

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON LAND AT
PLOT 5,
MAIN ROAD,
TOYNTON ALL SAINTS,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(TMR502)**



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

QANT 43799

L17673

SOURCES L18443 L18444

44527 483881 Medieval

Quality Control
Toynton All Saints
Plot 5, Main Road
TMR502

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON LAND AT
PLOT 5,
MAIN ROAD,
TOYNTON ALL SAINTS,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(TMR502)**

Work Undertaken For
Mr. P Walsh

September 2002

Report compiled by
Steve Thomson BSc (Hons)

National Grid Reference: TF 3945 6330
Planning Application No. S/185/00265/02
City and County Museum Accession No: 2002.411



A.P.S. Report No: 197/02

Conservation
Services



04 OCT 2002

Highways & Planning
Directorate

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**Quality Control
Toynton All Saints,
Plot 5, Main Road
TMR502**

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Date: 20/9/02	Date: 23-09-02

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during groundworks associated with residential development on land at Plot 5, Main Road, Toynton All Saints, Lincolnshire.

Toynton All Saints is known to have been an important centre for pottery production and kilns of both medieval and post-medieval dates have been found near the development.

A sequence of natural, sub and topsoils was identified. No archaeological features were encountered.

A small quantity of locally produced pottery of 13th – 15th century date was recovered and is likely to derive from a manuring scatter, suggesting the site served in an agricultural function from the medieval period onwards.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a watching brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as, 'a formal program of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits maybe disturbed or destroyed.' (IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services (APS) was

commissioned by Mr P. Walsh to undertake a watching brief during groundworks associated with residential development on land at Plot 5, Main Road, Toynton, Lincolnshire.

Permission for the development was sought through the submission of planning application number S/185/00265/02 and granted subject to a condition requiring archaeological monitoring.

The watching brief was undertaken on the 9th September 2002, in accordance with a specification designed by APS (Appendix 1) and approved by the Built Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Toynton All Saints is located 15km southeast of Horncastle and 17km west of Skegness at the southern edge of the Lincolnshire Wolds, in the administrative district of East Lindsey, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The site is situated at the southern end of the village, on the west side of Main Road and is centred on National Grid Reference TF 3945 6330 (Fig 2). The ground level at the development site is c. 21m OD with the ground surface declining to the south.

Local soils are Cuckney 2 Association, brown sands developed on Cretaceous sandstone (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 127).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Little of the prehistory of the area is known. However, a recent watching brief recorded details of Bronze Age socketed axe recovered from ploughfields near Water Mill Lane (Thomson 2002). The same

investigation also recorded two probable medieval ditches.

The development site is located in an area of known Romano-British and later archaeological remains. A possible Romano-British settlement has been recorded southwest of the modern village (Lane 1993).

Place-name evidence suggests that the settlement may have originated during the Anglo-Saxon period (AD 410-1066). Historical reference first occurs in the Domesday Book of 1086 which mentions *Totintun*. In combination with the suffix 'tun', meaning settlement or village, the name transliterates as 'the settlement of Tota's people' (Cameron 1998,129). The 13th century Valuation of Norwich refers to *Thoynton Omnium Sanctorum* from which the modern place-name derives (*ibid*).

Domesday Book records that land within Toynton All Saints was held by various owners including Ivo Taillebois and the Bishop of Durham (Foster and Longley 1976, 33 and 86). All Saints' parish church, located north of the development and in the centre of the village, was probably constructed during the 11th century and the north and south arcade of this building are still intact (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 769).

Sometime after 1200 potters began working in Toynton All Saints, though there are few documentary references to this industry. However, much of the parish contains archaeological remains representative of pottery production.

Excavated kiln sites lie to the north and south of the development area and provide evidence of the medieval pottery industry (Fig. 2). Approximately 200m north of the

site is a 13th - 14th century kiln that was used to produce decorated jugs (Healey 1984, 73). Recent investigations at that same site have indicated bowls and pancheons were also produced there later in the 15th - 16th century (Cope-Faulkner *et al.* 1999).

The Toynton potteries seem to have expired during the 17th century (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 769), though this has not been demonstrated by excavation. All Saints church was subject to renovation and rebuilding during the Georgian period and much of the original medieval structure is enveloped by later brickwork (*ibid.*).

3. AIMS

The aims of the archaeological watching brief, as detailed in the specification (Appendix 1), were to locate and record archaeological deposits and, if present, to determine their date, function, spatial arrangement and origin.

4. METHODS

Following stripping of the existing turf, foundation trenches were opened using a mechanical excavator. External walls were 600mm wide and internal walls 300mm wide. A depth of approximately 1m was reached.

The sections and bases of the trenches were examined and cleaned to identify archaeological deposits. Deposits recorded during the investigation were allocated a unique reference number (Context Number) with an individual written description. A representative section was drawn at a scale of 1:10 and its location plotted on a 1:200

scale plan. A photographic record was compiled depicting the setting of the site and the recorded deposits.

Records of the investigation were examined and a stratigraphic matrix was produced. Phasing was assigned on the nature of deposits and recognisable relationships between them, supplemented by artefact dating where appropriate (Appendix 3).

A summary of all contexts appears as Appendix 2.

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

5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis, two phases were identified:

5.1 Phase 1 - Natural deposits

5.2 Phase 2 - Recent deposits

5.1 Phase 1 Natural Deposits

The earliest recorded deposit comprised a mixed light grey and light yellow reddish-brown sandy clay (**003**), which was identified as a natural geological deposit.

5.2 Phase 2 Recent deposits

Sealing the Phase 1 deposit was a 0.7m thick, mid-brownish red clayey sand (**002**) which was identified as a subsoil. Overlying this was the most recent deposit encountered, a dark greyish brown sandy silt topsoil (**001**).

Locally produced pottery of 13th - 15th

century date was recovered from the topsoil.

6. DISCUSSION

Phase 1 deposits were represented by a sandy clay which is likely to have been deposited by glaciofluvial action during the last ice age.

Phase 2 deposits comprised a subsoil and topsoil.

It is of interest that in an area bounded by pottery kilns to the north and south that no archaeological evidence of the industry was identified. Clay extraction pits have also been recorded immediately north of the site. However, previous watching briefs undertaken immediately northeast of the development (Young 1999, Dymond & Malone 2000) have demonstrated very localised deposition of material associated with pottery production. Associated activity such as clay extraction and disposal of wasters occurs in close proximity to kilns. As such, the dearth of ceramic evidence suggests it is unlikely that a kiln or pottery production occurred on the current investigation area.

The finds recovered are locally produced but are not waste products. The pottery shows signs of abrasion, likely to be caused by ploughing, suggesting the site served an agricultural function from the medieval period onwards.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations on land at Plot 5, Main Road, Toynton All Saints, were undertaken as the site lies in proximity to remains of the local pottery industry and

close to the historic core of the village.

No archaeological features were encountered, with pottery recovered suggesting an agricultural use of the land from the medieval period onwards.

The nature of the local site conditions suggests that few environmental indicators (seeds, wood, pollen, *etc.*) would survive, other than through charring.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr. P Walsh who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor, who jointly edited this report with Tom Lane. Background information was obtained from the library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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10. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services
 BGS British Geological Survey
 IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

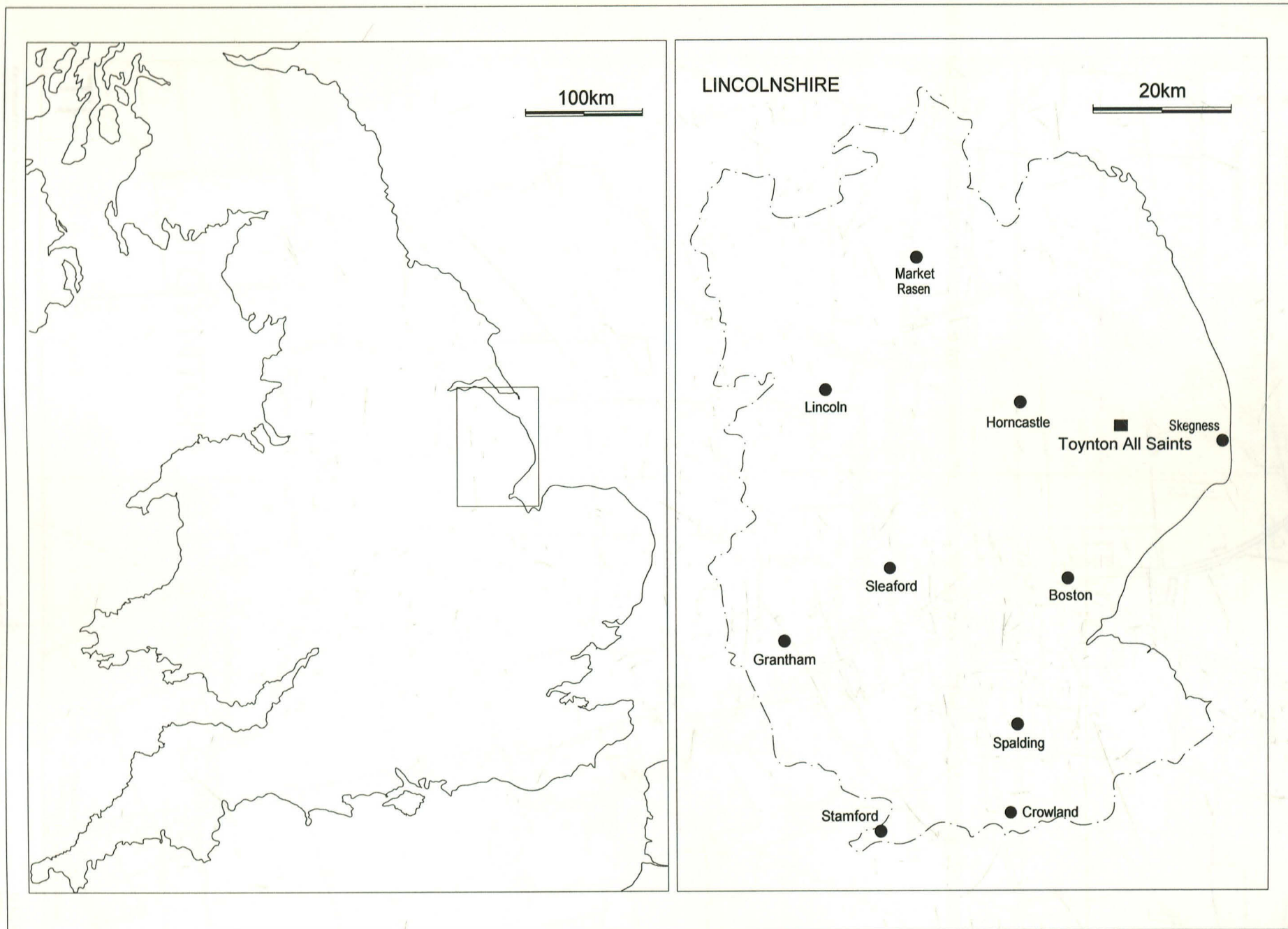
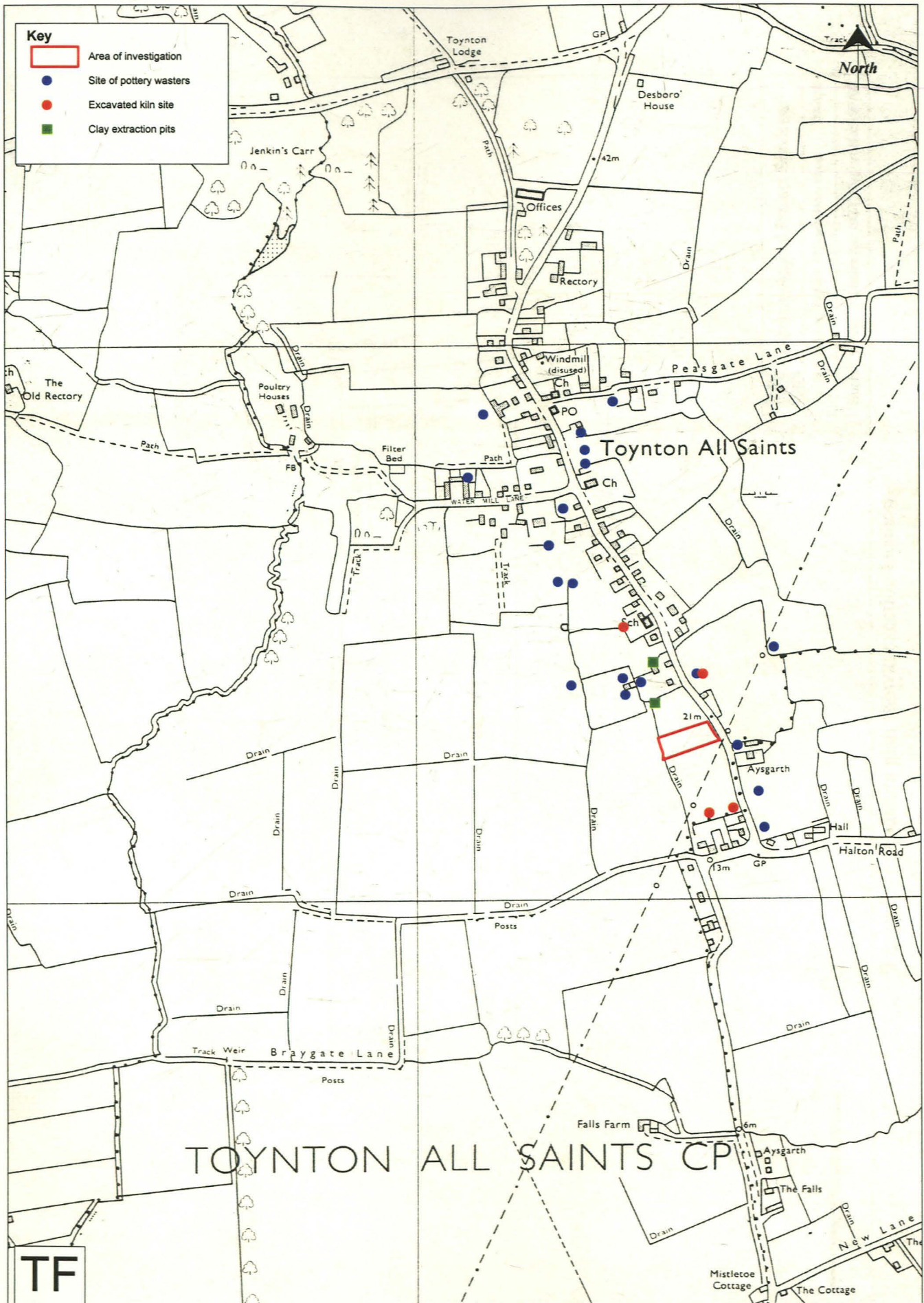


Figure 1: General Location Plan

Key

- Area of investigation
- Site of pottery wasters
- Excavated kiln site
- Clay extraction pits



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Figure 2 Site location plan and archaeological setting

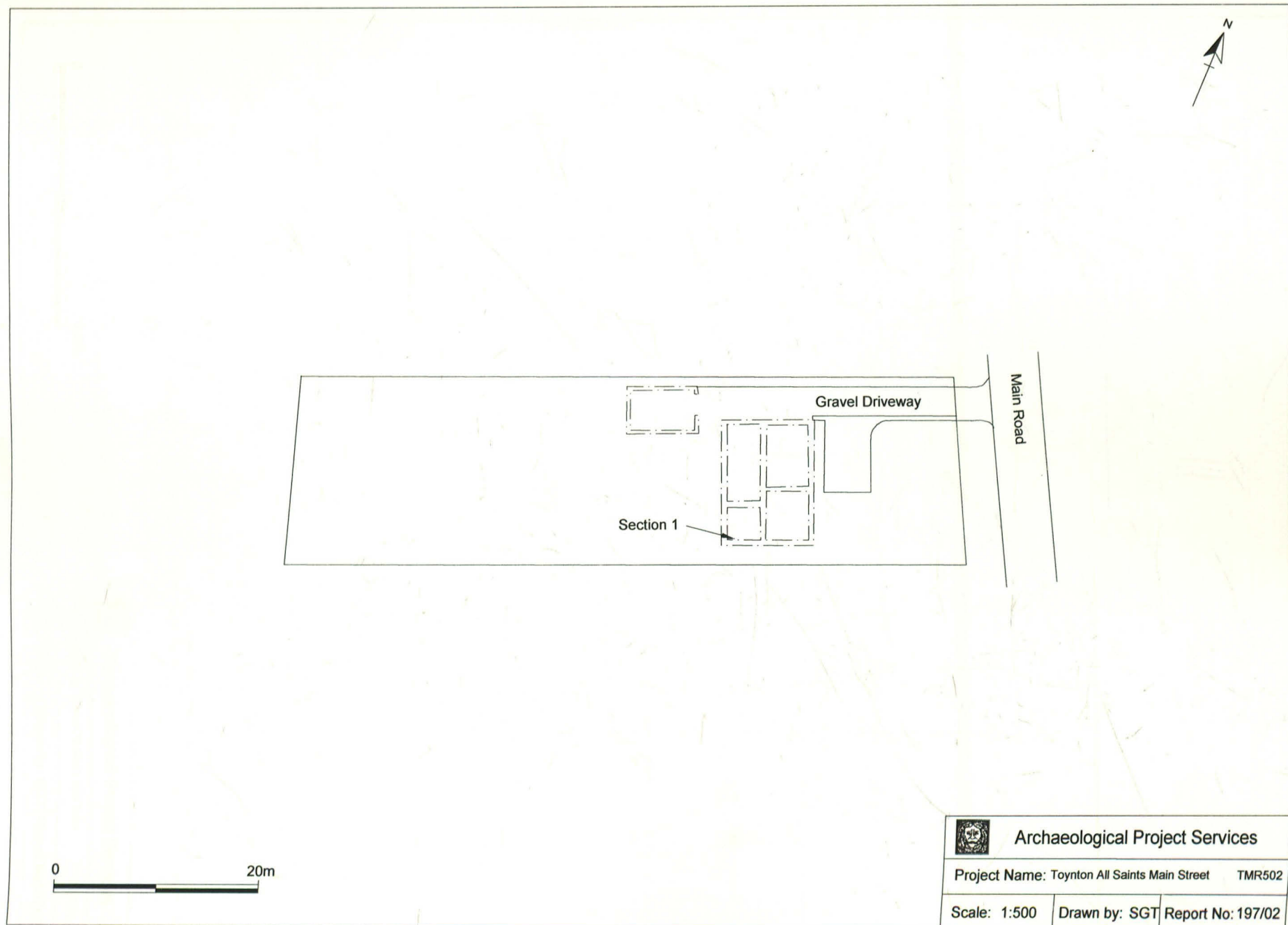
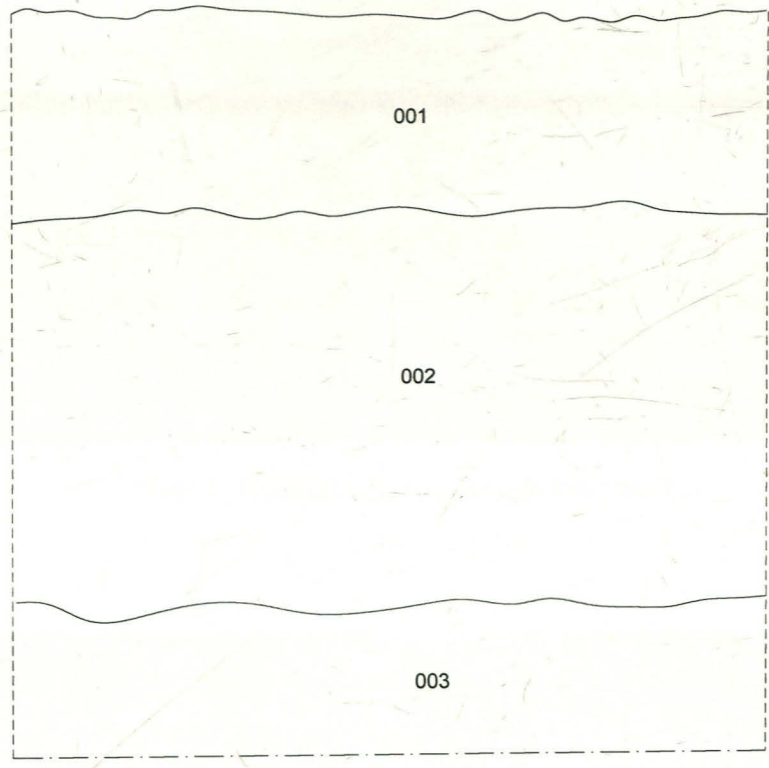


Figure 3 - Foundation plan showing section location

W

E



001

002

003



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Toynton All Saints Main Road

TMR502

Scale: 1:10

Drawn by: SGT

Report No197/02

Figure 4 - Section 1



Plate 1 General view of site, looking west



Plate 2 Section 1, looking north

Appendix 1

**LAND ON
MAIN ROAD,
TOYNTON ALL SAINTS,
LINCOLNSHIRE**

**SPECIFICATION FOR
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

PREPARED FOR

Mr P. WALSH

SEPTEMBER 2002

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during the a programme of residential development on land at Main Road, Toynton All Saints, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *Toynton All Saints was an important centre of pottery production in the medieval and post-medieval periods and kilns of both dates have been found in proximity to the development site.*
- 1.3 *The watching brief will be undertaken during groundworks associated with the development. The archaeological features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the investigation. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for an archaeological watching brief during a programme of residential development at land adjacent to The Laurels, Main Road, Toynton All Saints.
- 2.2 This document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview.
 - 2.2.2 Stages of work and methodologies.
 - 2.2.3 List of specialists.
 - 2.2.4 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project.

3 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 Toynton All Saints is located approximately 21km northeast of Boston and 2km south of Spilsby in the administrative district of East Lindsey. The site, adjacent to The Laurels, Main Road, is located in the centre of the village, near the church, at national grid reference TF 393 637.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Planning permission (application no. S/185/00265/02) for residential development has been granted by East Lindsey District Council, subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 Toynton All Saints is situated at the southern edge of the Lincolnshire Wolds. The site and surrounding area is on a slope down to the south and lies at approximately 40m OD. Soils at the site are Cuckney 2 Association brown sands on Cretaceous sandstone (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 152).

6 THE ARCHAEOLOGY

- 6.1 Toynton All Saints was an important centre of pottery production in the medieval and post-medieval periods. Kilns of both periods have been found in close proximity, immediately to the north and also to the southeast and southwest of the site. Additionally, the site lies within the medieval centre of the village, opposite All Saints' parish church which was probably constructed during the 11th century (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 769).

7 **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 7.1 The aims of the watching brief will be:
 - 7.1.1 To record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during ground disturbance.
- 7.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:
 - 7.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
 - 7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
 - 7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
 - 7.2.4 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

8 **SITE OPERATIONS**

8.1 General considerations

- 8.1.1 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA). *Archaeological Project Services* is IFA registered organisation no. 21.
- 8.1.2 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

8.2 Methodology

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

9 POST-EXCAVATION

9.1 Stage 1

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

9.2 Stage 2

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

9.3 Stage 3

- 9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.
- 9.3.2 This will consist of:
 - 9.3.2.1 A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
 - 9.3.2.2 A description of the archaeological setting of the investigation.
 - 9.3.2.3 Description of the topography of the site.
 - 9.3.2.4 Description of the methodologies used during the investigation.
 - 9.3.2.5 A text describing the findings of the investigation.
 - 9.3.2.6 A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the investigation findings.
 - 9.3.2.7 Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
 - 9.3.2.8 Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.
 - 9.3.2.9 Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
 - 9.3.2.10 Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
 - 9.3.2.11 Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10 **REPORT DEPOSITION**

10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the client; the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record; and to East Lindsey District Council Planning Department.

11 **ARCHIVE**

11.1 The documentation and records generated during the watching brief will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the City and County Museum, Lincoln. This will be undertaken following the requirements of the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives* for long-term storage and curation.

12 **PUBLICATION**

12.1 A report of the findings of the watching brief will be presented to the editor of the journal *Lincolnshire History and Archaeology*. If appropriate, notes on the findings will be submitted to the appropriate national journals: *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date, and *Medieval Archaeology* and the journal of the *Medieval Settlement Research Group* for findings of medieval or later date.

13 **CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Lincolnshire Archaeology Service. They will be given as much written notice as possible, ideally seven days, of the commencement of the project.

14 **VARIATIONS**

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

15 **PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS**

15.1 The watching brief will be integrated with the programme of construction.

15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.

15.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one man-day) will require a post-excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half man-days) for completion of the analysis and report, unless particularly dense and complicated remains are revealed. If the fieldwork exceeds 5 days then there is likely to be an economy of scale with the analysis and reporting, unless particularly dense and complicated archaeological remains are revealed.

16 **SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT**

16.1 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 Saxon - J Young, independent specialist Medieval and later - H Healey, independent archaeologist, or G. Taylor of APS
Non-pottery Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist
Animal Bones	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy; or P Cope- Faulkner of APS
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, independent specialist

17 **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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Specification Version: 1
04/09/02

Appendix 2
Context Summary

Context No.	Section	Description	Interpretation
001	1	Loose, dark greyish brown sandy silt containing occasional flint gravel, 0.28m thick	Topsoil
002	1	Loose, mid-brownish red clayey sand, up to 0.7m thick	Subsoil
003	1	Loose, mixed, light grey and light yellow-reddish brown sandy clay, >0.2m thick	Natural geological deposit

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

by 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 7 fragments of pottery weighing 147g was recovered from a single context. No other artefacts or faunal remains were recovered.

Provenance

The material was recovered from the topsoil (001).

All of the pottery was made locally in Toynton All Saints.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the table.

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
001	TOY	Toynton All Saints ware, including 2 jugs, abraded-very abraded	7	147	13 th - 15 th century

All the pottery was made in the village, perhaps in close proximity to the current site and a kiln that produced this type of ceramic is known almost directly across the road. There are, however, no obvious wasters in the collection, though, equally, there are no distinct signs of use, in the form of sooting or encrustation, and the material is abraded. Consequently, it is not clear whether the pottery is kiln waste or derives from medieval occupation in the area.

Condition

Although worn, all the material is in good condition and presents no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the collection is by material class.

Documentation

There have been numerous previous archaeological investigations at Toynton All Saints, including in close proximity to the current site, that are the subjects of reports. Additionally, there has been study of the pottery produced in the village. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

The collection of medieval pottery fragments is of moderate local potential and significance. However, the derivation of the material, as possible kiln waste, occupation debris or general refuse spread, is not clear.

The absence of any material earlier than the 13th 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. Similarly, the absence of any artefacts later than the 15th century would tend to suggest that the site was abandoned at that time.

References

Slowikowski, A., Nenk, B. and Pearce, J., 2001 *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2

Appendix 4

GLOSSARY

Bronze Age	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut), as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original cut is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut', are referred to as its fill(s).
Layer	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock, which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1 st century AD.
Saxon	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:

- 3 Context records
- 1 Sheet of scale drawings
- 1 Photographic record sheet
- 1 Section record sheet
- 1 Bag of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

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

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

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number: 2002.411

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: TMR5 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.

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.