
**SCHEME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS
AT THE OLD MILL,
USSELBY,
OSGODBY
LINCOLNSHIRE
(UTOM 08)**

**Work Undertaken For
Mr C Marler**

July 2008

Report Compiled by
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Planning Application No: 121775
National Grid Reference: TF 1013 9369
City and County Museum Accession No: 2008.123
OASIS Record No: archaeo11-45480

APS Report No. **83/08**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES**



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1. SUMMARY

A scheme of archaeological investigation was undertaken during groundworks at The Old Mill, Usselby, Osgodby, Lincolnshire. The investigation monitored the stripping of overburden prior to foundation trenches for a new dwelling.

The site lies east of the medieval (AD 1066-1540) settlement of Usselby, best represented by the chapel of St Margaret. The site is believed to occupy the position of a medieval watermill belonging to Sixhill priory.

The watching brief revealed a sequence of natural, subsoil and topsoil with a single undated ditch also recorded. The ditch is possibly post-medieval or earlier. No finds were retrieved from the watching brief.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr C Marler to undertake a scheme of archaeological works during groundworks associated with new residential development at The Old Mill, Usselby, Osgodby, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application 121775. The investigation was carried out on the 11th July 2008 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council.

2.2 Topography and Geology

Osgodby is located 5km northwest of Market Rasen and 24km northeast of Lincoln in the administrative district of West Lindsey, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1). Usselby, a small hamlet lies 2km northeast of Osgodby.

The site is located 650m east of the centre of Usselby as defined by St Margaret's chapel at National Grid Reference TF 1013 9369 (Fig. 2). The site lies immediately north of the Kingery Beck at a height of c. 28m OD.

Local soils are of the Blackwood Association, typically sandy loams (Hodge *et al.* 1984). These soils are developed upon a drift geology of blown sand which in turn seals a solid geology of Jurassic Amphill Clays (GSGB 1982).

2.3 Archaeological Setting

Usselby is first mentioned in the Lindsey Survey of c. 1115. Referred to as *Osoluabi* and *Osoluebi* the name is derived from the Old English personal name *Ōswulf* and the Old Danish *by*, meaning a farmstead or village (Cameron 1998, 131). The Lindsey Survey records that the land was held by the Abbot of York and Ralf Painell (Foster and Longley 1976).

The only extant remains of the medieval period, though much altered, is the parochial chapel of St Margaret (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 774). A chapel is first mentioned in the 13th century (Owen 1975, 19).

The medieval village of Usselby was centred on the area around Usselby Hall, though there are no earthworks to indicate its former size or morphology. Ridge and furrow of the medieval field system has been recorded to the west and east of Usselby.

The Old Mill may mark the position of a medieval mill recorded as belonging to Sixhills priory. A mill race, mill pond and tail race still survive at the site.

3. AIMS

The requirements of the investigation, as

detailed in the specification (Appendix 1), were to locate and record archaeological deposits and, if present, to determine their date, function and origin.

4. METHODS

The footprint of the new building and surrounding area was stripped of overburden (topsoil and subsoil) to a depth of c.0.8m by machine, operating under archaeological supervision. The stripped area was examined for archaeological features and selected areas of the sides of the area cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were excavated further to retrieve artefactual material and to determine their function. 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 a section was drawn at a scale of 1:10. Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

Following excavation 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

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

The earliest deposit encountered at the base of the stripped area was a natural layer of yellow sand (007) that measured in excess of 0.14m thick.

Cut into the sand was an east-west aligned ditch (006). This measured over 21m long, 1.8m wide and 0.15m deep (Fig. 4, Section

1). A single fill of grey silty sand (005) was recorded.

Sealing the ditch was a 0.35m thick subsoil of greyish brown silty sand (004), into which a northeast-southwest aligned field drain (003) had been inserted.

Sealing all deposits was a topsoil comprising a 0.35m thick deposit of greyish brown silty sand (001).

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits comprise sands of the underlying drift geology of blown sand.

An east-west ditch was recorded, though is undated due to a lack of artefactual material. However, it is sealed by the subsoil which may suggest some antiquity and is also on a different alignment to boundaries shown on 19th century maps. The subsoil implies agricultural activity having occurred at the site.

7. CONCLUSION

A scheme of archaeological works was undertaken at The Old Mill, Usselby, as the area is a candidate for the site of a medieval mill.

However, no remains were encountered that can be assigned a medieval date. A single east-west ditch was encountered which may be post-medieval or earlier. No artefacts were retrieved during the investigation.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr C Marler for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor who edited this report along with Denise Drury.

Dave Start kindly allowed access to the parish files and library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
Site Supervisor: Bob Garland
Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
Post-excavation analysis: Paul Cope-Faulkner

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

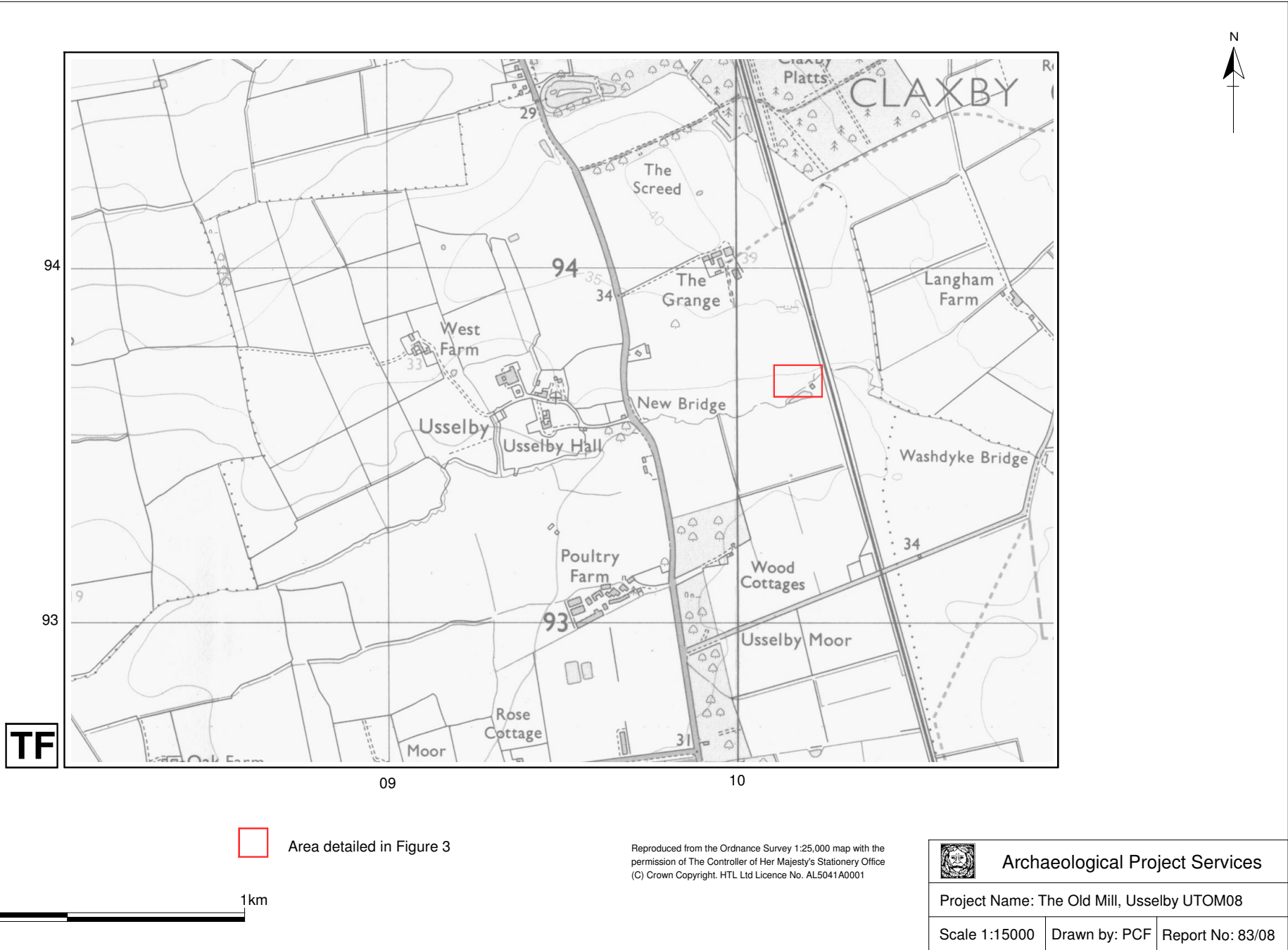
APS Archaeological Project Services

GSGB Geological Survey of Great Britain


IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists



Figure 1 - General location plan



TF

 Area detailed in Figure 3

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office (C) Crown Copyright. HTL Ltd Licence No. AL5041A0001

0  1km


 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: The Old Mill, Usselby UTOM08		
Scale 1:15000	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 83/08

Figure 2 - Site location plan

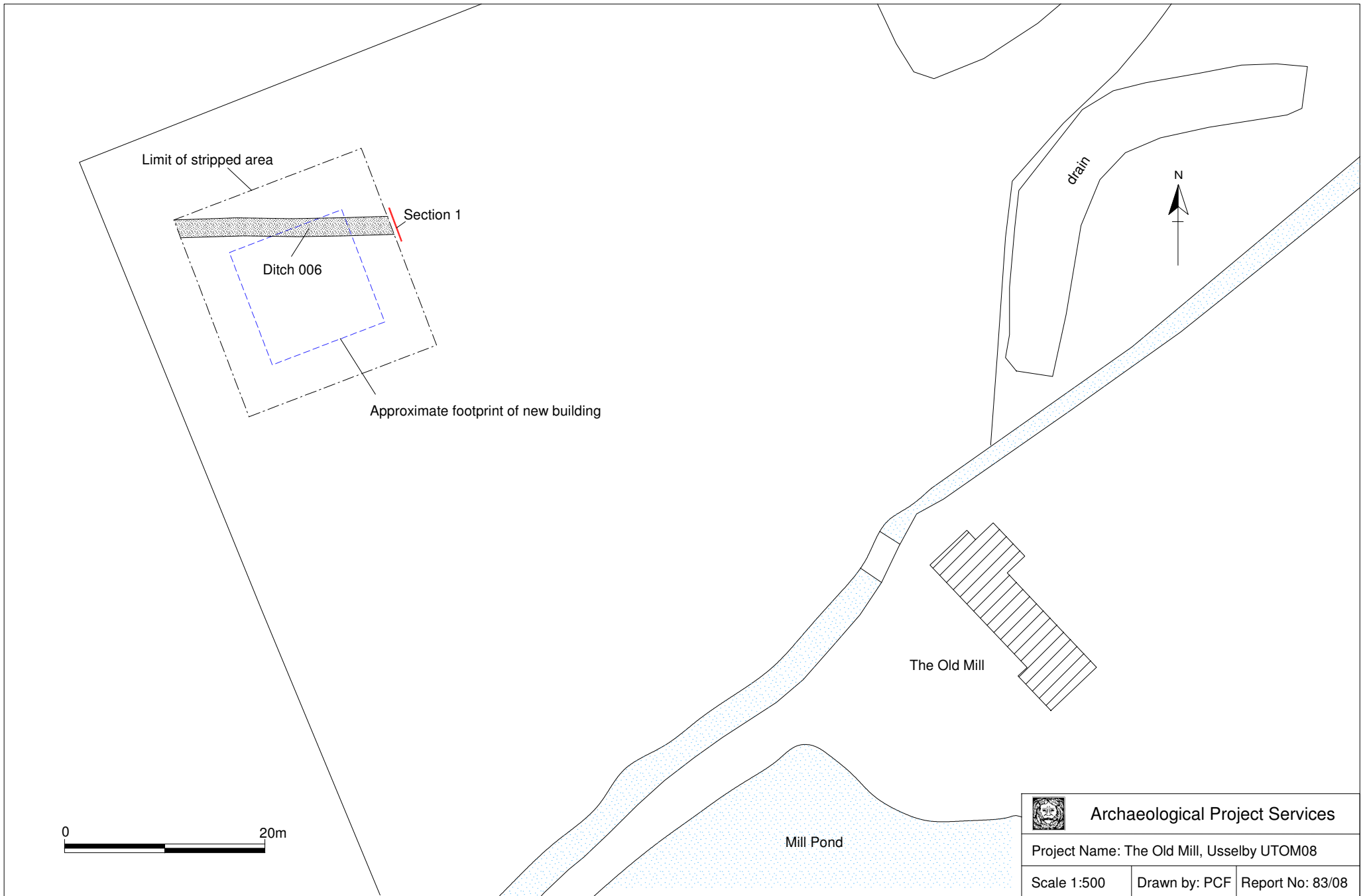
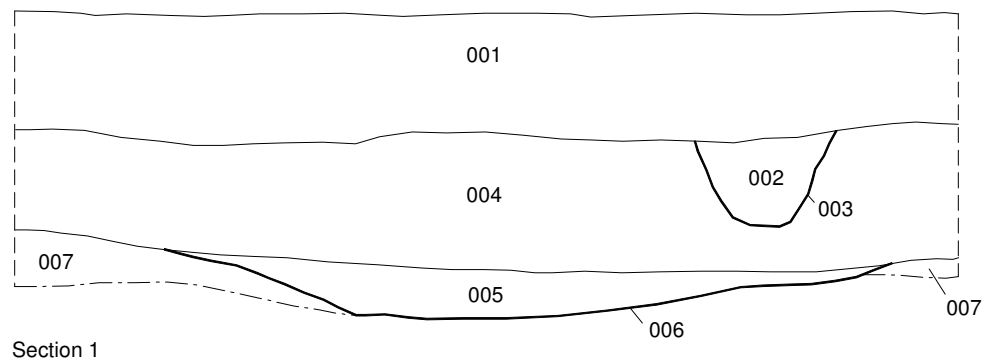


Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing location of drawn section




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Project Name: The Old Mill, Usselby UTOM08		
Scale 1:20	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 83/08

Figure 4 - Section 1



Plate 1 – General view across the stripped area, looking southeast



Plate 2 – Section 1, looking northeast

Appendix 1

LAND AT THE OLD MILL, USSELBY, LINCOLNSHIRE - SCHEME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A scheme of archaeological works is required during the groundwork for a new development at the Old Mill, Usselby, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The proposed development site is archaeologically sensitive, located in the vicinity of a medieval mill.*
- 1.3 *The scheme of archaeological works will be undertaken during the development groundwork. The archaeological features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the investigation. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a scheme of archaeological works during groundwork for a development at the Old Mill, Usselby, Lincolnshire.
- 2.2 This document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview.
 - 2.2.2 Stages of work and methodologies.
 - 2.2.3 List of specialists.
 - 2.2.4 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 Usselby is a hamlet in Osgodby parish and located 5km north of Market Rasen in the West Lindsey district of Lincolnshire. The Old Mill is located approximately 1km east of the village, adjacent to the Lincoln-Scunthorpe railway line at National Grid Reference TF 102 937.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A Planning Application (121775) for development has been submitted to West Lindsey District Council. Permission has been granted subject to an archaeological scheme of works during the development.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The site is on the north bank of Kingerby Beck at a height of c. 30m OD. Soils at the site are Blackwold Association sandy loams developed on glaciofluvial drift (Hodge et al. 1984).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 A medieval mill, which belonged to Sixhills Priory, is known to have existed in Usselby and its location may be perpetuated by the Old Mill.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the scheme of archaeological works will be:
 - 7.1.1 To record and interpret the deposits and any archaeological features exposed during

the excavation of the test pits.

7.2 The objectives of the archaeological scheme of works will be to:

7.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;

7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;

7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and

7.2.4 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

8 **SITE OPERATIONS**

8.1 General considerations

8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the investigation.

8.1.2 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.

8.1.3 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.

8.2 Methodology

8.2.1 The archaeological scheme of works will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological supervision and monitoring of all phases of soil movement.

8.2.2 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.

8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.

8.2.4 Throughout the investigation a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:

8.2.4.1 the site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the test pits.

8.2.4.2 groups of features where their relationship is important

8.2.5 Should human remains be located they will be left *in situ* and only excavated if absolutely necessary. Should removal be required the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before the exhumation of the remains. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department, coroner and the police will be informed, where appropriate.

9 **POST-EXCAVATION**

9.1 Stage 1

9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the investigation 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.

- 9.1.2 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.

9.2 Stage 2

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

- 9.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

9.3 Stage 3

- 9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the investigation will be prepared.

- 9.3.2 This will consist of:

- 9.3.2.1 A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.

- 9.3.2.2 A description of the archaeological setting of the investigation.

- 9.3.2.3 Description of the topography of the site.

- 9.3.2.4 Description of the methodologies used during the investigation.

- 9.3.2.5 A text describing the findings of the investigation.

- 9.3.2.6 A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the investigation findings.

- 9.3.2.7 Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.

- 9.3.2.8 Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.

- 9.3.2.9 Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.

- 9.3.2.10 Specialist reports on the finds from the site.

- 9.3.2.11 Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10 **REPORT DEPOSITION**

- 10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the client and the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

11 **ARCHIVE**

- 11.1 The documentation and records generated during the investigation will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to The Collection, 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**

- 12.1 Details of the investigation will be input to the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS).

- 12.2 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

- 13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Senior Built Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council. They will be given written notice of the commencement of the project.

14 VARIATIONS AND CONTINGENCIES

- 14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 14.2 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).
- 14.3 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.
- 14.4 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

- 15.1 The investigation 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.
- 15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of archaeological investigations of this type will undertake the work.
- 15.3 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

- 16.1 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 – D Trimble APS/Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust Roman – A Boyle APS/B Precious, Independent Specialist Post-Roman -A Boyle, APS
Non-pottery Artefacts	J Cowgill, Independent Specialist/G Taylor, APS
Animal Bones	P Cope-Faulkner APS

Environmental Analysis

J Rackham, Independent Specialist

Human Remains Analysis

Dr R Gowland, Independent Specialist

17 **INSURANCES**

17.1 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**

18.1 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.

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

18.3 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.

18.4 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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Specification: Version 1, 09-07-08

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Friable dark greyish brown silty sand, 0.35m thick	Topsoil
002	Friable mid brown sand	Fill of (003)
003	Linear feature, aligned northeast-southwest, 0.38m wide and 0.24m deep, steep sides and rounded base	Field drain
004	Friable light greyish brown silty sand, 0.35m thick	Subsoil
005	Friable light grey silty sand	Fill of (006)
006	Linear feature, aligned east-west, >21m long by 1.8m wide and 0.15m deep, gradual sides and flat base	Ditch
007	Friable light to dark yellow sand, >0.14m thick	Natural deposit

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).
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
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) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
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.

Appendix 4

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

7	Context records
1	Photographic record sheet
2	Sheets 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: 2008.123

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: UTOM 08

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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