ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT PLOT 4, THE PADDOCK, BURGH-LE-MARSH, LINCOLNSHIRE (BTP4 01)



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT PLOT 4, THE PADDOCK, BURGH-LE-MARSH, LINCOLNSHIRE (BTP4 01)

Work Undertaken For Mr P. Wilson

September 2002

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

National Grid Reference: TF 4999 6474
Planning Reference: S/23/734/01
City and County Museum Accession No: 2001.167

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 180/02

Conservation Services

2 0 SEP 2002

Highways & Planning Directorate

Quality Control Plot 4, The Paddock, Burgh-le-Marsh

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during development at Plot 4, The Paddock, Burgh-le-marsh, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of the foundation trenches.

The watching brief was undertaken as the site was located in an area of archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric to the post-medieval period. In particular, a watching brief and an evaluation carried out prior to the development identified Iron Age (800 BC-AD 50), Romano-British (AD 50-410) and Saxon (AD 410-1066) remains.

The watching brief identified two parallel ditches dating to the medieval period along with a dumped deposit. No Romano-British remains were encountered although pottery of the period was collected. A flint blade flake and a quantity of medieval pottery was also recovered.

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 was commissioned by Mr P. Wilson to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with residential development at Plot 4, The Paddock, Burgh-le-Marsh, Lincolnshire.

Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application S/23/734/01. The watching brief was carried out on the 5th and 6th July 2001, in accordance with a specification designed by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the Historic Built Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Burgh-le-Marsh is located approximately 5km west of Skegness in the administrative district of East Lindsey, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The proposed development area lies 200m south of the village centre as defined by SS. Peter and Paul's church (Fig. 2). Located on the north side of Hall Lane at National Grid Reference TF 4999 6474, the site is situated at a height of c. 12m OD on a slight slope down to the east.

Local soils are of the Holderness Association, typically fine-coarse loamy soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 214). These soils overlie a drift geology of glaciofluvial sands and gravels sealing boulder clay which in turn overlies a solid geology of Cretaceous Claxby Ironstone and Tealby Mudstone (BGS 1996).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Burgh-le-Marsh is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Mesolithic period to the present day. A Mesolithic microlith, a small worked flint often used with others to form composite tools, was found with other, possibly later, flints in the area around Cock Hill, to the northwest.

At Burgh-le-Marsh Primary School, flints dating from the Neolithic through to the Late Bronze Age and an Early Bronze Age pot sherd were recovered as residual finds from a later ditch (Tann 1999). In addition,

a Bronze Age stone axe was discovered to the south of The Mount in 1937.

It has been conjectured that Burgh-le-Marsh is situated close to or on a major prehistoric route across the Wolds. This route, known as Bluestone Heath Road, connected Ludford to the town (May 1976, 9).

During the Romano-British period Burghle-Marsh was the probable site of a settlement at the terminus of a Roman road that ran from Lincoln and through Horncastle to the town (Margary 1973, 238). The road has also been thought to continue southeast towards the coast of the Wash. Frequent finds of pottery and coins dating to the Romano-British period have been made from the area around High Street, particularly between Cock Hill and the church. Two Romano-British burials have been recorded close to Cock Hill House, both of which were covered in roofing tile. In the vicinity of the current investigation, a V-shaped ditch uncovered in 1980 contained bones and Romano-British pottery.

Anglo-Saxon pottery has been found in Burgh-le-Marsh, again concentrated around West End and Cock Hill, suggesting continuity of settlement. In addition, two *Sceatta* coins of the 8th century from the lower Rhineland have been found (Blackburn 1993, 87).

Cock Hill, a large mound beside High Street, was excavated in 1933, when human remains associated with an Anglo-Saxon bronze buckle were uncovered (Leahy 1993, 39). Subsequent work at Cock Hill during the 1970s cast doubt on this interpretation and it is now thought that the mound was constructed to support a windmill or for cock-fighting (Everson 1993, 94).

By the Late Saxon period, Burgh is likely to have been an important estate centre. The name is derived from the Old English and usually refers to some form of fortification (Cameron 1998, 23). Its importance is reflected in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086 where Burgh-le-Marsh was the centre of an estate with lands in Sutton, Addlethorpe, Wainfleet and Skegness (Foster and Longley 1976). At the time of the Domesday Survey, the land was held by Count Alan, Gilbert de Gand, Eudo and Robert the Steward and contained a church and 585 acres of meadow (ibid.).

Extant remains of the medieval period are restricted to the parish church of SS. Peter and Paul, dating from c. 1500 (DoE 1988, 6), which presumably replaced the church referred to in the Domesday Survey. A chapel dedicated to St. Mary was also located in the town (Owen 1975, 17). Traces of the medieval field system in the form of ridge and furrow, have been observed in the vicinity on aerial photographs.

Prior to this development a watching brief of the access road was undertaken and four trenches were excavated to evaluate the archaeological remains. The watching brief identified a large number of Romano-British and undated ditches with artefacts ranging from Romano-British, Saxon and medieval pottery through to tile and clay loomweights (Snee 2001, 1). evaluation identified a Mesolithic flint scatter, two Iron Age features and a range of Romano-British ditches, gullies and pits (Malone 2001, 6). The archaeological remains encountered were generally located in the vicinity of the present development. Although no settlement was found, the nature of the finds suggested that a high status building was located within the vicinity (ibid., 7). Other finds that metalworking suggested undertaken during the Romano-British and Saxon periods, the latter associated with Saxon pottery and ditches (ibid.).

A watching brief undertaken at the junction of The Paddock with Hall Lane

identified a recent track although medieval pottery and a post-medieval strap loop were retrieved (Cope-Faulkner 2002a, 1).

3. AIMS

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

4. METHODS

Foundation trenches were excavated by machine to depths of c. 1m as required by the development. Following excavation, the sides of the trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were fully or partially excavated by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. The depth and thickness of each deposit were measured the surface. from ground Each archaeological deposit 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

Following post-excavation analysis three phases were identified

Phase 1	Natural deposits		
Phase 2	Medieval deposits		
Phase 3	Recent deposits		

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

Phase 1 Natural deposits

The earliest deposit encountered during the watching brief was a layer of reddish brown to yellowish brown sand (003). This was overlain by reddish brown clay (002).

Phase 2 Medieval deposits

Cut into natural deposits along the southernmost foundation trench was an east-west aligned ditch (005). This was over 6.6m long and was 0.44m deep (Fig. 4, Section 1), A single fill of reddish brown silty sand (004) was recorded from which one sherd of 12th century pottery was retrieved.

Aligned east-west through the foundation trenches was a second ditch (007 and 009). This was over 12m long, up to 1.45m wide and between 0.48m and 0.7m deep (Fig. 4, Sections 4 and 5). Fills of reddish brown sandy silt (006) and silty clay (008) were observed and 12th century pottery was also recovered.

Situated in the soakaway trench was a dumped deposit comprising reddish brown clayey silt (011) that was 0.6m thick (Fig. 4, Section 6). Pottery dating from the 13th to 14th century was recovered.

Phase 3 Recent deposits

Overlying the medieval dumped deposit in the soakaway trench was a 0.2m thick hardstanding layer of limestone and chalk fragments (010).

Sealing all archaeological deposits was a topsoil comprising reddish brown silty sand (001) which measured up to 0.45m thick.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Phase 1) of sands and clays relate to the underlying drift geology and are glaciofluvial in origin.

Two medieval ditches (Phase 2) were encountered and indicate former land parcelling of the field. The southernmost ditch was encountered during the evaluation, although at that time, due to a lack of artefactual evidence, was undated (Malone 2001, 4) The northernmost ditch was possibly indicated by a geophysical anomaly (Malone 2001, Fig. 3). Neither of these ditches extended as far west as the access road (Fig. 5). A medieval dumped deposit was also recorded.

An area of hardstanding at the eastern extremity of the site relates well to a trackway identified in a previous investigation (Cope-Faulkner 2002a, 3).

No Romano-British features were identified during the watching brief, the focus of this activity lying to the north. However, Romano-British pottery was recovered but was derived from the topsoil and, therefore, residual.

Archaeological investigations to the north of the site (Plot 6) identified three undated north-south aligned features (Cope-Faulkner 2002b, 1). As these do not extend into the current site, it is possible that they are pits and not ditches.

The earliest artefact retrieved was a flint blade flake of probable Neolithic date. Other finds include a range of medieval pottery, mainly locally produced wares but also including examples from Beverley in Yorkshire.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Plot 4, The Paddock, Burghle-Marsh as the site lay in an area where prehistoric, Romano-British and Saxon remains have previously been identified.

Two east-west aligned medieval ditches were encountered and indicate former land division at the site. A dumped deposit, also of medieval date, was encountered along the eastern edge of the site. A area of hardstanding was also recorded and accords well with the known existence of a track-along the eastern boundary.

A Neolithic flint flake supports the known evidence of this period in the vicinity. Romano-British pottery was also encountered but, as with the flint, was residual. Medieval pottery was also found in moderate quantity.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr. P. Wilson who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Denise Drury and this report was edited by Tom Lane. Access to the County Sites and Monuments Record was kindly supplied by Mark Bennet of the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council. Dave Start permitted access to the library and parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Denise Drury Site Supervisor: Barry Martin Finds processing: Denise Buckley Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner, Mark Dymond Post-excavation analysis: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British geological Survey

DoE Department of the Environment

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

LAS Lindsey Archaeological Services

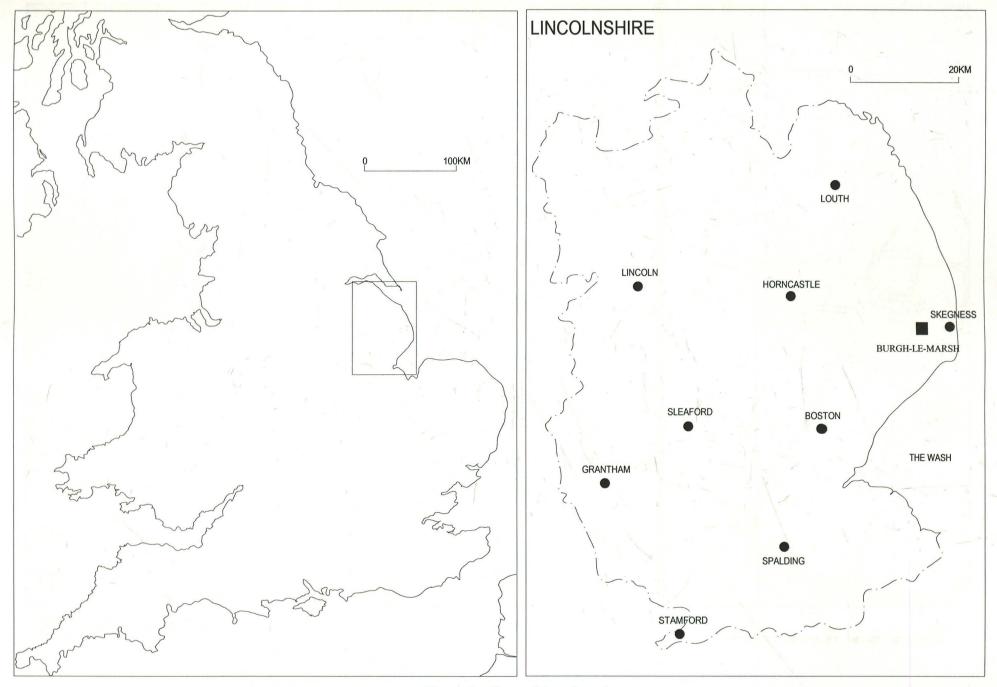


Figure 1 - General location plan

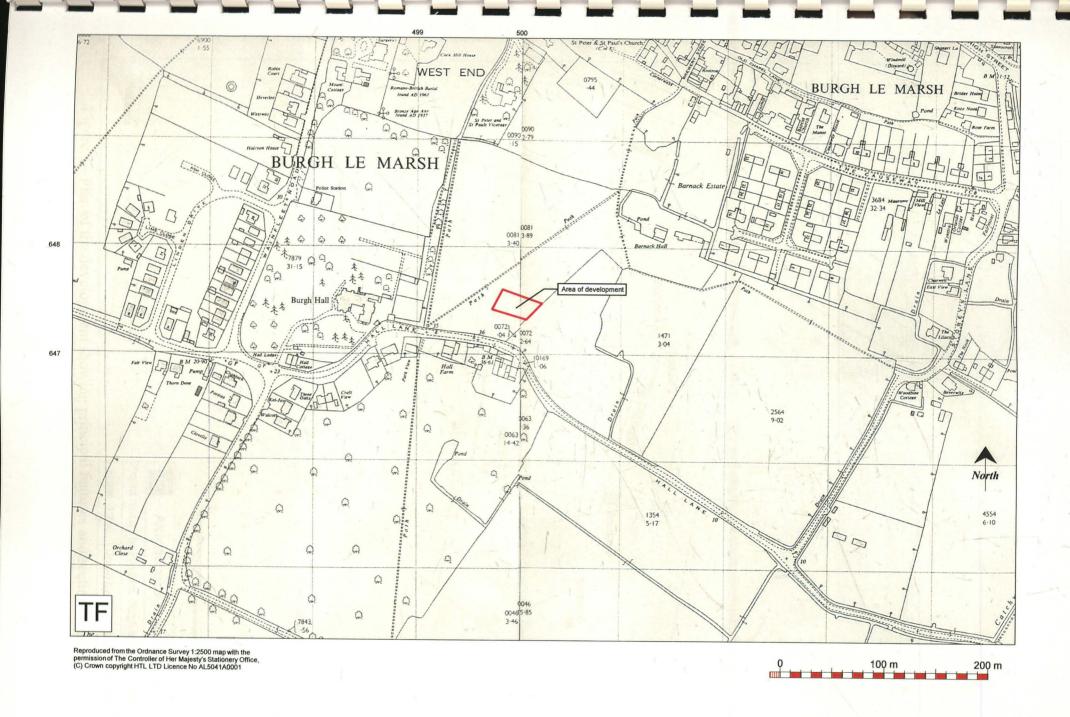


Figure 2 - Site location plan

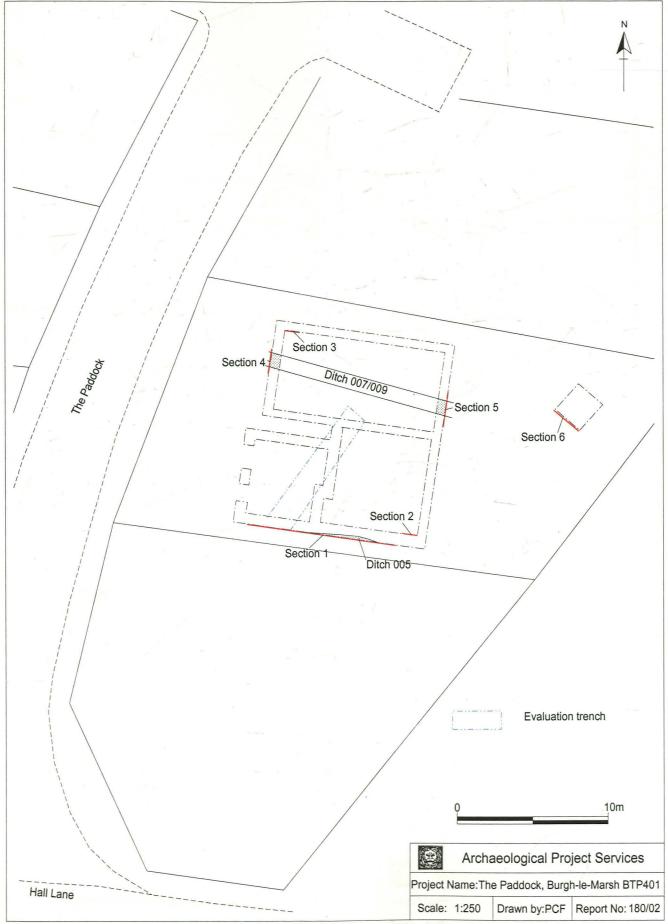


Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing principal features and section locations

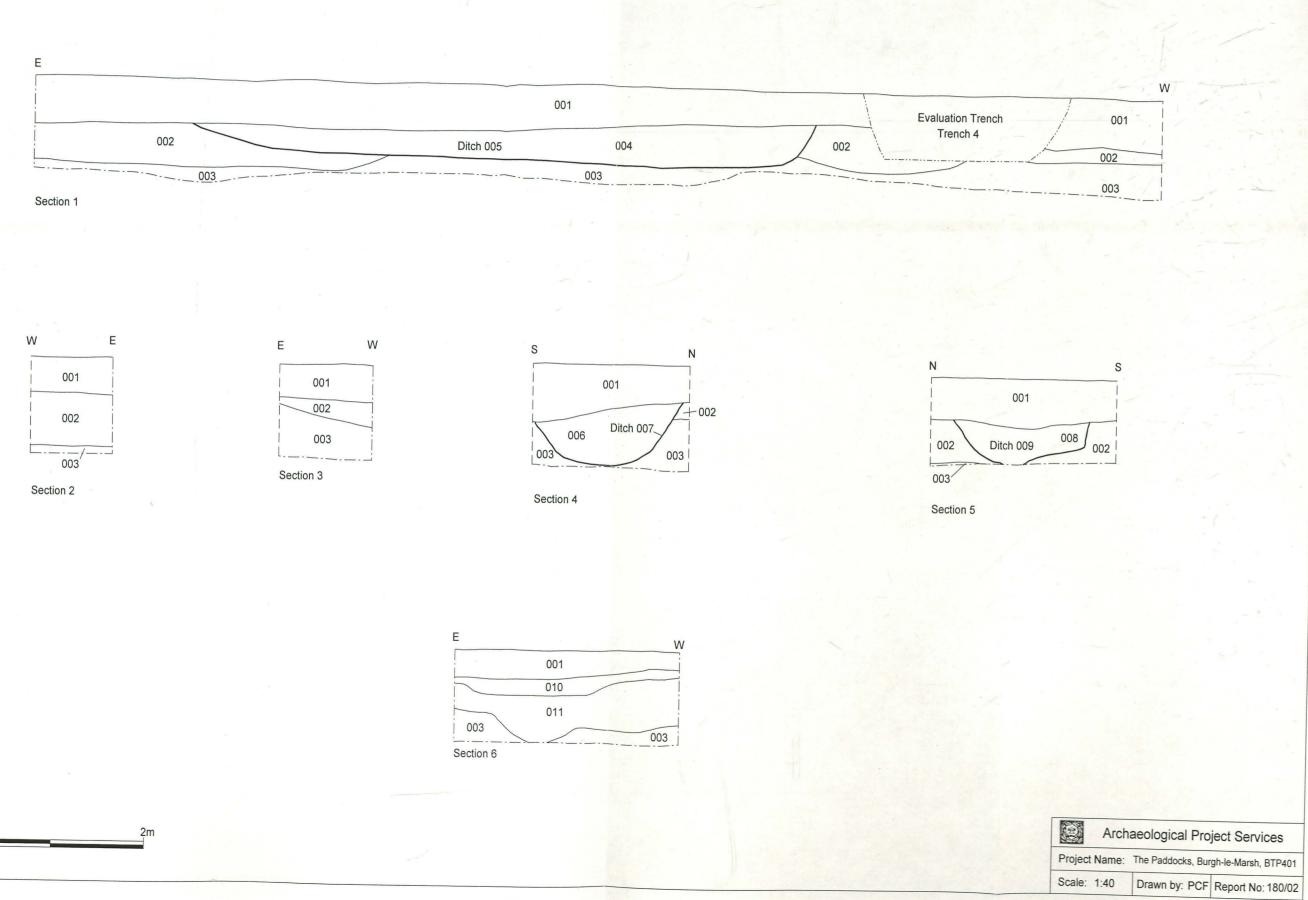


Figure 4 - Sections 1 to 6

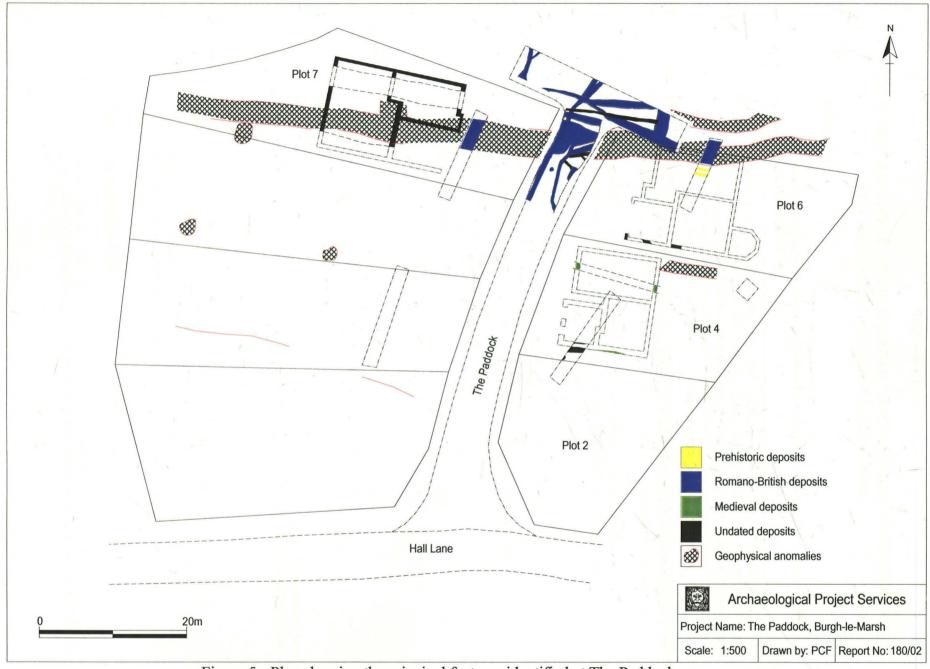


Figure 5 - Plan showing the principal features identified at The Paddock

PLOT 4, THE PADDOCK, BURGH-LE-MARSH, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 A watching brief is required during residential development at Plot 4, The Paddock, Burgh-le-Marsh, Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The area of the development has been subject to previous archaeological investigation and is archaeologically sensitive. Archaeological trial trenching revealed ditches of Romano-British and Saxon or later date. The finds from the investigations suggests a multi-period site with Iron Age and early and mid-Roman material recovered but with higher occupancy during the late Roman period. There is also evidence of continued activity in the Saxon period.
- 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

- This document comprises a specification for an archaeological watching brief during groundworks connected with residential development at Plot 4, The Paddock, (off Hall Lane) Burgh-le-Marsh, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 500 648.
- 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 Burgh-le-Marsh is located 5km west of Skegness in the East Lindsey district of Lincolnshire. The proposed development site lies to the south of the village centre, on the north side of Hall Lane at National Grid Reference TF 500 648.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 The general area of the proposed development has been subject to previous archaeological investigation (Fig 1). A planning application (S/23/734/01) for residential development at Plot 4, The Paddock, Burgh-le-Marsh is subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief to be undertaken during all groundworks associated with the development.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 The site lies at c. 12m OD on ground sloping to the south and east. Local soils are fine-coarse loamy soils of the Holderness Association developed on chalky till and glaciofluvial drift (Hodge et al. 1984, 214).

6 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 6.1 Burgh le Marsh is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Mesolithic period to the present day. Prehistoric discoveries of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age date have been made and it is conjectured that Burgh le Marsh is situated on or close to a major prehistoric route across the Wolds.
- 6.2 During the Romano-British period Burgh le Marsh was probably the site of a settlement, located at the eastern, coastal end of a Roman road running from Lincoln and Horncastle. Frequent finds of Romano-British pottery and coins have been made, and two Romano-British burials have been recorded close to Cock Pit House.
- 6.3 The area of the proposed development has been subject to archaeological investigation (Archaeological Project Services 2000 and 2001). The investigations identified a number of ditches, most dated to the Romano-British period.
- Trial trenching revealed a large ditch of Romano-British date, aligned approximately east west in the northern part of the evaluation area, together with other parallel features suggesting a substantial and long-lived boundary. The presence of medieval pottery in the upper fill implies that this boundary remained a significant landscape feature for some time.
- 6.5 The finds assemblage from the investigations suggests a multi-period site with Iron Age and early and mid-Roman material recovered but with higher occupancy during the late Roman period.

 There is also evidence of continued activity in the Saxon period.
- No direct evidence of settlement was recovered but this must have lain in the general vicinity, perhaps on the higher ground closer to the present centre of the village (Archaeological Project Services 2000 and 2001).

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

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

8 SITE OPERATIONS

8.1 General considerations

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

8.2 Methodology

- 8.2.1 The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.
- 8.2.2 Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.
- 8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 8.2.4 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
 - \$ the site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
 - \$ groups of features where their relationship is important
- 8.2.5 Should human remains be located 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 and labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
- 9.1.2 All finds recovered during the field work will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

9.2 Stage 2

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

9.3 Stage 3

- 9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.
- 9.3.2 This will consist of:
 - \$ A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
 - \$ A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.
 - \$ Description of the topography of the site.

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

10 REPORT DEPOSITION

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

11 ARCHIVE

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

12 PUBLICATION

12.1 A report of the findings of the watching brief will be 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

13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Archaeological Officer, Lincolnshire County Council. They will be given notice in writing before the commencement of the project.

14 VARIATIONS AND CONTINGENCIES

- 14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 14.2 In the event of the discovery of any unexpected remains of archaeological importance, or of any changed circumstances, it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to inform the archaeological curator (*Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* 1998, Sections 5.7 and 18).
- 14.3 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation additional resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.
- 14.4 Any contingency requirement for additional fieldwork or post-excavation analysis outside the

scope of the proposed scheme of works will only be activated following full consultation with the archaeological curator and the client.

15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 15.1 The watching brief will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the archaeological site work.
- 15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- 15.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one person-day) will require a post-excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half person-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about four days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

16 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

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

Task Body to be undertaking the work

Conservation Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln

Pottery Analysis Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Unit

Roman - B Precious, Independent Specialist

Anglo-Saxon - J Young, Independent Specialist

Medieval and later - Gary 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

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

18 COPYRIGHT

- 18.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.
- 18.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for

educational, public and research purposes.

- 18.3 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 and may result in legal action.
- 18.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

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CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation	
001	Firm mid reddish brown silty sand, 0.45m thick	Topsoil	
002	Firm light reddish brown clay	Natural deposit	
003	Firm light reddish brown to yellowish brown sand	Natural deposit	
004	Firm mid reddish brown silty sand	Fill of (005)	
005	Linear feature, aligned east-west, >6.6m long by 0.44m deep, steep sides and flat base	Ditch	
006	Firm mid reddish brown sandy silt	Fill of (007)	
007	Possible linear feature, >1.6m long by >0.6m wide by 0.7m deep, steep sides and rounded base	Ditch	
800	Firm mid reddish brown silty clay	Fill of (009)	
009	Linear feature, aligned east-west, >0.6m long by 1.45m wide by 0.48m deep, steep sides and rounded base	Ditch (continuation of 007)	
010	Firm white limestone/chalk fragments, 0.2m thick	Hardstanding	
011	Firm dark reddish brown clayey silt, 0.6m thick	Dumped deposit	

THE FINDS

By Jane Cowgill, Tom Lane, Barbara Precious and Jane Young

The Roman Pottery

Context	Fabric	Comments	No.	Wt (g)
001	Greyware	Body sherd, groove, bowl with wide rim mouth	1	16
	Shell tempered ware	Leached, rim sherd, dense shell	1	21
	Grog tempered ware	Body sherd	1	18

The three fairly fresh sherds are dateable to the mid 2^{nd} to 3^{rd} century.

The Medieval Pottery

Context	Fabric Code	Comments	No.	Wt (g)	Date	
	BOUA	Bourne type jar, internal sooting	1	6		
001	TOY	Toynton jug/jar, soot	1	17		
	TOY	Toynton jug, thumbed base	1	24	mid 13 th to 14 th	
	TOY	Toynton jar?, very abraded	.1	4		
	TOY	Toynton, very abraded	1	3	century	
	TOY	Toynton jar rim	1	22		
	WEMS	Wheelthrown early medieval shell tempered	1	8		
004	BEVO1T	Beverley ware jug, developed splashed glaze	1	5	12 th century	
008	WEMS	Wheelthrown early medieval shell tempered bowl, everted rim	1	4	12 th century	
011	BEVO2T	Beverley ware jug	1	4	mid 13 th to 14 th	
011	TOY	Toynton base sherd, sooted	1	2	century	

The Industrial Residue

A single piece of iron smithing slag from context (006) weighing 7g and of probable post-medieval date was recovered during investigations in Burgh le Marsh. As an isolated piece it is most likely to have been imported to the site, rather than indicating smithing in the area.

The Flint

A single flint blade flake of Neolithic date was retrieved from context (011) weighing 2g.

Conclusions

The Romano-British pottery provides further evidence of Roman activity. Similarly, the prehistoric flint contributes to discoveries of this period in the vicinity. The medieval ceramic denotes use of the area in the 12th to 14th centuries.

GLOSSARY

Boulder Clay A deposit formed after the retreat of a glacier. Also known as till, this material is

generally unsorted and can comprise of rock flour to boulders to rocks of quite

substantial size.

Bronze Age A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between

2250 and 800 BC.

Burh Old English (Saxon) term for a fortified town or dwelling.

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.

Iron Age A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between

800 BC and AD 50.

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.

Mesolithic The 'Middle Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately

8200-4500 BC.

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 1500-1800.

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.

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 11 Context records
- 5 Sheets of scale drawings
- 1 Photographic record sheet
- Stratigraphic matrix
- 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: 2001.167

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: BTP4 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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