



LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Plot 13, Alford Rd, Huttoft, Lincs.

Archaeological Watching Brief

NGR: TF 5108 7644

Site Code: HUAM 03

LCNCC Museum Accn No.: 2003.91

ELDC Planning Application No.: N/089/02082/02

Report for

Mr D. Monk

by

D. Britchfield & Richard Pullen



LAS Report No. 670

July 2003

25 WEST PARADE · LINCOLN · LN1 1NW

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

Lindsey Archaeological Services LLP Registered in England and Wales No. OC304247

Registered address 25 West Parade · Lincoln · LN1 1NW

VAT Registration No. 819 8029 41

EVENT L14339

Source

L18909

L18910

L18680

PRN 43299

Contents

List of Figures and Plates

Summary	1
Introduction	1
Site Location	1
Planning Background	1
Archaeological Background	1
The Watching Brief	2
Conclusion	3
Acknowledgements	3
References	3
Archive Summary	4
Appendix 1 Context Summary	
Appendix 2 Pottery Archive List (Jane Young)	
The Figures	
The Plates	

The Figures

Fig. 1 Location of Huttoft (c based on the 1992 1:10,000 Ordnance Survey map, Sheet TF 57NW. © Crown copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 100002165).

Fig. 2 Location of the monitored development (based on a plan supplied by the client, dwg. no. 755/07B, reproduced at reduced scale).

Fig. 3 Trench layout of house plot 4 showing position of recorded remains (K. Dennis, after Pullen).

The Plates

Pl. 1 General view of Plot 13 looking south-east towards church

Pl. 2 General view of Plot 13 looking south west

Pl. 3 Common sequence of deposits along the western wall trench of Plot 13

Pl. 4 Brick foundations 1304.

Plot 13, Alford Rd, Huttoft, Lincs.
Archaeological Watching Brief
NGR: TF 5108 7644
Site Code: HUAM 03
LCNCC Museum Accn No.: 2003.91
ELDC Planning Application No.: N/089/02082/02

Summary

An archaeological watching brief was carried out at the above site in May 2003, during the excavation of foundation trenches and associated services. A common stratigraphy was recognised, comprising topsoil/overburden overlying natural silts, truncated by 19th century farm buildings. No other archaeological features or finds were present.

Introduction

In April 2003, Lindsey Archaeological Services (LAS) was commissioned by Mr D. Monk to conduct an archaeological watching brief during groundworks for a self-build residential development at Huttoft, Lincs. (Figs. 1 and 2). The watching brief was required by East Lindsey District Council to fulfil a condition following an application for planning permission (Planning Application No. N/089/02082/02). The work was conducted in accordance with general requirements set out in the *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* published by the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council (1998).

Groundworks for the house plot were monitored by Richard Pullen on 7th May 2003.

Site Location

Huttoft is located at the southern end of the Lincolnshire Marsh, some 3km from the coast, approximately 6km east of Alford. The development site consists of an area approximately 1ha in size, which has been divided into 16 individual plots. Each plot is subject to a planning condition requiring a programme of archaeological monitoring.

Located just north-west of the village church at approximately 7.5m AOD, the site has been the subject of modern disturbance associated with former farm buildings and general landscaping. There has been recent development of a former crewyard to the north of the site, and there are bungalows to the south and SE.

Planning Background

Planning permission was granted by East Lindsey District Council for construction of a single dwelling and garage, subject to a condition requiring an archaeological watching brief being carried out during the groundworks phase of construction.

Archaeological Background

The village of Huttoft is located at the southern end of the Lincolnshire Marsh. Huttoft is mentioned in the *Domesday Survey* of 1086 and is a settlement which originated in the Saxon period or earlier. The

place name indicates a toft (Old Danish for the site of a house and its outbuildings) on a spur of land (Cameron 1998). The church and the adjacent land immediately to the east, upslope from this development plot, are in an elevated position overlooking the surrounding landscape. It is very likely that the core of the early settlement is likely to have been located somewhere on that high spot.

The Enclosure Award map of 1779 (LAO Lindsey Award 43) shows that the area around the Church comprised old enclosures, with a single building in the SE corner. The stables, barn and the stackyard, known as Church Farm, were demolished between 1989 and 1993.

An archaeological evaluation of the development area was conducted by LAS in 1995 (Field and McDaid 1995). This identified early Saxon pottery and a late Saxon ditch, indicative of early occupation. Subsequent watching briefs recorded ephemeral traces of medieval activity, within the south-west of the development site (Plot 1, Tann 2003), along with small undated burnt spread, possibly representing a pit or bonfire, within the west part of the site (Plot 4, Britchfield & Field 2003).

The Watching Brief

Excavation of the house foundation trenches was by JCB with a 0.5m wide toothed bucket, to a depth of approximately 0.6m (Pls 1 and 2). Context numbers were assigned by LAS for recording purposes, and these are used, in bold, in the text (Appendix 1). Service trenches were excavated using a 360° mini-digger.

The House Plot (Fig. 3)

A common stratigraphy was recognised across the plot, consisting of dark grey/brown silty clay topsoil/overburden (**1301**) to a depth of 0.3m, overlying the natural mid red/brown sandy clay (**1302**, Pl. 3). No glacial drift sand, as recorded in Plot 1 (Tann 2003), was present.

No features were observed cutting into the natural clay, although several building foundations (**1304**) were noted orientated east-west across the plot (Pl. 4). The modern machine pressed red brick formed the primary fill of foundation cut [**1305**], underlying a secondary fill of dark grey/brown clay silt (**1303**) containing animal bone, modern porcelain and late-medieval/post-medieval green glazed pottery. The medieval pottery appeared intrusive, most likely deposited when the surface levels were raised, although the presence of completely truncated medieval features should not be ruled out.

Drainage Trenches

These trenches, alongside the southern wall of the house, were too shallow to reveal archaeological features beside the new house, although much of the material below the topsoil had been disturbed. No artefacts were seen during these groundworks.

The Garage Plot

The foundations for the garage plot could not be excavated during at the same time as those for the house as this would have blocked access onto the site. Given the negative results from the house foundations it was agreed with Dr. Beryl Lott (Lincolnshire County Council, Built Environment Team) Archaeology Advisor to East Lindsey District Council to abandon the watching brief without monitoring the garage foundations.

Conclusion

The archaeological monitoring carried out during the development of Plot 13 revealed no archaeological features. Late medieval/early post medieval pottery was recovered out of context, suggesting truncation and subsequently redeposition during the construction of the later 19th century farm buildings.

Despite the levels of truncation, the preservation of archaeological horizons was of a relatively good standard. The lack of any secure features or finds, however, would suggest that the focus of medieval activity within the area was concentrated further to the south-east, on the higher ground within the medieval core of the village.

Acknowledgements

LAS is grateful to Mr D. Monk, for commissioning and funding the project. The pottery was identified by Jane Young. Illustrations were prepared by Karen Dennis, and the report was edited by Naomi Field.

David Britchfield
Lindsey Archaeological Services
July 2003

References

- Cameron, K. 1998 *A Dictionary of Lincolnshire Place-Names*.
- Field, N. and McDaid, M. 1995 *Alford Road, Huttoft: Archaeological Evaluation*. LAS Report No. 135, July 1995.
- Tann, G. 2003 *Plot 1, Church Lane, Huttoft, Lincs: Archaeological Watching Brief*. LAS Report No. 658.
- Britchfield, D. and Field, N. 2003 *Plot 4, Alford Rd, Huttoft, Lincs: Archaeological Watching Brief*. LAS Report No. 669

Archive Summary

Correspondence
Developer's plans and annotated copies
Field plans and section drawings

Archaeological finds: pottery, animal bone

Specialists' archive lists: pottery and animal bone

Photographs: LAS colour print film and negative nos. 03/77/22-32

APPENDIX 1

APPENDIX 1

Plot 13, Alford Rd, Huttoft (HUAM 03)

Context Summary

Context	Type	Relationships	Description	Finds
1301	Layer	Above (1302) & (1303)	Dark grey/brown silty clay topsoil	
1302	Layer/natural	Below (1301) & [1304]	Natural mid red/brown sandy clay	
1303	Fill	Above (1304), below (1301)	Redeposited dark grey/brown silty clay.	
1304	Wall	Fill of [1305], below (1303)	19th century brickwork	Animal bone, 11 sherds pottery, 1 clay pipe stem (19 th century)
1305	Cut	Above (1302), below (1304)	Cut of 19th century foundation trench	

APPENDIX 2

Pottery Archive HUAM03

Jane Young Lindsey Archaeological Services

context	cname	full name	sub fabric	form type	sherds	weight	decoration	part	action	description	date
103	WHITE	Modern whiteware		dish	1	7		base			19th to 20th
103	TPW	Transfer printed ware		flat	1	15		base			19th to 20th
103	TB	Toynton/Bolingbroke wares	Fabric E	bowl	1	208		rim		simple slightly everted rim with inner groove	15th to mid 16th
103	TB	Toynton/Bolingbroke wares	Fabric D	large bowl	1	48		rim		reeded everted rim	16th
103	TB	Toynton/Bolingbroke wares	Fabric M	bowl	1	60		base	Fabric Type Series	type sherd; small soot patch	mid 15th to 16th
103	TB	Toynton/Bolingbroke wares	Fabric H	bowl	1	6		BS			mid 15th to 16th
103	TB	Toynton/Bolingbroke wares	Fabric L	bowl	1	15		BS			mid 15th to 16th
103	TB	Toynton/Bolingbroke wares	Fabric H	bowl	1	22		BS		stacking scar on interior towards base	mid 15th to 16th
103	TB	Toynton/Bolingbroke wares	Fabric F	jar	1	12		BS			mid 15th to 16th
103	TB	Toynton/Bolingbroke wares	Fabric I	large jug/jar	1	15		BS			mid 15th to 16th
103	TB	Toynton/Bolingbroke wares	Fabric I	large jug/jar	1	34	multi horizontal grooves on shoulder	BS			mid 15th to 16th

THE FIGURES

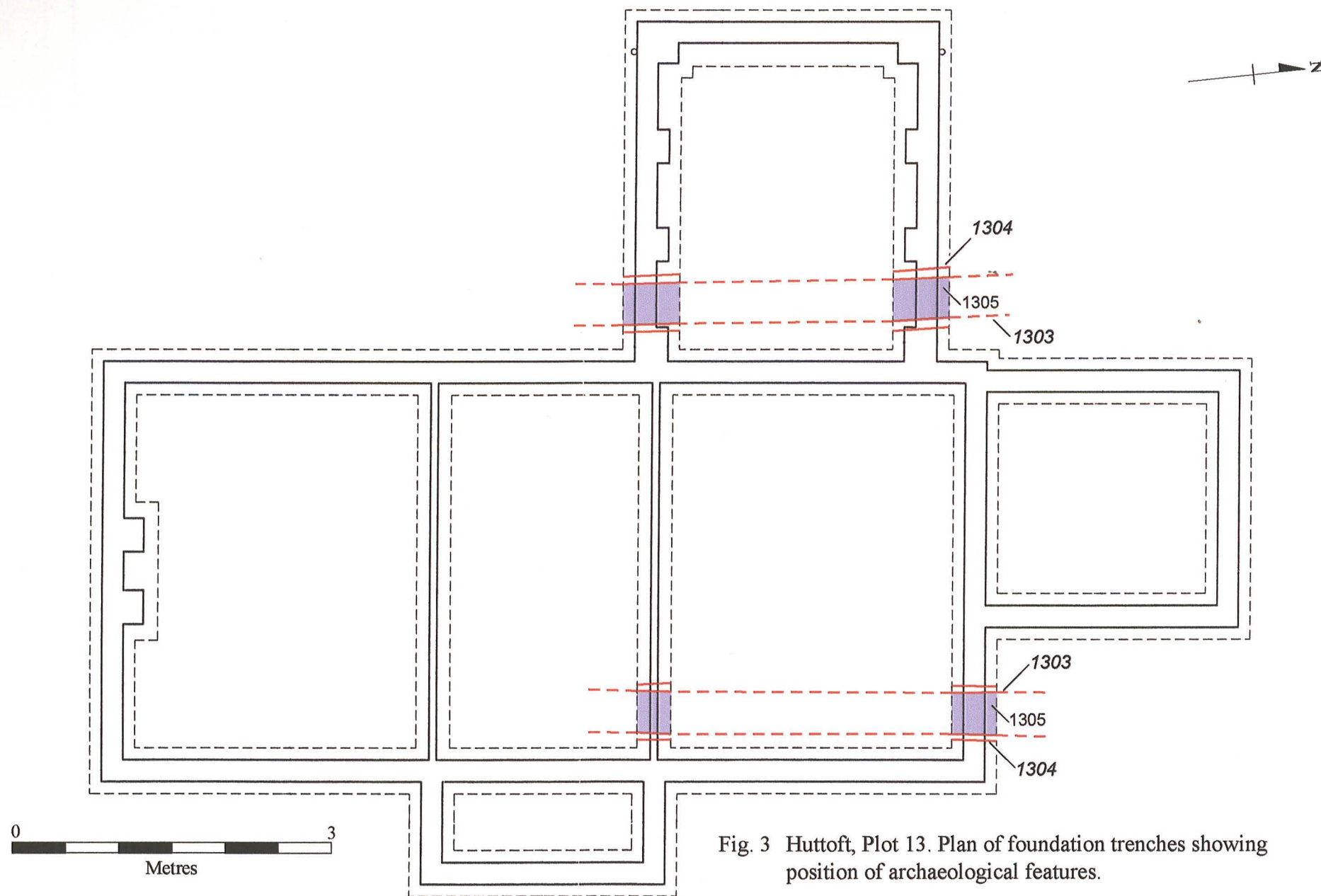


Fig. 3 Huttoft, Plot 13. Plan of foundation trenches showing position of archaeological features.

THE PLATES



Pl. 1 General view of Plot 13 looking south-east towards church



Pl. 2 General view of Plot 13 looking south west



Pl. 3 Common sequence of deposits along the western wall trench of Plot 13



Pl. 4 Brick foundations 1304