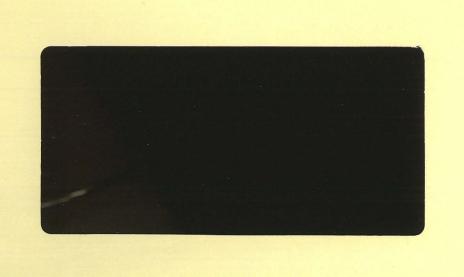
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON LAND TO THE REAR OF KARHIL, LOW ROAD, SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE (SLR05)



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON LAND TO THE REAR OF KARHIL, LOW ROAD, SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE (SLR05)

Spaiding, Lincoinshire

Work Undertaken For Mr J. Woodcock

October 2005

Report Compiled by Tobin Rayner MSc, AIFA

H16/1543/03 National Grid Reference: TF 2604 2293



APS Report No. 153/05

Conservation Services

2 3 MAR 2006

Highways & Planning Directorate

Quality Control Land to the rear of Karhil, Low Road Spalding, Lincolnshire (SLR 05)

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CONTENTS

List of Figures

List of Plates

List of Drawings

1.	Summary	1
2.	Introduction	1
2.1 2.2 2.3 2.4	Definition of a Watching Brief Planning Background Topography and Geology Archaeological Setting	
3.	Aims	
4.	Methods	2
5.	Results	3
5.1 5.2 5.3	The stratigraphic sequence. Natural deposits Modern deposits	3
6.	Discussion	3
6.1 6.2	Phase 1: Natural deposits	
7.	Conclusions	3
8.	Acknowledgements	3
9.	Bibliography	4
10.	Abbreviations	4

Appendices

- The Specification Context Summary
- 2 3 4
- Glossary
- The Archive

List of Figures

Figure 1 General location plan

Figure 2 Site location plan with archaeological setting

Figure 3 Footings location and section locations

Figure 4 Sections 1 and 2

List of Plates

Plate 1 General view of site looking north with garage footings to the fore

Plate 2 Section 1 within garage footings showing natural deposits, looking north

Plate 3 Representative section (2) within house footings, looking north

SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the development of a single dwelling on land at Low Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire was undertaken because the area is archaeologically sensitive

Previous investigations to the north and west of the site identified a number of post-medieval features, and undated remains of probable similar age. Structural remains in the form of postholes and stake holes were recorded demonstrating the presence of a timber building or buildings between the 16th / 17th century and the 19th century.

No archaeological features were recorded within the development area and no finds retrieved. Natural alluvial deposits were recorded sealed by a modern topsoil. These results suggest that the archaeological activity recorded within the vicinity did not extend into the development area.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as "a formal program of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits maybe disturbed or destroyed." (IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr J. Woodcock to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the

development of a single dwelling on land at Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application H06/1543/03 to the local ex planning authority, South Holland District Council (SHDC). Permission was granted subject to a standard condition for archaeological recording. The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a specification designed by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the County Archaeological Officer (Appendix 1). The watching brief was undertaken on the 15th August 2005.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Spalding is located 23km southwest of Boston and 30km southeast of Sleaford in the South Holland district of Lincolnshire. The site lies to the rear of properties on the north side of Low Road, approximately 1.3km northeast of Spalding town centre, immediately west of the Coronation Channel, at National Grid Reference TF 2604 2293.

Local soils have not been mapped as the area is urban, but on the basis of surrounding deposits are likely to be deep stoneless clayey and silty soils of the Wallasea 2 Association developed on marine alluvium (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 338). Previous investigations have shown that the sequence of natural deposits on the site is dominated by the presence of a roddon, the infilled channel and banks of an extinct natural creek.

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Evidence of Romano-British activity has been found in and around Spalding and on the east side of the town during the excavation of the Coronation channel. A layer containing pottery, indicative of settlement activity was recorded at Oakley covert 416

Drive to the northwest of the development site (Phillips 1970, 292). To the northeast, the possible remains of an early Roman settlement have been recorded (Miller 1998) and closer to the centre of the town significant Romano-British remains were revealed during development at Pinchbeck Road (APS forthcoming). In addition to this, cropmark evidence from the area around the town indicates a pattern of fields, roads and possible settlements converging on the town and it is possible that Spalding town stands on the site of a nucleated Romano-British settlement, or small town (Phillips 1970, Taylor 2000).

Spalding is generally connected with the *Spaldas*, a tribal group recorded in the Tribal Hideage, a 7th century Mercian tribute list (Sawyer 1998, 47). The placename is Old English in origin and refers to the 'the people of the Spalde' (Cameron 1998, 114). Although little evidence of Saxon activity has been recorded at Spalding, pottery from the later part of the period has been found 1km northeast of the development site (Cope-Faulkner 1998, 6).

The town was recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086, when land there was owned by Ivo Tallboys, Guy of Craon and Crowland Abbey (Morris 1986). Among the holdings were a market, six fisheries, salt pans and a wood of alders.

Medieval evidence for Spalding is largely concentrated in the town centre with little having been recorded in the vicinity of the development site.

Investigations prior to development immediately to the north and west identified post-medieval remains, and undated remains of probable similar age, representing enclosure and settlement of the land on the eastern edge of Spalding (Snee 2002a, b). Structural remains in the form of postholes and stake holes were

recorded indicating the presence of a timber building or buildings between the 16^{th} / 17^{th} century and the 19^{th} century. A buried soil dating to the 13^{th} - 14^{th} century was also identified in this area. On the eastern side of the site adjacent to the Coronation Channel, the flues from an 18^{th} / 19^{th} -century brick-making site were revealed. In the southern part of the site, the remains of what is believed to be an early post-medieval gutter were recorded. It was suggested that this feature was associated with the site of a Mud and Stud cottage.

3 AIMS

The requirements of the watching brief, as described in the specification (Appendix 1), were to record and interpret archaeological deposits, if present, and to determine their date, sequence, form, spatial arrangement, function and origin.

4 METHODS

Trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator to depths of between 0.6m and 0.7m as required by the development. Following excavation, the sides of the trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were partially or fully excavated by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. The depth and thickness of each deposit were measured from the ground surface. Each archaeological deposit or feature revealed was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. Recording of deposits encountered during watching brief was

according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

Records of the deposits and features recognised during the watching brief were examined. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

5 RESULTS

5.1 The stratigraphic sequence

Following post-excavation analysis, two phases were identified:

Phase 1 Natural deposits
Phase 2 Modern deposits

Context numbers appear in brackets, and these refer to the individual cut and deposit descriptions recorded during excavation.

5.2 Phase 1: Natural deposits:

The earliest deposits recorded within the house and garage footings were a 0.35+m thick mixed light grey and brown sandy silt (002 and 004) and a mixed light grey and brown silty clay (005) that measured at least 0.25+m thick (Fig. 4 Sections 1 and 2; Plates 2, 3).

5.3 Phase 2: Modern deposits:

A modern topsoil comprising a 0.3m thick mid brown clayey silt (001 and 003) was recorded across the development site and contained modern ceramic building material.

6 DISCUSSION

6.1 Phase 1: Natural deposits

Deposits of natural sandy silts and silty

clays were the earliest deposits encountered during the watching brief. These relate to the underlying drift geology and can be identified as marine alluvium.

6.2 Phase 2: Modern deposits

A topsoil sealed the natural deposits and represents the modern ground surface across the development site.

7 CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were carried out on land at Low Road, Spalding, because the site lies within an area of archaeological activity ranging from the Romano-British period to the present day.

No archaeological features were recorded within the development area and no artefacts were retrieved. Natural alluvial deposits were recorded sealed by a modern topsoil. These results suggest that the archaeological activity recorded to the north and west did not extend into the development area.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr J. Woodcock who commissioned the fieldwork and post excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Steve Malone and this report was edited by Steve Malone and Tom Lane. Mark Bennet of Lincolnshire County Council permitted examination of the Sites and Monuments Record. David Start kindly permitted access to the library and parish files maintained by the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire.

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10 ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

DoE Department of the Environment

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

OD Ordnance Datum

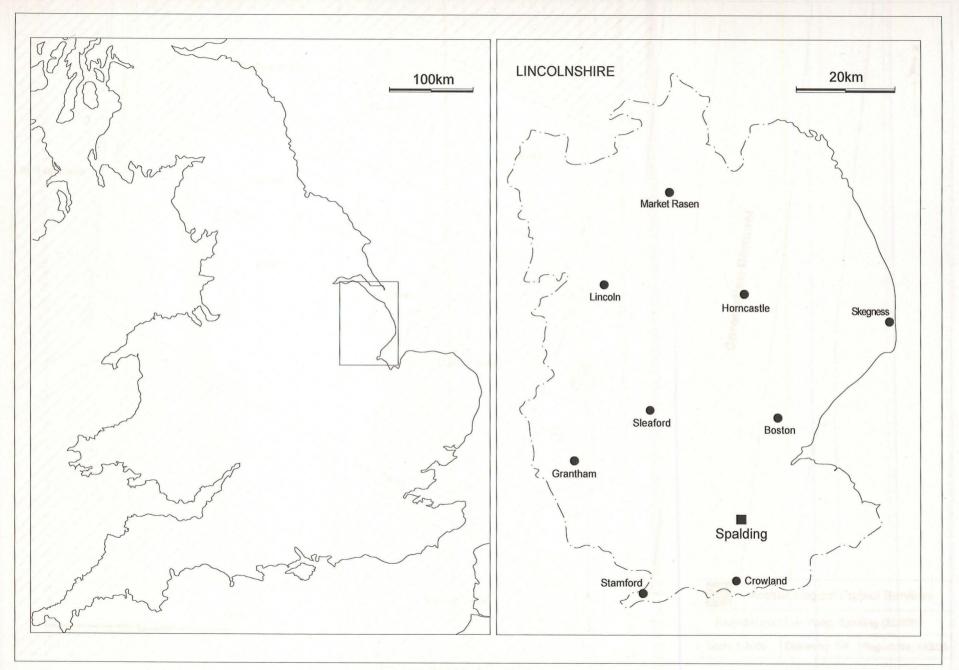


Figure 1: General Location Plan

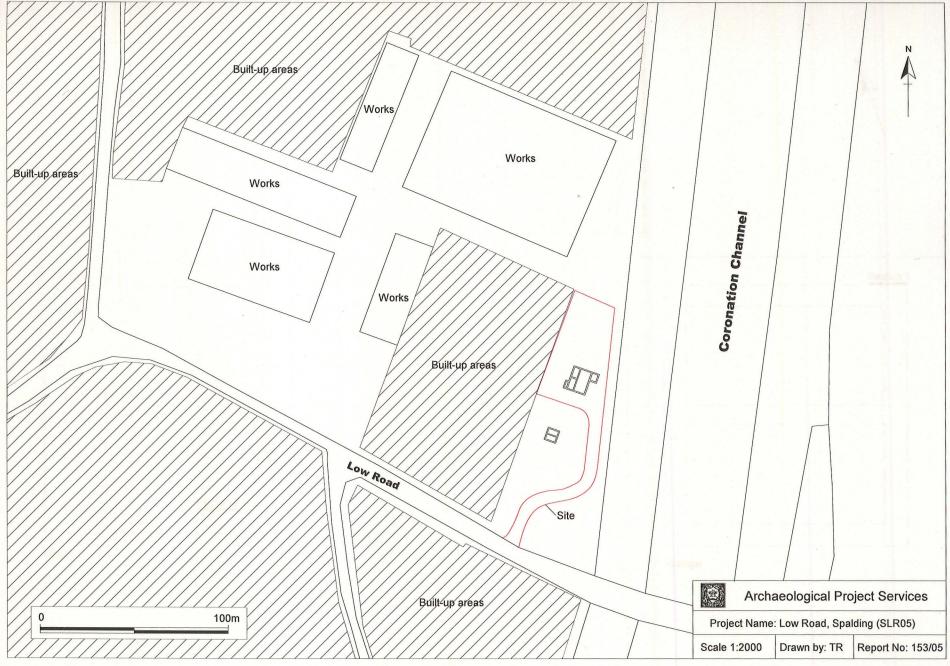


Figure 2: Site Location

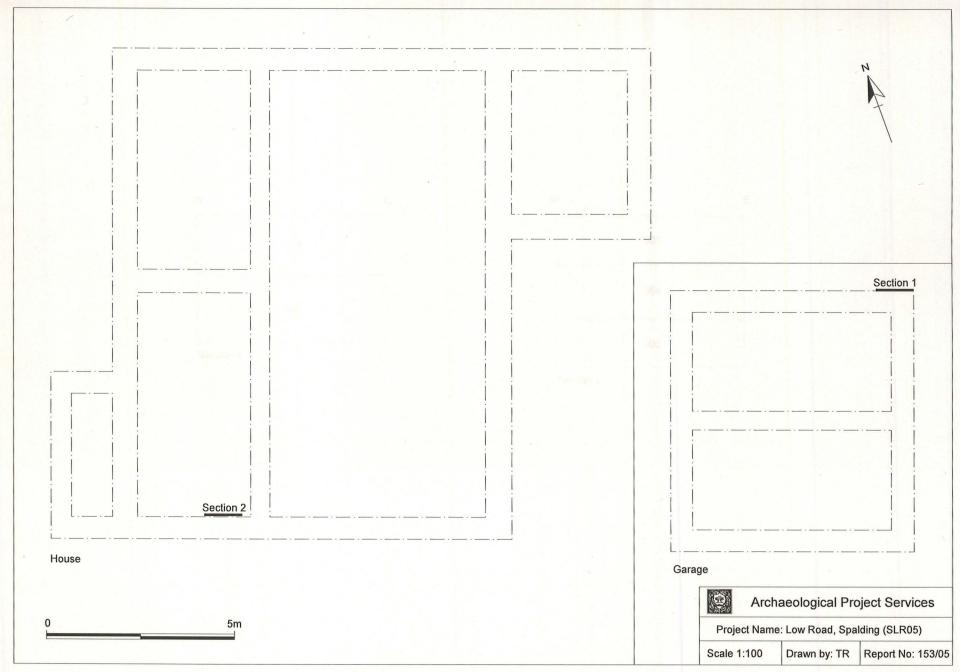


Figure 3: Footings location and section locations

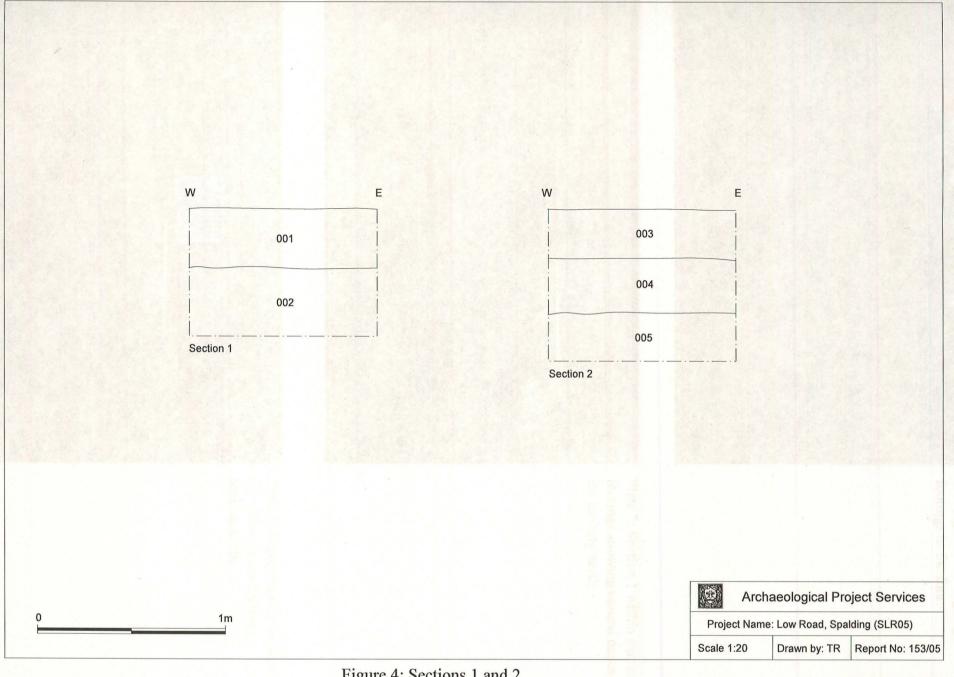


Figure 4: Sections 1 and 2



Plate 1: General view of site looking north with garage footings to the fore



Plate 2: Section 1 within garage footings showing natural deposits, looking north



Plate 3: Representative section (2) within house footings, looking north

Specification for archaeological monitoring on land to the rear of Karhil, 15 Low Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 Archaeological monitoring is required during construction of a dwelling and garage on land to the rear of Karhil, 15 Low Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The site is of archaeological interest, lying close to previously excavated sites of medieval and post-medieval date.
- 1.3 The archaeological monitoring will be undertaken during groundworks associated with the development. The archaeological features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.
- 1.4 On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the investigation.

 The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for archaeological monitoring during groundworks connected with the construction of a dwelling and garage on land to the rear of Karhil, 15 Low Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire.
- 2.2 This document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview.
 - 2.2.2 Stages of work and methodologies.
 - 2.2.3 List of specialists.
 - 2.2.4 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

3.1 Spalding is located 23km southwest of Boston and 30km southeast of Sleaford in the South Holland district of Lincolnshire. The site lies to the rear of properties on the north side of Low Road, approximately 1.3km northeast of Spalding town centre, immediately west of the Coronation Channel, at National Grid Reference TF 2604 2293.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 Planning permission (Application No. H16/1543/03) for the development has been granted subject to a condition requiring the implementation of a scheme of archaeological monitoring during groundworks associated with the development.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 The site lies in the fenland of south Lincolnshire on fairly flat land at c. 3m OD. Local soils have not been mapped as the area is urban, but on the basis of surrounding deposits are likely to be deep stoneless clayey and silty soils of the Wallasea 2 Association developed on marine alluvium (Hodge et al. 1984, 338).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- Spalding is situated in an area of known archaeological remains that date primarily from the Romano-British period and later. Since at least 2000 BC the area has been subject to a series of freshwater and marine inundations resulting in the deposition of several metres of alluvium. During the Romano-British period the former marshland stabilized enabling settlement which has continued through the medieval and post-medieval periods. Evidence of Romano-British activity has been found in and around Spalding and on the east side of the town during the excavation of the Coronation channel to the southeast of the site. However, these are generally buried by layers of later alluvium and lie at between 1.3m and 2m OD.
- Excavations on an immediately adjacent site identified structural remains demonstrating the presence of timber buildings in the west of the site between the 16th/17th and 19th centuries. A buried soil dating to the 14th century was also identified in this area. On the eastern side of the site the remains of an 18th-19th century brick clamp were revealed.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the monitoring will be:
 - 7.1.1 To record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.
- 7.2 The objectives of the monitoring will be to:
 - 7.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
 - 7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
 - 7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
 - 7.2.4 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

8 SITE OPERATIONS

8.1 General considerations

- 8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the investigations.
- 8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA). Archaeological Project Services is IFA registered organisation no. 21.
- 8.1.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

8.2 Methodology

- 8.2.1 Archaeological monitoring will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the monitoring of all phases of soil movement.
- 8.2.2 Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Written

descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.

- 8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 8.2.4 Throughout the monitoring a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
 - the site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
 - groups of features where their relationship is important
- 8.2.5 Should human remains be located they will be left *in situ* and only excavated if absolutely necessary. Should removal be required the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before the exhumation of the remains. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department, coroner and the police will be informed, where appropriate.

9 POST-EXCAVATION

9.1 <u>Stage 1</u>

- 9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the archaeological monitoring will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued and labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
- 9.1.2 All finds recovered during the fieldwork will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

9.2 Stage 2

- 9.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.
- 9.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

9.3 Stage 3

- 9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the investigations will be prepared.
- 9.3.2 This will consist of:
 - A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
 - A description of the archaeological setting of the investigations.
 - Description of the topography of the site.
 - Description of the methodologies used during the investigations.

- A text describing the findings of the investigations.
- A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the investigation findings.
- Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
- Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.
- Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10 REPORT DEPOSITION

10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the client; South Holland District Council Planning Department; the County Council Archaeology Section; and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

11 ARCHIVE

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

12 PUBLICATION

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

13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the County Archaeology Section. They will be given written notice of the commencement of the project.

14 VARIATIONS AND CONTINGENCIES

- 14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- In the event of the discovery of any unexpected remains of archaeological importance, or of any changed circumstances, it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to inform the archaeological curator (*Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* 1998, Sections 5.7 and 18).
- Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation additional resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.
- 14.4 Any contingency requirement for additional fieldwork or post-excavation analysis outside the

scope of the proposed scheme of works will only be activated following full consultation with the archaeological curator and the client.

15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 15.1 The archaeological monitoring will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the archaeological site work.
- 15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of such investigations will undertake the work.
- 15.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one person-day) will require a post- excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half person-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about four days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

16 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

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

Task	Body to be undertaking the work
Task	Body to be undertaking the work

Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln

Pottery Analysis Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust

Roman - B Precious, Independent Specialist

Anglo-Saxon - J Young, Independent Specialist

Medieval and later - G Taylor in consultation with H Healey,

Independent Archaeologist

Non-pottery Artefacts J Cowgill, Independent Specialist

Animal Bones Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

Environmental Analysis J Rackham, Independent Specialist

Human Remains Analysis R Gowland, Independent Specialist

17 INSURANCES

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

18 COPYRIGHT

18.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the

Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

- 18.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.
- In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 and may result in legal action.
- 18.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

19 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Context Summary

Context	Type	Description	Thck (m)	Interpretation
001	Deposit	Firm, mid brown clayey silt with occ. modern cbm	0.3	Topsoil
002	Deposit	Soft, mixed light grey and brown sandy silt	0.35+	Natural
003	Deposit	Firm, mid brown clayey silt	0.25	Topsoil
004	Deposit	Soft, mixed light grey and brown sandy silt	0.3	Natural
005	Deposit	Firm, mixed light grey and brown silty clay	0.25+	Natural

Abbreviations:

Thck - thickness

cbm – Ceramic Building Material

occ - occasional

Glossary

Briquetage

A term given to fragments of ceramic equipment and hearth/oven remains from the processing of salt.

Context

An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, *e.g.*(004).

Cut

A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, *etc.* Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.

Fill

Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).

Layer

A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.

Medieval

The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.

Natural

Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.

Romano-British

Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

Saltern

Salt producing site typified by ash, derived from fuel needed to evaporate sea water, and briquetage.

Saxon

Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.

The Archive

The archive consists of:

- 5 Context records
- 3 Scale drawings (sections)
- 1 Plan Record Sheet
- 1 Section Record Sheets
- 1 Photographic record sheet
- 1 Daily Record Sheets

All primary records are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

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

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

Lincolnshire City and County Museum Accession Number: 2005.168

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: SLR05

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

Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.