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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
AT THE SLIPE,  
CHERRY HOLT ROAD,  
BOURNE,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(BCH 05)**



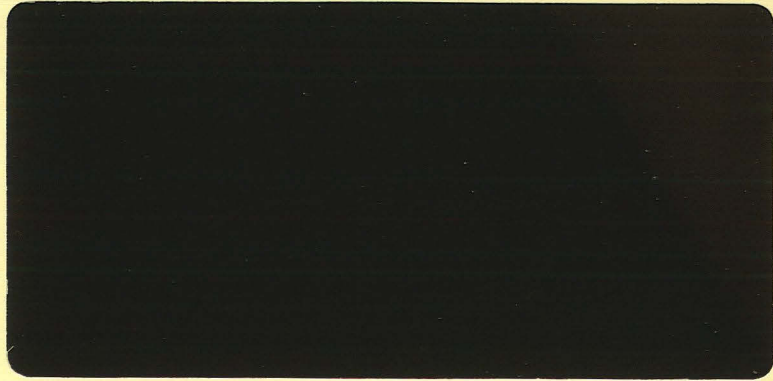
**A P S**  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
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SERVICES

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Conservation  
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
AT THE SLIPE,  
CHERRY HOLT ROAD,  
BOURNE,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(BCH 05)**

**Work Undertaken For  
Langwith Builders Limited**

January 2006

Report Compiled by  
Paul Cope-Faulkner BA (Hons) AIFA

Planning Application No: S05/0786/12  
National Grid Reference: TF 1075 1975  
City and County Museum Accession No: 2005.188

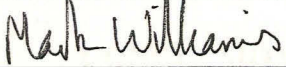
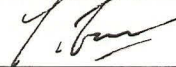
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES**



APS Report No. 175/05

**Quality Control**  
The Slupe,  
Cherry Holt Road,  
Bourne  
BCH 04

Project Coordinator	Mark Williams
Supervisors	Aaron Clements, Mark Peachey, Steve Williams
Illustration	Paul Cope-Faulkner
Photographic Reproduction	Sue Unsworth
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Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
 Mark Williams	 Tom Lane
Date: 20/01/06	Date: 23.01.06

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## 1. SUMMARY

*A watching brief was undertaken during groundworks at The Slipe, Cherry Holt Road, Bourne, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of foundation trenches and stanchion pits for an extension to existing commercial buildings.*

*The site lies close to the heart of the medieval (AD 1066-1540) pottery production area of the town. Several kilns and workshops have been excavated in the area with pottery production ceasing during the post-medieval period (AD 1540-1900). The site lies on the edge of the known Romano-British (AD 42-410) town which was concentrated to the west and southwest.*

*The watching brief identified natural drift geology with a former topsoil and recent deposits also encountered. No archaeological features were identified and no artefacts collected.*

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as "a formal programme 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 Langwith Builders Limited to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with new extensions to commercial property at The Slipe, Cherry

Holt Road, Bourne, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application S05/0786/12. The watching brief was carried out between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> October 2005 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the Planning Archaeologist, South Kesteven District Council.

### 2.3 Topography and Geology

Bourne is located 24km southeast of Grantham and 15km northeast of Stamford in the administrative district of South Kesteven, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The site is located 900m east of the town centre as defined by the parish church of SS. Peter and Paul at National Grid Reference TF 1075 1975 (Fig. 2). The site lies at a height of c. 4.8m OD on a very gentle slope down to the east.

Soils at the site are of the Badsey 2 Association, typically brown calcareous earths (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 99). These soils overlie drift deposits of river terrace sands and gravel which seals a solid geology of Jurassic Kellaways Clay (Booth 1983, 43).

### 2.4 Archaeological Setting

Bourne lies alongside the Roman thoroughfare King Street which ran parallel to Ermine Street to Bourne before dividing into two routes, one to Ancaster and another to Sleaford, north of the town. King Street is believed to be Claudian (AD 43-54) in date (Simmons n.d, 4). A 1<sup>st</sup> century date is certain as quarry pits for excavating ballast were recorded at Sapperton Roman town (Oetgen 1986, 10).

With an established connection to Roman towns to the north and south, it is possible that a *mutatio* (changing station) or *mansio* (rest-house) was established at Bourne (Birkbeck 1970, 3). This perhaps developed into a more important centre

especially considering the convergence of both the Bourne Eau, Car Dyke and Bourne-Morton canal a little to the east of the town (Simmons and Cope-Faulkner 2004, 90).

With limited excavation having taken place in Bourne, it is difficult to assess the extent and nature of the Romano-British settlement. Excavation at South Fields, 300m northwest of the site, revealed Romano-British occupation that was entirely urban in character and perhaps sited on the edge of the settlement (McDaid 1999, 19). Certainly, excavations further north at Bourne Abbey identified Romano-British features which were 'evidently peripheral to a more substantial Roman settlement' (Mahaney 1986, 15). Antiquarian accounts of tessellated pavements from an area southwest of the town (Trollope 1872, 36) could suggest the western extent of the settlement, although an isolated villa or temple should not be ruled out.

By the late third century AD, Bourne was the centre of local pottery production. Only a single kiln has been excavated, with evidence for a further 2 kilns noted (Swan 1984, microfiche 3.436). The kilns were located at Bourne Grammar School and excavations at South Fields identified clay extraction pits of 2<sup>nd</sup> century date (McDaid 1999, 19), which may push back the beginning of pottery production in the town.

During the medieval period, the town centre underwent remodelling, probably during the 12<sup>th</sup> century when the castle and market were established, causing the King Street thoroughfare to lose importance.

Excavations along Eastgate and Cherry Holt Lane, to the north and northeast of the site, have revealed extensive evidence for medieval and later pottery production (McCarthy and Brookes 1988, 259), although 13<sup>th</sup> century pottery wasters (kiln rejects) are also known from south of the

town (McDaid 1999, 19). The full extent of the potteries are as yet unknown.

### 3. AIMS

The requirements of the watching brief, as detailed in the specification (Appendix 1), were to locate and record archaeological deposits and, if present, to determine their date, function and origin.

### 4. METHODS

Prior to the excavation of foundation trenches and stanchion pits, overburden was removed from the site. Foundation trenches and stanchion pits were then excavated by machine to depths required by the development. The sides of the trenches were then cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were excavated further to retrieve artefactual material and to determine their function. 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.

Following excavation the records were checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

### 5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis three phases were identified;

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Undated deposits
Phase 3	Recent deposits



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

**Phase 1 Natural deposits**

The earliest natural deposit encountered was a layer of bluish grey clay (005) that was in excess of 0.3m thick.

Above this were deposits of grey with yellow mottled sandy silt (002), brownish yellow silty sand (003), yellowish grey silty clay (004) and dark yellowish grey silty clay (009).

**Phase 2 Undated deposits**

Located towards the north of the development was a former topsoil that comprised brown silty clay (001). This measured 0.4m thick (Fig. 4, Section 1).

**Phase 3 Recent deposits**

Overlying natural silty sand towards the centre of the development was a 0.35m thick layer of yellow limestone and sand (007). Identified as a levelling deposit this was sealed by grey sandy silt with stone chippings (006) representing a surface, that was 0.4m thick (Fig. 4, Section 3).

**6. DISCUSSION**

Natural deposits (Phase 1) comprise clays, silty clays, sandy silts and silty sands of the underlying drift geology. The clay layer may be glacial in origin.

An undated topsoil (Phase 2) partially survived in the northern trenches. This would suggest that the area had previously been under an agricultural regime. Its absence from the majority of the site would suggest that previous earthmoving at the site had removed this deposit, possibly impacting into archaeological deposits. Recent deposits (Phase 3)

comprise a surface and a levelling deposit.

No archaeological features were identified and no artefacts retrieved.

**7. CONCLUSION**

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at Cherry Holt Road, Bourne, as the site lay in close proximity to areas of medieval pottery production and known Romano-British activity.

However, only natural deposits, subsoil and a recent yard surface were identified at the site. The subsoil is not apparent throughout the site and would suggest that ground clearing had previously occurred here.

No archaeological features were identified and no artefacts were retrieved.

**8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr A.D. Hicks of Langwith Builders Limited for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Mark Williams who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Jenny Young, the South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist, kindly allowed access to the parish files and library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

**9. PERSONNEL**

Project Coordinator: Mark Williams  
 Site Supervisors: Aaron Clements, Mark Peachey, Steve Williams  
 Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth  
 Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner  
 Post-excavation analysis: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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**11. ABBREVIATIONS**

APS Archaeological Project Services

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

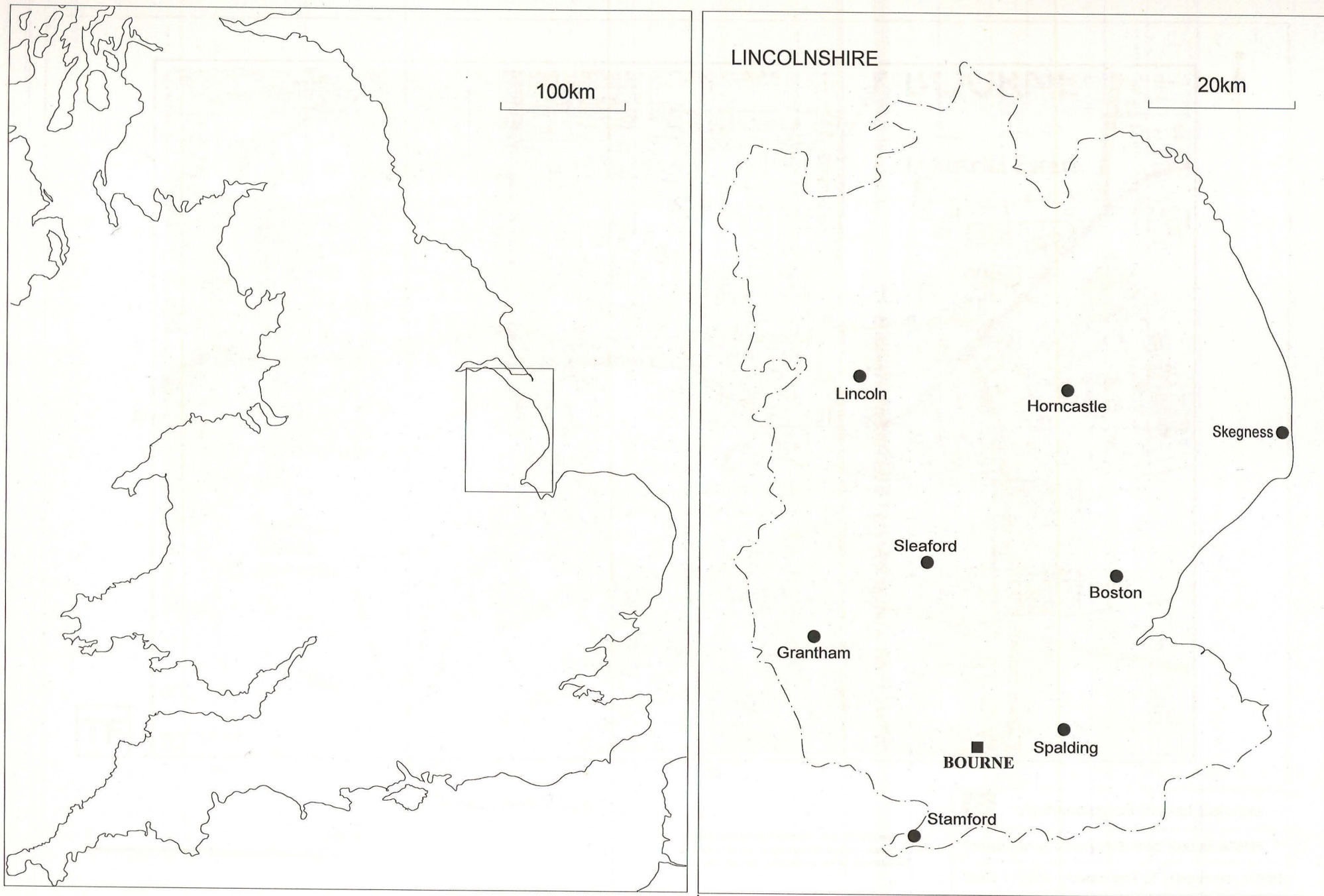
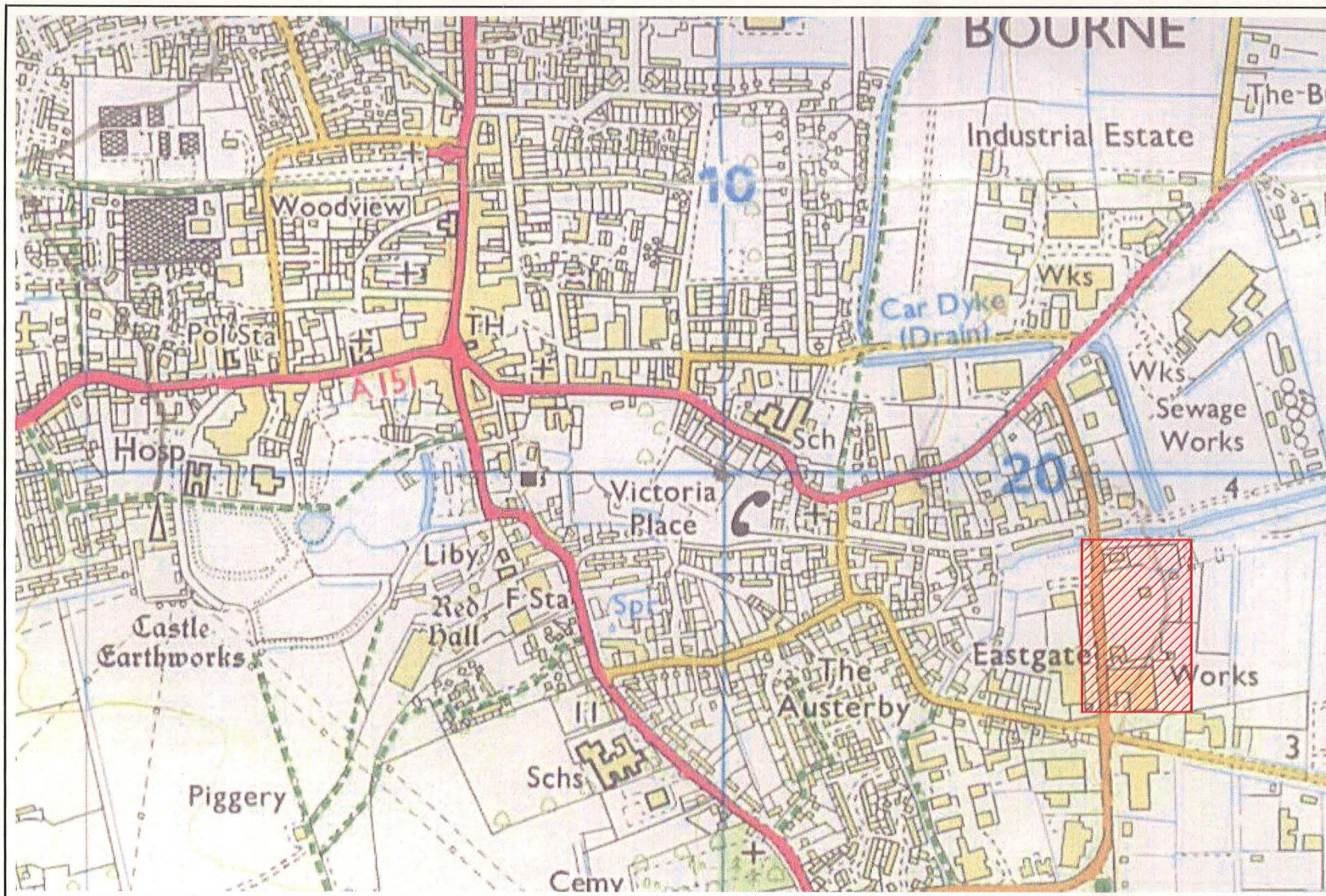


Figure 1 - General Location Plan



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09

10

 Area detailed in Figure 3



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Archaeological Project Services

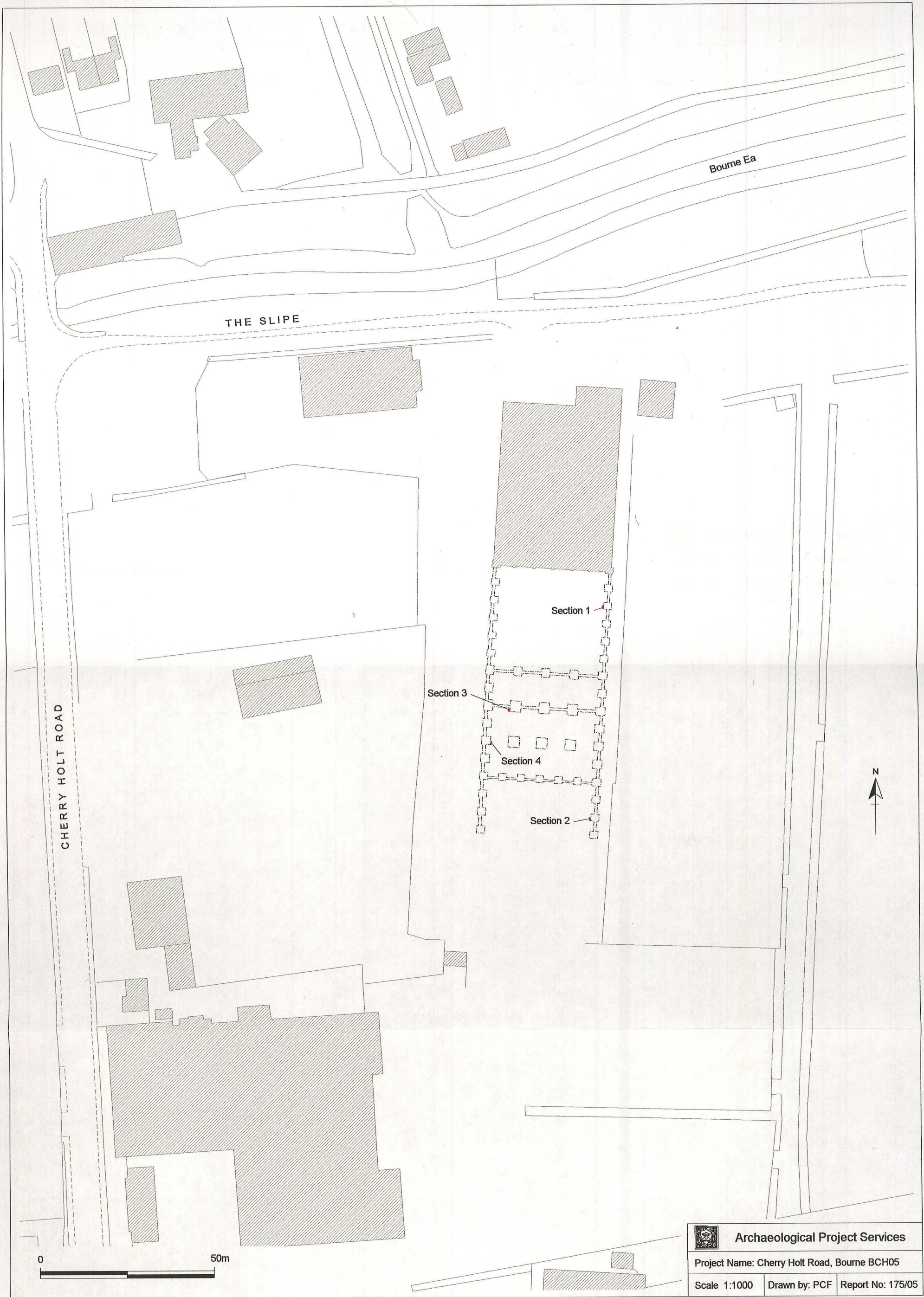
Project Name: Cherry Holt Road, Bourne BCH05

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Drawn by: PCF

Report No: 175/05

Figure 2 - Site location plan




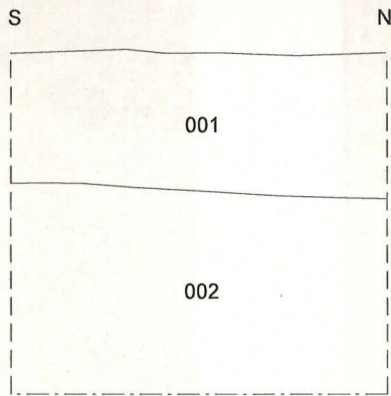
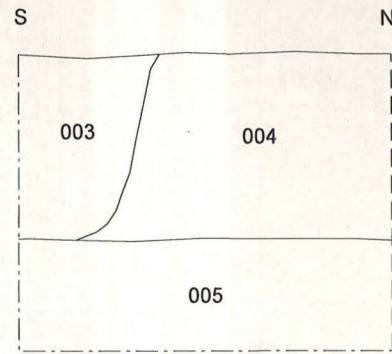
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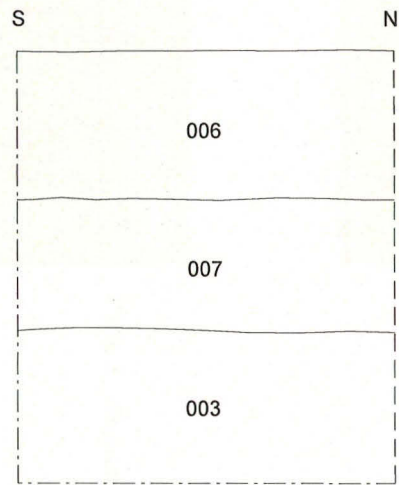
Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section locations



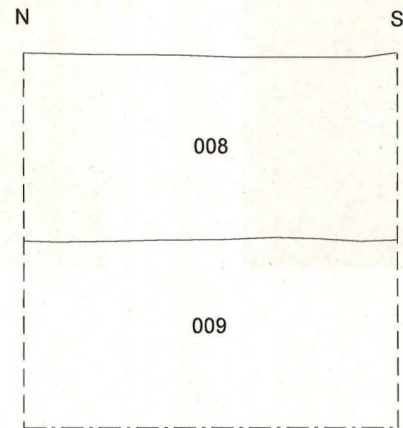
Section 1



Section 2



Section 3



Section 4



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Cherry Holt Road, Bourne BCH05

Scale 1:20

Drawn by: PCF

Report No: 175/05

Figure 4 - Sections 1 to 4



Plate 1 - General view across the site, looking north



Plate 2 - Section 1, looking east



Plate 3 - Section 3, looking west

## Appendix 1

### LAND AT CHERRY HOLT ROAD, BOURNE, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

#### 1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during development at Cherry Holt Road, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The site lies in an area of known archaeological significance close to an area of activity associated with the medieval pottery industry. The Car Dyke, a major waterway thought to be of Romano-British date, runs just to the west. Previous investigation of the site identified Roman and medieval features.*
- 1.3 *The archaeological work will consist of a watching brief during development works on the site.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the watching brief. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

#### 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for archaeological watching brief during development at Cherry Holt Road, 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 Bourne is located 24km southeast of Grantham and 15km northeast of Stamford in the South Kesteven district of Lincolnshire. The site is located to the east of Cherry Holt Road on the east side of Bourne, National Grid Reference TF 510750 319750.

#### 4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application (S05/0786/12) was submitted to South Kesteven District for the alteration and extension to a Laundry. Permission is subject to a condition requiring the undertaking of a continuous watching brief during groundworks associated with the development.

#### 5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The site lies in the eastern part of Bourne on a gentle slope down to the east at *c.* 5m OD. Local soils are of the Badsey 2 Association, brown calcareous earths over calcareous gravel (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 101).

#### 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Bourne is located in an area of known archaeological remains, the most significant dating from the Romano-British and medieval periods. Archaeological evidence suggests that during the Romano-British period Bourne was a small but important settlement. The Car Dyke waterway, considered to be Roman, lies just to the west.



- 6.2 Bourne was a significant town in the medieval period with an Abbey and castle. Pottery was manufactured at Bourne in the medieval and post-medieval periods. Kilns and workshops relating to the industry are known to have been concentrated immediately to the south and east.

## 7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the watching brief will be:
- 7.1.1 To record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the site stripping and other forms of ground disturbance.
- 7.1.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:
- Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
  - Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
  - As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
  - 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 watching brief.
- 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 The watching brief will be undertaken during the groundworks phase of development, and includes the continuous archaeological monitoring of groundwork in specified areas of the site.
- 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 watching brief 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 area.
  - groups of features where their relationship is important
- 8.2.5 Should human remains be located the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained

before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department and the police will be informed.

## 9 POST-EXCAVATION

### 9.1 Stage 1

9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief 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 watching brief 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 watching brief.
- Description of the topography of the site.
- Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.
- A text describing the findings of the watching brief.
- A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief 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 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; the South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist; South

Kesteven District Council Planning Department; and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

## 11 ARCHIVE

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

## 12 PUBLICATION

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

## 13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

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

## 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.
- 14.2 In the event of the discovery of any unexpected remains of archaeological importance, or of any changed circumstances, it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to inform the archaeological curator (*Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* 1998, Sections 5.7 and 18).
- 14.3 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation additional resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.
- 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 watching brief 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 watching briefs 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

- 16.1 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to

provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

<u>Task</u>	<u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust Roman - B Precious, Independent Specialist Anglo-Saxon - J Young, Independent Specialist Medieval and later - G Taylor, APS in consultation with H Healey, Independent Archaeologist
Non-pottery Artefacts	J Cowgill, Independent Specialist, or G Taylor, APS
Animal Bones	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy, or P Cope-Faulkner, APS
Environmental Analysis	J Rackham, Independent Specialist
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, Independent Specialist

## 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.
- 18.3 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.
- 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

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

## Appendix 2

### CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Friable mid brown silty clay, 0.4m thick	Subsoil
002	Friable light grey with yellow mottling sandy silt, 0.5m thick	Natural deposit
003	Loose mid brownish yellow silty sand, 0.5m thick	Natural deposit
004	Soft mid yellowish grey silty clay, 0.5m thick	Natural deposit
005	Firm mid bluish grey clay, >0.3m thick	Natural deposit
006	Loose dark reddish grey sandy silt with stone chippings, 0.4m thick	Yard surface
007	Loose light yellow limestone and sand, 0.35m thick	Levelling deposit
008	Firm mid brown silty clay with limestone and brick/tile fragments, 0.5m thick	Made ground
009	Firm dark yellowish grey silty clay, >0.5m thick	Natural deposit

## Appendix 3

### GLOSSARY

<b>Context</b>	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and 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, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
<b>Layer</b>	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
<b>Medieval</b>	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
<b>Natural</b>	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
<b>Post-medieval</b>	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
<b>Romano-British</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

## Appendix 4

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

9	Context records
4	Sheets of scale drawings
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Stratigraphic matrix

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 Council Museum Accession Number: 2005.188

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: BCH 05

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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