NEVILLE HALL FREELANCE ARCHAEOLOGIST & CONSULTANT

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING & RECORDING OF LAND AT GIG COTTAGE, GAINSBOROUGH ROAD,
MIDDLE RASEN, LINCOLNSHIRE.

National Grid Reference: TF 0886 8898

Site Code: GRMR19

Accession No: LCNCC: 2019.172 Planning Reference: 138387

PREPARED FOR MS. KATE KELLEY OF KELLY MACPHERSON, ARCHITECTS ON BEHALF OF THEIR CLIENTS - MR. & MRS. QUINT

Ву

Neville Hall

February 2022

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Summary

The archaeological monitoring and recording of the groundworks pertaining to the construction of two new residential dwellings on land at Gig Cottage, Gainsborough Road, Middle Rasen, Lincolnshire, was carried out by Neville Hall on the 31st of January and on the 1st and 7th-9th of February 2022.

The monitored groundworks for this development, which consisted of the mechanical excavation of the foundations for the two new residential dwellings and for the new detached garage tension were the subject of continual archaeological monitoring and recording.

The archaeological monitoring of the excavation of the foundation trench of the first new residential dwelling alongside the eastern site boundary revealed a short section of a narrow linear feature that was cut into the underlying natural horizontal of sands. This extended obliquely along the base of this foundation trench though the fill of this linear feature did not produce any finds. This is interpreted as being a short section of a possible former timber beam slot, which although undated and given the general archaeological context of this site and in stratagraphical terms, may possibly be medieval in origin.

The remaining archaeological feature identified by this archaeological monitoring consisted of the cut of an undated pit, which was encountered in the foundations of the second new residential dwelling at the northern end of the site. This was similarly cut into the underlying natural horizon, was sealed by the topsoil soil and was truncated to the east by the cut of a modern rubbish pit. The fill of this undated pit also did not yield any finds, though for similar considerations, may possibly also be considered to be medieval in origin.

Otherwise, the archaeological monitoring identified a simple site deposit sequence, which consisted of a modern topsoil horizon and an underlying natural horizon of aeolian sands. This sequence was consistent in its nature and was recorded within a number of representative sections that were widely distributed over the whole monitored site.

The archaeological monitoring did not produce any significant finds.

It is considered that the plot of land that formed this development was a possible original medieval burgage plot by its narrow linear shape and form. However, the relatively low level of archaeological settlement activity identified by this archaeological monitoring would tend to suggest that this site may have laid on the periphery or margins of medieval settlement, which occurred to the east and which was identified by archaeological evaluation here in 2000. It is further considered that this plot of land may originally have been a toft or enclosed field associated with the settlement of Middle Rasen Drax.

1. Introduction

- Neville Hall was commissioned by Ms. Kate Kelly of Kelly MacPherson, Architects, on behalf of their clients Mr. and Mrs. Quint to undertake the archaeological monitoring and recording of the groundworks pertaining to the construction of two new residential dwellings on land at Gig Cottage, Gainsborough Road, Middle Rasen, Lincolnshire, centred at National Grid Reference: TF 0886 8898. The archaeological monitoring was carried out at the development site on the 31st of January and on the 1st and 7th-9th of February 2022.
- 1.2 The work was carried out according to the requirements of various archaeological conditions, which were attached to the granting of planning consent for this development by West Lindsey District Council, the Local Planning Authority and acting on the advice of Mr. Ian Marshman of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team, in his capacity as the archaeological advisor on planning issues to the District Council. This is in accordance with the principles established in NPPF: Planning for the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide (Department of Culture, Media and Sport, 2010), and Standard and guidance for archaeological watching briefs (CHIfA, 2014).
- 1.3 Copies of the final report will be deposited with the clients, the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team, the Planning Department of West Lindsey District Council, the Lincolnshire Heritage Environment Record (HER) and The Collection, Lincoln, along with an ordered project archive for long term storage and curation.

2. Site Location and Description

- 2.1 The development site is located within the historic core of the village of Middle Rasen and on land off the southern frontage of the Gainsborough Road and to the rear of Gig Cottage at National Grid Reference TF 0886 8898 and at a height of approximately 23mAOD. The settlement of Middle Rasen is situated 1.8km to the west of Market Rasen and 21km to the north-east of Lincoln, within the modern civil parish of the same name, administrative district of West Lindsey, county of Lincolnshire [Figures 1 and 2].
- 2.2 The development site is situated within an undulating upland area of the Lincolnshire Wolds. The development site is located on deep stoneless fine sandy soils of the Holme Moor Series, which have developed on deposits of aeolian sand. These in turn overlie Ampthill and Kimmeridge Clays of the Upper Jurassic [BGS, 1999; Soil Survey, 1983].

3. Planning Background

- An application for planning permission (Planning Reference: 138387) for the proposed construction of two new residential dwellings at Gig Cottage, Gainsborough Road, Middle Rasen, Lincolnshire has been submitted to and granted consent by West Lindsey District Council, the Local Planning Authority [Figure 3]. However, as the proposed development site was situated within a perceived archaeologically sensitive area, various archaeological conditions (Nos. 5 and 9-11) were attached to this planning consent.
- 3.2 Following consultations between the author and Mr. Ian Marshman of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team, it was established that the requirement for the archaeological programme of works on this site would comprise the archaeological monitoring of the groundworks during the construction stage of development at the site.

3.3 A specification or a written scheme of works for the archaeological monitoring was subsequently submitted to and approved by Mr. Ian Marshman of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team on behalf of the Local Planning Authority as required by Condition 5 of this planning consent.



Figure 1: Site location at scale 1:25,000. The site is shown in red. (O.S. copyright licence number 100048723)

- 3.4 Notification was given of the start date of the site groundworks programme to the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team prior to the commencement of the on-site archaeological works as required by Condition 5 of this planning consent.
- 3.5 All of the archaeological monitoring and recording, which was carried out on this site was undertaken in accordance with the agreed written scheme of works as required by Condition 9 of this planning consent.
- 3.5 This report documents the results of this programme of site archaeological monitoring and recording and will be submitted to the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team and to the Local Planning Authority as required by Condition 10 of this planning consent.

4. Aims and objectives of the project

- 4.1 The aims of the project were the continual archaeological monitoring of the site groundworks during the construction stage of development, which comprised the mechanical excavation of the foundations for the two new residential dwellings and a new detached garage.
- 4.2 The objectives of the project were:

To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the area of the development site.

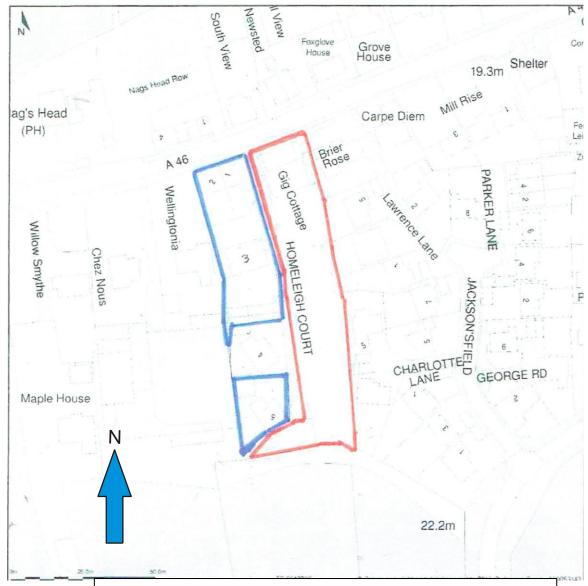


Figure 2: Site location at a scale of 1:1,250, (extract from Architects plan)

To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.

To allow the preservation by record of archaeological deposits.

4.3 The development site lies within an area of high archaeological potential and also within the area of the former medieval settlement of Middle Rasen Drax. The development site itself lies within a probable narrow linear former medieval burgage plot. An archaeological evaluation in 2000 to the immediate east of this site identified medieval settlement activity. So it was considered highly likely that similar such medieval settlement activity would be encountered on this development site. The specific objectives of this

archaeological monitoring were to record any archaeological features, deposits, structures or finds associated with this former medieval settlement.

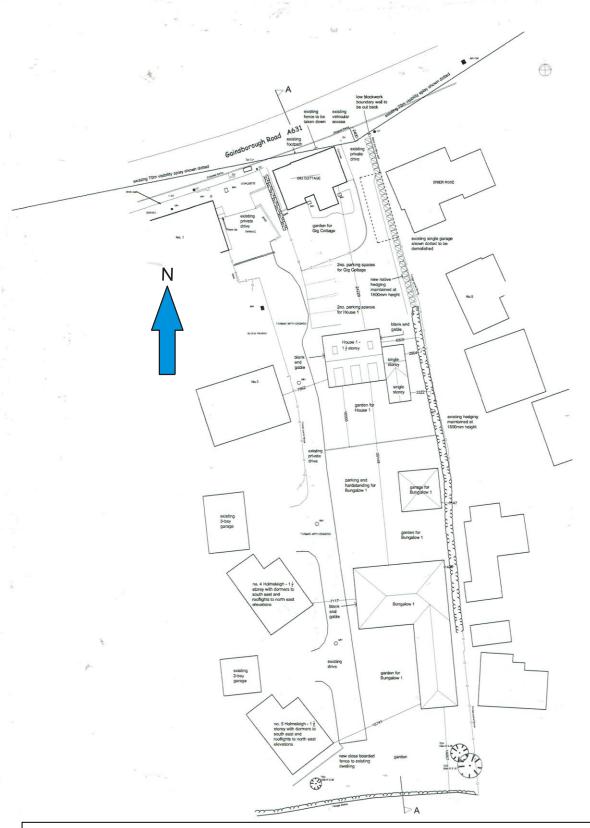


Figure 3: Block plan showing the proposed layout of the development site, (extract from Architects plan)

5. Archaeological and Historical Background

- 5.1 Background research sources were consulted at the Lincolnshire Archives, the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Record (HER) and the Lincoln Local Studies Library. A search of the Lincolnshire HER was conducted within a 0.5km radius of the centre of the development site. The National Heritage List of Historic England (NHL) was also consulted.
- 5.2 A scatter of Roman pottery was found to the south-east of Market Rasen in 1967 (HER 52017).
- 5.3 A small bronze coin of Gratian was found in the garden of Mill House in 1964 (HER 52015).
- The settlement of Market Rasen is situated in the Wapentake of Walshcroft and appears to have had late Anglo-Saxon origins, though little is known concerning any Anglo-Saxon settlement activity in the area. The first documentary reference to this settlement occurs in a contemporary charter of AD973 when it is referred to as *cet roresnan*. At the time of the Domesday Survey of AD1086, *Resne*, *Rase* or *Rasa* lands in the parish were held by Alfred of Lincoln and Roger of Poitou. There is a reference in the Survey to a mill. The place name is derived from the Old English *ræsn* or 'a plank'. This is perhaps a reference to a plank bridge or planks that were laid over marshy ground. By the time of the Lindsey Survey of *c*.AD1115, the lands here were held by Alan of Lincoln who held 4½ bovates and a third of a bovate and Roger de Montebegin who held 1 carucate and 1 bovate in *Parua Rasa* on behalf of the Count of Mortain. Middle Rasen is first documented in this survey as *Media Rasa*. Later medieval documentary sources variously refer to Middle Rasen as *Middelrasen* (AD1201); *Middel Rasen* (AD 1331) and as *Mikelrasen* (AD1367) [Cameron, 1998; Mills, 1991; Ekwall, 1991; Morris, 1986; Foster & Longley, 1976].
- There were two medieval settlements at Middle Rasen. Each had a church and their own open field systems. The boundary dividing these two parishes was the River Rase. Middle Rasen Tupholme with its parish church of St Peter lay to the north and Middle Rasen Drax with its own church of St Paul to the south (HER 52022-3).
- The medieval settlement of Middle Rasen Tupholme is laid out in a very regular and planned fashion on an east-west aligned street with large tofts on the north side and shorter ones onto a stream on the south side (HER 52023). Earthworks within now amalgamated properties on the north show that the pattern of long tofts was formerly more complete. The north-south orientated link road (Church Street) across the stream southwards to the settlement of Middle Rasen Drax intrudes on this pattern.
- 5.7 The development site is situated within the medieval settlement of Middle Rasen Drax, which is in turn located to the south of the medieval settlement of Middle Rasen Tupholme (HER 52022). The settlement of Middle Rasen Drax appears to have developed to the extent normal for a village to lose its church. A few earthworks survive along the through road, but modern housing estates have removed everything else and obscured the earlier street pattern. This settlement had two main centres. The first by the late 18th century appears as an irregular grouping of streets and properties near the site of the church of St Pauls. The second is a very regular two row pattern along an east-west through road which what was probably a planned shift along the north-south orientated through/link road (Church Street) across the stream to the settlement of Middle Rasen Tupholme.
- 5.8 The parish church at Middle Rasen, which is dedicated to St Peter dates from the 12th century and underwent alterations in the 13th, 14th and 15th centuries and restoration in 1861 (HER 52013, NHL 1166238). The church comprises a 15th century west tower, a

- nave, a 15th century chancel, a north aisle of early 13th century date, a north chapel and a 19th century south porch.
- 5.9 The site of St Paul's Church at Middle Rasen Drax occurs on the north-eastern outskirts of the village (HER 52014). The church was demolished in 1860 and some of the stonework from it used in the 1861 restoration of the present parish church. The graveyard pertaining to this former church remained in use after its demolition.
- 5.10 A Grade II listed Water Mill on Low Church Road is of late 18th century date and underwent alterations in the 20th century (HER 55771; NHL 1064040). This is also the site of an extant 18th century farmstead. This was arranged around a regular courtyard in an 'L'-plan. The farmhouse was attached to a range of working buildings.
- 5.11 The Grade II listed Laretto Cottage on Low Church Road is an early 18th century cottage with 19th century alterations (HER 56117, NHL 1309015). This house was formerly the vicarage for the church of St Paul. This was also the site of an unnamed 19th century farmstead at Middle Rasen. This was arranged around a regular courtyard in an 'L'-plan with further detached buildings on the third side of the yard. The farmhouse was attached to a range of working buildings and is the only surviving element of this farmstead.
- 5.12 A Grade II listed late 18th century milestone is situated on the southern frontage of the Gainsborough Road (HER 56156).
- 5.13 A windmill on Mill Lane was constructed in 1827 (HER 52042). It was raised one storey in height at some point and remained working until the 1920s by wind. The sails were removed by 1931, and from that point onwards it was engine powered. By 1932, the windmill became disused and was subsequently dismantled. It remained disused until 1935, and is now used for commercial purposes. A photographic survey of the building was undertaken in 2006, by which time the building was derelict again.
- 5.14 The site of a former Free United Methodist Chapel was built in Middle Rasen in 1855 and appears to have been demolished by the 1970s (HER 55097).
- 5.15 The site of a former Primitive Methodist Chapel was constructed in Middle Rasen in 1838 and was still in use in the 1950s. The building appears to have still been in existence in the 1970s, but has since been demolished (HER 55098).
- 5.16 The site of a further Wesleyan Methodist Chapel was built in Middle Rasen in 1839 (HER 55096) and appears to have been demolished by the 1950s.
- 5.17 An unnamed farmstead at Middle Rasen is a partially extant 19th century farmstead (HER 57421). This was arranged around a regular courtyard in a 'U'-plan. The farmhouse was detached from the range of working buildings. There has been a partial loss of traditional buildings on the site.
- 5.18 The Middle Rasen Primary School was constructed in 1877 replacing an earlier charity school on the site (HER 56767).
- 5.19 Manor Farm at Middle Rasen is a partially extant 19th century farmstead (HER 57414). This was arranged around a regular courtyard with linked working buildings to all four sides of the yard. The farmhouse was detached from the range of working buildings. There has been a significant loss of traditional buildings on the site. A park is recorded on the First and Second Edition O.S. maps of 1888 and 1905 respectively at Manor Farm (HER 55597).

- 5.20 North Farm at Middle Rasen is an extant 19th century farmstead (HER 57415). This was arranged around a regular courtyard with an 'L'-shaped plan range plus detached buildings to the third side of the yard. The farmhouse was detached from the range of working buildings.
- 5.21 Kilns, which were probably brick kilns. are featured on Bryant's map of Lincolnshire of 1828, to the south of the Gainsborough Road (HER 54310).
- 5.22 A Methodist Chapel is located on the southern outskirts of Middle Rasen (HER 55095). The chapel was constructed in 1911.
- 5.23 There have been a number of previous archaeological investigations within the HER search area. In 2017, an archaeological watching brief took place on land to the rear of 43, Church Street on the groundworks for a new residential dwelling and detached garage (HER 58219, Site code: CSMI17). This identified five undated pits and an undated gully. No dating material was found and so the origin of these archaeological features remains unknown. No other features of archaeological significance were found [Hall, 2017].
- 5.24 A geophysical survey was carried out in 2015 in advance of a proposed residential development on land to the north of Gallamore Road (HER 56641, ELI12291). The remains of medieval ridge and furrow were identified along with a small number of possible pits and a possible undated ditch.
- 5.25 A geophysical survey was undertaken off North Street/Middle Street in 1995 (HER ELI6998). The survey detected a possible ditch in the western half of the site and a possible pit at the southern end of the survey area. This was followed by an archaeological evaluation and subsequent archaeological watching brief here also in 1995 (HER 52023, HER ELI7000; Site code: CHM95). The watching brief identified several Anglo-Saxon archaeological features including two substantial linear ditches, from which sherds of late 10th-11th century pottery were recovered [Palmer-Brown, 1995].
- An archaeological watching brief was carried on a new water mains replacement pipeline within three areas of Middle Rasen in 1999 (HER 52023, ELI1328; Site code: UARS99). Work in the vicinity of St Peters Church exposed the truncated remains of a possible ditch from which a single sherd of medieval pottery was recovered. This feature was interpreted as a medieval roadside ditch.
- 5.27 A further archaeological watching brief on Church Street in 2000 identified a number of medieval and post-medieval archaeological features during the monitoring of groundworks for three new bungalows here (HER 52023, ELI1953; Site code: MRCS00). A shallow depression was interpreted as a possible medieval rubbish pit at the south-eastern corner of the site through which two later post-medieval postholes had been inserted. These possibly formed part of a fence line. In addition, two deposits which were thought to be the natural fills associated with a former steam course were also found [Tann & Angus, 2000].
- 5.28 Two archaeological trial trenches were excavated in advance of proposed residential development in 2000 on land off Mill Lane to the immediate east of this development site (HER 52022, ELI2129; Site code: MMR00). Various archaeological features relating to the medieval settlement of Middle Rasen Drax were identified, including a north-south aligned ditch that was thought to be a property boundary and a drainage ditch, postholes and a pit. Fragments of medieval and post-medieval pottery were recovered from many of these archaeological features. A medieval horse burial pit was also recorded here [Farr, 2000].

- 5.29 An archaeological watching brief was carried out in 2010 on the groundworks for a new residential development on land adjacent to Corrie Cottage, Gainsborough Road to the east of this development site (HER 52022, ELI0935, Site code: MRCC10). An assemblage of medieval finds including four sherds of late 13th--early 15th century pottery, 20 sherds of 14th-15th century pottery and a fragment of a probable medieval knife were recovered from a buried soil layer. Other findings included an undated surface or demolition spread [Trott, 2010].
- An archaeological watching brief was carried out in 2010 on the groundworks for new housing at Homeleigh, Gainsborough Road (HER ELI0942, Site code: MRHO10). This development site was located to the immediate west of this site. This watching brief identified a number of later archaeological features and deposits within the development area. All this evidence of archaeological activity related to the construction, occupation and demolition of a former cottage that had formerly occupied this site. No significant archaeological features or finds were encountered [Smith, 2010].
- 5.31 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken on land off Church Street on the groundworks for a new residential dwelling in 2013 (HER ELI111570, Site code: MRCS13). This identified a single linear archaeological feature which extended across the site. This was interpreted as a possible former course of the River Rase. A single sherd of 12th century pottery was recovered from the upper fill of this feature. Spreads of demolition material across the southern side of the site may have been associated with a former Wesleyan Methodist chapel that had formerly stood on this site [Piirainen, 2013].
- 5.32 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during development at the rear of Sunnydene, North Street in 2011 (HER ELI11041, Site code: SUN11). No significant archaeological features or finds were encountered [Wragg, 2011].
- 5.33 An archaeological watching brief was carried out during the construction of a replacement retaining wall at St Pauls Old Churchyard, Low Church Road in 2007 (HER ELI7784, Site code: MROC06). A sequence of graveyard soils was identified, but no significant archaeological features or finds were encountered.
- 5.34 A site visit was undertaken in 2000 on land to the west of Mill Lane (HER ELI1119). The earthworks of medieval crofts, tofts and holloways were identified on the site. These were thought to form a 12th century addition to the settlement of Middle Rasen Drax.
- 3.35 Copies of published O.S. maps of the area of the development site were obtained from the Lincolnshire Archives and from the local studies collections at the Lincoln Central Library. An extract from the First Edition 25 inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1887 shows that much of the present boundaries of the development site have become established by this time. The development site occupies a narrow north-south orientated linear shaped plot of land off the southern frontage of the Gainsborough Road.
- 3.36 This same layout to the site is repeated on the subsequent Second Edition 25 inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1906 and on the 1:2,500 scale O.S. map of 1972.
- 5.37 **Figure 2** features the current layout of the development site.

6. Methodology

6.1 The archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken by Neville Hall at the development site on the 31st of January and on the 1st and 7th-9th of February 2022. This comprised the continual archaeological monitoring and recording of an initial phase

of mechanical site ground reduction followed by the mechanical excavation of the foundations for the two new residential dwellings and the new detached garage. These mechanical excavations were carried out by an 8-ton 360° mechanical excavator that was fitted with a 2.0m wide toothless bucket, a 0.70m wide toothed bucket and a 0.50m wide toothed bucket.

- Where necessary, surfaces were hand cleaned for examination and recording and the archaeological features and site deposit sequences observed were recorded on standard pro-forma context recording sheets. Plans at scales of 1:100 were compiled on site of the monitored foundation trench excavations for the two new residential dwellings and for the new detached garage. These are all reproduced at this same scale in this report as Figures... A total of eleven sections of the observed site deposit sequences and archaeological features here [designated as Sections 1-11] were also compiled on site at a scale of 1:20. and are similarly reproduced at this same scale also on Figures A complimentary digital colour photographic record was also maintained, which is reproduced in Appendix 1, Plates 1-155. A list of contexts recorded is reproduced in Appendix 2.
- 6.3 All work was carried out according to the approved Specification and to the Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists (CHIfA) standards and guidance for archaeological watching briefs.

7. Results [Figures 4-..; Appendix 1, Plates 1-155]

7.1 The Initial Site Ground Reduction

- 7.1.1 The first phase of the monitored site groundworks programme consisted of the mechanical ground reduction or strip, which took place over the whole area of this development site. This initial site reduction was entirely confined to the topsoil horizon (001) and extended to depths of between 0.15m-0.50m below ground levels [Plates 3-35]. Occasional sherds of modern 20th century pottery along with fragments of modern brick and tile were noted on the ground surface during this reduction, but were not retained. At the northern end of this area of initial site ground reduction, the linear concrete foundations of a former modern chicken shed that had stood here, were revealed. All newly exposed surfaces we walked over and were scanned for any earlier or more significant finds, of which there were none.
- 7.1.2 This was followed by further monitored mechanical ground reduction, which took place at the northern end of the site and was once more, entirely confined to the topsoil horizon (001). This was for an area of new site hardstanding. The further ground reduction attained further depths of between 0.30m-0.40m below the already reduced site levels [Plates 36-41]. Further sherds of modern 20th century pottery were also noted, but were similarly not retained. Here also, all newly exposed surfaces we walked over and were scanned for any earlier or more significant finds, of which there were none.

7.2 The First Residential Dwelling

7.2.1 The foundations for the first new residential dwelling at the southern end of the site were then set out [Plates 42-43]. Two short sections of the foundations were then mechanically excavated under archaeological supervision to widths of 0.70m and to depths of 1.0m-1.10m below the reduced site levels [Plates 44 and 46]. These monitored mechanical excavations extended through the topsoil horizon (001) and into the upper levels of the underlying natural horizon (002), which was encountered at the base of these excavations. This deposit sequence was recorded within Representative Section 1 [Plate 45].

- 7.2.2 Owing to the unstable nature of these excavated trenches, the excavation of the foundations for the first new residential welling were then suspended pending a structural engineers report.
- 7.2.3 On the third day of the site archaeological programme, the monitored mechanical excavation of the foundations for this first new dwelling were resumed. The foundation trenches were excavated to varying lengths, to widths of 0.50m and of 0.70m and to depths of between 0.90m-1.20m below the already reduced site levels [Plates 47-55, 57-62, 64-73, 75, 77-93 and 95-104]. These excavations extended through the same topsoil horizon (001) and into the upper levels of the underlying natural horizon (002), which was encountered at the base of these excavations. This site deposit sequence was recorded within Representative Sections 2-6 [Plates 25, 63, 74, 76 and 94]. There were no finds from these monitored excavations.
- 7.2.4 The excavation of the foundation trench that ran alongside and parallel to the eastern site boundary revealed a short length of a linear feature [003] with fill (004), which was cut into the underlying natural horizon (002) and was observed to run obliquely in the base of this foundation trench. The fill (004) did not yield any finds. At the southern end of this foundation trench, a large area of modern disturbance was recorded, which extended beyond the base of the foundation trench excavations here. The fill of this modern dumped material included redeposited topsoil with fragments of modern brick and tile, modern concrete fragments, modern electric cabling and fragments of modern asbestos roof sheeting.

7.3 The Second Residential Dwelling

- 7.3.1 The foundations for this second new residential dwelling were set out [Plates 105-106]. The foundation trenches for this second new residential dwelling were then mechanically excavated under archaeological supervision to varying lengths, to widths of 0.50m and of 0.70m and to depths of between 0.90m-1.0m below the already reduced site levels [Plates 107, 109-110, 112-118, 120-131 and 133-141]. These excavations extended through the same topsoil horizon (001) and into the upper levels of the underlying natural horizon (002), which was encountered at the base of these excavations. This site deposit sequence was recorded within Representative Sections 7 and 9-10 [Plates 108, 119 and 132]. There were no finds from these monitored excavations.
- 7.3.2 Within the southern portion of the new build area, the cut of an undated pit [005] with fill (006) was recorded. This pit was sealed by the topsoil horizon (001) and was cut into the underlying natural horizon (002). The profile of this pit was recorded within Section 8 [Plate 111]. The fill (006) did not produce any finds. This pit was in turn truncated to the east by a further larger and modern rubbish pit.

7.4 The Detached Garage to the First Residential Dwelling

- 7.4.1 This was positioned to the north to the first residential dwelling and to the south of the second. The foundations for this new detached garage were set out [Plate 142]. The four trenches were excavated under archaeological supervision to varying lengths, to a uniform width of 0.70m and to depths of 0.90m-1.10m below the already reduced site levels [Plates 143 and 145-155].
- 7.4.2 These monitored excavations extended through the same topsoil horizon (**001**) and into the upper levels of the underlying natural horizon (**002**), which was encountered at the base of these excavations. This site deposit sequence was recorded within **Representative Section 11** [**Plate 144**].
- 7.4.3 No archaeological activity was identified here and there were no finds.

8. Discussion and Conclusions

- 8.1 The monitored groundworks for this development, which consisted of the mechanical excavation of the foundations for the two new residential dwellings and for the new detached garage tension were the subject of continual archaeological monitoring and recording.
- 8.2 The archaeological monitoring of the excavation of the foundation trench of the first new residential dwelling alongside the eastern site boundary revealed a short section of a narrow linear feature that was cut into the underlying natural horizontal of sands. This extended obliquely along the base of this foundation trench though the fill of this linear feature did not produce any finds. This is interpreted as being a short section of a possible former timber beam slot, which although undated and given the general archaeological context of this site and in stratagraphical terms, may possibly be medieval in origin.
- 8.3 The remaining archaeological feature identified by this archaeological monitoring consisted of the cut of an undated pit, which was encountered in the foundations of the second new residential dwelling at the northern end of the site. This was similarly cut into the underlying natural horizon, was sealed by the topsoil soil and was truncated to the east by the cut of a modern rubbish pit. The fill of this undated pit also did not yield any finds, though for similar considerations, may possibly also be considered to be medieval in origin.
- 8.4 Otherwise, the archaeological monitoring identified a simple site deposit sequence, which consisted of a modern topsoil horizon and an underlying natural horizon of aeolian sands. This sequence was consistent in its nature and was recorded within a number of representative sections that were widely distributed over the whole monitored site.
- 8.5 The archaeological monitoring did not produce any significant finds.
- 8.6 It is considered that the plot of land that formed this development was a possible original medieval burgage plot by its narrow linear shape and form. However, the relatively low level of archaeological settlement activity identified by this archaeological monitoring would tend to suggest that this site may have laid on the periphery or margins of medieval settlement, which occurred to the east and which was identified by archaeological evaluation here in 2000. It is further considered that this plot of land may originally have been a toft or enclosed field associated with the settlement of Middle Rasen Drax.

9. Effectiveness of Methodology and Confidence Rating

9.1 The chosen methodology comprising a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording clearly demonstrated both the limited nature of the archaeological activity, the lack of significant finds and the nature of the deposit sequence present on this site; while providing sufficient time to record the identified deposit sequence and archaeological features therein. It is considered that the implemented methodology was sufficient to record the nature of the archaeological activity, the dearth of finds and the nature of the deposit sequence present within the area of the development site with a high degree of confidence.

10. Acknowledgements

10.1 Thanks are gratefully extended to Ms. Kate Kelly of Kelly MacPherson Architects and their clients - Mr. and Mrs. Quint for commissioning this work. Thanks are also extended to Mr. Ian Marshman of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team and to the staff of the Lincolnshire Heritage Environment Record for their kind assistance.

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Extract from the First Edition 25 inch to one mile scale Ordnance Survey (O.S.) map of 1887, map sheet no. Lincolnshire 45.12.

Extract from the Second Edition 25 inch to one mile scale Ordnance Survey (O.S.) map of 1906, map sheet no. Lincolnshire 45.12.

Extract from the 1:2,500 scale O.S. map of 1977.

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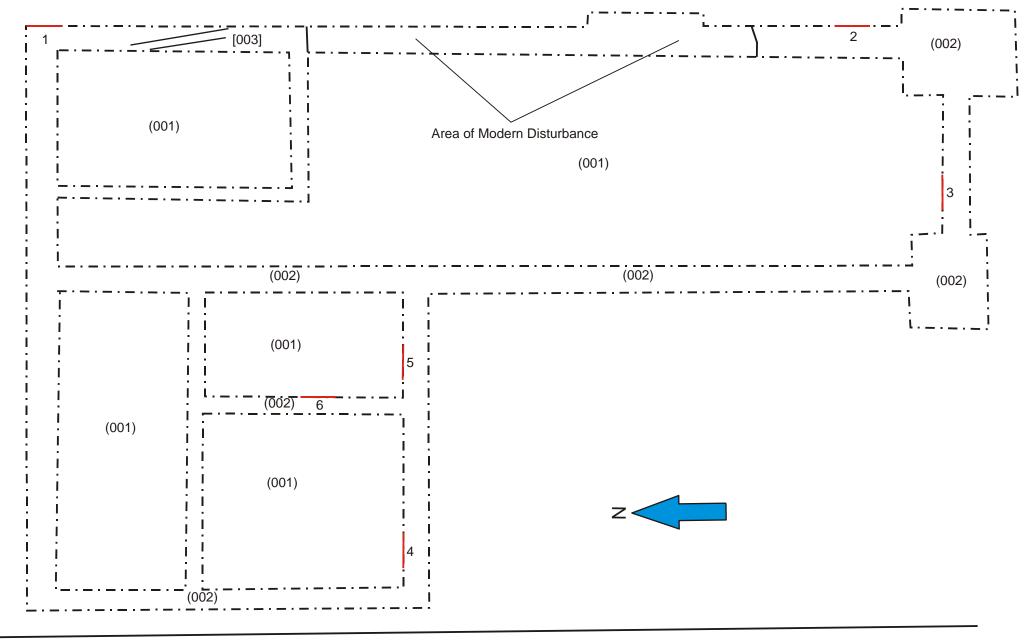
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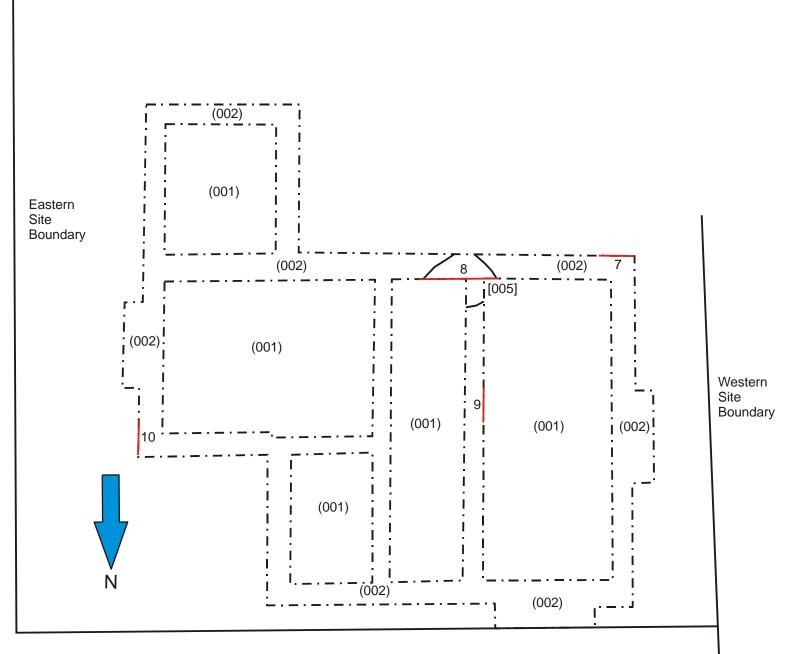
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Western Site Boundary

Figure 4: Plan of the Monitored Groundworks of the First Residential Dwelling at a scale of 1:100



AREA OF HARDSTANDING

Figure 5: Plan of the Monitored Groundworks of the Second Residential Dwelling at a scale of 1:100

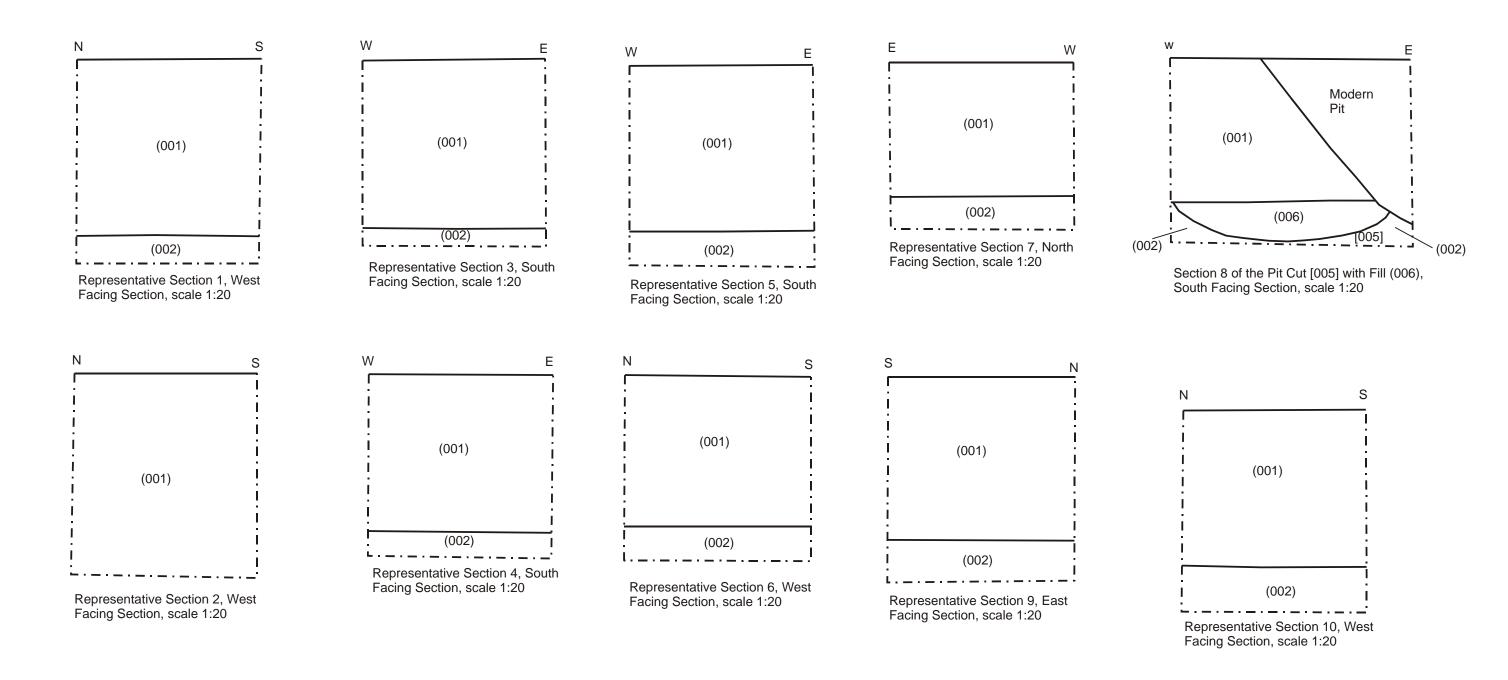
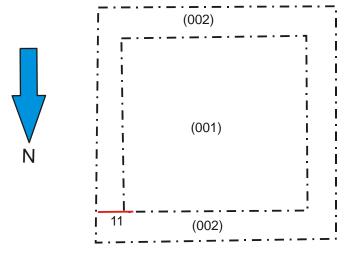
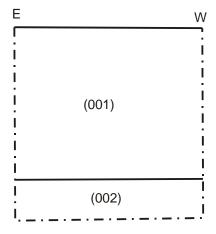


Figure 6: Sections 1-10 at a scale of 1:20





Representative Section 11, North Facing Section, scale 1:20

Figure 7: Plan of the Monitored Groundworks of the Detached Garage to the First Residential Dwelling at a scale of 1:100 and Section 11 at a scale of 1:20

Appendix 1: Plates



Plate 1: Pre- groundworks, from the north



Plate 4: Initial ground reduction, from the west



Plate 2: Pre- groundworks, from the south



Plate 5: Initial ground reduction, from the west

Initial Site Ground Reduction



Plate 3: Initial ground reduction, from the east



Plate 6: Initial ground reduction, from the east



Plate 7: Initial ground reduction, from the south



Plate 10: Initial ground reduction, from the north



Plate 8: Initial ground reduction, from the south



Plate 11: Initial ground reduction, from the south



Plate 9: Initial ground reduction, from the south



Plate 12: Initial ground reduction, from the south



Plate 13: Initial ground reduction, from the west



Plate 16: Initial ground reduction, from the south



Plate 14: Initial ground reduction, from the south



Plate 17: Initial ground reduction, from the south



Plate 15: Initial ground reduction, from the south



Plate 18: Initial ground reduction, from the south



Plate 19: Initial ground reduction, from the west



Plate 22: Initial ground reduction, from the north-west



Plate 20: Initial ground reduction, from the west



Plate 23: Initial ground reduction, from the north-west



Plate 21: Initial ground reduction, from the west



Plate 24: Initial ground reduction, from the south



Plate 25: Initial ground reduction, from the south



Plate 28: Initial ground reduction, from the north-west



Plate 26: Initial ground reduction, from the south



Plate 29: Initial ground reduction, from the south



Plate 27: Initial ground reduction, from the west



Plate 30: Initial ground reduction, from the east



Plate 31: Initial ground reduction, from the south-east



Plate 34: Initial ground reduction, from the east



Plate 32: Initial ground reduction, from the south-east



Plate 35: Initial ground reduction, from the east



Plate 33: Initial ground reduction, from the south-east



Plate 36: Further ground reduction, from the west



Plate 37: Further ground reduction, from the west



Plate 38: Further ground reduction, from the west



Plate 39: Further ground reduction, from the east



Plate 40: Further ground reduction, from the west



Plate 41: Further ground reduction, from the west

The First Residential Dwelling



Plate 42: Set out foundations, from the south



Plate 43: Set out foundations, from the south-east



Plate 44: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 45: Representative Section 1, from the west



Plate 46: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 47: Excavation of the foundations, from the south





Plate 48: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 50: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 51: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 53: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 52: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 54: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 55: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 56: Representative Section 2, from the west



Plate 57: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 58: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 59: Excavation of the foundations, from the east



Plate 60: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 61: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 64: Excavation of the foundations, from the south-west



Plate 62: Excavation of the foundations, from the east



Plate 65: Excavation of the foundations, from the south-west



Plate 63: Representative Section 3, from the south



Plate 66: Excavation of the foundations, from the east



Plate 67: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 70: Excavation of the foundations, from the east



Plate 68: Excavation of the foundations, from the east



Plate 71: Excavation of the foundations, from the east



Plate 69: Excavation of the foundations, from the east



Plate 72: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 73: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 76: Representative Section 5, from the south



Plate 74: Representative Section 4, from the south



Plate 77: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 75: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 78: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 79: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 82: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 80: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 83: Excavation of the foundations, from the north-west



Plate 81: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 84: Excavation of the foundations, from the south-west



Plate 85: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 86: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 87: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 88: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 89: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 90: Excavation of the foundations, from the north-west



Plate 91: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 94: Representative Section 6, from the west



Plate 92: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 95: Excavation of the foundations, from the north-west



Plate 93: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 96: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 97: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 100: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 98: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 101: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 99: Excavation of the foundations, from the north

Plate 102: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 103: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 104: Excavation of the foundations, from the north-west

The Second Residential Dwelling



Plate 105: Set out foundations, from the west



Plate 106: Set out foundations, from the north-west



Plate 107: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 109: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 108: Representative Section 7, from the north



Plate 110: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 111: Section 8 of the pit cut [005] with fill (006), from the south



Plate 112: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 113: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 114: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 115: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 116: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 117: Excavation of the foundations, from the south-east



Plate 118: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 119: Representative Section 9, from the east



Plate 120: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 123: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 121: Excavation of the foundations, from the north-west



Plate 124: Excavation of the foundations, from the south-west



Plate 122: Excavation of the foundations, from the north-west



Plate 125: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 126: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 127: Excavation of the foundations, from the north-west



Plate 128: Excavation of the foundations, from the south-east



Plate 129: Excavation of the foundations, from the south-east



Plate 130: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 131: Excavation of the foundations, from the east



Plate 132: Representative Section 10, from the west



Plate 133: Excavation of the foundations, from the north-west



Plate 134: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 135: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 136: Excavation of the foundations, from the north-east



Plate 139: Excavation of the foundations, from the south-east



Plate 137: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 140: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 138: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 141: Excavation of the foundations, from the south

The Detached Garage to the First Residential Dwelling



Plate 142: Set out foundations, from the south



Plate 143: Excavation of the foundations, from the east



Plate 144: Representative Section 11, from the north



Plate 145: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 146: Excavation of the foundations, from the east



Plate 147: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 148: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 149: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 150: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 151: Excavation of the foundations, from the north-west



Plate 152: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 154: Excavation of the foundations, from the east



Plate 153: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 155 Excavation of the foundations, from the south

Appendix 2: List of Contexts

- Topsoil horizon. Soft and friable, dark grey brown sandy silt with occasional small angular stones. Above (**002**), (**004**) and (**006**). Recorded within **Sections 1-11**. Depth 0.96m.
- Natural horizon. Friable, light orange, brown, light buff and mid orange brown aeolian sand with no inclusions. Below (001). Recorded within Representative Sections 1 and 3-11. Depth >0.23m.
- Out of a narrow linear feature or slot identified within the area of the first new residential dwelling. Not excavated. Recorded in the base of a foundation trench only. Cut into (002). Length >3.0m, width 0.20m, depth not determined.
- Fill of the narrow linear feature or slot [003]. Soft and friable, mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional small charcoal fragments and flecking. Below (001). No finds. Recorded in the base of a foundation trench only. Depth not determined.
- Out of an undated pit identified within the area of the second first new residential dwelling. Cut into (002). Profile recorded within **Section 8**. Truncated to the east by a modern refuse pit. Moderate break of slope at top (west side only), convex sides with rounded breaks of slope at base and flattish and slightly rounded base. Length 1.90m, width >1.10m, depth 0.22m.
- Fill of the undated pit cut [005]. Soft and friable, light orange brown sandy silt with no inclusions. Below (002). No finds. Recorded within **Section 8**. Depth 0.22m.

Appendix 3: The Archive

The archive consists of:

Six context records

One site plan of the monitored groundworks of the first residential dwelling at a scale of 1:100 on one sheet of drawing film

One site plan of the monitored groundworks of the second residential dwelling at a scale of 1:100 on one sheet of drawing film

One site plan of the monitored groundworks of the detached garage for the first residential dwelling at a scale of 1:100 on one sheet of drawing film

Eleven section drawings at a scale of 1:20 on one sheet of drawing film

One context register

One photographic register

All records are currently held at: 38 Finningley Road Lincoln LN6 0UP

And will be deposited in due course at:

The Collection Danes Terrace Lincoln LN2 1LP

Under the accession number LCNCC: 2019.172 and the site code GRMR19

Appendix 4: Photographic Register

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Appendix 5: OASIS Summary Sheet

Appendix 6: Specification for Archaeological Monitoring

Specification for Archaeological Monitoring and Recording on Land at Gig Cottage, Gainsborough Road, Middle Rasen, Lincolnshire.

Prepared for Ms. Kate Kelly of Kelly Macpherson, Architects on behalf of their clients - Mr. & Mrs. Quint

National Grid Reference: TF 0886 8898

Site Code: GRMR19

Accession No: LCNCC: 2019.172 Planning Reference: 138387

Prepared by Neville Hall, Freelance Field Archaeologist & Consultant

August 2019

Non-technical summary

- A scheme of works comprising archaeological monitoring and recording is required during the groundworks pertaining to the construction of two new residential dwellings on land at Gig Cottage, Gainsborough Road, Middle Rasen, Lincolnshire.
- The development site lies within an area of high archaeological potential and also within the area of the former medieval settlement of Middle Rasen Drax. The development site itself lies within a probable narrow linear former medieval burgage plot. An archaeological evaluation in 2000 to the immediate east of this site identified medieval settlement activity. So it is considered highly likely that similar such medieval settlement activity will be encountered on this development site. The specific objectives of this archaeological monitoring will be to record any archaeological features, deposits, structures or finds associated with this former medieval settlement.
- S3 The archaeological monitoring will be undertaken during the groundworks stage of development, which will comprise the mechanical excavation of the foundations and services for the two new residential dwellings. Any archaeological features, structures and/or deposits will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.
- On the completion of the monitoring, a report will be produced detailing the results of the archaeological investigation. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.

1. Site location and description [Figures 1 and 2]

- 1.1 The development site is located within the historic core of the village of Middle Rasen and on land off the southern frontage of the Gainsborough Road at National Grid Reference TF 0886 8898 and at a height of approximately 23mAOD. The settlement of Middle Rasen is situated 1.8km to the west of Market Rasen and 21km to the north-east of Lincoln, within the modern civil parish of the same name, administrative district of West Lindsey, county of Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The development site is situated within an undulating upland area of the Lincolnshire Wolds. The development site is located on deep stoneless fine sandy soils of the Holme Moor Series, which have developed on deposits of aeolian sand. These in turn overlie Ampthill and Kimmeridge Clays of the Upper Jurassic.

2. Planning background

2.1 This document comprises a Specification or a written scheme of works for archaeological monitoring and recording which is to be maintained during the groundworks pertaining to the erection of two new residential dwellings on land at Gig Cottage, Gainsborough Road, Middle Rasen, Lincolnshire, (Planning Reference: 138387).

3. Historical and Archaeological Background

- 3.1 Background research sources were consulted at the Lincolnshire Archives, the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Record (HER) and the Lincoln Local Studies Library. A search of the Lincolnshire HER was conducted within a 0.5km radius of the centre of the development site. The National Heritage List of Historic England (NHL) was also consulted.
- 3.2 A scatter of Roman pottery was found to the south-east of Market Rasen in 1967 (HER 52017).

3.3 A small bronze coin of Gratian was found in the garden of Mill House in 1964 (HER

52015).



Figure 1: Site location at scale 1:25,000. The site is shown in red. (O.S. copyright licence number 100048723)

- 3.4 The settlement of Market Rasen is situated in the Wapentake of Walshcroft and appears to have had late Anglo-Saxon origins, though little is known concerning any Anglo-Saxon settlement activity in the area. The first documentary reference to this settlement occurs in a contemporary charter of AD973 when it is referred to as cet roresnan. At the time of the Domesday Survey of AD1086, Resne, Rase or Rasa lands in the parish were held by Alfred of Lincoln and Roger of Poitou. There is a reference in the Survey to a mill. The place name is derived from the Old English ræsn or 'a plank'. This is perhaps a reference to a plank bridge or planks that were laid over marshy ground. By the time of the Lindsey Survey of c.AD1115, the lands here were held by Alan of Lincoln who held 41/2 bovates and a third of a bovate and Roger de Montebegin who held 1 carucate and 1 bovate in Parua Rasa on behalf of the Count of Mortain. Middle Rasen is first documented in this survey as Media Rasa. Later medieval documentary sources variously refer to Middle Rasen as Middelrasen (AD1201); Middel Rasen (AD 1331) and as Mikelrasen (AD1367).
- There were two medieval settlements at Middle Rasen. Each had a church and their own 3.5 open field systems. The boundary dividing these two parishes was the River Rase. Middle Rasen Tupholme with its parish church of St Peter lay to the north and Middle Rasen Drax with its own church of St Paul to the south.
- 3.6 The medieval settlement of Middle Rasen Tupholme is laid out in a very regular and planned fashion on an east-west aligned street with large tofts on the north side and shorter ones onto a stream on the south side (HER 52023). Earthworks within now amalgamated properties on the north show that the pattern of long tofts was formerly more complete. The north-south orientated link road (Church Street) across the stream southwards to the settlement of Middle Rasen Drax intrudes on this pattern.

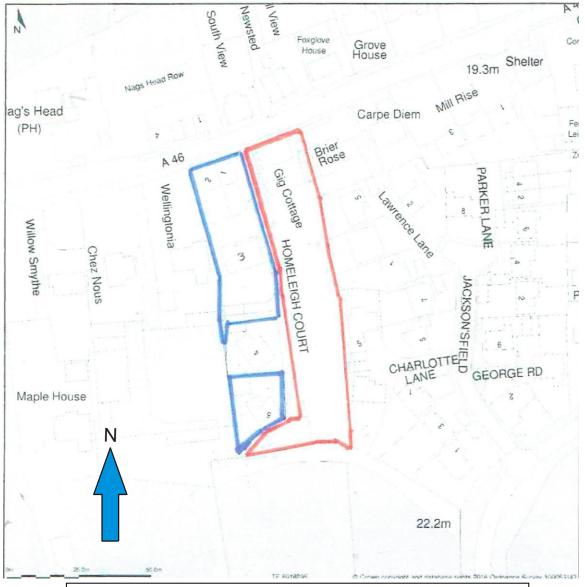


Figure 2: Site location at a scale of 1:1,250, (extract from Architects plan)

- 3.7 The development site is situated within the medieval settlement of Middle Rasen Drax, which is in turn located to the south of the medieval settlement of Middle Rasen Tupholme (HER 52022). The settlement of Middle Rasen Drax appears to have developed to the extent normal for a village to lose its church. A few earthworks survive along the through road, but modern housing estates have removed everything else and obscured the earlier street pattern. This settlement had two main centres. The first by the late 18th century appears as an irregular grouping of streets and properties near the site of the church of St Pauls. The second is a very regular two row pattern along an eastwest through road which what was probably a planned shift along the north-south orientated through/link road (Church Street) across the stream to the settlement of Middle Rasen Tupholme.
- 3.8 The parish church at Middle Rasen, which is dedicated to St Peter dates from the 12th century and underwent alterations in the 13th, 14th and 15th centuries and restoration in 1861 (HER 52013, NHL 1166238). The church comprises a 15th century west tower, a

nave, a 15th century chancel, a north aisle of early 13th century date, a north chapel and a 19th century south porch.

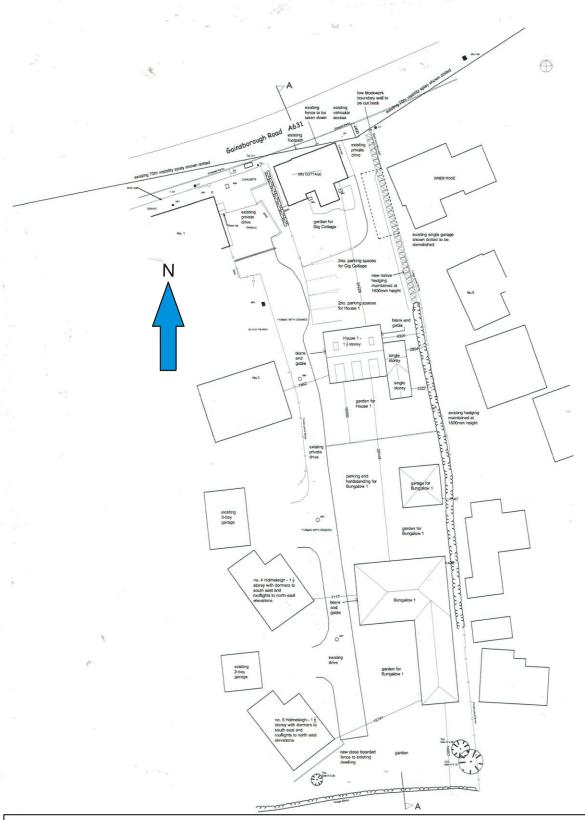


Figure 3: Block plan showing the proposed layout of the development site, (extract from Architects plan)

- 3.9 The site of St Paul's Church at Middle Rasen Drax occurs on the north-eastern outskirts of the village (HER 52014). The church was demolished in 1860 and some of the stonework from it used in the 1861 restoration of the present parish church. The graveyard pertaining to this former church remained in use after its demolition.
- 3.10 A Grade II listed Water Mill on Low Church Road is of late 18th century date and underwent alterations in the 20th century (HER 55771; NHL 1064040). This is also the site of an extant 18th century farmstead. This was arranged around a regular courtyard in an 'L'-plan. The farmhouse was attached to a range of working buildings.
- 3.11 The Grade II listed Laretto Cottage on Low Church Road is an early 18th century cottage with 19th century alterations (HER 56117, NHL 1309015). This house was formerly the vicarage for the church of St Paul. This was also the site of an unnamed 19th century farmstead at Middle Rasen. This was arranged around a regular courtyard in an 'L'-plan with further detached buildings on the third side of the yard. The farmhouse was attached to a range of working buildings and is the only surviving element of this farmstead.
- 3.12 A Grade II listed late 18th century milestone is situated on the southern frontage of the Gainsborough Road (HER 56156).
- 3.13 A windmill on Mill Lane was constructed in 1827 (HER 52042). It was raised one storey in height at some point and remained working until the 1920s by wind. The sails were removed by 1931, and from that point onwards it was engine powered. By 1932, the windmill became disused and was subsequently dismantled. It remained disused until 1935, and is now used for commercial purposes. A photographic survey of the building was undertaken in 2006, by which time the building was derelict again.
- 3.14 The site of a former Free United Methodist Chapel was built in Middle Rasen in 1855 and appears to have been demolished by the 1970s (HER 55097).
- 3.15 The site of a former Primitive Methodist Chapel was constructed in Middle Rasen in 1838 and was still in use in the 1950s. The building appears to have still been in existence in the 1970s, but has since been demolished (HER 55098).
- 3.16 The site of a further Wesleyan Methodist Chapel was built in Middle Rasen in 1839 (HER 55096) and appears to have been demolished by the 1950s.
- 3.17 An unnamed farmstead at Middle Rasen is a partially extant 19th century farmstead (HER 57421). This was arranged around a regular courtyard in a 'U'-plan. The farmhouse was detached from the range of working buildings. There has been a partial loss of traditional buildings on the site.
- 3.18 The Middle Rasen Primary School was constructed in 1877 replacing an earlier charity school on the site (HER 56767).
- 3.19 Manor Farm at Middle Rasen is a partially extant 19th century farmstead (HER 57414). This was arranged around a regular courtyard with linked working buildings to all four sides of the yard. The farmhouse was detached from the range of working buildings. There has been a significant loss of traditional buildings on the site. A park is recorded on the First and Second Edition O.S. maps of 1888 and 1905 respectively at Manor Farm (HER 55597).
- 3.20 North Farm at Middle Rasen is an extant 19th century farmstead (HER 57415). This was arranged around a regular courtyard with an 'L'-shaped plan range plus detached buildings to the third side of the yard. The farmhouse was detached from the range of working buildings.

- 3.21 Kilns, which were probably brick kilns. are featured on Bryant's map of Lincolnshire of 1828, to the south of the Gainsborough Road (HER 54310).
- 3.22 A Methodist Chapel is located on the southern outskirts of Middle Rasen (HER 55095). The chapel was constructed in 1911.
- 3.23 There have been a number of previous archaeological investigations within the HER search area. In 2017, an archaeological watching brief took place on land to the rear of 43, Church Street on the groundworks for a new residential dwelling and detached garage (HER 58219, Site code: CSMI17). This identified five undated pits and an undated gully. No dating material was found and so the origin of these archaeological features remains unknown. No other features of archaeological significance were found.
- 3.24 A geophysical survey was carried out in 2015 in advance of a proposed residential development on land to the north of Gallamore Road (HER 56641, ELI12291). The remains of medieval ridge and furrow were identified along with a small number of possible pits and a possible undated ditch.
- 3.25 A geophysical survey was undertaken off North Street/Middle Street in 1995 (HER ELI6998). The survey detected a possible ditch in the western half of the site and a possible pit at the southern end of the survey area. This was followed by an archaeological evaluation and subsequent archaeological watching brief here also in 1995 (HER 52023, HER ELI7000; Site code: CHM95). The watching brief identified several Anglo-Saxon archaeological features including two substantial linear ditches, from which sherds of late 10th-11th century pottery were recovered.
- 3.26 An archaeological watching brief was carried on a new water mains replacement pipeline within three areas of Middle Rasen in 1999 (HER 52023, ELI1328; Site code: UARS99). Work in the vicinity of St Peters Church exposed the truncated remains of a possible ditch from which a single sherd of medieval pottery was recovered. This feature was interpreted as a medieval roadside ditch.
- 3.27 A further archaeological watching brief on Church Street in 2000 identified a number of medieval and post-medieval archaeological features during the monitoring of groundworks for three new bungalows here (HER 52023, ELI1953; Site code: MRCS00). A shallow depression was interpreted as a possible medieval rubbish pit at the south-eastern corner of the site through which two later post-medieval postholes had been inserted. These possibly formed part of a fence line. In addition, two deposits which were thought to be the natural fills associated with a former steam course were also found.
- 3.28 Two archaeological trial trenches were excavated in advance of proposed residential development in 2000 on land off Mill Lane to the immediate east of this development site (HER 52022, ELI2129; Site code: MMR00). Various archaeological features relating to the medieval settlement of Middle Rasen Drax were identified, including a north-south aligned ditch that was thought to be a property boundary and a drainage ditch, postholes and a pit. Fragments of medieval and post-medieval pottery were recovered from many of these archaeological features. A medieval horse burial pit was also recorded here.
- 3.29 An archaeological watching brief was carried out in 2010 on the groundworks for a new residential development on land adjacent to Corrie Cottage, Gainsborough Road to the west of this development site (HER 52022, ELI0935, Site code: MRCC10). An assemblage of medieval finds including four sherds of late 13th--early 15th century pottery, 20 sherds of 14th-15th century pottery and a fragment of a probable medieval knife were recovered from a buried soil layer. Other findings included an undated surface or demolition spread.

- An archaeological watching brief was carried out in 2010 on the groundworks for new housing at Homeleigh, Gainsborough Road (HER ELI0942, Site code: MRHO10). This development site was located to the immediate west of this site. This watching brief identified a number of later archaeological features and deposits within the development area. All this evidence of archaeological activity related to the construction, occupation and demolition of a former cottage that had formerly occupied this site. No significant archaeological features or finds were encountered.
- 3.31 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken on land off Church Street on the groundworks for a new residential dwelling in 2013 (HER ELI111570, Site code: MRCS13). This identified a single linear archaeological feature which extended across the site. This was interpreted as a possible former course of the River Rase. A single sherd of 12th century pottery was recovered from the upper fill of this feature. Spreads of demolition material across the southern side of the site may have been associated with a former Wesleyan Methodist chapel that had formerly stood on this site.
- 3.32 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during development at the rear of Sunnydene, North Street in 2011 (HER ELI11041, Site code: SUN11). No significant archaeological features or finds were encountered.
- 3.33 An archaeological watching brief was carried out during the construction of a replacement retaining wall at St Pauls Old Churchyard, Low Church Road in 2007 (HER ELI7784, Site code: MROC06). A sequence of graveyard soils was identified, but no significant archaeological features or finds were encountered.
- 3.34 A site visit was undertaken in 2000 on land to the west of Mill Lane (HER ELI1119). The earthworks of medieval crofts, tofts and holloways were identified on the site. These were thought to form a 12th century addition to the settlement of Middle Rasen Drax.
- 3.35 Copies of published O.S. maps of the area of the development site were obtained from the Lincolnshire Archives and from the local studies collections at the Lincoln Central Library. An extract from the First Edition 25 inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1887 shows that much of the present boundaries of the development site have become established by this time. The development site occupies a narrow north-south orientated linear shaped plot of land off the southern frontage of the Gainsborough Road.
- 3.36 This same layout to the site is repeated on the subsequent Second Edition 25 inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1906 and on the 1:2,500 scale O.S. map of 1972.
- 3.37 **Figure 2** features the current layout of the development site.

4. Aims and objectives of the project

- 4.1 The aims of the project are the continual archaeological monitoring of the site groundworks during the construction stage of development, which will comprise the mechanical excavation of the foundations, services and access for the two new residential dwellings.
- 4.2 The objectives of the project are:

To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the area of the development site.

To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.

To allow the preservation by record of archaeological deposits.

4.3 The development site lies within an area of high archaeological potential and also within the area of the former medieval settlement of Middle Rasen Drax. The development site itself lies within a probable narrow linear former medieval burgage plot. An archaeological evaluation in 2000 to the immediate east of this site identified medieval settlement activity. So it is considered highly likely that similar such medieval settlement activity will be encountered on this development site. The specific objectives of this archaeological monitoring will be to record any archaeological features, deposits, structures or finds associated with this former medieval settlement.

5. Methodology

- 5.1 The archaeological monitoring will be undertaken during the groundworks phase of development, and will include the continual monitoring of the mechanical excavation of the foundations and services for the two new residential dwellings, and of any other ground disturbance. The mechanical excavations will be undertaken using a toothless bucket.
- 5.2 All work will be carried out according to the Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists (CHIfA) standards.
- All work will be undertaken following all statutory Health and Safety requirements and legislation in operation at the time of the monitoring.
- 5.4 A Risk Assessment will be prepared for the site.
- 5.5 Stripped areas and trench sections will be continually observed to identify any archaeological features and/or deposits which may be exposed.
- 5.6 Section drawings at a scale of 1:10 will be made of any archaeological features identified in the course of the groundworks, including representative sections of trenches at appropriate intervals. These will be related to a site plan drawing at a scale of 1:50, which may also record archaeological features and/or deposits identified. Any significant archaeological features in plan will also be recorded at a scale of 1:20.
- 5.7 Written descriptions detailing the nature of archaeological features and/or deposits encountered will be compiled on pro-forma context record sheets.
- Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for further analysis. All relevant finds will be ordered into an archive. Most modern material will not be retained, although notes will be made of the appropriate context. An appropriate sample of materials such as ceramic building materials will be made.
- 5.9 Any and all artefacts found during the monitoring and thought to come under the provisions of the *Treasure Act* (1996), will be removed from the site to a secure location, and will be promptly reported to the appropriate local coroner's office and to Lincolnshire Portable Antiquities Scheme.
- 5.10 Throughout the monitoring a digital photographic record will be compiled, and will comprise an overview of the site prior to work starting, and during as well as after completion of the work, and will include any excavated features, sections and other relevant details that aid interpretation.
- 5.11 Should human remains be encountered, they will be left *in situ*, and only excavated if absolutely necessary. Proper respect will be accorded to these remains, which will be cleaned to allow positive identification. Should removal be required, the appropriate

Ministry of Justice Licence will be obtained prior to the removal of the remains. In addition, any remains will be reported to the local Environmental Health Department, coroner and the police will be informed, where appropriate.

5.12 The fieldwork will be undertaken by Neville Hall. Additional personnel may be appointed if required.

6. Post-fieldwork methodology

- On the completion of the fieldwork, all of the written, drawn and photographic records produced by the archaeological monitoring will be checked, ordered, labelled (where appropriate) and catalogued to compile a distinctive site archive.
- 6.2 All finds recovered during the fieldwork will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which there were recovered. They will also be ordered into (and form part of) the site archive.
- 6.3 An assessment of significant finds will be made in light of general site information.
- 6.4 Any finds requiring specialist treatment and/or conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at The Collection, Lincoln, and in consultation with the relevant curator.
- 6.5 The site archive will be examined to enable the determination of various phases of activity on the site (if appropriate).
- 6.6 Relevant finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

7. Monitoring arrangements

- 7.1 Provision will be made for the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team on behalf of West Lindsey District Council, the Local Planning Authority to monitor the works during the fieldwork stage and any other aspect of the archaeological project as required including the post fieldwork analysis and report preparation stages of the project.
- 7.2 A minimum notification period of not less than fourteen days of the start date of works on the site will be given to the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team.
- 7.3 All aspects of the archaeological programme will be undertaken in accordance with this project specification.
- 7.4 Any variation to the project programme in terms of works or recording on or off site will be fully discussed and agreed with the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team.
- 7.5 Arrangements will be made for the representative of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team for access to the site to undertake monitoring visits, and such visits will be accounted for in the final report preparation.
- 7.6 The Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team shall be kept fully informed of any unexpected or unforeseen discoveries made during the course of the archaeological monitoring and recording programme.

8. Archive preparation and deposition

- 8,1 The documentation and records generated by the archaeological monitoring will be sorted and ordered in the format acceptable to The Collection, Lincoln, and to the standards and requirements as laid out in their Guide Book.
- 8.2 A unique accession number will be obtained from The Collection for the site archive.
- 8.3 It is anticipated that the archive will be deposited at The Collection, Lincoln by April 2020.

9. Reporting procedures

- 9.1 A report detailing the findings of the archaeological monitoring will be completed within two months after the finalisation of the fieldwork. Any delays will be related to the relevant authorities.
- 9.2 The report will consist of:

A title page, with project name and location, national grid reference, planning reference, site code, accession number, client name, author and date;

A contents page listing report sections, illustrations and appendices;

A non-technical summary of the results of the monitoring;

An introduction, site description and location;

Planning background to the project;

A section on the archaeological and historical background to the project;

A description of the methodology used in the project;

A section describing the results of the monitoring;

A section on the discussion and results of the project including a consideration of the findings of the project in a local and regional context;

A consideration of the effectiveness of the project methodology and a confidence rating of the results:

Illustrations including plans showing monitored areas, all archaeological features and sections thereof (including trench sections); and

Appendices comprising appropriate photographs of the site and of specific and significant archaeological features and representative sections and a list of contexts, and any specialist reports on finds from the site.

An electronic copy of the report will be deposited with the OASIS project (On-line Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations) http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/index.cfm.

10. Publication and dissemination

10.1 Copies of the final report will be deposited with the clients, the local curator (on behalf of the local planning authority), West Lindsey District Council and with the Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record (including a digital copy in a .pdf format).

- 10.2 A note will be placed in 'Lincolnshire History and Archaeology' describing the results.
- 10.3 The deposition of the site archive will be in accordance with guidelines outlined in the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook (LCC, 2019).
- 10.4 Should the results of the archaeological investigation merit it, a note will also be placed in appropriate national journals e.g. *Medieval Archaeology*.

11. Other factors (including contingency)

- 11.1 In the event of the discovery of any unexpected remains of archaeological importance, or of any changed circumstances, it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to inform the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team.
- 11.2 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation, additional financial resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.
- 11.3 Any additional financial contingency requirement for additional fieldwork or postexcavation analysis outside the scope of the proposed scheme of works will only be activated following full consultation with the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team and the client.

12. Variations to the proposed scheme

12.1 Variations to the proposed scheme will only be made following written confirmation with the archaeological curator.

13. Resources

- 13.1 The monitoring will be undertaken by Neville Hall using standard archaeological field techniques.
- 13.2 Should additional personnel be required, prior approval of the personnel will be sought from the local planning authority archaeologist prior to appointment.
- 13.3 Post-excavation analysis will be undertaken by Neville Hall and where available specialist analysis from:-

Jane Young Medieval and Post-medieval Ceramics

Ian Rowlandson Iron Age and Roman Ceramics

Archaeological Solutions Ltd Environmental

Carol Allen Neolithic and Bronze Age

Malin Holst Osteoarchaeology

Jane Cowgill Metallurgy

- 13.4 Small finds requiring conservation will be conserved by the City and County Museum Laboratory.
- 13.5 Recognised specialists will be sought in the event that other data are retrieved in the course of the monitoring.

14. Insurance statement

14.1 Public indemnity of £2,000,000 and private indemnity insurance of £250,000 with Towergate Insurance.

15. Copyright

15.1 Copyright will remain that of the author. Licence will be given to the client to present any reports, copyright of the author, to the planning authority in good faith of satisfactory settlement of account.

16. Ownership

16.1 It will be asked of the client, at the outset, that the ownership of any portable objects discovered in the course of the monitoring be donated along with the archive.