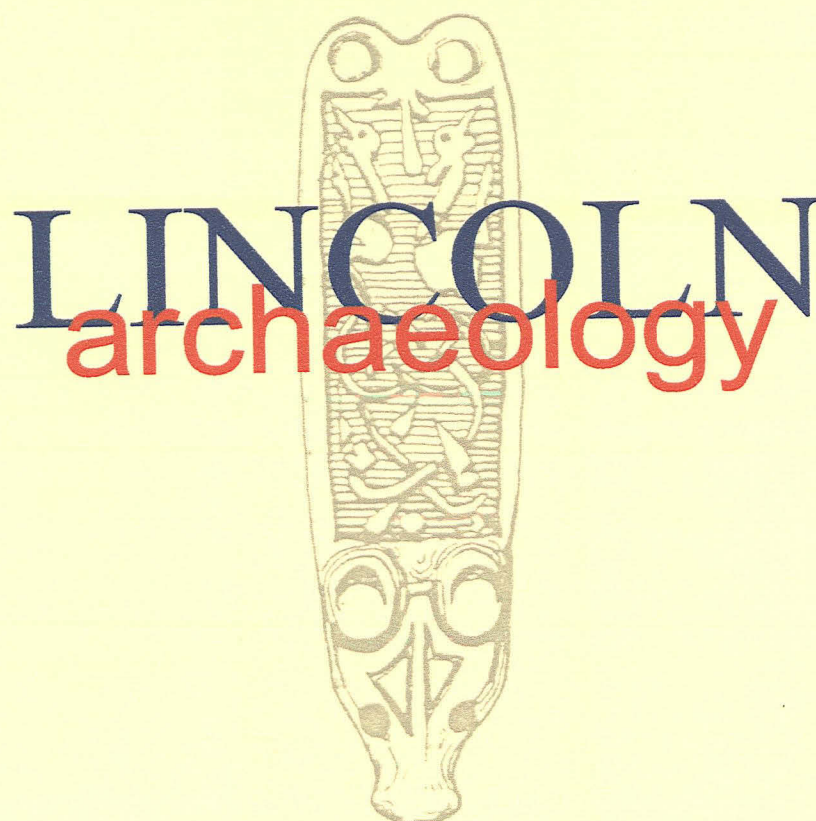


**A Report to
De Montfort University
March 2002**



**4 Ventnor Terrace,
Lincoln**

Archaeological Watching Brief

Report No.: 469

LINCOLN
archaeology

Conservation
Services

28 MAR 2002

Highways & Planning
Directorate

**4 VENTNOR TERRACE,
LINCOLN**
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

<i>Contents</i>	<i>Page</i>
Non-Technical Summary	1
1.0 Introduction	2
2.0 Site Location	2
3.0 Archaeological & Historical Background	2
4.0 Aims	3
5.0 Results	4
6.0 Acknowledgements	4
7.0 Bibliography	5
<i>List of Plates</i>	
Plate I: View of the site looking southeast during excavation of access ramp.	6
Plate II: View of the site looking northwest towards the church of St. Michael.	6
Plate III: View of the site looking south.	7
Plate IV: View of the site looking southwest.	7
Plate V: View of the site looking north up the access ramp.	8
Plate VI: View of the site showing east-facing section of lower northsouth access ramp.	8
Plate VII: View looking east along the existing retaining wall.	9
<i>List of Figures</i>	
Fig. 1: Site location map (1:1250).	10
<i>Appendix</i>	
Appendix 1: LHA note, Archive details	11
Appendix 2: Context Summary & The Finds Archive	12
Appendix 3: Scheduled Monuments Consent	13

4 VENTNOR TERRACE, LINCOLN

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

- *Between the 25th June and 13th September 2001, the CLAU were commissioned by De Montfort University of Lincoln to monitor the groundwork involved in the demolition and rebuilding of a retaining/boundary wall to the rear of 4 Ventnor Terrace, Lincoln.*
- *The retaining wall lies within Scheduled Ancient Monument No. 115 Lindum – Roman Colonia and is protected under Section 2 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.*
- *Unforeseen communications problems resulted in the building of the retaining wall and reinstatement of the site without any formal archaeological record of the foundation groundwork being undertaken.*
- *The site archive consists of a limited photographic record of the enabling groundwork in progress and a small group of unstratified finds recovered from the excavated soil.*

4 VENTNOR TERRACE, LINCOLN

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Between the 25th June and 13th September 2001, a representative from the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit (CLAU) monitored the groundwork involved in the demolition and rebuilding of a retaining/boundary wall at 4 Ventnor Terrace, Lincoln (hereafter *the site*). The work, carried out on behalf of De Montfort University of Lincoln, lies within Scheduled Ancient Monument No. 115 *Lindum – Roman Colonia* and is protected under Section 2 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. This protection required the granting of Scheduled Monuments Consent (SMC) prior to the commencement of any groundwork associated with the rebuilding of the new retaining wall. This project was carried out under SMC Ref: HSD/2/1976 (pt38) May 2001 (see Appendix 3).

2.0 SITE LOCATION

Lincoln lies over several well-defined geological zones. The city itself is situated at the point where the Jurassic limestone ridge known as the Lincoln Edge is cut by a glacial gap, through which the River Witham now flows.

The site lies partway down the hill-slope between the 45m and 50m contours. Underlying geology on the site consists of upper lias clay and shale.

The existing retaining wall forms the east-west boundary between the garden of 4 Ventnor Terrace and land to the north which contains the former church of St Michael-on-the-Mount and its graveyard. To the east of and abutting the east end of the retaining wall is the Bishop's Old Palace. National Grid Reference SK 9773 7166 (Fig 1).

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The following provides a brief outline of the known history and archaeology of the site and its environs; for a more detailed account see Wragg 2000a and 2000b.

Pre-Roman

No evidence of pre-Roman occupation has been found in proximity to the site.

Roman

The Roman army probably reached Lincoln around c. AD 50. By c. AD 96, Lincoln had the status of a '*colonia*', a self-governing civic community that utilised the uphill site of the former fortress. By the end of the 2nd century the defences of the *colonia* were extended southwards to the riverfront. The site is located in the northeast quadrant of the lower walled city, approximately 90m south of the south wall of the Upper City and 100m east of Ermine Street, the main northsouth Roman road (through the city).

Extensive evidence of Roman occupation has been recorded on the hill slope, particularly to the west of the site at Michaelgate (MCH84), Spring Hill (SPM83, SPMB and SPMC98) and further down the hillside at Steep Hill (SH74). This suggests that many of the later Roman domestic houses in this area were large and impressive, necessitating terracing of the hill-slopes in order to accommodate them.

Anglo-Saxon

Abandonment of the Roman city seems to have started in the late 4th century, with town life reduced to a small community between the 5th and 8th centuries. Following the Viking take-over of Lindsey in 874, Lincoln became a centre for a Viking army and, subsequently a Viking town. Evidence for increasing urbanisation in the 10th and 11th centuries has emerged from all parts of the former Roman settlement. Excavation carried out on nearby sites, Michaelgate (MCH84) and Hungate (H83), indicates that reoccupation of the area in proximity to the site was taking place from c. AD 900 with the construction of timber buildings.

Medieval

The main post-Conquest change to be evidenced archaeologically was the introduction of stone building for domestic structures which commenced in the late 12th or early 13th century. Most of the archaeological investigations mentioned earlier have produced considerable evidence of medieval occupation and re-terracing of the hill slope from the 11th century.

Many of the present streets in the area were formed during this period, the modern Michaelgate deriving its name from the nearby church of St Michael. The early church, recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086, was probably built to serve one of the developing parishes of the Anglo-Saxon city. It stood to the north of the present church, on the south side of the lane now called Christ's Hospital Terrace. This lane later gave access to the west gate of the Bishop's Palace, serving as the main entrance from the city.

Post-Medieval

The 14th to 17th centuries saw a period of physical decay in the city with some abandonment of previously occupied areas. By 1349 the decline in population led to an Act of Parliament to amalgamate the parishes of the city. In this reorganisation St Michael's acquired the parish of St Cuthbert which had earlier been united with the adjacent parish of St Peter Stanthaket ("stone thatched").

John Speed's 1610 map of Lincoln depicts St Michael's church, together with an east-west wall to its south, possibly surviving as the present retaining wall. The same map also depicts properties to the north of Danesgate in the area of the present properties of Ventnor Lodge and Ventnor Terrace.

19th century maps and documentary sources attest to the recent history of the site including the location, alignment (and possible modification) of retaining walls as well as the construction of the church and the existing properties of Ventnor Lodge and Nos' 2, 3, and 4 Ventnor Terrace (see Hockley, 1999).

4.0 AIMS

The aims of the archaeological recording were:

- A. to produce an archive record of deposits and remains generally within the constraints of the groundwork contractors' working methods and programme as related to the project design, with due regard to current Health and Safety legislation.
- B. to produce a report on the archaeological importance of the discoveries.
- C. to produce a project archive from which the potential for further study and academic research could be assessed.
- D. to provide information for accession to the County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and the Lincoln Urban Archaeological Database (UAD).

Extent of Archaeological Observations

Groundwork for this project involved the demolition and rebuilding of an existing boundary wall between St. Michael's churchyard and 4 Ventnor Terrace.

5.0 RESULTS

The first visit to the site was made on 25th June 2001. The groundwork contractor had commenced work and was involved in the excavation (by mechanical digger) and formation of an access ramp extending from the east end of the church southwards towards the retaining wall located further down the hill-slope. During on site discussions with the contractor carrying out the work on the retaining wall, it became evident that CLAU were unaware of the full extent of enabling works (the formation of the access ramp). Further discussions with the site contractor concluded that work could not commence on the retaining wall until the completion of enabling work associated with the retaining wall to the rear of 4 Ventnor Terrace and prior commitments at 1 Ventnor Terrace had been completed. Both the client and the English Heritage Inspector were made aware of these circumstances.

Further visits were made to the site on 27th June and 2nd - 3rd July 2001. A series of photographs showing the progress in construction of the access ramps were taken, however no work had begun on the retaining wall because the site contractor was still completing work associated with 1 Ventnor Terrace (**Pls. I and II**).

The site visit on 3rd July was made after completion of the access ramp and some excavation to the rear of the retaining wall had commenced. Timber shuttering and propping had been introduced to the rear of the now freestanding retaining wall in order to support a vertical section of c. 2m high (**Pls. III - VII**). The shuttering had obscured all archaeological deposits in the standing section). No contractors were on site at the time of this visit and for health and safety reasons no archaeological recording could be undertaken. The CLAU duly contacted the client, who agreed to ensure that the contractor would inform CLAU prior to recommencing work on the retaining wall.

No further contact with the CLAU was made and an unscheduled visit to the site was made on 13th September 2001. The attending field officer observed that the retaining wall had been rebuilt and that the site (including the access ramp) had been fully reinstated. The client was immediately informed of these circumstances.

The Archaeological Record

Due to the unforeseen communication problems encountered with the monitoring of this project an accurate record of any archaeology exposed during the works could not be made. The photographic archive is of limited use and does not reflect the full extent of the enabling and construction groundwork carried out by the site contractor, or the full extent of any archaeology that may have been exposed.

A small quantity of was recovered from the excavated spoil but these are of limited use because they are unstratified.

6.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Maps contained within this report are reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of the Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown Copyright. Lincoln City Council Licence No. AL 100028765.

Project Team

CLAU Specialists

Michael Jarvis
Graham Eyre-Morgan

Project Officer (Field/Post-excavation)
Projects Manager

Yvonne Rose

Finds Supervisor

External specialists

Jane Young

Post-Roman and later pottery (Lindsey Archaeological Services)
Roman and later ceramic building material

7.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Hockley, J 1999 *St Michael-on-the-Mount Church, Lincoln: Retaining walls to Ventnor Lodge & 2, 3 & 4 Ventnor Terrace, Danesgate - An Archaeological Mitigation Strategy* CLAU, Lincoln

Wragg, K 2000a *St Michael-on-the-Mount Church, Christ's Hospital Terrace, Lincoln - Archaeological Watching Brief*, CLAU Archaeological Report **417**

Wragg, K 2000b *The Former Church Of St Michael-On-The-Mount, Lincoln: Ventnor Terrace Retaining Wall - Archaeological Watching Brief*, CLAU Archaeological Report **401**

NOTE

The information in this document is presented with the proviso that further data may yet emerge. Lincoln City Council cannot, therefore, be held responsible for any loss, delay or damage, material or otherwise, arising out of this report. The document has been prepared in accordance with the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.



Plate I: View of the site looking southeast towards the west wall of the Old Bishop's Palace during the process of excavation of the access ramp. Due to the steep nature of the hill-slope, excavated spoil had to be moved several times in order to complete the ramp.



Plate II: General view of the site access ramp looking northwest towards the church of St Michael.



Plate III: Looking south mid-way down the newly formed access ramp. Note the timber shuttering in the centre of the picture. See also Plate VII.



Plate IV: General view looking southwest down the access ramp. The rear of 4 Ventnor Terrace can be seen in the centre of the photograph. The standing section is approximately 1.5m high (see Plate VI).



Plate V: General view looking north, up the access ramp from southern end (scale is 2m). The darker material at the top of the exposed section is Victorian and later. The paler brown deposit below this whilst undated, was thought to be post-medieval or earlier.



Plate VI: View showing the east-facing section of lower northsouth part of the access ramp (scale is 2m). See also Plate IV.



Plate VII: Looking east along the existing retaining wall. Note the timber shuttering retaining the earth bank to its north. Also see Plate III.

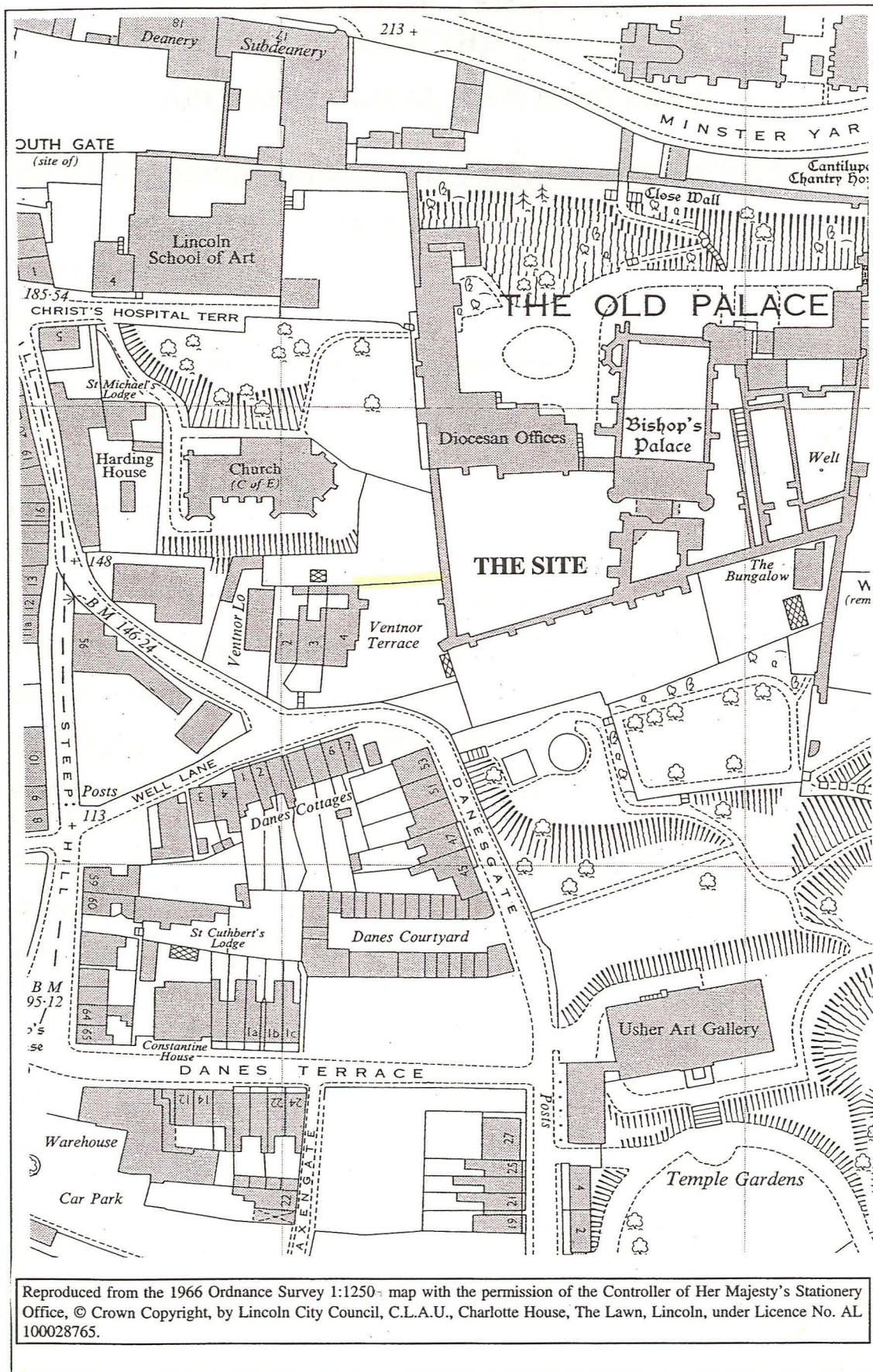


Fig. 1: Site location map.

**4 VENTNOR TERRACE,
LINCOLN**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

APPENDIX 1 – LHA NOTE, ARCHIVE DETAILS

LHA NOTE DETAILS

CLAU CODE: MOMB01

CLAU REPORT No.: 469

PLANNING APPLICATION NO.: SMC Ref: HSD/2/1976 (pt38)

FIELD OFFICER: Michael Jarvis

NGR: SK 9773 7166

CIVIL PARISH: Lincoln

SMR No.: -

DATE OF INTERVENTION: 25th June – 13th September 2001

TYPE OF INTERVENTION: Archaeological Watching Brief

UNDERTAKEN FOR: De Montfort University (Lincoln)

ARCHIVE DETAILS

PRESENT LOCATION: City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit, Charlotte House, The Lawn, Union Road, Lincoln, LN1 3BL

FINAL LOCATION: The City and County Museum, Friars Lane, Lincoln

MUSEUM ACCESSION No.: 2001.126

ACCESSION DATE: -

4 VENTNOR TERRACE, LINCOLN

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

APPENDIX 2 – CONTEXT SUMMARY & THE FINDS ARCHIVE

CONTEXT SUMMARY

Context	Description
001	Unstratified finds

THE FINDS ARCHIVE

ROMAN POTTERY ARCHIVE

Context	Fabric	Form	Decoration	Comments	Sherds	Weight	Date
001	GREY	Jar?	Burnished	Possible flask; 2 neck grooves	1	11g	3-4c

POST-ROMAN POTTERY ARCHIVE

Context	Cname	Full Name	Sub Fabric	Form Type	Sherds	Vessels	Weight	Part	Date
001	LERTH	Late earthenware s		flower pot	8	1	527	base & body sherd	19 th to 20 th
001	BL	Black-glazed wares	Glazed Red Earthenware	drinking vessel	1	1	0	Body sherd	16 th to mid 17 th
001	LSW2	13 th to 14 th century Lincoln Glazed Ware		jug	1	1	0	BS	13 th to 14 th
001	LLSW	Late Lincoln Glazed ware		baluster jug	1	1	0	BS	14 th to 15 th

BULK FINDS ARCHIVE

Context	Category	Count	Comments
001	Bottle	1	Modern; early 20 th C, sauce
001	Stone	1	Lincolnshire limestone; tooled ashlar

ANIMAL BONE ARCHIVE

Context	Count	Comments
001	1	Horn; tip sawn off

**4 VENTNOR TERRACE,
LINCOLN**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

APPENDIX 3 – SCHEDULED MONUMENTS CONSENT

Mrs C N Thorneycroft
Estates Department
De Montfort University
The Gateway
Leicester
LE1 9BH

RECEIVED BY
08 MAY 2001
ESTATES DEPARTMENT

Your Ref:
Our Ref: HSD9/2/1976(pt38)
4 May 2001

Director of Estates
Deputy Director - Infrastructure
and Management
Deputy Director - Design and
Projects
Head of Estates (Lincoln)
Estates Manager
Quantity Surveyor
Capital Projects Co-ordinator
Head of Operations (Lincoln)

ldcms

Dear Ms Thorneycroft

ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL AREAS ACT 1979 (AS AMENDED)
- SECTION 2
PROPOSED WORKS AT LINCOLN ROMAN COLONIA (LINDUM), LINCOLN
COUNTY MONUMENT NO LI 115
APPLICATION BY DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY

1 I am directed by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media & Sport to refer to your application for scheduled monument consent dated 13th March 2001 and to the location plan, plan showing the location of the scheduled ancient monument, and drawings no's 15/1510/6-A and 15/1510/9 submitted therewith in respect of proposed works at the above scheduled ancient monument concerning the demolition and rebuilding of an existing boundary wall between St Michael's churchyard and 4, Ventnor Terrace, Lincoln.

2 In accordance with paragraph 3(2) of Schedule 1 to the 1979 Act, the Secretary of State is obliged to afford to the applicant, and to any other person to whom it appears to the Secretary of State expedient to afford it, an opportunity of appearing before and being heard by a person appointed for that purpose. This opportunity has been declined in your telephone conversation with Mr J Burke of the Department on 4th May 2001.

3 The Secretary of State is also required by the Act to consult with the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (English Heritage) before deciding whether or not to grant scheduled monument consent. Having received the advice of English Heritage, the Secretary of State considers that the proposed works will be potentially detrimental to the monument, but with reasonable safeguards specified in the application for an appropriate level of archaeological supervision and recording. The Secretary of State is agreeable for the works to proceed providing the conditions recommended by English Heritage, and set out below, are adhered to, and accordingly hereby grants scheduled monument consent under section 2 of the 1979 Act for the



proposed works as referred to in paragraph 1 above, subject to the following conditions:

- i. the works to which this consent relates shall be carried out to the satisfaction of the Secretary of State, who will be advised by English Heritage. At least 4 weeks' notice, (or such shorter period as may be mutually agreed) in writing of the commencement of work shall be given to Dr Glyn Coppack, English Heritage, 44 Derngate, Northampton, NN1 1UH in order that an English Heritage representative can have the opportunity to inspect and advise on the works and their effect in compliance with this consent; and
- ii. before works are carried out, the applicant will ensure that an agreed archaeological contractor (unless the opportunity is declined in writing) has made arrangements to enter the site at any reasonable time before and during the execution of the specified works for the purposes of inspecting the site and, in accordance with a written scheme of investigation agreed in advance with the Secretary of State advised by English Heritage and the Lincoln City Archaeologist, recording and removing for study of any matters of archaeological importance observed in the course of the works.

4 By virtue of section 4 of the 1979 Act, if no works to which this consent relates are executed or started within five years from the date of this letter, the consent shall cease to have effect at the end of that period (unless it is revoked before then).

5 This letter does not convey any approval or consent required under any enactment, bye law, order or regulation other than section 2 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.

6 Attention is drawn to the provisions of section 55 of the 1979 Act under which any person (hereinafter referred to as the 'applicant') who is aggrieved by the decision given in this letter may challenge its validity by an application made to the High Court within six weeks from the date when the decision is given. The grounds upon which an application may be made to the Court are (1) that the decision is not within the powers of the Act (that is, the Secretary of State has exceeded his powers) or (2) that any of the relevant requirements have not been complied with and the applicant's interests have been substantially prejudiced by the failure to comply. The "relevant requirements" are defined in section 55 of the 1979 Act: they are the requirements of that Act and the Tribunals and Inquiries Act 1971 and the requirements of any regulations or rules made under those Acts.

7 A copy of this letter is being sent to Ms Kate Fearn, English Heritage's Field Monument Warden, Mr Jim Bonnor, County Archaeological Officer, and Mr Mick Jones, Lincoln City Archaeologist.

Yours faithfully

A. R. Middleton

A R Middleton (Miss)

Authorised by the Secretary of State
to sign in that behalf