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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
ON LAND AT RED HOUSE FARM,  
LITTLE HUMBY,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(LHR00)**



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
ON LAND AT RED HOUSE FARM,  
LITTLE HUMBY,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(LHR00)**

Work Undertaken For  
Patten Builders

Report Compiled by  
Steve Thomson BSc

November 2000

Planning Application No: S00/0577/65  
National Grid Reference: TF 0025 3302  
City and County Museum Accession No:LCNCC 2000.204

A.P.S. Report No. 145/00



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## 1. SUMMARY

*An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during development on land at Red House Farm, Little Humby, Lincolnshire, as the site lies close to earthworks of Overton Green where late Saxon pottery has been recovered.*

*Three distinct areas were excavated, a large pit cut for clay dumping (Area A); a road strip (Area B) and three house footings (Area C).*

*Within Area A, a 0.84m soil profile was recorded with unstratified sherds of medieval and Romano-British ceramic recovered, together with a prehistoric flint flake. The road strip and house footing excavations occurred on previously developed land with only a modern tank pit and footing cuts visible above a natural clay geology.*

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

A 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 or site on land or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed' (IFA 1997).

### 2.2 Planning Background

A planning application (S00/0577/65) was submitted to South Kesteven District Council for the development of the site. Permission was granted subject to a condition requiring the implementation of a programme of enhanced observation and recording (archaeological watching brief) during groundworks.

Archaeological Project Services (APS) was commissioned by Patten Builders to undertake the archaeological watching brief. The investigation was carried out in accordance with the requirements of the project Brief (Appendix 1) and a Specification (Appendix 2) produced by APS and approved by the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist.

### 2.3 Site Location

Little Humby lies approximately 9km southeast of Grantham and 1.5km southeast of Ropsley in the administrative district of South Kesteven, Lincolnshire. The site is located at Red House Farm on the west side of Little Humby at National Grid Reference TF 0025 3302.

### 2.4 Soils and Topography

The site lies at approximately 75m OD on a ridge overlooking a narrow valley to the west. Local soils are the Elmton 1 Association Brown Redzinas overlying a solid geology of Great Oolite and boulder clays (Hodge *et al.* 1984).

### 2.5 Archaeological Setting

No prehistoric finds have been recorded in Little Humby itself, though Bronze Age pottery sherds have been found surrounding the village, concentrating particularly around Great Humby (Lane 1995).

Iron Age remains in the vicinity are sparse. However, Iron Age pottery sherds were recovered from the Romano-British site of Sapperton (SK14.02), which lies some 1.6km to the east. Sapperton is predominantly of 2nd to 5th century AD date with rectilinear buildings, interpreted as shops with accommodation to the rear, fronting onto the Roman road Long Hollow.

The Ropsley and Humby survey (Lane 1995) identified further Romano-British sites 1.5km west and 1.2km northwest of Little Humby and postulates a possible arable/pasture divide in the parish along the lines of soil suitability (*Ibid*, 25). Such a model may place Little Humby within an area of land used as pasture.

Derivation of the village name is likely to be Scandinavian. Ekwall (1960, 257) suggests a personal name origin; "*Hundi's*" by; village of *Hundi*. A topographical derivation has also been suggested, the first element interpreted as meaning 'block or clump' (Fellows Jensen 1978, 54).

Early and Middle Saxon activity in the vicinity is not well attested with finds limited to pottery sherds around Great Humby and c.500m north of the site (SK65.50). The Domesday survey of 1086 records '*Humbi*' as part of a working landscape with Great and Little Humby as established settlements (Foster and Longley 1976). Earthworks, known as Overton Green, c.300m to the southeast of the site have produced Late Saxon and Medieval pottery of 10th to 14th century dates, and may be the site of '*Ogarth*', a settlement identified in Domesday (*Ibid*. LXII) which Lane (1995, 39) speculates may have a Saxon origin.

No extant medieval remains are known in Little Humby but the possibility of a mill of 13th to 14th century date is known from 'mill field' immediately south of the village.

### 3. AIMS

The aims of the watching brief were to determine the form, function and spatial arrangement of any archaeological remains encountered during the groundworks and interpret those remains through the analysis of a completed record.

## 4. METHOD

Three areas of groundworks were monitored;

**Area A** - pit for dumping of clay removed

**Area B** - Road stripping

**Area C** - House footings

Excavations were carried out using a 360<sup>o</sup>, tracked mechanical excavator with a toothed bucket. The sides of the trenches were selectively hand cleaned and examined to determine their nature and retrieve artefactual material.

The depth and thickness of each deposit was measured from the ground surface. Each deposit or feature was allocated a unique reference number (Context Number) with an individual written description. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and an annotated sketch plan was produced. A photographic record was compiled, depicting the site during groundworks and the recorded deposits. The spoil from the excavations was monitored and searched using a trowel to recover finds that may assist in the interpretation of the site.

## 5. RESULTS

The records of deposits excavated during development were examined. A list of contexts appears as Appendix 3.

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

### 5.1 Area A

An area of 26 x 10.5m was stripped revealing a 0.64m deep sequence of deposits (Section 1). The earliest deposit was a firm,

light yellowish red brown, silty clay (003), exposed in plan and interpreted as a natural geological deposit. Overlying this was a firm, mid greyish brown, sandy silt, containing occasional limestones, pea gravel and charcoal fragments (002). This 0.27m thick deposit was interpreted as a subsoil which may have been ploughed due to the presence of limestones which showed probable plough marks. Above (002) was a friable, dark blackish grey, sandy silt topsoil, 0.37m thick, containing frequent roots and occasional limestones, charcoal and ceramic building material fragments (001). No features were observed either in section or plan in this area. However, abraded Roman and medieval pottery, a flint flake animal bone and a fragment of a copper alloy buckle were retrieved from the spoil heaps.

## 5.2 Area B

An area, 26.5m x 5.6m was stripped revealing a 0.84m thick sequence of deposits (Section 2). The earliest deposit (009) consisted of a firm, dark greyish brown, silty clay containing occasional limestones, pea gravel and coal fragments. Three sherds of pottery of 19<sup>th</sup> century date were recovered from this deposit. A thickness of 0.24m was observed to the limit of excavation and the deposit was interpreted as a buried topsoil. Overlying (009) was a 0.42m thick sequence of dumped deposits (008), (007) and (006) containing demolition debris. These deposits were interpreted as levelling deposits related to previous construction on the site. Overlying these was a loose, dark blackish grey, gritty silty sand, 0.15m thick containing frequent pea gravel and occasional limestone, cinders and ceramic building material fragments. This deposit was interpreted as a made up ground surface.

## 5.3 Area C

Three house footing plots were excavated to

a depth of between 1 and 2m (Sections 3 & 4). Three phases were identified;

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Undated deposits
Phase 3	Modern deposits

Phase 1 - Natural deposits.

A firm, orangey yellow grey and orangey light-mid grey clay, containing occasional patches of mudstone (012) was observed 0.95m thick to the level of excavation and represented the earliest deposit found. This was interpreted as a natural geological deposit.

Phase 2 - Undated deposits

A firm, dark to mid grey clay, with occasional stones and charcoal flecks (011) overlay (012). This 0.10m thick deposit was interpreted as a denuded subsoil.

Phase 3 - Modern deposits.

Overlying (011) was a rectilinear cut (017) 6m long and 2m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base, which was interpreted as a 20<sup>th</sup> century tank pit cut. Within the cut was a yellow to grey brown, sandy silt with frequent bricks, concrete and road ballast (018), representing the modern backfill of the cut. A square cut with vertical sides and flat base (013 & 015) was interpreted as a footing pedestal cut and was filled by a firm dark grey clay containing bricks and concrete at the base (014 & 017). Overlying these features was a firm, dark blackish grey clay and stone matrix, with occasional silt and ceramic building material fragments and the remnants of a material membrane (010). This 0.30m thick deposit was interpreted as a hard stand or yard surface related to the structure associated with (013 & 015).



## 6. DISCUSSION

The groundworks at Red House Farm revealed natural deposits (003) and (012) which can be related to the underlying geology of the site and which are probably contiguous.

Only modern deposits and features were found within Area B and C, with a buried soil (009) of relatively modern date noted in area B and a denuded subsoil (011) revealed within Area C. These latter deposits may be contiguous, but the lack of stratigraphic artefactual evidence precludes confirmation. However, it is suggestive of heavy modern disturbance in the area truncating the top and sub soils.

The unstratified finds from Area A range from the Prehistoric to Medieval periods and, whilst limited, are concomitant with finds from the wider context of the area, showing a landscape which has been subject to multi-period exploitation. The likelihood of plough marked stones within (002) suggests agricultural use of the land at some point in time, perhaps accounting for the chronological diversity of finds recovered from the site.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were carried out at Red House Farm, Little Humby, Lincolnshire because the site lies close to possible Late Saxon earthworks. During monitoring, no traces of Saxon activity was found. The excavations of Area A in the northern half of the investigation area represents the only undisturbed area of the site. From the soil profile and finds retrieved, it is possible to suggest that the land has been under plough during the past turning to pasture at a later date. It is not possible to suggest when this occurred. The southern

half of the site, particularly Area C, has seen heavy disturbance, probably related to the construction and demolition of farm buildings, truncating top and subsoils and removing any traces of archaeological remains. Area B, however, excavated to a depth of 0.84m, revealed a sequence of built up and dumped deposits overlying a buried topsoil, suggesting any archaeological remains in this area would remain undisturbed.

Relatively unfavourable soil conditions suggest that few environmental indicators would survive other than through charring.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Patten Builders, who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Denise Drury and this report was edited by Gary Taylor and Tom Lane. Gail Smith, the Community Archaeologist for South Kesteven, kindly permitted examination of the relevant parish files.

## 9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Denise Drury  
Site Supervisors: James Snee, Steve Thomson, Fiona Walker  
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley

CAD Illustration: Mark Dymond and Steve Thomson

Photographic Reproduction: Sue Unsworth  
Post Excavation Analyst: Steve Thomson

## 10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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#### 11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

SK is the prefix of the primary parish records held by the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist

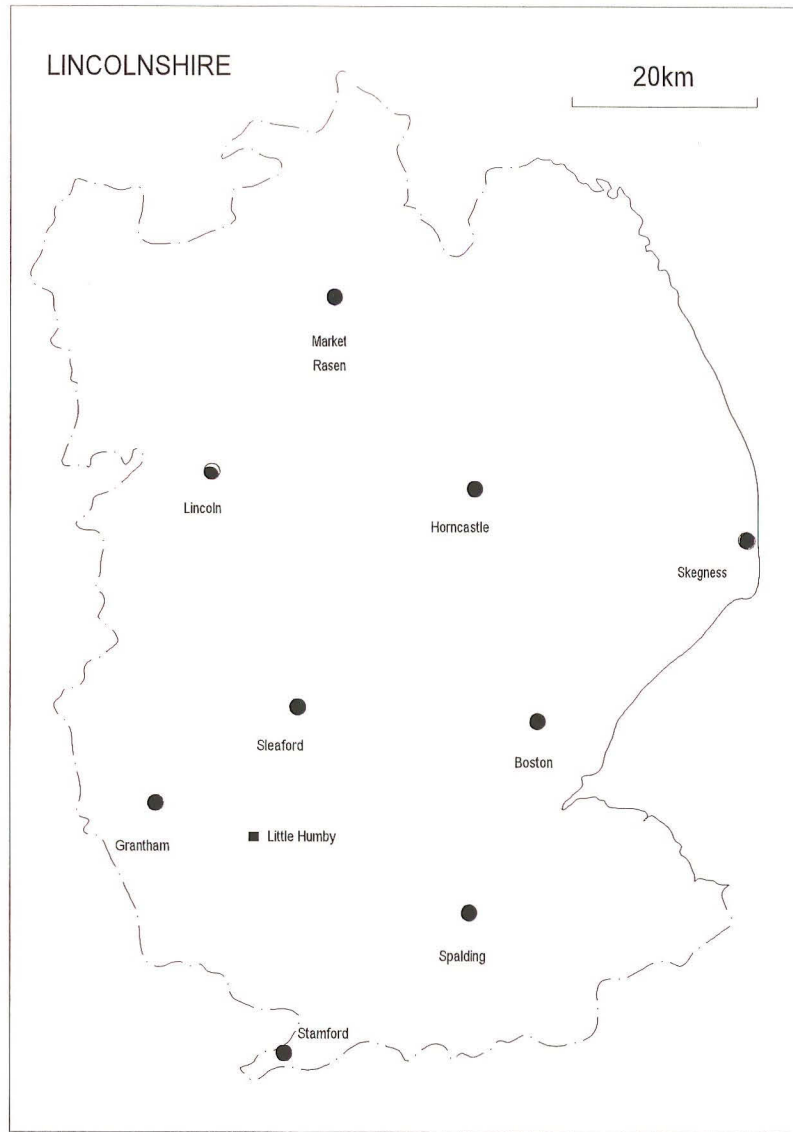
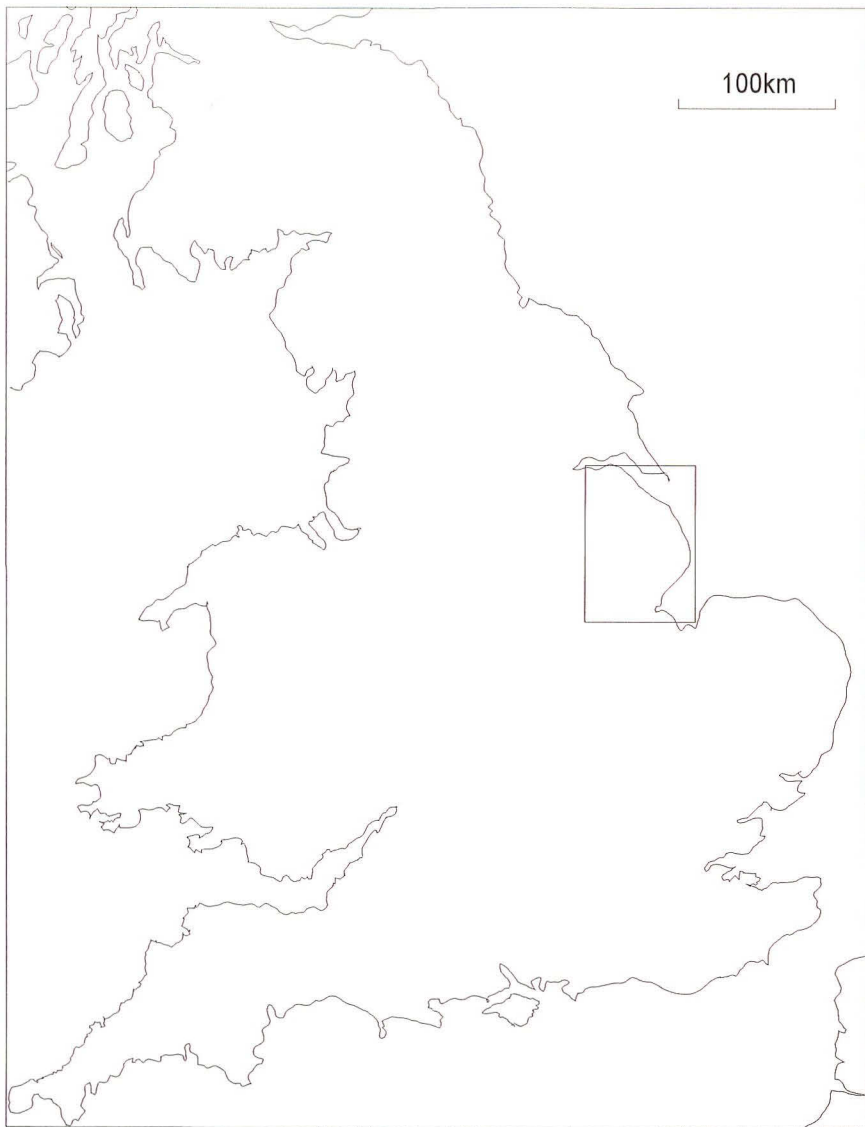


Figure 1 General Location Plan

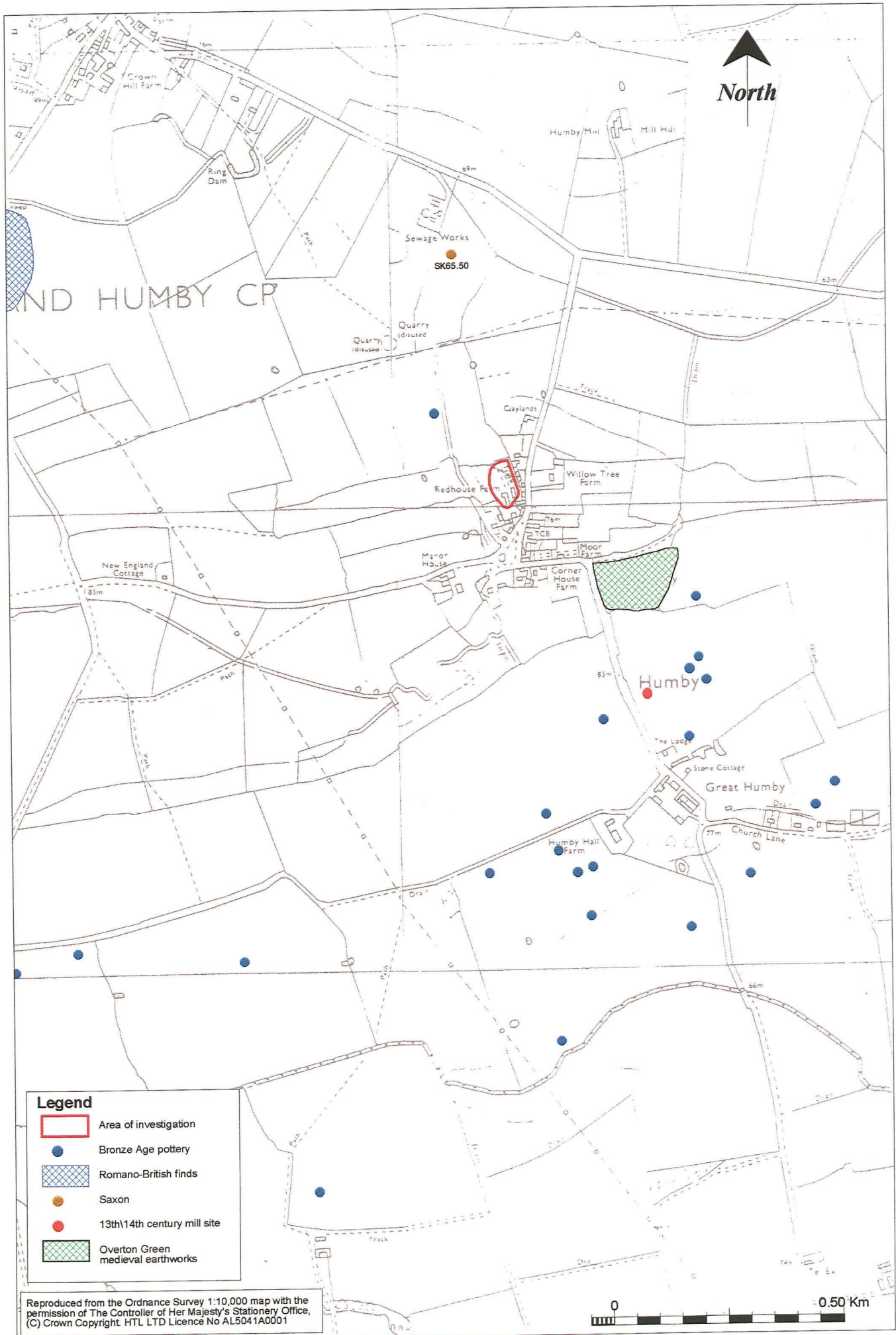


Figure 2 Site location plan showing archaeological setting

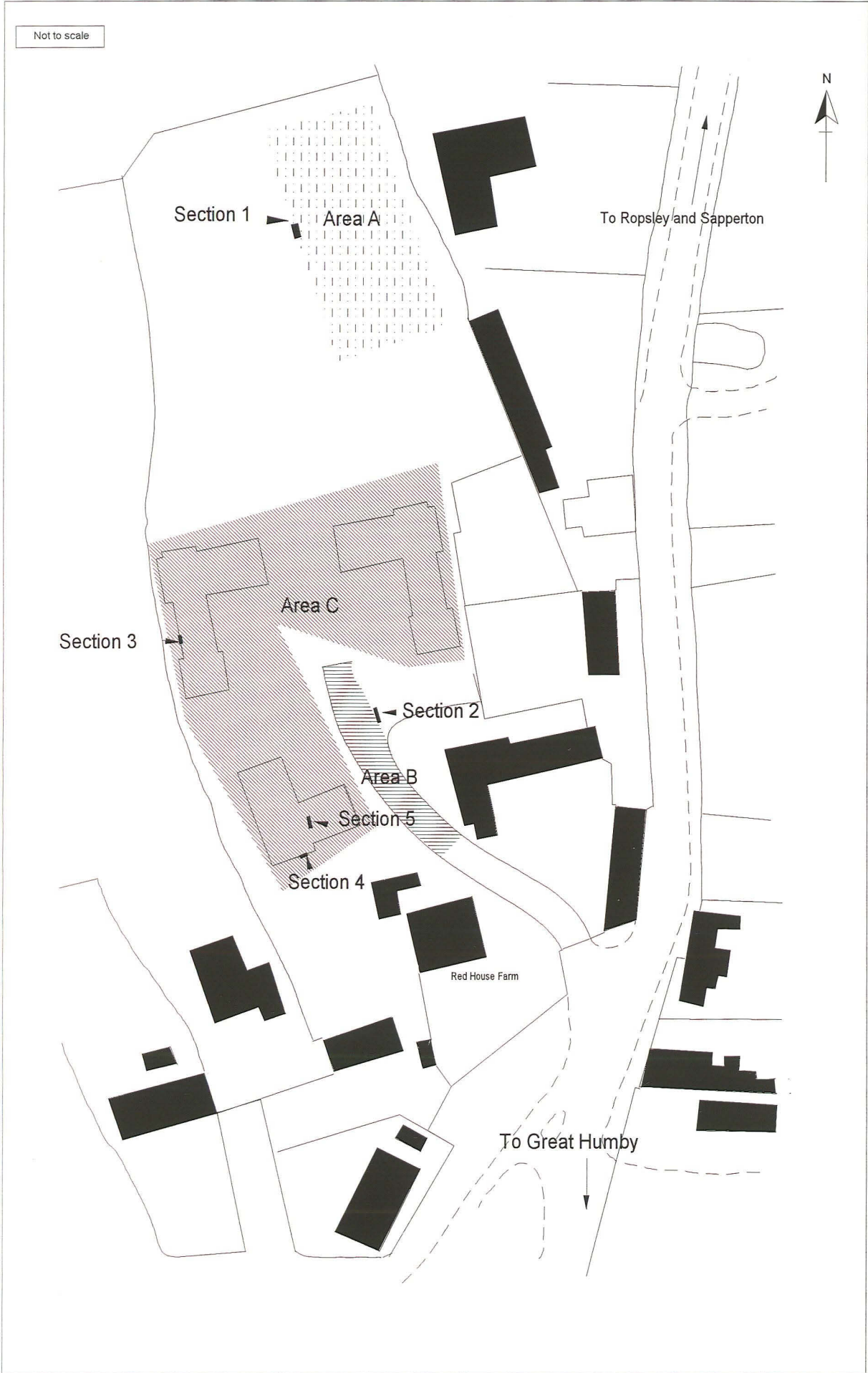


Figure 3 - Plan showing excavation areas and section locations

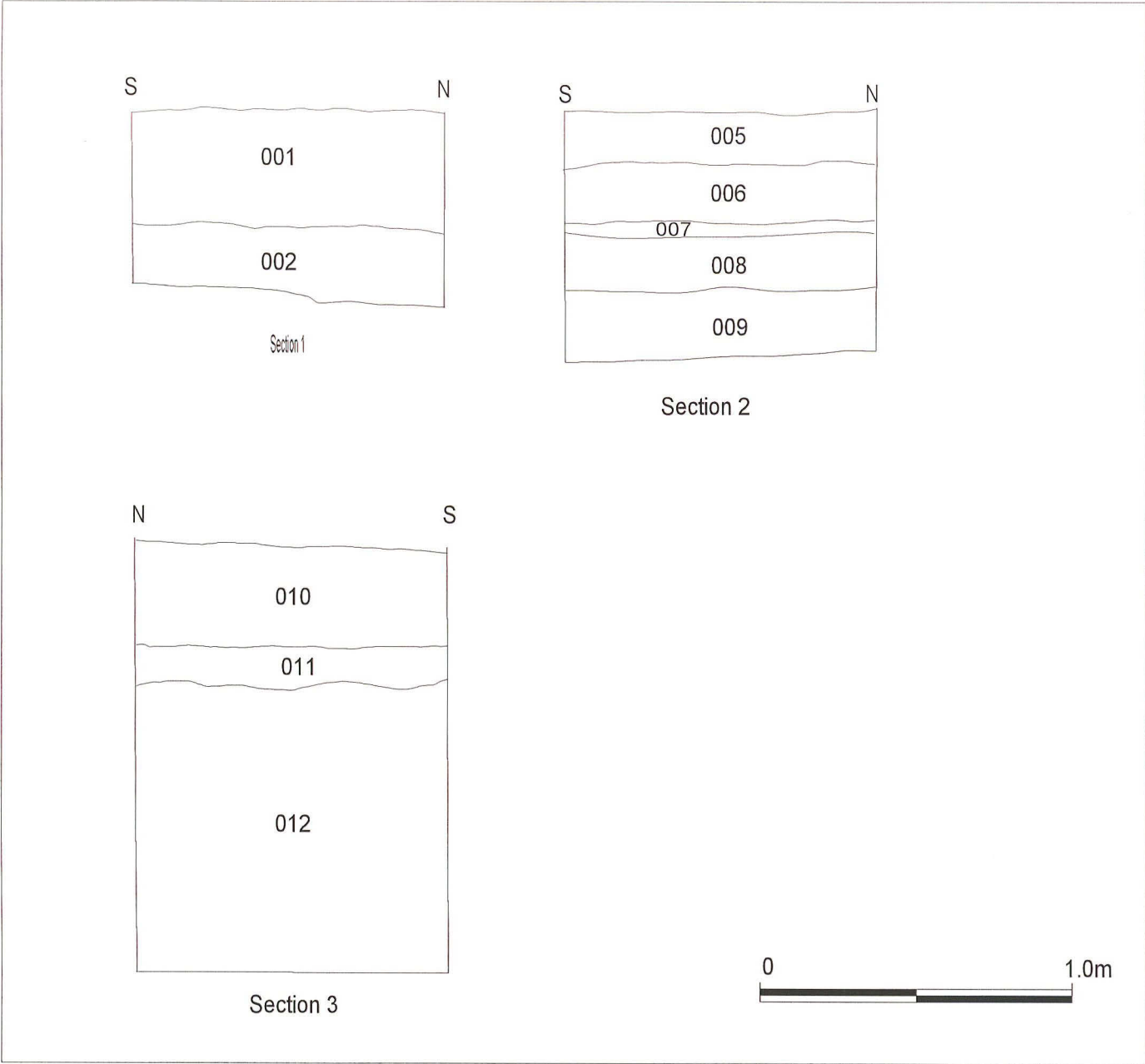


Figure 4 - Sections 1 - 3

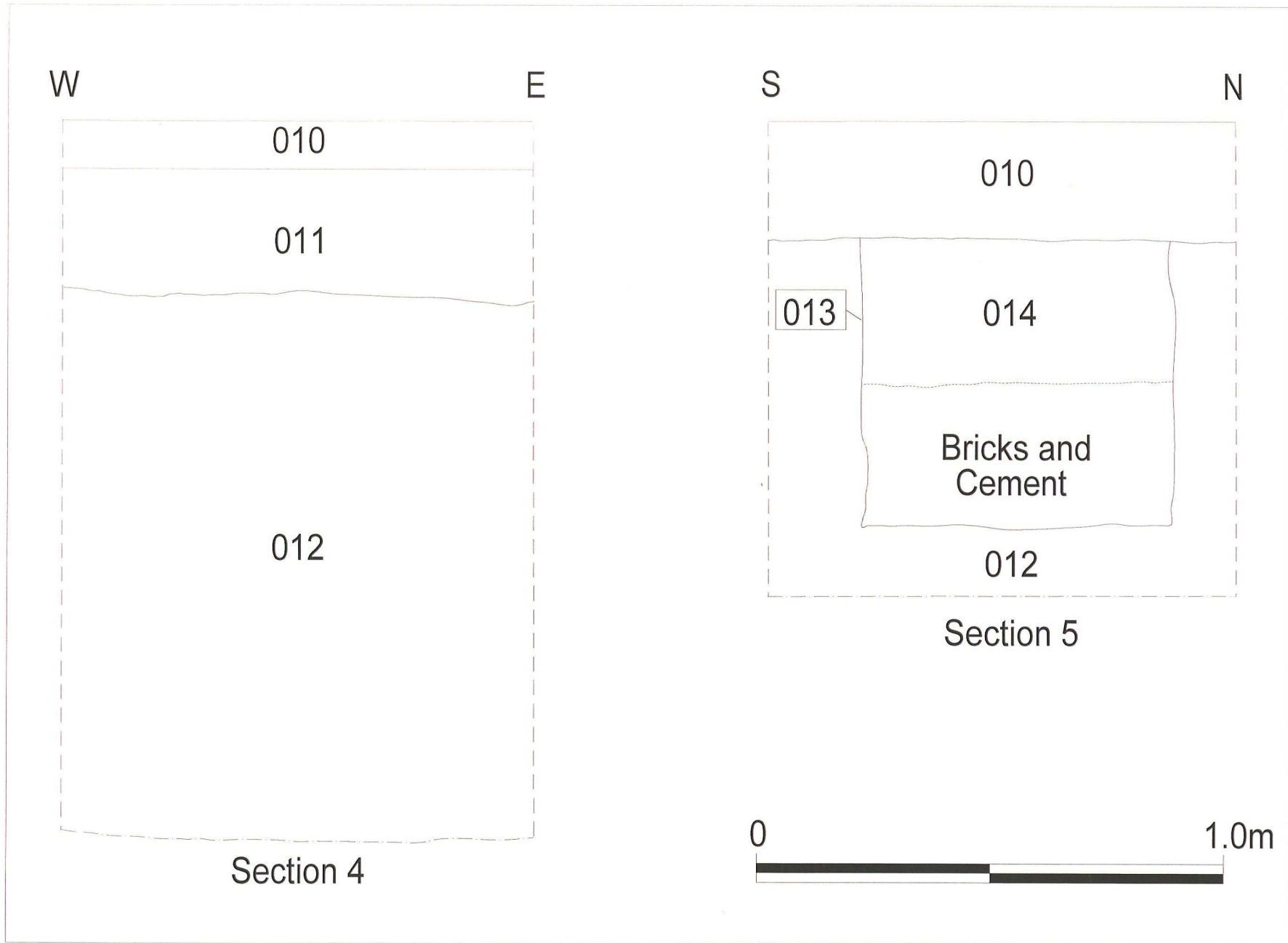


Figure 5 - Sections 4 and 5



Plate 1 General view during excavation



Plate 2 General view of clay pit, looking north





Plate 3 General view of Plot 2, looking southeast



Plate 4 Section 3 in Plot 2, looking east

**Appendix 1**

**LAND ADJACENT AT  
RED HOUSE FARM  
LITTLE HUMBY  
LINCOLNSHIRE**

**SPECIFICATION FOR  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

**PREPARED FOR  
PATTEN BUILDERS**

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

**AUGUST 2000**

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## 1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during residential development on land at Red House Farm, Little Humby, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The development lies close to an area of well preserved earthworks where late Saxon and medieval pottery has been found suggesting the remains of a settlement.*
- 1.3 *The watching brief will be undertaken during groundworks associated with the development. The archaeological features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the 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 development on land at Red House Farm, Little Humby, Lincolnshire, National Grid Reference TF 0025 3302.
- 2.2 This document contains the following parts:
  - 2.2.1 Overview.
  - 2.2.2 Stages of work and methodologies.
  - 2.2.3 List of specialists.
  - 2.2.4 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project.

## 3 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 Little Humby lies approximately 9km southeast of Grantham and 1.5km southeast of Ropsley in the administrative district of South Kesteven. The site is located at Red House Farm on the west side of Little Humby at national grid reference TF 0025 3302.

## 4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application (S00/0577/65) was submitted to South Kesteven District Council for the erection of three dwellings and conversion of barn to a dwelling. Permission was granted subject to a condition requiring the implementation of

an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks phase of the development.

## 5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 The site lies at approximately 75m OD. Local soils are the Elmton 1 Association brown redzinas (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 179).

## 6 THE ARCHAEOLOGY

6.1 Well-preserved earthworks lie in a field to the southeast of the proposed development. Late Saxon and medieval pottery has been found in the vicinity of the earthworks, indicating the remains of a settlement. Archaeological survey work in the area suggests that the settlement may have a late Saxon origin (Lane 1995).

## 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. A metal detector may be used to assist artefact recovery.
- 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 will be obtained before their removal. In addition, archaeological curator, Local Environmental Health Department, coroner and the police will be informed, as appropriate.

## 9 POST-EXCAVATION

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9.1 Stage 1

9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued and labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

9.1.2 All finds recovered during the field work will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

9.2 Stage 2

9.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.

9.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

9.3 Stage 3

9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.

9.3.2 This will consist of:

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

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

9.3.2.3 Description of the topography of the site.

9.3.2.4 Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.

9.3.2.5 A text describing the findings of the watching brief.

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

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

## 10 REPORT DEPOSITION

- 10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the Client; the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist; South Kesteven 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 Community Archaeologist of South Kesteven District Council. 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 three 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 principle 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 - Trent & Peak Archaeological Unit
	Roman - B Precious, Independent Specialist
	Anglo-Saxon - J Young, Independent Specialist
	Medieval and later - G Taylor, APS in consultation with 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 **INSURANCES**

17.1 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.

18 **COPYRIGHT**

18.1 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.

18.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.

18.3 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.

18.4 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.

19 **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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Specification: Version 1, 16/08/2000

## Appendix 2

### Context Summary

Context No.	Section	Description	Interpretation
001	1	Loose, dark blackish grey sandy silt with frequent rootlets, occasional gravel, limestones and CBM fragments, 0.37m thick	Modern topsoil
002	1	Firm, mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional medium sized limestones, pea gravel and charcoal fragments, 0.27m thick to L.O.E.	Subsoil
003	-	Firm light yellow reddish brown, silty clay exposed in plan	Natural deposit
004	-	Context assigned to unstratified finds.	-
005	2	Loose, dark blackish grey gritty sandy silt with frequent pea gravel, occasional limestones, cinders and charcoal fragments. 0.18m thick	Made up topsoil
006	2	Firm, light brownish yellow gritty silty sand with frequent cement and limestone fragments and occasional CBM and drain pipe fragments. 0.17m thick	Dumped deposit
007	2	Firm, brownish red silt containing 70% CBM fragments and frequent charcoal fragments, 0.05m thick	Dumped deposit
008	2	Firm light brownish yellow concrete limestone and sand matrix, 0.20m thick	Dumped deposit.
009	2	Firm dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional limestones, pea gravel and coal fragments, 0.24m thick to level of excavation	Buried topsoil
010	3	Firm dark blackish grey clay and stone with occasional brick fragments and remains of material membrane	Hard stand/yard surface

011	3	Firm dark-mid grey clay. Occasional stones and charcoal flecks, 0.10m thick	Residual/denuded subsoil
012	3	Firm banded orangey yellow grey and light-mid grey clay with occasional patches of mudstone	Natural geological deposit
013	5	Square cut feature 0.65 m x 0.60 deep	Modern footing pedestal cut
014	5	Firm, dark grey clay with bricks and concrete at base	Fill of 013
015	-	Rectilinear cut feature, 0.70 x 0.60m x 0.75m deep	Same as 013
016	-	Firm dark grey clay with bricks and concrete at base	Fill of 015
017	-	Rectilinear cut feature, 6m long x 2m deep, vertical sides and flat base	Modern tank pit cut
018	-	Loose, yellow to grey brown sandy silt with frequent bricks, concrete limestone blocks and road ballast	Backfill of 017

## Appendix 3

### THE FINDS

*by Paul Cope-Faulkner, Tom Lane, Hilary Healey and Gary Taylor*

#### Provenance

The material was recovered from a buried topsoil (009) and as unstratified finds (004).

While the late post-medieval material from (009) was probably made in Staffordshire, the definable earlier, Roman and medieval fragments from (004) were manufactured relatively locally in the Nene Valley near Peterborough, about 37km to the southeast, and in Nottingham, 42km to the west.

#### Range

The range of material is detailed in the table.

Context	Description	Context Date
004	1x Nene Valley colour-coated wide mouthed bowl, 2 <sup>nd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> century AD	post-medieval or 13 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup> century
	1x Nottingham ware, 13 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> century	
	1x ?Leicestershire/Nottingham ware, 13 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup> century	
	2x linked ?Roman white ware, small sherds, 1 <sup>st</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> century AD	
	1x ?Bourne A/B ware, very small sherd, 12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> century	
	1x flint, struck flake, prehistoric	
	1x copper alloy buckle fragment, ?post-medieval	
	1x cattle metatarsus	
	1x horse molar	
009	2x blue and white transfer printed tableware, 19 <sup>th</sup> century	19 <sup>th</sup> century
	1x Mocha ware, 19 <sup>th</sup> century	

A single struck flint flake of indeterminate prehistoric date was recovered. The piece is an utilised waste flake with light patination, a striking platform and bulb of percussion.

Too little of the copper alloy buckle from (004) survives for typological identification, though it appears to be a plain rectangular form of post-medieval date (eg, Read 1988, fig. 32, 5-7).

#### Condition

Although some of the pieces are small and abraded, all of the material is in good condition and presents no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the material is by material class.

**Documentation**

There have been no previous formal archaeological investigations in Little Humby. Details of archaeological sites and finds in the area are maintained in the files of the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist and the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record.

**Potential**

Although as a mixed assemblage the potential of this collection is limited, the presence of the Roman and medieval ceramics indicates activity, though of indeterminate nature, in the proximity and thereby enhances the significance of the material.

**Reference**

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

## Appendix 4

### GLOSSARY

<b>Bronze Age</b>	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
<b>Context</b>	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).
<b>Cut</b>	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.
<b>Early Saxon</b>	Pertaining to the period AD 410-650
<b>Fill</b>	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).
<b>Iron Age</b>	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
<b>Late Saxon</b>	Pertaining to the period AD 850-1066
<b>Layer</b>	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
<b>Medieval</b>	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
<b>Middle Saxon</b>	Pertaining to the period AD 650-850
<b>Natural</b>	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
<b>Post-medieval</b>	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
<b>Prehistoric</b>	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.
<b>Romano-British</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.



## Appendix 5

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 18 Context records
- 5 Scale drawings
- 1 Photographic record sheet
- 1 Stratigraphic matrix
- 4 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 Museum Accession Number: LCNCC : 2000.204

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: LHR00

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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