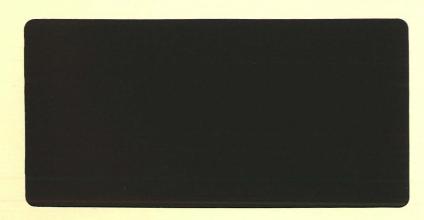


ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF OF DEVELOPMENT ON LAND AT BAYFIELD FARM, (PLOT 24), TIMBERLAND, LINCOLNSHIRE (TBF97)



A P S ARCHAEOLOGICAL P R O J E C T S E R V I C E S



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF OF DEVELOPMENT ON LAND AT BAYFIELD FARM, (PLOT 24), TIMBERLAND, LINCOLNSHIRE (TBF97)

Work Undertaken For S. Fenwick Building Contractors Ltd

January 1999

Report Compiled by Gary Taylor MA

Planning Application No: N/67/600/94 National Grid Reference: TF 12000 58100 City and County Museum Accession No: 250.97

A.P.S. Report No. 12/99

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

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during development on land at Bayfield Farm, Church Lane, Timberland, Lincolnshire. The work was undertaken because the site lies in the medieval core of the village and there are also prehistoric and Romano-British remains in proximity to the site.

A ditch, probably a field boundary, and two gullies were identified but all were undated. A small amount of medieval and later pottery dating from the 13th-18th centuries was recovered and suggests the area was used for agricultural purposes during this period, complementing the evidence of ridge and furrow plough marks in the southern part of the site.

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 nonarchaeological reasons within a specified area or site ..., where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed.' (IFA 1997).

2.2 Planning Background

Outline planning permission was granted by North Kesteven District Council for residential development at Bayfield Farm, Church Lane, Timberland, Lincolnshire (Planning Application No. N/67/457/93). Permission was subject to a condition for an archaeological evaluation in the form of a desk-top assessment and this was completed in 1993.

Subsequently full planning permission

(N67/600/94) was granted for the construction of 12 dwellings (phase 1) with garages, access roads and sewers. This permission was conditional on an archaeological watching brief being carried out during the groundworks.

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by S. Fenwick Building Contractors Ltd to undertake the archaeological investigation, in accordance with a brief set by the North Kesteven Heritage Officer (Appendix 1). The watching brief commenced with Plot 24 on 24th February 1998 and is continuing, to resume probably in February 1999. This present report addresses the results of the monitoring of Plot 24 only. These details will be incorporated into a complete report of the results of the full archaeological watching brief when the monitoring is concluded.

2.3 Topography, Geology and Soils

Timberland village is approximately 20km southeast of Lincoln and 13km northeast from Sleaford, on the western edge of the River Witham valley, in North Kesteven District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

Located at the southern edge of the village, the site lies at a height of *c*. 8m OD on the south side of a slight east-west valley. This valley, which is predominantly dry, declines eastward toward the Car Dyke partially canalised watercourse (Fig. 2). Centred on National Grid Reference TF 1200 5810, the development covers an area of 1.43ha on the west side of Church Lane. Plot 24, the subject of this report, is located at the northwest corner of the development area (Fig. 3).

Local soils are the Beccles 1 Association stagnogley soils containing quartz or flint stones. These are generally found on level or sloping land on chalky till (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 117). Beneath this till is a solid geology of Jurassic Oxford Clay (GSGB 1973).

Natural deposits exposed during groundworks comprised grey clay with chalk fragments [003].

2.4 Archaeological Setting

The site is in an area of archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric period onwards (Fig. 2). Approximately 0.5km west of the site is a possible burial mound of Bronze Age date. Additionally, a Bronze Age stone axe is recorded as having been found near the Car Dyke in Timberland.

The aforementioned Car Dyke is a partially man-made watercourse of believed Roman date. It connected the River Nene near Peterborough with the Witham east of Lincoln and the dyke courses north-south approximately 0.5km east of Timberland village. Moreover, two sections of the Car Dyke at Timberland are Scheduled Ancient Monuments, County Monument Numbers 298 and 315 (English Heritage 1996, 15).

A hoard of Roman coins, dating from 27BC to AD54 was found near the Car Dyke at Timberland in 1808. The early date of deposition of this hoard, in or soon after AD54, has been thought to indicate a Roman military presence (Hockley 1993, 3), or perhaps early construction work on the Car Dyke (Whitwell 1970, 94), though there is no supporting evidence for either suggestion.

Timberland is referred to in the Domesday Book, written 1086, when the land had several owners and was divided between a number of manors (Foster and Longley 1979).

Aerial photographs depict an east-west linear feature crossing the centre of the development area, south of Plot 24.

Additionally, to the south of this linear feature, which is probably a former field boundary, are remnant ridge and furrow ploughmarks (Hockley 1993, 3; fig. 3).

Approximately 100m east of the site is the parish church of St. Andrew, of 12th century and later date (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 766).

A brick and tile works was previously located east of the village (Ordnance Survey 1906). Farm buildings were established on the east side of the site, fronting Church Lane, subsequent to 1956 (Hockley 1993, 4).

3. AIMS

The aim of the watching brief, as set out by the Brief for Archaeological Work, was to record and interpret any archaeological features exposed during the groundworks (Appendix 1).

4. METHODS

Excavation of the foundation trenches was completed by machine (Fig. 4). Following excavation, the sides and bases of the trenches were manually cleaned and inspected for archaeological features.

Sections depicting profiles of features and the natural stratigraphy were drawn at a scale of 1:10. These sections were referenced to development site plans.

A photographic record was also compiled depicting deposits encountered during the investigation and the site setting (Plate 1).

5. **RESULTS**

Records of deposits and features identified during the watching brief were examined.

Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them, supplemented by artefact dating where relevant. A list of all contexts with interpretations appears as Appendix 2. Three phases were identified:

Phase 1: Natural deposits Phase 2: Undated archaeological deposits Phase 3: Recent deposits

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

Phase 1: Natural deposits

Dark grey clay with moderate chalk flecks and lumps [003] formed the lowest deposit revealed in the foundation trenches (Figs. 5 and 6). This deposit varied between 0.2m and 0.45m below the modern ground surface, north to south across the site, and was at least 0.75m thick. This is considered to be a natural deposit.

Phase 2: Undated archaeological deposits

Cutting into the natural clay on the west side of the plot was a north-south linear feature [006], approximately 0.7m deep and 1.8m wide (Fig. 5, Section 1; Plate 2). Interpreted as a ditch, this was filled with deposits of brown-grey silty clay [004] and light grey clayey chalk fragments [005].

Near the northeast corner of the plot, and also cutting the natural clay, was a shallow, possibly flat-based feature [015], interpreted as a possible gully or furrow (Fig. 6, Section 2). This was filled with brown silty clays [012] and [016] and light grey clayey chalk fragments [009].

Sealing ditch [006] and gully [015] was a layer of light brown clay interpreted as subsoil [002].

Truncating the eastern edge of ditch [006], and also cutting the subsoil in the centre of the plot was a northeast-southwest aligned linear feature [008]. Approximately 0.25m deep, 1.5m wide and filled with light brown silty clay [007], this is interpreted as gully or furrow (Fig. 5, Section 1; Fig. 6, Section 3).

Phase 3: Recent deposits

Cutting the subsoil [002] were two field drains [013 and 014]. One of these [013] cut down from the surface of the subsoil but the other [014] was in the body of the deposit and is explained as a mole drain (Fig. 5, Section 1).

Also cutting the subsoil on the east side of the plot was a north-south sewer trench [011] containing a circular sewer pipe and stone backfill [010], (Fig. 4; Fig. 6, Section 2).

Covering these services and the subsoil was a dark brown silty clay topsoil [001] that contained medieval and later pottery and tile and animal bone.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits of grey chalky clay (Phase 1) were the lowest levels encountered at the site. This is probably boulder clay of glacial origin, deposited in the last Ice Age.

Cutting into the natural was a ditch and gully or furrow (Phase 2). The ditch is probably a former field boundary and it is likely that the shallower feature is a remnant of ridge and furrow ploughing. Both the ditch and furrow were part filled with chalk fragments which is probably material deliberately dumped into the features to backfill them. Moreover, the similarity of these materials in the two features may indicate that the backfilling of both occurred at the same time. Above the ditch and furrow was a subsoil that was probably of agricultural origin, formed by ploughing. It is likely that the ditch and furrow were originally cut through this layer but ploughing erased the upper parts of the features. Cutting into this subsoil was a further furrow which may also be a remnant of ridge and furrow ploughing.

Also cutting into the subsoil were field drains (Phase 3) which indicate the continued agricultural use of the land into recent years. A recent sewer was also recorded.

Sealing these features and the undated remains was a topsoil that formed the present ground surface and contained artefacts of 13th-18th century date. These objects were perhaps introduced to the area as manuring scatter, suggesting the land has been used for agricultural purposes since the medieval period. Several dog bones were also recovered and probably represent a disturbed pet burial.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were undertaken during development at Bayfield Farm, Church Lane, Timberland. This was because the site lies in proximity to various archaeological remains of prehistoric to medieval date and there was the possibility that related remains could be disturbed by the development.

Several archaeological features, ditches and gullies, were identified in Plot 24. These features, which were probably of agricultural function, were undated but occur both below and above a subsoil layer and are therefore of different periods. A few artefacts of medieval and later date were recovered together with some animal bone but there was no indications of past habitation of Plot 24. Additionally, there was no evidence of waterlogging and ancient environmental remains are only likely to survive in the vicinity through charring.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr S. Fenwick of S. Fenwick Building Contractors Ltd who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. Gary Taylor coordinated the work and Tom Lane MIFA edited this report. Kate Orr, the North Kesteven Heritage Officer, kindly allowed access to the relevant parish archaeological files.

9. PERSONNEL

Site Supervisor: Fiona Walker Finds Processing: Denise Buckley Illustration: Neil Herbert Post-excavation Analyst: Gary Taylor

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS refers to Archaeological Project Services.

GSGB refers to the Geological Survey of Great Britain.



Figure 1 General Location Map

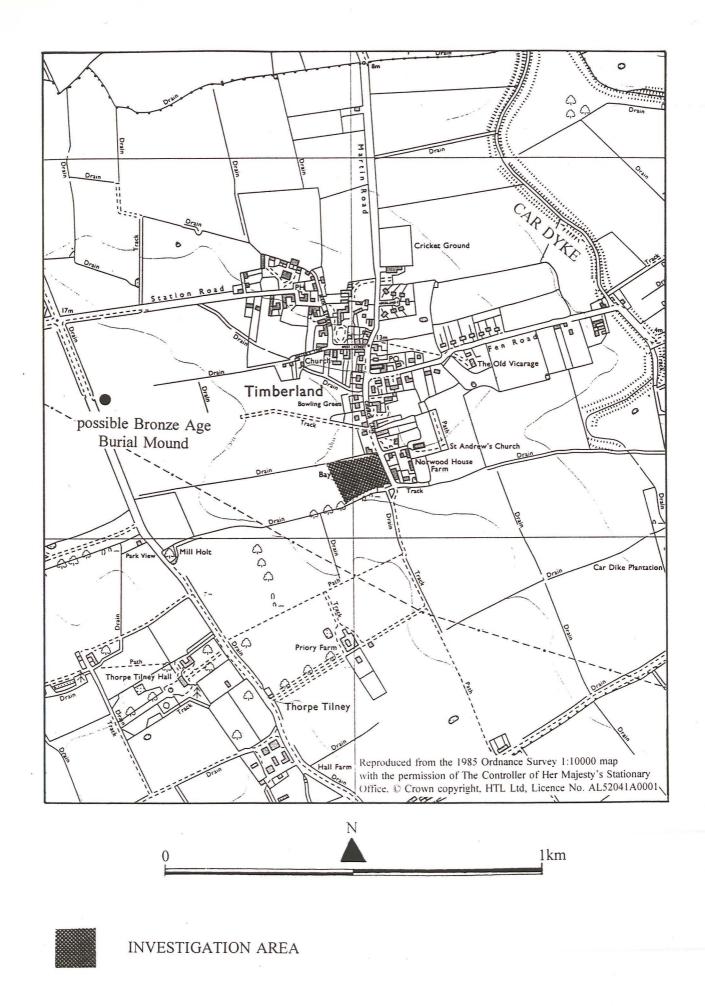


Figure 2: Site Location Plan, showing archaeological remains in area

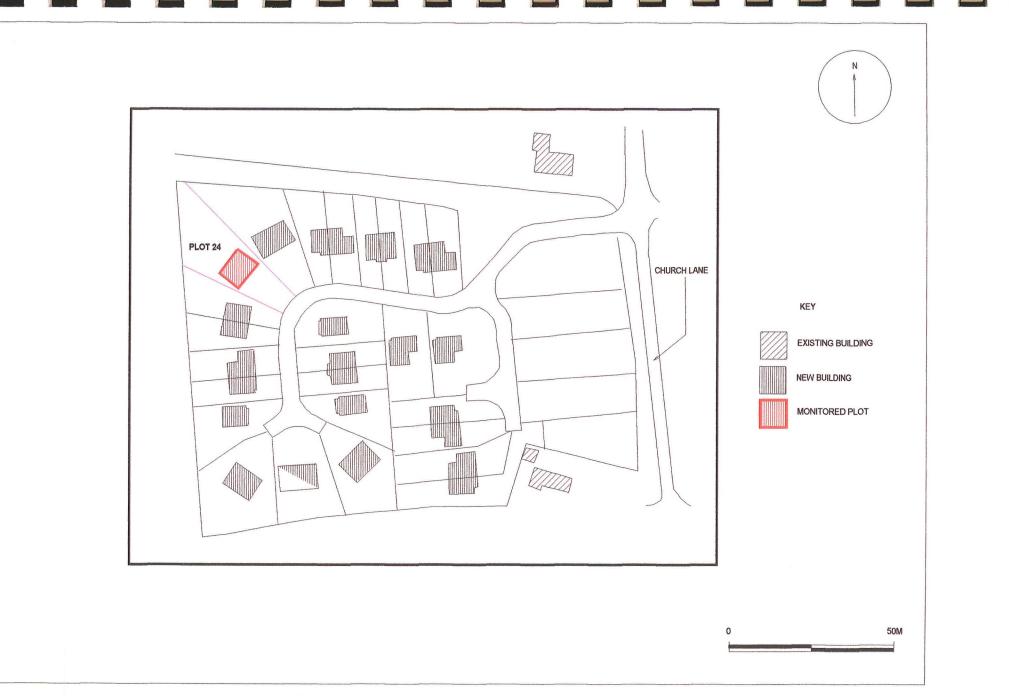


Figure 3: Site plan showing location of plot 24

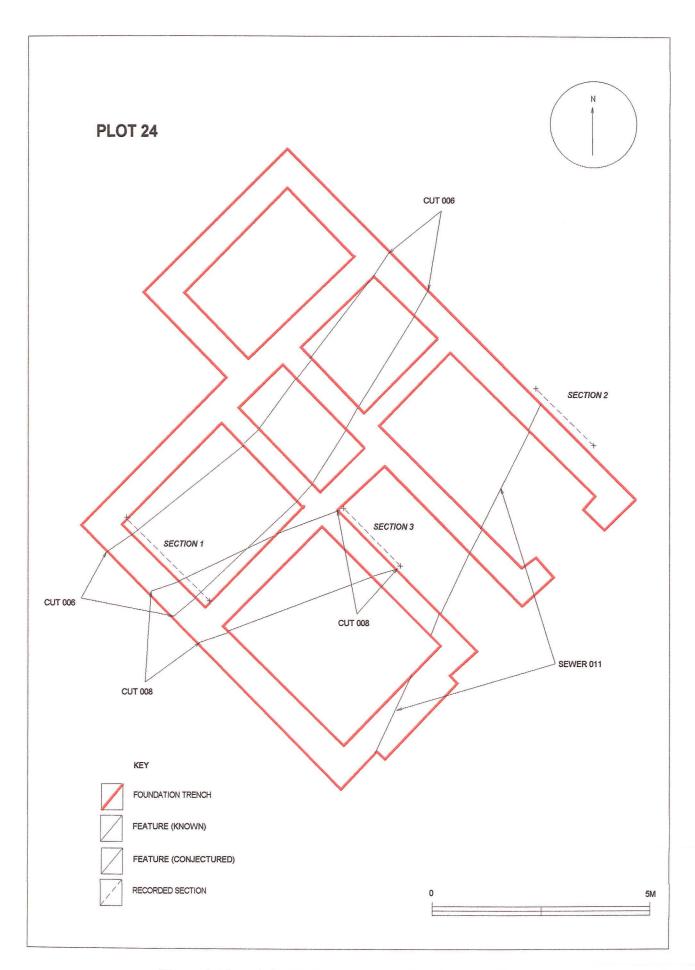
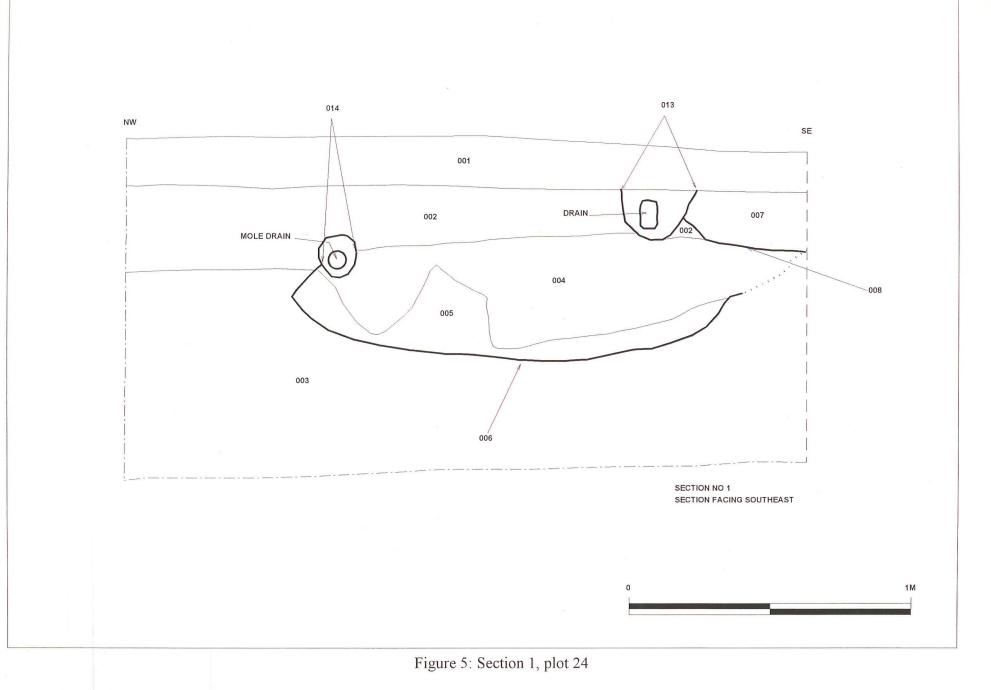


Figure 4: Plan of plot 24 showing recorded sections and features



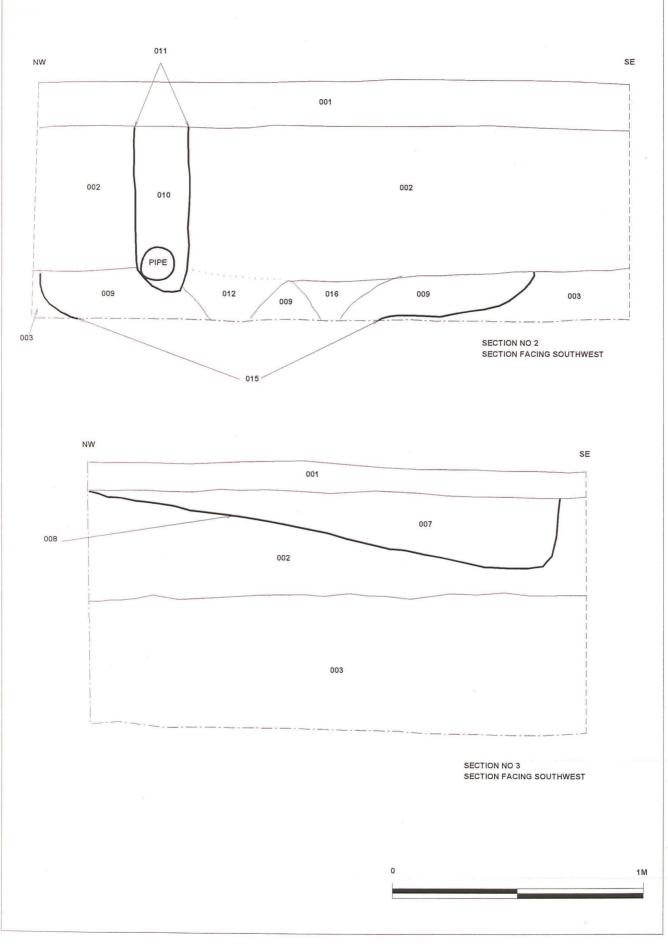


Figure 6: Sections 2 and 3, plot 24



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Plate 1 : General site view, looking eastward across Plot 24 toward St. Andrew's church



Plate 2 : Section 1, showing chalky fill (005) of ditch (006)

BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION AND RECORDING (WATCHING BRIEF)

BAYFIELD FARM, CHURCH LANE, TIMBERLAND, LINCS

Planning Application Number: N/67/600/94

NGR: 512000 350100

Applicant: S. Fenwick Buildings Contractors Ltd 1 Millfield Rd Metheringham LN4 3HZ

Agent: Don Welbourn 12 Yarborough Rd Lincoln LN1 1HS

1. Summary

1.1 This brief should be sent to archaeological contractors as the basis for the preparation of a detailed archaeological project specification. In response to this brief contractors will include the anticipated working methods, timescales and staffing levels.

1.2 These detailed specifications will be submitted by the client for approval by the North Kesteven Heritage Officer. The client will be free to choose between those specifications which are considered to adequately satisfy the brief

2. Site Location and Description

2.1 The village of Timberland is situated approximately 5km north west of Billinghay and 8km east of Scopwick in the district of North Kesteven. The site covers 1.43 hectares and lies in the south of the modern village, 120m west of the parish church.

2.2 About one third of the site, fronting Church Lane is covered by farm buildings and a surrounding area of hardstanding and vehicular access. The remainder of the site was previously under arable cultivation before five dwellings were built.

3. Planning Background

3.1 Outline planning permission for residential development was given to the County Council (N/67/457/93) with the condition for an archaeological evaluation in the form of a desk-top assessment which was completed in 1993.

3.2 The land was then sold on to the current applicant and was given full planning permission to construct 12 dwellings (phase 1) with garages, plus access roads and sewers. This permission was given with the condition that an archaeological watching brief be carried out. Five houses have already been built and this condition has not been fulfilled.

4. Archaeological Background

4.1 The results of the desk-top assessment carried out by City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit (report no.60) looked at aerial photographs, documentary sources and archaeological records. There was little evidence to suggest that the site would have been occupied in the medieval period or earlier. Aerial photographs showed the southern half of the field was once covered by ridge and furrow (medieval plough marks). There was also an linear feature running east-west across the field.

Because of the close proximity of the site to the medieval church it was decided by the planning authority that a watching brief should be carried out during groundworks.

5. Requirements for Work

5.1 The objective of the watching brief should be to ensure that any archaeological features exposed by the groundworks are recorded and interpreted.

5.2 Any adjustments to the brief for the watching brief project should only be made after consultation with the Heritage Officer for North Kesteven.

5.3 The following details should be given in the contractor's specification:

- 5.3.1 A projected timetable for the various stages of work.
- 5.3.2 Details of the staff structure and numbers <u>including person hours for on-site</u> <u>work.</u>
- 5.3.3 It is expected that all on-site work will be carried out in a way that complies with the relevant Health and Safety legislation and that due consideration will be given to site security.
- 5.3.4 A full description of the recovery and recording strategies to be used.
- 5.3.5 An estimate of time and resources allocated for the post-excavation work and report production in the form of 'man' hours. This should include lists of specialists and their role in the project. It is expected that medieval finds will be encountered and therefore adequate provision should be made for specialists in this area.
- 5.3.6 <u>Contingency costs should only be used in the event of unexpected costs and</u> should only be activated after discussion with the HeritageOfficer.

6. Methods

6.1 The project should be carried out by a recognised archaeological body in accordance

with the code of conduct of The Institute of Field Archaeologists.

6.2 The watching brief should involve:

6.2.1 archaeological supervision of topsoil stripping;

6.2.2 inspection of subsoil for archaeological features;

6.2.3 recording of archaeological features in plan;

6.2.4 rapid excavation of features if necessary;

6.2.5 archaeological supervision of subsoil stripping

6.2.6 inspection of natural for archaeological features and recording them.

6.2.7 any human remains encountered must be left in situ and only removed if absolutely necessary. The contractor must comply with all statutory consents and licences regarding the exhumation and interment of human remains. It will also be necessary to comply with all reasonable requests of interested parties as to the remains or associated items. Attempt must be made at all times not to cause offence to any interested parties.

7. Monitoring Arrangements

7.1 The Heritage Officer for North Kesteven will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project and will require preferably fourteen days notice but at least five working days prior to the commencement of the work. <u>The contractor has a</u> responsibility to inform the Heritage Officer of any unexpected discoveries.

8. Reporting Requirements

8.1 A full report should be produced and deposited with the planning department of North Kesteven District Council, the Heritage Officer, the client and the County Sites and Monuments Record. The report should include:

8.1.1 location plan of the trenches;

8.1.2 section and plan drawings, with ground level, Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scales as appropriate;

8.1.3 specialist descriptions of artefacts and ecofacts;

8.1.4 an indication of potential archaeological deposits not disturbed by the present development;

8.2 After agreement with the landowner, arrangements are to be made for long term storage of all artefacts and paper archive in an appropriate museum.

8.3 If the receiving museum is to be the City and County Museum, Lincoln then the archive should be produced in the form outlined in the museum's document 'Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives', see address below.

9. **Publication and Dissemination**

9.1 The deposition of a copy of the report with the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record will be deemed to put all information into the public domain, unless a special request is made for confidentiality. If material is to be held in confidence a timescale must be agreed with the North Kesteven Heritage Officer but is expected this will not exceed six months. Consideration must be given to a summary of the results being published in 'Lincolnshire History and Archaeology' in due course.

10. Additional Information

10.1 This document attempts to define the best practice expected of an archaeological watching brief but cannot fully anticipate the conditions that will be encountered as work progresses. However, changes to the programme are only to be made with the prior written approval of the Heritage Officer.

10.2 Further contact addresses

Kate Orr North Kesteven Heritage Officer Heritage Lincolnshire The Old School Cameron Street Heckington Lincolnshire NG34 9RW

Mr S. Catney Archaeological Officer Lincolnshire County Council 12 Friars Lane Lincoln LN2 5AL

Mr T. Page City and County Museum 12 Friars Lane Lincoln LN2 5AL

Department of Planning North Kesteven District Council Offices Kesteven Street Sleaford Lincolnshire NG34 7EF

Brief set by Heritage Officer, North Kesteven 28/4/1997

CONTEXT SUMMARY

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Medium dark brown silty clay with moderate organic matter	Topsoil
002	Light brown-yellow clay with moderate chalk inclusions	Subsoil
003	Dark grey clay with frequent chalk flecks and moderate chalk lumps	Natural
004	Light-medium brown-grey silty clay	Fill of 006
005	Light grey-white and yellow clayey gritty chalk/limestone	Fill of 006
006	N-S linear cut, up to 0.68m deep, 1.8m wide	Ditch
007	Light yellow-brown silty clay	Fill of 008
008	NE-SW linear cut, 0.25m deep, 1.5m wide	Gully/furrow
009	Light grey-white and yellow clayey gritty chalk/limestone	Fill of 015
010	Stones and circular pipe	Fill of 011
011	N-S narrow, vertical sided cut	Sewer trench
012	Light-medium brown-grey silty clay	Fill of 015
013	Field drain	Field drain
014	Field drain	Field drain
015	Shallow cut, 2m wide, 0.2m deep	Gully/furrow
016	Red-brown silty clay	Fill of 015

THE FINDS, By Paul Cope-Faulkner BA, AIFA, Hilary Healey MPhil and Gary Taylor MA

Provenance

All of the artefacts were recovered from the topsoil (001) and were random in distribution.

The medieval pottery fragments are from kilns at Toynton All Saints, approximately 27km east of Timberland, and Lincoln, 20km to the northwest. However, the post-medieval pottery derives from Staffordshire in the Midlands. It is likely that the tile fragments are relatively local Lincolnshire products, perhaps made in Timberland itself as there was a brick and tile works only 1km east of the village centre.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

The earliest artefacts are fragments of pottery of probable 13th-16th century date. Ceramic tile is the main component of the small assemblage which also includes pottery and animal bone.

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DATE
001	1x Toynton All Saints ware	14th-16th century
	1x Lincoln ware	13th-15th century
	1x ?Midlands Yellow ware	17th-18th century
	4x ceramic tile; 1 pantile, 2 field drain (linked pieces), 1 indeterminate	pantile 17th century or later
	1x copper alloy ?tube fragment, with screw/rivet hole	

Table 1: The Artefacts

Table 2: The Faunal Remains

CONTEXT	SPECIES	DESCRIPTION
001	Dog	2x vertebrae
	Dog	1x tooth

It is probable that the dog bones represent a disturbed pet burial. The limited quantity of artefacts recovered, and the general small size and abrasion on the pottery sherds, suggest that

they entered the area as manuring scatter. Moreover, cropmarks evident on aerial photographs depict ridge and furrow immediately south of the site, in the southern half of the development area. These remains indicate the area was used for arable agriculture, probably in the medieval period and later.

Two fabrics are represented in the tile. One of the pieces, the pantile, has moderate inclusions of white chalk or limestone which is absent or very rare in the other fragments. This would suggest that the tiles in dissimilar fabrics were obtained from different production sources.

Condition

Although one of the medieval pottery sherds, in particular, is quite abraded, all of the material is in good condition and presents no long-term storage problems. The assemblage should be archived by material class.

Documentation

There has been limited formal archaeological investigation in Timberland, though records of sites and finds in the area are maintained in the files of the North Kesteven Heritage Officer and the County Sites and Monuments Record. Additionally, a desk-top study of the area has previously been produced (Hockley 1993).

Toynton All Saints wares, both as production evidence and occupation assemblages, are the subject of numerous reports (eg, Healey 1976; 1984). Similarly, Lincoln wares have been studied and reported (eg, Adams 1977).

Potential

It seems likely that the topsoil assemblage could have entered the area as a component of manuring scatter and, therefore, the material has limited potential. However, the artefacts imply a human presence in the vicinity from the late medieval period onwards.

References

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Anglo-Saxon	Pertaining to the early part of the Saxon period and dating from approximately AD 450-650.
Bronze Age	Part of the prehistoric era ($q.v.$) 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].
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Glaciofluvial drift	Natural deposits formed and laid down as a result of the action of both glaciers (during the Ice Age) and rivers.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
Neolithic	Part of the prehistoric era ($q.v.$), also known as the New Stone Age. Characterised by the introduction of farming and permanent settlement and the production and use of polished stone axes and other tools. In Britain this period dates from approximately 4000-2000 BC.
Old English	The language of the early part of the Anglo-Saxon period, used from approximately AD 450-650.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period from AD43 to AD410, when Britain was part of the Roman Empire.

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 16 Context records
- 1 Photographic record sheet
- 3 Scale drawings
- 1 Box of finds
- 1 Stratigraphic matrix

This is a partial archive for the project and relates only to Plot 24 of the development. This material will be amalgamated with all other records and finds resulting from the watching brief on the whole development. The same project code and accession number will be maintained for the whole project.

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:	250.97
Archaeological Project Services Site Code:	TBF97

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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