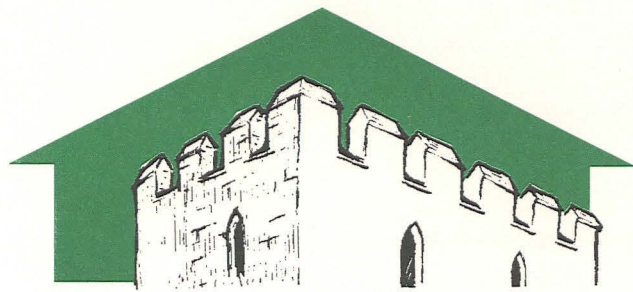


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PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY L I N C O L N

**SEABANK FARM, GRAINTHORPE,
LINCOLNSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING
BRIEF REPORT**

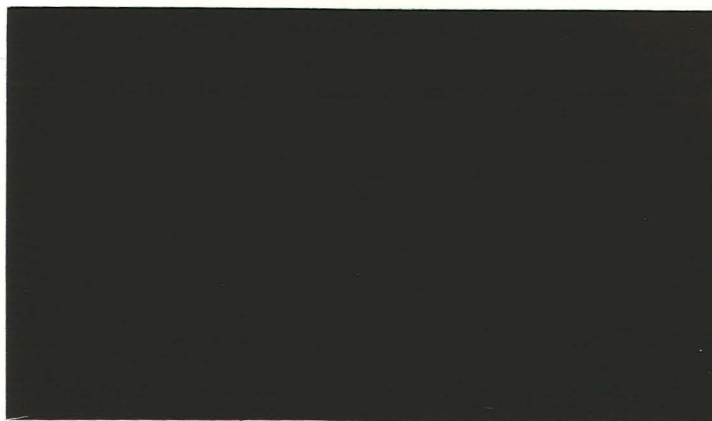
Site code	SBFG02
NGR:	TF 38297 98966
LCCM Acc No:	2002.310



Conservation
Services

05 SEP 2002

Highways & Planning
Directorate



Acc No 2002.310

NEGATIVE

**SEABANK FARM, GRAINTHORPE,
LINCOLNSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING
BRIEF REPORT**

Site code SBFG02
NGR: TF 38297 98966
LCCM Acc No: 2002.310

Report prepared for Mr B. Hutchinson
by S.Bray

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September 2002

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Fig. 2: Trench location. Scale 1:1000.
Fig. 3: South-West facing section of edge of trench showing Topsoil (001) and Natural (002)

Summary

- An archaeological watching brief took place on the 9th July 2002, during the groundworks for a swimming pool in the garden of Seabank farm, Grainthorpe.
- These works were required as a condition of planning, as the site is located within an area of intensive medieval salt processing, and is close to a deserted medieval harbour and settlement.
- No archaeological deposits or features were exposed during the course of this investigation.

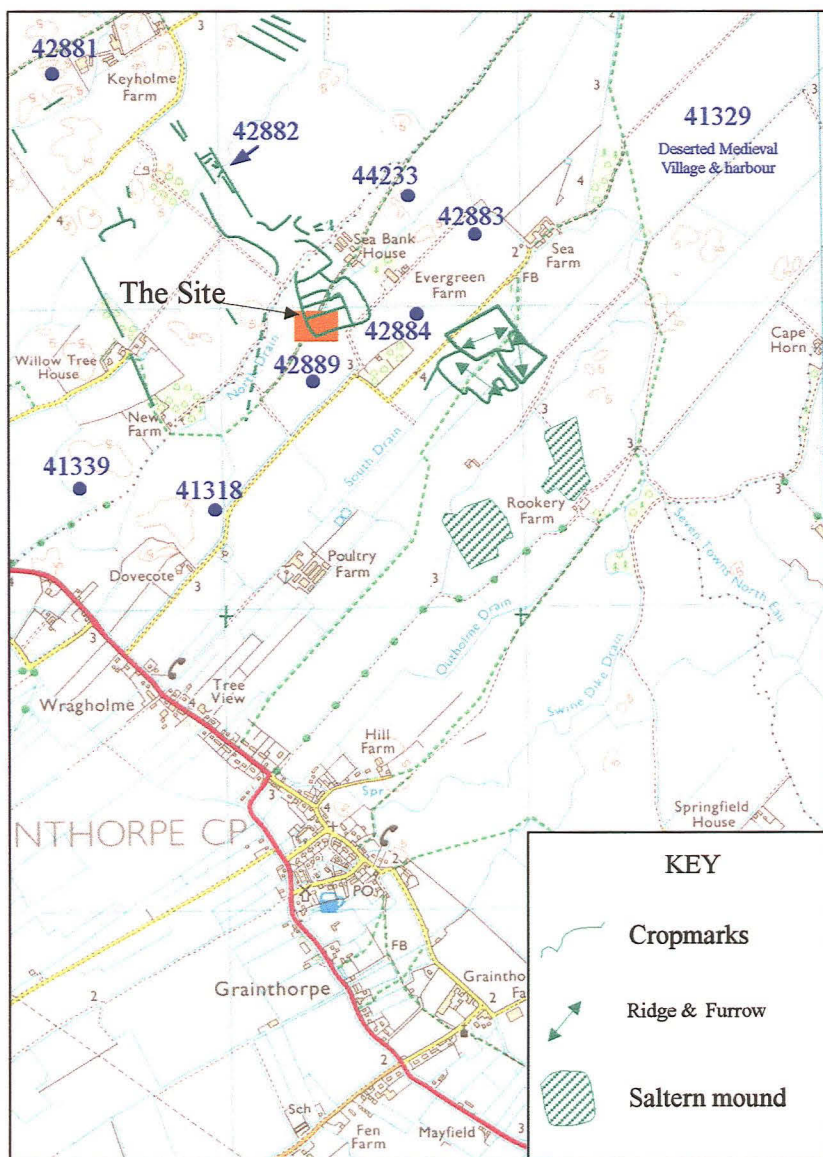


Fig. 1. Scale 1:25000. The area shown in red is Fig. 2. Crop marks are in green, and SMR references in blue (O.S. Copyright Licence No. AL 515 21 A 001)

1.0 Introduction

An archaeological watching brief was carried out for Mr. B. Hutchinson in the garden of Seabank farm during the groundworks for the construction of a swimming pool (TF3829798966). The work was commissioned to fulfil a planning requirement (Ref. N/062/00623/2) associated with the construction of an indoor swimming pool (figures 1 and 2).

The fieldwork was carried out in accordance with current guidelines (IFA, 1994), which have been adopted in the Lincolnshire County Council publication *Lincolnshire Archaeology Handbook: A Manual of Archaeological Practice* (LCC, 1998).

The archive for this project will be held at the Lincoln City and County Museum. Access can be granted with reference to the global accession number, 2002.310

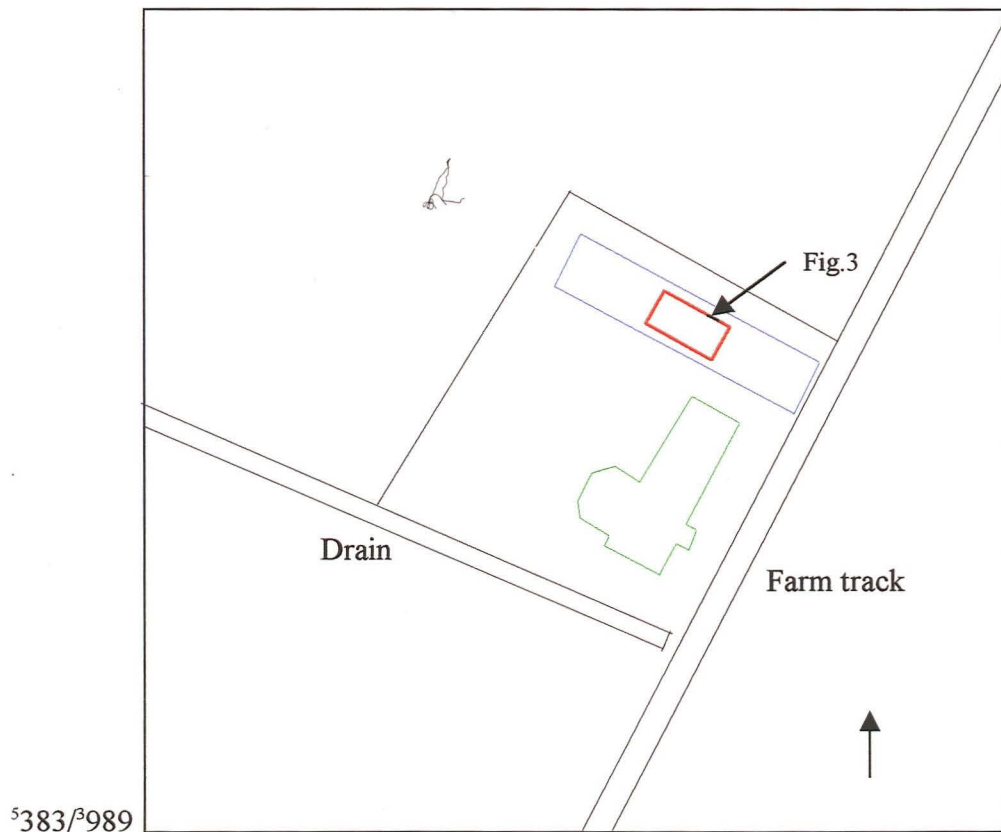


Fig. 2. Scale 1:1000. Plan showing location of existing bungalow in green, construction trench for swimming pool in red; and swimming pool building in blue

1.0 Introduction

An archaeological watching brief was carried out for Mr. B. Hutchinson in the garden of Seabank farm during the groundworks for the construction of a swimming pool (TF3829798966). The work was commissioned to fulfil a planning requirement (Ref. N/062/00623/2) associated with the construction of an indoor swimming pool (figures 1 and 2).

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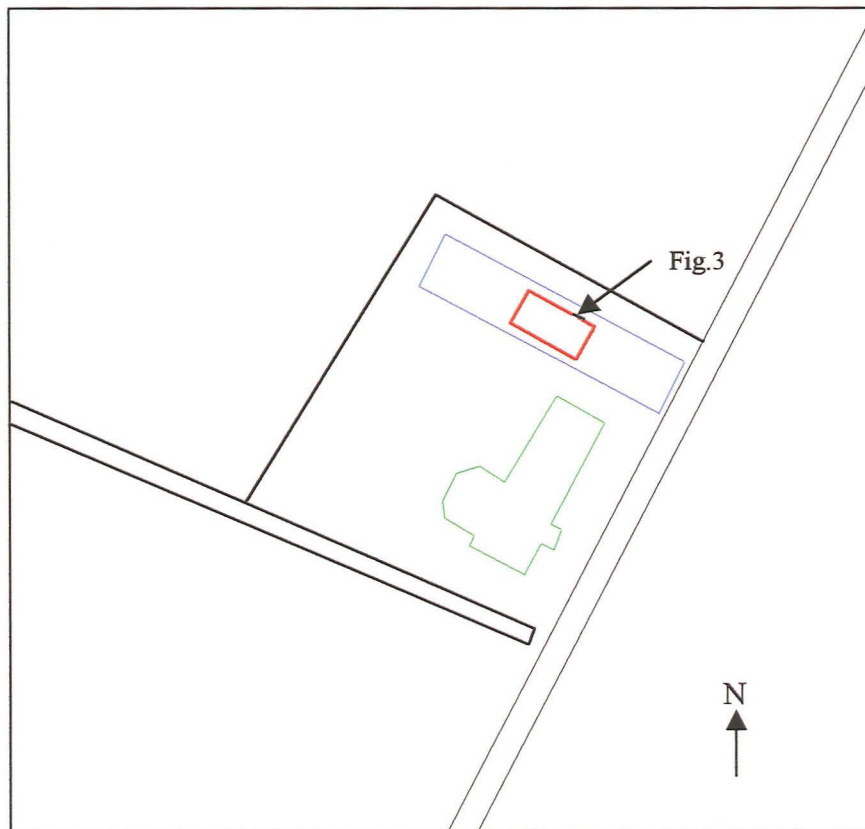


Fig. 2. Scale 1:1000. Plan showing location of existing bungalow in green, construction trench for swimming pool in red; and swimming pool building in blue

2.0 Site location and description

Seabank Farm is located in the Lindsey Marshland, within the administrative district of East Lindsey, approximately 9km to the north-east of Louth and 1.5km to the north of the village of Grainthorpe (figure 1).

The site boundaries are defined to the north and east by arable fields, to the south by a farm track and to the west by a bungalow. The development area is predominantly flat and was previously under grass (figure 2).

The foundation footprint of the swimming pool measures approximately 10m x 5m in area.

3.0 Planning background

Full planning permission was granted by East Lindsey District Council to construct an indoor swimming pool.

The planning permission was granted subject to the undertaking of an archaeological recording brief on all groundworks likely to expose, disturb or destroy archaeological remains.

4.0 Archaeological and historical background

The site is located in the parish of Grainthorpe within the Lindsey Marshland, approximately 9km to the north-east of Louth and 1.5km to the north of the village.

The County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) contains several entries of a medieval date, mainly relating to salt production (Appendix 11.0). To the north-east of the site is the silted up harbour and Medieval settlement of Swinehaven (SMR 41329) which was abandoned in 1635 (Appendix A).

The site itself is located over a saltern site (SMR 42889, figure 1).

There is no evidence for any prehistoric or Roman activity in the immediate vicinity.

The Domesday Survey records three manors in the parish belonging to William of Percy, Land of the King, and the Bishop of Durham (Morgan & Thorn, 1986).

The etymology of the placename is 11th century and is derived from the old Danish, *Germundstorp* meaning 'Germund's secondary settlement (Cameron, 1998).

5.0 Methodology

One site visit was made to the site on the 9th July 2002 during the excavation of the foundation for the swimming pool (figures 1 & 2).

The trench was opened under close archaeological supervision using a JCB wheeled excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, 1.6m wide.

Where possible archaeological features were identified, these areas were cleaned by hand. All archaeological deposits were subjected to limited excavation, in order to assess their nature, dimensions and to attempt to recover datable materials. All archaeological layers, deposits, and features were recorded using *pro forma* PCA (Lincoln) recording sheets. Sections through archaeological features were recorded at 1:20. Profiles of the trench edges were drawn at 1:20 to detail the stratigraphy of the trench (figure 3).

A photographic record was maintained, and selective representative colour prints have been reproduced in this report, with the remainder forming part of the project archive.

6.0 Results

The topsoil (001), which is a light-mid grey/brown loose slightly silty clay with occasional small angular stones, had an even depth of 0.3m across the site and overlay a natural clay layer (002).

Layer (002), directly beneath the topsoil, comprised of a light-mid orange/brown compact slightly silty clay and was over 0.7m in depth (figure 3).

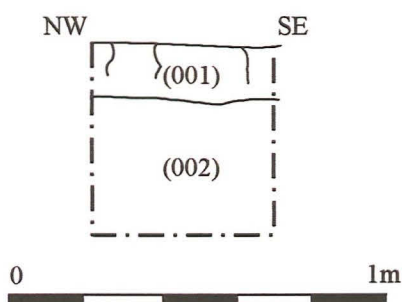


Fig. 3. South-west facing section of edge of trench showing Topsoil (001) and natural Geology (002)

Pre-Construct Archaeology

SeaBank Farm,

Granthorpe

Watching brief

SBFQ Ø2

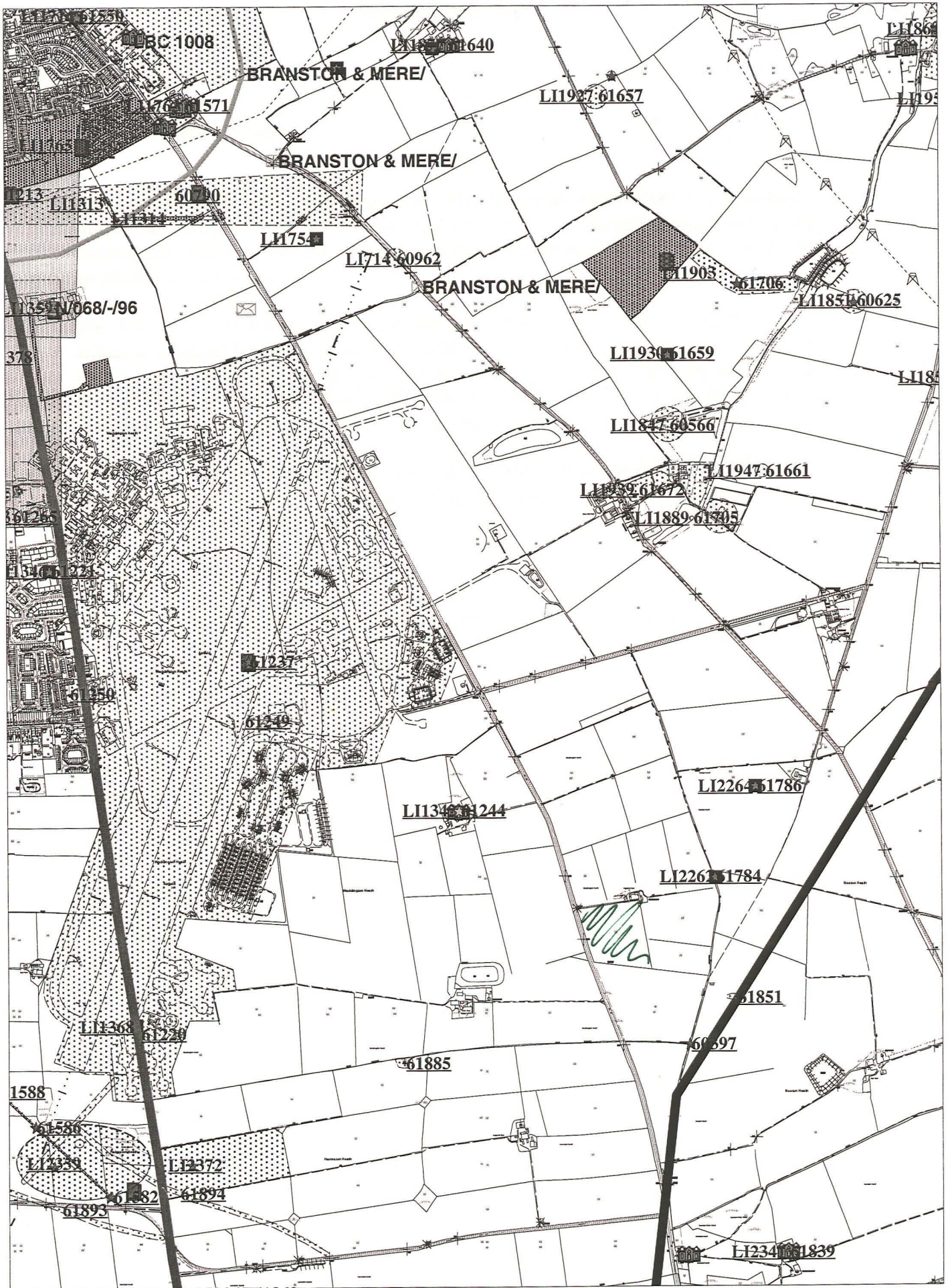
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LNCC 2002.310

S. Bray

9th July 2002

A watching brief was carried out during the groundworks for the construction of an indoor swimming pool, an area approximately 10m x 5m. No archaeological deposits were recorded.



7.0 Discussion of results

The watching brief was entirely negative. The depth and nature of layer (002) might suggest an interpretation as a natural deposit. However, upon consideration of the fenland environment, and the frequent marine inundations, this layer may equally be an alluvial accumulation.

The density of salt making sites within the immediate vicinity indicate that the site is within a marginal lower lying area of mudflats, creeks and migrating streams subject to frequent inundations during marine transgressions. This is further supported by the abandonment of the Medieval settlement and harbour of Swinehaven in 1635. Therefore archaeological remains at the site could be masked beneath alluvium.

Despite the presence of cropmarks on the development site, there was no evidence for any salt-making activity. This can perhaps be explained by the development of marine silts, masking earlier archaeology.

8.0 Effectiveness of methodology

The level of archaeological investigation is proportional to the scale of development being monitored, and it is concluded that this development has not impacted significantly on archaeological resources.

9.0 Acknowledgements

Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) would like to express thanks Mr B. Hutchinson for commissioning the work.

10.0 Bibliography

Cameron K, 1998, 'A Dictionary of Lincolnshire Place-names', *The English Place-Name Society*

Morgan, P. & Thorn C. (eds.) 1986, *Domesday Book:31 Lincolnshire*. Chichester, Phillimore

Pevsner N & Harris J, 'The Buildings of England, Lincolnshire', *Penguin Books*

11.0

*Appendix A Catalogue of sites and finds derived from the
Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record*

SMR No.	NGR	Description
41318	TF37809840	Medieval saltern
41329	TF39419938	Medieval harbour of Swinehaven, silted up shortly after 1635 and DMV
41339	TF37609850	Drainage ditches
41358	TA37800020	Medieval salterns
42882	TF383996	Undated saltern mound
42883	TF388992	Undated saltern mounds
42884	TF38309907; TF38499920	Saltern mounds at Sea Bank house
42881	TA373002	Undated soilmarks of Saltern mounds
44233	TF38499918	Watching brief revealed 2 linear features possible related to medieval salt production