

Online Comment

Application H09-0818-23
Location Ashtree Farm Little Dog Drove Holbeach St Johns PE12 8RR
Proposal Proposed grain store

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Address Historic Places Team Lincolnshire County Council

Date Submitted 06-11-23
For/Against Comments

The application site lies within an area marked in the Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record as containing cropmarks relating to the Roman landscape of the fens. These remains include enclosures, field systems, droveways and water features. Cropmarks features run adjacent to the site and others can be seen oriented toward the site. The site, therefore, has a high potential to contain archaeological remains relating to Roman activity, though at present the site specific information is insufficient to enable an appropriate assessment of the character, extent or importance of any such archaeological remains.

NPPF 2023, para 194 states: 'In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes, or has the potential to include, heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.'

In view of this I recommend that the applicant should be required to submit the results of an archaeological evaluation prior to determination so that the significance of the archaeology can be taken into account in the determination of the application. In this case I recommend that the evaluation consist of the excavation of trial trenches and this section would be happy to advise further on the scope of this work.