

**WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR
ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND
RECORDING ON LAND AT
YONDER
SOUTH EAU BANK
THROCKENHOLT
SUTTON ST EDMUND
LINCOLNSHIRE**

**Planning Application No: H19-0906-23
Grid Ref: TF 3570 0949
Accession No: LCNCC:2024.14**

**PREPARED FOR
MR R PRICE**



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1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A programme of archaeological monitoring and recording is required during development groundwork on land at Yonder, South Eau Bank, Throckenholt, Sutton St Edmund, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The site is archaeologically sensitive, located in an area of cropmarks indicative of Late Iron Age and Roman occupation. The area was extensively drained during the medieval period and a chapel is first mentioned in the mid-13th century, although may have had earlier origins.*
- 1.3 *The investigation will involve monitoring of development groundwork. Deposits exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the investigation. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for archaeological monitoring and recording of development on land at Yonder, South Eau Bank, Throckenholt, Sutton St Edmund, Lincolnshire.
- 2.2 This document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview.
 - 2.2.2 Stages of work and methodologies.
 - 2.2.3 List of specialists.
 - 2.2.4 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 Throckenholt, a hamlet within Sutton St Edmund, is located 17.3km southeast of Spalding and 35km south of Boston, just to the north of the county boundary with Cambridgeshire, in the administrative district of South Holland, Lincolnshire.
- 3.2 The development site is located c. 500m east of the centre of Throckenholt as defined by the junction of Coronation Avenue and South Eau Bank, on the north side of South Eau Bank at National Grid Reference TF 3570 0949.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The site is the subject of an application (H19-0906-23) for residential development of the site comprising a single bungalow. Permission has been granted subject to a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording to be undertaken in

accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation. This present document provides such a written scheme.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The site is situated at a height of c. 3.7m OD on generally level ground of the Lincolnshire Fens.
- 5.2 Local soils are of either the Wisbech Series, typically coarse silty calcareous alluvial gley soils, or pelo-stagnogleys of the Wallasea Series (Robson 1990, 34, 36). These soils are developed on a drift geology of marine alluvium which seals a solid geology of West Walton and Ampthill Clay Formations (GSGB 1984).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Throckenholt is located in an area of extensive cropmarks which indicate possible Late Iron Age and Roman field boundaries with indications of two tracks aligned to the northwest, towards Gedney Hill. Although more extensive on the south side of South Eau Bank, there is a possibility that these may extend into the development area (Phillips 1970).
- 6.2 Throckenholt is first mentioned in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicles for the date of AD 656. Referred to as *prokonholt*, the name derives from the Old English and possibly means the 'wood from where throcs were obtained', the meaning of throcc being somewhat obscure (Reaney 1943, 278). The Anglo-Saxon Chronicles
- 6.3 A hermitage and chapel were granted to Thorney Abbey by the Bishop of Ely in the 12th century, although the reference to a chapel in a charter is possibly spurious. Three to four monks from Thorney administered the chapel until c. 1540.
- 6.3 Throckenholt appears in a number of medieval documents relating to the draining of the Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire fens throughout the 13th century (Hallam 1965, 33-35).
- 6.4 To the south of the site lies the South Eau, also known as the Lady Nunns Old Eau and the Shire Drain, which formed the principal watercourse in the draining of the nearby fen.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aim of the work will be to record and interpret the deposits and any archaeological features exposed during the development groundwork.
- 7.2 The objectives of the investigation will be to:
 - Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
 - Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;

- As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
- Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

8 SITE OPERATIONS

8.1 General considerations

- 8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the investigation.
- 8.1.2 All work will be carried out in accordance with the *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* (Lincolnshire County Council 2019) and any revisions of such received up to the acceptance of this specification. Additionally, the work will be undertaken in consideration of, and with reference to, the regional research agenda (Knight *et al.* 2012).
- 8.1.3 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MCIfA). Archaeological Project Services is CIfA registered organisation.
- 8.1.4 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, 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.

8.2 Methodology

- 8.2.1 The archaeological monitoring will be undertaken during the groundworks phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement with the opportunity to cease works to record any remains adequately.
- 8.2.2 Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.
- 8.2.3 Finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 8.2.4 Throughout the investigation a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
 - the site during the investigation to show specific stages of work, and the layout of the archaeology within the area.

- individual features and, where appropriate, their sections.
- groups of features where their relationship is important.

8.2.5 Should human remains be located they will be left *in situ* and only excavated if absolutely necessary. Should removal be required the appropriate Ministry of Justice licence will be obtained before the exhumation of the remains. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department, coroner and the police will be informed, where appropriate.

9 POST-EXCAVATION

9.1 Stage 1

9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the investigation will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming 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 referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

9.1.2 All finds recovered during the fieldwork will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to York Archaeological Trust.

9.2 Stage 2

9.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.

9.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

9.3 Stage 3

9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the investigation will be prepared.

9.3.2 This will consist of:

- A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
- description of the archaeological setting of the investigation.
- Description of the topography of the site.
- Description of the methodologies used during the investigation.

- A text describing the findings of the investigation.
- A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the investigation findings.
- Plans of 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 chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10 REPORT DEPOSITION

- 10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to: the client and to Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Record.

11 ARCHIVE

- 11.1 The documentation and records generated during the investigation will be sorted and ordered into format acceptable to The Collection, Lincoln. This will be undertaken following the requirements of the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives* for long-term storage and curation.

- Site code: TSEA24
- Accession No: LCNCC:2024.14
- Deposition date: April 2025

12 PUBLICATION

- 12.1 Details of the investigation will be input to the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS).
- 12.2 If appropriate, notes on the findings will be submitted to the appropriate national journals: *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date, and *Medieval Archaeology* for findings of medieval or later date. In addition, a note will be submitted to the local journal, *Lincolnshire History and Archaeology*.

13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- 13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the County Council Planning Archaeologist. They will be given five days written notice of the commencement of the project.

14 VARIATIONS AND CONTINGENCIES

- 14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 14.2 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.
- 14.3 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.
- 14.4 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.

15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 15.1 The investigation will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on the developers' work programme, and also on the quantity and complexity of archaeological remains encountered. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the archaeological site. Post-excavation work is likewise dependent on the quantity and complexity of archaeological remains encountered.
- 15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of investigations of this type will undertake the work.
- 15.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists.

16 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

- 16.1 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

Task		Body undertaking the work
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

17 INSURANCES

- 17.1 Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains Employers Liability Insurance of £10,000,000, together with Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied on request.

18 COPYRIGHT

- 18.1 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.
- 18.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.
- 18.3 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.

- 18.4 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.

19 **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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