ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON LAND AT LONGVIEW, CHURCH LANE, WRANGLE, LINCOLNSHIRE (WCEL00)

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# ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON LAND AT LONGVIEW, CHURCH LANE, WRANGLE, LINCOLNSHIRE (WCEL00)

Work Undertaken For Mr. A. Pickles

Report Compiled by Steve Thomson BSc PIFA

April 2001

Planning Application No: B/00/0353/FULL National Grid Reference: TF 4255 5066 City and County Museum Accession No: LCNCC : 2000.266

A.P.S. Report No. 37/01



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WRANGLE, LONGVIEW, CHURCH LANE SMR WCELOO REPORT NO 37/01 WB WJ/07 With Compliments Replacement - Figure 3+4 - showing scale A P S ARCHAEOLOGICAL Archaeological Project Services PROJECT The Old School • Cameron Street • Heckington • Sleaford • Lincs • NG34 9RW SERVICES Archaeological Project Services is part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. Charity No: 1001463 • Company No: 2554738 (England).

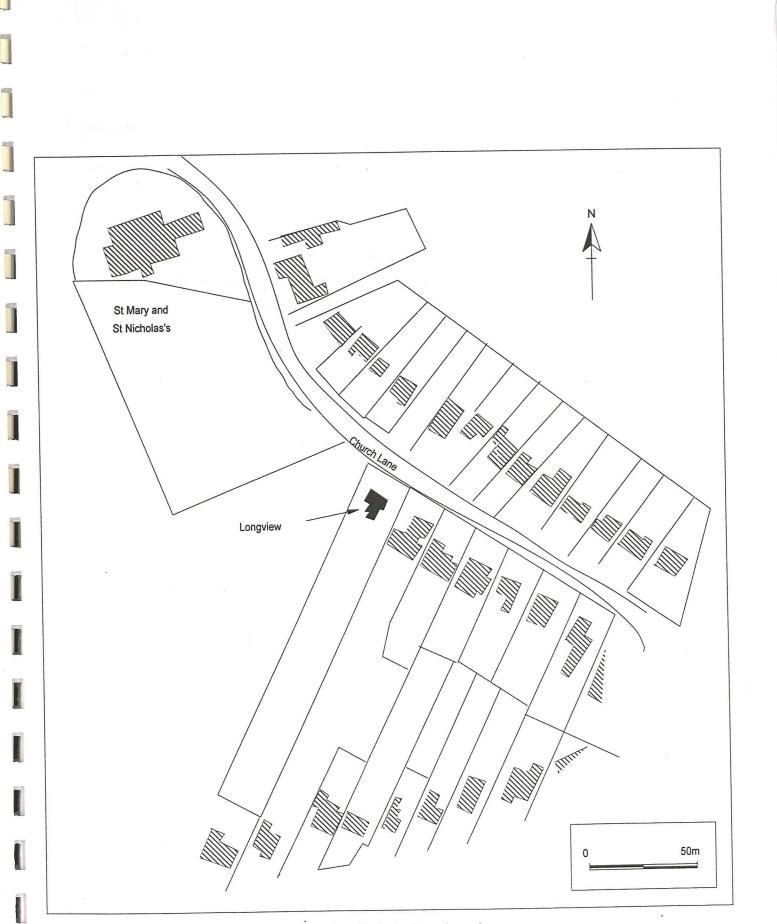
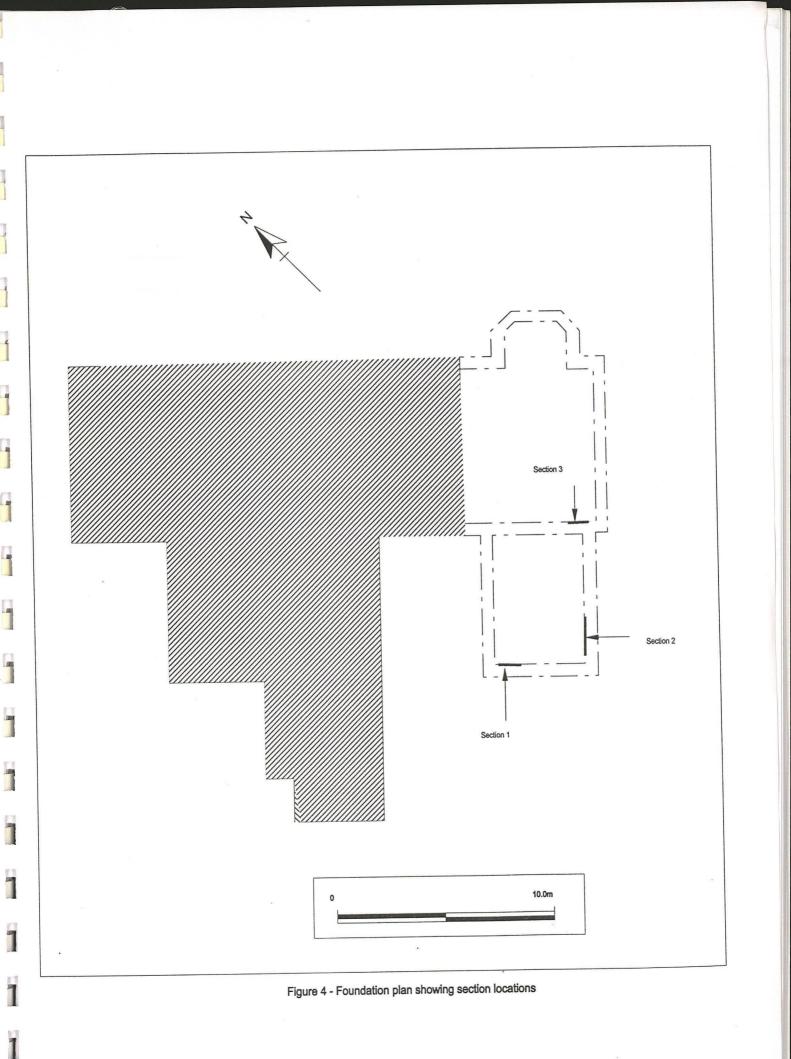


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### 1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the groundworks phase of construction of an extension at Longview, Church Lane, Wrangle, Lincolnshire. The site lies within an area of known archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric through to the medieval period.

A probable Saxo-Norman pit, an undated post hole and alluvial deposits containing probable evidence of saltmaking were identified.

Sherds of pottery of Saxo-Norman date were recovered from the pit and 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> century Potterhanworth ware from the subsoil and an alluvial deposit.

# 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

On the 21st September 2000 an archaeological watching brief was undertaken during groundworks associated with the construction of a two-storey extension at Longview, Church Lane, Wrangle, Lincolnshire.

A planning application (B/00/0353/FULL) was submitted to Boston Borough Council for the construction of a bungalow and garage. Permission was granted subject to a condition requiring archaeological observation and recording.

Archaeological Project Services (APS) was commissioned by Mr Pickles to undertake the archaeological watching brief. The investigation was carried out on the 21<sup>st</sup> September 2000 in accordance with the requirements of the project Brief and a specification (Appendix 1) produced by APS and approved by the Boston Community Archaeologist.

## 2.3 Topography and Geology

Wrangle is located 4km from the Lincolnshire coast and 12km northeast of Boston, in the administrative district of Boston (Fig. 1). Church Lane lies on the southwest side of the village and the site is located some 175m south of the church, at approximately 3m OD on flat, level land. It is centred on National Grid Reference TF 4255 5066 (Fig. 2).

Local soils are the Wisbech Association, mainly coarse silty calcareous soils, developed on marine alluvium (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 361).

### 2.4 Archaeological Setting

The development site lies within an area of known archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric period onwards. A possible prehistoric hammer has been recorded to the northeast (21/011 Fig. 2).

Fieldwork undertaken at Wrangle, as part of the Fenland Project, has recorded a number of sites and find spots dating from the prehistoric through to the medieval period. In particular, an area of Iron Age and Romano-British settlement, associated with saltmaking, (WRN 18 Fig. 2) was found immediately adjacent to the site. Romano-British pottery has also been found to the west (21/069) Wrangle is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086. Referred to as *Werangle*, the name is possibly derived from the Old English word *wrengel* or *wrangel*, meaning 'a crooked place', which may refer to a winding stream (Cameron 1998, 144). It is further possible that the name may derive from the Old Scandinavian word *vrangr*, also meaning 'bent' or 'crooked', (Ekwall 1974, 537). In either case a topographical derivation, in relation to a bending watercourse, appears likely.

The Domesday Survey records five 'carucates' of land at Wrangle held by Count Alan and a further two by Guy of Craon, though the latter is described as waste on account of flooding by the sea (Morris '1986).

Wrangle's population may have numbered 500-1000 in the first half of the fourteenth century, due to its trade connections with Lincolnshire's coastal ports (Platts 1985, 195). The church of St. Mary & St Nicholas, situated to the north of the site, is believed to date from the  $14^{th}$  century or earlier. Within the chancel was once an inscription dating to the Abbacy of Thomas de Wyversty of Waltham *c*. 1350-70 (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 814).

A scatter of Late Saxon-medieval pottery, (WRN19 Fig. 2), has been recorded from close to the site during fieldwork undertaken as part of the Fenland Project (Lane 1993, 76).

Other medieval ceramics have been recovered from the church cemetery (21/007) and include glazed floor tile and strap handled jugs. There have also been other medieval ceramic finds in the general area (21/065, 21/069).

Archaeological investigations south of the church identified features of medieval date and recovered finds suggesting salt-making (Rayner 2000) though a further watching brief to the northeast (21/064) recorded no archaeological features (Boston Community archaeologist records).

Remains of an extensive saltmaking industry are also known from Wrangle (Hallam 1960, Lane 1993).

## 3. AIMS

The aim of the watching brief, in accordance with the specification (Appendix 1) was to record and interpret any archaeological features exposed during the groundworks and determine their form, function, spatial arrangement and sequence through the completion of a written and photographic record.

# 4. METHOD

The footing trenches were excavated by a mechanical excavator using a toothed bucket, to a maximum depth of 1.00m. The sides of the trenches were inspected and hand cleaned at close intervals to identify archaeological deposits and/or features. 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 a 1:100 plan of the footings produced locating the section drawings. A black and white print and colour slide photographic record was compiled, depicting the setting of the site and the nature of recorded features and deposits. The spoil from the excavations was searched using a trowel to recover finds that may assist in the interpretation of the site.

The records of deposits excavated during development and the finds recovered were examined. A list of contexts appears as Appendix 2. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits supplemented by artefact dating.

# 5. **RESULTS**

Following post-excavation analysis, four phases of deposits were identified;

| Phase 1 | Natural Deposits     |
|---------|----------------------|
| Phase 2 | Undated Deposits     |
| Phase 3 | Saxo-Norman/medieval |
|         | Deposits             |
| Phase 4 | Modern Deposits      |

## 5.1 Natural Deposits

The earliest deposits encountered during the course of the watching brief were a compact, light brown sandy clayey silt (006=010) in the southern end of the footings and a firm light greyish brown sandy silt (019=021) towards the north. Both deposits were identified as alluvial layers.

Overlying (010) was a light bluish grey sandy, clayey silt (009), representing further alluvial episodes. A similar bluish grey deposit (018=020) sealed (019/021).

# 5.2 Undated Deposits

A sub-circular feature (017) (Figure 5 -Section 3), 0.30m deep by 0.40m wide, cut through the natural deposits (018) and (019) and was interpreted as a possible post hole. Filling the feature was a firm, light brown sandy silt containing a moderate amount of scorched clay (016).

Overlying (016) was a firm, dark brownish grey sandy silt containing charcoal fragments and scorched clay (015). This deposit was identified as a dumping episode. Sealing (015) and (016) was a firm, light brown sandy silt containing occasional fragments of scorched clay (014). This layer represented a flooding episode.

### 5.3 Saxo-Norman/medieval Deposits

A feature, greater than 1.50m wide and 0.26m deep (022) (Figure 5 - Section 3) was interpreted as a pit cut. The primary fill of the pit (013) was a soft, light brown with grey and orange brown sandy silt, which was identified as a backfilled, dumped deposit. It contained a concentration of charcoal and burnt silt (Section 3 Figure 5). Overlying (013) was a firm, pale brown with mid-grey mottling, sandy silt (012), containing charcoal flecks, occasional oyster shell and scorched clay fragments. A sherd of South Lincolnshire shelly ware pottery of Saxo-Norman date was recovered from (012). The final fill of the pit was a firm, light brown sandy silt containing occasional charcoal flecks (011).

Sealing the Phase 1 deposit (006) was a firm, light brown, with orange mottling, clayey, fine sandy silt (005). This was identified as an alluvial deposit from which a sherd of pottery of 13<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> century date was recovered. Above (005) was a light bluish grey sandy clayey silt (004) which also represented a flooding episode.

Towards the southern end of the footings, and overlying (004), a 30mm thick, firm, light bluish grey sandy, clayey silt which contained black patches of probable organic nature was identified (003). Slightly to the north of (003) a layer of similar character (008) was also identified and was synchronous with (003). Both deposits were interpreted as being a single flooding episode.

Sealing (008) was a firm, light brown sandy silt, 100mm thick (007). This deposit also represented flooding.

The final Phase 3 deposit identified was a compact, mid-brown sandy, clayey silt

containing occasional bone fragments (002). The layer represented the subsoil from which a single sherd of pottery of 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> century date was recovered.

# 5.4 Post-medieval and modern Deposits

Sealing Phases 1, 2 and 3 and extending across the entire site, was the topsoil, consisting of a soft, dark brown fine sand and silt (001) containing occasional brick and glass fragments which were not recovered.

# 6. **DISCUSSION**

Phase 1 deposits represented the natural geology of the site and are probably marine alluvial deposits. The differential deposition identified reflecting various stages of marine incursion.

Phase 2 deposits were represented by a possible post hole (017), a dumped deposit (015) and an alluvial deposit (014). The post hole was sealed by the subsoil (002) which may indicate an earlier rather than later date. The cut was angled towards the west, suggesting the post may not have been upright, however interpretation of an isolated post remains difficult and the post's function remains unknown.

Phase 3 deposits were in the form of a pit cut (022) containing backfilled or dumped material which included a concentration of charcoal and scorched clay. This may be suggestive of early saltmaking or some other industrial process, given the paucity of domestic type artefacts in any of the pit fills.

(003) and (008) represented a single flooding episode in which organic material appears to have been carried and subsequently decayed and survives only as occasional patches of black, sticky silt. Further alluvial events are evidenced by (004) and (005) with 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> century pottery recovered from (005) representing inwash.

(014) also represented a flooding episode but contained fragments of scorched clay. Given the proximity of known saltmaking sites to the development it is highly probable that this scorched clay represents burning connected with saltmaking. (007) probably represents a continuation of (014) in the southern end of the foundations.

The dumped deposit (015) may also have been associated with burning and when considered in relation to (014) and the Phase 3 pit (022), may be further evidence of saltmaking activity in the area.

Phase 4 deposits were represented by the current modern topsoil.

# 7. CONCLUSION

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the groundwork phase of the construction of an extension at Longview, Church Lane, Wrangle as the site lies within an area of known archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric through to the medieval period.

During the watching brief a Saxo-Norman pit and an undated post hole were exposed along with medieval alluvial horizons, the latter revealing a landscape which has been prone to consistent flooding. Some of the alluvium contained material probably connected with saltmaking which is known to the north of the development, with evidence of burning found in the Saxo-Norman pit reinforcing this. Very few finds were recovered during the investigation and it is likely that they are connected with saltmaking in the area rather than part of a domestic assemblage. It is also probable that the site lay outside of the core of the medieval or early medieval village and was primarily associated with the saltmaking industry.

The nature of the soils exposed suggests that few paleo-environmental indicators (plant remains, seeds, pollen etc.) will have survived other than through charring, though other indicators such as bone or shell would be preserved.

### 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr Pickles who commissioned the fieldwork and postexcavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Steve Malone and this report was edited by Gary Taylor and Tom Lane. Susan Smith, the Community Archaeologist for Boston District Council, kindly permitted examination of the relevant parish files.

# 9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Steve Malone Site Supervisor: Chris Moulis 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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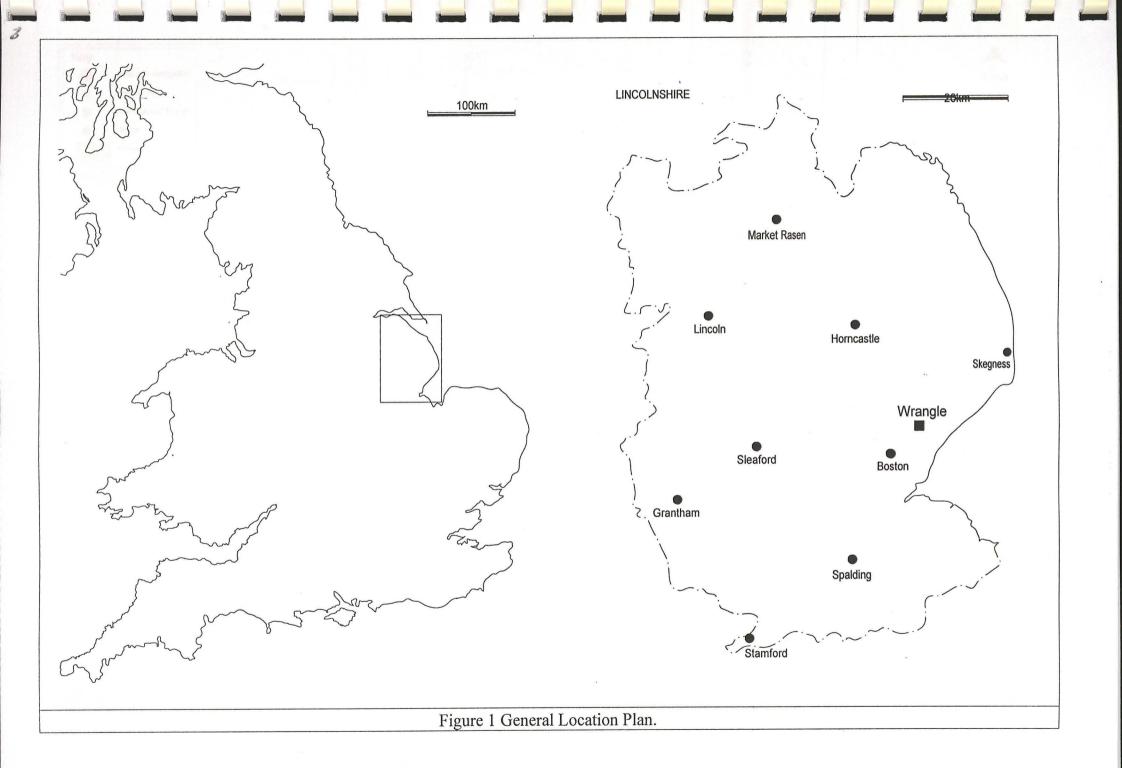
#### 11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

WRN Prefix given to find spot numbers during the Fenland survey

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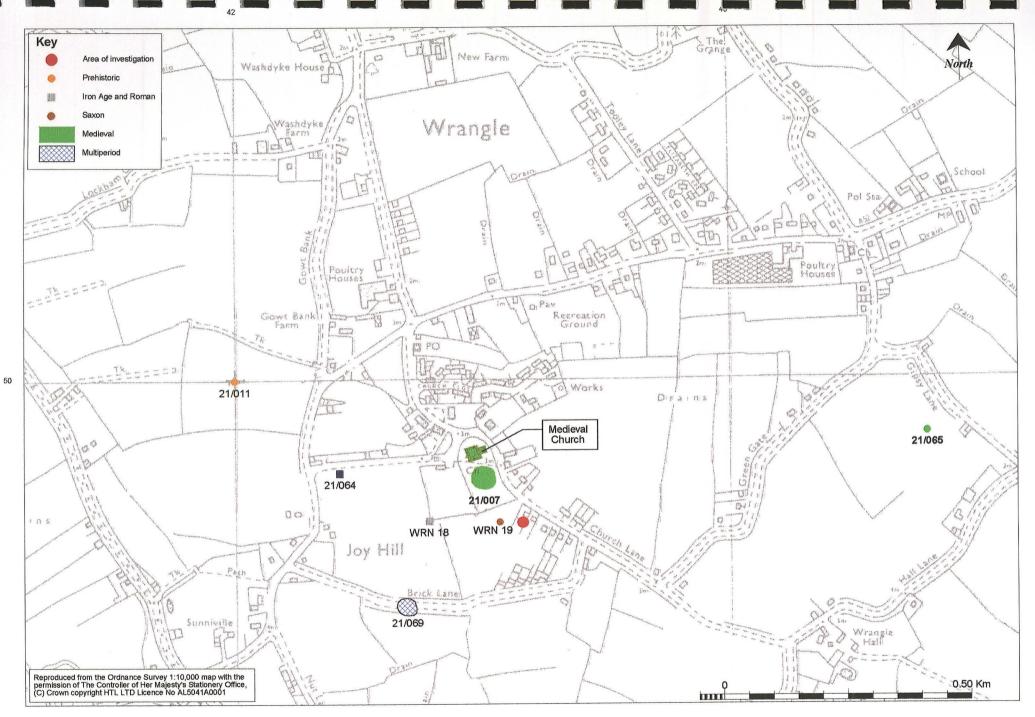
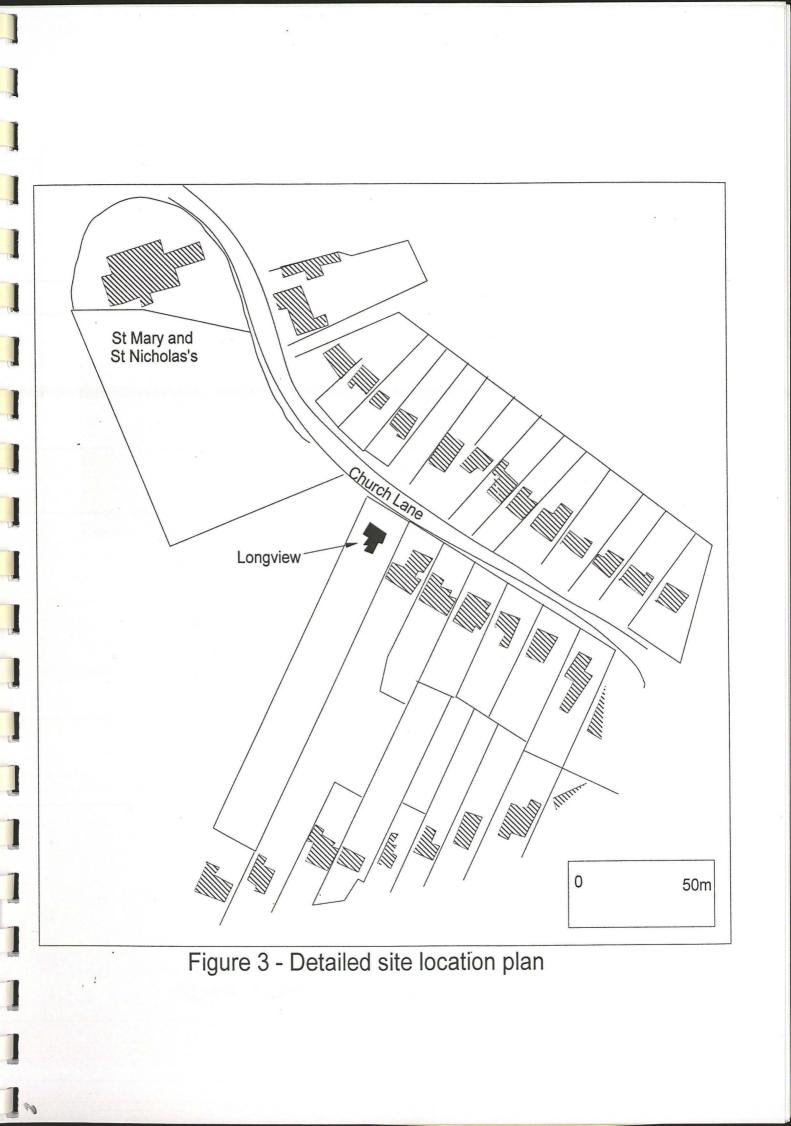
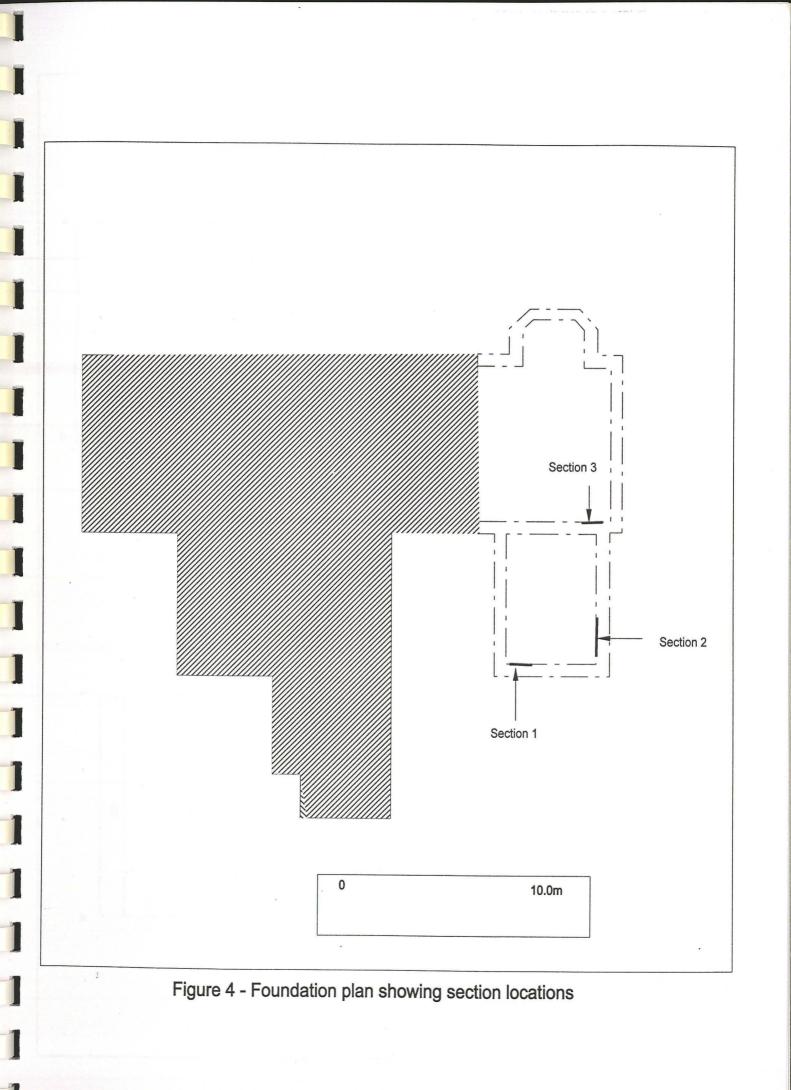
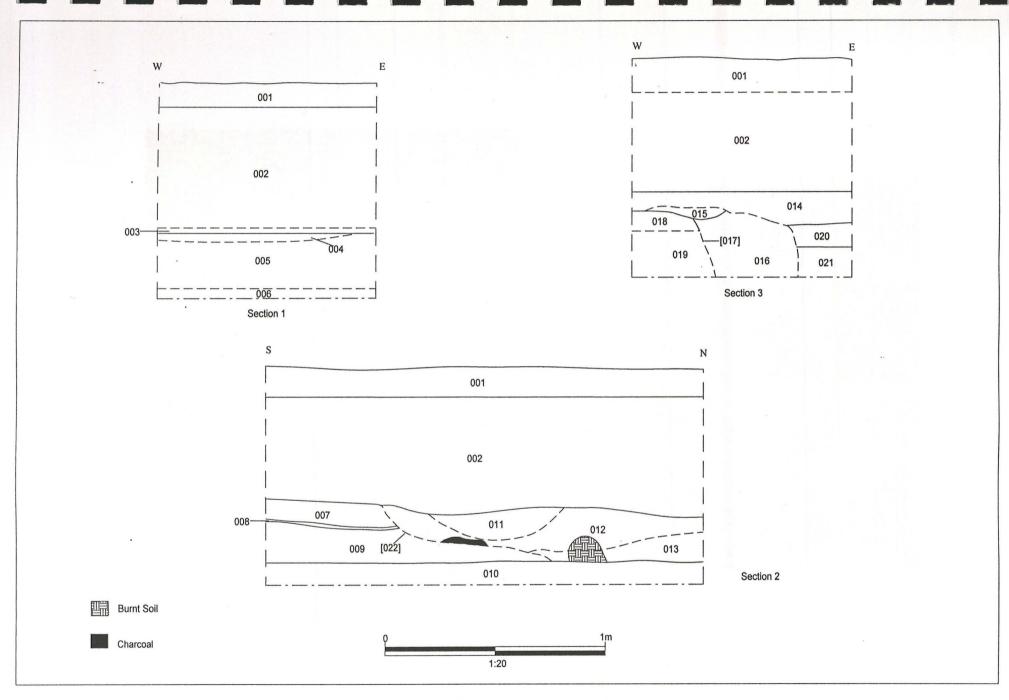


Figure 2 Area of investigation and archaeological remains







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Figure 5 - Section drawings



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Plate 1 General view of site during groundworks



Plate 2 Section 1, looking north

# LAND AT CHURCH LANE WRANGLE LINCOLNSHIRE

# SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

# PREPARED FOR MR PICKLES

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

# **SEPTEMBER 2000**

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#### SUMMARY

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- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during construction of an extension at 'Longview', Church Lane, Wrangle, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 The site lies in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric through to the medieval period. A Romano-British settlement with evidence of salt-making and finds of flint and Iron Age pottery have been identified in close proximity to the site.
- 1.3 The archaeological work will consist of a watching brief during development works on the site.
- 1.4 On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the watching brief. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.

#### INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for archaeological watching brief during construction a two-storey extension at 'Longview', Church Lane, Wrangle, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 4255 5066.
- 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 Wrangle is located approximately 4km from the Lincolnshire coast and 12.5km north east of Boston, in the administrative district of Boston. The site lies on Church Lane near the centre of the village, approximately 200m southeast of the church, centred on National Grid Reference TF 4233 5082.

#### PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 A planning application (B/00/0353/FULL) was submitted to Boston Borough Council for the construction of the extension. Permission is subject to a condition requiring the undertaking of a watching-brief during groundworks associated with the development.

### 5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 The site lies near the centre of Wrangle village at approximately 3m OD. Local soils are the Wisbech Association, mainly coarse silty calcareous soils developed on marine alluvium (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 361).

#### 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

6.1 Wrangle lies in an area of known archaeological remains, a number of sites and finds spots dating from the prehistoric period through to the medieval period have been identified together with Iron Age and Romano-British salterns. Wrangle is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey (1086). The church of St Mary and St Nicholas is believed to date from the 14<sup>th</sup> century or earlier.

6.2 A large scatter of medieval surface finds has been identified immediately to the south of the garden of Longview, including late Saxon and medieval pottery, oyster, mussel and whelk shells and bone. These finds have been interpreted as medieval occupation. Archaeological investigations south of the church identified features of medieval date and recovered finds suggesting salt-making (Archaeological Project Services 2000).

#### 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.

#### SITE OPERATIONS

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#### 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 <u>Methodology</u>

- 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:
  - the site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
    - 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.

POST-EXCAVATION

SPECIFICATION FOR WATCHING BRIEF AT CHURCH LANE, WRANGLE

- 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:
    - A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
    - A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.
    - Description of the topography of the site.
    - Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.
    - A text describing the findings of the watching brief.
    - A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.
    - Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
    - Sections of the archaeological features.
    - Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
    - Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
    - 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 Boston Borough Council Community

# Archaeological Project Services

#### SPECIFICATION FOR WATCHING BRIEF AT CHURCH LANE, WRANGLE

Archaeologist; Boston Borough 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 Boston Borough Council Community Archaeologist. 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 CONTINGENCIES

16.1 Should significant archaeological remains be encountered the brief of works, set by the archaeological curator, requires sufficient time to ensure the appropriate level of excavation / recording / sampling of those remains (Sections 1.5 and 5.1 in the brief of works). This may require interruptions in the development work to allow for the recording of archaeologically sensitive areas. Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.

# 17 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

17.1 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors

# Archaeological Project Services

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 - 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   |

#### 18 INSURANCES

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

# 19 COPYRIGHT

- 19.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.
- 19.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.
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# 20 **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Archaeological Project Services, 2000 Archaeological watching brief of land at Church Lane Wrangle, Lincolnshire (WCL99), 67/99 unpublished report

Archaeological Project Services, 2000 Archaeological Watching Brief on land at Church End, Wrangle,

# Lincolnshire (WCE00), 133/00 unpublished report

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

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Specification: Version 1, 19-09-00

# Context Summary

| Context<br>No. | Section | Description   | Interpretation                           |
|----------------|---------|---|--|
| 001            | 1,2,3   | Soft, dark brown fine sand and silt,<br>containing occasional fragments of<br>brick and glass, 0.15m thick                                      | Topsoil                                  |
| 002            | 1       | Compact, mid-brown, sandy, clayey<br>silt containing occasional bone<br>fragments, 0.50m thick  | Subsoil                                  |
| 003            | 1       | Firm, light, bluish grey with black<br>patches, sandy clayey silt, 30mm<br>thick  | Alluvial deposit<br>synchronous with 008 |
| 004            | 1       | Light bluish grey sandy clayey silt, 0.40m thick  | Alluvial Deposit                         |
| 005            | 1       | Firm, light brown, with orange fleck<br>mottling, clayey, fine sandy silt,<br>0.25m thick   | Alluvial Deposit                         |
| 006            | 1       | Compact, light brown sandy clayey silt, >0.10m thick  | Alluvial Deposit                         |
| 007            | 2       | Firm light brown sandy silt, 0.10m thick  | Alluvial Deposit                         |
| 008            | 2       | Firm, light bluish grey with black<br>patches, sandy clayey silt, 30mm<br>thick   | Alluvial deposit<br>synchronous with 003 |
| 009            | 2       | Light bluish grey sandy clayey silt, 0.20m thick  | Alluvial Deposit                         |
| 010            | 2       | Compact, light brown sandy clayey silt, >0.10m thick  | Alluvial Deposit                         |
| 011            | 2       | Firm, light brown sandy silt<br>containing occasional charcoal fleck,<br>0.15m thick x 0.65m wide.  | Backfilled fill of 022                   |
| 012            | 2       | Firm, pale brown mid-dark grey<br>sandy silt, containing moderate<br>charcoal flecks, occasional oyster<br>shell and fragments of scorched clay | Backfilled fill of 022                   |
| • 013          | 2       | Soft, light brown with grey and orange-brown sandy silt, 0.14m thick  | Backfilled fill of 022                   |

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| 014 | 3 | Firm, light brown sandy silt,<br>containing occasional fragments of<br>scorched clay, 0.09m thick  | Alluvial deposit containing<br>remnants of salt making<br>debris |
|-----|---|--|--|
| 015 | 3 | Firm, dark brownish grey sandy silt,<br>containing moderate charcoal flecks<br>and occasional fragments of scorched<br>clay, 50mm thick. | Dumped deposit   |
| 016 | 3 | Firm, light brown sandy silt<br>containing moderate amount of<br>scorched clay   | Fill of 017  |
| 017 | 3 | Sub-circular cut feature, 0.30m deep x 0.40m wide.   | Possible post hole   |
| 018 | 3 | Firm, light bluish grey sandy silt,<br>0.10m thick   | Alluvial Deposit same as 020                                     |
| 019 | 3 | Firm, light greyish brown sandy silt , 0.20m thick   | Alluvial Deposit same as 021                                     |
| 020 | 3 | Firm, light bluish grey sandy silt,<br>0.10m thick   | Alluvial Deposit same as 018                                     |
| 021 | 3 | Firm, light greyish brown sandy silt , 0.20m thick   | Alluvial Deposit same as 019                                     |
| 022 | 3 | Cut feature, very indistinct edges, >1.50m wide x >0.26m deep  | Possible pit cut.  |

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# THE FINDS Hilary Healey

#### Provenance

The material was recovered from a subsoil (002), an alluvial deposit (005) and the fill of a pit (012). All of the pottery is relatively local, with pieces derived from kilns at Potterhanworth approximately 40km to the northwest of Wrangle, and one fragment probably made in south Lincolnshire.

#### Range

The range of material is detailed in the following table.

#### Table 1: The Pottery

| Context | Description  | Latest Date                                |
|---------|--|--|
| 002     | 1x Potterhanworth ware, sooted externally, abraded | 13 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> century |
| 005     | 1x Potterhanworth ware, cooking pot                | 13 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> century |
| 012     | 1x South Lincs. Shelly ware                        | 10 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> century |

#### Condition

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

Archaeological investigations have been undertaken in Wrangle and reported previously, including nearby at Church End and Church Lane (Archaeological Project Services 1996; 2000). The parish has also been the subject of detailed archaeological study, the results of which have also been reported (Lane 1993). Records of archaeological remains and finds in the area are maintained in the files of the Boston Community Archaeologist and the County Sites and Monuments Record.

#### Potential

In general, the assemblage has moderate potential and suggests the presence of Late Saxon-medieval activity on, or in close proximity to, the site. The limited quantity of material would tend to suggest that this activity was probably not occupation but some other, indeterminate, function.

#### References

Archaeological Project Services, 1996 Archaeological Watching Brief on Land North of Church End, Wrangle, Lincolnshire (WCE96), Archaeological Project Services Report 46/96

Archaeological Project Services, 2000 Archaeological Watching Brief of Land at Church Lane, Wrangle, Lincolnshire (WCL99), Archaeological Project Services Report 67/99

Lane, T. W., 1993 The Fenland Project Number 8: Lincolnshire Survey, the Northern Fen-Edge, East Anglian Archaeology 66

# GLOSSARY

| 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).  |
| Gleying        | The reduction of ferric iron to more mobile, colourless or grey ferrous iron complexes<br>by micro-organisms or by products of decomposing organic matter. Subsoils become<br>mottled in grey, yellowish and ochreous colours and persistently waterlogged soils<br>become wholly grey or bluish grey.  |
| 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.  |
| 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.  |
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# THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 22 Context records
- 3 Sheets of Scale drawings
- 1 Photographic record sheet
- 1 Stratigraphic matrix
- 3 Bags 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 : 2000.266

Archaeological Project Services Site Code:

WCEL00

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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