DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT AND EARTHWORK SURVEY OF LAND OFF FEN ROAD,
TIMBERLAND,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(TFR02)

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Highways & Planning Directorate

DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT AND EARTHWORK
SURVEY OF LAND OFF FEN ROAD,
TIMBERLAND,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(TFR02)

Work Undertaken For Pygott and Crone

December 2002

Report Compiled by James Albone MA AIFA

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



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#### 1. SUMMARY

A desk-based assessment and earthwork survey were undertaken to determine the archaeological implications of a proposed residential development at land off Fen Road, Timberland, Lincolnshire. The assessment site lies in the centre of the village. Archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric to modern periods have been identified within a 1km assessment area surrounding the site.

Earthwork remains of ridge and furrow had previously been recorded at the proposed development site. These were surveyed during this assessment and found to comprise parts of two fields separated by a headland, which may have been a precursor to the present Fen Road. No ridge and furrow was identified in the northern part of the site indicating that it had a different land-use history. Remains of two ponds were also recorded at the site. No artefactual remains were observed during the survey.

There is some potential that archaeological remains of late-Saxon, medieval or early post-medieval date may be present at the proposed development site. There is little potential for prehistoric or Romano-British remains to exist at the site. Further evaluation would be possible by geophysical survey and trial trenching.

#### 2. INTRODUCTION

#### 2.1 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Pygott and Crone to undertake a desk-based assessment and earthwork survey of a proposed residential development site off Fen Road, Timberland, Lincolnshire (Planning Ref: N/67/0906/02). archaeological assessment undertaken in accordance with a project brief issued by the North Kesteven Heritage Officer (Appendix 1) and the Institute of Field Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for the Preparation of Desk-Based Assessments (IFA 1999).

# 2.2 Topography and Geology

Timberland is located in the North Kesteven district of Lincolnshire, 20km southeast of Lincoln and 13km northeast of Sleaford (Fig. 1). The proposed development site is situated in the centre of the village c.250 north of St Andrew's church. It comprises an L-shaped plot the southern side of which fronts onto Fen Road. The centre of the site is located at national grid reference TF 1216 5851 and lies at c.14m OD on a slightly east facing slope.

The site lies on fine loamy over clayey soils of the Beccles 1 Association (SSEW 1983a; SSEW 1983b; Hodge *et al.* 1984, 117). These deposits overlie boulder clay and Upper Jurassic Oxford Clay strata (BGS 1973).

# 2.3 Definition of a Desk-Based Assessment

A desk-based assessment is defined by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) as an 'assessment of the known or potential archaeological resource within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. It consists of a collation of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the likely character, extent, quality and worth of the known or potential archaeological resource in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate' (IFA 1999).

#### 3. PROJECT AIMS

#### 3.1 Desk-Based Assessment

The purpose of the desk-based assessment is to obtain information relating to the known and potential archaeological resource of the assessment site. In order to achieve this the assessment considers a11 known archaeological remains located within a c. 1km radius of the site. The condition and extent of any remains at the site is then assessed to enable the archaeological curator to formulate the management of the policies for archaeological resource. In addition to the above, statutory and advisory heritage constraints are identified.

### 3.2 Earthwork Survey

The aim of the earthwork survey is to map the surviving remains at the site to support the evidence of the desk-based assessment.

#### 4. METHODS

#### 4.1 Desk-Based Assessment

All archaeological remains or documentary evidence relating to the area within a c.1km radius of the proposed development site were considered. This area is referred to in this document at the 'Assessment Area'. Compilation of the archaeological and historical data relevant to the area of the proposed development site involved examination of all appropriate primary and secondary sources available. These include:

- Enclosure, tithe, and other maps and plans at the Lincolnshire Archives Office
- Recent and old Ordnance Survey maps
- Lincolnshire SMR
- Parish Files held by the North Kesteven Heritage Officer
- Photographic sources
- · Archaeological books and journals

A list of sources consulted is included as Appendix 4. No geotechnical information was available for the site. Information obtained from the literature and cartographic examination supplemented was observations made during the earthworks survey to assess present ground conditions. The results of the investigations were committed to scale plans of the area and archaeological sites and finds included in a gazetteer (Table 1).

#### 4.2 Earthwork Survey

The earthwork survey was undertaken using an EDM on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2002. A series of spot heights were surveyed across the earthwork features in transects. The survey results were located in relation to the site boundary and an Ordnance Survey benchmark. Survey data was processed using SurvPro and Surfer software to produce contour plots of the earthwork features.

#### 5. RESULTS

#### 5.1 Historical Data

Timberland is first recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086 AD when land there was held by Earl Hugh, Norman of Arcy and Heppo the Crossbowman (Morgan and Thorn 1986, 13,36; 32,25; 61,7). The place-name 'Timbrelund' is Old English and Old Norse in origin and refers to the 'grove where timber is obtained' (Cameron 1998, 128).

Details of the development of the settlement during the medieval period are sparse. Drainage of the fens to the east of the village was taking place as early as the 13<sup>th</sup> century under the control of Kirkstead Abbey and people of Timberland. The Abbey received a grant of a fishery on the river Witham at Timberland in the 13<sup>th</sup> century (Hallam 1965, 99 - 104).

The enclosure of the parish occurred in 1789 although many small enclosures had already been made near the village by this time. Further drainage of Timberland Fen occurred at that time and also in 1840 (White 1856, 357).

#### 5.2 Cartographic Data

The assessment site lies in the centre of Timberland village. Appropriate maps of the vicinity were examined.

The earliest available plan showing the assessment site in detail dates from 1760 (Ponton 1760). The site is shown within a larger L-shaped field (Fig. 3, Field No.3) with hedgerows along its eastern and southern boundaries. No corresponding field-name details were available. The lane to the south of the site was shown leading out into 'The Common Green' to the east. The plan of the village at that time reveals two apparent foci. The largest of these is located to the northwest of the site and comprised a complex group of lanes to the west of the main street. A second focus exists in the southern part of the settlement along the main north to south street and eastwards to the church (Fig. 3).

The scale of Armstrong's 1779 'Map of Lincoln-Shire' is too small to show any details

at the assessment site and a copy of the relevant area is not included in this report. Equally Bryant's 'Map of the County of Lincoln' does not shown any specific details at the proposed development site.

The second edition 6" to the mile Ordnance Survey map of 1906 shows two ponds at the site (Fig. 4). A footpath is marked across the site from the southeast to northwest. It is likely it had been constructed to connect the vicarage directly with the school, both of which were shown on this map. The lane to the south of the site was labelled as Warehouses Lane. To the northwest of the site the complex street plan shown in 1760 had changed with the amalgamation of several land units into a single block occupied by the Manor House.

By the time of the 1956 6" to the mile Ordnance Survey map development had occurred on the southwest side of the site forming the present boundary (Fig. 5). The more easterly of the two ponds marked on the earlier map was no longer shown and had probably been filled in by this time.

The 1985 edition of the 1:10000 Ordnance Survey map shows further development to the southwest of the site (Fig. 2).

#### 5.3 Photographic Data

Aerial photographs held at the Lincolnshire SMR and Heritage Lincolnshire were examined as part of the assessment. A list of relevant photographs is given in Appendix 4.

Two vertical aerial photographs showing the area of the proposed development site were examined. They dated to 1966 and 1971 and both showed the area as rough pasture. The pond in the northwestern part of the site was visible on the earlier photograph with the line of the footpath visible on both. No oblique photographs showing the centre Timberland village were held in either of the collections examined. However, an oblique photograph taken in the summer of 2002 was examined at Timberland post office. This photograph showed the site during dry conditions. The earthworks recorded during the survey, including the pond in the northwestern part of the site were visible.

Map overlays held at Heritage Lincolnshire showing known cropmarks and earthworks plotted from aerial photographs were also examined. These showed extensive cropmark remains of ridge and furrow surrounding the settlement of Timberland (Fig. 2).

#### 5.4 Archaeological Data

Records of archaeological sites and finds within the assessment area are held at the Lincolnshire SMR and in files maintained by the North Kesteven Heritage Officer. The proposed development site is located in the centre of Timberland village. Details of all archaeological remains within 1km of the assessment site are collated on Table 1 and located on Figure 2.

# Prehistoric Archaeology

Prehistoric evidence from within the assessment area is sparse. A perforated axe head, of probable Neolithic or Bronze Age date (4000 – 801 BC), was found near to the Car Dyke in the parish, but the exact findspot is not recorded. A round barrow has been recorded in a wood to the west of the village in 1972 (Fig. 2, No.1).

#### Romano-British Archaeology

Timberland village lies c.500m west of the Car Dyke, a Romano-British (43 – 410 AD) waterway. Two sections of this feature within the assessment area are protected as scheduled ancient monuments (Fig.2, Nos. 3 and 4).

A hoard of about 1500 bronze coins was found close to the Car Dyke at Timberland in 1808 although the exact location of the find is not known. The hoard consisted of coins of the emperors Augustus, Tiberius and Claudius, dated it to the mid-1<sup>st</sup> century AD. It has been considered likely that its presence relates to the construction of the Car Dyke (Todd 1966).

#### Anglo-Saxon Archaeology

No archaeological remains of Anglo-Saxon date (410 - 1066 AD) have previously been recorded within the assessment area.

#### Medieval Archaeology

The proposed development site is located within the medieval (1067 - 1540 AD) settlement of Timberland (Fig. 2, No. 4).

| 1 |
|---|
| - |
|   |

| Ref. | Lincolnshire<br>SMR Ref. | NKHO<br>SMR Ref. | Period        | Description  | NGR<br>c = central |
|------|--------------------------|------------------|---------------|--|--------------------|
|      | 60343                    |                  | Prehistoric   | Stone axe head   | Unlocated          |
| 1    |                          | NK67.2           | Prehistoric   | Round barrow   | TF 1140 5830       |
| 2    | 60707                    |                  | Roman         | Car Dyke (SAM 315)   | TF 1260 5880       |
| 3    | 60708                    |                  | Roman         | Car Dyke (SAM 298)   | TF 1275 5845       |
|      | 62306                    | NK67.1           | Roman         | Coin hoard   | Unlocated          |
| 4    | 60941                    |                  | Medieval      | Settlement of Timberland   | TF 1210 5850c      |
| 5    | 62302                    |                  | Medieval      | St Andrew's Church. Grade II * listed                                  | TF 1217 5824       |
| 6    |                          | NK67.5           | Medieval      | Earthwork ridge and furrow   | TF1215 5850        |
| 7    | 60343                    |                  | Medieval      | Deserted settlement of Thorpe Tilney                                   | TF 1145 5754       |
| 8    | 60940                    | NK67.4           | Post-medieval | Site of former brickworks at Brickyard Farm                            | TF 1295 5874       |
| 9    | 62317                    |                  | Post-medieval | Former gravel pit  | TF1151 5878        |
| 10   | 62318                    |                  | Post-medieval | Former gravel pit  | TF1149 5805        |
| 11   | 62303                    |                  | Post-medieval | Old school and school house. 1843. Grade II listed                     | TF 1206 5850       |
| 12   | 62312                    |                  | Post-medieval | Clifton House, Church Lane. c.1770. Grade II listed                    | TF1209 5836        |
| 13   | 62313                    |                  | Post-medieval | No. 2 West Street. c.1800. Grade II listed                             | TF 1203 5852       |
| 14   | 62305                    |                  | Post-medieval | Evans Farmhouse., Main Road. c.1782. Grade II listed                   | TF 1116 5792       |
| 15   | 62314                    |                  | Post-medieval | Wesleyan Chapel. Grade II listed                                       | TF 1195 5848       |
| 16   | 62319                    |                  | Post-medieval | Primitive Methodist chapel. Grade II listed                            | TF 1201 5840       |
| 17   | 62304                    |                  | Post-medieval | Thorpe Tilney Hall, stable block, orangery. c.1740. Grade II listed    | TF 1154 5762       |
| 18   | 63311                    |                  | Modern        | K6 Telephone kiosk. Grade II listed                                    | TF 1204 5852       |
| 19   | 600 600 600 600          | NK67.8           | Modern        | Scatter of debris identified in SW corner of field during fieldwalking | TF 1290 5800c      |
| 20   | 62320                    | NK67.7           | Undated       | Ditch and gully features identified during watching brief              | TF 1196 5817       |

Table 1 Archaeological sites and listed historic buildings within c.1km of the proposed development site (see Fig.2).

Earthwork remains of ridge and furrow are recorded at the proposed development site (Fig. 2, No. 6).

St Andrew's church (Fig. 2, No. 5), which lies c.250m south of the proposed development site, has a late 12<sup>th</sup> century Transitional style tower with a Perpendicular top. The internal arcades are of late 13<sup>th</sup> and early 14<sup>th</sup> century date although much of the rest of the building dates to 19<sup>th</sup> century rebuilding and restoration (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 766).

The secondary settlement of Thorpe Tilney lies 1km southwest of the proposed development site (Fig. 2, No. 7).

#### Post-Medieval Archaeology

Recorded post-medieval (1541 – 1900 AD) remains within the assessment area include two former gravel pits to the west of the village (Fig. 2, Nos. 9 and 10). The site of former brickworks has also been recorded to the east of the village at Brickyard Farm (Fig. 2, No. 8).

#### Modern Archaeology

A scatter of modern debris was noted during fieldwalking adjacent to the Car Dyke c.1km southeast of the proposed development site (Fig. 2, No. 19).

#### **Undated Archaeology**

Undated archaeological features were recorded during a watching brief at the southern end of the village (Fig. 2, No.20). A field boundary ditch and two gullies were identified (Taylor 1999).

#### 5.5 Historic Buildings Data

A number of buildings of historical or architectural interest are located within the assessment area. These are detailed in Table 1 and located on Figure 2. The listed building closest to the proposed development site is the Old School and School House on Martin Road (Fig. 2, No. 11). It is of red brick with ashlar dressings and a slate roof. Both parts of the building were constructed in 1843 and altered in c.1890 (DoE 1987, 28).

### 5.6 Earthwork and Walkover Surveys

The earthwork survey recorded features in all areas of the site. A modern tarmac footpath crosses the site. A contour plot of the site is shown on Figure 6 with an interpretation of the earthworks given on Figure 7.

Remains of east to west aligned ridge and furrow were recorded in the southeastern part of the site (A). Five probable ridges were identified (Pl. 3). The two ridges closest to the road were less well preserved and appear to have been subject to earlier disturbance.

To the north of, and parallel to, this ridge and furrow was a larger more prominent ridge located in the central part of the site (B). This feature extended for c.68m to the east of the footpath and was visible for a further 10m to its west before turning southwards. No ridge and furrow was identified to the north of this ridge and it is likely that it represents a headland marking the edge of an arable field (Pl. 2). The absence of ridge and furrow in the northern part of the site may indicate that this area had been used as pasture. A wet hollow was noted in the northeast corner of the site (D). It is possible that this was a former pond, although its location does not correspond to either of the two shown at the site on earlier maps.

The site of one of these ponds recorded on the 1906 Ordnance Survey map was present as a wet hollow (C) between the headland (B) and ridge and furrow (A). The second pond marked on the Ordnance Survey maps was still extant and was located in the northwestern part of the site (E). At the time of the survey the area of water measured approximately 11m by 18m with a depth of greater than 0.30m (Pl.1).

In the western part of the site further evidence of ridge and furrow was recorded. Three north to south aligned ridges (F) were identified extending from the southern boundary of the site. These appeared to be aligned parallel to the north to south arm of the headland (B) and clearly represented part of a different field to the ridge and furrow (A) further to the east. The northern extent of these features was partly masked by a spread of soil. This was associated with the recent construction of a

small hardstanding close to the western boundary of the site.

A small modern structure with an adjacent fenced area was present on the northern boundary of the site. A concrete manhole was located on the eastern site boundary. This was believed to be associated with a foul sewer aligned north to south along this boundary.

The southeastern boundary of the site along Fen Road comprised iron railings of 19<sup>th</sup> century date (Pl. 4). The eastern boundary of the site comprised an established mixed species hedgerow. All other boundaries of the site comprise mainly of modern fencing and are of little historic importance.

Some areas of disturbed soil were visible at the site, in particular in the area of the new hardstanding. However, no artefactual remains of pre-modern date were observed.

The site would be suitable for further non-intrusive evaluation in the form of geophysical survey. However, the presence of overhead cables and the iron railings in the southeastern part of the site would have some localised effect on the results. Intrusive evaluation in the form of trial trenching could also be implemented.

#### 6. CONSTRAINTS

#### 6.1 Heritage Constraints

#### Statutory and Advisory Constraints

Two scheduled ancient monuments protected by the Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act of 1979 (HMSO 1979) are located within the 1km assessment area around the site. These are both earthwork sections of the Car Dyke, which lie approximately 450m east of the proposed development site. The proposed development would have no direct impact on these monuments or their visual setting. All other archaeological remains within the assessment area are protected only through the implementation of PPG16 (DoE Historic buildings within assessment area are protected by the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act of 1990 (HMSO 1990). None of these are located within the site boundaries and consequently would not be directly affected by the proposed development.

#### 6.2 Other Constraints

No specific checks have been carried out to determine whether active services cross the proposed development site. However, observations made during the site visit suggest that an underground sewer pipe is located along its eastern boundary. Overhead telegraph cables are also present across the southeastern corner of the site.

# 7. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

For assessment of significance the Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling ancient monuments has been used (DoE 1990, Annex 4; See Appendix 2).

#### Period

Activity dateable from the prehistoric to modern periods has been recognised within the assessment area.

Prehistoric evidence is sparse within the assessment area with the barrow to the west of the village being the only located remains of this period. The only located Romano-British evidence within the assessment area is the Car Dyke. The unlocated coin hoard found in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century was apparently found close to this monument.

No remains of Anglo-Saxon date have been recorded within the assessment area, although the settlement itself of late Saxon date. The proposed development site lies on the eastern edge of the medieval settlement of Timberland. Earthwork remains of ridge and furrow had previously been recorded at the site. The earthwork survey carried out at part of this assessment confirmed the presence of ridge and furrow at the site. These remains belonged to two separate fields divided by a headland. Although the date of the ridge and furrow cannot be accurately determined, it pre-dates the present field boundaries that are shown on the 1760 plan. Consequently, it is likely to be of medieval or early postmedieval date. The hedgerow along the eastern boundary of the site also dates from at

least 1760. The southeastern boundary of the site is marked by iron railings of 19<sup>th</sup> century date.

#### Rarity

Sites of prehistoric round barrows such as the one recorded to the east of the village are not uncommon in Lincolnshire. However, the majority of these have been levelled by agricultural activity and earthwork remains of this period are rare with the lowland parts of the county.

The Car Dyke is a unique archaeological monument in both regional and national terms. The well-preserved condition of the sections in Timberland parish is reflected by their scheduled status.

The ridge and furrow at the site is typical evidence of medieval agricultural activity. However, surviving earthwork remains of this type are becoming increasingly rare, due to continual loss to agriculture and development activity.

The 19<sup>th</sup> century iron railings that survive along the southeastern boundary of the site represent a relatively rare survival. Many railings were removed for salvage during the Second World War with others having been gradually destroyed in the later 20<sup>th</sup> century.

#### **Documentation**

Historical documentation relating to the proposed development site dates back to at least the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century.

Records of archaeological sites and finds made in the assessment area are kept in the Lincolnshire SMR and in files maintained by the North Kesteven Heritage Officer.

Several archaeological investigations have previously been carried out within the assessment area. A desk-based assessment has previously been carried out for a site to the south of the current proposed development area (Hockley 1993). Subsequently, watching briefs were undertaken during residential development at that site (Taylor 1999; Thomson 2002).

#### Group value

The prehistoric remains identified in this

report are too limited to have any group value within the assessment area. However, as the barrow forms part of a line of such monuments along the fen edge, it has some group value in this wider context. Likewise the Car Dyke has a high group value in relation to other Romano-British sites along the fen edge. However, the absence of other located remains of this period within 1km of the proposed development site means that it has little group value within the assessment area itself.

The medieval and post-medieval remains recorded within the assessment area relate to the settlement of Timberland and its surrounding agricultural landscape. Consequently these remains have a moderate to high group value.

#### Survival/Condition

Earthwork remains relating to medieval to early post-medieval field systems survive at the proposed development site. These remains are moderately well preserved. The headland is clearly defined with the ridge and furrow being in a damaged but recognisable condition. Ponds dating from at least 1906 are also present at the site both as an extant feature and an earthwork.

The presence of the earthworks at the site may have protected earlier archaeological remains. Although ploughing associated with the formation of the ridge and furrow is likely to have had some impact on any buried remains, these may be relatively well preserved beneath the ridges. The lack of modern agricultural activity, particularly deep ploughing, means that any buried remains at the site are likely to be better preserved than those located in modern arable fields.

#### Fragility/Vulnerability

Earthworks remains of any type are particularly fragile and can easily be damaged, even by livestock trampling. Any form of residential activity is likely to result in the destruction of the earthwork remains at the site.

Any shallow buried archaeological remains at the site would also be at risk from any ground disturbance associated with development activity.

#### **Diversity**

The archaeological remains identified within the assessment area, spanning the prehistoric to modern periods, represent a relatively high period diversity. However, the majority of these remains date to the medieval and post-medieval periods. Sites relating to settlement, agriculture, communications, religion and industry were identified, representing a moderate functional diversity.

#### **Potential**

Archaeological remains of prehistoric date have previously been identified within the assessment area. However, these were not located close to the proposed development site and consequently the potential for any remains of this period to be present at the site is low.

Although the site lies 450m west of the Car Dyke, no other archaeological remains of Romano-British date have been found in its immediate vicinity. The potential for unidentified remains of this period to be present at the proposed development site is limited.

No archaeological remains of Anglo-Saxon date were identified within the assessment area. However, the settlement of Timberland is known to have existed by the late Saxon period. Consequently there is some potential that remains of this period could be present at the proposed development site.

Remains of medieval to early post-medieval ridge and furrow have been identified on the southern part of the site. This indicates that this area was under arable cultivation during these periods. Consequently there is limited potential for further, unidentified, remains of medieval date to be present in the southern part of the site. The headlands separating the arable fields also served as a means of access, often acting later becoming established as roads. It is possible that the headland identified at the site may have been a precursor to the modern Fen Road. The absence of ridge and furrow remains in the northern part of the site suggests that it was not used for arable agriculture during this period. It is possible that this part of the site was pasture, but there is moderate potential for unidentified remains of medieval date to

be present. The location of the site, close to the two possible foci of medieval settlement means that it has the potential to address a number of research issues identified as being of regional importance in the study of this period (Lewis 2000). These include the origins and development of nucleated settlements and field systems and the relationships between these.

The site appears to have been a single land holding since at least the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century. Consequently, there is only limited potential for unidentified remains of later post-medieval date to be present at the site. The eastern boundary of site is marked by an established hedgerow that was depicted on the 1760 plan of the village. As such it is of potential historic importance as defined by one of the criteria specified in the Hedgerow Regulations (1997; see Appendix 3).

The lack of previous archaeological investigations in the immediate vicinity to the proposed development site makes its palaeoenvironmental potential difficult to gauge. Standing water at the site at the time of the earthworks survey suggested that this site had probably been prone to seasonal waterlogging in the past. Any cut features, in particular the ponds, may contain preserved organic remains.

#### 8. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological remains of prehistoric to modern date have been identified within the assessment area. Evidence for prehistoric and Roman activity is sparse and there is limited potential for remains of these periods to exist at the proposed development site. The settlement of Timberland has its origins in the late Saxon period and there is some potential for associated remains to be present at the site

The proposed development site lies close to one of the two possible foci of the medieval settlement of Timberland. Earthwork remains of ridge and furrow had previously been recorded at the site. An earthwork survey as part of this report recorded moderately well preserved ridge and furrow relating to two fields separated by a headland. The headland may have been a precursor to the present Fen

Road, providing access to the low-lying land to the east. No ridge and furrow was identified on the northern part of the site indicating that it had a different history of land-use. It is possible that it had been pasture or had been used for a non-agricultural purpose. A pond known to have existed since the early 20<sup>th</sup> century was identified in this area of the site.

The eastern boundary of the site comprises a potentially important historic hedgerow dating back to at least the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century. The southeastern frontage of the site, along Fen Road, is marked by 19<sup>th</sup> century iron railings. These represent a relatively rare survival of this type of fencing.

#### 9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr D. Brown of Pygott and Crone who commissioned this report. Access to the Lincolnshire SMR was provided by Sarah Grundy and Jo Hambly, the North Kesteven Heritage Officer permitted access to parish files held at Heritage Lincolnshire. Thanks are also due to the staff of the Lincolnshire Archives Office.

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#### 11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

CLAU City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit

DoE Department of the Environment

HMSO Her Majesty's Stationery Office

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

LAO Lincolnshire Archives Office

OS Ordnance Survey

RCHME Royal Commission for Historic

Monuments in England

SMR Sites and Monuments Record

Office

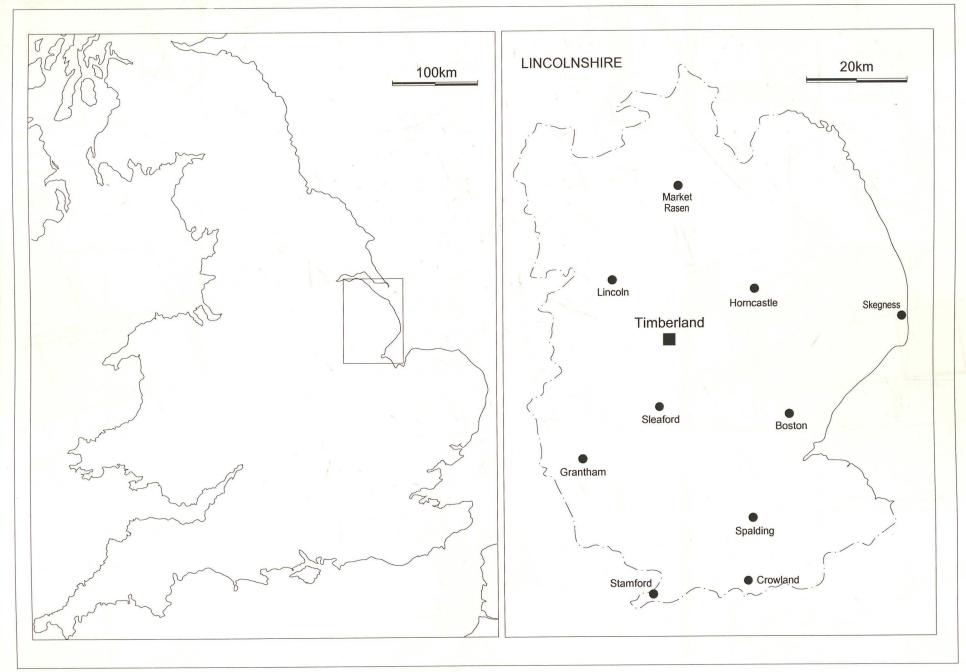


Figure 1: General Location Plan

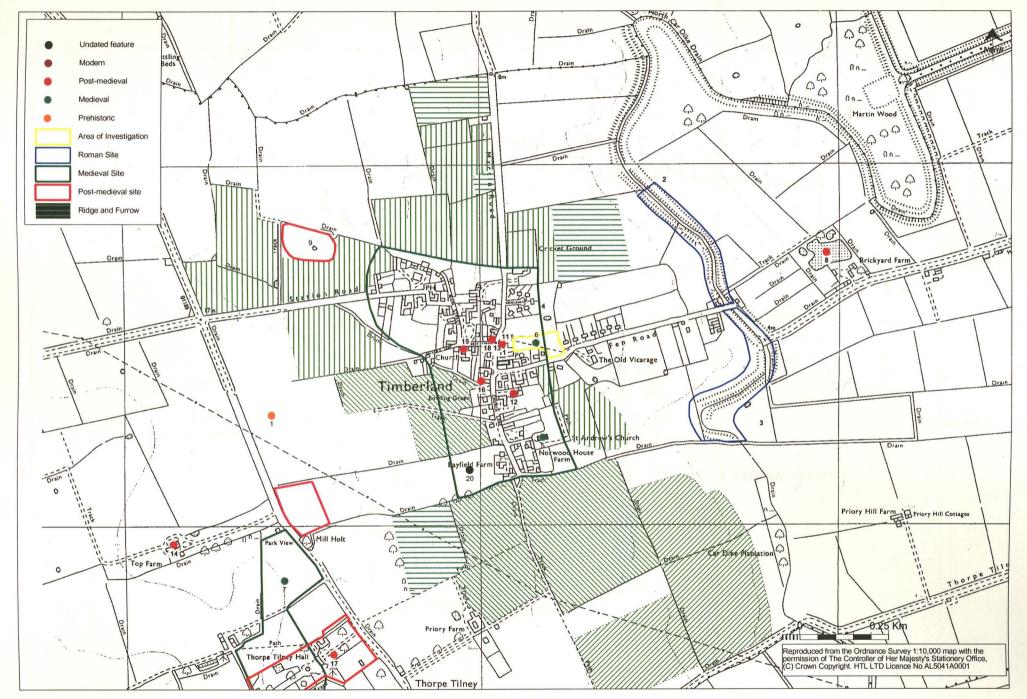


Figure 2 Site location plan and archaeological setting

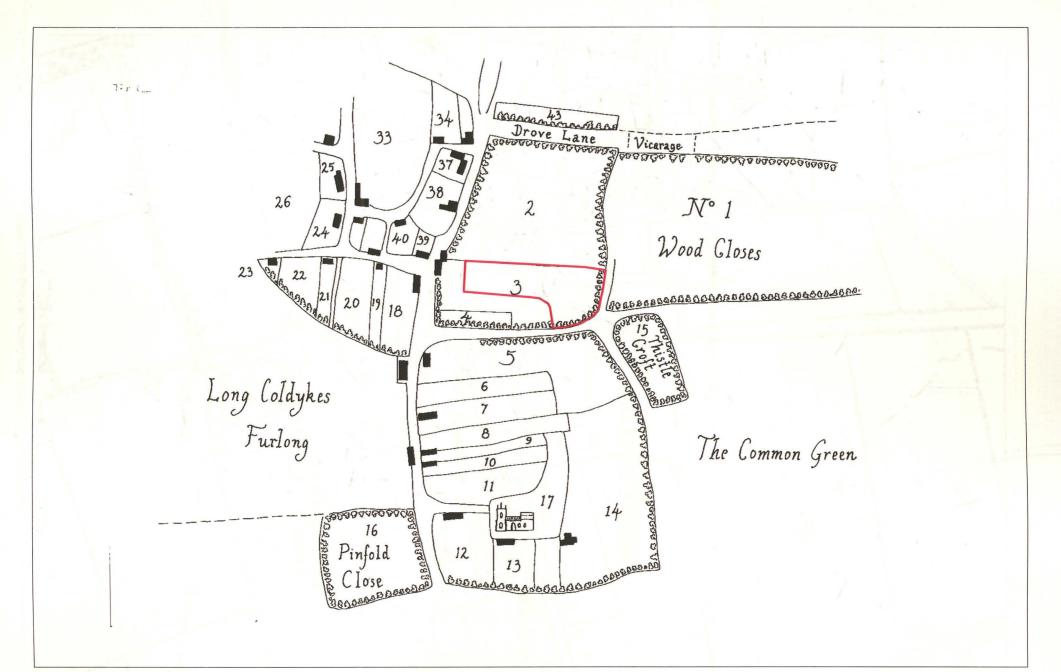


Figure 3 1760 map showing area of investigation

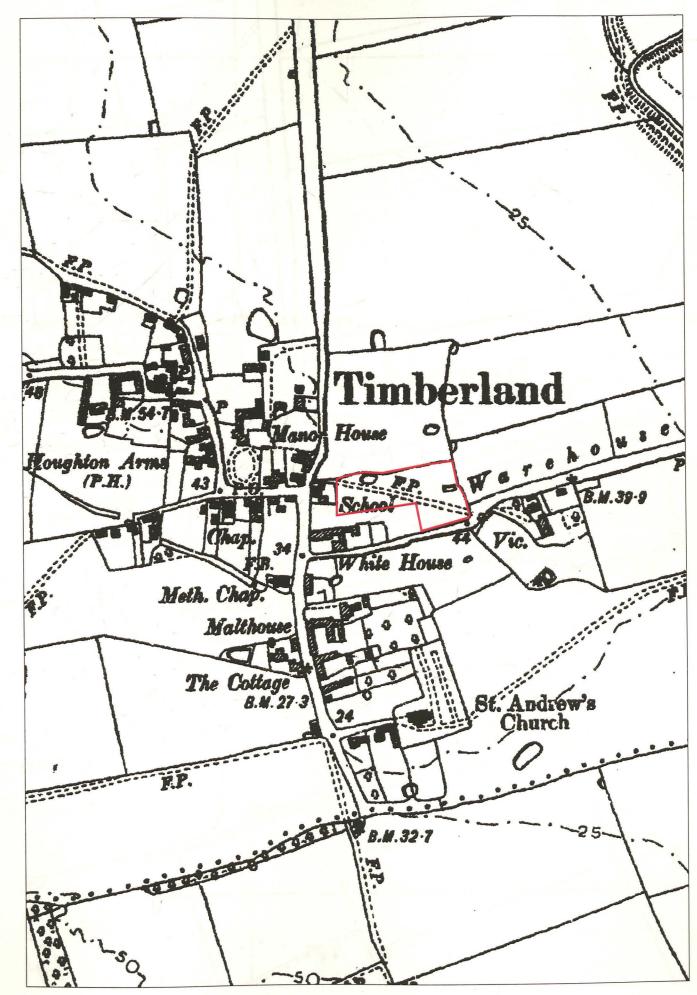


Figure 4 1906 Ordnance Survey map showing area of investigation

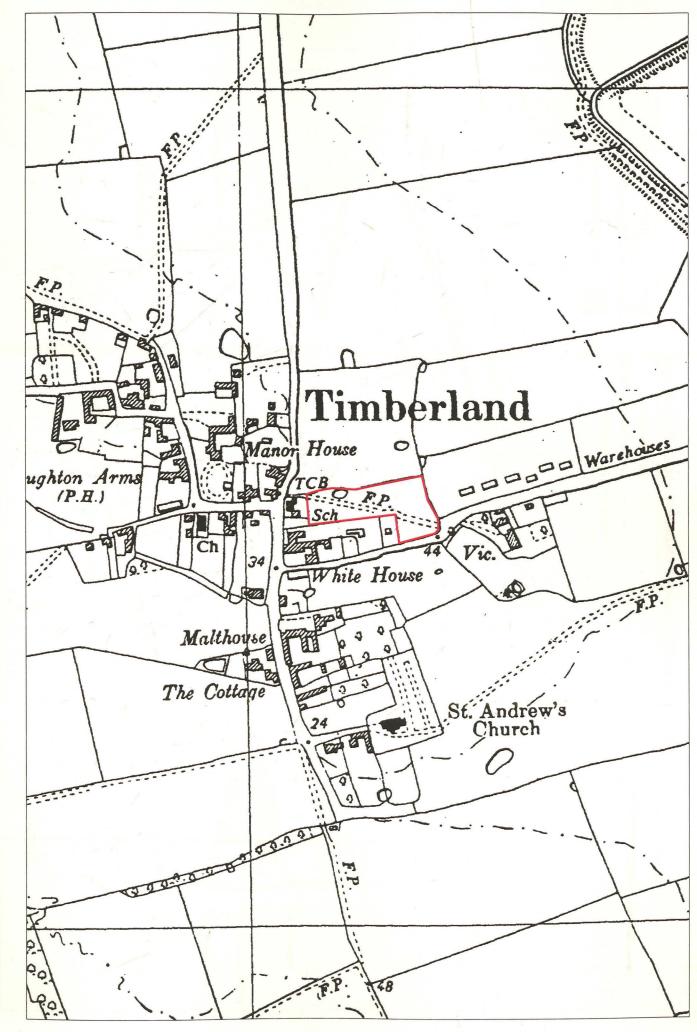


Figure 5 1956 Ordnance Survey map showing area of investigation

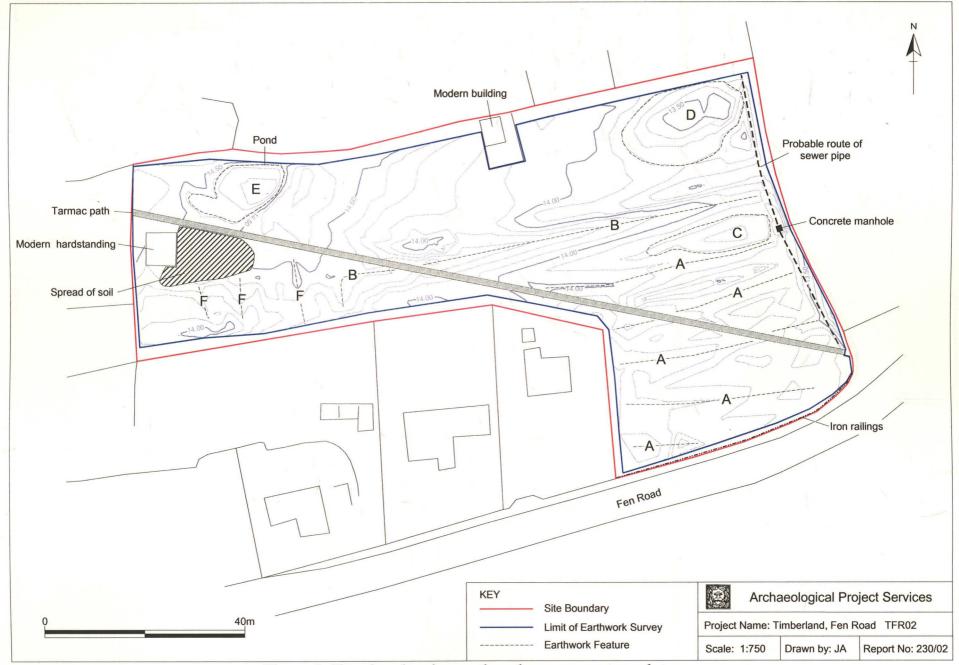


Figure 6. Site plan showing earthwork survey contour plot

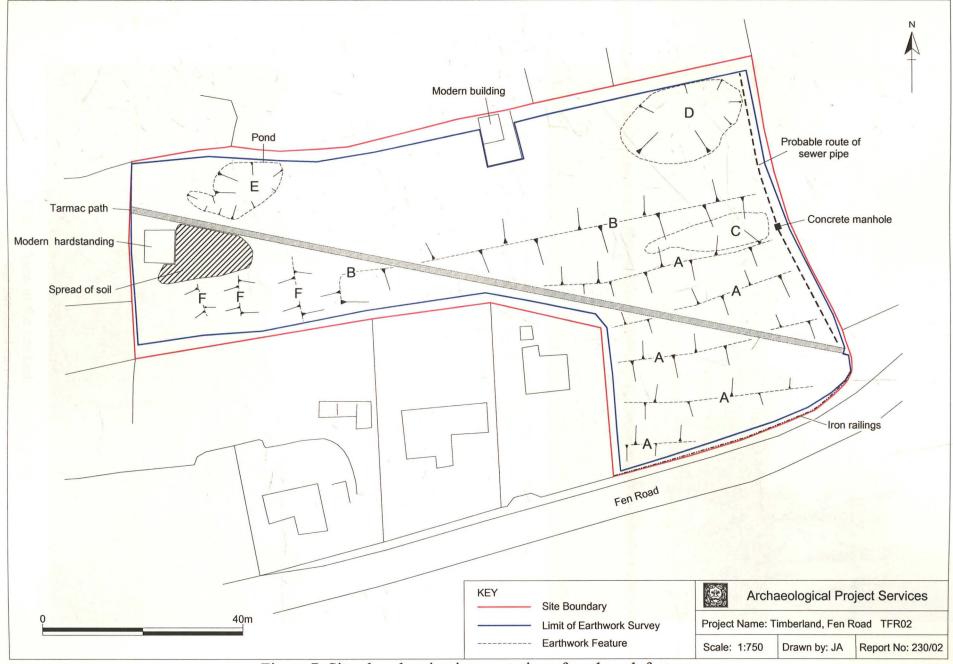


Figure 7. Site plan showing interpretation of earthwork features



Plate 1 General view of the site looking east from the northwest corner showing extant pond.



Plate 2 View of the site looking north along the headland earthwork.



Plate 3 Water lying in ridge and furrow earthworks in the southeastern part of the site.



Plate 4 Southern boundary of the site along Fen Road showing iron railings.

# BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT AND EARTHWORK SURVEY AT FEN ROAD TIMBERLAND, LINCOLNSHIRE

NGR: 512159 358513

Applicant: Exors for Mrs K. Costell Agent: Pygott & Crone

### Site Description:

The site is an irregular block of land on the north side of Fen Road in Timberland village. The site area is approximately 0.65 Ha and is pasture.

### Planning Background:

This is an outline planning application for residential development.

### Archaeological Background:

A number of earthworks are visible within the application area. These include well-preserved ridge and furrow, a pond (marked on the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition O.S.) and a rectangular platform at the western boundary.

### Reasons for an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Earthwork Survey

The proposed development area contains visible archaeological remains. A desk-based assessment is necessary to gather information about the date, origins and context of these remains. An earthwork survey is necessary to elucidate their nature and interpretation.

#### Additional Information:

This area of open space contains visible historical features that suggest it has been relatively undisturbed for at least 500 years. It is located near the centre of Timberland and has good access via a tarmac public footpath, which crosses it to link the main road with Fen Road. Green spaces like these in villages and built-up areas are becoming increasingly rare due to development pressures. In terms of the historic environment, the potential long-term amenity value of this historic space to the village is high.

Heritage Officer

Date: 23-08-02

Brief is valid for 1 year from this date.

# For the particular attention of the Client

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. An assessment should be prepared prior to the submission of a planning application in order that the archaeological implications of the development can be fully considered. The information will enable the Local Planning Authority to consider the proposals and allow an informed and reasonable decision to be made. This brief is for a desk-base assessment and earthwork survey.
- 1.2. There is a presumption in favour of preservation in situ of nationally important archaeological remains, whether scheduled or not (PPG, paragraph 8). In some cases, unscheduled remains of local and regional importance will be considered worthy of preservation in situ (PPG16, paragraph 16). In these cases, the results of the assessment should influence the design of the development in order to protect a monument or remains. Proposals for enhancement may also be identified.
- 1.3. This brief should be sent to archaeological contractors as the basis for the preparation of a detailed archaeological project specification. In response to this brief contractors will be expected to provide details of the proposed scheme of work, to include the anticipated timescales, staffing levels and sources of information (The North Kevesten Heritage Officer does not maintain a list of archaeological contractors but names of local units can be found in the Yellow Pages, or from the Institute of Field Archaeologists. Tel: 0118 931 6446)
- 1.4. Detailed specifications should be submitted by the client for approval by the North Kesteven Heritage Officer. Failure to seek approval at an early stage may result in delay later on. The client will be free to choose between those specifications which are considered to adequately satisfy this brief.

### For the particular attention of the Contractor

#### 2. REQUIREMENT FOR WORK

- 2.2. The objective of the archaeological desk-based assessment is to make full and effective use of existing information in establishing the archaeological significance of the site and the impact of the development proposals on surviving monuments and remains.
- 2.3. The objective of the earthwork survey is to map the remains to support the desk-based evidence.
- 2.4. The academic and research potential of the remains should be considered with reference to the current and proposed research themes described in the East Midlands Research Frameworks.
- 2.5. The degree of disturbance by existing or previous buildings or other structures on the site should be indicated.
- 2.6. The impact of any development proposals on the site should be assessed with reference to architects', engineers' and planning application drawings, as appropriate.
- 2.7. The assessment should seek to enable a decision on whether further information can reasonably be required through implementing a designed field evaluation.

- 2.8. Any adjustments to the brief for this assessment should only be made after discussion with the North Kesteven Heritage Officer.
- 2.9. The contractor's specification should be prepared according to the requirements of this brief and the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook's section 'Standard Briefs for Archaeological Projects in Lincolnshire' (August 1997).

#### 3 METHODS

Desk-based assessment

- 3.1. The assessment will consider the archaeological, environmental, topographical and historical importance of the site in the context of local, regional and national significance.
- 3.2. Reference should be made to the anticipated preservation conditions at the site, including variables affecting preservation of biological remains and organic artifacts
- 3.3. Sources to be consulted for the assessment should include:
  - 3.3.1. Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record;
  - 3.3.2. All Ordnance Survey maps;
  - 3.3.3. Tithe, Enclosure Award and Parish Maps (where appropriate);
  - 3.3.4. Historical documents, particularly those held in Lincolnshire Archives Office;
  - 3.3.5. Archaeological books and journals;
  - 3.3.6. Unpublished reports and archives (where appropriate);
  - 3.3.7. Aerial photographs;
  - 3.3.8. Geotechnical information, e.g. client geosurvey records, boreholes and test pits
  - 3.3.9. Listed buildings and scheduled ancient monuments
  - 3.3.9. Any other sources deemed appropriate.
- 3.4. A site visit should be made to verify site conditions and locate any potential constraints to further evaluation. It is vital that information regarding previous land-use of the site is included in the report.

Earthwork survey

- 3.5. A projected timetable must be agreed for the various stages of work (fieldwork and production of the report).
  - 3.6. The staff structure and numbers must be detaile including person hours for on-site work.
- 3.7. It is expected that all on-site work will be carried out in such a way that complies with the relevant Health and Safety legislation
  - 3.8. A full description of the recording strategies to be used.

# . REPORTING REQUIREMENT

Desk-based assessment

- 4.1. A full report should be produced and deposited with the North Kesteven Heritage Officer, the Developer and the County Sites and Monuments Record.
- 4.2. The final report should be produced to the level outlined in the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook.
- 4.3. All maps should be reproduced with the site outline clearly marked on them.

- 4.4. All sources consulted should be in the bibliography, even if this was without result.
- 4.5. Possible options for further evaluation work should be indicated.
- 4.6. Identification of the degree of disturbance (by present and previous buildings, other structures, previous works, services) should be clearly presented on a plan of the site.
- 4.7. An assessment of the significance of the site should also be included (guidelines can be found in the Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling ancient monuments DOE 1990, Annex 4, and the Heritage Values outlined within Sustaining the Historic Environment: new perspectives on the future EH March 1997).

Earthwork survey

- 4.8. Detailed survey results and interpretation of these.
- 4.8. A critical review of the effectiveness of the methodology

#### ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

- 5.1 Arrangements must be made with the land-owner(s) and/or the developers for the deposition of the paper archive. The landowner should be encouraged to deposit the project archive at the Lincolnshire City and County Museum.
- 5.2 Preliminary discussion must take place prior to fieldwork commencing and the receiving museum must be named at the tender stage of the project.
- 5.3 If the receiving museum is the City and County Museum Lincoln, then the archive should be produced in the form outlined in that Museum's Document 'Conditions for the Acceptance of project Archives,' See address below.
  The City and County Museum should be contacted at the earliest possible opportunity, so that the full cost implications of the archive deposition can be taken into account.

#### 6. PUBLICATION AND DISSEMINATION

6.1. The deposition of a copy of the report with the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record will be deemed to put all information in the public domain, unless a special request is made for confidentiality. If material is to be held in confidence, a timescale must be agreed, but it is expected that this will not exceed six months.

#### 7. MONTTORING ARRANGEMENTS

7.1 The Heritage Officer for North Kesteven District Council will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project and will require at least fourteen days notice prior to the commencement of any fieldwork. The Heritage Officer should be kept informed of any unexpected discoveries and regularly updated on the project's progress. She should be allowed access to the site at her convenience and will comply with any health and safety requirements associated with the site.

#### 8. FURTHER CONTACT ADDRESSES

Joanna Hambly

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The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
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Tel: 01529 461499
joanna@lincsheritage.org

Highways and Planning Directorate
Lincolnshire County Council

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor
City Hall
Lincoln
LN1 1DN
Tel: 01522 553073

Department of Planning North Kesteven District Council Offices Kesteven Street Sleaford Lincolnshire NG34 7EF Mr T. Page City and County Museum 12 Friars Lane Lincoln LN2 5AL

Date: 23-08-02

Brief set by the North Kesteven Heritage Officer. This project brief is valid for a period of one year.

Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling Ancient Monuments - Extract from *Archaeology and Planning* DoE Planning Policy Guidance note 16, November 1990

The following criteria (which are not in any order of ranking), are used for assessing the national importance of an ancient monument and considering whether scheduling is appropriate. The criteria should not however be regarded as definitive; rather they are indicators which contribute to a wider judgement based on the individual circumstances of a case.

i *Period*: all types of monuments that characterise a category or period should be considered for preservation.

ii Rarity: there are some monument categories which in certain periods are so scarce that all surviving examples which retain some archaeological potential should be preserved. In general, however, a selection must be made which portrays the typical and commonplace as well as the rare. This process should take account of all aspects of the distribution of a particular class of monument, both in a national and regional context.

iii *Documentation*: the significance of a monument may be enhanced by the existence of records of previous investigation or, in the case of more recent monuments, by the supporting evidence of contemporary written records.

iv *Group value*: the value of a single monument (such as a field system) may be greatly enhanced by its association with related contemporary monuments (such as a settlement or cemetery) or with monuments of different periods. In some cases, it is preferable to protect the complete group of monuments, including associated and adjacent land, rather than to protect isolated monuments within the group.

v *Survival/Condition*: the survival of a monument's archaeological potential both above and below ground is a particularly important consideration and should be assessed in relation to its present condition and surviving features.

vi Fragility/Vulnerability: highly important archaeological evidence from some field monuments can be destroyed by a single ploughing or unsympathetic treatment; vulnerable monuments of this nature would particularly benefit from the statutory protection that scheduling confers. There are also existing standing structures of particular form or complexity whose value can again be severely reduced by neglect or careless treatment and which are similarly well suited by scheduled monument protection, even if these structures are already listed buildings.

vii *Diversity*: some monuments may be selected for scheduling because they possess a combination of high quality features, others because of a single important attribute.

viii *Potential*: on occasion, the nature of the evidence cannot be specified precisely but it may still be possible to document reasons anticipating its existence and importance and so to demonstrate the justification for scheduling. This is usually confined to sites rather than upstanding monuments.

# EXTRACT FROM 'ADDITIONAL CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING "IMPORTANT" HEDGEROWS, Part II Criteria

- 1. The hedgerow marks the boundary, or part of the boundary, of at least one historic parish or township; and for this purpose "historic" means existing before 1850.
- 2. The hedgerow incorporates an archaeological feature which is
  - included in the schedule of monuments compiled by the secretary of State under section 1 (schedule of monuments) of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979(g); or
  - (b) recorded at the relevant date in a Sites and Monuments Record.
- 3. The hedgerow-
  - (a) is situated wholly or partly within an archaeological site included or recorded as mentioned in paragraph 2 or on land adjacent to and associated with such a site; and
  - (b) is associated with any monument or feature on that site.
- 4. The hedgerow-
  - (a) marks the boundary of a pre-1600 AD estate or manor recorded at the relevant date in a Sites and Monuments Record or in a document held at that date at a Record Office; or
  - (b) is visibly related to any building or other feature of such an estate or manor.
- 5. The hedgerow-
  - (a) is recorded in a document held at the relevant date at a Record Office as an integral part of a field system pre-dating the Inclosure Acts(a); or
  - (b) is part of, or visibly related to, any building or other feature associated with such a system, and that system -
    - (i) is substantially complete; or
    - (ii) is of a pattern which is recorded in a document prepared before the relevant date by a local planning authority, within the meaning of the 1990 Act(b), for the purposes of development control within the authority's area, as a key landscape characteristic.

#### LIST OF SOURCES CONSULTED

Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record

Parish Files at Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire

Lincolnshire Archives Office: Cartographic Sources, Secondary Sources (Books and Journals)

Plans and Maps for relevant parishes, held at the Lincolnshire Archives

Lincoln Central Library

Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire Library

Ordnance Survey Maps 1906, 1956, 1985

Information held by Archaeological Project Services

#### **Aerial Photographs Examined**

**Hunting Surveys** 

Vertical HSL UK66 498 RUN 05/8212

30.05.1966

**Hunting Surveys** 

Vertical HSL UK71 140 RUN 11/140

14.07.1971

#### **Sources Not Consulted**

Geotechnical information

Primary historical documentation held at Lincolnshire Archives—experience has shown that the consultation of primary historical documents is extremely time-consuming, and only fortuitously affords information relevant to archaeological inquiries.

#### **GLOSSARY**

Anglo-Saxon

Pertaining to the period when Britain was occupied by peoples from northern Germany, Denmark and adjacent areas. The period dates from approximately

AD 450-1066.

Bronze Age A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for

tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.

Cropmark A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological or

geological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.

**Domesday Survey** A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of

William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.

Geophysical Survey Essentially non-invasive methods of examining below the ground surface by

measuring deviations in the physical properties and characteristics of the

earth. Techniques include magnetometry and resistivity survey.

**Headland** Strip of uncultivated land left between areas of ridge and furrow which was

used for turning the plough. These strips provided access and often became

lanes or roads.

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

Neolithic The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from

approximately 4500 - 2250 BC.

**Old English** The language used by the Anglo-Saxon (q, v) occupants of Britain.

**Perpendicular** Division of English Gothic architecture in use from c.1350 - c.1530.

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.

Ridge and Furrow The remains of arable cultivation consisting of raised rounded strips

separated by furrows. It is characteristic of open field agriculture.

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

Britain.

Transitional English architectural style representing the transition form the Romanesque

to Early English styles in use from c.1175 - 1200.