ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWALKING ON LAND BETWEEN BRACEBOROUGH AND CARLBY LINCOLNSHIRE (BREP 06)

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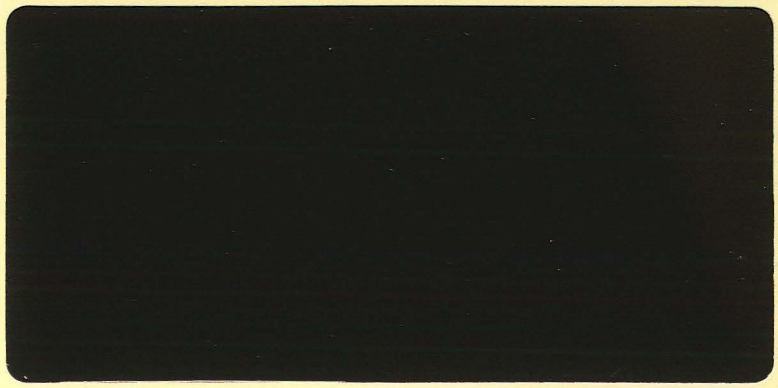

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWALKING ON LAND BETWEEN BRACEBOROUGH AND CARLBY LINCOLNSHIRE (BREP 06)

Work Undertaken For
Anglian Water

October 2006

Report Compiled by
Michael Wood BA (Hons) Mlitt AIFA

National Grid Reference: TF 0804 1350 to 0520 1323
City and County Museum Accession No: 2006.237

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES

APS Report No. **163/06**

Quality Control
Braceborough to Essendine Pipeline, Lincolnshire (BREP06)

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Finds Processing	Denise Buckley
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1. SUMMARY

A programme of fieldwalking was undertaken along the route of a proposed water pipeline between Braceborough and Essendine, passing between the villages of Braceborough and Carlby, Lincolnshire.

The route of the pipeline passes near cropmarks of prehistoric, Roman and medieval date. In addition the proposed pipeline would pass near cropmarks of a possible prehistoric barrow cemetery.

This investigation revealed low levels of artefacts along the route, with a small concentration of probable Romano-British tile and metal smelting slag near the western terminal of the proposed route.

Finds retrieved during the investigation include sherds of Roman and medieval pottery along with a quantity of post-medieval and later ceramics. Roman, medieval and later ceramic building material was also recovered. Other finds include industrial residues of possible Roman iron-smelting slag.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Anglian Water to undertake fieldwalking along the route of a proposed water pipeline on land between Braceborough and Carlby, Lincolnshire with part of the pipeline route extending into the parish of Essendine, Rutland. This programme of fieldwalking followed on from a previous desk-based assessment of the proposed route (Cope-Faulkner 2006).

Fieldwalking was undertaken on the 4th October 2006.

2.2 Topography and Geology

Braceborough and Carlby are located on the county boundary with Rutland, approximately 6-7km northeast of Stamford, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The proposed route options assessed in the desk-based assessment of the pipeline begins to the north of Braceborough at National Grid Reference TF 0804 1350 and bypasses the village to the southwest. Two possible routes were devised west of the village and both meet the road between Braceborough and Carlby. Prior to commencement of the field survey a third option was chosen at the eastern end of the route and ends south of Carlby at National Grid Reference TF 0520 1323 (Fig. 2).

The proposed route traverses land between the West and East Glen Rivers. Near Braceborough, heights are in the vicinity of *c.* 12m OD and rise to a maximum of 34m OD to the west of Grange Farm. Heights then drop down to *c.* 23m OD at its western terminus.

The pipeline traverses soils of the Elmton 1, Elmton 3 and Denchworth Associations. Denchworth Association soils are extensive around Braceborough and comprise pelostagnogley soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 155). Elmton 3 Association, typically brashy calcareous fine loamy soils, and Elmton 1 Association, shallow brown rendzinas, are found to the west of the pipeline route.

These soils overlie Jurassic Kellaways Sands and Clays in the vicinity of Braceborough with outcrops of glacially derived till near Grange Farm and to the west. Jurassic Cornbrash, Blisworth Clay and Limestone and Upper Estuarine Series are traversed in the vicinity of Carlby (BGS 1978).

2.3 Archaeological Setting

Cropmarks of probable prehistoric date are known along the proposed route, including a possible Bronze Age barrow cemetery near the western terminal. Find spots of Bronze Age axe heads were recovered from this area in the 19th century.

A possible Roman site has been highlighted from aerial photographs, located directly south of the western end of the pipeline. In addition potsherds of Romano-British date were identified in a recent walkover of the possible barrow cemetery (Cope-Faulkner 2006).

Braceborough and Carlby both existed at the time of the Domesday survey of 1086. Braceborough is derived from the Old English *Burgh* or fortified place (Cameron 1998). Carlby derives from Old Norse and translates as Karli's farmstead (Cameron *ibid*). The Domesday Book records Braceborough and now deserted Banthorpe as containing 2 mills, 47 acres of meadow and a part share in a church (Foster and Longley 1976). By contrast Carlby is recorded as a smaller settlement, notable for 20 acres of meadow and 80 acres of woodland suitable for pannage (Foster and Longley *ibid*).

St. Margaret's church was built *c.*1300 within the centre of Braceborough village, although has been substantially rebuilt in the 18th century (Pevsner 1989). The remains of ridge and furrow farming as well as findspots of medieval pottery are known near the proposed route.

Post-medieval archaeology is represented by buildings in and around Braceborough, including the 17th century building of Manor Farm (Pevsner *ibid*) located directly northeast of the eastern of the proposed route.

3. AIMS

The aim of the archaeological investigation was to retrieve any artefacts revealed along the proposed route, accurately survey in their location and provide preliminary dating for these findspots.

4. METHODS

Fieldwalking was undertaken along the proposed route of the Braceborough to Essendine pipeline, which passes between Braceborough and Carlby (Fig. 3). The route crossed nine fields of agricultural land either under pasture or low-level crops. Ten metre wide transects were made across the fields to maximise coverage. Artefacts were collected, numbered and surveyed in by GPS. Where fields were under crop, transects followed the direction of planted rows.

Following fieldwalking, finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 1).

5. RESULTS

A total of nine fields were to be walked, labelled A to I (Figs. 3 & 4). However Fields D, E and I were not investigated due to being under either heavy crop coverage or permanent pasture.

Field A

Field A was located at the western end of the proposed pipeline route (Figs. 3 & 4). This field was fairly level with a gentle slope to the west and under a 10-15cm cover of winter wheat. Low-level crop cover and lightly weathered ploughsoil allowed good visibility for fieldwalking during this investigation. Moderate quantities of artefacts from prehistoric to recent date were recovered, including

small concentrations of probable Roman building material and iron smelting slag.

Field B

Field B was located directly east of Field A (Figs. 3 & 4) and was also fairly level. This field was under a 15-20 cm cover of winter wheat and occasional weeds. Visibility for fieldwalking was fairly good, due to low-level crop cover and lightly weathered ploughsoil. Low levels of post-medieval artefacts were retrieved.

Field C

Field C was located directly southeast of Field B (Figs. 3 & 4). The field gently rose towards the east, and was also under a crop cover of 10-15cm high winter wheat. Ploughsoil was well-weathered, allowing good visibility for fieldwalking. Low levels of probable Roman tile and slag were recovered as well as modern and post-medieval artefacts.

Field D

Field D was located directly east of Field C (Fig. 3), and was not walked due to excessive cover (20-25cm) high of beet crop.

Field E

Field E was located directly east of Field D (Fig. 3), and was not walked due to excessive cover (20-25cm) of beet crop.

Field F

Field F was located directly east of Field E (Fig. 3), was fairly level and was under a 15-20cm high cover of winter wheat. Visibility for fieldwalking was good due to well weathered ploughsoil and low-level crop cover. Low levels of probable Roman tile were recovered, as well as post-medieval artefacts.

Field G

Field G was located directly east of Field F (Fig. 3), sloped gently to the north and was under a 15-20cm high crop of winter wheat. This field was provided fairly good visibility for fieldwalking due to lightly weathered ploughsoil and low-level crop cover. No artefacts were recovered from this field.

Field H

Field H was located directly east of Field G (Fig. 3), sloped gently to the southeast and was under a 15-20cm high crop of winter wheat. This field provided good visibility for fieldwalking due to well-weathered ploughsoil and low-level crop cover. A single post-medieval artefact was retrieved from this field.

Field I

Field I was located directly east of Field H (Fig. 3), and was not walked due to being under permanent pasture.

6. DISCUSSION

Artefacts dating from prehistoric to modern times were recovered during fieldwalking between Braceborough and Carlby. The majority of artefacts were recovered near the western end of the proposed route within fields A to C. Construction of the now disused railway line in Field A may have removed Roman material as it bisects find spots of slag and tile (Fig. 4).

A single prehistoric flint was retrieved from Field A near known probable Bronze Age cropmarks.

Roman pottery and tile was present in low levels along the route with a small concentration in Field A. Small quantities of iron smelting slag were also found near

these artefacts and may date from the Romano-British period (Appendix 1).

Medieval artefacts were found in low quantities along the proposed route with no obvious clustering of material.

Post-medieval and modern pottery, clay pipe and tile was present throughout but more dense at the western end of the proposed route, particularly in Field A. However, quantities were small and the material is likely derived from manuring scatters over arable farmland.

7. CONCLUSION

A programme of fieldwalking was undertaken along the proposed route of the Braceborough to Essendine pipeline, which passes between Braceborough and Carlby.

Fairly low levels of material were recovered throughout but were slightly denser near the western end of the proposed route. The majority of artefacts were post-medieval or modern in date and probably represent manuring scatters over arable land. However a small concentration of probable Roman tile and iron smelting slag was recovered within Field A, suggesting Romano-British remains may be preserved below the ploughsoil in this area.

Artefacts dating from prehistoric to recent times were recovered during this investigation, including probable Roman building material and iron smelting slag.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Anglian Water for commissioning this work. Rachael Hall supervised the fieldwalking and undertook GPS survey of the collected artefacts. Steve Malone coordinated the project and edited this report in conjunction with Tom Lane.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Steve Malone
Site Supervisors: Rachael Hall
Finds processing: Denise Buckley
Finds Analysis: Gary Taylor
Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
Illustration: Rachael Hall & Michael Wood
Post-excavation analysis: Michael Wood

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

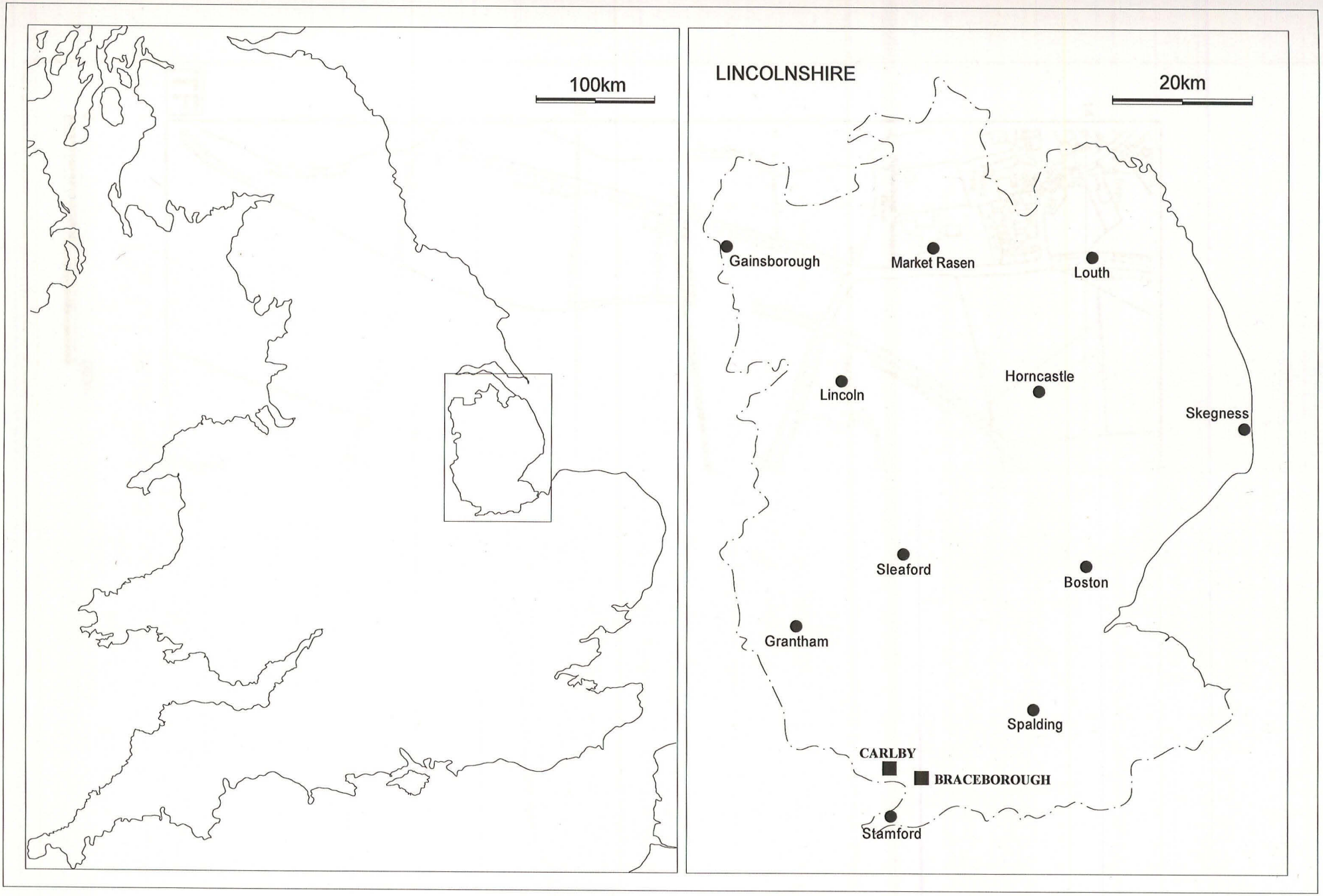


Figure 1 - General location plan

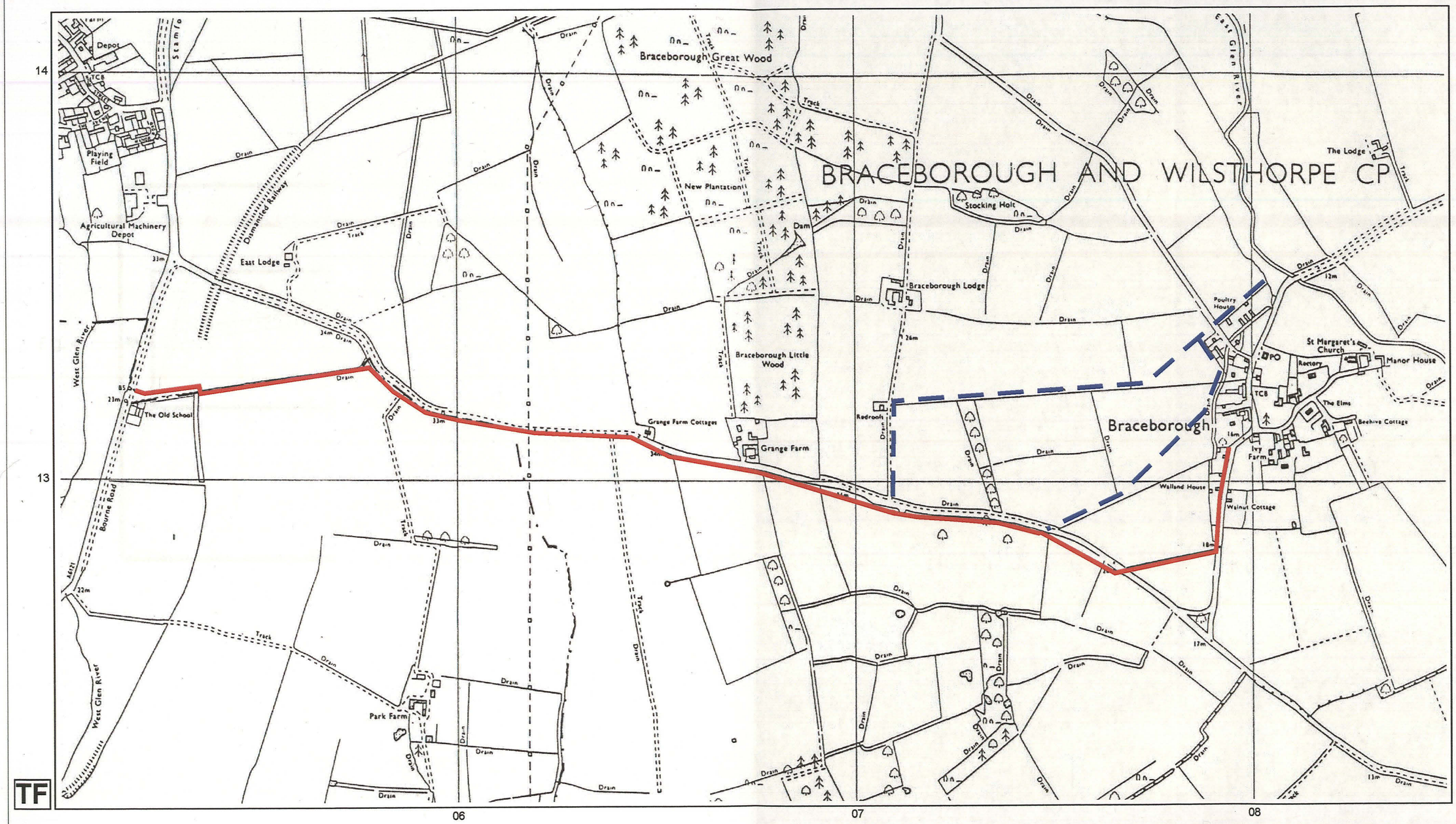
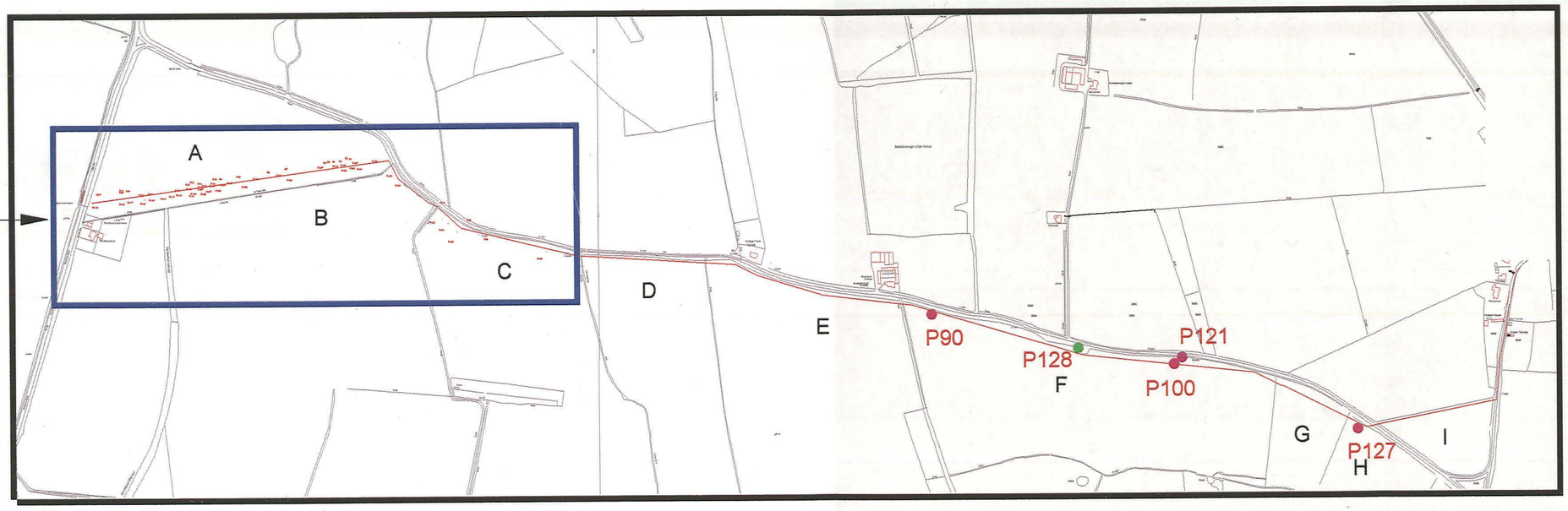


Figure 2 The route of the proposed pipeline

N

Fig. 4 →



- Modern
- Post-medieval
- Medieval
- Roman
- Prehistoric
- Slag

A Field Letter

0 500m

Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Braceborough to Essendine Pipeline (BREP06)		
Scale: 1:10,000	Drawn by: MW	Report No: 163/06

Figure 3 Fieldwalking results along proposed route of Pipeline

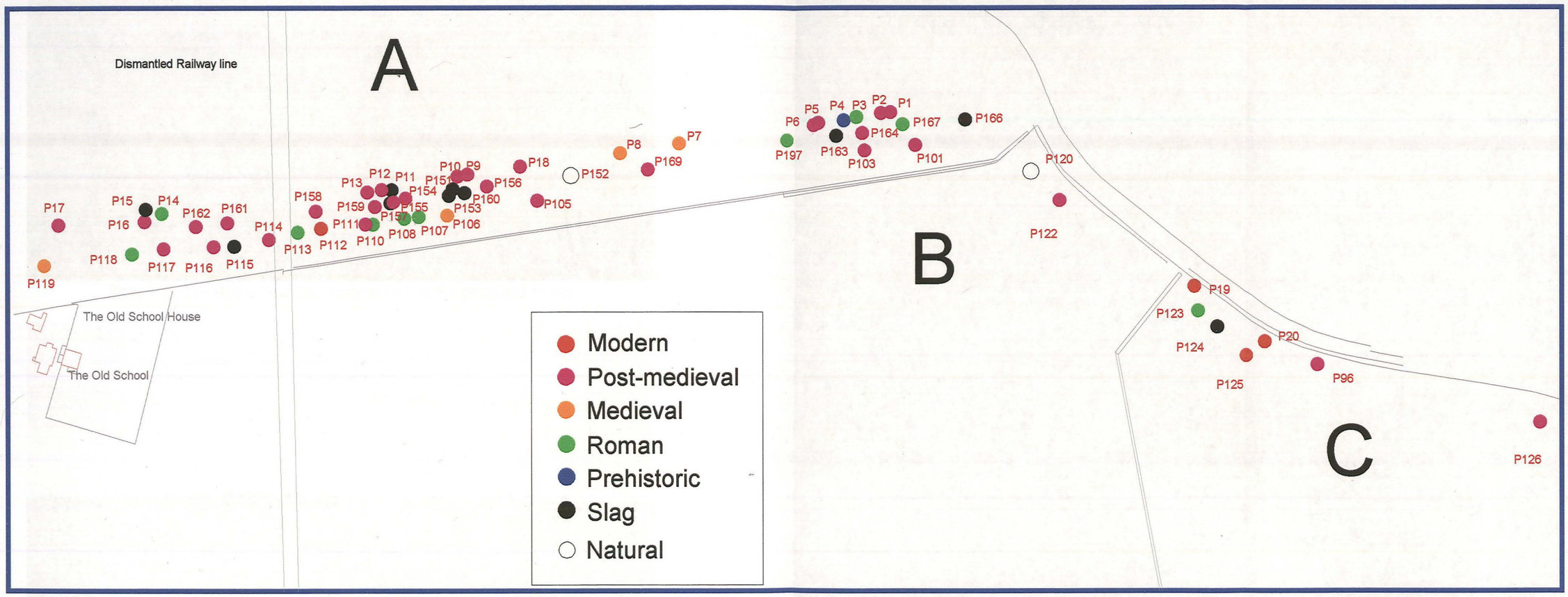


Figure 4 Fieldwalking results along western end of proposed route

PLATES

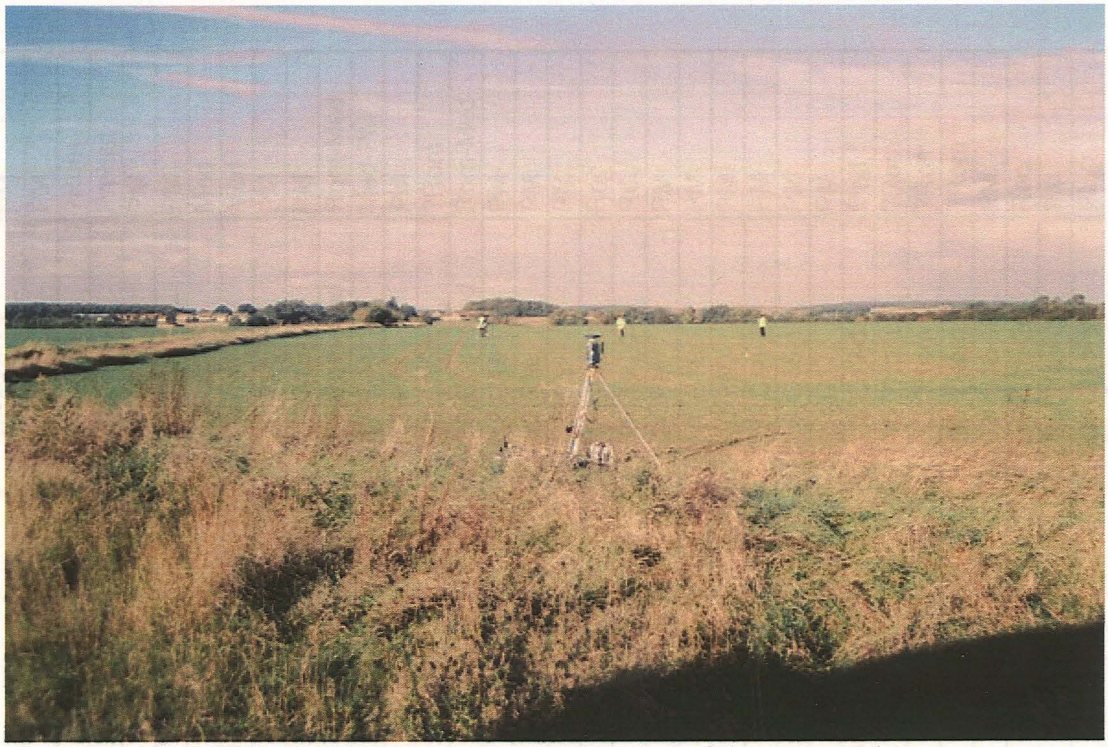


Plate 1 Fieldwalking near the western end of the proposed route.

Plate 2 Fieldwalking near disused railway line.

Appendix 1 Finds Archive
By Gary Taylor

Plot No.	Material	Description	Pottery Code	Weight (g)	Date	Period
1	Pottery	Midlands Purple ware	MP	6	C16-17	PM
2	Pottery	Staffordshire slipware	STSL	4	C18	PM
3	CBM	Brick/tile		3	?Rom	?Rom
4	Stone	Flint, waste flake		2	Prehist	Prehist
5	Pottery	Red painted black glazed earthenware	BL	5	C18	PM
6	Pottery	Red painted black glazed earthenware	BL	4	C18	PM
7	Pottery	Nottingham splashed glaze ware	NSP	3	C12-13	Med
8	Pottery	Medieval local ware, oxidised sandy	MEDLOC	4	C12-15	Med
9	CBM	Brick/tile		20	PM	PM
10	Pottery	Bourne D ware	BOU	8	C15-17	PM
11	Indust Residue	Iron smelting slag		44	Rom-Med	Rom-Med
12	Pottery	?Bourne D ware	?BOU	7	C14-16	Med-PM
13	CBM	Tile		33	PM	PM
14	CBM	Tile, very abraded		8	?Rom	?Rom
15	Indust Residue	Iron smelting slag		38	Rom-Med	Rom-Med
16	Pottery	Red painted black glazed earthenware	BL	2	C18	PM
17	CBM	Tile		30	PM	PM
18	CBM	Brick/tile		4	PM	PM
19	Pottery	Late stoneware	LSTON	11	19-20	Rec
20	CBM	Tile		98	19-20	Rec
90	CBM	Tile		34	PM	PM
96	Clay pipe	Stem, bore 4/64"		1	C19	PM
100	CBM	Tile		110	PM	PM
101	CBM	Tile		51	C18-20	PM
103	Pottery	Bourne D ware, abraded	BOU	8	C15-17	PM
105	Clay pipe	Stem, bore 6/64", abraded		2	C17	PM
106	Pottery	Medieval local ware, oxidised sandy, abraded	MEDLOC	7	C12-15	Med
107	CBM	Tile, very abraded		10	?Rom	?Rom
108	CBM	Tile, very abraded		12	?Rom	?Rom
110	CBM	Tile, very abraded		15	?Rom	?Rom
111	CBM	Handmade brick, mortar adhering		73	C18-19	PM
112	CBM	Field drain		75	C19-20	Rec
113	CBM	Handmade brick		20	PM	PM
114	CBM	Handmade brick, mortar adhering		202	C18-20	PM
115	CBM	Tile		25	PM	PM

Appendix 1 Finds Archive
By Gary Taylor

115	Indust Residue	Iron smelting slag		84	Rom-Med	Rom-Med
116	CBM	Tile		16	PM	PM
117	CBM	Tile		66	PM	PM
118	CBM	Tile, very abraded		44	?Rom	?Rom
119	Pottery	Medieval local ware, oxidised sandy	MEDLOC	6	C12-15	Med
120	Stone	Burnt stone		14	0	0
121	CBM	Handmade brick		55	PM	PM
122	CBM	Tile		55	PM	PM
123	CBM	Brick/tile		20	?Rom	?Rom
124	Indust Residue	Iron smelting slag		17	Rom-Med	Rom-Med
125	Clay pipe	Stem, bore 4/64"		2	C19	Rec
126	Pottery	Brown glazed earthenware	BERTH	23	C17-18	PM
127	CBM	Handmade brick		42	PM	PM
128	CBM	Brick/tile		15	?Rom	?Rom
151	Indust Residue	Iron smelting slag		27	Rom-Med	Rom-Med
152	Stone	Flint, natural		20	0	0
153	Indust Residue	Iron smelting slag		445	Rom-Med	Rom-Med
154	CBM	Tile		12	PM	PM
155	Pottery	Plant pot	UGRE	18	C18-20	PM
156	Pottery	Red painted black glazed earthenware	BL	35	C17-18	PM
157	Indust Residue	Iron smelting slag		65	Rom-Med	Rom-Med
158	Pottery	Blackware	BL	2	C17-18	PM
159	CBM	Tile, mortar adhering		55	PM	PM
160	Indust Residue	Iron smelting slag		62	Rom-Med	Rom-Med
161	Pottery	Red painted black glazed earthenware	BL	4	C18	PM
162	Pottery	Red painted black glazed earthenware	BL	6	C18	PM
163	Indust Residue	Iron smelting slag		33	Rom-Med	Rom-Med
164	Pottery	Black glazed earthenware	BL	45	C17-18	PM
166	Indust Residue	Iron smelting slag		110	Rom-Med	Rom-Med
167	CBM	Tile		24	?Rom	?Rom
169	Pottery	Bourne D ware	BOU	13	C15-17	PM
197	Pottery	?Greyware	?GREY	3	?Rom	?Rom

Appendix 1 Finds Archive
By Gary Taylor

Abbreviations

C	Century
CBM	Ceramic Building Material
Med	Medieval (c. 1000-1500AD)
PM	Post-medieval (c. 1500-1850)
Prehist	Prehistoric (before 50AD)
Rec	Recent (c. 1850-present)
Rom	Roman (c. 50-400AD)

Plotting of the finds distribution reveals a generally thin spread of artefacts across the examined area, though the artefacts are significantly more abundant toward the western end of the route, along the parish boundary between Carlby and Essendine. Although this might be due to the proximity of the two settlements, the concentration is not matched at the eastern end of the route, which approaches the village of Braceborough much more closely than the western section impinges on either Carlby or Essendine.

Artefacts of post-medieval date are the most abundant, though still not greatly numerous. Although more plentiful toward the western end of the route the densities of material are not great enough to suggest the location of former buildings or similar. Rather, the greater quantities of material in this area probably reflect more intensive manuring scatter on agricultural land. It is probable that most of the artefacts, of all periods, entered the area in manuring scatter. A possible exception to this is a small concentration of iron smelting slag found toward the western end of the surveyed route. Although the quantities recovered are not enough to suggest iron production at this location (as this industrial process generates large quantities of slag), this small cluster of finds may indicate smelting occurred not too far distant. Although the slag is recorded as 'Roman-medieval', due to the difficulty of differentiating between smelting slags of the Roman and medieval periods (they share morphological similarities), it is likely that this industrial residue is of the Roman period. Of potential significance in relation to this and the slag distribution is the location of a small quantity of abraded tile which may be Roman in date. This tile is also not abundant but there are a few slight clusters of them, including where the small slag concentration is, and there are other tentative groupings, or associations, of slag and ?Roman tile.

Appendix 2

GLOSSARY

Anglo-Saxon	Pertaining to the period when Britain was occupied by peoples from northern Germany, Denmark and adjacent areas. The period dates from approximately AD 450-1066.
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.
Domesday Survey	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
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-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.
Ridge and Furrow	The remains of arable cultivation consisting of raised rounded strips separated by furrows. It is characteristic of open field agriculture.
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.

Appendix 3

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

5	Fieldwalking record sheets
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Daily record sheet
1	Box of finds

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:

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

Accession Number: 2006.237

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: BREP06

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.