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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF POND CONSTRUCTION
AT HOLLY TREE COTTAGE,
THORPE CULVERT,
THORPE ST. PETER,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(WTC 99)**



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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF POND CONSTRUCTION
AT HOLLY TREE COTTAGE,
THORPE CULVERT,
THORPE ST. PETER,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(WTC 99)**

Work Undertaken For
Mr A. Zanelli

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

April 2000

National Grid Reference: TF 4671 6067
City and County Museum Accession No: 256.99

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the construction of a fishing lake on land adjacent to Holly Tree Cottage, Thorpe Culvert, Thorpe St. Peter, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the stripping of the topsoil.

Several axes of the Neolithic (4200-2250 BC) and Bronze Age (2250-800 BC) have been found in the vicinity of Thorpe Culvert and a possible Romano-British (AD 50-410) settlement lies to the east of the development. The medieval period (AD 1066-1500) is best represented by St. Peter's church, although earthworks of a moat and medieval field systems are also located in the vicinity.

The investigation identified a post-medieval subsoil through which a pit and a posthole had been dug. Finds retrieved from the investigation include a range of pottery dating from the 14th -15th century and later. Other finds include burnt silt (possibly indicative of salt making), animal bone, tile and a clay pipe stem.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

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

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr A. Zanelli to undertake

an archaeological watching brief during construction of a new fishing lake at Holly Tree Cottage, Thorpe Culvert, Thorpe St. Peter, near Wainfleet, Lincolnshire. The watching brief was carried out on the 27th September 1999 in accordance with a specification designed by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1).

2.3 Topography and Geology

Wainfleet is located 33km southeast of Lincoln and 8km southwest of Skegness, in the administrative district of East Lindsey. Thorpe Culvert is located approximately 3km north of Wainfleet in the civil parish of Thorpe St. Peter (Fig. 1).

The site is situated 1.8km west of the centre of Thorpe St. Peter, as defined by the parish church of St. Peter (Fig. 2). The site lies on generally level ground at heights of c. 2m OD at National Grid Reference TF 4671 6067. To the east of the site is the modern course of the Steeping River.

The local soils are of the Wallasea 2 Association, pelo-alluvial gley soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 338). These soils are developed close to the boundary of older and younger marine alluvium which overlies a solid geology of Jurassic Kimmeridge Clay (BGS 1996).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

The development site lies within an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Neolithic period to the present day. A small greenstone polished axe was found close to the village of Thorpe St. Peter and a number of Bronze Age axes were retrieved from the area of Thorpe Culvert. A small spread of Romano-British pottery was found 1.2km to the east and may suggest settlement of the period in the vicinity.

Thorpe St. Peter is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as *Torp*, the name is derived from the Old Scandinavian '*Þorp*' meaning a small settlement that was settled from a nearby larger village (Ekwall 1974, 468). The Domesday Survey records that the land was owned by the Bishop of Durham and Ivo Taillebois and contained a church and at least 280 acres of meadow (Foster and Longley 1976).

Extant remains of the medieval period are restricted to St. Peter's church which dates from the early 13th century (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 763). The remains of a possible medieval moat are located to the west of the village and was the location of a 17th century hall, which has now been removed. Ridge and furrow earthworks of the former medieval field system have been identified from aerial photographs and indicate that fields were located around Thorpe St. Peter and Thorpe Culvert. Medieval pottery has been found 1.2km east of the site and was associated with a low mound some 50m in diameter.

Holly Cottage is a Grade II listed building dating to c. 1800 (DoE 1988, 42).

3. AIMS

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

4. METHODS

Topsoil was stripped and former banks removed prior to the excavation of the new fishing lake. The stripped area was walked over and any features identified. Selected

deposits were partially or fully excavated by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. The depth and thickness of each deposit was 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 1. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. Recording of deposits encountered during the watching brief was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

Artefacts retrieved from the investigation were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 3). Records of the deposits and features recognised during the watching brief were also examined and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them, supplemented by artefact dating.

5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis, three phases were identified;

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	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 Undated deposits

The earliest deposit encountered in the area was a grey and reddish brown silt and clay (002) of alluvial origin.

Phase 2 Post-medieval deposits

Overlying the natural alluvium was a 80mm thick subsoil of greyish brown clayey silt (003, 009 and 010). This layer contained pottery dating from the 16th century to the 18th century.

Cut into the subsoil was a rectangular feature (006) identified as a pit (Fig. 4, Section 1). The pit was 1m long, 0.46m wide and 80mm deep and contained a single fill of blackish grey ash and silt (005).

Adjacent to the pit was a near square posthole (008) that measured 0.3m by 0.36m and 60mm deep (Fig. 4, Section 2). This contained a single fill of grey ash and silt (007). Fragments of burnt silt were retrieved from this fill.

Phase 3 Modern deposits

Sealing all archaeological deposits was the present topsoil of greyish brown clayey silt (001) measuring 0.3m thick.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Phase 1) are of alluvial origin and relate to the underlying drift geology of the region.

Post-medieval deposits (Phase 2) comprise subsoil, a pit and a posthole. There is a marked similarity in the fills of the two features which would suggest that they are contemporary and the pit probably functioned as a refuse pit, although the purpose of the posthole is not readily apparent.

Most of the artefacts retrieved derived from subsoil and topsoil layers. Pottery from the subsoil comprised 15th - 18th century types as well as a copper buckle and a small quantity

of animal bone. Finds were also recovered from the feature fills, but were not as diagnostic and only burnt silt, animal bone, tile fragment and an iron nail were recovered. It has been suggested that the burnt silt may have originated from a saltern (salt-producing site), the nearest previously identified examples of which are located over 4km to the southeast. It is possible that medieval salterns were located along the former channel of the Steeping River which, being tidal, may have provided suitable conditions for salt production in the medieval period.

Pottery from medieval to the modern periods was retrieved from the topsoil. Other finds include animal bone, mainly pig, tile and a clay pipe fragment. Such finds, derived from topsoil and subsoil, may indicate no more than discarded rubbish incorporated into midden heaps and later spread on the land to improve fertility of the soil. However, many pieces of pottery are large and unworn and may represent nearby occupation.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Thorpe Culvert as the site lay within an area of known archaeological remains.

A pit, a posthole and a subsoil were encountered and are post-medieval in date. In addition, a quantity of pottery was also recovered and included locally made medieval and post-medieval types. The nature of the local site conditions would suggest that few environmental indicators (seeds, wood, shells *etc.*) would survive, other than through charring.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr A. Zanelli who commissioned the fieldwork and post excavation. The work was coordinated by Denise Drury and this report was edited by Tom Lane. Access to the County Sites and Monuments Record was given by Mark Bennet and Sarah Grundy of the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council. Dave Start allowed access to the relevant parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Denise Drury
Supervisor: Fiona Walker
Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
Photographic Reproduction: Sue Unsworth
Post-excavation Analyst: Paul Cope-Faulkner

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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13

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

DoE Department of the Environment

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

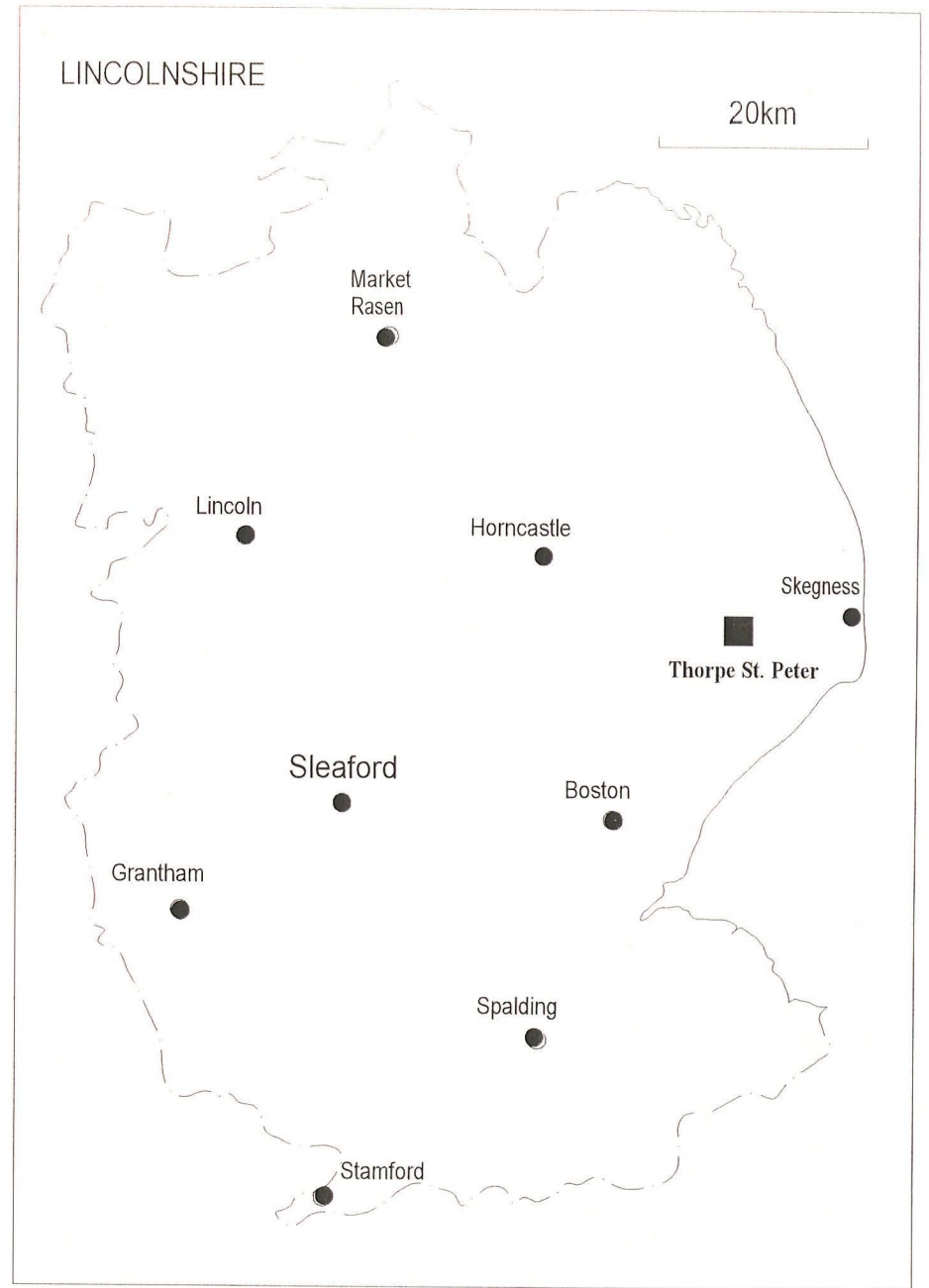


Figure 1 - General Location Plan

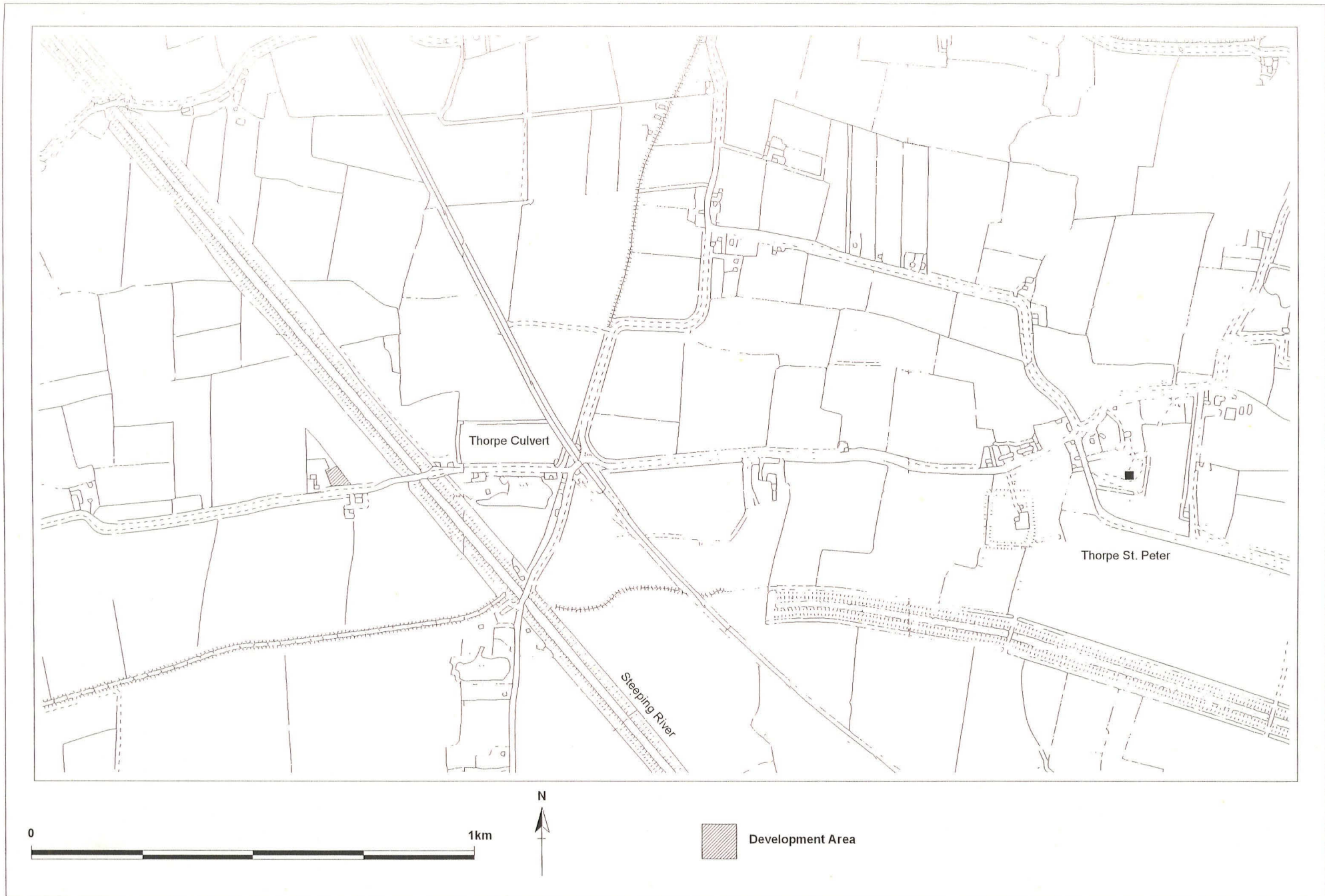


Figure 2 - Site Location Plan

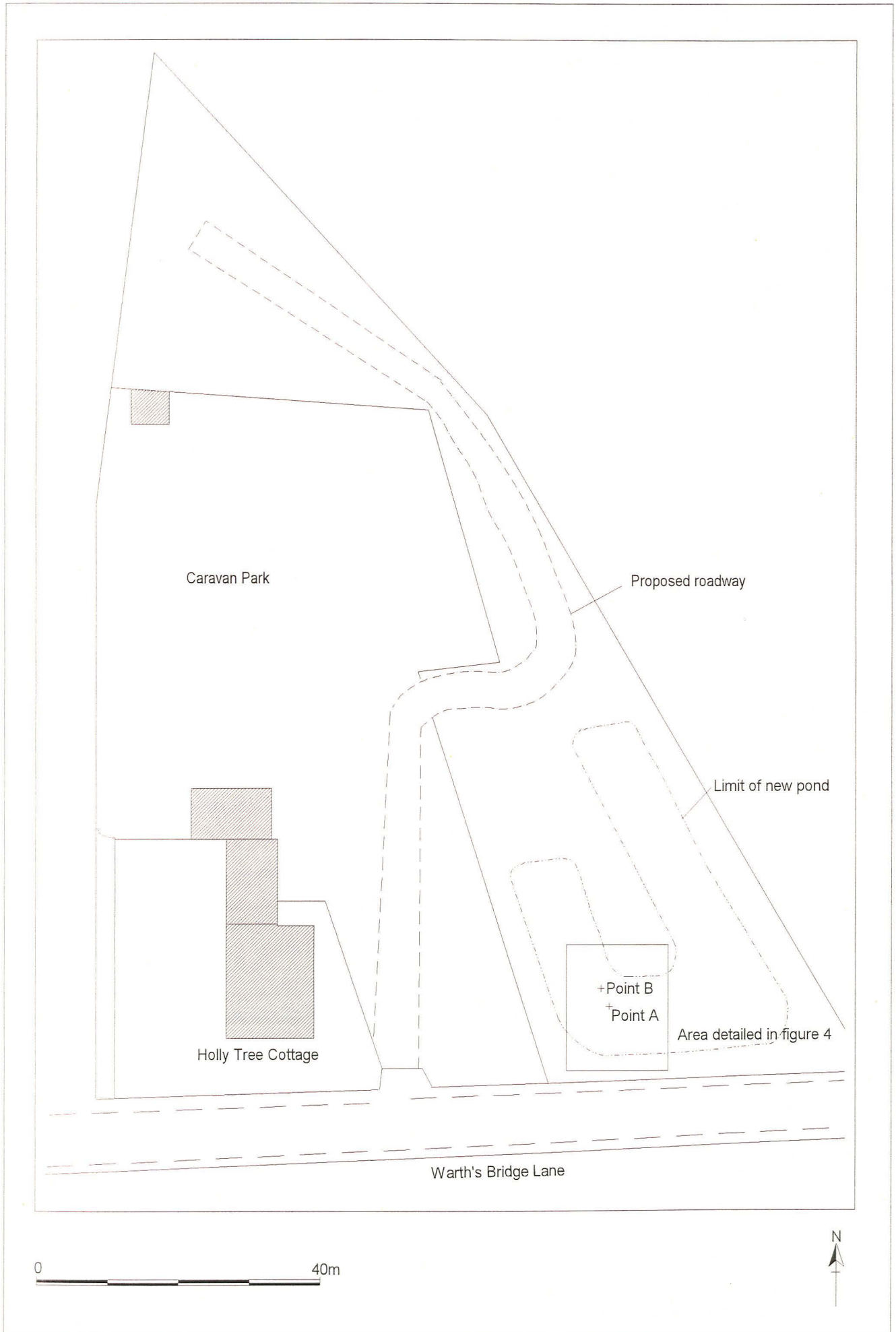


Figure 3 - Plan of Development Area

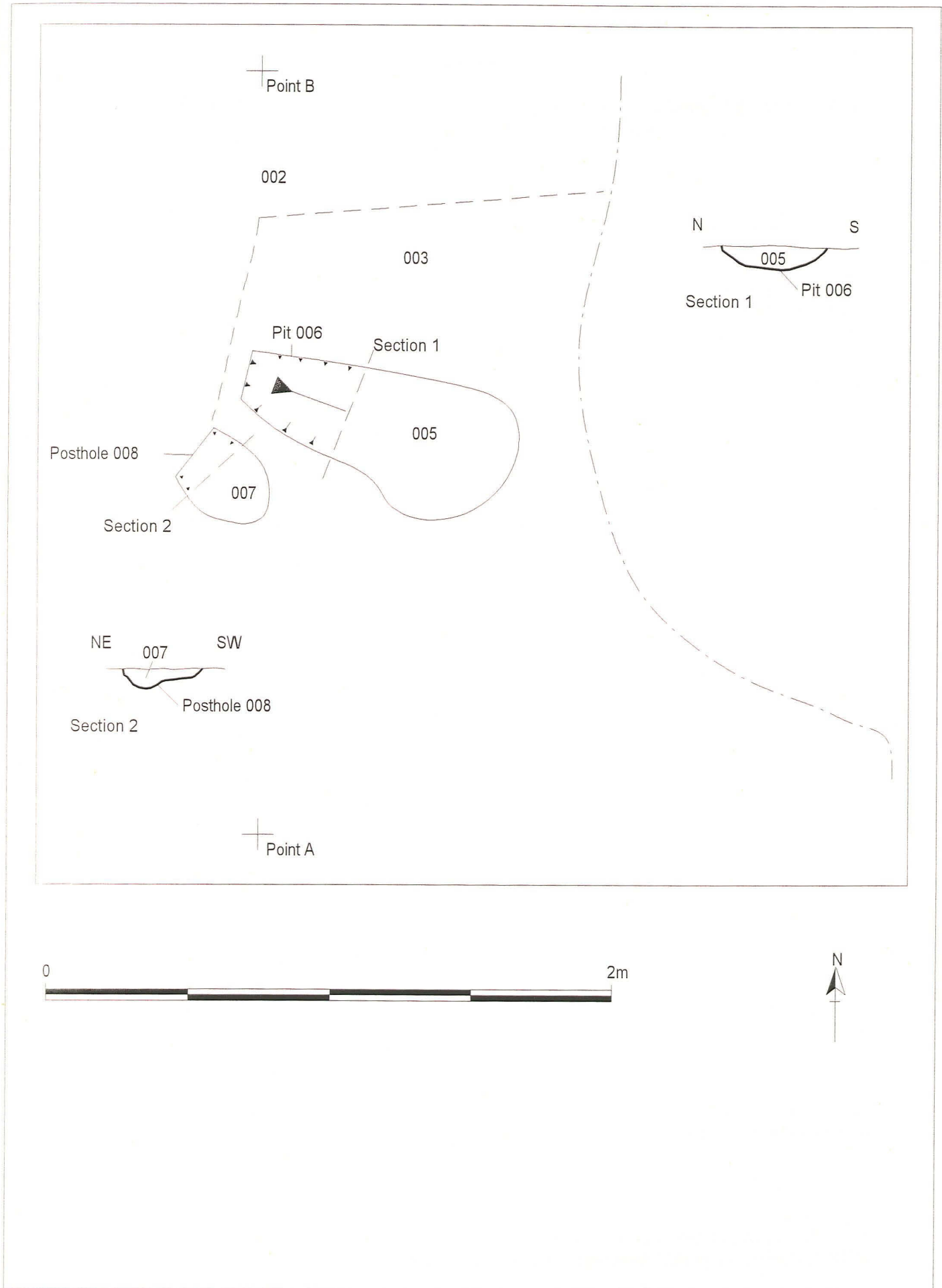


Figure 4 - Plan and Sections of Excavated Features

Appendix 1

LAND AT THORPE CULVERT, WAINFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1. SUMMARY

- a. *A watching brief is required during excavation of a fishing lake at Thorpe Culvert, Wainfleet, Lincolnshire.*
- b. *Bronze Age and neolithic axes have been found in the area. Roman, medieval and post-medieval pottery has been found at several locations in the vicinity and a medieval moated manor site is situated nearby. Aerial photographs record remains of possible medieval settlement -tofts and crofts- at the site.*
- c. *The watching brief will be undertaken during groundworks associated with the development. The archaeological features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.*
- d. *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the findings of the investigation. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2. INTRODUCTION

- a. This document comprises a specification for an archaeological watching brief during development at Thorpe Culvert, Wainfleet, national grid reference TF 473 607.
- b. This document contains the following parts:
 - i. Overview.
 - ii. Stages of work and methodologies.
 - iii. List of specialists.
 - iv. Programme of works and staffing structure of the project.

3. SITE LOCATION

- a. Wainfleet is located 33km southeast of Louth and 8km southwest of Skegness, near to the east coast of Lincolnshire, in the administrative district of East Lindsey. Thorpe Culvert is located about 3km northwest of Wainfleet, near the hamlet of Thorpe St. Peter at national grid reference TF 473 607.

4. PLANNING BACKGROUND

- a. Planning permission for creation of a proposed fishing lake is sought from East Lindsey District Council. Permission will be subject to a standard negative condition for archaeological recording.

5. SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- a. The site and surrounding area is on fairly flat and level land and lies at approximately 2m OD. Soils at the site are Wallasea 2 Association peilo-alluvial gley soils, developed on reclaimed marine alluvium.

6. THE ARCHAEOLOGY

- a. Polished stone axes of Neolithic date have previously been found in the Thorpe St. Peter area. Additionally, large bronze axes of Bronze Age date have been found in the immediate vicinity of the

site.

- b. Roman pottery has been found approximately 1km west of Thorpe Culvert.
- c. A large moated site and associated fishpond, both of medieval date, are located near to Thorpe St. Peter, to the east of the site. The moat is the site of Thorpe Hall. Medieval and post-medieval pottery has been found immediately east of the site, near Thorpe Old Hall, and also about 1km to the west.
- d. Remains of presumed medieval tofts and crofts occur at the site and are recorded on transcriptions of aerial photographs by the RCHME.
- e. The developer has noted that during digging a test pit at the site, a peat layer was found at depth. This is likely to be remains of the ground surface from the Roman period.

7. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- a. The aims of the watching brief will be:
 - i. To record the archaeological features exposed during the topsoil stripping for the pond and access road.
- b. The objectives of the watching brief will be to:
 - i. Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
 - ii. Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
 - iii. As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
 - iv. Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

8. SITE OPERATIONS

- a. General considerations
 - i. All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the watching brief.
 - ii. 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 an IFA Registered Archaeological Organisation (no. 21).
 - iii. 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.
- b. Methodology
 - i. The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of topsoil stripping.
 - ii. The excavated areas will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. Plans will be recorded at 1:20 and sections at 1:10. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.
 - iii. Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.

- iv. Throughout the watching brief a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
 - (1) The site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
 - (2) groups of features where their relationship is important
- v. Should human remains be located the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department and the police will be informed.

9. POST-EXCAVATION

a. Stage 1

- i. On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued and labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
- ii. All finds recovered during the field work will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

b. Stage 2

- i. Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.
- ii. Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

c. Stage 3

- i. On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.
- ii. This will consist of:
 - (1) A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
 - (2) A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.
 - (3) Description of the topography of the site.
 - (4) Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.
 - (5) A text describing the findings of the watching brief.
 - (6) A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.
 - (7) Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.

- (8) Sections of the archaeological features.
- (9) Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
- (10) Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- (11) Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10. **REPORT DEPOSITION**

- a. Copies of the report will be sent to the client, East Lindsey District Council Planning Department and to the County Sites and Monuments Record.

11. **ARCHIVE**

- a. 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**

- a. 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 of the Society for 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**

- a. Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Archaeological Officer, Lincolnshire County Council. They will be given as much written notice as possible, ideally at least seven days, before the commencement of the project.

14. **VARIATIONS**

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

15. **PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS**

- a. 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.
- b. An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- c. Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one man-day) will require a post-excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half man-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about six days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

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

- a. The following organisations/persons will, in principal and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to

provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

<u>Task</u>	<u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric Pottery - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust Roman - B Precious, independent specialist Saxon - J Young, independent specialist Medieval and later - H Healey, independent archaeologist
Non-pottery Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist
Animal Bones	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, independent specialist

17. **INSURANCES**

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

18. **COPYRIGHT**

- a. 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.
- b. Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.
- c. 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.
- d. 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.

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Firm dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional rounded chalky stones, 0.3m thick	Topsoil
002	Firm mid grey and mid yellowy reddish brown silt and clay.	Natural deposit
003	Firm mid greyish brown, with yellow patches, clay and silt with occasional small decayed chalk lumps and brick/tile, 80mm thick	Subsoil
004	Cancelled context	
005	Loose dark blackish grey ashy silt with moderate-frequent lumps tile/burnt silt, occasional snail shells and charcoal flecks	Fill of 006
006	Roughly rectangular cut with rounded corners, 1.06m by 0.46m and 80mm deep. Sharp edges with gradual to very gentle sides that gradually form an undulating base that inclined down to the east.	Pit
007	Loose dark blackish grey ashy silt with moderate-frequent fragments tile/burnt soil, occasional snail shells and charcoal flecks	Fill of 008
008	Square cut, with rounded corners, 0.36m by 0.3m and 60mm deep. Clear edges with uneven/irregular sides that become an uneven base.	Posthole
009	Friable mid-dark grey, with yellow-brown patches, clayey silt with occasional charcoal and decayed brick/tile.	Subsoil
010	Firm mid greyish brown, with yellowish hue, clayey silt with very occasional rounded stones, organic patches and charcoal flecks.	Subsoil

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

Paul Cope-Faulkner, Hilary Healey, Tom Lane, Phil Mills and Gary Taylor

Provenance

The material was recovered from topsoil (001), subsoils (003, 009 and 010), the fill (005) of a pit and the fill (007) of a posthole.

Most of the pottery was made relatively locally at Boston, 25km to the southwest, Old Bolingbroke and Toynton All Saints, about 8-12km to the northwest of Wainfleet. In addition, there are pieces from further afield, made at Nottingham and in Staffordshire.

Range

Context	Description	Context Date
001	2x Bolingbroke/Boston-type ware, 16 th -17 th century 2x Toynton All Saints-type ware, incl. jug handle, 14 th -15 th century 1x reversed slipware, handle of porringer/mug, late 17 th century, ?Staffordshire 1x Nottingham salt-glazed stoneware, 18 th -19 th century 1x red painted black glazed earthenware, 18 th -19 th century 1x blue and white transfer printed tableware, 19 th century 1x glazed red earthenware, ?local, 18 th century 1x clay pipe stem, bore 5/64", 19 th century 2x brick/tile, ?local	19 th century
003	2x Bolingbroke/Boston-type ware, 16 th -17 th century 2x Toynton All Saints-type ware, incl. ?pancheon, 15 th -16 th century 2x Bolingbroke/Toynton-type ware, linked, pancheon, 15 th -16 th century 2x Pig? incisors 1x Pig? mandible fragment 1x unidentified bone	16 th century
005	6x burnt/baked silt 1x Pig maxilla, 1 st and 2 nd molar	
007	1x iron ?nail, rectangular section 1x brick/tile, ?local	
009	2x Boston-type ware, linked, pancheon, 16 th -17 th century 1x Boston/Bolingbroke-type ware, 16 th -17 th century	16 th -17 th century
010	2x Boston/Bolingbroke-type ware, 16 th -17 th century 1x glazed red earthenware, ?local, 18 th century 1x white stoneware, lead glazed, 18 th century 1x copper alloy buckle, 18 th century	18 th century

The range of material is detailed in the table.

Pottery of probably 14th-15th century date is the earliest material recovered though slightly later ceramics of the 16th-17th century form the bulk of the assemblage. In addition to the pottery, clay pipe, brick/tile, burnt silt and animal bones were retrieved.

The Boston-type ware pancheon fragments from (009) resemble Dutch red earthenware internally, and Midlands Purple externally. A large piece, it is probably not first quality, having a slightly uneven rim line and glaze intrusion into faults in the body, but is not an obvious waster.

The buckle from (010) is probably a shoe buckle and broadly resembles other examples of 18th century date (Read 1988, 151). It has lost its central bar which, from the corrosion evidence, was of iron.

The burnt or baked silt recovered from (005) corresponds with material previously associated with medieval salt-making but is not necessarily confirmation of that activity.

Two separate fabrics are represented by the brick/tile fragments from (001). One has moderate sand inclusions and grog. The second is very hard, high fired, and with no obvious parallels. Similarly, the single brick/tile fragment from (007) is also high fired and very hard, with sparse sand inclusions. It is likely that all three pieces were locally produced.

Condition

All the material is in good condition, though the Boston-type pancheon fragments from (005) are abraded. The objects present no long-term storage problems and archive storage of the collection is by material class. The metalwork was not X-rayed.

Documentation

Archaeological investigations have previously been undertaken at Wainfleet and are the subjects of reports. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

The assemblage has moderate potential in that much of it seems to be early post-medieval and probably signifies the proximity of habitation of the period. Additionally, the baked silt may indicate the proximity of a saltern of medieval date.

Reference

Read, B A, 1988 *History Beneath Our Feet* (Merlin Books)

Appendix 4

GLOSSARY

Briquetage	A term given to fragments of ceramic equipment and hearth/oven remains from the processing of salt.
Bronze Age	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and 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, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
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).
Iron Age	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
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.
Neolithic	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500-2250 BC.
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.
Saltern	Salt producing site typified by ash, derived from fuel needed to evaporate sea water, and briquetage.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany

Appendix 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

10	Context records
2	Scale drawings
1	Photographic record sheets
1	Stratigraphic matrix
1	Bag of finds

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: 256.99

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: WTC 99

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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