NEVILLE HALL
FREELANCE ARCHAEOLOGIST & CONSULTANT

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING ON
PLOT 7, WEST DROVE SOUTH,
GEDNEY HILL, LINCOLNSHIRE.

National Grid Reference: TF 3333 1111
Site Code: WDGH21
Accession No: LCNCC: 2021.25
Planning Reference: H07-0242-21

PREPARED FOR G. R. MERCHANT LTD. ON BEHALF OF THEIR CLIENT - MR. N. SHORTLAND

By

Neville Hall

October 2021

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Summary

The archaeological monitoring of the groundworks pertaining to the construction of a new residential dwelling with an integral garage on Plot 7, West Drove South, Gedney Hill, Lincolnshire was carried out by Neville Hall on the 23rd of October 2021.

1. Introduction

1.1 Neville Hall was commissioned by G. R. Merchant Ltd. on behalf of their client - Mr. N. Shortland - to undertake the archaeological monitoring and recording of the groundworks pertaining to the erection of a new residential dwelling with an integral garage on Plot 7, West Drove South, Gedney Hill, Lincolnshire, centred at National Grid Reference TF 3333 1111. The archaeological monitoring was carried out at the development site on the 23rd of October 2021.

1.2 The work was carried out according to the requirements of various archaeological conditions, which were attached to the granting of planning consent for this development by South Holland District Council, the Local Planning Authority and acting on the advice of Mr. Ian Marshman of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team, in his capacity as archaeological advisor on planning issues to the District Council. This is in accordance with the principles established in *NPPF: Planning for the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide* (Department of Culture, Media and Sport, 2010), and *Standard and guidance for archaeological watching briefs* (CIfA, 2014).

1.3 Copies of the final report will be deposited with the clients, Mr. Ian Marshman of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team, the Planning Department of South Holland District Council, the Lincolnshire Heritage Environment Record (HER) and The Collection, Lincoln, along with an ordered project archive for long term storage and curation.

2. Site Location and Description

2.1 The development site is situated on land off the western frontage of West Drove South at National Grid Reference TF 3333 1111 and at a height of approximately 2mAOD. The settlement of Gedney Hill is located within the modern civil parish of the same name, administrative district of South Holland, county of Lincolnshire [**Figures 1 and 2**].

2.2 The development site is located in a flat and low-lying area within the Lincolnshire Fens. The development site is situated on deep stoneless calcareous coarse silty soils of the Wisbech Series, which have developed on marine alluvial deposits. These deposits in turn overlie the solid geology, which comprises Oxford Clays and Kellaway Beds of the Upper Jurassic [Soil Survey, 1984; BGS, 1984].

3. Planning Background

3.1 An application for planning consent for the proposed construction of a new residential dwelling with an integral garage on Plot 7, West Drove South, Gedney Hill, Lincolnshire (Planning Reference: H07-0242-21) was submitted to and granted consent by South Holland District Council, the Local Planning Authority [**Figure 3**]. However, as the proposed development site was situated within a perceived archaeologically sensitive area and within an area of high archaeological potential, various archaeological conditions (Nos. 2 and 4-5) were attached to this consent.

3.2 Following consultations by the author with Mr. Ian Marshman of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team, it had been established that the requirement for the fulfilment of these conditions would be the archaeological monitoring and recording of the groundworks during the construction stage of development at the site.

3.3 A specification or a written scheme of works for the archaeological monitoring had been submitted to and approved by Mr. Ian Marshman of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team (on behalf of the LPA) in March 2020 prior to the commencement of the on-site works as required by a previous planning appeal consent (Reference: APP/2525/W/18/3205429 and (H07-0037-18)).

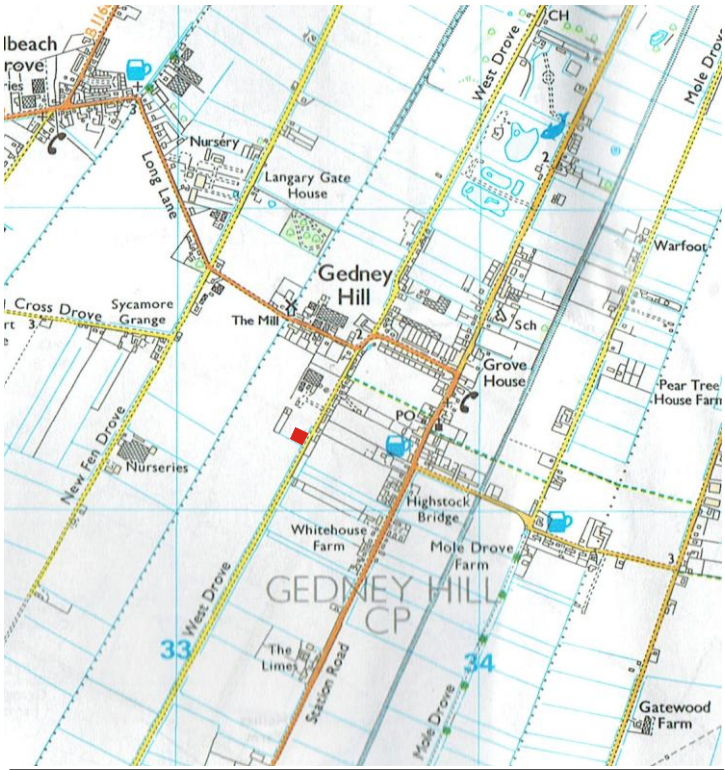


Figure 1: Site location at scale 1:25,000. The site is shown in red. (O.S. copyright licence number 100048723)

3.4 Following the approval of this specification by Mr. Ian Marshman of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team (on behalf of the LPA), the required notification period of fourteen days of the start of the site groundworks programme was given to same as required by Condition 4 of the planning consent H07-0242-21.

3.5 All of the archaeological site work was carried out in accordance with the approved specification of March 2020 as required by Condition 2 of the planning consent H07-0242-21.

3.5 This report documents the results of this programme of site archaeological monitoring and recording and will be submitted to Mr. Ian Marshman of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team and to the Local Planning Authority as required by Condition 5 of the planning consent H07-0242-21.

4. Aims and Objectives of the Archaeological Monitoring

4.1 The aims of the project were the continual archaeological monitoring of the site groundworks during the construction stage of development, which comprised the mechanical excavation of foundations for the new residential dwelling with integral garage.

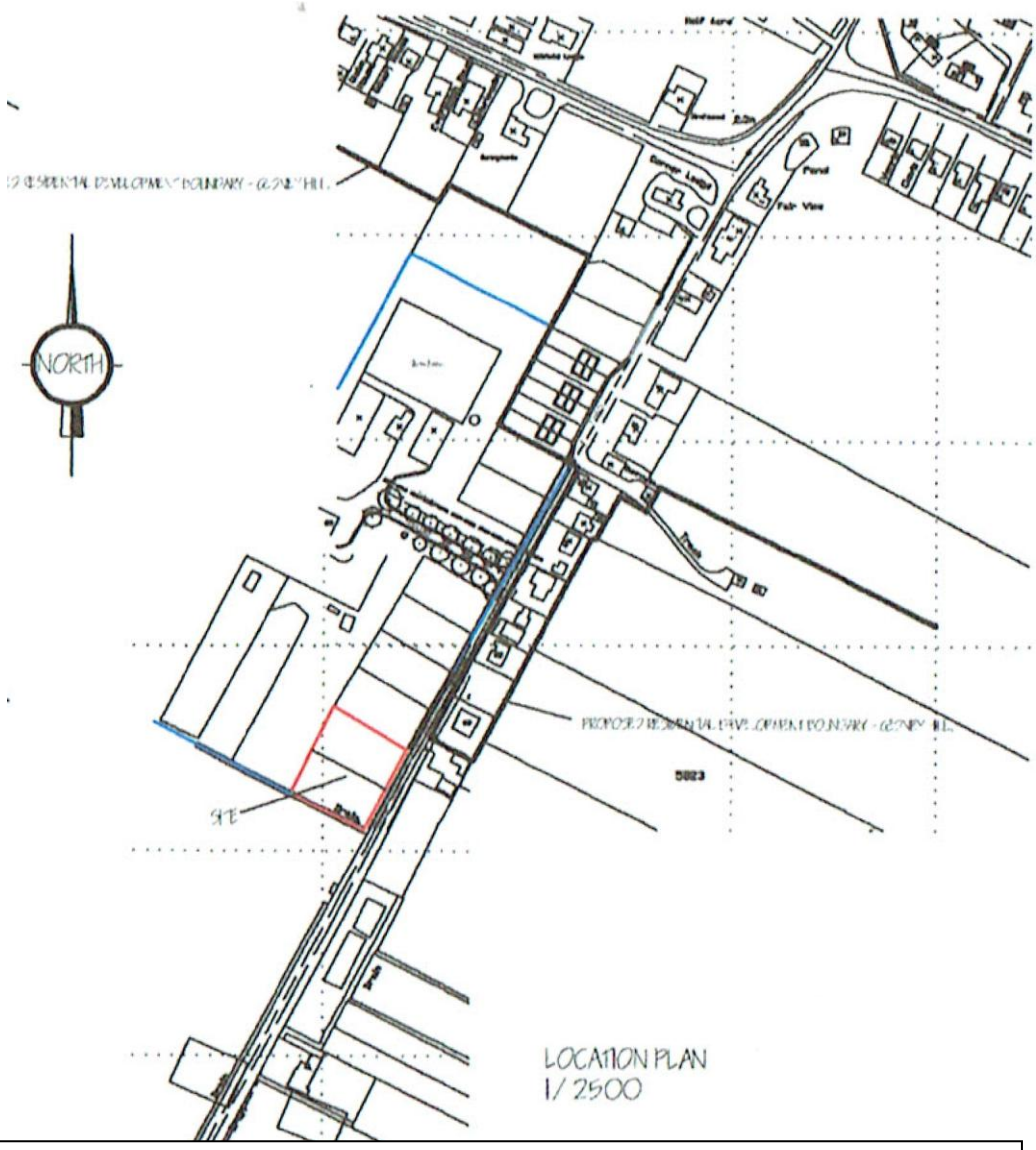


Figure 2: Site location at an original scale of 1:2,500, (extract from Architects plan).

4.2 The objectives of the project were:

To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the area of the development site.

To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.

To allow the preservation by record of archaeological deposits.

4.3 The development site is situated within an archaeologically sensitive area and within an area of high archaeological potential. Although an archaeological evaluation in 2008 in close proximity to this development site identified two undated ditches, there is much evidence for known Romano-British settlement activity in the area along with evidence for medieval and post-medieval activity and finds, both from other previous archaeological



Figure 3: Plans showing the proposed layout of the Development Site at original scales of 1:250 and 1:500, (extracts from Architects plans).

investigations and from other currently known archaeological data. An archaeological watching brief which took place also on Plot 3, West Drove South to the north of this site in 2019 located an undated ditch. The specific objectives of this archaeological monitoring were to record any archaeological features, deposits, structures or finds associated with this Romano-British and possible medieval and post-medieval settlement activity.

5. Archaeological and Historical Background

5.1 Online background research sources were consulted at the National Library of Scotland. A search of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Record (HER) was conducted within a 0.5km radius that was centred on the development site. The online National Heritage List of Historic England was also consulted

5.2 The possible site of a Romano-British settlement is located at Gedney Hill (HER 22295). Ditched droves that are orientated from the north east and south-east from Gedney Hill are apparently aligned on the parish church. This suggests that this church may be constructed on a Roman site. The wider than normal double ditched drove from the south-east extends beyond the church. The drove running north-east connects with further droves to the south-west and north-east of Ivy Cottage.

5.3 A bronze sestertius of Marcus Aurelius was found in the village of Gedney Hill in the late 1960s (HER 22291).

5.4 The establishment of a medieval settlement at Gedney Hill was indicated by the presence of the parish church of the Holy Trinity (HER 20527). This settlement was linked to the 'mother' settlement of Gedney by a drove road. The parish church at Holy Trinity, Gedney Hill is Grade II* listed and dates from the late 14th century (HER 22297, NHL 1146771). The church underwent alterations in the mid 15th century and was mostly rebuilt in 1875. The west tower is Perpendicular. The chancel was rebuilt in 1897. The church consists of a west tower, a nave with north and south aisles and a chancel with a south vestry.

5.5 A Grade II listed churchyard cross is located to the immediate south of the parish church of Holy Trinity (HER 22290, NHL 1064525). This is of 15th century date which underwent restoration in 1918. It consists of a high base, a plinth and a cross shaft. and is located on the south side of the church. It was restored for use as a war memorial.

6.6 The Red Lion public house in Hillgate at Gedney Hill is a Grade II listed public house dating from the late 17th century which has mid 19th and 20th century alterations (HER 25441, NHL 1359240).

5.7 A tower windmill on Mill Lane at Gedney Hill is Grade Ii listed (HER 22284, NHL 1146795). The mill was standing by 1824 and was worked by wind until the late 1920s when the sails were removed. It subsequently worked by engine until at least the late 1940s, although the cap and the top storey had also been removed by this time. It is now converted into a residential dwelling and has lost its machinery.

5.8 The Limes Cottage at Gedney Hill was formerly a listed building, but is now delisted (HER 25296). This originally comprised three Grade III listed cottages dating from the late 18th century with mid 19th century alterations.

5.9 The former Baptist Chapel at Gedney Hill is featured on the O.S. map of 1904 (HER 25674). The first general Baptist Chapel was constructed at around 1810-11. It was rebuilt in 1883. By 2010, the chapel was disused and was for sale.

5.10 Whitehouse Farm at Gedney Hill is a partially extant 19th century farmstead (HER 26841). This is arranged around a regular courtyard in an 'F'-plan. The farmhouse is detached with the long axis facing onto the yard. There has been a partial loss of traditional buildings. The farmstead is in an isolated location. This site was the subject of a programme of historic building recording in 2016 (HER 27253, Site code: GHSR16). This was undertaken prior to the conversion of buildings here to residential use. The complex contains two adjoining ranges of mid-late 19th century construction.

5.11 Half Acre or Peacock House at Gedney Hill is a redeveloped 19th century farmstead (HER 26834). This is arranged around a regular courtyard in an 'L'-plan. The farmhouse was detached from the main working complex. The farmstead was in an isolated location.

5.12 An unnamed farmstead at Gedney Hill is a demolished 19th century farmstead (HER 26754). This was arranged around a regular courtyard with an 'L'-plan range with additional detached outbuildings to the side of the yard. The farmhouse was detached from the main working complex. The farmstead was located within a loose cluster.

5.13 The site of an unnamed farmstead at Gedney Hill is a demolished 18th century farmstead (HER 26835). This was arranged around a regular courtyard in an 'L'-plan. The farmhouse was attached to a range of working buildings. The farmstead was within a village location.

5.14 There have been several other previous archaeological investigations in the vicinity of this development site. An archaeological watching brief took place in 2009 at 4, Lincolns Avenue, Gedney Hill (HER 25644-6, Site code: GHLA08). This identified four undated pits. Other findings from this watching brief comprised a possible boundary ditch, the fill of which produced one sherd of 13th-15th century pottery. A second boundary ditch of possible post-medieval date was also found here.

5.15 A single storey pre-fabricated bungalow that probably dated to the 1950s at 4, Lincolns Avenue, Gedney Hill was the subject of a programme of historic building recording in 2009 (HER 25710, Site code: GHLA08). The building was demolished in 2009.

5.16 In 2008, an archaeological evaluation took place on land off West Drove South and in close proximity to this development site (HER 24079, Site code: GHWD08). This archaeological evaluation identified two undated ditches.

5.17 In 2009, an archaeological evaluation as undertaken at Station Road, Gedney Hill (HER 25616-7, Site code: GHSR09). The evaluation identified potentially medieval archaeological features on the northern side of the site in the form of a curvilinear feature or a possible hedge line that produced a single sherd of pottery of late 13th or 15th century date. Other findings comprised a large sub square pit that contained mid 15th-16th century pottery and an undated linear feature or a possible further hedge line. The second possible hedge line yielded a single sherd of late 13th-15th century pottery and was itself truncated by an undated pit. Four further sherds of medieval pottery were also found on the site. These were wasters, but there was no evidence to suggest associated kiln activity on the site. Post-medieval activity was evident on the western side of the site where pits were found, which produced sherds of mid 16th-17th century pottery. Further late 17th or 18th century pottery was found in association with another pit, which had been cut by a ditch or possible pit, the fill of which also produced later post-medieval pottery.

5.18 Undated earthworks have been identified from aerial photographic sources in a field to the south of Gedney Hill Primary School (HER 23690). These include ditches and a small mound. The aerial photographs featured linears on varying alignments and circular features, one of which relates to the aforementioned mound.

5.19 Several intersecting circular cropmarks or soil marks at Gedney Hill have been identified from aerial photographic sources (HER 22294). No finds have been made in this area.

5.20 In 2019, an archaeological watching brief was mounted on the groundworks for a new residential dwelling on Plot 1, to the north, also on West Drove South. This did not identify any archaeological activity or finds (Site code: WDGH18).

5.21 Later in 2019, an archaeological watching brief on the groundworks for Plot 3, to the north of this site identified the line of an undated linear ditch (Site code: WDGH19). This extended on a north-south alignment across the new build area with a return to the east at the southern portion of the build area of the new garage. Two fills were recorded within the ditch, which were consistent throughout its length. The basal fill was waterlogged with a high organic content. This suggested a drainage function for this landscape feature, which also probably functioned as a boundary. The upper fill probably represented a later phase of the gradual silting up of this feature. However, no datable finds were recovered from either of these fills, despite the considerable exposure of this feature during the course of the archaeological monitoring of these groundworks.

5.22 Further subsequent archaeological briefs were undertaken on the groundworks for Plots 4-6, also on West Drove South in 2020 (Site codes: WSGH20 and WDGH20). These similarly yielded negative results (Hall, 2019; Hall, 2202a; Hall 2020b).

5.23 Copies of published Ordnance Survey maps were obtained from the Lincolnshire Archives and from the local studies collections at the Lincoln Central Library. The earliest map consulted comprised an extract from the First Edition 25 inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1888. This map shows the development site within the area of a much larger enclosure, which is situated off the western frontage of West Drove South.

5.24 This same site layout is repeated on the subsequent Second Edition 25 inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1904.

5.25 The Provisional Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1950 shows a field boundary to the south-west having been removed by this time, so as to create a much larger enclosure off the western frontage of West Drove South.

5.26 This same site layout is repeated on the subsequent 1:10,560 scale O.S. map of 1956, on the 1:2,500 scale O.S. map of 1976 and on the 1:10,000 scale O.S. map of 1982.

5.27 **Figure 2** shows the current location of the proposed development site.

6. Methodology

6.1 The archaeological monitoring at the development site was undertaken by Neville Hall on the 23rd of October 2021. This comprised the continual archaeological monitoring and recording of the site groundworks, which consisted of the mechanical excavation of the foundations for the new residential dwelling and integral garage. These excavations were undertaken using a 7-ton 360° mechanical excavator that was fitted with a 0.50m wide toothless bucket and a 0.80mm wide toothed bucket.

6.2 Where necessary, surfaces were hand cleaned for examination and recording and the site deposit sequence observed was recorded on standard *pro-forma* context recording sheets. A plan of the monitored Plot 7 was compiled on site at a scale of 1:100 and is reproduced at this same scale on **Figure 4**. A total of seven sections of the observed site deposit sequence [designated as **Representative Sections 1-7**] were also compiled on

site at a scale of 1:20. These are also reproduced at this same scale on **Figure 4**. A complimentary digital colour photographic record was also maintained, which is reproduced as **Plates 1-42, Appendix 1**. A list of contexts recorded is reproduced in **Appendix 2**.

6.3 All work was carried out according to the approved Specification and to the Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists (CHIfA) standards and guidance for archaeological watching briefs.

7. Results [Figure 4; Appendix 1; Plates 1-42]

7.1 The foundations for Plot 7 had already been set out prior to arrival [**Plates 1 and 2**]. The foundation trenches for Plot 7 were mechanically excavated under archaeological supervision to varying lengths, to widths of between 0.50m-0.80m and to depths of between 1.0m-1.10m below ground levels [**Plates 3; 5-12; 14-15; 17-21; 23-30; 32-35; 37-39 and 41-42**].

7.2 These monitored mechanical excavations extended through a topsoil horizon (**001**) and into an underlying natural horizon of clays (**002**). This site deposit sequence was recorded within **Representative Sections 1-7** [**Plates 4, 13, 16, 22, 31, 36 and 40**].

7.3 No archaeological activity was identified on this site and there were no finds.

8. Discussion and Conclusions

8.1 The groundworks for this development, which comprised the mechanical excavation of the foundations for Plot 7 were the subject of continual archaeological monitoring and recording.

8.2 This archaeological monitoring did not identify any archaeological activity on this site and there were no finds.

8.3 The findings consisted of a modern topsoil horizon, which overlay a natural horizon of clays. This deposit sequence was recorded within a total of seven representative sections that were widely distributed over the development site. This deposit sequence was also consistent over the whole monitored area.

9. Effectiveness of Methodology and Confidence Rating

9.1 The methodology chosen clearly demonstrated both the lack of archaeological activity and the dearth of finds and of the nature of the deposit sequence present on this site; while providing sufficient time to record the deposit sequence observed. A more detailed level of archaeological assessment and investigation clearly would not have been necessary. It is considered that the implemented methodology was sufficient to record and confirm both the absence of archaeological activity and the lack of finds and the nature of the deposit sequence present within the area of the development site with a high degree of confidence.

10. Acknowledgements

10.1 Thanks are gratefully extended to of G .R. Merchant Ltd. and their client - Mr. N. Shortland for commissioning this work. Thanks are also extended to Mr. Ian Marshman of

the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team and to the staff of the Lincolnshire Heritage Environment Record for their kind assistance.

11. Bibliography

British Geological Survey, (BGS), (1984), *Peterborough, Solid & Drift Geology, Sheet 158, 1:50,000* Series.

Extract from the First Edition 25 inch to one mile scale Ordnance Survey (O.S.) map of 1888, map sheet no. Lincolnshire 149.14.

Extract from the Second Edition 25 inch to one mile scale Ordnance Survey (O.S.) map of 1904, map sheet no. Lincolnshire 149.14.

Extract from the Provisional Edition six inch to one mile scale Ordnance Survey (O.S). map of 1950, map sheet no. Lincolnshire 149SE.

Extract from the 1:10,560 scale O.S. map of 1956, map sheet no. TF 31 SW.

Extract from the 1:2,500 scale O.S map of 1976.

Extract from the 1:10,000 scale O.S map of 1982, map sheet no. TF 31 SW.

Hall, (2019), *Archaeological Monitoring & Recording at Plot 1 (Plot 3), West Drove South, Gedney Hill, Lincolnshire.*

Hall, (2020a), *Archaeological Monitoring & Recording on Plots 4 and 5, West Drove South, Gedney Hill, Lincolnshire.*

Hall, (2020b), *Archaeological Monitoring & Recording on Plot 6, West Drove South, Gedney Hill, Lincolnshire.*

Ordnance Survey, (2014), 1:25,000 scale map, *Wisbech & Peterborough North, Market Deeping & Crowland*, Explorer Sheet No. 235.

Soil Survey of England & Wales, (1983), Soils of South East England, Sheet 6, 1:250,000 scale.

Appendix 1: Plates



Plate 1: Pre-groundworks, from the south



Plate 2: Pre-groundworks, from the south-west



Plate 3: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 4: Representative Section 1, from the north



Plate 5: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 6: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 7: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 8: Excavation of the foundations, from the east



Plate 9: Excavation of the foundations, from the east



Plate 10: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 13: Representative Section 2, from the west



Plate 11: Excavation of the foundations, from the east



Plate 14: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 12: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 15: Excavation of the foundations, from the south-west



Plate 16: Representative Section 3, from the west



Plate 19: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 17: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 20: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 18: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 21: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 22: Representative Section 4, from the south



Plate 23: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 24: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 25: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 26: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 27: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 28: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 31: Representative Section 5, from the west



Plate 29: Excavation of the foundations, from the south



Plate 32: Excavation of the foundations, from the north-west



Plate 30: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 33: Excavation of the foundations, from the north-west



Plate 34: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 37: Excavation of the foundations, from the south-east



Plate 35: Excavation of the foundations, from the south-west



Plate 38: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 36: Representative Section 6, from the east



Plate 39: Excavation of the foundations, from the north-west



Plate 40: Representative Section 7, from the south



Plate 41: Excavation of the foundations, from the north-west



Plate 42: Excavation of the foundations, from the west

Appendix 2: List of Contexts

001 Topsoil horizon. Soft, mid orange brown silt with occasional small angular and rounded stones. Above (**002**). Recorded within **Representative Sections 1-7**. Depth - 0.52m.

002 Natural horizon, Soft, light orange brown silty clay with light blue grey gleying and no inclusions. Below (**001**). Recorded within **Representative Sections 1-7**. Depth - >0.71m.

Appendix 3: The Archive

The archive consists of:

Two context records
A plan of the Monitored House Plot 7 at a scale of 1:100 and seven section drawings at a scale of 1:20 on one sheet of drawing film
One context register
One photographic register

All records are currently held at:
38 Finningley Road
Lincoln
LN6 0UP

And will be deposited in due course at:

The Collection
Danes Terrace
Lincoln
LN2 1LP

Under the accession number **LCNCC: 2021.25** and site code **WDGH21**

Appendix 4: Photographic Register

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD SHEET

Camera No.	Date Loaded / /	Time Loaded :	Comments	B&W ☐ Col. ☐ Digi. ☑

Frame	Comments	View	Scale	Init & Date	Site
	Identification Shot	N/A	N/A		
1	Pre-groundworks	S		MA 23/10/21	WDGH21
2	" "	SW		" "	"
3	Excavation of the Foundations	W		" "	"
4	Representative Section 1	N		MA 23/10/21	WDGH21
5	Excavation of the Foundations	W		MA 23/10/21	WDGH21
6	Excavation of the Foundations	W		MA 23/10/21	WDGH21
7	Excavation of the Foundations	W		MA 23/10/21	WDGH21
8	Excavation of the Foundations	E		MA 23/10/21	WDGH21
9	Excavation of the Foundations	E		MA 23/10/21	WDGH21
10	Excavation of the Foundations	S		MA 23/10/21	WDGH21
11	Excavation of the Foundations	E		MA 23/10/21	WDGH21
12	Excavation of the Foundations	S		MA 23/10/21	WDGH21
13	Representative Section 2	W		MA 23/10/21	WDGH21
14	Excavation of the Foundations	S		MA 23/10/21	WDGH21
15	Excavation of the Foundations	SW		MA 23/10/21	WDGH21
16	Representative Section 3	W		MA 23/10/21	WDGH21
17	Excavation of the Foundations	S		MA 23/10/21	WDGH21
18	Excavation of the Foundations	S		MA 23/10/21	WDGH21

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD SHEET

Camera No.	Date Loaded / /	Time Loaded :	Comments	B&W ☐ Col. ☐ Digi. ☐

Frame	Comments	View	Scale	Init & Date	Site
	Identification Shot	N/A	N/A		
19	Excavation of the Foundations	W		M 23/10/21	WDGH21
20	Excavation of the Foundations	W		M 23/10/21	WDGH21
21	Excavation of the Foundations	W		M 23/10/21	WDGH21
22	Representative Section 4	S		M 23/10/21	WDGH21
23	Excavation of the Foundations	W		M 23/10/21	WDGH21
24	Excavation of the Foundations	S		M 23/10/21	WDGH21
25	Excavation of the Foundations	S		M 23/10/21	WDGH21
26	Excavation of the Foundations	W		M 23/10/21	WDGH21
27	Excavation of the Foundations	S		M 23/10/21	WDGH21
28	Excavation of the Foundations	S		M 23/10/21	WDGH21
29	Excavation of the Foundations	S		M 23/10/21	WDGH21
30	Excavation of the Foundations	W		M 23/10/21	WDGH21
31	Representative Section 5	W		M 23/10/21	WDGH21
32	Excavation of the Foundations	NW		M 23/10/21	WDGH21
33	Excavation of the Foundations	NW		M 23/10/21	WDGH21
34	Excavation of the Foundations	W		M 23/10/21	WDGH21
35	Excavation of the Foundations	SW		M 23/10/21	WDGH21

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD SHEET

Camera No.	Date Loaded / /	Time Loaded :	Comments	B&W ☐ Col. ☐ Digi. ☐

Frame	Comments Identification Shot	View N/A	Scale N/A	Init & Date	Site
36	Representative Section 6	E		AA 23/10/21	WDGH21
37	Excavation of the Foundations	SE		AA 23/10/21	WDGH21
38	Excavation of the Foundations	N		AA 23/10/21	WDGH21
39	Excavation of the Foundations	NW		AA 23/10/21	WDGH21
40	Representative Section 7	S		AA 23/10/21	WDGH21
41	Excavation of the Foundations	NW		AA 23/10/21	WDGH21
42	Excavation of the Foundations	W		AA 23/10/21	WDGH21

Appendix 5: OASIS Summary Sheet

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

Plot 7, West Drove South, Gedney Hill, Lincolnshire - Neville Hall

OASIS ID - nevilleh1-433333

Versions

View	Version	Completed by	Email	Date
View 1	1	Neville Hall	nhallarchaeologicalservices@gmail.com	24 October 2021

Completed sections in current version

Details	Location	Creators	Archive	Publications
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	1/1

Validated sections in current version

Details	Location	Creators	Archive	Publications
No	No	No	No	0/1

File submission and form progress

Grey literature report submitted?	Yes	**Grey literature report filename/s**	Sent by other means
Boundary file submitted?	No	**Boundary filename**	
HER signed off?		**NMR signed off?**	

Upload images | Upload boundary file | Request record re-opened | Printable version

Email Lincolnshire HER about this OASIS record

OASIS:

Please e-mail Historic England for OASIS help and advice

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Cite only: http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/formctl.cfm?oid=nevilleh1-433333 for this page

Appendix 6: Specification for Archaeological Monitoring

Specification for Archaeological Monitoring & Recording on Plot 7, West Drove South, Gedney Hill, Lincolnshire.

Prepared for Mr. Bob Merchant of G. R. Merchant Ltd. on behalf of his client - Mr. N. Shortland

National Grid Reference: TF 3333 1111
Site Code: WDGH21
Accession No: LCNCC: 2021.25
Planning References: APP/A2525/W/18/3205429 & (H07-0037-18)

Prepared by Neville Hall, Freelance Field Archaeologist & Consultant

March 2020

Non-technical summary

S1 *A scheme of works comprising archaeological monitoring and recording is required during the groundworks pertaining to the construction of a new residential dwelling with detached garaging and access at Plot 7, West Drove South, Gedney Hill, Lincolnshire.*

S2 *The development site is situated within an archaeologically sensitive area and within an area of high archaeological potential. Although an archaeological evaluation in 2008 in close proximity to this development site identified two undated ditches, there is much evidence for known Romano-British settlement activity in the area along with evidence for medieval and post-medieval activity and finds, both from other previous archaeological investigations and from other currently known archaeological data. An archaeological watching brief which took place also on Plot 3, West Drove South to the north of this site in 2019 located an undated ditch. The specific objectives of this archaeological monitoring will be to record any archaeological features, deposits, structures or finds associated with this Romano-British and possible medieval and post-medieval settlement activity.*

S3 *The archaeological monitoring will be undertaken during the groundworks stage of development, which will comprise the mechanical excavation of the foundations and services for the new residential dwelling with detached garaging. Any archaeological features, structures and/or deposits will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.*

S3 *On the completion of the monitoring, a report will be produced detailing the results of the archaeological investigation. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

1. Site location and description [Figures 1 and 2]

1.1 The development site is situated on land off the western frontage of West Drove South at National Grid Reference TF 3333 1111 and at a height of approximately 2mAOD. The settlement of Gedney Hill is located within the modern civil parish of the same name, administrative district of South Holland, county of Lincolnshire.

1.2 The development site is located in a flat and low-lying area within the Lincolnshire Fens. The development site is situated on deep stoneless calcareous coarse silty soils of the Wisbech Series, which have developed on marine alluvial deposits. These deposits in turn overlie the solid geology, which comprises Oxford Clays and Kellaway Beds of the Upper Jurassic.

2. Planning background [Figure 3]

2.1 This document comprises a Specification or a written scheme of works for archaeological monitoring and recording which is to be maintained during the groundworks pertaining to the construction of a new residential dwelling with detached garaging and access at Plot 7, West Drove South, Gedney Hill, Lincolnshire (Planning References: APP/2525/W/18/3205429 & (H07-0037-18)).

3. Historical and Archaeological Background

3.1 Online background research sources were consulted at the National Library of Scotland. A search of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Record (HER) was conducted within a 0.5km radius that was centred on the development site. The online National Heritage List of Historic England was also consulted

3.2 The possible site of a Romano-British settlement is located at Gedney Hill (HER 22295). Ditched droves that are orientated from the north east and south-east from Gedney Hill

are apparently aligned on the parish church. This suggests that this church may be constructed on a Roman site. The wider than normal double ditched drove from the south-east extends beyond the church. The drove running north-east connects with further droves to the south-west and north-east of Ivy Cottage.

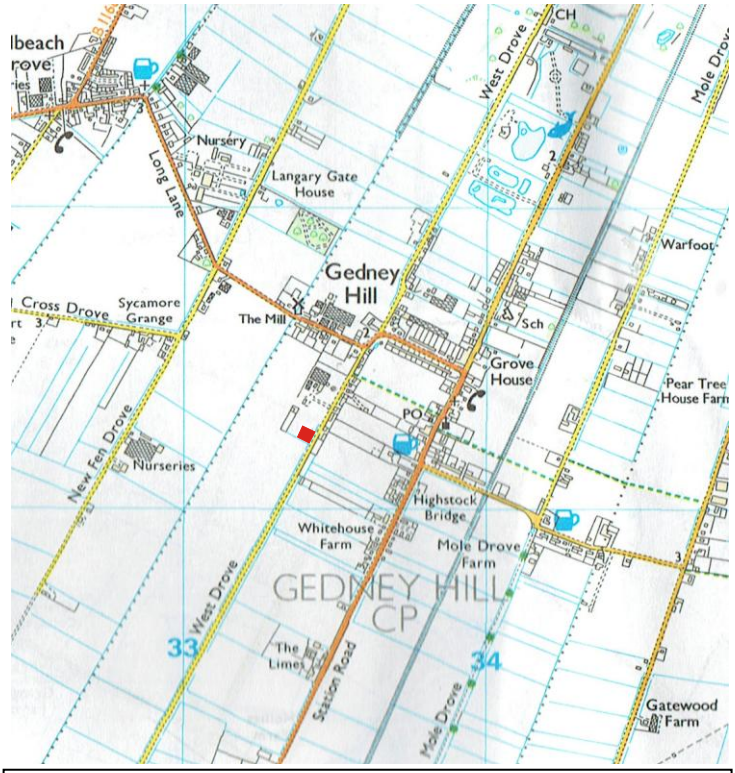


Figure 1: Site location at scale 1:25,000. The site is shown in red. (O.S. copyright licence number 100048723)

3.3 A bronze sestertius of Marcus Aurelius was found in the village of Gedney Hill in the late 1960s (HER 22291).

3.4 The establishment of a medieval settlement at Gedney Hill was indicated by the presence of the parish church of the Holy Trinity (HER 20527). This settlement was linked to the 'mother' settlement of Gedney by a drove road. The parish church at Holy Trinity, Gedney Hill is Grade II* listed and dates from the late 14th century (HER 22297, NHL 1146771). The church underwent alterations in the mid 15th century and was mostly rebuilt in 1875. The west tower is Perpendicular. The chancel was rebuilt in 1897. The church consists of a west tower, a nave with north and south aisles and a chancel with a south vestry.

3.5 A Grade II listed churchyard cross is located to the immediate south of the parish church of Holy Trinity (HER 22290, NHL 1064525). This is of 15th century date which underwent restoration in 1918. It consists of a high base, a plinth and a cross shaft. and is located on the south side of the church. It was restored for use as a war memorial.

3.6 The Red Lion public house in Hillgate at Gedney Hill is a Grade II listed public house dating from the late 17th century which has mid 19th and 20th century alterations (HER 25441, NHL 1359240).

3.7 A tower windmill on Mill Lane at Gedney Hill is Grade Ii listed (HER 22284, NHL 1146795). The mill was standing by 1824 and was worked by wind until the late 1920s

when the sails were removed. It subsequently worked by engine until at least the late 1940s, although the cap and the top storey had also been removed by this time. It is now converted into a residential dwelling and has lost its machinery.

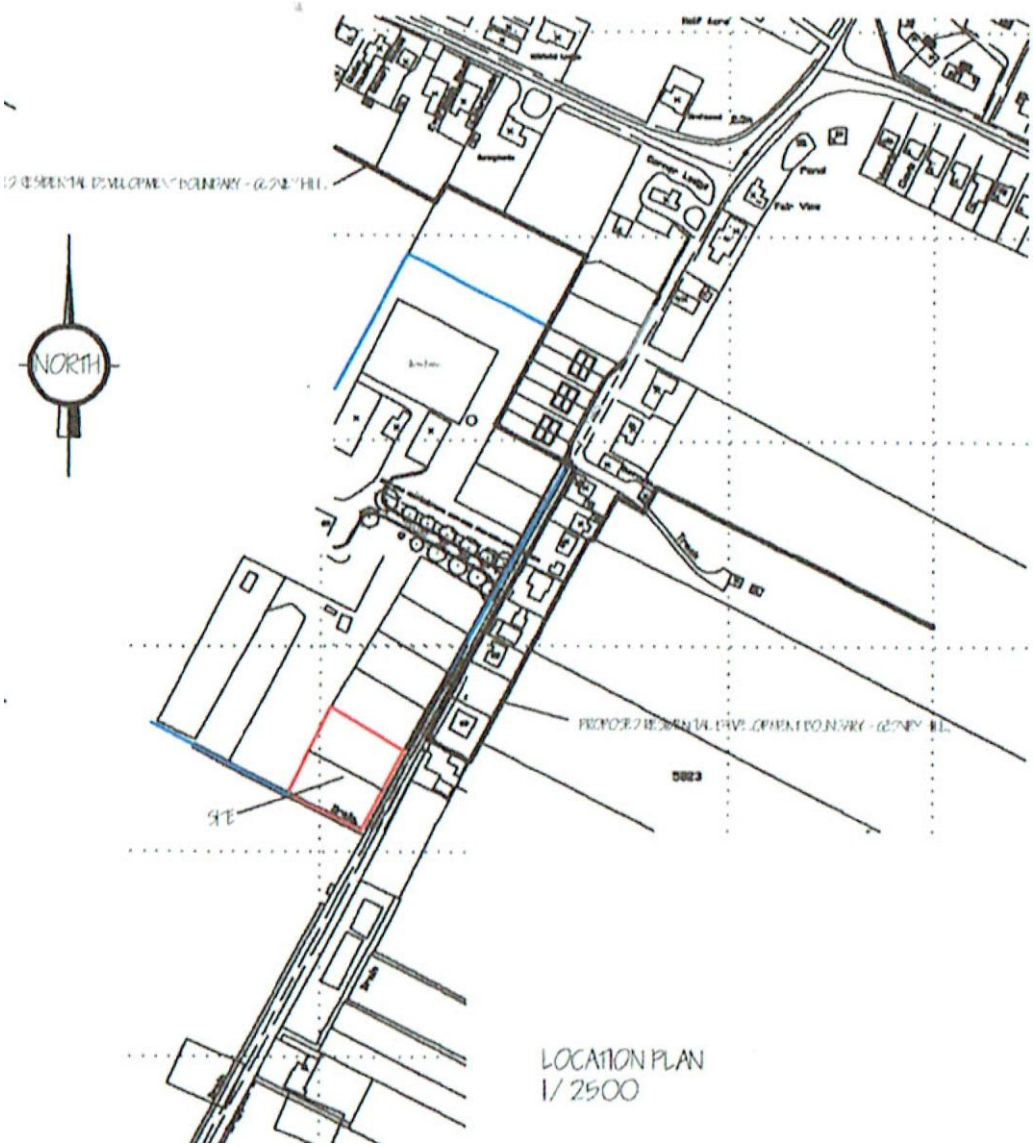


Figure 2: Site location at an original scale of scale 1:2,500, (not to scale), (extract from Architects plan).

3.8 The Limes Cottage at Gedney Hill was formerly a listed building, but is now delisted (HER 25296). This originally comprised three Grade III listed cottages dating from the late 18th century with mid 19th century alterations.

3.9 The former Baptist Chapel at Gedney Hill is featured on the O.S. map of 1904 (HER 25674). The first general Baptist Chapel was constructed at around 1810-11. It was rebuilt in 1883. By 2010, the chapel was disused and was for sale.

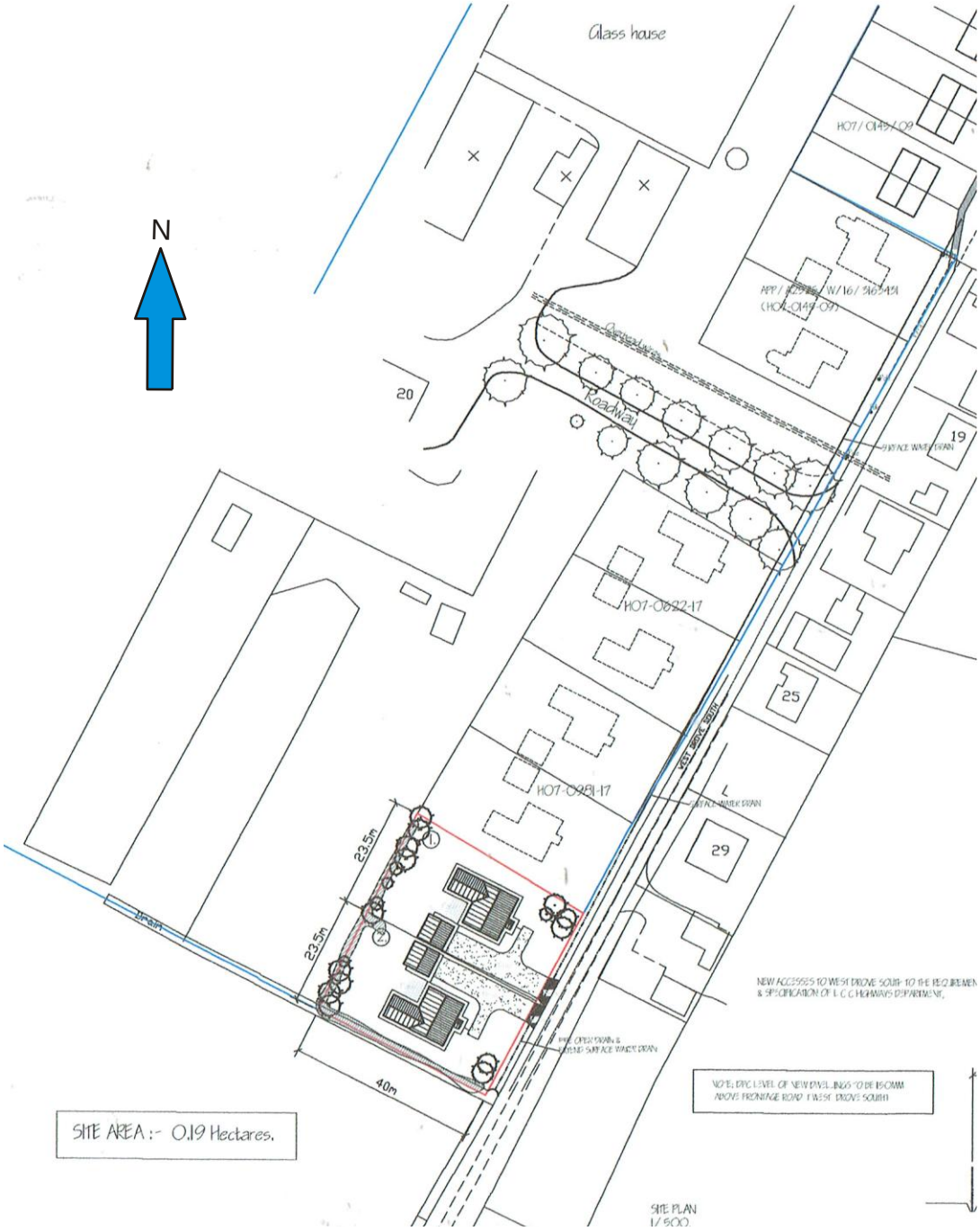


Figure 3: Block plan showing the proposed layout of the Development Site at an original scale of scale 1:500, (not to scale), (extract from Architects plan).

3.10 Whitehouse Farm at Gedney Hill is a partially extant 19th century farmstead (HER 26841). This is arranged around a regular courtyard in an 'F'-plan. The farmhouse is detached with the long axis facing onto the yard. There has been a partial loss of traditional buildings. The farmstead is in an isolated location. This site was the subject of a programme of historic building recording in 2016 (HER 27253, Site code: GHSR16). This was undertaken prior to the conversion of buildings here to residential use. The complex contains two adjoining ranges of mid-late 19th century construction.

3.11 Half Acre or Peacock House at Gedney Hill is a redeveloped 19th century farmstead (HER 26834). This is arranged around a regular courtyard in an 'L'-plan. The farmhouse was detached from the main working complex. The farmstead was in an isolated location.

3.12 An unnamed farmstead at Gedney Hill is a demolished 19th century farmstead (HER 26754). This was arranged around a regular courtyard with an 'L'-plan range with additional detached outbuildings to the side of the yard. The farmhouse was detached from the main working complex. The farmstead was located within a loose cluster.

3.13 The site of an unnamed farmstead at Gedney Hill is a demolished 18th century farmstead (HER 26835). This was arranged around a regular courtyard in an 'L'-plan. The farmhouse was attached to a range of working buildings. The farmstead was within a village location.

3.14 There have been several other previous archaeological investigations in the vicinity of this development site. An archaeological watching brief took place in 2009 at 4, Lincolns Avenue, Gedney Hill (HER 25644-6, Site code: GHLA08). This identified four undated pits. Other findings from this watching brief comprised a possible boundary ditch, the fill of which produced one sherd of 13th-15th century pottery. A second boundary ditch of possible post-medieval date was also found here.

3.15 A single storey pre-fabricated bungalow that probably dated to the 1950s at 4, Lincolns Avenue, Gedney Hill was the subject of a programme of historic building recording in 2009 (HER 25710, Site code: GHLA08). The building was demolished in 2009.

3.16 In 2008, an archaeological evaluation took place on land off West Drove South and in close proximity to this development site (HER 24079, Site code: GHWD08). This archaeological evaluation identified two undated ditches.

3.17 In 2009, an archaeological evaluation as undertaken at Station Road, Gedney Hill (HER 25616-7, Site code: GHSR09). The evaluation identified potentially medieval archaeological features on the northern side of the site in the form of a curvilinear feature or a possible hedge line that produced a single sherd of pottery of late 13th or 15th century date. Other findings comprised a large sub square pit that contained mid 15th-16th century pottery and an undated linear feature or a possible further hedge line. The second possible hedge line yielded a single sherd of late 13th-15th century pottery and was itself truncated by an undated pit. Four further sherds of medieval pottery were also found on the site. These were wasters, but there was no evidence to suggest associated kiln activity on the site. Post-medieval activity was evident on the western side of the site where pits were found, which produced sherds of mid 16th-17th century pottery. Further late 17th or 18th century pottery was found in association with another pit, which had been cut by a ditch or possible pit, the fill of which also produced later post-medieval pottery.

3.18 Undated earthworks have been identified from aerial photographic sources in a field to the south of Gedney Hill Primary School (HER 23690). These include ditches and a small mound. The aerial photographs featured linears on varying alignments and circular features, one of which relates to the aforementioned mound.

3.19 Several intersecting circular cropmarks or soil marks at Gedney Hill have been identified from aerial photographic sources (HER 22294). No finds have been made in this area.

3.20 In 2019, an archaeological watching brief was mounted on the groundworks for a new residential dwelling on Plot 1, to the north, also on West Drove South. This did not identify any archaeological activity or finds (Site code: WDGH18).

3.21 Later in 2019, an archaeological watching brief on the groundworks for Plot 3, to the north of this site identified the line of an undated linear ditch (Site code: WDGH19). This extended on a north-south alignment across the new build area with a return to the east at the southern portion of the build area of the new garage. Two fills were recorded within the ditch, which were consistent throughout its length. The basal fill was waterlogged with a high organic content. This suggested a drainage function for this landscape feature, which also probably functioned as a boundary. The upper fill probably represented a later phase of the gradual silting up of this feature. However, no datable finds were recovered from either of these fills, despite the considerable exposure of this feature during the course of the archaeological monitoring of these groundworks.

3.22 Further subsequent archaeological briefs were undertaken on the groundworks for Plots 4-6, also on West Drove South in 2020 (Site codes: WSGH20 and WDGH20). These similarly yielded negative results.

3.23 Copies of published Ordnance Survey maps were obtained from the Lincolnshire Archives and from the local studies collections at the Lincoln Central Library. The earliest map consulted comprised an extract from the First Edition 25 inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1888. This map shows the development site within the area of a much larger enclosure, which is situated off the western frontage of West Drove South.

3.24 This same site layout is repeated on the subsequent Second Edition 25 inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1904.

3.25 The Provisional Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1950 shows a field boundary to the south-west having been removed by this time, so as to create a much larger enclosure off the western frontage of West Drove South.

3.26 This same site layout is repeated on the subsequent 1:10,560 scale O.S. map of 1956, on the 1:2,500 scale O.S. map of 1976 and on the 1:10,000 scale O.S. map of 1982.

3.27 **Figure 2** shows the current location of the proposed development site.

4. Aims and objectives of the project

4.1 The aims of the project are the continual archaeological monitoring of the site groundworks during the construction stage of development, which will comprise the mechanical excavation of foundations and services for the new residential dwelling with detached garaging.

4.2 The objectives of the project are:

To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the area of the development site.

To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.

To allow the preservation by record of archaeological deposits.

4.3 The development site is situated within an archaeologically sensitive area and within an area of high archaeological potential. Although an archaeological evaluation in 2008 in close proximity to this development site identified two undated ditches, there is much evidence for known Romano-British settlement activity in the area along with evidence for medieval and post-medieval activity and finds, both from other previous archaeological investigations and from other currently known archaeological data. An archaeological

watching brief which took place also on Plot 3, West Drove South to the north of this site in 2019 located an undated ditch. The specific objectives of this archaeological monitoring will be to record any archaeological features, deposits, structures or finds associated with this Romano-British and possible medieval and post-medieval settlement activity.

5. Methodology

5.1 The archaeological monitoring will be undertaken during the groundworks phase of development, and will include the continual monitoring of any topsoil stripping, of the excavations of foundations and service trenches, and of any other ground disturbances. The mechanical excavations will be undertaken using a toothless bucket.

5.2 All work will be carried out according to the Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists (CHIfA) standards.

5.3 All work will be undertaken following all statutory Health and Safety requirements and legislation in operation at the time of the monitoring.

5.4 A Risk Assessment will be prepared for the site.

5.5 Stripped areas and trench sections will be continually observed to identify any archaeological features and/or deposits which may be exposed.

5.6 Section drawings at a scale of 1:10 will be made of any archaeological features identified in the course of the groundworks, including representative sections of trenches at appropriate intervals. These will be related to a site plan drawing at a scale of 1:50, which may also record archaeological features and/or deposits identified. Any significant archaeological features in plan will also be recorded at a scale of 1:20.

5.7 Written descriptions detailing the nature of archaeological features and/or deposits encountered will be compiled on pro-forma context record sheets.

5.8 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for further analysis. All relevant finds will be ordered into an archive. Most modern material will not be retained, although notes will be made of the appropriate context. An appropriate sample of materials such as ceramic building materials will be made.

5.9 Any and all artefacts found during the monitoring and thought to come under the provisions of the *Treasure Act* (1996), will be removed from the site to a secure location, and will be promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

5.10 Throughout the monitoring a digital photographic record will be compiled, and will comprise an overview of the site prior to work starting, and during as well as after completion of the work, and will include any excavated features, sections and other relevant details that aid interpretation.

5.11 Should human remains be encountered, they will be left *in situ*, and only excavated if absolutely necessary. Proper respect will be accorded to these remains, which will be cleaned to allow positive identification. Should removal be required, the appropriate Ministry of Justice Licence will be obtained prior to the removal of the remains. In addition, any remains will be reported to the local Environmental Health Department, coroner and the police will be informed, where appropriate.

5.12 The fieldwork will be undertaken by Neville Hall. Additional personnel may be appointed if required.

6. Post-fieldwork methodology

6.1 On the completion of the fieldwork, all of the written, drawn and photographic records produced by the archaeological monitoring will be checked, ordered, labelled (where appropriate) and catalogued to compile a distinctive site archive.

6.2 All finds recovered during the fieldwork will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which there were recovered. They will also be ordered into (and form part of) the site archive.

6.3 An assessment of significant finds will be made in light of general site information.

6.4 Any finds requiring specialist treatment and/or conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at The Collection, Lincoln, and in consultation with the relevant curator.

6.5 The site archive will be examined to enable the determination of various phases of activity on the site (if appropriate).

6.6 Relevant finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

7. Monitoring arrangements

7.1 Provision will be made for the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team on behalf of South Holland District Council, (the Local Planning Authority) to monitor the works during the fieldwork stage and any other aspect of the archaeological project as required including the post fieldwork analysis and report preparation stages of the project.

7.2 A minimum notification period of not less than fourteen days of the start date of works on the site will be given to the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team.

7.3 All aspects of the archaeological programme will be undertaken in accordance with this project specification.

7.4 Any variation to the project programme in terms of works or recording on or off site will be fully discussed and agreed with the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team.

7.5 Arrangements will be made for the representative of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team for access to the site to undertake monitoring visits, and such visits will be accounted for in the final report preparation.

7.6 The Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team shall be kept fully informed of any unexpected or unforeseen discoveries made during the course of the archaeological monitoring and recording programme.

8. Archive preparation and deposition

8.1 The documentation and records generated by the archaeological monitoring will be sorted and ordered in the format acceptable to The Collection, Lincoln, and to the standards and requirements as laid out in their Guide Book.

8.2 A unique accession number will be obtained from The Collection for the site archive.

8.3 The archive will be deposited at The Collection, Lincoln by December 2021.

9. Reporting procedures

9.1 A report detailing the findings of the archaeological monitoring will be completed within two months after the finalisation of the fieldwork. Any delays will be related to the relevant authorities.

9.2 The report will consist of:

A title page, with project name and location, national grid reference, planning reference, site code, accession number, client name, author and date;

A contents page listing report sections, illustrations and appendices;

A non-technical summary of the results of the monitoring;

An introduction, site description and location;

Planning background to the project;

A section on the archaeological and historical background to the project;

A description of the methodology used in the project;

A section describing the results of the monitoring;

A section on the discussion and results of the project including a consideration of the findings of the project in a local and regional context;

A consideration of the effectiveness of the project methodology and a confidence rating of the results;

Illustrations including plans showing monitored areas, all archaeological features and sections thereof (including trench sections); and

Appendices comprising appropriate photographs of the site and of specific and significant archaeological features and representative sections, a list of contexts, any specialist reports on finds from the site, a list of the site archive, a photographic register and a copy of this document.

An electronic copy of the report will be deposited with the OASIS project (On-line Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations) http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/index.cfm.

10. Publication and dissemination

10.1 Copies of the final report will be deposited with the clients, the local curator (on behalf of the local planning authority), South Holland District Council and with the Lincolnshire Heritage Environment Record (including a digital copy in a .pdf format).

10.2 A note will be placed in 'Lincolnshire History and Archaeology' describing the results.

10.3 The deposition of the site archive will be in accordance with guidelines outlined in the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook (LCC, 2020).

10.4 Should the results of the archaeological investigation merit it, a note will also be placed in appropriate national journals e.g. *Medieval Archaeology.*

11. Other factors (including contingency)

11.1 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 Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team.

11.2 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation, additional financial resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.

11.3 Any additional financial 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 Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team and the client.

12. Variations to the proposed scheme

12.1 Variations to the proposed scheme will only be made following written confirmation with the archaeological curator.

13. Resources

13.1 The monitoring will be undertaken by Neville Hall using standard archaeological field techniques.

13.2 Post-excavation analysis will be undertaken by Neville Hall and where available specialist analysis from:-

Jane Young	Medieval and Post-medieval Ceramics
Ian Rowlandson	Iron Age and Roman Ceramics
Archaeological Solutions Ltd.	Environmental
Carol Allen	Neolithic and Bronze Age
Malin Holst	Osteoarchaeology

13.3 Small finds requiring conservation will be conserved by the City and County Museum Laboratory.

13.4 Recognised specialists will be sought in the event that other data are retrieved in the course of the monitoring.

14. Insurance statement

14.1 Public indemnity of £2,000,000 and private indemnity insurance of £250,000 with Towergate Insurance.

15. Copyright

15.1 Copyright will remain that of the author. Licence will be given to the client to present any reports, copyright of the author, to the planning authority in good faith of satisfactory settlement of account.

16. Ownership

16.1 It will be asked of the client, at the outset, that the ownership of any portable objects discovered in the course of the monitoring be donated along with the archive.