

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT CHAPEL STREET,
BILLINGBOROUGH,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(CSBI 05)**



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

EVENT EL16444

SOURCE SLI 10414
SLI 10415

PRN 36695 POST
MEDIEVAL

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT CHAPEL STREET,
BILLINGBOROUGH,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(CSBI 05)**

**Work Undertaken For
Rochford Homes Limited**

September 2005

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

Planning Application No: S04/1732/09
National Grid Reference: TF 1177 3406
City and County Museum Accession No: 2005.79

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 144/05

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Quality Control
Chapel Street,
Billingborough
CSBI 05

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Project Coordinator | Gary Taylor |
| Supervisor | Steve Williams |
| Finds Processing | Denise Buckley |
| Illustration | Paul Cope-Faulkner |
| Photographic Reproduction | Sue Unsworth |
| Post-excavation Analyst | Paul Cope-Faulkner |

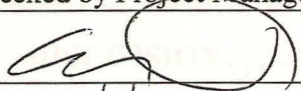
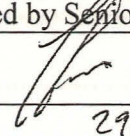
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| Checked by Project Manager | Approved by Senior Archaeologist |
|  Gary Taylor |  Tom Lane |
| Date: 29/9/05 | Date: 29.9.05 |

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1. SUMMARY

A watching brief was undertaken during groundworks at Chapel Street, Billingborough, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of foundation trenches for a new house and detached garage.

The site lies close to Iron Age (800 BC-AD 42) enclosures and in close proximity to a suspected Romano-British (AD 42-410) villa. South of the village is an Early Saxon (AD 410-650) settlement. Chapel Street is located within the core of the medieval (AD 1066-1540) village, best represented by the 14th century church of St. Andrew.

The watching brief revealed a sequence of post-medieval deposits, including dumped layers, topsoil development and two brick walls. These are likely to be associated with the adjacent Buckminster Hall of 17th century date in which grounds the development is located.

Finds retrieved during the investigation include a single medieval sherd with a small quantity of post-medieval and later pottery. Post-medieval brick and tile was also recovered. Other finds include a mortar fragment and animal bone.

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 Rochford Homes Limited to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with new residential development at Chapel Street, Billingborough, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application S04/1732/09. The watching brief was carried out between the 21st and 27th June 2005 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Billingborough is located 12km southeast of Sleaford and 20km east of Grantham, in the administrative district of South Kesteven, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The site is located 180m south of the village centre as defined by the parish church of St. Andrew at National Grid Reference TF 1177 3406 (Fig. 2). The site lies at c. 7.8m OD to the west of Chapel Street on land that gently slopes down to the east.

Local soils are of the Badsey 2 Association, typically loamy soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 101). These soils are developed upon a drift geology of glacially derived Fen gravel which in turn seals a solid geology of Jurassic Cornbrash (GSGB 1972).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Billingborough is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric period to the present day. Within 500m to the northeast of the site are cropmarks of ditched enclosures of a form that is typically Iron Age in date.

Numerous Romano-British artefacts, including pottery, tiles, coins, tessera and building stone, have been identified southeast of Chapel Lane. The range and quantity of material is suggestive of a high status building, such as a villa.

To the south of the village, a concentration of Early Saxon pottery suggests a small settlement of the period (Hayes and Lane 1992, gazetteer).

Billingborough is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as *Billingeburg* and *Bellingeburg*, the name is derived from the Old English and means 'the fortified place (*burh*) of the *Billingas*', a reference to a family or tribal name (Cameron 1998, 14). It has been suggested that the *Billingas* are synonymous with a tribe called the *Bilmigas* that are mentioned in a late 7th century Tribal Hideage (Hayes and Lane 1992, 24). However, doubt has been cast on this with a possible location of the *Bilmigas* centred around Warwickshire (Sawyer 1998, 219).

At the time of the Domesday Survey, the land was held by the Archbishop of York, Count Alan, Gilbert de Gand, Colsuain and Alfred of Lincoln and contained 63 acres of meadow, 26 acres of underwood, 2 mills and a half share of a church (Foster and Longley 1976).

The only extant remains of the medieval period is the parish church of St. Andrew which dates largely from the early 14th century (Pevsner and Harris 2002, 144). Medieval pottery and coins are known from the village. The site lies adjacent to Buckminster Hall, a late 17th century building (*ibid.* 145).

A watching brief undertaken to the north of the site identified an undated pit and a timber lined soakaway along with a natural watercourse (Cope-Faulkner 1998, 1).

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

Prior to the excavation of foundation trenches, topsoil was stripped from the site. Foundation trenches were then excavated by machine to depths required by the development. The sides of the trenches were 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 plans at scales of 1:20 and 1:100. 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

Following post-excavation analysis two phases were identified;

| | |
|---------|------------------------|
| Phase 1 | Post-medieval deposits |
| Phase 2 | Recent deposits |

Archaeological contexts are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets

are the context numbers assigned in the field.

Phase 1 Post-medieval deposits

Within the area for the new garage, towards the northwestern corner, was a dumped layer of brown sandy silt (003). This was over 0.35m thick (Fig. 4, Section 1) and contained post-medieval brick and tile.

Immediately to the east the sequence of deposits changed (Fig. 4, Section 2). These comprised a former topsoil of brown clayey silt (012) sealed beneath a former turf line (011). This was in turn sealed beneath a further buried topsoil of brown clayey silt (010). A single post-medieval brick was retrieved from the earliest buried topsoil.

At the southern end of the garage area, a dumped deposit of brownish grey silty clay (006) was recorded. A north-south aligned length of brick wall (007) was identified within this deposit, although no foundation cut was observed (Fig. 4, Section 3).

Within the area of house footings, the earliest deposit was a former garden soil (016). This comprised a brown sandy silt deposit that was over 0.23m thick (Fig. 4, Section 4) and post-medieval tile was retrieved from this layer. A possible subsoil or dumped layer of brown clayey silt (015) overlay the garden soil.

Located centrally within the house foundations was an east-west aligned cut (020) that was 4m long by over 0.4m wide. Within this was a short length of brick wall (019) constructed of handmade post-medieval bricks (Fig. 4, Section 5). The foundation trench had been backfilled with a brown clayey silt (018).

Phase 2 Recent deposits

Overlying the buried topsoil (010) in the

garage area were two levelling deposits, a lower of brown clayey silt (009) sealed beneath greenish brown sandy silt (008).

Sealing all deposits within the garage area was a topsoil of brown silt (001, 002, 004 and 013) which measured between 100mm and 0.3m thick.

Brown silt also comprised the topsoil within the vicinity of the house foundations where it was recorded as being 100mm thick (014).

6. DISCUSSION

Post-medieval deposits (Phase 1) comprise dumped deposits, soil development and two brick walls. These deposits and walls are all likely to be associated with the 17th century Buckminster Hall which lies to the south. No earlier deposits were encountered though these may lie at depths not reached during the development. Recent deposits (Phase 2) represent similar, but more modern activities.

The earliest find retrieved from the investigation is a single medieval pottery sherd. Pottery of 18th century date and later was also collected along with post-medieval brick, tile, mortar and a single animal bone.

7. CONCLUSION

A watching brief was undertaken at Chapel Street, Billingborough, as the site lay close to the medieval core of the village and in the vicinity of finds of prehistoric, Romano-British and Saxon date.

However, only post-medieval dumped layers, two walls and sequences of topsoil development were encountered during the watching brief. The nature of these deposits suggests that they are associated with the nearby Buckminster Hall.

Finds include a single medieval pot sherd with 18th century and later examples also collected. Brick, tile, mortar and animal bone were also retrieved.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr G. Park of Rochford Homes Limited for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor who edited this report with Tom Lane. Jenny Young, the South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist, kindly permitted access to the parish files and library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
Site Supervisor: Steve Williams
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
GSGB Geological Survey of Great Britain
IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

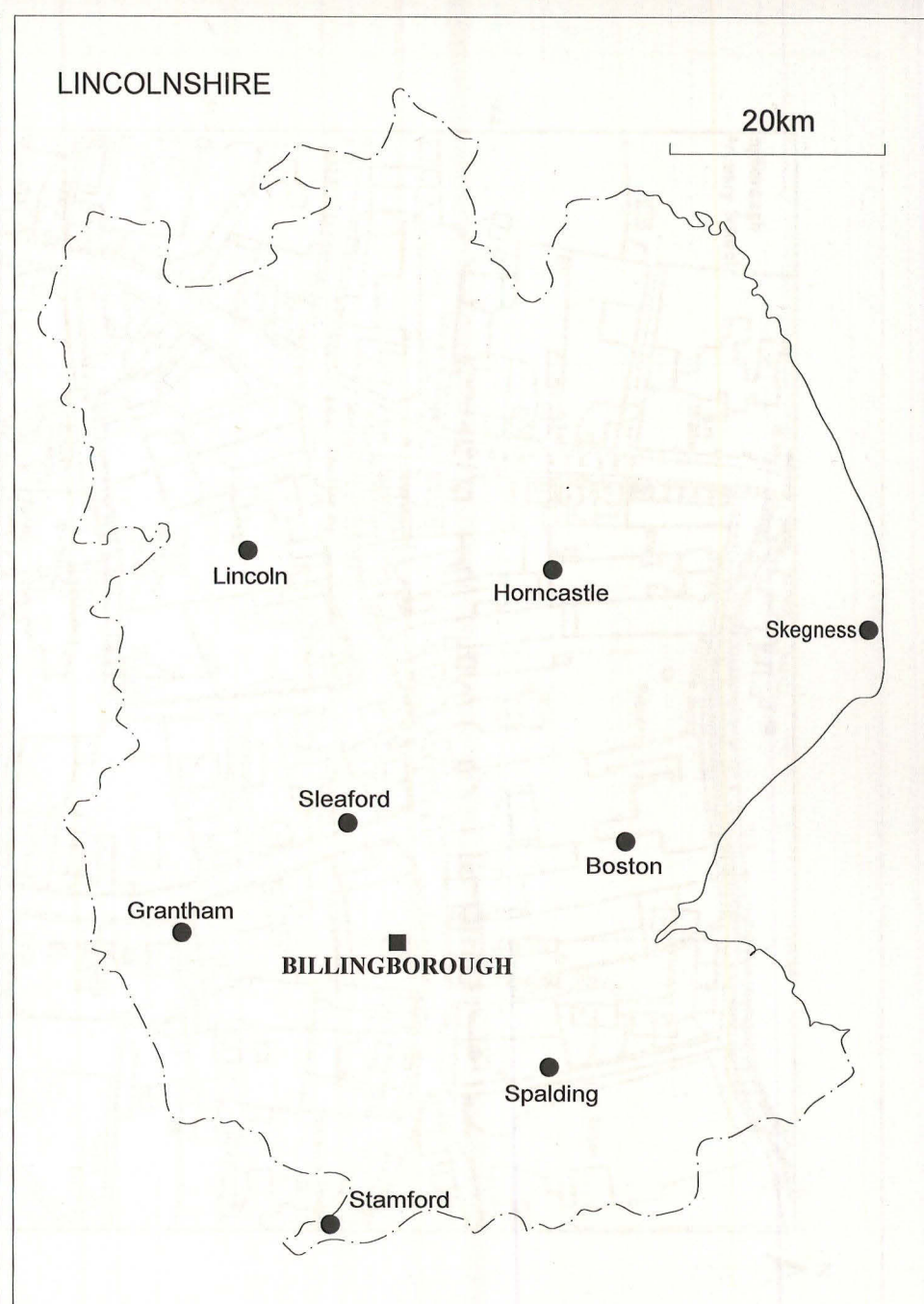
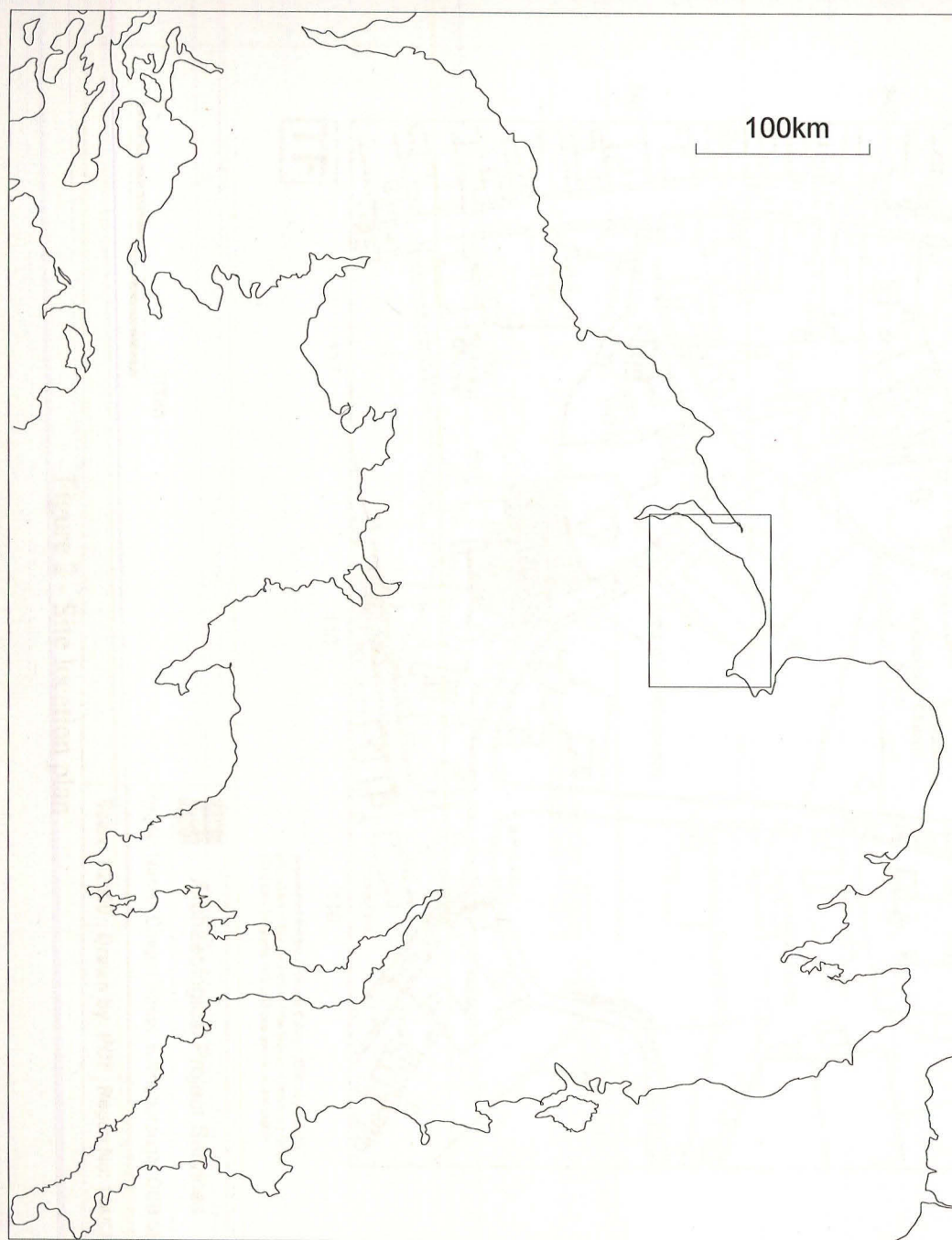
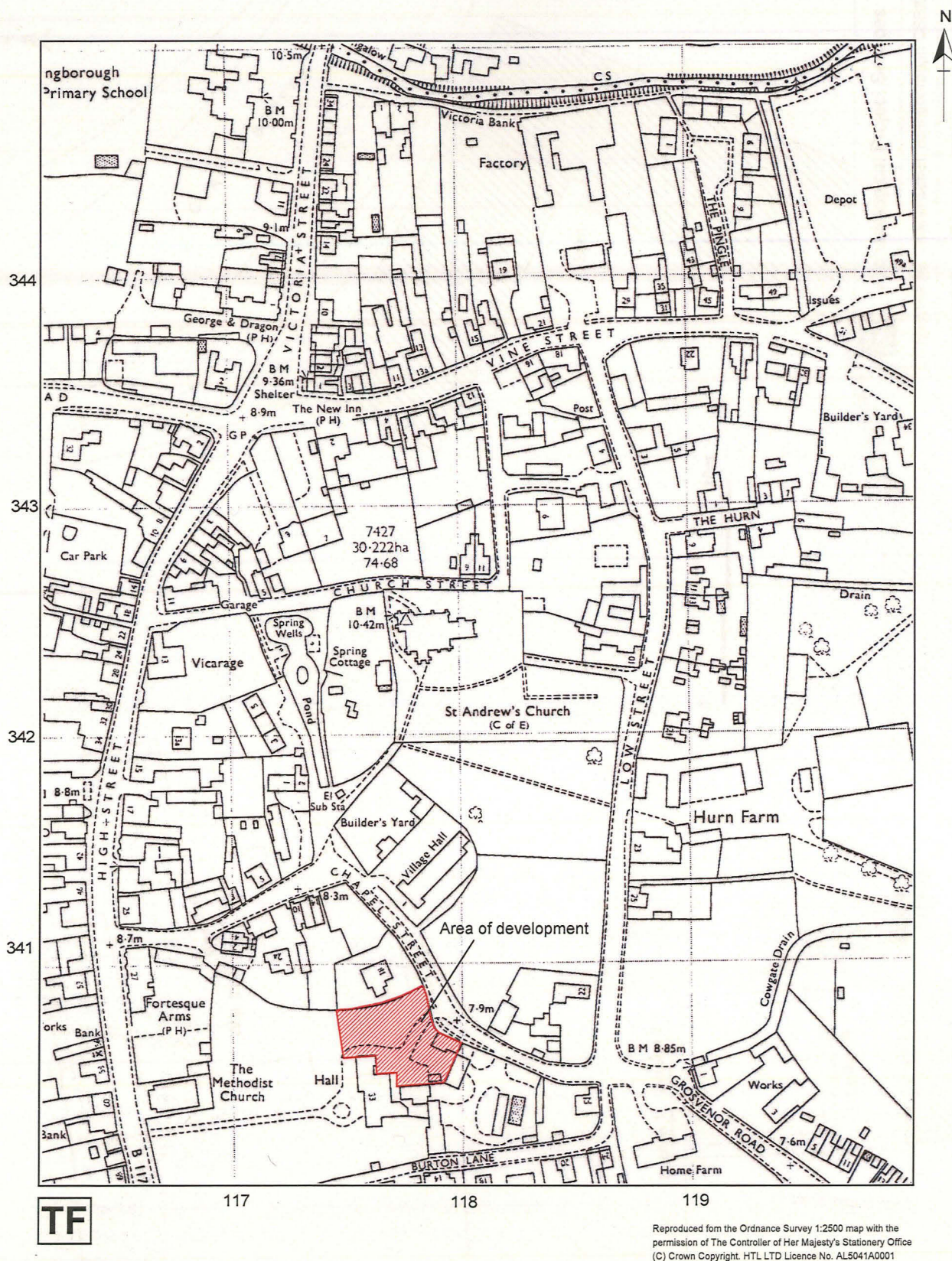


Figure 1 - General Location Plan



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Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Chapel Street, Billingborough CSB105

Scale 1:2500 Drawn by: PCF Report No: 144/05

Figure 2 - Site location plan

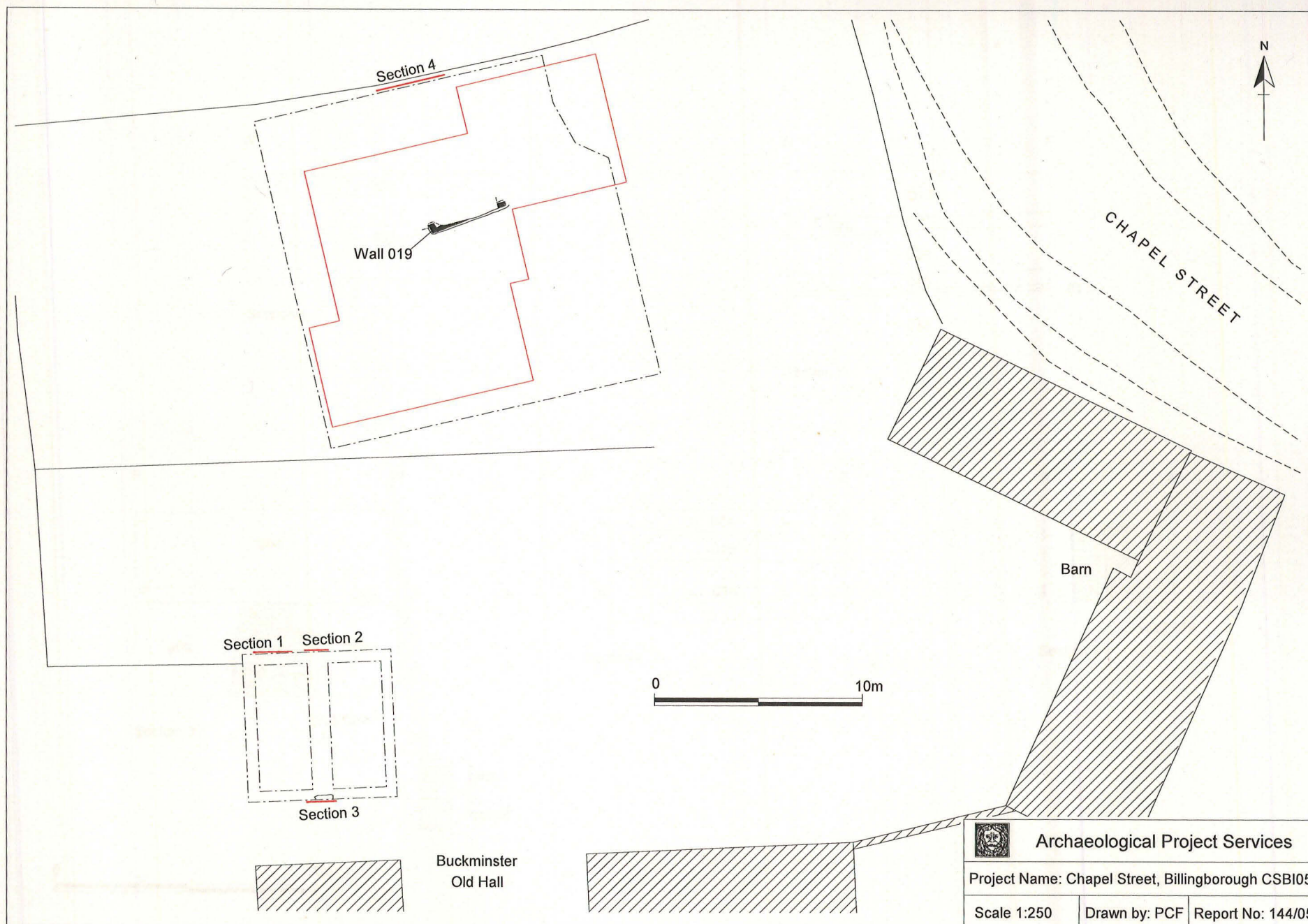

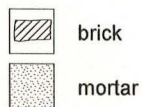
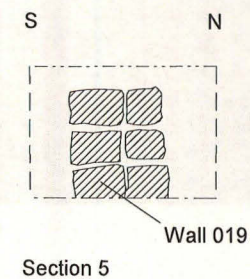
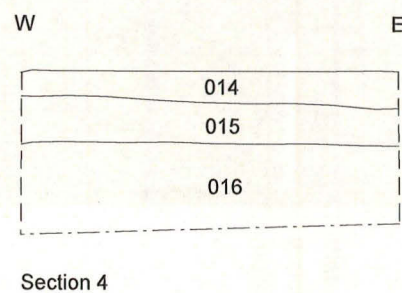
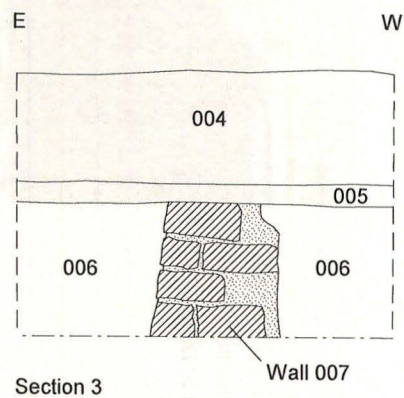
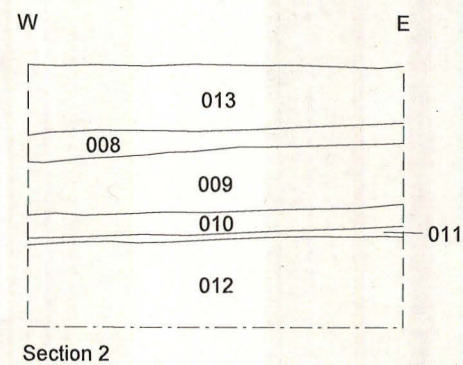
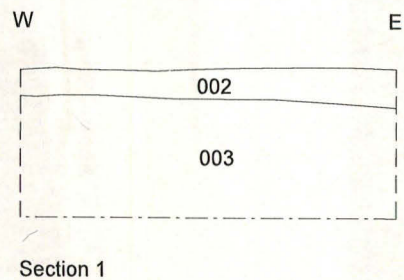


Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section locations

| | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------|--|
|  | Archaeological Project Services | | |
| Project Name: Chapel Street, Billingborough CSBI05 | | | |
| Scale 1:250 | Drawn by: PCF | Report No: 144/05 | |




| | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------|--|
|  | Archaeological Project Services | | |
| Project Name: Chapel Street, Billingborough CSBI05 | | | |
| Scale 1:20 | Drawn by: PCF | Report No: 144/05 | |

Figure 4 - Sections 1 to 5



Plate 1 - General view of the development area, looking south



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



Plate 3 - Section 2 showing the post-medieval topsoil development, looking north



Plate 4 - Section 3 showing the post-medieval brick wall (007), looking south



Plate 5 - Post-medieval wall (019), looking east (nb north arrow in wrong position)

Appendix 1

LAND AT CHAPEL STREET, BILLINGBOROUGH, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during construction of a house and garage at Chapel Street, Billingborough, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The site lies in an area of known archaeological significance. Prehistoric and Roman remains occur extensively around the current village. Additionally, the site is the historic core of the village, near the medieval parish church and adjacent to 17th century Buckminster Old Hall.*
- 1.3 *The archaeological work will consist of a watching brief during development works on the site.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the watching brief. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for archaeological watching brief during residential development at Chapel Street, Billingborough, 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 Billingborough is located approximately 20km east of Grantham, in the administrative district of South Kesteven, Lincolnshire. Chapel Street lies to the east of the main High Street through the village, about 150m south of the parish church. The development site is at number 18a Chapel Street, on the west side of the street, and is centred on National Grid Reference TF 11777 34048.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application (S04/1732/09) was submitted to South Kesteven District Council for a barn conversion and the construction of a house and garage. 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 The site is on fairly level land at approximately 8m OD. Local soils are the Badsey 2 Association, typically loamy soils over calcareous gravels (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 101).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 The modern village of Billingborough is situated within an area of dense archaeological activity, dating from the prehistoric period onwards. The village lies on the fen edge on a band of gravels, with some of the earlier human activity (Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age) concentrated on the eastern side, associated with salt making. This is the earliest recorded evidence of salt making found

so far within South Kesteven and possibly in Lincolnshire.

6.2 Evidence of Roman activity is abundant with three significant sites within the parish, whilst with later activity the focus of human occupation shifted predominately westwards away from the fen edge.

6.3 The proposed development site is in the historic core of the settlement, about 150m south of the medieval church and adjacent to Buckminster Old Hall, of 17th century date.

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.

7.1.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:

- Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
- Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
- As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
- 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, the coroner and the police will be informed, as appropriate.

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; the South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist; South Kesteven District Council Planning Department; and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

11 ARCHIVE

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

12 PUBLICATION

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

13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- 13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist. They will be given 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, or G Taylor, APS |
| Animal Bones | Environmental Archaeology Consultancy, or P Cope-Faulkner, APS |
| 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

Hodge, CAH, Burton, RGO, Corbett, WM, Evans, R, and Seale, RS, 1984 *Soils and their use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales 13

Specification: Version 1, 11-03-05

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

| No. | Description | Interpretation |
|-----|--|-----------------------------|
| 001 | Loose mid brown silt, 0.12m thick | Topsoil |
| 002 | Loose mid brown silt, 100mm thick | Topsoil |
| 003 | Loose mid brown sandy silt, >0.35m thick | Dumped deposit |
| 004 | Loose mid brown silt, 0.3m thick | Topsoil |
| 005 | Loose to firm dark brownish grey silt and sand, 50mm thick | Buried turf layer |
| 006 | Firm mid brownish grey silty clay, >0.35m thick | Dumped deposit |
| 007 | Brick (220mm x 110mm 80mm) structure, aligned east-west, 0.35m wide by >0.35m high | Wall foundation |
| 008 | Firm mid greenish brown sandy silt, >70mm thick | Levelling deposit |
| 009 | Firm mid brown clayey silt, 0.17m thick | Levelling deposit |
| 010 | Firm mid brown clayey silt, 70mm thick | Former topsoil |
| 011 | Loose to firm dark brownish grey silt and sand, 50mm thick | Buried turf layer |
| 012 | Firm mid brown clayey silt, >0.24m thick | Former topsoil |
| 013 | Loose mid brown silt, 100mm thick | Topsoil |
| 014 | Loose mid brown silt, 100mm thick | Topsoil |
| 015 | Loose to firm light brown clayey silt, 0.13m thick | Subsoil |
| 016 | Loose mid brown sandy silt, >0.23m thick | Former garden soil |
| 017 | Unused context | |
| 018 | Firm mid brown clayey silt | Fill of (020) |
| 019 | Brick (220mm x 110mm x 80mm) structure, aligned east-west, 3.73m long by 0.4m wide by 0.48m high | Wall |
| 020 | Linear feature, aligned north-south, 4m long by >0.4m wide, not excavated | Foundation trench for (019) |

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

by Paul Cope-Faulkner, Hilary Healey and 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. Five fragments of pottery weighing 90g were recovered from 2 separate contexts. In addition to the pottery, a quantity of other artefacts, all of it building materials, comprising 12 items weighing a total of 6506g, was retrieved.

The excavated animal bone assemblage comprises 2 stratified fragments weighing 3g. The animal bone was identified by reference to published catalogues. No attempt is made to sex or age animals represented within the assemblage, although where this is readily apparent is noted in the comments column.

Provenance

The material was recovered from topsoil (001), dumped deposits (003 and 006), former topsoils (012 and 016) and a wall (019).

The earliest pottery was made in moderate proximity to Billingborough, at Bourne 15km to the south. The earthenwares are probably also South Lincolnshire products, though the stoneware is from Staffordshire.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: Pottery

| Context | Fabric Code | Description | No. | Wt (g) | Context Date |
|---------|-------------|--|-----|--------|--|
| 001 | BL | Red painted black glazed earthenware, 18 th century | 2 | 63 | 19 th -20 th century |
| | UGRE | Plant pot, 19 th -20 th century | 1 | 6 | |
| 006 | WS | White saltglazed stoneware, 18 th century | 1 | 5 | 18 th century |
| | BOUA | Bourne A/C ware, 12 th -14 th century | 1 | 16 | |

A single fragment of pottery of 12th-14th century date is the earliest material recovered, though the remainder of the assemblage is much later, dating from the 18th to 20th centuries.

Table 2: Other Artefacts

| Context | Material | Description | No. | Wt (g) | Context Date |
|---------|----------|---|-----|--------|---|
| 001 | CBM | Handmade brick, 70mm thick | 1 | 297 | Late post-medieval/19 th century |
| 003 | CBM | Handmade brick, 107mm wide, 65mm thick, post-medieval | 1 | 1277 | Post-medieval |
| | CBM | Pantile, post-medieval | 2 | 425 | |
| | CBM | Tile, oxidized throughout, post-medieval | 1 | 41 | |
| | Mortar | Mortar/drain cladding, post-medieval | 1 | 71 | |
| | Slate | Roofing slate, post-medieval | 1 | 6 | |
| 012 | CBM | Handmade brick, 60mm thick, mortar adhering | 1 | 1255 | Post-medieval |
| 016 | CBM | Pantile, post-medieval | 2 | 131 | Post-medieval |
| | CBM | Tile, oxidized throughout, post-medieval | 1 | 23 | |

| Context | Material | Description | No. | Wt (g) | Context Date |
|---------|----------|---|-----|--------|---------------|
| 019 | CBM | Handmade brick, 224mm x 107mm x 67mm, mortar adhering | 1 | 2980 | Post-medieval |

Building materials, all of it of post-medieval date, was recovered in moderate abundance and indicates the former presence of structures of this period at the site.

Table 3: The Faunal Remains

| Context | Species | Bone | No. | Wt (g) | Comments |
|---------|-------------|-------------|-----|--------|----------|
| 003 | Sheep sized | ?metacarpal | 2 | 3 | |

Condition

All the material is in good condition and presents no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the collection is by material class.

Documentation

There have been previous archaeological investigations at Billingborough that are the subjects of reports. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

Post-medieval structural artefacts dominate the collection and reflect the former presence of buildings of 18th-20th century date at the site. However, the artefacts are of low local potential and significance.

A single medieval artefact was retrieved and suggests activity of this period in the vicinity of the site. However, the dearth of material earlier than the 18th 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

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| 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. |
| 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. |
| Dumped deposits | These are deposits, often laid down intentionally, that raise a land surface. They may be the result of casual waste disposal or may be deliberate attempts to raise the ground surface. |
| 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. |
| 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:

| | |
|----|---------------------------|
| 19 | Context records |
| 6 | Sheets 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 Council Museum Accession Number: 2005.79

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: CSBI 05

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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