

Naomi Field Archaeological Consultancy

**The Farmhouse, Grays Farm, North Drove Bank,
Spalding, Lincs**

Archaeological Recording

NGR: TF 189 188

Planning Application No. : HO3/0944/06

Site Code: GFSP 09

LCNCC Accn No.: 2009.110

Report

for

Mr and Mrs J Davis

NFAC Report No. 0910

April 2010

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01522 544554 07747 106477

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The Farmhouse, Grays Farm, North Drove Bank, Spalding, Lincs
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Summary

Monitoring of groundworks during the excavation of foundation trenches for an extension to a farm cottage at Gray's Farm Spalding failed to identify any archaeological features or artefacts, despite the proximity of a Roman road which appears to run just north of the development site.

Introduction

Naomi Field Archaeological Consultancy was commissioned in April 2009, by Trevor Clay Architect, to undertake a programme of archaeological observation and recording at Gray's Farm, Spalding on behalf of Mr and Mrs J. Davis, in accordance with the general requirements set out in the *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* (Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section, 2009) and the '*Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*' (Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994 rev. October 2008).

The Site

Grays Farm is situated 3.5km south west of Spalding and Pode Hole on the west side of the North Drove Drain.

Planning Background

Planning permission was granted for a two storey extension to an existing dwelling. These works were subject to an archaeological watching brief being carried out during the groundworks phase of development.

Archaeological Background

Grays Farm was built after the First World War to encourage smallholders to return to the land. A Roman road runs through Grays Farm, which runs south-west to meet King Street south of Bourne. It was thought there was potential for Roman remains being present on the site.

Objectives

The purpose of the archaeological observation and recording was to identify and record any archaeological deposits disturbed by the groundworks.

METHOD

All below ground works associated with the site were monitored by an experienced archaeologist. NFAC operates a standard context recording system, developed by its staff over the past 20 years based on MOLAS and CAS models.

A full photographic record was made during the progress of the groundworks, to cover each feature together with general site views.

Results

Excavation was undertaken to the north-east of the farm cottage. The work was undertaken in torrential rain and ground conditions were very wet and muddy. The area was stripped of vegetation and then trenches 0.70m wide and 0.50m deep, were excavated for the raft foundations. The extent of the plot was c.7mx 7.5m. The whole area was badly disturbed by tree roots. The topsoil **100** was a dark brown silty clay and was 0.30m thick. It overlay the mid brown-grey silty clay subsoil **101**, which was 0.25m deep. This subsoil overlay a natural orange brown silt **102**. Tree roots extended into the natural deposits.

Discussion and Conclusion

The aerial photographic evidence shows that the Roman road passes through the property to the north of the farmhouse and while there are extensive cropmarks indicating settlement to the east of the farm (Google Earth maps 2010) no archaeological features or Roman pottery were encountered. In conclusion, the foundation trenches did not disturb any archaeological remains.

Naomi Field
April 23rd 2010

Acknowledgements

NFAC would like to thank Trevor Clay for supplying the site plans and Mr and Mrs J Davis for their hospitality on site.

Contents of Site Archive

Correspondence

Site plan supplied by Trevor Clay Architect. Scale 1:100

Photographs NFAC film no 09/10 4 digital images

Site notes

Appendix 1

Film No. NFAC 9/10

Jpeg	Description
1	Foundation trench looking north
2	Excavation of foundation trench in progress, looking east.
3	Gray's Farm Spalding, General view looking north-west.
4	Typical sequence of deposits Scales 1m and 0.50m

Appendix 2

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: naomifie1-76284

Project details

Project name	The Farmhouse, Grays Farm, North Drove Bank, Spalding
Short description of the project	Monitoring of groundworks during the excavation of foundation trenches for an extension to a farm cottage at Gray's Farm Spalding failed to identify any archaeological features or artefacts, despite the proximity of a Roman road which appears to run just north of the development site.
Project dates	Start: 29-07-2009 End: 29-07-2009
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	GFSP 09 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	LCNCC 2009.110 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	ELI10559 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
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	LINCOLNSHIRE SOUTH HOLLAND SPALDING Gray's Farm
Study area	50 Square metres
Site coordinates	TF 1882 1865 52.752034624699 -0.239308876226 52 45 07 N 000 14 21 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 2m Max: 2m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Naomi Field Archaeological Consultancy
Project brief originator	Contractor (design and execute)

Project design originator	Naomi Field
Project director/manager	Naomi Field
Project supervisor	Naomi Field
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Mr and Mrs J Davis

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	The Collection Lincoln
Digital Archive ID	LCNCC 2009.110
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Spreadsheets", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	The collection Lincoln
Paper Archive ID	LCNCC 2009.110
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Correspondence", "Drawing", "Map", "Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	The Farmhouse, Grays Farm, North Drove Bank, Spalding, Lincs Archaeological Recording
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Field, N.
Other bibliographic details	NFAC Report 0910
Date	2010
Issuer or publisher	NFAC
Place of issue or publication	Lincoln
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Entered by	Richard Watts (Richard.Watts@lincolnshire.gov.uk)
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OASIS:

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The Figures

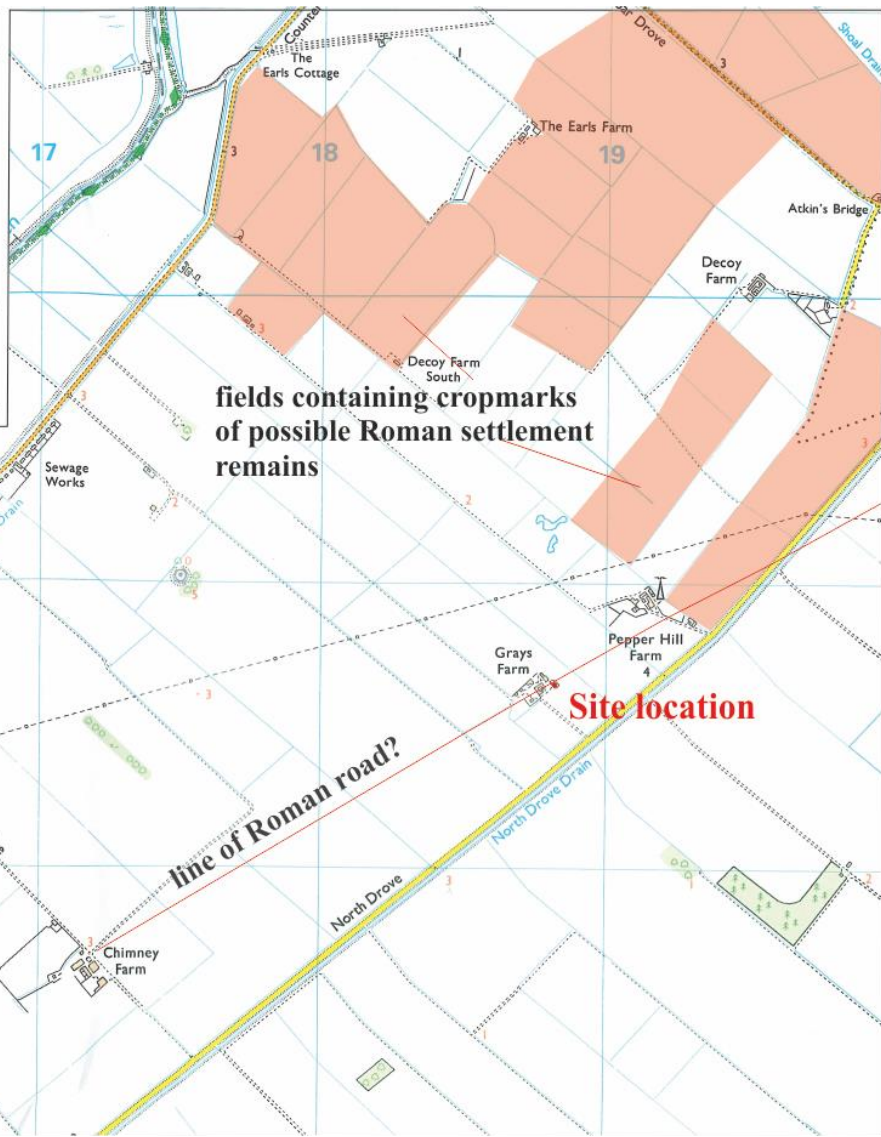


Fig. 1 Location of Gray's Farm Spalding (C based on the 2006 Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 Explorer map 248. © Crown copyright, reproduced at reduced scale with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. NFAC Licence No. 1000049154).

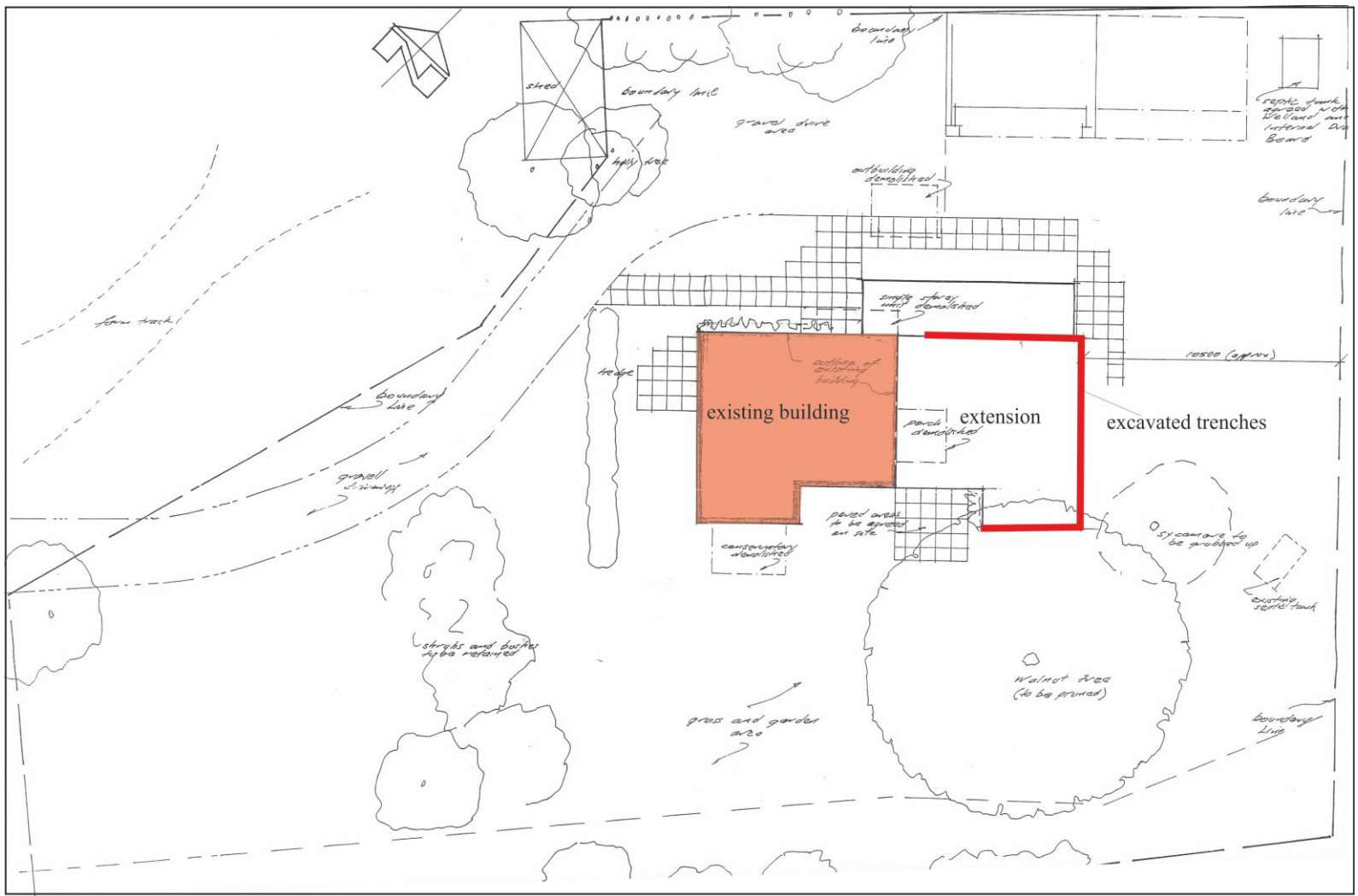


Fig. 2 Gray's Farm Spalding. Trench location. Based on plan supplied by Trevor Clay Architect. Scale 1:200

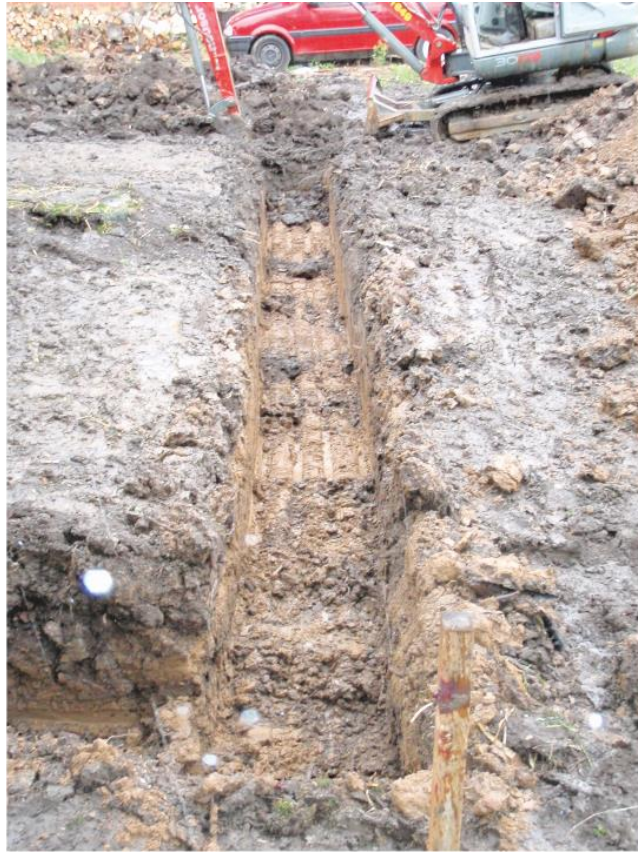
The Plates



Pl. 1 Gray's Farm Spalding, General view looking north-west.



Pl. 2 Excavation of foundation trench in progress, looking east.



Pl. 3 Foundation trench looking north



Pl. 4 Typical sequence of deposits Scales 1m and 0.50m