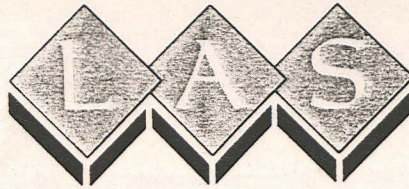


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LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

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Fulletby Booster Station (New Access Track):
Archaeological Monitoring during Groundworks

NGR: TF 3050 Z365
7356

Site Code **FUL 94**
LCNCC Museum Accn. No. **114.94**

Report prepared for Anglian Water Services

January 1996

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Summary

A watching brief during excavation for a short access road near Gorse Farm produced a flint flake tool, 2 flint cores and a sherd of pottery from the topsoil. No archaeological features were present on the exposed subsoil surface.

Introduction

Lindsey Archaeological Services (LAS) was commissioned by Anglian Water Services Ltd in July 1994 to monitor works associated with the Fulletby Booster Station, as recommended by the Lincolnshire County Archaeological Officer. The scheme had consisted of the installation of a short length of pipeline leading NW of the Booster Station compound, replacement land drainage and the laying of a grasscrete access road between the existing farm road and the compound (Figs. 1 and 2; Pl. 1).

A change of ownership of the farm caused a number of revisions to be made to the original plans, with consequent delays. The pipeline and land drainage elements of the project took place without archaeological monitoring in 1994. The order was reaffirmed in August 1995 (E 912592) and it was November 1995 before the final works were agreed.

Monitoring of topsoil removal for the road took place on 11th November 1995.

Archaeological Background (Fig. 3; Appendix 1)

Fulletby lies in the Lincolnshire Wolds at one of the higher locations, between the Lymn and Bain valleys. The heavy soils in this field at Gorse Farm are not considered favourable for modern agriculture and the land is under grass for horse grazing.

The oldest reported find from the immediate vicinity is a late Upper Palaeolithic flint knife found during fieldwalking to the north of Gorse Farm in 1988 (Bee and Owen 1993). Cropmarks of an undated site incorporating rectangular enclosures and a ringditch have been identified on air photographs about 1km to the NE; several flint artefacts have been recorded from Fulletby and more from Salmonby to the east. Prehistoric burial mounds have been marked on maps in Fulletby and Salmonby; the tumulus site at the junction of Fulletby High Street and Furlong Lane was marked on the 1824 and 1956 OS maps but was not traceable by the mid 19th century (OS maps and OS record cards). The modern parish boundary deflects around Hoe Hill to the SE, shown on Ordnance Survey maps with hachures but no archaeological site has been recorded there (Pl. 2). During the watching brief

the author was told of a local tradition that a boat had been buried on that site. This is most unlikely, but signs of an enclosing ditch may indicate a defensive position, perhaps prehistoric. It appears too extensive to be a long barrow or burial mound.

A scatter of 2nd and 3rd century Romano-British greyware sherds was found immediately to the NW of the monitored access track in 1969, apparently restricted to an area about 50m square (OS record card). Further Romano-British pottery sherds were found 0.5km to the south in 1969, and 7 RB cremation urns, calcined bone and a coin were found in the mid 19th century 2.5km west of Gorse Farm.

Open fields in the parish of Fulletby were enclosed between 1775-7. Earthworks of medieval settlement features have been identified to the east of the present village.

The Watching Brief

The Booster Station lies within Field No. 6058, part of Gorse Farm, Fulletby. This field has been amalgamated from a number of smaller plots since the early 20th century (OS 1956). At the time of the watching brief the field (which occupies a hill-slope at about the 120m contour) was under grass, with the compound about 150m SW of the farm buildings and 60m SE of the tarmac farm road.

The new access was constructed as a 3.5m wide strip across the field, with a curve linking it to the farm road, and a slightly wider space beside the compound (Fig. 4; Pl. 3). Topsoil was removed using a Hymac with a 0.8m wide, toothed bucket. In order to create a level road base on the slope, the western side was excavated slightly deeper (to about 0.3m deep) than the eastern edge (about 0.15m - 0.2m). This resulted in the incomplete removal of topsoil in places but very little of the mixed clay and clay loam subsoil was disturbed.

Archaeological Finds (Fig. 4)

The existing farm road was found to have two successive layers of tarmac with limestone rubble base, presumably repairs to a subsiding surface. A spread of imported material (incorporating late post-medieval and modern pottery, glass and tile) was seen beside the road where it had been dumped to help consolidation. This spread extended about 4m into the field.

Beside the existing Booster Station compound the topsoil was thicker and seemed to be the result of dispersal after construction of the building. A finely retouched flint flake tool **1** was recovered from within this topsoil deposit.

Between the compound and the road two further prehistoric flint artefacts, preparation cores **2** and **3**, were found during topsoil stripping. A small and badly abraded sherd of pottery **4** was also found. No sign of any archaeological feature was identified during the watching brief.

Conclusion

In the context of several prehistoric sites and frequent worked flints from the locality, the flint artefacts found during this watching brief were not unexpected (although to recover three in about 230m² of topsoil does indicate a local density of activity if not occupation). Unfortunately, the pottery sherd was so small that almost any agency (hillwash, importation of soil) could have produced its deposition.

It was unfortunate that the other elements of this scheme could not be monitored as this would have produced comparative information from a broader area. This part of the project was shown to have caused no archaeological damage.

Acknowledgements

LAS would like to thank Anglian Water Services for their interest, particularly David Edge, Nina Sage, James Crompton, Ed. White, Peter Flood and Emma Jones who were involved in this scheme. The co-operation received from the contractors, J. Ward (Horsington) and the landowner was appreciated.

The information for Appendix 1 was provided by Sarah Grundy (Lincs. County Sites and Monuments Record). The flints were examined by Naomi Field; the pottery sherd was unidentifiable.

Geoff Tann
Lindsey Archaeological Services
3rd January 1996

References

Bee, W. and Owen, J. 1993 "Upper Palaeolithic Knife from Fulletby" in Owen, J. (ed.) "Archaeological Notes" *Lincolnshire History and Archaeology* 28, 66.

OS 1824 Ordnance Survey 1:63,360 scale map, 1st edition

OS 1956 Ordnance Survey 1:10,560 scale maps, Sheets TF 27 and TF 37; revised before 1930.

Archive Summary

Archaeological finds: pottery sherd
flints

Specialists archive lists and/or reports (as above)

Contractor's plans

Correspondence

Appendix 1

Summary of Previously Reported Archaeological Sites and Finds

(Source: SMR = Lincs. County Sites and Monuments Record; OS Sheets TF 27 and TF 37)

| NGR (TF) | SMR | Description |
|-----------------|------------|--|
| 310 738 | 40871 | Flint scrapers |
| 308 735 | 40872 | Worked flint, pre 1969 |
| 307 729 | 40873 | Worked flints, Romano-British and medieval pottery, pre 1969 |
| 3040 7363 | 40875 | Roman pottery and metal objects, 1970 |
| 3012 7326 | 40877 | Site of prehistoric burial mound |
| 3126 7503 | 40878 | Neolithic flint axe fragment, pre 1964 |
| 2975 7340 | 40880 | Fulletby church; medieval fabric |
| unlocated | 40882 | Bronze Age barbed and tanged flint arrowhead |
| 2800 7352 | 40883 | Roman cremation burials, pre 1930 found in Fulletby |
| 3135 7340 | 42382 | Prehistoric flint artefact fragment, 1980 |
| 313 733 | 42395 | Bronze Age pottery and hearth site, pre 1964 |
| 3115 7339 | 42396 | Flint axe, pre 1964 |
| 3167 7388 | 42554 | Lower Palaeolithic handaxe, pre 1964 |
| 3114 7355 | 42569 | Mesolithic and Neolithic flints, 1954 |
| 3118 7368 | 42596 | Flint scrapers |
| 3079 739- | 43121 | Upper Palaeolithic flint knife, 1988 |



Fig. 1 Location of Fulletby

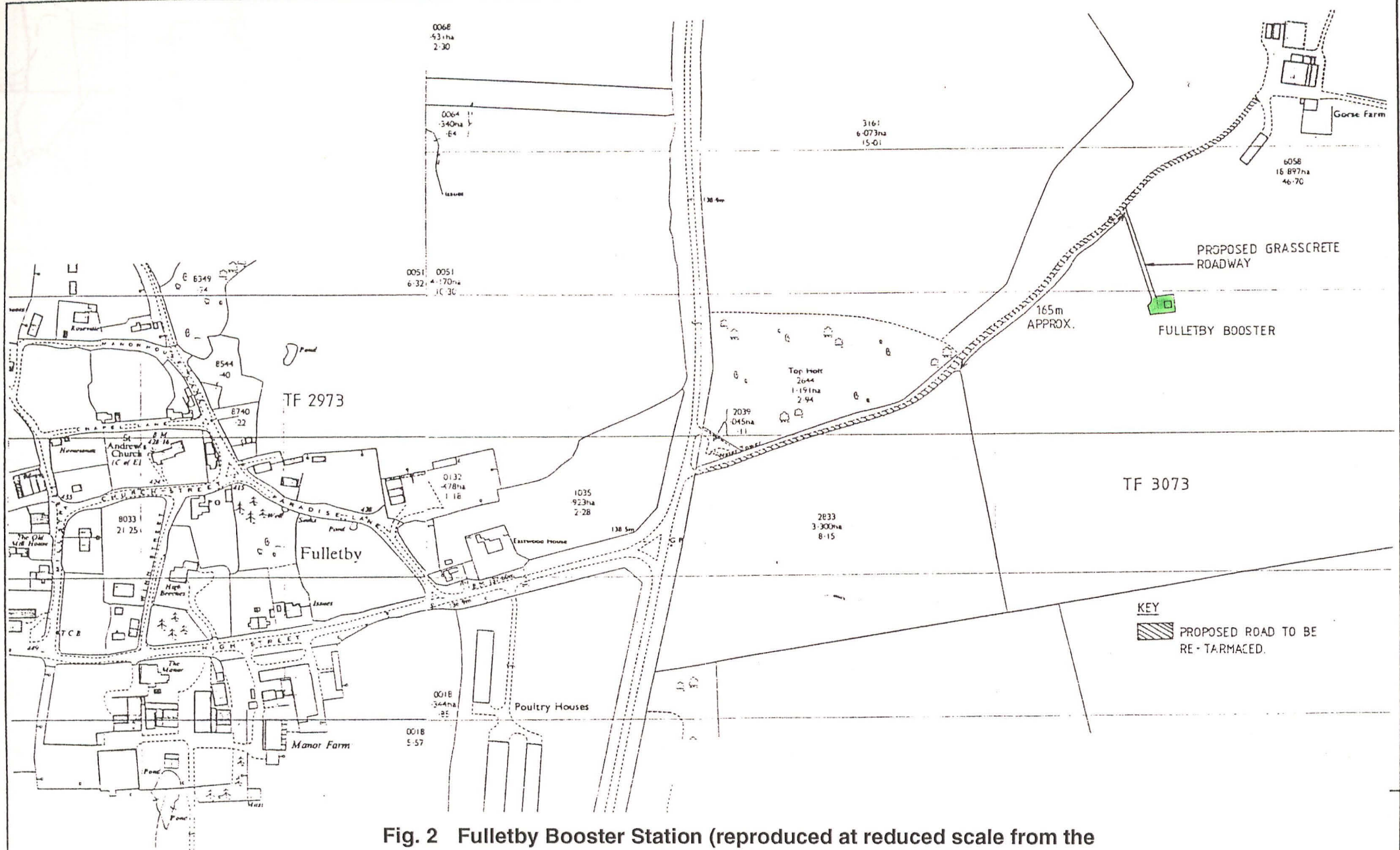


Fig. 2 Fulletby Booster Station (reproduced at reduced scale from the 1:2500 plan supplied by Anglian Water Services [dwg. no. Frt/Fullb/3a]. (Crown copyright; reproduced with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. LAS OS Licence No. AL 50424A).

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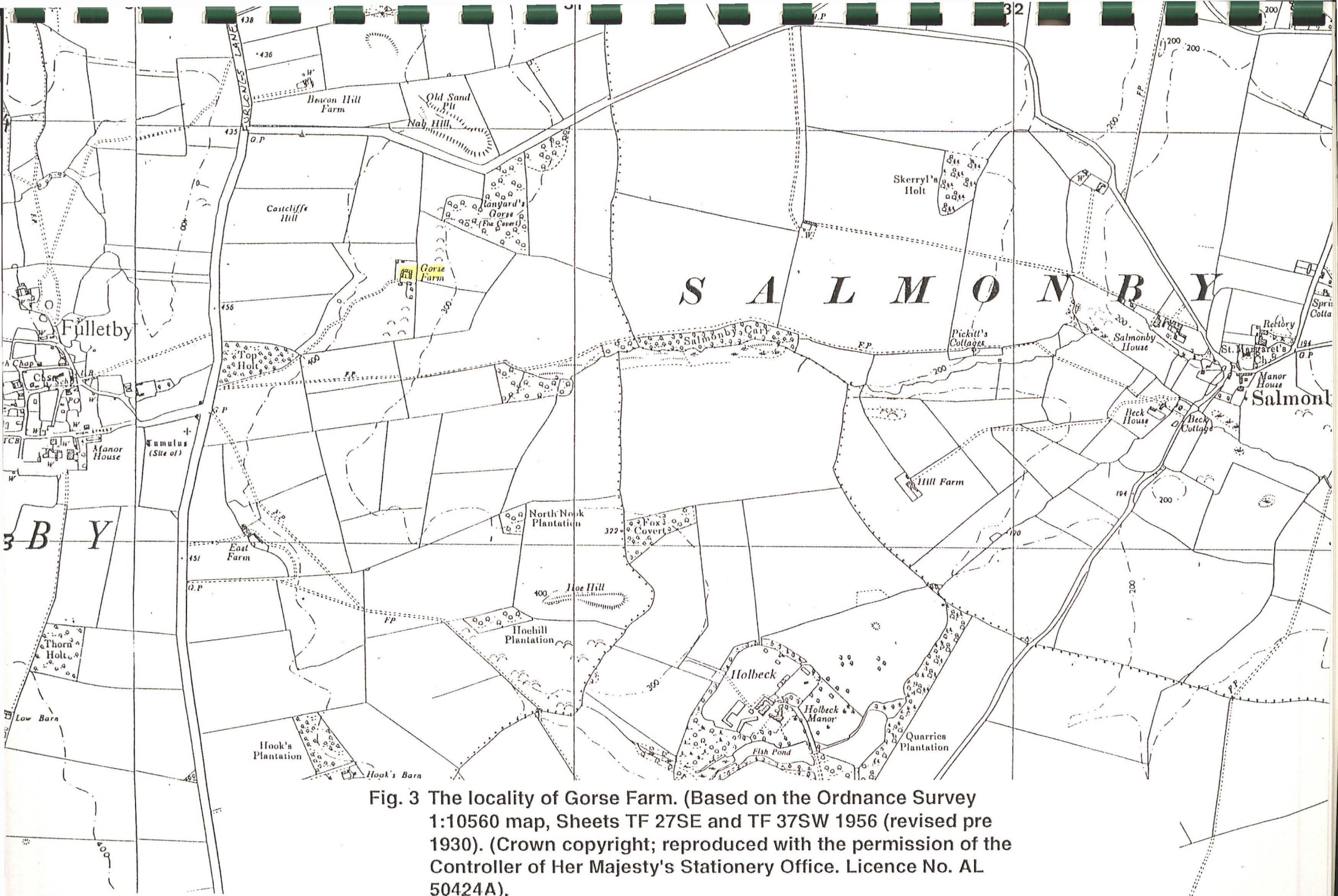


Fig. 3 The locality of Gorse Farm. (Based on the Ordnance Survey 1:10560 map, Sheets TF 27SE and TF 37SW 1956 (revised pre 1930). (Crown copyright; reproduced with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. Licence No. AL 50424A).

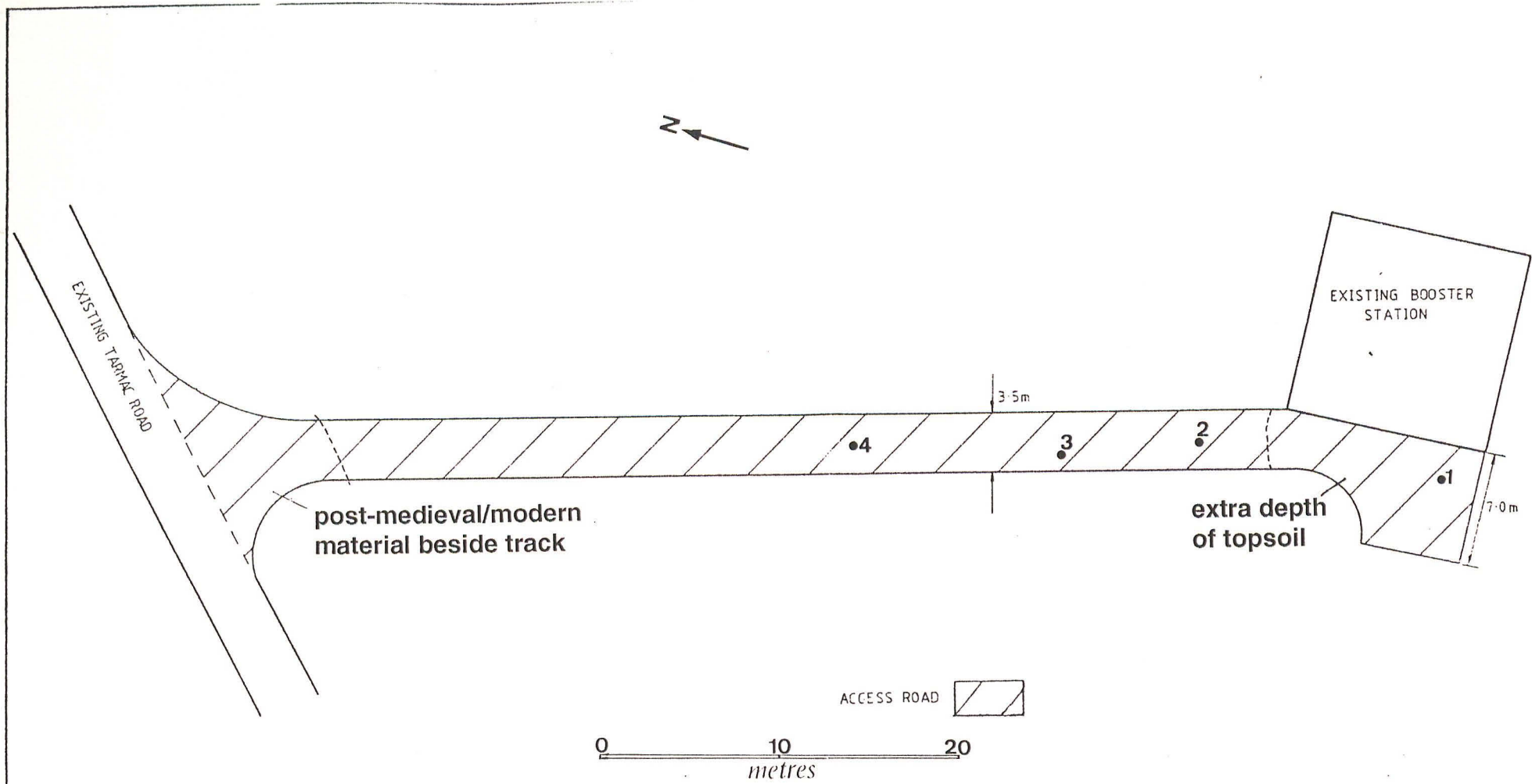


Fig. 4 The Access Road (reproduced at reduced scale from the 1:250 plan supplied by Anglian Water Services [dwg. no. Frt/Fullb/1b].



Pl. 1 The existing pumping station at Gorse Farm, Fulletby, with the course of the new access road marked by survey poles. (Looking east towards Salmonby Carr from the Gorse Farm access road).



Pl. 2 Hoe Hill (centre background) appears to have been artificially shaped and may be an unrecorded archaeological site. (Looking SE from the Gorse Farm access road).



PI. 3 The stripped access track (looking west to Castcliffe Hill).