SMR

SMR M2/33

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT TOFT FARM COTTAGES, WRANGLE, LINCOLNSHIRE (WTF 02)



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

EVENT 43835 SOURCES 48481 L18482 NEOPHIVE

> Conservation Services

> > 0 3 MAR 2003

Highways & Planning Directorate

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT TOFT FARM COTTAGES, WRANGLE, LINCOLNSHIRE (WTF 02)

> Work Undertaken For Mr and Mrs Hiley

> > May 2002

Report Compiled by Steve Thomson BSc (Hons) PIFA

National Grid Reference: TF 4410 5040
Planning Reference: B/01/0677/FULL
City and County Museum Accession No: 2002.76

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 77/02

Quality Control
Toft Farm Cottages, Wrangle, Lincolnshire
WTF 02

Project Coordinator	Gary Taylor		
Supervisors Fiona Walker			
Finds Processing	Denise Buckley		
Illustration Mark Dymond and Steve Thom			
Photographic Reproduction	Sue Unsworth		
Post-excavation Analyst	Steve Thomson		

Checked by Project Manager		Approved by Senjor Archaeologist		
(4)	Gary Taylor	1 from	Tom Lane	
Date: 20/5/02		Date: 20-05-0	2	

CONTENTS

List of Figures

List of Plates

1.	Summary1	
2.	Introduction12.1 Definition of a Watching brief12.2 Planning Background12.3 Location, Topography and Geology12.4 Archaeological Setting1	1
3.	Aims2	2
4.	Methods	2
5.	Results	2
6.	Discussion	3
7.	Conclusions	3
8.	Acknowledgements	3
9.	Bibliography	3
10.	Abbreviations	3

Appendices

- Archaeological Project Specification Context Summary 1
- 2
- The Finds by Tom Lane and Gary Taylor 3
- 4 Glossary
- 5 The Archive

List of Figures

Figure 1 General location plan

Figure 2 Site Location plan

Figure 3 Site plan showing section locations

Figure 4 Sections drawings

List of Plates

Plate 1 General view of site looking southeast

Plate 2 Section 2, looking southeast

1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the construction of an extension on land at Toft Farm Cottages, Wrangle, Lincolnshire. The site is archaeologically sensitive, located in an area of medieval (AD 1066-1500) salterns (salt-production sites) characterised by mounds of waste silts.

During the course of the investigation, a drainage ditch and ditch for a soakaway, both of recent date, were identified. However, no archaeological features or deposits related to salt production or the medieval period were encountered.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

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

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services (APS) was commissioned by Mr and Mrs Hiley to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the construction of an extension on land at Toft Farm Wrangle, Cottages, Lincolnshire. Approval for development was sought through the application submission of planning B/01/0677/FULL. The watching brief was carried out on 2nd April 2002, in accordance with a specification designed by APS (Appendix 1) and approved by the Boston Borough Community Archaeologist.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Wrangle is located 4km from the Lincolnshire coast and 12km northeast of Boston, Boston Borough, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site lies to the northwest of Toft Farm, approximately 1.5km southeast of the village centre as defined by the parish church of St. Mary and St. Nicholas at National Grid Reference TF 4410 5040 (Fig. 2). The site lies within the Wrangle Tofts, reclaimed land created by the dumping of silts from salt-making, at heights of between 4m and 5m OD.

Local soils are of the Romney Series, typically gleyic brown calcareous alluvial soils (Robson 1985, 53). Beneath these soils is a drift geology of younger marine silts and clays.

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Wrangle lies within an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Bronze Age to the present day. A Bronze Age axe hammer and a number of worked flints have been found around the village (Lane 1993, Gazetteer).

Wrangle is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as *Werangle* the name is derived from the Old English *wrengel* or *wrangel* meaning 'a crooked place' (Cameron 1998, 144). At the time of the Domesday Survey the land was held by Count Alan and Guy of Craon and a portion of it was waste due to the action of the sea (Foster and Longley 1976).

The only extant remains of the medieval period is the church of St. Mary and St. Nicholas which has a 13th century doorway and tower but is mainly of 14th century date (DoE 1987, 67).

The site is located within Wrangle Tofts, an area of salterns (salt-making sites) whose waste silts have been dumped to form low

mounds dating from the Late Saxon to the early post-medieval period. Some 500m to the northeast of the site, near Marsh Farm, is a saltern mound from which pottery of 15th - 17th century date was retrieved during extensive fieldwalking undertaken as part of the Fenland Project (Lane 1993, Gazetteer).

A watching brief undertaken at Marsh Farm identified marine alluvium overlain by modern topsoil (Cope-Faulkner 2001, 1).

3. AIMS

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

4. METHODS

Following topsoil removal, foundation trenches for an extension were excavated using a mechanical excavator to depths of between 0.7m and 1.2m as required by the development. Following excavation, the sides of the trenches were selectively cleaned and rendered vertical to identify archaeological deposits. Selected deposits were partially or fully excavated by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. The depth thickness of each deposit was measured ground surface. the archaeological deposit or feature revealed was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:20 and their locations recorded on an annotated sketch plan. Recording of deposits encountered during the watching brief was undertaken according to standard APS' 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.

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

5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis, two phases were identified;

- 5.1 Phase 1- Natural Deposits
- 5.2 Phase 2 Modern deposits

5.1 Phase 1 - Natural Deposits

The earliest deposit encountered during the watching brief comprised a mid-brownish yellow fine sandy silt (003). This was identified as the underlying natural alluvium.

5.2 Phase 2 - Modern Deposits

Cut into the alluvium, a northwest-southeast ditch (005), was recorded. This ditch was 2.8m wide and greater than 5m long, however the full depth of the feature was not ascertained. The ditch was filled with a series of dark blackish grey, mid-yellowish brown and greyish brown silts (009, 008, 007, 006) (Fig. 4 – section 2). Pottery of 19th century date was recovered from (009). Sealing the ditch and partially contained within it, was a dark greyish brown silt subsoil (004).

A further north-south linear cut (002), was identified as a drain for a soakaway, associated with the extant buildings in the site, and was filled with a mid-brown subsoil (001) (Fig. 4 – section 1).

6. DISCUSSION

A deposit of fine sandy silt was the earliest layer encountered during the watching brief. This relates to the underlying drift geology and represents marine alluvium.

A northeast-southwest ditch was identified and appeared to have naturally silted. It is probable that the ditch represented a field boundary and also served a drainage function.

A ditch for a soakaway was recorded and was associated with the present buildings on the site.

The lack of artefacts of medieval or earlier date would suggest that the site was not occupied during these periods and probably held an agricultural function or alternatively that the development has not disturbed archaeological remains.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were carried out on land at Toft Farm Cottages, Wrangle, because the site lay in close proximity to medieval salt-production sites.

Two ditches were revealed but both were of recent date. No evidence of the medieval or earlier periods was encountered and it is probable that the site served an agricultural function during these times.

No waterlogged features were identified which indicates that few environmental indicators (seeds, wood, pollen, etc.) would survive other than through charring.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr and Mrs Hiley who commissioned the fieldwork and post excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Denise Drury and this report was edited by Denise Drury and Tom Lane. Rebecca Wilcox, the Boston Borough Community Archaeologist, kindly permitted access to the library and parish files maintained by the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire.

9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Cameron, K., 1998, *A Dictionary of Lincolnshire Place-Names*, English Place-Name Society Popular Series Vol. 1

Cope-Faulkner, P., 2001, Archaeological Watching Brief of Development at Marsh Farm, Sea Lane, Wrangle, Lincolnshire (WMFA 01), unpublished APS report 169/01

DoE, 1987, List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest: Borough of Boston

Foster, C.W. and Longley, T. (eds), 1976, The Lincolnshire Domesday and the Lindsey Survey, The Lincoln Record Society 19

IFA, 1999, Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs

Lane, T.W., 1993, The Fenland Project Number 8: Lincolnshire Survey, The Northern Fen-Edge, East Anglian Archaeology 66

Robson, J.D., 1985, Soils in Lincolnshire IV; Sheet TF45 (Friskney), Soil Survey Record No. 88

10. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

DoE Department of the Environment

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists



Figure 1 General Location Plan

51

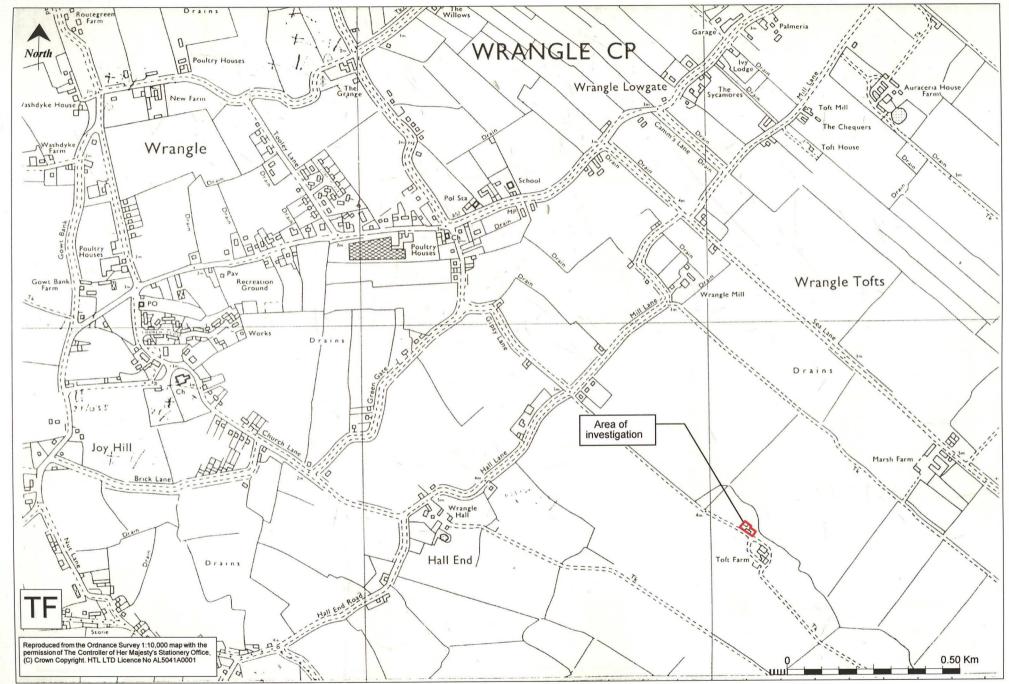


Figure 2 Site location plan

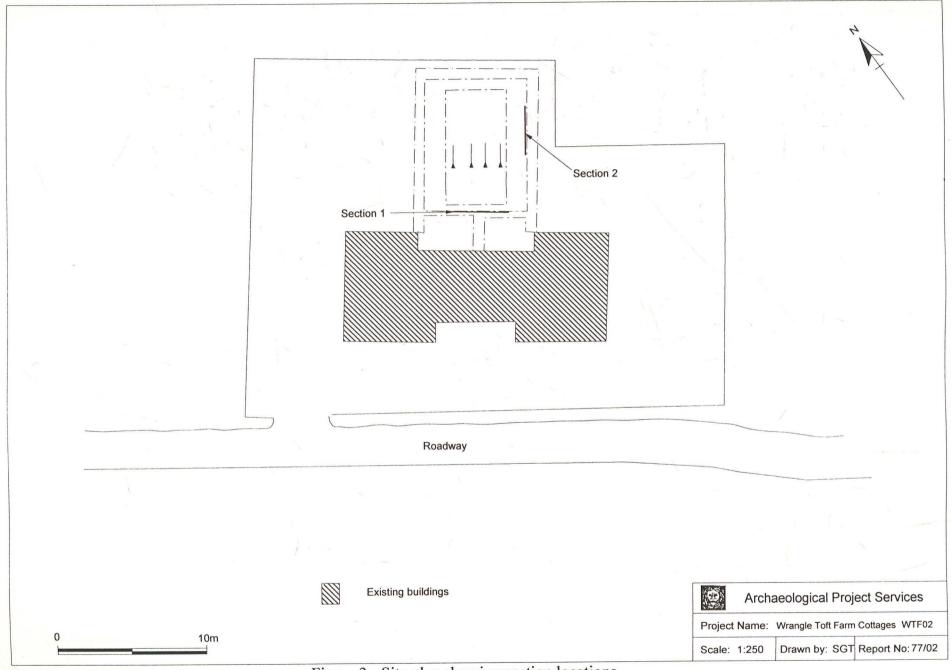


Figure 3 - Site plan showing section locations

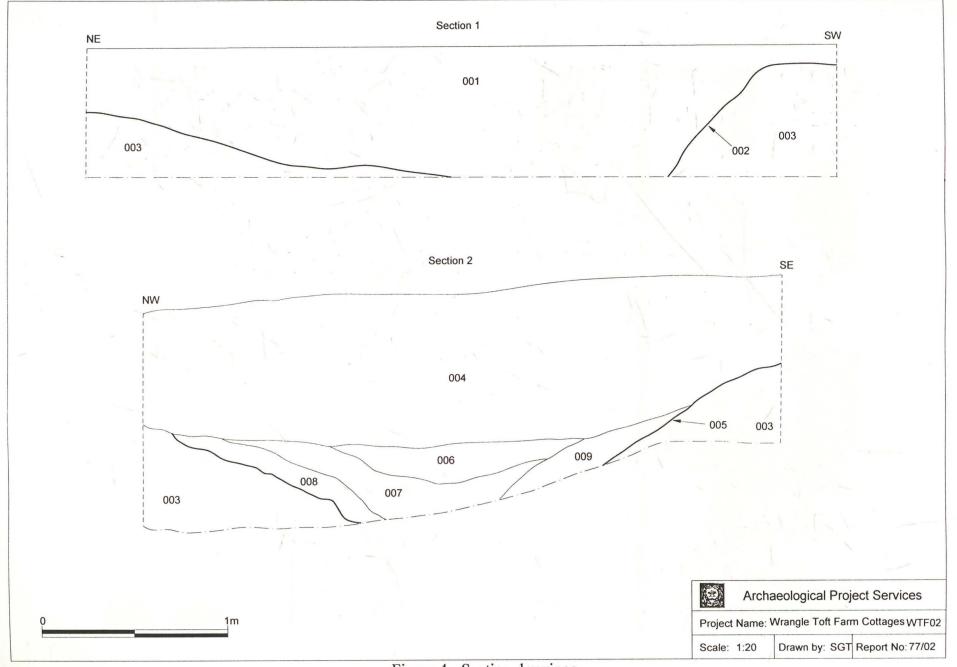


Figure 4 - Section drawings

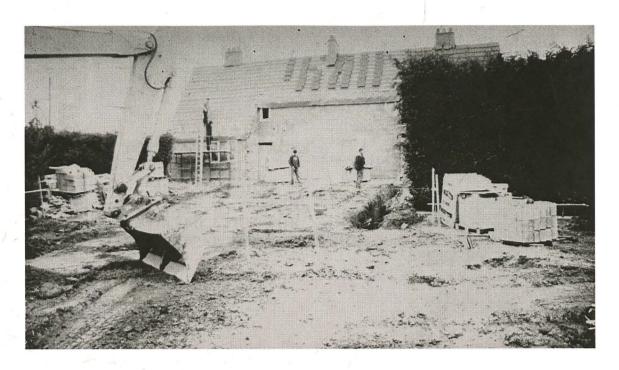


Plate 1 General view of site looking southeast

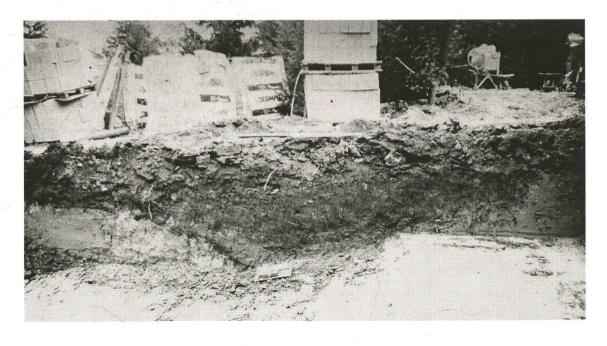


Plate 2 Section 2, looking southeast

LAND AT TOFT FARM COTTAGES WRANGLE LINCOLNSHIRE

SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

PREPARED FOR BARNHAY DESIGN SERVICES

BY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES
Institute of Field Archaeologists'
Registered Organisation No. 21

JANUARY 2002

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 A watching brief is required during development at Toft Farm Cottages, Wrangle, Lincolnshire.
- Wrangle lies in an area where archaeological remains from the prehistoric through to the medieval period have been identified. Evidence of salt making activity has been recorded in the vicinity of the site.
- 1.3 The archaeological work will consist of a watching brief during development works on the site.
- 1.4 On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the watching brief. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for archaeological watching brief during construction of a single storey extension to form a swimming pool and alterations to the dwellings on land at Toft Farm Cottages, Wrangle, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 4410 5040.
- 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 Wrangle is located approximately 4km from the Lincolnshire coast and 12.5km northeast of Boston, in the administrative district of Boston. Toft Farm Cottages lie to the northwest of Toft Farm, approximately 1.5km southeast of the village. The site is centred on National Grid Reference TF 4410 5040.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 A planning application (B/01/0677/FULL) was submitted to Boston Borough Council for the construction of a single storey extension to form a swimming pool and alterations to the cottages. Permission is subject to a condition requiring the undertaking of a watching-brief during all phases of the groundworks associated with the development.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 Toft Farm Cottages lie to the southeast of Wrangle village at approximately 4m OD. Local soils are the Wisbech Association, mainly coarse silty calcareous soils developed on marine alluvium (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 361).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

6.1 Wrangle lies in an area of known archaeological remains, a number of sites and finds spots dating from the prehistoric period through to the medieval period have been identified together with Iron Age and Romano-British salterns. Wrangle is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey (1086). The church of St Mary and St Nicholas is believed to date from the 14th century or earlier.

- 6.2 Toft Farm Cottages lie in the Wrangle Tofts, reclaimed land created from the Late Saxon period onwards by the dumping of silts taken from the unreclaimed marsh for salt making. Evidence of salt making activity has been found in the area. At Marsh Farm, approximately 500m to the northeast, a distinct mound is visible with associated 15th-17th century pottery indicating that the location was probably the site of a late medieval saltern.
- 6.3 The proposed development may reveal evidence relating to salt making activity or prehistoric remains buried at depth below the present ground surface.

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 excavation of the foundation trenches 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 Boston Borough Council Community Archaeologist; Boston Borough 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 acc eptable 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

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: Medieval Archaeology and the Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group for findings of medieval or later date; and Britannia for discoveries of Roman date.

13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Boston Borough Council Community Archaeologist. They will be given seven days 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.
- 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 Laboratory, City and County Museum,

Lincoln

Pottery Analysis Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust

Roman - B Precious, Independent Specialist

Anglo-Saxon - J Young, Independent Specialist

Medieval and later - G Taylor, APS in consultation with H

Healey, Independent Archaeologist

Non-pottery Artefacts J Cowgill, Independent Specialist

Animal Bones Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

Environmental Analysis V Fryer, 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

- 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.

- 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.
- 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.

19 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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

Lane, T, 1993 The Fenland project number 8: Lincolnshire survey, the northern Fen-edge, East Anglian Archaeology 66

Specification Version 1: 23/01/2002

Context Summary

Context No.	Section	Description	Interpretation	
001	1	Moderately compact, mid-brown silt, 0.84m thick	Subsoil	
002	1	Linear cut, >4m N-S, 3m E-W, 1.1m deep, steep sided, flat base N-S orientation	Drain for soakaway	
003	1,2	Moderately compact, mid-brownish yellow sandy silt	Alluvial deposit	
004	2	Soft, dark greyish brown silt containing occasional charcoal and ceramic building material fragments	Fill of 005	
005	2 Linear cut, >5m N-S x 2.8m wide x 0.8m deep min. NW-SE orientation		Ditch	
006	2	Moderately compact, dark greyish brown silt	Fill of 005	
007	O7 2 Moderately compact mid-yellowish brown sand and silt		Fill of 005	
008	2	Moderately compact dark greyish brown silt	Fill of 005	
009	2	Moderately compact mid-brown sandy silt	Fill of 005	

THE FINDS by Tom Lane and Gary Taylor

Recording of the pottery was undertaken with reference to guidelines prepared by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (Slowikowski *et al.* 2001) and the pottery was quantified using the chronology and coding system of the Lincolnshire ceramic type series. A single piece of pottery weighing 5g was recovered. Additionally, a small quantity of other artefacts, ceramic building material and metal, comprising 4 items weighing a total of 93g, was retrieved. No faunal remains were recovered.

Provenance

The material was recovered from the subsoil (001) and ditch fills (006 and 009).

Range

The range of material is detailed in the table.

A single fragment of pottery of 19^h century date is the earliest distinctly datable material recovered. The remainder of the small assemblage is not closely datable but likely to be mainly, if not entirely, post-medieval.

Context	Fabric Code/Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
001	Ceramic Building Material	Brick, handmade, late post- medieval	1	35g	Late post- medieval
	Ceramic	Fired clay	1	3g	
. 1	Iron	Sheet iron, post-medieval?	1	39g	
006	Iron	Nail, rectangular section, bent	1	16g	
009	EMOD	Mocha ware	1	5g	19 th century

Condition

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

Documentation

There have been numerous archaeological investigations at Wrangle, though not in particularly close proximity to the current investigation. Additionally, there has been reported study of the archaeological and historical evidence for the parish. 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

As a small collection of probably entirely post-medieval date, the assemblage is of limited local significance and potential. All the pieces could have entered the area in manuring scatter, which would, in turn, suggest that the area was arable during the post-medieval period.

The absence of any material clearly earlier than post-medieval is informative and suggests that archaeological deposits dating from prior to this period do not occur in the area, or were not disturbed by the development.

References

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

GLOSSARY

Context

An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, *e.g.*(004).

Cut

A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, *etc*. Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.

Dumped deposits

These are deposits, often laid down intentionally, that raise a land surface. They may be the result of casual waste disposal or may be deliberate attempts to raise the ground surface.

Fill

Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the cut are referred to as its fill(s).

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 1500-1800.

Saltern

Salt producing site typified by ash, derived from fuel needed to evaporate sea water, and briquetage.

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 9 Context records
- 2 Sheets of scale drawings
- 1 Photographic record sheet
- 1 Bag of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

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

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

Lincolnshire City and County Museum Accession Number:

2002.76

Archaeological Project Services Site Code:

WTF 02

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

Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright*, *Designs and Patents Act* 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.