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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
OF LAND AT 8 AND 9 SOUTH END,
BOSTON,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BSE02)**



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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
OF LAND AT 8 AND 9 SOUTH END,
BOSTON,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BSE02)**

Work Undertaken For
Mr L. Donald

June 2002

Report compiled by
Tobin Rayner BSc (Hons), AIFA


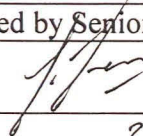
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1. SUMMARY

An evaluation, comprising trial trenching, was undertaken to determine the archaeological implications of proposed development on land at 8 and 9 South End, Boston, Lincolnshire as the site lay adjacent to an area of known archaeological activity, ranging in date from the Roman period to the present. This includes Roman occupation deposits and medieval skeletal remains, stone surfaces, creek deposits, and stratified medieval layers. Furthermore, the site of a Franciscan Friary is believed to be situated to the north of the proposed development area.

Hussey Tower, a scheduled ancient monument dating to the 15th century, stands to the east of the site while the route of the Barditch, the medieval boundary of Boston runs to the east and south of the area. The river Witham is located to the west of the site and was a vital trade route for the economy of Boston in the medieval period.

The earliest deposits recorded across the site during this investigation were marine silts likely to have been laid down when the area was coastal marshland.

No Roman dated features were recorded, however, a possible Roman brick / tile was recovered from a medieval deposit suggesting Roman activity in the vicinity.

Episodes of flooding were recorded throughout the medieval period. However, increased occupation was evident during this period in the form of structures, pits, ditches and surfaces. Buildings were recorded fronting South End and a mercantile usage has been suggested. A quantity of local, non-local and imported pottery was recovered and implies an international trade network.

Evidence of diet during the medieval period was also obtained and included horse, cattle, sheep, chicken, goose, duck, bird, sturgeon, oyster, whelk, cockle, mussel, eel, small fish, wheat, barley and elder

Industrial activity within the vicinity of the site was attested by the recovery of slag and hammerscale and suggests iron smithing in the area.

Utilisation of the site appeared to decline during the post-medieval period with few features and deposits assigned to the period.

Modern levelling of the site has caused some damage to the underlying deposits. However, archaeological remains were generally well-preserved below these levels and environmental evidence survived in good condition both through waterlogging and charring.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

An archaeological evaluation is defined as 'a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If such archaeological remains are present Field Evaluation defines their character and extent, and relative quality; and it enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate' (IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Between the 15th and 19th April 2002, an archaeological investigation was undertaken on land at 8 and 9 South End, Boston, Lincolnshire.

An outline planning application (B/01/0617/OUTL) was submitted to Boston Borough Council for the construction of a residential development. Permission was subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological evaluation.

The investigation was commissioned by Christopher Kemp Estate Agents on behalf of Mr L. Donald. Archaeological Project Services (APS) carried out the work in accordance with a specification designed by APS and approved by the Community Archaeologist for Boston Borough Council (Appendix 1).

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 area of investigation (Fig. 2, Plate 1) is located on the southeastern edge of the town's historic core at national grid reference TF 329 435. The southern part of the site is bounded by the Haven public house, to the north and east by open ground and to the west by South End.

The site is a rectangular parcel of land which covers 0.0375 hectares in extent and has had buildings on it in the past. The site is relatively flat with a covering of rough vegetation and lies at approximately 5m OD.

Local soils are the Wisbech Association, coarse silty calcareous soil, overlying marine alluvium (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 361). Beneath the 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 Ampthill Clay (BGS 1995).

2.4 Archaeological Background

Little is currently known about Boston in the Prehistoric and Roman periods. Although a neolithic stone axe has been recorded 300m southwest of the development site, evidence of this period is scarce in the vicinity of Boston. The only excavation of stratified Romano-British deposits in the town has been at Boston Grammar School, about 100m northeast of the site (Fig. 3, no.5), where occupation remains of the period were recorded 1.4m below the present ground surface (Palmer-Brown 1996, 5). Coins and pottery (Fig. 3, no.2) dating to the Roman period have also been recorded to the east of the development site. A square vault (Fig. 3, no.8) enclosed with hewn stones and containing an urn, presumed to be a Roman cremation, was recorded by Stukeley (Thompson 1856, 16).

The Saxon period is represented locally by pottery and two sunken features recorded during an archaeological excavation 1km east of the site (Palmer-Brown 1995).

The apparent lack of exploitation during these early periods may be due to burial of the evidence by alluvium rather than genuine absence.

Boston is not mentioned in the Domesday Survey of *c.* 1086. However, the survey recorded two churches and two fisheries in Skirbeck, a parish lying to the southeast of Boston (Foster and Longley 1976, 69). One of these churches, St. Botolph's, was granted to St. Mary's Abbey, York in 1089. Boston is first recorded by name in 1130 (Dover 1972, 1).

The line of the Barditch (Fig. 2 and 3, no.11) runs north-south, to the east of the proposed

development area, before turning in a westerly direction to the south of the site. This ditch was constructed to form the eastern boundary of Boston during the medieval period and the first reference to the Barditch was in c. 1160 (Owen 1984, 45). The length of the Barditch was used as an open sewer and does not appear to have been intended as a defensive structure. However, during the early medieval period the town appears to have been surrounded by a wall for, in 1285, a grant was made by King Edward I to the bailiffs and burgesses for a toll in aid of repair of the town walls (Thompson 1856, 43). In the post-medieval period the Barditch was gradually culverted using brick.

During this early period, the town had already established itself as a major trading centre, partly due to its situation on the estuary of the River Witham. The extent and importance of commerce in the year 1205 is manifested by the fact that a tax was levied on a fifteenth part of the goods of merchants (for the use of the state) at the ports of England; Boston was levied at £780 in comparison to London's £836 (Thompson 1856, 37). As there is little difference in the amount of taxation levied, it suggests that the amount of trade that these two towns were involved in must have been on a similar scale.

Information on the development of the town, particularly that relating to the emergence of streets, suggests that the location of the proposed development was in the original town of Boston, within the Barditch (Harden 1978, 19; Fig.2). Historical information suggests the proximity of the sea, and the influences of tides and floods, would have been significant during the occupation of Boston at this time. Indeed, floods are documented for the years of 1236, 1254, 1257 and 1286 (Thompson 1856, 36).

The site of a Franciscan Friary (Fig. 3, no.9), is believed to lie to the north of the proposed development site. Although the date of the foundation of the friary is unknown, the earliest reference to the monument occurs in 1268 when Luke de Batenturt complained about goods being stolen from the church (Page 1906, 215). In 1545 the friary site was purchased by the town and by 1652 the friary had been demolished (*ibid*). Archaeological investigations north of the proposed development site revealed burials and 13th - 14th century features. The cemetery has been interpreted as being part of the Franciscan Friary, but located outside the friary precinct (Palmer-Brown 1996, Fig. 3, no.4 and no.12). Other archaeological investigations have revealed further medieval features and several skeletons were recorded nearby in Rowley Road (Fig. 3, no.7)

An Augustinian Friary (Fig. 3, no.3) is believed to have stood to the south of the proposed development site (Thompson 1856, 280). The friary is believed to have been founded by one of the Tilney family, early in the reign of Edward II, or possibly by the King himself. Grants of land were made to the friary from 1307 onward (*ibid*, 111).

Hussey Tower (Fig. 3, no.1), the remains of a manor house and Scheduled Ancient Monument (County Number 49), stands to the east of the proposed development site. Dating from the mid to late 15th century, the tower was constructed by Richard Benyngton, a prominent Lincolnshire man at this time (Smith 1979, 34) and named after its 16th century owner Lord Hussey, an influential local figure. Hussey Tower is unlikely to have stood alone and various documents refer to a brewhouse, mill house and stable which have since been demolished (*ibid*). It is known that Hussey Hall was occupied by a sailmaker from 1773

until 1780, whilst an adjacent building was used as a sacking factory until about 1800 (Wright 1986, 88). Recent archaeological investigations to the west of Hussey Tower revealed the remains of brick-built structures that are believed to be associated with the Tower (Rayner 2001).

In 1594 a petition was presented to Queen Elizabeth I stating that the town of Boston was impoverished through a decline of trade, and 'great inundations' (flooding) (Wheeler 1896, 344). At a general Court of Sewers, held at Boston in 1734, a petition of landowners and tenants refers to 'Maud Foster's Gowt' (located to the east of the proposed development) as a drain that is in a bad state of repair. Due to the poor state of the drain, the document claims that the surrounding lands were 'constantly flooded'. Land adjacent to the River Witham at this time was said to be in a deplorable condition, 'by reason of violent and excessive inundations of fresh waters' (*ibid*, 208). Problems continued with the condition of the River Witham to 1800, when a document states that the navigation of this river course was very much impeded due to continuous silting (*ibid*, 349).

Archaeological investigations undertaken a little to the southwest at the former General Hospital, revealed well-preserved and substantial structures dating to the medieval period and later (Dymond 1995, Fig. 3, no.10).

A 16th - 17th century pottery kiln (Fig. 3, no.6) was found during excavations of foundation trenches for the Grammar School gymnasium.

Hall's 'Plan of the Borough and Port of Boston' made in 1741, shows the proposed development area with buildings recorded fronting South End. A century later the area of the site was being utilised as a Raft Yard.

An evaluation immediately to the north and east of the proposed development site was undertaken in 1988 by the Trust for Lincolnshire Archaeology (Davies and Symonds, 1988). This investigation found evidence of a stone surface located close to the base of Hussey Tower, a large ditch or tidal creek containing 13th and 14th century pottery, a length of the Barditch, bricked and culverted, and demonstrated that stratified medieval deposits survive on the site at South End.

The evaluation report also briefly mentions a small excavation on the site in the 1960s which revealed a large pit or ditch containing 14th century pottery and the discovery of up to three human burials.

A recent archaeological evaluation of the same area recovered small amounts of Roman pottery and possible briquetage (salt-making material). However, no features of the period were clearly identified. The site appears to have remained open marshland until the 12th - 13th century when there was evidence of wooden structures being erected in the area. Although episodes of flooding were recorded throughout the medieval period, there was evidence of gradually increasing occupation and use of the area. A substantial limestone wall was identified at the north of the site and may be part of the adjacent Franciscan Friary. By the late 14th - 15th century brick structures were built adjacent to Hussey Tower. Several of the buildings appear to pre-date the tower and large quantities of imported, particularly German, pottery and decorated glass suggest that the occupants were of high status. However, the site appears to have been largely abandoned in the post-medieval period (Rayner 2001).

3. AIMS

The aims of the archaeological evaluation, as outlined in the specification (Appendix 1), were to gather sufficient information about the archaeological remains present on the site to enable the Boston Community Archaeologist to be able to formulate a policy for their management.

4. METHODS

The trial trenching consisted of the excavation of a 2% sample of the approximately 0.0375ha site. This was achieved by the excavation of a single trench measuring 10m x 3m that enabled the trench to be stepped-in (Plate 2). The trench was positioned as per the project specification after taking into consideration any underground services that were located using a CAT scanner and any site access requirements (Fig. 4).

Topsoil was stripped from the trench by mechanical excavator to the level of the archaeological deposits (Plate 1). The exposed surfaces of the trench was then cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains. Where present, features were excavated by hand in order to retrieve dateable artefacts and other remains.

Each deposit exposed during the evaluation was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A photographic record was compiled, and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and plans at 1:20. Recording of deposits encountered during the evaluation was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

A field survey of the excavated trenches and existing reference points within the development area was completed using a

Geodolite Total Station in conjunction with a Psion Datalogger.

Metal detection of the trenches, and spoil excavated from them, was also carried out.

Following excavation, all records were checked and ordered to ensure that they constituted a complete Level II archive and a stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced.

5. RESULTS

5.1 The Stratigraphic Sequence

Finds recovered from the deposits identified during the evaluation were examined and a date assigned where possible (Appendices 3 and 4). Records of the deposits encountered were also examined. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. Phasing was based on the nature of the deposits and recognizable relationships between them, supplemented by artefact dating where relevant. Four phases were identified:

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Medieval deposits
Phase 3	Post-medieval deposits
Phase 4	Modern deposits

Context numbers appear in brackets, and these refer to the individual cut and deposit descriptions recorded during excavation.

5.2 Phase 1: Natural deposits (Fig. 8)

Augering at the base of the trench revealed a sequence of grey to bluish grey silt, sandy silt and clay alluvial / marine deposits (112 - 129) to a depth of 1.58m OD.

5.3 Phase 2: Medieval deposits (Figs. 5 - 7)

Recorded in section overlying (112 - 129) was a further series of similar alluvium (060, 062, 063, 075, 076, 089, 092 - 094, 096, 110 and 111) containing medieval pottery, tile, fired clay, animal bones and slag. An environmental sample (no. 1) was taken from deposit (063) and contained evidence of occupation including animal and fish bones, marine shell, charred cereal remains and iron smithing debris (Appendix 5). Furthermore, an unusual ceramic object, possibly a fireback (Plate 9) was retrieved from (062) and is reported on in Appendix 3.

A timber post (106) (Plate 6) was located at the base of the trench within deposit (063), however, its stratigraphic relationship is uncertain due to its truncated nature. Cutting deposit (060), in the southern facing section, was a 0.93m+ wide pit (131) with concave sides. At the base of this feature was an organic black layer (086) sealed by two silty deposits (084 and 085). Truncating (131) was a feature with stepped sides (088) (Plate 8). Filling this footing trench were two deposits, a 0.44m+ thick mottled light grey / reddish brown silt deposit (087) containing frequent limestone blocks and cobbles and, a light grey silt (083). An alluvial deposit (078) containing organic material (079) sealed (088) on its eastern side whilst a pit / ditch (130) cut it on the west. Feature (130) measured at least 3.5m+ wide and 0.63m+ deep and contained a sequence of light brown to mid grey silt deposits (061, 072 - 074). Medieval dated Bourne A ware and Boston glazed ware pottery were recovered from (061) whilst a single sherd of Potterhanworth-type ware pottery was retrieved from (073).

Cutting both pit / ditch (130) and layer (078,

079) was a 5.03m+ wide pit (090). Contained within this feature was a series of light brown to mid grey silts (054, 064 - 071 and 082). A single sherd of Dutch red earthenware medieval pottery, a cement tile and a hand-made brick was recovered from deposit (054).

Located at the western end of the trench, cutting pit (090), was a series of features. To the east was a N-S linear gully (132) with concave sides and base. Measuring at least 1m long by 0.44m wide (132) contained a dark grey silt fill (055 / 077) from which a single sherd of locally made medieval pottery was recovered. A 0.7m long by 0.22m wide, E-W aligned, roughly hewn, limestone block wall (057) (Plate 4) was recorded adjacent to a small cobbled area (053) (Plate 3) that measured at least 1m long by 0.25m wide. To the west of these features was a small figure-of-eight shaped stake hole (098 / 105) and a 0.76m+ long by 0.45m+ wide pit (101) (Plate 7). Feature (098 / 105) was filled by a mottled mid grey / black silt (097 / 104) with occasional shell and a single sherd of Potterhanworth-type ware pottery. Pit (101) contained a 0.30m sequence of mid grey and black silts (102, 107 - 109) with occasional shell inclusions, several sherds of medieval pottery, an iron nail, tile and iron smithing slag. Three alluvial silt deposits (099, 100 and 103) were also recorded at the western end of the trench overlying pit (090).

Sealing all the aforementioned deposits and features was a 1m thick, light yellowish brown alluvial silt (018 / 091).

At the eastern end of the trench, cutting (018 / 091) was a 3m+ long by 1.9m wide NE-SW ditch (017 / 081) containing three silt, sandy silt and clayey silt fills (019, 020 / 080 and 095). Deposit (020 / 080) contained a

large iron object (Plate 5), ceramic building material and fired clay, whilst (095) consisted of mid grey / reddish brown / dark grey silt lenses with occasional shell. A single sherd of Toynton ware medieval pottery was retrieved from (020) whilst non-local medieval pottery was retrieved from (095).

Cutting (018 / 091) at the western end of the trench was a rectangular shaped pit (030) containing a mid greyish brown sandy silt fill (029). Overlying this feature was a mottled mid red / reddish brown / light grey sandy silt burnt deposit (028) containing brick / tile. An environmental sample (no. 2) taken from this layer revealed hearth and fired material, a few fragments of indeterminate bone, shell, hammerscale and eggshell (Appendix 5). A 0.17m thick sandy silt dumped deposit (027) sealed (028). Two fragments of brick / tile were retrieved from (027) one of which may possibly be Roman in date.

Located in the southwest corner of the trench, truncating pit (030), was a rectangular shaped feature (035). Measuring at least 2.3m long by 1.5m wide this pit contained a single 1.07m+ thick mid brown / light grey silt (034 / 056) with tiles, glass, clinker, frequent shell and occasional limestone and ceramic building material fragments, a single sherd of Toynton Medieval ware and Dutch red earthenware pottery and an unusual ceramic object, perhaps a fireback, reported on in Appendix 3 (plate 10). The single sherd of glass has been dated to the 19th century and is therefore likely to be intrusive. Feature (035) in turn was cut by an oval pit (059) containing a dark grey silt containing brick, a possible fragment of a fired clay mould and occasional stones (058).

5.4 Phase 3: Post-medieval deposits (Figs. 5 - 7)

To the west of (017 / 081), running approximately parallel, was a NE-SW ditch / gully (016). Measuring at least 3m long by 1.16m wide this feature contained a 0.21m thick mid grey sandy silt fill (046) from which brown salt-glazed stoneware dated to the 17th century and brick / tile was recovered. Adjacent to (016) was a 0.1 m diameter stake hole (015), containing a similar sandy silt fill (045).

5.5 Phase 4: Modern deposits (Figs. 5 and 7)

Sealing the above features was a 0.3m thick mid grey clayey silt (014 / 051) with occasional coal, mortar and ceramic building material fragments that has been interpreted as a dumped deposit. Redeposited medieval Saintonge mottled glazed ware pottery, brick, tile and fired clay was retrieved from this deposit.

A natural hollow or pit (026) was recorded in the northern facing section of the trench, cutting (014 / 051), and contained a dark grey sandy silt (048) with frequent shell, ceramic building material, coal, stones and flint fragments. At the eastern end of the trench was a rectangular feature (013) with concave sides. Measuring at least 3m long by 0.86m wide this pit was filled by four deposits (011), (012), (036) and (037). The earliest deposit, a dark brown silt with frequent charcoal (037), contained pieces of modern plastic whilst two sherds of Boston glazed ware - Toynton type pottery and brick / tile was retrieved from (011). Sealing these features was a dark grey sandy silt dumped deposit (010 / 025 / 050) that measured 0.32m thick. Pottery including cream, pearl and mocha ware dated to the 19th century

and clay pipe and brick / tile was recovered from this deposit.

Several features were recorded cutting layer (010 / 025 / 050). In the west-facing section was a vertical-sided feature (044) with a rounded base. Measuring 0.24m wide by 0.48m deep this footing trench contained three fills, a dark grey silt with frequent cobbles (041), a mid reddish brown gravel (042) and a mid grey gravel (043).

Located centrally, within the north-facing section, was a 1.88m wide vertically-sided, flat-based feature (009) filled by a sequence of fills (004 - 008). These deposits contained mortar, concrete, ceramic building material, limestone and degraded wood and suggest that this pit was used for building debris refuse. Sealing these deposits and features was a 0.3m thick layer of dark grey sandy clayey silt with frequent ceramic building material and mortar fragments (003 / 024 / 040) that has been interpreted as hardcore. Modern brick work (001 / 002 / 021 / 023 / 031 / 038 / 039 / 049) was recorded throughout the trench and formed an edging for a York stone surface (052). Modern building debris (022 / 032 / 033 / 047) sealed the whole trench and represents the modern ground surface.

6. DISCUSSION

An archaeological evaluation on land at 8 and 9 South End, Boston, Lincolnshire has revealed a sequence of natural and archaeological deposits across the area.

6.1 Phase 1: Natural deposits

The earliest recorded deposits, revealed during augering, was a sequence of grey to bluish grey silt, sandy silt and clay. These

creek, alluvial and marine deposits are likely to have been laid down during episodes of fresh water flooding, salt water inter-tidal deposition and periods when the area was open marshland. Leached and naturally stained deposits, which appeared throughout the trench, were probably caused by root and animal disturbance.

6.2 Phase 2: Medieval deposits

Overlying the natural deposits, sealing and cut by several pits and ditches, was a sequence of alluvium containing pottery, ceramic building material and occupational debris. This would suggest that the site was in a state of flux during this period with episodes of flooding interspersed with drier periods and habitation. The location of the site next to the river at a time when the port of Boston was flourishing may have played a part in this development. However, the riverside location would have made the site susceptible to flooding during exceptional tides with Thompson (1856, 37) noting several episodes of serious flooding in the town during the 13th century.

These deposits have been dated to the early - mid 13th century, being after the Barditch to the east had been cut. This would suggest that episodes of flooding were occurring inside the route of the Barditch during this period.

The earliest features, during this phase, appear to represent the remains of a timber and limestone built structure with associated pits. The recovery of brick and tile adjacent to this building may suggest that the structure was in part brick-built with a possible tile roof.

Medieval bricks made their appearance in the county from the 13th century, possibly

being imported into Boston from Holland and Flanders, and it is known that at least one tile kiln was operating in Boston in the 1300s (Robinson 1999, 12). The pottery associated with the structure has been dated to the 13th - 14th century and therefore the building may have been constructed using either local or imported ceramic building material. The unusual ceramic object, tentatively interpreted as an imported fireback, was recovered adjacent to the structure and may have been incorporated within the building.

Industrial activity is implied from the slag and hammerscale that was recovered from deposits associated with the structures, and although not in large enough quantities to suggest iron smithing on site the discovery does indicate iron working in the near vicinity.

Episodes of flooding appear to have caused the building and associated pits to go out of use. A sequence of inter-cutting pits was then constructed and contained medieval pottery. The function of these features is not known although the continual re-cutting of these pits suggest that they were becoming full on a regular basis, possibly due to flooding.

There appears to have been a period of stability when a limestone-built structure was constructed at the western end of the trench associated with a cobbled surface, stake hole and pit.

Buildings with a mercantile function were recorded during previous investigations, to the north of the proposed development site, adjacent to the river (Rayner 2001). This information may help in understanding the function of the structure discovered in the proposed development area. Although no

evidence for trade was recovered this cannot be ruled out due to the building's position adjacent to the river during a period of intense activity.

The building appears to have gone out of use after a period of flooding and limited medieval activity in the form of a ditch, pits and possible hearth are recorded on the site after that time. These features probably represent an attempt to control the drainage of the site and limited occupation. However, due to the declining fortunes of Boston at the end of the medieval period it would seem that this was short-lived. An unidentified iron object, recovered from the ditch, has been sent for analysis but the results were not available at the time of this report.

The medieval pottery retrieved from the site included local, non-local and imported wares with material from Germany, France and the Low Countries and indicates an established national and international trade network. Brick, tile and burnt clay was also evident in quantity. This combined evidence suggests that the land was being occupied throughout the period and the material is waste from this occupation.

The majority of the animal bones were assigned to this phase. Cattle and sheep were the most common species, followed by chicken. Duck, goose, sturgeon and oyster were also found in this phase, in very small numbers. The presence of butchery marks suggests that the bones excavated were originally deposited as food waste.

The environmental evidence for this period suggests a variety of plant and animal species were being consumed including both farmed and wild, with evidence of marine exploitation. Horse bone retrieved from

deposit (063) may suggest that this type of animal was occasionally butchered and eaten.

6.3 Phase 3: Post-medieval deposits

Very limited activity is represented during this phase. Two features were recorded dated to this period, a ditch / gully and a stake hole. These probably represent a fenced or bounded drainage or land division. A part of a heraldic medallion occurs on the piece of stoneware recovered from the ditch. These were very popular following the restoration of the monarchy in the mid 17th century. Interestingly, no evidence was discovered of any remains associated with the buildings depicted on Hall's map dated 1741. This may be due to the location of the trench away from the street frontage and truncation by modern features.

6.4 Phase 4: Modern deposits

A dumped deposit was recorded overlying all underlying features and deposits and represents a levelling and ground raising episode. Several modern features were cut into this deposit and suggest an increase utilisation. A further dumped deposit was recorded and several features and layers were recorded cutting this layer and are associated with the recent utilisation of the site as a butchers premises. Modern building debris sealed the trench and represented the modern ground surface.

These modern deposits were recorded to a depth, below the present ground level, of between 0.72m (minimum) to 1.09m (maximum).

7. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

For assessment of significance the *Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling ancient monuments* has been used (DoE 1990, Annex; See Appendix 6).

Period

Features and deposits dating from the medieval period and later were identified during the evaluation. The nature of the deposits are typical of the urban context in which they were found and are characteristic of the periods represented.

Rarity

Medieval features and deposits revealed on the site are characteristic of urban communities, however, the imported goods increases the rarity of the site.

Documentation

Records of archaeological sites and finds made in the Boston area are held in the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record and the files maintained by the Boston District Community Archaeologist.

Reports on archaeological interventions in Boston, including in close proximity to the current site, have previously been produced.

Group value

The majority of the remains encountered are related to typical urban and mercantile functions and as such a low to moderate group value is suggested.

Survival/Condition

The deposits and features revealed during the investigation appeared to have survived well although evidence for recent disturbance, in the form of services and levelling was apparent. Artefacts, in

particular organic material, and environmental evidence survived in a state of excellent preservation due to the waterlogged condition of the lower deposits.

Fragility/Vulnerability

Modern deposits provide the uppermost 0.72m - 1.09m on the site. However, development is likely to impact into post-medieval and earlier deposits. Consequently, archaeological remains present are vulnerable. Furthermore, organic remains in particular are fragile and would not survive outside of their waterlogged environment. Despite much recent discussion the effects of development on local hydrology are not clear. Any reduction to local water levels will affect detrimentally organic artefacts and ecofacts.

Diversity

Period diversity is provided by continual use of the site from the medieval to the present day and is, therefore, moderately high.

Functional diversity is represented by medieval timber, stone and brick-built structural remains, ditches, refuse disposal and post-medieval deposits. Evidence relates to occupation and mercantile activity and therefore the functional diversity is moderate.

Potential

There is considerable potential for further archaeological deposits to survive within the investigation area, including medieval features and structures. There is high potential for further post-medieval and modern remains to occur throughout the site. There is also a high likelihood for waterlogged deposits surviving in good condition and thus increasing the potential for the retrieval of organic artefactual and ecofactual remains.

8. EFFECTIVENESS OF TECHNIQUES

The techniques employed during the archaeological evaluation were effective. Removal of overburden deposits by mechanical excavator allowed a rapid appraisal indicating that archaeological remains were evident throughout the site.

Manual excavation of the remains established that archaeological deposits were well-preserved with different phases of activity, from the medieval to modern periods.

Metal detection led to the recovery of several metal objects. This shows that the technique was effective and the limited assemblage recovered of earlier metal objects from the excavated areas was real and not a limitation in the recovery method.

9. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological evaluation on land at 8 and 9 South End, Boston was undertaken as the site lay within an area of known archaeological activity dating from the Roman period to the present. Previous investigations immediately to the north and east of the development area demonstrated the presence of significant medieval remains. Furthermore, Hussey Tower, a scheduled ancient monument dating to the 15th century, stands to the east, while the route of the Barditch, the supposed medieval boundary of Boston town, runs to the east and south.

A single fragment of possible Roman dated ceramic building material was recovered, though as a redeposited artefact. As such, it may derive from deposits at lower depth, or

from adjacent occupation of the period.

The area seems to have been coastal marsh when it was first occupied at an unknown but possibly early medieval date. Drainage operations during the early medieval period, including the creation of the Barditch, the medieval boundary of Boston, were undertaken to the east of the development site to combat repeated flooding in the area, although not fully effective.

Utilisation of the site was recorded during the medieval period reflecting the importance of the town as a port and two structures built of timber, stone and brick were constructed. These buildings were probably used for mercantile activity, being adjacent to the river. Previous investigations to the north revealed buildings associated with wool trading. Other features were recorded adjacent to and associated with the structures and contained medieval artefacts.

Industrial activity within the vicinity of the site was attested by the recovery of slag and hammerscale and suggests iron smithing in the area.

A small assemblage of imported artefacts was recovered and confirm the importance of Boston as a major international trading centre in the medieval period and also the status of the site itself. Environmental evidence was diverse and also well preserved through charring and waterlogging and damage to medieval levels by later activities was not extensive.

Occupation of the area appears to have largely discontinued after the 15th century, reflecting the decline of Boston as a port and concurring with the results of other investigations nearby. It was not until the 18th century when the site, according to

Hall's map of 1741, became re-occupied with the construction of a building along the street frontage, although no evidence of this structure was recorded within the trench. Several features and layers were recorded dated to the modern phase and are associated with the recent utilisation of the site as a butchers premises.

Modern levelling of the site has caused some damage to the underlying deposits. However, archaeological remains were generally well preserved below these levels.

Overall, the site thrived at the time that Boston saw its greatest wealth. Unlike much of the remainder of the town, the site has not been substantially effected by modern development. Therefore, the deposits are more intact than in many towns. Moreover, the riverside location has assisted the retention of a high water table throughout the medieval and later periods. This has preserved important environmental remains and organic artefacts such as the wooden post.

The evidence obtained from this investigation has further advanced our knowledge of this part of Boston during the time when it was at its height as one of the wealthiest towns in the country and further enhances the national archaeological importance of Boston.

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Christopher Kemp Estate Agents for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis on behalf of Mr L. Donald. Becky Wilcox, the Community Archaeologist for Boston District Council, kindly permitted

examination of the relevant parish files.

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12. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

OD Ordnance Datum

PCA Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln)

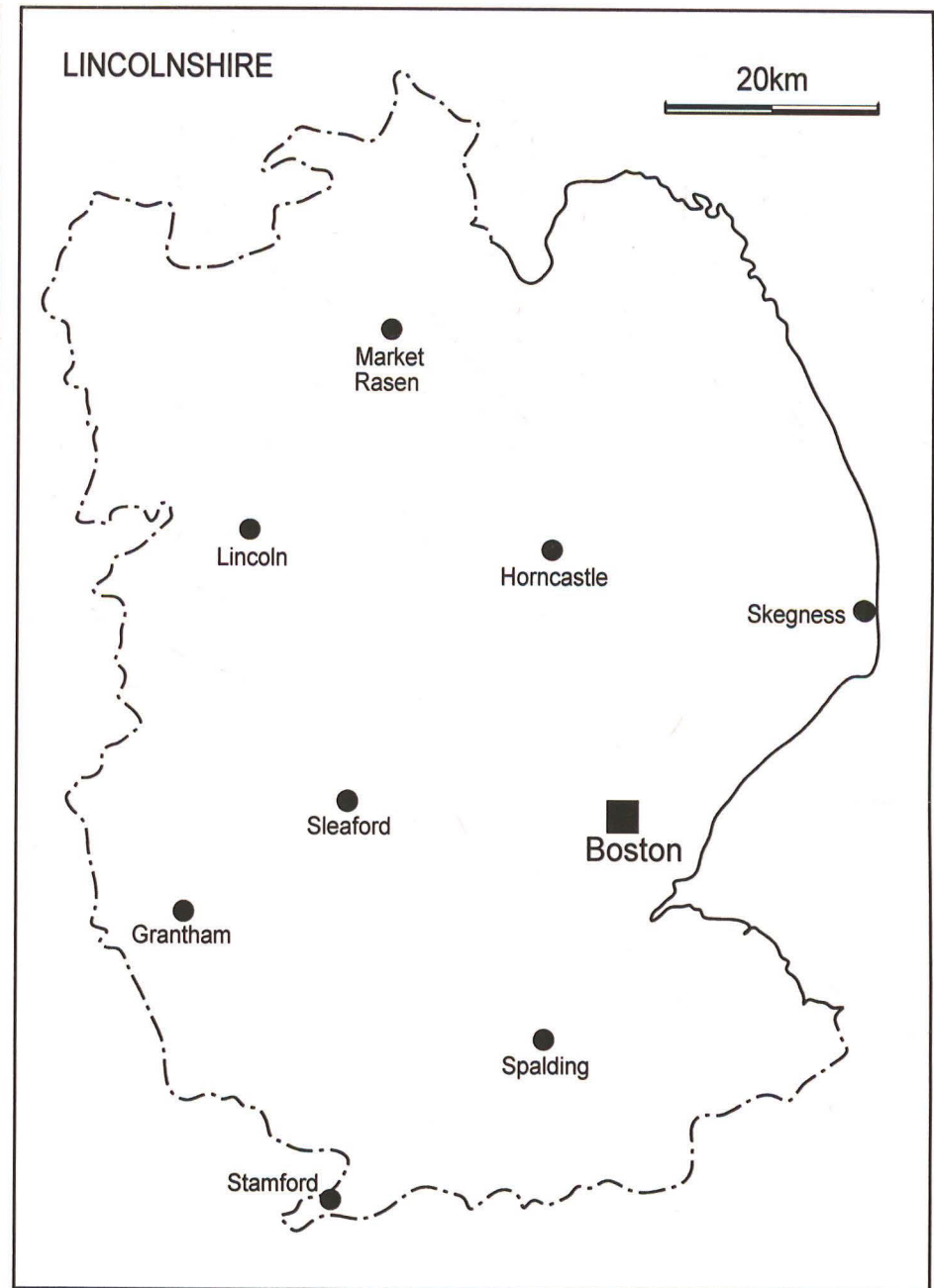
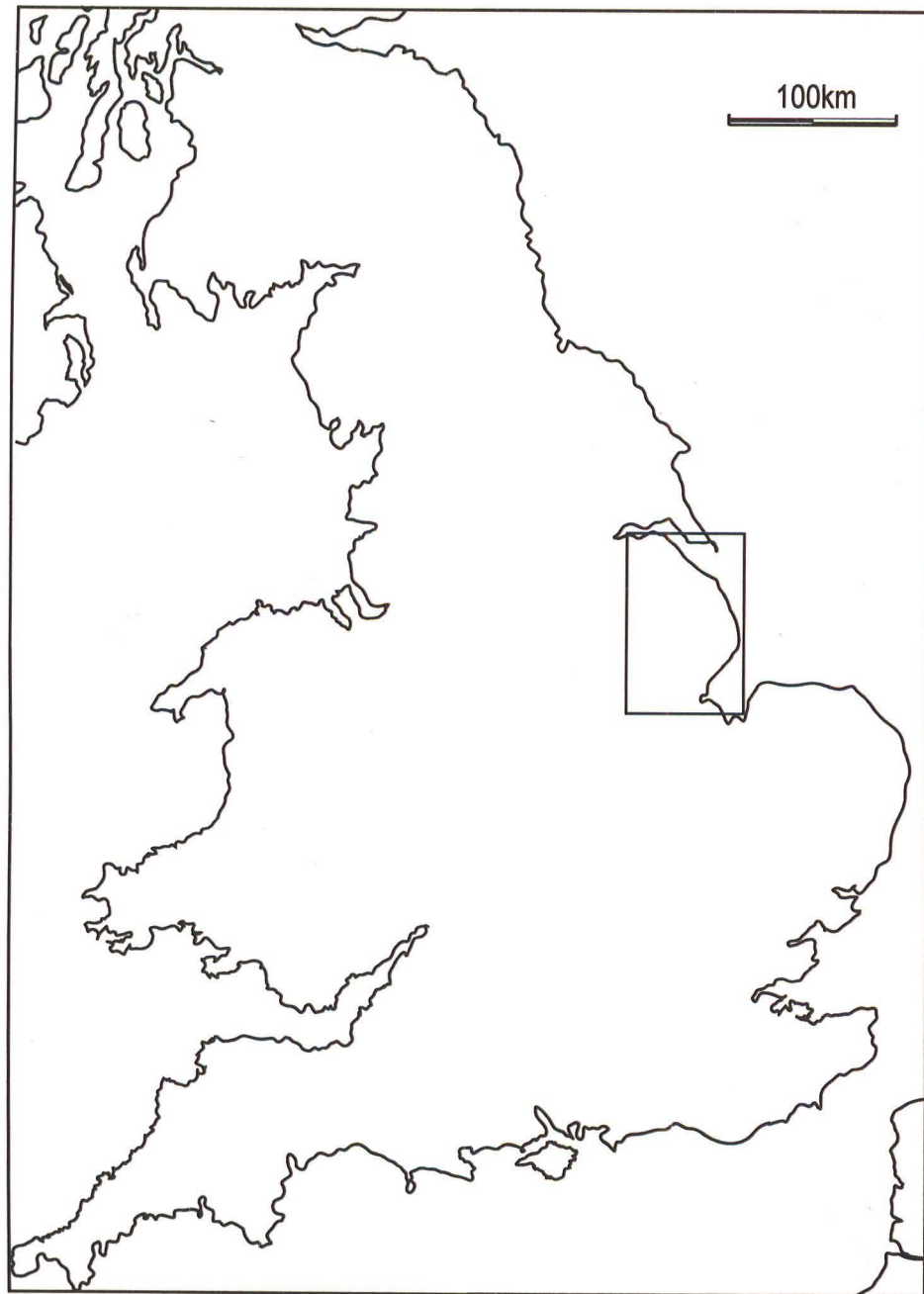


Figure 1: General Location Plan

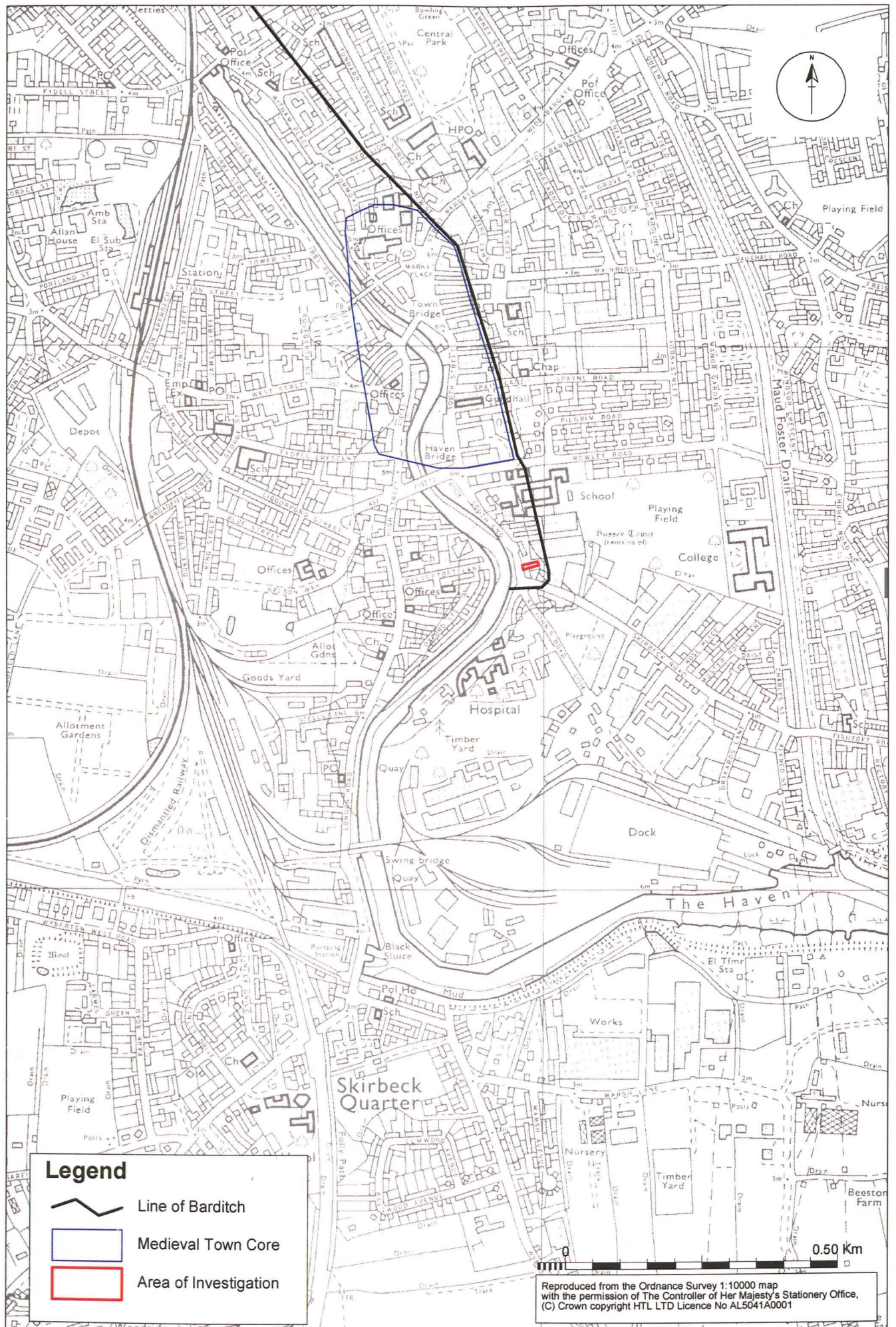


Figure 2: Site location showing the medieval core and line of the Barditch

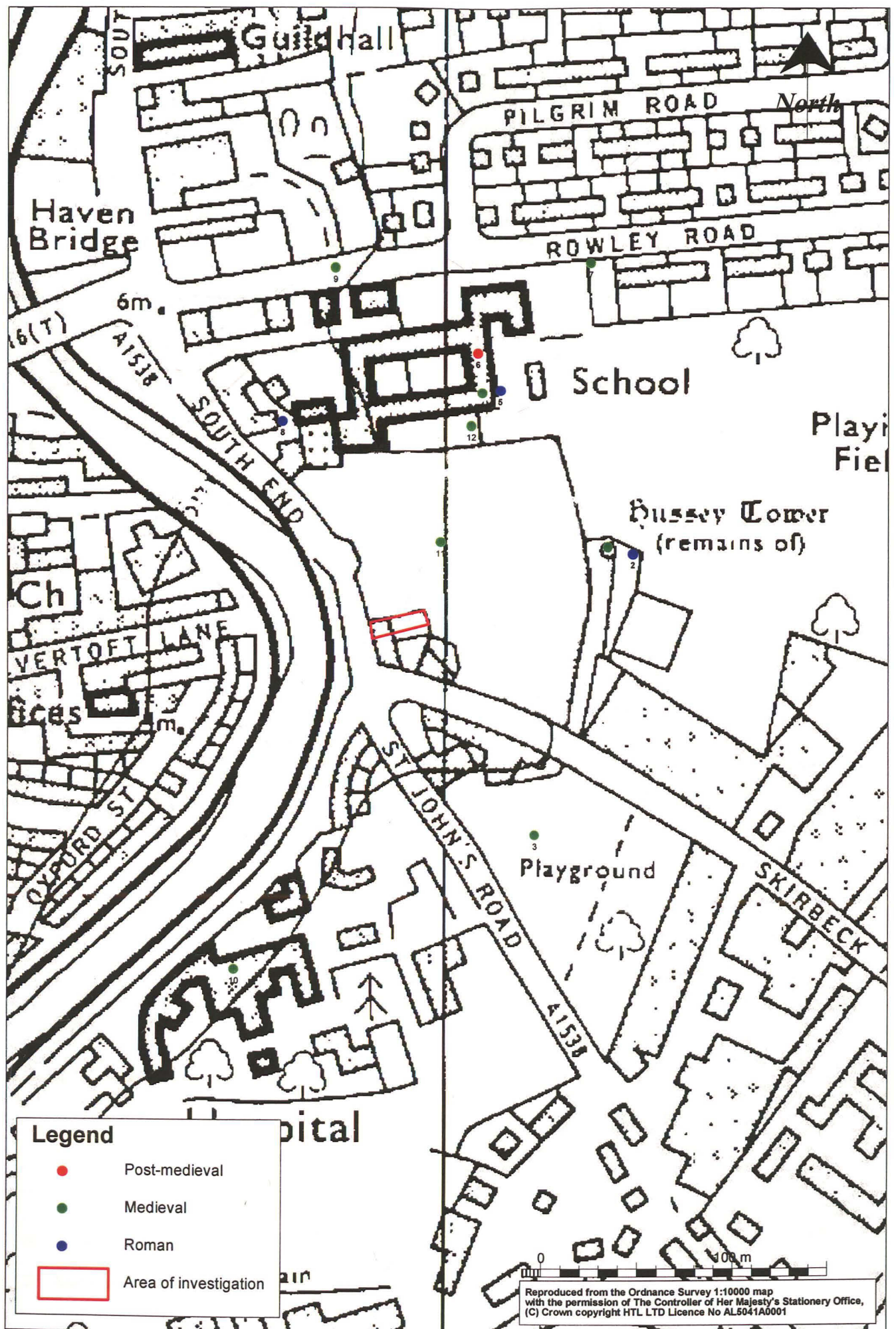


Figure 3: Detailed site location and archaeological setting

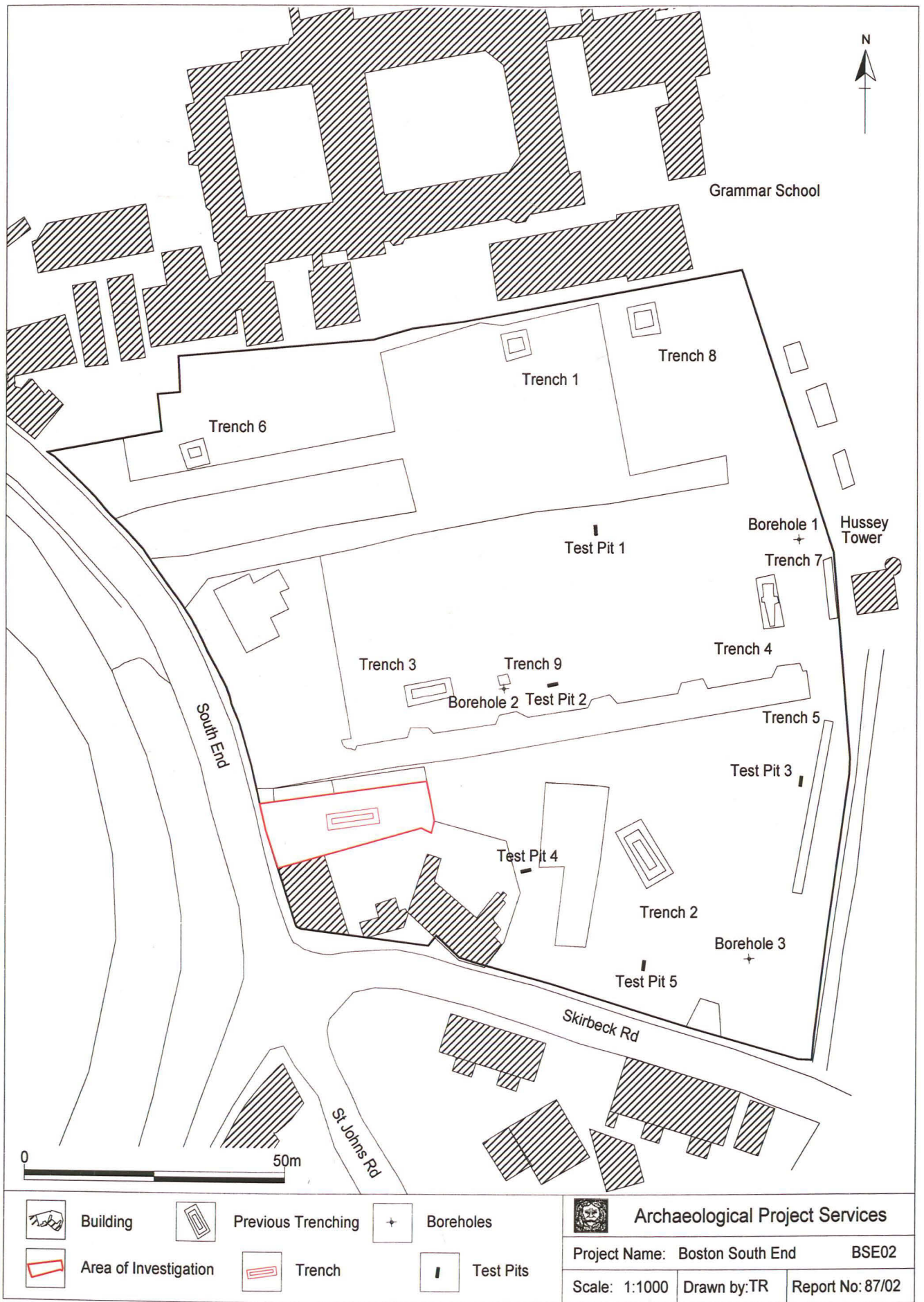


Figure 4: Trench location showing previous trenches, test pits and boreholes

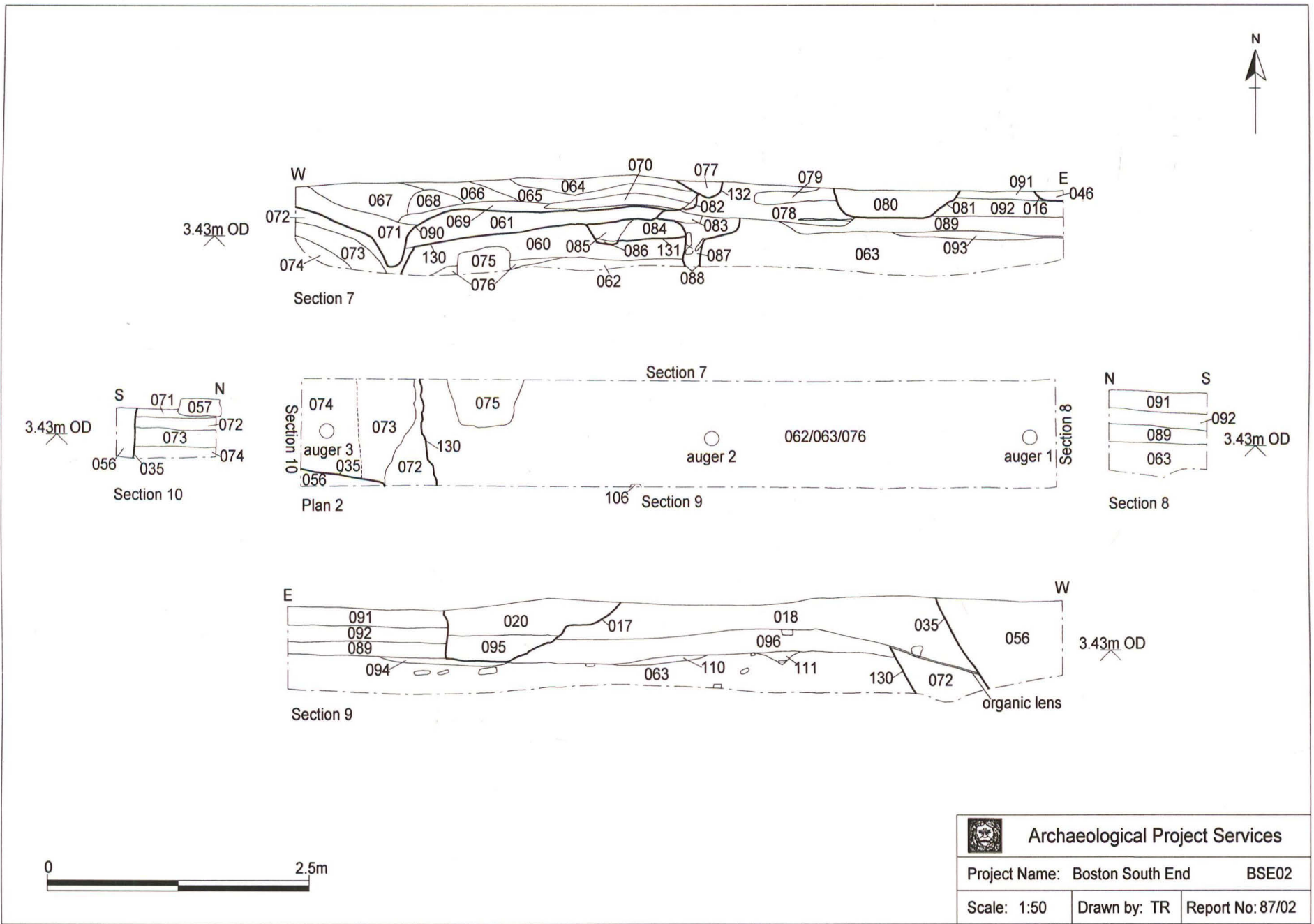



Figure 6: Plan and sections of trench - lower step

 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name:	Boston South End	BSE02
Scale:	1:50	Drawn by: TR
		Report No: 87/02

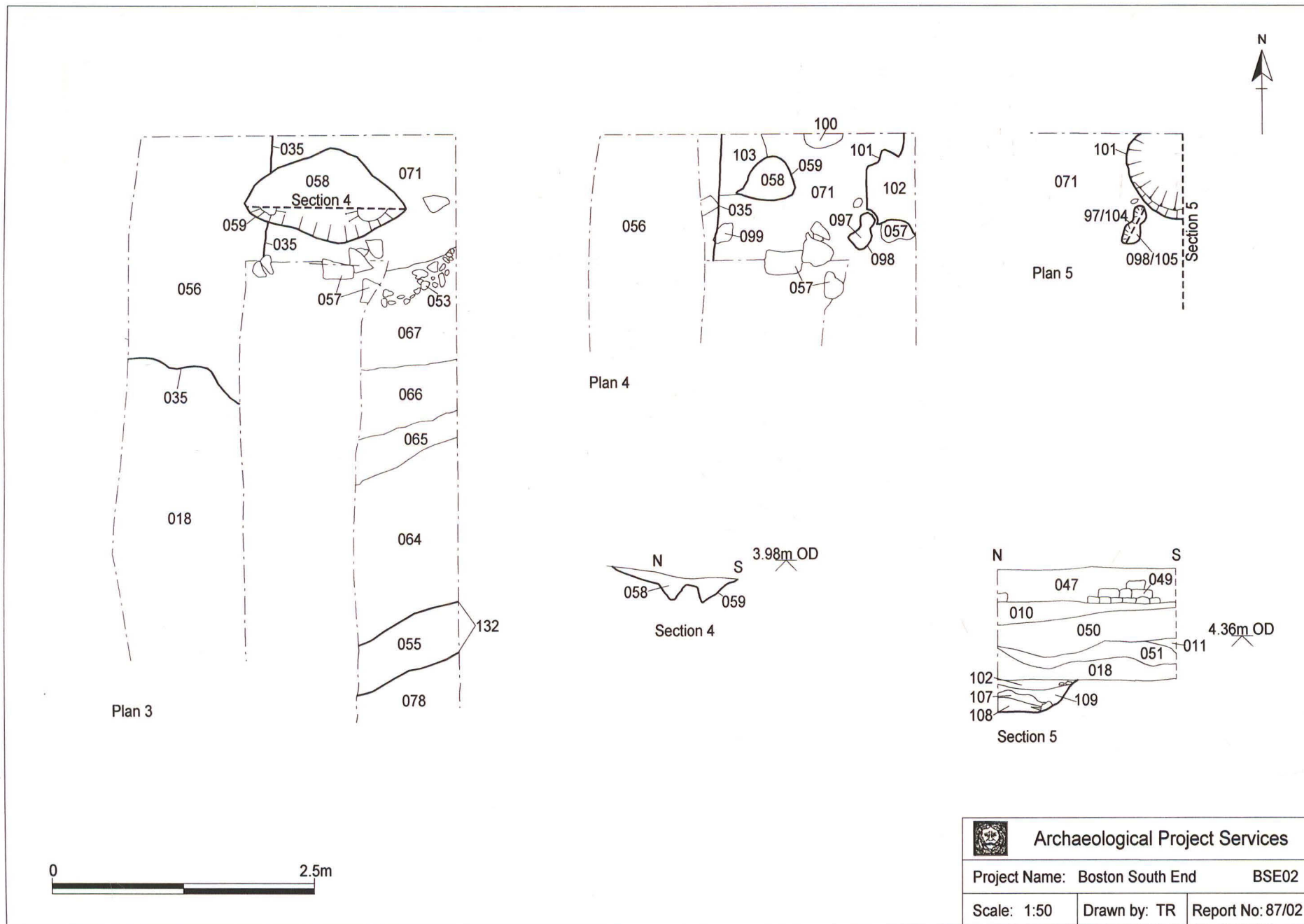
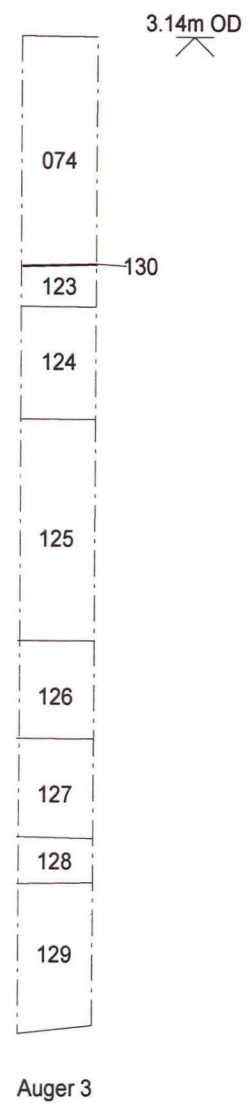
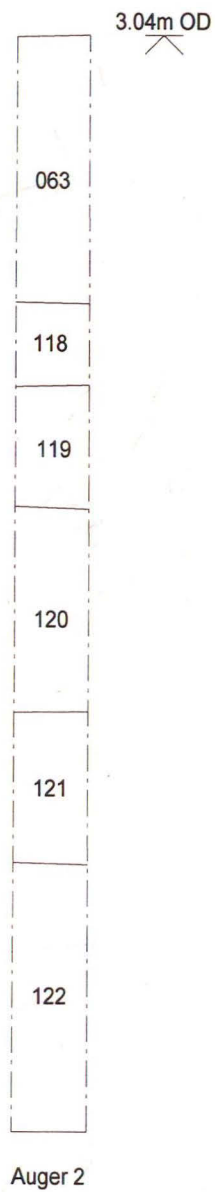
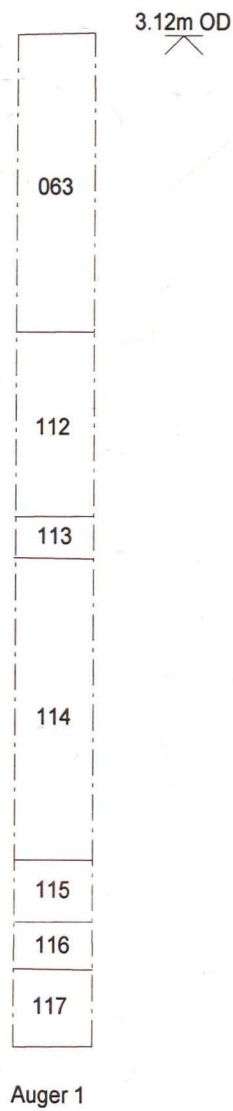


Figure 7: Plans 3, 4 and 5 of upper step and sections




	Archaeological Project Services	
Project Name:	Boston South End	BSE02
Scale:	1:10	Drawn by: TR
		Report No: 87/02

Figure 8: Auger results



Plate 1: Mechanical excavation of the trench, looking southwest



Plate 2: General view of the trench, looking east



Plate 3: Cobbled surface (053) within upper step, looking south



Plate 4: Western end of upper step showing limestone wall (057) to the left of the photo board, looking east



Plate 5: The iron object (small find no.1) within ditch (017), looking south



Plate 6: Timber post (106) recorded in lower step, looking south



Plate 7: Pit (101) with stake hole (098/105) to the right, looking north



Plate 8: Limestone and cobble footings (088), recorded in lower step, looking north



Plate 9: The unusual ceramic object (062), probably from a fireback



Plate 10: The unusual ceramic object (056), probably from a fireback

Appendix 1

Specification for an archaeological evaluation on land at 8 & 9 South End, Boston, Lincolnshire

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *This document comprises a specification for the archaeological evaluation of land at South End, Boston, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *An archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to the proposed development area revealed significant deposits relating to the medieval history of Boston, including the Bar Ditch. The remains of Hussey Tower, a Scheduled Monument and Grade 2 Listed Building, lie to the east of the site, and deposits relating to it were located during the evaluation.*
- 1.3 *An outline planning application has been submitted for the construction of a residential development. Permission is subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological evaluation.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the findings of the investigation. The report will consist of a text describing the nature of the archaeological deposits located and will be supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land at South End, Boston, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 329 435.
- 2.2 The document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview
 - 2.2.2 The archaeological and natural setting
 - 2.2.3 Stages of work and methodologies to be used
 - 2.2.4 List of specialists
 - 2.2.5 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 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.
- 3.2 The area of investigation is located on the southeastern edge of the town's historic core at grid reference TF 329 435. The southern part of the site is bounded by the Haven public house, to the north and west open ground and east by South End.
- 3.3 The site is a rectangular parcel of land which covers 0.0375 hectares in extent and has had construction on it in the past. The site is relatively flat with a covering of rough vegetation and lies at approximately 5m OD.

4 **PLANNING BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 An outline planning application (B/01/0617/OUTL) has been submitted to Boston Borough Council for the construction of a residential development. Permission is subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological evaluation.

5 **SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY**

- 5.1 Local soils are the Wisbech Association, coarse silty calcareous soil, overlying marine alluvium (Hodge et al. 1984, 361). Beneath the 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 Amphill Clay (BGS 1995).

6 **ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW**

- 6.1 The site lies within an area of known archaeology dating from the Roman period to the present. This includes Roman occupation deposits and medieval skeletal remains and features which were revealed during archaeological investigations to the north of the site at the Grammar School. Furthermore, the site of a Franciscan Friary is believed to be situated immediately north of the proposed development area.
- 6.2 Hussey Tower, a scheduled ancient monument dating to the 15th century and the route of the Barditch, the medieval boundary of Boston are located to the northeast of the proposed development area. The river Witham is located to the west of the site and was a vital trade route for the economy of Boston in the medieval period.
- 6.3 Previous investigations and a recent evaluation (Rayner 2001) of the land immediately to the northeast revealed stone surfaces, creek deposits, and demonstrated that stratified medieval deposits survive in the area.

7 **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 7.1 The aim of the work will be to gather sufficient information for the archaeological curator to be able to formulate a policy for the management of the archaeological resources present on the site.
- 7.2 The objectives of the work will be to:
- 7.2.1 Establish the type of archaeological activity that may be present within the site.
 - 7.2.2 Determine the likely extent of archaeological activity present within the site.
 - 7.2.3 Determine the date and function of the archaeological features present on the site.
 - 7.2.4 Determine the state of preservation of the archaeological features present on the site.
 - 7.2.5 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features present within the site.
 - 7.2.6 Determine the extent to which the surrounding archaeological features extend into the application area.
 - 7.2.7 Establish the way in which the archaeological features identified fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

8 **LIAISON WITH THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CURATOR**

- 8.1 Prior to the commencement of the trial trenching the arrangement of the interventions (excavations) will be agreed with the archaeological curator to ensure that the proposed scheme of works fulfils their requirements.

9 **TRIAL TRENCHING**

9.1 Reasoning for this technique

9.1.1 Trial trenching enables the in situ determination of the sequence, date, nature, depth, environmental potential and density of archaeological features present on the site.

9.1.2 The trial trenching will consist of the excavation of one (1) trench measuring 10m x 3m. This will enable the trench to be stepped-in should archaeological deposits extend below 1.2m depth. This stepped area would represent a 2% sample of the site. Augering may be used to determine the depth of the sequence of deposits present.

9.2 General Considerations

9.2.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the investigation.

9.2.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practice issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA). Archaeological Project Services is an IFA Registered Archaeological Organisation (No. 21).

9.2.3 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.

9.2.4 Excavation of the archaeological features exposed will only be undertaken as far as is required to determine their date, sequence, density and nature. Not all archaeological features exposed will necessarily be excavated. However, the investigation will, as far as is reasonably practicable, determine the level of the natural deposits to ensure that the depth of the archaeological sequence present on the site is established.

9.2.5 Open trenches will be marked by hazard tape attached to road irons or similar poles. Subject to the consent of the archaeological curator, and following the appropriate recording, the trenches, particularly those of excessive depth, will be backfilled as soon as possible to minimise any health and safety risks.

9.3 Methodology

9.3.1 Removal of the topsoil and any other overburden will be undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. To ensure that the correct amount of material is removed and that no archaeological deposits are damaged, this work will be supervised by Archaeological Project Services. On completion of the removal of the overburden, the nature of the underlying deposits will be assessed by hand excavation before any further mechanical excavation that may be required. Thereafter, the trenches will be cleaned by hand to enable the identification and analysis of the archaeological features exposed.

9.3.2 Investigation of the features will be undertaken only as far as required to determine their date, form and function. The work will consist of half- or

quarter-sectioning of features as required and, where appropriate, the removal of layers. Should features be located which may be worthy of preservation in situ, excavation will be limited to the absolute minimum, (ie the minimum disturbance) necessary to interpret the form, function and date of the features.

- 9.3.3 The archaeological features encountered will be recorded on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma context record sheets. The system used is the single context method by which individual archaeological units of stratigraphy are assigned a unique record number and are individually described and drawn.
- 9.3.4 Plans of features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. Should individual features merit it, they will be drawn at a larger scale.
- 9.3.5 Throughout the duration of the trial trenching a photographic record consisting of black and white prints (reproduced as contact sheets) and colour slides will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
- the site before the commencement of field operations.
 - the site during work to show specific stages of work, and the layout of the archaeology within individual trenches.
 - individual features and, where appropriate, their sections.
 - groups of features where their relationship is important.
 - the site on completion of field work
- 9.3.6 Should human remains be encountered, they will be left in situ with excavation being limited to the identification and recording of such remains. If removal of the remains is necessary the appropriate Home Office licences will be obtained and the local environmental health department informed. If relevant, the coroner and the police will be notified.
- 9.3.7 Finds collected during the fieldwork will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered ready for later washing and analysis.
- 9.3.8 The spoil generated during the investigation will be mounded along the edges of the trial trenches with the top soil being kept separate from the other material excavated for subsequent backfilling.
- 9.3.9 The precise location of the trenches within the site and the location of site recording grid will be established by an EDM survey.

10 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

- 10.1 If appropriate, during the investigation specialist advice will be obtained from an environmental archaeologist. The specialist will visit the site and will prepare a report detailing the nature of the environmental material present on the site and its potential for additional analysis should further stages of archaeological work be required. The results of the specialist's assessment will be incorporated into the final report

11 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT

11.1 Stage 1

11.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the trial trenching will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence constituting 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 slides will be labelled and mounted on appropriate hangers and the black and white contact prints will be labelled, in both cases the labelling will refer to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

11.1.2 All finds recovered during the trial trenching will be washed, marked, bagged and labelled according to the individual 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.

11.2 Stage 2

11.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.

11.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

11.3 Stage 3

11.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the investigation will be prepared. This will consist of:

- A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
- A description of the archaeological setting of the site.
- Description of the topography and geology of the investigation area.
- Description of the methodologies used during the investigation and discussion of their effectiveness in the light of the results.
- A text describing the findings of the investigation.
- Plans of the trenches showing the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
- Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.
- Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape.
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features or groups of features.
- A consideration of the significance of the remains found, in local, regional, national and international terms, using recognised evaluation criteria.

12 **ARCHIVE**

12.1 The documentation, finds, photographs and other records and materials generated during the investigation will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the City and County Museum, Lincoln. This sorting will be undertaken according to the document titled Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives for long term storage and curation.

13 **REPORT DEPOSITION**

13.1 Copies of the report will be sent to: the client, Christopher Kemp Estate Agents; the Boston Community Archaeologist; the Boston District Planning Department; and the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record.

14 **PUBLICATION**

14.1 A report of the findings of the investigation will be submitted for inclusion in the journal Lincolnshire History and Archaeology. Notes or articles describing the results of the investigation will also be submitted for publication in the appropriate national journals: Medieval Archaeology and Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group for medieval and later remains, and Britannia for discoveries of Roman date.

15 **CURATORIAL MONITORING**

15.1 Curatorial responsibility for the project lies with Boston Community Archaeologist. As much written notice as possible, ideally at least seven days, will be given to the archaeological curator prior to the commencement of the project to enable them to make appropriate monitoring arrangements.

16 **VARIATIONS TO THE PROPOSED SCHEME OF WORKS**

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

16.2 Should the archaeological curator require any additional investigation beyond the scope of the brief for works, or this specification, then the cost and duration of those supplementary examinations will be negotiated between the client and the contractor.

17 **SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT**

17.1 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.

Task	Body to be undertaking the work
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln.
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric: Dr D Knight, Trent and Peak Archaeological Trust
	Roman: B Precious, independent specialist
	Anglo-Saxon: J Young, independent specialist
	Medieval and later: G Taylor, APS in consultation with H Healey, independent archaeologist

Other Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist; or G Taylor, APS
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, independent specialist
Animal Remains Analysis	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy; or P Cope-Faulkner, APS
Environmental Analysis	V Fryer, independent specialist
Radiocarbon dating	Beta Analytic Inc., Florida, USA
Dendrochronology dating	University of Sheffield Dendrochronology Laboratory

18 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

18.1 Fieldwork is estimated to take five (5) person-days. Post-excavation analysis and report production is expected to take 8 person-days within a notional programme of 5 days. A project officer or supervisor will undertake most of the analysis, with assistance from the finds supervisor and CAD illustrator. One half-days of specialist time are allotted in the project budget.

18.2 Contingency

18.2.1 Contingencies have been specified in the budget. These include: environmental sampling/analysis of waterlogged remains; pump (may be required); Roman (not expected); Anglo-Saxon pottery (not expected); Medieval pottery- large quantities (moderate amount allowed for); faunal remains - large quantities (moderate amounts allowed for); Special (non-pottery) finds (small-moderate amounts allowed for); Conservation and/or Other unexpected remains or artefacts.

18.2.2 Other than the pump, the activation of any contingency requirement will be by the archaeological curator (Boston Community Archaeologist), not Archaeological Project Services.

19 INSURANCES

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

20 COPYRIGHT

20.1 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.

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

20.3 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.

- 20.4 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.

21 **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Hodge, CAH, Burton, RGO, Corbett, WM, Evans, R, and Seale, RS, 1984 Soils and their use in Eastern England, Soil Survey of England and Wales 13

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Appendix 2

Context Summary

Cxt	Type	Description	Tk (m)	Interpretation	Fill of/by
001	Masonry	Single course of 215mm x 105mm x 60mm square bricks, 3.57m in length	0.06	Edging for York stone surface	
002	Masonry	Single course of 230mm x 110mm x 70mm square bricks, 7.40m in length	0.07	Edging for York stone surface	
003	Deposit	Soft, dark grey sandy clayey silt with freq. cbm and mortar frags.	0.30	Hardcore	
004	Deposit	Loose, light grey mortar	0.30	Pit fill	009
005	Deposit	Firm, white concrete	0.27	Pit fill	009
006	Deposit	Loose, mid grey sandy silt with freq. cbm and mortar	0.30	Pit fill	009
007	Deposit	Loose, white limestone	0.02	Pit fill	009
008	Deposit	Firm, mid reddish brown degraded wood	0.12	Pit fill	009
009	Cut	Unknown shaped feature with vertical western and concave eastern sides with a flat base, 1.88m wide	0.53	Pit	004 – 008
010	Deposit	Soft, dark grey sandy silt with freq. coal, cbm, stones and mortar frags.	0.32	Dumped deposit	
011	Deposit	Soft, dark grey sandy silt with freq. coal, cbm, stones and mortar frags.	0.31+	Pit fill	013
012	Deposit	Soft, mottled mid greyish brown/grey	0.09+	Pit fill	013
013	Cut	Rectangular feature with concave sides, 3m+ long x 0.86m wide	0.31+	Pit	011, 012, 036, 037
014	Deposit	Soft, mid grey clayey silt with occ. coal, mortar and cbm frags.	0.30	Dumped deposit	
015	Cut	Circular feature with vertical sides, 0.10m diameter	0.08+	Stake hole	045
016	Cut	N-S linear shaped feature with vertical sides, 3m+ long x 1.16m wide	0.21+	Ditch/Gully	046
017	Cut	N-S linear shaped feature with stepped eastern and convex western sides, 3m+ long x 1.9m wide	0.20+	Ditch	019, 020, 095
018	Deposit	Soft, light yellowish brown silt	1.00	Alluvial deposit	
019	Deposit	Soft, mottled mid yellowish brown/grey clayey silt	0.20+	Ditch fill	017
020	Deposit	Soft, mid greyish brown sandy silt with freq. cbm	0.20+	Ditch fill	017
021	Masonry	Same as 001			
022	Deposit	Loose, black sandy silt with freq. modern building material	0.12	Modern debris	
023	Masonry	Same as 002			
024	Deposit	Same as 003			
025	Deposit	Same as 010	0.56		
026	Cut	Unknown shaped feature with convex sides with a flat base, 1.2m wide	0.26	Pit/Hollow	048
027	Deposit	Moderate, mottled mid grey/yellowish brown sandy silt with iron staining	0.17	Dumped deposit	
028	Deposit	Soft, mottled mid red/reddish brown/light grey sandy silt with iron staining	0.18	Burnt deposit	
029	Deposit	Soft, mid greyish brown sandy silt	0.12	Pit fill	030
030	Cut	Rectangular shaped feature with slightly sloping straight sides, 0.45m long x 0.05m+ wide	0.12	Pit	029
031	Masonry	Same as 001			
032	Deposit	Loose, mottled black/mid grey sandy silt with freq. charcoal	0.24	Modern dumped deposit	
033	Deposit	Loose, mid yellowish white degraded limestone	0.05	Modern dumped deposit	
034	Deposit	Soft, mid brown/light grey silt with freq. shell and occ. limestone and cbm frags.	1.07+	Pit fill	035

Cxt	Type	Description	Tk (m)	Interpretation	Fill of/by
035	Cut	Rectangular shaped feature with concave sides, 2.30m+ long x 1.50m+ wide	1.07+	Pit	035, 056
036	Deposit	Firm, dark brown silt with occ. cbm and charcoal frags.	0.21	Pit Fill	013
037	Deposit	Loose, dark brown silt with freq. charcoal	0.27	Pit fill	013
038	Masonry	Same as 001, 002	0.21		
039	Masonry	Same as 001, 002			
040	Deposit	Loose, mid yellow degraded mortar	0.10	Levelling deposit	
041	Deposit	Loose, dark grey silt freq. cobbles and mod. charcoal	0.27	Footing trench fill	044
042	Deposit	Loose, mid reddish brown gravel	0.09	Footing trench fill	044
043	Deposit	Firm, mid grey gravel	0.10	Footing trench fill	044
044	Cut	Unknown shaped feature with near vertical sides and rounded base, 0.24m wide	0.48	Footing trench	041 - 043
045	Deposit	Soft, mid grey sandy silt	0.08	Stake hole fill	015
046	Deposit	Soft, mid grey sandy silt	0.21	Ditch/Gully fill	016
047	Deposit	Loose, mottled white/black degraded concrete with freq. cbm and pebbles	0.50	Modern demolition debris	
048	Deposit	Soft, dark grey sandy silt with freq. shell, cbm, coal, stones and flint frags.	0.56	Pit/Hollow fill	026
049	Deposit	Same as 001, 002			
050	Deposit	Same as 010			
051	Deposit	Same as 014			
052	Masonry	Squared York stones 0.5m x 0.5m mortar bonded	0.10	York stone yard surface	
053	Deposit	0.05m - 0.10m cobbles aligned NE-SW		Cobbled surface	
054	Deposit	Soft, mottled light blue/grey silt	0.19	Alluvial deposit	
055	Deposit	Soft, dark grey silt with occ. stones	0.16	Gully fill	132
056	Deposit	Same as 034			
057	Masonry	E-W aligned roughly hewn limestone blocks, 0.35m x 0.22m, 0.7m long	0.17	Limestone block wall	
058	Deposit	Loose, dark grey silt with occ. stones	0.53	Pit fill	059
059	Cut	Oval shaped feature with concave sides and uneven base, 1.5m long x 1.2m wide	0.53	Pit	058
060	Deposit	Soft, mid grey silt with occ. shell	0.30	Alluvial deposit	
061	Deposit	Soft, mottled light brown/grey/black silt with occ. organic inclusions	0.33	Pit fill	130
062	Deposit	Soft, mid brownish grey silt	0.12	Alluvial deposit	
063	Deposit	Soft, light grey silt with occ. shell	0.48+	Alluvial deposit	
064	Deposit	Soft, light brown silt	0.13	Pit fill	090
065	Deposit	Soft, mid grey silt	0.13	Pit fill	090
066	Deposit	Same as 054			
067	Deposit	Soft, mottled light blue/reddish brown/mid grey	0.35	Pit fill	090
068	Deposit	Soft, light brownish grey silt	0.20	Pit fill	090
069	Deposit	Soft, mottled light brownish grey/blue silt with occ. cbm	0.11	Pit fill	090
070	Deposit	Soft, light brown silt	0.08	Pit fill	090
071	Deposit	Soft, mid brown silt	0.73	Pit fill	090
072	Deposit	Soft, mottled light grey/mid brown/black silt with occ. organic material	0.25	Pit/Ditch fill	130
073	Deposit	Soft, mottled light brown/grey silt	0.44	Pit/Ditch fill	130
074	Deposit	Soft, mid grey silt	0.29	Pit/Ditch fill	130
075	Deposit	Moderate, mid brown silt	0.25+	Alluvial deposit	
076	Deposit	Soft, light grey silt	0.10+	Alluvial deposit	
077	Deposit	Same as 055			
078	Deposit	Soft, mottled mid yellowish brown/reddish brown/grey	0.45	Alluvial deposit	

Cxt	Type	Description	Tk (m)	Interpretation	Fill of/by
079	Deposit	Soft, mottled mid grey/black organic material with silt lenses and occ. charcoal	0.13	Organic lens within 078	
080	Deposit	Same as 020			
081	Cut	Same as 017			
082	Deposit	Moderate, mottled light brown/grey clayey silt	0.11	Pit fill	090
083	Deposit	Soft, light grey silt	0.10	Footings fill	088
084	Deposit	Soft, light grey silt with occ. shells	0.20	Pit fill	131
085	Deposit	Soft, mid brownish yellow silt	0.20	Pit fill	131
086	Deposit	Soft, black organic material	0.05	Pit fill	131
087	Deposit	Soft, mottled light grey/reddish brown silt with iron staining and freq. limestone and cobbles	0.44+	Footings fill	088
088	Cut	Unknown shaped feature with stepped near vertical sides, 0.74m wide	0.49+	Footings	083, 087
089	Deposit	Soft, mid grey silt with organic lenses and occ. shells	0.12	Alluvial deposit	
090	Cut	Unknown shaped feature with concave and stepped sides, 5.03m+ wide	0.87	Pit	064 - 071, 082
091	Deposit	Same as 018			
092	Deposit	Soft, light brown silt	0.16	Alluvial deposit	
093	Deposit	Soft, light brown silt	0.07	Alluvial deposit	
094	Deposit	Same as 093			
095	Deposit	Soft, mid grey/reddish brown/dark grey silt lenses with occ. shells	0.25	Ditch fill	017
096	Deposit	Soft, mottled mid grey/black silt with occ. shells and iron staining	0.23	Alluvial deposit	
097	Deposit	Soft, mottled mid grey/black silt with occ. shells	0.21	Stake hole fill	098
098	Cut	Figure of eight shaped feature with concave sides and base, 0.38m long x 0.21m wide	0.21	Stake hole	097
099	Deposit	Soft, black silt with organic material		Alluvial deposit	
100	Deposit	Firm, light grey clay with occ. shells		Alluvial deposit	
101	Cut	Circular shaped feature with concave sides and flat base, 0.76m+ long x 0.45m+ wide	0.31	Pit	102, 107 - 109
102	Deposit	Soft, mottled mid grey/black silt with occ. shells	0.10	Pit fill	101
103	Deposit	Soft, black silt with occ. gravel		Alluvial deposit	
104	Deposit	Same as 097			
105	Cut	Same as 098			
106	Timber	Vertically set whole timber post reducing to a point		Wooden post	
107	Deposit	Firm, mid grey clay with occ. shells	0.07	Pit fill	101
108	Deposit	Loose, black silt with freq. shells	0.14	Pit fill	101
109	Deposit	Soft, mottled mid grey/black silt with occ. shells	0.19	Pit fill	101
110	Deposit	Soft, light yellowish brown silt	0.08	Alluvial deposit	
111	Deposit	Soft, mid grey silt	0.12	Alluvial deposit	
112	Deposit	Soft, light to mid grey silt	0.25	Alluvial deposit, auger 1	
113	Deposit	Moderate, light grey clayey silt	0.06	Alluvial deposit, auger 1	
114	Deposit	Soft, mid grey sandy silt	0.40	Alluvial deposit, auger 1	
115	Deposit	Moderate, mid grey sandy silt with occ. clay lense	0.09	Alluvial deposit, auger 1	
116	Deposit	Moderate, mid greyish blue clay	0.06	Alluvial deposit, auger 1	
117	Deposit	Moderate, mid grey clay	0.10+	Alluvial deposit, auger 1	
118	Deposit	Soft, mid grey clayey silt	0.10	Alluvial deposit, auger 2	
119	Deposit	Same as 063	0.18	Alluvial deposit, auger 2	
120	Deposit	Soft, light to mid grey sandy silt	0.26	Alluvial deposit, auger 2	
121	Deposit	Moderate, light to mid grey clayey silt	0.20	Alluvial deposit, auger 2	
122	Deposit	Moderate, light to mid bluish grey silty clay	0.36+	Alluvial deposit, auger 2	
123	Deposit	Soft, light greyish brown sandy silt	0.06	Alluvial deposit, auger 3	
124	Deposit	Soft, mid grey silt with occ. organic material	0.15	Alluvial deposit, auger 3	
125	Deposit	Soft, mottled light brown/green/grey silty sand	0.30	Alluvial deposit, auger 3	

Cxt	Type	Description	Tk (m)	Interpretation	Fill of/by
126	Deposit	Soft, light brown silt with occ. organic material	0.13	Alluvial deposit, auger 3	
127	Deposit	Moderate, mid greyish blue clay	0.13	Alluvial deposit, auger 3	
128	Deposit	Soft, light brown silt	0.08	Alluvial deposit, auger 3	
129	Deposit	Moderate, mid greyish blue clay	0.20+	Alluvial deposit, auger 3	
130	Cut	N-S linear shaped feature with stepped eastern side, 3.5m+ wide	0.63+	Pit/Ditch	061, 072 - 074
131	Cut	Unknown shaped feature with concave sides and flat base, 0.93m+ wide	0.25	Pit	084 - 086
132	Cut	N-S linear shaped feature with concave sides and base, 1m+ long x 0.44m wide	0.16	Gully	055 / 077

Appendix 3

The Medieval Pottery

by Jane Young with comments on the unusual ceramic objects by Alan Vince

Introduction

An assemblage of 63 sherds of medieval pottery weighing 1534g was recovered during the archaeological evaluation of the site (Table 2). The material ranges in date from the 13th to the 15th centuries (Table 1). The pottery was examined visually and, where necessary, by using x20 magnification, then recorded using locally and nationally agreed codenames on an Access database. The CLAU fabric type series for Lincoln, comparative material from previous excavations in Boston and kiln waste from the Roses Kiln and excavations in 1996 (TAS96) were consulted for comparative material. The unusual imported ceramic objects were extracted and reported below by Alan Vince.

Provenance

The material was recovered from deposits of alluvium (054, 060, 062, 063), gully fills (055), ditch fills (020, 046, 095), pit fills (011, 034, 056, 058, 061, 073, 102), wall foundation (057), stake hole (98), flood deposit (014), dumped deposit (027) and burnt deposit (028).

The Pottery

A range of 14 different, identifiable post-Roman pottery ware types was found on the site. A restricted range of vessel forms was recovered, mainly jugs, jars and bowls.

Context	Date	Comments
011	mid 13th to mid 14th	
014	mid to late 13th	
020	mid 13th to mid 14th	single sherd
034	mid 13th to mid 14th	single sherd
054	late 13th to 14th	single sherd
055	late 14th to 15th	single sherd
056	late medieval ?	single sherd
057	mid to late 13th	
058	13th to early 14th	
060	mid to late 13th	
061	mid to late 13th	
062	late medieval ?	
063	early/mid to mid 13th	
073	13th to 15th	single sherd
095	mid 13th to mid 14th	
098	13th to 15th	single sherd
102	late 13th to early 14th	

Table 1: Pottery Dating

The unusual ceramic objects

Excavations in Boston in 2002 produced two sherds of an unusual character (Plates 9 and 10). They are interpreted here as being part of an ornamental fireback, or as stove tiles from a closed stove. Neither interpretation is wholly convincing and the sherds should be published to bring them to the attention of the academic world.

Fabric

The sherds are tempered with abundant quartzose sand. The largest grains are rounded and up to 0.5mm across whereas the majority of the grains are up to 0.25mm across and angular (ie fine sand grade). Sparse rounded fragments of clay

up to 2.0mm across and red iron-rich pellets of similar size are also present. Both sherds are oxidized throughout, despite being in places over 25mm thick.

There are no diagnostic features in the fabric but it is similar to that of Low Countries Redware (Hurst 1986, 130-175). This ware was produced from the late 13th to the 16th century and vessels of this type are common finds on east coast port sites in England.

Form

The two sherds have been moulded by hand and a knife or similar tool has been used to trim off excess clay from the back of the object. The object appears to consist of a semi-circular-sectioned alcove with a rounded hood and an elaborately moulded flange which includes a hand-formed figure made in several parts which were luted together. It seems that the arm of this figure was poorly attached and has either cracked along its join with the body or fallen off entirely during firing.

The back of the alcove (from context 062) is roughly decorated with a grid of broad white clay strips, up to 0.5mm thick, applied with the thumb. The whole surface was covered in a lead glaze, appearing brown over the parent clay and yellow/orange over the white clay strips (as a result of iron adsorbed by the glaze from the parent clay).

The flange (from context 056) seems to have a spandrel at its top left side with a flat face covered with white slip and decorated with a geometric pattern incised with a narrow, round-ended tool (possibly the tip of a knife used sideways). The figure is probably a knight wearing a helm and with a band of white clay around the waist of its surcoat. The helm has an ornamental fringe formed by a row of circular dots.

Date

If the interpretation of the figure as a knight in a surcoat is correct then this would be consistent with a 13th to 14th-century date. This is at the very beginning of the production of Low Countries Redware but Boston is precisely the sort of site where such early finds would be expected. A much later date cannot be ruled out, even if the identification of the figure is correct since such figures tend to be stereotypes rather than accurate copies of contemporary fashions.

Function

It is likely that the vertical white strip on the fragment from 062 marked the central point of the vessel. This would give the vessel a width of 25-30cm excluding the flange. This is considerably larger than the size of most medieval stove tiles (see for example Hurst 1986, Fig 114). The vessel is much more similar to that of a late 16th/early 17th-century fire cover (Hurst 1986-7) although this has its decoration on the convex side of the object. Another possibility is that the sherds come from a very elaborate dripping pan. However, there would be little point in decorating such a utilitarian vessel which would have been used in the kitchen. Furthermore, the only traces of soot blackening on the sherds are on the glaze on the inside of the alcove.

It is therefore suggested that the sherds might come from a fireback rather than a cover. Post-medieval firebacks are flat and were made to fit much larger spaces than this vessel. Perhaps, however, the object was used with charcoal or coals to form the back of a brazier.

Assessment

The sherds are clearly highly unusual and worthy of publication, for example in *Medieval Ceramics*. This would require a shortened version of this report, a colour photograph and line drawing.

context	cname	sub fabric	form type	sherd	vessels	weight	decoration	part	description
011	BOSTTT	E	jug	1	1	9		BS	
011	BOSTTT	J	jug/jar	1	1	2		BS	
014	SAIM		jug	1	1	3		BS	
020	TOY	D	jug/jar	1	1	10		BS	soot
034	TOY	J	jar	1	1	13		BS	int olive brown glaze;thick ext soot
054	DUTR		?	1	1	17		base	thin flat base
055	LMLOC	oxid;fine sandy;hard	small jug ?	1	1	15		BS	int & ext thick glossy olive green glaze;abun fine subround quartz occ fe
056	DUTR		oven back ?	1	1	226	slipped dec	BS	same vessel 062
057	BOUA	A/C	jar	2	1	44		BS	
057	BOUA	A	jar	1	1	14		BS	
057	BOSTLT		small jug	1	1	11		BS	? ID
057	BOSTLT		small jug	1	1	4		BS	pocked glaze;? Or LSW1
057	BOSTLT		?	1	1	4		BS	soot;? ID white salt surfs
057	MISC	white;med sandy;med hard	?	1	1	4		BS	abraded;abun med subround quartz + mod larger greensand
057	SAIM		jug	1	1	6		BS	
058	BOSTTT	K	jug	1	1	67	sets of 2 basal thumbings	base	
058	MEDX	dark reduced;med sandy;hard	small lamp/bowl	1	1	8		rim	soot int & ext;2 spots of glaze int;mixed mainly med quartz moderate larger
060	BOSTTT	E	small jug	1	1	9	thumbed base	BS	int dep;? Or BOSTLT
060	BOSTLT		jug	1	1	15		BS	broken during firing;misfired cu glaze
060	BOSTLT		small jug	1	1	2		BS	
061	BOSTTT	K	jug ?	1	1	49		base	
061	BOUA	B/C	jar	1	1	30		BS	soot
061	BOUA	A/C	jar	1	1	5		BS	soot int & ext
062	BOSTLT		small jug	1	1	7		BS	white slip;? ID poss BOSTTT Fabric E;part way between TOY & LSW
062	DUTR		oven back ?	1	1	215	slipped & incised dec;applied figure/animal	BS	same vessel 056
063	POTT		large jar	1	1	42		rim	
063	SCAR		jug	1	1	50		handle	grooved rod handle
063	SCAR		jug	1	1	17		rim	cu glaze;plain upright rim
063	BOSTLT		small jug	1	1	17	thumbed base	base	
063	MEDX	OX/R/OX;fine sandy;hard	jug	1	1	11	notched applied fe strip	BS	? a GRIM;mod fine quartz sparse larger inc greensand;pocked olive glaze
063	NOTG	early/light firing	large jug	1	1	30		BS	splashed cu mottled glaze
073	POTT		jar	1	1	52		base	soot
095	BOSTTT	K	jug	1	1	38	thumbed base	base	light firing;taken for Fabric type series
095	MEDX	OX/R/OX;fine sandy;hard	jar ?	1	1	2		BS	abundant fine quartz;soot;? BEVOIT
098	POTT		jar	1	1	30		BS	
102	BOSTTT	E	small jug/jar	1	1	7		BS	
102	BOSTTT	J	small jug	1	1	2		neck	
102	BOUA	A	jar	1	1	14		BS	
102	MEDLOC	oxid with reduced margins;med sandy;hard	jar ?	2	1	39		BS	thick soot ext & some part int & over breaks;mixed subround quartz
102	BOSTLT		jug ?	1	1	4		BS	soot int & ext;burnt ?
102	BOSTLT		jar ?	1	1	3		BS	soot
102	BOSTLT		jug/jar	1	1	3		BS	? ID
102	DUTR		?	1	1	2		BS	? ID
102	BOSTLT		small jar/jug	1	1	3		BS	? ID
102	MEDX	oxid;fine sandy;hard	jar ?	1	1	3		BS	comm fine quartz mod fine ca mod fe
102	SIEG	early	small tall necked jug	1	1	38	rilled neck	rim	late 13/early 14th
102	SAIM		tall baluster jug ?	1	1	6		BS	
102	POTT		large jar	1	1	15		rim	
102	POTT		?	1	1	8		base	interior leached by contents
102	POTT		?	1	1	15		base	soot int on lower wall
102	POTT		?	1	1	10		base	
102	BOUA	A	jar	1	1	18	vert pressed applied strip	BS	int glaze
102	DUTR		frying pan	1	1	39		rim	soot;late 13th to 14th
102	BOSTTT	B	small jug	1	1	17		rim	slightly cuffed rim
102	BOSTTT	J	small jug	1	1	16		rim	slightly cuffed rim
102	BOSTTT	B	large jug	1	1	126		base	thumb pressing on int basal angle;white slip
102	BOUA	B/C	jar	2	1	28		BS	
102	BOUA	B/C	jar	1	1	14		BS	soot
102	BOUA	A/C	jar ?	1	1	3		BS	
102	MEDX	reduced;med sandy;hard	small jug	1	1	23	fe pellet dec	BS	comm mainly fine-med quartz occ larger occ ca mod black ? Fe;? ID could be BOSTLT

Table 2: Pottery Archive

Appendix 4

The Post-medieval Pottery and Other 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 6 fragments of pottery weighing 59g was recovered from 3 separate contexts. In addition to the pottery, other items, mostly brick/tile, comprising 45 objects weighing a total of 6006g, was retrieved. A further artefact, a large iron object, was found but was not weighed due to its size. Medieval pottery was also recovered and is reported separately.

Provenance

The material was recovered from deposits of alluvium (010, 025, 054, 062, 063), ditch fills (020, 046), pit fills (011, 034, 058, 102), flood deposit (014), dumped deposit (027) and burnt deposit (028).

Most of the pottery was probably made in Staffordshire, though there is also an identifiable London product.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: Pottery

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
010	CRMWARE	Creamware, early 19 th century	1	1	Early 19 th century
	PEARL	Pearlware, early 19 th century	1	1	
025	EMOD	Mocha ware, c. 1820-30	1	12	Early 19 th century
	PEARL	Pearlware, black transfer print, early 19 th century	1	1	
	TGE	Tin glazed earthenware, 18 th century	1	4	
046	LONS	Brown salt-glazed stoneware, Fulham	1	40	1670s-80s

Part of a heraldic medallion occurs on the piece of stoneware from (046). This crest shows a shield, helmet and mantling. Two Tudor roses are in the left field of the shield and there appears to be a third above the helmet. The coat of arms has not been identified but is likely to be a genuine, rather than mock, heraldic achievement. Other genuine hatchments have previously been identified on Fulham stoneware (Green 1999, 248-9). Such heraldic medallions appear to have been popular following the restoration of the monarchy in the mid 17th century and these Fulham examples date from the later 1670s. Investigations at John Dwight's Fulham stoneware factory, founded about 1672, yielded a small group of medallion-decorated vessels for the period 1672-4 but a very large assemblage dated to 1675-6. There appeared to be very few, if any, dating after the death of Charles II in 1685 and it is suspected that there were few designs with medallions after 1681 (*ibid.*, 199).

A piece of Mocha ware from (025) has finger-trailed decoration ('worm hole' pattern). This decorative style is typical of the period c. 1820-30 (Royle 1984, 52 & fig. 6.23).

Table 2: The Other Finds

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
020	Iron	Large (over 0.5m long and 0.1m wide) object comprising 2 rods meeting at a point	1	-	
025	Clay pipe	Stems, bore 5/64"	1	4	18 th century

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
034	Glass	Base of drinking vessel, colourless	1	26	19 th century
	Clinker	Clinker	1	62	
054	Cement	Tile?	1	134	
062	Industrial residue	Iron smithing slag	1	212	
102	Iron	Nail	1	14	
	Industrial residue	Iron smithing slag	1	21	

Table 3: Ceramic Building Material

Context	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Comments/ Context Date
010	Brick/tile	3	20	Post-medieval
011	Brick/tile	1	5	Post-medieval
014	Brick, handmade, 50mm thick, 115-125mm wide, medieval?	1	2185	Late post-medieval
	Brick, handmade, late post-medieval	1	43	
	Tile, reduced core, medieval	1	17	
	Brick/tile	1	5	
	Fired clay	1	24	
020	Brick, handmade, 59mm thick, medieval	1	141	Medieval
	Tile, reduced core, 18mm thick, medieval	1	239	
	Fired clay	1	36	
027	Brick/tile	1	7	
	Brick/tile, Roman??	1	62	
028	Brick/tile	2	29	Post-medieval
034	Tiles, 4 reduced core, 4 oxidized throughout, 15-18mm thick; 1 has nib and rectangular peg hole; 1 mortared both faces; 1 has faintly incised graffiti, possibly 'M'	8	1470	Late medieval-early post-medieval. Tile with peg hole and nib is Boston product
046	Tile, oxidized throughout, 15mm thick, post-medieval	1	164	Post-medieval
	Brick/tile	1	5	
054	Brick, handmade	2	187	Medieval-post-medieval?
058	Brick	1	15	
	Fired clay, possibly fragment of mould	1	11	
062	Tile, 1 reduced core, other reduced throughout, 16-17mm thick, medieval	2	294	Medieval
	Highly-fired clay	1	11	
063	Tile, 1 reduced core, 2 oxidized throughout, 14-18mm thick	3	431	Late medieval-early post-medieval
102	Tile, reduced core, 15-18mm thick	2	132	Medieval

A roof tile from (034) has both a peg hole and a nib. Tiles of this form are known to have been made in a late 14th century tile kiln excavated about 400m to the northeast (Mayes 1965, plt XXXIII, no. 3) and this example is probably contemporary with that kiln, and perhaps a product of it.

A fragment of burnt clay from (058) may be part of a mould for casting metal objects. One side is oxidized and the other reduced, characteristic of the effects of the introduction of hot, molten metal. However, the piece is worn and there are no traces of any moulded impressions and the object may be clay burnt by other means.

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 have been numerous previous archaeological investigations at Boston, including in close proximity to the current site, 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

The various aspects of the assemblage have differing potential. In general, the small collection of late post-medieval pottery fragments is of limited local potential, though the London stoneware with the heraldic medallion is of moderate significance. Although only two pieces of slag were found they imply iron smithing somewhere in the general vicinity of the site, though the small quantity indicates not at the investigation area itself. About half of the brick and tile recovered is of medieval to early post-medieval date. This is of moderate-high local potential and implies the presence of buildings of these periods that incorporate brick and tile in their structure.

The absence of any material earlier than the 12th century is informative and suggests that archaeological deposits dating from this period and before are absent from the area, or were not disturbed by the development. Similarly, the absence of any artefacts later than the 17th century would tend to suggest that the site was abandoned at that time.

References

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Appendix 5

Environmental Archaeology Assessment by James Rackham

Introduction

An evaluation excavation conducted by Archaeological Project Services at South End, Boston revealed Medieval and post-Medieval features. Two samples were collected during excavation from Trench 1 of the evaluation. One is a medieval deposit of soft light grey alluvial silt at the base of the trench and the second a probable medieval layer of reddish 'burnt' sandy silt. In addition a small collection of hand collected animal bone and shell was recovered. Both were submitted to the Environmental Archaeology Consultancy for processing and assessment.

Table 1: Samples taken for environmental analysis

sample no.	context no.	sample volume (l)	feature	date
1	063	10	Alluvial silt	Medieval
2	028	8.5	Burnt sandy silt	Medieval?

Methods

The soil samples were processed in the following manner. Sample volume and weight was measured prior to processing. The samples were washed in a 'Siraf' tank (Williams 1973) using a flotation sieve with a 0.5mm mesh and an internal wet sieve of 1mm mesh for the residue. Both residue and flot were dried and the residues subsequently re-floated to ensure the efficient recovery of charred material. The dry volume of the flots was measured and the volume and weight of the residue recorded. A total of 18.5 litres of soil was processed in this way.

The residue was sorted by eye, and environmental and archaeological finds picked out, noted on the assessment sheet and bagged independently. A magnet was run through each residue in order to recover magnetised material such as hammerscale and prill and a count made of the number of flakes or spheroids of hammerscale collected. The residue was then discarded. The flot of each sample was studied using x30 magnifications and the presence of environmental finds (i.e. snails, charcoal, carbonised seeds, bones etc) was noted and their abundance and species diversity recorded on the assessment sheet. The flots were then bagged and along with the finds from the sorted residue, constitute the material archive of the samples.

The individual components of the samples were then preliminarily identified and the results are summarised below in Tables 2-3.

Results

Context 063.

This light grey alluvial silt, the earliest layer in the trench, clearly contains evidence for occupation. The residue is composed largely of silt concretions with occasional small stones and occupation debris. While the quantities of debris recovered are not great the occurrence

of pottery, bone, coal and cinder, fired earth and slag (Table 2) all indicate occupation activity at this level or in the immediate vicinity. The occurrence of over forty flakes and a few spheroids of hammerscale and the presence of a small quantity of slag indicates that iron smithing is taking place nearby at the time of the formation of the deposit. The animal bone, fish bone, marine shell and charred cereal remains clearly indicate occupation debris in addition to the industrial evidence.

There is some waterlogged material in this context indicating some survival of waterlogged remains, although probably the more robust elements. The small residue of concreted silts suggests that the matrix of this sample is naturally derived silts, but whether they have been deposited *in situ* or redeposited cannot be established from the sample processing.

Table 2: Finds from the processed samples

sample no.	context	sample vol. l.	residue volume (l)	pot no / wt (g)	mortar wt. g	brick /tile wt.g.	fired earth wt. g.	coal/ cinder wt. g.	slag wt. g.	hammer-scale no.	bone wt. g.
1	063	10	0.3	4/7			1	1	8	40+	9
2	028	8.5	0.5		3	90	59	3		8	2

Context 028.

This deposit is a soft reddish sandy silt with clear evidence of burning. The bulk of the residue is composed of fired earth and the deposit may represent an hearth or redeposited hearth material. It also includes some well fired material, probably brick, and mortar fragments. Finds are limited to a few fragments of indeterminate bone, an eel vertebra, a stickleback spine and several small fish vertebrae, a little mussel shell, a few flakes of hammerscale, and a couple of fragments of bird eggshell. One or two uncharred seeds of elder, *Sambucus* sp., are present in the flot, and four charred cereal grains, one of which has been identified as wheat (Table 3).

Table 3: Environmental finds from the processed samples

sample no.	cont no.	sample vol. (l)	flot vol. (ml)	char-coal *	charred grain *	charred seed *	un-charred seed *	marine shell (g)	egg-shell *	comment
1	063	10	13	3	2	1	2	7		Barley, <i>Rubus</i> , <i>Chenopodium</i> , whelk, cockle, mussel, horse, frog/toad, rodent, eel, small fish
2	028	8.5	5	1	1		1	1	1	Wheat, elder, musel, bird, eel, stickleback, small fish

*frequency 1=1-10; 2=11-50; 3=51-150; 4=151-250; 5=>250

Coal is present in both samples and much more abundant than charcoal in context 028, suggesting that it may have been the main domestic fuel at the site.

Animal Bone and Shell

Forty-one bones were recovered by hand during the excavations. These include cattle, sheep, pig, chicken, duck, goose, sturgeon and oyster fragments. The catalogue is attached.

Table 4: Hand collected fragments of bone and shell of each taxa by context

	034	046	054	057	058	062	063	095	102
Cattle	2		1			2			4
Cattle size		1			1	1			3
Sheep								1	
Sheep/goat		1				1	1		1
Sheep size		1					1		7
Chicken				1			1		5
Goose, dom.	1								
Duck			1						1
Sturgeon									1
Oyster		1							

The bone is in very good condition. Over 25% of the fragments show evidence of butchery in the form of chop or cut marks, but only one carries evidence of gnawing. A number of the chicken bones clearly derive from juvenile birds, since their epiphyses are incompletely formed. The sturgeon is represented by part of a bony scute.

Discussion and recommendations

The samples and hand collected bone clearly indicate that industrial and occupation debris survives in the deposits. The presence of small quantities of waterlogged plant remains in context 063 suggests that the deposits at the base of the trench have remained moist if not completely waterlogged and deeper deposits can be expected to preserve organic material in even better condition with less likelihood of a preservational bias.

The samples have produced evidence for iron smithing and domestic occupation, while context 028 probably represents a hearth floor or redeposited hearth material. Considering the quantity of finds that derived from the alluvial silts at the base of the trench, context 063, it is probable that the evaluation trench did not bottom the deposits with cultural material.

Should further archaeological investigation be required at the site then three areas of query should be targetted through sampling and hand recovery of bone and shell. The evidence for the diet of the occupants; the indications of industrial activity or function of features; and whether deposits accumulated as a result of human activity or naturally. Confident interpretation of the latter is likely to require *in situ* observation of the deposits.

Acknowledgments

I should like to thank Alison Foster the sample processing and sorting.

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Archive Catalogue of Animal Bone from Boston South End, BSE02

site	cont.	species	bone	no.	side	fusion	zone	butchery	gnawing	toothwear	measurement	path	comment	pres
BSE02	034	BOS	LM	1	F								ONE CUSP-STAGE G	4
BSE02	034	BOS	MTP	1	F								SPLIT FRAGMENT OF PROXIMAL ARTICULATION	4
BSE02	034	GOOS	COR	1	R			KN					SLIGHT DISTAL DAMAGE-DISTAL END CUT	4
BSE02	046	CSZ	RIB	1	F								DISTAL SHAFT	4
BSE02	046	OVCA	RIB	1	R								1ST RIB-SHAFT	4
BSE02	046	OYS	UV	1	W								UPPER VALVE	4
BSE02	046	SSZ	FEM	1	F								MIDSHAFT FRAGMENT	4
BSE02	054	BOS	SCP	1	L	DF	12	CH			GLP-72.5 LG-62.8		GLENOID-NECK CHOPPED FROM VENTRAL SIDE	4
BSE02	054	DUCK	ULN	1	R								DISTAL END AND SHAFT-DOMESTIC	4
BSE02	057	CHIK	TMT	1	F								SHAFT-BOTH ENDS UNFORMED-JUV-FEMALE?	4
BSE02	058	CSZ	RIB	1	F			CH					MIDSHAFT FRAGMENT- BOTH ENDS CHOPPED	4
BSE02	062	BOS	HUM	1	R	DF	78	CH					CONDYLE- HEAVY CHOP THRU MEDIAL SIDE	4
BSE02	062	BOS	RIB	1	R	PN	1	CH					PROX HALF-HEAD CHOPPED THRU TIP	4
BSE02	062	CSZ	RIB	1	F			CH					DISTAL SHAFT FRAGMENT-PROX END CHOPPED	4
BSE02	062	OVCA	HUM	1	L	PN	1259						PROX HALF WITH DAMAGED EPI- EPI DETACHED	4
BSE02	063	CHIK	FEM	1	R	PNDN							POROUS SHAFT-BOTH ENDS NOT FULLY FORMED	4
BSE02	063	OVCA	MTC	1	R		12						PROXIMAL END	4
BSE02	063	SSZ	SCP	1	L				DG				PROX FRAGMENT CAUDAL MARGIN OF BLADE-PROX END CHEWED	4
BSE02	095	OVI	MTC	1	R	DF	345				Bd-25 Dd-15.6		DISTAL HALF	4
BSE02	102	BOS	HYD	1	F								ONE END	4
BSE02	102	BOS	MAN	1	F								ANT DORSAL FRAG ASC RAMUS	4
BSE02	102	BOS	MTC	1	L		12						PROXIMAL END	4
BSE02	102	BOS	PH1	1	R	PF	12	KN			GL-58.4 Bp-26		COMPLETE-HIND-SL CUT MARK ON MEDIAL SIDE	4
BSE02	102	CHIK	FEM	1	R	PN							PROX HALF-EPI INCOMPLETELY FORMED-IMM	4
BSE02	102	CHIK	LSA	1	F								FRAGMENT WITH SMALL PART ACETAB	4
BSE02	102	CHIK	TIB	1	F	PN							INCOMPLETELY FORMED PROX END-JUV	4
BSE02	102	CHIK	TIB	1	R								DISTAL HALF	4
BSE02	102	CHIK	ULN	1	R	PNDN							SHAFT-BOTH ENDS STILL VERY POROUS-JUV	4
BSE02	102	CSZ	LBF	1	F								SHAFT FRAGMENT	4
BSE02	102	CSZ	RIB	1	F			KN					DISTAL SHAFT FRAGMENT-PROX CUT- 2 PIECES	4

site	cont.	species	bone	no.	side	fusion	zone	butchery	gnawing	toothwear	measurement	path	comment	pres
BSE02	102	CSZ	SKL	1	F								SUPRAORBITAL FRAGMENT OF FRONTAL	4
BSE02	102	DUCK	HUM	1	R								PROX HALF SHAFT	4
BSE02	102	OVCA	HUM	1	L	DF	6789				HT-30.5 BT-18.8		DISTAL END	4
BSE02	102	SSZ	FEM	1	F								PROX MIDSHAFT FRAGMENT	4
BSE02	102	SSZ	RIB	1	F			KN					MIDSHAFT FRAGMENT-PROX END CUT	4
BSE02	102	SSZ	RIB	1	F								DISTAL SHAFT	4
BSE02	102	SSZ	RIB	1	L			CH					PROX HALF SHAFT-HEAD CHOPPED OFF	4
BSE02	102	SSZ	RIB	1	L	PN	1						PROX HALF	4
BSE02	102	SSZ	RIB	1	L								DISTAL HALF SHAFT	4
BSE02	102	SSZ	TRV	1	F			CH					BASE SPINE-CHOPPED DOWN LEFT SIDE	4
BSE02	102	STUR	SCT	1	F								BONEY SCUTE	4

Appendix 6

SECRETARY OF STATE'S CRITERIA FOR SCHEDULING ANCIENT MONUMENTS - extract from *Archaeology and Planning* DOE Planning Policy Guidance note 16, November 1990

The following criteria (which are not in any order of ranking), are used for assessing the national importance of an ancient monument and considering whether scheduling is appropriate. The criteria should not however be regarded as definitive; rather they are indicators which contribute to a wider judgement based on the individual circumstances of a case.

i *Period*: all types of monuments that characterise a category or period should be considered for preservation.

ii *Rarity*: there are some monument categories which in certain periods are so scarce that all surviving examples which retain some archaeological potential should be preserved. In general, however, a selection must be made which portrays the typical and commonplace as well as the rare. This process should take account of all aspects of the distribution of a particular class of monument, both in a national and regional context.

iii *Documentation*: the significance of a monument may be enhanced by the existence of records of previous investigation or, in the case of more recent monuments, by the supporting evidence of contemporary written records.

iv *Group value*: the value of a single monument (such as a field system) may be greatly enhanced by its association with related contemporary monuments (such as a settlement or cemetery) or with monuments of different periods. In some cases, it is preferable to protect the complete group of monuments, including associated and adjacent land, rather than to protect isolated monuments within the group.

v *Survival/Condition*: the survival of a monument's archaeological potential both above and below ground is a particularly important consideration and should be assessed in relation to its present condition and surviving features.

vi *Fragility/Vulnerability*: highly important archaeological evidence from some field monuments can be destroyed by a single ploughing or unsympathetic treatment; vulnerable monuments of this nature would particularly benefit from the statutory protection that scheduling confers. There are also existing standing structures of particular form or complexity whose value can again be severely reduced by neglect or careless treatment and which are similarly well suited by scheduled monument protection, even if these structures are already listed buildings.

vii *Diversity*: some monuments may be selected for scheduling because they possess a combination of high quality features, others because of a single important attribute.

viii *Potential*: on occasion, the nature of the evidence cannot be specified precisely but it may still be possible to document reasons anticipating its existence and importance and so to demonstrate the justification for scheduling. This is usually confined to sites rather than upstanding monuments.

Appendix 7

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.
Border	Villager holding less land than a <i>villein</i>
Bronze Age	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
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].
Crop mark	A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological or geological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.
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).
Geophysical Survey	Essentially non-invasive methods of examining below the ground surface by measuring deviations in the physical properties and characteristics of the earth. Techniques include magnetometry and resistivity survey.
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 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.
Mesolithic	The 'Middle Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 11000 - 4500 BC.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of

human activity

- Neolithic** The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500-2250 BC.
- Palaeolithic** The 'Old Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 500000 - 11000 BC in Britain.
- Post hole** The hole cut to take a timber post, usually in an upright position. The hole may have been dug larger than the post and contain soil or stones to support the post. Alternatively, the posthole may have been formed through the process of driving the post into the ground.
- 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.
- Ridge and Furrow** The remains of arable cultivation consisting of raised rounded strips separated by furrows. It is characteristic of open field agriculture.
- 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
- Transformed** Soil deposits that have been changed. The agencies of such changes include natural processes, such as fluctuating water tables, worm or root action, and human activities such as gardening or agriculture. This transformation process serves to homogenise soil, erasing evidence of layering or features.

Appendix 8

The Archive

The archive consists of:

- 129 Context records
- 18 Drawing sheets
- 5 Daily record sheets
- 7 Context record sheets
- 1 Section record sheet
- 1 Plan record sheet
- 3 Photographic record sheets
- 1 Small Finds record sheet
- 1 Level sheet
- 1 Sample record sheet
- 2 Environmental sample sheets
- 2 Box of finds
- 1 Stratigraphic matrix

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: 2002.188

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: BSE02

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.

Boston, South End (BSE02)

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