ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT MAIN STREET, GREATFORD, LINCOLNSHIRE (GMS 02)



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Highways & Planning Directorate

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT MAIN STREET, GREATFORD, LINCOLNSHIRE (GMS 02)

Work Undertaken For Becket Homes

July 2002

Report Compiled by Paul Cope-Faulkner BA (Hons) AIFA

National Grid Reference: TF 0891 1192
Planning Reference: S01/1513/36

City and County Museum Accession No: 2002.215

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 133/02

Quality Control GMS 02

Main Street, Greatford

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| Checked by Project Manager | | Approved by Senior Archaeologist | | |
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| Date: 16th July 2002 | | Date: 18th July 2002 | | |

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1. SUMMARY

A watching brief was undertaken during the construction of a new dwelling on land at Main Street, Greatford, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of the foundation trenches.

The site is located in the core of the medieval (AD 1066-1540) village close to St. Thomas a Becket church which contains elements dating to the 11th century. South and east of Greatford, aerial photography has identified cropmark enclosures, ring ditches, droveways and hut circles dating from the prehistoric and Romano-British periods.

The investigation identified a number of large pits whose function appears to be for gravel extraction. These features remain undated but are typical of medieval and post-medieval examples. A single sherd of medieval pottery was retrieved as were two sherds of $19^{th} - 20^{th}$ century date.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

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

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Becket Homes to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with residential development on land off Main Street, Greatford, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through

the submission of planning application S01/1513/36. The watching brief was carried out on the 3rd May 2002, in accordance with a specification designed by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Greatford is situated 8km northeast of Stamford and 32km southwest of Grantham in the administrative district of South Kesteven, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site is located 300m west of the village centre as defined by the parish church of St. Thomas a Becket on the north side of Main Street adjacent to The Old House (Fig. 2). The village sits within the lower Welland Valley on generally flat ground with a slight rise to the east. Centred on National Grid Reference TF 0891 1192 the site sits at a height of 12m OD.

Local soils are of the Badsey 2 Association, typically brown calcareous earths (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 101). These soils overlay a drift geology of First terrace river gravels associated with outwash of the River Welland (Booth 1983, 8). These drift deposits in turn overlie a solid geology of Jurassic Oxford Clay (BGS 1978).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Greatford is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric period to the present day. The underlying gravels are conducive to cropmark formation and extensive areas of these appear south and east of the village. These cropmarks represent enclosures, ring ditches, droveways and hut circles and are likely to range in date from the Late Neolithic to the Romano-British period (Herbert 1996, 5).

Romano-British remains also include evidence for a wooden basilica, south of the village, and a stone building, possibly a villa, to the east (*ibid*. 9). Further east lies King Street, a major Roman thoroughfare that connected *Durobrivae* (Water Newton) with Bourne and on to Ancaster (Margary 1973, 232).

Greatford is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as *Griteford* and *Greteforde*, the name is derived from the Old English and means the gravelly (grēot) ford (Cameron 1998, 53). At the time of the Domesday Survey, the land was held by Robert de Todeni, Gilbert de Gand and Godfrey of Cambrai and contained 2 mills, 64 acres of meadow and 20 acres of woodland for pannage (Foster and Longley 1976).

The only extant remains of the medieval period is the parish church of St. Thomas a Becket which has elements dating from the 11th century, although is principally of 13th – 14th century date (DoE 1987, 43). Adjacent to the site is Old House which dates from the 16th century with 17th century additions (*ibid*. 46).

An archaeological evaluation undertaken across Main Street identified a fragment of stone wall, refuse pits and a pond like feature from which medieval and postmedieval pottery was retrieved (TLA 1991, 12). A second evaluation undertaken 150m to the southwest revealed an Iron Age ditch along with undated pits and postholes (Thomas 2001, 1).

3. AIMS

The aim of the watching brief, as outlined in the specification (Appendix 1), were to locate and record archaeological deposits, if present, and to determine their date, function and origin.

4. METHODS

Foundation trenches for the new development were excavated by machine to a depth of c. 0.8m. Following excavation the sides of the trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were partially excavated to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. The depth thickness of each deposit was measured ground surface. Each the archaeological deposit or feature revealed within the trench was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their descriptions appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:20. Recording of the deposits encountered during the watching brief was undertaken according to Archaeological Project Services' practice.

Records of the deposits and features recognised during the investigation were examined and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis three phases were identified;

| Phase 1 | Natural deposits | | |
|---------|------------------|--|--|
| Phase 2 | Undated deposits | | |
| Phase 3 | Recent deposits | | |

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

Phase 1 Natural deposits

The earliest deposit encountered during the investigation was a yellow sand and gravel

(007). This was over 0.56m thick and relates to the underlying drift geology.

Phase 2 Undated deposits

Located along the easternmost foundation trench was a possible rectangular feature (006) identified as a pit. This was over 2.9m long by over 0.9m wide and just over 0.52m deep (Fig. 4, Section 1). Contained within this pit were two fills, a lower of yellowish brown sandy silt (005) and an upper of brownish yellow sand and gravel.

Sealing this pit was a subsoil comprising yellowish brown sandy silt (002). This measured 0.2m thick.

Cut into the subsoil were a number of pits. At the northern end of the development, a rectangular pit was identified (010). This was over 4.1m long, 2.9m wide and over 0.7m deep (Fig. 4, Section 2) and contained a single fill of yellowish brown sandy silt (009).

Located at the centre of the development was a near square pit (012). This was 2.3m wide/long and over 1.1m deep (Fig. 4, Section 3). Contained within the cut was a mixed brown sandy silt (011). South of this feature was a further pit (022). This was 1.9m wide and over 0.5m deep and contained brown sandy silt (021).

Along the western side of the development were two further pits. The first (016) was over 3.8m long and over 0.6m wide and 1m deep (Fig. 4, Section 4). This contained three fills, a lower of greyish brown clayey sand (014) and an upper of yellowish brown sandy silt (013) with slumping of the sides represented by a brownish yellow sand and gravel (015). Immediately north of this was a smaller pit (018), measuring approximately 1.2m long by 1m wide and 0.9m deep with a fill of yellowish brown sandy silt (017).

Located within the foundation trenches for the garage, at the southern end of the development, was a pit (020) that measured over 8m long by 0.5m deep. This contained brown sandy silt (019).

Phase 3 Recent deposits

Cutting the undated subsoil (002) was a recent refuse pit (023). This measured over 1m long, over 0.6m wide by 0.6m deep (Fig. 4, Section 1). This contained fills of red and yellow brick and land drain fragments (008) and yellowish brown sandy silt (003).

Sealing all archaeological deposits was a 0.16m thick topsoil comprising dark brown sandy silt (001). Medieval and recent pottery was recovered from the topsoil.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Phase 1) of sand and gravel represent the upper surface of the underlying First terrace gravels.

Undated deposits comprise a number of pits and a subsoil. One pit (006) is earlier than the rest and once infilled, a subsoil developed above it. The form of most of the pits is characteristic of medieval and post-medieval gravel quarry pits and compare closely with excavated examples from Baston (Thomson 2001, 1) and Market Deeping (Cope-Faulkner and Trimble 1999, 9). Interpretation of these as gravel extraction pits would also explain the paucity of artefactual material, as quarries were perhaps open for a short period of time.

Artefacts were retrieved from the recent topsoil and comprise a single medieval sherd from Northamptonshire and two sherds of 19th – early 20th century date.

7. CONCLUSION

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at Main Street, Greatford, as the site lay within the medieval core of the village and in close proximity to settlement remains, identified from aerial photography, of the prehistoric and Romano-British periods.

The investigations revealed seven undated, large pits that derived from extraction of the underlying sands and gravels. Their form is typical of medieval and postmedieval quarries. However, no evidence of occupation of medieval or other date was revealed.

Finds from the site include a single sherd of medieval pottery from Northamptonshire and two sherds of 19^{th} – early 20^{th} century date. The nature of the local site conditions would suggest that few environmental indicators (seeds, wood, pollen *etc.*) would survive other than through charring.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr M. Pugh of Becket Homes who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Dale Trimble and this report was edited by Gary Taylor and Tom Lane. Gail Smith, the South Kesteven District Community Archaeologist, kindly permitted examination of the relevant parish files

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Dale Trimble Site Supervisor: Fiona Walker Finds processing: Denise Buckley

Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth

Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner

Post-excavation analysis: Paul Cope-

Faulkner

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

- APS Archaeological Project Services
- BGS British Geological Survey
- DoE Department of the Environment
- IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists
- TLA Trust for Lincolnshire Archaeology
- ULAS University of Leicester Archaeological Services

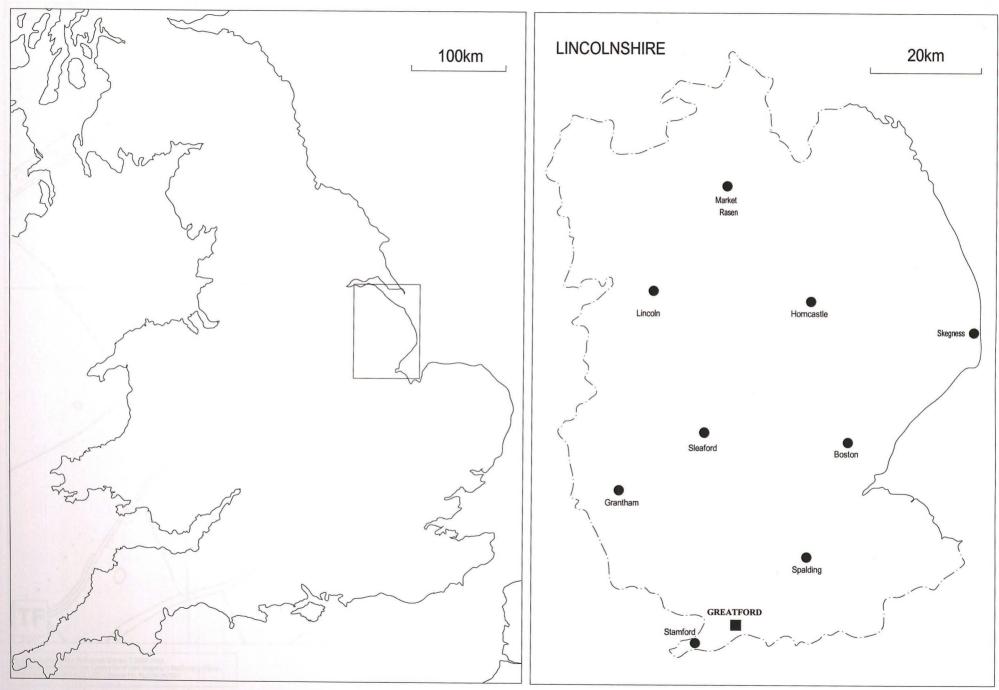


Figure 1 - General Location Plan

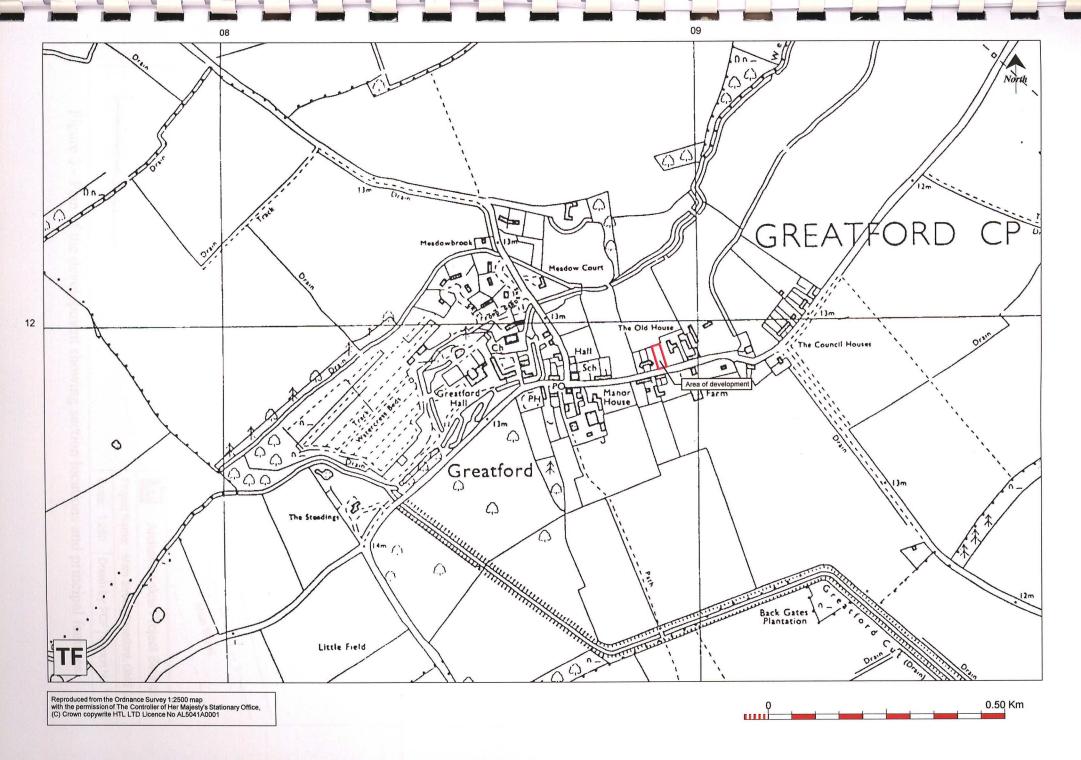


Figure 2 - Site location plan

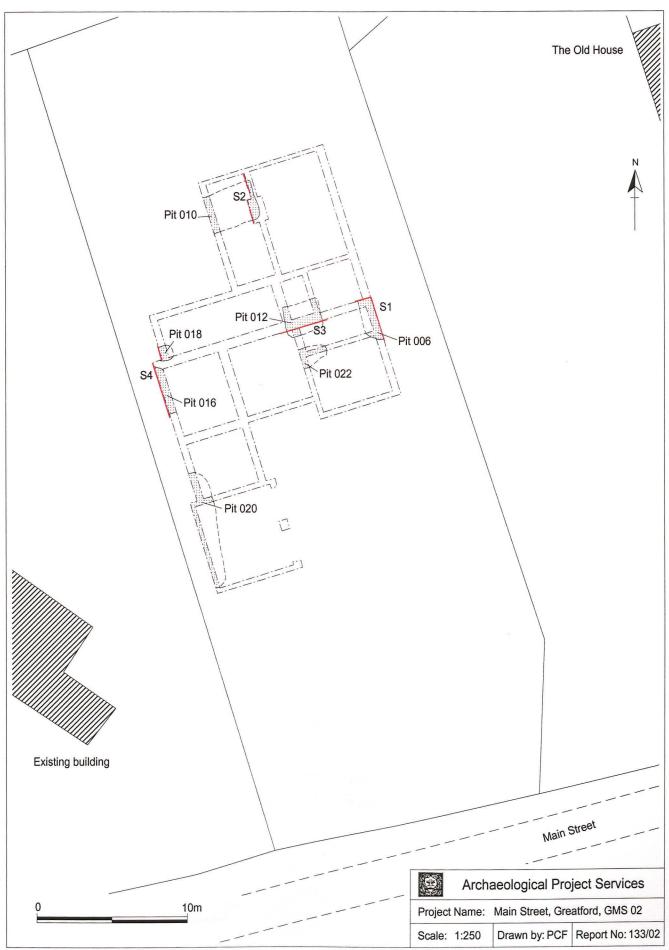


Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section locations and principal features

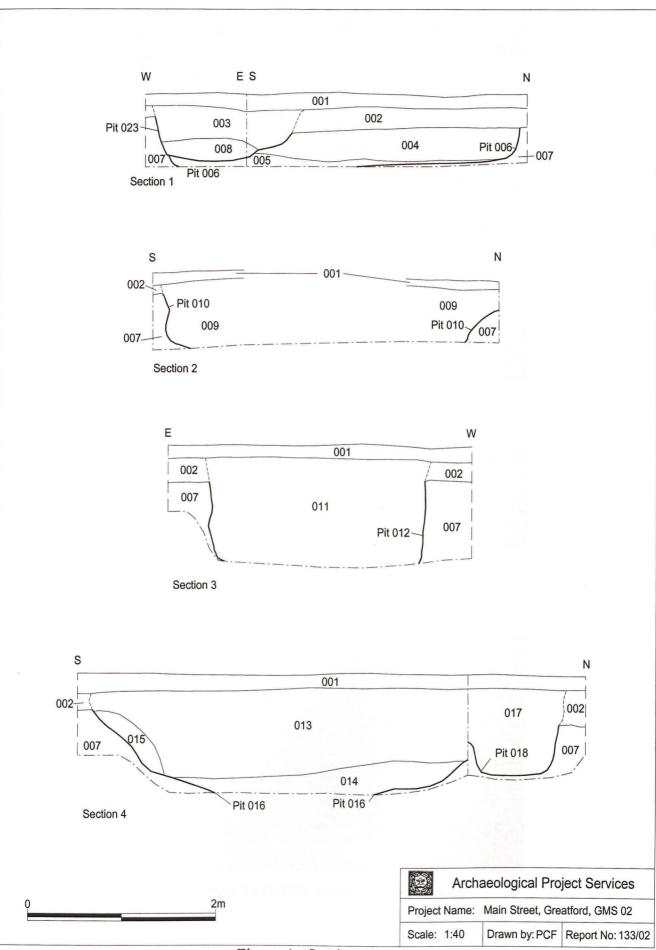


Figure 4 - Sections 1 to 4



Plate 1 - General view of the site, looking north



Plate 2 - Pits 006 and 023, Section 1, looking north



Plate 3 - Pit 010, Section 2, looking west



Plate 4 - Pit 012, Section 4, looking west

LAND ADJACENT TO THE OLD HOUSE, MAIN STREET, GREATFORD LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 An archaeological watching brief is required during construction of a dwelling and garage on land adjacent to the Old House, Main Street, Greatford, Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The area is archaeologically sensitive, lying within the historic core of the village and within 300m of a Scheduled Ancient Monument comprising a cluster of cropmarks thought to be associated with settlement of prehistoric or Romano-British date.
- 1.3 The watching brief will be undertaken during groundworks associated with the development. The archaeological features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.
- 1.4 On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the watching brief. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for an archaeological watching brief during construction of a dwelling on land adjacent to The Old House, Main Road, Greatford, Lincolnshire.
- 2.2 This document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview.
 - 2.2.2 Stages of work and methodologies.
 - 2.2.3 List of specialists.
 - 2.2.4 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

3.1 Greatford is located in the South Kesteven District of Lincolnshire, approximately 8km northeast of Stamford and 8km south of Bourne. The works are to take place on a plot of land adjacent to The Old House, Main Street, Greatford, Lincolnshire, located on the east side of the village and centred on National Grid Reference TF 0891 1192, at around 12m OD. The proposed area of development forms a roughly rectangular plot measuring approximately 17m x 45m.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 A planning application (S01/1513/36) was submitted to South Kesteven District Council for the construction of a dwelling and a garage adjacent to The Old House, Main Street, Greatford. Full planning permission has been granted subject to a condition requiring the undertaking of an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the development.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 Greatford is located on the north edge of the lower Welland Valley, close to the foot of the dip slope of the Jurassic Limestone ridge which runs north to south through much of Lincolnshire. Local soils are of the Badsea 2 Association, typically brown calcareous earths developed on river terrace gravels (Hodge *et al.*, 1984, 101). Beneath these gravels is a solid geology of Kellaways Sand of Upper Jurassic Age.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 References to Greatford in the Domesday Survey of 1086 demonstrate that the settlement was in existence by the Late Saxon period at least. The survey records holdings of land and two mills for Robert of Tosny and also lists Gilbert of Gent and Godfrey of Cambrai as landowners (Morris, 1986).
- 6.2 Place name evidence suggests that Greatford derives from the Old English 'Greot-Ford' meaning 'Gravelly Ford', the Old Scandinavian word greot translates as 'stones, stonet ground' (Ekwall 1974, 204, 205)
- 6.3 The church of St. Thomas a Becket, located approximately 350m west of the proposed development, incorporates a blocked arch and window tracery that can be dated to the 13th century (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 328). Manorial records indicate that a hall belonging to John de Mortimer was in existence by AD1297 in Greatford (Platts 1974, 122).
- 6.4 An archaeological evaluation undertaken in 1991 by the Trust for Lincolnshire Archaeology on Glen Farm located opposite The Old House and on the south side of main street, recorded pits and a pond like feature from which medieval and post medieval pottery were recovered (TLA 1991). No artefacts related to the cropmarks of the nearby Scheduled Ancient Monument (see below) were recovered.
- 6.5 A rich variety of cropmarks have been plotted from aerial photographs in this area of the Welland valley. These include features thought to represent field systems, enclosures, ring ditches, droveways and hut circles ranging in date from the prehistoric through to the Romano-British period.
- A cluster of crop marks plotted to the south of Greatford village are protected as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM 294) and are located within 300m of the proposed development. These include four undated enclosures probably related to a settlement and a pit alignment. Pit alignments can range in date from the Neolithic to the Iron Age period. Also within this group is a north south aligned group of square ditches, usually identified as surrounding late Iron Age burial mounds. At the north end of this group is a larger ring ditch, probably part of a Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age burial mound. Approximately 500m east of The Old House site is a second Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM 327) comprising a group of cropmarks thought to represent settlement features of Iron Age or Romano-British date (Herbert, 1996).

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the watching brief will be:
 - 7.1.1 To record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.
- 7.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:

- 7.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
- 7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
- 7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
- 7.2.4 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

8 SITE OPERATIONS

8.1 General considerations

- 8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the watching brief.
- 8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA). Archaeological Project Services is IFA registered organisation no. 21.
- 8.1.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

8.2 Methodology

- 8.2.1 The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.
- 8.2.2 Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.
- 8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 8.2.4 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
 - the site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
 - groups of features where their relationship is important
- 8.2.5 Should human remains be located the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department and the police will be informed.

9 POST EXCAVATION

9.1 Stage 1

9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming a

level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued and labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

9.1.2 All finds recovered during the field work will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

9.2 Stage 2

- 9.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.
- 9.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

9.3 Stage 3

- 9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.
- 9.3.2 This will consist of:
 - · A non technical summary of the results of the investigation.
 - A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.
 - Description of the topography of the site.
 - Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.
 - A text describing the findings of the watching brief.
 - A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.
 - Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
 - Sections of the archaeological features.
 - Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
 - Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
 - Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10 REPORT DEPOSITION

10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the Client, South Kesteven District Council Planning Department, the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

11 ARCHIVE

11.1 The documentation and records generated during the watching brief will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the City and County Museum, Lincoln. This will be undertaken following the requirements of the document titled Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives for long term storage and curation.

12 PUBLICATION

12.1 A report of the findings of the watching brief will be presented as a condensed article to the editor of the journal Lincolnshire History and Archaeology. If appropriate, notes on the findings will be submitted to the appropriate national journals: Britannia for discoveries of Roman date, and Medieval Archaeology and the Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group for findings of medieval or later date.

13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Community Archaeologist for South Kesteven District based at Heritage Lincolnshire. They will be given seven days notice in writing before the commencement of the project.

14 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 14.1 The watching brief will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the archaeological site work.
- 14.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- 14.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one person-day) will require a post-excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half-person-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about four days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

15 VARIATION AND CONTINGENCIES

- 15.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 15.2 In the event of the discovery of any unexpected remains of archaeological importance, or of any changed circumstances, it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to inform the archaeological curator (Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook 1998, Sections 5.7 and 18).
- 15.3 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation additional resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis
- 15.4 Any contingency requirement for additional fieldwork or post-excavation analysis outside the scope of the proposed scheme of works will only be activated following full consultation with the archaeological curator and the client.

16 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

16.1 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

<u>Task</u> <u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>

Conservation Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln

Pottery Analysis Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust

Roman B Precious, Independent Specialist

Anglo-Saxon J Young, Independent Specialist

Medieval and later G Taylor, APS in consultation with H Healey, Independent

Archaeologist

Non-pottery Artefacts J Cowgill, Independent Specialist

Animal Bones Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

Environmental Analysis J Rackham, Independent Specialist

Human Remains Analysis R Gowland, Independent Specialist

17 INSURANCES

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

18 COPYRIGHT

- 18.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.
- 18.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.
- 18.3 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously

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

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

19 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

| No. | Description | Interpretation |
|-----|---|-----------------|
| 001 | Firm dark brown sandy silt, 0.16m thick | Topsoil |
| 002 | Firm mid yellowish brown sandy silt, 0.2m thick | Subsoil |
| 003 | Firm mid yellowish brown sandy silt | Fill of (023) |
| 004 | Firm light to mid brownish yellow sand and gravel | Fill of (006) |
| 005 | Firm mid yellowish brown sandy silt | Fill of (006) |
| 006 | ?Rectangular feature, >2.9m long by >0.9m wide by >0.52m deep, near vertical sides, not fully excavated | Pit |
| 007 | Firm light to mid yellow sand and gravel, >0.56m thick | Natural deposit |
| 008 | Loose red and yellow brick | Fill of (023) |
| 009 | Firm mid yellowish brown sandy silt | Fill of (010) |
| 010 | ?Rectangular feature, >4.1m long by 2.9m wide by >0.7m deep, steep sides, not fully excavated | Pit |
| 011 | Firm mixed mid yellowish brown, mid brown and dark greyish brown sandy silt | Fill of (012) |
| 012 | Feature, 2.3m wide by >1.1m deep, near vertical sides, not fully excavated | Pit |
| 013 | Firm mid yellowish brown sandy silt | Fill of (016) |
| 014 | Firm mid greyish brown clayey sand | Fill of (016) |
| 015 | Firm light to mid brownish yellow sand and gravel | Fill of (016) |
| 016 | ?Rectangular feature, >3.8m long by >0.6m wide by 1m deep, steep sides and slight concave base | Quarry pit |
| 017 | Firm mid yellowish brown sandy silt | Fill of (018) |
| 018 | Feature, >1.2m long by >1m wide by 0.9m deep, steep sides and slight concave base | Pit |
| 019 | Firm mid yellowish brown sandy silt | Fill of (020) |
| 020 | Feature, 8m long by 0.5m deep, steep sides and undulating base | Pit |
| 021 | Firm mid brown sandy silt | Fill of (022) |
| 022 | ?Rectangular feature, >1.8m long by 1.9m wide by >0.5m deep, steep sides, not fully excavated | Pit |
| 023 | Feature, >1m long by >0.6m wide by 0.6m deep, steep sides and rounded base | Pit |

THE FINDS

by Hilary Healey and Gary Taylor

Recording of the pottery was undertaken with reference to guidelines prepared by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (Slowikowski *et al.* 2001) and the pottery was quantified using the chronology and coding system of the Lincolnshire ceramic type series. A total of 3 fragments of pottery weighing 41g was recovered from a single context. No other artefacts nor faunal remains were recovered.

Provenance

The material was recovered from the topsoil (001).

The earliest pottery was made in moderate proximity to Greatford, in the area of Stanion-Lyveden in northeastern Northamptonshire, about 30km to the southwest. Later ceramics were probably made in Staffordshire.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the table.

| Context | Fabric Code | Description | No. | Wt (g) | Context Date |
|---------|-------------|---|-----|-----------|---|
| 001 | STANLY | Stanion-Lyveden B ware, abraded, 13 th - 14 th century | 1 | 3g | 19 th -early 20 th century |
| | WHITE | White glazed tableware, 19 th - early 20 th century | 1 | 10g | |
| | LSTON | Brown glazed stoneware bottle, 19 th -early 20 th century | 1 | 28g | |

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 previous archaeological investigations at Greatford that are the subjects of reports. Additionally, details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

As a small, mixed collection the assemblage is of limited local significance and potential. The single medieval sherd is abraded and small and is likely to be a component of manuring scatter, which would, in turn, suggest that the area was agricultural land in the medieval period.

With the exception of the one medieval piece there is a dearth of material earlier than the 19th century. This is informative and suggests that archaeological deposits dating from prior to this date are absent from the area, were not disturbed by the development, or were of a nature that did not involve artefact deposition.

References

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

GLOSSARY

Bronze Age A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.

Context

Cropmark

Cut

Fill

Iron Age

Layer

Medieval

Natural

Neolithic

Pannage

Post-medieval

Romano-British

Prehistoric

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

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

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

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

A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.

A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.

The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.

Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.

The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500-2250 BC.

Right given to the owners of pigs to go into a wood and to allow the pigs to eat the acorns or beech mast which fall to the ground.

The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.

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.

Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 23 Context records
- 1 Photographic record sheet
- 3 Drawing sheets
- 1 Bag 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. 215

Archaeological Project Services Site Code:

GMS 02

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

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