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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON LAND AT MAIN ROAD,
TOYNTON ALL SAINTS,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(TMRA02)**



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

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Source L18696
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON LAND AT MAIN ROAD,
TOYNTON ALL SAINTS,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(TMRA02)**

Work Undertaken For
Mr. D. Molloy

February 2003

Report compiled by
James Snee BSc (Hons)

National Grid Reference: TF 3950 6325
Planning Application No. S/185/01368/02
City and County Museum Accession No: 2002.501



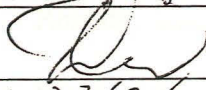
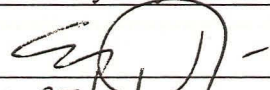
A.P.S. Report No: 63/03



Quality Control

Land at Main Road, Toynton All Saints, Lincolnshire (TMRA02)

Project Coordinator	Steve Malone
Supervisor	Tom Bradley-Lovekin
Illustration	James Snee
Photographic Reproduction	Sue Unsworth
Finds Processing	Denise Buckley
Finds Report	Hilary Healey & Gary Taylor
Post-excavation Analyst	James Snee

Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Project Manager
 Dale Trimble	 Gary Taylor
Date: 27/2/03.	Date: 27/2/03

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during groundworks associated with residential development on land at Main Road, Toynton All Saints, Lincolnshire (NGR TF 3950 6325).

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

A layer of medieval or later subsoil was revealed, cut by a small pit of uncertain function.

Sherds of local medieval pottery were recovered from the subsoil and topsoil.

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

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 D. Molloy to undertake a watching brief during groundworks associated with residential development on land at Main Road, Toynton All Saints, Lincolnshire.

Permission for the development was sought through the submission of planning application number S/185/01368/02 and granted subject to a condition requiring archaeological monitoring.

The watching brief was undertaken on the 18th November 2002, in accordance with a specification designed by APS (Appendix 1) and approved by the Built Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council.

2.3 Topography and Geology

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

The site is at the southern end of the village, on the west side of Main Road and is centred on National Grid Reference TF 3950 6325 (Fig 2). The ground level at the development site is c. 21m OD with the ground surface declining to the south.

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

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Little of the prehistory of the area is known. However, during a recent watching brief APS staff photographed and recorded details of a Bronze Age socketed axe

recovered from ploughfields near Water Mill Lane (Thomson 2002). The same investigation also recorded two probable medieval ditches.

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

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

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

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

Excavated kiln sites lie to the north and south of the development area and provide

evidence of the medieval pottery industry (Fig. 2). Approximately 200m north of the site is a 13th - 14th century kiln used to produce decorated jugs (Healey 1984, 73). Recent investigations at that same site have indicated bowls and pancheons were also produced there later in the 15th - 16th century (Cope-Faulkner *et al.* 1999).

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

3. AIMS

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

4. METHODS

The foundation trenches were opened using a mechanical excavator to a maximum depth of 0.80m. The sections and bases of the trenches were examined and cleaned to identify archaeological deposits. Deposits recorded during the investigation were allocated a unique reference number (Context Number) with an individual written description. A representative section was drawn at a scale of 1:10 and its location plotted on a 1:200 scale plan. A photographic record was compiled depicting the setting of the site and the recorded deposits.

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

A summary of all contexts appears as Appendix 2.

5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis, four phases were identified:

Phase 1	Natural Deposits
Phase 2	Medieval and Later Deposits
Phase 3	Post-medieval and Later Deposits

5.1 Phase 1: Natural Deposits

The earliest deposits encountered were more than 0.15m of dark grey clay (005), observed in the southeast corner of the footing, and an outcrop of sandstone (004) in the northwest corner. These deposits were overlain by 0.40m of grey clay (003).

5.2 Phase 2: Medieval and Later Deposits.

Overlying natural substrate (003) was a 0.20m thick layer of orange-brown clayey sand (002), from which a single medieval potsherd was recovered.

Cutting layer (002) in the southeastern corner of the site was a 0.37m wide and 0.14m deep, undated pit (006), with a dark greyish brown sandy silty clay fill (007). Although no finds were recovered from this feature its stratigraphic position is

indicative of a medieval or later date.

5.3 Phase 3: Post-medieval and Later Deposits.

The latest deposit encountered was a 0.26m thick layer of topsoil that covered the entire site. Residual sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from this deposit.

6. DISCUSSION

The earliest (Phase 1) deposits were sandstone outcrops overlain by natural clay and weathered silty clay soils.

A medieval or later (Phase 2) subsoil had formed over the natural deposits, containing a single sherd of local medieval pottery possibly as the result of manuring. This is consistent with the results of other adjacent investigations (Snee 2003, Thomson 2002), and would suggest that the area around the site was subject to agricultural activity from the medieval period onwards.

Although the site is known to be in an area close to medieval pottery kilns, no direct archaeological evidence of the industry was identified. Clay extraction pits have been recorded to the north of the site, but previous investigations in the area (Young 1999, Dymond & Malone 2000) have demonstrated very localised deposition of material associated with pottery production. Associated activity such as clay extraction and disposal of wasters occurs in close proximity to kilns and it is possible that the site of this investigation is on the periphery of the industry. However, it is unlikely that a kiln or pottery production occurred on the current investigation area.

Cutting the medieval subsoil was a small pit

of uncertain function, and an unspecified medieval or later date.

The last phase (Phase 3) was represented by a layer of topsoil.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations on land at land adjacent to The Laurels, Main Road, Toynton All Saints, were undertaken as the site lies in proximity to remains of the local pottery industry and close to the historic core of the village.

A layer of medieval or later subsoil, cut by a small pit of uncertain function were revealed during the investigation.

Sherds of local medieval pottery were recovered from the subsoil and topsoil.

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

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr. D. Molloy who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Steve Malone, this report was edited by Dale Trimble and Tom Lane. Background information was obtained from the library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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10. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

Figure 2 Site location plan and archaeological setting

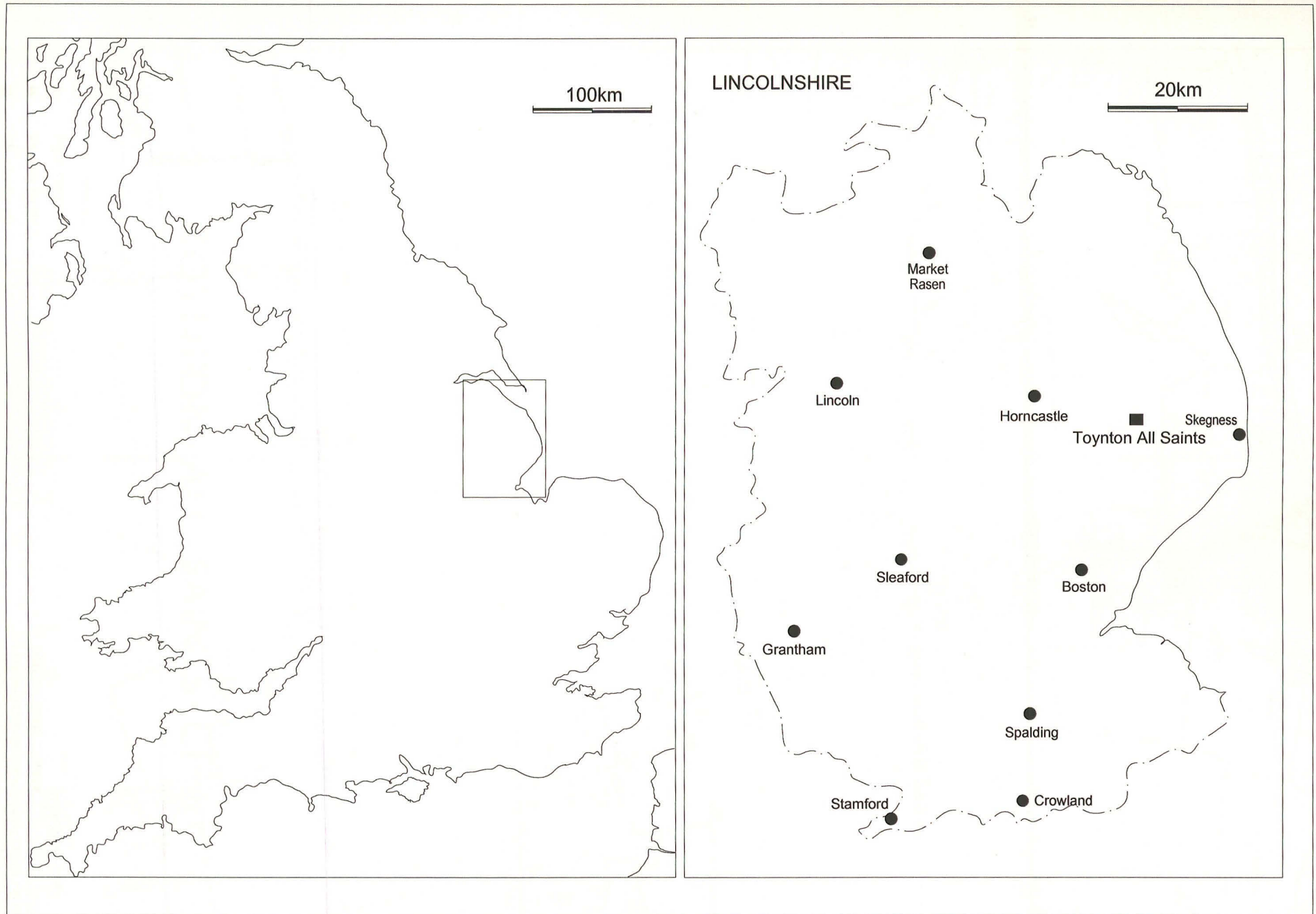


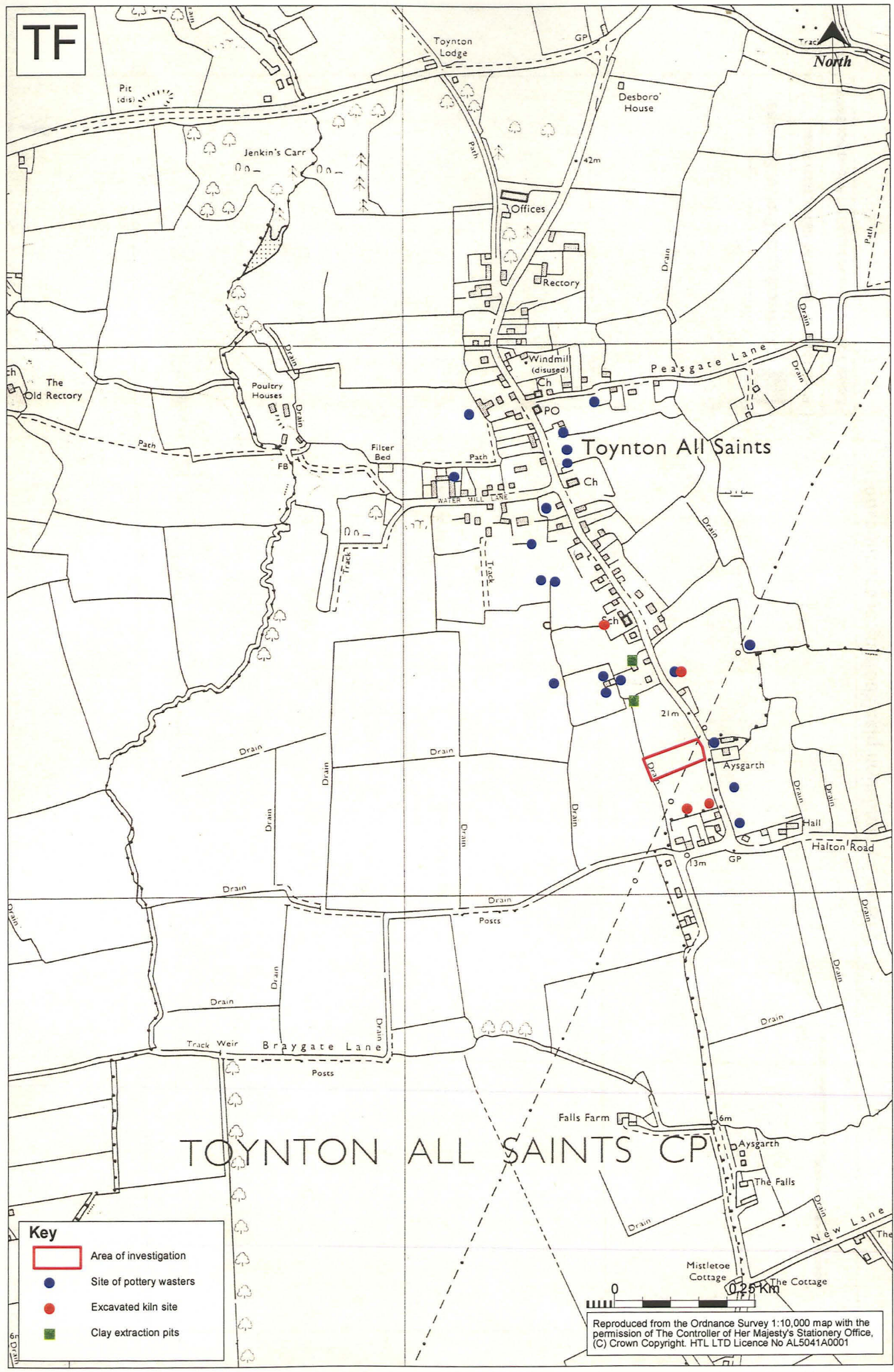
Figure 1: General Location Plan

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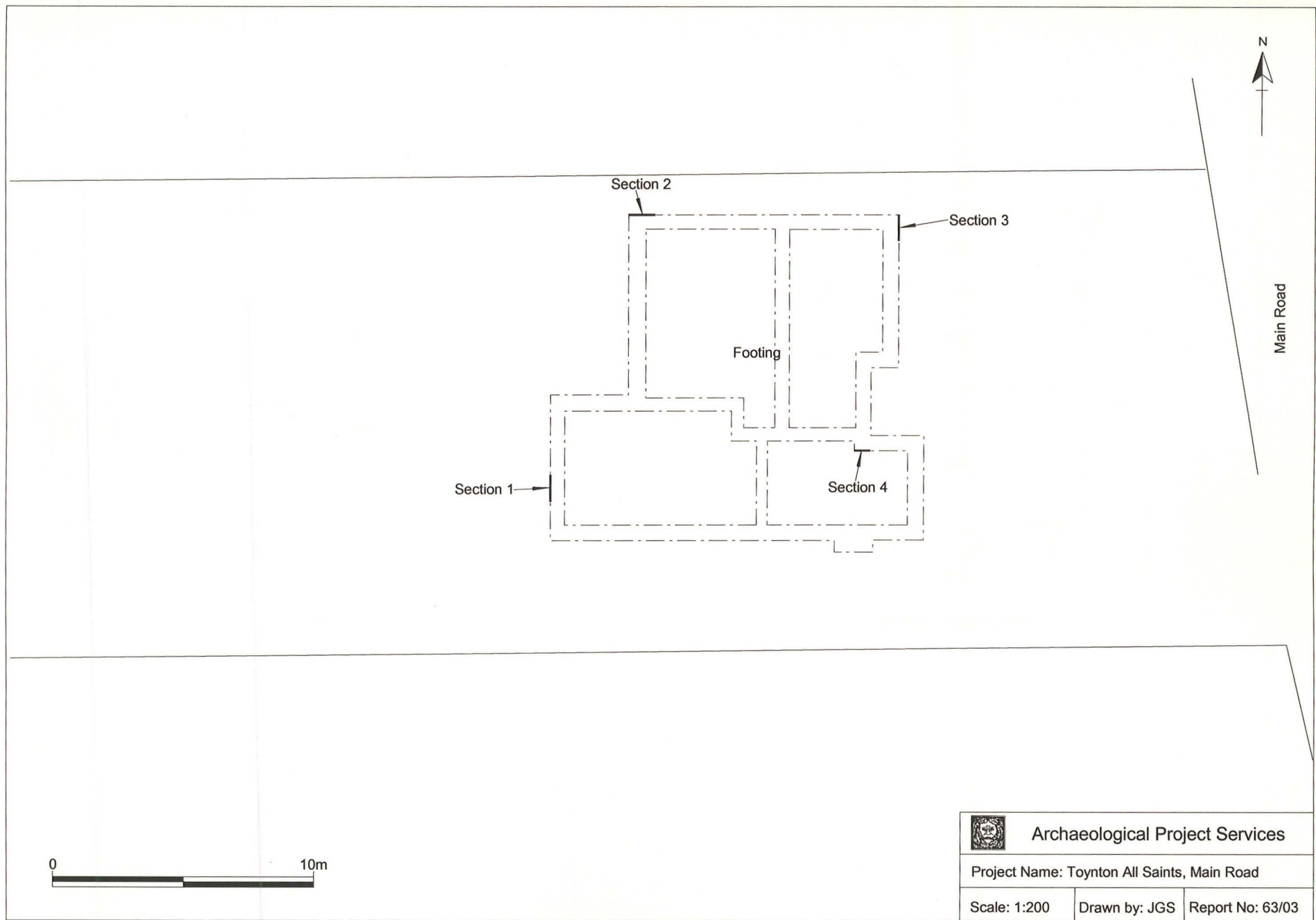


Key

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

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office, (C) Crown Copyright. HTL LTD Licence No AL5041A0001

Figure 2 Site location plan and archaeological setting




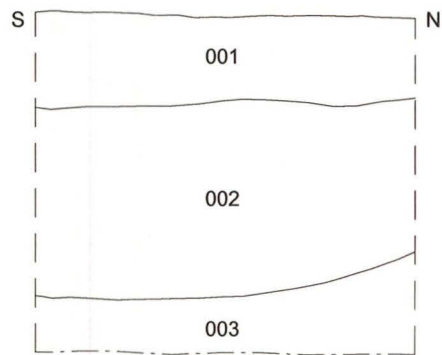
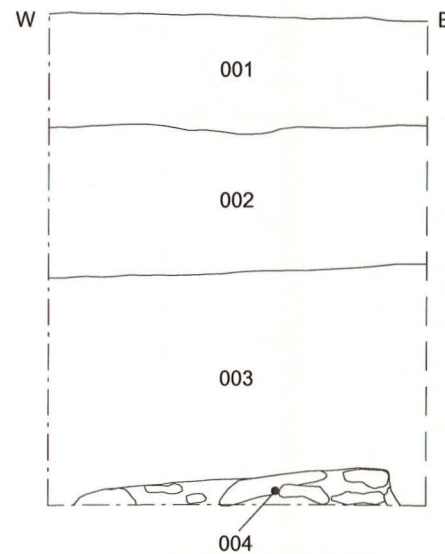
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Project Name: Toynton All Saints, Main Road		
Scale: 1:200	Drawn by: JGS	Report No: 63/03

Figure 3 Foundation plan showing section locations.



Section 1 East Facing



Section 2 South Facing




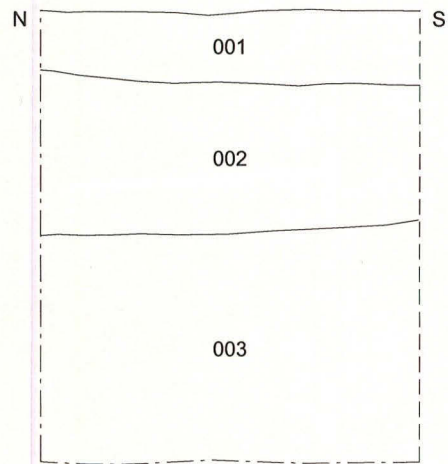
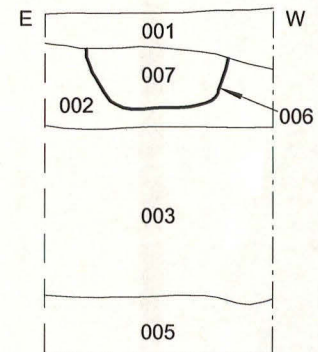
 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Toynton All Saints, Main Road		
Scale: 1:20	Drawn by: JGS	Report No: 63/03

Figure 4 Sections 1 and 2.



Section 3 West Facing



Section 4 North Facing




 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Toynton All Saints, Main Road		
Scale: 1:20	Drawn by: JGS	Report No: 63/03

Figure 4 Sections 3 and 4.



Plate 1 General view of development area, looking southeast



Plate 2 Section 2, looking north

Appendix 1

LAND ON MAIN ROAD, TOYNTON ALL SAINTS, LINCOLNSHIRE. SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF.

1 SUMMARY

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

2 INTRODUCTION

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

3 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 Toynton All Saints is located approximately 21km northeast of Boston and 2km south of Spilsby in the administrative district of East Lindsey. The site lies in the south of the village on the west side of Main Road at National Grid Reference TF 3950 6325.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Planning permission (Application no. S/185/01368/02) for residential development has been granted by East Lindsey District Council, subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 Toynton All Saints is situated at the southern edge of the Lincolnshire Wolds. The site and surrounding area is on a slope down to the south and lies at approximately 20m OD. Soils at the site are Cuckney 2 Association brown sands on Cretaceous sandstone (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 152).

6 THE ARCHAEOLOGY

- 6.1 Toynton All Saints was an important centre of pottery production in the medieval and post-medieval periods. Excavated kiln sites lie to the north and south of the development area and

provide evidence of this medieval pottery industry. Approximately 200m north of the site is a 13th-14th century kiln that was used to produce decorated jugs. Recent investigations at that same site have established that bowls and pancheons were also produced there later in the 15th-16th centuries. Quantities of medieval pottery have been recovered during development works immediately to the north, but as yet there is no further evidence of kilns.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

7.1 The aims of the watching brief will be:

7.1.1 To record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during ground disturbance.

7.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:

7.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;

7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;

7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and

7.2.4 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

8 SITE OPERATIONS

8.1 General considerations

8.1.1 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA). *Archaeological Project Services* is IFA registered organisation no. 21.

8.1.2 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

8.2 Methodology

8.2.1 The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.

8.2.2 The sections of the trenches will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The plans of the trench and features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Section drawings of the trenches and features will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.

8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.

8.2.4 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record consisting of colour prints will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:

- 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: the colour prints will be labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
- 9.1.2 All finds recovered during the fieldwork will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

9.2 Stage 2

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

9.3 Stage 3

- 9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.
- 9.3.2 This will consist of:
- A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
 - A description of the archaeological setting of the investigation.
 - Description of the topography of the site.
 - Description of the methodologies used during the investigation.
 - A text describing the findings of the investigation.
 - A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the investigation 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 trenches and 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 County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record; and to East Lindsey District Council Planning Department.

11 **ARCHIVE**

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

12 **PUBLICATION**

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

13 **CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

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

14 **VARIATIONS**

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

15 **PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS**

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

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

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

<u>Task</u>	<u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust Roman - B Precious, independent specialist Saxon - J Young, independent specialist Medieval and later - H Healey, independent archaeologist, or G. Taylor of APS
Non-pottery Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist
Animal Bones	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy; or P Cope-Faulkner of APS
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, independent specialist

17 **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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 November 2002

Appendix 2

Context Descriptions

Number	Section	Description	Interpretation
001	1 – 4	Friable, dark greyish brown sandy silty clay, scarce stones, 0.26m thick.	Topsoil.
002	1 – 4	Friable, orange-brown clayey sand, 0.56m deep.	Subsoil.
003	1 – 4	Firm/plastic grey clay, 0.40m thick.	Natural substrate.
004	2	Friable, fractured limestone fragments with a grey silty clay matrix, > 0.10m thick.	Natural bedrock.
005	4	Firm, plastic dark grey clay, > 0.15m thick.	Natural substrate.
006	4	Pit cut, 0.37m wide and 0.14m deep, with sloping sides and a rounded base, recorded in section only.	Pit.
007	4	Friable, dark greyish brown sandy silty clay.	Fill of pit (006).

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

by Hilary Healey and Gary Taylor

Recording of the pottery was undertaken with reference to guidelines prepared by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (Slowikowski *et al.* 2001) and the pottery was quantified using the chronology and coding system of the Lincolnshire ceramic type series. A total of 6 fragments of pottery weighing 124g was recovered from two contexts. No other artefacts or faunal remains were recovered.

Provenance

The material was recovered from the topsoil (001) and subsoil (002).

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

Range

The range of material is detailed in the table.

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
001	TOY	Toynton All Saints ware, including 1+ jugs, 1 pancheon base, abraded-very abraded	5	116g	13 th - 15 th century
002	TOY	Toynton All Saints ware jug, abraded-very abraded	1	8g	13 th - 15 th century

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

Condition

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

Documentation

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

Potential

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

The absence of any material earlier than the 13th century is informative and suggests that archaeological deposits dating from this period and before are absent from the area, or were not disturbed by the development. Similarly, the absence of any artefacts later than the 15th century would tend to suggest that the site was abandoned at that time.

References

Slowikowski, A., 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

Appendix 4

GLOSSARY

Bronze Age	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut), as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original cut is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut', are referred to as its fill(s).
Layer	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock, which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1 st century AD.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.

Appendix 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

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

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

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

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

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number: LCNCC: 2002.501

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: TMRA02

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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