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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF DURING DEVELOPMENT ON PLOTS 1 TO 3, MARRIOT'S GATE, LUTTON, LINCOLNSHIRE (LLS00)



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Highways & Planning Oirectorate

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF **DURING DEVELOPMENT ON PLOTS 1 TO 3,** MARRIOT'S GATE, LUTTON, LINCOLNSHIRE (LLS00)

> Work Undertaken For Mr M.E. Bunn

> > May 2002

Report Compiled by James Snee Bsc (Hons)

Planning Application No. H12/1161/98 National Grid References: TF 433 2554 City and County Museum Accession No: LCNCC: 2000.131

A.P.S. Report No. 109/02



CONTENTS

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List	ot	H10	rires
LIST	01		7000

1.	Summary	
2.	Introduction12.1Definition of a Watching Brief12.2Planning Background12.3Topography and Geology12.4Archaeological Setting2	
3.	Aims	
4.	Methods 2	
5.	Results 2	
6.	Discussion	
7.	Conclusions	
8.	Acknowledgements	
9.	Bibliography 4	
10.	Abbreviations 5	

Appendices

- Specification for Archaeological Watching Brief Context Summary
- 2
- 3 The Finds
- Glossary 4
- The Archive 5

List of Figures

- Figure 1 General location plan
- Figure 2 Location plan and archaeological setting
- Figure 3 Plan of development showing area of investigation
- Figure 4 Sections 1, 2 and 5
- Figure 5 Section 3
- Figure 6 Section 4
- Figure 7 Sections 6, 7 and 8
- Figure 8 Sections 9, 10 and 11

List of Plates

- Plate 1 General view of the development area, looking north.
- Plate 2 General view of the development area, looking northeast.
- Plate 3 Section 5 showing undated silt layer (013) and medieval silt layer (011), looking east.
- Plate 4 Section through undated ditch or channel (031), looking north.

1. SUMMARY

An Archaeological watching brief was undertaken at Marriott's Gate, Lutton, Lincolnshire (TF 433 255). The area is archaeologically sensitive, located in the medieval core of the village, opposite the 14th century parish church.

The aim of the watching brief was to record and interpret the archaeological remains exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.

The investigations revealed that the village was located on the silt levee of a roddon. Roddons provided slightly higher an drier ground in this area of the fens, and this may have been a key factor in the establishment of the settlement.

A layer containing burnt or fired clay may indicate the presence of early salt making in the locality.

An undated channel of possible medieval origin was revealed, which is probably the continuation of a feature identified during the investigations at Plot 4. A further undated ditch or channel and an undated drain were recorded, as were a number of post-medieval and later deposits.

Finds of pottery dating to between the 12th and 20th century were recovered from the investigation.

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 within a specified area or site, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits maybe disturbed or destroyed.' (IFA 1997).

2.2 Planning Background

Between the 4th May and 20th June 2000 an archaeological watching brief was undertaken during groundworks associated with the erection of three dwellings at Marriot's Gate, Lutton, Lincolnshire.

A planning application (H12/1161/98) was submitted to South Holland District Council for a residential development comprising four separate dwellings with roads and services. Permission was granted subject to a condition requiring a watching brief during groundworks.

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr M.E. Bunn to undertake the archaeological watching brief on Plots 1 to 3 and the associated roads and services.

This report describes the watching brief for Plots 1 to 3, the investigations for Plot 4 are detailed in a subsequent report.

The investigation was carried out in accordance with a specification (Appendix 1) produced by APS and approved by the Senior Built Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council.

2.2 Topography and Geology

Lutton is a small village located 2.5km north of Long Sutton in the South Holland District of Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site is in the core of the village (Fig. 2), centred on National Grid Reference TF 433 255, and lies at a height of c. 3m OD.

Local soils are the Wisbech Association calcareous alluvial gleys (Hodge *et al.* 1984). The soils are developed in marine alluvium which in turn overlies Oxford Clays.

2.3 Archaeological Setting

Lutton is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Saxon period to the present day. Adjacent to the eastern and northern edges of the village is a former sea bank, often referred to as 'Roman Bank' which was in existence by the 11th century and possibly earlier.

Lutton is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as *Luctone* the name is derived from the Old English and means 'the farmstead, village by the pool' (Cameron 1998). At the time of the Domesday Survey the land was owned by the King and contained 60 acres of meadow and a fishery (Morris 1986).

It has been suggested that a reference to a place called *Hludantun* in a charter of King Eadgar dating to AD 975, may refer to Lutton. The document confirms the estates and privileges of Thorney Abbey and includes reference to Gedney, Tydd and *Angarhala*, possibly Fleet (Hart 1966, 180).

Extant remains of the medieval period are restricted to St. Nicholas's church which dates to the 16th century (DoE 1988, 37). This church may have replaced an earlier chapel, also dedicated to St. Nicholas, that was in existence before 1186, when a Robert de Haia granted it to Castle Acre Priory (Owen 1975, 21).

3. AIMS

The aim of the watching brief, as outlined in the specification (Appendix 1), was to record and interpret the archaeological remains exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.

4. METHODS

Groundworks began with the excavation of the main drainage trenches, followed by stripping of topsoil from the development area. The footing trenches were then excavated by machine with a 0.6m wide toothless bucket. Subsequently, the sides of the trenches were inspected and hand cleaned at close intervals. The depth and thickness of each deposit was measured from the ground surface. Each deposit or feature was allocated a unique reference number (Context Number) with an individual written description. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and annotated sketch plans were produced. A photographic record was compiled, depicting the setting of the site and the nature of recorded features and deposits. The spoil from the excavations was searched using a trowel to recover finds.

5. RESULTS

The records of deposits excavated during development and the finds recovered examined. A list of contexts appears as Appendix 2. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and their stratigraphic relationships.

Phase 1	Natural Deposits		
Phase 2	Undated Deposits		
Phase 3	Medieval Deposits		
Phase 4	Post-medieval	and Later	
	Deposits		

5.1 Phase 1: Natural Deposits

Following topsoil stripping, three bands of natural sediments were identified across the site area. On the west side, within the area of the access road, the earliest deposit encountered was 0.60m of yellowish brown silt and sand (037) (Figure 5 & 6). In the centre of the site, in the area of the access road, a grey sandy and clayey silt (014 & 020) up to 0.50m thick, was encountered (Figures 4 & 7). To the east, in Plots 1 to 3, the natural alluvium comprised light brown silts of varying fineness up to 0.50m thick (024, 026 & 032) (Figures 7 & 8).

5.2 Phase 2: Undated Deposits

Overlying the natural silt and sand (014) (Figure 4) in the northern part of the site was a layer of firm light brownish grey silt (013), 0.35m thick with orange mottling and iron pan. Fragments of burnt or fired clay were recovered from this deposit, one of which had a clear defined straight edge.

In the northwest corner of the site (Figure 3) natural silt and sand (037) was cut by a north-south oriented ditch or channel (038) approximately 6.5m wide (Figure 6). This contained a 0.10m thick band of black sandy silt (006) covered by a layer of yellowish brown silt & fine sand (002, 005, 012 & 019) that was up to 0.8m thick and extended beyond the limits of the cut, sealing layer (013) and becoming gradually thinner to the east (Figures 4, 5, 6 & 7).

A short distance to the west of channel (038) and cutting into silt layer (005) was a shallow hollow (007) (Figure 5), c. 4m wide, which was filled with topsoil (004) (see below).

In the southwest corner of the site (Figure 3) an undated northwest-southeast oriented ditch or channel (031) was revealed (Figure

8). It was approximately 4m wide and contained three brown or grey silty fills (028, 029, & 030), the latest of which (028) extended beyond the observable limits of the cut.

To the west of (031) (Figure 3) a 0.8m wide east-west oriented ditch (036) (Figure 8) containing a grey silty fill (035) was revealed.

5.3 Phase 3: Medieval Deposits

In the centre of the site (Figure 4), alluvial layer (012) was overlain by a 0.33m thick layer of yellow brown silt (011) containing three fragments of pottery dated to the 12th - 14th century.

5.4 Phase 4: Post-medieval and Later Deposits

A post-medieval, north-south oriented ditch (009), 0.9m wide and filled with brown silt (008), was revealed in the northwest corner of the site (Figure 3 and 6). To the northeast of the site several post-medieval drains were observed, the backfill of one was recorded in section (022 & 023) (Figure 7).

Covering the whole of the site was up to 0.6m of post-medieval topsoil deposits (001, 003, 004, 010, 015, 016, 017, 018, 021, 015, 027, 033 & 034).

6. DISCUSSION

The earliest deposits (Phase 1) appear to be north-south oriented bands of alluvium. It is possible that these are associated with a defunct watercourse or roddon. Roddons often provide higher and drier ground, and Lutton lies more than a metre higher than the ground to the east, on a band of raised ground running parallel to the medieval flood bank. It is possible that the presence of

a roddon was a significant factor in the establishment of an early settlement at Lutton.

Grey silt layer (013) was undated (Phase 2), although the presence of fired or burnt clay possibly indicates some type of early industrial activity in the locality. One possible explanation of this layer is that it is the upper fill of a saline creek, active in the Romano-British period, when salt making was an important fen industry.

An undated (Phase 2) ditch or channel (031) was probably a sewer or natural watercourse, and may be as early as the medieval period. Ditch (036) was probably for drainage.

Undated channel (038) may be the same as a medieval feature identified in a watching brief on Plot 4 (Snee 2002) which was dated to the medieval period. The upper fills (002, 005, 012 & 019) are likely to be the silting up of the roddon as the fens gradually drained during the medieval period. The layer of silt (011) revealed to the east and containing medieval pottery (Phase 3) is very similar to this alluvial layer (002, 005, 012 & 019) and may support such a hypothesis.

Post-medieval (Phase 4) deposits included a drainage ditch (009) and a series of land drains, sealed below topsoil.

7. CONCLUSIONS

A watching brief was undertaken at Marriott's Gate, Lutton, Lincolnshire. The area is archaeologically sensitive, located in the medieval core of the village, opposite the 14th century parish church.

However, no evidence of medieval settlement in close proximity to the excavated area was identified.

The investigations revealed that the village was located on the silt levee of a former creek. Such locations provided slightly higher and drier ground in this area of the fens, and this may have been a key factor in the establishment of the settlement.

A layer containing burnt or fired clay may indicate the presence of early salt making in the locality.

An undated channel of possible medieval origin was revealed, which is probably the continuation of a feature identified during the watching brief on Plot 4. A further undated ditch or channel an undated drain were recorded, as were a number of postmedieval and later deposits.

Finds of pottery dating to between the 12th and 20th century were recovered from the investigation.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr M.E. Bunn and Status Design for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. Gary Taylor coordinated the work and Tom Lane edited this report. Access to the County Sites and Monuments Record was kindly provided by Mark Bennet and Sarah Grundy of the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council. Dave Start permitted examination of the parish files maintained by the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire.

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

DoE Department of the Environment

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists



Figure 1 General Location Plan.

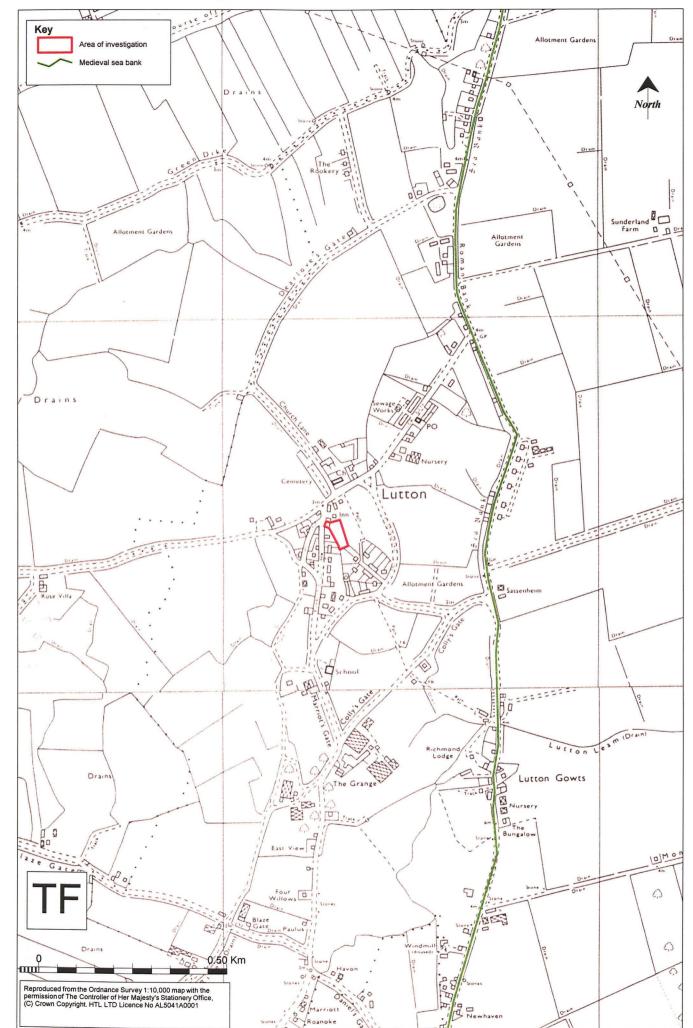


Figure 2 Location plan and archaeological setting

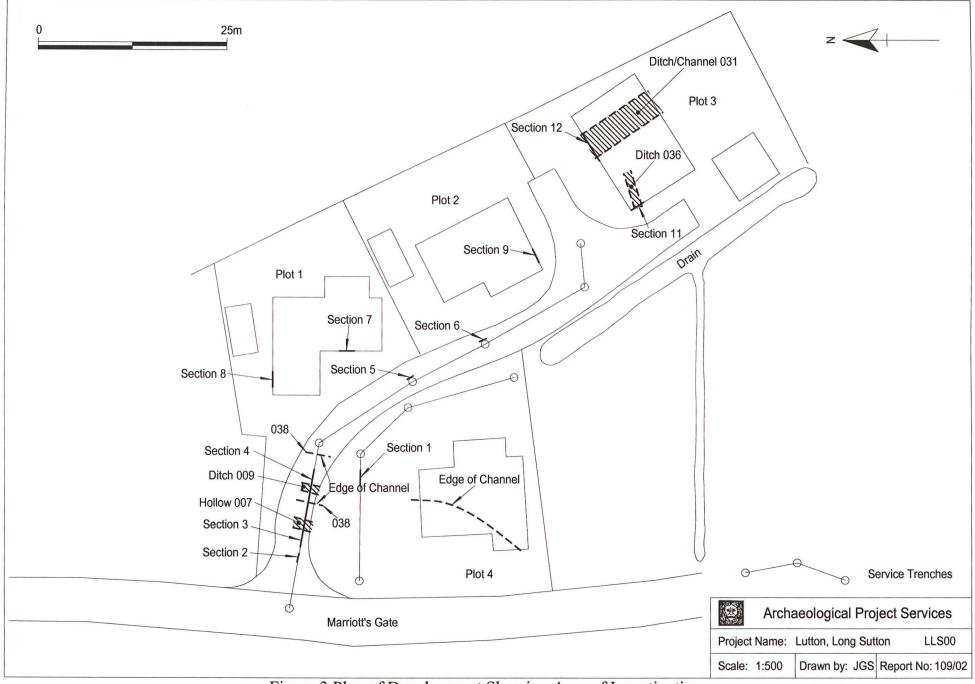


Figure 3 Plan of Development Showing Area of Investigation.

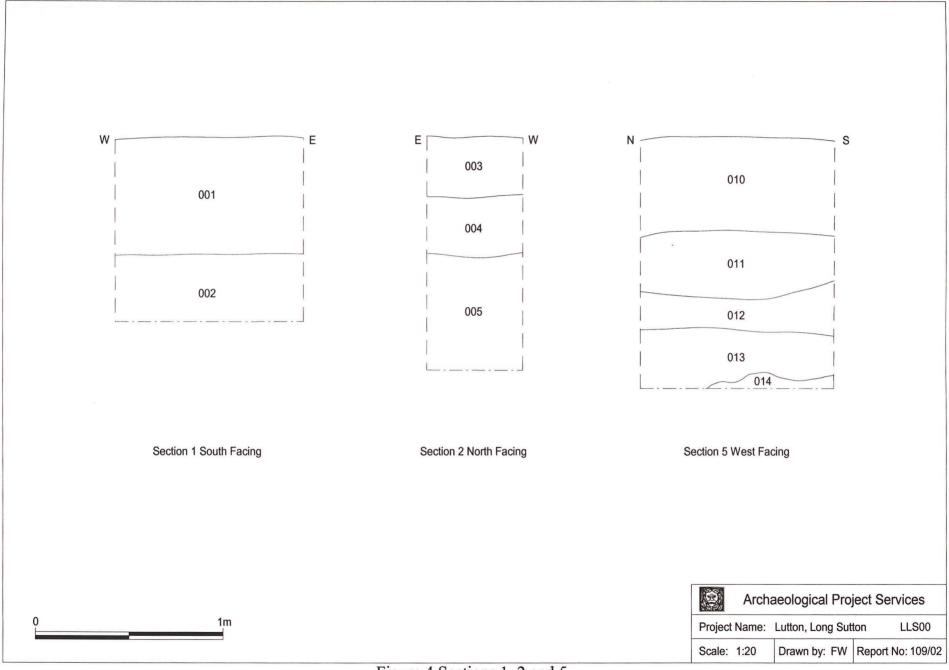


Figure 4 Sections 1, 2 and 5.

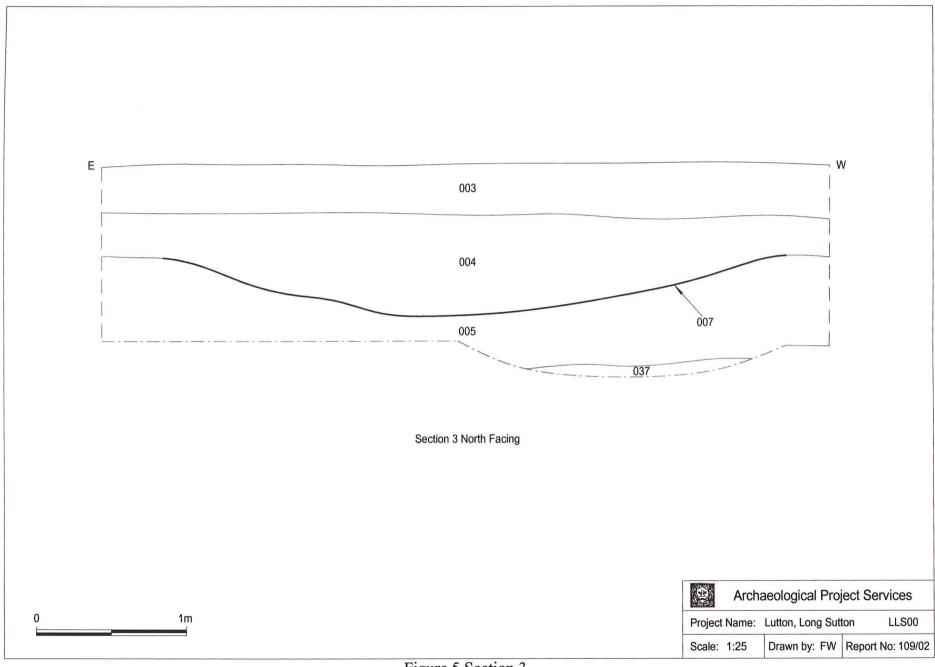


Figure 5 Section 3.

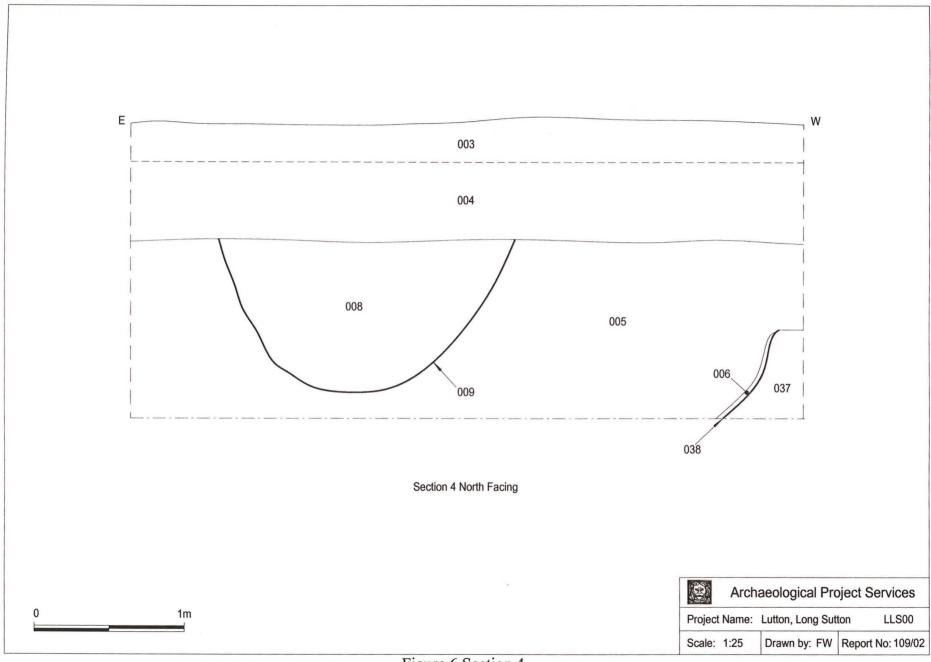


Figure 6 Section 4.

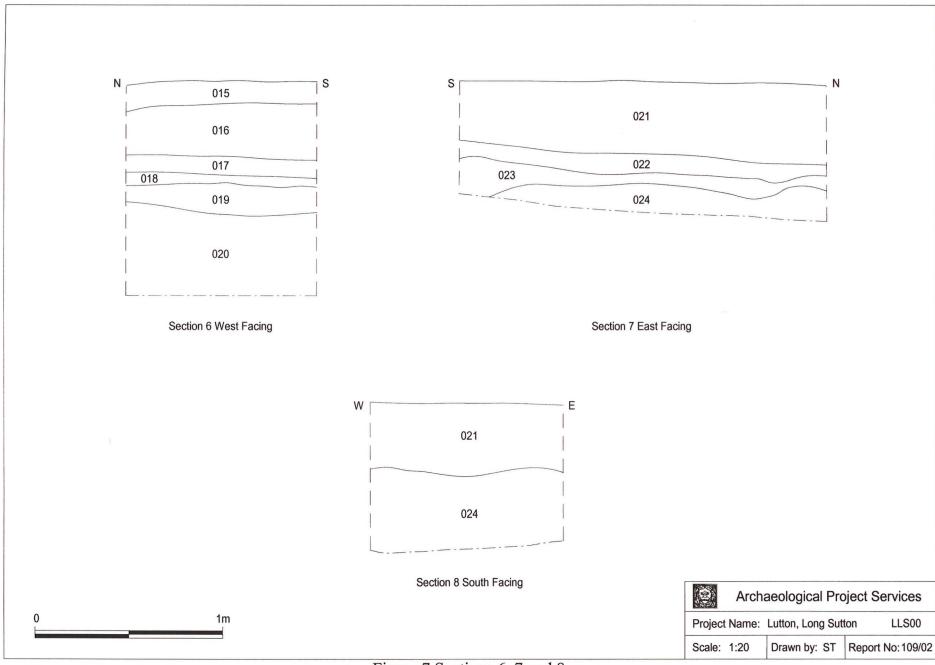


Figure 7 Sections 6, 7 and 8.

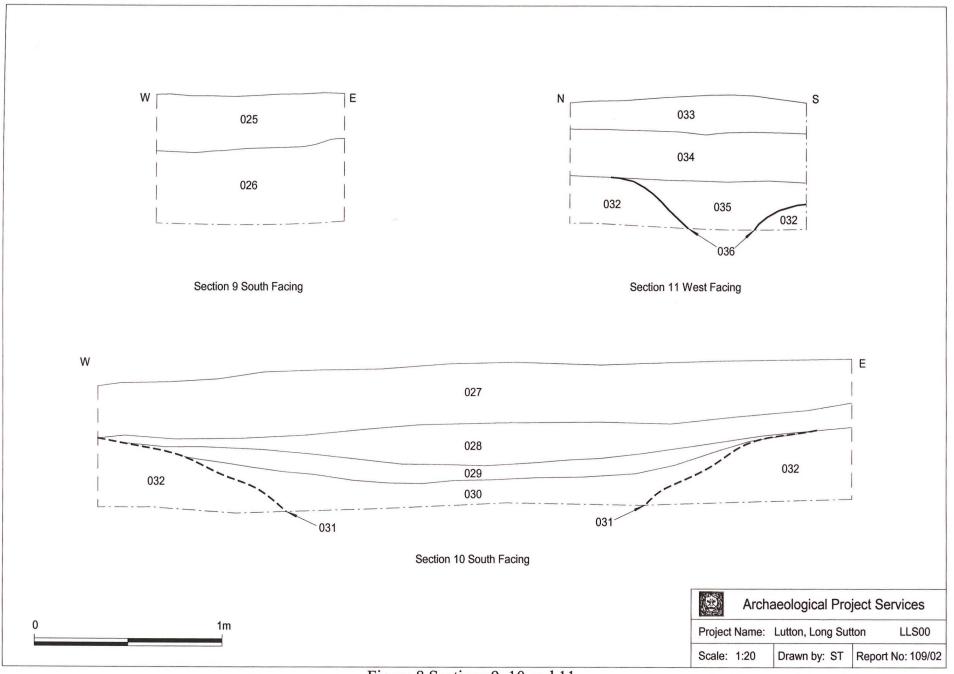


Figure 8 Sections 9, 10 and 11.



Plate 1 General view of the development area, looking north.



Plate 2 General view of the development area, looking northeast.



Plate 3 Section 5 showing undated silt layer (013) and medieval silt layer (011), looking east.



Plate 4 Section through undated ditch or channel (031), looking north.

LAND AT MARRIOTT'S GATE, LUTTON, LONG SUTTON, LINCOLNSHIRE SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 A watching brief is required during development works at Marriott's Gate, Lutton, Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The area is archaeologically sensitive, located in the medieval core of the village, opposite the 14th century parish church.
- 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 groundworks connected with development at Marriott's Gate, Lutton, Lincs. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 433 255.
- 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 Lutton is small village located 2.5km north of Long Sutton in the South Holland district of Lincolnshire. The development site is in the core of the village at Marriott's Gate, centred on National Grid Reference TF 433 255.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 A planning application was submitted to South Holland District Council for residential development comprising 3 separate dwellings with roads and services. Permission is subject to conditions requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief, during groundwork, in accordance with an approved written scheme of works. This document provides such a scheme of works.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 The site is on flat, low-lying ground at approximately 3m OD. Local soils are the Wisbech Association calcareous alluvial gleys (Hodge *et al.* 1984). The soils are developed in marine alluvium which in turn overlies Oxford Clays.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

6.1 Lutton lies to the rear of a seabank of probable Saxon date which passes immediately east of the village. Lutton was in existence in the Late Saxon period and was recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 when it was a royal manor with a fishery and agricultural land.

6.2 The development site is in the medieval core of the village, just south of the 14th century parish church. There is a medieval cross socket adjacent. Lutton House, near the church, is early 19th century.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the watching brief will be:
 - 7.1.1 To record and interpret the archaeological remains 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 remains encountered;
 - 7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological remains encountered;
 - 7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological remains, 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, the 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 REPORT DEPOSITION

10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the client; the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeological Officer; South Holland District Council Planning Department; 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 published in Heritage Lincolnshire's Annual Report and a note presented to the editor of the journal *Lincolnshire History and Archaeology*. If appropriate, notes on the findings will be submitted to the appropriate national journals: *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date, and *Medieval Archaeology* and the *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for findings of medieval or later date.

13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeological Officer. They will be given written notice of the commencement of the project.

14 VARIATIONS

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

15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 15.1 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.
- 15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- 15.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one person-day) will require a post- excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half person-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about four days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

16 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

16.1 The following organisations/persons will, in 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 - 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

17 INSURANCES

17.1 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 Professsional Indemnity. 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.
- 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 Summary

Context	Section No.	Description	Interpretation
001	1	Friable, dark brown silt & humus, 0.60m thick	Topsoil.
002	1	Soft, mid-brown silt, 0.40m thick	Alluvial layer.
003	2,3	Moderately compact, dark greyish black brown silt with fine sand, 0.30m thick	Topsoil.
004	2,3	Moderately compact, mid greyish brown silt with fine sand, 0.30m thick	Topsoil.
005	2,3,4	Moderately compact, light-mid yellowish brown silt & fine sand, 0.8m thick	Alluvial layer.
006	3	Moderately compact, black silky, fine sand & silt, 0.10m thick	Lower fill of (038).
007	3	Possibly linear, 4.0m wide x 0.40m deep, poss. N-S orientation	Hollow.
008	4	Moderately compact, mid greyish brown with yellow patches, silt, 0.50m thick x 0.90m wide	Fill of (009)
009	4	Exposed in section 0.90m wide x 0.50m deep, possible N-S orientation	Ditch.
010	5	Moderately compact, mid brown silt, 0.40m thick	Topsoil.
011	5	Moderately compact, light-mid mottled grey and yellow brown silt, 0.33m thick	Silt Layer.
012	5	Moderately compact, light reddish brown with grey hue silt, occasional patches of clay & Fe stains/pan, 0.27m thick	Alluvial layer.
013	5	Moderately compact light brownish grey silt, orange mottling and Iron pan, 0.35m thick	Layer.
014	5	Soft, light grey silt & fine sand, 0.10m thick	Natural alluvium.
015	6	Moderately compact dark brown silt,0.15m thick	Topsoil.
016	6	Moderately compact, mid yellowish brown silt with some fine sand, 0.30m thick	Topsoil.
017	6	Moderately compact mid-dark brown with greyish hue silt, 0.10m thick	Topsoil.
018	6	Moderately compact, light grey with yellowish hue fine sandy silt, 0.80m thick	Topsoil.
019	6	Soft, light yellowish brown fine sand, 0.20m thick	Alluvial layer.
020	6	Moderately compact with concreted patches, mid grey clayey silt, Frequent orange mottling and Iron pan, 0.50m thick	Natural alluvium.

Context	Section No.	Description	Interpretation
021	7	Compact, mid greyish brown silt, 0.40m thick	Topsoil.
022	7	Loose, grey black with red/brown patches clayey silt, 0.14m thick exposed variably.	Drain fill.
023	7	Loose, light grey clayey silt, 0.10m thick	Drain fill.
024	7	Loose/firm light brown clayey silt, 0.50m thick	Natural alluvium.
025	9	Soft, mid greyish brown sandy silt, 0.30m thick	Topsoil.
026	9	Firm, V. light greyish brown fine sandy silt, 0.38m thick	Natural alluvium.
027	10	Moderately compact dark brown fine sandy silt, 0.30m thick	Topsoil.
028	10	Moderately compact, light yellowish brown fine sandy silt, 0.20m thick	Upper fill of (031).
029	10	Moderately compact mid grey silt, 0.10m thick x 0.36m wide	Fill of (031).
030	10	Moderately compact light-mid greyish yellow brown fine sand & silt, 0.24m thick x 2.7m wide	Fill of (031).
031	10	Linear cut feature, 3.0m wide x 0.30m deep, N-S orientation	Ditch or channel
032	10	Moderately compact, mixed light brown & light yellowish brown, 0.26m thick to L.O.E.	Natural alluvium.
033	11	Moderately compact dark greyish brown fine sandy silt, 0.20m thick	Topsoil.
034	11	Moderately compact mid dark brown fine sandy silt, 0.25m thick	Topsoil.
035	11	Moderately compact, mottled mid brownish grey fine sandy silt, 0.27m thick	Fill of (036).
036	11	Linear cut feature, 1.0m wide x 0.25m deep exposed, E-W orientation	Ditch.
037	4	Moderately compact, Light-mid yellowish brown silt & fine sand, 0.60m thick	Natural alluvium.
038	4	Linear cut, c. 6.5m wide, concave sides, oriented north-south.	Channel.

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THE FINDS by Rachael Hall, Tom Lane and Gary Taylor

Recording of the pottery was undertaken with reference to guidelines prepared by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (Slowikowski *et al.* 2001) and the pottery was quantified using the chronology and coding system of the Lincolnshire ceramic type series. A total of 9 fragments of pottery weighing 329g and representing at least 7 vessels was recovered from 4 separate contexts. In addition to the pottery, a small quantity of other items, glass, metal, burnt clay and silt, comprising 4 items weighing a total of 232g, was also retrieved. No faunal remains were recovered.

Provenance

The material was recovered from topsoil (004 & 015), layers (005), (011) & (013) and ditch fill (008).

The earliest pottery was made in relative proximity to Lutton, at Bourne and Stamford, 32-42km to the west. The 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
004	LSTON	Lead-glazed stoneware bottle	1	167g	19 th -early 20 th century
005		?Solidified silt	1	7g	
008	EMOD	White glazed tableware, separate vessels	2	35g	19 th century
		Glass, mould-made bottle with applied neck, 19 th century	1	60g	
		Sheet iron with mortar and paint adhering, late post-medieval	2	43g	
011	BOUA	Bourne A ware, 12 th -14 th century	1	38g	12 th -14 th century
	ST	Stamford ware, sooted externally, 9 th -12 th century	2	6g	
		Fired clay. Light brown in colour. Irregular shape. Max dimensions 32 x 15 x 9mm thick and 32 x 32 x 9mm thick. V silty fabric with no obvious inclusions.	2	14g	

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
013		8 pieces fired clay. All irregular shape except one piece (38 x 19 x 26mm thick) which has a deliberately smoothed surface. The external (flattened) area is a whitish/yellow colour indicating contact with salt water. A second piece, the largest at 62 x 35 x 42mm deep, is very weathered but has some resemblance to a briquetage clip. All pieces have a silty fabric, with a number having signs of inclusions of chopped organic material within the fabric.	8	108g	-
015	STMO	Staffordshire mottled ware tankard, early 18 th century	2(link)	39g	Early 18 th century
	BL	Red earthenware, black-glazed pancheon, early 18 th century	1	44g	

Deposit (011) only contains medieval material. Although the Stamford ware from the deposit is generally earlier than the Bourne ware, both pottery types could have been in use at the same time in the 12th-13th century.

There is nothing to date the pieces of fired clay described above. The two pieces described from [012] both resemble briquetage, but there is little within the remainder of the collection to support such an interpretation. If the two pieces were briquetage they would be likely to be of Roman date. Lutton, however, lies east of and beyond the known distribution of Roman briquetage on account of extensive post-Roman flooding and sediment deposition that has affected the area. It is still possible that such material could find its way to the surface from buried Roman deposits, for example in the spoil from a deep ditch. Overall, though, the collection does not have enough diagnostic indicators to confirm that it is briquetage and it must be regarded as undated fired clay.

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 few previous archaeological investigations at Lutton. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

Much of the assemblage is of late post-medieval date and consequently of limited local potential. However, deposit (011) appears to be distinctly medieval and of moderate local potential. However, the limited quantity of material of this period recovered would tend to suggest that the site was not inhabited at that time but served some other, indeterminate, purpose. The burnt clay is possibly briquetage and thus is of moderate local significance.

The limited quantities of material earlier than the 18th century is informative and suggests that there are few archaeological deposits dating from this period and before in the development area.

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

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.

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

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, e.g. [004].

Crop markA 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, etc. 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

Layer

Medieval

Post-medieval

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).

A layer is a term used 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.

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.

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.

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

Till

A deposit formed after the retreat of a glacier. Also known as boulder clay, this material is generally unsorted and can comprise of rock flour to boulders to rocks of quite substantial size.

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.

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

38 - Context records

1 - Photographic record sheets

6 - Drawing sheets 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: LCNCC: 2001.131

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: LLS00

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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