
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION
AT THE HACIENDA, NORTH ROAD,
GEDNEY HILL,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(GHR 10)**

Work Undertaken For
Mr. E. Berrisford

May 2010

Report Compiled by
Mark Peachey BA (Hons)

Planning Application No: H07/0814/09
National Grid Reference: TF 3421 1201
City and County Museum Accession No: 2010.68
OASIS Record No: archaeo11-77280

APS Report No. **41/10**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES**



**Quality Control
Archaeological Investigation,
The Hacienda, North Road,
Gedney Hill,
Lincolnshire
(GHR 10)**

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Supervisor	Chris Moulis
CAD Illustration	Mark Peachey
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Post-excavation Analyst	Mark Peachey

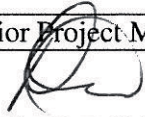

Checked by Senior Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
Dale Trimble 	 Tom Lane
Date: 28 May 2010	Date: 28 May 2010

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at The Hacienda, North Road, Gedney Hill, Lincolnshire as the site lay within an area of extensive cropmarks of Romano-British date.

The watching brief revealed only alluvial and topsoil deposits.

No finds were retrieved.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a 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 may be disturbed or destroyed.*” (IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr. E. Berrisford to undertake an archaeological investigation consisting of monitoring and recording during groundworks for construction of a house and detached garage at The Hacienda, North Road, Gedney Hill, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application H07/0814/09. The watching brief was carried out on 29th April 2010 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council

2.3 Topography and Geology

Gedney Hill is located 15km southwest of Spalding and 10km east of Crowland in the administrative district of South Holland, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The site lies in the north of the village, on the east side of North Road, centred on National Grid Reference TF 3421 1201 (Fig. 2). It is within the fenland at approximately 3m OD. Local soils are coarse silty calcareous soils of the Wisbech Association (Hodge et al. 1984, 361). These soils overlie a drift geology of marine alluvium (generally sandy silt, sand and clay) which in turn seals a solid geology of Upper Jurassic clays (BGS 1992).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Extensive remains of a Romano-British landscape in this area of the fens are known from aerial photography and there is abundant evidence of salt production in that period from fieldwalking survey and a number of excavated sites.

Cropmarks are known in the area with dense distributions occurring to the southwest and northwest of the village. The cropmarks are sparse immediately around the village but drove and ditch alignments suggest an important centre for the Roman fens (Phillips 1970). Coins of the period are also known from the parish (*ibid.*).

Gedney Hill is a daughter settlement of Gedney, growing up following the reclamation of the fen by 1241. The earliest record of the settlement dates to 1346 in a grant of chantry, made by Margaret de Roos (Hallam 1965, 37).

Holy Trinity church has elements dating to the 14th century and a set of 15th century wooden posts supporting the nave arches and a cross in the churchyard (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 307). Undated earthworks on

the northeast side of the village may have medieval origins, possibly suggesting the village has shrunk or shifted its position.

An archaeological evaluation prior to the construction of fishing lakes 150m to the northwest of The Hacienda recorded an early Romano-British gully (Peachey 2004).

A watching brief undertaken 500m to the south did not record archaeological deposits (Cope-Faulkner 2005).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims of the investigation were to record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.

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

4. METHODS

The footings for the house and garage were machine excavated under archaeological supervision. Following excavation, the sides of the trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. 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.

5. RESULTS

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

The earliest deposit recorded in the house footings (Fig 5, Sections 1-3; Plate 1) was at least 0.45m thick mottled mid brown/mid grey, with small patches of bluish grey, slightly silty clay alluvium (002). This was overlain by 0.3m thick dark brown silty clay topsoil (001).

In the garage footings (Fig 5, Section 4) at least 0.3m thick mottled mid brown/mid grey/blue alluvial clay (003) had some rusty flecking and was also overlain by 0.3m thick topsoil (001).

No archaeological features were revealed and no finds were retrieved.

6. DISCUSSION

Alluvial deposits were recorded in both house and garage footings. No archaeological features were revealed.

7. CONCLUSION

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at The Hacienda, North Road, Gedney Hill, Lincolnshire as the site lay within an area of extensive cropmarks of Romano-British date.

However the watching brief revealed only alluvial and topsoil deposits.

No finds were retrieved.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr. E. Berrisford for commissioning the

fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Dale Trimble who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Dave Start kindly allowed access to the parish files and library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Dale Trimble
 Site Supervisor: Chris Moulis
 Photographic reproduction: Mark Peachey
 CAD Illustration: Mark Peachey
 Post-excavation analysis: Mark Peachey

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services
 BGS British Geological Survey
 IfA Institute for Archaeologists

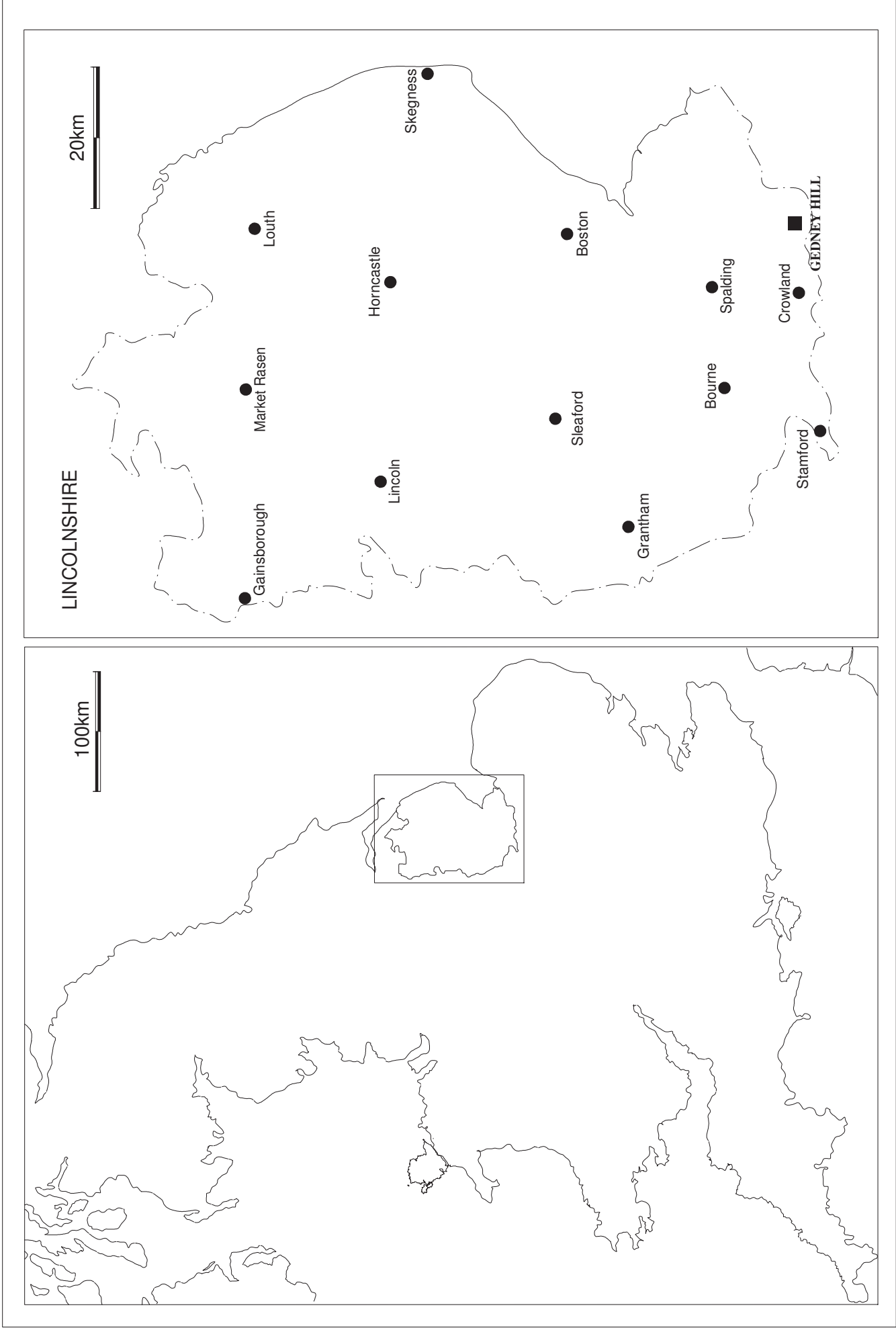



Figure 1 - General location plan



TF

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 Area shown on Fig 3

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	Archaeological Project Services	
Project Name: Gedney Hill North Rd The Hacienda GHNR10		
Scale 1:10000	Drawn by:MJP	Report No: 41/10

Figure 2 - Site location plan

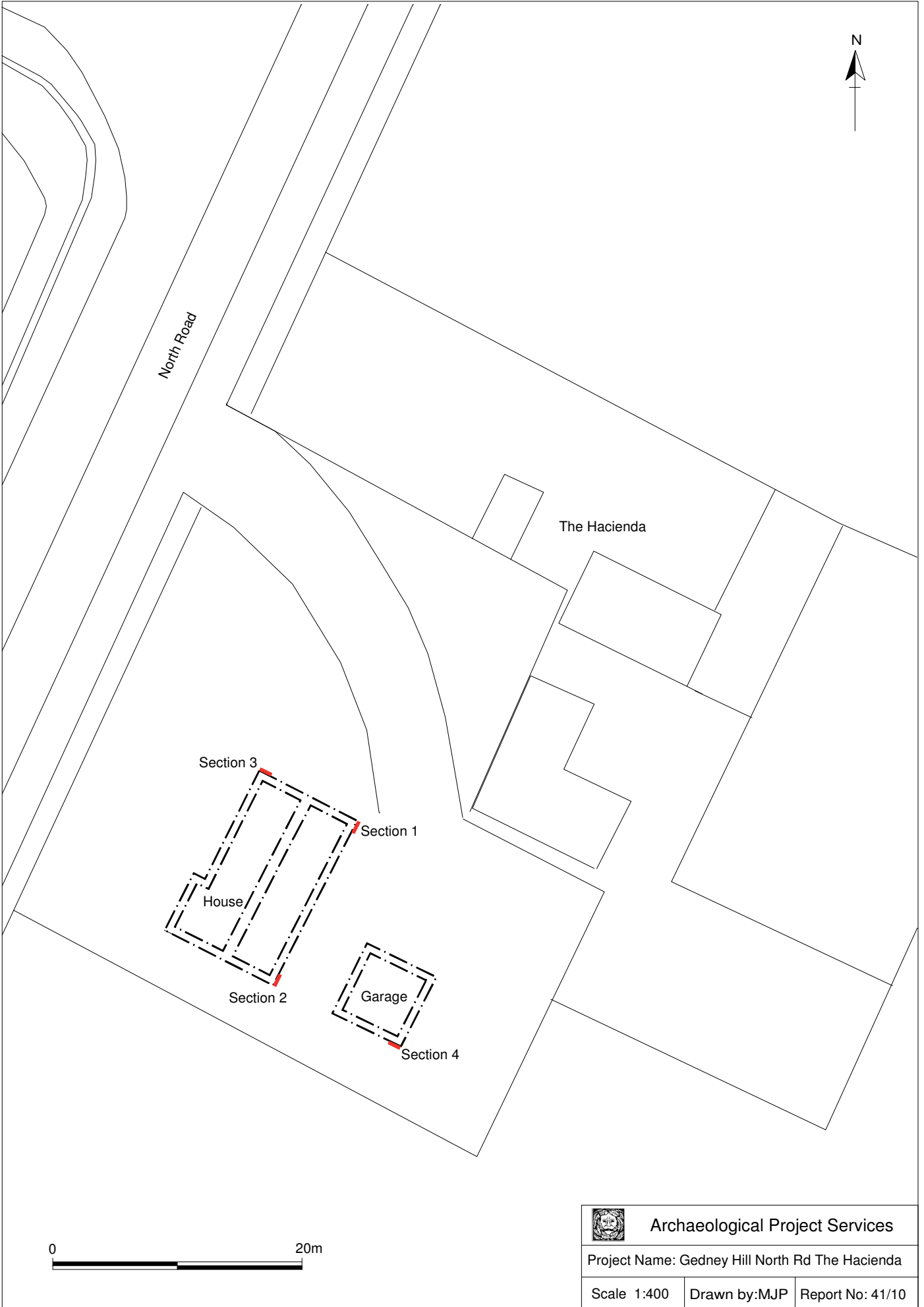
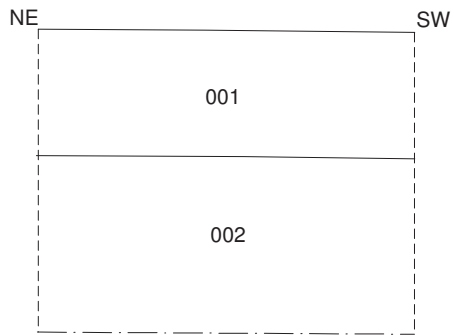
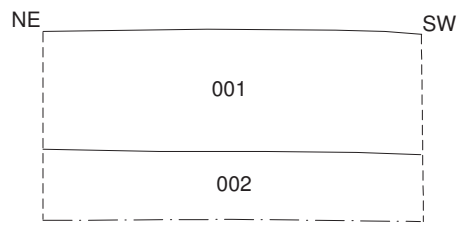


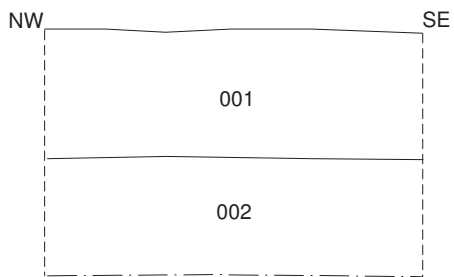
Figure 3. Trench Location Plan



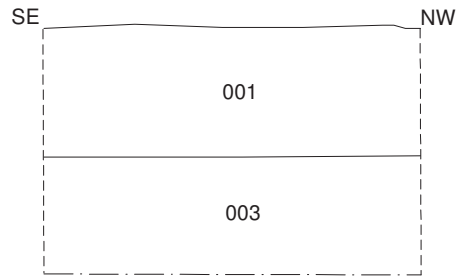
Section 1



Section 2



Section 3



Section 4



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Gedney Hill North Rd The Hacienda GHNR10

Scale 1:20 | Drawn by: MJP | Report No: 41/10

Figure 4. Sections



Plate 1. Machining of house footings in progress looking south



Plate 2. Section 1, house footings



Plate 3. Section 4, garage footings

Appendix 1: LAND AT THE HACIENDA, NORTH ROAD, GEDNEY HILL, LINCS

SCHEME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

PREPARED FOR Mr. E. Berrisford

BY ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES

Institute of Field Archaeologists'
Registered Organisation No. 21

APRIL 2010

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *Archaeological monitoring is required during construction of a bungalow and detached garage house at The Hacienda, North Road, Gedney Hill, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *Extensive remains of a Romano-British landscape are known from aerial photography in this area of the fens and seem to focus on Gedney Hill which may have been an important centre in Roman times. The land was reclaimed in the 13th century and medieval remains from that period onwards are also known in and around the village.*
- 1.3 *Archaeological monitoring and recording be will be undertaken during groundworks and all phases of soil movement carried out during the proposed development.*
- 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 specification for archaeological investigations during development at The Hacienda, North Road, Gedney Hill, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 3421 1201.
- 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 Gedney Hill is located 15km southeast of Spalding and 12km west of Wisbech in the South Holland district of Lincolnshire. The site lies in the north of the village, on the east side of North Road, centred on National Grid Reference TF 3421 1201.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application (H07/0814/09) was submitted to South Holland District Council for construction of a house and detached garage. On the advice of the Planning Archaeologist at Lincolnshire County Council, South Holland District Council have requested the submission of a written scheme of archaeological investigation prior to construction. This document forms that scheme of investigation and comprises a specification of works for archaeological monitoring and recording be undertaken during groundworks and all phases of soil movement carried out during the proposed development.

The condition also requires that provision is made for detailed investigation of archaeological remains should these be uncovered during the groundworks.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The site lies in the fenland at approximately 3m OD. Soils at the site are coarse silty calcareous soils of the Wisbech Association (Hodge et al. 1984, 361). These soils overlie a drift geology of marine alluvium (generally sandy silt, sand and clay) which in turn seals a solid geology of Upper Jurassic clays (BGS 1992).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Extensive remains of a Romano-British landscape in this area of the fens are known from aerial photography and there is abundant evidence of salt-production in that period from fieldwalking survey and a number of excavated sites.
- 6.2 Cropmarks are known in the area with dense distributions occurring to the southwest and northwest of the village. The cropmarks are sparse immediately around the village but ditches and ditch alignments suggest an important centre. Roman coins were recorded from the village in the 18th century and Roman pottery has been identified in the area.
- 6.3 The area was reclaimed in the 13th century and the present hamlet grew up thereafter centred on Holy Trinity Church, which contains elements of 14th century date, approximately 300m south of the proposed development site.
- 6.4 An archaeological watching brief undertaken in 2005 during development approximately 500m to the south of the Hacienda did not record archaeological deposits (Cope Faulkner, P., 2005)

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the investigation 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 The objectives of the investigation 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 monitoring.
- 8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practice 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 monitoring brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.
- 8.2.2 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.

- Throughout the investigation brief 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

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

9 POST-EXCAVATION

9.1 Stage 1

9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the project 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 field work 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 monitoring will be prepared.

9.3.2 This will consist of:

- A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
- A description of the archaeological setting of the site.
- Description of the topography of the site.
- Description of the methodologies used during the monitoring.
- A text describing the findings of the investigation.
- A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the 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 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

- 10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the Client; the LCC Archaeology Section, and to the County Council Archaeological Historic Environment Record.

11 ARCHIVE

- 11.1 The documentation and records generated during the investigation 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. Accession number LCNCC: 2010.68 and site code GHNR10 has been obtained from the City and County Museum, Lincoln for deposition of the archive.

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 project lies with Louise Jennings, planning archaeologist from the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team. Ten days written notice will be given to the archaeological curator prior to the commencement of the project to enable them to make appropriate monitoring arrangements.

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 monitoring brief 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 similar investigations 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:	Dr D Knight, Trent and Peak Archaeological Trust or Dale Trimble mentored by Dr Knight.
Roman:	Alex Beeby, APS Roman pottery specialist mentored by or B Precious, independent specialists
Anglo-Saxon:	Dr A. Boyle APS ceramicist mentored by J Young, independent specialist
Medieval and later:	Dr. A. Boyle APS specialists
Other Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist; or G Taylor, APS
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, independent specialist
Animal Remains Analysis	Matilda Holmes, Independent specialists
Environmental Analysis	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
Radiocarbon dating	Beta Analytic Inc., Florida, USA
Dendrochronology dating	University of Sheffield Dendrochronology Laboratory

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

Hodge, CAH, Burton, RGO, Corbett, WM, Evans, R, and Seale, RS, 1984 *Soils and their use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales **13**

Cope Faulkner, P., 2005 Archaeological Watching Brief at Willow Tree Cottage, 4 North Road, Gedney Hill, Lincolnshire (GHN 05) APS Report **69/05**

Specification: Version 1, 23rd April 2010

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Area	Description	Interpretation	Date
001	House, garage	Firm dark brown silty clay 0.3m thick	Topsoil	
002	House	Stiff mottled mix of mid brown/mid grey, with small patches of light bluish grey, slightly silty clay, at least 0.45m thick	Alluvium	
003	Garage	Stiff mottled mix of mid brown/mid grey with occasional light blue-grey mottles and some rusty flecking, slightly silty clay, at least 0.3m thick	Alluvium	

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].
Cropmark	A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological or geological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.
Layer	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

Appendix 4

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

1	Context register sheet
3	Context record sheets
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Plan record sheet
1	Section record sheet
1	Daily record sheet
1	Sheet of scale drawings

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
Danes Terrace
Lincoln
LN2 1LP

The archive will be deposited in accordance with the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives*, produced by the Lincolnshire City and County Museum.

The Collection Accession Number:	2010.68
Archaeological Project Services Site Code:	GHNR 10
OASIS Record No:	archaeol1-77280

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.