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ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION OF THE VILLAGE CROSS DUNSBY LINCOLNSHIRE (DVC03)



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION OF THE VILLAGE CROSS DUNSBY LINCOLNSHIRE (DVC03) Conservation Services

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Highways & Planning Directorate

Work Undertaken For English Heritage

August 2003

Report Compiled by S J Malone B.Sc. AIFA

National Grid Reference: TF 1058 2685

A.P.S. Report No. 79/03

#### ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



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#### 1. SUMMARY

The remains of Dunsby village cross, a Scheduled Monument, have suffered damage in recent years and some parts, including what survives of the cross shaft, have been removed to the church for safe keeping. In a final indignity, the cross base, now flush with the level of the modern road surface, was recently obscured by tarmac during road resurfacing.

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by English Heritage to expose and record the surviving remains of the cross with a view to its removal to the church along with the other surviving pieces.

The cross base was found to consist of a single stone block, 0.9m x 0.9m x 0.3m deep, too substantial to be easily lifted and relocated. This will now be left in-situ and its position marked. Other surviving pieces of stonework have been recorded and removed to the church.

#### 2. INTRODUCTION

#### 2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

An archaeological evaluation is defined as, 'a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If such archaeological remains are present Field Evaluation defines their character and extent, quality and preservation, and it enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate '(IFA 1997).

#### 2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by English Heritage to undertake investigation of the surviving remains. This investigation was carried out in accordance with a specification produced by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and in consultation with English Heritage's Field Monument Warden. The work was undertaken between the 18th and 19th March 2003.

# 2.3 Topography and Geology

Dunsby is located 8km north of Bourne in the South Kesteven District of Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The cross lies within the village on the corner of a road junction, approximately 80m northeast of the church (Fig. 2), at National Grid Reference TF 1058 2685. Dunsby lies at c. 20m O.D. on rising ground at the western fen edge.

The site lies at the junction of coarse loamy soils of the Curdridge Association and finer loamy soils of the Badsey 2 Association (Hodge *et. al.* 1984, 101, 153). These soils overlie a solid geology of Jurassic Kellaways Sand (GSGB 1972).

# 2.4 Archaeological Setting

The village of Dunsby is recorded in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as *Dunesbi* the name is derived from the Old English personal name *Dunn* and the Old Scandinavian 'by' meaning a farmstead (Cameron 1998, 39). At the time of Domesday the land was held by the Bishop of Lincoln and contained a church with a priest, 120 acres of meadow and 143 acres of woodland (Foster and Longley 1976, 7/30, 33). The extant fabric of All Saints Church dates largely from the 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries (DoE 1987, 29) and

presumably replaced the church mentioned in the Domesday Survey.

Standing crosses date primarily from the medieval period and served a variety of purposes as focal points within a village. Dunsby village cross dates from the 14<sup>th</sup> century and was scheduled as a good example of a medieval standing cross. It is also a Grade II listed building and in 1987 was described as a round plinth embedded in the ground with 2 broaches and retaining the stump of its shaft (DoE 1987, 28)

The majority of the cross has now disappeared. Only two pieces of the base of the cross survived above ground, the remaining parts of the shaft having been removed to the churchyard. The base remained set within modern tarmac and it was expected that further remains would exist below ground.

#### 3. AIMS

The aim of the investigation, as detailed in the specification (Appendix 1), was to archaeologically record and remove all surviving fragments of the Dunsby village cross with the additional objective of recording any deposits relating to the construction and use of the cross.

#### 4. METHODS

#### 4.1 Excavation

Removal of tarmac surfaces and hardcore was undertaken by hand using pick and shovel. Exposed surfaces were then cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains. Where present, features were excavated by hand in order to retrieve dateable artefacts and other remains.

Tarmac was removed to expose the full area of the cross base and a slot dug along the southeast side, and halfway along the southwest side, in order to expose the full depth of the stone base and provide a cross-section through the surrounding deposits (Fig. 3; Plate 2). Excavation revealed that the cross base was too substantial to be easily lifted and relocated. Following consultation with the English Heritage Field Monument Warden it was decided that the base would be left *in-situ* and its position marked. Other surviving pieces of stonework were recorded and removed to the church.

Each deposit during the exposed evaluation was allocated a reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of contexts and their interpretations appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and plans at a scale of 1:20. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services' practice.

The location of the excavated area was surveyed with an EDM in relation to fixed points on boundaries and on existing buildings.

#### 4.2 Post-excavation

Following excavation, all records were checked and ordered to ensure that they constituted a complete Level II archive and a stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced. Artefacts recovered from excavated deposits were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 3). Phasing was based on artefact dating and the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

#### 5. RESULTS

# 5.1 Description of the results

Following post-excavation analysis four phases of deposits were identified;

Phase 1: Possible natural deposits

Phase 2: The Cross

Phase 3: Post-medieval deposits

Phase 4: Modern deposits

Archaeological contexts are described below. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

# 5.2 Phase 1: Natural deposits

No clearly natural deposits were exposed during the investigations. Deposit (006), which surrounded the cross base (Fig 4), contained post-medieval material, and could not be clearly distinguished from the deposit underlying the cross. It may be that the cross base rests on natural deposits and that the material around the sides of the stone comprises redeposited natural but these were not distinguishable as separate deposits during the investigations.

#### 5.3 Phase 2: The Cross

The stone base of the village cross (005) lay just beneath the recently laid tarmac surface of the pavement. It consisted of a single block of stone c. 0.9m x 0.9m x 0.3m deep. The sides were worked to a smooth surface. The upper face was less regular but this is probably due to weathering of the exposed surface, or damage incurred during removal of the upper tier and the cross shaft. A recessed socket, 0.35m square, in the centre of the upper face had formerly held the cross shaft (Fig. 3; Plates 2 and 3). As surviving, this was only some 0.05m in depth and filled with a loose, mid-grey sandy loam (004) with frequent limestone fragments

and torn strips of lead sheeting. Below (004) some lead sheeting (007) remained *in-situ* around the sides and base of the socket. Some of this took the form of sinuous rivulets (Fig. 3), indicating that the lead had been poured around the cross shaft as molten metal in order to fix it in place.

# 5.4 Phase 3: Post-medieval deposits

Exposed on the southwest and southeast sides of the cross base was a deposit of compact, pale brown sandy clay with frequent small-medium limestone and occasional brick fragments (006). Fragments of 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery and glass were recovered from this deposit.

#### 5.5 Phase 4: Modern deposits

The northeast face of the cross base abutted the road carriageway. Here the road make-up (003) consisted of layers of hardcore and tarmac beneath a solid tarmac top surface. Around the southwest and southeast sides a less compact hardcore (002) formed the base to the modern pedestrian walkway, the tarmac surface (001) of which extended over the cross base.

#### 6. DISCUSSION

The cross base was found to consist of a single massive block of limestone resting directly on stony clay. No evidence was recovered for the existence of any lower tiers at this location. In other extant crosses in the area (at Heckington and Cranwell for instance) the cross shaft similarly rises from a socket in a massive stone block, but the stone block is raised on a base of several tiers of steps. If such had existed in Dunsby, it would have to have been at another location, perhaps at the centre of the road junction.

There is a suggestion that the immediately adjacent paddock could once have formed part of a village green. The present location of the cross would then have been more central to a larger open area. Without removing the cross base to see what lies beneath, it is difficult to determine whether it stands in its original location. The cross base was surrounded by post-medieval deposits which could not be clearly distinguished from the underlying stony clay. It was unclear within the confines of the excavation whether this material had been deposited around the cross base in order to raise the ground levels for the pavement or road; formed the backfill of larger cut; or whether the cross base had been cut into these deposits.

Photographs taken of the cross in the 1980s show the stump of the cross shaft still in place with an octagonal surround. The solid base of the cross was already flush with the adjacent ground surface at this stage. Two fragments only of this octagonal tier survive and were retrieved for storage at the church (Plate 4). Figure 5 shows a reconstruction of their probable original arrangement.

#### 7. CONCLUSIONS

The remains of Dunsby village cross were exposed and the surviving remains recorded with a view to their removal to the church for storage and display.

The cross base was found to consist of a single stone block too substantial to be easily lifted and relocated. This will now be left *in-situ* and its position marked. The remains of the cross base have been recorded and a reconstruction drawing produced. Other surviving pieces of stonework have been also recorded and removed to the church.

#### 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Kate Fearn, Heritage Field Monuments English Warden, who commissioned the fieldwork post-excavation analysis. Highways Division, Lincolnshire County Council kindly provided barriers and signage. The project was coordinated by Steve Malone and the report was edited by Denise Drury and Tom Lane. Jenny Young, the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist, permitted examination of the relevant parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

#### 9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Steve Malone Site Supervisor: Steve Malone Site Assistant: Aaron Clements Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth Illustration: Steve Malone Reconstruction drawing: Dave Hopkins Post-excavation Analyst: Steve Malone

#### 10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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#### 11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

DoE Department of the Environment

GSGB Geological Survey of Great Britain

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

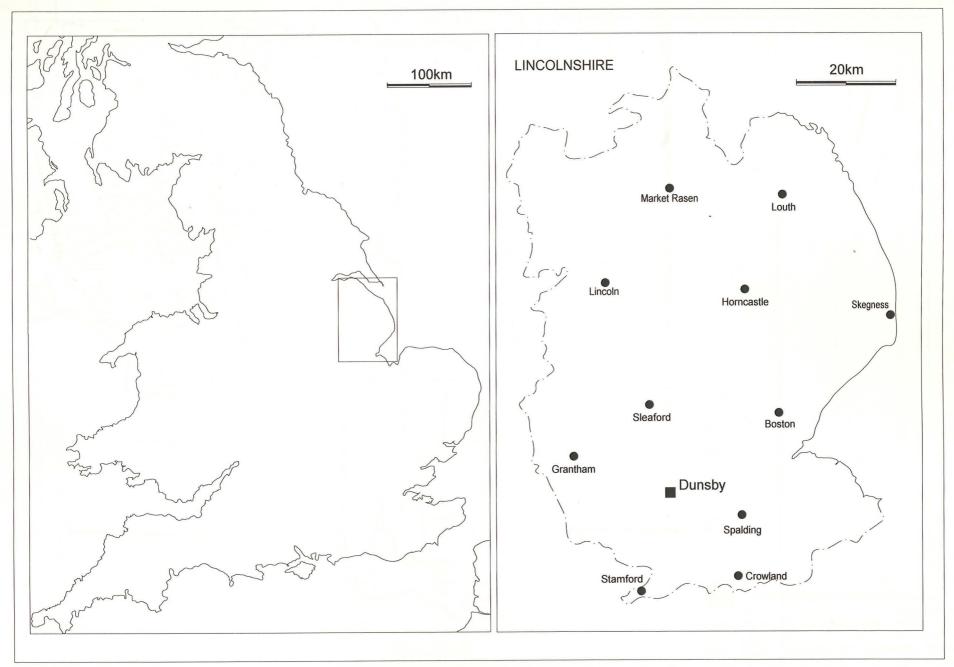


Figure 1: General Location Plan

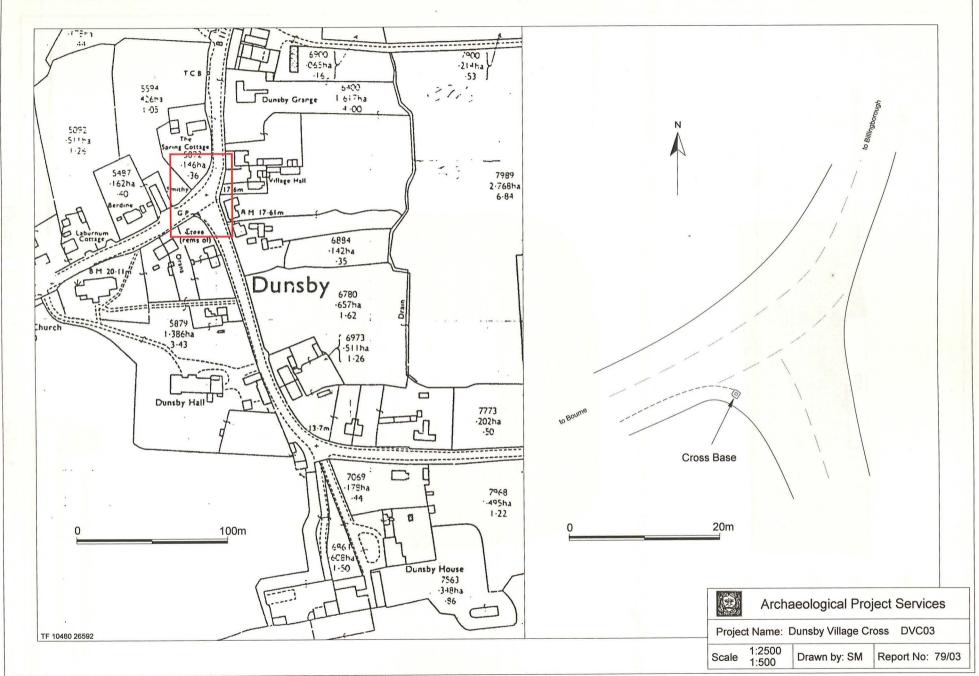


Figure 2 Site location

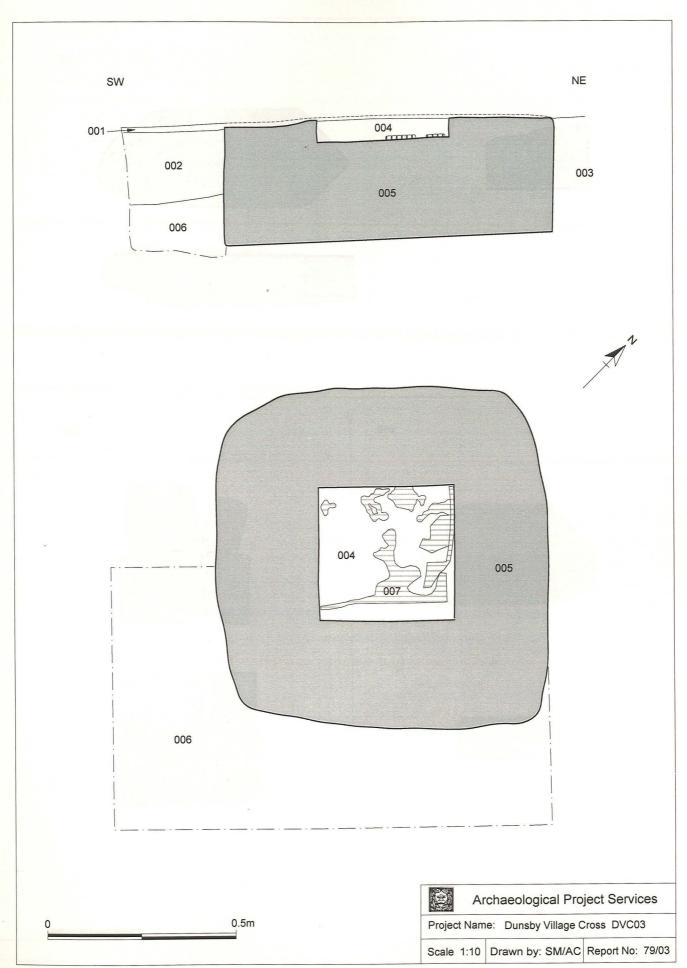


Figure 3 Plan and section of cross base

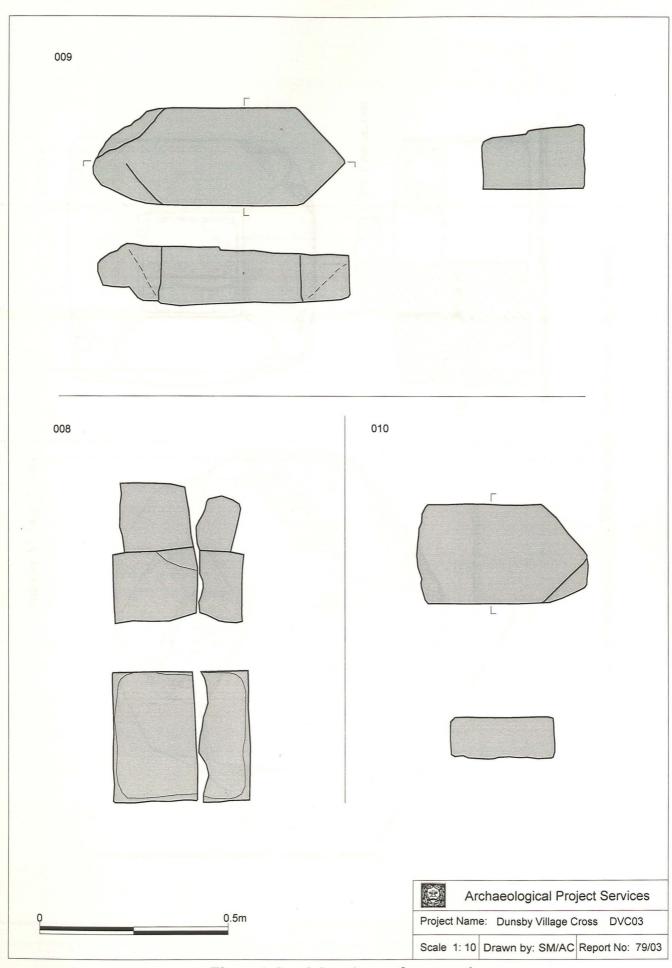


Figure 4 Surviving pieces of stonework

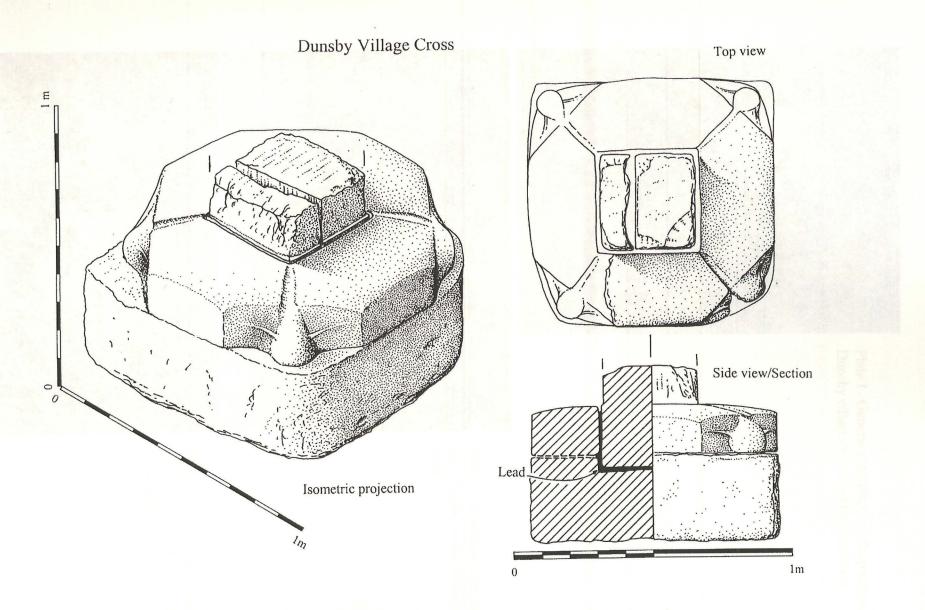


Figure 5 Reconstruction of Dunsby Village cross based on the surviving stonework



Plate 1 - General view showing the position of Dunsby village cross, looking northwest



Plate 2 - The cross base as exposed showing the socket, looking southwest



Plate 3 - Detail of the socket showing the lead sheeting used to fix the cross shaft in place



Plate 4 - The second tier of stones, including the base of the shaft, as preserved at the church

# SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING AND REMOVAL OF THE VILLAGE CROSS DUNSBY, LINCOLNSHIRE

#### 1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This document comprises a specification for the archaeological recording and removal of the remains of the Village Cross, Dunsby, Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The cross is a Scheduled Monument but is poorly preserved and suffering continuing degradation. Archaeological recording and removal of the remains is now proposed.
- 1.3 The remains of the cross will be exposed through hand excavation, recorded in situ and dismantled for storage/reassemblage at the church.
- 1.4 On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the findings of the investigation. The report will consist of a text describing the nature of the archaeological deposits located and will be supported by illustrations and photographs.

#### 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for the archaeological recording and removal of the remains of the Village Cross, Dunsby, Lincolnshire. The cross is located at National Grid Reference TF 1058 2685.
  - 2.1.1 The document contains the following parts:
  - 2.1.2 Overview
  - 2.1.3 The archaeological and natural setting
  - 2.1.4 Stages of work and methodologies to be used
  - 2.1.5 List of specialists
  - 2.1.6 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

#### 3 SITE LOCATION

3.1 Dunsby is located 8km north of Bourne in the South Kesteven District of Lincolnshire. The cross lies within the village on the corner of a road junction, approximately 80m northeast of the church, at National Grid Reference TF 1058 2685.

#### 4 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

4.1 Dunsby lies at c. 20m O.D. on rising ground at the western fen edge. The site lies at the junction of coarse loamy soils of the Curdridge Association and finer loamy soils of the Badsey 2 Association developed on clays and gravels (Hodge *et. al.* 1984, 101, 153).

# 5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 5.1 The village of Dunsby is recorded in the Domesday Survey and was probably established prior to the Norman conquest. The 'by' in the place name would indicate some Scandinavian influence and suggest that there may have been a settlement in existence in the 9th century. The extant fabric of All Saints Church dates largely from the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries but this may have had a Norman predecessor.
- 5.2 Standing crosses date primarily from the medieval period and served a variety of purposes as focal

- points within the village. Dunsby village cross dates from approximately the 14th century and was scheduled as a good example of a medieval standing cross.
- 5.3 The majority of the cross has now disappeared. Only several pieces of the base of the cross survive above ground, the remaining parts of the shaft have been removed to the churchyard. Fragments of the base remain set within modern tarmac and further remains may exist below ground.

#### 6 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 6.1 The aim of the work will be to archaeologically record and remove all surviving fragments of the Dunsby village cross.
- 6.2 The objectives of the work will be to:
  - 6.2.1 Expose and record the surviving remains of the village cross.
  - 6.2.2 Dismantle and remove the remains for the cross for safe storage and later re-assembling.
  - 6.2.3 Record any other deposits exposed relating to the construction and use of the cross.

#### 7 EXCAVATION

#### 7.1 General Considerations

- 7.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the investigation.
- 7.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practice issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA). *Archaeological Project Services* is an IFA Registered Archaeological Organisation (No. 21).
- 7.1.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.
- 7.1.4 The investigation area will be screened with high visibility fencing / barriers in order to protect the site staff and passers by.

#### 7.2 Methodology

- 7.2.1 All excavation, including removal of tarmac and any other overburden, will be undertaken by hand. The exposed area will be cleaned by hand to enable the investigation and recording of the stonework and any archaeological features exposed.
- 7.2.2 The archaeological features encountered will be recorded on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma context record sheets. The system used is the single context method by which individual archaeological units of stratigraphy are assigned a unique record number and are individually described and drawn.
- 7.2.3 Plans and sections will be drawn at a scale of 1:10.
- 7.2.4 Throughout the duration of the trial trenching a photographic record consisting of black and white prints (reproduced as contact sheets) and colour slides will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
  - the site before the commencement of field operations.
  - the site during work to show specific stages of work, and the state of preservation of the remains of the cross.
  - · the site on completion of field work

- 7.2.5 Finds collected during the fieldwork will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered ready for later washing and analysis.
- 7.2.6 Stonework will be recorded in situ and clearly marked prior to removal in order to allow later re-assemblage. Stonework will be removed to the APS offices in the first instance for any further analysis/recording and relocated to the church in due course.

#### 8 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT

#### 8.1 Stage 1

- 8.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence constituting a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued: the colour slides will be labelled and mounted on appropriate hangers and the black and white contact prints will be labelled, in both cases the labelling will refer to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
- 8.1.2 All finds recovered during the investigations will be washed, marked, bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

#### 8.2 Stage 2

- 8.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.
- 8.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

#### 8.3 Stage 3

- 8.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the investigation will be prepared. This will consist of:
  - A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
  - A description of the archaeological setting of the site.
  - Description of the topography and geology of the investigation area.
  - Description of the methodologies used during the investigation and discussion of their effectiveness in the light of the results
  - A text describing the findings of the investigation.
  - Plans of the investigation area showing the stonework and any other archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
  - Sections through any deposits or archaeological features related to the cross.
  - Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape.
  - Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
  - Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features or groups of features.

• A consideration of the significance of the remains found, in local, regional, national and international terms, using recognised evaluation criteria.

#### 9 ARCHIVE

9.1 The documentation, finds, photographs and other records and materials generated during the investigation will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the City and County Museum, Lincoln. This sorting will be undertaken according to the document titled Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives for long term storage and curation.

#### 10 REPORT DEPOSITION

10.1 Copies of the investigation report will be sent to: the English Heritage Field Monument Warden; the Community Archaeologist, South Kesteven District Council; and the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record.

#### 11 PUBLICATION

11.1 A report of the findings of the investigation will be submitted for inclusion in the journal *Lincolnshire History and Archaeology*. Notes or articles describing the results of the investigation will also be submitted for publication in the appropriate national journals: *Medieval Archaeology* and *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for medieval and later remains, and *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date.

#### 12 CURATORIAL MONITORING

12.1 Curatorial responsibility for the project lies with the English Heritage Field Monument Warden. All arrangements for the timing of the project will be made in consultation with them.

#### 13 VARIATIONS TO THE PROPOSED SCHEME OF WORKS

13.1 Variations to the scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation from the archaeological curator.

#### 14 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

14.1 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

Task Body to be undertaking the work

Conservation Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln.

Pottery Analysis Prehistoric: Dr D Knight, Trent and Peak Archaeological Trust

Roman: B Precious, independent specialist

Anglo-Saxon: J Young, independent specialist

Medieval and later: G Taylor, APS in consultation with H Healey, independent

archaeologist; or

Other Artefacts J Cowgill, independent specialist; or G Taylor, APS

Human Remains Analysis R Gowland, independent specialist

Animal Remains Analysis Environmental Archaeology Consultancy; or P Cope-Faulkner, APS

Environmental Analysis Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

Radiocarbon dating Beta Analytic Inc., Florida, USA

Dendrochronology dating University of Sheffield Dendrochronology Laboratory

#### 15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

15.1 Fieldwork is expected to be undertaken by 2 staff, a supervisor and 1 assistants, and to take 1-2 days.

15.2 Post-excavation analysis and report production is expected to take 2 person-days. A project officer or supervisor will undertake most of the analysis, with assistance from the finds supervisor and CAD illustrator.

#### 16 INSURANCES

Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains Employers Liability insurance to £10,000,000. Additionally, the company maintains Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied on request.

#### 17 COPYRIGHT

- 17.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.
- 17.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.
- 17.3 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 and may result in legal action.
- 17.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

#### 18 BIBLIOGRAPHY

English Heritage Scheduled Monument Description 22645 'Dunsby Village Cross'

Hodge, CAH, Burton, RGO, Corbett, WM, Evans, R, and Seale, RS, 1984 Soils and their use in Eastern England, Soil Survey of England and Wales 13

# **CONTEXT SUMMARY**

Context No	Туре	Description	Thek (m)	Interpretation
001	Deposit	Grey tarmac	< 0.01	Path surface
002	Deposit	Compact, blackish grey hardcore and tarmac	0.19	Hardstand
003	Deposit	Compact, grey/black tarmac and hardcore consisting of tarmac and small stones	0.30	Road surface and hardstand
004	Deposit	Loose, mid-grey sandy loam, freq. med. limestone	0.05	Fill of cross socket
005	Masonry	Limestone, square block 0.90m x 0.90m with 0.35 <sup>2</sup> recessed central socket. Sides worked to flat faces, top is frost shattered	0.30	Stone base of cross
006	Deposit	Compact, pale brown sandy clay, freq. sm-med. Limestone and occ. brick fragments	0.17	Backfill
007	Deposit	In-situ lead, contained with socket of (005)		
008	Masonry	Limestone block, square in plan, worked to a round column, 0.34m square		Remains of cross shaft
009	Masonry	Limestone block		second tier of cross
010	Masonry	Limestone block		second tier of cross

# Abbreviations:

sm small

med medium

freq frequent frags fragments

#### THE FINDS

# by Paul Cope-Faulkner, Rachael Hall and Hilary Healey

Recording of the pottery was undertaken with reference to guidelines prepared by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (Slowikowski *et al.* 2001) and the pottery was quantified using the chronology and coding system of the Lincolnshire ceramic type series. A total of 8 fragments of pottery weighing 30g was recovered from one context. In addition to the pottery, a small quantity of other items, lead and glass, comprising 29 items weighing a total of 3855g, was also retrieved. No faunal remains were recovered.

#### Provenance

The material was recovered from the fill of the socket (004) and general deposits around the cross (006).

Most of the pottery was made in Staffordshire and the lead may have derived from Derbyshire.

#### Range

The range of material is detailed in the table.

Table 1: The Pottery

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
006	PEARL	Pearlware, transfer printed blue and white decoration. Two pieces are from a teacup and link, the remaining are from a jar	8	30	19 <sup>th</sup> century

Table 2: The Other Finds

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
004	LEAD	Lead sheeting, between 3-6mm thick, retains the imprint of tooling marks from the stonework. Some rivulets indicating it was poured in a molten state	27	3765	?medieval
006	GLASS	Pale green bottle base, early 19th century	2	90	19 <sup>th</sup> century

#### Condition

All the material is in good condition and present no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the collection is by material class.

#### Documentation

There have been no previous archaeological investigations at Dunsby. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained by the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

#### Potential

The moderate collection of medieval and post-medieval finds is of moderate local significance.

The absence of any material earlier than the 19<sup>th</sup> century is informative and suggests that archaeological deposits dating from before this period are absent from the area, or were not disturbed by the development. This may support the notion that the cross was placed within a village green setting.

#### References

Slowikowski, A., Nenk, B. and Pearce, J., 2001 Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2

#### **GLOSSARY**

Context

An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, e.g. [004].

Cut

A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, *etc*. Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.

Layer

A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.

Medieval

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

Natural

Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity

Post-medieval

The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.

#### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

10 Context records

1 Photographic record sheets

1 Plan Sheets

1 Section Sheets

1 Bag of finds

1 Evaluation report

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services The Old School Cameron Street Heckington Sleaford Lincolnshire NG34 9RW

Responsibility for the ultimate destination of the project archive is held by:

Lincolnshire City and County Museum 12 Friars Lane Lincoln LN2 1HQ

The archive will be deposited in accordance with the document titled Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives, produced by the Lincolnshire City and County Museum.

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: DVC03

Lincolnshire Museums Accession No.: 2003.69

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is necessarily of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

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