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Woodside Industrial Park Land off Pride Parkway, East Road Sleaford Archaeological Strip, Map and Record NGR: TF 075 469 (area) Site Code: SWIP 06 LCNCG Accession No.: 2006.15 Planning Application No.: N/57/0758/04

Report

for

Melbourne Holdings Ltd

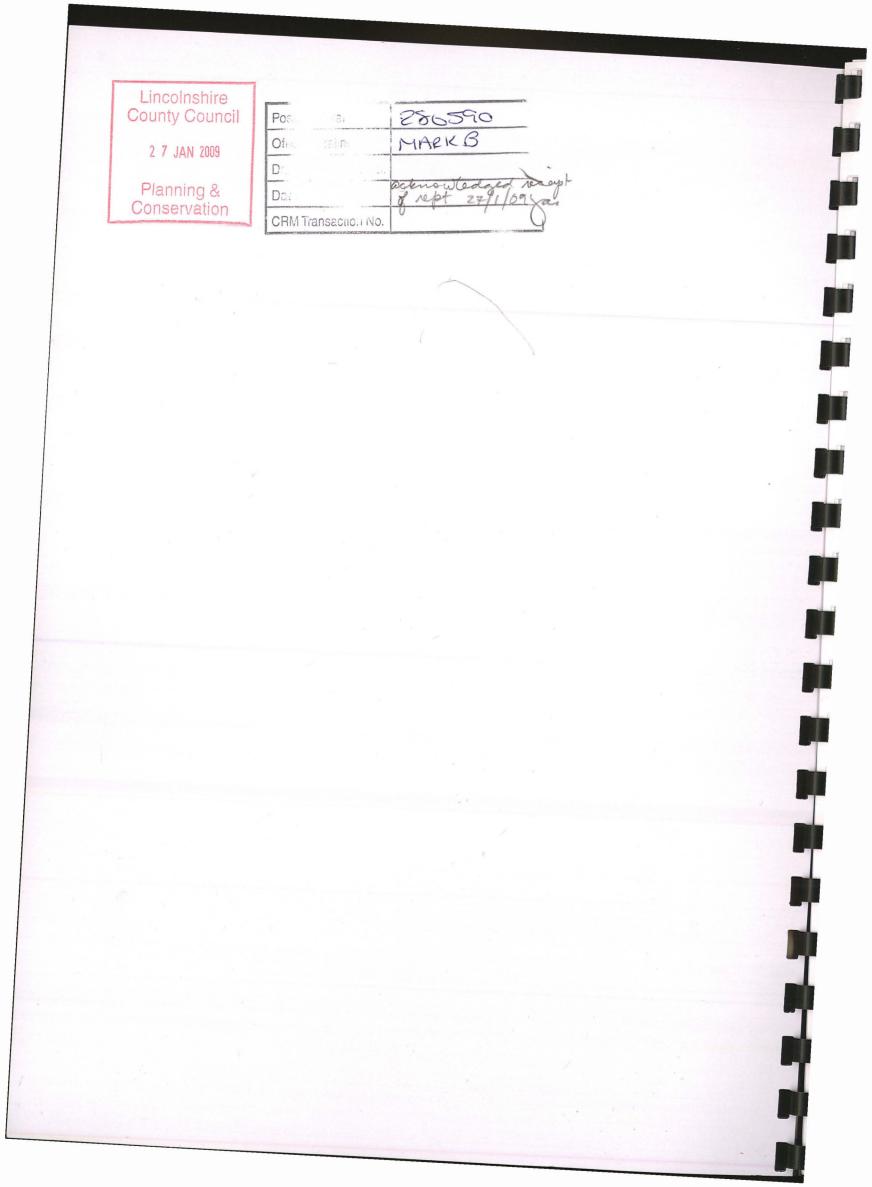
By

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Woodside Industrial Park Land off Pride Parkway, East Road Sleaford Archaeological Strip, Map and Record NGR: TF 075 469 (area) Site Code: SWIP 06 LCNCC Accession No.: 2006.15 Planning Application: N/57/0758/04

Summary

An archaeological strip, map and record exercise was undertaken during the mechanical excavation of service trenches and an access road at the above site.

No archaeological features were noted within the narrow service trenches but during the subsequent reduction of ground for the access road, Iron Age and Roman enclosure and field ditches were identified. A medieval furrow was also noted. Of particular interest was a group of pottery from one of three ditches which often has Roman military although none of the features recorded was military in character.

Introduction

Lindsey Archaeological Services was commissioned by Melbourne Holdings Ltd in November 2005 to undertake an archaeological watching brief at the above site (Fig. 1). The work was carried out in accordance with the brief dated January 10th 2005, and general requirements set out in the *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* published by the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council (1998). Work took place between 28th April 2006 and 8th May 2008.

Site Location and Description

Woodside Industrial Park comprises 40 acres (16.6ha) of former agricultural land east of Sleaford and south of the A17(Fig. 1, Pl. 1). It is immediately south-east of Sleaford Wood and is being developed for industrial units.

Planning Background

A programme of evaluation comprising fieldwalking, geophysical survey and trial trenching was undertaken prior to determination of the application for industrial development. Permission was granted in 2004 for the construction of the infrastructure to the site comprising access road and associated services subject to archaeological recording being carried out during the groundworks phase of construction.

Archaeological Background

Archaeological excavations on the east side of Sleaford identified late Iron Age and Roman settlement remains along the Roman road which runs south from Ruskington. The development site lies west of an area of extensive cropmarks which may represent further prehistoric/Romano-British settlement sites and associated field systems. A Roman site had also been recorded north of Sleaford Wood. The

potential for similar remains on the development site was thought to be high.

Previous Work on the Site

LAS was commissioned in 1996 by D.B.Lawrence and Associates to undertake a desktop study of the proposed development site in response to a request by the local planning authority to assess the potential for archaeological remains (Tann 1996). When proposals for development of the site as a power station were made in 1999 further evaluation comprising geophysical survey, fieldwalking and evaluation trenches was commissioned by British Energy.

An archaeological programme of fieldwalking and evaluation trenching was undertaken by LAS in 1999. Archaeological remains of Iron Age and Roman date with some Neolithic flints present were found in the southern part of the site on the slightly higher ground (Armour-Chelu 1999). However, only 1% of the 2% evaluation sample was completed as funding for the project was withdrawn when the planning application was refused. When a new proposal for development was submitted in 2004 it was stipulated by the curatorial archaeologist that the remaining 1% of the evaluation should be excavated in areas highlighted during the 1999 evaluation as being of high archaeological potential.

The second phase of evaluation work was carried out in 2005 and concentrated on the area where archaeological remains had previously been identified (in Field 3). Late Mesolithic/early Neolithic flints were found and a hollow, possibly a former ground surface, containing flint of Neolithic date was also recorded. Truncated pits containing fire-cracked stones of possible Bronze Age date were also noted as were flints of a similar date. These earlier features were cut by Iron Age ditches and pits, possibly associated with settlement, based upon the pottery evidence. These were, in turn, truncated by Roman field systems. Medieval ridge and furrow was present, truncated by modern ploughing. A general lack of finds from the post Roman periods suggested that the site had a continuity of pastoral or arable usage and was located some distance from the medieval settlement (McDaid 2005).

The evaluation discoveries resulted in requests for further archaeological work by the planning authority. Monitoring of test pitting in 2005, did not reveal any additional information (Jordan 2005) but a condition was placed on the planning permission for an archaeological scheme of works comprising strip map and recording during the groundworks stage of development.

This report covers the monitoring of the access road and services to the site. None of the industrial units has been monitored as part of this programme of work.

Aims and Objectives

The purpose of the intervention was to record any archaeological deposits disturbed during the groundworks at the above site.

Method

The service trench was monitored by an experienced archaeologist. Field 2 was developed in full before groundworks commenced in Field 3. This resulted in a gap of one year between monitoring of the two fields. There was a further hiatus of almost a year between the service trench excavation in Field 3 and the stripping of the access road.

Stripping of the access road was monitored by an experienced archaeologist, but, as a large quantity of archaeological features was exposed a team of up to four archaeologists was engaged to record the site.

A full written (single context) and photographic record, using colour print, was made including site plans and sections at a scale of 1:50 and 1:20.

Results

The Service Trench (Fig 3)

A service trench was excavated along the centre of the access road, in sections determined by the distance from one service junction (manhole cover) to another, using a toothed bucket. The length of these segments was often less than 10m. Machining often left the service trench sides so smeared that it was impossible to determine if archaeology was present. Shuttering was then used to protect the sides from collapse which meant that archaeological recording for this phase of work was almost impossible.

Field 2 (Pl. 1)

Monitoring of the service trench at the north-eastern end of Field 2 revealed a 0.30m deep topsoil, 1, overlying natural yellow sand, 3 and 4. As this field had previously produced no evidence for archaeological remains the N. Kesteven Curatorial Archaeologist agreed that monitoring this area of the development could cease.

Field 3 (Pl. 2)

Field 3 was to the south of Field 2, and contained the area where archaeological remains had been recorded. Excavation of the service trench in Field 3 began at the northern end of the field but ground conditions which required shuttering of the trench meant that no archaeological remains were recorded.

The general sequence of deposits observed comprised a recent levelling layer which lay above 0.30m deep topsoil, **1**. Subsoil, **2**, **178**, **179** and **180**, lay beneath, covering yellow natural sand, **3**, **4** and **113**.

The Access Road (Fig. 3)

The access road was constructed to a point about 25m north of the field ditch between Fields 2 and 3 without archaeological monitoring. Following resumption of groundworks to extend the access road southwards into Field 3, an initial monitoring visit was made (PI. 3). On that occasion, soil was stripped along the roadline almost as far south as the filled field ditch, using a toothed bucket.

The concreted pipe of the westernmost service trench was above the base level of the new access road, and avoidance of this required the contractors to excavate a 2m wide trench to its east and a separate 2m wide trench to its west. Various concrete manholes, especially F1, SW7, SW6 and SW7b close to the ditch crossing, were also avoided. No archaeological features were observed in the base or sides of the two trenches between the existing access road and the northern side of the filled ditch.

Machine excavation, using a toothed bucket, continued beyond the filled-in field ditch and around the curve in the access road towards the west. No archaeological features or artefacts were observed between the filled ditch crossing and the pair of manholes F11 and SW14, 40m to the south-west.

15m to the west of those manholes, archaeological features were seen in the eastern/southern trench face and the deepest of these were also visible in plan in the stripped road area. Context numbers starting from **40** were assigned for recording purposes. Topsoil, **177**, varied in thickness but was usually 0.25m - 0.3m thick. It overlay a thin subsoil layer, **66**.

Ditch **40** was 1.3m wide and crossed the access road on a north-west/south-east alignment. It lay to the south of some patches of grey and dark brown clay which appeared to be variations of the natural. Its base was 0.8m below ground level and it was filled with light brown clay sand, **41**.

Three shallower features, post-holes **42**, **44** and **65**, were recorded about 18m to the south-west of ditch **40**, close to manhole SW15. Features **42** and **44** were 0.27m deep x 0.2m wide, and 0.25m deep x 0.37m wide respectively, each tapering to a pointed base. There were frequent inclusions of flat limestone pieces in their fills, **43** and **45**. The eastern edge of **42** cut posthole **65**, a 0.19m deep, 0.25m wide feature with a rounded base (PI. 4).

A second ditch **46**, roughly parallel to ditch **40**, crossed the line of the access road 7m west of manhole SW15 (Pl. 5). The base of the 2m wide ditch was over 0.9m from ground level.

5m further around the curve of the access road, on its southern edge was a linear feature extending along the trench edge for 5m, ending close to manhole F12. A concentration of limestone rubble was seen at its northern end. This was thought to be part of an archaeological evaluation trench or contractors' trial trench with its base 0.6m below the ground surface.

Another manhole SW16, 14m south-west of the possible remains of an evaluation trench, coincided with a series of archaeological features containing pottery and charcoal flecks. The first indication of archaeological remains was a large pottery sherd close to the base of the access road trench, about 7m west of manhole SW16 (Pl. 6). Fragments of poorly-preserved animal bone were also present in the surrounding dark brown clay silt with iron mottling **50**. This was tentatively interpreted as the fill of a north-west/south-east aligned ditch **61**, but its extent was not investigated at that stage. Another east/west aligned ditch feature, **59**, was seen at the south-eastern edge of the access road trench, with two fills visible in section, **48** and **60**. The 0.15m thick light brown silt clay upper fill, **48**, was suspected to represent alluvium cover sealing fill **60**. At the western end of ditch **59** was a cluster of post-holes or small pits. Pit **62** contained a sherd of early Roman pottery within its fill, **52**. Immediately west of this pit, close to the south-eastern edge of the access road trench, were ditch **63**, pit **68** and pit **58**.

Arrangements had been made for an archaeological team to record the features described above the following day. However an unexpected decision by the contractors to reduce the level of the access road between manholes SW7b and SW16 resulted in removal of archaeological features in that part of the trench and flooding of the area the area west of SW16. The machine re-scraped the zone under water with a ditching bucket, removing the surface seen the day before. This resulted in some difficulty correlating the findings of the watching brief to the archaeological strip, map and record.

The narrower service trench to the north of the surface water drainage pipe was excavated to the full depth with a toothed bucket and no recording was possible in that area.

Strip, Map and Record

A complex of enclosure ditches was found within a 50m zone west of the bend in the access road, criss-crossing the stripped area. The eastern limit of activity was defined by a curving enclosure that was re-excavated several times. To the west of the enclosure were linear ditches that contained considerably less domestic waste, indicating that were probably field boundaries and drainage ditches

Differential depths of stripping to either side of the central service trench made it difficult to match the features observed to either side with confidence. This was especially difficult with the small number of finds contained in some of the features. The lack of secure stratigraphic relationships made it difficult to phase the site with confidence. he majority of features encountered contained pottery which was broadly Late Iron Age in date. While in many cases the number and size of the pottery sherds was too small to be sufficiently diagnostic it was possible to refine the Iron Age material into three categories: late Iron Age (13 features), Late Iron Age-1st century and Late Iron Age-2nd century (a further 9 features). Whether this reflects a true phasing of the features is questionable. The following description is therefore presented as one possible interpretation of the sequence of events, there may be others. However, four pits and 3 ditches contained pottery that was unequivocally Roman.

Late Iron Age Activity

The earliest dated features comprised 9 ditches and gullies **127**, **135**, **143**, **145**, **149**, **152**, **161**, **165**, and two pits **121** and **129** which contained late Iron Age pottery. These belonged to at least two separate phases of activity.

At the west end of the recorded features was Ditch **161**. It produced 6 sherds of late Iron Age pottery from its upper fill **160** and 4 similarly dated sherds of pottery from its primary fill **187** (Fig. 5O; Pl. 7). A second ditch, **165**, was located c.5m to the north-west of **161** and its fill, **164**, contained 3 sherds of Iron Age pottery (Fig. 5T). Both ditches **165** and **161** were cut by ditch **135/196** to the north-east. This ditch contained 6 sherds of late Iron Age pottery. It was a recut of ditch **141** which contained no finds (Fig. 5N, Pl. 8). Ditches **161** and **165** were also cut by a later, Roman, ditch to their south west (see below)

To the east of these ditches was a curving gully **127** whose fill **126** contained 7 sherds of Late Iron Age pottery (PI. 9). The continuity of features on either side of the service trench was confused in this area, partly due to the different levels of machining and it is possible that this ditch was the same ditch as **131** and its recut **133**. However, these features contained later pottery (see below) whereas a narrower gully **152** (Fig. 5M) to the east of **133**, contained 6 sherds of Iron Age pottery. It was cut at right angles by a gully **149** which also contained 2 sherds of Iron Age pottery.

A possible eastern extent for the curving gully **127** was gully **143** filled by **142** which contained 1 sherd of late Iron Age pottery (Fig. 5G). This would have created an enclosure c.22m in diameter. **143** was probably the same as ditch **145**, recorded on the north side of the service trench (Fig. 5I). Its fill **144** contained a single sherd of Late Iron Age pottery and pieces of animal bone. Gully **143** was recut to its west by gully **112** whose fill **111** contained no finds (Figs 5B, 5E; PI. 10). This gully also continued north of the service trench.

The only other features to contain exclusively Iron Age pottery were pits **121** which had a single sherd of pottery and a piece of worked flint (SF. 2) (Fig. 5D; Pl. 11) and **129**, which also contained a single sherd (Fig. 5G; Pl. 12), both located c.3m to the west of ditch **143**.

An accumulation of silt was recorded in the sections on the sides of the access road which appeared to seal some of the earliest ditches. The 0.42m deep buried soil horizon, recorded variously as **186** (Fig. 5Q), **188** and **189**, was grey in colour. The colouring suggested that the layer was waterlogged for some time and represented either topsoil that was periodically submerged or flood silt deposited after a rise in water level on the site. No former topsoil was noted at the eastern end of the site due to later truncation. **186** produced 4 sherds from a single Late Iron Age vessel.

Late Iron Age- Early Roman

At the western end of the access road was ditch **159**, aligned north-west/south-east (PI.13). A single sherd of Iron Age/Roman pottery came from its primary fill, **158**, whilst its upper fill **157** produced no finds. No other features were noted on the same alignment suggesting it may not belong to one of the Roman phases of activity.

A pit or ditch terminal **185**, *c*.3m to the west-south-west of **159** (Fig. 5U), produced 5 sherds of Late Iron Age-Early Roman pottery from its fill **184**. It was cut by ditch **171** to its west which also cut through ditch **156** (Figs 5R, 5Q; PI.14). It is possible that truncation may have resulted in misinterpretation and that **185** and its fill **186** was in fact part of ditch **156**. Ditch **156**, produced a sherd of late Iron Age pottery from its fill **155**. Its other fills **172**, **173**, **174** and **175** contained pottery that was dated to the Iron Age- 1st century Roman in date. Ditch **171** (Fig. 5R; PI. 14). This later phase of the boundary ditch produced 4 sherds of Iron Age tradition pottery dated to AD70-120 from fill **169** but no finds were present within slumping **170**.

Gully **131** which was recorded to the north of the central service trench and may have been a continuation of gully **127** to the south (Fig. 5M; Pls 15 and 9). Its fill **130** contained 12 sherds of pottery of mainly Iron Age tradition vessels but possibly running into the early Roman period. It was recut to its west by **133** whose fill contained Late Iron Age –mid-2nd century pottery (PI. 15).

Ditch **149**, continued eastward as **154**, (Fig. 5K; Pl. 16). It was aligned east-south-east/west-northwest and 3 sherds of pottery came from its fill, **153**. It is not clear if this ditch belongs to the LIA or early Roman phase of the site but the presence of late Iron Age pottery in **149** may have been residual.

Late Iron Age- Mid 2nd century

2m east of late Iron Age gully **143/145** was ditch **110** whose fill **109**, a brown grey clay silt with occasional pebbles and charcoal pieces contained 5 sherds of late Iron Age-2nd century pottery (Fig. 5A; Pl. 17). This ditch was recut to its west by ditch **102**, whose lower fill **100**, had 47 sherds of Iron Age tradition pottery which could be as late as 2nd century in date. It is possible that this ditch was a replacement for the earlier enclosure to its west. On the west side of the site was a similar arrangement with curving ditch **125**, lying 2m west of gully **133** (Fig. 5L; Pl. 18). Its fill **124** contained no pottery but a Roman brooch (SF3, Pl. 27). It continued south as ditch **163**, filled by **162**, that re-cut earlier ditch **167**, filled by **166** (Fig. 5V). This would have created an enclosure some 27m in diameter (Pl. 9).

Pit **108** had animal bone and a sherd of Iron Age/early Roman pottery in its fill, **107** (Fig. 5H; Pl. 19). Pit **117**, whose fill **116** produced Iron Age/early Roman pottery, may also have been part of this phase (Fig. 5J; Pl. 20). Pit **123**, produced 2 scraps of similar pottery from the bulk samples of its fill **122** (Pl. 21). Pit **137** contained no finds in its fill **136** (Pl. 22).

Roman Activity

The enclosure ditches appeared to have been abandoned and in their place a boundary ditch and associated field systems were introduced. The new ditch systems altered alignment from their predecessors. These ditches can be seen as part of a larger network of land division which continued to the east and west of the site.

Ditch **112** which was a recut of **143** (see above) also cut what was believed to be a pit, **115**, to the west (Fig. 5E; Pl. 10). The ditch was not recorded north of the central service trench but may have been **106** which, due to truncation, appeared to terminate north of the service trench. **106** was filled with grey sand silt with occasional charcoal flecks, **105** and produced 11sherds of late Iron Age tradition pottery but it cut pit **107** which contained late Iron Age-2nd century pottery and must be later than the pottery suggests.

The profile of **115** suggests perhaps two pits, indistinguishable from one another due to the similarity of their fills. The single sherd of pottery from its fill, **114**, was identified as 1st-early 2nd century in date. Pit **119** 1m south west of pit **115** also had 1st -early 2nd Roman pottery as well as animal bone in its fill **118** (Fig. 5J; Pl. 20).

An east/west orientated ditch, **104**, cut the enclosures **143/112**, **102** and **110** (Fig. 5C; Pl. 23). The central service trench cut through the point where this ditch would have cut the west side of these enclosures, but the relationship was lost. It is possible that ditch **141** was a continuation of this ditch.

A substantial quantity of pottery, 129 sherds, was retrieved from **103**, the fill of ditch **104**. This was the largest group of pottery found on the excavation and is well dated to the period AD70-120. Other finds from the ditch included a piece of fired clay, a Roman brooch (SF1, PI. 26), and a pot base with a hole created after firing (SF4) and 36 pieces of animal bone. The lower fill of the ditch **199**, was identical in nature to **100/101**, the fills of ditch **102** so contamination of finds may have occurred.

Ditch **139** was on exactly the same orientation as **149/154** (Fig. 5S;PIs 8 and 24). The single piece of pottery from its fill, **138**, was mid $1^{st} - 2^{nd}$ century in date. Its other fill **194** contained no finds. This ditch was a recut of ditch **196** to its south-west. This ditch continued westward as ditch **135**, filled by **134** which contained 6 sherds of late Iron Age pottery (PI. 8). The presence of this earlier pottery may be residual as the section was dug over the area of the underlying feature **165**.

Possible ditch **191**, filled by **190**, step sided, flat based, seen only in the southern main section (Fig. 5P) and was cut by ditch **159** on its east side. It cut through an earlier ditch **193** to its west. **193** was recorded only in section and so was of unknown alignment.

Medieval and Post Medieval Activity

One possible furrow, **183**, filled by **181**, was noted but its orientation could not be determined as it was seen only in section. The presence of ridge and furrow indicates that this area of land was used for agricultural purposes in the medieval period.

Subsoil layers recorded variously as **178**, **179** and **180** and topsoil **177**, are assumed to be postmedieval in date. Plough furrow **183** was sealed by subsoil layers **179** and **180**. Ditch **198**, filled with **197**, orientated north-north-west/south-south-east, was on an alignment not previously noted, suggesting it formed a new phase of land division and may have been quite recent in date (PI.25).

Discussion

What is clear from all the stages of archaeological intervention is that occupation was confined to the higher ground in the south-west part of Field 3 because ground conditions to the north were too wet. Despite the indications of prehistoric activity found during the evaluation of the site with some 70 flints being retrieved and one associated feature in 2005 no Mesolithic or Neolithic activity was observed during the 2008 monitoring. The single flint from the 2008 monitoring were residual.

The 1999 and 2004 evaluations recorded ditches and gullies which do not appear to align with those found in 2008 (see Fig. 6). Very small quantities of pottery were found (32 sherds in total), few of which were diagnostic. However, their date range was wider than those found in 2008, with two pieces being 3- 4th century in date. Unfortunately, it is impossible to draw any firm conclusions about the nature and extent of the occupation on this site based on a few sherds of pottery and the limited visibility of features in the narrow evaluation trenches and access road. The importance of the slightly larger pottery assemblage retrieved in 2008 is the presence of material with military associations. However, as indicated in the pottery report (Appendix 2) this material comes from a single group and cannot be interpreted as suggesting that there was any military occupation at Sleaford Industrial Park, without any supporting evidence for 'fort' features .

Occupation of the site must be seen in the light of contemporary activity in the area, with the well documented settlements at Old Sleaford to the south and the Roman Mareham Lane running immediately to the east of the site, following the line of East Road. Extensive settlement remains of both Iron Age and Roman date have also been documented this road in the past 10 years and the site on the industrial park is perhaps and outlier. Work on Boston road to the east of Old Sleaford has established the presence of an unnamed Roman road running along a similar alignment to Boston Road with dense settlement along it almost as far as the junction with the A17.

Saxon pottery was present in the evaluation (Trenches 24, 25 and 27) comprising 11 sherds from the total of 34 post Roman sherds, but only one feature contained exclusively Saxon material. No Saxon pottery was recorded along the length of the access road, despite being in the area of the previous discoveries. The lack of finds in 2008 reinforces the interpretation offered in 2005 that Saxon activity

was very localised or that the presence of pottery was due to manuring activity rather than occupation. Little medieval and post-medieval activity was noted which is not surprising given the location of the site on the margins of the parish where the land was probably either woodland or under cultivation.

Conclusion

The 2008 strip, map and record has shown the difficulty of dating and phasing a site when relatively small but dense areas of archaeology are investigated that are not physically linked. The limited evidence for occupation, coupled with relatively few finds suggests that this may have been an area of animal enclosures and enclosed fields, in the late Iron Age/ Roman period.

The quantity of archaeological features revealed during the previous evaluation stages in Field 3 were seen to continue into the access road suggesting that the individual building plots either side of the access road will also contain a similar quantity of archaeological remains.

Mick McDaid December 22nd 2008

Acknowledgements

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Context No.	Context Type	Description	Interpretation	Length	Width	Depth
1	Layer	Mid grey brown sand silt with moderate small stones and occasional charcoal pieces	Topsoil	Unknown	Unknown	0.3m
2	Layer	Light to mid grey brown sandy silt	Subsoil	Unknown	Unknown	0.28m
3	Layer	Yellow sand	Natural	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
4	Layer	Yellow sand	Natural	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
5	Layer	Mixture of yellow brown and light grey silt clay with occasional pebbles	Levelling	Unknown	Unknown	0.40m
6 - 39		not used		n/a	n/a	n/a
40	Cut	Linear, north-west/south-east aligned, not excavated	Ditch	Unknown	1.30m	0.30m?
41	Fill	Light grey clay sand	Fill of 40	Unknown	1.30m	0.30m?
42	Cut	Sharp break at surface tapering to a pointed base	Posthole	Unknown	0.20m	0.27m
43	Fill	Red brown clay sand	Fill of 42	Unknown	0.20m	0.27m
44	Cut	Sharp break at surface tapering to a pointed base	Posthole	Unknown	0.37m	0.25m
45	Fill	Red brown clay sand	Fill of 44	Unknown	0.37m	0.25m
46	Cut	Linear, north-west/south-east aligned, not excavated	Ditch	Unknown	2m	0.40m
47	Fill	Red brown clay sand	Fill of 46	Unknown	2m	0.40m
48	Fill	Light brown silt clay	Fill of 59	18m	1.50m	0.15m
49		not used		n/a	n/a	n/a
50	Fill	Dark brown clay silt with iron mottling	Fill of 61	9m+	c.2m	Unknown
51		not used		n/a	n/a	n/a
52	Fill	Dark brown clay silt with iron mottling	Fill of 62	2.50m+	1.50m	Unknown
53		not used		n/a	n/a	n/a
54	Fill	Brown clay silt with iron mottling	Fill of 63	3m+	1.50m	Unknown
55		not used		n/a	n/a	n/a
56	56 Fill Mid brown grey, clay silt, occasional pebbl occasional charcoal pieces		Fill of 68	0.80m	0.80m	Unknown
57		not used		n/a	n/a	n/a
58		not used		n/a	n/a	n/a

Context No.	Context Type	Description	Interpretation	Length	Width	Depth
59	Cut	East/west aligned linear	Ditch	18m	1.50m	0.15m
60	Fill	Dark brown clay silt	Fill of 59	18m	1.50m	0.25m
61	Cut	Linear, north-west/south-east aligned, not excavated	Ditch	9m+	c.2m	Unknown
62	Cut	Linear, north-west/south-east aligned, terminating at northern end, not excavated	Pit			
63	Cut	Linear, north-west/south-east aligned, not Ditch 3m+ excavated		1.50m	Unknown	
64	Fill	Red brown clay sand	Fill of 65	Unknown	0.25m	0.19m
65	Cut	Sharp break at surface tapering to a rounded base	Posthole	Unknown	0.25m	0.19m
66	Layer	Light to mid grey brown sandy silt	Subsoil	Unknown	Unknown	0.28m
67	Layer	Mid grey brown sand silt with moderate small stones and occasional charcoal pieces	Topsoil	Unknown	Unknown	0.3m
68	Cut	Oval shaped feature, not excavated	Pit	0.80m	0.80m	Unknown
100	Fill	Dark brown grey, clay silt, occasional pebbles, occasional charcoal pieces			1.60m	0.55m
101	Fill	Dark brown grey, clay silt, occasional pebbles, occasional charcoal pieces	Fill of 102	6m+	1.60m	0.55m
102	Cut	Curvilinear, moderately steep sides, concave base, NW-SE orientated	Ditch	6m+	1.60m	0.55m
103	Fill	Mid brown grey, sand silt, occasional charcoal flecks, very occasional stones	Fill of 104	15m+	0.98m	0.48m
104	Cut	Linear, steep sides, concave base, E-W orientated	Ditch	15m+	0.98m	0.48m
105	Fill	Mid grey, sand silt, occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of 106	1.26m	0.9m	0.21m
106	Cut	Sub oval, moderate to steep sides, concave Pit 1.20 base, N-S orientated		1.26m	0.9m	0.21m
107	Fill	Mid brown grey, sand silt, occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of 108	1.05m	0.76m	0.31m

Context No.	Context Type	Description	Interpretation	Length	Width	Depth
108	Cut	Sub oval, steep sides, concave base	Pit	1.05m	0.76m	0.31m
109	Fill	Mid brown grey, clay silt, occasional pebbles, occasional charcoal pieces	Fill of 110	6m+	0.65m	0.75m
110	Cut	Curvilinear, moderately sloping sides, concave base, NW-SE orientated	Ditch	6m+	0.65m	0.75m
111	Fill	Mid brown grey, sand silt, occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of 112	2.30m+	0.60m	0.22m
112	Cut	Linear, moderately steep sides, concave base, N-S orientated	Ditch	2.30m+	0.60m	0.22m
113	Layer	Yellow and grey mottled silt	Natural	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
114	Fill	Mid brown grey, sand silt, occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of 115	1m+	0.74m	0.24m
115	Cut	Sub oval, moderately sloping sides, concave double scoop base	Pit	1m+	0.74m	0.24m
116	Fill	Dark brown grey, clay silt, occasional pebbles, occasional charcoal	Fill of 117	0.87m	0.32m	0.25m
117	Cut	Sub oval, moderately sloping sides, concave base, E-W orientated	Pit	0.87m	0.32m	0.25m
118	Fill	Mid brown grey mottled with brown staining, clay silt, occasional pebbles, charcoal and fire cracked stone	Fill of 119	0.72m	1.4m	0.29m
119	Cut	Oval, moderate sides, concave base, E-W orientated	Pit	0.72m	1.4m	0.29m
120	Fill	Mid brown grey, clay silt, occasional pebbles, occasional charcoal pieces	Fill of 121	0.90m+	0.86m	0.24m
121	Cut	Sub square, truncated on N side by modern service, gradually sloping sides, concave base, N-S orientated	Pit	0.90m+	0.86m	0.24m
122	Fill	Light yellow grey clay silt mottled with brown staining	Fill of 123	0.50m+	0.94m	0.48m
123	Cut	Circular, steep sides, concave base	Pit	0.50m+	0.94m	0.48m
124	Fill	Mid brown grey, silt sand, occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of 125	1.75m+	1.04m	0.40m

Context No.	Context Type	Description	Interpretation	Length	Width	Depth
125	Cut	Linear, steep sides, flat base, N-S orientated	Ditch	1.75m+	1.04m	0.40m
126	Fill	Mid grey brown, sand silt, occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of 127	2.30m+	1m	0.36m
127	Cut	Linear, steep sides, concave base, N-S orientated	Ditch	2.30m+	1m	0.36m
128	Fill			0.65m+	1.15m	0.58m
129	Cut	Sub-square, gradual sides, flat base, SE-NW orientated	Pit	0.65m+	1.15m	0.58m
130	Fill	Mid grey silty clay mottled with brown staining with occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of 131	1.75m+	0.86m	0.26m
131	Cut	Curvilinear, W side moderately steep, E side truncated, flat bottom	Ditch	1.75m+	0.86m	0.34m
132	Fill	Mid brown grey silty clay with occasional pebbles	Fill of 133	1.75m+	1m	0.37m
133	Cut	Linear, gradually sloping sides, concave base, NNE-SSW orientated	Ditch	1.75m+	1m	0.37m
134	Fill	Mid brown grey sand clay silt with occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of 135	4.5m+	0.75m	0.35m
135	Cut	Linear, steep sides, irregular base, E-W orientated	Ditch	4.5m+	0.75m	0.35m
136	Fill	Dark brown grey clay silt mottled with brown staining with occasional pebbles and charcoal pieces	Fill of 137	1.36m	0.80m	0.33m
137	Cut	Irregular in plan, vertical sides, concave base. N-S orientated	Pit	1.36m	0.80m	0.33m
138	Fill	Mixture of yellow orange sand and light to mid grey silt sand	Fill of 139	5m+	1.32m	0.48m
139	Cut	Linear, steep undulating sides, concave base, NW-SE orientated	Ditch	5m+	1.32m	0.48m
140	Fill	Mid grey brown sand clay silt with occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of 141	8m+	0.70m	0.20m

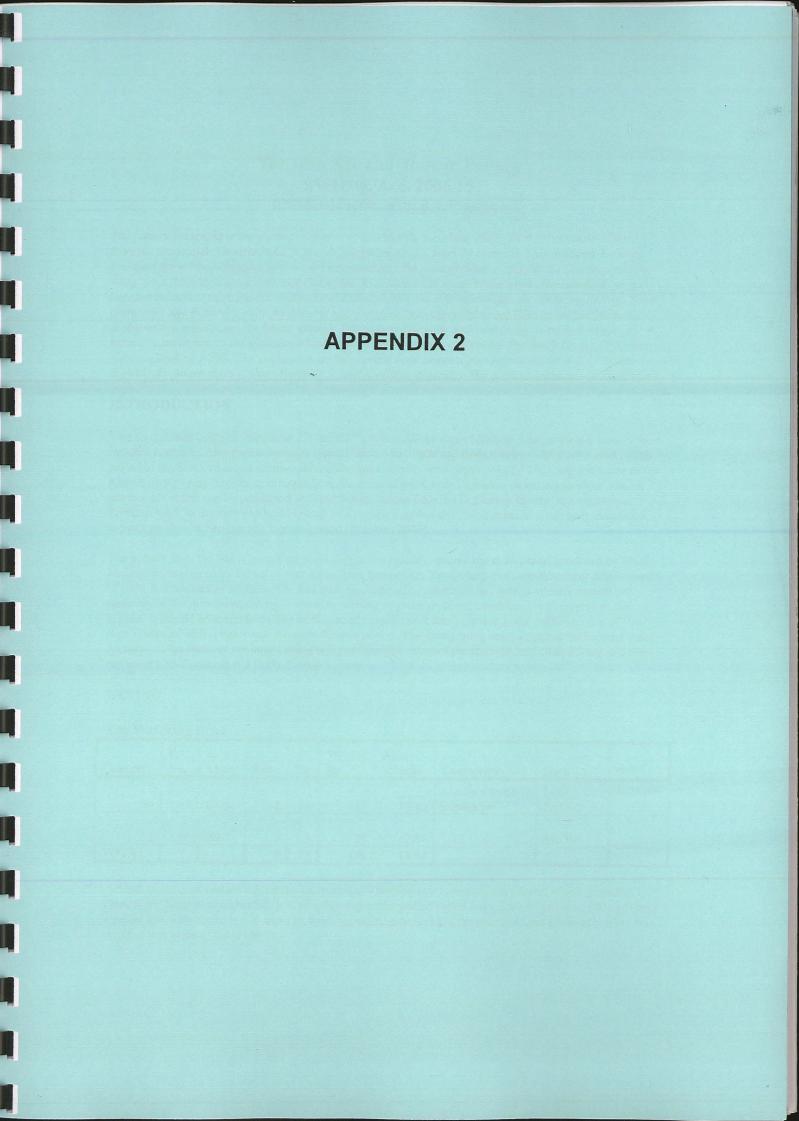
Context No. Context Type		Description	Interpretation	Length	Width	Depth	
141	Cut	Linear, moderately steep sides, flat base, E- W orientated	Ditch	8m+	0.70m	0.20m	
142	Fill	Light grey brown silt sand with occasional charcoal pieces	Fill of 143	2.20m+	0.30m	0.10m	
143	Cut	Linear, moderately steep sides, flat base, NW-SE orientated	2.20m+	0.30m	0.10m		
144	Fill	Light grey brown silt sand with occasional charcoal flecks	0.55m	0.18m			
145	Cut	Linear, moderately steep sides, concave base, NW-SE orientated	inear, moderately steep sides, concave Ditch 1.60m+				
146	Fill	Mixture of mid grey clay silt and mid grey brown sand silt with occasional charcoal pieces	Fill of 149	4m+	0.48m	0.13m	
147	Fill	Mid grey clay silt with occasional mid brown sand patches and occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of 149	4m+	0.30m	0.13m	
148	Fill	Mixture of mid grey silt clay and yellow brown silt clay with occasional charcoal pieces			0.18m	0.08m	
149	Cut	Linear, steep sides, flat base, WNW-ESE orientated	Ditch	4m+	0.48m	0.27m	
150	Fill	Mixture of mid grey clay silt and brown silt clay with occasional charcoal pieces	Fill of 152	2.25m+	1.25m	0.34m	
151	Fill	Mixture of blue grey clay and brown sand with occasional charcoal pieces	Fill of 152	2.25m+	0.15m	0.06m	
152	Cut	Linear, steep sides, concave base, NE-SW orientated	Ditch	2.25m+	1.25m	0.40m	
153	Fill	Grey blue mottled with brown staining and occasional pebbles	Fill of 154	5m+	0.90m	0.60m	
154 Cut		Linear, moderately steep sides, flat base, E- W orientated	Ditch	5m+	0.90m	0.60m	

155	Fill	Mixture of light grey silt sand mottled with light brown staining with occasional charcoal and small pebbles	Fill of 156	5.5m+	0.74m	0.44m
156	Cut	Linear, moderately steep sides, flat base, NW-SE orientated	Ditch	5.5m+	c.1m	0.86m
157	Fill	Mixture of yellow orange clay sand and grey brown silt sand	Fill of 159	7m+	0.60m	0.66m
158	Fill	Yellow orange clay sand	Fill of 159	7m+	0.30m	0.20m+
159	Cut	Linear, steep sides, concave and undulating base, NW-SE orientated	Ditch	7m+	0.60m	0.66m
160	Fill	Mixture of orange yellow brown sand, light grey sand and mid grey brown silt sand with very occasional iron pan	Fill of 161	4.50m+	1.25m	0.40m
161	Cut	Linear, moderate sides, concave base, NE- SW orientated	Ditch	4.50m+	1.25m	0.40m
162	Fill	Mixture of yellow orange sand and light to mid grey silt sand	Fill of 163	1.15m+	1.60m	0.34m
163	Cut	Linear, undulating sides, concave base, ENE- WSW orientated	Ditch	1.15m+	1.60m	0.34m
164	Fill	Mixture of grey clay silt and mid brown silt sand with occasional gravel	Fill of 165	5.50m	0.76m	0.2m
165	Cut	Linear, moderate sides, concave base, WSW-ENE orientated	Ditch	5.50m	0.76m	0.2m
166	Fill	Mixture yellow orange sand and light grey silt sand	Fill of 167	1.15m+	0.60m	0.08m
167	Cut	Shallow gradually sloping sides, concave base, ENE-WSW orientated	Ditch	1.15m+	0.60m	0.08m
168	Fill	Light to mid grey sand silt with occasional charcoal pieces	Fill of 131	1.75m+	0.40m	0.08m
169	Fill	Mid grey sand silt mottled with brown silt with occasional charcoal and pebbles	Fill of 171	5.5m+	1.50m	0.84m
170	Fill	Mixture of yellow brown silt clay and mid grey sand silt with occasional charcoal pieces	Fill of 171	5.5m+	0.36m	0.2m

155	Fill	Mixture of light grey silt sand mottled with light brown staining with occasional charcoal and small pebbles	Fill of 156	5.5m+	0.74m	0.44m
156	Cut	Linear, moderately steep sides, flat base, NW-SE orientated	Ditch	5.5m+	c.1m	0.86m
157	Fill	Mixture of yellow orange clay sand and grey brown silt sand	Fill of 159	7m+	0.60m	0.66m
158	Fill	Yellow orange clay sand	Fill of 159	7m+	0.30m	0.20m+
159	Cut	Linear, steep sides, concave and undulating base, NW-SE orientated	Ditch	7m+	0.60m	0.66m
160	Fill	Mixture of orange yellow brown sand, light grey sand and mid grey brown silt sand with very occasional iron pan	Fill of 161	4.50m+	1.25m	0.40m
161	Cut	Linear, moderate sides, concave base, NE- SW orientated	Ditch	4.50m+	1.25m	0.40m
162	Fill	Mixture of yellow orange sand and light to mid grey silt sand	Fill of 163	1.15m+	1.60m	0.34m
163	Cut	Linear, undulating sides, concave base, ENE- WSW orientated	Ditch	1.15m+	1.60m	0.34m
164	Fill	Mixture of grey clay silt and mid brown silt sand with occasional gravel	Fill of 165	5.50m	0.76m	0.2m
165	Cut	Linear, moderate sides, concave base, WSW-ENE orientated	Ditch	5.50m	0.76m	0.2m
166	Fill	Mixture yellow orange sand and light grey silt sand	Fill of 167	1.15m+	0.60m	0.08m
167	Cut	Shallow gradually sloping sides, concave base, ENE-WSW orientated	Ditch	1.15m+	0.60m	0.08m
168	Fill	Light to mid grey sand silt with occasional charcoal pieces	Fill of 131	1.75m+	0.40m	0.08m
169	Fill	Mid grey sand silt mottled with brown silt with occasional charcoal and pebbles	Fill of 171	5.5m+	1.50m	0.84m
170 Fill		Mixture of yellow brown silt clay and mid grey sand silt with occasional charcoal pieces	Fill of 171	5.5m+	0.36m	0.2m

171	Cut	Linear, moderately steep sides, concave base, NNW-SSE orientated	Ditch	5.5m+	1.50m	0.84m
172	Fill	Yellow orange brown silt sand mottled with light grey sand with occasional charcoal and pebble inclusions	Fill of 156	5.5m+	c.1m	0.28m
173	Fill	Light grey sand silt mottled with mid brown sand silt with occasional charcoal	Fill of 156	5.5m+	0.18m	0.12m
174	Fill	Mixture of yellow brown and light grey silt clay with occasional pebbles	Mixture of yellow brown and light grey silt Fill of 156 5.5		0.76m	0.36m
175	Fill	Light grey sand silt with occasional charcoal pieces	Fill of 156	5.5m+	0.16m	0.05m
176	Fill	Mixture of light grey yellow brown silt clay and light brown sand silt with occasional charcoal and small pebble inclusions	Fill of 156	5.5m+	0.64m	0.24m
177	Layer	Mid grey brown sand silt with moderate small stones and occasional charcoal pieces	Topsoil	Unknown	Unknown	0.3m
178	Layer	Light to mid grey brown sand silt mottled with mid brown sand silt	Subsoil	Unknown	Unknown	0.25m
179	Layer	Mixture of yellow brown clay mottled with light grey and brown sandy silt	Subsoil	Unknown	Unknown	0.21m
180	Layer	Light to mid grey brown sandy silt	Subsoil	Unknown	Unknown	0.28m
181	Fill	Mixture of mid grey and orange brown sand silt with occasional charcoal pieces	Fill of 183	Unknown	2.2m	0.26m
182		not used		1.1		
183	Cut	Only visible in section, moderately steep sides, concave base	Furrow	Unknown	2.2m	0.26m
184	Fill	Mid grey clay silt mottled with mid brown clay silt	Fill of 185	0.4m	0.3m	0.2m
185	Cut	Quarter-circle visible, moderately steep sides, concave base	Pit	0.4m	0.3m	0.2m
186	Layer	Mixture of light to mid grey sand silt and yellow brown clay with occasional pebbles and charcoal pieces	Subsoil	Unknown	Unknown	0.30m

Context No. Context Type		Description	Interpretation	Length	Width	Depth	
187	Fill	Mixture of yellow orange sand and light grey sand	Fill of 161	4.50m+	0.76m	0.16m	
188	Layer	Mid grey sand silt mottled with mid brown sand with occasional charcoal flecks	Subsoil	Unknown	Unknown	0.2m	
189	Layer	Mixture of mid grey sand silt with mid brown sand and yellow brown clay	Unknown	Unknown	0.11m		
190	Fill	Mid grey sand silt mottled with mid brown sand silt with occasional charcoal	0.9m	0.46m			
191	Cut	Linear, moderately steep sides and a concave base	0.9m	0.46m			
192	Fill	Light to mid grey sand silt mottled with light brown staining containing occasional charcoal pieces	Fill of 193	Unknown	1.30m	0.22m	
193	Cut	Not visible in plan, moderately steep sides, flat base	Ditch	Unknown	1.30m	0.22m	
194	Fill	Mid to dark grey sand silt mottled with mid brown sand silt with occasional charcoal and pebble inclusions	Fill of 139	5m+	0.50m?	0.60m	
195	Fill	Light to mid grey sand silt mottled with mid brown sand silt with occasional charcoal pieces	Fill of 196	5m+	0.6m	Unknown	
196	Cut	Linear, profile not visible, NW-SE orientated	Ditch	5m+	0.6m	Unknown	
197	Fill	Light to mid grey brown silt sand with frequent iron pan	Fill of 198	4m+	2m	0.42m	
198	Cut	Linear, moderately steep sides, shallow concave base, NNW-SSE orientated	Ditch	4m+	2m	0.42m	



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The pottery presented to the author consisted of 308 sherds, weighing 4602g from 34 contexts. Pottery from the excavation consisted of 274 sherds, weighing 4162g, from 32 contexts. This included 3 sherds retrieved from 2 bulk samples which are integrated into the main archive. A further 34 sherds, weighing 440g from 2 contexts were retrieved during the Watching Brief phase of the work. The condition varied between relatively fresh sherds, and some abraded sherds, the average weight sherds being 14.94g. Some of the Iron Age pottery is quite friable and has therefore been carefully wrapped to protect it. No further problems are anticipated for future storage. The pottery has been archived using count and weight as measures according to the guidelines laid down for the minimum archive by The Study Group for Roman Pottery (Darling 2004). The evaluation archive record is an integral part of this report will be curated digitally for future study (below Appendix 1, and available digitally). The archive codes are in Appendix 2.

INTRODUCTION

This assemblage contains important 1st- early 2nd century AD groups of pottery. Diagnostically later Roman material is absent. Along with the more typical 'Iron Age Tradition' fabrics known from other sites of this period in the Sleaford area a number of vessels, most notably from ditch 104 (fill 103), suggest some of the Roman pottery may have been brought from the modern day Cambridgeshire/ Northamptonshire area. A number of vessels can be paralleled with published vessels from the Legionary fortress at Longthorpe. Previous work in the area produced groups of a similar date but also some material suggesting continued activity on the site into the late Roman period (Precious 2005).

The pottery from the site is presented according to the phasing, matrix and draft report produced by Mick McDaid following an initial set of spot dates from this author. The pottery from the Watching Brief phase of work is discussed as a whole. The full archive, Appendix 1, contains full details of each context. A summary of the quantities, dating, comments relating to sherd links and condition are discussed in this section. It should be noted that some of the broad ceramic spot dates are due to the continued use of 'Iron Age Tradition' vessel types into the early Roman period. The stratigraphy helps to refine the broader dates. As many of the features are inter-cutting it is possible that many of the features may close in date and may represent peri-Conquest and Early Roman activity.

DATING

Context	F. No.	F. Туре	Vess	Sh	Weight (g)	Ave Weight	Comments	Date	Joins
50	61	Ditch	2	31	417	13.45	Mostly 1 large storage jar	LIA- EROM	175; 184
52	62	Pit	2	3	23	7.67		EROM	
TOTAL			4	34	440	12.94			

The Watching Brief

A small quantity of pottery was retrieved from the Watching Brief phase of the project which probably dates to the Early Roman period. It is possible that a thin walled vessel from ditch 61 (context 50) may have a vessel link with contexts 175 and 184 from the excavation area but the sherds do not physically join. It is possible that some of these sherds

The Excavation

F

Context	F. No.	F. Type	Vess	Sh	Weight (g)	Ave Weight	Comments	Date
100	and the second se	Ditch	1	and a second			Single Vessel	LIA-E2
		~					Large Group some LIA; 1 sherd from Bulk Sample	
103		Ditch	42				The second	AD70-120
105	106		1	2				1-2C
106	106		1				LIA Tradition	LIA?
107	108	and the second second second	1					LIA-M2
109		Ditch	1					LIA-E2?
114	115		2				Nero-Flavian?	1-E2
116	117		1			and the second sec	Scrap	IA-EROM
118	119		1	~ 2				· 1-E2
120	121	Pit	1	1	4	4.00	Single sherd	IA
123	123		1	27	2		Scraps from Bulk Sample	IA-EROM
126		Ditch	2	7	46	6.57		IA
129	129	and the second second second second	1	1	12	12.00		LIA
130	131	Ditch	9	12	161	13.42	Mainly IA Trad vessels	EROM
132	133	Ditch	3	3	138	46.00	Broad date	LIA-M2
134	135	Ditch	1	6	70	11.67		LIA
138	139	Ditch	1	1	4	4.00	Probably Early Roman	M1-2C
142	143	Ditch	1	1	13	13.00	Prob LIA	IA
144	145	Ditch	1	1	15	15.00	Prob LIA	IA
146	149	Ditch	1	2	5	2.50		IA
150	152	Ditch	2	6	65	10.83		IA
153	154	Ditch	3	3	86	28.67	Some IA	EROM
155	156	Ditch	1	1	9	9.00		LIA
160	161	Ditch	1	6	67	11.17		LIA
164	165	Ditch	2	3	21	7.00	Late Iron Age Tradition Pottery Only	LIA
169	171	Ditch	3	4	136	34.00	IA Tradition types	AD70- 120
172	156	Ditch	1	1	10	10.00	?Join 174 & 184	LIA-1C
173	156	Ditch	1	1	10	10.00	Single Vessel	LIA-1C
174	156	Ditch	3	8	76	9.50	?Join 172 & 184	LIA-1C
175	and the second se	Ditch	1	1	3	3.00	n estructure de la seda	LIA-1C
184	185		1	5	41		?Join 172 & 174	LIA-EROM
186	186	Layer	1	4	35	11.17	the second s	LIA
OTAL			93	274	4169	15.22		

The pottery broadly dates to the Late Iron Age to Early Roman period. Many of the more functional forms continue in use throughout these periods and it can be difficult to assign a pre- or post-conquest date to some of the small groups. In this case the site stratigraphy is important to establish the earliest stratigraphical occurrence of wheel-thrown Romanized wares. It is clear that the groups present represent

the late Iron Age, conquest and early Roman periods. Sadly many of the groups are small and there are few imports to help to clarify the dating. The largest group, context 103, is discussed separately below

Significant vessels include a butt beaker rim with a cordoned neck, similar to Cam 113 but lacking the internal rim groove (Hawkes and Hull 1947). An example from Old Sleaford in a cream fabric (Elsdon 1997, Fig 63. 150) is a close match but this example does not have any evidence of rouletting on any of the sherds and only survives to the cordon on the neck, similar to type 16a from the Longthorpe pottery works site (Dannell 1987, Fig 39, Type 16a). Fragments of this vessel occur in contexts 156, 172, 174 and 184. It is conceivable that this vessel could date to the late pre-Roman Iron Age or the peri- Conquest period. Also another probable Iron Age vessel is the large bowl (No.10)

Context 103

Over a third of the pottery from the site was from context 103, the fill of v-shaped ditch 104. This good group of broadly Flavian- Trajanic pottery contained many diagnostic vessels and is a valuable group for the understanding of Sleaford in the 1_{\sim}^{st} century AD. Nine vessels were selected to illustrate this group which are discussed further in the catalogue below (No 1-9). It is notable that although many of the vessels may have been made in the area a number of vessels have unusual fabrics which suggest they may have been imported from the fen edge or perhaps the legionary works at Longthorpe, Cambridgeshire. Also not illustrated from this group are fragments of Iron Age Tradition jars, other rusticated jars, a greyware jar base which had been pierced post firing, a fragment of a hemispherical bowl and body sherds probably from a Cam113 type beaker in CR fabrics. No Samian was retrieved from this group.

Fabric Group	Vessels	Vess %	Sherds	Sherd %	Weight	Weight %
Oxidised Romanised Wheel Made	9	21.43	14	11.20	182	7.07
Reduced Romanised Wheel Made	16	38.10	33	26.40	674	26.20
Reduced Romanised Wheel Made (Rusticated)	4	9.52	20	16.00	395	15.35
Native Tradition wares	13	30.95	58	46.40	1322	51.38
TOTAL	42	100	125	100	2573	100

Fabric Group Summary for comparison with Willis 1996

This group of 125 sherds can be compared to the groups studied by Willis (1996, 1993). It is difficult to say with certainty what type of site usage this group of pottery represents. Wills' research highlighted that although it is possible to look broadly at groups from forts and 'native centres' intra-site depositional practices can affect the deposition of single groups. A number of the vessels from this context would not be out of place in a 1st century Roman fort assemblage but as this is the only significant group from the site one cannot place too much emphasis on interpretation. A number of the Romanised forms have also been encountered during excavations elsewhere in the Old Sleaford area but it is difficult to suggest a definite military presence, only that the people living on the site had access to ceramics which may have been made or distributed by official sources. The high ratio of Roman wheel-made vessels in this group in comparison to vessels in a 'native tradition' in a group of this date suggest a group of some status and is unlike assemblages usually encountered on more rural sites. A military or official presence may have been involved in the ceramic supply but the use of this site by the Roman military or officialdom, on the basis of this assemblage alone, must remain a moot point

THE FABRICS

- CR Cream, miscellaneous cream wares. Sherds attributed to a fabric group rather than a discrete fabric, a Nene Valley source is possible for some of the vessels in this group.
- **GREY** Grey, undifferentiated quartz-gritted grey fabrics, hard wares with sparse to common subrounded quartz inclusions.
- GREY CS Light- medium grey with a silty matrix and moderate well sorted sub angular/sub-rounded quartz, ill sorted sand sized yellow-white calcareous and sized inclusions and sparse ill sorted black brown inclusions. A number of fabrics with calcareous sand have been recognised on other sites in the area (Leary 2008, GRB2; Precious 2001, 137- GREY5) but these vessels are unusual (pers. com. Dr. A. Vince). It is possible that this fabric may come from a Fen edge source but may also be form further a field. Further thin section and ICPS analysis would be required to establish the nature of the calcareous sand and
- GFIN CS Fine reduced greyware made from a calcareous clay, see discussion above. Moderate sub angular grog 0.5-1mm. Perhaps a finer variant of GREY CS
- **IAGR** Coarse tempered, often pimply with grog and other inclusions, occasional shell, IA tradition fabric, which continues in use into the Roman period.
- IAGR CS An IA tradition fabric with the addition of calcareous sand (as discussed above). The fabric shares a similar firing colour and inclusions to GREY CS but with the addition of grog or clay pellets.
- NVGY Highlighted by Precious at Morton and Stainfield (2001, Davis 1995a) this fabric is probably a precursor of the Nene Valley Grey Ware (see Precious 2001- NVGW and Perrin 1996, 118-9).
- **GRFF** Grey, fairly fine fabric. This code covers fabrics intermediate between the common grey wares with sparse to common quartz and fine grey wares (GFIN), which itself is coarser than the very fine fabrics used for Parisian and 'London' wares.
- GROG Grog-tempered. A single bowl of Late Iron Age type with grey grog inclusions.
- GRSA Grey, with common to abundant quartz sand inclusions.
- **OX** Oxidized, miscellaneous oxidized wares. This coding comprises all miscellaneous oxidized sherds, usually in varying red-brown shades and degrees of grittiness, for which no significant fabric groupings are evident. A string-marked base and the jar no 24.
- SLGY Highlighted by Precious at Morton and Stainfield (2001, Davis 1995a) this fabric is probably a local variant of the NVGY fabric (above)

Fabric	Code	Sh	%	Weight	%	
Miscellaneous Cream Wares	CR	8	2.60	104	2.26	
Reduced grey finewares	GFIN	5	1.62	72	1.56	
Reduced grey finewares with calcareous sand	GFIN CS	5	1.62	66	1.43	
Miscellaneous reduced greywares	GREY	37	12.01	608	13.21	
Reduced greywares with calcareous sand	GREY CS	5	1.62	151	3.28	
?Reduced greyware	GREY?	2	0.65	36	0.78	
Grog tempered wares	GROG	7	2.27	121	2.63	
?Grog Tempered wares	GROG?	5	1.62	24	0.52	
?Sandy Grey ware	GRSA?	2	0.65	41	0.89	
Iron Age Tradition Grog tempered wares	IAGR	8	2.60	447	9.71	
Iron Age Tradition Grog tempered wares with calcareous sand	IAGR CS	22	7.14	457	9.93	
?Iron Age Tradition Grog tempered wares	IAGR?	1	0.32	14	0.30	
Iron Age Sand Tempered wares	IASA	12	3.90	94	2.04	
?Iron Age Sand Tempered wares	IASA?	1	0.32	4	0.09	
Oolitic tempered wares	LOOL	1	0.32	126	2.74	
Miscellaneous Native wares	NAT	19	6.17	162	3.52	
Early Nene Valley grey (see Precious 2001)	NVGY	6	1.95	259	5.63	
Light fired oxidised wares	OXL	1	0.32	13	0.28	
Sandy oxidised wares	OXSA	7	2.27	116	2.52	
Shell-gritted common medium	SHCM	30	9.74	413	8.97	
?Shell-gritted common medium	SHCM?	47	15.26	333	7.24	
Early South Lincolnshire grey fabric (see Precious 2001)	SLGY	1	0.32	6	0.13	
?Early South Lincolnshire grey fabric (see Precious 2001)	SLGY?	1	0.32	94	2.04	
Vesicular wares	VESIC	75	24.35	841	18.27	
TOTAL		308	100	4602	100	

The majority of the vessels are within the 'Iron Age Tradition' and most are probably from local sources. Fabrics such as CR, NVGY, OXSA, OXL, GFIN CS, GREY CS and IAGR CS are likely to have been brought to the site from production sites to the south of Sleaford possibly from the Fen edge/ Nene Valley areas. Many of the GREY vessels may have been provisioned much closer to the site. It is notable that there is a lack of many of the typical continental imports of this period such as South Gaulish Samian

THE FORMS

The forms present on the site mostly consisted of Iron Age type cooking pots, bowls and the typical large storage jars which continue in use into the Early Roman period. Butt beakers in a transitional sand tempered fabric were also evident within the first three phases. From Phase 4 a range of typically Roman vessels were

present, a platter and a dish, a hemispherical bowl, flagons and a lamp holder. Romanised butt beaker type forms in CR, OXL, GREY and GRSA were evident in the later phases. Along with the fine wares from Phase 4 onwards Romanised wheel made rusticated jars and cordoned bowls also appear in the assemblage. It is likely that people lived in the vicinity and had a much broader range of ceramic vessels available to them than most simple rural sites in the area.

CATALOGUE OF ILLUSTRATION

No 1 (D5 context 103) Probably an open form in a cream fabric (CR), although the position of the break makes it impossible to say with certainty. It is likely that this vessel is from Gallo-Belgic influenced dish type. A good form parallel would be an example in a Lower Nene Valley Grey ware illustrated by Perrin (1999, Fig 58. 61). Although he dates this form and fabric combination to the second quarter of the 2nd century he acknowledges that it is difficult to trace the antecedents of the form and suggests it may have been produced earlier than this date in the Middle and Upper Nene Valley area (Perrin 1999, 78. Other dishes of a similar form are also illustrated from Flavian contexts at Great Casterton (Corder 1961, Fig 15.37)

No 2 (D6, context 103) The rim and neck from a large flagon, probably a two handled variety. The vessel is fired to a light pink/orange with coarse multi coloured quartz temper. Good parallels can be drawn with flagons from the Longthorpe pottery works (Dannell 1987 Types 8A-C or 10A-D). This author has not handled the Longthorpe material but there are superficial similarities to the descriptions given (Dannell 1987, 137). This would need to be confirmed by further analysis.

No 3 (D8, context 103) A beaker with an everted rim and a cordoned neck in a fine fabric oxidised with light orange surfaces with a higher shoulder which suggests an early date.

No 4 (D4, context 103) This vessel is in the early wheel-made sand tempered NVGY fabric. The majority of similar forms (eg Rollo 1994, Fig 63, 13) date to the 1st to early 2nd century and are usually in a grog tempered fabric with later examples in the NVGW fabric dating from the mid 2nd century onwards. Examples of cordoned bowls in wheel-made fabrics are known from the kiln material dated to AD60-70 found at Great Holme Street, Leicester (Pollard 2005, Fig. 1, 9) and the Neronian Pottery works at Longthorpe (Dannell and Wild 1987, Fig 44, Type 94) and as such, this example might conceivably date to the late 1st to early 2nd century.

No 5 (D7, context 103) A jar or butt beaker in a fine grey fabric with grog temper and calcareous sand (see GFIN CS). It is likely that this vessel is imported from some distance. The form has some similarities to an example in a cream fabric from Holmes Grain Warehouse, Lincoln (Darling 1988, Fig 8. 96)

No 6 (D9, context 103) This vessel in the GREY CS fabric has a strongly nodular rusticated zone and, although the rim is missing a good parallel can be made to a vessel from a Flavian deposit at Great Casterton (Corder 1961, Fig, 15, 40).

No 7 (D2, context 103) A wheel made jar in the IAGR CS fabric with an everted rim and slightly corrugated profile similar to examples from Flavian deposits from Margidunum (eg Todd 1969, Fig 5, 12).

No 8 (D10, context 103) An everted rimmed jar with 'web' rustication in the GREY fabric. This is a typical vessel form of this period at fort sites such as Lincoln (Darling 1988, 1984) examples were also found at Old Sleaford (Elsdon 1997).

No 9 (D3, context 103) A hand made footed bowl, probably from a tripod form, in an Iron Age transitional fabric. The rim appears to have been trimmed with a knife and is similar to bowl rim illustrated by Rollo from Monument 97, Cambridgeshire (2001, Fig. 32, 345). The tripod forms known from Lincolnshire include the wheel-made Romanised example from Dragonby (Gregory and Swan 1996, Fig. 20.32, 1418). A very close handmade parallel in an Iron Age Tradition grog and stone tempered fabric from a Flavian

context at Castleford (pers. com. Dr V.G. Swan, Rush 2000, Fig 50.135). As such it is probably a conquest period to late 1st century form.

No 10, (D1, context 100) A large proportion of large native tradition bowl (BNAT) in a shell tempered fabric with sparse clay pellets. The vessel appears to have been hand made with the bead rim applied to the vessel, a good form parallel for this vessel has been published by Elsdon from Old Sleaford (1997, Fig 51.5).

CONCLUSIONS

The activity on the site suggests a Late Iron Age phase of activity with small quantities of pottery being present in the features investigated. The later 'v' profiled ditch 104 contained a good group of Flavian-Trajanic pottery. Although the pottery finds parallels at many contemporary fort sites and contains unusual vessels such as a tripod-footed bowl it is not clear if this single deposit of pottery represents the settled presence of the Roman army. That much of the pottery may have been made at official or military potteries and may have also been distributed to the site by such methods is clear but it is not certain that this pottery represents the army settled on the site. A site occupied by the military might be expected to produce examples of amphorae, Samian and mortaria, all of which are absent from this assemblage. Recent research on interaction between soldiers and civilians has shown many complicated factors may have been in action (e.g. James 2001). Further excavation in the area to produce more definitively 'fort' features and pottery assemblages would be required before a more firm attribution could be made. It remains likely that the assemblage may represent a local adoption of Roman habits in the vicinity of the already well known important Late Iron Age centre of Old Sleaford.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The pottery should be retained for further study. Context 103 provides a valuable quantified group which improves our knowledge of the interaction between 'Roman' and 'Native' people in the 1st century AD in the Sleaford Area. In the event of establishing a fabric series for the south of Lincolnshire a number of the fabrics from context 103 ought to be considered for inclusion and thin section and ICPS analysis. Most importantly the fabrics containing calcareous sand (GFIN CS, GREY CS and IAGR CS) to try to isolate a potential source and the flagon No. 2 ought to be compared with the products of early kilns such as Longthorpe.

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The Iron Age and Roman Pottery from an excavation and watching brief at Woodside Industrial Park, Sleaford, Lincolnshire- SWIP, Acc. 2006.15, TF 075 469

Context	Fabric	Form	Dec	Noves	Alt	DWG	Comments	Join	Shs	Wt
50	SHCM	JS	нм	1	SOOT EX; ABR		RIM; BSS; BASE; DIAM 28; SOME VESIC; OX/R/OX;		30	41
	IASA		HM?	1			BS; OX/R/OX; THIN WALLED; MOD Q 0.5-1MM; FE? SP 0.2- 0.3; MOD 0.5 VESIC; SP Q 2MM; LOOKS LIKE VESSEL LINK TO	184; 175	1	
	ZZZ						MOSTLY ONE LARGE STORAGE JAR			
50	ZDATE	- W.					LIA- EROM			2
52	GREY	JBK		1		30	RIM; DIAM 11; ?SLEA AREA SAND		1	1
52	GREY			1			BSS; ?SLEA AREA SAND		2	
52	ZDATE						EROM			
	SHCM?	BNAT	НМ	1	ABR; BURNT INT; SOOT EXT		RIM; BSS; FLAKES; OX/R/OX; MOSTLY VESIC; MID BRWN SURF; ?COMMON MOD SHEL; Q SP .0.5; SP? GROG/CP; ? UPRIGHT FIRING; INTURNED RIM WITH APPLIED BEAD AS ELSDON 1997 OS FIG 51.5;		47	33
	ZZZ						SINGLE VESSEL; LONG LIVED WALL			
100	ZDATE						LIA- E2			
103	IAGR CS	JEV	WM; CORUG		SOOT EXT; DEPOSIT INT	D2	RIM; BSS; SHLDR; DIAM 16; LGHT GRY SURF; MID GRY CORE; SILTY MATRIX; LIM COM SUB ANG >6MM; Q MOD 0.3-0.8MM; SP ?FE; SP CP/GROG; RASE SILVER MICA; FORM SLIGHTLY CORRUGATED AS AT MARGIDUNUM?		21	41
103	IAGR	BFT	нм		SOOT BASE EXT		RIM; BS; FOOT SCAR; DIAM 25; LGHT SURF DRK GRY CORE; MATRIX SILTY; MOD GROG (GRY & OX) SUB ANG . 4MM; SP q & SP fe; RIM AS ROLLO 200 FIG 32.345; FORM SIM. TO IMPORT CAM45B; CONQUEST?		1	30
103	GROG	JL	HM	1			BS; GREY GROG/CP		1	3
103	IAGR	CLSD	WM	1			BS		1	1
103	GFIN	CLSD		1			BSS; LGHT GRY SURF DRK GRY CORE		3	4
103	GFIN	CLSD		1			BSS; LGHT GRY SURF DRK GRY CORE		2	2
103	GREY	CLSD		1			BASE; SP GROG		1	4
103	GREY		1	1			BS		1	1
103	SLGY	CLSD?	CORUG	1			BS; DRK SURF LGHT GRY CORE		1	
	GFIN CS	вк	ROUZ	1			RIMS; BSS; PALE GRY MOD GROG 2MM & Q; RARE CALC SAND; FORM MIMICS BKBB		4	5
103	GREY	DL		1	BURNT		RIM; FLAKE;		1	
	GREY	CLSD	CPS?				BSS; R/OX/R/OXDRK GRY SURF RED CORTEXT; COMPASS SCRIBBED		2	1
	GREY			1	ABR		BS; SCRAP; COARSE Q		1	
103	VESIC	×		1			BS; THIN WALL; REDUCED		1	

The Iron Age and Roman Pottery from an excavation and watching brief at Woodside Industrial Park, Sleaford, Lincolnshire- SWIP, Acc. 2006.15, TF 075 469

Context	Fabric	Form	Dec	Noves	Alt	DWG	Comments	Join	Shs	Wt
103	NVGY	BCOR		1		D4	RIM; BS; BASE; FP; FUMED GREY/WHITE BODY; BASE STACKING SHADOW EXT; NOBBLY FE? GRAINS; FORM AS LONGTHORPE II FIG44 TYPE 94	- N	6	25
103	VESIC	J	HM	1	VBURNT		BASE BS; VARIABLE FIRING COLOURS?		19	35
103	IAGR	JEV	HM	1			RIM		1	4
and the second se	IAGR	JBUP	WF	1	SOOT RIM		RIM; DIAM C.20; COM GRY GROG/CP; MOD CALC; UPRIGHT RIM		1	
103	IAGR			1			BS;		1	1
103	VESIC		HM	1			BASE BS; SOME ?SANDSTONE; REDUCED		6	3
103	VESIC	J	HM	1			BS SHLDR; BLACK OVERFIRED		2	2
103	GREY CS	J	RNOD; WM	1		D9	BASE; BS; SIMILAR CALC SAND TO D2; BRWN INT		5	15
103	IAGR	JEV	WM	1			RIM; DIAM 20		1	1
103	IAGR	JEV	wм	1	DEPOSIT EXT		RIM; DIAM 18; DRK SURF; THICK RIM		1	2
the second se	GFIN CS	JEV	RUST; SHG	1			RIM; SHLDR; NEAT WM		1	1
103	IAGR CS	CLSD	WM	1	SOOT EX		BASE		1	4
103	IAGR	CLSD		1			BASE		1	1
103	GREY	J			PIERCED POST COC		BASE; ?SLEA AREA FAB?; SF <4>; PIERCED POST FIRING NOT TRIMMED- DRAIN HOLE IN JAR BASE?		1	6
103	GREY	JEV	RWEB		BURNT; CONCRET E? EXT	D10	RIM; BSS; BROAD SHLDR; ?SLEA AREA SAND?; RIM AS CLAU 96 FORM		11	17
	GREY	JBCOR	CORD	1			BASE; BSS; SHLDR; ?SLEA AREA SAND; DRK SURF; OX CORE		4	6
103	GREY	J		1			BS; ?SLEA AREA SAND		1	1
103	GREY	J	RWEB		BURNT POST BREAK		BS; DRK SURF OX CORE		3	5
103	GREY		CORD		SOOT INT		BS: PATCH COLOUR		1	
	GREY	JBK	SL	1			BS		1	
103	GREY	JBK	ROUZ	1			BS; ?SLEA AREA SAND; DRK SURF		2	1
103	and the second se	F		1			BASE; BS; FTM; VFINE FAB NO MICA OBVIOUS		3	
103	OXL	BKEV	CORD	1		D8	RIM; SHLDR; V HIGH SHLDR; MICACEOUS FAB FINE WITH SPARSE LRGE 0.5M Q		1	1
103	CR	F?		1			BS; V.FINE FAB OCC LGHT CR CLAY PELLETS; PINKY EXT MIN MICA		1	

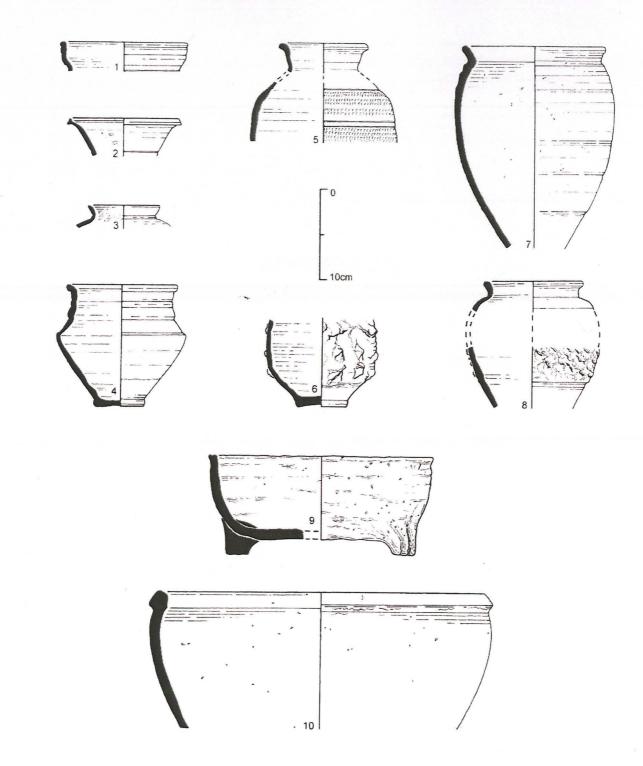
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Context	Fabric	Form	Dec	Noves	Alt	DWG	Comments	Join	Shs	Wt
103	OXSA	FX2?	SHG	1		D6	RIM NECK; BS; SANDY;CREAMY PINK; COARSE MULTI COLOURED Q; SEE LONGTHORPE II TYPES 8A-C OR 10A-D		2	3
103	OXSA	F?		1	BURNT EXT		BSS; PINK COLOUR COARSE MULTI COLOUR Q		3	2
103	OXSA	-		1			BS; SAME VESSEL AS D6?; BULK SAMPLE <2>		1	
103		CRUSY?		1	SOOT EXT; DEPOSIT INT	D5	RIM; LWR WALL; LAMP HOLDER OR OPEN PLATTER; FAIRLY FINE FAB OCC R Q.		1	1
103	CR	BHEM		1		D?	RIM- MECK; FAB FAIRLY FINE OCC 0.5 Q AS REST		1	
103	CR	JBK?	ROUZ; CORD	1			BSS; CORDON; FAIRLY FINE OCC 0.5 Q AS OTHERS		1	1
	zzz						LARGE GROUP SOME LIA; 1 SHERD FROM BULK SAMP <2>			
103	ZDATE						AD70- 120			
105	GREY?	JCOR		1			BASE; BS; SHLDR; CORDON; SAND ?SLEA AREA		2	3
105	ZDATE						1-2C			
107	IAGR?	JB	WM?; SCR	1			BS; MICA; THIN WALL		1	1
107	ZDATE						LIA-M2			
109	NAT			1			BSS; FLAKES		5	2
109	ZDATE						LIA- E2?			
114	OXSA	JB	SHG		BURNT EDGE		BS; POSS IA TYPE NECK OR CORDONED BOWL; SAND ? SLEA AREA			
114	CR	CRUSY?			BURNT EXT		BS; POSS LAMP HOLDER AS	103	3 1	
114	ZZZ						NERO-FLAVIAN????			
114	ZDATE						1-E2			
116	VESIC			1			BS; FLAKE; OX/R/?		1	
116	ZZZ						SCRAP			
116	ZDATE						IA-EROM			
	GRSA?	JBK	ROUZ; SHG	1			BSS; R- DRK SURF LGHT GRY MRGINS; SAND ?SLEA AREA; PROB BKBB			
118							PROBABLY A BUTT BEAKER			
118	ZDATE						1-E2			
120	IASA?	CLSD?	HM?	1			BS; DRK GRY; SANDY MATRIX C.0.1-2MM; MOD Q 0.5- 0.8MM		1	
120	ZZZ						SINGLE SHERD			

the second se	Fabric	Form	Dec	Noves	Alt	DWG	Comments	Join	Shs	Wt
120	ZDATE	-					IA			
123	GROG?		HM?	1			BSS; SCRAPS; BULK SAMPLE <2>		2	
123	ZZZ						SCRAPS FROM BULK SAMP <2>			
123	ZDATE						IA-EROM			
126	VESIC	JB	HM?	1	BURNT		RIM; BS; DIAM 24+; R/OX/R		5	3
126	GROG?	ЈВК	НМ	1			BSS; OX/R/OX; SILTYY MATRIX; SP ?GROG/CP; MOD Q 0.3- 0.5MM; SP 0.3 ?FE; THIN WALL		2	1
126	ZZZ									
126	ZDATE						IA			
129	GROG?	CLSD?	НМ				BS; R; SILTY MATRIX; MOD SAND 0.3-0.5MM; SP GROG/CP <5MM;		1	1
129	ZDATE						LIA			
130	GREY	JBK	SHG	1			BS; SHLDR		1	
130	GREY	JB	WM	1			RIM; DIAM 14; ?SLEA AREA SAND		1	1
130	VESIC		HM?	1			BSS; FLAKES		2	
130	VESIC	JS?	HM	1			BS; BASE; OX/R; CALC & ?SSTONE; SILTY MATRIX		2	6
130	VESIC	В	HM	1			RIM; FLAT TOP; M-LIA		1	1
130	VESIC			1			BS?; CORDON		1	
the second se	VESIC		НМ	1	PIERCED POST COC		BS & BASE; OX/R		2	and the second se
	VESIC		HM?	1			BS		1	
	VESIC			1			BS; FLAKE		1	
the second s	ZDATE						EROM			
	ZZZ						LOTS OF IA TRADITION VESSELS			
132	LOOL	JS	WF	1			RIM; DIAM 30; ELSDON 1997 0S FIG53.37		1	12
and the second se	VESIC		HM	2			BS; FLAKES; IA		2	1
132	ZZZ	_					BROAD DATE			
132	ZDATE						LIA- M2			
134	NAT	BBR	HM; SHG	1	ABR		RIM; BSS; DIAM 18+ SHG ON SHLDR		6	7
134	ZDATE						LIA			
	GREY	BCAR	HM?	1			BS; CAR; R/OX/R/OX/R; SILTY MATRIX; Q SAND TEMPERED; LOC?		1	
the second s	ZZZ						PROB EROM			
138	ZDATE						M1-2C			
	VESIC	JB	HM?		BURNT INT		BS; OX/R; RED BRWN EXT; MOD FINE VESIC; MOD FINE Q		1	1
142	ZZZ						PROB LIA			

	Fabric	Form	Dec	Noves	Alt	DWG	Comments	Join	Shs	Wt	
142	ZDATE						IA				
144	VESIC	JB		1	BURNT INT		BS; OX/R; INCLUSIONS BURNT OUT		1		1
and the second se	ZZZ						PROB LIA	1			-
	ZDATE					-	IA	1	-		
the second s	NAT		НМ	1	1		BSS		2		
	ZDATE						IA				
and the state of t	VESIC			1			BS; ?; SCRAP		1		
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169	SLGY?	J	SHG	1			BS; SHLDR; SOME RARE CALC SAND; SORTING AS SLGY		1		9
169	GROG	CLSD	WM	1			BS; REDUCED; MIXED GROG/ CP FROM 0.5- 1.25MM; THIN WM		1		
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17	2 IASA	BKBB		1			RIM; DIAM; 14; OX/R/OX AS JOIN WITH	174; 184	1	1(
17	2 ZDATE						LIA- 1C			
17	3 VESIC			1			BS; SCRAP; OX/R/OX; THICKER VESSEL; BNAT??		1	3
17	3	1					LIA- 1C			
17-	4 VESIC			1	SOOT EXT		BSS;		7	66
17	4 ZZZ						SINGLE SCRAPPY VESSEL			
17	4 ZDATE						LIA?			
17	4 IASA			1			RIM; DIAM 14; OX/R/OX VESSEL LINK	174; 184	1	1(
17	4 ZZZ						BKBB JOIN			
17	4 ZDATE						LIA-1C			
17	5 IASA	BKBB?		1			BS; THIN OX/R/OX; FINE VESIC?; SAME FAB AS 50; 155; 184		1	
17	5 ZDATE						LIA- 1C			
18	4 IASA	вквв		1			RIM; BSS; DIAM 14; BROADLY SIMILAR TO CAM 113; ? LOCAL FAB? SAME FAB AS 50; 155; 175	172; 174	5	4
18	4 ZDATE						LIA-1C			
18	4 ZZZ						VESSEL LINK TO 184			
18	6 VESIC		HM	1			BSS; SOAPY POORLY SORTED SILTY FAB OX/R/OX		4	35
18	6 ZZZ						SCRAPS			
18	6 ZDATE						LIA?			



The Pottery from SWIP06, scale 1:4

APPENDIX 3

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Tile Archive for Woodside Industrial Park, Sleaford, Lincolnshire (SWIP06)

Jane Young

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A single tile of Roman date was submitted for examination. The tile was recovered from a pit and is associated with 1st to 2nd century pottery. The fabric of the tile is similar to others recovered from the Sleaford area and is quite probably of fairly local origin. Roman building material is not a common find on sites on the outskirts of Sleaford and the tile should be kept for future study as part of a local Type Series.

context	cname	full name	fabric	sub type	frags	weight	description	date
52	TEG	Tegula	reduced with thin oxid surfaces;med- coarse sandy	Flange Type wide 1	1	257	abraded;cut-out ?;very uneven underside;surfaces much sandier than core;part marbled fabric;moderate- common subround to round quartz >.8mm moderate fe >2mm sparse-common rounded ca;very mixed fabric;patches of clean light firing clay	Roman

Page 1 of 1

APPENDIX 4

Assessment of Fired Clay from the Woodside Industrial Park, Sleaford, Lincolnshire (SWIP 06)

Alan Vince

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Three fragments of fired clay were recovered from an excavation at the Woodside Industrial Park, Sleaford, carried out by Lindsey Archaeological Services. Two of the fragments are featureless lumps but the third may be associated with an industrial process.

Description

Fired Clay

Two fragments of fired clay were recovered from context 48, the fill of ditch 59 which contained no dating evidence. The fragments were examined at x20 magnification using a stereomicroscope and were seen to be composed of poorly-mixed lenses of red-firing, black-firing and off-white-firing clays, each of which contains abundant quartz sand. All of the quartz grains are well-sorted and subangular or angular. Sparse muscovite is also present. These features indicate that the clay probably originated in the Middle Jurassic Upper Estuarine Beds, which outcrop on the dip slope of the Jurassic ridge in central Lincolnshire. The mixed clays may be due to the use of boulder clay or other superficial deposit.



Figure 1 Close-up of fired clay from context 48 (approx 3.4mm across)

The fragment from context 103 had a flat surface which is heavily vitrified, although only to a depth of 1-2mm. The vitrified surface is coated with a brown deposit, perhaps phosphatic, which is not present on the broken edges and therefore may have been deposited whilst the object was in use. The clay is oxidized throughout but shows gradation in colour from dark brown (c.40mm below the surface) to red. The margin immediately below the surface shows purple tinges (Fig 2). At x20 magnification the fabric consists of poorly mixed clays of rather

The Alan Vince Archaeology Consultancy, 25 West Parade, Lincoln, LN1 1NW http://www.postex.demon.co.uk/index.html A copy of this report is archived online at http://www.avac.uklinux.net/potcat/pdfs/avac2007000.pdf

AVAC Report 2007/

different character to those in the pieces from context 48. Most are red-firing with abundant angular quartz but also some rounded grains, some of which have matt surfaces and are probably of Triassic origin. Lenses of white-firing clay occur but are thinner than in the other two pieces and less sandy. This clay too, however, is almost certainly obtained from a local boulder clay or other superficial clay deposit.



Figure 2 Close-up of vitrified surface of fired clay from context 103



Figure 3 Close-up of cross section through vitrified surface of fired clay from context 103. Note the purple tinge in the layer before the surface.

Assessment

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The difference in detail of the fabric of the fragments from contexts 48 and 103 indicates that they were obtained from separate outcrops, although both could well have been found locally. That from context 103 has been subjected to a short period of intense heating (in excess of 1000 degrees C) and a longer period at a slightly lower temperature (these are estimates based on comparing the colour of this clay with other samples of local clays fired

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or re-fired at 1000 degrees C). The brown coating fills some of the vesicles on the surface and indicates that the surface was subjected to some wear before the coating was present. It is possible, however, that it is related to the activity in which the object was used. No slag is present on the surface, although it is still possible that the object was a heath lining used in a metallurgical process. Indeed, the purple tinge is often a sign of contact with silver. However, there are other industrial activities which might have led to the subjection of the object to a high temperature, for example if a corn drying oven had caught fire.

Further Work

Analysis of the surface of the fragment from context 103 for traces of metals would all a metallurgical use to be tested.

Costing

Chemical analysis using Inductively-Coupled Plasma Spectroscopy (ICP-AES and ICP-MS) with additional detection of elements associated with metallurgy, such as silver and gold, would cost £52.00 plus VAT at 2008-9 rates.

Retention

The material should be retained for future study.

Appendix 1

Context:	Cname:	SUBFABRIC:	Description:	Form:	PART:	Nosh:	NoV:	Weight:	CONDITION:	USE:
103	FCLAY	POORLY MIXED;ROUNDED TRIASSIC QUARTZ;LENSES OF ANGULAR SANDY OFF-WHITE CLAY BUT MAINLY SANDY RED EARTHENWARE	FLAT SURFACE	HEARTH LINING?	BS	1	1	64	LIGHT BROWN PHOSPHATIC COATING ON SURFACE	VITRIFIED SURFACE
48	FCLAY	POORLY MIXED;;LENSES OF ANGULAR SANDY OFF- WHITE CLAY AND SANDY RED OR BLACK EARTHENWARE			BS	1	1	10	ABR	

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APPENDIX 5

Sleaford Woodside Industrial Park, Sleaford, Lincolnshire SWIP 06

Lithic Materials: Catalogue

Report by Jim Rylatt – June 2008

1.0 Introduction

This report concerns one piece of worked flint recovered during an archaeological watching brief at Woodside Industrial Park, Sleaford, Lincolnshire. This artefact is characteristic of the lithic technologies practiced during the late Neolithic or earlier Bronze Age.

2.0 Method of study

The lithic artefact was physically examined in order to create an archive catalogue. Its attributes were noted in order to determine its place in the reduction sequence, describe observable characteristics of the lithic technology utilised and provide an assessment of its functional potential. The catalogue also records the presence of patination, cortex and whether the piece has been burnt. The piece has been weighed and metrical data is recorded if it is a complete flake, tool or core. It was examined with a x3 hand-lens to determine whether there is any evidence of localised modification that could be indicative of use.

3.0 Catalogue

Context	Туре	Dimensions	Description
120	flake	- 6.0g	Distal fragment of flake, with snapped truncation leaving irregular scar; proximal portion of dorsal surface is cortical – cortex thin, rounded & abraded – distal portion has scars of 2 prior removals from perpendicular/oblique platform (all broad flakes); mottled greyish- brown translucent flint L.Neo/EBA

NB: measurements are only given for complete flakes, tools and pieces - the first figure relates to the maximum length, measured perpendicular to the striking platform; the second to maximum breadth, measured at a right angle to the length; the third to maximum thickness.

4.0 Comments

This flake fragment provides an indication of a later Neolithic to earlier Bronze Age presence on the site. Previous archaeological investigations at the Industrial Park recovered a total of 70 pieces or worked or modified flint, which represented a palimpsest resulting from activity spanning the Mesolithic through to the Bronze Age (Rylatt 2005). The subsequent recovery of only a single artefact supports the interpretation the site was only sporadically visited during this extended period, there being no evidence for any sustained activity or occupation.

5.0 References

Rylatt, J. February 2005 Sleaford Woodside Industrial Park, Sleaford, Lincolnshire (SGP 99 & SWIP 04). Lithic Materials: Catalogue and Assessment (unpublished report for Lindsey Archaeological Services).

APPENDIX 6

The animal bones from Woodside Industrial Park, East Road, Sleaford (SWIP06)

by Jane Richardson 10/06/2008

In total, 86 animal bone fragments were recovered from hand excavations and sample processing. Given the small assemblage, all fragments were recorded (Table 1). The assemblage falls well below the minimum reliable sample size of around 500 (with reference to a number of statistical parameters after Van der Veen and Fieller 1982, 296). Only preliminary phasing was available at the time of writing and as certain contexts remain unphased, no phase data are used here. The animal bone assemblage, however, is likely to be Late Iron Age and Roman in date.

A combination of assemblage size and fragmentation precluded the assessment of metrical data, but condition, erosion, gnawing and butchery marks were noted. No pathological bones were seen. Overall, bone preservation was good with little evidence for eroded bone surfaces. Gnawing by dogs affected two bones, while two bones were butchered, a cattle ulna and a cattle-sized rib. The butchery marks, albeit scant, are indicative of carcass reduction and meat consumption.

Cattle (and cattle-sized) bones were most commonly recorded, with horse, sheep/goat and pig also represented. Age data were limited but neonatal, sub-adult and adult cattle were noted suggesting that this animal was raised locally. Sub-adult sheep and pigs were slaughtered in order to target prime meat.

1	Cattle	Horse	Sheep/goat	Pig	Cattle-sized	Sheep-sized	Total
050				1	5		6
100	8	1	2		19	2	32
103	5	3	3		18	2	31
107		1					1
109	3		1				4
118					1		1
130	3				1		4
144	1				3		4
169	1					2	3
Total	21	5	6	1	47	6	86

Table 1. Animal bone fragments by context

van der Veen, M. and Fieller, N., 1982. 'Sampling seeds', Journal of Archaeological Science 9, 287-298



SWIP06

1. Introduction

1.1 A total of eight environmental sample flots were examined for the presence of carbonised plant material including charcoal. In addition, three bags of sorted retent material were examined for identifiable charcoal fragments.

2. Methodology

- 2.1 The soil samples were subjected to a system of flotation in an Ankara-style flotation tank (French 1971). The floating remains (the flot) were collected in a 300μ m sieve and the heavy fraction (the retent) was collected in a 1mm mesh. The flot, once dry, was scanned using a low-powered binocular microscope. The retent was scanned by eye for both ecofacts and artefacts by ASWYAS prior to disposal. All identified plant remains including charcoal were removed and bagged separately by type.
- 2.2 Plant nomenclature utilised in the text follows Stace (1997) for all vascular plants apart from cereals, which follow Zohary and Hopf (2000). A little wood charcoal was present but none was suitable for identification or radiocarbon dating.

3. Results

- 3.1 Sample flots were all very small with three samples producing no charred material whatsoever, and the remaining four containing 2.5ml or less of tea-leaf sized detritus. Material from three retents was examined and these produced up to 2.5ml of small wood charcoal pieces. Trace amounts of modern root fragments to <2.5ml were also present in the samples together with occasional modern (non-carbonised) seeds.
- 3.2 All results from the soil samples are presented in Table 1 and discussed below.

4. Discussion

- 4.1 The eight flot and three retent samples produced very little environmental material, with only a sparse trace of carbonised cereal grain and occasional fragments of wood charcoal. Preservation of the wood charcoal was very poor, with evidence for iron panning and general degradation of the fragments whilst in the soil. No other categories of carbonised material were present.
- 4.2 Charred cereal grain was recovered from two samples, 3 (123) and 4 (169). A single grain of *Hordeum vulgare* sl. (barley) was identified from 3 (123) with the remaining trace grains found to be indeterminate. Very few conclusions can be drawn from this material, it may be wind-blown or a chance inclusion. No weeds of agriculture or other environments were present.
- 4.3 Small fragments of highly iron-panned wood charcoal were examined from samples 1 (100), 3 (123) and 7 (111). None of this material was identifiable due to poor preservation.

4.4 Samples 2 (103), 5 (138), 6 (153) and 8 (109) produced little or no carbonised plant remains.

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 Overall the samples were quite poor, both in terms of volume of material recovered and in the general preservation of the material examined. A trace amount of carbonised cereal grain was present, but no strong conclusions can be drawn from this. Wood charcoal was also present but was too poor to identify accurately.
- 5.2 The assessment samples suggested future work at the site has a very low potential for producing large amounts of charred material including any wood charcoal.

Bibliography

French, D. H., 1971. 'An Experiment in Water Sieving', Anatolian Studies 21 59-64

Stace, C., 1997. New Flora of the British Isles

Zohary, D. and Hopf, M., 2000. Domestication of Plants in the Old World

Acknowledgements

Client Lindsey Archaeological Services

Project management

Jane Richardson PhD

Report Diane Alldritt PhD

Table 1. Results from the flots and retents

	Sample	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Context	100	103	123	169	138	153	111	109
	Total CV	2.5ml	0	2.5ml	<2.5ml	<2.5ml	0	2.5ml	0
	Modern	<2.5ml	2.5ml	<2.5ml	<2.5ml	<2.5ml	<2.5ml	<2.5ml	<2.5ml
Carbonised Cereal Grain	Common Name								
Hordeum vulgare sl.	barley			1					
Indeterminate cereal grain (+embryo)				1	1				
Charcoal									
Indeterminate		3 (0.26g)		1 (0.17g)					
Other Remains									
Modern (non-carbonised) seeds		2	3				i	2	1

APPENDIX 8

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OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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Printable version

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OASIS ID: lindseya1-53114

Project details

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Project name	Woodside Industrial Park Sleaford
Short description of the project	An archaeological strip, map and record exercise was undertaken during the mechanical excavation of service trenches and an access road, following evaluation previously undertaken in 2005. No archaeological features were noted within the narrow service trenches but during the subsequent reduction of ground for the access road, Iron Age and Roman enclosure and field ditches were identified. A medieval furrow was also noted. Of particular interest was a group of pottery from one of three ditches which often has Roman military associations although none of the features recorded was military in character.
Project dates	Start: 28-04-2006 End: 08-05-2008
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	SWIP 06 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	2006.15 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Monument type	DITCHES Late Prehistoric
Monument type	DITCHES Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Investigation type	'Watching Brief'
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Project location

Country	England						
Site location	NCOLNSHIRE NORTH KESTEVEN SLEAFORD Woodside Industrial Park, East oad, sleaford						
Study area	5.00 Hectares						
Site coordinates	TF 075 469 53 .0082888932 -0.397641916552 53 00 29 N 000 23 51 W Point						
Height OD / Depth	Min: 11.50m Max: 11.50m						

OASIS FORM - Print view

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Project creators	
Name of Organisation	LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Naomi Field
Project director/manager	M. MCDAID
Project supervisor	MMCDAID
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Melbourne Holdings TTd
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	LCNCC
Physical Archive ID	2006.15
Physical Contents	'Animal Bones', 'Ceramics', 'Worked stone/lithics'
Digital Archive recipient	Lindsey Archaeological Services
Digital Archive ID	SWIP 06
Digital Contents	'Animal Bones', 'Ceramics', 'Environmental', 'Worked stone/lithics'
Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography','Spreadsheets','Text'
Paper Archive recipient	LCNCC
Paper Archive ID	2006.15
Paper Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental','Worked stone/lithics'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Correspondence','Drawing','Manuscript','Matrices','Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes','Report','Section'
Project	
bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Woodside Industrial PArk, Land off Pride Parkway, East Road, Sleaford, Archaeological Strip Map and Record
Author(s)/Editor (s)	McDaid, M.
Other bibliographic details	LAS Report 1051

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lssuer or publisher	LAS
Place of issue or publication	Lincoln
Description	A4 comb bound, 11pp + 7 appendices + 6 Figs. + 27 plates
Entered by	Naomi Field (field.naomi@linarch.co.uk)
Entered on	23 December 2008

OASIS:

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THE FIGURES

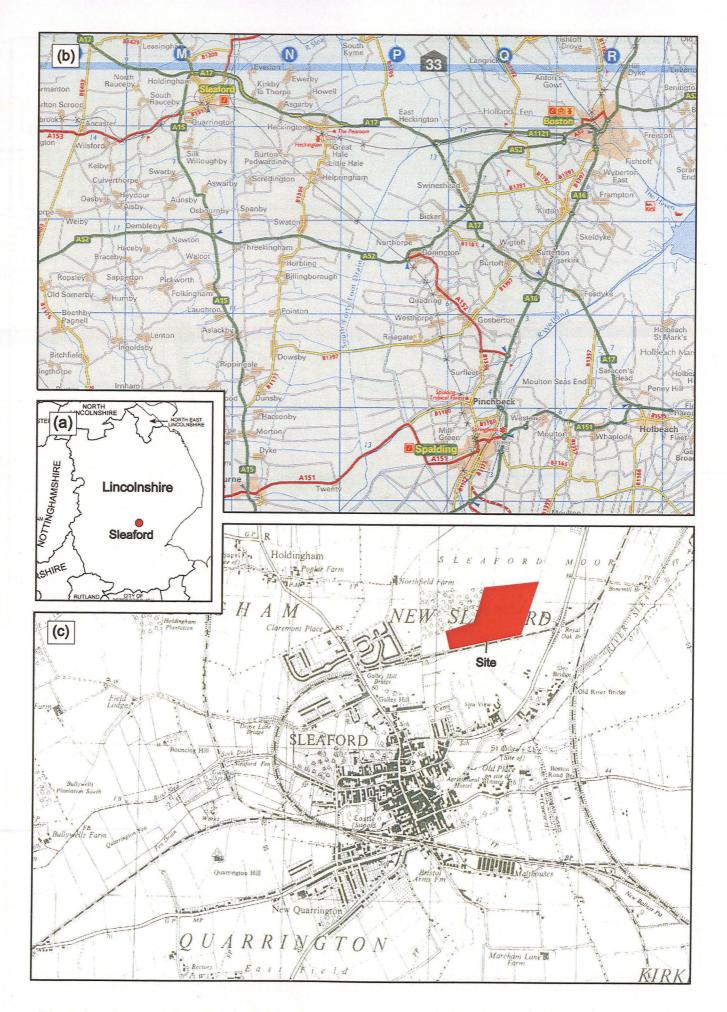
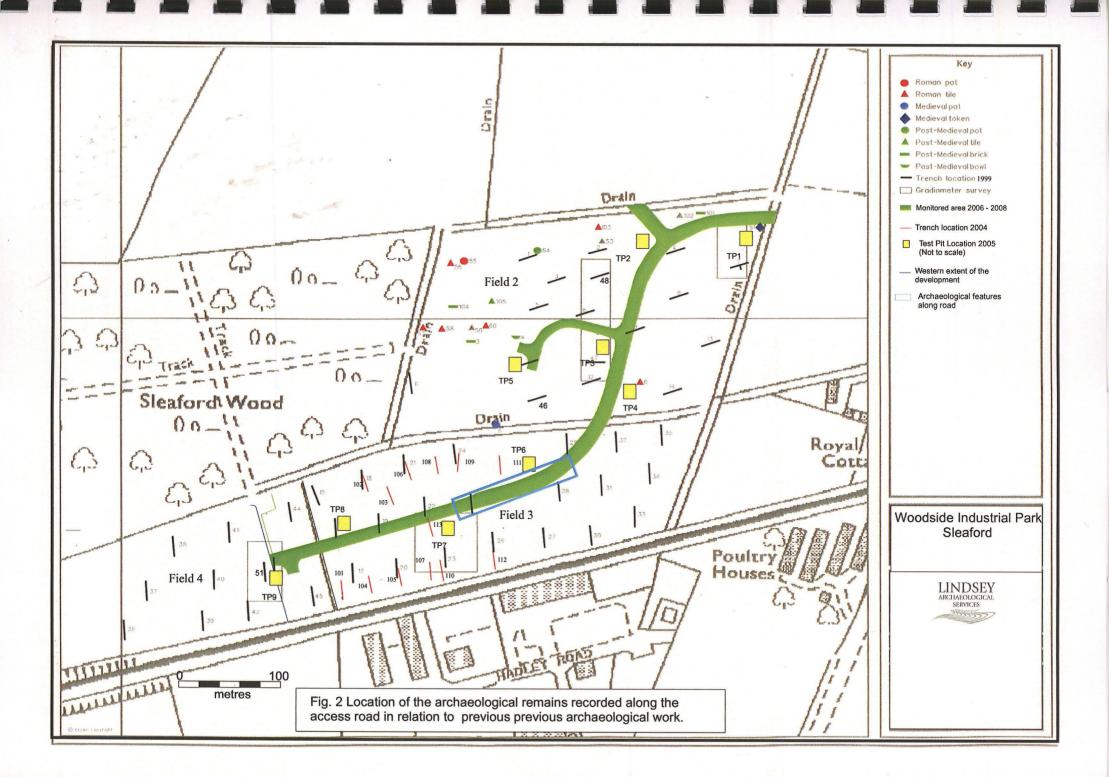
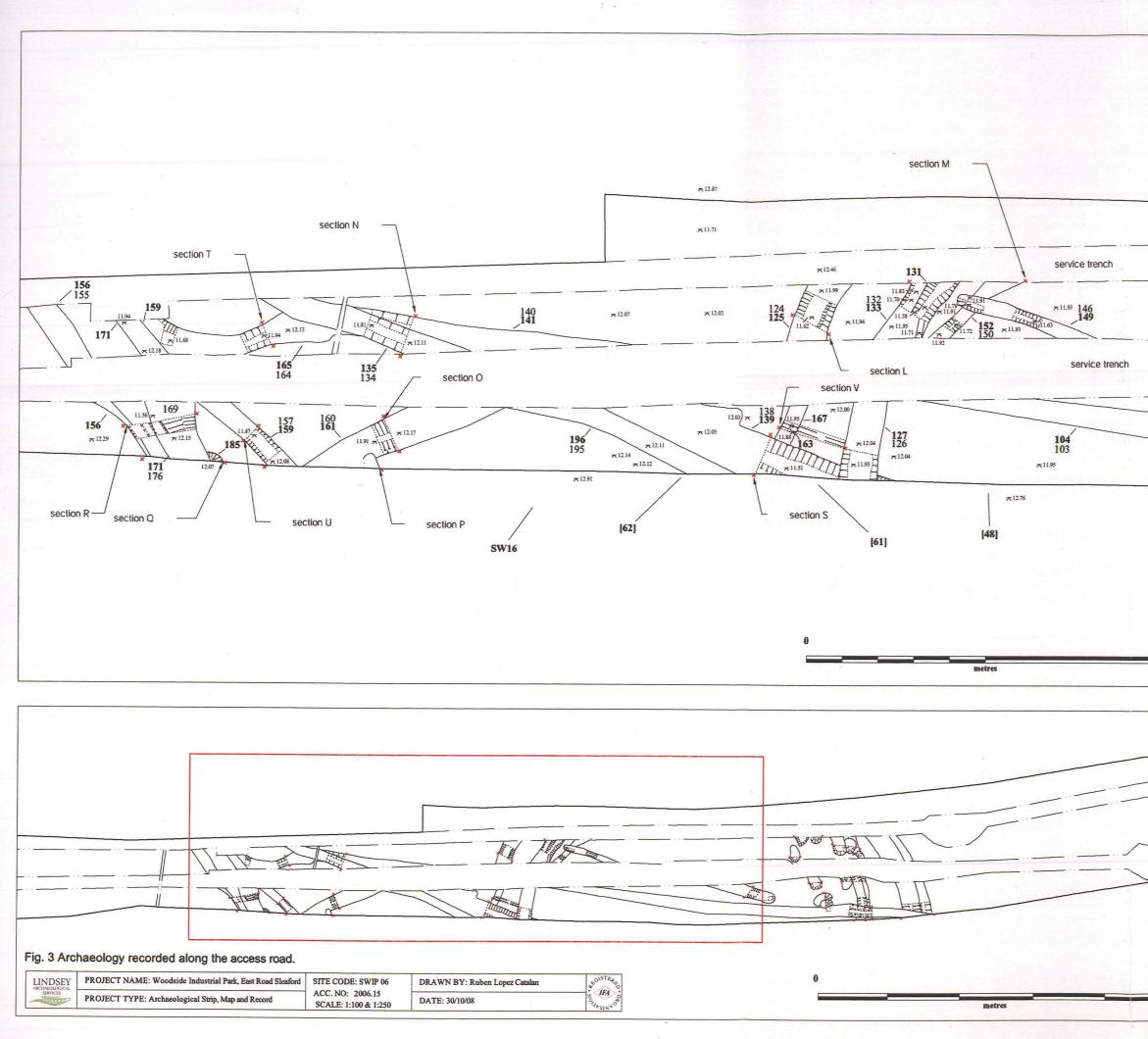


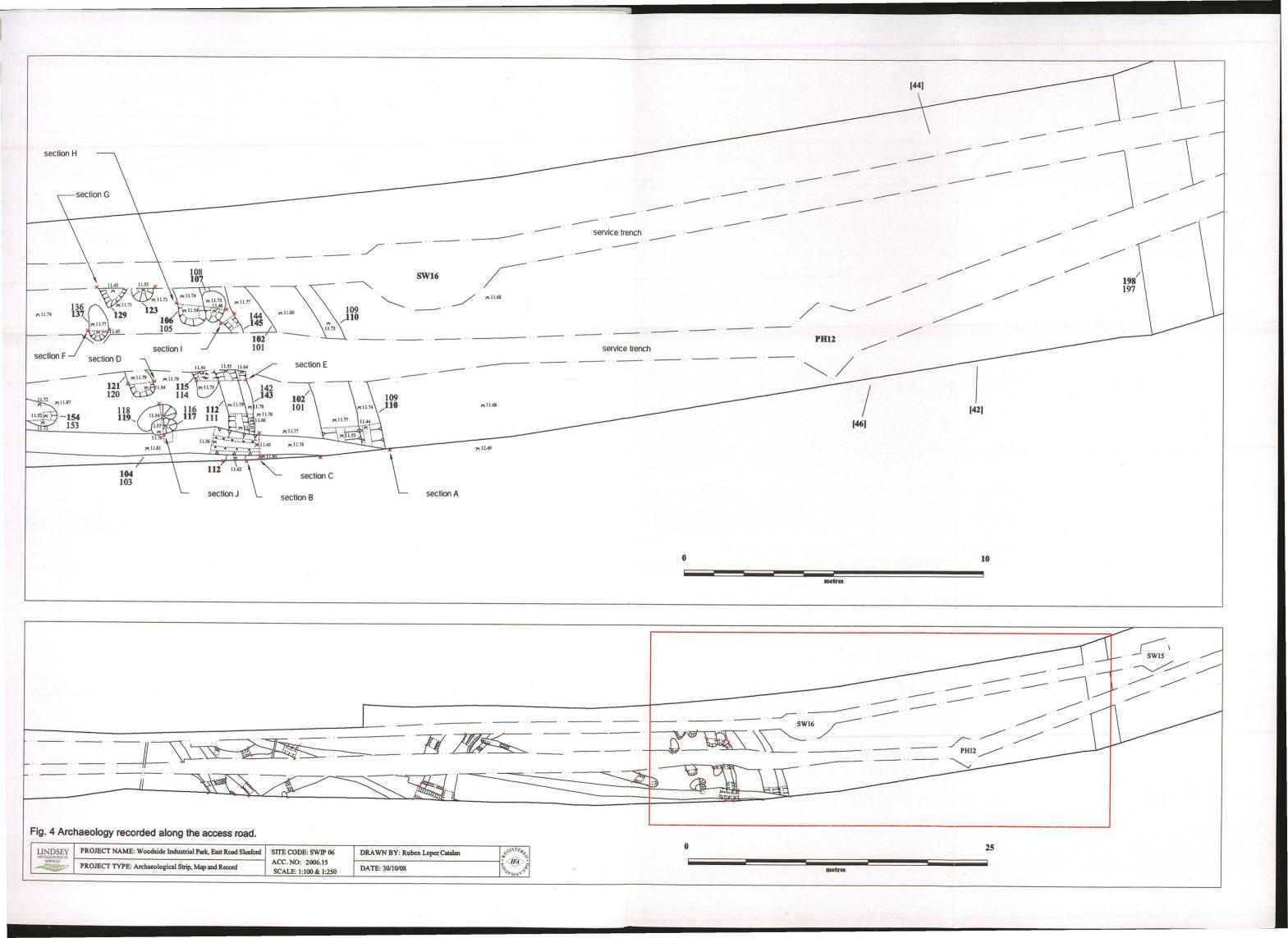
Fig.1 Location of Sleaford (inset C based on the Ordnance 1:50,000 Explorer map. Crown copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence no. AL 100002165.

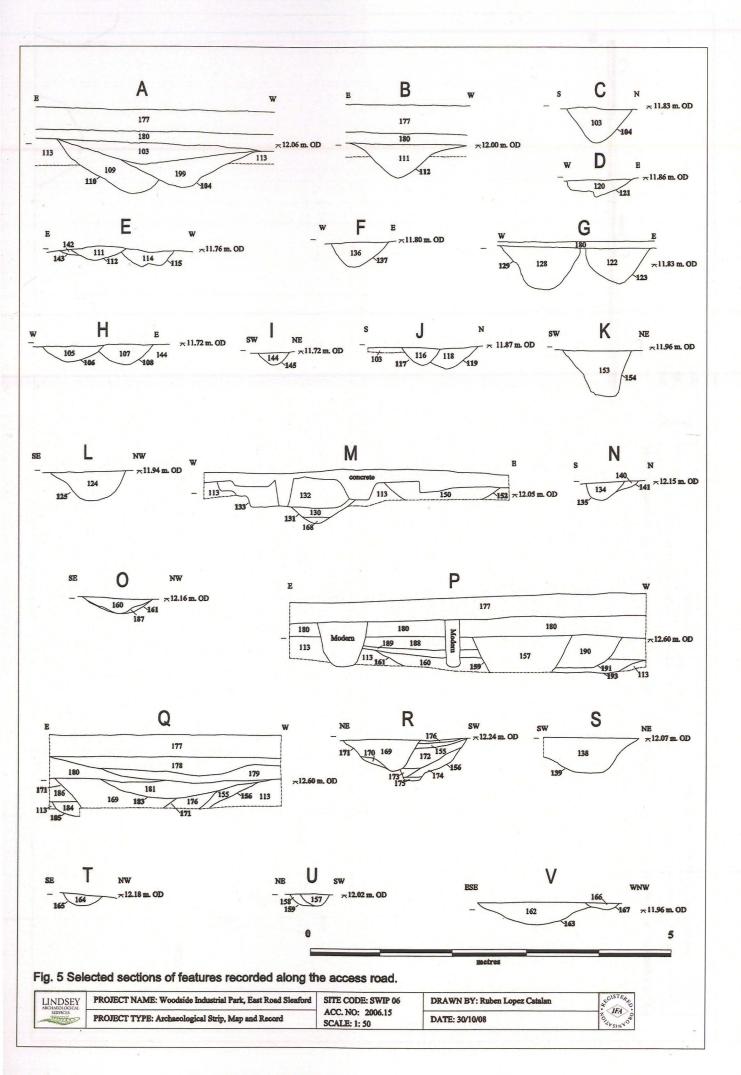


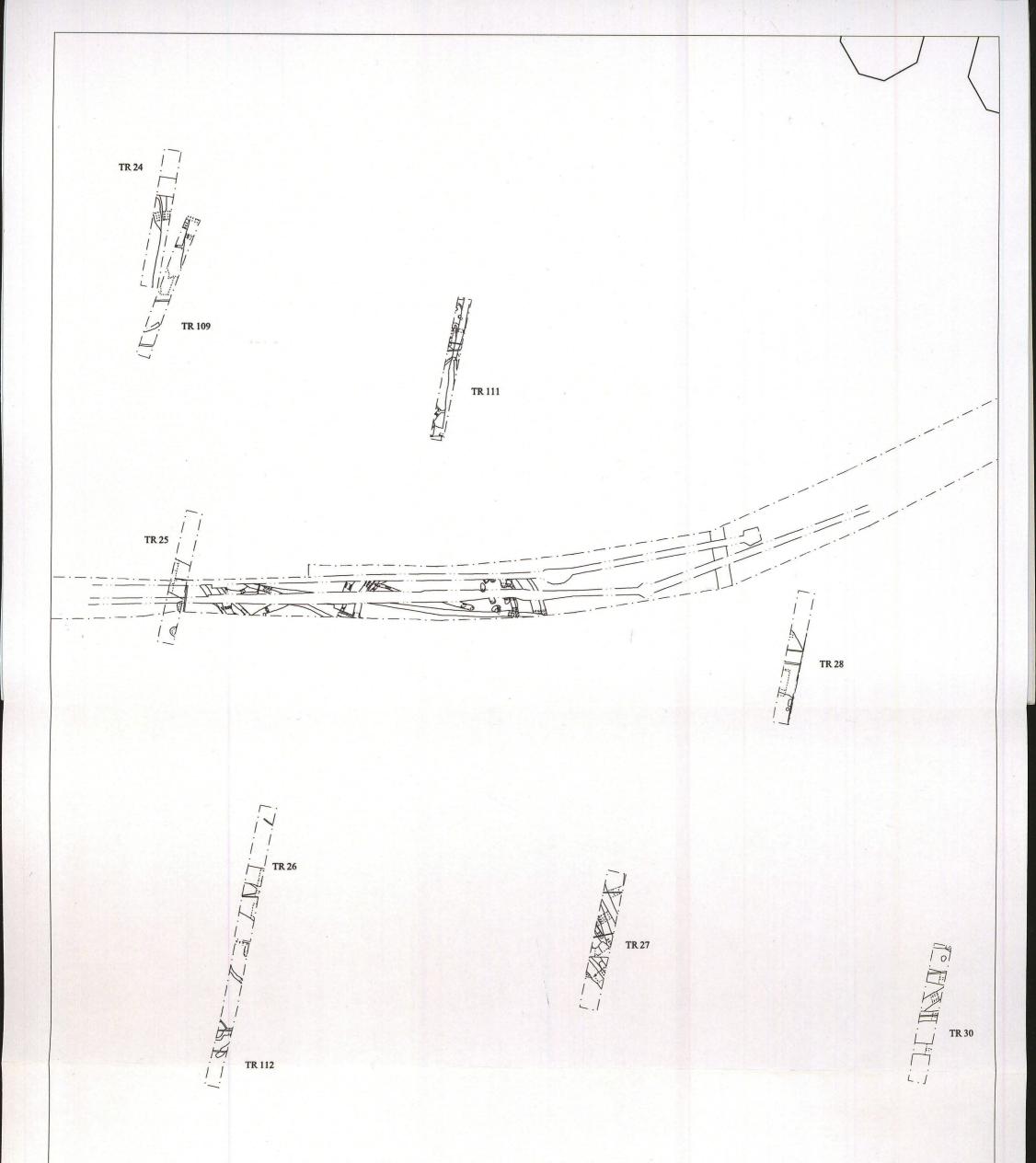


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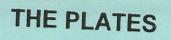




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Fig. 6 Features recorded in the access road in relation to archaeology recorded during the evaluation phase.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL	PROJECT NAME: Woodside Industrial Park, East Road Sleaford		DRAWN BY: Ruben Lopez Catalan	N	4 GISTERES
SERVICES	PROJECT TYPE: Archaeological Strip, Map and Record	ACC. NO: 2006.15 SCALE: 1: 500	DATE: 03/11/08		NOIL SIN'S





Pl. 1 Field 2 service trench. Note the close proximity of connection points.



Pl. 2 Field 3 service trench. Note how the smearing of the trench sides makes identification of any archaeology impossible.



Pl. 3 Field 3. Stripping of the access road, looking south-west.



Pl. 4 Postholes 42 and 65, west facing section.



Pl. 5 Ditch 46, west facing section.



Pl. 6 Pottery (to the right of the scale) within fill 50 of ditch 61. Scale 0.50m.



Pl. 7 Ditch 161, north-east facing section. Scale 1m.

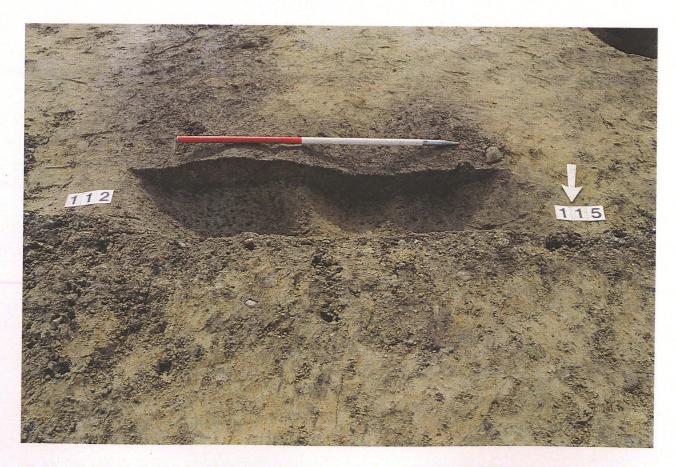
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Pl. 8 Ditches 139/141 and 135/196, pre-excavation, looking east.



Pl. 9 Ditch 127, north facing section.



Pl. 10 Ditches 112 and 143 with pit 115 to the west. North facing section. Scale 1m.



Pl. 11 Pit 121, south-east facing section. Scale 1m.



Pl. 12 Pit 129, south-east facing section. Horizontal scale 1m, vertical scale 0.50m.

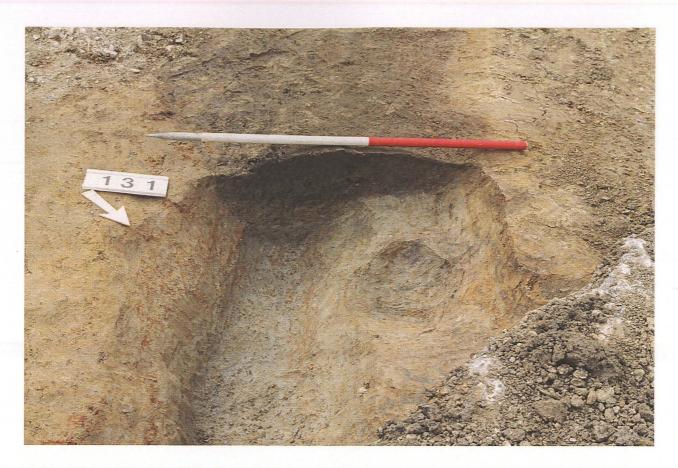
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Pl. 13 Ditch 159, north-west facing section. Scale 0.50m.



Pl. 14 Ditches 156 and 171, north-west facing section. Scale 2m.



Pl. 15 Ditches 131 and 133, north-east facing section. Scale 1m.





Pl. 17 Ditches 102 and 110, north-west facing section. Horizontal scale 1m, vertical scale 0.50m.



Pl. 18 Ditch 125, south-west facing section. Scale 1m.



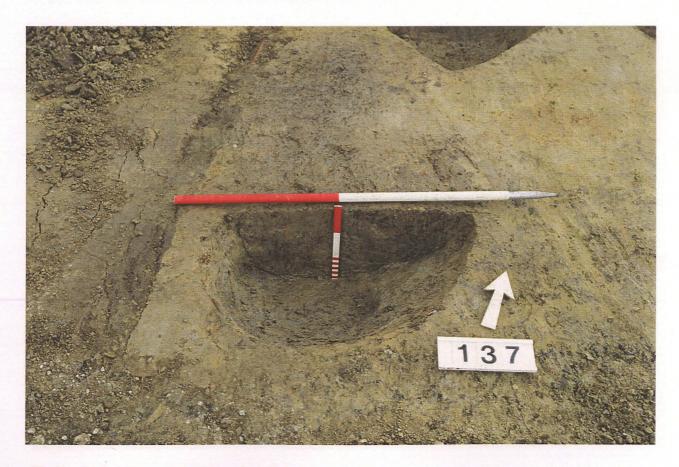
Pl. 19 Pits 106 and 108, south facing section. Scale 1m.

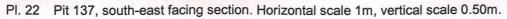


Pl. 20 Pits 117 and 119, north-east facing section. Scale 1m.



Pl. 21 Pit 123, south-east facing section. Horizontal scale 1m, vertical scale 0.50m.







Pl. 23 Ditch 104, south-west facing section. Scale 1m.

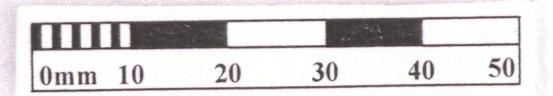
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Pl. 24 Ditch 139, south-east facing section.



PI. 25 Ditch 198, north facing section. Scale 2m.





Pl. 27 Roman brooch SF 3 from ditch 125