

**A REPORT TO
Mr J Morton**

November 2006

**THE OLD RECTORY
STRUBBY ROAD
MALTBY LE MARSH
LINCOLNSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
WATCHING BRIEF**

**PREPARED BY
MIKE JARVIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES**

MJAS REPORT No.: 544

THE OLD RECTORY STRUBBY ROAD MALTBY LE MARSH LINCOLNSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

- Between the 25th and 29th August 2006 Mike Jarvis Archaeological Services undertook an archaeological watching brief on land on the site of The Old Rectory, Strubby Road, Maltby Le Marsh, Lincolnshire, during groundwork associated with the construction of a single residential property.
- The watching brief failed to reveal archaeological evidence for occupation predating the 19th century although a couple of residual post-medieval pot sherds were recovered from the excavated spoil and may suggest that deposits associated with this period occur elsewhere on the site.
- For the most part the construction and demolition of the rectory appears to have removed all evidence supporting land-use/occupation predating the 19th century and the presence of a thin and poorly formed topsoil suggested that extensive levelling, probably during the demolition of the rectory, are likely to have contributed to the lack of pre 19th century deposits.
- Although the results of this watching brief provide very little information regarding the date and nature of archaeological deposits present on the site and as a result offer little interpretive value, an overall enhancement of knowledge of the area has been achieved with regard to the survival and extent of archaeological deposits. This information will be of value in future decision making in the management of the archaeological resource in the vicinity.

Maltby is first mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 and referred to as Maltbi derived from the Old English word for marsh or homestead. The first name almost certainly probably refers to a person's name. For what remains is within the village and includes the church (All Saints - now redundant) dating to the 13th century (approximately to the south of the site), and the remains of a related enclosure associated with the present manor house (to the south-east of the site). Aerial photographs reveal extensive medieval field systems (ridge and furrow) surrounding the village. Post-medieval activity comprises the chapel church (1640) as well as several fishponds associated with All Saints church. The present-day manor house dates to the 18th century and the church underwent extensive rebuilding work during the 19th century. The Old Rectory building was demolished some time ago and the site levelled.

Previous archaeological investigations within the village have revealed few archaeological deposits although pits and gullies of medieval date were found on sites facing Main Road.

3.0 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

The aims of the watching brief were:

- To produce an archive record of deposits and remains encountered within the constraints of the groundwork contractors' programme and working methods with due regard to health, health and safety legislation.

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Between the 25th and 29th August 2006 Mike Jarvis Archaeological Services (MJAS) undertook an archaeological watching brief on land on the site of The Old Rectory, Strubby Road, Maltby Le Marsh, Lincolnshire, during groundwork associated with the construction of a single residential property.

2.0 SITE LOCATION AND BACKGROUND (Fig. 1)

The village of Maltby Le Marsh is located in the administrative district of East Lindsey, 17km to the south-east of Louth and 21km to the north of Skegness. The Old Rectory (hereafter the site) lies towards the western edge of the village just off the A1104 close to its junction with the A157 and immediately to the south of All Saints church (National Grid Reference: TF 46240 81430 centre).

Full planning permission was granted on 27 June 2005 (Planning Application No.: N/112/00782/05) for the erection of a house and associated car parking. Condition No. 18 of the permission relates to the provision of an archaeological watching brief during all groundwork associated with the development.

Local soils are of the Holderness Association comprising fine loamy and permeable soils formed on chalky till and glaciofluvial drift above solid geology of cretaceous chalk.

During the prehistoric period, much of east and south Lincolnshire comprised salt marsh or was submerged. Settlement tended to occur on islands of boulder clay protruding through later sediments.

Maltby is first mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 and referred to as *Maltebi* derived from the Old Scandinavian *by* meaning village or homestead. The first name element *Malt* probably refers to a person's name. Few extant remains lie within the village and include the church (All Saints – now redundant) dating to the 1300's (immediately to the south of the site), and the remains of a moated enclosure associated with the present manor house (to the south-east of the site). Aerial photographs reveal extensive medieval field systems (ridge and furrow) surrounding the village. Post-medieval activity comprises the Baptist church (1690) as well as several fishponds associated with All Saints church. The present-day manor house dates to the 18th century and the church underwent extensive rebuilding work during the 19th century. The Old Rectory building was demolished sometime ago and the site levelled.

Previous archaeological investigations within the village have revealed few archaeological deposits although pits and gullies of medieval date were found on sites fronting Main Road.

3.0 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

The aims of the watching brief were:

- To produce an archive record of deposits and remains generally within the constraints of the groundwork contractors' programme and working methods with due regard to current health and safety legislation.

- To produce a report on the archaeological importance of the discoveries.
- To produce a project archive from which the potential for further study and academic research could be assessed.
- To provide information for accession to the County Historic Environment Record (HER).

The watching brief required the monitoring of all groundwork associated with the construction of the property.



Plate 1: General view looking north showing the larger of the two cellars ([016]) associated with the former rectory building.

The archaeological record was secured by means of trench-side notes and scale drawings. A comprehensive photographic record was also compiled.

4.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS (Fig. 2)

ANALYSIS

Natural ([002]) a light, red/brown clay soil (with frequent small chalk inclusions and occasional patches of firm grey clay) occurred at shallow depths across the entire site (c. 5.50m OD).

Towards the north corner of the plot lay [003] a spread of mid-brown clay soil containing frequent charcoal flecks and occasional gravel and brick/tile fragments together with a small quantity of pot and tile dating to the 19th to 20th centuries (5.40m OD). Several ceramic drains ([024] – [028]) together with two brick cellars ([016] – floor 3.53m OD & [019] – floor 4.20m OD) and two shallow brick foundations ([005] & [011]), cut in to both [002] and [003]. A further, contemporary feature, [015], present against the east side of the house plot & seen in section only, contained two small brick foundations amongst a dark brown clay soil ([014]). A thin and poorly formed topsoil ([001]) sealed all of the above (ground level 5.70m OD).

No further features or deposits were recorded during the watching brief. Unstratified find recovered from the spoil ([004]) dated from between the mid 15th to 19th centuries.

Conclusions

The watching brief failed to reveal archaeological evidence for occupation predating the 19th century although a couple of residual post-medieval pot sherds were recovered from the excavated spoil and may suggest that deposits associated with this period occur elsewhere on the site.

For the most part features and deposits associated with the now demolished rectory building appear to have removed all evidence supporting land-use/occupation predating the 19th century. Similarly, the thin and poorly formed nature of the topsoil suggests that extensive levelling, probably during the demolition of the rectory, are likely to have contributed to the lack of pre 19th century archaeology.

Although the results of this watching brief provide very little information regarding the date and nature of archaeological deposits present on the site and as a result offer little interpretive value, an overall enhancement of knowledge of the area has been achieved with regard to the survival and extent of archaeological deposits. This information will be of value in future decision making in the management of the archaeological resource in the vicinity.

5.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Mike Jarvis Archaeological Services would like to thank Mr & Mrs J Morton for funding the watching brief and post-fieldwork analysis and to Mr J Stainton (Architect) and Dr Beryl Lott (Archaeological Advisor to West Lindsey District Council). Access to the County HER was permitted by Mr M Bennett.

External Specialists

Karen Adams Finds processing (freelance)
Jane Young Post Roman pottery and tile (freelance)

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6.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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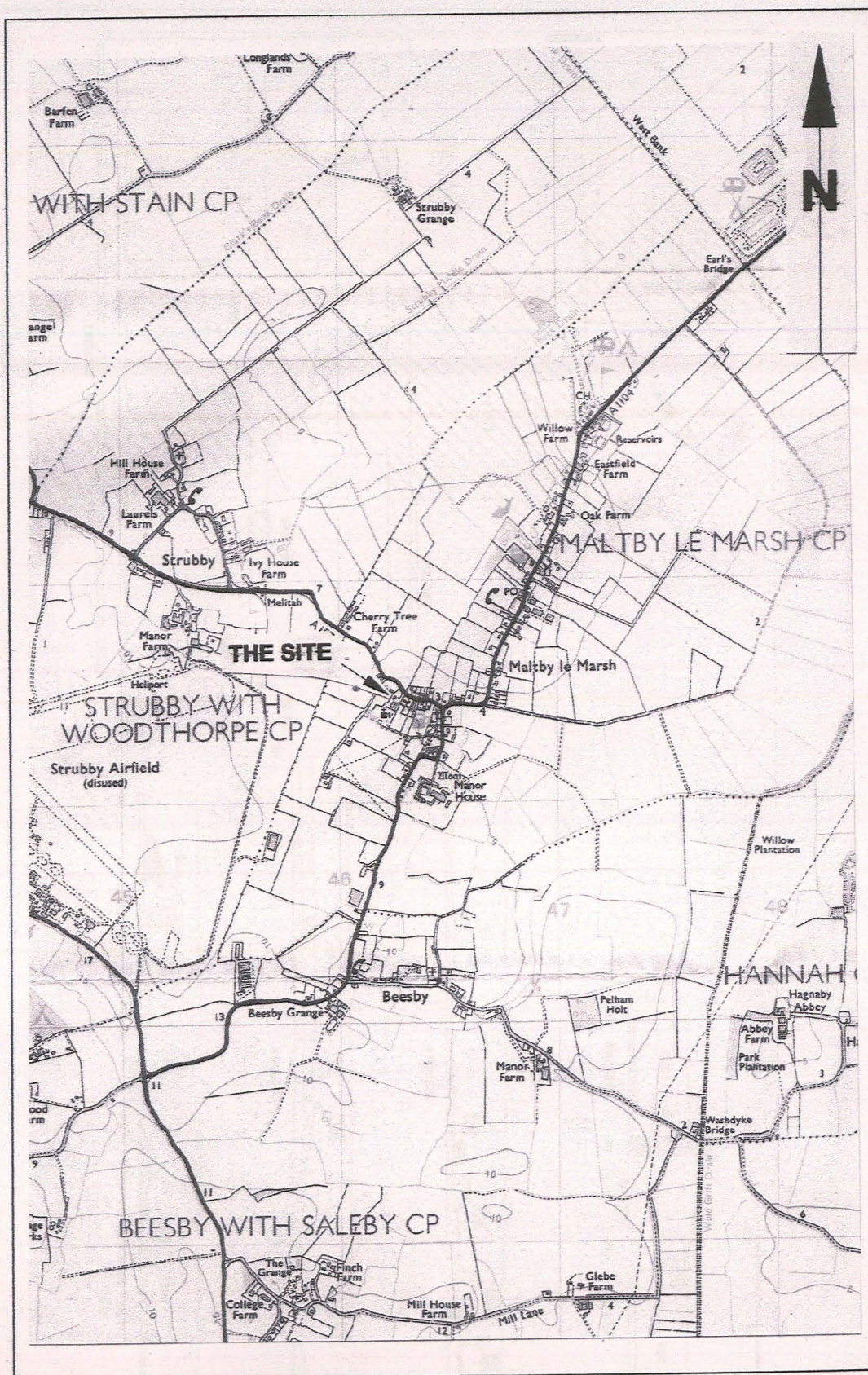


Fig. 1: Site location map (scales 1:25,000).

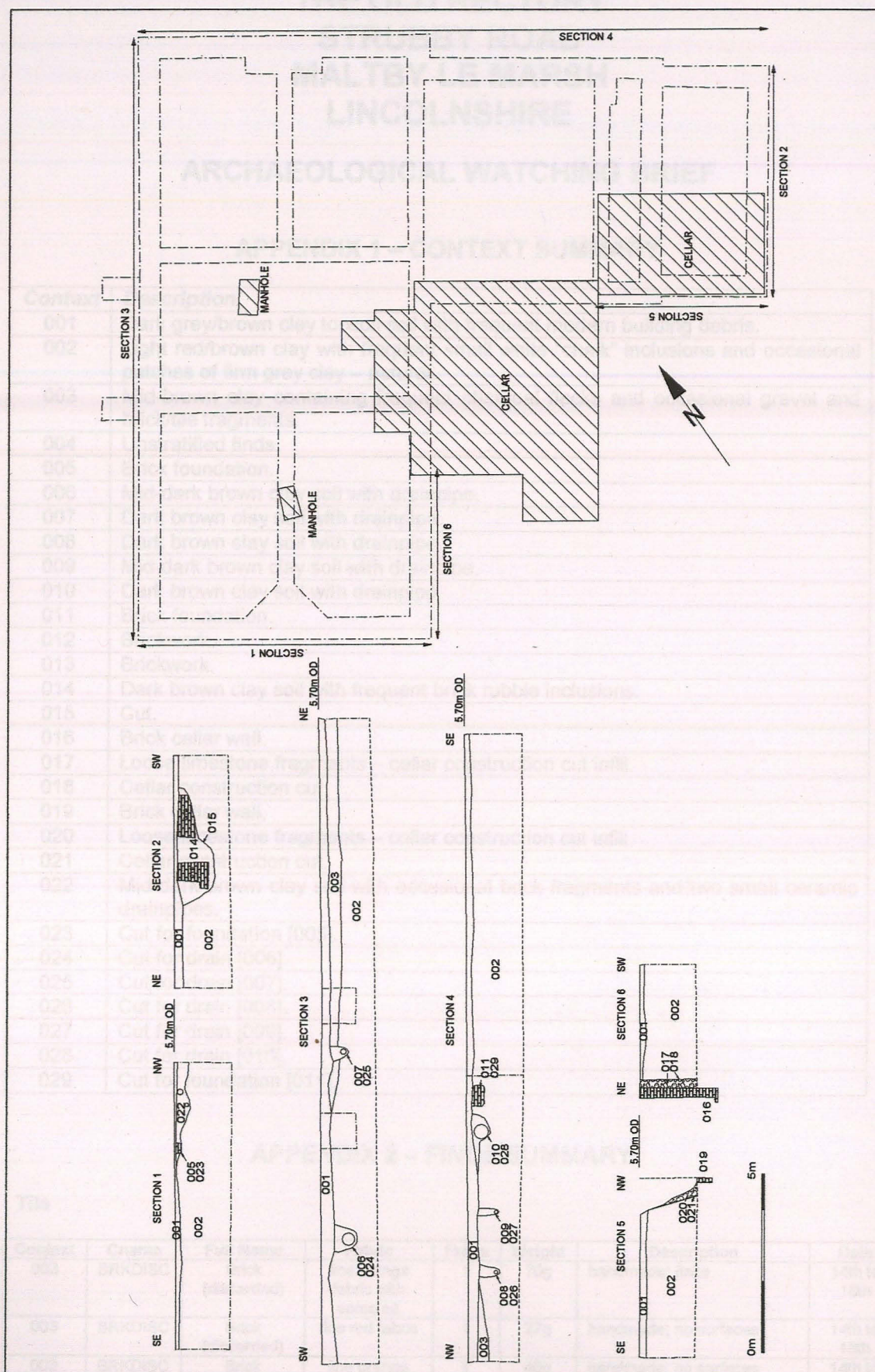


Fig. 2: plan of foundation layout showing location of cellars and sections 1 – 6 (not to scale).

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APPENDIX 1 – CONTEXT SUMMARY

Context	Description
001	Dark grey/brown clay topsoil soil with frequent modern building debris.
002	Light red/brown clay with frequent small white "chalk" inclusions and occasional patches of firm grey clay – natural.
003	Mid-brown clay containing frequent charcoal flecks and occasional gravel and brick/tile fragments.
004	Unstratified finds.
005	Brick foundation.
006	Mid-dark brown clay soil with drainpipe.
007	Dark brown clay soil with drainpipe.
008	Dark brown clay soil with drainpipe.
009	Mid-dark brown clay soil with drainpipe.
010	Dark brown clay soil with drainpipe.
011	Brick foundation.
012	Brickwork.
013	Brickwork.
014	Dark brown clay soil with frequent brick rubble inclusions.
015	Cut.
016	Brick cellar wall.
017	Loose limestone fragments – cellar construction cut infill.
018	Cellar construction cut.
019	Brick cellar wall.
020	Loose limestone fragments – cellar construction cut infill.
021	Cellar construction cut.
022	Mid-dark brown clay soil with occasional brick fragments and two small ceramic drainpipes.
023	Cut for foundation [005].
024	Cut for drain [006].
025	Cut for drain [007].
026	Cut for drain [008].
027	Cut for drain [009].
028	Cut for drain [010].
029	Cut for foundation [011].

APPENDIX 2 – FINDS SUMMARY

Tile

Context	Cname	Full Name	Fabric	Frgs	Weight	Description	Date
003	BRKDISC	Brick (discarded)	fine orange fabric with some ca	1	70g	handmade; flake	14th to 18th
003	BRKDISC	Brick (discarded)	fine red fabric	1	27g	handmade; no surfaces	14th to 18th
003	BRKDISC	Brick (discarded)	fine orange fabric	1	48g	handmade; no surfaces	14th to 18th

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004	PNR	Peg, nib or ridge tile	fine orange sandy with sparse ca	1	69g	flat roofer; corner; bedded on fine sand; diagonal strike/brush strokes	13th to 18th
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Pottery

Context	Cname	Full Name	Form Type	Sherds	Vessels	Weight	Decoration	Part	Description	Date
003	TB	Toynton/Bolingbroke wares	jug	1	1	26g		BS		mid 15th to 16th
003	SELTZ	Seltzer bottle	mineral bottle	1	1	84g		rim	circular stamp on shoulder marked "SELT EER" with lion rampart facing left	late 18th to 19th
003	SELTZ	Seltzer bottle	mineral bottle	1	1	76g		rim		late 18th to 19th
003	SELTZ	Seltzer bottle	mineral bottle	1	1	99g		BS		late 18th to 19th
003	ENGs	Unspecified English Stoneware	large jar/flag on	2	1	494g	tendrill pattern around base	base		19th to 20th
004	TB	Toynton/Bolingbroke wares	large bowl	1	1	34g		BS	soot	mid 15th to 16th
004	GRE	Glazed Red Earthenware	jar	1	1	14g		BS	post-firing hole through wall; 8mm diameter hole	late 16th to 18th
004	TPW	Transfer printed ware	hollow	1	1	12g	moulded dec; red transfer print	BS		19th
004	BERTH	Brown glazed earthenware	large bowl	1	1	285g		base		mid 17th to 18th

APPENDIX 3 – ARCHIVE DETAILS

SITE NAME: The Old Rectory, Strubby Road, Maltby Le Marsh, Lincolnshire

SITE CODE: SRMA06

MJAS REPORT No: 544

NGR: TF 46240 81430

PROJECT TYPE: Watching Brief

PROJECT DATE: 25th and 29th August 2006

PLANNING APPLICATION No.: N/112/00782/05 27 June 2005

SMR No.: N/A

CIVIL PARISH: Maltby Le Marsh

MUSEUM ACCESSION No.: 2006.203

ARCHIVE PRESENT LOCATION: MJAS, 1 Torrington Road, Lincoln, LN2 2DP

ARCHIVE FINAL LOCATION: The City and County Museum, Friars Lane, Lincoln