



LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

**5 Lindum Road, Lincoln
Archaeological Watching Brief**

NGR: SK977771 714484

Site Code.: LRRDS05

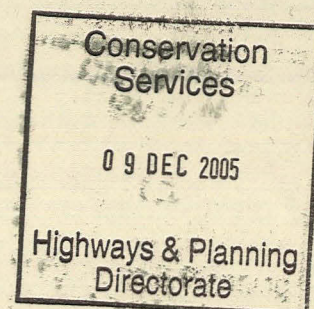
Accession No.: 2005.258

Planning Application Reference: 2005/0658/LBC

**Report for
Page Nelson Solicitors**

by

M. McDaid



**LAS Report No. 888
December 2005**

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Summary

An archaeological watching brief was carried out during the replacement of a drain. Much of the replacement work cut through ground which had previously been disturbed by the earlier services. In the area of the drain trench was brick rubble, possibly demolition of a Victorian building, overlying topsoil.

Introduction

Lindsey Archaeological Services was commissioned by Page Nelson Solicitors in November 2005 to undertake an archaeological watching brief at the above site (Fig. 1). The work was carried out in accordance with the brief set by the Lincoln City Archaeologist dated October 2005, and general requirements set out in the *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* published by the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council (1998). Work commenced, and was completed, 05/12 2005. The site was recorded by Geoff Tann.

Site Location and Description

No. 5 Lindum Road is located on the west side of Lindum Road, north of the Clasketgate junction. The groundworks were at the rear of the plot, east of Danesgate (Fig. 2, Pl. 1). The site lay within Conservation Area 1 (Cathedral and City Centre), and the building is Grade II Listed. The works monitored also included any connections outside the property boundary.

Planning Background

Listed Building Consent was granted for the installation of replacement drains and inspection manhole, subject to an archaeological watching brief.

Archaeological Background

The site was located at c.10mOD within the Roman lower city and close to the medieval street Danesgate. It was positioned close to the line of the Roman and later city defences. Important Roman finds, including inscriptions on tombstone fragments, were found nearby in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

A watching brief at this address in 1988 identified modern rubble above brown loam containing post-medieval artefacts within about 0.55m from ground level. Solid deposits were found at about 7m below ground level. As the current work involved replacement of an existing drain system, the potential for

archaeological remains was not considered particularly high and the watching brief was required to confirm this.

Aims and Objectives

The purpose of the archaeological watching brief was to:

- record any archaeological deposits disturbed during groundworks at the above site and to provide results for accession to the County SMR and the Lincoln UAD.

The archaeological potential of the pipe trenches was thought to be limited as it was very likely that the ground had been dug up on numerous previous occasions.

Method

The groundworks were monitored by an experienced archaeologist attending when required. A full written (single context) and photographic record was made of the site, including site plans at a scale of 1:20, along with 1:10 sections.

The trench base and sides were hand-cleaned, when appropriate, to enable sufficient information about form, development date and stratigraphic relationships of deposits to be recorded.

A context numbering system for archaeological recording was in operation. LAS operates a standard context recording system, developed by its staff over the past 20 years based on the CAS and MOLAS models.

Results (Fig. 2, Pls. 2 and 3)

Excavation of the new manhole cover exposed only deposits associated with an earlier drain trench, **4**. The trench was 2m long x 0.40m wide and 0.52m deep. It was hand excavated from the manhole to the south-east corner of the existing building, and exposed brick rubble with occasional limestone fragments, **2**, 0.28m in depth, beneath the 0.10m deep concrete surface and mixed pebble levelling layer, **1**. Below rubble **2** was a black silty soil with brick fragments, **3**, over 0.4m deep. No finds were recovered from any of these deposits.

Discussion

The trench revealed no archaeological features due to the depth of the service trench and previous disturbance. The remains of the red brick and limestone rubble, **2**, suggests a wall within the yard area. Brick type suggests a Victorian date. Given the location of rubble **2** it would seem likely that this would have been derived from a wall associated with a building first shown on the 1842 coloured plan by J. S. Padley. Former topsoil **3** would also seem to be Victorian in date.

Conclusion

As predicted the drain trench cut through an area already heavily disturbed by previous modern service trenches. The narrowness of the trench meant that little by way of recording was possible. However, the recorded deposits suggest the presence of a building on the site before the current layout of the yard. The watching brief confirmed that the potential for archaeological remains in this area, at c.0.50m depth, is not particularly high.

Mick McDaid
Lindsey Archaeological Services
December 2005

Acknowledgements

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Reference

- Jones. M, Stocker. D and Vince. A. (eds) 2003. *The City by the Pool*. Oxbow Books, Oxford.
- Mills, D. R. and Wheeler, R. C. 2004 *Historic Town Plans of Lincoln 1610 – 1920* Lincoln Record Society The Survey of Lincoln. The Boydell Press.

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Fig.1 Location of Lincoln and 5, Lindum Road (C based on the Ordnance Survey 1:12500 map).

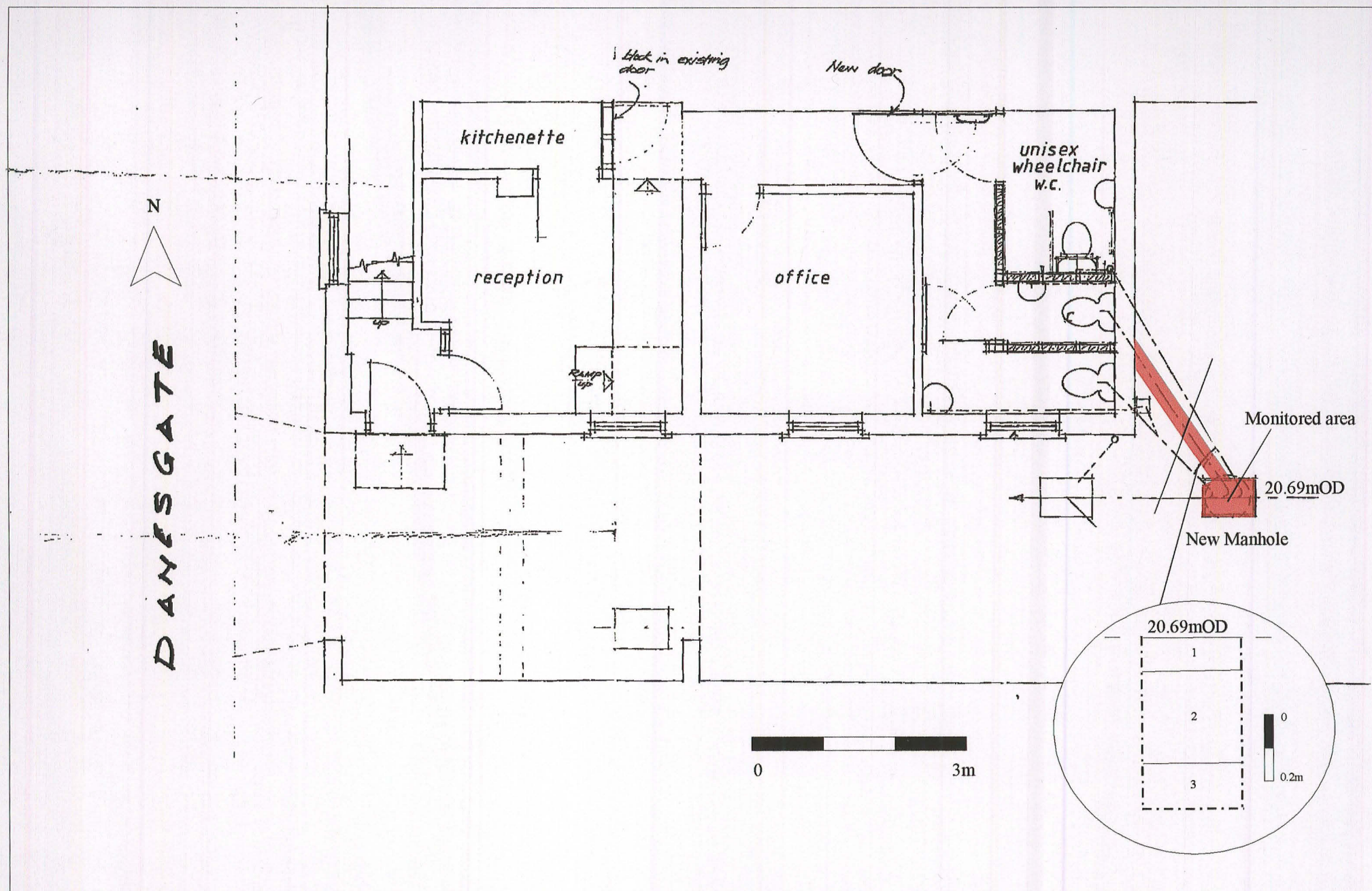


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THE PLATES



Pl. 1 The location of the trench on at 5, Lindum Road, Lincoln, looking west.



Pl. 2 General view of the trench looking north-west.



Pl. 3 Stratigraphy in the eastern face of the trench.