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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT CREASE DROVE,
CROWLAND,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(CCRD 04)**



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

EVENT L15517

SOURCE L19651
L19652

NEGATIVE

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT CREASE DROVE,
CROWLAND,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(CCRD 04)**

**Work Undertaken For
D and H Buildings Ltd**

June 2004

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

Planning Application No: H02/1349/03 X
National Grid Reference: TF 2378 0992
City and County Museum Accession No: 2004.66

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 77/04



Quality Control
Crease Drove, Crowland
CCRD 04

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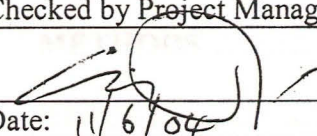
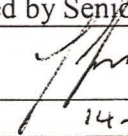
Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
 Gary Taylor	 Tom Lane
Date: 11/6/04	Date: 14-06-04

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1. SUMMARY

A watching brief was undertaken during residential development at Crease Drove, Crowland, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of foundation trenches for a new house and detached garage.

The site lies adjacent to an extensive barrow cemetery of the Bronze Age period (2250-800 BC) which was identified during gravel digging in the 19th century. Cropmarks also show further barrows southwest of the site. Medieval (AD 1066-1540) remains are more concentrated towards the centre of the town, particularly around Crowland abbey, although the site lay within the Alderlands, an area used for intensive sheep rearing.

The watching brief identified only natural deposits, including a possible Iron Age (800 BC-AD 42) peat, sealed beneath subsoil and topsoil.

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 D and H Buildings Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with residential development at Crease Drove, Crowland, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the

submission of planning application H02/1349/03. The watching brief was carried out on the 24th and 25th May 2004 in accordance with a specification (Appendix 1) prepared by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the Senior Built Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Crowland is situated 12km south of Spalding and 22km east of Stamford, in the civil parish of Crowland, South Holland District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The site is located on the east side of Crease Drove in the southwest part of the village at National Grid Reference TF 2378 0992. The site and surrounding area lies at a height of c. 3m OD on generally level ground with a slight rise to the north.

Soils at the site are likely to be of the Ireton Association, typically loamy over sandy soils, with Downholland 1 Association soils, typically humose clayey soils, to the south (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 166, 229). These soils overlie drift deposits of marine or estuarine sand and gravel, also known as the Abbey Gravels (Horton 1989, 27). Below these drift deposits is a solid geology of Jurassic Oxford Clay (BGS 1984).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

The site lies in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Bronze Age to the present day. Surrounding Crease Drove is a Bronze Age barrow cemetery which occupies most of the gravel peninsula on which Crowland sits. Many of these barrows were destroyed during the 19th century by gravel quarrying although recent aerial photography has identified a number to the southwest (Cope-Faulkner 2002, 5).

Crowland is first mentioned in the mid 8th century by Felix, the biographer of St.

Guthlac. Referred to as *Crugland*, *Cruuulond* and *Cruwland* the name is derived from the Old English *Cruw* meaning a bend, referring to a bend in the River Welland (Cameron 1998, 35).

Felix was writing about St. Guthlac c. 745, several years after the saint's death. Guthlac was a member of the Mercian royal family and gave up the warrior life at the age of 24 to become a monk at Repton in Derbyshire. Two years later he left Repton and travelled to Crowland with two followers and established a hermitage (Page 1988, 105). Guthlac died in AD 714 and King Æthelbald of Mercia established a monastery on the island in 716, although this date has been refuted (Hayes and Lane 1992, 202).

The focus of medieval settlement lay to the north, around the abbey, with this part of Crowland lying within an area known as Alderlands. These lands were primarily used by the abbey for the rearing of sheep, which were rotated around the fen pastures (Darby 1974, 68).

The site lies close to a post-medieval mill mound, located immediately north of Broadway, and was one of several mills that served the town. It is possible that this mill mound utilised an earlier, Bronze Age, barrow (Cope-Faulkner 2002, 6).

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 date, function and origin.

4. METHODS

Foundation trenches for a new dwelling and detached garage were excavated by machine to depths required by the development. The sides of the trenches

were then cleaned and rendered vertical by hand. Selected deposits were excavated further 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 1:10. Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services' practice.

Following excavation, the records were checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

5. RESULTS

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

The earliest deposit encountered was a layer of yellow clayey silt (005) which was sealed beneath a deposit of grey silty clay (004). Both these deposits were identified as the underlying marine or estuarine alluvium.

Developed upon this alluvium was a humified peat deposit of dark brown organic silt (003) which measured 100mm thick.

Subsoil sealed the humified peat layer and comprised a 0.2m thick greyish yellow silty clay (002). This lay beneath the current topsoil of grey clayey silt (001) which was 100mm thick.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits comprise clayey silts and silty clays of the underlying drift geology which were sealed beneath a humified peat

deposit. This former peat layer may be an outlier of the Nordelph Peat which blankets the area south of the town. If so, this peat would have formed approximately 2500 years ago during the Iron Age (Horton 1989, 27).

The subsoil may indicate a former agricultural function for the area. No artefacts were recorded or retrieved during the watching brief.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Crease Drove as the site lay within a Bronze Age barrow cemetery and on the fringe of a medieval town.

However, only natural deposits, including possible Iron Age peat, and more recent subsoil and topsoil development were encountered. No artefacts were retrieved.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mrs J.K. Hook of D and H Buildings Ltd for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Dave Start kindly permitted access to the parish files and library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
 Site Supervisor: Aaron Clements
 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

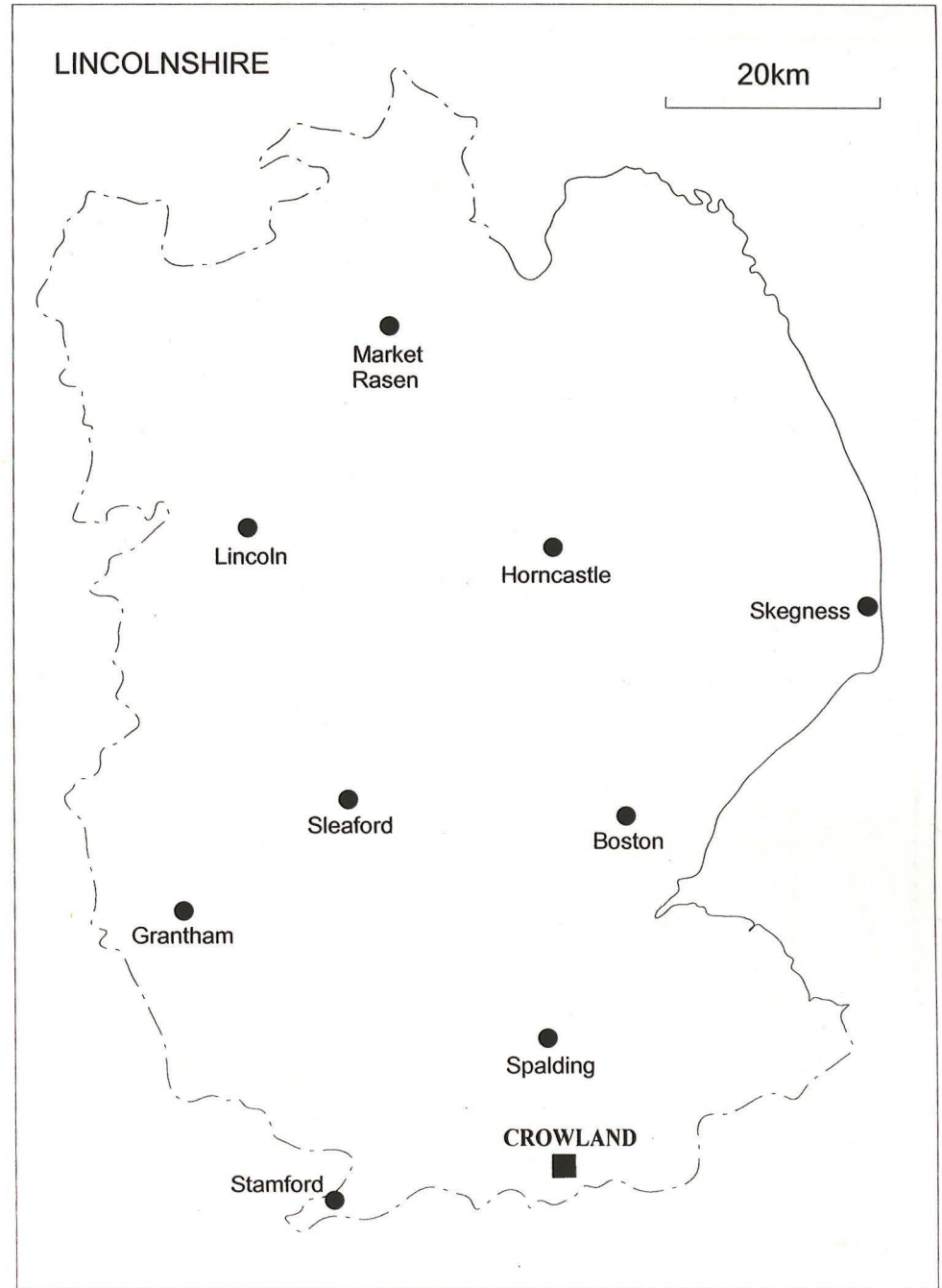
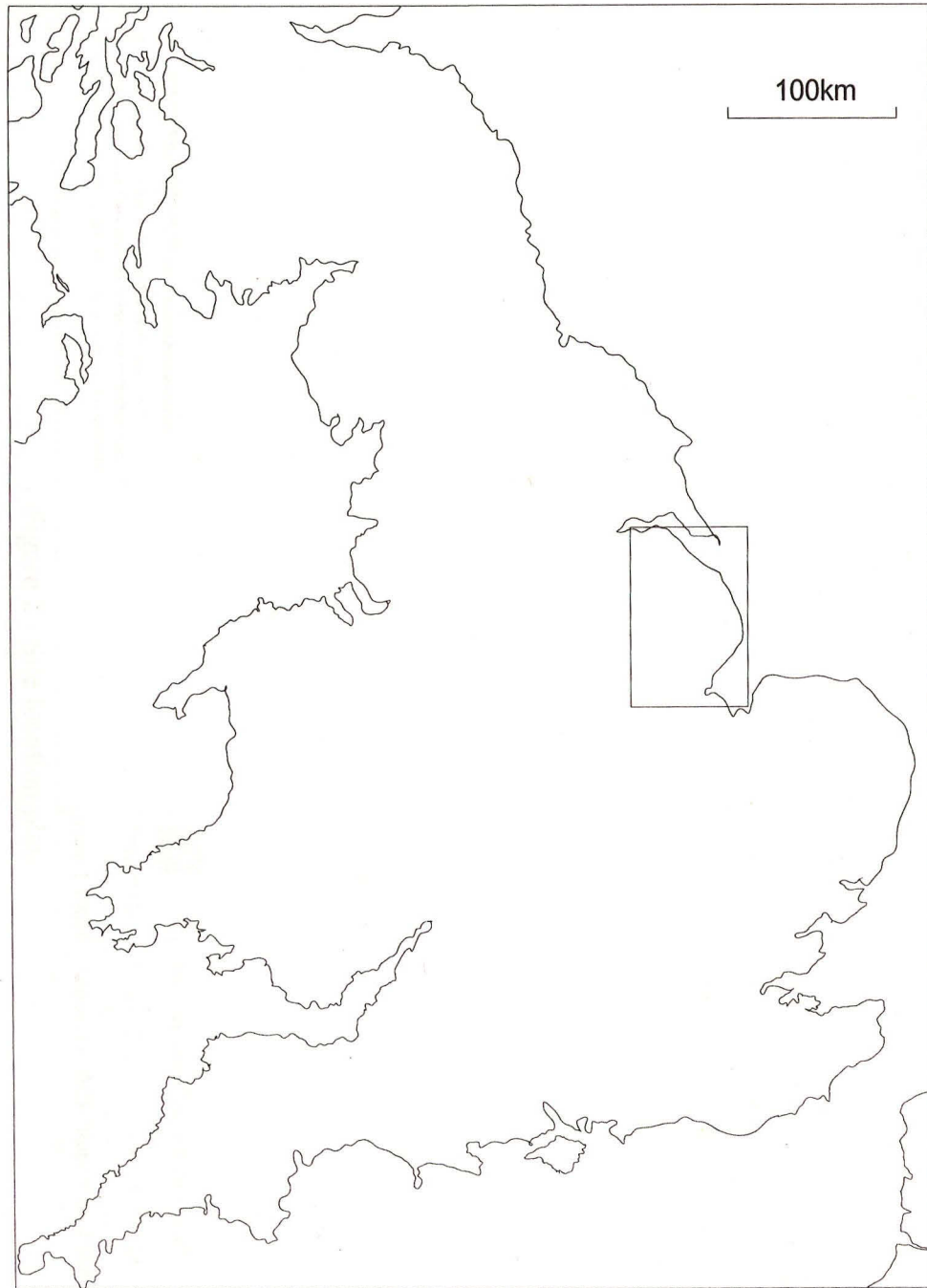


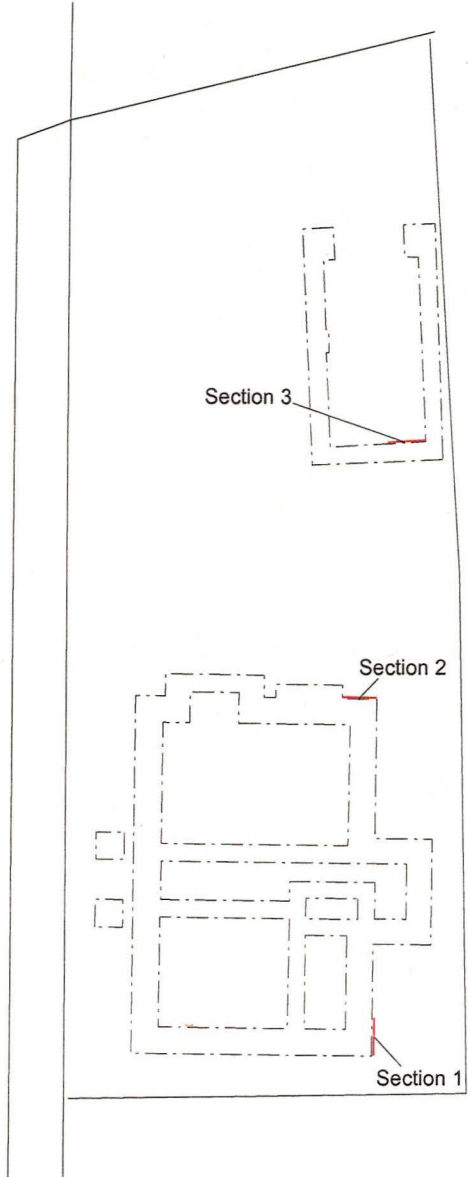
Figure 1 - General Location Plan



Figure 2 - Site location plan



CREASE DROVE




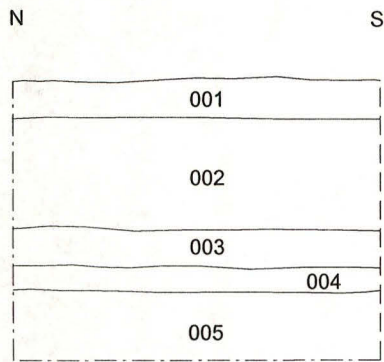
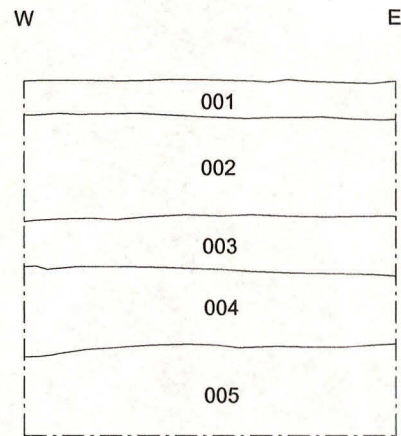
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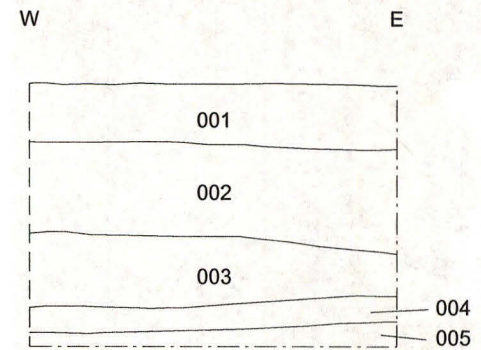
Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section locations



Section 1



Section 2



Section 3



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Crease Drove, Crowland CCRD04

Scale: 1:20

Drawn by: PCF

Report No: 77/04

Figure 4 - Sections 1 to 3



Plate 1 - General view across the development area, looking southwest



Plate 2 - Section 1 showing the general sequence of deposits, looking east



Plate 3 - Section 3 showing the general sequence of deposits, looking west

Appendix 1

LAND AT CREASE DROVE, CROWLAND, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during residential development on land at Crease Drove, Crowland.*
- 1.2 *Cropmarks of prehistoric burials occur in the area and a post-medieval windmill, perhaps built on a prehistoric burial mound, was located immediately to the north. The present town probably largely overlies the medieval village and a medieval religious statue, probably from the abbey in the village, was found close by.*
- 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 archaeological watching brief during development at Crease Drove, Crowland, 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 Crowland is located approximately 12km south of Spalding in the administrative district of South Holland, Lincolnshire. The site is on the east side of Crease Drove near its northern end and junction with Broadway, in the southwestern part of the village, at TF 2378 0992 and comprises a linear plot.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application (H02/1349/03) was submitted to South Holland District Council for construction of a house and detached garage at Crease Drove, Crowland, Lincolnshire. Permission is subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief during groundworks and all phases of soil movement carried out during the proposed development.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 Crowland is situated in the fens of south Lincolnshire. The site and surrounding area lies at approximately 3m OD on a gentle rise northward. Soils at the site are Ireton Association loamy over sandy soils formed in glaciofluvial deposits (Hodge et al. 1984, 229).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Crowland lies on a gravel ridge jutting west to east through the surrounding fen and has been the focus for human activity for at least the past four millennia. During extended periods of freshwater and marine flooding, the elevated position of the gravel ridge has provided a favourable location for habitation. Cropmarks of Bronze Age burials are known about 1km to the southwest. Another circular cropmark of a possible prehistoric burial is located about 200m south of the development area. Other Bronze Age burials, flints and a dagger fragment have been found about 400m southwest of the development.
- 6.1 Crowland came to prominence during the early medieval period. An abbey was founded there by the late 10th century and became a focus of settlement during the later medieval period. The present village of Crowland probably largely superimposes the medieval settlement. A medieval gilded statue of the Madonna was found 250m southwest of the site. A post-medieval windmill mound, the remains of a mill shown on a map of 1828, is located about 50m to the northeast. It is possible that this mill utilized a Bronze Age burial mound (Archaeological Project Services 2002).

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 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.

8.2.3 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 trenches.
- 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 trenches and archaeological features.
- Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.

10 REPORT DEPOSITION

- 10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the Client; South Holland 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. An accession number will be obtained from the City and County Museum, Lincoln for deposition of the archive.

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 Senior Built Environment Officer of the LCC Archaeology Section. They will be notice in writing of the commencement of the project.

14 VARIATIONS AND CONTINGENCIES

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

15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

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

16 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

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

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

17 INSURANCES

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

18 COPYRIGHT

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

directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

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

19 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Archaeological Project Services, 2002 *Desk-based Assessment of the Archaeological Implications of Proposed Development on land adjacent to Crease Drove, Crowland, Lincolnshire (CHW02)* Unpublished APS report 88/02

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Specification: Version 1, 27th February 2004

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Loose/friable dark grey clayey silt, 100mm thick	Topsoil
002	Firm mid greyish yellow silty clay, 0.3m thick	Subsoil
003	Loose/friable dark brown organic silt, 100mm thick	Humified peat layer
004	Firm light grey silty clay, 60mm thick	Natural deposit
005	Firm mid yellow clayey silt, >0.2m thick	Natural deposit

Appendix 3

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).
Cropmark	A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.
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
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.

Appendix 4

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

5	Context records
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Drawing sheet
1	Stratigraphic matrix

All primary records are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

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

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

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number: 2004.66

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: CCRD 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.

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.