



LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

**North Field, Market Deeping, Lincs.
Proposed Employment Park**

NGR: TF 1438 1158
Site Code: MDEP 05
LCNCC Museum Accn. No. 2005.61

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment

Report prepared for Lincolnshire Development

by
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LAS Report No. 811

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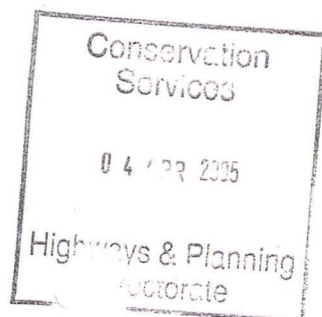
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Summary

The proposed development site is in an area close to the River Welland which has produced numerous finds dating from the Mesolithic to Romano-British periods. The site lies to the east of the Car Dyke Roman canal and north of an undated driveway cropmark. Nearby cropmark features include a circular feature, perhaps a Bronze Age burial site, south-west of the sports fields. Part or all of the application site was ploughed in the medieval period, which might explain the absence of cropmarks of earlier features on the application site; there may be a thin alluvial cover across the site. Undated archaeological features, probably Iron Age or Roman in date, have been found on adjacent land and are suspected to extend onto the western end of the site.

Introduction

Lindsey Archaeological Services (LAS) was commissioned in March 2005 by Lincolnshire Development to prepare an archaeological desk-based assessment and site walk over of a site east of the existing Northfields Industrial Estate, Market Deeping. The assessment forms part of an Environmental Impact Assessment for a proposed c.12.1ha (30 acres) employment park (Figs. 1 and 2).

The purpose of the desk-based assessment is to identify the archaeological potential of the application site by collating available existing information.

Planning Background

The application will be determined by South Kesteven District Council. As the result of a Scoping Exercise, the applicant was requested to provide an Environmental Impact Assessment with an archaeological component.

The Application Site

Market Deeping is located close to the southern limit of Lincolnshire and about 10km north of Peterborough. The settlement is a small town at the junction of the A15 Lincoln – Peterborough road and the A16 Stamford - Spalding road. The River Welland flows through Market Deeping, about 1.5km south of the site.

The application site is located in the North Field area, and is bounded to the north by part of the Market Deeping bypass. The western limit is the existing Northfields Industrial Estate. The

eastern edge of the site is just west of Swine's Meadow Drain, separated from it by a narrow band of farmland. Much of the application site is bounded to the south by sports fields and the premises of the Deeping Sports Club, which includes an old house known as Five Houses. At the eastern side of the sports club premises, the site is bounded by a field ditch from cultivated land. In March 2005, the site was divided between two landowners and was all under cultivation.

Methodology of Assessment

The term 'Cultural Heritage', as used in this component of the Environmental Statement, comprises buildings, roads, field systems, boundaries, artefacts and other evidence of past human activity or occupation (extant, recorded or inferred) affecting the application site or the surrounding study area. It includes Listed Buildings, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Conservation Areas, Historic Parks and Gardens, and all entries on the Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record.

A desk-based assessment of the application site, within a 0.5km surrounding area, was undertaken in order to identify and assess all archaeological constraints. This was supplemented by a site walk over on March 8th 2005. Research for the assessment was conducted by G. Tann between March 3rd and 17th 2005. The following sources were consulted and available information researched:

- Lincolnshire County Council County Archaeology Office (Sites and Monuments Record, National Mapping Programme overlay of cropmarks, 1971 Aerofilms vertical air photographs, oblique air photographs, parish file, previous reports)
- Lincolnshire Archives Office (Manuscript maps, Ordnance Survey maps, other documentary and published sources)
- Lincoln Central Library Reference Department, Local Studies Collection (published sources, press cuttings, Ordnance Survey maps)

Baseline Conditions

Topography and Geology

The application site lies either side of the 5m OD contour. There is a slight slope towards the south, and land slopes down slightly from both the east and west along the line of a removed field boundary to the north of the sports ground.

The drift geology of the application site is typical brown calcareous earths of the Badsey 2 Association. This material extends southwards past the village core and includes much of the village core of Deeping St James. Alluvial deposits are present about 500m east of Swine's Meadow Road, and to the south of the River Welland (Soil Survey 1983). The underlying geology is sands and gravels.

The Fenland Survey provided useful information about the landscape and occupation of the area east of Market Deeping village and east of the application site (Hayes and Lane 1992). It demonstrated that marine alluvium, both silts and clays, are seldom encountered in The Deepings, unlike elsewhere in the South Lincolnshire Fens. Instead, the dominant material is gravel, probably of Ipswichian deposition, overlain by patches of peat and clayey river alluvium from the River Welland. Palaeochannels within the early gravels have broken the original ground surface into an uneven terrain with the higher points exposed through the more recent but poorly dated alluvial cover. On these unmasked areas, archaeological material pre-dating the alluviation has been found.

Boreholes and Trial Pits

No geotechnical investigation has been undertaken on the application site for the proposed development. A geotechnical trial pit excavated in advance of construction of the Market Deeping bypass indicated the soil deposits on the north side of North Field Road, opposite the eastern end of the existing industrial estate (Haynes 1993). The pit encountered 0.15m of topsoil, above 0.2m of silty clay with occasional gravel inclusions; the clay may derive from alluvium deposits. Sands and gravels were found about 0.35m below ground level, extending to at least 1.5m below ground level.

Archaeological and Historical Background (Fig. 2)

Previously recorded sites and findspots from the vicinity are listed in the Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record (HER). These have been allocated Primary Record Numbers (PRNs) and these are used in the text. A summary list of entries in the vicinity is provided in Appendix 1.

The national and regional archaeological importance of the Welland Valley has been recognised since the late 1950s (RCHM 1960). Exploitation of the gravel and alluvium-derived soils is known from the Mesolithic period onwards and a glimpse of the complex palimpsest of Bronze Age and later overlain sites has been recorded on air photographs. The site and adjacent land were not included within the area investigated by the Fenland Project, although a few fields within 0.5km of the eastern end of the site were fieldwalked (Hayes and Lane 1992, 182-191). Archaeological features and ridge and furrow cropmarks have been identified on air photographs of the application area, sketch-plotted by Rog Palmer as part of the Fenland Project (RCHME 1991).

There are no archaeological sites or artefacts listed on the Lincolnshire HER for the application site, and no archaeological investigations have been conducted on the site in the past. The closest archaeological investigations were those conducted during preparation and groundworks for the A16 Market Deeping bypass, which forms the northern limit of the application site (Trimble 2000). A single geotechnical trial pit to the north of North Field Road

was inspected while open, and three post-medieval finds were collected from both Trial Pits 29 and 30 just beyond the application site (Haynes 1993).

Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age

Mesolithic and early Neolithic activity in Market Deeping is likely to have been very limited, although there seems to have been extensive human activity in the area from the mid-Neolithic, increasing in the Early Bronze Age. A single certain sherd of Neolithic pottery was recovered by the Fenland Survey from a mixed period assemblage beside Towngate East at PRN **34045**, 1km east of the application site. This was the only Neolithic sherd found in the SW Lincolnshire Fens. Limited fieldwalking by LAS staff in 1998 to the south of Towngate East found two worked flints PRN **35427** opposite the present application site, but these were incorrectly plotted in that report (Tann 1998). Another flint PRN **35716** was found during archaeological investigation prior to development within the Northfields Industrial Estate in 2002. Several barrows (burial mounds or the ploughed-out sites) are known, especially in a fen-edge scatter at the edge of Deeping Fen. One such circular feature has been identified south-west of Five Houses (now the Deeping Sports Club premises), about 30m south of the modern road.

An apparent decline in activity in this area has been inferred from the scarcity of pottery of the Middle and Late Bronze Age. This may be a real decline (from about 1850 BC) related to drainage deteriorating as sea level rise affected the adjacent fenland, or a misleading impression produced by later river alluvium masking the occupied ground surfaces.

Iron Age and Roman

Air photographs show cropmarks of two parallel linear ditches, probably defining a droveway, extending from the east side of the Car Dyke and leading north-east for at least 3km. The droveway follows a slight ridge, visible from ground level south of Towngate East, and is crossed by the modern road immediately west of Sheepskin Hall Farm. To the west, closer to the Car Dyke the slightly sinuous droveway changes angle and heads directly for the point where Towngate East crosses Car Dyke. The close proximity of the droveway to possible Bronze Age burial sites may mean that it was deliberately aligned along upstanding mounds which have since been flattened.

The droveway is flanked by numerous rectangular enclosures on its southern side; some are apparently fields, but others might be protecting or draining habitation sites. A local trade may well have included salt; saltern features have been recorded at Hall Meadow PRN **34066** (about 1km east of the application site). Another saltern site has been suggested at the junction of Towngate East and Linchfield Road, where borehole records indicate unexplained 'brick' material to about 2m below ground level (Tann 1998). Close to Hall Meadow is an Iron Age findspot PRN **34045**, but the nearby sites of PRN **34043-4** and PRN **34066-7** also contain large quantities of Romano-British sherds. On both the latter sites, an absence of pottery dating

between 150BC and 100 AD was noted, perhaps indicating another break in occupation occasioned by a rising water table. A cropmark complex 400m east of Hall Meadow Road appears to extend further west, but resolution of the western features is vague, which may indicate thick alluvium is masking archaeological remains.

In addition to the ditched droveway crossing below Towngate East, another local transport link in the Roman period was the Car Dyke. This feature has been interpreted for many years as the remains of a partly artificial Romano-British watercourse leading from Lincoln to Cambridgeshire. The extent to which it was used as a canal has been disputed, but it almost certainly served as a navigable route and was probably used for some trade of bulky materials. The two features probably had some association, with the droveway exploiting the fen-edge and fen but providing access to the inland zone. A concentration of Roman metal finds, particularly brooches, at PRN **34695** (500m east of Car Dyke, and immediately adjacent to the west side of the application site) may mark an occupation site between the canal and the droveway, now mostly covered by development. Other occupation sites at PRN **34054-6** (Sheepskin Hall), **34066-7** (Hall Meadow) and those north of Towngate East, **34043**, **34044** and **34045** could possibly represent a single extensive complex, although present indications are of separate concentrations. A single sherd of Roman pottery PRN **35410** was found in 1998 on the field surface south of Towngate East, opposite the eastern end of the application site (Tann 1998). The same fieldwalking exercise recovered sixteen mid-second century/mid third century Roman sherds from the field west of Sheepskin Hall, 0.5km east of Swines Meadow Road.

A series of archaeological investigations have been conducted in advance of development at the Northfields Industrial Estate (Casa and Wood 1997; Brooks and Laws, 2000; Snee 2001; Cope-Faulkner 2002; Northants Arch 2003). These have identified pits, post-holes and north-south aligned ditches which have not been dated but may be of Romano-British date. The features have mostly been found immediately north of Towngate East, but the edge of a possible ditched enclosure has been recognised close to the western edge of the present application site (Brooks and Laws 2000; Snee 2001).

Saxon, Medieval and Post-medieval

The modern road west-east through Market Deeping village, appears to be a continuation in use of the Iron Age/Roman droveway. If this is so, the present crossing point of Car Dyke may re-use a Roman crossing point, presumably a bridge. This would have acted as a focus for Saxon settlement, probably forming the basis of the medieval and modern settlements.

A causeway crossing the fen to Spalding is recorded around the early fifteenth century, but its course is not known (Hayes and Lane 1992, 172). It is believed that the road was an improvement of a yet earlier causeway which led across Deeping Fen, perhaps from Baston, but Market Deeping remains a possible location. The documentary source claims that the road,

of logs and sand, was constructed by Egelric in the late twelfth century. Hayes and Lane suggested a route below the former A16 road, or skirting the River Welland on a route now occupied by minor roads, but multiple causeways are possible. The cropmark driveway could possibly have remained in use until replaced by Towngate Outgang (now Towngate East), as both Sheepskin Hall Farm and Swines Meadow Farm lie beside the driveway, but the siting of those farms might merely coincide with the ridge of higher ground. Certainly the present course of Towngate East is likely to follow a medieval road towards the fen-edge.

Market Deeping and Deeping St James are thought to originate from a single East Deeping parish, with West Deeping to the west a separate parish. The parish boundaries of Market Deeping and Deeping St James were complicated in the nineteenth century, as illustrated on the 1815 Enclosure map (LAO Kesteven Award 22). Part of the Lincolnshire Archives map of Deeping St James parish is absent, but the Market Deeping map indicates the various disconnected lands, and notes that the omitted areas belong to the other parish. Until sometime after the end of the nineteenth century, the Market Deeping/Deeping St. James parish boundary crossed Towngate Outgang Road, east of the Car Dyke and close to the western edge of the application site, and extended north to the Langtoft boundary (OS 1905). The changed boundary was to the west of the application site, within the existing Northfields Trading Estate.

Air photographs, coupled with a study of field boundaries marked on the 1905 1:10,560 Ordnance Survey map appear to offer some indication as to the medieval and post-medieval use of the application site and surrounding land. The name 'North Field' straddles two parish boundaries, suggesting that it does not relate to a single medieval open field, but parts of two amalgamated fields. North Field is mentioned in a forged chronicle (claimed to be written c. 1076, but probably c. 1139) and described as extending either side of the Car Dyke, although this description would remain true for the smaller area between Car Dyke and the nineteenth century parish boundary (Hallam 1965, 116-7). Land to the east of that parish boundary in Deeping St James was known as North Meadow in 1229, in a context that reflects that the landuse had already partially changed from meadow to arable (document cited by Hallam 1965, 141-2).

The field boundaries either side of Towngate Outgang Road respect that road (with the exception of those beside the Car Dyke and the parish boundary, and possibly one boundary at the eastern edge of Five Houses), indicating that the road's course at least as far east as Five Houses predates the field layout. The same is true for fields either side of Swines's Meadow Road.

Narrow linear field shapes surviving in the late nineteenth century at Five Houses seem to reflect ploughed strips within a medieval open field, but these are aligned contrary to the recorded ridge and furrow to both the west and the east. The evidence of air photographs and

archaeological recording is of north-east/south-west furrows in other fields, including PRN 35717 (HSL 1971; Brooks and Laws 2000; Cope-Faulkner 2002). As the Five Houses landblock is not shown on the 1670 survey, these boundaries need not predate the map.

The north-west/south east aligned field boundaries west of Five Houses and north of Towngate East appear to be aligned with the narrow fields (and to have extended north to the Langtoft parish boundary prior to construction of North Field Road) but have been superimposed onto the open fields. The survival of the ridge and furrow as earthworks or soil/cropmarks into the twentieth century could indicate that the land was turned to pasture, and this would explain the superimposed field system.

A track is marked on the 1815 map, extending the Langtoft lane called Meadow Lane and Johnson's Road across the parish boundary as far as North Field Road. The line continues as a field boundary to Towngate East (forming the western boundary of the application site), and is probably an abandoned lane.

A field boundary to the north of the 'short cut', anomalously aligned north-west/south-east does not conform to the presumed alignment of either the medieval ploughed strips or the post-medieval arrangement of Five Houses and the superimposed field system to its west. The boundary line extends beyond North Field Road to the Langtoft parish boundary but no further. The southernmost field had a small pond close to its eastern side. The alignment of this field boundary is difficult to explain or date; part is parallel to the Catchwater Drain, but the southern end abruptly reduces the intervening space. One possibility is that it formed part of an area of pasture, with cattle or sheep directed by the funnel of ditches towards a field entrance on Towngate East. Whatever the explanation, both this boundary and the other linking it with the drain are probably very late eighteenth or early nineteenth century in date.

The land block known in the nineteenth century as Five Houses appears to represent a late seventeenth or eighteenth century enclosure of part of the open arable fields. It is likely that dwellings were built on that parcel at that date, although the structures marked on later maps may be replacements. A date stone on the wall of the most easterly building is inscribed 1767, and Five Houses is named in the 1815 Enclosure Award (LAO Kesteven Award 22, p32). Before the early nineteenth century, two further properties had been built in the field west of the original land block.

The field boundaries to the east of Five Houses probably have a more complicated origin. Of these, the simplest to interpret is the south-west/north-east boundary which extends from Towngate East to Swine's Meadow Road. This could be a early course of the road, but it cannot be traced beyond the minor road, and is best explained as a fossilised short cut across open land. From its position, it is probably contemporary with the post-medieval outlying occupation

site at Five Houses. The short cut did not survive excavation of the Catchwater Drain alongside Swine's Meadow Road. Neither the road nor the drain is not shown on the 1763 map (based on a 1670 survey), but is referred to in the 1815 enclosure award text (LAO 2 Deeping Fen 1/5/1; LAO Kesteven Award 22).

Two abraded medieval sherds were found to the north of the wartime campsite, west of the application site, during limited gridded fieldwalking in March 1992 (HTL 1992, their Field 9). The investigation was conducted in advance of construction of the A16 bypass. A thin background scatter of medieval and post-medieval sherds PRN **35407** and **35408** was found south of Towngate East from fieldwalking in 1998 (Tann 1998). All these finds are assumed to derive from manuring of fields, using dung transported from the village. The spread of post-medieval and modern material seen on the surface of the application site during the walkover in March 2005 is denser and is likely to derive from dwellings in the close vicinity, such as Five Houses and Swine Meadow Farm.

Twentieth Century

The existing Northfields Industrial Estate occupies a twentieth century military defence site, described on the Lincolnshire HER as the site of RAF Langtoft, a World War II radar station and pill box (PRN **34961**). Details of the site are thoroughly confused in readily available sources with another installation beside Langtoft Drain Road (also Market Deeping parish) but the site was probably in use from the 1940s until the 1950s. This was separate from the emergency landing strip, which was west of Millfield Road, Market Deeping (Hancock 1978, 120,122). Air photographs of January 1947 show no evidence of any buildings on the campsite, placing its development well after the end of the war. The Ordnance Survey revision of the mid-1950s omits the camp, but marks a 'Wireless Station' beside the northern edge of the application site (Fig. 3; OS 1958). The feature comprised two rectangular sheds, within a small compound; its site was completely removed before or during construction of the Market Deeping bypass. Another similar structure was present east of Swine's Meadow Road. The best evidence of the defence site is an air photograph of 1971 which shows a camp with numerous buildings (HSL R13 3625).

The Five Houses landblock is now used by a number of commercial organisations and the Deepings Sports Club.

Site Visit

The site was visited on March 8th 2005. Access on foot was from Swine's Meadow Road, although vehicular access is also possible from the Market Deeping Bypass or through the existing Northfields Industrial Estate. The application site extends over three fields, with a possible future access crossing a sports field. The western field contained a beet crop growing through stubble and very little of the topsoil was visible (Pl. 2). To the south of this field is the

sports field, across which west-east aligned cropmarks mark the position of backfilled plough furrows (Pl. 3).

A backfilled ditch and recently planted hedge separate the western field from the remaining part of the application site (Pl. 4). A hedgeline subdividing that landblock has been removed, but a linear depression marks its course. It was unclear whether the depression was only a former ditch, or whether it had coincided with a small watercourse; the field slopes slightly down to the hedgeline from both east and west (Pl. 5). This broader field had been ploughed and drilled, with an arable crop appearing in places (Pl. 6). The weathered field surface was ideal for fieldwalking, apart from ubiquitous pieces of the previous sugar beet crop. A transect was walked around the perimeter of the field, but only late post-medieval pottery fragments were seen.

The Market Deeping bypass forms the northern side of the site. At this location, the new road has been constructed slightly south of the precursor North Field Road, removing the former field boundaries and also removing all trace of the wireless station.

Planning Policies

The Lincolnshire Development employment park application will be considered by South Kesteven District Council. The *Lincolnshire Structure Plan (Deposit Draft)* contains relevant county-wide policies (LCC 1998, 100-109). The *South Kesteven Local Plan: Written Statement* was adopted in April 1995 (SKDC 1995). Extracts relevant to archaeological issues are appended (Appendix 3).

Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Listed Buildings

There are no Listed Buildings or Scheduled Ancient Monuments on or adjacent to the application site. The nearest scheduled monument is the medieval and later village cross (SAM 22668) at Towngate, about 1km to the west. The socket-stone base and shaft fragment is also a Grade II listed building. The Middle Iron Age settlement site 1km to the east on Hall Meadow, PRN 34066, is designated as SAM 20811. An extensive Roman occupation site at Prior's Meadow in Deeping St James, about 2km to the south, is also a scheduled monument (SAM 179, PRN 30047). The Car Dyke is a scheduled monument at some locations, but not in this vicinity.

The setting of Listed Buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments which might be affected by development is a consideration in the planning process, and intervisibility and audibility are considered.

Hedgerows, Historic Parks and Gardens, Ancient Woodland

The application site is not in the vicinity of any Historic Parks and Gardens nor areas of Ancient Woodland. No hedgerows are known to be affected by the proposals. Some of the hedgerows bordering the Five Houses development appear to have originally defined narrow blocks, possibly of medieval tofts and crofts.

There is a Country Stewardship Scheme in place which includes farmland adjoining Swines Meadow Road.

Conservation Areas

The closest designated Conservation Area is in Market Deeping village, comprising Market Place, High Street, Church Street and Stamford Road.

Archaeological Potential of the Application Site

The only known archaeological feature within the area of the application site is levelled ridge and furrow in fields to the north-west of the sports fields. This is recorded on air photographs, and has been identified during development of the industrial estate to the west.

Market Deeping lies within an area of especially dense archaeological remains, reflecting its position close to both the fen-edge and the River Welland. The Roman Car Dyke long distance canal/drainage feature passes 450m west of the site. The application site is within 300m of an extensive and dense complex of archaeological cropmarks, representing a late prehistoric or Roman droveway flanked by enclosures of fields and habitation sites. Among the cropmarks are circular features which might represent levelled Bronze Age burial mounds; worked flints and a late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age stone axe-hammer have been found on adjacent land. Although the cropmarks show the majority of features to the southern side of the droveway, it is unclear whether the density actually differs, as differences in crop and ground conditions may have influenced the differential crop growth. There is certainly some potential for Iron Age and Romano-British occupation features within the application site, but previous archaeological investigation suggests that these features may be peripheral to the main complex.

The application site is also crossed by part of a field boundary which does not appear to respect the medieval open field arrangement. This assessment suggests that the boundary is of post-medieval origin, but has been unable to determine any reason for its anomalous course.

At present, there is no evidence for archaeological remains of national or regional significance on the application site. The cropmark enclosure site under the Northfields Industrial Estate is thought to extend eastwards onto the application site, but its remaining extent is unknown. Features associated with that enclosure might be of regional significance but those already investigated were of very limited interest.

Potential Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Development

Potential Archaeological Impact

Groundworks for the proposed access roads, infrastructure and building foundations are likely to disturb any archaeological deposits which survive on the site. Previous investigations on land to the west found a shallow topsoil (0.15m – 0.2m thick), with undisturbed natural sands and gravels at a minimum of 0.4m below ground level.

Significance of the Identified Potential Archaeological Impacts

Construction Impacts

Almost all archaeological impact of the proposed employment park will be limited to earthmoving during the construction phase. If any buried archaeological remains are encountered, the works will have a **Moderate (Adverse)** impact, as the archaeological resource is finite and unique. A more serious effect, with damage to unknown archaeological deposits of national or international significance is possible, but considered unlikely.

Continuing Impacts

There is likely to be **Minor (Adverse)** further impact to buried deposits when underground infrastructure is renewed.

Preferred Mitigation Options

The geophysical survey conducted in advance of extension of the existing Northfields Industrial Estate identified various magnetic anomalies which were interpreted as archaeological features (Brooks and Laws 2000). These were concentrated at the southern end of the surveyed area, and the majority of features of probable archaeological significance were recorded there during subsequent watching briefs (Snee 2001; Cope-Faulkner 2002). The exercise indicates that geophysical survey is of use on the thin gravel-based soils to the north of Towngate East. Extensive geophysical survey over the present application site could indicate whether the complex of archaeological features known to the south extends northwards. The proposed future additional access crosses a sports field, and in that area only geophysical survey could identify buried deposits without disturbing the surface.

The archaeological features found during watching briefs to the west of the application site were undateable, and, if replicated, this would reduce the contribution of random or targeted evaluation trenching. An extensive watching brief could be expected to identify and record some archaeological features during groundworks, but the conditions would need to be good for the results to be useful.

Significance of the Identified Potential Archaeological Impacts after Mitigation

The suggested mitigation measures are believed to reduce the potential archaeological impact of the proposed development to an acceptable level.

Discussion

The site of Market Deeping on gravels at the edge of the Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire fenland, beside the River Welland, has contributed to its attraction to human settlement since the Mesolithic period. This increased with the development of salt processing in the Iron Age and probably also the Late Bronze Age. Cropmarks of the sites of burial mounds and ditches defining a droveway extending into the fen are recorded from fields to the south of Towngate East, and the droveway is associated with enclosures of Iron Age or Roman habitation and farming sites. These archaeological features are dense to the south of the road, but less numerous to the north, and none have been recorded on the application site itself. Archaeological investigations immediately to the west, during expansion of the Northfields Industrial Estate, have indicated that ditches from an undated enclosure extend eastwards onto the application site.

During the medieval period, the site lay within East Deeping, later Deeping St James parish (becoming part of Market Deeping in the twentieth century). Until no later than the early thirteenth century, this part of the parish appears to have been meadowland in North Meadow. The meadow was then gradually turned under the plough, perhaps as lower lying ground was drained or in response to a temporary rise in population. Survival of cropmarks of ridge and furrow within and around the application site indicates that ploughing was sustained long enough for pronounced ridges and furrows to form.

A reversion to pasture or meadow seems to have been accompanied by the imposition of a field system which was not dictated by plough headlands and furrow direction. This may have been at the same date as creation of the small settlement cluster at Five Houses, which is absent on the 1670 survey but one of the extant buildings claims to date from 1767 (LAO 2 Deeping Fen 1/5/1). Air photographs taken in 1947 show another band of land along the north side of Towngate East, probably taken out of the revised field system and used for ribbon development along the roadside. Some dwelling sites along this band may not have developed into twentieth century buildings; none are recorded on the 1670 survey and the 1815 map was not available for consultation (LAO 2 Deeping Fen 1/5/1; LAO Kesteven Award 22). A very different localised field system to the east and north of Five Houses is probably later than that, but may predate construction of Swine Meadow Drain (not mapped in c 1670, but extant in 1815).

The poor quality of the ridge and furrow soilmarks in 1947 show that the site had been under cultivation for some years. The air photographs show a small compound to the south of North

Field Road, within the application site, which served as a Wireless Station. This had been removed before 1992. After 1947, land now occupied by the Northfields Industrial Estate was used as a camp by the RAF or army; this has been thought to be the location of RAF Langtoft but sources confuse details with a different site. Many of the camp buildings remained in 1971.

Conclusion

Development of the application site can be expected to disturb and/or remove archaeological remains of Iron Age and later date, although only levelled medieval ridge and furrow is known at present. The absence of cropmarks may result from alluvium cover, or indicate that medieval ploughing has disturbed and masked archaeological remains.

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Geoff Tann
Lindsey Archaeological Services
31st March 2005

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Archive Summary

Correspondence

Photographs: colour prints, LAS digital film no. 05/33/3080010-28

APPENDIX 1

APPENDIX 1

Reported Archaeological Sites and Findspots in the Vicinity

(Source: Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Record)

PRN	NGR (all TF)	Description
33431	1330 1130	Cropmark complex with ring ditch, round barrow, henge and other features
33432	1491 1251	Early Bronze Age stone axe hammer
33436	1329 1079	Medieval pilgrim's cross base. SAM 22668; LB II.
34043	1587 1154	Iron Age settlement features
34045	1605 1159	Neolithic and Bronze Age flints; Iron Age pottery
34054	1511 1097	Romano British occupation site
34055	1527 1108	Romano British occupation site
34056	1521 1135	Romano British occupation site
34695	1420 1130	Large concentration of Romano-British metalwork, particularly brooches of 1stC AD date reported
34753		Car Dyke Roman artificial watercourse
34758	1487 1216	cropmark of ringditch
34759	1485 1250	cropmarks of field boundaries
34760	152 126	Undated occupation site
34761	1555 1265	Undated occupation site
34959	1380 1080	World War II defence; Royal Observer Corps post
34961	1390 1110	World War II defence; RAF Langtoft. Hexagonal pill box site, and GCI radar station site, opened 1940s, closed 1950s.
33437	1368 1030	Anglo-Saxon fragments, St Guthlac's Church
35348	1413 1140	Undated ditches and pit recorded during watching brief; ditches may form part of an enclosure. Undated, but possibly Romano-British
35349	1420 1132	13th-15thC pottery scatter from watching brief
35350	1420 1132	Post-medieval pottery, tile and glass scatter from watching brief
35351	1440 1095	Cropmarks of possible Roman road, enclosures, ring-ditches and trackways
35403	1407 1101	Scatter of late medieval and post-medieval pottery
35404	142 111	13th-15thC pottery sherd from fieldwalking
35405	1419 1112	Post-medieval pottery from fieldwalking
35406	142 111	Roman tile fragment from fieldwalking
35407	1437 1122	Medieval and post-medieval finds from fieldwalking
35408	1455 1129	Medieval and post-medieval finds from fieldwalking
35409	147 113+B44	Medieval pottery sherd from fieldwalking
35410	147 113	Roman pottery sherd from fieldwalking
35411	147 113	Post-medieval finds from fieldwalking
35427	142 111	Two pieces worked flint from fieldwalking
35428	148 113	Worked flint from fieldwalking
35668	1395 1080	Two Roman ditches, and 2 sherds 2nd/3rdC pottery
35669	1398 1079	Undated pit

35670	1395 1080	Natural palaeochannel
35694	1334 1144	Six worked flints
35695	1334 1144	Medieval pottery scatter (25 sherds)
35697	1334 1144	Romano-British pottery scatter (12 sherds)
35705	1384 1150	Undated boundary ditches
35706	1454 1186	Undated boundary ditch from trial trenching on bypass route
35716	1413 1140	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flint scraper from watching brief
35717	1413 1140	Medieval plough furrows from watching brief
36044	1348 1087	Towngate Farm. LB.
36528	138 108	Undated ditches, gully and pit
36529	138 108	Medieval plough furrows and post-medieval pottery
60706		Car Dyke, Langtoft

APPENDIX 2

APPENDIX 2

Extracts from Lincolnshire County Council's Lincolnshire Structure Plan, Deposit Draft: 'Shaping the County's Future' (LCC 1998).

Policy 62: Conservation of the Historic Built Environment

Provision will be made to ensure that the character and appearance of the historic built environment is protected and/or enhanced. In particular:

- Listed Buildings should be protected from demolition, inappropriate alteration or other adverse change to their character or setting*

Policy 63: Archaeological Heritage

Development adversely affecting an archaeological site of national importance (whether scheduled or not) or its setting, will not normally be permitted

Development affecting an archaeological site of regional or local importance will be considered having regard to its intrinsic importance and the need for the proposed development

Where development is permitted, satisfactory arrangements for the preservation in situ of archaeology within the development, or (where appropriate), the excavation and recording of the archaeological remains will be required

APPENDIX 3

APPENDIX 3

South Kesteven Local Plan: Written Statement April 1995

(extracts from the adopted plan)

Policy Objectives

- 7.9. The policy objectives of this Local Plan, insofar as they relate to the conservation of the built environment are to:
- i) Conserve and enhance the architectural and historic heritage of the District, whether comprising individual buildings or whole areas;
 - ii) Keep listed and other buildings of character in a good state of repair and, where necessary, secure their adaptation to sympathetic new uses; and
 - iii) Protect scheduled Ancient Monuments and sites of major archaeological significance from development and ensure that surveys and recording of other sites of potential archaeological interest are carried out prior to development.

POLICIES AND PROPOSALS

Sites of Archaeological Interest

POLICY C1:

PLANNING PERMISSION WILL NOT NORMALLY BE GIVEN FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH WOULD DESTROY OR ADVERSELY AFFECT THE HISTORIC VALUE AND SETTING OF SCHEDULED MONUMENTS AND SITES OF MAJOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE AS SHOWN ON THE PROPOSALS MAP.

- 7.14. Scheduled monuments and important archaeological sites, whether in the form of standing remains or buried deposits, provide tangible evidence of the way of life or past generations. They are limited in number, and once destroyed or mutilated, cannot be authentically replaced. It is therefore a major priority to ensure that such features, together with their historic settings, are not threatened by the effects of new development.

POLICY C2:

IN AREAS WHERE DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS AFFECT OTHER KNOWN SITES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE, OR SITES WHERE THERE IS AN INDICATION THAT ARCHAEOLOGICAL MATERIAL MAY EXIST, THE DISTRICT COUNCIL WILL INCLUDE CONDITIONS TO ALLOW ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION TO TAKE PLACE PRIOR TO DEVELOPMENT INCLUDING, AS APPROPRIATE, EXCAVATION, RECOVERY, RECORDING AND STORAGE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES AND FINDS, AND MEASURES TO PROTECT THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST DURING DEVELOPMENT.

Where appropriate the District Council will seek to reach agreement with developers over alterations to development proposals in order to secure the preservation of significant archaeology in situ.

- 7.11. The desirability of preserving sites of archaeological significance is a material consideration in the assessment of development proposals and will be taken into account whenever appropriate. Where expert advice indicates the existence or likely presence of archaeological material on development sites, consideration will be given to entering formal agreements with applicants or imposing suitable planning conditions to

protect or record such material. Any costs incurred in investigating and safeguarding the archaeology of development sites will be expected to be borne by the developer.

- 7.12. Where development sites include areas of archaeological importance, the impact of the proposals on such areas will be carefully assessed. If necessary, developers will be required to amend the form and layout of the development so as to eliminate or reduce to an acceptable level any elements which would otherwise cause damage to significant in situ archaeology. Such measures may on occasion result in the expectations for development of a site being reduced.

THE FIGURES

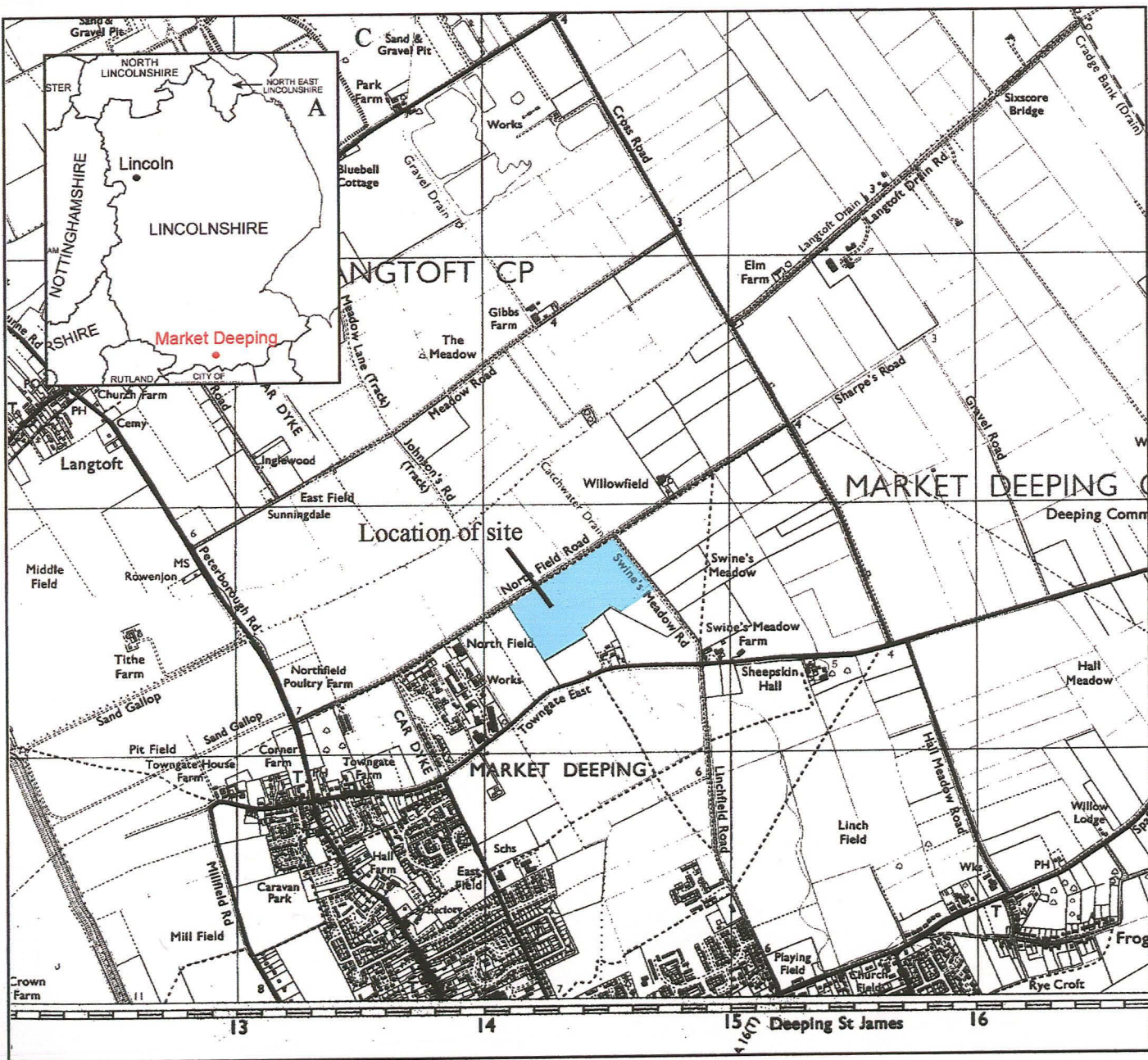
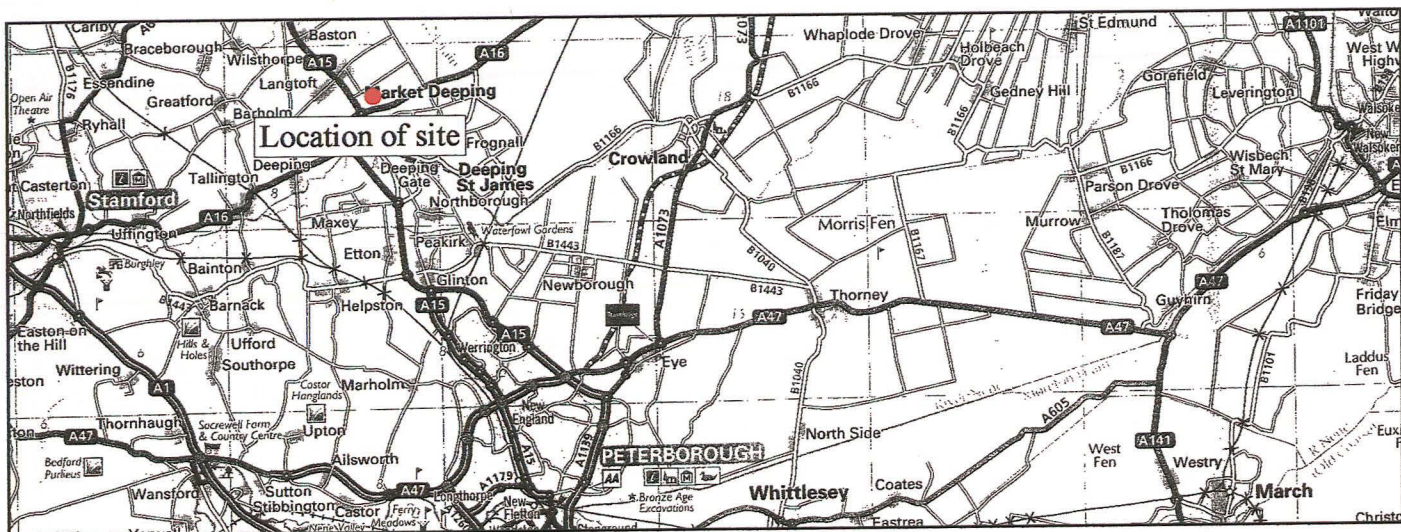


Fig. 1 Location of Market Deeping (C based on the 1986 1:25,000 Ordnance Survey Pathfinder map Sheet 877. © Crown Copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 100002165).

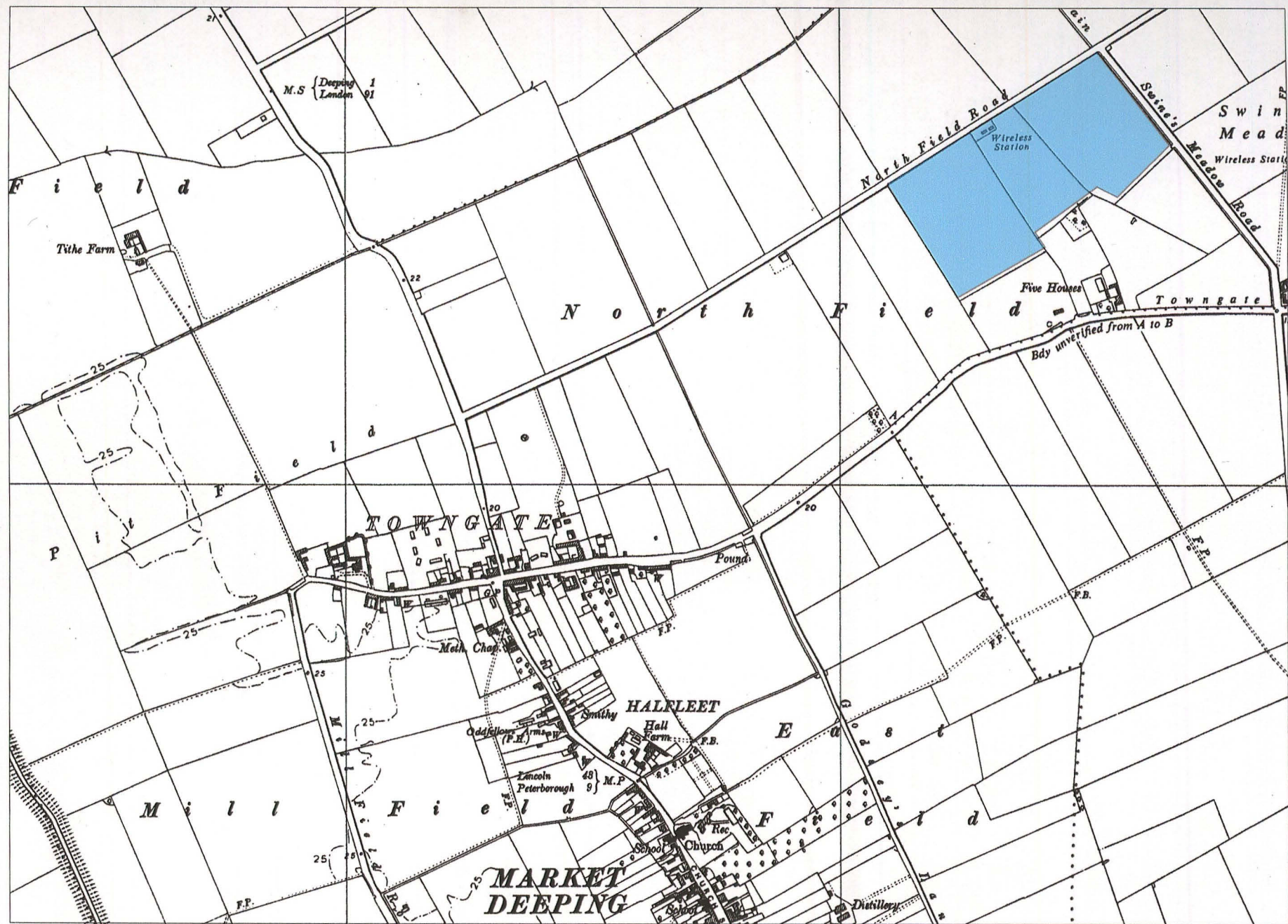
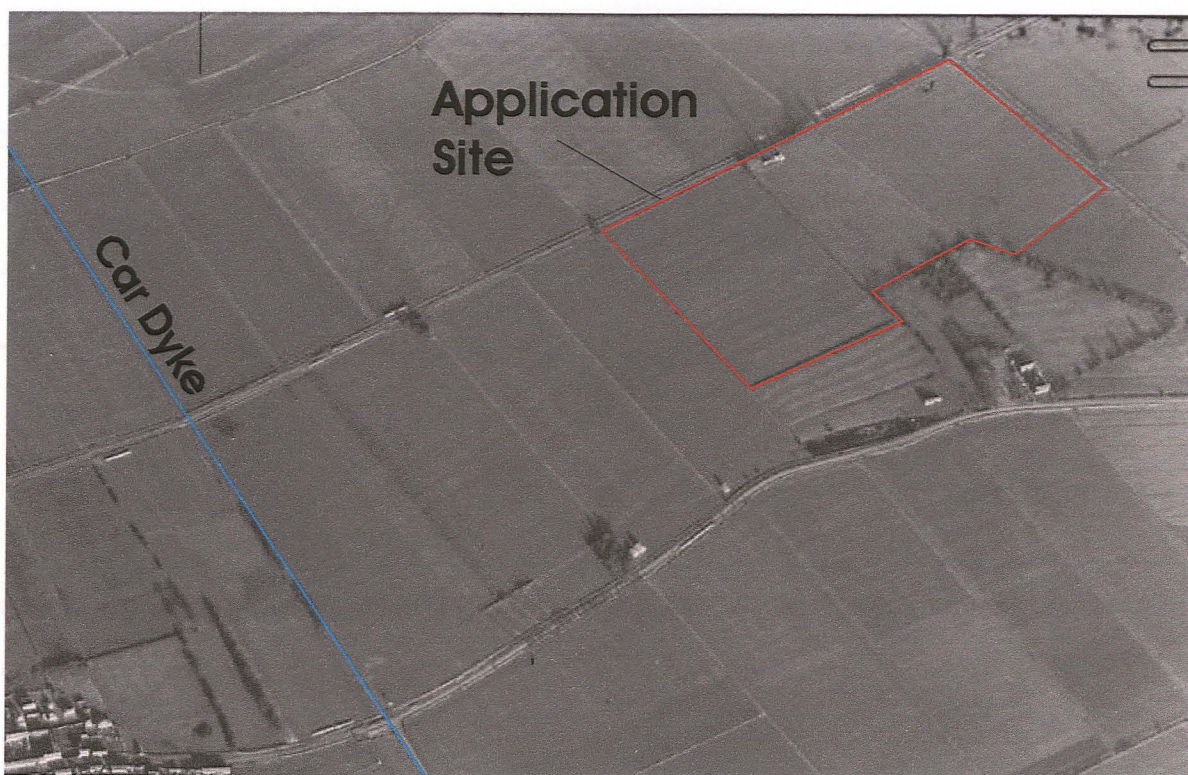


Fig. 3 The application site in 1955-6 (based on the 1958 Ordnance Survey 1:10,560 map Sheets TF 11SE and 11SW. © Crown Copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 100002165).

THE PLATES



PI. 1 Air photograph showing the application site and surrounding land in January 1947 (RAF CPE UK 1932 Frame 1078. 17/1/1947).



PI. 2 The field at the western side of the application site (looking north-east, with Northfields Industrial Estate to the left).



Pl. 3 Darker grass marking the position of backfilled medieval plough furrows in the sports field to the south of the application site (looking south across the possible future site access).



Pl. 4 Backfilled ditch separating the western and eastern parts of the site (looking south).



PI. 5 View along the line of the removed field boundary behind Five Houses (looking south east from the northern edge of the site).



PI. 6 Fields forming the eastern side of the application site (looking south-east).