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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT CHAPEL GATE
WHAPLODE DROVE
LINCOLNSHIRE
(WDC02)**

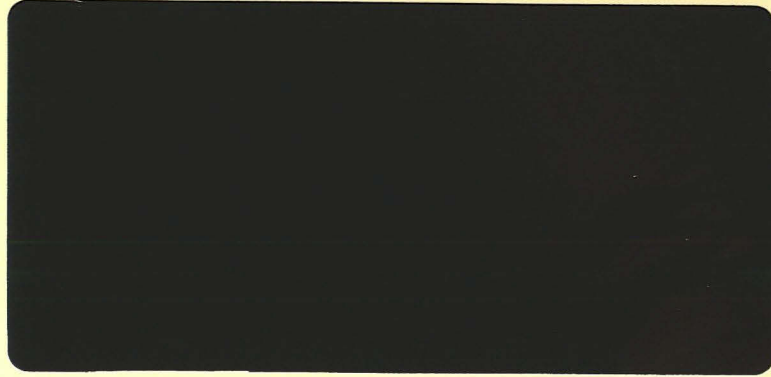


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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT CHAPEL GATE
WHAPLODE DROVE
LINCOLNSHIRE
(WDC02)**

Work Undertaken For
Mr J Atkins

April 2002

Report Compiled by
Tobin Rayner BSc (Hons), AIFA

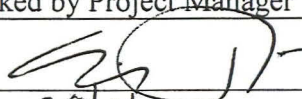

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Planning Reference: H23/1461/01
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APS Report No. 59/02

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| Date: 29/4/02 | Date: 30-04-02 |

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during groundworks associated with the construction of a dwelling at Chapel Gate, Whaplode Drove. A Roman settlement site is located within the vicinity and artefacts of the period have been found in close proximity.

The investigation identified undated and Romano-British ditches and pits that are probably associated with the known adjacent settlement. However, the dearth of artefacts suggests a peripheral setting.

Briquetage of the Romano-British period was recovered and suggests sea salt production was being carried out within the immediate vicinity.

A modern pit was also recorded and is associated with the recent land use.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as:

"...a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons within a specified area, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed." (IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

A watching brief was undertaken on the 18th and 19th March 2002 during the excavations of footings for a dwelling on land at Chapel Gate, Whaplode Drove, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application number H23/1461/01 to South Holland

District Council. Permission was granted subject to a condition for the implementation of a scheme of archaeological works.

The watching brief was commissioned by Mr J Atkins and carried out by Archaeological Project Services (APS) in accordance with a specification designed by APS (Appendix 1) and approved by the Built Environmental Officer, Lincolnshire County Council.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Whaplode Drove is located approximately 10km southeast of Spalding in the administrative district of South Holland, Lincolnshire. The site is in the northern part of the village, approximately 100m north of the church of St. John the Baptist, at national grid reference TF 320 137 (Figs. 1, 2 and 4).

Situated in The Fens of south Lincolnshire, the site and surrounding area is on fairly flat, level ground, lying at approximately 3m OD. Local soils are the Wisbech Association, calcareous alluvial gley soils on stoneless marine alluvium (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 361).

2.4 Archaeological Setting (Fig. 3)

A Roman building and cropmarks of one of the best-known and important Fenland Roman sites has been recorded in close proximity to the development area. Additionally, pottery of early 2nd-late 3rd century date, coins, brick, tile and a limestone altar are known from the vicinity. Sites with briquetage, residues from salt making, are common in the area (Hallam 1970).

After this period, Whaplode Drove became uninhabited and it was not until the succession of fen banks were built in the medieval period, in particularly Common

Dyke, that the fen land became re-occupied (Hallam 1954, 34-36).

The church of St. John the Baptist is located to the south of the investigation site (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 797). This was originally an Oratory belonging to Croyland Abbey before being re-consecrated on being rebuilt in 1821 (Spain 1995, 87).

The population of the hamlet of Whaplode Drove was 854 in 1856 and during this period contained several commercial properties including a post office, several inns, beer houses, blacksmiths, boot and shoemakers and butchers etc. (White 1856, 869).

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

Foundation trenches for the dwelling were excavated by mechanical excavator to a depth of up to 1.6m. The sections of the trenches were inspected and rendered vertical to identify archaeological deposits. Each deposit recorded during the investigation was allocated a unique reference number (Context Number) with an individual written description. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and plans at 1:20 and located on an annotated sketch plan. A photographic record was also compiled.

Records of deposits and features identified during the watching brief were examined

and a stratigraphic matrix was produced. Phasing was assigned on the nature of deposits and recognisable relationships between them, supplemented by artefact dating. A summary list of all contexts appears as Appendix 2.

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

5. RESULTS

Following post excavation analysis, four phases were identified:

- 5.1: Phase 1 Natural deposits
- 5.2: Phase 2 Undated deposits
- 5.3: Phase 3 Romano-British deposits
- 5.4: Phase 4 Modern deposits

5.1 Natural deposits (Figs. 5 and 6, Plates 2 - 4)

The earliest deposits encountered during the watching brief were a mottled mid grey / yellowish brown silty clay (023), in the northern half of the footings and a mid / light yellowish brown silt (006) to the south.

5.2 Undated deposits (Figs. 5 and 6, Plates 2 - 4)

Cutting the natural in the centre of the footings was an oval pit (005). Measuring at least 4m long x 2.35m wide x 0.60m deep, this feature contained a mid brown clayey silt (004).

In the northernmost footing was a sequence of undated features. A near vertical sided NE-SW ditch or pit (022) was recorded to the east and contained two clayey silt fills (020) and (021).

Immediately to the west was a poorly defined feature (019) that has been

interpreted as a pit. Measuring at least 0.65m wide x 0.35m deep, (019) was filled by a light grey clayey silt (018) that was truncated by a ditch or pit (015).

At the western end of the footing was a 15m+ long x 1.85m+ wide NE-SW linear feature (017). With a stepped concave side, this ditch or pit contained a 0.60m+ thick mid greyish brown clayey silt with rare to occasional ceramic building material that may have been briquetage. This was also cut by a ditch or pit (015).

5.3 Romano-British deposits (Figs. 5 and 6, Plates 2 - 4)

Located to the west of centre of the northern footing was a 15m+ long x 3.3m wide ditch or pit (015) containing a 0.90m+ thick sequence of tipped clayey silt deposits (008 - 014). Frequent briquetage (salt making material) was retrieved from fill (011).

5.4 Modern Deposits (Figs. 5 and 6, Plate 1 - 4)

Located in the southwest corner of the footings cutting the natural was a pit (003). Measuring at least 0.8m long x 2.1m wide x 0.6m deep this feature contained a mid to dark brown clayey silt (002) from which modern pottery, bone and ceramic building material was retrieved.

Sealing features (015) and (022) in the northern half of the footings was a 0.55m thick mid brown clayey silt subsoil (007).

Overlying the whole site was a 0.30m thick dark brown clayey silt (001) that represents the modern topsoil.

6. DISCUSSION

The earliest deposits (Phase 1) encountered during the watching brief are

typical of the area and are natural marine alluvial silts.

Undated Phase 2 ditches and / or pits are probably of Romano-British date. However, two of these features are stratigraphically earlier than the positively dated ditch or pit and may be Late Iron Age in date, although this is only a tentative suggestion.

The Romano-British ditch or pit (Phase 3) is probably associated with the adjacent known settlement of the period. The briquetage recovered from the feature suggests that sea salt production was being carried out within the immediate vicinity. Although this does not confirm their initial function, it does suggest that they were used for refuse when they went out of use.

Furthermore, the dearth of domestic Romano-British artefacts suggests that the development area is peripheral to the known settlement site and may imply an industrial setting

A modern pit, subsoil and topsoil (Phase 4) are associated with the previous land use of the development site as an area associated with an adjacent farm.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Chapel Gate, Whaplode Drove because a Roman settlement site is located within the vicinity and artefacts of the period have been found in close proximity

Undated and Romano-British ditches and pits were recorded and reaffirms the known activity of that period in the vicinity. Briquetage was recovered and suggests sea salt production was occurring in close proximity.

Modern features were recorded and are associated with the previous land use as farm land.

GSGB Geological Survey of Great Britain

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr and Mrs Wright who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The Dave Start kindly permitted access to the parish files and library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

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10. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

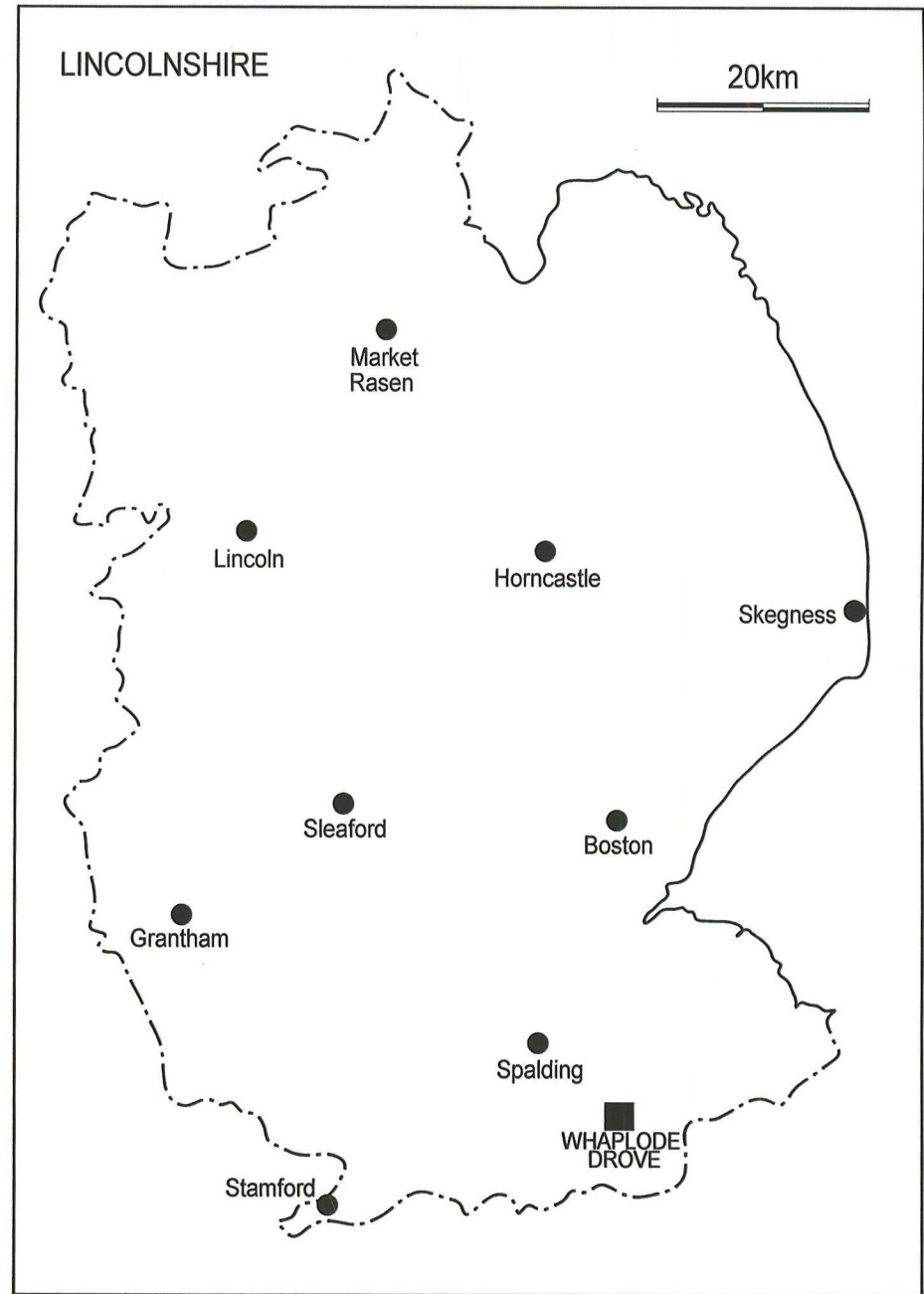
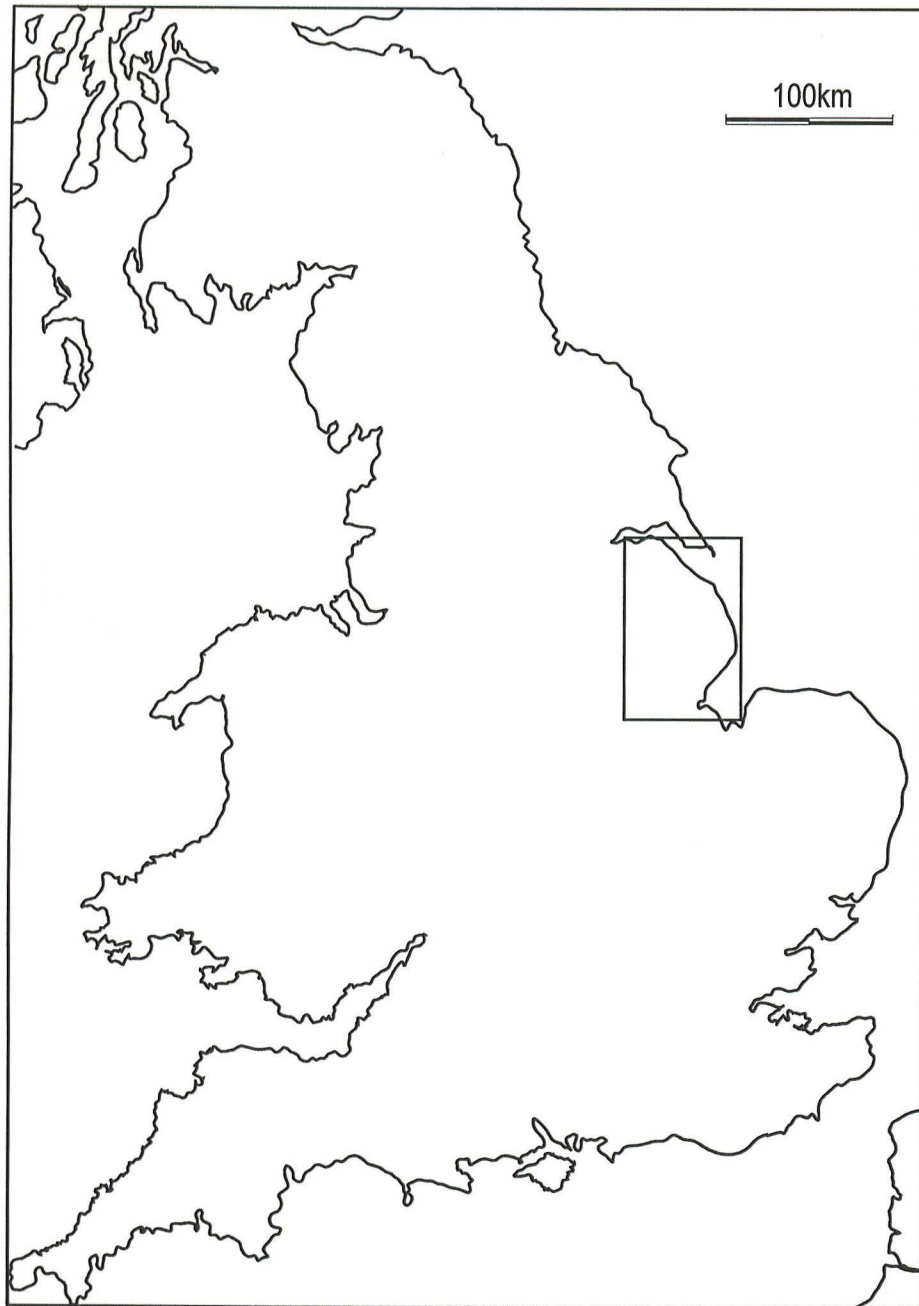


Figure 1: General location plan

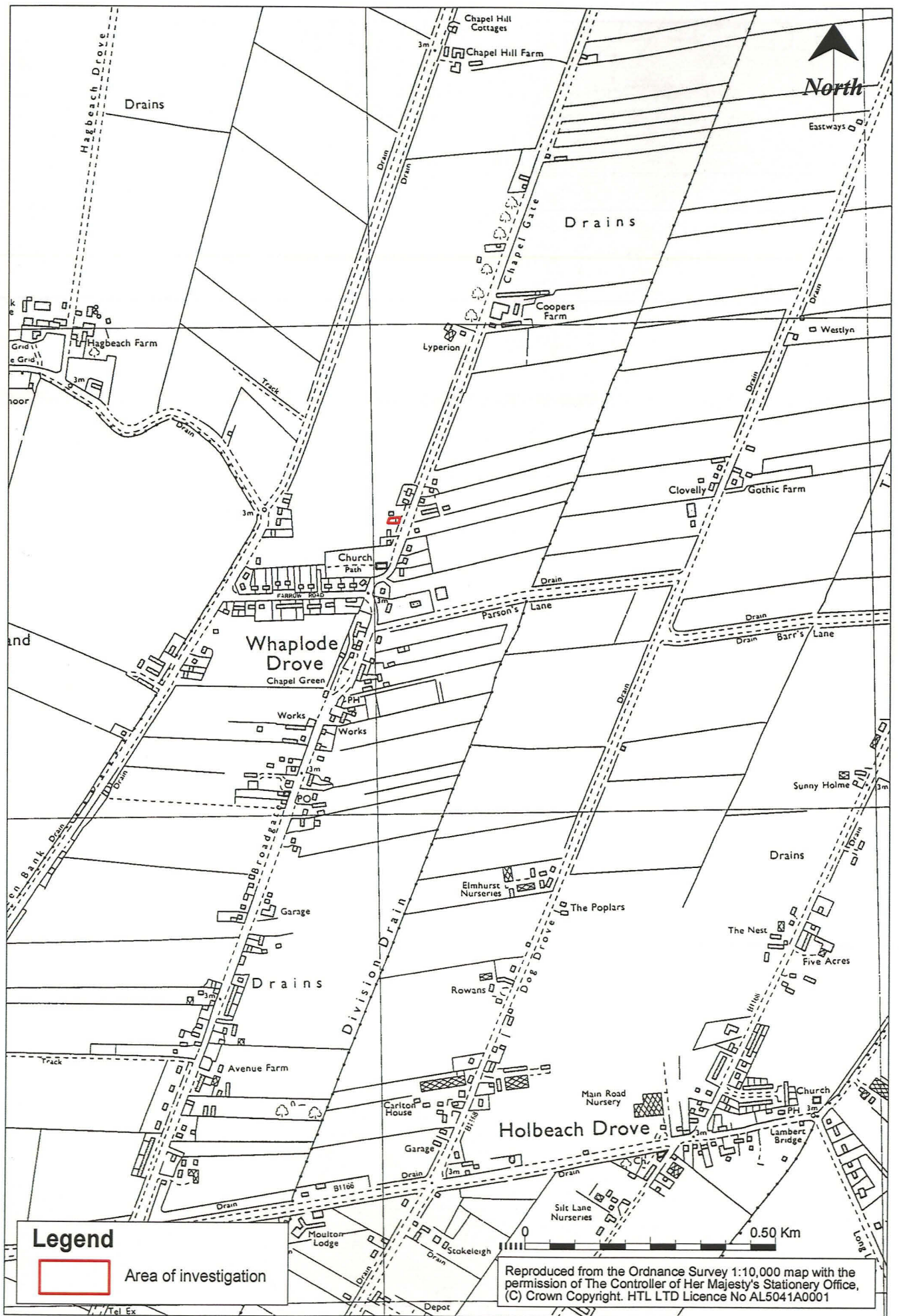


Figure 2: Location plan

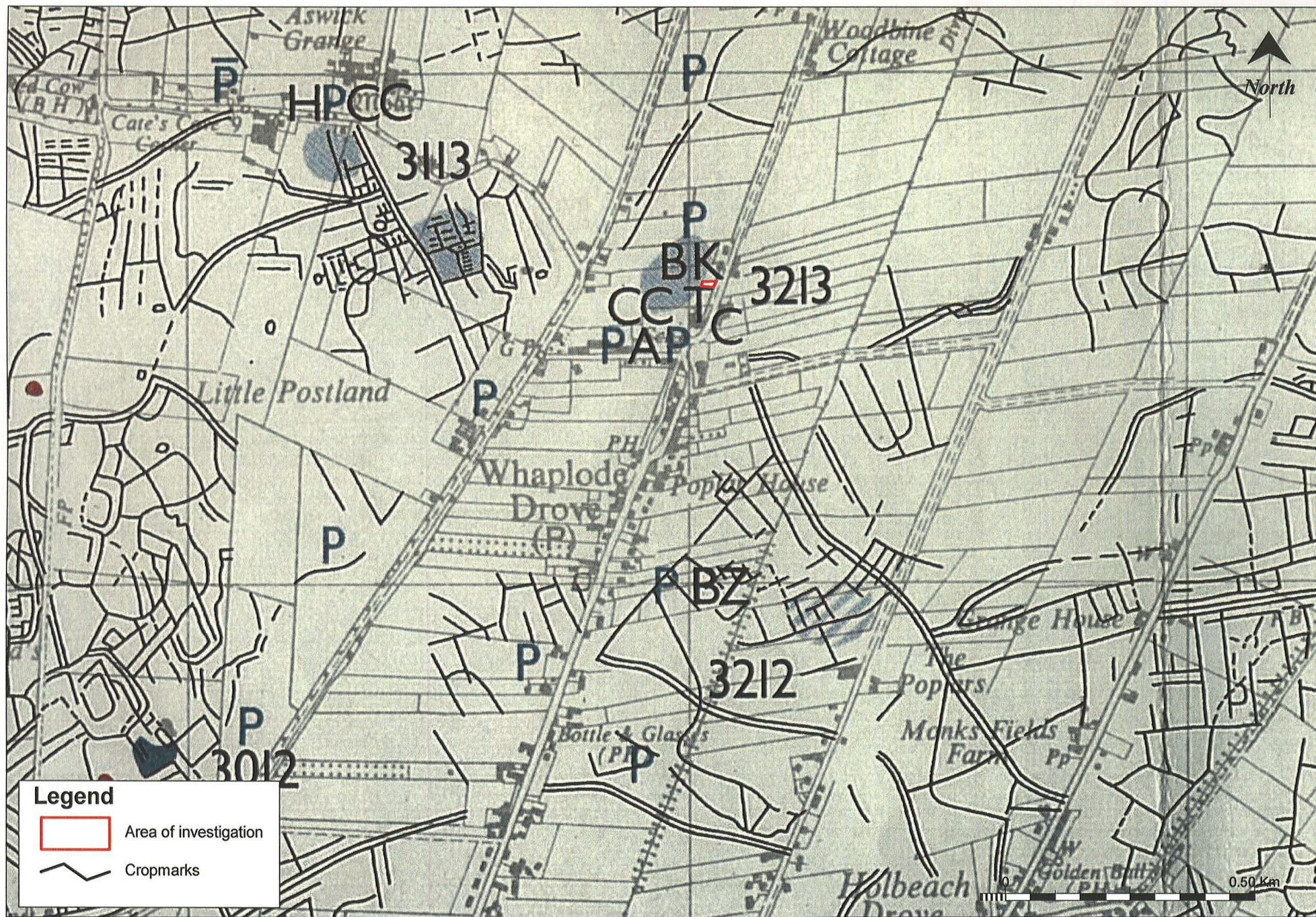
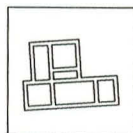


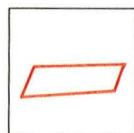
Figure 3: Location plan and archaeological setting (from Fenland in Roman Times)



0 50m



Footings



Area of investigation

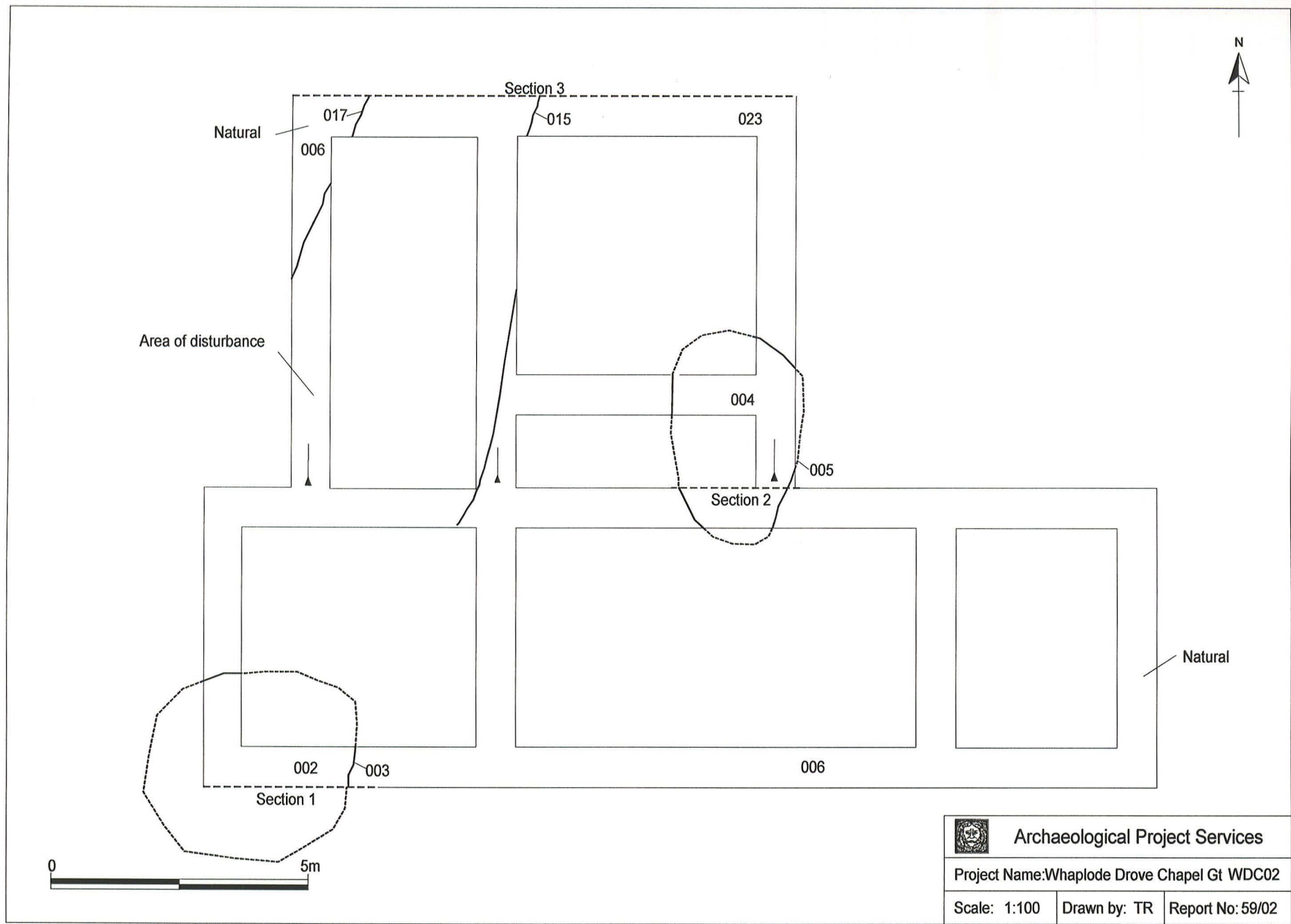


Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Whaplode Drove Chapel Gt WDC02

Scale: 1:1500 Drawn by: TR Report No: 59/02

Figure 4: Detailed location plan




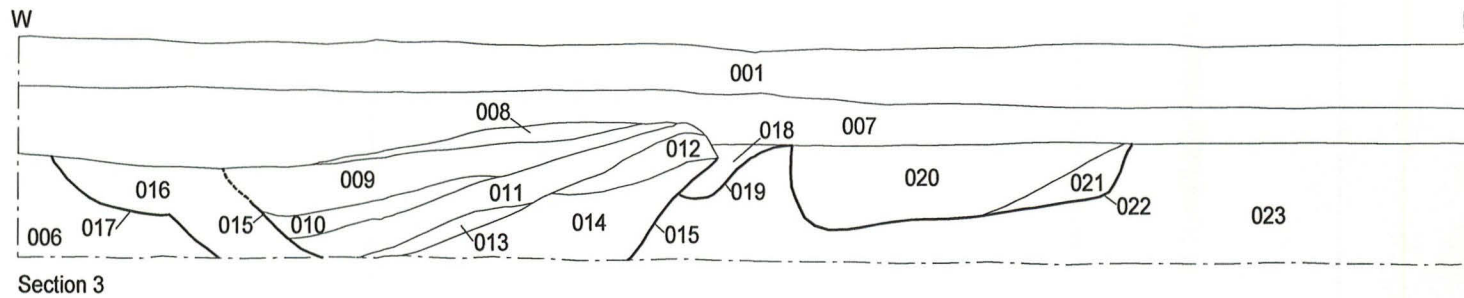
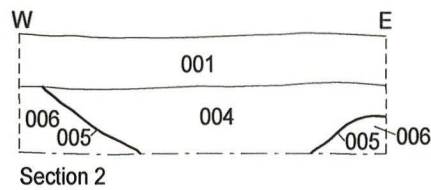
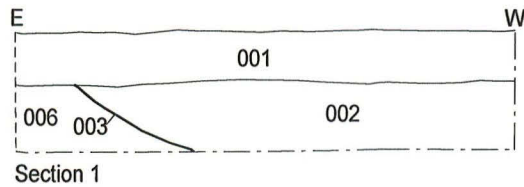
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Figure 5: Footings plan



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Whaplode Drove, Chapel Gt WDC02

Scale: 1:50

Drawn by: TR

Report No: 59/02

Figure 6: Sections



Plate 3: Detailed view of eastern half of Section 3, looking northeast



Plate 4: Detailed view of western half of SECTION 3, looking northwest



Plate 1: General view of site with work in progress, looking west



Plate 2: View of Section 3, looking northeast

Appendix 1

Specification for Archaeological Watching Brief on land at Chapel Gate, Whaplode Drove, Lincolnshire

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 A watching brief is required during the construction of an extension at Aswick Grange, Whaplode Drove, Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 There is a Roman settlement site in the vicinity of the site and Roman artefacts have been found in close proximity. A Roman building and a medieval grange are also located nearby.
- 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 findings of the work. 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 the construction of an extension at Chapel Gate, Whaplode Drove.
- 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 Whaplode Drove is located approximately 10km southeast of Spalding in the administrative district of South Holland, Lincolnshire. The site is in the northern part of the village, approximately 100m north of the church of St. John the Baptist, at national grid reference TF 320 137 (Figs 1 and 2).

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Planning permission (number H23/1461/01) for the construction of a 3 bedroom bungalow and garage has been granted by South Holland District Council, subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 Whaplode Drove is situated in the fens of south Lincolnshire. The site and surrounding area is on fairly flat and level land and lies at approximately 3m OD. Soils at the site are Wisbech Association calcareous alluvial gley soils on stoneless marine alluvium (Hodge et al. 1984, 361).

6 THE ARCHAEOLOGY

- 6.1 Cropmarks of probable Roman settlements and field systems have been recorded in close proximity to the site. Additionally, a Roman building is recorded nearby and artefacts of Roman date have been recovered in the vicinity of the development area.
- 6.2 Medieval remains also occur nearby, including moated grange. The nearby church of St. John the Baptist was built in 1821 but contains a Roman alter found in the area.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

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

8 SITE OPERATIONS

- 8.1 General considerations
 - 8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the watching brief.
 - 8.1.2 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.
 - 8.1.3 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.
- 8.2 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 The sections of the trenches will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The plans of the trench and features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Section drawings of the trenches and features will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. 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 consisting of colour prints 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 the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department and the police will be informed.

9 POST-EXCAVATION

9.1 Stage 1

9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued: the colour prints will be 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 description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.

9.3.2.2 Description of the topography of the site.

9.3.2.3 Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.

9.3.2.4 A text describing the findings of the watching brief.

9.3.2.5 A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.

9.3.2.6 Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.

9.3.2.7 Sections of the archaeological features.

9.3.2.8 Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.

9.3.2.9 Specialist reports on the finds from the site.

9.3.2.10 Appropriate photographs of specific archaeological features.

10 REPORT DEPOSITION

10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the client; the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record; and to South Holland 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 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 Archaeology Section. They will be given notice in writing of 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.

14.2 In the event of the discovery of any unexpected remains of archaeological importance, or of any changed circumstances, it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to inform the archaeological curator (Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook 1998, Sections 5.7 and 18).

14.3 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation additional resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.

14.4 Any contingency requirement for additional fieldwork or post-excavation analysis outside the scope of the proposed scheme of works will only be activated following full consultation with the archaeological curator and the client.

15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

15.1 The watching brief will be integrated with the programme of construction. 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 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.

| Task | Body to be undertaking the work |
|------------------------|---|
| Conservation | Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln |
| Pottery Analysis | Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust Roman - B Precious, independent specialist Saxon - J Young, independent specialist Medieval and later - H Healey, independent archaeologist/G Taylor APS |
| Non-pottery Artefacts | J Cowgill, independent specialist |
| Animal Bones | Environmental Archaeology Consultancy |
| Human Remains Analysis | R Gowland, independent specialist |

17 INSURANCES

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

18 COPYRIGHT

18.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

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

18.3 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information

previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 and may result in legal action.

- 18.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

19 **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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Appendix 2

Context Summary

| Cxt | Type | Description | Tk (m) | Interpretation |
|-----|---------|---|--------|------------------|
| 001 | Deposit | Soft, dark brown clayey silt with occasional roots, ceramic building material and rare gravel | 0.30 | Topsoil |
| 002 | Deposit | Soft, mid to dark brown clayey silt | 0.60+ | Modern pit fill |
| 003 | Cut | ?Linear feature with concave sides, 0.8m+ long x 2.1m+ wide | 0.60+ | Modern pit |
| 004 | Deposit | Soft, mid brown clayey silt | 0.60 | Pit fill |
| 005 | Cut | Oval feature with concave sides and base, 4m+ long x 2.35m wide | 0.60 | Pit |
| 006 | Deposit | Soft, mid / light yellowish brown silt | | Natural |
| 007 | Deposit | Soft, mid brown clayey silt with occasional ceramic building material and charcoal | 0.55 | Subsoil |
| 008 | Deposit | Soft, mid yellowish brown clayey silt | 0.10 | Ditch / Pit fill |
| 009 | Deposit | Soft, mid greyish brown clayey silt with rare ceramic building material | 0.35 | Ditch / Pit fill |
| 010 | Deposit | Soft, mid yellowish brown / grey clayey silt | 0.13 | Ditch / Pit fill |
| 011 | Deposit | Soft, mid yellowish brown / grey clayey silt with frequent ceramic building material and iron staining | 0.22+ | Ditch / Pit fill |
| 012 | Deposit | Soft, mid yellow / grey clayey silt | 0.23 | Ditch / Pit fill |
| 013 | Deposit | Soft, mid yellow / grey clayey silt | 0.10+ | Ditch / Pit fill |
| 014 | Deposit | Soft, mid yellow / grey clayey silt with rare ceramic building material | 0.66+ | Ditch / Pit fill |
| 015 | Cut | NE-SW linear feature with concave sides, 15m+ long x 3.3m wide | 0.90+ | Ditch / Pit |
| 016 | Deposit | Soft, mid greyish brown clayey silt with rare to occasional ceramic building material and charcoal | 0.60+ | Ditch / Pit fill |
| 017 | Cut | NE-SW linear feature with stepped concave side, 15m+ long x 1.85m+ wide | 0.60+ | Ditch / Pit |
| 018 | Deposit | Soft, light grey clayey silt with rare ceramic building material and charcoal | 0.35 | ?Pit fill |
| 019 | Cut | Poorly defined feature with convex side and concave base, 0.65m+ wide | 0.35 | ?Pit |
| 020 | Deposit | Soft, mid grey clayey silt with occasional ceramic building material and charcoal, and rare iron staining | 0.55 | Ditch / Pit fill |
| 021 | Deposit | Soft, mid grey clayey silt with occasional ceramic building material and iron staining | 0.47 | Ditch / Pit fill |
| 022 | Cut | ?NE-SW linear feature with near vertical sides and flat base, 15m+ long x 2.3m wide | 0.57 | Ditch / Pit |
| 023 | Deposit | Soft, mottled mid grey / yellowish brown silty clay | 0.72+ | Natural |

Appendix 3

The Finds

by Paul Cope-Faulkner, Tom Lane 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 4 fragments of pottery weighing 89g was recovered from a single context. In addition to the pottery, other items, brick, clay pipe and fired clay, comprising 18 items weighing a total of 305g, were retrieved. Faunal remains were also recovered.

Provenance

The material was recovered from pit (002) and pit/ditch (011) fills.

The earlier pottery may have been made in moderate proximity to Whaplode Drove, with the red earthenwares possibly manufactured in Boston, 30km to the north, or Ely, 40km to the southeast.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: The Pottery

| Context | Fabric Code | Description | No. | Wt (g) | Context Date |
|---------|-------------|--|-----|--------|--------------------------|
| 002 | GRE | Glazed red earthenware, bowls/pancheons, separate vessels, slightly abraded, ?Ely/Boston, 17 th century | 2 | 61g | 19 th century |
| | MP | Midlands Purple-type ware, 17 th century | 1 | 6g | |
| | EMOD | Mocha ware, 19 th century | 1 | 22g | |

The pottery from (002) is predominantly of the 17th century, with one piece from the 19th century that dates the context. Additionally, the other artefacts from the context, clay pipe and brick, are no later than the 17th century. Cumulatively, this raises the possibility that the 19th century pottery sherd is intrusive and the context is actually of 17th century date. However, the 19th century fragment is moderately large, which limits the possibility of its intrusion in to earlier deposits. It is therefore possible that the 19th century fragment accurately dates the deposit, but that the context contains redeposited 17th century material.

Table 2: The Other Finds

| Context | Fabric Code | Description | No. | Wt (g) | Context Date |
|---------|-------------|---|-----|--------|--------------------------|
| 002 | CBM | Handmade brick, 59mm thick, late medieval-early post-medieval | 1 | 209g | 17 th century |
| | CBM | Fragment of briquetage container. Max dimensions 24 x 20 x 6mm thick. Hard fired. Fabric silty clay with some voids where organic material has burnt out. One surface exhibits whitish/cream coating. Opposing surface almost purple. This colouration is typical of clay used in the saltmaking process. | 1 | 2g | |
| | Clay pipe | Stem, bore 7/64", 17 th century | 1 | 2g | |
| | Bone | Horse, humerus, juvenile | 3 | 184g | |

| Context | Fabric Code | Description | No. | Wt (g) | Context Date |
|---------|-------------|---|-----|--------|---|
| 011 | CBM | Pieces of briquetage container fragment. All are silty clay fabric with voids from organic material. All are reddish brown to purple in colour, with most having the creamy coating typical of this material. One rim sherd resembles type R3/R102 (Lane and Morris, 2001, 360) which date chiefly to the 1 st and 2 nd centuries AD. | 8 | 27g | Romano-British, 1 st -2 nd century AD |
| | CBM | Pieces of irregular-shaped briquetage. Probably structural material from the hearth/oven lining. Generally reddish brown and without the distinctive cream coating common on briquetage container pieces. | 7 | 65g | |

The development took place on the site of one of the best known and important Fenland Roman sites. Previous finds did not include briquetage but pottery of early 2nd-late 3rd century date, coins, brick, tile and a limestone altar are known from the site. Sites with briquetage are common in the area (Hallam 1970, Map 9; Hayes and Lane 1992, fig. 120).

It is likely that the briquetage is Roman and stylistically it would fit well with the 2nd century pottery previously recovered from the site.

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 study of Whaplode Drove, though the Roman occupation of this area of the Lincolnshire fenland has been studied. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

The small group of post-medieval artefacts is of moderate local potential and significance and suggests the presence of occupation of the period in proximity to the site.

However, the collection of briquetage of probable Roman date has moderate-high local significance and potential and signifies salt-making at the site or in very close proximity during the Roman period.

The absence of any occupation material earlier than the 17th century is informative and suggests that the area was not inhabited prior to this date. The briquetage is, essentially, debris from an industrial process and the lack of any contemporary occupation debris indicates that the site was not inhabited as such but apparently used solely for industrial, salt-making, activities during the Roman period.

References

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Lane, T. and Morris E.L., 2001, *A Millennium of Saltmaking: Prehistoric and Romano-British Salt Production in the Fenland*, Lincolnshire Archaeology and Heritage Reports Series No 4

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Appendix 4

Glossary

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Alluvium | Deposits laid down by water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea and fresh water alluvium is laid down by rivers and in lakes. |
| Anglo-Saxon | Pertaining to the period when Britain was occupied by peoples from northern Germany, Denmark and adjacent areas. The period dates from approximately AD 450-1066. |
| 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 interpretation 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. |
| Domesday Survey | A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD. |
| 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) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s). |
| Layer | A layer is a term used 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. |
| Romano-British | Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain. |

Appendix 5

Site Archive

The archive consists of:

| | |
|----|---------------------------|
| 23 | Context records |
| 1 | Context record sheet |
| 2 | Daily record sheets |
| 1 | Matrix |
| 1 | Section record sheet |
| 5 | Sheets of scale drawings |
| 1 | Photographic record sheet |
| 1 | Box 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 Museum Accession Number: LCNCC : 2002.147

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: WDC02

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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