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Event LI3109

Source LI7829

**RETAINED FIRE STATION, MILL LANE, BILLINGHAY**

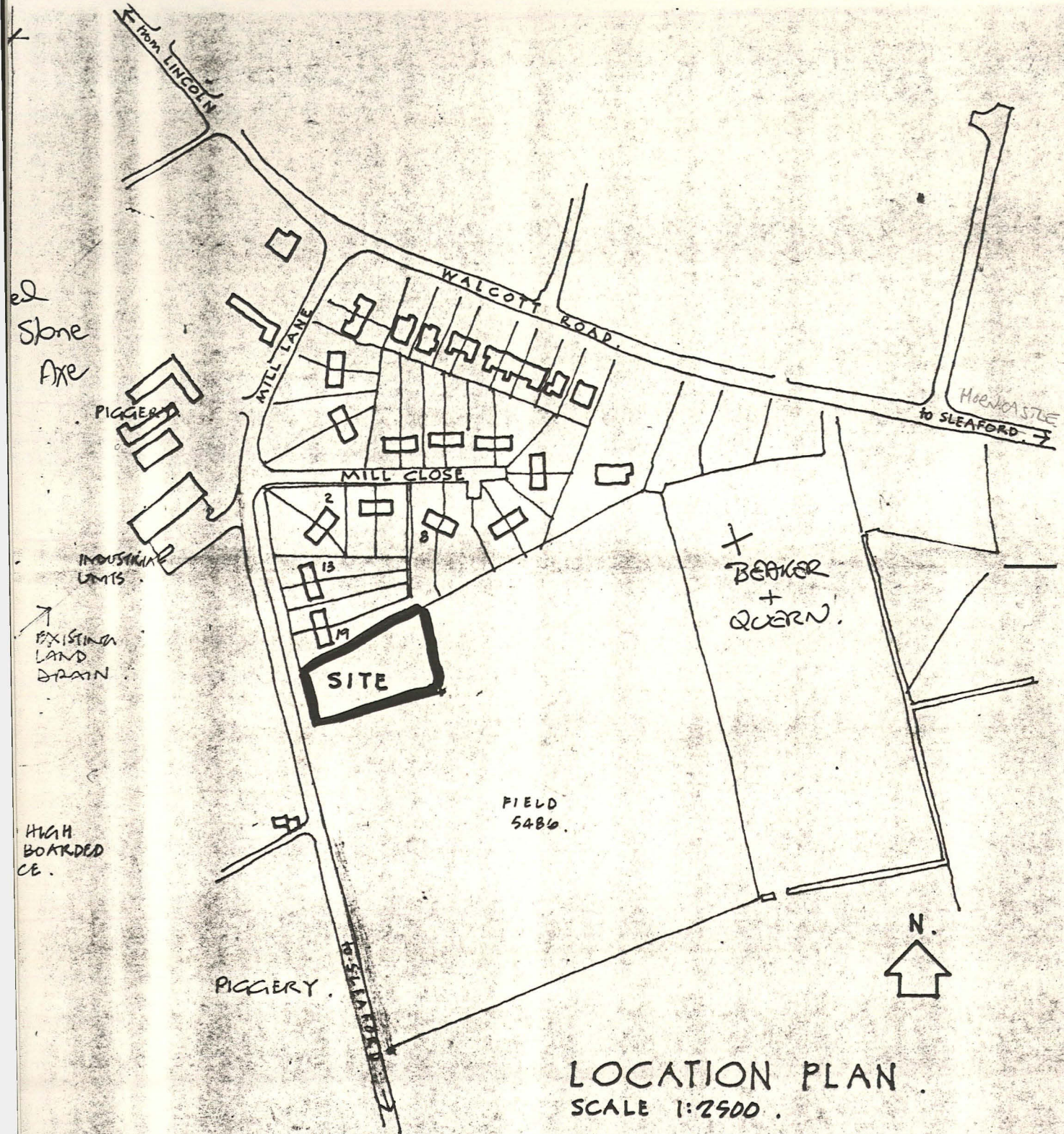
**Archaeological Watching Brief**

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**LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES**

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project

PROPOSED SINGLE  
BAY RETAINED FIRE  
STATION. MILL LANE  
BILLINGHAM.

GENERAL ARRANGEMENT.



## RETAINED FIRE STATION, MILL LANE, BILLINGHAY

### Archaeological Watching Brief TF 14475490

#### Introduction

A watching brief was kept on a site in Mill Lane, Billingham during topsoil stripping, in advance of construction of a new fire station by the Land and Buildings Consultancy of the Lincolnshire County Council. Work was carried out on behalf of the County Archaeological Officer by Lindsey Archaeological Services.

#### Background

Bronze Age Beaker pottery and a fragment of a quernstone had been discovered on ground immediately east of the site and a Neolithic polished stone axe to the north-west. The site is located on the Fen Edge and the potential for further archaeological discoveries was thought to be high.

#### The Site

The development site comprises part of a field, sown with wheat, located on the east side of Mill Lane. It measures 62 x 39m (maximum). The ground was cleared of crop and the top 300mm of soil was removed.

#### Results

The topsoil comprised light brown sandy loam with a large number of small water-worn pebbles. There was also a small quantity of flint inclusions present. The depth of topsoil was 0.25m and it overlay a subsoil of orange-brown sandy clay which also contained numerous pebbles.

Part of the topsoil stripping was observed but because of repeated JCB breakdown the work had to be completed over the Bank Holiday weekend and was not directly monitored. The field was subsequently walked at 5m intervals prior to the digging of foundations. Only one piece of a medieval pot base was found.

#### Conclusion

Although the development site is in the vicinity of prehistoric material nothing was seen on the site itself. The topsoil stripping had already dug into the natural soil levels so it was considered unnecessary to observe the digging of the foundation and service trenches.

#### Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Mr Alf Thompson of William Wright Construction for his assistance and the JCB driver for his co-operation on site.

Naomi Field  
June 10th 1992





Laying out of site and commencement of site clearance

Site clearance: removal of crop







Topsoil removal