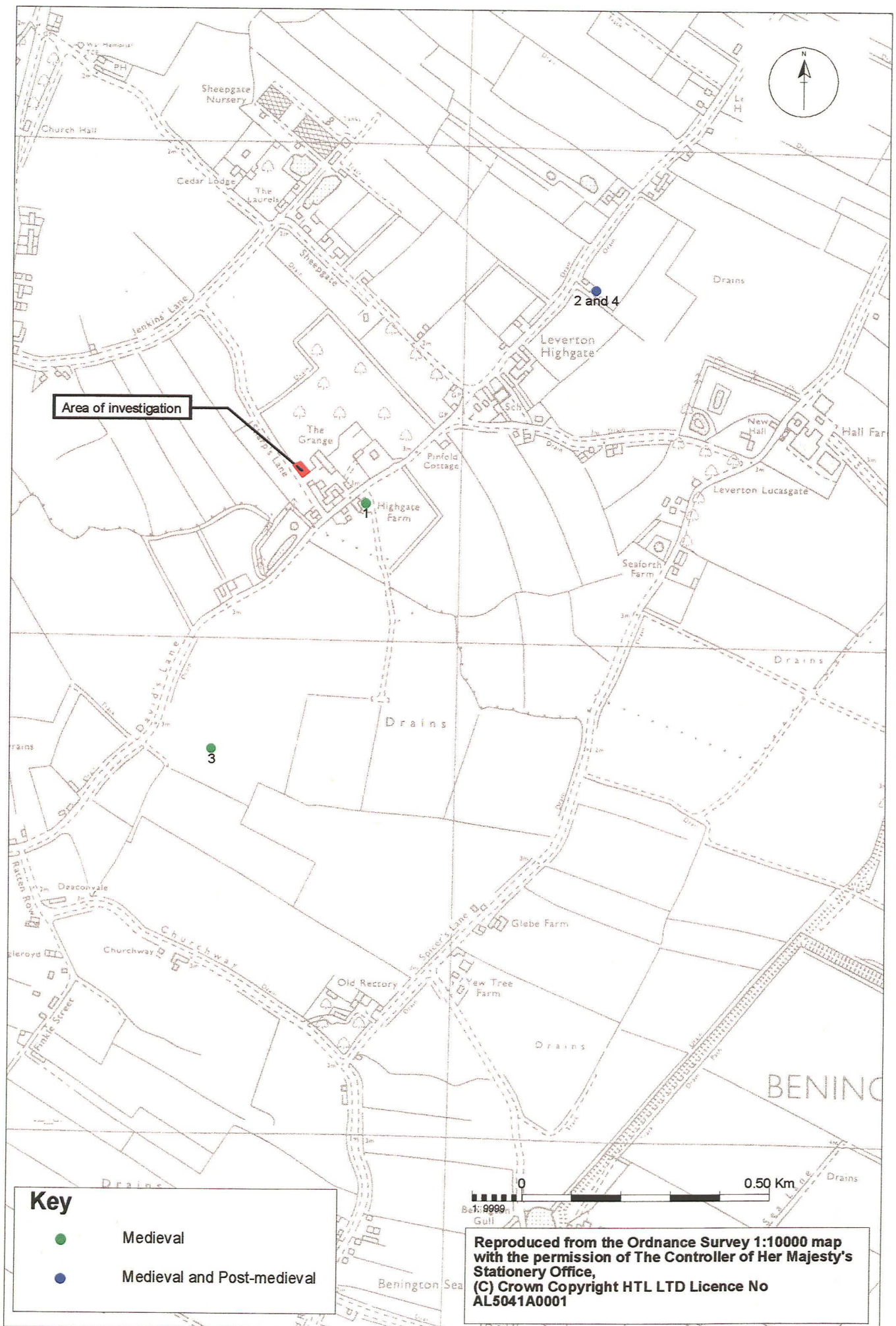


Figure 2 Site location plan, showing archaeological remains in the vicinity

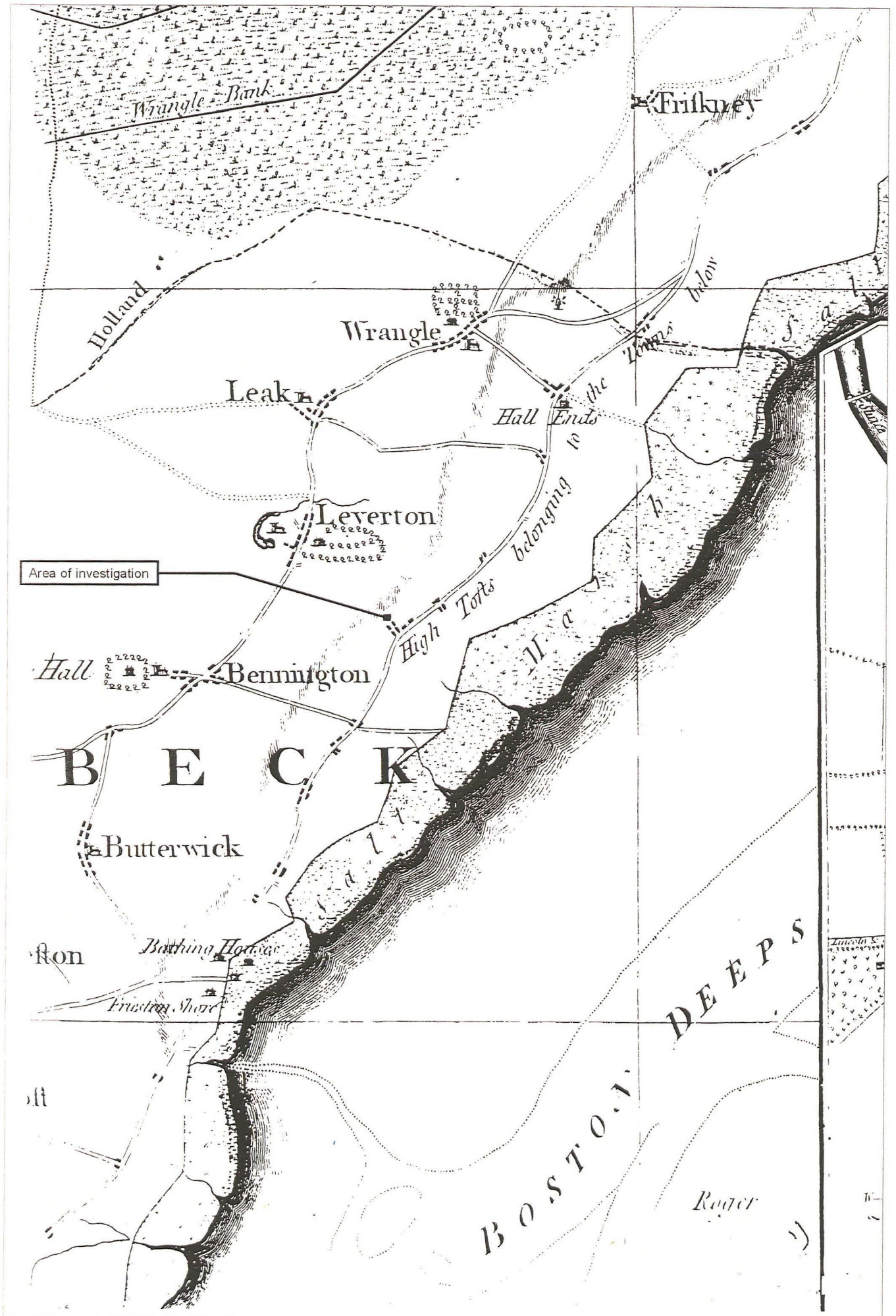


Figure 3 Extract (enlarged) from Armstrong's Map of Lincolnshire 1788

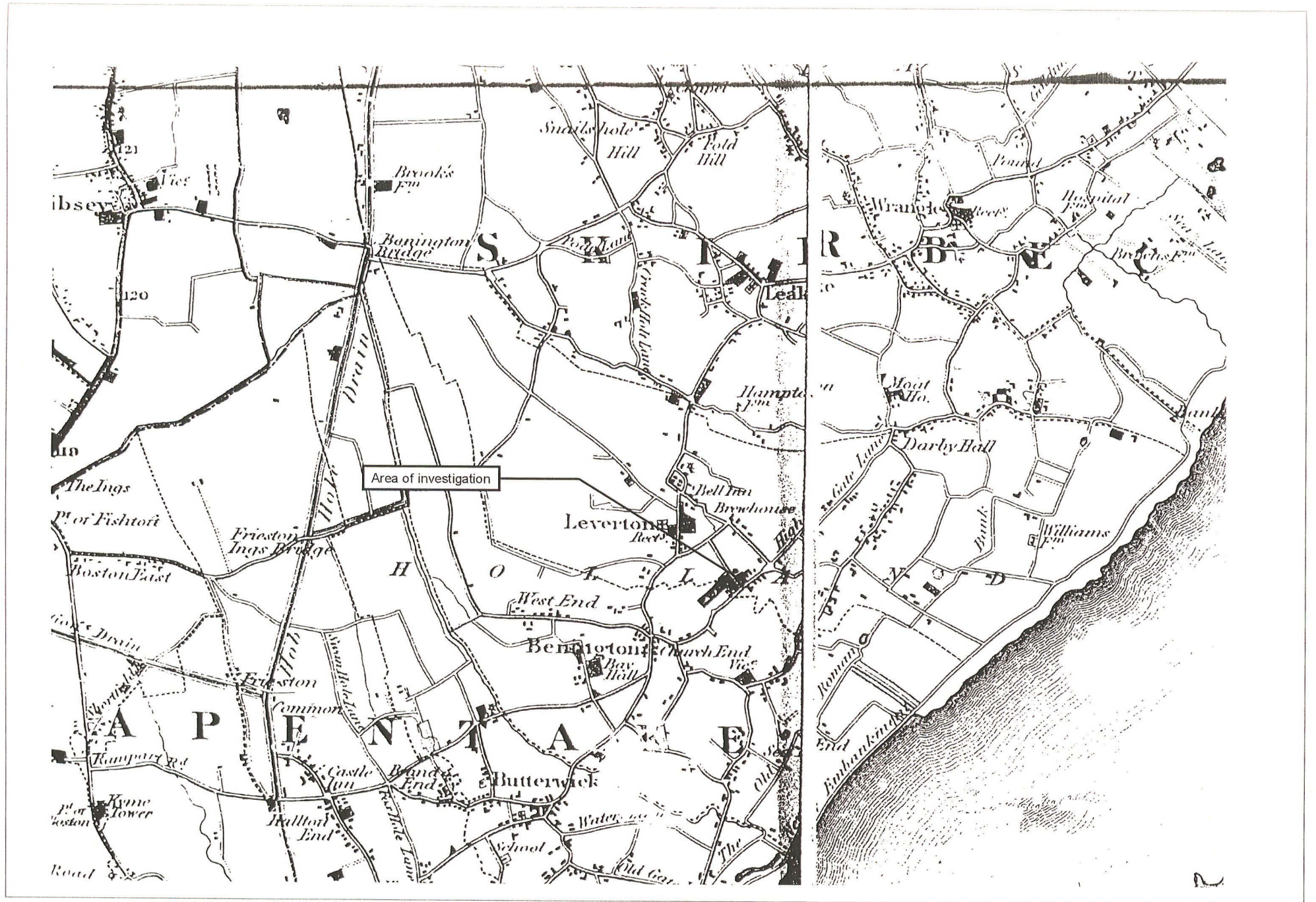


Figure 4 Extract from Bryant's 1828 Map of the County of Lincolnshire



Figure 5 Extract from Leverton Enclosure Plan 1846 (LAO Leverton Par 17)

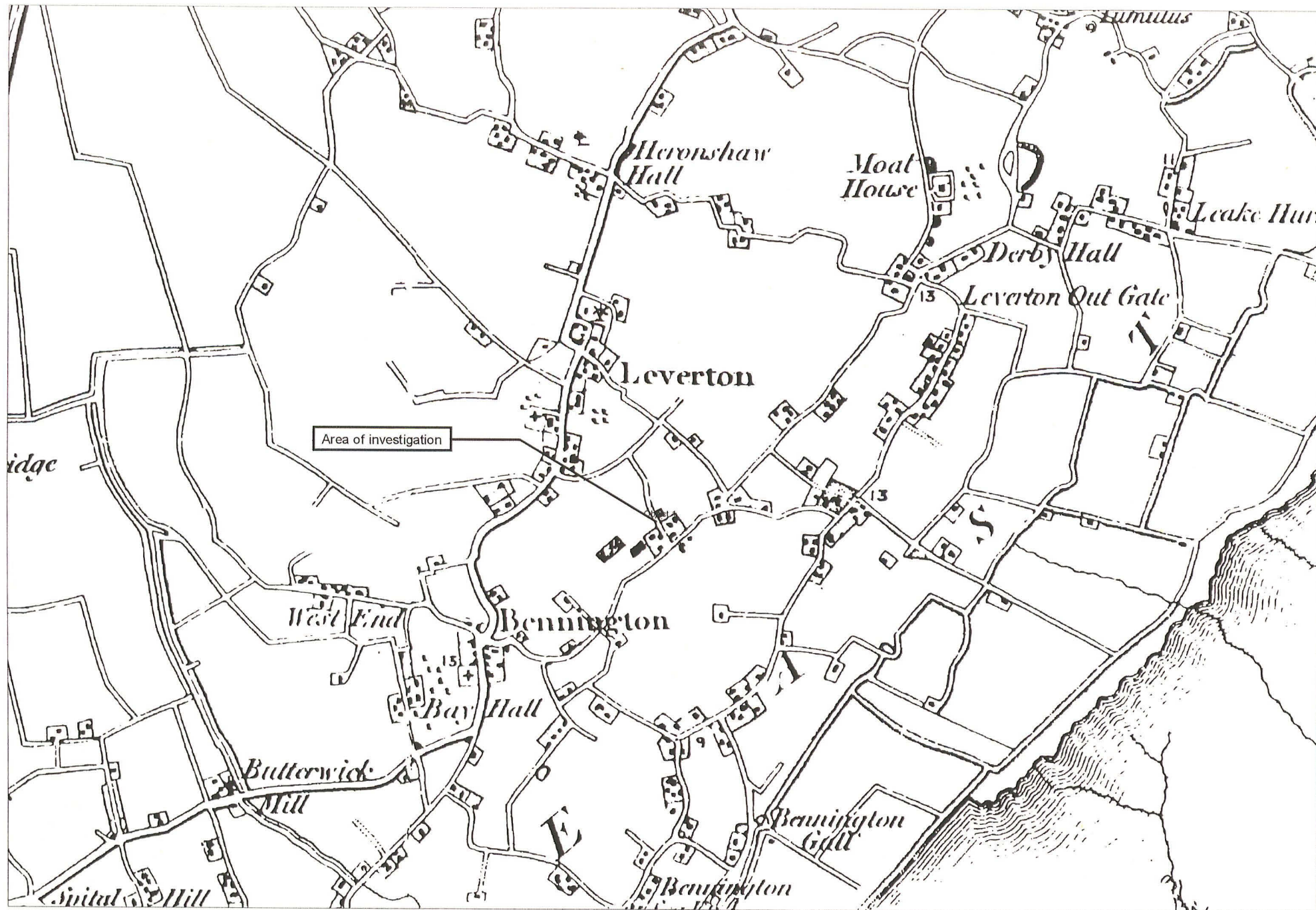


Figure 6 Extract from 1st Edition OS 1867 Map

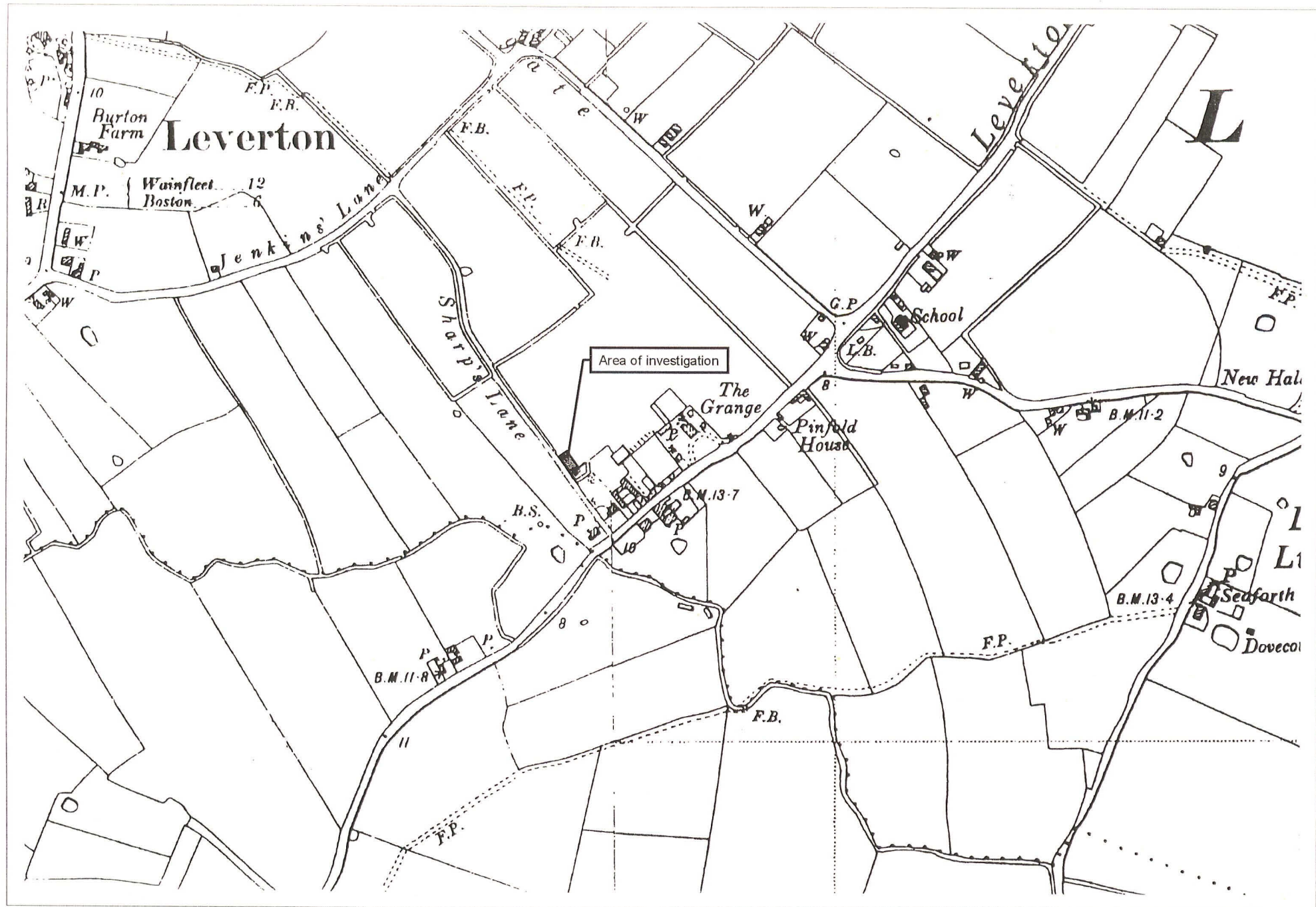
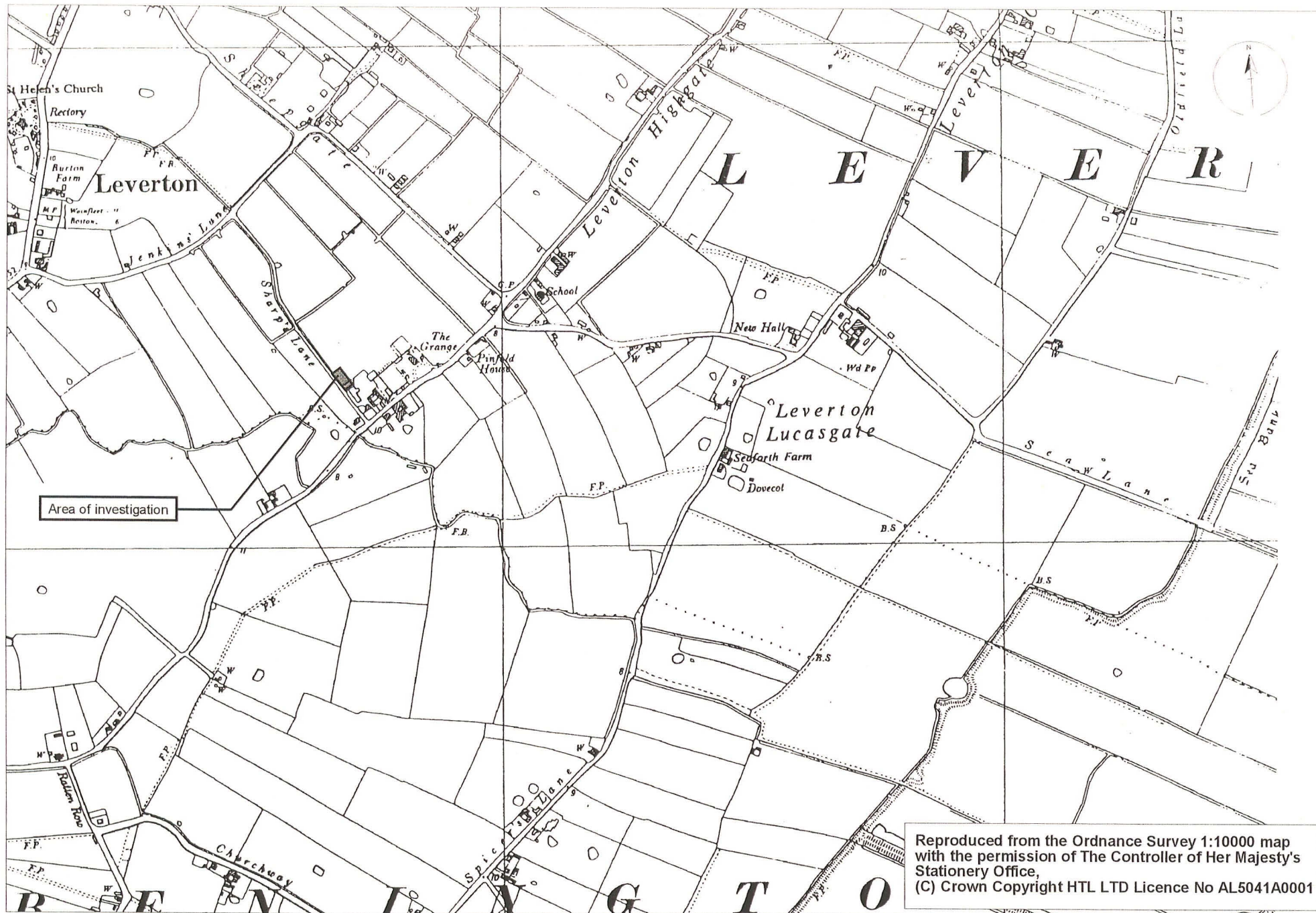


Figure 7 Enlarged extract from 2nd Edition 6" OS Map



Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:10000 map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, (C) Crown Copyright HTL LTD Licence No AL5041A0001

Figure 8 Revised 2nd Edition 6" OS Map 1956



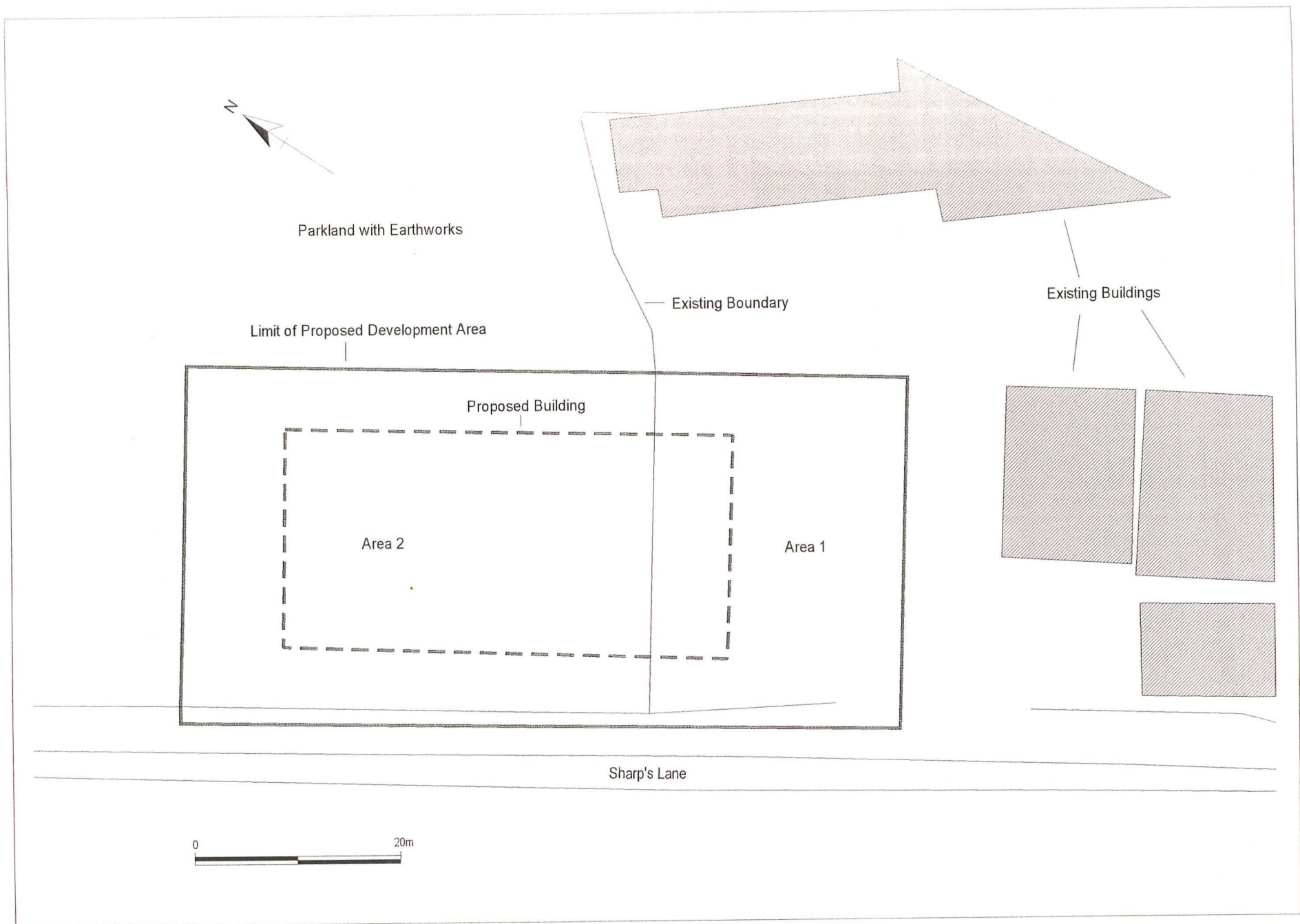


Fig.9: Site Plan showing details of walkover survey



Plate 1 General view of the proposed development area,  
looking south



Plate 2 General view of the proposed development area,  
looking southeast

## APPENDIX 1

# PROJECT BRIEF ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

**THIS BRIEF SHOULD BE SENT TO RECOGNISED ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTRACTORS. PLEASE ENCLOSE COPIES OF ANY RELEVANT SITE PLANS AND THE LOCATION MAP.**

### 1. Summary

- 1.1 This document is the brief for the archaeological desk-based assessment (DTA) to be carried out at Sharpes Lane, Leverton, in advance of the construction of a proposed joinery workshop. The DTA is the initial part of an archaeological evaluation. Depending on the results of the desk-based assessment, there may be further work, for example an earthwork survey.
- 1.2 This brief should be used by archaeological contractors as the basis for the preparation of a detailed archaeological project specification. In response to this brief contractors will be expected to provide details of the proposed scheme of work, to include the anticipated working methods, timescales and staffing levels.
- 1.3 All detailed specifications will be submitted by the developer for approval by the Community Archaeologist for Boston Borough Council. The client will be free to choose between those specifications that are considered to satisfy adequately this brief. **Specifications should be submitted to the Boston Community Archaeologist at the earliest opportunity; failure to do so may result in delay later on. It is important to note that work on the DTA should not commence without approval.**
- 1.4 All contractors supplying specifications should refer to SCAUM Principles of Competitive Tendering (SCAUM Guidelines and Notes on Competitive Tendering for Archaeological Services 1996).

### 2. Site Location and Description

- 2.1 Leverton is situated approximately 8 kms northeast of Boston.
- 2.2 The site is located at area centred TF 4065 4735 and is currently under pasture. A location plan is attached.

### 3. Planning Background

- 3.1 A full planning application has been submitted to Boston Borough Council (B/00/0049/FULL) for a joinery workshop. In order that an informed planning decision can be made an archaeological evaluation is necessary prior to the determination of planning permission. The DTA will form the initial part of this evaluation.

#### **4. Archaeological Background**

- 4.1 There is currently no evidence for prehistoric or Roman activity in the Leverton area, although this could be due to alluvium masking the archaeology from surface detection.
- 4.2 An earthwork has been observed at Leverton Grange, which is adjacent to the application site. This feature is recorded as being a possible medieval moat. Approximately 600 metres north-east of the application site fieldwalking has recovered medieval and Post-Medieval pottery and artefacts. The pottery included Stamford Ware and numerous imports. The other finds included knife handles and iron spurs. The Post-Medieval pottery was associated with slight earthworks.
- 4.3 A recent site visit by the Community Archaeologist noted that the application site is located within a landscaped area, which appears to be a former park. An avenue of pollarded trees is located east of The Grange. The hedgerow, which bounds the western edge of the site, is very mature and may be part of a parkland boundary. Pollarded trees are also apparent in the rest of the field, including adjacent to the application site. These trees sit on top of ephemeral earthworks, which may be dylings (the remains of medieval ploughing). Dydings are a rare occurrence in this part of Lincolnshire, as they are often ploughed away by modern agriculture.

#### **5. Requirement for Work**

- 5.1 The purpose of the archaeological DTA should be to determine, as far as is reasonably possible, the archaeological potential of the site and particularly the expected survival and quality of any archaeological remains. The assessment of the archaeological potential should enable the formulation of a strategy for further investigation and mitigation.
- 5.2 The contractor's specification should be prepared according to the requirements of this brief and the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook's section 'Standard Briefs for Archaeological Projects in Lincolnshire' (August 1997). The Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments should also be consulted (IFA Standard 28/11/97).
- 5.3 Any adjustments to the brief for the assessment should only be made after discussion with the Community Archaeologist.

#### **6. Stages of Work and Techniques**

- 6.1 In order to ensure that all possible archaeological constraints are evaluated all secondary sources must be consulted as part of the DTA. In particular, the emphasis should be on cartographic and historical sources (the term 'Grange' may have an historical association) and an intensive walk-over survey, during which the landscape

features and earthworks should be fully appraised. Sources to be consulted should include:

- 6.1.1 Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record;
  - 6.1.2 All Ordnance Survey maps;
  - 6.1.3 Tithe, Enclosure Award and Parish Maps (where appropriate);
  - 6.1.4 Historical documents, particularly those held in Lincolnshire Archives Office;
  - 6.1.5 Archaeological books and journals;
  - 6.2.6 Unpublished reports and archives (where appropriate), particularly those of the Boston Community Archaeologist
  - 6.2.7 Aerial photographs (Lincolnshire SMR, District Archaeological Database, National Monuments Record);
  - 6.2.8 Listed building lists;
  - 6.2.9 Boston Local Studies library;
  - 6.1.10 Geotechnical Information, for example client geosurvey records, borehole and test pit logs, British Geological Survey.
  - 6.2.11 Any other sources deemed appropriate,
- 6.2 A visit should be made to verify site conditions and potential constraints, and to check for any previously unknown archaeological sites;
- 6.3 The specification will be expected to contain:
- 6.3.1 a projected timetable of work;
  - 6.3.2 the staff structure and numbers.

## 7. Reporting Requirements

- 7.1 The DTA report should contain the following:
  - 7.1.1 a non-technical summary;
  - 7.1.2 objectives;

- 7.1.3 methodology;
- 7.1.4 summary of geology and topography (including at least one site photograph);
- 7.1.5 summary of archaeological and historical results ;
- 7.1.6 the likely impact of the development on the potential archaeological resource;
- 7.1.7 a discussion and conclusions; this should include a section which interprets the results and puts them into a local, regional and national context. Any research priorities, which could be addressed, should be identified. Any limitations to the DTA should also be discussed, and a critical review of the effectiveness of the methodology offered. The report should also outline all possible options for future fieldwork and any possible constraints. **In particular, full appraisal of all the appropriate fieldwork techniques, both non-intrusive and intrusive, should be included within the report. In particular, an appraisal of the potential for an earthwork survey will be included. The report should not, however, include a specific recommendation (please refer to paragraph 7.2 below).**
- 7.1.8 Appendices consisting of detail to support the report, including a comprehensive list of all sources consulted, along with an explanation if sources detailed in paragraph 6.2 above are not consulted;

**7.2 The requirement for this DTA has arisen from within a planning framework. Any recommendations for further work, therefore, is the responsibility of the planning archaeologist, in this case the Boston Community Archaeologist (The Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments, IFA Standard 28/11/97). The report produced by the contractor, therefore, should not include a written planning recommendation concerning further works.**

7.3 A copy of the DTA report must be deposited with Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record, Boston Borough Council, the Boston Community Archaeologist and the client.

## **8 Further Contact Addresses**

Susan Smith  
Boston Community Archaeologist  
Heritage Lincolnshire  
The Old School  
Cameron Street  
Heckington  
Lincs. NG34 9RW  
Telephone (01529 461499)

Mr J Bonner  
Senior Built Environment Officer  
Conservation Services  
Highways and Planning Directorate  
Lincolnshire County Council  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
City Hall  
Lincoln  
LN1 1DN

Mr T. Page  
City and County Museum  
12 Friars Lane  
Lincoln  
LN2 5AL

Brief set by the Boston Community Archaeologist, 22nd February 2000.

**NB. THIS BRIEF SHOULD NOT BE USED ONE YEAR AFTER ITS ISSUE. PLEASE CONTACT THE BOSTON ARCHAEOLOGIST IF THIS IS THE CASE.**

## Appendix 2

### Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling Ancient Monuments - Extract from *Archaeology and Planning DoE Planning Policy Guidance note 16, November 1990*

The following criteria (which are not in any order of ranking), are used for assessing the national importance of an ancient monument and considering whether scheduling is appropriate. The criteria should not however be regarded as definitive; rather they are indicators which contribute to a wider judgement based on the individual circumstances of a case.

i *Period*: all types of monuments that characterise a category or period should be considered for preservation.

ii *Rarity*: there are some monument categories which in certain periods are so scarce that all surviving examples which retain some archaeological potential should be preserved. In general, however, a selection must be made which portrays the typical and commonplace as well as the rare. This process should take account of all aspects of the distribution of a particular class of monument, both in a national and regional context.

iii *Documentation*: the significance of a monument may be enhanced by the existence of records of previous investigation or, in the case of more recent monuments, by the supporting evidence of contemporary written records.

iv *Group value*: the value of a single monument (such as a field system) may be greatly enhanced by its association with related contemporary monuments (such as a settlement or cemetery) or with monuments of different periods. In some cases, it is preferable to protect the complete group of monuments, including associated and adjacent land, rather than to protect isolated monuments within the group.

v *Survival/Condition*: the survival of a monument's archaeological potential both above and below ground is a particularly important consideration and should be assessed in relation to its present condition and surviving features.

vi *Fragility/Vulnerability*: highly important archaeological evidence from some field monuments can be destroyed by a single ploughing or unsympathetic treatment; vulnerable monuments of this nature would particularly benefit from the statutory protection that scheduling confers. There are also existing standing structures of particular form or complexity whose value can again be severely reduced by neglect or careless treatment and which are similarly well suited by scheduled monument protection, even if these structures are already listed buildings.

vii *Diversity*: some monuments may be selected for scheduling because they possess a combination of high quality features, others because of a single important attribute.

viii *Potential*: on occasion, the nature of the evidence cannot be specified precisely but it may still be possible to document reasons anticipating its existence and importance and so to demonstrate the justification for scheduling. This is usually confined to sites rather than upstanding monuments.



## **Appendix 3**

### **List of Consulted Sources**

Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record, parishes of Leverton and Benington

Files of the Boston Community Archaeologist, parishes of Leverton and Benington

Aerial Photographs held in the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record

Aerial Photographs held in the files of the Boston Community Archaeologist

Aerial Photographs held by Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire

Cambridge University Committee for Aerial Photography Collection.

National Monuments Record Aerial Photograph Collection (information not yet received)

Lincolnshire Archives:- cartographic sources; secondary sources (books and journals)

Boston Local Studies Library

Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire library

Lincoln Central Reference Library

OS Maps: 1867, 1904, 1956, 1976

Information held by Archaeological Project Services

### **Sources Not Consulted and Reasons**

Geotechnical information - none available for the site.

Primary historical documentation held at Lincolnshire Archives - previous experience has shown that the consultation of primary historical documentation is extremely time consuming and only informative, in archaeological terms, in fortuitous instances.

## Appendix 4

### GLOSSARY

<b>Bronze Age</b>	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
<b>Carucate</b>	A unit of land, originally based on the amount that could be ploughed annually by a team of eight oxen.
<b>Cropmark</b>	A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.
<b>Domesday Survey</b>	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
<b>Dyings</b>	A form of broad ridge and furrow (q.v.) found in the fenland. The strips were separated by wide shallow ditches the soil from which was used to raise the ridges. They are first recorded in the 14 <sup>th</sup> century and continue in use until the 19 <sup>th</sup> century.
<b>Geophysical Survey</b>	Essentially non-invasive methods of examining below the ground surface by measuring deviations in the physical properties and characteristics of the earth. Techniques include magnetometry and resistivity survey.
<b>Ha-ha</b>	A wall and ditch placed around a garden to prevent access by livestock. The wall stopped at ground level to allow an unimpeded view from the house and garden into the surrounding park or countryside. They were first constructed in the 18 <sup>th</sup> century.
<b>Iron Age</b>	A period characterised by the introduction of iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
<b>Medieval</b>	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
<b>Neolithic</b>	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500-2250 BC.
<b>Perpendicular</b>	Division of English Gothic architecture in use from c. 1350 - c. 1530.
<b>Post-medieval</b>	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
<b>Prehistoric</b>	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.
<b>Ridge and Furrow</b>	The remains of arable cultivation consisting of raised rounded strips separated by furrows. It is characteristic of open field agriculture.
<b>Romano-British</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
<b>Saxon</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany