Wrangle Church Close

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Client: Anglian Water

OA East Report No: 1330
OASIS No: oxfordar3-119263
NGR: TF 4207 5058

February 2012
Wrangle Church Close

Archaeological Evaluation

By Tam Webster

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Illustrator: Stuart Ladd

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Date: February 2012
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Fig. 2       Plan and Sections of Trench
Summary

The single evaluation trench was void of any archaeological remains. A series of very shallow modern vegetation features and a trench for a live electric cable were recorded in the base of the trench. A possible subsoil may represent a transitional mixed deposit of the natural clay silts.
1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted at Church Close, Wrangle, Lincolnshire.

1.1.2 This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Louise Jennings of Lincolnshire County Council (LCC; Planning Application Wrangle Church close Vacuum System, Issued 20/12/11) supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East.

1.1.3 The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (Department for Communities and Local Government 2010). The results will enable decisions to be made by LCC, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.

1.1.4 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

1.2 Geology and topography

1.2.1 The village of Wrangle lies on the A52 north-east of Boston and some 3.5km from The Wash. The area of the evaluation is situated in the centre of the village c. 100m north-east of the parish church and at c. 5m AOD, with the land rising to the south and west and falling to the east and north. The superficial geology of the area is Tidal Flat Deposits (Clay and Silts) with pockets of Beach Deposits (Sand and Silt) in Wrangle village.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The site lies within the back, north-eastern, end of a long rectangular enclosure. The enclosure fronts on to the main street of the village opposite the Parish Church and includes the Vicarage and gardens. It is thought likely that, lying within church land at the centre of the village, the area would not have been under plough and may not therefore contain any significant subsoil deposits. Its location also indicates the possibility that it could contain relatively undamaged elements of the early settlement of the village, or of a previous Romano-British or Prehistoric settlements.

1.3.2 Wrangle is documented in the Domesday Survey of 1086, with the current church dating to around 1300. The village included a substantial harbour until the late medieval period and the area contains numerous find spots from the medieval period.

1.4 Acknowledgements

1.4.1 The project manager was Richard Mortimer, site work was carried out and report drafted by Michael 'Tam' Webster. Illustrations by Stuart Ladd. The report was edited by James Drummond-Murray.
2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims
2.1.1 The objective of this Evaluation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.

2.2 Methodology
2.2.1 The Brief required that a single 20m trench was excavated to the base of the topsoil.
2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a wheeled JCB-type excavator using a toothless ditching bucket.
2.2.3 The site survey was carried out by Michael 'Tam' Webster using 50m tapes and ranging poles.
2.2.4 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.
2.2.5 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's pro-forma sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
2.2.6 The evaluation site occupied a flat grassed area bordered along the north-west and north-east sides by mature trees, the south-west and south-east sides by a pathway. The conditions were dry, cold and sunny. .
3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction
3.1.1 A single 20m trench was excavated during the evaluation, the results of which are shown below.

3.2 Trench 1 (Figure 2)
3.2.1 The trench was 20m long x 1.60m wide and aligned south to north. A sondage at the north end of the trench was excavated to a depth of 0.70m. A natural clay silt (09) was encountered at a depth of 0.27m, sealed by a possible clay silt subsoil (02) at 0.12m thick, which was sealed by the turf/topsoil layer (01) at 0.15m thick. The thickness of the topsoil varied along the length of the trench, at the south end was 0.30m thick. A series of shallow modern vegetation features (04, 05, 06, 07, 08 and 10) and a trench cut (03) which contained a live electric cable were recorded in plan and photographed but not excavated.

3.3 Finds Summary
3.3.1 A single sherd of late medieval pottery was recovered from the topsoil and several post medieval finds from shallow vegetation features exposed in the base of the trench; these finds are to be discarded.

3.4 Environmental Summary
3.4.1 There were no deposits of environmental interest within the trench.
4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Trench 1
4.1.1 The single evaluation trench showed that the turf/topsoil (01) sealed a shallow subsoil (02) which may form part of the underlying natural (09). The features exposed in the base of the trench were all of modern date.

4.2 Significance
4.2.1 No significant archaeological deposits were encountered.

4.3 Recommendations
4.3.1 No further work is recommended in the area of topsoil strip for the site compound.
APPENDIX A: TRENCH DESCRIPTION AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

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<th>General description</th>
<th>Orientation</th>
<th>Avg. depth (m)</th>
<th>Width (m)</th>
<th>Length (m)</th>
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<td>Trench contained modern features, devoid of any earlier archaeology. Consists of Turf/topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay silt.</td>
<td>S-N</td>
<td>0.44</td>
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APPENDIX B: FINDS REPORTS

No finds were retained or environmental samples taken.

APPENDIX C BIBLIOGRAPHY

Jennings, L 2011 Wrangle Church Close Vacuum System Archaeological Brief for Scheme of Monitoring and Recording Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team

## Project Details

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### Please select all techniques used:

- [ ] Aerial Photography - interpretation
- [ ] Aerial Photography - new
- [ ] Annotated Sketch
- [ ] Augering
- [ ] Dendrochronological Survey
- [ ] Documentary Search
- [ ] Environmental Sampling
- [ ] Fieldwalking
- [ ] Geophysical Survey
- [ ] Grab-Sampling
- [ ] Gravity-Core
- [ ] Laser Scanning
- [ ] Measured Survey
- [ ] Metal Detectors
- [ ] Phosphate Survey
- [ ] Photogrammetric Survey
- [ ] Photographic Survey
- [ ] Rectified Photography
- [x] Sample Trenches
- [ ] Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure
- [ ] Targeted Trenches
- [ ] Test Pits
- [ ] Topographic Survey
- [ ] Vibro-core
- [ ] Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit)

## Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

List feature types using the NMR Monument Type Thesaurus and significant finds using the MDA Object type Thesaurus together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state “none”.

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**Notes:**
Figure 1: Site location
Figure 2: Trench Plan and Sections

Section 1
Section 2
Section 3

Key
Natural Features

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