(RCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION (STAGE 2)
ON LAND AT LOW ROAD,
SPALDING,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SLR02)

Work Undertaken For



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION (STAGE 2)
ON LAND AT LOW ROAD,
SPALDING,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SLR02)

Work Undertaken For Persimmon Homes (East Midlands) Ltd

August 2002

Report Compiled by James Snee BSc (Hons.)

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1. SUMMARY

Archaeological investigations on land at Low Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire (NGR TF 259 230), were undertaken because the area is potentially archaeologically sensitive. Settlement in the area dates from the Romano-British period, and deposits of this date are encountered in and around Spalding

The aim of the evaluation was to gather sufficient information for the archaeological curator to formulate a policy for the management of the archaeological resources present on the site.

Previous investigations on the site identified a number of post-medieval remains, and undated remains of probable similar age in the centre and the west of the site. These represent enclosure and settlement of the land. Structural remains in the form of postholes and stake holes were recorded demonstrating the presence of a timber building or buildings between the 16th / 17th century to the 19th century. Further investigation was requested by the archaeological curator in order to clarify the nature and extent of these remains.

The investigations have shown that the sequence of natural deposits was dominated by the presence of a roddon. This divided the site into three distinct topographical areas. In the southeastern corner was a sandy levee forming high, well-drained ground. In the centre of the site, the ground was dominated by silty clays, heavy and waterlogged. To the west was another slightly higher and dryer area of silt.

The earliest archaeological deposit encountered was the $13^{th} - 14^{th}$ century buried soil on the western fringe of the site, where the silts began to fall away towards the town.

In the centre of the site, remains of what is believed to be an early post-medieval gutter were recorded. It is suggested that this feature was associated with a Mud and Stud cottage, the earliest recorded settlement on this part of the site.

A number of undated and early postmedieval ditches were exposed in the central and eastern portions of the site, possibly part of a drainage scheme to establish arable agriculture or dylings for grazing.

On the west side of the site, further postholes were revealed suggesting that the remains found in the previous investigation were part of a group of farm buildings or a substantial dwelling, barn or granary, dating between the 16th and 19th century.

On the eastern side of the site flues from a possible 18th to 19th century brick making site were revealed.

Finds of pottery, brick, tile, metal work, clay pipe and industrial residue dating between the 13th to 20th centuries were recovered from the site.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

An archaeological evaluation is defined as 'a limited programme of non-intrusive intrusive fieldwork and/or determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If archaeological remains are present Field Evaluation defines their character and extent, and relative quality; and it enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate' (IFA 1997).

2.2 Planning Background

Between the 25th July and 6th August, an archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Low Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire.

Planning permission (Application Number H16/1099/01) for the development is subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological scheme of works. This comprised a programme of trial trenching of the site to provide information on the archaeological potential of the site. Following this, an archaeological mitigation strategy should be produced, based on the findings of the trial trenching and detailed design proposals, which may involve further archaeological works.

A first phase of trial trenching (Stage 1 - Trenches 1 to 8) has already been undertaken prior to the demolition of the former industrial buildings on the site. At the request of the Senior Built Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council, a second phase of trial trenching (Stage 2) was initiated.

Archaeological Project Services (APS) was commissioned by Persimmon Homes Ltd to undertake the additional trial trenching. A specification (Appendix 1) detailing the methods, techniques and procedures of the evaluation was produced by APS and approved by the Senior Built Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council.

The evaluation was carried out in accordance with the guidelines specified in the Institute of Field Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for Field Evaluation (IFA 1999).

2.3 Topography and Geology

Spalding is located 23km southwest of Boston and 30km southeast of Sleaford in the South Holland district of Lincolnshire (Figure 1). The site is located at Low Road (Figure 2), approximately 1.3km northeast of Spalding town centre, centred on National Grid Reference TF 259 230 and lies at a height of approximately 3m OD. The site, approximately 3ha in area, is bounded on the south by Low Road, on the west by Queen's Road and on the east by the Coronation Channel and is largely occupied by industrial buildings.

Local soils have not been mapped as the area is urban, but on the basis of surrounding deposits are likely to be deep stoneless clayey and silty soils of the Wallasea 2 Association developed on marine alluvium (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 338). Previous investigations have shown that the sequence of natural deposits on the site is dominated by the presence of a roddon, the infilled channel and banks of an extinct natural creek.

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Evidence of Romano-British activity has been found in and around Spalding and on the east side of the town during the excavation of the Coronation channel. A layer containing pottery, indicative of settlement activity was recorded at Oakley Drive to the northwest of the development site (Phillips 1970, 292). To the northeast, the possible remains of an early Roman settlement have been recorded (Miller 1998) and closer to the centre of the town significant Romano-British remains were revealed during development at Pinchbeck Road (APS forthcoming). In addition to this, cropmark evidence from the area around the town indicates a pattern of fields, roads and possible settlements converging on the town and it is possible that Spalding town stands on the site of a

nucleated Romano-British settlement, or small town (Phillips 1970, Taylor 2000).

Spalding is generally connected with a tribal group called the *Spaldas* who are recorded in the Tribal Hideage, a 7th century Mercian tribute list (Sawyer 1998, 47). The place-name is Old English in origin and refers to the 'the people of the Spalde' (Cameron 1998, 114). Although little evidence of Saxon activity has been recorded at Spalding, pottery from the later part of the period has been found 1km northeast of the development site (Cope-Faulkner 1998, 6).

The town was recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086, when land there was owned by Ivo Tallboys, Guy of Craon and Crowland Abbey (Morris 1986). Among the holdings were a market, six fisheries, salt pans and a wood of alders.

Medieval evidence for Spalding is largely concentrated in the town centre with little having been recorded in the vicinity of the development site.

Previous investigations on the site have shown that the sequence of natural deposits is dominated by the presence of a roddon. This suggests that early remains could be present in the area. An undated ditch, possibly of early origin was revealed in the northeast corner of the site. The fill of the ditch included burnt, or baked silt, possibly associated with salt making, an important early industry in the fens.

In the centre and the west of the site a number of post-medieval remains, and undated remains of probable similar age, were revealed which represent enclosure and settlement of the land. Structural remains in the form of postholes and stake holes were recorded demonstrating the presence of a timber building or buildings between the 16th / 17th century to the 19th century.

3. AIMS

The aim of the evaluation was to gather sufficient information for the archaeological curator to formulate a policy for the management of the archaeological resources present on the site

The objectives of the investigation were to establish the type, chronology, density, spatial arrangement and extent of any archaeological remains present.

4. METHODS

4.1 Trial Trenching

Stage two consisted of eight trenches (Trenches 9 to 16), measuring between 10m and 25m long by 1.6m wide (Figure 3). The positioning of the trenches had been agreed previously with the Senior Built Environment Officer, but was constrained by elements of the former uses of the site.

A mechanical excavator removed the layers of overburden with a toothless ditching bucket, until archaeologically significant features or deposits were encountered. The depth of the trenches was limited to 1.2m, unless the trench could be widened and stepped down to greater depths. The exposed surfaces of the trenches were then cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains. Where present, features were excavated by hand in order to retrieve dateable artefacts and other remains.

At the request of the Senior Built Environment Officer, Trench 10 was extended to fully investigate an exposed feature, and Trenches 14 and 15 were extended to allow the excavation of deep archaeological features.

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

The location of the excavated trenches was surveyed with an EDM in relation to fixed points on boundaries and on existing buildings (Figure 3).

4.2 Post-excavation

Following excavation, all records were checked and ordered to ensure that they constituted a complete Level II archive and a stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced. Artefacts recovered from excavated deposits were examined and a period date assigned where possible. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. Context numbers are identified in the text by brackets. Phasing was based on artefact dating and the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

5. RESULTS

5.1 Description of the results

Five phases of deposits and other archaeological remains were revealed during the investigation:

Phase 1: Undated alluvial deposits

Phase 2: Medieval deposits

Phase 3: Undated archaeological deposits

Phase 4: Early post-medieval deposits

Phase 5: Later post-medieval and recent deposits

5.2 Phase 1: Undated alluvial deposits

Trench 9 (Figure 4)

The earliest deposits revealed in Trench 9, in the northwest corner of the site, were greenish brown silty clay (917) overlain by up to 0.26m of mid brown clayey silt (916), above which was up to 0.17m yellowish red-brown silt (901).

Cutting silt layer (901) was an undated palaeochannel (903), 1.50m wide and 0.28m deep, filled with greyish green silt (902).

Trench 10 (Figure 5)

In the southernmost trench (Trench 10), the earliest deposit was mid brown clayey silt (1014), overlain by greenish blue silty clay (1003 & 1005). In the centre of the trench was a lens of greenish/bluish brown clayey silt (1004) up to 0.14m thick.

Trench 11 (Figure 6)

Trench 11 was located in the northwest corner of the site, close to Trenches 6, 9 & 12 (Figure 3). At the west end of the trench, a layer of blue-grey clay (1123) with patches of brown silt was revealed. Overlying (1123) was up to 0.27m of orange brown slightly sandy silt (1021).

Trench 12 (Figure 7)

Located to the east of Trench 6 (Figure 3), Trench 12 revealed an alluvial layer of light brown silt (1203), the upper portions of which had been transformed to a darker brown (1202 & 1224).

Trench 13 (Figure 8)

The northernmost trench (Trench 13) contained an undated alluvial deposit of

grey silty clay (1303), overlain by 0.15m of brown silty clay (1304).

Trench 14 (Figure 9)

East of Trench 13 was Trench 14, in which the earliest deposit revealed was more than 0.50m of mottled mid brown and bluish grey silty clay (1407).

Trench 15 (Figure 10)

In the northeast corner of the site, the earliest deposit revealed in Trench 15 was mid brown to light grey fine silty sandy clay (1507).

Trench 16 (Figure 11)

Trench 16 was located to the south of Trench 15, and adjacent to Trench 1 (Figure 3). The earliest deposits revealed were mottled light grey and reddish brown silty fine sand (1601 & 1614).

5.3 Phase 2: Medieval deposits

Trench 11 (Figure 6)

At the west end of Trench 11 was a layer of mid olive brown sandy silt (1122), up to 0.22m thick and containing sherds of pottery dated to the 13th to 14th century.

5.4 Phase 3: Undated archaeological deposits

Trench 9 (Figure 4)

A single undated sub-rectangular posthole (911), 0.23m long by 0.19m wide and 0.09m deep was revealed in Trench 9, with a mid brown clayey fill (910).

Trench 11 (Figure 6)

In Trench 11 three sub-rectangular dark grey post impressions (1106), (1107) and (1108) were recorded, 0.18m long by

between 0.09m and 0.17m wide and up to 0.04m deep. The post impressions overlay soil layer (1122) and were probably later than 14th century.

Trench 12 (Figure 7)

A number of undated features were revealed in Trench 12. At the west end of the trench was a sub-rectangular posthole (1205), 0.27m long by 0.27m wide and 0.29m deep, with a greyish brown silt fill (1212) that was covered by a 0.11m thick lens of black sandy silt (1204).

To the north of (1205) was an approximately east-west oriented ditch (1218) that extended beyond the limits of excavation and was filled with greyish brown clayey silt (1217).

At the east end of the trench was a north-south oriented gully (1229), 0.26m wide and 0.26m deep, with a dark brown sandy silt fill (1228). Adjacent to gully (1229) was undated posthole (1231), 0.38m long by 0.24m wide and 0.08m deep and filled with dark grey sandy silt (1230). Also adjacent to gully (1229) and south of (1231) was posthole (1233), 9.28m long by more than 0.12m wide and 0.26m deep with brownish grey sandy silt fill (1232).

To the west of (1233) was 0.20m wide and 0.15m deep posthole (1235), which had a sub-circular post impression on the base. Filling (1235) was mid to dark brown sandy silt (1234). North of (1235) was posthole (1237), 0.28m long by 0.24m wide and 0.12m deep and filled with mid to dark brown sandy silt (1236).

At the northern edge of the trench was a sub-rectangular posthole (1241), 0.44m long by more than 0.32m wide and filled with dark brownish grey sandy silt (1240). West of (1241) was a similar posthole (1247), 0.50m long and 0.35m deep and filled with grey silty sand (1246).

Towards the west end of the trench was posthole (1251), 0.22m long by 0.21m wide and 0.10m deep, with greyish brown clayey silt fill (1250).

Trench 13 (Figure 8)

At the south end of Trench 13 was the corner of a ditch (1304), up to 6.90m wide and at least 0.50m deep, with a grey silty fill (1305).

Trench 14 (Figure 9)

Two undated features were identified in Trench 14. In the centre of the trench was an east-west oriented, 1.65m wide and 0.50m deep ditch (1401), filled with dark brown organic clayey silt (1403) and brownish grey to brown clayey silt (1402). To the south of (1401) was an east-west oriented gully (1405), 0.26m wide and 0.13m deep with a mid to dark bluish grey clayey silt fill (1404).

Trench 15 (Figure 10)

Trench 15 revealed an east-west oriented ditch (1502) more than 3.50m wide and c. 1.20m deep. This contained a number of fills. The earliest fill was up to 0.54m of light grey silty clay (1506), which was overlain by c. 0.20m of mid to dark brown organic sand and clay (1505). Sealing (1505) was up to 0.20m of mid to light grey silty clay (1504) covered by up to 0.60m of dark grey to light brown silty clay (1501 & 1503). On the southern edge of the ditch was a lens of mid to dark greyish brown silty sand and clay (1509) up to 0.10m thick.

5.5 Phase 4: Early post-medieval deposits

Trench 10 (Figure 5)

Trench 10 was positioned to reveal further evidence of the post-medieval enclosure ditch encountered in Trench 5 (Figure 3). The northern portion of the ditch was revealed in the north end of the trench (1008). Approximately 7.26m south of (1008) was a parallel ditch (1011), 0.76m wide and 0.20m deep with a dark grey clayey silt fill (1010), believed to be the southern edge of the enclosure. Overlying fill (1010) was a lens of dark bluish greenish grey clayey silt (1002) up to 0.18m thick and 11.78m in extent.

A further 5.37m south of (1011) was a northeast-southwest oriented ditch (1013) 0.51m wide and 0.27m deep, and terminating at the southwest end. This was filled with dark grey clayey silt (1012), from which sherds of medieval pottery and a fragment of 16th-17th century brick were recovered.

Trench 12 (Figure 7)

At the west end of Trench 12 was a sub-rectangular posthole (1207), 0.42m long by 0.40m wide and 0.20m deep, with a blackish brown clayey silt fill (1206) containing post-medieval brick fragments.

Cutting through gully (1229), at the east end of the trench, was a possible posthole (1253) 0.28m wide and 0.14m deep with a mottled brown sandy silt fill (1216). Finds of pottery dating to the 16th – 17th century were recovered from this feature.

Trench 16 (Figure 11)

Cutting through the alluvial silts and sands in Trench 16 was an east-west oriented ditch (1613), at least 2.40m wide and 0.70m deep. The earliest recorded fill was

up to 0.27m of dark brown clayey silt (1615) from which possible early post-medieval brick fragments were recovered.

5.6 Phase 5: Later post-medieval and recent deposits

Trench 9 (Figure 4)

The alluvial and undated features in Trench 9 were truncated by a number of later post-medieval or recent features including a large service pit (912, 913, 914 & 915), a land drain (904, 905 & 906) and a number of pits (924), (919), (909) and (922). Covering the whole trench area was a 0.11m deep topsoil layer, sealed by (900), part of a general layer across the site.

Trench 10 (Figure 5)

Sealing the early post-medieval deposits and features in Trench 10 was a 0.31m thick topsoil layer (1001) and levelling deposit (1000). These deposits had been cut by evaluation Trench 5 (1006 & 1007).

Trench 11 (Figure 6)

At the west end of Trench 11 was an irregular sub-rectangular pit (1105), 0.80m wide and 0.25m deep and filled with dark grey-brown sandy silt (1104) from which fragments of 19th century pottery were recovered.

To the northeast of (1105) was a sub-rectangular posthole (1110), 0.56m long by 0.28m wide and 0.22m deep, with a dark grey-brown sandy silt fill (1109). Sherds of late 19th – early 20th century pottery were recovered from this deposit. Further to the northwest was another posthole (1112), 0.53m long by 0.40m wide and 0.10m deep. This contained two fills, the earliest was at the south end of the cut and comprised dark brown sandy silt (1115)

and the latest was dark grey-brown sandy silt (1111) containing 19th century pottery.

On the northern edge of the trench was a sub-circular pit (1114), 0.56m in diameter with a dark grey-brown sandy silt fill (1113), from which fragments of late 19th – early 20th century pottery were recovered.

Covering the trench was 0.25m of topsoil (1102), which had been cut by a number of service trenches and a north-south oriented wall (1124, 1125 & 1126). The latest layer was levelling deposit (1100).

Trench 12 (Figure 7)

A number of late post-medieval features were revealed in Trench 12. In the northeast corner of the trench was sub-rectangular pit or posthole (1211), 0.35m deep and extending beyond the limits of the trench. It was filled with dark reddish brown silt (1210), from which late post-medieval brick/tile was recovered.

Cutting early post-medieval posthole (1253) was possible posthole (1252), 0.28m wide and 0.14m deep with a mid to dark brown sandy silt fill (1215) containing 19th-20th century pottery.

Undated posthole (1237) was truncated by posthole (1239), 0.47m long by 0.42m wide and 0.27m deep with a lower fill of light to mid greyish brown silty sand (1254) and an upper fill of mottled brownish grey sandy silt (1238) that contained sherds of late 19th – early 20th century pottery.

Southwest of (1239) was posthole (1243), 0.30m long by 0.29m wide and 0.21m deep with a yellowish brown silty sand fill (1242). Fragments of 19th century pottery were recovered from the fill.

Truncating the top of posthole (1247), was an irregular cut (1245) 0.50m wide and

0.40m deep, and filled with mid to light yellowish brown silty sand (1244). Postmedieval brick was recovered from this feature.

At the west end of the trench were a further three late post-medieval postholes. Adjacent to undated ditch (1218) was an oval posthole (1214), with a mid greyish brown clayey silt fill (1213), dated by finds of pottery to the 18th century. Also adjacent to (1218) and to the northeast of (1214) was sub-rectangular posthole (1226), 0.29m long by 0.17m wide and 0.21m deep, and filled with dark greyish brown clayey silt (1225), dated to the late 19th – early 20th century.

South of (1226) was 0.49m long, by 0.48m wide and 0.26m deep posthole (1249), with dark greyish brown clayey silt fill (1248), which contained 19th century pottery.

Covering the trench was up to 0.31m of topsoil, which was cut at the east end by gully terminus (1208 & 1209) and was overlain at the west end by makeup and floor layers (1219, 1220, 1221, 1222, 1223 & 1227) and sealed by levelling deposit (1200).

Trench 13 (Figure 8)

The undated features in Trench 13 were sealed by 0.10m of topsoil (1301) and levelling deposit (1300).

Trench 14 (Figure 9)

The latest deposits in Trench 14 were 0.40m of topsoil (1406) and levelling deposit (1408).

Trench 15 (Figure 10)

The latest fill of ditch (1502) in Trench 15 was 0.30m of topsoil (1508) and levelling deposit (1500).

Trench 16 (Figure 11)

Overlying ditch fill (1615), in Trench 16 was up to 0.45m of mid brownish clayey silt (1612) containing fragments of 18th century pottery.

Cutting the top of (1612) was a north northeast-south southwest oriented gully (1609), at least 5.7m long by 0.55m wide and 0.45m deep, with a terminus at the northern end. Filling this gully was a mixed deposit of dark greyish brown and mid red sand, and fired clay/silt (1608).

Immediately adjacent, and parallel to (1609) was a second gully (1607) 0.30m wide and 0.20m deep, with a similar sand and fired clay/silt fill (1606). Fragments of brick were recovered from this feature. Cutting the northern end of (1607) was the western edge of a 2.35m long and 0.35m deep pit (1605), with a fill of fired clay fragments in a light grey silt matrix (1604).

To the north of (1609) was a further gully (1603), of the same orientation and with a similar fired clay/silt fill (1602).

Overlying gullies (1607) and (1609) was a spread of burnt silt/clay (1616) up to 0.10m thick. This had been cut by a roughly east-west oriented gully (1610 & 1611) from which late 19th – early 20th century pottery was recovered.

Covering the entire trench was up to 0.25m of topsoil (1617) and levelling deposit (1618).

6. DISCUSSION

The earliest alluvial deposits revealed (Phase 1) support the findings of the Stage 1 trial trenching (Snee 2002).

On the east side of the site (Trenches 1 & 16) were silty sands, probably representing a northeast-southwest oriented roddon.

To the north and west (Trenches 2, 3, 14 & 15) were clayeyer soils, retaining considerably more ground water, and covered by warp and a deep topsoil layer.

Further to the west (Trenches 4, 6, 9, 11 & 12) were slightly higher, better drained silts. These overlay a mottled clay horizon strongly suggestive of former marsh conditions. It was observed in Trench 11 that these deposits appeared to fall away to the west.

In the southern end of the site, (Trenches 5, 7, 8 & 10) the deposits became clayeyer and were subject to localised gleying, possibly indicating that they were more prone to waterlogging and flooding than the deposits to the northwest.

It is notable that the different types of occupation and activity recorded on the site are arranged and grouped on different soil types.

During both stages of trial trenching (Stages 1 and 2), there has been tantalising evidence of local medieval (Phase 2) activity, through the presence of residual pottery, but little in the way of substantial features or deposits. The exception to this was a buried soil layer (1122) in Trench 11 that was dated to the 13th – 14th centuries. This was most likely an agricultural soil, and may be associated with settlement in the general locality.

Two groups of undated (Phase 3) features were revealed on the site, both associated by form and location with post-medieval features.

At the west side of the site (Trenches 9, 11 & 12) was a number of undated postholes and post impressions (Figure 12), probably

associated with the post-medieval timber structure or structures identified in Stage 1 (see below). In Trench 12, an undated eastwest oriented ditch (1218), may represent a continuation of a curved $16^{th} - 17^{th}$ century ditch (690) in Trench 6. If these two sections of ditch are linked then it is possible that they form the southwest corner of an enclosure similar to that identified in Trench 5 (see below). At the east end of Trench 12 was a north-south aligned gully (1229) that was cut by an early post-medieval posthole, suggesting a medieval or early post-medieval date. This feature was very similar to a parallel gully recorded in Trench 6, possibly of similar date.

In the northeastern part of the site (Trenches 13, 14 & 15) was a series of ditches oriented parallel east-west, although in Trench 13 ditch (1304) turns south. These ditches are likely to be contemporary to the post-medieval ditches in Trenches 2, 3 & 16, and may have been part of a grid like pattern of drainage channels associated with the 18th century reclamation of the fens. Alternately they may be the remains of a network of dylings, dating to before the land had been sufficiently reclaimed and improved to allow arable-based agriculture. Analysis of environmental samples produced evidence of wheat growing in the vicinity of the ditches, but it did demonstrate that the ditches contained slowly flowing water, with weeds on the upper banks. It was also suggested that the ditches were subject to artificial clearance maintenance. This would suggest that the most probable interpretation of these features is that they are part of a system of dylings.

A number of early post-medieval (phase 4) features were revealed during the investigation.

In Trench 16, ditch (1613) had a lower fill containing early post-medieval brick. This ditch was parallel to the undated ditches to the north, and it is probable that these features are contemporary. It is notable that the upper fill was dated to the late 18th century (Phase 5) suggesting these features were filled in and the land levelled at about this time.

Two postholes in Trench 12 were dated to the early post-medieval period, associated with undated and later postholes. It was suggested during Stage 1 that this was evidence for several phases of building and demolition of timber structures on this part of the site.

Enclosure ditch (502) in Trench 5 was interpreted during Stage 1 as a boundary of an enclosed yard or croft. The excavation of Trench 10 has significantly altered this interpretation. Stage 2 has established that ditch (502)/(1011) encloses an area approximately 11m long and 7.3m wide, too small to represent a yard or croft. The form of the ditch and the nature of the fills (formed by silting rather than deliberate infilling) make it unlikely that this is structural feature in itself. However, an alternative interpretation may be presented.

The traditional form of house building in Lincolnshire is a form of timber framing known as Mud and Stud (Cousins 2000). In areas where stone or brick is readily and cheaply available, the buildings are provided with a low plinth to protect the walls from splash erosion caused by the fall of water from the eaves of the thatched roof. However, where stone and brick are not available or affordable, some other protection must be provided. A ditch to collect and hold the water, in simple terms a gutter, would provide this protection, and this is the preferred interpretation of ditch (502)/(1011). The size of the area enclosed is such that it would hold a two bay Mud and Stud dwelling (sizes vary but are

usually between 8 to 10m long by 4 to 5.5m wide (Glebe Terriers and survey results in Cousins 2000) with a gap all round to allow for the overhang of the eaves.

However, the lack of finds and other material indicators of occupation may argue against such an interpretation, although the smallness of the area excavated and the absence of other features does not offer any alternative explanations. A sample taken from ditch (1011) contained a low density of wind blown detritus including the only fragments of cereals recovered from the site. This indicates agricultural activity in the vicinity, but not necessarily occupation.

Conversely the absence of finds and refuse may be a result of the nature of the structure and the site formation processes. Mud and Stud buildings are commonly built from ground level upwards, with only a packed earth floor (Field 1984, Cousins 2000) and a short phase of ploughing and topsoil formation would remove these traces completely, leaving only a scatter of finds in the topsoil as evidence.

If this interpretation of the enclosure in Trench 5 and 10 is accepted, then it has important implications for the study of settlement distribution in this part of the county.

Early post-medieval ditch (1013) terminates and an extension to Trench 10 to locate a corresponding ditch to the southwest failed to reveal any features. It is possible that it is part of a field boundary, perhaps associated with similar features in Trenches 4 and 5. Finds recovered from the ditch have included fragments of brick and smithing slag, this could suggest that smithing was taking place in the area.

Two areas of significant later postmedieval (Phase 5) activity were identified on the site.

At the west side of the site, Trenches 9, 11 and 12 demonstrated the extent of the postmedieval structure(s) revealed in Stage 1. Although a single posthole was revealed in Trench 9, it was clear that the building remains did not continue in this direction. Equally, Trench 11 produced a small number of postholes, but these were considered to be the remains of a secondary, associated building rather than part of the main structure or group. Trench 12 however revealed a number of later post-medieval postholes and a number of undated postholes of probable similar date. Although the limits of the trench obscured the complete pattern, alignments of postholes were observed that were perpendicular to the posthole lines in Trench 6. The extent of the features (approximately 17m by 11m) suggests either a tight group of related buildings (such as a farm and crew yard) or a single substantial building (such as a large hall and cross wing house, an aisled barn or a granary). A moderate quantity of industrial residue was recovered from this area, this could suggest that smithing was taking place in the vicinity, although the material could have arrived as metalling for a road or yard

At the east side of the site (Trench 16) was a series of ditches or gullies, filled with fired silt and clay, and fragments of low fired brick, dated to between the late 18th century and the late 19th century. These, together with a similar feature in Trench 1, have been interpreted as flues from brick clamps.

Prior to the end of the 19th century there were many temporary brick making sites, producing hand made bricks fired, or burnt, in heaps called clamps (Robinson

1999). In the fens, there were many of these brick clamps using local silts and clays for raw material to produce the thousands of bricks needed for the drainage schemes, and local settlement. A clamp was a pyramidal stack of 40,000 – 50,000 bricks and fuel (usually wood), with a flue underneath for lighting. Once lit, the flue was blocked up and the clamp allowed to burn itself out. This process produced well-fired bricks, overfired bricks (or clinkers) and underfired bricks call "sammels". It is likely that the material from the flues is the remains of discarded "sammels".

Throughout the site were the remains of former services and 20th century brick buildings.

7. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

For assessment of significance the Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling ancient monuments has been used (DoE 1990, Annex; See Appendix 14).

Period

Features and deposits dating from the medieval period and later were identified during the evaluation. The range of features and deposits are characteristic of the periods represented.

Rarity

Medieval features and deposits are not common outside the medieval core of the town. Early post-medieval features are more common, but include a possible gutter from a Mud and Stud dwelling, a type of feature not previously identified. Later post-medieval structures are common, although a substantial timber structure of this date in this location is more unusual. Although it is established

that post-medieval brick making sites are numerous and widely distributed, few sites have been identified and to date none have been excavated in Lincolnshire.

Documentation

Several archaeological investigations in Spalding have previously been undertaken and reported. Additionally records of archaeological sites and finds made in the Spalding area are kept in the files of the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record.

Group value

The medieval soil has low group value, as it appears to exist in isolation in a limited portion of the site. The early post-medieval features have a high group value as the related remains represent the initial occupation of much of the site, and the first attempts to improve the land through the use of dylings. The later post-medieval elements also have a high group value, with two distinct groups of features, one industrial and the other domestic or agricultural.

Survival/Condition

The deposits and features revealed during the investigation appeared to have survived well although evidence for recent disturbance, in the form of services and levelling was apparent. Environmental evidence was preserved, particularly in the deeper features due to the waterlogged condition of the lower deposits.

Fragility/Vulnerability

Development of the site is likely to impact into post-medieval and earlier deposits. Consequently, archaeological remains present are vulnerable. The removal of the concrete during the demolition phase of the development has left levelling and topsoil deposits as shallow as 0.30m, and at this

depth, archaeological features will be particularly vulnerable to ground disturbance.

Diversity

Period diversity is moderate with 13th – 14th century to 20th century features and deposits represented.

Functional diversity is high with pits, ditches and structural features identified, indicating the presence of domestic, agricultural and industrial activity on the site.

Potential

There is high potential for further archaeological deposits to survive within the investigation area. The presence of a medieval buried soil suggests moderate potential for more medieval deposits and possibly features on the western fringe of the site. There is high potential for further post-medieval remains to occur throughout the site, including further building remains in the western half of the site and industrial residues in the eastern end of the site.

7.1 Site Importance

The criteria for assessment established that the medieval soil revealed during this investigation is of moderate local importance and low regional importance. The early post-medieval settlement remains are of high local importance and high regional importance, with reference to the settlement and economy of the fens during this period. The later post-medieval remains are of high local importance and moderately high regional importance as they represent types of structures and activities that are not well understood in the context of the fens. The high level of survival enhances the site's potential for understanding the settlement and development of the area.

8. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations on land at Low Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire, were undertaken because the area is potentially archaeologically sensitive. Settlement in the area dates from the Romano-British period, and deposits of this date are encountered in and around Spalding

Previous investigations on the site have shown that the sequence of natural deposits is dominated by the presence of a roddon. In the centre and the west of the site a number of post-medieval remains, and undated remains of probable similar age, were revealed which represent enclosure and settlement of the land. Structural remains in the form of postholes stake holes were recorded demonstrating the presence of a timber building or buildings between the 16th / 17th century to the 19th century.

The investigations confirmed that the sequence of natural deposits was dominated by the presence of a roddon. This divided the site into three distinct topographical areas. In the southeastern corner was a sandy levee forming secure, well-drained ground. In the centre of the site, the ground was dominated by silty clays, heavy and waterlogged. To the west was another slightly higher and dryer area of silt.

The earliest archaeological deposit encountered was the $13^{th} - 14^{th}$ century buried soil on the western fringe of the site, where the silts began to fall away towards the town. This suggests that the lands to the west of the site were subject to settlement and agriculture in the late medieval period.

The evidence recovered from the early post-medieval period, suggests that the first settlement of the site began at this time, probably with the establishment of one or more cottages. Occupied by people from the landless classes that represented two thirds of the population (Labouring people and out-servants, Cottagers and paupers) (King 1688), these cottages were the first step in improving the land from fen (worth 4d per acre in the mid 17th century) to agricultural land (worth 12s to 15s in 17th century) (Wheeler 1990). At the same time, or slightly later the central and eastern portions of the site were dyked, either as a drainage scheme to establish arable agriculture or, more likely, to form dylings for better grazing.

In the later post-medieval period, the ditches were filled in, probably as the land was in a dryer more stable state. On the west side of the site, evidence has been recovered of a group of farm buildings or a substantial dwelling, barn or granary, possibly constructed over the remains of a smaller predecessor. On the eastern side of the site was a short period of brick manufacture, to supply local needs.

Towards the end of the 19th century or the beginning of the 20th century, the land was clear and later occupied by the industrial buildings that were present on the site until the beginning of the 21st century.

Finds of pottery, brick, tile, metal work, clay pipe and industrial residue dating between the 12th to 20th centuries were recovered from the site. Analysis of environmental samples recovered well preserved, charred and waterlogged plant macrofossils.

9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr Daryl Kirkland of Persimmon Homes (East Midlands) Ltd who commissioned the fieldwork and this report. The project was coordinated by Steve Malone and Tom Lane edited this report.

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

DoE Department of the Environment

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

OD Ordnance Datum

OS Ordnance Survey

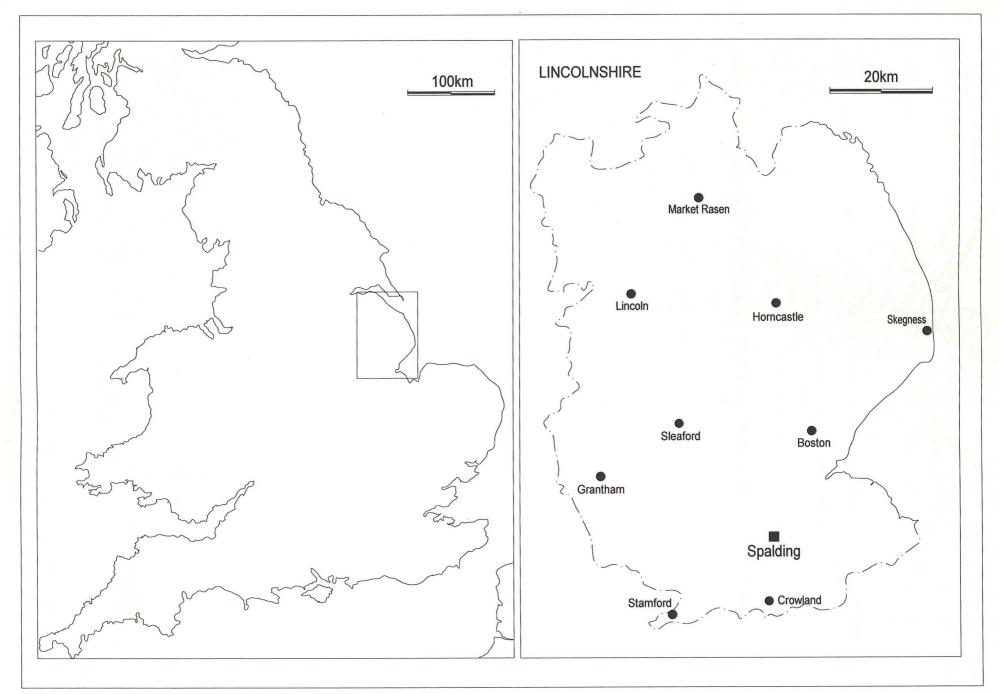


Figure 1: General Location Plan

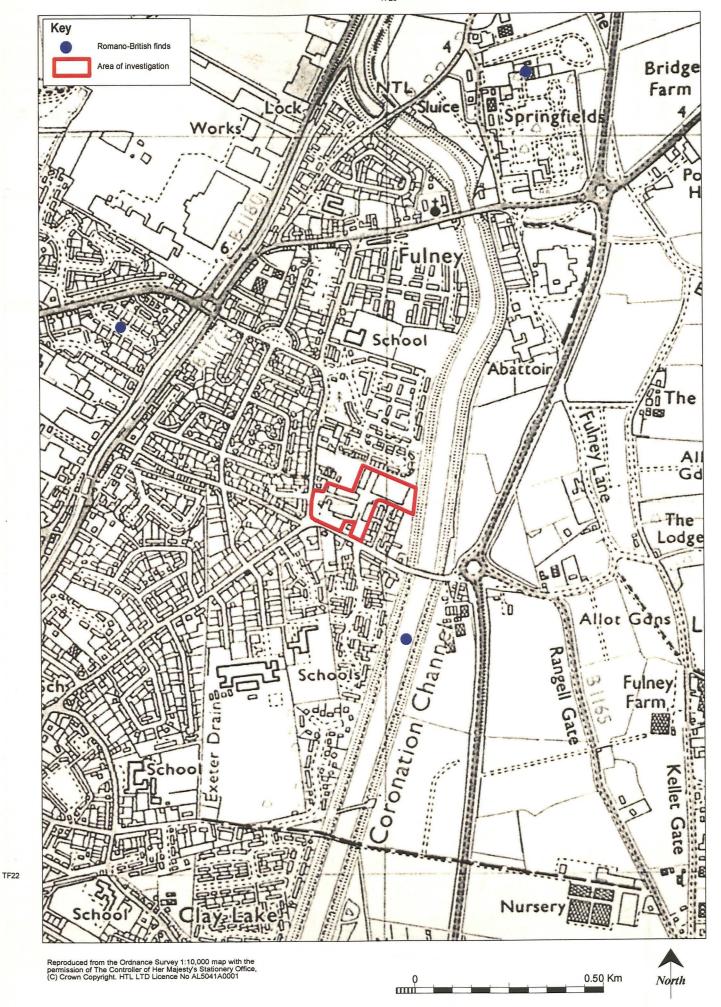


Figure 2 Location plan and archaeological setting

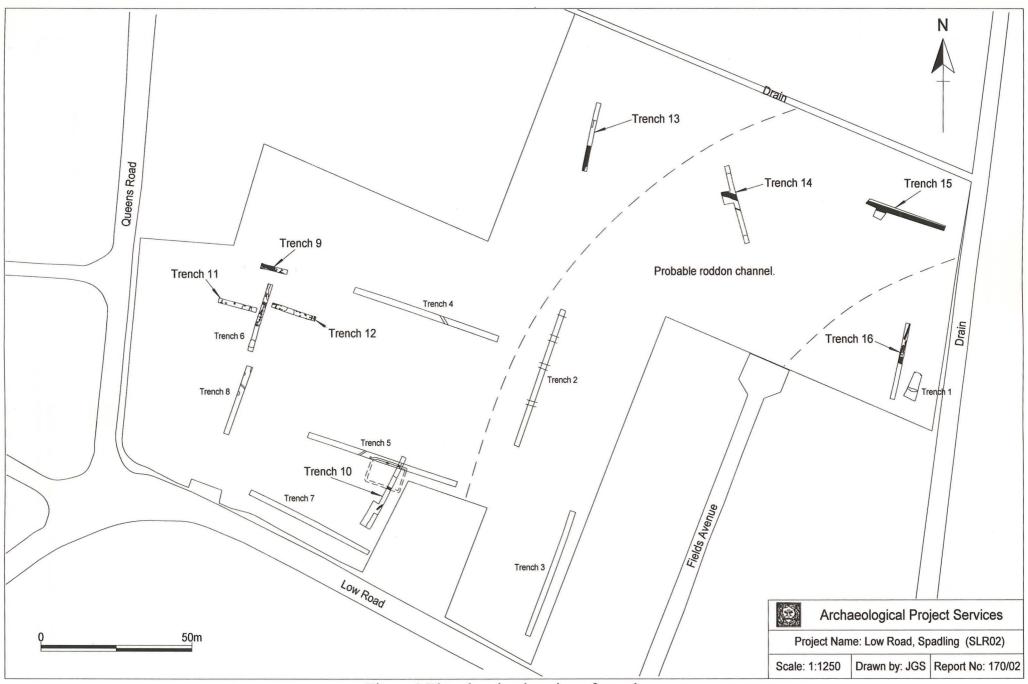
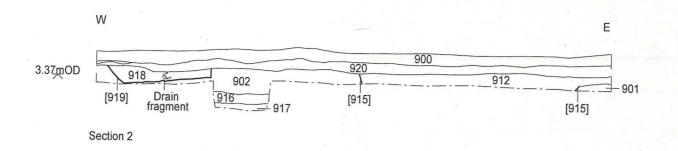
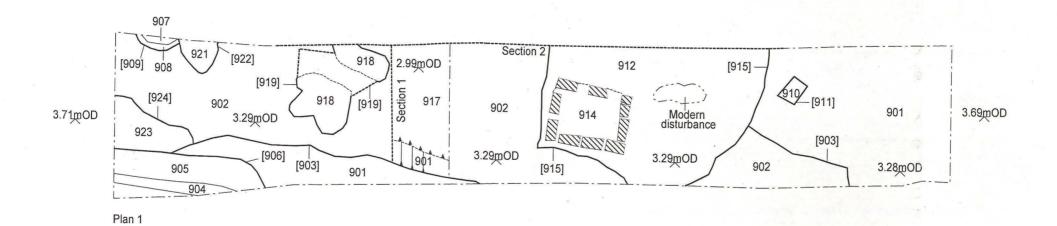
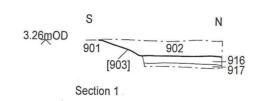


Figure 3 Plan showing location of trenches.









Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Low Road, Spalding (SLR02)

Scale: 1:40 Drawn by: VM Report No: 170/02

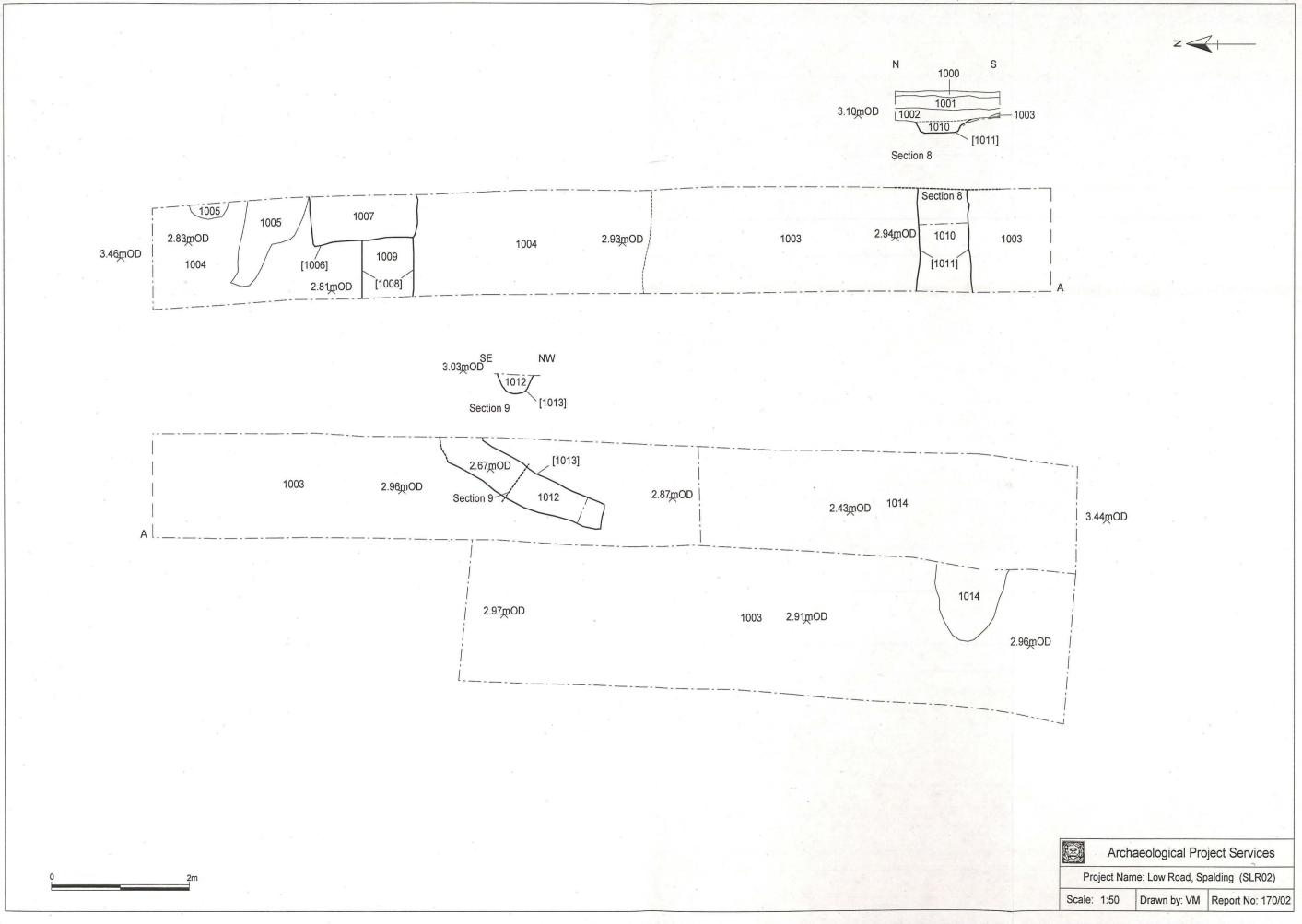


Figure 5, Trench 10 plan and sections.

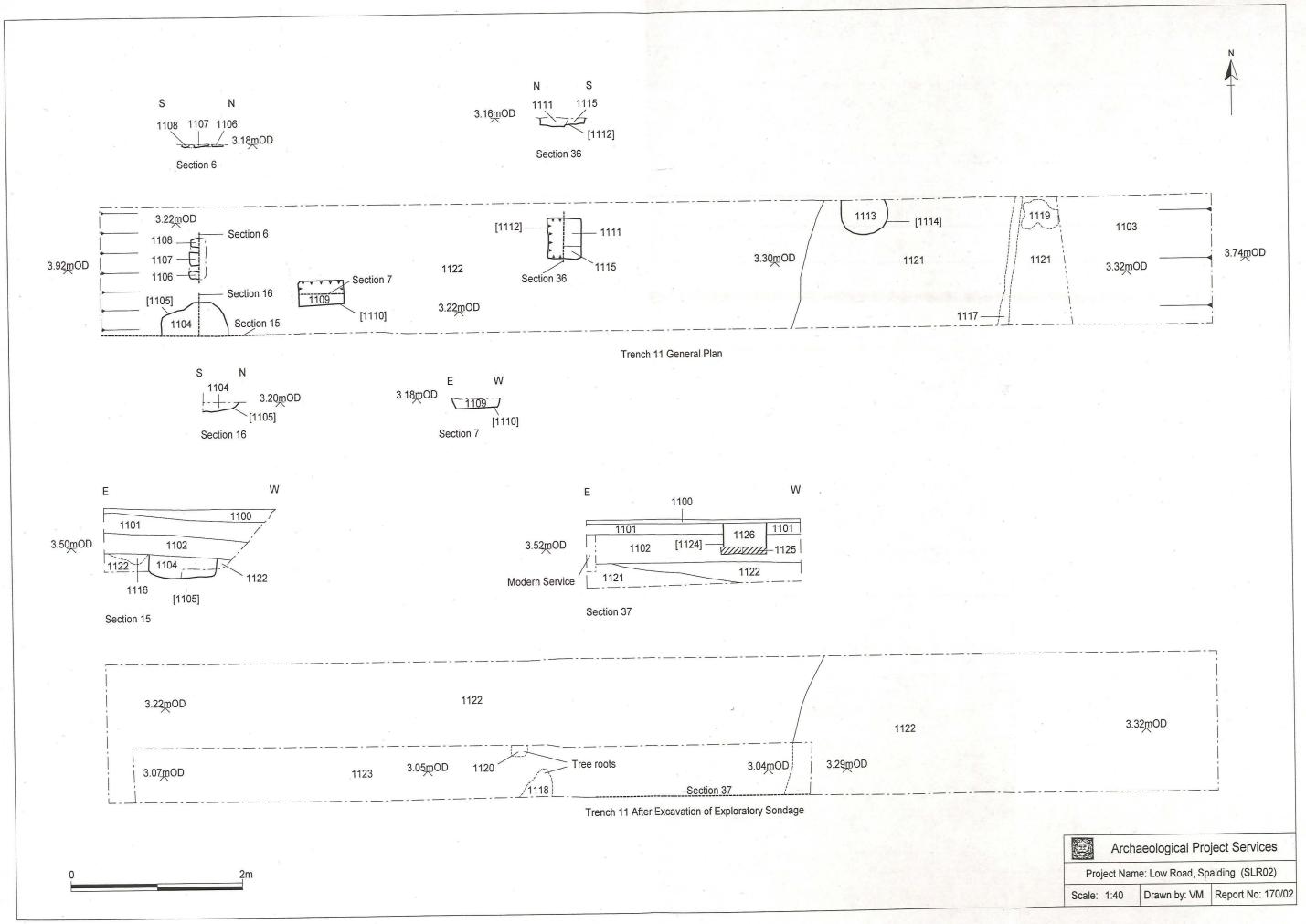


Figure 6, Trench 11 Plan and Sections.

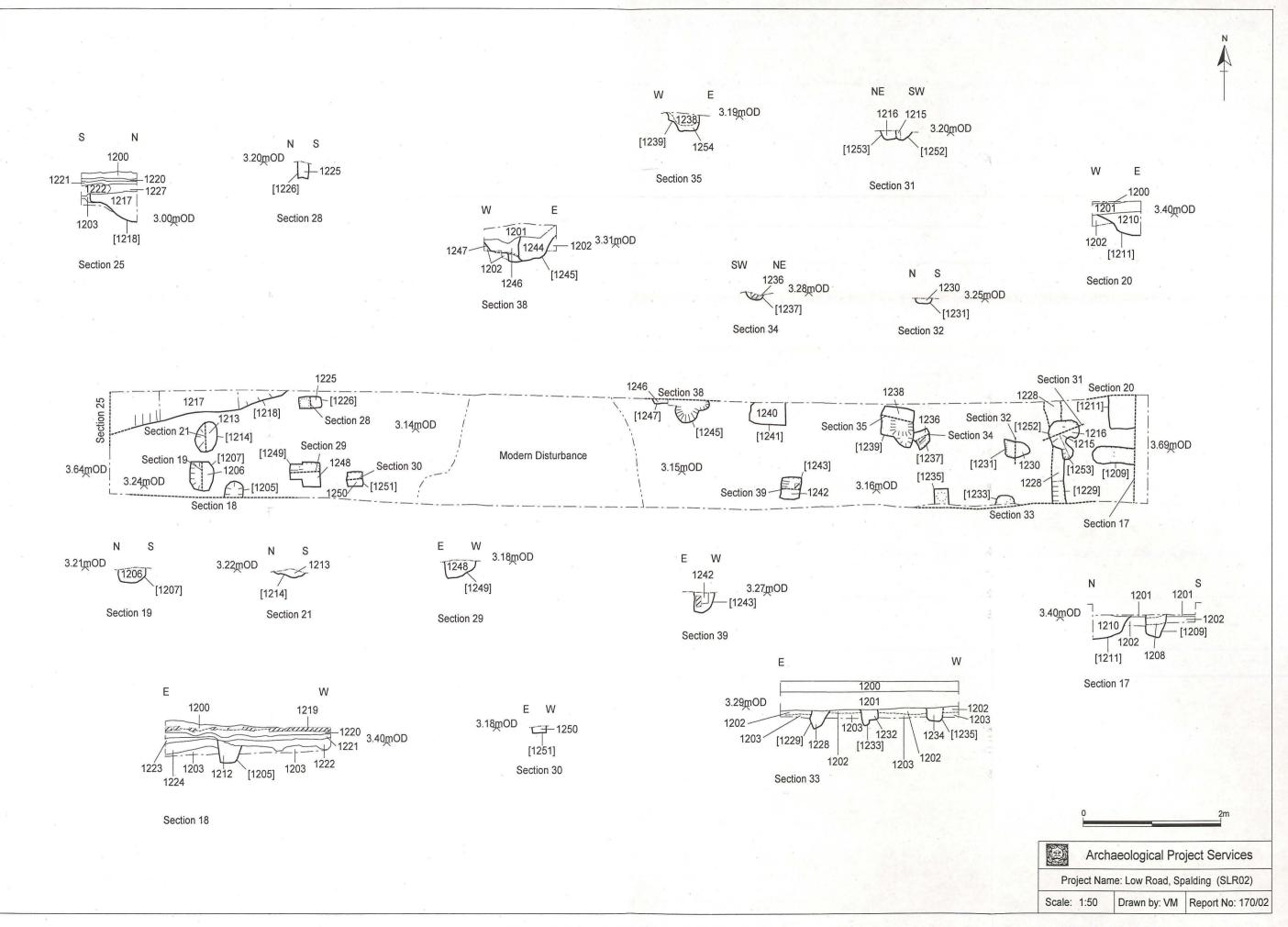


Figure 7, Trench 12, Plan and Sections

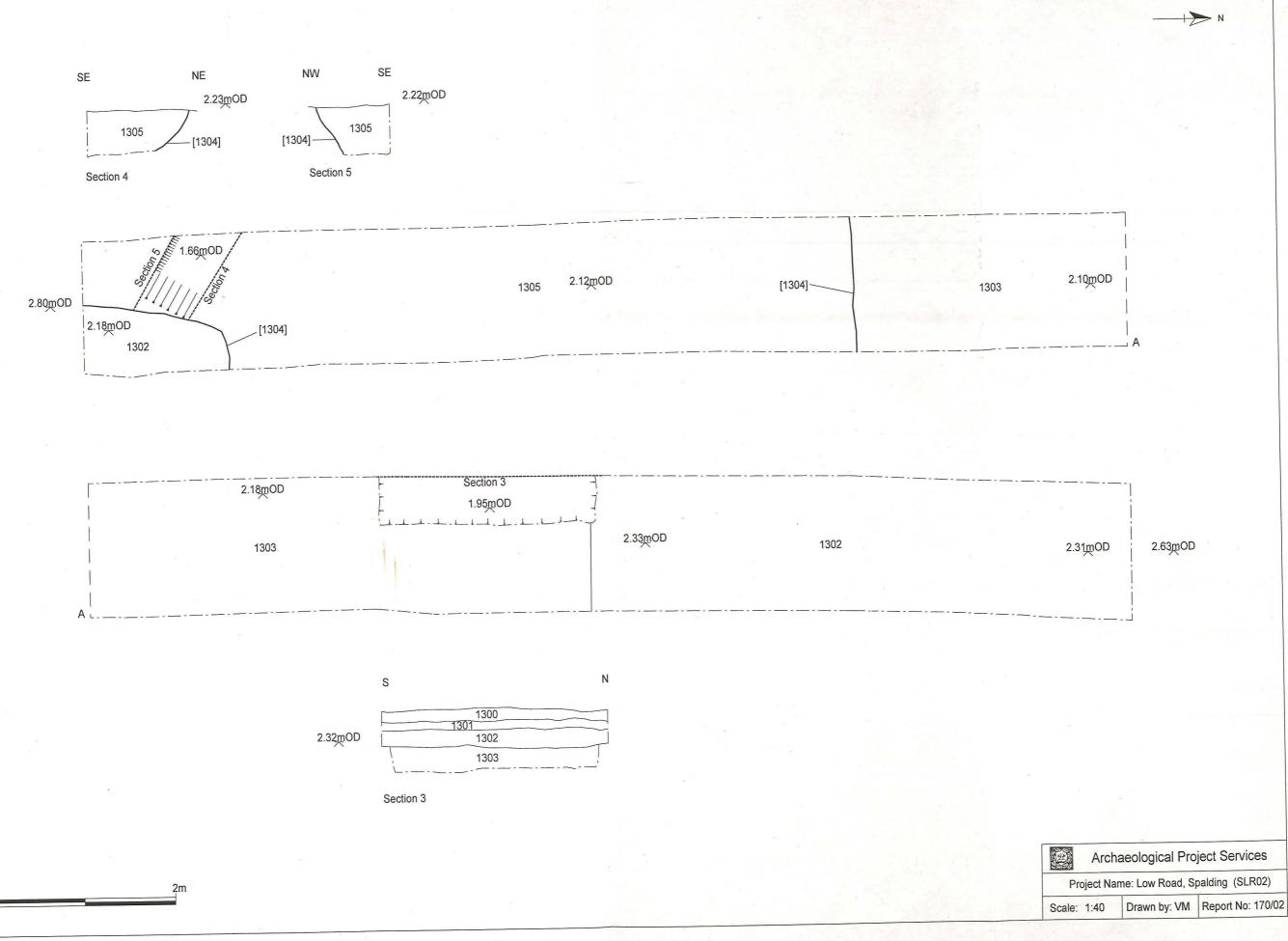


Figure 8, Trench 13, Plan and Sections.

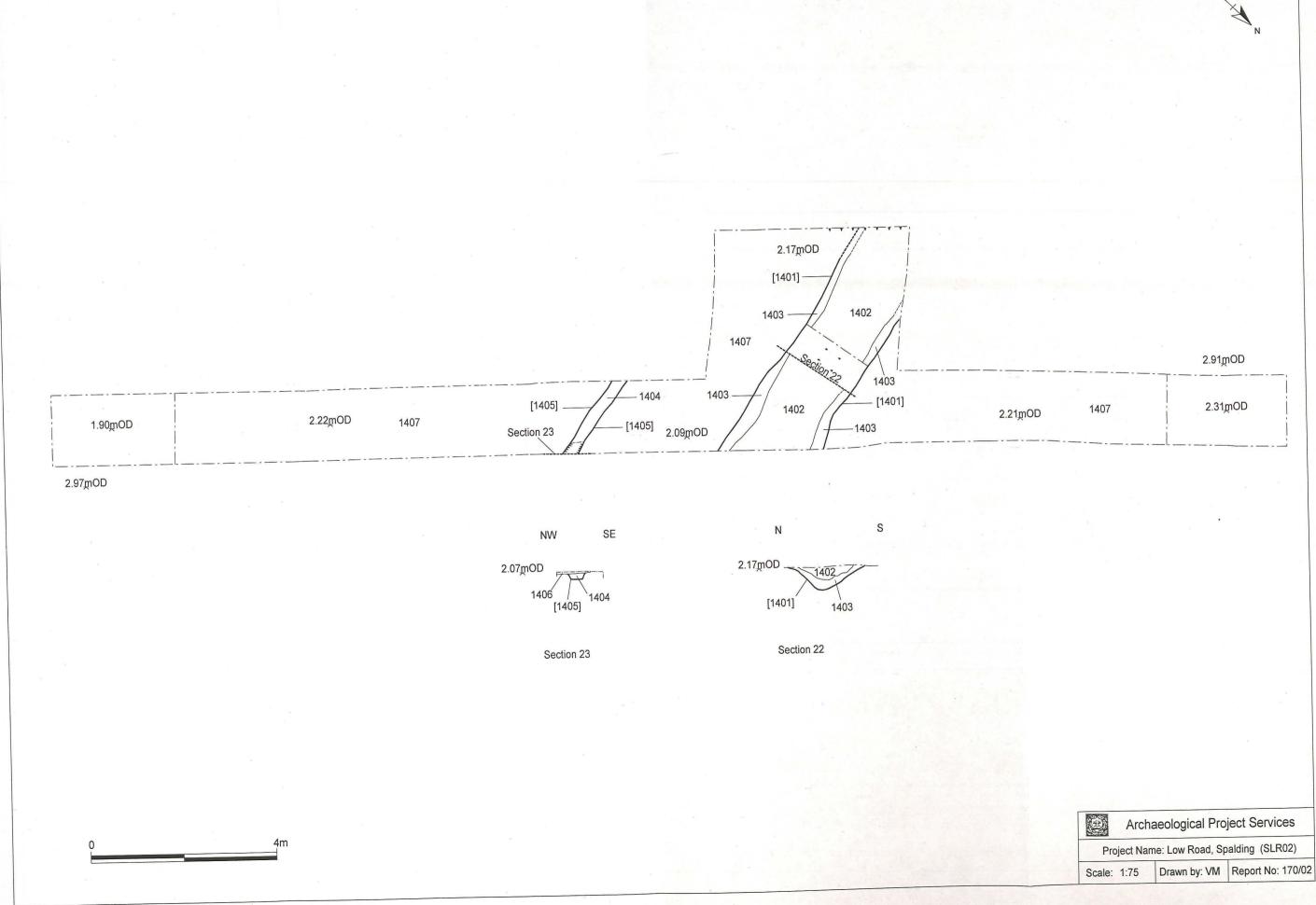


Figure 9, Trench 14 Plan and Sections

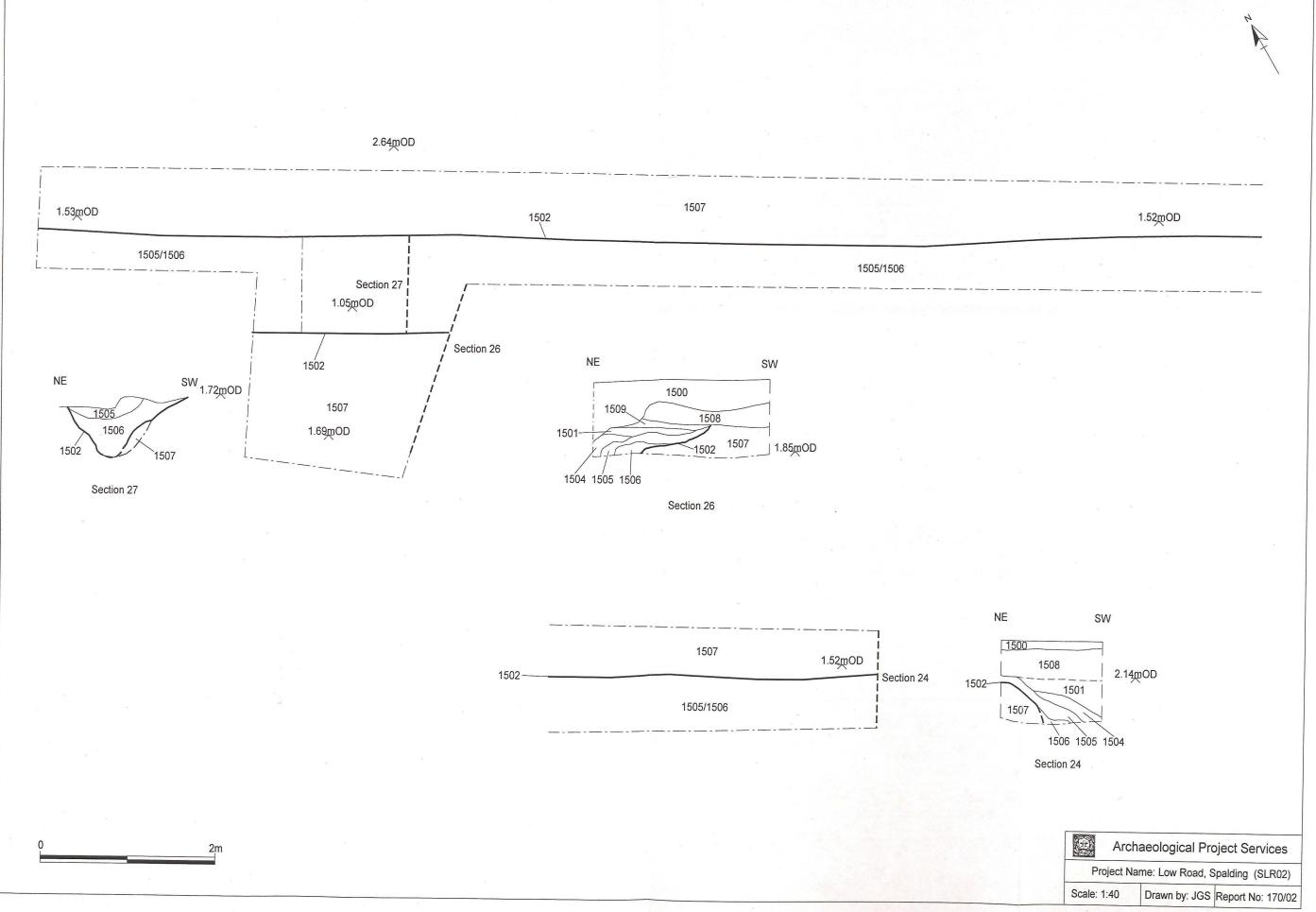


Figure 10, Trench 15 Plans and Sections.

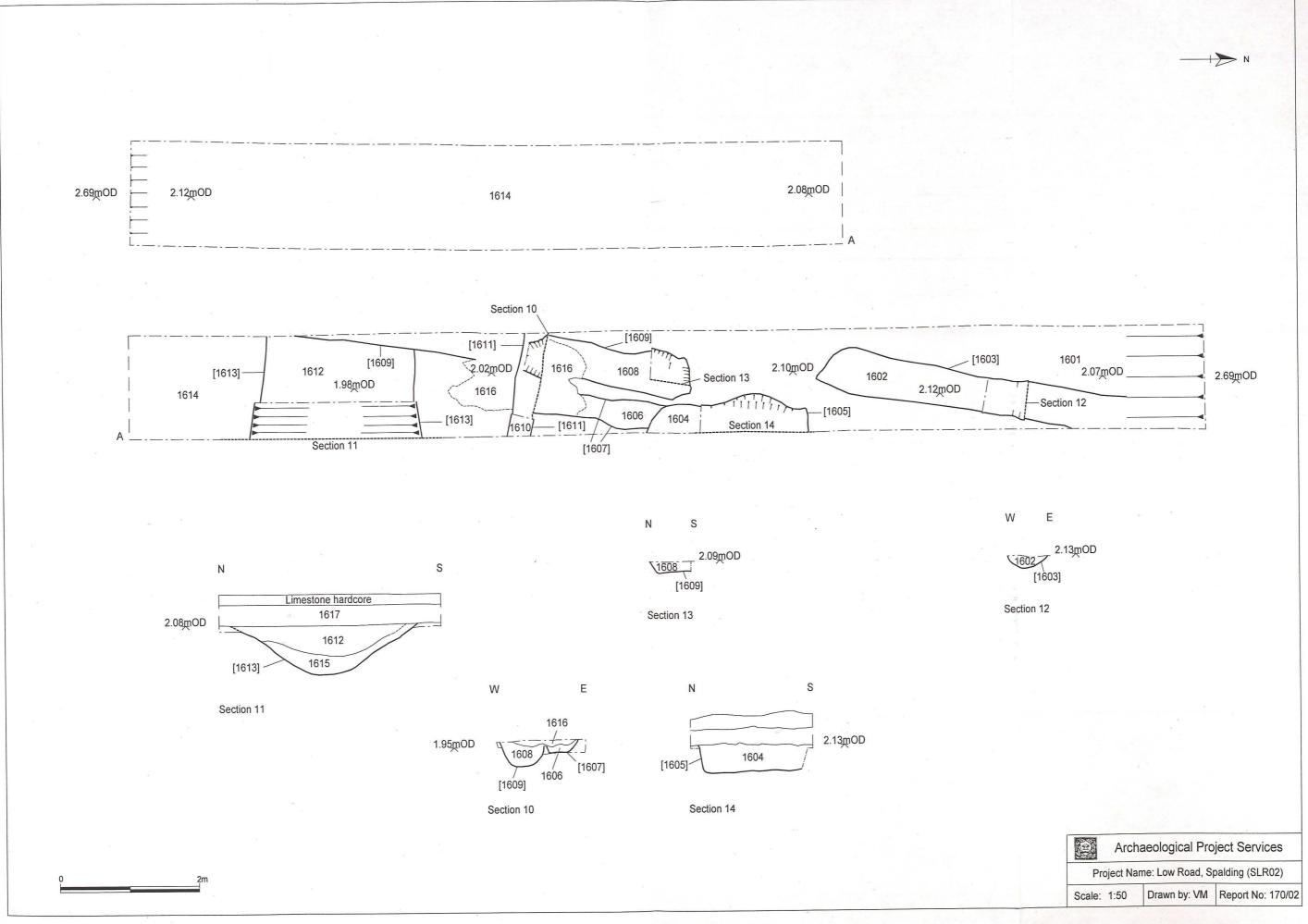


Figure 11, Trench 16 plans and sections.



Figure 12 Trenches 6, 9, 11 & 12.



Plate 1 General view of Trenches 9, 11, & 12, looking west.



Plate 2 General view of Trench 10, looking southwest.



Plate 3 Trench 10 showing ditches (1011) and (1013) prior to excavation, looking north.

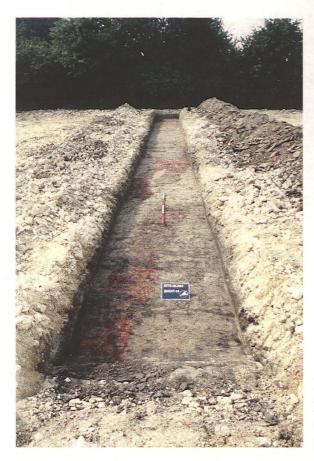




Plate 5 Partial section through undated ditch (1502), looking east.

Plate 4 Trench 16 showing possible post-medieval brick clamp flues, looking southwest.



Plate 6 Section through post-medieval ditch (1613), looking east.



Plate 7 Post-medieval ditch or gutter (1011), looking east.



Plate 8 Post-medieval ditch (1013), looking southwest.



Plate 9 General view of postmedieval posthole group at the east end of Trench 12, looking west.

LAND AT LOW ROAD, SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE

SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION PHASE 2

PREPARED FOR PERSIMMON HOMES

BY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES
Institute of Field Archaeologists'
Registered Archaeological Organisation No. 21

APRIL 2002

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1 **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land at Low Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The area is potentially archaeologically sensitive. Settlement in the area dates from the Romano-British period, and deposits of this date are encountered in and around Spalding. These are generally buried by later alluvial deposits.
- 1.3 Planning permission has been granted for development of the site. The archaeological works are being undertaken as a condition of that permission. A first phase of evaluation has already been completed. Further work is required now that the northern part of the site has been vacated.
- 1.4 On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the findings of the investigation. The report will consist of a text describing the nature of the archaeological deposits located and will be supported by illustrations and photographs.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land at Low Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 259 230.
- 2.2 The document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview
 - 2.2.2 The archaeological and natural setting
 - 2.2.3 Stages of work and methodologies to be used
 - 2.2.4 List of specialists
 - 2.2.5 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

3.1 Spalding is located 23km southwest of Boston and 30km southeast of Sleaford in the South Holland district of Lincolnshire. The works are to take place at Low Road, approximately 1.3km northeast of Spalding town centre, centred on National Grid Reference TF 259 230. The site, approximately 3ha in area, is bounded on the south by Low Road, on the west by Queen's Road and on the east by the Coronation Channel and was largely occupied by industrial buildings, now

demolished.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 Planning permission for the development is subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological scheme of works. This is to comprise a programme of trial trenching of the site. A first phase of evaluation has already been undertaken. Further evaluation is required in the northern part of the site.

5 **SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY**

5.1 The site lies in the fenland of south Lincolnshire on fairly flat land at c. 3m OD. Local soils have not been mapped as the area is urban, but on the basis of surrounding deposits are likely to be deep stoneless clayey and silty soils of the Wallasea 2 Association developed on marine alluvium (Hodge et al. 1984, 338).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Spalding is situated in an area of known archaeological remains that date primarily from the Romano-British period and later. Since at least 2000 BC the area has been subject to a series of freshwater and marine inundations resulting in the deposition of several metres of alluvium. During the Romano-British period the former marshland stabilized enabling settlement.
- 6.2 Evidence of Romano-British activity has been found in and around Spalding and on the east side of the town during the excavation of the Coronation channel. These are generally buried by layers of later alluvium and lie at between 1.3m and 2m OD. Evidence of later settlement or use of the site may overlie these earlier deposits.
- 6.3 Evaluation work undertaken in Phase 1, while the site was still partially occupied, identified a sequence of natural deposits and archaeological remains in the southwest and east of the site. The investigations showed that the sequence of natural deposits was dominated by the presence of a roddon. This suggests that early remains could be present in the area, although the only feature revealed was an undated ditch. The fill of the ditch included burnt, or baked silt and it is possible that this residue is associated with salt making, an important early industry in the fens.
- 6.4 In the centre and the west of the site a number of post-medieval and undated remains of probable similar age, were revealed which represented the enclosure and settlement of the land. Structural remains in the form of post holes and stake holes were recorded demonstrating the presence of a timber building from the 16th / 17th century to the 19th century.

- 6.5 Examination of air-photographs of the site prior to much of the extant development (1946, 1947, 1952, 1962) has not proved effective in identifying any areas of greater potential (e.g. the extent of the suggested roddon on the eastern boundary of the site). Prior to the construction of the industrial units on the site, the area had been divided into small enclosures / allotments and the differing land-use across these many small plots make it difficult to distinguish any differences due to the underlying drift geology.
- 6.6 A further trench is required in the southern half of the site to investigate a possible medieval enclosure and to the west where post-medieval features may continue activity of earlier date. Other additional work will be largely directed at establishing the extent of any activity on the eastern margins of the site and in evaluating the northern part of the site not investigated in the first phase of the evaluation.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

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

8 LIAISON WITH THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CURATOR

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

9 TRIAL TRENCHING

9.1 Reasoning for this technique

- 9.1.1 Trial trenching enables the *in situ* determination of the sequence, date, nature, depth, environmental potential and density of archaeological features present on the site.
- 9.1.2 The trial trenching will consist of the excavation of a further 6 trenches 25m x 1.6m: two in the south and west of the site and the others in the northern area (suggested arrangement shown on attached figure). Trenches may be widened and stepped-in should archaeological deposits extend below 1.2m depth. Augering may be used to determine the depth of the sequence of deposits present.

9.2 General Considerations

- 9.2.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the investigation.
- 9.2.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practice issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA). *Archaeological Project Services* is an IFA Registered Archaeological Organisation (No. 21).
- 9.2.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.
- 9.2.4 Excavation of the archaeological features exposed will only be undertaken as far as is required to determine their date, sequence, density and nature. Not all archaeological features exposed will necessarily be excavated. However, the investigation will, as far as is reasonably practicable, determine the level of the natural deposits to ensure that the depth of the archaeological sequence present on the site is established.
- 9.2.5 Open trenches will be marked by hazard tape attached to road irons or similar poles. Subject to the consent of the archaeological curator, and following the appropriate recording, the trenches, particularly those of

excessive depth, will be backfilled as soon as possible to minimise any health and safety risks.

9.3 <u>Methodology</u>

- 9.3.1 Removal of the topsoil and any other overburden will be undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. To ensure that the correct amount of material is removed and that no archaeological deposits are damaged, this work will be supervised by Archaeological Project Services. On completion of the removal of the overburden, the nature of the underlying deposits will be assessed by hand excavation before any further mechanical excavation that may be required. Thereafter, the trenches will be cleaned by hand to enable the identification and analysis of the archaeological features exposed.
- 9.3.2 Investigation of the features will be undertaken only as far as required to determine their date, form and function. The work will consist of half- or quarter-sectioning of features as required and, where appropriate, the removal of layers. Should features be located which may be worthy of preservation *in situ*, excavation will be limited to the absolute minimum, (*ie* the minimum disturbance) necessary to interpret the form, function and date of the features.
- 9.3.3 The archaeological features encountered will be recorded on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma context record sheets. The system used is the single context method by which individual archaeological units of stratigraphy are assigned a unique record number and are individually described and drawn.
- 9.3.4 Plans of features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. Should individual features merit it, they will be drawn at a larger scale.
- 9.3.5 Throughout the duration of the trial trenching a photographic record consisting of black and white prints (reproduced as contact sheets) and colour slides will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
 - the site before the commencement of field operations.
 - the site during work to show specific stages of work, and the layout of the archaeology within individual trenches.
 - individual features and, where appropriate, their sections.
 - groups of features where their relationship is important.

- the site on completion of field work
- 9.3.6 Should human remains be encountered, they will be left *in situ* with excavation being limited to the identification and recording of such remains. If removal of the remains is necessary the appropriate Home Office licences will be obtained and the local environmental health department informed. If relevant, the coroner and the police will be notified.
- 9.3.7 Finds collected during the fieldwork will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered ready for later washing and analysis.
- 9.3.8 The spoil generated during the investigation will be mounded along the edges of the trial trenches with the top soil being kept separate from the other material excavated for subsequent backfilling.
- 9.3.9 The precise location of the trenches within the site and the location of site recording grid will be established by an EDM survey.

10 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

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

11 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT

11.1 Stage 1

- 11.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the trial trenching will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence constituting a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued: the colour slides will be labelled and mounted on appropriate hangers and the black and white contact prints will be labelled, in both cases the labelling will refer to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
- 11.1.2 All finds recovered during the trial trenching will be washed, marked, bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they

were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

11.2 Stage 2

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

11.3 Stage 3

- 11.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the investigation will be prepared. This will consist of:
 - A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
 - A description of the archaeological setting of the site.
 - Description of the topography and geology of the investigation area.
 - Description of the methodologies used during the investigation and discussion of their effectiveness in the light of the results.
 - A text describing the findings of the investigation.
 - Plans of the trenches showing the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
 - Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.
 - Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape.
 - Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
 - Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features or groups of features.
 - A consideration of the significance of the remains found, in local, regional, national and international terms, using recognised evaluation criteria.

12 **ARCHIVE**

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

13 REPORT DEPOSITION

13.1 Copies of the investigation report will be sent to: the client, Persimmon Homes; the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section; South Holland District Council Planning Department; and the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record.

14 **PUBLICATION**

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

15 CURATORIAL MONITORING

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

16 VARIATIONS TO THE PROPOSED SCHEME OF WORKS

- 16.1 Variations to the scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation from the archaeological curator.
- 16.2 Should the archaeological curator require any additional investigation beyond the scope of the brief for works, or this specification, then the cost and duration of those supplementary examinations will be negotiated between the client and the contractor.

17 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

17.1 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of

any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

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

Conservation Conservation Laboratory, City and County

Museum, Lincoln.

Pottery Analysis Prehistoric: Dr D Knight, Trent and Peak

Archaeological Trust

Roman: B Precious, independent specialist

Anglo-Saxon: J Young, independent specialist

Medieval and later: G Taylor, APS in consultation

with H Healey, independent archaeologist

Other Artefacts J Cowgill, independent specialist; or G Taylor,

APS

Human Remains Analysis R Gowland, independent specialist

Animal Remains Analysis Environmental Archaeology Consultancy; or P

Cope-Faulkner, APS

Environmental Analysis Val Fryer, independent specialist

Radiocarbon dating Beta Analytic Inc., Florida, USA

Dendrochronology dating University of Sheffield Dendrochronology

Laboratory

18 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 18.1 Fieldwork is expected to be undertaken by 4 staff, a supervisor and 3 assistants, and to take 5-7 days.
- 18.2 Post-excavation analysis and report production is expected to take 12 person-days within a notional programme of 10 days. A project officer or supervisor will undertake most of the analysis, with assistance from the finds supervisor and CAD illustrator. Two half-days of specialist time are allotted in the project budget.

18.3 Contingency

- 18.3.1 Contingencies have been specified in the budget. These include: environmental sampling/analysis of waterlogged remains; pump (trenches may become waterlogged at depth); Roman pottery (moderate amount allowed for); Anglo-Saxon pottery (not expected); Medieval pottery-large quantities (moderate amounts allowed for); faunal remains -large quantities (moderate amounts allowed for); Conservation and/or Other unexpected remains or artefacts.
- 18.3.2 Contingency is also allowed for the excavation of further trenches should further work be required to more closely define areas of archaeological interest.
- 18.3.3 Other than the pump, the activation of any contingency requirement will be by the archaeological curator (Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section), not Archaeological Project Services.

19 **INSURANCES**

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

20 **COPYRIGHT**

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

Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the *Copyright*, *Designs and Patents Act* 1988 and may result in legal action.

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

21 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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

Snee, J. 2002 Interim Report on Archaeological Evaluation at Low Road, Spalding. unpublished APS report 31/02

Specification: Version 1, 10 April 2002

CONTEXT SUMMARY

Context No	Section No	Description	Interpretation
900	2	Loose, light yellowish brown sandy gravel and debris, with frequent brick fragments, up to 0.13m thick.	Levelling deposit.
901	1 & 2	Friable/loose, mid yellowish red-brown silt, up to 0.17m.	Alluvial layer.
902	1 & 2	Loose, mid greyish green silt, 0.28m thick.	Fill of 903.
903	1	Linear cut, 1.50m wide and 0.28m deep, with gently sloping sides and a flattish base, oriented approximately east-west.	Base of palaeochannel.
904	-	Ceramic pipe, 0.10m diameter.	Land drain.
905	-	Loose, light yellowish brown sandy gravel.	Fill of (906).
906	Linear cut, with concave sides, oriented northwest-		Cut for land drain (904).
907	-	Circular brick structure, 0.40m by 0.10m by 0.22m.	Probable drain.
908	-	Friable mid brown silt.	Fill of (909).
909	-	Sub-circular cut, 0.40m long.	Modern pit.
910	-	Firm, mid brown clayey silt.	Fill of (911).
911	1	Sub-rectangular cut, 0.23m long by 0.19m wide and 0.09m deep, with concave sides and an irregular base.	Possible posthole.
912	2	Friable/soft, black clayey silt, with occasional pebbles and chalk flacks, 1.50m wide and 2.34m long.	Fill of (915).
913	-	Sub-rectangular brick structure, 0.85m long and 0.69m wide.	Modern service pi
914	-	Friable, dark blackish grey sandy silt.	Fill of (913).
915	Sub-rectangular cut 2 3/m long, and more than 1.5m		Modern service pi associated with (913).
916	1	Firm, mid brown clayey silt, up to 0.26m thick.	Alluvial layer.
917	1	Firm/soft mid greenish brownish blue silty clay.	Alluvial layer.
918	2	Loose, blackish grey sandy silt, with frequent charcoal fragments, up to 0.20m thick.	Fill of (919).
919	2	Irregular cut, 0.20m deep and 1.10m wide, with concave sides.	Recent pit or trench.
920	2	Friable, mid greyish brown silt, 0.11m deep.	Soil layer.
921	-	Loose, blackish brown sandy silt, with charcoal fragments, 0.44m long and 0.40m wide.	Fill of (922).
922	-	Irregular cut, 0.44m long by 0.40m wide and 0.08m deep, with convex sides and an irregular base.	Modern pit or roo disturbance.
923	-	Friable dark greyish brown sandy silt, with frequent CBM and occasional charcoal fragments.	Fill of (924).
924	-	Irregular cut, 0.84m long and 0.54m wide.	Modern pit.
925	-	Loose, mid reddish brown clayey silt, with occasional pebbles, up to 0.11m thick.	Fill of (906).
1000	8	Loose, light yellowish brown gravel, and demolition debris, up to 0.25m thick.	Levelling deposit.
1001	8	Soft, dark brown clayey silt, with occasional charcoal, up to 0.31m thick.	Topsoil.
1002	8	Soft, dark bluish greenish grey clayey silt, up to 0.18m thick and extending 11.78m.	Subsoil.
1003	8	Plastic/soft, greenish blue silty clay, extending 19.20m.	Alluvial layer.
1004	-	Soft, slightly greenish/bluish brown clayey silt, 7.20m extent and up to 0.14m thick.	Alluvial lens.
1005	-	Plastic, greenish blue silty clay.	Alluvial layer.

1006	-	Cut of former evaluation trench.	-
1007	-	Fill of (1007).	<u>-</u>
1008	-	Linear cut, 0.74m wide, oriented east-west.	Enclosure ditch.
1009	-	Firm, grey silty clay.	Fill of (1008).
1010	8	Soft, dark grey clayey silt.	Fill of (1011).
1011	8	Linear cut, 0.76m wide and 0.20m deep, with concave	Ditch.
1011	8	sides and a flat base, oriented east-west.	Ditch.
1012	9	Soft, dark grey clayey silt.	Fill of (1013).
1013	9	Linear cut (slightly curved), 2.60m long by 0.51m wide and 0.27m deep, with concave sides and a rounded base,	Ditch.
	9	oriented northeast-southwest with a terminus at the southwest end.	×
1014	-	Soft, mid brown clayey silt.	Alluvial layer.
1100	15 & 37	Friable, yellow-brown sand and gravel, up to 0.15m thick.	Gravel surface.
1101	15 & 37	Firm, dark grey-brown silty sand, with frequent gravel, stones, tarmac and brick rubble fragments, <i>c.</i> 0.15m thick.	Levelling deposit.
1102	15 & 37	Firm, dark grey-brown silt, with occasional small pebbles, <i>c.</i> 0.35m thick.	Topsoil.
1103		Firm, mixed mid to dark brown clayey sandy silt, with occasional pebbles, c. 0.35m thick, extends 2m.	Modern disturbance.
1104	15 &16	Firm, very dark grey-brown sandy silt, with occasional pebbles.	Fill of (1105).
1105	15 & 16	Irregular sub-rectangular cut, 0.80m wide and 0.25m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base.	Pit.
1106	6	Firm, dark grey organic sandy silt, sub-rectangular extent 0.18m long by 0.09m wide and 0.04m deep.	Post impression.
1107	6	Firm, dark grey organic sandy silt, sub-rectangular extent 0.18m long by 0.17m wide and 0.03m deep.	Post impression.
1108	6	Firm, dark grey organic sandy silt, sub-rectangular extent 0.18m long by 0.13m wide and 0.03m deep.	Post impression.
1109	7	Firm, dark grey-brown sandy silt, with occasional pebbles.	Fill of (1110).
1110	7	Sub-rectangular cut, 0.56m long by 0.28m wide and 0.22m deep, with steep sides and a sloping base, oriented east-west.	Posthole
1111	36	Firm, dark grey-brown sandy silt, with occasional pebbles, 0.33m wide.	Fill of (1112).
1112	36	Sub-rectangular cut, 0.53m long by 0.40m wide and 0.10m deep, vertical sides and a stepped flat base, oriented north-south.	Posthole.
1113	-	Friable, dark grey-brown sandy silt, with frequent stones and CBM fragments, not excavated.	Fill of (1114).
1114	-	Sub-circular cut, 0.56m in diameter, not excavated.	Pit.
1115	36	Firm, dark brown sandy silt.	Fill of (1112).
1116	15	Firm, very dark grey brown clayey sandy silt, with occasional pebbles, irregular extent 0.45m wide and up to 0.12m deep.	Tree throw.
1117	-	Firm, dark brown clayey silt, 0.10m wide and 0.02m thick in an irregular linear band.	Root disturbance.
1118	-	Sift, grey-brown silt, irregular extent 0.40m long by 0.32m wide and 0.02m deep.	Root disturbance.
1119	•	Friable, dark brown clayey silt, irregular extent 0.40m long and 0.30m wide.	Root disturbance.
1120	-	Firm, dark brown clayey silt, irregular sub-circular extent 0.10m wide and 0.30m thick, inclined at 45°.	Root disturbance.
1121	37	Firm, mid orange-brown, slightly sandy silt, up to	Alluvial layer.

		0.27m thick.	Ι
1122	15 & 17	Firm, mid olive-brown sandy silt, up to 0.22m thick.	Buried soil.
1123	37	Firm, blue-grey clay, with patches of brown silt and silty clay, more than 0.02m thick.	Alluvial layer.
1124	37	Linear cut, 0.53m wide and 0.38m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base, oriented north-south.	Construction trench.
1125	37	North-south oriented wall foundation, single header course of machine made brick.	Wall foundation.
1126	37	Friable, mid grey silty sand and brick rubble.	Fill of (1124).
1200	17, 18, 20, 25 & 33	Loose, building rubble.	Levelling deposit.
1201	17, 20, 33 & 38	Loose, dark brown silt, with occasional CBM and charcoal fragments, up to 0.31m thick.	Topsoil.
1202	33 & 38	Soft/friable, mid/light brown silt, up to 0.12m deep.	Transformed soil.
1203	18, 25 & 33	Soft/friable, light brown silt.	Alluvial layer.
1204	18	Loose, dark black sandy silt, with CBM flecks, up to 0.11m thick.	Fill of (1205).
1205	18	Sub-rectangular cut, 0.27m long by 0.27m wide and 0.29m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base.	Posthole.
1206	19	Loose, blackish greyish brown clayey silt, with frequent industrial residue and CBM fragments.	Fill of (1207).
1207	19	Sub-rectangular cut, 0.42m long by 0.40m wide and 0.20m deep, vertical sides with a rounded base.	Posthole.
1208	17	Firm, reddish brown silt, with occasional charcoal fragments and frequent slag fragments concentrated towards the top.	Fill of (1209).
1209	17	Linear cut, 0.30m wide and 0.33m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base, oriented east-west with a terminus at the west end.	Modern service trench.
1210	17 & 20	Firm, dark reddish brown silt, with occasional charcoal flecks.	Fill of (1211).
1211	17 & 20	Sub-rectangular cut, 0.35m deep and extending beyond trench edges, with sloping sides and a rounded base.	Pit or posthole.
1212	18	Soft, greyish brown clayey silt, up to 0.34m thick.	Fill of (1205).
1213	21	Soft, mid greyish brown clayey silt, with frequent charcoal fragments.	Fill of (1214).
1214	21	Oval cut, 0.52m long by 0.38m wide and 0.10m deep, with concave sides and a rounded base.	Pit or posthole.
1215	31	Soft, mid to dark brown sandy silt, with occasional charcoal.	Fill of (1252).
1216	31	Soft, mottled light and dark brown sandy silt, with occasional charcoal.	Fill of (1253).
1217	25	Firm, mid greyish brown clayey silt, with occasional CBM/burnt silt flecks.	Fill of (1218).
1218	25	Linear cut, extends beyond limits of the trench, with concave sides and a flattish base, oriented east-west.	Ditch.
1219	18	Single course of machine made bricks.	Possible floor.
1220	18 & 25	Compacted, greyish black cinder and charcoal, up to 0.08m thick.	Levelling deposit.
1221	18 & 25	Firm, light yellowish brown silt, up to 0.08m thick, extends 2.80m.	Makeup layer.
1222	18 & 25	Loose, greyish black, cinder and charcoal in a clayey silt matrix, with frequent CBM fragments, up to 0.20m thick.	Dumped deposit.
1223	18	Firm, greyish brown clayey silt, up to 0.10m thick, extends 3.22m.	Makeup layer.

1224	18	Soft/friable, light greyish yellowish brown clayey silt, up to 0.16m thick.	Transformed soil.
1225	28	Firm, blackish greyish brown clayey silt, with frequent charcoal and CBM flecks.	Fill of (1226).
1226	28	Sub-rectangular cut, 0.29m long by 0.17m wide and 0.21 deep, with vertical sides and a flat base.	Posthole.
1227	25	Friable/loose mid brown silt, extends 0.40m and up to 0.14m thick.	Alluvial lens.
1228	33	Soft, mid to dark brown sandy silt.	Fill of (1229).
1229	33	Linear cut, 0.26m wide and 0.26m deep, with sloping sides and a V-shaped base, oriented north-south.	Gully.
1230	32	Soft, dark grey sandy silt, with frequent coal fragments and fire residue.	Fill of (1231).
1231	32	Sub-rectangular cut, 0.38m long by 0.24m wide and 0.08m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base, oriented east-west.	Posthole.
1232	33	Soft, dark brownish grey sandy silt, with moderate charcoal fragments.	Fill of (1233).
1233	33	Sub-rectangular cut, 0.28m long by more than 0.12m wide and 0.26m deep, with vertical sides and a stepped base.	Posthole.
1234	33	Soft, mid to dark brown sandy silt, with occasional charcoal.	Fill of (1235).
1235	33	Sub-rectangular cut, more than 0.22m long by 0.20m	
1236	34	Soft, mid to dark brown sandy silt, with occasional large CBM fragments.	Fill of (1237).
1237	34	Sub-rectangular cut, 0.28m long by 0.24m wide and 0.12m deep, with irregular sloping sides and a sloping base.	Posthole.
1238	35	Soft, mottled dark brownish grey sandy silt, with frequent coal fragments and other fire residue, up to 0.18m thick.	Fill of (1239).
1239	35	Sub-rectangular cut, 0.47m long by 0.42m wide and 0.27m deep, with vertical sides and a stepped base.	Posthole.
1240	-	Soft, dark brownish grey sandy silt.	Fill of (1241).
1241	-	Sub-rectangular cut, 0.44m long by more than 0.32m wide, unexcavated.	Posthole.
1242	39	Firm, mid to light yellowish brown silty sand, with occasional charcoal fragments, 0.21m thick.	Fill of (1243).
1243	39	Sub-rectangular cut, 0.30m long by 0.29m wide and 0.21m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base.	Posthole.
1244	38	Loose, mid to light yellowish brown fine silty sand.	Fill of (1245).
1245	38	Irregular cut, 0.50m wide and 0.40m deep, with steep sides and a sloping base.	Truncation of posthole by post removal.
1246	38	Loose, mid to light grey very fine silty sand, with occasional charcoal and CBM fragments.	Fill of (1247).
1247	38	Sub-rectangular cut, 0.50m long and 0.35m deep, with steep sides and a stepped base.	Posthole.
1248	29	Firm, dark greyish brown clayey silt, with frequent charcoal and CBM fragments.	Fill of (1249).
1249	29	L-shaped cut, 0.49m long by 0.48m wide and 0.26m deep, with vertical sides and a rounded base.	Posthole(s).
1250	30	Soft, mid greyish brown clayey silt, with frequent charcoal and occasional shell fragments.	Fill of (1251).
1251	30	Sub-square cut, 0.22m long by 0.21m wide and 0.10m	Posthole.

		I	
	-	deep, with vertical sides ad a flat base.	
1252	31	Irregular sub-circular cut, 0.28m wide and 0.14m deep, with steep sides and a slightly rounded base.	Possible posthole
1253	31	Irregular sub-circular cut, 0.28m wide and 0.14m deep, with steep sides and a slightly rounded base.	Possible posthole
1254	35	Soft, light brown to mid greyish brown silty sand, 0.08m thick.	Fill of (1239).
1300	3	Loose, light brownish grey stone and brick rubble, 0.15m thick.	Levelling deposit
1301	3	Loose to firm, dark greyish black silty clay, with small stones, 0.10m thick.	Topsoil.
1302	3	Firm, light to mid brown silty clay, 0.15m thick.	Alluvial layer.
1303	3	Compacted, mid grey silty clay.	Alluvial layer.
1304	4 & 5	Linear cut, more than 0.61m wide and 0.50m deep, with steep sides and a flat base, appear to be a bend from north-south to east-west.	Ditch.
1305	4 & 5	Firm, mid grey silty clay.	Fill of (1304).
1401	22	Linear cut, 1.65m wide and 0.50m deep, with sloping sides and a rounded base, oriented east-west.	Ditch.
1402	22	Soft, mixed and mottled brownish grey and mid brown clayey silt, with occasional CBM fragments.	Fill of (1401).
1403	22	Soft, dark brown organic clayey silt, with occasional small CBM fragments.	Fill of (1401).
1404	23	Firm, mid to dark bluish grey clayey silt, with occasional small CBM and clinker flecks.	Fill of (1405).
1405	23	Linear cut, 0.26m wide and 0.13m deep, with steep sides and a rounded base, oriented east-west.	Gully.
1406	23	Firm, greyish brown silty clay, up to 0.40m thick.	Topsoil.
1407	-	Firm, mottled mid brown and bluish grey silty clay, more than 0.50m thick.	Alluvial layer.
1408	-	Limestone and concrete rubble.	Levelling deposit
1500	24 & 26	Loose, buff limestone hardcore, up to 0.15m thick.	Levelling deposit
1501	24 & 26	Firm, dark grey to light brown fine silty clay and sand, with moderate charcoal fragments and occasional CBM fragments.	Fill of (1502).
1502	14, 16 & 27	Linear cut, more than 3.50m wide and c. 1.2m deep, with stepped sloping sides and a rounded base, oriented east-west.	Ditch.
1503	-	Void	-
1504	24	Firm, mid to light grey silty clay, with occasional charcoal fragments.	Fill of (1502).
1505	24, 26 & 27	Soft, mid to dark brown fine organic sand and clay.	Fill of (1502).
1506	24, 26 & 27	Firm, mid to light grey fine silty clay.	Fill of (1502).
1507	24, 26 & 27	Loose, mid brown to light grey fine silty sandy clay.	Alluvial layer.
1508	26	Loose, mid to dark brown fine silty sand, with occasional small stones, up to 0.30m thick.	Topsoil.
1509	26	Firm, mid to dark greyish brown fine silty sand and clay, with occasional charcoal fragments up to 0.10m thick.	Lens.
1601	-	Soft, mottled light grey and light reddish brown silty fine sand.	Alluvial layer.
1602	12	Firm, mid red fried clay fragments with patches of light grey silt.	Fill of (1603).
1603	12	Linear cut, 0.50m wide by more than 4.40m long and 0.18m deep, with steep sides and a rounded base,	Ditch or flue.

		oriented north northeast-south southwest.	T
1604	14	Loose, mid red fried clay fragments with patches of light grey silt, and occasional charcoal fragments.	Fill of (1605).
1605	14	Sub-rectangular cut, more than 2.35m long by 0.60m wide and 0.35m deep, with steep sides and an irregular flattish base.	Pit.
1606	10	Firm, mixed dark greyish brown and mid red fine sand and fired clay/silt, with occasional CBM fragments.	Fill of (1607).
1607	10	Linear cut, 3.20m long by 0.30m wide and 0.20m deep, with very steep sides and a flattish base, oriented north northeast-south southwest.	Gully.
1608	10 & 13	Firm, mixed dark greyish brown and mid red fine sand and fired clay/silt, with occasional coal fragments.	Fill of (1609).
1609	10 & 13	Linear cut, more than 5.70m long by 0.55m wide and 0.45m deep, with very steep sides and a flattish base, oriented north northeast-south southwest with a terminus at the north end.	Gully.
1610	-	Friable, light brownish grey silty fine sand.	Fill of (1611).
1611	-	Linear cut, 0.35m wide and 0.30m deep, with vertical sides and a flattish base, oriented west northwest-east southeast.	Possible drainage trench.
1612	11	Firm, mid brownish grey clayey silt, with occasional small CBM and coal fragments.	Fill of (1613).
1613	11	Linear cut, 2.40m wide and 0.70m deep, with sloping sides and a rounded base, oriented east-west.	Ditch.
1614	-	Firm, mixed mid brownish grey and mid olive brown sandy silt.	Alluvial layer.
1615	11	Soft, dark brown clayey silt, 0.27m thick.	Fill of (1613).
1616	10	Loose, mid red fired clay fragments, with occasional coal fragments, extending up to 1.0m and 0.01m thick.	Dumped deposit.
1617	11 & 14	Firm, dark greyish brown clayey silt, with moderate CBM fragments and occasional coal fragments, up to 0.25m thick.	Topsoil.
1618	11 & 14	Loose, limestone hardcore.	Levelling deposit

Abbreviations:

CBM - Ceramic Building Material.

THE FINDS

by Paul Cope-Faulkner, Hilary Healey and Gary Taylor

Recording of the pottery was undertaken with reference to guidelines prepared by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (Slowikowski *et al.* 2001) and the pottery was quantified using the chronology and coding system of the Lincolnshire ceramic type series. A total of 34 fragments of pottery weighing 1625g was recovered from 15 separate contexts. In addition to the pottery, a large quantity of other objects, brick/tile and industrial residue, comprising 60 items weighing a total of 5085g, was retrieved. Faunal remains were also recovered.

Provenance

The material was recovered from ditch fills (1010, 1012, 1305, 1612 & 1615), pit fills (918, 923, 1104 & 1113), postholes (1109, 1111, 1210, 1213, 1215, 1216, 1225, 1238, 1242, 1244 & 1248), service/drainage trenches (1208 & 1610) and soil layer (1122).

All the early pottery was made in proximity to Spalding, at Bourne 15km to the west. However, most of the early modern pottery was probably manufactured in Staffordshire.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

A few fragments of medieval, 12th-14th century, pottery were recovered, though the majority of the assemblage is later, predominantly dating from the 19th century.

Table 1: Pottery

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
918	WHITE	White glazed tableware	1	17	19 th century
923	LPM	Green glazed earthenware, 19 th century	1	142	19 th century
	LPM	Lustreware (silver lustre) eggcup, 19 th century	1	17	
1012	BOUA	Bourne A ware, 12 th -14 th century	1	1	15 th -17 th century
	BOU?	?Bourne D ware, abraded, 15 th -17 th century	1	2	
1104	NOTS	Nottingham salt-glazed stoneware, late 18 th century	1	90	19 th century
	WHITE	White glazed earthenware, 19 th century	1	106	
	TPW	Blue and white transfer printed tableware, 19 th century	1	4	
	LPM	Mocha ware, 19th century	1	3	
	LPM	Sponged ware, 19 th century	1	2	
1111	BOUA	Bourne A/B ware, abraded	1	7	12 th -14 th century
1113	LSTON	Brown stoneware blacking bottle, 19 th century	2	149	19 th -20 th century
	TPW	Blue and white transfer printed tableware, 19 th century	1	22	
	BL	Red painted earthenware, black glazed, 18 th century	1	226	
	LPM	Mocha ware, 19 th century	1	25	
	LPM	Blue and brown striped white glazed earthenware, 19 th -20 th century	1	83	

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
	UGRE	Unglazed red earthenware, perforated lid of bread pot, 19 th century	1	215	
1122	BOUA	Bourne A ware, 12 th -14 th century	1	5	12 th -14 th century
	BOUA	Bourne B ware, 12 th -14 th century	2	17	
1208	BOUA?	?Bourne A/B ware, 12 th -14 th century	2	11	19 th -20 th century
	LPM	Light blue tableware, 19 th -20 th century	1	2	
1215	BOU	Bourne D ware, abraded	1	14	16 th -17 th century
1216	BOU	Bourne D ware, abraded	1	2	15 th -17 th century
1225	LSTON	Grey stoneware	1	23	19 th -early 20 th century
1238	TPW	Brown and white transfer printed tableware, 19 th century	1	2	19 th -20 th century
	LPM	Light blue tableware, 19 th -20 th century	1	4	
1305	BL	Red painted earthenware, black glazed	1	7	18 th century
1610	LSTON	Brown stoneware blacking bottle, 19 th century	1	185	19 th -20 th century
	TPW	Blue and white transfer printed tableware, trademarked, 19 th century	1	120	
	LERTH	Yellow glazed earthenware, 19 th -20 th century	1	114	
1612	WS	White salt-glazed stoneware, lid	1	8	18 th century

A small quantity, 7 fragments, of medieval pottery was collected. Additionally, three pieces of early post-medieval, 16^{th} - 17^{th} century, pottery were retrieved. All of these were small and many were abraded. As such, they are likely to represent manuring scatter which would, in turn, imply the area was agricultural land in the medieval and early post-medieval periods. There is only one context that contains solely medieval material, (1122), and this contains only 3 small medieval sherds. A second context that contains medieval pottery (1111) also has a post-medieval tile fragment within it.

A piece of blue and white transfer printed tableware from (1610) has a printed trademark reading:

TEMPLE

No..

W & B

The first two lines, 'Temple No.', probably refer to a pattern type, while W & B denote the pottery manufacturers. However, several potting firms used these printed initials on their wares, including Wood and Baggaley (1870-80) and Wood and Bowers (1839), both of Burslem, Staffordshire, and Wood and Brownfield (c. 1838-1850) of Cobridge, Staffordshire (Cushion 1986, 126; 134). Consequently, although the piece cannot be identified with a specific manufacturer, its date range for production is 1838-80.

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
918	CBM	Tile	1	38	Post-medieval
1010	CBM	Handmade brick/fired clay, post-medieval	1	27	Post-medieval
	Industrial residue	Iron smithing slag	1	32	
1012	CBM	Handmade brick, 55mm thick	1	293	Post-medieval
1109	Glass	Dark green vessel glass, 19 th -20 th century	1	2	19 th -20 th century
	Iron	Nails	4	64	
	Industrial residue	Iron smithing slag, post- medieval	1	7	
	Clinker	Clinker	1	15	
1111	CBM	Tile	2	102	Post-medieval
1206	CBM	Brick/tile	1	2	Post-medieval
	Industrial residue	Iron smithing slag, post- medieval	4	46	
	Cinder	Cinder	3	6	
	Stone	Burnt pebble	1	15	
1208	Iron	?Staple, L-shaped piece, 52mm long, 42mm surviving width	1	15	Post-medieval
	Industrial residue	Iron smithing slag, post- medieval	1	24	
1210	CBM	Brick/tile, post-medieval	3	3	Post-medieval
	Industrial residue	Iron smithing slag, post- medieval	1	12	
	Cinder	Cinder	1	4	
1213	CBM	Brick/tile	2	2	18 th century
	Clay pipe	Stem, bore 5/64", 18 th century	1	2	
	Cinder	Cinder	1	1	
1215	Glass	Colourless window glass	1	2	20 th century
1225	СВМ	Handmade brick, 52mm thick, post-medieval	2	93	Post-medieval
	Iron	U-shaped object, rectangular section to par, 152mm long, 115mm wide, staple? Postmedieval	1	337	
	Iron	Sheet iron, post-medieval	1	13	7
	Iron	Nail, rectangular section, 45mm long	1	3	
	Industrial residue	Iron smithing slag, post- medieval	3	40	
	Cinder	Cinder	1	22	
1238	Iron	Nail, rectangular section, circular head, 100mm long, post-medieval	1	34	19 th century
	Iron	Sheet iron, post-medieval	1	93	1
	Clay pipe	Stem, bore 4/64", 19 th century	1	1	1
1242	СВМ	Handmade brick, complete, chamfered end, frogged, 200- 230mm long, 109mm wide, 73mm thick	1	2775	Post-medieval
1244	Iron	Nail, rectangular shaft	1	7	Post-medieval

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
	CBM	Handmade brick, 62mm thick, post-medieval	1	356	
1248	CBM	Fired clay	3	3	19 th century
	Clay pipe	Stem, bore 4/64", 19 th century	1	2	
1305	CBM	Handmade brick	1	36	Post-medieval
1610	CBM	Fireclay tile	1	345	19 th -20 th century
1612	CBM	Handmade brick	3	59	
	Stone	Roof tile, burnt	1	49	
1615	CBM	Handmade brick	1	103	Post-medieval

Brick and tile, most of it distinctly post-medieval in date, was recovered across the area. This material probably reflects buildings in the area and there is one complete brick, from (1242), that emphasises this, though some of the pieces may be components of manuring scatter.

A moderate quantity of iron smithing slag was recovered during the investigation, being collected from Trenches 10, 11 and 12 only. A moderate quantity of iron was also retrieved, restricted to Trenches 11 and 12. Together, the slag and iron may indicate smithing in the area around these trenches. However, the slag does not occur in the large quantities that smithing usually generates and could have been imported as hardcore for metalling trackways Similarly, the iron is not numerous and could be from structures in the area.

Most of the non-pottery artefacts (67%) were recovered from Trench 12 and indicate human activity, probably associated with buildings and refuse dumping, in the area during the late post-medieval-early modern period.

The present assemblage is closely similar in composition to that recovered during previous investigations in the area (Hall *et al.* 2002).

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 many previous archaeological investigations at Spalding, including at the current site, which are the subjects of reports (Snee 2002). Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

As a predominantly early modern collection, the assemblage is of limited local significance. Most, if not all, of the medieval and early post-medieval pieces are probably components of manuring scatter and this implies the area was agricultural land in those periods.

The later post-medieval-early modern material is of moderate local significance and appears to indicate the presence of buildings of this period in the area.

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

Cushion, J. P., 1986 Pocket Book of British Ceramic Marks (3rd ed)

Hall, R., Healey, H., Lane, T., Rackham, J. and Taylor, G., 2001 'The Finds', in J. Snee, *Interim Report on the Archaeological Evaluation (Stage 1) at Low Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire (SLR01)*, unpublished Archaeological Project Services report no. 31/02

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PLANT MACROFOSSILS AND OTHER REMAINS FROM LOW ROAD, SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE (SLR 01 AND SLR 02): AN ASSESSMENT.

Val Fryer, Church Farm, Sisland, Loddon, Norwich, Norfolk, NR14 6EF September 2002

Introduction

Excavations at Low Road, Spalding were undertaken by Archaeological Project Services in the spring and summer of 2002. Features of medieval and post-medieval date were recorded including ditches and the possible flue of a brick clamp.

Samples for the extraction of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from across the excavated area and eight were submitted for assessment, four from site SLR 01 and four from SLR 02.

Methods

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover, collecting the flots in a 500 micron mesh sieve. Samples 3, 4 and 5 from SLR 01 and sample 1 from SLR 02 contained only charred macrofossils and were dried prior to sorting. However, the remaining samples were seen to contain waterlogged material and were stored wet until sorted. All assemblages were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16, and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed on Tables 1 and 2, in which material suffixed with a lower case 'w' is preserved in a waterlogged condition. Nomenclature within the tables follows Stace (1997). As the material recovered was in a reasonably robust condition, the wet retents were dried after sorting to facilitate long term storage.

The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and sorted when dry. All artefacts/ecofacts were removed for further specialist analysis.

Results of assessment Plant macrofossils

Cereals and/or seeds/fruits of weeds and wetland/aquatic plants were present at varying densities in all samples. Preservation was moderate to good although some grains had become slightly puffed during combustion.

Charred cereal remains were extremely rare but were present in five samples. Wheat (*Triticum* sp.) was the only cereal type recorded. Only two grains were recovered (samples SLR01 3 and SLR02 4), but sample SLR01 4 produced two very robust rachis internodes and a bread wheat (*T. aestivum/compactum*) type rachis node.

Seeds/fruits of weeds and wetland/aquatic plants were only noted in the waterlogged assemblages from site SLR 02. Weed taxa were generally rare, although silver weed (*Potentilla anserina*) seeds were common or abundant in samples 2, 3 and 4. Other species noted included fool's parsley (*Aethusa cynapium*), orache (*Atriplex* sp.), thistle (*Carduus* sp.) and buttercup (*Ranunculus acris/repens/bulbosus*). Wetland/aquatic taxa were predominant in all three samples and included sedge (*Carex* sp.), spike-rush (*Eleocharis* sp.), pondweed (*Potamogeton* sp.), water crowfoot *Ranunculus* subg. *Batrachium*), water cress (*Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum*) and horned pondweed (*Zannichellia palustris*). Tree/shrub macrofossils were extremely rare. Raspberry/bramble (*Rubus* sp.) type pips were noted in samples SLR01 3 and SLR02 3 and the latter sample also produced a single elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) seed.

Other plant macrofossils

Charcoal fragments were present in the majority of samples and waterlogged wood fragments were abundant in sample SLR01 7. Other plant macrofossils included pieces of charred root, rhizome or stem and indeterminate leaf fragments, seeds and thorns.

Molluscs

Although specific sieving for molluscan remains was not undertaken, shells were recovered from sample SLR01 3. Specimens of both terrestrial and aquatic species were noted. However, the shells of the terrestrial molluscs retained good colouration and surface features were well preserved, and it appears most likely that all are modern in origin. The single freshwater shell (*Planorbis* sp.) was abraded and pitted and may, therefore, be contemporary with the context.

Other materials

The fragments of black porous 'cokey' material and black tarry material may be derived from the combustion of organic remains at very high temperatures. Small pieces of coal were common throughout and may be modern in origin.

Discussion

For the purposes of this discussion, the sites will be dealt with individually.

SLR 01

The samples were all taken from features of medieval/post-medieval or later date. The major part of the assemblages, including the cereals, the charcoal and the wood fragments, would appear to be derived from low density scatters of refuse (including wind-blown detritus), some of which (for example the coal fragments) may be comparatively modern in origin. There is insufficient material available to enable any interpretation of either the local landscape or agricultural/industrial practises.

SLR 02

Sample 1 was taken from a layer within a post-medieval ditch. An extremely low density of material is present, much of which is probably derived from wind-blown detritus of unknown origin.

The remaining samples were taken from waterlogged ditch fills of medieval or post-medieval date. With the exception of rare fragments of charred detritus, the assemblages are entirely derived from the local flora. Wetland/aquatic plant macrofossils are predominant. The aquatic taxa indicate that the ditches were permanently filled with shallow slow moving fresh water. The damp margins supported wetland species and the dryer bank tops were weed covered. However, the ditches were not overgrown with scrub or trees, which probably suggests a high level of maintenance and clearance.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In summary, although the samples from SLR01 appear to contain a very low density of refuse, the assemblages are too small to enable any further interpretation. The samples from SLR02 indicate that the ditches provided a freshwater habitat for a variety of aquatic and marginal plants. The ditch sides were dry and covered with weed growth, but not overgrown with scrub or trees. Neither site appears to have been directly adjacent to habitation or other centres of activity, but human input is indicated, both by the refuse and the clearance and maintenance of the ditches.

Although plant macrofossils were common or abundant in some samples, it is considered highly unlikely that further analysis would further contribute to the overall interpretation of the sites or their component features. Therefore, no further quantitative analysis is recommended.

References

Stace, C., 1997

New Flora of the British Isles. Second edition.

Key to Tables

x = 1 - 10 specimens xx = 10 - 100 specimens xxx = 100+ specimens fg = fragment x = 100+ specimens x = 1

Sample No.	3	4	5	7
Context No.	401	102	103	510
Cereals				
Cereal indet. (grains)	xfg			
(basal rachis nodes)			х	
Triticum sp. (grains)	xcf			
(rachis internodes)		Х		
T. aestivum/compactum type(rachis nodes)		Х		
Trees/shrubs				
Rubus sp.				XW
Other plant macrofossils				
Charcoal <2mm	XX	XX	XX	X
Charred root/rhizome/stem			X	X
Waterlogged root/rhizome/stem				Х
Waterlogged wood frags.				XXX
Indet.seeds	Х			XW
Molluscs				
Terrestrial species				
Cochlicopa sp.	xpmc			
Pupilla muscorum	xpmc			
Vallonia sp.	xxpmc			
Vertigo sp.	xpmc			
Freshwater aquatic species		e market una le la gr		
Planorbis sp.	Х			
Other materials				
Black porous 'cokey' material		XX	XX	X
Black tarry material	Х	х	X	
Brick/tile				X
Calcareous concretions	Х			
Ferrous globules		X		
?Slag		X		
Small coal frags.	Х	XXX	XXX	Х
Vitrified material	Х	Х		
Waterlogged arthropods				Х
Sample volume (litres)	8	10.5	11	8
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.1
% flot sorted	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 1. Plant macrofossils and other remains from site SLR 01, Low Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire.

Sample No.	1	2	3	4
Context No.	1012	1615	1505	1506
Cererals				
Cereal indet. (grains)	X			
Triticum sp. (grains)	St. Carlotte and the			Х
Herbs				
Aethusa cynapium L.			xwcf	
Apiaceae indet.		XW	XW	
Asteraceae indet.			xw	
Atriplex sp.			XW	xwcf
Carduus sp.		xwcf	XW	
Chenopodiaceae indet.		xw		
Cirsium sp.				XW
Euphrasia/Odontites sp.		xwcf	xwcf	
Potentilla sp.			XW	XW
P. anserina L.		xw	xxxw	XW
Ranunculus acris/repens/bulbosus			xw	
Wetland/aquatic plants				
Alisma plantago-aquatica L.				xwcf
Apium nodiflorum (L.)Lag.			xwcf	xwcf
Carex sp.		xxw	XXW	xw
Ceratophyllum submersum L.		xxwcf		
Eleocharis sp.		XXXW	XXW	xw
Hydrocotyle vulgaris L.		XW	7000	Α
Juncus sp.		AW	XW	
Mentha sp.		xw	AW	
Oenanthe aquatica (L.)Poiret		xwcf		
Potamogeton sp.		AWCI	XW	xw
Ranunculus subg. Batrachium DC(A.Gray)		xxxw	XXW	XXW
Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum (L.)Hayek		AAAW	XW	XXVV
Triglochin maritima L.			xwcf	
Zannichellia palustris L.			XW	
Trees/shrubs			AVV	
Rubus sp.	Section Control of		XW	
Sambucus nigra L.	-			
			XW	
Other plant macrofossils				
Charcoal <2mm	X			XX
Charred root/rhizome/stem	X	2017		
Indet.leaf frags.		XW		
Indet.seed	<u> </u>	XW	XW	
Indet.thorn	X			
Waterlogged root/rhizome/stem		X	X	Х
Other materials				
Black porous 'cokey' material	X			Х
Black tarry material	X		Х	
Brick/tile	xcf			
Caddis larval cases			XXW	XXW
Cledoceran ephippia			X	
Ostracods		Х		
Small coal frags.	Х		Х	Х
Waterlogged arthropods		Х	XX	Х
Sample volume (litres)	7	12	10	12
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1
% flot sorted	100%	50%	50%	100%

Table 2. Plant macrofossils and other remains from site SLR 02, Low Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire.

GLOSSARY

Alluvium Deposits laid down by water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea, and fresh water alluvium is alid down by rivers and lakes.

Context

Dylings

Fill

Layer

Medieval

Natural

Post hole

Post-medieval

Prehistoric

Manuring Scatter

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.

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].

Croft A piece of enclosed ground used for tillage or pasture, often an arable field near a house.

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.

A form of Fen land use. Strips of pasture land, broader than ridge and furrow, and separated by wide flat ditches; the soil from the ditches is used to raise the ground.

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.

A distribution of artefacts, usually pottery, created by the spreading of manure and domestic refuse from settlements onto arable fields. Such scatters can provide an indication of the extent and period of arable agriculture in the landscape.

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

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

The hole cut to take a timber post, usually in an upright position. The hole may have been dug larger than the post and contain soil or stones to support the post. Alternatively, the posthole may have been formed through the process of driving the post into the ground.

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

The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.

Roddon

Silt ridges formed from deposition at the sides of old watercourses. The watercourses

often show as dark channels between two roddons.

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

Toft

The site of a house or former house.

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:

- 12 Context register sheets
- 150 Context records
- 39 Sheets of scale drawings
- 9 Daily Record sheets
- 1 Plan record sheet
- 2 Section record sheet
- 3 Photographic record sheets
- 9 Stratigraphic matrices
- 1 Bag of finds

NG34 9RW

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Sleaford
Lincolnshire

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 Museum Accession Number: LCNCC: 2001.453

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: SLR02

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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