ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF OF DEVELOPMENT ON LAND AT KEDDINGTON ROAD, LOUTH, LINCOLNSHIRE (LKR 99)



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section

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#### ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF OF DEVELOPMENT ON LAND AT KEDDINGTON ROAD, LOUTH, LINCOLNSHIRE (LKR 99)

Work Undertaken For Freedom Professional Services Ltd

December 1999

Report Compiled by Tobin Rayner BSc (Hons)

Planning Application No: N/092/0062/99 National Grid Reference: TF 3414 8859 City and County Museum Accession No: 301.99



A.P.S. Report No. 123/99

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#### 1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during groundworks associated with the construction of an electricity substation at Keddington Road, Louth, Lincolnshire.

The site is located between Louth and Keddington in a field containing extant remains of medieval ridge and furrow agriculture. The investigation identified two north south aligned furrows, both associated with this type of farming regime. No artefacts were recovered during the investigation.

#### 2. INTRODUCTION .

#### 2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

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

#### 2.2 Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Freedom Professional Services Ltd. to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the construction of an electricity substation at Keddington Road, Louth, Lincolnshire. The watching brief was carried out on 15<sup>th</sup> November 1999 in order to provide information about the potential archaeological deposits present at the site.

#### 2.3 Topography and Geology

Louth is situated 19km north of Horncastle and 34km northwest of Skegness in East Lindsey District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site is located approximately 1km northeast of Louth town centre, as defined by the parish church of St. James, and 300m west of the village of Keddington, on the south side of the Keddington Road at national grid reference TF 3414 8859 (Plate 1, Fig. 2). Situated at a height of *c*. 20m OD, the site lies within an area marked by the earthworks remains of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation.

Local soils are the Holderness Association, typically slowly permeable fine loamy and moderately permeable course loamy soils on chalky till and glaciofluvial drift (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 214).

#### 2.4 Archaeological Setting

Louth took its place-name from the River Lud which is derived from the Old English Hlûde meaning 'the loud one' (Ekwall 1974, 305). The first account of the town is in AD 675 when the town was given to Peterborough Abbey by King Æthelred (Swanton 1997, 37), a grant later confirmed by Pope Agatho (Hart 1966, 99). A similar charter giving Louth to Peterborough Abbey by Wulfhere, king of the Mercians, dates from AD 664 but is believed to be a later fabrication (ibid. 97). A monastery in Louth is referred to in AD 790 when Abbot Æthelheard of the monastery was chosen as the Archbishop of Canterbury (Swanton 1997, 54).

At the time of the Domesday Survey in 1086, Louth is recorded as owned by the Bishop of Lincoln. The town contained 80 burgesses (merchants and property owners)

and 2 knights with a market, 21 acres of meadow, 400 acres of woodland and 14 mills (Foster and Longley 1976).

There is no evidence of prehistoric or Romano-British remains within the vicinity of the development site, though it has been suggested that Louth was a Romano-British town (Owen 1997, 63). However, there is virtually no supporting archaeological evidence for this suggestion.

No Saxon finds are known from the investigation area, despite the early historical references to the town.

The market in Louth provided the focus for the town during the Medieval period and was dominated by St. James's Church which dates to the late 15<sup>th</sup> century. This is generally believed to have replaced an earlier church, the remains of which were partially revealed during restoration work in 1868 (Field 1978, 15). The former graveyard associated with St. James's extended to the south, where medieval skeletons have been found, and possibly to the north (*ibid.*).

The village of Keddington to the northeast of the development site is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of *c*. 1086. Referred to as *Cadi(n)ton* the name means 'the TUN of Cyd(d)a's people (Ekwall 1974, 269). At the time of the Domesday Survey the land was owned by The Bishop of Durham and Rainer De Brimou and contained a church and four and a half mills and 18 acres of meadows (Foster and Longley 1976).

The present church of St Margaret of Keddington dates from at least the 12<sup>th</sup> century (Pevsner, Harris and Antram 1989, 411). A moated site is recorded 600m to the north of the site and the remains of the Cistercian Abbey, established in the 12<sup>th</sup> century, at Louth Park lie approximately

1.25km to the south of the development site.

There have been no previous archaeological interventions on, or in close proximity to the development site.

#### 3. AIMS

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

#### 4. METHODS

As part of the development an L-shaped area measuring approximately 144 sq m was opened by a mechanical excavator to a depth of 1m (Fig. 3).

Deposits were examined to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. The depth and thickness of each deposit were measured from the ground surface. Each archaeological deposit or feature revealed was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:20. Recording of deposits encountered during the watching brief was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

Records of the deposits and features recognised during the watching brief were examined. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

#### 5. RESULTS

Three phases of activity were identified:

Phase 1 Natural deposits

Phase 2 Medieval/Post Medieval

deposits

Phase 3 Modern deposits

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

#### Phase 1 Natural deposits

The earliest deposit encountered during the investigation was a firm mid brownish grey sandy clay (003). This layer represents the underlying geology.

# Phase 2 Medieval/Post Medieval deposits

Two parallel furrows followed north-south alignments across the length of the excavated area. The furrows (004) and (005) were 10m apart with broad, shallow cuts both overlain and filled by the same mid greyish brown silty sand (003) which formed a 0.75m thick subsoil across the site (Plate 2, Fig. 4). These features no doubt represent the continuation of furrows noted between the extant earthworks outside of the area of excavation.

#### Phase 3 Modern Deposits

A 0.45m thick topsoil overlain with turf was recorded above the subsoil.

#### 6. DISCUSSION

A natural deposit comprising sandy clay (Phase 1) encountered within the development area is characteristic of the

underlying geology.

Medieval to post medieval deposits (Phase 2) are represented by two furrows associated with ridge and furrow earthworks noted across the field outside of the excavated area. Ridge and furrow was a long lived form of ploughing particularly characteristic of the medieval period. During this period the land was tilled using animal-drawn ploughs resulting in broad ridges and gentle curves that describe a 'reverse S'.

#### 7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were carried out on land at Keddington Road, Louth, Lincolnshire because the site lies within an area marked by the earthworks remains of ridge and furrow cultivation.

Two furrows recorded within the development area are considered to represent the remains of medieval/post medieval ploughing. No evidence was recorded for use of the site in the prehistoric, Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon periods.

No waterlogged deposits were encountered during this investigation which indicates that conditions are inappropriate for the survival of environmental indicators (snails, seeds, pollen, *etc.*).

#### 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Freedom Professional Services Ltd. who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The archaeological project was coordinated by Gary Taylor and this report was edited by Dale Trimble and Tom Lane. Dave Start permitted access to

the library and parish files maintained by the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire.

#### 9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor Archaeological Supervisor: Tobin Rayner Photographic Reproduction: Sue Unsworth Illustration: Tobin Rayner Post-excavation Analyst: Tobin Rayner

#### 10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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#### 11. ABBREVIATIONS

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

LAS Lindsey Archaeological Services

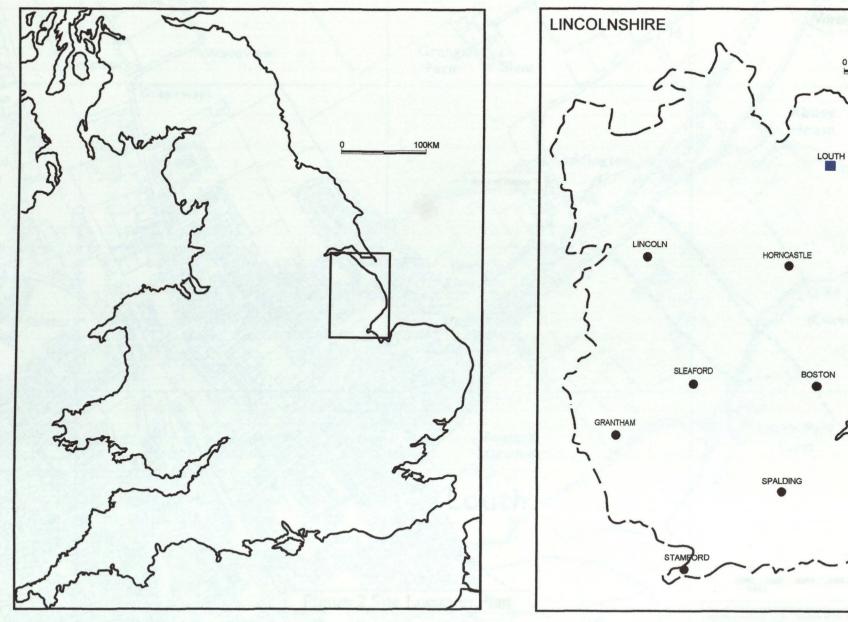
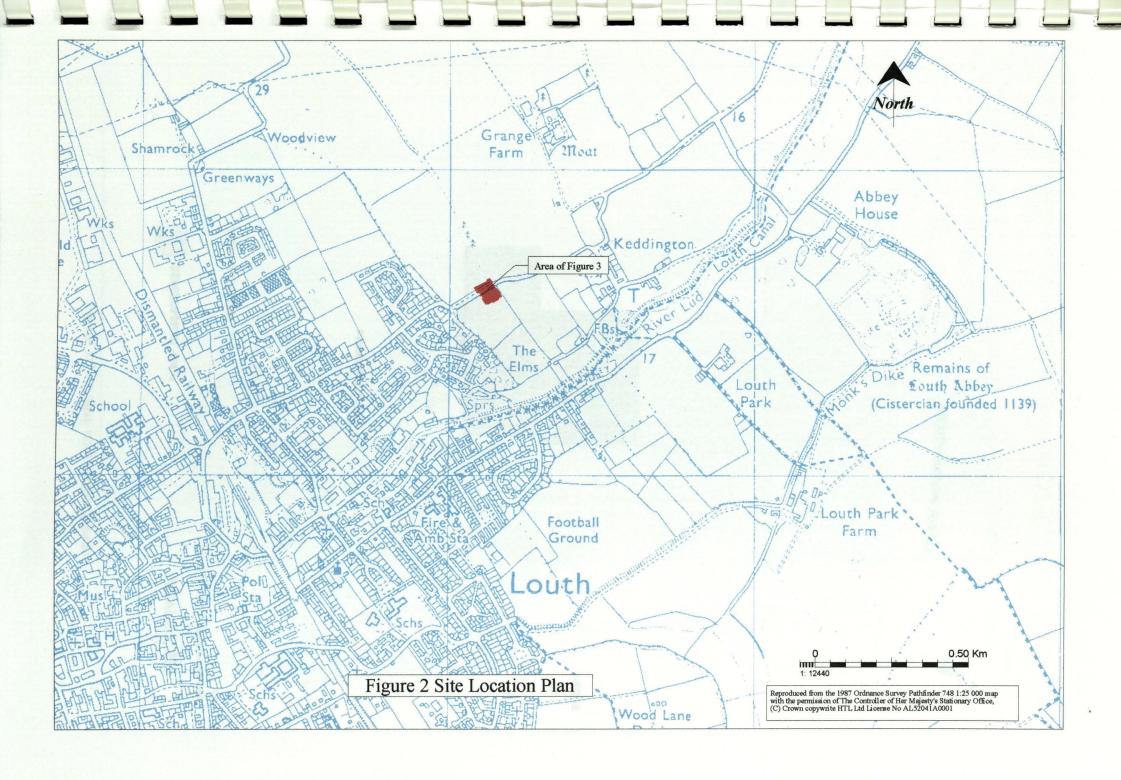


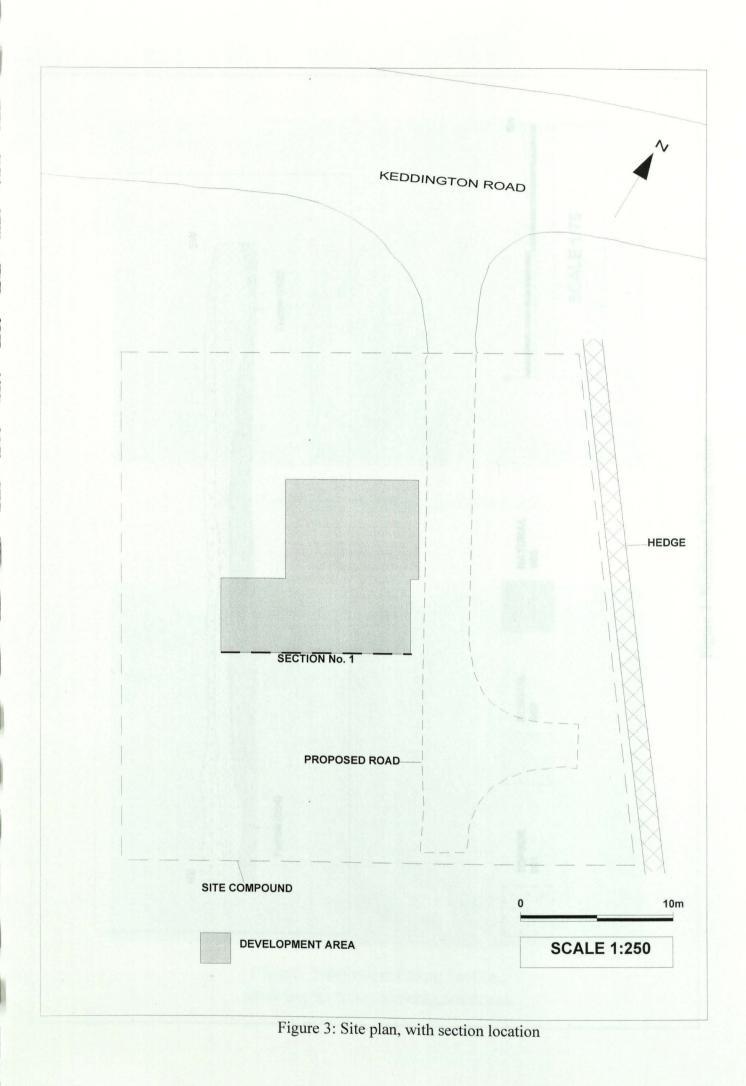
Figure 1 - General location map

20KM

SKEGNESS

THE WASH





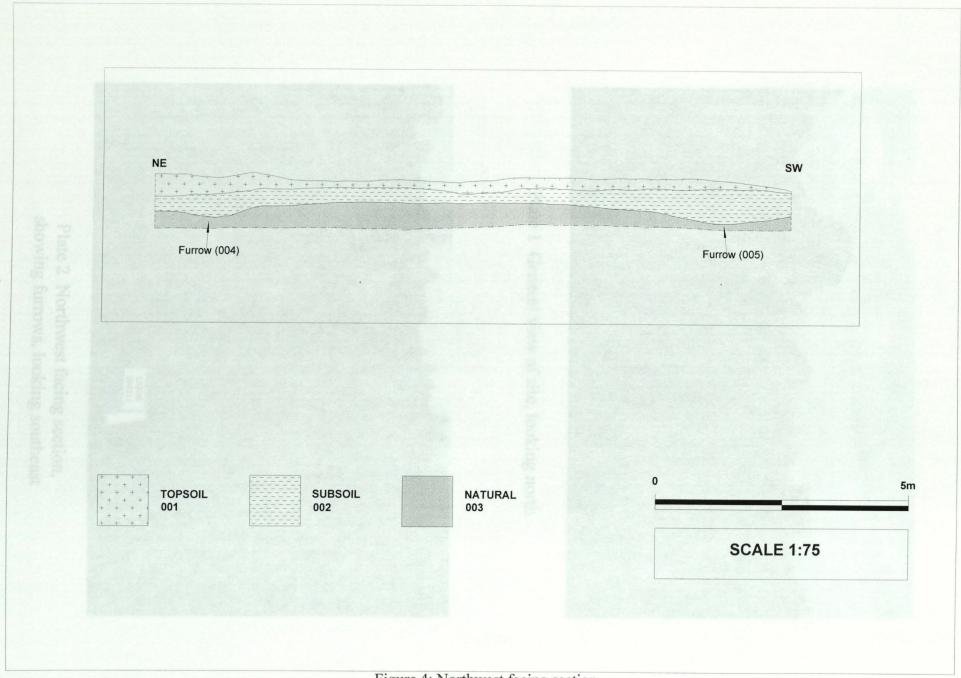


Figure 4: Northwest facing section



Plate 1 General view of site, looking north



Plate 2 Northwest facing section, showing furrows, looking southeast

# LAND AT KEDDINGTON ROAD LOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE

#### SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

# PREPARED FOR FREEDOM PROFESSIONAL SERVICES LTD

BY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES
Institute of Field Archaeologists'
Registered Organisation No. 21

NOVEMBER 1999

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#### SUMMARY

- 1.1 A watching brief is required during the construction of an electricity substation at Keddington Road, Louth, Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The proposed site lies in an area marked by evidence of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation on the east side of the village of Keddington.
- 1.3 The watching brief will be undertaken during groundworks associated with the development. The archaeological features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.
- 1.4 On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the investigation. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.

#### 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for an archaeological watching brief during the construction of an electricity of an electricity substation at Keddington Road, Louth. The site is located at national grid reference TF 3414 8859.
- 2.2 This document contains the following parts:
  - 2.2.1 Overview.
  - 2.2.2 Stages of work and methodologies.
  - 2.2.3 List of specialists.
  - 2.2.4 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project.

#### 3 SITE LOCATION

3.1 Louth is located approximately 40km northeast of Lincoln in the administrative district of East Lindsey. The site is located approximately 1km northeast of the town centre and 300m west of the village of Keddington on the south side of the Keddington Road at national grid reference TF 3414 8859.

#### 4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 The Lincolnshire County Archaeology Section has requested that an archaeological watching brief be undertaken during the groundworks associated

with the construction of an electricity substation (planning application number N/092/0062/99).

#### 5 **SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY**

5.1 The site lies in a pasture field just beyond the built-up area of the town of Louth and to the west of Keddington village at approximately 20m OD. Local soils are the Holderness Association, mainly slowly permeable fine loamy and moderately permeable coarse loamy soils on chalky till and glaciofluvial drift (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 214).

#### 6 THE ARCHAEOLOGY

- 6.1 The site lies in an area marked by the earthwork remains of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation. It lies a short distance from the village of Keddington which was recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086 as possessing a church. The present church of St Margaret at Keddington dates from at least the 12th century. A moated site is recorded to the north of the village and the remains of the Cistercian Abbey, established in the 12th century, at Louth Park lie approximately 1.25km to the southeast of the proposed site.
- 6.2 The groundworks will disturb the earthwork remains of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation and may disturb archaeological deposits of medieval or earlier date.

#### 7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the watching brief will be:
  - 7.1.1 To record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.
- 7.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:
  - 7.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
  - 7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
  - 7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and

7.2.4 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

#### 8 SITE OPERATIONS

#### 8.1 General considerations

- 8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the watching brief.
- 8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA). *Archaeological Project Services* is IFA registered organisation no. 21.
- 8.1.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

#### 8.2 Methodology

- 8.2.1 The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.
- 8.2.2 Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.
- 8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 8.2.4 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
  - 8.2.4.1 The site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
  - 8.2.4.2 groups of features where their relationship is important
- 8.2.5 Should human remains be located the appropriate Home Office licence

- 9.3.2.6 A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.
- 9.3.2.7 Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
- 9.3.2.8 Sections of the archaeological features.
  - 9.3.2.9 Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
  - 9.3.2.10 Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
  - 9.3.2.11 Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

#### 10 REPORT DEPOSITION

10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the Client; the Lincoln County Archaeology Officer; East Lindsey District Council Planning Department; and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

#### 11 ARCHIVE

11.1 The documentation and records generated during the watching brief will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the City and County Museum, Lincoln. This will be undertaken following the requirements of the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives* for long term storage and curation.

#### 12 PUBLICATION

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

#### 13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Lincoln County Archaeology Officer. They will be given seven days

notice in writing before the commencement of the project.

#### 14 VARIATIONS

14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.

#### 15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 15.1 The watching brief will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the archaeological site work.
- 15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- 15.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one person-day) will require a post-excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half person-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about four days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

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

16.1 The following organisations/persons will, in principal and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

Task	Body to be undertaking the work
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust
	Roman - B Precious, Independent Specialist
	Anglo-Saxon - J Young, Independent Specialist

Medieval and later - H Healey, Independent

Archaeologist

Non-pottery Artefacts J Cowgill, Independent Specialist

Animal Bones Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

Environmental Analysis J Rackham, Independent Specialist

Human Remains Analysis R Gowland, Independent Specialist

#### 17 **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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

#### 18 INSURANCES

18.1 Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains Employers Liability Insurance of £10,000,000, together with Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied on request.

#### 19 **COPYRIGHT**

- 19.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.
- 19.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.
- 19.3 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988

and may result in legal action.

19.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

Specification: 15/11/1999

#### Appendix 2

#### **CONTEXT SUMMARY**

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Soft mid brown silty sand with frequent roots and occasional sub-angular small flint and gravel overlain with grass, 0.45m thick.	Topsoil
002	Soft mid greyish brown silty sand with occasional sub-angular small to medium gravel becoming more frequent at the base, 0.70m thick.	Subsoil
003	Firm mid brownish grey sandy clay, 0.52m thick to limit of excavation.	Natural
004	Linear cut with concave sides and base, 12.00m <sup>+</sup> long x 2.00m <sup>+</sup> wide x0.23m deep.	Furrow
005	Linear cut with concave sides and base, 12.00m <sup>+</sup> long x 4.40m <sup>+</sup> wide x0.38m deep.	Furrow

orber from nerthers Continue

#### Appendix 3

#### 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).

Laver

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.

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Natural

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

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 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

#### Appendix 4

#### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 5 Context records
- 3 Scale drawings
- 1 Context record sheet
- 1 Section record sheet
- 1 Photographic record sheet
- 1 Daily record sheets
- 1 Stratigraphic matrix

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

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

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

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number: 301.99

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: LKR99

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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