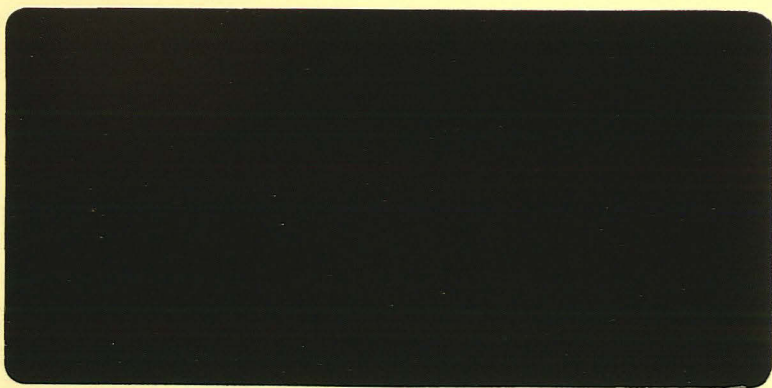


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ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION ON LAND AT
HOPLANDS BUSINESS CENTRE
BOSTON ROAD
SLEAFORD
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SHBC 05)



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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION ON LAND AT
HOPLANDS BUSINESS CENTRE
BOSTON ROAD
SLEAFORD
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SHBC 05)**

Work Undertaken For
Westleigh Developments

February 2006

Report Compiled by
Jennifer Kitch BSc MA

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



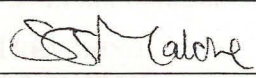
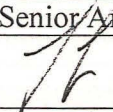
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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Hoplands Business Centre, Sleaford, in advance of proposed development. The site lies adjacent to the Roman road Mareham Lane, and is situated within an area rich in late Iron Age and Romano-British settlement. This includes stone building foundations and a late Roman cemetery.

Evaluation of the site identified well preserved remains of late Iron Age and Roman date surviving beneath the concrete slab in the northern half of the proposed development area. Previous evidence for late Iron Age settlement has generally been confined to the area to the west of Mareham Lane. The identification of a high density of features with large quantities of domestic waste in this area is notable.

The late Roman cemetery has been seen to be quite extensive, but the burials have been relatively sparse. The concentration of carefully aligned burials in the northeast corner of the site suggests that the focus of the cemetery may lie in, or close to, this area.

The 'dark earth' deposit, known to be extensive in the vicinity, has not been significantly truncated in the formation of the concrete slab for the yard. This deposit is likely to be present over most, and probably all, of the area and to preserve earlier archaeological remains beneath.

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

The site is the subject of a proposal for residential development. North Kesteven District Council Heritage Officer advised that an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching would be required to help determine the planning application.

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Westleigh Developments to undertake the archaeological evaluation of the site in accordance with the requirements of the Heritage Officer of North Kesteven District Council. The work was undertaken between the 5th and 14th December 2005.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Sleaford is located 27km south of Lincoln in the administrative district of North Kesteven (Fig. 1).

The proposed development is located to the east of the town centre on the northern side of Boston Road. The site lies directly to the north of the police station on the Hoplands (Fig.2). It covers approximately 0.7ha at the height of c.13m OD, centred on National Grid Reference TF 0776 4601 (Plate 1).

The area has not been fully mapped by the soil survey, due to the urban location. There are two soil regimes occurring in the vicinity. To the north are St. Lawrence Series stagnogleyic brown calcareous earths over calcareous loamy drift (George

and Robson 1978, 84). In the south is the New Sleaford Series gleyic brown calcareous sand on calcareous Fen sand and gravel (*ibid.* 86-7).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Prehistoric

The early prehistoric period of the site is illustrated through individual finds of artefacts of a Bronze Age date. A Bronze Age metal palstave and several prehistoric flints have been found within the locality (Taylor 1996), although no real evidence of actual settlement has been uncovered.

The site lies directly to the east of Mareham Lane, a Roman road thought to have originated on a prehistoric route (May 1976, 8). Further investigations have established that the road was on the line of a middle Iron Age trackway (Herbert 1998).

Sleaford has substantial evidence of settlement within the middle Iron Age period. Several large enclosures have been identified. One lies c.1.2km north of the site (Herbert 1998), a second c.600m to the south and a third c.500m to the south-west (Rayner 1999). None of these site show evidence of occupation continuing into the late Iron Age Period.

Extensive evidence of late Iron Age activity was uncovered during excavations at Old Place to the west of the site. The excavations uncovered evidence of occupation and over 4,000 mould fragments which have been identified as coin pellet moulds used in the minting process (Elsdon 1997, 51).

Further evidence of late Iron Age ditches and gullies was uncovered immediately to the west of the site on St. Giles Avenue (Trimble 1997). Evidence of late Iron Age occupation has also been discovered within close proximity of the site of the

current investigation, directly to the south of Boston Road (Elsdon 1997, 26).

Romano-British

Substantial evidence of Romano-British remains occurs across the eastern side of the modern town. These remains include stone buildings, metalled trackways, ritual deposits and burials (Bradley-Lovekin 2005).

Immediately adjacent to the investigation area, on the opposite side of Mareham Lane, remains of Romano-British stone buildings with paved yards and a corn drier were identified (Elsdon 1997, 34).

On the eastern and northern perimeter of the investigation site burials of Roman date were identified (Johnson and Palmer-Brown 1995).

Excavations of the area directly to the east of the site revealed evidence of settlement including a series of inter-cutting linear ditches, pits and a well, predominantly of middle Roman date (Bradley-Lovekin 2005).

Immediately to the south of the investigation area, under the site of the current police station, the remains of several Romano-British buildings from the later 2nd to the later 4th century AD were revealed (Herbert 1999).

Directly to the north of the investigation site a trial trench excavation targeting a large sub-rectangular earthwork uncovered a large enclosure dated to the later 3rd-4th century encompassing a cemetery and a 'high status' stone building, possibly constructed after the cemetery went out of use (Rayner 2001).

Further Romano-British features were uncovered to the west on the opposite side of Mareham Lane, including several

burials placed on alignment with surrounding enclosure ditches.

Ritual behaviour within the area was not limited to burial of the dead. A placed deposit of a lamb with a complete Romano-British beaker was recovered at the St. Giles Avenue excavations (Trimble 1997).

Anglo Saxon and Medieval

There is little evidence for Anglo-Saxon occupation within the area of the investigation site. This may suggest a shift in focus of settlement away from the area during this period, although a single middle Saxon ditch was identified within the eastern perimeter of the site, during archaeological monitoring works (Johnson and Palmer-Brown 1995).

On the western side of Mareham Lane, now St. Giles Avenue, is the location of the former church of St. Giles. The church was probably founded in the late Saxon period. The history of the church can be traced to c.1553, when it is suggested that it fell out of use (Elsdon 1997, 43).

A medieval manorial complex lies beneath Old Place, although it is considered unlikely to have extended as far as Mareham Lane. However, some medieval masonry has been unearthed in proximity to the trackway (Bradley-Lovekin 2005, 5).

The manorial complex continued in occupation to the post-medieval period, by which time most of old Sleaford appears to have reverted to fields (Elsdon 1997, 44).

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 North Kesteven Planning Archaeologist to formulate a policy for the management of archaeological resources present on the site.

4. METHODS

4.1 Trial Trenching

The proposed area for development is currently a working business centre with an active builder's storage yard in the northern quarter of the site. At the time of the commissioned archaeological works, only the north extent was available for investigation. The positioning of the trenches was negotiated between the Planning Archaeologist, APS and the landowner to achieve suitable sample coverage of the available area whilst still allowing access (Fig. 3).

A total of 6 trenches was excavated, approximately 5% of the available area for investigation.

Trench Summary

No. of Trenches	Dimensions
1	5m x 2.5m
1	15m x 1.8m
2	10m x 1.8m
1	9m x 1.8m

Removal of the concrete yard surface and overburden was undertaken by mechanical excavator using a breaker and toothless ditching bucket. The exposed surfaces of the trenches were then cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains.

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 a scale of 1:10 and 1:20. Recording of deposits

encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

The location of the excavated trenches was surveyed in relation to fixed points on boundaries and on existing buildings.

The area of investigation was overlain by a substantial overburden deposit of 'dark earth' (see section 5.6 for further discussion), reaching an average depth of 0.80-1.20m within the majority of the trial trenches. This was machine excavated in spits in an attempt to identify a level at which feature cuts were visible and to allow any artefact clusters to be identified. In most cases health and safety considerations dictated the level of machining and natural gravel was not exposed except in hand-dug slots. Investigation of features was undertaken within hand cut trenches stepped away from the machine cut trench sides to minimise the dangers of side collapse.

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.

5. RESULTS

5.1 Description of the results

The results of the evaluation (trial trenching) are discussed below, by trench for ease of reference.

Five phases of activity were identified during the evaluation:

- Phase 0: Natural Deposits
- Phase 1: Late Iron Age
- Phase 2: Pre/Early Roman
- Phase 3: 2nd – 3rd Century Roman
- Phase 4: Late Roman-Post Roman
- Phase 5: Recent Deposits

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

5.2 Phase 0 Natural Deposits

The earliest deposits exposed during the evaluation were natural sand and limestone gravels, occurring uniformly within all of the trenches (106), (205), (311), (405), (520) and (617).

5.3 Phase 1 Late Iron Age

Trench 2 (Fig. 3)

The western half of the trench was dominated by a substantial North - South orientated ditch, [206], approximately 4m wide, and at least 0.95m deep. The exact dimensions of the original feature were obscured by later re-cuts [221] and [222] (Figs 3, 6; Plate 3). Ditch [206] contained a single deposit (210) of loose pale yellow-grey sandy gravel which was sterile of finds.

Ditch [206] was re-cut by ditch [221] along the same alignment, approximately 4.16m wide but not fully excavated to depth. The profile of the re-cut was again obscured by the later re-cut [222]. Ditch re-cut [221] contained a single deposit (208) of organic rich dark brown-grey sandy silt. A total of 15 sherds of pottery of late Iron Age date was recovered from the environmental samples (Darling, Appendix 3). Three fragments of animal bone were collected by hand from the deposit, and a further 24 fragments were

recovered from the environmental bulk sample, including a fragment of foetal sheep/goat bone. The animal bone remains appear to represent domestic food and hearth waste (Kitch, Appendix 5). The environmental sample from the deposit contained burned grains, hazel nut shell, hedge brush and plant stems suggesting the inclusion of hearth waste with burnt food stuffs, perhaps the rake out waste from a bread/domestic oven (Fryer, Appendix 7).

Ditch [213] was of north-south orientation with moderate sloping concave sides and an uneven base, reaching a width of 1.65m and 0.34m deep. The ditch contained a single fill of loose dark grey-brown sandy silt (214). A total of 2 fragments of possible 2nd - 3rd century pottery was recovered, (Darling, Appendix 3; dating of the sherds is uncertain and they are possibly intrusive to the deposit). Three fragments of animal bone and a piece of mussel shell were also recovered from the deposit.

Northeast-southwest orientated ditch [219] with concave sides and a rounded base, 0.6m wide and 0.30m deep, lay at the eastern extent of the trench (Figure 3; Plate 4). Ditch [219] contained a single deposit (220) of loose dark grey-brown sandy-silt which yielded two fragments of late Iron Age/Early Roman Pottery.

East-West orientated ditch [215] = [217], with sharp sloping concave sides and a flat base was uncovered within the eastern half of the trench. The feature was not fully exposed in width, reaching a depth of 0.48m (Figs 3, 6). Ditch [215] = [217] contained a single fill (216) = (218) of loose dark grey-brown sandy-silt. A total of 7 fragments of pottery of possible late Iron Age date was recovered from the fill (Darling Appendix 3), in addition to a fragment of oyster shell and 6 fragments of animal bone. Ditch [215] = [217] truncates ditches [213] and [219].

Trench 3 (Fig. 4)

A single east-west linear ditch terminus [301] with sharp straight sides and a flat base was exposed in the southern half of the trench (Figure 4; 7 Section 15). The feature reached a depth of 0.72m; however, it was not fully uncovered as it was obscured by a baulk left to support a modern surface drain. The terminus contained three individual fills: basal fill of dark brown-grey sandy silt (304), a band of mid yellow-brown silty sand (303) and an upper fill of loose mid grey-brown silty sand (302). The upper fill (302) yielded 5 fragments of pottery of late Iron Age date (Darling, Appendix 3) and six fragments of animal bone (Kitch, Appendix 5).

Trench 5 (Fig. 5)

Trench 5 contained a series of inter-cutting east-west linear ditches all dated within the late Iron Age phase (Figure 5; Plate 5).

The earliest ditch/gully within the sequence [514] retained little of the profile shape of the feature, due to being truncated to the south by ditch [511] and to the north by ditch [516]. The ditch retained a shallow concave base, reaching a depth of 0.33m. Ditch [514] contained a single fill of loose dark brown silty-sand (515). Two fragments of possible late Iron Age pottery and three fragments of animal bone were recovered from the deposit, in addition to a complete fired clay triangular loom weight, S.F. No.1 (Figure 10) (Taylor Appendix 4).

Ditch [511], to the south of [514], was 0.89m wide and 0.56m deep with moderate sloping straight sides and concave base (Figure 8 Section 7). Ditch [511] contained two fills, a primary fill of loose brown-yellow sandy gravel, possibly weathered natural gravels (512). Sealing this deposit was a loose dark brown silty-sand (513). The upper deposit yielded 11 fragments of late Iron Age pottery, including several

fragments of a locally produced burnished ware (Darling, Appendix 3). The sample taken from this deposit contained a series of burned grains, hedge brush and plant stems suggesting deposition of hearth waste or fuel debris (Fryer, Appendix 7).

Truncating ditch [511], in the southern half of the trench, was possible pit/ditch terminus [509] with almost vertical sides and a flat base, measuring 0.66m wide and 0.49m in depth (Figure 5). [509] contained a single fill of loose dark brown silty sand (510). Four fragments of animal bone and three fragments of late Iron Age pottery were recovered from the fill.

Truncating ditch [514] on the northern side was linear ditch [516]. The northern side of the ditch had been removed by truncation from the later ditch [518]. The ditch's remaining profile was a steep, slightly concave side with a concave base, reaching a depth of 0.41m (Figure 8 Section 7). The ditch contained a single deposit of friable mid-grey sandy gravel (517). A total of 8 fragments of animal bone was recovered from the deposit including a dog skull and two articulating neck vertebra (Kitch, Appendix 5). The skull and vertebra were found positioned on the ditch side, in close proximity to a large quantity of pottery from at least two large Iron Age jars with post-firing holes bored into the base (Darling, Appendix 3) (Figure 9). Several fragments of the large jars have also been recovered from the fill of the truncating ditch [518], some of which have joinable breaks (Darling, Appendix 3), suggesting these fragments are residual from the earlier ditch [516].

Ditch [518] truncated the northern edge of ditch [516]. The ditch was of a wide V-shaped profile, 2.16m wide and 0.72m deep (Figs 5; 8 Section 7). [518] contained a single fill of loose mid-dark brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks (519). The deposit yielded a total of 53 fragments

of animal bone representing a mixture of food and butchery waste (Kitch, Appendix 5). A total of 46 fragments of pottery were recovered from the deposit, in addition to the previously discussed adjoining fragments from the earlier ditch [516]. The pottery assemblage included several fragments of imported wares such as a fragment of Terra Nigra platter rim (Figure 9) and Gallo-Belgic white ware flagon sherds (Darling, Appendix 3). A single adult human metatarsal was also recovered from within the deposit, which may suggest a disturbed burial is within the locality. However, isolated deposits of human remains, especially within Iron Age contexts, are not unusual (Kitch, Appendix 5).

Trench 6 (Fig. 5)

A single north-south orientated ditch [618] not fully exposed in plan or in section, was revealed within the southern half of the trench (Figs 5, 8 Section 20). The ditch contained a single fill of loose mid-dark brown sandy-silt (620). No finds were recovered from the deposit. However, several fragments of pottery of late Iron Age/early Roman date were recovered from grave [615] that truncates the ditch; these fragments are thought to be residual from [618].

5.4 Phase 2 Pre/Early Roman

Trench 4

An east-west orientated linear ditch [407], 0.6m wide and 0.4m deep, with gradual sloping concave sides and concave base was uncovered within the southern half of the trench (Figure 4). The ditch contained a single deposit of very dark brown sandy silt (412). The deposit was sterile of finds. Ditch [407] was cut by later possible pit [404] and ditch [406]. The stratigraphic relationship suggests that the feature pre-dates the 2nd-3rd century.

Possible pit [404] cut ditch [407] on the southern extent of the linear feature. The pit was sub-circular in plan with gradually sloping concave sides and a flat base, c.1m wide, c.1m long and 0.4m in depth (Figs 4; 7 Section 13). Pit [404] contained a single fill of very dark brown sandy silt (413). No artefactual evidence was recovered from the deposit.

Trench 5

In the northern half of the trench a shallow feature of undetermined function was revealed [507]. Only its southern edge fell within the trench. Where the feature was exposed it had a moderately sloping straight side with an irregular shaped base, reaching a depth of 0.23m. The feature contained a single deposit of very dark grey-brown sandy silt (508). One fragment of pottery dated as possibly early Roman (Darling, Appendix 3) was recovered from the deposit in addition to a fragment of large mammal sized rib and a medium mammal sized long bone fragment (Kitch, Appendix 5).

5.5 Phase 3 2nd – 3rd Century Roman

Trench 1

A single linear ditch [105], orientated north-south was exposed within the southern half of the trench, partly under the baulk. The only exposed side was gradually sloping convex with a shallow concave base, reaching a depth of 0.4m (Figs 3; 6 Section 1; Plate 2). Ditch [105] contained a single deposit (104) of loose, dark grey-black sandy-silt. The deposit (104) contained 12 fragments of pottery dated as possible late 3rd century, the pottery assemblage also contained a fragment of late Iron Age pottery with rouletted decoration (Darling, Appendix 3), which is probably residual.

Trench 2

A gully of ENE-WSW orientation with slightly concave sides and a flat base

[211], 0.29m wide by 0.29m in depth, was exposed in section at the western extent of the trench. The gully contained a single fill of loose, dark grey-brown sandy silt (212). A fragment of sheep/goat metatarsal and radius were recovered from the deposit. Also recovered were four sherds of pottery dating the feature to the 2nd – 3rd century AD. The pottery assemblage also contained ceramics of a possible late Iron Age date. Gully [211] was cut by the later ditch re-cut [222].

A large linear ditch [222], of north-south orientation, was re-cut on the same alignment as the late Iron Age ditches [206] and [221]. The ditch had moderately sloping straight sides with a broad concave base. The ditch reached approximately 4.75m in width with a depth of 0.82m (Figure 6 Section 4). Ditch [222] contained two distinct fills: a loose very dark grey-brown sandy silt (209), overlain by loose mid-dark red-brown sandy silt (207). The deposit yielded a total of 20 fragments of local shell-tempered ware pottery, predominantly dated to the 3rd century with the occasional fragment from the late Iron Age (Darling, Appendix 3), possibly residual from the earlier ditches. A total of 22 fragments of animal bone were recovered from the upper deposit (207); the remains appear to represent food and butchery waste (Kitch, Appendix 5).

Trench 3

A single linear ditch [305] orientated east-west, with sharply sloping concave sides and a shallow concave base was uncovered running through the middle of Trench 3 (Figure 4). This could only be partially sectioned because of the adjacent modern drain. The ditch contained a single fill of loose, mid grey-brown sandy silt (306). Three fragments of animal bone were recovered from the fill. A single fragment of 2nd-3rd century pottery (Darling, Appendix 3) was also recovered.

Trench 4

A linear ditch [406], with gradually sloping concave sides and flat base, 2.60m wide by 0.65m deep (Figs 4; 7 Section 13), was uncovered running through the centre of Trench 4 and aligned with ditch [305] in Trench 3. Ditch [406] contained a single fill of loose, very dark brown sandy silt (411). A total of 7 fragments of pottery was recovered from the deposit. The date of the ceramics was not clear but they have been provisionally dated to the 2nd-3rd century (Darling, Appendix 3).

At the northern extent of Trench 4 a grave cut was uncovered [410] (Figure 4). The grave cut was orientated east-west, approximately 0.80m wide with steep sloping straight sides. The base was not exposed. The full shape of the cut was not exposed in plan and would have extended west beyond the trench limits. The grave contained a single supine adult skeleton SK(409), of which the lower pelvis, legs and ankle bones were revealed. Positioned between the legs of the skeleton was a Nene valley colour coated beaker (Darling, Appendix 3, Figure 9), dated to the 3rd century. Six nails (Taylor, Appendix 4) were found along the two sides of the grave regularly spaced, suggesting the body was initially placed within a coffin which had subsequently decayed. The skeleton was overlain with a single deposit of loose, very dark brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks (408). Within the deposit a single sheep/goat metapodial fragment (Kitch, Appendix 5) and a further 5 fragments of grey ware pottery, dated to the 3rd century (Darling, Appendix 3) were recovered.

Trench 5

At the southern extent of the trench, partially obscured by the baulk was a possible pit/ditch terminus [504], with near vertical sides and a shallow concave base, 1.03m in length, 0.4m wide and 0.29m in depth (Figure 5). The pit/ditch terminus

contained two fills, a loose dark brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks (506) overlying a loose dark brown-grey silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks. Deposit (505) produced 14 fragments of pottery of early-middle 2nd century date. Three fragments of oyster shell and a further 7 fragments of animal bone were recovered from the assemblage.

Trench 6

Trench 6 contained a series of grave cuts, all orientated in an east-west direction (Figure 5; Plate 6). Only one of the graves contained any dating evidence. However, due to the proximity and the uniform nature of the graves, all of the burials are considered to be broadly of the same period, 2nd-3rd century Roman. Three of the graves cut through an earlier linear ditch cut, dated to the late Iron Age/ early Roman period [618].

Exposed within the northern half of the trench was grave cut [605]; the cut was not fully exposed. The southern edge of the grave had a straight sharp sloping side, the northern side of the cut remained obscured by the baulk. Contained within the grave was a single supine adult skeleton SK(604), only partially revealed. Overlying skeleton SK(604) was a single deposit of loose, mid-dark brown sandy silt (603). A total of fifteen fragments of shell tempered and local grey ware pottery dated to the middle 2nd century onwards (Darling, Appendix 3) was recovered from the grave fill.

Towards the centre of the trench a further grave cut was uncovered [608], the edges of the cut were diffuse and not easily defined. The grave was cut to the west by a later grave cut [621] and to the north by grave [624]. Grave [608] contained a single adult skeleton, lying in a supine position; the skeleton was not fully exposed. The grave was filled by a single

deposit of loose, mid-dark brown sandy silt (606).

Grave [621] was only exposed at the very eastern extent of the cut, the remains of the grave continued under the baulk. The eastern extent of the grave cut had vertical straight sides, reaching a width of 0.80m, the base was not excavated. Skeletal remains represented by a few articulated foot bones were visible in the section SK (626). The grave was filled with a single fill of loose, mid-dark brown sandy silt (622).

Grave [624] was found to the north of grave [608]. The cut was diffuse and heavily truncated, the remains of the grave cut was a sub-oval concave hollow, 0.32m long by 0.20m wide. The grave contained a single neonate skeleton SK(612). The position of the skeleton had been disturbed and the remains appeared to be incomplete. The grave was filled with a single deposit of loose, mid-dark brown sandy silt (623).

Towards the southern end of the trench, the very western extent of a grave cut [611] was exposed. Burial was west-east and supine (SK 610), the skull being just visible in section. The grave was 0.85m in width. A series of iron nails, SF 2-7 (Taylor, Appendix 4), around the side of the grave again suggest that there had been a wooden coffin. The grave was filled with a similar fill of loose, mid-dark brown sandy silt (609).

Just to the west of, and cut by, [610] was a further neonate burial (SK 613). The grave cut [614] was sub-circular with gradual sloping concave sides and measured 0.20m wide, 0.20m length. It was filled with a similar mid-dark brown sandy silt (625) to that seen in the other grave cuts.

At the southern end of the trench a fifth adult inhumation (SK 616) was partially

exposed. This was more deeply buried than the others within the trench, the grave cut [615] having moderately sloping sides towards a flattish base. Only a tibia and fibula were noted and it may be that these had been disturbed.

5.6 Phase 4 Late Roman – Post Roman

A uniform deposit of dark brown sandy-silt overlay the features within every trench: (103), (204), (310), (402), (503) and (602). The deposit varied in depth ranging from 0.8m-1.20m within the observed sections. A large number of un-abraded finds such as animal bone, pottery and ceramic building material were recovered from the deposits. The pottery fragments recovered from the deposit were dated to the late 3rd -4th century Roman and post-Roman periods (Darling, Appendix 3).

5.7 Phase 5 Recent Deposits

Overlying the dark earth deposits within Trenches 2 and 3 was a thin deposit of sticky, dark brown-grey clay-silt containing fragments of modern iron (203) and (309). This is possibly modern disturbance intruding into the top of the dark earth deposits.

Each trench was overlain by a levelling layer of moderately compact pale-yellow sandy limestone gravel (102), (202), (308), (401), (502) and (601). This was then sealed by a layer of concrete, forming the yard surface (101), (201), (307), (400), (501) and (600).

6. DISCUSSION

The centre and south of the evaluation area revealed evidence for late Iron Age occupation in the form of pits and linear features containing quantities of domestic refuse, the greatest concentration occurring

in Trench 5. No evidence for structures was identified, the linear features probably representing boundary ditches dug and maintained over several generations. The alignment of linear features was generally north-south or east-west, presumably respecting Mareham Lane (or at least its late Iron Age precursor), although the precise location of, or approach to, the crossing of the River Slea in this period is not known.

The large ditch identified in Trench 2 appears to represent a more significant boundary, some 4.2m in width and at least 0.95m deep (beneath the level of the dark earth). This appears to have been recut with a narrower profile within the late Iron Age, but had apparently remained a significant landscape feature and was again recut in the Roman period.

The pottery of this date consists principally of locally produced shell-gritted fabrics, but the assemblage also includes Gallo-Belgic terra nigra and white wares imported from northern France, attesting to the status of the site in this period (Appendix 3). The unabraded nature of the pottery and presence of an almost complete loomweight indicate primary deposition from occupation in the immediate vicinity.

The faunal remains suggest a very strong emphasis on sheep/goat husbandry with foetal remains indicating the breeding of animals on site and aging evidence suggesting utilisation not only for meat, but also retention of older animals to maximise wool and milk production. The remains represent a mixture of both food and butchery waste from intensive occupation (Appendix 5). Charred plant materials recovered from environmental samples include an input of hearth waste with burnt food stuffs and fodder also suggestive of occupation in the immediate vicinity (Appendix 7).

Small quantities of late Iron Age material have previously been recovered in this area (Rayner 2001; Bradley-Lovekin 2005), but the main focus of activity in this period has previously been seen as lying further to the west (Elsdon 1997). How the settlement here relates to that immediately to the west and to the presumed line of Mareham Lane is uncertain. Ditch [206] lies only 18m east of Mareham Lane; its precise alignment is difficult to judge owing to the narrowness of the trench and the disturbance of later recuts but may be more NE-SW than N-S (i.e. not necessarily parallel to the road); even if it could be supposed to have formed a significant boundary, the concentration of material in Trench 5 lies further east again.

A hiatus is evident after the end of the late Iron Age phase, with no evidence for 1st or early 2nd century Roman activity. Thereafter Roman activity becomes widespread, but perhaps less intense than in the late Iron Age. The majority of the Roman features probably represent boundary ditches forming part of the extensive pattern of ditched fields and enclosures evident in fieldwork and on air photography to the east and north. In contrast to the results from the Iron Age deposits, environmental samples suggest only a low density scatter of refuse finding its way into the ditch fills. The large ditch in Trench 2 was recut in this period with a shallower profile, becoming largely filled in the 3rd century (the profile of recent deposits above suggests that it might even have remained as a slight earthwork feature until modern times).

Although 4th-century Roman pottery was relatively abundant within the 'dark earth' deposit no features were dated to this period. However, experience on other sites in the vicinity has shown that it can be difficult to identify cuts within or through the transformed soils conveniently labelled as 'dark earth'. This is particularly relevant

in the case of the burials. Elsewhere these have been seen to lie within the 'dark earth' or assumed to have been cut through it.

The burials seen in Trenches 4 and 6 represent a more regular layout and more uniform burial practice than in those previously identified in the area. The regular, steep-sided grave cuts and recovery of nails from several of the burials suggest that coffin burial was the norm here (except in the case of the neonates). All were supine, laid out east-west (facing east), and where seen (i.e. in two cases) with arms (or hands) crossed over the lower body. A degree of regularity seems evident in the layout of the graves in Trench 6, although this may be deceptive and grave [621] had impinged upon SK 607. With the exception of SK 616 (only partially exposed and perhaps disturbed) all had been cut just into the gravel natural (which begs the question as to the depth of overlying deposit at the time they were cut). The greater part of a Nene-valley colour-coated beaker was recovered from grave [410] apparently placed with SK 409. It can be dated to the mid third century, providing a *terminus post quem* for that burial, and indicating the likely period in which the others were undertaken. This is consistent with the dating of other burials in the vicinity (e.g. Rayner 2001, 19) but may represent just one phase of activity in a more long-lived cemetery.

A small amount of human bone was recovered from other contexts (Appendix 6), although the majority of these were from trenches with known burials and had probably been disturbed from the original grave. A single metatarsal was recovered from a late Iron Age ditch [519]. It is not unusual for occasional finds of human remains to be incorporated within domestic waste deposits. Burials within rubbish pits or within floors of buildings

are not uncommon. The presence of the bone within the assemblage may suggest that there is a disturbed burial within close proximity to the ditch.

Dark earth deposits have been noted extensively in this area. Elsewhere two horizons have been noted, the lower dating to the third century, the upper to the late fourth century and immediate post-Roman period. This distinction was not observed in the evaluation trenches here with dated material spanning the late third, late fourth and post-Roman periods. However, it was notable that a significant depth of deposit, 0.8-1.2m, survived across the investigated area and that there had been little truncation in the laying of the concrete slab that forms the current yard surface. As elsewhere, this dark earth was rich in cultural material with frequent large unabraded sherds of pottery, CBM and animal bone.

Most investigations in the vicinity have yielded at least a few examples of the ubiquitous fourth-century Roman coinage (e.g. Rayner 2001; Snee 2003; Bradley-Lovekin 2005). None was recovered here. This may represent a bias in collection; metal-detected iron objects were recovered but no copper-alloy objects were detected.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Evaluation of the site identified well preserved remains of late Iron Age and Roman date surviving beneath the concrete slab in the northern half of the proposed development area. These generally provide complementary evidence to the picture shown by previous episodes of fieldwork in the vicinity, but three things stand out:

- Evidence for late Iron Age settlement has generally been confined to the west side of Mareham Lane. The identification of a high density of features with large

quantities of domestic waste in this area is notable.

- The late Roman cemetery has been seen to be quite extensive, but the burials have been relatively sparse. The concentration of carefully aligned burials in the northeast corner of the site suggests that the focus of the cemetery, at least in one period, may lie in, or close to, this area.

- The 'dark earth' deposit, known to be extensive in the vicinity, has not been significantly truncated in the formation of the concrete slab for the yard. This deposit is likely to be present over most, and probably all, of the area and to preserve earlier archaeological remains beneath.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance Michael Gisbourne of Westleigh Developments who commissioned the work and of Hatcher and Sons for their assistance on site. Steve Malone coordinated the project; Tom Lane edited the report.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Steve Malone
Site Supervisor: Jennifer Kitch
Site Assistants: Neil Parker, Pete Watkin
Photographic Reproduction: Sue Unsworth
CAD Illustration: Jennifer Kitch, Mary Nugent & Joseph Wareham
Post-excavation Analyst: Jennifer Kitch

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

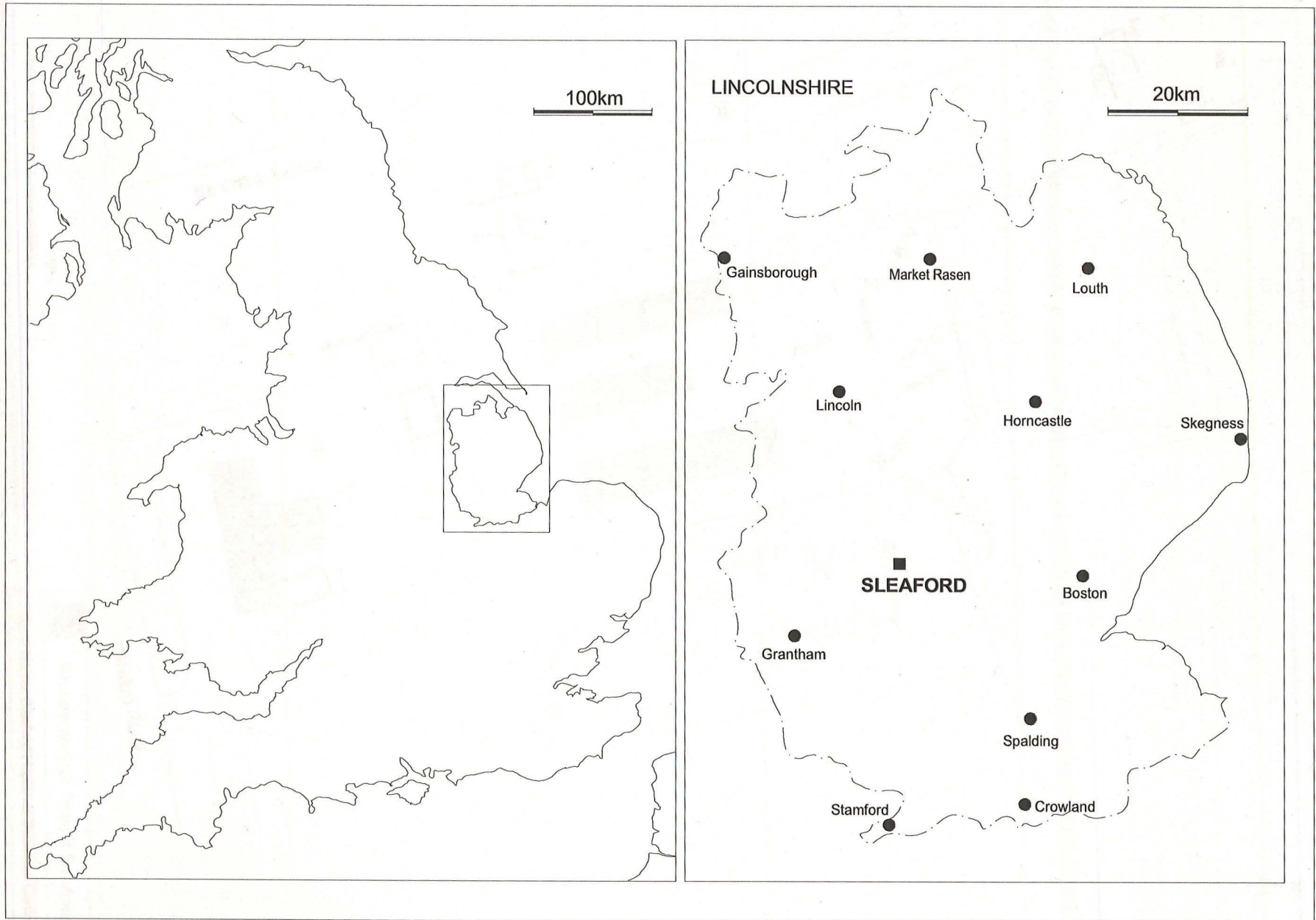


Figure 1: General Location Plan

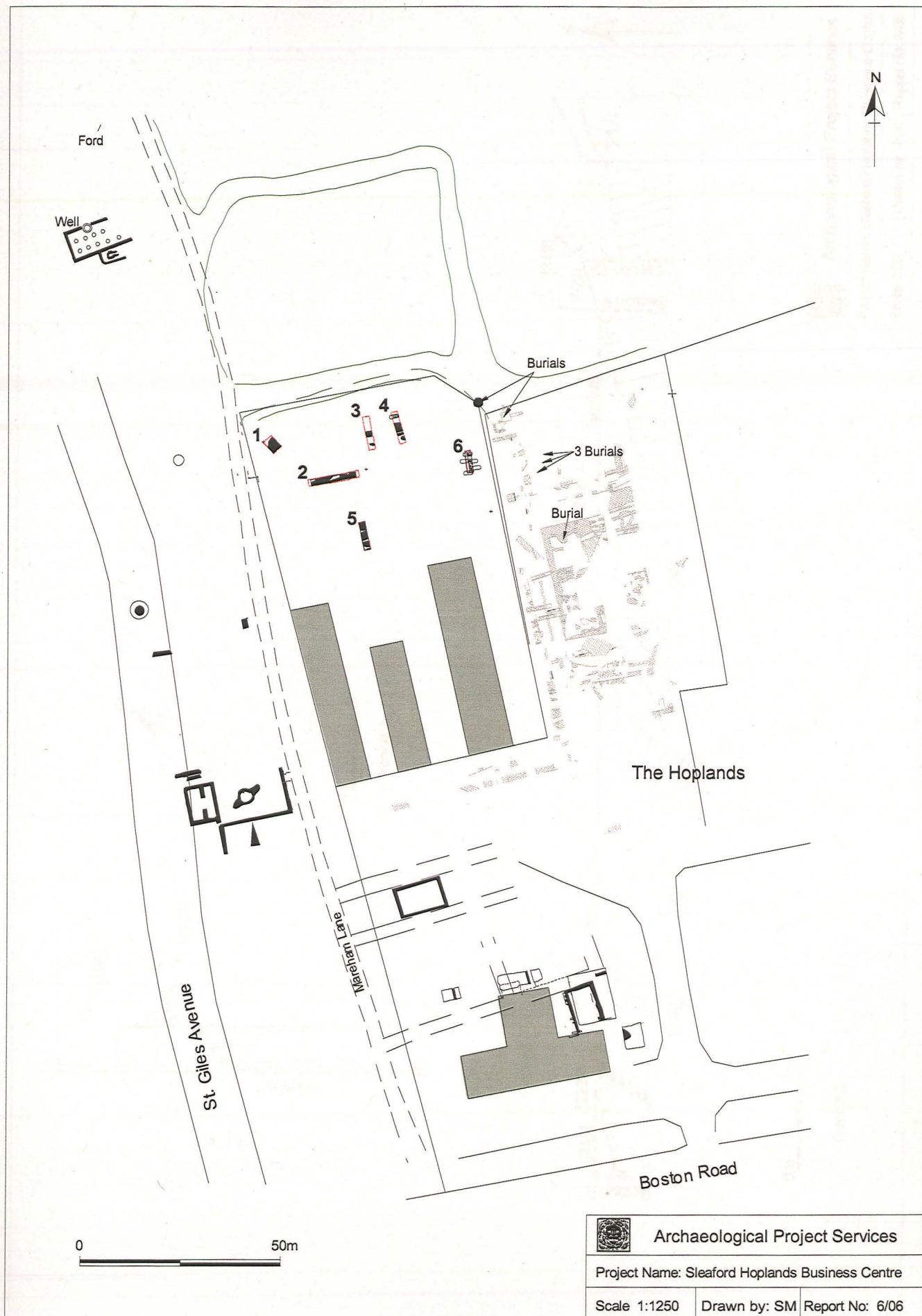
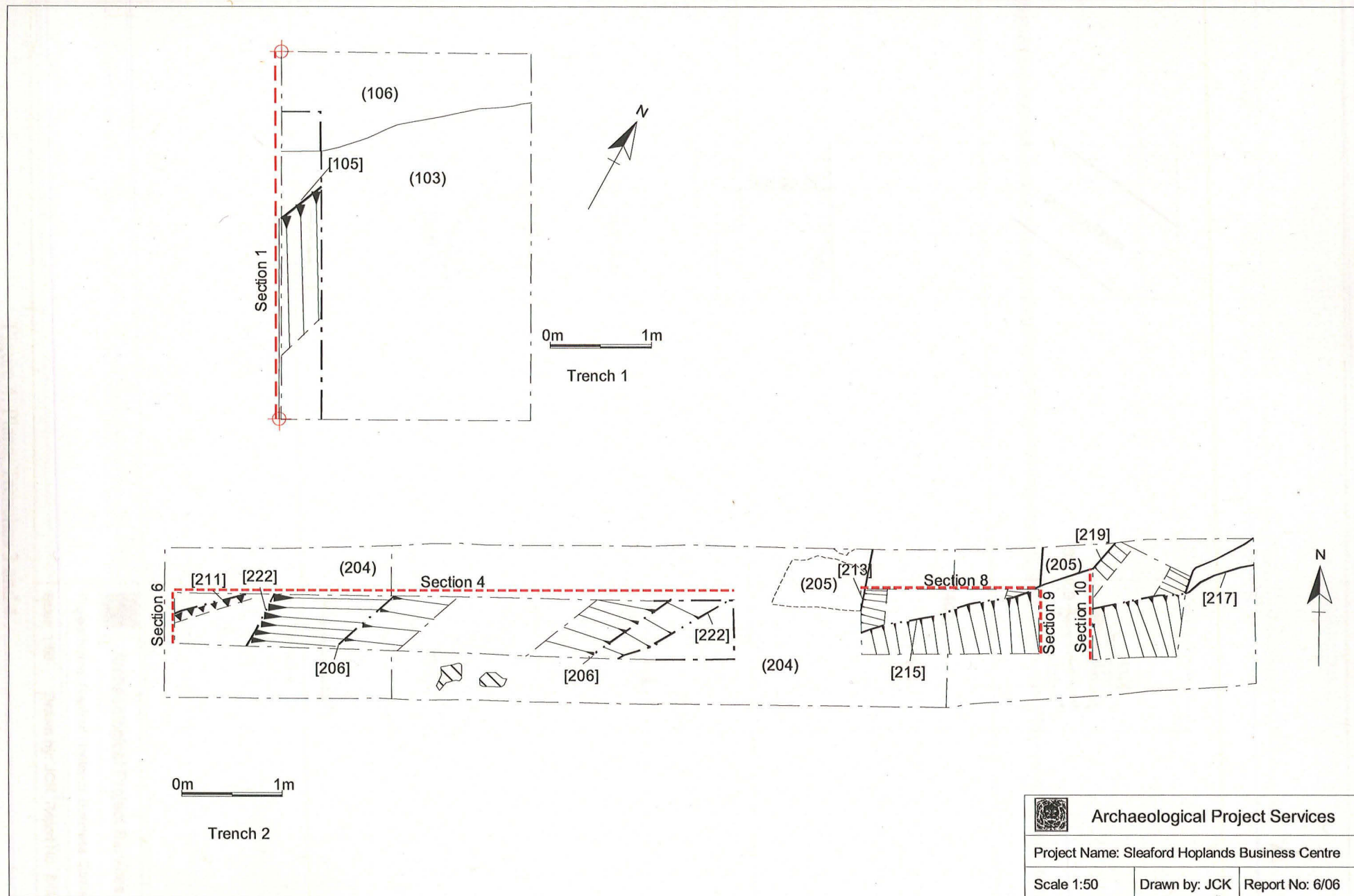


Figure 2: Site location showing trench layout and selected previous findings




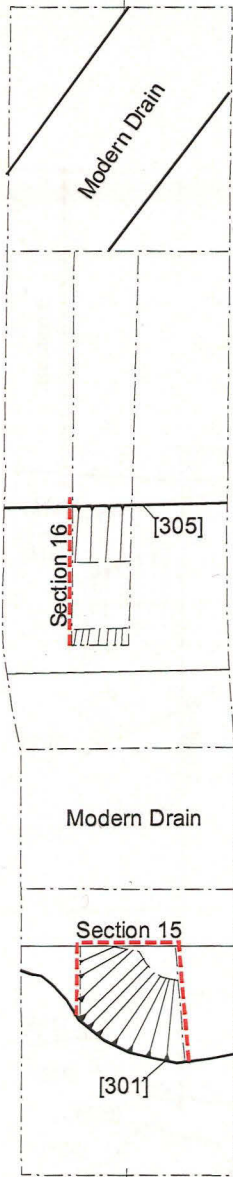
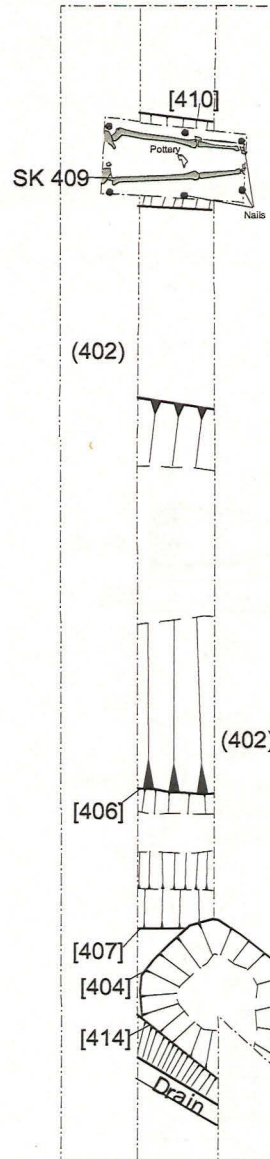
	Archaeological Project Services	
Project Name: Sleaford Hoplands Business Centre		
Scale 1:50	Drawn by: JCK	Report No: 6/06

Figure 3. Plans, Trenches 1 and 2



0m 1m

Trench 3



0m 1m

Trench 4



Archaeological Project Services

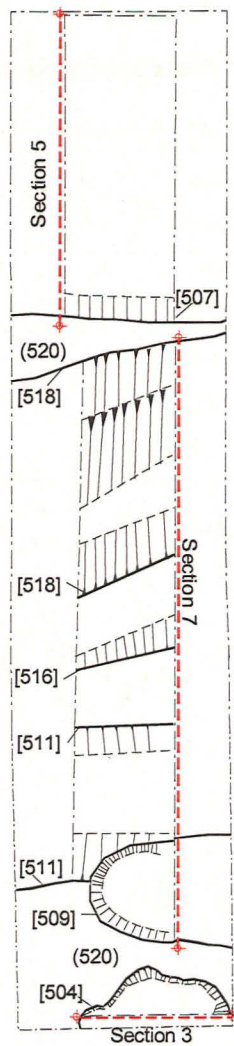
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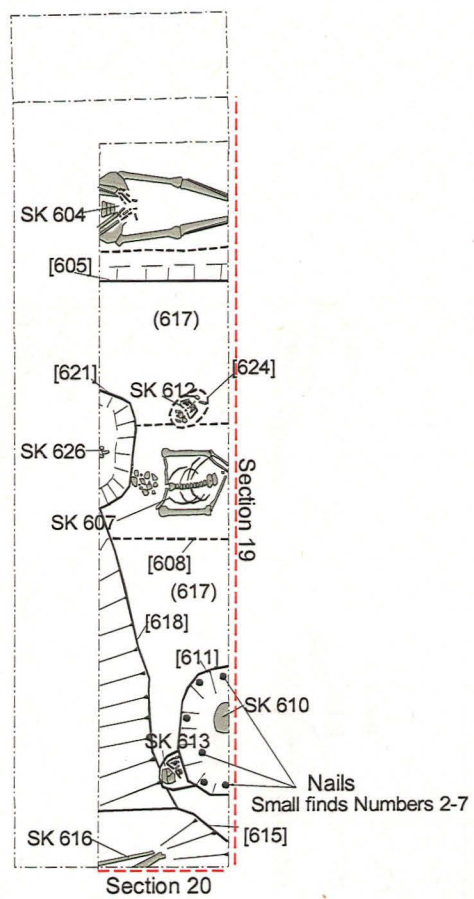
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Report No: 6/06

Figure 4. Plans, Trenches 3 and 4



Trench 5



Trench 6



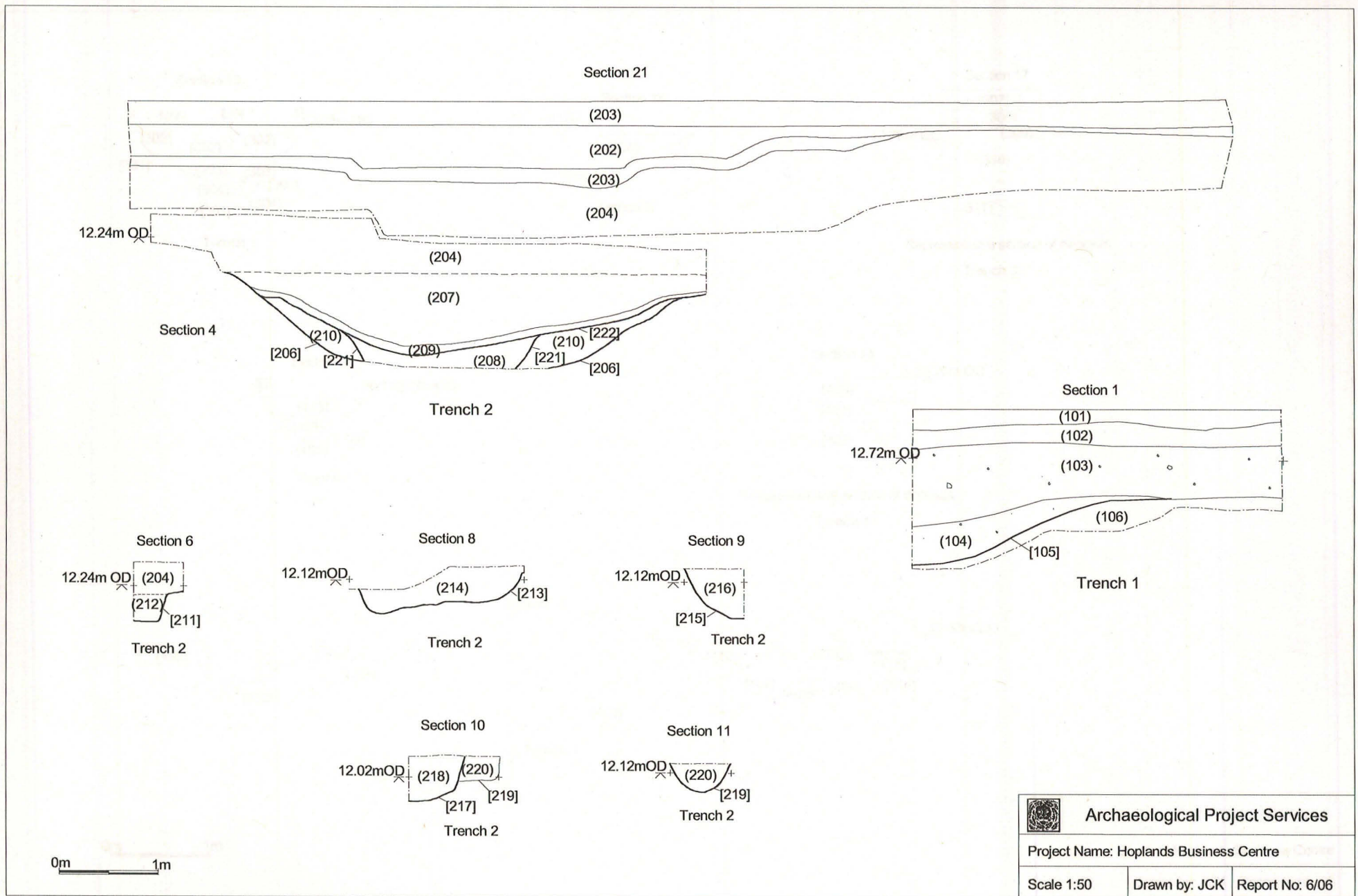
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Drawn by: JCK Report No: 6/06

Figure 5. Plans, Trenches 5 and 6




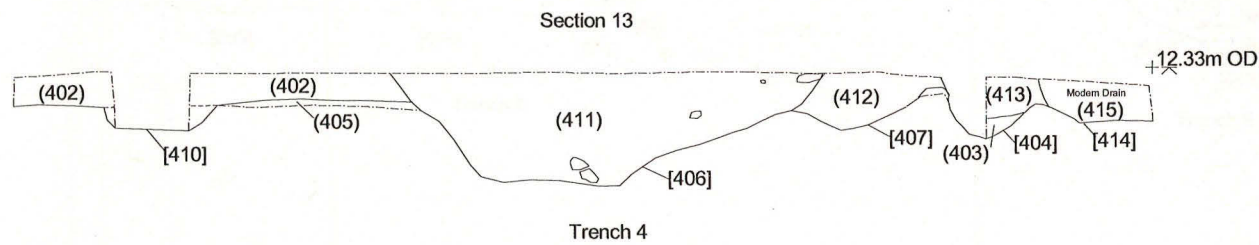
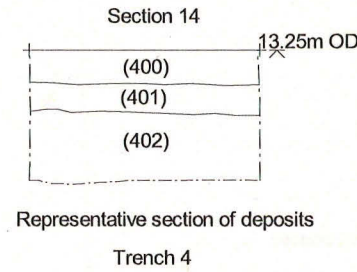
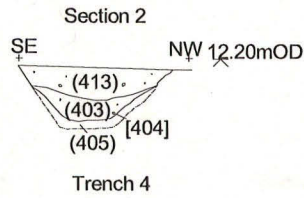
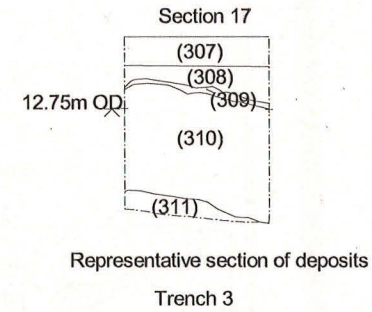
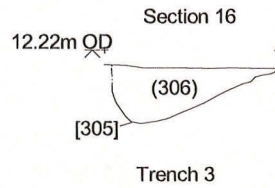
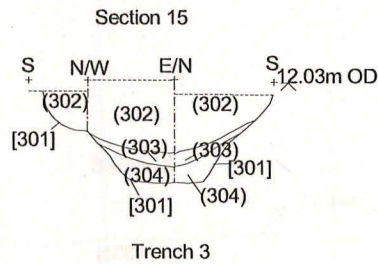
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Project Name: Hoplands Business Centre		
Scale 1:50	Drawn by: JCK	Report No: 6/06

Figure 6. Sections from Trenches 1 and 2



0m 1m



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Sleaford Hoplands Business Centre

Scale 1:50

Drawn by: JCK

Report No:6 /06

Figure 7. Sections from Trenches 3 and 4

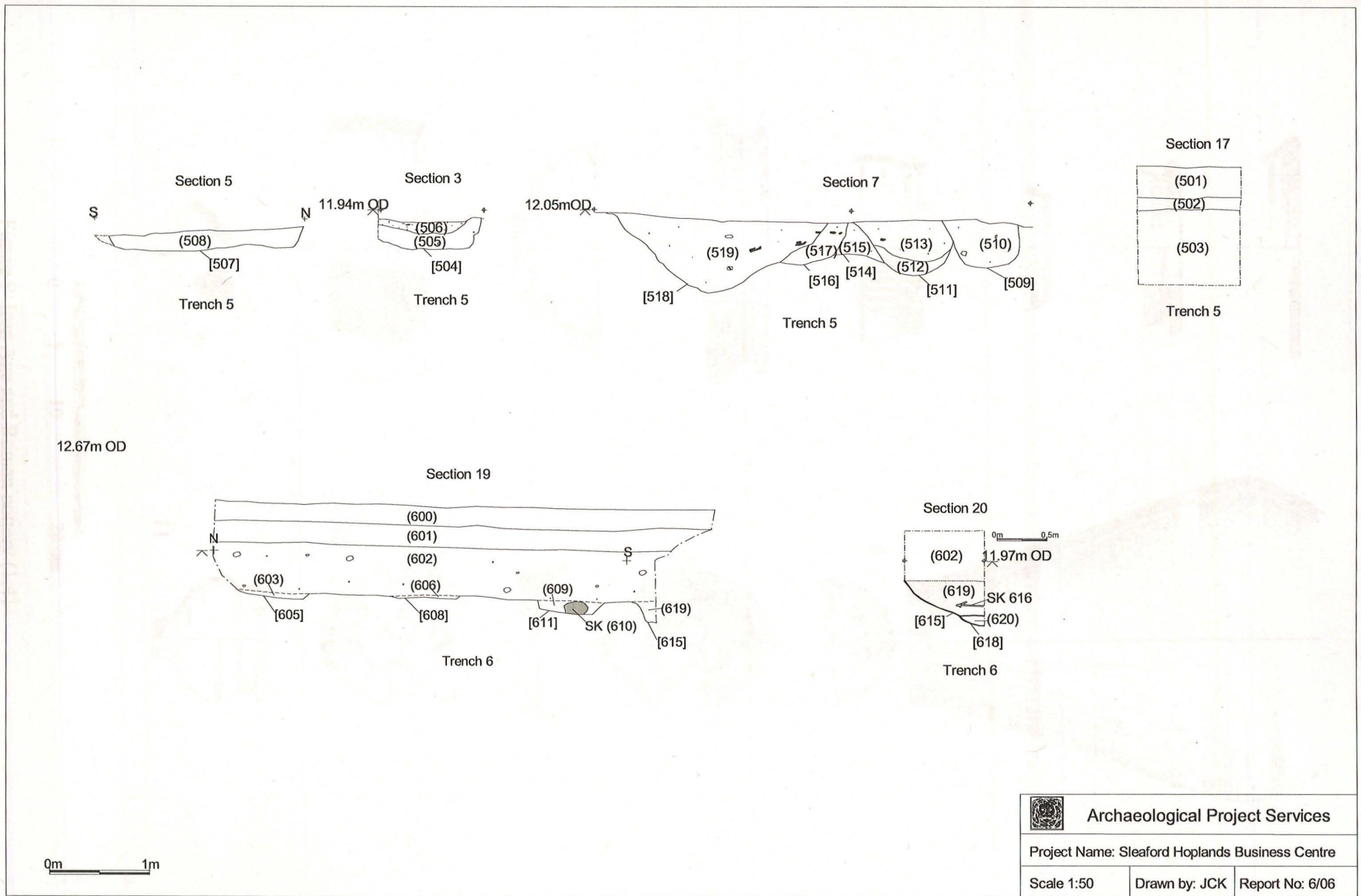
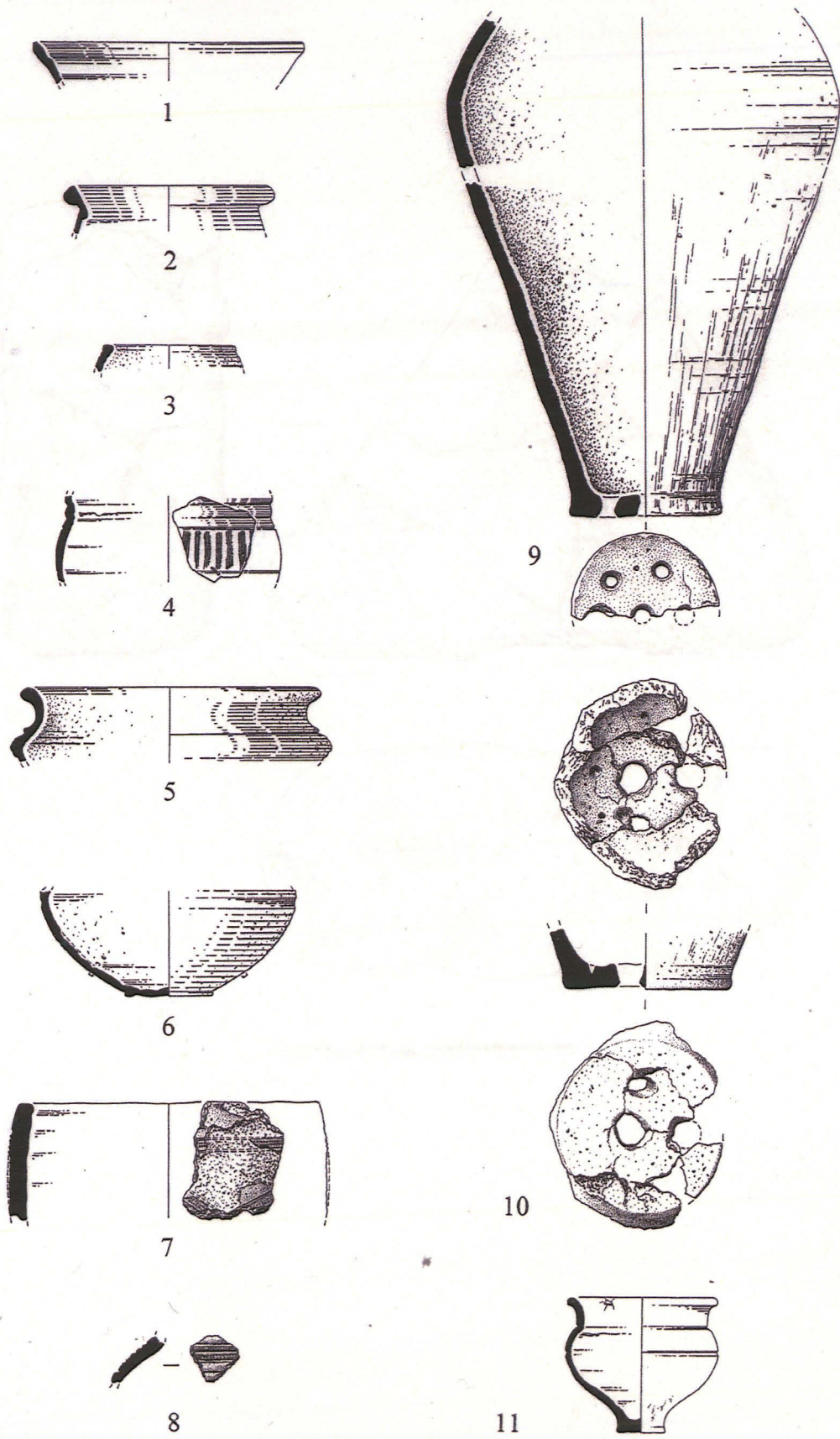


Figure 8. Sections, Trenches 5 and 6



0 5 10 20 cm

Figure 9 Iron Age and Roman pottery (1:4)

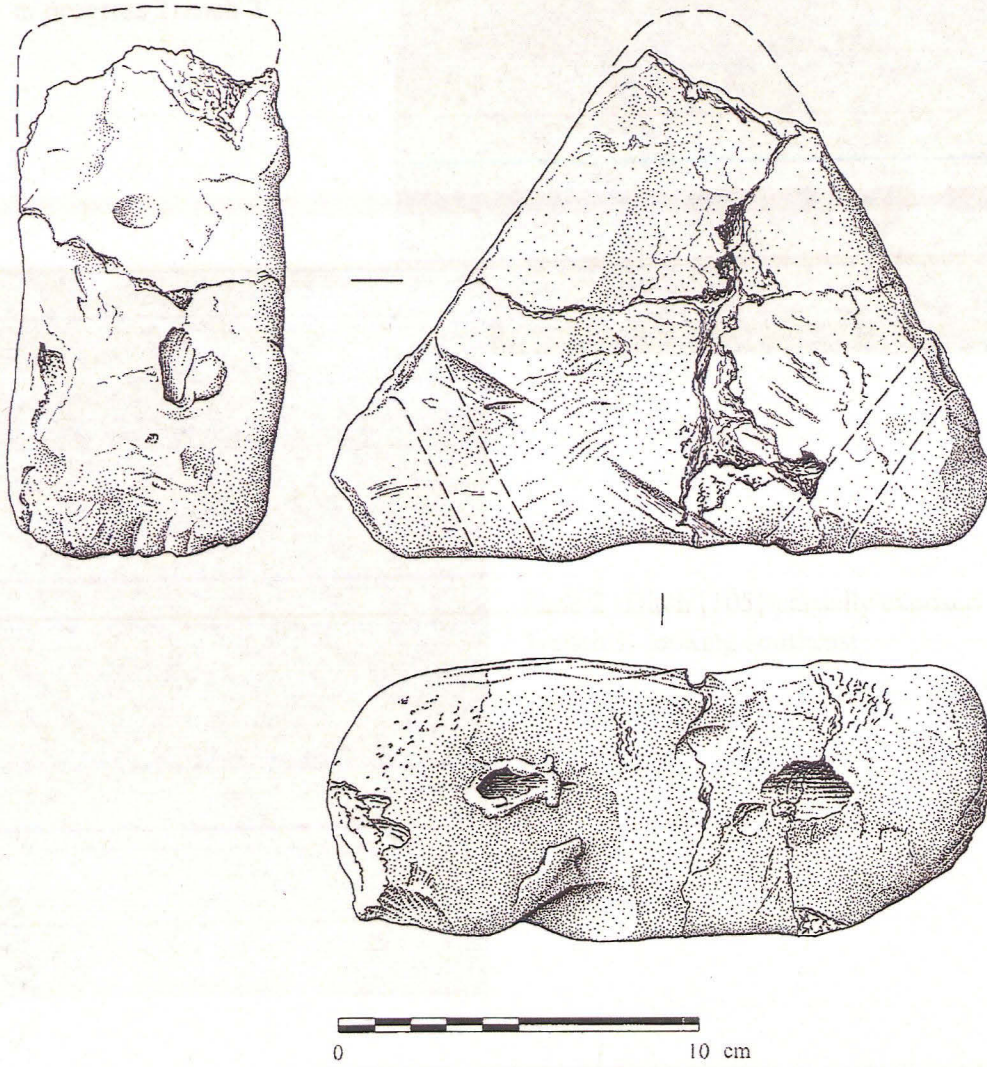


Figure 10 Iron Age loomweight (1:2)

Plate 1 General view, work in progress Trench 2



Plate 2 Ditch [105] partially exposed in Trench 1, looking southeast

Plate 3 Large Iron Age and Roman boundary ditch in Trench 2, looking northwest





Plate 4 Iron Age features at the eastern end of Trench 2

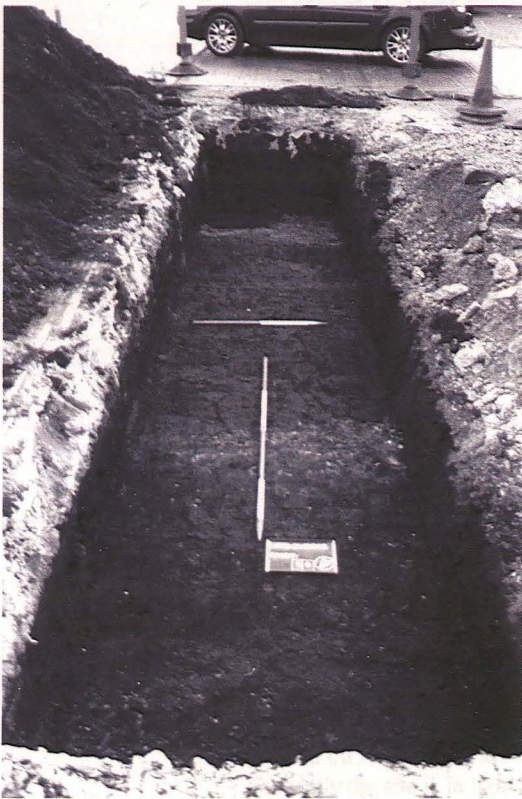


Plate 5 Iron Age features in Trench 5 pre-excavation, looking south



Plate 6 Late Roman burials in Trench 6, looking north

Appendix 1 Specification for Archaeological Evaluation

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land at the Hoplands Business Centre, Boston Road, Sleaford.*
- 1.2 *The site lies close to a Roman road and in an area of Romano-British and Iron Age settlement, including buildings and an extensive cemetery of the late Roman period.*
- 1.3 *Redevelopment of the site is proposed. The archaeological works are being undertaken to provide information to assist the determination of any application.*
- 1.4 *The archaeological work will consist of a programme of trial trenching of the site. On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the findings of the investigation. The report will consist of a text describing the nature of the archaeological deposits located and will be supported by line drawings and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land at the Hoplands Business Centre, Boston Road, Sleaford, Lincolnshire.
- 2.2 The document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview
 - 2.2.2 The archaeological and natural setting
 - 2.2.3 Stages of work and methodologies to be used
 - 2.2.4 List of specialists
 - 2.2.5 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE DESCRIPTION

- 3.1 Sleaford is located 27km south of Lincoln in the administrative district of North Kesteven. The site is located to the east of Sleaford town centre and north of Boston Road on land immediately to the north of the police station on The Hoplands. The site is a rectangular piece of land of c. 0.7ha, centred on National Grid Reference TF 0776 4601. The entire site is covered by a concrete slab. Currently the site is in light industrial use, with workshops and offices and only the northern half is available for evaluation.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Residential development of the site is proposed. Archaeological evaluation is required in order to provide information to assist in the determination of any application.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 Located at a height of c. 12m OD, the investigation area lies on the south side of the Old River Slea. As an urban fringe the investigation area has not been fully mapped by the Soil Survey, but two soil regimes occur in the vicinity. To the north are St. Lawrence Series stagnogleyic brown calcareous earths over calcareous loamy drift (George and Robson 1978, 84). In the south are probably New Sleaford Series gleyic brown calcareous sand on calcareous Fen sand and gravel (*ibid.*, 86-7).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Artefacts of Bronze Age date (2000 - 700 BC) have been found near to the site, though these perhaps represent casual losses rather than actual occupation in the immediate vicinity.
- 6.2 A major settlement was established in the vicinity of the proposed development site during the later part of the Iron Age (700 BC - AD 50). This settlement, located at a crossing of the River Slea, was apparently one of the principal centres of the Corieltauvi, the Iron Age tribe that occupied this part of the East Midlands. The settlement possibly had a major involvement in coin production and has yielded the largest known collection of coin-pellet moulds of the period in Europe. The Iron Age settlement was succeeded by a Romano-British (AD 50-400) occupation site, the prehistoric track to the river crossing becoming a Roman road.
- 6.3 Previous investigations, on St. Giles' Avenue to the west, identified ditches of late Iron Age enclosures and later Roman stone buildings (Archaeological Project Services 1997). Additionally, investigations immediately to the south of the site revealed well-preserved, extensive Roman remains, including stone buildings, though Iron Age evidence was absent from the area. Romano-British burials, mostly of infants and located within a large building, were also identified (Archaeological Project Services 1999). The later Roman remains both west and south of the present site were covered by dark homogenous soil deposits up to 0.5m thick and interpreted as 'dark earth' often found in late and post-Roman urban contexts.
- 6.3 Geophysical survey of land immediately to the north of the site revealed a number of geophysical anomalies thought to represent buried archaeological remains. These features are predominantly linear and are thought to represent probable Romano-British settlement remains (Engineering Archaeological Services 1996). Subsequent trenching in this area confirmed the Roman date of many of the remains, with evidence of buildings of the period particularly in the western part of the area and diminishing in density eastwards. Several burials of late Roman date were also identified, these mostly located just north of the current site (Archaeological Project Services 2001).
- 6.5 Archaeological monitoring during the construction of boundary fences on the current site revealed remains dating from the Iron Age to Saxon periods. These remains included sections of both timber and stone structures, ditches, gullies, pits and burials (Johnson and Palmer-Brown 1995). Evaluation and excavation immediately to the east recorded occupation dating from the Iron Age through to the late Roman periods (Bradley-Lovekin 2005). There is considerable potential for similar remains to survive on the current site beneath the concrete slab.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aim of the work will be to gather sufficient information for the North Kesteven Heritage Officer to be able to formulate an appropriate policy for the management of the archaeological resource of the site.
- 7.2 The objectives of the work will be to:
 - 7.2.1 Establish the type of archaeological activity that may be present within the site.
 - 7.2.2 Determine the likely extent of archaeological activity present within the site.
 - 7.2.3 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features present within the site.
 - 7.2.4 Identify the extent to which the surrounding archaeological features extend into the application area.
 - 7.2.5 Determine the way in which the archaeological features identified fits into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

7.2.6 Determine the date and function of the archaeological features present on the site

8 TRIAL TRENCHING

8.1 Reasoning for this technique

8.1.1 Trial trenching enables the *in situ* determination of the sequence, date, nature, depth, environmental potential and density of archaeological features present on the site.

8.1.2 The trial trenching will consist of the excavation of a 5% sample of the available area. This will be achieved through the excavation of seven 10m x 1.6m trenches laid out as far as possible according to the plan supplied in the brief set by the North Kesteven Heritage Officer.

8.1.3 Should archaeological deposits extend below 1.2m depth then the trench sides will be stepped in, or shored, as appropriate. Trenches will be at least 1m wide at the lowest levels of excavation. Augering may be used to determine the depth of the sequence of deposits present. As specified in the brief for works, 25% of each trench will be fully excavated to natural.

8.2 General Considerations

8.2.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the evaluation. A risk assessment will be prepared prior to the commencement of site works.

8.2.2 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).

8.2.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

8.2.4 A metal detector will be used during mechanical and subsequent manual excavation. Mechanically excavated spoil will be scanned by detector and all excavated surfaces, of all trenches, will be scanned daily by detector.

8.2.5 Excavation of the archaeological features exposed will only be undertaken as far as is required to determine their date, sequence, density and nature. Not all archaeological features exposed will be excavated. However, the evaluation 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.

8.2.6 The area is on private land and enclosed with HERAS fencing. Subject to the consent of the North Kesteven Heritage Officer, and following the appropriate recording, the trenches, particularly those of excessive depth, will be backfilled as soon as possible to ensure good health and safety procedures.

8.3 Methodology

8.3.1 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. Thereafter, the trenches will be cleaned by hand to enable the identification and analysis of the archaeological features exposed.

- 8.3.2 Should 'dark earth' deposits be encountered they may be tested by machine excavation. If this indicates the deposit is extensive then excavation of the deposit may be undertaken by machine, in thin spits. Should artefact clusters occur in the otherwise homogeneous deposit they will be separately recorded.
- 8.3.3 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, (*ie* the minimum disturbance) necessary to interpret the form, function and date of the features.
- 8.3.4 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.
- 8.3.5 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 more appropriate scales.
- 8.3.6 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 fieldwork
- 8.3.7 Should human remains be encountered, they will be left *in situ* with excavation being limited to the identification and recording of such remains. If exhumation is necessary, the appropriate Home Office licences will be obtained and the local environmental health department, the coroner and the police informed.
- 8.3.8 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.
- 8.3.9 The spoil generated during the evaluation will be mounded along the edges of the trial trenches with the topsoil being kept separate from the other material excavated for subsequent backfilling.
- 8.3.10 The precise location of the trenches within the site and the location of site recording grid will be established, relative to the National Grid, by an EDM survey.

9

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 If appropriate, during the evaluation specialist advice will be obtained from an environmental archaeologist. The specialist will visit the site and 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

POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT10.1 Stage 1

10.1.1 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.

10.1.2 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.

10.2 Stage 2

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

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

10.3 Stage 3

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

- A non-technical summary of the findings of the evaluation.
- A description of the archaeological setting of the site with reference to previous discoveries in the area.
- Description of the topography and geology of the evaluation area
- Description of the methodologies used during the evaluation and a critical review of their effectiveness in the light of the findings of the investigation.
- A text describing the findings of the evaluation.
- 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.
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.
- A consideration of the importance of the findings on a local, regional and national basis.

11 **ARCHIVE**

11.1 The documentation, finds, photographs and other records and materials generated during the evaluation will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the City and County Museum, Lincoln. This sorting will be undertaken according to the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives* for long-term storage and curation.

12 **REPORT DEPOSITION**

12.1 Copies of the evaluation report will be sent to: the client; the North Kesteven Heritage Officer; and the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record.

13 **PUBLICATION**

13.1 A report of the findings of the evaluation will be submitted for inclusion in the journal *Lincolnshire History and Archaeology*. Notes or articles describing the results of the investigation will also be submitted for publication in the appropriate national journals: *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date; and *Medieval Archaeology* and *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for medieval and later remains.

14 **CURATORIAL MONITORING**

14.1 Curatorial responsibility for the project lies with the North Kesteven Heritage Officer. They will be given notice in writing of the commencement of the project to enable them to make appropriate monitoring arrangements.

15 **VARIATIONS TO THE PROPOSED SCHEME OF WORKS**

15.1 Variations to the scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation from North Kesteven Heritage Officer.

15.2 Should the North Kesteven Heritage Officer require any additional investigation beyond the scope of the brief for works, or this specification, then the cost and duration of those supplementary examinations will be negotiated between the client and the contractor.

16 **SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT**

16.1 The following organisations/persons will, in principal and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

<u>Task</u>	<u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln.
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric: Dr D Knight, Trent and Peak Archaeological Trust Roman: B Precious, independent specialist Anglo-Saxon: J Young, independent specialist Medieval and later: H Healey, independent specialist
Other Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist

Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, independent specialist
Animal Remains Analysis	Jen Kitch, APS
Environmental Analysis	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
Radiocarbon dating	Beta Analytic Inc., Florida, USA
Dendrochronology dating	University of Sheffield Dendrochronology Laboratory

17 **PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS**

- 17.1 Fieldwork is expected to be undertaken by up to 3-4 staff and to take about six (6) days.
- 17.2 Post-excavation analysis and report production is expected to take 12 person-days within a notional programme of 10-15 days. A project officer or supervisor will undertake most of the analysis, with assistance from the finds supervisor and CAD illustrator. Three days of specialist time are allotted in the project budget.
- 17.3 **Contingency**
- 17.3.1 Contingencies have been specified in the budget. These include: environmental sampling/analysis of waterlogged remains (expected to be some level of sampling and assessment, but cannot be estimated in advance); Roman pottery-large amounts (moderate quantities expected and allowed for); non-pottery artefacts –moderate quantities (small amounts expected and allowed for); Conservation and/or Other unexpected remains or artefacts.
- 17.3.2 Other than the pump, the activation of any contingency requirement will be by the archaeological curator, not Archaeological Project Services.

18 **INSURANCES**

- 18.1 Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains Employers Liability insurance to £10,000,000. Additionally, the company maintains Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied on request.

19 **COPYRIGHT**

- 19.1 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.
- 19.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.
- 19.3 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.

- 19.4 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.

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Specification: Version 1, 25 November 2005

Appendix 2

Context Summary

SHBC 05 – Sleaford Hoplands Business Centre

Trench No: 1		Trench Summary: N-S Linear Ditch		
Context No	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
101	Layer	Concrete	0.20	Concrete Yard Surface
102	Layer	Moderately compact, Pale yellow - orange, Sandy- limestone gravel.	0.30	Crushed Limestone Levelling Layer
103	Layer	Loose, Mid-dark brown sandy-silt, Freq angular limestone fragments.	0.80	Dark Earth
104	Fill	Loose, Dark grey/black sandy silt, Freq angular limestone fragments.	0.40	Fill of Ditch [105]
105	Cut	Roughly N-S orientated linear, slightly convex gradual sloping sides. Base not uncovered.	0.40	Ditch
106	Layer	Moderately compact/friable Mid orange coarse sandy gravel	-	Natural

Trench No: 2		Trench Summary: Heavily inter-cut sequence of N-S and E-W linear ditches		
Context No	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
200	Finds	Unstratified Finds	-	Unstratified Finds
201	Layer	Concrete	0.30	Concrete Yard Surface
202	Layer	Moderately compact, Pale yellow - orange, Sandy- limestone gravel.	0.40	Crushed Limestone Levelling Layer
203	Layer	Firm and sticky, V. dark brown/grey clayey-silt.	0.15	Modern disturbance from former yard surface
204	Layer	Loose dark grey-brown sandy silt, occ limestone fragments	1.0	Dark Earth
205	Layer	Loose, pale Brown-yellow to light grey sandy-gravel	-	Natural
206	Cut	NE-SW orientated linear, moderate sloping straight side, base unexcavated. c. 4.16m wide.	0.92	Possible boundary ditch
207	Fill	Loose, mid-dark red-brown sandy-silt. Occ small limestone pebbles. 4.75m width.	0.73	Fill of ditch re-cut [222]
208	Fill	Firm, sticky, V. dark brown-grey sandy silt. V. organic rich, not bottomed, reached 1.65m wide	0.27	Fill of ditch re-cut [221]
209	Fill	Loose, V. dark grey-brown sandy silt. 4.55m wide	0.10	Fill of ditch re-cut [222]
210	Fill	Loose, Pale yellow-grey sandy gravel. 0.44m wide	0.25	Fill of ditch [206]
211	Cut	ENE-WSW orientated linear, Slightly concave sides with a flat base. 0.29m exposed in section	0.29	Gully
212	Fill	Loose, Dark grey-brown sandy-silt, Occ small limestone fragments	0.29	Fill of gully [211]
213	Cut	N-S orientated linear concave sides with an uneven base. 1.65m wide	0.34	Ditch
214	Fill	Loose, dark grey-brown sandy silt, Occ small limestone fragments, 1.65m wide	0.34	Fill of ditch [213]
215	Cut	E-W Linear, not fully exposed. Sharp sloping concave sides with flat base.	0.48	Ditch same as [217]
216	Fill	Loose, dark grey-brown sandy silt, Occ small limestone fragments	0.48	Fill of ditch [215] same as (218)
217	Cut	E-W linear, not fully exposed, sharp sides with slightly concave sides with a flat base.	0.45	Ditch same as [215]
218	Fill	Loose, dark grey-brown sandy silt, Occ small limestone fragments	0.45	Fill of ditch [217] same as

Appendix 2

Context Summary

SHBC 05 – Sleaford Hoplands Business Centre

				(216)
219	Cut	NE-SW linear, concave sides with rounded base, 0.6m wide.	0.30	Ditch
220	Fill	Loose, dark grey-brown sandy silt, Occ small limestone fragments	0.30	Fill of Ditch [219]
221	Cut	NE-SW orientated linear. Sharp sloping straight sides, base not excavated. 4.16m wide	0.83	Ditch re-cut
222	Cut	NE-SW orientated linear, Moderate, straight sloping sides with concave base. 4.75m wide	0.82	Ditch re-cut

Trench No: 3		Trench Summary: Two E-W linear ditches		
Context No	Type	Description	Thick (m)	Interpretation
300	Finds	U/S finds	-	U/S finds from machining
301	Cut	E-W linear with rounded terminus, Sharp concave sides and flat base. Not fully exposed.	0.72	Ditch terminus
302	Fill	Loose mid Brown/Grey sandy silt, occ small stones.	0.50	Fill of [301]
303	Fill	Loose, mid yellow- brown silty-sand.	0.10	Fill of [301]
304	Fill	Loose, Dark brown-grey sandy-silt.	0.15	Fill of [301]
305	Cut	Linear, E-W, sharp slightly concave sides with shallow concave base. Not fully exposed	0.38	Ditch
306	Fill	Loose, mid grey-brown sandy-silt, occ small rounded stones	0.38	Fill of [305]
307	Layer	Concrete	0.20	Concrete Yard Surface
308	Layer	Moderately compact, Pale yellow - orange, Sandy- limestone gravel.	0.25	Crushed Limestone Levelling Layer
309	Layer	Firm, V. Dark brown-grey silty-clay	0.05	Modern disturbance
310	Layer	Loose, Mid-dark brown sandy-silt, Freq angular limestone fragments.	0.80	Dark Earth
311	Layer	Loose, pale Brown-yellow to light grey sandy-gravel	-	Natural

Trench No: 4		Trench Summary: Two E-W linear ditches, E-W orientated burial, and a single pit		
Context No	Type	Description	Thick (m)	Interpretation
400	Layer	Concrete	0.24	Concrete Yard Surface
401	Layer	Moderately compact, Pale yellow - orange, Sandy- limestone gravel.	0.20	Crushed Limestone Levelling Layer
402	Layer	Loose, Mid-dark brown sandy-silt, Freq angular limestone fragments.	0.50	Dark Earth
403	Fill	Moderately compacted mid-dark orange brown fine silt with limestone fragments	0.15	Fill of [404]
404	Cut	Sub-circular with gradually sloping gently concaving sides with a flat base. Approximately 1m wide by 1m long	0.40	Possible Pit
405	Layer	Loose, pale Brown-yellow to light grey sandy-gravel	-	Natural
406	Cut	E-W orientated Linear, gradually sloping slightly convex sides with flat base. 2.60 wide.	0.65	Ditch
407	Cut	E-W orientated Linear, Gradual sloping, slightly concave sides with concave base. 0.6m wide	0.40	Ditch

Appendix 2

Context Summary

SHBC 05 – Sleaford Hoplands Business Centre

408	Fill	Loose, V dark brown silty-sand. Freq, stone inclusions. Occ charcoal flecks. With 6 coffin nails equally spaced	0.40	Fill of [410]
409	Skeleton	Supine adult skeleton, W-E orientation.	-	Skeleton
410	Cut	Not fully exposed in plan, E-W orientated. Steep sloping straight sides and flat base. 0.80m wide.	0.40	Grave
411	Fill	Loose, v. dark brown sandy-silt. Freq rounded stones	0.60	Fill of [406]
412	Fill	Loose, v. dark brown sandy-silt. Freq rounded stones, 0.85m wide	0.40	Fill of [407]
413	Fill	Loose, v. dark brown sandy-silt. Freq rounded stones. Approx 1m wide	0.25	Fill of [404]
414	Cut	Modern Drain Trench, NW-SE orientated.	-	Modern Drain
415	Fill	Loose, v. dark brown sandy-silt. Freq rounded stones, not fully excavated	-	Fill of [414]

Trench No: 5		Trench Summary: Series of 5 inter-cutting E-W ditches, a possible pit/ditch terminus and a feature of undetermined nature.		
Context No	Type	Description	Thick (m)	Interpretation
501	Layer	Concrete	0.30	Concrete Yard Surface
502	Layer	Moderately compact, Pale yellow - orange, Sandy- limestone gravel.	0.12	Crushed Limestone Levelling Layer
503	Layer	Loose, Mid-dark brown sandy-silt, Freq angular limestone fragments.	0.75	Dark Earth Layer
504	Cut	Possibly sub-oval (only partially exposed). Vertical sides and shallow concave base. 1.03m long, 0.4m wide exposed	0.29	Possible pit/ditch terminus
505	Fill	Friable D. brown-grey silt-sand. Rare small rounded pebbles, occ. Charcoal flecks	0.20	Fill of [504]
506	Fill	Loose, D. brown silty-sand, occ charcoal flecks, rare small sub-round pebbles.	0.13	Fill of [504]
507	Cut	Not fully exposed in plan. Moderate sloping sides and irregular base.	0.23	Undetermined Feature
508	Fill	Loose, V. dark grey/ brown sandy-silt. V. occ. Small sub-rounded pebbles.	0.23	Fill of [507]
509	Cut	E-W Linear with a rounded terminus. Sharpe/vertical straight sides with a flat base. 0.66m wide.	0.49	Ditch terminus/pit
510	Fill	Loose dark brown, silty-sand. Occ small pebbles.	0.49	Fill of [509]
511	Cut	E-W Linear, moderate straight sides with concave base. 0.89m wide.	0.56	Ditch
512	Fill	Loose Brown-yellow sandy-gravel.	0.15	Primary fill of [511]
513	Fill	Loose dark brown, silty-sand. Freq pebbles.	0.42	Fill of [511]
514	Cut	E-W linear, sides truncated by later ditches, shallow concave base.	0.33	Ditch/Gully
515	Fill	Loose dark brown, silty-sand. Occ small pebbles.	0.33	Fill of [514]
516	Cut	E-W Linear, steep slightly concave sides with concave base. 0.42m wide	0.41	Ditch
517	Fill	Loose/Friable, Mid grey sandy gravel.	0.41	Fill of [516]
518	Cut	E-W Linear, Moderate straight sloping sides and concave base. 2.16m wide	0.72	Ditch
519	Fill	Loose mid-dark brown, Occ stones and pebbles, occ charcoal flecks.	0.72	Fill of [518]
520	Layer	Loose, pale Brown-yellow to light grey sandy-gravel	-	Natural

Appendix 2

Context Summary

SHBC 05 – Sleaford Hoplands Business Centre

Trench No: 6		Trench Summary: N-S orientated linear ditch, 5 E-W orientated adult grave cuts and two neonate burials		
Context No	Type	Description	Thick (m)	Interpretation
600	Layer	Concrete	0.24	Concrete Yard Surface
601	Layer	Moderately compact, Pale yellow - orange, Sandy- limestone gravel.	0.30	Crushed Limestone Levelling Layer
602	Layer	Loose, Mid-dark brown sandy-silt, Freq angular limestone fragments.	0.60	Dark Earth Layer
603	Fill	Loose, Mid-dark brown sandy-silt, Freq angular limestone fragments.	0.08	Fill of Grave [605]
604	Skeleton	Lower half of supine adult skeleton, E-W orientation.	-	Skeleton
605	Cut	Sub-rectangular (not fully exposed), Sharpe sloping sides, base not uncovered	0.08	Grave Cut
606	Fill	Loose, Mid-dark brown sandy-silt, Freq angular limestone fragments.	0.05	Fill of Grave [608]
607	Skeleton	Upper half of a supine skeleton orientated E-W, skull fragmentary. Arms meet at pelvis.	-	Skeleton
608	Cut	Not fully exposed in plan. 0.8m wide. Orientated E-W. Sharpe flat sloping sides with flat base.	0.05	Grave Cut
609	Fill	Loose, Mid-dark brown sandy-silt, Freq angular limestone fragments.	0.12	Fill of Grave [611]
610	Skeleton	Very top of skull only exposed, E-W orientated burial. Surrounded by well spaced coffin nails	-	Skeleton
611	Cut	Not fully exposed in plan, approximately 0.80m wide. E-w orientated. Sharpe sloping sides with flat base	0.12	Grave Cut
612	Skeleton	Relatively complete neonate skeleton, position of the body unknown.	-	Neonate Skeleton
613	Skeleton	Neonate skeleton, orientated E-W, position unknown.	-	Neonate Skeleton
614	Cut	Sub-circular, gradual sloping concave sides, base not exposed. 0.20m wide, 0.20m length	-	Grave Cut
615	Cut	Not fully exposed in plan, Moderate sloping sides and flat base.	0.36	Grave Cut
616	Skeleton	Probable supine adult skeleton, Tibia and fibula only exposed within the section.	-	Skeleton
617	Layer	Moderately compact/friable Mid orange coarse sandy gravel	-	Natural
618	Cut	Approximately N-S orientated linear, slightly concave gradually sloping sides , base not exposed	-	Ditch Cut
619	Fill	Loose, Mid-dark brown sandy-silt, Freq angular limestone fragments.	0.36	Fill of Grave [615]
620	Fill	Loose, Mid-dark brown sandy-silt, Freq angular limestone fragments.	0.20	Fill of Ditch [618]
621	Cut	Not fully exposed in plan, E-W orientated, vertical sides, base not uncovered. 0.80m wide	-	Grave Cut
622	Fill	Loose, Mid-dark brown sandy-silt, Freq angular limestone fragments.	-	Fill of Grave [621]
623	Fill	Loose, Mid-dark brown sandy-silt, Freq angular limestone fragments.	-	Fill of Grave [624]
624	Cut	Oval with shallow concave sides, ESE-WNW orientated. 0.32m long, 0.20m wide	-	Grave Cut
625	Fill	Loose, Mid-dark brown sandy-silt, Freq angular limestone fragments.	-	Fill of Grave [614]
626	Skeleton	Disturbed foot bones from previously articulated skeleton within grave [621].	-	Skeleton

Abbreviations:

CBM-
Occ-

Ceramic Building Material
Occasional

V-
Freq-

Very
Frequent

REPORT 215 ON POTTERY FROM AN EVALUATION AT
HOPLANDS BUSINESS PARK, SLEAFORD,
LINCOLNSHIRE, SURVEY

FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES

By J. D. ... F.R.S., M.A., M.P.S.

Appendix 3
The Pottery by M. Darling

REPORT 216 ON POTTERY FROM AN EVALUATION AT HOPLANDS BUSINESS PARK, SLEAFORD, LINCOLNSHIRE, SHBC05

For ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES

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

January 2006

INTRODUCTION

The pottery comprises 481 sherds, weighing 11.649kg, from 30 contexts, and one unlocated sample. These have 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*. There are no problems for long term storage. Codes are compatible with the archive structure and coding used in the City of Lincoln database and for Lincolnshire sites. The archive will be curated for future study and research.

A summary of the quantities of the pottery by trench is given in Table 1. Full details of the pottery by deposit with dating is in Appendix 1. Archiving codes for vessel form and decoration/manufacture are in Appendix 2. The archive database is Appendix 3.

Table 1 Quantities and dating

Trench	Sherds	%	Weight	%	g/sh	Dating
1	10	2.08	143	1.23	14.3	E2-L3
2	172	35.76	5111	43.88	29.7	LIA-L4
3	17	3.53	336	2.88	19.8	LIA-3C
4	51	10.60	742	6.37	14.5	2-3C
5	190	39.50	4859	41.71	25.6	LIA-L3-4
6	36	7.48	452	3.88	12.6	2-L3-4
-	5	1.04	6	0.05	1.2	
	481	100	11649	100	24.2	

Sherds dating to the Late Iron Age occurred in all trenches. The later dates in all but Trench 1 derived from pottery from the Dark Earth deposits.

OVERVIEW OF FABRICS

The fabrics from all the trenches are summarised in table 2.

Table 2 Fabrics

Fabric	Code	Sherds	%	Weight	%
Colour-coated ware	CC	4	0.83	61	0.52
Cream	CR	2	0.42	87	0.75
Shell-gritted dales ware	DWSH	1	0.21	67	0.58
Fired clay	FCLAY?	1	0.21	13	0.11
Gallo-Belgic white-ware	GBWW	7	1.46	245	2.10
Grey	GREY	103	21.41	2260	19.40
Grey fairly fine	GRFF	1	0.21	25	0.21
Grey sandy	GRSA	1	0.21	6	0.05
Grey minimal shell	GYMS	13	2.70	213	1.83
Mortaria Nene Valley	MONV	3	0.62	257	2.21
Mosel colour-coated ware	MOSL	1	0.21	11	0.09
Mortaria Swanpool	MOSP	1	0.21	79	0.68
Nene Valley colour-coated ware	NVCC	31	6.44	655	5.62
Oxidized	OX	7	1.46	100	0.86
Oxidized fine	OXF	1	0.21	21	0.18
Oxidized light	OXL	4	0.83	81	0.70
Oxidized minimal shell	OXMS	3	0.62	58	0.50
Post-Roman	PRO	6	1.25	139	1.19
Central Gaulish samian	SAMCG	2	0.42	5	0.04
South Gaulish samian	SAMSG	1	0.21	9	0.08
Shell-gritted common coarse	SHCC	16	3.33	652	5.60
Shell-gritted common fine	SHCF	33	6.86	584	5.01
Shell-gritted common medium	SHCM	164	34.10	4739	40.68
Shell-gritted	SHEL	8	1.66	86	0.74
Shell-gritted sparse fine	SHSF	30	6.24	308	2.64
Shell-gritted sparse medium	SHSM	32	6.65	744	6.39
Swanpool oxidized	SPOX	1	0.21	7	0.06
Tile	TILE	1	0.21	74	0.64
Imported Terra nigra	TN	3	0.62	63	0.54
Total		481	100	11649	100

The most striking aspect of the fabrics is the very high percentages of shell-gritted fabrics of Late Iron Age date, accounting for 57% sherd count, and over 60% on weight. Also of paramount importance to any assessment of the site is the occurrence of terra nigra and white-wares imported from Gallo-Belgica, Northern France. These make it quite clear that important Iron Age deposits occur on this site. The terra nigra sherds came from ditch 518, a platter rim no 1, and, unstratified in Trench 2, two platter base fragments, while Gallo-Belgic white-ware flagon sherds were from ditch 518, and the dark earth in Trench 2, together with a butt-beaker rim, no 2. When the Late Iron Age shell-gritted fabrics are assessed by Trench, the percentages of all pottery in each trench ranges from 29-85% on sherd count, and from 33-91% by weight. Since these are small trenches, only Trenches 2 and 5 had samples of acceptable size, and here Trench 2 had 37% count and weight, while Trench 5 produced 85% count and 91% weight. This high percentage is partly accounted for by remains of large jars in ditches 516 and 518. However, the quantity of Iron Age pottery sherds is impressive.

The only other imports were the three samian fragments, two of which, including the South Gaulish sherd, came from the dark earth layer, with a single Central Gaulish fragment from the possible ditch 504. Much of the Roman pottery came from the dark earth layers, including classic late Roman vessels, all the mortaria and the post-Roman sherds.

OVERVIEW OF VESSEL FORMS

The Late Iron Age vessels include the imported terra nigra dishes (as no 1), a Gallo-Belgic butt-beaker of the Camulodunum type 113, no 2, a number of sherds with the classic style of curvilinear rouletted decoration (as nos 7, 8), and carinated bowls (nos 5, 6). The terra nigra dish no 1 appears to fit the Camulodunum form 12/13, datable to the Tiberian-Claudian period (cf. Rigby 1997, fig 46, nos 11-12). The jar no 7 is similar to an early vessel from Old Sleaford (Elsdon 1997, fig 73, 325), while the other, a finer closed vessel, is unusual in having rouletted decoration on the cordon. Two sherds from probable copies of Gallo-Belgic beakers also occurred (nos 3, 4), no 3 being probably from an ovoid beaker (Elsdon 1997, fig 63). There are also two notable large shell-gritted jars with holes bored *ante cocturam* in the base (nos 9, 10), one unusually having traces of boring depressions for further holes (no 10); from ditches 516 and 518, linked by joining sherds between the two ditches.

The Central Gaulish samian consists of only a fragment from a dish, probably a form 18/31 and a flake from a cup, form 27. The South Gaulish vessel is a decorated bowl form 30 but the surviving decoration is insufficient to refine its 1st century date. Many of the Roman vessels are from the dark earth deposits, and form a notable group, including two Nene Valley mortaria, a particularly fine painted example, no 19, which is notably unworn, and another, no 20, and a late painted hemispherical colour-coated bowl, no 13, not certainly from the Nene Valley kilns. A mortarium from the late Lincoln kilns at Swanpool (Webster and Booth 1947) also occurs. A beaker in Nene Valley colour-coated ware, no 11 came from the grave 410. This is an unusual type, and would probably fit a date around the mid 3rd century. Earlier vessels include a fragment of a beaker in an oxidized fabric and part of a jug with a folded rim, both from ditch 518. A single sherd from the feature 507 is an unusual fabric with possible traces of a red slip or wash, and may also belong to the early Roman period. Late vessels also include a Nene Valley colour-coated bowl, no 12, bowls of the types made at the late Lincoln Swanpool kilns, nos 16-18, and a beaker no 15; a painted oxidized closed form is in the Swanpool oxidized fabric (from the dark earth).

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The samples from Trenches 1, 3 and 6 are too small for useful comment, apart from the high percentages of Late Iron Age shell-gritted wares, and Trench 4 is similar, but contains the grave 410 with the jar or beaker no 11, a rare type. The main emphasis of the late Iron Age finds appears to lie in trenches 2 and 5.

The quantity and quality of the Late Iron Age pottery leaves no doubt that this is an important site, the excavation of which is likely to yield significant results. Examination of the dark earth deposits and any intervening Roman deposits would also be of value to understanding the sequence of occupation on the site. Vessels requiring illustration have been selected during archiving, and it is recommended that twenty should be drawn. If the results of the evaluation are anticipated to lead to further work, these drawings could be reserved until that work occurs. In the absence of further work on the site, they will need to be drawn to complete the record.

CATALOGUE

Ill	Fabric	Details	Cut	Deposit	Cxt	D#
1	TN	Platter, Cam. form 12/13. Light grey fabric, black polished surfaces	518	Ditch	519	17
2	GBWW	Butt beaker, Cam. form 113	-	Dark Earth	204	01
3	SHSF	Beaker rim, probably ovoid type. Dark grey fabric, sparse fine shell inclusions.	518	Ditch	519	16
4	OXF	Beaker body sherd, fine dark grey fabric with micro-fossils inclusions; burnished red-brown exterior with scored vertical lines.	-	Unstrat.	200	07
5	SHSM	Carinated bowl, dark grey fabric, sparse shell. Burnished exterior and rim interior.	511	Ditch	513	14
6	SHSF	Base carinated bowl, fine dark grey fabric, sparse fine shell.	518	Ditch	519	19
7	SHCF	Hand-made dark grey fabric with common fine shell, rouletted horizontal and diagonal lines, abraded.	-	Dark earth	402	13
8	SHCF	Body sherd, shoulder of a closed type, possibly wheel-made, dark grey, common fine shell, rouletted curving line in cordoned zone.	301	Ditch	302	18

9	SHCM	Hand-made base large jar, pierced ante cocturam with central and surrounding holes. Coarse dark grey fabric and exterior, red-brown interior.	516;51 8	Ditches	517;51 9	15
10	SHCM	Hand-made base large jar, fabric as no 9. Pierced central hole, with bored hollows by the wall.	516	Ditch	517	20
11	NVCC	Beaker, cream fabric, dark red colour-coated.	410	Grave	408	12
12	NVCC	Bowl. Cream fabric. Fresh sherds.	-	Dark Earth	204	04
13	CC	Bowl with painted arcs; possibly late NVCC, fabric red-brown and grey.	-	Dark Earth	204	05
14	GREY	Narrow-necked jar, with notched frill.	-	Dark Earth	204	11
15	GREY	Funnel-necked beaker.	-	Dark Earth	204	06
16	GREY	Bowl with high bead; decorated burnished bands.	-	Dark Earth	204	09
17	GREY	Inturned bead and flange with fingered frill.	-	Dark Earth	204	10
18	GREY	Wide-mouthed bowl, typical of Swanpool type.	-	Dark Earth	204	08
19	MONV	Mortarium, painted stripes on rim. Slag trituration. Unworn.	-	Dark Earth	204	03
20	MONV	Mortarium. Slag trituration.	-	Dark Earth	204	02

FABRICS DEFINITION

Publication of *The National Roman Fabric Reference Collection*, abbreviated NRFRC (Tomber and Dore 1998), obviate the need to describe the major imported and widely traded Romano-British wares in detail.

CC	Colour-coated, unknown origin. A bowl, no 5, with a grey and red-brown combination fabric, which is possibly, but not certainly, from the Nene Valley kilns.
CR	Cream, miscellaneous cream wares. Sherds attributed to a fabric group rather than a discrete fabric, only from probable flagons.
DWSH	Shell-gritted dales ware jars, hand-made and wheel-finished from sources in north Lincolnshire around the Humber area. NRFRC: DAL SH
FCLAY	Fragments of fired clay, sometimes daub.
GBWW	Imported flagons and beakers from Gallo-Belgica. NRFRC: NOG WH 1 (pipeclay); NOG WH 2 (powdery); NOG WH 3 (Beakers). The white ware from this site includes the pipeclay represented by sherds from flagons, and the beaker fabric.
GREY	Grey, undifferentiated quartz-gritted grey fabrics, hard wares with sparse to common sub-rounded quartz inclusions.
GRFF	Grey, fairly fine fabric. This code covers fabrics intermediate between the common grey wares with sparse to common quartz and fine grey wares (GFIN), which itself is coarser than the very fine fabrics used for Parisian and 'London' wares. Usually used for finer vessels for the table, particularly beakers.
GRSA	Grey, with common to abundant quartz sand inclusions.
GYMS	A fabric group to cover sherds, usually wheel-made, grey with minimal very sparse shell inclusions. Normally from vessels typical of the later Iron Age, but possibly continuing into the early Roman period.
MONV	Mortaria Lower Nene Valley NRFRC : LNV WH
MOSL	Colour-coated beakers from Trier, later 2nd into the 3rd century. NRFRC: MOS BS
MOSP	Mortaria from Swanpool kilns, Lincoln. NRFRC: SWN WS
NVCC	Nene Valley colour-coat NRFRC: LNVCC
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. Both open and closed forms occur.
OXF	Oxidized fine texture fabrics, not a discrete fabric.
OXL	Oxidized lighter red-brown. Fabrics in light cream-brown shades, usually relatively fine-textured, often used for flagons.
OXMS	Oxidized with minimal shell. As GYMS, but oxidized fabrics.
PRO	Post-Roman sherds
SAMCG	Samian Central Gaul, from Lezoux. NRFRC : LEZ SA
SAMSG	Samian South Gaulish, from La Graufesenque. NRFRC: LGF SA
SHEL	Shell-gritted, miscellaneous shell-gritted ware, not certainly of local origin.
SHCC	Shell-gritted, common coarse shell inclusions.

- SHCF Shell-gritted, common fine shell inclusions.
 SHCM Shell-gritted, common medium shell inclusions.
 SHSF Shell-gritted, sparse fine shell inclusions.
 SHSM Shell-gritted, sparse medium shell inclusions.
 SPOX Oxidized quartz-tempered fabric, usually with a burnished slip, often decorated with white painted designs, made at the Swanpool kilns, Lincoln, in the 4th century (Webster & Booth 1947).
- TILE Tile fragments, usually building material.
 TN Imported terra nigra tableware from Gallo-Belgic. **NRFC:** (Vesle Valley) **GAB TN 1;** (Eggshell) **GAB TN 2.** The terra nigra from this site is that from the Vesle Valley, consisting of sherds from platters.

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APPENDIX 1

Summary of the pottery by deposit, quantities, dating and comments

Tr	Cut	Deposit	Cxt	Sherds	Weight	Date	Comments
-	-	-	SAMP-1	5	6	ROM?	SAMPLE <1>
1	-	Levellin g	103	2	33	E2?	No def dating
1	105	Ditch	104	8	110	L3?	Incl LIA decor
2	-	Unstrat.	200	16	545	L2-3/POSTRO	Import GB ware & POSTRO
2	-	Dark Earth	204	106	3340	L4	Incl LIA shs
2	221	Ditch recut	207	20	553	3C	Most shell; LIA/EROM
2	221	Ditch recut	208S	15	27	LIA	SAMPLE <3>
2	211	Gully	212	4	83	2-3C?	No def dating; incl poss LIA
2	213	Ditch	214	2	34	2-3C?	No def dating
2	215	Ditch	216	4	29	LIA?	
2	217	Ditch	218	3	342	LIA?	All WM
2	219	Ditch	220	2	158	LIA/EROM	
3	-	Unstrat.	300	1	21	3C?	
3	301	Ditch	302	5	78	LIA	
3	305	Ditch	306	1	30	2-3C	
3	-	Dark earth	310	10	207	POSTRO	
4	-	Dark earth	402	30	511	M3?/POSTRO?	Fragmented; abraded
4	410	Grave	408	14	142	3C	
4	406	Ditch	411	7	89	2-3C?	No clear dating; micac stone flake; smooth edge
5	-	Dark earth	503	26	806	L3-4	Quantity LIA
5	504	Ditch?	505	6	43	E-?M2	
5	504	Ditch?	505S	8	23	ROM	SAMPLE <2>
5	507	Feature	508	1	7	EROM?	
5	509	Ditch	510	3	44	LIA/?EROM	
5	511	Ditch	513	18	319	LIA	
5	514	Ditch/gully	515	4	52	LIA?	
5	516	Ditch	517	78	2297	LIA	Link >519
5	518	Ditch	519	46	1268	LIA/EROM	Links >517
6	-	Dark earth	602	20	214	L3-4/POSTRO	Scrappy; abraded
6	605	Grave	603	15	190	M2+	Quantity LIA
6	615	Grave	619	1	48	LIA/EROM	
			Total	481	11649		

APPENDIX 2

ARCHIVE CODES

CODE	VESSEL FORM
18-18/31	Samian dish form
27?	Samian cup form
30	Samian decor. bowl form
B	Bowl
BCAR	Bowl carinated
BD	Bowl or dish
BDFL	Bowl or dish flat-rimmed
BFB	Bowl bead and flange
BFBH	Bowl high bead and flange
BHEM	Bowl hemispherical
BIBF	Bowl inturned bead and flange
BK	Beaker
BKBB	Beaker Butt-beaker
BKBR	Beaker bead-rim
BKEV	Beaker everted-rim
BKFN	Beaker funnel-neck
BNK?	Bowl necked
BWM	Bowl wide-mouth
CLSD	Closed form
D?	Dish
DGR	Dish grooved-rim
DPR?	Dish plain-rim
DTR	Dish triangular-rim
F	Flagon
J	Jar
JB	Jar or bowl
JBCUR	Jar or bowl curved-rim
JBK	Jar/beaker
JBKEV	Jar/beaker everted-rim
JCUR	Jar curved-rim
JDW	Jar dales ware
JL	Jar large
JLS	Jar lid-seated rim
JNN	Jar narrow-neck
JS	Jar Storage
JUG	Jug
JUR	Jar undercut-rim
L?	Lid
M	Mortarium
MBF	Mortarium bead and flange
MHH	Mortarium hammer-head
MRF	Mortarium reeded-flange
OPEN	Open form
PL	Plate
CODE	DECORATION
?	Manufacture unknown
BDL?	Burnished diagonal-lines

BHL	Burnished horizontal lines
BIAP	Burnished intersecting-arcs pointed
BS	Burnished scroll
BVL	Burnished vertical-lines
BWL	Burnished wavy-line
FF	Frilled by finger
HM	Hand-made
JUDD	Juddered
LA	Latticed
NOTC	Notched
PA	Painted
PARC	Painted arcs
ROUL	Rouletted line
ROUZ	Rouletted zone
SDL	Scored diagonal line
SL	Scored line
STMP	Stamped
SVL	Scored vertical line
WIP	Wiped surface
WM	Wheel-made

APPENDIX 3 ARCHIVE DATABASE

Cxt	Fabric	Form	Manuf+	Ve	Altn	D#	Details	Lnk	Shs	Wt
103	GRFF	J	SVL;SDL	-	-	D?	BS SHLDR BELOW CORDON;?JNN;SVL'S W BRANCHES SDL'S EACH SIDE	-	1	25
103	GREY	-	-	-	ABR	-	BS	-	1	8
103	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	E2?	-	-	-
103	ZZZ	-	-	-	-	-	NO DEF DATING	-	-	-
104	MONV	M	-	-	-	-	BS;WORN SLAG TRIT	-	1	23
104	GREY	JUR	-	-	-	-	RIM/NECK;RB FAB;GRY SURFS	-	1	45
104	GREY	-	-	-	-	-	BSS	-	3	14
104	SHSF	CLSD	-	-	-	-	BASE FTRG;BURNISHED DKGRY	-	1	7
104	SHSF	-	ROUL	-	-	-	BS W CURVING ROUL W 2XSQ TOOTH ROUL BETWEEN GROOVES	-	1	8
104	SHCM	CLSD	-	-	ABR	-	BS	-	1	13
104	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	L3?	-	-	-
104	ZZZ	-	-	-	-	-	INCL LIA DECOR	-	-	-
200	TN	PL	-	-	-	-	BASE FTRG;FINE DKGRY;FRESH;CF PL X 519	-	1	42
200	TN	PL	-	-	-	-	BASE FRAG;FINE LTGRY;FRESH	-	1	10
200	OXF	BKBB	SVL	-	-	07	BS BODY BELOW CORDON;GROUPS SVL;BURNISH EXT;DKGRY W MICRO-FOSS;RB SURF	-	1	21
200	GREY	JB	-	1	-	-	RIM/PT SHLDR;DIAM 24;POSS BWM	-	3	96
200	GREY	BKEV	-	-	-	-	RIM FRAG	-	1	5
200	GREY	-	-	-	ABR	-	BS	-	1	11
200	SHCM	JL	HM?	1	-	-	BASE/PT WALL;PLAIN;GRY FB;LTRB SURF;INT LOST	-	2	297
200	SHCM	-	-	4	-	-	BSS MANUF UK;SCRAPPY	-	4	40
200	SHSF	-	WM	-	-	-	BS BURNISH EXT	-	1	8
200	SHCM	-	WM?	-	-	-	BS THIN WALL;RB;FLAKED INT	-	1	15
200	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	L2-3/POSTRO	-	-	-
200	ZZZ	-	-	-	-	-	IMPORT GB WARE & POSTRO	-	-	-
204	GBWW	BKBB	-	-	-	01	RIM;IMPORT CREAM;DIAM14	-	1	31
204	GBWW	F?	-	-	-	-	BS FINE WHITE-CREAM;CF X 519	-	1	10
204	CR	F?	-	-	-	-	BS;PROB NVCR	-	1	16
204	CR	F?	-	-	-	-	BASE FTRG;PROB NVCR	-	1	71
204	OXL	CLSD	-	-	-	-	BS	-	1	12
204	OX	-	BWL	-	-	-	BS LTBN FFINE FB;BWL BELOW ?CORDON;CARINATION?	-	1	7
204	SAMSG	30	-	-	SINGED	-	RIM;NO IDENTIFIABLE DEC	-	1	9
204	SAMC	18-18/31	-	-	-	-	RIM CHIP ONLY	-	1	3
204	MONV	MRF	-	-	-	02	RIM/PT WALL;DIAM 29;SLAG TG	-	1	164
204	MONV	MHH	PA	-	-	03	RIM/PT WALL;DIAM 20;SLAG TG;UNWORN;PAINTED STRIPES RIM	-	1	70
204	MOSP	MBF	PA	-	ABR	-	RIM/PT WALL;WORN;SLAG TG;TRACES PAINTED DEC RIM	-	1	79
204	MOSL	BK	ROUL	-	-	-	BS	-	1	11
204	NVCC	BFB	-	1	-	04	COMP PROF;DIAM 21;CR FAB;FRESH	-	6	260
204	NVCC	BFB	-	-	-	-	FLANGE FRAG;PINK-BN FAB	-	1	11
204	NVCC	B?	-	-	-	-	BS;THICK WALL;CR FAB	-	1	11
204	NVCC	BK	-	-	-	-	BASE UPR AS RPNV 42;100%	-	1	55
204	NVCC	BK	-	-	-	-	CHIP LTBN FAB	-	1	2
204	NVCC	F?	ROUL	1	-	-	BSS JOINING;PROB FLAGON	-	7	150
204	NVCC	CLSD	-	3	-	-	BSS THICK FOR BKRS	-	4	42
204	NVCC	CLSD	-	-	-	-	BS F THICK;LTRB FAB	-	1	17
204	SPOX	CLSD	PA	-	-	-	BS PAINTED CURVILINEAR	-	1	7
204	CC	BHEM	PA	-	-	05	RIM/WALL;DIAM13;LTRB FAB;PT GREY;POSS LATE NVCC	-	1	17
204	CC	L?	-	1?	BURNT	-	RIM TRIANGULAR;PT WALL;NONJ BS;GRY CORE;LTRB;RB SLIP;UNUSUAL	-	2	35
204	GREY	BKFN	-	1	-	06	RIM/MOST BODY;100% RIM;DIAM 6.5;F.QTZY BN FB;GRY SURFS	-	4	225
204	GREY	BKFN	-	-	-	-	RIM/NECK ONLY;DIAM7;BEAD RIM;BURNISHED;SLIP DRIPS INT	-	1	39
204	GREY	BKFN	-	-	-	-	BS NECK/SHLDR	-	1	10
204	GREY	BWM	-	1	-	08	RIM>BODY;THICK HEAVY;SPOOL TYPE	-	5	341
204	GREY	BFBH	-	-	-	09	RIM/PT WALL;BURNISHED BANDS;DIAM 20	-	1	58
204	GREY	BIBF	FF	-	-	10	RIM/PT WALL;FFRILL DECOR BELOW	-	1	36

						FLANGE;DIAM26?		
204	GREY	JNN	NOTC	-	-	11 RIM/PT NECK;NOTC FRILL LWR RIM;DIAM13	-	1 32
204	GREY	JCUR	-	-	-	RIM/PT SHLDR;DIAM 18?;COMMON QTZ	-	1 42
204	GREY	JLS	-	-	-	RIM FRAG;SIMPLE LID-SEAT	-	1 12
204	GREY	JBKEV	-	-	-	RIM FRAG;NR SPOOL TYPE	-	1 11
204	GREY	DTR	-	-	-	RIM FRAG;QTZY FAB	-	1 12
204	GREY	JCUR	-	-	-	RIM FRAG	-	1 7
204	GREY	J	JUDD	-	-	BS JUDD ON SHLDR	-	1 51
204	GREY	J	BWL	-	-	BS RESERVE ZONES W BWL;BURNISH BANDS IN BETWEEN	-	1 63
204	GREY	J	BDL?	-	-	BS CROSSING TWIN BDL;LML?	-	1 33
204	GREY	JB	SL	-	-	BS THICK BASAL;SCORED CURVING LINES	-	1 73
204	GREY	JB	-	2 -	-	BASES PLAIN;THICK HEAVY	-	2 212
204	GREY	JL?	-	1 -	-	BSS J; THICK	-	2 96
204	GREY	-	-	-	-	BSS	-	12 155
204	TILE	-	-	-	-	FRAG O'FIRE;TRIMMED EDGE;TYPE UNCLEAR	-	1 74
204	DWSH	JDW	HM	-	-	RIM FRAG;LARGE JAR	-	1 67
204	SHEL	JDW	WM	-	-	RIM FRAGS;NON J BSS;WM RIBBED INT	-	8 86
204	SHSM	JBCUR	WM	-	-	RIM FRAG ONLY;BURNISHED INT RIM	-	1 17
204	SHCM	CLSD?	WM?	-	-	BS SL.CARIN;?CORDON JAR OR BOWL;BURNISH EXT	-	1 22
204	SHSM	CLSD	HM	1 -	-	BSS J DKGRY FB/EXT;RB INT	-	2 96
204	SHCM	CLSD	HM;WIP	-	-	BS GRY FB;RB CORT;EXT VERTICAL WIPING	-	1 52
204	SHSF	-	-	-	-	BSS;THIN WALL; ?WM	-	3 15
204	SHCM	-	HM	4 -	-	BSS	-	4 98
204	SHCM	JL	HM	-	-	BS DKGRY FB;INT;LTBN EXT;THICK	-	1 105
204	SHSF	BNK?	-	-	-	RIM FRAG;BURNISHED;HIGH NECK;DIAM16	-	1 9
204	SHSF	CLSD	LA	-	-	BS ?WM;RB CORT;DKGRY	-	1 9
204	SHCM	CLSD	-	-	-	BS WM	-	1 12
204	SHSF	CLSD	-	-	-	BS PROB WM;HIGH BURNISH EXT	-	1 12
204	SHCF	CLSD	HM;ROUL	-	-	BS BURNISH EXT;4 MERGED SQ TOOTH ROUL IN ZONE;TRACE DIAG.ABOVE	-	1 56
204	SHCC	CLSD	HM;STMP	-	-	BS LTRB;LINE CRESCENT STMP IN ZONE;O'SLEA F53/34	-	1 12
204	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	L4	-	- -
204	ZZZ	-	-	-	-	INCL LIA SHS	-	- -
207	NVCC	J?	-	-	-	BS PINK/CR FAB;SHINY CC	-	1 6
207	GREY	BK?	-	-	-	BS BASAL ZONE;BURNISHED;BK?	-	1 33
207	GYMS	CLSD	-	-	-	BS;SCATTER SHELL;DKGRY;BN CORT;FFINE	-	1 14
207	SHSF	CLSD	ROUL	-	-	BS W TWIN SQ-TOOTH ROUL BETW GROOVES	-	1 15
207	SHSM	JB	WM	1 -	-	BASE PLAIN;RB EXT;DKGRY INT SURF LOST	-	4 189
207	SHSM	JB	WM	-	-	BASE PLAIN;RB EXT;DKGRY INT;POSS SAME W LESS DAMAGE	-	1 83
207	SHCM	CLSD	HM?	-	-	BS DKGRY;ERRATIC BURNISH EXT	-	1 42
207	SHCM	CLSD	HM	-	-	BS LWR WALL;VERT SMOOTHING LINES	-	1 81
207	SHCM	-	-	-	-	BSS WM/HM UK	-	4 30
207	SHCM	JL?	HM?	-	-	BS THICK;PROB HM	-	1 25
207	GYMS	CLSD	-	2 -	-	BSS; PROB WM	-	3 27
207	GYMS	JB	-	-	-	BS BULGING ?CORDON;PROB WM;LTBN EXT	-	1 8
207	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	3C	-	- -
207	ZZZ	-	-	-	-	MOST SHELL;LIA/EROM	-	- -
208S	GYMS	-	-	-	-	BS	-	1 9
208S	SHSF	CLSD	LA	-	-	BS THIN WALL	-	1 3
208S	SHCF	-	-	-	-	BSS CHIPS	-	13 15
208S	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	LIA	-	- -
208S	ZZZ	-	-	-	-	SAMPLE <3>	-	- -
212	GREY	-	-	-	-	BS	-	1 6
212	OX	BD	-	-	-	BASE FRAG;LTRB;GRY CORE	-	1 14
212	SHCM	JB	-	-	-	BASE FRAG;LGE VESS;GRYBN EXT	-	1 50
212	SHCM	-	HM?;WIP	-	-	BS GRY W BN SURFS;EXT WIPING HORIZ OR VERTICAL	-	1 13
212	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	2-3C?	-	- -
212	ZZZ	-	-	-	-	NO DEF DATING;INCL POSS LIA	-	- -
214	OX	CLSD	-	-	-	BS FINE GRAN W-S GRY FB;MICA;BN SURFS	-	1 11
214	GREY	JB	-	-	-	BS PT SHLDR;BURNISHED;BWM?	-	1 23
214	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	2-3C?	-	- -
214	ZZZ	-	-	-	-	NO DEF DATING	-	- -
216	SHCF	-	HM?	-	-	BS LTRB F/EXT;INT LOST	-	1 13
216	SHCF	-	-	1 -	-	BSS J;BURNISH EXT;GRY/BN CORT;INT SURF LOST	-	3 16

216	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	LIA?	-	-	-
218	GYMS	JB	-	-	-	BASE FTRG;GRY RB CORTEX;SCATTER FINE-MED SHELL;DIAM 65MM	-	1	64
218	SHCF	CLSD?	-	-	-	BASE DIAM C120MM;UPRIGHT WALL;GRY;LTRB SURFS	-	1	23
218	SHCF	J	-	-	-	BASE PEDESTAL ONLY;DIAM 110MM+;PEDESTAL URN	-	1	255
218	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	LIA?	-	-	-
218	ZZZ	-	-	-	-	ALL WM	-	-	-
220	SHCM	JB	HM?	-	ABR	BASE DIAM13;RB EXT SURF;INT LOST	-	1	138
220	GYMS	B	-	-	-	BS GIRTH BULGE;NECK;CF O'SLEA F62;143;FF FAB;MOD FINE SHELL	-	1	20
220	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	LIA/EROM	-	-	-
300	GREY	JB	BS	-	-	BS PROB BWM	-	1	21
300	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	3C?	-	-	-
302	SHSM	CLSD	WM?	1	-	BSS GRY FB/EXT;RB INT;PROB WM	-	2	44
302	SHSM	-	WM?	-	-	BS SMALL CHIP;SIMILAR	-	1	6
302	GYMS	-	-	-	-	BS VSPARSE SM SHELL;INT LOST;PROB WM	-	1	15
302	SMCF	CLSD?	WM?;ROU	-	-	18 BS CORDONED;TWIN SQ CURVING ROUL;GRY FB/SURF;RB EXT CORT;?SHLDR	-	1	13
302	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	LIA	-	-	-
306	GREY	J?	LA?	-	-	BS BASAL ZONE	-	1	30
306	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	2-3C	-	-	-
310	SHSF	CLSD?	HM?;WIP	1	-	BSS BASAL;VERT WIP;HORIZ BASAL;GRY FB;INT LOST;UNEVEN WALL	-	2	61
310	SHSM	CLSD?	?	-	ABR	BS GRY FAB;INT LOST	-	1	16
310	SHCM	-	-	-	-	BS CHIP ONLY	-	1	2
310	GREY	BK?	-	-	-	BS THIN WALL	-	1	2
310	GREY	BD	-	-	-	BASE FRAG	-	1	23
310	OXL	CLSD?	-	-	-	BASE SMALL;STRING;BN FAB;LTER SURFS;SMOOTH INT	-	1	13
310	PRO?	-	-	-	-	SHELL CHANNELLED RIM;PLATTER?	-	1	60
310	PRO?	-	-	-	-	SHELL INCURVED RIM	-	1	25
310	PRO?	-	-	-	-	GREY RIM FRAG	-	1	5
310	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	POSTRO	-	-	-
402	NVCC	F?	-	-	-	BS CR FAB;DK CC EXT ONLY	-	1	4
402	GREY	BDFL	BIAP?	-	VABR	RIM/PT WALL	-	1	18
402	GREY	B?	-	-	ABR	RIM FLARING OUT;DKGRY BURNISH INT;POSS CARINATED	-	1	13
402	GREY	BD	-	-	-	RIM INT PROJECTION;UNUSUAL;LT GRY EXT;DKGRY INT	-	1	24
402	GREY	-	-	-	-	BSS FRAGMENTED	-	10	93
402	GREY	JB	-	-	-	BASE FRAG;THICK	-	1	38
402	OXL	CLSD	-	-	VABR	BASE STRING PLAIN;CR-BN	-	1	49
402	OX	CLSD	-	-	-	BS RB FAB;GRYBN SURFS	-	1	49
402	SHCF	JB	HM;ROUL	-	-	13 RIM/PT WALL;?F WARE;PL.RIM;HORIZ ROUL;DIAG BELOW;CF OS#325	-	1	67
402	SHCM	J?	-	-	-	RIM FRAG ONLY	-	1	4
402	SHCM	CLSD	WM?	-	-	BS W GROOVES	-	1	10
402	SHCM	CLSD	HM	-	-	BS;AKIN DWSH?	-	1	15
402	SHCF	-	?	-	-	BS INT LOST	-	1	7
402	SHSM	JBK?	-	-	-	BS SHLDR;THIN WALL;DKGRY;BN CORT	-	1	4
402	SHCM	-	?	-	-	BS GRY FB;LTBN SURFS;INT LOST	-	1	23
402	SHCM	-	HM?	1?	-	BSS DKGRY;POSS LGE VESS	-	2	26
402	SHCM	-	HM?	-	VABR	BS LTRB FAB/SURFS	-	1	11
402	SHSF	CLSD	WM	-	ABR	BS GRY FB;RB EXT;LT INT;OOLITHS IN FAB	-	1	10
402	PRO?	-	-	-	-	RIMS STRONGLY INTURNED;SHELL DKGRY FB;LTBN SURFS	-	2	46
402	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	M3?/POSTRO?	-	-	-
402	ZZZ	-	-	-	-	FRAGMENTED;ABR	-	-	-
408	NVCC	JBK	-	1	-	12 RIM BENT BACK;DIAM10;J BODY;NON-J BASE 33MM;CR FB;DKRED CC	-	6	86
408	GREY	JB	-	-	-	BS NECK/BURNISHED SHLDR	-	1	13
408	GREY	L?	-	-	-	RIM FRAG ONLY;SQUARED	-	1	6
408	GREY	BD	-	-	-	BS DKGRY BURNISHED SURF	-	1	7
408	GREY	-	-	-	-	BSS	-	3	21
408	GRSA	-	-	-	ABR	BS	-	1	6
408	SHSM	-	-	-	VABR	BS	-	1	3
408	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	3C	-	-	-
411	SHSM	JCUR	WM?	-	-	RIM FRAG ONLY	-	1	8
411	SHSM	-	WM?	-	-	BS SPARSE-MED SHELL;PROB WM;SMOOTHED	-	1	22

411	SHCM	JL?	HM	-	ABR	-	EXT	-	1	33
411	GREY	BD	-	-	-	-	BS 16MM THICK;BN INT	-	1	8
411	GREY	JBK?	BHL	-	-	-	BS RB FB;DK GRY SURFS;BHL DEC;THIN WALL	-	1	7
411	GREY	-	-	-	-	-	BS	-	1	7
411	OX	-	-	-	-	-	FLAKE ONLY;RB	-	1	4
411	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	2-3C?	-	-	-
411	ZZZ	-	-	-	-	-	NO CLEAR DATING;MICAC STONE FLAKE;SMOOTH EDGE	-	-	-
503	NVCC	BHEM	PARC	-	-	-	RIM/PT WALL;CR FAB;TYPE AS RPNV 85	-	1	11
503	GREY	BWM?	-	-	-	-	RIM ONLY;CURVED U' CUT;DIAM22	-	1	24
503	GREY	-	-	-	-	-	BSS	-	2	15
503	GYMS?	DPR?	-	-	-	D?	RIM/PT WALL;DIAM20;DKGRY FB;SPARSE SHELL;CR SURFS	-	1	23
503	OXMS	CLSD	-	1	-	-	BSS GRY F/RB EXT;DKER INT;SCATTER SHELL;HARD;WM	-	3	58
503	SHSF	-	WM	-	-	-	BS DKGRY F;RB INT;BN EXT;POSS OPEN FORM	-	1	20
503	GYMS	JB	WM?	1	VABR	-	BSS DKGRY V SPARSE SHELL;BURNISHED EXT;?CORDON	-	2	26
503	SHCF	B?	WM	1	-	-	RIM;NON J BS;DKGRY;GRYBN SURFS	-	2	16
503	SHCM	CLSD?	HM?	1	-	-	BSS DKGRY;BURNISHED EXT	-	2	63
503	SHCF	-	WM?	-	-	-	BASE FTM GROOVE UNDER;DKGRYBURNISH EXT;DIAM10	-	1	14
503	SHCM	-	?	-	-	-	BS;INT SURF LOST	-	1	7
503	SHCC	JS	HM	-	-	-	RIM/PT WALL;ROUND TYPE;CF OS#351;MORE ROUNDED	-	1	108
503	SHCC	JS	HM	1	-	-	RIM DAMAGED;NON J BSS;DKGRY;RB CORT;CURVED RIM	-	7	342
503	SHCM	JL	HM	-	-	-	BASE PLAIN	-	1	79
503	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	L3-4	-	-	-
503	ZZZ	-	-	-	-	-	QUANTITY LIA	-	-	-
505	SAMC	27?	-	-	-	-	FLAKE ONLY	-	1	2
505	GREY	DGR	BIAP	-	-	-	RIM FRAG;PT WALL;LTGRY	-	1	17
505	GREY	-	-	-	-	-	BSS	-	2	12
505	SHSF	CLSD	WM	-	-	-	BSS;DKGRY;BURNISHED EXT	-	2	12
505	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	E-?M2	-	-	-
505S	GREY	-	-	-	-	-	BSS	-	3	12
505S	SHCM	-	-	-	-	-	BS;CHIPS	-	5	11
505S	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	ROM	-	-	-
505S	ZZZ	-	-	-	-	-	SAMPLE <2>	-	-	-
508	OXL	CLSD	-	-	-	-	BS CR-BN CLEAN CLAY;F.COMMON QTZ;?TRACES LTRED SLIP/WASH;UNUSUAL EROM?	-	1	7
508	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
510	GREY	CLSD	-	-	-	-	BS BURNISHED EXT BANDS;QTZY;DKGRY	-	1	9
510	SHSM	CLSD	HM?	-	SOOT EXT BURNT EXT	-	BS GRY;BN INT;EXT SOOTED BLK	-	1	11
510	SHCM	OPEN	HM?	-	-	-	BS DKGRY;BURNISH EXT & BANDS ON INT	-	1	24
510	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	LIA/?EROM	-	-	-
513	SHSM	BCAR	-	1	-	14	RIM/PT WALL;CORDON;CARIN;BURNISH EXT;DIAM20	-	2	78
513	SHSM	BCAR?	-	-	-	-	RIM/NECK;DIAM18;BURNISH EXT;CURVED	-	1	15
513	SHSM	BCAR?	-	1	-	-	BSS NECK;CORDON;CARINATION;BURNISH EXT;POSS X RIM ABOVE	-	3	19
513	SHSM	BCAR?	-	1	-	-	BSS NECK;CURVE ?CARIN;BURNISH EXT;DKGRY;NONJ BASAL BS	-	3	39
513	SHSM	J?	-	-	-	-	BS TALL NECK;CURVE SHLDR;DKGRY EXT;RB INT	-	1	22
513	SHSF	J	-	-	-	-	BASE PT PEDESTAL URN BASE;BURNISHED SURFS;DIAM100MM	-	1	20
513	SHCM	CLSD	HM?	1	-	-	BSS DKGRY W RB INT SURF LOST	-	2	35
513	SHCM	-	HM	-	-	-	BS BN/GRY EXT;DKGRY INT;BURNISH EXT;SOME INT	-	1	41
513	SHCM	-	?	1	-	-	BSS DKGRY EXT;BN INT SURF LOST;BURNISH EXT	-	2	22
513	SHCM	-	?	-	-	-	BS CHIP;RB SURFS	-	1	2
513	SHCF	CLSD?	?	-	-	-	BS 14MM THICK;LGER VESS;GRYBN EXT;DKGRY INT;SURF LOST	-	1	26
513	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	LIA	-	-	-

515	SHCM	CLSD	WM?	1 -	-	BSS GRY FB/EXT;RB INT SURF LOST	-	3	27
515	SHCM	CLSD?	HM	-	BURNT EXT	-	BS DKGRY;MED-COARSE SHELL	-	1 25
515	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	LIA?	-	-
517	SHCM	JL	HM	2	HOLED	15	BASES/PT WALL;DKGRY EX;RB INT;PIERCED HOLES 7-20MM +BORE HOLLOWES;SAME	519	72 2213
517	SHSM	CLSD?	WM	-	-	-	BS DKGRY;BN INT;RB EXT	-	1 27
517	SHCM	CLSD?	HM?	-	BURNT INT	-	BS 12MM THICK;GRYBN EXT;BLACK INT	-	1 23
517	SHCM	CLSD?	?	-	-	-	BS LOST INT	-	1 8
517	SHCF	CLSD?	?	-	-	-	BS LTBN SMOOTH EXT	-	1 5
517	FCLAY	-	-	-	-	-	FRAG RB NO SURFS;STRANGE FOSSIL;CHALKY INCLS	-	1 13
517	SHCM	J	-	-	-	-	RIM ONLY;COARSE;OVAL RIM ?INTURNED;DIAM14?	-	1 8
517	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	LIA	-	-
517	ZZZ	-	-	-	-	-	LINK >519	-	-
519	SHSF	BCAR?	-	1	-	19	BASE LOW FTRG DIAM 63MM;PT LWR WALL	-	8 84
519	SHSF	BKBR	-	-	-	16	RIM/PT WALL;DIAM9;DKGRY;?OVOID BK;OS FIG63	-	1 5
519	SHCM	JL	HM	2	-	-	BS;DKGRY EX;RB INT;1 JOIN & SAME IN	517	7 416
519	SHCM	JL	HM	2	-	-	BASES;NOT SAME IN 517	-	2 131
519	SHCM	JL?	HM	1	-	-	BSS;DKGRY;SHELL ILL-SORT >COARSE	-	6 223
519	SHCM	-	HM	-	-	-	BSS	-	9 132
519	SHSM	-	WM?	-	-	-	BSS	-	4 45
519	TN	PL	-	-	-	17	RIM/WALL;LTGRY W BLK POLISHED SURFS;DIAM18	-	1 11
519	GBWW	F	-	1	-	-	BSS LGE FRESH;W JOINS	-	5 204
519	OX	BK	ROUZ	-	-	-	BS LTRB FINE GRAN FAB	-	1 6
519	OX	JUG	-	-	-	-	BS NECK;PT HDLE ATTACH;FIG 8 TYPE;LTBN FB;REDDER SURFS;QTZ;GREY ANG	-	1 9
519	GREY	B?	-	-	VABR	-	RIM PLAIN SLOPING OUT;DIAM 14;>2MM THK;RB FB;MOST SURF LOST;OCC ?SHELL ?CHALK	-	1 2
519	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	LIA/EROM	-	-
519	ZZZ	-	-	-	-	-	LINKS >517	-	-
602	CC	CLSD	PA	-	-	-	BS GRY FB;RB CORT/SURFS;?SELF-SLIP;FFINE;MICAC;WHITE PAINTED CURV.DEC	-	1 9
602	GREY	D?	-	-	-	-	BASE FR;LTGRY FB/EXT;QTZY;DKGRY INT;?CP GB TYPE	-	1 8
602	GREY	J	-	-	-	-	BS SHLDR;RB FB;DKGRY SURFS;BURNISH EXT	-	1 10
602	GREY	-	-	-	-	-	BS & FLAKE	-	2 7
602	SHCF	CLSD	BVL	1	-	-	BSS;DKGRY;BURNISH EXT;B VERT LINE DEC	-	4 58
602	SHCC	-	?	-	ABR	-	BSS PROB HM	-	2 21
602	SHCC	JS?	HM	-	ABR	-	BS THICK	-	1 37
602	SHCM	-	?	-	ABR	-	BSS MISC;ALL ABR/VABR	-	7 61
602	PRO	-	-	-	-	-	BS OXID GLAZED GREEN	-	1 3
602	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	L3-4/POSTRO	-	-
602	ZZZ	-	-	-	-	-	SCRAPPY;ABR	-	-
603	GREY	JBK	ROUZ	-	-	-	BS ?BASAL ZONE;WIDE ROUL;LTGRY	-	1 14
603	GREY	BDFL	-	-	-	-	RIM FRAG ONLY	-	1 13
603	GREY	J	-	-	-	-	BASE STRING	-	1 22
603	GREY	-	-	-	-	-	BSS	-	2 12
603	SHCC	JL?	HM?	-	VABR	-	BSS THCK SH ?SHLDR;FLAKE	-	2 48
603	SHCM	JL?	WM?	-	VABR	-	RIM FRAG ONLY;GRY/RB SURFS	-	1 15
603	SHCC	JL?	HM?	-	-	-	BS 10MM THK;DKGRY;BN EXT;4-5 WIDE GROOVES EXT	-	1 36
603	SHCF	JB?	WM?	-	-	-	BSS DKGRY;BURNISH EXT;ONE W CORDON	-	2 13
603	SHSF	-	?	-	-	-	BSS	-	3 10
603	GYMS	CLSD	WM	-	-	-	BS LTGRY;SL.VESIC;SCATTER SHELL	-	1 7
603	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	M2+	-	-
603	ZZZ	-	-	-	-	-	QUAN.LIA	-	-
619	SHCC	JL	HM	-	VABR	-	RIM CURVED THICKENED;FRAG ONLY;GRY F;LTBN SURFS	-	1 48
619	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	LIA/EROM	-	-
SAMP-1	SHCM	-	-	-	-	-	CHIP	-	1 3
SAMP-1	GREY?	-	-	-	-	-	FRAGS TINY	-	4 3
SAMP-1	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	ROM?	-	-
SAMP-1	ZZZ	-	-	-	-	-	SAMPLE <1>	-	-

Appendix 4

THE OTHER FINDS by Gary Taylor

A quantity of other artefacts, mostly metal but also fired clay and burnt stone, comprising about 120 items weighing a total of 3123g, was retrieved.

Provenance

The material was recovered from dark earth layer (204, 402, 602), feature fills (104, 208, 411, 505, 515, 519), and grave fills (408, 603, 606, 610, 619).

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: Metals

Context	Metal	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date	
103	Iron	Nail	1	9		
104	Iron	Indeterminate fragments	c20	1		
200	Iron	Bar, 14mm wide, 13mm high, 111mm long, flat-topped triangular section	1	94	Modern	
208	Iron	Indeterminate fragments	c30	1		
408	Iron	Nails, large oval heads, 1 with wood attached	5	98		
	Iron	Nail, turned over head	1	22		
	Iron	Nail shafts	7	38		
402	Iron	Electrical fitting	1	44	20 th century	
411	Iron	Nail, large oval head	1	28		
505	Iron	Indeterminate fragments	c25	1		
606	Iron	Nail, T-shaped head	1	30		
610	sf2	Iron	Nail, T-shaped head	1	14	
	sf3	Iron	Nail, turned over head	1	28	
	sf4	Iron	Nail, large oval head	1	32	
	sf5	Iron	Nail, T-shaped head	1	41	
	sf6	Iron	Nail, turned over head	1	26	
	sf7	Iron	Nail, T-shaped head	1	32	
619	Iron	Nail, turned over head	1	26		

Most, if not all, of the nails are from coffins and hence of Roman date.

Table 2: Other Artefacts

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
204	CBM	Imbrex? Roman	1	44	Roman
	CBM	Tile, keyed flue tile? Roman	1	16	
	CBM	Tile, Roman?	1	68	
208	Charcoal	Charcoal	12	4	
402	Stone	Burnt stone	1	103	Modern
	Charcoal	Wood/charcoal, not fully carbonised, modern	1	3	
505	Stone	Burnt stone	1	116	

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
515	Fired clay	Loomweight, triangular, 185mm along 1 side, 65mm thick (fragmented)	1	1788	Iron Age-Roman
519	Stone	Burnt stone (fragmented)	1	35	Roman?
	CBM	Brick/tile, Roman?	1	5	
602	Fired clay	Loomweight, triangular (fragmented)	1	365	Iron Age-Roman
603	CBM	Fired clay	1	11	

Substantial parts of two triangular loomweights were recovered. Such weights occur widely on Iron Age sites across southeastern Britain but not north of the Humber. In general they are found to date after about 500BC but at Dragonby in North Lincolnshire loomweights of this type tended to occur in late Iron Age or early Roman contexts (Elsdon and Barford 1996, 330). A comparable chronology can be expected for these Sleaford examples.

Condition

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

Documentation

There have been numerous previous archaeological investigations at Sleaford, including in close proximity to the current site, that are the subjects of reports. Additionally, there has been reported study of the archaeological and historical evidence for the town. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the North Kesteven Planning Archaeologist and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

In general, the assemblage is of moderate local potential and significance and provides functional evidence for activities at the site in the Iron Age and Roman periods. Specifically, these activities are weaving, as indicated by the loomweights, and burial of the dead in coffins. Also Roman tile was also found, the very small quantity indicates that tile-roofed buildings were not located at the investigation site but elsewhere.

References

Elsdon, S. M. and Barford, P. M., 1996 'Loomweights', in J. May, *Dragonby, Report on Excavations at an Iron Age and Romano-British Settlement in North Lincolnshire*, Oxbow Monograph 61

APPENDIX 5
Hoplands Business Centre, Sleaford, Lincolnshire (SHBC 05)

Animal Bone by Jennifer Kitch

Introduction

This report encompasses the animal bone from the Evaluation Excavation. A total number of 319 (5843g) refitted fragments were recovered by hand. A further 43 (36g) fragments were recovered from the sieve residues from the environmental samples. In addition to the animal bone, 6 (95g) fragments of shell were also recovered from the assemblage.

Methodology

Identification of the bone was undertaken with full use of a reference collection and published guides. Each fragment was counted and weighed. Where possible the bones were identified to species, element, side and zone (Serjeantson 1996). Ageing criteria, butchery marks, pathologies, gnawing and burning were noted when present. Undiagnostic bones, vertebra and ribs were recorded as small (small mammal size), medium (sheep/pig size) or large (cattle/horse size). The separation of sheep and goat bones was done using the criteria of Boessneck (1969) and Prummel and Frisch (1986). Where distinctions could not be made, the bone was recorded as sheep/goat (S/G).

The quantification of species was carried out using the total fragment count, where the total number of fragments of bone and teeth was calculated for each taxon. Where fresh breaks were noted, fragments were refitted and counted as one.

Tooth eruption and wear stages were measured using a combination of Halstead (1985) and Grant (1982). Measurements of fully fused, adult, bones were taken according to the methods of von den Driesch (1976).

The bone condition was recorded in accordance with criteria outlined by Lyman (1996). Grade 0 being the best preserved bone and grade 5 indicating that the bone had suffered such structural and attritional damage as to make it unrecognisable.

Results

The bone was in good condition with a general average of grade 2 within the Lyman criteria. Due to the condition of the bone reasonable recording was possible for butchery, pathology, gnawing and the number of measurable elements where present.

Table 1, Condition

Condition (Lyman 1996)	Percentage of Hand Collected Assemblage	Percentage of the Sieved Assemblage
1	10%	2%
2	70%	61%
3	20	37%
4	0%	-

5	-	-
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The "Dark Earth"

A total of 174 (2945g) fragments of animal bone were recovered from the dark earth layer from across the site. The nature and origin of the dark earth deposit is uncertain, and therefore the animal remains recovered from within the layer may not be an accurate representation of the finds recovered from the "true" features. Therefore the assemblage recovered from the dark earth deposit has been kept separate so as not to bias the assemblage recovered from features. The identified assemblage recovered from the dark earth layers is summarised within table 2.

Table 3 summarises the number of fragments identified to species by trench from the remaining assemblage.

sheep/goat is the predominant species within the assemblage followed by cattle, rabbit, and pig with small numbers of dog and equid represented. Fragments of oyster and mussel shell have also been identified within the assemblage

The abundance of rabbit remains is misleading due to the inclusion of a partial skeleton within the assemblage; the numbers of bone fragments are comparatively high but only represent a single individual.

Trench 1

A total of 5 fragments were recovered from the single feature uncovered within trench 1. Three fragments of rib from a large sized mammal, a fragment of cattle skull and a fragment of sheep/goat humerus were recovered. A fragment of rib displayed butchery marks consistent with meat removal.

Trench 2

The majority of the assemblage from trench 2 was recovered from the N-S orientated boundary ditch and the subsequent re-cuts. Predominantly from the latest re-cut [222]. The assemblage from the trench is relatively uniform, consisting predominantly of sheep/goat. A single metacarpal was positively identified as sheep; no differentiation was made for the remaining assemblage. Considerably fewer fragments of cattle and pig are represented. The skeletal element representation suggests a mixture of food and butchery waste. The butchery evidence is also indicative of general domestic waste. Two fragments from [222] display partial and incomplete burning often associated with the cooking or roasting process. A single sheep/goat mandible recovered from the Late Iron Age ditch re-cut [221] was recovered from an animal aged 5-8 years, suggesting the animals were being retained to an older age for the provision of wool and milk. A calcaneus from a foetal sheep/goat was recovered from the sieved assemblage from [221], suggesting sheep/goat were being bred on site.

Trench 3

A total of 9 fragments of animal bone were recovered from the two ditches [301] and [305] within trench 3. Ditch [301] contained a two fragments of sheep/goat radius, a

fragment of metatarsal, a large mammal sized sacrum, a cattle tibia and a pig mandible from an immature animal.

Ditch [305] contained a cattle atlas, metapodial and an equid tooth from an animal aged 5 ½ - 7 ½ years old.

Trench 4

A single sheep/goat metapodial fragment was recovered from grave [410].

Trench 5

Trench 5 yielded the largest assemblage of animal bone from the site. The remains were recovered from a series of inter-cutting ditches from the late Iron Age period with a few additional fragments from the a possible ditch terminus/pit and an undetermined feature of late Iron Age/early Roman date.

The assemblage is predominantly of sheep/goat remains with much smaller numbers of cattle and pig remains. The skeletal element representation for the sheep/goat remains suggests that the entire carcass was initially present on site. A mandible from an animal aged 10-20 months and a mandible from an animal aged 3-5 years was recovered from ditch [519].

The butchery evidence within the assemblage suggests domestic butchery and food waste. A dog skull with associated axis and single cervical vertebra was recovered positioned on the side of late Iron Age ditch [516].

Trench 6

A total of 8 fragments were recovered from Grave [603]. Two fragments of sheep/goat tooth, a cattle second phalanx, two fragments of medium sized mammal long bone and a fragment of large mammal long bone.

Discussion

The assemblage recovered during the evaluation excavation is relatively rich for such a small area of excavation. The majority of the assemblages, when the dark earth assemblages are removed, is predominantly from Trenches 2 and 5, the remaining trenches provide much more limited assemblages. The assemblage generally suggests a producer economy raising and utilising the animals on site. The skeletal element representation suggests the remains represent a mixture of both food and butchery waste from intensive occupation.

The remains, specifically those from the late Iron Age phased deposits from within trenches 2 and 5, suggest a very strong emphasis on sheep/goat husbandry. The presence of foetal remains suggests the breeding of the animals on site. The tooth wear aging evidence suggests a mixed economy utilising sheep/goat not only for meat, but retaining the animals to an older age to maximise wool and milk production.

Cattle and pig remains are present within the assemblage in much smaller numbers, suggesting lesser importance within the economy of the site. This could suggest that the

local environment was not suitable for the raising of cattle and pigs and therefore the sheep/goat economy had been maximised or this could be an economy more associated with intensive occupation within the Iron Age period. The late Iron Age animal bone evidence from Old Place excavations suggests a similar pattern. The abundance of sheep/goat within the Iron Age phases is consistently higher than the abundance of cattle and pig (Cartledge, Unpublished).

Any further excavation is liable to yield much more bone of a good condition, with excellent potential for establishing comprehensive information on animal husbandry and utilisation on this site.

Recommendations

In the event of further excavation it is recommended that environmental sampling should be considered. The recovery of smaller bones such as small mammal, bird and fish should contribute to our understanding of the local environment and the diversity of the diet of the inhabitants of the site. Also recovery better recovery of smaller bones may confirm whether sheep/goat is better represented within the assemblage than initially suggested.

References

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Table 2. Summary of the 'Dark Earth' assemblage by taxa and trench.

Taxon	Trench No						Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Equid		1					1
Cattle		8	2	6	5	8	29
sheep/goat	2	14	1	5	12	22	56
Sheep		1					1
Pig		1			3	1	5
Rabbit						18*	18
Shell				1			1
Large Mammal	1	21		2	2	10	36
Medium Mammal	1	11		3	1	8	24
Grand Total	4	57	3	17	23	67	171

* Partial Skeleton

Table 3. Summary of the remaining assemblage by taxa and trench.

Taxon	Trench No						Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Equid			1				1
Cattle	1	6	4		12	1	24
sheep/goat	1	19	3	1	32	2	58
Sheep		1					1
Pig		1	1		2		4
Dog					3		3
Oyster		1			3		4
Mussel		1					1
Large Mammal	4	5	1		17	3	30
Medium Mammal		20			25	2	47
Unidentified	5	12			7		24
Grand Total	11	66	10	1	101	8	197

APPENDIX 6
Hoplands Business Centre, Sleaford (SHBC 05)
The Human Bone
By Jennifer Kitch

Introduction

A total of 18 (101g) of human bone were recovered from the trial trenching undertaken at Hoplands Business Centre, Sleaford.

Context Number	Side	Element	Segment	Age	Number of Fragments	Weight (g)	Notes
402	M	Thoracic Vertebra	Centrum	Adult	1	18	Slight osteophytic lipping on the cranial articular surface
408	L	Pelvis	Pubis	Adult	1	5	
408		Pelvis	Fragments		4	5	
408	R	Fifth Metatarsal	No Proximal Epiphysis	Adult	1	4	
411	M	Sternum	Manubrium	Adult	1	23	
519	L	Fourth Metatarsal	No Proximal Epiphysis	Adult	1	6	
602	R	Femur	Diaphysis	Neonate	1	5	
602	R	1st Proximal Phalange (Foot)	Complete	Adult	1	5	Smooth, circular depression within the articular surface
603	L	Skull	Occipital Condyle	Adult	1	6	
603	L	Trapezium	Complete	Adult	1	2	
603	L	1st Proximal Phalange (Hand)	Complete	Adult	1	4	
603	L	Rib	Blade	-	1	2	
603	-	Unidentified	Unidentified	-	2	4	
606	R	Patella	Complete	Adult	1	12	

Table 1, Summary of Identified Disarticulated Bone

The majority of the remains were recovered from the trenches with known burials and had probably been disturbed from the original grave.

A single metatarsal was recovered from the late Iron Age ditch [519]. It is not unusual for occasional finds of human remains to be incorporated within domestic waste deposits. Burials within rubbish pits or within floors of buildings are not uncommon. The presence of the bone within the assemblage may also suggest that there is a disturbed burial within close proximity to the ditch.

Appendix 7
AN EVALUATION OF THE CHARRED PLANT MACROFOSSILS AND OTHER REMAINS
FROM THE HOPLANDS BUSINESS CENTRE, SLEAFORD, LINCOLNSHIRE (SHBC 05)

Val Fryer, Church Farm, Sisland, Loddon, Norwich, Norfolk, NR14 6EF
January 2006

Introduction and methods statement

Trial excavations at the Hoplands Business Centre were undertaken by Archaeological Project Services in December 2005. The work was conducted within an area of known Iron Age, Roman and medieval activity, and further pits, linears and ditches of probable Iron Age and Roman date were recorded. Samples for the extraction of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from features within two of the excavation trenches, and four samples were submitted for evaluation.

Samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover, and the flots were collected in a 500 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16, and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed on Table 1. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (1997). All plant remains were charred. The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and sorted when dry. Fragments of pot, bone and burnt or fired clay were removed and retained for further specialist analysis.

Results

Cereals and seeds of common weeds were present at varying densities in all four samples. Preservation was moderately good, although a high proportion of the grains within sample 3 appeared to be crushed and misshapen.

Oat (*Avena* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains were recorded along with rare specimens of wheat chaff including spelt wheat (*T. spelta*) glume bases. A single sprouted wheat grain was noted within sample 4. Weed seeds were comparatively rare, but those recorded were all of common cereal cop contaminants including brome (*Bromus* sp.), small legumes (Fabaceae), corn gromwell (*Lithospermum arvense*) and possibly buttercup (*Ranunculus* sp.). A possible sedge (*Carex* sp.) nutlet was noted in sample 3 along with a large fragment of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell. Charcoal fragments and pieces of charred root, rhizome or stem were common or abundant in all four samples and sample 3 also contained indeterminate catkins, culm nodes and tuber fragments.

Some of the fragments of black porous and tarry material were probably residues of the combustion of organic remains (including cereal grains) at very high temperatures. However, a proportion of the material within sample 3 appeared to have a definite structure and may be the remains of burnt foodstuffs or fodder. Bone fragments, including some burnt pieces, and small mammal or amphibian bones, were present throughout, and globules of white vitrified material (probably fuel ash) were common within samples 1, 2 and 4.

Conclusions

Whilst samples 1 and 2 are almost certainly derived from low density scatters of refuse, the assemblages from samples 3 and 4 are very different in composition, and perhaps more closely resemble deposits of hearth waste or fuel debris. Hedge brush and plant stems were commonly used during both the Iron Age and Roman periods as fuel for ovens, hearths and also cremation pyres, although the latter may not be applicable in this instance.

Recommendations for further sampling

Although relatively small, these assemblages clearly illustrate the high potential for plant macrofossil preservation within the archaeological deposits at the current site. Sample 3 is of particular interest, and although it will only be possible to verify the exact nature of the burnt organic concretions by using high power microscopy, it is tentatively suggested that the assemblage may be derived from rake out waste from a bread/domestic oven. If further excavations are planned within this area of Sleaford, it is essential that additional plant macrofossil samples should be taken from a wide range of well-sealed dated contexts including pits, post-holes and ditch fills. Other discrete features should be sampled at the discretion of the excavator. If required, provision should also be made for the dating of material within

the samples and additional techniques including pollen and insect analysis. It is strongly recommended that all relevant specialists are advised of any additional work at the earliest opportunity.

References

Stace, C., 1997 *New Flora of the British Isles*. Second edition. Cambridge University Press

Key to Table

x = 1 - 10 specimens xx = 10 - 100 specimens xxx = 100+ specimens

b = burnt ss = sub-sample

Rom. = Roman IA = Iron Age

Appendix 8

GLOSSARY

Anglo-Saxon	Pertaining to the period when Britain was occupied by peoples from northern Germany, Denmark and adjacent areas. The period dates from approximately AD 450-1066.
Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and 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, <i>e.g.</i> [004].
Cropmark	A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological or geological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Geophysical Survey	Essentially non-invasive methods of examining below the ground surface by measuring deviations in the physical properties and characteristics of the earth. Techniques include magnetometry and resistivity survey.
Glaciofluvial Drift	Materials (eg, clays, silts, gravels, <i>etc.</i>) deposited by the combined action of rivers and glaciers, or from streams from glacial ice.
Iron Age	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
Layer	A layer is an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.
Residual	Artefacts that are noticeably earlier than others in an assemblage are often described as residual. Residual artefacts may be ones that were used for a very long time, or items that were maintained as heirlooms/antiques. If the dates of artefacts within a group do not exhibit major differences it can be difficult to determine if an artefact is residual or redeposited (<i>q.v.</i>)
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

Appendix 9

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

104	Context records
6	Context summary sheets
18	Scale drawing sheets
7	Daily record sheets
2	Photographic record sheets
1	Plan register
1	Section register
2	Boxes of finds
2	Colour print contact sheets plus negatives
3	Black and white contact sheets + negatives

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Sleaford
Lincolnshire
NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Lincolnshire City and County Museum
12 Friars Lane
Lincoln
LN2 1HQ

The archive will be deposited in accordance with the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives*, produced by the Lincolnshire City and County Museum.

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number: 2005.245

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: SHBC05

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

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