

13.0 ARCHAEOLOGY AND HERITAGE

13.1 Introduction

13.1.1 This chapter is a summary of a desk-based assessment (Appendix 13-1) undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) to assess the archaeological potential of the Old Sugar Factory, Brigg, North Lincolnshire (NGR: SE 98801 06145) and the probable impact of development on potential archaeological remains.

13.1 This chapter also summarises the results of a palaeoenvironmental auger survey undertaken specifically within the application area by Archaeological Services, University of Durham (Appendix 13-2) This document assesses the potential impact of the development on palaeoenvironmental remains within the site.

13.2 Archaeological Potential

Methodology

13.2.1 A search of the North Lincolnshire SMR was undertaken for entries within a 1.5km search radius and paleo-environmental deposits within 1km search radius of the application site. Historical maps of the area were also consulted for evidence of historical boundaries and any evidence for activity within the application site.

Archaeological and Historical evidence

13.2.2 The Old River Ancholme has produced a number of waterlogged finds, such as prehistoric boats and trackways (May 1976). Evidence for prehistoric settlement in the area is inferred from concentration of finds rather than archaeological features, as prehistoric settlements are difficult to identify.

13.2.3 The former Brigg Brickworks site, over 1km to the north-east of the application site, has been a focus for prehistoric activity. Worked flints and stone axes dating from the Mesolithic through to the Bronze Age have been identified. A number of organic remains dating to the Bronze Age have also been identified

near the former brickworks, including a timber causeway and a raft. This site has also provided limited evidence of Iron Age activity, with a number of pot sherds recovered during archaeological evaluation.

- 13.2.4 Roman activity in the area is focused around the village of Scawby. To the west of the application site, over 1km away, a possible settlement was identified by a number of finds disturbed by ploughing in the 1970s. A number of coins dating to the 3rd century AD as well as pottery sherds dating to the 3rd-4th century AD have been recovered.
- 13.2.5 Further evidence of Roman settlement has been identified to the east and south of Scawby, including a possible villa. Though these sites have not been investigated further, the amount of slag recovered has suggested that this may be one of the few sites in North Lincolnshire that may have had an associated iron working foundry (Whitwell 1992).
- 13.2.6 Approximately 800m to the north of the site is Scheduled Ancient Monument 32625, a moated manor (Site 23). This is the medieval site of Castlethorpe that is mentioned in the Domesday Book. Limited investigations have identified a number of ditched and walled boundaries of late Anglo-Saxon and medieval date overlain by a number of post medieval ditched enclosures and field boundaries.
- 13.2.7 Just over 1.5km to the north of the application site is the probable location of the deserted medieval village of Castlethorpe (Site 25). The site covers approximately 2ha where a number of earthworks have been identified. Other evidence for medieval activity is in the form of spot finds recovered by metal detectorist; these include coins, copper alloy mounts, a lead spindle whorl and a lead weight.
- 13.2.8 There are a number of listed buildings within the search radius dating to the 18th and 19th centuries. A number are focused around Bridge Street, Brigg while others at Scawby and Scawby Brook are associated with the Nelthorpe Estate.

- 13.2.9 The Old Sugar factory was built in 1928-9 as part of a scheme to reduce dependence on overseas sugar; it was still going in 1983 (Wright 1983) but closed not long afterwards.
- 13.2.10 The application area is located within an area that has been included in the National Mapping Programme which examines historic aerial photographs as well as systematically adding more information derived from modern aerial surveys and some fieldwork (Bewley 1998). No sites have been identified within the application area by this programme.
- 13.2.11 The enclosure map of 1770 shows the application site within an area of already enclosed land. The main road running east to west from Brigg, through Scawby Brook before turning south and running through Scawby is shown as it is now. The field boundaries established by the enclosure act of 1770 are mostly the same as those shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey of 1890.

Palaeoenvironmental evidence

- 13.2.12 Immediately to the south of the application site an auger survey identified lime ponds and lime sludge basins which are shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1946. These are now under the Glanford Brigg Power Station.
- 13.2.13 An auger survey to the east of the Old River Ancholme, approximately 500m from the application site, identified a possible peat deposit but further evaluation demonstrated that this deposit was a silty flood deposit with organic remains. No archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were recovered during this evaluation.
- 13.2.14 Another survey further to the east, approximately 1km from the application site, identified peaty deposits at a depth of 0.5-1.2m below present ground level. Further evaluation work was not undertaken to confirm the interpretation of peat deposits.
- 13.2.15 In January 2009, Archaeological Services, University of Durham were commissioned to undertake an auger survey on the site, the objective of which was to assess whether any peat deposits containing palaeoenvironmental

information were likely to survive within the proposed development area, so that these could be considered within the planning process. Whilst peat deposits and possible evidence of an alluvial deposit from a former course of the river Ancholme were identified within the site, the resulting report (Appendix 13-2) recommends that, because of the limited extent of the deposits identified, no further palaeoenvironmental work is merited in relation to this scheme.

13.3 Site visit

- 13.3.1 A site visit was conducted on 23rd April 2008. The site consists of an area of concrete with a large building on the north, with evidence for demolished buildings to the south of the site.
- 13.3.2 The south-western area of the site is approximately 1m higher than the rest of it, and there is evidence that part of the site may have been truncated to provide a level surface upon which to build the Old Sugar factory.

13.4 Impact on archaeological resources

- 13.4.1 The application site is in an area of low lying land which was most likely wetland until the medieval or later periods. Settlement evidence for all periods is more than 1km away from the application site and it is unlikely that settlement extended into the application area itself.
- 13.4.2 The development of the Old Sugar factory in 1928-9 is likely to have destroyed archaeological remains.
- 13.4.3 The archaeological potential of the application site is considered to be **negligible**, where development likely to have an equally **negligible** impact.

13.5 Conclusions

- 13.5.1 It is concluded that the possibility of there being significant archaeological remains of any period or significant palaeoenvironmental information on this site is **negligible**.

- 13.5.2 The evidence within the search radius of the desk-based assessment shows settlement focused away from the application area, while cartographic evidence suggests that the site was under farmland until the development of the Old Sugar factory, the construction of which is likely to have destroyed archaeological remains, had such remains been present.
- 13.5.3 In addition, the auger survey indicated that only deposits of limited palaeoenvironmental significance existed on the site.

13.6 Mitigation

- 13.6.1 To clarify this situation in absolute terms would require a programme of intrusive archaeological evaluation. However, the Old Sugar factory buildings are likely to have had a considerable impact upon any potential archaeological remains and the proposed development design involves raising the current ground level by 1-2m, which further reduces the potential to impact archaeological remains.
- 13.6.2 A restricted watching brief on the access road and weighbridge may be prudent as the south-western corner of the site appears not to have been truncated by factory buildings. However, even here, the likelihood of encountering significant archaeology is considered to be minimal.