



LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

**Kexby Rising Main Replacement Scheme
(Kexby and Upton Parishes)
Archaeological Watching Brief
LCNCC Accn N^o.: 2006.49
Site Code: KRMR 06
NGR: SK 8771 8575 – SK 8770 8677**

Report

for

Anglian Water Services Ltd

by

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LAS Report N^o. 909

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Conservation
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21 MAR 2006

Highways & Planning
Directorate

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Kexby, Lincolnshire
Archaeological Watching Brief
Replacement water main
LCNCC Accn N^o.: 2006.49
Site Code: KRMR 06
NGR: SK 8771 8575 – SK 8770 8677

Summary

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during open trenching and directional drilling operations along a c.1040m long length of replacement sewage pipeline leading from Kexby to Upton, Lincolnshire. The main part of the works was carried out using non intrusive remote controlled subterranean directional drilling interspersed with c.2.00 x 2.00m observation pits. Due to the presence of a bedrock outcrop the last c.65.00m of the pipeline at the Upton end was open cut. Although the trenching was comparatively narrow at just 0.60m wide the excavations were of adequate dimensions to be able to record the geological stratigraphy and archaeological potential of the area.

The results of the watching brief suggest that archaeological disturbance in open country between the two villages has been negligible. No finds or features of an archaeological nature were noted. Although archaeologically negative, these findings do suggest that the topography of the open area to the east of the two villages has changed little for some considerable time. Archaeological material could still remain undisturbed elsewhere in the area perhaps closer to the areas of occupation.

Introduction

The following report has been prepared for Anglian Water Services Ltd, in accordance with the requirements of Dr Beryl Lott (Principal Archaeologist, Lincs County Council) as expressed in an email to Anglian Water Services (dated 20/9/2005) and by telephone to Lindsey Archaeological Services (8/11/05). It is also in accordance with the general requirements set out in the *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* published by the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section (1998).

Site Location and Description

The parishes of Kexby and Upton are situated c.6km south-east of Gainsborough, and the settlements are linked by Upton Road. The River Till flows through the two parishes to the east of the pipeline route. The pipeline, to the east of the settlements, will link a pumping station on the south side of Glentworth Road with an existing sewage works beside the River Till east of Upton. The route crosses Glentworth Road, and then is across farmland as far as the sewage works, a distance of about 1042m at between 16.00m and 18.00m A.O.D.

Planning Background

The new sewerage scheme lies outside the planning process and is covered by Anglian Water's Best Practice policy. Lincolnshire County Council's Principal Archaeologist commented on the

archaeological implications of the scheme and requested an archaeological watching brief during groundworks across agricultural land.

Archaeological Background

The scheme crossed an area of cropmarks at the eastern edge of the medieval settlement of Kexby, and it was thought possible that medieval remains might be uncovered. As with many schemes across open land, there was some potential for unknown archaeological sites of any period. The new pipeline was mainly remote drilled with open-cut observation pits and one 65.00m section of trench (in a c10m wide easement) about 5-10m from an existing 100mm diameter pipe which was installed about fifty years ago.

Aims and Objectives

The aims of the watching brief were to identify, characterise and record any archaeological remains that may have been disturbed by the groundworks phase of the development.

Method

The work undertaken from Kexby to Upton consisted of remote controlled subterranean drilling with occasional open cut observation pits c.2.00 x c.2.00m in size and a c.65.00m long stretch of open trench at the Upton termination. The pipeline replaces the existing Kexby to Upton water main and consists of a 0.10m diameter polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) pipe running continuously across open farmland from the Glentworth Road pumping station in Kexby to the existing sewage works at Upton. The main part of the works were carried out using non intrusive remote controlled subterranean directional drilling interspersed with c.2.00 x 2.00m observation pits. Due to the presence of a bedrock outcrop the last c.65.00m of the pipeline at the Upton end was open cut. Although the trenching was comparatively narrow at just 0.60m wide the excavations were of adequate dimensions to be able to record the geological stratigraphy and archaeological potential of the area (Pl. 7-10). All open excavations were undertaken using a tracked mini-digger equipped with a 0.60m wide toothed bucket. The excavations were completed by a single team of three ground-workers. A daily archaeological presence was maintained on the pipeline throughout the entire installation process. The entire machining operation was monitored by LAS Project Officer Richard Pullen MA PIFA and Field Officer Mike Garrett BA. Work began on the 6th February 2006 and was completed on the 16th March 2006. A full photographic record was maintained during the work.

Results

The stratigraphy noted in the open cut portions of the pipeline was c.0.20m of dark grey/brown clay silt topsoil **100** overlying c.0.20m of mid red/brown clay silt subsoil **101**. The subsoil **101** directly sealed an undisturbed light grey boulder clay **102** that continued to a depth in excess of the developers final formation level of c.1.20m below the present ground surface. This stratigraphy continued throughout the excavations with the only deviation being modern land drains and a 25.00m wide ridge of bedrock

near to the Upton termination. No finds or features of an archaeological nature were noted during the works undertaken.

Conclusion

No finds were recovered during the groundworks and no features or structural remains were encountered. Despite the obvious lack of any archaeological remains, material could still exist in the open fields between Upton and Kexby, but probably further to the west nearer to the centres of occupation. The archaeological impact of the main replacement from Kexby to Upton has been little to none.

Acknowledgements

Lindsey Archaeological Services is grateful for the full and continued co-operation given by all of the contractors and individuals who assisted in the completion of the works between Kexby and Upton, particularly Anglian Water Services Ltd, UCS Ltd and Boretech. The illustrations were prepared by the author, some from plans supplied by the client. The report was edited by Naomi Field and collated by Doug Young.

Richard Pullen M.A. PIFA
Lindsey Archaeological Services
17th March 2006

Contents of Site Archive

Correspondence

Developer plans

Colour Photographs from LAS film N^o 06/16 and 06/21

THE FIGURES

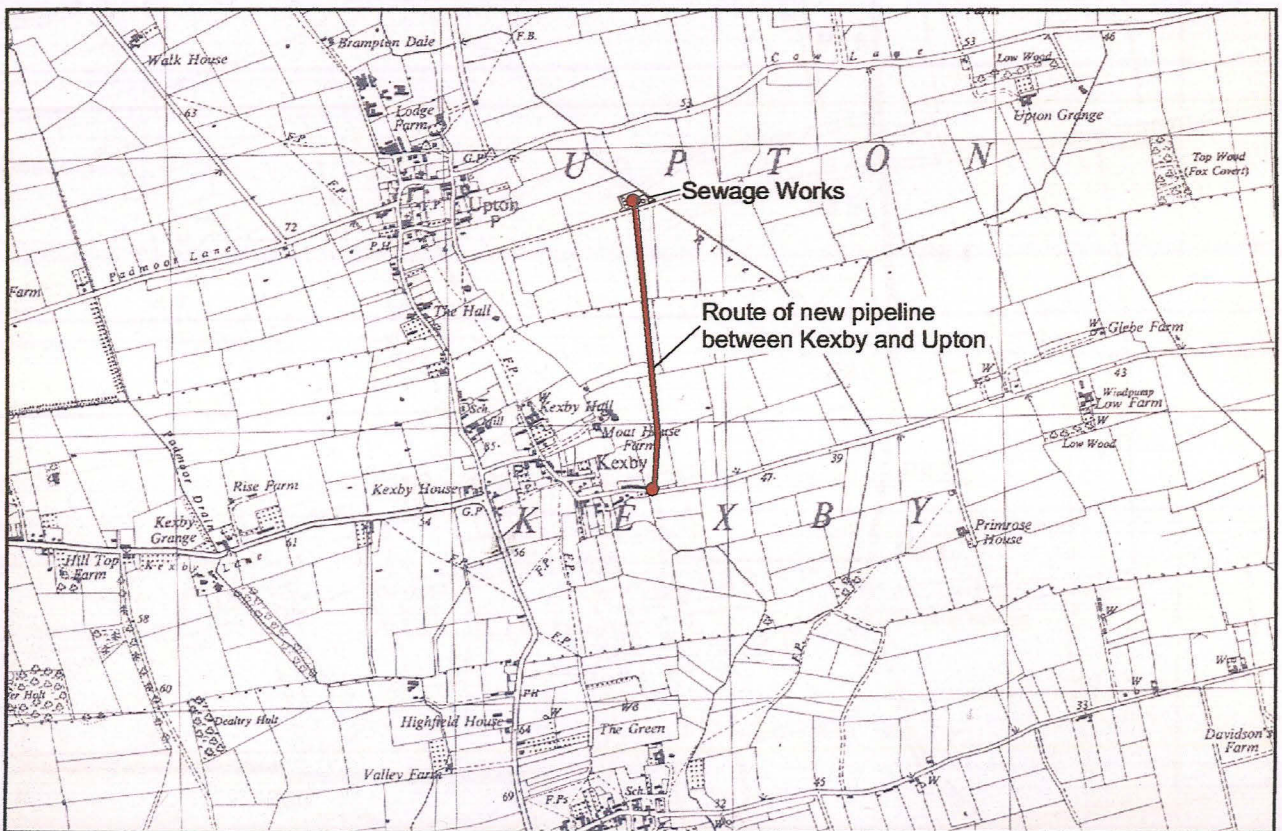
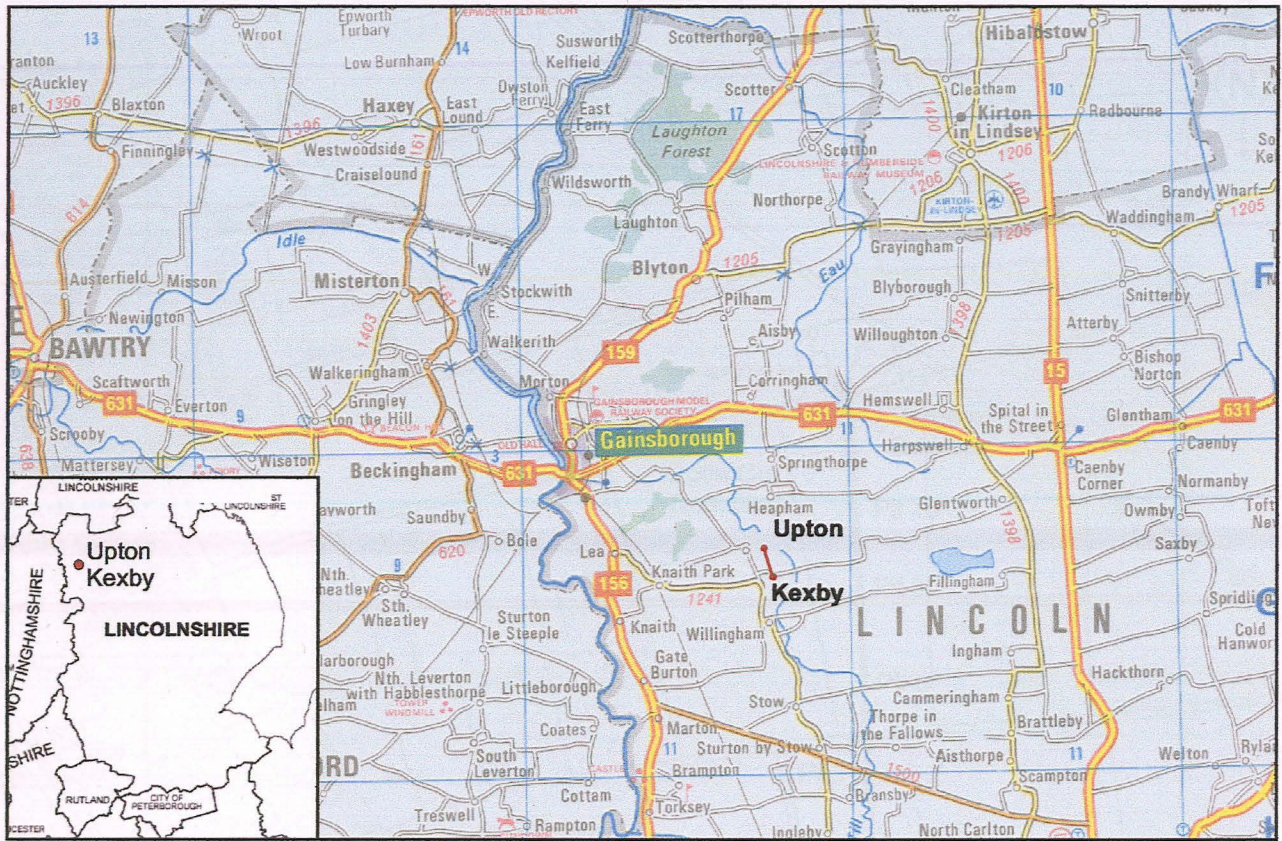


Fig.1 Location of Kexby and Upton, based on the 1975 Ordnance Survey 1:2,500 map. Crown copyright, © reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO, LAS Licence No. AL 10002165).

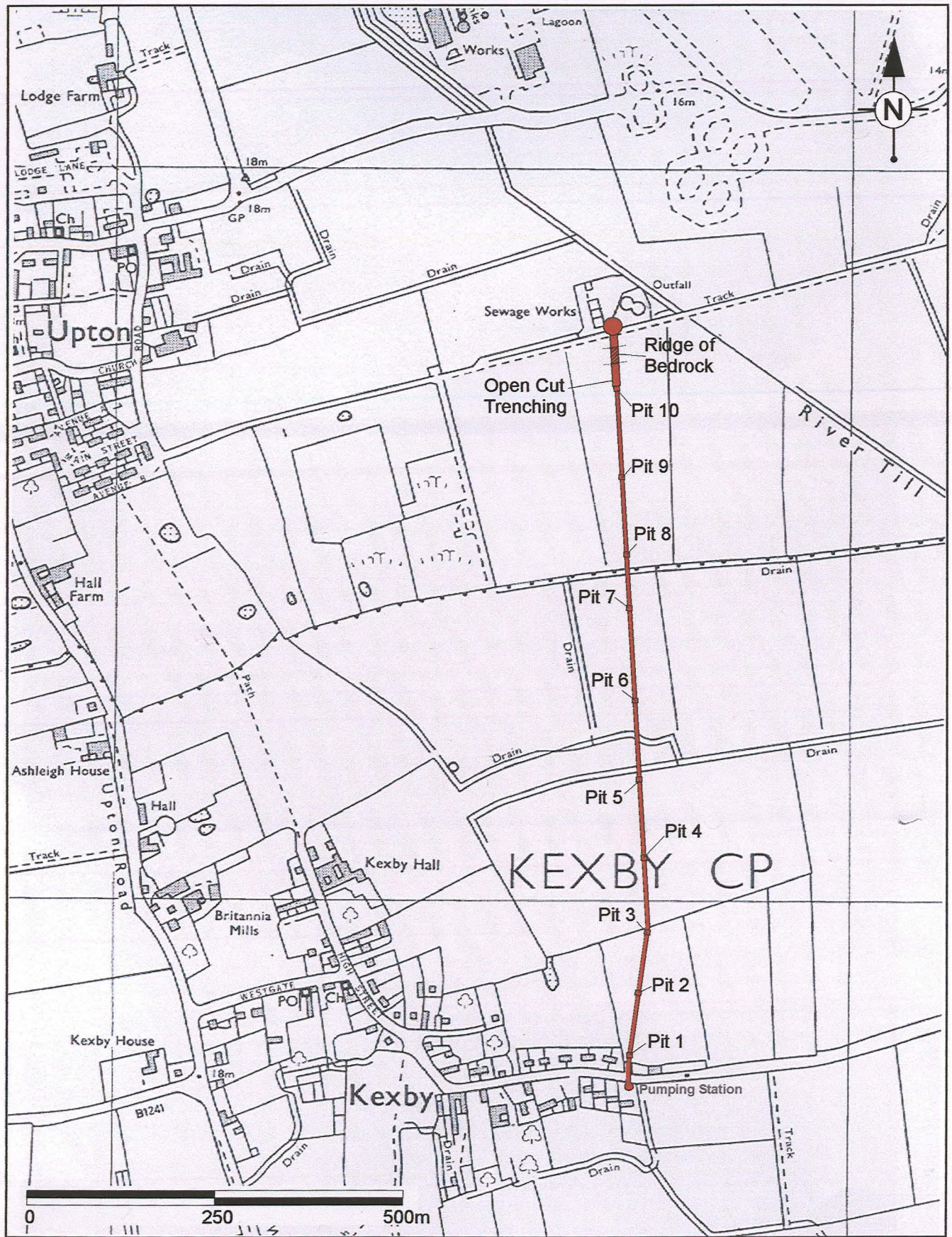


Fig 2. Plan showing the route of the pipeline from Upton to Kexby (taken from a plan supplied by the client)

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Pl. 1 Looking south along the line of the works towards Kexby



Pl. 2 Looking South at observation pit 2 during the drilling process



Pl. 3 Looking east at the section of observation pit 4 with the exposed drilling tip in the foreground



Pl. 4 Looking north at observation pit 6 during excavation



Pl. 5 Observation pit 7 after excavation with the exposed drill in the centre



Pl. 6 Looking north at observation pit 10 during excavation



Pl. 7 Looking south along the partially excavated trench towards observation pit 10



Pl. 8 A typical section of the open cut pipe trench