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LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

**Clapgate Farm, Greetham with Somersby, Lincs.
Reservoir Development
An Archaeological Watching Brief**

**NGR: TF 3225 7263
Site Code: SCFR03
LCNCC Museum Accn Code: 2004.48
ELDC Planning Application No. S/066/1638/02**

**Report
for
Mr H. Massingberd-Mundy (Bashfarms Ltd)**

**by
Ian Rowlandson**

Conservation
Services

16 MAR 2004

Highways & Planning
Directorate

**LAS Report No.731
March 2004**

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Summary

Monitoring of groundworks for the construction of a reservoir revealed the former stream course which was known to exist from maps and aerial photographs. No archaeological features or finds were encountered.

Introduction

Lindsey Archaeological Services (LAS) was commissioned by Mr H. Massingberd-Mundy (Bashfarms Ltd) to conduct an archaeological watching brief during topsoil stripping for the construction of a new reservoir. The watching brief was required by the local planning authority following the submission of a desk based assessment (Tann 2004).

The Development Site

The site lies within a pasture field, east of the Horncastle - Tetford Road. For administrative purposes it lies within the combined parish of Greetham with Somersby; Ordnance Survey maps have placed it within Somersby parish, and in the nineteenth century it was within Ashby Puerorum parish.

The rectangular reservoir, 120m x 70m in extent, was sited in a dry valley curving down a slope towards a small stream. In the recent past, this land was under arable cultivation.

Archaeological Background

Although no archaeological finds have been made from the development area a number of prehistoric flint implements and sherds of medieval pottery have been found in the surrounding fields. The field was called The Quarries in the 19th century but no such features were observed. The field boundary along the parish boundary with Salmonby was removed prior to 1975 and a stream is known to have run, north-east to south-west.

The archaeological background of the site is extensively covered in the desk based assessment produced for this development (Tann 2002)

The Watching Brief (Fig. 3)

The watching brief consisted of the monitoring of topsoil stripping over the area for the reservoir by a tracked bulldozer under the observation of a qualified archaeologist (Douglas Young, LAS).

The watching brief was conducted between 9th- 11th September 2003. Topsoil stripping of the area had already commenced before arrival on site on September 9th 2003. The area was recorded and

monitored for the rest of the day and on the following day. A further visit was made on September 11th when it was noted that a further small area of stripping had occurred. There was no one on site and despite several phone calls to the developer no further contact was made.

Context numbers were assigned by LAS for recording purposes, and these are used in bold in the text (Appendix 1).

Topsoil Removal

A layer of dark brown silt sand topsoil 0.30m thick (**100, PI. 1**) was removed by the tracked bulldozer revealing natural mid brown sand with some clay (**101, PI. 2**). Remnants of the stream channel visible on the aerial photograph were encountered but yielded no finds (**102, PI. 1**). No archaeological features were observed.

Discussion

Considerable earthmoving activities undertaken by the previous land owner to landscape the field for "an extensive pastoral enterprise" (Tann 2002) were not recognised in the area stripped. No archaeological features were observed during the watching brief but remnants of the former stream were evident. Despite the earth removal method observed (tracked bulldozer) the recognition of features is not believed to have been impeded.

Conclusion

Construction of the reservoir did not disturb any archaeological remains.

Acknowledgements

The watching brief was conducted by Douglas Young. Illustrations were prepared by the author from originals produced by Mark Williams (after Tann 2002). The report was collated and produced by Naomi Field.

Ian Rowlandson MA
Lindsey Archaeological Services
9th March 2004

References

Tann, G. 2002 *Clapgate Farm, Greetham with Somersby, Lincs. Proposed Reservoir Archaeological Desk - Based Assessment*, LAS Report No.619

Archive Summary

Correspondence

Developer's plans

Photographs: LAS colour print film nos. 03/101/ 26-39 (including those used in this report).

Two context sheets

APPENDIX 1

APPENDIX 1

Clapgate Farm, Greetham with Somersby, Lincs. Reservoir Development An Archaeological Watching Brief (SCFR 03)

Context Number	Type	Description
100	Layer	Topsoil dark brown silt sand topsoil
101	Layer	Natural mid brown sand with some clay
102	Fill	Fill of watercourse mixture of clays, blue, cream orange with some water staining

THE FIGURES

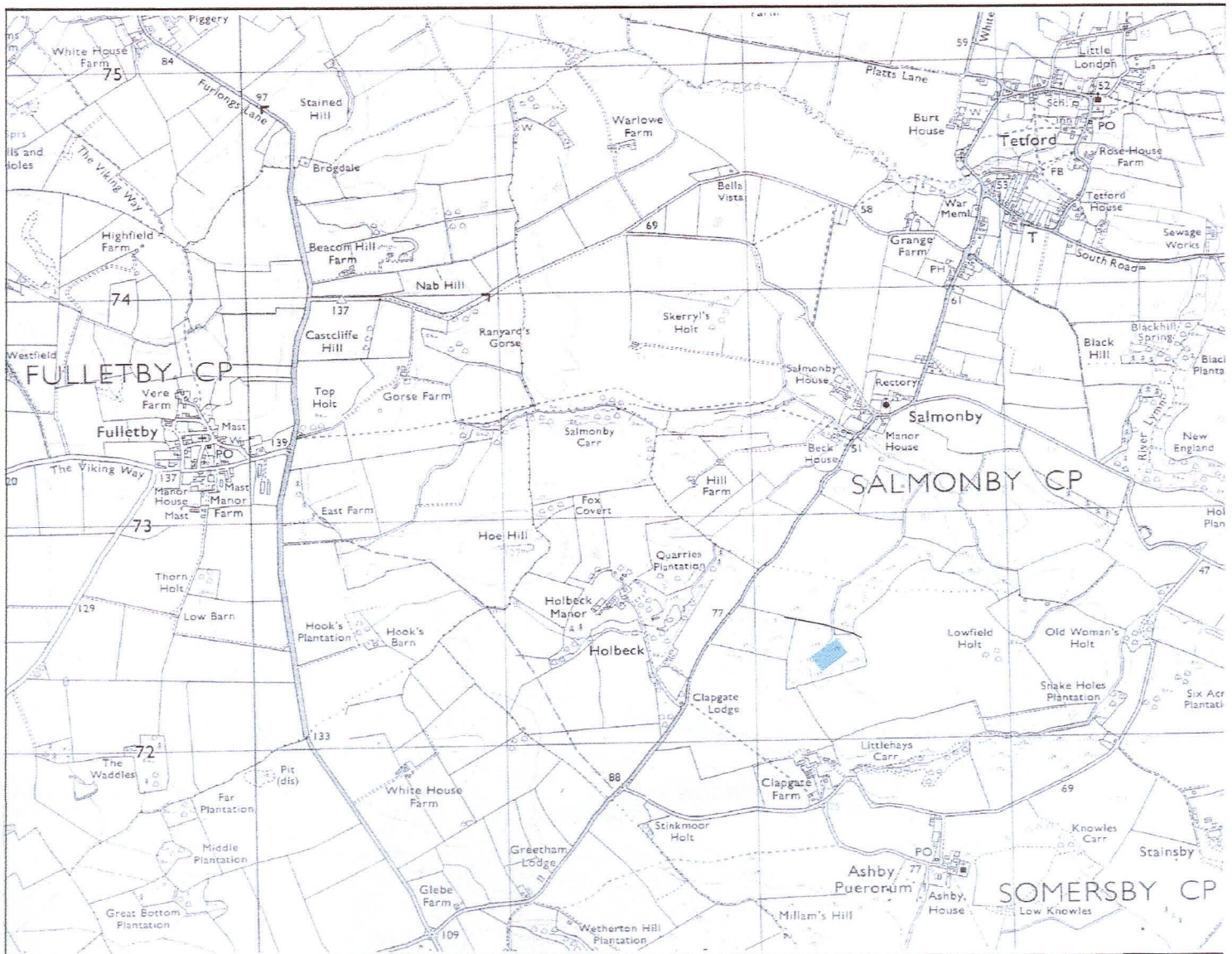


Fig. 1 Location of Greetham with Somersby. C based on the 1987 Ordnance Survey Pathfinder map. Sheet 166. Crown copyright, reproduced with the permission of the controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 100002165.

THE PLATES



Pl. 1 Bulldozer stripping showing 100 and faint traces of the former stream channel 102 (looking SW).



Pl. 2 Natural sands 101 exposed by bulldozer (looking NE).