

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION AT
STONE COTTAGE,
TEMPLE BRUER,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(TBSC 06)**

**Work Undertaken For
Mr G. McPartland**

December 2006

Report Compiled by
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Planning Application No: N/63/0890/06
National Grid Reference: TF 0092 5355
City and County Museum Accession No: 2006.250
Oasis Data Entry No: Archaeol1-21406

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No.190/06

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological investigation was undertaken during groundworks at Stone Cottage, Temple Bruer, Lincolnshire. The investigation monitored the excavation of foundation trenches associated with the construction of an extension, garage and stable block, as well as levelling works and clearance of topsoil.

The investigation was requested by the North Kesteven District Archaeologist, as the site is located in an area of archaeological sensitivity, lying within the vicinity of a Templar Preceptory.

The investigation revealed a sequence of deposits representing the remains of building and demolition episodes in the cottage's history, possibly spanning from the late 19th century to recent times.

No remains of earlier date than the cottage itself (built in 1871), were identified and no finds were retrieved during the investigation.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr. G McPartland to undertake an archaeological investigation during groundworks associated with the construction of an extension, garage and stable block at Stone Cottage, Temple Bruer, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application N/63/0890/06. The investigation was carried out on the 24th of November 2006 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the North Kesteven Heritage Officer.

2.2 Topography and Geology

Temple Bruer is located 18km south of Lincoln and 10km northwest of Sleaford, in the administrative district of North Kesteven, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The site (Stone Cottage) is part of the Temple Farm complex and lies adjacent to the north side of the road at National Grid Reference TF 0092 5355 (Fig. 2). The site lies at a height of c. 50m OD on the gently undulating Lincolnshire Heath.

Local soils are of the Marcham Association, typically calcareous brown rendzinas (Hodge *et al.* 1984). These soils are developed on a solid geology of Jurassic Lincolnshire Limestone (GSGB 1972).

2.3 Archaeological Setting

Stone Cottage, originally constructed in 1871 for farm workers, forms part of the Temple Farm complex located in the open countryside around the remains of a former Knights Templar preceptory. This is one of 57 preceptories in Britain but is unusual in that it has standing remains including the 'south tower', which stands to a height of over 16m. The site itself lies within the farmyard of the existing Temple High Grange, south of the main cluster of preceptory buildings.

The Templar Preceptory was founded 1150-60 by William of Ashby. The preceptory appears to have been of considerable importance, with the brethren allowed to crenellate the great gate in 1306. It was the second richest preceptory in England by c.1308 (Page 1906). Temple Bruer flourished until the suppression of the Knight's Templar in 1312, after which the preceptory was taken over by the Knights Hospitallars. A commandary of the hospitaller's order was established in 1338 at Temple Bruer (Page 1906). The house was eventually dissolved in 1541.

There have been two main excavations undertaken at Temple Bruer. The first was in 1833 and identified the foundations of the round church, which had previously been recorded as an illustration by Samuel Beck in 1726. Vaults were exposed beneath the church along with a series of buildings to the south (White 1981).

St. John Hope undertook a further excavation in 1907. He confirmed the existence of the circular nave and western porch, along with a second north-east tower matched with the standing south-east tower. A choir or presbytery flanked both of these towers. The excavations identified that the choir originally ended in an apse, which was extended in the later 12th century to the east. At the same time a northern tower was added and was followed shortly afterwards by the addition of a southern tower. The final addition to the complex was a large chapel to the south. This is depicted in Buck's view of 1726 (Hope 1908).

Much of the Temple Bruer preceptory complex had been demolished by the 18th century. All that survives is a tower and part of the hall which have been afforded scheduled status (County No. 22609). The Hall now forms part of the farmhouse. In 1976 a 15th century doorway was uncovered in its western wall (White 1981).

To the southeast of Temple Farm is the deserted medieval village of Temple Bruer, believed to have its origins in the 12th century. All that remains today of the village, once largely dependant upon the Preceptory, is a row of heavily ploughed house platforms (White 1981).

The most recent archaeological work at Temple Farm (Hall 2005) identified shallowly buried archaeological remains and a general background of medieval activity likely associated with the Templar occupation. Several residual fragments of medieval tile were retrieved from deposits

and a medieval surface, likely associated with the Templar Preceptory was identified. A post-medieval surface was also identified, as were several 19-20th century surfaces associated with the maintenance and repair of the current farmyard. A single sherd of 9th-10th century pottery was retrieved suggesting some form of Late Saxon activity in the vicinity.

An earlier investigation identified a natural sequence of soils during the excavation of a small trench for the erection of a display board immediately to the northeast of the preceptory's standing tower (Cope-Faulkner 2000).

3. AIMS

The aims of the archaeological investigation, as detailed in the specification (Appendix 1), were to record and interpret any archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.

4. METHODS

Prior to the excavation of foundation trenches the area for the new development was levelled. Foundation trenches were then excavated by machine to depths required by the development. The sides of the trenches were then cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were examined further to retrieve artefactual material. Each deposit was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their descriptions appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services' practice.

During post-excavation analysis the

records were checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis three phases were identified;

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Undated deposits
Phase 3	Modern deposits

Archaeological contexts are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

Phase 1 Natural deposits

The earliest deposit encountered at the base of the foundation trenches was a compact layer of sand and limestone rubble (1005).

Phase 2 Undated deposits

Overlying the natural geology was a 0.37m thick moderately compact mid orange brown silty clay (1006) with frequent limestone rubble, charcoal flecks and occasional red brick fragments. This same deposit was also present at the bottom of the footings in Section 1 (Figs. 4-5) and was allocated context number (1001).

In Section 1 a compact layer of light yellow sandstone (1002), perhaps a floor surface, approximately 0.08m thick was recorded overlying (1001).

Above this was a mixed layer of light yellow limestone rubble and orange brown silt (1003) measuring 0.16m thick. A similar layer was encountered in Section 2 (1007) where it measured 0.20m thick).

In Section 1 above (1003) lay a 0.25m thick compact layer of red brick and

mortar (1004).

Phase 3 Modern deposits

Above (1007) in Section 2 was a layer of loose fine black gravel and silt (1008) 0.08m thick, which is likely the remains of a degraded modern asphalt surface.

Layer (1008) was overlain by a deposit of loose red brick and dark grey silty sand (1009) with limestone rubble, fragments of concrete and occasional slate and glass inclusions.

In Section 1 above layer (1004) lay a red brick foundation wall (1010) for a modern outbuilding which comprised a coal shed and outdoor toilet.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Phase 1) comprised sand and limestone rubble representing the upper weathered surface of the underlying solid geology.

Undated deposits (Phase 2) consist mainly of dumped deposits which contain building/demolition debris. The only exceptions to this are layer (1002), which may represent a sandstone surface, and (1004) which may represent paving, but could equally be the demolished remains of a previous internal wall of the cottage. Previous evaluation has identified such surfaces to the north, adjacent to the Templar church (Hall 2005, 4). Although these deposits are undated by finds, they lack modern material inclusions and might conceivably be late 19th or early 20th century in origin representing building and demolition episodes in the cottages history.

Modern deposits (Phase 3) represent the continuation of modification to the cottage in recent times in the form of a former asphalt surface, a dumped deposit containing modern building/demolition

debris, and the foundations of a modern outbuilding.

7. CONCLUSION

An archaeological investigation was undertaken at Stone Cottage, Temple Bruer, as the site lies within the precinct of a former Knights Templar preceptory.

However, the investigations revealed nothing of earlier date than the cottage itself which was built in 1871. These include a sequence of deposits relating to the modification of the cottage and represent the remains of building and demolition activity at the cottage spanning from the late 19th century to recent times.

No finds were retrieved during the investigation.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr G McPartland for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Mark Williams who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Jo Hambly, the North Kesteven Heritage Officer, kindly permitted access to the parish files and library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Mark Williams
 Site Supervisor: Katie Murphy
 Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
 Illustration: Andrew Failes
 Post-excavation analysis: Andrew Failes

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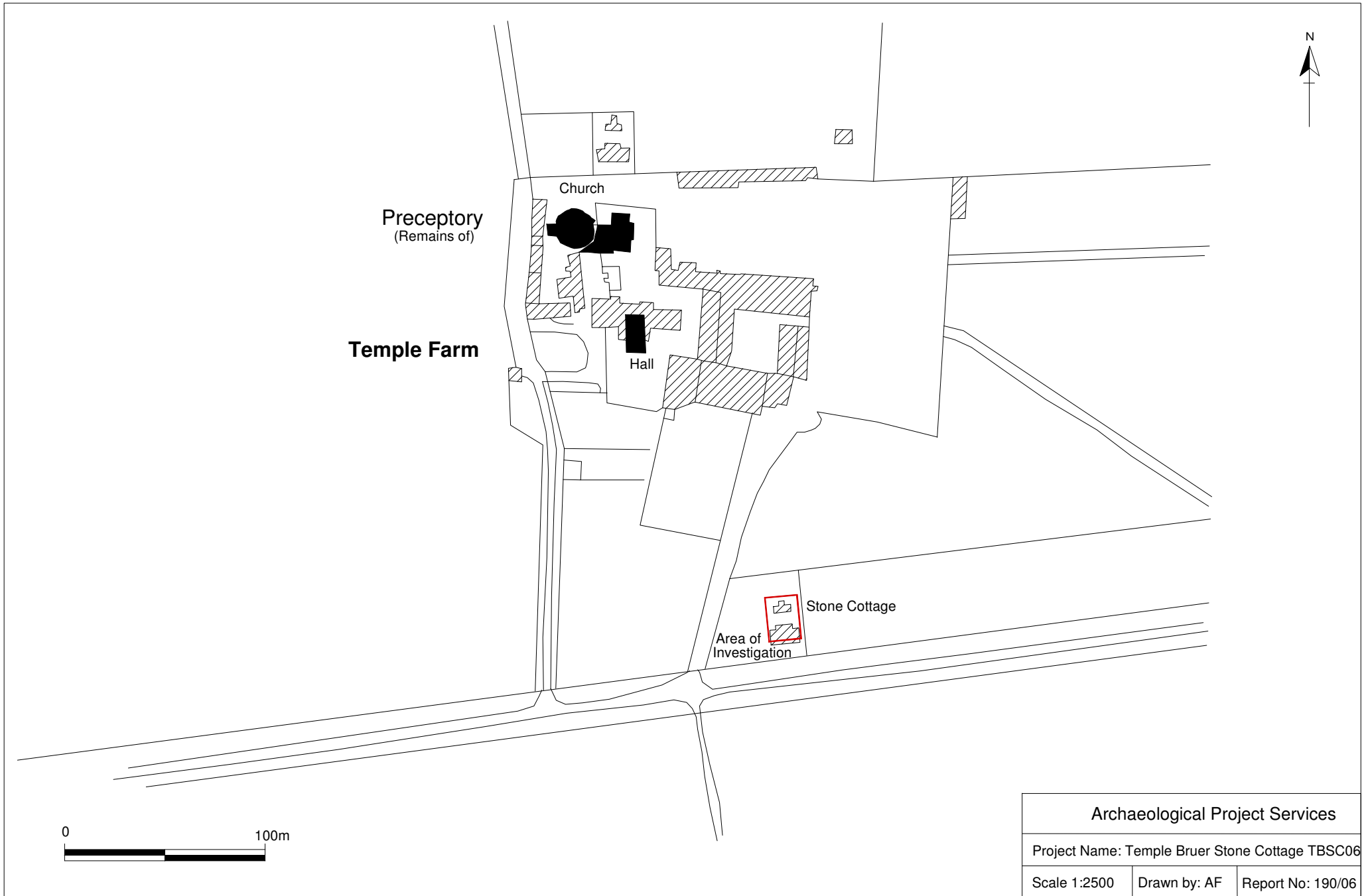
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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services
 GSGB Geological Survey of Great Britain
 IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists



Figure 1: General Location Plan



Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Temple Bruer Stone Cottage TBSC06		
Scale 1:2500	Drawn by: AF	Report No: 190/06

Figure 2: Site location plan

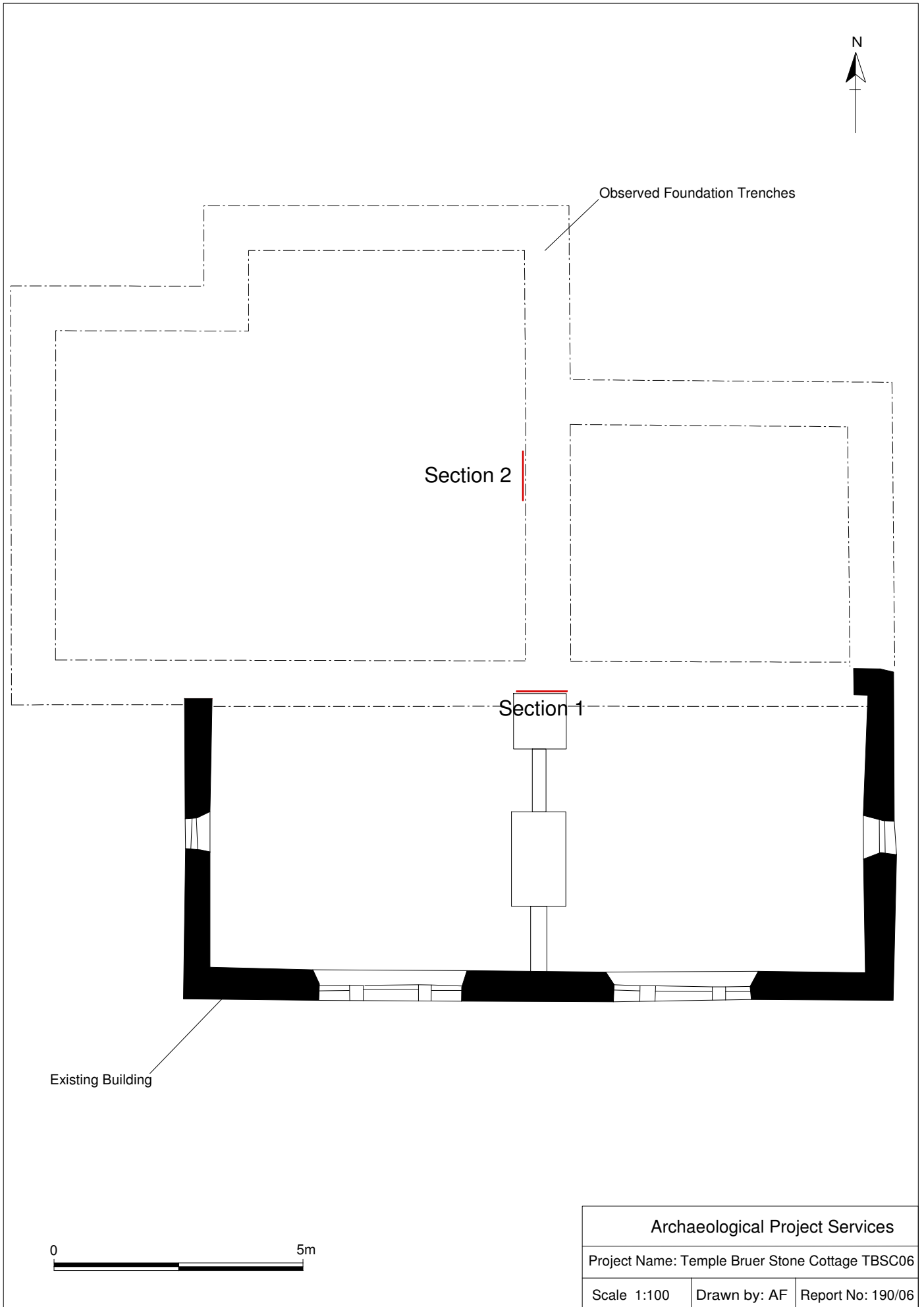
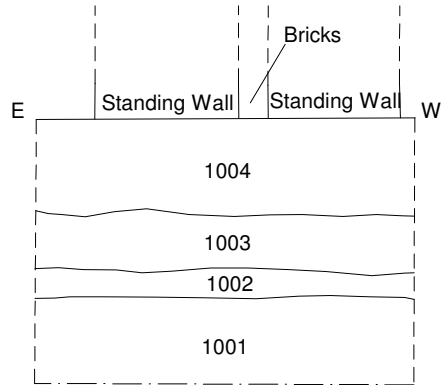
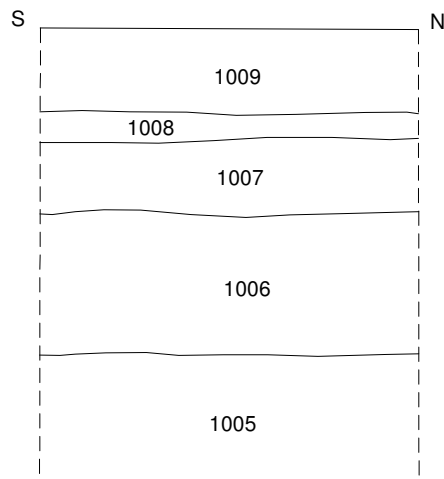


Figure 3: Plan of footings and section locations

Section 1



Section 2



Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Temple Bruer Stone Cottage TBSC06		
Scale 1:20	Drawn by: AF	Report No: 190/06

Figure 4: Sections 1 and 2



Plate 1 - View showing the development area, looking southeast



Plate 2 - Section 1 showing the possible surface (1002), looking south



Plate 3 - Section 2 showing the general sequence of deposits, looking west

Appendix 1

STONE COTTAGE, TEMPLE BRUER, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *This document comprises a specification for archaeological investigation and recording at Stone Cottage, Temple Bruer.*
- 1.2 *The area is archaeologically sensitive lying within the vicinity of a Templar Preceptory.*
- 1.3 *The North Kesteven District archaeological advisor has requested that archaeological investigation and recording be undertaken during the groundworks for the proposed development – adequate provision will be made for appropriate excavation and recording of any archaeological features revealed.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the findings of the investigation. The report will consist of a text describing the nature of the archaeological deposits located and will be supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for archaeological investigation and recording at Stone Cottage, Temple Bruer, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 00921 53554.
 - 2.1.1 The document contains the following parts:
 - 2.1.2 Overview
 - 2.1.3 The archaeological and natural setting
 - 2.1.4 Stages of work and methodologies to be used
 - 2.1.5 List of specialists
 - 2.1.6 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 Temple Bruer is located between Lincoln and Sleaford, 4 km east of Welbourn in the administrative district of North Kesteven. The cottage is part of the Temple Farm complex around the former Knights Templar preceptory. It is located adjacent to the road and to the south of the main concentration of former preceptory buildings.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 North Kesteven District Archaeologist has requested a program of archaeological works be undertaken, during the ground works (including topsoil stripping and levelling works) for the proposed development. The development comprises the demolition of existing buildings, the erection of detached garage and stable block. Planning ref N/63/0890/06

5 TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The site lies within the farmyard of the existing Temple High Grange. Lower Lincolnshire Limestone form the undulations in the ground surface suggest that the area has undergone landscaping although the effects on the potential archaeological remains are unknown.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 The area lies in the vicinity of the Preceptory Church, Temple Bruer. This is one of 57 preceptories in Britain but is unusual in that it has standing remains including the south tower which stands to a height of over 16m
- 6.2 The cottages itself is located to the south of the main cluster of preceptory buildings, constructed in 1871 for farm workers when the heath was reclaimed for agricultural building.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the archaeological work will be:
- 7.1.1 To record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.
- 7.2.1 The objectives of the archaeological work will be to:
- Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
 - Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
 - As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
 - Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

8 SITE OPERATIONS

8.2 General considerations

- 8.2.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the work.
- 8.2.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA). Archaeological Project Services is IFA registered organisation no. 21.
- 8.2.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

8.3 Methodology

- 8.3.1 The archaeological program will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development. All excavations, including levelling works and clearance of topsoil, associated with the extension, garage and stable block will be carried out under archaeological supervision and control. Where archaeological deposits are encountered these will be hand excavated.
- 8.3.2 Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.
- 8.3.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 8.3.4 Throughout the works a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
- the site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology

within the trench.

- groups of features where their relationship is important

8.3.5 Should human remains be located the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department, coroner and police will be informed.

9 POST-EXCAVATION

9.2 Stage 1

9.2.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the archaeological works will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued and labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

9.2.2 All finds recovered during the fieldwork will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

9.3 Stage 2

9.3.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.

9.3.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

9.4 Stage 3

9.4.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the archaeological works will be prepared.

9.4.2 This will consist of:

- A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
- A description of the archaeological setting of the archaeological works.
- Description of the topography of the site.
- Description of the methodologies used during the archaeological works.
- A text describing the findings of the archaeological works.
- A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the archaeological findings.
- Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
- Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.
- Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10 REPORT DEPOSITION

- 10.2 Copies of the report will be sent to the Client; the North Kesteven Planning Archaeologist; North Kesteven Council Planning Department; and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

11 ARCHIVE

- 11.2 The documentation and records generated during the archaeological works will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the City and County Museum, Lincoln. This will be undertaken following the requirements of the document titled Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives for long-term storage and curation.

12 PUBLICATION

- 12.2 Details of the investigation will be input to the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS).
- 12.3 If appropriate, notes on the findings will be submitted to the appropriate national journals: *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date, and *Medieval Archaeology* and the *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for findings of medieval or later date.

13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- 13.2 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the North Kesteven Planning Archaeologist. They will be given written notice of the commencement of the project to enable them to make monitoring arrangements.

14 VARIATIONS AND CONTINGENCIES

- 14.2 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 14.3 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 archaeological curator (*Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* 1998, Sections 5.7 and 18).
- 14.4 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation additional resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.
- 14.5 Any 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 archaeological curator and the client.

15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 15.2 The archaeological works will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the archaeological site work.
- 15.3 An archaeological supervisor with experience of similar projects will undertake the work.
- 15.4 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one person-day) will require a post-excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half person-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about four days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

16 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

16.2 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

<u>Task</u>	<u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust Roman - B Precious, Independent Specialist Anglo-Saxon - J Young, Independent Specialist Medieval and later - G Taylor, APS in consultation with H Healey, Independent Archaeologist
Non-pottery Artefacts	J Cowgill, Independent Specialist, or G Taylor, APS
Animal Bones	J Kitch, APS
Environmental Analysis	J Rackham, Independent Specialist
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, Independent Specialist

17 INSURANCES

17.2 Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains Employers Liability Insurance of £10,000,000, together with Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied on request.

18 COPYRIGHT

18.2 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

18.3 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.

18.4 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 and may result in legal action.

18.5 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

19 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
1001	Mid-light orange brown clayey silt with flecks of charcoal, small stones and crushed brick, 0.22m thick	Dumped deposit
1002	Compact light yellow sandstone, 0.08m thick	Possible sandstone surface
1003	Firm light yellow and orange brown silt with limestone rubble, 0.16m thick	Demolition deposit
1004	Compact red brick and mortar 0.25m thick	Brick paving or remains of demolished internal wall
1005	Moderate mid yellow sand and limestone, 0.3m thick	Natural deposit
1006	Moderate mid orange brown silty clay with frequent stones (limestone rubble), charcoal flecks and occasional red brick, 0.37m thick	Dumped deposit
1007	Moderate mid to light yellow with orange brown patches limestone rubble mixed with silty clay, 0.2m thick	Limestone rubble deposit
1008	Moderately loose black fine gravel and silt 0.08m thick	Possibly degraded asphalt surface
1009	Loose red brick and dark grey silty sand with limestone, concrete, slate and glass fragments, 0.22m thick	Demolition deposit
1010	Red brick and mortar foundation wall with bricks sized 0.25mL x 0.1mW x 0.1m thickness,	Foundation of modern outbuilding

Appendix 3

GLOSSARY

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 interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
Dumped deposits	These are deposits, often laid down intentionally, that raise a land surface. They may be the result of casual waste disposal or may be deliberate attempts to raise the ground surface.
Layer	A layer is a term 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.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Preceptory	The religious houses of the Knights Templar.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.

Appendix 4

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

10	Context records
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Sheet of scale drawings
1	Stratigraphic matrix

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: 2006.150

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: TBSC 06

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.

Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.