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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT THE SWIMMING POOL,
CORONATION WALK,
HORNCastle,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(HSP 04)**



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

EVENT LI 5577
INTERVENTION LI 9733
EXCAVATION LI 9734

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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT THE SWIMMING POOL,
CORONATION WALK,
HORNCastle,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(HSP 04)**

**Work Undertaken For
East Lindsey District Council**

October 2004

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

Planning Application No: 086/00230/04/3
National Grid Reference: TF ~~2550 6950~~ 2558, 6935
City and County Museum Accession No: 2004.111



ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 154/04

Quality Control
The Swimming Pool,
Coronation Walk, Horncastle
HSP 04

Project Coordinator	Mark Williams
Supervisor	Jim Snee
Finds Processing	Denise Buckley
Illustration	Paul Cope-Faulkner
Photographic Reproduction	Sue Unsworth
Post-excavation Analyst	Paul Cope-Faulkner

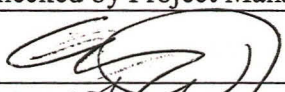
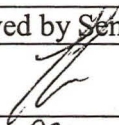
Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
 Gary Taylor	 Tom Lane
Date: 28/10/04	Date: 28-10-04

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1. SUMMARY

A watching brief was undertaken during groundworks at the Swimming Pool, Coronation Walk, Horncastle, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the stripping of overburden and the insertion of an interceptor tank.

The site lies in an area where evidence for extensive Iron Age (800 BC-AD 42) and Romano-British (AD 42-410) settlement has been identified, including a walled town of 3rd century date. The walled area later became the focus for the medieval (AD 1066-1540) town centre.

The watching brief identified a freshwater marine sequence overlain by recent topsoil and made ground. Finds retrieved during the investigation include pot and glass of 19th - 20th century date.

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 East Lindsey District Council to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the creation of a new car park and installation of an interceptor tank at the swimming pool, Coronation Walk, Horncastle, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application

086/00230/04/3. The watching brief was carried out on the 14th May and 13th July 2004 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by

2.3 Topography and Geology

Horncastle is located 27km east of Lincoln and 29km west of Skegness in the administrative district of East Lindsey, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The site lies 350m southwest of the town centre as defined by the parish church of St. Mary at National Grid Reference TF 2550 6950 (Fig. 2). The site lies close to the confluence of the Rivers Bain and Waring on generally level ground at a height of c. 29m OD.

Local soils are of the Fladbury 2 Association, typically mottled clayey soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 196). These soils are developed on a drift geology of river alluvium with Lower River Terrace sands and gravels to the east and west which in turn seal a solid geology of Jurassic Kimmeridge Clay (BGS 1995).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Horncastle lies in an area of dense archaeological activity dating from the prehistoric period to the present day. Evidence for a Late Iron Age settlement has been identified on the river terrace gravels to the east and southeast of the site (Field and Hurst 1984, 84). Other finds of this period suggest that Horncastle, like Ancaster and Sleaford, was a substantial settlement during the Late Iron Age (Whitwell 1982, 44).

The Iron Age settlement continued into the Romano-British period comprising two zones, a walled centre and an unenclosed area. The walled centre, dating to the 3rd century, lies some 350m to the northeast, within the centre of the present town. However, the earliest Romano-British

settlement, covering some 54 hectares, appears to be concentrated to the south of the town, along South Street, Boston Road and Mareham Road (Field and Hurst 1984, 85). Closer to the site is evidence for funerary practices, both cremation and inhumation (*ibid.* fig. 26).

Horncastle is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086, although a Late Saxon coin bearing the inscription 'HORN' has been associated with the town. Referred to as *Hornecastre* in the Domesday Survey, the name derives from the Old English 'horn', meaning a projecting spur of land, and 'caester' indicating a Roman fort (Cameron 1998, 66).

At the time of Domesday, Horncastle was held by the King from Queen Edith, the wife of Edward the Confessor, and contained 2 mills and 100 acres of meadow (Foster and Longley 1976).

Extant remains of the medieval period include the church of St. Mary which was built in the 13th century. It is unknown if there was a church prior to St. Mary's, although the fact Horncastle was a royal estate centre suggests some ecclesiastical importance at the end of the Saxon period (Stocker 1993, 117).

Weir's '*Plan of Horncastle*', dating to 1819 depicts the site as lying alongside the Old River Bain in the vicinity of a triangular pond. To the south is an area named '*Julian Bower*', a probable reference to a turf cut maze.

3. AIMS

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

4. METHODS

The area for the car park extension was stripped of overburden to depths required by the development. A further trench was excavated to a depth of 3m for an interceptor tank. The stripped area was examined for archaeological remains and a record made of visible sections. 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

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

The earliest deposit encountered during the watching brief was a layer of grey sandy silt (006) that was over 50mm thick. This lay beneath 0.15m of black peat (005) which was further sealed by bluish grey clay (004). Above this the sequence continued with greyish brown clay (003) and yellowish brown silt (002).

Sealing the natural deposits was a 0.5m thick layer of topsoil and made-ground comprising greyish brown clayey silt with modern debris (001).

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits comprise sandy silts, silts, clays and peat of the underlying river alluvium. The date of these sequences is unknown but indicates the watercourse was formerly wider than at present.

Above this was a mixed topsoil and made-ground deposit which may suggest that the area had been landscaped prior to the construction of the adjacent bowling club.

Finds retrieved from the investigation comprise pottery and glass of 19th to 20th century date.

7. CONCLUSION

A watching brief was undertaken at the swimming pool, Horncastle, as the site lay in close proximity to Iron Age and Roman settlement and close to the medieval town.

However, only a sequence of natural deposits overlain by recent topsoil and made ground was identified, with modern pottery and glass.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr M. Abbot of East Lindsey District Council for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Mark Williams and this report was edited by Gary Taylor and Tom Lane. Dave Start kindly permitted access to the parish files and library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Mark Williams
 Site Supervisor: Jim Snee
 Finds processing: Denise Buckley
 Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth

Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
 Post-excavation analysis: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services
 BGS British Geological Survey
 IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

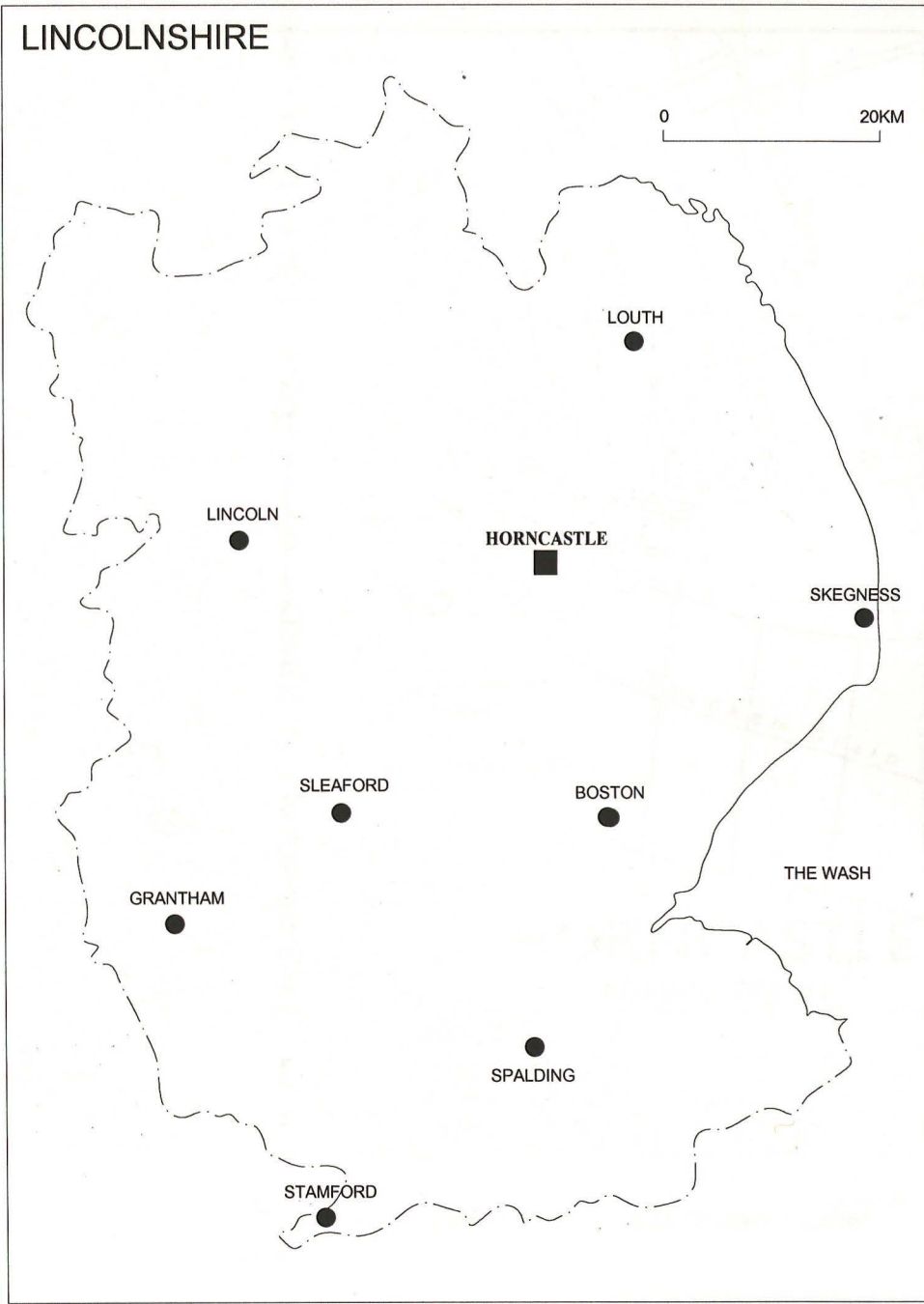
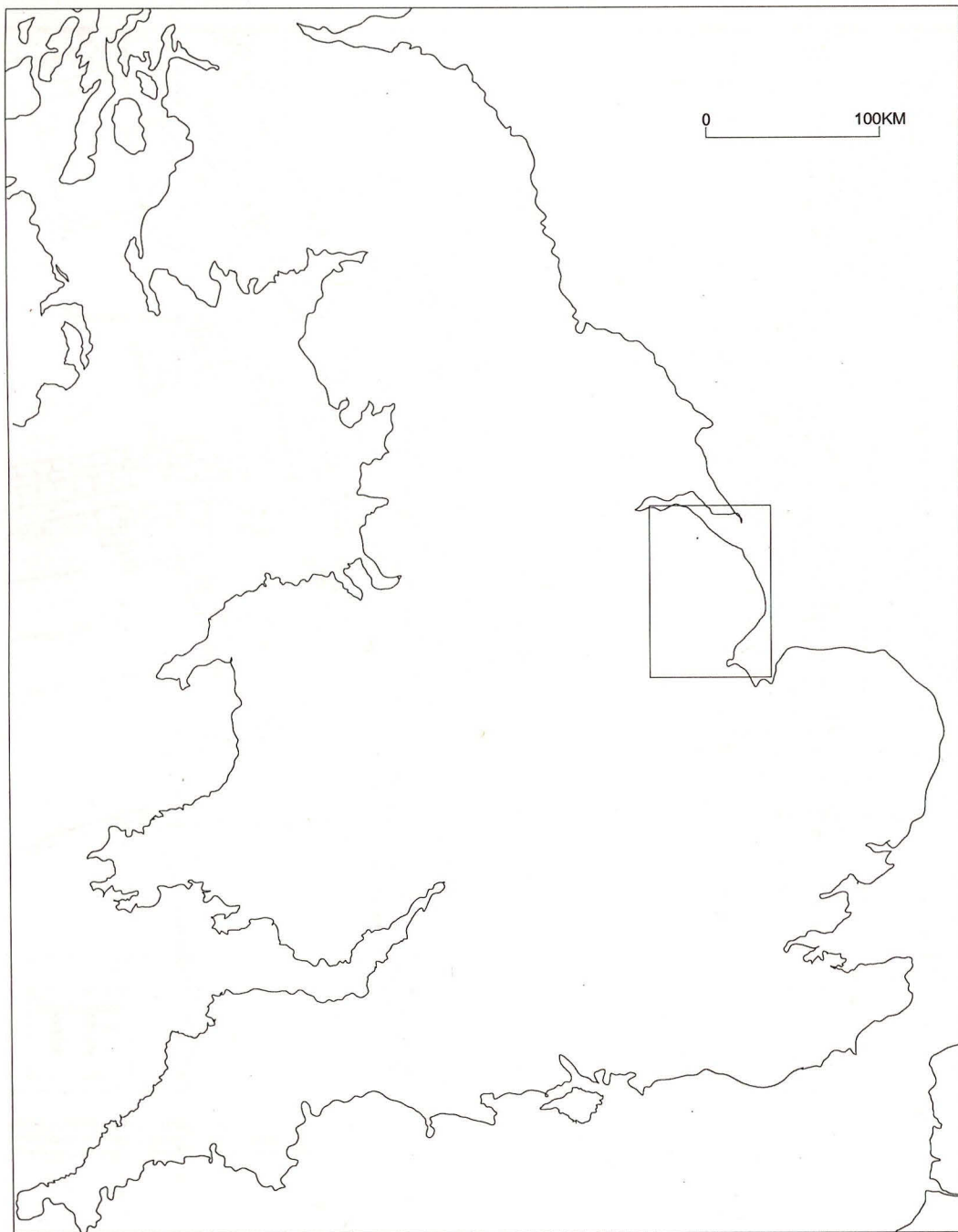
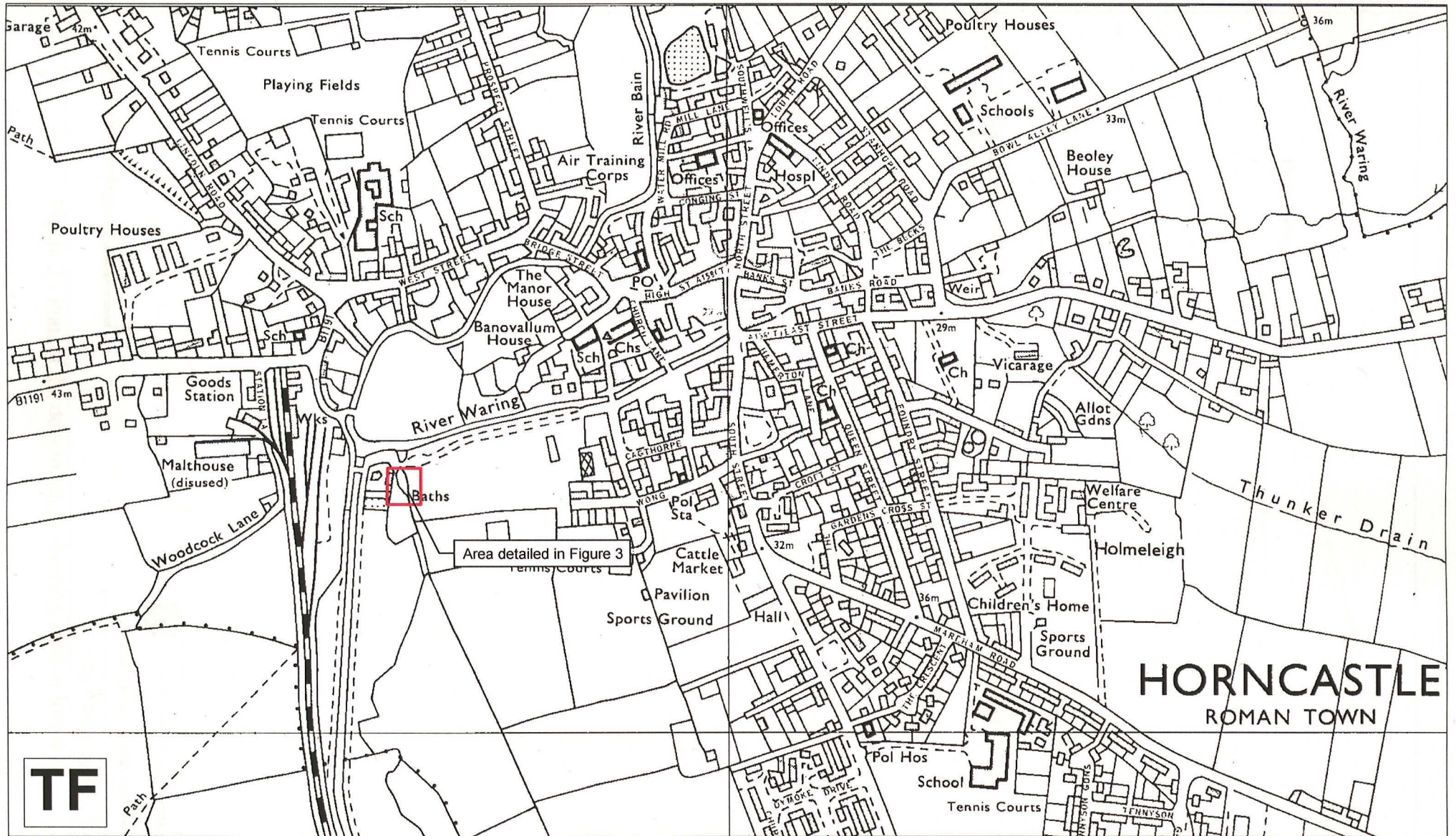


Figure 1 - General location plan



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Figure 2 - Site location plan

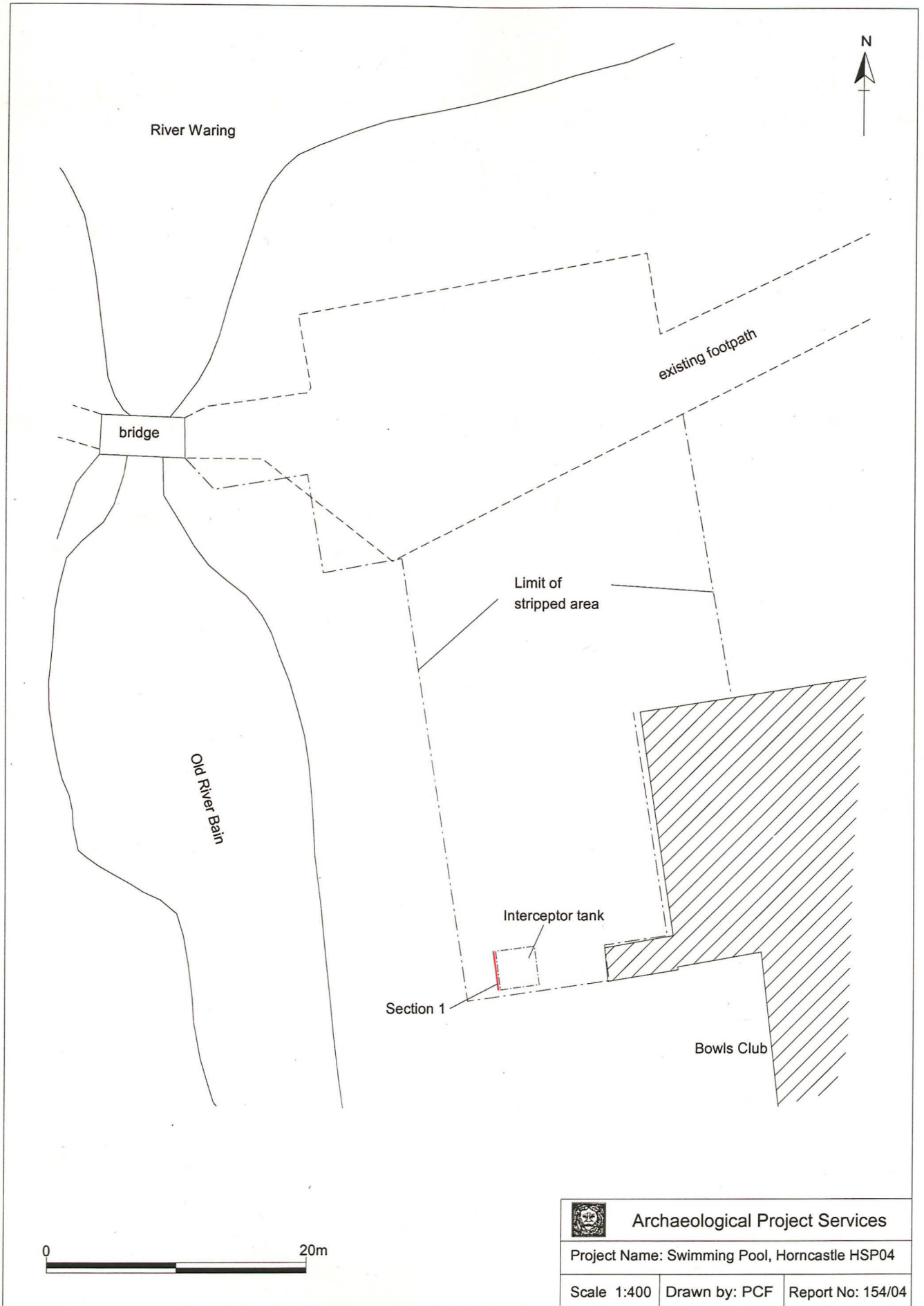
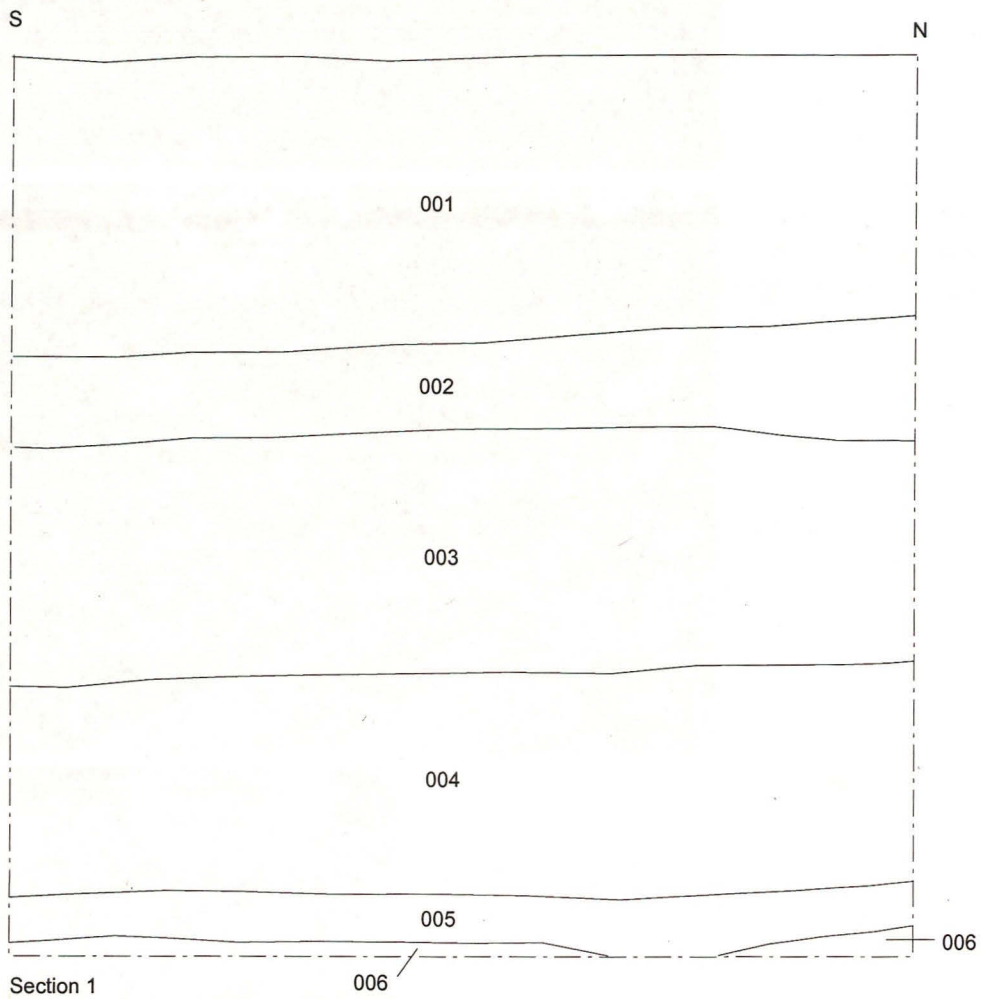


Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section location




 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Swimming Pool, Horncastle HSP04		
Scale 1:25	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 154/04

Figure 4 - Section 1



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



Plate 2 - Excavation of the Interceptor Pit in progress, looking west



Plate 3 - Section 1, looking west

Appendix 1

PROPOSED CARPARK AT HORCASTLE SWIMMING POOL, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during the construction of a car park at Horncastle Swimming Pool.*
- 1.2 *The site lies in an area of known archaeological significance, extensive archaeological remains dating to the late Iron Age and Roman Period are known to the north and east.*
- 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 construction of a car park on land at Horncastle Swimming Pool, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 2550 6950.
- 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 Program of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 Horncastle is located approximately 29km east of Lincoln: located at the southwest of the Lincolnshire Wolds at a point where the Rivers Bain and Waring meet.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application has been submitted to East Lindsey District Council (Planning Application No./086/00230/04/3) for the construction of a car park at Horncastle Swimming Pool. Permission is subject to a condition requiring the undertaking of a watching-brief during groundworks associated with the development.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 Horncastle lies on the terrace gravels of the River Bain. These gravels in turn overlie Upper Jurassic clays. The main soils are the Swaffam Prior series, coarse loamy brown calcareous earths, though soils of the Fladbury 2 Association are developed on River Alluvium (Hodge et al. 1984, 338).

cremations and skeletons. Third/fourth century pottery has been located approximately 200m to the east of the proposed development.

- 6.2 Although the current development lies outside the main focus of known remains there is a high potential for the recovery of archaeological remains of Roman date. Archaeological remains of other periods cannot be discounted.

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 practice issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA). Archaeological Project Services is IFA registered organisation no. 21.

8.1.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

8.2 Methodology

8.2.1 The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.

8.2.2 Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.

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

8.2.4 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record will be compiled. The

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

9 POST-EXCAVATION

9.1 Stage 1

- 9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued and labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
- 9.1.2 All finds recovered during the fieldwork will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

9.2 Stage 2

- 9.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.
- 9.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

9.3 Stage 3

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

- 9.3.2 This will consist of:

A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.

A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.
Description of the topography of the site.

Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.

A text describing the findings of the watching brief.

A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.

Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.

Sections of the archaeological features.

Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.

Specialist reports on the finds from the site.

Department; the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section; and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

11 ARCHIVE

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

12 PUBLICATION

- 12.1 A note of the findings of the watching brief will be presented 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 Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section. They will be given as much notice as possible, ideally seven days before the commencement of the project.

14 VARIATIONS

- 14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.

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 CONTINGENCIES

- 16.1 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).
- 16.2 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.

17 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

17.1 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	Val Fryer, Independent Specialist
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, Independent Specialist

18 INSURANCES

18.1 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.

19 COPYRIGHT

19.1 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.

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

19.3 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.

20 **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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Specification: Version 1, 27th April 2004

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Firm dark greyish brown clayey silt with frequent tile and refuse, 0.5m thick	Topsoil/make-up layer
002	Firm mid yellowish brown silt, 0.3m thick	Natural deposit
003	Firm/stiff mid greyish brown clay, 0.36m thick	Natural deposit
004	Firm/stiff mid bluish grey clay, 0.7m thick	Natural deposit
005	Soft/friable black peat, 0.15m thick	Natural deposit
006	Firm/friable mid grey sandy silt, >50mm thick	Natural deposit

Appendix 3

THE FINDS by Gary Taylor

Recording of the pottery was undertaken with reference to guidelines prepared by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (Slowikowski *et al.* 2001) and the pottery was quantified using the chronology and coding system of the Lincolnshire ceramic type series. Two fragments of pottery weighing 31g were recovered from a single context. In addition to the pottery, a piece of glass weighing 2g was retrieved. No faunal remains were recovered.

Provenance

The material was recovered from a topsoil/make-up deposit (001).

All of the pottery was probably made in Staffordshire.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: Pottery

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
001	TPW	Blue and white transfer printed tableware, bowl/cup, 19 th century	1	30	19 th -20 th century
	TPW	Blue and white transfer printed tableware, 19 th -20 th century	1	1	

Table 2: Other Artefacts

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
001	Glass	Colourless window glass	1	2	20 th century

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 few previous archaeological investigations at Horncastle that are the subjects of reports. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

The small collection of early modern material is of very limited local potential and significance but indicates human activity in the proximity in the 19th-20th centuries.

The lack of any material earlier than the 19th century is informative and suggests that archaeological deposits dating from prior to this period are absent from the area, or were not disturbed by the development, or were of a nature that did not involve artefact deposition.

References

Slowikowski, A., 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

Alluvium	Deposits laid down by water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea, and freshwater is laid down by rivers and in lakes.
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).
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.
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 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

7	Context records
1	Sheet of scale drawings
1	Photographic record 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 Museum Accession Number: 2004. 111

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: HSP 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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