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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON LAND AT 78 STONE GATE,
SPALDING,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SPSG 04)**



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON LAND AT 78 STONE GATE,
SPALDING,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SPSG 04)**

**Work Undertaken For
Mr S. Clarke**

December 2004

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

Planning Application No: H16/1368/02
National Grid Reference: TF 253 224
City and County Museum Accession No: 2004.237

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 196/04

Quality Control
Stone Gate, Spalding
SPSG 04

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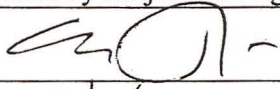
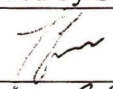
Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
 Gary Taylor	 Tom Lane
Date: 20/12/04	Date: 22-2-04

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1. SUMMARY

A watching brief was undertaken during development at 78 Stone Gate, Spalding, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of foundation trenches for a detached bungalow.

The development site lies close to two Romano-British (AD 50-410) settlements, one of which was identified during the cutting of the Coronation Channel. During the medieval period (AD 1066-1540), Spalding priory established a grange in the vicinity of the site.

The watching brief revealed a sequence of natural, undated and recent deposits. Undated deposits comprise a subsoil and a ditch. No artefacts were retrieved during the investigation.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

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

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr S. Clarke to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with new residential development at 78 Stone Gate, Spalding, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application H16/1368/02. The watching brief was carried out on the 29th October and 3rd December 2004 in accordance with a

specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the Senior Built Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Spalding is located 23km southwest of Boston and 30km southeast of Sleaford in the South Holland district of Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The site is located 550m southeast of Spalding town centre as defined by the Market Place at National Grid Reference TF 253 224 (Fig. 2). The site lies on the east side of Stone Gate at a height of c. 3m OD on generally level ground.

Local soils are of the Wisbech Series, typically coarse silty calcareous alluvial gley soils (Robson 1990, 36). These soils overlie a drift geology of marine alluvium which in turn seals a solid geology of Jurassic Oxford Clay (BGS 1992).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

There is little evidence for prehistoric remains in the Spalding region as the land surface is now buried by later alluvium (peats, silts, clays *etc.*). However, later Iron Age remains are known from southwest of the town. This land surface stabilised during the Romano-British period and settlement of the period has been identified south of the site, where enclosures, coins and pottery have been recorded, and to the east, where settlement and industrial remains were exposed when cutting the Coronation Channel (Phillips 1970, 292).

At present no Saxon remains have been found in Spalding. However, Saxon activity is attested to in place-name evidence. The name Spalding is derived from the Old English group name *Spaldingas* ‘the people of the Spalde’. *Spalde* is the name of a tribe, recorded in the 7th century tribute list known as the

Tribal Hideage (Cameron 1998, 114).

The Domesday Survey of c. 1086 records that Spalding was held principally by Ivo Taillebois with land also held by Crowland Abbey and Guy of Craon (Foster and Longley 1976). The survey also records the existence of a market, six fisheries, salt-pans and a wood of alders.

The medieval town would have been centred on the present day Market Place adjacent to Spalding Priory. Spalding Priory was one of the wealthier monasteries in Lincolnshire and established several granges, or farms, in the vicinity of the town. One such farm, Halmer Grange, was located immediately south of the site and is first mentioned in the mid 13th century (Hallam 1965, 177). Post-medieval pottery has previously been recorded from the school playing field southeast of Stone Gate.

An archaeological watching brief undertaken at the school, 150m to the southeast, revealed no archaeological deposits (Cope-Faulkner 2004, 1).

3. AIMS

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

4. METHODS

Prior to the excavation of foundation trenches topsoil was stripped from the site. A service trench for a new gas pipe and foundation trenches for the bungalow were then excavated by machine to relevant depths. The sides of the trenches were then cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were excavated further to retrieve artefactual material and to determine their

function. Each deposit was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their descriptions appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and 1:20. 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

Following post-excavation analysis three phases were identified;

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Undated deposits
Phase 3	Recent deposits

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

Phase 1 Natural deposits

The earliest deposit encountered during the watching brief was a layer of dark yellow silt (003). This measured in excess of 0.25m thick.

Phase 2 Undated deposits

Developed upon the natural silts was a 0.35m thick subsoil comprising brownish grey clayey silt (002).

Cut into the subsoil was a northwest-southeast aligned linear feature (005). Identified as a ditch, this was 2.5m wide and 0.6m deep. A single fill of dark brown silt was recorded (004).

Phase 3 Recent deposits

Sealing all archaeological deposits was a topsoil. This consisted of grey clayey silt (001) which was over 0.4m thick.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Phase 1) comprise silts of the underlying marine alluvium.

A ditch and a subsoil (Phase 2) were identified but remain undated due to a lack of artefactual material. The subsoil may imply the site had been under an agricultural regime. The ditch may be of some antiquity as its alignment is not matched by current or former field boundaries in the vicinity.

No artefacts were recorded during the site investigations.

7. CONCLUSION

A watching brief was undertaken at Stone Gate, Spalding, as the site lay close to known Romano-British settlements and adjacent to a medieval grange.

However, only an undated ditch and a subsoil were revealed during the investigation. No artefacts were recorded or retrieved during the watching brief.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr S. Clark for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Dale Trimble and this report was edited by Gary Taylor and Tom Lane. Dave Start kindly allowed access to the parish files and library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Dale Trimble
 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

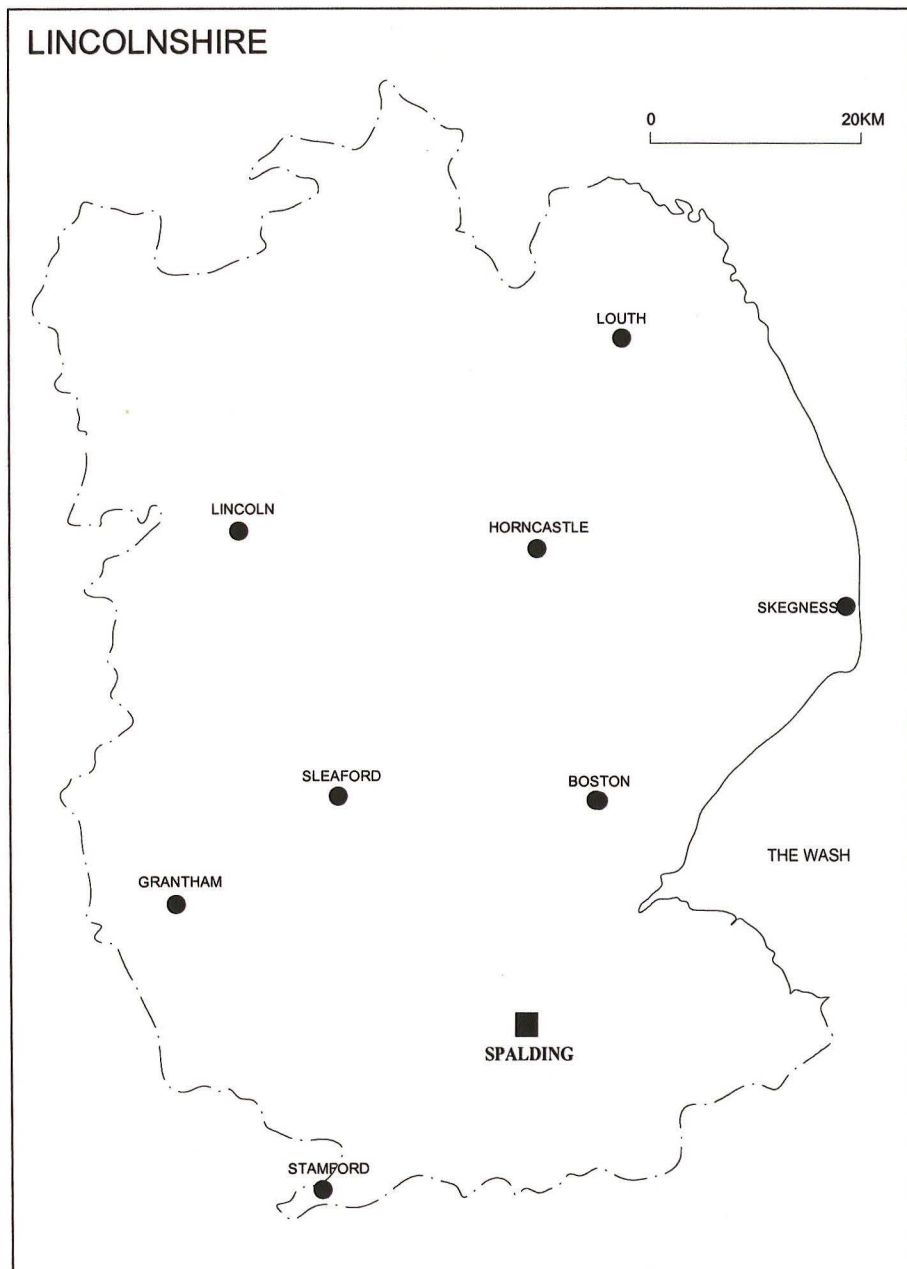
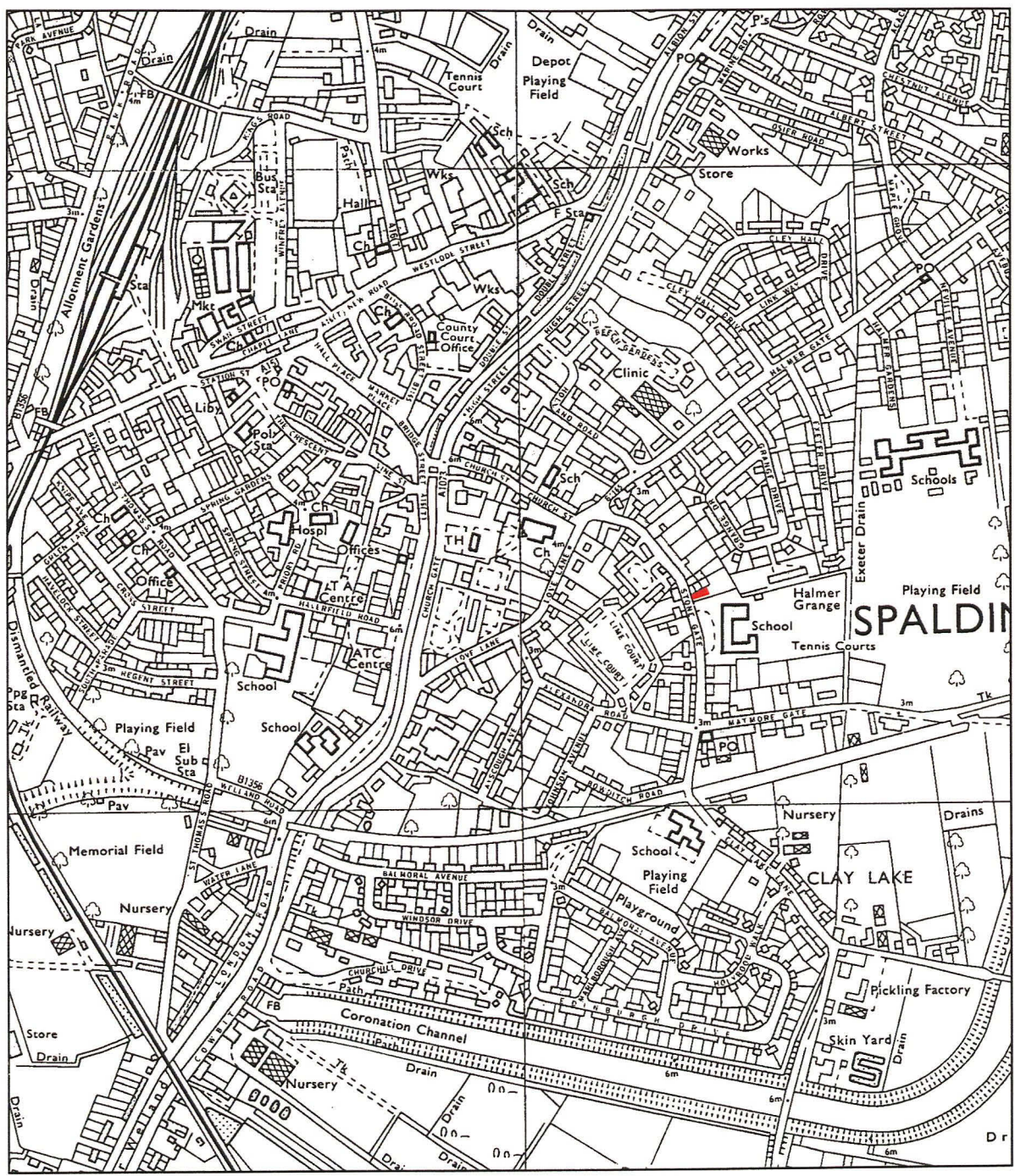


Figure 1 - General location map

23

22

25



TF

 Area of Development



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 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Stone Gate, Spalding SPSPG04		
Scale 1:10000	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 196/04

Figure 2 - Site location plan

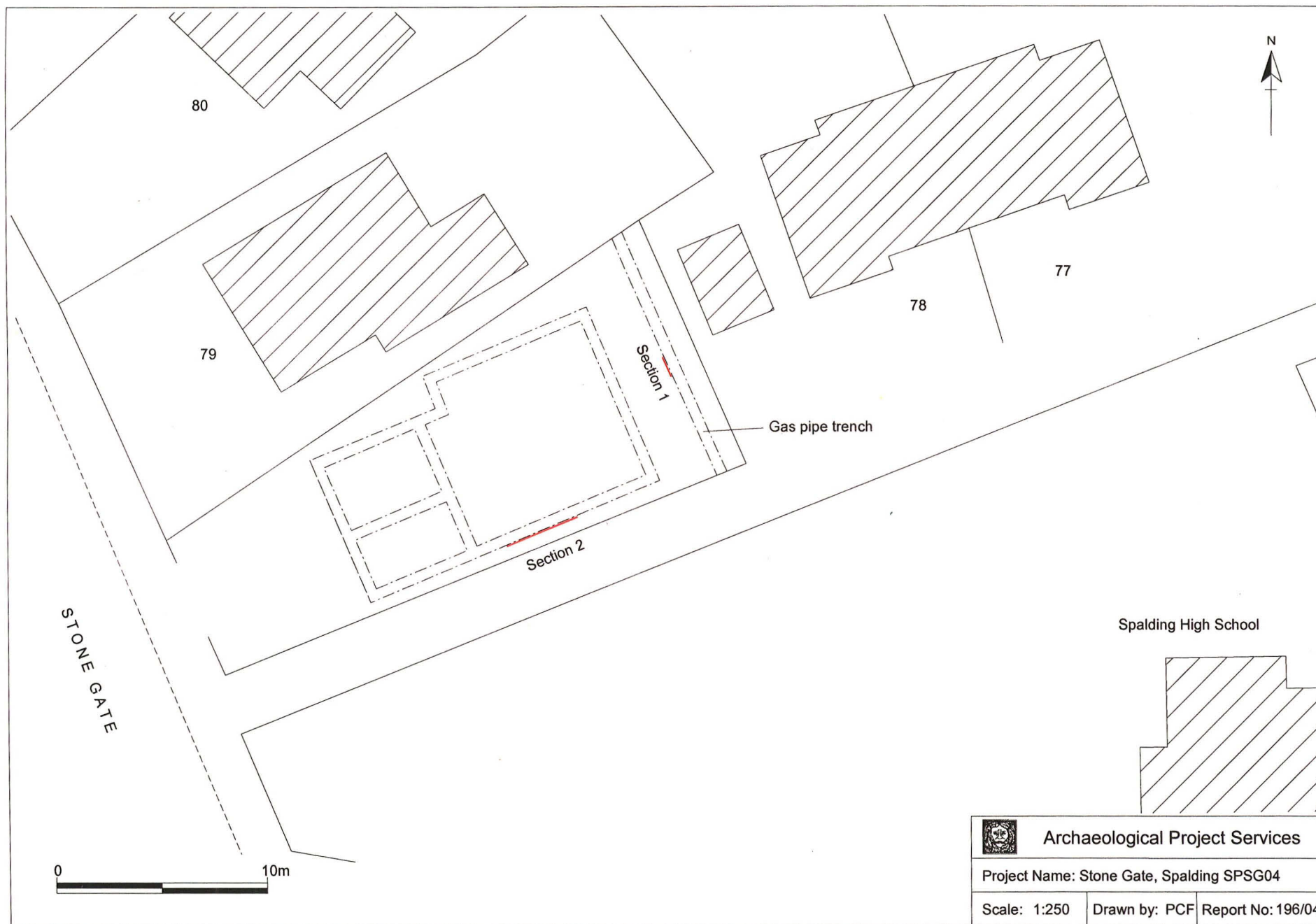
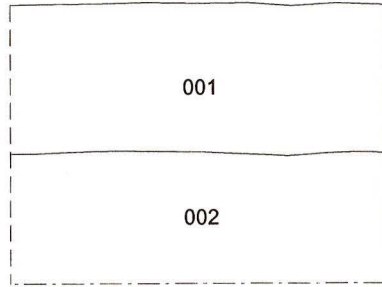


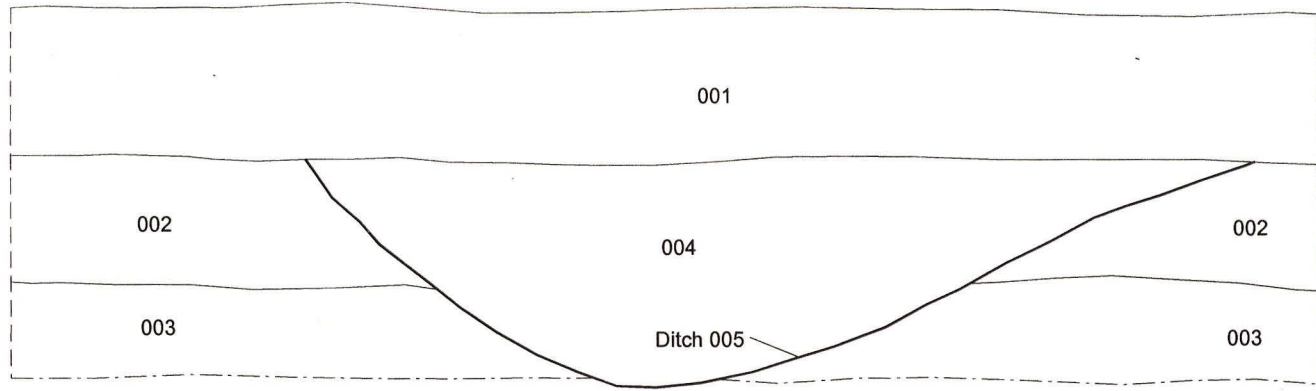
Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section locations

SE NW



Section 1

E W



Section 2



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Stone Gate, Spalding SPSP04

Scale: 1:20

Drawn by: PCF

Report No: 196/04

Figure 4 - Sections 1 and 2



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



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



Plate 3 - Section 2 showing the undated ditch (005), looking south

Appendix 1

LAND AT 78 STONEGATE, SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during development at 78 Stonegate, Spalding, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The site lies in the vicinity of a medieval grange of Spalding priory and medieval and post-medieval pottery has been recovered from the playing field area of the adjacent school to the southeast.*
- 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 investigation. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for an archaeological watching brief during development on land at 78, Stonegate, Spalding.
- 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 Spalding lies 23km southwest of Boston in the fenlands of south Lincolnshire. The site is situated in the southeast part of Spalding, at 78 Stonegate at TF 253224 (Figs 1 and 2).

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application (No. H16/1368/02) was submitted to Lincolnshire County Council for construction of a 2 bedroom detached bungalow. The application is subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief during the development.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The site lies in the southeast part of the town at approximately 3m OD. Local soils have not been mapped as the site lies in an urban area. However, the surrounding soils are of the Wallasea 2 Association, peloalluvial gley soils developed on young marine alluvium, usually salt march, tidal creek and river deposits, overlying a solid geology of Oxford Clay (Hodge *et al* 1984).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Spalding is first referred to in a Tribal Hideage of the 7th century where the *Spaldas* are mentioned. Crowland had been given land in Spalding, supposedly in 1051, and money provided to build a chapel. However, the lands passed to Ivo Taillebois, who invited the abbot of St Nicholas of Angers to build a monastery in its place, located on the southern side of the market place. The Domesday Survey (1086) records that Spalding was owned principally by Ivo Taillebois with land also belonging to Crowland Abbey and Guy of Craon. The survey also records a market, six fisheries, salt-pans and a wood of alders.

- 6.2 Spalding priory was a rich house and grew in wealth and importance during the 12th and 13th century, eventually freeing itself from the monastery of St Nicholas of Angers. The priory had several granges in Spalding and Weston including Halmer Grange located in the vicinity of the proposed development. Halmer Grange is first mentioned in 1253-74, although accounts of the granges have not survived there is a survey, dating between 1294 and 1330, which provides information. Halmer Grange is today represented by an 18th century farm on Stonegate. Post-medieval and medieval pottery have been recovered from the playing field area of the high school.
- 6.3 There is little evidence for prehistoric remains in the Spalding region as the land surface is now buried by later alluvium (peats, silts, clays etc.). However, later Iron Age remains are known from southwest of the town. This land surface stabilised during the Romano-British period and settlement of the period has been identified south of school, where enclosures, coins and pottery have been recorded, and to the east, where settlement and industrial remains were exposed when cutting the Coronation Channel (Phillips 1970, 292).
- 6.4 A watching brief undertaken during development immediately to the south of the high school during November 2003 did not identify buried archaeological remains (Cope-Faulkner 2004).

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

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

8 SITE OPERATIONS

- 8.1 General considerations
- 8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the watching brief.
- 8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA). *Archaeological Project Services* is IFA registered organisation no. 21.
- 8.1.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.
- 8.2 Methodology
- 8.2.1 The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.
- 8.2.2 Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10.

Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.

- 8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 8.2.4 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
 - 8.2.4.1 The site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
 - 8.2.4.2 groups of features where their relationship is important
- 8.2.5 Should human remains be located the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department and the police will be informed.

9 POST-EXCAVATION

9.1 Stage 1

- 9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued and labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
- 9.1.2 All finds recovered during the field work 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:
 - 9.3.2.1 A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
 - 9.3.2.2 A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.
 - 9.3.2.3 Description of the topography of the site.
 - 9.3.2.4 Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.
 - 9.3.2.5 A text describing the findings of the watching brief.
 - 9.3.2.6 A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.

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

9.3.2.8 Sections of the archaeological features.

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

9.3.2.10 Specialist reports on the finds from the site.

9.3.2.11 Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10 REPORT DEPOSITION

10.1 Copies of the watching brief report will be sent to: the client, the Archaeological Officer, Lincolnshire County Council; Lincolnshire Council Planning Department; and the County 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. A Site Code and Accession Number for archiving purposes will be obtained from the Museum prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

12 PUBLICATION

12.1 A note describing the results 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 Senior Built Environment Officer of Lincolnshire County Council. 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 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 principal 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,

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- 18.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

19 **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Loose dark grey clayey silt, >0.4m thick	Topsoil
002	Firm mid brownish grey clayey silt, 0.35m thick	Subsoil
003	Firm dark yellow silt, >0.25m thick	Natural deposit
004	Firm dark brown silt	Fill of (005)
005	Linear feature, 2.5m wide by 0.6m deep, aligned northwest-southeast, gradual sides and rounded base	Ditch

Appendix 3

GLOSSARY

Alluvium	A deposit (usually clay, silts or sands) laid down in water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea and freshwater alluvium by streams, rivers or within 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).
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
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 4

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

5	Context records
1	Sheets of scale drawings (plans and sections)
1	Photographic record 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 Museum Accession Number: 2004.237

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: SPSG 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.