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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
ON LAND AT 71 HIGH STREET,
BOSTON,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BHS 02)**



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

EVENT 413830

SOURCES 418473 418474

13645 4183896 Medieval

13646 4183897 Post Medieval

Conservation
Services

10 JAN 2003

Highways & Planning
Directorate

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
ON LAND AT 71 HIGH STREET,
BOSTON,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BHS 02)**

**Work Undertaken For
GGK SMITH PROPERTIES**

December 2002

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

Planning Application No: B/01/0671/FULL
National Grid Reference: TF 3260 4360
City and County Museum Accession No: 2002.474

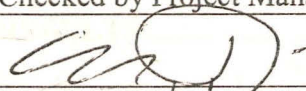
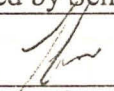
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



A.P.S. Report No. 220/02

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BHS 02

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken to determine the archaeological implications of proposed development on land at 71 High Street, Boston, Lincolnshire.

The site lies to the southwest of the medieval (AD 1066-1540) core of Boston, which was bounded by the Barditch on the east side of the River Witham. Settlement gradually grew up on the western bank but was initially limited to the northern extent of High Street. By the early 14th century a Carmelite Friary was established along High Street, possibly encompassing part of the site.

The investigations revealed undated layers, probably of medieval date in an area of open ground, part of which may have still been marshy. During the medieval period a stone wall had been constructed, although it is not known if this is part of a structure or served a boundary function. Post-medieval remains comprise a number of dumped and demolition deposits, although no structures were identified. A possible ditch, a quantity of pits and a brick drain were also of the post-medieval period

Finds of medieval date include locally produced pottery, roof tile and a bone pinbeater. Post-medieval pottery also included locally produced examples although these were gradually replaced by mass produced pottery from kilns in Staffordshire and possibly London. A single German imported stoneware sherd was also identified. Brick, tile, clay pipe and a small assemblage of animal bone was also retrieved.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

An archaeological evaluation is defined as 'a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If such archaeological remains are present Field Evaluation defines their character and extent, and relative quality; and it enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate' (IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr T. Clay Chartered Architect on behalf of GGK Smith Properties to undertake an archaeological evaluation at 71 High Street, Boston, Lincolnshire. This was in order to determine the archaeological resource affected by proposed development at the site as detailed in Planning Application B/01/00671/FULL. The evaluation was undertaken between the 4th and 8th November 2002 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the Community Archaeologist for Boston Borough Council.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Boston is situated 45km southeast of Lincoln and approximately 7km northwest from the coast of The Wash, in the Fenland of south Lincolnshire. Bisected by the River Witham, the town is located in the administrative district of Boston, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The proposed development site is located on the south side of the town,

approximately 500m south of the town centre as defined by the parish church of St. Botolph's (Fig. 2). Centred on National Grid Reference TF 3260 4360, the site is approximately 320m² in extent and is situated at a height of c. 5.4m OD. The site is on generally level ground on the levees of the west bank of the River Witham.

Local soils have not been mapped as it is within an urban area. However, local soils are likely to be of the Wisbech Series, typically coarse silty calcareous alluvial gley soils (Robson 1990 36). These soils are developed upon a drift geology of younger marine alluvium which in turn overlies a solid geology of Jurassic Amphill Clay (BGS 1995).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

There is little evidence for prehistoric remains in the Boston area as the land surface of that period is now buried by later alluvium (peats, silts, clays *etc.*). A Neolithic stone axe, found within the town, is considered to be a later import.

Stratified Romano-British deposits have been found at Boston Grammar School, 350m to the east, where occupation remains of the period were recorded 1.4m below the present ground surface (Palmer-Brown 1996, 5).

Boston is not mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. However, the survey recorded two churches and two fisheries in Skirbeck, southeast of the current town (Foster and Longley 1976). One of these churches was granted to St. Mary's abbey, York in 1089. In 1130, Boston received its first mention when it was referred to as '*Botulvestan*' (Dover 1972, 1).

The investigation lies outside the medieval core of the town which was encircled on its eastern side by the *Barditch* and the river. On the western bank of the river,

settlement grew up around the bridge and partly along High Street. The first reference to a thoroughfare along the route of High Street occurs in 1191 when a causeway named as Bridge Street extended as far as the gutter or Hammond Beck (Owen 1984, 43).

The proposed development area may lie within the precinct of the Carmelite Friary. The Carmelites had an oratory in Boston from 1293 and were given license to build a church, and a house and to maintain a graveyard. By 1307, the friars were obtaining various plots of land and were granted a second opportunity to build a church indicating that they had obtained a new site for the monastery (Page 1988, 216). Although the extent of the friary buildings and precinct is not known, it has been suggested that there was gatehouses opposite Doughty Quay and on West Street and reached as far south as Liquor Pond Street (Thompson 1856, 110). No friary buildings are believed to have fronted the High Street, apart from the supposed gatehouses. The house was subsequently dissolved in 1538 and the lands, comprising five acres, were purchased by the borough of Boston in 1544 (Page 1988, 217). Masonry, typical of an ecclesiastical building, has been found during archaeological investigations reused in foundations adjacent to Paddock Grove (Taylor 1994, 3). Furthermore, burials have been found along Liquor Pond Street during roadworks, which may possibly relate to the friary.

An early map of the vicinity, dating to 1741, depicts the site as a built up area fronting High Street (here also called Goat Street) with formal gardens to the west of this (Molyneux and Wright 1974, Map 6). By 1829, Liquor Pond Street had been constructed and the site lay within an area labelled as a brewery (*ibid.* Map 8).

3. AIMS

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

4. METHODS

Two trenches were excavated by machine. The position of the trenches was largely dictated by the presence of standing buildings, buried services and a brick cistern. As a result, one trench lay close to the street frontage with one set behind it. The positions of the trenches were measured in relation to standing buildings and walls.

The trenches were excavated to a depth of 1.2m, the maximum safe depth of unshored trenches as recommended by the Health and Safety Executive. The size of the trenches were to facilitate the possibility of deepening the trenches beyond the 1.2m safe depth. Once machine excavation was completed, the sides of the trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were then excavated by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material.

Environmental sampling was undertaken at the discretion of the site supervisor in accordance with guidelines established by

Murphy and Wiltshire (1994). The methodology for the subsequent processing of the environmental samples is outlined in the environmental report (Appendix 5).

Each deposit exposed during the evaluation was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. All contexts and their descriptions appear as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled using both colour slides and black and white formats. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20 and plans at a scale of 1:20. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

Following excavation, all records were checked and ordered to ensure that they constituted a complete Level II archive and a stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced. Artefacts recovered from excavated deposits were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 3). Phasing was based on artefact dating and the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis four phases were identified;

- | | |
|---------|------------------------|
| Phase 1 | Undated deposits |
| Phase 2 | Medieval deposits |
| Phase 3 | Post-medieval deposits |
| Phase 4 | Recent deposits |

Archaeological deposits are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field. All phases are described in trench order.

Phase 1 Undated deposits

Trench 1

The earliest deposit encountered by auger in Trench 1 was a 0.16m layer of light grey silty sand (141) at a depth of 2.5m below the present ground surface. This was overlain by further deposits of grey silty sand (137, 138, 140) and grey to black silty sand (139). Due to augering, the nature of these deposits could not be determined.

Overlying this sequence of deposits was a 0.25m thick layer of grey silty sand (136), possibly representing natural soil build up (Fig. 5, Section 15).

Trench 2

The earliest deposit encountered at a height of 2.87m OD in the base of Trench 2 was a black organic silt (257) measuring over 0.29m thick. This was in turn overlain by a firm grey to black organic silt (255). Measuring over 0.85m thick these deposits thinned towards the east suggesting they might lie within a feature. Environmental evidence indicates they were probably formed within a waterlogged environment (Appendix 4). Sealing this was a 100mm thick dark grey silt (254) followed by a layer of brown sandy silt (253).

Phase 2 Medieval deposits

Trench 1

Overlying the undated silty sand (136) was a layer of grey clay (134). Measuring 60mm thick, this layer contained a bone pinbeater and a fragment of roof tile of possible late medieval date.

Trench 2

Cut into the undated sandy silt (253), was an east-west aligned linear feature. Measuring over 1.4m long and wider than

0.94m, this trench contained a rough ashlar limestone, mortar and tile wall (213). This wall, which was over 0.8m wide was constructed upon two layers of silty sand (250 and 256). A single tile fragment from the wall is medieval in date.

Butting against this wall was a series of dumped deposits with a combined thickness of c. 0.4m. The lowest was a greenish grey sandy silt (252). This was 100mm thick and contained pottery of 12th–13th century date. The other dumped deposits comprised greyish brown silty sand (244, 245), yellowish brown sand (246), brown sand (247) and mixed yellowish brown and brown sand (249).

Phase 3 Post-medieval deposits

Trench 1

Overlying the medieval clay layer (134) was a 0.22m thick deposit of brown silty sand (133). This was in turn sealed by greyish brown silty clay (132), then brown silty sand (131) and yellowish brown silty clay (130). Overlying this was a dumped or demolition deposit of yellowish brown silty sand that contained frequent brick and tile fragments (128) and measured 0.2m thick. This was capped by a dumped deposit of yellowish brown silty sand (119).

Overlying this dumped deposit were two demolition deposits, one of yellowish brown sandy silt (118) and the second of grey clayey silt (125), with both containing frequent brick and tile fragments. Pottery retrieved from the first of these deposits contained pottery of 15th–17th century date.

Cutting these demolition deposits was an east-west aligned linear feature (129). This was longer than 2m, over 1.1m wide and 1.13m deep. Identified as a possible ditch, it contained a primary fill of grey clay with black lenses (127) and a secondary fill of

grey sandy silt (106). Pottery recovered from the secondary fill included redeposited medieval wares as well as 17th century examples.

Sealing the ditch was a 0.22m thick dumped deposit of yellowish brown silty clay (108) into which were cut two features. The first was a posthole (120) which was 0.3m wide and 0.2m deep and filled with yellowish grey silty sand (116). The second was a pit (126) which was 0.6m wide and 0.7m deep and containing a single fill of grey sandy silt with brick and tile fragments (117).

Sealing these features were dumped deposits of greyish black silty clay (114) and yellowish brown silty clay (108). Cut into the dumped deposit was a further pit (105) which was 0.4m wide and 0.7m deep (Fig. 5, Section 1). Two fills were recorded, a lower of brownish yellow silty sand (107) and an upper of reddish brown sandy silt (104).

Trench 2

Sealing the medieval deposits in Trench 2 was a dumped deposit comprising yellowish brown silty sand (243) which was 0.23m deep. A post-medieval handmade brick was recovered from this layer. Cut into this deposit was a possible linear gully (242) aligned northwest-southeast (Fig. 6). This was over 0.8m long, over 1m wide and 0.17m deep (Fig. 8, Section 7) and contained a single fill of brown silty sand (241).

Truncating this feature, as well as the medieval wall (213), on its western side was a sub-rectangular pit (226). This was over 1.7m long, over 1.5m wide and 0.67m deep. This pit contained fills comprising brown silty sand with mortar (224), brown silty sand with brick and tile fragments (225) and brown silty sand with both mortar and brick and tile fragments (240).

Cut into the uppermost fill of this pit on its southern side was an indeterminate feature (223), possibly relating to further demolition of the medieval wall. This was 0.57m wide and 0.18m deep and contained two fills, a lower of brown silty sand (222) and an upper fill of mortar, limestone and silty sand (221).

Overlying the pit (226) on its northern side was a series of dumped deposits. These ranged from brownish grey silty sand (239), brownish grey sandy silt (238) and brown silty sand (237).

Along the southern edge of the trench, overlying feature (223) was a 100mm thick layer of greyish brown silty sand with charcoal (220), possibly representing a former topsoil. Dumped deposits of limestone fragments (219) and brown sand with mortar (212) overlay the possible former topsoil. Cut into this former topsoil on the western side of the trench was a possible pit (236). This was over 0.35m wide and 0.23m deep and contained a primary fill of greyish brown silty sand (235) and a fill of crushed limestone, brown silty sand and charcoal (234).

Sealing this pit was a deposit of brown sandy silt (218) which was 0.14m thick. This was cut along the southern edge of the trench by a pit (217) which was 0.63m wide and 0.14m deep. This contained a single fill of brown silty sand with coal (216). Cutting deposit (218) on the western edge of the trench was an east-west aligned linear feature (233) that was 0.65m wide and 0.5m deep. At the base of this feature were deposits comprising brown sandy silt with mortar fragments (232), brown sand (231) and cinders and coal (230) upon which a brick drain had been constructed (229).

Filling this drain and extending northwards and eastwards was a possible former topsoil deposit of brown silty sand with

mortar and brick/tile fragment (228) which was overlain by a dumped deposit of cinders and coal (227). To the east, deposit (228) became a more greyish brown sand (208).

Overlying deposit (208) was a 50mm thick dumped layer of coal and sand which was cut by a shallow pit (215). This pit was 1.4m wide by 0.17m deep and contained five fills, varying from brown sand (202), through brown silty sand (203), yellow sand (204), mixed sands (205) to brownish grey sand (206).

This pit was cut on its southern side by a robber trench (214) which removed some of the courses of the medieval wall (213) in the southeast corner of the trench. This trench had been backfilled with pinkish brown silty sand (209), grey sand (210), brown sand (211) and brown sand with mortar fragments (212).

Phase 4 Recent deposits

Trench 1

Overlying the post-medieval pit were a number of layers associated with a path or drive. The lowest was a yellowish brown silty clay (109) which was overlain by grey ash and clinker (103 and 110). This was sealed by a yellowish brown silty clay (115) representing a levelling deposit for the present driveway (101). On the north side of the trench were two postholes (121 and 122) which were filled with reddish brown silty sand (112) and greyish black silty clay (113) respectively.

Trench 2

Sealing all deposits in Trench 2 was a layer of gravel and limestone fragments (201) identified as the present driveway surface.

6. DISCUSSION

No natural deposits were identified during this evaluation. Previous evaluations in the vicinity have identified natural deposits at c. 2.5m OD (Rayner 2000), which is approximately the same as depths reached during this work.

Phase 1 (Undated) deposits were encountered in the smaller sondages and auger holes cut in the base of the two trenches. As such, interpretation of these deposits is limited. Although artefactual material is scarce, it is probable that they are medieval in origin. Environmental data suggests that these deposits were laid down in a wet or marsh environment which was gradually drying out. Such deposits could also be formed within a water filled feature such as a ditch, which may be suggested by the thickening of the deposit (255).

Medieval deposits (Phase 2) include a short length of limestone wall and a number of layers. The wall is constructed on silt foundation deposits which are likely to have aided drainage and have previously been recognised in King's Lynn (Clarke and Carter 1977, 439). The wall is of such a size to suggest it is part of a structure which would lie to the south of Trench 2 as no floor layers were identified during the evaluation. If this wall is part of a structure and not a boundary wall, it could suggest a relatively high status building fronting onto the High Street. However, although limited in their quantity, the quality and range of finds would not support this notion. There is nothing to suggest that this wall forms part of the Carmelite priory known to have existed in the general area and broadly contemporary, although as a stone wall of 12th-13th century date, it has considerable local significance.

Post-medieval deposits (Phase 3) were the most numerous encountered during the evaluation. Most comprised dumped and

construction/demolition deposits, although a possible ditch, a number of pits and a brick drain were also encountered. The demolition deposits indicate that there was a brick building in the vicinity, although no structural remains were identified. The possible ditch is open to interpretation and may be a large linear pit as no eastern extension to this feature was identified in Trench 2.

Finds of medieval date retrieved from this evaluation include two sherds of probable locally produced pottery, a bone pinbeater and roofing tile. The pinbeater suggests that weaving was being undertaken in the vicinity. Post-medieval finds include a quantity of pottery, both locally produced and imported from elsewhere in the country and a single example imported from kilns in Germany. Brick and tile were also retrieved along with clay pipes and a small quantity of industrial residues which may indicate ironworking in the vicinity.

A small assemblage of animal bone was retrieved from this evaluation. Although the assemblage is too small for meaningful analysis, sheep and cattle were the most dominant species identified with only cattle identified from medieval deposits. Pig, dog and a bird, possibly goose, were also identified.

Environmental preservation at the site was exceptional but limited to waterlogged material from the basal layers in Trench 2. Waterlogged plant remains, including cereal grains, seeds and fruit were retrieved, along with seeds indicating a brackish water environment. Fish bones, mollusc shell fragments and arthropods were also recovered.

7. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

For assessment of significance the *Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling ancient monuments* has been used (DoE 1990, Annex; See Appendix 5).

Period

Deposits encountered during this evaluation were dated to medieval and later periods. Undated deposits were also identified which are likely to be of medieval origin.

Rarity

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

Documentation

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

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

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

Group value

Remains of a possible medieval wall were revealed and may relate to contemporary standing structures in the vicinity. As a consequence, these have moderate group value. The post-medieval remains revealed indicate widespread dumping and demolition and thus have low group value.

Additionally, all the remains are of medieval and later date and hence have moderate to low chronological group value.

Survival/Condition

The deposits and features revealed during the investigation appeared to have survived in moderately good condition, although earlier remains were affected by post-medieval activities.

Fragility/Vulnerability

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

Diversity

Many of the remains revealed relate to domestic use of the site or subsequent refuse disposal during the post-medieval period. Consequently, diversity appears to be low.

Potential

Potential for further archaeological remains of medieval date is considered moderate, particularly south of Trench 2 where there may be surviving floor levels associated with the wall. The potential for post-medieval remains in the area is moderately high.

Environmental samples retrieved during this investigation identified waterlogged plant remains indicative of a marshy area. This material survived in good condition and has considerable potential for providing information to aid in the understanding of the growth of Boston during the medieval period.

8. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at 71 High Street, Boston, to determine the archaeological resource prior

to development at the site. This was required as the site lay close to the medieval core of the town and in proximity to previously recorded archaeological remains.

The earliest deposits encountered were undated due to a lack of artefactual material, but are likely to be medieval date. Securely dated medieval remains were encountered and comprise a short length of stone wall, of 12th-13th century date or earlier, and a number of layers.

During the post-medieval period, the site was typified by extensive dumped and construction/demolition deposits, along with a possible ditch, a number of pits and a brick drain.

A small collection of locally produced medieval pottery was retrieved from the site along with roof tile and a bone pinbeater of the period. Post-medieval pottery was also recovered and includes locally produced wares as well as some regional imports from southern England and Staffordshire. Clay pipe, brick, tile, metalwork and animal bones were also recovered.

9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr T. Clay who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis on behalf of GGK Smith Properties who also permitted access to the site. The project was coordinated by Gary Taylor who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Rebecca Wilcox, the Boston Community Archaeologist, kindly permitted examination of the relevant parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

10. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
 Site Supervisor: Paul Cope-Faulkner
 Site Staff: Chris Moulis, Pete Watkins
 Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
 Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
 Photographic Reproduction: Sue Unsworth
 Post-Excavation Analysis: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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12. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services
 BGS British Geological Survey
 DoE Department of the Environment
 IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists
 PCA Pre-Construct Archaeology

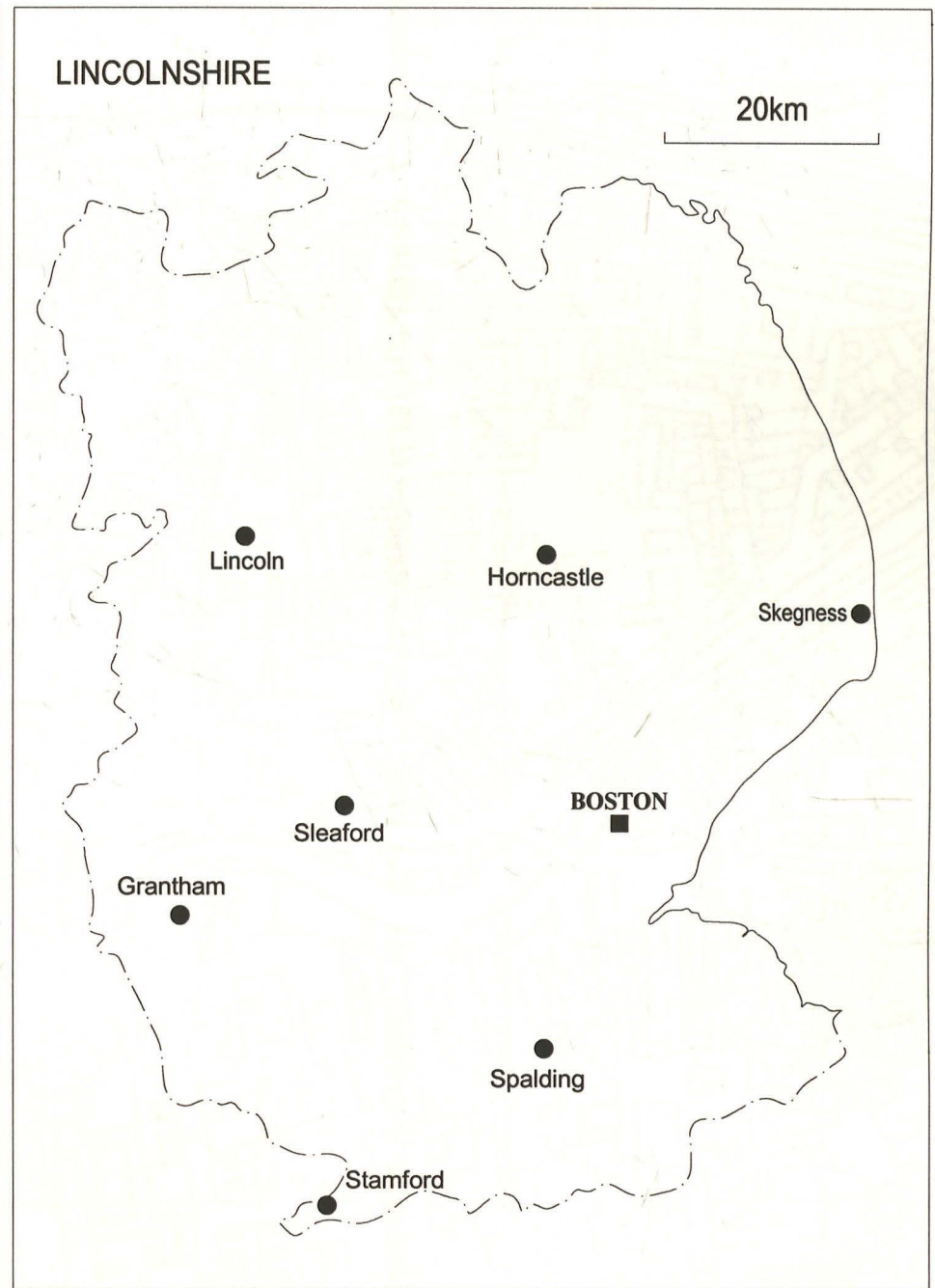
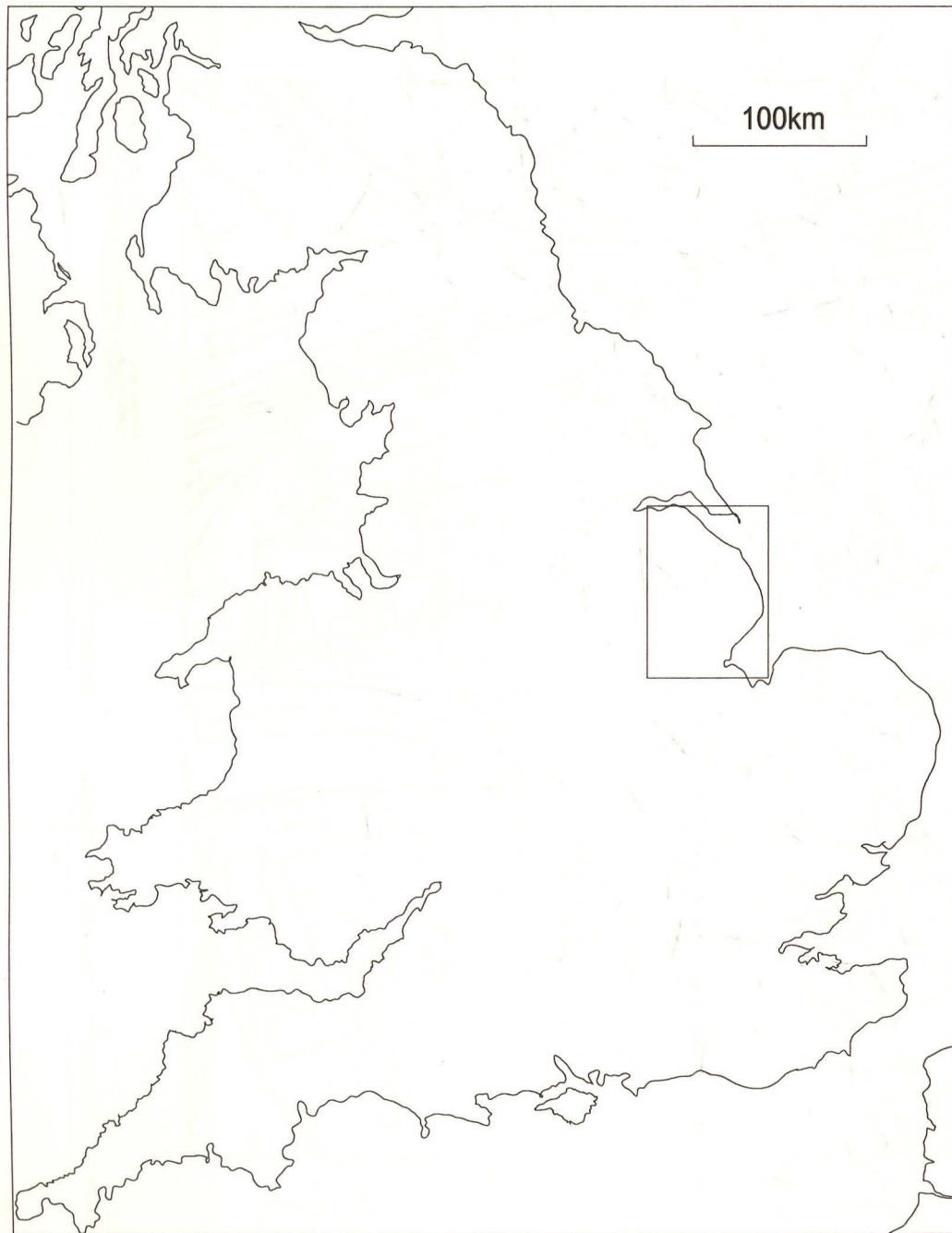


Figure 1 - General Location Plan



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Figure 2 - Site location plan

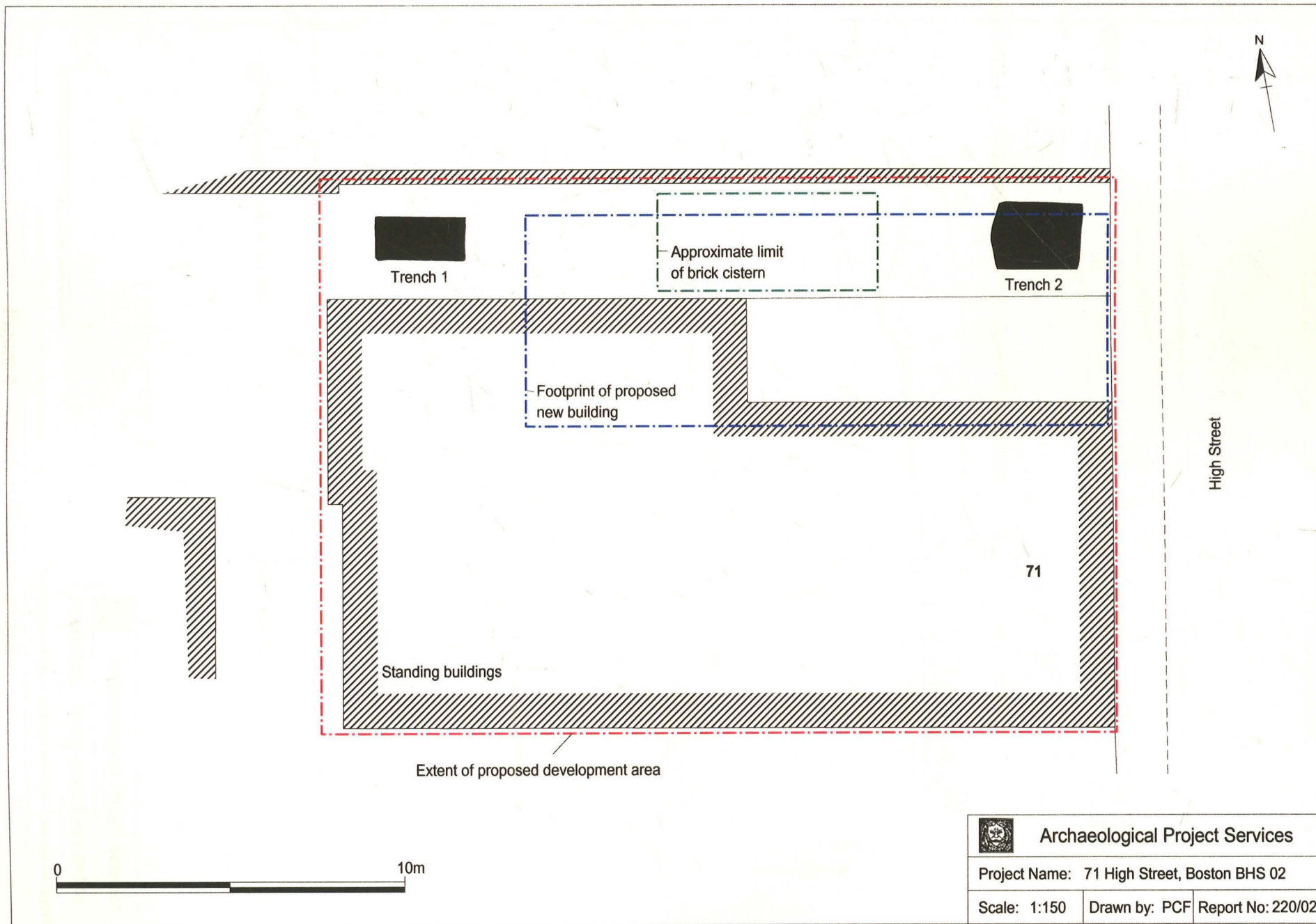


Figure 3 - Trench location plan

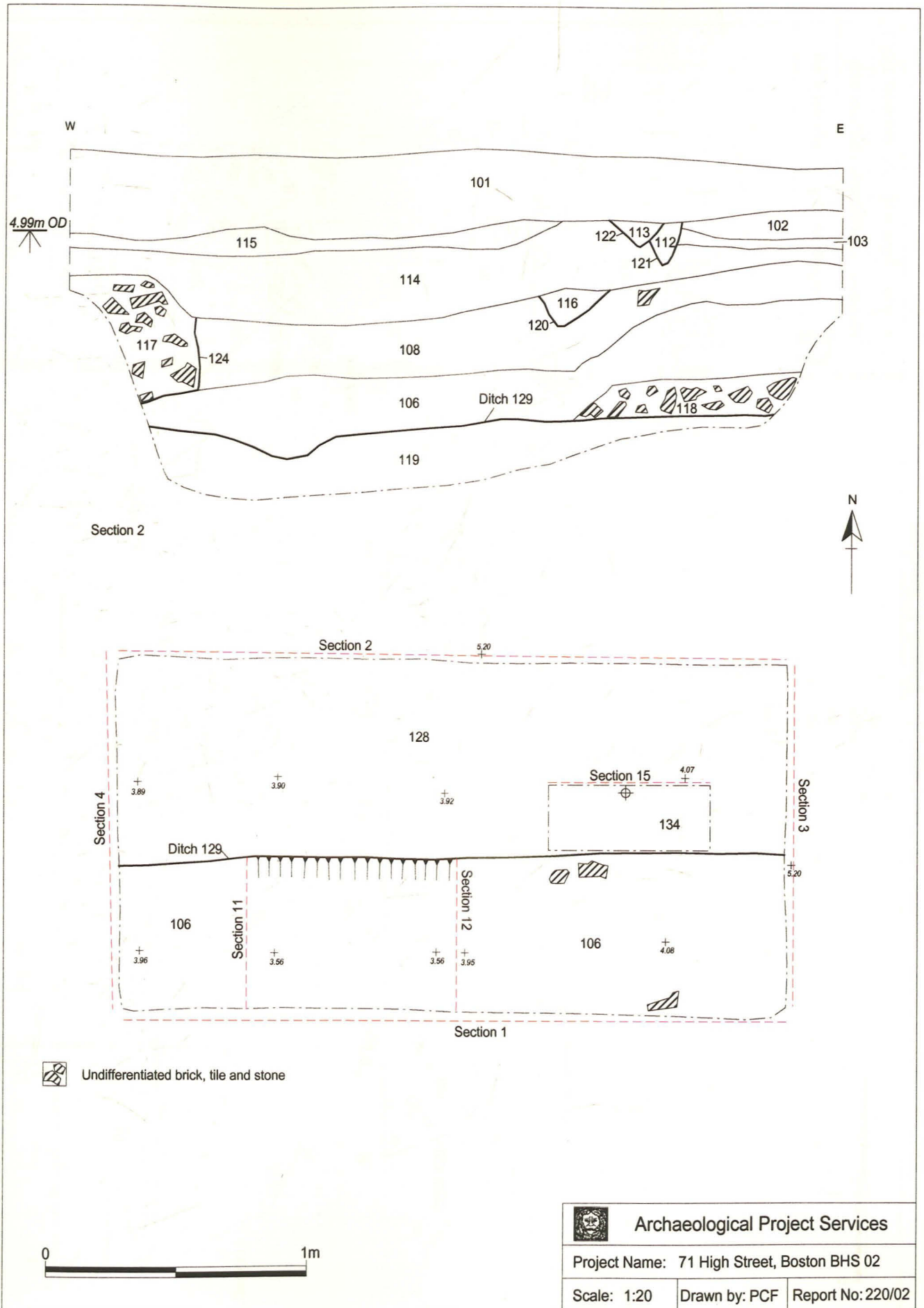


Figure 4 - Trench 1: Plan and section

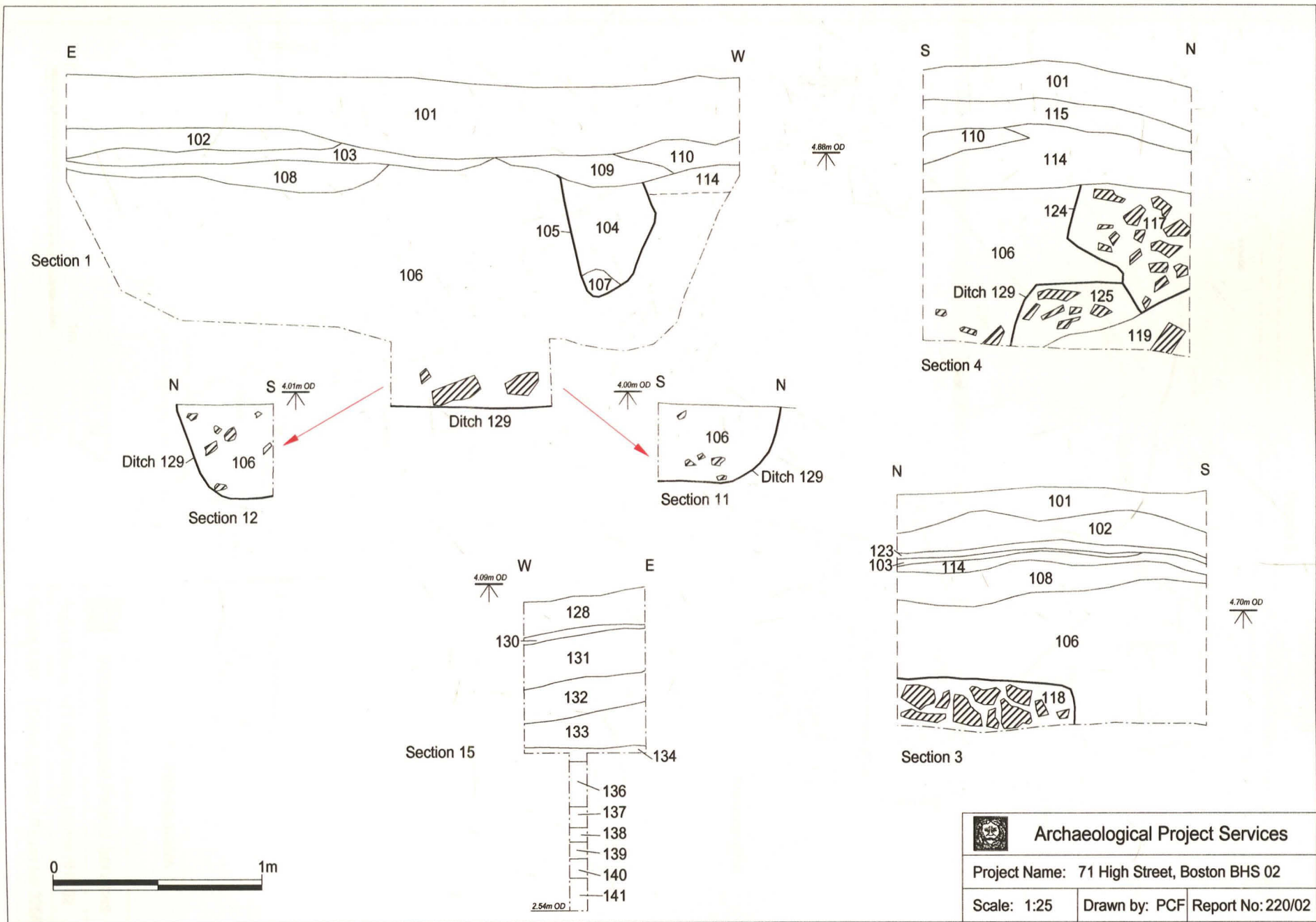

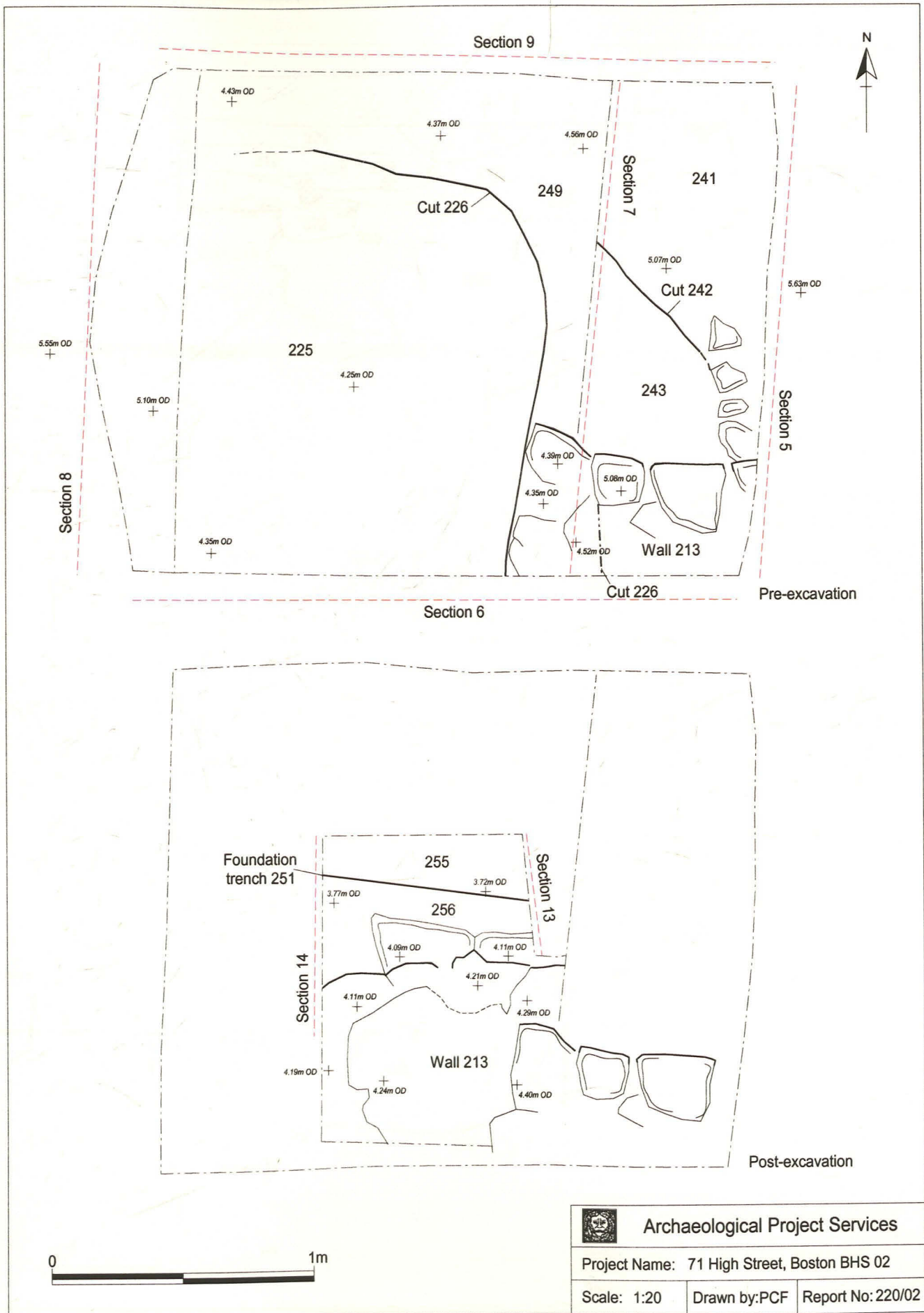


Figure 5 - Trench 1: Sections

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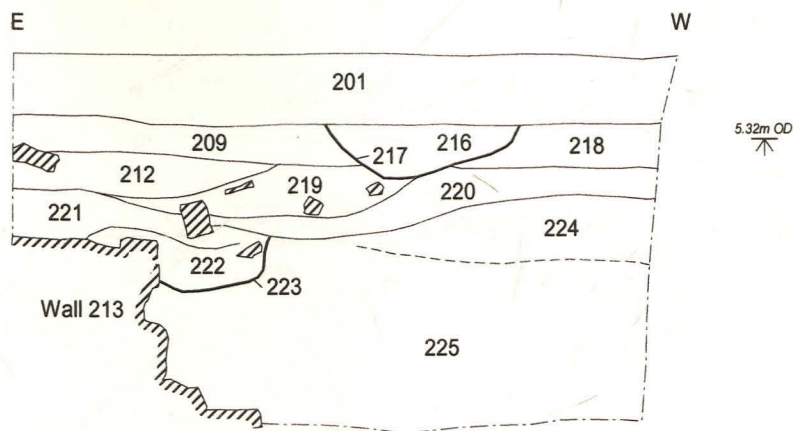
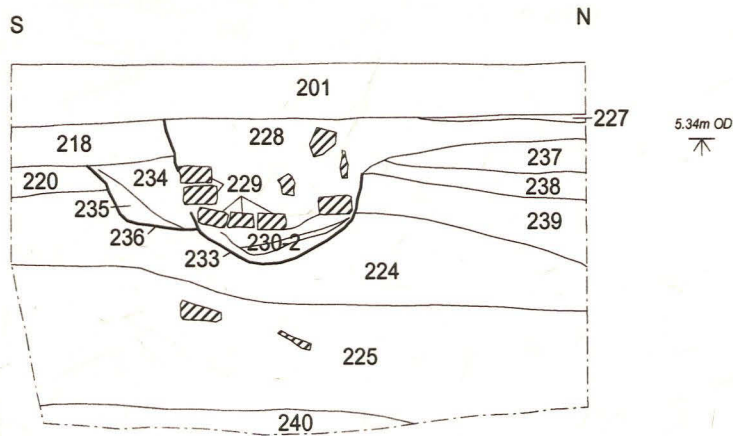
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Project Name: 71 High Street, Boston BHS 02		
Scale: 1:20	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 220/02

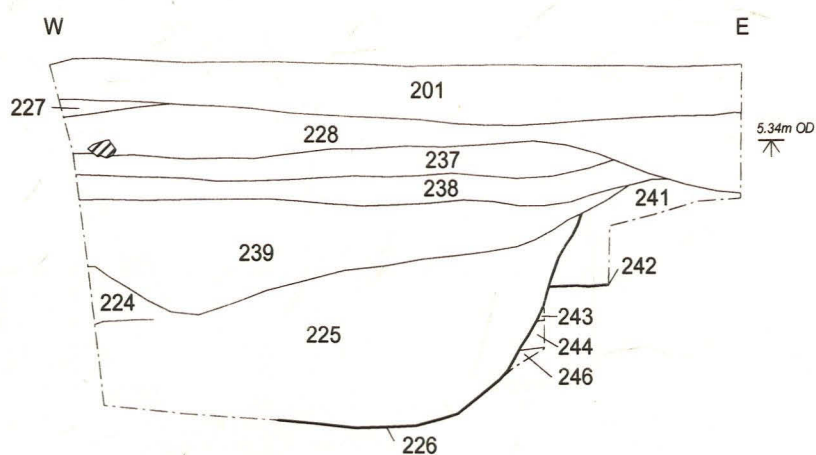
Figure 6 - Trench 2: Plans



Section 6



Section 8



Section 9



Archaeological Project Services

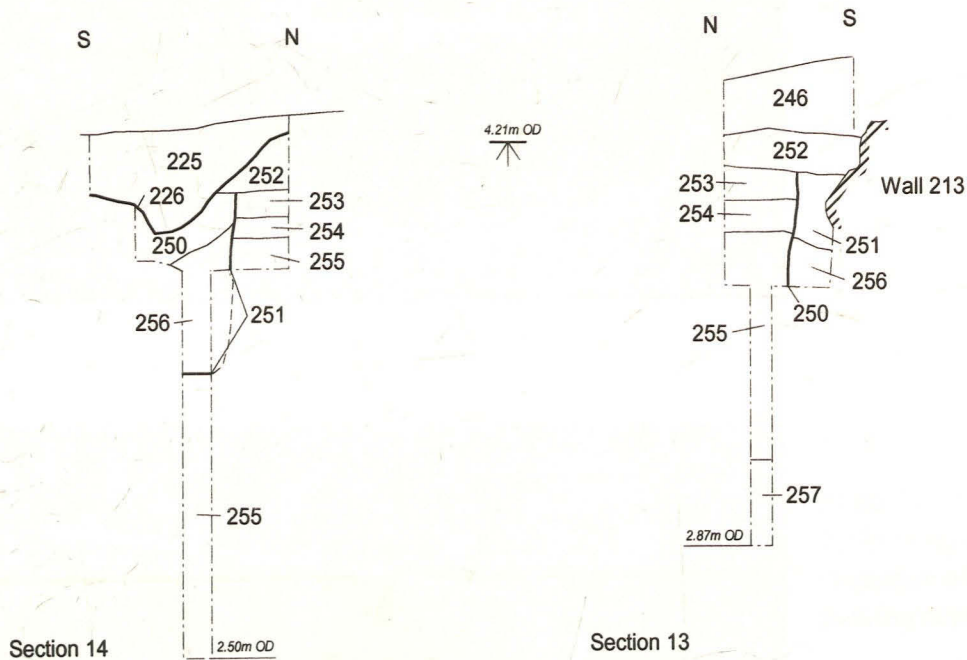
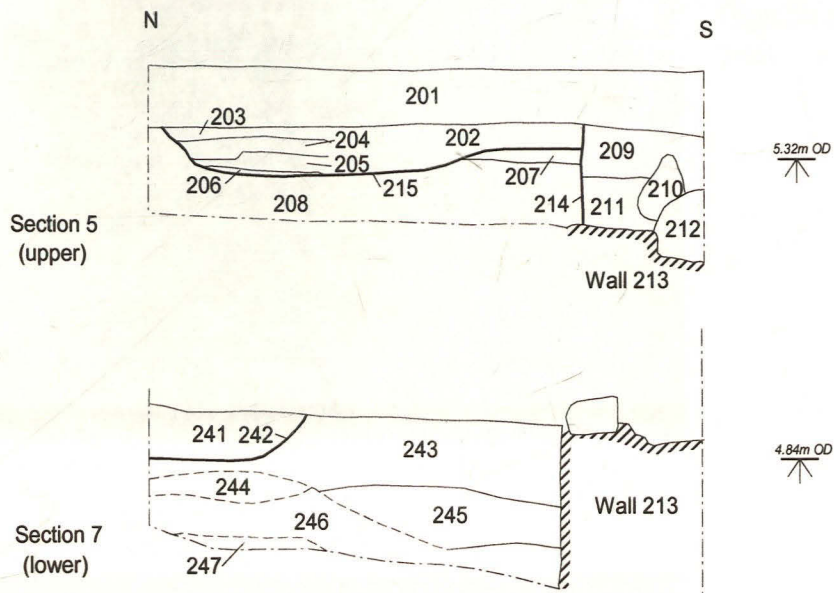
Project Name: 71 High Street, Boston BHS 02

Scale: 1:25

Drawn by:PCF

Report No: 220/02

Figure 7 - Trench 2: Sections




 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: 71 High Street, Boston BHS 02		
Scale: 1:25	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 220/02

Figure 8 - Trench 2: Sections



Plate 1 - General view towards the site from the High Street, looking southwest



Plate 2 - Trench 1: Section 1, showing the general sequence of deposits, looking south



Plate 3 - Trench 1: Section 2, showing the general sequence of deposits, looking north



Plate 4 - Trench 2: Section 9 showing the general sequence of deposits, looking northeast



Plate 5 - Trench 2: Sections 5 and 7, showing the medieval wall (213), looking east



Plate 6 - Trench 2: showing the foundation courses of the medieval wall (213), looking southeast

Appendix 1

LAND AT 71 HIGH STREET, BOSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land at 71 High Street, Boston, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The site lies in the general area of a medieval friary, with burials probably from the friary found just to the south, and re-used medieval ecclesiastical masonry, probably also from the friary, found a short distance to the north. Several half-timbered buildings of early post-medieval date are located close by on High Street, which was one of the main medieval thoroughfares in medieval.*
- 1.3 *A planning application for residential development of the site has been made. An archaeological evaluation is required to assist the determination of the application.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the findings of the investigation. The report will consist of a text describing the nature of the archaeological deposits located and will be supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land at 71 High Street, Boston, Lincolnshire
 - 2.1.1 The document contains the following parts:
 - 2.1.2 Overview
 - 2.1.3 The archaeological and natural setting
 - 2.1.4 Stages of work and methodologies to be used
 - 2.1.5 List of specialists
 - 2.1.6 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 Boston is located 45km southeast of Lincoln and 7km from the northwest coast of The Wash, in the fens of south Lincolnshire. The site is located on the High Street, west of the river Witham at national grid reference TF 3260 4360. The site is a rectangular area of approximately 320m², currently occupied by a number of derelict buildings

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A full planning application (No. B/01/0671/FULL) was submitted to Boston Borough Council for the residential development of the site, comprising three 3-storey houses with integral garages and new vehicular access. The Planning Authority have advised that an archaeological evaluation comprising a programme of trial trenching is required to assist the determination of the application.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 Local soils are the Tanvats Association typical alluvial gley soils and Wisbech Association, coarse silty calcareous soil, overlying marine alluvium (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 319, 361). The site lies on the

west bank of the Witham at approximately 6m OD on a gentle slope down westward from the river.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 The site lies in the vicinity of a medieval Carmelite Friary, established in this area in 1307. A church and other buildings were erected at that time and in 1350 the friars were given permission to extend their house and graveyard. The friary was dissolved in about 1538 and its exact location, and the positions of buildings and cemetery, are not known. However, burials were discovered during roadworks on Liquorpond Street, just to the south, and are probably related to the friary. Additionally, medieval ecclesiastical masonry was revealed during an investigation a short distance to the north, on Paddock Grove, and probably derived from the friary (Archaeological Project Services 1994).
- 6.2 Several timber-framed buildings of probable early post-medieval date are located in moderate proximity to the current site, elsewhere on High Street. The High Street was one of the main medieval thoroughfares through the town.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

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

8 LIAISON WITH THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CURATOR

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

9 TRIAL TRENCHING

- 9.1 Reasoning for this technique
 - 9.1.1 Trial trenching enables the *in situ* determination of the sequence, date, nature, depth, environmental potential and density of archaeological features present on the site.
 - 9.1.2 The trial trenching will consist of the excavation of a 2% sample of the development area, to be achieved by two (2) trenches, one placed toward the street frontage and one toward the rear of the site. A site reconnaissance has indicated that a drain and a possible cistern are located near the street frontage and therefore the trench in this area will have to be to the rear of these intrusions. Trenches may be widened and stepped-in should archaeological deposits extend

below 1.2m depth. Augering may be used to determine the depth of the sequence of deposits present.

9.2 General Considerations

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

9.3 Methodology

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

- individual features and, where appropriate, their sections.
 - groups of features where their relationship is important.
 - the site on completion of field work
- 9.4 Should human remains be encountered, they will be left *in situ* with excavation being limited to the identification and recording of such remains. If removal of the remains is necessary the appropriate Home Office licences will be obtained and the local environmental health department informed. If relevant, the coroner and the police will be notified.
- 9.5 Finds collected during the fieldwork will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered ready for later washing and analysis.
- 9.6 The spoil generated during the investigation will be mounded along the edges of the trial trenches for subsequent backfilling.
- 9.7 The precise location of the trenches within the site and the location of site recording grid will be established by an EDM survey.

10 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

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

11 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT

11.1 Stage 1

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

11.2 Stage 2

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

11.3 Stage 3

- 11.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the investigation will be prepared. This will consist of:
- A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.

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

12 ARCHIVE

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

13 REPORT DEPOSITION

- 13.1 Copies of the investigation report will be sent to: the client, GGK Smith Properties; agent Trevor Clay Chartered Architect; the Community Archaeologist, Boston Borough Council; Boston Borough Council Planning Department; and the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record.

14 PUBLICATION

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

15 CURATORIAL MONITORING

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

16 VARIATIONS TO THE PROPOSED SCHEME OF WORKS

- 16.1 Variations to the scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation from the archaeological curator.
- 16.2 Should the archaeological curator require any additional investigation beyond the scope of the brief

for works, or this specification, then the cost and duration of those supplementary examinations will be negotiated between the client and the contractor.

17 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

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

<u>Task</u>	<u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln.
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric: Dr D Knight, Trent and Peak Archaeological Trust Roman: B Precious, independent specialist
Anglo-Saxon:	J Young, independent specialist
Medieval and later:	G Taylor, APS in consultation with H Healey, independent archaeologist;
Other Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist; or G Taylor, APS
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, independent specialist
Animal Remains Analysis	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy; or P Cope-Faulkner, APS
Environmental Analysis	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
Radiocarbon dating	Beta Analytic Inc., Florida, USA
Dendrochronology dating	University of Sheffield Dendrochronology Laboratory

18 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 18.1 Fieldwork is expected to be undertaken by up to 3 staff, a supervisor and up to 2 assistants, and to take three-four (3-4) days.
- 18.2 Post-excavation analysis and report production is expected to take 10 person-days within a notional programme of 10 days. A project officer or supervisor will undertake most of the analysis, with assistance from the finds supervisor and CAD illustrator. Two half-days of specialist time are allotted in the project budget. Should it be necessary to process environmental samples, human remains, or large quantities of pottery, production of the report may require an extra time, depending on the availability of specialists.
- 18.3 Contingency
- 18.3.1 Contingencies have been specified in the budget. These include: fencing and a pump; environmental sampling/analysis of waterlogged remains; Medieval pottery- large quantities (moderate amount expected and allowed for); faunal remains -large quantities (moderate amounts expected and allowed for); Conservation and/or Other unexpected remains or artefacts.
- 18.3.2 With the exception of the fencing and pump, the activation of any contingency requirement will be by the archaeological curator (Boston Borough Archaeologist), not Archaeological Project Services.

19 INSURANCES

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

20 COPYRIGHT

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

21 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Archaeological Project Services, 1994 *Archaeological Watching Brief at 35 Paddock Grove, Boston, Lincolnshire*

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

Specification: Version 1, 23/10/02

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench 1

No.	Description	Interpretation
100	Unstratified finds retrieval	
101	Loose mid to dark greyish white silty sand and limestone, 0.37m thick	Driveway
102	Loose mid to dark yellowish brown silty clay, 0.22m thick	Make-up for (101)
103	Friable dark grey ash and clinker, 120mm thick	Former driveway/path
104	Friable mid to dark reddish brown sandy silt	Fill of (105)
105	Feature, 0.4m wide by 0.7m deep, concave sides and rounded base, appears in section only	Pit
106	Firm dark grey sandy silt	Fill of (129)
107	Compact mid to light brownish yellow silty sand	Fill of (105)
108	Loose mid to dark yellowish brown silty clay, 0.22m thick	Dumped deposit
109	Loose mid to dark yellowish brown silty clay, 0.22m thick	Make-up for (110)
110	Friable dark grey ash and clinker, 120mm thick	Former driveway/path
111	Cancelled context	
112	Friable mid to dark reddish brown silty sand with clay	Fill of (121)
113	Firm mid to dark greyish black silty clay	Fill of (122)
114	Loose mid to dark greyish black silty clay	Dumped deposit
115	Firm mid to dark yellowish brown silty clay, 0.2m thick	Levelling deposit
116	Firm mid to light yellowish grey silty sand	Fill of (120)
117	Loose mid to dark grey sandy silt with frequent brick/tile fragments	Fill of (124)
118	Loose mid to dark yellowish brown sandy silt with frequent brick/tile fragments	Demolition deposit
119	Firm mid to light yellowish brown silty sand, 0.3m thick	Dumped deposit
120	Feature, 0.3m wide by 0.2m deep, concave sides and rounded base, appears in section only	Posthole
121	Feature, 0.15m wide by 0.2m deep, steep near vertical sides and tapered point base, appears in section only	Posthole
122	Feature, 0.2m wide by 120mm deep, concave sides and rounded base, appears in section only	Posthole
123	Firm mid to light yellowish brown sand, 50mm thick	Dumped deposit
124	Feature, 0.6m wide by 0.2m deep, vertical sides and unclear base, appears in section only	Pit
125	Loose mid to dark grey clayey silt with frequent brick/tile fragments, 0.3m deep	Demolition deposit

No.	Description	Interpretation
126	Cancelled context	
127	Firm light to mid grey clay with black lenses, occasional complete brick	Fill of (129)
128	Loose mid to light yellowish brown silty sand with frequent brick/tile fragments, 0.2m thick	Layer
129	Linear feature, aligned east-west, >2.4m long by >1.1m wide by 0.94m deep, concave sides and flattish base	Possible ditch
130	Loose mid to light yellowish brown silty clay	Layer
131	Loose mid to dark brown silty sand, 0.2m thick	Layer
132	Loose mid to dark greyish brown silty clay, 0.15m thick	Layer
133	Loose mid to dark brown silty sand, 0.22m thick	Layer
134	Firm light to mid grey clay	Layer
135	Cancelled context	
136	Firm mid to light grey silty sand, 0.25m thick	Layer
137	Firm light grey silty sand, 100mm thick	Layer
138	Firm dark grey silty sand, 70mm thick	Layer
139	Firm dark grey to black silty sand, 80mm thick	Layer
140	Firm mid to dark grey silty sand, 90mm thick	Layer
141	Firm mid to light grey silty sand, >0.16m thick	Layer

Trench 2

No.	Description	Interpretation
200	Unstratified finds retrieval	
201	Friable black and off white gravel and limestone fragments, 0.18m thick	Driveway
202	Soft mid brown sand	Fill of (215)
203	Firm mid to light brown silty sand	Fill of (215)
204	Firm dark yellow coarse sand	Fill of (215)
205	Firm alternating bands of mid brownish yellow and dark brownish grey sand	Fill of (215)
206	Firm mid brownish grey sand	Fill of (215)
207	Soft black coal fragments with frequent coarse sand, 50mm thick	Dumped deposit
208	Firm mid greyish brown sand, 0.21m thick	Former topsoil
209	Firm mid pinkish brown silty sand	Fill of (214)
210	Firm dark grey sand	Fill of (214)

No.	Description	Interpretation
211	Firm mid brown sand	Fill of (214)
212	Firm mid brown sand with frequent mortar fragments	Fill of (214)
213	Limestone, mortar and tile structure, aligned east-west, >1.6m long by >0.8m wide by 1.1m high, foundation coarse of rough ashlar, random coarsing	Wall
214	Linear feature, aligned east-west, >0.35m wide by 0.34m deep, vertical sides, over Wall (213)	Robber trench
215	Feature, 1.4m wide by 0.17m deep, gradual sides-stepped once, shallow concave base, appears in section only	Possible pit
216	Loose dark brown silty sand with coal	Fill of (217)
217	Feature, 0.63m wide by 0.14m deep, steep sides and shallow concave base, appears in section only	Pit
218	Firm mid brown sandy silt, 0.14m thick	?Former topsoil
219	Loose brownish white sub-rounded limestone fragments, 0.16m thick	Dumped deposit
220	Soft dark greyish brown silty sand with frequent charcoal, 100mm thick	?Former topsoil
221	Loose mid whitish grey mortar, limestone and silty sand, 0.13m thick	Demolition deposit
222	Firm light brown silty sand	Fill of (223)
223	Feature, 0.57m wide by 0.18m deep, steep sides and flattish base, appears in section only	Indeterminate feature
224	Soft dark brown silty sand with frequent mortar fragments, 0.2m thick	?Former topsoil
225	Soft mid to dark brown silty sand with brick/tile	Fill of (226)
226	Sub-rectangular feature, >1.7m long by >1.5m wide by 0.67m deep, near vertical sides, undulating base	Pit
227	Loose dark grey cinders and coal, 20mm thick	Dumped deposit
228	Soft dark brown silty sand with frequent mortar and brick/tile fragments, 80mm thick	Demolition deposit
229	Brick (>105mm x 100mm x 50mm) structure, no bonding visible, 0.6m extent by 0.26m high	Brick drain
230	Soft dark grey cinders and coal fragments and powdered mortar, 50mm thick	Fill of (233)
231	Soft light brown sand, 20mm thick	Make-up for (229)
232	Firm dark brown sandy silt with frequent mortar fragments	Fill of (233)
233	Linear feature, aligned east-west, 0.65m wide by 0.5m deep, vertical sides and shallow concave base	Foundation trench for (229)
234	Loose mixed brownish white crushed limestone, mid to dark brown silty sand and black charcoal	Fill of (236)
235	Soft dark greyish brown silty sand	Fill of (236)
236	Feature, 0.35m wide by 0.23m deep, steep sides and flattish base, appears in section only	Possible pit
237	Firm dark brown silty sand, 100mm thick	Dumped deposit
238	Firm dark brownish grey sandy silt, 100mm thick	Dumped deposit
239	Firm mid brownish grey silty sand with frequent mortar fragments, 0.21m thick	Dumped deposit

No.	Description	Interpretation
240	Soft mid to light brown silty sand with brick/tile and mortar fragments	Fill of (226)
241	Soft mid brown silty sand	Fill of (242)
242	?Linear feature, aligned northwest-southeast, >0.8m long by >1m wide by 0.17m deep, gradual sides and shallow concave base	Possible pit
243	Firm light to mid yellowish brown silty sand, 0.23m deep	Dumped deposit
244	Soft mid greyish brown silty sand, 100mm thick	Dumped deposit
245	Soft mid greyish brown silty sand, 0.2m thick	Dumped deposit
246	Firm mid yellowish brown sand, 0.19m thick	Dumped deposit
247	Firm mid brown sand, 40mm thick	Dumped deposit
248	Cancelled context	
249	Firm mixed mid yellowish brown and mid brown sand	Dumped deposit
250	Firm light brown silty sand	Fill of (251)
251	Linear feature, aligned east-west, >0.8m long by >0.94m wide by 0.75m deep, vertical sides and ?flattish base	Foundation trench for wall (213)
252	Firm dark greenish grey sandy silt, 100mm thick	Layer
253	Soft dark brown sandy silt, 100mm thick	Layer
254	Soft dark grey silt, 100mm thick	Layer
255	Firm dark grey to black organic silt, 0.85m thick	Layer
256	Firm light grey silty sand	Fill of (251)
257	Firm black organic silt, 0.29m thick	Layer

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

by Paul Cope-Faulkner, Hilary Healey,
Gary Taylor and Jane Young

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 33 fragments of pottery weighing 825g was recovered from 6 separate contexts. In addition to the pottery, other objects, clay pipe, metal, industrial residues and building materials, comprising 29 items weighing a total of 4529g, was also retrieved.

Provenance

The material was recovered from unstratified contexts (100, 200), ditch fill (106), demolition deposit (118), dumped deposits (123, 243) and layers (252, 253, 255).

Most of the pottery was made in moderate proximity to Boston, in or around the town itself, at Bourne 33km to the southwest, and also around the southern edge of the Lincolnshire Wolds at Toynton All Saints and Old Bolingbroke, 21km to the north. Regional imports from Staffordshire and possibly London are present and there is imported foreign material from Germany.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: Pottery

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
100	BL	Red painted earthenware, black glazed, 18 th century	5	328	19 th century
	WHITE	White glazed tableware, 19 th century	1	5	
	GRE	Glazed red earthenware, 17 th -18 th century	2	7	
	BS	Brown salt-glazed stoneware, 18 th century	2	2	
	BOU	Bourne D ware, 15 th -17 th century	2	6	
	SIEG	Siegburg stoneware, jug with frilled footring, 15 th -mid 16 th century	1	29	
	TOY	Toynton All Saints ware, incl. jug, 13 th -15 th century	2	26	
106	BL	Blackware, drinking vessel, 17 th century	1	1	17 th century
	GRE	Glazed red earthenware, 17 th century	1	13	
	TOY	Toynton All Saints ware, 13 th -15 th century	1	18	
	BOU	Bourne D ware, 15 th -17 th century	2	53	
	LONS?	?London salt-glazed stoneware, 17 th century	1	6	
	ST	Stamford ware, 9 th -12 th century	1	4	
118	BOU	Bourne D ware, jug, overfired	1	7	15 th -17 th century
123	GRE	Glazed red earthenware, sooted externally, 17 th century	1	2	17 th century
	LONS?	Salt-glazed stoneware, London/German? 17 th century?	1	14	
200	BOU?	Bourne D ware? jug, overfired, 15 th -17 th century	1	81	19 th century
	BOUA	Boston/Bolingbroke ware, 1 encrusted internally, 16 th -17 th century	4	195	

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
	WHITE	White glazed tableware, 19 th century	1	8	
252	SLST	South Lincs shelly ware, sooted externally, post-depositional concretion, 12 th -13 th century	1	15	12 th -13 th century
	EMHM	Early medieval handmade ware, sooted externally, 11 th -13 th century	1	5	

The chronological range of the pottery is from the 9th-19th century, without a break. However, the earliest material, as stratified artefacts in (252) and redeposited pottery in (106), is probably 12th century. Medieval, 15th century and earlier pottery, is not particularly abundant but this probably reflects the limited investigation of the lower deposits dating to this period. Additionally, most of the medieval ceramic occurs as redeposited artefacts, probably due to the invasion of medieval deposits at a later date.

Most of the pottery assemblage was fairly locally produced, though the latest tablewares are regional imports from Staffordshire. There is at least one foreign import, a frill-based jug manufactured in Siegburg, Germany (Hurst *et al.*, 1986, 176-9).

Table 2: Other Artefacts

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
100	Clay pipe	Stem, bore 5/64", 18 th century	3	8	19 th century
	Clay pipe	Stem, bore 4/64", 19 th century	1	1	
	CBM	Tile, mortar adhering	1	27	
	Iron	Thin bar with V-end, probable terminal of strap hinge, 30mm wide, 2mm thick, 103mm long	1	52	
	Iron	Nails, rectangular section and head, 69mm and 58mm long	2	11	
	Industrial residue	Iron smithing slag, incorporates coal and tile, post-medieval	1	219	
106	CBM	Handmade brick, 251mm x 124mm x 53mm	1	240 5	Late medieval-early post-medieval
	Industrial residue	Hearth bottom, iron slag	2	271	
	CBM	Roof tile, 207mm wide, 18mm thick, reduced core, late medieval-early post-medieval	1	624	
	CBM	Glazed ridge tile, 13 th -15 th century	1	22	
	Bone	Handle	1	16	
115	Clay pipe	Stem, bore 4/64"	1	3	19 th century
134	CBM	Nib tile, 13mm thick, late medieval-early post-medieval	1	107	Late medieval-early post-medieval
	Bone	Pinbeater, broken, faint repetitive transverse scoring, 11mm max width, 87mm surviving length, medieval?	1	7	
200	CBM	Roof tile, incl 1 nib tile, oxidized throughout; nib tile 15mm thick, others 12mm thick, late post-medieval	4	244	Late post-medieval
	Stone	Flint paving cobble	1	56	
213	CBM	Roof tile, 13-14mm thick, mortar adhering, including on broken edges, reused	3	359	Medieval
241	Industrial residue	Iron slag/cinder	1	35	
243	CBM	Handmade brick	1	48	Post-medieval

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
253	Coal	Coal	1	14	

A small quantity of industrial residue, slag from iron smithing, was recovered. Although the material occurs dispersed through several contexts, with it being redeposited in later levels, the earliest piece was found in a deposit of apparent post-medieval date (106), based on pottery from the deposit. This may imply the proximity of an iron smithy of that date or earlier.

A relatively large proportion of the assemblage is building materials, fixtures or fittings. These reflect the presence of structures at the site or in the vicinity from the late medieval period onwards. There is a piece of a glazed ridge tile of later medieval date which would have derived from a higher status structure of the period.

A broken pinbeater of bone was recovered from (134). These implements were probably used in weaving and although circular- or ovoid-sectioned examples occur commonly on early Saxon site, flat-sectioned types are found on later occupation sites (Waller 1993, 117). This piece is such a flat-sectioned (specifically, plano-convex) example and is probably medieval in date. The species of animal from which the bone came was not identified.

Table 3: *The Faunal Remains*

Context	Species	Bone	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
100	cattle sized	scapula	1	20	fragment only
	cattle sized	vertebra	1	10	
	cattle sized	skull	1	20	
	cattle sized	rib	1	15	
	sheep	mandible	2	25	
	sheep	molars	3	20	
	unidentified	unknown	7	25	
106	cattle sized	ulna	1	45	
	cattle sized	skull	1	25	
	cattle sized	molar	2	50	
	cattle sized	unknown	1	5	
	sheep sized	scapula	2	25	
	sheep sized	mandible	3	20	
	sheep sized	humerus	1	15	
	sheep sized	vertebra	1	5	
	sheep sized	unknown	3	35	
	dog	skull	1	170	
	pig	incisor	1	2	
	bird	unknown	1	2	
	unidentified	unknown	17	90	
	200	cattle	humerus	1	
cattle		metacarpus	1	125	
sheep		humerus	1	25	
sheep		metacarpus	3	65	
sheep sized		unknown	1	10	
241	cattle sized	vertebra	1	20	
252	cattle	mandible	1	105	with 2 molars
255	cattle sized	unknown	1	15	

Cattle and sheep are the most dominant species identified within the assemblage. Dog and pig are also recognised and a single bird bone, probably from a goose, was also recovered. The bone assemblage is probably too small too warrant further examination at this stage.

Condition

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

Documentation

There have been numerous previous archaeological investigations at Boston that are subjects of reports. Additionally, there has been some reported synthesis and study of the archaeological and historical evidence for the town and its vicinity. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the Boston Community Archaeologist and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

The assemblage of medieval and post-medieval artefacts fragments is of moderate local potential and significance. Together, they reflect the proximity of occupation and buildings of both periods, apparently continuously from the 12th century onward.

Some of the artefacts indicate craft or industrial activities at the site or in proximity, and this is of moderate local potential. Industrial residues suggest iron smithing in the vicinity in the post-medieval period, while the pinbeater suggests cloth weaving activities took place nearby.

References

Hurst, J. G., Neal, D. S. and van Beuningen, H. J. E., 1986 *Pottery Produced and Traded in North-West Europe 1350-1650*, Rotterdam Papers VI

Slowikowski, A., Nenck, 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

Waller, R., 1993 'Pinbeaters', in R. J. Williams, *Pennyland and Hartigans, Two Iron Age and Saxon Sites in Milton Keynes*, Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society Monograph Series 4

Appendix 4

WATERLOGGED AND CHARRED PLANT MACROFOSSILS AND OTHER REMAINS FROM HIGH STREET, BOSTON (BHS 02): AN ASSESSMENT.

By Val Fryer

Introduction

Excavations at High Street, Boston were undertaken in November 2002 by Archaeological Project Services. The work revealed a sequence of deposits of medieval or later date, at the base of which were two layers of dark grey organic silt (contexts 254 and 255). Although neither context was securely dated, they were both sealed by material (context 253) provisionally dated to the twelfth to thirteenth centuries.

Samples for the extraction of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from both of these deposits, and two were submitted for assessment.

Methods

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover, collecting the flots in a 500 micron mesh sieve. Waterlogged macrofossils were predominant in both samples and the organic retents were stored in water until sorted. The flots (or sub-samples thereof) were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16, and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed on Table 1. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (1997). Tabulated material was waterlogged unless otherwise stated. As it appeared unlikely that further work would be required on this material, the wet retents were air dried after sorting to facilitate long term storage.

The non-floating residues largely consisted of very fine silt, which passed through a 1mm mesh sieve. The small amount of material which remained was scanned for artefacts/ecofacts, but none were present.

Results of assessment

Plant macrofossils

Charred cereal grains and waterlogged seeds of common weed species were present at low to moderate densities in both samples. Charred macrofossils were very scarce and all were severely abraded and water worn. Waterlogged remains were more common, but preservation of the material was very variable, with a high proportion of the material being very degraded and/or fragmentary.

Cereals

Possible grains of barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) were recorded as single specimens in sample 1. However, specific identification was not possible due to the poor state of the material.

Herbs

Waterlogged seeds/fruits were present in both samples and taxa from a diverse range of sources were noted. Possible cornfield contaminants included corn cockle (*Agrostemma githago*), stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*), cornflower (*Centaurea* sp.), black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), poppy (*Papaver argemone*), knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*) and dock (*Rumex* sp.). Grassland herbs and ruderal weeds were also present and included wild carrot (*Daucus carota*), bedstraw type (*Galium* sp.), hawkbit (*Leontodon* sp.), black medick (*Medicago lupulina*), indeterminate grasses (Poaceae), buttercup (*Ranunculus acris/repens/bulbosus*), meadow rue (*Thalictrum* sp.) and annual nettles (*Urtica dioica*). Wetland and brackish water plants were predominant and included sea club-rush (*Bolboschoenus maritimus*), sedge (*Carex* sp.), spike-rush (*Eleocharis* sp.), and hemp agrimony (*Eupatorium cannabinum*). Tree/shrub macrofossils were extremely rare, consisting only of a single possible fragment of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell.

Other plant macrofossils

Fragments of waterlogged root, rhizome or stem were abundant in both samples. Charcoal fragments were present but not common. Other plant macrofossils included indeterminate bud scales, moss fragments and small pieces of wood.

Other materials

Other material types were extremely rare but included fish bones, marine mollusc shell fragments (probably *Mytilus* sp. and *Ostrea* sp.) and waterlogged arthropod remains.

Discussion

Sample 2 (from context [255]) was taken from the very base of the excavated sequence. The assemblage is small and poorly preserved and it would appear most likely that it is derived from a low density of water-born detritus, which probably accumulated in a wet or marshy environment. Sample 1 was taken from deposits overlaying [255], and although a proportion of the macrofossils (most particularly the segetal weed assemblage) may still be derived from fluvial material, the occurrence of seeds of wetland and grassland taxa may indicate that the area had dried sufficiently to support such plants. Indeed, the poor condition of the plant material may indicate that this deposit was subjected to periods of drying/de-watering.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In summary, although contexts [254] and [255] appear to be natural accumulations of material with little human input, they provide valuable data about the development of the local environment from a very wet area to a habitat capable of sustaining wetland, marsh and grassland plants. The occurrence of brackish water taxa is not surprising given Boston's proximity to the coast.

Although sample 1 does contain a quantifiably viable assemblage (i.e. 200+ specimens), the analysis of a single sample would probably not be valid in this instance. However, should more material become available from this area, this decision may be revised.

References

Stace, C., 1997, *New Flora of the British Isles*. Second edition.

Key to Table

x = 1 - 10 specimens xx = 10 - 100 specimens xxx = 100+ specimens
c = charred tf = testa fragments

Sample No.	1	2
Context No.	254	255
Cereals		
Cereal indet. (grain)	xc	xc
<i>Hordeum</i> sp. (grain)	xcfc	
<i>Triticum</i> sp. (grain)	xcfc	
Herbs		
<i>Agrostemma githago</i> L.	xtf	xcff
<i>Anthemis cotula</i> L.	x	
Apiaceae indet.	x	
Brassicaceae indet.	x	x
<i>Centaurea</i> sp.	x	
Chenopodiaceae indet.	x	x
<i>Daucus carota</i> L.	x	
<i>Fallopia convolvulus</i> (L.)A.Love	x	
<i>Galium</i> sp. (bedstraw type)	x	
<i>Lapsana communis</i> L.	x	
<i>Leontodon</i> sp.	x	x
<i>Medicago lupulina</i> L.	x	
<i>Papaver argemone</i> L.	xcf	
<i>Plantago major</i> L.	x	
Small Poaceae indet.	x xc	x
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> L.	x	
<i>Potentilla anserina</i> L.	xcf	
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i> L.	xcf	
<i>Ranunculus</i> sp.	x	x
<i>R. acris/repens/bulbosus</i>	x	x
<i>Rumex</i> sp.	x	x
<i>Silene</i> sp.	x	
<i>Sinapis</i> sp.	xcf	
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i> L.	xcf	
<i>Stellaria media</i> (L.)Vill.	x	
<i>Thalictrum</i> sp.	xcf	xcf
<i>Urtica urens</i> L.		x
Fresh/Brackish water plants		
<i>Bolboschoenus maritimus</i> (L.)Palla	xcf	xcf
<i>Carex</i> sp.	xx	x
<i>Eleocharis</i> sp.	xx	x
<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i> L.		x
<i>Luzula</i> sp.	xcf	
<i>Ranunculus lingua</i> L.	xcf	
Trees/shrubs		
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	xcf	
Other plant macrofossils		
Charcoal <2mm	x	x
Charcoal >2mm	x	
Charred root/rhizome/stem	x	
<i>Phragmites</i> type stem frags.		x
Indet.bud scales	x	
Indet.moss		xx
Indet.seeds	x	x
Waterlogged root/rhizome/stem	xxx	xxx
Waterlogged wood	x	x
Other materials		
Black porous 'cokey' material	x	
Fish bone	x	x
Marine mollusc shell		x
Waterlogged arthropods	x	x
Sample volume (litres)	5	5
Volume of flot (litres)	0.3	0.6
% flot sorted	25%	12.50%

Table 1. Plant macrofossils and other remains from medieval deposits at High Street, Boston, Lincolnshire.

Appendix 5

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

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

- i *Period:* all types of monuments that characterise a category or period should be considered for preservation.
- ii *Rarity:* there are some monument categories which in certain periods are so scarce that all surviving examples which retain some archaeological potential should be preserved. In general, however, a selection must be made which portrays the typical and commonplace as well as the rare. This process should take account of all aspects of the distribution of a particular class of monument, both in a national and regional context.
- iii *Documentation:* the significance of a monument may be enhanced by the existence of records of previous investigation or, in the case of more recent monuments, by the supporting evidence of contemporary written records.
- iv *Group value:* the value of a single monument (such as a field system) may be greatly enhanced by its association with related contemporary monuments (such as a settlement or cemetery) or with monuments of different periods. In some cases, it is preferable to protect the complete group of monuments, including associated and adjacent land, rather than to protect isolated monuments within the group.
- v *Survival/Condition:* the survival of a monument's archaeological potential both above and below ground is a particularly important consideration and should be assessed in relation to its present condition and surviving features.
- vi *Fragility/Vulnerability:* highly important archaeological evidence from some field monuments can be destroyed by a single ploughing or unsympathetic treatment; vulnerable monuments of this nature would particularly benefit from the statutory protection that scheduling confers. There are also existing standing structures of particular form or complexity whose value can again be severely reduced by neglect or careless treatment and which are similarly well suited by scheduled monument protection, even if these structures are already listed buildings.
- vii *Diversity:* some monuments may be selected for scheduling because they possess a combination of high quality features, others because of a single important attribute.
- viii *Potential:* on occasion, the nature of the evidence cannot be specified precisely but it may still be possible to document reasons anticipating its existence and importance and so to demonstrate the justification for scheduling. This is usually confined to sites rather than upstanding monuments.

Appendix 6

GLOSSARY

Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <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.
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).
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.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1900.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

Appendix 7

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

93	Context records
13	Sheets containing scale drawings (plans and sections)
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Box 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: 2002.474

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: BHS 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.

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