

The Great Grid Upgrade

Eastern Green Link 5 (EGL 5)

Preliminary Environmental Information Report

Volume 2

Part 2

Appendix 7.B Cultural Heritage Baseline

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nationalgrid

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7.B Cultural Heritage Baseline

7.B.1 Introduction

7.B.1.1 This Appendix accompanies **Volume 1, Part 2, Chapter 7: Cultural Heritage** and contains the Cultural Heritage Baseline related to the draft Order Limits and Study Areas for the Eastern green Link (EGL) 5 English Onshore Scheme. It provides details of the draft Order Limits geology, topography, previous archaeological investigations, a historic background, and the archaeological potential of the draft Order Limits. It is supported by a gazetteer of all heritage assets within the baseline (**Volume 2, Part 2, Appendix 7.C: Cultural Heritage Gazetteers**).

7.B.2 Cultural Heritage Background

Draft Order Limits Geology

7.B.2.1 The geology of the draft Order Limits comprises Welton and Burnham Chalk, which underlies most of the area. Soils in the draft Order Limits comprise bands of tidal flat deposits of clay and silt, till, sand and gravels and a small area of till, sand, and gravel between Huttoft and Mumby following glacial activity (Ref 7.1). These soils are fertile and loamy and slowly permeable which can seasonally become waterlogged. Prior to large-scale drainage and enclosure in the 18th and 19th centuries, much of the draft Order Limits and Study Area would have been part of an evolving coastal wetland that transitions to higher, drier ground inland, traversed by rivers and palaeochannels, which would indicate that the preferred location for settlement would be on areas of high ground. This is borne out in the locations of historic settlements along and adjacent to the draft Order Limits.

Draft Order Limits Topography and Land Use

7.B.2.2 The topography of the draft Order Limits is relatively flat at around 3 m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) throughout. There are no rivers that traverse the draft Order Limits or Study Area but there are a series of drains, the most prominent of which is Boygriff Drain (depicted as such on historic Ordnance Survey mapping) which runs southwest to northeast along a similar alignment to the A1111, before turning more eastwards towards the coast.

7.B.2.3 The draft Order Limits is predominantly an agricultural landscape characterised by large arable piecemeal fields. The draft Order Limits largely avoids nearby villages but there is a farm located within its boundary.

Previous Archaeological Investigations

7.B.2.4 There have been seven archaeological investigations which have intersected with various locations along the draft Order Limits, including watching briefs, evaluations, and site walkover surveys. These are summarised below. Heritage assets identified from these previous investigations have been added to the gazetteer where the records are yet to be included within the local Historic Environment Records (HER).

7.B.2.5 The previous investigations include a watching brief on the Candlesby to Trusthorpe Hall Pipeline (ELI1042), geophysical survey (ELI12677) and limited trenching (ELI12678) of a large Roman settlement, and limited areas of geophysical survey associated with the proposed Asserby Wind Farm (ELI12925), which only located remains associated with the demolished Low Barn Farm (MLI116611).

Baseline Summary

Draft Order Limits

7.B.2.6 There are 51 heritage assets recorded from the National Heritage List for England (NHLE), HER, LiDAR survey, and noted from cartographic sources within the draft Order Limits. The Grade II listed Stain Glebe Farm is the only designated heritage asset. There are 22 non-designated heritage assets listed within the HER, which consist of two heritage assets dating to the Roman period, 17 heritage assets dating to the medieval period, two post-medieval heritage assets, and one undated heritage asset. An additional three heritage assets were recorded in the Grimsby to Walpole Preliminary Environmental Information Report, Volume 3 Part B Section Specific Assessments, Section 3 New Lincolnshire Connection Substations A and B, Chapter 5 Historic Environment (AEC300, AEC301, AEC303).

7.B.2.7 There are also two heritage assets identified from cartographic sources, and 23 heritage assets identified by LiDAR.

Study Area A (500 m from the draft Order Limits)

7.B.2.8 There are 66 designated heritage assets within Study Area A. These comprise:

- Three Scheduled Monuments: Castle Hill motte and bailey castle, Castle Carlton (NHLE 1016783), Churchyard Cross, St Margarets Churchyard Saleby (NHLE 1014426), and Churchyard Cross, Holy Trinity churchyard (NHLE 1014425), and Moated site immediately west of Hall Farm (NHLE 1019070);
- Three Grade I Listed Buildings: Church of St Wilfrid, Alford (NHLE 1063026), Church of All Saints, (NHLE 1063692), and Alford Windmill (NHLE 1146936);
- Three Grade II* Listed Buildings: Alford Manor House, West Street (NHLE 1063001), Hanby Hall, 15 Church Street (NHLE 1308757), and Church of the Holy Trinity (NHLE 1360007);
- 55 Grade II Listed Buildings; and
- One Conservation Area, Alford Conservation Area (4519).

7.B.2.9 There are a further 126 non-designated heritage assets that include, but are not limited to, various earthwork features dating to the medieval and post-medieval period, the site of medieval settlements and various post-medieval dwellings, and heritage assets relating to the Second World War.

Study Area B (between 500 m and 1 km from the draft Order Limits)

7.B.2.10 There are 22 designated heritage assets within study Area B, comprising:

- Two Scheduled Monuments: Markby Priory (NHLE 1004987), Moated site immediately west of Hall Farm (NHLE 1019070);
- One Grade I Listed Building, Church of St Margaret (NHLE 1360009);
- One Grade II* Listed Building, Church of St. Edith (NHLE 1308718); and
- 18 Grade II Listed Buildings.

7.B.2.11 There are a further 78 non-designated heritage assets, that include, but are not limited to, the site of medieval settlements, various earthworks features dating to the medieval and post-medieval periods, and post-medieval residential properties.

Indicative Zone for the New Converter Station

7.B.2.12 There are no designated heritage assets located within the Indicative Zone for the new converter station. There are two non-designated heritage assets located within the indicative zone, comprising one find spot (MLI41472) and one boundary ditch (LiDAR_049).

Extended Study Area A (1 km from the Converter Station)

7.B.2.13 There are no designated heritage assets located within the Extended Study Area A. There are 19 non-designated heritage assets located within the Extended Study Area A, comprising four earthworks, one moated site, two settlement sites, one deserted medieval village, one tramway, nine farm buildings, and one dwelling.

7.B.2.14 There are a further 14 non-designated heritage assets, three of which were identified by geophysical survey, and 11 identified by LiDAR, seven of which date to the post-medieval period and four are undated.

Extended Study Area B (between 1 km and 3 km from the Converter Station)

7.B.2.15 There are 59 designated heritage assets located within the Extended Study Area B, comprising:

- Two Scheduled Monuments: Markby Priory (NHLE 1004987), and Churchyard Cross, Holy Trinity Churchyard (NHLE 1014425).
- Four Grade I Listed Buildings: Church of St Margaret (NHLE 1360009), Alford Windmill (NHLE 1146936), Church of St Wilfrid (NHLE 1063026) and Church of St Andrew (NHLE 1147204); and
- Three Grade II* Listed Buildings: Alford Manor House, West Street (NHLE 1063001), Hanby Hall, 15 Church Street (NHLE 1308757), and Church of the Holy Trinity (NHLE 1360007);
- 49 Grade II Listed Buildings; and
- One Conservation Area, Alford Conservation Area (DLI10532).

Baseline Discussion

7.B.2.16 The heritage assets within the baseline are detailed within the Gazetteer (see **Volume 2, Part 2, Appendix 7.C: Cultural Heritage Gazetteers**) and discussed in the context of a timeline of archaeological periods from prehistoric through to modern.

Prehistoric (800,000 BCE to 43 CE)

7.B.2.17 Evidence suggests there has been intermittent phases of occupation throughout the prehistoric period from as early as the Upper Palaeolithic (c.40,000BCE – 10,000BCE).

7.B.2.18 There are no finds of Palaeolithic or Mesolithic date (up to 4000 BCE). Within these early prehistoric periods, it is likely that the landscape was used for the hunting and gathering of animals and fish, and the gathering of plant foods with base camps and field camps (Ref 7.2).

7.B.2.19 Between the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods, it is widely accepted that a transition occurred from transitory populations to a more sedentary agricultural society as people formed permanent settlements near to natural resources. No tangible archaeological remains representative of human activity during this transition are currently known within the draft Order Limits or Study Area A.

7.B.2.20 The Neolithic period is characterised by the introduction of large permanent monuments such as cursus monuments and cairns (Ref 7.3) which are often well preserved due to their large size. While there are no such monuments known within the draft Order Limits and Study Area A, the artefact records, including the Neolithic polished axe (MLI43463), indicate potential activity from this period within Study Area A. The axe was found 25 m east of the draft Order Limits embedded in clay on the foreshore, which is a characteristic location for Neolithic activity. The range of these artefacts is suggestive of a variety of prehistoric activities in Study Area A, including tool manufacture and hunting. The discovery of a stone axe (MLI42542) 50 m north of the draft Order Limits near Ailby further supports the presence of prehistoric communities engaged in tool production and use.

7.B.2.21 Evidence for Bronze Age activity within the Study Area A is evidenced by the presence of two round barrows (MLI85395, located 290 m west, and MLI42528, 320 m southeast) both located in the western end of the Study Area A. These barrows indicate that the western part of the Study Area A was actively used during the Bronze Age and that it was a ceremonial landscape. Bronze Age ceremonial landscapes were often open with long ranging views, located away from settlements (Ref 7.4), and therefore settlement activity would have been beyond Study Area A. Evidence of Bronze Age activity in the eastern section of Study Area A may not have survived due to coastal erosion but was likely more transient than in the west. The coast provided valuable resources such as fish and the salt plains, which encourage temporary exploitation rather than permanent settlement. Fishing is ephemeral by nature, as it uses temporary structures, and salt plains were seasonally used and frequently relocated (Ref 7.5).

7.B.2.22 There are no recorded HER entries specifically relating to Iron Age activity within the draft Order Limits or Study Area A. It should be noted that the inherent nature of late Bronze Age and early Iron Age settlement in this region left a limited footprint in comparison to previous settlement as ceremonial and funerary monuments were no longer being constructed (Ref 7.6).

7.B.2.23 Research has shown a relatively dense pattern of settlement in the Iron Age in the Lincolnshire Wolds which borders Study Area A to the northwest (Ref 7.7), which may

account for the relative lack of late prehistoric settlement within this landscape. The geology, soils and historic landscape character together imply that this area may have been the focus of other activity during late prehistory, such as salt workings and grazing lands. River valleys were preferred locations for Iron Age communities, as they would use the valley floors and flood plains for grazing and instead settled on the high points on the valley slopes (Ref 7.6). It should be noted that no evidence for salt workings is currently known in Study Area A. It is also possible that the lack of HER evidence for Bronze Age or Iron Age activity in Study Area A is the result of a relative lack of archaeological investigation in comparison to work undertaken in the Lincolnshire Wolds.

- 7.B.2.24 No definitive prehistoric remains were identified in the LiDAR analysis. While some of the undated anomalies, such as the palaeochannel (LIDAR_027) or the circular enclosure (LIDAR_035), could potentially relate to prehistoric activity, the LiDAR evidence is insufficient for secure attribution.
- 7.B.2.25 Despite the lack of known prehistoric activity within the draft Order Limits itself, evidence from Study Area A indicates that the landscape was used from the Neolithic period onwards for hunting, tool production, and Bronze Age ceremonial activities. With the exception of the Bronze Age barrows, the activities in Study Area A would have been ephemeral and transient and likely also took place within the draft Order Limits but did not leave any surviving evidence.

Roman (43 CE to 410 CE)

- 7.B.2.26 Within the draft Order Limits there are two Roman heritage assets, a settlement (MLI116296), and a scatter of greyware (MLI41472). Within Study Area A, two additional heritage assets have been identified, comprising pottery scatters.
- 7.B.2.27 Numerous rectilinear enclosures and associated ditch and pit-like magnetic anomalies (MLI116296) were identified near Alford, partially within the draft Order Limits, which have associated Roman pottery and a small assemblage of animal bones. Activity at the settlement appears to include the processing of meat, largely cattle, and cereal. Environmental sampling from one of the ditches indicates that spelt wheat was the main crop grown nearby, which is consistent with the agricultural practices of the area from this period.
- 7.B.2.28 Within the Study Area A there is evidence of probable settlement activity (MLI116295) which survives as ditches and pits. There were no finds that could definitively date these ditches and pits, but they are likely to originate as early as the Roman period.
- 7.B.2.29 Romano-British pottery has been found at Castle Carlton (northwest of South Reston, (MLI42501), 320 m west of the draft Order Limits related to road widening to the north of the main English Onshore Scheme. Such finds typically indicate that some form of activity was taking place here.
- 7.B.2.30 The presence of the enclosures and find spots demonstrate that both the draft Order Limits and Study Area A was an active and established part of the Roman landscape. The variety of artefacts and settlement evidence indicate sustained domestic life, agricultural production, and trade.

Early medieval (410 CE to 1066 CE)

- 7.B.2.31 There are three heritage assets within the draft Order Limits that have origins in the early medieval period. There are two more recorded within Study Area A. Evidence from the

Domesday Book and additional place-name evidence in the wider landscape indicative of a settled landscape.

- 7.B.2.32 The current settlement of Huttoft (MLI43299) and the deserted settlement of Tothby (MLI42529), and the shrunken village of Thoresthorpe (MLI42527), are within the draft Order Limits. Within Study Area A there is another settlement, Thurlby (MLI41486), a deserted medieval village located 310 m southeast of the draft Order Limits. Although largely of medieval date, all villages are discussed in the Domesday Book, which indicates an early medieval origin.
- 7.B.2.33 Huttoft is the only early medieval settlement that has physical remains. Based on excavations to the west of the medieval church, and place-name evidence, the core of the early medieval settlement at Huttoft (MLI43299) was likely focussed on the more elevated parts of the landscape. The name Huttoft is derived from the Old English *hoh* meaning 'a heel, a spur of land,' and Old Danish, meaning 'a house and outbuildings, a curtilage, a messuage' (Ref 7.8). Trial trenching (ELI174) to the west of the church at Alford Road discovered animal bones, mainly of cattle, eight sherds of early Anglo-Saxon pottery and a piece of copper alloy working slag, in addition to a ditch containing late ninth to tenth century pottery. Part of an early medieval road was identified during a watching brief (ELI4061) at Church Lane, which also revealed early medieval and medieval pottery, including cooking pots and jugs. Although these were recovered from modern deposits, it is likely these modern deposits truncated earlier features (Ref 7.9). Dating of the pottery found during excavations in Huttoft suggests that there was a community there from the 5th century to the 7th century. Scandinavian raids across the eastern coast of Britain in the 8th century may have resulted in the settlement being abandoned (Ref 7.10), before being reoccupied in the medieval period.
- 7.B.2.34 Rigsby, Mumby, Alford, Bilsby, Huttoft, Markby, Tothby, Ailby, Saleby, and Thoresthorpe are also all mentioned in the Domesday Book, which indicate origins in the early medieval period. Mumby was the largest settlement in Study Area A listed in the Domesday book.
- 7.B.2.35 Other historic settlements which partially intersect with Study Area A, such as Anderby, and Asserby, have old Norse place-name elements ('-by') which suggest occupation from the 9th century onwards, although there is currently no archaeological evidence to corroborate this. It is accepted that most of Lincolnshire, including Lincoln itself, fell under Viking rule from the end of the 9th century (Ref 7.11), although it is likely that the Lincolnshire Wolds was the focus for most of the settlements, with villages within and close to Study Area A being outliers, perhaps associated with activities such as grazing within the coastal marshes.
- 7.B.2.36 The draft Order Limits contained scattered hamlets, with others in the vicinity, surrounded by agricultural land, that seems to have been used for livestock grazing rather than agrarian agriculture.

Medieval (1066 CE to 1550 CE)

- 7.B.2.37 There are 15 medieval heritage assets within the draft Order Limits. There are a further 37 heritage assets relating to medieval activity across Study Area A. Evidence shows there was an active population during the medieval period across Study Area A, which gradually declined over time. This is likely to have been primarily an agrarian economy.
- 7.B.2.38 As is discussed above, many of the medieval settlements had their origins in the early medieval period, including Huttoft (MLI43299). Pottery evidence from Huttoft suggests a

decrease of activity between 8th and 13th centuries; however, it is possible that at least part of the settlement continued to be occupied throughout this period.

- 7.B.2.39 A motte and bailey castle (NHLE 1016783, 430 m west of the draft Order Limits to the far north of the main English Onshore Scheme extents) was built in the 11th or 12th century either as a post-Norman conquest fortification or as a response to ‘The Anarchy’, following the death of the only legitimate son of King Henry I. Motte and bailey castles consolidated the regional centres of power. This castle was associated with the deserted village of Castle Carlton (MLI42503).
- 7.B.2.40 The remains of the medieval villages such as Huttoft (MLI43299) include tofts, and ponds, and are often surrounded by the partial remains of former open fields, characterised by blocks of surviving ridge and furrow (including MLI98708 which is partially within the draft Order Limits). Together, these show that there was a change of land use throughout the period, and that more of the landscape was being brought into arable use by settled communities. The Domesday Book also records that there was a change in landownership at the beginning of the medieval period after the Norman Conquest in 1066 (Ref 7.12). Based on current evidence, it is likely that large parts of the landscape within the Study Area A remained as marsh, which was most likely used for grazing with settlement on higher ground.
- 7.B.2.41 In the later part of the medieval period there was a switch back from arable agriculture to a focus on pastoral agriculture, as sheep and wool production was more profitable. Pastoral farming also requires a smaller workforce in comparison to arable farming. Consequently, many of the settlements were reduced in size or abandoned, as the inhabitants moved elsewhere for work (Ref 7.13). There is one deserted medieval village within the draft Order Limits, and six others within Study Area A. These are:
- Tothby (MLI42529) partially within the draft Order Limits;
 - Bilsby (MLI41489) 190 m east of the draft Order Limits at its closest;
 - Castle Carlton (MLI42503) 135 m west of the draft Order Limits;
 - North Reston (MLI88683) 145 m northwest of the draft Order Limits;
 - Ailby or Aleby (MLI42435) 295 m north of the draft Order Limits;
 - Thurlby (MLI41486) 330 m southwest of the draft Order Limits; and
 - Rigsby (MLI42798) 235 m west of the draft Order Limits.
- 7.B.2.42 Some village populations declined but survived in a reduced form. Within the draft Order Limits there are four shrunken villages, comprising:
- Saleby (MLI42524) partially within the draft Order Limits;
 - Legbourne (MLI88694) adjacent to the draft Order Limits;
 - Thoresthorpe (MLI42527) partially within the draft Order Limits; and
 - Asserby (MLI41479) 240 north the draft Order Limits.
- 7.B.2.43 These settlements survive as a mix of upstanding earthwork remains and buried deposits. Thurlby, Markby and Rigsby comprise a series of surviving tofts and crofts (domestic enclosures associated with dwellings) surviving as ditches and shallow depressions. Traces of field roads, drainage and quarrying features were identified on aerial photographs of Ailby. Bilsby survives as a rectangular enclosure and a scatter of medieval pottery was also located. There are post-medieval farms which remain in use at these locations which may represent continual settlement at these sites, albeit on a

much smaller scale. The settlement at Alford (CA 4519, 90 m at its closest) was granted a market charter in 1283.

- 7.B.2.44 Across the draft Order Limits and Study Area A there are other features of the medieval landscape including 17 areas of ridge and furrow (MLI87458, MLI87460, MLI87461, MLI87446, MLI88746b, MLI87462, MLI87463, MLI88746, MLI98708, MLI90885, MLI115845, MLI87465, MLI87660, MLI115873, MLI42509, LIDAR_024 & LIDAR_060), and five enclosures (MLI88755, MLI88754, MLI88750, MLI88756, MLI88747). This evidence demonstrates the agricultural use of the area from the medieval onwards.
- 7.B.2.45 Manors allowed for the control of the landscape and for the self-sufficiency of a lord and his peasants. Structures associated with manors include stock houses, barns, mills, and orchards (Ref 7.14). Many of the manors in this area were moated. Six are recorded in Study Area A, at Thoresthorpe (NHLE 1308599 370 m north of the draft Order Limits), Tothby (MLI42849 120 m north of the draft Order Limits), Bilsby (MLI41485 425 m west of the draft Order Limits), Saleby (MLI42525 100 m north of the draft Order Limits), North Reston (MLI42509 395 m south west of the draft Order Limits), and Woodthorpe (MLI42660 70 m east of the draft Order Limits). These reflect the increase of conflict in the period, and whilst not all of the houses are extant, the moats remain as prominent earthworks. Conflict in Lincolnshire during the medieval period may have led to the need for these defensive moated sites. The function and purpose of moated sites may have changed over time, from defensive origins to status symbols and physical representations of power centres (Ref 7.15). This implies moated sites were focal and conspicuous features in the wider landscape.
- 7.B.2.46 It is not recorded who owned the manors at Thoresthorpe, Thurlby, Bilsby or Saleby but the moat and mansion at Tothby (MLI42849), located approximately 120 m north of the draft Order Limits, was the home of the founder of the Grade I Listed Church of St Wilfrid (NHLE 1063026), located 400 m south of the draft Order Limits. The Church of St Wilfrid sits on the site of an earlier church that dates to around 1150. The replacement of this earlier church with a stone structure shows the permanent and imposing influence that the church had on medieval life.
- 7.B.2.47 Other churches are present throughout Study Area A, including the Grade I Church of All Saints (NHLE 1063692 495 m west of the draft Order Limits), the II* listed Church of the Holy Trinity (NHLE 1360007 445 m east of the draft Order Limits), and a chapel (MLI42544, 80 m north of the draft Order Limits). The Church of the Holy Trinity is also designated as a Scheduled Monument. There is a scheduled medieval cross (NHLE 1014426) that sits in the churchyard of the Grade II listed post-medieval St Margret's Church (NHLE 1063011) 450 m southeast of the draft Order Limits. The presence of these religious buildings demonstrates the various levels of religious authority during the medieval period, ranging from regional institutions to places of personal worship, and highlights how this influence declined over time.
- 7.B.2.48 Sea banks were built in Lincolnshire during the medieval period, such as at Anderby (MLI88782 partially in the draft Order Limits) and east of Huttoft (MLI88784 partially in the draft Order Limits), to protect settlements and agriculture against flooding.
- 7.B.2.49 During the medieval period, the draft Order Limits would have had multiple occupied settlements and their associated agricultural grounds. Across the period the population of the draft Order Limits would have decreased as the landlords prioritised pastoral farming.

Post-medieval (1550 CE to 1900 CE)

- 7.B.2.50 There are five post-medieval heritage assets within the draft Order Limits, consisting of two farms (NHLE 1063007 and MLI116611), a drain (WSP_001), the Sutton on Sea to Alford Tramway (MLI43675), and the Grimsby to Boston line (WSP_006). The post-medieval period in the rest of Study Area A is also characterised by increasingly intensive arable farming and small-scale industry, and the introduction of the Great Northern Railway allowed for produce to be distributed across the country. Changes in land ownership and agricultural regimes led to the rise in high status residences set within large areas of private parkland, such as The Yews (NHLE 1063031, 345 m south of the draft Order Limits), a Grade II Listed Building that exemplifies the architectural ambition of the era.
- 7.B.2.51 There are 107 post-medieval heritage assets within Study Area A, including 50 post-medieval Listed Buildings, of which two are Grade I, one is Grade II* and 47 are Grade II Listed. Forty-six non-designated assets were noted in the HER. Four non-designated assets were identified during a review of historic mapping, and seven from analysis of LiDAR.
- 7.B.2.52 The medieval moated sites discussed above continued in use into the post-medieval period, although the medieval buildings had been replaced with later post-medieval buildings. For example, Moat House in Bilsby (NHLE 1360008, 375 m west of the draft Order Limits) is a Grade II listed mid-17th century brick-built farmhouse within a former homestead moat.
- 7.B.2.53 Through the later post-medieval period (17th to 19th century) many residential buildings were constructed, many of which retain their original features and display the change in construction practices over time. Late 17th century residential buildings were typically constructed from red brick and had thatched roofs, such as 114 West Street (NHLE 1360004, 440 m south of the draft Order Limits) and Acacia Cottage (NHLE 1359983, 460 m south of the draft Order Limits). By the 19th century, houses continued to be built from brick but were instead built with slate roofs, for example the Elms (NHLE 1146954, 305 m southeast of the draft Order Limits) and The Yews (NHLE 1063031, 350 m south of the draft Order Limits), both highlighting the evolution of materials and styles within the region's housing stock.
- 7.B.2.54 The post-medieval landscape continued to develop in terms of agricultural use, and there are 13 agricultural sites recorded on the HER across Study Area A dating to this period. Much of the wetlands which had characterised the landscape since the prehistoric period was drained in the 18th and 19th century to allow for planned enclosures. The Boy Grift Drain (WSP_001, partially within the draft Order Limits) is the most prominent drain marked on the 1824 Ordnance Survey (OS) map of the draft Order Limits. Drainage of the draft Order Limits and Study Area A led to the establishment of numerous new farms. All but one (MLI88331, 110 m north of the draft Order Limits) of these are farmhouses or agricultural buildings, including seven that are Grade II listed (NHLE 1063007, NHLE 1063012, NHLE 1308641, NHLE 1063013, NHLE 1308602, NHLE 1359999, NHLE 1360008, MLI98315, MLI116611, MLI125715, MLI118535). All but one (MLI116611, partially within the draft Order Limits) are still extant to some extent but three have lost parts of their traditional fabric (MLI98315, MLI118535, NHLE 1063007). The other agricultural heritage asset is an animal enclosure (MLI88331 110 m north of the draft Order Limits). The agricultural industry in Lincolnshire included the production of rapeseed and processing of barley for beer (Campion, 2021). Historic mapping from 1824 shows that there are water engines (WSP_002, WSP_004, WSP_005) across Study Area A. Historic OS mapping across the 1800s shows that

some fields were divided but that in general there was limited change to the field boundaries.

- 7.B.2.55 Analysis of the LiDAR emphasises this picture of an agricultural landscape, distinguished by numerous ditches and former field boundaries (LIDAR_006, LIDAR_008, LIDAR_016, LIDAR_034, LIDAR_045, LIDAR_052, LIDAR_053, LIDAR_054, LIDAR_056, LIDAR_058, LIDAR_061, LIDAR_066). Many of these anomalies are corroborated by historic mapping, reflecting the reorganisation of farmland associated with enclosure and subsequent agricultural improvements. The presence of narrow ridge and furrow remains also indicates a continuation of cultivation practices, albeit within a more subdivided and managed landscape. Collectively, these remains suggest that the land underwent significant restructuring during the post-medieval period, in line with broader trends in agricultural development.
- 7.B.2.56 During the 18th century, Alford was a centre for smuggling, in particular the illegal export of wool from the surrounding areas, and the import of alcohol and tea (Ref 7.16). The Windmill Hotel (NHLE 1063035, 450 m south of the draft Order Limits) is of particular note within Study Area A. It is a Grade II Listed Building that was built in the 18th century as a coaching house in the market area of Alford which was important for trade. Thomas Paine, who is credited for creating the name “United States of America”, worked in this building between 1764 and 1765. The building hosted the first Lincolnshire “Stuff Ball” in 1785 to promote local manufacturing and industry.
- 7.B.2.57 Alford is the largest town in Study Area A during this period and was also an industrial hub as it had a variety of industrial infrastructure such as windmills, cornmills, and workshops (NHLE 1146936, NHLE 1146943, NHLE 1063030, MLI98856), including prominent commercial buildings such as White and Son (NHLE 1147003, 410 m south of the draft Order Limits), which stands as an early 19th century red-brick shop and contributes to the town’s mercantile character. Some grains were processed locally, as evidenced by Alford Mill (NHLE 1146936, 135 m south of the draft Order Limits), which is a Grade I Listed Building and is the only one of the four tower mills that were built in Alford that still survives. There was minimal expansion of the villages in the Study Area A across the historic maps from the 1800s.
- 7.B.2.58 The railways that were constructed during the 1800s allowed for the crops farmed within Study Area A to be transported across the country, as well as allowing for the movement of other goods, and people. The Grimsby to Boston line (WSP_006, partially within the draft Order Limits) opened in 1848 as part of the East Lincolnshire Railway. Alford Railway Station (MLI43442, 345 m southeast of the draft Order Limits) and the station house (MLI116140, 265 m southeast of the draft Order Limits) were both opened on this line in the same year to serve the people of Alford. The local population wanted a railway to be built between Alford and Mablethorpe, but it was rejected by parliament (Ref 7.17). Instead, the Alford to Sutton tramway (MLI43675), which crosses the draft Order Limits northeast of Bilsby and is roughly aligned to the modern A1111, was opened in 1884 but the trams were slow and unreliable, and it was not able to compete with the Great Northern Railway which was later constructed in 1886. A spur line connected the tramway to Alford Railway Station (MLI43442). Argyle House (MLI43445, beyond Study Area A) was constructed as the office for the tramway in 1883 and is the only remaining infrastructure of the tramway.
- 7.B.2.59 Lincolnshire’s main industry related to supplying food and raw materials to London and the industrial districts across the west and northwest of England as facilitated by the Great Central Railway (Ref 7.18). The tramway closed in 1889, and the railway line and

station closed in 1970. Almost all of Alford station (MLI43442) has been demolished except for the station house (MLI116140; beyond Study Area A).

7.B.2.60 During the post-medieval period, the settlements within the draft Order Limits and Study Area A was scattered with isolated farms that further developed following the large-scale drainage of the area.

Modern (1900 CE to present)

7.B.2.61 Whilst there are no modern heritage assets in the draft Order Limits, there are nine recorded within Study Area A. There are three designated heritage assets from the modern period which consists of a bank (NHLE 1308705) and two war memorials (NHLE 1359977, NHLE 1435370). The landscape in the modern period continued as largely a mix of arable and meadowland, with settlement being dispersed.

7.B.2.62 The Barclays bank (NHLE 1308705, 480 m south of the draft Order Limits) was built in 1906 in the historic market area of Alford. The parkland (MLI92241) associated with South Reston Hall (NHLE 1062987, beyond Study Area A), is 380 m southeast of the draft Order Limits. Despite South Reston Hall dating to the 17th century, its grounds were not shown to be designed as parkland until the 1907 map. The parkland follows the same boundary as the hall's original grounds.

7.B.2.63 As Study Area A is along the east coast of Britain, it was a critical area for the defence of Britain during the World Wars. There are no First World War heritage assets that are recorded in the HER in Study Area A, but there are two Grade II Listed memorials, one in Bilsby (NHLE 1435370, 260 m south of the draft Order Limits), and one in Alford (NHLE 1359977, 415 m south of the draft Order Limits) which were both erected in 1919. The monument in Bilsby and was later added to after the Second World War to include one more person.

7.B.2.64 As part of Britain's anti-invasion measures during the Second World War defence, pillboxes were built along the east coastal region, one of which is located approximately 160 m south of the draft Order Limits and is still extant (MLI115847). Cropmarks and earthworks of searchlight batteries (MLI87702, 350 m southeast of the draft Order Limits) and aircraft obstruction lighting (MLI88753, 80 m west of the draft Order Limits) have been identified, but these areas have since been reused for agriculture. RAF Strubby (MLI88710, 50 m north of the draft Order Limits for a small section to the north of the main English Onshore Scheme), the most eastern of Lincolnshire's airfields, opened in April 1944 and played a significant role during the Second World War. Despite being a defensive landscape at this time, Lincolnshire was not subject to a high density of bombing raids as it was largely rural and settlement was dispersed (Ref 7.19).

7.B.2.65 In the inter war years, Land Utilisation Surveys from the across the 1930s categorise the draft Order Limits and Study Area A as being predominantly a mix of arable and meadow land. Along the coastline, it is marked as heath and moorland. All of the villages and farms in the draft Order Limits and Study Area A are labelled as housing that has garden space large enough to able to produce fruits or vegetables. The market area of Alford is the only exception to this and is noted as having a high density of housing or industry which has made this specific area agriculturally unproductive. This is a continuation of use from the post-medieval period.

7.B.2.66 In the 1990s, major drainage works were undertaken and some of these works survive as a series of semi-circular mounds (MLI90835). Anomalies identified on the LiDAR of modern date include the footprint of a former construction compound (LIDAR_001), which was in use until 2019. These remains are not considered archaeological in nature

but are indicative of recent changes in land use. Their presence demonstrates the continued adaptation of the area for industrial or infrastructural purposes.

7.B.2.67 The draft Order Limits during the modern period can be characterised by arable and meadowland and dispersed settlements, which is a continuation of the draft Order Limits use in the post-medieval period.

Undated

7.B.2.68 A number of anomalies identified within the draft Order Limits from analysis of LiDAR data remain undated (LIDAR_025, LIDAR_046, LIDAR_050, LIDAR_051, LIDAR_071, LIDAR_077). These anomalies represent surviving earthworks, but due to the lack of diagnostic evidence, they cannot be securely assigned to a specific archaeological period. They may represent former boundaries, enclosures, or drainage systems, with their precise date and function remaining uncertain.

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