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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
AT WESTFIELD HOUSE,
ST THOMAS DRIVE, LONDON ROAD
BOSTON,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BTD06)



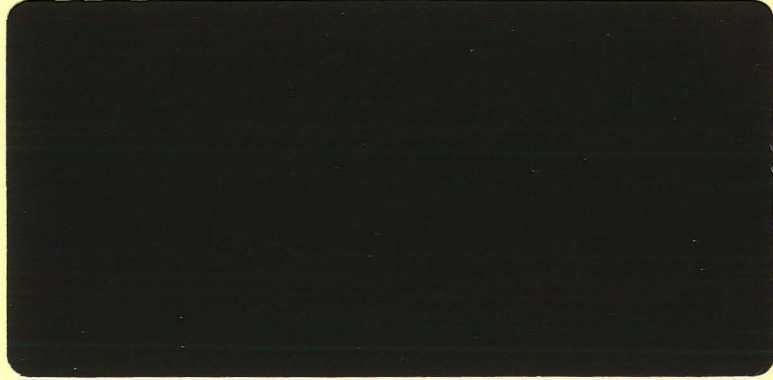
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
AT WESTFIELD HOUSE,
ST THOMAS DRIVE, LONDON ROAD
BOSTON,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BTD06)**

Work Undertaken For
HPC Homes

April 2006

Report Compiled by
Mark Peachey BA

Planning Application No: B/05/0847/FULL
National Grid Reference: TF 32423 42377
LCNCC Accession Number: 2006.59

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 51/06

Quality Control
Westfield House, St. Thomas Drive, London Road,
Boston, Lincolnshire
BTD 06

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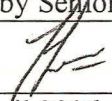
Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
 Dale Trimble	 Tom Lane
Date: 5 April 2006	Date: 5 April 2006

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SUMMARY

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation comprising a 2% programme of trial trenching was undertaken at St Thomas Drive, Boston, Lincolnshire in response to a proposal for residential development and construction of a new medical centre. The proposed development site lies in an area of archaeological potential within Skirbeck Quarter, a settlement lying on the southern outskirts of Boston and referred to in the Domesday Survey of 1086.

The evaluation identified a buried soil and drainage ditches of 2nd/3rd Romano-British century date overlain by marine flood deposits. These features probably represent the western limits of a small settlement located in the area now occupied by St. Thomas Drive. The presence of cereal grains, chaff and weed seeds within the ditch fills shows that burnt cereal processing waste was being deposited, indicating that the area was suitable for arable agriculture.

No later features were revealed by the evaluation other than of 20th century date. The only medieval pottery discovered was part of a manuring scatter. This would indicate that the site was used for agriculture until the building of Westfield House in the 19th century.

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 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

A proposal for residential development and construction of a new medical centre on the former Westfield Hospital site at St. Thomas Drive, London Road, Boston was submitted to Boston Borough Council. Acting on the advice of the Boston Borough Planning Archaeologist, the local authority requested an archaeological evaluation as a condition of full planning permission (Application number B/05/0847/FULL). The evaluation comprised the excavation of a 2% programme of eighteen 20m x 1.6m trial trenches.

The evaluation was undertaken by Archaeological Project Services between the 10th and 16th March 2006 in accordance with a specification designed by Archaeological Project Services, based on a brief issued by the Planning Archaeologist.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Boston is situated 45km southeast of Lincoln and approximately 7km northwest of the coast of The Wash, on the banks of the River Witham in the Fenland of south Lincolnshire. The town is located in the administrative area of Boston Borough, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The proposed development site, forming a roughly rectangular area of approximately 3 hectares, lies on the southwest side of Skirbeck Quarter, approximately 150m southeast of London Road and southwest of St. Thomas Drive, centered on National Grid Reference TF 32423 42377. The investigation area lies at a height of c. 2m OD on soils of the Wisbech Association, coarse silty calcareous deposits, overlying marine alluvium, below which is glacial drift (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 127).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

In prehistoric times the area was part of a shifting silt laden delta of the River Witham with tidal river channels, low-lying islands and marsh. Aerial photographs show an extensive network of palaeochannels in the surrounding area.

Bronze Age metalwork was recovered during the building of the docks indicating some activity in the area at this date, but prehistoric occupation sites lie deeply buried under alluvial deposits in this area of the Fens (Peachey 2004).

Finds of Romano-British date from the Boston area suggest a colonisation of the marsh following a retreat in sea levels in the late Iron Age and Roman periods. Occupation was probably confined to slightly elevated areas such as the levees of roddons, the raised silt ridges of extinct palaeochannels.

Stratified Romano-British remains were recovered from Boston Grammar School, during excavations in advance of the erection of a new music and arts block (Palmer-Brown, 1996). A deposit of silt mixed with artefactual material was situated between 2.85m and 2.30m OD. This layer contained sherds of domestic greyware and Nene Valley ware of the 3rd/4th centuries AD, as well as large quantities of fairly amorphous fragments of fired clay. Roman burials were found at the school during further work.

Romano-British greyware was discovered at 3m OD on Fishtoft Road during the building of Fogarty's factory in 1965 (SMR 09/050). The nearest Roman finds are concentrations of Roman pottery found 800m to the south during fieldwalking (SMR 22/024). Pottery including Samian ware has also been found at Wyberton on the south side of the South Forty Foot Drain 1.5km to the northeast (SMR 22/001). Just to the west of this a small group of enclosures with concentrations of

2nd to 4th century pottery was found in 1964 (SMR 22/011).

Skirbeck is referred to as *Scirebec* in the Domesday Survey of 1086. The name derives from the Old Norse 'skirr' and 'bekkr' meaning 'the clear stream', but may have replaced the Old English 'scir' and 'bece' (Cameron 1998). This reference gives clear evidence that Skirbeck has at least Late Saxon origins. Skirbeck Wapentake derives its name from the settlement, suggesting that the meeting place for this division of the shire was located there. However, the extent of the medieval settlement is not currently known.

There are no references to Boston itself in the Domesday Survey but after being founded in the 12th century, the town grew rapidly to become one of the most important ports in medieval England.

Earthworks of a possible medieval moated site lie approximately 350m northeast of the proposed development. These were first interpreted as the remains of a Roman fort by the 17th century antiquary William Stukeley.

Approximately 250 metres to the southwest a group of earthworks are thought to represent the remains of ridge and furrow, derived from medieval strip cultivation. A possible ha-ha and associated earthworks of the medieval period are located in the same area.

Early post-medieval pottery has been recovered from an area approximately 250m south of the proposed development (APS Specification 2006).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of the work was to gather sufficient information for the archaeological curator to be able to formulate a policy for the management of

the archaeological resources present on the site.

The objectives of the evaluation were to establish the type of archaeological activity that may have been present within the site, determine its extent, date, function, state of preservation and spatial arrangement and to establish the way in which the archaeological features identified fitted into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

4. METHODS.

Eighteen trenches (Fig. 3) were excavated by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. The exposed surfaces of the trenches were then cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains. The trenches measured 20m x 1.6m.

Each deposit was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their descriptions appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services' practice.

Finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendices 3, 4). Following fieldwork, the records were examined and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them and supplemented by artefact dating.

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

5. RESULTS (Figs. 4 and 5)

A comparison of the relative depths of trench deposits is included as Figure 6.

Trench 1

The natural in Trench 1 was mid brown silty clay with blue streaks (103) measuring at least 0.1m thick. It was overlain by 0.3m of mid yellowish brown coarse silt (102) subsoil. Topsoil (101) was mid greyish brown clayey silt 0.35m thick.

Trench 2 (Fig 4)

Following removal of topsoil and overburden, a spread of mid grey silt (216) and (215) was revealed in the base of the trench. A slot was excavated along the west side of the northern part of this trench to investigate these archaeological deposits (Fig 5, Section 3). The underlying natural deposit was a mid yellowish brown silt (218) cut by linear features [210], aligned southwest to northeast, and [212], aligned northwest to southeast. Feature [210] measured at least 1m wide by 0.15m deep and was filled with fine dark grey clayey silt (211) containing frequent charcoal and 3rd century Roman pottery. Feature [212] measured 1.1m wide by 0.3m deep and contained two fills. Lower fill (213) was a 0.24 thick mid to dark grey clayey silt containing 3rd century pottery. Upper fill (217) was a 0.13m thick mid brown silt.

The natural was also overlain by a 0.25m thick spread of mid grey clayey silt (216) which contained Roman pottery. This layer was cut by feature [214], aligned east-west and measuring 0.55m deep and 1.5m wide at the western limit of the trench, widening out to 2m on the eastern side of the slot. A mid grey clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks (215) and containing 3rd century pottery filled the ditch and also extended over linear features [210] and [212].

Environmental samples (Appendix 5) from fills (211), (213) and (215) of features [210], [212] and [214] all produced cereal grains, chaff and weed seeds indicating that burnt cereal processing waste, predominantly from batches of wheat, was deposited in the features. Seeds of wetland plants were also identified.

At the southern end of the trench narrow gully [203] cut the natural. This was aligned northwest to southeast, measured 0.3m wide by 0.16m deep and was filled with dark greyish brown sandy silt (204). A wide shallow ditch [201] on the same alignment truncated [203] and measured 1.1m wide by 0.3m deep (Fig 5, sections 1, 2). This was filled with mid to dark greyish brown sandy clayey silt (202) containing late 3rd to 4th century pottery. Four stakeholes [208], [219], [221] and [223] (Plate 5) were cut into the side of this ditch.

These archaeological levels were intermittently overlain by bluish grey clay (207) which was up to 80mm thick. This layer was sealed by a 0.14 thick mid reddish brown clayey silt (206) which appears to represent a phase of post-Roman marine silting. Above this was mid greyish brown clayey silt topsoil 0.1m thick.

Trench 3

The natural in this trench was a mix of light brown clay and slightly orangy brown clayey silt (303) at least 10mm thick. Above this was 0.25m of medium brown silt subsoil (302). Topsoil was dark brown silt (301) 0.3m thick.

Trench 4

In Trench 4 the natural was a mixture of medium brown and light bluish grey clayey silt (403) overlain by subsoil layer (402), a 0.19m thick medium brown silt. The topsoil was a dark, slightly greyish brown silt (401) measuring 0.3m thick.

Trench 5

In the base of this trench the natural was represented by a 10mm thick light bluish grey/orangey brown silty clay (504). This was overlain by light brown natural silt (503) which measured 10mm thick. Above this was subsoil (502), a 0.16m thick medium brown silt. The dark greyish brown silt topsoil layer (501) was 0.3m thick.

Trench 6

Mottled light blue-grey/medium orange brown silty clay natural (604) at least 0.15m thick was overlain by 0.17m thick medium greyish brown clayey silt (603) natural. Sealing this was medium brown silt subsoil (602) which was 0.18m thick and overlain by 0.3m of dark greyish brown silt topsoil (001).

Trench 7

This trench contained three types of natural deposit. At the base was light grey silt, mottled orangey brown (705) which measured over 0.05m thick. Overlying this was 20mm thick light bluish grey silty clay (704), sealed by a 0.17m thick layer of mid brownish grey silty clay with rusty mottles (703). The subsoil layer in this trench was a 0.15m thick brown silt (702), while topsoil (701) comprised 0.28m of greyish brown silt.

Trench 8

This trench contained two natural layers; the lowest (804) comprising 50mm of mid to light grey silt overlain by 20mm of light bluish grey clay (803). This was sealed by a mid grey silty clay subsoil (802) measuring 0.18m thick and cut by modern machine excavated trench [807] aligned east-west which was 0.6m wide, at least 1m deep and filled with clayey silt (806). Above this was topsoil (801), 30mm of mid to dark greyish brown silt.

Trench 9 (Fig 4)

Trench 9 contained more variation in the natural silts, comprising several bands of alternating silts and clays, visible in plan and on Sections 4 and 5 (Fig 5 and Plate 7). Layer (914) was light bluish grey clay beneath (910) a light brown silt at least 0.5m thick. This was overlain by 50mm thick light greenish grey silt (909). Above this was (908), a mid to light bluish grey clay 0.03m thick. This lay below mottled greyish red silty clay layer (913) which was 0.22m thick. Above this was mid to light bluish grey clay (912) which was 0.05m thick and this was below light/mid brown silt (911) which was 0.12m thick. Overlying this was layer (907), a mid to light brown silt 0.13m thick. These silts were cut by a large steep sided feature [901]. This measured 4.25m wide by at least the trench width of 1.6m and was excavated to a depth of 0.85m (1.2m from top of trench). The lowest fill was medium brownish grey silt (904) overlain by medium brown silt (903) measuring 0.5m thick and containing pottery, brick and tile of 19th and 20th century date. The top fill was dark brownish grey silt (902) which measured 0.13m thick. Sealing this feature was subsoil (906) which was medium brown silt 0.28m thick. Above this was topsoil (905), a soft mid to dark brown silt, also measuring 0.28m thick.

Trench 10

The natural in this trench was yellowish brown sandy clayey silt (1003) at least 0.44m thick. This was below mid brown sandy clayey silt subsoil (1002) measuring 0.26m thick overlain by dark brown clayey silt topsoil (1001) 0.15m thick.

Trench 11

In Trench 11 the natural was a yellowish brown sandy clay silt (1103) of at least 0.15m thickness, overlain by 20mm thick mid brown sandy clayey silt subsoil

(1102). Topsoil (1101) was dark brown clayey silt 0.15m thick.

Trench 12

In this trench the natural was a 0.4m thick reddish brown sandy clay (1203) overlain by mid brown sandy clayey silt (1202) measuring 0.22m thick. Above this was topsoil (1201), a dark brown clayey silt 0.13m thick.

Trench 13

Reddish brown silty clay over 1.19m thick (1303) represented the natural in this trench. Layer (1302) above was mid brown clayey silt with charcoal 0.33m thick. Overlying this was dark brown clayey silt topsoil (1301) measuring 0.12m thick.

Trench 14

In this trench, the natural was mid reddish brown silty clay with blue-grey mottles (1403) over 0.09m thick. This was overlain by subsoil (1402), a mid reddish yellow brown clayey silt 0.3m thick. Topsoil was dark grey brown clayey silt (1401) 0.3m thick.

Trench 15

The natural in this trench was pale brown clay silt (1503) at least 0.09m thick. The subsoil (1502) was a pale mottled greyish brown clayey silt 0.17m thick. Overlying this was topsoil (1501), a mid greyish brown clayey silt 0.29m thick.

Trench 16 (Fig 4)

The natural in this trench was pale brown clayey silt with occasional blue/grey streaks (1603). This was cut by linear feature [1604] which was aligned northwest-southeast and measured 1.4m wide by 0.55m deep. The lower fill of this was pale blue and brown mottled clayey silt (1605) which was 0.25m thick. Above this was pale brown with blue/grey

mottled clayey silt (1606) which measured 0.21m thick and was overlain by a 80mm thick pale brown clayey silt (1607). This feature was sealed by pale brown clayey silt subsoil (1602) which was 0.2m thick. Over this was mid brown clayey silt topsoil (1601) which was 0.27m thick and contained a piece of possible Roman brick.

Trench 17

There were two natural deposits in this trench. Layer (1704) was a light yellowish brown silt at least 0.04m thick and above this was layer (1703), a blue grey clay layer 0.05m thick. Overlying this was subsoil (1702), a reddish yellow brown clayey silt 0.18m thick. The topsoil was dark greyish brown clayey silt (1701) 0.4m thick.

Trench 18

Trench 18 contained several variations in the natural deposits. The lowest layer was mid grey clay (1805) which was at least 0.16m thick, overlain by a 30mm thick blue grey clay (1804). Overlying this layer was orange brown clayey silt layer (1803) which was 0.05m thick.

This lay below light brown silt (1807) which was 90mm thick. Above this was mid brown silt (1802) which was 0.2m thick. This was sealed by dark brown silt topsoil (1801) which was 0.25m thick topped by 0.2m of gravel surface (1806).

6. DISCUSSION

The natural on the site consists of various bands of silt, seen to best effect in Trench 9 (Fig 4). These layers are alluvial deposits representing various stages of marine flooding of marshland.

Linear feature [1604] in Trench 16 was filled by natural silting and may have been a small palaeochannel. These are common in the Boston area as part of the former

saltmarsh draining into the the River Witham.

All the trenches except Trench 2 had a transformed subsoil deposit above the alluvial layers, a product of ploughing of the land.

Trench 2 contained a number of layers and features of Romano-British date which did not extend into any other trenches. This may indicate that this was the edge of a small area of settlement extending eastwards from the proposed development area.

Processing of environmental samples from the Romano-British features showed that despite the presence of wetland plants wheat was being grown and processed in the vicinity. The level on the top of the Roman deposits of 2.35m OD is lower than possible Roman, although not positively dated, features found cutting the marshland silts at around 2.8m OD at South End, Skirbeck Road, Boston 1km to the north (Rayner 2001). Residual Roman pottery and briquetage were retrieved during the above investigation. The Roman land surface at the nearby Grammar School site was thought to be in the region of 3.2m OD although artefactual material was discovered at between 2.3m and 2.85m OD (Palmer-Brown 1996). Sherds of greyware were found at a height of around 3m OD during the building of Fogarty's Factory on Fishtoft Road 2km to the east in 1965 (SMR 09/050).

Layer (216) may represent a buried soil, a relic of cultivation. Within the confines of the narrow trench the ditches [210], [212] and [214] and gullies [201] and [203] do not form a clear pattern, but are probably field boundaries or part of a drainage system, this being a low lying and wet area. The group of stake holes in the side of [201] may have been part of a fence line made up of narrow stakes. These features were then overlain by marine flood deposits, represented by silt layers (206)

and (207). There was no transformed subsoil deposit in this trench which was slightly lower lying than the other trenches and may have long been a wet area not subject to ploughing.

A step sided feature [901] in Trench 9 was probably a large 20th century pit or boundary ditch.

7. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on land at St. Thomas Drive, Boston because the proposed development lay within an area of archaeological potential within Skirbeck Quarter.

A buried soil and field boundary or drainage ditches of 2nd/3rd century Romano-British date were revealed which had been overlain by marine flood deposits. These features probably represent the western limits of a small settlement located in the area now occupied by St. Thomas Drive. Environmental sampling showed that the growing and processing of wheat was being carried out indicating dry conditions.

No later features were revealed by the evaluation other than of 20th century date, the only medieval pottery discovered being part of a manuring scatter. This would indicate that the site was probably farmland following the drainage of the area until it became part of the garden of the 19th century Westfield House.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of HPC Homes who commissioned this investigation and Jenny Young for providing information from the Boston Borough Sites and Monuments Record. The work was co-ordinated by Dale

Trimble who edited this report with Tom Lane.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Dale Trimble
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 Site Team: Bob Garland, Chris Moulis, Neil Parker, Jim Robertson.
 Finds processing: Denise Buckley
 Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
 CAD Illustration: Mark Peachey
 Post-excavation analysis: Mark Peachey

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

- APS Archaeological Project Services
 IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

OD Ordnance Datum (height above sea level)

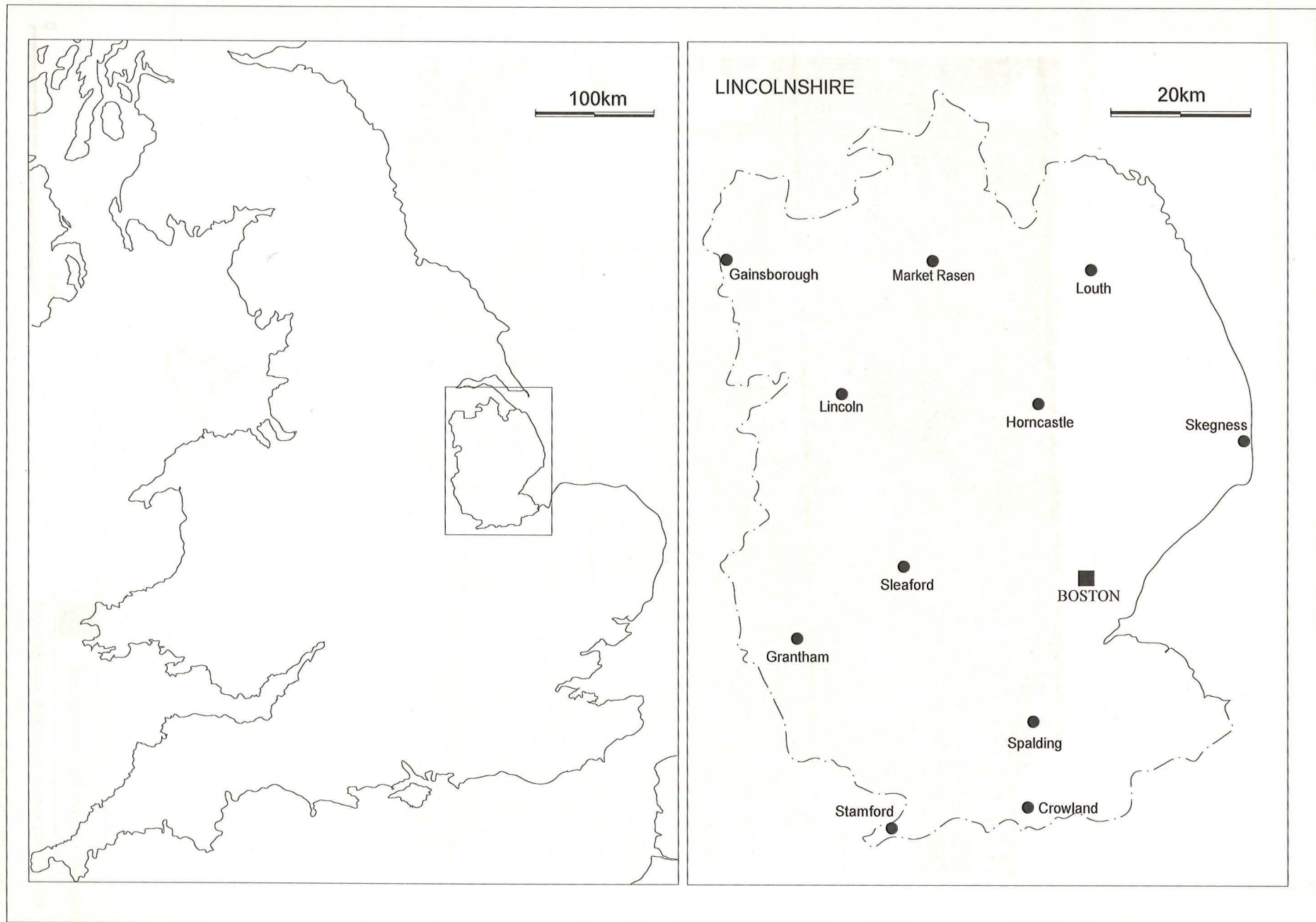
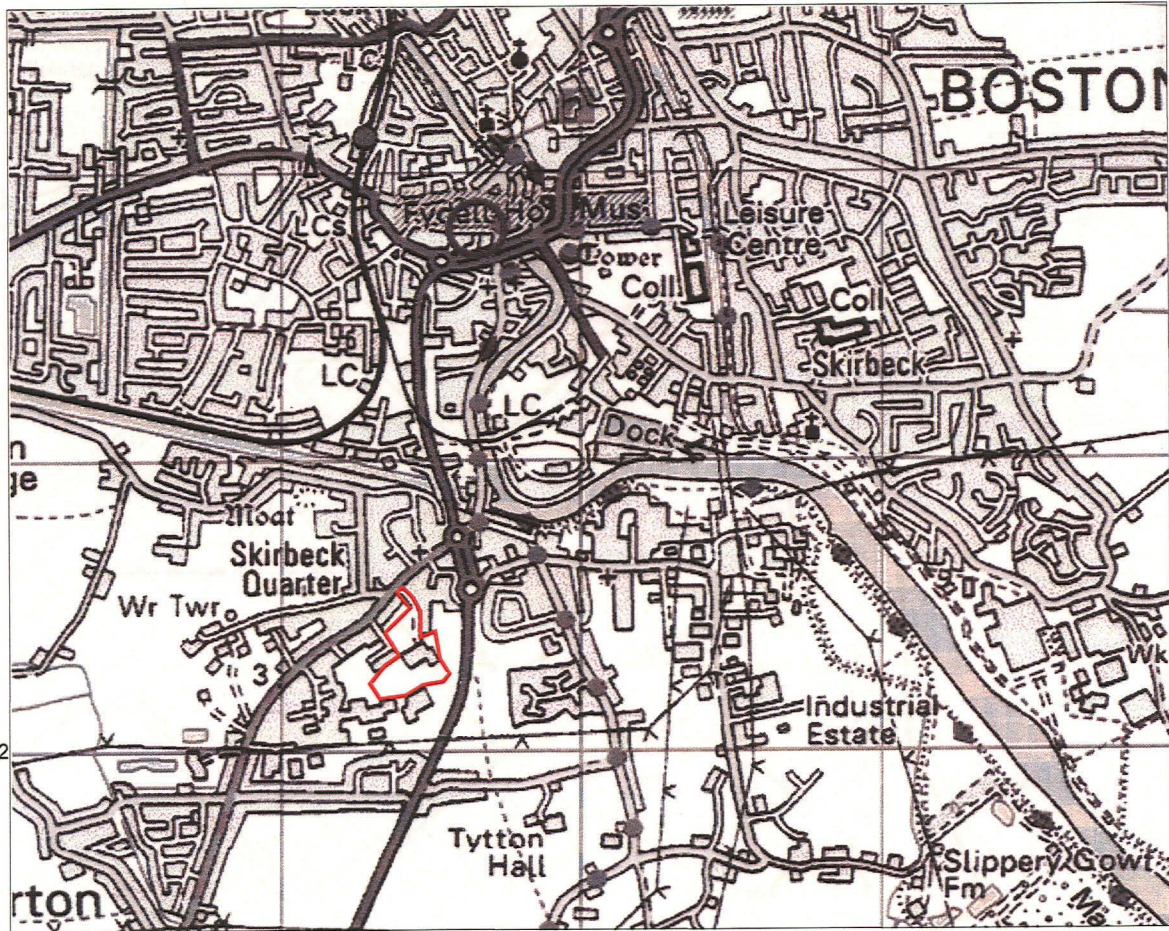


Figure 1: General Location Plan



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KEY



SITE




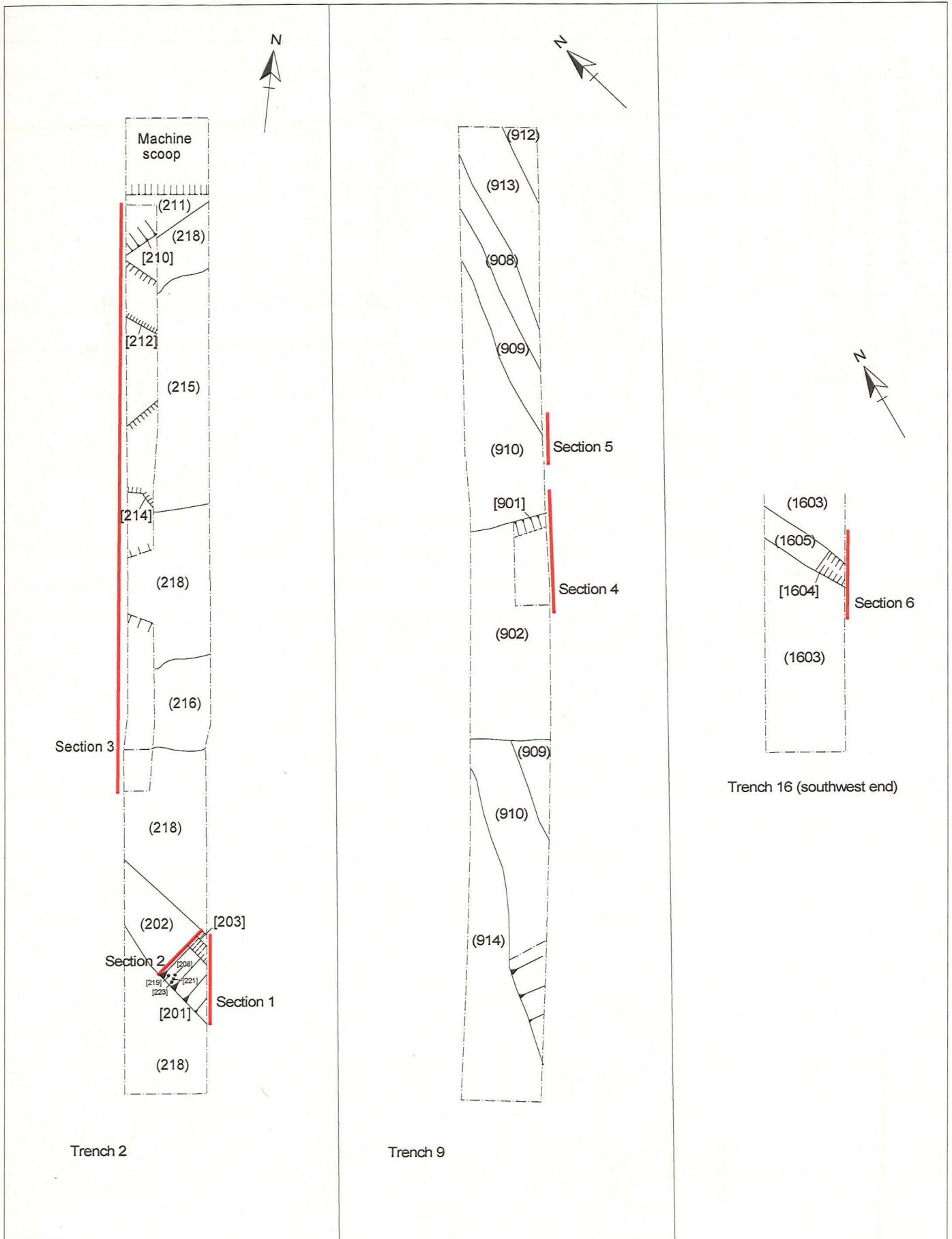
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Scale 1:25000	Drawn by: MJP	Report No: 51/06

Figure 2. Site Location Plan



Figure 3. Trench Location Plan



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Project Name: Boston St Thomas Drive BT06

Scale 1:100 Drawn by: MJP Report No: 51/06

Figure 4. Trench Plans

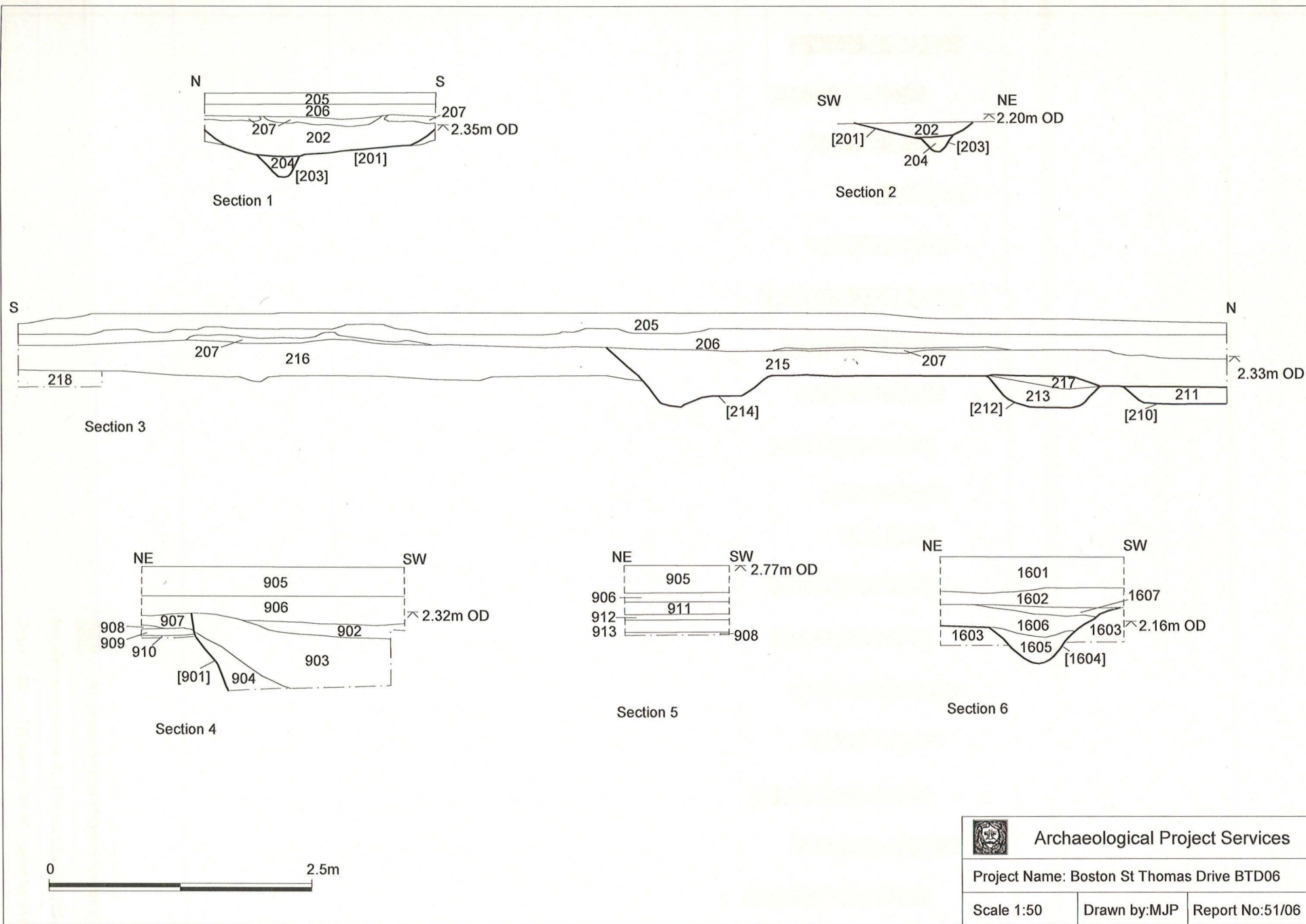

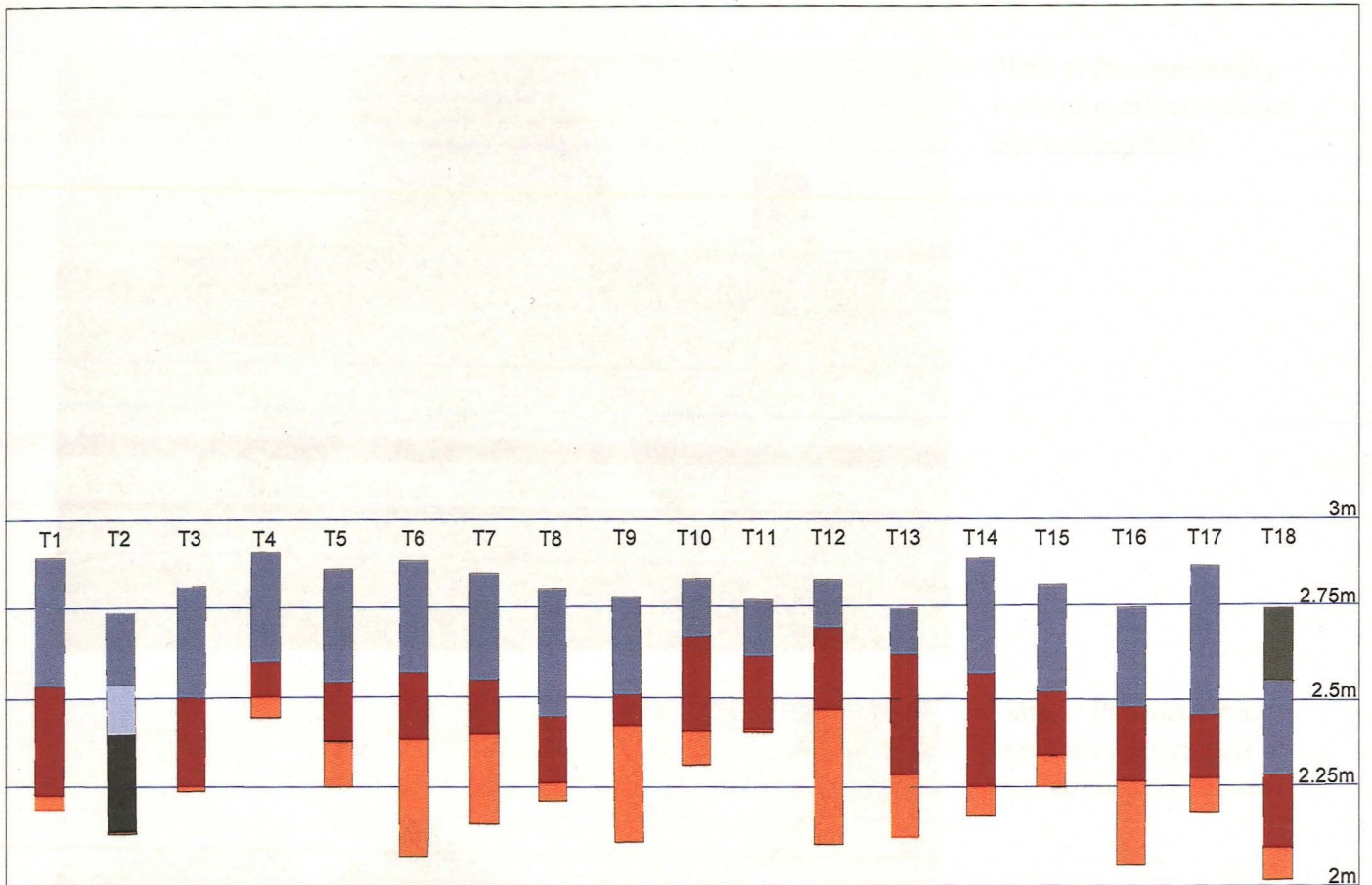


Figure 5. Sections

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KEY

- Modern Gravel Surface
- Topsoil
- Subsoil-transformed deposits
- Marine silts
- Archaeological Layers
- Alluvial Deposits



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Boston St. Thomas Drive BT06

Scale 1:20

Drawn by: MJP

Report No: 51/06

Figure 6. Comparative graph of trench deposits



Plate 1: Pre-machining
view of northern area of
site looking ENE



Plate 2: Pre-machining
view of southern part of
site looking northeast



Plate 3: Pre-machining
view of location of
Trenches 16 and 17
looking south



Plate 4: Linear features [201], [203], Section 1, looking east



Plate 5: Features [201], [203], Section 2, showing stakeholes looking NW



Plate 6: Trench 2, Section 3, looking northwest showing silt layers and linear features



Plate 7: Trench 9, pre-excavation shot looking west



Plate 8: Feature [901], Section 4 looking south

Appendix 1

LAND AT WESTFIELD HOUSE,
ST THOMAS DRIVE, LONDON ROAD,
BOSTON,
LINCOLNSHIRE

SPECIFICATION FOR
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

PREPARED FOR
HPC HOMES

BY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES
Institute of Field Archaeologists'
Registered Archaeological Organisation No. 21

MARCH 2006

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land at Westfield House, St Thomas Drive, London Road, Boston, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The area of proposed development lies in an area of archaeological potential within Skirbeck Quarter, a settlement lying on the southern outskirts of Boston and referred to in the Domesday Survey of 1086.*
- 1.3 *Planning permission has been granted for construction of a medical centre and residential development of the site. An archaeological evaluation comprising a 2% programme of trail trenching has been requested by the Boston Borough Council to provide information on any buried archaeological remains still extant on the site.*
- 1.4 *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 illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land at Westfield House, St Thomas Drive, London Road, Boston, 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 LOCATION

- 3.1 Boston is located approximately 45km southeast of Lincoln and 7km from the northwest coast of the Wash, in the fens of south Lincolnshire. The proposed development site, forming a roughly rectangular area of approximately 3.0 hectares, lies on the southwest side of Skirbeck Quarter, approximately 150m southeast of London Road and southwest of St. Thomas Drive, centred on National Grid Reference TF 3242342377.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Full planning permission has been granted (B/05/0847/FULL) for construction of a new medical centre, 63 dwellings and 9 flats on the site subject to a Scheme of Works condition requiring the implementation of a

programme of archaeological works. The Boston Borough Planning Archaeologist has issued a brief outlining a requirement for investigation of the site through a programme of trial trenching, designed to investigate the survival and potential of any archaeological remains which may survive on the site.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The site lies at around 2m O.D on soils of the Wisbech Association, coarse silty calcareous deposits, overlying marine alluvium.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Skirbeck is referred to as *Scirebec* in the Domesday Survey of 1086. The name derives from Old Norse 'skirr' and 'bekkr' meaning 'the clear stream', but may have replaced the Old English 'scir' and 'bece' (Cameron 1998). This reference gives clear evidence that Skirbeck has at least Late Saxon origins. There are no references to Boston in the Domesday Survey and Skirbeck Wapentake derives its name from the settlement, suggesting that the meeting place for this division of the shire was located there. However, the extent of the medieval settlement is not currently known.
- 6.2 Earthworks of a possible medieval moated site lie approximately 350m northeast of the proposed development. These were first interpreted as the remains of a Roman fort by the 17th century antiquary William Stukeley.
- 6.3 Approximately 250 metres to the southwest a group of earthworks are thought to represent the remains of ridge and furrow, derived from medieval strip cultivation. A possible ha-ha and associated earthworks of the medieval period are located in the same area.
- 6.4 Early post-medieval pottery has been recovered from an area approximately 250m south of the proposed development.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aim of the work will be to gather sufficient information for the archaeological curator to be able to formulate a policy for the management of the archaeological resources present on the site.
- 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 date and function of the archaeological features present on the site.
 - 7.2.4 Determine the state of preservation of the archaeological features present on the site.
 - 7.2.5 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features present within the site.
 - 7.2.6 Determine the extent to which the surrounding archaeological features extend into the application area.
 - 7.2.7 Establish the way in which the archaeological features identified fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

8 LIAISON WITH THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CURATOR

- 8.1 Prior to the commencement of the trial trenching the arrangement of the interventions (excavations) will be agreed with the archaeological curator to ensure that the proposed scheme of works fulfils their requirements.

9 TRIAL TRENCHING

- 9.1 Reasoning for this technique
- 9.1.1 Trial trenching enables the *in situ* determination of the sequence, date, nature, depth, environmental potential and density of archaeological features present on the site.
 - 9.1.2 The trial trenching will consist of the excavation of a 2% sample of the area. This will be achieved

by the excavation of 18 trenches measuring 20m long and 1.6m wide, placed in areas to be agreed with the archaeological curator and where accessible. Trenches may be widened and stepped-in should archaeological deposits extend below 1.2m depth. Augering may be used to determine the depth of the sequence of deposits present.

9.2 General Considerations

- 9.2.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the investigation. A Risk Assessment will be prepared prior to commencement of the investigation, and updated as necessary during it.
- 9.2.2 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).
- 9.2.3 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.
- 9.2.4 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 necessarily be excavated. However, the investigation will, as far as is reasonably practicable, determine the level of the natural deposits to ensure that the depth of the archaeological sequence present on the site is established.
- 9.2.5 Open trenches will be marked by hazard tape attached to road irons or similar poles. Subject to the consent of the archaeological curator, and following the appropriate recording, the trenches, particularly those of excessive depth, will be backfilled as soon as possible to minimise any health and safety risks.

9.3 Methodology

- 9.3.1 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.
- 9.3.2 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.
- 9.3.3 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.
- 9.3.4 Plans of features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. Should individual features merit it, they will be drawn at a larger scale.
- 9.3.5 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:
 - 9.3.5.1 the site before the commencement of field operations.
 - 9.3.5.2 the site during work to show specific stages of work, and the layout of the archaeology within individual trenches.
 - 9.3.5.3 individual features and, where appropriate, their sections.
 - 9.3.5.4 groups of features where their relationship is important.

9.3.5.5 the site on completion of field work

- 9.3.6 Should human remains be encountered, they will be left *in situ* with excavation being limited to the identification and recording of such remains. If removal of the remains is necessary the appropriate Home Office licences will be obtained and the local environmental health department informed. If relevant, the coroner and the police will be notified.
- 9.3.7 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.
- 9.3.8 The spoil generated during the investigation will be mounded along the edges of the trial trenches with the topsoil being kept separate from the other material excavated for subsequent backfilling.
- 9.3.9 The precise location of the trenches within the site and the location of site recording grid will be established by an EDM survey.

10 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

- 10.1 If appropriate, during the investigation 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.

11 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT

11.1 Stage 1

- 11.1.1 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.
- 11.1.2 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.

11.2 Stage 2

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

11.3 Stage 3

- 11.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the investigation will be prepared. This will consist of:
- 11.3.1.1 A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
- 11.3.1.2 A description of the archaeological setting of the site.
- 11.3.1.3 Description of the topography and geology of the investigation area.
- 11.3.1.4 Description of the methodologies used during the investigation and discussion of their effectiveness in the light of the results.
- 11.3.1.5 A text describing the findings of the investigation.
- 11.3.1.6 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.

- 11.3.1.7 Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.
- 11.3.1.8 Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape.
- 11.3.1.9 Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- 11.3.1.10 Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features or groups of features.
- 11.3.1.11 A consideration of the significance of the remains found, in local, regional, national and international terms, using recognised evaluation criteria.

12 **ARCHIVE**

- 12.1 The documentation, finds, photographs and other records and materials generated during the investigation 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.

13 **REPORT DEPOSITION**

- 13.1 Copies of the investigation report will be sent to: the client, HPC Homes Ltd; the Boston Borough Planning Archaeologist, Boston Borough Council; Boston Borough Council Planning Department; and the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record.

14 **PUBLICATION**

- 14.1 A report of the findings of the investigation 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: *Medieval Archaeology* and *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for medieval and later remains, and *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date.

15 **CURATORIAL MONITORING**

- 15.1 Curatorial responsibility for the project lies with Planning Archaeologist, Boston Borough Council. As much written notice as possible, ideally at least seven days, will be given to the archaeological curator prior to the commencement of the project to enable them to make appropriate monitoring arrangements.

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

- 16.1 Variations to the scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation from the archaeological curator.
- 16.2 Should the archaeological curator 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.

17 **STAFF TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT**

- 17.1 The work will be directed by Tom Lane MIFA, Senior Archaeologist, Archaeological Project Services. The on-site works will be supervised by an Archaeological Supervisor with knowledge of archaeological evaluations of this type. Archaeological excavation will be carried out by Archaeological Technicians, experienced in projects of this type.
- 17.2 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

<u>Task</u>	<u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln.
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric: 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 archaeologist; or G Taylor, APS

Other Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist; or G Taylor, APS
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, independent specialist
Animal Remains Analysis	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy; or P Cope-Faulkner, APS
Environmental Analysis	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
Radiocarbon dating	Beta Analytic Inc., Florida, USA
Dendrochronology dating	University of Sheffield Dendrochronology Laboratory

18 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 18.1 Fieldwork is expected to be undertaken by an experienced supervisor and 2-3 assistants. The duration is expected to be six days.
- 18.2 Post-excavation analysis and report production has a notional programme of 15 days, dependent on the quantity and quality of samples and artefacts recovered and the schedules of external specialists. A project officer or supervisor will undertake most of the analysis, with assistance from the finds supervisor and CAD illustrator. Two half-days of specialist time are allotted in the project budget.
- 18.3 Contingency
- 18.3.1 Contingencies have been specified in the budget. These include: pump (not expected but low-lying area); sampling/analysis of waterlogged/environmental remains (necessity/amount of samples cannot be pre-determined); Conservation and/or Other unexpected remains or artefacts (in terms of type, date or quantity – moderate amounts of medieval and post-medieval artefacts are expected).
- 18.3.2 Other than the pump, the activation of any contingency requirement will be by the archaeological curator (Boston Planning Archaeologist), not Archaeological Project Services.

19 INSURANCES

- 19.1 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.

20 COPYRIGHT

- 20.1 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.
- 20.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.
- 20.3 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.
- 20.4 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.

21 **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Cameron, K., 1998, *A Dictionary of Lincolnshire Place Names* English Place Name Society

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

Specification: Version 1, 7th March 2006

Appendix 2

CONTEXT SUMMARY

Context	Trench	Description	Interpretation	Date
101	1	Mid greyish brown clayey silt 0.35m thick	Topsoil	
102	1	Firm, friable mid yellowish brown coarse silt 0.3m thick	Subsoil	
103	1	Soft mid brown silty clay with blue streaks 0.1m + thick	Natural	
200	2	Unstratified finds	Finds	
201	2	NW-SE linear cut >2m long x 1.1m wide x 0.3m deep	Gully	3 rd /4 th century
202	2	Loose mid to dark greyish brown sandy clayey silt 0.3m thick	Fill of [201]	3 rd /4 th century
203	2	NW-SE cut >2m long x 0.3m wide x 0.16m deep	Gully	
204	2	Loose dark greyish brown sandy silt 0.16m thick	Fill of [203]	
205	2	Moderately compacted mid greyish brown clayey silt 0.1m thick	Topsoil	
206	2	Firm mid reddish brown slightly clayey silt 0.14m thick	Marine silts	
207	2	Firm bluish grey clay 0.08m thick	Marine silts	
208	2	Circular cut 0.06m diameter by 0.06m deep	Stake hole	
209	2	Loose dark greyish brown sandy silt 0.06m thick	Fill of [208]	
210	2	NE-SW linear cut 0.15m deep, other dimensions unknown	Linear cut	3 rd century
211	2	Firm dark grey clayey silt with frequent charcoal and burnt silt 0.15m thick	Fill of [210]	3 rd century
212	2	NW-SE linear cut 1.1m wide x 0.3m deep	Linear cut	3 rd century
213	2	Moderately firm mid to dark grey clayey silt 0.24m thick	Lower fill of [212]	3 rd century
214	2	E-W linear cut 1.5m wide x 0.55m deep	Linear cut	3 rd century
215	2	Moderately firm mid grey clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks and clayey silt 0.58m thick	Fill of [214]	3 rd century
216	2	Moderately firm mid grey clayey silt 0.25m thick	Spread	Roman
217	2	Very loose mid brown silt 0.13m thick	Upper fill of [212]	
218	2	Compacted mid yellowish brown silt 0.15m+ thick	Natural	
219	2	Cut of stake hole 0.06m diameter x 0.06m deep	Stake hole	
220	2	Loose dark greyish brown sandy silt 0.06m thick	Fill of [219]	
221	2	Cut of stake hole 0.06m diameter x 0.06m deep	Stake hole	
222	2	Loose dark greyish brown sandy silt 0.06m thick	Fill of [221]	
223	2	Cut of stake hole 0.06m diameter x 0.06m deep	Stake hole	
224	2	Loose dark greyish brown sandy silt 0.06m thick	Fill of [223]	
301	3	Dark brown silt 0.3m thick	Topsoil	
302	3	Medium brown silt with occasional rusty flecking 0.25m thick	Subsoil	
303	3	50/50 mix of light brown clay/slightly orangy brown clayey silt 0.01m+ thick	Natural	
401	4	Dark, slightly greyish brown silt 0.3m thick	Topsoil	
402	4	Medium brown silt 0.19m thick	Subsoil	
403	4	50/50 mix of medium brown and light bluish grey clayey silt	Natural	
501	5	Dark greyish brown silt 0.3m thick	Topsoil	
502	5	Medium brown silt 0.16m thick	Subsoil	
503	5	Light brown silt 0.1m thick	Alluvium	
504	5	50/50 light bluish grey/orangey brown firm silty clay 0.1m thick	Alluvium	
601	6	Dark greyish brown silt 0.3m thick	Topsoil	
602	6	Medium brown silt 0.18m thick	Subsoil	
603	6	Firm medium greyish brown clayey silt with dark rusty flecking 0.17m thick	Alluvium	
604	6	50/50 light blue-grey/medium orangey brown silty clay 0.15m+ thick	Alluvium	
701	7	Mid to dark slightly greyish brown silt 0.28m thick	Topsoil	
702	7	Mid to light brown silt 0.15m thick	Subsoil	
703	7	Firm mid brownish grey with frequent dark rusty mottles silty clay 0.17m thick	Alluvium	
704	7	Firm light bluish grey silty clay 0.02m thick	Alluvium	
705	7	Soft light grey, with frequent mid orangey brown mottles, silt 0.05m + thick	Alluvium	
801	8	Firm mid to dark greyish brown silt 0.35m thick	Topsoil	

Context	Trench	Description	Interpretation	Date
802	8	Firm mid grey with frequent mottles of mid orangey brown silty clay 0.18m thick	Subsoil	
803	8	Firm light bluish grey clay 0.02m thick	Alluvium	
804	8	Soft mid to light grey silt 0.05m+ thick	Alluvium	
805	8	Soft light grey clay with frequent mid orangey brown mottles. Silt 0.05m+ thick	Alluvium	
806	8	Mix of mid greyish brown/ brownish grey clay and clayey silt 1m+thick	Fill of [007]	Modern
807	8	Vertically sided cut 0.6m wide x at least 1m deep	Cut of pit	Modern
901	9	Rectangular cut 4.25m wide x 1.6m+ long x 0.85m+ deep	Cut of pit or ditch	Modern
902	9	Soft dark brownish grey silt 0.13m thick	Fill of [901]	
903	9	Soft medium brown silt 0.5m+ thick	Fill of [901]	Modern
904	9	Soft medium brownish grey silt 0.3m+ thick	Fill of [901]	
905	9	Soft mid to dark brown silt 0.28m thick	Topsoil	
906	9	Soft medium brown silt 0.28m thick	Subsoil	
907	9	Soft mix of mid/light brown silt 0.13m thick	Layer	
908	9	Firm mid to light bluish grey clay 0.03m thick	Alluvium	
909	9	Soft light greenish grey silt 0.05m thick	Alluvium	
910	9	Soft light brown silt 0.5m thick	Alluvium	
911	9	Firm mix of mid brown and light brown silt 0.12m thick	Layer	
912	9	Firm mid to light bluish grey clay 0.05m thick	Alluvium	
913	9	Firm mid grey with frequent red brown mottles silty clay 0.22m thick	Alluvium	
914	9	Firm mix of light bluish grey and medium brownish grey clay	Alluvium	
1001	10	Loose dark brown clayey silt 0.15m thick	Topsoil	
1002	10	Soft mid brown sandy clayey silt 0.26m thick	Subsoil	
1003	10	Soft yellowish mid brown sandy clayey silt 0.44m+	Natural	
1101	11	Loose dark brown clayey silt 0.15m thick	Topsoil	
1102	11	Soft mid brown sandy clayey silt 0.2m thick	Subsoil	
1103	11	Soft yellowish brown sandy clayey silt with bluish grey clay lens 0.15m +thick	Natural	
1201	12	Loose dark brown clayey silt 0.13m thick	Topsoil	
1202	12	Soft mid brown sandy clayey silt 0.22m thick	Subsoil	
1203	12	Firm reddish brown sandy clay 0.4m thick	Natural	
1301	13	Loose dark brown clayey silt 0.12m thick	Topsoil	
1302	13	Soft mid brown clayey silt with occasional charcoal 0.33m thick	Subsoil	
1303	13	Firm reddish brown silty clay 0.19m+ thick	Natural	
1401	14	Friable dark grey brown clayey silt 0.3m thick	Topsoil	
1402	14	Firm mid reddish yellow brown fine clayey silt 0.3m thick	Subsoil	
1403	14	Firm mid reddish brown silty clay with blue grey mottles 0.09m+ thick	Natural	
1501	15	Friable mid greyish brown clayey silt 0.29m thick	Topsoil	
1502	15	Firm pale mottled greyish brown clayey silt	Subsoil	
1503	15	Firm pale brown, with blue grey patches, clay silt 0.09m+ thick	Natural	
1601	16	Soft mid brown clayey silt 0.27m thick	Topsoil	Late 19 th /20 th century
1602	16	Soft pale brown clayey silt 0.2m thick	Subsoil	
1603	16	Soft pale brown, with blue/grey streaks, clayey silt 0.26m+ thick	Natural	
1604	16	Linear cut 1.9m+ long x 1.4m wide x 0.55m deep	Gully	
1605	16	Soft pale blue and brown mottled clayey silt 0.25m thick	Primary fill of [1604]	
1606	16	Soft pale brown with blue/grey mottling clayey silt 0.21m thick	Fill of [1604]	
1607	16	Soft pale brown clayey silt 0.08m thick	Fill of [1604]	
1701	17	Friable mid to dark grey brown clayey silt 0.4m thick	Topsoil	
1702	17	Firm mid reddish yellow brown fine clayey silt 0.18m thick	Subsoil	
1703	17	Stiff blue grey clay 0.05m thick	Alluvium	
1704	17	Soft light yellowish brown silt 0.04m+ thick	Natural	
1801	18	Firm dark brown silt 0.24m thick	Topsoil	

Context	Trench	Description	Interpretation	Date
1802	18	Firm mid brown silt 0.15m thick	Subsoil	
1803	18	Firm medium orange brown clayey silt 0.03m thick	Alluvium	
1804	18	Firm light blue grey clay 0.03m thick	Alluvium	
1805	18	Firm mid grey clay 0.16m+ thick	Alluvium	
1806	18	Pea gravel layer 0.11m thick	Modern overburden	
1807	18	Soft light brown silt 0.09m+ thick	Natural	

Appendix 3: Roman Pottery

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

The pottery consists of 15 sherds from five contexts, weighing 239g. There is some abrasion. 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.

The pottery came from the following deposits:

Fig 1 Quantities and dating

Cut	Deposit	Cxt	Sherds	Weight	Date	Comments
201	NW-SE linear gully	202	3	44	L3-?4	No strong date
210	N-S linear cut	211	4	101	3C+?	Rim not closely datable
212	E-W linear cut lwr fill	213	3	38	M3+	
214	NE-SW linear cut	215	2	24	M3+	
-	Spread	216	3	32	ROM	
		Total	15	239		

The pottery ranges in date from the 2nd century on the evidence of a chip of samian from Central Gaul (Lezoux) from 213, the lower part of a bowl or jar with a possible carinated profile, and a fragment from a dish with a chamfered base, all only broadly dated to the mid to later 2nd century (from 202). A mortarium fragment came from 202; this is unfortunately too fragmentary to identify the type, but has an upstanding bead, and may be of a type made in one of the Nene Valley kilns. The fabric is atypical of the usual Nene Valley mortaria but has traces of slag trituration which would suggest that source, and judging from what remains of the rim, it may be a later 3rd century type. A similar date range can be applied to fragments of possibly three dales ware shell-gritted jars (from 213 and 215). These derive from the Humberside region, and although rare in south Lincolnshire, they undoubtedly arrived by coastal trading, confirmed by occasional examples from coastal sites in Norfolk and on Hadrian's Wall.

The pottery therefore has a date range of mid 2nd to later 3rd century, bearing in mind that dales ware cooking pots continue in use into the 4th century.

ARCHIVE DATABASE

Cxt	Fabric	Form	Manuf	Ve	Altn	D#	Details	Lnk	Shs	Wt
202	MORT	MFL?	-	-	-	-	BS WALL/BEAD OF RIM;FFINE CRBN FB;CR SURF;?SLAG FE;MONV?	-	1	23
202	GREY	JBCAR?	-	-	-	-	BS LWR WALL;GROOVE ?CARINATION;DIAM C14	-	1	20
202	FCLAY?	-	-	-	VABR	-	LUMP	-	1	1
202	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	L3-?4	-	-	-
202	ZZZ	-	-	-	-	-	NO STRONG DATE	-	-	-
211	OXL	CLSD	-	1	-	-	BSS F.THIN WALL;POSS FLAGON	-	2	20
211	GREY	CLSD	LA	-	-	-	BS LA W HORIZ BL	-	1	14
211	SHEL	JBL?	-	-	-	-	RIM BENT OVER;DIAM 30;VESIC	-	1	67
211	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	3C+?	-	-	-
211	ZZZ	-	-	-	-	-	RIM NOT CLSE DATABLE	-	-	-
213	SAMCG	-	-	-	-	-	CHIP ONLY	-	1	1
213	DWSH	JDW	HM	-	ABR	-	RIM FRAG;LGE JAR PT OXID	-	1	21
213	DWSH	J	HM	-	BURN	-	BS	-	1	16
					T					
213	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	M3+	-	-	-
215	GREY	D	-	-	-	-	BS WALL/BASE CHAMFER;F.THIN WALL FOR TYPE	-	1	11
215	DWSH	JDW	HM	-	-	-	RIM FRAG	-	1	13
215	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	M3+	-	-	-
216	GREY	J	-	1	-	-	BSS JOINING/SAME JAR	-	3	32
216	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	ROM	-	-	-
									15	239

ARCHIVE CODES

CODE	EXPANSION
Code	Vessel type
CLSD	Closed form
D	Dish
J	Jar
JBCAR	Jar or bowl with carinated profile
JBL	Jar or bowl large
JDW	Jar dales ware
MFL	Mortarium flanged rim?
	Manufacture+
HM	Hand-made
LA	Latticed

Appendix 4

THE OTHER FINDS

by Jennifer Kitch, Hilary Healey and Gary Taylor

Recording of the pottery was undertaken with reference to guidelines prepared by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (Slowikowski *et al.* 2001) and the pottery was quantified using the chronology and coding system of the Lincolnshire ceramic type series. Nine fragments of pottery weighing 64g and representing 6 individual vessels were recovered from 4 separate contexts. In addition to the pottery, a quantity of other artefacts, mostly brick/tile, comprising 13 items weighing a total of 690g, was retrieved. Faunal remains were also recovered.

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

Provenance

The material was recovered from subsoil (102), gully fills (202), (203), ditch fills (215), layer (216), ditch fill (903) and topsoils (1601), (1701). Most of the pottery was probably made in Staffordshire though the earliest pieces were manufactured in moderate proximity to Boston, at Toynton All Saints, 37km to the north, or elsewhere in the Boston area.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: Pottery

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
102	TOY?	Toynton All Saints ware? perhaps Boston Toynton-type ware, abraded	1	20	13 th -15 th century
903	TPW	Blue and white transfer printed tableware, 19 th century	3(link)	3	19 th century
	TPW	Black and white transfer printed tableware, 19 th century	2(link)	2	
	BL	Blackware, Staffordshire, 17 th century	1	1	
1601	ENPO	English porcelain	1	2	19 th century
1701	TOY?	Toynton All Saints ware? abraded	1	36	13 th -15 th century

Only two medieval fragments were recovered and both are worn. They are likely to be components of manuring scatter.

Table 2: Other Artefacts

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
202	CBM	Fired clay	3	7	
213	CBM	Handmade brick/fired clay	2	88	
215	CBM	Fired clay	1	3	
903	CBM	Handmade brick, post-medieval	1	360	20 th century
	CBM	Pantile, 20 th century	4	204	
1601	Glass	Very dark green bottle, late 19 th -20 th century	1	18	Late 19 th -20 th century
	CBM	Handmade brick, Roman?	1	10	

Building materials are the most common artefact type and most are post-medieval in date. They reflect the presence of structures in the area during this period. One piece may be Roman, which would contribute to other evidence of Roman activity identified in the area.

Table 3: The Faunal Remains

Context	Species	Bone	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
202	Sheep/Goat	Radius	1	2	Burnt black
	Medium Mammal	Long Bone	4	8	2 fragments burnt black
	Unidentified	Unidentified	4	0	Burnt white/grey
213	Cattle	Femur	1	62	Broken into three fragments, Juvenile
	Cattle	Ulna	1	12	Broken into two fragments
216	Sheep/Goat	Tibia	1	9	Broken into three pieces, abraded
	Sheep/Goat	Femur	1	10	Abraded

The assemblage is too small to suggest animal husbandry or utilisation practices on site, save the presence of cattle and sheep/goat. The remains are in a moderate condition. Any further work within the area is liable to produce more bone of a similar condition providing further information on the animal husbandry and utilisation, which may have taken place on site.

Condition

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

Documentation

There have been previous archaeological investigations at Boston that are the subjects of reports. Additionally, there has been reported study of the archaeological and historical evidence for the town and its vicinity. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the Boston Planning Archaeologist and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

As a small and predominantly late collection of artefacts the assemblage is of limited local potential and significance. The late artefacts indicate occupation of the site in the 19th-20th centuries and the medieval and 17th century pieces suggest the area was agricultural land at that time.

The dearth of material earlier than the 19th century is informative and suggests that archaeological deposits dating from prior to this period are absent from the area, or were not disturbed by the development, or were of a nature that did not involve artefact deposition.

References

Slowikowski, A., Nenck, B. and Pearce, J., 2001 *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2

Appendix 5

AN EVALUATION OF THE CHARRED PLANT MACROFOSSILS AND OTHER REMAINS

by Val Fryer

Introduction and method statement

Excavations undertaken by Archaeological Projects Services in March 2006 revealed three linear features of probable Roman date. Samples for the extraction of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from fills within each feature, and three were submitted for an initial evaluation.

The 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 follows Stace (1997). The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and will be sorted when dry. All artefacts/ecofacts will be retained for further specialist analysis.

Results

Cereal grains/chaff and seeds of common weeds and wetland plants were present at a moderate density in all three samples. Preservation was moderately good, although a proportion of the grains were puffed and distorted, possibly as a result of combustion at very high temperatures.

Wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains were present in all three samples, and spelt wheat (*T. spelta*) chaff was common, especially within samples 1 and 2. A single bread wheat (*T. aestivum/compactum*) type rachis node was also noted in sample 1.

Seeds of common cereal crop contaminants including goosegrass (*Galium aparine*), indeterminate grasses (Poaceae) and dock (*Rumex* sp.) also occurred in all three samples. The spike-rush (*Eleocharis* sp.) nutlets within sample 1 were the sole wetland plant macrofossils recorded. Charcoal fragments were present throughout, but other plant macrofossils were rare.

Other material types were not common, although the black porous and tarry fragments may be residues of the combustion of organic remains (including cereal grains) at very high temperatures. Minute pieces of burnt bone were recorded from samples 2 and 3.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In summary, the presence of cereal grains, chaff and weed seeds within the assemblages almost certainly indicates that small quantities of burnt cereal processing waste, predominantly from batches of wheat, were being deposited within the feature fills. The abundance of spelt chaff probably suggests a later prehistoric or Roman date for the contexts.

The composition of these assemblages clearly shows that deposits within this area of Boston have a high potential for further plant macrofossil analysis. If additional work is planned within St. Thomas Drive, it is strongly recommended that a comprehensive strategy for environmental sampling be incorporated into the excavation brief at the earliest opportunity. Sampling should be concentrated on well sealed and dated contexts (for example pit, post-hole and ditch/linear fills), although if required, additional samples can be taken at the discretion of the excavators. All specialists who may be required to work on material (to include palaeobotanists, palaeozoologists and possibly palynologists) should be informed of any additional work at the earliest possible opportunity.

Reference

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 b = burnt

Sample No.	1	2	3
Context No.	211	213	215
Feature No.	210	212	214
Cereals			
<i>Hordeum</i> sp. (rachis node)		xcf	
<i>Triticum</i> sp. (grains)	x	x	xcf
(glume bases)	xx	x	x
(spikelet bases)	x	x	
(rachis internodes)			
<i>T. spelta</i> L. (glume bases)	xx	xx	x
<i>T. aestivum/compactum</i> type (rachis nodes)	x		
Cereal indet. (grains)	x	x	x
(detached embryos)		x	
Herbs			
<i>Atriplex</i> sp.	x		
Fabaceae indet.	x		
<i>Galium aparine</i> L.		x	
<i>Medicago/Trifolium/Lotus</i> sp.	x		
Small Poaceae indet.	x	x	
Large Poaceae indet.		x	
<i>Rumex</i> sp.		x	x
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i> L.	xcf		
<i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> sp.		x	
Wetland plants			
<i>Eleocharis</i> sp.	x		
Other plant macrofossils			
Charcoal <2mm	xx	x	x
Charcoal >2mm	x	x	x
Charred root/stem		x	x
Indet.seeds	x		
Mineral replaced root channels		x	x
Other materials			
Black porous 'cokey' material	x	x	x
Black tarry material		x	x
Bone		x xb	x xb
Burnt/fired clay	x		x
Small coal frags.		x	x
Small mammal/amphibian bone		x	x
Sample volume (litres)	15	15	15
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
% flot sorted	100%	100%	100%

Table 1. Charred plant macrofossils and other remains from St. Thomas Drive, Boston, Lincolnshire.

Appendix 6

GLOSSARY

Alluvium	Deposits laid down by water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea, and fresh water alluvium is laid down by rivers and in lakes.
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.
Bronze Age	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
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, e.g. [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, etc. Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Domesday Survey	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
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).
Ha-ha	A wall and ditch placed around a garden to prevent access by livestock. The wall stopped at ground level to allow an unimpeded view from the house and garden into the surrounding park or countryside. They were first constructed in the 18th century.
Iron Age	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
Layer	A layer is a term used 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.
Manuring Scatter	A distribution of artefacts, usually pottery, created by the spreading of manure and domestic refuse from settlements onto arable fields. Such scatters can provide an indication of the extent and period of arable agriculture in the landscape.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of

human activity

- Old English** The language used by the Saxon (q.v.) occupants of Britain.
- Post hole** The hole cut to take a timber post, usually in an upright position. The hole may have been dug larger than the post and contain soil or stones to support the post. Alternatively, the posthole may have been formed through the process of driving the post into the ground.
- 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.
- Romano-British** Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
- Saxon** Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany
- Transformed** Soil deposits that have been changed. The agencies of such changes include natural processes, such as fluctuating water tables, worm or root action, and human activities such as gardening or agriculture. This transformation process serves to homogenise soil, erasing evidence of layering or features.

Appendix 7

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

42	Context records
5	Context record sheets
18	Trench record sheets
1	Plan record sheet
1	Section record sheet
11	Drawing sheets
3	Photographic record sheets
1	Levels sheet
1	Stratigraphic matrix
5	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
The Collection
Danes Terrace
Lincoln
LN2 1LP

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: 2006.59

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: BTD06

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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