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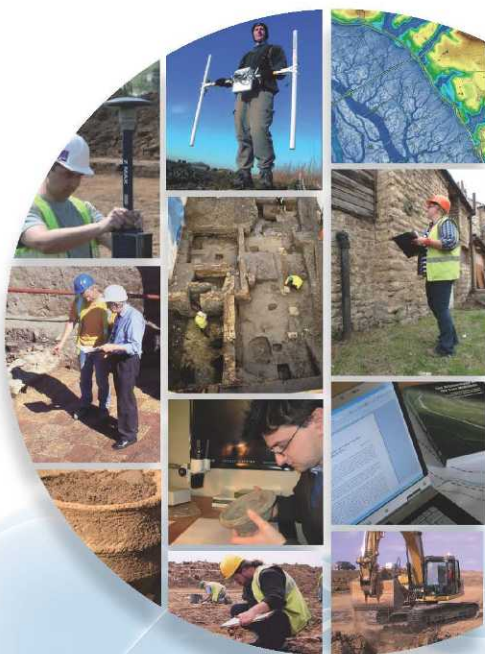
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**WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
ON LAND AT
SNAKE HALL COTTAGE
105 EAUGATE ROAD
MOULTON EAUGATE
LINCOLNSHIRE**

**Planning Application No: H13-0612-23
Grid Ref: TF 3005 1733
Accession No: LCNCC:2024.135**

**PREPARED FOR
MR D WILSON & MS R KEARLEY**



JULY 2024

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	SUMMARY	1
2	INTRODUCTION	1
3	SITE LOCATION.....	1
4	PLANNING BACKGROUND	2
5	SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY	2
6	ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW	3
7	AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	3
8	LIAISON WITH THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CURATOR	4
9	TRIAL TRENCHING	4
10	ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT	7
11	POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT	7
12	ARCHIVE	8
13	REPORT DEPOSITION.....	9
14	PUBLICATION	9
15	CURATORIAL MONITORING.....	9
16	VARIATIONS TO THE PROPOSED SCHEME OF WORKS	9
17	STAFF TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT	9
18	PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS	10
19	INSURANCES	10
20	COPYRIGHT	11
21	BIBLIOGRAPHY	11

List of Figures

Figure 1 Proposed trench array

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation [Trial Trenching] of land at Snake Hall Cottage, 105 Eaugate Road, Moulton Eaugate, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The area is archaeologically sensitive, lying within an area of cropmarks defining enclosures and droves dating to the Roman period. In the later medieval period, a moated enclosure was constructed at the site buildings of which were replaced by the Late 18th century Snake Hall.*
- 1.3 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the findings of the investigation. The report will consist of a text describing the nature of the archaeological deposits located and will be supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land at Snake Hall Cottage, 105 Eaugate Road, Moulton Eaugate, Lincolnshire.
- 2.2 The document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview
 - 2.2.2 The archaeological and natural setting
 - 2.2.3 Stages of work and methodologies to be used
 - 2.2.4 List of specialists
 - 2.2.5 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 Moulton Eaugate is located 8km southeast of Spalding in the South Holland district of Lincolnshire. The site lies within a loose focus of buildings defining the hamlet, at National Grid Reference TF 3005 1733.

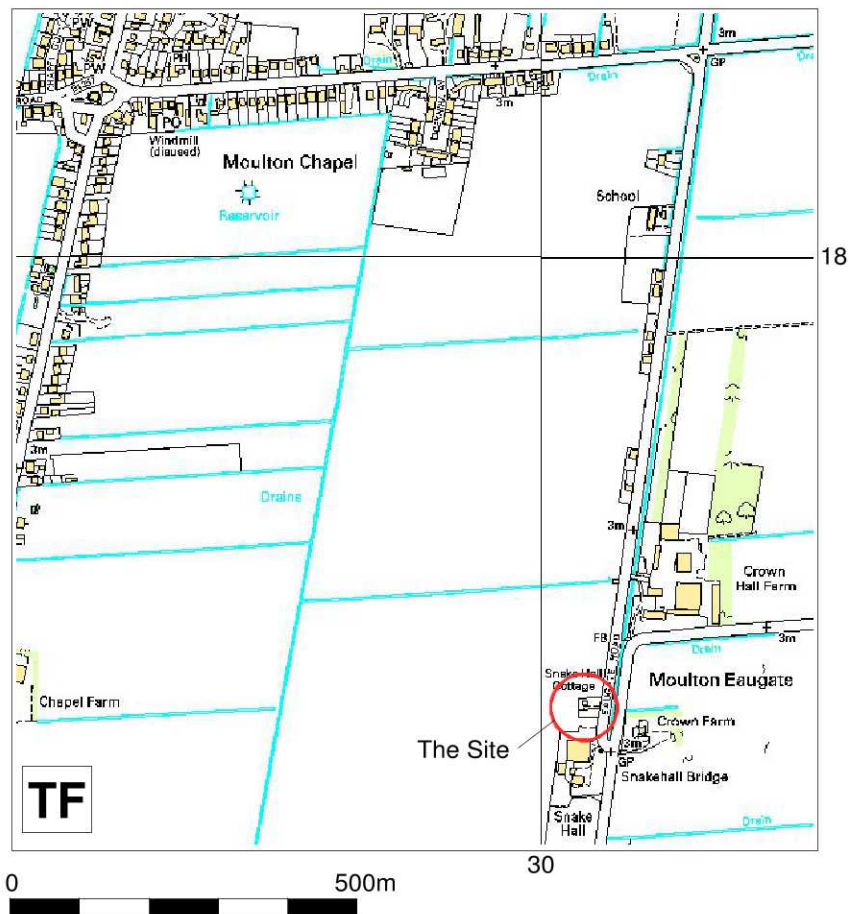


Figure 1 – Site location plan

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The site has been granted planning permission (application no: H13-0612-23) for residential development subject to conditions including the undertaking of a programme of archaeological work (trial trench evaluation) in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) that has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority. The present document provides such a WSI.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 Local soils are of the Wisbech Series, typically coarse silty alluvial gley soils (Robson 1990, 36). These soils are developed upon a drift geology of tidal flat deposits which in turn seal a solid geology of Oxford Clay Formation mudstones (BGS 1992).
- 5.2 The site is on generally level ground within the fenland of south Lincolnshire. Heights are in the region of between 3m OD at the northern end of the Site and 2m OD to the south.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 The site lies in an area of loosely identified enclosures and a drove revealed through aerial photography. More regular enclosures and areas of settlement have been identified to the southwest where pottery of 2nd – 3rd century date have also been recovered (Phillips 1970).
- 6.2 Moulton is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as *Multune*, the name is derived from the Old English and simply means ‘the farmstead, village belonging to *Mūla* (Cameron 1998, 89). Moulton Eaugate is not separately referenced until AD1329 and derives from the OE *ēa* and Old Danish *gata* meaning the ‘road to the river (*ibid.*).
- 6.3 The Domesday Survey records that Moulton was held by Ivo Tailleboise and Guy de Craon as part of a large estate encompassing Weston (Foster and Longley 1976).
- 6.4 During the earlier medieval period, the site lay within the Fens of south Lincolnshire which were not drained until the late 13th century when the Asgardyeke was built to the south of the site (Hallam 1965, 27).
- 6.5 Early Ordnance Survey maps show the site set within a moated enclosure. Possibly manorial in function it may have served as a monastic grange. The moat has now been ploughed flat. Situated within the former moated area is the Late 18th century Snake Hall, a listed Grade II building.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aim of the work will be to gather sufficient information for the archaeological curator to be able to formulate a policy for the management of the archaeological resources present on the site.
- 7.2 The objectives of the work will be to:
- Establish the type of archaeological activity that may be present within the site.
 - Determine the likely extent of archaeological activity present within the site.
 - Determine the date and function of the archaeological features present on the site.
 - Determine the state of preservation of the archaeological features present on the site.
 - Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features present within the site.
 - Determine the extent to which the surrounding archaeological features extend into the application area.
 - Establish the way in which the archaeological features identified fit into the

pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

8 LIAISON WITH THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CURATOR

- 8.1 Close contact will be maintained with the archaeological curator throughout the investigation to ensure that the scheme of works fulfils their requirements.

9 TRIAL TRENCHING

9.1 Reasoning for this technique

- 9.1.1 Trial trenching enables the *in situ* determination of the sequence, date, nature, depth, environmental potential and density of archaeological features present on the site.
- 9.1.2 The trial trenching arrangement has been specified as two trenches, each 5m long. The trench has been placed to avoid overhead and buried services as well as proposed foundation trenches. The figure below shows the proposed location of trenches although these may be moved slightly on site if they are likely to affect buried services, tree roots or the proposed foundation trenches for the new build.

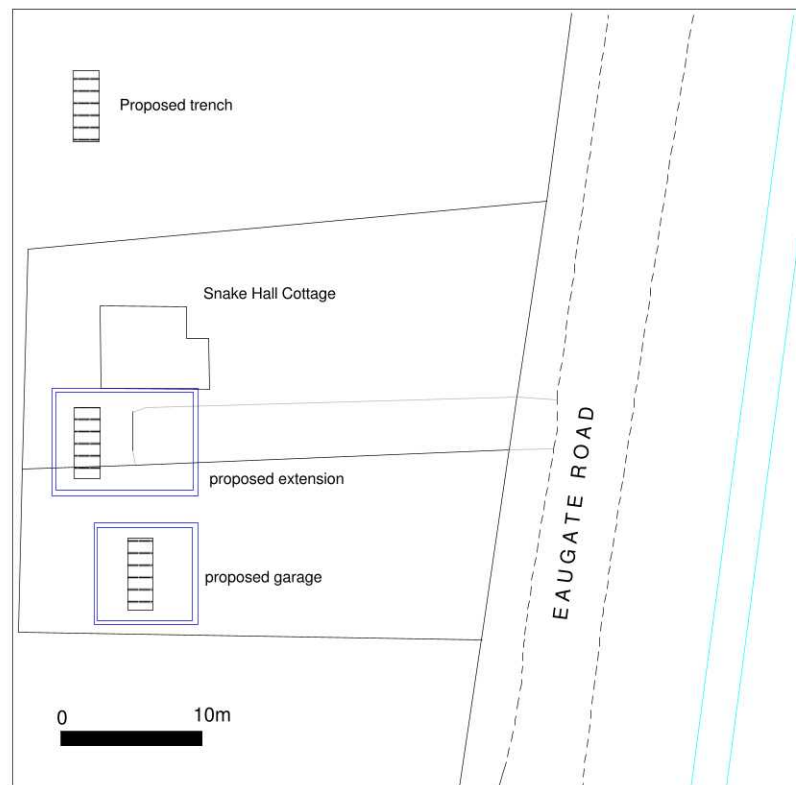


Figure 2 – Proposed trench locations

9.2 General Considerations

- 9.2.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the investigation.
- 9.2.2 All works will be undertaken in accordance with the *Lincolnshire Archaeology Handbook* (2016). The work will also be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practice issued by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). *Archaeological Project Services* is managed by a member (MCIfA) of the institute. All works will also be undertaken in consideration of the requirements of the *Lincolnshire Archaeology Handbook*.
- 9.2.2 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996 (and amended under The Treasure (Designation) (Amendment) Order 2023 to include an object that "provides an exceptional insight into an aspect of national or regional history, archaeology or culture"), will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office and the Portable Antiquities'/Finds Liaison Officer. The archaeological curator will also be informed.
- 9.2.3 Excavation of all archaeological features exposed will be undertaken and recorded unless otherwise agreed with Lincolnshire Historic Environment Team with the exception of repeating features such as furrow. Investigation slots through all linear features will be no less than 1m in width. The investigation will, as far as is reasonably practicable, determine the level of the natural deposits to ensure that the depth of the archaeological sequence present on the site is established.
- 9.2.4 Open trenches will be marked by orange mesh fencing attached to road irons or similar poles. Subject to the consent of the archaeological curator, and following the appropriate recording, the trenches, particularly those of excessive depth, will be backfilled as soon as possible to minimise any health and safety risks.

9.3 Methodology

- 9.3.1 Removal of the topsoil and any other overburden will be undertaken by mechanical excavator using a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket. To ensure that the correct amount of material is removed and that no archaeological deposits are damaged, this work will be supervised by Archaeological Project Services. On completion of the removal of the overburden, the nature of the underlying deposits will be assessed by hand excavation before any further mechanical excavation that may be required. Thereafter, the trenches will be cleaned by hand to enable the identification and analysis of the archaeological features exposed.
- 9.3.2 Investigation of the features will be undertaken only as far as required to determine their date, form and function. The work will consist of half- or

quarter-sectioning of features as required and, where appropriate, the removal of layers. Should features be located which may be worthy of preservation *in situ*, excavation will be limited to the absolute minimum, (ie the minimum disturbance) necessary to interpret the form, function and date of the features.

- 9.3.3 The archaeological features encountered will be recorded on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma context record sheets. The system used is the single context method by which individual archaeological units of stratigraphy are assigned a unique record number and are individually described and drawn.
- 9.3.4 Plans of features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. Should individual features merit it, they will be drawn at a larger scale.
- 9.3.5 Throughout the duration of the trial trenching a photographic record consisting of black and white prints (reproduced as contact sheets) and digital images will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
- the site before the commencement of field operations.
 - the site during work to show specific stages of work, and the layout of the archaeology within individual trenches.
 - individual features and, where appropriate, their sections.
 - groups of features where their relationship is important.
 - the site on completion of fieldwork
- 9.3.6 Should human remains be encountered, they will be left *in situ* with excavation being limited to the identification and recording of such remains. If removal of the remains is deemed necessary the appropriate Ministry of Justice licences will be obtained and the local environmental health department informed. If relevant, the coroner and the police will be notified. The Historic Environment Service will also be informed,
- 9.3.7 Finds collected during the fieldwork will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered ready for later washing and analysis.
- 9.3.8 The spoil generated during the investigation will be mounded along the edges of the trial trenches with the topsoil being kept separate from the other material excavated for subsequent backfilling.
- 9.3.9 The precise location of the trenches within the site and the location of site recording grid will be established by a GPS survey.

10 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

- 10.1 If appropriate, during the investigation specialist advice will be obtained from an environmental archaeologist. The specialist will visit the site and will prepare a report detailing the nature of the environmental material present on the site and its potential for additional analysis should further stages of archaeological work be required. The results of the specialist's assessment will be incorporated into the final report.
- 10.2 Deposits with the potential to provide environmental information will be bulk sampled. If possible these should be from a range of feature types distributed across the site and from well preserved and dated contexts.
- 10.2 Samples retrieved from the site will be sieved in a flotation tank, with the residues and flots scanned for the presence of environmental and ecofactual material.
- 10.3 Sampling and the subsequent processing will be undertaken in accordance with published guidelines (eg English Heritage 2011).

11 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT

11.1 Stage 1

- 11.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the trial trenching will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence constituting a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued and labelled, the labelling will refer to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
- 11.1.2 All finds recovered during the trial trenching will be washed, marked, bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered and in accordance with established guidelines (UKIC 1998). Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at Lincoln.

11.2 Stage 2

- 11.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.
- 11.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.
- 11.2.3 Any environmental samples taken will be sent to specialists for processing and assessment.

11.3 Stage 3

- 11.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the investigation will be prepared. This will consist of:

- A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
- A description of the archaeological setting of the site.
- Description of the topography and geology of the investigation area.
- Description of the methodologies used during the investigation and discussion of their effectiveness in the light of the results.
- A text describing the findings of the investigation.
- Plans of the trenches showing the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
- Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.
- Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape.
- Specialist reports on the finds (artefacts, environmental, economic and industrial evidence) from the site.
- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features or groups of features.
- A consideration of the significance of the remains found, in local, regional, national and international terms, using recognised evaluation criteria.

12 ARCHIVE

12.1 The documentation, finds, photographs and other records and materials generated during the investigation will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the appropriate local museum. This sorting will be undertaken according to the guidelines and conditions stipulated by the museum as outlined in the document entitled '*Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives*' (LCC 20129, Chapter 17).

- Site code MEER24
- Accession number LCNCC:2024.135
- Deposition date August 2025

12.2 Upon completion and submission of the evaluation report, the landowner will be contacted to arrange legal transfer of title to the archaeological objects retained during the investigation from themselves to the receiving museum. The transfer of title will be effected by a standard letter supplied to the landowner for signature.

13 REPORT DEPOSITION

- 13.1 Copies of the investigation report will be sent to: the client; the Historic Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council and the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Record.

14 PUBLICATION

- 14.1 Details of the investigation will be input to the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS).
- 14.2 Notes or articles describing the results of the investigation will also be submitted for publication in the appropriate national journals: *Medieval Archaeology* for medieval and later remains, and *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date. A note will also be submitted for inclusion in the local journal *Lincolnshire History and Archaeology*.

15 CURATORIAL MONITORING

- 15.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Historic Environment Officer for Lincolnshire County Council. They will be given 10 working days' written notice of the commencement of the project to enable them to make monitoring arrangements.

16 VARIATIONS TO THE PROPOSED SCHEME OF WORKS

- 16.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 16.2 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 archaeological curator.
- 16.3 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation additional resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.
- 16.4 Any 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 archaeological curator and the client.

17 STAFF TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

- 17.1 The work will be directed by Paul Cope-Faulkner MCIfA, Senior Manager (Archaeology), Archaeological Project Services. The on-site works will be supervised by an Archaeological Supervisor with knowledge of archaeological evaluations of this type. Archaeological excavation will be carried out by Archaeological Technicians, experienced in projects of this type.
- 17.2 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any

objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

Task		Body undertaking the work
Conservation		York Archaeological Trust
Pottery Analysis	Bronze Age	Dr P Chowne, Independent specialist
	Iron Age	D Trimble, Independent specialist
	Roman	I Rowlandson, Independent specialist
	Post-Roman	J Young/A Irving, Independent specialists
Non-ceramic artefacts		D Buckley APS/J Cowgill, Independent specialist
Lithics (Flints)		T Lane, Independent specialist
Stonework		P Cope-Faulkner APS
Metalworking		J Cowgill, Independent specialists
Briquetage/salt-making residue		T Lane, Independent Specialist
Faunal Remains		M Holmes/J Rackham, Independent specialists
Human Remains Analysis	Skeletal	Maria Leroi, APS/R Kendall, Independent specialist
	Cremations	L Keal, Independent specialist
Environmental Analysis		Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
Waterlogged wood		M Bamforth, Independent specialist
Scientific Dating	C ₁₄	SUERC
	Dendro	University of Sheffield Dendrochronology Lab
Artefact Illustration		Dave Watt

18 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 18.1 Fieldwork is expected to be undertaken by appropriate staff, including supervisors and assistants, and to take about two days.
- 18.2 Post-excavation analysis and report production will take about 20 days. A project officer or supervisor will undertake most of the analysis, with assistance from the finds officer, CAD illustrator and external specialists.

19 INSURANCES

- 19.1 Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains Employers Liability insurance to £10,000,000. Additionally, the company

maintains Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied on request.

20 COPYRIGHT

- 20.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.
- 20.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.
- 20.3 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* and may result in legal action.
- 20.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

21 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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