ARCHAEOLOGICAL
WATCHING BRIEF ON LAND
TO THE REAR OF
80 LONDON ROAD, KIRTON
LINCOLNSHIRE
(KLR03)



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Conservation Services

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Highways & Planning Directorate

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
WATCHING BRIEF ON LAND
TO THE REAR OF
80 LONDON ROAD, KIRTON
LINCOLNSHIRE
(KLR03)

Work Undertaken For HPC Homes

June 2004

Report Compiled by James Snee BSc. (Hons)

National Grid Reference: TF 3030 3810 Planning Application Number: B/03/0143/FULL Museum Accession Number: LCNCC: 2003.279

A.P.S. Report No. 83/04

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



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Kirton, London Road. PGM04

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CONTENTS

List of Figures

List of Plates

1.	Summary	1
2.	Introduction	1 1
3.	Aims	3
4.	Methods	3
5.	Results	3 3
6.	Discussion	3
7.	Conclusions	3
8.	Acknowledgements	4
9.	Bibliography	4
10	Abbreviations	5

Appendices

- 1 Project Specification
- 2 Context Summary
- 3 The Finds by Gary Taylor
- 4 Glossary
- 5 The Archive

List of Figures

- Figure 1 General location map
- Figure 2 Site location and archaeological setting
- Figure 3 Plan of development area showing section locations
- Figure 4 Sections 1 to 6
- Figure 5 Sections 7 to 12
- Figure 6 Sections 13 to 15
- Figure 7 Sections 16 to 18
- Figure 8 Sections 19 and 20

List of Plates

- Plate 1 General view of development area, looking northeast
- Plate 2 General view of development area, looking west.
- Plate 3 Section 3, looking west
- Plate 4 Section 15, looking northwest
- Plate 5 Section 19, looking northeast

1. SUMMARY

Archaeological investigations were undertaken on land to the rear of 80 London Road, Kirton, Lincolnshire (NGR TF 3030 3810), as the site lies in an area of known archaeological remains date from the late Saxon period and later.

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.

A possible palaeochannel was revealed on the eastern edge of the development, and the investigation also recorded layers and lenses of alluvium, a subsoil layer, and modern services and yard surfaces covered by topsoil.

Pottery and metalwork dating from the early medieval to modern periods were recovered from the site during this investigation.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

Between the 17th July and the 19th of August 2003 an archaeological watching brief was carried out during residential development on land to the rear of 80 London Road, Kirton, Lincolnshire.

A planning application (B/03/0143/FULL) submitted to Boston District Council for residential of five detached dwellings and garages, was passed subject to a condition requiring a scheme of archaeological works comprising a watching brief undertaken during groundworks associated with plots 1, 4 and 5 and during topsoil stripping for the road.

However, due to construction methodology monitoring of the road strip was not thought to be worthwhile and an agreement was reached with the Boston Community Archaeologist to undertake the watching brief during the excavation of major drains as an alternative.

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

2.2 Topography and Geology

Kirton is situated 4km southwest of Boston, in the administrative Borough of Boston, within the Fenland of South Lincolnshire (Figure 1). The site is located at 80 London Road, approximately 400m south of the town as defined by the parish church of SS Peter and Paul and centred on National Grid Reference TF 3030 3810 (Figure 2).

Lying on a gentle slope down to the west at c. 4m OD, the site is irregular in shape and comprises an area of approximately 0.4 hectares.

Local soils 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.

2.3 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.

An evaluation undertaken in the adjacent field to the north recorded a diffuse distribution of Late Saxon features and later evidence of agricultural land use (Snee 2001b)

Evaluation of a nearby site on Station Road during 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).

Excavations on Station Road during 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 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 sub-circular gullies of unknown function but which may represent animal enclosures or hay rick The limited life span of the drainage. settlement indicates some fluidity in the settlement pattern in the Kirton area

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)

Medieval use of the area is, however, well Kirton village was attested. 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).

Investigations on Station Road have revealed early medieval occupation remains dating to the 13th-14th century (Taylor 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.

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.

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 and drainage trenches were 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 from the ground surface. Each archaeological deposit or feature was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with 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 according standard undertaken to 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 deposits revealed during the investigation were intermittent brown and grey silts and sands (014, 024 & 025) (Figure 5, sections 10 & 11). At the eastern end was the western edge of north-south oriented palaeochannel (013) with a mottled grey and blue silty sand fill (011).

Overlying these deposits was a layer of mottled brown silt and sand (003, 006, 009, 017, 018, 023, 036, 041, 047 & 050) of varying thickness (Figures 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8).

Across the site a number of brown silt lenses (027, 028, 031, 034, 035, 040 & 048) of varying extent and thickness were observed (Figures 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8).

5.3 Phase 2: Modern deposits

Covering the majority of the site was a layer of greyish brown silty subsoil (002, 005, 008, 016, 019, 021, 033, 042, 046 & 049), up to 0.70m thick (Figures 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8). This had been cut by modern services (010 & 012) (Figure 4, section 4) and a former yard surface (037, 038 & 039) (Figure 6, section 15).

The entire site had formerly been covered by a c. 0.35m thick grey brown silty topsoil (001, 004, 007, 015, 020, 022, 030, 032, 044 & 045) (Figures 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8), which was overlain by hardcore and building debris associated with the current development (029 & 043) (Figure 6, section 13 and Figure 7, section 16).

6. DICUSSION

The earliest deposits (Phase 1) revealed were a natural alluvium, with slight evidence of a palaeochannel located on the east side of the site, and sporadic lenses indicating either localised transformation or gleying, or possibly shifting patterns of fluvial deposition.

Overlying the naturally formed deposits was a layer of subsoil (Phase 2), cut by modern features such as service trenches and a yard surface, and overlain by a layer of topsoil.

The relatively small quantity of stratified finds recovered from the investigation indicates that the subsoil was probably the result of a long period of agriculture stretching from the 9th to the 19th centuries. Unsurprisingly finds of 20th century date were recovered from the topsoil.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were undertaken on land to the rear of 80 London Road, Kirton, Lincolnshire, as the site lies in an area of known archaeological remains date fro the late Saxon period and later

A possible palaeochannel was revealed on the eastern edge of the development, and investigation also recorded layers and lenses of alluvium, a subsoil layer, and modern services and yard surfaces covered by topsoil.

Pottery and metalwork dating from the early medieval to modern periods were recovered from the site during this investigation.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr. Paul Boggust of HPC Homes Ltd. who commissioned the fieldwork and this report. The project was coordinated by Denise Drury, and the report was edited by Dale Trimble and Tom Lane. The Boston Community Archaeologist, kindly permitted the examination of the relevant parish files.

9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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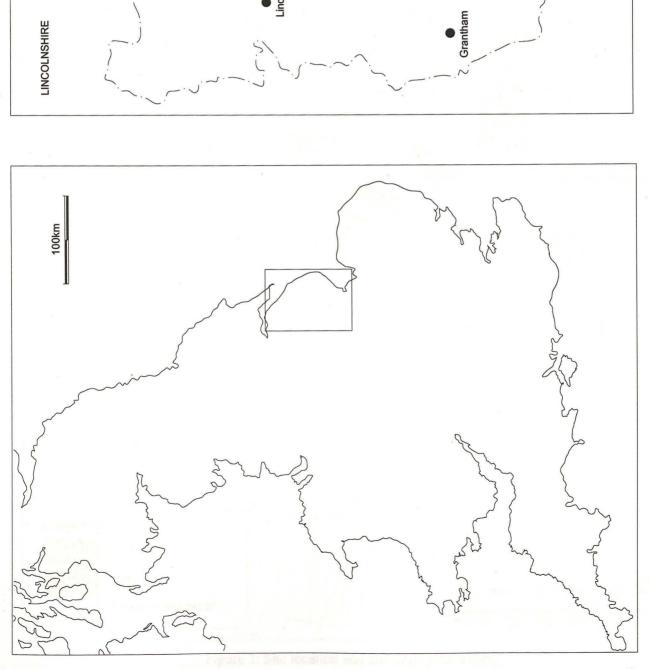
Whittingham, M., 2001, Geophysical Survey at Fossit and Thorne, London Road, Kirton, Lincs, unpublished WYAS report No. 898.

10. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

SMR Sites and Monuments Record



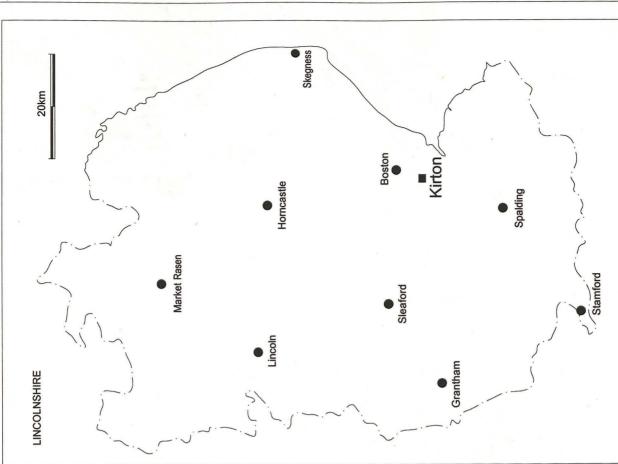


Figure 1 General Location Plan.

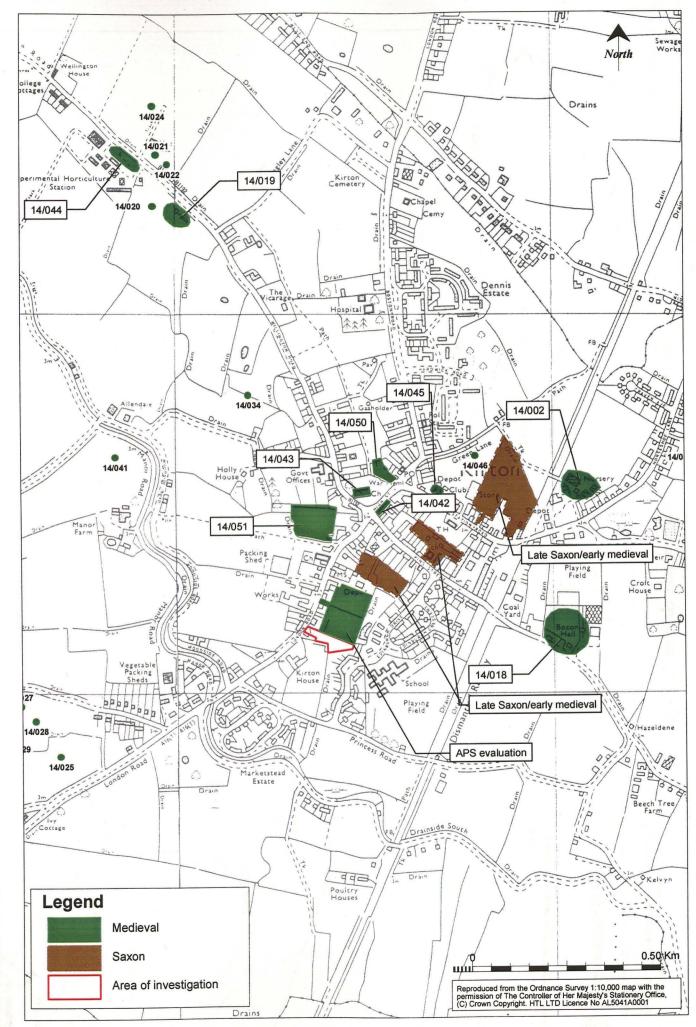


Figure 2: Site location and archaeological setting

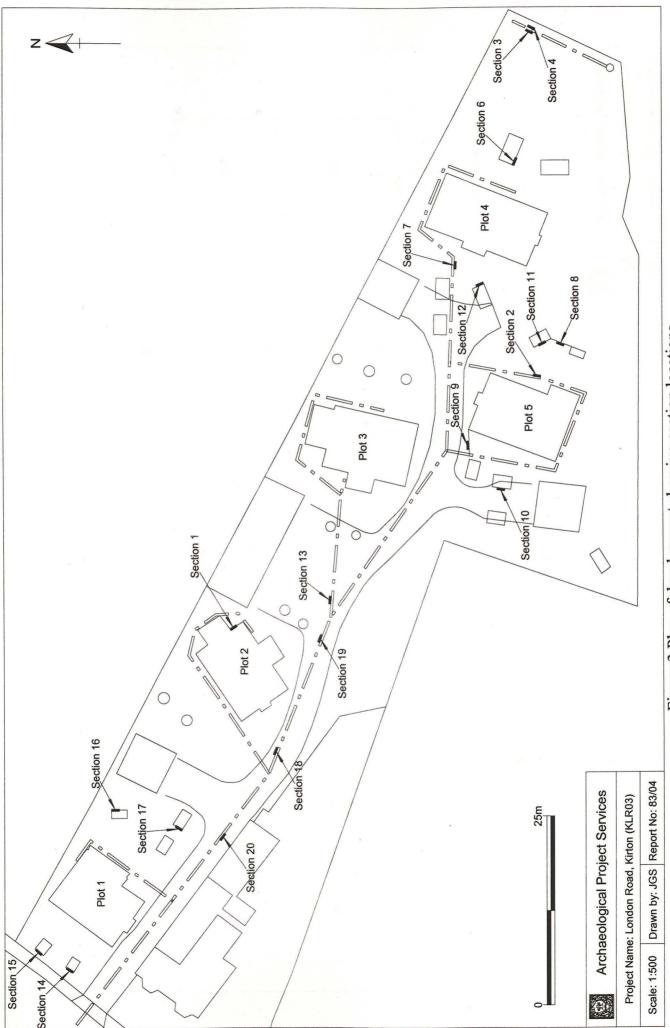


Figure 3 Plan of development showing section locations.

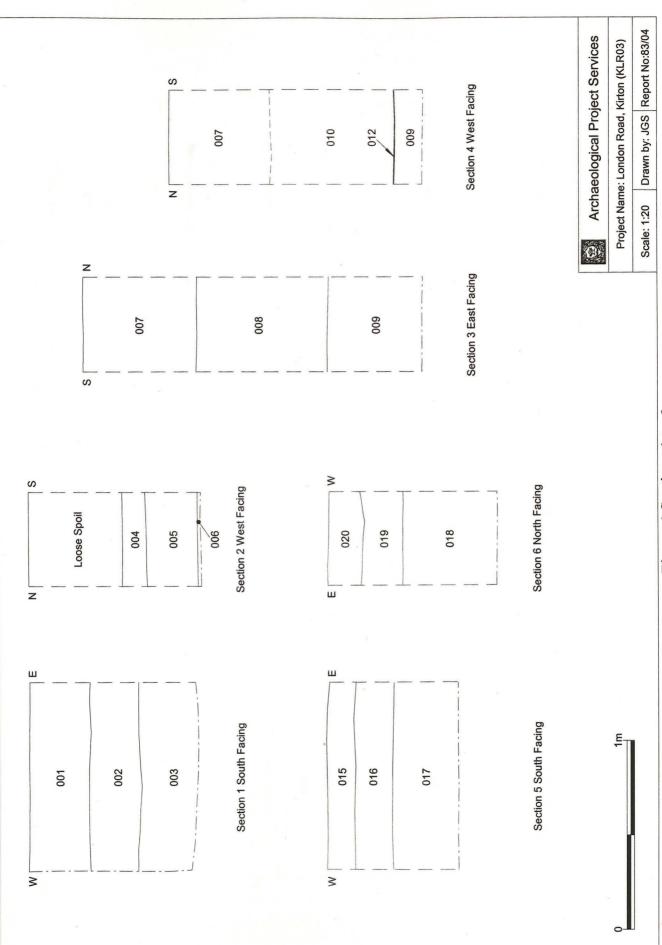


Figure 4 Sections 1 to 6.

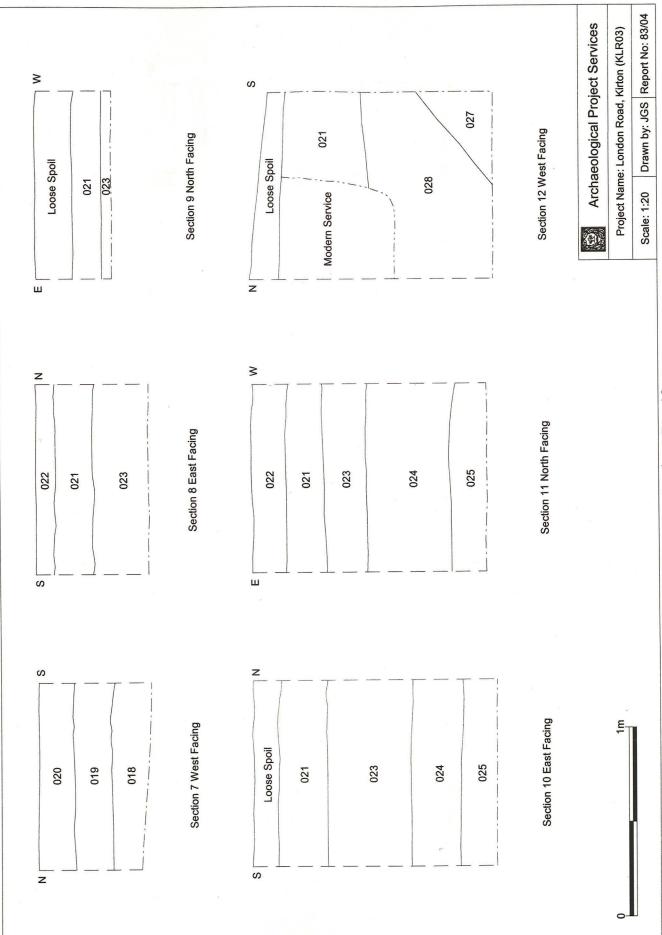


Figure 5 Sections 7 to 12.

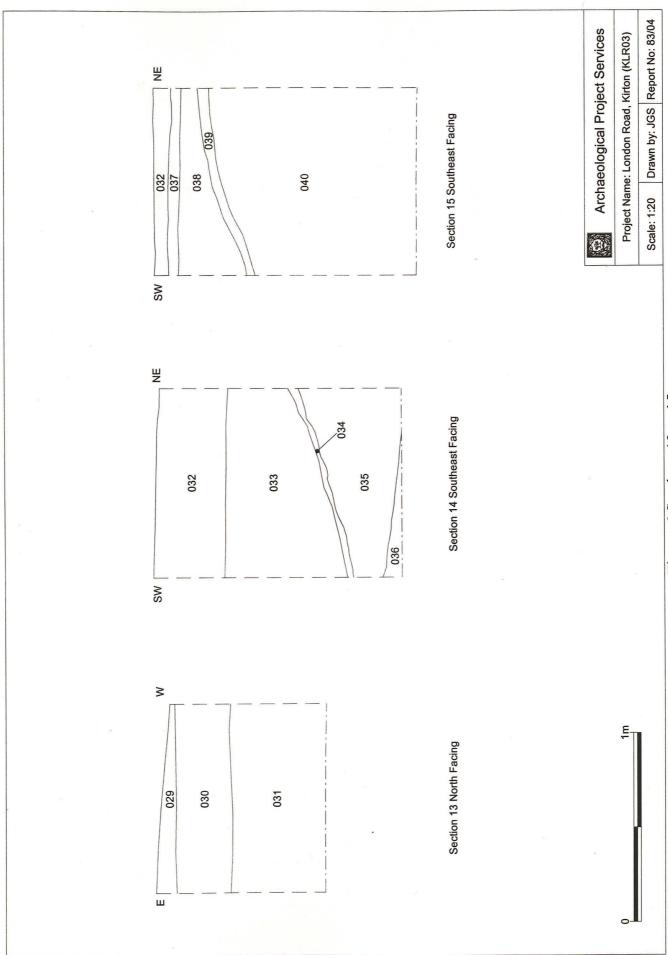


Figure 6 Sections 13 to 15.

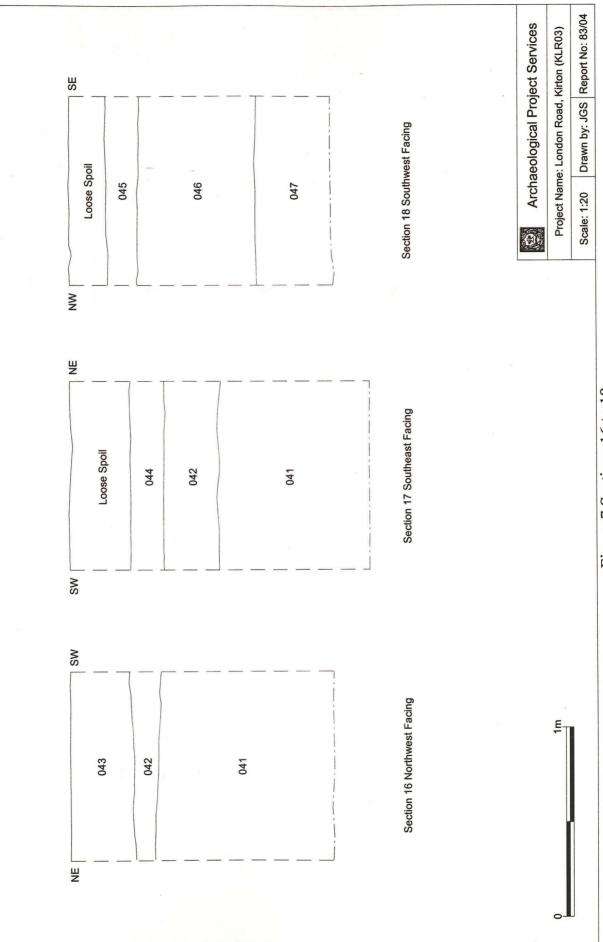


Figure 7 Sections 16 to 18.



Plate 1 General view of development area, looking northeast



Plate 2 General view of development area, looking west.



Plate 3 Section 3, looking west

Appendix 1

LAND TO THE REAR OF 80 LONDON ROAD, KIRTON, LINCOLNSHIRE SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 A watching brief is required during housing development on land to the rear of 80 London Road, Kirton, Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 An earlier archaeological evaluation has identified a diffuse Late Saxon/early medieval settlement to the north and several sites of the same period have been identified in the Kirton area.
- 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 adjacent and to the rear of 80 London 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 located at 80 London Road, approximately 400m south of the town as defined by the parish church of SS Peter and Paul and centred on National Grid Reference TF 3030 3810. The site is irregular in shape and comprises an area of approximately 0.4 hectares.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 A planning application (B/03/0143/FULL) submitted to Boston District Council for residential of five detached dwellings and garages, has been passed subject to a condition requiring a scheme of archaeological works comprising a watching to be undertaken during groundworks associated with plots 1, 4 and 5 and during topsoil stripping for the road. However, due to construction methodology monitoring of the road strip was not thought to be worthwhile and an agreement ahs been reached to undertake the watching brief during the excavation major drains as an alternative.

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).
- The site lies very close to the medieval village core. 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 An evaluation undertaken in the adjacent field to the north recorded a diffuse distribution of Late Saxon features and later evidence of agricultural land use (Snee 2001, b)
- 6.6 Evaluation of a nearby site on Station Road during 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).
- 6.7 Excavations on Station Road during 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 sub-circular 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
- 6.8 Other investigations, 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

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Specification: Version 2, 16/07/2003

Context Section		Appendix 2	- Interpretation	
014 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		CONTEXT SUMMARY		
Context No	Section No	Description	Interpretation	
001	1 19	Soft, dark brown silt, with occasional pebbles, charcoal, coal and CBM fragments, 0.33m thick.	Topsoil.	
002	1	Firm, mid yellowish brown sandy silt, 0.28m thick.	Subsoil.	
003	1	Firm, light yellowish brown sandy silt, with occasional pebbles, > 0.32m thick.	Natural alluvium.	
004	2	Soft, mottled dark grey and reddish brown silty sand, > 0.13m thick.	Topsoil.	
005	2	Soft, mid reddish brown silty sand, c. 0.40m thick.	Subsoil.	
006	2	Soft, light to mid reddish brown silty sand, > 0.01m thick.	Natural alluvium.	
007	3 & 4	Soft, dark greyish/reddish brown silty sand, c. 0.60m thick.	Topsoil.	
008	3	Soft, mid reddish brown silty sand, c. 0.70m thick.	Subsoil.	
009	3 & 4	Soft, mottled reddish brown and grey silty sand, > 0.50m thick.	Natural alluvium.	
010	3 & 4	Soft, dark greyish brown silty sand, 0.65m thick.	Fill of (012).	
011	3 & 4	Soft, mottled light grey and blue silty sand, > 0.01m thick.	Fill of (013).	
012	-	Linear cut, oriented north-south.	Modern drainage trench.	
013	-	Linear cut, > 0.50m wide and > 4m long, oriented north-south.	Possible palaeochannel.	
014	-	Soft, mottled reddish brown and grey silty sand, > 0.01m thick.	Natural alluvium.	
015	5	Loose, dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.15m thick.	Topsoil.	
016	5	Friable/soft, greyish brown clayey silt, 0.20m thick.	Subsoil.	
017	5	Soft, pale yellowish brown clayey silt.	Natural alluvium.	
018	6 & 7	Soft, pale yellowish brown sandy silt, > 1m thick.	Natural alluvium.	
019	6&7	Firm, dark greyish brown sandy silt, with occasional charcoal and organic matter, 0.44m thick.	Subsoil.	
020	6 & 7	Friable, mottled yellowish brown sandy silt, 0.40m thick.	Topsoil.	

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Context Section No No 21 8		Description	Interpretation Subsoil.	
		Firm, dark greyish brown sandy silty clay, with occasional gravel and CBM fragments, 0.21m thick.		
022	8	Soft, dark greyish brown sandy silty clay, 0.21m thick.	Topsoil.	
023	8	Soft, orangey brown sandy silt.	Natural alluvium.	
024	8	Soft, pale greyish brown silt, 0.27m thick.	Natural alluvium.	
025	8	Soft, very pale brownish grey silt, > 0.19m thick.	Natural alluvium.	
026	8	Loose, dark greyish brown clayey silt, with frequent tree roots, irregular extent and thickness.	Tree throw.	
027	12	Friable, slightly greyish brown silt, > 0.39m thick.	Natural alluvium.	
028	12	Soft, pale brown silt, 0.65m thick.	Natural alluvium.	
029	12	Firm, white crushed stone, 0.1m thick.	Hardcore.	
030	13	Firm, mid brown silt, with occasional CBM fragments, 0.30m thick.	Topsoil.	
031	13	Firm, mid yellow-brown silt, > 0.50m thick.	Natural Subsoil.	
032	13	Firm, dark grey-brown silt, with frequent roots and occasional stones, 0.35m thick.	Topsoil.	
033	14	Firm, mid grey-brown silt, with occasional roots, stones and CBM fragments, up to 0.64m thick.	Subsoil.	
034	14	Firm, mid yellow-brown silt, 0.04m thick.	Alluvial layer.	
035	14	Firm, mid grey-brown silt, with occasional roots and burnt clay fragments, up to 0.55m thick.	Alluvial layer.	
036	14	Firm, mid yellow-brown silt, 0.10m thick.	Natural alluvium.	
037	15	Loose, black tarmac, 0.06m thick.	Road or yard surface.	
038	15	Loose, mid grey-brown silt, with frequent stones and CBM fragments, up to 0.38m thick.	Make up layer.	
039	15	Loose, black and orange tarmac and CBM rubble, 0.06m thick.	Hardcore layer.	
040	15	Firm, mid yellow-brown silt, with occasional root and burnt clay fragments, up to 1.1m thick.	Alluvial deposit.	
041	16	Soft, pale brown silt, > 0.95m thick.	Natural alluvium.	
042	16	Friable, greyish brown silty clay, with occasional charcoal, 0.17m thick.	Subsoil.	
043	16	Soft, pale brown silt, with moderate building debris, 0.35m thick.	Overburden.	
044	17	Friable, dark greyish brown sandy silt, with frequent charcoal fragments.	Topsoil.	

Context Section No No		Description	Interpretation	
045	18 & 19	Firm, dark reddish brown sandy silt, with occasional roots, coal and CBM fragments.	Topsoil.	
046	18 & 19	Firm, light reddish brown sandy silt, with occasional burnt clay flecks, up to 0.65m thick.	Subsoil/alluvial layer.	
047	18 & 19	Firm, light yellowish brown sand, up to 0.40m thick.	Natural alluvium.	
048	19	Firm, mid reddish brown silty clay, up to 0.25m thick and 4m in extent.	Natural lens.	
049	20	Soft, light to mid brown silt, with moderate charcoal and cinder fragments and occasional CBM fragments.	Subsoil.	
050	20	Soft, greyish brown laminated silt, > 0.90m thick.	Natural alluvium.	
051	-	Unstratified finds.		
052	- 1	Unstratified finds.		

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

by Paul Cope-Faulkner, Hilary Healey and 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 9 fragments of pottery weighing 99g were recovered from 6 separate contexts. In addition to the pottery, a small quantity of other artefacts, brick/tile, glass and metal, comprising 4 items weighing a total of 68g, was retrieved. Faunal remains were also recovered.

The excavated faunal remains comprise 2 stratified fragments weighing 3g. The animal bone was identified by reference to published catalogues. No attempt is made to sex or age animals represented within the assemblage, although where this is readily apparent is noted in the comments column.

Provenance

The material was recovered from topsoil (007), subsoil (021, 042, 049), natural alluvium (028) and as unstratified finds (051, 052).

The earlier pottery fragments were made in moderate proximity to Kirton, at Stamford 40km to the southwest and at Toynton All Saints, 26km to the north. However, the latest pieces are probably Staffordshire products.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: Pottery

Context Fabric Code		Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date	
007	UGRE	Plant pot, 20 th century	2	11	20 th century	
	LPM	Mocha ware, 19 th century	1	1		
021	ST	Stamford ware	1	6	9 th -12 th century	
042	TPW	Blue and white transfer printed tableware	1	2	19 th century	
049	BL	Red painted earthenware, black glazed	1	12	18 th century	
051	UGRE	Plant pot	2	14	20 th century	
052	TOY	Toynton All Saints ware	1	53	13 th -15 th century	

Fragments of medieval pottery are the earliest items recovered, though the remainder and bulk of the small assemblage is later, dating from the 18th to 20th century. The isolated medieval sherds could be components of manuring scatter, though both are unworn which would tend to suggest they actually derive from occupation of the period nearby.

Plant pot is unusually common, which may indicate that the area was used as a garden or plant nursery.

Table 2: Other Artefacts

Context	Material Description		No.	Wt (g)	Context Date	
007	Steel	Spoon, stamped stainless steel. 20 th century	1	41	20 th century	
	Glass	Window glass, smoked, 20 th century	1	24		
049	Ceramic building material	Brick/tile	2	3	Post-medieval	

Table 3: The Faunal Remains

Context	Species	Bone	Bone No. Wt (g) Comments			
007	Sheep size	Unidentified	1	2	Butchered, burnt	
028	Cockle	Shell	1	1	Fragment	

Condition

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

Documentation

There have been previous archaeological investigations at Kirton that are the subjects of reports. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in files of the Boston Community Archaeologist and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

The moderate collection of medieval and post-medieval artefacts is generally of limited local potential and significance. Although few in number, the medieval pieces are unworn and are thus likely to reflect habitation of medieval date nearby.

The lack of any material earlier than the 9th 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. Similarly, the absence of any artefacts datable to the early post-medieval period, the 16th-17th centuries, would tend to suggest that the site was abandoned at that time.

References

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Appendix 4

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].

CropmarkA 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.

Appendix 5

The Archive

The archive consists of:

52 Context records

12 Daily record sheets

13 Drawing sheets

1 Section record sheet

1 Plan record sheet

1 Photographic record sheet

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

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

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

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number: 2003.279

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: KLR03

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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