# ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON LAND AT BOURNE GRAMMAR SCHOOL, BOURNE, LINCOLNSHIRE (BGS02) 🛪

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# ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON LAND AT BOURNE GRAMMAR SCHOOL, BOURNE, LINCOLNSHIRE (BGS02)

Work Undertaken For Hyder Business Services

Report Compiled by Steve Thomson BSc. (Hons)

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Watching Brief at Bourne Grammar School, Bourne, Lincolnshire (BGS02)

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# ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON LAND AT BOURNE GRAMMAR SCHOOL, BOURNE, LINCOLNSHIRE

#### 1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken on land at Bourne Grammar School, Bourne, Lincolnshire, as the area is archaeologically sensitive, lying close to the site of a previously excavated Roman pottery kiln.

The site was previously the subject of trial trenching during which a paleo-channel of Romano-British date and a possible medieval subsoil were identified.

The current watching brief recorded ditch cuts of Romano-British date possibly related to land divisions and drainage of the site during this period. A pit of the same period was also identified.

Romano-British features were sealed by a subsoil, probably of medieval date.

No direct evidence of Roman pottery production was identified.

Pottery from the Romano-British to postmedieval period was recovered together with a quantity of animal bone.

## 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 anv operation carried out for nonarchaeological 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

A planning application (S/120/589/02) was submitted for the construction of a classroom extension at the school. Archaeological evaluation (trial trenching) was requested by the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section in order to provide information to assist in the determination of the application (Snee 2002). Following evaluation, permission was granted, subject to a condition requiring an archaeological watching brief.

Archaeological Project Services (APS) was commissioned by Hyder Business Services to undertake the watching brief. The work was undertaken between the 21<sup>st</sup> August and 10<sup>th</sup> September 2002 in accordance with a specification designed by APS (Appendix 1) and approved by the Senior Built Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council.

## 2.3 Topography and Geology

Bourne is located 24km southeast of Grantham and 15km northeast of Stamford in the South Kesteven district of Lincolnshire (Figure 1). Bourne Grammar School lies on the south side of the town to the west of South Road (Figure 2), on fairly level ground at *c*.10m OD. The area of the proposed extension lies on the southeast side of the school at National Grid Reference TF 0988 1953.

Local soils are of the Aswarby Association, gleyic brown calcareous earths (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 99).

#### 2.4 Archaeological Setting

Bourne is situated in an area of known archaeological remains, dating from the prehistoric to the post-medieval periods.

Investigations to the northeast of the town located the remains of significant Late Iron Age and Roman settlements. During the Romano-British period, Bourne is believed to have been a substantial settlement, possibly a small town, built astride the Roman road, King Street. The route of King Street is fossilised by the courses of North Street and South Street and once connected *Durobrivae* (near Peterborough)

#### ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON LAND AT BOURNE GRAMMAR SCHOOL, BOURNE, LINCOLNSHIRE

to Ancaster (Margary 1973, 232). Chance finds of tessellated floors have been made in the urban area, one on the east side of King Street, a short distance north of the current investigation.

Recent investigations to the south of the town (Johnson 2000) have revealed a number of Romano-British features including pits, ditches and oven bottoms. Finds and industrial residues recovered from the site indicate that not only was domestic settlement present, but also iron working and possibly saltmaking.

In 1959 remains of a Roman pottery kiln were found in the grounds of the Grammar School some 50m northeast of the area of the proposed extension. The structure of the kiln survived to c. 0.5m in height and large quantities of pottery were recovered, including bowls, jars and a possible candlestick. Although the industry may not have been on a large scale, it is probable that there were other kilns in the vicinity.

Slightly to the northwest of the Grammar school grounds evidence of Romano-British clay extraction, presumably connected with the kilns, was identified (Albone & Field 2000). Domestic occupation appears to have occurred around the 3<sup>rd</sup> century, with small plots ultimately giving way to a larger single property (*ibid.*).

An evaluation undertaken in 2001 identified ditches containing pottery of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> centuries, suggesting a relatively early date for pottery production (Albone & Field 2001). A further evaluation recorded a possible paleo-channel of Romano-British date with no other features identified (Snee 2002)

The development site lies a short distance to the west of the Car Dyke. The Car Dyke is believed to be of Roman date, and it has in the past been variously considered to be a canal or part of a drainage system. Over 120km long, this watercourse connected the River Witham near Lincoln with the River Nene east of Peterborough (Whitwell 1970, 57). It is a major archaeological monument and no less than ten separate sections of the Car Dyke are protected as nationally important Scheduled Ancient Monuments. Previous investigations have shown the original channel to be about 13m wide at the surface and provided with flanking banks up to 5m wide (Simmons and Cope-Faulkner 1997, 1).

The place-name Bourne is believed to derive from the Old Norse 'brunnr' meaning a spring, a stream (Cameron 1998, 18). There is a reference to a spring southeast of the church known as St. Peter's pool, so large that it formed the Bourne Eau (*Ibid*.)

The Domesday Survey of *c*. 1086 records that Bourne was owned by Ivo Taillebois, Alfred of Lincoln, Oger the Breton, Robert of Stafford and Colegrim and contained a church with a priest, 4 watermills, 49 acres of meadow and extensive tracts of woodland (Morris 1986).

During the medieval period Bourne grew into a substantial settlement, with both a castle and an abbey. The town centred around the abbey church, part of which survives as the present day parish church. Earthwork remains of Bourne Castle are located to the west of the church. At one time the castle would have consisted of a single motte, a defensive mound, possibly surmounted by a single tower with two enclosures or baileys containing further buildings and a possible stone gatehouse that has since been destroyed (Cathcart-King 1980).

During the medieval period Bourne was also a pottery production centre and it is believed that the industry probably began in the 13<sup>th</sup> century and terminated some time in the 17<sup>th</sup> century (Kerr 1975). Evidence for pottery production has been recovered from various sites in the Eastgate area. A kiln site has been excavated on Cherry Holt Road and scatters of potsherds are evident on land to the east. Investigations on land adjacent to Spalding Road have exposed clay pits, which have been backfilled with kiln wasters dating to the 14<sup>th</sup> century and working surfaces of 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century date (Herbert 1998a). Investigations at Potters Close recovered further evidence of pottery production including two complete jugs from the 16<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> century (Herbert 1996 and 1998b).

# 3. AIMS

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

# 4. METHODS

Following topsoil stripping, foundation trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless blade, to a depth of 1m below ground surface.

Sides of the open foundation trenches were inspected, cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were partially excavated to retrieve artefactual material. The depth and thickness of each deposit was measured from the ground surface. Each archaeological deposit or feature was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A summary of all contexts and their interpretations appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled depicting the setting of the site and the recorded features. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:20, with their locations plotted on a 1:50 scale plan of the development. Recording of deposits was undertaken according to standard APS practice.

Finds retrieved during the watching brief were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 3). Records of the deposits and features recognised during the watching brief were also examined and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them, supplemented by artefact dating.

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

# 5. **RESULTS**

Following post-excavation analysis, four phases were identified:

- 5.1 Phase 1 Alluvial deposits
- 5.2 Phase 2 Undated deposits
- 5.3 Phase 3 Post-medieval deposits
- 5.4 Phase 4 Modern deposits

#### 5.1 Phase 1 – Alluvial deposits

The earliest recorded deposit comprised a light brownish yellow silty clay (012) greater than 1m thick. The deposit was observed throughout the foundation trenches.

# 5.2 Phase 2 – Romano-British deposits

Oriented northeast-southwest and measuring greater than 19m long, was a linear cut (009) identified as a ditch (Fig. 5, Plate 2). The ditch had smoothly sloping sides and was 2.5m wide. A dark brownish grey silty clay (004), containing occasional charcoal and limestone fragments, formed the single fill of the ditch. Romano-British pottery of  $2^{nd} - 3^{rd}$  century date was recovered from (004) along with animal bone.

Partially exposed, and heavily truncated by modern service cuts, was a linear cut (010), 1.2m wide and 0.32m deep (Fig. 5 - section

3). The feature was oriented southeastnorthwest, had a 'v' shaped profile and was interpreted as a section of a ditch. A midgreyish brown silty clay (005) containing charcoal flecks and pebbles, from which a sherd of Romano-British pottery was recovered, formed the fill of the ditch.

Cut into the Phase 1 alluvium was a steepsided, flat-based pit (007) (Fig. 5 – section 3). The pit measured 0.45m deep, 1.26m northwest-southeast and greater than 0.6m southwest-northeast. A dark yellowish brown silty clay (002) filled the pit, from which pottery of Romano-British and  $17^{th}$ century date was recovered. However, the latter was regarded as intrusive, with all of the features cut into the same alluvial deposit.

# 5.3 Phase 3 – Medieval deposits

Sealing Phase 1 and 2 features, was a midyellowish brown silty clay subsoil (006). Romano-British and medieval pottery  $(12^{th} - 14^{th} \text{ century})$  was recovered from the subsoil.

#### 5.4 Phase 4 – Modern deposits

Cutting the Phase 3 subsoil was a post hole (008) measuring 0.42m wide and 0.54m deep. A dark yellowish brown silty clay (003) formed the fill of the post hole.

A dark reddish brown silty clay and building debris (011) was recorded towards the northwest corner of the foundations and may be connected with the construction of the existing school buildings.

Elsewhere, a mid-yellowish brown silty clay topsoil (001) formed the most recent deposit encountered. A single sherd of pottery dating to the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD was recovered from this layer.

A great deal of modern disturbance in the form of drains and service trenches were noted across the site. Whilst these were drawn in section and located on plan, they were not formally recorded.

## 6. **DISCUSSION**

Phase 1 deposits were encountered at approximately 9.6 - 9.5m OD and comprised naturally deposited alluvium. Theses sediments were cut by Romano-British features which suggests its deposition occurring during the earliest part of the Roman period (1<sup>st</sup> century AD), Iron Age or earlier.

Phase 2 comprised two ditches. The larger probably representing the paleo-channel recorded during the prior evaluation. Both cuts were asymmetrically opposed, with the smaller ditch possibly truncated by the larger. However, the degree of modern disturbance and flooding of the foundation trenches made establishing any relationship difficult. Moreover, in the case of the smaller ditch, its extent was impossible to ascertain. However, if contemporary, the ditches may form part of a gridded system forming parcels of land. This is normally associated with Romano-British agricultural field systems and given the need for land drainage in the area, such an hypothesis is not unlikely.

The Romano-British pottery recovered was largely domestic in nature, including cooking pots and tableware. The relative date of 140-200AD (Appendix 4) may suggest that this was during the height of the period of pottery productionin the vicinity of the site.

Pottery recovered from the pit included both Romano-British and later medieval wares. It is possible that the later material is intrusive though it may equally be the case that the Romano-British pottery is residual, in the backfill of a modern pit. However, the pit was cut into the same alluvial deposit as the ditches and is likely to be contemporary. No positive function could be ascribed for the pit, but it is unlikely to

#### ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON LAND AT BOURNE GRAMMAR SCHOOL, BOURNE, LINCOLNSHIRE

be for clay extraction given the nature of the underlying alluvium. The pit was possibly used for refuse disposal suggesting occupation in the vicinity.

A subsoil had developed over both Phase 1 and 2 deposits, dated to the medieval period and probably indicated agricultural use of the site during this period.

A large amount of modern disturbance had occurred on the site, but Romano-British remains appeared to be relatively well preserved at shallow depth.

# 7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Bourne Grammar School, Bourne, Lincolnshire as the development may have disturbed Romano-British remains associated with a pottery kiln.

A pit and ditch, with a further possible ditch of Romano-British date were recorded. The artefactual evidence suggests that occupation was chiefly of the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries, though habitation was not directly within the investigation area.

No evidence of pottery kilns or ancillary activity, such as clay extraction, was encountered.

A medieval subsoil was recorded, suggesting agricultural use of the land during this period.

The nature of the local site conditions would suggest that environmental indicators (seeds, wood, pollen *etc.*) may survive in waterlogged deposits.

# 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr Simon Griffiths-Baker of Wells Associates, who commissioned the fieldwork and postexcavation analysis on behalf of Hazel Homes. The work was coordinated by Steve Malone. Tobin Rayner jointly edited this report with Tom Lane. The South Kesteven Community Archaeologist, kindly provided access to the parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

# 9. **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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#### **10. ABBREVIATIONS**

APS Archaeological Project Services

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

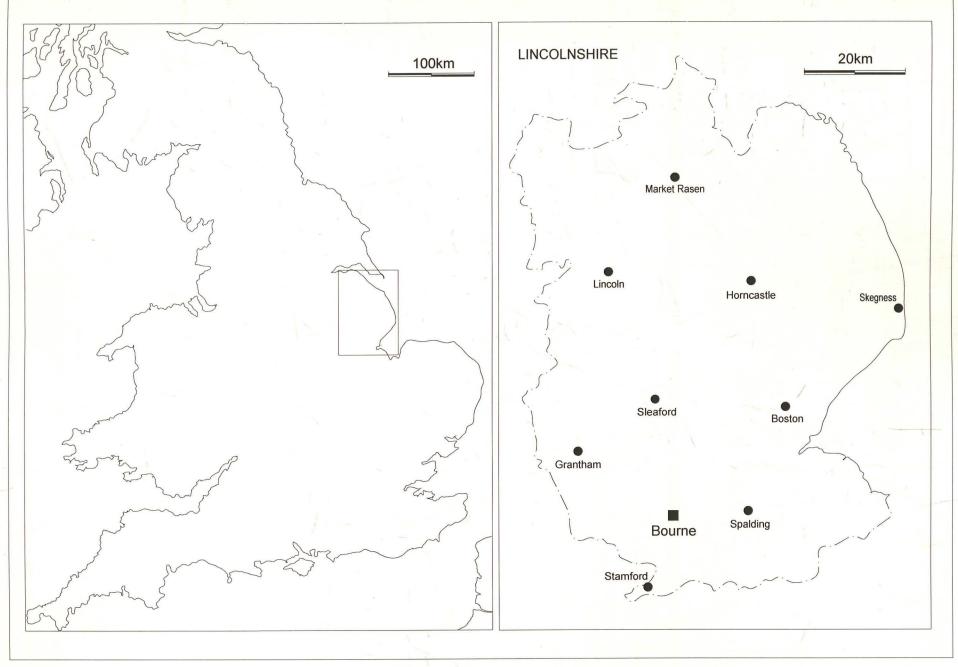


Figure 1: General Location Plan

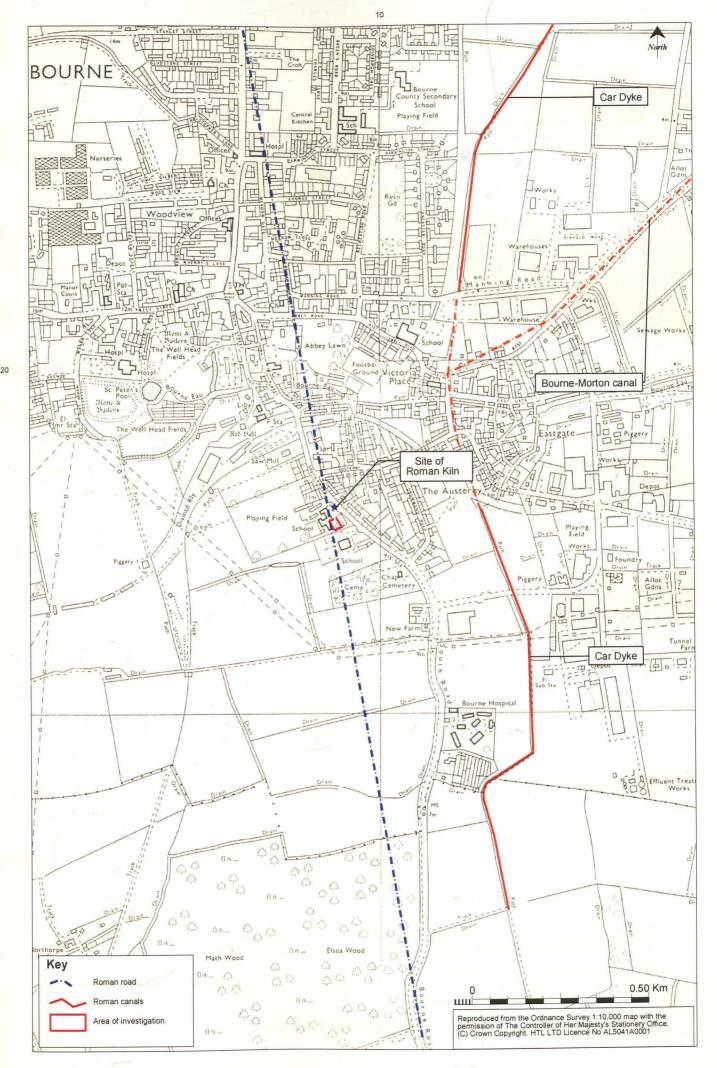
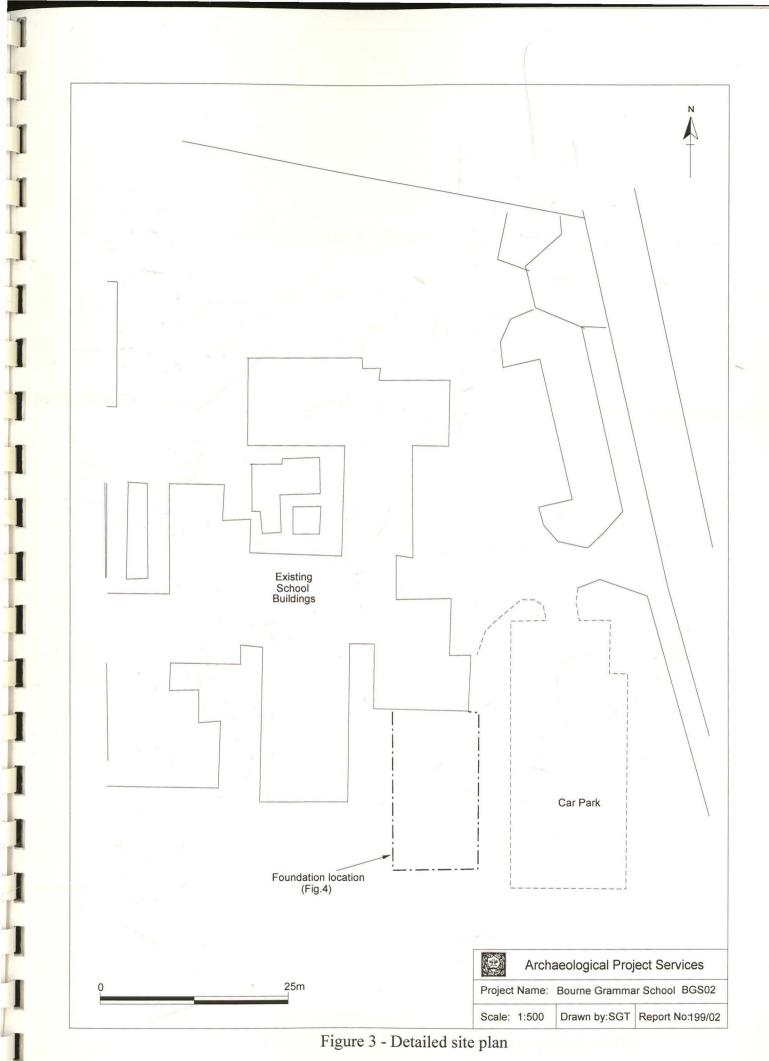


Figure 2 Location plan and archaeological setting



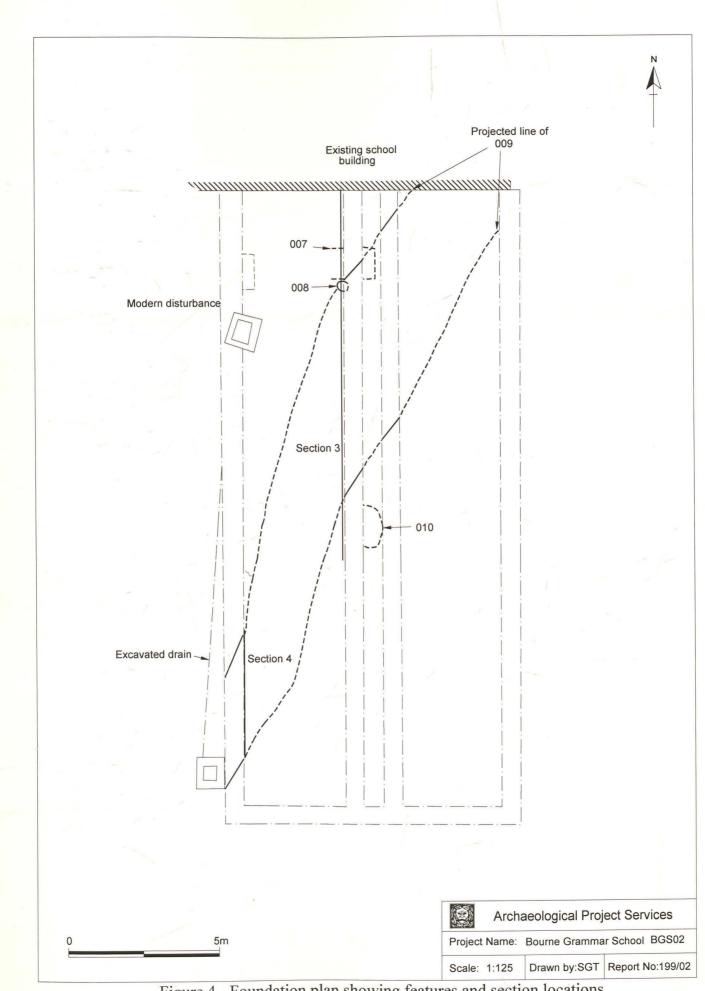
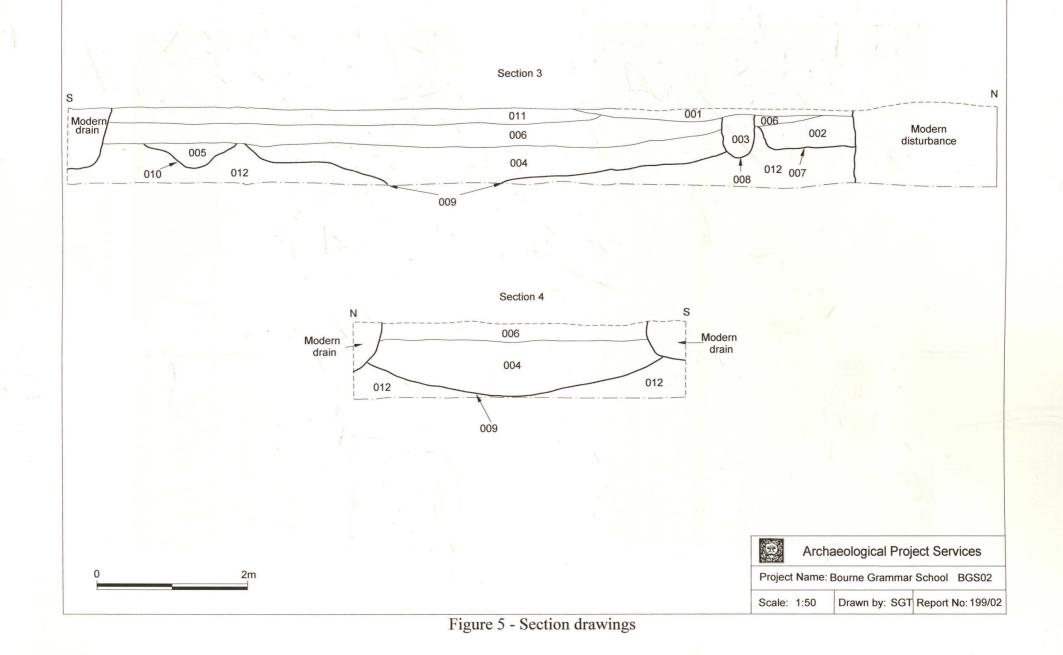


Figure 4 - Foundation plan showing features and section locations





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Plate 1 General view of completed foundations, looking north



Plate 2 Cut (009), looking north

**Appendix 1** 

#### LAND AT BOURNE GRAMMAR SCHOOL SOUTH ROAD BOURNE LINCOLNSHIRE

#### SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

#### PREPARED FOR HYDER BUSINESS SERVICES

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

**JULY 2001** 

#### SUMMARY

1

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during construction of an extension at Bourne Grammar School, South Road, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 The area is archaeologically sensitive, lying close to the site of a previously excavated Roman pottery kiln.
- 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 an extension at Bourne Grammar School, South Road, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 0988 1953.
- 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 Bourne is located 24km southeast of Grantham and 15km northeast of Stamford in the South Kesteven district of Lincolnshire. Bourne Grammar School lies on the south side of the town on the west of South Road. The area of the extension lies on the southeast side of the school at National Grid Reference TF 0988 1953 (Fig 1).

# 4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 A planning application (S/120/589/02) has been submitted for the construction of a classroom extension at Bourne Grammar School. The site has been subject of an archaeological evaluation (trial trenching) and following this work the Senior Built Environment Officer has requested that a watching brief be undertaken during the groundworks associated with the development.

## 5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 The site lies in the southern part of Bourne on fairly level at *c*10m OD. Local soils are of the Aswarby Association, gleyic brown calcareous earths (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 99).

#### 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

6.1 Bourne is located in an area of known archaeological remains, the most significant dating from the Romano-British and medieval periods. Archaeological evidence suggests that during the Romano-British period Bourne was a small but important settlement. Roman finds and pottery kilns have been identified within the town. The Roman road, King Street, passes east of the site.

- 6.2 Bourne was a significant town in the medieval period with an Abbey and castle. The church of St Peter and St Paul, lying *c*400m east of the proposed development site, was part of the Augustinian Abbey founded in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Pottery was manufactured at Bourne in the medieval and post-medieval periods and kilns relating to the industry have been found within Bourne.
- 6.3 In 1959 remains of a Roman pottery kiln were found in the south end of the town in the grounds of the Grammar School some 50m northeast of the area of the proposed extension. The structure of the kiln survived to c. 0.5m in height and large quantities of pottery were recovered, including bowls, jars and a possible candlestick. Although the industry may not have been on a large scale, it is probable that there were other kilns in the vicinity.
- 6.4 An archaeological evaluation (trial trenching) on the site of the proposed extension revealed a broad, irregular palaeochannel, from which a single sherd of Romano-British pottery was recovered, and a layer of subsoil which contained sherds of Romano-British and possibly medieval pottery. Post-medieval and later deposits were also identified. Natural deposits lay approximately 1m below present ground surface (Archaeological Project Services 2002).

#### 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 <u>General considerations</u>
  - 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 <u>Methodology</u>
  - 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.

3

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- 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.
  - 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
- 8.2.4 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 <u>Stage 1</u>

- 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 <u>Stage 2</u>

- 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.

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- 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 Senior Built Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section; the South Kesteven District Council Community Archaeologist; and the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record.

#### 11 ARCHIVE

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

# 12 PUBLICATION

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

#### 13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the project lies with the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section. 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.
- 14.4 Any contingency requirement for additional fieldwork or post-excavation analysis outside the scope of the proposed scheme of works will only be activated following full consultation with the archaeological curator and the client.

# 15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

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

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

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

Task

Conservation

Pottery Analysis

Non-pottery Artefacts

Environmental Analysis

Animal Bones

Body to be undertaking the work

Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln

Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust

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Anglo-Saxon - J Young, Independent Specialist

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Human Remains Analysis

17 INSURANCES

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Archaeological Project Services

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# **19 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Archaeological Project Services, 2002 Evaluation on land at Bourne Grammar School, Bourne, Lincolnshire (BGS02): Interim Report, APS Report No. 129/02

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, 12/07/2002

Archaeological Project Services

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# Appendix 2 Context Summary

Context Section		Description	Interpretation
001	3	Firm, mid-yellowish brown silty clay, 0.30m thick containing frequent roots, occasional small stones and brick rubble	Topsoil
002	3	Firm, dark yellowish brown silty clay, containing occasional gravel and charcoal flecks	Fill of 007
003	3	Firm, dark yellowish brown, silty clay	Fill of 008
004	3, 4	Firm, dark brownish grey, silty clay containing occasional charcoal flecks and limestone fragments	Fill of 009
005	3	Firm, mid-greyish brown silty clay containing occasional charcoal flecks and pebbles	Fill of 010
006	3,4	Firm, mid-yellowish brown silty clay containing occasional charcoal and limestone fragments	Subsoil
007	3	Cut feature measuring 0.45m deep x 1.26m NW- SE x >0.6m NE-SW, flat base, steep sides	Pit
008	3	Cut feature measuring 0.54m deep x 0.42m wide, steep sides concave base	Post hole
009	3,4	Linear cut, 2.5m wide x 1m deep x >19m long, N-S orientation	Ditch
010	3	Cut feature, 0.32m deep x 1.2m wide x >0.6m long, shallow, gradually sloping sides, concave base	Possible ditch
011	3	Firm, dark reddish brown silty clay and building rubble	Demolition/building debris
012	3,4	Firm, light brownish yellow silty clay >1m thick	Natural alluvial deposit

#### Appendix 3 The Roman Pottery

The Roman Pottery from Bourne Grammar School, South Lincolnshire (BGS02) for Archaeological Project Services.

#### **B J Precious - 11/12/02**

The pottery has been recorded according to the Study Group for Roman Pottery (SGRP) guidelines, using codes currently in use at the City of Lincoln Archaeological Unit, and sherd count and weight as a measure. The site archive has been collated using Microsoft 95, excel 5.0 (BGS02.XLS).

A total of 36 sherds, weighing 435 grams, was recovered from the site from six contexts, the majority (18 sherds) from 004. The average sherd weight of almost 12 grams is fairly low, suggesting that the material had been broken and dispersed. Several of the sherds are abraded, in particular the four post-Roman sherds from Contexts 002 and 003 (BOU, MEDLOC and MISC). Only the Bourne medieval sherds (BOU – 002, 003) can be dated with any certainty from the late 15th to the 16th centuries. (pers com A G Vince).

Table 1, below, shows the date range of the Roman pottery with the majority of contexts dating from the early to mid 2nd into the 3rd century. This is largely based on the presence of Nene Valley grey wares (NVGW) that were manufactured during that period. However, the bulk of NVGW consists of thin walled vessels that are either small jars or beakers that were amongst the earliest types produced by these kilns. There are no definitive 3rd century wares such as Nene Valley colour-coated ware (NVCC), although a base from a NVGW bowl or dish and a fragment of Parisian-type ware (PART) continued to be produced in the 3rd century. Nevertheless the bulk of the material suggests a closer date range of c AD 140-200. A single flake of probable Central Gaulish samian would have been manufactured during this period (SAMCG? - 003), as would a rim sherd from a cooking pot in black-burnished style (GREY, CP - 204).

Context	Sherds	Weight	Date range
001	1	97	2C+
002	4	19	EM2-3C/POSTRO
003	11	100	EM2-3C+/MED-PMED
004	18	210	EM2-3C
005	1	5	RO
006	1	4	RO

This date-range is particularly pertinent as a previous excavation at Bourne Grammar School produced evidence of a kiln producing shell-tempered wares (LCCM Accession Number 24.610). Apart from the kiln products there was little external dating. However, re-examination of the kiln material was prompted by the presence of Bourne kiln-type wares at Morton Saltern, and a mid to late 2nd century date was proposed (Precious in Lane and Morris 2001a).

Moreover, the bulk of the Roman pottery from an evaluation at Bourne Grammar School in 2000 by Lindsey Archaeological Services (BOGS00) was also dated to c AD 140-200 (Precious, 2001b). Thus this additional material from BGS02 provides further evidence for an Antonine date for the mainstream kiln production of shell-tempered wares.

Table 2, below, demonstrates that the bulk of the material from BGS02 consists of South Lincolnshire shell-tempered ware with punctate brachiapods in the shell, and identical to that produced at the kiln site. Most of the sherds came from a storage jar (JS –004) and another from Context 001, in a rim form identical to one from the kiln site. Other sherds consist of thinner wall closed vessels, probably jars (J).

Nene Valley grey wares are the second most common fabric, including a black colour-coated variant NVGCC) and a fine grey ware (GFIN) similar to the un-slipped variant Nene Valley grey (NVGY). The main forms are small jars or beakers, a single base from a bowl or dish, and the unusual occurrence of a tazze with finger-frilled decoration that is often ascribed a ritual function.

Table 2: The Roman fabrics from BGS02 by sherd count and weight

Fabric	Code	Sherds 9	%	Weight 9	%
Bourne medieval ware	BOU	2	5.56%	8	1.84%
Fine grey ware	GFIN	2	5.56%	19	4.38%
Grey ware	GREY	2	5.56%	23	5.29%
Local medieval ware	MEDLOC	1	2.78%	b 14	3.22%
Miscellaneous medieval ware	MISC	1	2.78%	<b>b</b> 1	0.22%
Nene Valley grey with colour-coat	NVGCC	1	2.78%	. 1	0.22%
Nene Valley grey ware	NVGW	8	22.22%	106	24.37%
Parisian-type ware	PART	1	2.78%	. 4	0.92%
Central Gaulish samian	SAMCG?	1	2.78%	. 1	0.22%
Shell-tempered ware	SHEL	3	8.32%	41	9.44%
South Lincolnshire shell-tempered ware as Bourne	SLSH	14	38.88%	217	49.88%
	TOTAL	36	100.00%	435	100.00%

Some of the SLSH and GREY sherds are burnt on the interior or sooted on the rim, indicating culinary use. Although the bulk of the material is domestic in nature, including storage vessels, the presence of a colour-coated beaker (NVGCC - BK), fragment of Parisian-type fine ware, and a flake from a fine samian vessel (SAMCG?) indicates moderate to higher status occupation.

#### **Storage and Curation**

The pottery is in stable condition and should be retained for further study.

#### References

Precious B, 2001a, in Lane T and Morris E L (eds), 'A Millennium of Saltmaking: Prehistoric and Romano-British Salt Production in the Fenland' *Lincolnshire Archaeology and Heritage Reports Series* No 4 (133-145)

Precious B, 2001b, 'The Roman Pottery from Bourne Grammar School (BOGS00) for Lindsey Archaeological Services' Assessment Report

CONT	TEXT	FABRIC	FORM	DEC	VESSNO	DWGNO	ALTER	COMMENTS	JOIN	SHS	WT
	001	SLSH	JS	RIB				BS THICK PUNC; CF BOURNE RDBN		1	97
	001	ZDATE						2C+ 1 SHERD ONLY			
	001 002	ZZZ BOU					ABR	BS POSTRO		1	6
		GREY					SOOTR	BS FOSTRO BS CP?		1	6
	002 002	NVGCC	J				VABR	BS CC NEAR LOST		1	1
			BK				VADR	RIM NECK		1	10
	002 002	NVGW ZDATE	JBKCR					EM2-3C/POSTRO		1	10
	002	BOU					ABR	BS POSTRO		1	2
	003	MEDLOC					VABR	BS POSTRO		1	14
	003						ABR	BS PROB PMED		1	14
	003	MISC NVGW	BD		1		ADK	BASES J		2	23
	003	NVGW	TZ	FF	1			BSS J SLIGHT SOOT ON BKN FLANGE		2	19
	003	PART	CLSD	В	1		VABR	BSS J SLIGHT SOUT ON BRN FLANGE BS FLAKED		2	4
	003	SAMCG?	CLSD	Б			VABR	FLAKE		1	4
		SAMCG	CLSD	WM	1		VADR	BSS J; COARSE SAND MIN SHEL		2	36
	003 003	ZDATE	CLSD	VVIVI	1			EM2-3C/MED-PMED		2	30
	003	ZDATE						MIX DATES			
		GFIN			1			BSS LTGRY ; POSS NVGY		2	19
	004	GREY			1		SOOTR	BASES J		2	21
	004 004	NVGW	OPEN? BK				SOUTH	BASES J		1	1
	0.0000000000000000000000000000000000000	NVGW	BK					FTM NARROW		1	45
	004	NVGW	JBK				ABR	BASE		1	45
	004	SLSH		SCR;WM			BURNTI	BS; SCRATCH ACCIDENTAL?;RDBN		1	18
	004	SLOH	J	SCR, VVIVI			N	BS, SCRATCH ACCIDENTAL?, RDBN		1	10
	004	SLSH	J				BURNT	BS; RDBN NO OBV PUNC		1	30
	004	SLSH	JS		1		BURNTR	RIMS BSS FRAGS; PUNC; CF BOURNE		10	68
								RDBN			
	004	ZDATE						EM2-3C			
	004	ZZZ						FRAG BONE			
	005	SHEL	CLSD	HM?				BS BLK COARSE SAND W MIN SHEL		1	5
	005	ZDATE						RO			
	005	ZZZ						1 SHERD ONLY			
	005	SLSH	CLSD				ABR	BS LEACHED; CF BOURNE RDBN		1	4
	005	ZDATE						RO			
	005	ZZZ						1 SHERD ONLY			

## **Appendix 4**

# 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 6 fragments of post-Roman pottery weighing 35g was recovered from 4 separate contexts. In addition to the material detailed here, Roman ceramics were also retrieved and are reported separately. Faunal remains were also recovered.

#### Provenance

The material was recovered from topsoil (001), pit fill (002), post hole fill (003) and ditch fills (004, 005).

Most, if not all, of the pottery was made locally in Bourne.

#### Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

#### Table 1: Pottery

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
001	BOU	Bourne D ware, abraded	1	3	15 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> century
002	BOU	Bourne D ware, sgraffito decoration, abraded	1	7	15 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup> century
003	BOU	Bourne D ware, abraded, 15 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup> century	1	2	Post- medieval/15 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup>
	MEDLOC	Medieval local fabric, very abraded, 12 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup> century	1	14	century
	MISC	Unidentified ware, abraded, probably post-medieval	1	1	
004	BOUA	Bourne A/B ware, dripping tray	1	8	13 <sup>th</sup> century

#### Table 2: The Faunal Remains

Context	Species	Bone	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
002	cattle sized	femur	1	28	head
003	bird	femur	1	2	poss. chicken
004	cattle sheep sized	molar skull	1	46 10	
004	unknown	unidentified	5	22	chalky condition
005	cattle sized	vertebra	9	78	fragmentary

#### 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 Bourne, including elsewhere at the current site, that are the subjects of reports. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

The small collection of medieval and early post-medieval pottery fragments is of limited local significance and potential. The material may be occupation debris, which would suggest habitation of these periods in proximity.

#### References

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

# Appendix 5

# GLOSSARY

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Anglo-Saxon	Pertaining to the period when Britain was occupied by peoples from northern Germany, Denmark and adjacent areas. The period dates from approximately AD 450-1066.
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 interpretation 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.
Domesday Survey	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
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) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Iron Age	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
Layer	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Manuring Scatter	A distribution of artefacts, usually pottery, created by the spreading of manure and domestic refuse from settlements onto arable fields. Such scatters can provide an indication of the extent and period of arable agriculture in the landscape.
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.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany
Tessellated floor	Floor made of small square sectioned blocks of tile, stone or glass set in cement
Transformed	Soil deposits that have been changed. The agencies of such changes include natural processes, such as fluctuating water tables, worm or root action, and human activities such as gardening or agriculture. This transformation process serves to homogenise soil, erasing evidence of layering or features.

# Appendix 6

#### The Archive

The archive consists of:

7	-	Daily record sheets
12		Context records
1	- 6	Photographic record sheet
1	-	Plan register sheet
1	-	Section register sheet
4		Sheets of scale drawings
1		Stratigraphic matrix
1		Bag of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

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

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

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number:

LCNCC: 2002.250

Archaeological Project Services Site Code:

BGS02

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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