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N216

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
OF DEVELOPMENT AT  
2 BRUCE ROAD,  
LINCOLN,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(LBR 01)**



**A P S**  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
SERVICES

Event L12881  
source 47548  
47549

Negative

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
OF DEVELOPMENT AT  
2 BRUCE ROAD,  
LINCOLN,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(LBR 01)**

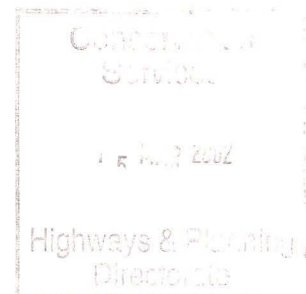
Work Undertaken For  
KMB

Report Compiled By  
Rachael V. Hall BA (Hons) PIFA

February 2002

Planning Application No:2001/0503/F  
National Grid Reference:SK 98097 72485  
City and County Museum Accession No:2001.393

A.P.S. Report No:14/02



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## 1. SUMMARY

*An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the construction of an extension and garage on land at 2, Bruce Road, Lincoln.*

*The site lies within an area of potential Roman activity, with the defences of the legionary fortress and the later colonia lying 450m southwest. Running parallel to Nettleham Road is a Roman Road and aqueduct. Evidence for a Roman cemetery has been identified in the vicinity*

*The investigations revealed a natural limestone brash deposit overlain by a subsoil. A buried topsoil was also identified sealed by a modern dump of building debris.*

## 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 (APS) was commissioned by KMB to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the construction of an extension and detached garage on land at 2 Bruce Road, Lincoln, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application 2001/0503/F. Permission was granted subject to a condition for archaeological recording. The watching brief was carried out on the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2001 in accordance with a

specification designed by APS and approved by the Lincoln City Archaeologist. (Appendix 1).

### 2.3 Topography and Geology

The development site is located on the northeast side of Lincoln City close to Nettleham Road, on the corner of Bruce Road and Manor Road. The site is centred on National Grid Reference SK 98097 72485 (Fig 2).

The soils of Lincoln have not been mapped. However, nearby soils are well drained brashy calcareous fine loamy Elmton 1 Association soils developed on limestone (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 179).

### 2.4 Archaeological Setting

The site lies *c.* 450m northeast of the defences of the Roman legionary fortress, and later *colonia*, at Lincoln and some 20m west of the major Roman road running parallel to Nettleham Road. Roman burials recorded in this area indicate the presence of a Roman cemetery alongside the Roman road northeast of the city. In addition, the Roman aqueduct from the Roaring Meg spring is known to run largely parallel to Nettleham Road. This brought water through ceramic pipes encased in mortar to the Roman *colonia*. Sections of the aqueduct, which was probably built in the early 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, have previously been found on the west side of Nettleham Road.

During the Saxon period the area of the city enclosed by the Roman walls continued to be occupied with other structures built and minor changes to the street layout. Middle Saxon (*c.* 650 - 850) pottery has been found throughout the city. In the Late Saxon period (*c.* 850 - 1066) Lincoln continued to grow in importance and became a Viking *burh* or defended settlement. A mint was

established and Lincoln began to develop as a major market and urban centre.

The Norman conquest changed the shape of Lincoln both physically and politically. Changes to the defences included knocking down large numbers of houses to build the castle, and the see was transferred from Dorchester-on-Thames. Following this the cathedral was established. (Sawyer 1998).

Urban expansion during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries saw new housing erected in the vicinity of Nettleham Road.

### 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

Foundation trenches were excavated using a mechanical excavator to depth of 0.85m. Following excavation, the sides of the trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical to identify archaeological deposits. The depth and thickness of each deposit was measured from the ground surface. Each archaeological deposit or feature revealed was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled and representative sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and their location recorded on a plan produced at 1:50. Recording of deposits was undertaken according to standard APS practice.

Records of the deposits and features

recognised during the watching brief were examined.

### 5. RESULTS

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

The earliest deposit encountered was limestone brash (**005**), which was identified as the weathered surface of the underlying solid geology. In the southern half of the footing trench this was directly overlain by a dark grey clayey sandy silt topsoil (**001**) (Section 2).

Elsewhere, a 0.20m thick layer of mid-brown clayey sandy silt (**004**) subsoil was observed overlying the natural. Sealing this was a layer of dark grey clayey sandy silt (**003**) thickness 0.30m interpreted as a buried topsoil.

A dumped layer of dark grey clayey sandy silt and building debris (**002**) sealed (**003**). This was in turn sealed by the topsoil (**001**) (Section 1; Plate 2).

### 6. DISCUSSION

Natural limestone brash was the earliest deposit encountered during the watching brief. A subsoil had then developed naturally across the site.

A dumped deposit of modern building debris associated with the standing building was recorded as overlying a former topsoil. No artefactual material was recovered from any deposit during this investigation.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were carried out at 2, Bruce Road, Lincoln as the site lies within an area of potential Roman activity.

Overlying natural deposits was a subsoil layer which was sealed by a buried topsoil and a layer of building debris, which was in turn sealed by the present topsoil.

No artefacts were retrieved during this investigation.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of KMB who commissioned the fieldwork and post excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Steve Malone and this report was edited by Steve Malone and Tom Lane. Access to Sites and Monuments Record was kindly provided by Mark Bennet and Sarah Grundy of the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section.

## 9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Steve Malone  
Supervisors: Chris Moulis  
Illustration: Rachael Hall, Steve Thomson  
Photographic Reproduction: Sue Unsworth  
Post-excavation Analyst: Rachael Hall

## 10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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## 11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

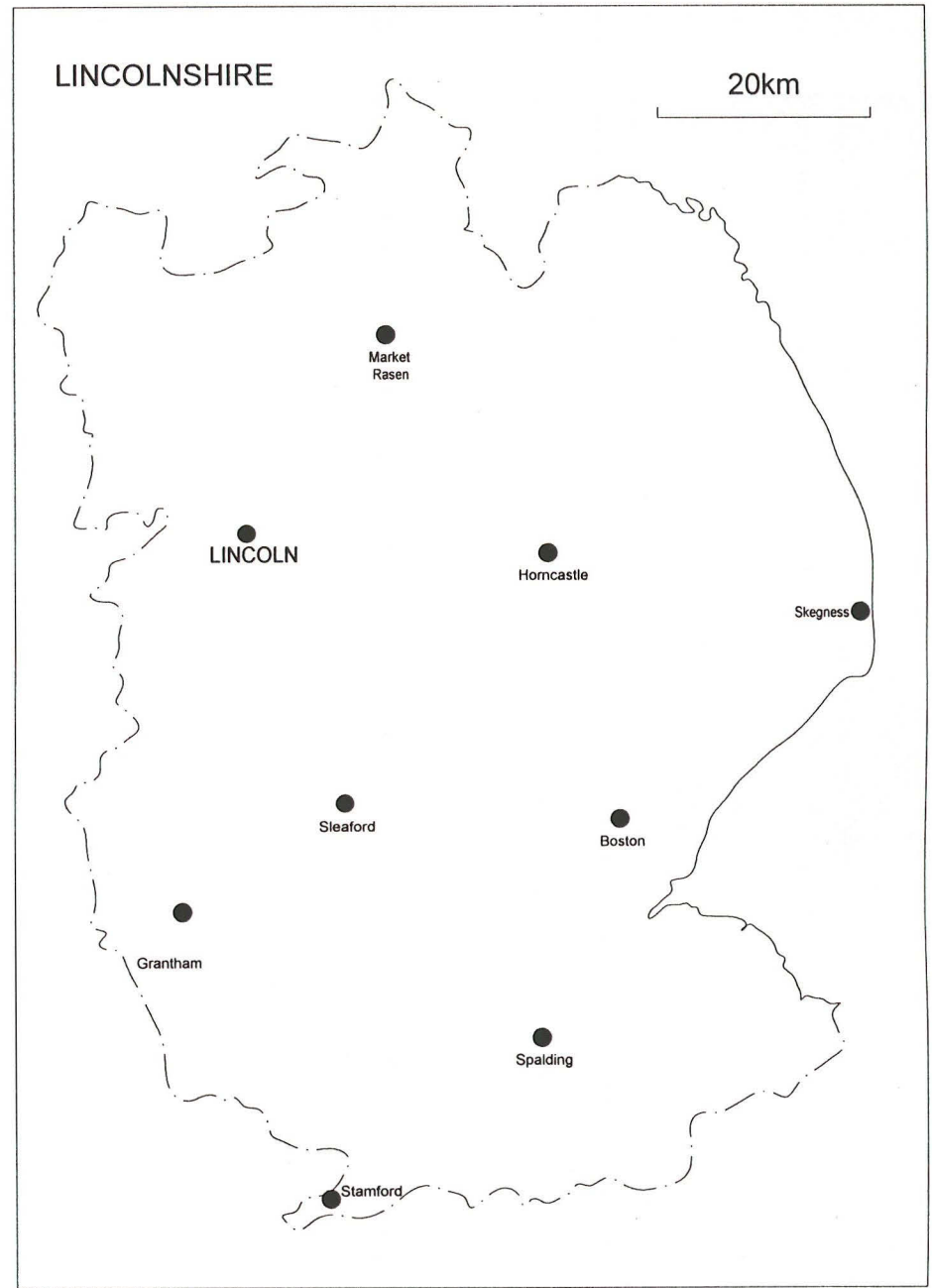
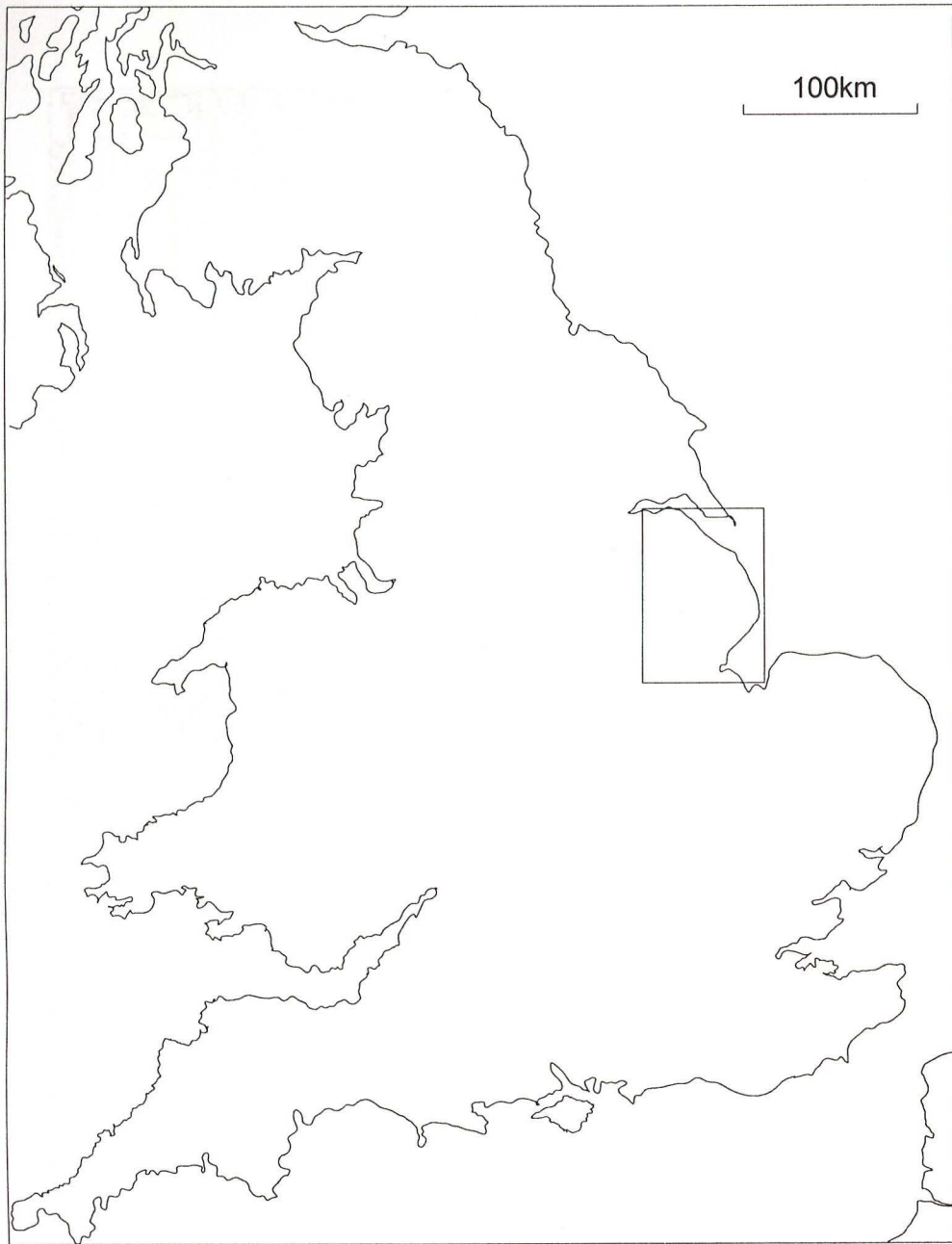


Figure 1 General Location Plan





Figure 2 Location plan and archaeological setting

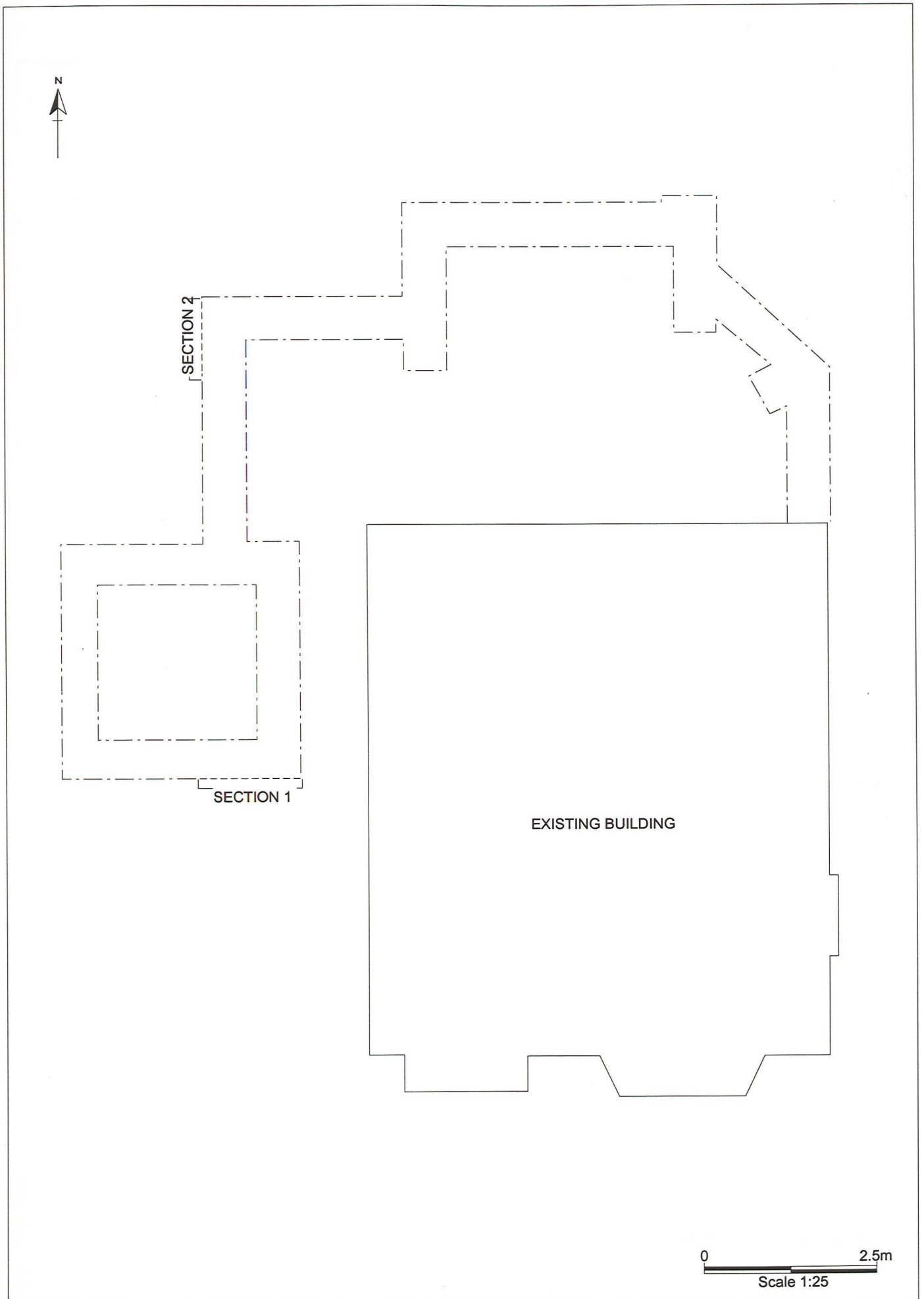


Figure 3: Plan of excavated area showing section locations

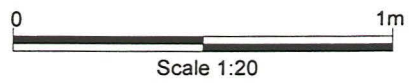
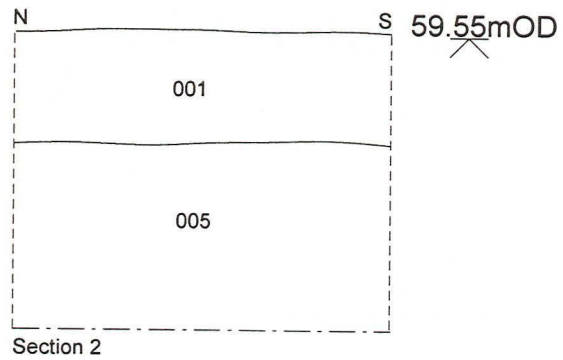
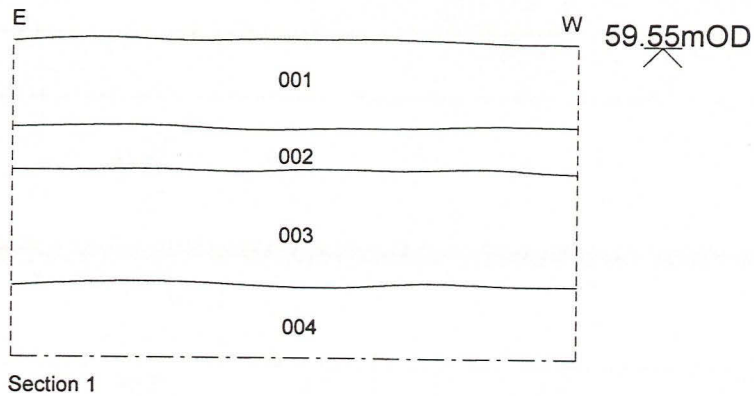


Figure 4: Sections 1 and 2



Plate 1 General view of the development area, looking south



Plate 2 Section 1, looking south

## Appendix 1

### Specification for archaeological watching brief at 2, Bruce Road, Lincoln

#### 1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during development at 2 Bruce Road, Lincoln.*
- 1.2 *The development lies northeast of the Roman town side close to a major Roman Road and the aqueduct in an area with evidence for a Roman cemetery.*
- 1.3 *The watching brief will be undertaken during groundworks associated with the development. The archaeological features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the investigation. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

#### 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for an archaeological watching brief during development on land at 2 Bruce Road, Lincoln, National Grid Reference SK 98097 72485.
- 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 The site lies on the corner of Bruce Road and Manor Road, on the northeast side of Lincoln city centre close to Nettleham Road at National Grid Reference SK 98097 72485.

#### 4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application (2001/0503/F) was submitted to Lincolnshire City Council for the erection of extensions to 2 Bruce Road and construction of a detached garage. Permission has been granted subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief, in accordance with an approved written scheme of works, during the development. This document constitutes such a scheme of works.

#### 5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 As an urban area, the soils of Lincoln city, and the development area, have not been mapped. However, on the basis of nearby deposits soils at the site are likely to be well drained brashy calcareous fine loamy soils of the Elmton 1 Association developed on Jurassic limestone (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 179). The site lies on fairly level ground at approximately 60m OD.

#### 6 THE ARCHAEOLOGY

- 6.1 The site lies c. 450m northeast of the defences of the legionary fortress, and later *colonia*, at Lincoln and some 20m west of the major Roman road running northeast parallel to Nettleham Road. Roman burials recorded in this area indicate the presence of a Roman cemetery alongside the Roman road northeast of the city. In addition, the Roman aqueduct from the Roaring Meg spring is known to run largely parallel to Nettleham Road. This brought water through ceramic

## Appendix 1

### Specification for archaeological watching brief at 2, Bruce Road, Lincoln

pipes encased in mortar to the Roman *colonia* at Lincoln. Sections of the aqueduct, which was probably built in the early 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, have previously been found on the west side of Nettleham Road but its line is unclear at this point.

#### 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 ground disturbance.
- 7.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:
- 7.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
- 7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
- 7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
- 7.2.4 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

#### 8 SITE OPERATIONS

##### 8.1 General considerations

- 8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the watching brief.
- 8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA). *Archaeological Project Services* is IFA registered organisation no. 21.
- 8.1.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

##### 8.2 Methodology

- 8.2.1 The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.
- 8.2.2 Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.
- 8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis. A metal detector may be used to assist artefact recovery.
- 8.2.4 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
- The site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.

## Appendix 1

### Specification for archaeological watching brief at 2, Bruce Road, Lincoln

- 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:

- 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.

## Appendix 1

### Specification for archaeological watching brief at 2, Bruce Road, Lincoln

- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.
- A separate summary of data for entry into the Lincoln Urban Archaeological Database

#### 10 REPORT DEPOSITION

- 10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the client; Lincolnshire City Council Planning Department; the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record; and to the City and County Museum.

#### 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 City Archaeologist at the Department of Planning, City of Lincoln. They will be given as much notice as possible, ideally seven days, 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



## Appendix 1

### Specification for archaeological watching brief at 2, Bruce Road, Lincoln

- 16.1 The following organisations/persons will, in principal 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
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

## Appendix 1

### Specification for archaeological watching brief at 2, Bruce Road, Lincoln

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 SUMMARY

Context No	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
001	Deposit	Soft, dark grey clayey sandy silt, freq. sm. pebbles	0.25	Garden soil
002	Deposit	Soft, dark grey clayey sandy silt, freq. mortar/cement lumps, occ. cbm frags	0.15	Dumped deposit
003	Deposit	Soft, dark grey clayey sandy silt, freq. sm. pebbles and limestone frags	0.30	Buried topsoil
004	Deposit	Soft, mid-brown clayey sandy silt, mod. sm. limestone frags, occ. charcoal flecks	0.20	Subsoil
005	Deposit	Light yellow limestone brash	-	Natural

Abbreviations:

freq. frequent occurring  
 mod. moderately occurring  
 occ. occasionally occurring  
 sm. small  
 frags. fragments  
 cbm ceramic burnt material

## Appendix 3

### GLOSSARY

<b>Context</b>	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
<b>Cut</b>	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
<b>Fill</b>	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
<b>Layer</b>	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
<b>Medieval</b>	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
<b>Natural</b>	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
<b>Prehistoric</b>	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1 <sup>st</sup> century AD.
<b>Romano-British</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

## Appendix 4

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

5	Context records
1	Photographic record sheet
2	Drawing sheets
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: 2001.393

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: LBR 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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**Sources Database Record**

**Report :** Rachael V. Hall - *An Archaeological Watching Brief of Development at 2 Bruce Road, Lincoln, Lincolnshire.* January 2002. Heckington, APS report No. 14/02  
Archaeological Project Services, Heckington Lincolnshire

**Recognition Events Database :** 2 Bruce Road, Lincoln. LBR01. 2 Bruce Road, Lincoln Lincolnshire. SK 98097 72485. Watching Brief. 26/10/2001. Chris Moulis. Archaeological Project Services. Lincolnshire City and County Museum. 2001.93

**Monuments Database :** Not Applicable

**Deposit Model :**

SK 98097 72485	LLIM	59.35m AOD
	MODT	59.55m AOD