

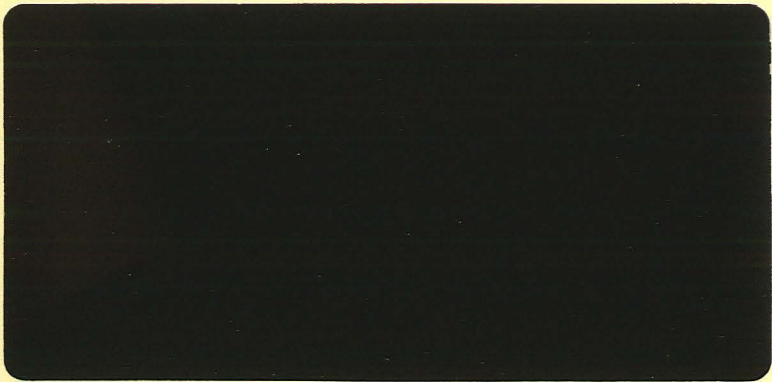
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
EVALUATION ON LAND AT  
BAIRD'S MILL,  
ERMINE STREET,  
ANCASTER,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(ABM06)**



**A P S**  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
SERVICES



Abschlussbericht zum 15/3/06

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Quality Control  
Baird's Mill, Ermine Street,  
Ancaster, Lincolnshire  
(ABM 06)

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
EVALUATION ON LAND AT  
BAIRD'S MILL,  
ERMINE STREET,  
ANCASTER,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(ABM06)**

Work Undertaken For  
Persimmon Homes  
(East Midlands Limited)

February 2006

Report Compiled by  
Neville Hall BA(Hons) DipArch AIFA

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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES**

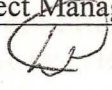
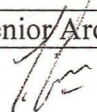


A.P.S. Report No. 26/06

Conservation  
Services  
15 MAR 2006  
Highways & Planning  
Directorate

**Quality Control**  
**Baird's Mill, Ermine Street,**  
**Ancaster, Lincolnshire**  
**(ABM 06)**

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## 1. SUMMARY

*An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Baird's Mill, Ermine Street, Ancaster, Lincolnshire. The evaluation comprised the excavation of six, 20m trial trenches. However, following the identification of Romano-British levels through a sondage excavated at the northern end of Trench T3, this trench was deepened and expanded to become Trench T7.*

*During the construction of a malthouse on the site in the mid 1860s a Romano-British pottery kiln and a number of inhumation burials had been found during the excavation of the foundations. This evaluation did not locate similar features, but did find a section of ditch, which yielded three sherds of pottery ranging in date from the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 3<sup>rd</sup> and early 4<sup>th</sup> centuries. Although undated and unexcavated, two possible postholes and a possible pit found at the same levels may also be of the same date.*

*Two ploughmarks and plough soils of probable post medieval origin (although similarly undated) were located at the rear of the site in an area which had been under open field cultivation.*

*The evaluation also identified a number of wall footings, floor levels and load bearing brick pillars as well as made ground deposits associated with the 19<sup>th</sup> century malthouse, and deposits associated with its demolition in the 1970s.*

*The eastern rear of the site had been the location of allotments during at least the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Garden soils associated with this activity were also found.*

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

An archaeological evaluation is defined as, "a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If such archaeological remains are present Field Evaluation defines their character and extent, quality and preservation, and it enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate" (IFA 1997).

### 2.2 Planning Background

An outline application for planning permission for the demolition of the existing mill buildings and a proposed residential development on land at Baird's Mill, Ermine Street, Ancaster, Lincolnshire has been submitted to and granted outline consent by South Kesteven District Council (Planning reference S05/0107/02). As the application site is situated within an archaeologically sensitive area, a condition has been attached to this consent requiring an archaeological evaluation prior to the granting of full planning permission.

Archaeological Project Services (APS) was commissioned by Persimmon Homes (East Midlands) Limited to undertake the archaeological evaluation of the site in accordance with the requirements of the Planning Archaeologist, South Kesteven District Council. The on-site work was undertaken between the 6<sup>th</sup> and the 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2006.

### 2.3 Topography and Geology

Ancaster is located some 10km to the west of Sleaford and 10km to the northeast of Grantham in the administrative district of South Kesteven, county of Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The application site is situated on the eastern side of Ermine Street, to the south of the Grantham-Sleaford railway line and at the northern end of the village of Ancaster at National Grid Reference SK 9865 4432. The site is located on a moderate southeast-facing slope that extends southeastwards to the Beck, a minor watercourse, at heights of between 40-42m AOD (Fig. 2).

The local soils are of the Blackwood Association, typically deep permeable sandy and coarse loamy soils along with soils of the Ruskington Association comprising gleyic brown earths to the immediate southeast of the site (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 127, 304). These soils have developed on Older River sands and gravels that in turn overlie limestone of the Jurassic (GSGB 1972).

### 2.4 Archaeological Setting

The application site lies within an area of considerable archaeological interest, which has been a focus for human activity since the Mesolithic period.

A Late Iron Age settlement made up of enclosure ditches and hut circles is located to the south and east of the village. This developed into an undefended Roman settlement and subsequently a walled town, the centre of which is now a Scheduled Monument located to the south of the site.

Roman remains including several cemeteries have also been found to the north, and to the south and west of the

village. Significant remains have also been found to the south at Roman Way. The site of a former temporary Roman marching camp (also a Scheduled Monument) is situated to the west of the site. The application site also lies to the immediate east of Ermine Street, a Roman road, which passes through Ancaster on a north-south alignment.

A Roman pottery kiln and a group of five or six skeletons were found in 1865 during the excavation of foundations for a new malthouse at the site (Trollope 1872, 481). Numerous sherds of grey-red and cream pots were also found, which were the product of the pottery kiln. Coins of Constantine and Vespasian have also been found on the malthouse site (HER 30341).

A recent archaeological watching brief carried out by APS to the immediate north of the railway line at 122 Ermine Street in 2004 located a pit and ditch of Late Roman date within the foundations for new residential dwellings (Wood 2005).

There is a large Anglo-Saxon cemetery to the south of the village. It is possible that occupation of the Roman town may have continued into the Anglo-Saxon period, but no such settlement evidence has been found thus far.

Ancaster is not detailed in the Domesday Survey of AD1086. However the Survey does record the presence of two churches in the nearby village of West Willoughby, one of which may be located at Ancaster (Foster and Longley 1976). Ancaster is recorded in a charter of Henry II of the mid 12<sup>th</sup> century as *Anecastre*, the place name of which is derived from the Old English, and denotes the "fort belonging to Ana" (Cameron 1998, 3).

Physical remains from the Medieval period in Ancaster are scarce apart from a cross in the village centre and the church of St



Martin that contains structural elements from the 12<sup>th</sup> century (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 100).

A previous archaeological watching brief was carried out at the application site in 2005 by APS and involved the archaeological monitoring of the mechanical excavation of eleven geotechnical test pits (Cope-Faulkner 2005). This identified remains comprising a wall and floor surface associated with the former malthouse.

The "old wall" identified in the 2005 watching brief marked the rear wall of the malthouse complex (Cope-Faulkner 2005, HER 36518). This complex included a granary/warehouse for the receipt of the incoming barley; barley and malt kilns, germinating rooms, an engine house for pumping water via an artesian well from the underlying limestone and cottages for the workers and foreman (Fig. 4). The malthouse was demolished in the 1970s. Allotments were situated to the rear of the malthouse complex.

### 3. AIMS

The aim of the evaluation was to gather information to establish the presence or absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits in order to enable the Planning Archaeologist of South Kesteven District Council to formulate a policy for the management of archaeological resources present on the site.

### 4. METHODS

#### 4.1 Trial Trenching

A Planning Brief prepared by the Planning Archaeologist of South Kesteven District Council in response to this planning

application required a 2% sample by area of the application site (1.71 hectares). This would equate to eleven, 1.6 x 20m trial trenches.

The evaluation initially involved the excavation of the first six of these trenches (Trenches T1-T6) (Fig. 3). The position of each trench was plotted using a total station that was tied into the National Grid. However, Trench T1 had to be repositioned to avoid an area of hardstanding and again later owing to a substantial obstacle comprising a north-south aligned stone footing encountered during the mechanical excavation of this trench. Trench T2 was shortened to a length of approximately 15m owing to substantial obstructions from walls of the former malthouse. Trenches T5 and T6 were also relocated 3m to the east and northeast respectively to avoid the line of a foul sewer. These amendments to the original trench layout were carried out in agreement with the Planning Archaeologist of South Kesteven District Council.

The removal of topsoil and other overburden in Trenches T3-T6 was undertaken by a JCB 3cx mechanical excavator using a 1.6m wide toothless ditching bucket under the supervision of APS staff. The exposed surfaces of these trenches were then cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains. A toothed bucket was used for the removal of demolition rubble in Trenches T1 and T2.

Each deposit exposed during the evaluation was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A photographic record was compiled. Sections and plans were drawn at scales of 1:20 and 1:50. The recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

Following the supervised mechanical excavation of a sondage at the northern end of Trench T3 to establish the depth of natural deposits in the western area of the site, this trench was enlarged and redesignated as Trench T7 (Figs. 3 and 8).

Upon completion of the excavation of these trial trenches and the results obtained thereof, it was agreed, following discussion between APS and the Planning Archaeologist for South Kesteven District Council, that as the existing grain mill buildings and silos were already likely to have removed any potential Romano-British archaeological features through the degree and depth of their potential impact, the original requirement for the remaining five 20m trial trenches would be waived. A watching brief would be maintained during the construction stage of development.

#### 4.2 Post-excavation

Following excavation, all records were checked and ordered to ensure that they constituted a complete Level II archive and a stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. Context numbers are identified in the text by brackets. An equals sign between context numbers indicates that the contexts once formed a single layer or feature. Phasing was based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them, and supplemented by artefact dating.

### 5. RESULTS

#### 5.1 Description of the results

Following post-excavation analysis five phases of activity were identified:

Phase 1: Natural deposits

Phase 2: Romano-British deposits

Phase 3: Undated deposits

Phase 4: 19<sup>th</sup> century deposits

Phase 5: Modern deposits

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

#### 5.2 Phase 1: Natural deposits

Although mechanically excavated to depths of 2m and 1.2m respectively, natural deposits were not encountered in either Trenches T1 or T2 in the western area of the site (Plates 4 and 8).

Following the mechanical excavation of the sondage at the northern end of Trench T3, natural deposits (7.023) were identified within the expanded Trench 7 at a depth of 1.6m below current ground levels (Fig. 8, Plates 9-10). These deposits comprised a loose yellow-brown and grey-white sand.

Natural deposits were encountered at higher levels at the rear of the site.

Within Trench T4 a very loose yellow-orange to light yellow-brown sand deposit (4.003) was found at depths of between 0.42-0.50m below ground levels (Fig. 6, Plate 3). Because of its shallow depth there was evidence of frequent root action and worm sorting. A loose light orange/yellow sand (5.003) was present at the base of Trench T5 c0.78m below ground levels (Fig. 7, Plate 7). There was also some evidence of root action, worm sorting and animal disturbance within this deposit.

The natural deposits present in Trench T6 showed some variation and consisted of (6.004) and (6.005) (Fig. 7, Plate 5). Deposit (6.005) was a loose pale yellow sand with further evidence of worm sorting, root action and considerable

animal disturbance. This deposit was encountered at depths of between 0.52m and 0.64m below the surface. Overlying (6.005) was a band of friable mid orange-brown sandy clay (6.004) with moderate root disturbance and a thickness of 0.10-0.20m.

### 5.3 Phase 2: Romano-British deposits

A linear NNE-SSW orientated ditch [7.001] was identified within Trench 7 (Figs. 8 and 9, Sections 7.1 and 7.2, Plates 9-10). One section was excavated to a depth of 0.64, but was discontinued due to health and safety considerations and the depth of this trench (1.6m). The unexcavated full width of the ditch was 2.2m with a length of up to 6m.

The ditch [7.001] contained two fills. The fill (7.003) comprised a compact blue grey-brown silty clay of 0.13-0.26m in thickness. Overlying this was the fill (7.002), a compact mid grey-brown silty clay of 0.22-0.30m in thickness from which three shreds of 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> century and 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century pottery were retrieved.

### 5.4 Phase 3 Undated deposits

Although undated it is likely that features [7.004], [7.006] and [7.010] are Romano-British in origin since they were recorded at the same levels as ditch [7.001] (1.6m below ground level), (Fig. 8, Plates 9-10). They remained unexcavated. Features [7.004] and [7.010] represent two possible post holes in a NNE-SSW alignment. Feature [7.004] measured 0.30m in length and 0.18m in width and [7.010] 0.68m in length and 0.40m in width. Both were ovular in shape with similar fills (7.005) and (7.011), which were black-brown silty clays with no inclusions. A possible pit [7.006] was situated to the east of posthole

[7.004]. This was 1.6m from north-south and 1.1m from east to west and appeared to cut the Roman ditch [7.001] (Fig. 8). Its fill (7.007) was very similar to the fills (7.005) and (7.011).

Although undated it is likely that the subsoil deposits encountered within Trenches T4-T6 represent remnant plough soils associated with the period when this area of the site constituted open and cultivated fields. Within Trench T4 the plough soil deposits comprised (4.002), a loose mid brown sandy silt with occasional chalk and charcoal flecking and occasional small stones and flints with a thickness of 0.35m (Fig. 10, Section 4.1).

The plough soil deposit (4.002) overlay two probable ploughmarks [4.006] and [4.004] (Figs. 6 and 10, Section 4.1, Plate 3). These linear features were both orientated in an east-west direction and were parallel to each other. Feature [4.004] was 1.1m in length and 0.30m in depth while [4.006] was not excavated but was approximately 1m in length. The fills of these features comprised (4.005) and (4.007) respectively.

Within Trench T6 the plough soil deposits comprised (6.002) and (6.003) (Fig. 10, Section 6.1, Plate 6). Layer (6.003) was a loose mid grey and orange silty sand with moderate root disturbance and a thickness of 0.20-0.30m. Overlying this was (6.002), a loose mid brown sandy silt with occasional small sub angular stones and moderate root action and a thickness of 0.30m.

The plough soil deposits in Trench T5 were (5.002), a mid dark brown sandy silt with occasional small stones and a thickness of 0.36m.

Underlying the plough soil deposit (5.002) was an undated amorphous feature [5.004] (Figs. 7 and 10, Sections 5.1-5.3) that was

probably not archaeological in nature but may represent a natural hollow within which plough soils had accumulated or a possible tree throw hole. It was not fully sectioned and had been subjected to some degree of animal disturbance. Its various fills comprised (5.005)-(5.009).

### 5.5 Phase 4 19<sup>th</sup> century deposits

As noted earlier the malthouse was constructed in 1865. The outline of this complex is shown on Figure 4. It was apparent during the evaluation that the site was at a higher level than an adjacent field to the south and that the area of the former malthouse had been built up. Evidence of such made ground deposits were recorded in Trenches T3 and T7. These deposits had been laid down in order to facilitate the construction of the malthouse. The adjacent field to the south was low-lying, badly drained and prone to flooding.

Within Trench T3 these made ground deposits comprised (3.005) and (3.006) (Fig. 9, Section 3.1, Plate 2). Deposit (3.006) was a compact dark brown sandy clay with moderate charcoal and occasional brick/tile flecking and a thickness of 0.35m. This was overlain by (3.005), a loose, mid orange-brown sandy silty clay with occasional charcoal and brick/tile flecking and lenses of orange sand with a thickness of 240-280mm.

With the widening and deepening of Trench T3 to create Trench T7, the same sequence of deposits was encountered in the latter trench. These were recorded as (7.016) and (7.017) respectively (Fig. 11, Section 7.3). Layer (7.016) varied in thickness from 0.20-0.35m and (7.017) from 0.35-0.44m in depth.

These made ground deposits were also present in Trenches T1 and T2. Within Trench T2 this was (2.001), a friable mid

green brown gravel sand at the base of the trench that contained moderate demolition debris (Fig. 5). This was at a depth of 1.3m below ground levels. A second made ground deposit (2.002) was present in the north western area of Trench T2 (Fig. 5) and comprised a loose mid yellow brown sand at a depth of 1.15m below ground levels.

Within Trench T1 the made ground deposits comprised (1.003) and (1.004). Deposit (1.003) was a loose yellow sand of 0.20m in thickness while (1.004) comprised a loose mid green brown sand of 0.20m in depth (Figs. 5 and 9, Section 1.1).

Constructed into the made ground deposits were two internal load-bearing square-shaped brick pillars in Trench T7 – (7.020) and (7.022) (Figs. 8 11, Section 7.3) and three within Trench T3 – (3.013), (3.007) and (3.010) (Figs. 3 and 9, Section 3.1). These were constructed of alternate courses of headers and stretchers bonded with a lime mortar. Pillar (7.020) was constructed within the foundation cut [7.018] and fill (7.019) and (7.022) within construction cut [7.008] and fills (7.009) and (7.021) respectively.

Similarly, pillar (3.013) was constructed within the foundation cut [3.014], pillar (3.007) within the cut [3.009] and fill (3.008) and pillar (3.010) within the cut [3.012] and fill (3.011) respectively.

These brick pillars in turn supported a tile floor which was recorded throughout Trenches T3 and T7 as (3.003) and (7.014) (Figs. 9 and 11, Sections 3.1 and 7.3). This floor averaged 30mm in thickness. The floor was constructed on a make up deposit (3.004) and (7.015) that overlay the made ground deposits and consisted of a loose mid yellow-brown mixed hardcore and sand with occasional mortar

fragments. This had an average thickness of 0.20m.

A number of malthouse walls and floor levels were present within Trenches T1 and T2. Trench T1 was excavated to an average depth of nearly 2m. Due to health and safety considerations no attempt was made to enter this trench to record these features. A substantial north-south orientated stone wall footing was present along much of the western edge of Trench 1 (Fig. 5, Plate 8). Trench T2 was mechanically excavated to a depth of 1.2m. Three lengths of brick wall (2.003) were recorded (Fig. 5, Plate 4). These were of very similar construction to the brick pillars comprising an alternate header and stretcher coursing bonded with lime mortar. Two concrete floors (2.006) and (2.005) were also present in this trench.

### 5.6 Phase 5 Modern deposits

The malthouse was demolished in the 1970's and the site levelled. Substantial demolition material from this complex was then backfilled over most of the western portion of the site. These deposits were particularly deep over the western frontage of the site in Trenches T1 and T2. This comprised a loose brick and mortar rubble (1.002) and (2.007), which was 1.9m and 1.2m in depth respectively.

The demolition deposits decreased in depth towards the east and the extant "old wall". Within Trench T3 the loose brick rubble deposit (3.002) was on average some 0.37m in thickness. No such demolition material was encountered at the rear of the site in Trenches T4-T6 where the former allotments had been situated.

Following the demolition of the malthouse and the backfilling of the site, a tarmac car park surface was laid down over much of the western area of the site. This was recorded as (7.012), (3.001) and (1.001).

Topsoil deposits were recorded over the rear area of the site in Trenches T4-T6. These deposits would have been associated with the former allotments. Within Trench T4 this comprised (4.001), a loose dark brown sandy silt with occasional small stones and flints and an average depth of 0.40m (Fig. 10, Section 4.1). Within Trench T5 this was (5.001), a loose mid brown sandy silt of an average thickness of 0.41m and (6.001) in Trench T6, a loose dark brown sandy silt with occasional sub angular stones and a thickness of 0.35m.

## 6. DISCUSSION

At least one Romano-British ditch was identified by the evaluation. Two possible postholes and a possible ditch also identified at the same level may be of the same origin.

The three sherds of 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century Greyware and Nene Valley Greyware recovered from the ditch in Trench 7 did not entirely match the pottery found in association with the kiln in 1865. The pottery found in 1865 comprised "*specimens of Roman pottery of the usual pale red, grey and cream coloured wares*" (Trollope 1872, 481).

No features associated with the pottery kiln and inhumations found during the construction of the malthouse in the 1860s were found.

Prior to the construction of the malthouse the area on which these buildings later stood comprised open cultivated fields. Two ploughmarks and plough soil deposits were identified by the evaluation at the rear of the site. Although undated these features and deposits could perhaps be attributed to the post medieval period.

The fields adjacent to the site were lower lying, badly drained and prone to flooding. Ground levels on which the malthouse was to be constructed were built up to a level, which would prevent this from taking place. The malthouse complex was then built into these deposits. The evaluation identified a number of wall foundations, floors and brick pillars associated with this construction. The malthouse stood for just over a century until its demolition in the 1970s. The site was then backfilled with demolition rubble and the site levelled to provide a car park for the grain mill, which currently occupies the site.

The rear of the site during at least the 20<sup>th</sup> century was occupied by allotments. The evaluation identified several topsoil/garden soil deposits associated with this activity.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

The evaluation established that the ground levels in the western portion of the site had been built up to facilitate the construction of the malthouse in the mid 1860s. This has had the partial effect of preserving *in situ* Romano-British archaeological features and/or deposits at least in the rear of this western area. However there was a much greater degree of truncation of this archaeology at the western frontage of the site such that no such deposits appear to have survived.

Such levelling activity did not take place within the eastern area of the site. Romano-British activity appeared to be absent here, perhaps a reflection of the possible truncation of such potential by medieval and later post medieval agricultural activity, notably ploughing.

It is very likely that the construction of the grain silos and other mill buildings on the site in the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century removed any

further such potential by their depth of development.

The malthouse buildings appear to have been a large and extensive complex with associated cottages, germination rooms, kilns etc. of which substantial remains of floor levels, load bearing brick pillars and wall foundations were shown to have survived.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Persimmon Homes (East Midlands) Limited who commissioned the on-site work and the post-excavation analysis. Thanks are also extended to Mr Mark Bennet of the Lincolnshire Heritage Record for providing background information. Mark Williams coordinated the project, and Dale Trimble and Tom Lane edited the report.

## 9. PERSONNEL

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 Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth  
 CAD Illustration: Neville Hall  
 Post-excavation Analyst: Neville Hall

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## 11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

HER Lincolnshire Heritage Record

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

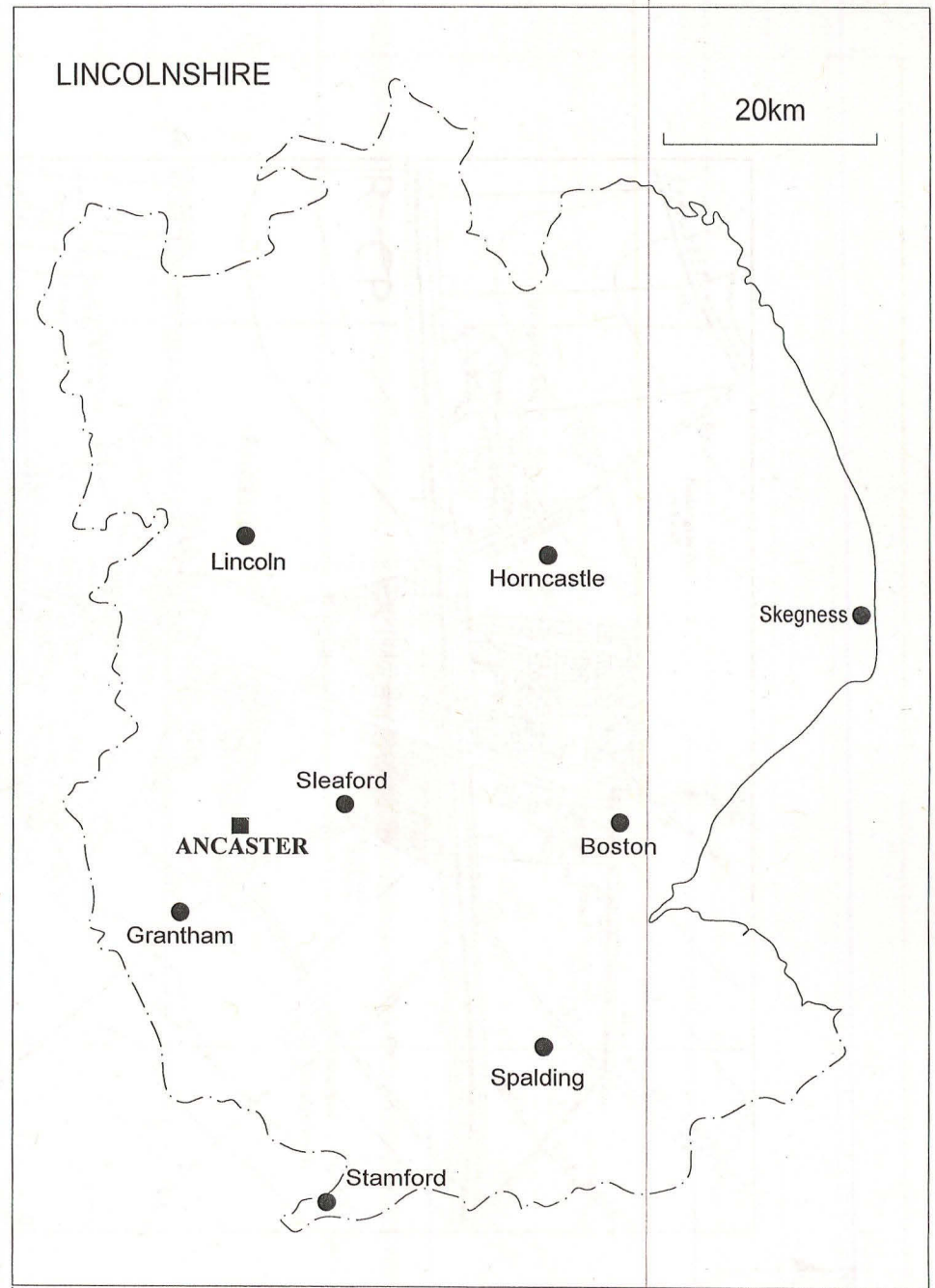
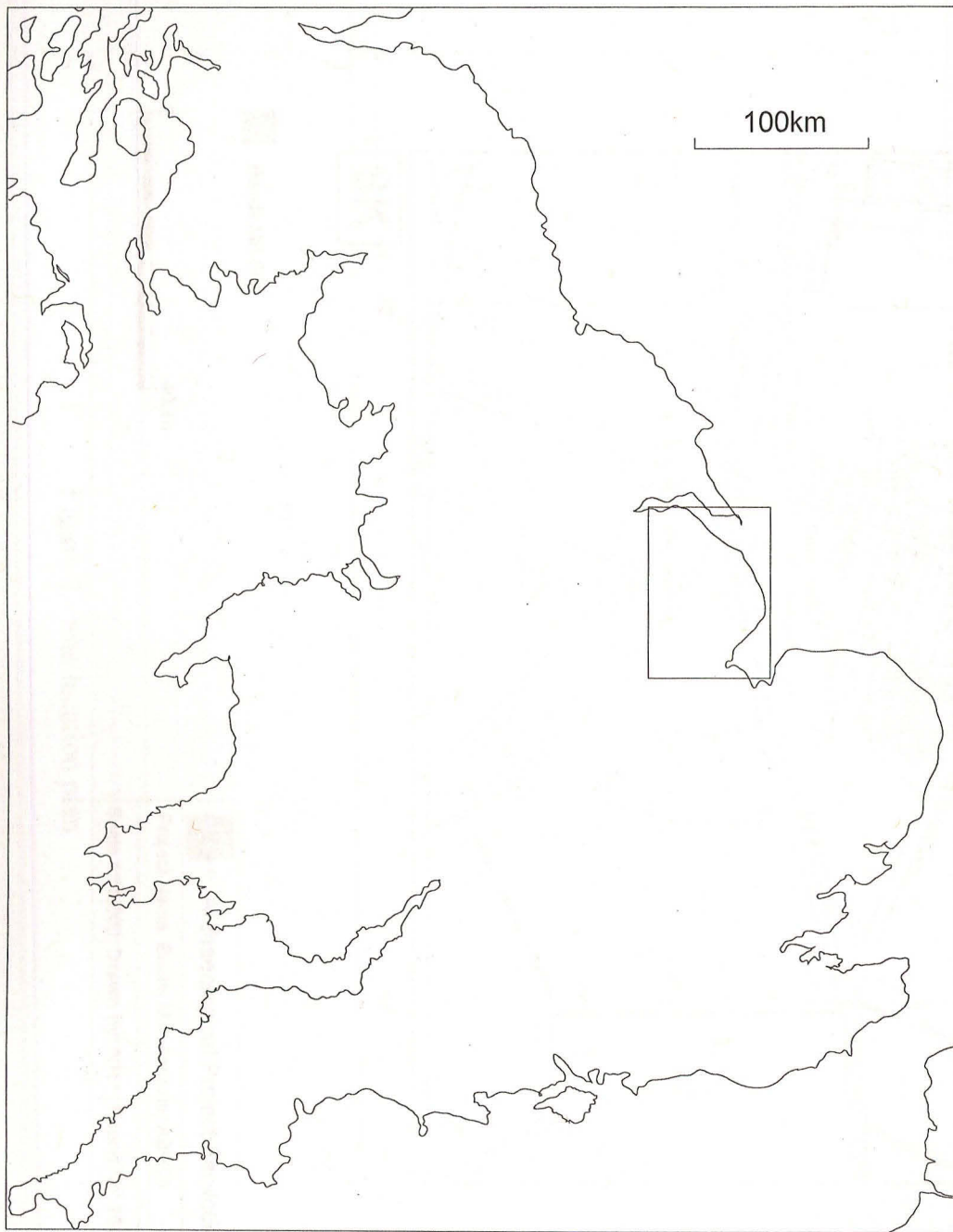
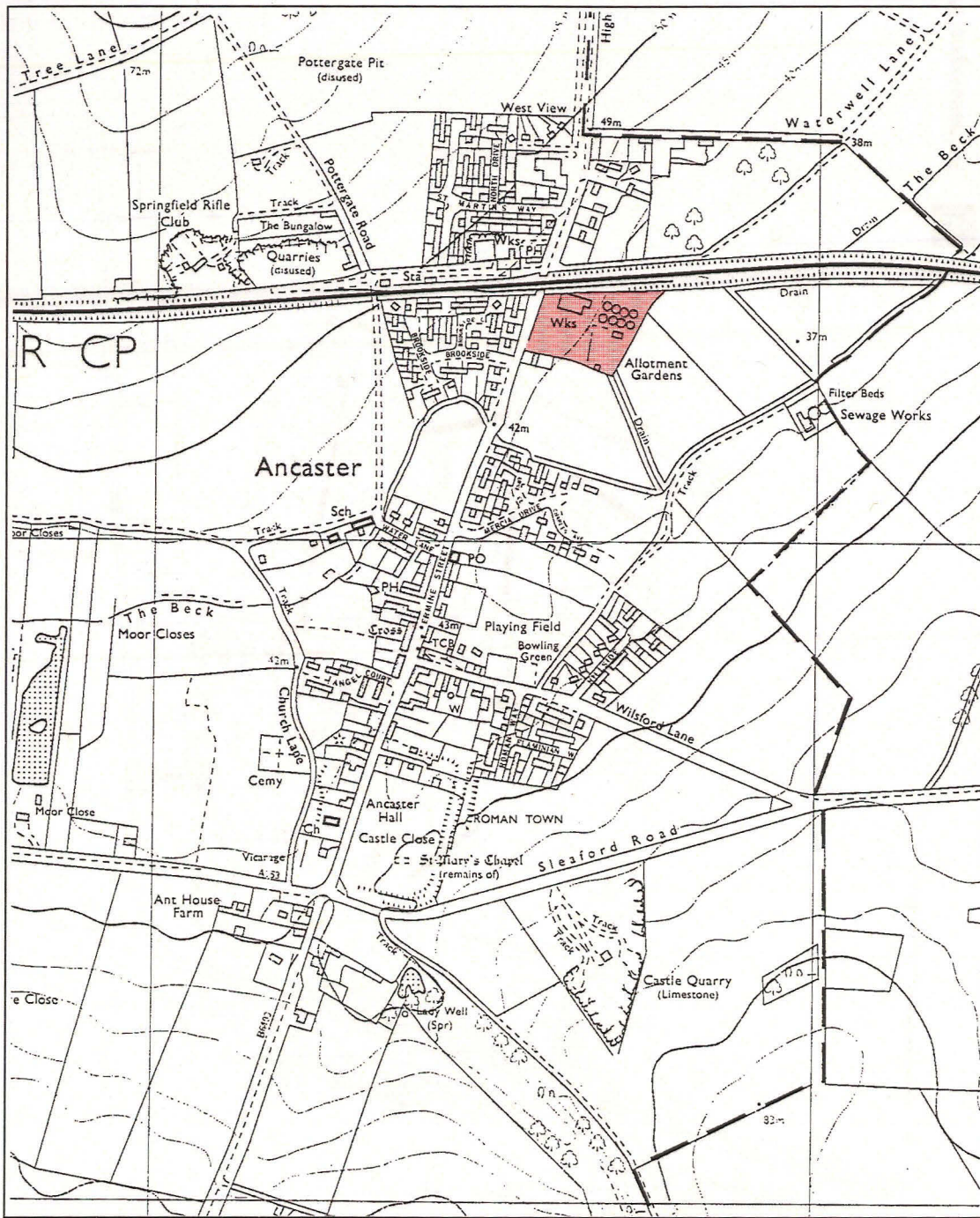


Figure 1 - General Location Plan





**SK**

98

99

 Bairds Mill Site




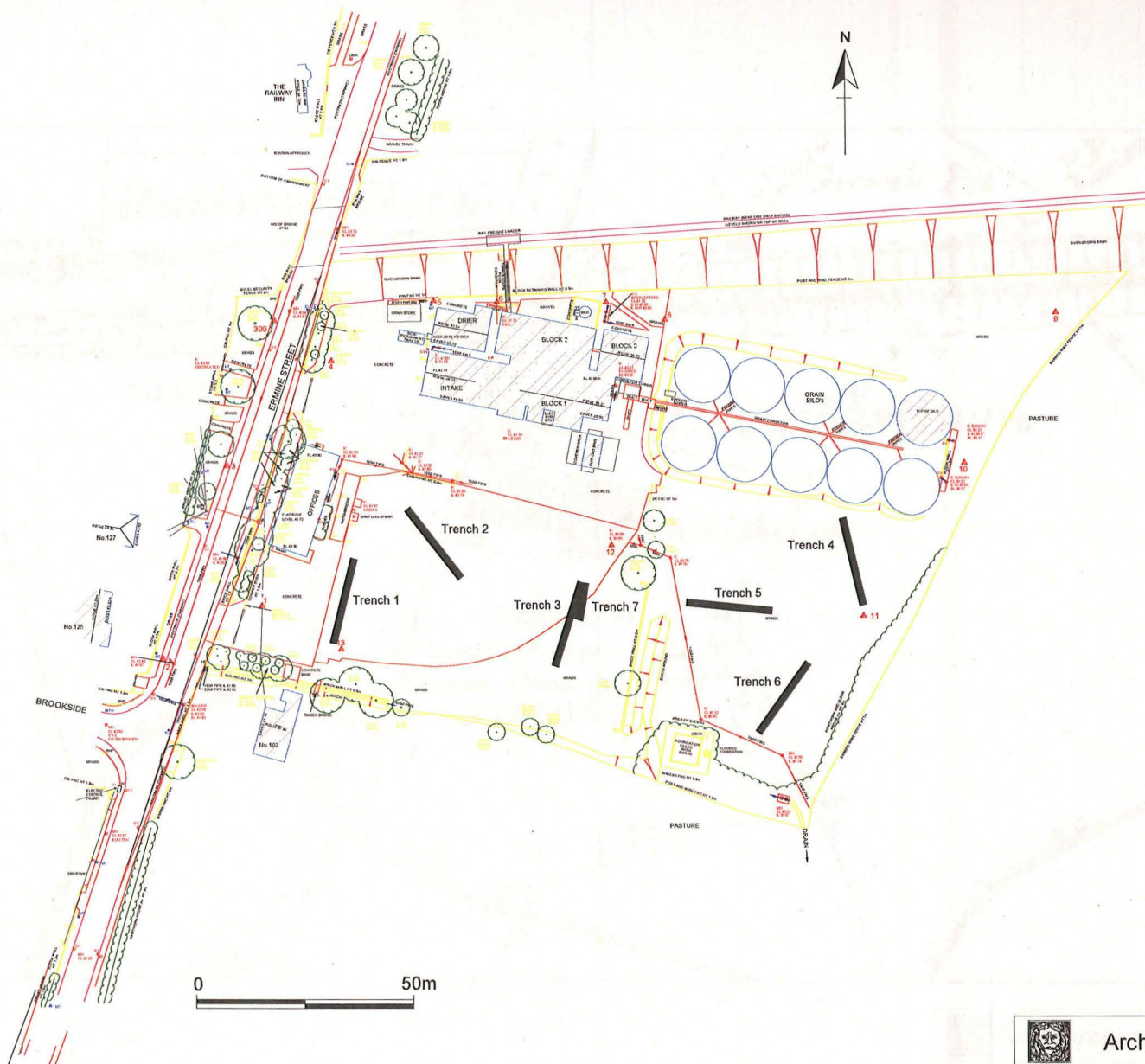
 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Bairds Mill, Ancaster ABM06		
Scale 1:10,000	Drawn by: NH	Report No: 26/06

Figure 2 - Site location plan




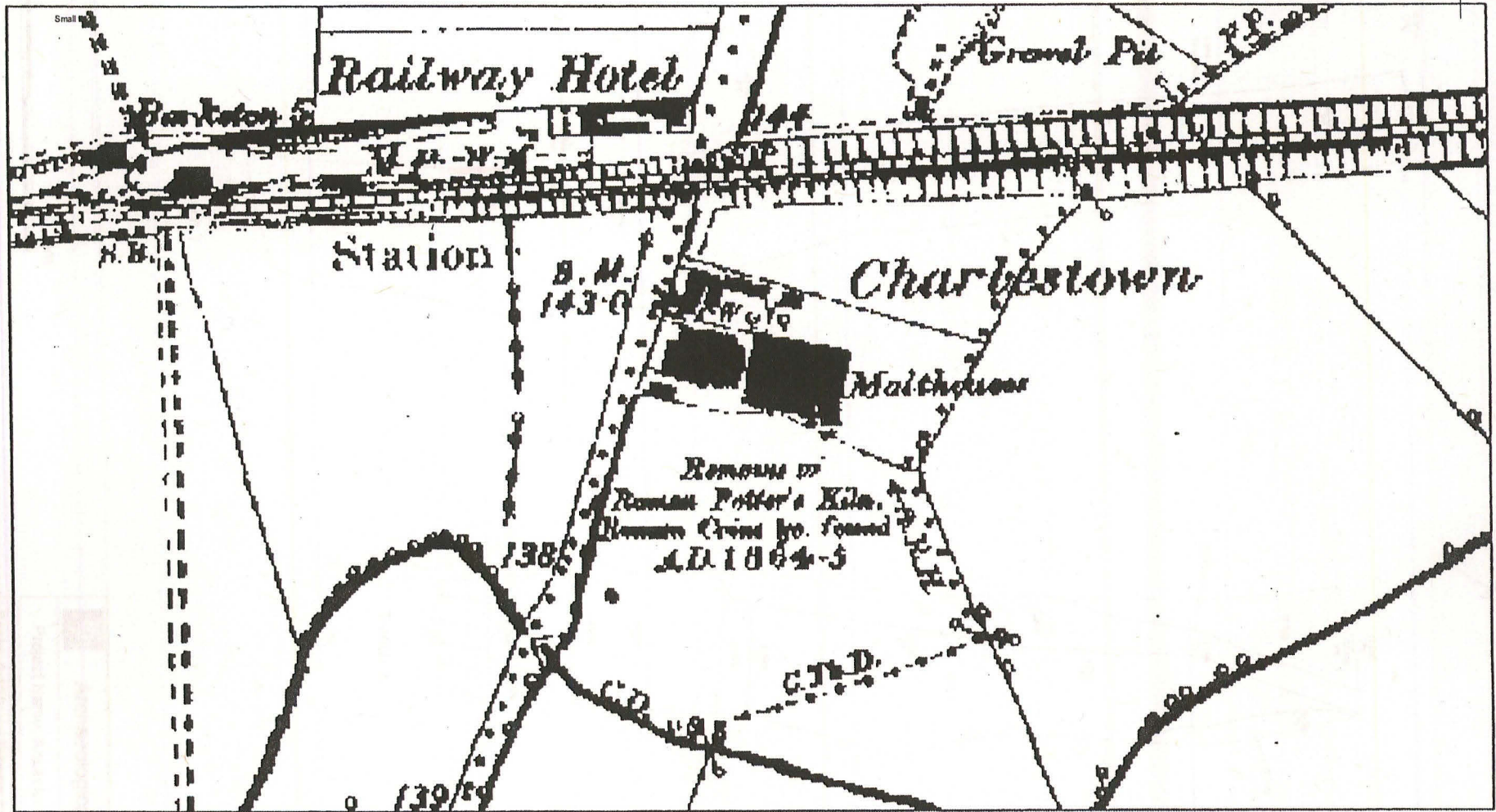
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Project Name: Ancaster Baird's Mill ABM 06		
Scale 1:1,500	Drawn by: NH	Report No: 26/06

Figure 3 Trial Trench Locations




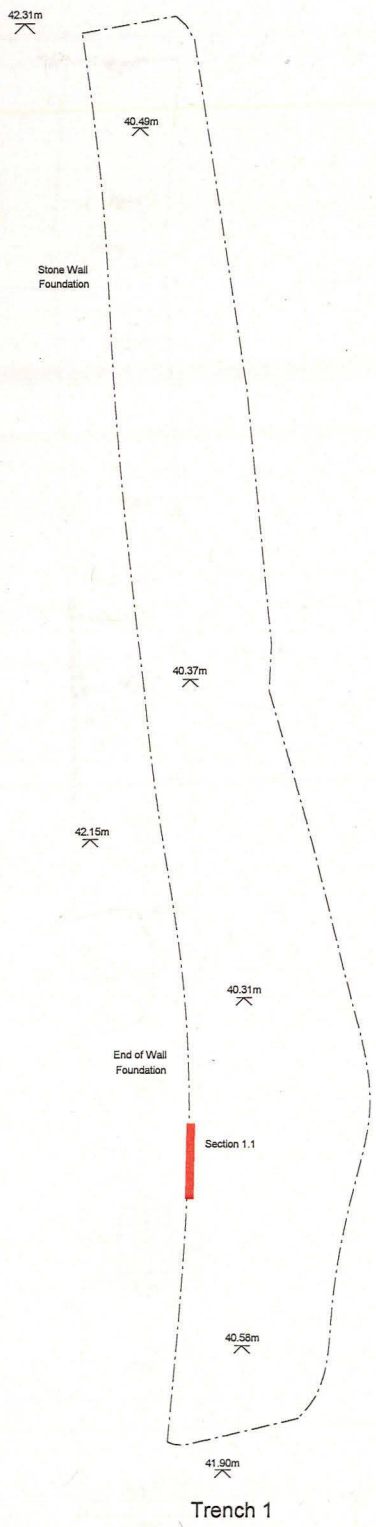
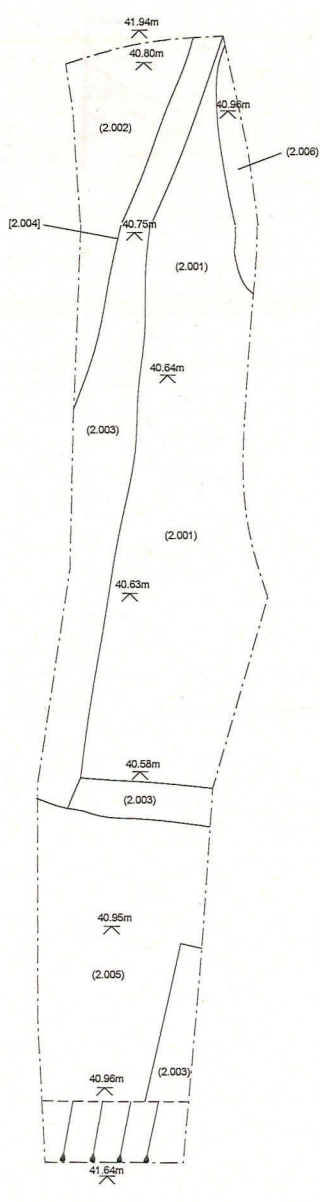
	Archaeological Project Services	
Project Name: Ancaster Barid's Mill ABM06		
Scale 6"-1 mile	Drawn by: NH	Report No: 26/06

Figure 4 Extract from the First Edition O.S. Map of 1891



Trench 1



Trench 2




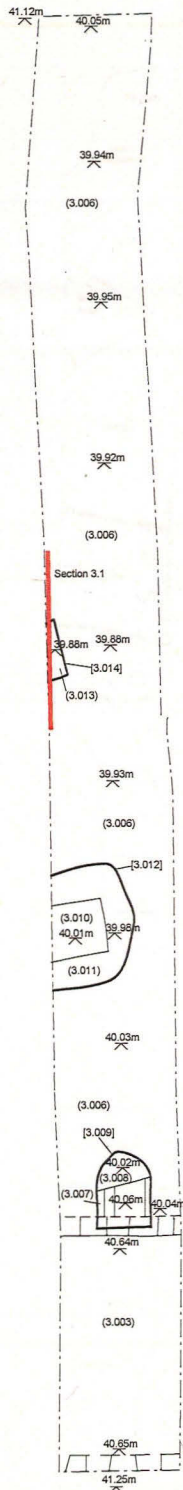
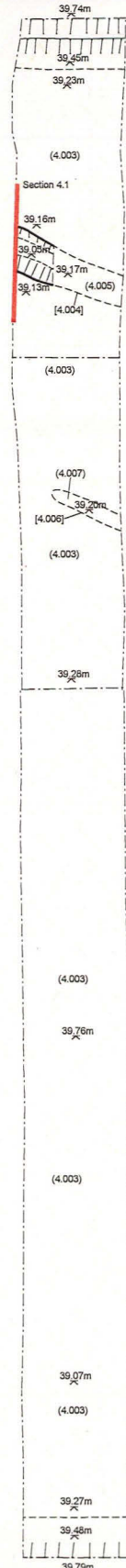
	Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Ancaster Baird's Mill ABM06			
Scale 1:100	Drawn by: NH	Report No: 26/06	

Figure 5 Trenches 1 and 2



Trench 3



Trench 4




	Archaeological Project Services
Project Name: Ancaster Baird's Mill ABM06	
Scale 1:100	Drawn by: NH Report No: 26/06

Figure 6 Trenches 3 and 4

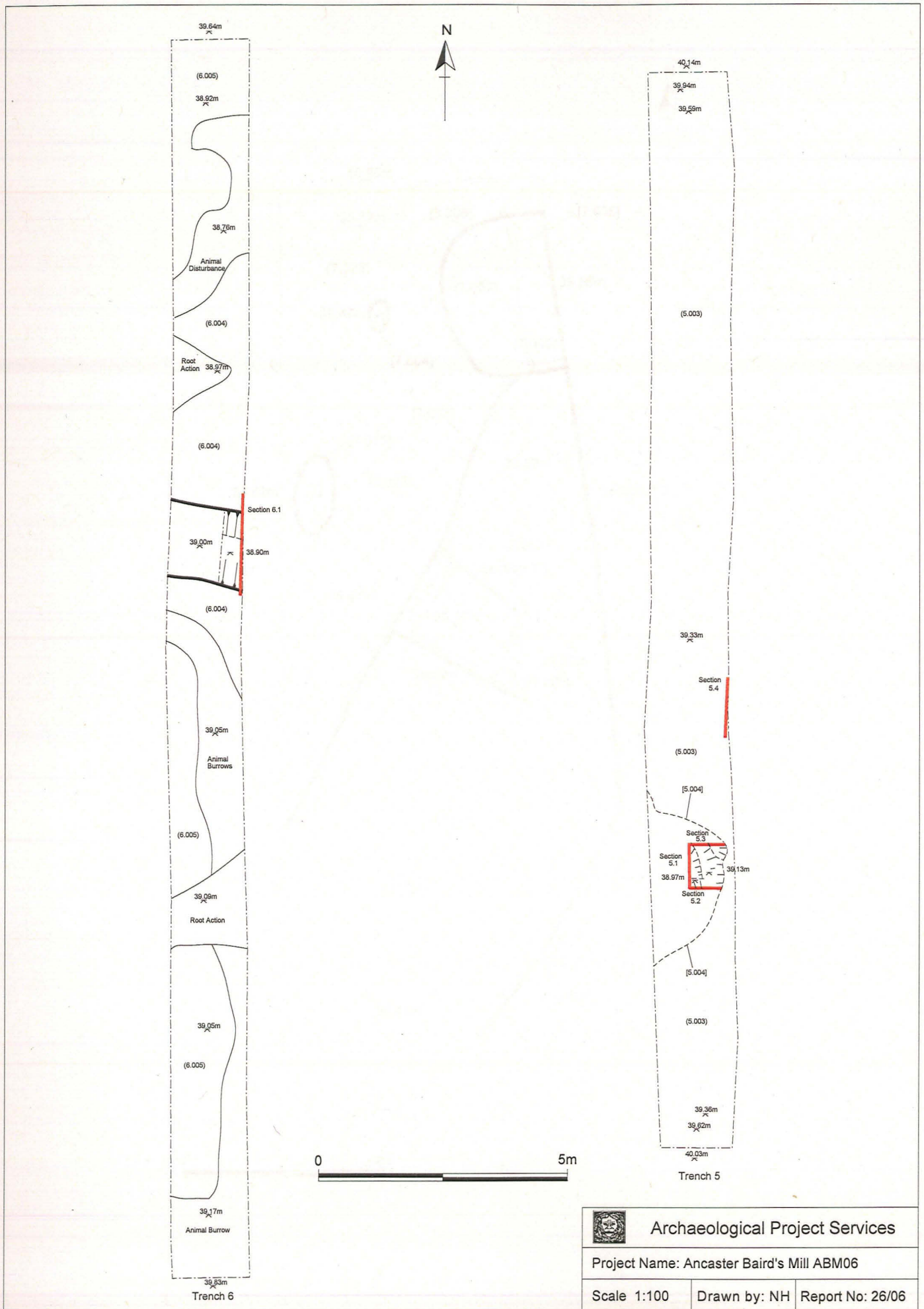
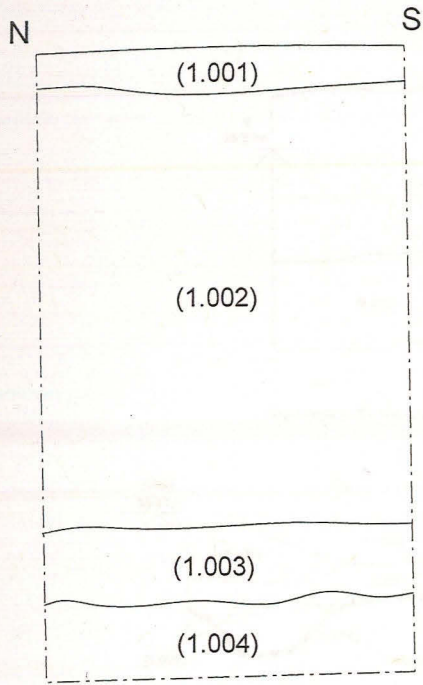
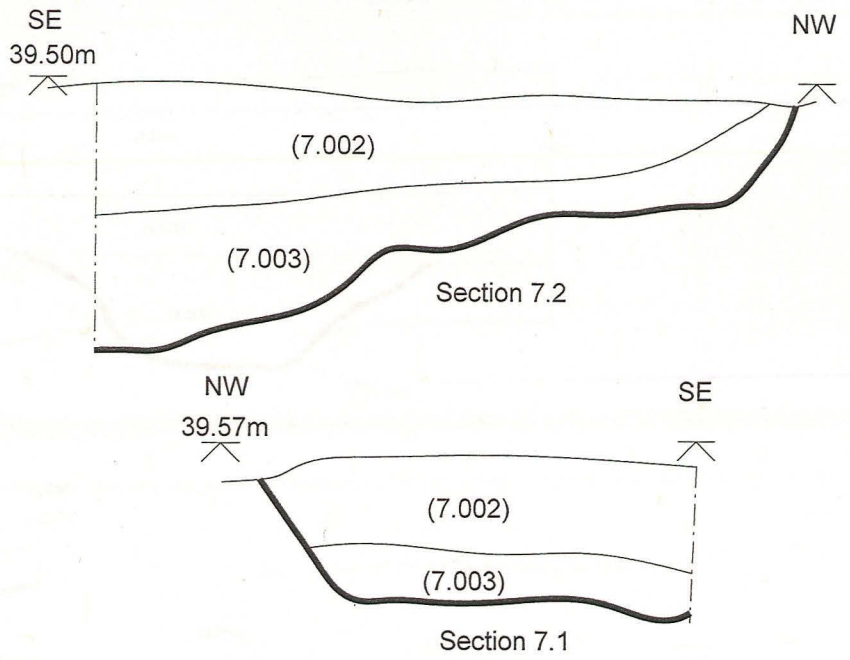


Figure 7 Trenches 5 and 6

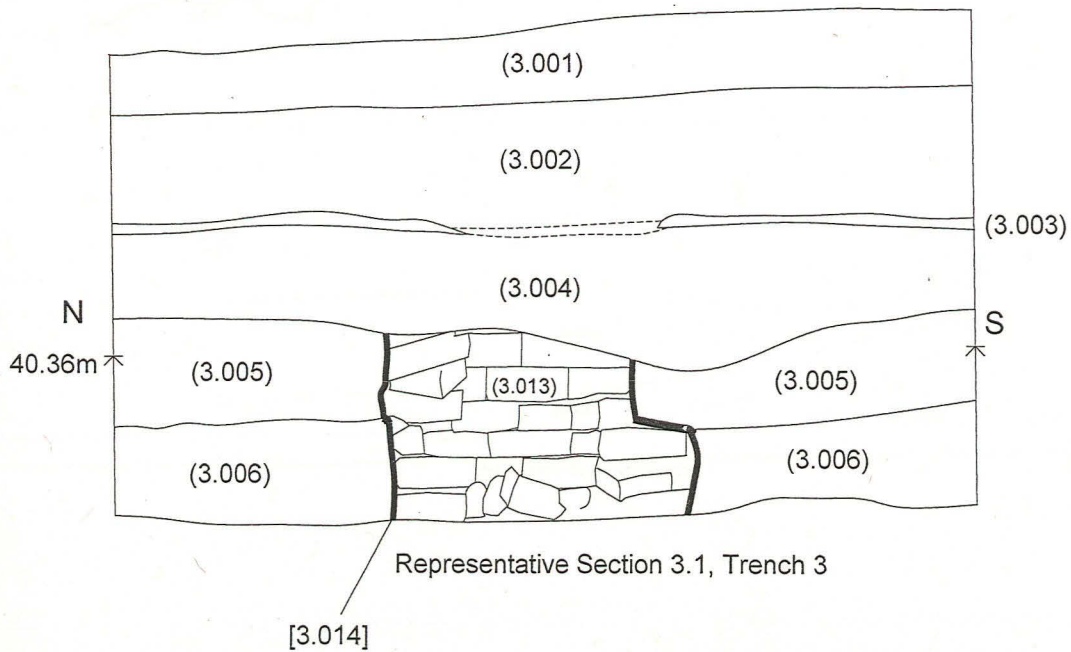




Representative Sketch Section 1.1, Trench 1



Sections Through Ditch [7.001]



Representative Section 3.1, Trench 3



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Ancaster Baird's Mill ABM06

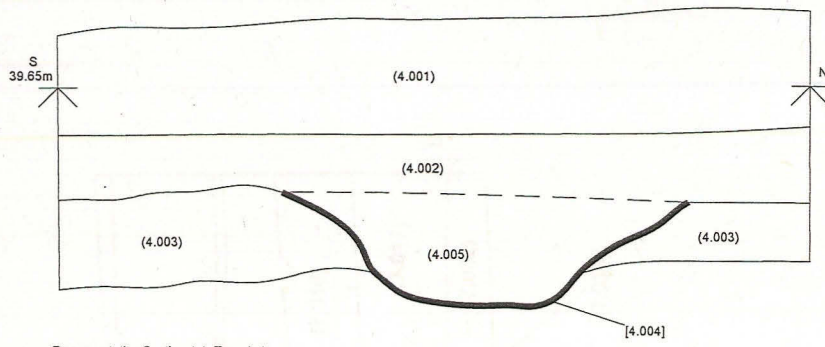
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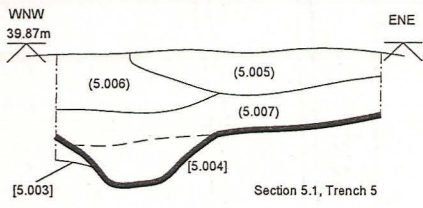
Report No: 26/06

Figure 9 Sections 1.1, 3.1, 7.1 and 7.2

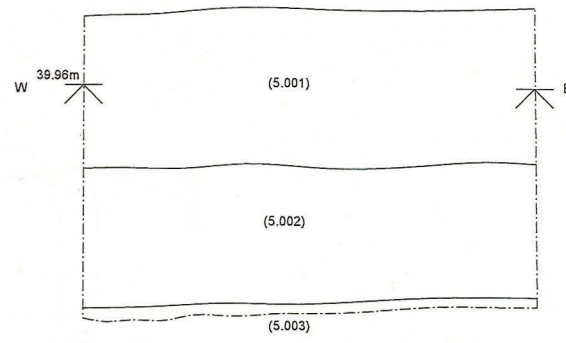




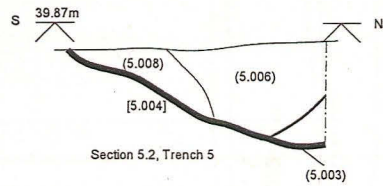
Representative Section 4.1, Trench 4



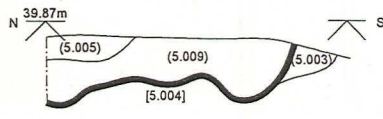
Section 5.1, Trench 5



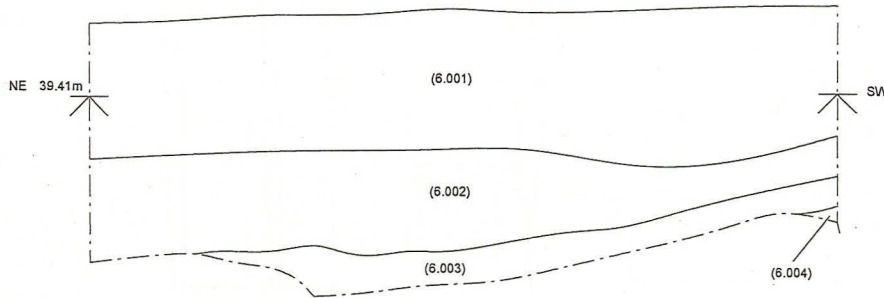
Section 5.4, Trench 5



Section 5.2, Trench 5



Section 5.3, Trench 5



Representative Section 6.1, Trench 6




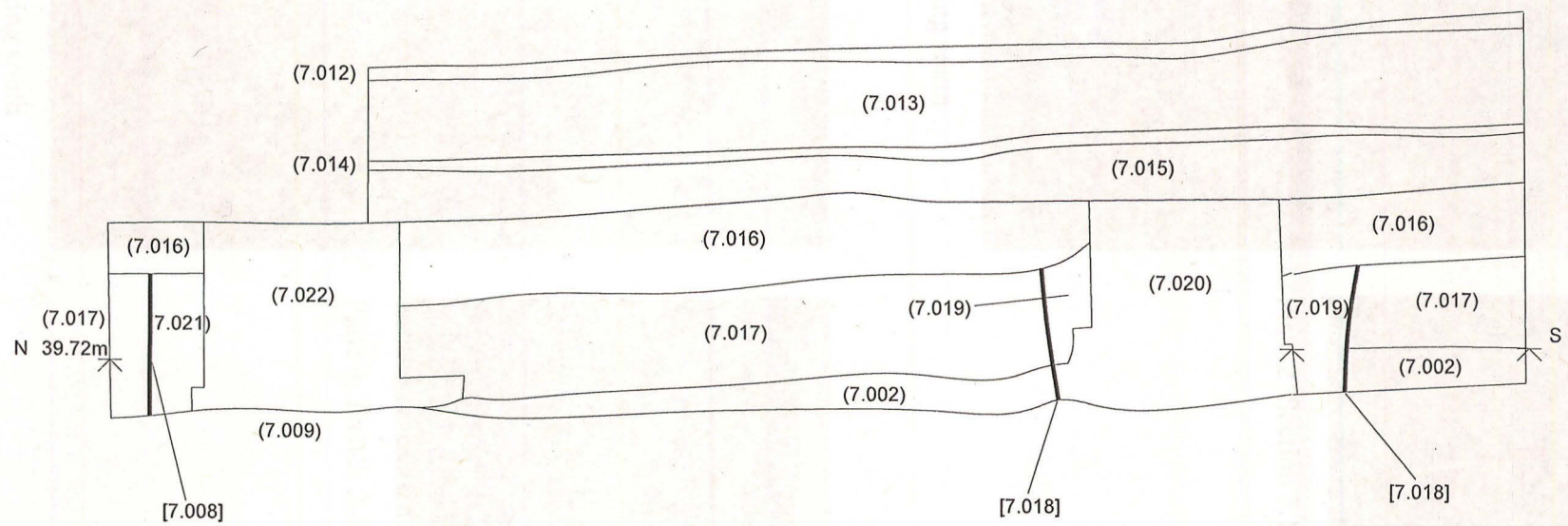
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Project Name: Ancaster Baird's Mill ABM06		
Scale 1:20	Drawn by: NH	Report No: 26/04

Figure 10 Sections 4.1, 5.1-5.4 and 6.1




 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Ancaster Baird's Mill ABM06		
Scale 1:30	Drawn by: NH	Report No: 26/06

Figure 11 Section 7.3

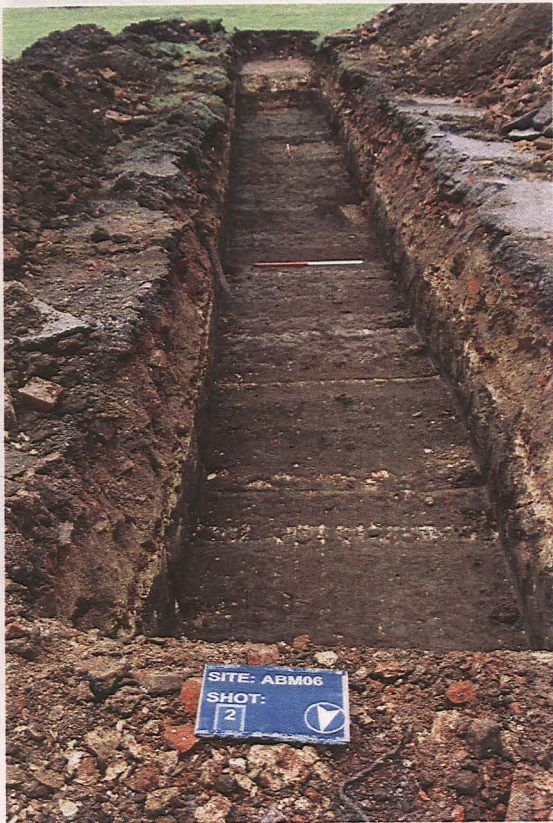


Plate 1 Trench 3, looking south



Plate 2 Section 3.1, Trench 3, looking west



Plate 3 Trench 4, looking south



Plate 4 Trench 2, looking south



Plate 5 Trench 6, looking northeast



Plate 6 Section 6.1, Trench 6, looking east



Plate 7 Trench 5, looking west



Plate 8 Trench 1, looking north



Plate 9 Trench 7, looking north



Plate 10 Trench 7, looking south



Plate 11 Trench 5, after further machine strip, looking north

**Appendix 1  
SPECIFICATION**

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15	PERSIMMON HOMES	4
16	BY	4
17	ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES	4
18	Institute of Field Archaeologists'	4
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1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 An archaeological evaluation is required to be carried out at Bairston Mill, Ancaster, Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The site lies in an area of known archaeological significance in the north of Ancaster, north of the Romano-British walled town and adjacent to the former thoroughfare of Lincoln Street.
- 1.3 Topographical features and evidence of ground surface irregularities are noted. This ground is divided into two phases, the first phase is the south of the site and the second is to be carried out when the buildings are being demolished. The second phase will involve excavation of a trench across the site.
- 1.4 On completion of the above-mentioned work, a report will be prepared detailing the results of the excavation work. The report will cover the location, description, plan, section and photographs.

2 INTRODUCTION

The site is located in the north of Ancaster, Lincolnshire, and is situated in an area of known archaeological significance.

The site is situated in the north of Ancaster, Lincolnshire.

2.1 Location

The site is situated in the north of Ancaster, Lincolnshire.

The site is situated in the north of Ancaster, Lincolnshire.

The site is situated in the north of Ancaster, Lincolnshire.

3 METHODOLOGY

The methodology to be used for the evaluation will be in accordance with the requirements of the relevant standards.

The methodology to be used for the evaluation will be in accordance with the requirements of the relevant standards.



## 1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *An archaeological evaluation is required on land at Bairds Mill, Ermine Street, Ancaster, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The site lies in an area of known archaeological significance in an area of Ancaster, north of the Romano British walled town and adjacent to the Roman thoroughfare of Ermine Street.*
- 1.3 *The archaeological work will consist of an evaluation comprising archaeological trial trenches excavated in two phases, the first phase to the south of the site and the second to be carried out when the buildings had been demolished. This document comprises the excavation of 6 trial trenches of the first phase.*
- 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 an archaeological evaluation during development on land at Bairds Mill, Ermine Street, Ancaster, 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 Ancaster is situated 10km west of Sleaford and 10km northeast of Grantham in the administrative district of South Kesteven, Lincolnshire.
- 3.2 Bairds Mill is located on the east side of Ermine Street and northeast of Ancaster. The site comprises 2449 square meters and gently slopes to the southeast.

#### 4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 An outline planning application (S05/0107/02) has been submitted to and granted outline consent by South Kesteven District Council for residential development subject to a condition requiring the undertaking of an evaluation prior to development taking place.

#### 5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The underlying solid are of the Blackwood association, typically deep permeable sandy and coarse loamy soils, with Ruskington Association, gleyic brown earths immediately southeast of the site (Hodge et al. 1984, 127, 304). These soils overlie a drift geology of older river sands and gravels, with younger marine alluvium in the valley of the Beck, which in turn seals a solid geology of Jurassic Lincolnshire Limestone.

#### 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Archaeological remains dating from the Neolithic to the Roman period have been found in the vicinity of Ancaster. Neolithic Stone tools and extensive Iron Age settlement have been found in close proximity to the site.
- 6.2 The modern town of Ancaster encompasses a Roman walled town. Archaeological investigations have revealed evidence of earthen ramparts along with stone buildings and fragments of tessellated floors.
- 6.3 Archaeological excavations within the area have revealed extra mural activity in the form of burials and settlement.

#### 2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 2.2 The aim of the work will be to gather sufficient information for the archaeological curator to be able to formulate a policy for the management of the archaeological resources present on the site.
- 2.3 The objectives of the work will be to:
- 2.3.1 Establish the type of archaeological activity that may be present within the site.
- 2.3.2 Determine the likely extent of archaeological activity present within the site.

- 2.3.3 Determine the date and function of the archaeological features present on the site.
- 2.3.4 Determine the state of preservation of the archaeological features present on the site.
- 2.3.5 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features present within the site.
- 2.3.6 Determine the extent to which the surrounding archaeological features extend into the application area.
- 2.3.7 Establish the way in which the archaeological features identified fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

### 3 TRIAL TRENCHING

#### 3.2 Reasoning for this technique

- 3.2.1 Trial trenching enables the *in situ* determination of the sequence, date, nature, depth, environmental potential and density of archaeological features present on the site.
- 3.2.2 This first phase will comprise six trenches will be excavated each of these will be 20 x 1.8m, shown on the attached plan.

#### 3.3 General Considerations

- 3.3.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the investigation. It is noted that live services may cross the area of the trenches and as such a service plan will be obtained before the commencement of on site works.
- 3.3.2 One of the trenches is to be located within a standing but disused building, appropriate machinery will be used to access this building, the specific methodology and size of machine will be discussed with the machine hire company and site owner, priority will be given to health and safety issues.
- 3.3.3 Backfilling will be undertaken to minimise impact upon archaeological remains. Specific reinstatement of the surface will be determined and organised by the site owner.

- 3.3.4 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practice issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA). *Archaeological Project Services* is an IFA Registered Archaeological Organisation (No. 21).
- 3.3.5 All artefacts and ecofacts found during the evaluation will be retrieved for processing unless the quantities and type warrant sampling; this will be agreed with the SKHER. Metal artefacts will be recovered and where not obviously modern will be retained for analysis. Allowance has been made for the preliminary conservation and stabilisation of all objects.
- 3.3.6 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.
- 3.3.7 Excavation of the archaeological features exposed will be undertaken as far as is required to determine their date, sequence, density and nature. Not all archaeological features exposed will necessarily be excavated. However, the investigation will, as far as is reasonably practicable, determine the level of the natural deposits to ensure that the depth of the archaeological sequence present on the site is established.
- 3.3.8 Where necessary, appropriate fencing may be used as a barrier to the open trenches, although it is noted that this site is enclosed. Subject to the consent of the archaeological curator, and following the appropriate recording, the trenches, particularly those of excessive depth, will be backfilled as soon as possible to minimise any health and safety risks.

#### 3.4 Methodology

- 3.4.1 Removal of the topsoil and any other overburden will be undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. To ensure that the correct amount of material is removed and that no archaeological deposits are damaged, this work will be supervised by Archaeological Project Services. On completion of the removal of the overburden, the nature of the underlying deposits will be assessed by hand excavation before any further mechanical excavation that may be required. Further mechanical excavation may be undertaken if the potentially large feature is impractical to excavate by hand. Thereafter, the trenches will be cleaned by hand to enable the identification and analysis of the archaeological features exposed.
- 3.4.2 If necessary appropriate lighting will be used for the trenches inside the buildings.

- 3.4.3 It is noted that one of the trenches is located within a standing building. It will be necessary to use a concrete breaker and toothed bucket to remove the upper layers of overburden from these trenches. A suitable machine will be used to undertake this work and a suitable methodology will be formulated on site in consultation with representatives of the machine providers depending on specific on site considerations for example the presence of services, thickness of and reinforcing within the concrete.
- 3.4.4 Investigation of the features will be undertaken only as far as required to determine their date, form and function. The work will consist of half- or quarter-sectioning of features as required and, where appropriate, the removal of layers. Should features be located which may be worthy of preservation *in situ*, excavation will be limited to the absolute minimum, (*i.e.* the minimum disturbance) necessary to interpret the form, function and date of the features.
- 3.4.5 The archaeological features encountered will be recorded on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma context record sheets. The system used is the single context method by which individual archaeological units of stratigraphy are assigned a unique record number and are individually described and drawn.
- 3.4.6 Plans of features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. Should individual features merit it, they will be drawn at a larger scale.
- 3.4.7 Throughout the duration of the trial trenching a photographic record consisting of black and white prints (reproduced as contact sheets) and colour slides will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
- the site before the commencement of field operations.
  - the site during work to show specific stages of work, and the layout of the archaeology within individual trenches.
  - individual features and, where appropriate, their sections.
  - groups of features where their relationship is important.
  - the site on completion of field work
- 3.4.8 Should human remains be encountered, they will be left *in situ* with excavation being limited to the identification and recording of such remains. If removal of the remains is necessary the appropriate Home Office licences will be obtained and the local environmental health department informed. If

relevant, the coroner and the police will be notified.

3.4.9 Finds collected during the fieldwork will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered ready for later washing and analysis.

3.4.10 The spoil generated during the investigation will be mounded along the edges of the trial trenches with the topsoil being kept separate from the other material excavated for subsequent backfilling. There will be no specific reinstatement of the trenches, which will be undertaken by the client, any specific questions about this should be directed here.

3.4.11 The precise location of the trenches within the site and the location of site recording grid will be established by an appropriate method

#### 4 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

4.1 During the investigation specialist advice will be obtained from an environmental archaeologist. The specialist will visit the site if appropriate to consult on buried soils and sediment sequences as an aid to understanding site formation processes and to advise on the appropriate scale of sampling. It is envisaged that bulk samples will be collected from the majority of investigated contexts of medieval or earlier date. Samples for pollen and soil studies may also be appropriate.

4.2 Standard sampling methods will be employed for the environmental analyses. These are detailed in Murphy and Wiltshire (1994). Bulk samples from feature fills will be retrieved for plant macrofossils, molluscs, insects, bone and larger samples will be taken for sieving on an 8mm mesh, if appropriate, for the recovery of flintwork, bone, ceramics and small finds. The specialist will prepare a report detailing the nature of the environmental material present on the site and its potential for additional analysis should further stages of archaeological work be required. The results of the specialist's assessment will be incorporated into the final report.

#### 5 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT

##### 5.2 Stage 1

5.2.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the trial trenching will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence constituting 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: the colour slides will be labelled and mounted on appropriate hangers and the black and white contact prints will be labelled, in both cases the labelling will refer to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

5.2.2 All finds recovered during the trial trenching will be washed, marked, bagged and labelled according to the individual 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.

### 5.3 Stage 2

5.3.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.

5.3.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

### 5.4 Stage 3

5.4.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the investigation will be prepared. This will consist of:

- A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
- A description of the archaeological setting of the site.
- Description of the topography and geology of the investigation area.
- Description of the methodologies used during the investigation and discussion of their effectiveness in the light of the results
- A text describing the findings of the investigation.
- Plans of the trenches showing 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 context within the surrounding landscape.
- Discussion of the general mitigation options including post excavation

works on the result of the evaluation.

- Specialist reports on the finds and environmental remains from the site, including a conservation assessment
- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features or groups of features.
- A consideration of the significance of the remains found, in local, regional, national and international terms, using recognised evaluation criteria.

## 7 REPORT DEPOSITION

7.1 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.

## 8 ARCHIVE

8.1 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.

## 9 PUBLICATION

9.1 A report of the findings of the evaluation 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.

## 10 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

10.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist. They will be given written notice of the commencement of the project.



## 11 VARIATIONS AND CONTINGENCIES

- 11.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 11.2 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).
- 11.3 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.
- 11.4 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.

## 12 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 12.1 The precise staffing levels are difficult to define at this stage and will be determined by the nature and extent of the archaeological remains. Initially three experienced archaeologists will staff the site for three days. Provision will be for the extra staffing should the archaeological remains and depths of excavation warrant it.
- 12.2 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, CAD illustrator and external specialists. The precise timing of this phase will be dependant upon archaeological remains recovered and availability of suitable specialists. It is anticipated that a report will be prepared within one month of completion of site works and that archiving will be completed with one month of acceptance of the report

## 13 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

- 13.1 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

#### 14 INSURANCES

- 14.1 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.

#### 15 COPYRIGHT

- 15.1 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.
- 15.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.

- 15.3 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.
- 15.4 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.

## 16 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, 2 February 2006

**Appendix 2**

**CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>
1.001	Tarmac	0.10m in thickness	Car park surface
1.002	Rubble hardcore	1.20m in thickness	Make up for tarmac surface
1.003	Limestone hardcore	0.20m in thickness	Levelling deposit
1.004	Deposit	Thickness not ascertained	Made ground
2.001	Deposit	Thickness not ascertained	Made ground
2.002	Deposit	Thickness not ascertained	Made ground
2.003	Brick walls	N/A	Malthouse foundation walls
2.004	Cut	N/A	Foundation trench
2.005	Concrete	Thickness not ascertained	Floor surface
2.006	Concrete	Thickness not ascertained	Floor surface
3.001	Tarmac	0.20m in thickness	Car park surface
3.002	Rubble deposit	0.37m in thickness	Hard core for car park
3.003	Tile	0.03m in thickness	Malthouse tiled floor surface
3.004	Rubble deposit	0.20m in thickness	Hard core for 3.003
3.005	Deposit	0.23m in thickness	Build up/levelling deposit
3.006	Deposit	0.35m in thickness	Build up/levelling deposit
3.007	Brick	0.72m x 0.46m x 0.40m	Load bearing pillar
3.008	Fill	0.70m x 0.45m	Fill of foundation cut 3.007
3.009	Cut	0.70m x 1.00m x 0.40m	Foundation cut for 3.007
3.010	Brick	0.11m x 0.22m	Load bearing pillar

Context	Description	Dimensions	Interpretation
3.011	Fill	1.60m x 1.10m x 0.40m	Fill of construction cut 3.012
3.012	Cut	As above	Construction cut for 3.010
3.013	Brick	0.09m x 0.09m x 0.23m	Load bearing pillar
3.014	Cut	0.90m x 0.30m	Foundation cut for 3.013
4.001	Deposit	0.40m in thickness	Topsoil
4.002	Deposit	0.35m in thickness	Plough soil
4.003	Deposit	Thickness not ascertained	Natural
4.004	Cut	0.66m x 1.50m x 0.06m	Possible ploughmark
4.005	Fill	As above	Fill of 4.004
4.006	Cut	1.00m x 0.25m	Possible ploughmark
4.007	Fill	As above	Fill of cut 4.006
5.001	Deposit	0.41m in thickness	Topsoil
5.002	Deposit	0.36m in thickness	Plough soil
5.003	Deposit	Thickness not ascertained	Natural
5.004	Cut	See plan	Irregular amorphous feature, possible natural feature
5.005	Fill	0.09m in thickness	Fill of cut 5.004
5.006	Fill	0.26m in thickness	Fill of cut 5.004
5.007	Fill	0.21m in thickness	Fill of cut 5.004
5.008	Fill	0.16m in thickness	Fill of cut 5.004
5.009	Fill	0.16m in thickness	Fill of cut 5.004
6.001	Deposit	0.35m in thickness	Topsoil
6.002	Deposit	0.30m in thickness	Plough soil

Context	Description	Dimensions	Interpretation
6.003	Deposit	0.15m in thickness	Plough soil
6.004	Deposit	0.20m in thickness	Natural
6.005	Deposit	Depth not ascertained	Natural
7.001	Cut	0.64m max. excavated depth; width – 2.2m, length – 6m	Ditch
7.002	Fill	0.30m in thickness	Fill of 7.001
7.003	Fill	0.26m in thickness	Fill of 7.001
7.004	Cut	0.30m x 0.18m	Possible posthole
7.005	Fill	As above	Fill of 7.004
7.006	Cut	1.6m x 1.1m	Possible pit
7.007	Fill	As above	Fill of 7.006
7.008	Cut	1.24m x 0.35m	Foundation cut for 7.022
7.009	Fill	As above	Fill of cut 7.008
7.010	Cut	0.68m x 0.40m	Possible posthole
7.011	Fill	As above	Fill of cut 7.010
7.012	Tarmac	0.04m in thickness	Car park surface
7.013	Rubble	0.38m in thickness	Demolition horizon
7.014	Tile	0.03m in thickness	Malthouse tile floor
7.015	Deposit	0.22m in thickness	Make up for 7.014
7.016	Deposit	0.34m in thickness	Build up/levelling deposit
7.017	Deposit	0.44m in thickness	Build up/levelling deposit
7.018	Cut	0.70m x 1.00m	Foundation cut for brick pillar 7.020
7.019	Fill	0.70m in depth	Fill of cut 7.018

Context	Description	Dimensions	Interpretation
7.020	Brick	0.09m x 0.09m x 0.23m	Brick pillar
7.021	Fill	0.58m in thickness	Fill of cut 7.008
7.022	Brick	0.09m x 0.09m x 0.23m	Brick pillar
7.023	Deposit	Depth not ascertained	Natural

## Appendix 3

### THE FINDS

by Margaret J. Darling and Jennifer Kitch

Recording of the pottery was undertaken with reference to guidelines prepared by *The Study Group for Roman Pottery* (Darling, 1994) and the pottery was quantified by count and weight using the chronology and coding system of the City of Lincoln database and for Lincolnshire sites. Three fragments of pottery weighing a total of 147g were recovered from a single context. Faunal remains were also recovered.

The excavated animal bone assemblage comprises 2 stratified fragments and 8 unstratified pieces from a single bone, together weighing a total of 134g. 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 the ditch fill (7.002).

It is probable that all the pottery was made in moderate proximity to Ancaster in south Lincolnshire.

#### Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

#### Context 002 Ditch 1.6m below ground surface.

- 1 A body sherd from a closed form, almost certainly a fairly large jar. This has a fragment of decoration above twin-grooves. The decoration is of the juddered variety.
- 2 A base from a closed form, probably a jar or perhaps a flask, with a small base, diameter c. 6cms, which has been burnished externally.
- 3 A body sherd, abraded, probably but not certainly from a closed form.

The dating cannot be precise, but the style of juddered decoration on no. 1 is commonest in the later Roman period, broadly the later 3rd to 4th century. The base no. 2 could be of earlier date, and a 2nd to 3rd century date is probable. The body sherd no. 3 is not closely datable. None of the fabric is especially distinctive.

#### Archive database:

Cxt	Fabric Form	Manuf	Ve	Altn	D#	Details	Lnk	Shs	Wt
7.002	GREY J	JUDD	-	-	-	BS;JUDD FRAG ABOVE TWIN GROOVES	-	1	47
7.002	GREY J	-	-	-	-	BASE/PT WALL;BURNISH EXT;F.SMALL	-	1	73
7.002	GREY CLSD?	-	-	ABR	-	BS	-	1	27
								3	147

There is some abrasion but the sherd weight is high. Consequently, although a small group, the assemblage is unlikely to be much disturbed or derived and probably indicates Romano-British occupation on the site.

Table 2: The Faunal Remains

Context	Species	Bone	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
Trench 4	Large Mammal Sized	Rib	8	1	Fragmentary
7.002	Equid	Metapodial	1	121	Distal shaft only
	Equid	Mandible	1	12	Goneal angle fragment



### **Condition**

All the material is in good condition and presents no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the collection is by material class. The archive will be curated for future study and research.

### **Documentation**

There have been numerous previous archaeological investigations at Ancaster, including at the present site, that are the subject of reports. Additionally, there has been reported study of the archaeological evidence for the village and its vicinity. 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**

Although a small group of pottery fragments, the assemblage is likely to indicate Roman occupation at the site and this is of moderate local potential and significance.

The lack of any material earlier than the 2<sup>nd</sup> century is informative and suggests that archaeological deposits dating from prior to this period are absent from the area, or were not revealed by the investigation, or were of a nature that did not involve artefact deposition. Similarly, the absence of any artefacts later than the 4<sup>th</sup> century would tend to suggest that the site was abandoned at that time.

### **References**

Darling, M. J. (ed), 1994 *Guidelines for the Archiving of Roman Pottery*

## Appendix 4

### GLOSSARY

<b>Alluvium</b>	Deposits laid down by water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea, and fresh water alluvium is laid down by rivers and in lakes.
<b>Context</b>	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 interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, e.g. [004].
<b>Cut</b>	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, etc. Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
<b>Domesday Survey</b>	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
<b>Fill</b>	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) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
<b>Layer</b>	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
<b>Medieval</b>	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
<b>Mesolithic</b>	The 'Middle Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 11000 - 4500 BC.
<b>Natural</b>	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity
<b>Post hole</b>	The hole cut to take a timber post, usually in an upright position. The hole may have been dug larger than the post and contain soil or stones to support the post. Alternatively, the posthole may have been formed through the process of driving the post into the ground.
<b>Post-medieval</b>	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
<b>Prehistoric</b>	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 1st century AD.
<b>Ridge and Furrow</b>	The remains of arable cultivation consisting of raised rounded strips separated by furrows. It is characteristic of open field agriculture.
<b>Romano-British</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
<b>Saxon</b>	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:

- 68 context records
- 19 sheets containing scale drawings (plans and sections)
- 2 photographic record sheets
- 5 day sheets
- 7 context register sheets
- 7 plan record sheets
- 7 section record sheets
- 1 finds sheet
- 1 samples sheet
- 3 bags 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 entitled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives*, produced by the Lincolnshire City and County Museum.

Lincolnshire City and County Museum Accession Number: 2006.27

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: ABM 06

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 investigations.

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