

Witham Archaeology

A Report to Myriad CEG Wind Ltd

October 2012



NEW WIND TURBINE AT MANOR FARM, WRAWBY, NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE

Archaeological Watching Brief

R Trimble

NEW WIND TURBINE AT MANOR FARM, WRAWBY, NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE

Site Code: WRAU
Museum Accession No.: To be confirmed
Planning Application No.: PA/2012/0278
NGR: TA 02079 08308
OASIS ID: withamar1-129033

Archaeological Watching Brief

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NEW WIND TURBINE AT MANOR FARM, WRAWBY, NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Witham Archaeology during groundworks relating to the construction of a wind turbine on agricultural land at Manor Farm, Wrawby, North Lincolnshire. The work was commissioned by Myriad CEG Wind Ltd on behalf of Mr Richard Stephenson, in response to a condition of planning permission imposed by North Lincolnshire Council.

Previous archaeological work on land c. 500m to the south has revealed evidence of Iron Age and Romano-British settlement. The watching brief at Manor Farm revealed no evidence of comparable activity.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Witham Archaeology during groundworks relating to the construction of a wind turbine on agricultural land at Manor Farm, Wrawby, North Lincolnshire. The work was commissioned by Myriad CEG Wind Ltd on behalf of Mr Richard Stephenson, in response to a condition of planning permission imposed by North Lincolnshire Council (Planning Ref. PA/2012/0278). Fieldwork was carried out on 6th June 2012.

The information in this document is presented with the proviso that further data may yet emerge. Witham Archaeology cannot, therefore, be held responsible for any loss, delay or damage, material or otherwise, arising out of this report. The document has been prepared in accordance with the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

2.0 SITE LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY & GEOLOGY (see Figs. 1 & 2)

The village of Wrawby lies c. 15km east of Scunthorpe and 5km northeast of Brigg, in the parish of Wrawby and administrative district of North Lincolnshire. Manor Farm is situated on the south side of Brigg Road on the southern periphery of the village.

The new wind turbine is located on arable land, at a distance of approximately 150m southeast of the farmyard, at NGR TA 02079 08308.

The solid geology of the area is mudstone of the Amthill Clay Formation. It is overlain by superficial deposits of mid Pleistocene glaciofluvial sand and gravel (British Geological Survey, Solid & Drift 1:50 000, bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer).

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The site lies approximately 500m north of Iron Age and Romano-British settlement remains (NGR TA 019 077), first identified in 1962. Fieldwork in the period 1962-64 resulted in the recovery of pottery (greyware, mortaria, samian and painted sherds), and roof-tile and the discovery of an 8ft. long structure comprising two parallel courses of stone and covering slabs (HER Ref. No. 2226).

Various episodes of fieldwalking were carried out during the period 2001 to 2006, by the Wrawby Local History Group in conjunction with staff from North Lincolnshire Museum, resulting in further definition of the limits of the settlement. A Heritage Lottery funded geophysical survey in 2006 (Smalley 2006) identified a series of rectilinear anomalies in the northern part of the area, in Wrawby

parish, and possible Iron Age settlement, including 5 possible round houses set within two sets of defensive banks and ditches in Bigby parish. The latter lay within 'Camp' field, where aerial photographic evidence had indicated a sub-circular enclosure. In 2007 a Heritage Lottery funded programme of trial trench evaluation (Murphy 2008) was carried out. Trenches on the Wrawby side of the parish boundary revealed evidence of primarily Romano-British domestic occupation of the 1st and 2nd centuries with some 3rd and 4th century activity including at least one high status building. Trenches in the southern part of the area, in Bigby parish, revealed a probable enclosure and associated Iron Age settlement.

An entry in the notebook of James Henry Loft, an antiquarian from Healing, refers to the discovery of almost 100 skeletons in gravel workings on Wrawby Hill, south of Wrawby Mill. The remains were said to have been associated with spearheads and other weapons, harness buckles and coins. The cemetery was probably Anglo-Saxon (HER Ref. No. 20332).

Wrawby is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086, where it is referred to as 'Waregebi' (HER Ref. No. 9732). The place-name is thought to derive from an amalgamation of the Old Danish personal name 'Wraghi' and the Old Danish 'by', meaning Wraghi's farmstead or village (Cameron 1998, 144).

4.0 AIMS & OBJECTIVES

The principal objectives of the project, as set out in a Witham Archaeology specification of 29th May 2012, were to:

- *allow the preservation by record of any surviving archaeological deposits and artefacts exposed by the development groundwork within the constraints imposed by the contractor's working methods, programme and development design. More specifically, the project will seek to determine the form, function, date and stratigraphic position of recorded features.*
- *Interpret any remains which might be recorded, in the context of the known archaeology of the site and surrounding area.*
- *produce a project archive for deposition with the appropriate museum together with a client report.*
- *provide information for accession to the County Historic Environment Record.*

5.0 METHODOLOGY

The cable trench, starting at Manor Farm, was excavated to a width of 700mm and depths of between 1.2 and 1.4m, while the trench for the turbine base, measuring 5 x 5m in area, was excavated to a depth of around 1.2m deep. The sides of the cable trench were too unstable for safe access. All observations were therefore made from the trench side. All spoilheaps were checked for evidence of displaced artefacts.

Following excavation of the trench for the turbine base, the south facing section of the area was cleaned by hand, photographed and recorded.

The site record was compiled through monochrome 35mm and colour digital photography, section drawings at scale 1:20, and written context descriptions on individual *pro forma* context sheets.

6.0 RESULTS (see Fig. 2)

For full context descriptions, see Appendix.

Drift geology of sand and gravel (003) extended throughout the areas excavated, at a depths of around 0.60m below existing ground level. The sand and gravel was interspersed with randomly distributed and irregularly shaped areas of mid yellowish brown sandy silt (003), contained in pockets interpreted as probably resulting from ice wedges.

Cleaning of the south facing section of the trench for the turbine base, revealed a sequence of sand and gravel (003), overlain by mid brown silty sand *c.* 0.25m thick (004). The latter deposit was present throughout and probably represented a relict plough soil.

Topsoil (001) averaged 0.40m in depth.

No displaced artefacts were found in excavated material.

7.0 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

Constant monitoring during excavations for the cable run and turbine base revealed a sequence of natural sand and gravel overlain by subsoil or relict ploughsoil, in turn sealed by the existing topsoil. There was no evidence to suggest remains comparable to those encountered on the nearby Iron Age and Romano-British settlement site.

8.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author would like to thank Mr Tim Hill of Myriad CEG Wind Ltd and Mr Richard Stephenson of Manor Farm, for their interest and cooperation in ensuring the successful completion of the project. Thanks are also due to Alison Williams (Historic Environment Team, North Lincolnshire Council) and Rose Nicholson (North Lincolnshire Museum Service) for assistance and advice during initiation of the project.

9.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Cameron, K & Insley, J 1998 *A Dictionary of Lincolnshire Place-Names*. English Place-Name Society

Murphy, K 2008 *Archaeological Investigation on Land at Wrawby, North Lincolnshire (WRF07)*. Archaeological Project Services Report No. 35/08

Smalley, R 2006 *Geophysical Survey Report: Wrawby, North Lincolnshire*. Unpublished report by Stratascan Ltd.

10.0 PROJECT/ ARCHIVE DETAILS

10.1 Project Details

SITE CODE: WRAU

PLANNING APPLICATION No.: PA/2012/0278

FIELD OFFICER: R Trimble

NGR: TA 02079 08308

CIVIL PARISH: Wrawby

HER No.: -

DATE OF INTERVENTION: 6th June 2012

TYPE OF INTERVENTION: Watching Brief

UNDERTAKEN FOR: Myriad CEG Wind Ltd on behalf of Mr Richard Stephenson

10.2 Archive Details

PRESENT LOCATION: Witham Archaeology, Unit 6, Sleaford Station Business Centre, Station Road, Sleaford, Lincolnshire, NG34 7RG

DESIGNATED REPOSITORY: North Lincolnshire Museum Service

MUSEUM ACCESSION No.: To be allocated upon accession

PROPOSED ACCESSION DATE: - September 2012

The Site Archive Comprises:

Context Records	4
Section Drawing at Scale 1:20	1
Monochrome Photographs	5
Digital Photographs	1
Site Notes	1

It is intended that transfer of the archive in accordance with current published requirements will be undertaken following completion of this project.

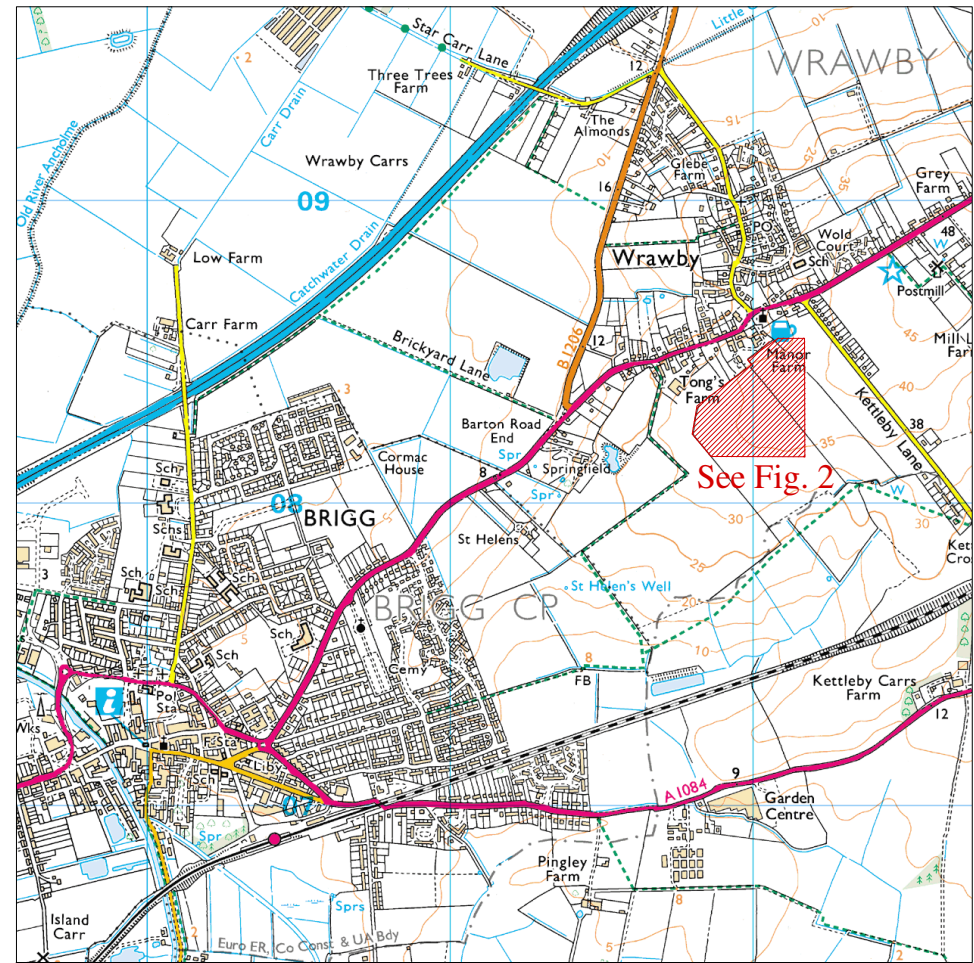
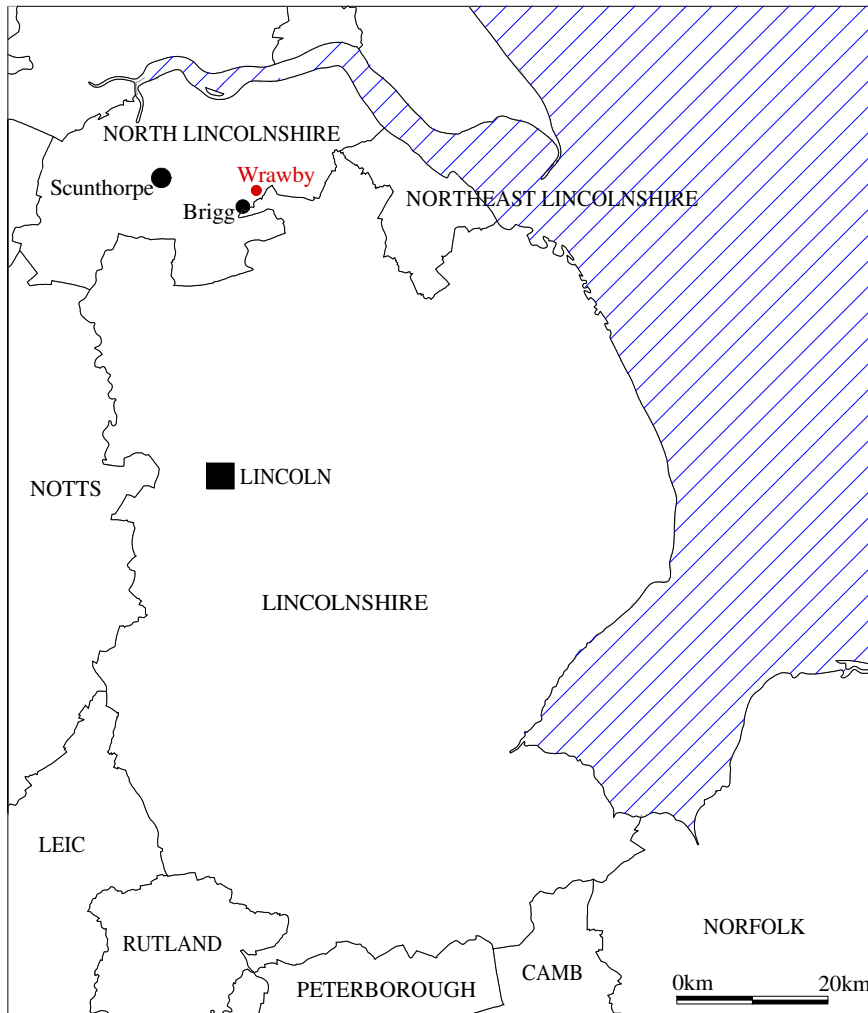
COLOUR PLATES



Plate 1: Excavation for the base of the turbine, looking southeast

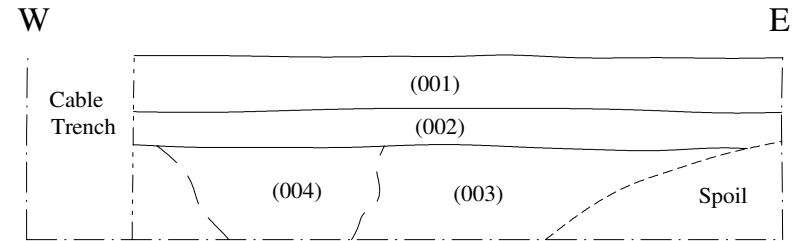
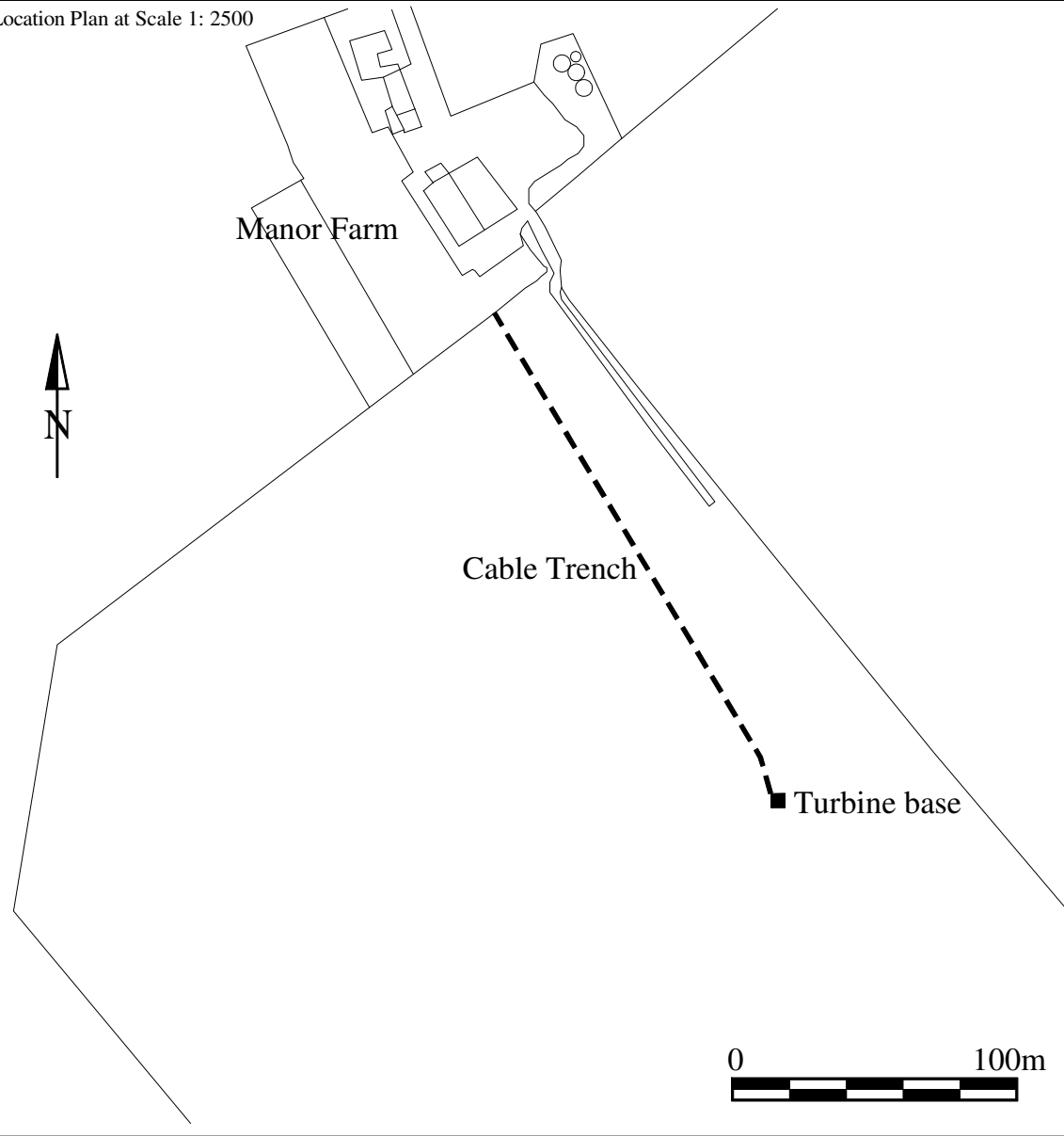


Plate 2: South facing section of the turbine base trench looking north-northeast; 1m scale



Based upon the 1:25000 Ordnance Survey map with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright
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Location Plan at Scale 1: 2500



South facing section at Scale 1:50



APPENDIX A - CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>
001	Topsoil	Loose, mid to dark brownish grey silty sand containing moderate angular stone to 20mm.
002	Natural	Loose, mid yellowish brown sandy silt containing occasional irregular chalk and flint to 50mm. Highly variable in depth, occurring in pockets throughout the area examined.
003	Natural	Loose, very light yellowish brown with patches of orange, sand and gravel to 20mm (c. 80/20%). Contains frequent flint and occasional chalk to 50mm; varies in composition, with areas of mostly sand interspersed.
004	Layer (ploughsoil?)	Loose, mid brown, silty sand containing occasional stone to 20mm. Average 0.25m thick.

APPENDIX B

**OASIS DATA
COLLECTION FORM**

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: withamar1-129033

Project details

Project name	Watching brief during groundworks for a new wind turbine at Manor Farm, Wrawby, North Lincolnshire
Short description of the project	A watching brief was maintained during excavation of a turbine base and cable to the rear of Manor Farm, Wrawby, North Lincolnshire. The site lies c. 500m north of Iron Age and Roman remains identified through fieldwalking and trial trenching as part of a lottery funded assessment. There was no evidence of comparable deposits at Manor Farm.
Project dates	Start: 06-06-2012 End: 06-06-2012
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	WRAU - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Project location

Country	England
Site location	NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE WRAWBY Manor Farm, Wrawby
Postcode	DN20 8RL
Study area	25.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TA 02079 08308 53 0 53 33 40 N 000 27 31 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Witham Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Russell Trimble
Project director/manager	Russell Trimble
Project supervisor	Russell Trimble
Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner
Name of sponsor/funding body	Mr R Stephenson

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	North Lincolnshire Museums Service
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	North Lincolnshire Museums Service
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Correspondence", "Drawing", "Notebook - Excavation", "Research", "General Notes", "Photograph", "Report", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	New Wind Turbine at Manor Farm, Wrawby, North Lincolnshire. Archaeological Watching Brief
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Trimble, R.
Other bibliographic details	Report No. 30
Date	2012
Issuer or publisher	Witham Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Sleaford
Description	A4 comb-bound

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Witham Archaeology

Unit 6, Sleaford Station Business Centre, Station Road,
Sleaford, NG34 7RG

Tel/Fax: (01529) 300890

Email: info@withamarchaeology.co.uk

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