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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT ASHLEIGH, BROADGATE,
WHAPLODE DROVE,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(WDB 03)**



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

EVENT: L1 5646

INTERVENTION : L19821
EXCAVATION : L19822

PRN 23937 post med.

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT ASHLEIGH, BROADGATE,
WHAPLODE DROVE,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(WDB 03)**

**Work Undertaken For
Mr A. Cooper**

December 2003

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

National Grid Reference: TF 319 131
Planning Reference: H23/0729/03
City and County Museum Accession No: 2003.351

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 178/03



Quality Control
Ashleigh, 45 Broadgate,
Whaplode Drove
WDB 03

Project Coordinator	Gary Taylor
Supervisor	Aaron Clements
Finds Processing	Denise Buckley
Illustration	Paul Cope-Faulkner
Photographic Reproduction	Sue Unsworth
Post-excavation Analyst	Paul Cope-Faulkner

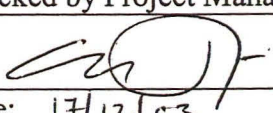
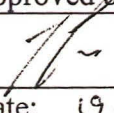
Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
 Gary Taylor	 Tom Lane
Date: 17/12/03	Date: 19-12-03

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during development at Ashleigh, Broadgate, Whaplode Drove, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of foundation trenches for extensions to existing buildings.

Whaplode Drove is located in an area of Romano-British (AD 43-410) settlement and salt-production, located generally to the north of the village. The village is a later medieval (AD 1066-1540) development.

The investigation identified a post-medieval made ground sealed beneath a recent demolition layer. Finds were retrieved and include 19th – 20th century pottery, modern window glass and a 17th century clay pipe.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as “a formal program of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits maybe disturbed or destroyed.” (IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr A. Cooper to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with extensions to an existing building at Ashleigh, Broadgate, Whaplode Drove, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application

H23/0729/03. The watching brief was carried out on the 17th October 2003, in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the Built Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Whaplode Drove is located approximately 10km southeast of Spalding in the administrative district of South Holland, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The site lies towards the centre of the village, approximately 400m south of the church of St. John the Baptist, at National Grid Reference TF 319 131 (Fig. 2). Situated in the Fens of south Lincolnshire, the site and the surrounding area is on fairly level ground, lying at approximately 3m OD.

Local soils are of the Wisbech Series, typically coarse silty calcareous alluvial gley soils (Robson 1990, 36). These soils are developed on a drift geology of marine alluvium infilling a former creek with older marine alluvium to the north and south. These in turn seal a solid geology of Jurassic Oxford Clay (BGS 1984).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Romano-British remains are well attested to in Whaplode Drove and in the surrounding area. A large scatter of material, interpreted as being of a domestic nature has been found along Chapel Gate. A limestone altar of Romano-British date was recovered from the churchyard, approximately 400m to the north. Watching briefs undertaken along Chapel Gate have recovered briquetage, indicating the presence of salterns (salt-making sites) in the vicinity (Rayner 2002, 1; Thomson 2002, 1).

After the Romano-British period, Whaplode Drove became uninhabited and

it was not until the succession of fen banks were built during the medieval period, in particular Common Dyke, that the area was reoccupied (Hallam 1954, 34).

The church of St. John the Baptist, although dating from 1821 (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 797), is located on the site of an oratory belonging to Crowland Abbey (Spain 1995, 87).

The population of the hamlet of Whaplode Drove was 854 in 1856 and during this period contained several commercial properties including a post office, a number of inns, beer houses, blacksmiths, shoemakers and butchers *etc.* (White 1856, 869).

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 function, date and origin.

4. METHODS

Foundation trenches for the new extensions were excavated by machine to depths required by the development. The sides of the trenches were then cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were then partially examined by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. Each deposit encountered 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 a section drawn at a scale of 1:10. Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services' practice.

Following excavation, the records were examined 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 was a layer of mid and dark brown sandy silty (003), 0.75m thick. This was identified as made ground, associated with a former building on the site. This was sealed beneath a demolition deposit of dark greyish brown silt with brick rubble (002) that was up to 0.3m thick.

Unstratified artefacts of post-medieval date were recovered from the site (001).

6. DISCUSSION

Only made ground and a demolition deposit were identified and both appear to be associated with former buildings at the site. By inference, the earlier deposit is likely to be of post-medieval date, perhaps dating to the 19th century.

A number of unstratified finds were collected and comprise 19th–20th century pottery, a 17th century clay pipe and modern window glass.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Broadgate, Whaplode Drove, as the site lay in close proximity to known Romano-British remains and close to the medieval core of the hamlet.

However, only post-medieval made ground and a recent demolition deposit were encountered. The oldest artefact

retrieved was a 17th century clay pipe and 19th – 20th century pottery and modern window glass were also collected.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr A. Cooper for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor who edited this report with Tom Lane. Dave Start kindly permitted access to the parish files and library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
Site Supervisor: Aaron Clements
Finds processing: Denise Buckley
Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
Post-excavation analysis: Paul Cope-Faulkner

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services
BGS British Geological Survey
IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

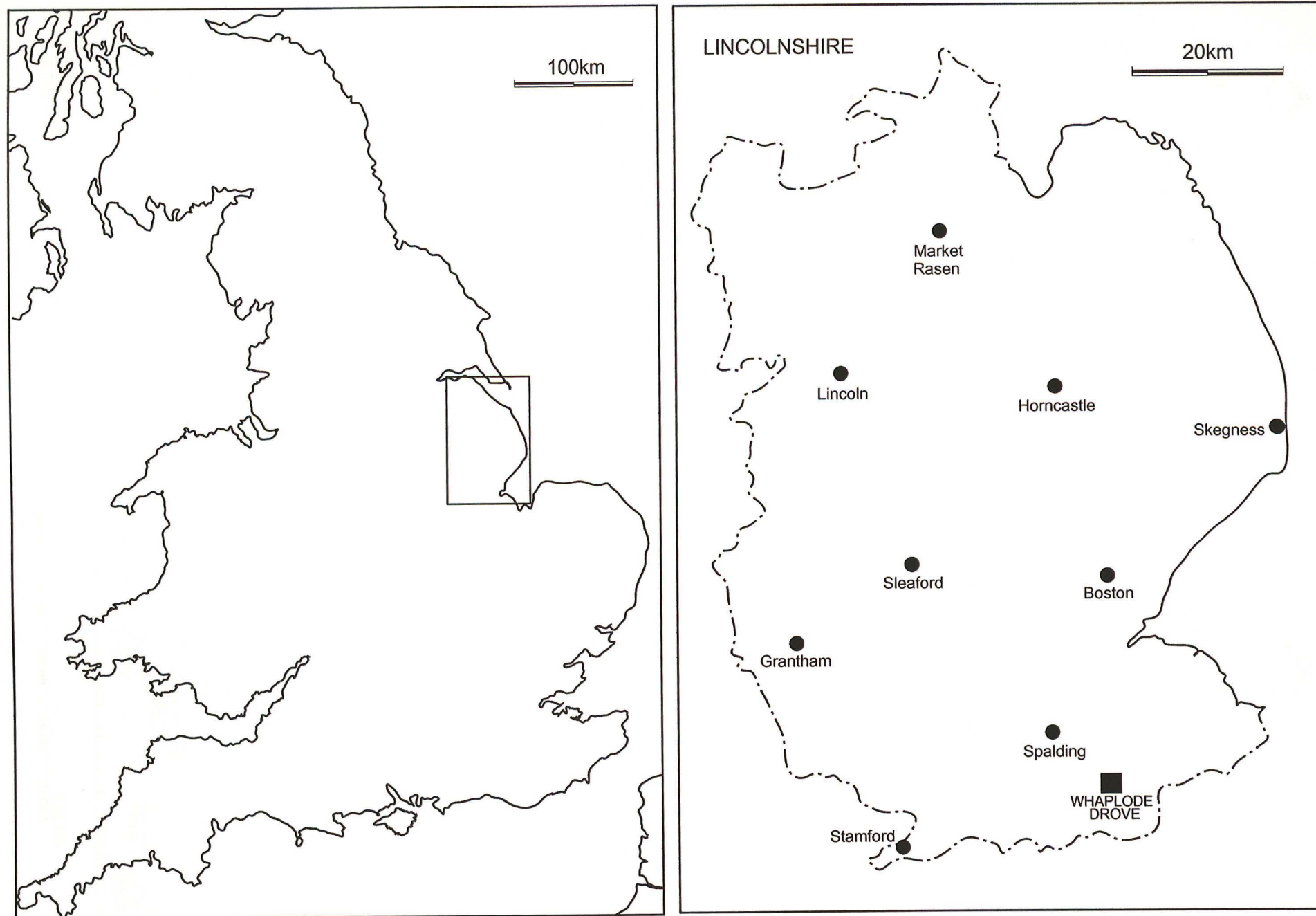
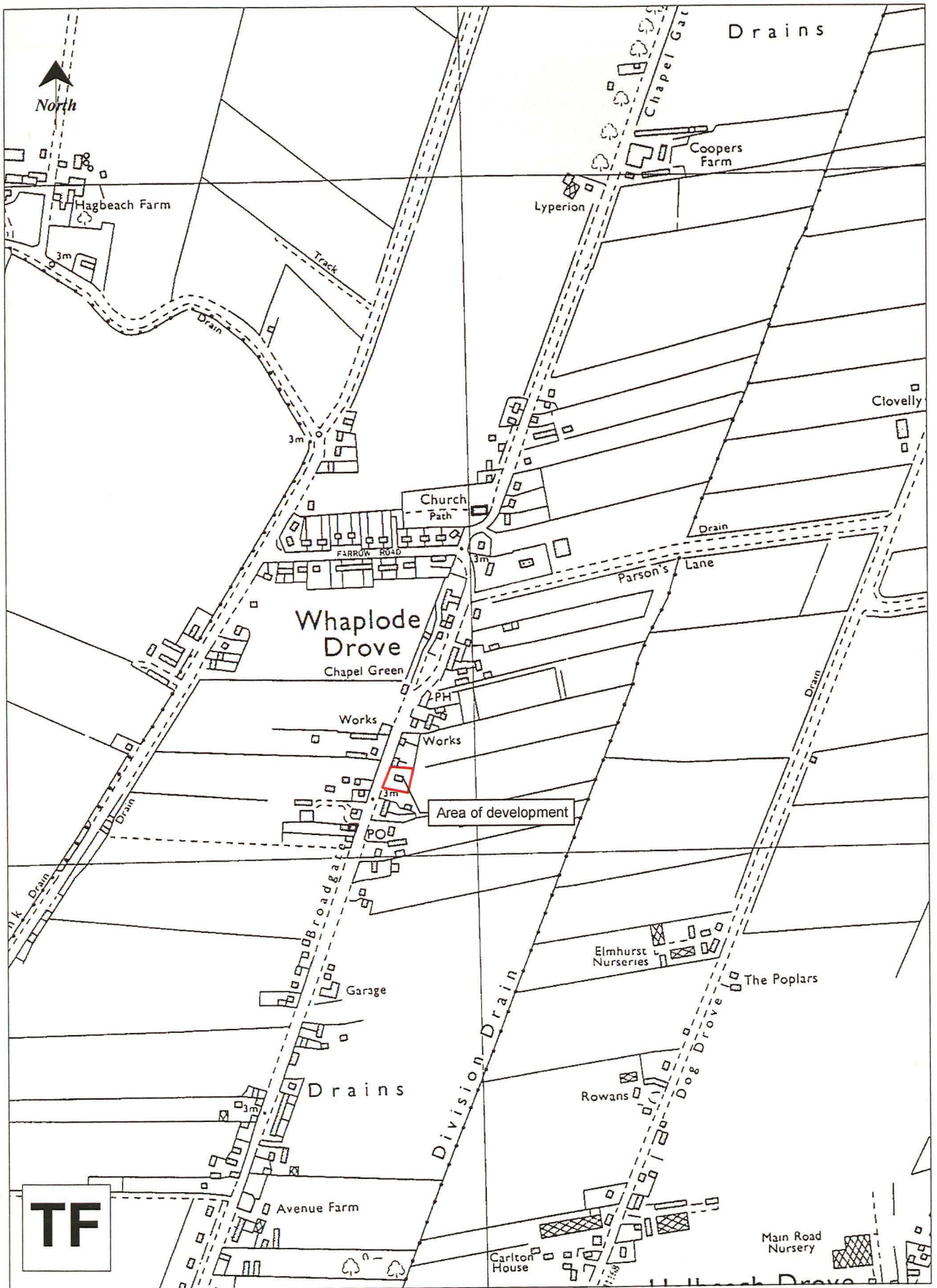


Figure 1 - General location plan



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Figure 2 - Site location plan

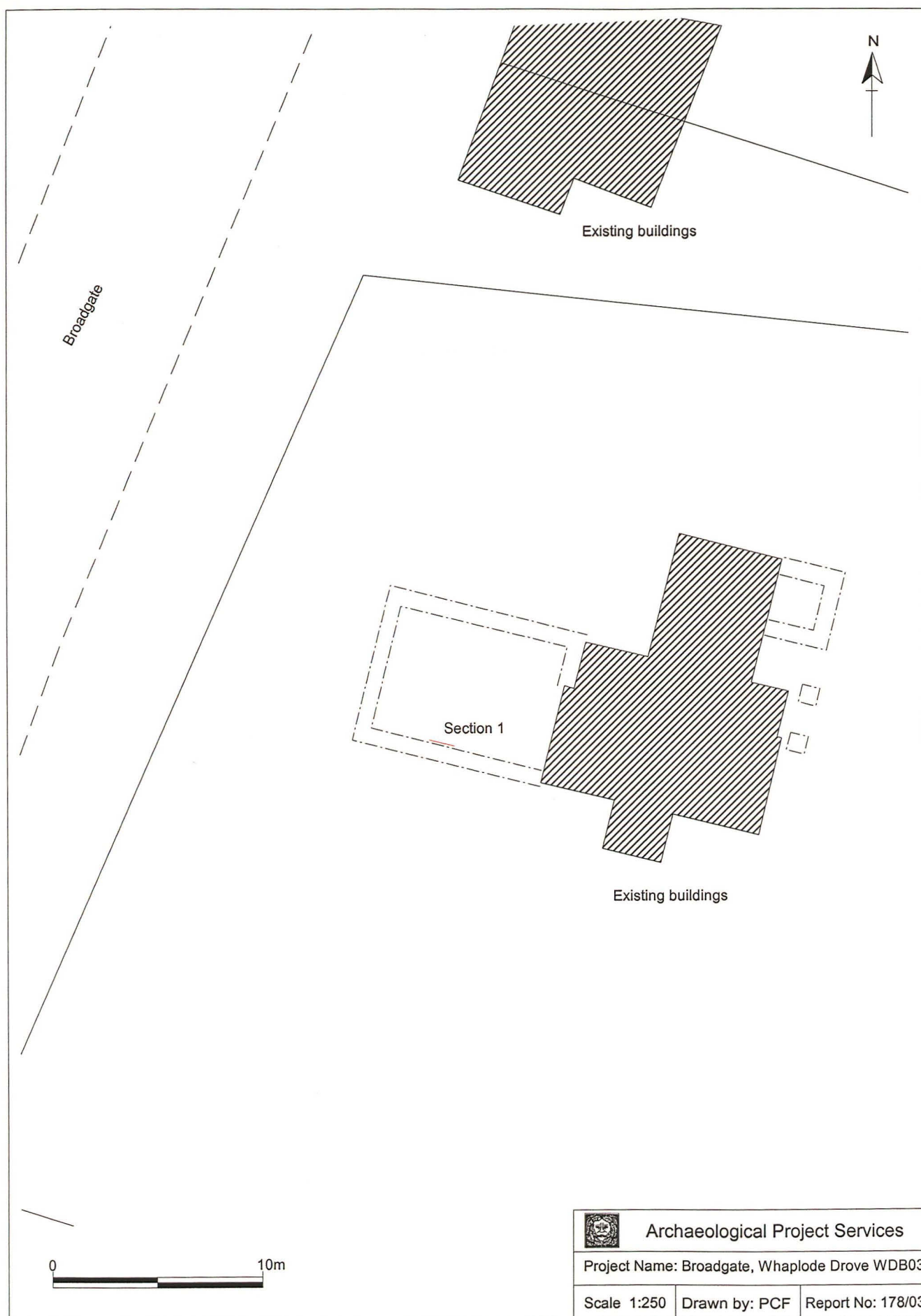
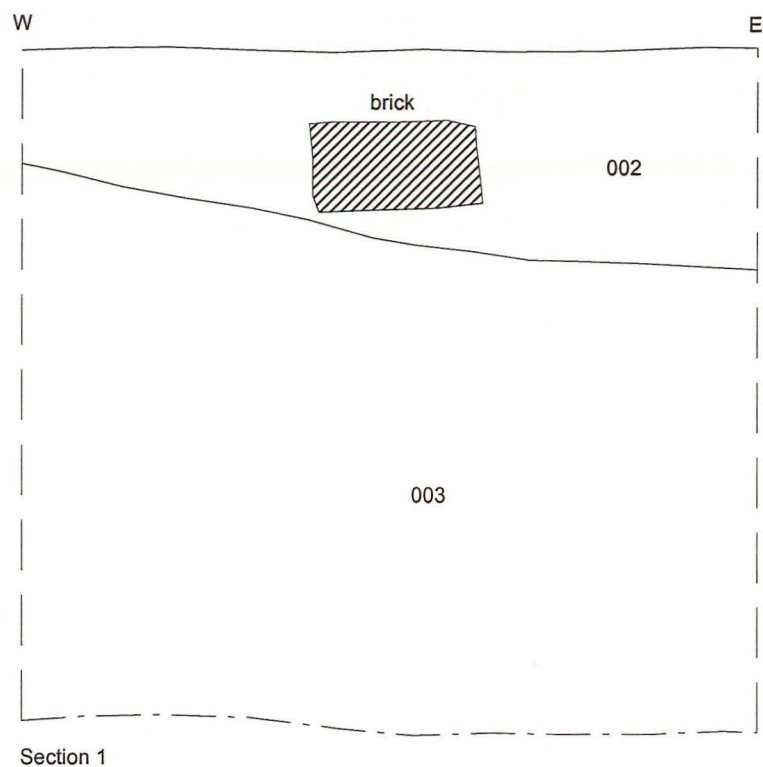


Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section location



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Broadgate, Whaplode Drove WDB03

Scale 1:10

Drawn by: PCF

Report No:178/03

Figure 4 - Section 1



Plate 1 - General view of the development, looking south



Plate 2 - Section 1 looking north

Appendix 1

LAND AT BROADGATE, WHAPLODE DROVE, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during construction of an extension to a dwelling on land at Broadgate, Whaplode Drove, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The site lies in an area of known archaeological significance. There is a Roman settlement site in the vicinity of the site and Roman artefacts have been found in close proximity. A Roman building and a medieval grange are also located nearby.*
- 1.3 *The archaeological work will consist of a watching brief during development works on the site.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the watching brief. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for archaeological watching brief during construction of an extension to a dwelling on land at Broadgate, Whaplode Drove, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 319 131.
- 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 Whaplode Drove is located approximately 10km southeast of Spalding in the administrative district of South Holland, Lincolnshire. The site is in the centre part of the village, approximately 400m south of the church of St. John the Baptist, at National Grid Reference TF 319 131.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Full planning permission (H23/0729/03) has been granted by South Holland District Council for the construction of an extension to a dwelling. Permission is subject to a condition requiring the undertaking of a watching-brief during groundworks associated with the development.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 Whaplode Drove is situated in the fens of south Lincolnshire. The site and surrounding area is on fairly flat and level land and lies at approximately 3m OD. Soils at the site are Wisbech Association calcareous alluvial gley soils on stoneless marine alluvium (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 361).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 A Roman building and cropmarks of one of the best-known and important Fenland Roman sites have been recorded in close proximity to the development area. Additionally, pottery of early 2nd - late 3rd century date, coins, brick, tile and a limestone altar are known from the vicinity. Sites with briquetage, residues from salt making, are common in the area.

- 6.2 The area was not reoccupied until drained in the medieval period. The nearby church of St. John the Baptist was originally an Oratory belonging to Crowland Abbey before being reconsecrated on rebuilding in 1821. The site of a moated grange also survives nearby.
- 6.3 Recent investigations immediately to the north (APS 2002) identified undated and Romano-British ditches and pits, probably associated with the known adjacent settlement. The dearth of artefacts perhaps suggests a peripheral setting.

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.
- 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; the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section; South Holland District Council Planning Department; 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 Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section. They will be given written notice of 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 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.

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

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Specification: Version 1, 18th September 2003

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Unstratified finds retrieval	
002	Loose dark greyish brown silt with brick rubble, 0.15m – 0.3m thick	Demolition deposit
003	Firm mottled mid and dark brown sandy silt, >0.75m thick	Made ground

Appendix 3

THE FINDS by Gary Taylor

Recording of the pottery was undertaken with reference to guidelines prepared by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (Slowikowski *et al.* 2001) and the pottery was quantified using the chronology and coding system of the Lincolnshire ceramic type series. A total of 2 fragments of pottery weighing 135g was recovered from a single context. In addition to the pottery, a small quantity of other artefacts, glass and clay pipe, comprising 2 items weighing a total of 19g, was retrieved. No faunal remains were recovered.

Provenance

All the material was recovered as unstratified artefacts (001). All the pottery was probably made in Staffordshire, though it is likely that the clay pipe is a local South Holland product.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: Pottery

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
001	LPM	Mocha ware, lid, 19 th century	1	131	19 th -20 th century
	TPW	Blue and white transfer printed tableware, 19 th -20 th century	1	4	

Table 2: Other Artefacts

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
001	Glass	Window glass, 20 th century	1	2	20 th century
	Clay pipe	Bowl, Lincoln type B, bore 7/64", 1660-90 (Mann 1977, 17-18)	1	17	

The clay pipe is the earliest item recovered and notably pre-dates all the other artefacts. In consequence, the pipe appears to be residual or redeposited, though indicates some 17th century activity in the area.

Condition

All the material is in good condition and present no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the collection is by material class.

Documentation

There have been several previous archaeological investigations at Whaplode Drove that are the subjects of reports. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

As a small collection of mostly early modern date, the assemblage is of very limited local significance. The lack of any material earlier than the 17th century is informative and suggests that archaeological deposits dating from prior to this period are absent from the area, or were not disturbed by the development, or were of a nature that did not involve artefact deposition.

References

Mann, J. E., 1977 *Clay Tobacco Pipes from Excavations in Lincoln 1970-74*, Lincoln Archaeological Trust Monograph Series Vol. XV-1 (Council for British Archaeology and Lincoln Archaeological Trust)

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

Appendix 4

GLOSSARY

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).
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.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saltern	Salt producing site typified by ash, derived from fuel needed to evaporate sea water, and briquetage.

Appendix 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

3	Context records
1	Scale drawing (section)
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 Museum Accession Number: 2003.351

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: WDB 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.

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