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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
OF DEVELOPMENT AT,  
CROOKED BILLET,  
HALLGATE,  
FLEET,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(FCE 01)**



**A P S**  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
SERVICES

Event W1 3486  
Source L1 8205  
L1 8206  
MON L1 20434  
20434

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
OF DEVELOPMENT AT,  
CROOKED BILLET,  
HALLGATE,  
FLEET,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(FCE 01)**

Work Undertaken For  
Mr K. Shepperson

Report Compiled by  
P. Cope-Faulkner BA (Hons) AIFA

December 2001

Planning Application No: H05/1452/00  
National Grid Reference: TF 3891 2362  
City and County Museum Accession No: 2001.79

A.P.S. Report No: 84/01



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## 1. SUMMARY

*An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the construction of an extension to existing buildings at Crooked Billet, Hall Gate, Fleet, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of the foundation trenches associated with the development.*

*Pottery of Middle Saxon date (650-850 AD) has been found in the vicinity and place-name evidence suggests that a settlement was here in the mid 10<sup>th</sup> century. The development site lies adjacent to St. Mary Magdalene's church within the core of the medieval (AD 1066-1500) village.*

*The investigations revealed a probable channel that may have run parallel and west of Hall Gate which was open during the medieval period. Finds comprise four fragments of medieval pottery.*

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as 'a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons within a specified area, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed.' (IFA 1997).

### 2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr K. Shepperson to undertake an archaeological watching brief during construction of a two storey and single storey extension to the Crooked Billet, Hallgate Road, Church End, Fleet, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development

was sought through the submission of planning application H05/1452/00. Permission was granted subject to a standard condition for archaeological recording. The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a specification designed by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the County Archaeological Officer (Appendix 1).

### 2.3 Topography and Geology

Fleet is situated 14km east of Spalding and 21km south of Boston in the administrative district of South Holland, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site is in the core of the village 50m south of the parish church of St. Mary Magdalene at National Grid Reference TF 3891 2362 (Fig. 2). The local topography describes a linear band of higher ground aligned south to north along Hall Gate and Proud fleet Lane. The crest of this bank is at a height of c. 3m OD, dropping away to the east and west to heights of 2m OD.

The village is located on soils of the Snargate Series, generally coarse silty gleyic brown alluvial soils (Robson 1990, 27). East of the village are Wisbech Series, calcareous alluvial gley soils (*ibid.* 36) and to the west are Stockwith Series, clayey calcareous alluvial gley soils (*ibid.* 28). These soils overlie a drift geology of marine alluvium (generally sandy silt, sand and clay) which in turn overlie a solid geology of Upper Jurassic Amphill Clay (BGS 1992).

### 2.4 Archaeological Setting

Fleet lies within an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Middle Saxon period to the present day. Iron Age pottery was reported from south of the village although this is considered unlikely and a probable Saxon date cannot be

excluded (Healey 1992, 249). Middle Saxon pottery has been retrieved from two areas located south and west of the village (Cope-Faulkner 1999, 6).

Fleet is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086 and is referred to as *Fleot* or *Flet*, derived from the Old English *flēot* meaning a 'stream or creek' (Cameron 1998, 45). The Domesday Survey records that the land was owned by the King and contained 500 acres of meadow, approximately 1000 acres of arable land, a fishery and two saltpans (Foster and Longley 1976).

It has been suggested that an earlier mention of a place named *Angarhala* may refer to Fleet. It exists within a grant of King Eadgar dating to 975 AD to Thorney Abbey of land at Gedney, Lutton, *Angarhala* and Tydd (Hart 1966, 180). Apart from being in the same region, Fleet along with the other villages were subsequently owned by Earl Ælfgar prior to the Norman invasion of 1066 and then by the King. A possible meaning for *Angarhala* is derived from the Old English 'an<sup>gr</sup>' and 'hal<sup>h</sup>' and may mean 'grazing land on flat alluvial land adjacent to a river' (Ekwall 1974, 10, 212) which on topographic and historic grounds could be applied to Fleet.

The only extant remains of the medieval period is St. Mary Magdalene's church which was largely built between 1180 and 1190 with additions in the 14<sup>th</sup> century and which replaced an earlier church that had been granted to Castle Acre priory in the 11<sup>th</sup> century (Cope-Faulkner 1999, 6).

South of the church are the ploughed remains of a circular earthwork which was also enclosed by a ditch and believed to be the site of a small motte and bailey castle (Downman 1912, 60). An excavation carried out in 1912 retrieved medieval pottery and a human tibia (SGS 1913). The mound was

ploughed in 1947 and the site subsequently fieldwalked during the 1970s when further quantities of medieval pottery was retrieved (*pers. comm.* H. Healey). This was believed to be the site of Fleet manor and this notion is supported by a reference within a Terrier of Fleet dating to the early 14<sup>th</sup> century (Cope-Faulkner 1999, 6).

A watching brief undertaken 175m to the south revealed a ditch and a later gully with finds of pottery and tile of mainly post-medieval to modern date (Cope-Faulkner 2001, 1).

### 3. AIMS

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

### 4. METHODS

Trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator to a depth of 1.1m as required by the development. Following excavation, the sides of the trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were partially or fully excavated by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. The depth and thickness of each deposit were measured from the ground surface. Each archaeological deposit or feature revealed was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. Recording of deposits encountered during the watching brief was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

Finds recovered from excavated deposits were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 3). Records of the deposits and features recognised during the watching brief were examined. Phasing was assigned based on artefact dating and the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

## 5. RESULTS

Two phases of activity were identified:

- |         |                               |
|---------|-------------------------------|
| Phase 1 | Medieval and undated deposits |
| Phase 2 | Recent deposits               |

Archaeological contexts are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

### Phase 1 Medieval and undated deposits

The earliest deposits encountered at the base of the trenches was a sequence of silts, sandy silts and clayey silts, possibly infilling a channel (010). The extent of the channel could not be ascertained. The fills of this feature comprise grey silt (005), grey and brown silt (006), brown sandy silts (007, 019 and 028), brownish grey silt (014), brown clayey silt (020), greenish grey sandy silt (021), grey sandy silt (022 and 026) and greyish brown silt (015 and 028). Many of these deposits are undated, although 12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> century pottery was recovered from contexts (006) and (019).

### Phase 2 Modern deposits

Overlying the possible channel fills adjacent to the house was a 90mm thick layer of rubble (004), providing a make-up deposit for a concrete surface (003). This was in turn sealed by a second rubble layer (002) and concrete surface (001).

Overlying the channel fills at the northern end of the development was a former topsoil of greyish brown silt (013 and 023) that measured 0.24m thick. Overlying this was a dumped deposit of demolition debris mixed with silt (012).

Cut into the former topsoil were three features. The westernmost (018) was 0.7m in diameter and over 0.6m deep. Within this was a circular brick structure (017) identified as a well or cistern. This feature had then been backfilled with grey and brown silt (016).

The easternmost feature (025) was 0.64m wide and deeper than 0.44m. Identified as a pit, it contained a single fill of brown silt with brick fragments and gravel (024).

The last feature, also a pit (009), was located adjacent to the northwest corner of the house. This was 2m long by 1.2m wide and 1m deep with a single fill of brown silt with brick and tile fragments.

Sealing the northern end of the site was a yard surface of tarmac, gravel and rubble (011).

## 6. DISCUSSION

The earliest deposits encountered (Phase 1) were a sequence of layers that appear to infill a channel. Although the extent of the channel could not be determined, the pattern of drains and boundaries may indicate that the channel lay immediately west of Hall Gate and may have flowed in a northeast to southwest direction, although this is not clear. Medieval pottery recovered from the fills indicate that this channel was partly open during the 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. The pottery, the only finds retrieved from the investigation, comprise sherds from Bourne and a single sherd of earlier medieval shelly

ware. Such finds indicate general waste disposal into the channel. Modern deposits (Phase 2) are seemingly associated with Crooked Billet.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were carried out on land at Crooked Billet, Hall Gate, Fleet, because the site lies in close proximity to the church and within the core of medieval settlement.

The suggestion of a north-south aligned channel is based on the presence of deposits that seemingly infill such a feature. Mostly undated, two of the fills indicate that the channel was open during the medieval period.

Four sherds of medieval pottery were retrieved during this investigation. No waterlogged features were found which indicates that few environmental indicators (snails, seeds, pollen *etc.*) will survive at this height OD other than through charring.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr K. Shepperson who commissioned the fieldwork and post excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Dale Trimble and this report was edited by Tom Lane. Mark Bennet and Sarah Grundy kindly provided information from the County Sites and Monuments Record maintained by the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council. Dave Start permitted examination of the relevant parish files and the library maintained by the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire.

## 9. PERSONNEL

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

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SGS, 1913, *Minute Book, Minutes of monthly meeting Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January*

## 11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Society

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

SGS Spalding Gentlemen's Society

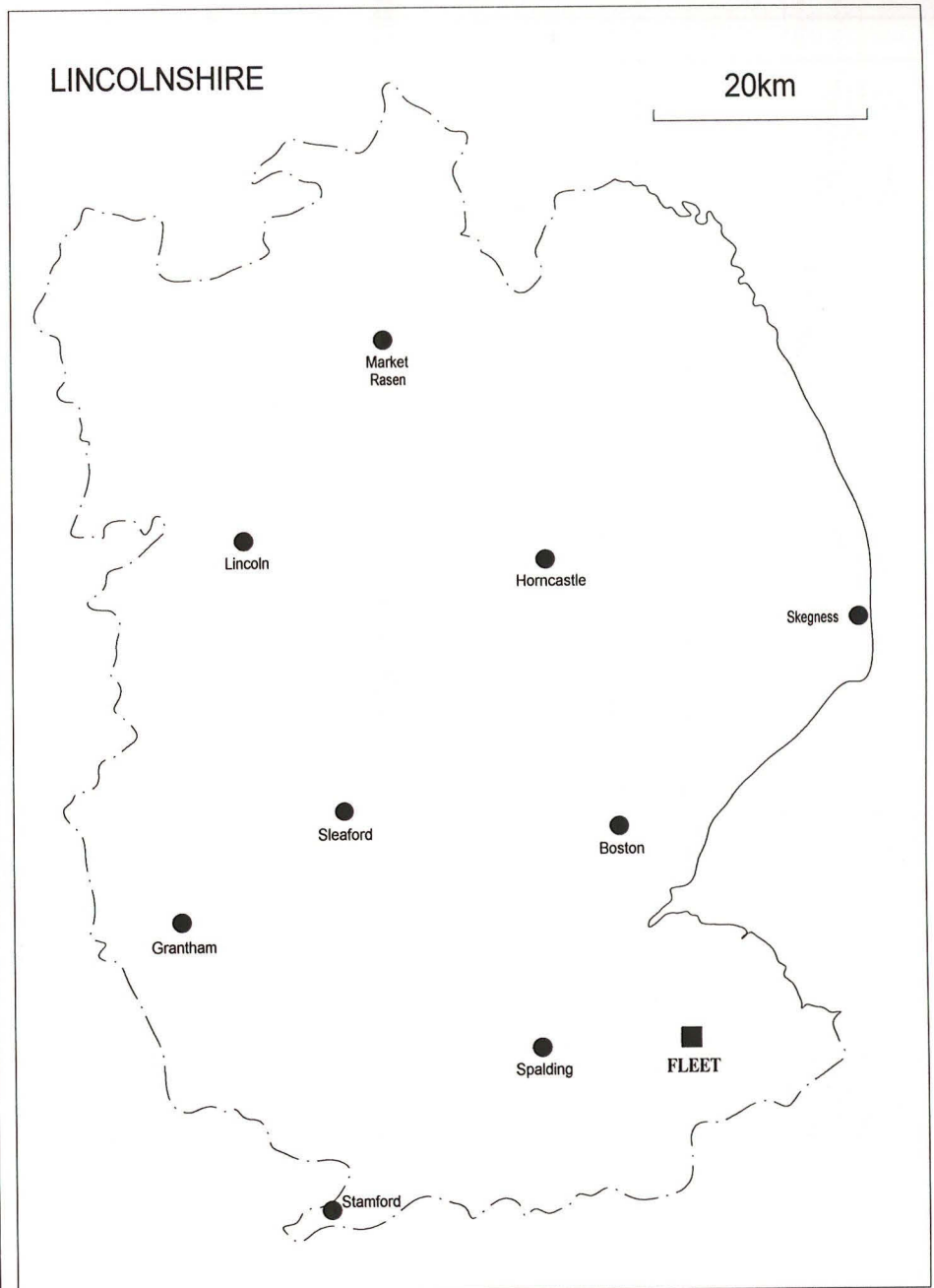


Figure 1 - General Location Plan

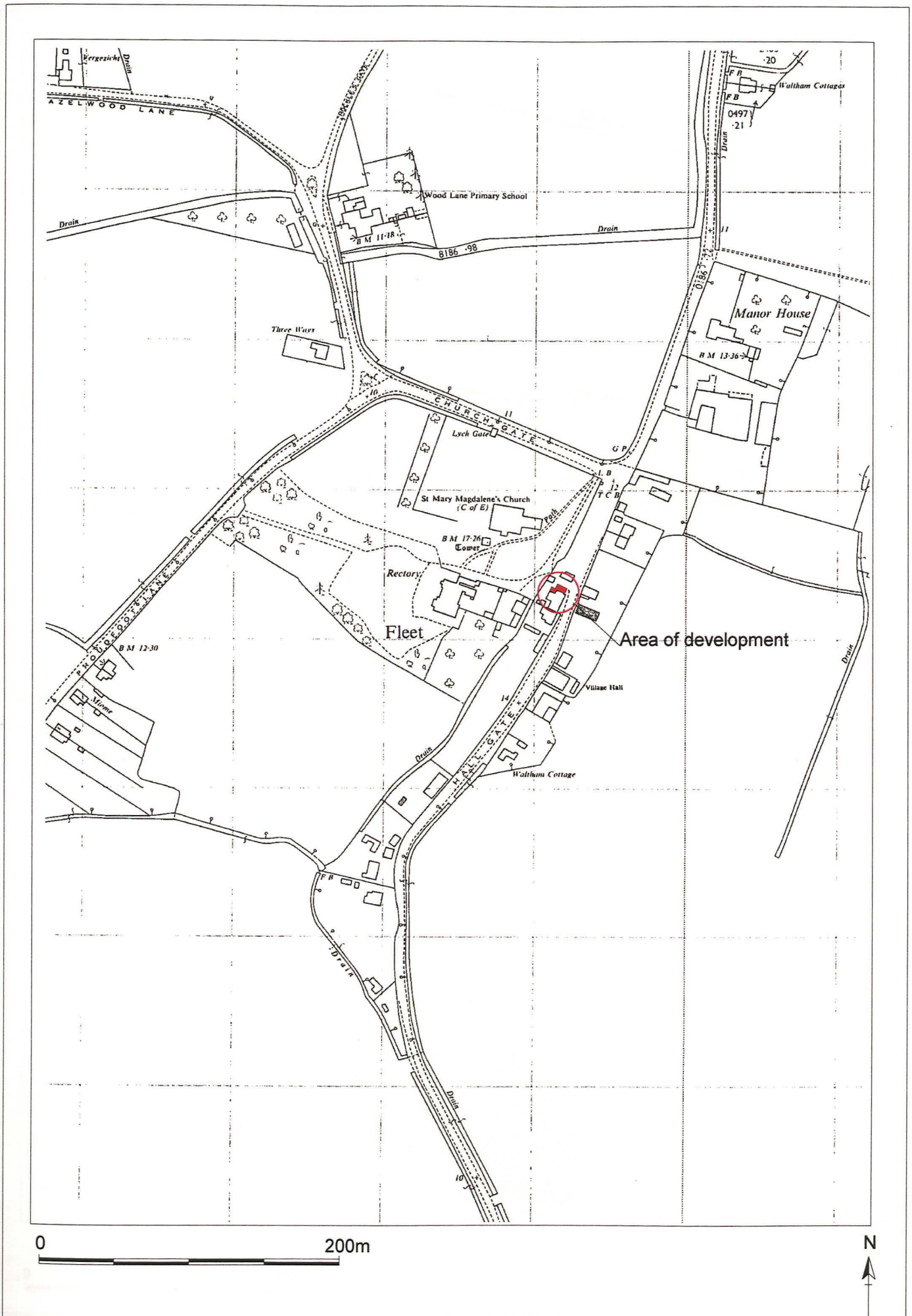


Figure 2 - Site location plan

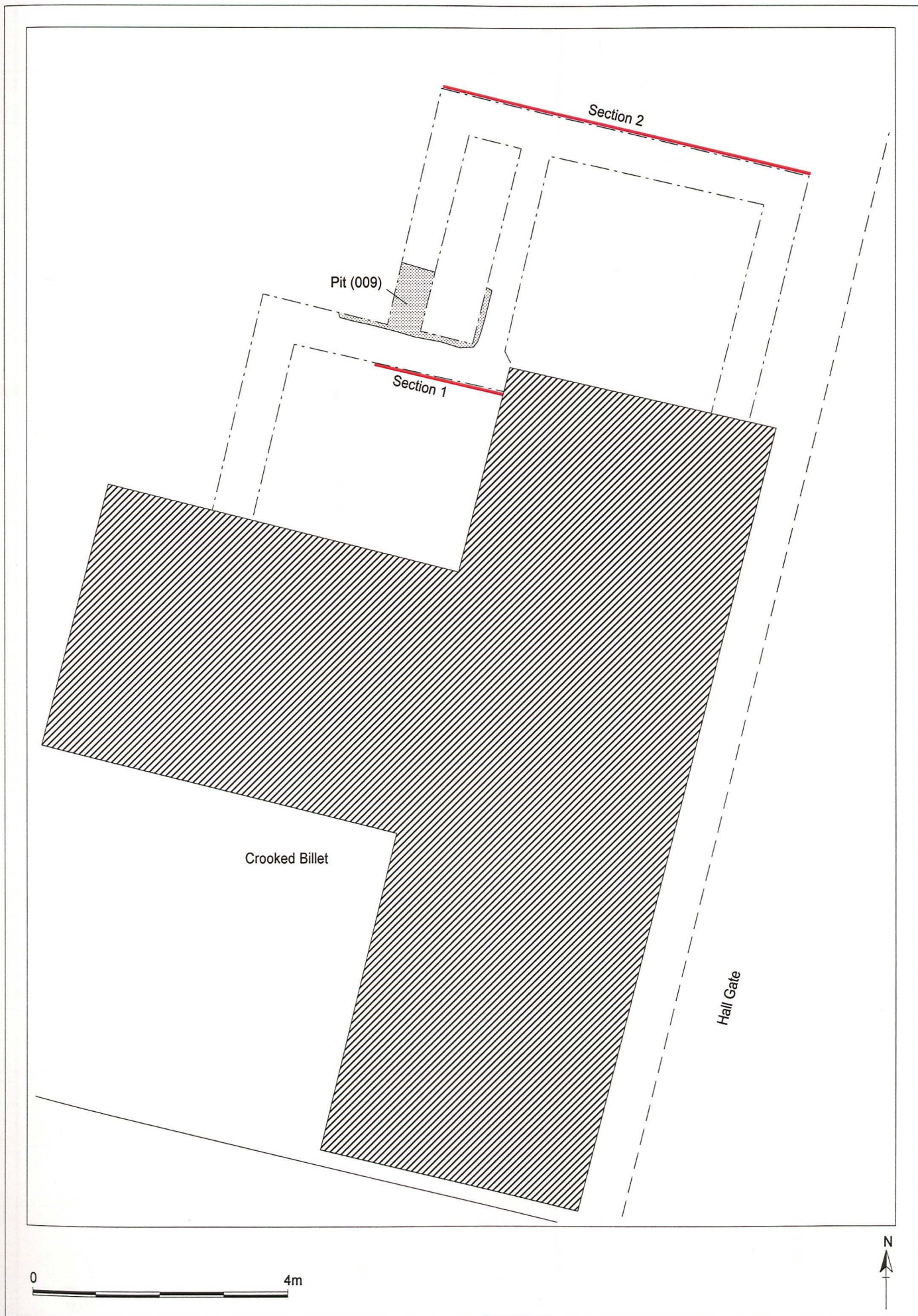


Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section locations

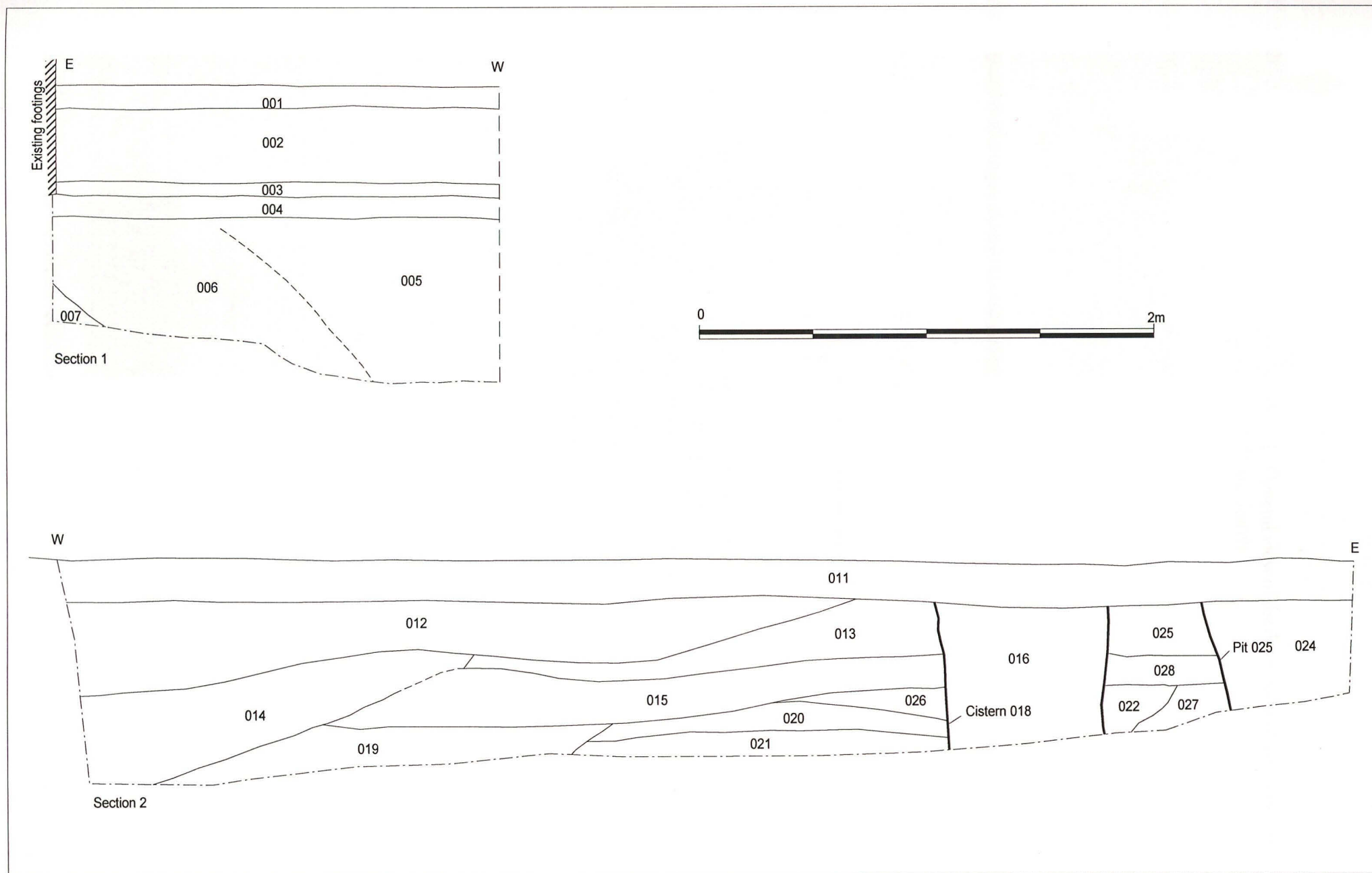


Figure 4 - Sections 1 and 2



Plate 1 - General view of the development, looking west towards the church



Plate 2 - Section 1, looking south



Plate 3 - Section 2, looking northeast

## Appendix 1

### LAND AT THE CROOKED BILLET, CHURCH END, FLEET, HOLBEACH, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

#### 1. SUMMARY

- a. *A watching brief is required during residential development on land at The Crooked Billet, Church End, Fleet, Holbeach, Lincolnshire.*
- b. *The development lies on Hall Gate, close to the centre of the village and approximately 75m southwest of the church of St. Mary Magdalene.*
- c. *The watching brief will be undertaken during groundworks associated with the development. The archaeological features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.*
- d. *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the investigation. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

#### 2. INTRODUCTION

- a. This document comprises a specification for an archaeological watching brief during residential development on land adjacent to The Crooked Billet, Church End, Fleet, Holbeach, Lincolnshire.
- b. This document contains the following parts:
  - i. Overview.
  - ii. Stages of work and methodologies.
  - iii. List of specialists.
  - iv. Programme of works and staffing structure of the project.

#### 3. SITE LOCATION

- a. The development area is located in the village of Fleet, approximately 14km east of Spalding and 21km south of Boston in the civil parish of Fleet, South Holland, Lincolnshire. The site is located at 'The Old Blacksmiths Crooked Billet' on the west side of Hall Gate, immediately southwest of the church of St. Mary Magdalene at NGR TF 388236.

#### 4. PLANNING BACKGROUND

- a. Planning permission (Application No. H05/1452/00) has been granted by South Holland District Council for the erection of a two storey and single storey extension to the existing. Permission is subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief during the development.

#### 5. SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- a. The site lies at approximately 3m OD on a linear area of raised ground which runs south to north along Hall Gate and Proudfoot Lane. The village is located on soils of the Snargate Series, generally coarse silty gleyic brown alluvial soils (Robson 1990, 27) East of the village are Wisbech Series calcareous alluvial gley soils (*ibid.* 28)

#### 6. THE ARCHAEOLOGY

- a. The Domesday survey refers to Fleet as *Fleot* and records that Earl Algar had 6 carucates of taxable land and land for 4 ploughs. The King had 6 oxen and 8 villagers with 2.5 ploughs, 1 fishery, 2 salt houses and one 500 acre meadow (Foster and Longley 1976).
- b. The place name *Fleot* is derived from Old English and means 'the inlet, the creek, the stream' Later references to *Fleot* appear in the Late 12<sup>th</sup> century Cartulary of Castle Acre Priory. Fleet was at the head of an arm of the sea and in 1316 the stream itself is referred to as *le Flete* (Cameron 45)
- c. During a recent watching brief on a site around 200m to the north of the Crooked Billet, Late Saxon Stamford Ware and early medieval pottery was recovered. A possible sill beam was also identified. (Healey, *pers comm*)
- d. Late Saxon pottery and other settlement debris have also been recovered from the surface of a field immediately to the south of Fleet during fieldwalking undertaken by Hilary Healey.
- e. The medieval church of St. Mary Magdalene just to the northwest of the development is predominantly in the decorated style but has probably been much altered and restored (Pevsner and Harris, 280-281)
- f. Post medieval building debris and pottery has been collected from the surface of the same field to the south of Fleet where Late Saxon pottery scatter was recovered. This later material may be associated with a sub-rectangular cropmark identified on aerial photographs, and together these remains may indicate the site of a moated Elizabethan manor house. This could predate the eighteenth century manor located to towards the north of Hall Lane. A now ploughed down mound within the area of this scatter may represents the remains of a garden feature associated with the manor (Healey, *pers comm*). Previous interpretations of this mound as a castle motte seem unlikely.

## 7. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- a. The aims of the watching brief will be:
  - i. To record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.
- b. The objectives of the watching brief will be to:
  - i. Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
  - ii. Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
  - iii. As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
  - iv. Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

## 8. SITE OPERATIONS

- a. General considerations
  - i. All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the watching brief.
  - ii. The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA). *Archaeological Project Services* is IFA registered organisation no. 21.
  - iii. 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.



b. Methodology

- i. The building is to be constructed on strip foundations. Watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.
- ii. Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.
- iii. Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- iv. Throughout the watching brief a photographic record consisting of colour prints will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
  - (1) The site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
  - (2) groups of features where their relationship is important
- v. Should human remains be located the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department and the police will be informed.

9. **POST-EXCAVATION**

a. Stage 1

- i. On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued: the colour prints will be labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
- ii. All finds recovered during the field work will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

b. Stage 2

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

c. Stage 3

- i. On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.
- ii. This will consist of:
  - (1) A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
  - (2) A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.

- (3) Description of the topography of the site.
- (4) Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.
- (5) A text describing the findings of the watching brief.
- (6) A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.
- (7) Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
- (8) Sections of the archaeological features.
- (9) Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
- (10) Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- (11) Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

#### 10. REPORT DEPOSITION

- a. Copies of the report will be sent to the Client; the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeological Officer; South Holland District Council Planning Department; and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

#### 11. ARCHIVE

- a. The documentation and records generated during the watching brief will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the City and County Museum, Lincoln. This will be undertaken following the requirements of the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives* for long term storage and curation. A site code and City and County Museum Accession Number will be allocated in advance of the start of the project, subsequent formal appointment of APS as archaeological contractor.

#### 12. PUBLICATION

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

#### 13. CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

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

#### 14. VARIATIONS

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

#### 15. PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- a. The watching brief will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the

archaeological site work.

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

## 16. SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

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

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

## 17. INSURANCES

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

## 18. COPYRIGHT

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

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

## 19. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Specification Version 2: 14 March 2001

## Appendix 2

### CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Indurated concrete, 100mm thick	Surface
002	Mixed rubble, 0.32m thick	Levelling for (001)
003	Indurated concrete, 70mm thick	Surface
004	Mixed rubble, 90mm thick	Levelling for (003)
005	Soft mid grey silt, >0.72m thick	Channel fill
006	Soft mixed mid grey and light brown silt, >0.52m thick	Channel fill
007	Soft light brown sandy silt, >0.16m thick	Channel fill
008	Soft dark brown silt with frequent brick and tile frags.	Fill of (009)
009	Sub-rectangular cut, 2m long by 1.2m wide and 1m deep, steep sides not fully excavated	Pit
010	Surmised linear feature, aligned north-south, not fully exposed	?Channel
011	Mixed tarmac, gravel and rubble, 0.2m thick	Yard surface
012	Soft dark greyish brown silt with frequent bricks, tile and drain, 0.4m thick	Demolition debris
013	Soft mid greyish brown silt, 0.24m thick	Former topsoil
014	Soft mid to dark brownish grey silt	Channel fill
015	Soft mid greyish brown silt, 0.2m thick	Channel fill
016	Soft mixed light grey to dark brown silt	Fill of (018)
017	Brick circular structure, only partly exposed in plan, minimum 0.36m diameter	Well/cistern
018	Circular cut, at least 0.7m diameter by >0.6m deep, near vertical sides, not fully excavated	Construction cut for (017)
019	Soft light to mid brown sandy silt	Channel fill
020	Firm mid brown clayey silt, 0.15m thick	Channel fill
021	Soft mid greenish grey sandy silt with frequent mollusc shell fragments, >100mm thick	Channel fill
022	Soft light grey sandy silt, 0.18m thick	Channel fill
023	Soft mid greyish brown silt, 0.24m thick	Former topsoil
024	Loose dark brown silt with brick fragments and gravel	Fill of (025)
025	Feature, 0.64m wide by >0.44m deep, steep near vertical sides, not fully excavated	Pit
026	Soft light grey sandy silt, 0.18m thick	Channel fill
027	Soft light brown sandy silt with frequent mollusc shell fragments, 0.18m thick	Channel fill
028	Soft mid greyish brown silt, 0.2m thick	Channel fill

## Appendix 3

### THE FINDS

*by Hilary Healey and Gary Taylor*

#### Provenance

The material was recovered from channel fills (006 and 019).

All of the pottery was made in moderate proximity to Fleet, at Bourne 28km to the west, and elsewhere in South Lincolnshire.

#### Range

The range of material is detailed in the table.

A single fragment of pottery of probable 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> century date is the earliest material recovered, though the remainder and bulk of the small assemblage is slightly later, dating from the 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century. Only pottery was found, and no faunal remains were retrieved.

Context	Description	Context Date
006	1x Bourne A/B ware	12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> century
019	2x Bourne A/B ware, separate vessels, 12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> century 1x South Lincs. reduced sandy ware, 10 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> century	12 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup> century

#### Condition

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

#### Documentation

There has been limited previous archaeological investigation at Fleet, though there has been reported study of the archaeological and historical evidence for the village and its vicinity. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

#### Potential

Although only a small assemblage, the entire collection is medieval in date. In consequence, this has moderate local potential and indicates the presence of archaeological remains of medieval date on the site or in immediate proximity. However, the limited quantity of medieval artefacts may, however, indicate that the site was not inhabited as such but served another, non-domestic purpose.

The absence of any material earlier than the 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> century is informative and suggests that archaeological deposits dating from this period and before are absent from the area, or were not disturbed by the development.

## Appendix 4

### GLOSSARY

<b>Context</b>	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
<b>Cut</b>	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
<b>Dumped deposits</b>	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.
<b>Fill</b>	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).
<b>Iron Age</b>	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
<b>Layer</b>	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
<b>Medieval</b>	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
<b>Post-medieval</b>	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
<b>Saxon</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.

## Appendix 5

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

28	Context records
3	Scale drawings
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Bag of finds
1	Stratigraphic matrix

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

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

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

Lincolnshire City and County Museum Accession Number: 2001.79

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: FCE 01

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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