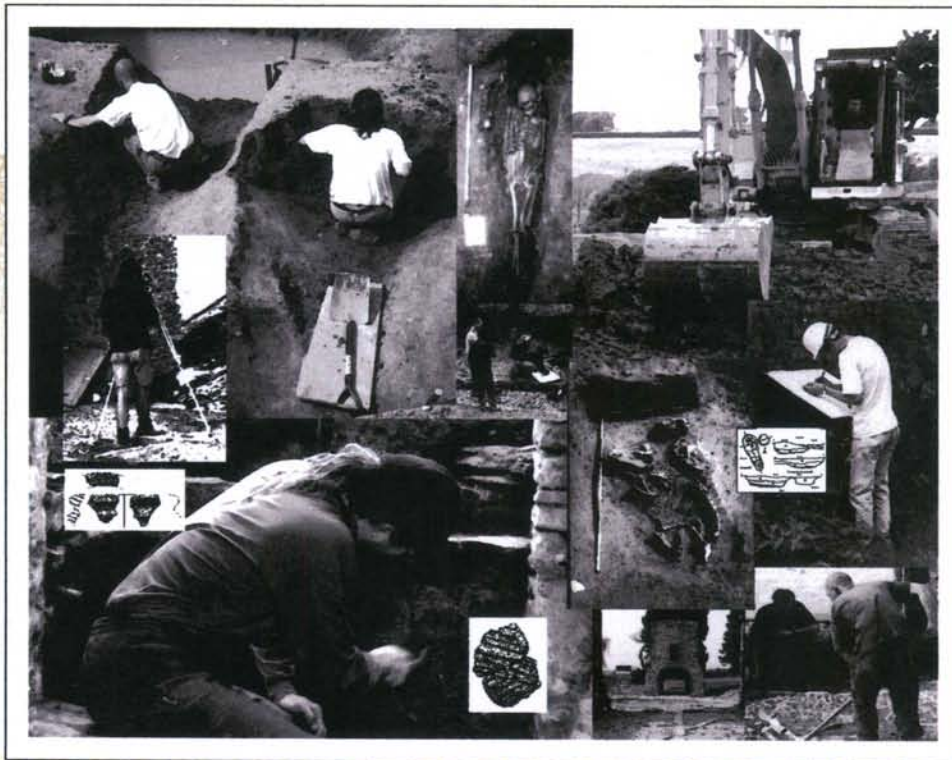


CAMBRIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS LTD.

Laughton Wind Farm, Lincolnshire

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION



By
Phil Evans BA (Hons) MIFA



CAP Report No. 377

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

**Laugnton Wind Farm,
Lincolnshire**

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Prepared for:
Your Energy Ltd

CAP Report No: 377

Project No: 678

Date: June 2005



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Non Technical Summary

This report results from work undertaken by Cambrian Archaeological Projects on behalf of Your Energy. This phase of the project involved the excavation of four evaluation trenches over the centre of four of the proposed turbines (Turbines 2, 3, 7 & 10). The evaluation trenches revealed a former field boundary in the area of turbine 3, two field drains and modern plough scars.

1 Introduction

1.1 Location and scope of the work

In June 2005 Cambrian Archaeological Projects carried out the excavation of four evaluation trenches on four of the areas proposed for development (Turbines 2, 3, 7 & 10) at Laughton, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1). The site is centred on NGR: SK487000397000.

1.2 Previous work

A desk-based assessment, field walkover and a geophysical survey of each turbine location have already been undertaken by Cambrian Archaeological Projects. The work identified one principal archaeological site near the location of turbine 10.

1.3 Geology and Topography

The area of the proposed development is located to the east of the village of Laughton (Fig. 1) and covers two kilometres of land between Park House Farm (SK397400 48900) and Grange Farm (SK 397500 488400). The site is composed of gently undulating agricultural land.

The underlying solid geology is comprised of Triassic mudstones (including 'Keuper Marl', Dolomitic conglomerate and Rhaetic). (*Soils of England and Wales, 1993*). The Lincolnshire Edge forms a distinctive backbone to Lincolnshire running like a thread through the county from Whitton on the Humber Estuary in the north, down to Grantham in the south. It is a diverse landscape with a number of local variations. To the west of the edge is the gently undulating Trent Vale which eventually flows into the moors and levels of Humberhead, draining into the Humber Estuary. To the east there is a gently transition into the Central Lincolnshire Vale between the Humber and Lincoln, while south of the Lincoln the edge is bounded by a narrow finger of Fenland, which follows the River Witham into Lincoln. To the south the Edge merges into the more undulating Kesteven Uplands.

1.4 Archaeological and Historic Background

The area surrounding the proposed wind farm development contains several archaeological features such as a Roman Villa (SK 4850 3978), a medieval settlement (SK 4855 3971), a prehistoric enclosure (SK 4855 3971) and various other crop marks and undated boundaries. Royal Commission archive notes by Paul Everson tell of much pre-medieval evidence in the form of small finds. Bronze Age flints and metal work are known from several locations and a complex of rectangular enclosures has revealed much Romano-British pottery. Within the proposed turbine construction areas finds visible on the ploughed surface consist mainly of 18th/19th century tile and pottery, clay pipe fragments and sherds of broken land drains (Phillips, 2004).

2 Aims and Objectives

The aim of the trial trenching was to provide information to enable an informed and reasonable planning decision to be taken regarding the archaeological provision for the area of the proposed development.

The objectives were as follows:

- To locate any archaeological features and deposits within the study area.
- To assess the survival, quality, condition and significance of any archaeological features, deposits, and structures within the study area.
- Make recommendations for suitable mitigation measures.

3 Methodology

The evaluation was carried out by qualified Cambrian Archaeological Projects staff using proven archaeological techniques. The site was open for monitoring by Jim Bonnor, County Archaeologist at Lincolnshire County Council (LCC).

The initial trial trenching has been targeted at the four turbine locations.

Each of the four sites was tested with a 20m long trench 1.5m wide.

The upper levels in each trench were removed using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket. All archaeological levels were then be cleaned, photographed and sampled for dating material manually.

The following techniques were employed for the excavation of the trench:

- Removal of overburden by machine
- Planning of all exposed surfaces planned to a scale of 1:20, related to Ordnance Datum
- Limited excavation of features exposed to ascertain their date, extent and function
- Backfill all trenches after monitoring by Jim Bonnor (LCC)

All of the above stages complied with the procedures and guidance contained in *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991), and the *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Excavations* (Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994).

Recording methods

Recording was carried out using Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd recording systems, using a continuous number sequence for all contexts. All records were checked and cross-referenced during the course of the excavation. Plans were drawn to a scale of 1:20 scale and sections at 1:10 scale (on drafting film). Photographs were taken in high quality digital and 35 mm colour transparencies.

Artefacts

Archaeological artefacts recovered during the excavation were cleaned and labelled with the site code. A single number sequence was allocated to all small finds. The artefacts will be stored appropriately until they are deposited with the museum. All ceramic, bone and stone artefacts were cleaned and processed during the course of the excavation, and the results input into the site strategy and decision making.

4 Results of the Field Evaluation

All numbers () in the following text refer to context numbers allocated during the field evaluation. A summary of all context is given in Appendix II of this report.

Trench 1 (Turbine 2) Figs.3, Plate. 1

This trench measured 20m by 1.5m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.3m and was excavated across two linear features located by the geophysical survey. After the removal of the plough soil (1) natural compact yellow sand (2) was revealed. A ceramic field drain (3) was then located cut into the natural sand (2) at the northern end of the trench. The field drain appears to account for the linear feature on the geophysical survey.

Trench 2 (Turbine 3) Figs. 3, Plate. 2

This trench measured 20m by 1.5m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.3m and was excavated across possible plough marks located by the geophysical survey. After the removal of the plough soil (5) the natural sandy clay (6) was revealed. At the northern end of the trench a former field boundary (8) was recorded, which contained fragments of red brick and tree roots (the boundary is present on the 1907 Ordnance Survey Map). Modern plough scars (9) were also present running north/south along the length of the trench.

Trench 3 (Turbine 7) Fig. 3, Plate. 3

This trench measured 20m by 1.5m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.3m and was excavated in an area devoid of geophysical anomalies (used as a test for the geophysical survey). After the removal of the plough soil (10) the natural compact sandy clay (11) was revealed. Modern plough scars (12) were located running north/south along the length of the trench.

Trench 4 (Turbine 10) Figs. 3, Plate. 4

This trench measured 20m by 1.5m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.3m and was excavated to the northwest of the post-medieval structure located during the geophysical survey. After the removal of the plough soil (13) the natural compact sandy clay (14) was revealed. A ceramic field drain (16) was then located cut into the natural (14) at the northern end of the trench. Modern plough scars (17) were also located running north/south along the length of the trench.

5 Conclusions

The field evaluation revealed a former field boundary in the area of turbine 3, two field drains and modern plough scars. No significant archaeological deposits or features were revealed during the field evaluation.

6 Bibliography and References

Blockley, K. 2005. *Specification for an archaeological evaluation Laughton Wind Farm, Lincolnshire*. CAP Project No. 678.

Phillips, N. 2003. *Laughton Wind Farm: Archaeological desk-based assessment*. CAP Report. 269.

Smith, C. 2004. *Laughton wind farm: Geophysical Survey*. CAP Report No. 342.

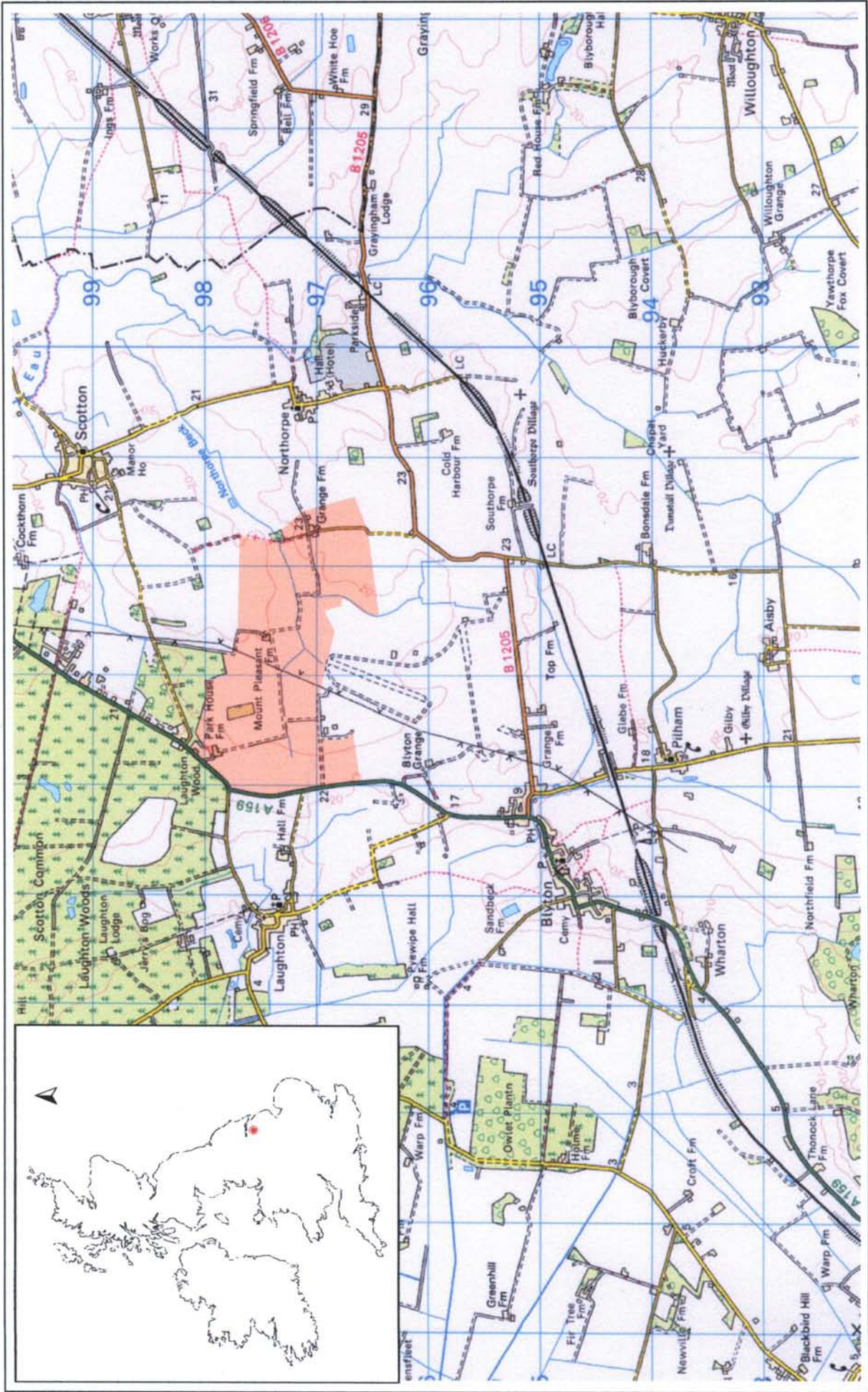
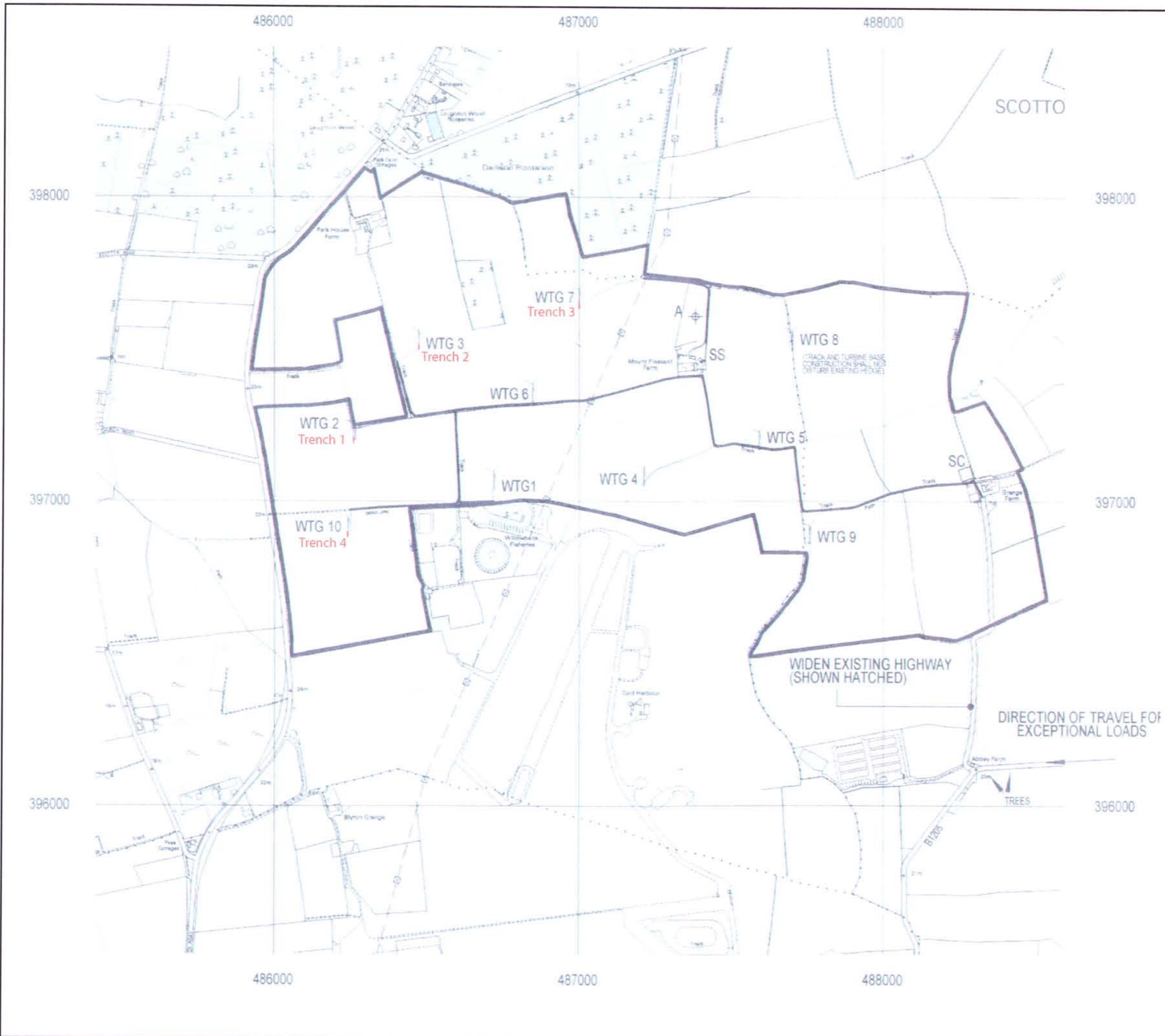


Fig 1: General Site Location Plan



LEGEND

- WTG
- ANEMOMETER A ⊕
- APPLICATION BOUNDARY ———
- EXISTING TRACKS (WIDEN) ———
- NEW TRACKS ———
- TEMPORARY HAUL ROAD ———
- WIDEN EXISTING HIGHWAY ———
- SITE COMPOUND SC □
- SUB-STATION SS □

WTG 1	48672	39704
WTG 2	48626	39720
WTG 3	48647	39750
WTG 4	48721	39705
WTG 5	48759	39717
WTG 6	48684	39732
WTG 7	48700	39764
WTG 8	48770	39750
WTG 9	48776	39686
WTG 10	48626	39689
ANEMOMETER	48738	39761

Job Title: Laughton Wind Farm

Drawing Title: Detailed Site and Trench Location Plan

Date: 20 - 06 - 2005

Drawn By: Phil Evans

Scale: 1:1250

Figure 02:

**Cambrian
Archaeological
Projects
Limited**

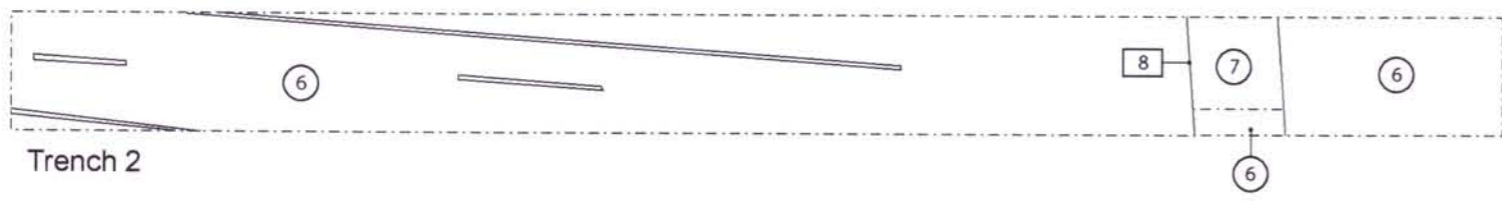




Trench 1



Plate.1: Trench 1 looking north, scale 1m



Trench 2



Plate.2: Trench 2 looking north, scale 1m



Trench 3



Plate.3: Trench 3 looking north, scale 1m



Trench 4



Plate.4: Trench 4 looking north, scale 1m



Job Title: Laughton Wind Farm

Drawing Title: Trench Illustrations

Date: 20 - 06 - 2005

Drawn By: Phil Evans

Scale: 1:100

Figure 03:

Cambrian
Archaeological
Projects
Limited

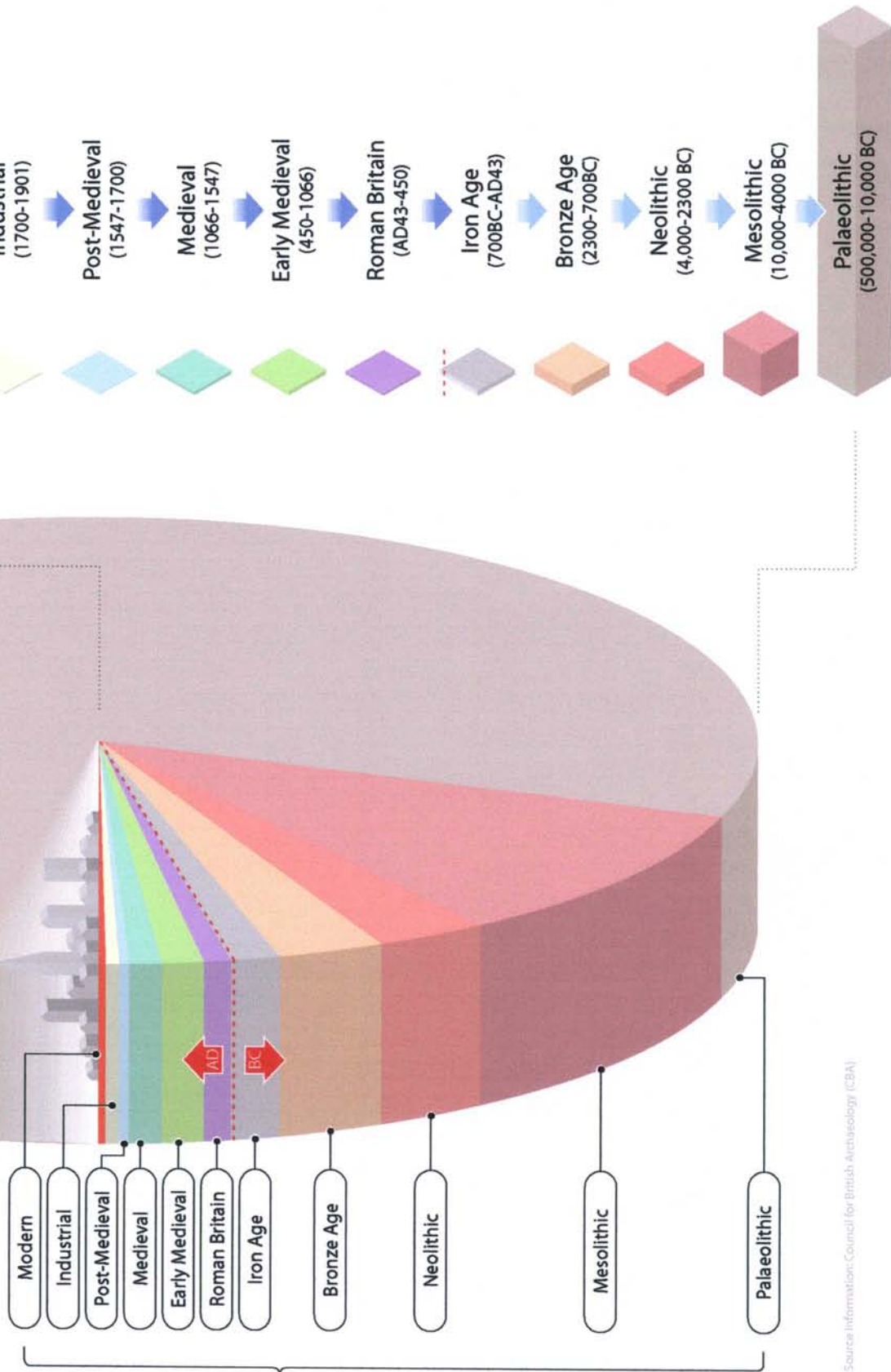




APPENDIX I:

Chronological Divisions

Archaeological Chronology





APPENDIX II:

Summary of Context

SUMMARY OF CONTEXT

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------------|-----|----------------------------|
| 1. | Plough soil | 2. | Natural Compact sandy clay |
| 3. | Ceramic field drain | 4. | Cut for 3 |
| 5. | Plough soil | 6. | Natural sandy clay |
| 7. | Field boundary | 8. | Cut for 7 |
| 9. | Plough scars | 10. | Plough soil |
| 11. | Natural sandy clay | 12. | Plough scars |
| 13. | Plough soil | 14. | Natural sandy clay |
| 15. | Cut for field drain | 16. | Fill of 15 |
| 17. | Plough scars | | |



APPENDIX III:

Archive Cover Sheet

ARCHIVE COVER SHEET

Site Name:	Laughton Wind Farm
Site Code:	LWF/05/EVA
Other Ref No:	CAP Report Nos. 269 & 342
NGR:	SK48553971
Project Type:	Archaeological Evaluation
Project Officer:	Phil Evans BA (Hons) MIFA
Project Dates:	June 2005
Categories Present:	N/A
Location of Original Archive:	Lincolnshire SMR
Location of duplicate Archives:	N/A
Number of Finds Boxes:	N/A
Location of Finds:	N/A
Museum Reference:	N/A
Copyright:	CAP Ltd
Restrictions to access:	None



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