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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT TOP YARD FARM,
BAUMBER,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BTY 03)**



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

EVENT LI 4499

SOURCES LI 9078
LI 9079

NEGATIVE LI 8258

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT TOP YARD FARM,
BAUMBER,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BTY 03)**

**Work Undertaken For
Mansell Construction Services Ltd
on behalf of
Orange Direct**

October 2003

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

National Grid Reference: TF ~~2176 7576~~ 521650 375760
Planning Reference: S/011/1434/02
City and County Museum Accession No: 2003.326

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 162/03



Quality Control
Top Yard Farm, Baumber
BTY 03

Project Coordinator	Tobin Rayner
Supervisors	Vicky Mellor, Fiona Walker
Illustration	Paul Cope-Faulkner
Photographic Reproduction	Sue Unsworth
Post-excavation Analyst	Paul Cope-Faulkner

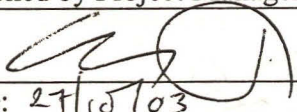
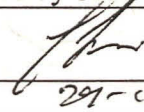
Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
 Gary Taylor	 Tom Lane
Date: 27/10/03	Date: 29-10-03

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during development at Top Yard Farm, Baumber, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavations of a foundation trench for a telecommunications tower and a cable trench.

The site lies west of a Roman (AD 42-410) thoroughfare that once connected the Roman towns of Horncastle and Caister. To the west of the site is the deserted medieval (AD 1066-1540) village of Little Sturton.

The investigation identified natural, subsoil and topsoil layers with dumped and hardstanding deposits associated with the adjacent farmyard. No archaeological features were recorded and no artefacts retrieved.

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 may be disturbed or destroyed." (IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mansell Construction Services Ltd on behalf of Orange Direct to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with installation of telecommunications equipment on land at Top Yard Farm, Baumber, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the

submission of planning application S/011/1434/02. The watching brief was carried out between the 23rd September and 6th October 2003, in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the Historic Built Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Baumber is located 27km east of Lincoln and 7km northwest of Horncastle in the administrative district of East Lindsey, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

Top Yard Farm is located 1.5km north of Baumber centre as defined by the parish church of St. Swithin at National Grid Reference TF 2176 7576 (Fig. 2). The site lies at a height of c. 70m OD, in the Lincolnshire Wolds, on land that slopes down to the south and west, on the west side of a north-south ridge.

The site lies adjacent to soils of the Swaffham Prior Association, typically loamy brown calcareous earths, and Cannamore Association calcareous loamy or clayey soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 140, 316). These soils overlie a drift geology of boulder clay which seals a solid geology of Upper Jurassic Ancholme Clays (BGS 1980).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Baumber lies in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric period to the present day. A stone axe hammer has been found within the village and a Bronze Age torc is known from the south of the parish (Taylor 1997, 2).

The site lies to the west of High Street, a Roman thoroughfare that once connected Horncastle to Caister and beyond to the Humber and that perhaps utilized an earlier, prehistoric, route (Margary 1973,

240). Coins, brooches and pottery of the period have also been identified alongside High Street, south of the village (Taylor 1997, appendices 2 and 3).

Although the site now lies within the parish of Baumber, it previously lay within Little Sturton which is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as *Sudtone* the name is derived from the Old English and means the settlement (*tūn*) on the street (*stræt*), the latter implying a Roman road (Cameron 1998, 119). At the time of Domesday the land was held by Eudo, son of Spirewic, and contained 25 acres of meadow (Foster and Longley 1976). In the subsequent Lindsey Survey of c. 1115, the land was held by Eudo's son Hugh (*ibid.*).

There are no extant remains of the medieval village of Little Sturton, although reference is made to a chapel there in the late 12th century when Robert de Tateshall, son of Hugh, granted it to Bridlington Priory (Owen 1975, 16). In the 14th century, the manor of Sturton was granted to the Hospital of St. Giles without Lincoln (Page 1988, 233). It passed to Robert Dighton in 1546 who built a house there, a forerunner of Stourton Hall (Leach and Pacey 1990, 29). It is possibly the construction of the house or the subsequent Stourton Hall which led to the demise of the village.

3. AIMS

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

4. METHODS

A 4.3m by 4.3m area for the foundation of a telecommunication tower was excavated by machine to a depth of 1.1m below the

ground level and an associated cable trench to 0.8m below ground level. The sides of the trenches were then cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were examined by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. Each deposit identified was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their descriptions appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled and sections drawn at a scale of 1:10. Recording was undertaken using standard Archaeological Project Services' practice.

Following excavation the records were checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

5. RESULTS

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

The earliest deposit encountered at the tower base was a natural layer of yellowish brown silt with flints (005) which measured in excess of 0.4m thick. This was sealed by a subsoil of dark brown sandy silt (004) that was 0.22m thick. Further east, along the cable trench, natural comprised yellowish brown sandy clay with chalk and flints (007).

Above the subsoil was an 80mm thick deposit of crushed chalk hardstanding (003). This had been sealed beneath a dumped deposit of greyish brown sandy silt with brick (002) upon which a topsoil comprising greyish brown sandy silt had developed (001).

Within the cable trench, above natural (007) was a 0.7m thick topsoil comprising

dark greyish brown sandy silt (006) which incorporated dumped brick and pebbles.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits comprised silt, sandy clay, chalk and flint which represents the underlying natural geology of boulder clay. Subsoil had then developed upon this layer.

A crushed chalk hardstanding and a dumped deposit of sandy silt with bricks are likely to be associated with recent agricultural activity associated with Top Yard Farm.

No artefacts were retrieved during this investigation.

7. CONCLUSION

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at Top Yard Farm, Baumber, as the site lay in close proximity to a Roman road and close to the deserted medieval settlement of Little Sturton.

However, only natural deposits and layers associated with Top Yard Farm were identified during the watching brief. No artefacts were collected during the investigation.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr E. Lord of Mansell Construction Services Ltd of for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis on behalf of Orange Direct. Tobin Rayner coordinated the work and this report was edited by Gary Taylor and Tom Lane. Dave Start kindly permitted examination of the parish files and library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Tobin Rayner
 Site Supervisors: Vicky Mellor, Fiona Walker
 Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
 Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
 Post-excavation analysis: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

BGS British Geological Survey

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

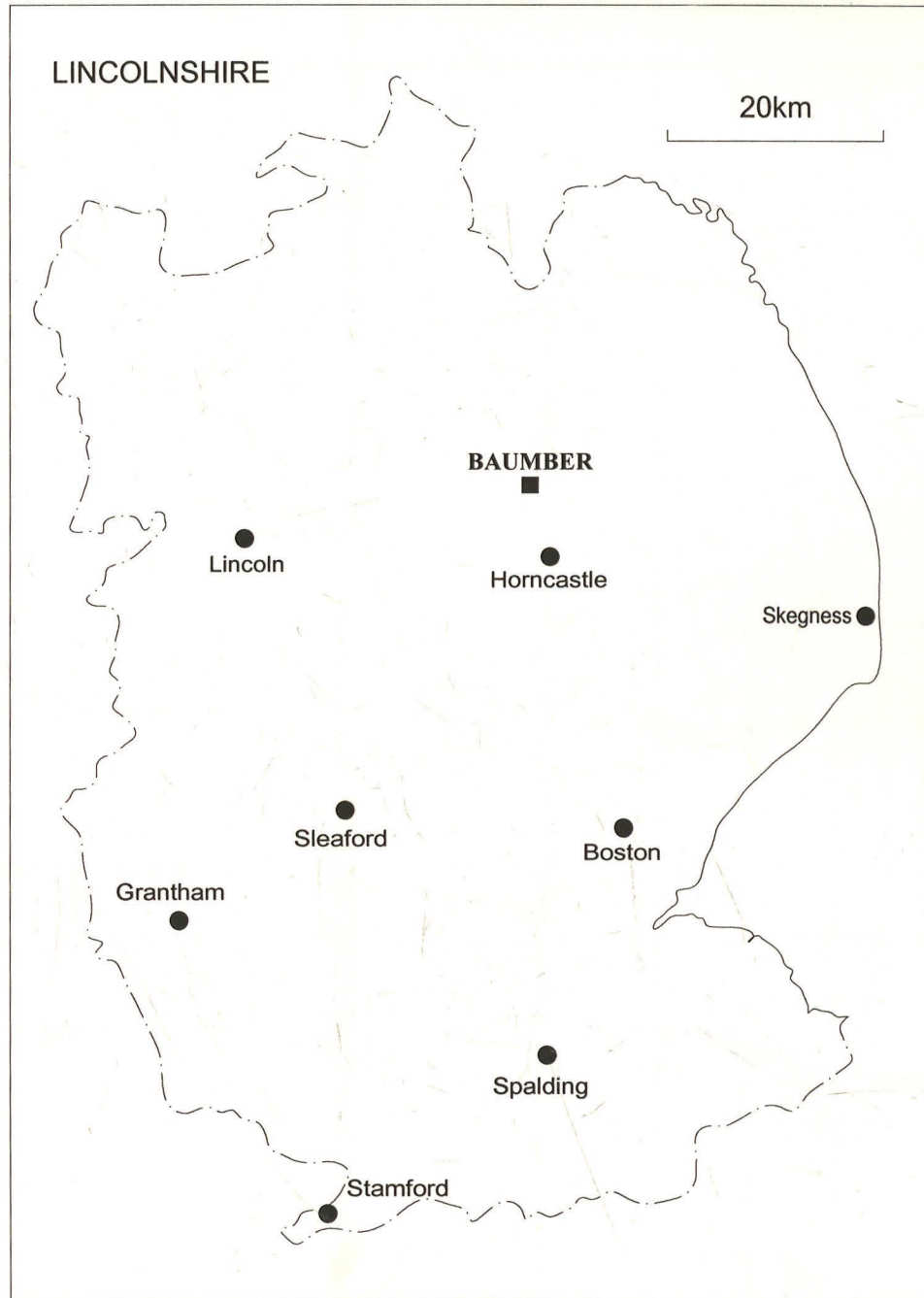
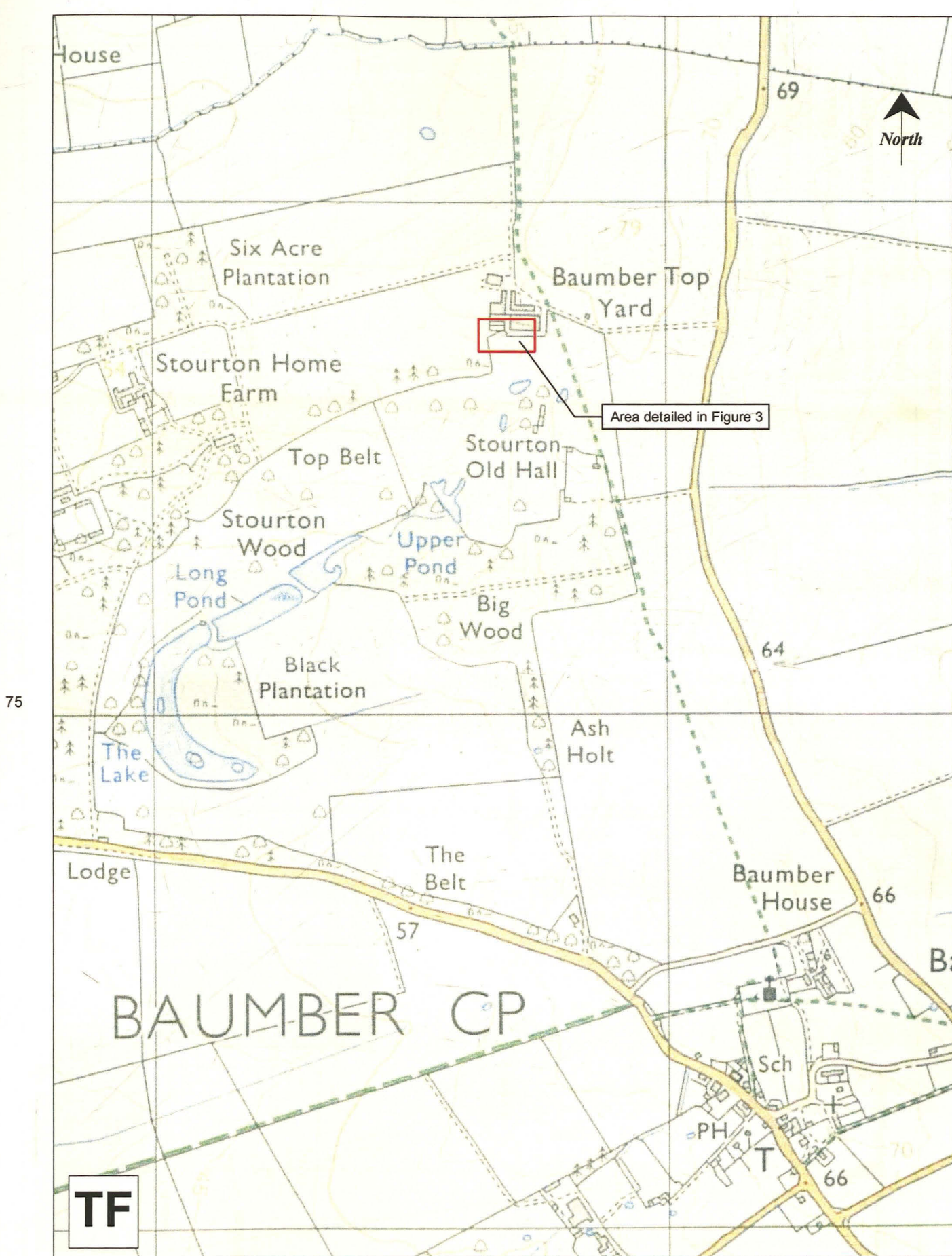


Figure 1 - General Location Plan



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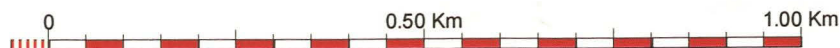


Figure 2 - Site location plan

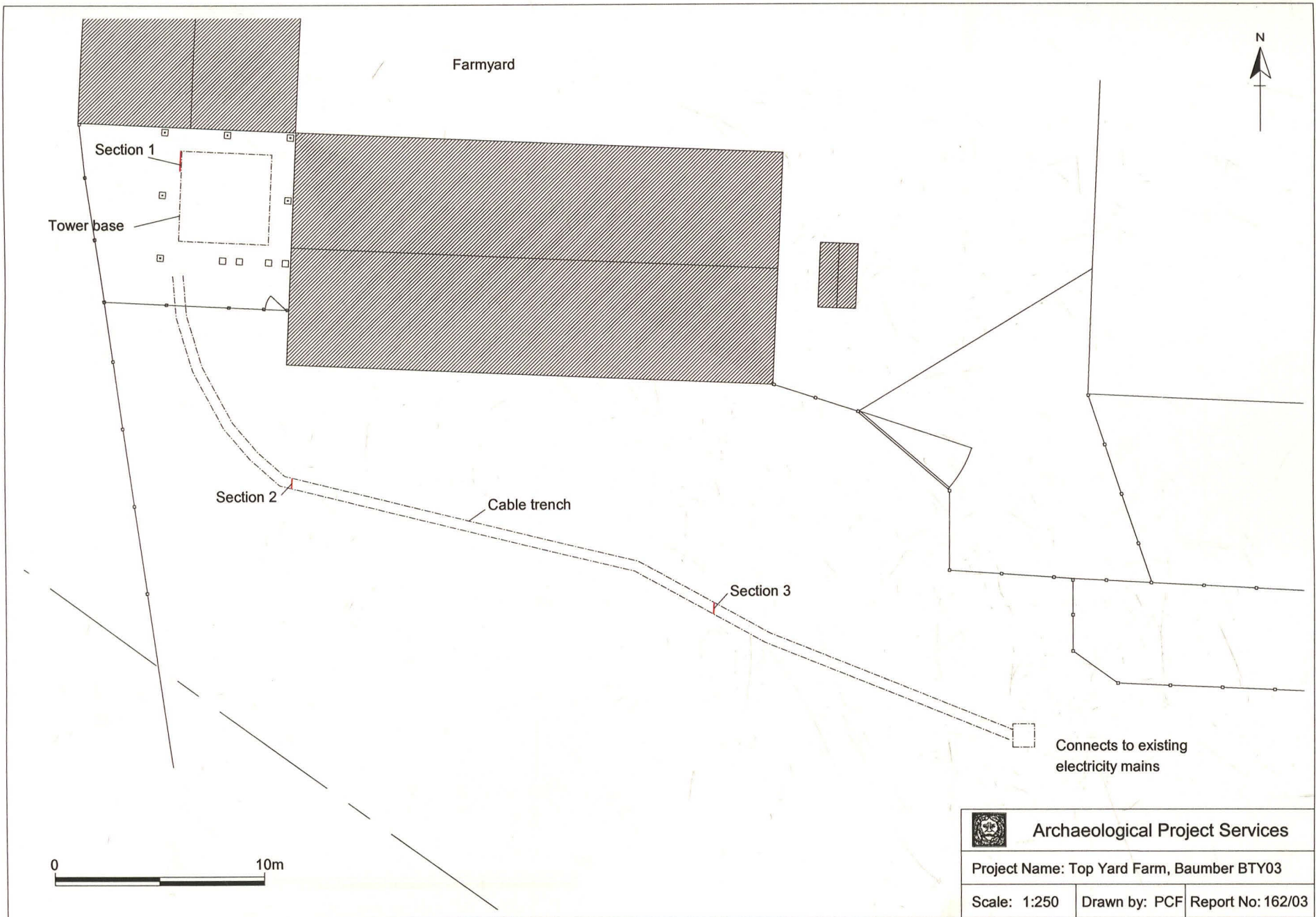
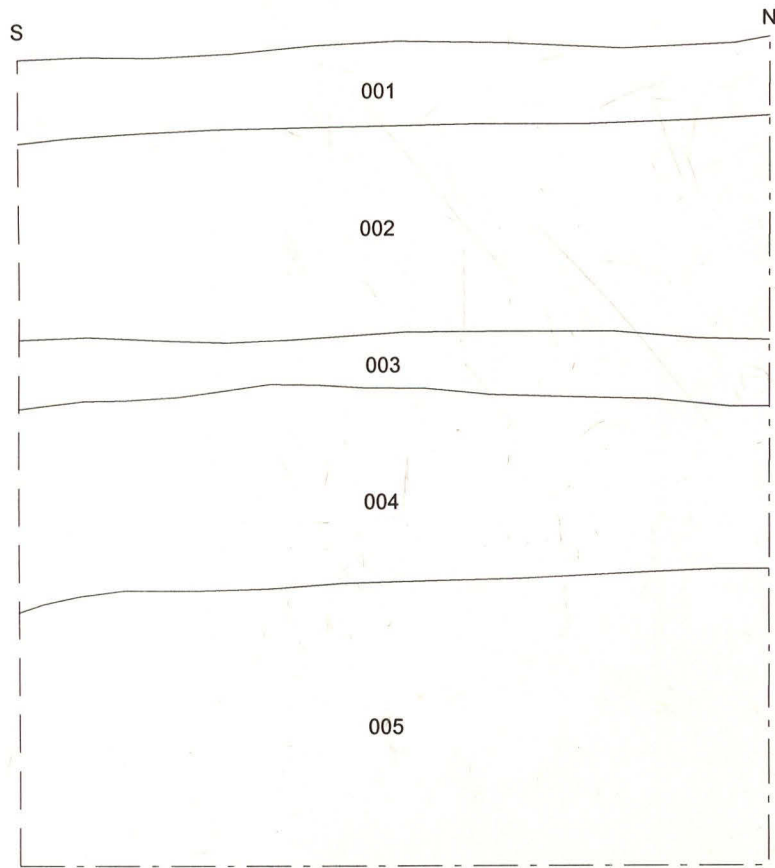
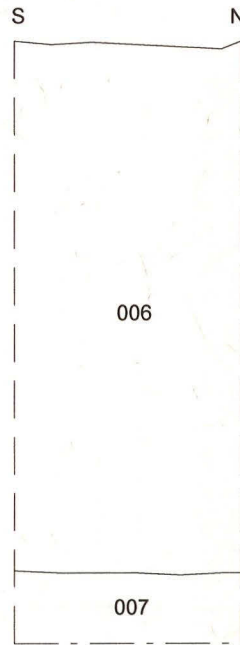


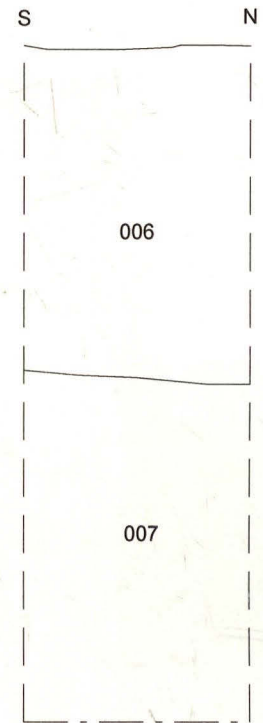
Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section locations



Section 1



Section 2



Section 3




 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Top Yard Farm, Baumber, BTY03		
Scale: 1:10	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 162/03

Figure 4 - Sections 1 to 3

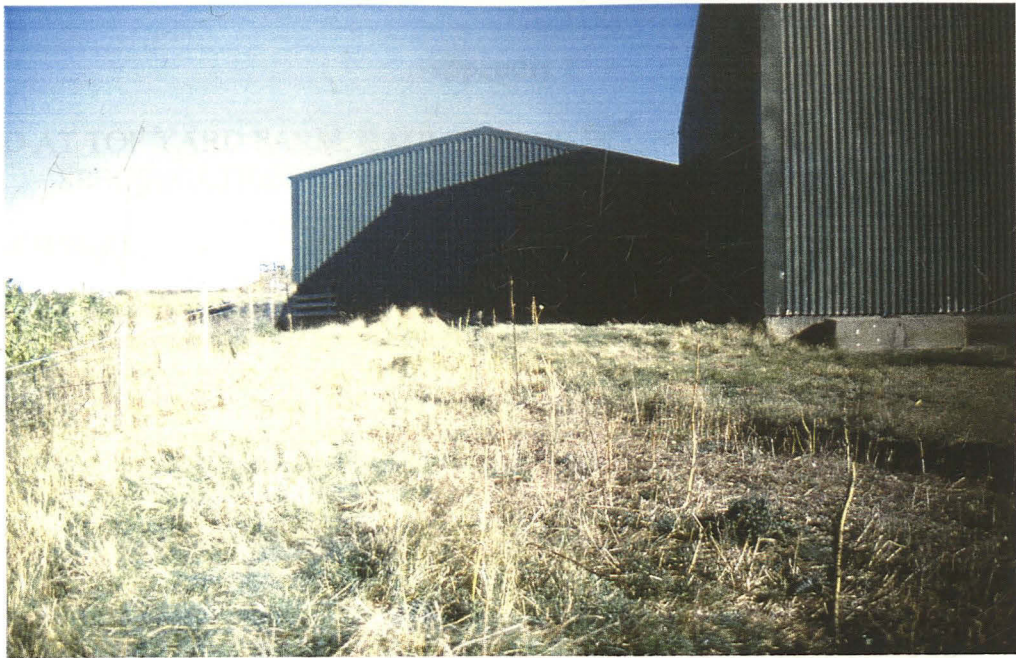


Plate 1 - General view looking towards the position of the new aerial mast, looking north



Plate 2 - Section 2 showing the general sequence of deposits, looking west

Appendix 1

LAND AT TOP YARD FARM, BAUMBER, NR HORNCastle, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *An archaeological watching brief is required during groundworks associated with the proposed telecommunications installation at Top Yard Farm, Baumber, Nr Horncastle, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *Baumber is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric period to the present day. A deserted medieval village (DMV) is located within close proximity to Top Yard Farm and any ground works may reveal artefacts and features relating to that period.*
- 1.3 *The watching brief will be undertaken during groundworks associated with the installation. 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 groundworks associated with the proposed telecommunications installation at Top Yard Farm, Baumber, Nr Horncastle, 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 Baumber is located 27km east of Lincoln and 7km northwest of Horncastle, in East Lindsey District, Lincolnshire. The proposed development site lies about 1.5km north of the village centre as defined by the parish church of St. Swithin, off High Street at National Grid Reference TF 2176 7576.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Planning permission (S/011/1434/02) has been granted for the proposed telecommunications installation, subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the development.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 Top Yard Farm lies at c. 70m OD astride a north-south ridge with the River Bain to the east. The site is at the junction of the Swaffham Prior Association, loamy brown calcareous earths over chalk or rubbly chalk drift and the Cannamore Association, calcareous loamy or clayey soils on chalky till (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 140; 316).

6 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 6.1 Baumber is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric period to the present day. A prehistoric stone axe hammer has previously been found in the centre of the village (HTL parish files).

- 6.2 Baumber is first mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086. Referred to as 'Badeburg', the place name derives from the Old English personal name *Bada* or *Badda* and *burg* meaning fortified place (Ekwall 1974, 31; 74) and may refer to an ancient Iron Age hillfort being located in close proximity (Taylor, 1997).
- 6.3 A deserted medieval village (DMV) is located within close proximity to Top Yard Farm (B. Lott *pers. comm.*) and any ground works may disclose artefacts and features pertaining to that period.

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 groundworks associated with the installation.
- 7.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:
- 7.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
- 7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
- 7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
- 7.2.4 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

8 SITE OPERATIONS

8.1 General considerations

- 8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the watching brief.
- 8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA). Archaeological Project Services is IFA registered organisation no. 21.
- 8.1.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

8.2 Methodology

- 8.2.1 The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of installation, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.
- 8.2.2 Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.
- 8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 8.2.4 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
- the site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
 - groups of features where their relationship is important

- 8.2.5 Should human remains be located the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department and the police will be informed.

9 POST-EXCAVATION

9.1 Stage 1

9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued and labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

9.1.2 All finds recovered during the 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 watching brief.
- Description of the topography of the site.
- Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.
- A text describing the findings of the watching brief.
- A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.
- Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
- Sections of the 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; East Lindsey District Council Planning Department; and to the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

11 **ARCHIVE**

- 11.1 The documentation and records generated during the watching brief will be sorted and ordered into the format 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 County Council Archaeology Section. They will be given 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.

<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 Unit Roman - B Precious, Independent Specialist Anglo-Saxon-later - J Young, Independent Specialist
Non-pottery Artefacts	J Cowgill, Independent Specialist
Animal Bones	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
Environmental Analysis	V Fryer, Independent Specialist
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, Independent Specialist

17 INSURANCES

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

18 COPYRIGHT

18.1 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.

18.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.

18.3 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.

18.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

19 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Friable mid to dark greyish brown sandy silt, 0.18m thick	Topsoil
002	Firm mid greyish brown sandy silt with frequent bricks, 0.28m thick	Made ground
003	Firm white crushed chalk, 80mm thick	Hardstanding
004	Firm dark brown sandy silt, 0.22m thick	Subsoil
005	Firm mid yellowish brown silt with flints, >0.4m thick	Natural deposit
006	Soft to firm dark greyish brown sandy silt with frequent brick and pebbles, 0.7m thick	Topsoil
007	Firm light yellowish brown sandy clay with chalk	Natural deposit

Appendix 3

GLOSSARY

Boulder Clay	A deposit formed after the retreat of a glacier. Also known as till, this material is generally unsorted and can comprise of rock flour to boulders to rocks of quite substantial size.
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).
Dumped deposits	These are deposits, often laid down intentionally, that raise a land surface. They may be the result of casual waste disposal or may be deliberate attempts to raise the ground surface.
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.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

Appendix 4

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

7	Context records
3	Scale drawings
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Stratigraphic matrix

All primary records 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: 2003.326

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: BTY 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.