ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
ON LAND ADJACENT TO
STAMFORD HIGH SCHOOL,
KETTERING ROAD,
STAMFORD,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SKR 99)



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LINCOLNSHIRE
(SKR 99)

Work Undertaken For W.J. Hemmings and Partners

November 1999

Report Compiled by Paul Cope-Faulkner BA (Hons) AIFA

Planning Application No: S99/0836/69 National Grid Reference: TF 02751 06465 City and County Museum Accession No: 171.99

A.P.S. Report No. 118/99



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# 1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was carried out in advance of proposed development at the High School, Kettering Road, Stamford, Lincolnshire.

The proposed development is located on the site of the 13<sup>th</sup> century priory of St. Michael, founded c. 1155 to house forty nuns, some monks and a prior. During the 14<sup>th</sup> century, the nunnery expanded with the gaining of the possessions of a nearby nunnery at Wothorpe. The priory was dissolved in 1536 and passed to the Cecil family.

When the current school buildings were constructed in the 1970s, part of the latrine to the conventual buildings was exposed and subsequently scheduled as an ancient monument. The current investigation is located to the north and west of this feature.

The evaluation identified a L-shaped wall, standing c. 0.5m high, alongside which was a lower wall or bench. The room showed evidence for painted plaster walls and a mortar floor and evidence for a slate roof with green glazed ridge tiles. These structural remains formed one of the priory buildings, perhaps part of a cloister. Later deposits are associated with the eventual demolition of the nunnery during the postmedieval period. Finds include local and imported pottery, animal bone, brick, tile, metalwork and worked stone.

### 2. INTRODUCTION

# 2.1 Definition of an Archaeological Evaluation

Archaeological evaluation is defined as 'a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological

features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If such archaeological remains are present Field Evaluation defines their character and extent, and relative quality; and it enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate.' (IFA 1997).

# 2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by W. J. Hemmings and Partners to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of development at Stamford High School, Junior School, Kettering Road, Stamford, Lincolnshire. The proposed development comprised the construction of additional classrooms to the existing school. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application \$99/0836/69.

# 2.3 Topography and Geology

Stamford is situated 63km south of Lincoln and 23km southwest of Spalding, in the administrative district of South Kesteven, Lincolnshire (Fig.1). Stamford lies on the banks of the River Welland, close to the confluence with the Gwash which provides the eastern boundary of the town.

The development site (Fig. 2 and 3) is located south of the River Welland, adjacent to Kettering Road, approximately 500m south of the town centre as defined by All Saints' parish church (National Grid Reference TF 0278 0648).

The site lies at approximately 25m OD on a flat paved playing area with a terraced slope along the western edge, sloping down to a sports field. Local soils are the Denchworth Association, wet clayey (pelostagnogley) soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 155) and Fladbury

1 Association pelo-alluvial gley soils, developed on clayey alluvial subsoils (*ibid*, 194). Stamford sits in a narrow valley cut in the Lower Lincolnshire Limestone. Upper Lincolnshire Limestone and the overlying Great Oolite form the northern valley sides. In contrast, the southern part of the town, including the development area, is located on a solid geology of Northampton Sand and Lower Lincolnshire Limestone (Inferior Oolite). Remains of a river terrace and recent alluvium fill the valley bottom (Anderson 1982, 1).

# 2.4 Archaeological Setting

Stamford is situated in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Romano-British through to the medieval periods. There is, at present, no evidence for prehistoric archaeology within the vicinity of the proposed development. Romano-British archaeology comprises unrelated find spots. The Roman road, Ermine Street, crosses the River Welland to the west of the town and adjacent to the proposed development.

By the end of the 9<sup>th</sup> century, Stamford was described as one of the five boroughs of the Danelaw. A reference to the visit of Edward the Elder in 918 indicates that the Danish *burh* lay to the north of the River Welland and also records that the King commanded a new borough to be built on the south side of the river (Mahaney 1982, 3).

The Domesday Book of 1086 refers to Stamford as a royal borough comprising six wards, five of these north of the river. At that time, the sixth ward, south of the river, was located in the County of Northamptonshire. A bridge spanned the river and in the wards to the north were over four hundred messuages, three and a half mills and a castle. In addition, four churches, were located in the northern part of the town (Foster and Langley 1976, 9 - 11).

Previously *Steanford* and *Stanford*, the major place-name Stamford - 'stony ford' derives from Old English *stan* and *ford* (Ekwall 1974, 436 - 7).

Numerous religious foundations were established during the medieval period. Of particular significance is the Benedictine Nunnery of St. Michael which is located within the development area. The Nunnery was founded by William de Waterville, abbot of Peterborough, about 1155 (English Heritage1994). Originally the house was founded for 40 nuns with a prior and brethren until 1323 when it became entirely a nunnery (Knowles and Hadcock 1953, 219).

Following the dissolution, St. Michael's Nunnery was acquired by the Cecil family of nearby Burghley House. It is not known whether a post-dissolution house was constructed at the site although Speed's map of Stamford, dating to 1600, depicts conventual buildings set within a defined outer precinct. Later maps of 1773, 1779 and 1839 all depict buildings on the site, some named as Nun's Farm (APS 1994).

Construction of the railway in 1846 revealed a number of features associated with the nunnery (RCHME 1977, 32). These included foundations, carved stonework, a coffin lid and a quantity of human bones. Excavations of the site in 1973, prior to the construction of the present school buildings, revealed part of an elaborate rere-dorter (latrine) comprising a 4 bay arcade set in front of a channel which was supplied with water from a reservoir fed by rainwater from a roof (Mahany 1977, 10). The rere-dorter, and its associated features, are a Scheduled Ancient Monument, County No. 22607 (English Heritage 1996, 23).

### 3. AIMS

The aims of the archaeological evaluation, as outlined in the brief (Appendix 1), were to gather information to establish the presence or absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits. This would permit the Community Archaeologist for South Kesteven District Council, to formulate appropriate policies for the management of the archaeological resource present on the site.

# 4. METHODS

### Excavation

Two trenches were excavated to the north of present school buildings (Fig. 3) within the area of proposed development. In addition, an earlier phase of work monitored the excavation of a number of trial pits. Eight trial pits were excavated, seven of which were monitored by archaeologists.

The trenches were excavated by machine to the surface of undisturbed archaeological deposits. Following machine excavation all deposits and features were excavated by hand. Sections and the sides of the trenches were rendered vertical and cleaned. In Trench 1, excavation did not continue deeper than the medieval deposits, so as not to disturb the integrity of the monastic building. This is in accord with part 9.3.2 of the specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services and agreed by the Community Archaeologist for South Kesteven District Council.

Environmental sampling was undertaken at the discretion of the site supervisor using guidelines established by Murphy and Wiltshire (1994).

Recording was undertaken based on the

single context approach developed by the Museum of London (MoLAS 1994) with minor unit modifications. Each deposit or feature was given a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. Context numbers assigned for the trenches started at 101 for Trench 1 and 201 for Trench 2. All plans were drawn at a scale of 1:20 and all sections and elevations at a scale of 1:10. A photographic record was compiled using colour slide and monochrome formats.

### Post-excavation

Following excavation, all records were checked and ordered to ensure that they constituted a complete Level II archive and a stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced. Finds recovered from those deposits excavated were examined and a period date assigned where possible. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. Phasing was based on artefact dating and the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

### 5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis, a total of four phases were identified:

Phase 1: Natural Deposits

Phase 2: Medieval Deposits

Phase 3: Post-medieval Deposits

Phase 4: Recent Deposits

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

### Phase 1: Natural Deposits

The earliest deposits encountered were reddish brown clayey silts (008), silty clays

(013, 019 and 023) and sandy silts (203 and 204) which were overlain by reddish brown silty sands (006 and 007). Containing frequent angular limestone fragments, these deposits represent the underlying geology and were seen in the Test Pits and Trench 2 only.

# **Phase 2: Medieval Deposits**

Located in Trench 1 was an L-shaped wall (101 and 105). Comprising random coursed limestone, the wall was aligned northwest to southeast with a length of 2.2m before turning to the southwest at the east end for a length of 1.1m. The width of this wall was 0.6m and a total height of 0.53m was estimated.

Bonded to this wall at a lower level was a second L-shaped construction (106), measuring 0.32m wide and 0.24m high. This lower wall appeared to create a bench within the area defined by walls (101 and 105).

Contained within this structure was a deposit of mid reddish brown silt (119) identified as a make-up layer for a mortar floor, of which a discrete area survived (118), although a possible limestone floor (121) was also recorded. Walls (101 and 106) were partially covered in a plain yellowish white plaster (111 and 117).

# Phase 3: Post-medieval Deposits

Overlying the mortar floor and contained within the medieval building were a number of demolition deposits. The first comprised limestone rubble with silt (107), measuring up to 0.26m thick. Contained within this deposit was a bronze bell, a bronze purse handle with silver inlay, a lead window came, painted plaster, worked stone and fragments of brick and tile. A similar demolition deposit (120) was located outside of the wall and due to restrictions on size

and Health and Safety considerations remains unexcavated.

Overlying this demolition layer, were more silty deposits ranging from limestone with reddish brown silt (103) to reddish or greyish brown silts (108, 110, 114, 115 and 116). Demolition deposit (103) contained 17<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery, a sherd of medieval pottery along with quantities of painted plaster. At the top of this sequence were further silty deposits, which contained a greater proportion of limestone fragments (112 and 113).

Demolition material was also recorded in Trench 2, where a 0.24m thick layer of greyish brown silty sand with limestone (202) was recorded. Demolition layers were also encountered in Test Pit 3 and in Test Pit 4, both deposits comprising greyish brown clayey silt with limestone fragments (010 and 013).

Remaining deposits include silty and sandy clays from Test Pits 2, 7 and 8 (005, 017, 018 and 021). These are interpreted as dumped layers, although they may also relate to the demolition deposits encountered elsewhere.

### **Phase 4: Recent Deposits**

Recorded within Test Pit 1 was a series of backfill deposits (002 and 003) containing recent building rubble and associated with the construction of the school. In Test Pit 7 were deposits of made ground and buried soil (015 and 016) associated with landscaping of the school playing fields. Test Pit 5 was located over a recent water main and produced a backfill deposit of silty sand and small limestone fragments (025).

All trenches were sealed by modern topsoil, typically a dark brown clayey silt (001, 004, 009, 012, 014 and 020), although sandy silt

(024), silt (104) and silty sand (201) variations were also recorded.

### 6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Phase 1) of reddish brown silts, sands and clay represent the surface of the underlying weathered surface of the solid geology of Northampton Sand (BGS 1978).

Phase 2 deposits comprise a L-shaped partially plastered wall with a mortar and possible limestone surface. It is not clear how this structure relates to the conventual buildings of the medieval nunnery, due largely to the size of the excavation trench.

The area defined by the walls is an internal room as evidenced by the wall plaster and mortar floors. Quantities of painted wall plaster from subsequent demolition deposits also support this. The decoration is limited to geometric designs, usually linear lines of blue-grey and red-brown on a bare plaster background. A door or window arch fragment was also found as were tiles of Collyweston slate, and a limestone cross or finial for mounting at the apex of a roof. Green glazed ridge tiles were also present.

The position of this structure relative to the surviving rere-dorter would suggest that the structure was located on the west, or possibly the northern, side of the cloister. The latrines were usually located at the southeast corner of the conventual complex, adjacent to the dormitory which occupied the east range. The southern range comprised the refectory and kitchen and the west range was often put to a variety of uses. This suggested ground plan would place the conventual church where the railway cutting is now evident, from which the 19th century account of 'ancient foundations...broken mullions of windows and other carved stones, five stone coffins, a quantity of human bones, coloured glass' being found accords well (RCHME 1977, 32).

Although the majority of Benedictine nunneries favoured a southern cloister (Gilchrist 1989, 254), exceptions are known. Wilberfoss Priory, close to York, constructed at the same time as Stamford, had a northern cloistral arrangement with an appended court to the north (Coppack 1990, 39). Furthermore, St. Michael's priory was originally founded to house nuns as well as monks and a Prior. It is possible, therefore, that there were originally two cloisters, one for either sex.

Demolition material was widely scattered throughout the site as evidenced by deposits within the Test Pits. The extent of these demolition deposits may indicate the former extent of the conventual buildings, although some may be associated with known postmedieval buildings. The position of Trench 2, adjacent to a marked change in slope, may define the western extent of the former medieval complex.

The demolition layers from Trench 1 produced a quantity of artefacts, including pottery, worked stone, metalwork, etc. This material included some artefacts of medieval date which may have originated from elsewhere, as there were no deposits associated with the nunnery found during the investigation. Such finds include medieval Bourne pottery dating from the 12th - 15th centuries, a 13th century iron key and an inlaid copper alloy purse of the 15th or early 16th centuries. No locally made Stamford ware was found, although production of this pottery had ceased by 1250. It is possible that earlier layers containing this material were not reached during this evaluation. A single environmental sample taken from this initial deposit shows that the structure was decaying and was a refuge for mice, voles and snails. Animal bone included owl and

jackdaw, both birds possibly nesting in the demolished structure, and fallow deer.

Also evidenced within the environmental sample was hammerscale, indicating metalworking in the vicinity. It is unknown if this was an attempt to salvage the iron from the monastery or an independent industry.

However, 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery and animal bone from these layers indicate habitation was located in the vicinity during the post-medieval period, as the material represents typical domestic refuse. There is no real indication of the presence of a post-dissolution house, although a farm is shown on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century maps of the vicinity. No artefacts of the 19<sup>th</sup> century were found, perhaps suggesting the farm had gone out of use.

### 7. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

For assessment of significance the *Secretary* of State's criteria for scheduling ancient monuments has been used (DoE 1990, Annex; See Appendix 7).

### Period

Medieval, post-medieval and recent deposits were encountered during the investigation. A portion of a medieval nunnery was revealed. Such religous houses are major typifiers of the period.

### Rarity

The medieval features include walls and floors of the nunnery. Such features are not particularly scarce but may possess rare or unusual features. Moreover, most extant nunnery remains are of national importance and schedulable status. Post-medieval demolition of the nunnery is represented by the majority of the remaining deposits.

### Documentation

Records of archaeological sites and finds made in the Stamford area are held in the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record and in the parish files of the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist.

This report details the buried remains encountered during the investigation and complements previous reports of investigation in the area, notably the work carried out by Mahaney (1977).

There is some contemporary documentation regarding the priory of St. Michael. This could be enhanced further by more detailed archival research.

# Group value

Only moderate group value can be awarded as many deposits are associated with post-medieval demolition of the medieval nunnery. The possibility of post-dissolution domestic habitation, as suggested by the presence of occupation debris, will enhance the group value.

### Survival/Condition

The deposits show a sequence through the medieval, post-medieval and recent periods. Only limited recent disturbance was noted during the current investigation although the school buildings are likely to have impacted on the buried remains. Deposits, particularly the walls of the nunnery are shown to survive in generally good condition, at depths of less than 0.35m below the present ground surface.

### Fragility/Vulnerability

The proposed school building is expected to impact into natural deposits. Therefore, deposits of all periods are vulnerable.

### **Diversity**

Because of the nature of the site, a medieval nunnery with subsequent demolition

activity, diversity is low.

### Potential

It has been established that remains of the cloistral buildings survive in Trench 1. There is high potential that these buildings extend to the adjacent areas.

There is moderate potential for human remains within the area of the proposed development, as burials are known from the cloister walks of some medieval monasteries (Greene 1995, 159)

### 8. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological evaluation on land to the rear of Stamford High School, Junior School, Stamford was undertaken because the proposed development lay within the area of the medieval priory of St. Michael.

The excavation revealed an internal room of the 13<sup>th</sup> century Benedictine nunnery. Its position in relation to other known remains suggests that it may lie on the western side of the cloister, although many variations are known in the layout of monasteries. Postmedieval demolition accounted for the remaining archaeological deposits encountered during the investigation.

A quantity of finds was recovered, including examples of medieval metalwork, worked stone, tile and pottery. Many of the finds, comprising domestic refuse, may have originated from a post-dissolution house in the proximity, although no evidence for this was identified during the investigation.

Overall, deposits were well preserved and potential exists for further associated deposits, including a substantial portion of the medieval cloistral range, to be found within the area of the proposed

development.

### 9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr A. Delaney of W. J. Hemmings and Partners for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. Gary Taylor coordinated this project and edited this report. Jo Simpson, the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist, provided access to the relevant parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire. James Robinson of the British Museum commented upon the medieval purse frame.

### 10. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor

Site Supervisors:
Tobin Rayner, Fiona Walker

Site Assistant: Rachael Hall

Finds Processing: Denise Buckley

*Illustration:* Paul Cope-Faulkner, Phil Mills

Finds Illustration: David Hopkins

*Photographic Reproduction:* Sue Unsworth

Post-excavation Analyst: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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RCHME, 1977, The Town of Stamford

### 11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

RCHME Royal Commission on Historical Monuments for England

TLA Trust for Lincolnshire Archaeology

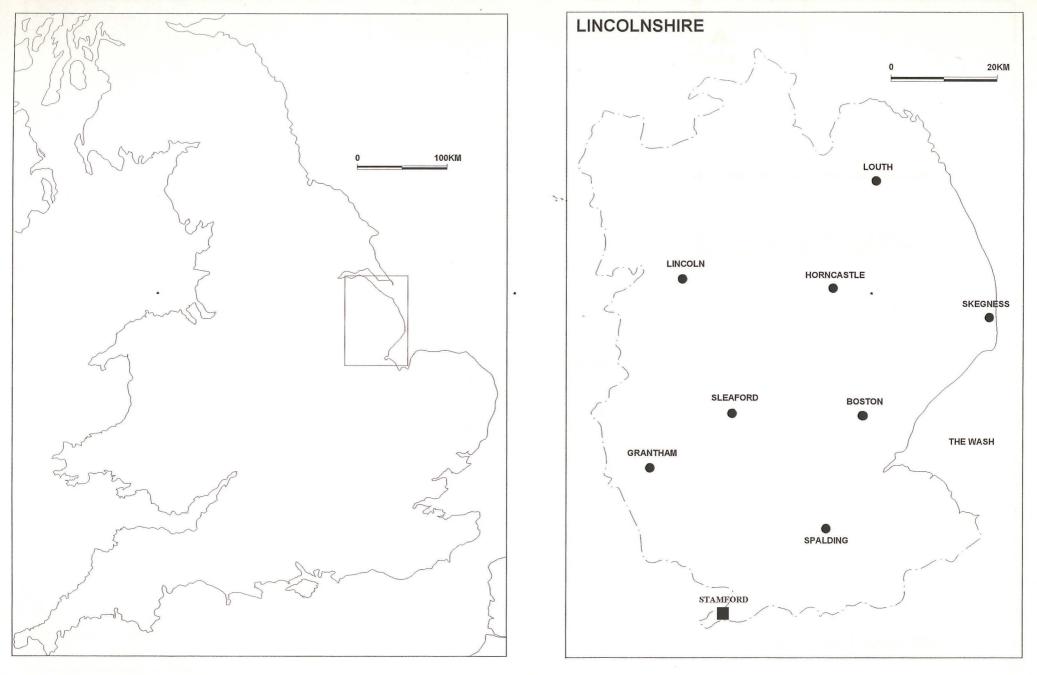
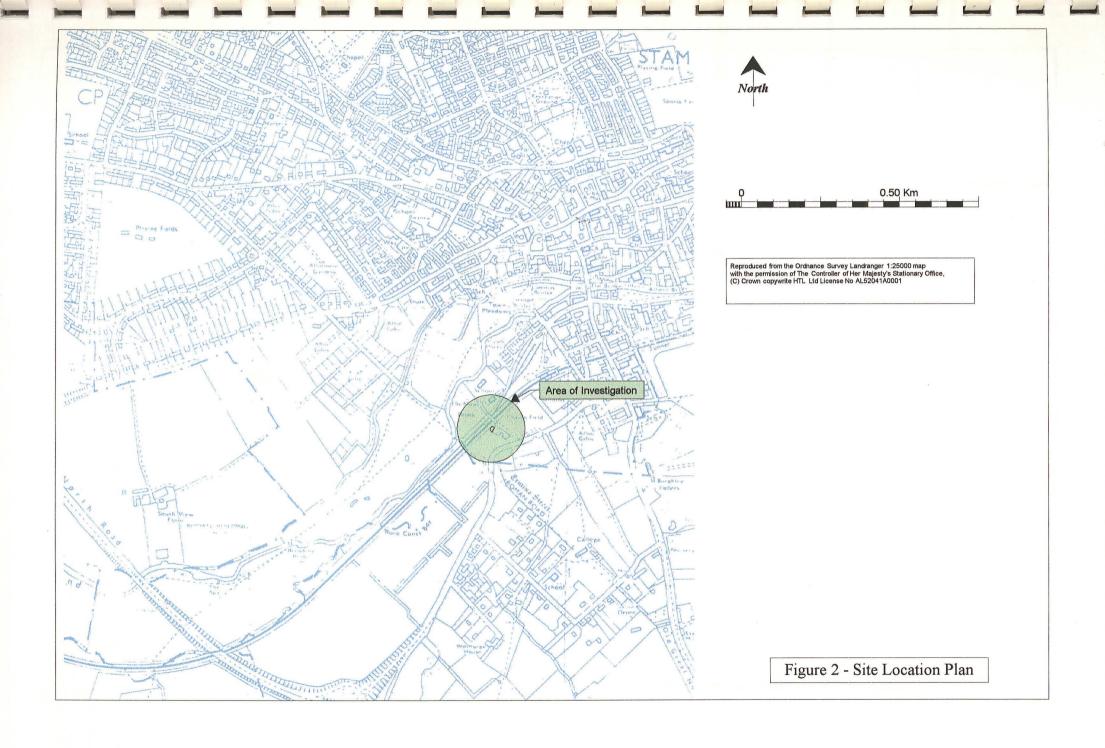


Figure 1 - General location map



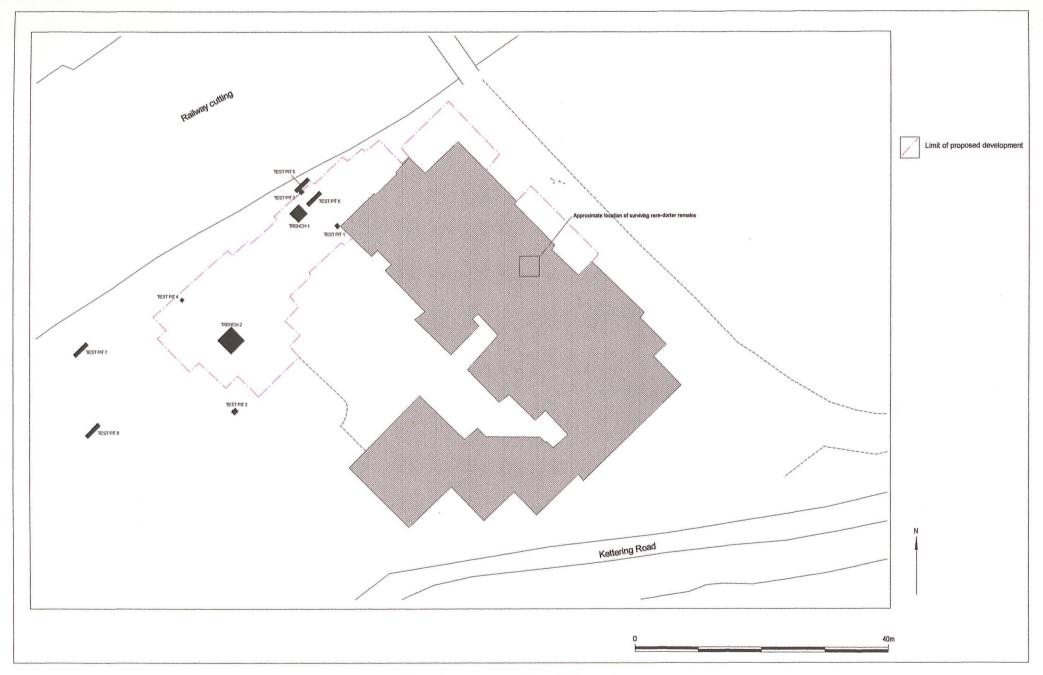


Figure 3 - Trench and Test Pit Locations

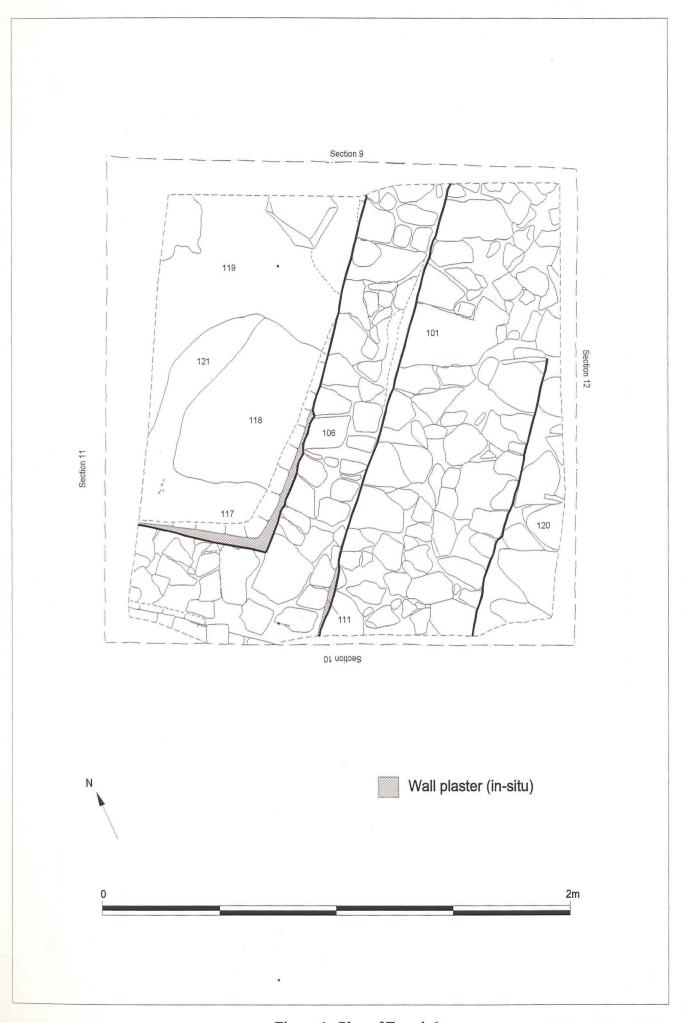


Figure 4 - Plan of Trench 1

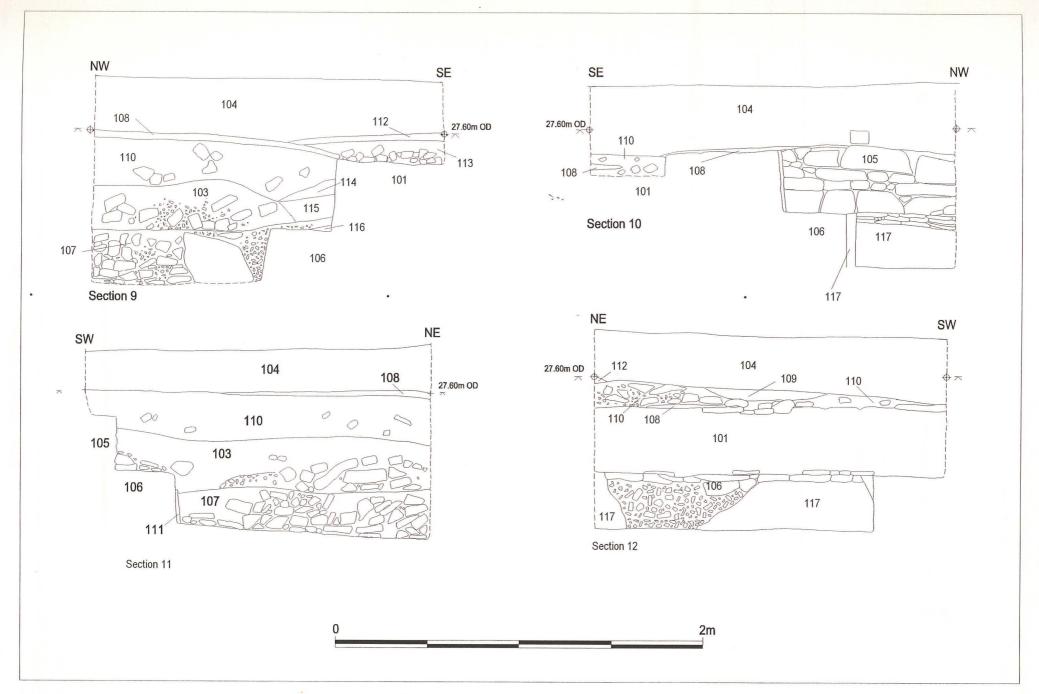


Figure 5 - Trench 1, Sections 9, 10, 11 and 12

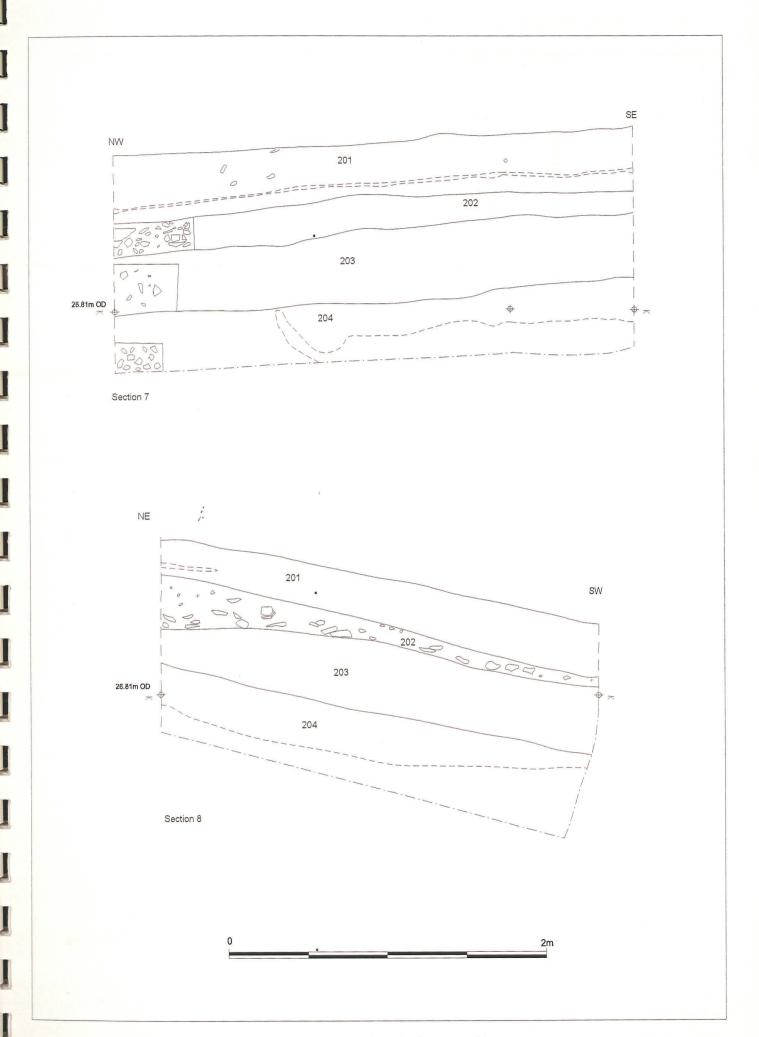
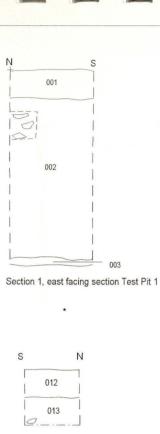
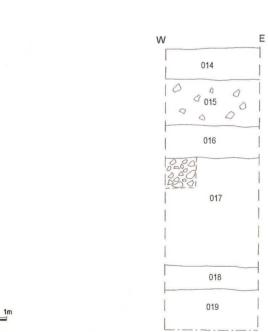


Figure 6 - Trench 2, Sections 7 and 8

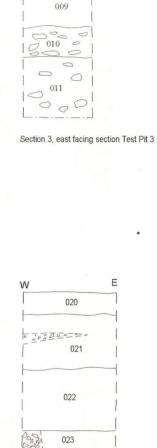


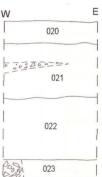
Section 4, east facing section Test Pit 4



0 0060

Section 2, north facing section Test Pit 2





N

Section 6, south facing section Test Pit 8



Section 5, south facing section Test Pit 7

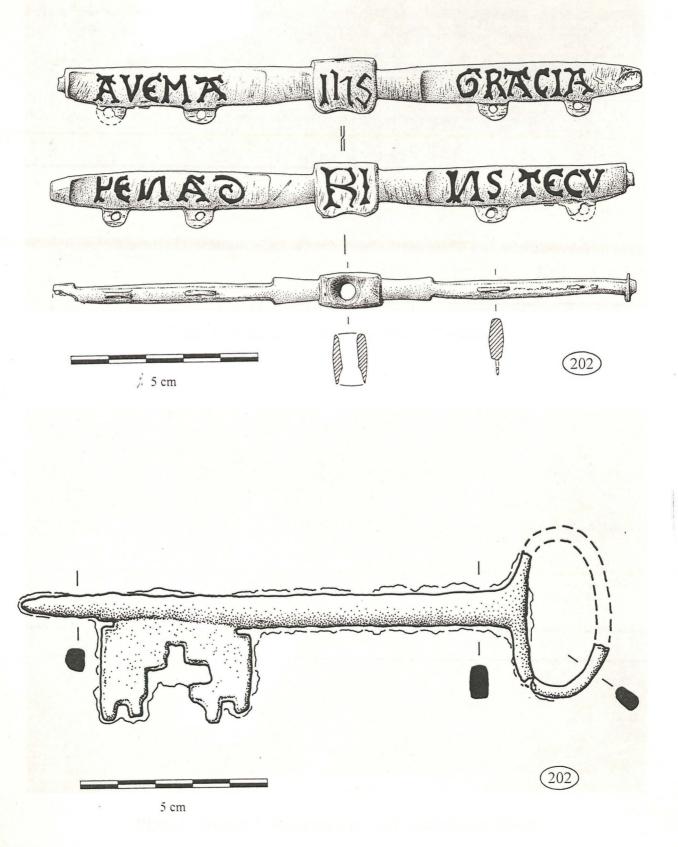


Figure 8 Medieval purse frame and key



Plate 1 General view of the area of Trench 1



Plate 2 Trench 1, showing the walls and plaster floors



Plate 3 Trench 2, looking north



Plate 4 Section 8, showing the accumulated demolition debris, looking southeast

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT BRIEF - EVALUATION OF LAND AT STAMFORD HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR SCHOOL, KETTERING ROAD, STAMFORD.

### 1. SUMMARY.

- 1.1 This document sets out the brief for archaeological fieldwork, recording and publication to be carried out prior to the development of land at Stamford High School Junior School, Kettering Road, Stamford.
- 1.2 This brief should be used by archaeological contractors as the basis for the preparation of a detailed archaeological project specification. In response to this brief contractors will be expected to provide details of the proposed scheme of work, to include the anticipated working methods, timescales and staffing levels.
- 1.3 Detailed specifications should be submitted to the Community Archaeologist of South Kesteven District Council for approval. The client will then be free to choose between those specifications which have been approved.
- 1.4 This brief should be used in conjunction with the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook (August 1997) in the preparation of the contractor's specification.

### 2. SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION.

2.1 The site of the proposed development lies in the south of the South Kesteven district, Lincolnshire. The site itself is in the south of the town, just off the A43, located at NGR:TF 02751 06465, please see location map. The ground cover is currently a mixture of tarmac, paving stones, and a small grass area. There are four medium sized trees on site, three within the paved area, and one just to the east, where a grass bank slopes quite steeply away to the east.

### 3. PLANNING BACKGROUND.

3.1 A Full planning application has been made to South Kesteven District Council for: Extensions and alterations to Junior School (S99/0836/69). At the recommendation of the Community Archaeologist, the District Council have requested a pre-determination archaeological evaluation.

### 4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.

4.1 The school lies directly on top of the site of the Benedictine nunnery of St.Michael which was founded in 1155 as a cell of Peterborough Abbey, it was dissolved in 1536. During construction of the nearby railway in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, significant remains were uncovered including 'ancient foundations. . . broken mullians of windows and other carved stones, five stone coffins, a quantity of human bones, coloured glass' etc. When the school itself was erected in 1973, further important remains were uncovered including the reredorter (toilet). This is a designated Scheduled Ancient Monument. Recent ground investigations on the site have uncovered substantial amounts of medieval pottery.

### 5. REQUIREMENT FOR WORK.

- 5.1 The Community Archaeologist has requested a scheme of trial-trenching be carried out on site.
- 5.2 The investigation should be carried out by a recognised archaeological body in accordance with the code of conduct of The Institute of Field Archaeologists.
- 5.3 The contractor's specification should be prepared according to requirements of this brief and the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook's section 'Standard Briefs for Archaeological Projects in Lincolnshire' (August 1997).

### 6. METHODS.

- 6.1 In consideration of methodology the following details should be given in the contractor's specification:
  - 6.1,1 A projected timetable must be agreed for the various stages of work.
  - 6.1.2. The staff structure and numbers must be detailed.
  - 6.1.3. 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.
  - 6.1.4 The recovery and recording strategies to be used must be described in full. It is expected that an approved single context recording system will be used for all on site and post fieldwork procedures.
  - An estimate of time and resources allocated for post-excavation work and report production in the form of 'person hours'. This should include lists of specialists and their role in the project.

    There should be no change to any of the specialists listed in the specification, unless previously discussed with the Community Archaeologist.
- 6.2 Excavation is a potentially destructive technique and the specification should take the following factors into account:
  - 6.2.1 The use of an appropriate machine with a wide, toothless ditching blade to remove topsoil down to the first archaeological horizon.
  - 6.2.2. The supervision of all machine work by an archaeologist.
  - 6.2.3. When archaeological features are revealed by machine these will be cleaned and excavated by hand and all archaeological deposits will be fully excavated and recorded.
  - 6.2.4 If human remains are encountered the contractor must comply with all statutory consents and licences under the Disused Burial Grounds (Amendment) Act, 1981 or other Burial Acts regarding their exhumation and interment. It will also be necessary to comply with all reasonable requests of interested parties as to the method of removal, reinterment or disposal of the remains or associated items. Attempt must be made at all times not to cause offence to any interested parties.
  - 6.2.5 If discovered during excavation, finds of gold and silver must be archaeologically removed to a safe place and reported to the local Coroner immediately (within 14 days) in accordance with the procedures of the Treasure Act 1997 and Code of Practice. If removal of such finds is not possible on the same day then adequate security arrangements must be made.
  - 6.2.6 Adequate recovery of finds and an adequate sampling programme to provide environmental evidence from all archaeological deposits should be ensured. A contingency sum to cover unexpected finds may be included with the tenders. However, this should only be activated after discussion with the Community Archaeologist and the client.
  - 6.2.7 At least a 2% sample should be excavated in locations designed to retrieve the maximum information. The positions and size of the trenches should be agreed with the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist before work is carried out.

### 7. MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS.

7.1 The Community Archaeologist of South Kesteven District Council will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project and will require at least 14 days notice prior to the commencement of the work. The Community Archaeologist should be kept informed of any unexpected discoveries and regularly updated on the project's progress. They should be allowed access to the site at their

convenience and will comply with any health and safety requirements associated with the site.

# 8. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

- 8.1 The final report should be produced to the level outlined in The Management of Archaeological Projects, Appendix 3, English Heritage, 1991 and within a timescale agreed with the Community Archaeologist. The report should include:
  - 8.1.1 Location plans of the areas which have been investigated and the position of any trenches.
  - 8.1.2 Tables summarising features and artefacts together with a full description and brief interpretation.
  - 8.1.3 specialist descriptions of artefacts and ecofacts.
  - 8.1.4 section and plan drawing, with ground level, Ordance Datum, vertical and horizontal scales as appropriate.
  - 8.1.5. A consideration of the importance of the findings on a local, regional and national basis.
  - 8.1.6 A critical review of the effectiveness of the methodology.
- 8.2 Copies of the final report must be deposited with South Kesteven District Council, the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist, the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments and the developer.

### 9. ARCHIVE DEPOSITION.

- 9.1 After agreement with the land-owner(s), arrangements should be made for long term storage of all artefacts in the City and County Museum, Lincoln as outlined in that Museum's document 'Conditions for the acceptance of Project Archives'. The City and County Museum should be contacted at the earliest possible opportunity so that the full cost implications of the archive deposition can be taken into account.
- 9.2 A site archive should be produced and deposited with the artefacts as detailed in 9.1

### 10. PUBLICATION AND DISSEMINATION.

- 10.1 The deposition of a copy of the report with the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record and the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist will be deemed to put all the 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 Community Archaeologist, but it is expected that this shall not exceed six months.
- 10.2 A summary of the findings of the investigation should be presented for publication to <u>Lincolnshire History</u> and <u>Archaeology</u> (Published by The Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology) within 12 months of the completion of the project.

### 11. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

11.1 This document attempts to define the best practice expected of an archaeological investigation but cannot fully anticipate the conditions that will be encountered as work progresses. However, changes to the approved programme of excavation are only to be made with the prior written approval of the Community Archaeologist.

Brief set by Community Archaeologist September 1999.

# CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

# Test Pit 1

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Friable, mid to dark brown clayey silt with occasional small limestone and root inclusions, deposit 0.20m thick.	Topsoil
002	Friable, light to mid reddish brown clayey silt with frequent medium limestone inclusions, deposit 1.15m thick.	Backfilled rubble
003	Loose, mid grey degraded concrete and building rubble, deposit 50mm thick.	Backfilled rubble

# Test Pit 2

No.	Description	Interpretation
004	Friable, mid to dark brown clayey silt with occasional small limestone and organic material inclusions, deposit 0.22m thick.	Turfed topsoil
005	Loose, mid greyish brown clayey sand with frequent medium limestone inclusions, deposit 80mm thick.	Dumped deposit
006	Friable, mid reddish brown clayey sand with occasional to frequent medium limestone inclusions, deposit 0.20m thick.	Natural
007	Friable, mid reddish brown clayey sand with occasional medium limestone inclusions, deposit 0.30m thick (to limit of excavation).	Natural
008	Soft, light to mid reddish brown clayey silt with occasional medium limestone inclusions, deposit 0.45m thick (augered deposit).	Natural

# Test Pit 3

No.	Description	Interpretation
009	Friable, mid to dark brown clayey silt with occasional small limestone and organic material inclusions, deposit 0.27m thick.	Turfed topsoil
010	Loose to friable, mid greyish brown clayey silt with frequent medium limestone and root inclusions, deposit 0.20m thick.	Demolition deposit
011	Friable, mid reddish brown clayey sand with medium limestone inclusions, deposit 0.42m thick (to limit of excavation).	Natural

# Test Pit 4

No.	Description	Interpretation
012	Friable, mid to dark brown clayey silt with occasional small limestone and organic material inclusions, deposit 0.20m thick.	Turfed topsoil
013	Friable, mid greyish brown clayey silt with occasional medium limestone inclusions, deposit0.20m thick (to limit of excavation).	Demolition deposit

# Test Pit 5

No.	Description	Interpretation
024	Moderately friable, dark brown sandyish silt with occasional small limestone frags, deposit 0.28m thick.	Turfed topsoil
025	Moderate, mid yellowish brown silty sand and limestone lumps, deposit 0.92m thick (to limit of excavation).	Backfill to water main trench

# Test Pit 7

No.	Description	Interpretation
014	Friable, mid to dark brown clayey silt with occasional small limestone and organic material inclusions, deposit 0.20m thick.	Turfed topsoil
015	Friable, mid yellow/reddish brown silty clay with frequent limestone gravel, deposit 0.3m thick.	Dumped deposit
016	Loose, dark brown silty sandy clay with occasional limestone fragments, deposit 0.2m thick.	Buried soil
017	Loose, dark brown sandy silt clay with frequent course cobbled ironstone, limestone lumps and occasional angular stones, deposit 0.7m thick.	Made up ground
018	Friable, dark brown sandy silt clay with occasional limestone fragments, charcoal and shell, deposit 0.15m thick.	Dumped deposit
019	Friable, mid yellowish brown sandy silt clay, deposit 0.20m thick (to limit of excavation).	Natural

# Test Pit 8

No.	Description	Interpretation
020	Friable, mid to dark brown clayey silt with occasional small limestone and organic material inclusions, deposit 0.20m thick	Turfed topsoil
021	Friable, mid to dark brown sandy silty clay with occasional limestone lumps, deposit 0.35m thick.	Subsoil/made up ground
022	Friable, mid yellowish brown sandy silt clay with charcoal and limestone fragments, deposit 0.4m thick.	Hillwash
023	Friable, mid yellowish brown sandy silt clay with frequent angular limestone cobbles, deposit 0.20m thick (to limit of excavation)	Natural

# Trench 1

No.	Description	Interpretation
101	Random coursed limestone, facing of internal structure, 2m long x 0.6m wide and 0.29m high, northwest-southeast aligned	Foundation wall
102	Cancelled context	
103	Loose white-yellow limestone and reddish brown silt, 0.3m thick	Rubble demolition layer
104	Loose mid greyish brown silt, 0.35m thick	Topsoil
105	Random coursed limestone, facing of internal structure, 1.1m length, bonds to wall (101), aligned northeast-southwest	Foundation wall

No.	Description	Interpretation
106	Random coursed limestone, plastered, internal, 2.88m total length (2m plus 0.88m on return), 0.32m wide and 0.24m high	Low wall?
107	Loose mid brown silt with limestone rubble, frequent mortar fragments	Rubble demolition layer
108	Loose brownish red sand, 40mm thick	Dumped deposit
109	Loose mid yellowish brown silt with modern debris, 0.14m thick	Dumped deposit
110	Loose dark brown silt, 60mm thick	Dumped deposit
111	Hard off white plaster surface covering part of Wall (101)	Plaster
112	Loose greyish red silt with frequent limestone fragments, 60mm thick	Dumped deposit
113	Loose mid greyish brown silt with limestone fragments, 0.15m thick	Robbed portion of wall (101)
114	Loose mid reddish brown silt, 100mm thick	Dumped deposit
115	Loose greyish brown silt, 0.11m thick	Dumped deposit
116	Loose mid reddish brown sandy silt, 60mm thick	Dumped deposit
117	Hard yellowish white plaster covering wall (106)	Plaster
118	Hard yellowish white mortar	Floor surface
119	Hard mid reddish brown silt	Floor make-up?
120	Compact limestone in brown silt matrix,	Rubble layer
121	Hard yellowish white limestone	Possible limestone surface

# Trench 2

No.	Description	Interpretation
201	Friable dark brown silty sand, 0.38m thick	Topsoil
202	Friable mid greyish brown silty sand with frequent limestone fragments, 0.24m thick	Demolition deposit
203	Friable mid reddish brown sandy silt, 0.46m thick	Natural deposit
204	Friable mid reddish brown sandy silt, 0.4m thick	Natural deposit

# THE POTTERY AND METALWORK FINDS

By Hilary Healey MPhil, Jane Cowgill, James Robinson and Gary Taylor MA

### Provenance

The material was recovered from topsoil and demolition deposits.

The majority of the pottery was made in the Bourne area, approximately 15km to the northeast of Stamford. There are a few medieval vessels of probable Northamptonshire origin. A single piece of pottery, a slipware, is distinctly from Staffordshire in the Midlands, though some of the post-medieval red earthenwares are probably also Staffordshire products. Saxo-Norman and medieval Stamford ware is conspicuous by its absence.

### Range

The range of material is detailed in the table.

Context	Description	<b>Context Date</b>
unstratified, Test Pit 6	1x Staffordshire slipware bowl, 18 <sup>th</sup> century	18 <sup>th</sup> century
005	1x iron suspension loop, length 48mm, loop diameter 27mm 2x iron nails, both incomplete	
010	1x iron nail, irregular head, length 63mm	
014	1x Bourne D ware, 16 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> century	16 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> century
021	4x Bourne C ware, 3 linked, 13 <sup>th</sup> - 15 <sup>th</sup> century (1 abraded) 1x red earthenware, yellow glazed, 17 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup> century 1x iron tap slag	17 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup> century
101	1x Bourne D ware, 16 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> century 1x ?Bourne B ware, 12 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup> century	16 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> century
103	14x red earthenware, linked pieces, 1 vessel, brown glazed tankard, 17 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup> century 1x Bourne B ware, 12 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup> century 41x painted plaster, off-white; dark blue-grey; dark blue-grey stripes; red-brown stripes 3x iron nails, 2 complete	17 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup> century
104	16x white glazed wall tile, 20 <sup>th</sup> century 6x iron strip 1x copper alloy ferrule, 20 <sup>th</sup> century 1x copper alloy circuit junction cover, 20 <sup>th</sup> century	20 <sup>th</sup> century
107	13x painted plaster, off-white; dark blue-grey; dark blue-grey stripes; red-brown stripes; red-brown and dark blue-grey stripes 3x mortar (off-white) 4x mortar (medium-dark grey) 2x brick, burnt (reduced) 1x iron nail 1x mussel shell 1x copper alloy rumble bell, 18mm diameter, ?iron clanger on the inside. 1x lead window came, crumpled, length 39mm	

Context	Description	Context Date
201	1x Bourne D ware, 16 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> century 1x red earthenware, black glazed tyg/mug, 16 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> century	16 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> century
202	8 x Bourne D ware, incl. 3 linked bowl, $16^{th}$ - $17^{th}$ century 1x ?Bourne jug, $15^{th}$ - $17^{th}$ century 3 x Northamptonshire ware jug, 2 linked, prob. 1 vessel $13^{th}$ - $15^{th}$ century 1 x Northamptonshire ware bottle?, $14^{th}$ - $16^{th}$ century (abraded) 5 x Bourne B/C ware $13^{th}$ - $15^{th}$ century 1 x red earthenware, brown glazed, $16^{th}$ - $17^{th}$ century 1 x copper alloy purse bar, inlaid with niello inscription 'AVE MAR GRACIA' and 'PENA DNS TECV', $15^{th}$ - early $16^{th}$ century 1x iron key, $13^{th}$ century 1x iron nail 1 x stone, ?burnt 1x oyster shell	16 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> century
203	2x Bourne D ware, 16 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> century 2x Bourne B ware, linked, 12 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup> century	16 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> century

Although having a broken bow, the iron key from context (202) has a long, protruding pin and a long bit with wide clefts. There is no discernable collar, suggesting that the key predates the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Keys of similar form have previously been found and dated to the 13<sup>th</sup> century (Monk 1994, 44; 60). The inscription on the purse is an abbreviated version of 'Åve Maria gracia plena dominus tecum' (Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee) and is often found on purse bars.

Fragments of pottery of probable  $12^{th}$  - $14^{th}$  century date are the earliest artefacts though the largest component of the assemblage is of the early post-medieval period, from the  $16^{th}$  -  $17^{th}$  century. The latest material is of  $20^{th}$  century date but there is a scarcity of  $18^{th}$  century material and none of the  $19^{th}$  century.

## Condition

Although some of the pottery is slightly worn, most of the material is in good condition and presents no long-term storage problems. However, the recent strip iron from (104) is fragile. None of the metalwork was X-rayed. Archive storage of the assemblage is by material class. Much of the fragmentary Collyweston slate could be discarded.

### **Documentation**

A number of archaeological investigations have been undertaken in Stamford, with several in particular proximity to the present investigation site (eg, Mahany 1977, 10). These previous investigations have revealed part of the cloistral range. However, there is no documentation on the finds made during this investigation.

### Potential

Because it largely relates to the dissolution of the priory in the  $16^{th}$  century, the assemblage has moderate potential. However, this is enhanced by the construction material (painted plaster, etc.) which indicates that the medieval priory buildings in this area were decorated and substantial. Additionally, the absence of Stamford wares, whose production terminates in the mid  $13^{th}$  century, indicates that either this investigation did not reach earlier medieval levels or, more likely, that this part of the priory was not established until after the cessation of Stamford ware production.

#### References

Mahany, C.M., 1977, 'St. Michael's Nunnery, Stamford', in South Lincolnshire Archaeology 1

Monk, E., 1994, Keys Their History and Collection (Shire)

# THE CERAMIC BRICK AND TILE by Phil Mills BSc (Hons)

### Introduction

The fragments of ceramic building material recovered from the site were examined under a 20 x binocular microscope. Their fabrics were described and compared with the fabric type series retained at Archaeological Project Services. There were 35 fragments weighing a total of 4630g. Five different fabrics were identified. One of the identified brick forms, and an unidentified brick or tile fragment exhibited high degrees of burning, consistent to having been used in a kiln or foundry.

A ridge tile fragment had an impression of a textile fabric (possibly a close woven sack?) which possibly had been placed over the drying tile, prior to its initial firing, as protection from the elements.

The wide range of forms and fabrics for such a small assemblage suggests that much of the collection comprises residual material from outside of the structure. However, the high status glazed ridge tiles were probably once a part of the roofing of the structure, nicely off setting the Collyweston peg tiles.

#### Assessment

It is recommended that the pieces be retained for future information about the spread of tile fabric types over the region, therefore helping to map out the changing development of the medieval brick and tile industry.

The following pieces should be drawn and photographed:

Fragment of marked Ridge tile from (005) (estimated 1/2 hour): Fragment of Ridge tile with fabric impression from (021) (estimated 2 hours) Complete side of Ridge tile (RT2) from (103) (estimated 1/2 hour.)

### **Fabrics**

- SKR1 A light red (Munsell: 2.5YR6/6) soft sandy feel irregular fracture, with sparse poorly-sorted medium rounded black iron stone, moderate poorly-sorted fine sub-angular quartz, abundant poorly-sorted medium sub-angular quartzite, sparse well-sorted medium sub-rounded red iron stone and sparse poorly-sorted coarse angular voids.
- SKR2 A red (Munsell: 2.5YR5/6) soft sandy feel fine fracture, with sparse poorly-sorted medium rounded black iron stone, abundant poorly-sorted fine sub-angular calcite, abundant poorly-sorted medium rounded quartz and moderate poorly-sorted coarse angular voids. This fabric is similar to fabrics described from a number of sites from Lincolnshire, and from Newark Castle where it has been initially dated to be between the 13<sup>th</sup> century and the 15<sup>th</sup> century AD.
- SKR3 A light red (Munsell: 2.5YR6/6) hard smooth feel fine fracture, with abundant well-sorted very fine rounded mica, abundant poorly-sorted medium sub-angular quartz, sparse poorly-sorted medium rounded red iron stone, sparse poorly-sorted coarse angular shell and moderate poorly-sorted medium angular voids.
- SKR4 A reddish brown (Munsell: 2.5yr4/4) 2.5yr4/4 hard granular feel irregular fracture, with moderate poorly-sorted medium sub-angular calcite, sparse well-sorted medium rounded clay, moderate well-sorted very fine rounded mica, abundant poorly-sorted coarse sub-angular quartz, moderate poorly-sorted medium sub-angular quartzite, moderate poorly-sorted medium rounded slag and sparse poorly-sorted very coarse angular voids.
- SKR5 A light reddish brown (Munsell: 2.5yr6/4) 2.5yr6/4 soft sandy feel fine fracture, with abundant poorly sorted coarse shell, sparse poorly sorted medium sub-angular iron ore, abundant poorly-sorted medium sub-angular quartz and sparse poorly-sorted coarse rounded voids. This is similar to a fabric described

from a site at Kings Lynn, where it was dated to between the late 14th century and late 15th century AD.

### The Forms

- The fragment representing this form had a mean width of 88.7mm and a mean thickness of 53.2mm. It was heavily worn, and had been burnt on one face in a manner consistent with that application of high heat in a structure, such as a kiln or smithy. It was represented in fabric SKR2
- B2 Three fragments, from the same brick, were found of this form. It had a mean thickness of 49.5mm. It was very light and friable, and had been heavily worn. It was found in fabric SKR1.
- RT1 The fragment of ridge tile was identified through its curvature. It had a mean thickness of 17.6mm. It was manufactured from fabric SKR3. On the top surface was the impression of a textile.
- Four examples of this type of ridge tile were identified. The dimensions are 378mm long by a height of 150 to 165 mm and a thickness between 15.6 to 16.4mm. Two examples were glazed with glaze type G1, a third was thickly glazed with type G2 and had the remains of an inscribed pattern and the fourth having a surface so worn as to be impossible to identify whether or not it had been glazed. All the examples of this form were made from fabric SKR5, however the tile from (005) was an extremely oxidised form of the fabric, with abundant coarse shell inclusions very obvious. This could suggest that the tile was specifically chosen for special treatment. These were probably high status tiles and would probably have been used with the Collyweston peg tiles found in the same contexts as roofing for the structure.

### Markings

The ridge tile (type RT2) from context (005) was coasted with a thick green glaze and the remains of an inscribed pattern of three roughly parallel lines c. 12 mm apart above a forth line 22mm below then slanting up to meet them.

The ridge tile fragment from (021) had the impression of a piece of textile on its upper surface. This was likely to have been placed over the tile after its primary forming, and as it was drying to leather hardness, in order to protect it from rain. The impression measures 27mm x30mm at its greatest length and breadth. It was woven and the thread count is system 1:20 threads per cm and system 2:17 threads per cm. The weave appears to be tabby, that is alternating warp threads passing over weft threads. The entire piece seems to have been stretched in places giving variations in thread distances over the impression. This may imply a fairly old or well used piece of textile.

### Glazes

Two types of glazing were identified. Both were probably lead sulphide based glazes with copper compounds added to produce a green colour.

- G1 This was a pale green thin glaze applied to two examples of RT2 to cover most of the upper surface of the tile. The uneven spread became increasingly pitted and worn along the body of the tile. A much thicker and glossy form of this glaze was applied to the incised ridge tile from (005).
- G2 This was a darker green glaze found on a piece of tile (fabric SKR3) from (103).

# **Brick and Tile Catalogue**

		Fabric	Wt (g)	No	Cnrs Len(mm) Wth(mm)	Tk (mm	1)	Morta	.r
005									
Tile		SKR5	490	7		14.4		No	g1
poss.	star moti	if more sh	elly and a	darker	fired than norm				
018									
Brick		SKR2	355	1	1 88.7	53.2		Yes	
Burnt	on one j	face, Subs	equently	mortar	ed. Probably from kiln				
Brick		SKR1	670	3	1	49.5		No	
Type !	sherd								
021									
B/T		SKR4	10	1				No	
Tile	RT1	SKR3	120	1			17.6	No	
	e impres	sion on to	p surface	e. Prob.	. from rain protection when dryi	ng			
103		CYCD #					1605	***	0
Tile		SKR5	60	1			16.05	Yes	g2
<i>Green</i> Tile	glaze RT2	SKR5	490	3	1	162.5	15.2	Yes	α1
			490	3	1	102.3	13.2	1 68	g1
Tile	green glo RT2	aze SKR5	1480	11	2 · 376.5	140	16	No	gl
	green gle		1400	11	2 370.3	110	10	110	6*
107	green gu	126	*						
В/Т		SKR5	60	3			17.05	No	g1
2, 1									8-
B/T		SKR5	10	1				No	
Possil	blv edge	of ridge t	ile						
Tile	RT2	SKR5	850	2		162.5	15.95	Yes	
Surfac	ce very v	vorn and	pitted. N	o evide	nce of glaze remaining.				
203			_						
Tile	RT2	SKR5	35	1			11.9	No	g1

 $Wt = Weight, \ No = No\ of\ fragments, \ Cnrs = No\ of\ Corners,\ Len = Mean\ Length,\ Wth = Mean\ Width\ TK = Mean\ No - No\ of\ fragments$ 

 $Mortar = presence \ or \ absence$ 

## THE WORKED STONE

by Paul Cope-Faulkner BA(Hons) AIFA

#### **Provenance**

The worked stone came from demolition contexts (103) and (107).

The source of the limestone was probably from known medieval quarries at places such as Barnack, Cambridgeshire. Documentary research would probably be able to determine their exact origin. In addition to the worked stone, a quantity of roofing slate was retrieved of a type quarried at Collyweston, Northamptonshire.

### Range

The range of material is detailed in the table below.

Context	Туре	Len (mm)	Wid (mm)	Dep (mm)	Notes	
103	Plinth	185	160	60	Limestone, chamfered along one plane	
107	107 Voussoir 320 225 84  Cross/ finial base 305		84	Single centre arch, recessed and double chamfered to take small door or medium sized window ( $\emptyset$ 650mm). Chisel marks, 16mm width		
					Socketed chamfered limestone shaft on square pedestal, with an unweathered square socket. Pedestal is 67mm high with shallow recess along the centre. Marking out lines on the base	
	Ashlar	170	135	. 130	Corner limestone fragment, slightly burnt	
	Ashlar	130	120	120	Corner limestone fragment	

A total of 22 near complete fragments of Collyweston slate were retrieved, 19 fragments from (103) and 3 fragments from (107). They are elongated trapezoidal in shape and have a single, central nail hole. The average length of the material is 260mm, and widths are 120mm at the top of the tile to 170mm at the base. Slight chamfering occurs along the external side of the base of each tile. A single tile from (103) still has mortar attached.

### Condition

The stonework is all in good condition with the exception of the burnt ashlar piece from context (107) which is slightly fragmentary.

### Documentation

There is little published material regarding architectural stonework from Stamford, although elements have been discussed by the RCHME (1977).

### **Potential**

The stonework, relating to a 12<sup>th</sup> century Benedictine monastery is of moderate to high potential. The Collyweston Slate is likewise important, although fragmentary pieces may be discarded.

### References

RCHME, 1977, The Town of Stamford

### ENVIRONMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY ASSESSMENT

by James Rackham The Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

### Introduction

Evaluation excavations conducted by Archaeological Project Services at Kettering Road, Stamford, on the site of a medieval Benedictine Nunnery revealed structural evidence for the Nunnery. During the course of the evaluation a single soil sample and a small collection of animal bones were recovered for environmental analysis.

The soil sample of eight litres was taken from layer 107, a demolition layer of loose limestone and mortar rubble. The sample of 63 animal bones and a partial skeleton of a bird were recovered from topsoil, demolition and dump deposits of post-medieval and modern date.

### Methods

The soil sample was processed in the following manner. Sample volume and weight was measured prior to processing. The sample was washed in a 'Siraf tank (Williams 1973) using a flotation sieve with a 0.5mm mesh and an internal wet-sieve of Imm mesh for the residue. Both residue and float were dried, and the residue subsequently re-floated to ensure the efficient recovery of charred material. The dry volume of the flot was measured, and the volume and weight of the residue recorded.

The residue was sorted by eye, and environmental and archaeological finds picked out, noted on the assessment sheet and bagged independently. A magnet was run through the residue in order to recover magnetised material such as hammerscale and prill. The residue has been retained. The float was studied under a low power binocular microscope. The presence of environmental finds (ie snails, charcoal, carbonised seeds, bones etc) was noted and their abundance and species diversity recorded on the assessment sheet. The float was then bagged. The float and finds from the sorted residue constitute the material archive of the sample.

### Results

The soil sample residue was largely composed of fragmented wall plaster, with several face fragments including some with painted decoration. A smaller proportion of the residue was composed of fragmented limestone and both these components confirm the interpretation of the layer as demolition rubble. In this case probably from the collapse or destruction of a plastered and painted internal wall surface and its associated wall.

Other finds were limited to two iron nails and a relatively large quantity of flake and spheroidal hammerscale. The latter is in sufficient abundance to suggest that smithing was taking place on the site. Whether this was associated with the use of the building before its demolition or is evidence that the iron fittings from the building were recycled during its demolition cannot be assessed from this single sample.

There is very limited evidence for domestic rubbish in the sample. The small quantities of charcoal could derive from the demolition, but a single charred cereal grain, a substantial amount of fragmented eggshell, probably chicken, a few tiny fragments of cockle and oyster, and a couple of small fish vertebrae may indicate some rubbish disposal into the context. The quantity of eggshell is unusual, 21 grammes were picked from the residue, but an interpretation other than rubbish would be difficult to justify.

There are a number of uncharred seeds which may be contemporary but could have moved through the soil and be contaminants in this context. These include seeds of elder and rush among others. A large molluscan assemblage reflects two habitat types. A grassland habitat is indicated by an abundance of shells of *Vallonia excentrica*, *Vallonia costata and Pupilla muscorum* (Cameron and Redfern 1976; Evans 1972), while a shaded or woodland habitat is suggested by numerous shells of *Discus rotundatus*, and shells of *Oxychilus* sp., *Clausilidae*, *Carychium*, *and Lauria cylindracea*. This latter component almost certainly reflects the stony rubble character of the habitat, which would have given adequate shade and moisture conditions for taxa that favour shaded or woodland environments. This habitat is probably also responsible for the high numbers of frog/toad bones that indicate that numerous individuals were exploiting the holes and gaps in the demolition rubble. The presence of two shells of *Pomatia elegans* a species favouring calcareous loose soil suggests that this was a coloniser of the demolition rubble

after the destruction of the building and two shells of small freshwater bivalves and a shell of *Succinea* sp. a species of marsh or wet environments suggests the inclusion of material from an aquatic or marsh habitat. The small mammal remains included only field vole and house mouse, both of whom would have taken advantage of the cover and protection afforded by the rubble.

#### The animal bone

The bulk of the animal bones were recovered from post-medieval deposits (Table 1). The jackdaw skeleton and a humerus from an immature owl probably derive from birds that were occupying the ruined Nunnery.

Table 1: The number of fragments of bone of each species by phase

Phase	1	3	. 4
	natural	post- med	modern
Cattle		3	
Cattle size		9	
Sheep/goat	1	11	2
Sheep		2	
Sheep size		13	
Pig		15	
Fallow deer	;	1	1
Dog		1	
Goose		1	
Goose size		1	
Owl		1	
Jackdaw		1*	
Unidentified		1	

<sup>\*</sup> partial skeleton

The remainder of the sample appears to derive from domestic food rubbish. There is evidence for butchery on the bones (see archive catalogue) and some for dog scavenging. Some of the bones were root etched and not so well preserved but there is no evidence for the loss through erosion of any deposited bones. Sheep and pig bones constitute the bulk of the sample, and two bones of fallow deer may indicate that some of this debris is from a high status household.

### Conclusions

The environmental sample and animal bone indicates some deposition of domestic rubbish on the site reflecting aspects of the diet of the site occupants in the post-medieval period. The sample confirmed that layer 107 was a demolition layer but also produced evidence for smithing on the site, possibly the recycling of iron from the building being demolished.

Should further work be conducted then the animal bone and charred plant remains are likely to afford a useful assemblage for establishing the diet and general economic status of the site. The presence of fallow deer among the bones clearly suggests that the bone debris includes material from a high status household. The excellent

preservation of shells may give an indication of the changing habitat at the site throughout its history and sampling could equally inform on the industrial activities at the site and where these were located.

### Acknowledgments

1 should like to thank Alison Foster, Jeremy Dubber and Jane Cowgill for processing and sorting the sample.

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# Archive Catalogue of Animal Bone from the Kettering Road, Stamford - SKR99

site	cont.	species	bone	no.	side	fusion	zone	butchery	gnawing	toothwear	measurement	path	comment	preserv ation
SKR99	004	OVCA	UM3	1	R					K13			CUSP BROKEN	4
SKR99	005	CAN	TIB	1	R								MIDSHAFT	4
SKR99	005	CSZ	INN	1	F			CH					FRAGMENT-POROUS-CHOPPED	4
SKR99	005	CSZ	RIB	1	F			CH					SHAFT FRAGMENT- 2 PIECES-CHOPPED	4
SKR99	005	CSZ	UNI	2	F					;	1-		INDET	4
SKR99	005	OVCA	TIB	1	R	DF	567			demonstration of the second of	Bd-25.8 Dd-19.4		DISTAL END	4
SKR99	005	OWL	HUM	1	R								COMPLETE-BUT JUVENILE-UNFORMED	3
SKR99	005	SSZ	LBF	1	F								SHAFT FRAG-POROUS	3
SKR99	005	SSZ.	RIB	1	1.								SHAFT- 3 PIECES-POROUS	4
SKR99	005	SUS	FIB	1	F							- (	MIDSHAFT	4
SKR99	005	SUS	SCP	1	L	DF	1235				GLP-36 SLC-20.3		DISTAL END AND NECK	4
SKR99	005	SUS	ULN	1	R	1	23	СН	DG				SHAFT AND SEMILUNARIS-CHOPPED ACROSS PROX END-CHEWED	4
SKR99	006	OVCA	PH1	1	L	PF	12				*		COMPLETE\	4
SKR99	010	BOS	UM2	1	L					J14			ROOTS BROKEN	4
SKR99	010	SUS	INN	1	L		78		DG				ISCHIUM-SL CHEWED-2 PIECES	4
SKR99	010	UNI	UNI	1	F		1						INDET	4
SKR99	018	BOS	PH1	1	L	PF	12						COMPLETE	4
SKR99	018	CSZ	INN	1	F			CH					FRAGMENT-CHOPPED	4
SKR99	021	OVCA	FEM	1	R		4						DISTAL HALF SHAFT- 2 PIECES	4
SKR99	103	GSSZ	RIB	1	F									4
SKR99	103	OVCA	TIB	1	L	DF	567				Bd-28.8 Dd-20.8		DISTAL END	4
SKR99	103	SSZ	RIB	1	F			СН					SHAFT-PROX CHOPPED	3
SKR99	103	SSZ	RIB	1	F								SHAFT FRAG-POROUS- 2 PIECES	3
SKR99	103	SUS	FIB	1	F								SHAFT FRAG	3
SKR99	107	JACK	SKEL	1	F								ULNAS-HUM-TIB-RAD-CMC-SMALL	4
SKR99	107	OVI	MTC	1	R	DF	345				Bd-24.8 Dd-15.9		DISTAL HALF	4
SKR99	107	SSZ	RIB	1	R	PF	1	CH					PROX HALF CHOPPED ABOVE HEAD	4
SKR99	107	SSZ	RIB	2	F								SHAFT FRAG-SL EROSION	3
SKR99	201	DAM	FEM	1	R		4						MIDSHAFT	4
SKR99	202	BOS	ULN	1	R		3						PROX SHAFT FRAG-DISTAL TO SEMILUNARIS	4
SKR99	202	CSZ	RIB	1	R								PROX SHAFT-SL ETCHED	3
SKR99	202	CSZ	RIB	1	F			CH					PROX SHAFT-PROX END CHOPPED	4
SKR99	202	CSZ	RIB	1 .	. L			СН					PROX SHAFT-PROX AND DIST CHOPPED	4
SKR99	202	CSZ	RIB	1	F								SHAFT FRAG	4
SKR99	202	DAM	TIB	1	L								PROX ANT SHAFT FRAGMENT	4
SKR99	202	GOOS	HUM	1	R								DISTAL SHAFT	4
SKR99	202	OVCA	INN	1	L		7						ISCHIAL SHAFT-SL ETCHED	3
SKR99	202	OVCA	RAD	1	L								PROX SHAFT FRAG- 2 PIECES	4
SKR99	202	OVCA	RAD	1	R	PFDJ	123456	СН	DG		GL-160 Bp-30.2 Dp- 15.7 SD-16 Bd-28.8		COMPLETE-SL DAMAGE-MIDSHAFT CHOPPED-DISTAL CHEWED	4

site	cont.	species	bone	no.	side	fusion	zone	butchery	gnawing	toothwear	measurement	path	comment	preserv ation
SKR99	202	OVCA	TIB	1	R	DF	567				Bd-25 Dd-19.7		DISTAL END	4
SKR99	202	OVCA	TIB	1	L		4						PROXIMAL MIDSHAFT	4
SKR99	202	OVCA	TIB	1	R	DF	4567				SD-13.8 Bd-26.1 Dd- 19.9		SHAFT AND DISTAL END- 2 PIECES	4
SKR99	202	OVCA	TIB	1	L	DF	567				Bd-27 Dd-20		DISTAL END	4
SKR99	202	OVCA	TIB	1	L								MIDSHAFT	4
SKR99	202	SSZ	LBF	1	F								SHAFT FRAGMENT	4
SKR99	202	SSZ	LBF	2	F					3.42			INDET	4
SKR99	202	SSZ	RIB	1	F								PROX SHAFT FRAG-SL ETCHED	3
SKR99	202	SSZ	RIB	1	L			CH					PROX SHAFT-PROX CHOPPED	4
SKR99	202	SSZ	TIB	1	F								DISTAL SHAFT FRAGMENT	4
SKR99	202	SUS	DLP4	1	W					h6			COMPLETE-NO WEAR	4
SKR99	202	SUS	HUM	1	F						***************************************		MIDSHAFT FRAG-2 PIECES	4
SKR99	202	SUS	LPM	1	F								CUSP FRAGMENT	4
SKR99	202	SUS	MAN	1	L		6						ANGLE	4
SKR99	202	SUS	MAN	1	R					H8114			FRAGMENT HORI RAMUS- 3 PIECES	4
SKR99	202	SUS	MAN	1	R		678			DGH8J9K 7			HORIZONTAL RAMUS- 9 PIECES-MALE	4
SKR99	202	SUS	MAN	1	R		123678			34GH8I12 J10K7	,		HORIZONTAL RAMUS- 8 PIECES-MALE	4
SKR99	202	SUS	TIB	1	L								MIDSHAFT-POROUS-IMM	4
SKR99	202	SUS	TIB	1	R		4		DG				SHAFT-DISTAL CHEWED	4
SKR99	202	SUS	ULN	1	R		23						MIDSHAFT AND SEMILUNARIS-SL ETCHED	3
SKR99	203	OVCA	TIB	1	F								DISTAL SHAFT FRAGMENT	4
SKR99	203	OVI	INN	1	R	EF	45679						ACETAB-ISCHIUM AND PUBIS- 2 PIECES-FEMALE	4

Key to codes used in the cataloguing of animal bones

SKEL

skeleton

SPEC	IES	BONE		SIDE	FUSION
				W - whole	Records the fused/unfused condition of the epiphyses
BOS	cattle	SKL	skull	L - left side	
CSZ	cattle size	TEMP	temporal	R - right side	The state of the s
SUS	pig·.	FRNT	frontal	F - fragment	
OVCA	sheep or goat	PET	petrous		R - Codes are those used in Grant, A. 1982 The use of tooth
OVI					as a quide to the age of domestic animals, in B.Wilson,
SSZ	sheep	PAR OCIP	parietal		gson and S.Payne (eds) Ageing and sexing animal bones from
	sheep size horse	ZYG	occipital	_	eological sites, 91-108.
EQU CER	norse red deer	MAN	zygomatic mandible		elled as follows in the tooth wear column:
CAN	dog deer.	MAX	maxilla		n4/dupm4 f ldpm2/dupm2
MAN	human	ATL	atlas	H lpm4	
UNI	unknown	AXI	axis	I lm1/	
CHIK	chicken	CEV	cervical vertebra	J 1m2/	
GOOS	goose, dom	TRV	thoracic vertebra	K 1m3/	
LEP	hare	LMV	lumbar vertebra	K IMS/	ums
UNB	indet bird	SAC	sacrum	RONIDO	
MALL	duck, dom.	CDV	caudal vertebra		es record the part of the bone present.
GULL	gull sp.	SCP	scapula	The ke	ey to each zone on each bone is on page 2
FISH	fish	HUM	humerus		
UNIB	bird indet	RAD	radius		
UNIF	fish indet	MTC	metacarpus	MEASUREMENTS -	- Any measurements are those listed in A.Von den Driesch (1976)
GSZE	goose size	MC1-4	metacarpus 1-4		A Guide to the Measurement of Animal Bones from Archaeological
BEAV	beaver	INN	innominate		Sites, Peabody Museum Bulletin 1, Peabody Museum, Harvard, USA
CORV	crow or rook	ILM	ilium		
POLE	polecat/ferret PUB	pubis			
PART	partridge	ISH	ischium	PRESERVATION	<pre>1 - enamel only surviving</pre>
ORC	rabbit	FEM	femur		2 - bone very severely pitted and thinned, tending to break up
ROD	rodent	TIB	tibia		teeth with surface erosion and loss of cementum and dentine
JACK	jackdaw	AST	astragalus		3 - surface pitting and erosion of bone, some loss of cementum
OML	owl indet.	CAL	calcaneum		and dentine on teeth
		MTT	metatarsus		4 - surface of bone intact, loss of organic component, material
		MT1-4	metatarsus 1-4		chalky, calcined or burnt
		PH1	1st phalanx		5 - bone in good condition, probably with some organic component
		PH2	2nd phalanx		
		PH3	3rd phalanx	2	
			3 Lower molar 1 - molar		
			3 upper molar 1 - molar		
		LPM1L			
		UPM1-U			
			4 deciduous lower premo		
			4 deciduous upper premo	lar 1-4	
		MNT	mandibular tooth		
		LBF	maxillary tooth		
		UNI	long bone unidentified		*
		STN	sternum		
		INC	incisor		ye
		TTH	indet. tooth		
		CMP	carpo-metacarpus		
		CITE	carpo mecacarpas		

ZONES - codes used to define zones on each bone

SKULL -	<ol> <li>paraoccipital process</li> <li>occipal condyle</li> <li>intercornual protuberance</li> <li>external acoustic meatus</li> <li>frontal sinus</li> <li>ectorbitale</li> <li>entorbitale</li> <li>temporal articular facet</li> </ol>	METACARPUS - FIRST PHALANX	1. medial facet of proximal articulation, MC3 2. lateral facet of proximal articulation, MC4 3. medial distal condyle, MC3 4. lateral distal condyle, MC4 5. anterior distal groove and foramen 6. medial or lateral distal condyle 1. proximal epiphysis
	9. facial tuber 0. infraorbital foramen		2. distal articular facet
	V. IIIII GUBICAL LOLAMOII	INNOMINATE	1. tuber coxae
MANDIBLE	<ol> <li>Symphyseal surface</li> </ol>		2. tuber sacrale + scar
	2. diastema		3. body of illium with dorso-medial foramen
	<ol> <li>lateral diastemal foramen</li> <li>coronoid process</li> </ol>		4. iliopubic eminence 5. acetabular fossa
	5. condylar process		6. symphyseal branch of pubis
	6. angle		7. body of ischium
	7. anterior dorsal acsending ramus posterior	МЗ	8. ischial tuberosity
	8. mandibular foramen		9. depression for medial tendon of rectus femoris
VERTEBRA	1. spine	FEMUR	1. head
VERTEBRA	2. anterior epiphysis	EBHOK	2. trochanter major
	3. posterior epiphysis		3. trochanter minor
	4. centrum		4. supracondyloid fossa
	5. neural arch		5. distal medial condyle
			6. lateral distal condyle
SCAPULA	<ol> <li>supraglenoid tubercle</li> </ol>		7. distal trochlea
	2. glenoid cavity		8. trochanter tertius
	3. origin of the distal spine	MIDIA	1
	4. tuber of spine	TIBIA	1. proximal medial condyle 2. proximal lateral condyle
	<ol><li>posterior of neck with foramen</li><li>cranial angle of blade</li></ol>		3. intercondylar eminence
	7. caudal angle of blade		4. proximal posterior nutrient foramen
	. Caddar diffic of brade		5. medial malleolus
HUMERUS	1. head		6. lateral aspect of distal articulation
	<ol><li>greater tubercle</li></ol>		7. distal pre-epiphyseal portion of the diaphysis
	3. lesser tubercle		
	4. intertuberal groove	CALCANEUM	1. calcaneal tuber
	5. deltoid tuberosity		2. sustentaculum tali
	<ol> <li>dorsal angle of olecranon fossa</li> <li>capitulum</li> </ol>		3. processus anterior
		METATARSUS	1. medial facet of proximal articulation, MT3.
	31 C13311134		2. lateral facet of proximal articulation, MT4
RADIUS	1. medial half of proximal epiphysis		3. medial distal condyle, MT3
	<ol><li>lateral half of proximal epiphysis</li></ol>		4. lateral distal condyle, MT4
	<ol><li>posterior proximal ulna scar and foramen</li></ol>		5. anterior distal groove and foramen
	4. medial half of distal epiphysis		6. medial or lateral distal condyle
	<ol> <li>lateral half of distal epiphysis</li> <li>distal shaft immediately above distal epip</li> </ol>	hvsis	
	o. albeat bhate immediately above distal epip	1.5.2.0	
ULNA	1. olecranon tuberosity		
	2. trochlear notch- semilunaris		
	3. lateral coronoid process		
	4. distal epiphysis		

SECRETARY OF STATE'S CRITERIA FOR SCHEDULING ANCIENT MONUMENTS - extract from *Archaeology and Planning* DOE Planning Policy Guidance note 16, November 1990

The following criteria (which are not in any order of ranking), are used for assessing the national importance of an ancient monument and considering whether scheduling is appropriate. The criteria should not however be regarded as definitive; rather they are indicators which contribute to a wider judgement based on the individual circumstances of a case.

i Period: all types of monuments that characterise a category or period should be considered for

preservation.

ii Rarity: there are some monument categories which in certain periods are so scarce that all surviving

examples which retain some archaeological potential should be preserved. In general, however, a selection must be made which portrays the typical and commonplace as well as the rare. This process should take account of all aspects of the distribution of a particular

class of monument, both in a national and regional context.

iii Documentation: the significance of a monument may be enhanced by the existence of records of previous

investigation or, in the case of more recent monuments, by the supporting evidence of

contemporary written records.

iv Group value: the value of a single monument (such as a field system) may be greatly enhanced by its

association with related contemporary monuments (such as a settlement or cemetery) or with monuments of different periods. In some cases, it is preferable to protect the complete group of monuments, including associated and adjacent land, rather than to protect isolated

monuments within the group.

v Survival/

Condition: the survival of a monument's archaeological potential both above and below ground is a

particularly important consideration and should be assessed in relation to its present

condition and surviving features.

vi Fragility/

Vulnerability: highly important archaeological evidence from some field monuments can be destroyed by

a single ploughing or unsympathetic treatment; vulnerable monuments of this nature would particularly benefit from the statutory protection that scheduling confers. There are also existing standing structures of particular form or complexity whose value can again be severely reduced by neglect or careless treatment and which are similarly well suited by

scheduled monument protection, even if these structures are already listed buildings.

vii Diversity: some monuments may be selected for scheduling because they possess a combination of high

quality features, others because of a single important attribute.

viii Potential: on occasion, the nature of the evidence cannot be specified precisely but it may still be

possible to document reasons anticipating its existence and importance and so to demonstrate the justification for scheduling. This is usually confined to sites rather than upstanding

monuments.

### **GLOSSARY**

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 interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, *e.g.* (004).

Cut

A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, *etc.* Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.

Fill

Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).

Layer

A layer is a term 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.

Natural

Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.

Niello

A black substance used to fill engraved lines.

Post-medieval

The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.

Romano-British

Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

Saxon

Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 50 Context records
- 12 Scale drawing sheets
- 3 Photographic record sheet
- 2 Boxes of finds
- 1 Stratigraphic matrix
- 1 Processed environmental sample

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: 171.99

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: SKR99

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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