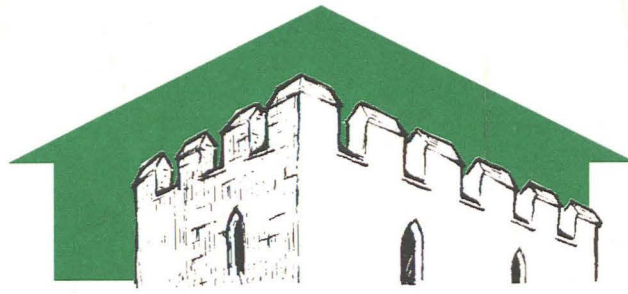


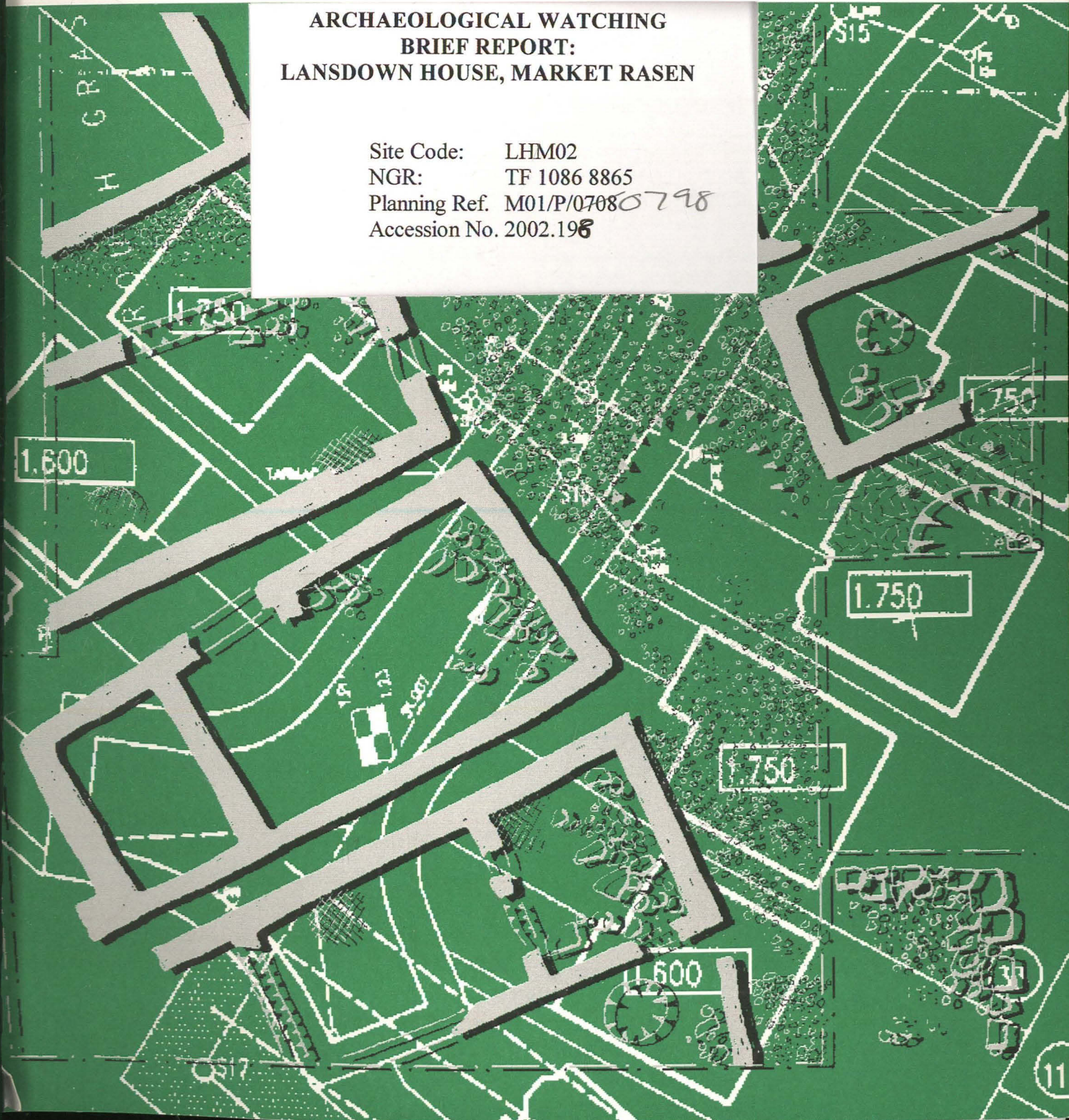
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PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY L I N C O L N

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT: LANSDOWN HOUSE, MARKET RASEN

Site Code: LHM02
NGR: TF 1086 8865
Planning Ref. M01/P/07080798
Accession No. 2002.198



Event L13137
Source L17855
L17856
negative

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING
BRIEF REPORT:
LANSDOWN HOUSE, MARKET RASEN**

Site Code: LHM02
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Report prepared for Mr and Mrs Plaskitt.
by
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June 2002

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Summary

- *An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at Lansdowne House, Linwood Road, Market Rasen.*
- *The recording brief was required as a condition of planning due to the known proximity of Romano-British pottery kilns and related features within the Linwood Road area.*
- *No significant archaeological deposits or features of any period were exposed during the course of this investigation.*



Fig. 1: Site location

Scale 1:10,000 (insert at 1:1,000)

1.0 Introduction

An archaeological watching brief was carried out for Mr and Mrs Plaskitt at Lansdowne House, off Linwood Road, Market Rasen. This work was commissioned to fulfil a planning requirement associated with an extension to the south side of an existing building range.

The fieldwork was carried out in accordance with current national guidelines (IFA, 1994), which have been adopted in the Lincolnshire County Council publication *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook: A Manual of Archaeological Practice* (LCC, 1998).

The archive for this project will be held at the Lincoln City and County Museum. Access can be granted with reference to the global accession number 2002.198.

2.0 Location and description

Market Rasen is in the administrative district of West Lindsey, approximately 18km north-east of Lincoln. It is situated in the clay vale, between the Lincolnshire Edge and the Lincolnshire Wolds.

The local topography is predominantly flat, with a height above sea level of approximately 29.5m. The local geology comprises blown sand drift deposits over Upper Jurassic Kimmeridge Clay (B.G.S. 1999).

The site boundaries comprise domestic plots to the north, east and south, and Linwood Road to the west.

The National Grid Reference for the centre of the site is TF 1086 8865

3.0 Planning background

The watching brief was carried out to fulfil the requirements of West Lindsey District Council, acting on the recommendations of the Lincolnshire County Council Assistant Built Environment Officer (planning reference M01/P/0708). The development for which this condition relates is an extension to a garage structure / conversion to games room.

Following a planning dispute relating to the original watching brief condition (and completion of the development without an archaeological presence), the planning authority recommended that an external trench should be excavated to the depth of foundation trenches to check for any archaeological remains that may have been disturbed or destroyed.

4.0 Archaeological and historical background

Evidence from a variety of sources shows that the general area has been of some significance since the Romano-British period at least.

Approximately 750m to the south-east of the site are a series of cropmarks identified from aerial photographs (SMR PRN 52748 and 52749). These have been identified as possible later prehistoric enclosures and associated field systems.

In the Romano-British period Market Rasen was the focus for a considerable pottery production industry. This was located to the south of the town, in the Linwood Road area. Evidence for this industry is extensive, particularly on the west side of Linwood Road. Whitwell refers to a field in this locality as the 'kiln field' (Whitwell 1992). Kilns were investigated by members of De Aston School in 1966, at NGR TF 107 885, and a summary of these investigations is held at the County SMR. Of the three excavated examples, all were of the typical single flue up-draught category. The majority of the pottery comprised grey domestic sherds, similar to those associated with the Trentside industries of Torksey, Lea, Knaith and Newton on Trent (Palmer-Brown 1998). This industry appears to have prospered between the 2nd and 4th centuries AD (Todd 1991).

An archaeological evaluation by PCA in 1997 on land that is now The Ridings Housing Development uncovered numerous features of Romano-British date, and large quantities of material associated with pottery production (Albone 1998).

The post-Roman settlement of Market Rasen itself probably emerged as a minor market centre in the late Saxon period, although the foci for this settlement is unknown (Palmer-Brown 1998).

5.0 Methodology

A single visit was made to the site on Monday 29th April 2002. This was to record a single trench that extended the length of the south wall of the extension; it was 300mm wide and 600mm deep. The work was carried out by a 180° back-actor digger fitted with a 300mm toothed bucket.

The investigation resulted in the production of written descriptions on standard watching brief context recording sheets and colour photographs. These records have been ordered in post-excavation and will form the basis of a long-term project archive.

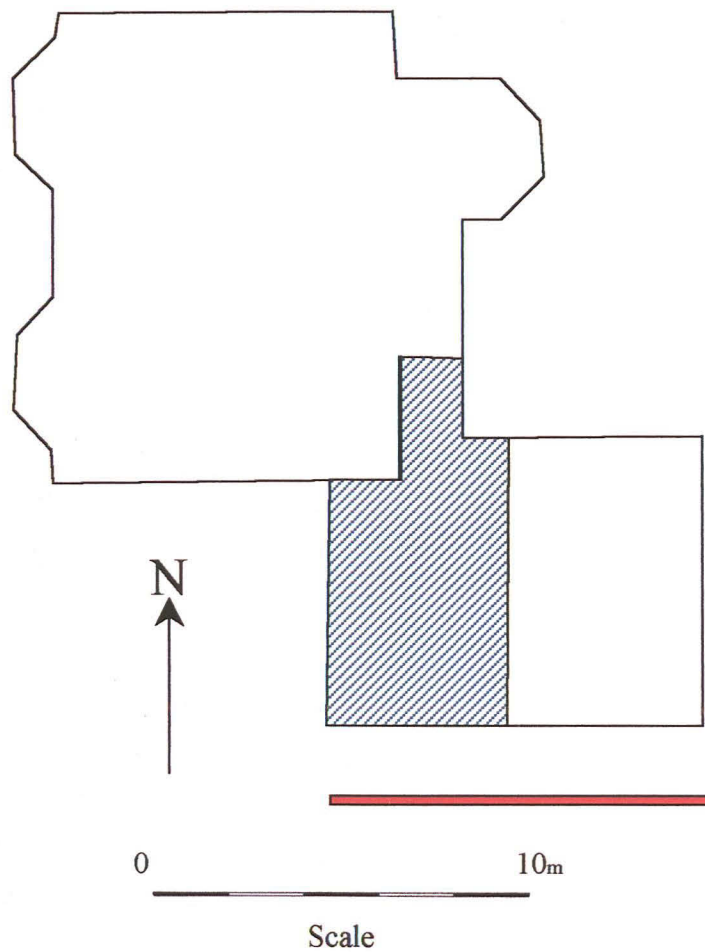


Fig. 2: Ground plan of existing buildings and extension (extension shown hatched).
Watching brief trench shown in red.
1:200

6.0 Results

The uppermost deposit was a layer of gravel that was associated with the original building works. Before this, the area had been part of a lawned garden. Following removal of the gravel, a layer of dark greyish brown sandy topsoil was exposed (001), which incorporated a quantity of modern brick and other building rubble. This was presumably from recent construction.

Beneath the topsoil was a slightly lighter, fine sandy subsoil (002), with occasional root channels from nearby trees. This sealed a natural deposit of mixed yellow and off-white sand, (003).

No archaeological features were exposed within the trench, and no artefactual material was recovered.

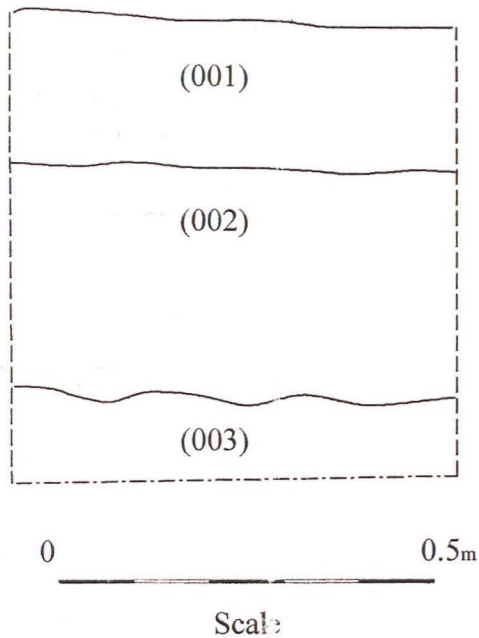


Fig. 3: Sample section, south facing. Shows topsoil, subsoil and natural. Scale 1:10

7.0 Discussion and conclusions

The watching brief was entirely negative, with no archaeological features of significance being exposed within the area of investigation.

8.0 Effectiveness of methodology

The level of archaeological investigation was proportional to the scale of development, and it is concluded that this development has not impacted significantly on the archaeological resource.

9.0 Acknowledgements

Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) would like to thank Mr and Mrs Plaskitt for this commission and for help and assistance on site.

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11.0 Site archive

The site archive (documentary) for this project is in preparation and will be deposited at the Lincoln City and County Museum and the Lincolnshire Archives Office (documentary) within six months. Access may be granted by quoting the global accession number 2002.198.

Appendix 1. Context summary

CONTEXT NUMBER.	DESCRIPTION.
001	Topsoil. Dark and sandy.
002	Subsoil. Some root channels from nearby trees.
003	Natural. Yellow sand.

Appendix 2. Photographs



Pl. 1: Excavation of trial trench. Looking north.



Pl. 2: South-west facing section. Natural yellow sand (003) visible at base.