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LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Conservation
Services
25 FEB 2003
Highways & Planning
Directorate

East Street Improvements, Crowland, Lincs.

NGR: TF 2391021

Site Code: CESC 03

LCNCC Museum Accn No.: 2002.22

Archaeological Watching Brief

Report for

Lincolnshire Development
Lincolnshire County Council

by
D. Marshall

LAS Report No. 644
February 2003

25 WEST PARADE · LINCOLN · LN1 1NW

TELEPHONE 01522 544554 · FACSIMILE 01522 522211 · EMAIL las@lasarchaeology.fsnet.co.uk

F.N.FIELD B.A. (Hons), MIFA

EVENT L15694

INTERVENTION L19849 negative.

EXCAVATION L19850

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Fig. 2 Site location plan 1:200 (supplied by client).

The Plates

Pl.1 East Street looking towards the War memorial from the east.

Pl.2 East Street looking towards the library from west.

Pl.3 East Street looking towards Trinity Bridge from east.

Pl.4 East Street looking towards Manor House from west.

East Street Improvements, Crowland, Lincs.
Archaeological Watching Brief
NGR: TF 239 102
Site Code: CESC 03
LCNCC Museum Accn No.:2002.22

Summary

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the groundworks for drainage and street improvements. No archaeological features were seen.

Introduction

Lindsey Archaeological Services (LAS) was commissioned by Lincolnshire Development, Lincolnshire County Council, to undertake an archaeological watching brief during a further phase of improvements to the pavements and streetscape in East Street, Crowland.

Site Location and Description

Crowland is situated on the border between Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire. The village is sited upon a gravel peninsula, which extends into the peat and silt fens at a level between 3-5m OD. Alluvial deposits surround the peninsula. The improvements are located in the centre of Crowland, between the Trinity Bridge and the Abbey.

*See -
not
subject to
planning app?*
Planning Background

The work was undertaken as part of village enhancement work comprising the relaying of pedestrian areas with associated drainage runs along East Street and into Hall Street.

Archaeological Background

Numerous prehistoric sites and artefacts have been found in the Crowland vicinity, including Neolithic flints and axes, and Bronze Age barrows (burial mounds). Quarrying and settlement activity have destroyed many of these sites. Iron Age pottery has been found at three locations in Crowland.

Scatters of pottery and other artefacts, together with cropmarks recorded on aerial photographs, show evidence for Romano-British settlement in the area.

The medieval abbey is believed to have been founded on the site of a Saxon monastery, which formed the focus for medieval settlement. Medieval pottery has been recorded from several sites around the village. Watching briefs along West Street have failed to identify significant archaeological remains but on land off Trinity Court/West Street previous archaeological investigations have found post-medieval deposits dating from the 16th to the 19th centuries.

Aims and Objectives

The purpose of this watching brief was to record any archaeological remains disturbed during the groundworks phase of construction at the above site and to provide results for accession to the County SMR.

Method

Excavation of existing surfaces to a depth of 200mm were to be monitored and all exposed surfaces inspected with any archaeological remains being recorded. All service trenches were to be monitored and recorded as appropriate. In the event monitoring of this project was adversely affected by poor communications regarding the timetabling of works, and only part of the scheme could be recorded.

A context numbering system was used for recording purposes and is referred to in the description below (see also Appendix 1).

Results

The area affected by the improvement scheme was cleared of tarmac and paving slabs, revealing the sand bedding **100** beneath the pavement. The area of East Street surrounding the war memorial was covered in a mix of brown sand and soil with brick fragments **101**. Modern pottery fragments were seen scattered on the surface but were not collected. Several small trial holes, 0.6m deep and approximately 0.4m wide, were observed along with one long trench 5.5m long and 0.4m wide, but no archaeological deposits were seen. Near to the pavement edge an earlier surface of concrete paving, **102**, was seen at a depth of 0.3m. Below this was layer **103**, a dark brown sandy silt with ash and brick fragments.

Conclusion

Despite the proximity of the site to the Abbey and the Manor House, no archaeological features were present.

Acknowledgements

Lindsey Archaeological Services would like to thank Karl Royce of C.G Godfrey LTD for his help on site. The fieldwork was carried out by the author together with Doug Young and Geoff Tann.

Dave Marshall
Lindsey Archaeological Services
February 13th 2003

Contents of Site Archive

4 context sheets

site plans and sections

Photographs: colour prints LAS film nos. 03/04/22-25

APPENDIX 1

APPENDIX 1

Crowland East Street (CESC 03)

Context Summary

Context No.	Type	Description	
100	LAYER	ORANGE SAND	
101	LAYER	DARK-BROWN SANDY-SILT WITH BRICK FRAGMENTS	
102	LAYER	CONCRETE PAVING SLABS	
103	LAYER	DARK-BROWN SANDY-SILT WITH ASH AND BRICK FRAGMENT	

THE FIGURES



Fig.1 Location of Crowland and the development site (inset C based on the Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 map TF 21 SW. Crown Copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence no. AL 100002165.)

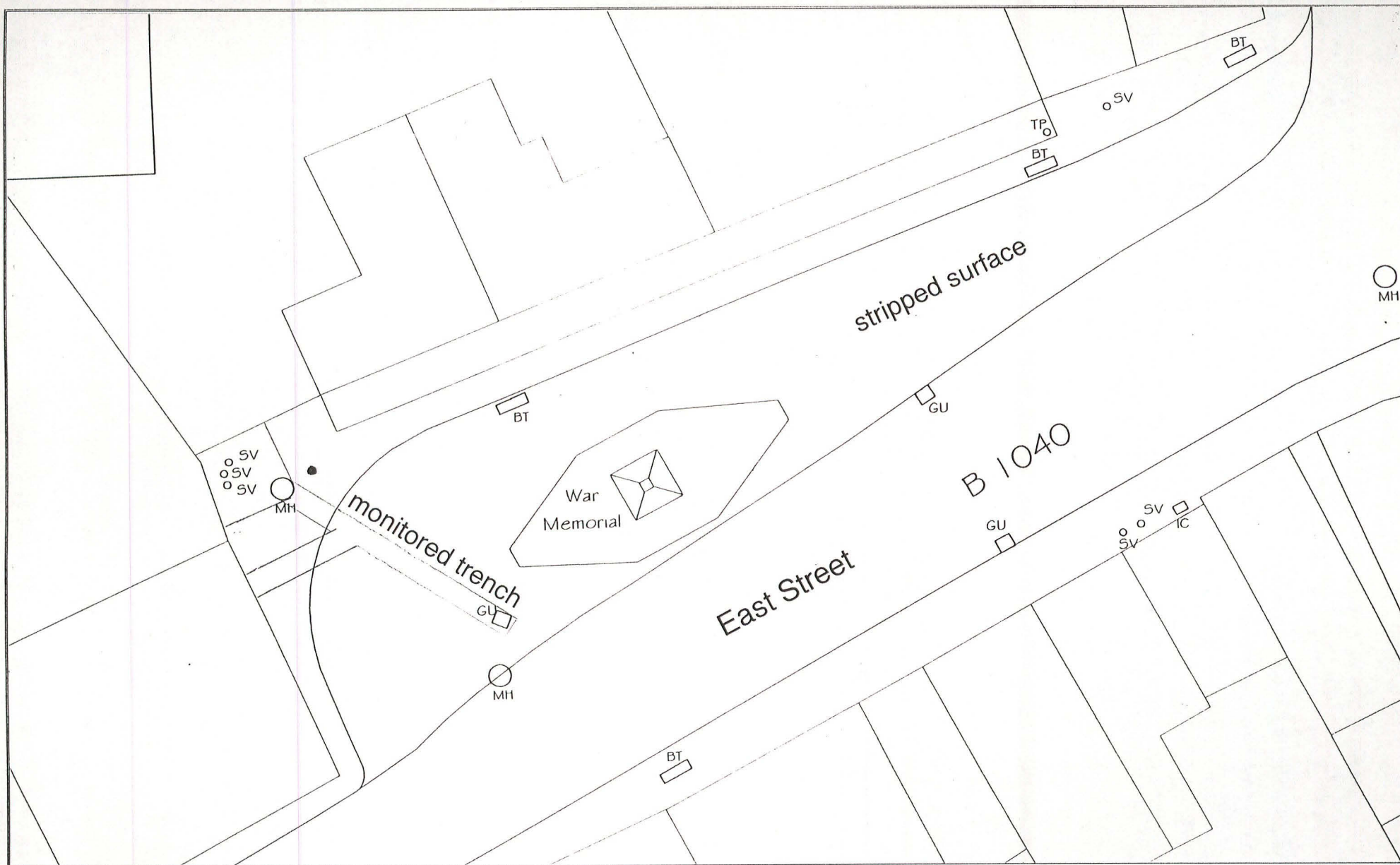


Fig. 2 Site location plan 1:200 (supplied by client).

THE PLATES



Pl. 1 East Street looking towards the war memorial from the east.



Pl. 2 East Street looking towards the Library from the west.



Pl. 3 East Street looking towards Trinity Bridge from east.



Pl. 4 East Street looking towards the manor house from west