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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION ON LAND OFF MILL LANE, OASBY, LINCOLNSHIRE (OAWP06)

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION ON LAND OFF MILL LANE, OASBY, HEYDOUR LINCOLNSHIRE (OAWP06)

Work Undertaken For
Anglian Water Services

December 2006

Report Compiled by
Mark Peachey BA (Hons)

Planning Application No: S06/0865
National Grid Reference: TF 003 388
City and County Museum Accession No: 2006.251
OASIS Record No: archaeol1 - 20970

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES

REGISTERED ORGANISATION IFA

APS Report No. **186/06**

Quality Control

Archaeological Evaluation at
Proposed Water Treatment Plant,
Mill Lane,
Oasby
OAWP 06

Project Coordinator	Gary Taylor
Supervisor	Mark Peachey
Site Archaeologists	Lavinia Green, Jim Robertson, Fiona Walker
Surveying	Mark Dymond
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Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
Gary Taylor	Tom Lane
Date: 11/12/06	Date: 15th December 2006

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land to the south of Oasby, Lincolnshire. This was undertaken to assess the archaeological resource in advance of the construction of a water treatment plant with its associated access road.

The site lies close to two possible Bronze Age (2200-800 BC) barrows which are located west of a proposed new road. During the medieval period (AD 1066-1540), activity was located largely in the village to the north, although the site falls within one of the open fields as evidenced by surviving ridge and furrow. To the north of the site a number of earthworks appear to suggest the presence of quarry pits. Geophysical survey of the site identified a number of anomalies including ditches, banks and pits.

The evaluation found two ditches, one of which was dated to the Early to Mid Saxon period. A gully of possible prehistoric origin was also identified along with three post holes and three irregular pits, perhaps used for quarrying.

The earliest artefacts retrieved from the investigation comprise two flint flakes of possible Neolithic (4000-2200 BC) date. Four sherds of 5th – 8th century pottery was also retrieved along with a small quantity of animal bone.

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

Anglian Water Services applied for planning permission (Application No. S06/0865) to construct a new water treatment plant and access route at Oasby. A desk-based assessment indicated the site was in very close proximity to a possible Bronze Age barrow, evident as a circular cropmark. Medieval agricultural remains had also been recorded in the area. Subsequent geophysical survey identified various buried remains in the area, including probable ditches, banks and pits. As a result the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section advised that evaluation by trial trenching was required. The resulting evaluation was carried out in November 2006 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the Principal Archaeologist, Lincolnshire County Council (Appendix 1).

2.3 Topography and Geology

Oasby is a small hamlet in the parish of Haydor and is located 9km northeast of Grantham in the South Kesteven district of Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The proposed development site is located south of Oasby, on the south side of Mill Lane, between National Grid References TF 0030 3889 and TF 0031 3865 (Fig. 2). The site lies on a slight slope down to the south and east at heights of *c.* 77m OD overlooking a small tributary of the River Glen.

Soils at the site are Elmton 3 Association clayey brown rendzinas (Hodge *et al.* 1984). These soils overlie a drift geology of glacially-derived sands and gravels that seal Jurassic Upper and Lower limestone

(GSGB 1972).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Oasby is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric period to the present day. Immediately west of the proposed access road is a circular cropmark of a probable Bronze Age burial mound. A possible second ring ditch is also reported immediately adjacent, though may be a duplication of the first.

Oasby is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of *c.* 1086. It is referred to as *Asedebi* and is derived from the Old Danish personal name *Ásvithr* and means 'the village or farmstead (*by*) belonging to Áswith' (Cameron 1998, 94).

The Domesday Survey records that the land was held by Gilbert de Gand and contained 5 carucates of arable land, 40 acres of meadow and 30 acres of underwood (Foster and Longley 1976). Though listed separately, it is believed that Oasby, Aisby and Heydour formed a single vill during the Late Saxon period which was subsequently divided between Gilbert de Gand, who probably had his manor in Oasby, and Guy de Craon who centred his fee on the manorial centre now known as Heydour Castle (Healey and Roffe forthcoming).

The medieval settlement core lies directly north of the site and there is a possibility that former occupation may be located in the proposed development area. However, part of the area contains ridge and furrow of the medieval field system. Former quarry pits have also been identified in close proximity (Cope-Faulkner 2006). Geophysical survey of the site identified numerous anomalies of probable archaeological origin. Several ditches, some of them curvilinear, and probable former banks were recognized, along with a number of possible pits (Smalley 2006).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of the work, as detailed in the specification (Appendix 1), 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, the extent to which any surrounding archaeological features extend into the application area 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.

Three trenches (Fig. 3) were excavated by machine using a toothless ditching bucket in locations agreed with the Principal Archaeologist. Exposed surfaces of the trenches were then cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains. The trenches measured 30m x 1.5m, 25m x 1.5m and 15m x 1.5m. The location of the excavated trenches was surveyed with an EDM in relation to fixed points on boundaries and existing buildings.

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 plans at a scale of 1:20. Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

Following fieldwork, the records were examined and a stratigraphic matrix

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

5. RESULTS

Trench 1 (Fig 4)
Natural deposits within this trench comprised compacted limestone fragments (1005).

Natural deposits were cut by two features. The first, ditch (1004) was aligned northwest-southeast and was 2m wide by and 0.32m deep (Fig 5, Section 1). A lower fill of dark greyish brown sandy silt with frequent limestone fragments (1009) was overlain by less stony dark greyish brown sandy silt (1003). The upper fill contained Early to Mid Saxon pottery and animal bone. This ditch had been recognised by the earlier geophysical survey (Fig. 3).

The remaining feature was an undated probable ditch terminus (1008) which was parallel to (1004) and measured at least 1m long by 1.2m wide and 0.53m deep (Fig 5, Sections 8 and 9). Two fills were recorded, a lower of dark greyish brown sandy silt (1007) and an upper fill of mid greyish brown sandy silt with frequent limestone fragments (1006). This ditch may correspond to a magnetic anomaly recorded by geophysical survey (Fig. 3).

Overlying these features was an unusually thick (0.8m) reddish brown silt subsoil layer (1002). This was further sealed by up to 0.2m of topsoil comprising dark greyish brown silt (1001).

Trench 2 (Fig 4)
The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 2 was a layer of limestone fragments and gravel (2003), identified as natural.

This was cut by a northeast-southwest aligned gully (2005) which was 0.54m wide and 0.23m deep (Fig 5, Sections 2, 3) and was filled with a yellowish brown sandy silt (2004) that contained two struck flints of possible Neolithic date.

Sealing the gully was a mid yellowish brown sandy silt subsoil (2002) which was 0.3m thick and was overlain by a 0.24m thick topsoil of brown/black sandy silt (2001).

Trench 3 (Fig 4)
Natural comprised brownish yellow clayey sand with gravel and limestone fragments (3010).

Cutting natural towards the northern end of the trench was a circular post hole (3007). This was 0.35m in diameter and was 0.25m deep (Fig 5, Section 7). A single fill of mid greyish brown clayey silty sand (3008) was recorded.

Less than 2m to the south was another circular post hole (3005) which measured 0.45m in diameter and 0.3m deep (Fig 5, Section 6). This was filled with mid greyish brown clayey silty sand (3006).

A further 4m to the south was circular post hole (3003). This measured 0.6m in diameter by 0.47m deep (Fig 5, Section 5) and was filled with mid greyish brown silty sand (3004).

Just south of this posthole was an irregular shaped pit (3001). This was 1.3m long by at least 0.65m wide and 0.27m deep (Fig 5, Section 4). This was filled by mid reddish brown clayey silty sand (3002) from which a fragment of post-medieval brick or tile was retrieved.

Towards the southern end of the trench were two further irregular shaped pits. The first (3011) was 2.4m long by at least 0.9m wide and 0.2m deep (Fig 5, Section 10). A fill of mid greyish brown silty clayey sand (3012) was identified.

The second pit (3013) was at least 1.45m wide and 0.6m deep (Fig 5, Section 11) and was filled with dark greyish brown silty clayey sand (3014).

Sealing all deposits within this trench was a topsoil comprising a 0.4m-0.5m thick layer of brownish grey clayey silt (3009).

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits in all three trenches comprised limestone and gravel of the underlying drift geology of glacially derived sands and gravels.

Undated features comprise a ditch terminus in Trench 1, three postholes and two pits in Trench 3. The postholes form no coherent pattern, though interpretation is limited due to the size of the trench. The pits appear to have been for sand and gravel quarrying. These remain undated due to a lack of artefactual evidence.

A gully in Trench 2 contained two flint flakes of possible Neolithic date, though these may not be sufficient to date the feature. Neolithic finds are rare in the immediate vicinity, though Bronze Age remains occur close to the site.

The remaining ditch in Trench 1 was dated to the Early-Mid Saxon period. It is possible that Saxon settlement is located in the vicinity as most of the animal bone from the site was retrieved from the ditch. The undated ditch lies parallel to this which might suggest they are contemporary.

Subsoil varied in thickness from 0.8m in Trench 1, to 0.2m in Trench 2 and absent from Trench 3. Such variations in subsoil thickness may be related to the recorded ridge and furrow at the site.

The remaining pit in Trench 3, also a probable quarry pit, contained a fragment of late post-medieval brick or tile indicating a possible date for its excavation, which may also be contemporary with the undated examples. These quarries may be related to others identified in the area previously (Cope-Faulkner 2006).

Some of the archaeological features appear to correspond with geophysical anomalies previously recorded, though some of the features did not generate such magnetic signals. Additionally, some of the geophysical signals did not appear to be related to distinct archaeological remains.

7. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on land at Oasby as the proposed development lay in close proximity to a possible prehistoric burial site and within an area of medieval ridge and furrow.

The evaluation revealed undated, Saxon and post-medieval deposits. Undated features include a ditch, three postholes and two pits. An undated gully may be Neolithic in date as evidenced by two flint flakes retrieved from the fill. An Early to Mid Saxon ditch was revealed and a post-medieval quarry pit.

Finds comprise flint flakes, pottery of 5th – 8th century date, burnt stone and a small assemblage of animal bone.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr L. Georgescu of Anglian Water Services who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was co-ordinated by Gary Taylor who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Jenny Young, the South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist, kindly permitted examination of the relevant parish files and library maintained by Heritage

Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
Site Supervisor: Mark Peachey
Site Team: Lavinia Green, Jim Robertson, Fiona Walker
Surveying: Mark Dymond
Finds processing: Denise Buckley
Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
Illustration: Mark Peachey
Post-excavation analysis: Mark Peachey

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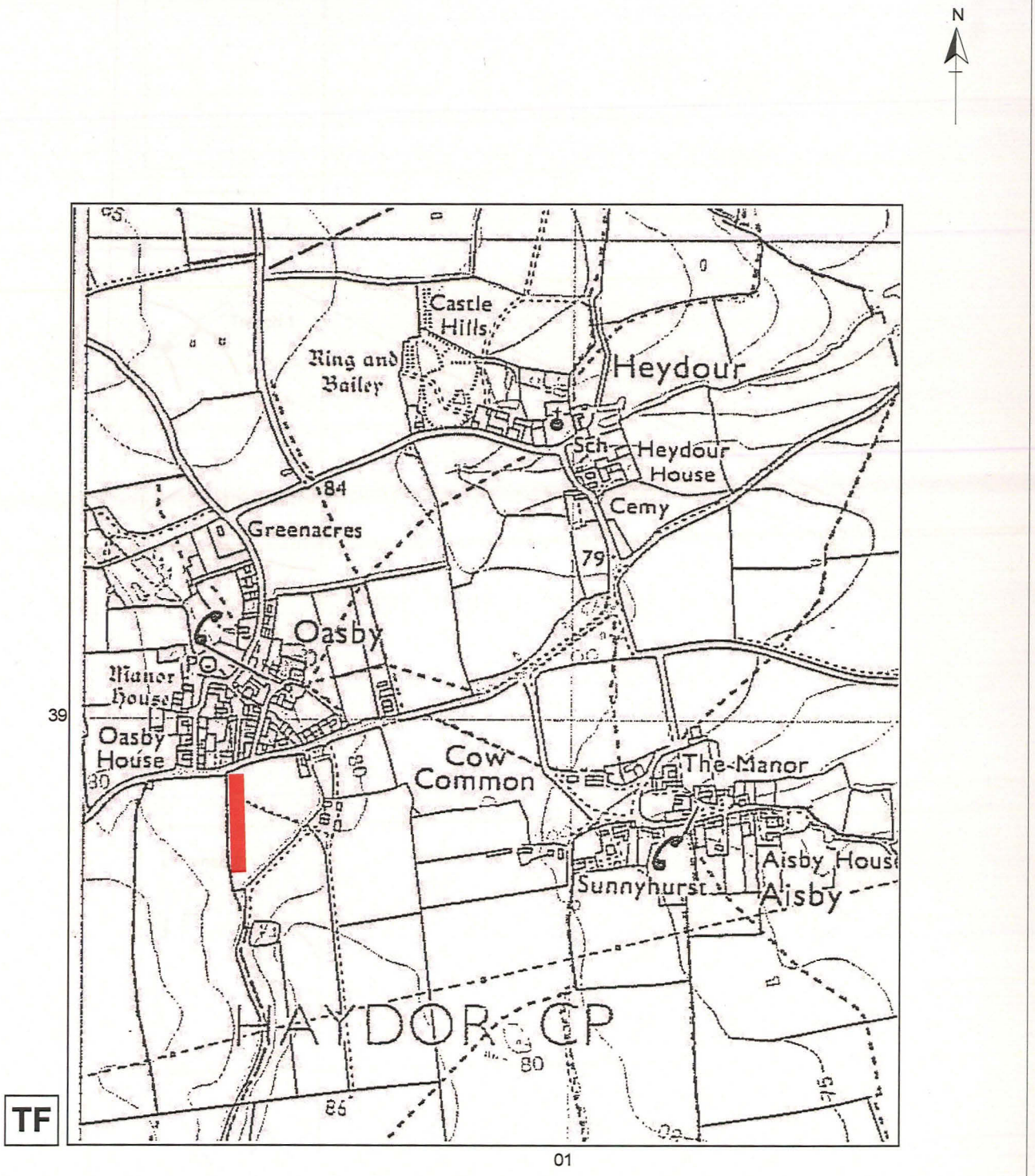
11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS	Archaeological Project Services
GSGB	Geological Survey of Great Britain
IFA	Institute of Field Archaeologists
OD	Ordnance Datum (height above sea level)

Figure 1 - General Location Plan



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Project Name: Oasby Water Pipeline OAWP06		
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Figure 2 - Site location plan

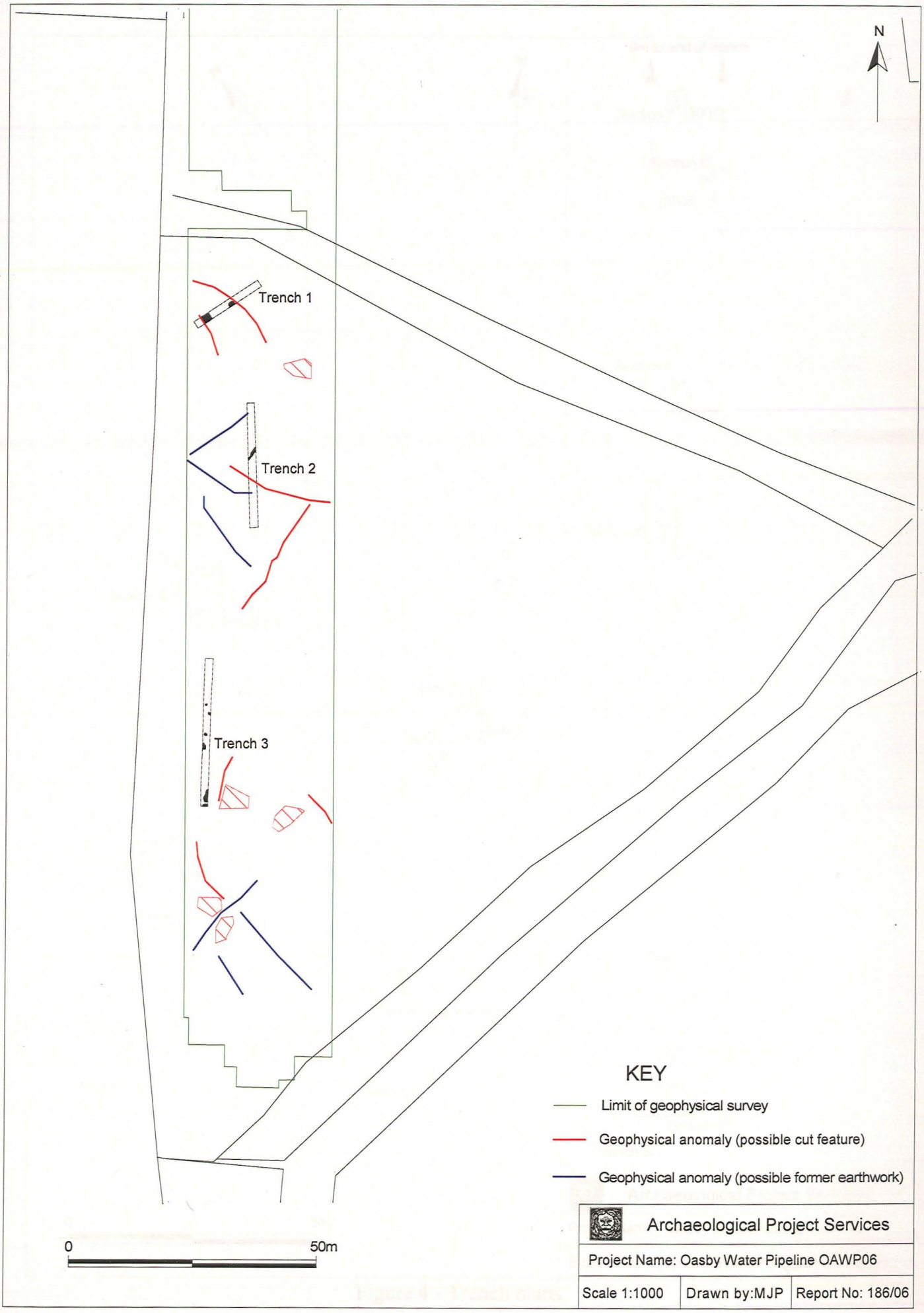


Figure 3 - Trench location plan

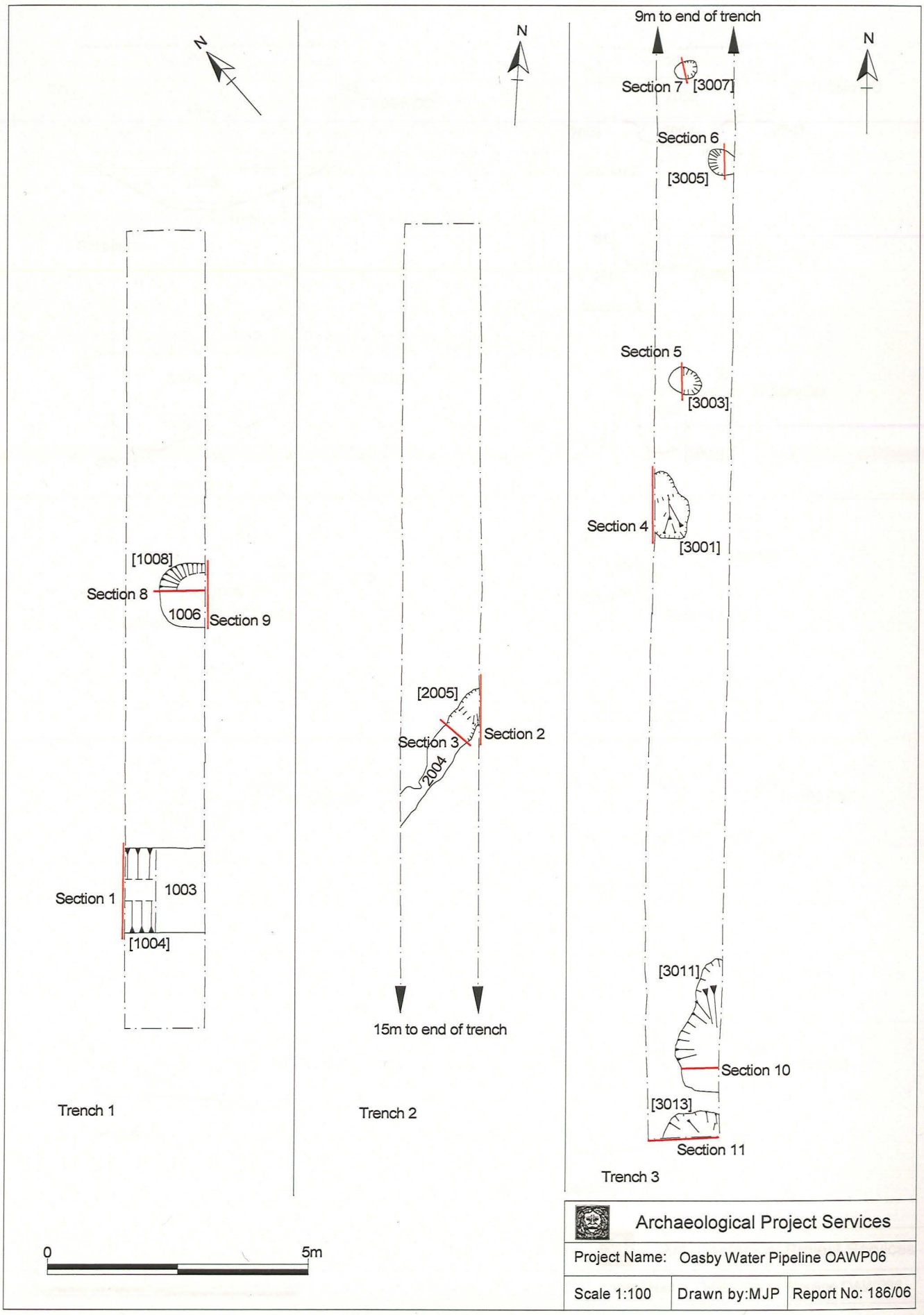
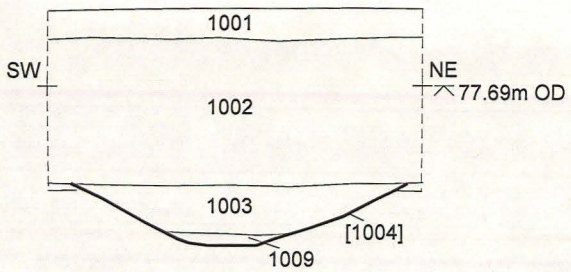


Figure 4 - Trench plans



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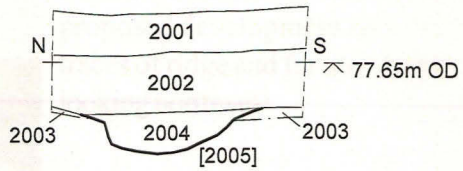

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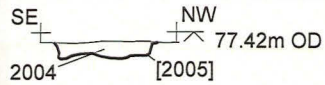

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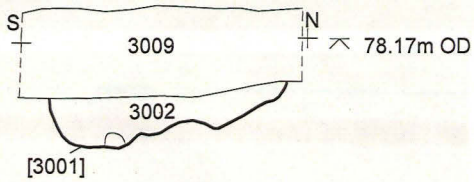

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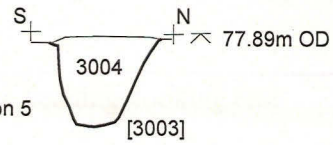

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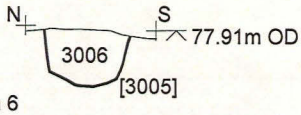

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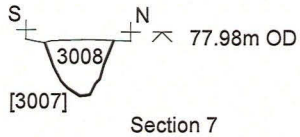

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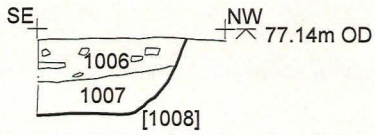

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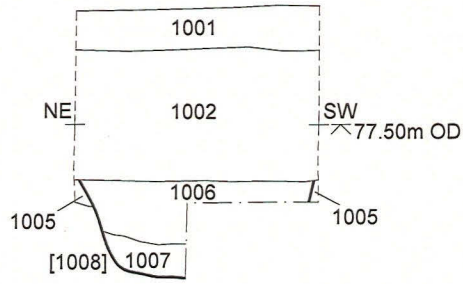

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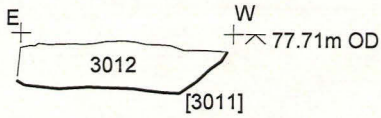

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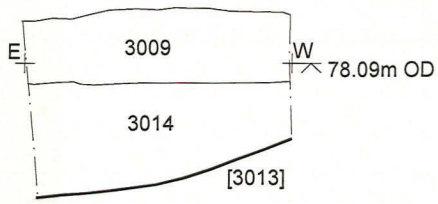

Section 11

Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Oasby Water Pipeline OAWP06		
Scale 1:40	Drawn by:MJP	Report No: 186/06

Figure 5 - Sections

Plate 1 - General view across the proposed development area with traces of ridge and furrow visible, looking northwest

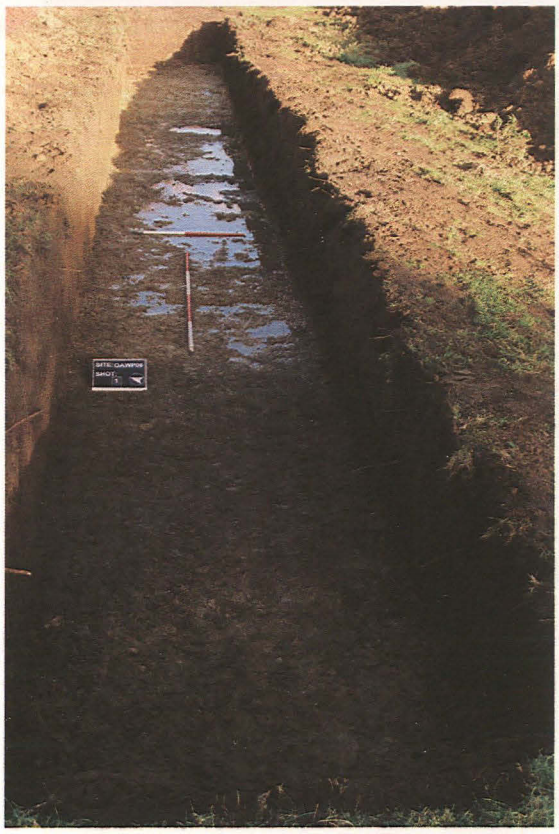

Plate 2 - Trench 1 after cleaning, looking east

Plate 3 - Section 1 showing the Saxon ditch (1004), looking west

Plate 4 - Section 8 showing undated ditch (1008), looking southwest

Plate 5 - Trench 2 after cleaning, looking south

Plate 6 - Section 3 showing gully (2005) from which two Neolithic flints were retrieved, looking southwest

Plate 7 - Trench 3 after cleaning, looking south

Plate 8 - Section 10 showing quarry pit (3011), looking south

Plate 9 - Section 4 showing post-medieval posthole (3001), looking west

Appendix 1

LAND AT PROPOSED WATER TREATMENT WORKS, OASBY, HAYDOR, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

1 SUMMARY

1.1 This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land at a proposed water treatment works at Oasby, Lincolnshire.

1.2 The area is archaeologically sensitive. Immediately adjacent is at least one ring ditch indicating a prehistoric burial site. Medieval settlement is also located in close proximity and may extend into the development area. Geophysical survey identified probable ditches, banks and pits at the site.

1.3 A programme of archaeological evaluation by trial trenching is required at 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 a proposed water treatment works, Oasby, 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 Oasby is a small hamlet in the parish of Haydor and is located 9km northeast of Grantham in the South Kesteven district of Lincolnshire. The proposed development site is located immediately south of the hamlet, on the south side of Mill Lane, between national grid references TF 0030 3889 and TF 0031 3365.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 Anglian Water Services applied for planning permission (Application No. S06/0865) to construct a new water treatment works and access route at Oasby. A desk-based archaeological study indicated the site was in very close proximity to a probable Bronze Age burial, evident as a circular cropmark. There was also the possibility of medieval settlement remains in the area. Subsequent geophysical survey identified various buried remains in the area, including probable ditches, banks and pits. As a result, the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section has advised that evaluation by trial trenching is required. This document provides a method statement for such trial trenching.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 Soils at the site are Elmton 3 Association clayey brown rendzinas over a drift geology of glacially-derived sands and gravels .that seal Jurassic limestone (Hodge *et al.* 1984). The site is on a slight

slope down to the west at 77m OD.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

6.1 Immediately west of the access route of the proposed development is a circular cropmark of a probable Bronze Age burial mound. A possible second ring ditch is also reported immediately adjacent, though could be a duplication of the first. The medieval settlement core lies directly north of the site and there is a possibility that former occupation may be located in the proposed development area. However, part of the area contains ridge and furrow of the medieval field system. Former quarry pits have also been identified in close proximity (Archaeological Project Services 2006). Geophysical survey of the site identified numerous buried remains of probable archaeological origin. Several ditches, some of them curvilinear, and probable former banks were recognized, along with a number of possible pits (Stratascan 2006).

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 Close contact will be maintained with the archaeological curator throughout the investigation to ensure that the 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 arrangement has been specified. Three trenches, one each at 15m, 25m and 30m length have been targeted to investigate a sample of the geophysical signals.

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.

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 If necessary, open trenches will be marked by orange mesh fencing 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 a GPS and/or 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 appropriate local museum. This sorting will be undertaken according to the guidelines and conditions stipulated by the museum, and appropriate national guidelines, for long-term storage and curation.

13 REPORT DEPOSITION

13.1 Copies of the investigation report will be sent to: the client for distribution to the planning authority.

14 PUBLICATION

14.1 Details of the investigation will be input to the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS).

14.2 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 archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Lincolnshire County Archaeology Section. They will be given written notice of the commencement of the project to enable them to make 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, the client and their consultant.

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.

Task	Body to be undertaking the work
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln.
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric: Dr D Knight, Trent and Peak Archaeological Trust Roman: B Precious, independent specialist Post-Roman: J Young, independent specialist/A Boyle, APS
Other Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist; or G Taylor, APS
Human Remains Analysis	J Kitch, APS
Animal Remains Analysis	J Kitch, APS
Environmental Analysis	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy, or Val Fryer, independent specialist
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 appropriate staff, including supervisors and assistants, and to take about 5 days.

18.2 Post-excavation analysis and report production take about 2 weeks. A project officer or supervisor will undertake most of the analysis, with assistance from the finds supervisor, CAD illustrator and external specialists.

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 are enclosed.

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

Archaeological Project Services, 2006 *Desk-based Assessment of Land off Mill Lane, Oasby, Haydor, Lincolnshire (OASW06)*, unpublished APS report **99/06**

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

Stratascan, 2006 *Geophysical Survey Report, Oasby, Grantham*

Specification: Version 2, 13/11/06

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Trench	Description	Interpretation
1001	1	Loose dark greyish brown silt, 0.15m-0.2m thick	Topsoil
1002	1	Loose mid reddish brown silt, 0.8m thick	Subsoil
1003	1	Firm dark greyish brown sandy silt	Fill of (1004)
1004	1	Linear feature, aligned northwest-southeast, >1.5m long by 2m wide by 0.28m deep, gradual sides and rounded base	Ditch
1005	1	Compact mid greyish brown limestone fragments	Natural deposit
1006	1	Loose mid greyish brown sandy silt with frequent limestone fragments and gravel	Fill of (1008)
1007	1	Friable dark greyish brown sandy silt with frequent charcoal	Fill of (1008)
1008	1	Linear feature, aligned northwest-southeast, >1m long by 1.2m wide by 0.53m deep, steep sides and flattish base	Ditch/pit
1009	1	Firm dark greyish brown sandy silt with frequent limestone fragments	Fill of (1004)
2001	2	Friable dark brown/black sandy silt, 0.24m thick	Topsoil
2002	2	Soft mid yellowish brown sandy silt, 0.3m thick	Subsoil
2003	2	Hard off white limestone and dark yellow gravel	Natural deposit
2004	2	Soft mid yellowish brown sandy silt	Fill of (2005)
2005	2	Linear feature, aligned northeast-southwest, >1.65m long by 0.54m wide and 0.23m deep, steep sides and undulating base	Gully
3001	3	Irregular feature, 1.3m long by >0.7m wide and 0.27m deep, gradual sides and uneven base	Pit
3002	3	Soft mid reddish brown silty sand	Fill of (3001)
3003	3	Circular posthole, 0.6m diameter by 0.47m deep, steep sides and concave base	Posthole
3004	3	Soft to friable mid greyish brown silty sand	Fill of (3003)
3005	3	Circular feature, 0.45m diameter by 0.3m deep, steep sides and concave base	Posthole
3006	3	Soft mid greyish brown silty sand with frequent gravel	Fill of (3005)
3007	3	Circular feature, 0.35m diameter by 0.25m deep, steep sides and tapered pointed base	Posthole
3008	3	Soft mid greyish brown silty sand with frequent gravel	Fill of (3007)
3009	3	Friable dark brownish grey clayey silt, 0.4m-0.5m thick	Topsoil
3010	3	Soft light brownish yellow clayey sand with frequent gravel and limestone fragments	Natural deposit
3011	3	Irregular feature, 2.64m long by >0.9m by 0.2m deep, gradual sides and flattish base	Pit
3012	3	Friable mid greyish brown clayey sand with frequent gravels	Fill of (3011)
3013	3	Irregular feature, >1.24m long by >0.54m wide by 0.6m deep, gradual sides and flattish base	Pit
3014	3	Soft to friable dark greyish brown clayey sand with frequent gravel	Fill of (3013)

Appendix 3

THE POTTERY

By Jane Young and Anne Boyle

These sherds appear to represent a collection of fresh Anglo-Saxon pottery, probably dating to sometime between the 5th and early 8th century. All three of the vessels appear to be large, undecorated jars. The presence of the sherds suggests occupation occurring close by during this period. The fabrics are similar, but coarser than Anglo Saxon material recovered from sites at Grantham, Quarrington, Silk Willoughby, Brough and Holdingham. The sherds should be included in the analysis of any large local group of Saxon pottery that takes place. Such analysis (particularly ICPS) will help to chemically characterise the material from this site and allow comparison with similar material from the locality.

context	cname	full name	sub fabric	form type	sherds	vessels	weigh t	part	description	date
1003	SSTCL	Central Lincolnshire Early to mid Saxon sandstone-tempered	C	large jar	2	1	82	BS	reduced with oxidised surfaces; includes prominent millstone grit; moderate to common sandstone + aggregated sst + sparse biotite +sparse rounded ca; very fresh condition; fresh breaks	5th to 8th
1003	SSTCL	Central Lincolnshire Early to mid Saxon sandstone-tempered	C	large jar	1	1	34	BS	external flashing; reduced fabric; prominent millstone grit; common coarse sst + sparse rounded fe + sparse biotite + very sparse calcareous grains + feldspar ?	5th to 8th
1003	SSTCL	Central Lincolnshire Early to mid Saxon sandstone-tempered	C	jar ?	1	1	23	BS	reduced fabric with oxidised exterior surface; prominent millstone grit; moderate ca includes possible oolite + moderate aggregated sst + fossil shell + sparse biotite	5th to 8th

Appendix 4

THE OTHER FINDS

By Jennifer Kitch, Tom Lane and Gary Taylor

A small quantity of other artefacts, brick/tile and stone, comprising 6 items weighing a total of 507g, was retrieved. Faunal remains were also recovered.

The excavated animal bone assemblage comprises 17 stratified fragments of bone weighing 398g. 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 ditch fills (1003 and 1006), a gully fill (2004), the fill of a pit (3002) and the fill of a posthole (3004).

Range
The range of material is detailed in the following tables.

Table 1: Other Artefacts

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
2004	Flint	Struck flake, scars from removed flakes on dorsal side, patinated, Neolithic?	1	1	Neolithic?
	Flint	Blade flake, flaked to remove bulb of percussion, perhaps to form a point, patinated, Neolithic?	1	1	
3002	Ceramic building material	Brick/tile, late post-medieval	1	5	Late post-medieval
	Stone	Burnt stone	2	315	
3004	Stone	Burnt stone	1	185	

Table 2: The Faunal Remains

Context	Species	Bone	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
1003	Pig	Humerus	1	66	
	Cattle	Radius	1	38	
	Cattle	Scapula	1	62	
	Sheep/Goat	Mandible	1	8	Broken in to two pieces
	Medium Mammal Size	Femur	1	3	
	Medium Mammal Size	Rib	1	3	
	Large Mammal Size	Rib	3	35	
	Large Mammal Size	Vertebra	2	14	One with carnivore tooth puncture mark
1006	Equid (Horse Family)	Femur	1	114	
	Equid (Horse Family)	Skull	1	53	Occipital condyles
	Unidentified	Unidentified	4	2	

Due to the small size of the assemblage little further information can be gained, save the presence of the species on site and carnivore gnawing suggests the remains have been exposed to scavengers as part of or after the disposal process.

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 few previous archaeological investigations at Oasby, though the present site has been the subject of earlier examinations and reports. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record and the files of the South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist.

Potential
The small collection of other artefacts is of limited local potential and significance, though the two flints indicate a probable Neolithic presence in the proximity of the site.

The general dearth of occupation debris is informative and perhaps suggests that the site was never formally inhabited, or that archaeological deposits exposed by the investigation were of a nature that did not involve artefact deposition.

Appendix 5

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, *e.g.*(004).
Cropmark	A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological 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.
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).
Geophysical Survey	Essentially non-invasive methods of examining below the ground surface by measuring deviations in the physical properties and characteristics of the earth. Techniques include magnetometry and resistivity survey.
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.
Neolithic	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500-2250 BC.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1900.
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.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.

Appendix 6

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

28	Context records
2	Photographic record sheets
13	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:	2006.251
Archaeological Project Services Site Code:	OAWP06
OASIS Identification Code:	archaeol1-20970

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.