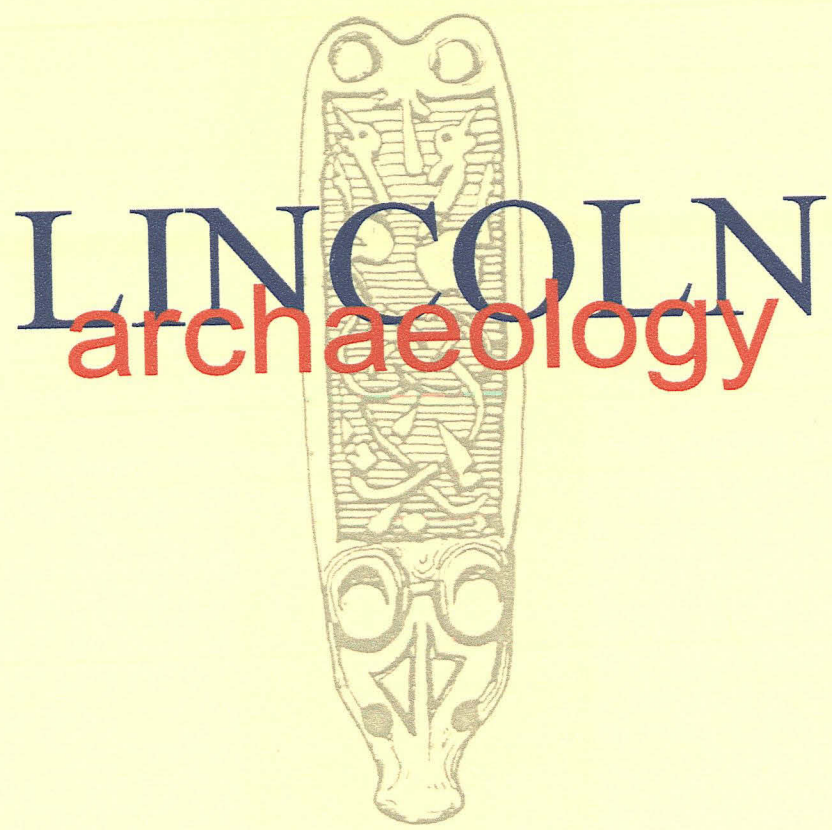


A Report to  
Mr T. Stringer  
March 2002



341/341a High Street,  
Lincoln

Archaeological Watching Brief

Conservation  
Services

2 R MAR 2002

Highways & Planning  
Directorate

**341/341a HIGH STREET,  
LINCOLN**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

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## 341/341a HIGH STREET, LINCOLN

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

#### NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

- *Between the 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> October 2001, the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit carried out a watching brief during groundwork associated with the construction of a rear extension to 341/341a High Street, Lincoln.*
- *The site lay in an area of known archaeological importance potentially containing remains dating from the prehistoric to post-medieval periods*
- *Deposits ascribed to the medieval and post-medieval periods were revealed but due to the limited scale of the groundwork involved, no clear interpretation of the exposed archaeology could be made although tile recovered from the site suggests the presence of a substantial medieval (13<sup>th</sup> century) building in the near vicinity.*
- *Although the results from the watching brief were largely inconclusive, this information will be of value for future decision making with regard to the management of the archaeological resource in this area of Lincoln.*

## 341/341a HIGH STREET, LINCOLN

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Between the 9th and 11<sup>th</sup> October 2001, the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit (CLAU) carried out a watching brief during groundwork associated with the construction of a rear extension to 341/341a High Street, Lincoln (hereafter *the site*). The watching brief was commissioned by Mr T Stringer of 341 High Street, Lincoln, in response to a condition on the granting of full planning permission (Application No. 2000/0114/F).

#### 2.0 SITE LOCATION & BACKGROUND

The site is located on the east side of the High Street, bounded to its north by 340 High Street (*Blandings* public house). To the east, lies a public car park and on the west, the High Street and 341a High Street (National Grid Reference SK 97435 70846).

The following archaeological background information has been extracted from the *Brief for Archaeological Attendance* produced by the Heritage Team, Department of Planning, City of Lincoln Council.

- *The site is situated in the southern suburb of the Roman colonia and the medieval suburb of Wigford. It may also lie within the southern part of the projected limits of a prehistoric sand island. Excavations and finds in the locality have clearly demonstrated the survival of archaeological deposits from the prehistoric period onwards. It is anticipated that the site may contain evidence of:*
- *Prehistoric sand island; the Holmes Grainwarehouse excavation (hg72) demonstrated the existence of dry land in the pre-Roman period c. 125m to the NW of the site. Since riverine deposits are known to the south and the north of hg72 there must have been an island surrounded by river and/or fen. No foreshores have been observed and the limits of the island surmised on the basis of observations of riverine deposits at the Halifax Building Society (cha93) and St. Marks Station east (ze87).*
- *Roman commercial buildings and occupation from the mid 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD until the end of Roman occupation c. AD 400.*
- *Occupation from the 10<sup>th</sup> century, in the form of timber buildings, and through the medieval period with stone buildings, both along the street frontage.*
- *Modern housing and commercial buildings. The site is known from map evidence to lie within Colbeck's Yard, which contained one or two dwellings, livery stables and a smithy in the 19<sup>th</sup>/mid 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.*

#### 3.0 AIMS & METHODOLOGY

The aims of the watching brief were:

- A. to produce an archive record of deposits and remains generally within the constraints of the groundwork contractors' working methods and programme as related to the project design, with due regard to current Health and Safety legislation.
- B. to produce a report on the archaeological importance of the discoveries.

- C. to produce a project archive from which the potential for further study and academic research could be assessed.
- D. to provide information for accession to the County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and the Lincoln Urban Archaeological Database (UAD).

#### *Methodology*

The watching brief required the monitoring of all groundwork associated with the construction of the extension. The archaeological record was secured by means of trench-side notes. A photographic record of the groundwork was also compiled.

### **4.0 RESULTS & CONCLUSIONS**

#### *Results (Fig. 2)*

The earliest deposit encountered was [005] (6.0m OD), a deposit of loosely compacted, light yellow/brown sandy soil with occasional small angular limestone fragments and charcoal flecks. Sealing [005] was [006], a floor/occupation deposit 80mm thick consisting of dark grey sand/silt with occasional charcoal, oyster shell and small angular limestone fragments (6.08m OD).



Plate I: General view of the foundation trench (looking west).

A thick deposit ([004] – 6.46m OD) of light yellow/brown clay/sand with occasional small-medium angular limestone fragments, tile (13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> century), charcoal and oyster shell, overlay [006]. [004] was sealed by [002], a firm, dark grey/brown coarse sandy soil with frequent small-medium sized angular limestone & tile fragments. Cutting through [002] on its south side was [008], a modern feature containing surface and foul water drainage pipes (a quantity of redeposited medieval tile was recovered from [003], the pipe trench fill). Further service trenches obscured the majority of the archaeological deposits in the foundation trench. A layer of concrete ([007] 6.86m OD) forming the existing ground surface sealed both [002] and [008].

No further deposits were recorded during the archaeological works. A quantity of material was recovered from the trenches excavated spoil (Context [001]), includes medieval and later pottery and a fragment of 13<sup>th</sup> century roof furniture.

The building materials recovered from this site include a small group of locally made tiles, of which all diagnostic examples date to the late 12<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup> century (including an uncommon fabric (Fabric 7) that dates to the late 12<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup> century and occurs only on a limited number of sites in the city - *Pers. Comm.* Jane Young). The occurrence of these together with a finely made fragment of roof furniture suggests a substantial 13<sup>th</sup> century structure in the vicinity.

### Conclusions

Due to the limited scale of the groundwork involved in the construction of the extension, few conclusions can be drawn regarding the archaeological deposits encountered. Stratified dating evidence was sparse and therefore inconclusive, but these deposits are likely to represent levelling of the site during the medieval and post-medieval periods. The unstratified medieval pottery recovered from the spoil may have derived from deeper deposits previously uncovered during the excavation of the many service and foundation trenches that are located on the site; the tile recovered from the trenches excavated spoil, suggests that a substantial medieval building lies on or in close proximity to the site. In conclusion, whilst of limited value, the information revealed during the watching brief will be of value for future decision making with regard to the management of the archaeological resource in this area of Lincoln.

## 5.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit would like to thank Mr T Stringer for funding the watching brief and post fieldwork analysis. Thanks are also extended to the site contractor, J. Flintham Builders, for their full cooperation throughout the archaeological programme of investigation.

Maps contained within this report are reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of the Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown Copyright. Lincoln City Council. Licence No. AL 100028765.

### Project Team

#### CLAU Specialists

Michael Jarvis	Project Officer (Field/Post-excavation)
Darren Pullen	Post-excavation assistant
Graham Eyre-Morgan	Projects Manager
Yvonne Rose	Finds Supervisor

#### External Specialists

Jane Young	Tile & post-Roman pottery (Lindsey Archaeological Services)
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## 6.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Jones, M, 2001, *Brief for archaeological attendance and recording (watching brief) during groundwork at 341/341a high street, Lincoln*, Heritage Team, Department of Planning, City of Lincoln Council

### NOTE

*The information in this document is presented with the proviso that further data may yet emerge. Lincoln City Council cannot, therefore, be held responsible for any loss, delay or damage, material or otherwise, arising out of this report. The document has been prepared in accordance with the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.*

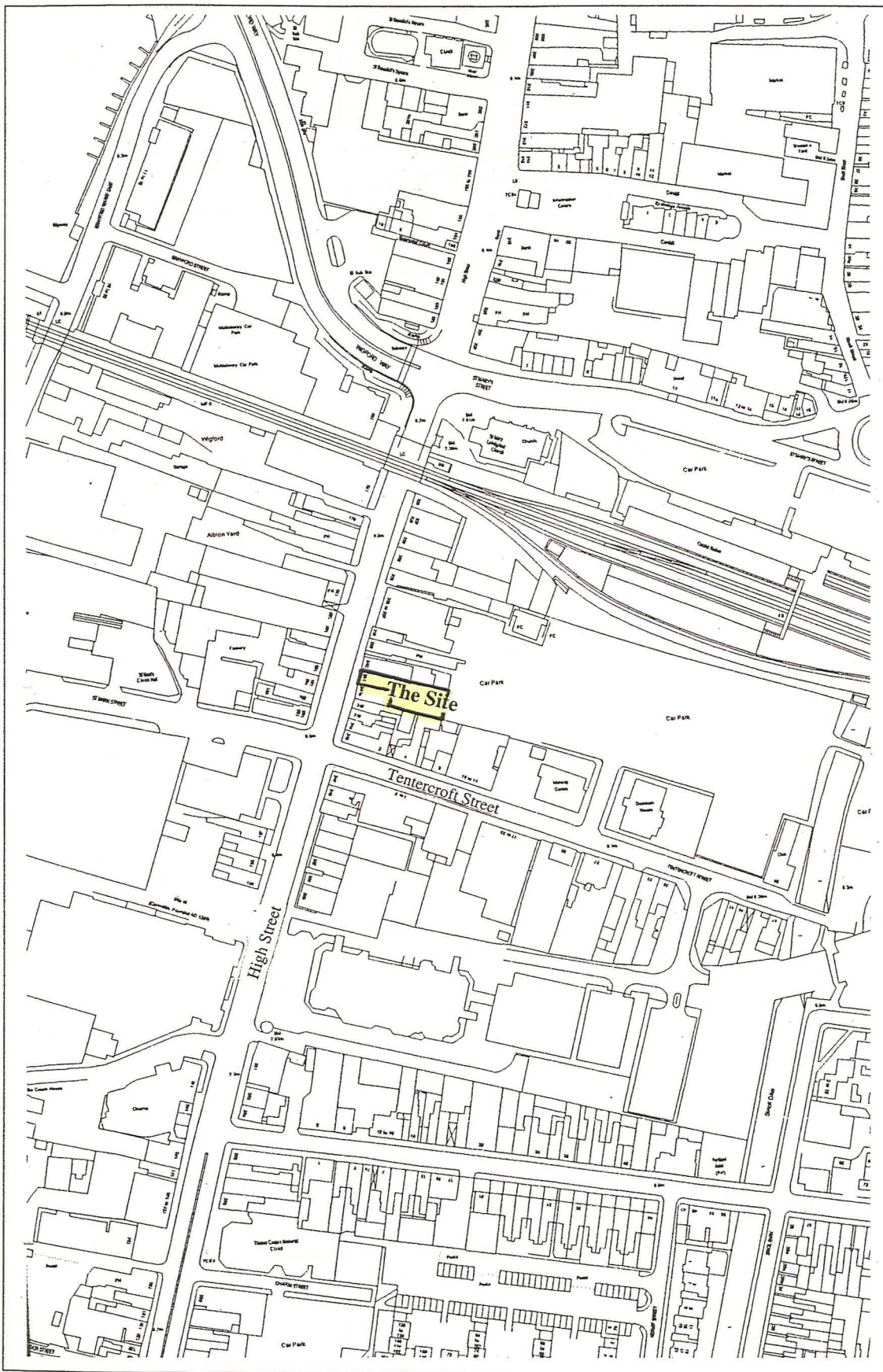


Fig. 1: Site location map.



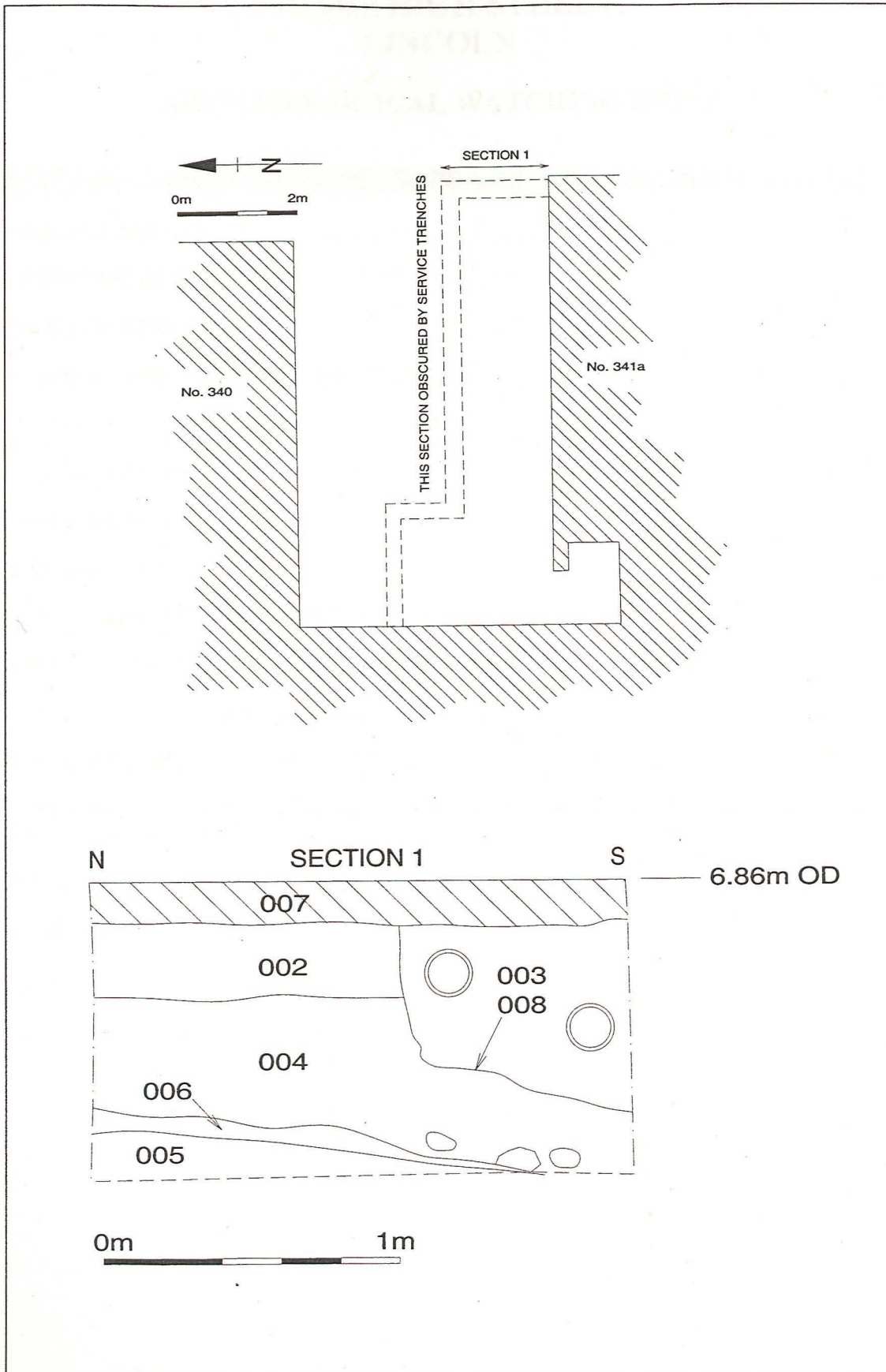


Fig. 2: Section & Section location plan (scales 1:20 & 1:100).

**341/341a HIGH STREET,  
LINCOLN**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

**APPENDIX 1 – LHA NOTE & ARCHIVE DETAILS**

**LHA NOTE DETAILS**

CLAU CODE: HSK01

CLAU REPORT No.: 471

PLANNING APPLICATION NO.: 2000/0114/F

FIELD OFFICER: Michael Jarvis

NGR: SK 97435 70846

CIVIL PARISH: Lincoln

SMR No.: -

DATE OF INTERVENTION: 9<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> October 2001

TYPE OF INTERVENTION: Archaeological Watching Brief

UNDERTAKEN FOR: Mr T Stringer, 341 High Street, Lincoln

**ARCHIVE DETAILS**

PRESENT LOCATION: City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit, Charlotte House, The Lawn, Union Road,  
Lincoln, LN1 3BL

FINAL LOCATION: The City and County Museum, Friars Lane, Lincoln

MUSEUM ACCESSION No.: 2001.265

ACCESSION DATE: -

**341/341a HIGH STREET,  
LINCOLN**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

**APPENDIX 2 – CONTEXT SUMMARY**

<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>
001	Unstratified finds
002	Firm, dark grey/brown coarse sandy soil with frequent small-medium sized angular limestone & tile fragments.
003	Firm-friable compaction, light-mid brown sandy/clay with frequent small angular limestone fragments, tile and occasional charcoal and oyster shell flecks (fill of [008]).
004	Plastic-firm compaction, light yellow/brown clay/sand soil with occasional small-medium limestone angular fragments, tile, charcoal and oyster shell flecks.
005	Loose compaction, light yellow/brown sandy soil with occasional small angular limestone fragments and charcoal flecks.
006	Loose-firm compaction, dark grey sand/silt with occasional charcoal, oyster shell and small angular limestone fragments.
007	Concrete.
008	Cut of fill 003 – modern pipe trench.

## 341/341a HIGH STREET, LINCOLN

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

#### APPENDIX 3 – THE FINDS ARCHIVE

##### POTTERY ARCHIVE

Context	Cname	Full Name	Form Type	Sherds	Decoration	Part	Ref No	Description	Date
001	LSW2/3	13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> century Lincoln Glazed Ware	pipkin; straight handled	1		handle	DR2	straight rod handle; unusual	13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>
001	LSW3	14 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> century Lincoln Glazed Ware	tall-necked jug	3	applied twisted beard	BS	DR1	ornate	14 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>
001	LSW3	14 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> century Lincoln Glazed Ware	large jug	1		handle		large grooved handle	14 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>
001	LSW3	14 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> century Lincoln Glazed Ware	large jug	1		handle		large grooved handle	14 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>
001	NOTS	Nottingham stoneware	jar ?	1		base			18 <sup>th</sup> to 19 <sup>th</sup>

##### TILE ARCHIVE

Context	Cname	Full Name	Fabric	Sub Type	Frgs	Weight	Decoration	Description	Date
001	GPNR	glazed peg, nib or ridge	7		1	140		corner; thick reduced glaze	late 12 <sup>th</sup> to 13 <sup>th</sup>
001	NIB	nibbed tile	7	2	1	309		corner	late 12 <sup>th</sup> to 13 <sup>th</sup>
001	PNR	Peg, nib or ridge tile	7		1	143		mortar; fingerprints	13 <sup>th</sup>
001	PNR	Peg, nib or ridge tile			1	242		fingerprints; white clay swirls & inclusions	13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>
001	PNR	Peg, nib or ridge tile			1	296			13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>
001	PNRDISC	Discarded peg, nib or ridge tile	LSWA		1	38			13 <sup>th</sup> to 14 <sup>th</sup>
001	PNRDISC	Discarded peg, nib or ridge tile			1	75		corner	13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>
001	PNRDISC	Discarded peg, nib or ridge tile			1	242		mortar; coarse fabric	13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>
001	PNRDISC	Discarded peg, nib or ridge tile	7		1	202		mortar on edges	13 <sup>th</sup>
001	PNRDISC	Discarded peg, nib or ridge tile			1	137		mortar	13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>
001	RFURN	Roof furniture	LSW2		1	103	applied pressed strip	glazed; fingerprints; reduced green glaze	13 <sup>th</sup>
003	PNRDISC	Discarded peg, nib or ridge tile			1	11			13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>
003	PNRDISC	Discarded peg, nib or ridge tile			1	8			13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>
003	PNRDISC	Discarded peg, nib or ridge tile			1	59		sooted	13 <sup>th</sup> to 14 <sup>th</sup>
003	PNRDISC	Discarded peg, nib or ridge tile			1	79		large fe inclusions	13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>
003	PNRDISC	Discarded peg, nib or ridge tile			1	22			13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>
003	PNRDISC	Discarded peg, nib or ridge tile			1	14		vitrified fabric	13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>
003	PNRDISC	Discarded peg, nib or ridge tile			1	36		mortar	13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>
003	PNRDISC	Discarded peg, nib or ridge tile			1	16			13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>

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Archaeological Watching Brief*

003	PNRDISC	Discarded peg, nib or ridge tile			1	13		mortar	13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>
004	PNR	Peg, nib or ridge tile			1	344		corner; fingerprints	13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>
004	PNRDISC	Discarded peg, nib or ridge tile			1	112		mortar	13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>
004	PNRDISC	Discarded peg, nib or ridge tile			1	163		mortar	13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>
004	PNRDISC	Discarded peg, nib or ridge tile	LSWA		4	100			13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>

**ANIMAL BONE ARCHIVE**

<i>Context</i>	<i>Fragments</i>
001	6