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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF DEVELOPMENT AT PLOT 3,
GOLDEN BONDAGE FARM,
LITTLE STEEPING,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(LST 98)**



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES



Lincolnshire County Council
Archaeology Section

26 JAN 99
over 26/1

EVENT L13461
SOURCES L18168 L1816
44503 L183311 Med
44504 L183312 Undated
44505 L183313 Med

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF DEVELOPMENT AT PLOT 3,
GOLDEN BONDAGE FARM,
LITTLE STEEPING,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(LST 98)**

Work Undertaken For
Mrs C. Simpson

Report Compiled by
P. Cope-Faulkner

January 1999

Planning Application No: S/104/0937/98
National Grid Reference: TF 4327 6298
City and County Museum Accession No: 276.98

A.P.S. Report No: 3/99

*Archaeological Project Services is an IFA Registered Archaeological
Organisation (No. 21)*

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the construction of a house at Golden Bondage Farm, Little Steeping, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of the groundworks associated with the development.

Prehistoric flint tools have been found south of the village and a Romano-British (AD 50-410) saltern is believed to be located to the southwest. The development lies within the medieval (AD 1066-1500) village and aerial photographs indicate the presence of former plots of land.

The investigations revealed two medieval ditches and a single undated ditch or pit. Finds retrieved from the investigation include include medieval, post-medieval and recent pottery, as well as animal bone and glass bottles.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as 'a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons within a specified area, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed.' (IFA 1997).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mrs C. Simpson to undertake an archaeological watching brief during construction of a new house at Plot 3, Golden Bondage Farm, Little Steeping, East Lindsey District, Lincolnshire. Approval for

the development was sought through the submission of planning application S/104/0937/98. The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a specification designed by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1).

2.3 Topography and Geology

Little Steeping is located 17km west of Skegness and 21km northeast of Boston in the administrative district of East Lindsey, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The site is located within the village core (Fig. 2). The development site is situated at a height of c. 3.5m OD on a slope down to the north and is centred on National Grid Reference TF 4327 6298. Little Steeping is located alongside the Steeping river at the southern tip of the Lincolnshire Wolds.

Local soils are of the Salop Association, typically stagnogley soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 305) and the Downholland 1 Association, clayey humic alluvial gley soils (*ibid.* 166). The centre of the village lies on a drift geology of boulder clay, formed during the last ice age. Away from the urban centre are younger marine alluvial deposits. Beneath drift deposits is a solid geology of Jurassic Kimmeridge Clays (BGS 1996).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Little Steeping is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric to modern periods. Prehistoric flint tools comprising scrapers with waste flakes and cores are known from the south of the site (HTL parish records).

A possible Romano-British saltern (salt producing site) has been recorded southeast of the development area, although has since been destroyed (SMR 42229).

Little Steeping is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086. Referred to as *Steeping*, the name is derived from the Old English 'place of Steapa's people' (Ekwall 1974, 441). At the time of Domesday the land was owned by Count Alan and Ivo Taillebois and along with Halton contained 200 acres of meadow, a church and 4 mills (Foster and Longley 1976).

The only extant remains of the medieval period are St. Andrew's church, which dates from the 14th century (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 532). Adjacent to the church is a medieval stone cross, which is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (County No. 2269). Earthworks situated northwest of the development are believed to be remains of medieval fishponds (SMR 42230). Aerial photographs of the vicinity indicate former medieval house plots within the modern village centre. Medieval pottery, mainly Toynton types, have been found from south of the village.

3. AIMS

The requirements of the watching brief, as described in the specification (Appendix 1), were to record and interpret archaeological deposits, if present, and to determine their date, sequence, function and origin.

4. METHODS

Trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator to a depth of 1.1m as required by the development. Following excavation, the sides of the trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were partially or fully excavated by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. The depth and thickness of each deposit were measured from the ground surface. Each archaeological deposit

or feature revealed was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. Recording of deposits encountered during the watching brief was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

Finds recovered from excavated deposits were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 3). Records of the deposits and features recognised during the watching brief were examined. Phasing was assigned based on artefact dating and the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

5. RESULTS

Following specialist descriptions, four phases of activity were identified:

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Probable medieval deposits
Phase 3	Undated archaeological deposits
Phase 4	Modern deposits

Archaeological contexts are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

Phase 1 Natural deposits

The earliest deposits encountered were brownish yellow sandy silt (004) and brown silt and sand (009). Both these deposits are believed to be alluvium.

Phase 2 Probable medieval deposits

Cut into the underlying natural was a north-south aligned linear ditch (005) which was

traceable the full length (15m) of the development (Fig. 3). This ditch was 1.95m wide and over 0.25m deep and contained a single fill of greyish brown sandy silt (003). A single 13th - 14th century pot fragment was retrieved from the fill.

Aligned east-west across the foundation trenches was a second ditch (012 and 014). Measuring 8.3m long, this ditch was between 1.1m and 1.9m wide and was greater than 0.3m deep. No physical relationship was established with the north-south ditch (005). Greyish brown silt or sandy silt (010 and 011) constituted the fill of the ditch (Fig. 4, Sections 2 and 3). A single sherd of unabraded 14th - 15th century pottery was retrieved from fill (010).

Phase 3 Undated archaeological deposits

Also aligned east-west was a third linear feature (013). This did not extend far into the foundation trenches and, therefore, may possibly be a pit. Measuring 5m wide, this was filled with greyish brown sandy silt (015), black charcoal and silt (008) and mid brown silt (007).

Phase 4 Modern deposits

Sealing all archaeological deposits was a layer of mid yellowish brown sandy silt (002) up to 0.42m thick and identified as the subsoil. Above ditch or pit (013), the subsoil differed slightly and may indicate an area of disturbance (006). Above the subsoil was a 0.3m thick greyish brown silt topsoil (001) which contained several complete 19th -20th century glass pottles and pieces of pottery.

6. DISCUSSION

Deposits of natural sand and silts (Phase 1), were the earliest deposits encountered

during the watching brief. Identified as the underlying alluvium, it is possible these formed as a result of marine inundation.

Two probable medieval ditches represent the earliest (Phase 2) archaeological features encountered on the site. One is aligned north-south, the other east-west and represent land divisions. No relationship was established between these two features although the presence of Toynton All Saints pottery may suggest that the east-west ditch is later.

An undated ditch or pit (Phase 3) was also recorded on an east-west alignment. This may indicate another land division. The relationship to the medieval ditches was not ascertained due to the site conditions being generally very poor.

Several finds were recorded from the site and comprise medieval, post-medieval and 20th century pottery fragments. Other finds include glass bottles and animal bone. Such finds, derived from the topsoil, may indicate no more than discarded rubbish incorporated into midden heaps and later spread on the land to improve soil fertility. However, the retrieval of complete glass bottles suggest the presence of a midden which was not subsequently disturbed.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were carried out on land at Little Steeping because the site lies within an area of medieval settlement and earlier remains.

Three ditches represent the archaeological features recorded on the site. Two are medieval while the third remains undated. No waterlogged features were found which indicates that few environmental indicators (snails, seeds, pollen *etc.*) will survive other

than through charring.

This represents the first archaeological intervention in Little Steeping and indicates that there is potential for survival of archaeological features in the area.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mrs C Simpson who commissioned the fieldwork and post excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Denise Drury and this report was edited by Tom Lane MIFA. Sarah Grundy kindly provided information from the County Sites and Monuments Record maintained by the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council. Hilary Healey commented upon the pottery.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Denise Drury
Supervisor: Fiona Walker
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
Post-excavation Analyst: Paul Cope-Faulkner

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Pevsner, N. and Harris, J., 1989, *Lincolnshire, The Buildings of England* (2nd edition revised Antram, N.)

11. ABBREVIATIONS

BGS British Geological Survey

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

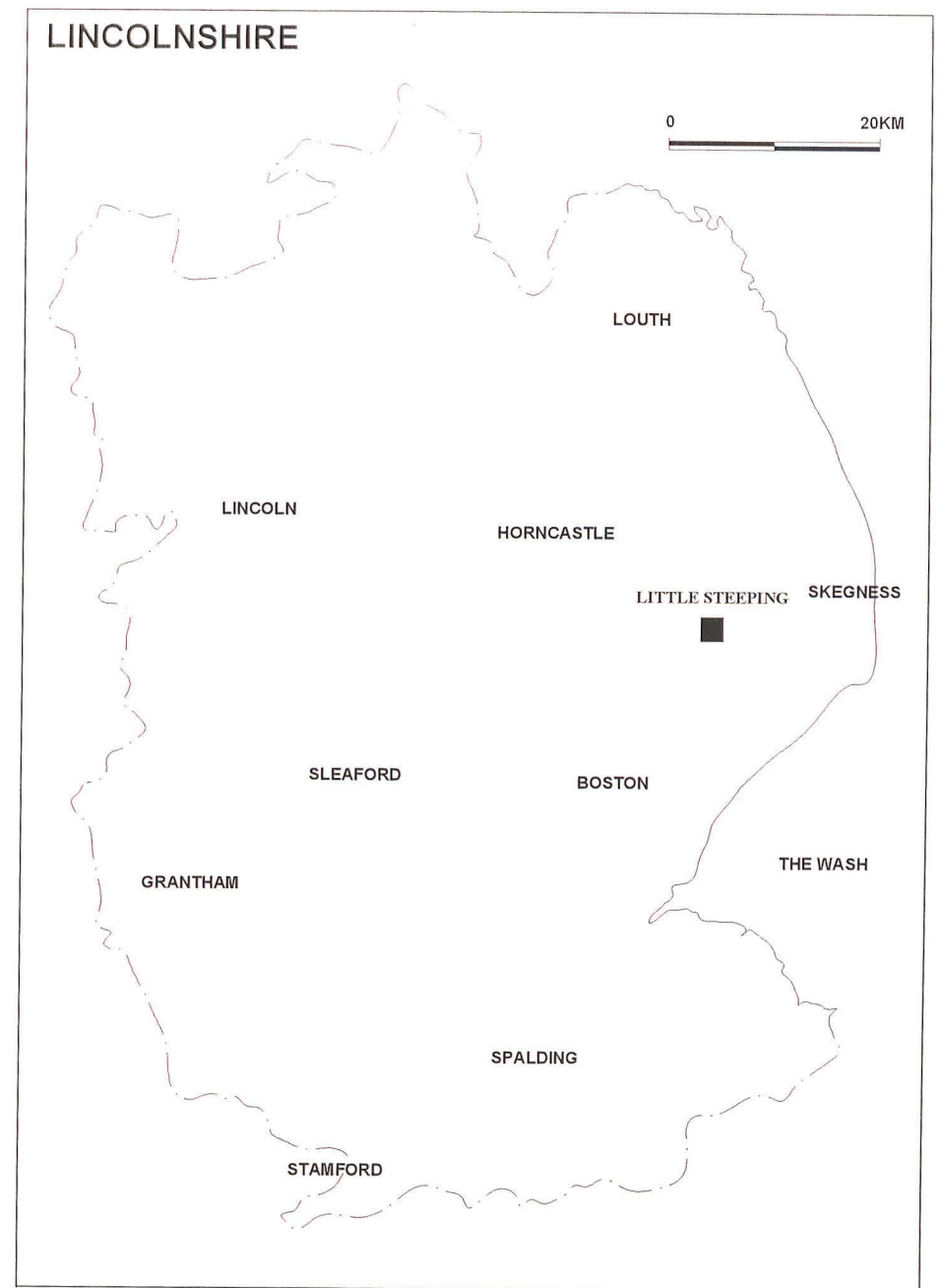
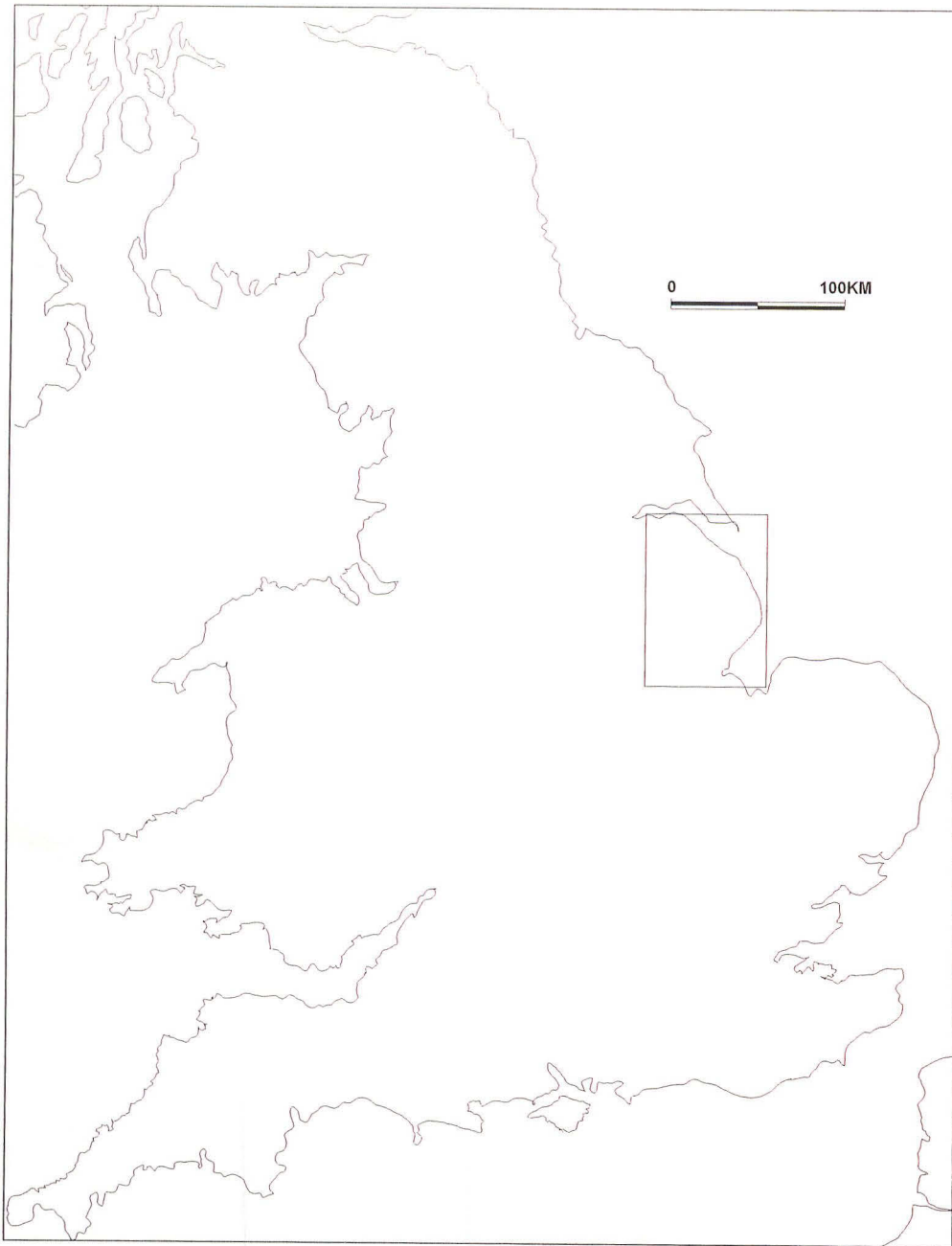
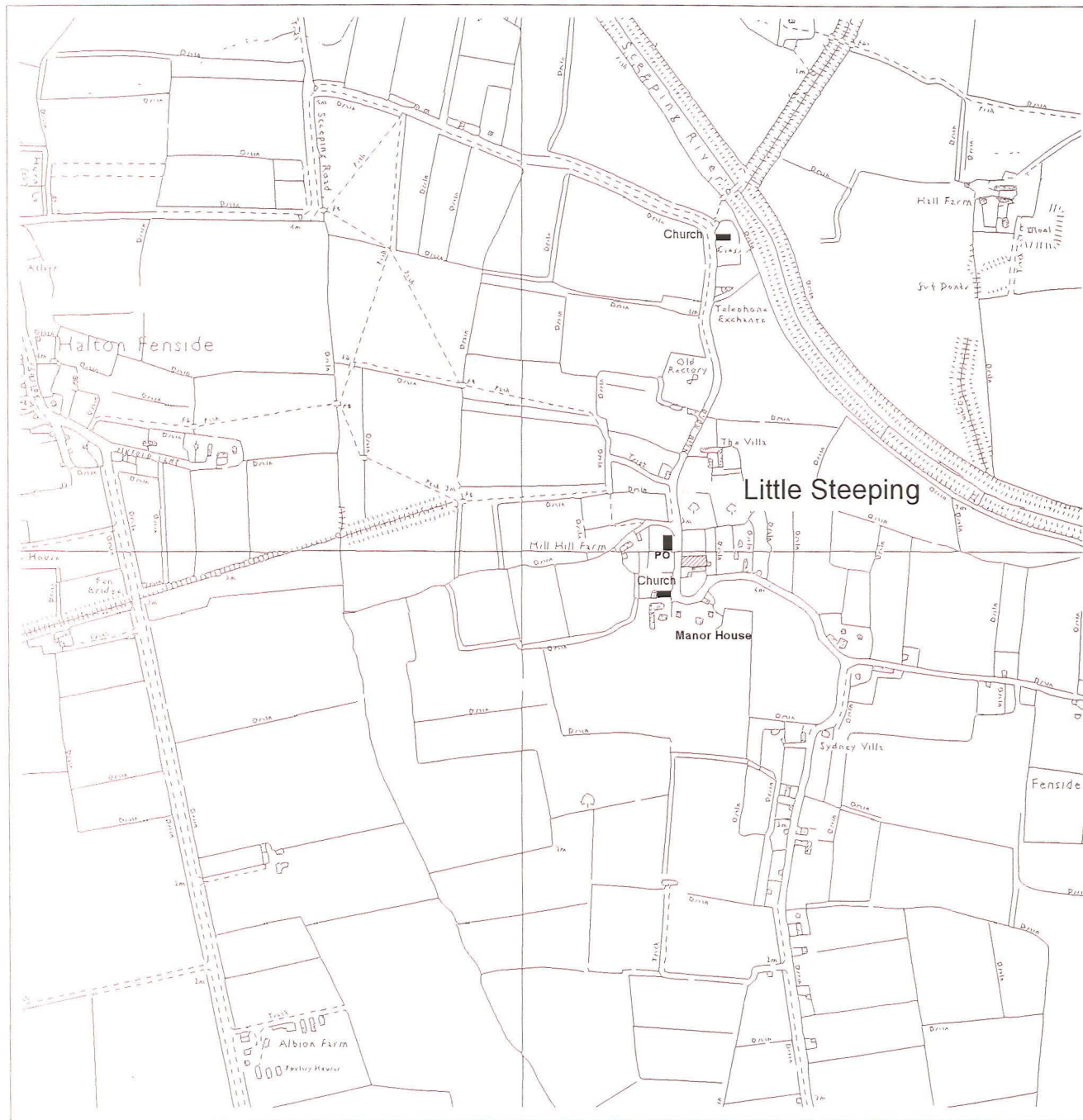


Figure 1 - General location map



 **Development Area**

Figure 2 - Site Location Plan

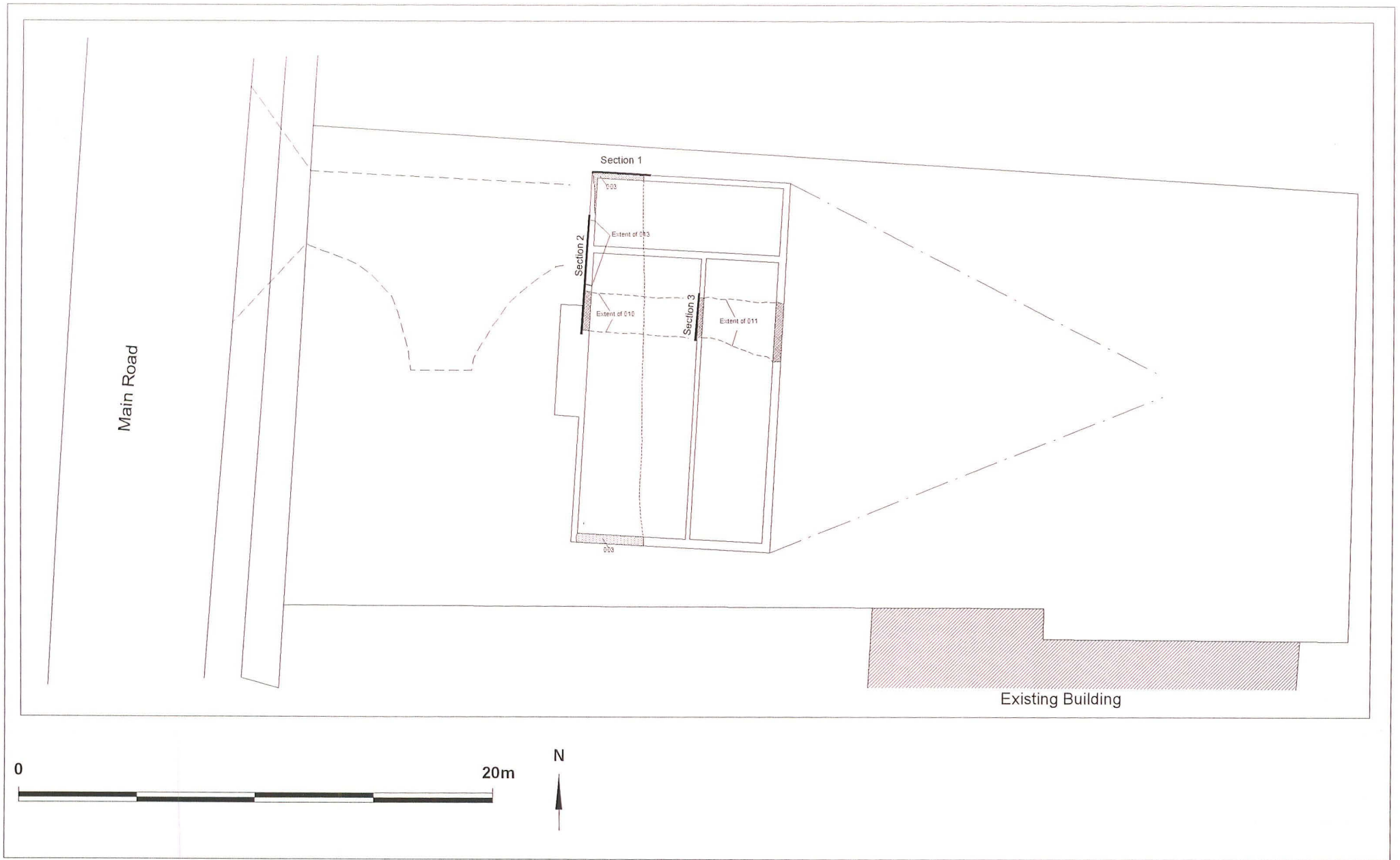


Figure 3 - Plan of Development, showing location of drawn Sections

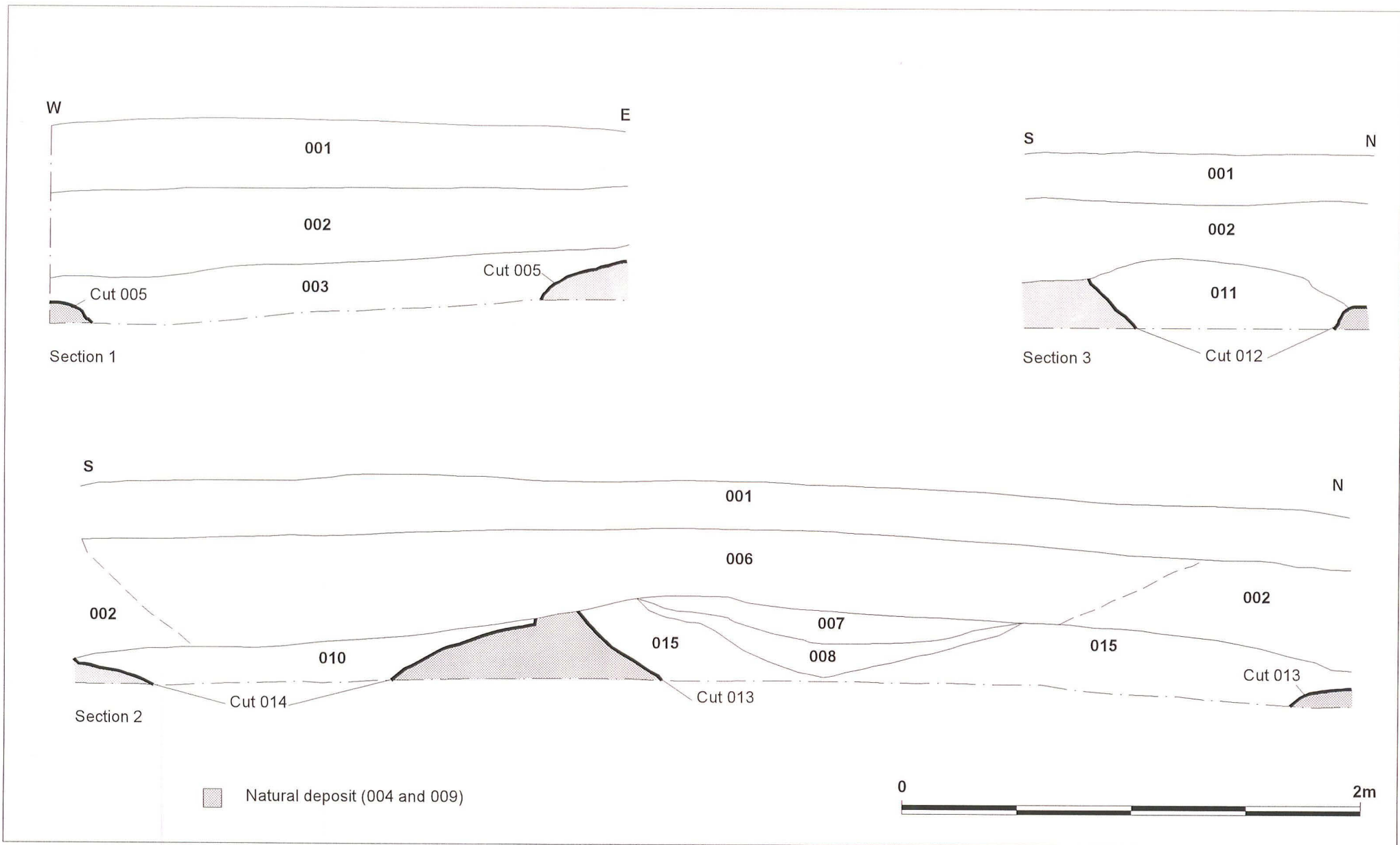


Figure 4 - Sections 1, 2 and 3



Plate 1 - General view across the site



Plate 2 - Section 1, looking north

Appendix 1

SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during construction works at Plot 3, Golden Bondage Farm, Little Steeping, Spilsby, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The application area lies within the village of Little Steeping where there is evidence for the remains of the medieval settlement.*
- 1.3 *The watching brief will be undertaken during groundworks associated with the development. The archaeological features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the findings of the work. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for an archaeological watching brief during development at Plot 3, Golden Bondage Farm, Little Steeping, Spilsby, 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 Little Steeping lies 5km southeast of Spilsby and 17km west of Skegness, in the administrative district of East Lindsey. The site is situated in the centre of Little Steeping at national grid reference TF 4327 6298 at an elevation of approximately 3m OD.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Planning permission (application number S/104/0937/98) for the development of a bungalow has been granted by East Lindsey District Council, subject to a condition that the applicant should commission an archaeological watching brief to record any archaeological remains present on the site.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 Little Steeping is situated on low lying land in east Lincolnshire. Local soils are the Salop Association stagnogley soils with slowly permeable subsoils in reddish drift. The main spread of these soils is along the eastern and southern margins of the Wolds with local extensions into the fenland south of Spilsby (Hodge *et al* 1984, 305-6).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 6.1 The application area lies in the village of Little Steeping and aerial photographic evidence suggests that the remains of medieval settlement may lie within the area.

6.2 The parish church of St Andrew includes elements dating from the late 14th century.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

7.1 The aims of the watching brief will be:

7.1.1 To record the archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.

7.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:

7.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;

7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;

7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and

7.2.4 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 watching brief.

8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA). Archaeological Project Services is an IFA registered organisation (number 21).

8.1.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1997, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

8.2 Methodology

8.2.1 The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.

8.2.2 The section of the trench will be observed regularly 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 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.

8.2.4 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record consisting of colour prints will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:

8.2.4.1 The site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.

8.2.4.2 groups of features where their relationship is important

8.2.5 Should human remains be located the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department and the police will be informed.

9 POST-EXCAVATION

9.1 Stage 1

9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief 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: the colour prints will be labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

9.1.2 All finds recovered during the field work 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 the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

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 watching brief will be prepared.

9.3.2 This will consist of:

9.3.2.1 A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.

9.3.2.2 A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.

9.3.2.3 Description of the topography of the site.

9.3.2.4 Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.

9.3.2.5 A text describing the findings of the watching brief.

9.3.2.6 A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.

9.3.2.7 Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.

9.3.2.8 Sections of the archaeological features.

9.3.2.9 Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.

9.3.2.10 Specialist reports on the finds from the site.

9.3.2.11 Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10 REPORT DEPOSITION

10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the client, East Lindsey District Council and to the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record.

11 **ARCHIVE**

- 11.1 The documentation and records generated during the watching brief will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the Lincolnshire County Council Museums, Arts and Records Service. This will be undertaken following the requirements of the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives* for long term storage and curation.

12 **PUBLICATION**

- 12.1 A report of the findings of the watching brief will be published in Heritage Lincolnshire's Annual Report and a note presented to the editor of the Transactions of the Lincolnshire Archaeological and Historical Society. If appropriate, notes on the findings will be submitted to the appropriate national journals: *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date, and *Medieval Archaeology* and the journal of the *Medieval Settlement Research Group* for findings of medieval or later date.

13 **CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

- 13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Archaeological Officer of Lincolnshire County Council. The Archaeology Officer will be given seven days notice in writing before the commencement of the project.

14 **VARIATIONS**

- 14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the Archaeology Officer, Lincolnshire County Council.

15 **PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS**

- 15.1 The watching brief will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the archaeological site work.
- 15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs 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. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one man-day) will require a post-excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half man-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about six days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

16 **SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT**

- 16.1 The following organisations/persons will, in principal 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.

<u>Task</u>	<u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric Pottery - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust Roman - B Precious, independent specialist, as appropriate. Saxon - City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit Medieval and later - Hilary Healey, independent archaeologist

Non-pottery Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist
Animal Bones	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, independent specialist

17 **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Hodge, CAH, Burton, RGO, Corbett, WM, Evans, R, and Seale, RS, 1984 *Soils and their use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales 13

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Firm mid to dark greyish brown silt, 0.3m thick	Topsoil
002	Firm mid yellowish brown sandy silt, 0.42m thick	Subsoil
003	Soft mid greyish brown sandy silt	Fill of 005
004	Firm mid brownish yellow sandy silt	Natural deposit
005	Linear feature, c. 1.95m wide x >15m long x 0.25m deep, steep sides, base not observed, aligned north-south	Ditch
006	Firm mid yellowish brown silt	Disturbed subsoil
007	Firm mid brown silt	Fill of 013
008	Soft dark brown and black charcoal and silt	Fill of 013
009	Soft dark brown silt and sand	Natural deposit
010	Soft mid greyish brown sandy silt	Fill of 014
011	Firm mid greyish brown silt	Fill of 012
012	Linear feature, 1.1m wide, aligned east-west	Ditch
013	Possible linear feature, >5m long, depth unknown, long axis aligned east-west	Ditch
014	Linear feature, 1.8m wide x >0.21m deep, gentle sides, no base observed, aligned east-west	Ditch
015	Soft mid greyish brown sandy silt	Fill of 013

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

Hilary Healey MPhil and Gary Taylor MA

Provenance

Pottery fragments were recovered from the topsoil (001) and the fills (003, 010) of two ditches and a possible pit fill (008).

The individual artefacts are from separate manufacturing sources. One of the medieval pieces, from context (003), is a product of kilns at Lincoln, 45km west of Little Steeping. The two later medieval pottery sherds, from contexts (001 and 010) were probably made at Toynton All Saints, 4km northwest of Little Steeping, though one is possibly from Old Bolingbroke, 8km to the northwest. The 18th -20th century pottery fragments from context (001) were probably made in the Midlands, most likely Staffordshire.

Several glass bottles were retrieved from the topsoil (001). However, none had trademarks to identify sources and although two had punt marks these were not identified.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the table.

The earliest artefact is a fragment of pottery of 13th-14th century date, though 18th-20th century artefacts dominate the collection. Pottery and glass constitute the artefactual assemblage and there is a single piece of animal bone.

Table 1: The Artefacts

Context	Description	Latest date
001	1 Toynton/Bolingbroke type ware, 15 th - 16 th century 1 Brown glazed earthenware, 18 th - 19 th century 1 red painted earthenware, 18 th - 19 th century 1 blue and white transfer printed sherd, 19 th - 20 th century 2 moulded rectangular glass medicine-type (cork stoppered) bottles, 'X' punt mark, 19th-20th century 1 moulded screw top square glass 'sauce' bottle, 20 th century 1 moulded round cork-stoppered glass bottle, 19 th - 20 th century (cork smells of camphor oil)	20 th century
003	1 Lincoln ware, 13 th - 14 th century , slightly abraded	13 th - 14 th century
008	1 calcined bone	
010	1 Toynton All Saints ware, 14 th - 15 th century, unabraded	14 th - 15 th century

Condition

All of the material is in good condition and presents no long-term storage problems. The assemblage should be archived by material class.

Documentation

Lincoln, Toynton All Saints and Bolingbroke ware pottery types, both as occupation site assemblages and production evidence, have been studied moderately extensively and are the subject of numerous reports (eg, Adams 1977; Coppack 1976; Healey 1984).

There have been no previous archaeological investigations in Little Steeping, though records of archaeological sites and finds in the parish are maintained in the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

The medieval aspect of the assemblage has moderate potential in that it provides the first confirmation of surviving archaeological remains of this date at Little Steeping and, moreover, indicates activity of that period on, or in the vicinity of, the site. However, the post-medieval material has limited potential, though the composition of the assemblage indicates that the site was probably open, unoccupied land from the end of the medieval period until the 19th century.

References

Adams, L, 1977 *Medieval Pottery from Broadgate East, Lincoln 1973*, Lincoln Archaeological Trust Monograph Series XVII-1

Coppack, G, 1976 The Pottery, in P Drewett 'The Excavation of the Great Hall at Bolingbroke Castle, Lincolnshire', *Post-medieval Archaeology* X

Healey, R H, 1984 'Toynton All Saints: Decorated Jugs from The Roses Kiln', in N Field and A White, *A Prospect of Lincolnshire*

Appendix 4

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

15	Context records
3	Scale drawings
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Bag of finds
1	Stratigraphic matrix

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Sleaford
Lincolnshire
NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Lincolnshire City and County Museum
12 Friars Lane
Lincoln
LN2 1HQ

The archive will be deposited in accordance with the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives*, produced by the Lincolnshire City and County Museum.

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number: 276.98

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: LST98

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

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Appendix 5

GLOSSARY

Boulder Clay	A deposit formed after the retreat of a glacier. Also known as till, this material is generally unsorted and can comprise of rock flour to boulders to rocks of quite substantial size.
Bronze Age	Part of the prehistoric era characterised by the introduction and use of bronze for tools and weapons. In Britain this period dates from approximately 2000-700 BC.
Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
Cropmark	A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.
Layer	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Mesolithic	The 'Middle Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 10,000-4000 BC.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
Neolithic	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4000-2000 BC.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period from AD 43-410 when Britain formed part of the Roman Empire.