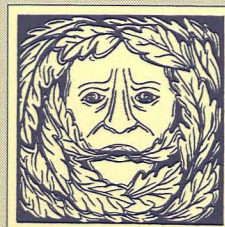


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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT MILL CLOSE,
GRANTHAM,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(GMC 02)**



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

Event L13384
Source L18098
L18099
Mon L18323/
35721

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT MILL CLOSE,
GRANTHAM,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(GMC 02)**

**Work Undertaken For
Mr J. Stukins**

September 2002

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

National Grid Reference: SK 9219 3721
Planning Reference: S01/0175/35
City and County Museum Accession No: 2002.240

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 139/02



Quality Control
Mill Close, Grantham
GMC 02

Project Coordinator	Steve Malone
Supervisor	Chris Moulis
Finds Processing	Denise Buckley
Illustration	Paul Cope-Faulkner
Photographic Reproduction	Sue Unsworth
Post-excavation Analyst	Paul Cope-Faulkner

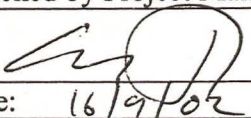
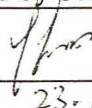
Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
 Gary Taylor	 Tom Lane
Date: 16/9/02	Date: 23-09-02

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the construction of a single dwelling and detached garage on land off Mill Court, Grantham, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of the foundation trenches.

The site lies in an area from where Neolithic (4000-2201 BC) stone tools have been retrieved and close to the site of a Late Bronze Age (1000-800 BC) urn cemetery. A small quantity of Romano-British (AD 50-410) and Saxon (AD 410-1066) pottery has also been found in the vicinity.

The watching brief revealed a Middle Saxon pit and two undated postholes which are possibly contemporary. Finds included a range of Saxon pottery, a pin-beater and a quantity of animal bone.

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 may be disturbed or destroyed." (IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr J. Stukin to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with residential development on land off Mill Close, Grantham, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application

S01/0175/35. The watching brief was carried out on the 2nd July 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

Grantham is situated 35km south of Lincoln and 19km southwest of Sleaford, South Kesteven District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site is located 1.5km northeast of the town centre as defined by the parish church of St. Wulfram to the north of Belton Lane (Fig. 2). Centred on National Grid Reference SK 9219 3721 the site is situated at a height of c. 50m OD overlooking the floodplain of the River Witham.

As an urban area the local soils have not been mapped, but are likely to be sandy and coarse loamy soils of the Blackwood Association (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 127). Beneath these soils is recent alluvium associated with the Witham. This alluvium overlies a drift geology of Older Sands and Gravels which in turn seal a solid geology of Jurassic Lower Lias Clays and Sandstones (GSGB 1972).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

The development site is situated in an area of archaeological remains dating from the Neolithic to the present day. Neolithic flint tools and a polished stone axe are known from the immediate vicinity. The site lies close to a Late Bronze Age urn cemetery which was revealed during construction work on Belton Lane in the 1930s. Pottery of Romano-British and Saxon date have also been found in the vicinity.

Grantham is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as *Grantham*, *Grandham*, *Granham* and *Graham*, the name is derived from the Old

English personal name (*Granta*) and *hām*, meaning settlement, although the Old English 'grand' meaning gravel may suggest an alternative derivation (Cameron 1998, 53). At the time of the Domesday Survey the land was held by the King and contained a church, a hall and four mills (Foster and Longley 1976).

The medieval town of Grantham lay southwest of the development. The parish church of St. Wulfram represents the most extant building of this period and dates to the 11th and 12th centuries (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 316). Adjacent to the church lies Grantham House which has a 14th century core to a largely 16th century exterior (*ibid.* 325).

A watching brief undertaken 230m to the northwest of Mill Close identified an undated pit along with a prehistoric flint flake and late post-medieval slag (Cope-Faulkner 2001, 1).

3. AIMS

The requirements of the watching brief, as detailed in the specification (Appendix 1), were to record and interpret archaeological remains, if present, and to determine their date, sequence, function and origin.

4. METHODS

Prior to the excavation of foundation trenches, topsoil was stripped from the area to be developed. Trenches were then excavated by machine to depths of up to 0.7m below the stripped ground surface. Following excavation, the sides of the trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were partially or fully excavated by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. The depth and thickness of each deposit were measured from the ground surface. Each archaeological deposit or feature revealed 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 a scale of 1:10. recording of deposits encountered during the watching brief was undertaken according to 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 watching brief were examined. Phasing was assigned based on artefact dating and the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis four phases were identified;

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Middle Saxon deposits
Phase 3	Undated deposits
Phase 4	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 at the base of the foundation trenches was a mixed reddish yellow and yellow sand with limestone pebbles (003). This was identified as the underlying drift geology.

Phase 2 Middle Saxon deposits

Cut into natural deposits in the footings for the garage was a sub-circular pit (005). This was over 1m long, over 0.4m wide and 0.55m deep (Fig. 4, Section 3). The pit contained a single fill of greyish brown

sand (006) from which Middle Saxon pottery and animal bone was retrieved.

Phase 3 Undated deposits

Cut into natural deposits along the northern trench of the garage footings were two sub-circular postholes. The first (009) was 0.3m wide and 0.55m deep and contained a single fill of mid to dark greyish brown sand (008).

Immediately adjacent to this posthole was the second example (011) which was also 0.3m wide and 0.55m deep and contained a single fill of greyish brown sand (010).

Sealing the Saxon pit and the two postholes was a 0.35m thick subsoil of brown sand (002).

Phase 4 Recent deposits

Although largely stripped from the site prior to the development, a topsoil of dark grey sand (001) was recorded.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Phase 1) comprise sands and pebbles and probably represent the underlying drift geology of Older Sands and Gravels.

A pit dating to the Middle Saxon period (Phase 2) was recorded during this investigation. Saxon artefacts have previously been found in the vicinity although none are known from stratified contexts. The range of material, pot, bone and a pin-beater suggests this site lay in close proximity to a settlement of this period.

Two undated postholes and a subsoil (Phase 3) were also revealed within the foundation trenches. Although undated, the stratigraphic position of the postholes suggests they are contemporary with the pit.

The Saxon pottery retrieved during the investigation is mainly of local, but unspecified, origin with an additional three vessels derived from the Charnwood Forest area of Leicestershire and covering a date range from the 5th – 8th centuries AD. Animal bone was also recovered and suggests that any associated settlement had a mixed economy, rearing cattle, sheep and pig. A bone pin-beater was also recovered and indicates textile production occurred during the Saxon period.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Mill Close, Grantham, as the site lay in an area rich with archaeological remains dating from the Neolithic period onwards.

The investigation revealed evidence of Saxon settlement in the southeastern part of the site. These remains, probably of Middle Saxon date, were represented by a refuse pit that contained pottery of the period, together with animal bone and a textile-making implement. Two postholes were also revealed close by and although undated may be contemporary with the pit.

No archaeological remains were revealed in the more extensive development groundworks to the northwest. This suggests that the Saxon occupation indicated by the revealed remains extends further to the east or southeast. 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 J. Stukins who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Steve Malone and this

report was edited by Gary Taylor and Tom Lane. Gail Smith, the Community Archaeologist for South Kesteven District Council, kindly permitted access to the parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Steve Malone
 Site Supervisor: Chris Moulis
 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

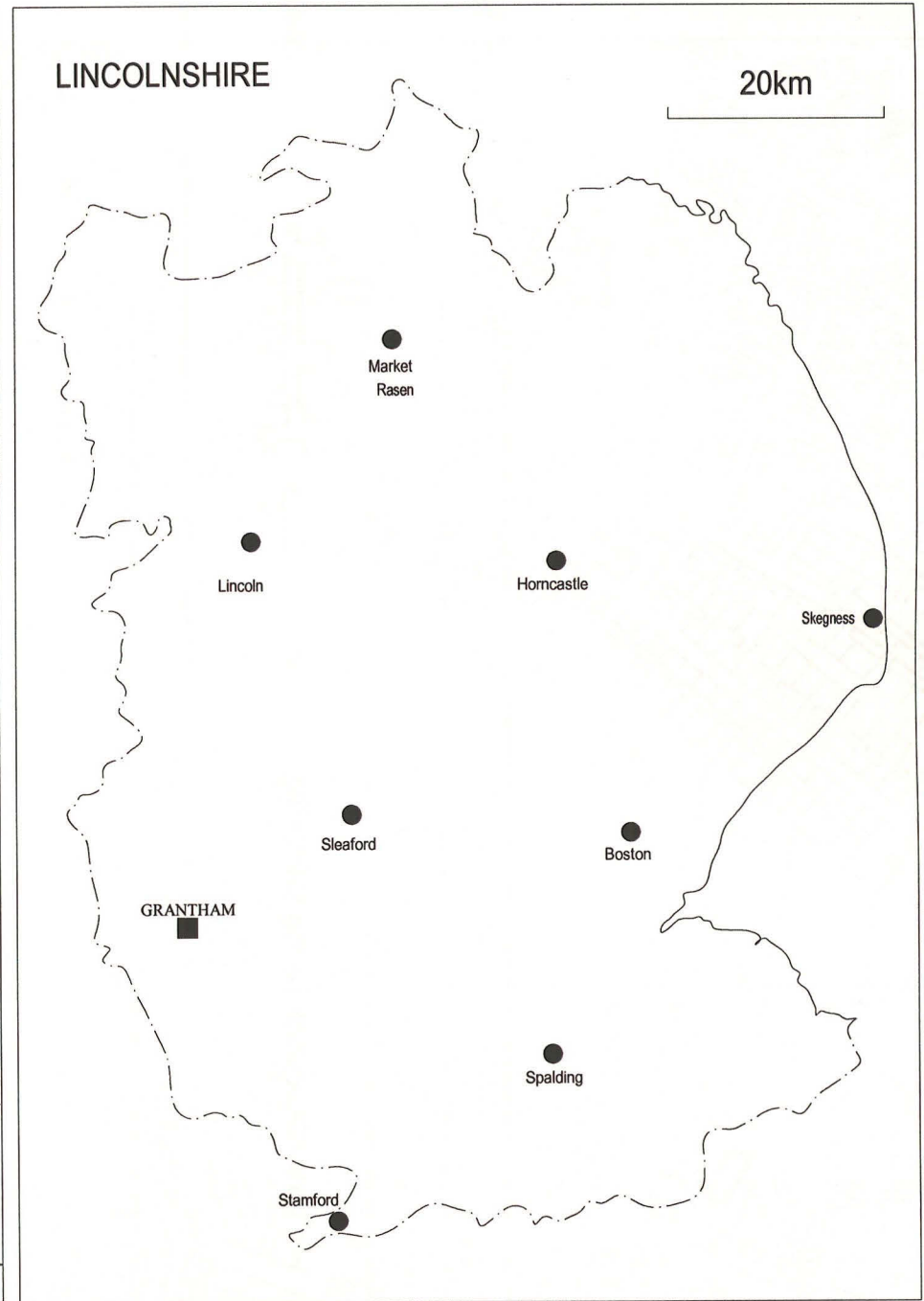
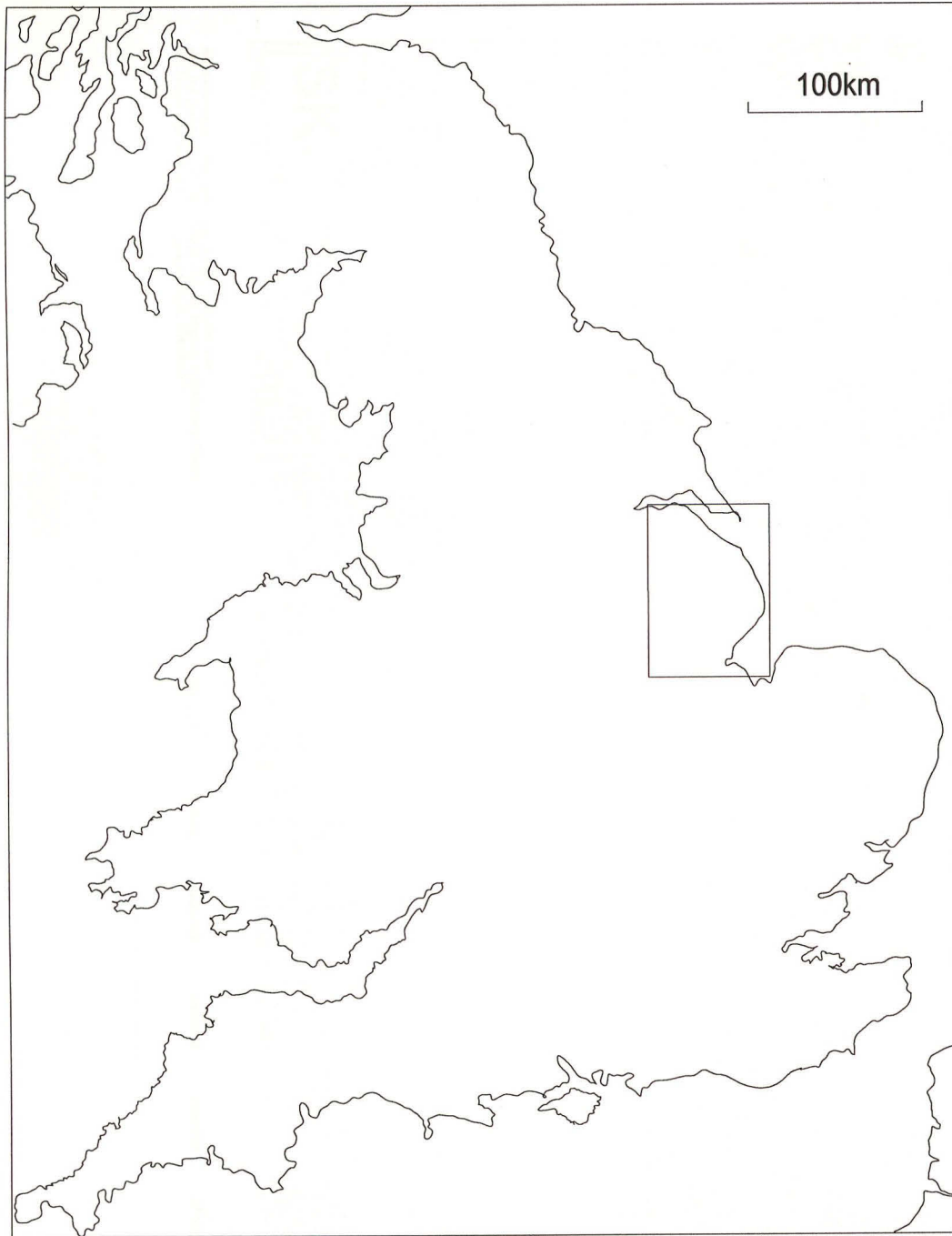


Figure 1 - General Location Plan

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Figure 2 - Site location plan

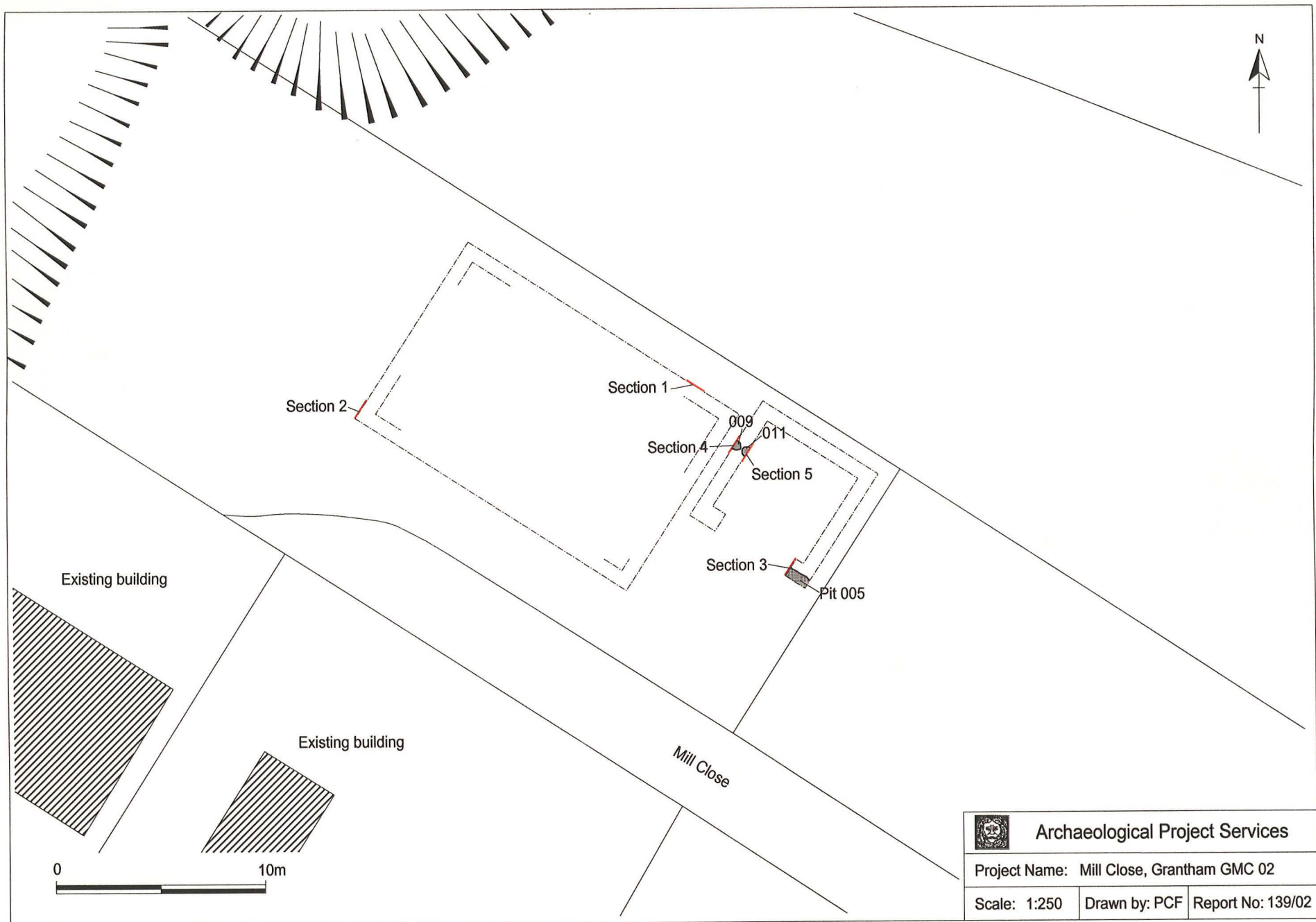
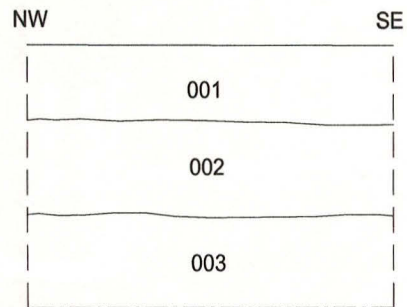
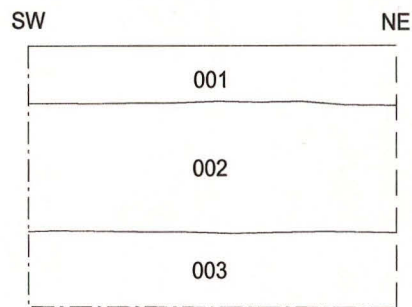


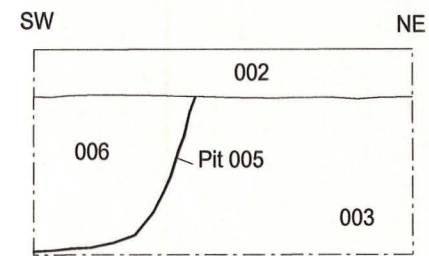
Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section locations



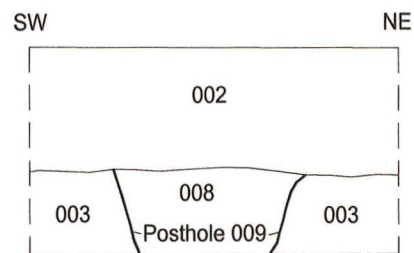
Section 1



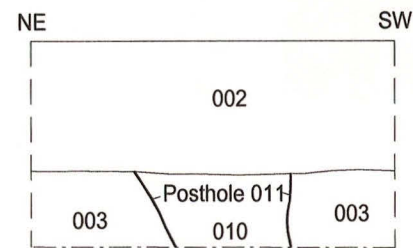
Section 2



Section 3



Section 4



Section 5



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Mill Close, Grantham GMC 02

Scale: 1:20

Drawn by: PCF

Report No: 139/02

Figure 4 - Sections 1 to 5



Plate 1 - General view of the site looking southeast towards Belton Lane



Plate 2 - Section 3, showing Pit (005), looking northwest



Plate 3 - Postholes (009) and (011), looking northeast

Appendix 1

LAND AT MILL CLOSE, BELTON LANE, GRANTHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during residential development on land at Mill Close, Belton Lane, Grantham, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The area is archaeologically sensitive, lying in an area where a number of archaeological artefacts of prehistoric to medieval date have been recovered.*
- 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 residential development on land at Belton Lane, Grantham, Lincolnshire, National Grid Reference SK 9219 3721.
- 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 Grantham is located 40km south of Lincoln in the South Kesteven district of Lincolnshire. The works are to take place on the north side of the town on land at Mill Close, between Belton Lane and the River Witham at National Grid Reference SK 9219 3721.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application (S01/0175/35) was submitted to South Kesteven District Council for the proposed development. Permission is subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief during groundworks.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The site lies on the east bank of the River Witham at approximately 50mOD. Local soils have not been mapped as the area is urban, but are likely to be sandy and coarse loamy soils of the Blackwood Association developed over glaciofluvial drift (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 127).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Grantham lies in an area rich in archaeological activity from the prehistoric period onwards. Finds of flint tools attest to activity in the mesolithic and Neolithic periods, a Bronze Age cemetery is also located in the vicinity and cropmarks give further indication of settlement/landuse in this period. The Roman road to Lincoln, Ermine Street, runs just to the east of the town and a

settlement of that period is known at Saltersford. The town itself dates from at least the Late Saxon period, for a settlement is recorded in the Domesday Book and St Wulfram's Church dates in part from the 11th century.

- 6.2 Archaeological finds in the immediate vicinity range from the prehistoric to Roman, Saxon and medieval periods: Neolithic flintwork and a fragment of a Neolithic polished stone axe have been found; a late Bronze Age Bucket and Barrel Urn cemetery was discovered during construction on Belton Lane in the 1930s; smaller amounts of Roman, Saxon and medieval pottery have also been recovered.

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 they will be left *in situ* and only excavated if absolutely necessary. Should removal be required the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before the exhumation of the remains. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department, coroner and the police will be informed, where 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:

- 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 trenches and 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; the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist; South Kesteven 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 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 South Kesteven Community Archaeologist. They will be given written notice of the commencement of the project.

14 VARIATIONS AND CONTINGENCIES

- 14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 14.2 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).
- 14.3 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.
- 14.4 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.

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.

<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 in consultation with H Healey, Independent Archaeologist
Non-pottery Artefacts	J Cowgill, Independent Specialist
Animal Bones	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
Environmental Analysis	V Fryer, 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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Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Section	Description	Interpretation
001	1-2	Friable dark grey sand, 0.2m thick	Topsoil
002	All	Friable mid brown sand, 0.35m thick	Subsoil
003	All	Friable variable light yellow and mid reddish yellow sand with limestone pebbles, >0.25m thick	Natural deposit
004	Unstratified finds recovery		
005	3	Sub-circular feature, 1m long by 0.4m wide by 0.55m deep, steep sides with flattish base	Pit
006	3	Friable dark greyish brown sand	Fill of (005)
007	Unstratified finds recovery		
008	4	Friable mid to dark brown sand	Fill of (009)
009	4	Sub-circular feature, 0.3m by 0.3m by 0.55m deep, steep sides and ?tapered base	Posthole
010	5	Friable mid to dark greyish brown sand	Fill of (011)
011	5	Sub-circular feature, 0.3m by 0.3m by 0.55m deep, steep sides	Posthole

Appendix 3

THE POST-ROMAN POTTERY

By Jane Young

Lindsey Archaeological Services

Introduction

Sixteen sherds of pottery from the site (representing eleven vessels) were examined under a x20 binocular microscope. A detailed archive was then recorded on an Access database using locally and nationally agreed codenames. The material is all Anglo-Saxon in date and the pottery has been assigned to a range of five different fabric groups previously identified in the county. The type and general date range for these fabrics are shown in Table 1. The range of vessel types was limited to undecorated jars and a single bowl.

Table 1: Pottery codenames and date range with total quantities by sherd and vessel count

codename	full name	sherds	vessels	weight	date
CHARN	Charnwood ware	3	3	32	5 th to 8 th
LIM	Oolitic limestone-tempered fabrics	2	2	79	5 th to 8 th
SST	Early to mid Saxon sandstone-tempered	1	1	4	5 th to 8 th
SSTCL	Central Lincolnshire Early to mid Saxon sandstone-tempered	1	1	40	6 th to 8 th ?
SSTMG	Early to mid Saxon sandstone-tempered (carboniferous sandstone)	9	4	472	6 th to 8 th ?

Condition

The pottery recovered is in variable condition with all sherds showing some small degree of abrasion. The recovered sherd size is variable (from 1 to 70 grams), being mainly dependent on the original vessel size. Soot residues were noted on only two vessels.

Fabrics

All of the Anglo-Saxon handmade pottery types occurring on the site can be paralleled with Anglo-Saxon types elsewhere in Lincolnshire. The majority of vessels are either in a coarse sandstone-tempered fabric (SSTMG) or a fabric containing acid igneous rock inclusions from the Charnwood Forest area of Leicestershire (CHARN). Other fabrics include an oolitic-tempered ware (LIM), probably of Kesteven origin and two sandstone-tempered sherds (SSTCL and SST). The fine grained sandstone tempered fabric (SST) used for the small bowl in context 007 is not a common find and may suggest that this vessel is not a local product.

Forms

With the exception of one small bowl all identifiable vessels are different forms of jars. Only one sherd was too small to assign to a form type. Four of the nine jars present in the assemblage are large vessels. There appears to be no correlation between form type and fabric as the large jars occur in three of the five fabrics found on the site. The absence of soot residues on all but two of the vessels suggests that most of them were not used for cooking.

Chronology

Handmade Anglo-Saxon pottery is difficult to date and at present there is little evidence to suggest that individual fabrics in Lincolnshire are diagnostic of a specific date within the general timespan given for their period of general usage (5th to 8th centuries). The absence of Middle Saxon types from the group suggests that the material does not date to the later 8th or 9th centuries but does not preclude a date earlier in the 8th century. Recent work on a number of assemblages in central Lincolnshire suggests that mixed fabric groups, especially

those with a high proportion of larger jars, could belong to the 7th to early 8th centuries, however, there is as yet no concrete evidence for this.

Summary and Recommendations

This small but important assemblage of Anglo-Saxon material is the first pottery of this date to be recovered from Grantham. It is impossible to make statements about the status or function of the site due to the limited size of the assemblage, although the general condition of the pottery suggests nearby domestic occupation.

The assemblage should be kept for future study, especially as part of any characterisation of the fabrics for a regional type series. Three vessels could be drawn for the archive record.

Pottery Archive GMC02

Jane Young Lindsey Archaeological Services

context	ename	sub fabric	form type	sherds	vessels	weight	part	action	description	date
006	LIM	incl comm coarse quartz & aggregate sst occ fossil shell carb veg voids	large jar	1	1	70	rim	draw	soot ext on & below rim with a patch on the shoulder that is unsooted;soot int	7th to early 8th?
006	SSTCL	M	jar	1	1	40	BS		fabric includes carbonised veg	7th to early 8th?
006	SSTMG		jar ?	1	1	7	base			6th to 8th
006	SSTMG		large jar	1	1	63	BS		slightly everted rim with rounded profile;comm carbonised veg voids coarse sst some finer aggregated sst occ muscovite;also context 007	7th to early 8th ?
007	CHARN		large jar	1	1	27	BS			6th to 8th
007	CHARN		large jar	1	1	4	BS		flake	6th to 8th
007	LIM		jar	1	1	9	BS		int soot;abraded	6th to 8th
007	SST	comm fine fabric occ aggregate	small bowl	1	1	4	rim		burnished exterior	6th to 8th
007	SSTMG		jar	1	1	2	rim			6th to 8th
007	SSTMG		jar	1	1	13	BS			6th to 8th
007	SSTMG		large jar	5	1	387	rim & BS	draw	slightly everted rim with rounded profile;comm carbonised veg voids coarse sst some finer aggregated sst occ muscovite;also context 006	7th to early 8th ?
504	CHARN		?	1	1	1	BS		flake	6th to 8th

Appendix 4

THE PIN BEATER

by Gary Taylor

Provenance

The object was recovered from a pit fill (006).

Range

The artefact beater was found in association with pottery and animal bone, both reported separately.

Weighing 10g, the object is 139mm long with two pointed ends and is complete. It has a circular section with a maximum diameter of 9mm and is highly polished.

Double-pointed bone implements such as this are generally identified as pin-beaters, or thread pickers, used in the textile industry. It has also been postulated that they were tools used for netting, or as shuttles or spindles (MacGregor 1982, 100).

Examples of pin-beaters that are closely comparable to the current example have previously been reported from the Middle Saxon settlement of Maxey, near Peterborough (Addyman 1964, 64 and fig. 16, nos 21 and 22). Anglo-Scandinavian, 9th-11th century, deposits at York have yielded a similar double pointed pin-beater, though one that noticeably thickens in the middle (MacGregor 1982, fig. 54 no 510), while single pointed examples have been found in Lincoln in 9th-12th century contexts (Mann 1982, 25 and fig. 24, no 209-212). This example from Grantham is most closely similar to the Middle Saxon types from Maxey.

Condition

The pin-beater is in very good condition and presents no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the collection is by material class.

Documentation

There have been previous archaeological investigations at Grantham that are the subjects of reports. Additionally, pin-beaters have been studied as site finds from numerous locations. 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

Although the pin-beater itself is significant, it is the assemblage as a whole that has greater potential. Together with the ceramics and animal bones, reported separately, the complete pin-beater signifies probable textile production at a Saxon settlement in this part of Grantham. Thus, together, the remains are of high regional significance and potential.

The absence of any material other than the Saxon remains is informative and suggests that area was first occupied at that time, and subsequently abandoned.

References

Addyman, P. V., 1964 A Dark-Age Settlement at Maxey, Northants., *Medieval Archaeology VIII*

MacGregor, A., 1982 *Anglo-Scandinavian Finds from Lloyds Bank, Pavement, and Other Sites*, The Archaeology of York, The Small Finds 17-3, CBA and York Archaeological Trust

Mann, J. E., 1982 *Early Medieval Finds from Flaxengate I. Objects of antler, bone, stone, horn, ivory, amber, and jet*, The Archaeology of Lincoln XIV-1, CBA and Lincoln Archaeological Trust

Appendix 5

THE ANIMAL BONE *By Paul Cope-Faulkner*

A total of 35 bones weighing a total of 637g was retrieved from investigations at Mill Close, Grantham.

Provenance

The animal bone was retrieved from a pit fill (006), a posthole fill (010) and as unstratified finds (004 and 007).

Range

The range of animal bone is detailed in the following table.

Context	Species	Bone	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
004	cattle sized	femur.	1	20	Part of the head only
006	cattle	mandible	1	155	3 molars present includes a canine
	cattle sized	skull	4	54	
	cattle sized	rib	1	10	
	pig	metatarsus	1	16	
	pig	mandible	1	6	
	sheep	maxilla	1	8	
	sheep	humerus	1	14	
	sheep sized	unidentified	2	2	
	bird	unidentified	1	<1	
007	cattle sized	vertebra	1	75	
	cattle sized	humerus	1	80	
	cattle sized	phalanges	2	10	
	cattle sized	unidentified	6	70	
	sheep	scapula	1	40	
	sheep sized	radius	1	20	
	sheep sized	metapodial	1	8	
	sheep sized	rib	1	14	
	pig	metatarsus	1	6	
	unknown	unidentified	5	20	
010	sheep sized	skull	1	8	Fragment only

The pit fill assemblage has been dated to the Middle Saxon period and a mixed economy is visible, based largely on cattle but with pig, sheep and a bird, possibly chicken, being represented. This range is also reflected in the unstratified material (007) which is derived from the vicinity of the pit.

In addition to the above material, a bone pin-beater was also retrieved (see appendix 4). Unfortunately the species could not be determined although is likely to be from cattle.

Condition

All the animal bone is in generally good condition.

Potential

The animal bone should be kept for further study and for comparison with other Middle Saxon sites from the vicinity of Grantham.

Appendix 6

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).
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 7

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

11	Context records
1	Photographic record sheet
3	Drawing sheets
1	Box of finds
1	Stratigraphic matrix

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Lincolnshire City and County Museum
12 Friars Lane
Lincoln
LN2 1HQ

The archive will be deposited in accordance with the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives*, produced by the Lincolnshire City and County Museum.

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number: 2002.240

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: GMC 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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