

CITY OF
◇ LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY ◇
UNIT

SAFEWAY FOODSTORE, NETTLEHAM/
SEARBY ROADS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING

By L Donel

CLAU ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT NO: 62

EU 93

SLI 1944

PRN 70013 (Negative)

A Report to Bridgemanors Ltd

October 1993

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SAFEGWAY FOODSTORE, NETTLEHAM/SEARBY ROADS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING

Introduction

In response to the inclusion of an archaeological 'watching brief' condition on the planning permission for the proposed development at Searby Road, the CLAU was commissioned by Bridgemanors Ltd., on behalf of Safeway PLC, to monitor excavations at the above site and secure a record of any archaeological deposits or remains revealed by such groundwork.

The work was divided into two phases: Phase 1 was concerned with the area already evaluated - the subsequent site of the supermarket, and Phase 2 concentrated on the British Telecom Depot to the east which was demolished to provide car parking space for the supermarket.

Results

Detailed records of the stratigraphic sequence of deposits were made, all dimensions being taken from present ground level. Colour transparencies were taken of trench sections.

Phase 1

The line of the aqueduct was marked prior to the groundworks in order to facilitate its preservation and/or display. Several ideas were discussed with the developers as to conservation/preservation of the feature. At the time of writing, there is no further information as to whether the feature will be incorporated into the building design.

An intermittent watching brief was carried out in order to ascertain whether any further elements of the aqueduct might be uncovered as well as any possible features associated with the aqueduct. However, there was no further evidence seen in this area. It would appear that any existing remains of the aqueduct were destroyed several years ago probably during the removal of topsoil from the area. No associated material was recovered nor was there any evidence for cropmarks from the field to the north extending into the site.

Phase 2

This phase also involved an intermittent watching brief, carried out from 21/07/93 to 03/08/93 in the

former British Telecom depot. It was hoped that there might be some evidence for the aqueduct and possible other ancient features still existing below the tarmac surface.

The groundworks were observed during the removal of a fuel tank from the depot and the subsequent stripping and lowering of the depot surface. Although over a metre and a half to two metres of material was removed from parts of the site, there was no evidence either for the aqueduct or for any associated features. There was a deep, continuous layer of limestone pieces and sand below the tarmac and concrete.

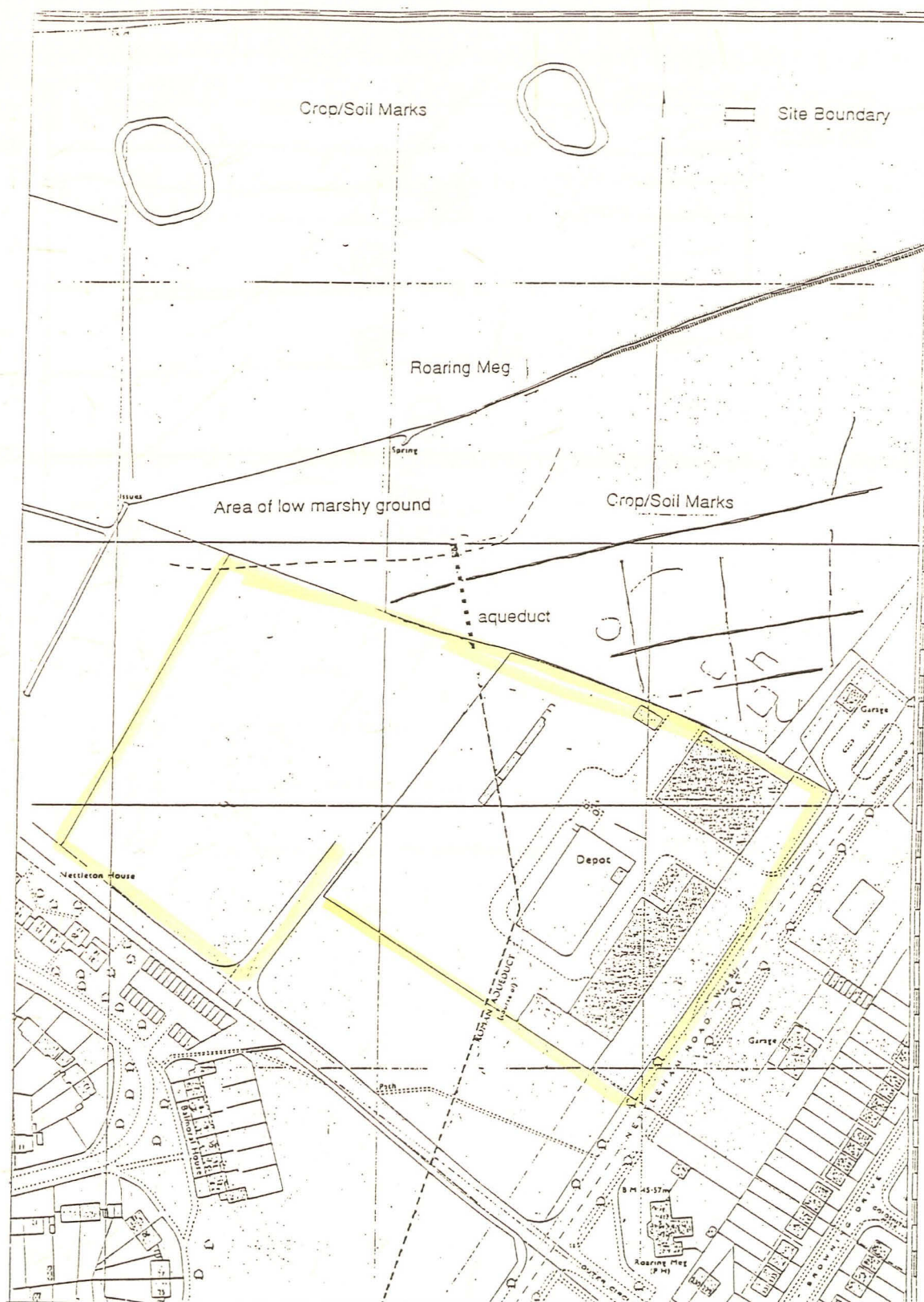
This layer of limestone and sand showed no evidence of having been disturbed at any period. However, it was not natural, but probably a redeposited layer of natural limestone used as hardcore for the Telecom depot. The layer extended over the whole site.

Conclusions

The combination of the removal of original material and the replacement by hardcore and the general destruction by the Telecom buildings, has removed any evidence of the aqueduct and any possible trace of any associated activity (i.e. a workers settlement).

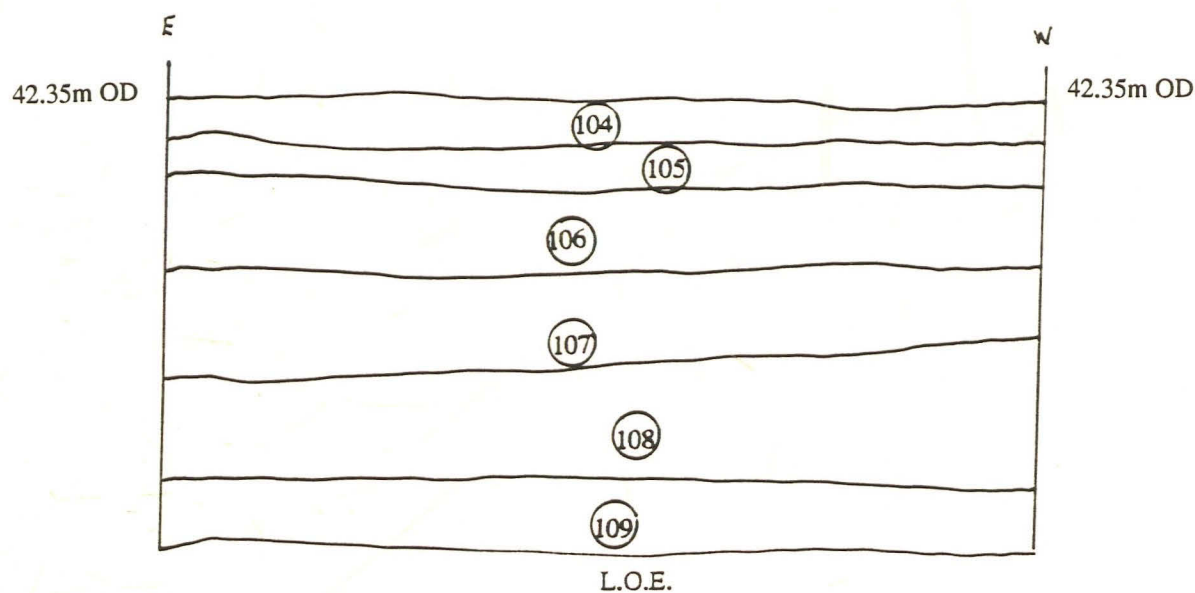
Acknowledgements

The Unit would like to thank Mr. Damien Woodings of Bridgemanors Ltd. (for Safeways) and Mr. Paul Vine, Site Agent for Simons, for his help on site.



CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
SITE CODE: NRB 93	PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:	
CLIENT: Bridgemanors Ltd		
DESCRIPTION: Aqueduct and possible crop-mark features		
SCALE:	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY:	CHECKED:	DATE: 19/08/93

Fig.2



KEY

- ⑩04 Tarmac/concrete
- ⑩05 Make-up for depot surface
- ⑩06 Limestone chips/brick/tile
- ⑩07 Limestone fragments/chips/yellow sand
- ⑩08 Limestone fragments
- ⑩09 Natural

CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
SITE CODE: NRB 93	PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:	
CLIENT: Bridgemanors Ltd		
DESCRIPTION:	East - West Section British Telecom depot	
SCALE: 1:20	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY: LGD	CHECKED:	DATE: 19/08/93

Fig.3