

Summary

- *An archaeological scheme of monitoring and recording was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) on behalf of CgMs Consulting on behalf of McArthur and Stone at 89 Pinchbeck Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire.*
- *The works required the monitoring of the excavation of footing and service trenches and the recording of any identified archaeological deposits and/or features.*
- *Natural soils were encountered across the site, as was a subsoil layer and modern made ground and dumped rubble deposits. No significant archaeology was identified during development.*

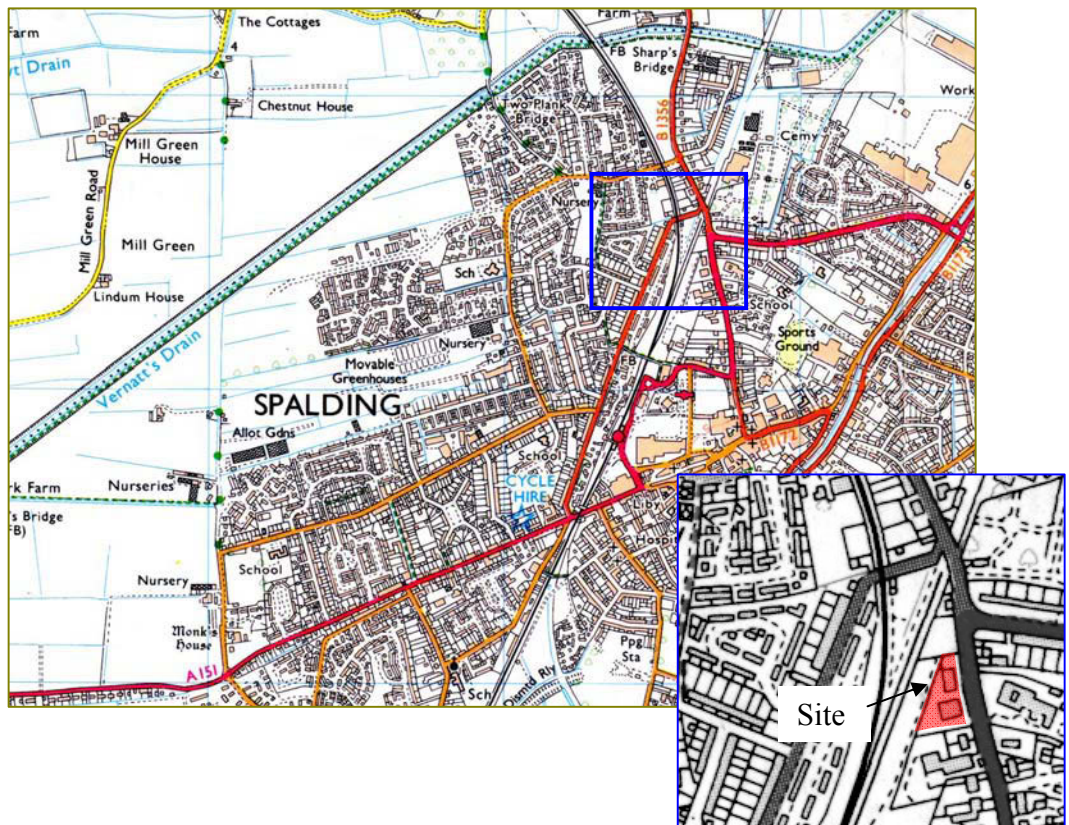


Fig. 1: General site location. Scale 1:25 000 and 1: 10 000. Site area shaded in red.
(O.S. Copyright licence no. AL 51521 A0001)

1.0 Introduction

In August-September 2006 Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) carried out an archaeological scheme of monitoring and recording on behalf of CgMs Consulting during development of land at 89 Pinchbeck Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire (centred on NGR: TF 2468 2342).

These works were stipulated by South Holland District Council as a condition attached to the planning permission (Planning Ref. H16/0032/06). This approach is consistent with the recommendations of *Archaeology & Planning: Planning Policy Guidance Note 16* (Department of the Environment, 1990), *Standard and guidance for archaeological Field Evaluations* (IFA, 1999 *as revised*) and the LCC document *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook: A manual of Archaeological Practice*, 1998.

2.0 Site location and description

Spalding is approximately 21km south-south-west of Boston and 25km north-east of Peterborough in the administrative district of South Holland. The site covers an area measuring approximately 0.2ha located between the Peterborough to Lincoln railway to the west, Pinchbeck Road to the east, with ho using to the south and open fields to the north (Figs. 1 and 2). The site was formerly occupied by a collection of commercial garage buildings and has an approximate mean elevation of 5.00m AOD. The geology of the area consist of Terrington Beds of the Quaternary era, which overly a solid geology of Middle Oxford Clay of the Upper Jurassic era (BGS, 1992).

3.0 Planning background

Full planning permission was granted for the erection of two blocks of 2/3 storey category II sheltered flats, with an access road, parking and landscaping (Planning Ref: H16/0032/06). This was subject to the undertaking of an archaeological scheme of monitoring and recording during all associated groundworks; as advised by the planning archaeologist of South Holland District Council.

4.0 Archaeological and historical context

Evidence of late Iron Age and Roman period occupation has been recorded in Spalding, where the town is thought to have acted as a bridging point downstream from the Welland Estuary (Simmons, 1993; Whitwell, 1992).

The modern town is believed to have originated as a royal estate sometime during the 7th or 8th century AD, while its name derives from the *Spalda*, one of the local tribes of this period (Sawyer, 1998).

Close to the site itself, a 17th century Token hoard was discovered in a brass box, while approximately 30m to the south, documentary evidence has suggested the site of a medieval motte and bailey castle.

5.0 Methodology

The methodology required that all groundworks associated with the development were monitored to assess the presence/absence, date and character of archaeological remains so that any such remains could effectively be preserved by record. These investigations resulted in the production of written descriptions on pre-printed record sheets, colour slides and scale drawings, in both plan and section. Trenches were excavated using a 360° tracked excavator fitted with a 1.50m toothed bucket.

6.0 Results

Eight extensive deposits were identified throughout the site; four being natural soils; three relatively modern layers of made ground and rubble; and one being a subsoil.

Natural deposits across the site were characterised by mid grey silty clays of varying thickness, contexts (001), (002), (007) and (010). Context (002) was the earliest deposit, where this exceeded 1.40m in depth and was sealed by an almost identical 0.50m thick layer of re-deposited natural (001).

In some areas of the site deposit (002) was sealed by what appeared to be a flood deposit (007), which was 0.10m thick and was in turn sealed beneath another natural deposit (010), a layer similar to context (002).

A remnant of subsoil was recorded towards the west of the site, and this was approximately 0.30m deep and it occasionally overlay context (002).

More recent deposits were encountered towards the north-east corner of the site, representing two areas of made ground and a dumped rubble layer, contexts (003), (006) and (008) (Figs. 3 and 4).

7.0 Discussion and conclusion

Natural deposits were observed across the entire site area; comprising a re-deposited natural soil and a deposit produced by flooding. Recent layers of made ground and dumped rubble were also observed, but no significant archaeological deposits or artefacts were encountered.

8.0 Effectiveness of methodology

The methodology was effective and adequate access and time was provided by the developer to monitor and record the development ground works.

9.0 Acknowledgements

Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) would like to thank CgMs Consulting for commissioning this programme of works on behalf of their clients Mcarthur Stone.

10.0 References

Sawyer P., 1998, *Anglo-Saxon Lincolnshire, History of Lincolnshire III*. History of Lincolnshire Committee, Lincoln.

Simmons, B.B. 1993. "Iron Age and Roman Coasts around the Wash I: The Background". In Bennett & Bennett (eds.) *An Historical Atlas of Lincolnshire*.

Whitwell, J.B, 1992, *Roman Lincolnshire, History of Lincolnshire II*. History of Lincolnshire Committee, Lincoln.

11.0 Site archive

The site archive, incorporating written, drawn and photographic elements will be deposited at the Lincoln City and County Museum within six months. Access to this can be gained by quoting accession number 2008.100.