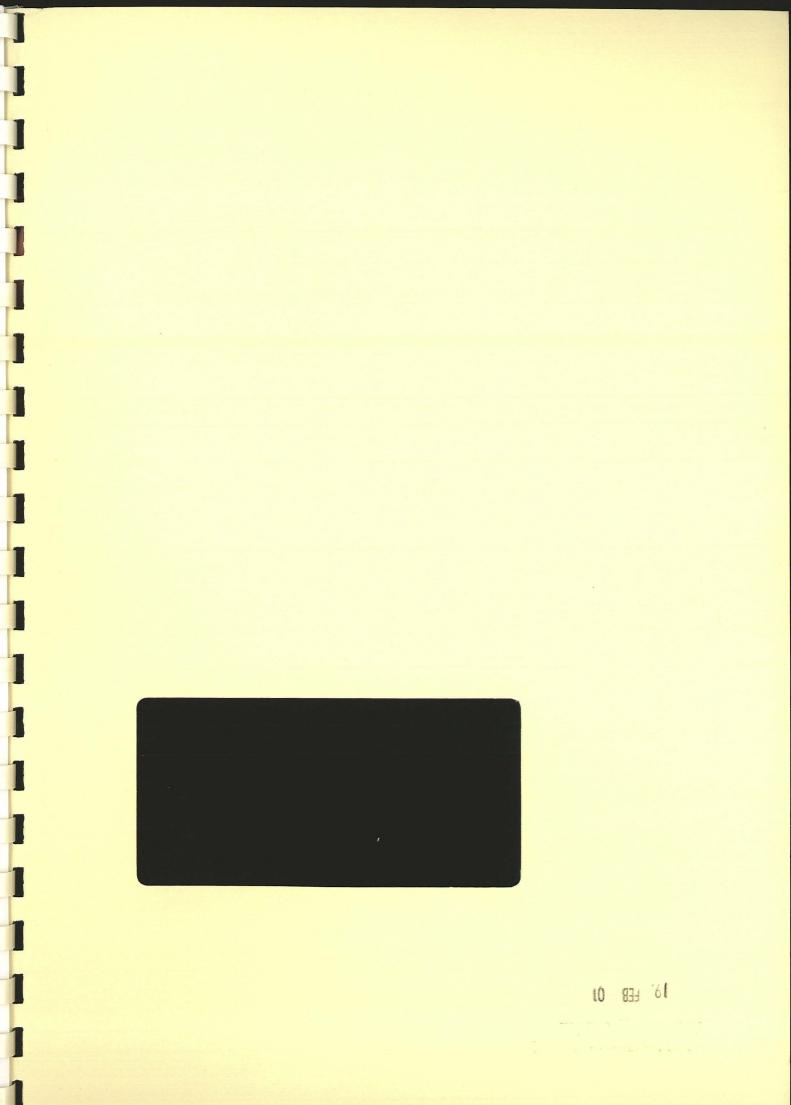


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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF OF DEVELOPMENT ON LAND ADJACENT TO CHURCH WALK, BRANT BROUGHTON, LINCOLNSHIRE (BBC 00)



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



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF OF DEVELOPMENT ON LAND ADJACENT TO CHURCH WALK, BRANT BROUGHTON, LINCOLNSHIRE (BBC 00)

> Work Undertaken For Mr A. Timmis

> > February 2001

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

Planning Application No: N/14/0199/00 National Grid Reference: SK 9157 5402 City and County Museum Accession No: 2001.36

A.P.S. Report No. 21/01



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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the construction of a single dwelling and detached garage at Church Walk, Brant Broughton, Lincolnshire.

The watching brief was undertaken as the site lay within the medieval (AD 1066-1500) core of the village. Romano-British (AD 50-410) artefacts are also known from the vicinity and a Late Saxon (AD 850-1066) grave cover fragment is situated within the parish church.

The watching brief identified an undated ditch, possibly a former boundary, two undated and one modern pit. Artefacts retrieved from the site include a fragment of $18^{th} - 19^{th}$ century roof tile, mortar and animal bone.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

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

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr A. Timmis to undertake an archaeological watching brief during residential development on land adjacent to Church Walk, Brant Broughton, North Kesteven District. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application N/14/0199/00. Permission was granted subject to a standard condition for archaeological recording. The watching brief was undertaken on the 22^{nd} and 23^{rd} November 2000.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Brant Broughton is located 19km southwest of Lincoln and 17km northwest of Sleaford in the administrative district of North Kesteven, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The site is situated 120m north of the parish church of St. Helen (Fig. 2) at National Grid . Reference SK 9157 5402. The site and the immediate surroundings are relatively flat, lying at c. 11m OD.

Local soils are of the Blackwood Association, typically deep permeable sandy and coarse loamy soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 127). Southeast of the village, soils are likely to be of the Wickham 2 Association, typically fine loamy over stagnogley soils (*ibid.* 351). The soils lie above glaciofluvial sand and gravel that overlie a solid geology of Lower Lias Clay (GSGB 1972).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Brant Broughton is located in an area of known archaeological activity dating mainly from the Romano-British to medieval periods. Romano-British pottery has been found along the High Street and coins of the period are known from north of the site.

Within the parish church is a fragment of a Late Saxon grave cover dating from the mid 10th century to the early 11th century (Everson and Stocker 1999, 112).

Brant Broughton is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as *Burtune* the name is derived from the Old English *Burh-tūn* meaning a fortified manor,

the Brant element is derived from the nearby river (Ekwall 1974, 70). The Domesday Survey records a church, priest, a mill and 200 acres of meadow all held by Count Alan (Foster and Longley 1976).

Medieval remains at Brant Broughton include the 13th century church of St. Helen, which presumably replaced the church mentioned in the Domesday Survey (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 181) and extensive earthworks, suggesting a fishpond complex north of the village (Hilary Healey *pers comm*).

A dovecote dating from the 17th century lies within 300m of the development (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 183), though the majority of buildings date from the 18th century and later.

3. AIMS

The requirements of the watching brief, as outlined in the specification (Appendix 1), were to locate and record archaeological deposits, if present, and to determine their date, form and function.

4. METHODS

Trenches were excavated to the required depths for the development by mechanical excavator. Following excavation, the sides of relevant trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. 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 2. 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.

Finds recovered from excavated deposits were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 3). Records of the deposits and features encountered were also examined. Phasing was assigned based on artefact dating and the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

5. **RESULTS**

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

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Undated deposits
Phase 3	18 th /19 th century deposits
Phase 4	Modern deposits

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

Phase 1 Natural deposits

Towards the eastern part of the site, within the garage footings, the earliest deposit encountered was a greyish brown clayey silt (004). Towards the west a similar deposit was encountered within the house footings (008), although in the centre of the site a bluish grey silty clay (015 and 017) was recorded.

Phase 2 Undated deposits

Cut into the natural (004) towards the northern edge of the garage footings was a linear feature (003). This was aligned eastwest and was visible for a length of 5m and a depth of 0.5m.

In the southeast corner of the house footings was a feature recorded in section only (006). Possibly a pit, this was 0.4m deep and over 1.4m long (Fig. 4, Section 2). A primary fill of dark yellowish grey sand (007) was recorded.

Towards the centre of the site was a further possible pit (014). This was 0.4m wide and deeper than 0.35m and contained a fill of brownish grey clayey silt (013).

Phase 3 18th/19th century deposits

Sealing all earlier layers and partly infilling the undated ditch (003) and pit (006) was a subsoil of greyish brown clayey silt (002, 005 and 012) or mid brown silty clay (016). A single fragment of 18th - 19th century roof tile, mortar and animal bone were retrieved from this deposit.

Phase 4 Modern deposits

Cut into the subsoil (012) towards the centre of the site was a feature (010 and 019), possibly a pit (Fig. 3). This was 1.2m wide and deeper than 0.52m (Fig. 4, Section 3). Contained within this feature was a dark grey clayey silt (010 and 018).

Sealing all archaeological layers and features was a topsoil of blackish brown silt (001) and dark grey silty clay (011). This measured between 0.18m and 0.3m thick.

6. **DISCUSSION**

Natural (Phase 1) silty clays and clayey silts were identified during this investigation and are derived from underlying glaciofluvial deposits.

An undated ditch and two pits (Phase 2)

were cut into these natural layers. The eastwest aligned ditch is located adjacent to the modern boundary of the site and probably served a similar function. The ditch and pit were partly filled with a subsoil (Phase 3) which contained 18th - 19th century tile and may indicate a date for these two features.

Artefacts retrieved during this investigation include the roofing tile, two fragments of mortar and a single animal bone. They probably represent nothing more than discarded refuse.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were carried out during development at Church Walk, Brant Broughton, Lincolnshire, because the site lies in close proximity to Romano-British findspots and within the core of the medieval village.

An undated ditch and two pits and a modern pit were the only archaeological features encountered. The ditch lies parallel and adjacent to the modern site perimeter and may indicate a former boundary on the same alignment.

Few artefacts were retrieved from this investigation. They include a fragment of roof tile, mortar and animal bone. The nature of the site conditions would suggest that few environmental indicators (seeds, snails, wood *etc.*) would survive, other than through charring.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr. A. Timmis who commissioned the fieldwork and postexcavation analysis. Thanks are also due to Gail Smith, the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist for allowing access to the relevant parish files. The work was coordinated by Denise Drury and this report was edited by Tom Lane.

11. ABBREVIATIONS

GSGB Geological Survey of Great Britain

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Denise Drury Supervisor: Chris Moulis, Fiona Walker Finds Processing: Denise Buckley Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner, Mark Dymond Photographic Reproduction: Sue Unsworth Post-excavation Analyst: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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Figure 1 - General Location Plan

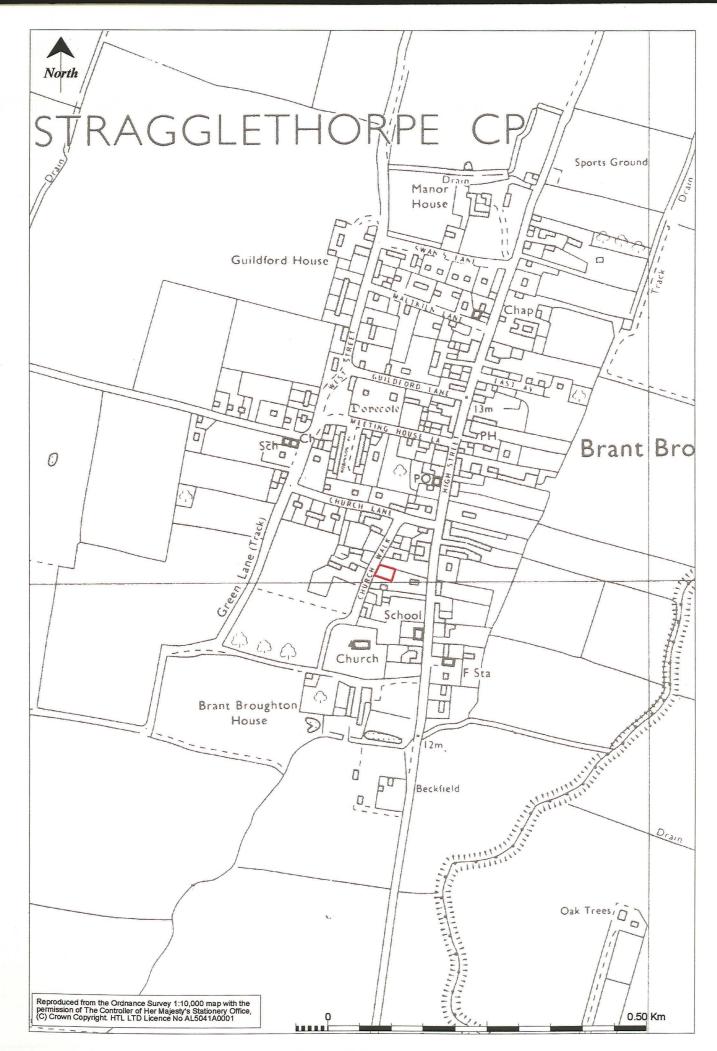


Figure 2 - Site location plan

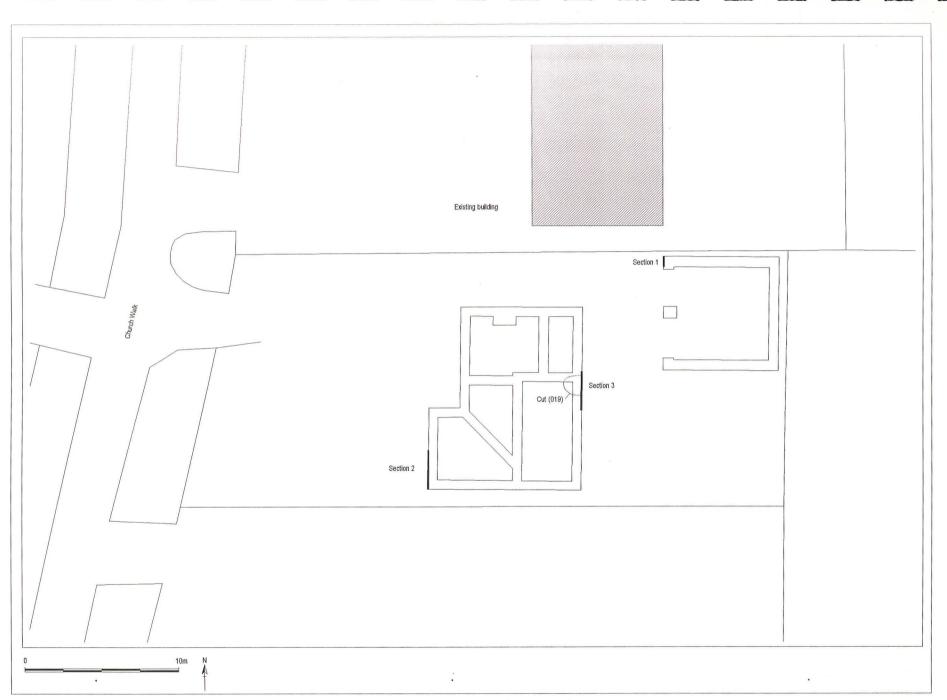
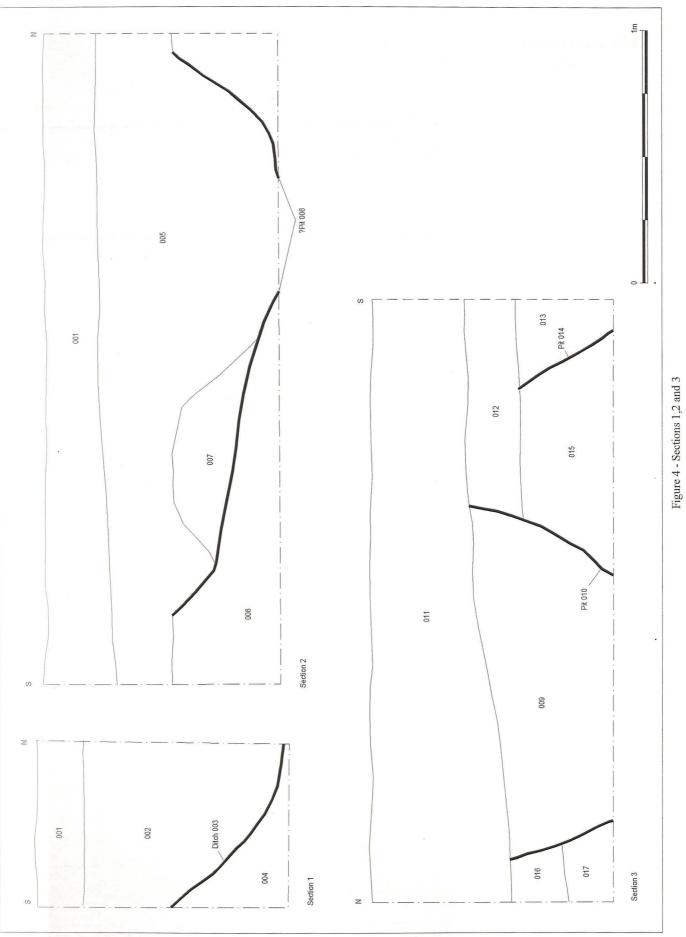


Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section locations



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Plate 1 - General view of the site, looking east



Plate 2 - The undated ditch (003), looking west



Plate 3 - The undated pit (006), looking west

LAND AT CHURCH WALK, BRANT BROUGHTON, LINCOLNSHIRE -SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 A watching brief is required during development on land adjacent to 5 Church Walk, Brant Broughton, Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The development lies in the centre of the medieval village. Finds of prehistoric, Romano-British and medieval date have been found in the vicinity of the development site.
- *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 adjacent to 5 Church Walk, Brant Broughton, Lincolnshire. The site is located at national grid reference SK 9157 5402.
- 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 Brant Broughton is located 19km southwest of Lincoln and 17km northwest of Sleaford in the administrative district of North Kesteven. Church Walk lies in the centre of the village, approximately 100m north of the church, at national grid reference SK 9157 5402.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 Planning permission (application number N/14/0199/00) has been granted by North Kesteven District Council subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief during the development.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 The site lies in the centre of the village at approximately 11m OD. Local soils are slightly stony sandy gley soils of the Blackwood Association developed on glaciofluvial drift (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 127).

6 THE ARCHAEOLOGY

6.1 Brant Broughton is located in an area of known archaeological activity dating mainly from the Romano-British to medieval periods. The site is located in the core area of the medieval village and lies approximately 100m north of the medieval church of St Helen.

- 6.2 Previous investigations in the village have revealed pottery of Romano-British date and a worked prehistoric flint. Watching briefs undertaken by Archaeological Project Services in Brant Broughton have identified a number of undated features and recovered pottery dating from the medieval period to the present day (Archaeological Project Services 1995, 1997).
- 6.2 In view of these previous discoveries in the vicinity of the site it is possible that archaeological remains may be disturbed by the groundworks.

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 <u>General considerations</u>
 - 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 will be obtained before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department and the police will be informed.

9 POST-EXCAVATION

- 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 <u>Stage 2</u>
 - 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 North Kesteven Heritage Officer; North 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 Heritage Officer of North 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 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 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.

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 - Gary Taylor, APS 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.
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- 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.

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Specification: Version 1, 16/10/2000

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

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1

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Firm dark blackish brown silt, 0.18m thick	Topsoil
002	Firm mid greyish brown clayey silt, 0.35m-0.8m thick	Subsoil
003	Linear feature, aligned east-west, 0.7m wide by >5m long>0.5m deep, gradual sides and concave base	Ditch
004	Firm mixed greyish brown and yellowish brown silty clay, >0.45m thick	Natural deposit
005	Firm mid greyish brown clayey silt, 0.7mthick	Subsoil
006	Feature, possibly aligned east-west, 0.4m deep >1.4m long, gradual sides and flat base	Pit?
007	Firm dark yellowish grey sand	Primary fill of (006)
008	Firm mixed greyish brown and yellowish brown silty clay, >0.42 thick	Natural deposit
009	Firm dark grey clayey silt	Fill of (010)
010.	Feature, 1.2m wide by 0.52m deep, steep sides, not fully excavated	Pit
011	Firm dark grey silty clay, 0.3m thick	Topsoil
012	Firm dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.2m thick	Subsoil
013	Firm dark brownish grey clayey silt	Fill of (014)
014	Feature, 0.4m wide by 0.35m deep, steep sides, not fully excavated	Pit
015	Firm bluish grey silty clay	Natural deposit
016	Firm mid brown silty clay	Subsoil
017	Firm bluish grey silty clay	Natural deposit
018	Firm dark grey clayey silt	Fill of (019)
019	Western extension of (010)	Pit

THE FINDS

by Paul Cope-Faulkner and Gary Taylor

Provenance

The material was recovered from subsoil (012).

The roofing tile is likely to have been manufactured locally.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the table.

Context	Description	Context Date
012	1x roofing tile, 18 th - 19 th century	18 th - 19 th century
	2x fragments of a sandy mortar	
	1x cattle sized scapula fragment	

The roof tile is a lower corne with a sandy upper surface and smooth underside.

Condition

All the material is in good condition and present no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the collection is by material class.

Documentation

There have been previous archaeological investigations at Brant Broughton, including finds of medieval and earlier date. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the North Kesteven Heritage Officer and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

As a small, late post-medieval assemblage the collection has limited potential though indicates activity of the period in the vicinity.

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, <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).
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.
Națural	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 1 st 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.

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 19 Context records
- 2 Drawing sheets
- 3 Daily record sheets
- 1 Photographic record sheet
- 1 Bag of finds
- 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:

Archaeological Project Services Site Code:

BBC 00

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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