

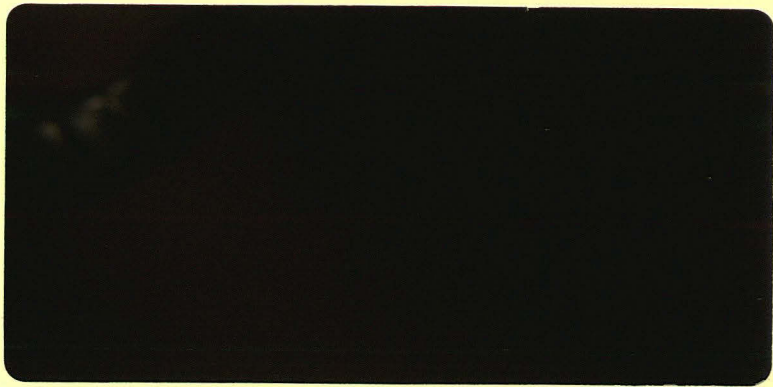
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT MAIN ROAD.
WIGTOFT,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(WMR 04)**



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES



Conservation
Services
01 SEP 2004
Highways & Planning
Directorate

EVENT L15094

SOURCE L19497
L19498

PRN - 13806 - Medieval
PRN - 13807 - Post-medieval

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT MAIN ROAD.
WIGTOFT,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(WMR 04)**

**Work Undertaken For
Mr and Mrs P. Allitt**

June 2004

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

Planning Application No: B/03/0156/FULL
National Grid Reference: TF 2616 366610
City and County Museum Accession No: 2004.23

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 78/04

Quality Control
Main Road, Wigtoft
WMR 04

Project Coordinator	Dale Trimble
Supervisors	Denise Buckley, Barry Martin
Finds Processing	Denise Buckley
Illustration	Paul Cope-Faulkner
Photographic Reproduction	Sue Unsworth
Post-excavation Analyst	Paul Cope-Faulkner

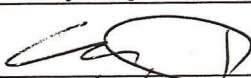
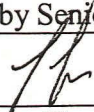
Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
 - Gary Taylor	 Tom Lane
Date: 2/6/04	Date: 07-06-04

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during groundworks at Main Road, Wigtoft, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of foundation trenches for a new dwelling.

The watching brief was undertaken as the site lay within an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Saxon period (AD 410-1066). The site lies in close proximity to the 11th - 12th century church of SS. Peter and Paul.

The watching brief revealed a sequence of undated and medieval dumped deposits, perhaps levelling variations in the natural. A medieval refuse pit and a ditch were also identified. A post-medieval ditch was also recorded.

Finds retrieved during the investigation include 11th - 13th century pottery and a range of 18th - 19th century types. Brick, tile, metalwork and animal bone were also recovered.

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 Mr and Mrs P. Allitt to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with residential development at land adjacent to

The Vicarage, Main Road, Wigtoft, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application B/03/0156/FULL. The watching brief was carried out between the 21st and 26th January 2004 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the Planning Archaeologist, Boston Borough Council.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Wigtoft is situated 10km southwest of Boston and 13km north of Spalding in Boston District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The site lies 180m southwest of the village centre as defined by the parish church of SS. Peter and Paul on land adjacent to the Vicarage on the south side of Main Road (Fig. 2). Centred on National Grid Reference TF 2616 3666, the site lies at a height of c. 4.2m OD on generally level ground.

Local soils are of the Romney Series, typically coarse silty gleyic brown calcareous alluvial soils (Robson 1990, 26). To the east are soils of the Rockliffe Series, coarse silty alluvial gley soils, and Wisbech Series, coarse silty calcareous alluvial gley soils (*ibid.* 25, 36). These soils overlie a drift geology of younger marine alluvium which in turn seals a solid geology of Jurassic Ampthill Clay (BGS 1995).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Wigtoft is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Saxon period. Since at least 2000 BC the area has been subjected to a series of marine and freshwater inundations resulting in the deposition of several metres of alluvium (silts and clays). Consequently, any prehistoric material is believed to lie at a significant depth.

Saxon remains in the vicinity of Wigtoft comprise pottery found at two locations around the village. The first, located 1km north of the site, produced Late Saxon Stamford Ware and was associated with an area of higher ground, possibly the site of a settlement. The second area, in the region of the hamlet of Burtoft, has produced pottery of mid to late Saxon date.

Wigtoft is first mentioned in the Pipe Rolls of the late 12th century. Referred to as *Wigetoft* the name is derived from the Old Danish for 'the house (*toft*) by the *vik*', with *vik* meaning a bay or creek (Cameron 1998, 138). There is no mention of Wigtoft in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086, although Burtoft is recorded as belonging to Crowland Abbey (Foster and Longley 1976). However, the amount of land held by Crowland is insufficient to include Wigtoft.

Despite the lack of early documentation, parts of SS. Peter and Paul's church are Norman in style, dating to the 11th – 12th centuries, including the base of the tower and elements of the nave wall (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 798). Medieval pottery has been found within the parish.

A watching brief undertaken 100m to the east identified only modern drainage ditches, although pottery of 9th – 12th century date was retrieved (Cope-Faulkner and Rayner 2000, 1).

3. AIMS

The aim of the archaeological investigation was to ensure that any archaeological features exposed during the groundworks should be recorded and, if present, to determine their date, function and origin.

4. METHODS

Prior to the excavation of foundation trenches, topsoil was stripped from the site. Foundation trenches were then excavated by machine to depths required by the development. The trenches were then cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were excavated further to retrieve artefactual material and to determine their function. Each deposit 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 1:20. Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services' practice.

Following excavation finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 3). The records were also checked 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

Following post-excavation analysis five phases were identified;

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Undated deposits
Phase 3	Medieval deposits
Phase 4	Post-medieval deposits
Phase 5	Recent 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 at the base of the foundation trenches was a layer

of light yellowish brown silty clay (004 and 007). This was in excess of 0.58m thick.

Phase 2 Undated deposits

Overlying natural layers along the western foundation trench was a dumped deposit of reddish brown silty clay (003 and 006). This measured up to 0.34m thick (Fig. 4, Sections 1 and 2). An underfired brick fragment and animal bone was retrieved from this deposit.

Phase 3 Medieval deposits

Overlying the undated dumped deposit was a second dumped layer (002 and 005). This comprised a yellowish brown silty clay and was between 0.2m and 0.52m thick. Pottery of 11th – 13th century date was retrieved from this layer.

Located towards the centre of the foundation trenches was a pit (016). This was 0.87m long by more than 0.6m wide and 1.1m deep (Fig. 5, Section 5). A single fill of reddish brown clayey silt with limestone fragments (015) was recorded and contained pottery of 12th – 13th century date and burnt clay, apparently underfired brick and a post-medieval tile fragment, perhaps intrusive.

This pit had been cut by a north-south aligned ditch (012). This was over 7.8m long, 2.78m wide and 1m deep (Fig. 4, Section 3). Three fills were recorded, a lower of reddish brown clayey silt (011) with charcoal, beneath a reddish brown clayey silt (010) and sealed by yellowish brown silty clay (009). The basal fill (011) contained pottery of 12th – 13th century date, while fired clay, perhaps handmade brick, was recovered from (010).

Phase 4 Post-medieval deposits

Cut into natural deposits on the western side of the foundation trenches was a second north-south aligned ditch (014).

This ditch was over 12m long by 2.15m wide and 1.08m deep (Fig. 5, Section 4). It contained a single fill of reddish brown clayey silt (013) from which 19th century pottery, metalwork and tile was retrieved.

Phase 5 Recent deposits

Sealing all archaeological deposits was a 0.27m thick topsoil comprising reddish brown clayey silt (001). Pottery of 18th – 19th century date was collected from this layer.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Phase 1) comprise silty clays of the underlying drift geology of marine alluvium.

Undated deposits (Phase 2) comprise a dumped layer evident on the western side of the foundation trenches. The level of the natural deposits varies along the western foundation trenches and this layer may have been an attempt to level the ground.

Medieval deposits (Phase 3) include further dumping above the undated layers and a ditch and pit. The pit suggests refuse disposal and indicates settlement in the vicinity. The ditch may have served a boundary function or to aid drainage of the land.

Parallel to the medieval ditch was a post-medieval example (Phase 4) that may have served a similar function.

The earliest pottery retrieved during the investigation dates to between the 11th and 13th centuries. This is contemporary with the construction of the church and the first documentary reference to Wigtoft. Later pottery, of 18th and 19th century date, may indicate the site was abandoned during the intervening later medieval and post-medieval period. Poorly made or underfired brick was also collected and may indicate that there was a brick clamp

in the vicinity. Tile, metalwork and animal bone was also collected.

7. CONCLUSION

A watching brief was undertaken at Main Road, Wigtoft, as the site lay in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Saxon period and the sites position in the core of the medieval village.

Undated and medieval dumped deposits were encountered along with a medieval pit and ditch and a post-medieval ditch. The medieval remains indicate settlement within the vicinity between the 11th and 13th centuries.

Finds retrieved from the investigation include medieval pottery, 18th – 19th century pottery, brick, tile, metalwork and a small quantity of animal bone.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr and Mrs P. Allitt for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. Dale Trimble coordinated the work and this report was edited by Gary Taylor and Tom Lane. Jenny Young, the Boston Borough Planning Archaeologist, kindly permitted examination of the relevant parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Dale Trimble
 Site Supervisors: Denise Buckley, Barry Martin
 Finds processing: Denise Buckley
 Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
 Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
 Post-excavation analysis: Paul Cope-Faulkner

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

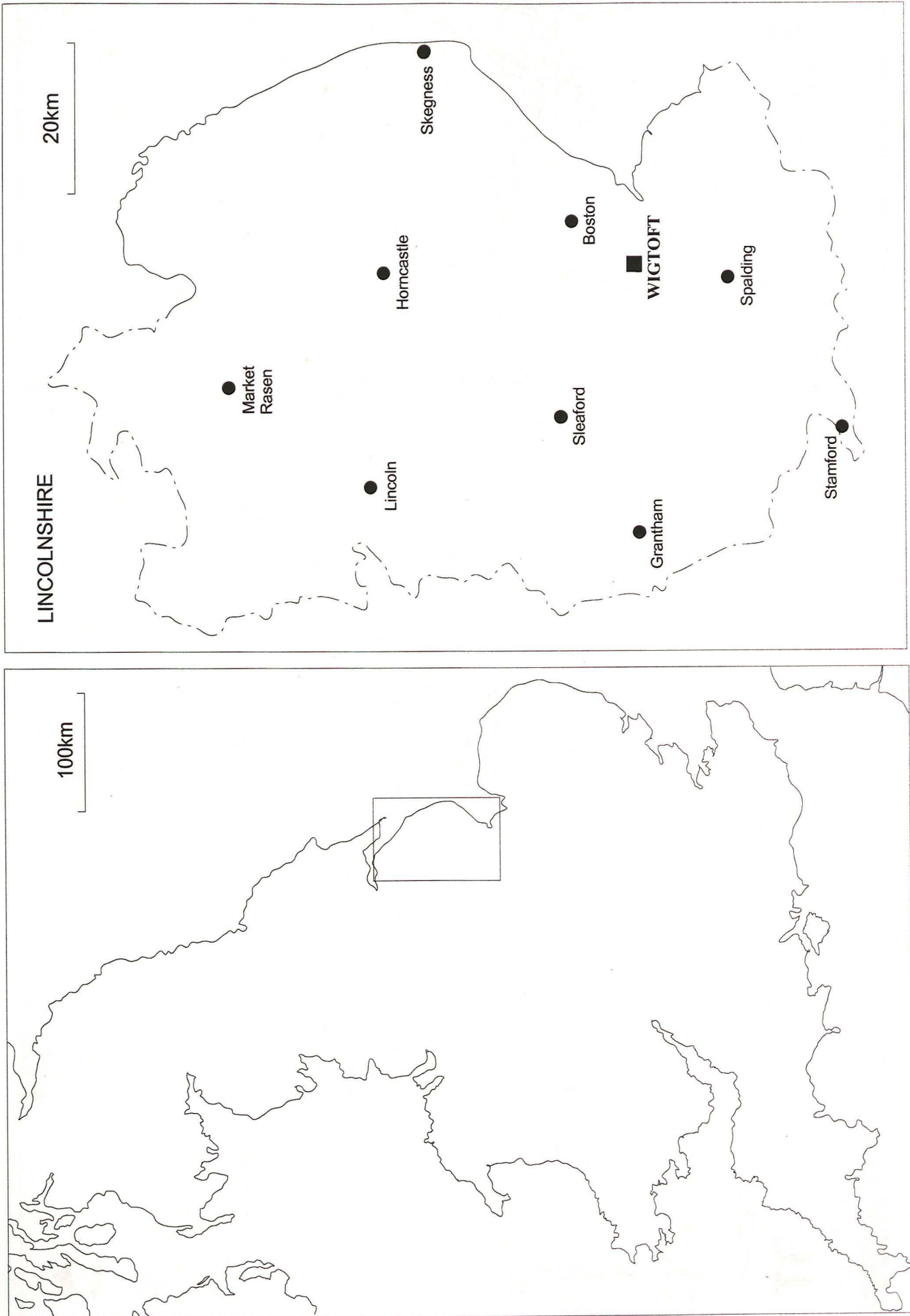
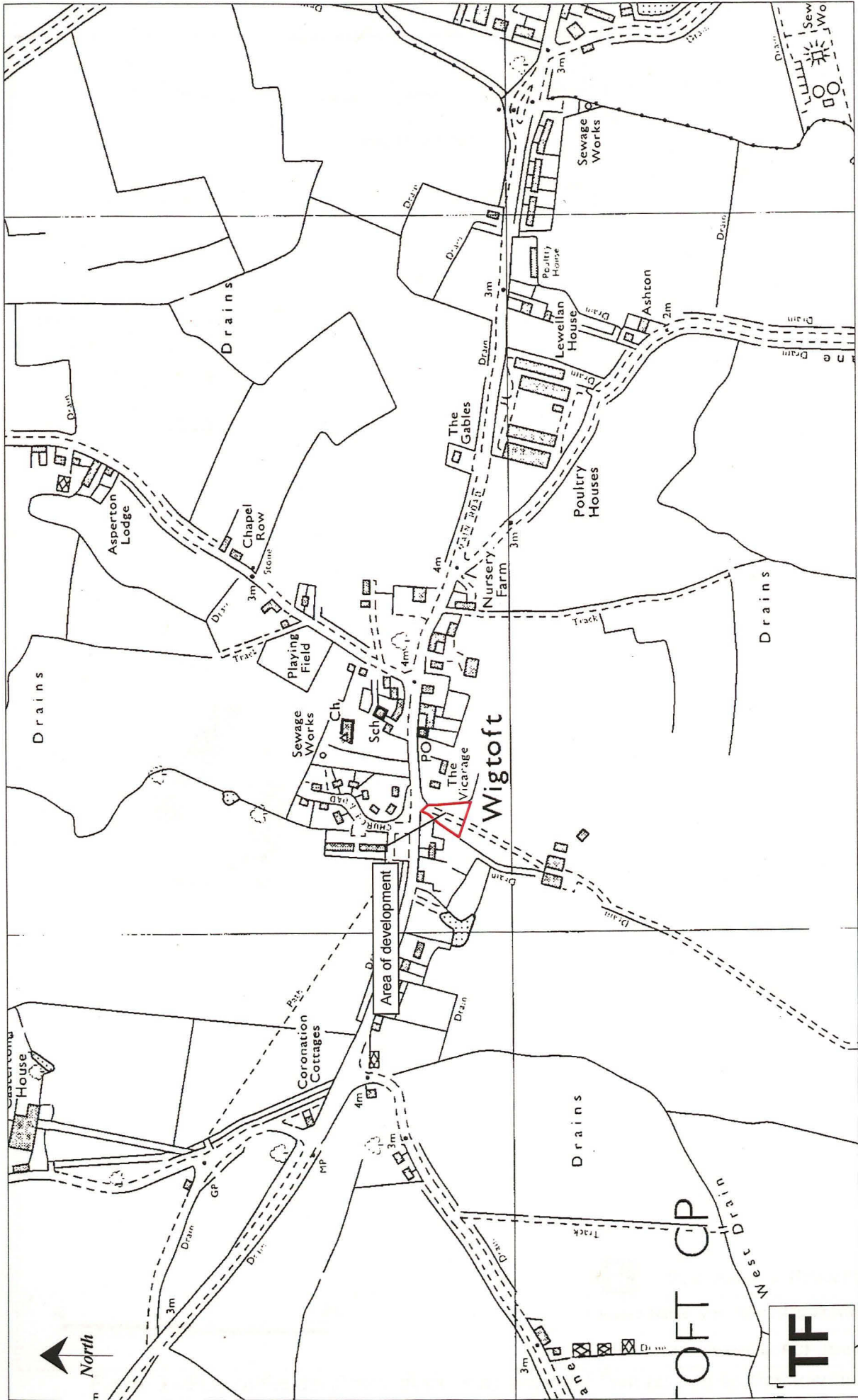


Figure 1 - General location plan



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Figure 2 - Site location plan

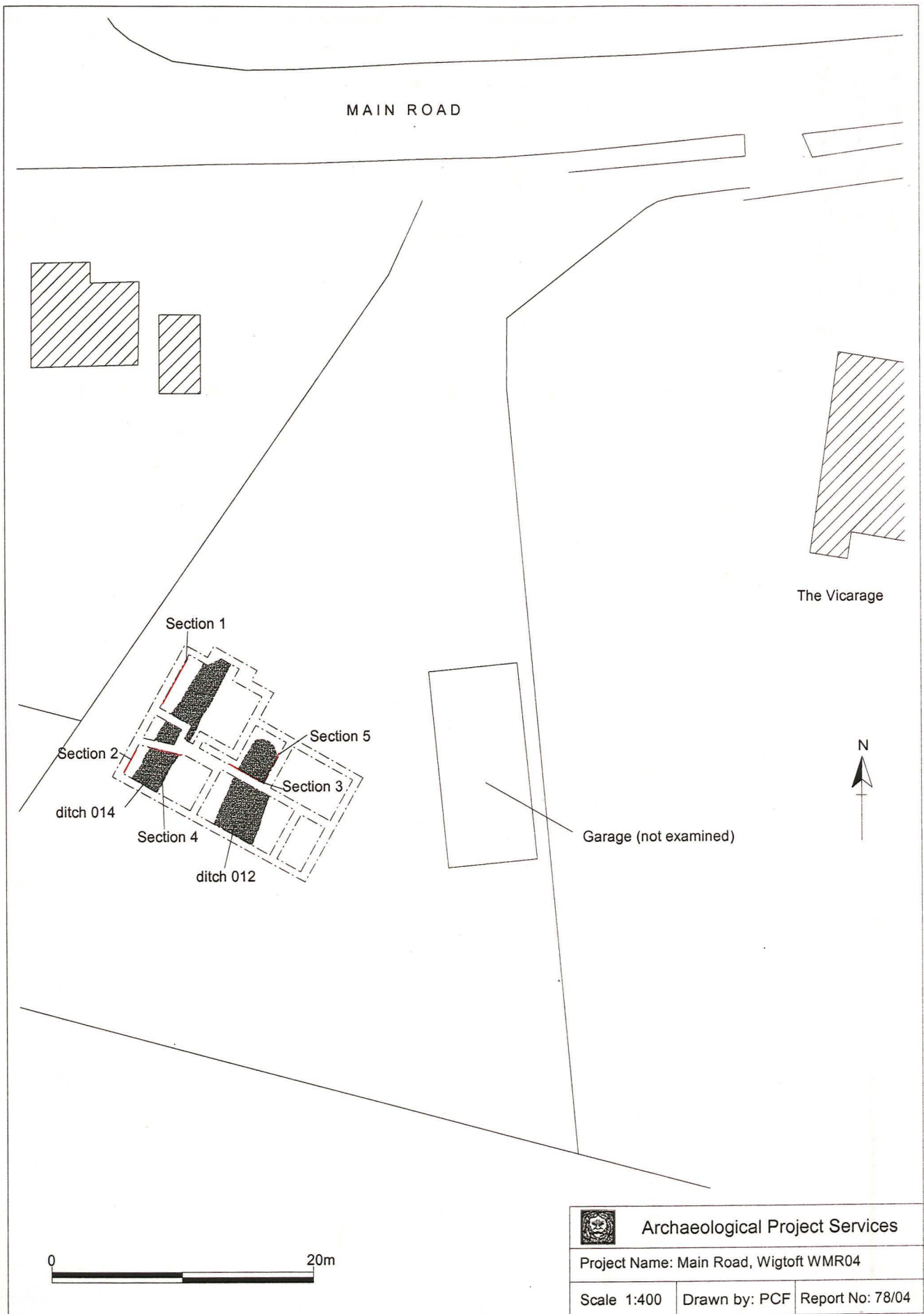

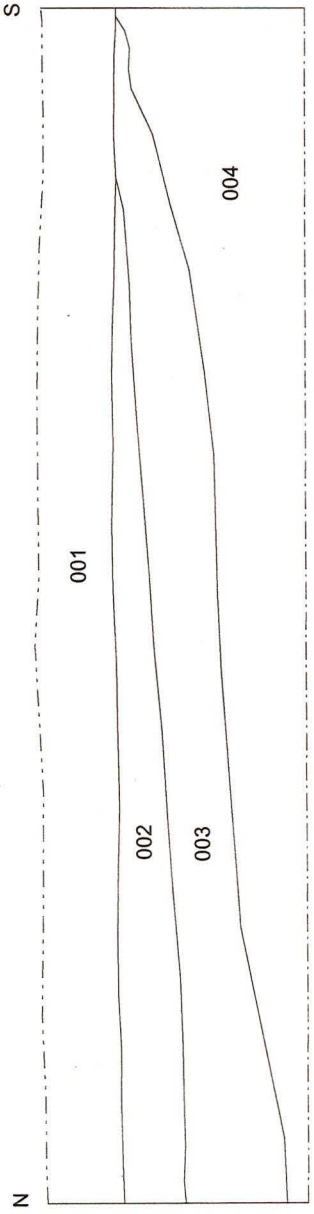
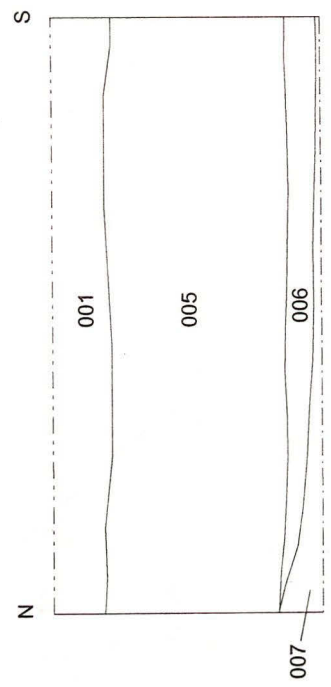


Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing principal features and section locations

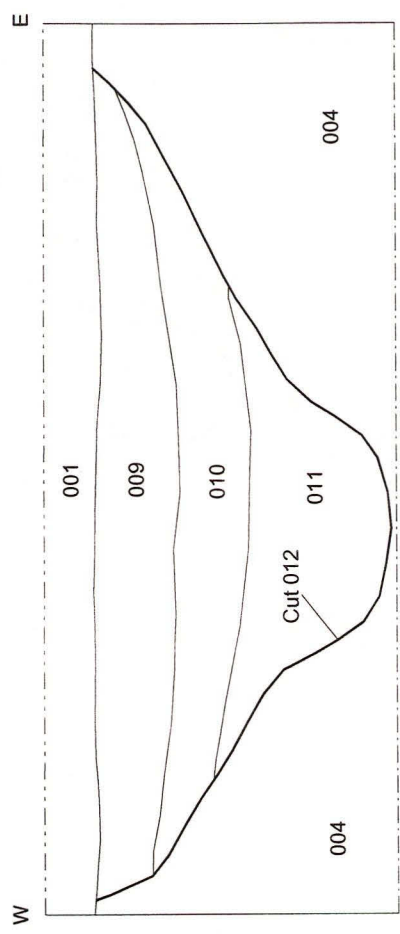
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Section 1



Section 2



Section 3

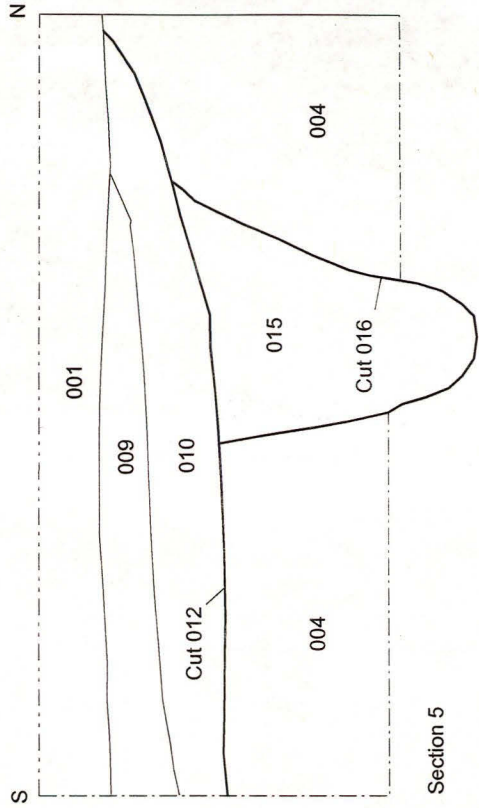


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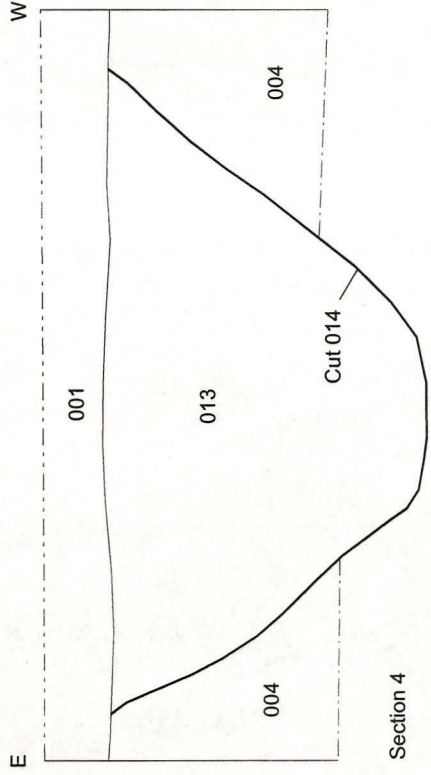
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Figure 4 - Sections 1 to 3



Section 5



Section 4




 Archaeological Project Services	
Project Name: Main Road, Wigtoft WMR04	
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Report No: 78/04	

Figure 5 - Sections 4 and 5



Plate 1 - View across the development area, looking northeast



Plate 2 - Section 1 showing the dumped deposits, looking southeast

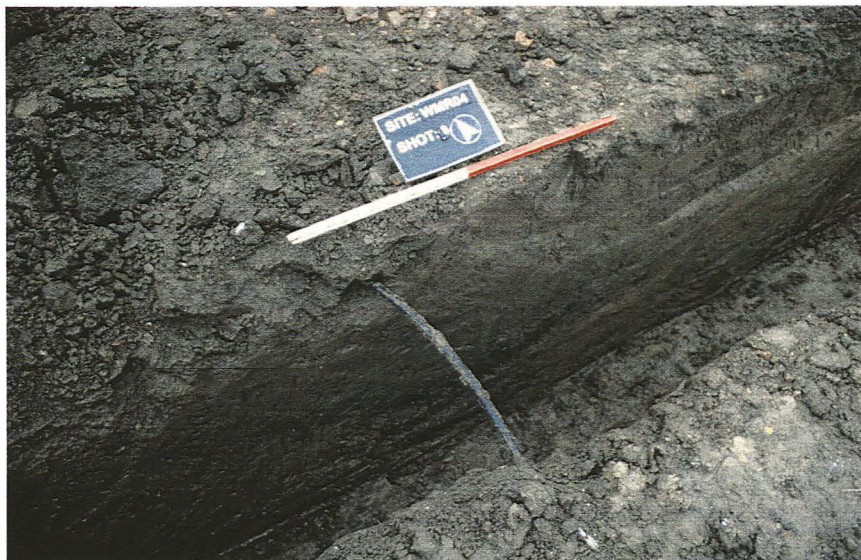


Plate 3 - Section 3 showing the medieval ditch (012), looking northeast

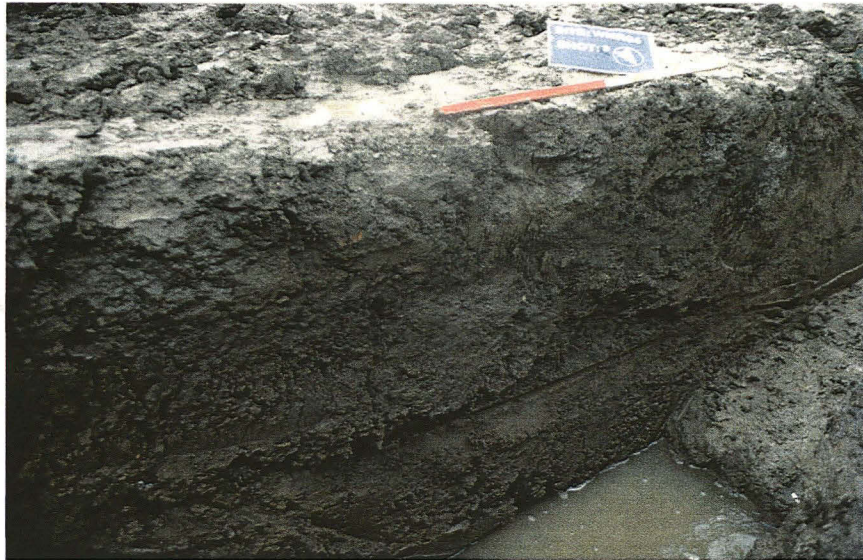


Plate 4 - Section 4 showing the post-medieval ditch (014), looking southwest

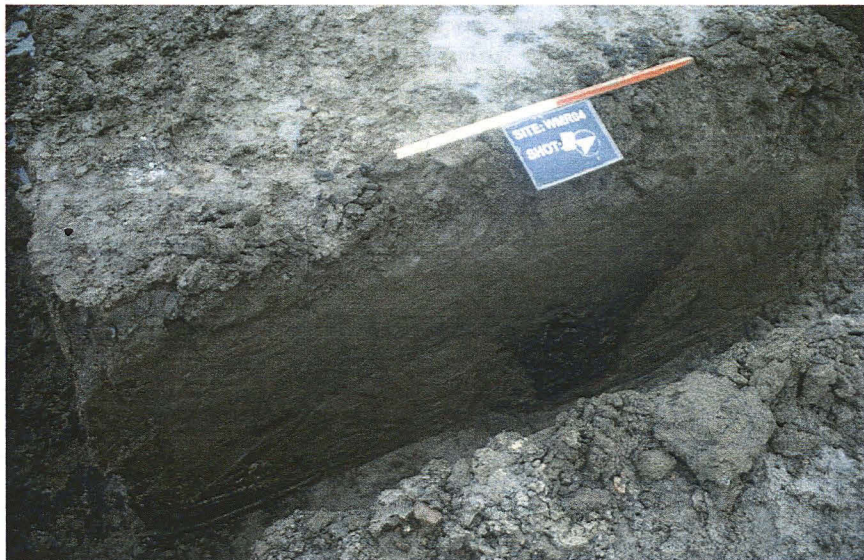


Plate 5 - Section 5 showing the medieval pit (016), looking northwest

Appendix 1

LAND ADJACENT TO THE VICARAGE, MAIN ROAD, WIGTOFT, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *An archaeological watching brief is required during groundworks associated with the construction on land off Main Road, Wigtoft, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The site lies in an area of archaeological potential within the historic core of the village and close to the medieval parish church.*
- 1.3 *The archaeological monitoring 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 archaeological works. 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 on land adjacent to The Vicarage, Main Road, Wigtoft, Lincolnshire centred on National Grid Reference TF 2616 3666.
- 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 Wigtoft is situated 10km southwest of Boston and 13km north of Spalding in the fens of South Lincolnshire. The site itself is located within the centre of the village, on the south side of Main Road and immediately west of The Vicarage at TF 2616 3666. The area of development forms an approximately rectangular plot of around 0.3 hectares.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application, B/03/0156/FULL, has been submitted to Boston Borough Council for the construction of a house and garage on the site. As part of the conditions of planning, an archaeological watching brief is required during groundworks associated with the development.

4.2

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The land lies on level ground at approximately 3m OD, within soils of the Romney Series, typically coarse silty gleyic brown calcareous alluvial soils (Robson 1990, 26)

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Since at least 2000 BC the Wigtoft area has been subjected to a series of marine and freshwater inundations resulting in the deposition of several metres of alluvium (silts and clays). Consequently, any prehistoric material is believed to lie at a significant depth.
- 6.2 The Fens were extensively occupied during the Romano-British period (AD50-410), although no material of this date has yet been found in the neighbourhood of Wigtoft.
- 6.3 Wigtoft is first mentioned in a charter dated to 1316. Referred to as 'Wiketoft' the name is derived from the Old Scandinavian meaning house by the vik, meaning bay or creek (Ekwall 1974, 518). There is no mention of Wigtoft in the Domesday Survey of 1086, although Burtoft is recorded as belonging to Crowland Abbey (Foster and Longley 1976). However, the amount of land held by Crowland is insufficient to include Wigtoft.
- 6.4 Saxon occupation of the area is represented by pottery found at two locations near Wigtoft. The first, located 1km northeast of the site, produced Late Saxon Stamford Ware and is associated with an area of raised ground, possibly the site of a settlement (B20/008). The second area, in the region of the hamlet of Burtoft, has produced pottery of mid to late Saxon date (B20/009).
- 6.5 Medieval settlement in the area is best represented by the extant remains of SS. Peter and Paul's church, which lies approximately 150m to the northeast of the site. The base of the tower and elements of the nave wall are Norman (11th -12th century) in style, with later alterations dating to the 13th century (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 798). Medieval pottery is also known from Burtoft (B20/010) and a small settlement associated with Casterton House, 800m to the northwest (B20/001 and 003).
- 6.6 A watching brief undertaken during development of a site approximately 70m to the east, also on Main Road, identified no remains earlier than the modern period. (Cope Faulkner, 2000)

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the archaeological monitoring 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 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 archaeological works.
 - 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 scheme of works will be undertaken during the ground works and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.
- 8.2.2 If archaeological remains are revealed adequate time will be made to allow archaeologists to fully investigate and record the archaeological deposits encountered. This may require pauses in groundwork.
- 8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 8.2.4 Throughout the archaeological works, 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 archaeological works 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 archaeological works 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 works.
- Description of the topography of the site.
- Description of the methodologies used during the archaeological works.
- A text describing the findings of the archaeological works.
- A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the archaeological works 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 Council Community Archaeologist; Boston Borough Council Planning Department; and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

11 ARCHIVE

- 11.1 The documentation and records generated during the archaeological works 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 archaeological works 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 Council Community Archaeologist. 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 archaeological works 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 appropriate experience 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.

<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.
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Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Firm mid reddish brown clayey silt, 0.27m thick	Topsoil
002	Firm light yellowish brown silty clay, 0.2m thick	Dumped deposit
003	Firm dark reddish brown silty clay, 0.34m thick	Dumped deposit
004	Firm light yellowish brown silty clay, >0.58m thick	Natural deposit
005	Firm light yellowish brown silty clay, 0.52m thick	Dumped deposit
006	Firm dark reddish brown silty clay, 110mm thick	Dumped deposit
007	Firm light yellowish brown silty clay	Natural deposit
008	Unstratified finds retrieval	
009	Firm light yellowish brown silty clay	Fill of (012)
010	Firm mid reddish brown clayey silt	Fill of (012)
011	Firm dark reddish brown clayey silt	Fill of (012)
012	Linear feature, aligned north-south, >7.8m long by 2.78m wide by 1m deep, gradual sides and rounded base	Ditch
013	Firm mid to dark reddish brown clayey silt	Fill of (014)
014	Linear feature, aligned north-south, 12.25m long by 2.15m wide by 1.08m deep, steep sides and rounded base	Ditch
015	Soft dark reddish brown clayey silt with some limestone fragments	Fill of (016)
016	Feature, 0.87m long by >0.6m wide by 1.1m deep, steep sides and rounded base	Pit

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 14 fragments of pottery weighing 141g and representing 11 individual vessels was recovered from 6 separate contexts. In addition to the pottery, a quantity of other artefacts, brick/tile and metal items, comprising 21 items weighing a total of 652g, was retrieved.

The excavated animal bone assemblage comprises 3 stratified fragments weighing 6g. 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 (001), dumped deposits (003, 005 and 006), and ditch fills (010, 011, 013 and 015) and as unstratified material (008).

The earlier pottery types were made in South Lincolnshire, in general proximity to the investigation site. However, the later pottery wares are mostly Staffordshire products.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: Pottery

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
001	BL	Red painted earthenware, black glazed, 18 th -19 th century	1	16	18 th -19 th century
	UGRE	Red painted earthenware, 18 th -19 th century	1	6	
005	SLSQ	South Lincs. shell and quartz tempered ware	2 (link)	10	11 th -13 th century
008	UGRE	Red painted earthenware	1	7	18 th -19 th century
011	SLST	South Lincs. shell tempered ware, sooted externally	1	3	12 th -13 th century
013	CRMWARE	Creamware, early 19 th century	1	2	19 th century
	LSTON	Grey stoneware, 19 th century	1	50	
	TPW	Blue and white transfer printed tableware, 19 th century	1	15	
	CRMWARE	Creamware, blue edged, plates (2 separate vessels), 19 th century	4 (3 link)	29	
015	SLST	South Lincs. shell tempered ware	1	3	12 th -13 th century

A small quantity of pottery of 11th-13th century date is the earliest material recovered and indicates activity of this period on or close to the investigation site. Most of the pottery is later, dating from the 18th-19th century. The chronological gap in the dating of the artefacts in the assemblage suggests the site was first occupied in perhaps the 12th-13th centuries, then abandoned and not re-occupied until the 18th century.

Table 2: Other Artefacts

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
003	CBM	Handmade brick, underfired	9	164	
010	CBM	Handmade brick, underfired	1	7	

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
013	CBM	Tile, oxidized throughout, late post-medieval	1	29	Late post-medieval
	CBM	Tile/drain, oxidized throughout, late post-medieval	1	68	
	Iron	Rectangular sheet, 44mm x 41mm x 4mm	1	23	
	Iron	L-shaped fitting, arms 72mm and 75mm long,	1	101	
	Iron	Knife with socketed handle, blade 170mm x 28mm (max); handle 64mm x 24mm x 18mm	1	137	
015	CBM	Tile/drain, oxidized throughout, late post-medieval	1	22	Late post-medieval
	CBM	Fired clay, handmade brick	4	40	
	Iron	U-shaped fitting, 68mm wide, legs 43mm long, staple/timber dog?	1	61	

Much of the ceramic building material appears to be underfired brick, which would suggest brick making in the vicinity of the site.

Table 3: *The Faunal Remains*

Context	Species	Bone	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
003	Cattle sized	unidentified	1	4	Butchery marks
006	Sheep sized	unidentified	1	1	
010	Sheep sized	unidentified	1	1	

The bone fragments are too small for further identification and to invite further comment.

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 Wigtoft that are the subjects of reports. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the Boston Planning Archaeologist and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

Although only a small amount of medieval pottery was retrieved this is of moderate local potential and significance and indicates human activity and occupation of the site or its proximity in the 12th-13th centuries. Additionally, the collection of handmade brick fragments, all of it underfired, suggests brick making in the vicinity during the post-medieval period and this, too, is of moderate local potential and significance. The late post-medieval, predominantly 18th-19th century, artefacts are of limited local potential but do indicate use of the site at that time.

The lack of any material earlier than the 11th 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 dating between the 13th and 18th centuries would tend to suggest that the site was abandoned during this period.

References

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

Appendix 4

GLOSSARY

Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Dumped deposits	These are deposits, often laid down intentionally, that raise a land surface. They may be the result of casual waste disposal or may be deliberate attempts to raise the ground surface.
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.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.

Appendix 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

16	Context records
6	Scale drawings
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Bag of finds
1	Stratigraphic matrix

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

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

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

Lincolnshire City and County Museum Accession Number: 2004.23

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: WMR 04

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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