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**DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT
ON LAND AT
HOLDINGHAM TERMINAL PUMPING STATION
TO SLEAFORD STW
(HOLDINGHAM RISING MAIN),
SLEAFORD,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(HRM04)**



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
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Work Undertaken For
Anglian Water

December 2004

Report Compiled by
Robert Evans BA (Hons)

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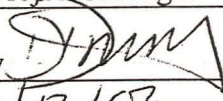
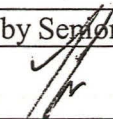
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



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Holdingham Terminal Pumping Station to Sleaford STW
(HRM04)

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1. SUMMARY

A desk-based assessment has been carried out on the route of a pipeline between Holdingham terminal pumping station and Sleaford STW. The assessment has shown that the area within 500m of the proposed pipeline holds considerable archaeological potential. A middle Iron Age site and a substantial amount of Romano-British activity along the Mareham Lane Roman Road have been identified previously through a mixture of aerial photography, geophysical survey, evaluation and excavation. Worked flints, along with Romano-British and medieval pottery, have been found as surface finds in the area. Several modern services have been shown to cross the area and these have caused an unknown amount of damage to archaeological deposits.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment

An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment is defined as '*an assessment of the known or potential archaeological resource within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. It consists of a collation of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the likely character, extent, quality, and worth of the known or potential archaeological resource in a local, regional, national, or international context as appropriate*' (IFA 1999).

2.2 Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Anglian Water to undertake a desk-based assessment of land between Holdingham Pumping Station, Northfield Farm (TF 068471) and the Sewage Works at TF 083471. The Senior

Built Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council, has requested that a desk-based assessment, including an aerial photographic assessment, be undertaken in advance of the proposed construction of a pipeline, in order to provide sufficient information to determine the archaeological implications of the development. The following document details the results of the desk-based assessment. The detailed aerial photographic assessment will be submitted under separate cover.

2.3 Site Location, Topography and Geology

The proposed pipeline is located approximately 1.5km north of Sleaford, between the pumping station, Northfield Farm at TF 068471 and the Sewage Works at TF 083471, at a height of approximately 10m OD.

From the pumping station the pipeline follows a northeasterly alignment, skirting the farm, up to the south side of the A17 where the route turns to the east, closely following the edge of the road up to East Road, at the Bonemill junction. The pipeline crosses the road and turns south toward the roundabout and continues onto the A17 slip road and then follows Bonemill Lane. The pipeline route crosses the line of the Sleaford- Lincoln Railway before turning north and crossing the line of the A17 to enter the Sewage Treatment Works (Fig. 2). The total length of the route is approximately 1.9km.

The soils in the assessment area consist of gleyic brown calcareous earths of the Ruskington Association, with some sand and clay of the Curdrige Association near the Slea navigation. Ruskington soils tend to have an undulating clay substratum at depth, overlying a solid geology of Upper Jurassic limestone. Soils of the Curdrige series are deep, permeable coarse loamy

soils on fine grained Jurassic sand (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 154 and 304).

3. AIMS

The purpose of the desk-based assessment is to obtain information about the known and potential archaeological resource within the vicinity of the proposed development site. In addition to the above, statutory and advisory heritage constraints were identified.

4. METHODS

The research undertaken in the compilation of this archaeological desk-based assessment involved the examination of all available primary and secondary sources relevant to the proposed pipeline route between Northfield Farm, Sleaford, NGR O68471 and the sewage works at NGR TF 083471. It included an area up to 500m around the pipeline route, termed the assessment area.

These sources included:

- Historical Documents held in the Lincolnshire Archives.
- Enclosure, tithe, parish, and other maps and plans, held in Lincolnshire Archives
- Ordnance Survey maps
- Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record
- North Kesteven Parish Records, held at Heritage Lincolnshire
- Aerial Photographs
- Secondary sources, in the form of periodical articles and books.

5. RESULTS

5.1 Historical Evidence

The modern town of Sleaford has expanded to cover several previous foci of

settlement and other activity dating from the prehistoric to the medieval periods. Romano-British settlement is thought to have concentrated around Mareham Lane. Evidence of Anglo-Saxon settlement has been recovered from Sleaford, mainly from a large Anglo-Saxon cemetery in the centre of the town.

New Sleaford is described in Domesday Book as being in the possession of the Bishop of Lincoln, consisting of 29 villagers, 6 freemen and 11 smallholders. A church, 8 mills, a meadow, wood and marshland are also listed (Morgan and Thorn 1986). New Sleaford has always been closely associated with the village of Holdingham to the north, and they shared the same territory and parish, with Holdingham served by the Chapel-of-Ease of St. Mary's that was dismantled in the 16th century. It has been argued that with the Old English *ham* suffix that Holdingham to the north provided the early focus for settlement in pre-conquest times (Pawley 1996, 17). Ridge and furrow has been recorded around the periphery of Sleaford and is indicative of medieval agriculture. It has been tentatively suggested (*ibid.*, 28) that the assessment area might have formed part of the North Field of the medieval three-field system and that this survived in use until the 18th century.

The road to Lincoln via Ruskington and Tattershall was a turnpike road during the 18th century, with the tollgate closest to Sleaford, about 2 miles from the town (Tann 1996, 11). This road formed part of the Lincoln to Peterborough Turnpike Trust, which was one of the most powerful in the country. It had abandoned the Roman Mareham Lane route in the early 19th century and 'created a new road from Sleaford to Lincoln across open wasteland' (Rogers 1985, 99) that has since become the A153. Part of Mareham Lane was still visible in the assessment area as an

earthwork in the third quarter of the 19th century (Trollope 1872, 40-41).

By 1856 the Holdingham area of New Sleaford had a population of 167, mainly farmers, and included 1360 acres of land. The Marquis of Bristol and Anthony Willson Esq. owned this in nearly equal portions (White 1856), indicating that the smallholders had been entirely displaced by this time, as a result of enclosure.

5.2 Cartographic Evidence

The earliest detailed cartographic evidence available for the assessment area is a Bristol Estate map that dates from 1766 (LAO HOSF 2/C/Box 2). This map shows open field systems around Sleaford, and the area under investigation forms part of *Dovecoat Furlong* and *Sands Furlong*, bisected by the Ruskington Road (A153). Armstrong's 1778 *Map of Lincolnshire* shows no detail of the area under consideration, referring to it generally as *Sleaford Common* (Fig.3). The 1796 enclosure map of New Sleaford and Holdingham (LAO Kesteven Inclosures 67) shows the majority of the assessment area as open ground (Fig. 4), as does the 1766 Bristol Estate Map. The latter makes an inexact topographic match with the 1796 map, but shows evidence of ridge and furrow cultivation that can also be seen on aerial photographs. In 1796 the land to the west of the Ruskington road was strip fields in the possession of numerous smallholders (Fig. 4). The land to the east, now cut by the railway line, is shown as having recently been strip fields, but by this time had come into the possession of the Earl of Bristol. This shows that the enclosure of the last remaining medieval strip fields was taking place in the 1790s. By the time of the 1863 estate map of the Marquess of Bristol (LAO PSJ 13/6), the area is shown to be open ground, with the 1796 strip fields depicted as one single field.

Sleaford Wood is depicted on the 1824 1 inch OS map (Fig. 6) and Bryant's 1828 *Map of the County of Lincoln* (Fig. 5), but not on the 1766 Bristol estate map, nor the enclosure map of 1796 (Fig. 4), which suggests that the plantation was created sometime between 1796 and 1824 (Our Woods in Focus 2004).

The 1st and 2nd edition OS maps (1884 and 1906) show the effect on the site of the advent of the railways (Figs. 7, 8), which physically separated Holdingham from its historic close ties with New Sleaford. This railway was opened as the *Boston, Sleaford and Midland Counties Railway* in 1857 (Pawley 1996, 72). The apparent presence of the railway on the 1824 first edition 1 inch map (Fig. 5) is as a result of an 1865 amendment to the map (Harley 1970).

The area of strip fields that had been in multiple occupancy until 1796 (Fig. 4) are still shown as divided into strips, with one plot now occupied by Moor House, on the 1st Edition OS map of 1884.

The line of a sewage pipeline, which crosses the assessment area, led from Sleaford, south of Northfield Farm to the works at TF 083472. This is noted on a 1946 engineers map (LAO SLUDC 10/4, Fig. 9). It lies very close to the proposed route of the pipeline.

Modern developments in the assessment area include the A17 Sleaford By-Pass of which the Holdingham section was completed in 1970 (Pawley 1996, 137), and is shown on the 1:10000 OS map sheet TF 04 NE, produced in 1976. Industrial units in the area south of the A17 and west of the A153 have been constructed in recent times and are shown on digital OS mapping data (Ordnance Survey 1995).

5.3 Aerial Photographic Evidence

An aerial photographic assessment is due to be undertaken, but the assessment area has been previously examined by a number of aerial photographers including the National Mapping Programme survey of Lincolnshire of the RCHME (York). These have revealed the area of Sleaford to be surrounded by cropmarks (Pickering 1995, 24). Aerial photographs held in Lincolnshire by a variety of organizations show cropmarks to the east of Sleaford Wood (Fig. 10), including some evidence for ridge and furrow cultivation. Cropmarks of Mareham Lane Roman road and an adjacent enclosure complex have been identified in the assessment area on the land east of East Road near Sleaford North railway junction (Map Code 10), as have a number of other enclosures north of the assessment area. Less explicable cropmarks have been identified east of East Road (Map Codes 15, 16). They include linear ditches that seem to be perpendicular to the Roman Road, and may relate to Roman land use. These are noted on the NMP overlay of OS sheet TF 04 NE (Map Code 10, Fig. 10).

In the area south of Lincoln, cropmarks of settlements generally '*appear in closely grouped clusters and are often linked by boundaries or trackways*' (Winton 1998, 58), a pattern that seems to fit well the evidence for Romano-British enclosures along Mareham Lane Roman Road.

All the cropmarks within the assessment area on the aerial photographs examined at the Lincolnshire SMR have been recorded on the NMP overlays with the exception of SMR TF 0747/2 1715-4 (Appendix 2). This shows additional cropmarks to the west of Mareham Lane Roman Road at around TF 079470, which may represent further evidence for Romano-British field boundaries associated with the settlements along the road.

5.4 Archaeological Data

Details of archaeological and historical remains falling within the assessment area have been given a map code (Shown in brackets in the text) collated in the table below and located on Figure 10.

Table of Archaeological Sites within the Assessment Area (See Figure 10)

Map Code	SMR Ref.	NK Parish Files Ref.	Description	NGR ref.
1	60509	57.31	Acheulian side scraper, and Bronze Age flints	TF 06824663
2	CK	57.44	Romano-British material	TF 072471
3	62676	N/A	Later Prehistoric remains	TF 07384699
4	62679	57.126	Roman artefact scatter	TF 07454690
5	60458	57.11	Romano-British building	TF 07204710
6	60459	57.44	Iron Age coin	TF 07204710
7	60473	57.103	Neolithic flint axe findspot	TF 07804710
8	60766	57.90	Prehistoric enclosure mid Iron Age	TF 07804710
9	60812	57.104	Iron Age Finds and cropmark	TF 07804710
10	60813	57.20	Mareham Lane Roman Road	TF07874686-SK 98676674

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11	61211	57.138	Post-medieval agricultural remains	TF 07804710
12	61212	57.138	Post-medieval features off East Road	TF 07804710
13	61460	N/A	Royal Oak railway bridge	TF 07824683
14	N/A	N/A	Hedgerow on 1 st Edition OS Map, Plate 6	TF 068471
15	N/A	NK57.32	Cropmark enclosure	TF 083475
16	N/A	NK57.38	Cropmark (NMR 0849/23)	TF 0849
17	N/A	NK57.10	Roman tile and pottery	TF 0711 4771
18	AA	N/A	Small polished Greenstone axe	TF 074479
19	N/A	N/A	Neolithic and later site	TF 074469
20	N/A	NK57.115	Roman or Medieval fragment of key barrel	TF 08204690
21	N/A	NK57.105	Magnetic Survey and fieldwalking. scatter of Roman/Post. Med. Pottery	TF 8154690
22	N/A	NK57.99	18 th century lock in Slea Navigation	TF 08504711

The evidence noted above includes both chance finds of archaeological material and the results of archaeological interventions, including geophysical surveys (Johnson 1998, 1999), evaluation trenching and excavation.

Prehistoric Archaeology

A Palaeolithic flint implement is recorded from this area (Map Code 1), and also two Neolithic axes (Map Codes 7, 18). The former is about 400m, and the latter about 150m, south of the proposed route.

Evidence of Neolithic flintworking has been found at a site currently under investigation (Hambly, *J. pers. comm.*, Map Code 19).

Bronze Age flints were also found at the same location as the Palaeolithic tool (Map Code 1).

Archaeological investigations at Sleaford North Junction (Map Code 9), about 70m from the proposed route, revealed evidence of ditches and gullies, possibly with a primary drainage function that lay outside the main enclosure identified during evaluation of the site (Cope-Faulkner 2002). The evaluation had uncovered substantial evidence for a middle Iron Age

enclosure and trackway (Hambly 2000). An Iron Age double ditch and numerous other ditches pits and gullies, have also been identified 300m south of the pipeline. Much of this probably related to previously identified Iron Age remains in the area (Rayner and Young 2000).

Enclosures of possible late prehistoric date have also been observed during aerial photography (Map Codes 15, 16), and an Iron Age coin found (Map Code 6).

These interventions have contributed significantly to our knowledge of the nature of the economy and society of the middle Iron Age population settled near Sleaford.

Romano-British Archaeology

Considerable evidence of Mareham Lane Roman Road and associated structures has been located.

At TF 078468 the disturbed surface of the Road was identified. Romano-British deposits representing later re-cutting of the ditches and make up deposits indicate that the track was in use until the 3rd-4th century AD. The continual re-cutting of ditches and addition of make-up layers indicate

that the road was routinely maintained (Cope-Faulkner 2002, 6).

At TF 07204710 (Map Code 5), the surface collection of a substantial quantity of Romano-British material suggests the presence of an archaeological site. The site was interpreted as a farmstead in 1976 (White 1977, 71). Fieldwalking has also revealed scatters of Roman pottery to the east of the railway line (Map Codes 20, 21), and south of New Wood (Map Code 17).

Medieval and Post-Medieval Archaeology

Medieval and later metal finds have been reported by metal detector users from north of Sleaford Wood, close to the Roman site (Map Code 5), 150m south of the pipeline. The aerial photographs suggest medieval fields and a possible track between the vicinity of Sleaford Wood and Northfield Farm (TF 068471).

Post-medieval sites of importance include an 18th century lock in the Slea Navigation (Map Code 22), and the Royal Oak railway bridge (Map Code 13).

5.5 Walk-over Survey

A site visit was carried out on 6th December 2004 (Plate 1) to ascertain whether any archaeological evidence could be observed on the ground and to note the presence of obvious services (gas, water, electricity etc.). The weather conditions were fine and dry and access was gained to the whole length of the pipeline.

A gas pipeline marker has been observed approximately TF 075468, but it is not known if this is active or not. There is an IP Main aligned north-south across the assessment area beside the eastern side of Sleaford Wood (Tann 1996, 7).

Raised concrete sewer inspection points are visible at numerous locations within the assessment area. Markers are noted at various points along the route of the pipeline (Plate 2).

The eastern end of the route lies under hard standing and buildings in the vicinity of the sewage works. It extends by the access road, skirting the northeastern side of the East Road roundabout and along East Road until it reaches the A17. The area of open ground between the works and the A153 is heavily disturbed (Plate 3). For much of its length the route follows the south side of the westbound carriageway of the A17, initially past an industrial estate and then at the edge of arable fields (Plate 4), crossing a number of dykes that run in a generally northeast-southwest direction (Plate 5). The route leaves the A17 at TF 068471 and follows the eastern bank of a dyke in a southwestern direction (Plate 6) until it reaches Northfield Farm and an area of modern housing development (Plate 7).

No new archaeological sites, nor scatters of finds, were observed during the walk-over survey. The line of a hedgerow that appears on the 1st Edition OS map of 1824 (Fig. 6) was observed at TF 068471 (Map Code 14, Plate 6). It is difficult to be certain whether it predates 1845 as it follows the bank of a field drain, which is clearly on the map. In relation to the five criteria on page 11 (Schedule 1 Part II) of the *Hedgerow Regulations* 1997 (HMSO 1997), the hedgerow does not mark the boundary of a historic parish or township, does not incorporate any archaeological feature or appear on the SMR. It is not situated within an archaeological site and it does not on current knowledge mark the boundary of a pre 1600 estate or manor.

6. CONSTRAINTS

6.1 Heritage Constraints

There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments protected by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (HMSO 1979) that are located within the application area, or within 500m surrounding it. All the archaeological remains within the area are therefore protected only through the implementation of PPG16 (DoE 1990). In addition there are no listed buildings within the assessment area protected by the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (HMSO 1990).

6.2 Other Constraints

No formal checks were carried out to determine the presence of services (gas, water electricity, although a number are clearly present and some have been observed during the walk-over survey. The plans provided by Anglian Water also note the presence of other services, such as a water main and British Telecom cabling near the industrial estate and in the vicinity of Bonemill Lane.

If further archaeological intervention were required, the excavation of trenches would entail a certain degree of risk that would be enhanced by the use of a mechanical excavator.

7. ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND POTENTIAL DISCUSSION

Survival/Condition and Potential

The eastern end of the pipeline route has evidence of a fairly concentrated presence of archaeological remains.

The middle Iron Age settlement (Map Code 9) is of particular importance and

can contribute to our understanding of both the economy and the local environment of the middle Iron Age.

The Roman Mareham Lane Roman road (Map Code 10) passes through the assessment area and there is considerable settlement and land use evidence associated alongside it. These may also be linked to the large Roman site recorded north of Sleaford Wood (Map Code 5). The proposed pipeline passes close to these sites, but much of the area has already been subject to archaeological investigation.

Further west along the route, finds of early prehistoric to Bronze Age flints, prehistoric, Roman and medieval pottery, evidence from aerial photography and from a significant number of archaeological interventions all suggest archaeological activity with relative proximity to the route, particularly in the area to the north of Sleaford Wood where a Roman building is suspected.

The lack of post-medieval development over much of the area may indicate moderately high potential for the survival of any earlier archaeological remains, although these may have been affected by ridge and furrow cultivation.

However there has been considerable disturbance of the proposed pipeline route along much of the length. The amount of damage caused to any archaeological deposits by the several known services crossing the area is unknown, and may have adversely affected the survival of archaeological deposits close to previous service trenches.

At the eastern end of the route, a focus of known Middle Iron Age and Roman remains, much of the area has either already been subject to archaeological investigation in advance of development

(Fig. 10), or is likely to be heavily disturbed.

As the main also follows close to the A17 for its centre section, groundworks from the construction of the road may also have affected the potential for the survival of archaeological remains. At the western end of the route, the line between Northfield Farm and the A17 is probably the least disturbed.

Documentation

Records of archaeological sites and finds made in the Sleaford area are kept in the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record, and in the North Kesteven Parish Files held by Heritage Lincolnshire. There have been a number of reports on the archaeology of this area and they are listed in the bibliography

8. OVERVIEW

An archaeological desk-based assessment of the land at the proposed Holdingham Rising Main, Sleaford, Lincolnshire has been undertaken in order to determine the archaeological implications of the proposed development.

The assessment has identified evidence of activity dating from early prehistoric times, in the form of spot finds, through to post-medieval activity, including Iron Age to Romano-British settlement sites, within 500m of the proposed pipeline. It is therefore quite likely that intervention in ground not disturbed by previous services could affect archaeological deposits.

9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record. The assistance of Jo Hambly of the Heritage Team at Heritage Lincolnshire is gratefully acknowledged. Denise Drury coordinated the project and edited the report together with Tom Lane. Tobin Rayner produced the illustrations.

10. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Denise Drury
Research: Robert Evans and Gary Taylor
Illustration: Tobin Rayner, Sue Unsworth
Photographic reproduction: Robert Evans
Report Compilation: Robert Evans

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LAO Kesteven Award 67 *Plan of New Sleaford and Holdingham in the County of Lincoln, surveyed by William Taylor Bardney.*

LAO PSJ 13/6 1863 *Lincolnshire Estate Map of the Most Hon. The Marquess of Bristol*

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12. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

CUCAP Cambridge University Committee for Aerial Photography

CLAU City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit

DoE Department of the Environment

HMSO Her Majesty's Stationery Office

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

LAO Lincolnshire Archives Office

LAS Lindsey Archaeological Services

NGR National Grid Reference

NK North Kesteven

NMP National Mapping Programme

OS Ordnance Survey

PCA Pre-Construct Archaeology

RCHME Royal Commission on Historical Monuments for England

SMR Sites and Monuments Record

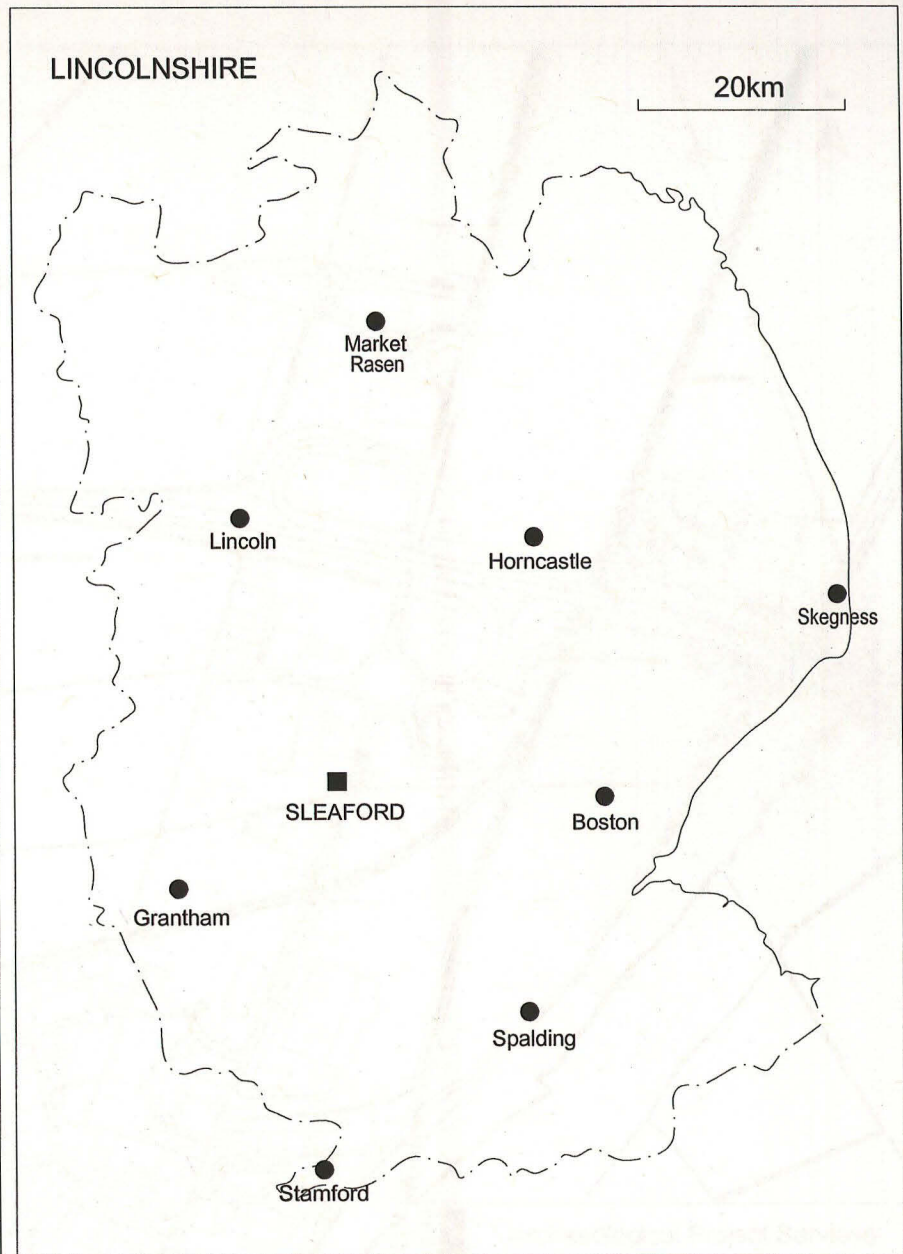
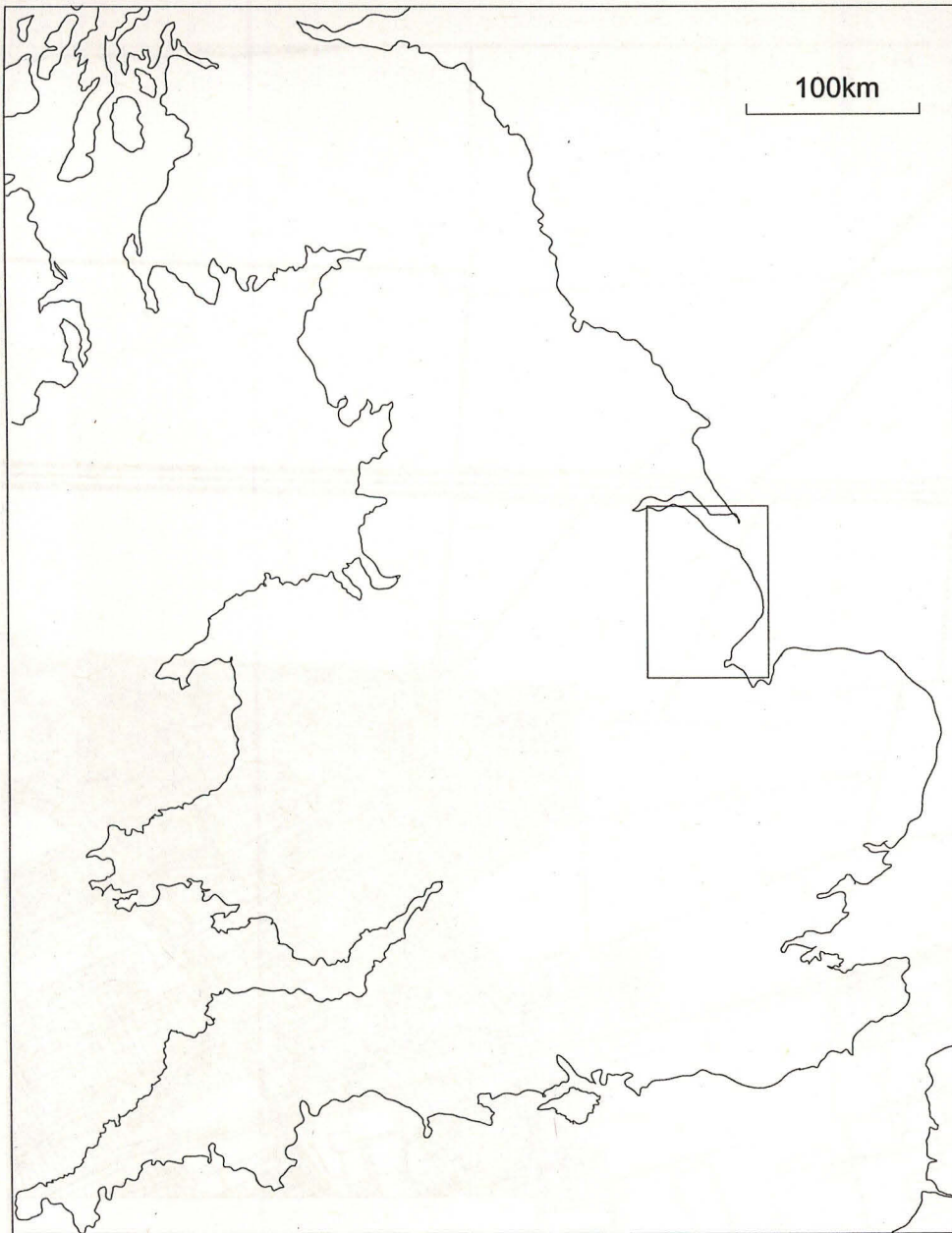


Figure 1: General Location Plan

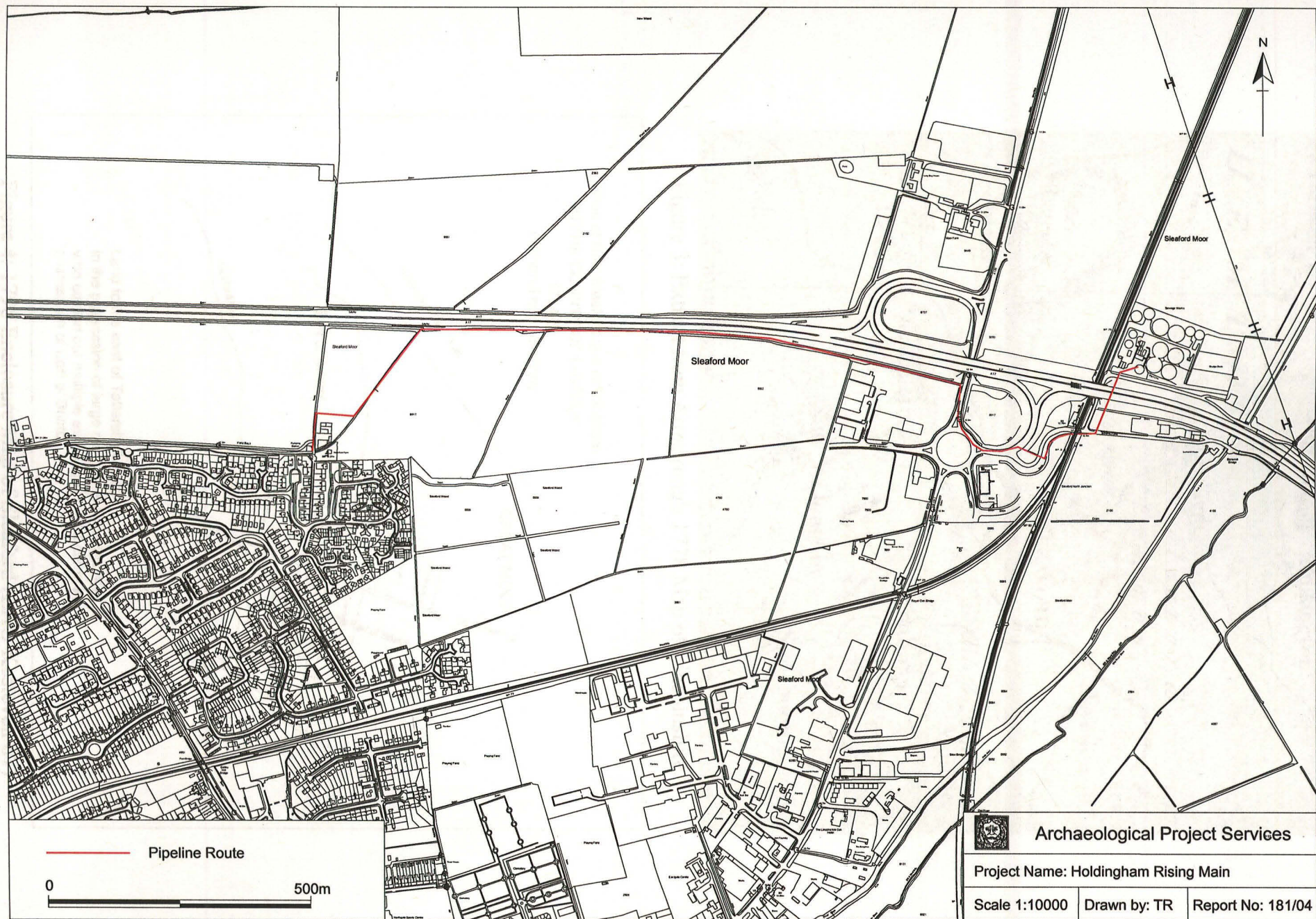


Figure 2: Site Location Plan

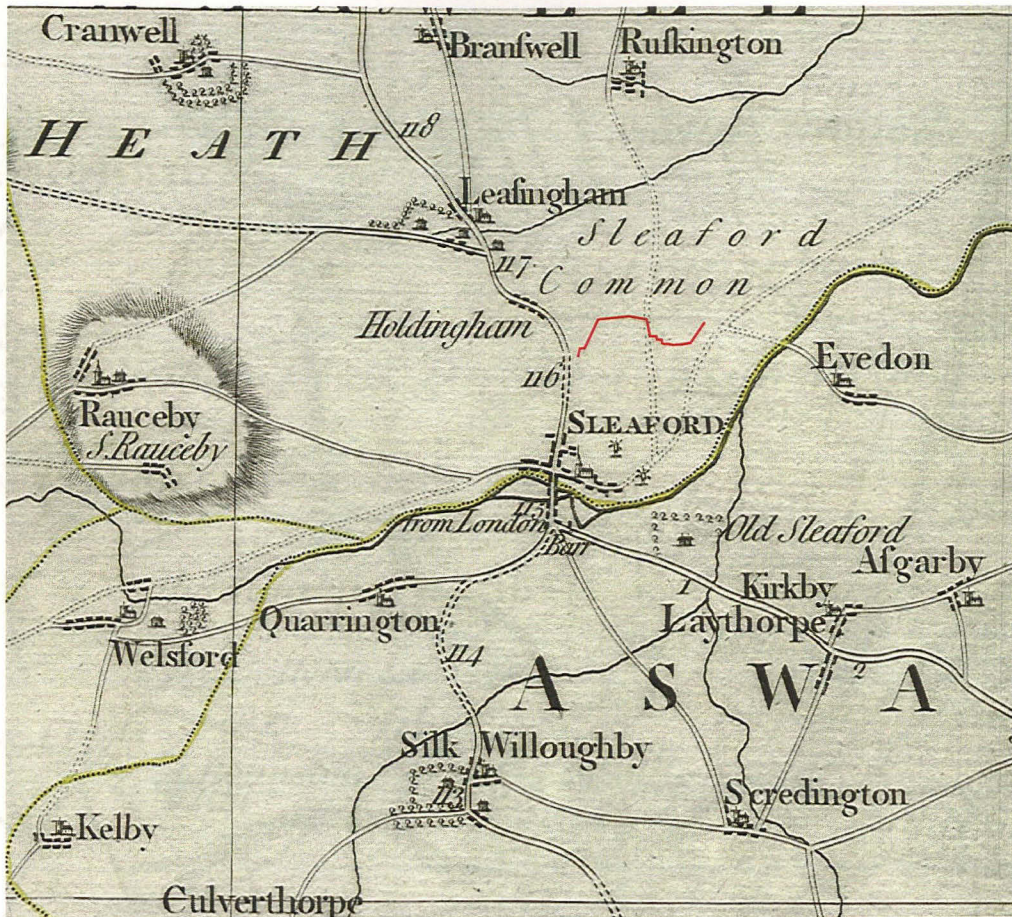


Figure 3: Extract from Armstrong's 1778 Map of Lincolnshire

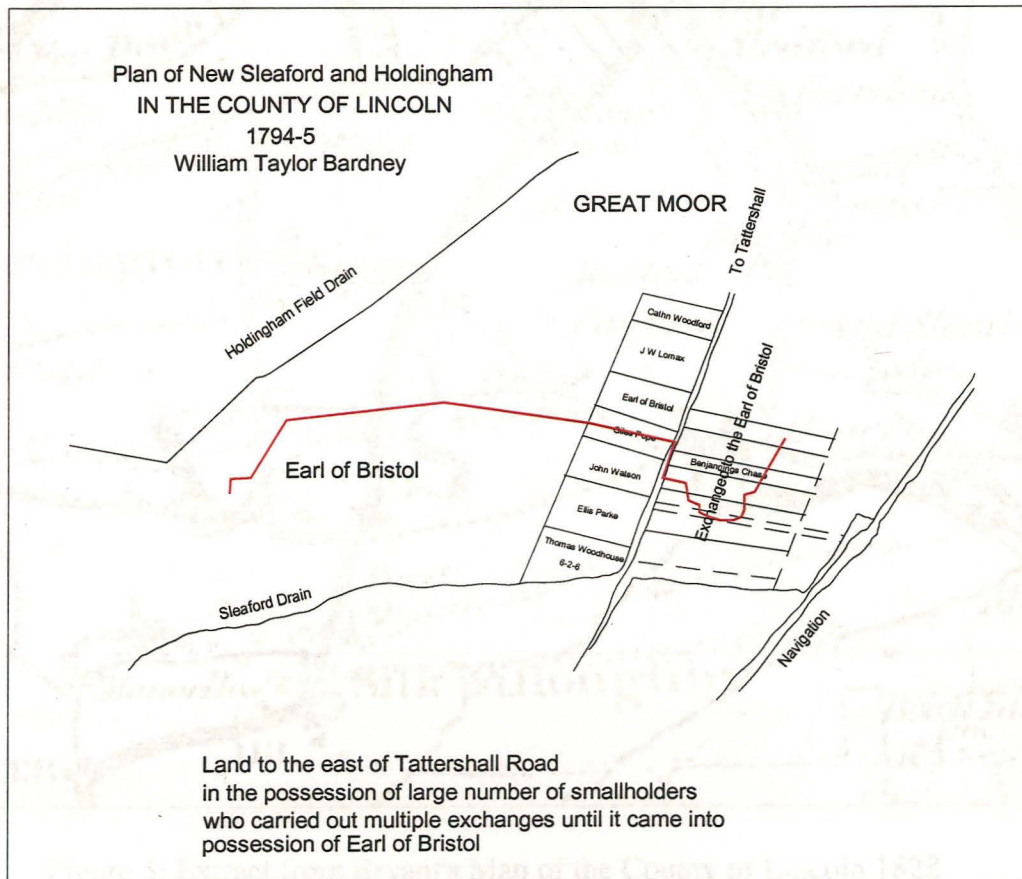


Figure 4: 1796 Enclosure Map of Sleaford (LAO Kesteven 67)



Figure 5: Extract from Bryant's Map of the County of Lincoln 1828

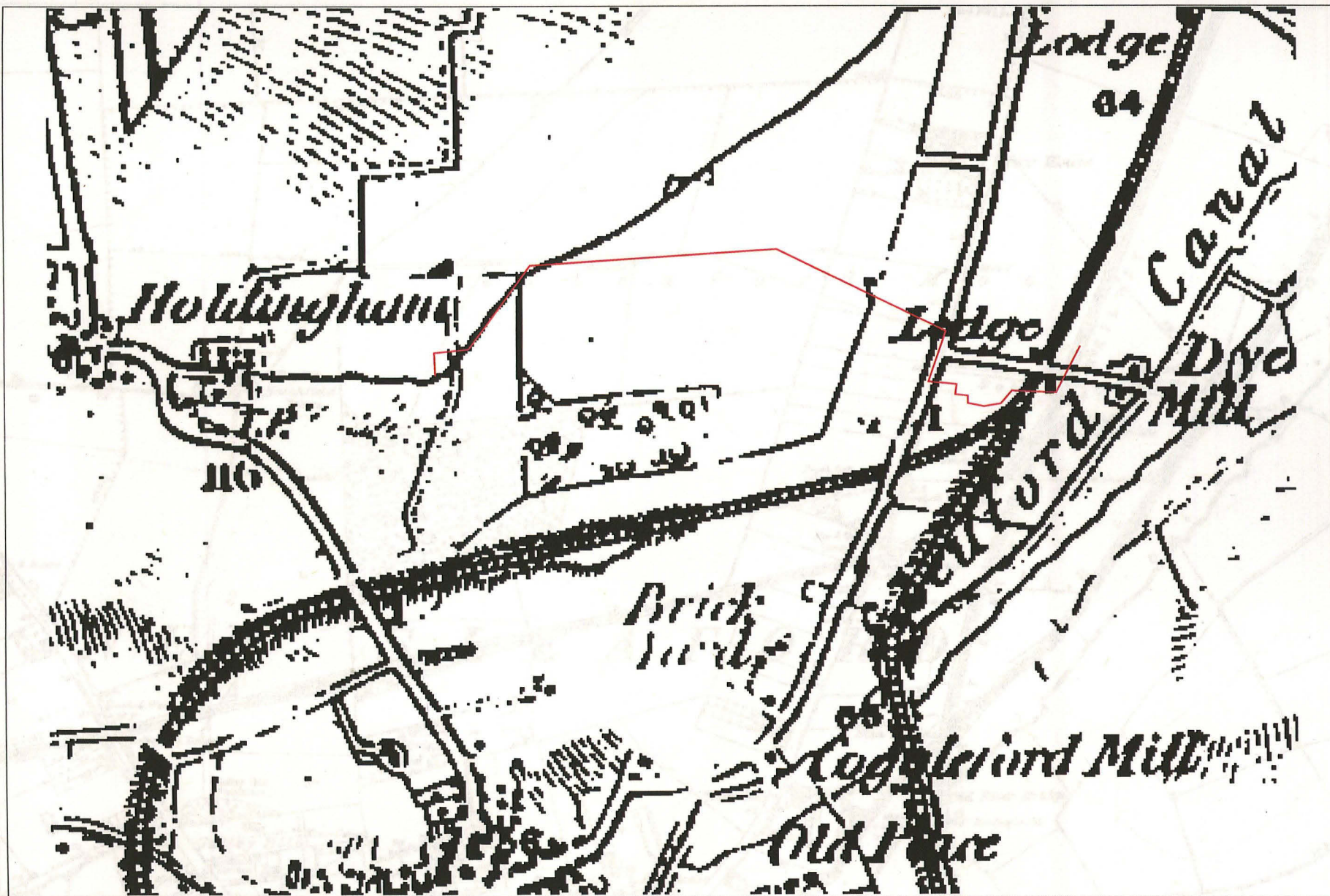


Figure 6: Extract from 1824 OS 1 inch Map, as Amended 1865

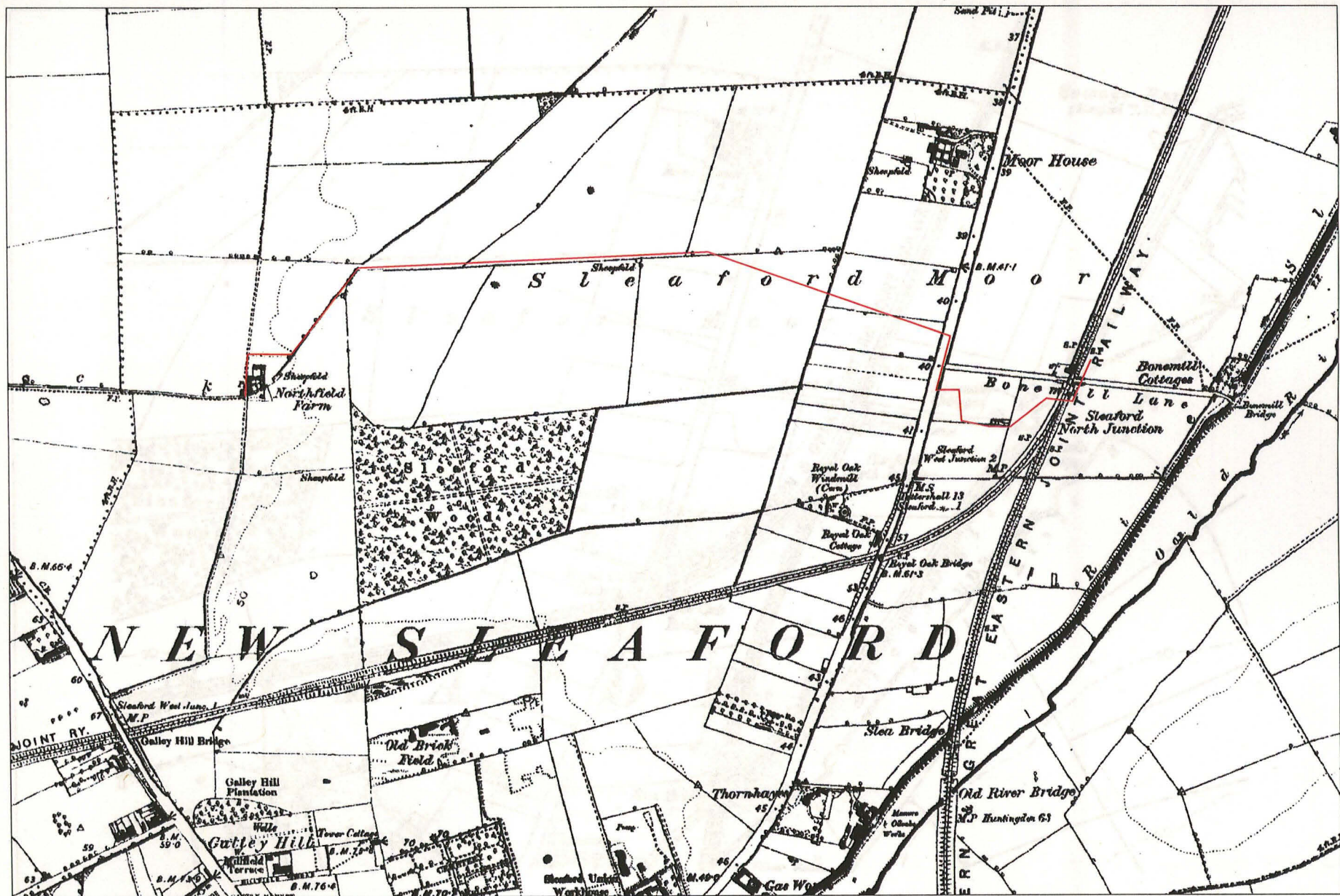


Figure 7: Extract from OS 1st Ed. map 1884

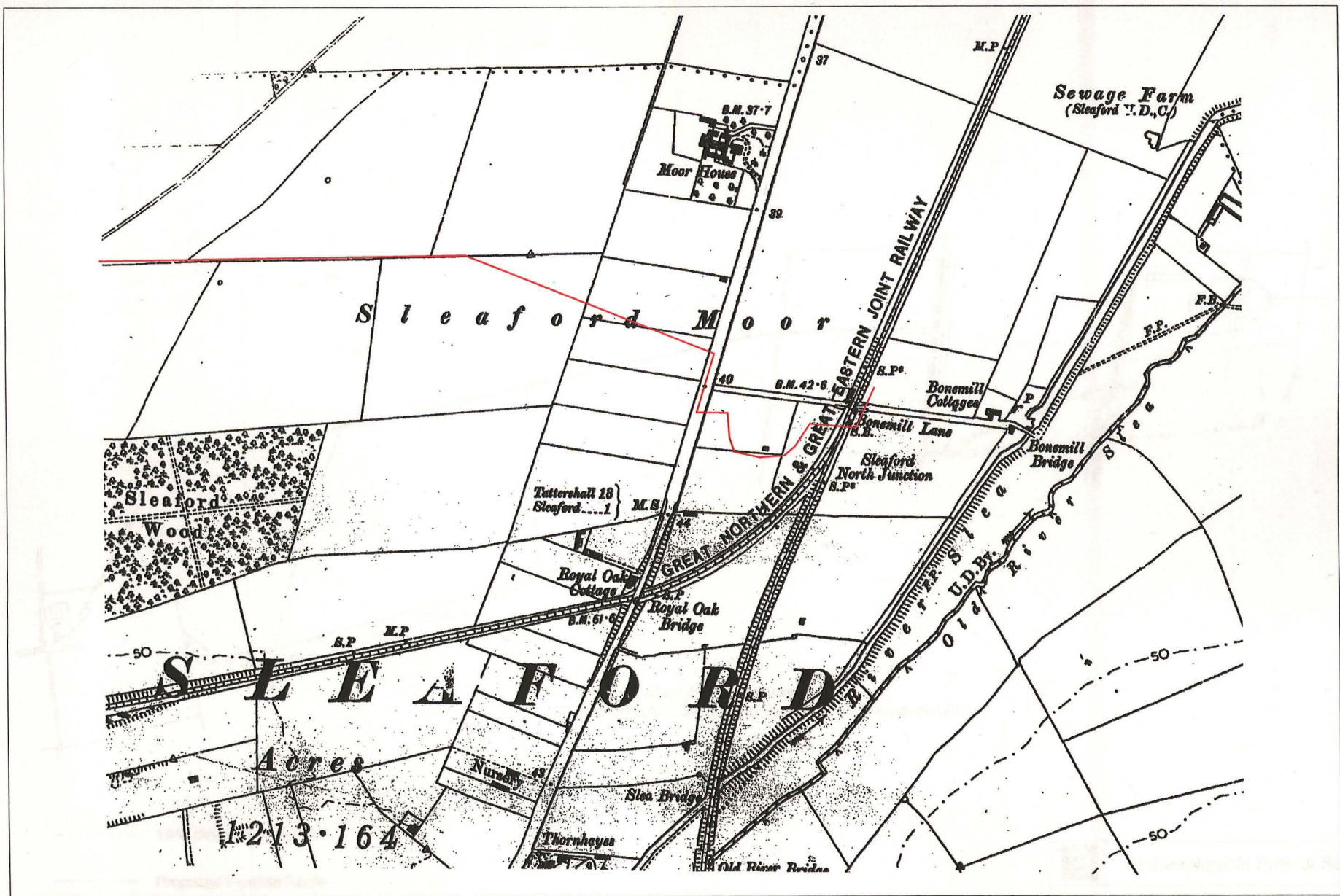
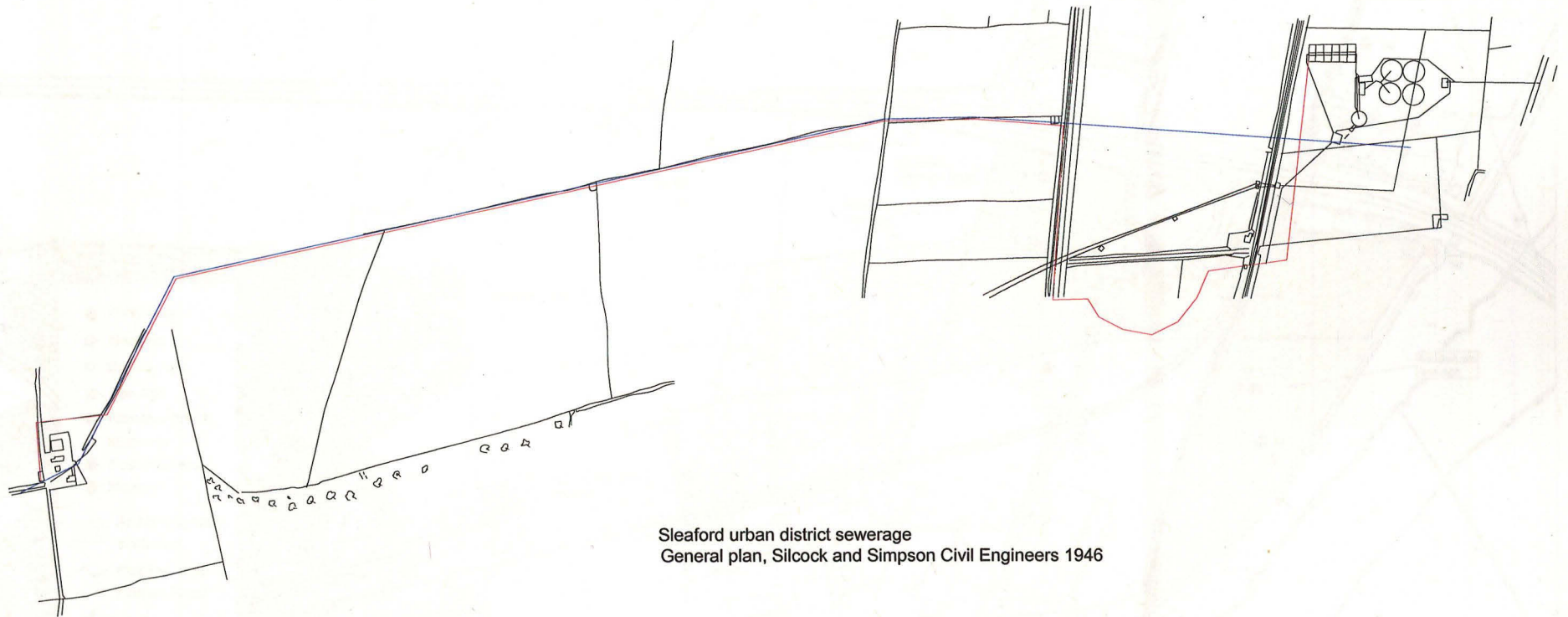


Figure 8: Extract from OS 2nd Ed. 25 inch Map 1906

Figure 9: Overlaid on OS Map (25 inch scale) (1906)



Sleaford urban district sewerage
General plan, Silcock and Simpson Civil Engineers 1946

- 1946 Sewer Pipeline
- Proposed Pipeline Route



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Holdingham Rising Main HRM04

Drawn by: TR

Report No: 181/04

Figure 9: Overlaid OS Map showing sewer pipeline 1946 (LAO/SLUDC 10/4)

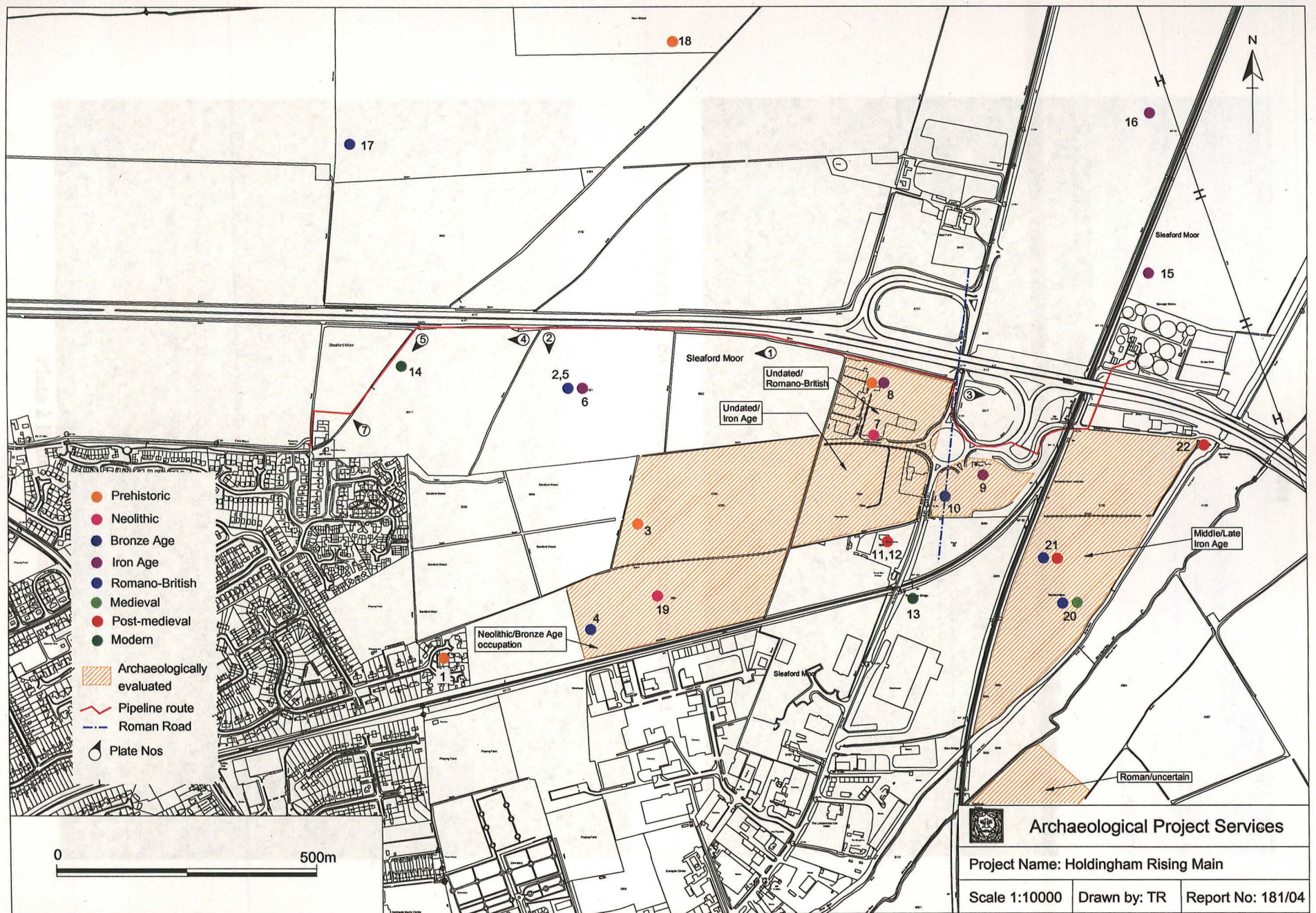


Figure 10: Archaeological sites, cropmarks and finds spots within the application area

Plates



Plate 1 General View of Route along A17, showing Sleaford Wood.



Plate 2 Rising Main Marker



Plate 3 Heavily Disturbed Ground to the East of A153



Plate 4 Line of Main Following South Bank of the A17



Plate 5 Pipeline Crossing Field Drain



Plate 6 The Route of the Pipeline at TF 068471

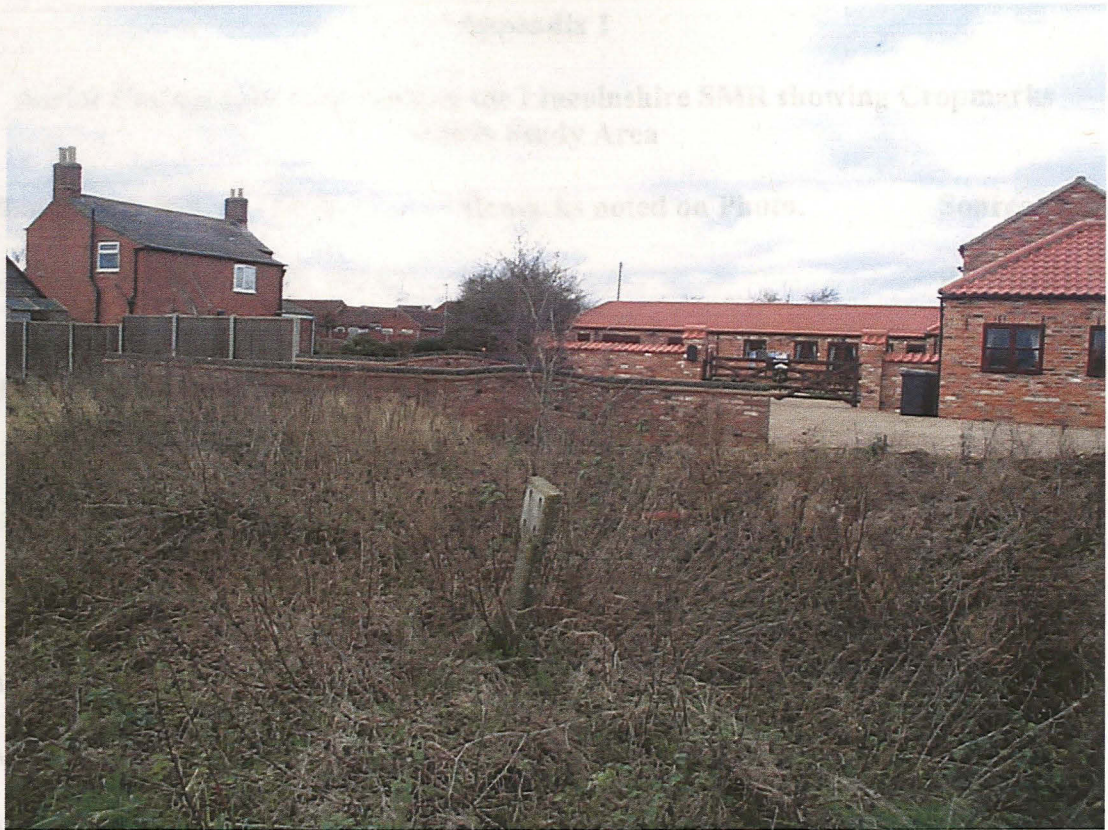


Plate 7 The Pipeline at Northfield Farm

Appendix 1

Aerial Photographs Consulted in the Lincolnshire SMR showing Cropmarks within Study Area

Photograph Ref.	NGR	Remarks noted on Photo.	Source
1518-23 TF 0543/2	TF 052433		RCHM(E)
1715-8 TF 0647/1	TF 06624714		RCHM(E)
1715-4 TF 0747/2	TF 07954705		RCHM(E)
1716-24 TF 0546/1	TF 05084645		RCHM(E)
1784-13 TF 0748/2	TF 07704770		RCHM(E)
ACL.72, ACL.76	TF 078459	'Belgic site' East of Sleaford.	CUCAP
AAA 55	TF 084477	Cropmarks North of Sleaford	CUCAP
ABK 36	TF 084477	Cropmarks Northeast of Sleaford	CUCAP
ABK 21	TF 067471	Cropmarks North of Sleaford	CUCAP

Appendix 2

GLOSSARY

Alluvium	Deposits laid down by water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea, and fresh water alluvium is laid down by rivers and in lakes.
Anglo-Saxon	Pertaining to the period when Britain was occupied by peoples from northern Germany, Denmark and adjacent areas. The period dates from approximately AD 450-1066.
Bronze Age	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
Chapel of Ease	A chapel provided for those that lived at some distance from the main parish church
Cropmark	A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological or geological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.
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.
Domesday Survey	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Geophysical Survey	Essentially non-invasive methods of examining below the ground surface by measuring deviations in the physical properties and characteristics of the earth. Techniques include magnetometry and resistivity survey.
Iron Age	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
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.
Neolithic	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500 - 2250 BC.
Old English	The language used by the Saxon (q.v.) occupants of Britain.
Palaeolithic	The 'Old Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 500000 - 11000 BC in Britain.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.

Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.
Ridge and Furrow	The remains of arable cultivation consisting of raised rounded strips separated by furrows. It is characteristic of open field agriculture.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany
Turnpike Roads	Turnpike trusts were established for many principal roads. An Act of Parliament of 1663 allowed them to levy tolls to pay for their maintenance.