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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
BETWEEN 2 AND 6 ERMINE STREET,
ANCASTER,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(ANE 03)**



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

EVENT LIS240

SOURCE LIS44
LIS45

PRN 36531 ROMAN
36532 ANGLO-SAXON
36533 PREHISTORIC

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
BETWEEN 2 AND 6 ERMINE STREET,
ANCASTER,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(ANE 03)**

**Work Undertaken For
Paul Heard Properties Ltd**

June 2004

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

National Grid Reference: SK 9823 4329
Planning Reference: S03/0671/02
City and County Museum Accession No: 2003.282

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 165/03

Conservation
Services

29 SEP 2004

Highways & Planning
Directorate

Quality Control
2 and 6 Ermine Street, Ancaster
ANE 03

Project Coordinator	Tobin Rayner
Supervisors	Barry Martin, Fiona Walker
Finds Processing	Denise Buckley
Illustration	Paul Cope-Faulkner
Photographic Reproduction	Sue Unsworth
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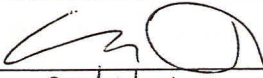
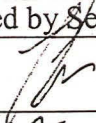
Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
 Gary Taylor	 Tom Lane
Date: 23/6/04	Date: 25-06-04

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during residential development along Ermine Street, Ancaster. The watching brief monitored the excavation of foundation trenches for a new dwelling and garage.

The development site lies to the south of a Romano-British (AD 42-410) town which may have developed from an existing Late Iron Age (150 BC-AD 42) settlement. Immediately north of the site lies a cemetery, first used during the Romano-British period but extending in to Early Anglo-Saxon times (AD 410-650).

The watching brief identified Romano-British dumped layers possibly associated with the nearby Ermine Street Roman road. Undated, but disturbed, subsoils and further dumping was also recorded along with two irregular features interpreted as tree throws. Romano-British pottery was the largest category of finds retrieved and complements building material suggesting a structure of this date lay in the vicinity. Saxon pottery, perhaps associated with the cemetery to the north of the site, was also found along with a prehistoric flint, post-medieval pottery, clay pipe, glass, nail, smithing slag and a quantity of animal bone.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

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

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Paul Heard Properties Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with residential development on land between 2 and 6 Ermine Street, Ancaster, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application S03/0671/02. The watching brief was carried out between the 5th August 2003 and 11th February 2004, in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Ancaster is located 10km west of Sleaford and 10km northeast of Grantham in the administrative district of South Kesteven, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site is situated c. 250m south of the village centre as defined by the parish church of St. Martin (Fig. 2) at National Grid Reference SK 9823 4329. The site lies on a north facing slope, close to its base, at a height of c. 54m OD.

Local soils are of the Elmton 1 Association, typically shallow brown rendzinas, with Blackwood Association deep permeable sandy and coarse loamy soils to the north (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 127 and 179). These soils overlie a drift geology of Older River sands and gravels which in turn seal a solid geology of Jurassic Upper Lincolnshire Limestone (GSGB 1972).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Ancaster is situated in an area of dense archaeological activity dating from the Neolithic period to the present day. Neolithic and Bronze Age flint tools have been found in the vicinity.

During the Later Iron Age, an extensive settlement was located around the village. This took the form of enclosures and a number of hut circles have also been found to the south and east of the village.

During the Romano-British period, the first impact of the Romans was to the northwest of Ancaster where a temporary fort was constructed, perhaps by the IX legion Hispania, on their march to Lincoln in AD 43. A more permanent fort was built to the west of the village as they constructed Ermine Street, a major thoroughfare that connected London to Lincoln and beyond to the Humber (Margary 1973, 228). Ermine Street forms the western boundary of the development site. Ermine Street was crossed by a second thoroughfare, now represented by Wilsford Lane, which may have continued west to meet the Fosse Way at *Ad Pontem* (East Stoke, Nottinghamshire).

This junction of routes led to a settlement being located at the village, perhaps derived from the Iron Age occupation. Associated cemeteries are known from the outskirts of the modern village, including one just to the north of the site. The defences of the Romano-British town date from 280 AD and overlie earlier structures, several of which have been excavated (Todd 1981).

Anglo-Saxon activity is represented by a large cemetery, immediately north of the development site (Meaney 1964, 151). No associated settlement has yet been found.

Ancaster is first mentioned in *c.* 1150, again in a charter of Henry II (1154-1189) and in the Feet of Fines of 1196. Referred to as *de Anacastro* and *Anecastre* the name is derived from the Old English personal name 'Ana' and *cæster* meaning a Roman town (Cameron 1998, 3).

During the medieval period, Ancaster was a relatively minor settlement. The church of St. Martin contains 12th century

stonework within a largely 14th century structure (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 100). Opposite the church stood St. Mary's chapel. Divided between the parishes of Sudbrook and Wilsford, Ancaster became a parish in its own right during the 19th century.

Two watching briefs have been undertaken in the immediate vicinity of the site. The first, located 200m north of the site, revealed no archaeological features (Snee 2002a, 3) and a second during watermain trenching along the A153 Sleaford Road recorded an undated ditch (Snee 2002b, 3).

3. AIMS

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

4. METHODS

Prior to the excavation of foundation trenches topsoil was stripped from the site. Foundation trenches were then excavated by machine to depths required by the development. The sides of the trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were then partially examined by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. Each deposit encountered was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their descriptions appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:20. Recording of the deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services' current practice.

Following excavation the records were checked and a stratigraphic matrix was produced. Finds were examined and a

period date assigned where possible (Appendices 3 and 4). 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 four phases were identified;

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Romano-British deposits
Phase 3	Undated deposits
Phase 4	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 deposits encountered in the foundation trenches for the new house comprised yellowish brown sand (007 and 011). This was overlain by yellowish brown limestone with sand (006 and 014). A possible ice-wedge within the limestone (Fig. 4, Section 4) was filled with a reddish brown sand (013).

Within the garage footings and along the course of the retaining wall, natural comprised yellow silty sand with limestone (019) that measured in excess of 0.6m thick.

Phase 2 Romano-British deposits

Located along the western edge of the foundation trenches for the house (Fig. 4, Sections 1 and 2) was a dumped deposit of brownish yellow sand and limestone (008) that extended eastwards as yellowish brown limestone and silty sand (004). Pottery of 2nd century date was retrieved from (004).

Phase 3 Undated deposits

Overlying the dumped deposits (008) was a layer of reddish brown sand (010). This was 0.4m thick and may represent subsoil development. This was overlain by a dumped deposit, confined to the northwest corner of the site, of brownish yellow sand with limestone (009)

Situated east and south of the road, overlying natural deposits was a further subsoil layer comprising reddish brown silty sand (005 and 012). This ranged between 0.2m and 0.5m thick. Pottery was retrieved from (012) and comprised a wide range of Romano-British wares and a Saxon sherd, perhaps indicating disturbance.

Infilling a hollow between the dumped deposit (004) and the subsoil was a deposit of yellowish brown silty sand (003), perhaps used to level the ground.

Cutting into natural deposits within the garage and boundary wall trenches were two irregular features. The first (018) was over 3.2m long by 3.4m wide and 0.57m deep (Fig. 5, Section 5). This contained two fills, a lower of brown silty sand (017) and an upper of reddish brown silty sand (016).

The second feature (021) was over 3.1m long by over 0.5m wide and deeper than 0.43m (Fig. 5, Section 6). This contained a single fill of brown sandy silt (020) which also formed a subsoil in this vicinity.

Phase 4 Recent deposits

Sealing all archaeological deposits within the house footing was a 0.3m thick topsoil of yellowish brown silty sand with limestone (002). Topsoil within the garage and retaining wall trenches consisted of brown sandy silt (015 and 022).

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Phase 1) of sands and limestones relate to the weathered surface of the underlying solid geology of Lincolnshire Limestone. Additionally, glacial fracturing of the rock was also recorded.

Romano-British deposits (Phase 2) comprise two episodes of dumping, both incorporating limestone. In form they are not dissimilar to road make-up, although both deposits were not extensive. It is possible that they are related to Ermine Street which lies some 15m to the west. Pottery recovered from the dumped deposits was of early 2nd century date.

Undated deposits (Phase 3) include two irregular features, subsoil formation and further dumped layers. The two features may represent tree throws or possible pits of which one was filled with subsoil deposits. The subsoil recorded within the house foundation trenches contains both Romano-British and Saxon pottery suggesting it has been disturbed in the past. The presence of Saxon pot and the position of the subsoil above Romano-British layers indicate that the subsoil is a Saxon or later formation. The dumped layers may represent levelling of the ground surface.

The earliest find retrieved was a prehistoric flint core fragment. Romano-British pottery was the largest category of artefactual material retrieved during the investigation. Much of this was retrieved as unstratified material or from the topsoil. Other Romano-British finds include roof tile, suggesting the probability of a building in close proximity to the site.

Three sherds of Early Saxon pottery was also recovered from a number of contexts. The pottery is contemporary with the Anglo-Saxon cemetery found immediately north of the site and it is possible that the sherds were fragments of cinerary urns.

Other finds include post-medieval pottery, smithing slag, a clay pipe stem, a nail, glass and a quantity of animal bones.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Ermine Street, Ancaster, as the site lay in close proximity to a Roman town, a Roman road and cemeteries of Roman and Saxon date.

Two dumped deposits were recorded which date to the early 2nd century and may be associated with Ermine Street. Later, though undated, deposits include two tree throws, subsoil formation and further episodes of dumping, perhaps to level the surrounding ground surface.

Finds include a prehistoric flint core, a quantity of Romano-British pottery and roof tile and Early Saxon pottery, perhaps cinerary urns associated with the nearby cemetery. Other finds include post-medieval pottery, clay pipe, smithing slag, a nail, glass and animal bone.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr P. Heard of Paul Heard Properties Ltd for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Tobin Rayner and this report was edited by Gary Taylor and Tom Lane. Jenny Young, the South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist, kindly permitted access to the parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Tobin Rayner
 Site Supervisors: Barry Martin, Fiona Walker
 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

GSGB Geological Survey of Great Britain

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

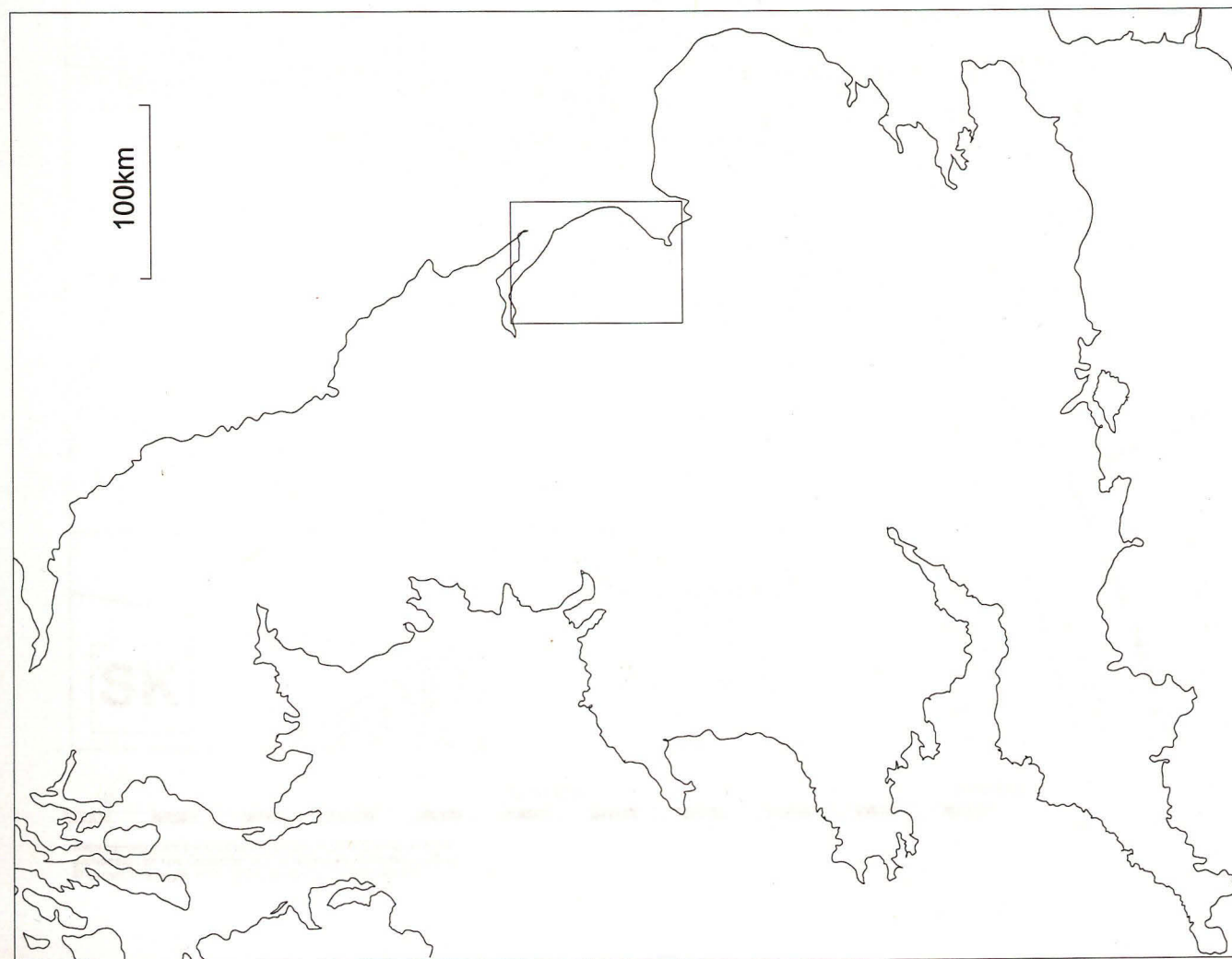
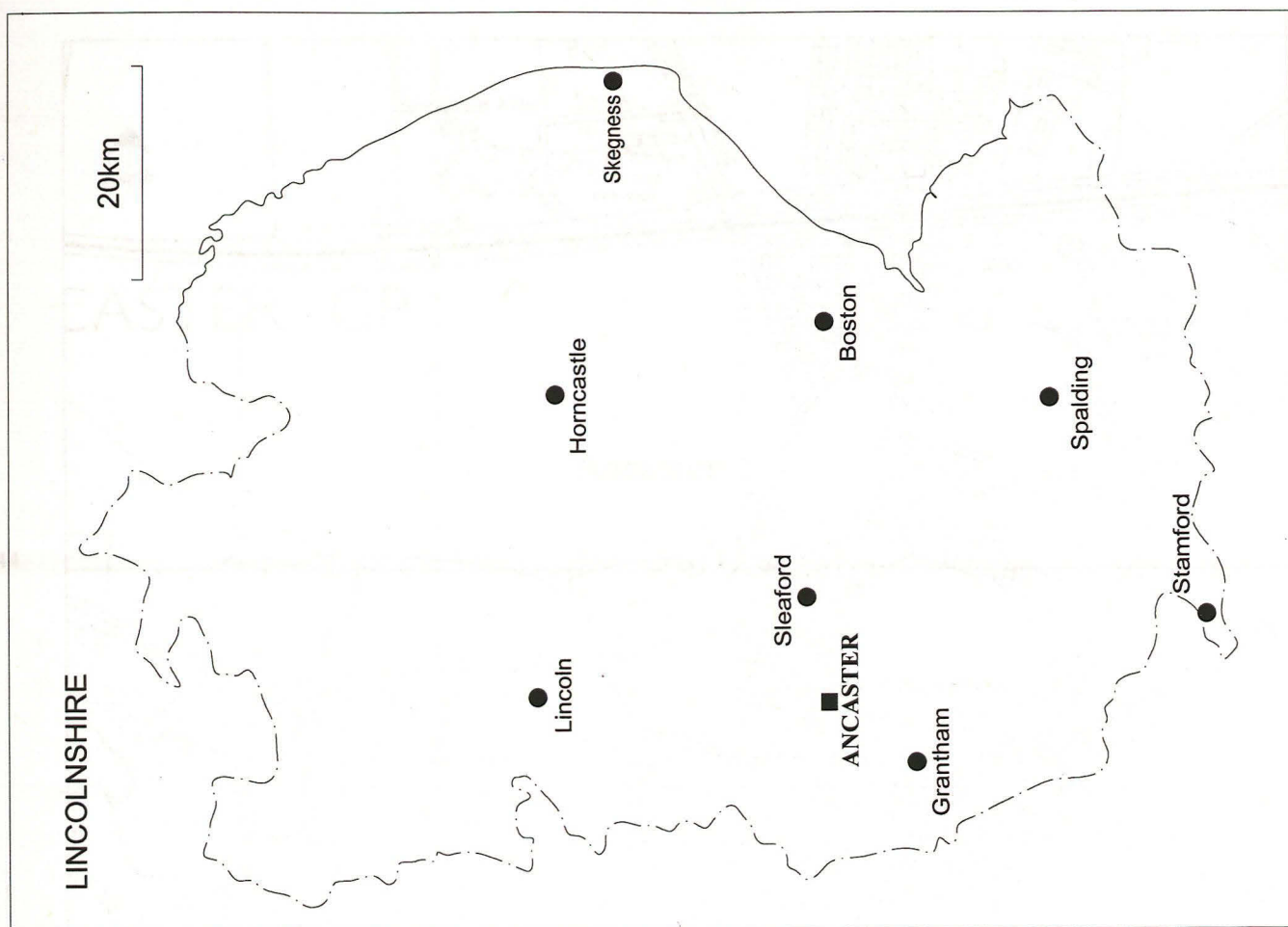
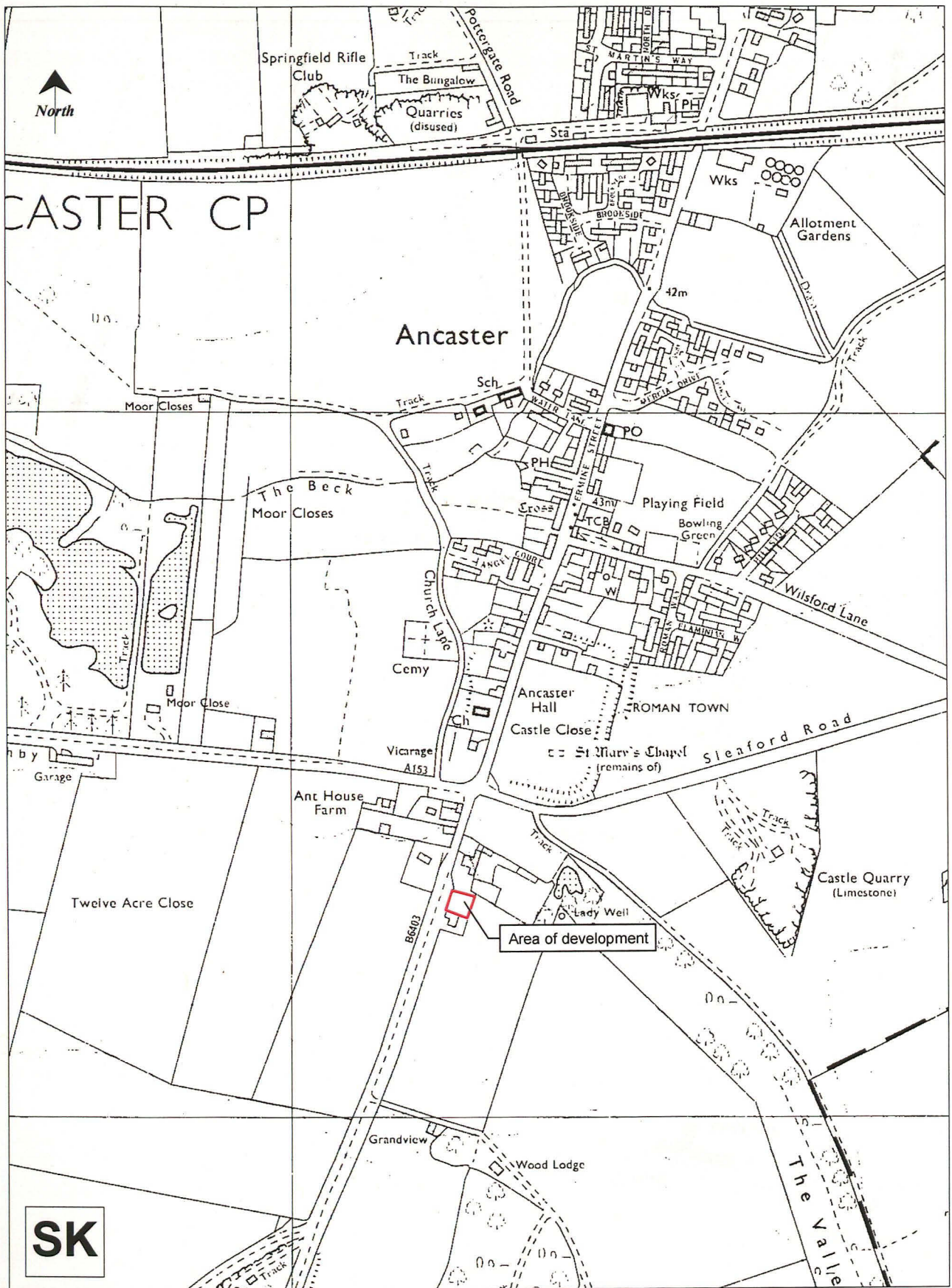


Figure 1 - General Location Plan



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Figure 2 - Site location plan

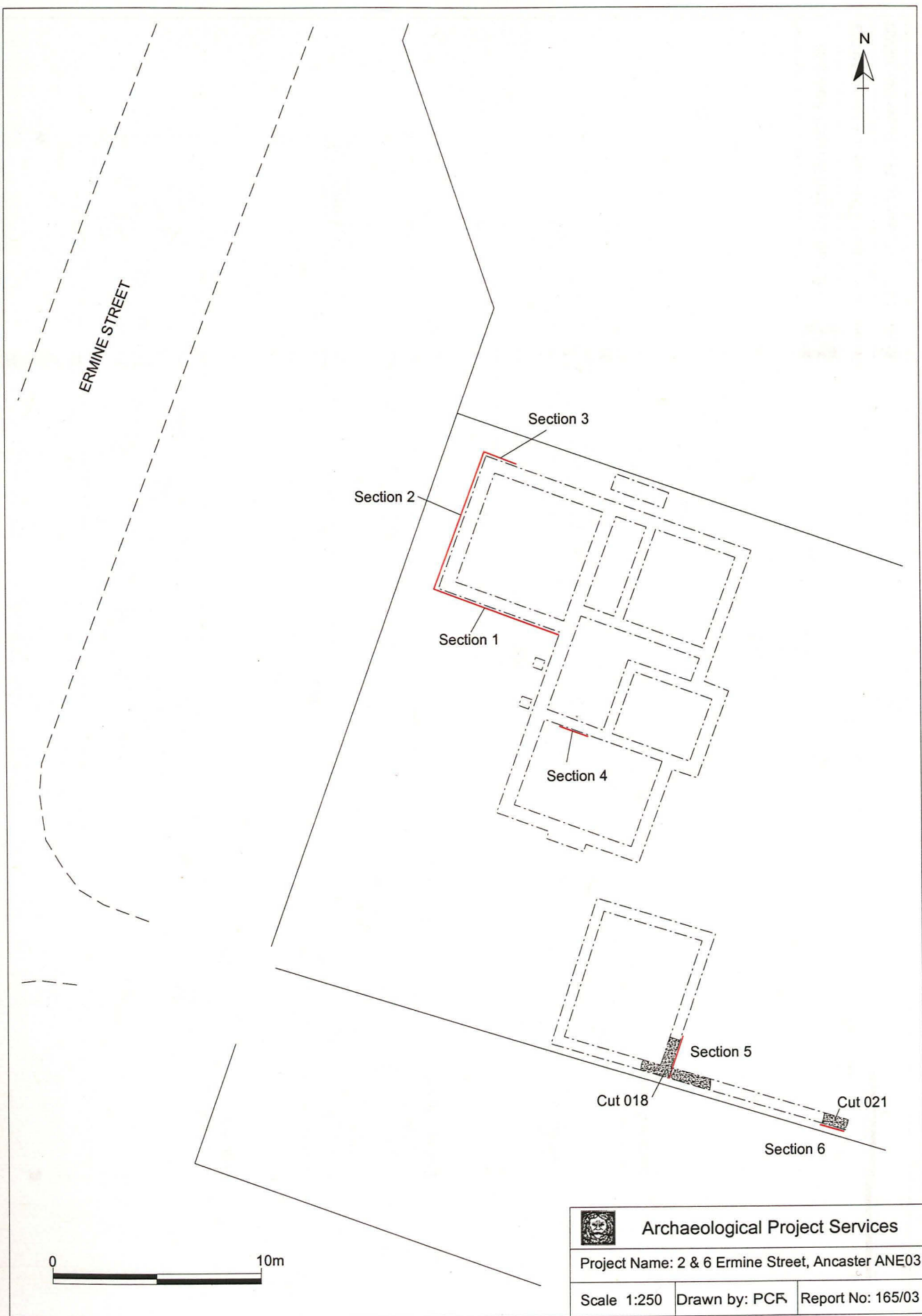
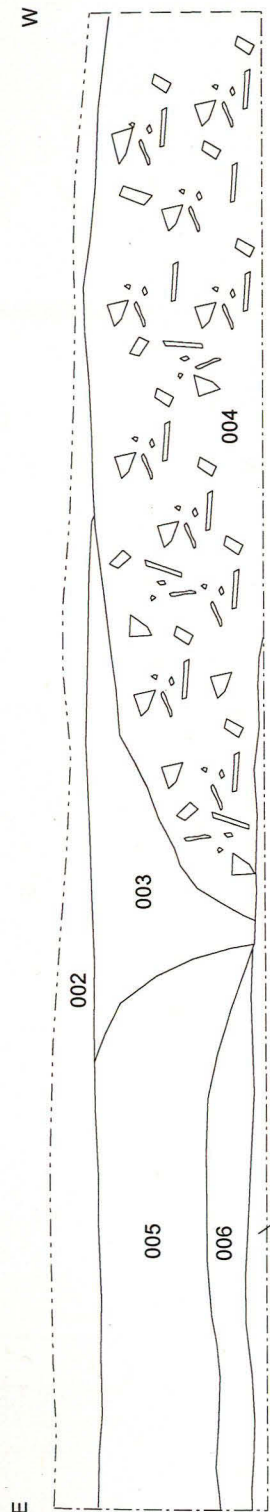
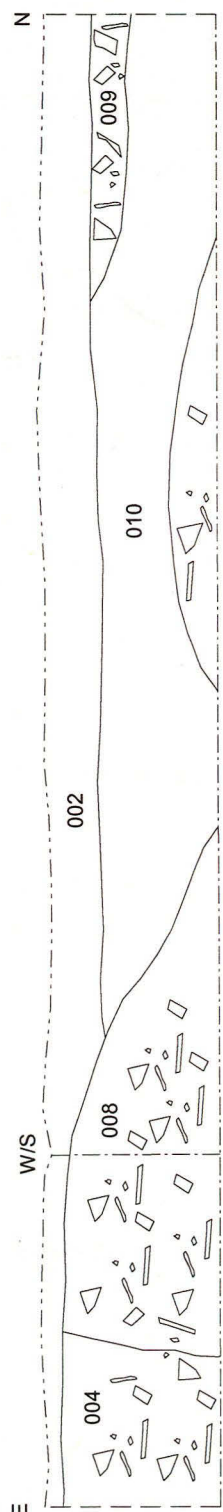


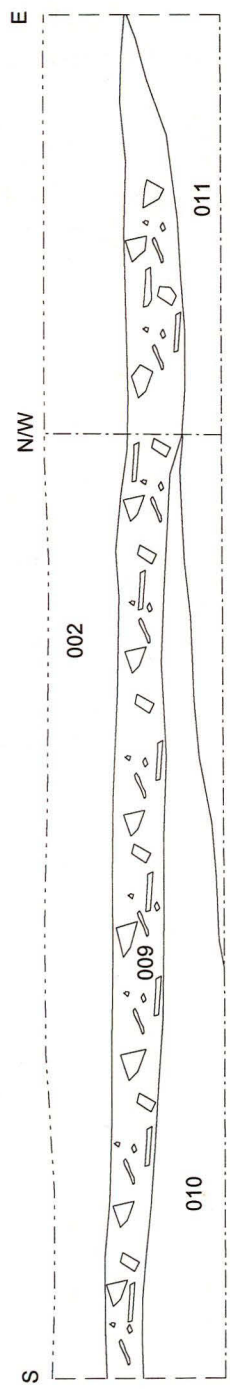
Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section locations



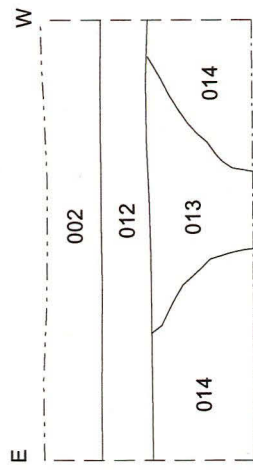
Section 1



Section 1 (cont)



Section 2 (cont)



Section 4



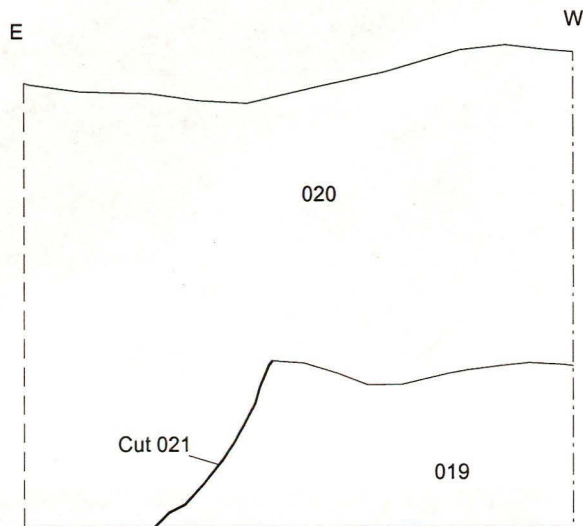
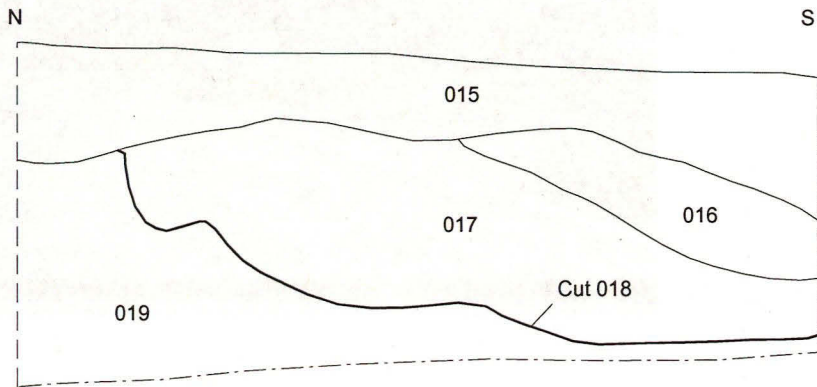
Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: 2 & 6 Ermine Street, Ancaster ANE03

Scale: 1:25

Drawn by: PCF Report No: 165/03

Figure 4 - Sections 1 to 4



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: 2 & 6 Ermine Street, Ancaster ANE03

Scale 1:20

Drawn by: PCF

Report No: 165/03

Figure 5 - Sections 5 and 6



Plate 1 - View along Ermine Street with the development site on the right, looking north



Plate 2 - Section 1 showing the Romano-British dumped deposits (centre), looking southwest



Plate 3 - Section 2 showing the undated dumped deposits, looking northwest



Plate 4 - Section 5 showing
the undated tree throw
(018), looking east

Appendix 1

2 & 6 ERMINE STREET, ANCASTER, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during residential development on 2 & 6, Ermine Street, Ancaster, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The site is archaeologically sensitive, lying adjacent to Ermine Street, a major Roman road, and to the north of the Roman town of Ancaster, which overlies a 1st century military camp, and to the south of a marching camp.*
- 1.3 *The archaeological work will consist of a watching brief during groundworks on the site.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the watching brief. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with development at 2 & 6 Ermine Street, Ancaster Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference SK 98237 43299.
- 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 Ancaster is situated 27km south of Lincoln in the administrative district of South Kesteven. Ermine Street runs through the centre of the present village. The site lies to the south of Ancaster and currently forms part of a garden to an adjacent property at National Grid Reference SK 98237 43299.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 An outline planning application was submitted to South Kesteven District Council in 2001 for the erection of one dwelling (Planning Application S01/1102/02). Given the archaeological potential of the site the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist advised that a watching brief be undertaken during groundworks associated with development. A full planning application has now been submitted (So3/0671/02).

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The site lies at c43m OD on the west side of Ermine Street. Local soils are predominantly deep permeable fine and coarse loamy and sandy soils of the Ruskington Association with Blackwood Association sandy and coarse loamy soils developed on glaciofluvial drift (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 179; 127).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Ancaster possess archaeological remains of national importance including the site of an Iron Age settlement, Roman fort and Roman town that are protected as Scheduled Monuments.
- 6.2 The site lies to the south of the Roman walled town of Ancaster, alongside Ermine Street, a principal Roman Road, which ran from London to York. Immediately to the north of the development site lies another Scheduled Monument, an Anglo-Saxon cremation cemetery, whilst to the northwest in the 1950's Iron Age inhumations were discovered at Ant House. In 1841 a Roman coin hoard was also discovered adjacent to the site.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the watching brief will be:
- 7.1.1 To record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the groundworks associated with the development.
- 7.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:
- 7.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
- 7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
- 7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
- 7.2.4 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

8 SITE OPERATIONS

8.1 General considerations

- 8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the watching brief.
- 8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of 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.
- ◆ Throughout the watching brief a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
 - the site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology

within the trench.

- groups of features where their relationship is important

8.2.4 Should human remains be located the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department and the police will be informed.

9 POST-EXCAVATION

9.1 Stage 1

9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued and labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

9.1.2 All finds recovered during the fieldwork will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

9.2 Stage 2

9.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.

9.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

9.3 Stage 3

9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.

9.3.2 This will consist of:

- A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
- A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.
- Description of the topography of the site.
- Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.
- A text describing the findings of the watching brief.
- A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.
- Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
- Sections of the archaeological features.
- Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.

- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10 REPORT DEPOSITION

- 10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the Client; the South Kesteven District Council Community Archaeologist; South Kesteven District Council Planning Department; and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

11 ARCHIVE

- 11.1 The documentation and records generated during the watching brief will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the City and County Museum, Lincoln. This will be undertaken following the requirements of the document titled Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives for long-term storage and curation.

12 PUBLICATION

- 12.1 A report of the findings of the watching brief will be presented as a condensed article to the editor of the journal *Lincolnshire History and Archaeology*. If appropriate, notes on the findings will be submitted to the appropriate national journals: *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date, and *Medieval Archaeology* and the *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for findings of medieval or later date.

13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- 13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the South Kesteven District Council Community Archaeologist. They will be given seven days notice in writing before the commencement of the project.

14 VARIATIONS AND CONTINGENCIES

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

15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 15.1 The watching brief will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the archaeological site work.
- 15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- 15.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one person-day) will require a post-excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half person-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about four days then there will be an

economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

16 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

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

<u>Task</u>	<u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust Roman - B Precious, Independent Specialist Anglo-Saxon - J Young, Independent Specialist Medieval and later - G Taylor, APS in consultation with H Healey, Independent Archaeologist
Non-pottery Artefacts	J Cowgill, Independent Specialist
Animal Bones	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
Environmental Analysis	J Rackham, Independent Specialist
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, Independent Specialist

17 INSURANCES

17.1 Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains Employers Liability Insurance of £10,000,000, together with Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied on request.

18 COPYRIGHT

18.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

18.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.

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Specification: Version 1, 31/07/2003

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Unstratified finds retrieval	
002	Firm mid yellowish brown silty sand with limestone fragments, 0.3m thick	Topsoil
003	Firm mid yellowish brown silty sand, 0.54m thick	Dumped deposit
004	Firm light yellowish brown limestone and silty sand, 0.62m thick	Dumped deposit
005	Firm mid reddish brown silty sand, 0.5m thick	Subsoil
006	Firm light to mid yellowish brown limestone and sand, 0.14m thick	Natural deposit
007	Firm light yellowish brown sand, 100mm thick	Natural deposit
008	Firm light brownish yellow sand and limestone, 0.52m thick	Dumped deposit
009	Firm light brownish yellow sand with limestone, 0.2m thick	Dumped deposit
010	Firm light reddish brown sand, 0.4m thick	Subsoil
011	Firm light yellowish brown sand, 0.3m thick	Natural deposit
012	Firm mid reddish brown silty sand, 0.2m thick	Subsoil
013	Firm light reddish brown sand, 0.3m thick	Natural deposit
014	Firm light yellowish brown limestone and sand, >0.3m thick	Natural deposit
015	Friable mid to dark brown sandy silt, 0.37m thick	Topsoil
016	Loose mid reddish brown silty sand	Fill of (018)
017	Firm mid brown silty sand	Fill of (018)
018	Irregular feature, >3.2m long by 3.4m wide by 0.57m deep, undulating sides and base	Possible tree throw
019	Firm light yellow silty sand with limestone, >0.6m thick	Natural deposit
020	Soft mid brown sandy silt, 0.9m thick	Mixed topsoil/subsoil
021	Feature, >3.1m long by >0.5m wide by >0.43m deep, steep sides, not fully excavated	Possible tree throw
022	Friable mid to dark brown sandy silt, 0.37m thick	Topsoil

Appendix 3

THE ROMAN POTTERY

by

B J Precious: Late Iron Age and Roman Pottery Consultant

23/12/03

The pottery has been recorded according to the Study Group for Roman Pottery (SGRP) guidelines, using codes currently in use at the City of Lincoln Archaeological Unit, and sherd count and weight as a measure. The site archive has been collated using Microsoft, excel (ane03.xls).

Introduction and dating (See Table 1, below)

The site, which lies to the south, outside of the main Roman town and fortress of Ancaster, produced a small assemblage consisting of 110 sherds weighing 3348 grams of mainly, Roman pottery from four contexts. This total includes three sherds of post-medieval pottery weighing 47 grams (contexts 1 and 2) and three sherds of Saxon pottery weighing 59 grams dating from the 5th –7th centuries (contexts 1, 2 and 12). The Saxon sherds are all in the same coarse, micaceous fabric; possibly from the same vessel. All three sherds are burnished on both the interior and exterior - indicative of open forms - and one has additional stamped/combed decoration on the exterior (Drawing 1).

The presence of post-Roman sherds, in all but one context, suggests that the assemblage was either disturbed in antiquity or the later sherds are intrusive in Roman layers. However, all three contexts with post-Roman wares (1, 2, and 12) produced Roman pottery of varying dates ranging from the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th centuries; the bulk being from the 2nd century – the date of context 4 - the only uncontaminated Roman context. This confirms that the assemblage was indeed quite disturbed, with a Roman date ranging from the 1st to the 4th century AD. There is no very late Roman pottery leaving an hiatus on the site until the 5th –7th century during the Saxon period. The remaining post-Roman pottery is post medieval in date.

Curiously, the sherd/weight mean is high at 30 grams, and even with the exclusion of large amphorae sherds the resulting average of 22 grams is still quite high. This is usually indicative of minor disturbance.

Table 1: The date range of the Roman pottery from ANE03 by sherd count and weight

Date range	Context	Sherds	Grams
3C/POSTRO	1	19	556
4C/POSTRO	2	79	1808
HEAN	4	2	12
4C/POSTRO	12	10	972
TOTAL		110	3348

Condition

There is little evidence of abrasion, although some early samian fragments are abraded and some amphorae sherds are flaked and abraded. However, the fabric of the latter is prone to flaking. Several vessels are sooted on rims and the exterior of vessels indicating use as cooking pots. The handle of a Dressel 20 amphora has mortar adhering to it, suggesting reuse.

Apart from the links between the sherds of the possibly single Saxon vessel mentioned above, there are no other sherds links from the site.

Potential and further work (see Tables 2 and 3, below)

Imported wares, that are generally indicative of relatively high status occupation, include Dressel 20, olive oil amphorae from Baetica in southern Spain. All the fragments are in the early gritty fabric dating from c AD 50-170. A further sherd in this early fabric is a thin-walled example and may be from a Haltern 70 amphora, of early 1st century date. First century samian from South Gaul is the most common of these imported fine wares. The forms include a probable dish, two cups (Dr 27 and Dr 33), and a mould-decorated vessel, most likely to be type Dr 37. A single, dish fragment represents exclusively early 2nd century samian ware from the Les Martres de Veyre kilns in Central Gaul. A more unusual cup form, Dr 46, was made at the Lezoux kilns in Central Gaul, mainly during the pre-Antonine period.

There are also several groups of Roman-British fine wares present, again indicative of a relatively sophisticated settlement. These are mainly 2nd century in date and include a beaker and a flask, both with rouletted decoration in Parisian-type ware, further beaker fragments in Fine grey ware, and a colour-coated beaker decorated with clay, roughcast decoration from the Nene Valley kilns. Mid to later Roman fine wares are also products of the Nene Valley kilns and include a possible shallow-bowl of Dr 36 types as well as unidentified beaker sherds. This group also includes a plain-rimmed dish that is usually dated to the 4th century.

Table 2: The Roman fabrics from ANE03 by sherd count and weight

Fabric	Code	Sherds	%	Grams	%
Cream ware	CR	3	2.73%	39	1.16%
Dressel 20 amphorae	DR20	5	4.55%	1002	29.93%
Fine grey ware	GFIN	3	2.73%	27	0.81%
Locally produced grey ware	GREY	56	50.91%	1492	44.56%
Grog-tempered ware	GROG	1	0.91%	73	2.18%
Haltern 70 amphorae?	H70?	1	0.91%	115	3.43%
Local mortaria	MOLO	3	2.73%	63	1.88%
Mancetter Hartshill mortaria	MOMH?	1	0.91%	56	1.67%
Nene Valley colour-coated	NVCC	4	3.64%	43	1.28%
Nene Valley grey ware, coarse	NVGWC	4	3.64%	21	0.63%
Oxidised ware	OX	3	2.73%	32	0.96%
Parisian-type ware	PART	8	7.27%	106	3.17%
Central Gaulish samian	SAMCG	1	0.91%	8	0.24%
Les Martres de Veyre samian	SAMLM	1	0.91%	4	0.12%
South Gaulish samian	SAMSG	4	3.64%	17	0.51%
Shell-tempered ware	SHEL	5	4.55%	100	2.99%
South Lincs. shell-tempered	SLSH	1	0.91%	44	1.31%
Saxon pottery	SPOT	3	2.73%	59	1.76%
Post-medieval pottery	PPOT	3	2.73%	47	1.40%
	TOTAL	110	100.00%	3348	100.00%

Other early to mid- Roman pottery includes a reeded-rimmed bowl (Drawing 3) in an unsourced, oxidised ware dating from the later 1st to the mid-2nd century, as do probable flagon sherds in Cream ware.

The most common component of the assemblage is the group of locally produced, grey wares. These include a fair proportion of mid 2nd to early 3rd century types such as flanged bowls, cooking pots, beaker and vessels that could be either jars or beakers. The latest pottery is also to be found within this group, a jar imitating the typical Dales ware form, wide-mouthed bowls and a single bead and flanged bowl of late 3rd to 4th century date. There is also a small group of Nene Valley grey wares in a more coarsely tempered fabric of closed forms – jars or beakers.

Table 3: The Roman forms from ANE03 by sherd count and weight

Form	Code	Sherds	%	Grams	%
Undiagnostic		3	2.73%	47	1.40%
Samian Dr.27 cup	27	1	0.91%	4	0.12%
Samian Dr.33 cup	33	1	0.91%	6	0.18%
Samian Dr.46 cup	46	1	0.91%	8	0.24%
Samian Dr.18 dish	18?	1	0.91%	4	0.12%
Samian Dr.37 decorated bowl	37?	1	0.91%	3	0.09%
Amphorae	A	6	5.45%	1117	33.36%
Bowl	B	2	1.82%	42	1.25%
Bowl or dish	BD	2	1.82%	77	2.30%
Bowl as Dr.36	B36?	1	0.91%	15	0.45%
Bead and flange bowl	BFB	1	0.91%	36	1.08%
Flanged bowl	BFL	1	0.91%	18	0.54%
Reed-rim bowl	BREED	1	0.91%	23	0.69%
Wide-mouth bowl	BWM	4	3.64%	230	6.87%
Dish	D	2	1.82%	65	1.94%
Plain rim dish	DPR	1	0.91%	19	0.57%
Flagon	F	2	1.82%	17	0.51%
Flask	FS	5	4.55%	87	2.60%
Beaker	BK	6	5.45%	55	1.64%
Bag-shaped beaker	BKBAG?	2	1.82%	12	0.36%
Plain rim beaker	BKPR	1	0.91%	6	0.18%
Curve-rim jar or beaker	JBKCUR	1	0.91%	4	0.12%
Folded jar or beaker	JBKFO	2	1.82%	15	0.45%
Closed form	CLSD	8	7.27%	66	1.97%
Cooking pot	CP	4	3.64%	95	2.84%
Jar	J	26	23.64%	318	9.50%
Jar or bowl	JB	3	2.73%	26	0.78%
Curve-rim jar or bowl	JBCUR	1	0.91%	44	1.31%
Curve rim jar	JCUR	7	6.36%	189	5.65%
Dale ware jar	JDW	2	1.82%	20	0.60%
Everted rim jar	JEV	1	0.91%	5	0.15%
Narrow-neck jar	JNN	1	0.91%	59	1.76%
Triangular rim jar	JTR?	1	0.91%	5	0.15%
Large jar or bowl	JBL	2	1.82%	407	12.16%
Storage jar	JS	1	0.91%	73	2.18%
Bead and flange mortaria	MBF	1	0.91%	56	1.67%
Hook rim mortaria	MHK	3	2.73%	63	1.88%
Saxon pottery urn	URN	1	0.91%	12	0.36%
TOTAL		110	100.00%	3348	100.00%

Fabrics more commonly associated with native-tradition wares are shell-tempered products. There are two fabrics within this group, shell-tempered wares with obvious punctate brachiopods that are more commonly found in south Lincolnshire products (SLSH), and those without (SHEL). The forms consist of jar or bowl types and a single large jar that would have been used for storage. Another example is a storage jar in a grog-tempered fabric of 2nd to 3rd century date.

This small but distinctive group provides evidence for relatively high status Roman occupation outside the main Roman town from the 1st to the 4th century. The Saxon pottery is also significant providing evidence for Saxon occupation during the 5th to 7th centuries.

- ◆ Jane Young has examined all the Saxon sherds and the fabrics recorded in the Lincolnshire Saxon fabric collection.
- ◆ The three vessels selected for drawing (Context 2) should be illustrated and included in the final report.

Storage and Curation

The pottery is in stable condition and should be retained for further work.

2 GREY	JBL							BS POSS BWM	1	76
2 GREY	JCUR		1				SOOTEX	RIM SHLDR BS GREY EXT BROWN INT	2	89
2 GREY	JDW		1				SOOTR	RIMS	2	20
2 GREY	JNN							RIM NECK NR PART	1	59
2 GREY	JTR?						ABR	RIM FRAG	1	5
2 H70?	A							BS AS DR20 V THIN WALL 1CM GRITTY FAB	1	115
2 MOLO	MHK							RIM FLANGE UNUSAL FAB NO TRITS	1	25
2 MOLO	MHK							FLANGE CHECK FAB NO TRITS	1	22
2 MOLO	MHK							FLANGE CHECK FAB NO TRITS	1	16
2 MOMH?	MBF							RIM UPPER WALL; UNUSUAL REEDED FLANGE	1	56
2 NVCC	CLSD				D2			BS	1	4
2 NVCC	DPR							BASE	1	19
2 NVGWC	J						SOOTEX	BS	1	5
2 NVGWC	J						SOOTEX	BS	1	8
2 NVGWC?	CLSD						SOOTEX	BS	1	4
2 NVGWC?	JBKCUR							RIM	1	4
2 OX	BREED							RIM UPPER WALL	1	23
2 OX	CLSD				D3			BS SOME GROG/CLAY PELLETS	2	9
2 PART	BK				1	ROUZ		RIM LONG NECK BSS	3	19
2 PART	FS				1	ROUL		BS NECK; BSS	5	87
2 PPOT								BS THICK RDBN;PMED	1	21
2 PPOT								BS THIN RDBN;PMED	1	5
2 SAMCG		46						RIM LWR WALL NR PROF;HEAN?	1	8
2 SAMSG		27						RIM UPPER WALL; 1C	1	4
2 SAMSG	37?							BS DEC FAIRLY THICK; 12C	1	3
2 SHEL	JCUR				1		ABR	RIM BS CF BOURNE STYLE NO PUNC	2	50
2 SHEL	JCUR				1	SHG		RIM BS SCRAP; CF BOURNE STYLE NO PUNC	3	50
2 SPOT	CLSD					STCO		BS LATTICE COMBED DEC; SAXON 5-7C	1	17
2 ZZZ								MIX RPOT 1C 2C 3C;PMED POT; STAMPED SAXON POT 5-7C		
2 ZDATE								4C/POSTRO		
4 GFIN	BKBAG?							RIM NECK NR PART	1	7
4 NVCC	BKBAG?					RCC		BASE RCC UNDER	1	5
4 ZDATE								HEAN		
4 ZZZ								120-150 SMALL GROUP		
12 CR	F							BS	1	12
12 DR20	A						MORTAR	HANDLE NO STAMP;EFAB	1	730
12 GREY	BFB						SOOTR	RIM GIRTH	1	36
12 GREY	BK						ABR	BASE CF SPOOL	1	16
12 GREY	BWM							RIM SHORT NECK	1	20
12 GREY	CP						SOOTR	RIM SHLDR BB1 TYPE	1	45
12 GREY	J					B		BS SHLDR BURNISHED	1	22
12 GREY	J							BS SPOOLISH	1	17
12 SLSH	JBCUR					RIB	SOOTEX	RIM SHLDR CF BOURNE M2-E3C;MIN PUNC	1	44
12 SPOT	B					B		BS BURNISHED INT;SAXON 5-7C	1	30

12 ZDATE				4C/POSTRO	
12 ZZZ				MIX SOME 2C MOST 4C 1 SH SAXON 5-7C	
22 LOND	B37	CPS	1	BBS J FLAKE; SLIGHTLY COARSER FAB; EM2	3
22 NVGCC?	BCAR			BS LWR BODY; CF B29; THICK BLK SLIP CF LOND	1
22 ZDATE				EM2C	
22 ZZZ				ADDITIONAL CONTEXT RECEIVED POST REPORT	

CONTEXT	FABRIC	FORM	DEC	VESSNO	DWGNO	ALTER	COMMENTS	JOIN	SHS	WT
1	SPOT	BD	B				BS; SAX POT 5-7C; LGE Q; BURNISHED INT EXT		1	12
1	DR20	A		1			BS FLAKE L1-EM2C FAB; SALINE; HANDLE IMPRESS		2	216
1	DR20	A				ABR	BS GRITTY EFAB		1	40
1	DR20	A				ABR	FLAKE RED FABRIC VARIANT GRITTY		1	16
1	GFIN	BK					BS		1	6
1	GREY	BFL					RIM GIRTH ROUNDED WALL; 2C		1	18
1	GREY	BWM	BWL				BS; 3C		1	94
1	GREY	CP	LA				BS M2-3C		1	10
1	GREY	J					BS 2C FAB		1	3
1	GREY	JB					BS BASAL		1	6
1	GREY	JB					BASE STRING		1	7
1	GREY	JEV				SOOTR	RIM		1	5
1	GROG	JS					RIM		1	73
1	NVCC	B36?					BS BASAL; EM3C		1	15
1	PPOT	D				ABR	BASE BLACK GLAZE; PMED 17 CENTURY		1	21
1	SAMLM	33					BASE; 100-120		1	4
1	SAMSG	18?				ABR	BS BASAL; LATER SG; L1C		1	6
1	ZDATE						BS; 1C		1	4
1	ZZZ						3C/POSTRO			
2	CR	CLSD				SOOTINT	VERY MIXED; 1C; 2C; 3C; NO 4C; SAXON POSTRO; DATE ON LATEST		1	22
2	CR	F?					BS		1	5
2	GFIN	BK					BS		1	14
2	GREY	B					BS		1	12
2	GREY	BD		1			BASES		2	77
2	GREY	BKPR					RIM		1	6
2	GREY	BWM					RIM DEEP NECK		1	92
2	GREY	BWM					RIM NECK		1	24
2	GREY	CLSD	BHL			ABR	BS		1	7
2	GREY	CLSD?	SWL				BS UNUS FAB; SWL INT		1	3
2	GREY	CP	LA				RIM GIRTH BB TYPE		1	34
2	GREY	CP	BWL				RIM GREY BB1 TYPE		1	6
2	GREY	D	BARC				BASE		1	61
2	GREY	J	B				BASE		1	9
2	GREY	J					BS SHLDR GROOVE		1	27
2	GREY	J	B	1			BSS		2	18
2	GREY	J					BSS MISC		10	140
2	GREY	J				SOOTEX	BSS LT GRY CORE POSS CP		3	35
2	GREY	J	B	1			BSS		3	23
2	GREY	J	BHL				BS		1	11
2	GREY	JB					BASE		1	13
2	GREY	JBKFO					BSS		2	15
2	GREY	JBL		1			BASE LGE SHERD		1	331

Appendix 4

THE FINDS

by Paul Cope-Faulkner, Rachael Hall,
Tom Lane and Gary Taylor

In addition to the pottery (reported separately), a moderate quantity of other artefacts, mostly brick/tile, comprising 13 items weighing a total of 1317g, was retrieved.

The excavated animal bone assemblage comprises 8 unstratified fragments of bone and shell weighing 111g. 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 the topsoil (002) and as unstratified artefacts (001).

Most of the tile was probably made at or in moderate proximity to Ancaster.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: The Artefacts

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
001	Clay pipe	Stem, bore 4/64", 19 th century	1	2	19 th century
	CBM	Tegula, Romano-British	4	690	
	CBM	Imbrex, Romano-British	1	217	
	CBM	Brick/tile, overfired, Romano-British	1	154	
	CBM	Tile, Romano-British	1	145	
	Iron	Nail, rectangular section, recent	1	7	
	Industrial residue	Iron smithing slag, late post-medieval	1	22	
002	Glass	Green bottle shoulder, very heavy iridescence, 19 th century	1	15	19 th century
	CBM	Pantile, post-medieval	1	51	
	Flint	Core fragment, heavily patinated, prehistoric	1	14	

Note: CBM = Ceramic Building Material

The tile is mostly fresh, large pieces and indicates the proximity of Romano-British buildings. The tegulae and imbrex are all roof tiles, as others may be.

A single prehistoric flint, a fragment of a core, was recovered from (002).

Table 2: The Faunal Remains

Context	Species	Bone	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
001	horse	scapula	1	30	chalky condition
	cattle	molar	1	36	
	cattle sized	unidentified	1	10	
	sheep sized	mandible	1	22	
	sheep sized	rib	1	6	
	sheep sized	unidentified	1	4	
	sheep sized	unidentified	1	1	
	sheep sized	unidentified	1	1	
	oyster	shell	1	2	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 Ancaster that are the subjects of reports. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

As a medium-sized collection, the Roman building materials aspect of the assemblage is of moderate-high local potential and significance and suggests structures of this period in the proximity. Of restricted quantity, the late post-medieval material is of limited local potential but suggests resumed use of the area at this time. A prehistoric presence in the area is indicated by the flint core fragment of this date and this is of moderate local potential.

Appendix 5

GLOSSARY

Bronze Age	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
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).
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.
Iron Age	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
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.
Neolithic	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500-2250 BC.
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 1 st century AD.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.

Appendix 6

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

14	Context records
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Drawing sheet
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: 2003.282

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: ANE 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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