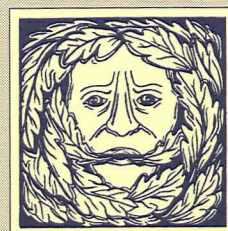


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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON LAND OFF MAREHAM LANE,
SLEAFORD,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SMLA 02)**



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

Event L13217
source L17947
L17948



Mon L183079 62500
L183080 62501
L183081 62502

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON LAND OFF MAREHAM LANE,
SLEAFORD,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SMLA 02)**

**Work Undertaken For
Lincoln Construction Limited**

July 2002

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

National Grid Reference: TF 0715 4520
Planning Reference: N/57/1046/1
City and County Museum Accession No: 2002.120

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 137/02

Quality Control
Mareham Lane, Sleaford
SMLA 02

Project Coordinator	Gary Taylor
Supervisor	Fiona Walker
Finds Processing	Denise Buckley
Illustration	Paul Cope-Faulkner
Photographic Reproduction	Sue Unsworth
Post-excavation Analyst	Paul Cope-Faulkner

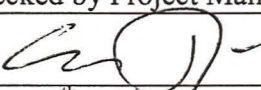
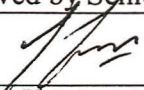
Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
 Gary Taylor	 Tom Lane
Date: 18 th July 2002	Date: 22 nd July 2002

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during development on land off Mareham Lane, Sleaford, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of the foundation trenches associated with the development.

The site lies outside the southern extent of the medieval (AD 1066-1540) town in an area where Middle Iron Age (450-100BC) enclosures and an Anglo-Saxon (AD 411-650) cemetery have previously been identified. Artefacts of the Neolithic (400-2200 BC) and the Bronze Age (2201-800 BC) have also been recovered in the vicinity.

The watching brief identified two boundary ditches and a hollow of unknown function, all of which are undated. A single sherd of pottery of 12th-14th century date and one of 15th-17th date, made at Bourne, were the only finds recovered.

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 Lincoln Construction Limited on behalf of Mr R. Musson to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with residential development of land off Mareham Lane, Sleaford, Lincolnshire.

Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application N/57/1046/1. The watching brief was carried out between the 4th and 7th March 2002, in accordance with a specification designed by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the North Kesteven Heritage Officer.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Sleaford is situated approximately 27km south of Lincoln in the administrative district of North Kesteven, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site is located 750m southwest of Sleaford town centre as defined by the Market Place (Fig. 2). Lying to the north of Mareham Lane, the site is centred on National Grid Reference TF 0715 4520 at a height of 14m OD on land that slopes down to the east.

Soils at the site are of the Ruskington Series, typical brown earths, with Newsleaford Series, gleyic brown calcareous sands, immediately to the east (George and Robson 1978, 79; 86). These soils overlie a drift geology of older sand and gravel which in turn seals a solid geology of Jurassic Cornbrash (GSGB 1972).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

The development site is in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Neolithic period to the present day. Prehistoric flints of probable Neolithic date have been recovered from the general vicinity of the site and two Bronze Age axe heads were found to the east.

Located 250m to the northeast is a Middle Iron Age enclosure, one of several around Sleaford, and which may have been associated with settlement of the period identified further east (Rayner 1999, 10). By the Late Iron Age, the focus of

settlement centred on Old Place, south of the River Sleas, about 800m to the northeast of the current site. High status pottery and a significant collection of coin pellet mould fragments were found adjacent to Old Place and has led to speculation that at this time Sleaford was an important centre or *oppidum* of the *Corieltauvi*, a local tribe (Elsdon 1997, 75).

The Iron Age occupation of Sleaford was succeeded by an extensive Romano-British settlement. It is probable that Sleaford was a small Romano-British town that straddled Mareham Lane. The line of this road is approximately 500m to the east of the site, the modern road of that name being a medieval diversion.

To the north of the site, in the vicinity of the railway station, is a large Anglo-Saxon inhumation cemetery which was partly excavated in 1881 (Thomas 1882). A total of 242 burials were recorded although it was estimated that there were in the region of 600 in total, all dating to the 6th century. A further Saxon burial was found during widening of Mareham Lane, although the exact position is not clear (White 1988, 87).

Sleaford is first mentioned in AD 825 in a charter relating to the leasing of land at Sempringham by Peterborough Abbey (Hart 1966, 100) and confirmed in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle (Swanton 1997, 65). Referred to as *Slioforda*, the name is derived from the Old English and means the ford over the 'sliowa', meaning muddy water (Cameron 1998, 112).

There has been some debate as to Sleaford's inclusion in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. The site lies within the former parish of Old Sleaford, which is included in the entry to Quarrington, whereas the modern town is referred to as *Eslaforde* which was held by the Bishop of Lincoln (Roffe 1979, 13).

Recent archaeological work in the vicinity of the site includes a watching brief to the south which revealed an undated ditch (Thomson 2002, 1) and an evaluation to the northwest which identified remnants of ridge and furrow, part of the medieval field system (Albone 2001, 1).

3. AIMS

The requirements 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

Prior to the excavation of foundation trenches, topsoil was removed from the area of the proposed development. Trenches were then opened by a mechanical excavator to depths of 0.8m as required by the development. Exposed portions of the trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were partially excavated by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. The depth and thickness of each deposit was measured from the present ground surface. Each 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 interpretations appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at scales of 1:10. Recording of the deposits encountered during the watching brief was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services' practice.

Finds recovered from excavated deposits were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 3). Records of the deposits and features recognised during the investigation were also examined. Phasing was assigned based on the nature

of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them, supplemented by artefact dating. A stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced.

5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis a total of 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 refer to the context numbers assigned in the field.

Phase 1 Natural deposits

The earliest deposit encountered at the base of the foundation trenches was a dark yellowish brown limestone (004) identified as the underlying solid geology.

This was overlain by a 0.76m thick mixed bluish grey clay and reddish yellow sandy silt (003) which was in turn sealed by brownish yellow silty sand (006). Both these deposits represent the local drift geology.

Phase 2 Undated deposits

Cut into natural deposits and aligned across the centre of the trenches was an approximately east-west aligned ditch (008). This was visible for a length of 15m and was 1m wide and 0.8m deep (Fig. 4, Section 3). A single fill of dark yellow sand (007) was contained within the ditch.

Located in the southwest corner of the development was a northeast-southwest aligned linear feature (005) This was also identified as a ditch but was not evident in the foundation trenches further north (Fig. 2, Section 2).

An irregular feature (009), possibly a hollow, was located in the southeast corner of the foundation trenches. This was 2m long, 1.6m wide and 0.57m deep (Fig. 4, Section 4).

Filling the ditch (005) and the hollow (009) and sealing ditch (008) was a subsoil comprising yellowish brown sandy silt (002). A single sherd of 12th – 14th century pottery was recovered from this deposit.

Phase 3 Recent deposits

Sealing all archaeological layers was a topsoil of dark greyish brown sandy silt (001) from which a single sherd of Bourne D ware, dating to the 15th – 17th century, was retrieved. The topsoil had partially been removed prior to the excavation of foundation trenches.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Phase 1) represent the underlying geology of Jurassic Cornbrash overlain by mixed deposits that equate to the Older river sand and gravel, formed during the last glaciation.

Undated deposits (Phase 2) comprise two ditches, a hollow and a subsoil. The single sherd of medieval pottery possibly indicates that the subsoil was being formed at this time and the alignment of the ditches, perpendicular to the medieval alignment of Mareham Lane, may support a medieval date for these features. The function of the hollow is unclear, but may have formed through medieval and later agricultural practices at the site.

Apart from the single medieval sherd, a 15th – 17th century sherd from the topsoil was also recovered. Both are the products of kilns at Bourne. Finds from topsoil and subsoil deposits indicate nothing more than casual refuse disposal.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken along Mareham Lane, Sleaford, as the site lay in proximity to prehistoric and later remains, notably an Anglo-Saxon cemetery.

Two boundary ditches and a hollow were recorded during the watching brief but remain undated due to a paucity of artefactual material. No remains associated with the Saxon cemetery were identified.

Pottery of 12th – 14th century and 15th – 17th century date were the only finds recovered during the investigation. The nature of the site conditions would suggest that few environmental indicators (seeds, wood, pollen *etc.*) would survive, although waterlogging is likely to increase with depth.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr D. Brownlow of Lincoln Construction Limited for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis on behalf of Mr R. Musson. Plans of the development were kindly supplied by Clive Wicks Associates. This work was coordinated by Gary Taylor who also edited this report along with Tom Lane. Jo Hambly, the North Kesteven Heritage Officer, permitted examination of the relevant parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
 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

GSGB Geological Survey of Great Britain

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

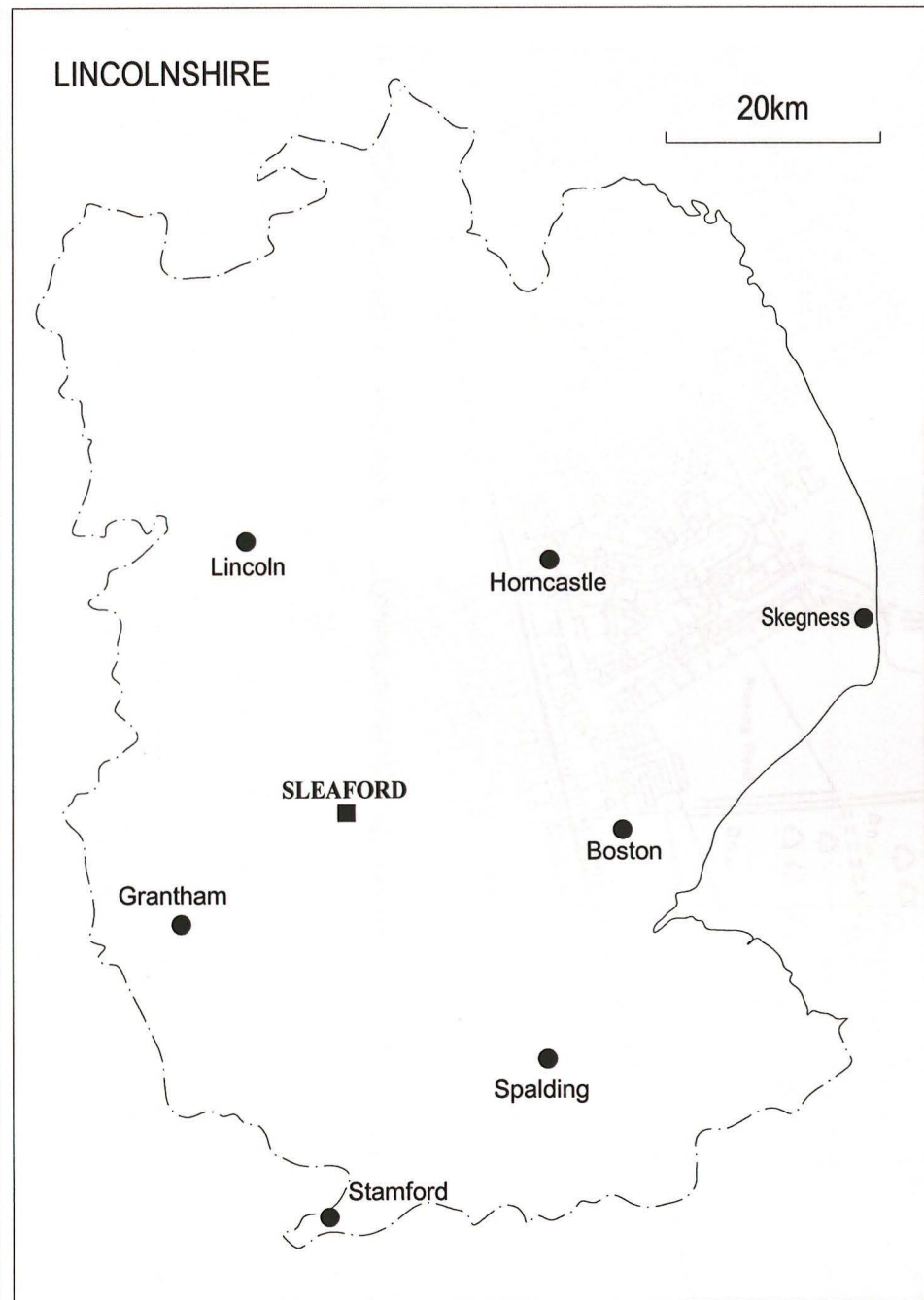
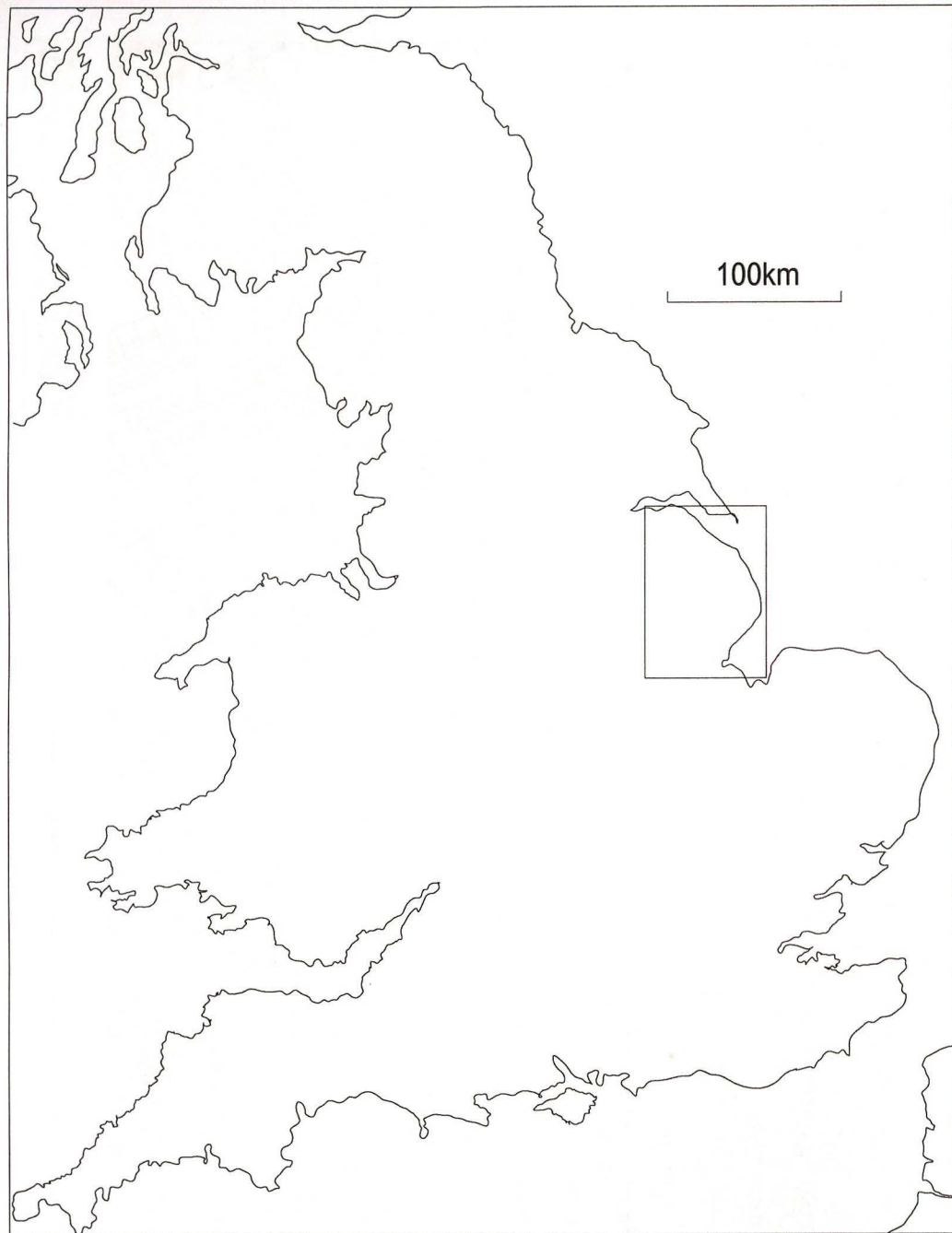
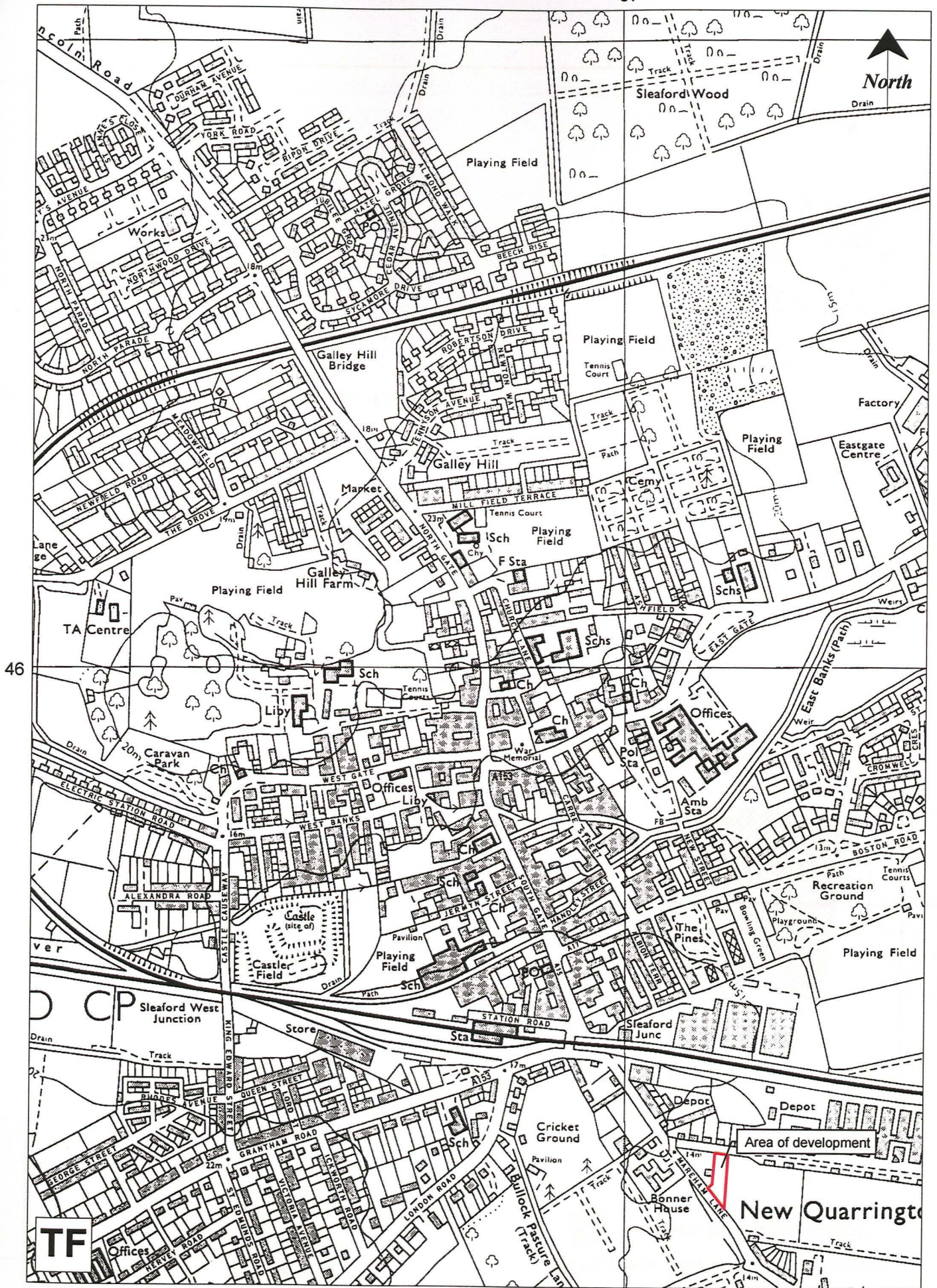


Figure 1 - General Location Plan

North



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Figure 2 - Site location plan

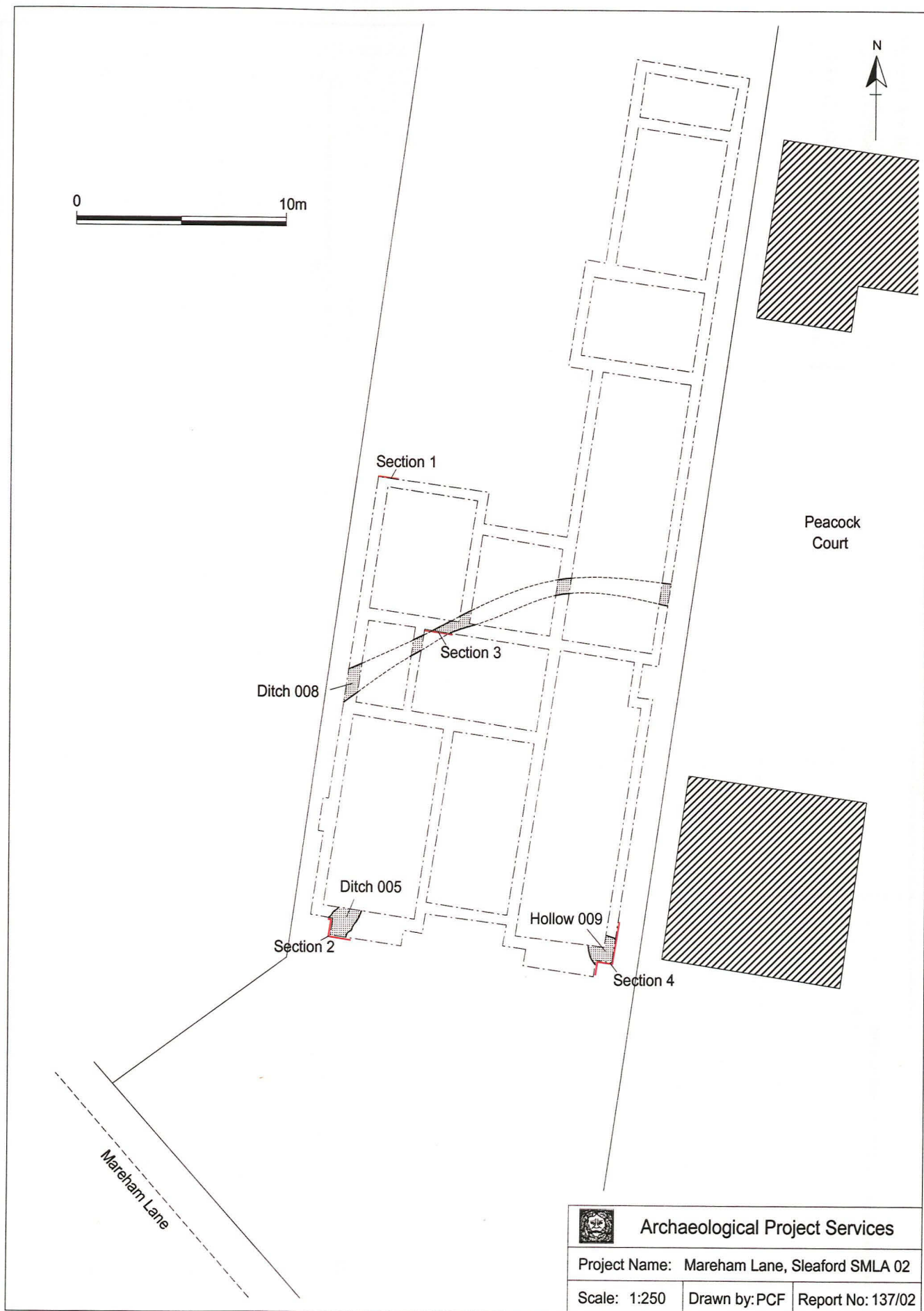
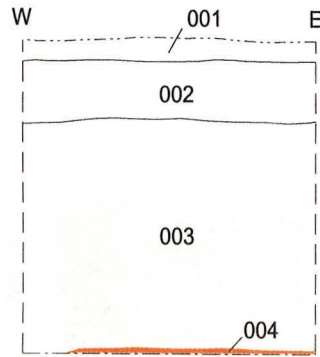
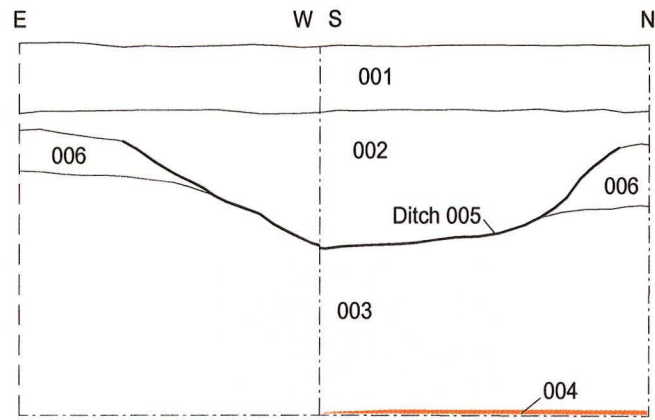


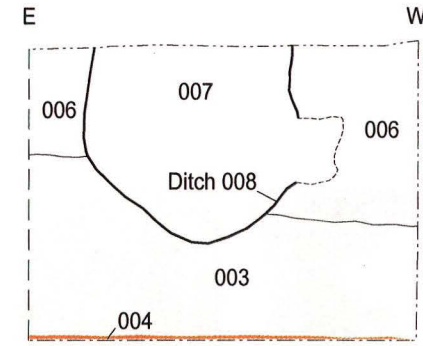
Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section locations and principal features



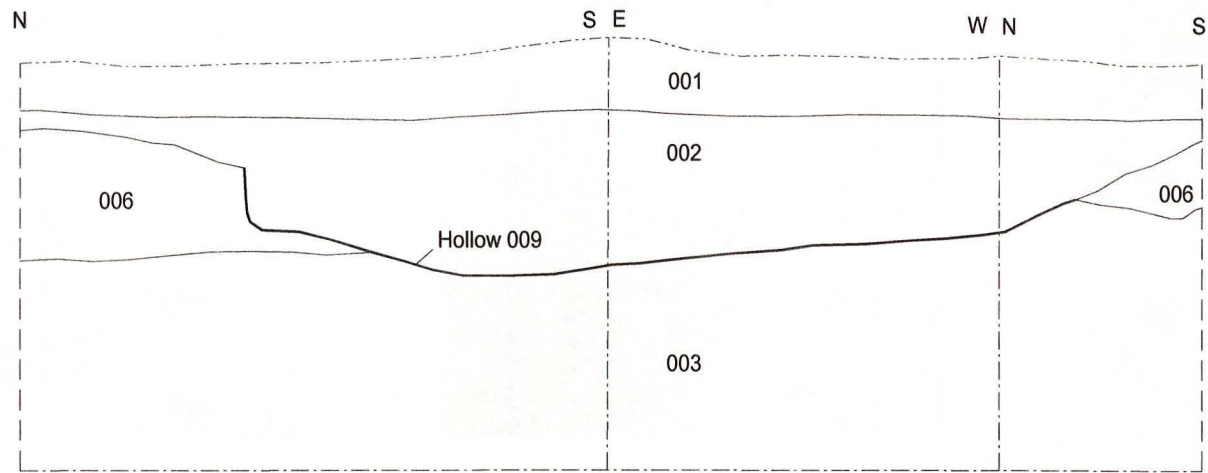
Section 1



Section 2



Section 3



Section 4




 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Mareham Lane, Sleaford SMLA 02		
Scale: 1:25	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 137/02

Figure 4 - Sections 1 to 4



Plate 1 - General view of the site, looking north



Plate 2 - Section 2 showing ditch (005), looking south



Plate 3 - Section 3 showing ditch (008), looking south

Appendix 1

LAND BETWEEN BASS COTTAGES AND MAREHAM LANE, SLEAFORD, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during development at Mareham Lane, Sleaford, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *An Anglo-Saxon cemetery has been found just to the west but is of uncertain extent and may stretch in to the development area. Additionally, possible medieval pits and ditches have been identified in the proximity.*
- 1.3 *The watching brief will be undertaken during groundworks associated with the development. The archaeological features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the investigation. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for an archaeological watching brief during development on land between Mareham Lane and the access road to the Bass Maltings, opposite Bass Cottages, Sleaford, 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 Sleaford lies approximately 27km south of Lincoln in the administrative district of North Kesteven. The site is located on the north side of Mareham Lane, south of Bass Cottages and the access road to Bass Maltings, at national grid reference TF 0715 4520.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application (N/57/1046/1) was submitted to North Kesteven District Council for the erection of a detached bungalow and separate garage. The application is subject to a standard condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief during the development.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The site lies southeast of the town centre on a gentle slope down to the south at approximately 14m OD. Local soils are the Ruskington Association, gleyic brown calcareous earths, developed on glaciofluvial sand and gravel (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 304).

6 THE ARCHAEOLOGY

- 6.1 A large Anglo-Saxon cemetery of probable 6th century AD date is located in the immediate vicinity of the development site. Excavations in the 19th century recorded over 240 burials with

gravegoods and the excavator estimated that the cemetery contained a further 350 burials and encompassed an area of 3,300 sq metres. The development site is on the presumed edge of the cemetery and it is possible that the cemetery, or outlying burials from it, may be located in the development area.

- 6.2 Investigations just to the northwest, near to the railway crossing, have revealed undated but possibly medieval ditches, pits and stakeholes (Archaeological Project Services 2000).

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the watching brief will be:

7.1.1 To record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.

- 7.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:

7.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;

7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;

7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and

7.2.4 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

8 SITE OPERATIONS

8.1 General considerations

8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the watching brief.

8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA). *Archaeological Project Services* is IFA registered organisation no. 21.

8.1.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

8.2 Methodology

8.2.1 The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.

8.2.2 Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.

8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.

8.2.4 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:

8.2.4.1 The site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.

8.2.4.2 groups of features where their relationship is important

- 8.2.5 Should human remains be located the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department, coroner and the police will be informed, as appropriate.

9 POST-EXCAVATION

9.1 Stage 1

9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued and labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

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

9.2 Stage 2

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

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

9.3 Stage 3

9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.

9.3.2 This will consist of:

9.3.2.1 A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.

9.3.2.2 A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.

9.3.2.3 Description of the topography of the site.

9.3.2.4 Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.

9.3.2.5 A text describing the findings of the watching brief.

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

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

9.3.2.8 Sections of the archaeological features.

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

9.3.2.10 Specialist reports on the finds from the site.

9.3.2.11 Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10 CONTINGENCIES

- 10.1 Should unexpected or particularly significant archaeological remains be revealed contingencies may be required. Such contingencies will be activated by the North Kesteven Heritage Officer, not Archaeological Project Services, following discussion with the client. Contingency costs will be negotiated between the client and Archaeological Project Services in order that the planning requirements are satisfied.

11 REPORT DEPOSITION

- 11.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the Client; the North Kesteven Heritage Officer; North Kesteven District Council Planning Department; and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

12 ARCHIVE

- 12.1 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.

13 PUBLICATION

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

14 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- 14.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Heritage Officer of North Kesteven District Council. They will be given seven days notice in writing before the commencement of the project.

15 VARIATIONS

- 15.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.

16 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 16.1 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.
- 16.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- 16.3 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.

17 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

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

programming requirements.

<u>Task</u>	<u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust Roman - B Precious, Independent Specialist Anglo-Saxon - J Young, Independent Specialist Medieval and later - H Healey, Independent Archaeologist
Non-pottery Artefacts	J Cowgill, Independent Specialist
Animal Bones	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
Environmental Analysis	J Rackham, Independent Specialist
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, Independent Specialist

18 INSURANCES

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

19 COPYRIGHT

19.1 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.

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

19.3 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.

19.4 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.

20 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Section	Description	Interpretation
001	1, 2, 4	Firm dark greyish brown sandy silt, 40mm thick (after stripping)	Topsoil
002	1, 2, 4	Firm mid yellowish brown sandy silt, 0.18m thick	Subsoil and fill of (005) and (009)
003	1, 2, 3, 4	Firm/plastic bluish grey clay and reddish yellow sandy silt, 0.76m thick	Natural deposit
004	1, 2, 3	Indurated dark yellowish brown limestone	Natural geology
005	2	Feature, aligned NE-SW, 1.6m wide by 0.35m deep, gradual sides and concave base	?Ditch
006	2	Firm light to mid brownish yellow silty sand, 0.2m thick	Natural deposit
007	3	Soft dark yellow sand	Fill of (008)
008	3	Linear feature, aligned E-W, >15m long by 1m wide by 0.8m deep, gradual sides and rounded base	Ditch
009	4	Irregular feature, aligned NE-SW, >3m long by 1.6m wide by 0.57m deep, stepped sides, undulating base	Hollow

Appendix 3

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. Two fragments of pottery weighing a total of 16g were recovered from 2 separate contexts. No other artefacts or faunal remains were retrieved.

Provenance

The material was recovered from topsoil (001) and subsoil (002) deposits.

All of the pottery was made in moderate proximity to Sleaford, at Bourne 25km to the south.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the table.

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
001	BOU	Bourne D ware, abraded	1	3g	15 th -17 th century
002	BOUA	Bourne A ware, jug	1	13g	12 th - 14 th century

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 Sleaford, including elsewhere on Mareham Lane in proximity to the current site. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the North Kesteven Heritage Officer and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

As a small, mixed collection of medieval and early post-medieval pottery fragments the assemblage is of limited local significance. As isolated artefacts all of the pottery could have entered the area in manuring scatter which would, in turn, suggest that the area had an agricultural function in the medieval and early post-medieval periods.

The absence of any material earlier than the 12th century is informative and suggests that archaeological deposits dating from prior to this period do not occur in the area, or were not disturbed by the development.

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

Appendix 4

GLOSSARY

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 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, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Iron Age	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
Layer	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
Neolithic	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500-2250 BC.
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 1 st century AD.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.

Appendix 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

9	Context records
2	Drawing sheets
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Stratigraphic matrix
1	Bag of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Sleaford
Lincolnshire
NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Lincolnshire City and County Museum
12 Friars Lane
Lincoln
LN2 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: 2002.120

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: SMLA 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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