



between Grantham and Newark-on-Trent before the railway era. Much older is Sewstern Lane, which can be traced south from Long Bennington to Greetham in Rutland (see previous chapters). The route is almost certainly prehistoric in origin and is thought to have extended originally to a Trent crossing. When the Great North Road became the main north-south route in the Medieval period, Sewstern Lane declined in importance but survived through later centuries as a drovers' road. Today, it forms part of the Viking Way long distance footpath, though sadly is heavily rutted by recreational off-roading in places. Neither of these old routes has Roman associations

here – the Great North Road parts company with Ermine Street at Colsterworth, whence the Roman route to Doncaster and York was via Lincoln, while only the southern stretch of Sewstern Lane is regarded by scholars as having been Romanised. The main Roman road across the

ABOVE LEFT: **Beckingham village**

ABOVE RIGHT: **Claypole church**

FACING PAGE: **River Witham, Haddington / Aubourn**