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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
AT 24/25 MAIN STREET,  
BARHOLM,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(BSM 03)**



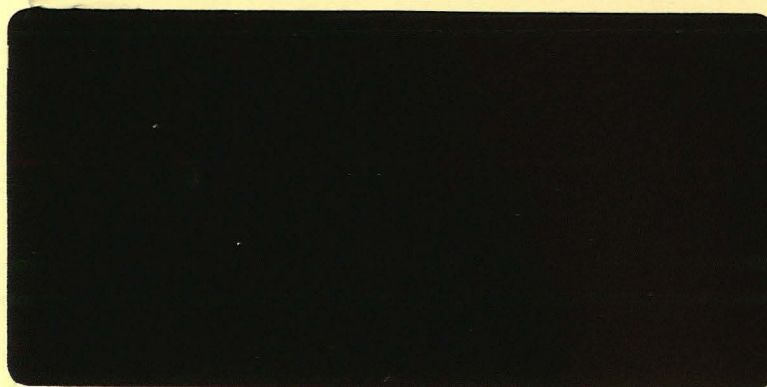
**A P S**  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
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SERVICES



Conservation  
Services

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Highways & Planning  
Directorate



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Source LI9131  
LI9132  
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
AT 24/25 MAIN STREET,  
BARHOLM,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(BSM 03)**

**Work Undertaken For  
Mrs I Wheedon**

December 2003

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

National Grid Reference: TF 0894 1094  
Planning Reference: S00/0717/04  
City and County Museum Accession No: 2003.265


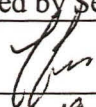
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES**



APS Report No. 167/03

**Quality Control**  
Main Street, Barholm  
BSM03

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Date: 17/12/03	Date: 19-12-03



## Table of Contents

### List of Figures

### List of Plates

1.	SUMMARY .....	1
2.	INTRODUCTION.....	1
2.1	DEFINITION OF A WATCHING BRIEF.....	1
2.2	PLANNING BACKGROUND.....	1
2.3	TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY .....	1
2.4	ARCHAEOLOGICAL SETTING .....	1
3.	AIMS .....	2
4.	METHODS .....	2
5.	RESULTS .....	2
6.	DISCUSSION .....	2
7.	CONCLUSION .....	2
8.	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....	3
9.	PERSONNEL .....	3
10.	BIBLIOGRAPHY .....	3
11.	ABBREVIATIONS.....	3

### Appendices

1. Specification for archaeological watching brief
2. Context descriptions
3. Glossary
4. The Archive

### **List of Figures**

- Figure 1      General location plan
- Figure 2      Site location plan
- Figure 3      Plan of the development showing the location of drawn section
- Figure 4      Section 1

### **List of Plates**

- Plate 1        General view of the development
- Plate 2        Section 1



## 1. SUMMARY

*An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during development at 24/25 Main Street, Barholm, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of foundation trenches for a new garage.*

*Prehistoric activity in the vicinity of Barholm is represented by two Neolithic (4000-2200 BC) stone axes and extensive cropmarks around the village may also have prehistoric origins. Romano-British (AD 43-410) sites and finds are also known from around the village and St. Michael's church, although largely medieval, contains Late Saxon (AD 850-1066) elements. The site lies within the medieval (AD 1066-1540) core of the village, best represented by the church and Barholm Old Hall, an example of a 15<sup>th</sup> century open hall.*

*The watching brief identified a sequence of natural, subsoil and topsoil deposits. No archaeological features were identified and no finds 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 maybe disturbed or destroyed." (IFA 1999).

### 2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mrs I. Wheedon to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the erection of a detached garage and

conservatory at 24/25 Main Street, Barholm, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application S00/0717/04. The watching brief was carried out on the 27<sup>th</sup> August 2003, in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist.

### 2.3 Topography and Geology

Barholm is located 8km northeast of Stamford and 10km south of Bourne in the administrative district of South Kesteven, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site is located 60m west of the village centre as defined by the parish church of St. Martin at National Grid Reference TF 0894 1094 (Fig. 2). The site lies at a height of c. 12m OD on land that slopes gently down to the south.

Local soils are of the Badsey 2 Association, typically fine loamy soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 101). These soils overlie a drift geology of Fen and Terrace Gravel which in turn overlies a solid geology of Jurassic Kellaways Clay (BGS 1978).

### 2.4 Archaeological Setting

Barholm is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Neolithic period to the present day. Two Neolithic stone axes have been found to the southeast of the village.

Barholm is surrounded by extensive cropmarks of linear ditches, enclosures and tracks. Although these are mainly undated, they may relate to prehistoric occupation of the area, although some have been partially excavated and have produced evidence of Romano-British settlement. A Romano-British brooch has also been found in the vicinity.



St. Michael's church has elements of Late Saxon work surviving in the south nave wall which probably dates to the late 11<sup>th</sup> century (Taylor and Taylor 1980, 41).

Barholm is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as *Bercaham*, *Bercheham* and *Bercham* the name is derived from the Old English and means the homestead (*hām*) on the *beorg*, meaning a hill (Cameron 1998, 9). At the time of the Domesday Survey, the land was held by Peterborough Abbey, Gilbert de Gand and Godfrey of Cambrai (Foster and Longley 1976).

The remaining portions of St. Michael's church are early medieval in date, principally of the 13<sup>th</sup> century (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 116). Barholm Old Hall contains a 15<sup>th</sup> century open hall, now encased in a 17<sup>th</sup> century exterior (*ibid.*). Early maps appear to indicate that this was formerly moated.

### 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

Prior to the excavation of foundation trenches for a new garage topsoil was stripped from the area. Foundation trenches were then excavated by machine to depths required by the development. Selected deposits were then partially or fully excavated 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 descriptions appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled and sections were

drawn at a scale of 1:10. Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services' practice.

Following excavation, the records were checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced.

### 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 brownish yellow sand and gravel (003) identified as the underlying drift geology. A subsoil comprising a 0.35m thick layer of yellowish brown sandy silt (002) had developed upon the natural sands and gravels.

Sealing the subsoil was the current topsoil of reddish brown sandy silt (001) which measured 0.25m thick.

### 6. DISCUSSION

Natural sands and gravels relate to the underlying geology of Fen sands and gravels. Natural subsoil and topsoil had then developed above them.

No finds were retrieved during this investigation.

### 7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at 24/25 Main Street, Barholm, as the site lay within the medieval core of the village and close to known prehistoric and Romano-British findspots.

However, only a sequence of natural, subsoil and topsoil deposits were encountered during the watching brief and



no archaeological features or deposits identified.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mrs I. Wheedon who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Tobin Rayner and this report was edited by Gary Taylor and Tom Lane. Jenny Young, the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist, kindly permitted the examination of parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

## 9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Tobin Rayner  
Site Supervisor: Barry Martin  
Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth  
Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner  
Post-excavation analysis: Paul Cope-Faulkner

## 10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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## 11. ABBREVIATIONS

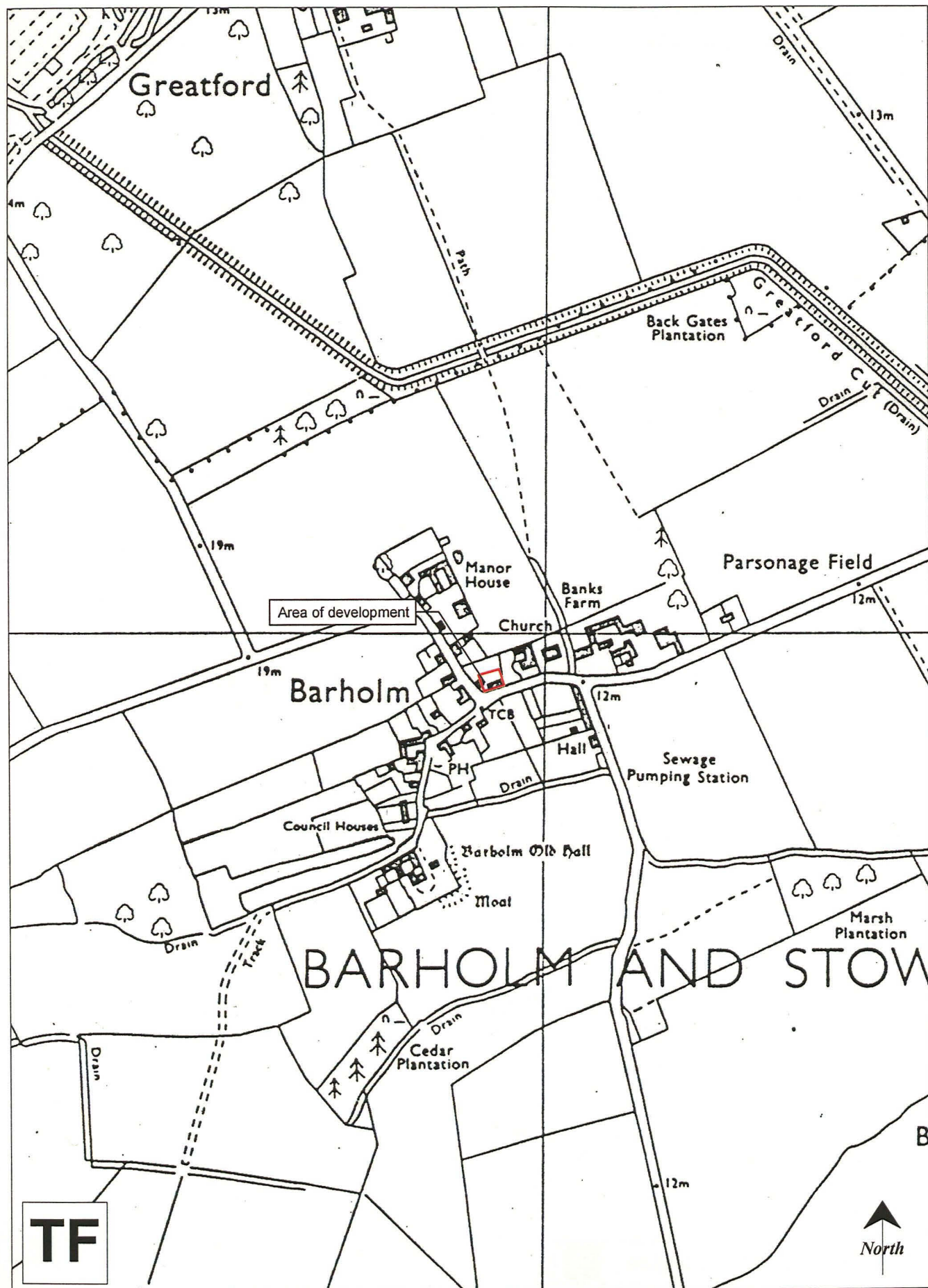
BGS British Geological Survey

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists



Figure 1 - General Location Plan





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Figure 2 - Site location plan

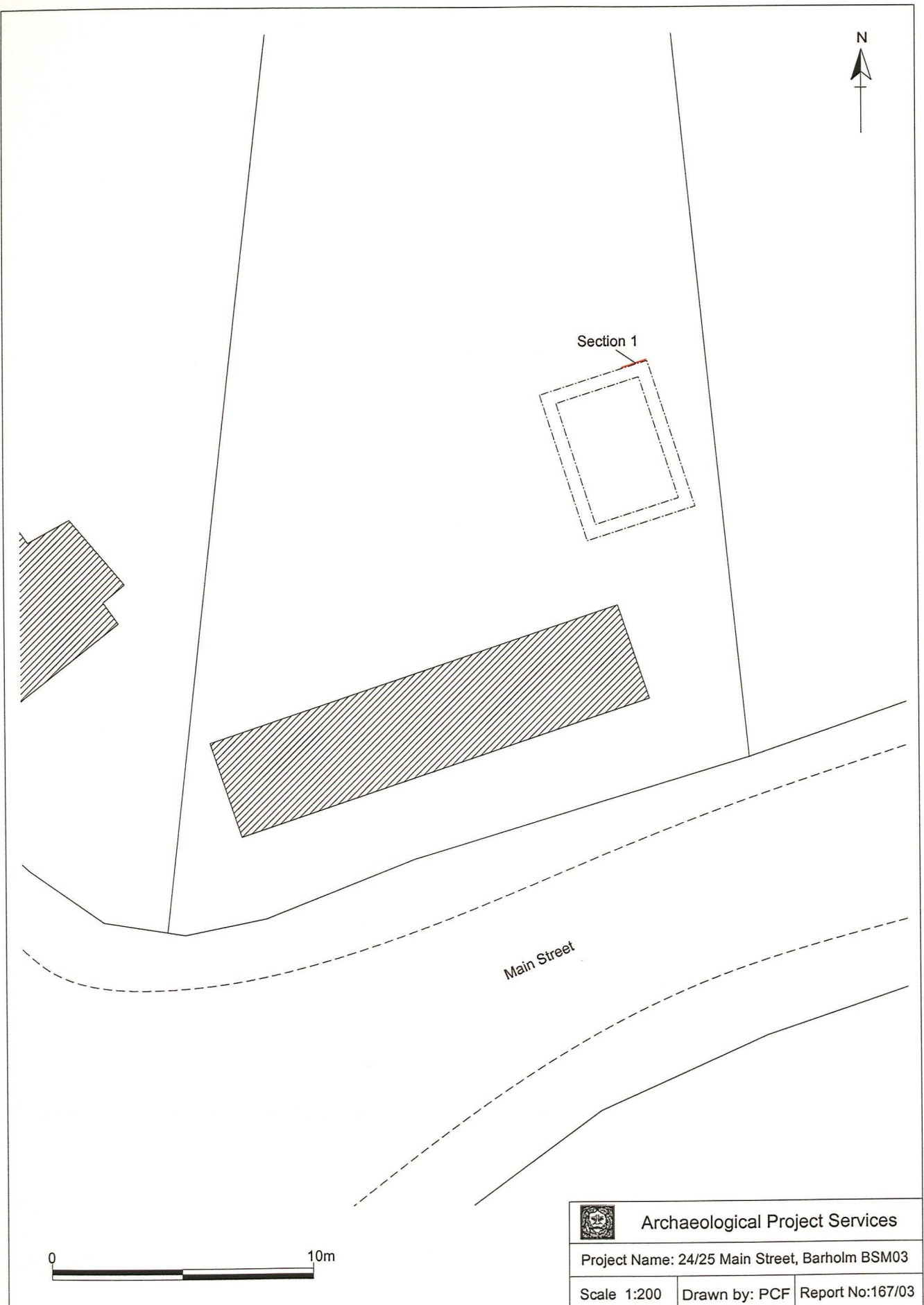
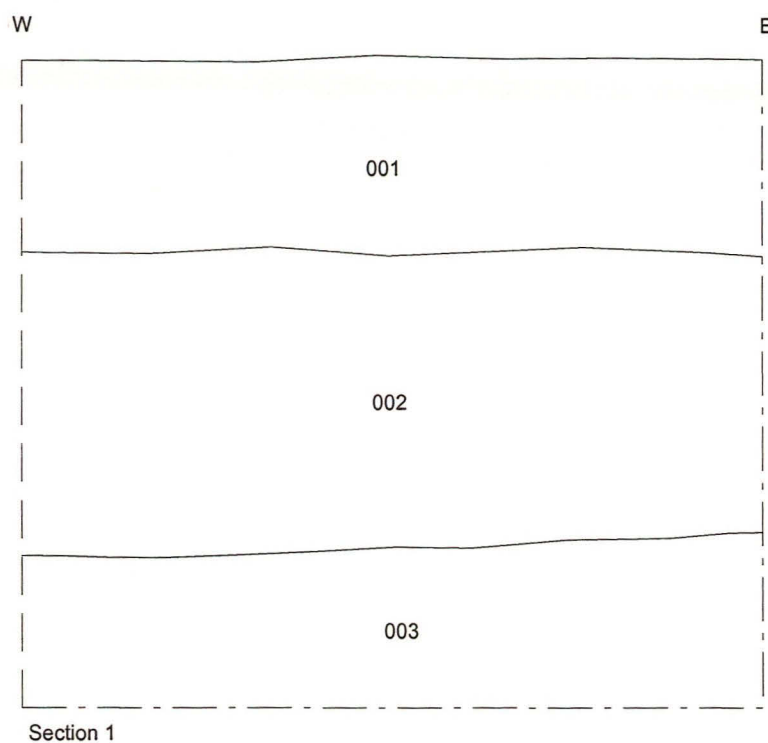


Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing location of drawn section





Section 1



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: 24/25 Main Street, Barholm BSM03

Scale 1:10 Drawn by: PCF Report No: 167/03

Figure 4 - Section 1



Plate 1 - General view of the development area, looking south



Plate 2 - Section 1, looking north



## Appendix 1

### 24/25 MAIN STREET, BARHOLM, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

#### 1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during the erection of a detached garage at 24/25 Main Street, Barholm, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The site is archaeologically sensitive, lying adjacent to*
- 1.3 *The archaeological work will consist of a watching brief during groundworks 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 groundworks associated with the erection of a detached garage on land at 24/25 Main Street, Barholm, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 089 109.
- 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 Barholm is situated 8km northeast of Stamford in the administrative district of South Kesteven. The site lies in the centre of the village, adjacent to St Martin's Church at National Grid Reference TF 089 109.

#### 4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application (S00/0717/04) has been submitted to South Kesteven District Council for the erection of a detached garage on the site. Permission is subject to a condition requiring the implementation of a Watching Brief to be undertaken during the groundworks.

#### 5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The site lies at c13m OD in the centre of the village, adjacent to the church. Local soils are Badsey 2 Association, fine loamy soils overlying calcareous gravels that formed as part of a river terrace (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 101). These sands and gravels overlie Oxford Clays of the upper Jurassic period (Booth 1983, 41).

#### 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 The village is mentioned in the Domesday record of 1086, but it is highly likely that there was a settlement here before this date, as the parish church (St Martin) has a blocked Saxon doorway. Indications of inhabitation in the area prior to this date are also evident by the number of cropmarks on the edge of the village. Two of these have been scheduled and one is dated to the Romano-British period. The proposed development is less than 100m from St Martin's Church, which dates from at least the Saxon period. It is highly likely that in the past, the church and



associated graveyard may have extended beyond its modern boundary. There are finds that show there was activity in this area dating from the Neolithic period, with a number of stone axes being recorded. Much later in date and to the south of the site is Barholm Old Hall, being 16th or 17th century, with traces of a moat marked on the Ordnance Survey.

## 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 development.

### 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 practice 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.
  - 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
- 8.2.4 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 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 South Kesteven District Council Community Archaeologist; South Kesteven 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 South Kesteven District Council Community Archaeologist. They will be given seven days 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 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

- Booth, SJ, 1983 *The sand and gravel resources of the country between Bourne and Crowland, Lincolnshire*, Mineral Assessment Report 130, Institute of Geological Sciences
- 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	Firm dark reddish brown sandy silt, 0.25m thick	Topsoil
002	Firm mid yellowish brown sandy silt, 0.35m thick	Subsoil
003	Firm light brownish yellow sand and gravel, >0.23m thick	Natural deposit

## Appendix 3

### GLOSSARY

<b>Context</b>	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).
<b>Cropmark</b>	A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.
<b>Layer</b>	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
<b>Medieval</b>	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
<b>Natural</b>	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
<b>Neolithic</b>	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500-2250 BC.
<b>Post-medieval</b>	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
<b>Prehistoric</b>	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 <sup>st</sup> century AD.
<b>Romano-British</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
<b>Saxon</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.



## Appendix 4

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

3	Context records
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Drawing 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: 2003.265

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: BMS 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.