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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON LAND OFF
WYBERTON WEST ROAD
BOSTON,
LINCOLNSHIRE.
(BWWA00)**



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

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Source L17635
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON LAND OFF
WYBERTON WEST ROAD
BOSTON,
LINCOLNSHIRE.
(BWWA00)**

Work Undertaken For
Robert Doughty Consultancy on behalf of Allison Homes

April 2002

Report Compiled by
Steve Thomson BSc (Hons) PIFA

National Grid Reference: TF 3180 4300
Planning Reference: B/99/0467
City and County Museum Accession No. 2000.269

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 63/02



1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during residential development on land off Wyberton West Road, Boston, Lincolnshire, as the site is archaeologically sensitive, lying in proximity to cropmarks. Pottery of the Iron Age and Romano-British periods has been recovered close to the site.

During the course of the investigation an undated pit containing fired clay, two undated drainage ditches and a posthole were identified.

A single piece of medieval tile was recovered, along with fragments of fired clay and animal bone. No archaeological features or deposits clearly associated with the medieval, Romano-British or Iron Age periods were encountered.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as, 'a formal program of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits maybe disturbed or destroyed.' (IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services (APS) was commissioned by the Robert Doughty Consultancy, on behalf of Allison Homes, to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with residential development on land off Wyberton West Road, Boston, Lincolnshire. Approval for the

development was sought through the submission of planning application B/99/0467 to Boston Borough Council. The watching brief was carried out between the 13th October 2000 and 12th April 2001, in accordance with a specification designed by APS (Appendix 1) and approved by the Boston Borough Community Archaeologist.

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 site is located on the southern edge of Boston between Wyberton West Road and the South Forty Foot Drain at National Grid Reference TF 3180 4300 (Fig.2). The land is generally flat and lies at c. 2m OD.

Local soils are the Tanvats Association typical alluvial gley soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 319) and Wisbech Association calcareous alluvial gley soils developed in marine alluvium (*ibid*, 361). Beneath this marine alluvium 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 clays.

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Boston is not mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086. However, the same survey recorded two churches and two fisheries in Skirbeck, a redundant parish that lies c.1km east of the present investigation area (Foster and Longley 1976, 69). One of these churches, *St. Botolph's*, from which Boston took its name, was given to St. Mary's Abbey, York, in 1089. Boston received its first mention in 1130 when it was referred to as '*Botulvestan*'.

During this early period, the town had already established itself as a major trading centre, partly due to its situation on the Witham estuary.

A rectangular earthwork, Wybert's Castle, listed as Scheduled Ancient Monument County Number 48, is situated to the east of the development area (Fig. 2 05/120). Earthworks on this site consist of a rectangular moat enclosing an area of land of approximately 350 square metres. The dimensions and situation of this feature have led to its interpretation as a moated manor house, a feature typical of high status occupation during the medieval period.

Systematic fieldwalking has been undertaken on the current investigation site (Fig. 2 05/011), though no artefacts were retrieved.

To the north is a series of cropmarks that have been recorded by aerial photography (Fig. 2 05/118). These appear to comprise linear west-east and north-south orientated features that have been interpreted as boundary ditches and trackways. These features remain undated, and have since been built over by a post-war housing estate.

Earthworks of probable medieval date are located to the south of the development area (Fig. 2 05/059) and include ridge and furrow.

3. AIMS

The aim of the watching brief, as detailed in the specification (Appendix 1), was to record and interpret archaeological features exposed during the ground disturbance. The objectives were to determine the form, function, spatial arrangement, date and sequence of any archaeological remains.

4. METHODS

Construction work had commenced on the majority of dwellings on the site and drains had been excavated before archaeological monitoring could take place (Fig. 3).

Foundation trenches and drain trenches were excavated using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a 0.60m wide, toothed bucket, to variable depths of up to 1.2m.

The exposed sections of the trenches were inspected and hand cleaned at close intervals to identify archaeological remains. Spoil heaps were monitored and searched by trowel to recover artefactual material which may have assisted with the interpretation of the site. The depth and thickness of each deposit was measured from the ground surface.

Each deposit or feature revealed was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A photographic record was compiled depicting the setting of the site and the recorded section drawings. Sections were drawn at scales of 1:10 and 1:20 and their locations plotted on annotated sketch and scale plans.

Recording of the deposits encountered during the watching brief was undertaken according to standard APS' practice.

Records of the deposits and features identified during the watching brief were examined. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them, supplemented by artefact analysis (Appendix 3).

A summary of all contexts, with interpretations, appears as Appendix 2.

Contexts are described below with the numbers assigned in the field shown in bold and brackets.

5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis, three phases were identified;

- 5.1 Phase 1 - Natural deposits
- 5.2 Phase 2 - Undated deposits
- 5.3 Phase 3 - Modern deposits

5.1 Natural deposits

The earliest deposits encountered during the course of the investigation comprised a series of grey, mid-brown and bluish grey silts, clayey silts and sandy silts (**006, 008, 010, 011, 012, 013, 016, 017, 022, 023, 024, 028, 031, 032, 033, 041, 042**). These deposits were identified across the site and represent alluvial deposition.

5.2 Undated deposits

Towards the southern end of the site and identified during the stripping of the drains, a 0.4m wide x 0.25m deep cut (**004**) was identified as a probable posthole (Fig. 4 Section 1). The posthole was filled with a mottled mid-grey, mid grey-brown and yellow grey clayey silt (**003**).

In the garage for Plot 2, an indeterminately shaped feature (**025**), at least 4.9m long north-south, 0.7m wide east-west and c. 0.5m deep was identified as a probable pit (Fig. 7 Section 6). The primary fill of the pit was a soft, black silt (**021**) containing burnt and fired silt. Overlying (**021**) was a soft, light grey silt (**020**) containing occasional charcoal fragments. The final fill of the pit was a mid-greyish brown silt (**019**) which contained charcoal flecks and patches of burnt silt. Fired clay was recovered from both (**019**) and (**021**).

In Plot 24, towards the northeast of the site, a feature (**034**) greater than 10m long, 6m wide and 0.75m deep was identified as a drainage ditch (Fig. 7 Section 11). The ditch contained a series of clayey silts and silty clays (**035, 036, 038**). The overall depth of the ditch was not ascertained.

An indeterminately shaped feature was identified in the garages for Plots 11 and 12 (**045**). The feature was at least 6m wide east-west and 2.7m wide north-south with a northwest-southeast orientation and was interpreted as a ditch. (Fig.7 Section 13). The ditch was filled with a dark brown clayey silt (**046**) and a mid-reddish brown clayey silt (**044**). Animal bone fragments were recovered from (**046**).

5.3 Modern deposits

In Plot 4, towards the south of the site, a sub-circular cut (**018**), 0.45m deep and 0.55m wide was identified as a geotechnical test pit, probably related to an early phase of current construction on the site. The pit contained mid-brown silt (**015**) and a mid-dark brown silt (**014**).

Identified across the entire site was a clayey silt subsoil (**009, 027, 030, 040**). The layer ranged from a greyish brown to reddish brown. A single piece of tile of medieval date was retrieved from (**030**).

Sealing the subsoil was a generally dark greyish brown clayey silt topsoil (**002, 026, 029, 039**).

Dumped deposits, related to construction work on the site were identified in the drain trenches (**001**) and Plot 24 (**037**).

6. DISCUSSION

Phase 1, natural deposits were represented by a series of alluvial layers and are likely to represent marine inundation.

A pit identified in the garage for Plot 2 contained evidence of burning within its fills. However, the fired clay recovered from the fills was amorphous and no recognisable industrial function could be identified. The pit may be a refuse disposal pit containing fire rakings.

A large ditch recorded in Plot 24 to the north of the site is unlikely to be of any great antiquity and would have served to provide drainage on the site. A further ditch identified in the garages for Plots 11 and 12 is also likely to have been a drainage ditch. The two ditches were oriented broadly north-south and east-west and may also indicate field boundaries.

A single posthole was recorded in the trench for the drains. Although interpretation of a single posthole is difficult, it is also likely to be of relatively recent date and may represent part of a boundary.

Phase 3 deposits were represented by a pit, subsoil, topsoil and dumped deposits.

The general lack of artefactual material suggests that the site was not inhabited and that it has probably served an agricultural function.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken on land off Wyberton West Road, Boston, Lincolnshire, as the site is archaeologically sensitive.

An undated pit containing fired clay, two undated, but relatively modern drainage ditches and a single posthole were the only archaeological features encountered and it is likely that the site serve an agricultural function in the past.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr R Doughty of the Robert Doughty Consultancy and Mr S Robinson of Allison Homes who commissioned the fieldwork and this report. The project was coordinated by Gary Taylor who edited this report with Tom Lane. The Boston Borough Community Archaeologist, Rebecca Wilcox, kindly allowed access to the relevant parish files.

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10. ABBREVIATIONS

APS	Archaeological Project Services
IFA	Institute of Field Archaeologists
SMR	Sites and Monuments Record Office

CONTENTS

List of Figures

List of Plates

1.	Summary.....	1
2.	Introduction	1
	2.1 Definition of a Watching brief.....	1
	2.2 Planning Background.....	1
	2.3 Location, Topography and Geology	1
	2.4 Archaeological Setting.....	1
3.	Aims	2
4.	Methods.....	2
5.	Results	3
6.	Discussion	3
7.	Conclusions	4
8.	Acknowledgements	4
9.	Bibliography	4
10.	Abbreviations	4

Appendices

1	Archaeological Project Specification
2	Context Summary
3	The Finds by Paul Cope-Faulkner, Tom Lane and Gary Taylor
4	Glossary
5	The Archive

List of Figures

Figure 1 General location plan

Figure 2 Site Location plan

Figure 3 Plot location plan showing section locations and hypothesised line of archaeological features

Figure 4 Sections 1-4

Figure 5 Sections 5, 10 and 12

Figure 6 Sections 7-9

Figure 7 Sections 6, 11 and 13

List of Plates

Plate 1 General view of site looking towards Boston Stump

Plate 2 Section 6, looking northeast

Plate 3 Section 4, looking south

Plate 4 General view plot 24, looking north

CONTENTS

List of Figures

List of Plates

1.	Summary.....	1
2.	Introduction	1
	2.1 Definition of a Watching brief.....	1
	2.2 Planning Background.....	1
	2.3 Location, Topography and Geology	1
	2.4 Archaeological Setting.....	1
3.	Aims	2
4.	Methods	2
5.	Results	3
6.	Discussion	3
7.	Conclusions	4
8.	Acknowledgements	4
9.	Bibliography	4
10.	Abbreviations	4

Appendices

1	Archaeological Project Specification
2	Context Summary
3	The Finds by Paul Cope-Faulkner, Tom Lane and Gary Taylor
4	Glossary
5	The Archive

List of Figures

Figure 1 General location plan

Figure 2 Site Location plan

Figure 3 Plot location plan showing section locations and hypothesised line of archaeological features

Figure 4 Sections 1-4

Figure 5 Sections 5, 10 and 12

Figure 6 Sections 7-9

Figure 7 Sections 6, 11 and 13

List of Plates

Plate 1 General view of site looking towards Boston Stump

Plate 2 Section 6, looking northeast

Plate 3 Section 4, looking south

Plate 4 General view plot 24, looking north

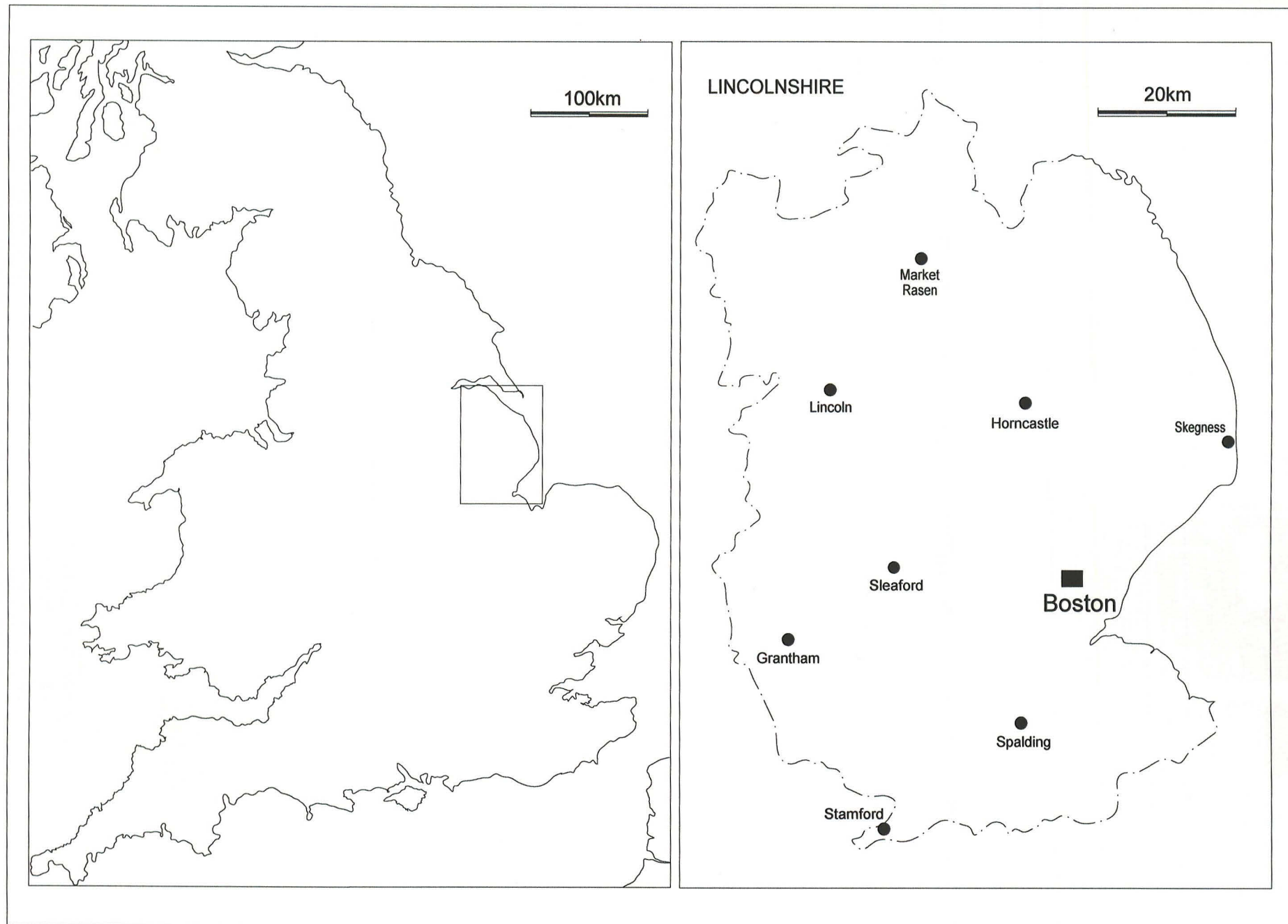


Figure 1: General Location Plan

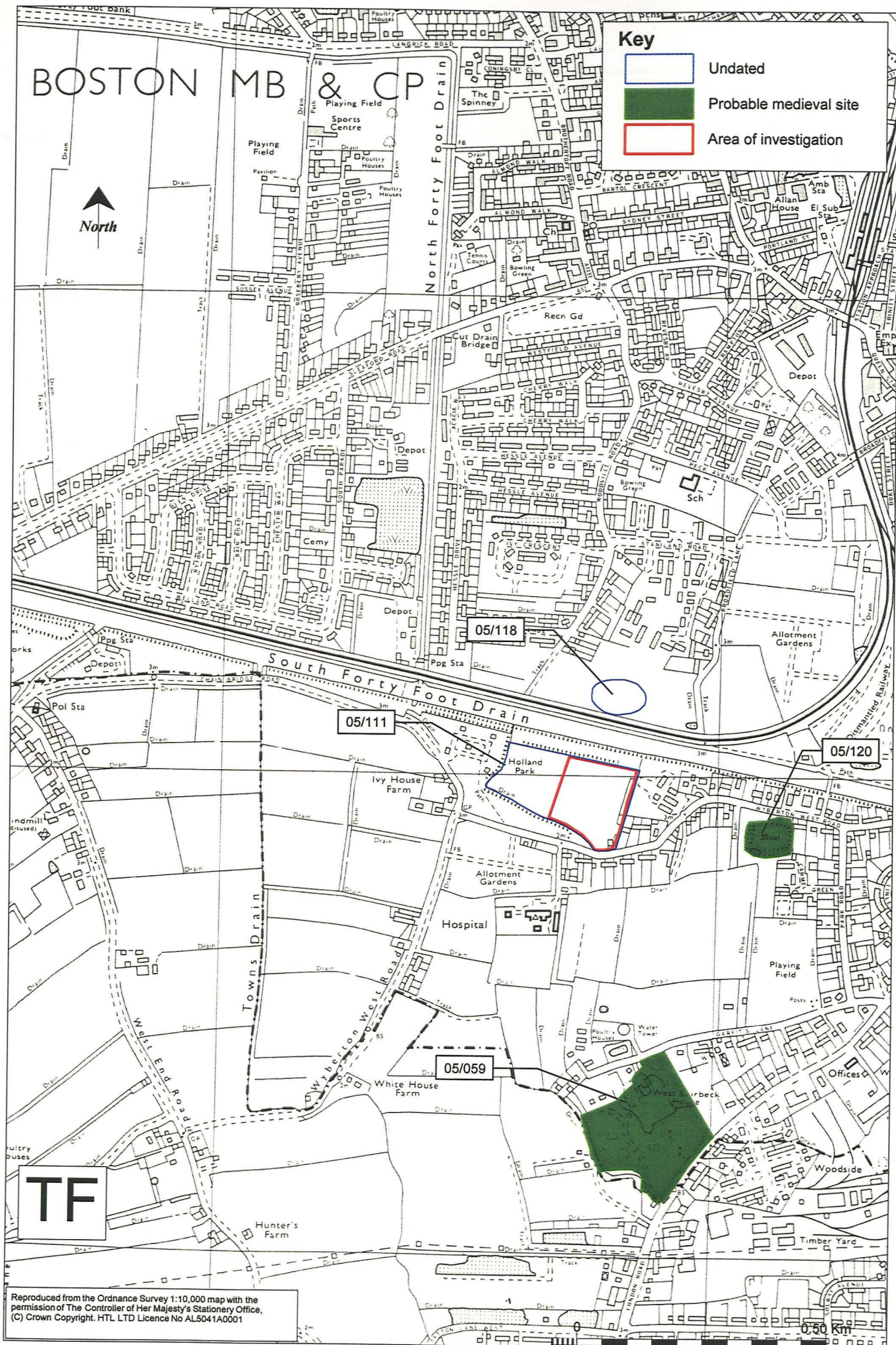


Figure 2 Site location plan

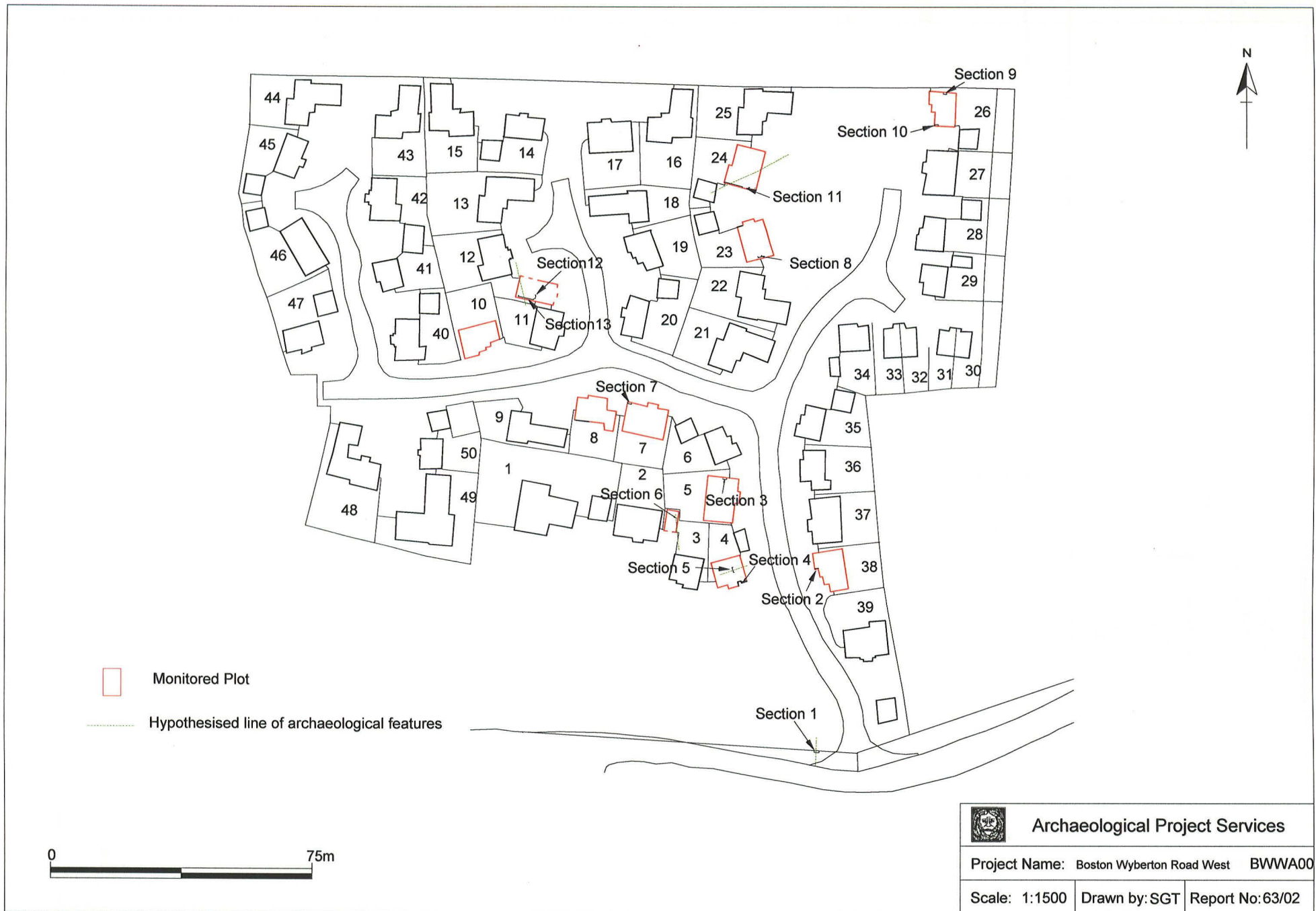


Figure 3 - Plot location plan showing section locations and hypothesised line of archaeological features

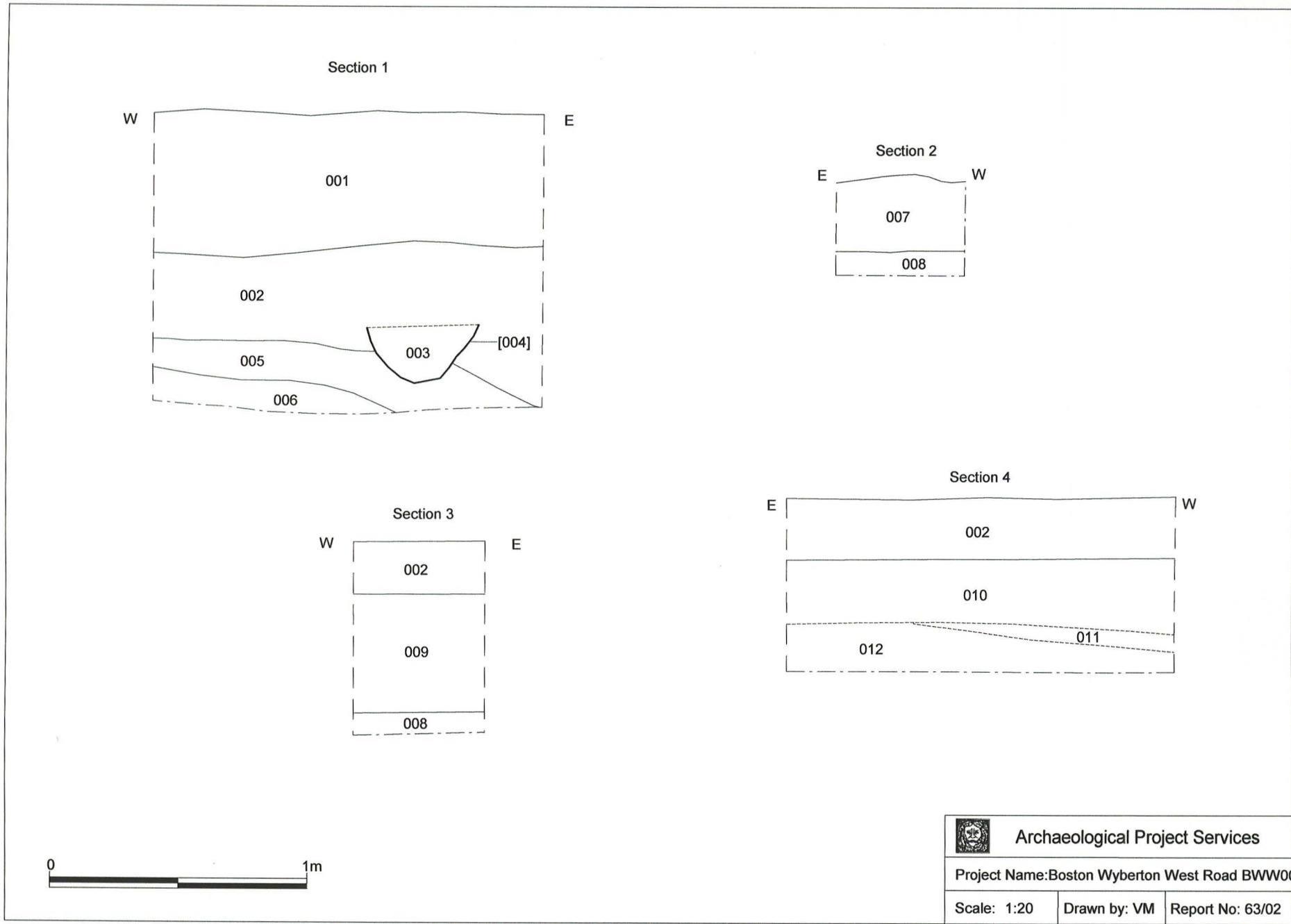

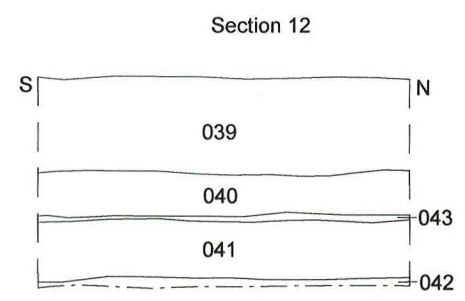
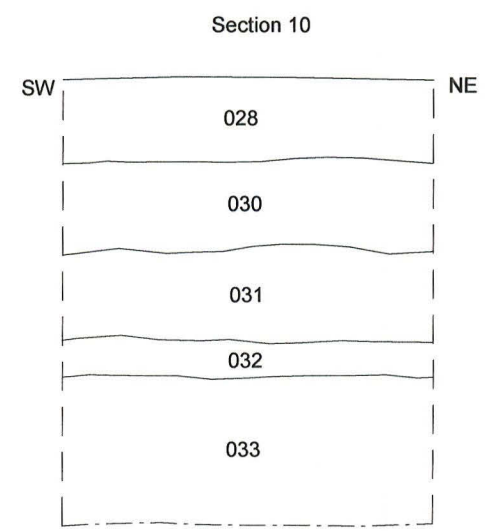
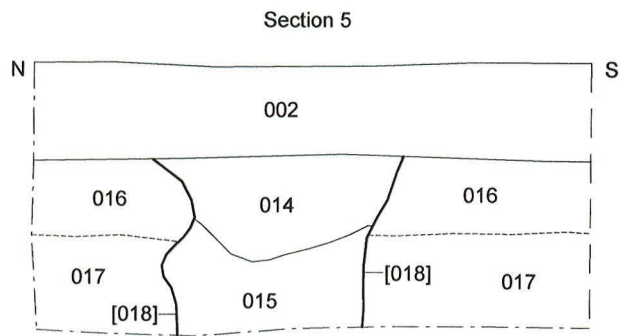


Figure 4 - Sections 1 - 4.

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Project Name: Boston Wyberton West Road BWW00		
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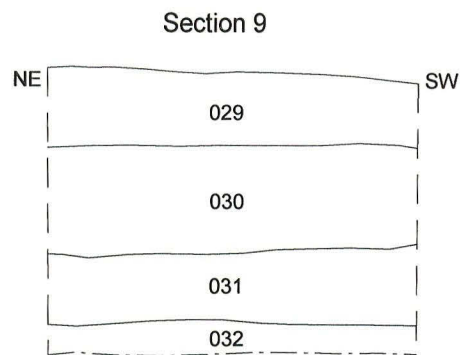
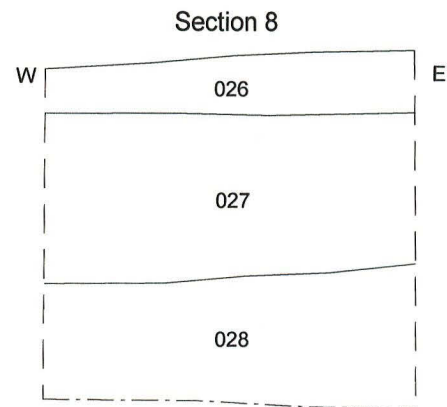
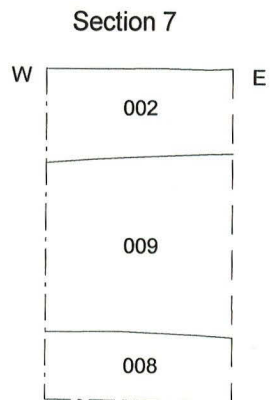
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Project Name: Boston Wyberton West Road BWW00		
Scale: 1:20	Drawn by: VM	Report No: 63/02

Figure 5 - Sections 5, 10 and 12




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Project Name: Boston Wyberton West Road BWW00		
Scale: 1:20	Drawn by: VM	Report No: 63/02

Figure 6 - Sections 7-9

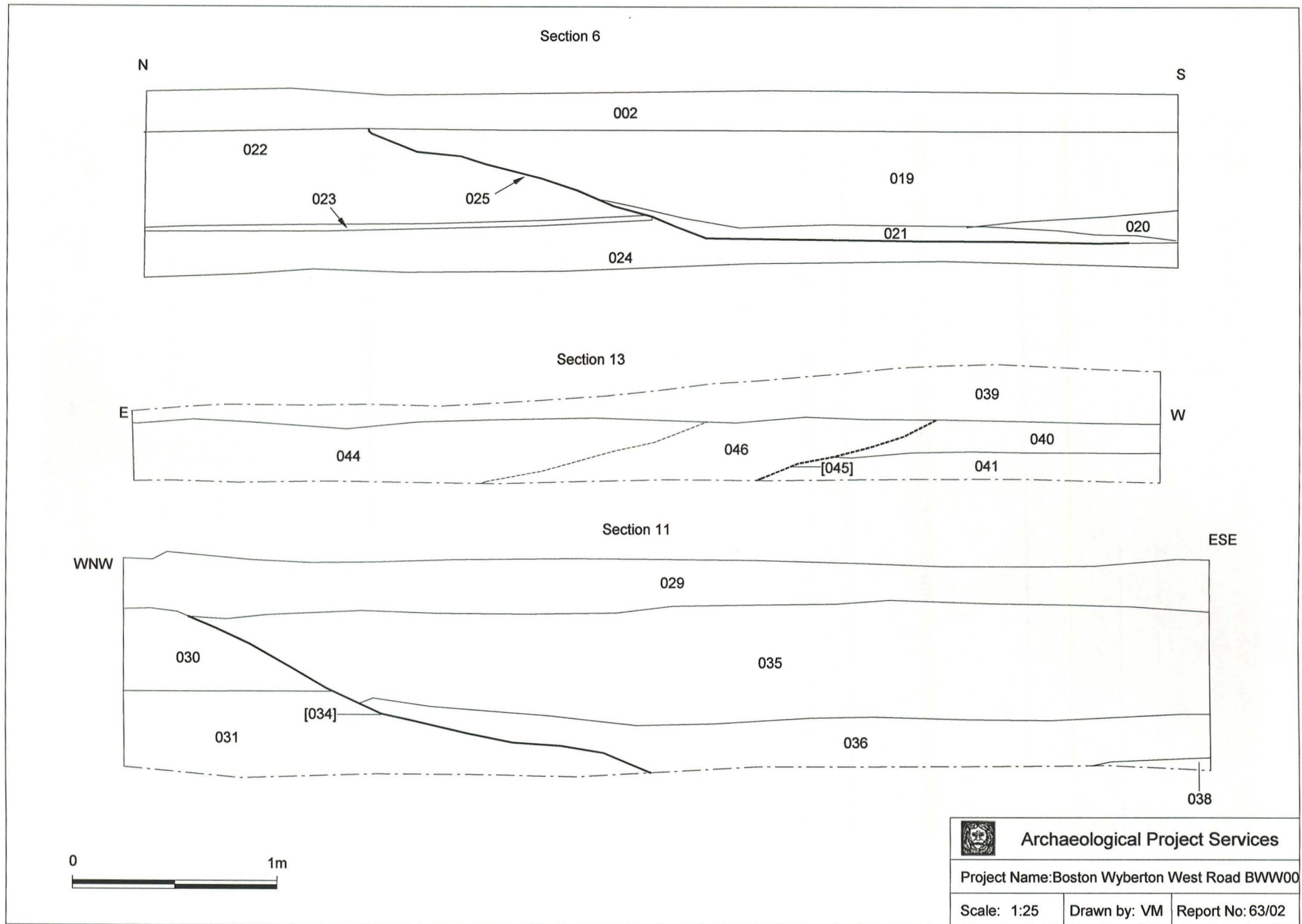
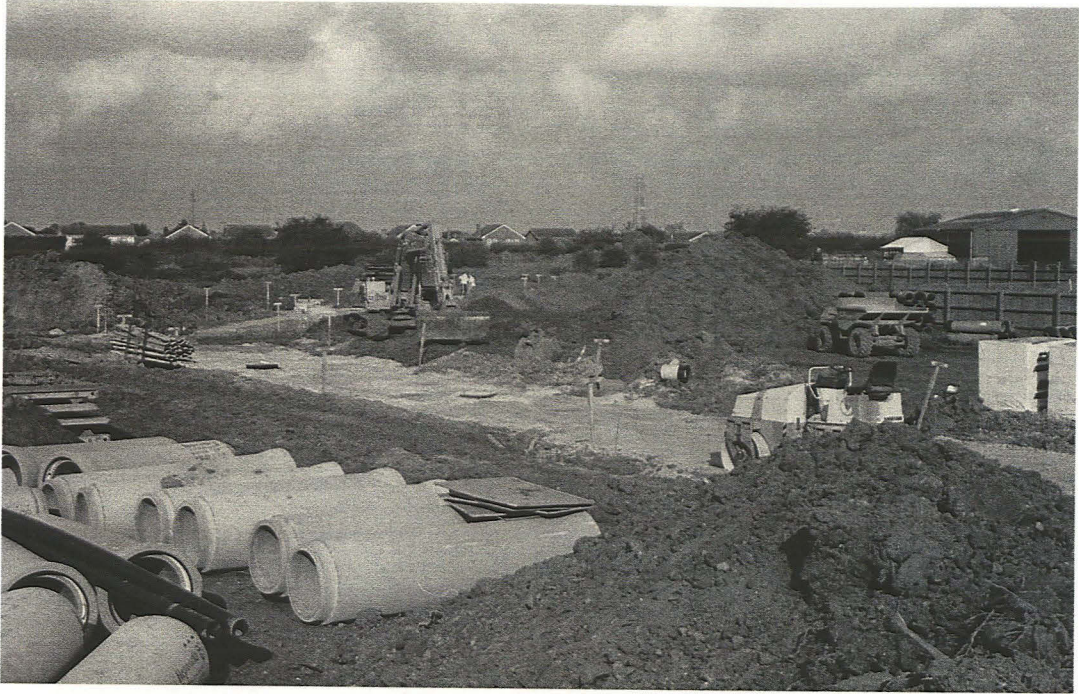


Figure 7 - Sections 6, 11 and 13



▲ Plate 1 General view
of site looking towards
Boston Stump



◀ Plate 2 Section 6,
looking northeast



Plate 3 Section 4, looking south



Plate 2 General view plot 24, looking north

Appendix 1

**LAND OFF
WYBERTON WEST ROAD
BOSTON,
LINCOLNSHIRE**

**SPECIFICATION FOR
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

**PREPARED FOR
ROBERT DOUGHTY CONSULTANCY**

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

OCTOBER 2000

1 **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 *An archaeological watching brief is required during residential development on land off Wyberton West Road, Boston, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The development area was subject to an desk-based assessment which identified archaeological sites in the vicinity of the site, including cropmarks and pottery dating from the Iron Age and Roman periods.*
- 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 at Wyberton West Road, Boston, Lincolnshire.
- 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 45km southeast of Lincoln and 7km from the northwest coast of The Wash, in the fens of south Lincolnshire. The site is located on the southern edge of Boston between Wyberton West Road and the South Forty Foot Drain at national grid reference TF 318 430.

4 **PLANNING BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment was carried out at the site to provide information to assist the determination of a planning application for development at the site. Full planning permission (B/99/0467) has been granted subject to a condition requiring an archaeological watching brief during any groundworks associated with the development.

5 **SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY**

- 5.1 Local soils are likely to be the Tanvats Association typical alluvial gley soils and Wisbech Association, coarse silty calcareous soil, overlying marine alluvium (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 319, 361). The site lies at approximately 2m OD.

6 **THE ARCHAEOLOGY**

- 6.1 Little is currently known about Boston in the prehistoric and Roman periods; the archaeological remains from these periods are often deeply buried under alluvial deposits and silts. During the medieval period Boston was a major port and an international market/trading centre.

- y
- 6.2 The site is located on Wyberton Road West, on the southern edge of the present town. A desk-based assessment (JSAC 1999) identified a number of archaeological sites in the vicinity of the development area. Iron Age and Roman pottery has been recovered in the area. Cropmarks identified to the north and west of the site may date from the Iron Age and Roman periods. To the east of the proposed development there is a moated site (a Scheduled Monument, County Number 48).
- 6.3 Due to the evidence for sites of Iron Age / Roman date in the vicinity of the proposed development it is thought that the groundworks may disturb archaeological remains.

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. Features 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:

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

8.2.4.1 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 required by the development. Should such excavation prove necessary the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department, archaeological curator, coroner and the police will be informed, as 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:

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 investigation.

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

investigation 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 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 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 Community Archaeologist of Boston Borough Council. They will be given seven days notice in writing before the commencement of the project.

14 VARIATIONS

14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.

15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

15.1 The watching brief will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the archaeological site work.

15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.

- 15.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one person-day) will require a post-excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half person-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about four days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

16 CONTINGENCIES

- 16.1 Should important archaeological remains be discovered during the watching brief then consultation will be undertaken with the archaeological curator and client to ensure adequate provision is made for a suitable level of recording and post-excavation analysis.
- 16.2 Any requirement for additional recording and analysis beyond the scope of the watching brief would only be enacted following consultation with the client and archaeological curator.

17 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

- 17.1 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

18 INSURANCES

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

19 COPYRIGHT

- 19.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides

an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

19.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.

19.3 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.

19.4 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.

20 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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ABBREVIATIONS

JSAC John Samuels Archaeological Consultants

Specification: Version 1, 13th October 2000.

Appendix 2

Context Summary

Context No.	Area	Section	Description	Interpretation
001	Drain	1	Moderately compact mottled light brown, dark grey-brown and dark brown sandy silt containing moderate building debris, 0.5m thick	Dumped deposit
002	Drain	1	Moderately compact dark grey-brown clayey silt, c. 0.3m thick	Topsoil
003	Drain	1	Moderately compact mixed mid-grey, mid grey-brown and yellow grey clayey silt	Fill of 004
004	Drain	1	0.4m wide x 0.25m deep vertical cut, concave sides and base	Probable post hole
005	Drain	1	Moderately compact mid grey-brown clayey silt, 0.15m thick	Subsoil
006	Drain	1	Firm, mid-brown clayey silt, greater than 0.13m thick	Natural geological deposit
007	Plot 38	2	Moderately compact, mid-brown clayey silt, 0.25m thick	Subsoil
008	Plot 38	2	Moderately compact, mottled light grey and light reddish brown clayey silt, greater than 100mm thick	Natural geological deposit
009	Plots 3 & 5	3	Firm, mid orange-brown clayey silt, 0.45m thick	Subsoil
010	Plot 4	4	Soft, mid-brown silt, 0.25m thick	Natural geological deposit
011	Plot 4	4	Soft, mid-grey, silt, 70mm thick	Natural geological deposit
012	Plot 4	4	Soft, mixed mid-brown and yellow brown silt, 0.16m thick	Natural geological deposit
013	Plot 4	4	Firm, mid-greyish brown clayey silt	Natural geological deposit
014	Plot 4	5	Firm, mid-dark brown silt, 0.27m thick	Fill of 018
015	Plot 4	5	Soft, mid-brown silt, minimum 0.25m thick	Fill of 018
016	Plot 4	5	Soft, light brown silt, 0.20m thick	Natural geological deposit
017	Plot 4	5	Soft, light brown silt, minimum 0.25m thick	Natural geological deposit
018	Plot 4	5	Sub-circular cut, 0.45m deep, 0.55m wide, vertical sides	Modern construction feature

019	Garage – Plot 2	6	Firm, mid-greyish brown with light brown and mid-grey mottling, silt. 0.44m thick containing charcoal flecks and patches of burnt silt	Fill of 025
020	Garage – Plot 2	6	Soft, light grey silt containing occasional charcoal fragments, 80mm thick	Fill of 025
021	Garage – Plot 2	6	Soft, black silt, 80mm thick containing fragments of burnt/fired silt	Fill of 025
022	Garage – Plot 2	6	Soft, light brown silt, 0.44m thick	Natural geological deposit
023	Garage – Plot 2	6	Firm, mid-grey clayey silt, 0.30m thick	Natural geological deposit
024	Garage – Plot 2	6	Firm, mid-grey clayey silt, minimum 0.25m thick	Natural geological deposit
025	Garage – Plot 2	6	Linear cut, 4.9m long x 0.70m wide x 0.50m deep. Gradually sloping sides, quite flat base, generally North-South oriented	Pit
026	Plot 23	8	Moderately compact dark brown silt	Topsoil
027	Plot 23	8	Moderately compact mid-brownish yellow silt and sand, 0.44m thick	Subsoil
028	Plot 23	8	Firm, light grey silty clay, minimum 0.38m thick	Natural geological deposit
029	Plots 26 & 24	9,10,11	Dark greyish brown silty clay, 0.24m thick	Topsoil
030	Plots 26 & 24	9,10,11	Friable, mid-reddish brown clayey silt, 0.30m thick	Subsoil
031	Plots 26 & 24	9,10,11	Firm, bluish grey clay, 0.25m thick	Natural geological deposit
032	Plot 26	9,10	Firm, dark reddish brown silty clay, 100mm thick	Natural geological deposit
033	Plot 26	10	Friable, dark reddish brown clayey silt, minimum 0.4m thick	Natural geological deposit
034	Plot 24	11	Linear cut, 6m wide, greater than 10m long and 0.75m deep, E-W orientation	Ditch
035	Plot 24	11	Dark brown silty clay, 0.52m thick containing occasional gravel	Fill of 034
036	Plot 24	11	Friable, dark brown clayey silt, 0.30m thick	Fill of 034
037	Plot 24	-	Mottled grey-brown to bluish grey silty clay, Minimum 1m thick	Redeposited natural soils

038	Plot 24	11	Mid-brown silty clay, minimum 100mm thick	Fill of 034
039	Garage - Plots 11/12	12	Firm, dark brown silt, 0.25m thick	Topsoil
040	Garage - Plots 11/12	12	Firm, light brown clayey silt, 0.12m thick	Subsoil
041	Garage - Plots 11/12	12	Soft, light bluish grey sandy silt, 0.16m thick	Natural geological deposit
042	Garage - Plots 11/12	12	Soft, light grey-brown sandy silt	Natural geological deposit
043	Garage - Plots 11/12	12	Soft, dark grey sandy silt, 10mm thick	Organic residue
044	Garage - Plots 11/12	13	Firm, mid-reddish brown clayey silt	Fill of 045
045	Garage - Plots 11/12	13	Indeterminate shaped cut, 6m x 2.7m, NNE-SSW orientation	Probable ditch
046	Garage - Plots 11/12	13	Firm, dark brown clayey silt, minimum 0.15m thick	Fill of 045

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

*Paul Cope-Faulkner,
Tom Lane and Gary Taylor*

Provenance

The material was recovered from the fills of a pit (019, 021) a ditch fill (046) and subsoil (030).

The single tile fragment is likely to be a relatively local product of the Boston area.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Burnt clay is the main component of the small assemblage.

Table 1: The Artefacts

Context	Description	No.	Wt(g)	Context Date
019	Pieces of amorphous fired silty clay. Sizes variable, the largest 35 x 28 x 10mm, the smallest 14 x 9 x 4mm. Four pieces are light reddy brown in colour and have minor inclusions of chopped vegetation. Three small pieces are grey in colour with no visible inclusions.	7	31	
021	Pieces of amorphous fired clay. Both grey coloured. Max dimensions 30 x 25 x 13mm and 41 x 23 x 18mm. The larger piece has a much sandier fabric than other fired clay from the site.	2	21	
030	Ceramic tile, gritty fabric, reduced core, 12mm thick, abraded	1	14	medieval

The piece of medieval tile is likely to have been introduced to the area in manuring scatter.

None of the pieces of fired clay have smoothed edges and no function for the pieces can be suggested. They are not particularly well fired and are unlikely to have been part of a substantial heating structure.

Table 2: The Faunal Remains

Context	Species	Bone	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
019	Cattle sized	phalange	1	6	fragment, worn and eroded
	Cattle sized	skull	1	6	
046	Sheep sized	unidentified	1	8	shaft fragment

The cattle phalange from (019) is very chalky and eroded.

Condition

Much of the material is abraded but in otherwise good condition and present no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the collection is by material class.

Documentation

There have been a number of previous archaeological investigations at Boston which are the subjects of reports. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the Boston Community Archaeologist and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

In general, the assemblage is of limited local significance. The dearth of artefacts suggests that the site has not been inhabited but probably served an agricultural purpose in the past.

Appendix 4

GLOSSARY

Alluvial	Sediments or soils deposited by the action of water
Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Iron Age	A period characterised by the introduction of iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
Layer	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

Appendix 5

The Archive

The archive consists of:

- 46 Context records
- 2 Drawing sheets
- 9 Daily record sheets
- 3 Context record sheet
- 1 Section record sheet
- 1 Plan record sheet
- 1 Photographic record sheet
- 1 Stratigraphic matrix
- 1 Bag of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Sleaford
Lincolnshire
NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Lincolnshire City and County Museum
12 Friars Lane
Lincoln
LN2 1HQ

The archive will be deposited in accordance with the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives*, produced by the Lincolnshire City and County Museum.

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number: 2000.269

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: BWWA00

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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