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**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF DEVELOPMENT AT
WASHDYKE FARM,
BILLINGBOROUGH ROAD,
FOLKINGHAM,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(FWF 01)**



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

Event 412633.

Source 417244.
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Mon. 4182388.
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AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF DEVELOPMENT AT
WASHDYKE FARM,
BILLINGBOROUGH ROAD,
→ FOLKINGHAM,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(FWF 01)

Work Undertaken For
Mr J. Kime

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

November 2001

Planning Application No: S01/0974/32 -SKDC
National Grid Reference: TF 0814 3392
City and County Museum Accession No:2001.386

A.P.S. Report No: 152/01



Conservation
Services

26 NOV 2001

Highways & Planning
Directorate

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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 operations carried out for non-archaeological reasons within a specified area, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed' (IFA 1997).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr J. Kinn to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the construction of an agricultural grain store on land at Washlyke Farm, Billingborough Road, Folkington, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application 801/0974/32. Permission was granted subject to a standard condition for

archaeological recording. The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a specification designed by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist (Appendix 1). The watching brief was completed on the 9th and 10th October 2001.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Folkington is situated 12km south of Leicester and 16km west of Grantham, South Kesteven District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site is located 1km east of the village of Billingborough, bounded by the parish church of St. Andrew on land north of Billingborough Road (Fig. 2). Centred on National Grid Reference TP 6814 3392 the site is situated at a height of 35m OD. The local topography describes a gentle slope down to the east and south towards the Ouse Water Lode.

Local soils are of the Aiswaby Association, typically calcareous fine heavy soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 99). Beneath these soils is a solid geology of Jurassic Oxford Clay although Boulder Clay outcrops are recorded immediately north of the site (OSGB 1972).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Folkington is situated in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric period to the present day. Bronze Age barrows have been recorded north of the village and a series of cropmarks indicating enclosures and field systems are known from adjacent to the development area. Romano-British occupation of the area is indicated by a north-south Roman road lying east of the village and coins from the period have been retrieved from south of the development site. Saxon pottery has been identified in two locations, adjacent to the castle and to the north of the village.

1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the construction of an agricultural grain store at Washdyke Farm, Billingborough Road, Folkingham, Lincolnshire.

The site lies east of the medieval (AD 1066-1500) core of Folkingham in an area where Romano-British (AD 50-410) pottery has been retrieved.

The investigations revealed a sequence of natural deposits overlain by subsoil and the modern topsoil. No archaeological features were observed. A range of artefacts was retrieved and include post-medieval and later pottery and a single fragment of late medieval tile.

2. INTRODUCTION

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Folkingham is situated 12km south of Sleaford and 16km west of Grantham, South Kesteven District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site is located 1km east of the village centre as defined by the parish church of St. Andrew on land north of Billingborough Road (Fig. 2). Centred on National Grid Reference TF 0814 3392 the site is situated at a height of 35m OD. The local topography describes a gentle slope down to the east and south towards the Ouse Mere Lode.

Local soils are of the Aswarby Association, typically calcareous fine loamy soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 99). Beneath these soils is a solid geology of Jurassic Oxford Clay although Boulder Clay outcrops are recorded immediately north of the site (GSGB 1972).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Folkingham is situated in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric period to the present day. Bronze Age barrows have been recorded north of the village and a series of cropmarks indicating enclosures and field systems are known from adjacent to the development area. Romano-British occupation of the area is indicated by a north-south Roman road lying east of the village and coins from the period have been retrieved from south of the development site. Saxon pottery has been identified in two locations, adjacent to the castle and to the north of the village.

Folkingham is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as *Fulchingeham* the name is derived from the Old English and means 'the homestead (hām) of *Folca's* people' (Cameron 1998, 45). At the time of the Domesday Survey the land was owned by Gilbert de Gand and contained a church, a mill and 100 acres of meadow (Foster and Longley 1976).

Henry de Beaumont received a license to crenellate in 1311-12 and is credited with building Folkingham castle, the earthworks of which still survive on a gently sloping site to the east of the village (Cathcart King 1983, 261).

The medieval church of St. Andrew, in the village, has 13th century features and buildings lining the village square have 17th century origins. The remains of the former House of Correction, dated 1825, was built in and on the ruins of the inner bailey of the castle (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 282).

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 the stanchion blocks were excavated by machine to depths of 1.1m as 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. 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.

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

5. RESULTS

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

The earliest deposits encountered was a mottled yellowish brown, bluish grey and reddish brown sandy clay (004) overlain by a 120mm thick yellowish brown clay (003) and a yellowish brown and bluish grey clay (007) overlain by 0.35m thick yellowish brown and bluish grey sandy clay (006).

These natural deposits were in turn sealed by a yellowish brown silty clay (002 and 005) identified as subsoil. This deposit measured between 120mm and 130mm thick.

Overlying the subsoil was a topsoil of dark brownish grey silty clay (001) which was 0.3m thick.

6. DISCUSSION

Deposits of natural sandy clays and clays were the earliest deposits encountered during the watching brief. These relate to the underlying drift geology and are associated with outcrops of boulder clay located to the north of the site. A naturally formed subsoil and a modern topsoil overlay these deposits.

Several finds were recorded from the site and comprise locally produced pottery of 16th - 17th century date and a second sherd of the 18th century. A late medieval roof tile was also recovered. Such finds, derived from the topsoil, may represent nothing more than discarded rubbish incorporated into the ground to improve soil fertility.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were carried out at Washdyke Farm, Folkingham as the site lay close to an area of cropmarks and east of the medieval village.

Overlying natural deposits was a subsoil layer and a modern topsoil. No archaeological features were identified.

Post-medieval pottery and a late medieval roof tile fragment was retrieved during this investigation. 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 Mr John Kime who commissioned the fieldwork and post excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Steve Malone and this report

was edited by Tom Lane. Gail Smith, the Community Archaeologist for South Kesteven District Council, kindly permitted access to the parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Steve Malone
Supervisor: Tobin Rayner, Gary Taylor
Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
Photographic Reproduction: Sue Unsworth
Post-excavation Analyst: Paul Cope-Faulkner

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

GSGB Geological Survey of Great Britain

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists



100km

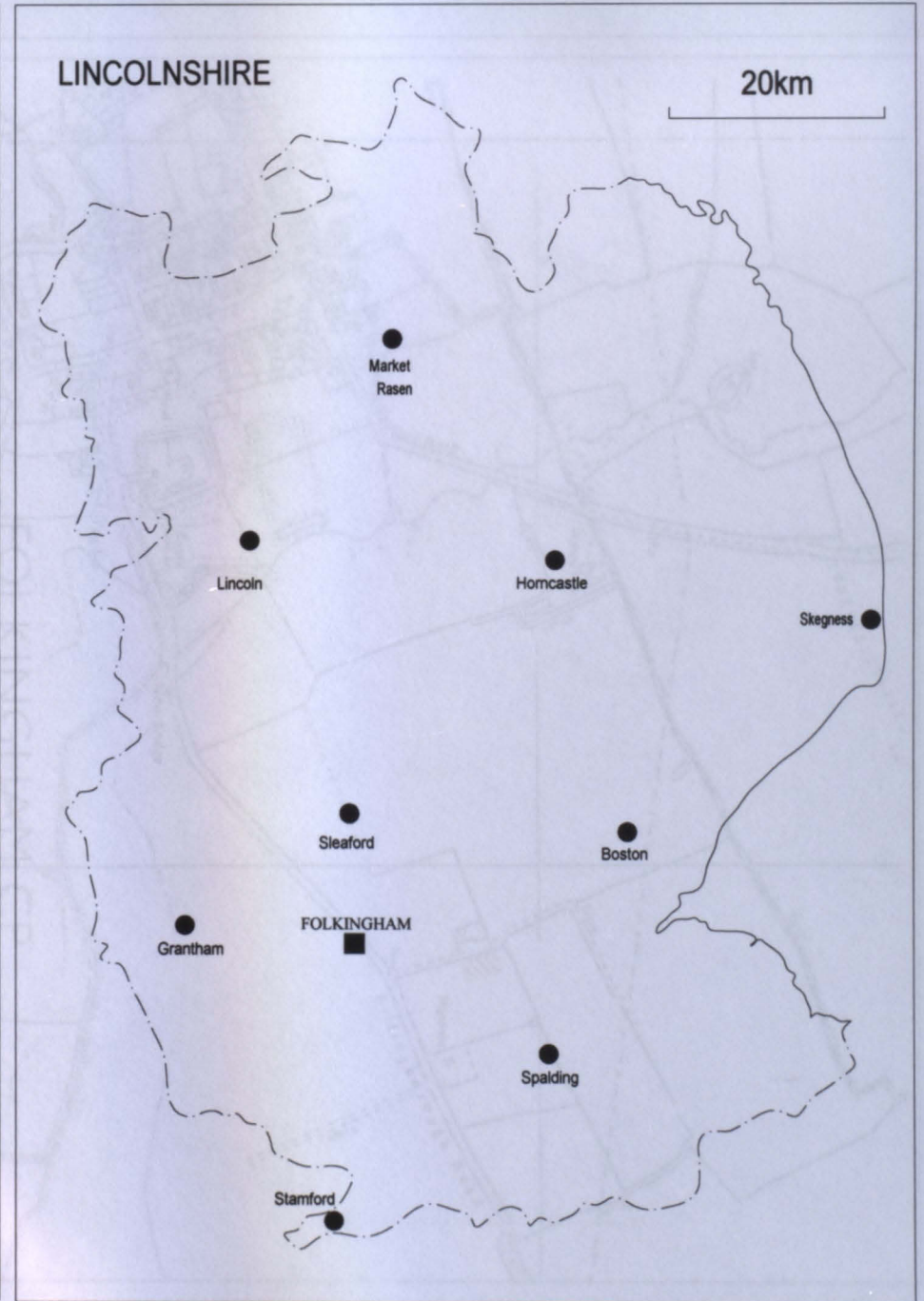
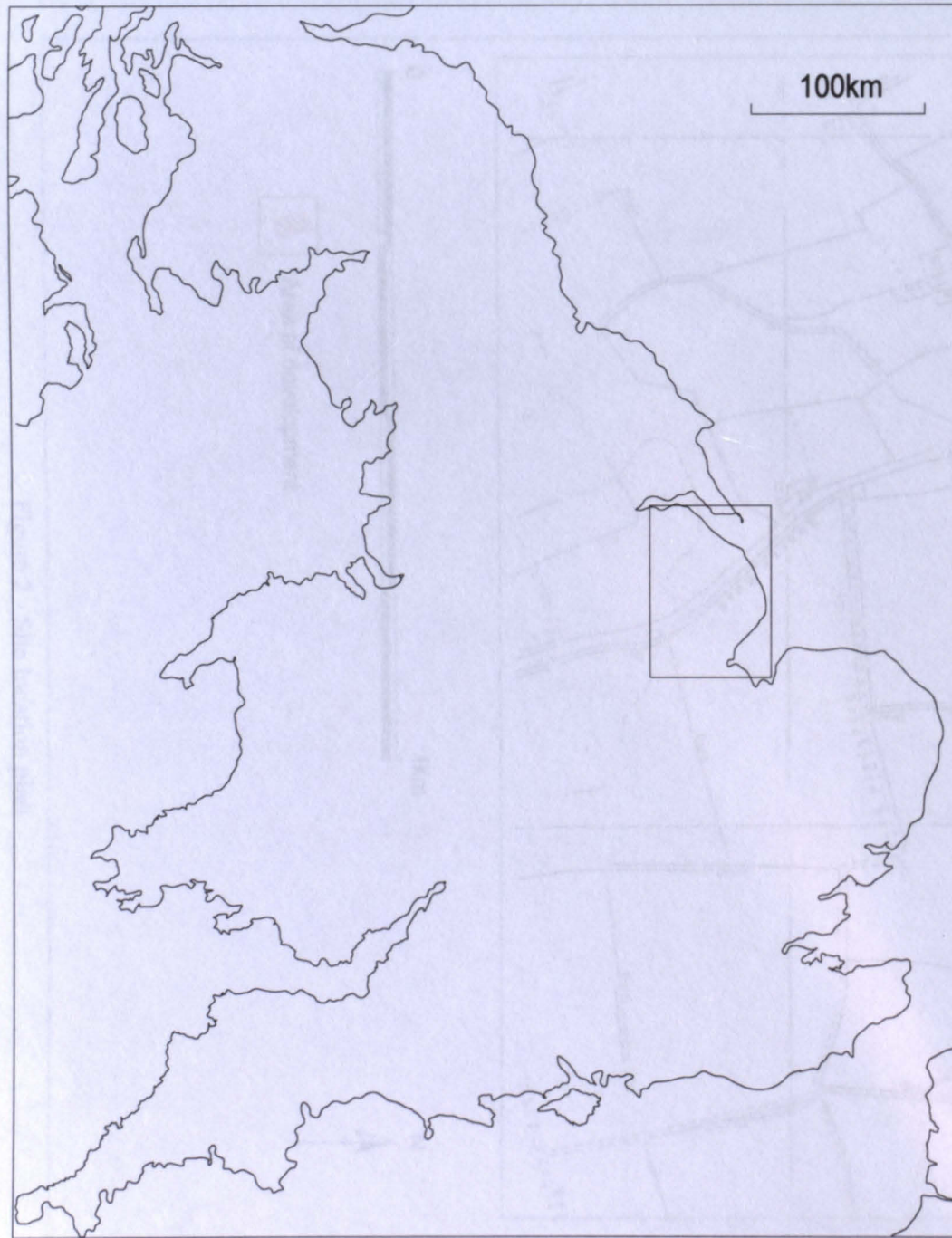
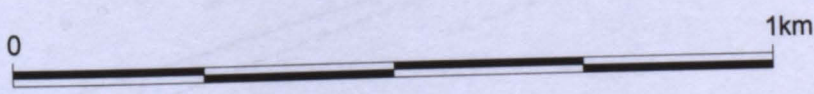


Figure 1 - General Location Plan




 Area of development

Figure 2 - Site location plan

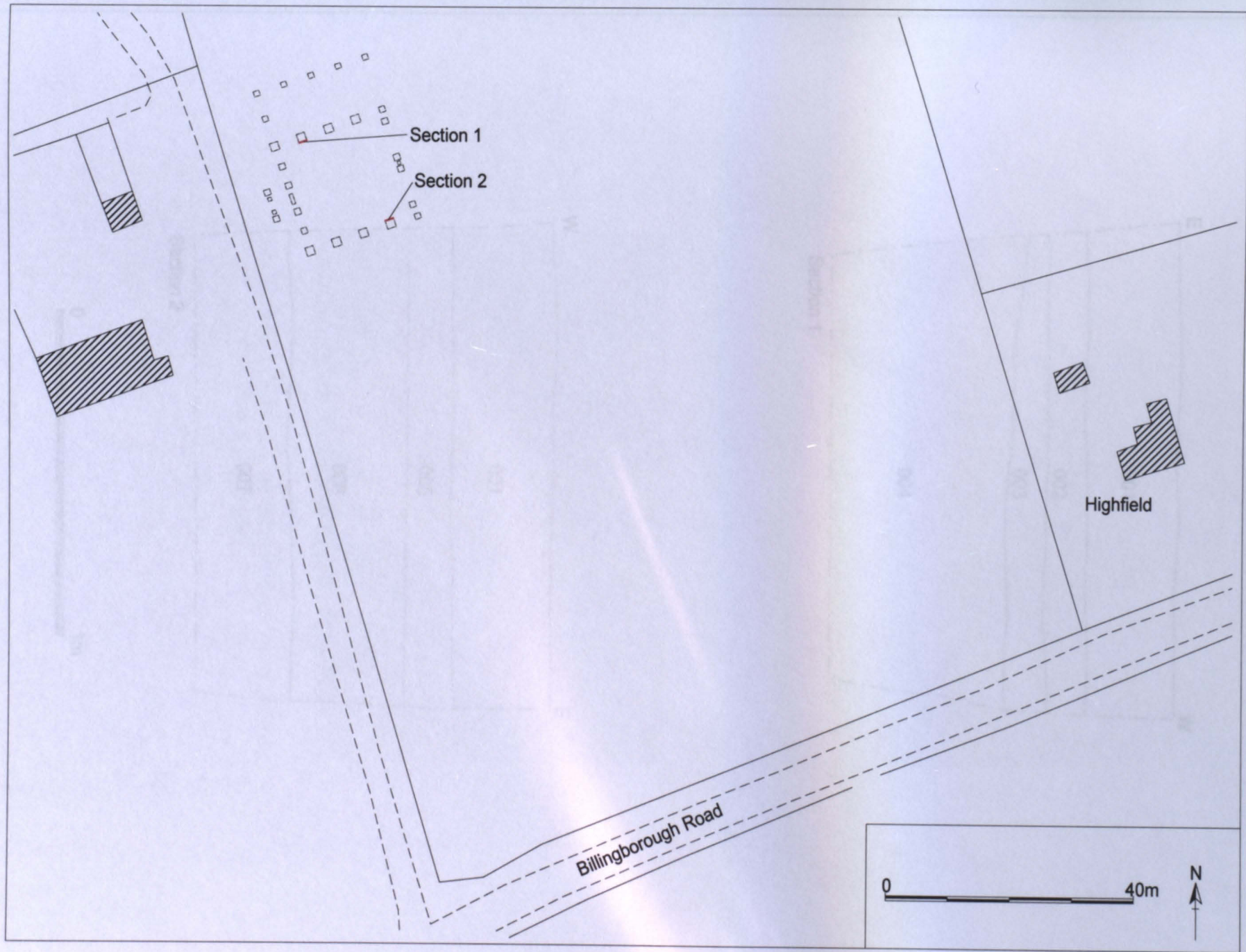


Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section locations

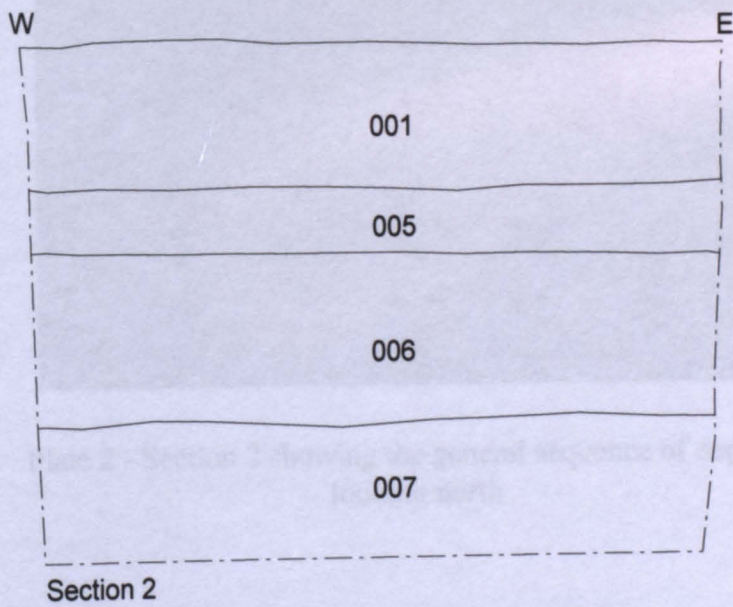
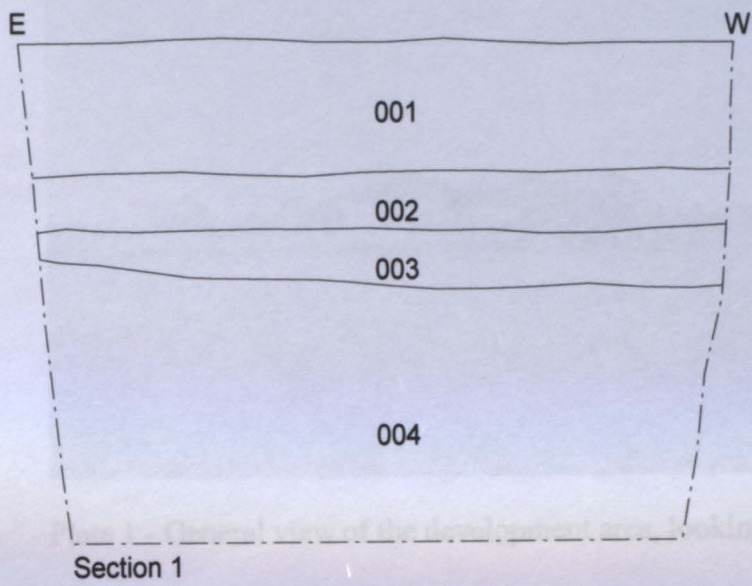


Figure 4 - Sections 1 and 2

Appendix 1



Plate 1 - General view of the development area, looking west



Plate 2 - Section 2 showing the general sequence of deposits, looking north

Appendix 1

LAND AT WASHDYKE FARM, FOLKINGHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during the construction of an agricultural grain store on land at Washdyke Farm, Billingborough Road, Folkingham, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The area is archaeologically sensitive, lying adjacent to a complex of cropmark features recorded from aerial photographs.*
- 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 construction of an agricultural grain store on land at Washdyke Farm, Billingborough Road, Folkingham, Lincolnshire, National Grid Reference TF 0814 3392.
- 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 Folkingham is located 12km south of Sleaford in the South Kesteven district of Lincolnshire. Washdyke Farm lies to the east of the village on the north side of the Billingborough Road at National Grid Reference TF 0814 3392.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application (S01/0974/32) was submitted to South Kesteven District Council for the proposed grain store. Permission is subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief during groundworks.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The site is on a gentle slope down to the southeast at approximately 40m OD, on the north side of the valley of the Ouse Mere Lode. Local soils are calcareous fine loamy soils of the Aswarby Association developed on limestone, coarser soils of the Curdridge Association lie just to the north (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 99; 153).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 The site lies 1km east of the centre of Folkingham, well away from the focus of settlement in historic

times. However, crop-mark features of rectangular enclosures and fields of possible Iron Age or Romano-British date have been recorded immediately to the east of the proposed development site. These features may extend into the area of the proposed development.

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.

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 they will be left *in situ* and only excavated if absolutely necessary. Should removal be required the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before the exhumation of the remains. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department, coroner and the police will be informed, where appropriate.

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:

- 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 trenches and 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 South Kesteven Community Archaeologist; South Kesteven District Council Planning Department; and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and

Monuments Record.

11 ARCHIVE

- 11.1 The documentation and records generated during the watching brief will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the City and County Museum, Lincoln. This will be undertaken following the requirements of the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives* for long term storage and curation.

12 PUBLICATION

- 12.1 A report of the findings of the watching brief will be 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 South Kesteven Community Archaeologist. They will be given written notice of the commencement of the project.

14 VARIATIONS AND CONTINGENCIES

- 14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 14.2 In the event of the discovery of any unexpected remains of archaeological importance, or of any changed circumstances, it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to inform the archaeological curator (*Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* 1998, Sections 5.7 and 18).
- 14.3 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation additional resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.
- 14.4 Any contingency requirement for additional fieldwork or post-excavation analysis outside the scope of the proposed scheme of works will only be activated following full consultation with the archaeological curator and the client.

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 - G Taylor in consultation with H Healey, Independent Archaeologist
Non-pottery Artefacts	J Cowgill, Independent Specialist
Animal Bones	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
Environmental Analysis	J Rackham, Independent Specialist
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, Independent Specialist

17 INSURANCES

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

18 COPYRIGHT

- 18.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.
- 18.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.
- 18.3 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 and may result in legal action.
- 18.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

19 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Ilkley Heritage and Gary Taylor

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Moderately stiff mid to dark brownish grey silty clay, 0.3m thick	Topsoil
002	Soft light yellowish brown silty clay, 120mm thick	Subsoil
003	Soft light yellowish brown clay, 120mm thick	Natural deposit
004	Soft mottled light yellowish brown, bluish grey and reddish brown sandy clay, >0.61m thick	Natural deposit
005	Soft light yellowish brown silty clay, 130mm thick	Subsoil
006	Soft light yellowish brown and bluish grey sandy clay, 0.35m thick	Natural deposit
007	Stiff light yellowish brown and bluish grey clay, >0.3m thick	Natural deposit

1x red earthenware, black glazed, 18 th century	2g	
1x ceramic roof tile, late medieval	19g	
1x stone, bar coated, recast (discarded)	6g	

As a small, mixed group the assemblage probably constitutes natural deposits.

Condition

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

Documentation

There have been few previous archaeological investigations recorded at Folkington. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

Probably constituting a natural scatter, the assemblage is of low potential though the artefacts would suggest the presence of late medieval buildings and activity of the 16th-18th century in the vicinity.

Appendix 3

THE FINDS, *Hilary Healey and Gary Taylor*

Provenance

All the material was recovered from the topsoil (001). Recent ceramics and metal were also observed during site stripping but not retained. The tile is likely to have been made in the general vicinity of Folkingham. The earlier pottery fragment was also made fairly locally, in Bourne about 12km to the south.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the table.

Pottery and tile was recovered and ranged in date through the late medieval to post-medieval periods.

Context	Description	Weight (g)	Context Date
001	1x Bourne D ware, 16 th -17 th century	14g	18 th century
	1x red earthenware, black glazed, 18 th century	2g	
	1x ceramic roof tile, late medieval	19g	
	1x stone, tar coated, recent (discarded)	6g	

As a small, mixed group the assemblage probably constitutes manuring scatter.

Condition

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Appendix 4

GLOSSARY

- Boulder Clay** A deposit formed after the retreat of a glacier. Also known as till, this material is generally unsorted and can comprise of rock flour to boulders to rocks of quite substantial size.
- 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, e.g.(004).
- Cropmark** A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.
- 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
- 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.

Appendix 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

7	Context records
1	Photographic record sheet
1	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: 2001.386

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: FWF 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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