

LJ SMR

M3/13

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION ON LAND OFF
STATION ROAD,
BILLINGBOROUGH,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BSRF 03)**

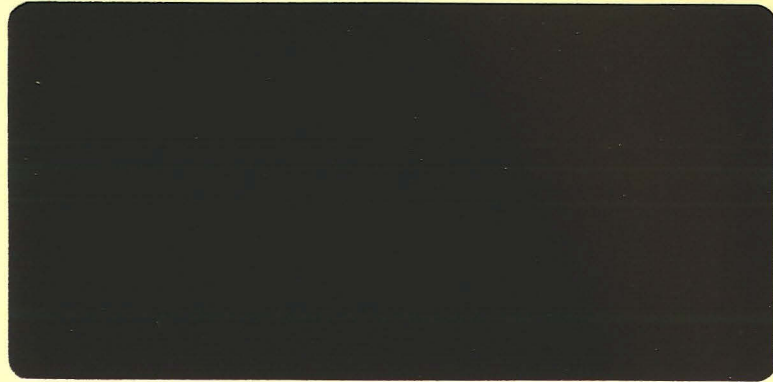


A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

Conservation
Services

21 JUL 2003

Highways & Planning
Directorate



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION ON LAND OFF
STATION ROAD,
BILLINGBOROUGH,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BSRF 03)**

Work Undertaken For
M. Parker and Sons Ltd

July 2003

Report Compiled by
Ray Holt BSc (Hons)

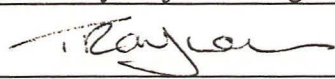
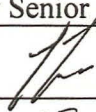
National Grid Reference: TF 1142 3421
Planning Application No.: S02/0027/09
LCNCC Accession No.: 2003.134



A.P.S. Report No. 116/03

Quality Control
 Station Road, Billingham
 BSRF 03

Project Coordinator	Tobin Rayner
Supervisor	Ray Holt
Site Assistant	Katarine Heigl
Finds Processing	Denise Buckley
Illustration	Paul Cope-Faulkner, Vicky Mellor
Photographic Reproduction	Sue Unsworth
Post-excavation Analyst	Ray Holt

Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
 Tobin Rayner	 Tom Lane
Date: 9.7.03	Date: 10-07-03

CONTENTS

List of Figures

List of Plates

1. SUMMARY 1

2. INTRODUCTION..... 1

 2.1 DEFINITION OF AN EVALUATION 1

 2.2 PLANNING BACKGROUND..... 1

 2.3 TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY 1

 2.4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SETTING 2

3. AIMS 2

4. METHODS 3

 4.1 TRIAL TRENCHING 3

 4.2 POST-EXCAVATION 3

5. RESULTS 3

 5.1 DESCRIPTION OF THE RESULTS 3

 5.2 PHASE 1: NATURAL DEPOSITS..... 3

 5.3 PHASE 2: UNDATED DEPOSITS..... 4

 5.4 PHASE 3: RECENT DEPOSITS 4

6. DISCUSSION 4

7. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE 5

8. CONCLUSIONS 6

9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS 6

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY 6

11. ABBREVIATIONS..... 7

Appendices

1 Project Specification

2 Context Summary

3 The Finds

4 Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling Ancient Monuments

5 Glossary

6 The Archive

List of Figures

- Figure 1 General location plan
- Figure 2 Site location plan
- Figure 3 Trench location plan
- Figure 4 Post-excavation plans, Trenches 2, 3, 5 and 6
- Figure 5 Sections, Trenches 1 to 7

List of Plates

- Plate 1 Trench 1, pre-excavation plan view
- Plate 2 Trench 2, pre-excavation plan view
- Plate 3 Trench 3, pre-excavation plan view
- Plate 4 Trench 4, pre-excavation plan view
- Plate 5 Trench 5, pre-excavation plan view
- Plate 6 Trench 6, pre-excavation plan view
- Plate 7 Trench 7, pre-excavation plan view
- Plate 8 Trench 2, Section 6 through hedge line (203)
- Plate 9 Trench 3, Section 7 through clay filled linear (303)

1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken to determine the archaeological implications of proposed development on land to the south of Station Road, Billingborough, Lincolnshire.

The village is situated within an area of intense archaeological activity dating from the prehistoric period onwards. Within the parish are known Romano-British (AD 43-410) settlement sites and a number of undated cropmarks.

The investigations revealed little of archaeological significance. Aside from modern features only a single clay filled rectangular feature was identified, this remains undated and probably represents one of three small ponds known to have been present on the site until the 1950s.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

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

2.2 Planning Background

An outline planning application was submitted to South Kesteven District

Council for residential development (Planning Application No: S02/0027/09). Given the archaeological potential of the site, the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist recommended that an evaluation be undertaken at the site, prior to planning determination. A first stage of investigation, a geophysical survey, had previously been undertaken (EAS 2003). A second stage of work, trial trenching, was required in order to investigate anomalies and blank areas identified by the survey.

Archaeological Project Services (APS) was commissioned by M. Parker and Sons Ltd to undertake the archaeological evaluation of the site in accordance with a specification (Appendix 1) produced by APS and approved by the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist. The work was undertaken between the 14th and 16th May 2003.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Billingborough is situated 16km south east of Sleaford and approximately 22km east of Grantham in the South Kesteven District of Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The proposed development is located c. 220m to the west of the village centre immediately to the south of Station Road (Fig. 2) and has been recently in agricultural use, being a mixture of stubble and short scrubby grass. The northern portion of the site had been in use as allotments until the 1950s bounded along the southern edge by a now nonexistent hedge line. The site covers approximately 2.25ha and lies at a height of c. 8m OD at National Grid Reference TF 1142 3421.

Local soils are of the Badsey 2 Association, typically loamy soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 101). These soils overlie a drift geology of Fen gravels that seal a solid

geology of Jurassic Cornbrash (GSGB 1972).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

The site is situated within an area of known archaeological activity, dating from the prehistoric period onwards. The village lies on the fen edge on a band of gravels. A Middle Bronze Age settlement site and Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age settlement and saltmaking site lying south of Fen Road, have been excavated (Chowne *et al.* 2001). Within the parish of Horbling to the northeast are two bowl barrows, Bronze Age funerary monuments, which are Scheduled Ancient Monuments.

Immediately to the north of the site are a number of crop marks of enclosures. Although undated, they are of a form that is typically Iron Age.

Evidence of Romano-British activity is abundant with three significant sites within the parish. One site, Toft Hills, has produced surface finds of pottery, tiles, coins, tesserae and building stone. Such an accumulation of material is suggestive of a Roman villa. Other Roman settlement and saltmaking sites are known from the eastern (fen) side of the parish (Hayes and Lane 1992, Fig.10).

Located south of the village, a spread of Early Saxon pottery suggests a small settlement of this period (Hayes and Lane 1992, Gazetteer).

Billingborough is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of *c.* 1086. Referred to as *Bilengeburg* and *Bellingeburg* the name is derived from the Old English and means the fortified place (*burh*) of the *Billinga's*, a tribal name (Cameron 1998, 14). It has been suggested that the *Bilinga* are

synonymous with a tribe referred to as the *Bilmiga* in a 7th century Tribal Hideage (Hayes and Lane 1992, 24).

The Domesday Survey records that the village was held by the Archbishop of York, Count Alan, Gilbert de Gand, Colsuan and Alfred of Lincoln and contained 63 acres of meadow, 26 acres of underwood, 2 mills and a half share of a church (Foster and Longley 1976).

The parish church of St. Andrew's is the only extant remain of the medieval period in Billingborough and dates to the late 13th – early 14th centuries (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 144).

Prior to this investigation, an archaeological geophysical survey had been undertaken at the site (EAS 2003). The survey had been affected by industrial buildings located on the periphery of the application area, which interfered with results along these boundaries. A dismantled railway line previously existed along the eastern boundary and may also have contributed to some of the disturbance. Two linear anomalies were identified by the survey and are thought to be the same features identified on aerial photographic plots. In addition, a possible discrete anomaly and areas of magnetic and ferromagnetic disturbance were revealed during the survey.

3. AIMS

The aim of the evaluation was to gather sufficient information for the archaeological curator to be able to formulate a policy for the management of the archaeological resources present on the site.

The objectives were to establish the presence or absence, the type, the likely extent, the date and function, the state of preservation and the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features present within the site.

4. METHODS

4.1 Trial Trenching

Seven trenches were excavated, each measuring 20m x 1.6m. The position of the trenches was determined in order to investigate anomalies and blank areas identified by the geophysical survey (Fig. 3).

Removal of topsoil was undertaken by a mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. The exposed surfaces of the trenches were then cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains. Where present, features were excavated by hand in order to determine their nature and to retrieve dateable artefacts.

Each deposit exposed during the evaluation 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. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and plans at a scale of 1:20. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services' practice.

The location of the excavated trenches was surveyed with an EDM in relation to fixed points on boundaries and on existing buildings.

4.2 Post-excavation

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

5. RESULTS (Figs. 4 - 5, Plates 1 - 9)

5.1 Description of the results

Following post-excavation analysis three phases were identified:

- Phase 1: Natural deposits
- Phase 2: Undated deposits
- Phase 3: Recent deposits

Archaeological contexts are described below. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

5.2 Phase 1: Natural deposits

A single natural deposit at least 0.3m deep was identified within all of the seven excavated trenches, consisting of a firm orange-brown silty clay matrix with rounded to angular pebble inclusions up to 70mm diameter. Slight variations in the stone content were noted within the individual trenches increasing from occasional in the northwest (*Trench 1* (102), *Trench 2* (202), *Trench 3* (303), *Trench 5* (502)) to moderate in the southeast (*Trench 4* (402), *Trench 6* (602), *Trench 7* (702)). The full depth of the

deposit was not ascertained during these investigations.

5.3 Phase 2: Undated deposits

Trench 3

A single ephemeral feature (303) was revealed cutting the natural silty clay (302) and equates to the discrete anomaly identified in the geophysical survey. Excavation revealed the feature to be 1.55m wide with shallow to moderate sloping sides to a flat base 0.18m deep. A single homogeneous fill of firm light grey clay (304) merged with the surrounding natural silty clay (302) and produced decayed bone fragments from the base of the cut. No dating evidence was recovered.

5.4 Phase 3: Recent deposits

Trench 1

A 0.29m thick topsoil of loose dark brown clay loam (101) sealed all deposits.

Trench 2

Cutting the natural silty clay (202) was an east-west aligned linear feature (203) evident on the geophysical plot as an area of magnetic disturbance. Identified as a former hedge line (*pers. comm.* former landowner) this was 1.15m wide and 0.12m deep. The grey-brown silty loam fill (204) contained modern pottery, coal and brick fragments (none of which was retained). This was in turn sealed by a topsoil 0.27m thick of dark brown clay loam (201).

Trench 3

Sealing all deposits and features was a 0.25m thick topsoil of dark brown clay loam (301).

Trench 4

A dark brown topsoil of clay loam (401) overlay all deposits to a depth of 0.29m.

Trench 5

An east-west linear feature (503) was recorded cutting the natural silty clay (502). Excavation revealed a modern ceramic land drain in the base of the vertical sided cut with a mixed fill (504) consisting of roughly equal parts topsoil (501) and natural silty clay (502).

Sealing the above deposits and features was a 0.28m thick topsoil of dark brown clay loam (501).

Trench 6

A north-south linear feature (603) was identified within the evaluation trench and represents the anomaly recorded in the geophysical survey. Excavation revealed a modern ceramic land drain in the base of the vertical sided cut. Visible for 1.6m in plan, the 0.65m wide and 0.3m deep cut contained a firm mid brownish-orange silty clay fill (604) with moderate stone inclusions.

A loose dark brown topsoil of clay loam (601) overlay the above deposits and features to a depth of 0.28m.

Trench 7

A 0.31m deep, dark brown clay loam topsoil (701) sealed all deposits.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Phase 1) were identified within each of the seven trenches. A firm silty clay extended across the whole of the investigation area with a noticeable increase of stone inclusions to the southeast.

Undated deposits (Phase 2) comprise a single clay filled linear feature within Trench 3. Its function is unclear although a possible interpretation arose with local

residents noting the presence of three small ponds within the investigation area. Although their exact positions could not be pinpointed, these were still in use until the 1950s and have subsequently been infilled.

During the Fenland Project ridge and furrow was recorded on the site (Hayes and Lane 1992 Fig. 12, 26) however, no features associated with this activity were recorded during the evaluation and it is assumed that these have since been ploughed-out.

Recent deposits (Phase 3) all appear to represent the modern agricultural use of the site. The land drains cannot be dated precisely, their form suggesting a later 19th or 20th century date.

The former landowner/farmer recalls removing the hedge line revealed within Trench 2 and laying deep field drains within the southern half of the site (these were not identified during the evaluations).

The topsoil was homogeneous across the development area, varying little in depth. A few sherds of residual post-medieval pottery were noted within the topsoil in addition to occasional modern pottery and glass. None of this material was retained.

7. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

For assessment of significance, the *Secretary of States criteria for scheduling ancient monuments* has been used (DoE 1990, Annex 4; See Appendix 4).

Period

Archaeological deposits identified during the investigation formed two phases,

undated and modern deposits. These remains were represented by a former hedge line, a shallow linear feature and land drains. All represent former agricultural use of the site.

Rarity

Remains of undated and modern date were identified at the site. This type of evidence is not rare within the area.

Documentation

Records of sites and finds made in the Billingborough area are held in the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record and in the files maintained by the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist.

Group Value

Low group value may be assigned to the deposits.

Survival/Condition

All deposits were well preserved and subject to little truncation by the modern agricultural use of the site.

Fragility/Vulnerability

The nature of the shallow depths of the archaeological deposits indicates that it is likely that any development will impact upon any archaeological remains present elsewhere on the site.

Diversity

Period diversity is very low with only one undated and modern features and deposits present. Functional diversity is very low, focussed solely upon agricultural activity.

Potential

There is a low potential for features and deposits other than those produced by modern agriculture.

Site importance

The criteria for assessment have established that the remains present are of very low local and regional importance.

8. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken to the south of Station Road, Billingborough to determine the archaeological resource prior to development at the site as the village lies within an area of intense archaeological activity.

The area under investigation seems to be devoid of activity prior to the 19th/20th century save for a few residual post-medieval pottery sherds within the topsoil, probably indicative of manuring the land.

Recent activity appears to be solely agriculture based. The site was split into two until fairly recently along a hedge line identified within Trench 2, the area to the north being allotment plots and to the south a field under plough (*pers. comm.* with local residents).

The two linear anomalies identified during the geophysical survey and thought to be the same features identified on aerial photographic plots were investigated. Trench 6 revealed a north-south anomaly to be a modern field drain. Trench 1 bisected a northwest-southeast anomaly, however no features were revealed within the excavation area to explain the presence of an anomaly and it can only be speculated the feature has been completely ploughed out.

9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of M. Parker and Sons Ltd who commissioned the work. The project was coordinated by Tobin Rayner and the report was edited by Gary Taylor and Tom Lane. Jenny Young, the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist, permitted examination of the relevant parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Cameron, K., 1998, *A Dictionary of Lincolnshire Place-Names*, English Place-Name Society Popular Series No. 1

Chowne, P., Cleal, R.M.J. and Fitzpatrick, A.P., with Andrews, P., 2001 *Excavations at Billingborough, Lincolnshire, 1975-8: a Bronze-Iron Age Settlement and Salt-working Site*, East Anglian Archaeology 94

EAS, 2003, *Station Road, Billingborough; Geophysical Survey*, unpublished report 2003/11

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

GSGB, 1972, *Bourne; Solid and drift edition*, 1:63360 map sheet 127

Hayes, P.P. and Lane, T.W., 1992, *The Fenland Project Number 5: Lincolnshire Survey; The South-West Fens*, East Anglian Archaeology 55

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

IFA, 1999, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*

Pevsner, N. and Harris, J., 1989, *Lincolnshire, The Buildings of England* (2nd edition revised N. Antram)

11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

EAS Engineering Archaeological Services

GSGB Geological Survey of Great Britain

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

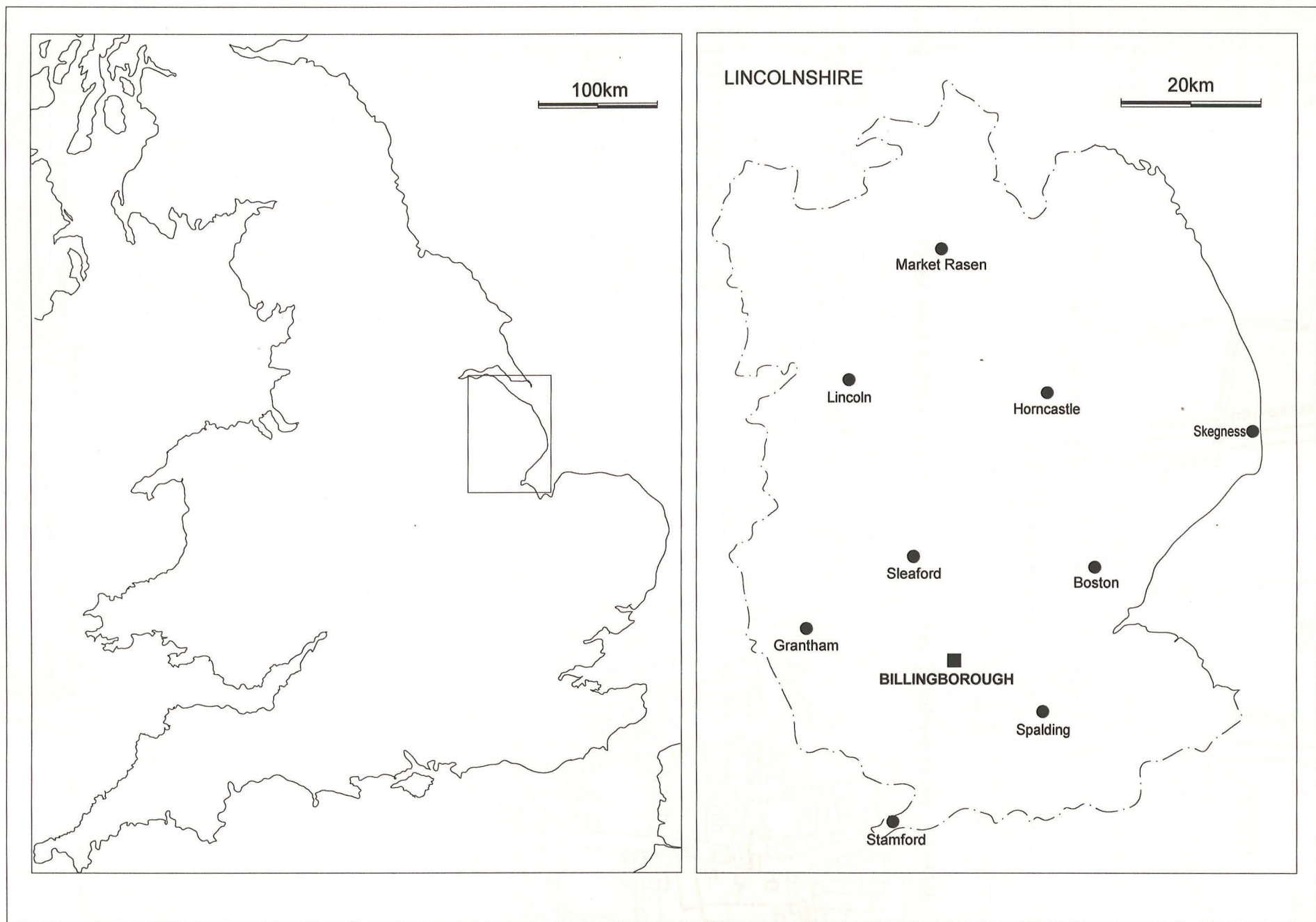
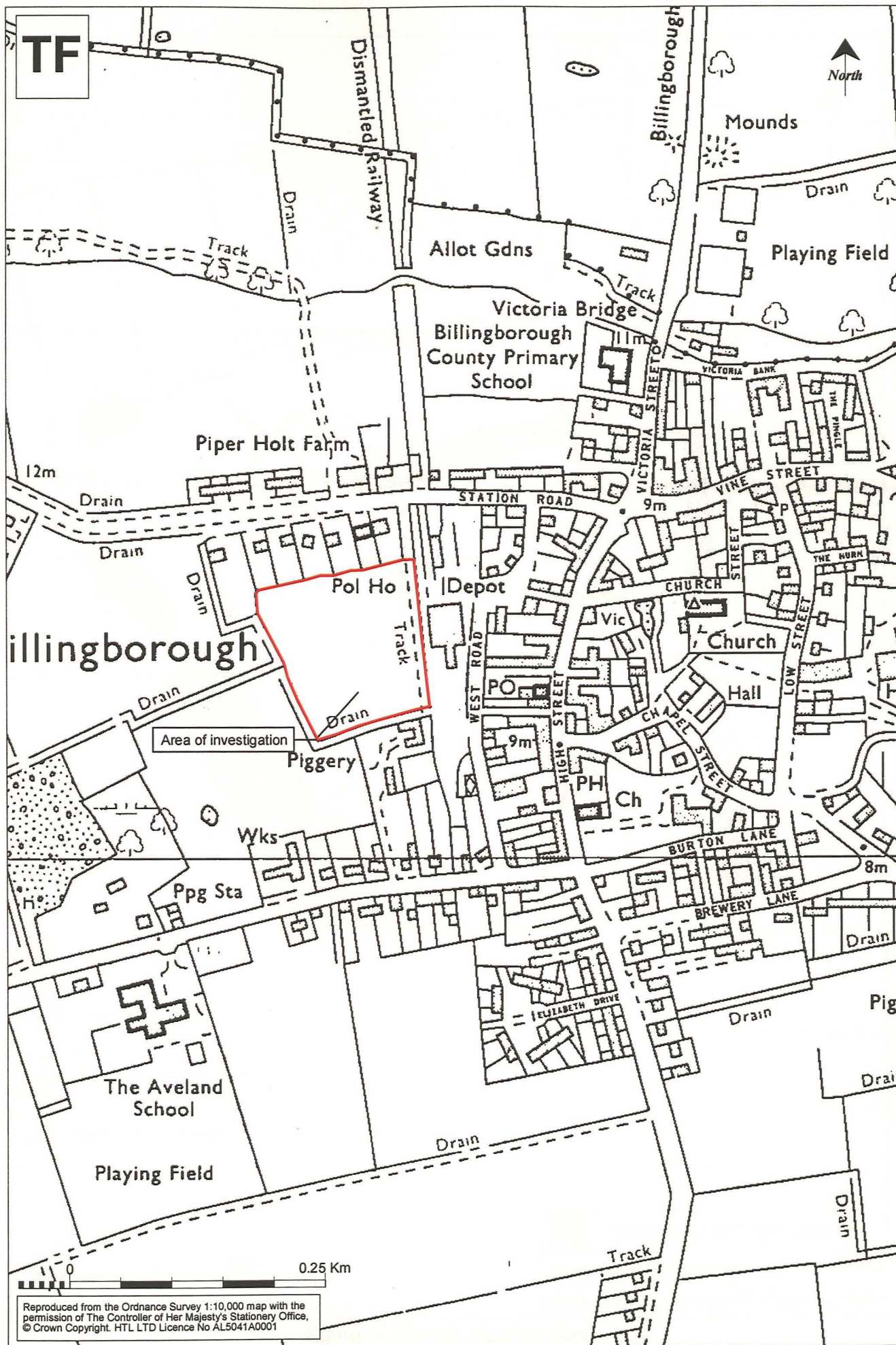


Figure 1: General location plan



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

Figure 2: Site location plan

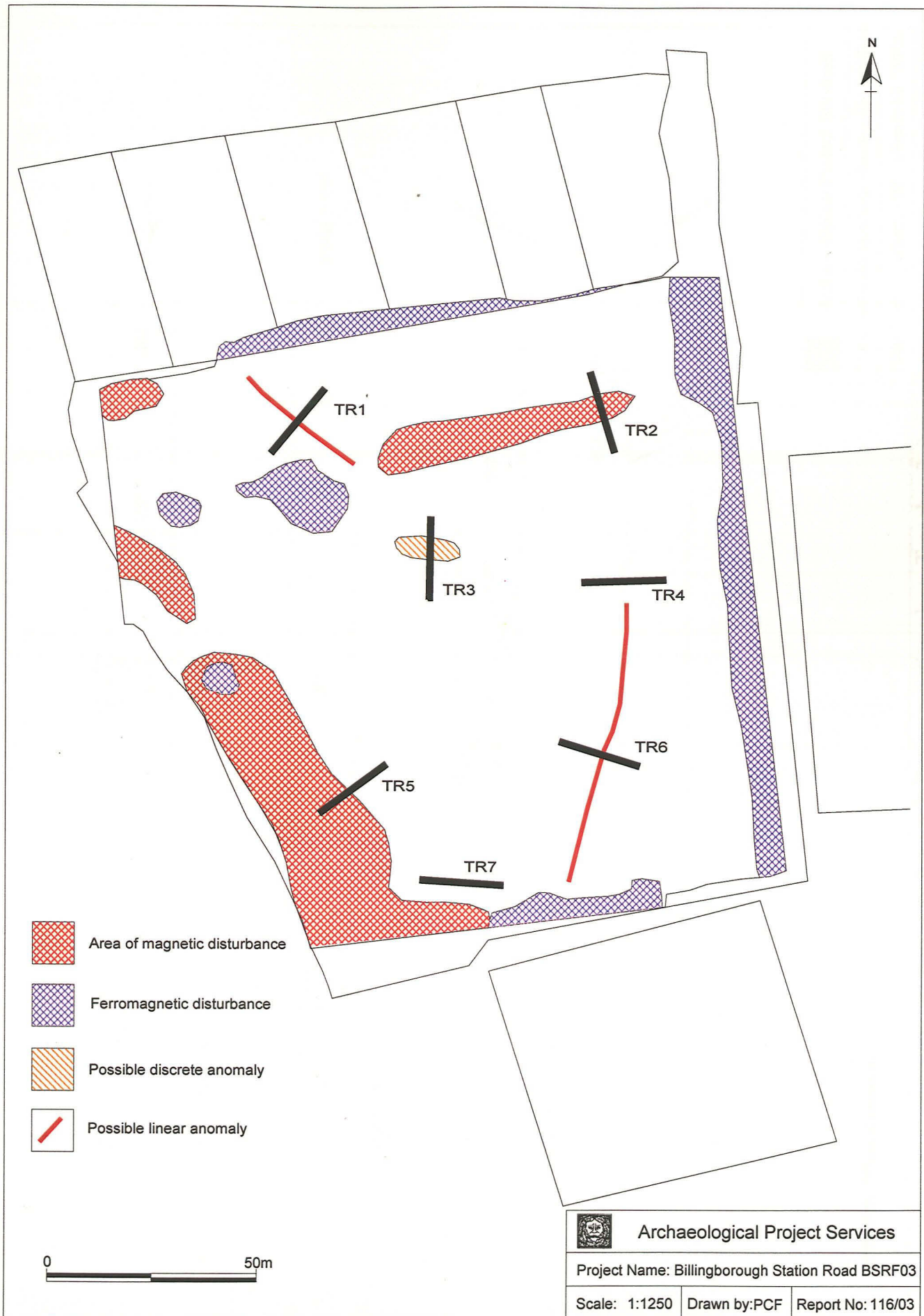
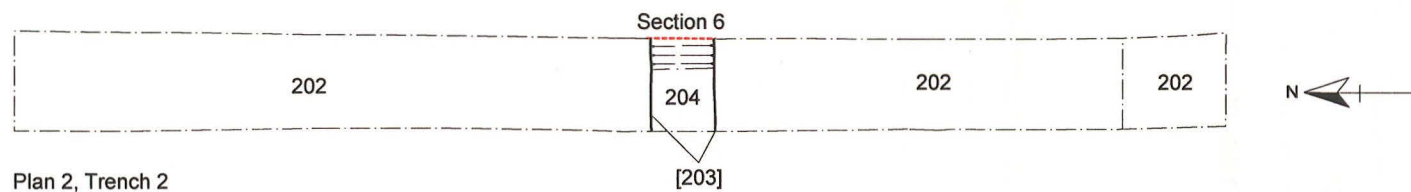
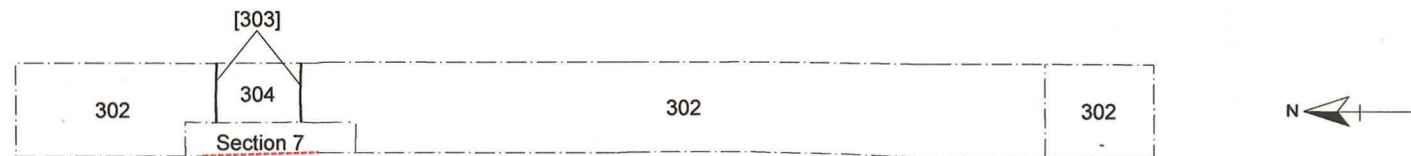


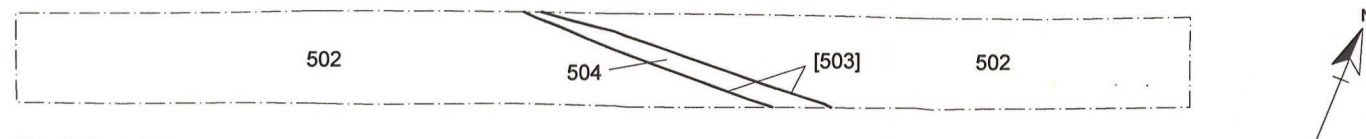
Figure 3: Trench location plan



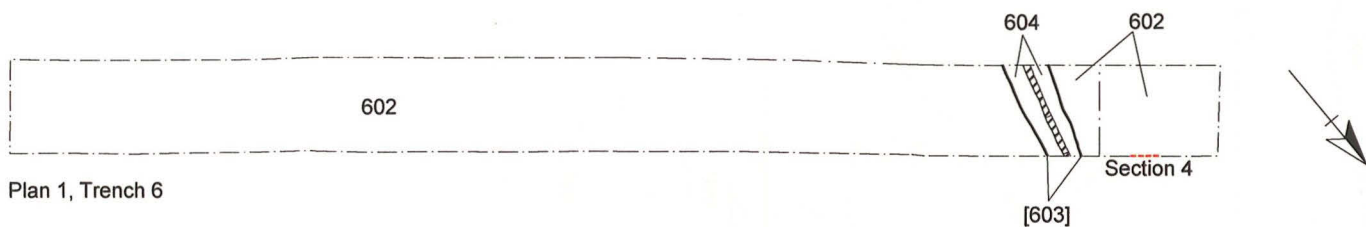
Plan 2, Trench 2



Plan 4, Trench 3



Plan 3, Trench 5



Plan 1, Trench 6




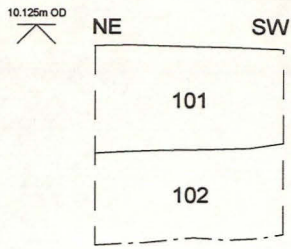
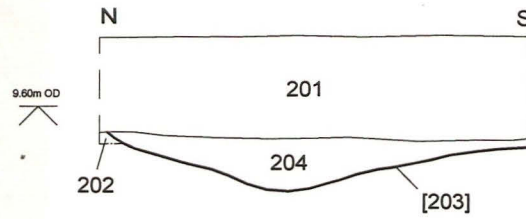
	Archaeological Project Services	
Project Name: Billingborough Station Road BSRF03		
Scale 1:125	Drawn by: VM	Report No: 116/03

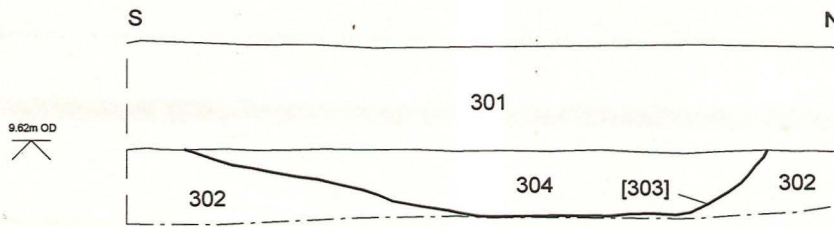
Figure 4: Post-excavation plans, Trenches 2, 3, 5 and 6



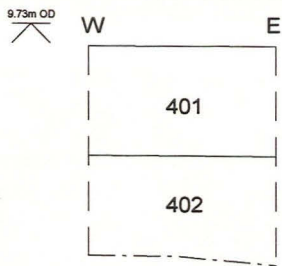
Section 1, Trench 1



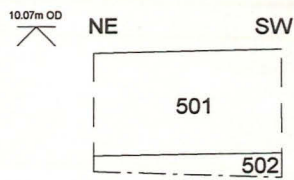
Section 6, Trench 2



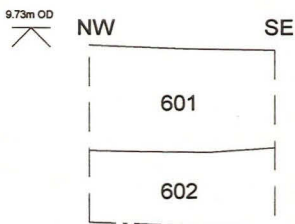
Section 7, Trench 3



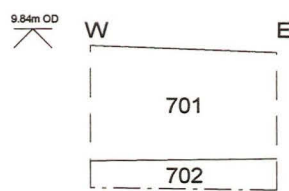
Section 2, Trench 4



Section 5, Trench 5



Section 4, Trench 6



Section 3, Trench 7




 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Billingham Station Road BSRF03		
Scale 1:20	Drawn by: VM	Report No: 116/03

Figure 5: Sections, Trenches 1 to 7



Plate 1 Trench 1, pre-excavation plan view



Plate 2 Trench 2, pre-excavation plan view



Plate 3 Trench 3, pre-excavation plan view



Plate 4 Trench 4, pre-excitation plan view



Plate 5 Trench 5, pre-excitation plan view



Plate 6 Trench 6, pre-excitation plan view



Plate 7 Trench 7, pre-excitation plan view



Plate 8 Trench 2, Section 6 through hedge line (203)



Plate 9 Trench 3, Section 7 through clay filled linear (303)

Appendix 1

SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION LAND AT STATION ROAD, BILLINGBOROUGH

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A predetermination evaluation is required on land off Station Road, Billingborough. This requires a scheme of trial trenching.*
- 1.2 *The area is archaeologically sensitive, situated within an area of dense archaeological activity dating from the prehistoric period onwards.*
- 1.3 *An archaeological geophysical survey has been undertaken of the whole site revealing two linear anomalies that are thought to be the same features identified on aerial photographic analysis plots.*
- 1.4 *Planning permission has been granted for residential development of the site. The archaeological works are being undertaken as a condition of that permission.*
- 1.5 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the findings of the investigation. The report will consist of a text describing the nature of the archaeological deposits located and will be supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for trial trenching of land off Station Road, Billingborough, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 1142 3421.
- 2.2 The document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview
 - 2.2.2 The archaeological and natural setting
 - 2.2.3 Stages of work and methodologies to be used
 - 2.2.4 List of specialists
 - 2.2.5 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 The site is located on the western outskirts of Billingborough immediately to the south of Station Road. It comprises approximately 2ha, which is boarded on two sides by privet hedges and on another side by residential gardens.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 An outline planning application has been submitted to South Kesteven District Council for residential development. Given the archaeological potential of the site, Heritage Lincolnshire recommended that an evaluation be undertaken at the site, prior to planning determination. The first stage has been undertaken, a geophysical survey and a second stage of work is now required, trial trenching in order to investigate anomalies and blank areas identified by the survey.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 Located at a height of c. 8m OD, the land is flat, and has been recently in agricultural use, being a mixture of stubble and short scrubby grass. Local soils are of the Badsey 2 Association, typically

loamy soils over calcareous gravels (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 101).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 The modern village of Billingborough is situated within an area of dense archaeological activity, dating from the prehistoric period onwards. The village lies on the fen edge on a band of gravels, with some of the earlier human activity (Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age) concentrated on the eastern side, associated with salt making. This is the earliest recorded evidence of salt making found so far within South Kesteven and possibly in Lincolnshire.
- 6.2 Evidence of Roman activity is abundant with three significant sites within the parish, whilst with later activity the focus of human occupation shifted predominately westwards away from the fen edge.
- 6.3 Immediately to the north of the proposed site are a number of cropmarks, which appear as linear features, but remain unidentified and undated (they have not been recorded on RCHME surveys).
- 6.4 Further to the north east are two bowl barrows, Bronze Age funerary monuments, which are Scheduled Ancient Monuments and lie within the parish of Horbling. Further to the south of the site a quantity of Early Saxon pottery has been recovered.
- 6.5 An archaeological geophysical survey has been undertaken of the whole site. The survey had been affected by industrial buildings located on the peripheries of the application site, which interfered with results on these boundaries. A dismantled railway line also previously existed along the eastern boundary, which may also be attributed to some of this disturbance. However, two linear anomalies were identified by the survey and are thought to be the same features identified on aerial photographic analysis plots.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aim of the work will be to gather sufficient information for the archaeological curator to be able to formulate a policy for the management of the archaeological resources present on the site.
- 7.2 The objectives of the work will be to:
 - 7.2.1 Establish the type of archaeological activity that may be present within the site.
 - 7.2.2 Determine the likely extent of archaeological activity present within the site.
 - 7.2.3 Determine the date and function of the archaeological features present on the site.
 - 7.2.4 Determine the state of preservation of the archaeological features present on the site.
 - 7.2.5 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features present within the site.

8 LIAISON WITH THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CURATOR

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

9 TRIAL TRENCHING

- 9.1 Reasoning for this technique
 - 9.1.1 Trial trenching enables the *in situ* determination of the sequence, date, nature, depth, environmental potential and density of archaeological features present on the site.
 - 9.1.2 The trial trenching will consist of the excavation of seven (7) trenches, measuring 20m x 1.6m, placed within the area of the proposed development in order to investigate

anomalies and blank areas identified by the geophysical survey. Trenches may be widened and stepped-in should archaeological deposits extend below 1.2m depth. Augering may be used to determine the depth of the sequence of deposits present.

9.2 General Considerations

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

9.3 Methodology

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

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

10 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

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

11 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT

11.1 Stage 1

- 11.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the trial trenching will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence constituting a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued: the colour slides will be labelled and mounted on appropriate hangers and the black and white contact prints will be labelled, in both cases the labelling will refer to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

- 11.1.2 All finds recovered during the trial trenching will be washed, marked, bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

11.2 Stage 2

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

11.3 Stage 3

- 11.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the investigation will be

prepared. This will consist of:

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

12 ARCHIVE

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

13 REPORT DEPOSITION

- 13.1 Copies of the investigation report will be sent to: the client, M Parker and Sons; the Community Archaeologist, South Kesteven District Council; South Kesteven District Council Planning Department; and the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record.

14 PUBLICATION

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

15 CURATORIAL MONITORING

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

16 **VARIATIONS TO THE PROPOSED SCHEME OF WORKS**

- 16.1 Variations to the scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation from the archaeological curator.
- 16.2 Should the archaeological curator require any additional investigation beyond the scope of the brief for works, or this specification, then the cost and duration of those supplementary examinations will be negotiated between the client and the contractor.

17 **STAFF TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT**

- 17.1 The work will be directed by Tom Lane MIFA, Senior Archaeologist, Heritage Lincolnshire. The on-site works will be supervised by an Archaeological Supervisor with knowledge of archaeological evaluations of this type. Archaeological excavation will be carried out by Archaeological Technicians, experienced in projects of this type.
- 17.2 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

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

18 **PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS**

- 18.1 Fieldwork is expected to be undertaken by four staff, a supervisor and 3 assistants, and to take approximately ten (10) days.
- 18.2 Post-excavation analysis and report production is expected to take 13 person-days within a notional programme of 6 days. A project officer or supervisor will undertake most of the analysis, with assistance from the finds supervisor and CAD illustrator. Two half-days of specialist time are allotted in the project budget.
- 18.3 Contingency
 - 18.3.1 Contingencies have been specified in the budget. These include: Environmental sampling/analysis of waterlogged remains; Fencing (not expected); Lithics (small amounts allowed for); Prehistoric pottery (small amounts allowed for); Roman pottery (small amounts allowed for); Anglo-Saxon pottery (small amounts allowed for);

Medieval pottery- large quantities (moderate amount expected and allowed for); Faunal remains -large quantities (moderate amounts expected and allowed for); Special (non-pottery) finds (small amounts allowed for); Conservation and/or other unexpected remains or artefacts.

- 18.3.2 Other than the fencing, the activation of any contingency requirement will be by the archaeological curator (South Kesteven Community Archaeologist), not Archaeological Project Services.

19 INSURANCES

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

20 COPYRIGHT

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

21 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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, 01/05/03

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench 1

No.	Description	Interpretation
101	Loose dark brown clay loam, 0.29m thick	Topsoil
102	Firm orange-brown silty clay	Natural

Trench 2

No.	Description	Interpretation
201	Loose dark brown clay loam, 0.27m thick	Topsoil
202	Firm orange-brown silty clay	Natural
203	Linear feature, aligned east-west, 64m in length, 1.15m wide by 0.12m deep, shallow sloping sides to a rounded concave base	Former hedge line
204	Firm brown-grey silty loam	Fill of (203)

Trench 3

No.	Description	Interpretation
301	Loose dark brown clay loam, 0.25m thick	Topsoil
302	Firm orange-brown silty clay	Natural
303	Sub rectangular linear feature aligned east-west, 17.5m in length, 1.55m wide and 0.18m deep, shallow to moderate sloping sides to a flat base	?Pond
304	Firm light grey clay	Fill of (303)

Trench 4

No.	Description	Interpretation
401	Loose dark brown clay loam, 0.29m thick	Topsoil
402	Firm orange-brown silty clay	Natural

Trench 5

No.	Description	Interpretation
501	Loose dark brown clay loam, 0.28m thick	Topsoil
502	Firm orange-brown silty clay	Natural
503	Linear feature aligned east-west, up to 0.24m wide and 0.3m deep with vertical sides. Ceramic field drain in the base	Field drain
504	50/50 mix of (501) and (502)	Fill of (503)

Trench 6

No.	Description	Interpretation
601	Loose dark brown clay loam, 0.28m thick	Topsoil
602	Firm orange-brown silty clay	Natural
603	Linear feature orientated north-south, 0.65m wide with ceramic field drain visible within fill	Field drain
604	Firm mid brown-orange silty clay	Fill of (603)

Trench 7

No.	Description	Interpretation
701	Loose dark brown clay loam, 0.31m thick	Topsoil
702	Firm orange-brown silty clay	Natural

Appendix 3

THE FINDS *by James Rackham*

Provenance

The material was recovered from the fill (304) of an undated shallow linear feature.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the table.

Context	Species	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
304	Horse	Axis vertebra	17	39	

Condition

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

Documentation

There have been previous archaeological investigations at Billingborough, including at the current site itself. 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

As the material are fragments of a single bone, without associated dating evidence, the assemblage is of limited local potential but does signify human activity at the site in the past.

Appendix 4

SECRETARY OF STATE'S CRITERIA FOR SCHEDULING ANCIENT MONUMENTS - Extract from *Archaeology and Planning* DoE Planning Policy Guidance note 16, November 1990

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

i *Period*: all types of monuments that characterise a category or period should be considered for preservation.

ii *Rarity*: there are some monument categories which in certain periods are so scarce that all surviving examples which retain some archaeological potential should be preserved. In general, however, a selection must be made which portrays the typical and commonplace as well as the rare. This process should take account of all aspects of the distribution of a particular class of monument, both in a national and regional context.

iii *Documentation*: the significance of a monument may be enhanced by the existence of records of previous investigation or, in the case of more recent monuments, by the supporting evidence of contemporary written records.

iv *Group value*: the value of a single monument (such as a field system) may be greatly enhanced by its association with related contemporary monuments (such as a settlement or cemetery) or with monuments of different periods. In some cases, it is preferable to protect the complete group of monuments, including associated and adjacent land, rather than to protect isolated monuments within the group.

v *Survival/Condition*: the survival of a monument's archaeological potential both above and below ground is a particularly important consideration and should be assessed in relation to its present condition and surviving features.

vi *Fragility/Vulnerability*: highly important archaeological evidence from some field monuments can be destroyed by a single ploughing or unsympathetic treatment; vulnerable monuments of this nature would particularly benefit from the statutory protection that scheduling confers. There are also existing standing structures of particular form or complexity whose value can again be severely reduced by neglect or careless treatment and which are similarly well suited by scheduled monument protection, even if these structures are already listed buildings.

vii *Diversity*: some monuments may be selected for scheduling because they possess a combination of high quality features, others because of a single important attribute.

viii *Potential*: on occasion, the nature of the evidence cannot be specified precisely but it may still be possible to document reasons anticipating its existence and importance and so to demonstrate the justification for scheduling. This is usually confined to sites rather than upstanding monuments.

Appendix 5

GLOSSARY

Alluvium	Deposits laid down by water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea, and fresh water alluvium is laid down by rivers and in lakes.
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, e.g. [004].
Cropmark	A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological or geological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.
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.
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).
Geophysical Survey	Essentially non-invasive methods of examining below the ground surface by measuring deviations in the physical properties and characteristics of the earth. Techniques include magnetometry and resistivity survey.
Iron Age	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
Layer	A layer is a term used 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 1st century AD.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

Appendix 6

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

22	Context records
10	Sheets of Scale drawings
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Bag of finds
1	Stratigraphic matrix

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

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

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

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number: 2003.134

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: BSRF 03

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.