
**HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING
AND WATCHING BRIEF
TETNEY-SALTFLEET FLOOD DEFENCE SCHEME,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(TSFD12)**

Work Undertaken For
The Environment Agency

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Report Compiled by
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Planning Application: N/155/01099/11
National Grid Reference: Between TA 370 035 and TA 381 019,
TF 442 968
Museum Accession No: LCNCC: 2012.58
OASIS Record No: archaeo11-194787

A.P.S. Report No: **119/14**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES**



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1. SUMMARY

The Environment Agency planned to repair and rebuild coastal flood defences between Saltfleet and Tetney on the Lincolnshire coast. Research had identified a number of heritage issues associated with the proposals, including physical impacts on military structures and the potential for previously unidentified archaeological sites of all periods being exposed.

The mitigation measures during the works comprised, in part, a programme of historic building recording that was required prior to the partial demolition, burial or removal of various 20th century military structures. The structures to be affected formed part of the World War 2 coastal crust defence system.

Many such military remains have been lost since World War 2 and they are becoming increasingly scarce.

Further mitigation measures comprised a watching brief on development groundwork and investigation and recording of any archaeological remains.

This was because the area was archaeologically sensitive with prehistoric remains likely to be buried at depth, beneath later marine deposits. Two Roman roads are postulated to pass through the area, perhaps serving salt-making sites on the coast. Place-name evidence suggests settlement formation in the Saxon period. Documentary evidence records a 13th century salt-making site at Saltfleet, and remains of medieval ridge and furrow ploughing occurs extensively in the area. The existing flood defence bank is of medieval origin.

Historic building recording was undertaken on several of the military structures. The subsequent watching brief revealed more of these structures along with some previously unrecorded

examples. Recording was undertaken on an infantry house, multi-chamber brick bunker, Stanton shelter, pill boxes, and associated tunnels, tank cubes, walls and rubbish pits. The latter contained RAF uniforms and ammunition discarded from the nearby North Coates airfield.

No remains of earlier periods were revealed other than the medieval sea bank.

2. INTRODUCTION

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by The Environment Agency, to undertake a programme of historic building recording on military structures along the Tetney-Saltfleet Flood Defence Scheme and a subsequent watching brief during groundworks associated with the project.

2.1 Definition of Historic Building Recording

Building recording is defined as:

'... a programme of work intended to establish the character, history, dating, form and archaeological development of a specified building, structure, or complex and its setting, including its buried components on land or under water.' (IfA 2008).

2.2 Definition of an Archaeological Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as:

"a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits maybe disturbed or destroyed" (IfA 2008).

2.3 Planning Background

A planning application (N/155/01099/11) was submitted to East Lindsey District Council for the proposed improvement of the existing coastal flood defences, as part of the Humber Flood Risk Management Strategy. Permission is subject to archaeological conditions including the undertaking of historic building recording prior to the demolition and monitoring of development groundwork impacting on archaeologically-sensitive areas.

The building recording was carried out between 5th and 10th July 2012 and the watching brief between 6th September and 12th October 2012 by Archaeological Project Services. The work was carried out in accordance with a specification designed by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the Lincolnshire County Council Planning Archaeologist.

2.4 Site Location

Saltfleet is located 17km northeast of Louth and Tetney is 13km north of Louth, in the East Lindsey District of Lincolnshire (Fig 1). Several of the military structures are located on the coast at North Cotes, about 5km east of Tetney, between TA 370 035 and TA 381 019. Others are located about 3km northwest of Saltfleet, close to North Somercotes at TF 442 968.

The investigation sites are on level ground on the coastline, and stand at about 4m OD. Local soils are the Agney Association, calcareous alluvial gleys developed on marine alluvium (Hodge et al. 1984, 87).

2.5 Archaeological and Historical Background

Prehistoric remains are scarce in the Saltfleet area, though prehistoric land surfaces may be buried at depth beneath later marine deposits. The alignment of a Roman road from the Horncastle area is

extended by parish boundaries toward Saltfleet. A second possible Roman road is suggested by a green lane following other parish boundaries. These roads may have been to provide access to Roman salt-making sites on the coast. Place-name evidence suggests two phases of settlement in this area. The earlier names are of Old English origin and include Saltfleet and Somercotes, while later names are Scandinavian in derivation, such as Saltfleetby, and date from the period of Viking settlement in Lincolnshire after 870AD. A saltern at Saltfleet is recorded in documents dating from the 13th century. Medieval ridge and furrow cultivation occurred extensively around the area, though not all of it surviving as earthworks (Heritage Lincolnshire 2010).

Previous study has identified a variety of heritage assets in the vicinity of the proposed flood defence works (Environment Agency 2011). The identified remains form parts of groups of First and Second World War military structures. The latter formed part of the coastal crust defences (Heritage Lincolnshire 2010), and also defended adjacent North Coates airfield. They are significant in terms of social history and these types of military feature are becoming increasingly scarce, with less than 15% of the structures built along the British coast during World War 2 still surviving.

It was identified that the proposed flood defence works would affect a number of these heritage assets. These assets (asset numbers as presented in the earlier study) are: Asset 167 – Infantry House at Horseshoe point car park; Asset 169 – Pill box with access tunnel near Horseshoe point car park; Assets 206 and 207 – Pillbox and access tunnel near northern tie-in of Tetney to Grainthorpe embankment; Asset 106 – Anti-tank blocks at North Somercotes; Asset 81 – outline footings of rectangular structure, possible pillbox at Saltfleet Haven; Asset 172 – causeway;

Asset 178 – remains of unknown structure comprising brick walls and concrete cap in poor condition, with length of twisted metal of unknown function nearby; Asset 182 – rectangular structure of unknown function with collapsed roof and concrete rubble; Assets 188 and 189 – causeway and associated fragmented structures of unknown function, including breeze-block zig-zag wall fragment, steel riveted girder and cement debris.

During World War Two in May 1940, the first task of the newly appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Home Forces, General Ironside, was to develop a defensive strategy against a German invasion.

A key element of this was to defend the coast against seaborne landings. A General Headquarters (GHQ) line, running the length of the country, was located inland to provide an anti-tank barrier around London and the industrial midlands. The area between the GHQ line and the coast was most vulnerable and was split into smaller areas defined by stop-lines based around anti-tank features such as rivers and valleys. These were reinforced by further defences designed to limit the German advance and confine any breakouts from the coast. Huge numbers of concrete pillboxes and anti-tank obstacles were constructed along the coast.

With the development of reinforced concrete around the early 1900s, the military were quick to utilise it for defensive structures. The term ‘pillbox’ dates from World War I when a number were built on the south coast and in Flanders. However, only in 1940 did they become a standard form of home defence. They were usually constructed in concrete or brick and their walls were usually at least 0.3m thick.

Pillboxes were made by pouring concrete into a mould formed usually from timber plank, but sometimes corrugated iron,

shuttering. They were often partly buried to provide additional blast protection and sometimes camouflaged with paint or netting. Barbed wire fencing was used extensively in the vicinity of the pill boxes along with anti-tank ditches and roadblocks (Rowe 2012). On this part of the coast, the Type 23 ‘Lincolnshire’ three-bay pillbox was most common, several being constructed in the Saltfleetby area immediately to the south, while lines of concrete anti-tank cubes were laid across potential beach exits (Foot 2009).

Pillboxes fell out of favour with the military from 1941, due mainly to their static nature, in favour of temporary earthworks and trenches. Many were removed in the late 1940s (Rowe 2012).

At the northern end of the survey area is the former North Coates airfield. This had been operational in the First World War and was reopened later as Air Armament and Observers’ Schools, before passing to Coastal Command in early 1940 (Otter 2004).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of the work was to mitigate potential development impacts due to flood defence works on a series of heritage assets, comprising a medieval bank, World War 2 military structures, and potential other, previously unidentified, archaeological sites of all periods. The mitigation measures were to involve providing a record of the specified structures prior to any development works that would affect them; and, on the watching brief, recording and interpreting the deposits and any archaeological remains revealed by the flood defence development works.

The objectives of the building recording were to establish the accurate locations, forms and dates of the structures, any features of special interest present and the

state of preservation of the structures.

The objectives of the watching brief were to determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered; their spatial arrangement and as far as practicable, to recover dating evidence from them and to establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

4. METHODS

Historic Building Investigation was to be undertaken prior to the development works affecting the specified structures. Subject to accessibility and Health and Safety considerations, the record was to include:

A photographic survey, to be tied to floor plans, showing the structures and any associated features and their context; details of the exterior; interior views of all rooms and circulation areas; any original or historic structural or decorative features and details; any machinery or plant, or evidence for its former existence; any signage, makers' plates, or graffiti; any contents that have a bearing on the history of the structures.

Detailed site plans showing the location of the recorded structures and associated features; dimensioned plans of each floor as existing, which will incorporate details of the form and location of any structural features of historic interest; and section drawings; supplemented by a written record providing an account of the type, materials and possible dates of the structures.

Further recording work was undertaken during a subsequent watching brief when many of the structures were more exposed, in some cases to a much greater extent.

Photographic recording was undertaken with a digital camera. An index of the photographs was compiled on

Archaeological Project Services pro forma recording sheets.

5. RESULTS

The asset numbers used in the original study (Environment Agency 2011) are used here.

Asset 81, Saltfleet (Fig 7, Fig 9, Section 3; Plates 1-3)

A rectangular reinforced concrete bunker [014] set into the sea defence bank at Saltfleet. Only the top was visible on the building recording visit (Plate 1) but more was exposed during the watching brief (Plates 2, 3). The structure measured 6.5m long by 2.3m wide and 2.5m deep.

Asset 106, North Somercotes (Fig 5, Plate 4)

A group of five concrete anti-tank cubes was recorded at North Somercotes. These were 1.6m square in plan. A demolished concrete structure lay immediately west of them (Fig 5).

Asset 152, Horseshoe Point, demolished structure

This was a demolished structure [005] represented by at least five large slabs of concrete. These mostly measured 1.5m square but the largest was 2.06m by 1m. The slabs lay almost vertically towards the base of the seabank on the landward side. There were twisted reinforcing rods protruding from the concrete. A lot of brick lay about suggesting a brick portion of the building had been demolished. However, no footings were found when the machine cleared vegetation and sand from around the concrete slabs.

Asset 167, Horseshoe Point, North Coates (Fig 7, Fig 8, elevations 1, 2; Plates 5-10)

This rectangular structure measured 10.55m long, 3.05m wide and 2.1m high.

It was constructed of red brick in stretcher bond, 22 courses high with a concrete floor and roof. It consisted of a central room with three windows on the southwest side with a door and small window at each end protected by a low brick wall. The doors and windows also had concrete lintels. Three metal hooks in the ceiling probably carried a cable (Plate 7).

Asset 168, Walls [019]/[020] (Fig 6, Fig 9, Section 6, Plate 11)

This asset comprised demolition rubble which was removed to reveal the sparse remains of a brick structure. A George V halfpenny was found in the rubble (050), as was a 1994 crisp packet suggesting this was the date of demolition. The brick structure comprised parallel northeast-southwest aligned brick wall footings [019] and [020]. Wall [019] was 4m long and 0.23m wide and laid in header bond. Adjacent wall [020] was 7.3m long by 0.23m wide, comprising four courses, 0.35m high. The top two courses were in header bond, the lower two in stretcher bond.

Asset 169, Horseshoe Point, North Coates (Fig 7, Fig 8, elevations 3, 4; Fig 10, Section 18; Plates 12-16)

This was a concrete underground bunker with a look-out turret or pillbox prominent on the sea bank (Plate 12). The pillbox was 2m by 1.7m. The rectangular concrete tunnel underneath was 6.5m long by 0.9m wide. This also led to a Stanton shelter which had an exit on the side away from the pillbox access passage. The shelter was buried by sand (048) and (049) (Fig 10, Section 18, Plates 17, 18).

Asset 172, Causeway (Fig 6, Fig 9, Section 5)

This causeway was formed of sheet concrete slabs [016] 4.77m wide laid over a moulded concrete culvert frame 3.55m wide containing a concrete pipe 1.32m in

diameter. However, these structures appeared to be of post World War Two date.

Multi-chamber brick bunker [030] (Fig 7, Plates 17, 18)

This brick and reinforced concrete structure was a surprise find during removal of the bank on the watching brief. It measured 18.7m long and 0.7m wide. There were four chambers and two sets of stairs. The bricks walls were formed in stretcher bond with mortar and it was possibly an infantry house.

Asset 178, Bridge footing [015] (Fig 7, Fig 9, Section 4; Plate 19)

Located just north of [030], this structure, a footing from a previously removed bridge over a dyke measured 4.3m long by 1.2m wide and 1.2m high. A brick superstructure was laid on a concrete base. The bricks were 0.22m long, 0.11m wide and 0.075m high.

Asset 182 (Fig 7, Fig 9, Sections 7-8, Fig 10, Sections 9, 10; Plates 20, 21)

This concrete structure [025] comprised a lower and an upper chamber. The west or lower chamber measured 2.4m by 2.79m. The walls were formed from concrete blocks measuring 0.45m by 0.22m in elevation and 0.22m deep. The north wall survived to four courses, the east wall three courses and the south wall two courses high.

The east or upper chamber had a floor area of 2.35m by 1.85m. The walls were formed of concrete blocks identical to those in the lower chamber. However they were a granular bluish grey rather than grey white in colour. Towards the centre of the floor was a circle of iron bolts probably designed to hold an anti-aircraft gun in place (Plate 23).

A further related structure [026] was

situated immediately to the south. This comprised an area of hard standing bordered by a 1.78m long east-west wall, and a 0.93m long north-south wall. The walls survived to two courses high.

Pits [035], [039] and [041] (Fig 10, Sections 13, 14, Plate 22)

A group of three pits were recorded adjacent to the airfield in the excavation of the new drainage ditch.

Sub-rectangular pit [035] (Fig 10, Section 13, Plate 23) with near vertical sides and a flat base was 4.1m wide and up to 1m deep. In the base of the south end of the pit was 0.96m thick fill (034) comprising mid brown sandy silt with cinders. This was sealed by mid to light brownish orange cinders (033) which also contained dumped airfield debris including mid 20th century pottery.

Nearby pit [039] (Fig 10, Section 14) was sub-rectangular with near vertical sides and uneven, but generally flat base. It was 2.26m wide and 0.9m deep. Basal fill (038) was 0.12m thick comprising mainly decaying dumped RAF uniforms. This was overlain by 0.5m thick dark grey/orange ashy material (037) containing frequent .303 cartridges and battery cores and mid 20th century pottery. This fill was sealed by 0.7m thick brownish orange fire debris and mid brown sandy silt (036) also containing mid 20th century pottery. Immediately adjacent was a further sub-rectangular pit [041] (Fig 10, Section 14). This had near vertical sides and a flat base and was 1.2m wide and 0.5m deep. It was filled with dark grey/mid orange cinders (040).

Asset 188, pre-fabricated building base [046] (Fig 7, Fig 10, Section 16; Plate 23)

When this feature, originally thought to be part of a causeway, was fully exposed, it was seen to be the base [046] of a pre-fabricated building formed of pre-moulded slabs of reinforced concrete with

pronounced concrete beam slots around the sides to hold the walls. It had three internal partitions and was 6.3m long by 2.55m wide.

Asset 189, zig-zag wall (Fig 7; Plate 24)

This length of concrete zig-zag wall was observed in the undergrowth during building recording and became more exposed on the watching brief. It was 2.2m long by 0.23m wide.

Asset 206/7, pillbox (Fig 7, Fig 10, Sections 11, 17, Plates 25-29)

The northernmost asset in the survey comprised a concrete pillbox, measuring 12m long by 2m wide and 2.1m high, set into and across the sea bank with an opening on its landward side. When initially exposed this feature appeared to be a 3-bay pillbox, the central bay open and earth-filled, with attached structures on the land-ward side (Plate 27). When excavated the central, open, bay was found to have a socket in the floor (Plate 29). This socket was a placement for a support for a light anti-aircraft machine-gun.

Nearby, several iron barbed wire picket posts were revealed during the machine-stripping. One example was recovered, and several were observed still in place on the seaward bank (Plate 30).

6. DISCUSSION

The investigations recorded a variety of military structures and remains along the seabank. These military features present diverse aspects of an integrated response to the potential threat of invasion during the Second World War. Several of the emplacements are constructed in the seabank alongside the perimeter of former RAF North Coates and, as such, probably served a dual function as airfield defence and coastal crust (Osborne 2003, 81).

The anti-tank cubes at North Somercotes were very similar to a group recorded at Saltfleetby, immediately south of the investigation area (Foot 2009). Pickets for barbed wire entanglements were also noted, with a particular concentration of these features (no longer supporting barbed wire) at the northern end of the survey area near to Asset 206/7, a pillbox. These pickets were of World War 1 vintage but made use of for home defence in World War 2.

Several of the structures investigated did not seem to match the standard types, for example, the dual-level Asset 182 with a gun position on the higher floor.

Asset 206/7 at the northern end of the survey area had a central open bay that had accommodated a light anti-aircraft gun. These features identify this pillbox as a Lincolnshire 3-bay Type 23 variant, a type characteristic of the coastal crust defences in this region. It does, however, exhibit unusual aspects. This is partially because it is set square, rather than parallel, to the coastline, being inserted into the pre-existing sea-defence bank. As a result, there are horizontal gun embrasures in the sea-ward cell only, with the land-ward chamber being embedded in the sea-bank and thus rendering embrasures unnecessary here. Because of its setting in the seabank, the pillbox required an access passage which was provided by the attached structures on the land-ward side.

Asset 81, at Saltfleet at the southern end of the survey area, appears to be another 3-chamber bunker. As such, it is likely to be a further Lincolnshire 3-bay Type 23 variant pillbox, with a central open cell for a light anti-aircraft machine-gun.

Asset 167, a probable infantry house was in the best state of preservation. Located about 0.5km southeast of the former North Coates airfield, this infantry house probably accommodated troops dedicated to coastal crust defence, rather than being

specifically tasked with guarding the airfield.

A sunken multi-chamber bunker [030] that had previously been buried by the sea defences was recorded. This was probably a local command centre and perhaps also accommodation for the troops. This was located directly outside the airfield and probably mainly served in its defence, though may have also coordinated the activities of other defensive positions on the coastal crust.

Perhaps the most interesting structure was Asset 169 at Horseshoe Point which comprised a lookout turret above a concrete access tunnel and Stanton shelter. The arrangement of an underground Stanton shelter having access from a pillbox via a tunnel is not rare, with examples at airfields with Oakington (mushroom-shaped, cantilevered) pillboxes, including RAF Oakington in Cambridgeshire. However, the arrangement here at North Coates, with a small square turret, essentially a small version of a Type 26 pillbox, is possibly unique.

One of the structures, Asset 172 causeway, appeared to be a post-war concrete culvert.

A group of refuse pits alongside the airfield near the northern end of the survey area were related to the RAF usage. They contained general debris including uniforms and cartridge cases, the latter perhaps indicating shooting practice being undertaken on the coastal strip outside the airfield perimeter.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Historic building recording was undertaken on World War Two military structures prior to the repair and rebuilding of coastal defences during the Tetney-Saltfleet Flood Defence Scheme. The work was required as a planning condition by

East Lindsey District Council as many such military remains have been lost since World War 2 and they are becoming increasingly scarce. A subsequent watching brief revealed more of the structures along with some previously unrecorded examples.

Recording was undertaken on an infantry house, multi-chamber brick bunker, pill boxes and associated tunnels, tank blocks, walls and rubbish pits. The latter contained remnants of RAF uniforms and expended ammunition discarded from the nearby North Coates airfield.

No remains of earlier periods were revealed other than the medieval seabank.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of The Environment Agency who commissioned this work. The project was coordinated by Gary Taylor who also edited this report with Denise Drury.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
Building Recording: Andrew Failes
Watching Brief: Alex Beeby, Chris Moulis, Gary Taylor, Gary Trimble, Russell Trimble
Photographic reproduction: Mark Peachey
CAD Illustration: Andrew Failes, Neil Jefferson, Mark Peachey
Post-excavation analysis: Mark Peachey, Gary Taylor

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS	Archaeological Project Services
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
OS	Ordnance Survey



Figure 1: General Location Plan

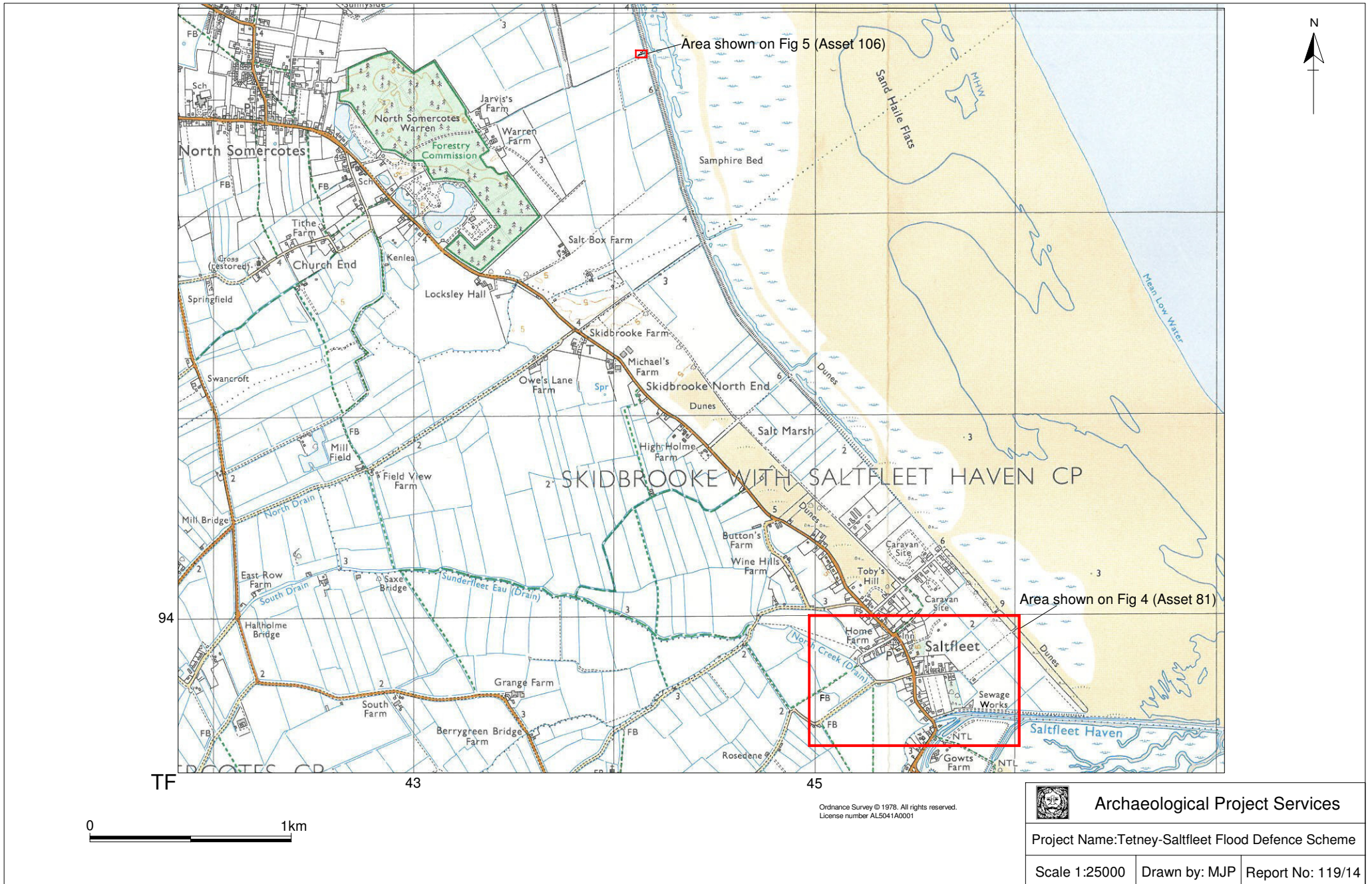


Figure 2. Saltfleet and North Somercotes Site Location Plan

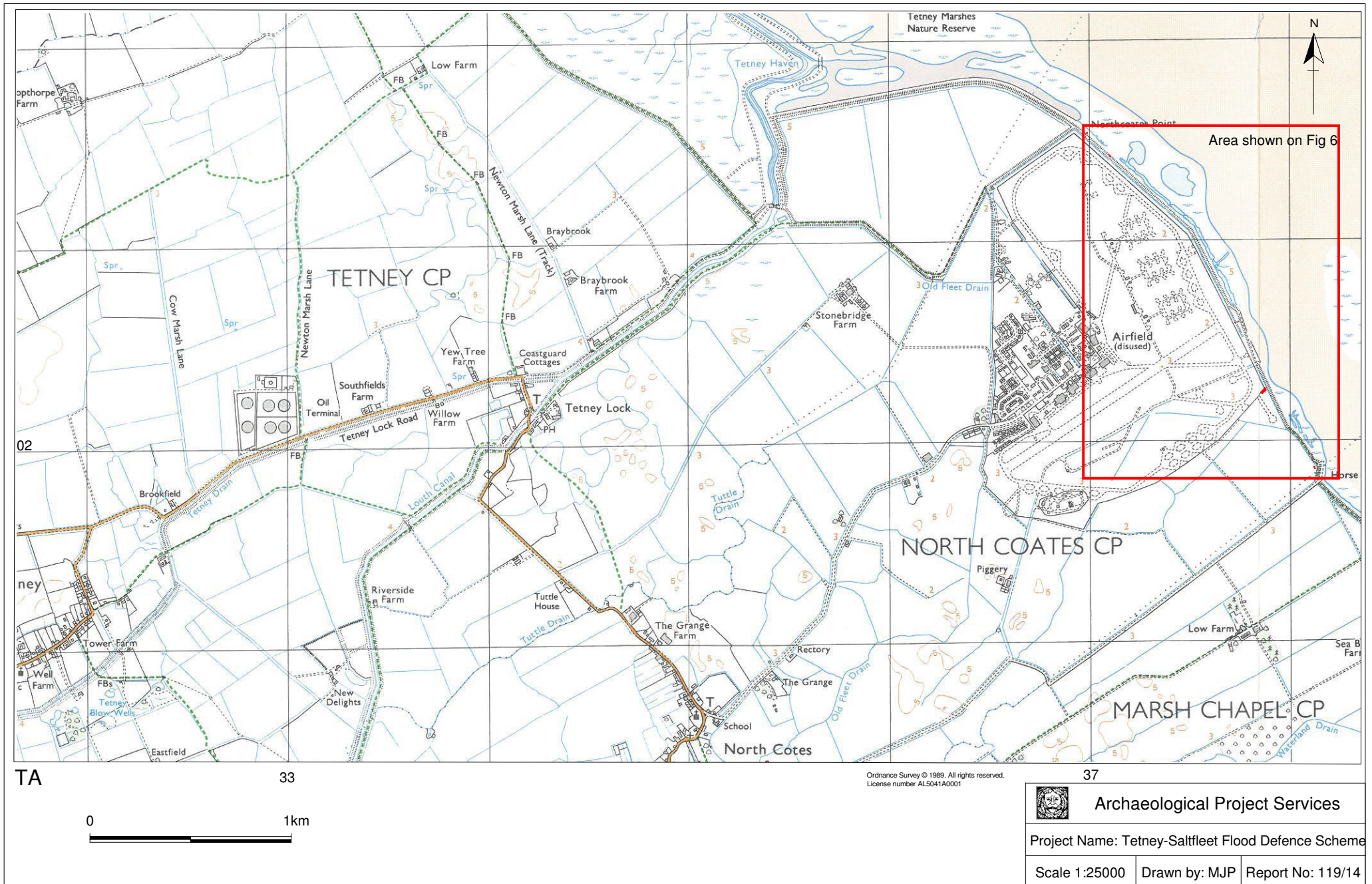


Figure 3. Tetney Site Location Plan

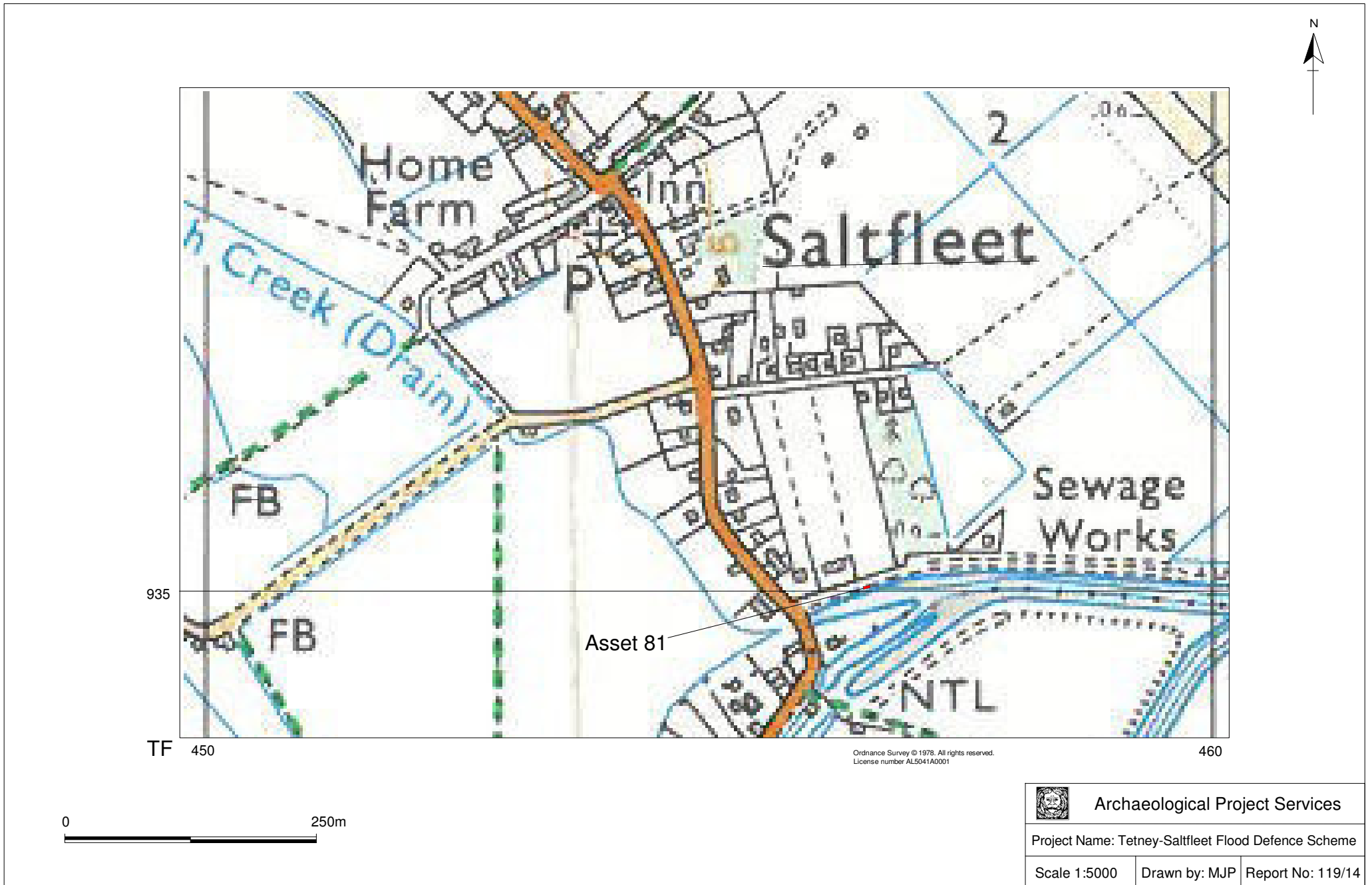


Figure 4. Saltfleet Asset Location Plan

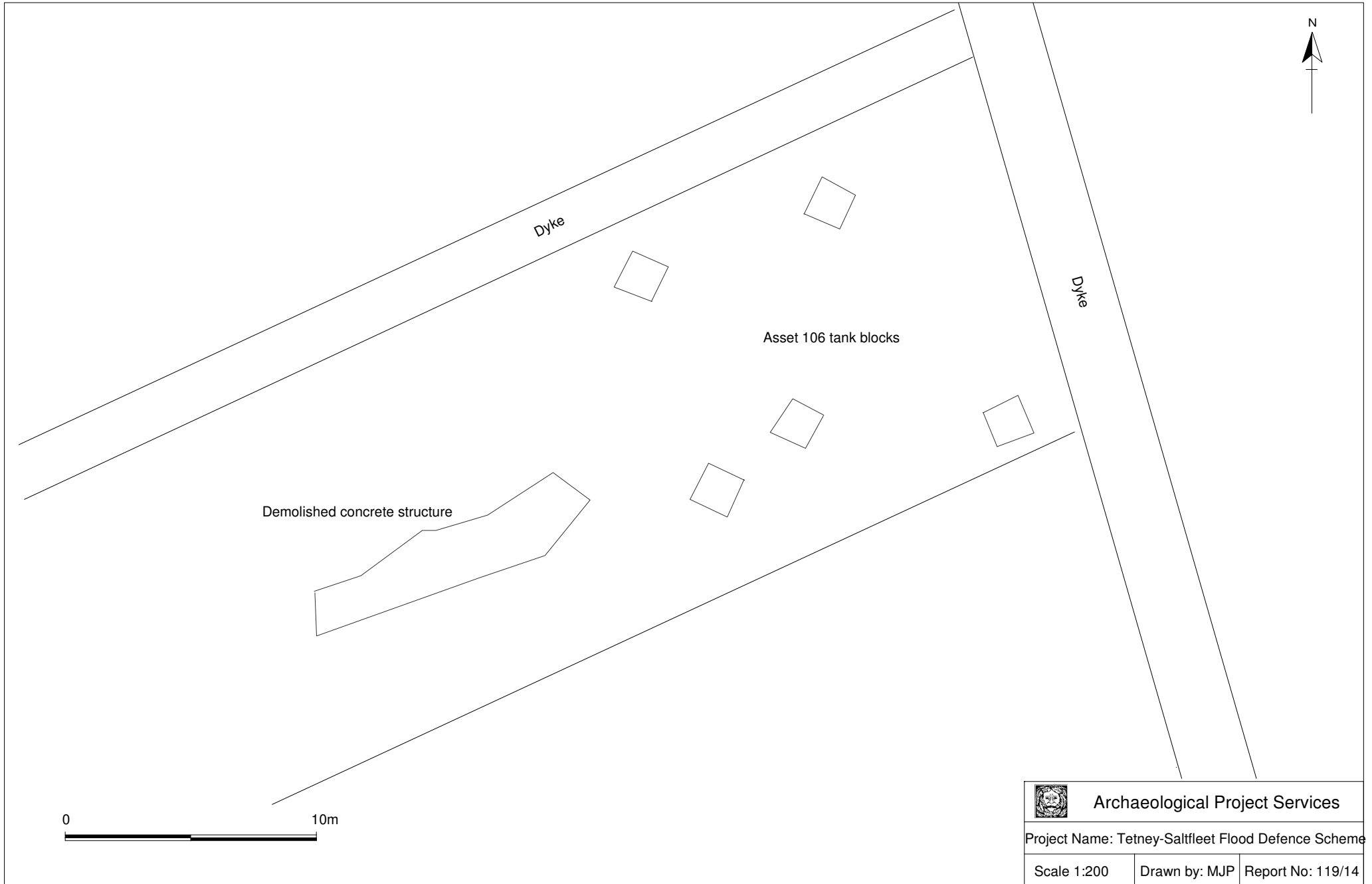


Figure 5. North Somercotes, Asset 106

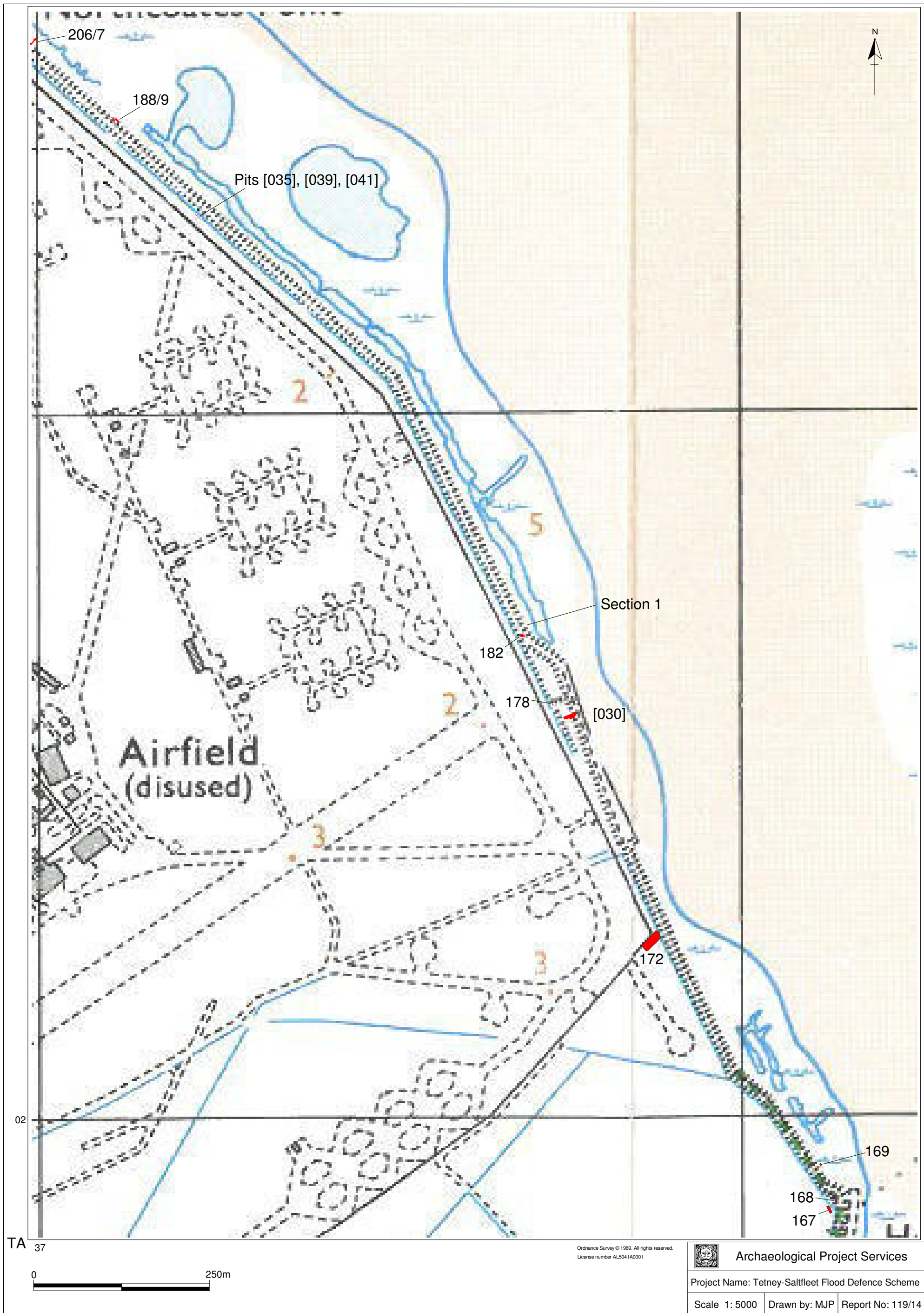
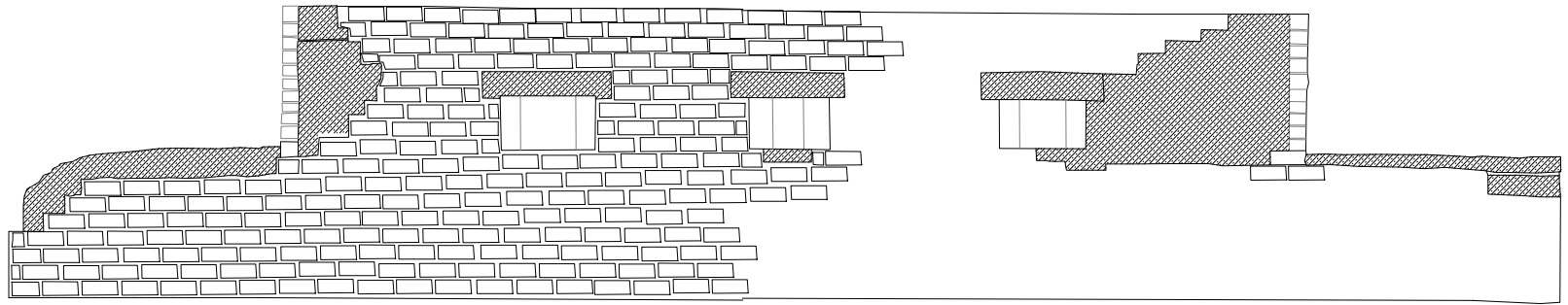
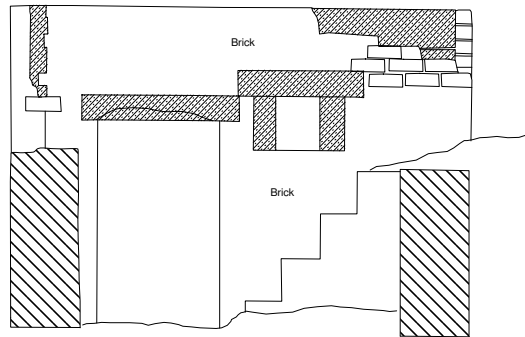


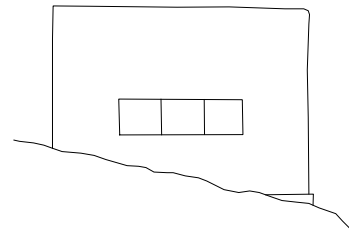
Figure 6. Tetney Asset Locations



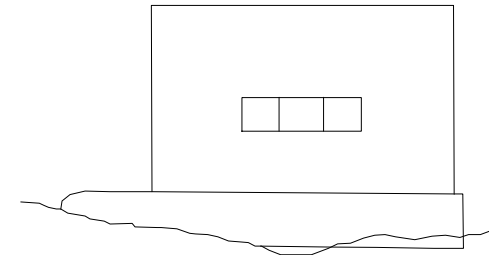
Elevation 1. Asset 167. Infantry house, southwest facing



Elevation 2. Asset 167. Infantry house, southeast facing



Elevation 3. Asset 169. Pillbox, southeast facing



Elevation 4. Asset 169. Pillbox, northeast facing




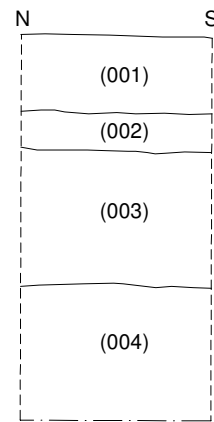
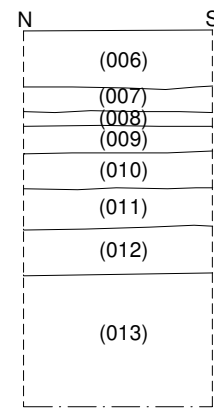
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Project Name: Tetney-Saltfleet Flood Defence		
Scale 1:50	Drawn by: AF	Report No: 119/14

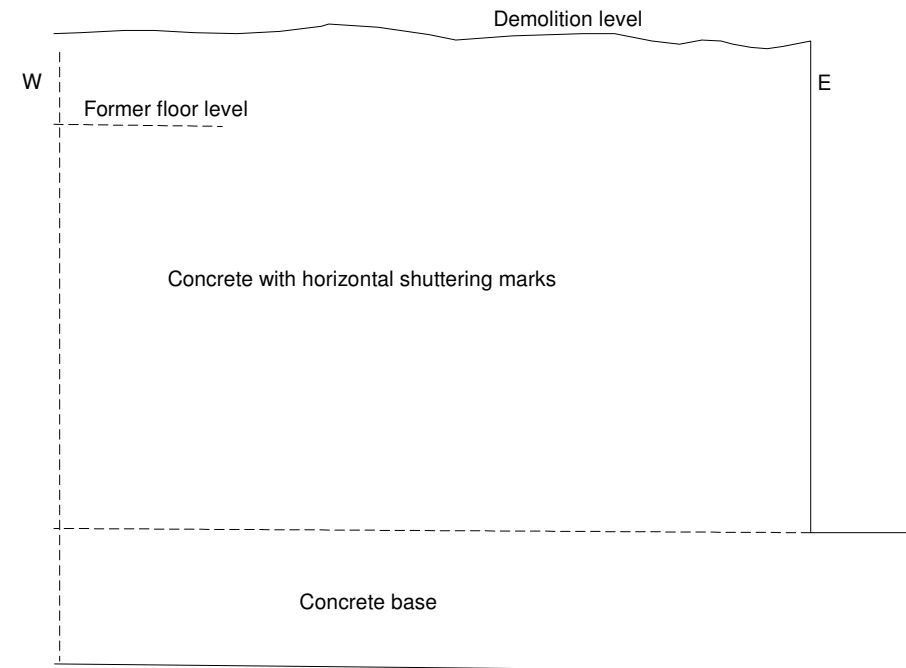
Figure 8. Elevations of Assets 167 and 169



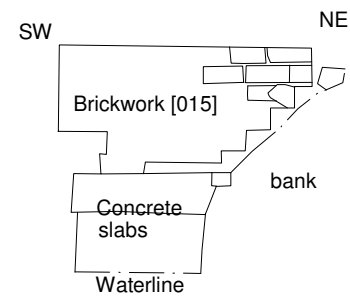
Section 1. NS4 west facing through dyke



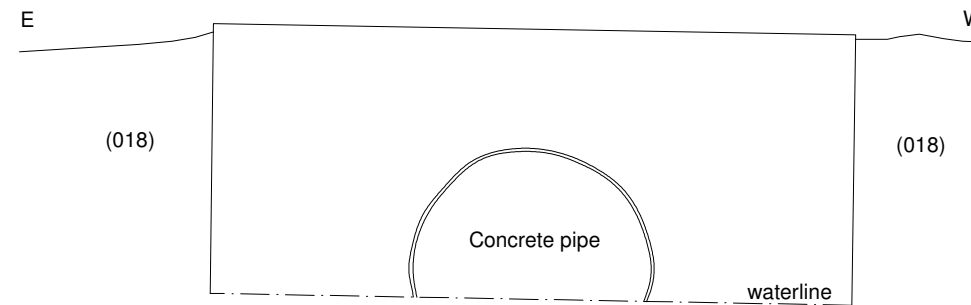
Section 2. CS2, west facing through dyke



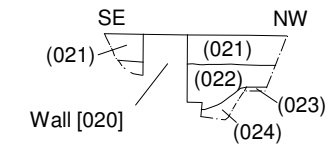
Section 3. Asset 81, Saltfleet, Elevation of bunker [014]



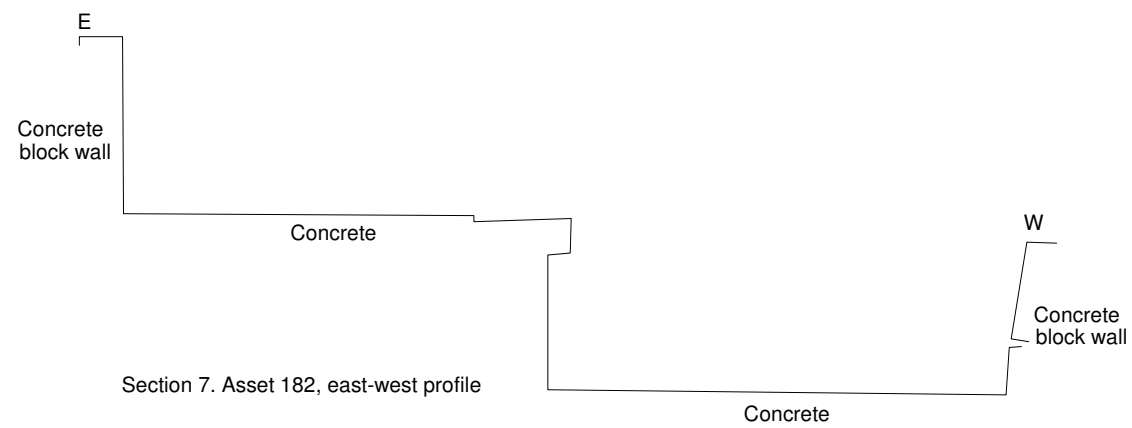
Section 4. Asset 178, elevation of bridge footing [015]



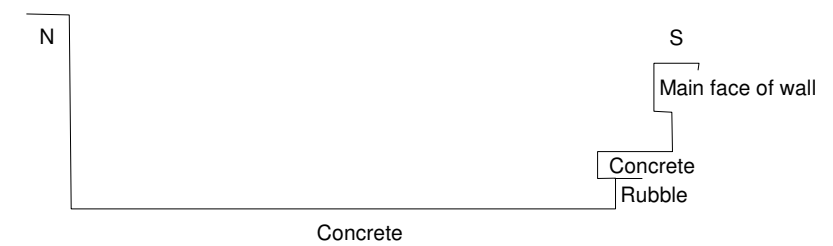
Section 5. Asset 172, north facing side of culvert



Section 6



Section 7. Asset 182, east-west profile



Section 8. Asset 182, north-south profile across west part




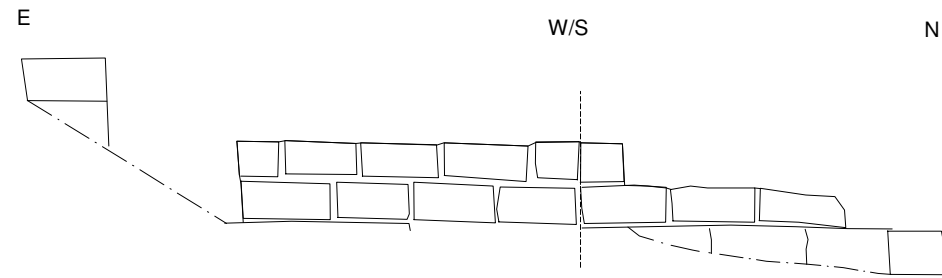
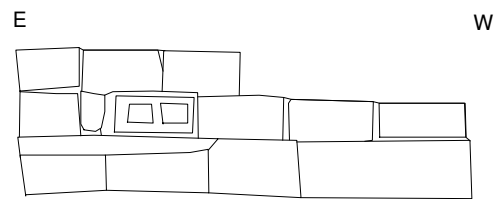
 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Tetney-Saltfleet Flood Defence		
Scale: 1: 40	Drawn by: NJ/MJP	Report No: 119/14

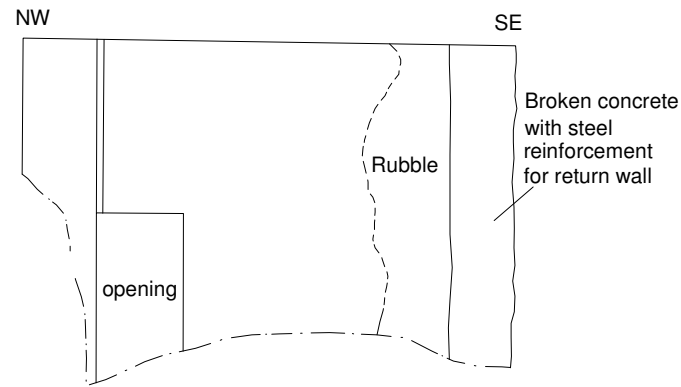
Figure 9. Sections 1-8



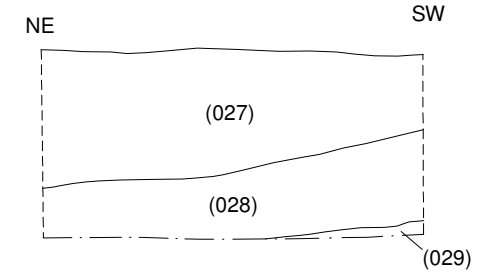
Section 9. Asset 182, north facing elevation



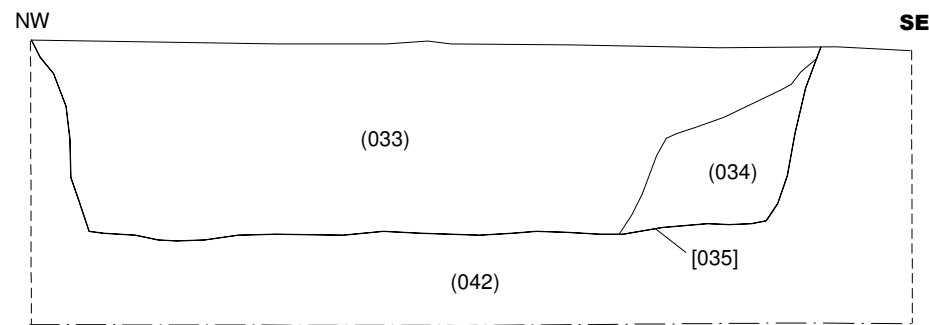
Section 10. Asset 182, south facing elevation of lower compartment



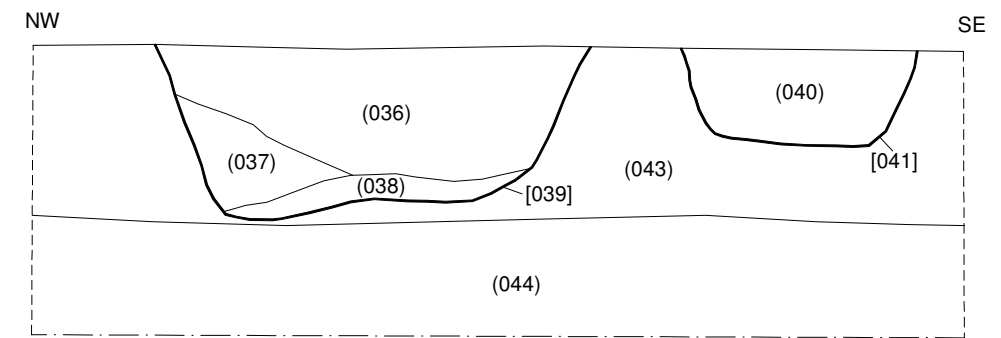
Section 11. Asset 206/7 landward elevation



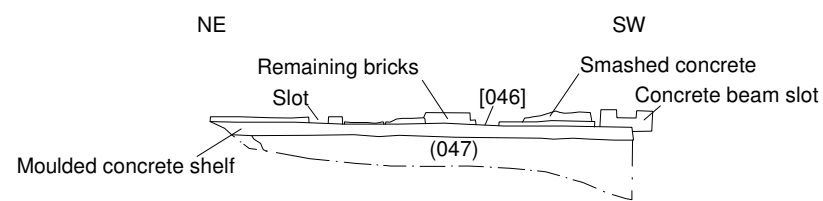
Section 12



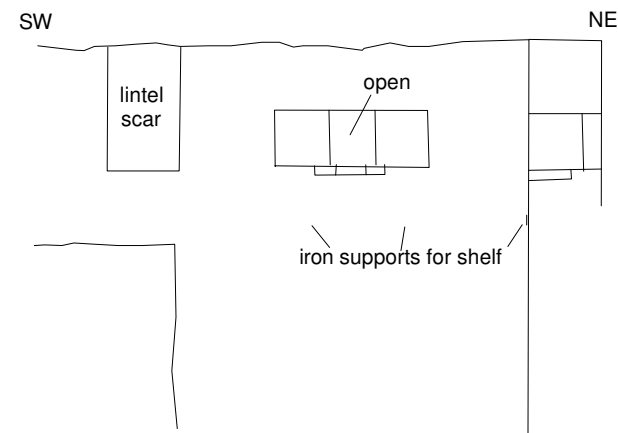
Section 13



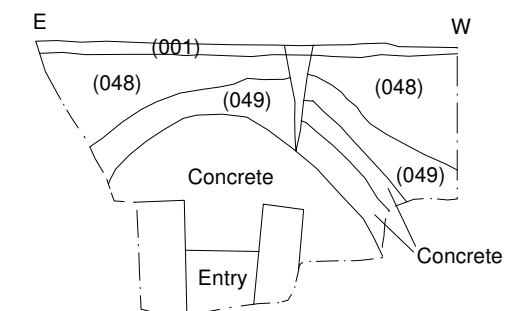
Section 14



Section 16. Asset 188, building [046]



Section 17. Asset 206/7, north wall, internal elevation



Section 18. Asset 169, elevation of Stanton shelter



	Archaeological Project Services
Project Name: Tetney-Saltfleet Flood Defence	
Scale: 1: 40	Drawn by: NJ/MJP Report No: 119/14

Figure 10. Sections 9-18



Plate 1. Asset 81, Saltfleet, remains in grass looking ESE



Plate 2. Saltfleet Asset 81, bunker exposed prior to removal looking northwest



Plate 3. Asset 81 part demolished, looking west



Plate 4. Asset 106, North Somercotes, *in situ* anti-tank cubes, looking NW



Plate 5. Asset 167, south entrance of infantry house, Elevation 2, looking NNW



Plate 6. Asset 167, north entrance of infantry house looking SE



Plate 7. Asset 167, interior of infantry house looking south showing ceiling hooks



Plate 8. Asset 167, infantry house looking south



Plate 9. Asset 167 after removal of vegetation, looking southeast



Plate 10. Asset 167 after removal of vegetation, looking north



Plate 11. Asset 168, Walls [019] and [020] looking east



Plate 12. Asset 169 Tetney, pillbox 169, Elevation 3, looking north



Plate 13. Asset 169 after clearing of entrance looking east



Plate 14. Asset 169, access passage internal view looking east



Plate 15. Asset 169 exterior of Stanton shelter exposed, looking southeast



Plate 16. Asset 169 interior of Stanton shelter exposed, looking northwest



Plate 17. Multi-chamber brick bunker [030] looking southwest



Plate 18. Multi-chamber brick bunker [030] looking northeast



Plate 19. Asset 178. Bridge footing [015], Section 4, looking northwest



Plate 20. Asset 182 cleared of rubble looking north



Plate 21. Asset 182 showing metal fittings for gun position, looking west



Plate 22. Section 13, pit [035], looking southeast



Plate 23. Asset 188. Pre- fabricated building base [046] looking south



Plate 24. Asset 189 Tetney, zig-zag wall fragment looking northeast



Plate 25. Asset 206/7 Tetney, pillbox looking south



Plate 26. Asset 206/7 landward opening, Section 11, looking northeast



Plate 27. Asset 206/7 with overburden removed looking north



Plate 28. Asset 206/7, internal doorway looking northeast



Plate 29. Detail of Asset 206/7



Plate 30. Near Asset 206/7, barbed wire picket posts, looking southeast

Appendix 1

CONTEXT SUMMARY

Context	Area	Description	Interpretation	Date
001	NS4	Firm mid brown silty sand, 0.4m thick	Topsoil	
002	NS4	Light to mid brown silty sand, 0.2m thick	Subsoil	
003	NS4	Loose/soft light yellowish white (with some orange and light brown laminations) sand with very occasional small gravel, occasional shell frags, 0.7m thick	Natural sand	
004	NS4	Soft mid to dark grey sand with moderate organic material including twigs, at least 0.7m deep	Natural sand	
005	Asset 152	Demolished structure represented by at least five large slabs of concrete. Most measure around 1.5m x 1.5m but largest 2.06m x 1m. Also several small chunks. The slabs lie in a roughly vertical position towards the base of the seabank on the landward side. Concrete 0.37m thick and smooth on both sides with twisted reinforcing rods protruding from sides. Most of the slabs probably represent the roof of the structure. Much brick scattered about suggesting at least part of building was brick, most of material probably having been removed. No footings were found when machine cleared vegetation and sand from around the slabs including top of bank.	Building near Horseshoe Point.	
006	CS2	Mid to dark brown sand, 0.3m thick	Topsoil	
007	CS2	Light yellow/white sand, 0.12m thick	Sand layer	
008	CS2	Buff white sand, 0.09m thick	Sand layer	
009	CS2	Light brown silt/sand, 0.15m thick	Sand layer	
010	CS2	Orange sand, 0.18m thick	Sand layer	
011	CS2	Blackish grey silt, 0.18m thick	Marine silt	
012	CS2	Brown silt, 0.22m thick	Marine silt	
013	CS2	Dark grey silt, at least 0.73m thick	Marine silt	
014	Asset 81	Rectangular reinforced concrete structure	Concrete bunker	
015	Asset 178	Brick with concrete base, approx 4.3m x 1.2m, bricks 220 x 110 x 75mm	Bridge footing at bunker presumably allowing vehicular access from airfield to bunker area	
016	Asset 172	Sheet concrete slabs 4.77m wide	Concrete causeway laid upon soil/sand to form culvert/crossing	

017	Asset 172	Moulded concrete pipe, pipe 1.32m diameter, culvert frame 3.35m wide	Culvert formed of moulded concrete frame and pipe overlain by soil and causeway [016]	
018		Loose dark brownish grey silty sand	Packing over culvert [017]	
019	Asset 168	4m east-west, 0.23m wide. To west has been covered by upcast from machine, slopes down to east. Header bond covered in black bitumen-prob damp course.	Brick wall	
020	Asset 168	7.3m east to west x 0.23m wide, four courses 0.35m high. Uppermost course headers, two beneath are stretchers.	Brick wall forming structure with [019]	
021	Asset 182	Soft dark greyish brown sandy silt 0.15m thick	Topsoil	
022	Asset 182	Soft, very light brown, with light greyish brown patches, sandy silt with occasional shell flecks, up to 0.2m thick	Post-demolition layer over building	
023	Asset 182	Firm black and orange brown silty sand, 0.03m thick	Layer	
024	Asset 182	Soft orange sandy silt at least 0.15m thick	Layer, prob natural	
025	Asset 182	Comprises lower chamber with floor area of 2.4m E-W by 2.79m N-S. There is a 0.3m high x 0.28m step on S. side rising to the main wall. The S. wall on W side incorporates a concrete slab making the level of the plinth and a recessed area of breeze blocks. The W. wall incorporates a cut-out at this level containing a ceramic pipe leading to the dyke, The opening is 0.2m wide and 0.33m high. In general the walls are formed from concrete blocks 0.45m x 0.22m in elevation and 0.23m deep. N. wall 4 courses except where damaged. E. wall 3 courses overlain by a concrete slab 0.18m thick (slightly overhanging). W. wall 2 courses of standard blocks (1 course in s. part) with larger blocks above. There is a concrete structure, probably a step, in the SE corner of the floor which was damaged during machining. It is c. 0.4m e-W and 0.3m N-S and was probably 0.35m high. The E. part comprises a floor area of 2.35m N-S and 1.85m E-W. The floor is bounded by walls to N and E although E wall does not extend full distance to reach S edge of floor. The walls of concrete blocks identical in size to those in W part. However are granular blueish grey in contrast to grey white of former area. E. wall is 1.9m long, 0.23m wide, 4 courses high. N. wall mainly 3 courses. Towards centre of floor is a brick in the concrete and iron bolts/pins to hold equipment (possibly gun?). Area S of upper floor is hard standing formed from packed bricks extending to adjacent structures.	Anti-aircraft gun emplacement	

026	Asset 182	Structure related to Asset 182, situated to S. From E comprises E-W compartment 1.78m long from inside corner. 2 courses high. To E is a 0.7m wide opening with a column of blocks to E. The column stands one block higher than wall to W. The E part of the wall stands on a stepped out plinth. The E-W wall is abutted by a 0.93m long northward return. Walls appear to form an area of hard standing related to the chamber to the north.		
027		Soft dark grey brown silty sand with occasional slag pieces, occasional angular flint and CBM, approx 3m wide on N side of bunker which it is built up against	Made ground	
028		Loose pale brownish yellow sand	Natural sand	
029		Soft dark grey silt with red mottled patches	Natural silt	
030		Brick and reinforced concrete structure, bricks in stretcher bond with mortar. Seems to have been built on level surface then had (027) built up against it	Multi-room bunker, possibly infantry house	
031		Concrete block 1.3m x 1.18m in plan, 0.7m high. Steel plate in middle 0.39 by 0.23m fixed by two bolts. Possibly used to tether something to: balloon? Similar blocks nearby. All had been moved by machine so original location uncertain.	Concrete block-could be tank blocks	
032		Four timber piles, 0.24m square, at least 1.52m long, well secured in ground	Timber piling of uncertain purpose	
033		Loose mid to light brownish orange cinders with some sand, 1m thick	Fill of [035]-dumped domestic airfield debris	Mid 20 th century
034		Soft mid brown sandy silt 80%, cinders 20%, 0.96m thick	Fill of [035]	
035		Sub-rectangular, although not fully exposed, cut with near vertical sides and flat base, 4.1m wide in section, up to 1m deep	Cut of pit for airfield refuse	
036		Loose mix of mid to light brownish orange fire debris and mid brown sandy silt, 0.7m thick	Fill of [039]	Mid 20 th century
037		Loose dark grey with mid orange and light grey mottles, mainly ashy material with frequent .303 cartridges and battery copper cores, 0.5m thick	Fill of [039]	Mid 20 th century
038		Loose dark grey, mainly RAF uniform fragments, 0.12m thick	Dump of RAF uniforms in pit [039]	
039		Sub-rectangular cut with near vertical sides and uneven, but generally flat base, 2.26m wide, 0.9m deep	Cut of pit for RAF refuse	
040		Loose mix of dark grey and mid orange mainly cinders etc, 0.5m thick	Fill of [041]	
041		Sub-rectangular (not fully exposed) cut with very steep, near vertical sides and flat base, 1.25m wide, 0.5m deep	Cut of pit	

042		Soft mid to dark brown laminated silt/sandy silt, 1.5m thick	Saltmarsh silt	
043		Soft dark to mid brown laminated silt/sandy silt, 0.85m thick	Saltmarsh silt	
044		Soft mid grey with some dark grey banding sandy silt, at least 0.65m thick	Natural silt	
045		Loose smashed concrete and brick rubble mixed with sand/silty sand	Demolition rubble within structure [030]	20 th century
046	Asset 188	Premoulded slabs of reinforced concrete with 4 bricks at NE end	Base of prefabricated concrete building, originally thought to be base of causeway	
047		Soft mid grey brown silty sand with corrugated iron and steel pieces, seen to have been used to hold soil in place around east side of building	Soil infill around base of building [046]	
048	Asset 169	Moderately compacted mottled light to mid brown/very light grey brown silty fine sand, between 0.1m and 0.6m thick	Dumped sand to bury Stanton shelter	
049	Asset 169	Soft very pale yellow-grey fine sand between 0.15 and 0.3m thick	Dumped sand to bury Stanton shelter	
050	Asset 168	Brick and concrete rubble	Demolition rubble	20 th century
051	Asset 206/7 area	Unstratified finds	Unstratified finds	1915+

Appendix 2

THE FINDS

POST ROMAN POTTERY

By Alex Beeby

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001) and to conform to Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook*. The pottery codenames (Cname) are in accordance with the Post Roman pottery type series for Lincolnshire, as published in Young *et al.* (2005). A total of 20 sherds from five vessels, weighing 613 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Table 1 below. The pottery dates to the early to middle 20th century.

Condition

The material is fresh and comprises large pieces, with multiple sherds from two of the five vessel. Pieces from three vessel have orange deposits adhered over the surfaces and broken edges, perhaps from degraded iron objects deposited with the pottery. Sherds from one cup have a red stain of unknown origin.

Results

Table 1, Post Roman Pottery Archive

Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Form	Decoration	Part	Comment	Date	NoS	NoV	W(g)
033	WHITE	Modern White Ware	Cup		Profile with Handle	Orange deposit	Mid 20th	1	1	62
033	WHITE	Modern White Ware	Cup		Profile	Base stamp "268 268"; Orange deposit		1	1	85
036	WHITE	Modern White Ware	Cup	Stamped red crest on body; text reads "NAVY ARMY & AIR FORCE INSTITUTES, NAAFI, SERVITOR SERVIENTUM"	Profile	Orange deposit; red stain; Back stamp "19/51; pat no 2..."	Mid 20th	8	1	142
037	WHITE	Modern White Ware	Cup	As (036)	Profile	Back stamp "19/51; pat no 268 268"	Mid 20th	1	1	57
037	LSTON	Late Stoneware	Jug	Engine turned type decoration at girth	BSS; Base	Two tone glaze; Back stamp "BOURNE; DENBY; ENGLAND"	EM20th	9	1	267

Provenance

The pottery was recovered from refuse pits [035] and [039], both of which were located at the northern end of the flood defence scheme adjacent within the perimeter fence of the decommissioned air force base at North Coates.

Range

There are fragments from four cups in modern whiteware (WHITE) and a large jug in Late or Modern Stoneware (LSTON). All of the material came from two pits, [035] and [039], which contained rubbish from the adjacent former Royal Air Force Station of RAF North Coates.

Two of the cups have a stamped red crest identifying them as having been issued to the Navy, Army and Airforce institute (NAAFI), presumably on the base. The other cups are of the same design although they have no crest. The patent number 263263 stamped on the base of two of the vessels dates to 1927 (<http://www.ipo.gov.uk/types/patent/p-about/p-what-is/p-oldnumbers/p-oldnumbers-1916.htm>), although these pieces may have been produced later than this.

The remaining vessel, a jug in a late/modern stoneware fabric (LSTON) is from the Bourne Pottery at Denby in Derbyshire. Based on the decoration and the straight stencilled style of the backstamp, this piece is likely to have been made prior to the second world war (<http://www.perfectpieces.co.uk/backstinfo.php?pmanuid=2>).

It cannot be said with certainty when the pottery was deposited, and the pieces may have been thrown away at any point during the active life of the station.

Potential

There is no potential for further work. The pieces are interesting evidence of occupation and activity at the base and should ideally be retained as part of the site archive.

Summary

A small number of ceramic vessels of early to mid 20th century date were recovered from two rubbish pits at the north end of the flood defence, adjacent to the former RAF station at North Coates. These pieces are waste from the air base.

OTHER FINDS

By Gary Taylor

Introduction

Fifteen items were recovered. One was large and not weighed, though the remainder weighed 1323g.

Condition

The other finds are in moderate condition, and all of the metals are corroded.

Results

Table 2, Other Materials

Cxt	Material	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
037	Wood	Two inch shoe heel, ladies shoe	1	27	20 th century
	Copper alloy	Bullet casings	5	69	20 th century
	Copper alloy, iron?	Buttons	3	12	20 th century
	Textile	Dark blue fabric	1	25	20 th century
045	Copper alloy	Teaspoon, RAF monogram on handle	1	20	1918+
	Plastic	Photographic negative, c. 8cm ²	1	<1	20 th century
050	Copper alloy	Coin, George V halfpenny, modified effigy, date illegible	1	6	1926-36
051	Iron	Rod, 0.80m long, tapering/pointed towards one end, other end has a 70mm diameter loop. Possible barbed wire anchor spike, 20 th century	1	1163	20 th century
	Iron	Barbed wire corkscrew picket, 1915+	1	-	

Provenance

The other finds were recovered from pit fill (037) and demolition debris (045) and (050), and as unstratified items (051).

Range

Most of the other finds are of metal. There are several rifle cartridge cases, all fired, from pit fill (037). The same context yielded a number of metal buttons. These are worn or encrusted and illegible but appear to be military tunic or uniform buttons. A teaspoon with a stamped RAF monogram was also recovered and a single pre-World War II coin was retrieved.

In addition to the buttons from (037), other items from clothing were recovered from the same context. These included the heel from a ladies shoe and a section of dark blue fabric.

A photographic negative was also recovered.

An iron screw picket for barbed wire was recovered. This was one of many in the area of Asset 206/7, some of which were still standing in place. This particular type of barbed wire picket is of World War I vintage, introduced in about 1915 as a replacement for timber posts. These pickets were probably WWI surplus and used in World War 2 for homeland defence. A probable anchor spike was also recovered. This would have had a usage as a lever, to screw the picket into the ground by placing it through the lower eye of the picket and turning it.

Potential

The other finds are of moderate potential. Most of them clearly relate to military usage of the site components. The shoe heel suggests that female staff were, at least occasionally, present on site. Cartridge cases suggest that shooting practice took place and the photographic negative may indicate that photographs were taken from some of the military facilities at the site. The teaspoon may indicate RAF personnel were stationed in the facilities.

The barbed wire picket and probable anchor spike represent the use of barbed wire entanglements as a defensive measure on the coastline during the Second World War.

SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 3 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 3, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
033	Mid 20th century	
036	Mid 20th century	
037	Mid 20th century	
045	20 th century	
050	1926+	Based on 1 coin
051	1915+	Based on 1 metal

ABBREVIATIONS

- BS Body sherd
- CXT Context
- NoF Number of Fragments
- NoS Number of sherds
- NoV Number of vessels
- W (g) Weight (grams)

REFERENCES

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- ~ 2013, Perfect Pieces, *Denby Pottery Backstamp Information*, <http://www.perfectpieces.co.uk/backstinfo.php?pmanuid=2> Accessed: 26/06/2013
- Slowikowski, A. M., Nenck, B., and Pearce, J., 2001, *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2

Appendix 3

GLOSSARY

Alluvium	Deposits laid down by water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea, and fresh water alluvium is laid down by rivers and in lakes.
Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, e.g. [004].
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, etc. Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Embrasure	An opening in a wall to provide a gun-port for a weapon within the structure and allow a relatively wide field of fire.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Layer	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity
Old English	The language used by the Saxon (q.v.) occupants of Britain.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.
Ridge and Furrow	The remains of arable cultivation consisting of raised rounded strips separated by furrows. It is characteristic of open field agriculture.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

Appendix 4

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

3	Context register sheets
51	Context record sheets
11	Photographic record sheets
3	Plan record sheets
2	Section record sheets
24	Daily record sheets
45	Sheets of scale drawings
1	Bag of finds

All primary records are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Sleaford
Lincolnshire
NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

The Collection
Art and Archaeology in Lincolnshire
Danes Terrace
Lincoln
LN2 1LP

Accession Number LCNCC: 2012.58

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: TSFD 12

OASIS record no: archaeo11-194787

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

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OASIS ID: archaeol1-194787

Project details

Project name	Historic Building Recording and Watching Brief, Tetney-Saltfleet Flood Defence Scheme, Lincolnshire
Short description of the project	Building recording of Second World War defensive structures and a watching brief during their subsequent demolition and removal was undertaken during a Lincolnshire coast flood defence scheme. Structures recorded included an infantry house, multi chamber brick bunker, Stanton shelter, pillboxes and concrete anti-tank cubes. Pits for the disposal of discarded military clothing were also revealed adjacent to former North Coates airfield.
Project dates	Start: 05-07-2012 End: 12-10-2012
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	TSFD12 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	N/155/01099/11 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	LCNCC:2012.58 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Building Recording
Site status	None
Current Land use	Coastland 3 - Above high water
Monument type	PILLBOX Modern
Monument type	INFANTRY HOUSE Modern
Monument type	TANK CUBES Modern
Significant Finds	POTTERY Modern
Significant Finds	BUTTON Modern
Significant Finds	CARTRIDGE Modern
Methods & techniques	"Annotated Sketch", "Measured Survey", "Photographic Survey", "Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure"
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

Project location

Country	England
Site location	LINCOLNSHIRE EAST LINDSEY TETNEY Tetney-Salfleet Flood Defence Scheme
Postcode	DN36 5XE
Study area	0 Kilometres
Site coordinates	TA 370 035 53.5100365985 0.0661719168147 53 30 36 N 000 03 58 E Line
Site coordinates	TA 381 019 53.4953745061 0.0820449479526 53 29 43 N 000 04 55 E Line
Site coordinates	TF 442 968 53.4479201103 0.171598713745 53 26 52 N 000 10 17 E Line
Height OD / Depth	Min: 1.00m Max: 1.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Project Services
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Gary Taylor
Project director/manager	Gary Taylor
Project supervisor	Andrew Failes
Project supervisor	Gary Trimble
Project supervisor	Russell Trimble
Project supervisor	Alex Beeby
Project supervisor	Chris Moulis
Project supervisor	Gary Taylor
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	The Environment Agency

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	The Collection
Physical Archive ID	2012.58
Physical Contents	"Ceramics", "Metal"
Digital Archive recipient	The Collection
Digital Archive ID	2012.58
Digital Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Text"

Paper Archive recipient	The Collection
Paper Archive ID	2012.58
Paper Contents	"Ceramics", "Metal", "Stratigraphic", "Survey"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Correspondence", "Drawing", "Map", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Historic Building Recording and Watching Brief, Tetney-Saltfleet Flood Defence Scheme, Lincolnshire (TSFD12)
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