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**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF DEVELOPMENT AT
ST. JOHN'S WORKHOUSE,
SKIRBECK ROAD,
BOSTON,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BSJ 01)**



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

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<p>Conservation Services</p> <p>09 NOV 2001</p> <p>Highways & Planning Directorate</p>
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OF DEVELOPMENT AT
ST. JOHN'S WORKHOUSE,
SKIRBECK ROAD,
BOSTON,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BSJ 01)**

Work Undertaken For
The Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire

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

November 2001

Planning Application No: B/00/0226/FULL
National Grid Reference: TF 3325 4335
City and County Museum Accession No:2000.212

A.P.S. Report No: 141/01



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Lincolnshire to undertake an archaeological watching brief during development at the former St John's Workhouse, Starbeck Road, Boston, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application 01/00012. Permission was granted subject to a standard condition for archaeological recording. The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services and agreed by the Boston District Community Archaeologist (Appendix 1). The watching brief was undertaken between the 6th September and

2.3 Topography and Geology

Boston is situated 45km southeast of Lincoln and approximately 7km northwest from the coast of The Wash, in the Fenland of south Lincolnshire. Bounded by the River Witham, the town is located in Boston District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The area of investigation (Fig. 2) is located southeast of the town's historic core at National Grid Reference TF 38254335. The northern part of the site is bounded by Starbeck Road and is situated at a height of c. 3m OD.

As an urban area, the local soils have not been mapped, although they are likely to be of the Butterwick Series, typically gleyic brown alluvial soils (Robson 1990, 12). These soils overlie younger marine alluvium beneath which is glacial drift that was deposited in a geological basin between the Lincolnshire Wolds and the East Anglian Heights (Harden 1978, 5). These glacial deposits in turn overlie a solid geology of Jurassic Amphill Clay (BGS 1995).

1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during redevelopment at the former St. John's Workhouse, Skirbeck Road, Boston, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of the foundation and service trenches.

The workhouse, designed by George Gilbert Scott, was constructed in 1837 to house the poor of Boston and the surrounding district. The original building was cruciform in plan with open yards. The rear of the building was demolished in the 1970s leaving only the Classical style frontage.

The investigations revealed that prior to the erection of the workhouse the area had been open ground. A number of pits were identified but, although pre-dating the workhouse, remain undated. Deposits associated with the workhouse comprise walls and brick drains or culverts. Finds recovered from this investigation include an imported medieval pottery sherd, pottery of contemporary date to the workhouse, a fragment of brick 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 non-archaeological reasons within a specified area, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed.' (IFA 1997).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by the Heritage Trust of

Lincolnshire to undertake an archaeological watching brief during development at the former St. John's Workhouse, Skirbeck Road, Boston, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application B/00/0226/FULL. Permission was granted subject to a standard condition for archaeological recording. The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services and agreed by the Boston District Community Archaeologist (Appendix 1). The watching brief was undertaken between the 6th September and 16th November 2000.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Boston is situated 45km southeast of Lincoln and approximately 7km northwest from the coast of The Wash, in the Fenland of south Lincolnshire. Bisected by the River Witham, the town is located in Boston District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The area of investigation (Fig. 2) is located southeast of the town's historic core at National Grid Reference TF 33254335. The northern part of the site is bounded by Skirbeck Road and is situated at a height of c. 3m OD.

As an urban area, the local soils have not been mapped, although they are likely to be of the Butterwick Series, typically gleyic brown alluvial soils (Robson 1990, 12). These soils overlie younger marine alluvium beneath which is glacial drift that was deposited in a geological basin between the Lincolnshire Wolds and the East Anglian Heights (Harden 1978, 5). These glacial deposits in turn overlie a solid geology of Jurassic Ampthill Clay (BGS 1995).

2.4 Archaeological and Historical Setting

St. John's Workhouse has its origins in the Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834 and the subsequent creation of the Boston Union Board in 1836. The Board approved plans put forward by George Gilbert Scott and William Bonython Moffatt for a new workhouse late in 1836. The building was erected in 1837, replacing a workhouse located on St. John's Road 200m to the west.

The building was designed on a cruciform plan comprising a Classical style entrance, a main four storey building and an infirmary with a total of six yards. Subsequent alterations were carried out in 1847, 1867, 1887, 1907-11 and 1914. The workhouse finally closed in 1936 only to be reopened as a Royal Navy operations centre during the war followed by brief use as a residential home for the elderly and a school. The rear part of the buildings were subsequently demolished in 1976, although the frontage, boundary walls and railings were retained and are now a Listed Grade II building (DoE 1975, 50).

St. John's Workhouse has long thought to occupy the same site as the Augustinian Friary founded in the early 14th century. An 18th century description of Boston's civil war defences placed the friary behind the workhouse on St. John's Road (Garner 1992, 25). The same description implies that the early 17th century defences ran along Skirbeck Road.

Maps of Boston indicate that the area of St. John's Workhouse was maintained as open ground until 1829 and was referred to as Friar's Pasture (Molyneux and Wright 1974, 15; 19).

3. AIMS

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

4. METHODS

Trenches, for both new walls and for the provision of services, were opened by machine to depths required by the development. Following excavation, the sides of the trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were partially or fully excavated by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material, if present. The depth and thickness of each deposit were measured from the ground surface. Each archaeological deposit or feature revealed was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. Recording of deposits encountered during the watching brief was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

A new foundation trench for the rear wall of the development was also examined. However, this followed the course of an original workhouse wall and therefore was not recorded.

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

5. RESULTS

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

Phase 1	Natural and Post-medieval deposits
Phase 2	Undated deposits
Phase 3	19 th Century deposits
Phase 4	Modern deposits

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

Phase 1 Natural and Post-medieval deposits

The earliest deposit encountered was a layer of yellowish brown silt and clay bands (019) located in the base of the electricity cable trench (Fig. 5, Sections 4 and 6). This was over 0.4m thick and was identified as the underlying alluvium.

This was sealed by a subsoil of yellowish brown silts and sand (027) measuring 0.35m thick. This subsoil was also identified in a service trench parallel to Skirbeck Road where it was recorded as a light brown silty sand (003) and also in the rear boundary wall trench as a yellowish brown silt (009). A single sherd of French medieval pottery was retrieved from subsoil (003).

Phase 2 Undated deposits

Cut into the subsoil (009) in the boundary trench was a feature (011). This was over 0.4m long and wide with a single fill of mixed grey and yellowish brown silt (010).

Cut into the natural deposits in the electricity cable trench was a feature (018) which was 0.9m wide by 0.27m deep (Fig. 5, Section 6). Identified as a pit it contained a single fill of blackish brown sandy silt

(017).

A further pit (026) cut into the subsoil (027) was 0.65m wide and 0.3m deep with a single fill of brown silt (025).

Both pits were sealed by a levelling deposit of brown clayey silt (016, 020 and 024) which varied from 100mm to 0.21m thick.

Phase 3 19th Century deposits

Cut into the subsoil of the boundary wall trench was a linear feature (008) that contained a brick and concrete structure (006). Identified as a foundation wall fragment it measured 1m wide and 0.5m high (Fig. 4, Section 2).

To the northwest of this was a second linear feature (013) which also contained a brick structure (014) 0.5m wide and 0.5m high (Fig. 4, Section 3). Identified as a culvert or drain, the trench had been backfilled with brown silt (012).

A second brick culvert (030) was identified in the electricity cable trench (Fig. 5, Section 7). This was not excavated but was at least 3m long by 0.5m wide and greater than 0.2m high. The cut (031) for this was aligned northeast-southwest and had been backfilled with greyish brown silt (029).

Located close to the Skirbeck Road frontage was a foundation trench (023) measuring 1.6m wide by 0.43m deep. This contained a concrete foundation (022), probably for a wall.

Phase 3 Modern deposits

Overlying the alluvium (003) in the service trench was a dumped deposit comprising brownish grey sandy silt with modern bricks (002). This was sealed by a 0.3m thick topsoil of brownish grey sandy silt (001).

Topsoil sealed archaeological deposits above the boundary wall trench (004) and along the route of the cable trench (015) apart from where it crossed the modern tarmac surface (032) and its associated make-up deposits (028). Pottery of 19th century date was retrieved from topsoil (004) and (015).

6. DISCUSSION

Deposits of natural alluvium and a possible post-medieval subsoil (Phase 1), were the earliest deposits encountered during the watching brief. The alluvium relates to the underlying drift geology. The naturally formed subsoil indicates that this area was probably open ground during the post-medieval period which is supported by the map evidence.

Undated deposits (Phase 2) comprise three pits of which two pre-date the construction of the workhouse. No function could be ascertained for any of these features. A levelling deposit also belongs to this phase and is probably associated with the initial construction of St. John's Workhouse.

Phase 3 deposits are directly associated with the workhouse buildings. These include two brick culverts and a fragment of a foundation wall. Each of the brick culverts can be identified on a map of the workhouse dating to between 1887 and 1907. A fragment of wall found close to the Skirbeck Road frontage is unusual as there are no indications of a building in this vicinity. It is possible that this may relate to a formal garden.

Modern deposits comprise dumped deposits, topsoil and road make-up.

In addition to the recording presented here, two trenches were opened through the

tarmac road in an attempt to identify the original driveway to the workhouse. These were recorded by the Boston Community Archaeologist on the 22nd March 2001. Brown silts were identified overlain by gravel and sand which is possibly the former driveway. These deposits were located 0.25m below the present ground surface and overlain by make-up and the modern tarmac.

A small number of finds were retrieved during this investigation and comprise a single sherd of 13th - 14th century imported pottery, four 19th century sherds contemporary with the workhouse, a brick fragment pre-dating the workhouse and an animal bone.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were carried out at Skirbeck Road, Boston because the site lay in close proximity to known medieval remains and within the confines of a 19th century workhouse.

Overlying natural deposits was a developed subsoil indicating the area had been open ground during the post-medieval period. Three undated pits were found to pre-date the workhouse although their function could not be determined. Brick culverts and walls relating to the workhouse were also recorded.

Pottery was retrieved during this investigation and included a sherd of French origin dating to the 13th - 14th century. Brick and animal bone were also recovered. Although water levels were high at the time of the visits, no waterlogged features were found which indicates that few environmental indicators (snails, seeds, pollen *etc.*) will survive other than through charring.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mrs Paula Judson of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire who commissioned the fieldwork and post excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor and this report was edited by Tom Lane. Sue Smith, the Boston Community Archaeologist at the time of the fieldwork, and Rebecca Wilcox, the current Boston Community Archaeologist, kindly permitted access to the parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire. Maps of the development were kindly provided by Benton and Co. Architects.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
Supervisors: Chris Moulis, Tobin Rayner, Fiona Walker
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner, Rachael Hall
Photographic Reproduction: Sue Unsworth
Post-excavation Analyst: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

DoE Department of the Environment

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

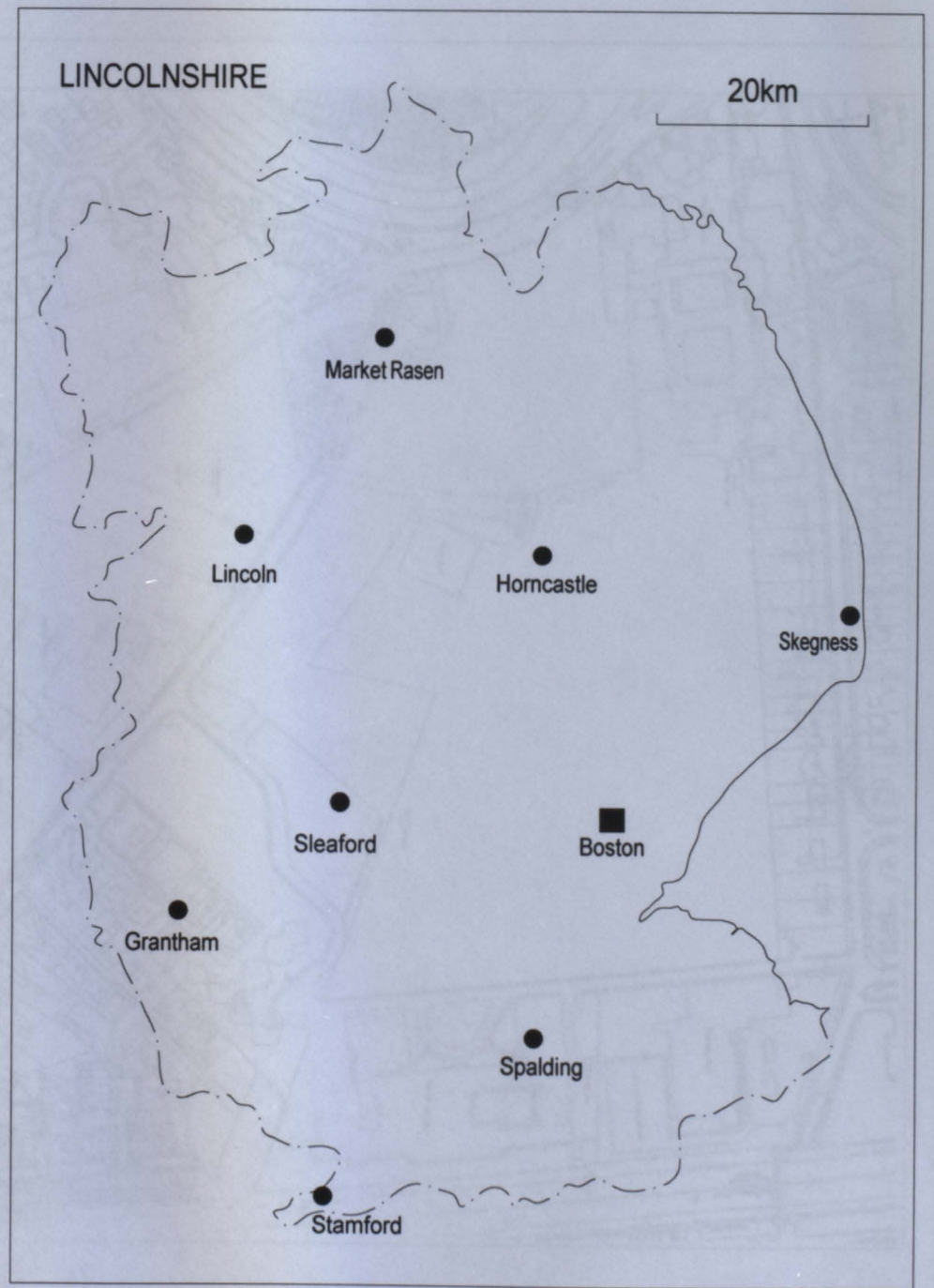
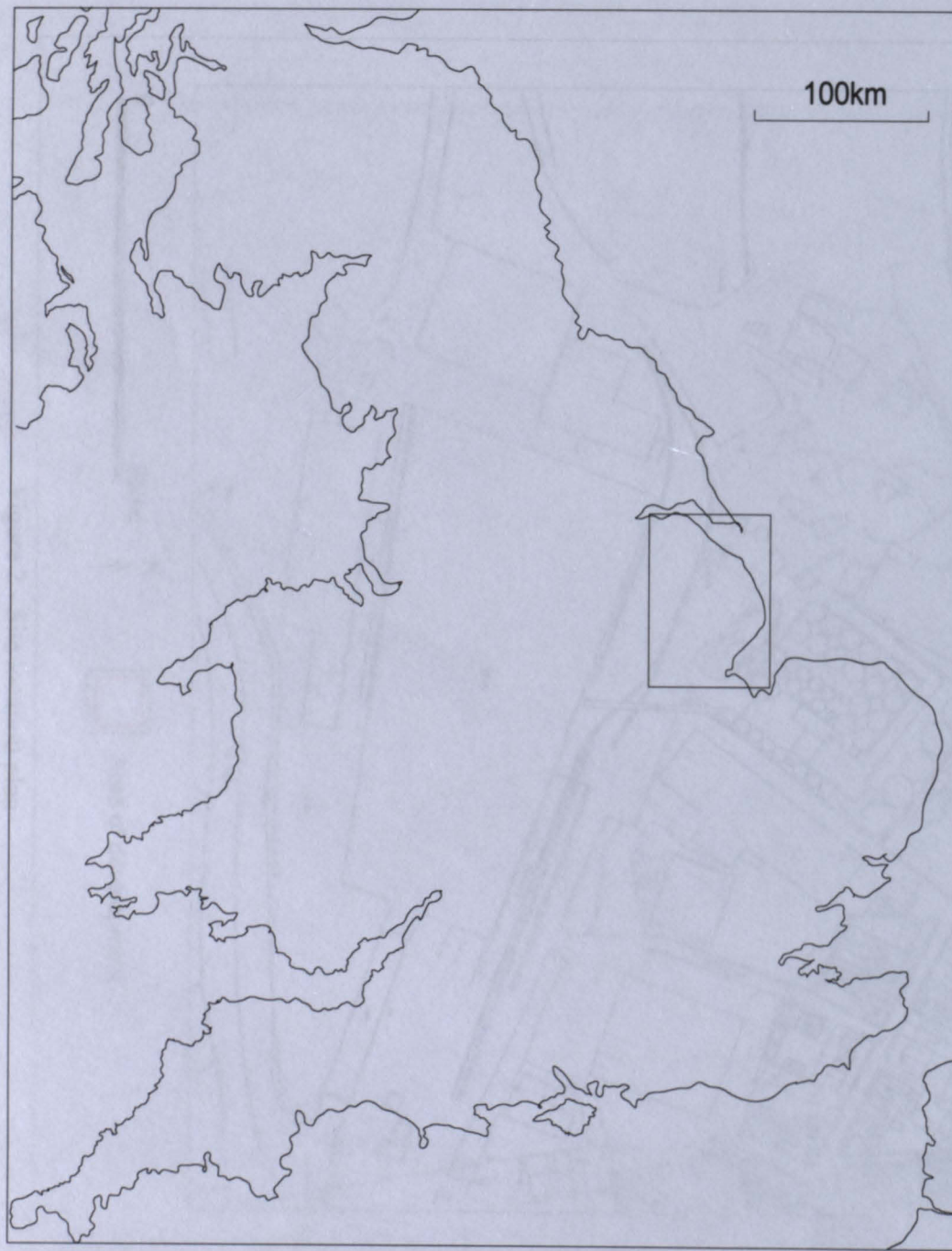


Figure 1 General Location Plan



0 200m



Area of development

Figure 2 - Site location plan

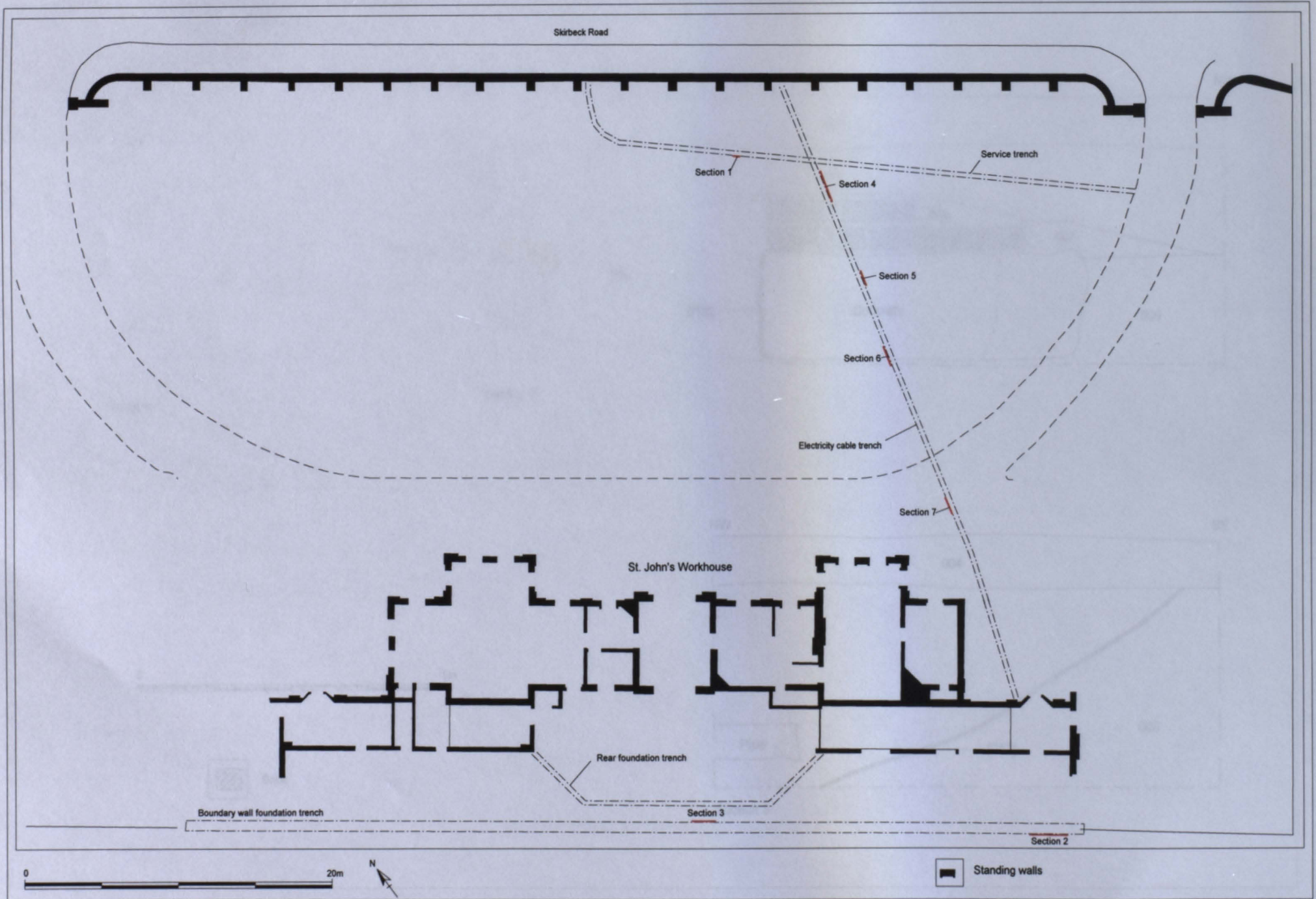
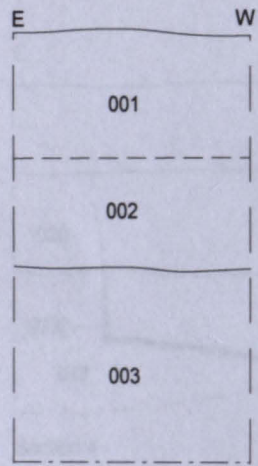
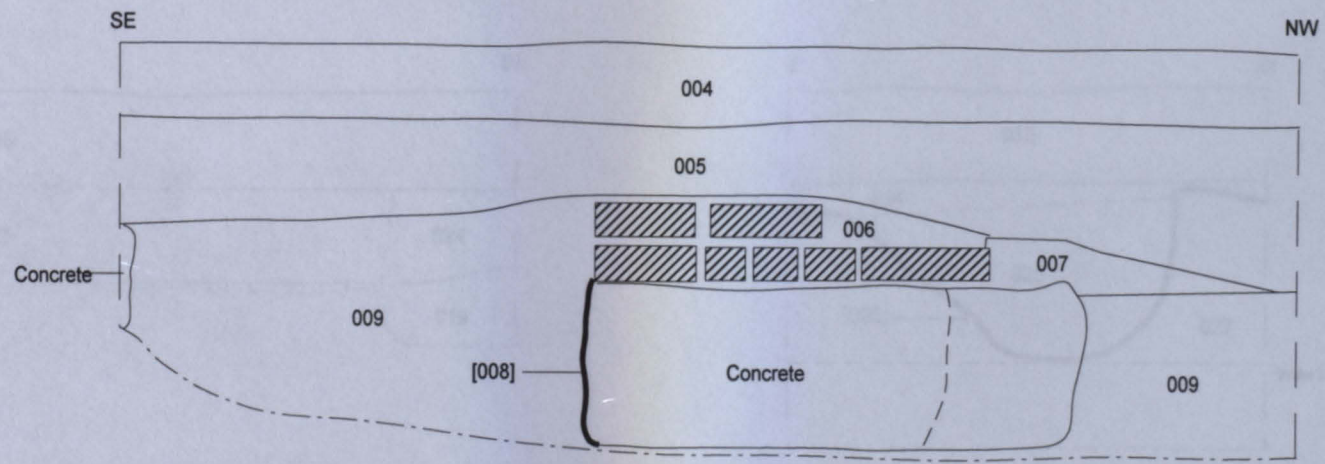


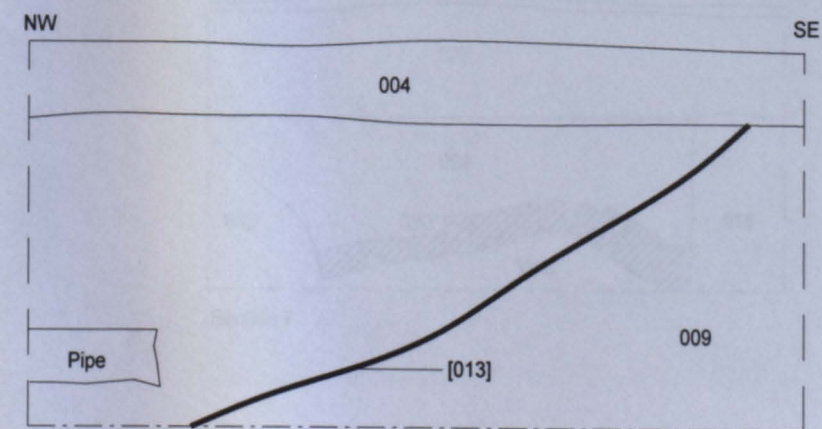
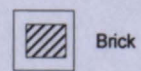
Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section locations



Section 1



Section 2



Section 3

Figure 4 - Sections 1, 2 and 3

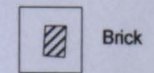
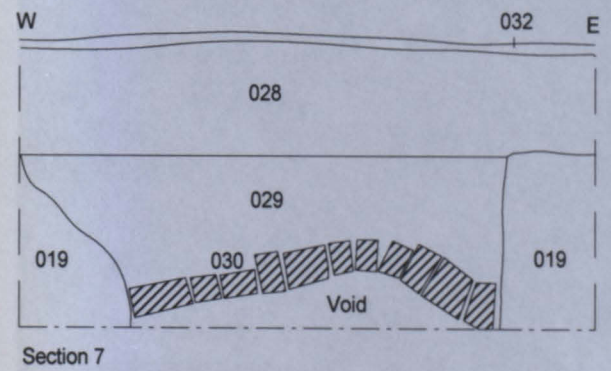
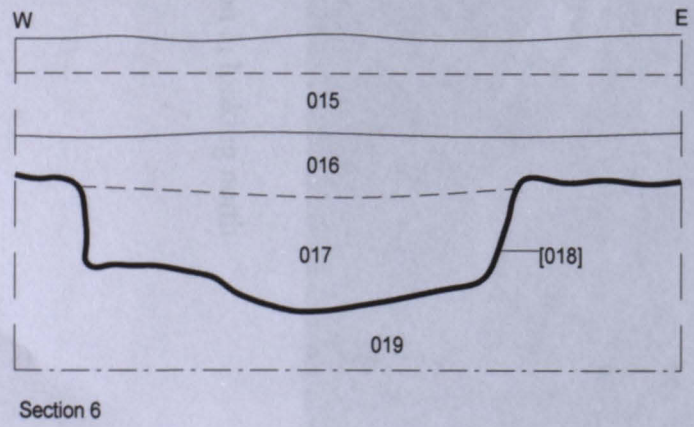
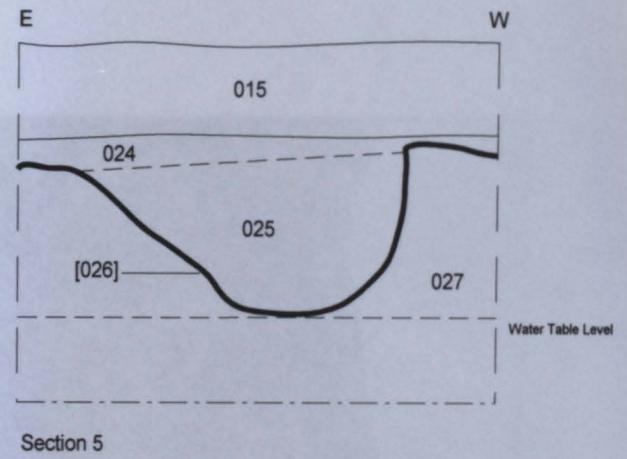
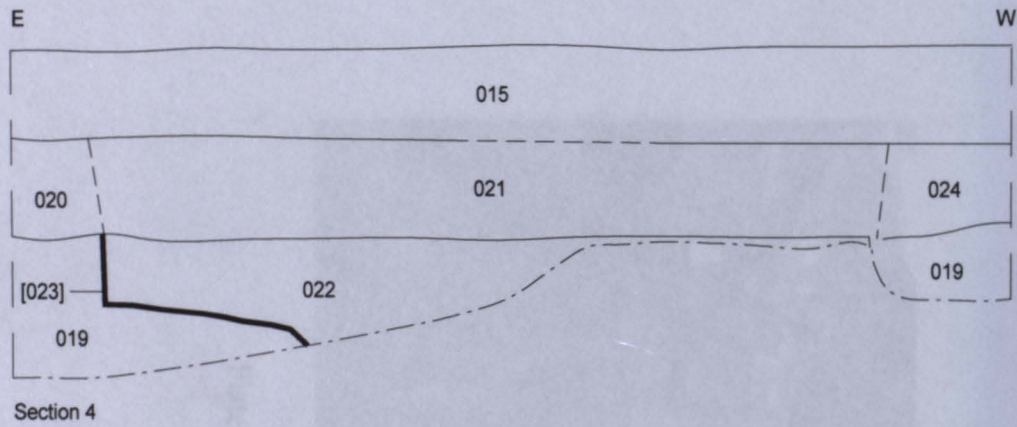


Figure 5 - Sections 4, 5, 6 and 7



Plate 1 - General view of the development to the south of the existing workhouse buildings. The boundary wall is partially built and the foundation trench for the rear wall has been excavated



Plate 2 - Section 3, looking north

Plate 4 - Section 4 showing the undisturbed pit to the east



Plate 3 - View along the electricity cable trench, looking south



Plate 4 - Section 6 showing the undated pit (018), looking west

Appendix 1

DEVELOPMENT AT ST. JOHN'S BUILDINGS, BOSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during development at St. Johns Buildings, Boston, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The area is archaeologically sensitive, with medieval and post-medieval remains, including the site of St. John's hospital and church, close by.*
- 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 groundworks connected with development at St. John's Buildings, Boston, Lincs. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 332 433.
- 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 Boston is located approximately 45km southeast of Lincoln and 7km from the northwest coast of the Wash in the fens of Lincolnshire. The site is located southeast of the town centre on Skirbeck Road, at National Grid Reference TF 332 433.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application (B/00/0226/FULL) was submitted to Boston Borough Council for the proposed development. Permission is subject to a condition requiring an archaeological watching brief during groundworks.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The site is flat, level ground at approximately 3m OD. Local soils are the Wisbech Association calcareous alluvial gleys (Hodge *et al.* 1984 319; 361). The soils are developed in marine alluvium which in turn overlies Oxford Clays.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 The site is in an area of medieval and post-medieval remains. Approximately 200m to the northwest is the presumed location of the medieval St. John's hospital, church and cemetery. The extent of this complex

is not known at present. Medieval and post-medieval remains have been identified during previous investigations about 130 north of the St. John's buildings. The St. John's buildings themselves are remains of the former Union Workhouse, built in 1837 and designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott.

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 will be used to aid 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, 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 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 site.

9.3.2.3 Description of the topography of the site.

9.3.2.4 Description of the methodologies used during the investigation.

9.3.2.5 A text describing the findings of the investigation.

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 Boston Community 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 Bosotn 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 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 Trust Roman - B Precious, Independent Specialist Anglo-Saxon - J Young, Independent Specialist Medieval and later - H Healey, Independent Archaeologist
Non-pottery Artefacts	J Cowgill, Independent Specialist
Animal Bones	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
Environmental Analysis	J Rackham, Independent Specialist

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

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

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

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Friable dark brownish grey sandy silt, with modern demolition debris, 0.25-0.3m thick	Topsoil
002	Friable dark brownish grey sandy silt with frequent bricks, 0.25-0.3m thick	Dumped deposit
003	Soft/friable light brown silty sand, 0.5m thick	Disturbed alluvium
004	Firm mid brown silt with frequent gravel, 0.16m thick	Topsoil
005	Firm mid yellowish brown sandy silt, 0.35m thick	Subsoil
006	Brick (260x115x75mm) structure, aligned east-west	Base of wall
007	Firm mid greyish brown silt, 0.18m thick	Subsoil
008	Linear feature, aligned east-west, 1m wide by 0.5m deep, vertical sides and flat base	Foundation trench for (006)
009	Firm mid yellowish brown silt, 0.55m thick	Subsoil
010	Firm mixed grey and yellowish brown silt	Fill of (011)
011	Feature, >0.42m long by >0.4m wide, unexcavated	Pit
012	Loose mid brown silt	Backfill of (013)
013	Linear feature, aligned northwest-southeast, >10m long by >0.5m wide, gradual sides, not fully excavated	Cut for culvert (014)
014	Brick (260x115x75mm) structure, 0.5m wide by up to 0.5m high	Brick culvert
015	Firm mid greyish brown clayey silt, 0.2m thick	Topsoil
016	Firm dark brown clayey silt, 100mm thick	Levelling deposit
017	Firm dark blackish brown sandy silt	Fill of (018)
018	Feature, 0.9m wide by 0.27m deep, near vertical sides and concave base	Possible pit
019	Firm yellowish brown silt and clay bands, >0.4m thick	Natural deposit
020	Friable dark brown clayey silt, 0.21m thick	Levelling deposit
021	Firm mid yellowish brown silt	Fill of (023)
022	Indurated light grey concrete	Wall foundation in (023)
023	Feature, 1.6m wide by 0.43m deep, near vertical sides, not fully excavated	Foundation trench
024	Friable dark brown clayey silt, 0.2m thick	Levelling deposit
025	Firm mid to dark brown silt	Fill of (026)
026	Feature, 0.65m wide by 0.3m deep, steep side and concave base	Possible pit

No.	Description	Interpretation
027	Firm mid yellowish brown silt and fine sand, 0.35m thick	Subsoil
028	Firm light to mid yellowish brown sand and gravel	Make-up for (032)
029	Firm light to mid greyish brown silt	Fill of (031)
030	Brick (220x120x110mm) structure, >3m long by 0.5m wide and >0.2m high	Brick culvert
031	Linear feature, aligned northeast-southwest, >3m long by 0.5m wide and >0.2m deep, steep sides, not fully excavated	Cut for culvert (030)
032	Indurated black tarmac, 20mm thick	Surface

The range of material is detailed in the following table. Firstly listed are the larger components of the small assemblage, and the extent of the collection was determined by pieces of 19th century date. Brick and flint remains were also retrieved.

Table 1. The Finds

Context	Description	No.	Weight (g)	Latest Date
003	Saltwater jar, green glass, 17 th -18 th century	1	20	post-medieval
	Brick, handmade, 65mm thick, post-medieval	1	225	
	Sharp steel, unidentifiable fragment	1	2	
004	Blue and white transfer printed saltwater, 19 th century	1	4	19 th century
	White glass saltwater, 19 th century	1	4	
005	Blue and white transfer printed saltwater, 19 th century	1	20	19 th century
	Ironstone chisel, white glass, 19 th century	1	7	

A single piece, part of the base, of a saltwater jar was recovered from 003. It is a well-fired brown, the jar has a mottled, light green glass and was probably of industrial form, though it is not clear if the jar is to be eaten. Examples of other saltwater jars, have previously been found at the site and help to signify the importance of the town as an international trading centre in the early and post-medieval periods.

A handmade brick was recovered from 003. This is a well-fired, fairly even brick and is likely to be post-medieval. As only one dimension, the thickness, was recoverable on the piece, such strategies cannot be used to accurately determine the date of the piece.

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 the area previously, including in close proximity to the present investigation site, and as the subject of reports. Lists of archaeological remains and finds are maintained in the files of the Devon County Archaeologist and the County Sites and Monuments Record.

Provenance

As a small and predominantly non-commercial excavation, the collection is of limited size and interest and

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

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Provenance

The material was recovered from a subsoil (003) and topsoil (004 and 015).

Only one definite medieval artefact was recovered and this is a fragment of pottery from a vessel imported from France. All the later pottery was probably made in Staffordshire, though the brick is likely to have been manufactured in Boston or the close proximity.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the following table. Pottery formed the largest component of the small assemblage, and this aspect of the collection was dominated by pieces of 19th century date. Brick and faunal remains were also retrieved.

Table 1: *The Finds*

Context	Description	No.	Weight (g)	Latest Date
003	Saintonge, jug, green glazed, 13 th - 14 th century	1	20	post-medieval
	Brick, handmade, 67mm thick, post-medieval	1	256	
	Sheep sized, unidentifiable fragment	1	2	
004	Blue and white transfer printed tableware, 19 th century	1	4	19 th century
	White glazed tableware, 19 th century	1	4	
015	Blue and white transfer printed tableware, 19 th century	1	58	19 th century
	Ironstone china?, white glazed, 19 th century	1	7	

A single piece, part of the base, of a Saintonge ware jug was recovered from (003). Made in southwest France, this jug has a mottled, bright green glaze and was probably of baluster form, though too little of the body survives for this to be certain. Examples of other Saintonge vessels have previously been found in Boston and help to signify the importance of the town as an international trading centre in the medieval period (Vince, forthcoming).

A handmade brick was recovered from (003). This is in a well-fired, fairly even fabric and is likely to be post-medieval. As only one dimension, the thickness, was measurable on the piece, such attributes cannot be used to accurately determine the date of the piece.

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 Boston previously, including in close proximity to the present investigation site, and are the subject of reports. Records of archaeological remains and finds are maintained in the files of the Boston Community Archaeologist and the County Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

As a small and predominantly late post-medieval assemblage, the collection is of limited local potential and

probably relates to the use of the St. John's Workhouse in the 19th century. However, although only a single piece, the fragment of Saintonge ware is of moderate local significance and potential and contributes to the corpus of imported medieval and later ceramics recovered from Boston.

References

Vince, A., forthcoming 'Imported Medieval Pottery from Site BSE01', in T. Rayner, *Archaeological Evaluation of Land At South End, Skirbeck Road, Boston, Lincolnshire (BSE01)*, Archaeological Project Services Report

Archaeological Project Services Report is a document produced during an archaeological investigation to describe a range of features by the archaeologist and a record of the findings, including the location and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and recorded by the archaeologist. Context numbers are identified within the report text by the following symbols:

Context This refers to the structural features of digging a post-hole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, etc. Objects found from features are reported during an archaeological investigation (excavated) but not further exposed and subsequently recorded.

Deposited deposits These are deposits which lie below naturally occurring a land surface. They may be the result of natural events (deposited) or may be deliberate attempts to alter the ground surface.

Fill Once a feature has been dug it is filled up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled naturally. The material which becomes contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill.

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 deposits 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 1500-1900.

Appendix 4

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, <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.
Dumped deposits	These are deposits, often laid down intentionally, that raise a land surface. They may be the result of casual waste disposal or may be deliberate attempts to raise the ground surface.
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.
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.

Appendix 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

32	Context records
1	Photographic record sheets
5	Drawing sheets
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: 2000.212

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: BSJ 01

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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