ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT MAIN STREET, BRACEBOROUGH, LINCOLNSHIRE (MSB 03)



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SERVICES

Conservation Services

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Highways & Planning Directorate

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT MAIN STREET, BRACEBOROUGH, LINCOLNSHIRE (MSB 03)

Work Undertaken For Jason Murray Homes Ltd

May 2004

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

Planning Application No: S03/0807/13
National Grid Reference: TF 0807 1324
City and County Museum Accession No: 2003.329

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 72/04

Quality Control Main Street, Braceborough MSB 03

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1. SUMMARY

A watching brief was undertaken at Main Street, Braceborough, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of foundation trenches for a new residential development.

The site lies in the core of the medieval (AD 1066-1540) village close to the church of St. Margaret which dates to 1300. Cropmarks of enclosures are also located in the vicinity of the village and may be prehistoric or Romano-British in date.

The watching brief revealed a sequence of undated and post-medieval features. Undated deposits include a pit and a subsoil and post-medieval features consist of a single pond or clearance cut. Finds retrieved from the watching brief comprise 19th century pottery.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as "a formal programme 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 Jason Murray Homes Limited to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with residential development at Main Street, Braceborough, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application S03/0807/13. The watching

brief was carried out between the 11th September 2003 and 27th April 2004 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Braceborough is located approximately 8km northeast of Stamford, South Kesteven District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site is located on the east side of Main Street approximately 200m west of the parish church of St. Margaret at National Grid Reference TF 0807 1324. The site lies at approximately 16m OD on land that generally slopes gently down to the east and north towards the River Glen.

Local soils are of the Denchworth Series, typically pelo-stagnogley soils, with Elmton 3 association soils, shallow loamy and clayey brown rendzinas, to the northeast (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 155). These soils overlie a solid geology of Upper Jurassic Kellaways Clay and Cornbrash (BGS 1978).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Braceborough is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the medieval period. However, located southeast of the village are cropmarks of rectangular enclosures that have been identified from aerial photographs and which may be Romano-British or earlier in origin.

Braceborough is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as Braseborg, Breseburg and Breseburc, the second element of the name is derived from the Old English 'burh' meaning a fortified place, although the first element is obscure (Cameron 1998, 18). However, Ekwall (1974, 57) believes the first element is derived from the Old English poetic word bresne or bræsne meaning

'bold, mighty or strong'.

At the time of the Domesday Survey the land was held by Robert de Todeni, Gilbert de Gand and Robert of Stafford and contained 47 acres of meadow, 2 mills, a share in a church and 55 acres of underwood (Foster and Longley 1976).

The only extant survival of the medieval period is St. Margaret's church which dates from 1300 (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 176). North and south of the church are areas of cropmarks which have been interpreted as medieval village remains and indicate that Braceborough was once much larger. Medieval skeletons have been found in the vicinity of the Rectory, immediately northeast of the site.

A watching brief undertaken to the east of the site identified two medieval or post-medieval ditches and a limestone well as well as retrieving 9th – 12th century Stamford ware (Cope-Faulkner 2002, 3).

3. AIMS

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

4. METHODS

Trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator to depths required by the development. Exposed portions of the trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. 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 present ground surface. Each archaeological deposit or feature revealed within the trench was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual

written description. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. Recording of the deposits encountered during the watching brief was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services' practice.

Finds recovered from the deposits identified in the watching brief were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 3). Records of the deposits and features recognised during the investigation were also examined. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them, supplemented by artefact dating where relevant. A stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced.

5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis four phases were identified;

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Undated deposits
Phase 3	Post-medieval deposits
Phase 4	Modern deposits

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

Phase 1 Natural deposits

The earliest deposit encountered in Plots 1, 2 and 4 was a layer of yellowish brown sand and gravel (012). This was in excess of 0.35m thick.

Yellow sand and gravel (006 and 009) was identified at the base of the foundation trenches in Plots 5, 7 and 8.

Phase 2 Undated deposits

Situated within Plot 4 and cut into natural (012) was a rectangular pit (014). Measuring 1.2m long and over 0.35m wide and deeper than 0.3m (Fig. 4, Section 4), the pit contained a single fill of grey sandy silt (013).

This pit was sealed by a subsoil comprising reddish brown clayey sand (011) which was also recorded in Plots 1 and 2. Subsoil was identified in Plots 5, 7 and 8 where it was recorded as a greyish brown sandy silt with gravel (002 and 008).

Phase 3 Post-medieval deposits

Cutting natural (012) in Plot 2 was an oval feature (018), identified as a possible pond or clearance cut (Fig. 3). This measured 8m long by 4.5m wide and 0.4m deep (Fig. 5, Section 8). A single fill of brown silt and gravel (017) was recorded from which 19th century pottery was retrieved.

Phase 4 Modern deposits

Cutting the subsoil in Plot 4 were two former hollows. The first (015) was 3.9m long by 1.9m wide and over 0.5m deep (Fig. 4, Section 5). The second (016) was smaller, only measuring 0.8m long and 0.3m wide (Fig. 5, Section 6). Both were filled by the current topsoil (see below). The function of both features could not be ascertained.

Located centrally within Plots 7 and 8 was a large sub-rectangular pit (004). This was in excess of 6.7m long and was 3.37m wide and 1.8m deep (Fig. 3). Two fills were recorded, a lower of yellow and reddish yellow sand (005) and an upper of rubble (003) including concrete and modern brick (Fig. 4, Section 1).

Modern topsoil was evident across the entire site. In Plots 1, 2 and 4 it comprised a brown clayey silt (010). In the remaining

examined plots it was a grey sandy silt with gravel (001 and 007).

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Phase 1) comprise sands and gravels indicating drift-like deposits across the area of investigation. Drift deposits are not recorded in the vicinity and these may represent colluvium.

Undated deposits (Phase 2) include a pit and subsoil development. Due to the paucity of finds, the function and date of these deposits could not be ascertained, although the subsoil may have developed as a result of agricultural activity at the site. The pit pre-dates the subsoil and may indicate a probable ancient origin.

Post-medieval deposits (Phase 3) consist of a single pond or clearance cut. This feature does not appear on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of the area, indicating it had probably been infilled by 1889. The only finds retrieved, 19th century pottery, were collected from the fill of this feature.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Main Street, Braceborough, as the site lay within the core of the medieval village.

However, no definite medieval features or finds were identified during the watching brief, though a variety of undated and post-medieval features were revealed.

Finds retrieved during the watching brief comprise 19th century pottery.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr J.

Murray of Jason Murray Homes Ltd who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Tobin Rayner and this report was edited by Gary Taylor and Steve Malone. Jenny Young, the South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist, kindly permitted examination of the relevant parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Tobin Rayner
Site Supervisors: Aaron Clements, Rachael
Hall, Mary Nugent
Finds processing: Denise Buckley
Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
Post-excavation analysis: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

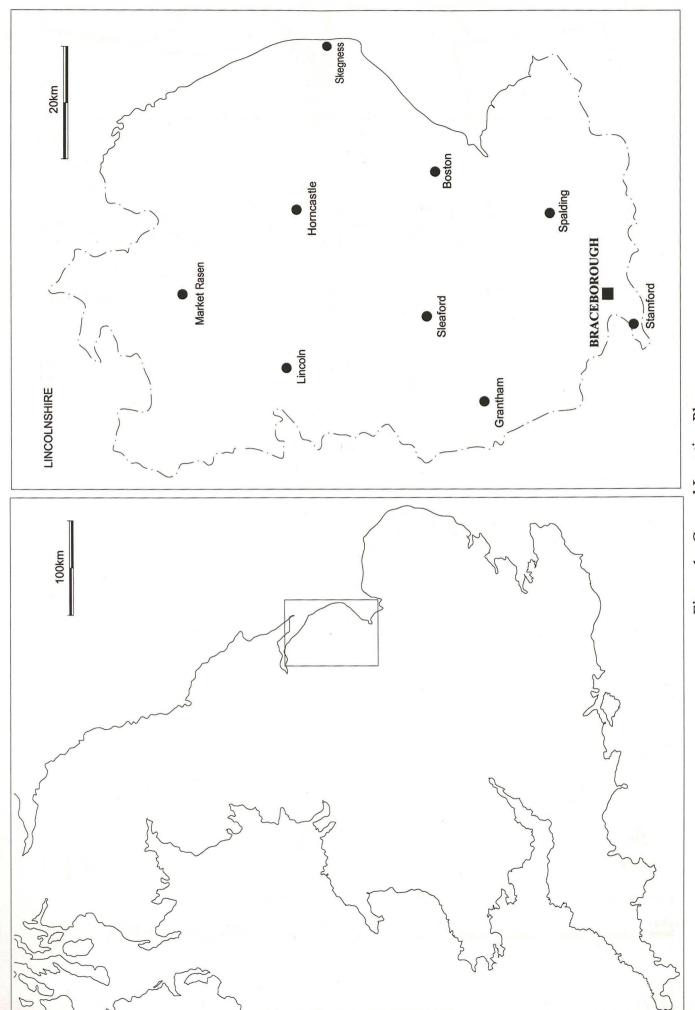


Figure 1 - General Location Plan.

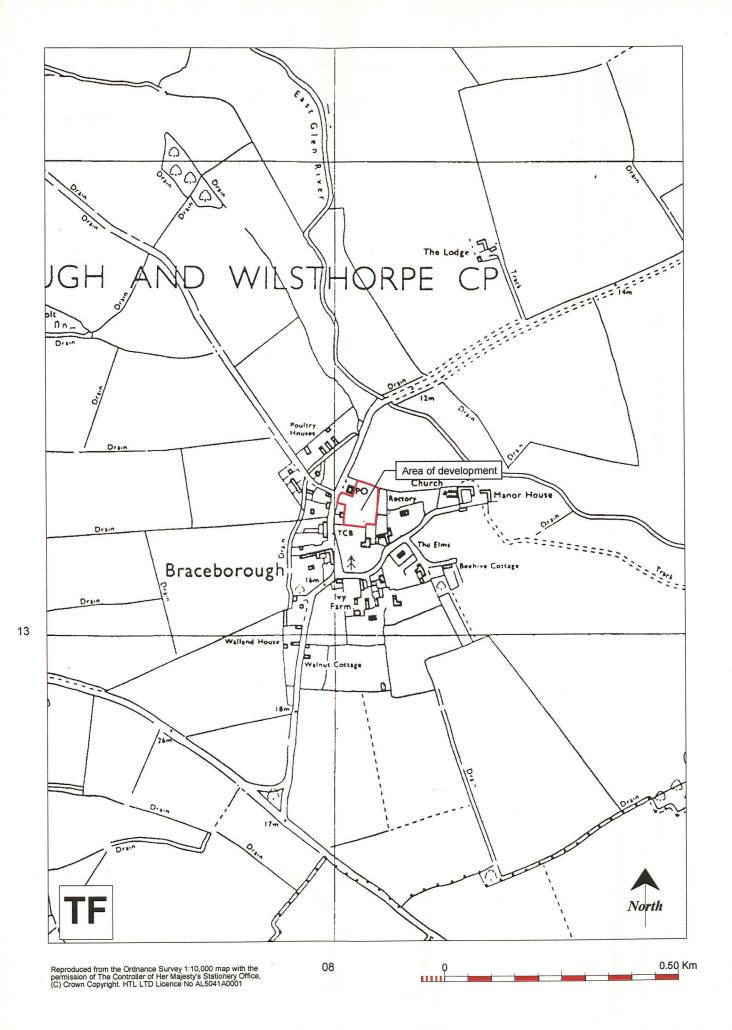


Figure 2 - Site location plan

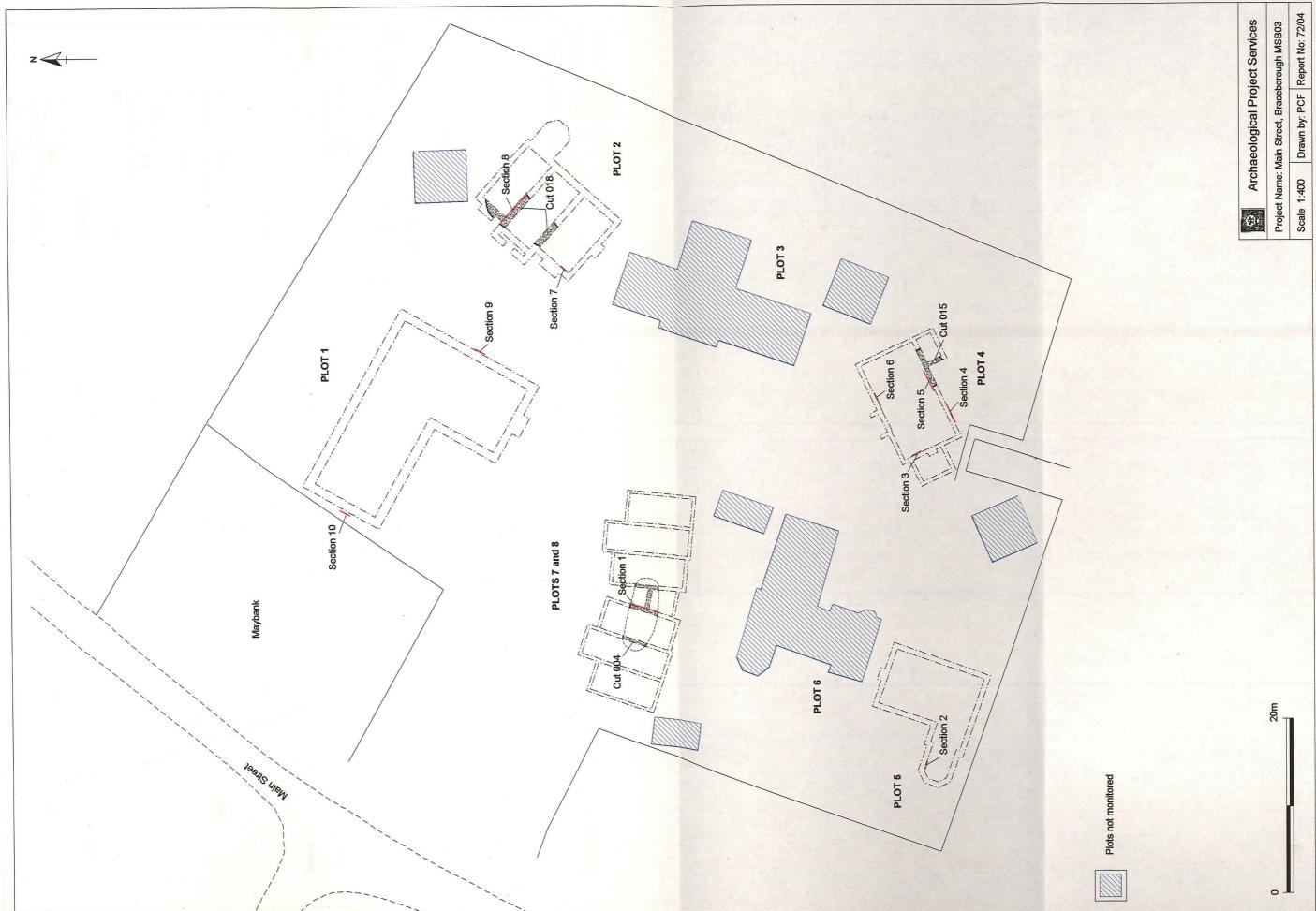


Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing principal features and section locations

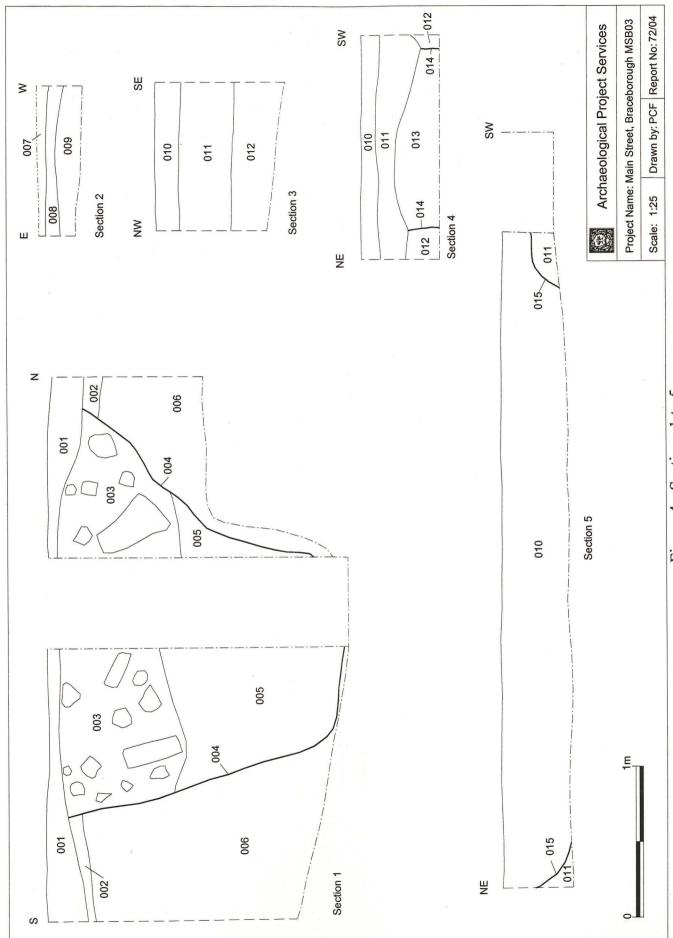


Figure 4 - Sections 1 to 5

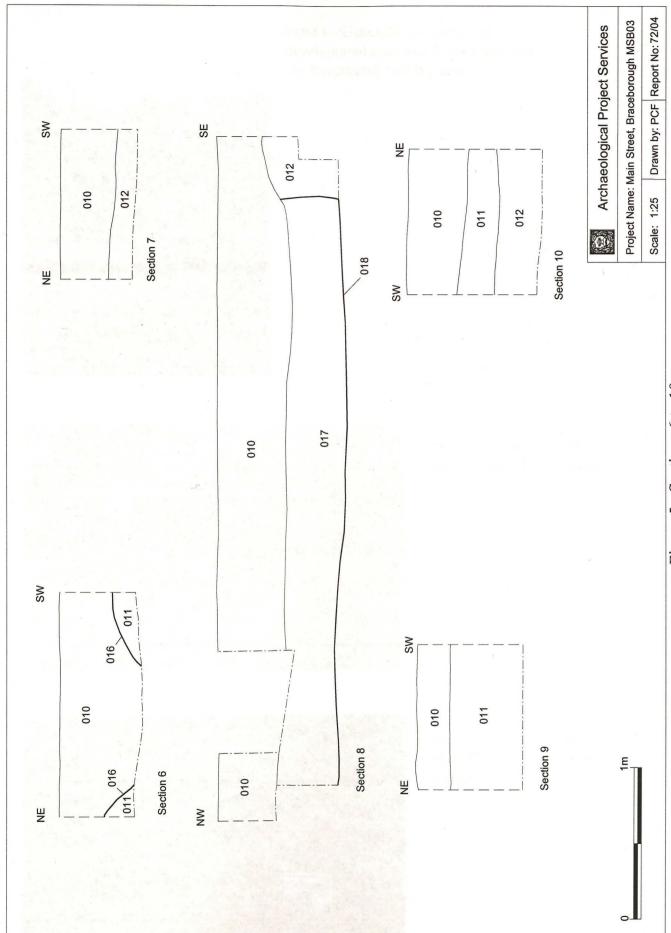


Figure 5 - Sections 6 to 10



Plate 1 - General view across the development area with Plots 7 and 8 in the foreground, looking east

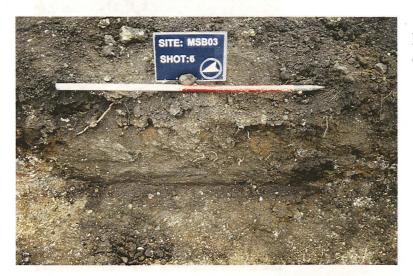


Plate 2 - Section 4 showing undated pit (014), looking east



Plate 3 - Section 5 showing the undated hollow (015), looking northeast



Plate 4 - Section 6 showing undated hollow (016), looking southeast



Plate 5 - Section 8 showing the post-medieval pond (018), looking northwest

LAND AT MAIN STREET, BRACEBOROUGH, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 A watching brief is required during construction of dwellings at Main Street, Braceborough, Lincolnshire
- 1.2 The site is archaeologically sensitive, lying in an area rich in archaeological evidence dating from the prehistoric period to present day. A Desktop assessment undertaken of the site found there to be moderate potential for medieval and post-medieval archaeology on the site and possible potential for prehistoric and Romano-British activity.
- 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 construction of dwellings at Main Street, Braceborough, 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 Braceborough is located approximately 7.5km northeast of Stamford and 7km northwest of Market Deeping in the South Kesteven District of Lincolnshire. The site for the proposed development is situated on the northern fringe of Braceborough. The site is roughly square in shape and is currently used as a paddock located at NGR 508073 313245.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 A full planning application has previously been submitted to South Kesteven District Council for the erection of 8 dwellings (SOO/1159/13) and recommendations at the time were for an archaeological watching brief. A previous application (S99/0269/13) had been refused and subsequently went to appeal. The committee decision was upheld, but as part of this appeal, further archaeological work (in the way of pre-determination evaluation) was limited to a watching brief. Given the archaeological potential of the site, Heritage Lincolnshire has recommended that an archaeological watching brief be undertaken during groundworks to record and retrieve any archaeological remains that are disturbed. The application is for a substitution of house type.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 Braceborough lies at the foot of the dipslope of the Jurassic Limestone ridge that runs north to south through much of Lincolnshire. The edge of the Fen basin lies within 2km to of the east of the

village, where gravels form the underlying drift geology. Braceborough itself lies close to a junction of Denchworth and Elmton 1 Associations soils, comprising slowly permeable clays and brashy calcareous fine loams respectively (Hodge *et al*, 155-162 and 179-180). Denchworth soils generally form over Jurassic and Cretaceous clays and Elmton 1 types overly Jurassic Limestone. The local terrain is gently undulating and the proposed development lies at approximately 16m OD.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Little is known of prehistoric settlement in the immediate area but a possible Prehistoric or Roman square enclosure measuring 50m x 50m can be seen as crop marks to the west (from aerial photographic evidence). Further a field in the nearby parishes of Langtoft and Baston there is considerable evidence of activity from the Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age periods. Close to Market Deeping extensive field systems dating to the late Bronze Age have been identified and salt making was an important industry on the fen edge from at least the Middle Bronze Age.
- 6.2 References to Braceborough in the Domesday survey of 1086 demonstrate that the settlement was in existence by at least Late Saxon times (Morris 1986). The origin of the first element of the place name is obscure but the second element *burh* is derived from Old English and refers to a defended or fortified place (Cameron 1998).
- 6.3 The parish church of St. Margaret contains fabric of late 13th century date and a Norman font (Pevsner, 1989). Later additions are of 14th, 15th and 18th century date. There are records of the discovery of several adult skeletons during drainage works in 1962 at the Old Rectory. It has been suggested that the rectory now occupies part of the original graveyard of the parish church (HTL SMR).
- 6.4 The remains of medieval ploughing can be seen as ridge and furrow in the fields to the south of the development. Over 40 fragments of medieval pottery were recovered when foundations for a new garage was dug, situated 15m west of Main Street.
- 6.5 A Desktop assessment undertaken by PISA in June 1999 found there to be moderate potential for medieval and post-medieval archaeology on the site and possible potential for prehistoric and Romano-British activity. Due to the site's potential sited in the desktop assessment, it is highly probable that archaeological remains may be present.

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 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, South Kesteven District Council Planning Department, the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist 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 Community Archaeologist who will be given seven days notice in writing before the commencement of the project.

14 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

14.1 The watching brief will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the

archaeological site work.

- 14.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- 14.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one person-day) will require a post-excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half-person-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about four days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

15 VARIATION AND CONTINGENCIES

- 15.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 15.2 In the event of the discovery of any unexpected remains of archaeological importance, or of any changed circumstances, it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to inform the archaeological curator (Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook 1998, Sections 5.7 and 18).
- 15.3 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation additional resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis
- 15.4 Any contingency requirement for additional fieldwork or post-excavation analysis outside the scope of the proposed scheme of works will only be activated following full consultation with the archaeological curator and the client.

16 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

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

Task Body to be undertaking the work

Conservation Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln

Pottery Analysis Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust

Roman B Precious, Independent Specialist

Anglo-Saxon J Young, Independent Specialist

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

Archaeologist

Non-pottery Artefacts J Cowgill, Independent Specialist

Animal Bones Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

Environmental Analysis J Rackham, Independent Specialist

Human Remains Analysis R Gowland, Independent Specialist

17 INSURANCES

17.1 Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains

Employers Liability Insurance of £10,000,000, together with Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied on request.

18 COPYRIGHT

- 18.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.
- 18.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.
- 18.3 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 and may result in legal action.
- 18.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

19 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Specification: Version 1, 9th September 2003

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Plot	Description	Interpretation	
001	7,8	Loose mid brownish grey sandy silt with gravel, 0.2m thick	Topsoil	
002	7, 8	Loose light greyish brown sandy silt with gravel, 100mm thick	Subsoil	
003	7, 8	Loose mixed greyish brown and light grey rubble	Fill of (004)	
004	7, 8	Sub-rectangular feature, >6.7m long by 3.37m wide by 1.8m deep, irregular sides and flattish base	Pit	
005	7, 8	Loose mixed mid yellow and reddish yellow sand	Fill of (004)	
006	7, 8	Loose mid yellow sand and gravel, >0.7m thick	Natural deposit	
007	5	Loose mid brownish grey sandy silt with gravel, >70mm thick	Topsoil	
008	5	Loose light greyish brown sandy silt with gravel, 100mm thick	Subsoil	
009	5	Loose mid yellow sand and gravel, >0.18m thick	Natural deposit	
010	1, 2, 4	Loose dark brown clayey silt, 0.2m thick	Topsoil	
011	1, 2, 4	Firm dark reddish brown clayey sand, 0.4m thick	Subsoil	
012	1, 2, 4	Loose mid yellowish brown sand and gravel, >0.35m thick	Natural deposit	
013	4	Loose mid grey sandy silt	Fill of (014)	
014	4	Rectangular feature, 1.2m long by >0.35m wide by >0.3m deep, vertical sides, not fully excavated	Pit	
015	4	Oval feature, 3.9m long by 1.9m wide by >0.5m deep, gradual sides, not fully excavated (filled by 010)	Hollow	
016	4	Semi-circular feature, 0.8m long by 0.3m wide by >0.5m deep, gradual sides, not fully excavated (filled by 010)		
017	2	Firm dark brown silt and gravel	Fill of (018)	
018	2	Oval feature, 8m long by 4.5m wide by 0.4m deep, steep sides and flat base	Pond	

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 10 fragments of pottery weighing 228g and probably representing 3 individual vessels was recovered from a single context. No other artefacts or faunal remains were retrieved.

Provenance

The material was recovered from the fill of a pond (017).

All of the pottery was made in Staffordshire.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the table.

Table 1: Pottery

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
017	TPW	Blue and white transfer printed tableware, late 19 th century	7 (5 link)	189	Late 19 th century
	TPW	Blue and white transfer printed tableware, 19 th century	2(link)	34	
CRN	CRMWARE	Creamware, early 19th century	1	5	

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

Documentation

Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

The collection of 19th century pottery fragments is of limited local potential and significance, though is likely to reflect habitation of this date at the site or in the immediate proximity.

The lack of any material earlier than the 19th 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

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

GLOSSARY

Colluvium

Also referred to as 'hillwash'. These are sediments formed through the downward movement of deposits on the sides of hills.

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, *e.g.* (004).

Cropmark

A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological 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.

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) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).

Layer

A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.

Medieval

The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.

Natural

Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.

Post-medieval

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

Prehistoric

The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.

Romano-British

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

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

18 Context records

1 Photographic record sheet

9 Sheets of scale drawings

1 Stratigraphic matrix

1 Bag of finds

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:

2003.329

Archaeological Project Services Site Code:

MSB 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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