

Garmston Street, Lincoln: Report on the Results of an Archaeological Watching Brief



Produced for: Anglian Water

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Non-Technical Summary

Trent & Peak Archaeology was commissioned by Anglian Water to undertake an archaeological watching brief on land immediately to the south of No. 10 Garmston Street, Lincoln (SK 97548 71536) during contractor-led emergency groundworks to locate and repair a residential water main. The work was conducted on the 5th March 2020.

The site sits within the City of Lincoln, immediately to the north of St Martin's Square, Lincoln, within a built-up urban environment that is bounded on all sides by intensive residential development, roadways and local amenities. A small green space, named St Martin's Square, sits immediately to the south. This area constitutes the remains of the former burial ground of St Martin's Church. The excavation comprised a small area of pavement to the south of No. 10 Garmston street, measuring approximately 2m x 1.7m.

The watching brief comprised the contractor led excavation of made ground deposits down to 0.86m below ground level, within an area abutting the property of 10 Garmston Street, in order to locate and repair a damaged water main.

No archaeological finds, features or deposits were identified.

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 Trent & Peak Archaeology was commissioned by Anglian Water to undertake an archaeological watching brief on land immediately to the south of No. 10 Garmston Street, Lincoln (SK 97548 71536) during contractor-led emergency groundworks to locate and repair a residential water main. This report concerns the results of the watching brief, which was undertaken on the 5th March 2020.
- 1.2 The watching brief was conducted in line with standard methodology prescribed in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CifA) document *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (2014b). All work also adhered to the CifA *Code of Conduct* (2014a).

2 Site Background

2.1 Geology and Topography

- 2.1.1 The site sits within the City of Lincoln, immediately to the north of St Martin's Square (centred on SK 97548 71536), within a built-up urban environment that is bounded on all sides by intensive residential development, roadways and local amenities. A small green space, named St Martin's Square, sits immediately to the south. This area constitutes the remains of the former burial ground of St Martin's Church. The excavation comprised a small area of pavement to the south of No. 10 Garmston street, measuring approximately 2m x 1.7m.
- 2.1.2 The site is situated within a band of bedrock geology formed of Charmouth Mudstone Formation – Mudstone, formed between 199.3 and 182.7 million years ago during the Jurassic period, within a local environment previously dominated by shallow seas. No superficial deposits are recorded for the area (British Geological Survey 2020).
- 2.1.3 The soils within the site consist of slowly permeable, seasonally wet, and slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils (Soilscapes 2020).

2.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

Overview

- 2.2.1 The sites lies within the approximate location of the former grounds of the medieval St Martin's Church and burial ground, thought to be the among the oldest constructed churches in Lincoln. The church is likely to have been associated with the rare St Martin silver pennies minted in Lincoln, probably before 918 A.D, when Lincoln was taken back from the Danes by the Anglo-Saxons. It has also been suggested that it was this church, rather than St Paul in the Bail (PRN 70027), which was the one founded by Paulinus and mentioned by Bede. The church was granted to the Bishop by the King in 1070-87, and it had become a relatively valuable prebendal estate by 1135. It may have been rebuilt during the 13th century (LHER 70553). The church was demolished by the late 19th century, and rebuilt 280m to the west at the corner of West Parade and Orchard Street.

Prehistoric

- 2.2.2 No evidence for prehistoric activity has been recorded by the LHER within a 100m radius of the site.

Romano-British

- 2.2.3 Evidence for Romano-British activity within the site is abundant. The site lies within the former walled boundary of *Lindum Colonia*, which was established as a Roman legionary fortress by at least 68AD. The City takes its name from the Bretonic *Lindo-* meaning pool, and the Latin *-Colonia* meaning colony or settlement (The Institute for Name-Studies 2020). As well as the military installation, a flourishing major urban walled settlement was established to the south and continued to flourish until the 4th century when the town population declined.
- 2.2.4 Evidence for surviving Romano-British activity within a 100m radius of the site is well represented via the LHER database, which details the excavation of a number of well provisioned Romano-British buildings, including surviving mosaics and complete floor structures recorded by the City of Lincoln

Archaeological Unit at Michaelgate (LHER 70204) and Grantham Street (LHER 70360), as well as pottery, animal bone and probable occupational deposits recovered from St Martin's School, Hungate (LHER 70234). Remnants of the old City wall, aqueduct and well are still visible within the immediate landscape.

Medieval – Post-Medieval

- 2.2.5 The Domesday survey of 1086 lists Lincoln as *Lincolne* (The Institute for Name-Studies 2020) under the ownership of King William I. The City held at least 2 churches (1 of these likely being the church of St. Martin, located within the boundary of the site) and 1 priest. The City also housed at least 1 mill, and more than 100 meadows. By the time of the Domesday survey, Lincoln was worth more than 100 pounds to the crown *per annum* (Powell-Smith and Palmer 2020).
- 2.2.6 Lincoln remained a flourishing medieval City, becoming the third largest City in England by at least the 13th century; the area was favoured by several rulers. A copy of the Magna Carta, signed by King John at Runnymede in 1215, was sent back to the Bishop of Lincoln (known then as Lincolnia). The copy is housed within Lincoln Cathedral and remains one of only 4 surviving copies.
- 2.2.7 The medieval church of St Martin, which previously sat within the boundary of the site, was largely destroyed in the English Civil War in 1643 and left as a ruin until 1739-40 when it was rebuilt in a Georgian style. This rebuilt structure was later demolished in 1873 to make way for residential developments that make up the houses fronting Garmston Street (Pevsner *et al* 1989). At least part of the burial ground remains *in-situ* within the green space of St. Martin's Square, however the actual boundaries of the burial ground are uncertain. As such, there stands a high potential for the recovery of archaeological remains within the site relating to the structural remains of the former church and the use of the burial ground.
- 2.2.8 Two field investigations have previously been undertaken to the immediate south of the site within St Martin's Square. The first, a watching brief undertaken in 2014 by Trent & Peak Archaeology, exposed two east to west oriented stone lined graves within the cut of a service trench (Humphreys 2014). Further mitigation was undertaken in 2017 by Trent & Peak Archaeology (Oldfield 2017), which resulted in the recovery of 13 individuals from within 12 grave cuts. The burials, many of which were similarly stone lined, are assumed to be related to the use of the medieval church and grounds, and represent the inhumation of family groups and leyfolk from within the medieval parish.

3 Aims and Objectives

- 3.1 The overall aim of the programme of archaeological works was to identify any archaeological remains to be affected by any intrusive aspects of the development and to achieve an appropriate level of *preservation by record* in accordance with *NPPF paragraph 189* (2019).
- 3.2 General objectives were
- To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any archaeological remains within the development site
 - To assess the vulnerability/sensitivity of any exposed remains
 - To assess the impact of previous land use on the site
 - To assess the potential for the survival of environmental evidence

4 Research Questions

- 4.1 The programme of archaeological works was conducted within the research parameters and objectives defined by Knight *et al.* (2012) as part of the East Midlands Research Framework, specifically:

High Medieval (1066 - 1485)
<i>7.5 Religion</i>
1. Can we identify additional pre-Conquest church, minster and monastic sites and elucidate the development of later monastic settlement (particularly the regionally important Gilbertine and Templar orders)?
6. What may we deduce from scientific analyses of cemetery populations about changes in diet, mortality and other demographic variables, both within the region and between social groups?
Post-Medieval (1485 - 1750)
<i>8.1 Urbanism: morphology, functions and buildings</i>
2. How were towns organised and planned, and how did population growth impact upon their internal spatial organisation?

5 Methodology

- 5.1 The excavations were conducted in accordance with the *CIfA Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (CIfA 2014b) and *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a).
- 5.2 Groundworks comprising the excavation of a 2m² area to the south of No. 10 Garmston Street was monitored to an approximate depth of 0.86m. The site was hand excavated by a contractor-led team. The

- archaeologist was given the opportunity to enter the trench for hand cleaning and recording, where necessary.
- 5.3 Excavated spoil was stored at a safe distance from the edge of a trench, and was visually inspected for artefacts.
 - 5.4 The groundworks were photographed using a DSLR camera and a representative section was hand drawn at 1:20. Pro-forma Context Recording Sheets were completed for each context.
 - 5.5 Written records were maintained as laid down in the TPA recording manual (2015).

6 Results

- 6.1 Groundworks comprised the hand excavation of a trench measuring *c* 2m x 0.6m to the front of no. 10 Garmston Street with the aim of locating a damaged water main. Excavation reached a depth of between 0.38m – 0.86m.
- 6.2 The earliest deposit identified was a friable dark greyish brown clayey silt made ground (013), which was identified at a depth of 0.3m below ground level. The deposit constitutes the build-up of the roadway for the construction of the road and pavement in the 19th century, and continued in depth beyond the limit of excavation. Into this deposit, a number of cuts for modern service pipes leading to the No. 10 property were recorded: [003], [005], [007], [009] and [011] respectively. These are detailed on figure 2.
- 6.3 Above these deposits were a ground levelling material (002) *c* 0.1m thick, concrete underlay (001) *c* 0.1-0.16m thick, and modern paving stones (014) that constitute the current ground surface.
- 6.4 No finds, features or deposits of archaeological significance were encountered during the course of this watching brief.

7 Discussion and Conclusions

- 7.1 Due to the shallow and targeted nature of the excavation, groundworks did not impact on depths below the modern deposits associated with the construction of the roadway and pavement (013). As such, it was not possible to determine the presence or absence of archaeological deposits or features within the area.
- 7.2 It remains possible that finds, features or deposits of archaeological significance, including burials associated with the former church of St. Martin, may exist at a depth below that of the current excavation.
- 7.3 Due to the limited results of the excavation it was not possible to contribute to the research priorities highlighted above in section 4.

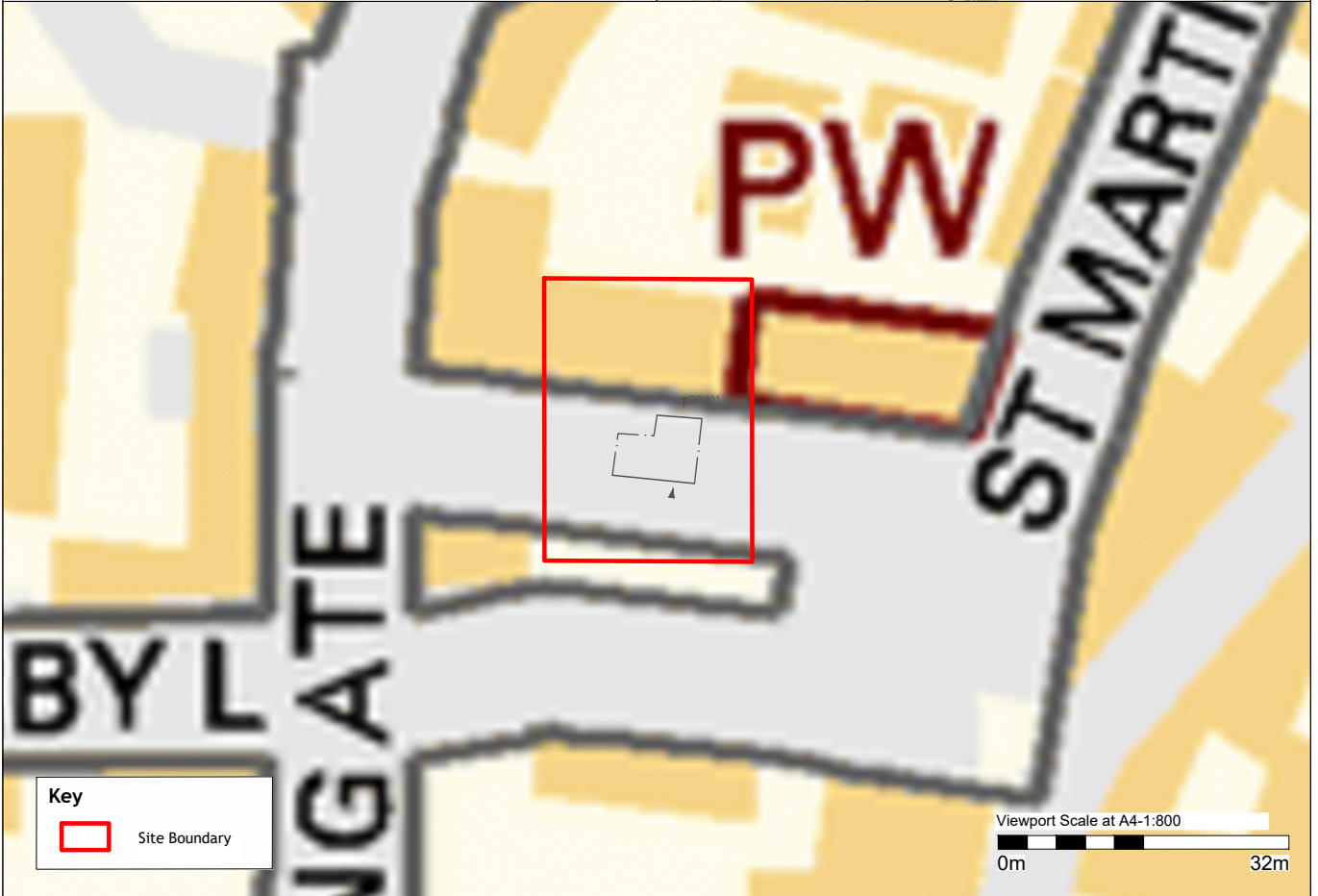
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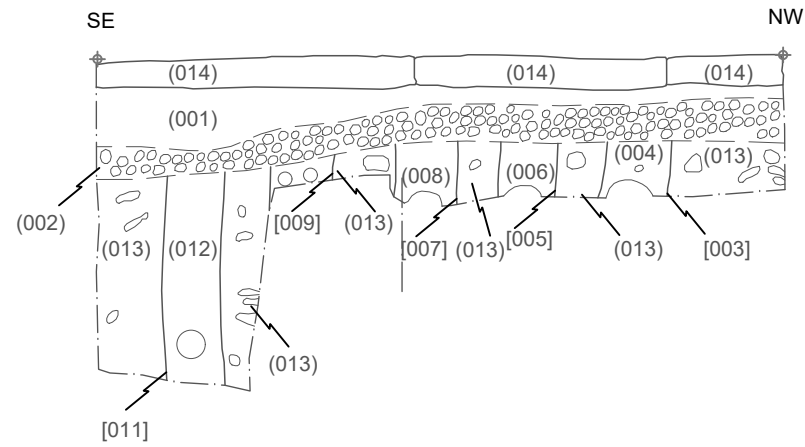
9 Context Register

Context	Category	Description	Provisional date
(001)	Layer	Concrete underlay of pavement	Modern
(002)	Layer	Made ground/ hardcore	Modern
[003]	Cut	Of service pipe	Modern
(004)	Fill	Of [003]	Modern
[005]	Cut	Of service pipe	Modern
(006)	Fill	Of [005]	Modern
[007]	Cut	Of service pipe	Modern
(008)	Fill	Of [007]	Modern
[009]	Cut	Of service pipe	Modern
(010)	Fill	Of [009]	Modern
[011]	Cut	Of service pipe	Modern
(012)	Fill	Of [011]	Modern
(013)	Layer	Rubble made ground	Modern
(014)	Layer	Paving stone slabs	Modern

10 Figures



DR#01
East Facing Section of Emergency Water Works Trench



11 Plates



Plate 1: Area of excavation showing east facing section and service pipes in plan, oblique view. Scale 1m, looking north-west.

Appendix 1: Index of Archive and Arrangements for Deposition

<i>Field Records</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Number</i>
Watching brief record sheets	Record of visit and work carried out	1
Context register	Register of context numbers and descriptions	1
Context sheets	Record of features and deposits	14
Photo record sheet	Record of photographs taken	1
Digital photographs	All views	5
Site drawings	Plan and section of site	1
<i>Documents</i>		
Written scheme of investigation	Statement of the aims, objectives and methodology for the project.	0
Health & Safety	Safe working statement & risk assessment	0
Report to client	Report of findings of the watching brief.	1
<i>Find</i>		
Find	Description	Number
Nil	Nil	0

The site archive is currently held at the offices of Trent & Peak Archaeology, Unit 1, Holly Lane, Chilwell, Nottingham, NG9 4AB. As the site produced negative results, the archive will be prepared and deposited online in-line following appropriate professional guidelines (e.g. UKIC and ADS guidelines for the preparation of digital archaeological archives for long term storage).

Appendix 2: OASIS Data Collection Form

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: trentpea1-399471

Project details

Project name	Garmston Street, Lincoln
Short description of the project	Trent and Peak Archaeology was commissioned by Anglian Water to undertake an archaeological watching brief on land immediately to the south of No. 10 Garmston Street, Lincoln (SK 97548 71536) during contractor-led emergency groundworks to locate and repair a residential water main. The work was conducted on the 5th March 2020. The site sits within the City of Lincoln, immediately to the north of St Martin's Square, Lincoln, within a built-up urban environment that is bounded on all sides by intensive residential development, roadways and local amenities. A small green space, named St Martin's Square, sits immediately to the south. This area constitutes the remains of the former burial ground of St Martin's Church. The excavation comprised a small area of pavement to the south of No. 10 Garmston street, measuring approximately 2m x 1.7m. The watching brief comprised the contractor led excavation of made ground deposits down to 0.86m below ground level, within an area abutting the property of 10 Garmston Street, in order to locate and repair a damaged water main. No archaeological finds, features or deposits were identified.
Project dates	Start: 05-03-2020 End: 05-03-2020
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	GSL - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Water Act 1989 and subsequent code of practice

Project location

Country	England
Site location	LINCOLNSHIRE LINCOLN LINCOLN Garmston Street Lincoln
Postcode	LN2 1HZ
Study area	2.5 Square metres
Site coordinates	SK 97548 71536 53.231603961666 -0.538435991843 53 13 53 N 000 32 18 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Trent and Peak Archaeology
Project brief originator	North Lincolnshire Council
Project design originator	Trent and Peak Archaeology
Project director/manager	Tom Hooley
Project supervisor	Charlotte Bishop
Type of sponsor/funding body	Anglian Water

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Text"
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Photograph", "Plan", "Report"

Project bibliography 1

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