

WITHAM ARCHAEOLOGY

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL
MONITORING AND RECORDING AT
**LAND ADJACENT TO 158 SIX HOUSE BANK, WEST PINCHBECK,
LINCOLNSHIRE, PE11 3GQ**

Planning Ref.: H14-0362-18

NGR: TF 19886 24999

Site Code: **WPHB22**

The Collection Accession Code: **LCNCC: 2022.190**

SUMMARY

This document details methodologies to be employed during a scheme of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording to be undertaken in conjunction with groundworks and landscaping associated with the construction of a single detached dwelling on land adjacent to 158 Six House Bank, West Pinchbeck, Lincolnshire, PE11 3QG.

The proposed development is located west of Six House Bank and a short distance north-west of St Bartholomew's church. Records compiled as part of the Domesday Survey indicate settlement in Pinchbeck from at least the late Saxon period, while fieldwalking under the Fenland Survey has revealed evidence of Early and Middle Saxon occupation on land to the north-west. The early Saxon site was subjected to further investigation during the Fenland Management Project.

To satisfy the requirements of the local planning authority, the archaeological adviser to South Holland District Council has recommended the implementation of a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording to be maintained during groundworks.

The project will culminate in the production of a report describing and interpreting the findings. After this, the complete project archive will be deposited with The Collection, Danes Terrace, Lincoln.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. This document has been prepared by Witham Archaeology Ltd for J Ingram Developments Ltd. It sets out details of a programme of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording to be carried out during groundworks relating to the erection of a single detached dwelling, on land adjacent to 158 Six House Bank, West Pinchbeck, Lincolnshire PE11 3GQ.

1.2. The specification is designed to comply with the usual requirements of the local planning authority and with guidelines set out in the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook. Prior to the commencement of development groundworks it should be submitted for approval by the Planning Archaeologist, South Holland District Council.

2. SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

2.1. The village of West Pinchbeck, in the parish of the same name, is located in the administrative district of South Holland, approximately 5km north-west of Spalding, and 25km north of Peterborough.

2.2. The site at NGR TF 1925 8801 is located to the west of Six House Bank and close to the 19th century St Bartholomew's church, on land north of Thimble Cottage.

2.3. The geology of the site is Jurassic Oxford Clay Formation Mudstone overlain by tidal flat deposits of clay and silt.
(<https://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>)

3. PROJECT BACKGROUND

3.1. Full planning permission (H14-0362-18) has been granted by South Holland District Council, for the erection of a single detached dwelling on land adjacent to Thimble Cottage, 158 Six House Bank, West Pinchbeck, Spalding.

3.2. Condition 3, attached to full planning permission for the development, requires that no development take place until a written scheme of archaeological investigation has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. Condition 4 requires that the Historic Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council, is provided with at least fourteen days notice of the commencement of work. Condition 5 requires that a final report is submitted within three months of the completion of work on site, and that the project archive is deposited with a suitable archive repository in line with the provisions of the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook.

3.3. The archaeological adviser to South Holland District Council has recommended that the programme of archaeological work should take the form of archaeological monitoring and recording during development groundworks.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1. Pinchbeck is mentioned in the Domesday Book and is therefore assumed to have been in existence prior to the Norman conquest of 1066.

4.2. The origin of the name is uncertain, and may mean either 'minnow stream' or 'finch ridge,' with 'pinc' and 'pinca' being old English for minnow and finch respectively, 'bekkr' being old Norse for a stream or beck, and 'bæc' being old English for a back, used to refer to a ridge.

4.3. An artefact scatter indicative of Early Saxon occupation was revealed by the Fenland Survey on land north of Leaves Lake Drove and around 500m west north-west of the current site (LHER MLI20191). Subsequent excavation as part of the Fenland Management project revealed linear and curvilinear gullies but it was determined that

the occupied part of the settlement probably lay outside the area examined by excavation.

4.4. Evidence for Middle Saxon occupation was recovered by the Fenland Survey at a location 500m north-west of the current site (also north of Leaves Lake Drove). Thinly scattered pottery, fired clay and bone was found in association with soilmarks and a mounded area (LHER MLI120190).

4.5. Another area of Middle Saxon occupation revealed by the Fenland Survey lies c. 950m south-west of the current site. The narrow soilmark was associated with pottery, bone, shell and other finds (LHER MLI20169).

4.6. A double ditched cropmark interpreted as a possible drove road has been identified from aerial photographs at a location c. 500m west of the current site (MLI20188).

4.7. Undated cropmarks visible on aerial photographs are recorded on land east of Six House Bank (LHER MLI20148). The fields containing the cropmarks extend around the Grade II Listed St Bartholemew's church, built in 1848 by William Butterfield (MLI94552).

5. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

5.1. The purpose of the programme of monitoring and recording is designed to:

- Ensure an appropriate level of archaeological supervision and recording during construction and landscaping.
- Allow the preservation by record of any surviving archaeological deposits and artefacts exposed by the development groundwork within the constraints imposed by the contractor's working methods, programme and development design.
- Produce a project archive for deposition with The Collection museum.
- Provide information for accession to the Lincolnshire County Historic Environment Record.

6. METHODOLOGY

6.1. Witham Archaeology will monitor all excavations where there is a potential for disturbance to archaeologically significant deposits.

6.2. An archaeological record will be made of any remains revealed by the excavations. This will comprise written context descriptions, scale plans and sections as necessary, together with a photographic record in RAW format. The latter will include general views detailing site circumstances as well as specific views of individual archaeological deposits and/or features. Representative section drawings will be produced to show the general stratigraphic sequence.

6.3. Our quotation assumes that archaeological recording will take place within the parameters of the contractor's original ground-works programme. If the supervision and recording results in the discovery of extensive and/or significant remains, which

cannot be dealt with adequately within the resources available, Witham Archaeology will notify the client and the relevant archaeological curator so that an appropriate course of action might be agreed (see also item 5.0 above).

6.4. A toothless ditching bucket will be used during all excavations where there is a potential for areas of archaeological interest.

6.5. Pauses to the work may be necessary for the adequate recording of archaeological remains revealed during the excavations.

6.6. Within the terms of the above, any interruptions to the main contractor's programme of ground-works will be kept to the minimum consistent with achieving the project aims and objectives, and will only be carried out after consultation with the main contractor and in strict accordance with the current Witham Archaeology Health and Safety Policy and any specific requirements dictated by site conditions.

6.7. Witham Archaeology will report to the principal contractor and will conform to any requirements for notification of entering and leaving the site.

6.8. The archaeological record will comprise:

- Notes detailing site circumstances at the time of each visit
- Individual descriptions for archaeological contexts, made on pro forma recording sheets.
- Section drawings showing specific archaeological contexts as well as general stratigraphic sequences, produced at scales of 1:10 or 1:20 as appropriate.
- Plans of archaeological contexts (individually and/or multiply) at scale 1:20 or 1:50 as appropriate.
- Digital photographs in RAW format, showing individual archaeological features and overall site circumstances.

6.9. The structure and media of the site record will be in accordance with the archive guidelines issued by The Collection, Lincoln.

6.10. Any human remains encountered during groundworks will be left in situ, covered and protected. The landowner and/or developer, Historic England the Planning Archaeologist and the local coroner will be informed immediately of the discovery. The remains will only be removed in accordance with a Ministry of Justice licence and in compliance with relevant environmental health regulations. Please note that our quotation does not provide for the processing or analysis of skeletal remains.

6.11. In accordance with the Treasure Act 1996 and Code of Practice finds of gold and silver will be archaeologically removed to a safe place and reported to the Coroner and Portable Antiquities Scheme Officer immediately. Where it is not possible to remove finds on the same day as discovery, appropriate security arrangements will be put in place.

6.12. All fieldwork will be carried out in accordance with Lincolnshire County Council's Archaeological Handbook.

7. POST FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

7.1. Post-fieldwork tasks will be as follows:

- Checking and ordering of the site record to ensure a consistent archive
- Production of a stratigraphic matrix
- Cataloguing of photographic and other records
- Processing and dating of finds (together with any necessary x-ray and conservation treatment to stabilize fragile items)
- Compilation of a client report
- Accession of information to the County Historic Environment Record
- Preparation of the complete project archive for museum deposition

7.2. Conservation work on finds will be carried out by the conservation team of the Norfolk Museums Service.

8. REPORTING PROCEDURES

8.1. A client report will be produced in A4 format. The report will conform to the requirements of the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook.

8.2. The report will contain:

- A non-technical summary
- A summary account of archaeological and historical background
- A description of the data gathering process
- An account of the findings of archaeological fieldwork together with an interpretation of any remains
- Site location plans
- A plan(s) of the site showing locations examined
- Section drawings showing the general stratigraphic sequence as well as particular features/contexts, together with plans as necessary
- A selection of photographs depicting the main phases of fieldwork and any significant archaeological features or finds

8.3. Subject to the availability of specialists, the report will be made available within 3 months from completion of fieldwork for distribution as follows:

Recipient	Copies
Client	digital copy + hard copy if requested
Local Authority Archaeological Officer	digital copy

County Historic Environment Record	digital copy
The Collection, Lincoln (as part of archive)	2 hard copies + digital copy

9. ARCHIVE PREPARATION AND DEPOSITION

9.1. In English law all material collected from a site through archaeological fieldwork (except Treasure Trove) is the property of the landowner. Upon completion of the project, Witham Archaeology will seek to secure Transfer of Title of the project archive including finds to The Collection, Danes Terrace, Lincoln. Accession number LCNCC: 2022.190 has been allocated for deposition of the archive by The Collection. The site code is WPHB22.

9.2. The archive will be prepared for long term storage in accordance with requirements set out in the Lincolnshire Archaeology Handbook.

10. PUBLICATION AND DISSEMINATION

10.1. A summary of the results will be published in an appropriate local journal. The scope of such publication will be dependent upon the results of the investigations.

10.2. An OASIS online form will be initiated at the ADS internet site (ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis), in advance of the commencement of fieldwork. A digital copy of the report (pdf format) will be uploaded to OASIS on completion of the project (subject to any provisions regarding confidentiality).

Copyright – Witham Archaeology retains full copyright of any commissioned reports and associated project material, excepting that exclusive licence is provided to the client for use of such material in all matters directly relating to the project.

11. MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

11.1. This specification will form the basis for monitoring by the Planning Archaeologist, South Holland District Council.

11.2. Witham Archaeology undertakes to provide timely notice of the commencement of groundworks, so that appropriate monitoring arrangements can be made.

12. RESOURCES & PROGRAMMING

12.1. Witham Archaeology will supply all necessary recording materials and tools, as well as arranging transport to and from site.

12.2. Witham Archaeology undertakes to comply with all statutory Health and Safety requirements pertaining to the work and the conditions under which it is being carried out. Witham Archaeology will also adhere to the particular instructions of the client and/or the main contractor or site manager). A copy of the Witham Archaeology Health and Safety Policy can be provided upon request.

12.3. The client, developer or main contractor will provide:

- Details of the groundwork programme

- A plan(s) showing the scope of the groundwork, i.e., foundations, buried services, landscaping, etc.
- Any information regarding possible contamination on the site
- All necessary measures to allow safe access to trenches where this might be required by the archaeologist.
- The free use of shelter and other general facilities as might be available on the site.

12.4. The actual timing and duration of archaeological attendance will be determined by the contractor's groundwork programme and by the quantity and significance of any archaeological remains which might be encountered.

12.5. Fieldwork will be carried out by an experienced field archaeologist. The same archaeologist will undertake the majority of post-fieldwork tasks: ordering of the site archive, finds management/liaison with specialists, stratigraphic analysis, and report production.

12.6. All work, relating to artefactual/palaeoenvironmental material from the site will be carried out by suitably qualified and experienced specialists and will be strictly limited in scope to meet the primary objectives set out in this document. The principal specialists likely to be employed on this project are:

Finds Category	Specialist	
Animal Bone	Environmental Consultancy	Archaeology
Prehistoric pottery	Sarah Percival	
Environmental Analysis	Environmental Consultancy	Archaeology
Human skeletal remains	Sue Anderson. Independent Specialist	
Lithics	Tom Lane	
Post Roman Pottery and Ceramic Building Materials	Anne Irving	
Registered/Other Finds	Gary Taylor	
Roman Pottery	Alex Beeby	

12.7. Resources allocated to the project will be as follows:

Fieldwork - 1 archaeologist to attend upon all excavations

Post-fieldwork management, analysis & report – to be completed within four weeks of the completion of fieldwork – approximately 1 day for each day of fieldwork

12.8. Provision has been made for the processing and analysis of a moderate assemblage of Saxon, medieval and post-medieval material (pottery, building materials and other finds) as well as occasional finds from other periods.

13. INSURANCE STATEMENT

13.1. Witham Archaeology maintains Public Liability with indemnity to the value of £5,000,000 and Employers Liability insurance with indemnity to the value of £10,000,000.

13.2. Witham Archaeology also maintains Professional Indemnity Insurance to the value of £2,000,000.

14. STANDARDS

14.1. All work shall be undertaken to professional standards and in accordance with best current practice, the Code of Conduct of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and the relevant CIfA Standards and Guidance for archaeological investigation.

Witham Archaeology

05/12/2022

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