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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
DURING EXCAVATION OF A NEW  
INTERPRETATION PANEL AT  
TEMPLE BRUER, <sup>AK</sup>  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(TBR 00)**



**A P S**  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
SERVICES



Lincolnshire County Council  
Archaeology Section  
1 0. AUG 00  
see 14/8/02

00/18

Event LE 1421  
Source LE 6192/93

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DURING EXCAVATION OF A NEW  
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TEMPLE BRUER, <sup>AK</sup>  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(TBR 00)**

Work Undertaken For  
Heritage Lincolnshire  
on behalf of  
North Kesteven District Council

July 2000

Report Compiled by  
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## 1. SUMMARY

*An archaeological watching brief was carried out during the excavation of trenches for a single interpretation panel at the site of a Knights Templar Preceptory at Temple Bruer, Lincolnshire. Subsoil and subsoil/levelling deposits were encountered beneath the present topsoil. No archaeological features were affected by the trenches. Pottery dating from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and glass were retrieved.*

## 2. INTRODUCTION

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Open District Electronic Network, North Kesteven District Council, to undertake a watching brief during the erection of an interpretation board at the preceptory of the Knights Templars at Temple Bruer, Lincolnshire. The work was carried out on the 26<sup>th</sup> June 2000, in accordance with Archaeological Project Services standard practise.

The aim of the watching brief was to ensure that any archaeological features exposed were recorded and subsequently interpreted.

Temple Bruer is located 10km north of Sleaford (Fig. 1). The location of the trench is shown in Figure 2.

## 3. BRIEF BACKGROUND

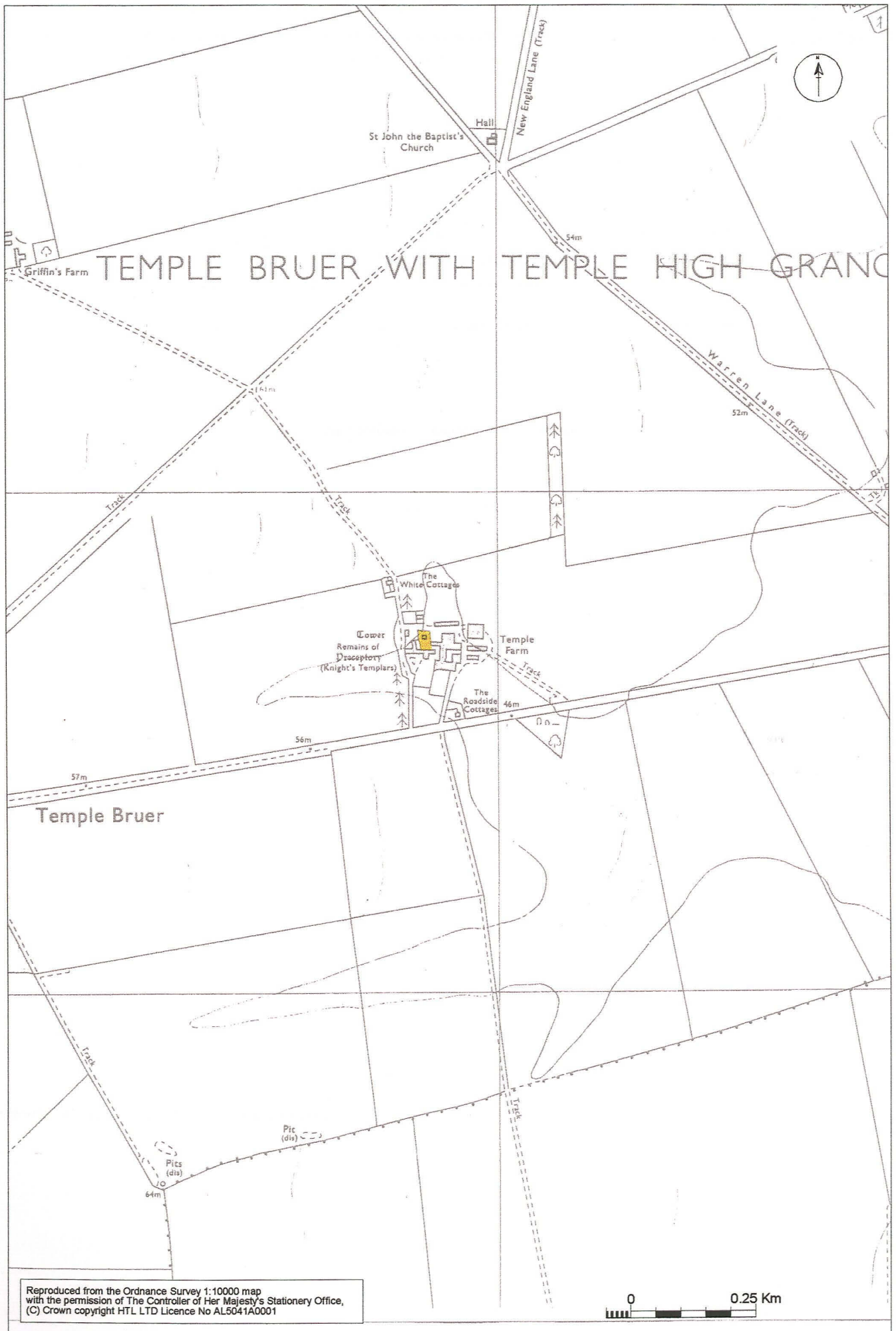
The preceptory at Temple Bruer was built late in the reign of Henry II and a village was also built in the vicinity to serve the community in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Temple Bruer flourished until the suppression of the Knight's Templar in 1312 after which the preceptory was taken over by the Knights Hospitallers (Page 1906, 212). The preceptory church was circular with two towers towards its eastern end, of which one survives at present. South of this were further buildings, including a long hall which has been incorporated into the present farmhouse (White 1981, 4).

## 4. RESULTS

The earliest deposit encountered in the trench was a subsoil of brownish yellow to yellowish brown sandy silt (003). This was overlain by brown sandy silt containing limestone fragments (002) which was interpreted as a possible levelling deposit, after the church had been dismantled. A mixed collection of pottery, glass and plastic of 18<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> century date was retrieved from (002). Above this was a 0.17m thick topsoil of brown sandy silt (001).

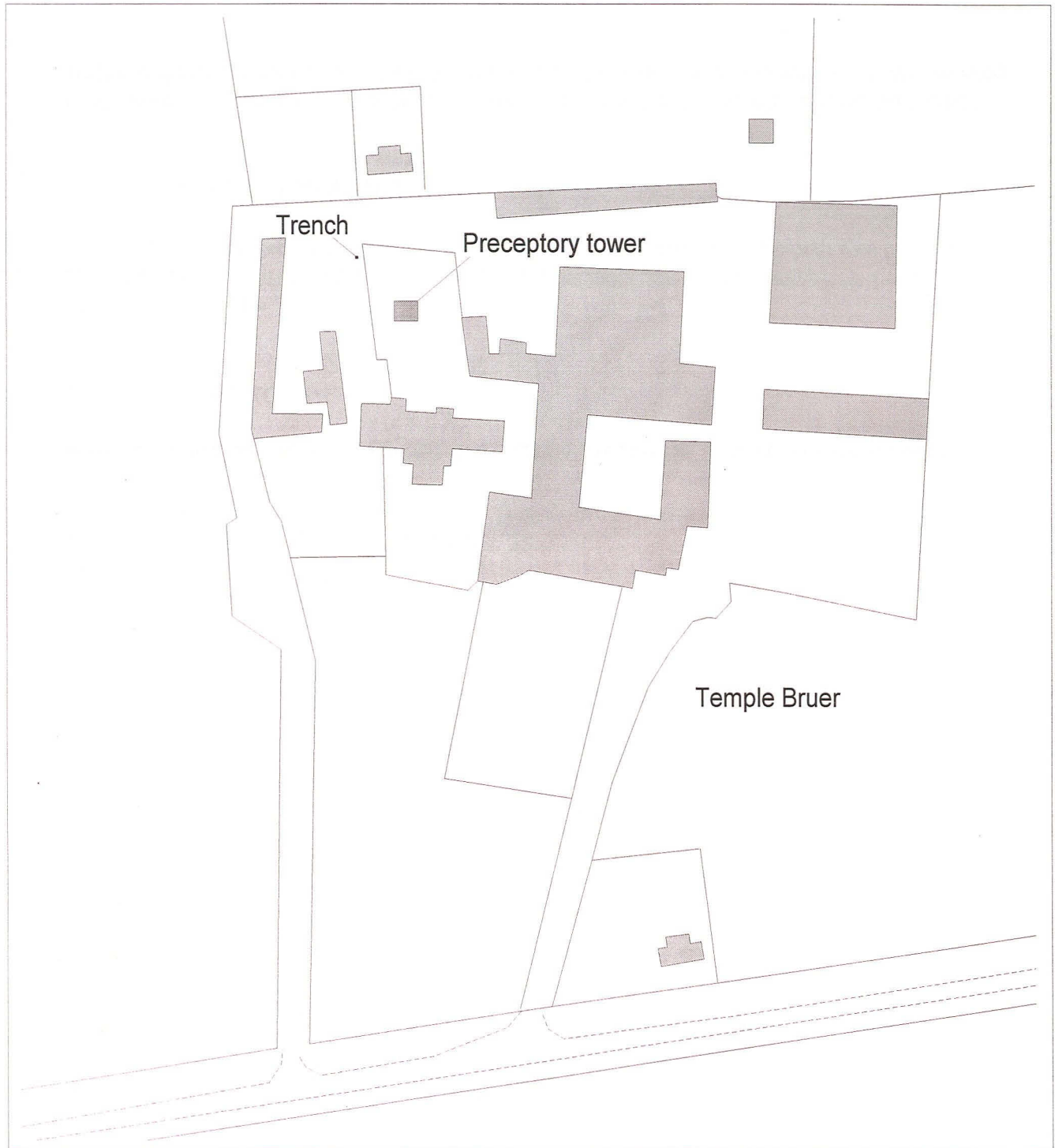
## 5. DISCUSSION

An archaeological watching brief carried out on the site of the Knights Templar preceptory at Temple Bruer identified only subsoil, a subsoil/levelling deposit and the modern topsoil. No



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Figure 1 - Site Location



0 100m



Figure 2 - Plan showing position of trench

archaeological features associated with the preceptory or associated buildings were encountered. Finds retrieved from the investigation comprise 18<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery and glass.

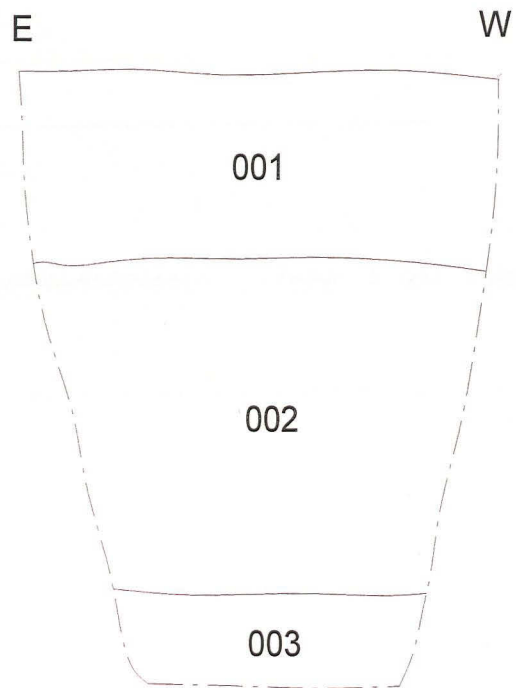
## 6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of North Kesteven District Council who commissioned the watching brief. This work was coordinated by Denise Drury and this report edited by Tom Lane.

## 7. REFERENCES

Page, W., 1906, *The Victoria History of the County of Lincoln*, Vol. II (reprinted 1988)

White, A., 1981, *The Knights Templars at Temple Bruer and Aslackby*, Lincolnshire Museums Information Sheet, Archaeology Series No. 25



Section 1

North facing section of trench



Figure 3 - Section 1





Plate 1 - General view of the site with the preceptory tower in the background



Plate 2 - Section 1, looking north

## Appendix 1

### CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Firm mid to dark brown sandy silt, with occasional fragments of limestone, 0.17m thick	Topsoil
002	Firm mid brown sandy silt, with moderate amounts of small to medium sub-angular limestone fragments, 0.29m thick	Subsoil/levelling deposit
003	Firm mid brownish yellow/yellowish brown sandy silt, >80mm thick	Subsoil

## Appendix 2

### FINDS SUMMARY, TEMPLE BRUER

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DATE
002	2x Nottingham saltglazed stoneware	18 <sup>th</sup> century
002	2x lead-glazed stoneware	19 <sup>th</sup> -early 20 <sup>th</sup> century
002	6x blue and white transfer printed tableware, 2 from same service	19 <sup>th</sup> -early 20 <sup>th</sup> century
002	4x red painted earthenware, black glazed, incl. pancheon	18 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> century
002	7x white glazed tableware	19 <sup>th</sup> -early 20 <sup>th</sup> century
002	1x glass Hamilton bottle, trademarked 'JET', 'JOR'	19 <sup>th</sup> -early 20 <sup>th</sup> century
002	1x glass, dark green wine bottle	19 <sup>th</sup> century
002	1x window glass	
002	1x plastic, orange indicator cover	20 <sup>th</sup> century