ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
DURING CABLE LAYING
AT LITTLE STEEPING,
LINCOLNSHIRE.
(LSE01)



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Highways & Planning

Directorate

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
DURING CABLE LAYING
AT LITTLE STEEPING,
LINCOLNSHIRE.
(LSE01)

Work Undertaken For ABB Services and Solutions

October 2001

Report Compiled by Steve Thomson BSc (Hons) PIFA

National Grid Reference: TF 4330 6350 - TF 4430 6260 City and County Museums Accession No.: LCNCC 2001.55

A.P.S. Report No: 88/01



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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during groundworks associated with the laying of electricity cables at Little Steeping, East Lindsey District, Lincolnshire, as the village lies in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric period onwards.

During the course of the watching brief, an undated ditch was identified. A bias in the distribution of late medieval and early postmedieval pottery towards the southern and eastern area of the route was noted, suggesting a focus of activity in this area during these periods.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

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

2.2 Planning Background

Because of the archaeological sensitivity of the area of the proposed electricity cabling route, Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Service requested that an archaeological watching brief be undertaken during the groundworks associated with the installation of the cable.

Archaeological Project Services (APS) was commissioned by ABB Services and Solutions to undertake the archaeological watching brief. The investigation was carried out between the 13th February and 31st March 2001 in accordance with the specification

(Appendix 1) produced by APS and approved by the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Service.

2.3 Site Location

Little Steeping is located 17km west of Skegness and 21km northeast of Boston in the administrative district of East Lindsey (Figure 1). The cable trench route (Figure 2) covered a distance of approximately 2km, between St. Andrews church (TF 433 635) on Main Road at the north end of the village, south to the Manor House (TF 432 629) and then east along Ings Lane to around Home Farm House (TF 443 626). A short, approximately 200m long, length of trench ran along Station Road south from its junction with Ings Lane.

2.4 Soils and Topography

The area lies at between 3m and 4m OD. Little Steeping itself is centred on an island of reddish till which protrudes through surrounding layers of marine alluvium and fen peats. The till gives rise to reddish fine loamy over clayey, fine loamy and clayey soils of the Salop series (Hodge *et al* 1984 305). Downholland 1 Association, deep stoneless humose clayey soils, develop on the surrounding marine and peat alluvium (*ibid* 305 166). Beneath these drift deposits is a solid geology of Jurassic Kimmeridge Clays (BGS 1996).

2.5 Archaeological Setting

Little Steeping is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric to modern periods. Prehistoric flint tools comprising scrapers with waste flakes and cores are known from locations approximately 250m south and southeast of the Manor House (HTL parish records). It may be of some significance that Little Steeping lies on an outcrop of glacial till

which would have formed an island during the period when marine and fempeat deposits were being deposited. It is possible that such a location may have become the focus of activity during the prehistoric period.

A possible Romano-British saltern (Figure 2 - SMR 42229) has been recorded approximately 250m south of the junction of Station Road and Ings Lane but is thought to have been destroyed.

Little Steeping is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086. Referred to as *Stepinge*, the name is derived from the Old English 'place of *Steapa*'s people' (Cameron 1998, 117). At the time of the Domesday survey the land was owned by Count Alan and Ivo Taillebois and, along with Halton, contained 200 acres of meadow, a church and four mills (Foster and Longley 1976).

The only extant remains of the medieval period are the 14th century St. Andrew's church (Figure 2), located c. 500m north of the village in open countryside (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 532), and an adjacent stone cross which is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (County No. 2269)

Earthworks located approximately 300m southeast of the church are believed to be remains of medieval fishponds (Figure 2 - SMR 42230). A second set of earthworks located some 500m east of the church, on the opposite side of the Steeping River are thought to be the remains of a moat and fishpond.

Aerial photographs of the Little Steeping area indicate former medieval house plots within the modern village centre. Medieval pottery, mainly Toynton types, has been found south of the village and medieval boundary ditches were identified during an archaeological watching brief at Golden Bondage Farm just north of the Manor

House (Cope-Faulkner 1999).

A watching brief undertaken in 1999 at Mill Hill Farm revealed the floor and foundations of an 18th century cottage (Dymond 1999).

3. AIMS

The aim of the watching brief was to determine the form, function and spatial arrangement of any archaeological remains encountered during the groundworks and interpret those remains through the analysis of a completed record.

4. METHOD

The cable trenches were excavated to a maximum depth of 1.20m using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket.

The sides of the trenches were inspected and hand cleaned at close intervals to reveal archaeological features and deposits. The depth and thickness of each deposit was measured from the ground surface. Each deposit or feature was allocated a unique reference number (Context Number) with an individual written description. Sections were drawn at scales of 1:10 and 1:20 and their locations recorded on a 1:10000 scale plan of the route. A photographic record was compiled, depicting the site during groundworks and the recorded deposits. The spoil from the excavations was monitored and searched using a trowel to recover finds that may assist in the interpretation of the site.

The records of deposits excavated during development and the finds that were recovered were examined. A stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable

relationships between them, supplemented by artefact dating where relevant.

A summary of contexts appears as Appendix 2 and the finds recovered during the investigation are detailed in Appendix 3.

Archaeological contexts are described below. The numbers assigned in the field are the numbers shown in bold and brackets.

5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis three phases of deposits were identified;

Phase 1 - Natural alluvial deposits

Phase 2 - Undated deposits

Phase 3 - Post medieval and modern deposits

5.1 Natural Deposits

The earliest deposits encountered during the course of the watching brief consisted of a light brown silty clay (010), (020), a midyellowish grey to yellow brown silty clay (038) and a mid-brownish yellow sandy silt (023). Contexts (010), (020) and (038) contained chalk fragments and occasional stones and represented the glacial till. Overlying (010) was a soft, light orangey brown silty sand (009). Both (009) and (023) were deposited by alluvial action.

5.2 Undated deposits

Cut through the subsoil (Phase 3) along the southeastern end of Main Road, was a linear feature, visible for 9m with a northwest - southeast orientation (032) (Figure 7 - section 8). The cut was 4.50m wide with gradually sloping sides. The feature may have aligned with earthworks visible in fields opposite and was interpreted as a probable field boundary.

A dumped deposit of coal and charcoal in a silt and ash matrix (028) represented the earliest fill of the cut. Sealing this was a midyellowish brown silty clay (030) which largely consisted of redeposited natural material and appeared to be as a result of deliberate backfilling. Overlying this was a further dumped deposit of coal and charcoal in a silt and ash matrix (029), which in turn was sealed by a mid-yellowish brown sandy silt (027), a result of the natural silting of the feature.

5.3 Post medieval and modern deposits

Overlying Phase 1 natural deposits and identified as subsoils were several sandy silts, silts and loams (002), (005), (006), (007), (008), (019), (022), (025), (031), (033), (037) and (039) (Figures 5, 6, 7). The sediments were generally firm and varied in colour from a dark olive grey, through mid-brown, to a mid-yellowish brown and are likely to have been deposited as a result of alluvial action. Pottery of 14th - 15th century date was recovered from (006) on Ings Lane; 16th - 17th century from (031) on Main Road; 14th - 15th century from (039) at the northern end of the route on Main Road.

Along Station Road and Ings Lane, the modern tarmac road surface (016) and make up layers (017), (018) and (021), overlay the subsoil (019) and (022) (Figures 5 and 6 sections 4, 5 and 6). Also along Station Road a modern water pipe trench (015) was filled by (014) which consisted of bricks and gravels and lay beneath the tarmac.

Where the cable trench was not cut through the road surface along Ings Lane and Station Road, a generally friable, dark brownish grey to mid-brown sandy silt topsoil (001), (004), (011), (024) and (034) (Figures 5, 6, 7), sealed Phase 3 deposits. However, along the southeastern end of Main Road, the topsoil (024) was overlain over a distance of 11.70m by a moderately compact mid-brown sandy silt and bricks (026) (Figure 7 - section 8) which appeared to be a levelling deposit and filled the hollow above the probable Phase 2 ditch cut (032).

On the northern section of Main Road, a friable, dark brown, clayey silt topsoil (036) was identified.

Pottery of 19th century date was recovered from (001); 14th - 15th through to 19th century from (004) and 17th through to 19th century from (034).

Unstratified finds of 16th -17th century pottery were recovered from Ings Lane (003) and 17th - 18th and 19th century sherds from the Northern section of Main Road (040) and (041).

6. DISCUSSION

The Phase 1, natural deposits identified during the investigation consisted primarily of Glacial till (010), (020) and (038) and reflect the nature of Little Steeping being situated on an outcrop of this material, with younger, alluvial soils, (009) and (023), deposited over and around it, likely as a result of marine inundation.

Phase 2 deposits were represented by a probable field boundary cut (032) which had been used for dumping (028), (029) and was also partially backfilled (030). The feature was located opposite a field where earthworks are located and may be related to these.

The final phase of deposits was represented by the subsoils, topsoils and disturbance in the form of the tarmac road surface and a water pipe trench cut. Along the northern section of Main Road, modern disturbance was also noted in the form of telephone cable and water pipe trenches parallel to the electricity cable route.

The variation in the subsoils noted during the investigation may be suggestive of elluvial transformation of the soils through leaching. Should this be the case, then it is possible that archaeological features would no longer be recognisable. This may be of particular note in relation to the subsoil deposits from which medieval and early post-medieval pottery was recovered (006), (031) and (033).

These deposits occurred along Ings Lane and Station Road (Figure 4), to the southeast of the village. In contrast, the northern section of the route running up Main Road to St. Andrew's Church (Figure 3) yielded no pottery of these periods, only modern and later post-medieval pottery. This may be due to previous disturbance in the form of water and telephone cable trenches. However, a focus of activity in the southern end of Main Road, Station Road and the eastern section, along Ings Lane, during the late medieval and early post-medieval periods may be indicated. This pattern is also reflected in the unstratified and topsoil finds.

It is also possible that an early date to the Phase 2 ditch cut (032) may be postulated as it lies within this area.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken during cable laying at Little Steeping, Lincolnshire, as the village lies in an area of known archaeological remains.

During the course of the watching brief an undated, probable field boundary ditch was identified which may have an early date. Though limited in size, a concentration of medieval and early post-medieval pottery was

noted in the southern and eastern area of the cable route, perhaps indicating a focus to activity during these periods in that area.

The possibility of transformation of the subsoils may suggest that archaeological deposits are no longer recognisable.

The nature of the soils encountered suggests that environmental indicators (eg. seeds, pollen, plant macro fossils) would not survive well other than through charring, though other indicators such as bone and shell would be preserved.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of ABB Services and Solutions, who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Dale Trimble and this report was edited by Dale Trimble and Tom Lane.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Dale Trimble

Site Supervisors: Chris Moulis and Fiona

Walker

Finds Processing: Denise Buckley

CAD Illustration: Mark Dymond, Steve

Thomson

Photographic Reproduction: Sue Unsworth Post-Excavation Analyst: Steve Thomson

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

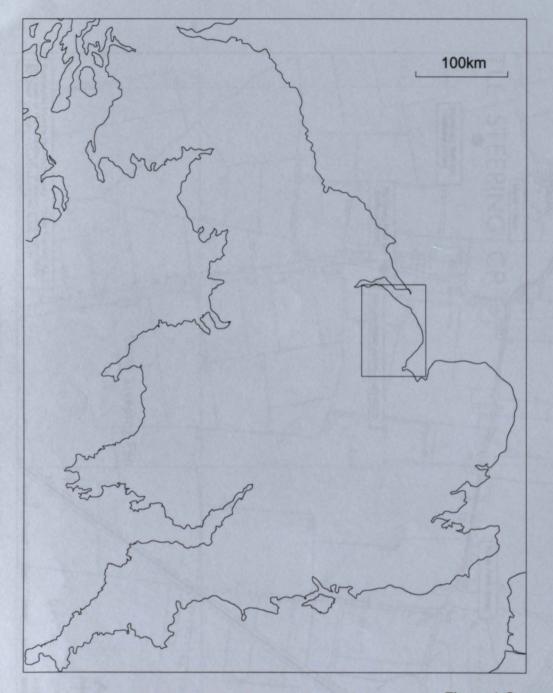
APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

HTL Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

SMR Sites and Monuments Record



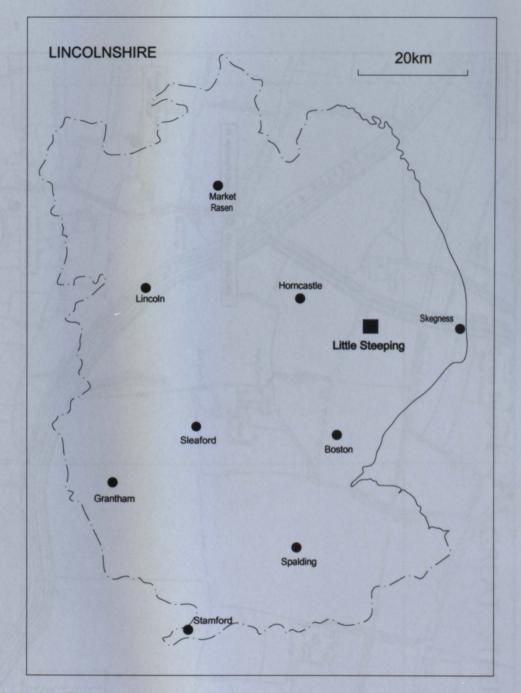
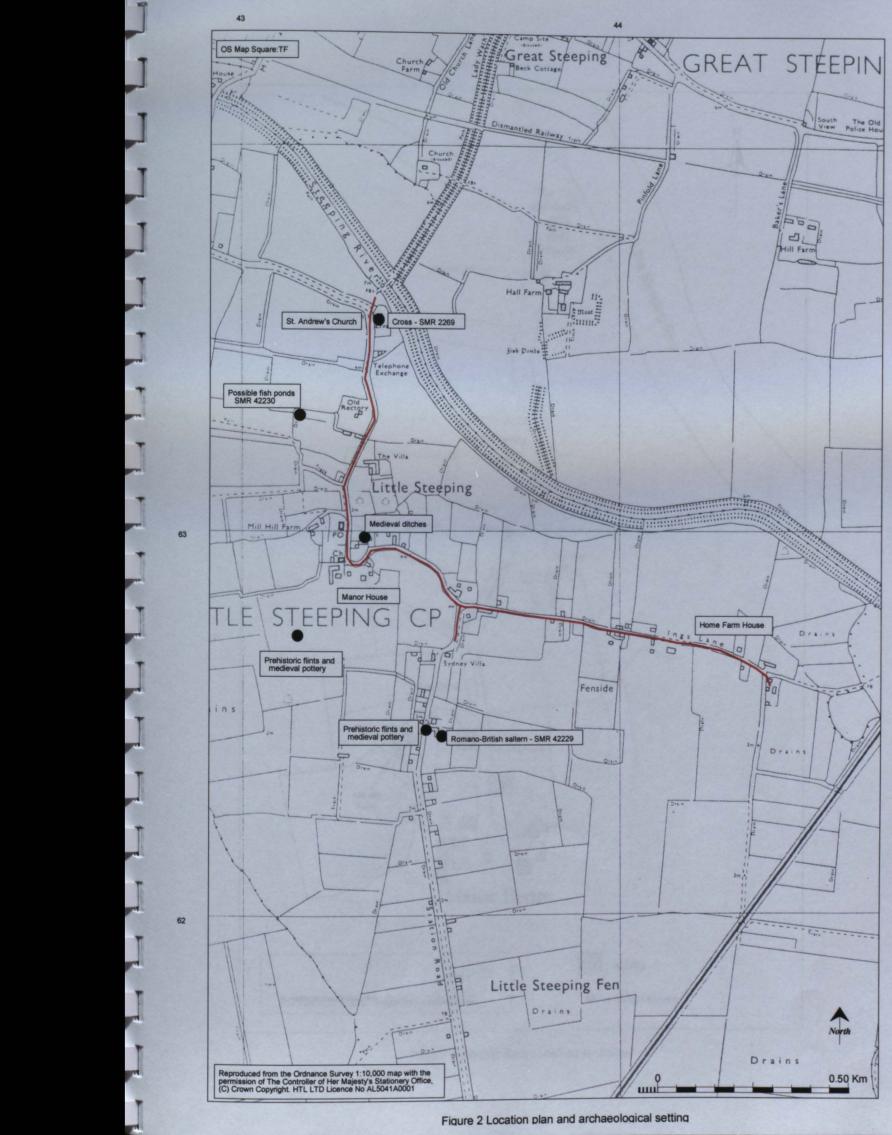
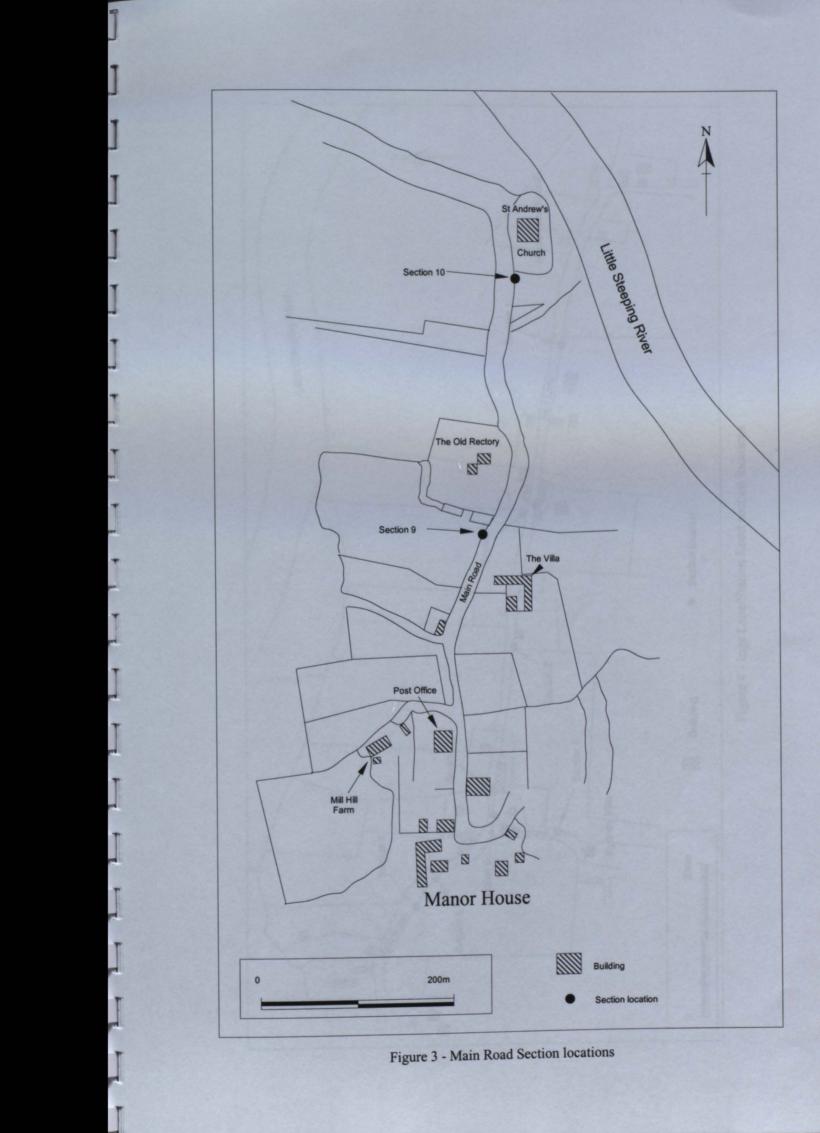


Figure 1 General Location Plan





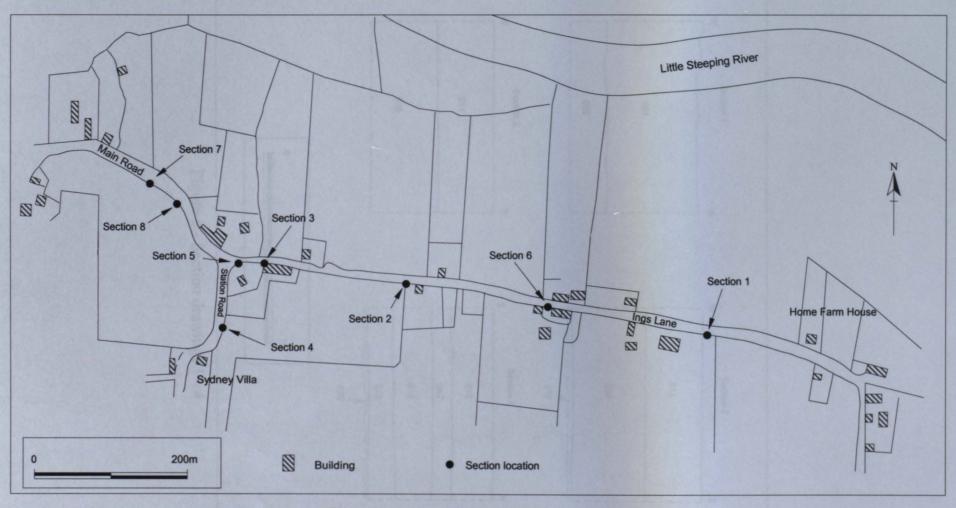


Figure 4 - Ings Lane/Station Road section locations

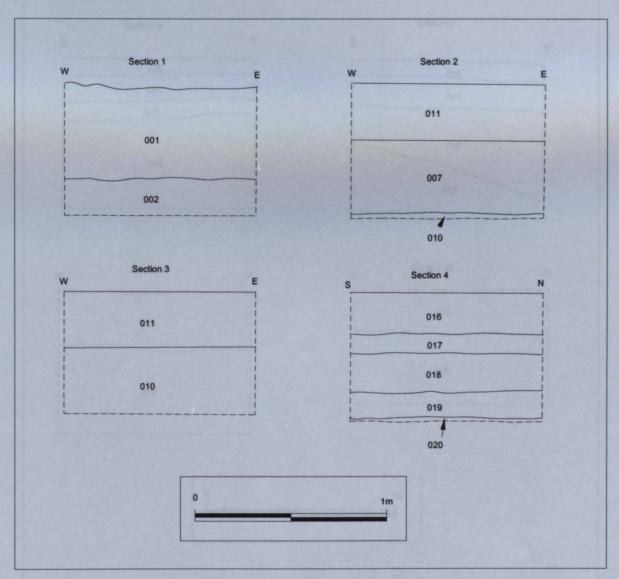


Figure 5 - Section drawings 1 - 4

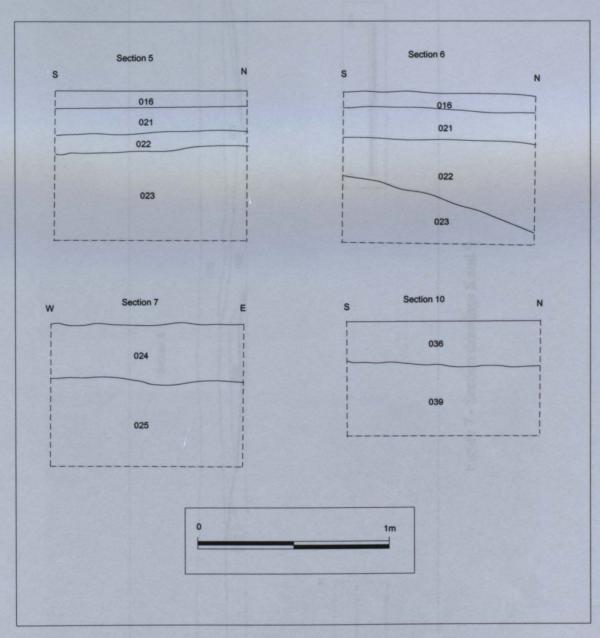


Figure 6 - Section drawings 5,6,7 and 10

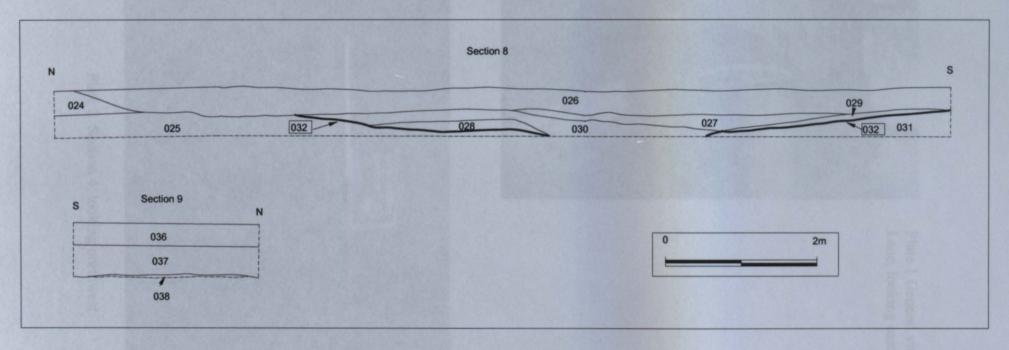


Figure 7 - Section drawings 8 and 9



Plate 1 General view Ings Lane, looking east



Plate 2 Section 4, looking northwest

Appendix 1 Specification for Archaeological Watching Brief

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 A watching brief is required during all groundworks associated with the laying of electricity cables at Little Steeping, East Lindsey Distirct, Lincolnshire
- 1.2 The area is rich in archaeologically remains of the medieval period. These include earthworks of a moat and associated fishponds at Hall Farm and medieval village remains around the village of Little Steeping itself. There are also a number of undated enclosures on either side of the Steeping river.
- 1.3 The watching brief will be undertaken during groundworks associated with the installation of the cable. The archaeological features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.
- 1.4 On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the investigation.

 The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for an archaeological watching brief during groundworks connected with the installation of an underground electricity cable at Little Steeping, East Lindsey District, Lincolnshire.
- 2.2 This document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview.
 - 2.2.2 Stages of work and methodologies.
 - 2.2.3 List of specialists.
 - 2.2.4 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

3.1 Little Steeping is located 17km west of Skegness and 21km northeast of Boston in the administrative district of East Lindsey. The proposed cable trench will be excavated over a distance of approximately 2km, between St. Andrews church (TF 433 635) on Main Road at the north end of the village, south to the Manor House (TF 432 629) and then east along Ings Lane to around Home Farm House (TF 443 626). A short, approximately 200m long length of trench will be excavated along Station Road south from its junction with Ings Lane.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 The Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section has advised that an archaeological watching brief be undertaken during groundworks associated with the installation of an underground electricity cable.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

The area lies at between approximately 3m and 4m OD. Little Steeping itself is centred on an island of reddish till which protrudes through surrounding layers of marine alluvium and fen peats. The till gives rise to soils of the Salop series, slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged reddish fine loamy over clayey, fine loamy and clayey soils associated with fine loamy over clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging (Hodge *et al* 1984 305). Downholland 1 Association deep stoneless humose clayey soils develop on the surrounding marine and peat alluvium (Hodge *et al* 1984 305 166).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Prehistoric flint tools comprising scrapers with waste flakes and cores are knowwn from locations approximately 250 south and southeast of the Manor House (Fig. 1) (HTL parish records). It may be of some significance that Little Steeping lies on an outcrop of glacial till which would have formed an island during the period when marine and fen peat deposits were being deposited. It is possible that such a location may have become the focus of activity during the early prehistoric period.
- 6.2 A possible Romano-British saltern (SMR 42229) has been recorded approximately 250m south of the junction of Station Road and Ings Lane but is thought to have been destroyed.
- 6.3 Little Steeping is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086. Refereed to as *Stepinge*, the name is derived from the Old English 'place of *Steapa's* people' (Ekwall 1974, 441)
- 6.4 The only extant remains of the medieval period are the 14th century St. Andrew's church, located c. 500m north of the village in open countryside (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 532), and an adjacent stone cross which is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (County No. 2269)
- 6.5 Earthworks located approximately 300m southeast of the church are believed to be remains of medieval fishponds (SMR 42230). A second set of earthworks located some 500m east of the church, on the opposite side of the Steeping River are thought to be the remains of a moat and fishpond.
- Aerial photographs of the Little Steeping area indicate former medieval house plots within the modern village centre. Medieval pottery, mainly Toynton types, has been found south of the village and medieval boundary ditches were identified during an archaeological watching brief at Golden Bondage Farm just north of the Manor House (Cope-Faulkner 1999).

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the watching brief will be:
 - 7.1.1 To record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.
- 7.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:
 - 7.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
 - 7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
 - 7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
 - 7.2.4 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

8 SITE OPERATIONS

8.1 General considerations

- 8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the watching brief.
- 8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA). Archaeological Project Services is IFA registered organisation no. 21.
- 8.1.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

8.2 Methodology

- 8.2.1 The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.
- 8.2.2 Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.
- 8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 8.2.4 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
 - 8.2.4.1 the site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
 - 8.2.4.2 groups of features where their relationship is important
- 8.2.5 Should human remains be located they will be left *in situ* and only excavated if absolutely necessary. Should removal be required the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before the exhumation of the remains. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department, coroner and the police will be informed, where appropriate.

9 POST-EXCAVATION

9.1 Stage 1

- 9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued and labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
- 9.1.2 All finds recovered during the field work will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

9.2 Stage 2

- 9.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.
- 9.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

9.3 Stage 3

- 9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.
- 9.3.2 This will consist of:
 - 9.3.2.1 A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
 - 9.3.2.2 A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.

- 9.3.2.3 Description of the topography of the site.
- 9.3.2.4 Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.
- 9.3.2.5 A text describing the findings of the watching brief.
- 9.3.2.6 A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.
- 9.3.2.7 Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
- 9.3.2.8 Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.
- 9.3.2.9 Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
- 9.3.2.10 Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- 9.3.2.11 Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10 REPORT DEPOSITION

10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the Client; the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeological Officer; and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

11 ARCHIVE

11.1 The documentation and records generated during the watching brief will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the City and County Museum, Lincoln. This will be undertaken following the requirements of the document titled Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives for long term storage and curation.

12 PUBLICATION

12.1 A report of the findings of the watching brief will be published in Heritage Lincolnshire's Annual Report and a note presented to the editor of the journal Lincolnshire History and Archaeology. If appropriate, notes on the findings will be submitted to the appropriate national journals: Britannia for discoveries of Roman date, and Medieval Archaeology and the Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group for findings of medieval or later date.

13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeological Officer. They will be given seven days notice in writing before the commencement of the project.

14 VARIATIONS AND CONTINGENCIES

- 14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 14.2 In the event of the discovery of any unexpected remains of archaeological importance, or of any changed circumstances, it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to inform the archaeological curator (*Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* 1998, Sections 5.7 and 18).
- 14.3 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation additional resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.

Any contingency requirement for additional fieldwork or post-excavation analysis outside the scope of the proposed scheme of works will only be activated following full consultation with the archaeological curator and the client.

15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 15.1 The watching brief will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the archaeological site work.
- 15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- 15.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one person-day) will require a post- excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half person-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about three days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

16 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

16.1 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

Task Body to be undertaking the work

Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum,

Lincoln

Pottery Analysis Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust

Roman - B Precious, Independent Specialist

Anglo-Saxon - J Young, Independent Specialist

Medieval and later - H Healey, Independent Archaeologist

with G Taylor, APS

Non-pottery Artefacts J Cowgill, Independent Specialist

Animal Bones Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

Environmental Analysis J Rackham, Independent Specialist

Human Remains Analysis R Gowland, Independent Specialist

17 INSURANCES

17.1 Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains Employers Liability Insurance of £10,000,000, together with Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied on request.

18 COPYRIGHT

18.1 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.

- 18.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.
- In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 and may result in legal action.
- 18.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

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Specification: Version 1, 9 February 2001

Appendix 2

Context Summary

Context No.	Section	Description	Interpretation
001	1	Friable, dark brown to blackish brown silt, 0.40m thick containing occasional pebbles and sand	Topsoil
002	1	Moderately compact mid-brown to yellowish brown silt, 0.20m thick	Subsoil
003	-	Unstratified finds	Finds
004		Friable, mid-brown sandy silt, 0.50m thick containing occasional pebbles, ceramic building material fragments and modern debris	Topsoil
005		Moderately compact mid-yellowish brown clayey silt, 0.20m thick	Subsoil
006		Firm mid-grey brown silty clay, 0.33m thick	Subsoil
007	2	Stiff, mid-dark olive loam 0.30m thick, containing frequent grit and occasional charcoal fragments.	Subsoil
008		Stiff, mid-dark olive grey loam, 0.40m thick containing frequent grit and occasional shell fragments	Subsoil - same as 007
009	-	Soft, light orangey brown silty sand	Natural geological deposit
010	2,3	Stiff light brown silty clay frequent chalk fragments, occasional stones, 0.30m thick	Natural geological deposit
011	2,3	Loose, dark brownish grey, silty sand, 0.30m thick containing frequent pebbles	Topsoil
012		Unstratified finds	Finds
013		Soft, dark grey sandy silt, containing brick and limestone fragments, 0.20m thick	Topsoil
014		Modern backfill of water-pipe trench consisting of a variety of deposits	Fill of 015
015		Linear cut, north south orientation	Water pipe trench

016	4	Tarmac	Modern road sur
017	4	Compact, light yellow brown sub angular stones in a sandy matrix	Make up for road
018	4	Firm, mid-brown clayey silt containing frequent limestone and chalk fragments, 0.20m thick	Make up layer fo previous road sur
019	4	Stiff, mid-dark olive grey loam, 0.10- 0.15m thick	Subsoil
020	4	Stiff, light brown silty clay, 0.30m thick to limit of excavation	Natural geological deposit
021	5	Firm, dark grey stone and tarmac, 0.14m thick	Make up for road
022	5,6	Moderately compact, mid-grey sandy silt, occasional charcoal, minimum 0.10m thick	Subsoil
023	5	Firm, mid-brownish yellow sandy silt, 0.50m thick	Natural geologica deposit
024	7	Moderately compact dark brown silt, 0.29m thick	Topsoil
025	7	Moderately compact, mid-yellowish brown sandy silt, 0.46m thick	Subsoil
026	8	Moderately compact sandy silt and bricks, 0.30m thick, extending 7m north - south. Contains occasional ash, tiles, stones and pebbles	Levelling deposit
027	8	Moderately compact, mid-yellowish brown sandy silt containing occasional charcoal fragments, 0.20m thick	Subsoil, silted fil 032
028	8	Moderately compact, black coal and charcoal in a silt and ash matrix., 0.10m thick	Dumped deposit of 032
029	8	Moderately compact, black coal and charcoal in a silt and ash matrix., 0.10m thick	Dumped deposit of 032
030	8	Moderately compact, mid-yellowish brown silty clay, 0.20m thick	Redeposit natura - fill of 032
031	8	Moderately compact, mid-yellowish brown sandy silt, 0.35m thick	Subsoil

032	8	Linear or cut, 9m visible, north south or northwest - southeast orientation, 4.50m wide with gentle, gradually sloping sides	Possible moat or ditch cut
033 -		Moderately compact mid-yellowish brown sandy silt, containing occasional brick, tile and mortar fragments, 0.50m thick	Subsoil
034	g the second	Moderately compact, mid-brown sandy silt, 0.60m thick containing occasional pebbles	Topsoil
035	3000 11°	Unstratified finds	Finds
036	9	Friable, dark brown clayey silt, 0.30m thick	Topsoil
037	9	Moderately compact mid-brown silt, 0.40m thick	Subsoil
038	9	Moderately compact, mid-yellowish grey to yellow brown chalk and silty clay, extending 2.2m north south and 0.01m thick	Natural geological deposit
039	10	Soft, mid-yellow to brownish yellow sandy silt, 0.040m thick	Subsoil
040		Unstratified finds	Finds
041		Unstratified finds	Finds

Appendix 3

THE FINDS Rachael Hall, Hilary Healey and Gary Taylor

Provenance

The artefacts were recovered from the topsoil (001), (004) and subsoil, (006), (031), (033), (039) at different locations along the investigation route and as unstratified finds (003), (035), (040) and (041).

Range

Pottery of probable 11th - 13th century date is the earliest material found, though later medieval and early post-medieval artefacts, dating from the 14th - 17th centuries, dominate the assemblage. No faunal remains were retrieved.

Context	Description	Context Date	
001	1x Mocha ware, 19th century	19th century	
	1x creamware, early 19th century		
003	2x Boston ware, copying Dutch Red Earthenware, 17 th century	17th century	
	6x Toynton/Bolingbroke-type ware, 15th-17th century		
	1x South Lincs. sandy ware, 11th-13th century	ents. Archive storage of the coffeets	
	2x brick/tile, ?post-medieval		
004	2x Toynton All Saints ware, 14th-15th century	19th century	
	3x Boston red earthenware, black/green glazed, 17th-18th century	contained in the Lincoln Louis	
	1x Nottingham salt-glazed stoneware, 18th century	a heliveted coders. Today 100	
	1x red earthenware teapot, 19th century	gibbingh matriffed, directing b	
	1x light green glass octagonal bottle, embossed, much iridescence, 19th century	mediend colonics, though resolution in color pro-	
006	1x Toynton All Saints ware	14th-15th century	
031	2x Toynton/Bolingbroke-type ware, separate vessels	16th-17th century	
033	1x Toynton All Saints-type ware	14th-15th century	
034	1x Boston ware pancheon, copying Dutch Red Earthenware, 17 th -18 th century	19th century	
	1x white opaque glass, ?19th century		
	1x ceramic tile, ?pantile, ?19th century		
035	1x Boston/Bolingbroke-type ware, 16 th -17 th century	19th century	
	1x blue and white transfer printed tableware, 19th century		

	1x green and white transfer printed tableware, 19th century		
039	1x pantile	19th century	
040	1x Boston ware, copying Dutch Red Earthenware, 17th-18th century	18th century	
	1x red earthenware, black glazed, 18th century		
041	1x blue and white transfer-printed tableware, 19th century	19th century	
	1x lead glazed stoneware bottle, impressed trademark, 19th century	es (Next Sad 1900); dus report sies la	

A stoneware bottle recovered from (041) has a semi-legible makers' mark impressed near the base. This mark reads: illegible

LAMBETH

signifying production at Lambeth, London.

A fragment of a glass bottle from (004) has an incomplete embossed legend reading:]PILSBY[

almost certainly denoting the nearby town of 'Spilsby'.

Condition

All the material is in good condition and present no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the collection is by material class.

Documentation

There have been previous archaeological investigations in the general area of Little Steeping which are the subjects of reports. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potentia

Rather than a group as a whole, potential is more appropriately assigned to individual contexts. Context (003) yielded a moderate quantity of entirely early post-medieval material and, although unstratified, therefore has moderate or higher local potential and probably signifies occupation of 16th-17th century date in proximity to that context location. Context (004) also contains a moderate amount of early post-medieval ceramics, though associated with 19th century artefacts, and has medium local significance. Other contexts containing medieval or early post-medieval items in limited numbers have some slight local potential, particularly where these objects do not occur with later artefacts. Contexts containing entirely late, 19th century, artefacts have low or very low local potential.

Appendix 4

GLOSSARY

Bronze Age A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.

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, e.g.(004).

Cut A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, etc. Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.

Early Saxon Pertaining to the period AD 410-650

Fill Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to

as its fill(s).

Iron Age A period characterised by the introduction of iron into the country for tools, between

800 BC and AD 50.

Late Saxon Pertaining to the period AD 850-1066

Layer A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not

contained within a cut.

Medieval The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.

Middle Saxon Pertaining to the period AD 650-850

Natural Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the

influence of human activity.

Post-medieval The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.

Prehistoric 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.

Romano-British Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

Appendix 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 41 Context records
- 3 Sheet of scale drawings
- 1 Photographic record sheet
- 1 Stratigraphic matrix
- 13 Bags of finds

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 Museum Accession Number: LCNCC: 2001.55

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: LSE01

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.

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