



LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

**Plot 10, Land off Alford Road, Huttoft, Lincs.  
Archaeological Watching Brief**

NGR:TF 5108 7644  
Planning Application: ~~N/089/02089/02~~  
LCNCC Accn N° : 2004.15  
Site Code: ARH 04

N 089/1600/02

**Report  
For**

**Mr N. Burton**

**by**

**Ian Rowlandson**

Conservation  
Services

02 Feb 2004

Highways & Planning  
Directorate

**LAS Report No. 725**

**January 2004**

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

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### **Summary**

*An archaeological watching brief was carried out during the excavation of foundation trenches and associated services at the above site. The stratigraphy of the development site has been truncated by the clearance of farm buildings formerly on the site and general landscaping. No archaeological features were present.*

### **Introduction**

In March 2003 Lindsey Archaeological Services was commissioned by Nicolas Burton to undertake an archaeological watching brief in accordance with the general requirements set out in the *Standard Brief for Archaeological Projects in Lincolnshire* (Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section, August 1998).

### **Site Location and Description**

Huttoft is located at the southern end of the Lincolnshire Marsh, some 3km from the coast (Fig. 1). The site is an irregular plot of land, c. 1ha in extent, located just north-west of the centre of the village (Fig. 2). The plot lies between Plot 9 to the west and Plots 11 and 12 to the east which are currently in the process of development. The site is currently being developed for housing and has suffered modern disturbance associated with clearance of farm buildings formerly on the site and general landscaping.

### **Planning Background**

Planning permission was granted for the erection of 16 residential units subject to an archaeological watching brief being carried out during the groundworks phase of construction. House plot are to be developed individually and this report relates to Plot 10.

### **Archaeological Background**

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 adjacent land immediately to the east, upslope from the 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 in this area.

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 & McDaid 1995). This identified early Saxon pottery and a late Saxon ditch, indicative of early occupation. Subsequent watching briefs recorded traces of medieval activity, within the south-west of the development site (Plot 1, Tann 2003), along with 19<sup>th</sup> century truncation of natural deposits further to the east (Plot 13, Britchfield & Tann 2003).

### **Aims and Objectives**

The aims of the watching brief were to identify, characterise and record any archaeological remains that may have been disturbed by the groundworks phase of the development.

### **Method**

Excavation of the house footings were monitored on the 11<sup>th</sup> December 2003. A JCB excavator using a 500mm toothed bucket opened the footings to a maximum depth of 1m from the present ground surface and 0.50m in width (Fig. 3 & Pl. 3). All machining was monitored by a fully qualified and experienced archaeologist. A full photographic record was maintained during the work.

### **Results**

The area was stripped of the thin covering of **100**, a mid-dark brown silty clay topsoil (0.05- 0.08m), which contained a variety of waste modern building materials revealing **101**, the natural mid red/brown sandy clay which was exposed across the site. This removal of the thin build up of topsoil exposed no archaeological features.

At the north end of the plot patches of mid-dark brown silt clay were evident near to the entrance to the plot (Pl.1 & 2). Investigation showed that the patches all contained modern ceramic building materials and were 0.05-0.08m in depth.

In the south western corner of the building foundations a sub circular area of black asphalt was exposed 0.25m in depth and 0.40 in width (Pl.4).

### **Conclusion**

The archaeological monitoring carried out during the development of Plot 10 comprised an ephemeral layer of topsoil which was removed to reveal the underlying clay. Features encountered containing modern asphalt, brick and tile were observed in the area probably as a result of recent activity as the ground was waterlogged during the stripping of the topsoil by the wheeled JCB. It is likely that any remains of an earlier settlement are preserved upslope from the site as the plot has been truncated during levelling and re-landscaping associated with the demolition of the previous farmstead and the

housing development.

### **Acknowledgements**

LAS is grateful to Mr Burton and the on-site team for their assistance. Illustrations were prepared by Karen Dennis and the author the report was edited by Naomi Field.

Ian Rowlandson MA  
Lindsey Archaeological Services  
28<sup>th</sup> January 2004

### **References**

- Britchfield, D & Field, N. 2003 *Plot 4, Alford Rd, Huttoft, Lincs. Archaeological Watching Brief*. LAS Report No. 669
- Britchfield, D. and Tann, G. 2003 *Plot 13, Alford Rd, Huttoft, Lincs: Archaeological Watching Brief*. LAS Report No. 670
- Cameron, K. 1998 *A Dictionary of Lincolnshire Place-Names*.
- Field, N. and McDaid 1995 *Alford Road, Huttoft: Archaeological Evaluation*. LAS Report No. 135

**APPENDIX 1**

**APPENDIX 1**

**Plot 10, Land off Alford Rd, Huttoft (XXXX)**

**Context Summary**

<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>
100	Layer	Topsoil. Mid-dark brown silty clay
101	Layer	Natural mid red/brown sandy clay



## THE FIGURES



Fig. 1 Location of Huttoft (c based on the 1992 1:10,000 Ordnance Survey map, Sheet TF 57 NW. © Crown Copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LASC Licence No. AL 10002165).

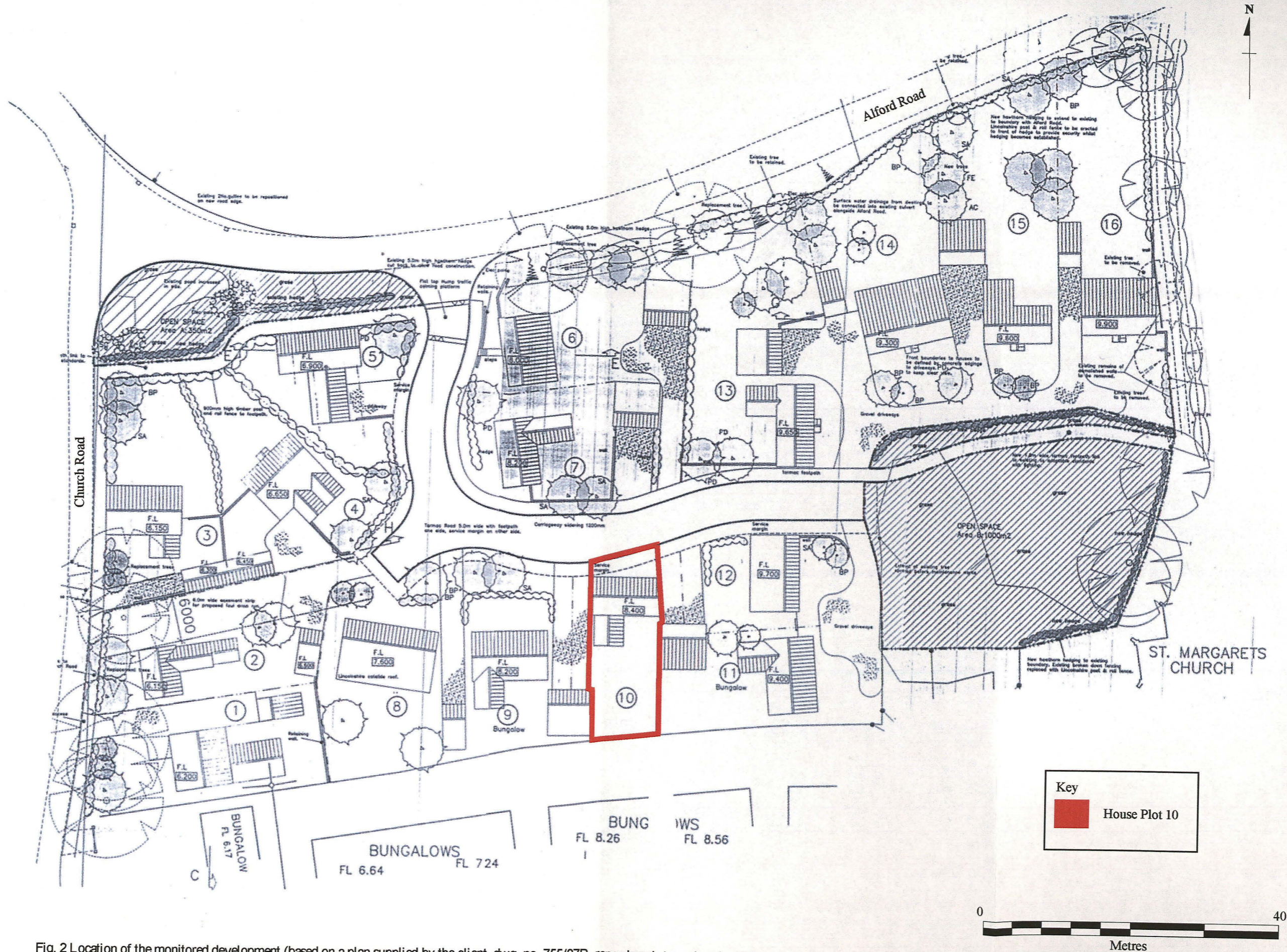


Fig. 2 Location of the monitored development (based on a plan supplied by the client, dwg. no. 755/07B, reproduced at a reduced scale).

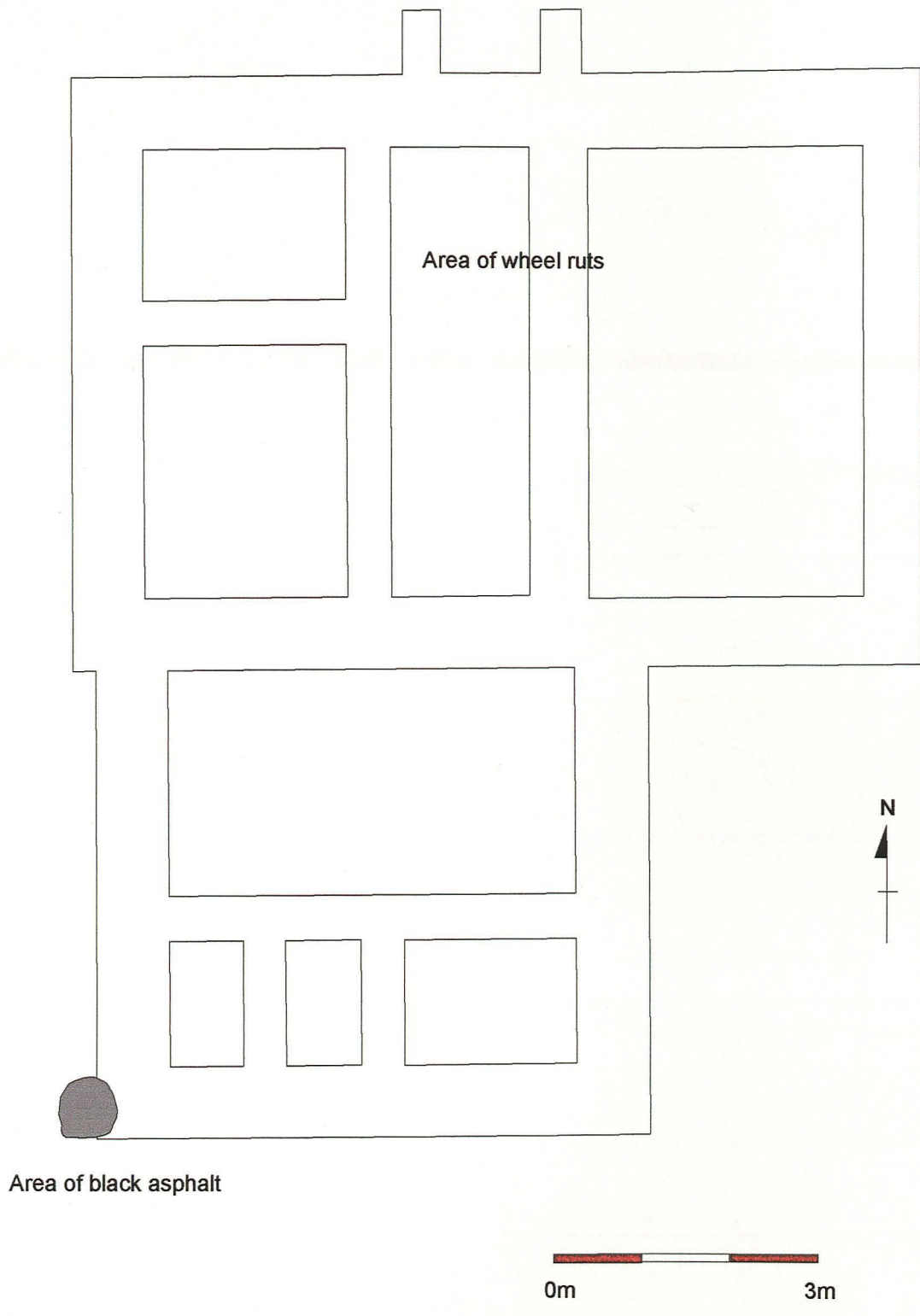


Fig. 3 Foundation plan (from plan supplied by the client)

**THE PLATES**



Fig.1 Wheel ruts looking north across plot 10 to the access road



Fig.2 Wheel ruts looking west across the north of plot 10



Fig. 3 Internal foundation trench looking west showing layer 101



Fig. 4 Area of black asphalt exposed in the south west corner of the building foundation