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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION ON LAND AT WILLINGTON ROAD, KIRTON, LINCOLNSHIRE (KWR 02)

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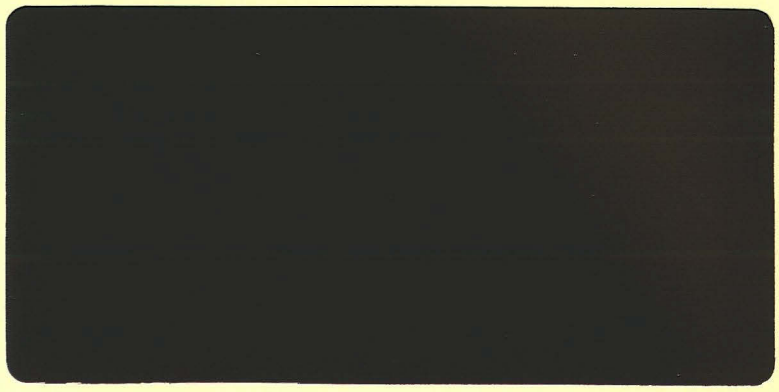

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION ON LAND AT WILLINGTON ROAD, KIRTON, LINCOLNSHIRE (KWR 02)

Work Undertaken For
KMB Limited

October 2002

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

Planning Application No: B/02/0077/OUTL
National Grid Reference: TF 3042 3880
City and County Museum Accession No: 2002.220

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES

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A.P.S. Report No. **212/02**

Quality Control

Willington Road, Kirton

KWR 02

Project Coordinator	Gary Taylor
Supervisor	Paul Cope-Faulkner
Site Staff	Bob Garlant, Pete Watkins
Surveying	Rachael Hall
Finds Processing	Denise Buckley
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Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
Gary Taylor	Tom Lane
Date: 25/10/02	Date: 28-10-02

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken to determine the archaeological implications of proposed development on land to the rear of 35 Willington Road, Kirton, Lincolnshire.

The site lies to the northwest of the medieval (AD 1066-1540) core of Kirton, which is dominated by the 12th century church of SS. Peter and Paul. Medieval remains have been found throughout the town and an evaluation of land to the north of the site identified Late Saxon (AD 850-1066) as well as medieval and post-medieval deposits.

The investigations revealed no medieval remains, suggesting the site was open ground. By the early post-medieval period a pond, refuse pits and a brick drain were present. Environmental data suggests that the site was under an agricultural regime at this time, although the presence of a brick drain would suggest that a building was located in the vicinity. Later post-medieval activity includes pits and stakeholes and is located at the Willington Road frontage.

Although medieval pottery was recovered it was often residual in nature. 16th – 17th century pottery was also retrieved, much of it from local sources but also included an example from southern England. Later pottery appears to derive from Staffordshire. Other finds recovered include brick, tile, glass, clay pipes and an assemblage of animal bone.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

An archaeological evaluation is defined as '*a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If such 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 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by KMB Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Willington Road, Kirton, Lincolnshire. This was in order to determine the archaeological resource affected by proposed development at the site as detailed in Planning Application B/02/0077/OUTL. The evaluation was undertaken between the 23rd and 27th September 2002 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the Community Archaeologist for Boston Borough Council.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Kirton is situated 6km southwest of Boston and 16km north of Spalding, in the administrative district of Boston, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The proposed development site is located 300m northwest of the town centre as defined by the parish church of SS. Peter and Paul (Fig. 2). Centred on National Grid Reference TF 3042 3880 the site is approximately 0.56 hectares in extent and is situated at a height of *c.* 3.5m OD. The site is on generally level ground although the land slopes gently down away from the village.

The site lies on the boundary of the Wisbech Series and Snargate Series soils. The southwestern corner comprises

Snargate Series, typically silty gleyic brown alluvial soils which extend eastwards through the town (Robson 1990, 27). The Wisbech Series, coarse silty calcareous alluvial gley soils (*ibid.* 36), occupy the northeastern corner of the site. These soils are developed upon a drift geology of younger marine alluvium which in turn overlies a solid geology of Jurassic Ampthill Clay (BGS 1995).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

There is little evidence for prehistoric remains in the Kirton area as the land surface is now buried by later alluvium (peats, silts, clays *etc.*). However, a Neolithic stone axe has been found within the parish, although may be an import.

Evidence for Romano-British activity is also scarce with finds limited to the northwest edge of the parish and a discrete scatter of artefacts northwest of the site beside Willington Road.

Late Saxon activity has been identified within Kirton adjacent to the church and also along Willington Road. A Late Saxon farmyard adjacent to an area of open water was identified immediately northeast of the church (Cope-Faulkner 1996, 8) and Saxon deposits were identified along Willington Road (Hambly 2000, 1).

Kirton is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of *c.* 1086. Referred to as *Chirchetune* the name is derived from the Old English *Ciric-tun* meaning a village with a church. The Old English *cirice* appears to have been replaced by the Old Norse *kirkja* (Cameron 1998, 75). The Domesday Survey records that the land was held by Count Alan and Guy of Craon and contained a church, 2 salt-pans and 84 acres of meadow (Foster and Longley 1976).

The most extant remains of the medieval period is the parish church of SS. Peter and Paul which has elements that date from the early 12th century (Beecham *et al.* 1990, 5). Located outside the town were four sizeable houses of medieval date, D'Eyncourt Hall, Bozon Hall, Littlebury Hall and Orme Hall, all of which were originally moated. All these halls have since been demolished, the 15th century gatehouse of Orme Hall being the last to survive until its demolition in 1926.

Later medieval and post-medieval activity, in the form of pits, hearths and ditches has been recorded along Willington Road and Station Road (Cope-Faulkner 1994, 1; 1996, 9; Taylor 1994, 1). An archaeological evaluation undertaken immediately north of the site identified numerous medieval features fronting on to Willington Road, some suggesting occupation (JSAC 2000, 21). Medieval activity appeared to have been curtailed in the 14th century and the area placed under an agricultural regime until the 20th century (*ibid.* 23).

The second edition Ordnance Survey Plan of 1905 indicates that a building formerly stood at the southwest corner of the site fronting Willington Road. To the rear of this building is an outhouse and a pond is also depicted. These buildings are last shown on a map of 1950. An aerial photograph of the site held by Heritage Lincolnshire, perhaps taken in the 1970s, shows the site with an area of rough ground approximating to the position of these former buildings.

Prior to this evaluation a geophysical survey of the site was undertaken (Appendix 2, EAS 2002). This identified three faint linear anomalies and a large discrete anomaly, possibly a kiln or pond.

3. AIMS

The aim of the archaeological evaluation was to gather sufficient information for the archaeological curator to formulate appropriate policies for the management of the archaeological resources, if 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. A set of criteria, issued by the Secretary of State (DoE 1990), provided an outline for assessing the significance of the archaeology at the site. These were used to determine state of preservation, period, type, rarity, diversity and vulnerability of the deposits encountered and their relationship to the general area.

4. METHODS

Prior to the excavation of trial trenches, the positions of the trenches were surveyed and plotted with reference to field boundaries using a Geodolite with a psion datalogger. The position of the trenches was largely dictated by the geophysical results.

Five trenches were then excavated by machine to remove the overburden Four trenches measured 15m long by 1.6m wide and the fifth trench was 10m long by 1.6m wide. Once excavation had been completed, the sides of the trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were then excavated by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. Exposed trenches and spoil heaps were regularly scanned with a metal detector to aid finds retrieval. Environmental sampling was undertaken at the discretion of the site supervisor in accordance with guidelines established by Murphy and Wiltshire (1994). The methodology for the subsequent processing of the environmental samples is outlined in the environmental report (Appendix 5).

Each deposit exposed during the evaluation was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. All contexts and their descriptions appear as Appendix 3. A photographic record was compiled using both colour slides and black and white formats. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20 and plans at a scale of 1:20 and 1:50. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

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 (Appendix 4). Phasing was based on artefact dating and the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis five phases were identified;

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Early post-medieval deposits
Phase 3	Later post-medieval deposits
Phase 4	Undated deposits
Phase 5	Recent deposits

Archaeological deposits are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field. Apart from natural deposits, all other phases are described in trench order.

Phase 1 Natural deposits

Exposed in the base of all trenches were natural deposits comprising grey silt (103), yellowish brown silty sand (208 and 402), brownish yellow sand (307) and yellowish brown sand (526). All these deposits are alluvial in origin.

Phase 2 Early post-medieval deposits

Trench 1
No deposits of this phase were identified in this trench.

Trench 2
Cut into the natural deposits in Trench 2 was a possible sub-circular feature (211). Interpreted as a pit, this was 5.5m wide and 1.3m deep (Fig. 5). A primary fill of interbedded black charred remains and yellow sand (206) was identified (Plate 4). The pit had then been deliberately backfilled with redeposited natural (204, 209 and 210) and brown and yellow silty sand (205). Pottery of 16th – 17th century date was retrieved from one of the fills (204).

Sealing the pit was a subsoil of yellow and brown silty sand (207) and brown sand (203) from which pottery of 13th–16th century date was retrieved.

Trench 3
No deposits of this phase were identified in this trench.

Trench 4
Located towards the centre of Trench 4 was an oval feature (415). Identified as a pit this was over 1.68m long, 0.91m wide and 0.36m deep (Fig. 7, Section 15). A single fill of grey sandy silt (414) was recorded.

Cutting this pit was a linear feature (408), identified as a pond, which extended northwards beyond the trench limits (Plate 6). This pond was 7.7m in length and 1.1m deep. A primary fill of grey sandy silt (403) was overlain by greyish brown sandy silt (407) from which medieval and 16th–17th century pottery was recovered.

Trench 5
Developed upon the natural sand was a 0.5m thick subsoil comprising brown silty sand (515). Cut into the subsoil towards the northern end of the trench (Fig. 8) was an east-west aligned linear cut (517). This was 1.1m wide and 0.28m deep. Contained within this cut was a brick structure (503) laid flat and with only two visible courses (Plate 7). Interpreted as a drain, this had been removed and the trench then backfilled with coal (516) and brown silty sand (518).

Less than 1m to the south of the drain was a posthole (502). Irregular in shape, this was 0.55m long, 0.51m wide and 0.17m deep (Fig. 8, Section 9; Plate 8). Filling this feature was yellowish brown silty sand (501) with brick of similar dimensions to that found in the drain.

Phase 3 Later post-medieval deposits

Trench 1
No deposits of this phase were identified in this trench.

Trench 2
No deposits of this phase were identified in this trench.

Trench 3
No deposits of this phase were identified in this trench.

Trench 4
Cut into the fill of the pond (408), while the pond was still a feature, was a probable circular pit (406) that was 0.3m wide and 0.2m deep. Contained within this pit was the articulated remains of a dog and a backfill of grey to black sandy silt (405).

Sealing the pet burial was a dumped deposit of black to grey silty sand (409) with frequent coal or charcoal. The entire pond had then been backfilled with greyish brown sandy silt (416) from which later post-medieval pottery was retrieved. Further dumping over the area of the pond was evidenced by a layer of yellowish brown silty sand (412) which also extended westwards beyond the limit of the pond (Fig. 7, Section 14).

Cut into this dumped deposit was a circular pit (411) measuring 1.9m wide and 0.5m deep and filled with grey sandy silt (410). A single medieval pot sherd and a post-medieval sherd were recovered from the fill.

Trench 5
Located 4m south of the early post-medieval drain was a rectangular posthole (508). This was over 0.27m long, 0.27m wide and 0.35m deep (Plate 9) and contained a single fill of brown silty sand (507). A clay pipe stem of 18th century date and a fragment of brick or tile was retrieved from the fill.

Cut into this pit was a rectangular stakehole (509) and a further pit or posthole (519). The pit, visible in section only, was 0.77m wide and 0.15m deep and was filled with brown silty sand (518). Adjacent to the stakehole was a second example (525) of 80mm diameter.

Located 1.4m southwest of pit (519) was a sub-circular posthole (511). This measured 0.5m long by 0.47m wide and 0.34m deep (Fig. 8, Section 11). A fill of mixed brown and greyish brown sandy silt (510) was recorded and 19th century pottery was retrieved.

Phase 4 Undated deposits

Trench 1
Overlying natural deposits in Trench 1 was an undated subsoil comprising yellowish grey silty sand (102) that was 0.3m thick.

Trench 2
No undated deposits were identified in this trench.

Trench 3
Located at the northern end of Trench 3 was a possible rectangular pit (304). This was over 1m long, wider than 90mm and 0.17m deep (Fig. 6, Section 3). A primary fill of black silty sand (303) overlain by mottled yellow and brown sand (302) was identified.

Towards the southern end of Trench 3 was a second pit (306) recorded in section only (Fig. 6, Section 4). This measured 1.18m wide and 0.26m deep and contained a single fill of brown silty sand (305).

Overlying both these pits was a subsoil of brown sand (301) that was 0.2m thick.

Trench 4
No undated features were identified in this trench.

Trench 5
Located 0.5m north of the late post-medieval pit (511) was a circular posthole (506) measuring 0.2m in diameter and 50mm deep. Two fills were recorded, the post-pipe was represented by grey organic sand (504) and a backfill of brown silty sand (505).

Located to the south of pit (511) was a square pit (513). This was 0.43m long by 0.42m wide and 0.15m deep (Fig. 8, Section 12). A single fill of brown sandy silt (512) was recorded.

Visible in section only and located south of pits (519) and (507) was a second posthole (521). This was 0.18m wide by 0.15m deep (Fig. 8, Section 13) with a single fill of greyish brown silty sand (522).

Also recorded in section, towards the southern end of the trench, was a pit (523). This was 0.75m wide and over 0.43m deep with a fill of brown silty sand (524).

Phase 5 Recent deposits

Trench 1
Sealing the undated subsoil was a 0.4m thick topsoil of dark grey sandy silt (101).

Trench 2
Overlying the subsoil (203) was a topsoil of greyish brown silty sand (202) which was 0.25m thick.

Trench 3
Sealing the subsoil in Trench 3 was a 0.3m thick topsoil of greyish brown silty sand (301).

Trench 4
Sealing all deposits in this trench was a topsoil of grey to dark brown sandy silt which was 0.5m thick.

Trench 5
Sealing all features in Trench 5 was a 0.3m deep topsoil comprising greyish brown silty sand (514).

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Phase 1) comprise a sequence of silty sands and sands derived from alluvial processes of probable marine origin. These indicate moderate energy water environments and are probably associated with widespread marine incursions occurring in this region from the Romano-British period onwards.

Earlier post-medieval remains (Phase 2) comprise a pond, three pits and a brick drain. Two ponds were also identified in the evaluation immediately north of the site which were dated to the 18th century (JSAC 2000, 22). The pond is likely to have been used for watering livestock and indicate that the site was serving an agricultural function. However, the presence of a brick drain, close to the frontage with Willington Road, should suggest the presence of a building within the western part of the proposed development area. The large pit in Trench 2 appears to have been dug for refuse disposal, particularly from a fire.

During the 18th and 19th centuries (Phase 3) the focus of activity shifted towards the Willington Road frontage (Trenches 4 and 5). The pond was still a visible feature and, as mentioned above, appears on maps as late as 1905. In Trench 5, postholes and stakeholes are recorded. A number of undated features also occur in Trench 5 which may be contemporary with this activity. The group of postholes are in an approximate north-south alignment south of the brick drain. No similar structural features were identified north of the drain, though a tight cluster of post and stake holes occurred a little east of the main alignment. The north-south alignment extended almost 6m, though the southern three elements occurred in close proximity to each other, being separated by no more than 0.5m. No floor levels or trample deposits were identified in the area of these postholes. This suggests that if these elements represent a building rather than a fence line, then the structure may have been a shed or similar, perhaps with an elevated floor.

The absence of medieval, and earlier, features is unusual when taking into account the results of evaluation to the north of the site. This may indicate that the site was always maintained as open

ground, probably for pasture. It is also possible that Kirton began as a polyfocal village which, although centred on the church and market, may have had smaller centres. At the time of Domesday, two manors were recorded (Foster and Longley 1976), although later during the medieval period several centres are indicated by the four former halls in the vicinity of Kirton, including Orme Hall which lay northwest of the site.

Medieval pottery was recovered from the site, chiefly as residual material. It may have originated from known medieval activities to the north or arrived at the site through manuring scatters. The pottery is typical of the area and is derived from kilns at Toynton and Bourne with a single example from Lincoln. Of interest is a sherd from southwest France which illustrates the extent of trade through Boston during the medieval period.

Early post-medieval pottery is also derived from local sources although a fragment of Tudor Green ware indicates regional trade with the south of the country. Later pottery is generally mass produced from the Staffordshire potteries.

Environmental preservation at the site was limited to charred material from the basal fill of the pit in Trench 2. Charred plant remains, including grains, chaff and other seeds, were retrieved along with snails which indicate grassland in the vicinity.

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 6).

Period
Although undated features may be of the medieval period, most deposits encountered are post-medieval and later.

Rarity
None of the deposits encountered during the evaluation are considered to be rare or unusual. As such, they are not regionally or nationally significant although locally they demonstrate the development of Kirton through the post-medieval period.

Documentation
Records of archaeological sites and finds made in the Kirton area are maintained by the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record and within the files of the Boston Borough Community Archaeologist.

There is contemporary documentation for Kirton, although none was examined as part of this project.

This report is the first to consider the archaeological remains at the site. There is documentation regarding previous archaeological investigations within Kirton.

Group value
Remains of an 18th century building were revealed and these relate to contemporary standing structures in the vicinity. As a consequence, these have moderate group value. Other post-medieval remains were revealed but are of unclear function and associations and thus have low group value. Additionally, all the remains are broadly of a single period, the post-medieval, and hence have low chronological group value.

Survival/Condition
The deposits and features revealed during the investigation appeared to have survived in moderately good condition.

Fragility/Vulnerability
Development of the site is likely to impact into post-medieval, and possibly earlier, deposits. Consequently, archaeological remains present are vulnerable.

Diversity
Many of the remains revealed relate to agricultural use of the site or subsequent refuse disposal during the later post-medieval period. Settlement is considered probable, although was not identified during the evaluation.

Potential
Potential for archaeological remains of dates prior to the post-medieval period is considered low. However, the potential for other post-medieval remains in the area is moderate and includes the possibility of a building.

Environmental samples retrieved during this investigation include charred plant remains and snails indicative of grassland. This material survived in good condition and has considerable potential for understanding what crops were being grown on the fens during the early post-medieval period, an assemblage which is generally rare.

8. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Willington Road, Kirton, to determine the archaeological resource prior to development at the site. This was required as the site lay close to the medieval core of the town and in proximity to previously recorded archaeological remains.

No medieval remains were encountered during the evaluation. Early post-medieval remains comprise a pond, three pits and a brick drain, which may be associated with a yet unidentified building. The nature of these post-medieval remains suggest the area was under a pastoral agricultural regime.

Activity increased during the later post-medieval building when pits and stakeholes are evident in the archaeological record. These remains are evident on the Willington Road frontage.

A small collection of locally produced medieval pottery was retrieved from the site as residual finds. Post-medieval pottery was also recovered and includes locally produced wares as well as some regional imports from southern England and Staffordshire.

9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr I. Townsend of KMB Limited who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis on behalf of Ms. Boothby. The project was coordinated by Gary Taylor who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Rebecca Wilcox, the Boston Community Archaeologist, kindly permitted examination of the relevant parish files.

10. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
Site Supervisor: Paul Cope-Faulkner
Site Staff: Bob Garlant, Pete Watkins
Surveying: Rachael Hall
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
Photographic Reproduction: Sue Unsworth
Post-Excavation Analysis: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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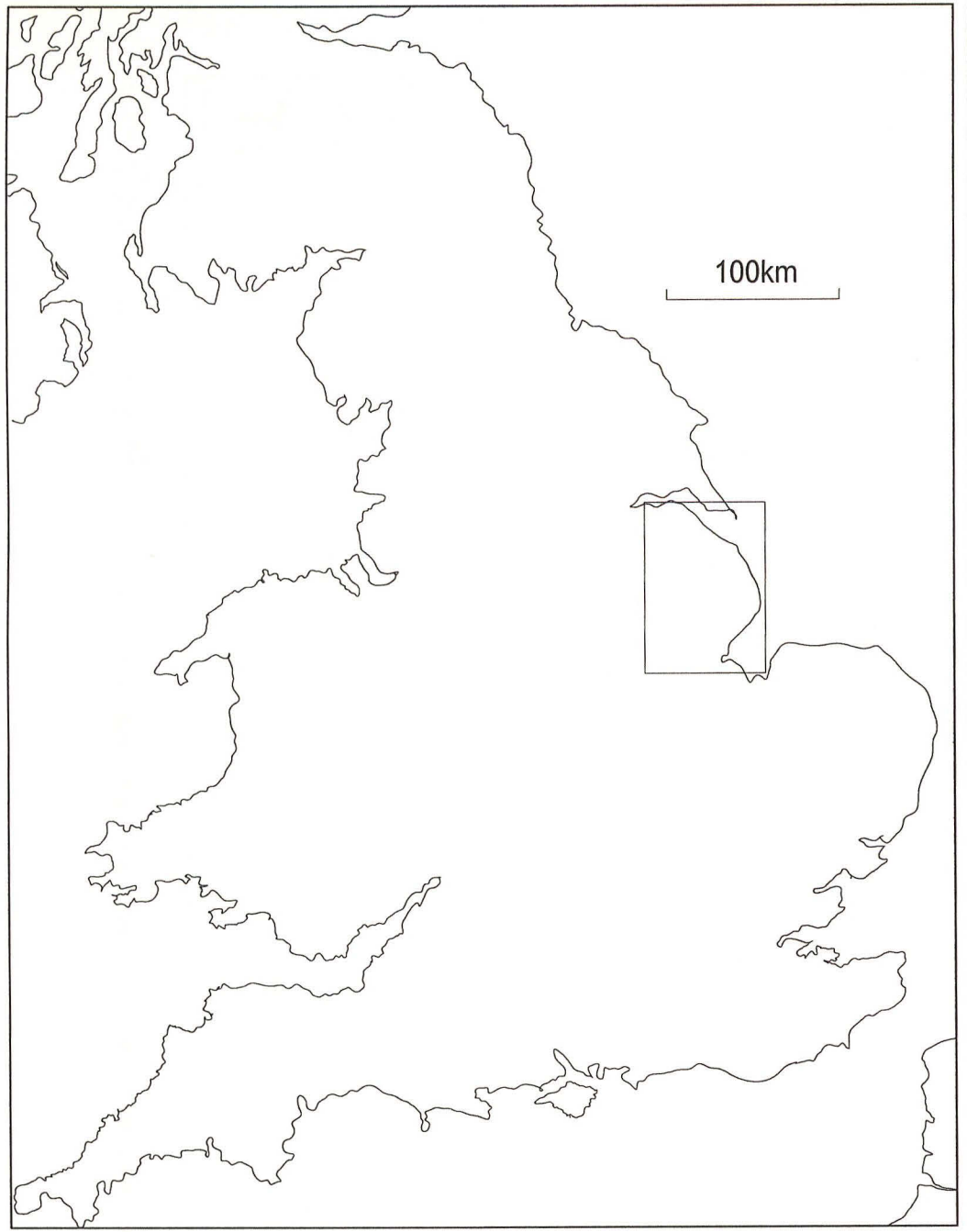
12. ABBREVIATIONS

APS	Archaeological Project Services
BGS	British Geological Survey
DoE	Department of the Environment
EAS	Engineering Archaeological Services
IFA	Institute of Field Archaeologists
JSAC	John Samuels Archaeological Consultants



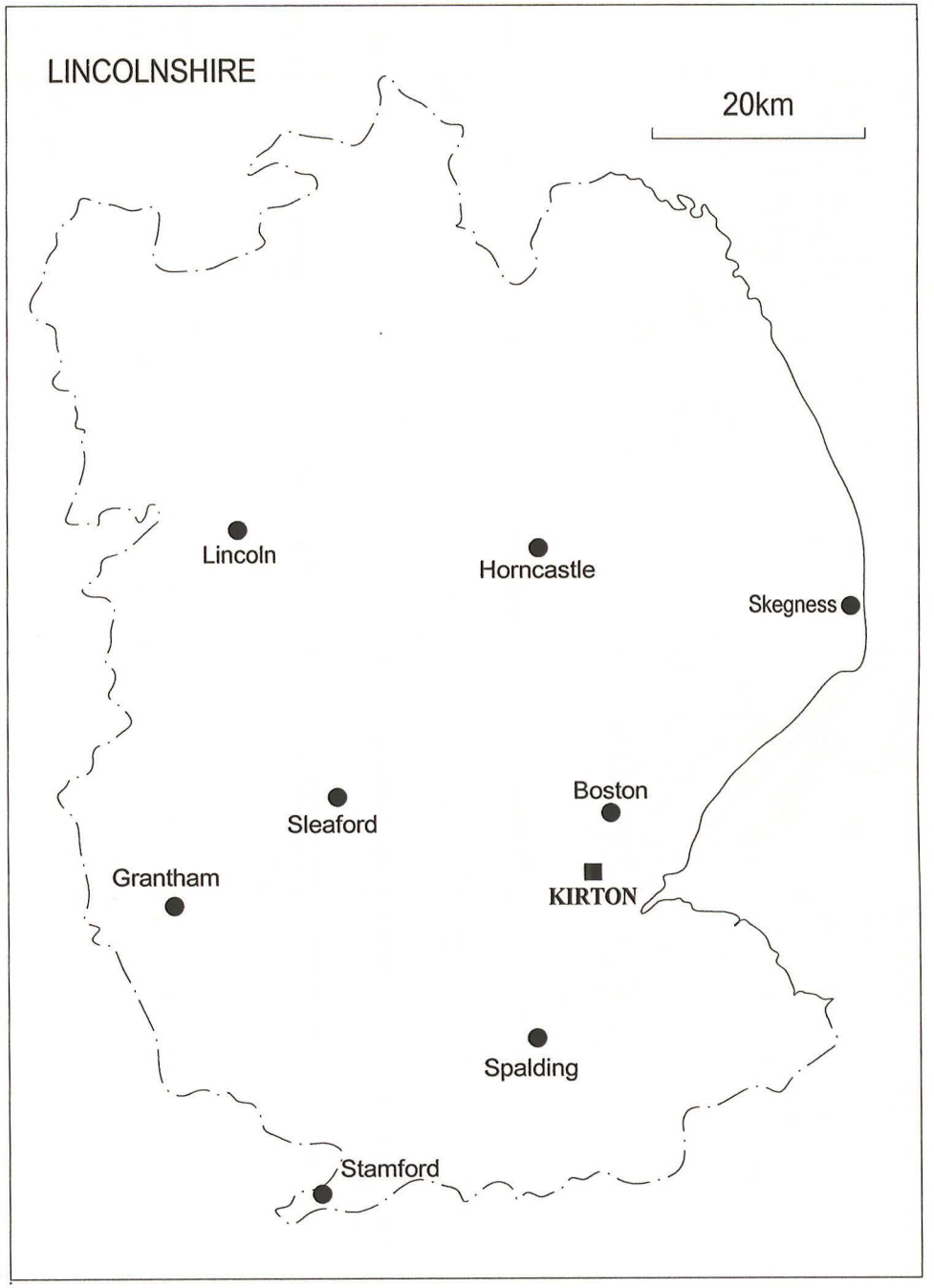


Figure 1 - General Location Plan

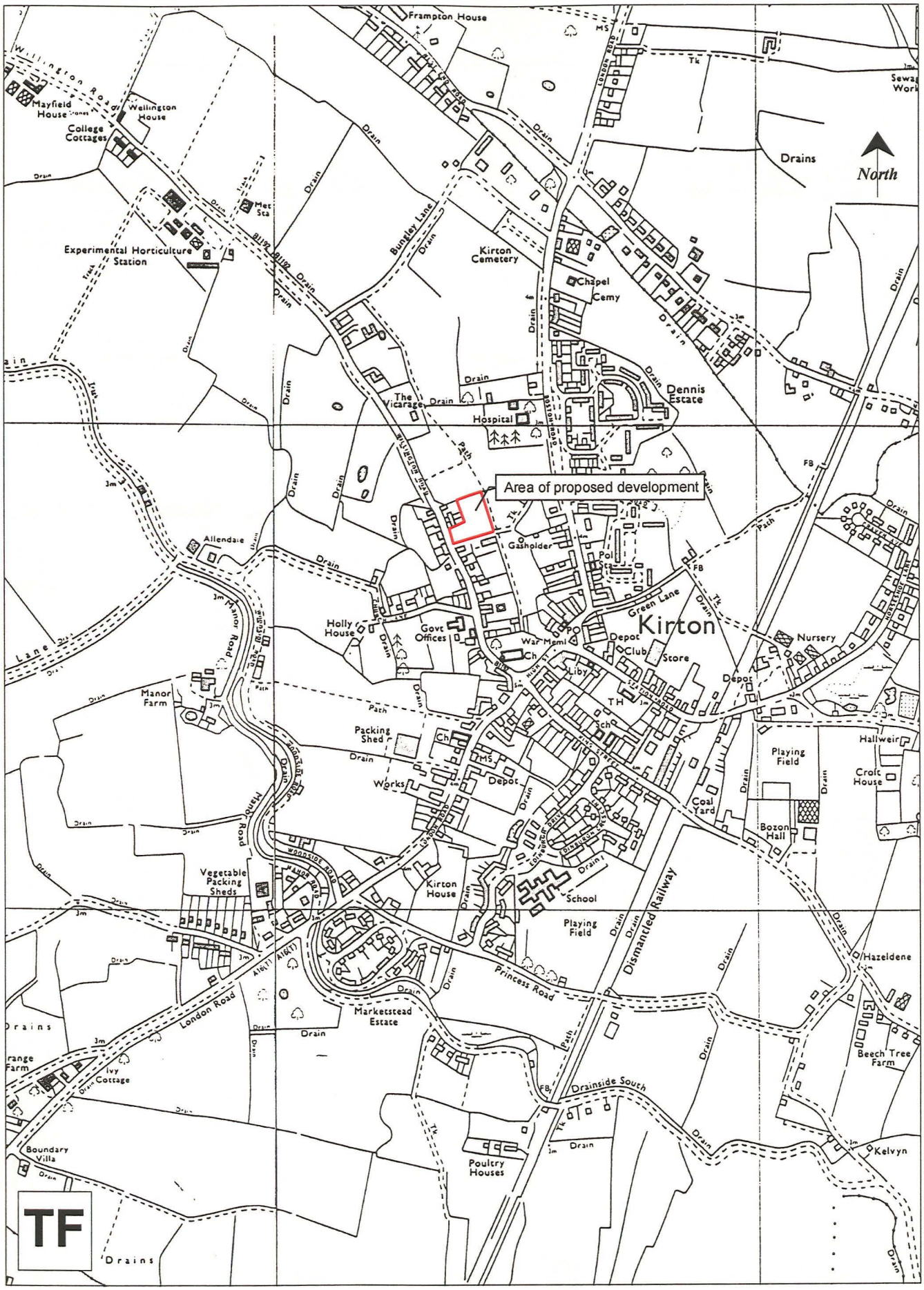


Figure 2 - Site location plan

Figure 3 - Trench location plan

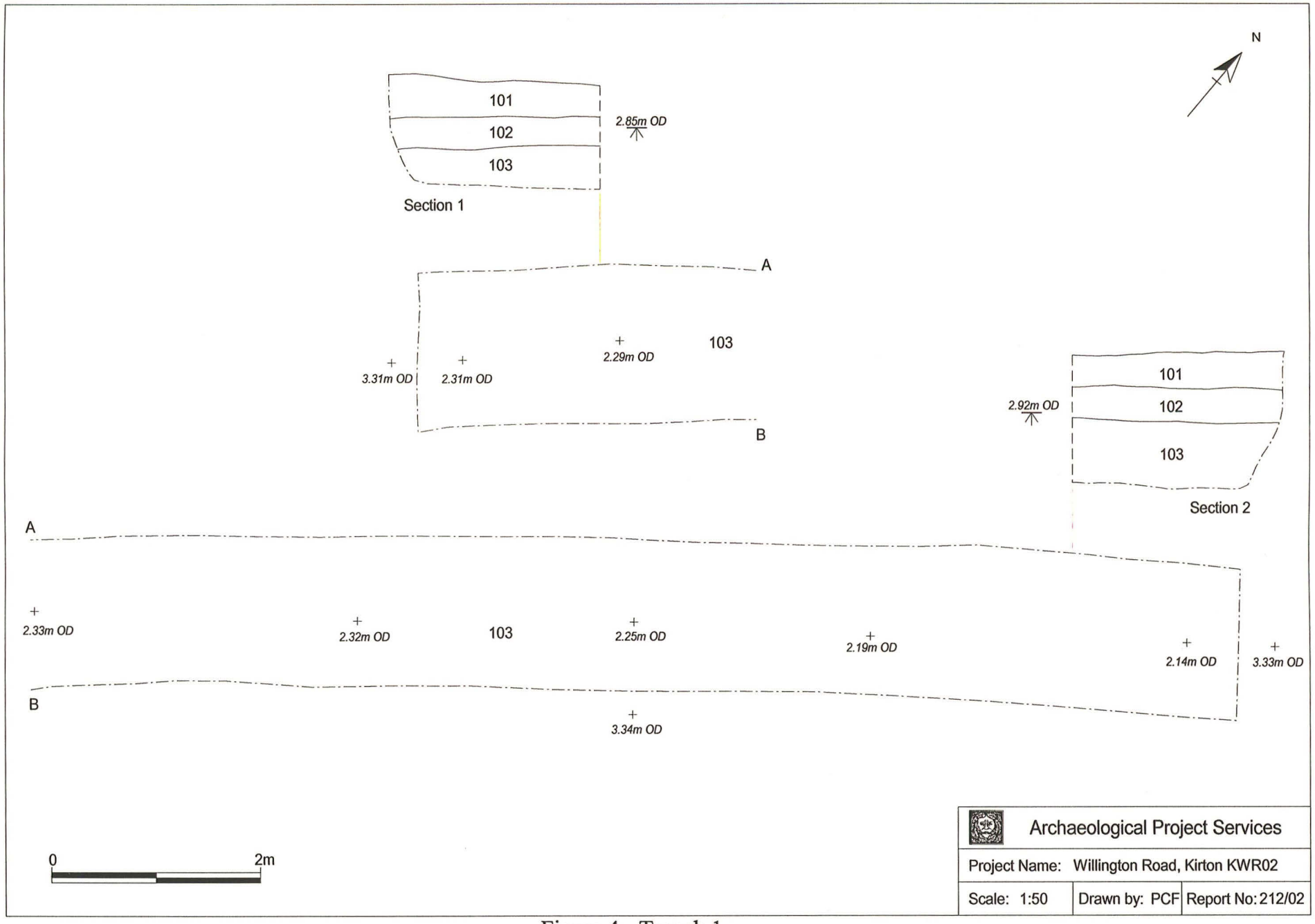


Figure 4 - Trench 1

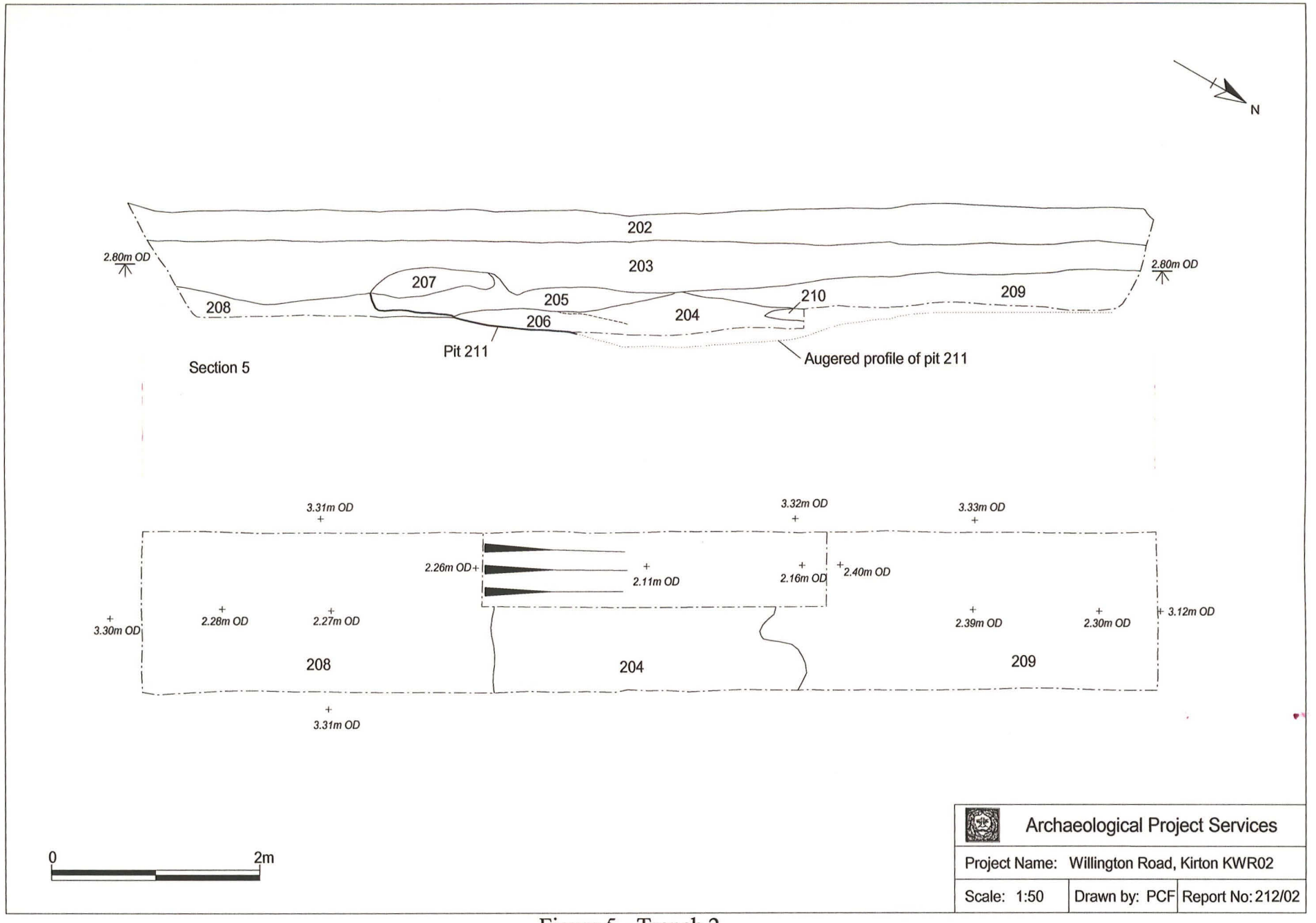


Figure 5 - Trench 2

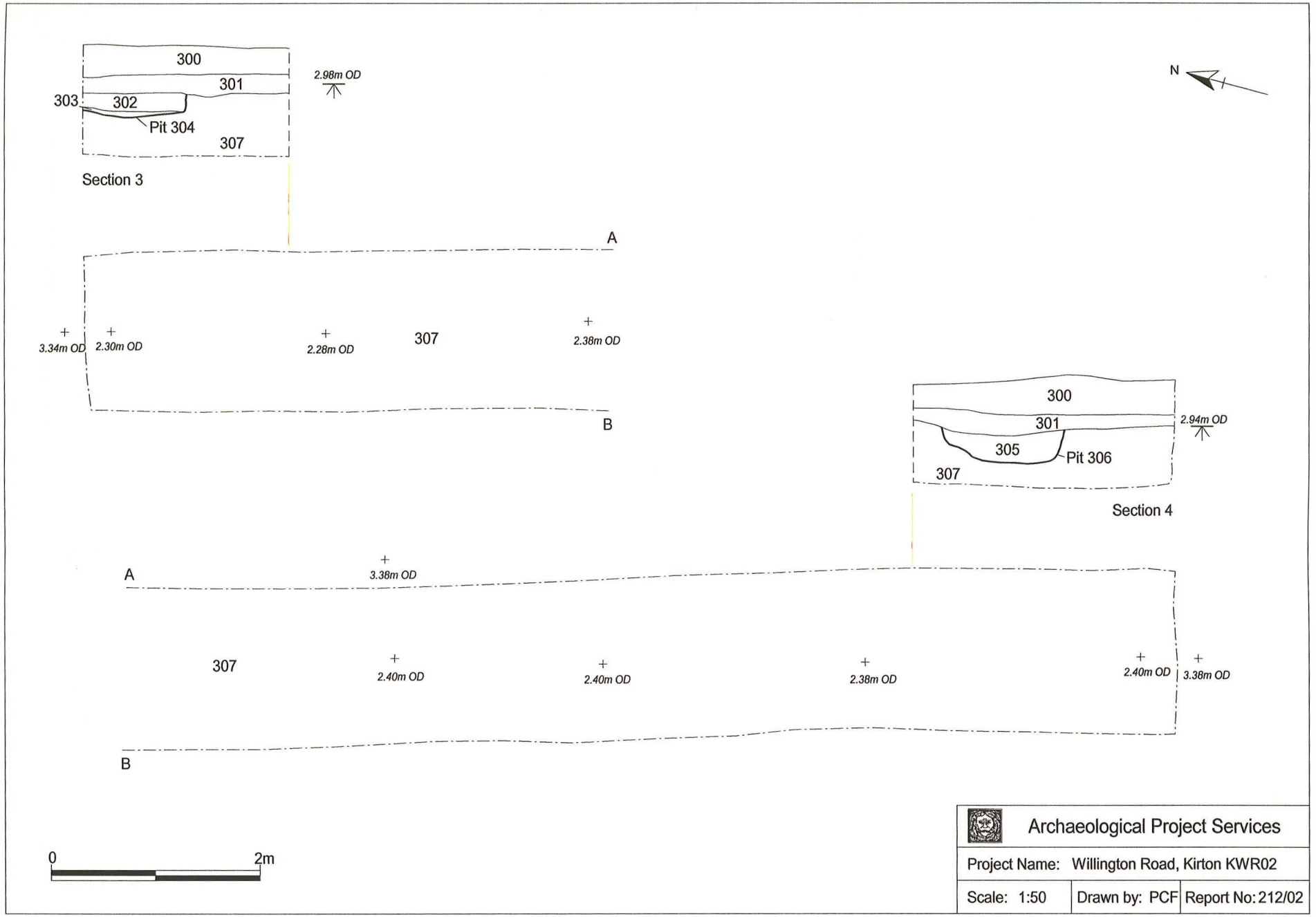


Figure 6 - Trench 3

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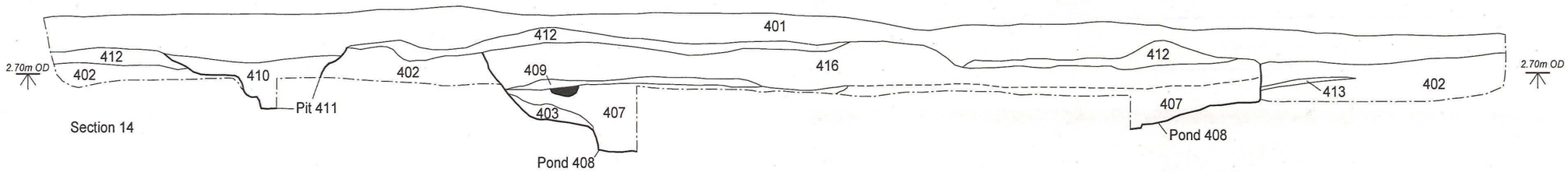

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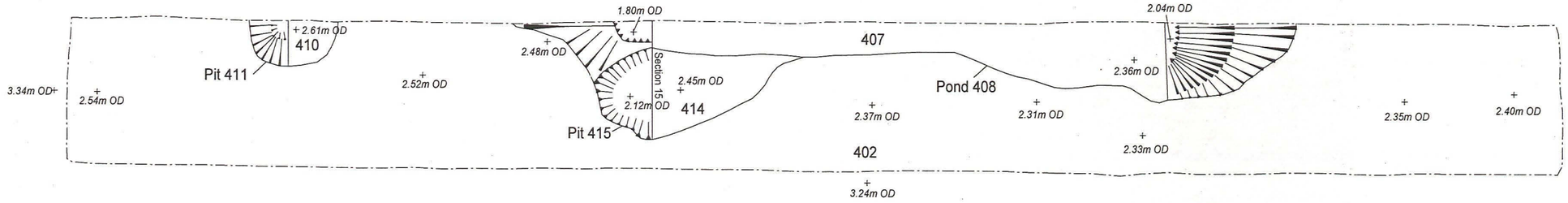

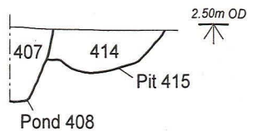

Section 15

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Project Name: Willington Road, Kirton KWR02		
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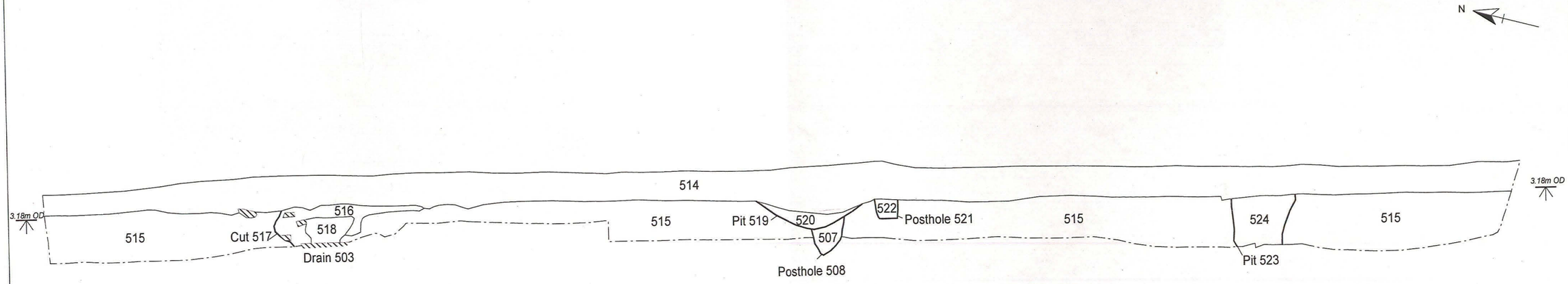
Figure 7 - Trench 4



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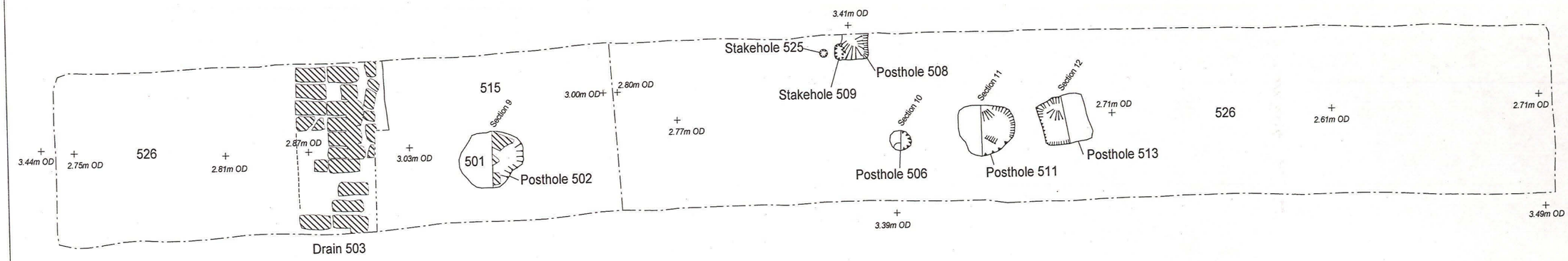

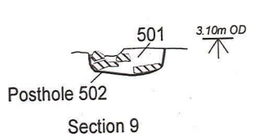

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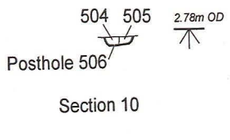

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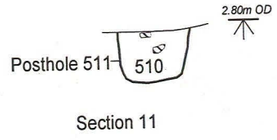

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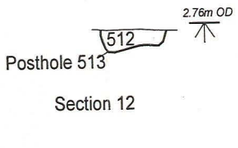


Section 12

Brick/tile

Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Willington Road, Kirton KWR02		
Scale: 1:40	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 212/02

Figure 8 - Trench 5

Plate 1 - General view across the site, looking west towards Willington Road

Plate 2 - Trench 1 showing the general sequence of natural, subsoil and topsoil deposits, looking northwest

Plate 3 - Trench 2 showing the early-post-medieval pit (211) prior to excavation, looking southeast

Plate 4 - Trench 2, partial view of Section 5 showing pit deposits, looking southwest

Plate 5 - Trench 3 after excavation, looking north

Plate 6 - Trench 4 after excavation, showing the early post-medieval pond (408) and later post-medieval pit (411), looking east

Plate 7 - Trench 5 showing the early post-medieval brick drain (503), looking south

Plate 8 - Trench 5, early post-medieval pit (502), looking north

Plate 9 - Trench 5 showing partial view of Section 13 with later post-medieval pits (508), (519) and (511) with stakeholes (509) and (525), looking east

Appendix 1

LAND TO REAR OF 35 WILLINGTON ROAD, KIRTON, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

1 SUMMARY

1.1 *This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land to the rear of Willington Road, Kirton, Lincolnshire.*

1.2 *The proposed development lies in an area of considerable archaeological interest. Previous investigations immediately to the north revealed Late Saxon and medieval remains. Additionally, earthworks of unknown origin and function have been identified just to the northwest.*

1.3 *Planning permission has been applied for residential development of the site. As the area is archaeologically sensitive the planning authority require that archaeological investigations, comprising programmes of geophysical survey and trial trenching, be undertaken to assist the determination of the application.*

1.4 *Geophysical survey will be the first stage of the investigation and will guide the positioning of the trial trenches. The trenches will be opened mechanically and the investigated manually. Archaeological remains will be recording in writing, graphically and photographically.*

1.5 *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 to the rear of 35 Willington Road, Kirton, Lincolnshire.

2.1.1 The document contains the following parts:

2.1.2 Overview

2.1.3 The archaeological and natural setting

2.1.4 Stages of work and methodologies to be used

2.1.5 List of specialists

2.1.6 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

3.1 Kirton is located 6km southwest of Boston in the administrative district of Boston Borough, Lincolnshire. The site is about 300m north of the village centre, on the eastern side of Willington Road at nation grid reference TF304 388.

3.2 The site is an L-shaped block of land covering an area of approximately 0.56ha

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 The site is the subject of a planning application (B/02/0077/OUTL) submitted to Boston Borough Council for residential development. An archaeological evaluation is required for the determination of the application. The trial trenching will follow geophysical survey of the site.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 The site and surrounding area is on flat level land at *c.*4m OD. Soils at the site are alluvial gleys of the Tanvats Association developed on marine alluvium (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 319).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

6.1 Archaeological investigations have previously been undertaken immediately north of the current site. Those investigations included geophysical survey that identified widespread magnetic anomalies signifying boundaries, pits, burnt structures and possible buildings. Most of the geophysical signals were in the western part of the site, nearest the road. Subsequent trial trench excavations largely confirmed the geophysics results and established that the road-side remains represented occupation of the area from the 10th century on, and probably abandoned in about the 14th century. Historical maps show the current investigation area has been open ground since the mid 19th century, and that a pond was located in the angle of the L-shaped site in the early 20th century.

6.2 Earthworks have been identified on the opposite side of Willington Road, just to the northwest of the current site. These are, however, undated and of unknown function.

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 five (5) trenches, 4 x 15m x 1.6m and 1x 10m by 1.6m trenches, equivalent to 2% of the 0.56ha site. Trench positions will be guided by geophysical survey but will investigate the full extent of the site. 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 Methodology

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

9.4 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.

9.5 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.

9.6 The spoil generated during the investigation will be mounded along the edges of the trial trenches with the topsoil being kept separate from the other material excavated for subsequent backfilling.

9.7 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.

11 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, KMB; the Community Archaeologist, Boston Borough Council; Boston Borough 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 Community Archaeologist, Boston Borough Council. 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.

Task	Body to be undertaking the work
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; or
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	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
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 up to 4 staff, a supervisor and up to 3 assistants, and to take five (5) days.

18.2 Post-excavation analysis and report production is expected to take 10 person-days within a notional programme of 7 days. A project officer or supervisor will undertake most of the analysis, with assistance from the finds supervisor and CAD illustrator. Two days of specialist time are allotted in the project budget. Should it be necessary to process environmental samples, or large quantities of pottery, production of the report may require an extra time, depending on the availability of specialists.

18.3 Contingency

18.3.1 Contingencies have been specified in the budget. These include: pump (not expected); sampling/analysis of environmental/waterlogged remains (expected to be some level of sampling but necessity and amount cannot be pre-determined); Medieval-later pottery- large quantities (moderate amount expected and allowed for); non-pottery artefacts/industrial remains-large quantities (moderate amounts expected and allowed for; faunal remains -large quantities (moderate amounts expected and allowed for); Conservation and/or Other unexpected remains or artefacts.

18.3.2 Other than the pump, the activation of any contingency requirement will be by the archaeological curator (Boston Borough Community Archaeologist), 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**

Appendix 2

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

By I.P. Brookes, Engineering Archaeological Services Ltd

NGR Centred on TF 30413 38814

Location and Topography

The site lies between numbers 31 and 35 Willington Road, Kirton, Lincolnshire. The survey area was "L" shaped, extending behind properties 35 to 41, Willington Road. The eastern edge of the survey area runs along a footpath, adjacent to the "five-a-side" football pitch of the Kirton Leisure Centre. The south west corner of the development area was not available as this was covered with a tarmac drive and wooden buildings. The field had been allowed to grow a sparse vegetation cover since it was last ploughed. The site is basically flat.

Archaeological Background

The survey area lies within the village of Kirton. Work on a development immediately to the north revealed a number of archaeological features. Archaeological conditions were therefore placed on the development by the Lincolnshire Planning Service.

Aims of Survey

To gather sufficient information to establish the location and extent of any archaeological features within the development area and, if possible, to characterise the archaeology located.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Only a few anomalies were located within the survey area. The area adjacent to Willington Road was disturbed, particularly near to the standing buildings, however three possible linear anomalies and a large discrete anomaly were defined. This large discrete anomaly may be the result of high temperature feature, such as a kiln.

Areas of modern disturbance were also located.

Methods

The survey was undertaken using parts of eight 30 x 30 m grid squares laid out as in Figure 1. Readings were taken at 0.5 m intervals along transects 1 m apart. These transects were walked in a zigzag pattern.

The survey was carried out using a Geoscan FM 36 Fluxgate Gradiometer with a ST 1 sample trigger. Grey Scale and X - Y Plots were produced using Geoscan Research "Geoplot" v. 3.00e.

Survey Results:

Area

A total of eight 30 x 30 m squares, covering approximately 0.6 hectare, were laid out in a single block (Figure 1).

Display

The results are displayed as Grey Scale Image and as X-Y Trace Plots. Figures 2 - 3. A major anomaly in Grids 3 and 6 is also displayed as a filled contour plot (Figure 4)

Results:

Areas of modern, ferromagnetic response were located along the eastern and southern edges of the survey area. These were related to the fence of iron bands along these two sides of the field. A large area of ferromagnetic response was also located near to the upstanding wooden buildings. This area also contained dumps of modern rubbish. A third area of ferromagnetic response was located in Grid 3. This was probably a result of an iron object within the plough soil. These disturbed areas area shown in blue on Figure 5.

Three feint linear anomalies were located. The clearest of these runs approximately ENE - WSW and continues the line of a modern property boundary. It is likely that this represents an old field boundary. The other two linear anomalies are less clear and do not appear to align with the present field system and may therefore be of archaeological origins. These anomalies are shown in red on Figure 5.

The area adjacent to Willington Road is moderately disturbed, this may be the result of modern rubbish and disturbance associated with its proximity to the road and the sheds in the south west corner of the development area, but may be the result of archaeological activity.

A large discrete anomaly was located at the northern end of the survey area in Grids 3 and 6. It was approximately 10 x 7 m in size and roughly oval in shape. Detailed analysis (Figure 4) shows this anomaly to have a high positive central area with a consistent low on its northern edge. This dipolar response is suggestive of a high temperature feature such as a kiln, furnace or large hearth. The other possibility is that this may be a backfilled pond with a large metal object, or series of objects within its fill.

Magnetic Susceptibility

It was possible to take soil samples in order to assess the magnetic susceptibility of the soils. It was not possible to obtain a subsoil sample for comparison .

Sample	Volume susceptibility $\mathbf{c}_v$	Mass susceptibility $\mathbf{c}_m$
Grid 1	71	68.3
Grid 3	74	70.5
Grid 5	61	61.0

The susceptibilities as measured are consistent and moderately low suggesting that conditions, whilst acceptable, were not ideal for magnetic survey.

Conclusions

It is a fundamental axiom of archaeological geophysics that the absence of features in the survey data does not mean that there is no archaeology present in the survey area only that the techniques used have not detected it.

Whilst the condition within the survey area were not ideal it was possible to locate and define a few anomalies of possible archaeological origin. The linear anomalies are feint and one of these is probably an old field boundary crossing the site.

Of particular note is the large discrete anomaly in the northern end of the survey area. Its form may suggest that it is the result of a high temperate feature such as a kiln, furnace or hearth. The lack of slags, or suitable magnetic responses would suggest this was not the result of metalworking on the site, although tile, pottery or other ceramic production are possibilities. The AD 1905 Ordnance Survey map of the area, shows a number of ponds within the general area and it is possible that the large anomaly may be a backfilled pond. If so, however, it must contain a significant quantity of magnetically active materials such as metal objects or fired clay (?bricks).

The south west corner of the survey area and along the fence lines were disturbed with modern anomalies.

Techniques of Geophysical Survey:

Magnetometry:

This relies on variations in soil magnetic susceptibility and magnetic remenance which often result from past human activities. Using a Fluxgate Gradiometer these variations can be mapped, or a rapid evaluation of archaeological potential can be made by scanning.

Resistivity:

This relies on variations in the electrical conductivity of the soil and subsoil which in general is related to soil moisture levels. As such, results can be seasonally dependant. Slower than Magnetometry this technique is best suited to locating positive features such as buried walls that give rise to high resistance anomalies.

Resistance Tomography

Builds up a vertical profile or pseudosection through deposits by taking resistivity readings along a transect using a range of different probe spacings

Magnetic Susceptibility:

Variations in soil magnetic susceptibility occur naturally but can be greatly enhanced by human activity. Information on the enhancement of magnetic susceptibility can be used to ascertain the suitability of a site for magnetic survey and for targeting areas of potential archaeological activity when extensive sites need to be investigated. Very large areas can be rapidly evaluated and specific areas identified for detailed survey by gradiometer.

Instrumentation:

1. Fluxgate Gradiometer - Geoscan FM36

2. Resistance Meter - Geoscan RM4/DL10

3. Magnetic Susceptibility Meter - Bartington MS2

4. Geopulse Imager 25 - Campus

Methodology:

For Gradiometer and Resistivity Survey 20m x 20m or 30m x 30m grids are laid out over the survey area. Gradiometer readings are logged at either 0.5m or 1m intervals along traverses 1m apart. Resistance meter readings are logged at 1m intervals. Data is down-loaded to a laptop computer in the field for initial configuration and analysis. Final analysis is carried out back at base.

For scanning transects are laid out at 10m intervals. Any anomalies noticed are where possible traced and recorded on the location plan.

For Magnetic Susceptibility survey a large grid is laid out and readings logged at 20m intervals along traverses 20m apart, data is again configured and analysed on a laptop computer.

Copyright:

Figure 1: Kirton, Willington Road Location Scale 1:2500	Reproduce from the Ordnance Survey map with permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown copyright License number AL 100014722

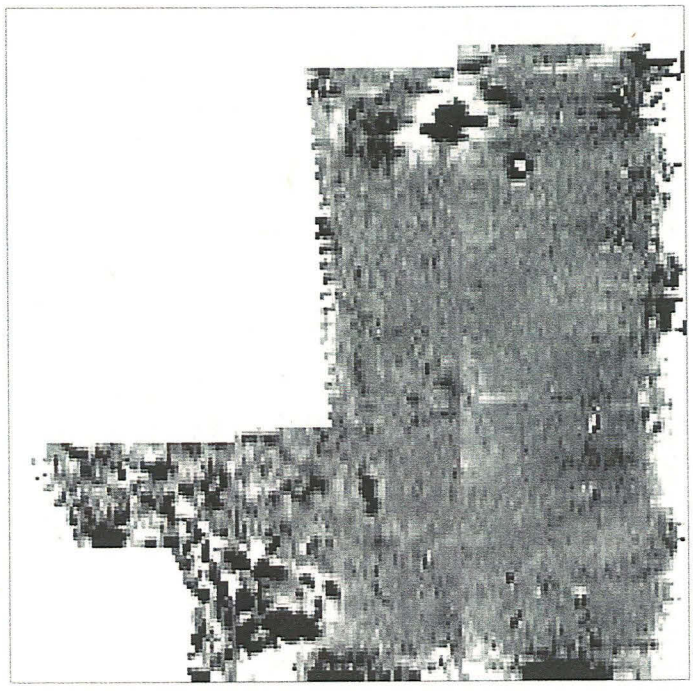


Figure 2: Kirton Willington Road
Grey Scale Plot
Scale 1:1000

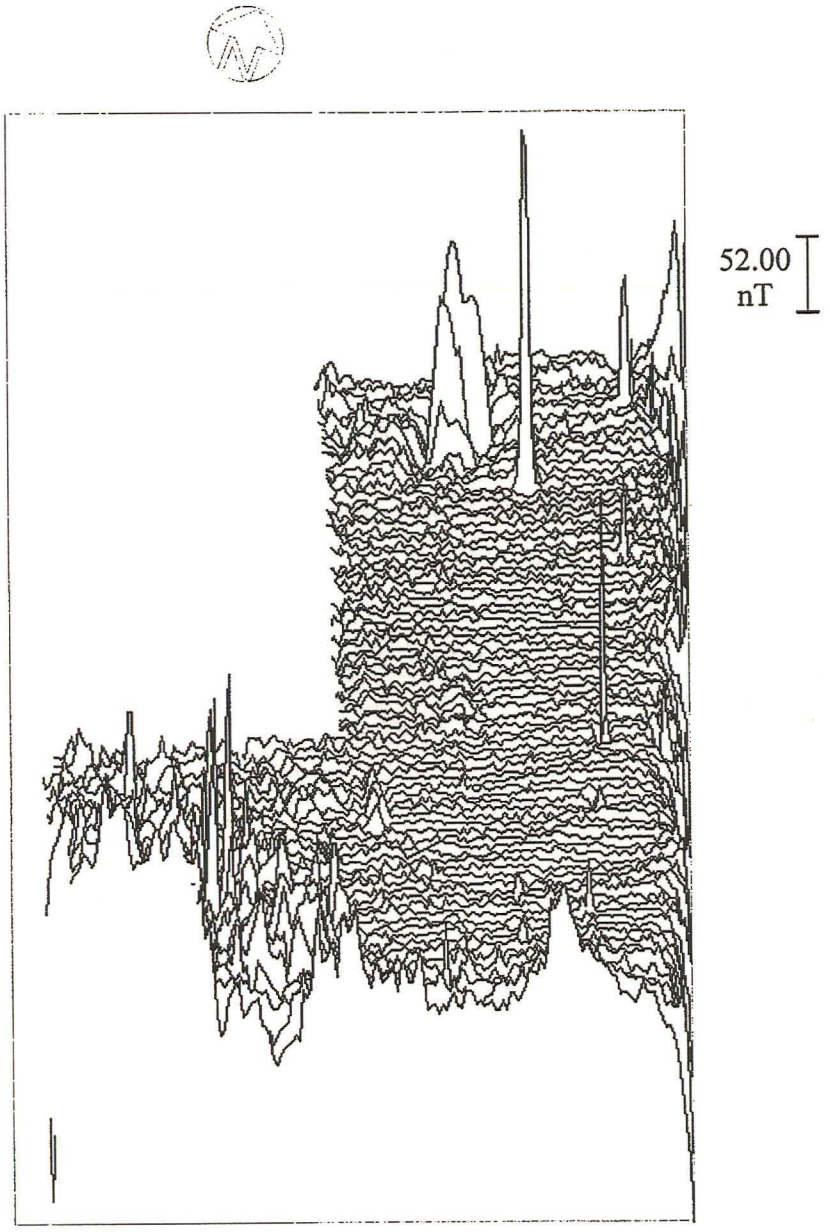


Figure 3: Kirton Willington Road
X - Y Plot
Scale 1:1000

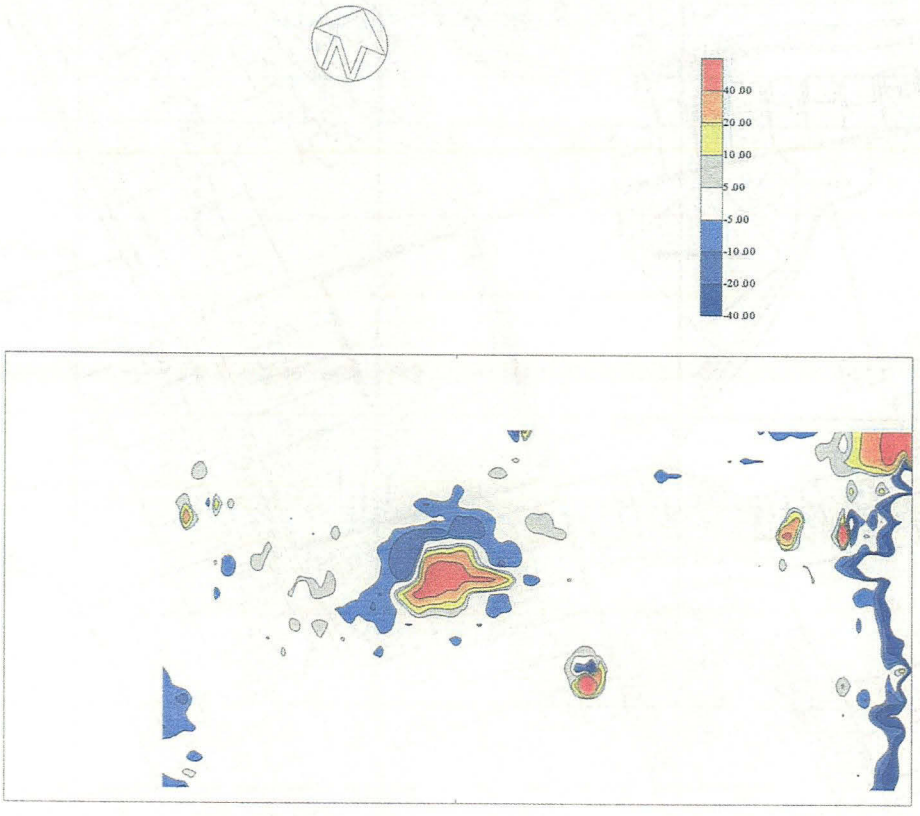
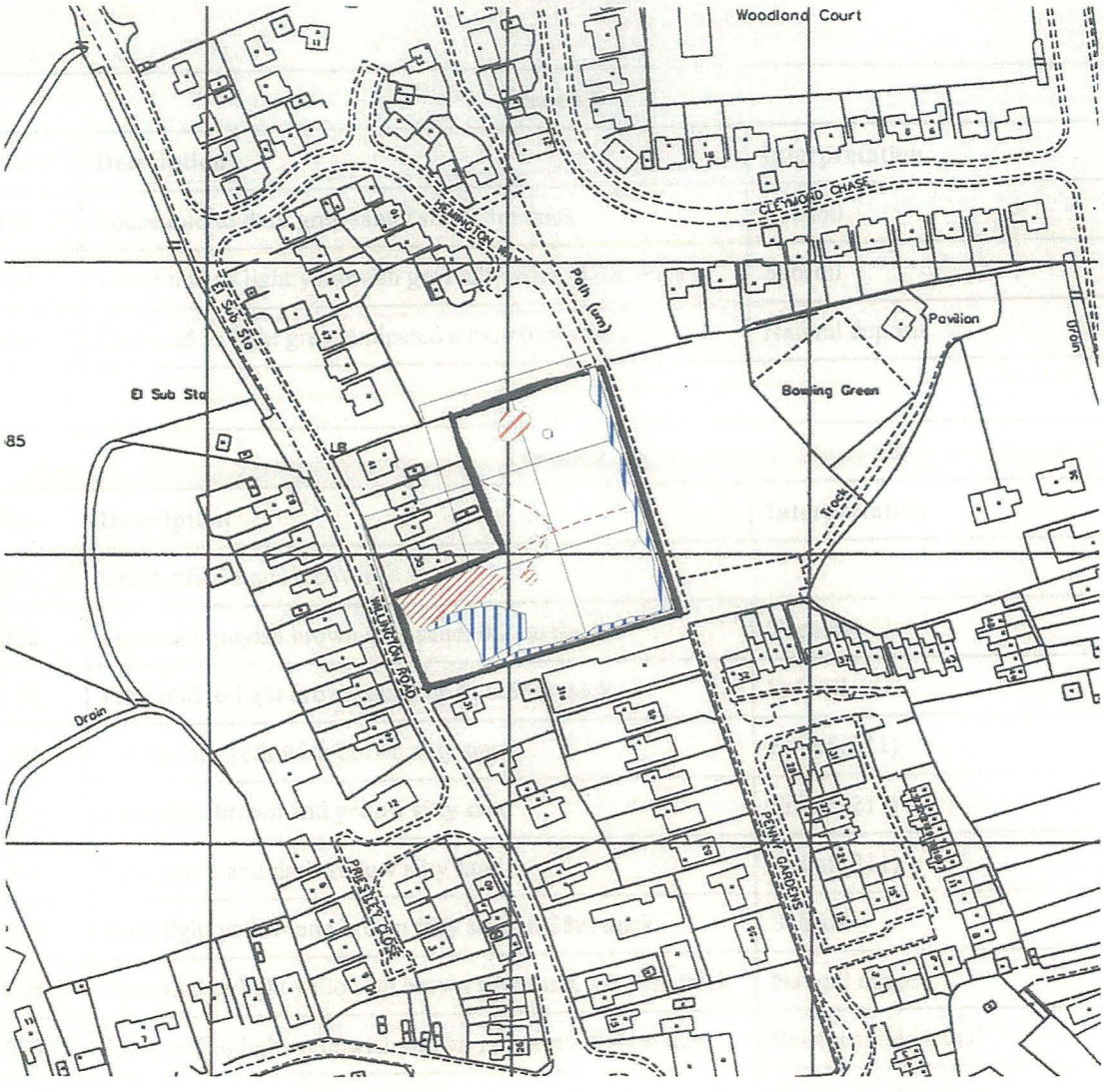


Figure 4: Kirton Willington Road
Filled Contour Plot of Large Anomaly
Scale 1:500



Possible archaeology

Probable archaeology

Probable discrete archaeological anomaly

Areas of mixed response

Ferromagnetic responses

Figure 5: Kirton, Willington Road
Interpretation
Scale 1:2500

Appendix 3

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench 1		
No.	**Description**	**Interpretation**
101	Loose mid to dark grey sandy silt, 0.4m thick	Topsoil
102	Loose mid to light yellowish grey silty sand, 0.3m thick	Subsoil
103	Firm mid to light grey laminated silts, >0.4m thick	Natural deposit

Trench 2		
No.	**Description**	**Interpretation**
201	Unstratified finds recovery	
202	Firm mid greyish brown silty sand, 0.25m thick	Topsoil
203	Firm mid to light brown sand, up to 0.65m thick	Subsoil
204	Loose dark yellowish brown silty sand	Fill of (211)
205	Firm dark brown and yellow silty sand	Fill of (211)
206	Firm black and dark yellow silty sand	Fill of (211)
207	Firm light yellow and brown silty sand, 0.28m thick	Subsoil
208	Firm mid to light yellowish brown silty sand, >0.26m thick	Natural deposit
209	Firm mid to light yellowish brown silty sand, 0.44m thick	Redeposited natural
210	Firm mid to light yellowish brown silty sand, 100mm thick	Redeposited natural
211	?Sub-circular feature, 5.5m wide by 1.3m deep, gradual sides and concave base	Pit

Trench 3		
No.	**Description**	**Interpretation**
300	Firm mid greyish brown silty sand, 0.3m thick	Topsoil
301	Firm mid brown sand, 0.2m thick	Subsoil
302	Firm mottled dark yellow and mid brown sand	Fill of (304)
303	Friable black silty sand	Fill of (304)
306	Feature, 1.18m wide by 0.26m deep, stepped side to north and steep to south, flat base	Pit
304	?Rectangular feature, >1m long by >90mm wide by 0.17m deep, near vertical sides and flat base	Pit

No.	Description	Interpretation
305	Firm mid brown silty sand	Fill of (306)
307	Firm light brownish yellow laminated fine sand, >0.6m thick	Natural deposit

Trench 4		
No.	**Description**	**Interpretation**
400	Unstratified finds recovery	
401	Compact mid grey to dark brown sandy silt, 0.5m thick	Topsoil
402	Loose mid to dark yellowish brown silty sand, >0.4m thick	Natural deposit
403	Loose mid to light grey sandy silt	Fill of (408)
404	Cancelled context	
405	Loose mid grey to black sandy silt with dog burial	Fill of (406)
406	Feature, 0.3m wide by 0.2m deep, concave sides and rounded base	Pet burial
407	Loose mid to light greyish brown sandy silt	Fill of (408)
408	Linear feature, aligned east-west, 4m long by >0.7m wide by 0.7m deep, near vertical sides and flat base	Pond
409	Loose black to mid grey silty sand with frequent coal/charcoal, 100mm thick	Dumped deposit
410	Loose mid brown to dark grey sandy silt	Fill of (411)
411	Circular feature, 1.9m wide by 0.5m deep, uneven sides and rounded base	Pit
412	Loose mid to dark yellowish brown silty sand, 0.2m thick	Dumped deposit
413	Loose light yellowish brown sand, 120mm thick	Lens within (402)
414	Loose mid to light grey sandy silt	Fill of (415)
415	?Oval feature, >1.68m long by 0.91m wide by 0.36m deep, concave sides and rounded base	Pit
416	Loose mid to light greyish brown sandy silt, 0.4m thick	Levelling deposit

Trench 5		
No.	**Description**	**Interpretation**
500	Unstratified finds recovery	
501	Friable mid yellowish brown silty sand with brick/tile	Fill of (502)
502	Irregular feature, 0.55m long by 0.51m wide by 0.17m deep, near vertical sides and rounded base	Posthole
503	Brick (263mm x 128mm x 50mm) structure, aligned east west, >1.6m long by 0.72m wide, laid flat with two courses apparent	Brick drain
504	Loose dark grey organic sand (post-pipe)	Fill of (506)
505	Firm mid brown silty sand	Fill of (506)
506	Circular feature, 0.2m diameter by 50mm deep, near vertical sides and slightly sloping base	Posthole
507	Firm mid brown silty sand with light brown mottling	Fill of (508)
508	Rectangular feature, >0.27m long by 0.27m wide by 0.35m deep,, vertical sides with tapered base	Posthole
509	Sub-circular feature, 0.13m long by 80mm wide by 0.17m deep, vertical sides and tapered point, no fill	Stakehole
510	Firm mixed light to mid brown with greyish brown sandy silt	Fill of (511)
511	Sub-circular feature, 0.5m long by 0.47m wide by 0.34m deep, near vertical sides and flat base	Pit/posthole
512	Soft mid brown sandy silt	Fill of (513)
513	Square feature, 0.43m long by 0.42m wide and 0.15m deep, near vertical sides and sloping base	Posthole
514	Firm mid greyish brown silty sand, 0.3m deep	Topsoil
515	Firm mid brown silty sand, 0.5m deep	Subsoil
516	Friable black coal, 0.23m deep	Dumped deposit
517	Linear feature, aligned east-west, 1.1m wide by 0.28m deep, unclear sides, contains (503)	Cut for brick drain
518	Firm mid brown silty sand	Backfill of (517)
519	Feature, 0.77m wide by 0.15m deep, gradual sides and concave base	Pit
520	Firm mid to dark greyish brown silty sand	Fill of (519)
521	Feature, 0.18m wide by 0.15m deep, near vertical sides and flat base	Posthole
522	Firm mid greyish brown silty sand	Fill of (521)
523	Feature, 0.75m wide by >0.43m deep, near vertical sides, not fully excavated	Pit
524	Firm mid brown silty sand	Fill of (523)
525	Circular feature, 80mm diameter by >100mm deep, vertical sides and tapering base	Stakehole
526	Firm mid yellowish brown sand	Natural deposit

Appendix 4

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 78 fragments of pottery weighing 2597g was recovered from 9 separate contexts. In addition to the pottery, a large quantity of other items, mostly brick/tile and iron, comprising 73 objects weighing a total of 14510g, was retrieved. Faunal remains were also collected.

Provenance

The material was recovered from the topsoil (202), subsoil (203), pond fill (407), dumped deposit (409), pit or posthole fills (204), (405), (410), (501), (507), (510), a brick drain (503) and as unstratified finds (201), (400), (500). Artefacts were recovered from Trenches 2, 4 and 5 only.

Most of the pottery was made in moderate proximity to Kirton, at Bourne 27km to the southwest, and at Toynton All Saints, 27km to the northeast. There is a single probable foreign import, from France, and regional imports from Staffordshire and probably Surrey/Hampshire.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: Pottery

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
201	TOY?	Toynton All Saints ware? jug	1	11	13th-15th century
203	TOY	Toynton All Saints ware, bowl/pancheon, 13th-15th century	1	60	13th-16th century
	TOY?	Toynton All Saints ware? burnt, 13th-16th century	1	31	
204	BOU	Bourne D ware pancheon, 16th-17th century	1	83	16th-17th century
	TB	Toynton/Bolingbroke ware, incl. 4 separate pancheons and jug; 3 (link) severely burnt internally, 15th-17th century	14 (3 link)	1053	
400	LPM	Pink glazed earthenware. 19th-20th century	4(link)	23	19th-20th century
	WHITE	White gazed tableware, 19th century	1	6	
	TPW	Blue and white transfer printed tableware, 19th century	2	5	
	LPM	Mocha ware, 19th century	1	7	
	NOTS	Nottingham salt-glazed stoneware tankard, 18th century	1	4	
	WS	White salt-glazed stoneware teapot, 18th century	1	5	
	TGE	Tin glazed earthenware, 18th century	1	3	
	GRE	Glazed red earthenware, 17th century	1	10	
	BL	Red painted earthenware, black glazed, 18th century	1	12	
	TOY	Toynton All Saints ware, incl jug, 13th-15th century	2	18	
407	BOUA	Bourne A/B ware, 1 sooted externally, 12th-14th century	3	286	16th – 17th century
	TOY	Toynton All Saints ware, 13th-15th century	2	40	
	LSW1/2	Lincoln ware jug, 13th-14th century	1	2	

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
	BOU	Bourne D ware pancheon, 16th-17th century	1	79	
409	SAIM	Saintonge mottled ware? jug, mid 13th-15th century	1	1	16th-17th century
	BOU	Bourne D ware, 16th- 17th century	1	3	
410	BOUA	Bourne A/B ware, encrusted internally, 12th- 14th century	1	3	15th-16th century
	TUDG	?Tudor Green ware, 15th- 16th century	1	2	
416	MP	Midlands Purple ware, 17th-18th century	2	44	19th century
	GRE	Glazed red earthenware, 17th-18th century	1	53	
	LERTH	Red painted, yellow glazed earthenware pancheon, 18th century	2(link)	60	
	LERTH	Red painted, brown glazed earthenware, abraded, 18th century	1	22	
	BL	Red painted earthenware black glazed pancheon, 18th-early 19th century	4	444	
	TPW	Blue and white transfer printed saucer, 19th century	14 (link)	153	
500	MP	Midlands Purple ware, 17th century	1	9	19th century
	BL	Blackware, Staffordshire, 17th century	1	4	
	BL	Red painted earthenware, black glazed, 18th century	1	5	
	WS	White salt glazed stoneware, 18th century	1	1	
	LSTON	Brown stoneware, 19th century	1	5	
510	CRMW ARE	Creamware, late 18th-early 19th century	2	4	19th century
	WHITE	White glazed tableware, 19th century	1	1	
	PORC	Soft paste porcelain, 19th century	1	1	
	LSTON	Brown salt glazed stoneware, late 18th-19th century	1	44	

Investigations were previously carried out on land immediately adjacent and provided an artefact assemblage that may be compared and contrasted with the present collection. Less than 17% (13 of the 78 pieces) of the present pottery group is medieval in date though this aspect of the assemblage is provided almost entirely by wares from Bourne and Toynton All Saints. This medieval pottery is the earliest material found and there are no pieces pre-dating the 12th century. By contrast, the investigations previously carried out immediately to the northwest yielded a pottery assemblage commencing in the Late Saxon period, probably the 9th century, and was dominated (over 60% of the collection) by Late Saxon to medieval ceramics (Young 2000). The dichotomy between the two sites is unusual but may indicate that Saxo-Norman occupation, and associated refuse disposal, was very restricted in extent to the north of the current investigation area. However, in the medieval period, the collections from the two adjacent sites are broadly similar, both dominated by wares from Toynton All Saints and Bourne (A and B wares). Similarly, both sites have only rare foreign and regional imports at this time, a French piece and a Surrey/Hampshire sherd from the present investigation and a single German stoneware, a Northamptonshire fragment and two pieces from the Humber area from the evaluation to the north (*ibid.*).

Examination of the ceramic assemblage from the site to the north indicates a possible break in settlement in the late medieval to early post-medieval period, the 14th-15th centuries (*ibid.*). This may also occur at the current site, though is less obvious.

The post-medieval phases of both sites are dominated by Toynton/Bolingbroke wares, supplemented by Bourne D ware and black glazed table- and earthenwares, though the present site has a range of 18th and 19th century Staffordshire products that were largely absent from the investigation to the north (*ibid.*).

Table 2: Other Artefacts

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
202	Clay pipe	Stem, bore 7/64"	1	7	17th century
204	CBM	Handmade brick, post-medieval	2	104	Post-medieval
	CBM	Fired clay	3	34	
	Iron	Ferrous concretions, natural panning?	3	116	
	Stone	Limestone, natural	1	176	
400	Copper alloy	Victoria, ½d coin, 1860-74	1	6	After 1860
	Clay pipe	Stem, bore 7/64", 17th century	1	4	
	CBM	Handmade brick, 1 burnt, 4 red clay, 7 yellow clay, 48mm thick, post-medieval	11	1063	
	Stone	?Granodiorite, natural glacial erratic	1	48	
405	CBM	Handmade brick/tile, post-medieval	2	48	Post-medieval
	Iron	Nail, rectangular section	1	28	
	Fire residue	Clinker/cinder	2	30	
407	CBM	Handmade brick, 1 is 68mm thick and overfired, post-medieval	5	538	Post-medieval
	CBM	Tile, 15mm thick, post-medieval	1	64	
	Iron	Rectangular block	3	185	
	Iron	Nail, rectangular section	1	8	
	Coal	Coal	1	14	
	Fire residue	Clinker	2	14	
	Stone	Burnt limestone	1	5	
409	Clay pipe	Stems, bore 4/64"	2	8	19th century
410	CBM	Handmade brick	3	69	Post-medieval
500	CBM	Pantile, late post-medieval	1	23	?19th century
	Glass	Green bottle glass, iridescence, ?19th century	1	4	
501	CBM	Handmade brick, 135mm wide, 54mm thick, 1 abraded and burnt at one end	4	3890	Early post-medieval
503	CBM	Handmade bricks, 265mm x 130mm x 53mm	2	7150	Early post-medieval
507	CBM	Brick/tile, post-medieval	4	192	18th century
	Clay pipe	Stem, bore 5/64", 18th century	1	1	
510	Iron	Nail?	1	18	Post-medieval
	Iron	Sheet iron with rivet hole	1	42	
	Fire residue	Clinker	1	7	
	CBM	Handmade brick, post-medieval	1	114	
	CBM	Floor tile, 1 with reduced, worn upper surface, other abraded, 33mm and 39mm thick, post-medieval	2	327	
	CBM	Brick/tile, post-medieval	5	163	
	Stone	Limestone, natural, with ferrous concretion	1	10	

Note: CBM = Ceramic building material

The coin from (400) is a very worn 1st issue bronze halfpenny of Queen Victoria. Although the date is illegible, this type was issued between 1860 and 1874, though the wear on the piece indicates it was deposited much later.

Several complete and fragmentary handmade bricks were recovered from (501) and (503). Bricks of very similar

dimensions and nature have previously been found at nearby Swineshead (Cope-Faulkner *et al.* 2002). Although there is no securely dated chronology of brick types in Lincolnshire, the Swineshead bricks, from their associations, are thought to date probably from the 17th century (Albone 2002). Due to the close similarity between the Swineshead examples and these from Kirton a comparable date may be suggested.

Table 3: The Faunal Remains

Context	Species	Bone	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
204	cattle	skull	5	230	fragments only
	cattle sized	humerus	1	122	
	cattle sized	pelvis	1	76	
	sheep sized	rib	2	8	
	sheep sized	incisor	1	1	
	mussel	shell	1	1	
400	cattle	metatarsus	1	108	
	cattle sized	vertebra	2	50	linking
	sheep	pelvis	1	12	
	bird	unidentified	3	6	possibly chicken
	unknown	unidentified	1	4	
	banded snail	shell	1	1	terrestrial, wide ranging, species
405	dog	-	68	280	back, pelvis and femurs present
	sheep	metacarpus	1	8	
	bird	unidentified	1	1	
407	cattle	maxilla	2	222	
	cattle	mandible	1	80	
	cattle	scapula	6	248	connecting fragments, butchery marks
	horse	phalange	1	44	
	cattle sized	rib	2	82	
	sheep sized	vertebra	1	6	
	unknown	unidentified	3	5	
	chicken	metapodial	1	1	
409	sheep sized	unidentified	1	4	rodent gnawing
410	unknown	unidentified	1	2	rodent gnawing
512	sheep sized	unidentified	1	2	
	unknown	unidentified	1	1	

Cattle are the most dominant species represented, followed by sheep. Most of the cattle bones are large and may represent improved stock. A single horse phalange is present. A moderate collection of bird bone of which most are likely to be chicken was also unearthed. The dog from (405) comprises much of the skeletal material from the back (vertebra and ribs), the pelvic area and the upper part of the hind legs. This is likely to represent a pet burial.

The ratio of sheep to cattle is similar to that of other sites in the Kirton area (*eg.* Cope-Faulkner 1996), although earlier, medieval, deposits often contain pig which is absent from this assemblage.

Condition

All the material is in good condition and present no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the collection is by material class.

Documentation

There have been previous archaeological investigations at Kirton, including at the site itself and immediately adjacent. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the Boston Community Archaeologist and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

The collection of medieval and post-medieval pottery fragments is of moderate local significance and potential. Medieval material forms only a minor, and predominantly redeposited, component of the current assemblage, with only one deposit (203) actually dating to this period. This probably suggests that the site was peripheral to occupation of this date. Post-medieval material, both pottery and other artefacts, is much more extensive and indicates occupation of the site from the 16th century onward. The recovery of a relatively large quantity of brick and

tile, including some complete examples, imply the presence of buildings of the 16th-18th century 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, which have been previously identified immediately to the northwest, are absent from the current investigation area, or were not disturbed by the development.

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Appendix 5

ENVIRONMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY ASSESSMENT

By James Rackham, Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

Introduction

An evaluation excavation conducted by Archaeological Project Services at Willington Road, Kirton revealed mainly post-medieval features with some evidence of medieval activity. One sample was collected during the excavation from the primary fill of a feature thought to be a pond of post-medieval date and submitted to the Environmental Archaeology Consultancy for processing and assessment.

Table 1: Willington Road, Kirton. Sample taken for environmental analysis

sample no.	context no.	sample volume (l)	feaure	date
1	206	1.5	Primary fill of pond	16/17th century AD

Methods

The soil sample was processed in the following manner. Sample volume and weight was measured prior to processing. The sample was washed in a 'Siraf' tank (Williams 1973) using a flotation sieve with a 0.5mm mesh and an internal wet sieve of 1mm mesh for the residue. Both residue and flot were dried and the residue subsequently re-floated to ensure the efficient recovery of charred material. The dry volume of the flot was measured and the volume and weight of the residue recorded. A total of 1.5 litres of soil was processed in this way.

The residue was sorted by eye, and environmental and archaeological finds picked out, noted on the assessment sheet and bagged independently. A magnet was run through the residue in order to recover magnetised material such as hammerscale and prill and a count made of the number of flakes or spheroids of hammerscale collected. The residue was then discarded. The flot of the sample was studied using x30 magnifications and the presence of environmental finds (i.e. snails, charcoal, carbonised seeds, bones etc) was noted and their abundance and species diversity recorded on the assessment sheet. The flot was then bagged and along with the finds from the sorted residue, constitute the material archive of the sample.

The individual components of the sample were then preliminarily identified and the results are summarised below.

Results

Context 206, sample 1.

The sample has none of the characteristics of a pond fill. The sediment was primarily silt, probably originating as a marine silt rather than a freshwater deposit. A small component indicates that some of the silts had been burnt, and fired silts formed the bulk of the small residue and a proportion of the flot, along with small quantities of fuel ash slag.

The inclusions (Tables 2 and 3) suggest a domestic rubbish and fire debris deposit. Cockle shells are abundant with mussel also present and a few fragments of small largely unidentifiable fish bone. A single piece of brick occurs and a few very small fragments of coal. A number of fragments of bird eggshell, probably chicken, are also present, among which several are burnt.

The flot is relatively large for such a small sample and dominated by charred cereal grains, indicating a density of grains in the deposit of perhaps 500/litre. A number of larger charred seeds and a few pieces of chaff are present but their ratio to the grain suggests that the latter is largely cleaned grain that has become carbonised during food preparation rather than crop processing. Initial observation of the grain suggests that most of it is wheat, but this should be checked by an archaeobotanist. Single charred pea and bean seeds have also been preliminarily identified. The finest fraction of the flot includes much small charred fibrous material and some 'siliceous' material which suggests that there is a fine straw and perhaps chaff component also present.

Table 2: Kirton. Finds from the processed samples

sample no.	context	sample vol. l.	residue volume l.	pot no/wt g.	brick /tile wt. g.	fired earth wt. g.	coal/ cinder wt. g.	bone wt. g.	fish bone wt. g.	egg-shell wt g.	marine shell wt. g.
1	206	1.5	0.225		11	3	+	<1	<1	1	93

+ - present

Table 3: Kirton. Environmental finds from the flot

sample no.	context no.	sample vol. (l)	flot vol. (ml)	char-coal *	charred grain *	chaff *	charred seed *	un-charred seed *	snails *	comment
1	2006	1.5	45	3	5	1	2		2	Wheat, pea, bean, cockle, mussel, chicken eggshell, small fish

*frequency 1=1-10; 2=11-50; 3=51-150; 4=151-250; 5=>250

A few shells of snails have been recovered including *Cochlicopa* sp., *Trichia hispida*, *Vallonia* sp., *Vallonia pulchella*, *Planorbis* sp., *Lymnaea truncatula* and *Truncatellina cylindrica*. Several of these are burnt, particularly the shells of *L. truncatula*. These may have arrived with some of the burnt vegetation in the deposit. Apart from the aquatic *Planorbis* the shells suggest grassland with *V. pulchella* and *L. truncatula* indicating some wetter conditions.

Discussion and recommendations

It is not possible to reconcile this deposit with its interpretation as a primary pond fill. Even the aquatic *Planorbis* was burnt, and therefore introduced to the deposit with the fire debris. The very high density of charred cereal grain and cockles, within a matrix including a proportion of fired silts and fine charred matter and siliceous material, indicates that this is probably the primary disposal of fire debris and other domestic waste, or even a bonfire site, although the latter one might have recognised through evidence of *in situ* burning.

If no further archaeological work is undertaken at the site then it would be advisable for the charred component of the sample to be looked at in more detail by an archaeobotanist since such rich assemblages of material of this date from fenland sites have been rare and we have few archaeological records of the crops being grown on the fen silts in the early post-medieval period. If further archaeological work is recommended then further sampling should be undertaken and the detailed study of this sample incorporated into the future programme.

Acknowledgments

I should like to thank Alison Foster for processing and sorting the sample.

Bibliography

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Appendix 6

SECRETARY OF STATE'S CRITERIA FOR SCHEDULING ANCIENT MONUMENTS - extract from *archaeology and planning* DoE planning policy guidance note 16, November 1990

The following criteria (which are not in any order of ranking), are used for assessing the national importance of an ancient monument and considering whether scheduling is appropriate. The criteria should not however be regarded as definitive; rather they are indicators which contribute to a wider judgement based on the individual circumstances of a case.

i *Period*: all types of monuments that characterise a category or period should be considered for preservation.

ii *Rarity*: there are some monument categories which in certain periods are so scarce that all surviving examples which retain some archaeological potential should be preserved. In general, however, a selection must be made which portrays the typical and commonplace as well as the rare. This process should take account of all aspects of the distribution of a particular class of monument, both in a national and regional context.

iii *Documentation*: the significance of a monument may be enhanced by the existence of records of previous investigation or, in the case of more recent monuments, by the supporting evidence of contemporary written records.

iv *Group value*: the value of a single monument (such as a field system) may be greatly enhanced by its association with related contemporary monuments (such as a settlement or cemetery) or with monuments of different periods. In some cases, it is preferable to protect the complete group of monuments, including associated and adjacent land, rather than to protect isolated monuments within the group.

v *Survival/ Condition*: the survival of a monument's archaeological potential both above and below ground is a particularly important consideration and should be assessed in relation to its present condition and surviving features.

vi *Fragility/ Vulnerability*: highly important archaeological evidence from some field monuments can be destroyed by a single ploughing or unsympathetic treatment; vulnerable monuments of this nature would particularly benefit from the statutory protection that scheduling confers. There are also existing standing structures of particular form or complexity whose value can again be severely reduced by neglect or careless treatment and which are similarly well suited by scheduled monument protection, even if these structures are already listed buildings.

vii *Diversity*: some monuments may be selected for scheduling because they possess a combination of high quality features, others because of a single important attribute.

viii *Potential*: on occasion, the nature of the evidence cannot be specified precisely but it may still be possible to document reasons anticipating its existence and importance and so to demonstrate the justification for scheduling. This is usually confined to sites rather than upstanding monuments.

Appendix 7

GLOSSARY

Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, *e.g.*(004).
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.
Dumped deposits	These are deposits, often laid down intentionally, that raise a land surface. They may be the result of casual waste disposal or may be deliberate attempts to raise the ground surface.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Geophysical Survey	Essentially non-invasive methods of examining below the ground surface by measuring deviations in the physical properties and characteristics of the earth. Techniques include magnetometry and resistivity survey.
Layer	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
Neolithic	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500-2250 BC.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1900.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.

Appendix 8

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

66	Context records
18	Sheets containing scale drawings (plans and sections)
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Box of finds
1	Stratigraphic matrix
1	Printed survey data

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

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

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

Lincolnshire City and County Museum Accession Number:	2002.220
Archaeological Project Services Site Code:	KWR 02

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