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Highways & Planning
Directorate

**Caistor Grammar School,
Caistor,
Lincolnshire**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
WATCHING BRIEF REPORT**

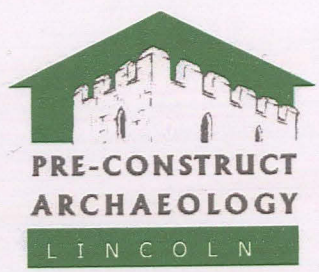
Site code CGS 05
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Planning ref. M04/P/1342

Report prepared for MBA Architects
On behalf of
Caistor Grammar School

by

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November 2005



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Summary

- Following the instructions of MBA Architects, a watching brief was carried out to monitor groundworks associated with the construction of a new all weather pitch and additional car parking in the grounds of Caistor Grammar School in Lincolnshire.
- This work identified and recorded archaeological features containing artefactual remains dating predominantly to the 2nd century Romano-British period.

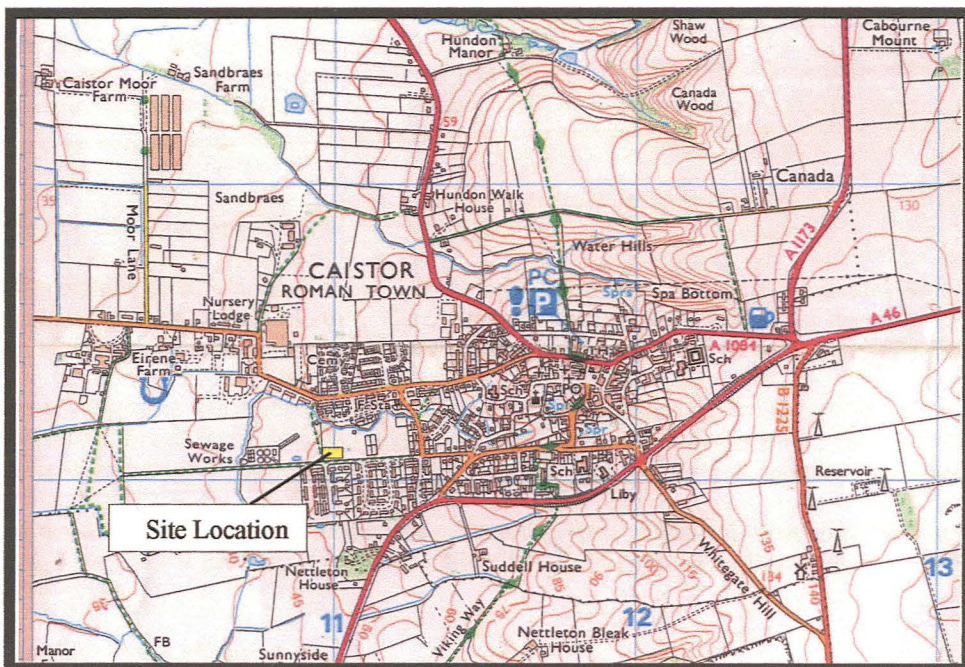


Fig 1: General Location Plan of the Development Area.
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1. 0 Introduction

1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) was commissioned by MBA Architects to carry out an intensive archaeological watching brief within the grounds of Caistor Grammar School, Caistor, Lincolnshire. This work was undertaken to monitor groundworks associated with the construction of an all weather pitch alongside the existing pavilion building and car park, to satisfy planning requirements set out by West Lindsey district Council.

1.2 The scope of these works were undertaken to a specification prepared by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln), based upon recommendations of the Built Environment team at Lincolnshire County Council. This approach is also consistent with:-

Archaeology and Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (Department of the Environment 1990).

Management of Archaeological Projects (English heritage 1992)

Code of Conduct (IFA 1994 rev 2000)

Standard and Guidance for Watching Briefs (IFA 1994 rev 2001)

Lincolnshire Archaeological handbook. A manual of Archaeological practice (LCC 1998)

2. 0 Site Location and Description

2. 1 The town of Caistor is approximately 32Km north -north-east of central Lincoln and lies within the administrative district of West Lindsey. The Grammar School is to the west of the town centre with the location of the proposed development accessed via the junction of Navigation Lane and Newbolt Drive.

2.2 The development site comprised of an area measuring 560m² for an all weather pitch, and an adjacent 160m² for additional parking. It is bordered by Navigation Lane beyond a pavilion building to the south, playing fields to the east and north, and pastureland and a sewage works to the west.

2.3 The construction programme forms part of ongoing development following the construction of a sports pavilion and car parking area; also monitored by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) (see fig 2).

3. 0 Geological background

3.1 Caistor is situated upon a promontory at the western edge of the Lincolnshire Wolds Uplands, which is made up of Ferriby chalk with redden basal beds and seams consisting of Burnam and Welton chalk (BGS 1982). West of the town on the lower slopes the development site is located upon Late Jurassic Elsham Sandstone overlain by an Aeolian (wind blown) sand drift geology (*ibid*).

4. 0 Planning background

4.1 Full planning consent was granted for the construction of a new all weather surface and car park extension in the grounds of Caistor Grammar School (ref M04/P/1342). The condition placed upon this consent by West Lindsey District Council, was for all intrusive works to be monitored by intensive watching brief in accordance with a specification prepared by the Built Environment Team at Lincolnshire County Council. Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) was contracted by MBA Architects on behalf of Caistor Grammar School to fulfil these requirements.

5. 0 Archaeological and Historical background

5.1 Caistor appears to have become a regionally important during the Romano-British period, acting as a commercial and administrative centre for the surrounding area. In the later 3rd century the town was enclosed by substantial limestone walling incorporating external bastions with double ditches recorded

to the north outside the line of defences. The construction of defences during the late Roman period has been linked to the threat of Anglo-Saxon incursion along the eastern seaboard, with Caistor providing a possible inland line of defence with the walled towns of Horncastle and Ancaster to the south. This is seen to complement the system of Saxon shore forts established at this time along the east coast (Leahy 1993).

5.2 Evidence for Romano-British occupation has been found to extend outside the walls of the town, with finds of 'tesserae' from a mosaic floor or pavement from a field to the west of it (SMR No.52641), indicating the presence of a substantial high status Roman style building, possibly a villa.

5.3 Romano-British commercial activity has been evidenced by two pottery kilns excavated in the 1960's (SMR No 52641), producing grey ware vessels during the 3rd and 4th centuries.

5.4 Two nearby Pagan Saxon cemeteries at Fonaby to the north (Cook 1981) and Nettleton to the south (Everson 1981) provide evidence for occupation into the 5th century. At the Fonaby, burial urns attest to very early Anglo-Saxon occupation from the mid 5th century, and a bronze bowl found at Nettleton decorated in a sub-Roman style is thought to date from the late 4th to early 5th century AD (Whitwell 1992). The early dates given for these artefacts would suggest an unbroken sequence of occupation within this landscape and probable continuity of occupation within Caistor itself.

5.5 Caistor and its hinterland may have become a royal estate by the end of the 7th century AD with an Episcopal minster probably founded at this time (Sawyer 1998). An inscribed stone found at Castle Hill in 1770 appears to refer to the dedication of a church in the 8th century (SMR No 52681; Pevsner and Harris, 1989). Towards the end of the 10th century a mint was established, which produced coins during the reigns of Edward the Martyr, Aethelred II and Cnut who died in 1035 AD.

5.6 The Domesday Survey of 1086 (Morgan & Thorn 1986) records that Earl Morcar held the estate which was retained by William I, who granted the church at Caistor to Remigus, Bishop of Lincoln (Owen, 1971, Sawyer, 1998). At that time, the holdings of the manor amounted to land for 6 ploughs, 60 acres of meadow and four mills valued at £50, with further reference to "the hall of this manor" (ibid: section 338c, 66). Evidence for the remains of the 11th century structure may be seen in the megalithic quoins incorporated into the western end of the nave in the present church (Pevsner & Harris 1989).

5.7 The landscape surrounding Caistor maintained an agricultural usage throughout the medieval period until modern times: the remnants of medieval ridge and furrow may be seen in the fields north west of the town (SMR No, 52718).

6. 0 Methodology

6.1 The archaeological programme entailed the monitoring of all intrusive groundworks by Simon Savage and Jennifer Kitch, and included the machine stripping of topsoil with a smooth edged bucket.

6.2 All exposed surfaces were examined and periodically cleaned to determine the stratigraphic sequence. Where necessary, archaeological features were hand excavated to determine depth, profile, orientation, function and recover any dating evidence.

6.3 Recording was carried out using pro-forma sheets, with drawings of plans and sections at 1:10 to 1:200 as appropriate.

6.4 A colour photographic archive was maintained as work progressed, examples of which are appended to this report.

7. 0 Results

7.1 Excavation of the western half of the all weather pitch did not extend below the subsoil layer (002). However, for the rest of the site natural geology (003) was encountered at a depth of 0.47m, and this consisted of orange-grey clay.

7.2 The archaeological features exposed were concentrated in the east-central part of the New Car Park, highlighted in area's 1 and 2 (see fig: 2) and detailed in fig: 3.

7.3 Cut into the natural geology (003), the stratigraphically earliest features [015] and [004] were both linear drainage-type features of similar proportions, with rounded terminal ends.

7.4 Linear [015] was the only feature located at the north east corner of the New Car Park area and extended from a southern rounded terminal northwards into the baulk section. This feature did not extend into the pitch area to the north. It was filled by a natural accumulation of mid grey/brown sandy clay (016) with finds of pottery with a possible Late Iron Age/Romano-British date (Appendix 2).

7.5 Feature [004] extended from a southwestern terminal in a north easterly direction, crossing the south western corner of the New Car Park area and into the eastern baulk. The fill of [004] consisted of a grey sandy clay (005) mottled by iron panning, suggesting natural silting of the ditch, with standing water causing iron pan deposits. The finds recovered from this fill included sherds of Romano-British pottery, typologically conforming to a 2nd century date (Appendix 2).

7.5 Two further linear features overlay [004], maintaining the same alignment. The fill of [004], (005) was cut along its south western edge by linear [008] which was curvilinear in plan but extended along the same alignment and partially overlay linear [004]. It was filled with brown-grey naturally accumulated sandy silt (009), including sherds of 2nd century Romano-British pottery (Appendix 2).

7.6 Cutting (009) was linear [006] that ended in a rounded terminal and appeared to be the north east extent of a feature recorded during the Pavillion watching brief in 2004 ([005]) which contained a very similar fill and sherds of 2nd century pottery. The consistency of fill appeared to represent the deliberate backfill of feature [006] with domestic waste. The evidence may suggest that an occupation site was located within a close proximity of this feature.

7.7 Adjacent to the series of linear features within the south east corner of excavation Area 1 was the partial profile of a pit. The primary fill of this (012) was mid grey sandy clay silt that accumulated by the sedimentation of silts collected in standing water, and this would suggest the feature remained open for some time. Sealing this material was (011); an accumulation of dark brown sandy silt, including occasional 2nd century Romano-British pottery sherds. The southern part of this feature was also recorded in the 2004 watching brief (as context [010]).

7.8 Located approximately 4m north of the linear features was an isolated feature [013]. This had an irregular profile and was filled by dark grey sandy clay with frequent manganese and iron panning within its matrix. This feature appeared to be the infilling of a void left by decayed tree roots.

7.9 The site was sealed by dark brown subsoil (002) consisting of windblown sand. The artefactual evidence recovered from within this layer included pottery ranging from the mid 12th century until the later 19th century (Appendix:3) and is consistent with the type of material deposited as a result of manuring the land for arable agriculture. Two pieces of Roman brick were also recovered from within this matrix (Appendix: 4), however none of this type of material was recovered from within the features recorded during the brief. It is therefore most probable that these items were redeposited from elsewhere as part of the manuring process.

7.10 The uppermost layer covering the site was dark greyish brown silty sand topsoil (001).

8. 0 Discussions and Conclusion

8.1 Whilst the archaeological features recorded during this watching brief were few in number, these features have provided some insight into the historical background of the development area.

8.2 The recovery of a single flint tool, possibly dating to the Mesolithic period (Appendix: 7), demonstrates human activity possibly connected with resource procurement within the local landscape for up to 10,000 years.

8.3 A sequence of inter-cutting linear features was investigated, probably dating to the Romano-British period around the 2nd century AD. These appear to represent deliberate boundary, or drainage features that may define some form of landholding unit. This alignment was at least important enough to warrant re-cutting on a minimum of three occasions. The close dating of the pottery recovered from within the sequence would also indicate a relatively short time span between each successive phase of excavation and subsequent infilling.

8.4 With the recovery of a significant volume of pottery, alongside evidence for metalworking in the form of 'hammer scale' (see Appendix: 6) and a bone assemblage typical of domestic waste (Appendix: 5), the possibility that these linear features formed the boundary to a nearby Romano-British occupation site is a compelling hypothesis.

8.5 With no archaeological features or artefactual evidence recovered from the adjacent area stripped for the all weather pitch, any associated occupation is likely to be located south west of the area that has undergone development so far.

8.6 The pit-type features that appear to have been created by the removal of trees and have remained open before backfilling by natural erosion, may attest to human manipulation of the environment. It would not be uncommon during the Romano-British period for rural occupation sites to create land suited to agriculture by clearing the surrounding tree cover.

8.7 The features recorded during this programme of works therefore conform to a typical morphology encountered on Romano-British rural sites elsewhere; for example, Dragonby, North Lincolnshire (May 1996) and Long Bennington, Lincolnshire (Leary 1994).

9. 0 Effectiveness of Methodology

The methodology employed to fulfil the archaeological requirement of this development has proven to be effective, by allowing for the rapid yet full appraisal and recording of archaeological contexts encountered.

10. 0 Acknowledgements

The Author would like to thank MBA Architects and Caistor Grammar School for this commission, and also the ground workers for their assistance during the fieldwork.

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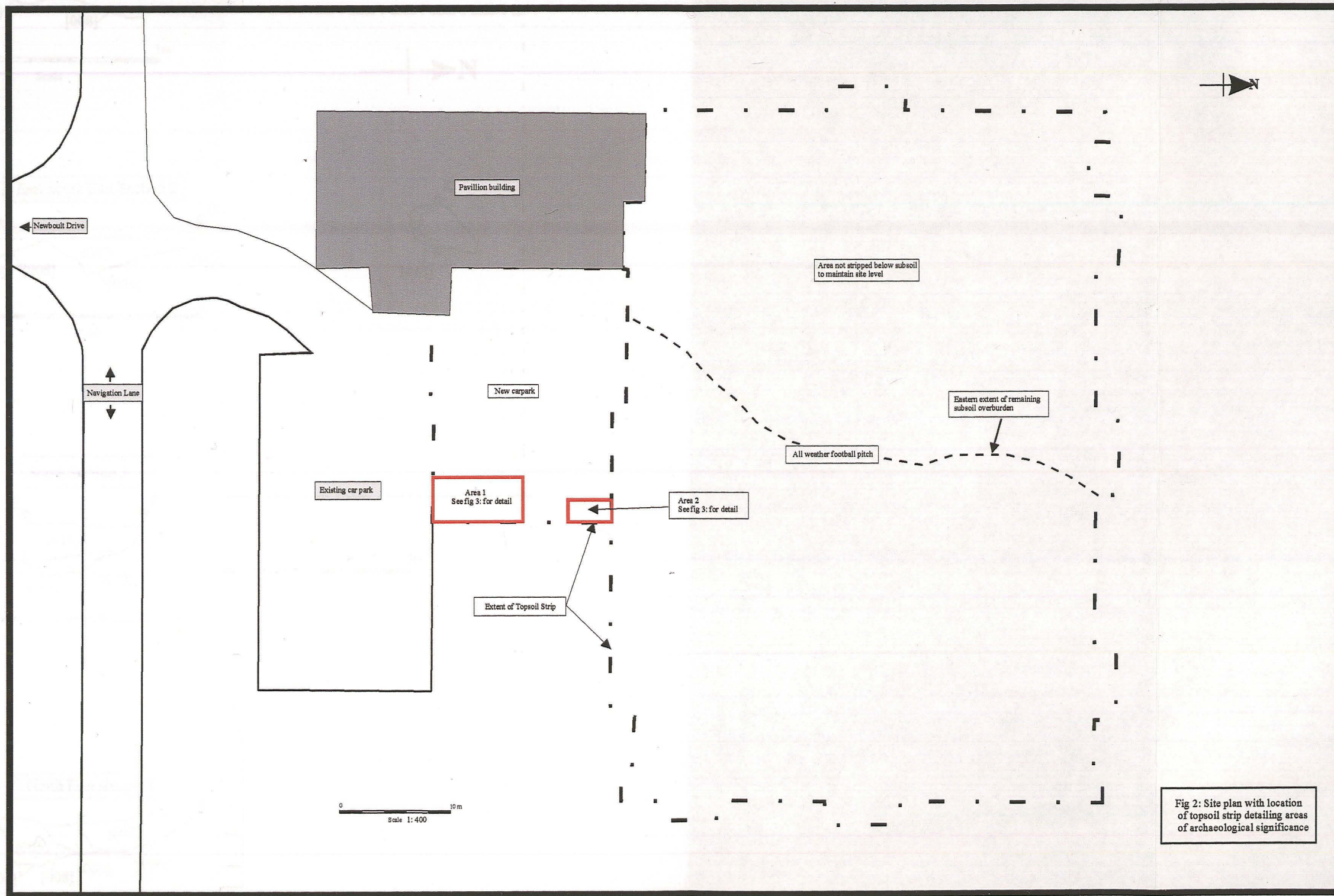


Fig 2: Site plan with location of topsoil strip detailing areas of archaeological significance

Fig 3: Graphic illustration of Features in Section and Plan

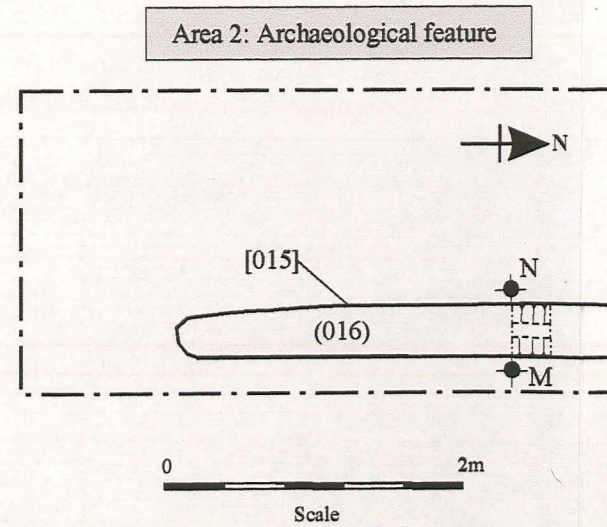
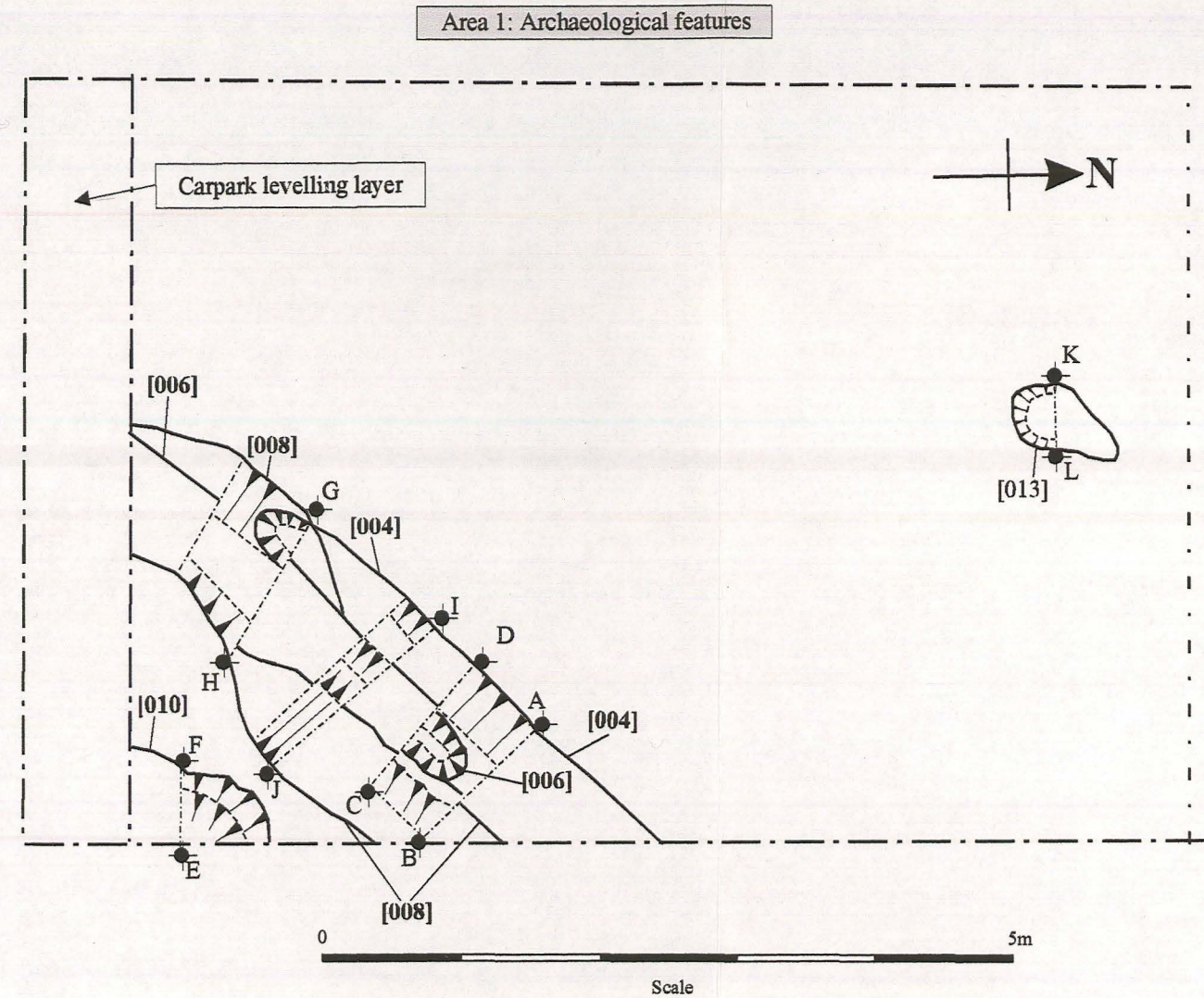
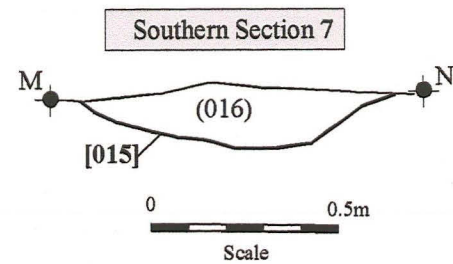
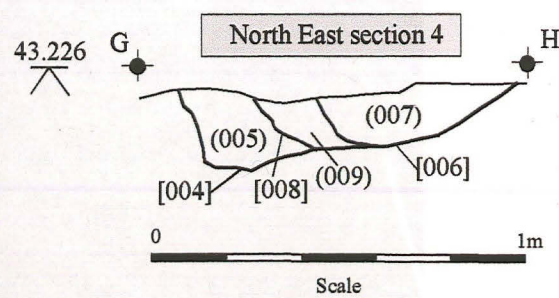
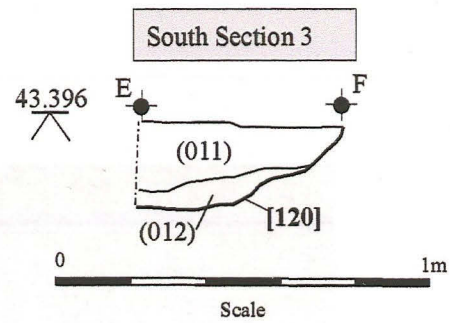
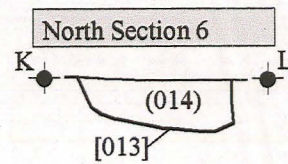
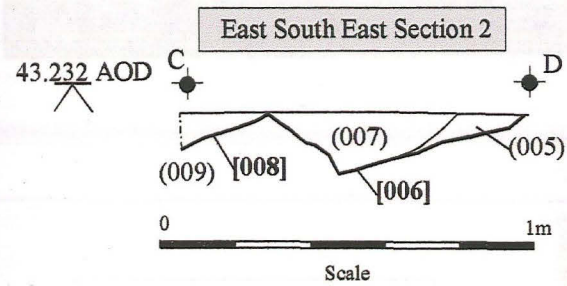
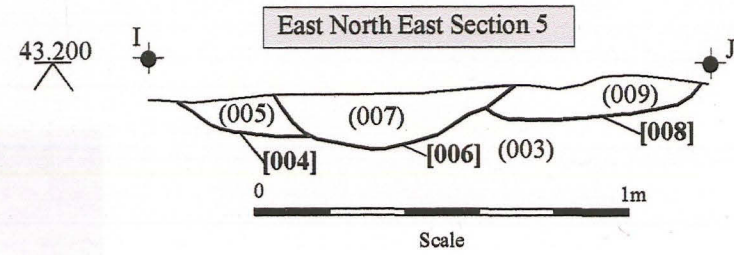
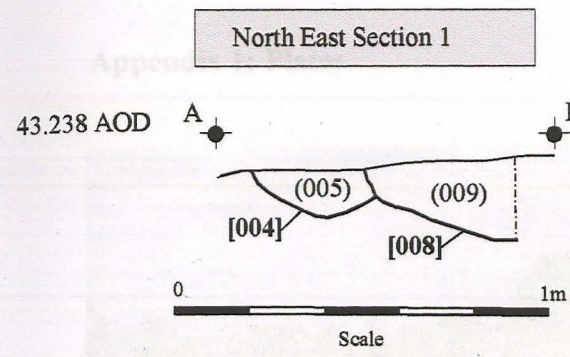


Fig 3: Graphic illustrations of Features in Section and Plan

Appendix 1: Plates



Plate 1: General site view
North East.

Plate 2: Site View West



Plate 3: Sequence of Linear
features.

REPORT 202 ON POTTERY FROM A WATCHING BRIEF AT THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL, CAISTOR, CGS05 for PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

by Margaret J. Darling, M.Phil., F.S.A., M.I.F.A.

September 2005

QUANTITY AND CONDITION

The pottery finds consist of 376 sherds, weighing 6.868 kg from six contexts. The condition varies with some abraded sherds, and some fragmentation; average sherd weight is 18.3g. No problems are anticipated for long term storage. The pottery has been archived using count and weight as measures according to the guidelines laid down for the minimum archive by *The Study Group for Roman Pottery*. The archive database is below, Appendix 1 (and can be supplied on disk), and will be curated for future study. Archive codes are detailed in Appendix 2.

INTRODUCTION

The quantities and dating by context are shown in table 1.

Table 1 Quantities and dating by context

Cut	Deposit	Cxt	Sherds	Weight	Date	Comments
-	Sand	002	5	55	L3-?4/POSTRO	
004	Gully	005	91	1337	2C	Links >007;009;011
006	Gully	007	236	4727	2C	Links >005;009;011
008	Gully	009	10	83	2C?	Links >005;007;011
010	Feature	011	32	581	2C	Links >005;007;009
015	Ditch	016	2	85	IA/ROM?	
		Total	376	6868		

There were multiple links between these intercutting gullies 004, 006, 008 and feature 010, the lug-handled jar dwg 13 appearing in all these deposits, dwgs 3, 10, 11 and 12 and other sherds in some.

OVERVIEW OF FABRICS AND VESSEL TYPES

The fabric are detailed on fig 1.

Fig 1 Fabrics

Fabric	Code	Sherds	Weight
Coarse	COAR	1	0.27
Fired clay	FCLAY	1	0.27
Grey fine	GFIN	4	1.06
Grey	GREY	281	74.73
IA tradition gritty	IAGR	3	0.80
Oxidized	OX	13	3.46
Oxidized fine	OXF?	4	1.06
Oxidized light	OXL?	3	0.80
Vesicular	VESIC	66	17.55
Total		376	6868

Due to this being a watching brief, there are insufficient funds for illustration of the finds, but drawing numbers have been assigned, the sherds extracted to enable future reference as an important and interesting group (listed in Appendix 3). This is a notable group of relatively fresh rubbish.

The vessels providing the main evidence of links between deposits consist of the everted-rim jar (dw 11), a curved-rim bowl with latticed decoration (dw 12) and a lug-handled jar, also latticed, (dw 13), the last also with sherds in the the feature 010. Most of the other vessels come from the latest gully 006, including a lid-seated jar with scored wavy-line decoration (dw 1), an oxidized pierced base possibly from a flask (dw 2), three grey everted-rim jars (dw 3 (same 010), 4 and 7), an IAGR everted-rim bowl (dw 5), an everted-rim bowl (dw 6), a flat-rimmed bowl (dw 8), a small flanged bowl (dw 9), and a VESIC large jar (sherds also in 010). This 006 gully provides the closing group.

A notable vessel is a tiny rim fragment in COAR from ditch 015 from a native tradition cooking pot, too small for illustration, the poorly mixed clay containing possible grog or clay pellets. This may be linked to the finds from CGS00 which included COAR body sherds. This was found with the base of a large jar or bowl in Iron Age tradition fabric (IAGR), and suggests Iron Age occupation in the area.

Other notable vessels include the lid-seated jar (dw 1) can be paralleled at the Roxby kilns (Rigby & Stead 1976, 139, fig 65, type A), where everted-rim jars and bowls also occur. One of the jars may be from Roxby, but the grey fabrics vary greatly, indicating several different sources, some being probably local to the area. There is a bowl broadly similar to the unusual flanged bowl (dw 7) at Roxby (Rigby & Stead 1976, fig 68, 70, a single example), but closer parallels occur at Lincoln (Darling & Precious, forthcoming; similar, Darling 1984, fig 15, 45), all of which fit with a range of similar bowls known from Brough-on-Humber, Dragonby, Malton and York, some possibly deriving from a continental tradition, otherwise rare in Britain. The flat-rimmed bowl (dw 8) is also an unusual type, not obviously copying the common BB1 type, and is unparalleled. The lug-handled jar (dw 13, 100% rim, and near complete profile) is also unusual in having a cordon immediately below its everted rim, and decorated with lattice. A similar cordon occurs on a smaller jar at Dragonby (Gregory 1996, fig 20.8, 890, with different decoration and rim type). A large jar in vesicular fabric (dw 10) has an everted rim, and near complete profile. It is not clear what inclusions have been lost but the fabric contains some grog, and the occasional vesicle normally indicative of shell. Another coarser vessel is a bowl with everted-rim in Iron Age tradition gritty fabric, with grog inclusions (dw 5). Both these forms are 2nd century types.

The only finer vessel is the base from a closed form, with a footring in a light brown fabric, heavily burnt, with several round holes bored post-firing in the base. The fabric may suggest a flask or flagon, but its use has clearly been changed. The heavily burnt deposit on the basal zone may be from its re-use.

DISCUSSION

This is the fourth intervention with recorded Roman pottery at Caistor Grammar School, and earlier work consists of CSC97 (LAS) and CGSP00 (LAS), from inside the walled circuit, which both produced groups of 4th century pottery, including definitely late 4th century vessels. The pottery from CGS05 is apparently relatively close to CGS00 outside the circuit of the known Roman enclosure. CGS00 (PCA), a small group, included a flake of Central Gaulish samian, hand-made sherds of COAR in poorly mixed clay, a bowl probably of later 2nd century type, the group indicating a 2nd to possibly 3rd century range. These two groups indicate occupation in the 2nd century in this extra-mural area, where kilns of possibly 3rd or 4th century date are known (Swan 1984, fiche 438), and possible Iron Age activity.

For a small group, the number of vessels surviving fairly substantially suggests a rubbish deposit, probably of secondary deposition given the fragmentation, with a relatively close chronological range, making this a valuable group in this area, where so little is known of the local pottery. The functional range is mixed, indicating occupation, and the absence of samian or mortaria is consistent with the size of the group and their relative rarity. Chronologically it ranges possibly from the Iron Age, through to the late 3rd or

possibly 4th century, but the only later pottery came from the subsoil sand layer 002, and the main group of pottery from the gullies dates to the mid 2nd century.

FABRICS DEFINITION

- COAR Coarse tempered fabrics, usually in a Iron Age pottery tradition, often poorly mixed clay with grog or clay pellets. Only a single tiny rim, probably from a native tradition cooking pot.
- FCLAY Fragments of fired clay, sometimes daub.
- GFIN Grey fine. This coding is used for reduced fabrics lying between the common quartz-gritted GREY used for most jars and bowls, and the very fine fabrics used for London-type ware and Parisian ware. Body sherds only from closed forms.
- GREY Grey, undifferentiated quartz-gritted grey fabrics, hard wares with sparse to common quartz inclusions. A mixed range of fabrics.
- IAGR Coarse tempered, often pimply with grog and other inclusions, IA tradition fabric, which continues in use into the Roman period. Cf Trent Valley ware.
- OX Oxidized, miscellaneous oxidized wares. This coding comprises all miscellaneous oxidized sherds, usually in varying red-brown shades and degrees of grittiness, for which no significant fabric groupings are evident. Mostly closed forms but a fragment of a possible bowl also occurs.
- OXF Oxidized fine texture fabrics, not a discrete fabric. Closed forms.
- OXL Oxidized lighter red-brown. Fabrics in light cream-brown shades, usually relatively fine-textured, often used for flagons. Only a footing base, re-used with holes *post-cocturam*.
- VESIC Vesicular, vesicular sherds, not certainly due to loss of shell-gritting, fairly common quartz and some probable grog inclusions. A large jar and two possible bowls.

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**APPENDIX 1
ARCHIVE DATA**

Cxt	Fabric	Form	Manuf	Ve	D?	DN	Details	Links	Shs	Weigh
			+			o				t
002	GREY	-	-	-	-	-	BS SCRAPS	-	3	8
002	OX	CLSD	-	-	-	-	BS DKGRY FAB/INT;RB EXT	-	1	3
002	OX?	BFB?	-	-	-	-	RIM DAMAGED;FLANGE;GRY RB;BN SURFS;HARSH PEBBLY;VABR	-	1	44
002	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	L3-74/POSTRO	-	-	-
005	FCLAY	-	-	-	-	-	FRAG DKGRY	-	1	4
005	GREY	-	-	-	-	-	BSS	-	3	41
005	GREY	-	-	-	-	-	FLAKE;LTGRY	-	1	6
005	GREY	J	-	1	-	-	BASE;BSS;COARSER FAB;DKGRY;BN INT;BURNT EXT	-	5	273
005	GREY	BCUR	LA	1	D	12	RIMS/PT WALL;LGRY FB;BN CORT/GRYBN SURFS;SOOT;DIAM22;JOINS	007	57	392
005	GREY	JEV	-	1	D	11	RIMS/PT WALL;GRY FAB;BN CORT/GRYBN SURFS;SOOT;DIAM16;JOINS	007	2	54
005	GREY	JLH	LA	1	D	13	RIMS/PT WALL;DKGRY FB/SURF;PINCHED HDLE;DIAM16	007;009;0 11	22	567
005	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	2C	-	-	-
007	GFIN	CLSD	-	1	-	-	BSS FINE DKGRY FB;RBCORT/DKGRY SURF;F MICAC;THIN 3MM	-	3	14
007	GREY	-	-	-	-	-	BSS	-	27	167
007	GREY	BFL	-	1	-	08	RIMS/WALL;LTGRY FB;DKER SURFS;PEBBLY;DIAM22;?MIS-SHAPEN;UNUSUAL	-	6	175
007	GREY	BFL	-	-	-	09	RIM/PT CURVED WALL;DAMAGED FLANGE;DKGRY FB/S;DIAM11 INT RIM;CF B321?	-	1	19
007	GREY	CLSD	-	-	-	-	BS DKGRY;LTBN CORT/SURFS;QTZY;THIN 3-4MM	-	1	3
007	GREY	CLSD	-	-	-	-	BS DKGRY;LTBN EXT SURF;QTZY;THIN 3-4MM	-	1	3
007	GREY	CLSD	-	1	-	-	BSS;DKGRY CORE/SURFS;RB FB	-	2	8
007	GREY	CLSD	-	1?	-	-	BSS GRY PEBBLY FAB	-	2	20
007	GREY	CLSD	-	-	-	-	BSS MISC	-	6	65
007	GREY	D?	-	1	-	-	BASE FRAGS;DKGRY	-	2	106
007	GREY	J	-	1	-	-	BASE PLAIN;PEBBLY FCOARSE FB	-	4	179
007	GREY	J	-	-	-	-	BS SHLDR/GROOVE;HARSH GREY	-	1	15
007	GREY	J	-	2	-	-	BSS;GRY W BN CORT FAB	-	7	131
007	GREY	J?	-	1	-	-	BSS COARSER;GRY CORE RB FB;RB INT;GRY EXT	-	2	114
007	GREY	J?	-	1	-	-	BSS;COARSER;DKGRY FB;LTBN SURFS	-	3	38
007	GREY	J105	SWL	1	D	01	RIMS/BSS PEBBLY FB;GRYCORE;BN CORT;PT BN/DKGRY SURFS;DIAM16	-	17	255
007	GREY	JB	STAB	-	-	-	BS SHLDR;GROOVE;ST AB;PEBBLY DKGRY FB	-	1	28
007	GREY	JB	-	-	-	-	BS BASAL ZONE;BURNISHED EXT;MORE STD GRY FAB	-	1	34
007	GREY	BCUR	-	1	D	12	RIMS;BSS;BN INTERIOR;JOINS	005	13	85
007	GREY	BEV	-	-	-	06	RIM/PT WALL>GROOVE;DKGRY PEBBLY FB;DIAM28	-	1	63
007	GREY	JBEV	-	-	-	-	RIM FRAG ONLY;DKGRY FB/SURFS;BN CORT	-	1	28
007	GREY	JEV	-	-	D	11	BS JOINS	005	1	18
007	GREY	JEV	-	1	-	03	RIM/PT WALL;DKGRY F.QTZY FB;LTBN EXT;DIAM14;SAME	011	4	81
007	GREY	JEV	-	1	-	04	RIM/PT WALL;LTER GRY SURFS;DIAM14	-	3	66
007	GREY	JEV	-	-	-	07	RIM/PT WALL;DKGRY FB;DIAM20	-	1	65
007	GREY	JEV	-	-	-	-	RIM FRAG ONLY;DKGRY FB;BN CORT;DIAM16	-	1	18
007	GREY	JLH	LA	1	D	13	RIMS;BSS;HDLE;DKGRY;JOINS	005;009;0 11	59	939
007	IAGR	BEV	-	1	-	05	RIM/PT WALL;DKGRY FB/SURFS;BN CORT;GROG;DIAM36	-	2	241
007	OX	CLSD	-	2?	-	-	BSS DKGRY FB/INT;RB EXT;SAME	011	5	26
007	OXF?	CLSD	-	-	-	-	BS DKGRY FAB;CRBN SURFS;GROOVED;THIN 3MM WALL	-	2	7
007	OXF?	CLSD	-	1	-	-	BSS FINE DKGRY FB;CR EXT CORT/SURF;MORE QTZ;3- 4MM	-	2	10
007	OXL?	FS?	-	1	D	02	BASE FTRG;LTBN FAB;BURNT EXT;PIERCED POST- COC HOLES BASE;FFINE	-	3	131
007	VESIC	J?	-	-	-	-	BS;BASE FRAG;DKGRY;THINNER WALL;SMALLER VESS;SAME?	011	2	29
007	VESIC	JB	-	1	-	-	BSS;DKGRY FB/INT;RB CORT/EXT;LGE VESS	-	2	72
007	VESIC	JBEV	-	1	-	-	RIM/PT SHLDR;DIAM24;DKGRY/SURFS;BN CORT	-	2	42
007	VESIC	JL	-	1	-	10	RIMS/PT BODY;NONJ BASE;GRYFB;GRYBN SURFS;DIAM20-1;SAME	011	45	1432
007	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	2C	-	-	-

009	GREY	-	-	1	-	BSS;DKGRY	-	2	9
009	GREY	-	-	-	-	BSS	-	3	35
009	GREY	JLH	LA	1	-	13 BSS DKGRY FB/SURFS;BN CORT;SAME IN	005;007;0	3	26
							11		
009	VESIC	-	-	-	-	BSS	-	2	13
009	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	2C?	-	-	-
011	GFIN	CLSD	-	-	-	BS DKGRY FB/SURFS;THIN 3MM;NOT SAME 005	-	1	1
011	GREY	-	-	-	-	BSS	-	6	60
011	GREY	JBEV	-	-	-	RIM FRAG;DKGRY	-	1	11
011	GREY	JEV	-	-	-	03 BS FROM J IN	007	1	32
011	GREY	JLH	LA	1	-	13 BSS;DKGRY;BN CORT;SAME	005;007;0	4	91
							09		
011	OX	-	-	1	-	BSS DKGRY FB/INT;BN CORT/EXT	007	3	18
011	OX	-	-	-	-	BS VABR;DKGRY;RB SURFS	-	1	5
011	OX	JB	-	1	-	BSS DKGRY FB;BN CORT/SURFS	-	2	60
011	VESIC	J?	-	1?	-	BSS THINNER WALL AS IN	007	4	19
011	VESIC	JL?	-	1	-	10 BSS;DKGRY;BN CORT;GRYBN SURFS AS IN	007	9	284
011	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	2C	-	-	-
016	COAR	CPN?	HM	-	D?	TINY RIM FR;DKGRY;POSS GROG/CLAY PELL;FEW INCLS	-	1	3
016	IAGR	JB	-	-	-	BASE/PT WALL;LGE VESS;DKGRY RB;GRY/RB SURFS;PIMPLY	-	1	82
016	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	IA/ROM?	-	-	-

APPENDIX 2 ARCHIVE CODES

Code	Expansion
Forms	
BEV	Bowl everted rim
BFB	Bowl bead & flange
BFL	Bowl flat-rimmed
CPN	Cooking pot IA tradition
D	Dish
FS	Flask
J	Jar
J105	Jar lid-seated
JB	Jar or bowl
JBCUR	Jar or bowl curved-rim
JBEV	Jar or bowl everted-rim
JEV	Jar everted -rim
JL	Jar large
JLH	Jar lug-handled
Manufacture+	
HM	Hand-made
STAB	Stabbed
SWL	Scored wavy line

**APPENDIX 3
VESSELS SELECTED FOR ILLUSTRATION**

DNo	Cut	Deposit	Cxt	Fabric	Form	Manuf+	Ve	Details	Links	Shs	Weight
01	006	Gully	007	GREY	J105	SWL	1	RIMS/BSS PEBBLY FB;GRYCORE;BN CORT;PT BN/DKGRY SURFS;DIAM16	-	17	255
02	006	Gully	007	OXL?	FS?	-	1	BASE FTRG;LTBN FAB;BURNT EXT;PIERCED POST-COC HOLES BASE;FFINE	-	3	131
03	006	Gully	007	GREY	JEV	-	1	RIM/PT WALL;DKGRY F.QTZY FB;LTBN EXT;DIAM14;SAME	011	4	81
03	010	Feature	011	GREY	JEV	-	-	BS FROM J IN	007	1	32
04	006	Gully	007	GREY	JEV	-	1	RIM/PT WALL;LTER GRY SURFS;DIAM14	-	3	66
05	006	Gully	007	LAGR	BEV	-	1	RIM/PT WALL;DKGRY FB/SURFS;BN CORT;GROG;DIAM36	-	2	241
06	006	Gully	007	GREY	BEV	-	-	RIM/PT WALL>GROOVE;DKGRY PEBBLY FB;DIAM28	-	1	63
07	006	Gully	007	GREY	JEV	-	-	RIM/PT WALL;DKGRY FB;DIAM20	-	1	65
08	006	Gully	007	GREY	BFL	-	1	RIMS/WALL;LTGRY FB;DKER SURFS;PEBBLY;DIAM22;?MIS- SHAPEN;UNUSUAL	-	6	175
09	006	Gully	007	GREY	BFL	-	-	RIM/PT CURVED WALL;DAMAGED FLANGE;DKGRY FB/S;DIAM11 INT RIM;CF B321?	-	1	19
10	006	Gully	007	VESIC	JL	-	1	RIMS/PT BODY;NONJ BASE;GRYFB;GRYBN SURFS;DIAM20-1;SAME	011	45	1432
10	010	Feature	011	VESIC	JL?	-	1	BSS;DKGRY;BN CORT;GRYBN SURFS AS IN	007	9	284
11	004	Gully	005	GREY	JEV	-	1	RIMS/PT WALL;GRY FAB;BN CORT/GRYBN SURFS;SOOT;DIAM16;JOINS	007	2	54
11	006	Gully	007	GREY	JEV	-	-	BS JOINS	005	1	18
12	004	Gully	005	GREY	BCUR	LA	1	RIMS/PT WALL;LGRY FB;BN CORT/GRYBN SURFS;SOOT;DIAM22;JOINS	007	57	392
12	006	Gully	007	GREY	BCUR	-	1	RIMS;BSS;BN INTERIOR;JOINS	005	13	85
13	004	Gully	005	GREY	JLH	LA	1	RIMS/PT WALL;DKGRY FB/SURF;PINCHED HDLE;DIAM16	007;009;011	22	567
13	006	Gully	007	GREY	JLH	-	1	RIMS;BSS;HDLE;DKGRY;JOINS	005;009;011	59	939
13	008	Gully	009	GREY	JLH?	LA	1	BSS DKGRY FB/SURFS;BN CORT;SAME IN	005;007;011	3	26
13	010	Feature	011	GREY	JLH	LA	1	BSS;DKGRY;BN CORT;SAME	005;007;009	4	91

Pottery Archive CGS05

Jane Young

context	cname	full name	sub fabric	form type	sherds	vessels	weight	decoration	part	description	date
002	SLIP	Unidentified slipware	pale orange fabric	hollow	1	1	13	brown slipped band on yellow	BS		mid 17th to 18th
002	LSW1	12th century Lincoln Glazed ware		jug	1	1	20		rim	very abraded;inturned rim;spots of glaze;? ID	mid/late 12th to early/mid
002	TOY	Toynton Medieval Ware		jug	1	1	8		BS	very abraded;? ID	late 13th to 15th
002	TOY	Toynton Medieval Ware		jug	1	1	6		BS	very abraded;? ID	late 13th to 15th
002	SCAR	Scarborough ware		jug	2	1	68		handle	very abraded;grooved thin rod handle;cu glaze;? ID	13th
002	SWSG	Staffordshire White Saltglazed stoneware		bowl ?	1	1	12		base		18th
002	CREA	Creamware		flat	1	1	3		base		mid/late 18th to mid 19th
002	PEARL	Pearlware		cup	1	1	2	int & ext blue print	rim		late 18th to mid 19th
002	PEARL	Pearlware		cup	2	1	4	ext blue print	BS		late 18th to mid 19th

Appendix: 4

Ceramic Building Archive CGS05

Jane Young

context	cname	full name	fabric	frags	weight	description	date
002	RBRK	Roman brick	very poor dark reduced fabric	1	274	comm to abundant round to subround quartz mod fe comm clean clay/mudstone pellets;oxid surfaces;57mm thick;corner	Roman
002	RBRK	Roman brick	very poor oxid fabric	1	57	comm to abundant round to subround quartz mod fe comm clean clay/mudstone	Roman
002	PNR	Peg, nib or ridge tile	BEVO ?	1	79	fine red fabric;salt surfacing	13th to 16th
016	FIRE CLAY	fired clay	fine mixed red & white	1	7	almost inclusionless occ patches of comm round to subround	-

Appendix: 5

Caistor Grammar School, All Weather Pitch. (CGS 05)

The Animal Bone

By Jennifer Kitch

A total of 15 (151g) fragments of animal bone were recovered by hand during the watching brief at Caistor Grammar School, All Weather Pitch. A further 176 (11g) fragments were recovered from the environmental bulk samples.

The hand-collected assemblage was of an overall moderate condition, the sieved remains were of a poor overall condition, the majority of which was unidentifiable to species or size category.

The assemblage represents mainly cattle and sheep/goat remains. No evidence of pathology, butchery or gnawing was noted on any of the remains.

The majority of the assemblage was recovered from linear gully [006] and probably represents general domestic waste.

Ctxt	Sample	Taxon	Element	Side	Z1	Z2	Z3	Z4	Z5	Z6	Z7	Z8	Prox	Dist	Path	Butch	Burnt	Gnaw	Fresh Break	Assoc'd	Measur'd	Tooth Wear	Surface	Condition	No.	(g)	Notes	
7	0	Sheep/Goat	Metatarsal	R	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	X	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X		3	1	4	
7	0	Cattle	Tooth	L	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X		2	1	10	Lower M1
7	0	Cattle	Tooth	L	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X		2	1	14	Lower M2, broken
7	0	Sheep/Goat	Tooth	R	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X		2	1	3	Upper M3
7	0	Sheep/Goat	Tooth	R	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X		2	1	5	Upper M2
7	0	Sheep/Goat	Tooth	R	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X		2	1	2	Upper M1
7	0	Large Mammal	Rib	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X		2	2	3	
7	0	Large Mammal	Long Bone	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X		3	1	4	
7	0	Medium Mammal	Long Bone	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X		2	1	2	
2	0	Sheep/Goat	Humerus	L	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	F	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	X		2	1	21	Bp=32, BT=31
2	0	Cattle	Metatarsal	L	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	X	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X		4	1	40	
2	0	Sheep/Goat	Femur	R	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	X	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X		3	1	5	
2	0	Cattle	Metapodial	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X		4	1	5	
5	0	Large Mammal	Femur	L	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	X	F	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	X		4	1	33	
7	1	Large Mammal	Long Bone	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X		4	3	3	
7	1	Sheep/Goat	Tooth	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X		2	1	0	Lower incisor
7	1	Medium Mammal	Rib	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X	X	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	X		3	1	0	Burnt grey/white
7	1	Unidentified	Unidentified	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X		4	18	2	
7	1	Rodent	Tooth	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X		2	1	0	Incisor
7	1	Unidentified	Unidentified	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X	X	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	X		4	7	0	burnt white
7	1	Unidentified	Unidentified	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X		4	145	6	

Key: Zones 1-8 as according to Serjeantson (1996)
Fusion, Proximal and Distal
U= Unfused
F = Fused
X= Not present
Condition, 1-5 (1-pristine, 5-unrecognisable).

**Assessment of plant remains recovered from a sample from excavations at
Caistor Grammar School, Caistor, Lincolnshire (site code: CGS05)**

by

Örni Akeret

Summary

Remains from a single bulk sediment sample recovered from deposits encountered during a watching brief of groundworks at Caistor Grammar School, Caistor, Lincolnshire, were submitted for an evaluation of their bioarchaeological potential.

The ancient biological remains submitted were restricted to small quantities of charred plant material, primarily charcoal fragments, with three seeds and fruits. These were of no real interpretative value and no further study of the remains is warranted.

KEYWORDS: CAISTOR GRAMMAR SCHOOL; CAISTOR; LINCOLNSHIRE; ASSESSMENT; PLANT REMAINS; CHARRED PLANT REMAINS; CHARRED GRAIN

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2 December 2005

Assessment of plant remains recovered from a sample from excavations at Caistor Grammar School, Caistor, Lincolnshire (site code: CGS05)

Introduction

A single sediment sample was recovered by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln), from a series of inter-cutting gullies recorded during a watching brief of groundworks to build an all weather pitch on the playing fields at Caistor Grammar School, Caistor, Lincolnshire (centred on NGR TA 1105 0110).

Caistor is situated upon a promontory at the western edge of the Lincolnshire Wolds Uplands, which is made up of Ferriby chalk with redden basal beds and seams consisting of Burnam and Welton chalk. West of the town on the lower slopes the development site is located upon Late Jurassic Elsham Sandstone overlain by Aeolian (wind blown) sand drift geology.

One bulk sediment sample ('BS' *sensu* Dobney *et al.* 1992) was recovered and processed by the excavator. Some of the resultant fractions (the 'flot' hereafter termed 'washover' and components of the residues) were submitted to Palaeoecology Research Services Limited (PRS), County Durham, for an assessment of their bioarchaeological potential.

Methods

The sediment sample was processed by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) to 1 mm, with a 300 micron sieve for the washover. The resultant residue was dried and separated into fractions using 5 mm and 10 mm sieves prior to sorting.

The washover and part of the residue was submitted to PRS. The residue had been sorted for biological and artefactual remains and only certain components—charred plant remains, a few fragments of ?hammer scale/iron object and the less than 5 mm fraction of the residue—were included in the submitted material.

Plants, and the general nature of the washover and the submitted residue components, were recorded briefly by 'scanning', identifiable taxa and other components being listed on paper. Notes on the quantity and quality of preservation were made for each fraction. Nomenclature for plant taxa follows Stace (1997).

Results

Context 1 [sediment from a series of inter-cutting gullies]

Sample 7 (30 litres sieved to 1 mm by the excavator with 300 micron washover; no unprocessed sediment remains)

The minute washover (dry weight <1 g) was mostly of small (mm-size) charcoal fragments. These were mainly short twisted pieces that may be derived from roots or stems, or perhaps branches of a dwarf shrub. Some modern rootlets were also present.

Biological remains sorted from the residue were also mostly of unidentified charcoal (to 11 mm; ~2 g), but there were also three charred seeds or fruits. The latter were one seed of pea or vetch (*Lathyrus/Vicia*), one poorly preserved

unidentified cereal grain and one caryopsis of a representative of the grass family (Poaceae). A few fragments of hammer scale/iron object had also been recovered (to 9 mm; <1 g). The bulk of the less than 5 mm fraction of the residue (dry weight 490 g) was of small lumps (to 5 mm) of concreted sediment that had not disaggregated during processing and there were also a few stones (to 6 mm).

Discussion and statement of potential

Identifiable ancient biological remains recovered from the sampled context were restricted to a very small number of charred seeds and fruits. The poor preservation rendered the identification of even these few remains difficult and, consequently, the potential for obtaining data for environmental reconstruction or information regarding cultivated plants was effectively nil.

The charred cereal grain would provide sufficient suitable material for radiocarbon dating of the deposits to be attempted via Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS) if required.

Recommendations

No further study of the biological remains from this deposit is warranted.

Retention and disposal

The small quantity of charred plant remains should be retained as part of the physical archive of the site. The remaining residue from the sample considered here may be discarded.

If the results presented here are typical of the site as a whole then, unless required for purposes other than the study of biological remains, any remaining unprocessed sediment may be discarded.

Archive

All material is currently stored by Palaeoecology Research Services (Unit 8, Dabble Duck Industrial Estate, Shildon, County Durham), along with paper and electronic records pertaining to the work described here.

Acknowledgements

The author is grateful to Chris Clay, of Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln), for providing the material and the archaeological information.

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Caistor Grammar School, All Weather Pitch (CGS 05)

Lithics report

by
Mike Daley.

A single blade was recovered from within an unstratified context during a watching brief monitoring a topsoil strip in the car park area.

Description of Worked Flint

The flint may be characterised as a Blade, based upon a typological classification of blades with a length breadth ratio minimum of 2: 1 (Head 1998). This flint, measures 25mm long, 12mm wide and 4mm thick. It is of uniform manufacture with parallel sides and retains no residual cortex. Two blades have been removed from the dorsal face and it has an oblique edge to one side. The thickest end has a slight bulb of percussion left by the striking platform. The thinner end is broken off probably by post-depositional damage. The tool is manufactured from a highly translucent flint that is dark grey in colour and has no visible inclusions. This is characteristic of 'Till B flint' characterised by Head (1995) and is typically used to produce smaller more intricate tools (ibid.).

CONT NO	TYPE	DATE	WEIGHT	COMPLETE	RETOUCH
U/S	Blade	Mes ?	1.5g	Post/Dep End Damage	No

This Blade has characteristics commonly found within a Mesolithic dating context with similar examples recovered at Esklets and Brimshaw in Yorkshire (Figs:123 and 124).

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Appendix 8	Context Summary	Site code: CGS 05
Context	Description	
001	Dark grey brown silty sand topsoil	
002	Dark brown windblown sand	
003	Natural orange grey clay	
004	Cut of linear gully	
005	Pale grey mottled sandy clay, fill of [004]	
006	Cut of linear gully	
007	Dark grey sandy silt, fill of [006]	
008	Cut of linear gully	
009	Mid brown grey sand, fill of [008]	
010	Irregular cut feature (possible tree bowl)	
011	Dark brown grey silty sand, upper fill of [010], natural silting	
012	Mid grey sandy clay, primary fill of [010], standing water silting	
013	Cut of tree bowl	
014	Dark grey sandy clay with iron panning, fill of [013]	
015	Cut of ditch	
016	Mid grey brown sandy clay, fill of [015]	