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LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

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**1- 1A, Monson Road, Northorpe
Archaeological Watching Brief**

**NGR:SK8949 9701
Planning Application: MO3/P/0335
LCNCC Accn N°. : 2004.315
Site Code: NMR03**

Report

for

Mr and Mrs P. Harrison

by

D. Young

LAS Report No.728

March 2004

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Contents

List of Figures	ii
List of Plates	ii
Summary	1
Introduction	1
Site Location and Description	1
Planning Background	1
Archaeological Background	1
Aims and Objectives	1
Method	2
Results	2
Conclusion	2
Acknowledgements	2
Appendix	
Figures	
Plates	

List of Figures

Fig.1 Northorpe location plan (inset c based on the 1956 1:10,560 Ordnance Survey map, Sheet SK89NE.Crown copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence N°. AL 100002165).

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

List of Plates

Pl. 1 No 1 /1A taken from the northeast.

Pl. 2 The rear garden from the side entrance showing stripped area.

Pl. 3 Early modern brick foundation alongside the retaining wall on the north boundary of the property.

1, 1A, Monson Road, Northorpe, Lincs
Archaeological Watching Brief
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Summary

An archaeological watching brief was carried out during groundworks for the extension of 1, and 1A, Monson Road, Northorpe. No significant archaeological remains were found during this process.

Introduction

In September 2003 Lindsey Archaeological Services was commissioned by Mr and Mrs P. Harrison to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks phase prior to building work for the extension and rebuilding of 1, and 1A, Monson Road, Northorpe, 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

1 / 1A Monson Road, Northorpe is located on the west side of the street, south of no. 3. (PI.1). The site is occupied by a derelict building on the frontage with a sizeable garden to the rear and to the side. The land immediately to the rear of the existing building slopes quite drastically from the north with a large step down between the garden levels of nos.1 / 1 A and no. 3. The garden area was roughly grassed with occasional small bushes.

Planning Background

Planning permission has been granted to construct an extension on the west side of 1 / 1A subject to an archaeological watching brief being carried out during the groundworks phase of construction.

Archaeological Background

The village of Northorpe is mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1068, when there were four manors (estates) in the village and its origins lie in the Anglo-Saxon period. The site is located south of the church and close to the core of the village. It was possible that groundworks associated with the construction could reveal earlier remains.

Aims and Objectives

The aim of the watching brief was to record any archaeological remains disturbed during the groundwork phase of the site.

Method

The groundworks were supervised in accordance with the requirements set out in the project brief. A full photographic record was kept of the works on the site. Any finds, which were located in archaeological features, were to be identified accordingly and a context numbering system put into operation for the recording of archaeological remains. LAS operates a standard context recording system, developed by its staff over the past 20 years and based on MOLAS and CAS models.

The groundworks began with the stripping of the topsoil layers from the northern side of the rear garden immediately behind the existing building (PI.2). Despite attending on a second day, constructional and design problems brought an early end to the attendance and monitoring of this project.

Results

The topsoil levels were removed from an area of garden approximately 20 metres x 15 metres in extent. This exposed some brick foundations (PI.3) immediately beside the east-west retaining wall, probably part of a 19th / 20th century outbuilding, but for the rest of the site an apparently undisturbed natural grey/brown clay material was the norm. No archaeological features were noted in this material. It was noted that the topsoil removed from the garden of no. 1A was very rich in burnt material with a small collection of early modern pottery associated with the brick foundation.

Conclusion

The archaeological monitoring carried out during the groundworks encountered no significant archaeological remains and although the project was not completed, it is thought unlikely that the potential impact of any further groundworks on archaeological remains would be minimal.

Acknowledgements

LAS is grateful to Mr and Mrs Harrison and their team for their assistance. Illustrations were produced by Matthew Jordan. The report was edited by Naomi Field.

Contents of site archive

2 contractors Site plans
Correspondence
Hand written site notes and drawing
Film prints and negatives. 03 / 109 / 14 – 24.

Doug Young
Lindsey Archaeological Services
March 16th 2004

THE FIGURES

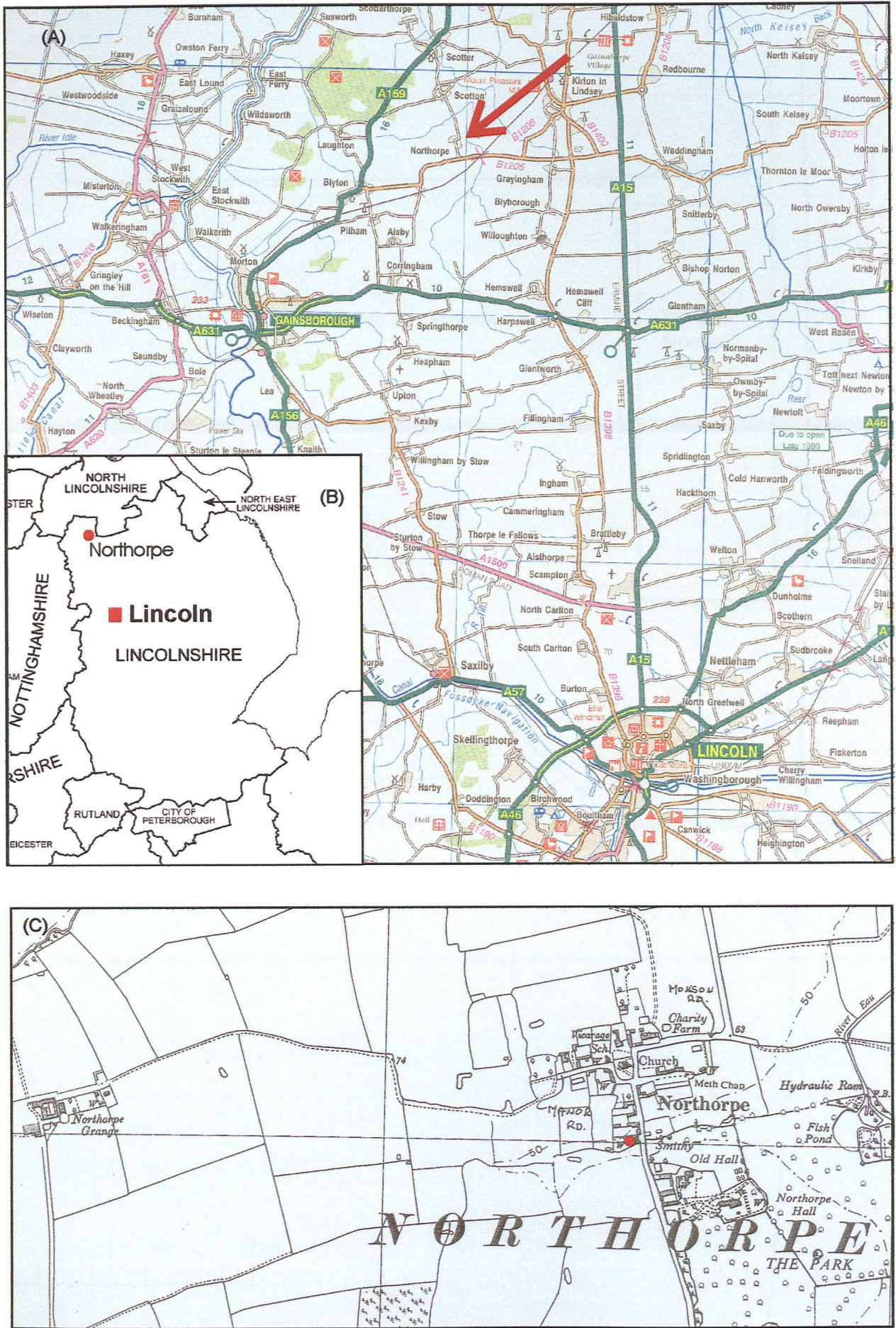


Fig. 1 Northorpe Location plan (C based on the 1956 1:10,560 Ordnance Survey map, sheet SK89NE. Crown copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 100002165).

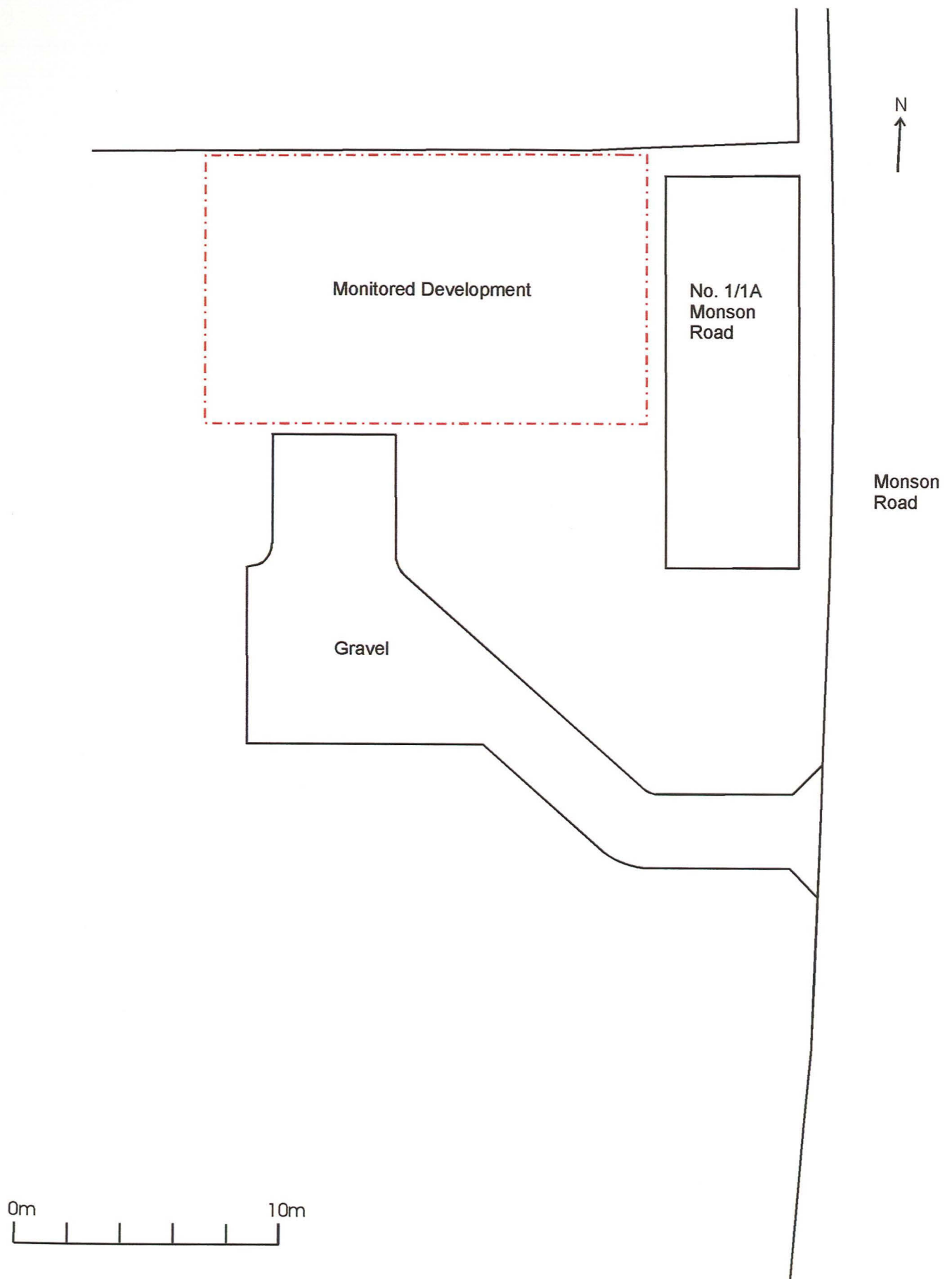


Fig. 2 Location of the monitored development (based on a plan supplied by the client dwg no. 755/07b reproduced at a reduced scale)

THE PLATES



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Pl. 2 The rear garden from the side entrance showing stripped area.



Pl. 3 Early modern brick foundation alongside the retaining wall on the north boundary of the property.