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**Archaeological Field Evaluation Report**

Glebe Paddock, Grimoldby, Lincolnshire

**Site Code: GPG 96**  
**LCNCC Acc. No: 174 - 96**

*N/067/0883/95*  
*info added 1/1/95*

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Prepared for Manton and Bartle Architects (on behalf of Lincoln Diocese Trust)

By Simon Johnson of Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln)

January 1997

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## Contents

<i>Summary</i>	1
1.0 Introduction	2
2.0 Location and description	2
3.0 Archaeological background	2
4.0 The objectives of field evaluation	3
5.0 Methodology	3
6.0 Results	3
7.0 Summary and conclusions	7
8.0 Acknowledgements	7
9.0 Appendices	8
9.1 Post-Roman pottery archive	
9.2 List of contexts	
9.3 Site archive	
9.4 References	
9.5 Colour Plates	

### Summary

- \* *An archaeological field evaluation took place on land north of St. Edith's Church, Grimoldby, in advance of a possible residential development.*
- \* *A single trench was excavated within the proposed foundation footprint of a new building to assess the potential impact of that building on the buried resource. (Fig. 2)*
- \* *The Trench contained a series of recent ground levelling dumps which filled in an existing east-west linear depression; two undated gullies and a pit dated to the C12th.*
- \* *It is concluded that the site contains low-density deposits of local archaeological significance which may already have been affected by modern field drainage and wartime structures.*

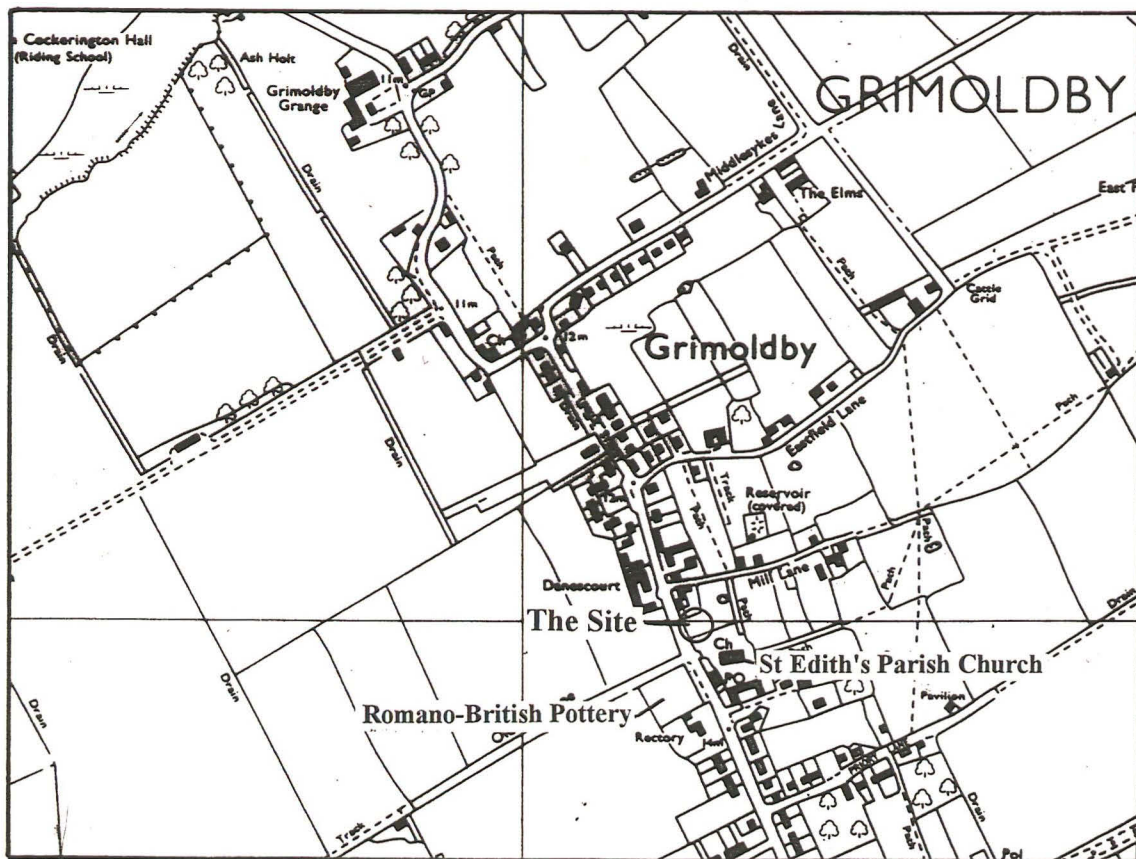


Fig. 1 1:10,000 site location map section with significant find spots  
(OS copyright reference AL 51521 A0001)

## 1.0 Introduction

A two-day programme of archaeological trial excavation was carried out within a square unit of land called Glebe Paddock, which lies off Tinkle Street, Grimoldby, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Manton and Bartle (Architects) on behalf of the Lincoln Diocesan Trust in response to a planning constraint issued by East Lindsey District Council.

The results of this report will be examined by the district planning authority and used as a basis for assessing the archaeological potential of the site, the potential impact posed by development, and the requirement or non-requirement of further archaeological intervention in advance of, or during, development.

## 2.0 Location and description

Grimoldby lies in the administration district of East Lindsey, approximately 4 km. east of Louth. The settlement is situated on the north-east Lincolnshire marsh edge with underlying geology of chalk overlain by Boulder Clay/Glacial Till.

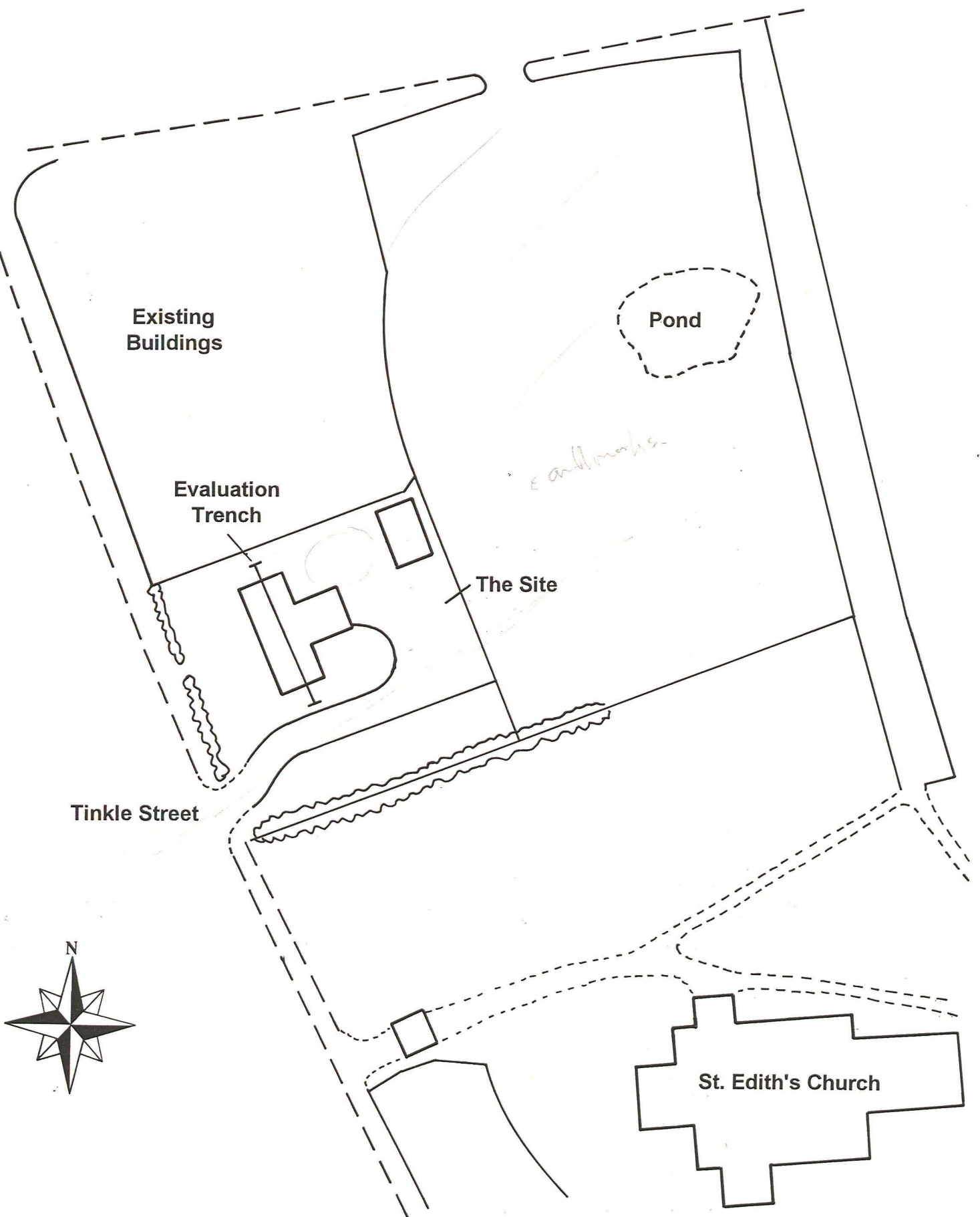
The site is within the historic centre of the village, close to the parish church (dedicated to St Edith). It comprises a single plot (*circa* 27.5 x 25.0 m.) within a larger L-shaped unit known as Glebe Paddock. Presently under permanent pasture, the unit as a whole displays marked topographical variation, and includes within its confines a pond and possible trackway. The site is centred at NGR TF 3923 8800 at an altitude approximately 14 m. OD.

## 3.0 Archaeological background

Very little information regarding the development of Grimoldby is available, reflecting low levels of systematic fieldwork within the parish. The County Sites and Monuments Record contains an entry of Romano-British pottery which was recovered from an area south-west of the site which is the subject of this report. The finds derived from a field now occupied by the current rectory (the original building was sold to a private purchaser).

It thus appears that Grimoldby was essentially a medieval foundation. In 1086, the Domesday Survey names the village *Grimoldbi* which derived from Old German and Old Scandinavian (Mills 1993, 149). The survey notes that the bulk of the settlement belonged to the King with Alfred of Lincoln holding 1 bovat of waste. The settlement would have lain on the periphery of a large forest south-east of Louth with marsh to the east.

In common with the many medieval villages, the only remaining medieval structure is the parish church. It is primarily of the Perpendicular order. The decoration includes fine gargoyles and roof bosses and there is a well preserved standing cross within the churchyard (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 335).



**Fig. 2: 1:500 Trench Location map overlying proposed Development.**  
(based on drg. 5644/2 supplied by Messrs Manton and Bartle)

#### 4.0 The objectives of field evaluation

The Archaeology Section at Lincolnshire County Council issued a project brief on behalf of East Lindsey District Council, requiring a pre-determination archaeological evaluation in advance of the granting, or non-granting, of outline planning consent.

A single archaeological trench (representing just under 3.3% of the total site) was excavated to determine the character, date, depth, state of preservation; extent and significance of any archaeological deposits, structures, features, artefacts and/or ecofacts within the site. The overall objective of the project was to present the District Planning Authority with a set of data from which reasoned decisions may be taken regarding future management of the archaeological resource; and the granting (or refusal) of planning permission on archaeological grounds (in line with 'Archaeology and Planning' *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16*)

#### 5.0 Methodology

The trial trench was sited over the proposed foundation footprint, parallel with the Tinkle Street frontage (Fig. 2). Its finished dimensions measured 1.5 x 15.3 m.

The trench was marked-out in advance of excavation and a JCB, fitted with a smooth ditching blade, was used to remove all topsoil and overburden: to the top of the first significant archaeological or natural level. This was a gradual process involving excavation in spits under archaeological supervision. All subsequent excavation was by hand.

Recording was undertaken using standard proforma context sheets (incorporating physical descriptions, interpretations and stratigraphic relationships). Features were drawn to scale (1:20) in both plan and section format. Photographic recording was also undertaken and some prints are reproduced at the end of this text.

Artefacts (pottery, animal bone and other finds) were coded according to their stratigraphic locations (contexts) and were subsequently removed from the site for processing (washing, marking and packaging) and specialist appraisal where appropriate.

Excavation was carried out under the direction of the writer, assisted by Mr Adnan Baysal and Mr James Rylatt.

#### 6.0 Results

The trench was approximately 15.0 m. in length and was positioned to establish the extent of remains within the proposed foundation footprint. It also traversed a terminated linear depression at the south end which would potentially be affected by the site access in the event of a successful application.



There follows below a descriptive account of the deposit sequence recorded within the trench; which should be read in conjunction with Figure 3.

Removal of the topsoil (which incorporated a band of charcoal indicative of a recent fire) exposed a series of modern ground make-up horizons and features cut into an underlying natural Boulder Clay.

The first feature investigated (102) was at the north end of the trench. This linear gully, which was orientated east-west, was 0.25 m. deep and was cut through Boulder Clay (108). It contained a fill (101) of limestone rubble with brick inclusions set in a surrounding matrix of light brown sandy clay. The lack of primary silting in the base of the feature suggested it was deliberately backfilled shortly after its excavation. Its purpose was not determined. Pottery from the feature was dated C17th-C19th.

South of the above, adjacent to the west section, a small feature (104) was exposed beneath the topsoil. Its full extent was beyond the trench, but it appeared to be of sub-rectangular form with a flat base and approximately 0.18 m. in depth. It contained light greyish brown sandy clay with limestone flecks (103). The feature has been tentatively dated to the C12th on the basis of two abraded sherds of pottery. No function was ascribed to the feature as the area excavated was too small.

The termination of an east-west linear earthwork (possibly a medieval holloway) adjacent to the site access from Tinkle Street was explained by a series of recent ground make-up horizons used to level the field frontage. Sealed by the topsoil, a layer of dark grey clayey silt with brick inclusions (105) was the latest of these deposits; it was 0.12 m. deep and sealed a further modern layer (106)/(115) and a land drain (112).

Layer (106)/(115) comprised a thin lens of crushed limestone set within a silt matrix (possibly washed down from (105)). It sealed two layers, (107) and (109) but their relationship to each other was lost due to truncation by the land drain (112). Context (109) contained a finite pottery assemblage dated mid C18th-mid C19th.; (107) contained a 'mixed bag' assemblage of mixed medieval and mid C18th-C20th.

Context (109), a buried soil, comprised mid-brown clay-silt with yellow/green mottling (implying an organic/phosphate content). Its lower B-horizon (110) was cut by a further east-west linear gully (114) although its relationship to (109) was not clear. The feature contained a fill of mid grey-brown clay-silt, but was devoid of dating evidence. Its depth was 0.2 m. and width 0.7 m. Its bowl shaped profile and orientation was similar to that of gully (102) and it could therefore be relatively recent in date.

The remaining deposit recorded within the trench, (107), was an undifferentiated grey-brown clay-silt with occasional brick or tile inclusions. It sealed the natural Till (108) at the south end of the trench within the possible holloway. Like (109), it was sealed by (106)/(115). If the east-west earthwork was indeed a holloway or track; then (107) may be interpreted as a buried soil equating to (109)/(110). Its lack of differentiation into A and B-horizons could be explained by churning and re-working during the track's period of use.

**Stratigraphic matrix:**

(100)		<b>Modern topsoil</b>
(105)		<b>Ground levelling</b>
(111) [112]		<b>Land Drain</b>
(106) = (115) = (116)		<b>Ground Levelling</b>
	(101) [102]	<b>Recent Gully</b>
(109)		
(107)	(113) [114]	<b>Undated Feature and Buried Soil</b>
(110)		
	(103) [104]	<b>Medieval Feature</b>
(108)		<b>Natural Glacial Till</b>

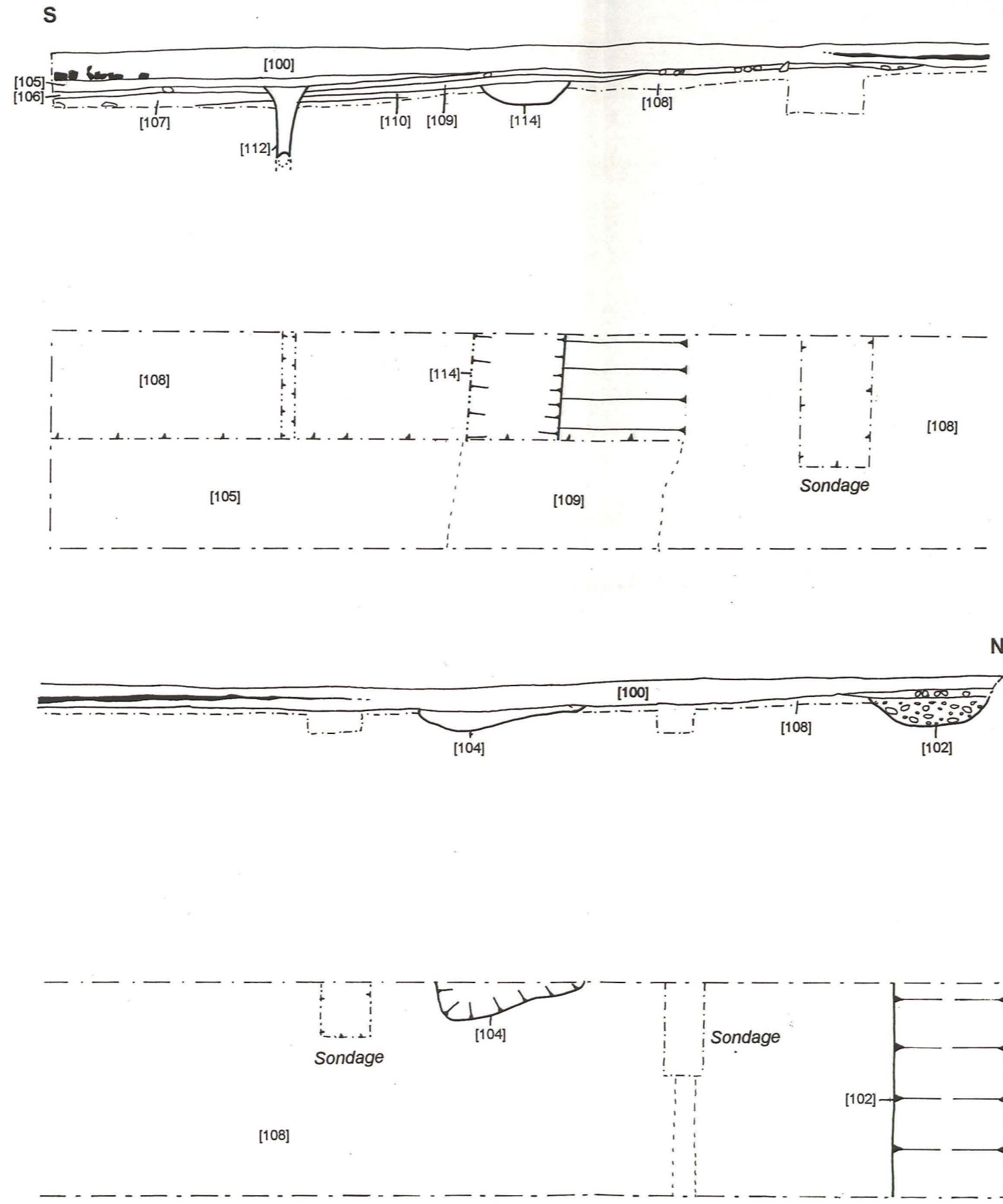


Fig. 3: Composite Plan and Section of Trial Trench  
 (drawn 1:20; reproduced 1:40)

## 7.0 Summary and Conclusions

The evaluation has assessed approximately 3.3% of the potential development area, which represents a moderately large sample for evaluation purposes.

Glebe Paddock, generally, has extensive but poorly understood extant earthworks, some of which may be affected by the proposed development. A raised area immediately east of the trial trench was apparently a wartime gun emplacement but it is unknown whether ground raising was undertaken as part of the construction; or whether the emplacement was built over a pre-existing (?building) platform.

The bulk of deposits recorded within the trench are of recent origin and appear to have been imported to the site to level existing earthworks (principally an east-west depression which may be a medieval holloway). The deposits are of limited archaeological significance.

Three features, a C12th pit [104] and undated gullies [114] and [102] are of more interest as they reflect local settlement activity. These deposits are likely to be adversely affected by any development. They do not, however, suggest dense archaeological remains and it is concluded on this basis that further intense archaeological intervention is unlikely to significantly enhance the existing archaeological record.

## 8.0 Acknowledgements

Many thanks to Manton and Bartle Architects for commissioning PCA (Lincoln) to undertake the evaluation. Thanks are also expressed to Ms J Young for producing an archive of the post-Roman/modern pottery, the site team for their hard work, and Ms S Grundy and Mr M Bennet of the County SMR

**9.0 Appendices**

9.1 Post-Roman pottery archive by J Young

9.2 List of contexts

9.3 Site archive

9.4 References

9.5 Colour Plates

## Appendix 9.1 Post-Roman Pottery Archive

Context	Ware	Sherds	Form	Comments.
101	BS	2	bowl; small	base
101	BL	2	bowl	rim; 18th-19th.
101	BL	1	bowl	rim; 18th-19th.
101	BL	1	bowl	rim; 18th-19th.
101	BL	1	bowl	base; 18th-19th.
101	BL	1	bowl	base; 18th-19th.
101	BL	1	bowl	base; 18th-19th.
101	BL	1	bowl	base; 18th-19th.
101	BL	3	bowl	base; 18th-19th.
101	BL	4	bowl	base & bs 18th-19th.
101	BL	9	bowl	bs; various 18-19th.
101	BL	1	?	bs; 17/18th.
101	BL	1	?	bs; 17/18th.
101	BL	1	?	?2 vess stuck together. 17/18th.
101	GRE	2	bowl	rim & bs.
101	LERTH	1	?	no inner / outer surface.
100	BL	1	bowl	base 18/19th.
100	BL	2	bowl	base 18/19th.
100	BL	1	bowl	rim; 18/19th.
100	MEDLOC	1	jug	bs.
106	LPM	3		various.
106	CRMWARE	1	cup	transfer print.
106	BL	1	?	17/18th.
106	TGE	1	open	bl/w dec.
109	LERTH	1		no surfaces.
109	FERTH	1	lid	18/19th.
107	LPM	1		highly burnt.
107	MEDLOC	1	jug	bs

Context	Ware	Sherds	Form	Comments.
107	MEDX	2	jug	very fine buff fabric; thumbed base.
104	MEDX	1	jug	gritty fabric; spl amber glaze.
104	LEMS	1	?	scrap.

POTTERY DATING ARCHIVE GPG96.

Context	Date.
100	mid 18th to early 19th.
101	mid 18th to early 19th
104	12th.
106	19th.
107	mid 18th to 20th or medieval
109	mid 18th to mid 19th.

## Appendix 9.2 List of contexts

Context	Description
100	Recent topsoil horizon comprised of a dark brown-grey undifferentiated sandy fine silt with occasional limestone inclusions. Very humic, it supported rough vegetation. Depth 17-26 cm.
101	Fill of [102], comprised of moderately compact limestone rubble with frequent brick inclusions contained within a light brown sandy clay matrix; depth <i>c.</i> 25 cm.
102	Cut: east-west aligned linear feature with <i>c.</i> 60° sides. Width <i>c.</i> 1.1 m. Depth 0.25 m. Broadly bowl shaped profile with a slightly flat base sloping towards the west.
103	Fill of [104], comprised of a light greyish brown sandy clay with occasional Fe mottling and limestone flecks. Depth <i>c.</i> 18 cm.
104	Cut: adjacent to western side of trench. Appears to be eastern limit of a sub-rounded pit or gully terminus. Contains [103] Depth <i>c.</i> 18 cm. to LOE.
105	Deposit comprised of a dark grey clayey silt with brick inclusions. depth <i>c.</i> 12 cm. deepening southwards. Upper deposit of ground raising/levelling dumps of east-west aligned Holloway.
106	Crushed limestone deposit sloping towards the south and contained within a silt matrix possibly washed from [105]. Depth <i>c.</i> 3 cm.
107	Mixed grey-brown clayey silt deposit with limestones and brick inclusions. Depth 10 cm. Represents an undifferentiated mixed deposit of buried topsoil and deliberate dump.
108	Natural Boulder Clay/Glacial Till: reddish brown clay with frequent chalk and flint inclusions.
109	Previous topsoil horizon: mid brown with yellow/green mottles (suggesting organic/phosphate content) clayey silt with chalk and occasional brick fragments. Depth 8 cm.
110	Mixed grey-brown clayey silt deposit with limestones and brick inclusions. Depth 7 cm. Possibly represents a differentiated B horizon of [109].



- 111 Fill of [112]. Comprised of a mid grey-brown clayey silt with inclusions of chalk, brick and broken land drain. Depth 56 cm. to LOE.
- 112 Vertically sided cut for east-west aligned modern land drain.
- 113 Fill of [114]. Comprised of a light to mid grey-brown clayey silt. Depth 20 cm.
- 114 Cut of east-west aligned shallow linear feature, depth 20 cm. with a 'U' shaped profile.
- 115 Same as [106]
- 116 Levelling deposit of crushed limestone. Probably same as [106/115]. Depth 6 cm.

### Appendix 9.3 Site archive

Primary records and finds are currently with PCA; a detailed site archive of the paper and physical element is in preparation. This will be deposited at the City and County Museum, Lincoln within six months following project completion. A summary of material contained in the archive is presented thus:-

- x17 context record sheets
- x 1 composite 1:20 site drawings
- x 1 colour print films
- x1 post-Roman pottery archive by J Young
- x1 box of artefacts
- interim/developers report
- miscellaneous notes and correspondence.

Following submission, the site archive may be accessed at Lincoln City and County Museum by quoting the global accession number: 174.96

### 9.4 References

- Dept. of the Environment    1990    Archaeology and Planning: *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16*

Mills AD

1993 *English Place Names*

Pevsner N and Harris J

1989 'Lincolnshire' *The Buildings of England*

County Sites and  
Monuments Record

'Grimoldby' *Parish File*

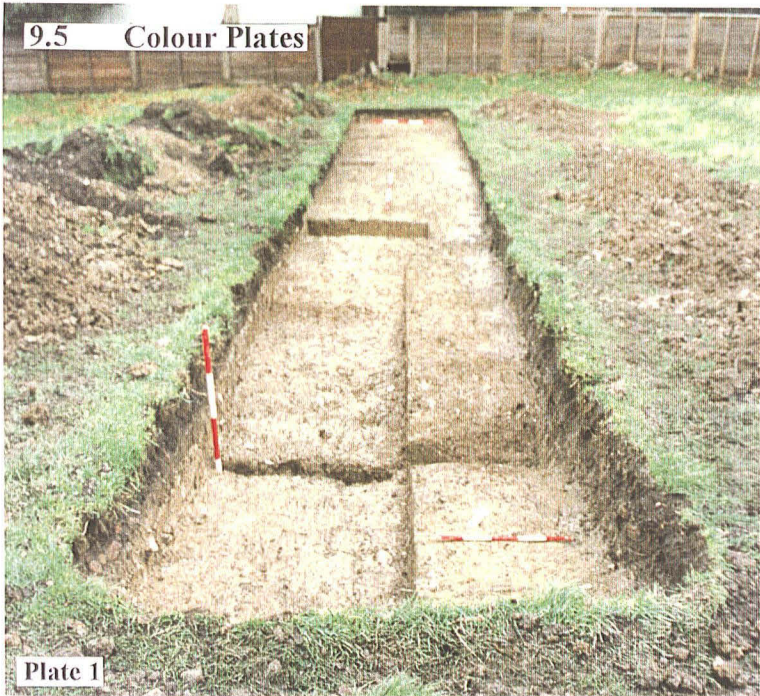




Plate 5



Plate 6



Plate 7

Plate 1: General view, post excavation, looking north

Plate 2: Feature [114], looking west

Plate 3: Feature [104], looking west

Plate 4: Feature [102], looking east

Plate 5, 6 & 7: Working shots