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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT 36 THE CHASE,
CROWLAND,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(TCC 04)**

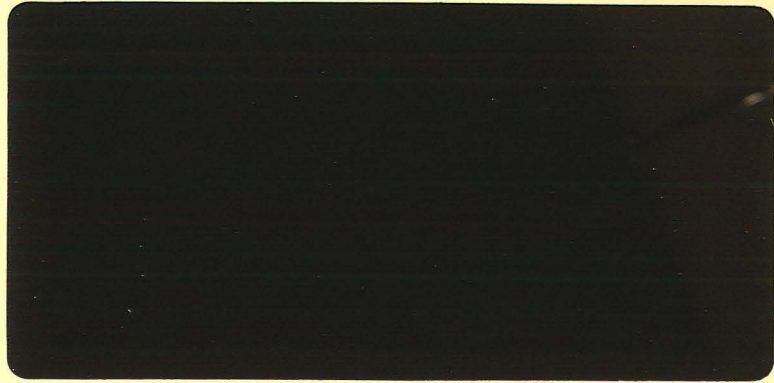


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ARCHAEOLOGICAL
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Conservation
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21 MAR 2005

Highways & Planning
Directorate



CON L19926

EVENT: L15872

INTERVENTION: L19952

EXCAVATION: L19953

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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT 36 THE CHASE,
CROWLAND,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(TCC 04)**

**Work Undertaken For
A.M. Strickland Builders Ltd**

February 2005

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

Planning Application No: H02/0360/04
National Grid Reference: TF 2456 1044
City and County Museum Accession No: 2004.268

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 26/05

Quality Control
36 The Chase, Crowland
TCC 04

Project Coordinator	Gary Taylor
Supervisor	Aaron Clements
Finds processing	Denise Buckley
Illustration	Paul Cope-Faulkner
Photographic Reproduction	Sue Unsworth
Post-excavation Analyst	Paul Cope-Faulkner

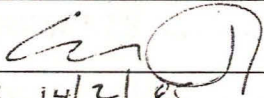

Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
 - Gary Taylor	 Tom Lane
Date: 14/2/05	Date: 23-02-05

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1. SUMMARY

A watching brief was undertaken during groundworks at 36 The Chase, Crowland, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of foundation trenches for a new extension to existing buildings.

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. During the Middle Saxon period (AD 650-850) a hermitage was established by St. Guthlac to the east of the site and may have developed into a monastery. Medieval (AD 1066-1540) remains are more concentrated towards the centre of the town, particularly around Crowland abbey.

The watching brief revealed a sequence of natural, subsoil, topsoil and recent gravel deposits. No archaeological features were identified and finds are restricted to a single pottery sherd of 19th 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 A.M. Strickland Builders Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during

groundworks associated with an extension to an existing building at 36 The Chase, Crowland, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application H02/0360/04. The watching brief was carried out on the 6th February 2005 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

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 400m east of the centre of Crowland at National Grid Reference TF 2456 1044 (Fig. 2). Located on the east side of The Chase, the site lies at a height of c. 3m OD on generally level ground.

Local soils are of the Swanwick Series, typically coarse loamy argillic gley soils (Robson 1990, 29). 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 the village 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*, *Cruulond* and *Crowland* 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 site of St. Guthlac's hermitage is believed to lie to the east of the site. Recent evaluation identified Middle Saxon features, although no structural remains of this period were encountered (Cope-Faulkner 2004, 1).

The focus of medieval settlement lay to the west, around the abbey which is largely of 11th century date.

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

Foundation trenches for the new extension were excavated by machine to depths required by the development. 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. 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 in the base of the foundation trenches was a layer of yellow sand and gravel (004). This exceeded 0.2m thick and was identified as the underlying drift geology. Developed upon the sand and gravel was a 100mm thick subsoil of light grey sandy silt (003).

Sealing the subsoil was the current topsoil comprising a 0.47m thick layer of grey sandy silt (002). This had partially been sealed by gravel (001) within the garden.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits comprise sand and gravel of the underlying drift geology of marine or estuarine sand and gravel upon which a subsoil had developed. Modern topsoil and gravel were also encountered.

A single sherd of post-medieval pottery was retrieved from the topsoil.

7. CONCLUSION

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at The Chase, Crowland, as the site lay within an extensive barrow cemetery, close to a Saxon hermitage and near the medieval village core.

However, only natural, subsoil, topsoil and recent gravel were encountered. No other features were identified and a single artefact, a pot sherd of 19th century date, was recovered.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr S. Strickland of A.M. Strickland Builders Ltd for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. Gary Taylor coordinated this work and 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
 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

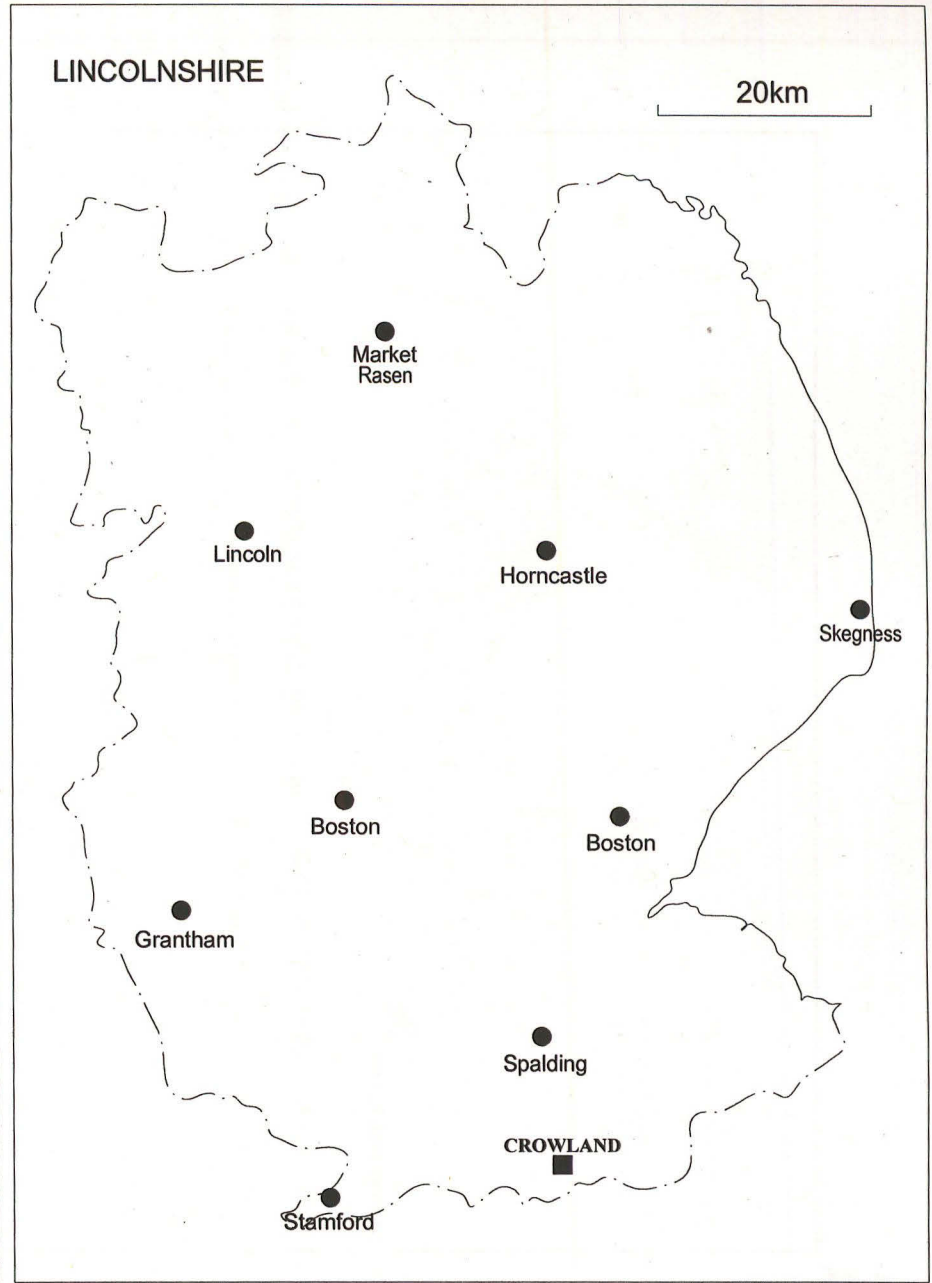
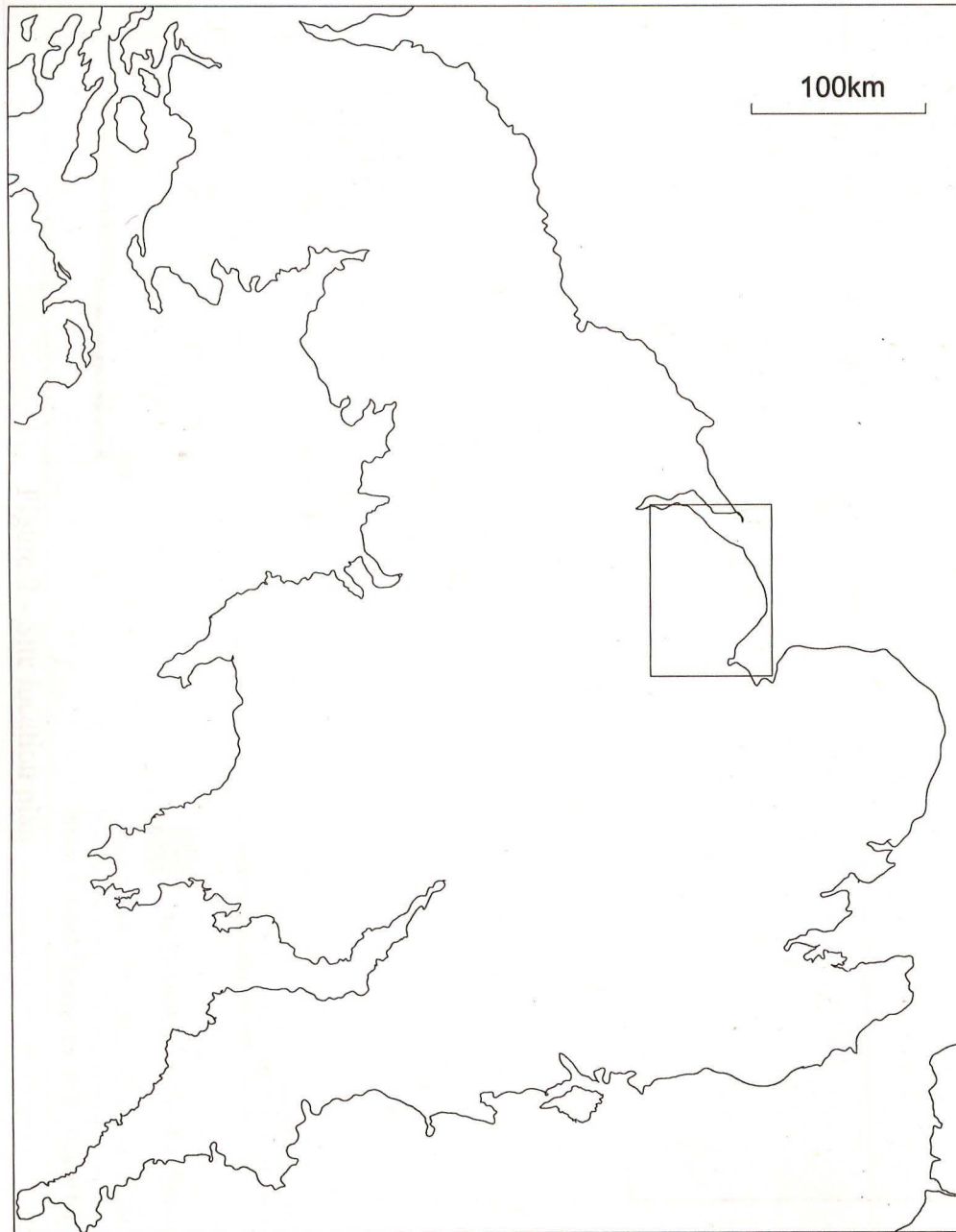
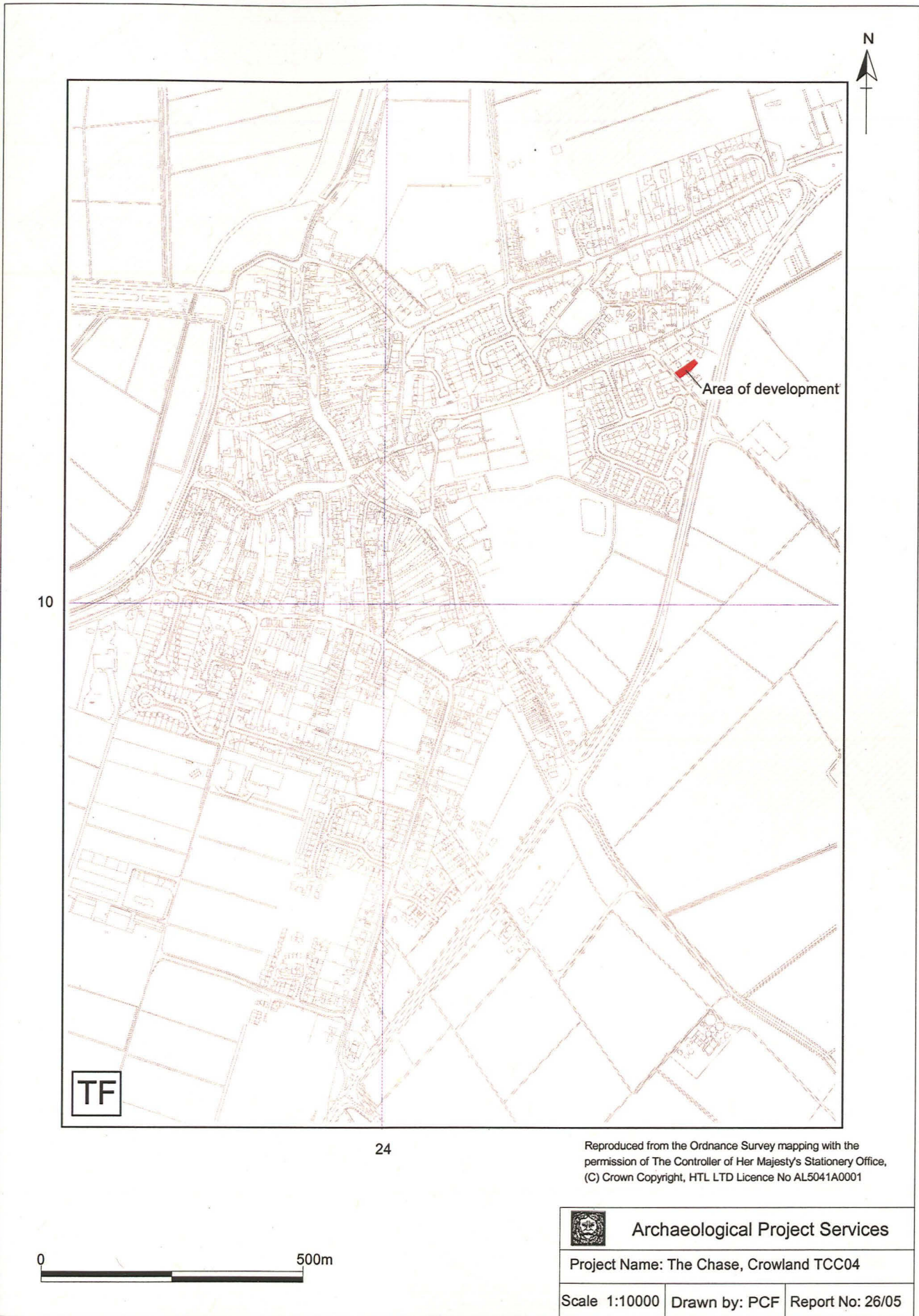


Figure 1 - General Location Plan



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TF

Area of development

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0 500m


 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: The Chase, Crowland TCC04		
Scale 1:10000	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 26/05

Figure 2 - Site location plan

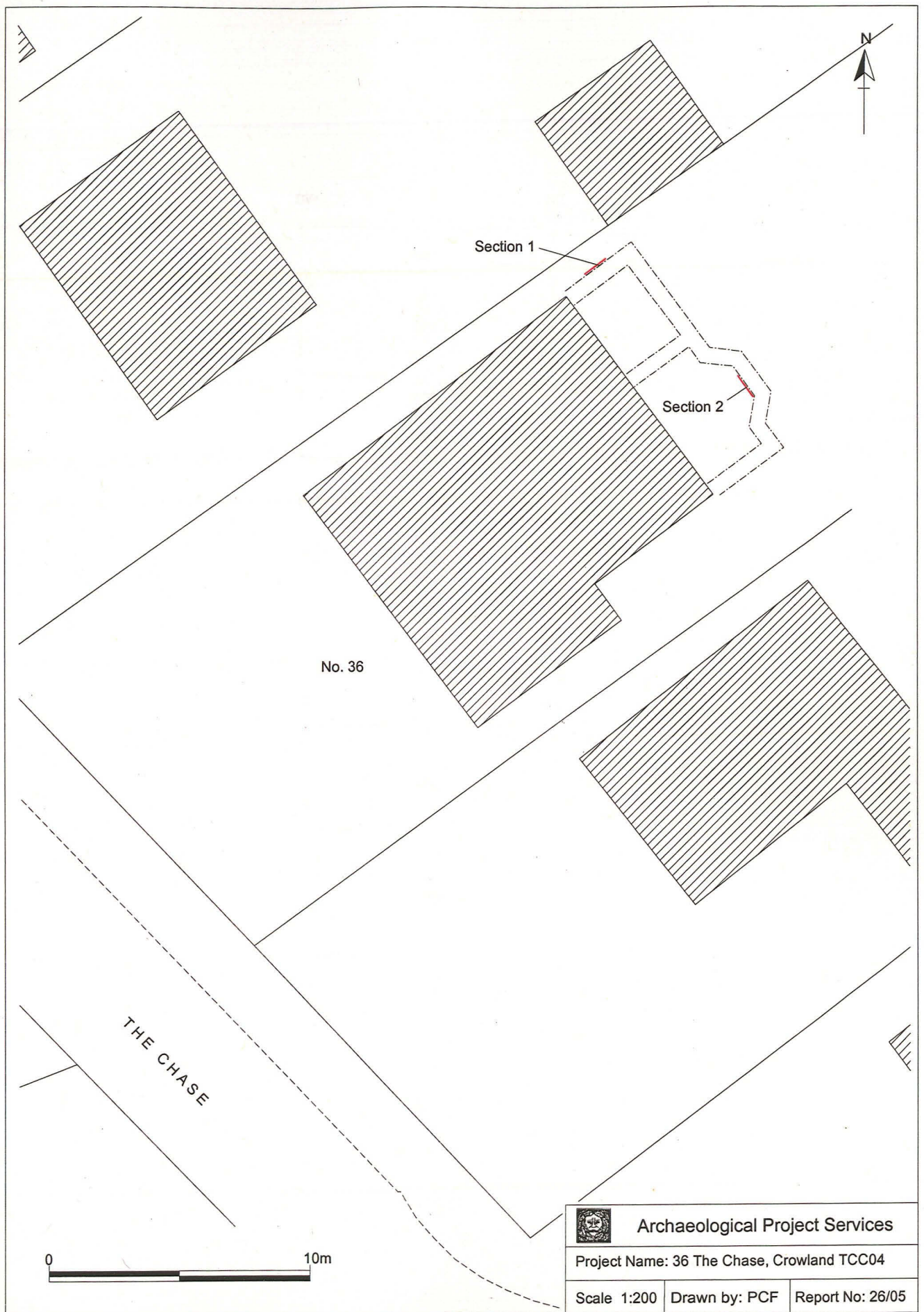
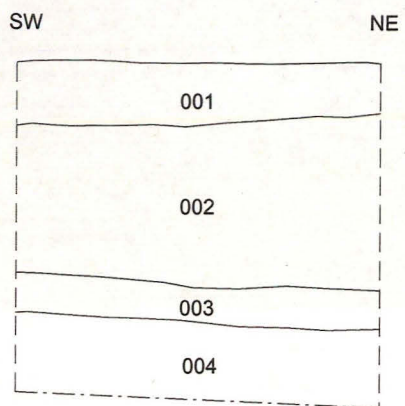
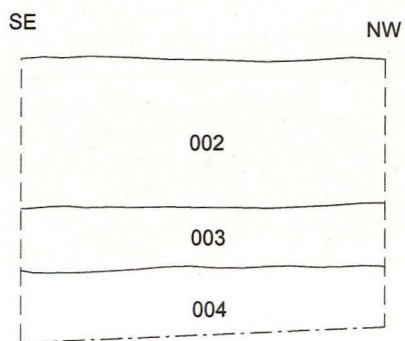


Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section locations



Section 1



Section 2



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: 36 The Chase, Crowland TCC04

Scale 1:20

Drawn by: PCF

Report No:26/05

Figure 4 - Sections 1 and 2



Plate 1 - General view across the development, looking west



Plate 2 - Section 1, looking northwest



Plate 3 - Section 2, looking southwest

Appendix 1

LAND AT 36 THE CHASE, CROWLAND, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR SCHEME OF WORKS COMPRISING ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *This document comprises a written scheme of archaeological investigation required as a condition of planning imposed by South Holland District Council on residential development at 36 The Chase, Crowland.*
- 1.2 *The written scheme of investigation sets out in detail a specification of works for an archaeological watching brief, which will monitor all groundworks undertaken as part of development at the site.*
- 1.3 *Prehistoric burial mounds occur in the area and Roman pottery has been found in the vicinity. Additionally, an abbey, founded before the Norman conquest, brought the town to prominence and attracted settlement in the medieval period. The present town probably largely overlies the medieval village*
- 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 36 The Chase, 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 The Chase, in the eastern part of the village, at TF 246 104.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application (H02/0360/04) was submitted to South Holland District Council for construction of a ground floor extension to a residential property at 36 The Chase, Crowland, Lincolnshire. On the advice of the Senior Built Environment Officer at Lincolnshire County Council, South Holland District Council have requested the submission of a written scheme of archaeological investigation prior to construction. This document forms that scheme of investigation and comprises a specification of works for an archaeological watching brief to be undertaken 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 2m OD on a gentle slope down to the east. Soils at the site are Wallasea 2

Association pelo-alluvial gleys on reclaimed marine alluvium (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 338).

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.
- 6.2 Neolithic flint axes and scatters of worked prehistoric flint have been recovered at several locations in Crowland, mainly within the northwest part of the town. Additionally, burial mounds presumed to be of Bronze Age date are known to exist nearby. Evidence of Roman settlement has also been identified a little to the east (Cope-Faulkner, 1998).
- 6.3 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 and the current site is likely to lie outside the medieval occupation zone.

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:
- the site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
 - groups of features where their relationship is important
- 8.2.5 Should human remains be located the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department and the police will be informed.

9 POST-EXCAVATION

9.1 Stage 1

- 9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the 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.
- 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; 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 LCC Archaeology Section. They will be given written notice 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

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Specification: Version 2, 14th December 2004

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Loose mixed light yellow and light grey gravel, 0.13m to 0.16m thick	Path
002	Firm dark grey sandy silt, 0.47m thick	Topsoil
003	Firm light grey sandy silt, 100mm thick	Subsoil
004	Friable, mid yellow sand and gravel, >0.2m 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. A single piece of pottery weighing 3g was recovered. No other artefacts or faunal remains were retrieved.

Provenance

The material was recovered from topsoil (002).

The pottery is probably a Staffordshire product.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the table.

Table 1: Pottery

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
002	WHITE	White glazed tableware	1	3	19 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 numerous previous archaeological investigations at Crowland that are the subjects of reports. Additionally, there has been reported study of the archaeological and historical evidence for the village and its vicinity. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

As an isolated artefact of early modern date, the piece is of very low local potential and significance. It may have entered the site in manuring scatter, which would, in turn, indicate that the area was agricultural land in the 19th century.

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

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).
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:

- 4 Context records
- 1 Sheet of scale drawings (sections)
- 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: 2004.268

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: TCC 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.