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ARCHAEOLOGICAL
WATCHING BRIEF ON LAND OFF
STATION ROAD, KIRTON
LINCOLNSHIRE
(PHASE 3, LIGHTON AVENUE)
(KSR03)



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

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WATCHING BRIEF ON LAND OFF
STATION ROAD, KIRTON
LINCOLNSHIRE
(PHASE 3, LIGHTON AVENUE)
(KSR03)

Work Undertaken For Chestnut Homes

December 2003

Report Compiled by James Snee BSc. (Hons)

National Grid Reference: TF 3092 3852 Planning Application No. B/02/0063/OUTL

A.P.S. Report No. 194/03

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



Conservation Services

2 2 DEC 2003

Highways & Planning Directorate

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT STATION ROAD, KIRTON, LINCOLNSHIRE: PHASE 3 LIGHTON AVENUE

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief on land at Station Road, Kirton, Lincolnshire (NGR TF 3093 3852) was undertaken as previous archaeological investigations had recovered Late Saxon pottery from ditches and a feature containing hearth and domestic debris. A recent excavation of the adjacent field to the west identified substantial evidence of Late Saxon activity.

The aims of the watching brief were to record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.

The only deposits revealed during the investigation were natural alluvium, an intermittent transformed subsoil, covered by modern topsoil.

No artefacts were recovered from the site during this investigation.

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

Between the 2nd of May and the 11th June 2003 an archaeological watching brief was carried out during residential development on land off Station Road, Kirton, Lincolnshire.

An outline planning application (B/02/0063/OUTL) submitted to Boston District Council was passed subject to a condition requiring a scheme of archaeological works.

Initially, this required topsoil stripping under archaeological supervision, followed by excavation and recording, on land to the east side of the development area where archaeological evaluation and geophysical survey had identified a cluster of archaeological features (Fig. 3) (Hall 2003).

In addition, a watching brief was required for groundworks associated with the development of plots 40 - 42 and plots 57 and 58, which lie to the west of the area subject to the topsoil stripping and recording undertaken in November, 2002.

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Chestnut Homes to undertake the watching brief in accordance with a specification prepared by APS (Appendix 1).

2.3 Topography and Geology

Kirton is situated 4km southwest of Boston, in the administrative Borough of Boston, within the Fenland of South Lincolnshire (Fig 1). The area of investigation lies to the east of the village centre, off Station Road, at National Grid Reference TF 3093 3852.

The area of development forms an irregular shaped plot of land approximately 0.6ha located within the angle formed by Station Road to the south and the A16 to the east. It is relatively flat, lying at c.4m OD. The watching brief was undertaken on two separate areas located towards the southeast of the area of development, plots 40-42 and 57 and 58 (Fig. 3).

Local soils are typically coarse gleyic brown alluvial soils of the Snargate Series. Many Snargate soils have calcareous subsoil layers suggestive of lime-rich deposits that have leached over a long period of land use (Robson 1990, 27).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

A Neolithic polished greenstone axe, which may be an import into the fens, provides the only indication of a prehistoric presence in Kirton parish.

Evidence of Romano-British activity is also scarce, but is represented by finds of this period from along Willoughton Road, on the northwest edge of the village. This spread of artefacts may represent the location of a settlement site.

Although the early origins of the village are not fully understood, a number of investigations around the village have identified dispersed archaeological remains of the Late Saxon period.

During evaluation of the area of the Phase 3 development, Late Saxon/early medieval ditches probably representing a peripheral agricultural settlement on newly drained fens (Rayner, 2002) were identified. Saxo-Norman Furthermore, medieval ditches and pits associated with dumps of domestic refuse of the same date were revealed to the southwest (Snee 2001b, Thomson 2001). Immediately to the west of the site topsoil stripping in Phase 2 identified a substantial amount of evidence for Late Saxon settlement in the form of several ring gullies, posthole alignments and large pits and ditches (Hall 2002).

A programme of topsoil stripping and recording undertaken in November 2002 (Hall 2003) immediately east of the plots subject to the present investigation

recorded low levels of archaeological remains, although ditches and pit of Saxon date were identified.

Medieval use of the area is well attested Kirton village was the administrative centre of Kirton Wapentake at the time of the Domesday Survey of c. 1086 (Morris 1986). The village name is recorded as *Chirchetune* and is derived from the Old English words 'cirice' (a church) and 'tun' (a village), although at some point between 1096 and 1155-56 'cirice' was replaced by the Old Norse 'kirkja' (Cameron 1998). Kirton grew to be an important medieval town, though it has since declined in favour of Boston.

The church of SS Peter and Paul (BD 14/043) lies in the centre of the village, and was originally built in the 12th century although it was substantially altered and reduced in size in the early 19th century. Located outside the village were three sizable houses of medieval date, Bozon Hall (14/018), Littlebury Hall (14/002) and Orme Hall (14/019), all now demolished. Medieval and later pottery and coins associated with Orme Hall have been recovered at the northwestern edge of the town (14/020, 021, 022 & 024) and a watching brief in the area (14/044) recorded a medieval ditch and finds of medieval pottery (Cope-Faulkner 1994).

To the west of the village, a number of medieval and post-medieval finds have been reported (14/041 & 14/034). Finds of medieval pottery have also been reported on the east and southwest outskirts of the village.

A number of investigations have been carried out in the centre of Kirton village. These have revealed a sequence of deposits from the late Saxon period to the modern day at High Street (14/050) (Cope-Faulkner 1996) and evidence of medieval activity on Station Road (14/045) (Taylor

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT STATION ROAD, KIRTON, LINCOLNSHIRE: PHASE 3 LIGHTON AVENUE

1994). On both of these sites the medieval and earlier deposits were sealed below a layer of alluvium. Similarly undated archaeological activity was covered by alluvium on Willington Road (14/051), near the village centre (Hambly 2000).

French and German jettons (counting pieces or tokens) of 15th and 16th century date have been found in the centre of the town (Cope-Faulkner 1994). Also in the town centre, close to the church, is the Old King's Head Inn (14/042) of early 16th century date (Pevsner & Harris 1989).

3. AIMS

The aims of the watching brief were to record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.

The objectives of the watching brief were to determine the form, function, date and spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered and establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

4. METHODS

Foundation trenches were then excavated by machine to depths required by the development. The sides of the trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical and selected deposits were partially excavated by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. The depth and thickness of each deposit was measured ground surface. Each from the archaeological deposit or feature was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their interpretations appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was

compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. Recording of deposits encountered during the watching brief was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services' practice.

Records of the deposits and features were also examined and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them and supplemented by artefact dating.

5. RESULTS

5.1 Description of the results

Two phases of deposits were recognised:

Phase 1: Natural deposits Phase 2: Modern deposits

5.2 Phase 1: Natural deposits

The earliest deposit revealed during the investigation was more than 0.42m of light yellow-brown silt (002, 005, 009 & 012). Overlying this was an intermittent layer of transformed brown silt (004, 008 & 011) up to 0.30m thick.

5.3 Phase 2: Modern deposits

Covering the entire site area was up to 0.30m of dark brown silty topsoil (001, 003, 006 & 010) with occasional lenses of gravel (007).

6. DICUSSION

The earliest deposit (Phase 1) revealed was a natural alluvium, the upper portions of which had, in places, transformed to form a subsoil deposit.

Overlying the naturally formed deposits was a layer of topsoil (Phase 2), which contained lenses of dumped gravel.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were undertaken on land at Station Road, Kirton, Lincolnshire, as previous geophysical survey and evaluation of the site had identified several archaeological features. Specifically, late Saxon remains are known to be present in the immediate vicinity.

The only deposits revealed during the investigation were natural alluvium, an intermittent transformed subsoil, covered by modern topsoil. No artefacts were recovered from the site during this investigation.

Due to the dispersed and insubstantial nature of the archaeological remains recorded during the topsoil immediately to the east, and elsewhere on the site, it is possible that Late Saxon remains were present but not recorded in the vicinity of the plots monitored during the watching brief. However, the remains recorded in the Phase 2 area to the west were moderately intensive and it seems unlikely that these extended eastward, suggesting that the main focus of activity during the Late Saxon period was limited to the area defined within Phase 2 of the development

No artefacts were recovered from the site during this investigation.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr. Neil Kempster of Chestnut Homes who commissioned the fieldwork and this report. The project was coordinated by Dale Trimble; the report was edited by Dale Trimble and Tom Lane, the Boston Community Archaeologist, kindly permitted the examination of the relevant parish files.

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10. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

SMR Sites and Monuments Record



Figure 1: General Location Plan

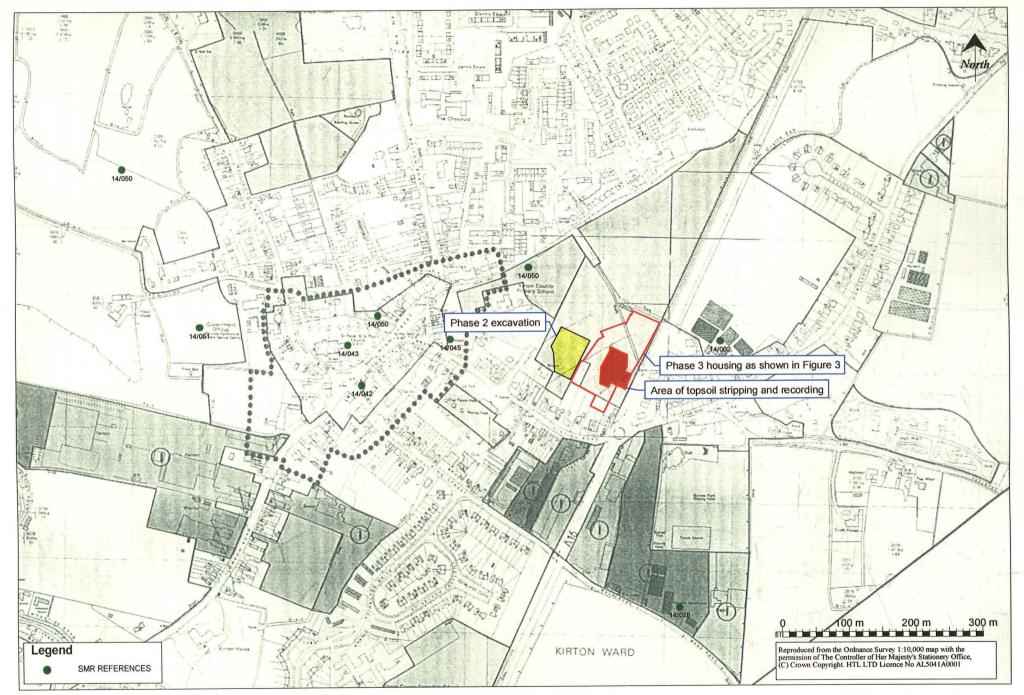


Figure 2 Area of Phase II Topsoil Stripping and

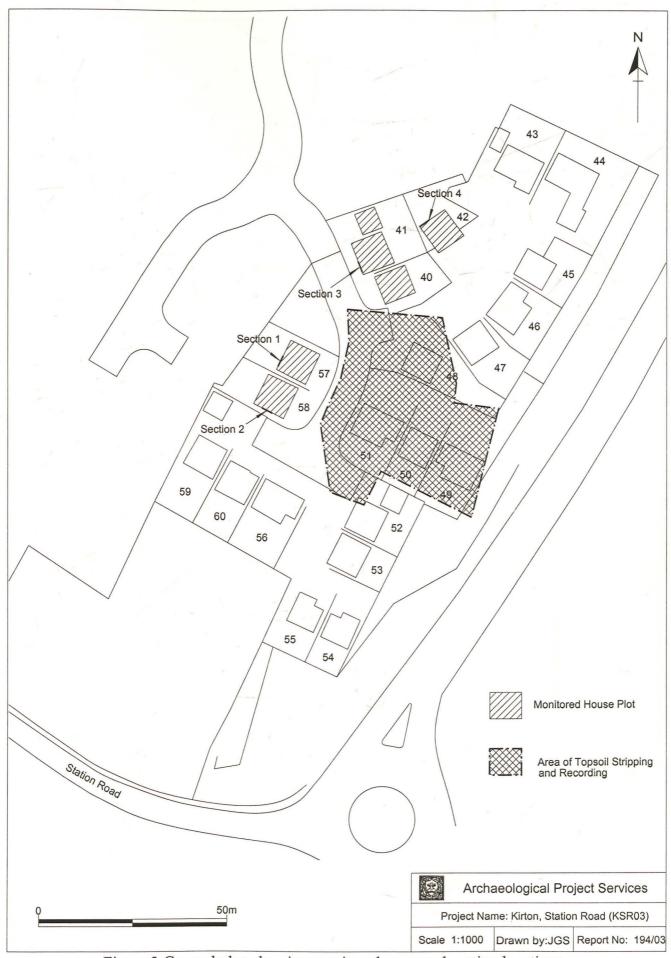


Figure 3 General plan showing monitored areas and section locations.

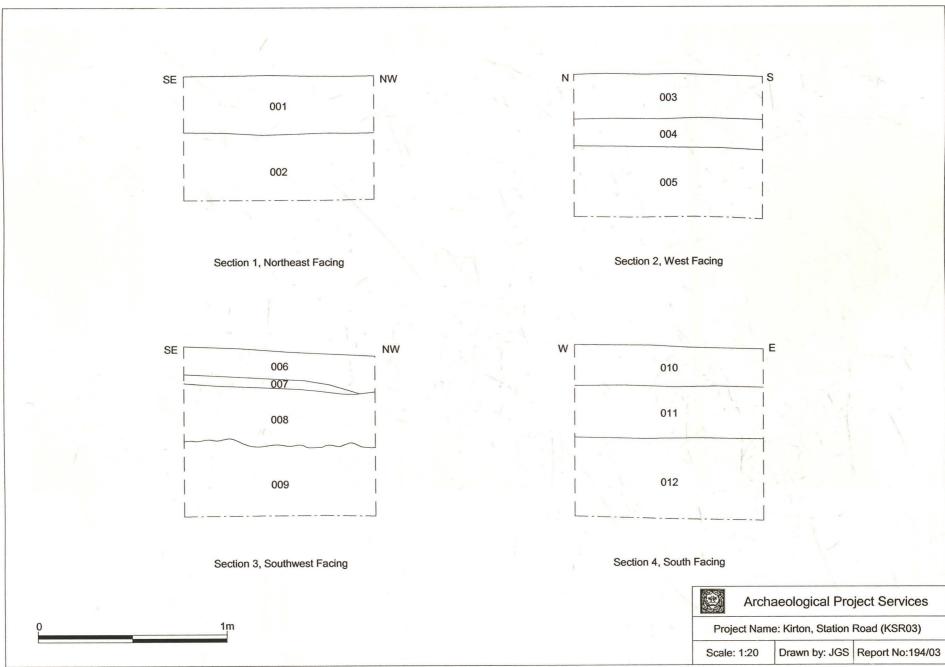


Figure 4 Sections 1 to 4.



Plate 1 General view of development area, looking northwest



Plate 2 General view of development area, looking east



Plate 3 Section 3, looking southwest

LAND OFF STATION ROAD, KIRTON, LINCOLNSHIRE / PHASE 3, LIGHTON AVENUE SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 A watching brief is required during housing development on land off Station Road, Kirton, Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The area is archaeologically sensitive, lying within an where late Saxon remains have been identied on previous investigations.
- 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 watching brief. 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 housing development on land off Station Road, Kirton, 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 Kirton is located 4km southwest of Boston in the fens of south Lincolnshire. The site is just east of the village centre, off Station Road, about 250m east of the parish church at national grid reference TF 3093 3852. The proposed area of development forms an irregular shaped plot of land of approximately 0.6ha located within the angle formed by Station road to the south and the A16 to the east. The watching brief will be undertaken in two separate areas located towards the southeast of the area of development, within plots 40 - 42 and 57 and 58 as depicted on development plan CH/K/06.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 An outline planning application (B/02/0063/OUTL) submitted to Boston District Council for residential development of an approximately 0.6ha. site at Station Road, Kirton, has been passed subject to a condition requiring a scheme of archaeological works. Initially, this required topsoil stripping under archaeological supervision followed by excavation and recording on land to the east side of the development area where archaeological evaluation and geophysical survey had identified a cluster of archaeological features. The area subject to the watching brief, for which this document forms a specification, covers groundworks associated with the development of plots 40 –

42 and plots 57 and 58, which lie to the west of the area subject to the topsoil stripping and recording undertaken in November, 2002.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 The site and surrounding area is on a gentle slope down to the west at c. 4m OD. Soils at the site are typical alluvial gleys of the Tanvats Association developed on marine alluvium (Hodge et al. 1984, 319). Beneath this alluvium is glacial drift that was deposited in a geological basin between the Lincolnshire Wolds and the East Anglian Heights.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 There is little evidence for archaeological remains of prehistoric date in the area and deposits from the earlier part of this period are likely to be deeply buried beneath silts and peats deposited during alternating phases of freshwater and marine flooding in the fen basin.
- 6.2 The earliest evidence for occupation in the area dates to the Roman period and is represented by artefacts of this date recovered along Willoughton road on the northwest edge of the village)
- 6.3 Kirton village was the administrative centre of the Kirton Wapentake at the time of the Domesday survey in 1086 (Morris, 1986), indicating that the settlement was established by at least the Late Saxon period. The survey records the name as *Chirchetune*, derived from Old English and meaning the 'tun' (village) with a church 'cirice' (church). At some point between 1096 and 1155-56 'cirice' was replaced by the Old Norse 'kirkja' (Cameron 1998).
- 6.4 The site lies very close to the medieval village core, about 250m east of the parish church of SS Peter and Paul, built in the 12th century but substantially altered and reduced in size in the early 19th century (Pevsner, 1989). It is likely that the church was the focus of settlement in the Late Saxon period and investigations immediately east of the church revealed evidence of occupation of the period, perhaps representing the remains of a farmyard. Medieval settlement and evidence of craft working was subsequently established in the area (Cope-Faulkner, 1996).
- 6.5 Evaluation of the adjacent field during February 2001 by Archaeological Project Services identified a cluster of post holes and a number of ditches containing pottery predominantly of Saxo-Norman date. The character of the pottery, animal bone and shell recovered from the post holes indicates domestic activity somewhere in the vicinity (Snee, 2001a). Evaluation of the proposed area of development during December of 2001 also identified remains of Saxo-Norman date, including evidence for the processing of arable crops (Rayner, 2002).
- 6.6 Excavations undertaken as part of Phase 2 of the development, within the adjacent field to the west in July 2002, identified ditches, pits and post holes from which late Saxon pottery dating to between 900 and 940 AD was recovered. Animal bone and abundant mussel shell was also retrieved and processing of environmental samples taken from the fills of various features recovered evidence of domestic occupation suggesting that the archaeological remains on the site represent a short lived farmstead probably engaged in mixed farming but exploiting coastal resources (Hall, 2002). Also recorded during the excavation were four penannular circular or subcircular gullies of unknown function but which may represent animal enclosures or hay rick drainage. The limited life span of the settlement indicates some fluidity in the settlement pattern in the Kirton area
- 6.7 A programme of topsoil stripping and recording undertaken in November 2002 (Hall 2003, forthcoming) immediately east of the plots subject to this watching brief recorded low levels of archaeological remains, although ditches and pit of Saxon date were identified. However, the

proposed watching brief area lies closer to the area of intensive remains identified during Phase 2 of the development.

- 6.8 Other investigations, only 150m to the west of the present site on Station Road, also revealed early medieval occupation remains dating to the 13th-14th century (Archaeological Project Services 1994). Settlement here appears to have been interrupted by flooding which laid down silts over the Late Saxon and medieval archaeological remains. Saxon or medieval remains beneath a thick silt layer were also revealed just west of the church on Willington Road (Hambly, 2000). Later medieval and post-medieval occupation was subsequently established on the surface of the flood silts at both sites.
- 6.9 Further to the south adjacent to King Street and London Road, two recent archaeological evaluations have recorded evidence for moderately intensive activity during the Saxo-Norman period. In addition to material indicating domestic activity, evidence for iron smithing was also identified. In terms of the development of Kirton, it may be significant that few medieval deposits were recorded at either of these two evaluations, suggesting major topographical changes between the late Saxon and medieval periods (Thomson, 2001 Snee, 2001b)

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the watching brief will be:
 - 7.1.1 To record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.
- 7.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:
 - 7.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
 - 7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
 - 7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
 - 7.2.4 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

8 SITE OPERATIONS

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

8.2 Methodology

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

- 8.2.2 Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.
- 8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 8.2.4 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
 - the site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
 - groups of features where their relationship is important
- 8.2.5 Should human remains be located the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department and the police will be informed.

9 POST EXCAVATION

9.1 Stage 1

- 9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued and labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
- 9.1.2 All finds recovered during the field work will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

9.2 Stage 2

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

9.3 Stage 3

- 9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.
- 9.3.2 This will consist of:
 - A non technical summary of the results of the investigation.
 - A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.

- Description of the topography of the site.
- Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.
- A text describing the findings of the watching brief.
- A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.
- Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
- Sections of the archaeological features.
- Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10 REPORT DEPOSITION

10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the Client, The Boston Borough Community Archaeologist based at Heritage Lincolnshire, Boston District Council Planning Department, the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

11 ARCHIVE

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

12 PUBLICATION

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

13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Boston Borough Community Archaeologist based at Heritage Lincolnshire. They will be given seven days notice in writing before the commencement of the project.

14 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

14.1 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.

- 14.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- 14.3 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.

15 VARIATION AND CONTINGENCIES

- 15.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 15.2 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).
- 15.3 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
- 15.4 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.

16 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

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

Task Body to be undertaking the work

Conservation Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln

Pottery Analysis Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust

Roman B Precious, Independent Specialist

Anglo-Saxon J Young, Independent Specialist

Medieval and later G Taylor, APS in consultation with H Healey, Independent

Archaeologist

Non-pottery Artefacts J Cowgill, Independent Specialist

Animal Bones Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

Environmental Analysis J Rackham, 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.

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Specification: Version 1, 05/03/2003

CONTEXT SUMMARY

Context No	Section No	Description	Interpretation
001	1	Firm, dark brown silt, c. 0.30m thick.	Topsoil.
002	1	Soft, light brown silt, > 0.35m thick.	Natural alluvium.
003	2	Firm, dark brown slightly clayey silt, 0.23m thick.	Topsoil.
004	2	Firm, mid brown silt, 0.16m thick.	Transformed subsoil.
. 005	2	Soft, light yellowish brown silt, > 0.35m thick.	Natural alluvium.
006	3	Soft, mid brown slightly clayey silt, with occasional gravel, 0.20m thick.	Topsoil.
007	3	Compacted, light grey silt and gravel, 0.05m thick.	Gravel lens.
008	3	Soft, mid brown silt, with moderate charcoal and shell flecks, 0.30m thick.	Transformed subsoil.
009	3	Soft, light yellowish brown sandy silt, > 0.40m thick.	Natural alluvium.
010	4	Loose, mid grey-brown silt, with gravel lenses, 0.22m thick.	Topsoil.
011	4	Firm, dark grey-brown silt, with occasional stones, 0.27m thick.	Subsoil.
012	4	Firm, light yellow-brown silt, > 0.42m thick.	Natural alluvium.

GLOSSARY

Anglo-Saxon Pertaining to the period when Britain was occupied by peoples from northern Germany,
Denmark and adjacent areas. The period dates from approximately AD 450-1066.

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.

Domesday Survey A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for

taxation purposes in 1086 AD.

Fill Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be

back-filled manually. The soil(s) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its

fill(s).

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

Post-medieval The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.

Prehistoric The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the

prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC,

until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.

Romano-British Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

The Archive

The archive consists of:

12 Context records

7 Drawing sheets

1 Section record sheet

1 Plan record sheet

1 Photographic record sheet

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: 2001.426

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: KSR03

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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