

EARTHWORK SURVEY REPORT:

LAND OFF MIDDLESYKES LANE, GRIMOLDBY, LOUTH, LINCOLNSHIRE

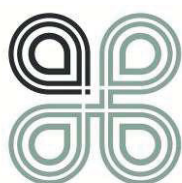
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AAL Site Code: GMLR16
Museum Accession Number: LCNCC: 2016.93
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Report prepared for Lincs Design Consultancy

By
Allen Archaeology Limited
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Allenarchaeology



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Cover image: View across the development site, looking southwest

Executive Summary

- Allen Archaeology Limited (hereafter AAL) was commissioned by Lincs Design Consultancy to undertake an earthwork survey as a condition of planning consent for the erection of two residential dwellings and associated access on land adjacent to Enderly, off Middlesykes Lane, Grimoldby, Louth, Lincolnshire.
- The village appears in the Domesday Book of 1086, and the development site is located within close proximity to the historic core of the settlement. Earthworks on the site and in the surrounding area have been interpreted as indicating medieval settlement and agriculture.
- The survey extended to cover the entire field within which the site was situated. Five intersecting ditches were recorded, only one of which was located within the development area. This boundary was still in use in 1906 as a field boundary, however, this and the other features surveyed are likely to be earlier evidence of the medieval settlement of Grimoldby. The shape of the features and further earthworks located to the north and south suggest they are likely to be property boundaries relating to settlement, rather than agricultural features.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Allen Archaeology Limited (hereafter AAL) was commissioned by Lincs Design Consultancy to undertake an earthwork survey as a condition of planning consent for the erection of two residential dwellings and associated access on land adjacent to Enderly, off Middlesykes Lane, Grimoldby, Louth, Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The works adhere to national guidance set out in the Historic England document '*Understanding the Archaeology of Landscapes*' (English Heritage 2007), the local guidelines in the *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* (LCC 2012), and a written scheme of investigation for the work prepared by this company (AAL 2016).
- 1.3 The documentary and photographic archive will be submitted to The Collection, Lincoln and stored under the accession number LCNCC: 2016.93. The agreed date of deposition is December 2016.

2.0 Site Location and Description

- 2.1 Grimoldby is situated approximately 6.1km to the east of Louth and 11.6km to the west – northwest of Mablethorpe in the administrative district of East Lindsey. The proposed development area is at the northern end of the village to the south of Middlesykes Road, adjacent to Enderly with open fields to the south and east. It is a rectangular shaped parcel of land and is centred on NGR 53924 38853.
- 2.2 The local bedrock geology comprises Welton Chalk Formation with superficial deposits of Devensian Till (<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html>).

3.0 Planning Background

- 3.1 Planning permission has been granted for '*Erection of 1 no. detached dormer bungalow and 1 no. detached bungalow to include the construction of vehicular access*' (ref. N/067/00535/15). The permission was granted subject to conditions, including a programme of earthwork survey recommended by the Historic Environment Officer at Lincolnshire County Council.
- 3.2 The approach is consistent with the *National Planning Policy Framework* paragraph 128 (Department for Communities and Local Government 2012) and is in accordance with Policies C1-C13 relating to Conservation and Design in the *East Lindsey Local Plan* (1999), and Strategic Policy 7: Historic Environment of the draft *East Lindsey Core Strategy* (February 2016).

4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 4.1 A single find of Romano-British pottery (HER ref. 41302) is the only reference to archaeological activity predating the medieval period. Grimoldby I recorded as 'Grimbaldi' in the Domesday Survey of 1086 (Morgan & Thorn 1986), a name derived from the Old Danish meaning 'Grimali's farmstead' (Cameron 1998). At this time the King held four carucates of land as part of the manor in Gayton le Wold and Alfred of Lincoln held one bovate of land. A minimum population of 11 people were recorded (Morgan & Thorn 1986).
- 4.2 Medieval activity is represented by the 14th century parish church, St Edith's (HER ref. 44421), and a stone cross standing within the churchyard (HER ref. 41303), c.600m to the south of the site. Furthermore, there are a series of earthworks surrounding, and extending into the site, which are

thought to date from the medieval period. These include ridge and furrow (HER ref. 48672), ponds, crofts and a potential medieval hollow way (HER ref. 46214).

5.0 Methodology

- 5.1 The survey methodology is based on a Level 2 record of the earthworks (English Heritage 2007) and adheres to guidance contained within the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook (LCC 2012). The earthwork survey was undertaken by the author on the 25th July 2016. The survey has been undertaken using a Leica GS08 GPS unit receiving RTK corrections, to produce an accuracy of c.+/- 20mm.
- 5.2 Earthworks were surveyed to allow an interpretation plan to be produced which have been illustrated as a hachure plan. Numbers in square brackets within the text refer to earthwork features.
- 5.3 A full photographic record has also been made of the site, capturing images of both the earthworks and ground conditions at the time of the survey. The location of the photographic views have also been recorded.

6.0 Results

- 6.1 The survey area extended beyond the boundary of the proposed development area to encompass the entire area of the field within which the site is situated. The field is bounded to the north and east by a hedge which runs along Middlesykes Road and the edge of a neighbouring property. To the southwest the edge of the survey area was defined by a fence.
- 6.2 The southeastern extent of the site was defined by a boundary ditch [1] and tree line. The northern edge of the ditch was surveyed.



Plate 1: Ditch [1] running northeast-southwest at the southern extent of the site, looking east

- 6.3 Three parallel ditches, [2] [3] [4], run broadly northwest to southeast across the field. The bases of the ditch are 30m apart and they are all approximately 0.5m deep and between 7-9m wide. Feature

[1] intersects with all three features. It potentially truncates them, although the relationship is hard to discern. Features [3] and [4] both appear to turn at their southern ends. This is either as a result of slumping at the junction with [1], or suggests that the boundaries did indeed turn slightly at this point. To the north feature [2] appears to be truncated close to the field boundary, whereas the northern end of [4] has been smoothed out in the area close to the field access. The northern end of [3] becomes gradually wider and more diffuse near to where it reaches the southern edge of the development site, and cannot be clearly traced beyond this point.



Plate 2: Feature [2] looking northwest

- 6.4 Another ditch, [5] runs perpendicular to and intersects features [2] and [3]; it is also approximately 0.5m deep and approximately 8m wide. Its stratigraphic relationship with [2] and [3] is not clearly defined.

7.0 Discussion and Conclusions

- 7.1 The principal features recorded comprised three linear boundary features [2], [3] and [4], running northwest to southeast across the field. All three had been partially truncated towards their northwest ends, and probably originally continued at least as far as the road. They are too far apart and too large to be interpreted as medieval plough furrows, and as such it seems likely that they represent former property boundaries, but of an uncertain date. None are present on the 1889 First Edition Ordnance Survey map, but [2], the only feature to extend through the development area, is shown on the 1906 map. It was also present in 1956, but had disappeared by 1973. It is possible that this feature represents the reuse or re-establishment of an earlier boundary but the earthwork will certainly have a significant modern component.
- 7.2 There is no evidence for features [3] and [4] on the historic mapping, suggesting a medieval date for these features is possible. [1] defines the current field boundary but may be earlier and form part of a system of land division contemporary with [3] and [4]. Both of these features appear to turn slightly at their southern end, and this may be an indication of their contemporaneity, potentially turning to join the boundary represented by [1]. [5] is likely to represent a subdivision of the plots of land defined by [2] and [3], and is also likely to be broadly contemporary.

7.3 Aerial photography of the immediate surroundings highlight similar features in fields to the north of the site (see Google Earth's imagery from 2006). Similarly to the south, a series of earthworks dating from the medieval period have been recorded through a series of watching briefs (Lindsey Archaeological Services 2001), trial trenching (Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd 2014) and site visits (HER ref. 46214). These suggest that the earthworks within the field are likely to form a small part of the much more extensive settlement and agricultural remains of the medieval and later village.

8.0 Effectiveness of Methodology

8.1 The earthwork survey methodology was appropriate to the scale and nature of the proposed works at this site. It has allowed for a permanent record of the existing earthworks on the site to be made prior to the development.

9.0 Acknowledgements

9.1 Allen Archaeology Limited would like to thank Lincs Design Consultancy for this commission.

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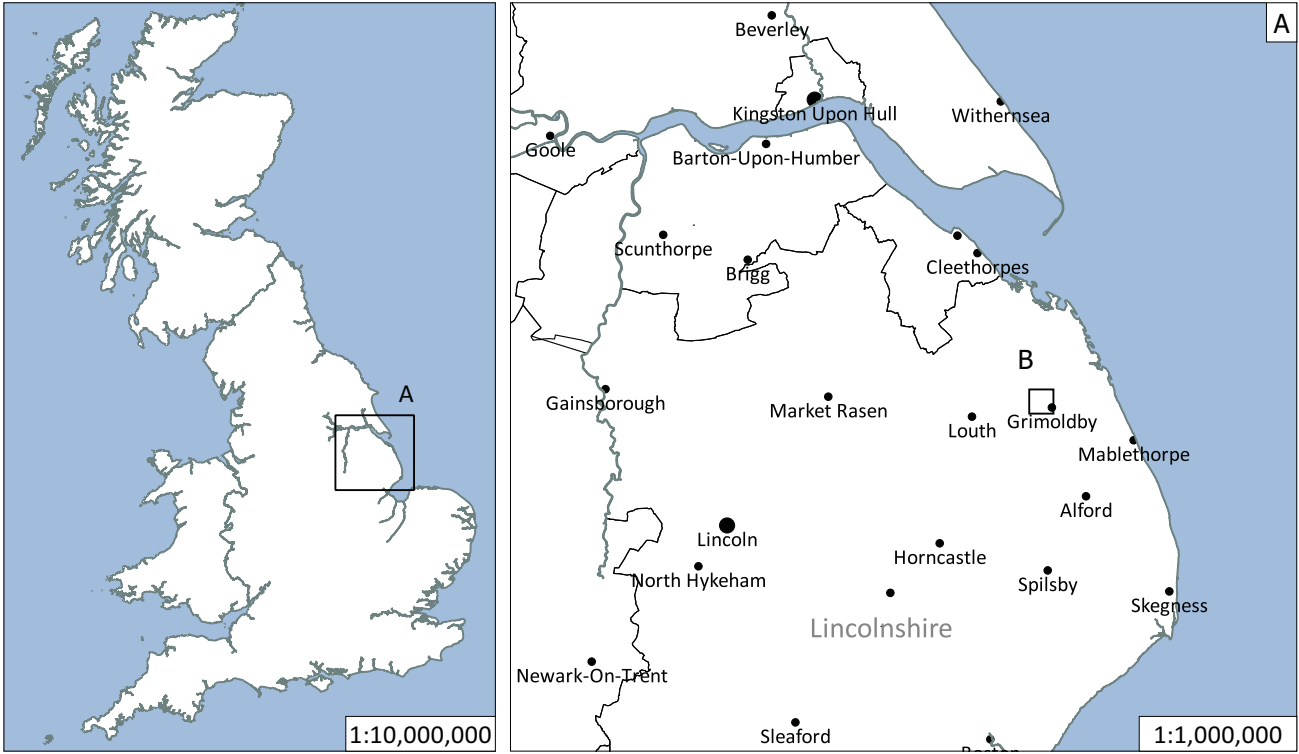


Figure 1: Site location outlined in red

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Site Code	GRML 16
Scale	1:10,000,000 1:1,000,000 1:25,000 @ A4
Drawn by	C Cooper
Date	02/08/16

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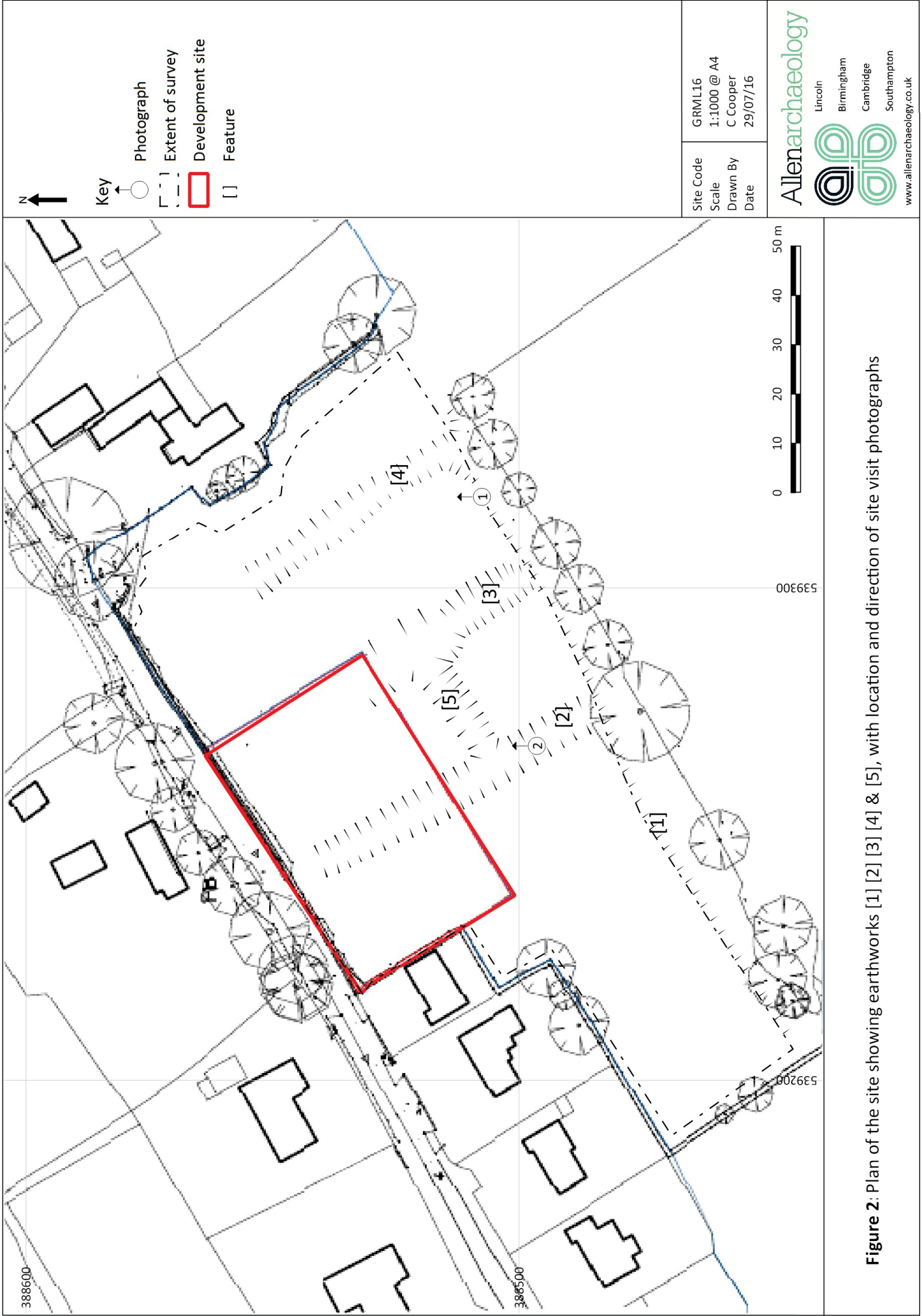


Figure 2: Plan of the site showing earthworks [1] [2] [3] [4] & [5], with location and direction of site visit photographs



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