

**NEVILLE HALL MIFA  
FREELANCE ARCHAEOLOGIST & CONSULTANT**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING  
ON LAND TO THE NORTH OF  
KEEPERS COTTAGE, MAREHAM LANE,  
SPANBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

**National Grid Reference: TF 0910 3760**  
**Site Code: MLSP12**  
**Accession No: LCNCC: 2012.9**  
**Planning Reference: 10/0840/FUL**

PREPARED FOR MR. TERRY DAVIES

By

Neville Hall MIFA

March 2012

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## **Summary**

- *The archaeological monitoring of the mechanical excavations for a new septic tank with associated trenching on land to the north of Keepers Cottage, Mareham Lane, Spanby, Lincolnshire was carried out at the development site by Neville Hall MIFA on the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 2012.*
- *It was understood that the erection of two new polytunnels and an agricultural building, which are also the subject of this planning consent will involve a no dig option for their respective constructions and so would not require archaeological monitoring.*
- *The remaining site groundworks which comprised the mechanical excavation of a large soakaway to accommodate anew septic tank along with the mechanical excavation of two service trenches, the first extending to the north and the second to the east of this soakaway respectively, were extensively monitored and recorded.*
- *The archaeological monitoring identified a simple deposit sequence of a modern topsoil horizon, an undated ploughsoil horizon and two underlying natural horizons of clays. These deposits were encountered throughout the monitored area.*
- *The archaeological watching brief did not identify any archaeological activity and there were no finds.*

## 1. Introduction

Neville HallMIFA was commissioned by Mr. Terry Davies to undertake the archaeological monitoring of the mechanical excavations for a new septic tank and associated trenching on land to the north of Keepers Cottage, Mareham Lane, Spanby, Lincolnshire, centred at National Grid Reference TF 0910 3760. The archaeological monitoring was carried out at the development site on the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 2012.

It was understood that the erection of two new polytunnels and an agricultural building, which are also the subject of this planning consent will involve a no dig option for their respective constructions and so will not require archaeological monitoring.

The work was carried out according to the requirements of an archaeological condition, which was attached to the granting of planning consent for this development by North Kesteven District Council, the Local Planning Authority (LPA), and acting on the advice of Ms Jenny Young, Senior Historic Environment Officer of Heritage Lincolnshire, in her capacity as archaeological advisor on planning issues to the LPA. This is in accordance with the principles established in *PPS 5: 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* (IFA, 2008).

Copies of the final report will be deposited with the client, Ms Jenny Young (on behalf of the local planning authority), the Planning Department of North Kesteven 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

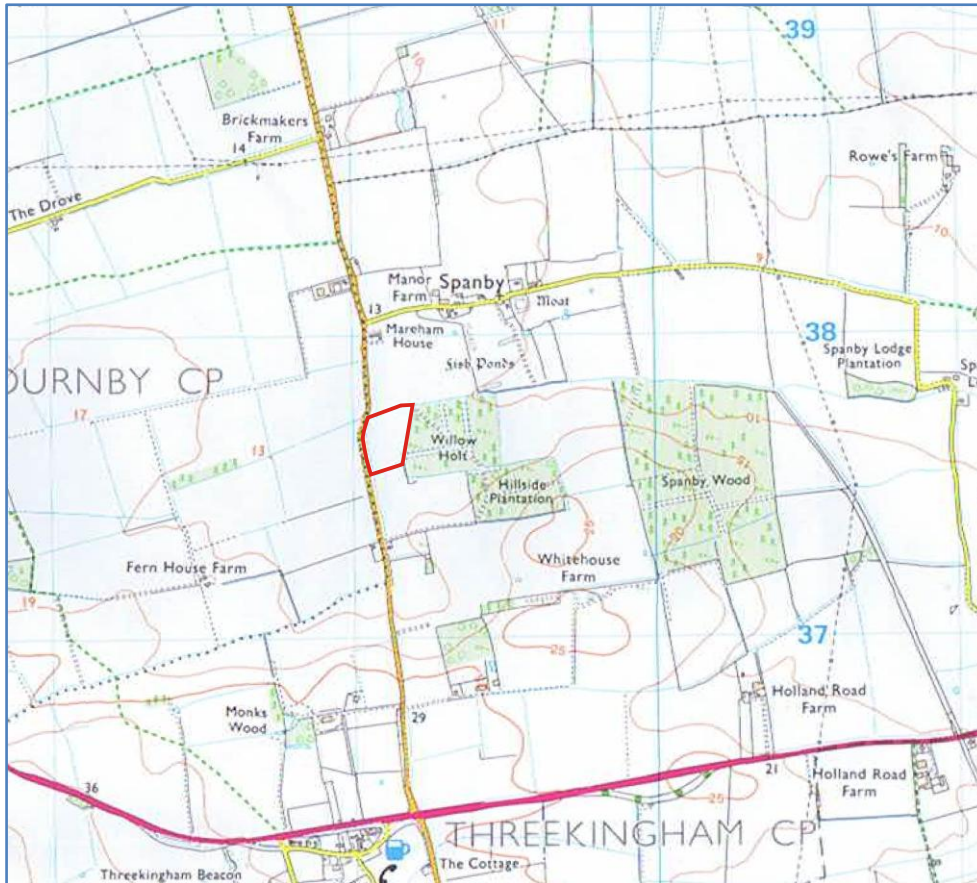
The development site is situated within an open field with Mareham Lane forming the western boundary to the site. The development site is located approximately 0.4km to the south-west of the village of Spanby, at National Grid Reference TF 0910 3760, and at a height of approximately 13mAOD. The village of Spanby is located approximately 8km to the south of Sleaford and 24km to the west of Boston, in the modern civil parish of Threekingham and within the administrative district of North Kesteven, county of Lincolnshire [Figures 1 and 2].

The development site is located on a slightly undulating though overall low lying area. The development site is situated on slowly permeable clayey and fine loamy soils of the Denchworth Series that have in turn developed on Oxford Clays and Kellaway Beds of the Upper Jurassic [BGS, 1996; Soil Survey, 1983].

## 3. Planning Background

A planning application for the proposed erection of two polytunnels and an agricultural building along with associated service works on land to the north of Keepers Cottage, Mareham Lane, Spanby, Lincolnshire, (Planning Reference: 10/0840/FUL) has been submitted to and granted consent by North Kesteven District Council, the Local Planning Authority (LPA). However, as the proposed development is situated within a known archaeologically sensitive area and in an area of high archaeological potential, an archaeological condition (No. 2) was attached to this consent which stated that:

*No development shall take place unless and until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of an agreed written specification that sets out a programme of work to archaeologically monitor groundworks during development. The specification shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The programme of work shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved specification. A final report of the archaeological findings will be submitted to the Local Planning Authority within six months of the completion of the development, or such longer period as may be agreed by the Local Planning Authority.*



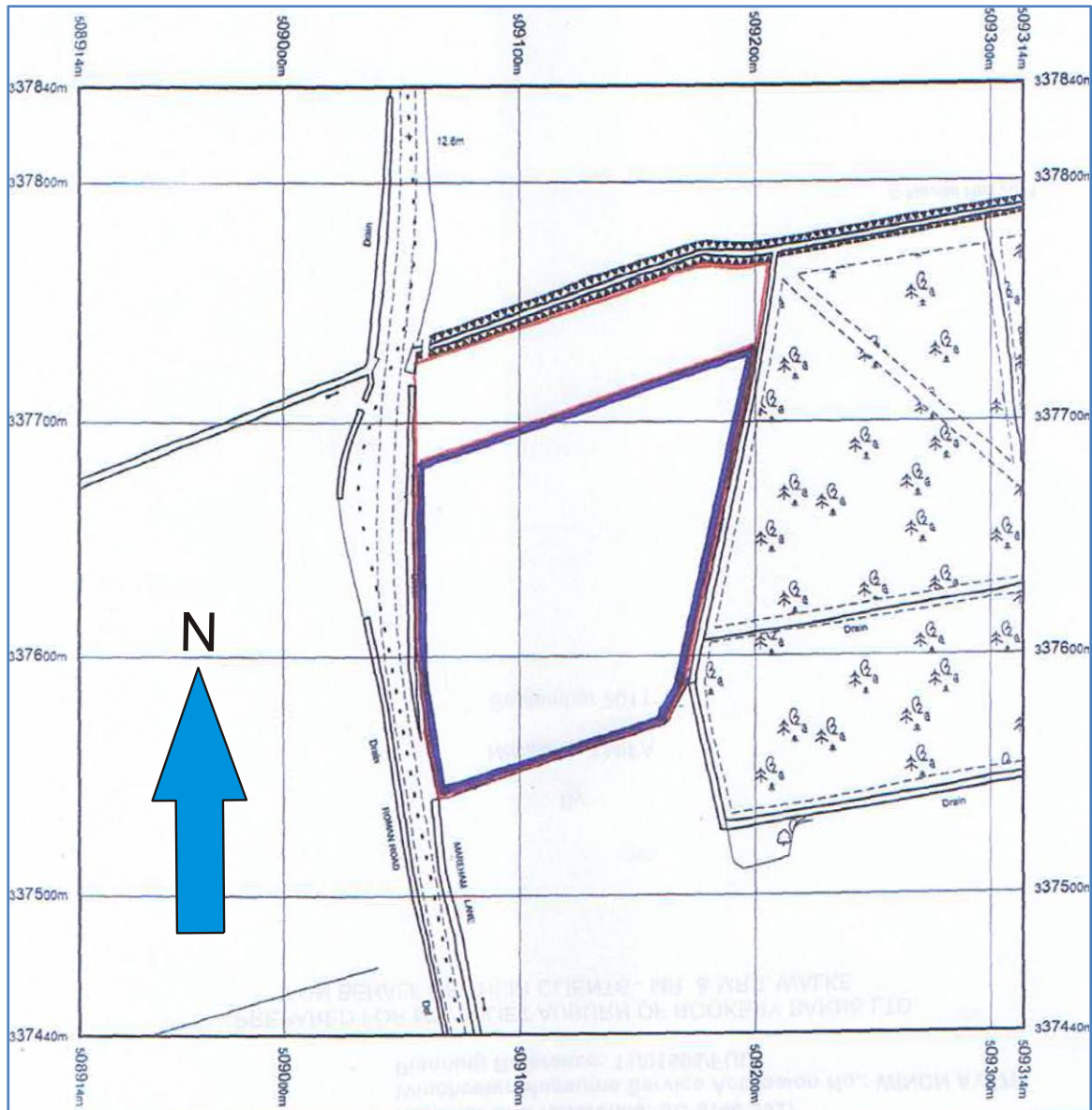
**Figure 1:** Site location at scale 1:25,000. The site is shown in red. (O.S. copyright licence number 100048723)

A specification for the archaeological monitoring was submitted to and approved by Ms Jenny Young, Senior Historic Environment Officer of Heritage Lincolnshire (on behalf of the LPA) prior to the commencement of the on-site archaeological works.

It was understood that the erection of two new polytunnels and an agricultural building, which are also the subject of this planning consent will involve a 'no-dig' option for their respective constructions, and so would not require archaeological monitoring.

#### **4. Aims and Objectives of the Archaeological Monitoring**

The aims of the project were the **continual archaeological monitoring** of all site groundworks during the construction stage of development, which comprised the mechanical excavations for a new soakaway to accommodate a septic tank and associated trenching. The remaining groundworks comprising the erection of two new polytunnels and an agricultural building, which are also the subject of this planning consent involved a no dig option for their respective constructions and so did not require archaeological monitoring.



**Figure 2:** Site location at scale 1:2,500. (O.S. copyright licence number 10048723)

The objectives of the project were:

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.

The development site is situated within an area of high archaeological potential. Mareham Lane, a known Roman road, itself forms the western boundary to the development site. A geophysical survey undertaken in the field to the immediate north of this site in 2009 identified prehistoric and Roman enclosures, the latter of which was interpreted as contemporary roadside settlement activity. Other linear, curvilinear and pit-like anomalies along with the remains of medieval ridge and furrow were also detected here. Quantities of Iron Age and Roman pottery have also been found at this location. Further finds of Roman pottery have been found to the west of this site and prehistoric finds including worked flints have also been

found to the north. It was anticipated that similar activity and finds may well be encountered on this development site. The specific objectives of this project were to record any potential further Roman roadside settlement activity and associated artefacts as well as the potential for further prehistoric and medieval archaeological activity and finds.

## 5. Archaeological and Historical Background

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 1.0km radius of the centre of the development site.

Part of a Neolithic stone axe was found to the south of The Drove (HER 64647). It had later been reused as a whetstone. A scatter of Early Neolithic to Late Bronze Age worked flints including scrapers and blades were found near Whitehouse Farm prior to 1957 (HER 60058).

A small concentration of finds of prehistoric date including flints has been found to the west of Mareham House and to the north of the development site (HER 60114). The cropmarks of an enclosure and a possible field boundary of possible prehistoric date are located to the south of The Drove and to the west of Mareham Lane (HER 60348).

A complex of enclosures of possible Iron Age date has been identified from aerial photographic sources to both the north and south of The Drove (HER 64702).

Finds of 2<sup>nd</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD Roman coins have been found to the north-west of Fern House Farm (HER 60113). Iron Age and Romano-British pottery has been found in a field to the immediate north of the development site and to the east of Mareham Lane. A brooch of 2<sup>nd</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD date has been found to the north-west of Mareham House (HER 64671). A scatter of Roman pottery has been found to the west of Mareham House (HER 64703). A further scatter of Roman pottery has been found in a field to the immediate west of Mareham Lane and the development site (HER 64704).

Mareham Lane itself marks the line of a Roman Road (HER 64105). This road forms the western boundary to the development site.

Spanby is first documented in the Domesday Survey of AD1086. At the Domesday Survey, lands in the parish of Spanby or *Spanesbi* and *Spanebiwere* held by Kolsevinn and by Odger the Breton. Later medieval documentary references variously refer to the medieval settlement as *Spannebi* (AD1170, AD1202) (HER 64869) [Morris, 1986]. The place name itself has late Anglo-Saxon origins and probably means 'the farmstead/village where shingle for tiling is obtained'. This is derived from the Old Norse *spanu* and the Old Danish *by* (HER 64869) [Cameron, 1998; Mills, 1991; Ekwall, 1991].

Spanby was a village in its own right during the medieval period. It is classified as an SMV, a shrunken medieval settlement. The earthworks of this shrunken settlement were visible on the ground until they were levelled by extensive ploughing as recently as 1980 (HER 60040). This ploughing effectively destroyed these earthwork remains, which also included a rectangular shaped moat, which was the site of the former medieval manor as well as several fishponds. A manor house was constructed on the site in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. A survey of the site in 1979 depicted a sub-rectangular shaped island measuring 26m by 22m which was raised approximately 1m above the surrounding ground level. In 1980, the island was levelled, the moat infilled and the site was ploughed flat. The moated site had been scheduled as an ancient monument, but was descheduled in 2001.

Other earthworks comprising the cultivation remains of medieval ridge and furrow are situated at various locations around the village (HER 64869).

The only extant remains dating from the medieval period is the former Grade II listed parish church, which is dedicated to St. Nicholas (HER 64863). The church fabric contains elements

of 14<sup>th</sup> century work but was extensively rebuilt in 1881. The church was declared redundant in 1973 and is now used as a shed [Pevsner & Harris, 2002].

The Lincolnshire HER records the findspot of a medieval sword or dagger of 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> century date that was found to the north of Willow Holt in 1960 (HER 60898). A fragment of a Lincoln type jug with face has been found to the north-west of Mareham House (HER 64670).

The Grade II listed Spanby Manor Farmhouse is dated to c.1780 and also has 20th century alterations (HER 64860) [Pevsner & Harris, 2002].

Several previous archaeological investigations have been carried out within the search area. An archaeological watching brief was carried out during the excavation of new foundations for an extension at Manor Farm, Spanby in 1999 (HER ELI 914; Site code: SMF99). The watching brief revealed an discrete area of domestic refuse which yielded sherds of late 19<sup>th</sup>-early 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery. No archaeological remains and no other finds were made [Cope-Faulkner, 1999].

A second archaeological watching brief was undertaken in 1995 during the groundworks for the construction of a new extension at Hall Farm House, Spanby (HER ELI 3975; Site code: HFS95). The watching brief did not identify any significant archaeological remains [Palmer-Brown, 1995].

A further archaeological watching brief was carried out during the construction of a replacement water main in 2000 (HER ELI 3004; Site code: MLP00). One of two monitored areas of pipeline construction was situated within the search area, which comprised a c.180m long section that extended between the disused parish church and the earthworks of the former medieval village. This similarly did not identify any archaeological features, deposits or finds [Albone, 2002].

A fourth archaeological watching brief was undertaken in 2007 at Mareham Lane, Spanby (HER ELI 6649; Site code: SBML07). This monitored the excavation of three new fishing lakes. This similarly did not identify any archaeological activity [Cope-Faulkner, 2007].

A geophysical survey took place in 2009 on land to the immediate north of this development site (HER 64705, ELI 9346; Site code: SPMH09). This identified various anomalies that comprised enclosures of prehistoric and Romano-British origin in the western portion of the survey area that may reflect roadside settlement associated with Mareham Lane, which is itself a Roman road. The geophysical survey also located further linear, curvilinear and pit-like anomalies, which it was felt may also reflect further archaeological activity on this site. The geophysical survey was undertaken in advance of the proposed construction of two new fishing lakes. The cultivation remains of medieval ridge and furrow were also detected by this survey (HER 65684). A small quantity of Roman pottery was also found in this area during a walkover survey in 2009 (HER 64705) [Allen Archaeological Associates, 2009].

A geophysical survey to the south of the development site in 2006 identified a number of undated area and linear anomalies. It was thought that some of the linear anomalies may have represented field boundary ditches, drainage ditches and a pair of parallel linear features that were also thought to represent ditches associated with a road or track (HER 64011) [Sabin & Donaldson, 2006].

Copies of manuscript and Ordnance Survey (O.S.) maps were obtained from the Lincolnshire Archives and the local studies collections of the Lincoln Central Library. The earliest map consulted comprised the tithe map for the parish of Spanby of 1841 (Archive ref: C223). This shows the development site bordering onto Mareham Lane to the west. This field plot (No. 69) is detailed in the accompanying tithe apportionment as ' Little Pickering'. The Lincolnshire Archives also holds a second map of the parish of Spanby also of 1841, which is undoubtedly based on the tithe map and in fact shows exactly the same details (Archive ref: Smith 9/1/56).



The First Edition O.S. map of 1891 shows no change to the area of the development site or to its immediate environs. The present plantation at Willow Holt is visible as a small rectangular shaped plantation in the south-eastern corner of the adjacent field to the east. A field boundary has also been removed in the field to the immediate south of the development site. The Second Edition O.S. map of 1905 shows the same layout to the area of the development site and of its immediate environs. The 1:10,560 scale O.S. map of 1956 shows the plantation at Willow Holt now at its fullest extent, with otherwise no change to the development site or to its environs. The 1:10,000 scale O.S. map of 1984 similarly shows no change to the area of the development site or to its immediate environs.

## 6. Methodology

The archaeological monitoring at the development site was undertaken by Neville Hall MIFA on the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 2012. This comprised the continual archaeological monitoring and recording of the mechanical excavation of a large soakaway to accommodate a new septic tank and the mechanical excavation of two service trenches extending northwards and eastwards from the soakaway respectively. The mechanical excavations were undertaken by a JCB mechanical excavator that was fitted with 0.60m and 0.80m wide toothed buckets.

Where necessary, surfaces were hand cleaned for examination and recording, and the deposits observed were recorded on standard *pro-forma* context recording sheets. A plan at an original scale of 1:50 was made of the monitored groundworks which comprised a soakaway and two associated service trenches. This plan is reproduced at a scale of 1:400 as **Figure 3**. In addition, two representative sections of the identified deposit sequence [designated as **Representative Sections 1-2**] were also compiled on site at a scale of 1:20. These are reproduced at this scale on **Figure 3**. A complimentary colour photographic digital record was also maintained, which are reproduced as **Plates 1-11, Appendix 1**. A list of contexts is reproduced in **Appendix 2**.

All work was carried out according to the approved Specification and to the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) standards and guidance for archaeological watching briefs.

## 7. Results [Figure 3; Appendix 1, Plates 1-11]

It was understood that the erection of two new polytunnels and an agricultural building, which are also the subject of this planning consent will involve a 'no-dig' option for their respective constructions, and so would not require archaeological monitoring.

The remaining site groundworks which comprised the mechanical excavation of a large soakaway to accommodate a new septic tank along with the mechanical excavation of two service trenches, the first extending to the north and the second to the east of this soakaway respectively, were extensively monitored and recorded.

The excavated soakaway measured 2.60m in length and 2.10m in width and was excavated to a depth of 1.60m below ground levels [**Plates 1-2**]. The first service trench excavated extended northwards from this soakaway for a length of 17.20m, a width of 0.60m and to average depths of 0.70m below ground levels [**Plates 3 and 5-6**]. This trench traversed the lines of two 19<sup>th</sup> century land drains. The second service trench extended eastwards from the soakaway and measured 30.50m in length, 0.60m-0.95m in width and was excavated to depths of 0.80m- 1.0m below ground levels [**Plates 7-9 and 11**].

The archaeological monitoring identified a simple deposit sequence of a modern topsoil horizon (**001**), an undated ploughsoil horizon (**002**) and two underlying natural horizons of clays (**003**) and (**004**). The deposits (**001**), (**002**) and (**003**) were encountered throughout the monitored area, whilst the second natural horizon (**004**) was only encountered at the base of the excavated soakaway where the excavations had been carried out to greater depths. The deposit sequence (**001**), (**002**) and (**003**) was recorded within two sections – **Representative Sections 1 and 2** in the two service trenches respectively [**Plates 4 and 10**].

The archaeological watching brief did not identify any archaeological activity and there were no finds.

## **8. Discussion and Conclusions**

The groundworks for this development were extensively monitored and recorded. The archaeological monitoring identified a simple deposit sequence of a modern topsoil, an undated ploughsoil and natural horizons, which were encountered throughout the monitored area.

The archaeological watching brief did not identify any archaeological activity and there were no finds.

## **9. Effectiveness of Methodology and Confidence Rating**

The methodology chosen clearly demonstrated the absence of archaeological activity and the nature of the deposit sequence on this site; while providing sufficient time to record the deposits observed. A more detailed level of archaeological assessment and investigation clearly would not have been necessary. It is considered that the implemented methodology was sufficient to ensure the absence of archaeology present and the nature of the deposit sequence within the area of the development site with a high degree of confidence.

## **10. Acknowledgements**

Thanks are gratefully extended to Mr. Terry Davies for commissioning this work. Thanks are also extended to Ms Jenny Young of Heritage Lincolnshire, and to the staff of the Lincolnshire Heritage Environment Record, the Lincoln Central Library and the Lincolnshire Archives for their kind assistance.

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Extract from the tithe map for the parish of Spanby of 1841 (Archive ref: C223).

Extract from a map of the parish of Spanby of 1841, (Archive ref: Smith 9/1/56).

Extract from the First Edition 6"–1 mile scale O.S. of 1891, map sheet no. Lincolnshire 115SE.

Extract from the Second Edition 6"–1 mile scale O.S. of 1905, map sheet no. Lincolnshire115SE.

Extract from the 1:10,560 scale O.S. map of 1956, map sheet no. TF 03 NE.

Extract from the 1:10,000 scale O.S. map of 1984, map sheet no. TF 03 NE.

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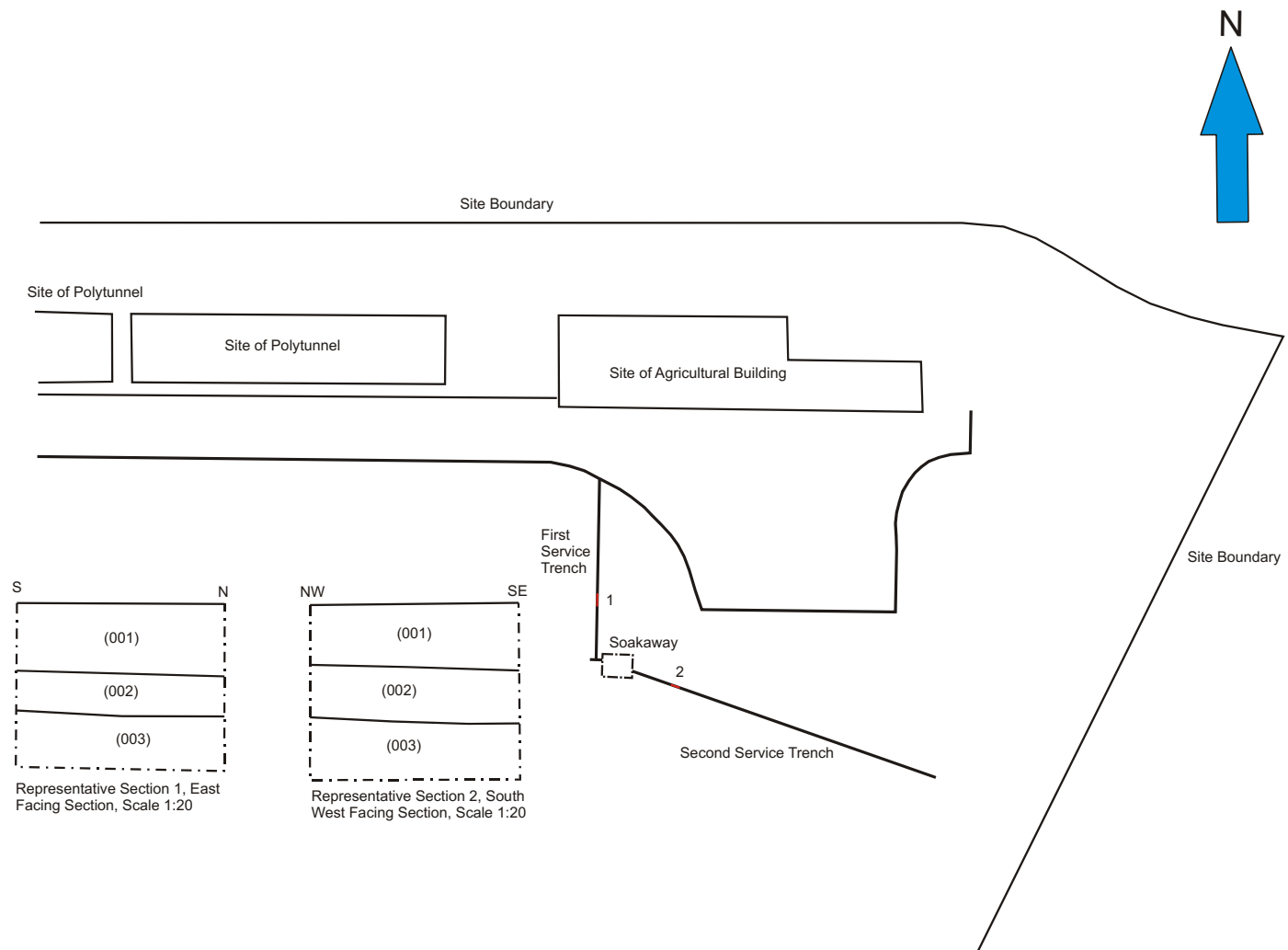


Figure 3: Plan of the Monitored Groundworks at a scale of 1:400 showing the location of Representative Sections 1-2 & Representative Sections 1-2 at a scale of 1:20

## Appendix 1: Plates



**Plate 1:** Work in progress,excavation of the soakaway, from the south



**Plate 2:** Work in progress,excavation of the soakaway, from the south-west



**Plate 3:** Work in progress,excavation of service trench northwards from the soakaway, from the south



**Plate 4:** Representative Section 1, from the east



**Plate 5:** Work in progress,excavation of service trench northwards from the soakaway, from the south



**Plate 6:** Work in progress,excavation of service trench northwards from the soakaway, from the north



**Plate 7:** Work in progress,excavation of the second service trench eastwards from the soakaway, from the west



**Plate 10: Representative Section 2,** from the south-west



**Plate 8:** Work in progress,excavation of the second service trench eastwards from the soakaway, from the west



**Plate 11:** Work in progress,excavation of the second service trench eastwards from the soakaway, from the east



**Plate 9:** Work in progress,excavation of the second service trench eastwards from the soakaway, from the west

## Appendix 2: List of Contexts

- 001** Topsoil horizon. Friable, light orange brown sandy clayey silt with occasional small angular stones. Above **(002)**.Depth – 0.35m.
- 002** Undated ploughsoil horizon. Soft, light orange brown silty clay with occasional small angular & rounded stones. Below **(001)** & above **(003)**.Depth – 0.35m.
- 003** Natural horizon. Soft, light grey brown silty clay with light blue grey mottling (gleying) & frequent small chalk fragments. Also has spreads/pockets of mid orange brown sand. Below **(002)** & above **(004)**.Depth – 0.45m.
- 004** Natural horizon. Soft, mid grey brown silty clay with light blue grey mottling (gleying) & frequent small angular stones & small chalk fragments. Below **(003)**.Depth - >0.40m.

### **Appendix 3: The Archive**

The archive consists of:

Four context records

One site plan at a scale of 1:50 and two sections at a scale of 1:20 on one sheet of drawing film

One context register

One photographic register

All records are currently held at:

30 Valley Road

Waddington

Lincoln

LN5 9BE

And will be deposited by February 2013 at:

The Collection

Danes Terrace

Lincoln

LN2 1LP

Under the accession number **LCNCC:2012.9** and site code: **MLSP12**



## Appendix 4: Photographic Register

**PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD SHEET**

Camera No.	Date Loaded / /	Time Loaded :	Comments		B&W <input type="checkbox"/> Col. <input type="checkbox"/> Digi. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Frame	Comments	View	Scale	Init & Date	Site
	Identification Shot	N/A	N/A		
1	work in progress, excavation of the soakaway	S		At 29/2/12	MLSP12
2	work in progress, excavation of the soakaway	SW		At 29/2/12	MLSP12
3	work in progress, excavation of service trench northwards from the soakaway	S		At 29/2/12	MLSP12
4	Representative Section 1	E		At 29/2/12	MLSP12
5	work in progress, excavation of service trench northwards from the soakaway	S		At 29/2/12	MLSP12
6	work in progress, excavation of service trench northwards from the soakaway	N		At 29/2/12	MLSP12
7	work in progress, excavation of the second service trench eastwards from the soakaway	W		At 29/2/12	MLSP12
8	work in progress, excavation of the second service trench eastwards from the soakaway	W		At 29/2/12	MLSP12
9	work in progress,	W		At 29/2/12	MLSP12



## Appendix 5: OASIS Summary Sheet

## OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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### Land North of Keepers Cottage, Mareham Lane, Spanby, Lincolnshire - Neville Hall MIFA

OASIS ID - nevilleh1-120579

#### Versions

View	Version	Completed by	Email	Date
View 1	1	Neville Hall MIFA	nevillehallmifa@gogglemail.com	8 March 2012

#### Completed sections in current version

Details	Location	Creators	Archive	Publications
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	1/1

#### Validated sections in current version

Details	Location	Creators	Archive	Publications
No	No	No	No	0/1

#### File submission and form progress

Grey literature report submitted?	Yes	Grey literature report filename/s	Sent by other means
Boundary file submitted?	No	Boundary filename	
HER signed off?		NMR signed off?	

[Upload boundary file](#)

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## OASIS:

Please e-mail English Heritage for OASIS help and advice

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## **Appendix 6: Specification for Archaeological Monitoring**

**Specification for Archaeological Monitoring  
on Land to the North of Keepers Cottage,  
Mareham Lane,  
Spanby, Lincolnshire.**

**Prepared for Mr. Terence Davis**

National Grid reference: TF 0910 3760  
Site Code: MLSP12  
Accession No: LCNCC: 2012.9  
Planning Reference: 10/0840/FUL

**Prepared by Neville Hall MIFA, Freelance Field  
Archaeologist & Consultant**

January 2012

## **Non-technical summary**

*A scheme of works comprising archaeological monitoring is required during the excavations for a new septic tank and associated service trenching on land to the north of Keepers Cottage, Mareham Lane, Spanby, Lincolnshire.*

*It is understood that the erection of two new polytunnels and an agricultural building, which are also the subject of this planning consent will involve a no dig option for their respective constructions and so will not require archaeological monitoring.*

*The development site is situated within an area of high archaeological potential. Mareham Lane, a known Roman road, itself forms the western boundary to the development site. A geophysical survey undertaken in the field to the immediate north of this site in 2009 identified prehistoric and Roman enclosures, the latter of which was interpreted as contemporary roadside settlement activity. Other linear, curvilinear and pit-like anomalies along with the remains of medieval ridge and furrow were also detected here. Quantities of Iron Age and Roman pottery have also been found at this location. Further finds of Roman pottery have been found to the west of this site and prehistoric finds including worked flints have also been found to the north. It is anticipated that similar activity and finds may well be encountered on this development site.*

*The archaeological monitoring will be undertaken during the groundworks stage of development, which will comprise the excavations for a new septic tank and associated service trenching. 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.*

## **Site location and description [Figure 1]**

The development site is situated within an open field with Mareham Lane forming the western boundary to the site. The development site is located approximately 0.4km to the south-west of the village of Spanby, at National Grid Reference TF 0910 3760, and at a height of approximately 13mAOD. The village of Spanby is located approximately 8km to the south of Sleaford and 24km to the west of Boston, in the modern civil parish of Threkingham and within the administrative district of North Kesteven, county of Lincolnshire.

The development site is located on a slightly undulating though overall low lying area. The development site is also situated on slowly permeable clayey and fine loamy soils of the Denchworth Series that have in turn developed on Oxford Clays and Kellaway Beds of the Upper Jurassic.

## **Planning background**

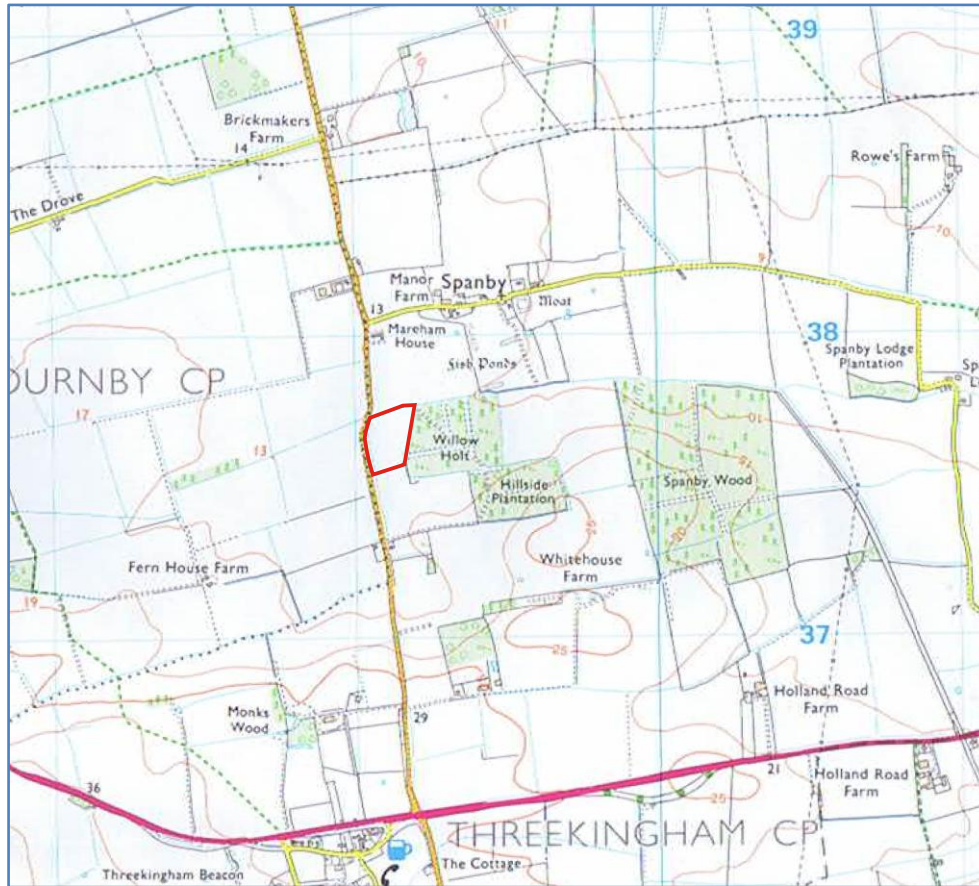
This document comprises a Specification or a written scheme of works for archaeological monitoring which is required during the groundworks for a new septic tank and associated trenching, (Planning reference: 10/0840/FUL). This document has been prepared in accordance with a Planning Brief issued by Ms Jenny Young, Senior Historic Environment Officer of Heritage Lincolnshire on behalf of North Kesteven District Council, (the Local Planning Authority), and will be submitted to Ms Jenny Young for approval prior to the commencement of the archaeological monitoring.

It is understood that the erection of two new polytunnels and an agricultural building, which are also the subject of this planning consent will involve a 'no-dig' option for their respective constructions, and so will not require archaeological monitoring.



## Historical and Archaeological Background

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 1.0km radius of the centre of the development site.



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

Part of a Neolithic stone axe was found to the south of The Drove (HER 64647). It had later been reused as a whetstone. A scatter of Early Neolithic to Late Bronze Age worked flints including scrapers and blades were found near Whitehouse Farm prior to 1957 (HER 60058).

A small concentration of finds of prehistoric date including flints have been found to the west of Mareham House and to the north of the development site (HER 60114). The cropmarks of an enclosure and a possible field boundary of possible prehistoric date are located to the south of The Drove and to the west of Mareham Lane (HER 60348).

A complex of enclosures of possible Iron Age date have been identified from aerial photographic sources to both the north and south of The Drove (HER 64702).

Finds of 2nd - 3rd century Roman coins have been found to the north-west of Fern House Farm (HER 60113). Iron Age and Romano-British pottery have been found in a field to the immediate north of the development site and to the east of Mareham Lane. A brooch of 2nd - 3rd century date has been found to the north-west of Mareham House (HER 64671). A scatter of Roman pottery has been found to the west of Mareham House (HER 64703). A further scatter of Roman pottery has been found in a field to the immediate west of Mareham Land and the development site (HER 64704).

Mareham Lane itself marks the line of a Roman Road (HER 64105). This road forms the western boundary to the development site.

Spanby is first documented in the Domesday Survey of AD1086. At the Domesday Survey, lands in the parish of Spanby or *Spanesbi* and *Spanebiwere* held by Kolsevinn and by Odger the Breton. Later medieval documentary references variously refer to the medieval settlement as *Spannebi* (AD1170, AD1202) (HER 64869).

The place name itself has late Anglo-Saxon origins and probably means 'the farmstead/village where shingle for tiling is obtained'. This is derived from the Old Norse *spanu* and the Old Danish *by* (HER 64869).

Spanby was a village in its own right during the medieval period. It is classified as an SMV, a shrunken medieval settlement. The earthworks of this shrunken settlement were visible on the ground until they were levelled by extensive ploughing as recently as 1980 (HER 60040). This ploughing effectively destroyed these earthwork remains, which also included a rectangular shaped moat, which was the site of the former medieval manor as well as several fishponds. A manor house was constructed on the site in the 12th century. A survey of the site in 1979 depicted a sub-rectangular shaped island measuring 26m by 22m which was raised approximately 1m above the surrounding ground level. In 1980, the island was levelled, the moat infilled and the site was ploughed flat. The moated site had been scheduled as an ancient monument, but was descheduled in 2001.

Other earthworks comprising the cultivation remains of medieval ridge and furrow are situated at various locations around the village (HER 64869).

The only extant remains dating from the medieval period is the former Grade II listed parish church, which is dedicated to St. Nicholas (HER 64863). The church fabric contains elements of 14th century work but was extensively rebuilt in 1881. The church was declared redundant in 1973 and is now used as a shed.

The Lincolnshire HER records the findspot of a medieval sword or dagger of 14th or 15th century date that was found to the north of Willow Holt in 1960 (HER 60898). A fragment of a Lincoln type jug with face has been found to the north-west of Mareham House (HER 64670).

The Grade II listed Spanby Manor Farmhouse is dated to c.1780 and also has 20th century alterations (HER 64860).

Several previous archaeological investigations have been carried out within the search area. An archaeological watching brief was carried out during the excavation of new foundations for an extension at Manor Farm, Spanby in 1999 (HER ELI 914; Site code: SMF99). The watching brief revealed a discrete area of domestic refuse which yielded sherds of late 19th - early 20th century pottery. No archaeological remains and no other finds were made.

A second archaeological watching brief was undertaken in 1995 during the groundworks for the construction of a new extension at Hall Farm House, Spanby (HER ELI 3975; Site code: HFS95). The watching brief did not identify any significant archaeological remains.

A further archaeological watching brief was carried out during the construction of a replacement water main in 2000 (HER ELI 3004; Site code: MLP00). One of two monitored areas of pipeline construction was situated within the search area, which comprised a c.180m long section that extended between the disused parish church and the earthworks of the former medieval village. This similarly did not identify any archaeological features, deposits or finds.

A fourth archaeological watching brief was undertaken in 2007 at Mareham Lane, Spanby (HER ELI 6649; Site code: SBML07). This monitored the excavation of three new fishing lakes. This similarly did not identify any archaeological activity.

A geophysical survey took place in 2009 on land to the immediate north of this development site (HER 64705, ELI 9346; Site code: SPMH09). This identified various anomalies that comprised enclosures of prehistoric and Romano-British origin in the western portion of the survey area that may reflect roadside settlement associated with Mareham Lane, which is itself a Roman road. The geophysical survey also located further linear, curvilinear and pit-like anomalies, which it was felt may also reflect further archaeological activity on this site. The geophysical survey was undertaken in advance of the proposed construction of two new fishing lakes. The cultivation remains of medieval ridge and furrow were also detected by this survey (HER 65684). A small quantity of Roman pottery was also found in this area during a walkover survey in 2009 (HER 64705).

A geophysical survey to the south of the development site identified a number of undated area and linear anomalies. It was thought that some of the linear anomalies may have represented field boundary ditches, drainage ditches and a pair of parallel linear features that were also thought to represent ditches associated with a road or track (HER 64011).

Copies of manuscript and Ordnance Survey (O.S.) maps were obtained from the Lincolnshire Archives and the local studies collections of the Lincoln Central Library. The earliest map consulted comprised the tithe map for the parish of Spanby of 1841 (Archive ref: C223). This shows the development site bordering onto Mareham Lane to the west. This field plot (No. 69) is detailed in the accompanying tithe apportionment as 'Little Pickering'. The Lincolnshire Archives also holds a second map of the parish of Spanby also of 1841, which is undoubtedly based on the tithe map and in fact shows exactly the same details (Archive ref: Smith 9/1/56).

The First Edition O.S. map of 1891 shows no change to the area of the development site or to its immediate environs. The present plantation at Willow Holt is visible as a small rectangular shaped plantation in the south-eastern corner of the adjacent field to the east. A field boundary has also been removed in the field to the immediate south of the development site. The Second Edition O.S. map of 1905 shows the same layout to the area of the development site and of its immediate environs. The 1:10,560 scale O.S. map of 1956 shows the plantation at Willow Holt now at its fullest extent, with otherwise no change to the development site or to its environs. The 1:10,000 scale O.S. map of 1984 similarly shows no change to the area of the development site or to its immediate environs.

## **Aims and objectives of the project**

The aims of the project are the **continual archaeological monitoring** of all site groundworks during the construction stage of development, which will include the excavations for a new septic tank and associated service trenching.

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.

The development site is situated within an area of high archaeological potential. Mareham Lane, a known Roman road, itself forms the western boundary to the development site. A geophysical survey undertaken in the field to the immediate north of this site in 2009 identified prehistoric and Roman enclosures, the latter of which was interpreted as contemporary roadside settlement activity. Other linear, curvilinear and pit-like anomalies also with the remains of medieval ridge and furrow were also detected here. Quantities of Iron Age and Roman pottery have also been found at this location. Further finds of Roman pottery have been found to the west of this site and prehistoric finds including worked flints have also been found to the north. It is anticipated that similar activity and finds may well be encountered on this development site. The specific objectives of this project will to record any potential

further Roman roadside settlement activity and associated artefacts as well as the potential for further prehistoric and medieval archaeological activity and finds.

## **Methodology**

The archaeological monitoring will be undertaken during the groundworks phase of development, and will include the **continual monitoring** of any topsoil stripping, of the excavations for the new septic tank, of service trenches, and of any other ground disturbance.

All work will be carried out according to the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) standards, and will be under the management of a Member of the IFA (MIFA).

All work will be undertaken following all statutory Health and Safety requirements and legislation in operation at the time of the monitoring.

A Risk Assessment will be prepared for the site.

Stripped areas and trench sections will be continually observed to identify any archaeological features and/or deposits which may be exposed.

Any archaeological features exposed during the groundworks will be excavated as far as reasonably possible to meet the objective of the Planning Brief.

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.

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.

Any and all artefacts found during the monitoring and thought to come under the provisions of the *Treasure Act* (1996) and Code of Practice, will be removed from the site to a secure location, and will be promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office within fourteen days.

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.

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.

Should environmental sampling be required, a suitable archaeological scientist (probably James Rackham) will be requested to make a site visit in order to advise on an appropriate sampling and recording strategy.

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

## **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.

All finds recovered during the fieldwork will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. They will also be ordered into (and form part of) the site archive.

An assessment of significant finds will be made in light of general site information.

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.

The site archive will be examined to enable the determination of various phases of activity on the site (if appropriate).

Relevant finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

## **Monitoring arrangements**

Provision will be made for Ms Jenny Young (Historic Environment Officer of Heritage Lincolnshire (on behalf of North Kesteven 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.

Ms Jenny Young, Historic Environment Officer of Heritage Lincolnshire, will be notified as soon as possible of the start date of works on the site. This notification period will be at least of fourteen days prior to this start.

All aspects of the archaeological programme will be undertaken in accordance with this project specification.

Any variation to the project programme in terms of works or recording on or off site will be fully discussed and agreed with the Historic Environment Officer of Heritage Lincolnshire.

Arrangements will be made for the Historic Environment Officer of Heritage Lincolnshire (Ms Jenny Young) for access to the site to undertake monitoring visits, and such visits will be accounted for in the final report preparation.

Ms Jenny Young shall be regularly updated on the project's progress and shall be kept fully informed of any unexpected or unforeseen discoveries made during the course of the archaeological monitoring and recording programme.

## **Archive preparation and deposition**

The documentation, records, and artefacts, (comprising the archive) 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.

The Landowner will be asked for permission to deposit all finds or artefacts at the Collection, Lincoln. Such permission, if given, will be in writing. A copy of all documents, records and photographs will be deposited at the Collection, Lincoln.

A unique accession number will be obtained from The Collection for the site archive.

It is anticipated that the project archive will be deposited at The Collection by February 2013.

## **Reporting procedures**

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.

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;

A complete bibliography of all sources consulted;

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

Appendices comprising appropriate digital 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 online record will be initiated with OASIS prior to the commencement of the fieldwork. 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>.

## **Publication and dissemination**

Copies of the report will be deposited with the clients; the Historic Environment Officer of Heritage Lincolnshire; the Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record; (including a digital copy in .pdf format) and the Planning Department of North Kesteven District Council within two months of the completion of the site fieldwork.

A note will be placed in 'Lincolnshire History and Archaeology' describing the results.

The deposition of the site archive will be in accordance with guidelines outlined in the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook (LCC, 2010).

Should the results of the archaeological investigation merit it, a note will also be placed in appropriate national journals e.g. *Medieval Archaeology*.

## **Other factors (including contingency)**

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 Historic Environment Officer of Heritage Lincolnshire.

Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation, additional financial resources will be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.

Appropriate financial contingencies have been made in the event of the finding of prehistoric, Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon pottery; and medieval and post-medieval pottery, brick and tile.

Any additional financial contingency requirement for additional fieldwork or post-excavation analysis outside the scope of the proposed scheme of works will only be activated following full consultation with the Historic Environment Officer of Heritage Lincolnshire and the client.

## **Variations to the proposed scheme**

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

## **Resources**

The monitoring will be undertaken by Neville Hall MIFA using standard archaeological field techniques during the appropriate duration of the groundworks programme of the construction stage of development. It is anticipated that the monitoring of the groundworks programme will require at least one day on site.

Post-excavation analysis and report preparation (up to two days in duration) will be undertaken by Neville Hall; and where available specialist analysis from:-

Jane Young	Anglo-Saxon, medieval and Post-medieval Ceramics
Ian Rowlandson	Roman Ceramics
James Rackham	Environmental
Carol Allen	Neolithic and Bronze Age
Malin Holst	Osteoarchaeology
Jane Cowgill	Metallurgy

Small finds requiring conservation will be conserved by the City and County Museum Laboratory.

Recognised specialists will be sought in the event that other data are retrieved in the course of the monitoring.

## **Insurance statement**

Public indemnity of £2,000,000 with Towergate Insurance.

## **Copyright**

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.

## **Ownership**

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 and deposited with The Collection, Lincoln.