ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON LAND AT
THE OLD RECTORY,
PINFOLD LANE,
BEESBY, Saldy with The
LINCOLNSHIRE.
(BPL01)



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(BPL01)

Work Undertaken For Beesby Estates Limited

April 2002

Report Compiled by Steve Thomson BSc (Hons) PIFA

National Grid Reference: TF 4636 8020 Planning Reference: N/143/1769/00 City and County Museum Accession No. 2001.138

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 74/02

Conservation Services

1 9 APR 2002

Highways & Planning Directorate

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#### 1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during residential development on land at The Old Rectory, Pinfold Lane, Beesby, Lincolnshire. The site is archaeologically sensitive, located adjacent to the medieval church and near to earthwork remains of the medieval settlement.

Post-medieval occupation of the site was identified in the form of a ditch, well, yard surface and possible pond. A single, residual sherd of medieval pottery was the earliest artefact recovered with no archaeological deposits earlier than the 18<sup>th</sup> century 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 Beesby Estates Limited, to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with residential development on land at The Old Rectory, Pinfold Lane, Beesby, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application N/143/1769/00 to East Lindsey District Council.

The Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section requested further information, in the form of a desk-based study, to assist determination of the application (Cope-Faulkner 2001). Subsequently, planning permission was granted subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief during groundworks.

The watching brief was carried out between the 18<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> June 2001, in accordance with a specification designed by APS (Appendix 1) and approved by the Built Environment Team, Lincolnshire County Council.

#### 2.3 Topography and Geology

Beesby is located 15km southeast of Louth and 20km northwest of Skegness in the administrative district of East Lindsey, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The proposed development area is located just to the east of the present hamlet and immediately west of St. Andrew's parish church (Fig. 2). The site is centred on National Grid Reference TF 4636 8020 and is situated at a height of 7.6m OD. The land is generally level.

Local soils at the site are of the Holderness Association, typically coarse loamy soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 214). These soils are above a drift geology of chalky boulder clay which in turn overlie a solid geology of Cretaceous Chalk (BGS 1996).

#### 2.4 Archaeological Setting

No evidence of the Prehistoric, Romano-British or Saxon periods is known in Beesby. The village is first mentioned in the Domesday survey of c.1086, confirming it was in existence by the Late Saxon period.

Referred to as *Besebi* and *Bizebi* the name is derived from Old Danish and means 'the settlement of *Besi*' (Cameron 1998, 12).

At the time of the Domesday Survey, the land was owned by Count Alan, Gilbert de Gand and Gocelin, son of Lanbert, and contained 180 acres of underwood and 90 acres of meadow (Foster and Longley 1976). It may also have had a church, although the reference is not clear as to whether this was located in Maltby le Marsh (*ibid.*).

The site lies adjacent to the present church (Fig. 2 No.1). The earliest parts of the church, dedicated to St. Peter, date to the 13<sup>th</sup> century. It contains a 13<sup>th</sup> century chancel arch and grave slab and a 14<sup>th</sup> century font base (DoE 1986, 30). However, the church was substantially rebuilt in 1841 (White 1856, 497). In addition to the church there was a chapel in the parish, which was licensed in 1315 (Owen 1975, 16). The location of this chapel is unknown.

Beesby was once a larger village with additional foci of settlement to the north and south (Fig. 2 Nos. 2 & 3). The remains of ridge and furrow agriculture are also located to the east of the development area (Fig. 2).

To the north of the site is a recently restored mud and stud cottage of the 17<sup>th</sup> century (Cousins 2000, 32) (Fig. 2 No.4). Examination of cartographic evidence, undertaken as part of a desk-top assessment of the site, revealed evidence of buildings located on the site on the 1841 tithe map (Cope-Faulkner 2001).

#### 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

The ground was reduced and levelled, following which foundation trenches for a dwelling and garage were excavated using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a 0.60m wide, toothed bucket, to 1m depth. Soil stripping for an access road was completed using a 1.2m wide ditching bucket.

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, two phases were identified;

- 5.1 Phase 1 Natural deposits
- 5.2 Phase 2 Post-medieval and Modern deposits

#### 5.1 Natural deposits

The earliest deposit encountered during the course of the watching brief comprised a firm, mid-yellowish orange-brown clayey silt (003) which represented natural geological deposition.

# 5.2 Post-medieval and Modern deposits

Overlying (003) was a mid-yellowish brown silt (002) containing occasional roots, pebbles and coal fragments. This 0.30m thick layer was identified as a subsoil.

Cut into the natural and located in the northeast corner of the garage footings was an indeterminately shaped feature (009) (Fig. 6 - Sections 2 and 3) greater than 2.5m wide east-west and 6m wide north-south. The western edge sloped steeply with a gradual slope to the southern edge. The feature was interpreted as a possible pond and contained a mid-grey silt (008) and a dark grey silt (007) which appeared to be naturally silted fills. A sherd of pottery of 18th century date was recovered from (007). A series of dumped fills, (004, 005, 006, 010, 011) sealed the naturally silted deposits.

Also cutting the natural and located to the north of the house footings (Fig. 4) was a linear cut (018), 1.6m wide and greater

than 6.82m long. The feature, which did not extend as far south as the house footings, was oriented north-south and interpreted as a possible ditch. A friable, dark brown fine sand and silt (013) formed the fill of the feature. A sherd of 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery and a small, abraded sherd of redeposited medieval pottery were recovered from (013).

Located towards the west of the house footings, a linear cut (016) 0.47m wide and 60mm deep was identified as a ditch (Fig.7 – Section 6). The ditch was oriented eastwest and appeared to terminate at its eastern end, though this may have been due to truncation by machining. Filling (016) was a soft, dark grey-brown clayey silt (017).

Cut into the natural (003), a 1.8m diameter stone and brick built well (014) was recorded (Fig. 4). The well was no longer in use and contained a backfill of firm, dark brown clay (015).

Within the garage footings, a midyellowish brown sandy silt (012) (Fig. 5), 0.20m thick and containing moderate pebbles and cobbles, was identified as a former yard surface.

Elsewhere across the site, though removed during reducing and levelling, was a dark brown silt topsoil (001).

#### 6. DISCUSSION

Phase 1 natural deposits were represented by a clayey silt which was identified across the entire site.

Post-medieval activity was evidenced by a ditch, well, yard surface and possible pond. Whilst no conclusive dating material was obtained from the pond, it is reasonable to suggest that it may be associated with gardens linked to earlier buildings identified on the site via

cartographic evidence. Similarly a former yard surface recorded within the garage footings may relate to post-medieval occupation of the site.

A well is recorded on the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map (Cope-Faulkner 2001) an it is possible that this may be the same well as identified during the current investigation. However the ditches identified during the watching brief do not relate to any of the boundaries shown on earlier maps.

An east-west ditch, truncated by machining, is also likely to represent a garden feature. However, the nature of the fill of the ditch suggests a relatively recent date.

A single sherd of medieval pottery was recovered during the investigation. This suggests that although the site is unlikely to have been occupied during this period, it perhaps existed as agricultural land, with occupation only occurring sometime during the 18<sup>th</sup> century..

#### 7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken on land at The Old Rectory, Pinfold Lane, Beesby, Lincolnshire as the site lay adjacent to the medieval church and in proximity to earthwork remains of the medieval settlement.

Post-medieval activity was evidenced in the form of ditches and a well in the location of the new dwelling, and a yard surface and possible pond in the new garage. A single, residual sherd of medieval pottery was the earliest artefact recovered with no archaeological deposits prior to the 18<sup>th</sup> century encountered.

#### 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr Jan Von Draczek of Beesby Estates Limited who commissioned the fieldwork and this report. The project was coordinated by Gary Taylor who edited this report with Tom Lane. Mark Bennet and Sarah Grundy kindly permitted access to the County Sites and Monuments Record. Dave Start kindly allowed access to the relevant parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

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# 10. ABBREVIATIONS

APS	Archaeological Project Services				
BGS	British Geological Survey				
DoE	Department of the Environment				
IFA	Institute of Field Archaeologists				
SMR	Sites and Monuments Record				



Figure 1: General Location Plan

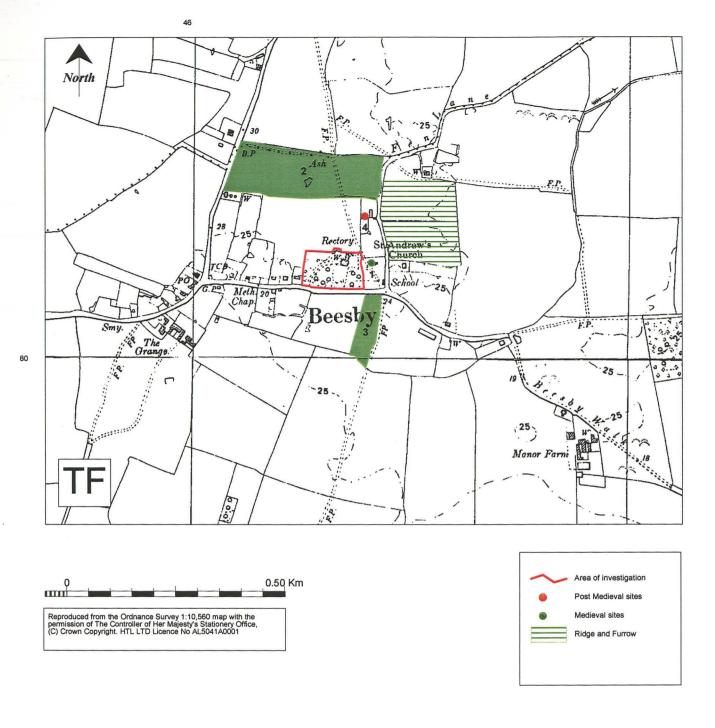


Figure 2 - Site Location Plan

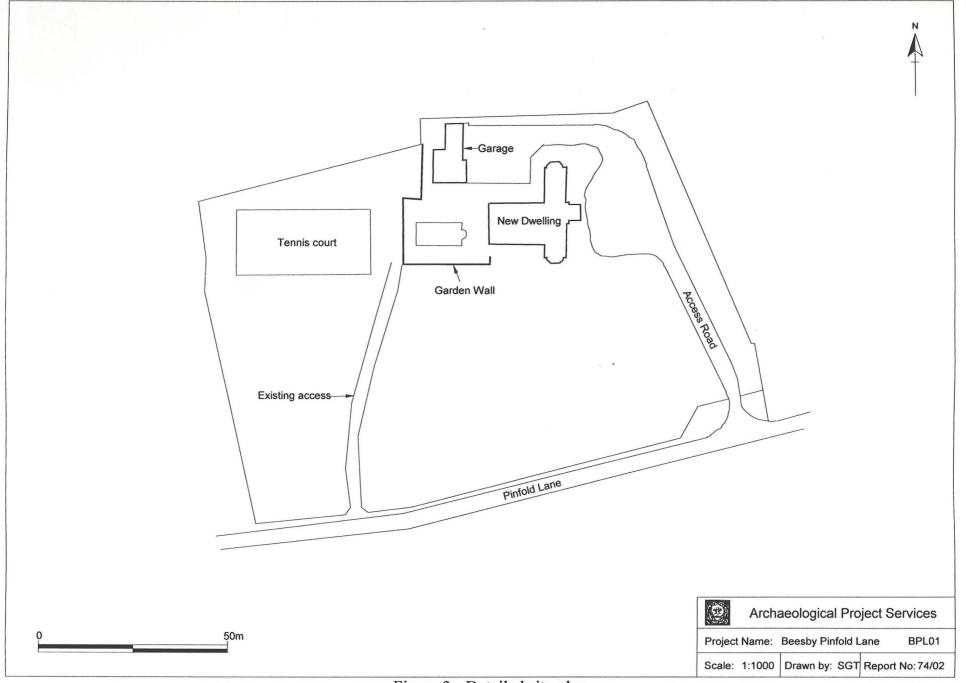


Figure 3 - Detailed site plan

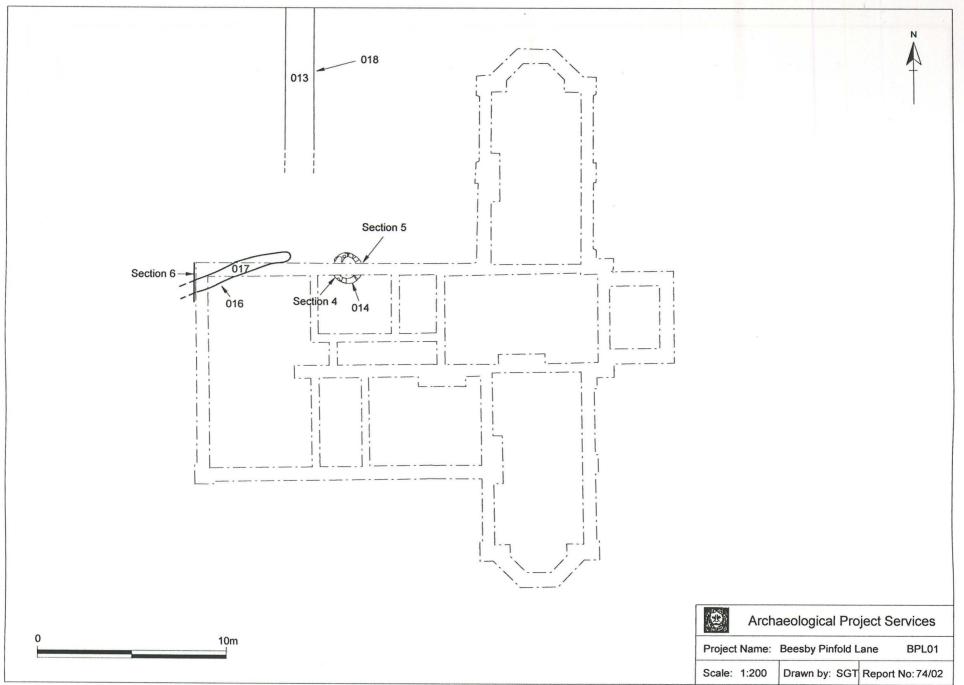


Figure 4 - House foundation plan showing features and section locations

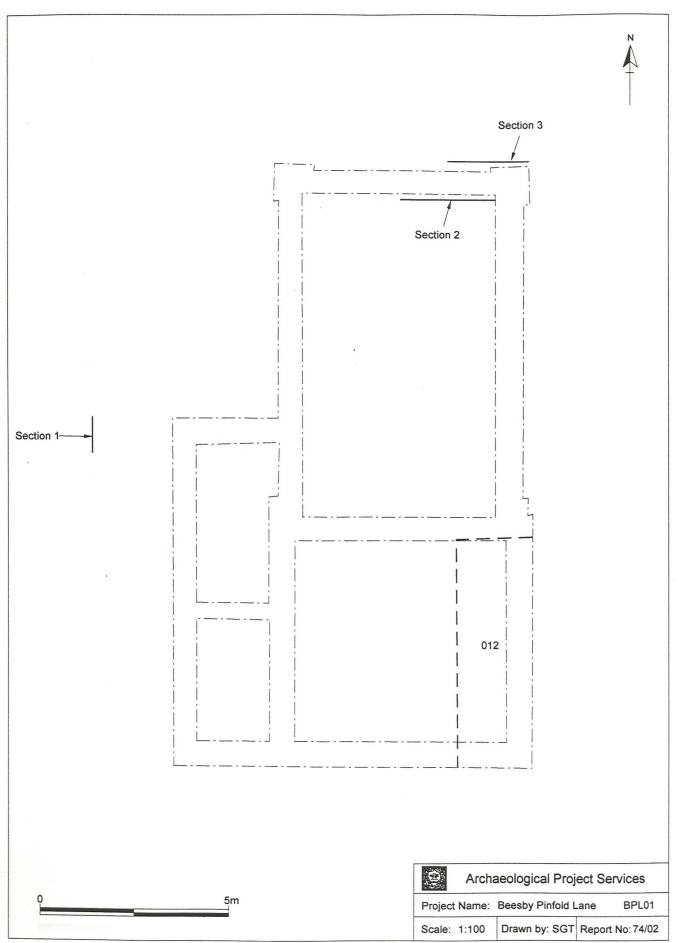
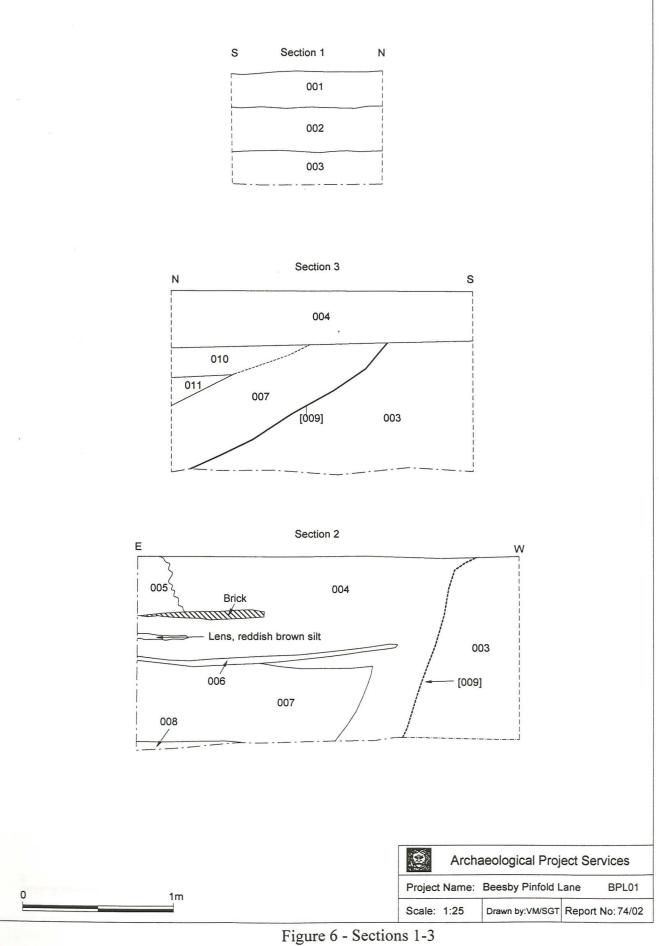


Figure 5 - Garage foundations showing features and section locations



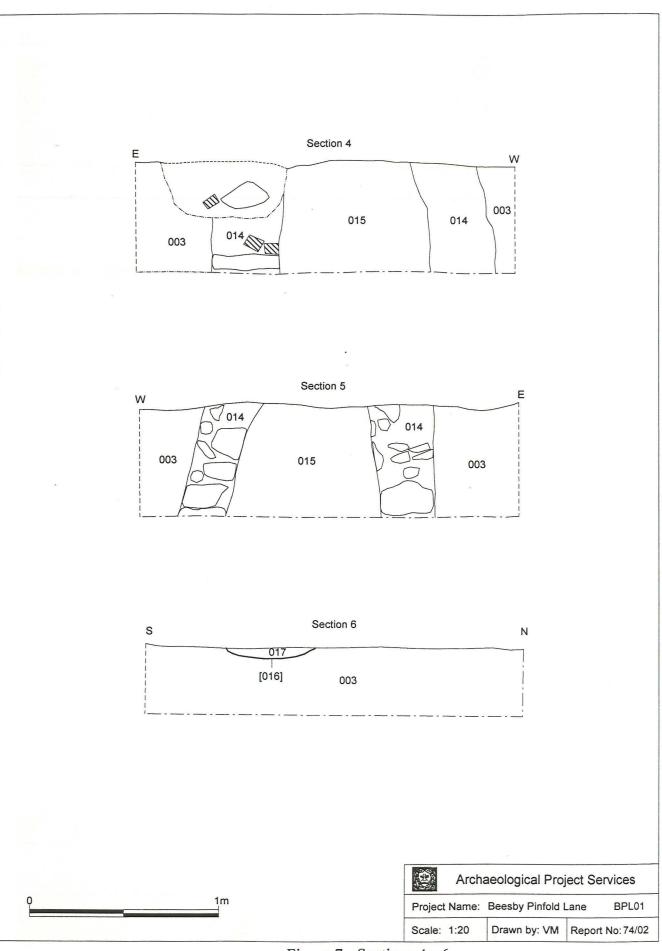


Figure 7 - Sections 4 - 6



Plate 1 General view of site showing remains of Old Rectory



Plate 2 Section 2 looking east



Plate 3 View of well (014) looking west

# LAND AT THE OLD RECTORY, PINFOLD LANE, BEESBY, LINCOLNSHIRE

# SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

PREPARED FOR BEESBY ESTATES LTD

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

**MARCH 2001** 

#### SUMMARY

- 1.1 A watching brief is required during residential development at the Old Rectory, Pinfold Lane, Beesby, Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The area is archaeologically sensitive, located adjacent to the medieval church and near to earthworks of probable medieval settlement remains.
- 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 residential development at the Old Rectory, Pinfold Lane, Beesby, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 4636 8020.
- 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 Beesby is located 15km south of Louth and 20km northwest of Skegness in the East Lindsey district of Lincolnshire. The works are to take place at the Old Rectory, Pinfold Lane, immediately west of the village church, at National Grid Reference TF 463336 8020.

#### 4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 A planning application (N/143/1769/00) was submitted to East Lindsey District Council for the proposed residential development of the site. The Lincolnshire County Archaeology Section requested further information, in the form of a desk-based study, to assist determination of the application. Subsequently, planning permission was granted subject to a condition requiring the

implementation of an archaeological watching brief during groundworks.

#### 5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 The site is on fairly level land at approximately 8m OD. Local soils are the Holderness Association coarse loamy soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984). These soils are developed in chalky boulder clay which overlies Cretaceous chalk.

# 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 There is no evidence of prehistoric, Roman or Saxon activity in the Beesby, though the placename is of Danish derivation and implies an Anglo-Scandinavian origin for the settlement. Also, Beesby is referred to in the Domesday Book of 1086, which confirms that the settlement was in existence in the Late Saxon period.
- 6.2 Immediately east of the development site is the parish church, which contains 13<sup>th</sup> fabric. To the north and south of the site are earthworks of probable medieval settlement remains. A 17<sup>th</sup> century cottage is located just to the northeast of the site and within the development area are earthworks of an elongated hollow, possibly a garden pond or perhaps a moat. Maps of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries show several buildings in the development area but only one of these, in the general location of the main Old Rectory building, was built prior to 1820. The present buildings on the site are mid-late 19<sup>th</sup> century and shown no evidence of incorporating earlier fabric (Cope-Faulkner 2001).

#### 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:
  - 8.2.4.1 the site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
  - 8.2.4.2 groups of features where their relationship is important
- 8.2.5 Should human remains be located 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:
  - 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 watching brief.
  - 9.3.2.3 Description of the topography of the site.
  - 9.3.2.4 Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.
  - 9.3.2.5 A text describing the findings of the watching brief.
  - 9.3.2.6 A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.
  - 9.3.2.7 Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological

deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.

- 9.3.2.8 Sections of the trenches and 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 Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section; and East Lindsey District Council Planning Department.

#### 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 Lincolnshire County Council Archaeological Officer. They will be given seven days notice in writing before 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.

- 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 - 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.
- 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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Specification: Version 1, 30-03-01

# Context Summary

Context No.	Section	Description	Interpretation	
001	1	Friable, dark brown silt containing occasional charcoal fragments, mortar and bricks, 0.25m thick	Topsoil	
002	1	Moderately compact mid-yellowish brown silt containing occasional pebbles and coal fragments, 0.3m thick	Subsoil	
003	1	Firm, mid-yellowish orange brown clayey silt	Natural geological deposit	
004	2	Soft, mid-yellowish brown silt containing frequent grit, occasional brick, chalk and mortar fragments	Dumped deposit	
005	2	Soft, white mortar, 0.4m thick	Fill of 009	
006	2	Moderately compact, dark brown organic material, 30-50mm thick	Organic lens – fill of 009	
007	2	Soft, dark grey silt, 0.5m thick	Fill of 009	
008	2	Moderately compact mid-grey silt	Fill of 009	
009	2,3	Indeterminately shaped cut, greater than 2.5m E-W 6m N-S	Possible pond	
010	3	Moderately compact mid-yellowish brown sandy silt	Fill of 009	
011	3	Moderately compact mid-greyish brown silt	Fill of 009	
012	-	Moderately compact, mid-yellowish brown sandy silt containing moderate pebbles and cobbles	Former yard surface	
013	-	Friable, dark brown sand and silt, containing occasional charcoal, coal, brick, tile pebbles and small limestone lumps	Fill of 018	
014	4,5	Circular, stone and brick feature. Dry bonded, 1.8m diameter, 0.2m thick greater than 0.6m high	Well	
015	4,5	Firm, dark brown clay containing occasional limestone flecks	Fill of 014	
016	6	Linear cut, 0.47m wide x 60mm deep, E-W orientation	Garden ditch	
017	6	Soft, dark grey-brown clayey silt	Fill of 016	
018	-	Linear cut, greater than 6.82m long x 1.6m wide N-S orientation	Probable ditch	

# THE FINDS by Hilary Healey and Gary Taylor

Recording of the pottery was undertaken with reference to guidelines prepared by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (Slowikowski *et al.* 2001) and the pottery was quantified using the chronology and coding system of the Lincolnshire ceramic type series. A total of 3 fragments of pottery weighing 468g and each representing a separate vessel was recovered from 2 contexts. No other artefacts nor faunal remains were recovered.

#### Provenance

The material was recovered from a pit fill (007) and a stony surface (013).

#### Range

The range of material is detailed in the table.

A single fragment of pottery of probable 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>h</sup> century date is the earliest material recovered, though the remainder of the small assemblage is later, probably dating from the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
007	GRE	Glazed red earthenware, barrel- shaped vessel	1	452g	18 <sup>th</sup> century
013	BS	Salt-glazed stoneware, 18 <sup>th</sup> century	1	13g	18 <sup>th</sup> century
		Medieval sherd	1	3g	

#### Condition

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

#### Documentation

There has been limited previous archaeological investigation at Beesby, though the present examination site was the subject of desk-based study of the archaeological and historical background and potential of the area (Cope-Faulkner 2001). Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

#### Potential

As a small and predominantly post-medieval collection, the assemblage is of limited local significance. The single medieval sherd is likely to have entered the area as a component of manuring scatter. The post-medieval artefacts probably relate to the use of the site in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The near-absence of any material earlier than the 18<sup>th</sup> century is informative and suggests that archaeological deposits dating prior to this are absent from the area, or were not disturbed by the development.

#### References

Cope-Faulkner, P., 2001 Desk-top Assessment of the Archaeological Implications of Proposed Development of land at the Old Rectory, Pinfold Lane, Beesby, Lincolnshire (BPL01), unpublished Archaeological Project Services report no. 1/01

Slowikowski, A., Nenk, B. and Pearce, J., 2001 Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2

#### **GLOSSARY**

Context

An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, *e.g.* (004).

Cropmark

A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.

Cut

A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, etc. Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original cut is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.

**Dumped deposits** 

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

Fill

Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the cut are referred to as its fill(s).

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.

Saxon

Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.

#### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 18 Context records
- 5 Sheets of scale drawings
- 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 1HO

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 Museum Accession Number: LCNCC: 2001.138

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: BPL01

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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