97/7

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT
(Supplement)
Lagoon Walk, Skegness, Lincolnshire

Site Code: LW 97
LCNCC Acc No. 55.97
NGR: TF 572 624

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Summary

* *An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the excavation of a series of geotechnical and environmental test pits at Lagoon Walk, Skegness, Lincolnshire (TF 572 624).*

* *Only modern dumped rubble, a limestone hard-standing associated with the boat club compound and beach deposits were encountered.*

* *This report constitutes a supplement to the watching brief report for the Phase 1 work at Lagoon Walk.*

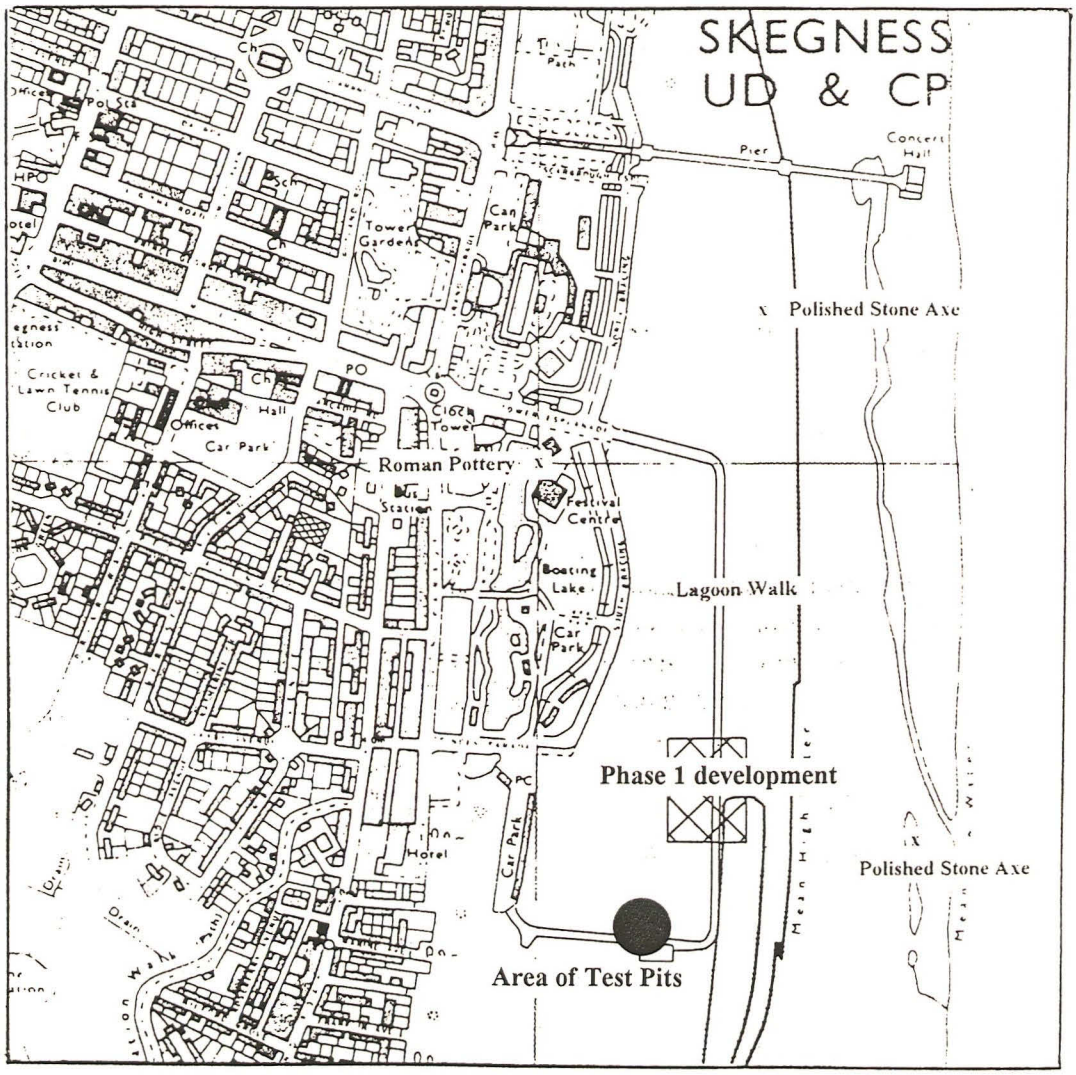

Fig. 1: Site location incorporating principal entries from the County Sites & Monuments Record (1:10,000)
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1.0 Introduction

Sixteen geotechnical and environmental test pits were excavated by Posford Duvivier (Consulting Engineers) for the Environment Agency at Lagoon Walk, Skegness (Figs. 1 & 2). The purpose of the work was to establish the nature of the deposits in areas of the site which would be subject to erosion. Details of the location, geology and archaeological and historical background of the site were given in the watching brief report for the phase one development.

2.0 Purpose and Methods

A watching brief was carried out during the excavation of the test pits to record any archaeological deposits encountered. This work also provided an opportunity to assess any such deposits that would subsequently be eroded. The work was carried out over two days in June and one day in October 1997. The pits were excavated using the rear bucket of a JCB up to a depth of c.3.2m.. Each of the pits was backfilled immediately after the necessary recording work had been completed.

3.0 Results

Geotechnical Test Pit 1
(0.6m. x 2.5m. in plan and 3.1m deep)
Only modern yellow beach sand [200] was present. The top 0.5m. contained roots from the surface vegetation. Patches of black stained sand were present in the base of the pit.

Geotechnical Test Pit 2
(0.6m. x 3.3m. in plan and c.3m. deep)
Only modern beach sand containing shells was observed.

Geotechnical Test Pit 3
(0.6m. x 3.1m. in plan and 2.8m. deep)
The modern beach sand contained a black sand-clay layer at a depth of 2m. below the surface. This layer was <0.05m. thick and contained modern material.

Geotechnical Test Pit 4
(0.6m. x 3.0m. in plan and c.3m. deep)
Modern beach sand was present, the top 0.5m.of which contained roots. At a depth of 2.2m. was a layer of black sand <0.05m. thick.

Geotechnical Test Pit 5
(1.3m. x 3.1m. in plan and 3.0m. deep)
A modern deposit of brick and stone rubble 1.2m. thick [201] was above the beach sand.

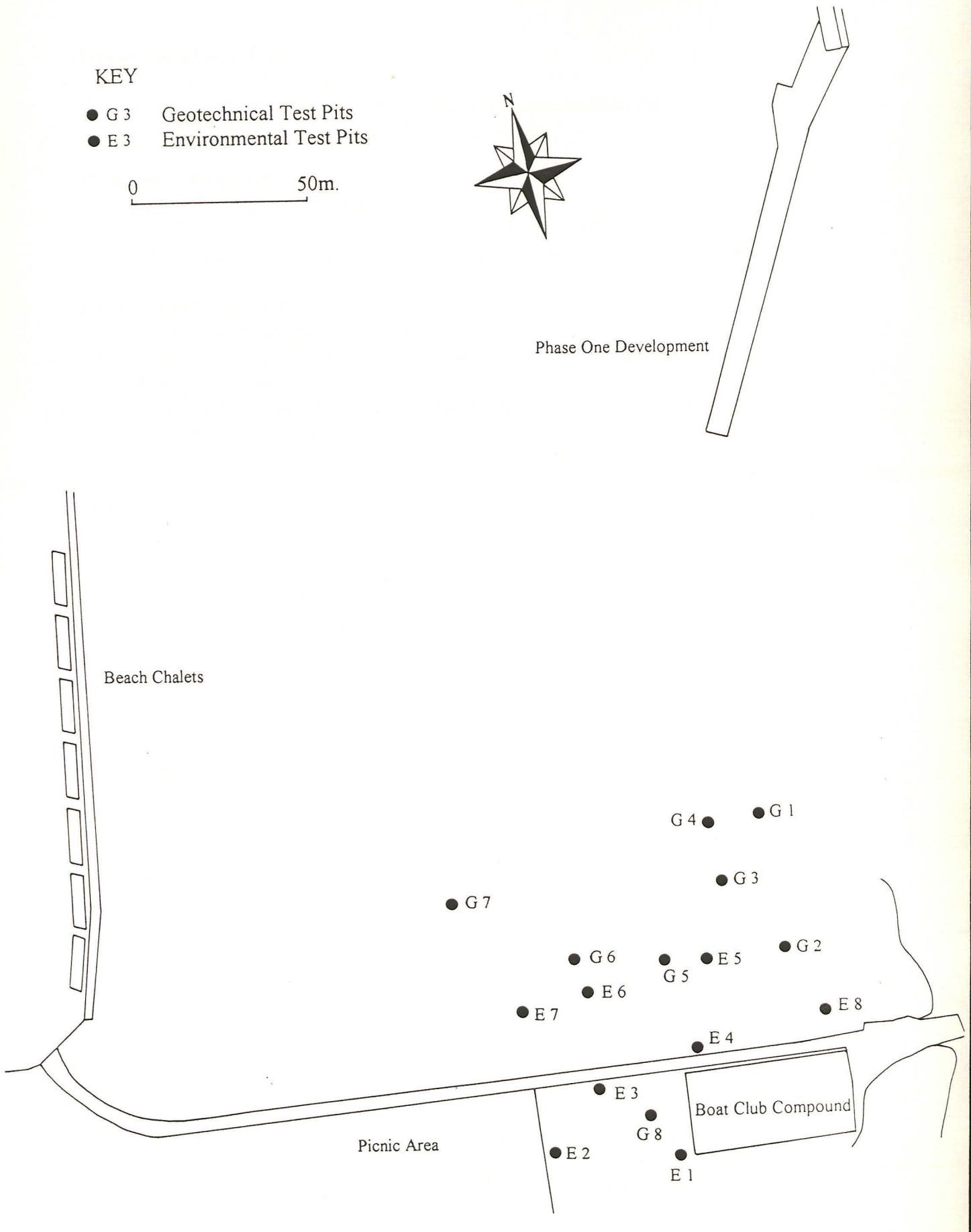

Fig. 2: Location of Test Pits

Geotechnical Test Pit 6
(1.0m. x 2.9m. in plan and 3.2m. deep)
The modern beach sand was overlain by 0.5m. of dumped rubble. Patches of black sand were present at a depth of 2.8m. below the surface.

Geotechnical Test Pit 7
(0.8m. x 3.0m. in plan and 2.9m. deep)
Dumped rubble 0.7m thick sealed the modern beach sand. Black clay layers, containing roots and plant remains, were present at 1.0m. and 1.7m. below the surface.

Geotechnical Test Pit 8
(0.7m. x 2.8m. in plan and c.3m. deep)
This pit was located to the west of the boat club compound. A medium brown clay with rubble [202], 0.7m. thick, was above the modern beach sand. A layer of black clay, <0.05m. thick, was present in the sand at a depth of 1.4m. below the surface. At a depth of 1.6m. was the top of a light grey sand [203]. This deposit extended to the base of the pit and contained a black clay layer at a depth of 2.2m..

Environmental Test Pit 1
(1.8m. x 1.8m. in plan and 1.8m. deep)
This pit was located just west of the boat club compound. Underlying 0.1m. of dark brown sand topsoil [300] was a layer of brown-yellow mainly wind-blown sand [301] of equal thickness. Below these was a layer of compacted limestone rubble [302], which was 0.2m. thick. This had probably formed a hard-standing associated with the boat club compound. The underlying layer of grey-brown clay-sand [303] was 0.6m. thick and contained modern bricks and breeze blocks. This sealed yellow beach sand containing black clay-silt layers [304] which extended to the bottom of the pit (0.8m.).

Environmental Test Pit 2
(1.8m. x c.2.0m. in plan and 1.7m. deep)
This pit was located just to the east of the picnic area. Wind-blown sand 0.5m. thick sealed 0.3m. of clay-sand which contained modern rubble. Underlying this was 0.9m. of yellow sand with a black clay-silt layer at a depth of 1.3m..

Environmental Test Pit 3
(1.8m. x c.2.0m. in plan and 1.8m. deep)
This pit was situated just south of the boat club access road. A superficial layer of wind-blown sand and grass covered 0.1m. of compacted limestone. Below this was 0.2m. of clay-sand with rubble sealing beach sand. A layer of black clay-silt was present at a depth of 1.3m..

Environmental Test Pit 4
(1.8m. x 3.8m. in plan and 1.8m. deep)
This pit was beside the road north of the boat club compound. Beneath a thin layer of wind-blown sand and grass was 0.3m. of clay-sand with rubble. The top of the underlying beach sand contained fragments of iron slag which had presumably spread from the make up of the adjacent road.

Environmental Test Pit 5
(1.8m. x 2.5m. in plan and 1.5m. deep)
Below the surface vegetation was 0.6m. of dumped clay-sand with rubble. This was overlying modern beach sand.

Environmental Test Pit 6
(1.8m. x c.2.0m. in plan and 1.5m. deep)
This pit contained only yellow beach sand.

Environmental Test Pit 7
(1.8m. x c.2.0m. in plan and c.2.0m deep)
This pit contained a 1.0m. thick dumped deposit of modern rubble with sand [305] overlying the beach sand.

Environmental Test Pit 8
(1.8m. x 1.6m. in plan and c.2.5m. deep)
Within the modern beach sand, at a depth of 1.4m., was a layer of black silt [306] which was 0.20m. thick. This layer contained a drinks can with a 1993 'best before' date.

4.0 Discussion and Conclusion

The presence of only modern dumped deposits and natural beach material means that the test pits have had no impact on the archaeological resource whatsoever. The test pits, and the results of the watching brief on the phase one development c.200m. to the north-north-east, seem to indicate that the earlier coastline was further west (i.e. inland) of the present position. This means that, unlike much of the rest of the Lincolnshire Coast, erosion does not seem to present any immediate threat to archaeological deposits in this location.

5.0 Acknowledgements

Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) express their sincere thanks to Harry Lunt and Steve Vernon of the Environment Agency, and Michelle Phillipson and Jane Griffiths of Posford Duvivier Ltd.

6.0 Appendices

6.1 List of Contexts

Context	Description
200	Beach sand.
201	Dumped rubble with silt-sand matrix.
202	Mixed clay and rubble.
203	Beach sand.
300	Topsoil.
301	Wind-blown sand.
302	Limestone rubble hard-standing.
303	Clay-sand.
304	Beach sand.
305	Sand with rubble.
306	Black silt.