ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT THE OLD POST OFFICE, BILLINGBOROUGH ROAD, HORBLING, LINCOLNSHIRE (HOBR 05)



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT THE OLD POST OFFICE, **BILLINGBOROUGH ROAD,** HORBLING, LINCOLNSHIRE (HOBR 05)

Work Undertaken For **Digby Developments Limited**

June 2006

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

Planning Application No: S02/0056/44 National Grid Reference: TF 1176 3512 City and County Museum Accession No: 2005.28

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 55/06

Quality Control The Old Post Office, Billingborough Road, Horbling HOBR 05

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1. SUMMARY

A watching brief was undertaken during groundworks at The Old Post Office, Billingborough Road, Horbling, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of foundation trenches for four new detached dwellings.

The site lies close to two Bronze Age (2200-800 BC) barrows and close to the projected course of a Roman (AD 42-410) thoroughfare marked by Sandygate Lane. Settlement of this period is also known from the vicinity. The site lies close to the medieval (AD 1066-1540) core of the village which is represented by the largely 11th century church of St. Andrew.

The watching brief revealed a sequence of undated, Saxon, and medieval deposits. Undated remains include a subsoil, two quarry pits and two broadly parallel ditches. A Saxon pit was identified and represents the first remains of this period encountered in the village. A pit of medieval date was also recorded.

Finds retrieved during the investigation include single sherds of Saxon and medieval pottery along with a quantity of 20^{th} century glassware.

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 nonarchaeological 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 Digby Developments Limited to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with new residential development at The Old Post Office, Billingborough Horbling, Road. Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application S02/0056/44. The watching brief was carried out between the 24th January and 14th November 2005 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Horbling is located 11km southeast of Sleaford and 22km southwest of Boston in the administrative district of South Kesteven, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The site is located 135m southwest of the centre of the village as defined by the parish church of St. Andrew at National Grid Reference TF 1176 3512 (Fig. 2). The site lies to the west of Billingborough Road at a height of c. 9m OD on land that slopes gently down to the east.

Local soils are of the Badsey 2 Association, typically fine loamy soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 101). These soils overlie a drift geology of Fen sand and gravel with a solid geology of Jurassic Oxford Clay also outcropping at the site (GSGB 1972).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Horbling is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Bronze Age to the present day. South of the village are two early Bronze Age barrows, both of which are scheduled ancient monuments.

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Sandygate Lane, which lies to the east of the development, is thought to have originated as a Roman road connecting Donington to Horbling and beyond to the Roman settlement at Sapperton (Simmons 1975, 75). Roman pottery has been recovered 700m southwest of the church and may mark the position of a settlement.

Horbling is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as *Orbelinge*, the name is derived from the Old English and means the '*Billingas* by the mud (*horh*)', the *Billingas* being a group or tribal name that gave its name to the nearby village of Billingborough (Cameron 1998, 65). At the time of Domesday the land was held by the Archbishop of York, Count Alan, Colsuain, Guy of Craon and Waldin the Breton and contained a church and at least 57 acres of meadow (Foster and Longley 1976).

The only extant remains of the medieval period is the church of St. Andrew which largely dates to the 11^{th} century with additions of $13^{\text{th}} - 14^{\text{th}}$ century date (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 392). A desk-based assessment of the site identified ridge and furrow of the medieval field system surviving immediately west of the site (Ripper 2002, 17).

A watching brief undertaken to the north of the church identified a medieval ditch along with undated ditches and pits (Cope-Faulkner 1997, 1). A further watching brief undertaken to the east of the site revealed an undated ditch and pit with finds including medieval pottery (Bradley-Lovekin 2003, 1).

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, topsoil was partially removed from the site. Foundation trenches 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 and 1:20. Recording was standard undertaken according to Archaeological Project Services' practice.

Following excavation finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 3). The records were also checked 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.

5. **RESULTS**

Following post-excavation analysis five phases were identified;

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Undated deposits
Phase 3	Saxon deposits
Phase 4	Medieval deposits
Phase 5	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

Natural deposits in Plots 1 and 2

comprised a yellow sandy silt and gravel (004) that measured in excess of 0.6m thick. In Plot 3, natural was recorded as a yellow silty clay (015) and in Plot 4 as a yellow silty clay with gravel (025).

Phase 2 Undated deposits

Located on the eastern side of Plot 1 (Fig. 4) was a northwest-southeast aligned ditch (003). This was over 14m long by 3.5m wide and deeper than 0.6m (Fig. 8, Sections 1 and 2) and contained a single fill of brown sandy silt (002).

Located 5m to the west of the ditch was a large feature (008), probably a quarry pit. This measured over 8m long and over 3m wide and deeper than 0.7m. A single fill of brown sandy silt (007) was recorded.

A ditch was also identified in Plot 2 (010) aligned north-south (Fig. 5). Measuring over 12.5m long, 2.4m wide and deeper than 0.66m (Fig. 9, Section 4), this contained a single fill of brownish grey sandy silt (009).

Overlying natural deposits in Plot 3 was a layer of greenish brown clayey silt (014). This was 0.4m thick and was interpreted as a subsoil.

Located centrally within Plot 4 (Fig. 7) were two indeterminate features (022) and (023), perhaps also quarry pits. These were both filled by grey silty clay (021).

Phase 3 Saxon deposits

Cut into natural deposits on the north side of Plot 2 was a feature (012), possibly a pit. This measured 1.78m wide and 0.9m deep (Fig. 9, Section 5) and contained a single fill of grey sandy silt (011). A single sherd of Charnwood Ware dating to between the 5th and 8th centuries was retrieved from the fill.

Phase 4 Medieval deposits

Located in the southwest corner of Plot 4 was a large pit (019). This was over 5.09m long and over 3.1m wide and measured 1.93m deep (Fig. 10, Section 8). A single fill of grey silty clay (019) was recorded from which a sherd of Bourne Ware was recovered.

Phase 5 Recent deposits

Cutting the undated pit (008) in Plot 1 was an oval pit (006) that was 3m long by 2m wide and 0.7m deep. This contained a fill of grey sandy silt with modern debris (005) including 20th century glass bottles. Sealing this and all other deposits in Plots 1 and 2 was the current topsoil of grey clayey silt (001).

A modern manhole was recorded in Plot 3 (013). This was 1.5m wide and 0.75m deep and had been backfilled with grey clayey silt (017). This was sealed by a 0.14m thick demolition deposit of mixed brick, stone sand and gravel (016).

Sealing deposits in Plot 4 was a topsoil of grey silty clay with modern debris (020) and grey sandy clay (024).

6. **DISCUSSION**

Natural deposits (Phase 1) comprise sandy silts and clayey silts with gravel. These can be related to the glaciofluvial deposits of the underlying drift geology of Fen sand and gravel.

Undated deposits (Phase 2) comprise two ditches, two possible quarry pits and a subsoil, all of which are undated due to a lack of artefactual material. The ditches are broadly parallel and may have once formed boundaries. The two possible quarry pits would have been used to extract the underlying sand and gravel, perhaps for building. A subsoil may imply that the site was under an agricultural regime at some time in the past.

A single Saxon pit was recorded (Phase 3) which attests to early activity in the village. A third possible quarry pit was identified as being medieval in date (Phase 4).

Finds retrieved from the investigation include single sherds of Saxon and medieval pot. Other finds include a number of 20^{th} century glass bottles.

7. CONCLUSION

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at Billingborough Road, Horbling, as the site lay close to the medieval core of the village and in proximity to prehistoric and Romano-British remains.

The earliest remains encountered during the investigation comprise a Saxon pit and a medieval quarry pit. A further two ditches were recorded and, along with two quarry pits and a subsoil, are undated due to a lack of artefactual material.

Saxon and medieval pottery was collected along with modern glass bottles.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr R.S. Knight of Digby Developments Limited for commissioning the fieldwork and postexcavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Dale Trimble who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Jenny Young, the South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist, kindly allowed access to the library and parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Dale Trimble Site Supervisors: Aaron Clements, Mary Nugent, Mark Peachey, Steve Williams Finds processing: Denise Buckley Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner Post-excavation analysis: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

- APS Archaeological Project Services
- GSGB Geological Survey of Great Britain
- IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists
- ULAS University of Leicester Archaeological Services

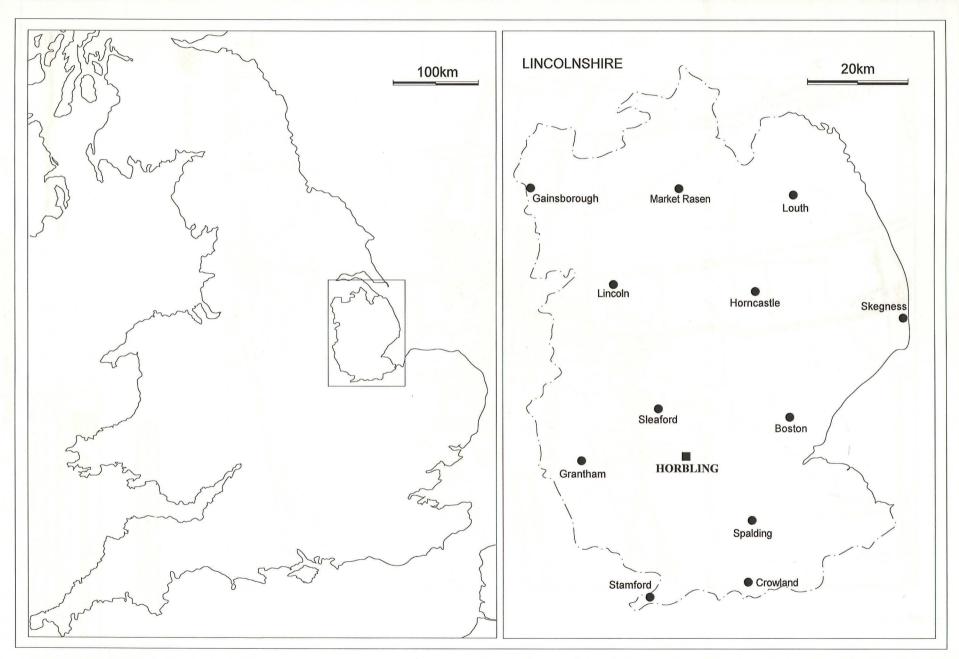
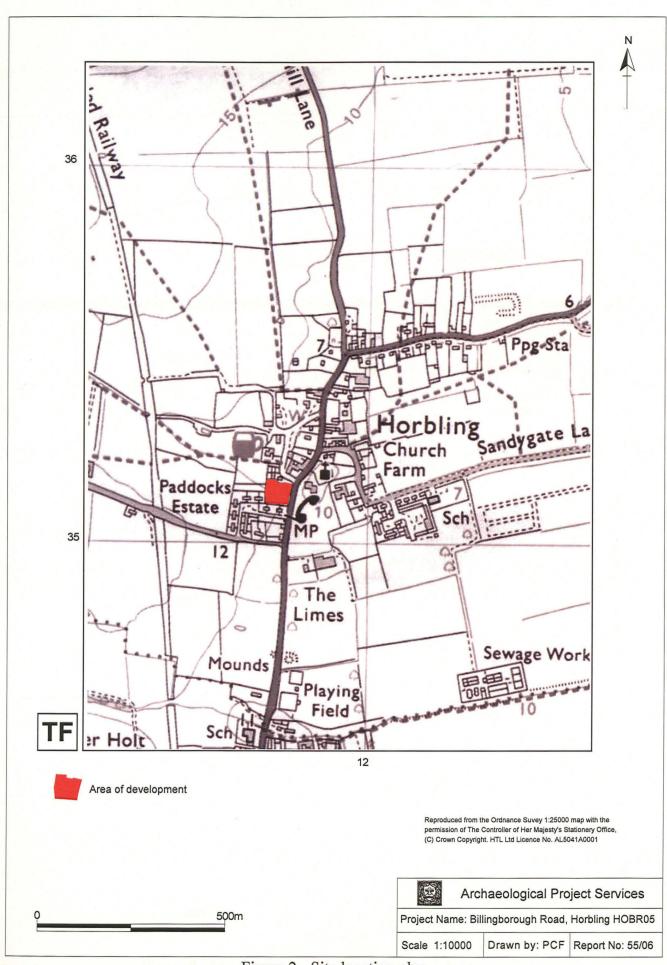
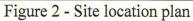
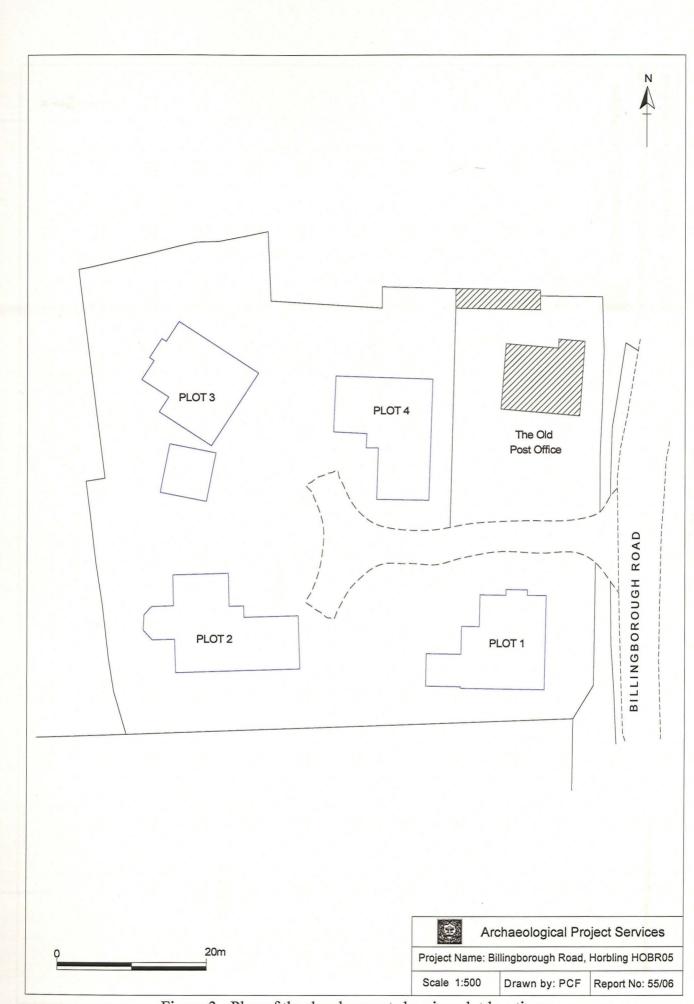


Figure 1 - General Location Plan







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Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing plot locations

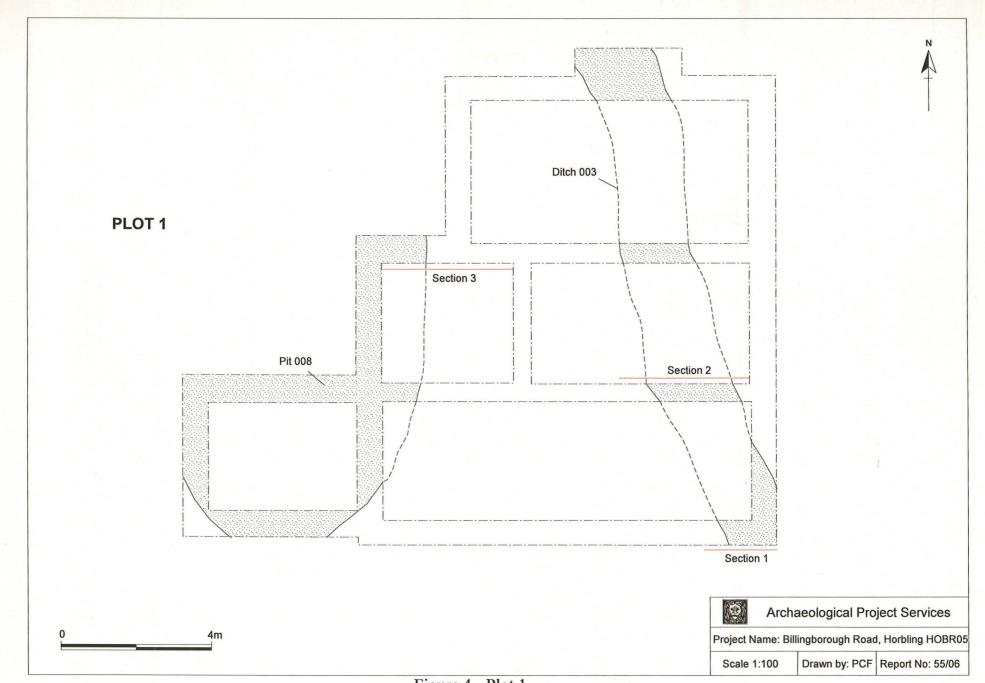


Figure 4 - Plot 1

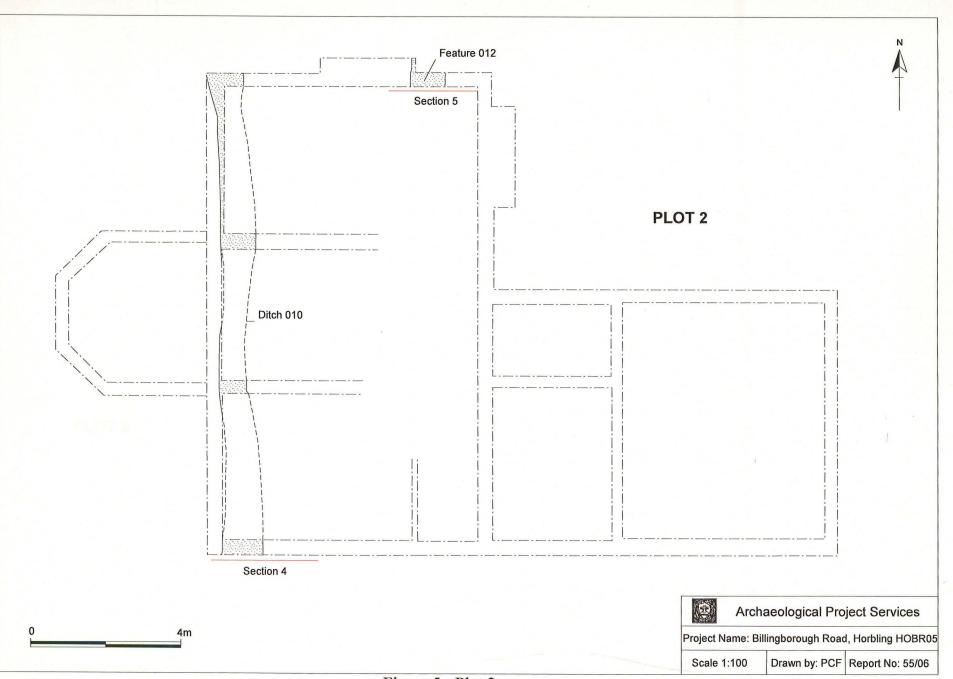
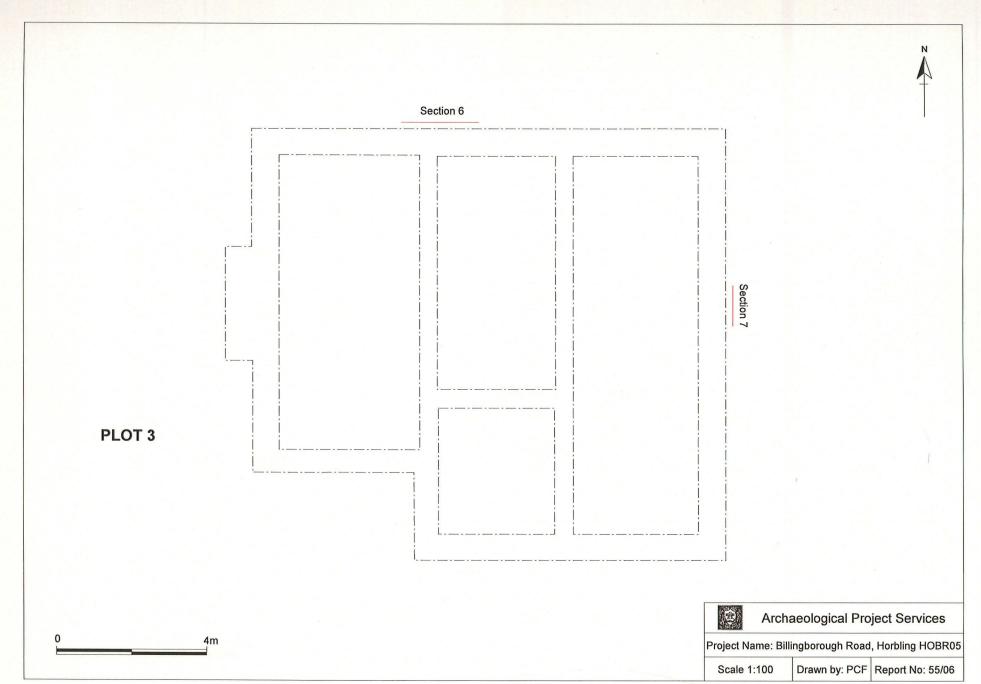


Figure 5 - Plot 2



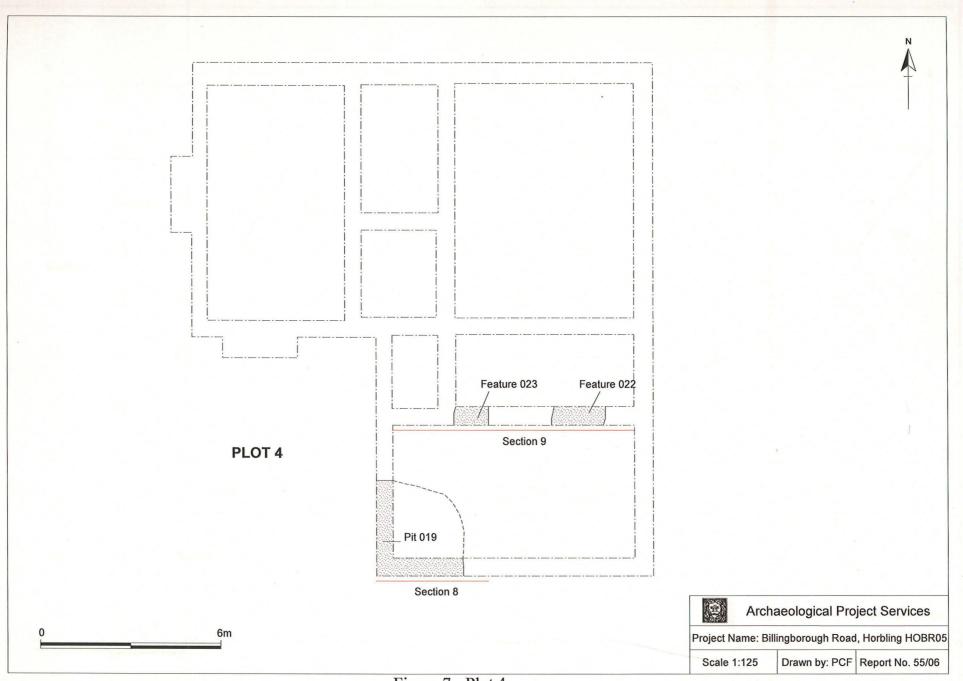


Figure 7 - Plot 4

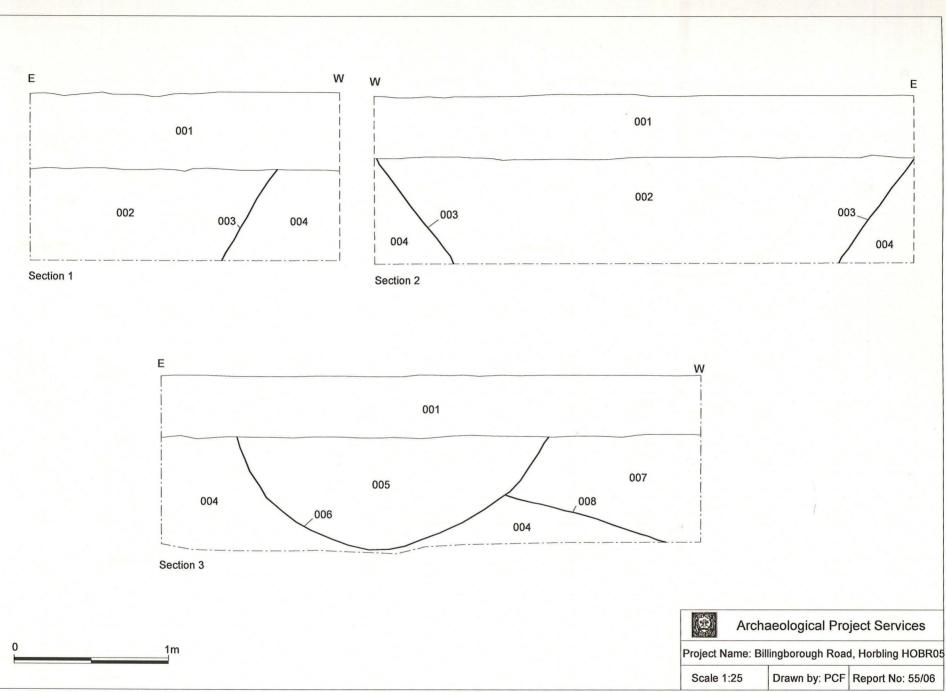


Figure 8 - Sections 1 to 3

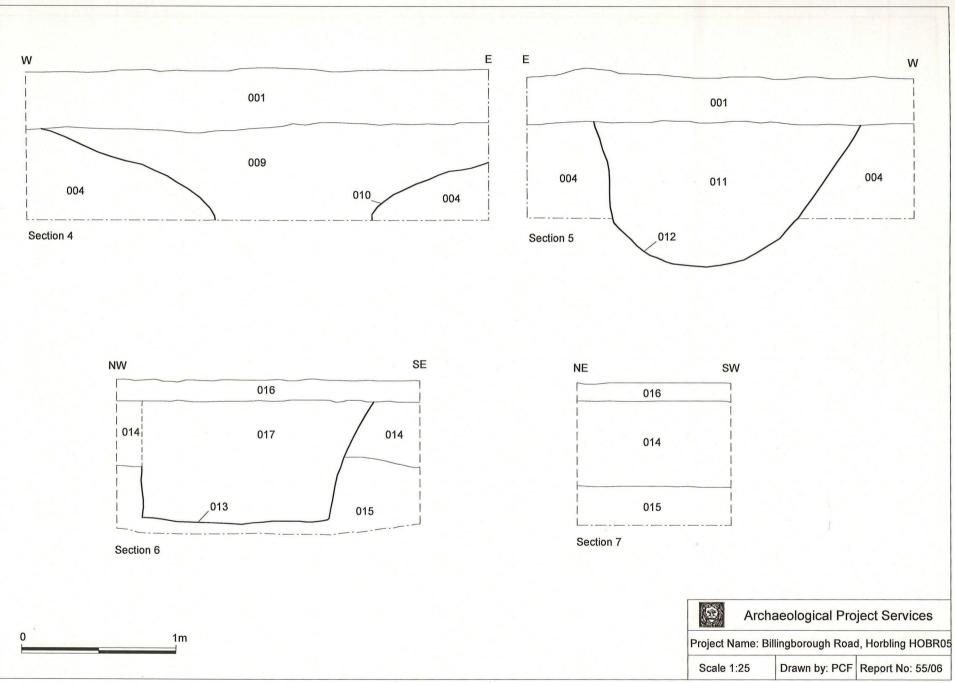
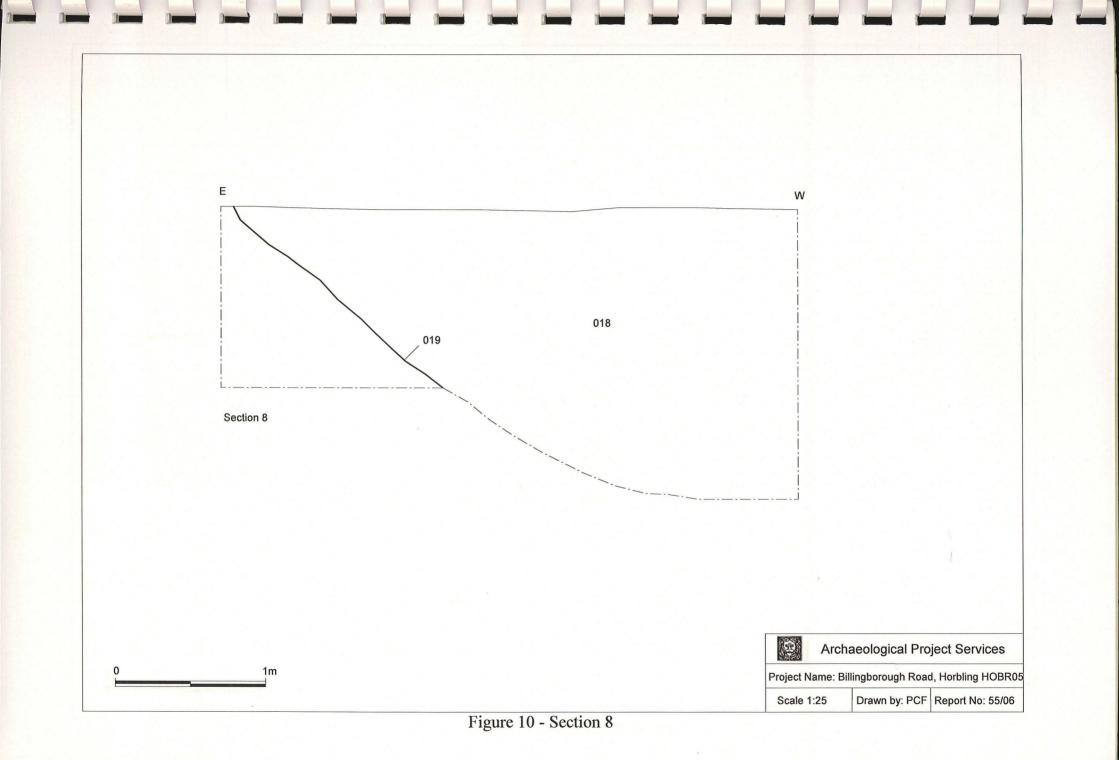


Figure 9 - Sections 4 to 7



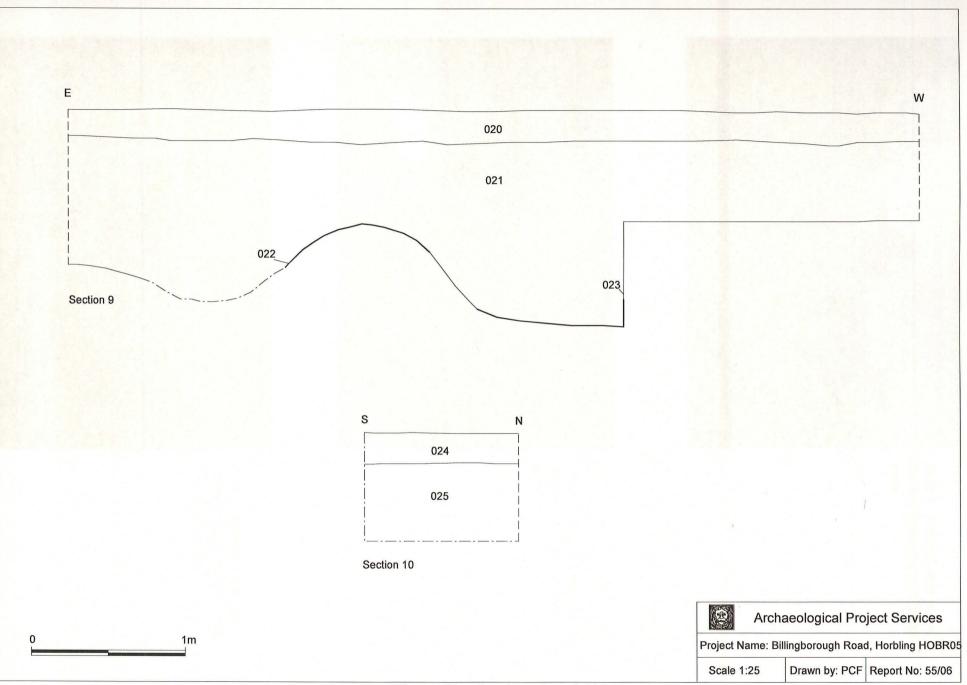


Figure 11 - Sections 9 and 10



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Plate 1 - General view across the development area, looking south



Plate 2 - Section 2 showing the undated ditch (003), looking northwest



Plate 3 - Section 9 with the undated quarry pits (022) and (023), looking south



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Plate 4 - Section 8 showing the undated quarry pit (019), looking south

LAND AT THE OLD POST OFFICE, BILLINGBOROUGH ROAD, HORBLING, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 A watching brief is required during construction of four dwellings at The Old Post Office, Billingborough Road, Horbling, Lincolnshire
- 1.2 The area is archaeologically sensitive, lying within the core of the historic village and close to the medieval church of St. Andrew.
- 1.3 The watching brief will be undertaken during groundworks associated with the development. The archaeological features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.
- 1.4 On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the watching brief. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for an archaeological watching brief during construction of four dwellings at the site of the Old Post Office, Billingborough Road, Horbling, 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 Horbling is located in the South Kesteven District of Lincolnshire, 20km east of Grantham and 22km southwest of Boston. The works are to take place at The Old Post Office, Billingborough Road in the centre of the village, southwest of the parish church, at National Grid Reference TF 1176 3512.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 A planning application (S02/0056/44) was submitted to South Kesteven District Council for the demolition of existing structures and construction of four dwellings at the Old Post Office, Billingborough Road, Horbling. The Old Post Office building is to remain on the site. Planning permission has been granted subject to a condition requiring the undertaking of an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the development. A survey of ridge and furrow requested as part of the archaeological condition was not undertaken as a site visit prior to construction did not identify any extant earthworks. Subsequent to the visit, a Desk Based Assessment (Ripper, 2002) of the area of the development became available and it was possible to determine that the ridge and furrow earthworks mentioned in the brief lie outside of the current area of investigation.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 Local soils are the Badsey 2 Association typical fine loamy soils over calcareous gravels (Hodge et

al. 1984, 101). The site is on fairly flat land at a height of 7m OD.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Horbling is in an area of prehistoric and later remains. South of the village are two Bronze Age barrows (graves). Sandygate Lane, located on the east side of the villagem, is thought to have originated as a Roman road connecting Donington to Horbling and beyond to the Roman settlement at Sapperton. Horbling is first referred to in the Domesday Book of 1086 when it comprised several manors with a church (Foster and Longley 1976). The place-name is of Old English (early Saxon) origin and means '*Billings* on muddy land, the *Billings*, or *Bilmingas*, being a local Saxon tribe (Cameron 1998).
- 6.2 The site is located approximately 150m southwest south of the parish church of St. Andrew. This dates to the 11th century, with 13th-14th century additions and is probably on the site of the church mentioned in Domesday (Pevner and Harris 1989, 392).
- 6.3 A watching brief undertaken in 1997 during development along Sandygate Lane revealed a large ditch of apparent 12th century date that may have once formed the churchyard boundary. Other ditches and pits were revealed but were undated (Archaeological Project Services 1997). Results of a later watching brief undertaken in 2002, also along Sandygate Lane, were largely negative (Archaeological Project Services 2002).
- 6.4 The current development site is likely to be located in the medieval village core. However, ridge and furrow earthworks survive in an area of pasture immediately to the west of the proposed area of development, suggesting that this area may have been under arable cultivation during the medieval period (Ripper, 2002).

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

8 SITE OPERATIONS

- 8.1 General considerations
 - 8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the 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 ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.
- 8.2.2 Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.
- 8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis. A metal detector may be used to assist artefact recovery.
- 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 trench.
 - 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 trenches and archaeological features.
- Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10 REPORT DEPOSITION

10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the Client; 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 notice in writing of the commencement of the project.

14 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 14.1 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.
- 14.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- 14.3 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.

15 VARIATION AND CONTINGENCIES

- 15.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 15.2 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).
- 15.3 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
- 15.4 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.

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>	Body to be undertaking the work
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
Animal Bones	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
Environmental Analysis	J Rackham, Independent Specialist
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, Independent Specialist

17 INSURANCES

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

18 COPYRIGHT

- 18.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.
- 18.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.
- 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.

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Specification: Version 1, 26th January 2005

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Plot	Description	Interpretation
001	1, 2	Soft dark grey clayey silt, 0.4m – 0.5m thick	Topsoil
002	1	Soft mid brown sandy silt	Fill of (003)
003	1	Linear feature, aligned northwest-southeast, >14m long by 3.5m wide by >0.6m deep, steep sides, not fully excavated	Ditch
004	1, 2	Firm mid yellow sandy silt and gravel, >0.6m thick	Natural deposit
005	1	Loose dark grey sandy silt with frequent modern debris	Fill of (006)
006	1	Oval feature, 3m long by 2m wide and 0.7m deep, gradual sides and rounded base	Pit
007	1	Soft mid brown sandy silt	Fill of (008)
008	1	Feature, >8m long by >3m wide by >0.7m deep, gradual sides, not fully excavated	Pit
009	2	Firm light brownish grey sandy silt	Fill of (010)
010	2	Linear feature, aligned north-south, >12.5m long by >2.4m wide by >0.66m deep, gradual sides becoming steeper, not fully excavated	Ditch
011	2	Firm mid grey sandy silt	Fill of (012)
012	2	Feature, 1.78m wide by 0.9m deep, steep sides and rounded base	Pit
013	3	Feature, 1.5m wide by 0.75m deep, vertical sides and flat base	Manhole
014	3	Firm mid to dark greenish brown clayey silt, 0.4m thick	Subsoil
015	3	Firm mid yellow silty clay, >0.43m thick	Natural deposit
016	3	Loose mixed mid grey and yellow brick, stone, sand and gravel, 0.14m thick	Demolition deposit
017	3	Loose dark grey clayey silt	Fill of (013)
018	4	Soft dark grey silty clay	Fill of (019)
019	4	Feature, >5.09m long by >3.13m wide by 1.93m deep, gradual sides, not fully excavated	Quarry pit
020	4	Firm dark grey silty clay, with frequent modern debris, 0.2m thick	Topsoil
021	4	Soft mid grey silty clay	Fill of (022) and (023)
022	4	Linear feature, aligned north-south, >1.7m wide by 1.1m deep, gradual sides and rounded base	Quarry pit
023	4	Linear feature, aligned north-south, >2.5m wide by 1.7m deep, steep side to west and vertical to east, not fully excavated	Quarry pit
024	4	Firm dark grey sandy clay, 0.2m thick	Topsoil
025	4	Firm dark yellow silty clay with frequent small gravel, > 0.5m thick	Natural deposit

THE FINDS

by Jane Young 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. Two fragment of pottery weighing 21g were recovered from two separate contexts. In addition to the pottery, four glass bottles weighing a total of 1210g, were retrieved. No faunal remains were recovered.

Provenance

The material was recovered from pit fills (005 and 011) and the fill of a quarry pit (018).

The earlier pottery was made some distance from the site, in Leicestershire, though the later piece was manufactured in proximity to Horbling, at Bourne, 15km to the south.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: Potterv

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
011	CHARN	Charnwood ware	1	6	5 th -8 th century
018	BOU	Bourne D ware jug	1	15	15 th -17 th century

Table 2: Other Artefacts

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
005	Glass	Dark green bottle, embossed trademark: KOPS REG ^D , early 20 th century	1	709	20 th century
	Glass	Green bottle, screw top, early 20 th century	1	248	
	Glass	Colourless flat moulded bottle, 20 th century	1	114	
	Glass	Brown screw-top bottle, embossed: 4 ^{oz} BOVRIL LIMITED 358, 20 th century	1	139	

All the bottles are complete and indicate refuse dumping at the site during the 20th century.

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 Horbling that are the subjects of reports. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

Although only two pieces of pottery were recovered one is a relatively scarce Early-Middle Saxon ceramic and has moderate local potential and significance and indicates human activity, though of indeterminate nature, in the vicinity of the site at that time. The collection of early modern bottles is of limited local potential.

While isolated fragments of Saxon and late medieval-early post-medieval pottery were found, the dearth of material earlier than the 20th 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., Nenk, 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

GLOSSARY

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 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).
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Layer	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
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 1 st 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.

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- Context records 25
- Photographic record sheet 1
- 11 Sheets of scale drawings
- 1 Stratigraphic matrix 1
- Bag of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

The Collection Art and Archaeology in Lincolnshire Danes Terrace Lincoln LN2 1LP

Accession Number:	2005.28
Archaeological Project Services Site Code:	HOBR 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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