

97/14

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT**  
**WADDINGHAM GRANGE FARM, WADDINGHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE**

Site Code: GFW97  
LCNCC Acc No. 302.97  
NGR: SK 9720 9630  
Planning Ref. 97/P/0794

Lincolnshire County Council  
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Report prepared for Ermine Farms Ltd. by  
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December 1997

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Fig. 1 1: 10,000 site location

Fig. 2 Simplified ground plan, incorporating location of monitored foundation pits

### Summary

- \* An archaeological recording brief took place during the groundworks for an agricultural steel framed shed at Waddingham Grange farm, Waddingham, Lincolnshire. (Fig. 1)
- \* No archaeological artefactual evidence was recovered and no significant archaeological features were exposed, and an early termination of the brief was approved.

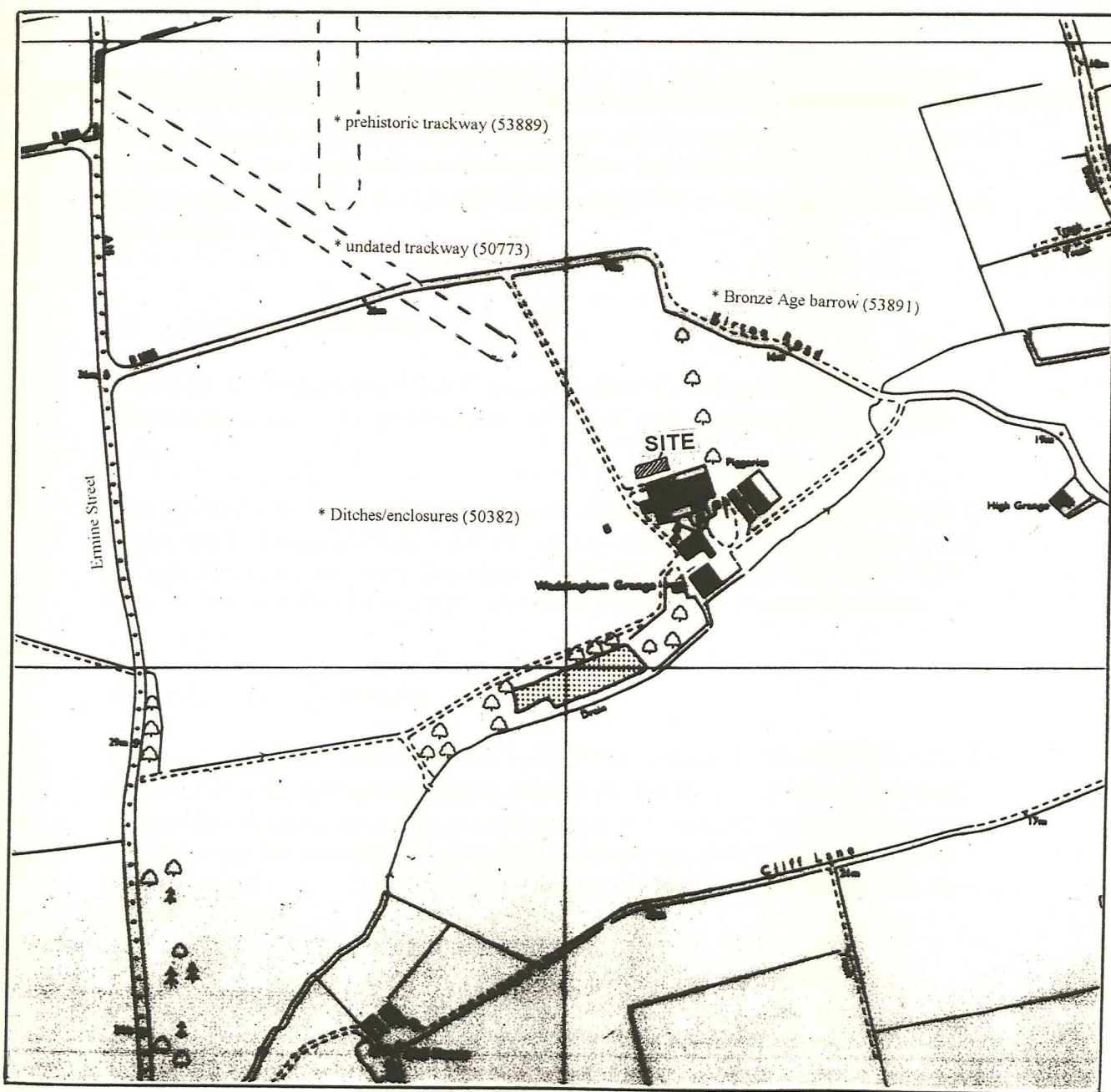


Fig. 1: Site location at 1:10,000

OS copyright reference No. AL 51521 A0001

## 1.0 Introduction

Pre-Construct Archaeology carried out a standard archaeological watching brief for Ermine Farms Ltd during the groundworks for a steel framed shed for the rearing of pigs at Waddingham Grange Farm, Waddingham, Lincolnshire. The structure measures approximately 47m east-west, 26m north-south, and required the excavation of 37 foundation pits. A prior agreement between the Assistant County Archaeologist and the client allowed for the monitoring of 12 pits with a proviso that, if no significant deposits were exposed at this stage, termination of the watching brief would result. 15 negative pits were actually monitored during a site visit on the 1/12/97, and the recording brief was duly terminated.

A copy of this report will be deposited at the County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and a short note will be submitted to the editor of the county archaeological journal, *Lincolnshire History and Archaeology*; effectively placing the information in the public domain. Copies of the developer report will be forwarded to the local planning authority and to the Lincolnshire Archives Office (forming part of the long-term project archive).

## 2.0 Location and description

Waddingham Grange Farm is less than 1km west of the village of itself in the administrative district of West Lindsey, 2km south-east of Kirton in Lindsey (SK 9720 9630).

]The site of the development is situated immediately north of an existing range of pig rearing sheds. The site lies at an elevation approximately 20m OD: it declines gently towards the north-east, into a dry valley which extends along the line of the B1205. Soils on the site are stony thin silty clays, directly overlying Jurassic limestone.

## 3.0 Purpose and methods

The County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) contains entries which indicate the proximity of important archaeological remains around the area of the development. The protection and/or recording of such remains is paramount to the principles in the Department of the Environment document *Archaeology and Planning: Planning Policy Guidance Note 16* (PPG16), the essence of which has been adopted by the local planning authority.

In view of the fact that the development would pose a potential threat to the archaeological resource, the planning permission was granted, subject to the undertaking of an archaeological watching brief. The concept may be broadly defined as follows:

*'An archaeological watching brief is defined as a programme of observation and investigation conducted during the destruction of archaeological deposits, resulting*

*in the preparation of a report and ordered archive'* (Institute of Field Archaeologists draft on Standard Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs, 1993.)

Monitoring consisted of monitoring the excavations of selective foundation pits, followed by inspection and cleaning of section faces. This was carried out by the writer.

Basic archaeological recording was undertaken using standard proforma context sheets (incorporating physical descriptions, interpretations and stratigraphic relationships). Comprehensive photographic recording was also undertaken and some prints are reproduced in this report.

Artefacts (pottery, animal bone and other finds) were not recovered on this occasion.

Observation points were plotted on 1:100 development plans supplied by the client and these, as well as the remainder of the paper element, will form the long-term project archive (to be submitted at the City and County Museum, Lincoln, within 6 months).

#### **4.0 Archaeological and Historic Background**

During the long prehistoric era (ie the so-called Stone, Bronze, and Iron Ages) the area surrounding Waddingham appears to have been intensively occupied or used by human communities, although these early phases are poorly understood. Late Neolithic and Bronze age activity is indicated by surface finds such as stone axes (these were used extensively in the Neolithic period (c. 4000BC - 2500BC) to clear areas of forest as well as manage woodland in stock-rearing areas). Cropmarks of ploughed-out round barrows the burial monuments of the succeeding Bronze Age (c. 2500BC - 800BC) are common in this area.

Other cropmarks indicate that there are ditches and enclosure-type complexes to the west of the farm, and there is a known prehistoric trackway to the north, as well as an undated trackway to the north-west: the alignment of this suggested the possibility that associated remains could be disturbed as a result of the development.

Iron Age/early Roman activity is indicated by the presence of a *Brigantian* (the name given to the late Iron Age Yorkshire 'tribe' to the north of the local *Corieltavian* territory) coin (PRN 50768) although the exact location of the find is not known (it may be that some of the boundary ditches in the area, recorded from the air as cropmarks, pertain to this period). The Roman road Ermine Street is approximately 200m west of the site, and Roman coins and pottery found in the area indicate a definite Roman presence (there may, for example, be farmsteads located close by).

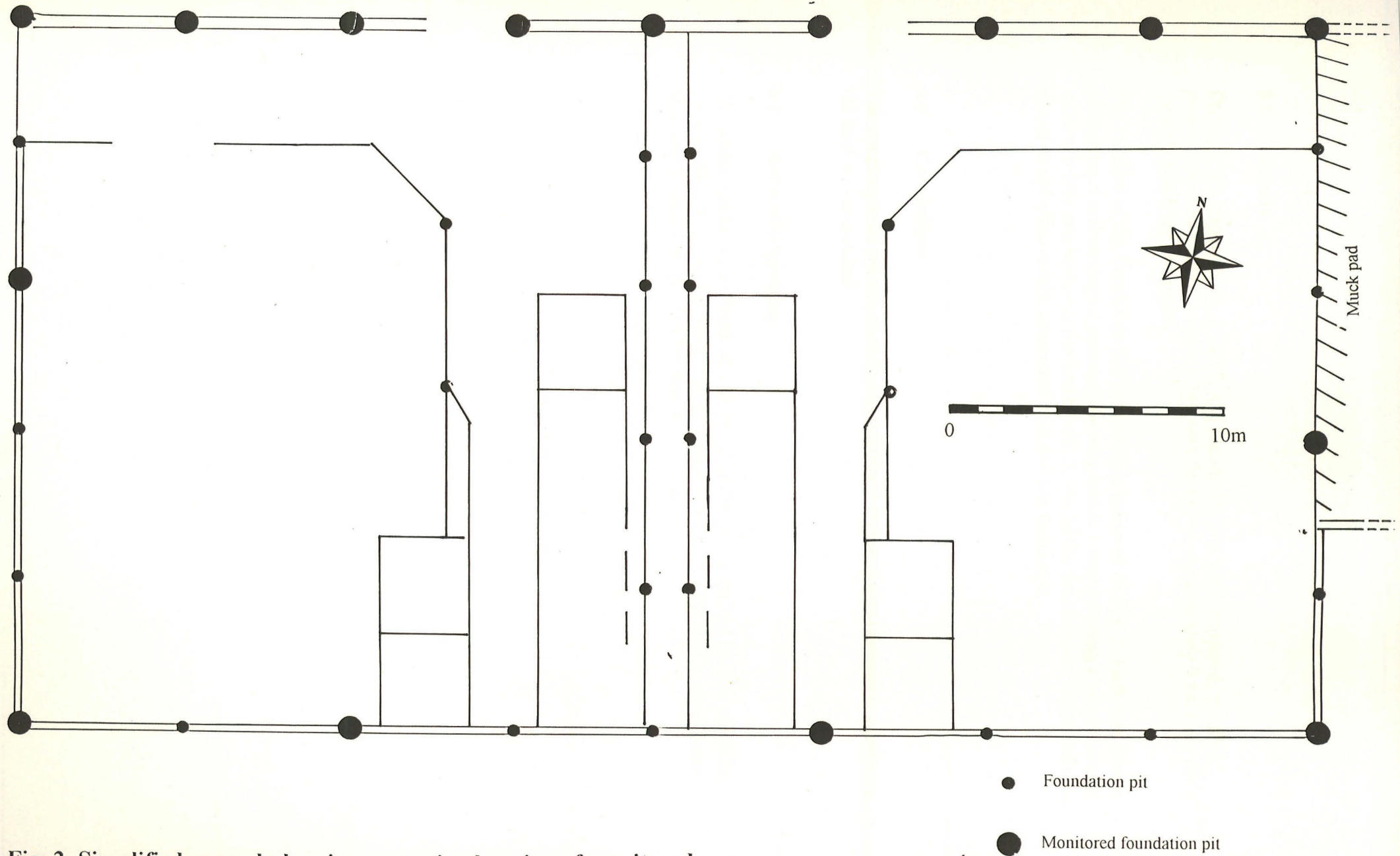


Fig. 2 Simplified ground plan, incorporating location of monitored foundation pits



## **5.0 Results**

During a site inspection on 1/12/97, x15 foundation pits were inspected, the plan dimensions of each being 1.2m x 1.2m, with depths to approximately 0.6m (into the natural underlying limestone).

The location of the foundation pits monitored is indicated on Fig. 2. Each was devoid of significant archaeological remains; the only feature observed being a pit containing modern bricks and bottles in the south-west corner of the development (apparently the site of an old effluent tank associated with existing buildings).

## **6.0 Conclusions**

The watching brief did not identify any significant archaeological deposits. Therefore, the brief was terminated.

## **6.1 Acknowledgements**

The writer would like to thank Mrs M. Ward of Ermine Farms Ltd for this commission, and also Mr J Bonnor (Assistant County Archaeologist) and the staff at the County Sites and Monuments Record for their help and assistance.

**7.0 Appendices:**

**7.1 Site archive**

**7.2 Information derived from the County Sites and Monuments Record**

**7.3 References**

**7.4 Colour photographs**

## 7.1 Site Archive

The site archive consists of :

### Paper Element:

1	Project Brief
1	Project Specification
1	Drawing record sheet
1	General account sheet
1	Context record sheet
1	Development plan
2	Colour print films

### Object Element:

No artefacts were recovered

Primary records are currently with PCA (Lincoln). An ordered archive is in preparation and will be deposited at the City and County Museum, Lincoln, within six months.

## 7.2 Information derived from the County SMR

PRN	NGR	Description
50800	SK 98200 96500	Faint cropmarks of ditches.
50782	SK 98070 96020	Possible site of a Medieval Manor House
50779	TF 01900 96110	Old Tollgate Bridge
50778	SK 99230 96920	Old Mill, Waddingham Beck
50777	SK 98130 96120	Anderson's Mill
50776	Unlocated	Site of Domesday Mill
50771	SK 98800 96500	Medieval Pottery and brick
50770	SK 98800 96500	Romano-British Pottery
50769	SK 98160 96020	Roman Coin
50768	Unlocated	Brigantian Gold Coin
51032	Unlocated	Bronze Age Spearhead
50766	TF 00500 95500	Polished Stone Axe

50767	Unlocated	Basalt Axe Hammer
50816	TF 01450 97000	Brandy Wharf
53885	SK 99550 95500	Possible Site of Brick Yard
53884	SK 96260 96050	Stone Quarry
53881	SK 96300 95500	Old Stone Pit
50774	SK 96500 95640	Round Barrow Cemetery
50803	SK98400 95800	Cropmarks of Field Boundaries
50384	SK 97860 97100	Bronze Age Round Barrow
50383	SK 98630 95800	Linear Cropmark
50781	SK 98740 96350	St. Mary's Church
50780	SK 98750 96350	Site of St. Peter's Church
50775	SK 96500 95800	Circular Cropmark
50773	SK 96610 96670	Traces of a Track
50772	SK 97430 96420	Mound
50802	SK 98550 95350	Cropmarks of Enclosures and Field Boundaries
50931	SK 98930 96020	Small Cropmark Enclosure
50382	SK 96500 96100	Linear Cropmark
50330	TF 00300 73700	Jurassic Spine Multiple linear boundary
50799	SK 98200 96100	Settlement of Waddingham St Mary Alias Stainton
50784	SK 9870096300	Settlement of Waddingham St Peters
50785	SK 96760 96320	Undated linear feature
50786	SK 96470 95910	Undated Linear Feature
53886	SK 98350 95150	Searchlight Battery
53887	SK 97630 95080	Prehistoric Cropmark

53888	SK 96510 95690	Prehistoric Trackway
53889	SK 96620 96860	Prehistoric Trackway
53890	SK 97020 95960	Undated Linear Feature
53891	SK 97250 96580	Bronze Age Round Barrow
53892	SK 98050 95380	Undated Boundary
53893	SK 98200 97040	Prehistoric Enclosure
53894	SK 98730 97710	Undated Pits
53895	SK 99320 95420	Prehistoric trackway
53896	SK 99760 97980	Medieval Ridge and Furrow
53897	SK 97840 97020	Undated Boundary
53898	SK 97540 95030	Bronze Age Round Barrow

### 7.3 References

May, J      1976    *Prehistoric Lincolnshire*

## Appendix 7.4 Colour photographs



P1 General view of site following soil stripping and during the excavations for north wall of building



P2 Typical foundation pit (example = central pit, north wall of building)