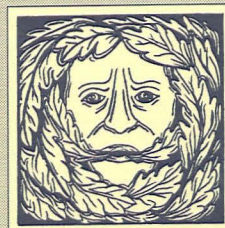


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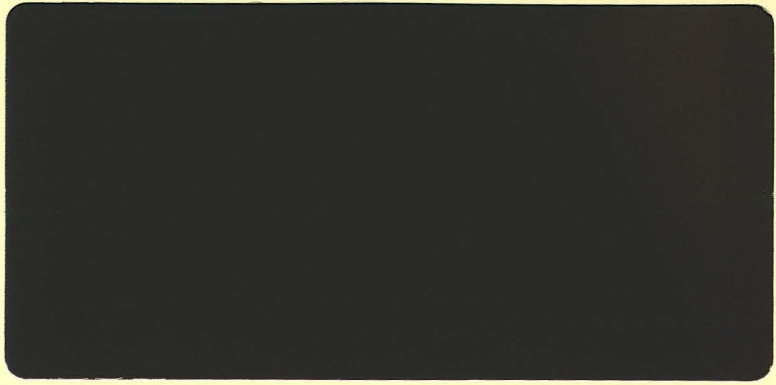
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT HOME FARM,
58 MAIN STREET,
NORTH KYME,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(NKM96)**



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
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29.5.96

County Council
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT HOME FARM,
58 MAIN STREET,
NORTH KYME,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(NKM96)**

Work Undertaken For
H E DRURY and Co.

Report Compiled
by
Fiona Walker

May 1996

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the construction of an agricultural store at Home Farm, 58 Main Street, North Kyme, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of nineteen foundation footings.

Just to the west of the development is the Car Dyke, a major watercourse of Roman date (AD 50-400). Other Romano-British sites and finds have also been identified in the parish.

The site lies on the west side of the medieval (1066-1500) village and about 300m west of the Victorian parish church, built on the site of one pulled down in the 16th century.

Excavation of the foundation pits revealed a natural hollow at the northern end of the site. This had, until the 1930s, collected the runoff from a crew yard which stood to the north. The hollow was subsequently backfilled to level the ground. No evidence for prehistoric, Roman or medieval remains was encountered during the investigation.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Background

On the 15th April 1996, an archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the construction of an agricultural store at Home Farm, North Kyme, as detailed in planning application number N/44/0160/96. The archaeological work was commissioned by H.E. Drury and Co., and was carried out by Archaeological Project Services in accordance with a brief set by the North Kesteven Community Archaeologist (Appendix 1).

2.2 Topography and Geology

North Kyme is located c. 10km to the northeast of Sleaford in the civil parish of North Kyme, North Kesteven District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1). Home Farm is situated on the west side of the village of North Kyme, to the west of Main Street. The development area is in the field to the rear of the farm yard and southwest of the Manor House (Fig. 2). Located at national grid reference TF 15040 52540, the development area is approximately 920 square metres in extent.

The village of North Kyme lies on a slight rise above the surrounding fen and the site is located at approximately 8m OD on the west side of this slight eminence. Soils at the site are Beccles 2 Association typical stagnogley soils, developed on chalky till (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 119).

2.3 Archaeological Setting

Home Farm is situated in an area of archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric to medieval periods (Fig. 2).

About 1km to the southeast of the site was a prehistoric burial mound (NK 44.4), now ploughed out, from which two bronze rapiers were recovered. A socketed axe of Bronze Age date was found c. 300m to the east of the site, near St. Luke's church.

The site lies c. 200m east of the Car Dyke. This monument is believed to be of Roman date, though its function is obscure and it has, in the past, been variously considered to be a canal or part of a drainage system. Over 120km long, this watercourse connected the River Witham near Lincoln with the River Nene east of Peterborough (Whitwell 1970, 57). It is a major archaeological monument and no less than ten separate sections of the Car Dyke are

protected as nationally important scheduled ancient monuments. Its importance is emphasised by the fact that English Heritage, the national coordinating body for archaeology in England, have recently initiated the production of a management and research document for the monument. Previous investigations of the Car Dyke have shown the original channel to be about 13m wide at the surface and provided with flanking banks up to 15m wide (Archaeological Project Services 1995, 7). A number of other Roman artefacts and sites have also previously been identified in North Kyme parish.

Additionally, the site is near the core of the medieval village. At the time of the Domesday survey (AD 1086) North Kyme consisted of two manors, one held by Robert de Toden and the other by Colsuain. Within Colsuain's holding was a fishery (Foster and Longley 1976, 99; 123). About 200m to the northeast of the site is the remains of a medieval cross (NK 44.2; SAM 91). A further 100m to the northeast is the site of a church. Pulled down at the Reformation in the 16th century, it was replaced in 1877 by the present parish church of St. Luke (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 584).

The name Kyme probably originates from the Old English *cymbe*, a derivative of *cumb* meaning 'a vessel or tub' and denoting a depression in the ground (Ekwall 1974, 283).

3. AIMS

The aims of the watching brief were to locate and record archaeological deposits, if present, and to determine their date, function and origin.

4. METHODS

The footings were opened to a maximum depth of c. 1.5m using a mechanical excavator. The sides of the trenches were cleaned by hand and examined to identify any archaeological features. Each archaeological deposit or feature revealed within the pits was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. Natural geological deposits were also recorded where exposed. A photographic record was compiled, and sections were drawn at 1:10 and an overall site plan at 1:200.

5. RESULTS

Records of the deposits and features identified during the watching brief were examined. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them. Two phases were identified:

- Phase 1 Natural deposits
- Phase 2 Modern deposits

Phase 1 Natural deposits

Exposed in parts of the bases of the deepest southern footings was a light grey clay (008). Explained as natural, this deposit was not excavated to its lowest extent but was at least 0.12m thick. Above it was a 0.36-0.5m thick layer of mottled grey and orange clay and silty clay (005, 007), interpreted as a natural subsoil (Plate 1). Overlying 007 in all but the north footings (P1, P2, P3, P4) was a 0.35m thick deposit of light brown sandy silty clay (006). This deposit was explained as a naturally developed soil horizon.

Phase 2 Modern deposits

Overlying subsoil 005 in the northern

footings (P1, P2, P3, P4) was a brownish black organic silt (004). This was interpreted as buried top soil (Plate 2).

Above 004 was a yellow clay (003). The surface of this declined from south to north, with the deposit depth decreasing from 0.4-0.1m. This material was considered to be naturally formed. Overlying 003 was a 0.65m thick deposit of orange brown clay (002), explained as a dumped deposit.

Above both 002 and 006 was a brown, orange mottled, silty clay (001) that formed the modern ploughsoil.

6. DISCUSSION

Glaciofluvial drift (Phase 1) was exposed across the whole of the site. This sequence of natural layers was sealed, in the north of the area, by deposits associated with farming practices (Phase 2). Formerly, until about the 1930s, the higher ground to the north had a crew yard which drained southwards into the investigation area (G E Drury, pers comm). As a consequence, this low area was waterlogged, and subject to plant growth and gradual silting. Subsequently, the hollow was deliberately filled and the ground levelled to improve its use for farming purposes. The area was sealed by ploughsoil which constituted the modern ground surface.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Home Farm, North Kyme, as a condition of planning permission. This was because the site lay within the medieval village and also close to the Car Dyke, a major Roman waterway. Consequently, there was the likelihood of archaeological remains being disturbed by the development.

A sequence of natural to modern deposits was revealed. At the northern extremity of the development area was a natural hollow. The hollow had been partially filled through natural silting, subsequent to which it was deliberately backfilled to level the ground. Modern ploughsoil provided the ground surface across the area. No evidence of prehistoric, Roman or medieval remains was identified at the site.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to thank Mr G.E. Drury, of H.E. Drury and Co., who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. Gary Taylor coordinated the work and Tom Lane edited this report. Examination of the relevant parish files was kindly permitted by the North Kesteven Heritage Officer.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
Site Supervisor: Fiona Walker
Illustration: Denise Buckley
Post-excavation Analyst: Fiona Walker

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Hodge, C A H, Burton, R G O, Corbett, W M, Evans, R, and Seale, R S, 1984 *Soils and their use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales 13

Pevsner, N, and Harris, J, 1989 *Lincolnshire*, The Buildings of England, (2nd ed, revised Antram, N)

Whitwell, J B, 1970 *Roman Lincolnshire*, History of Lincolnshire II

11. ABBREVIATIONS

Numbers prefixed 'NK' are the reference codes used by the North Kesteven Heritage Officer for identifying archaeological sites and finds.

Numbers prefixed 'SAM' are reference codes used by English Heritage for itemising Scheduled Ancient Monuments.

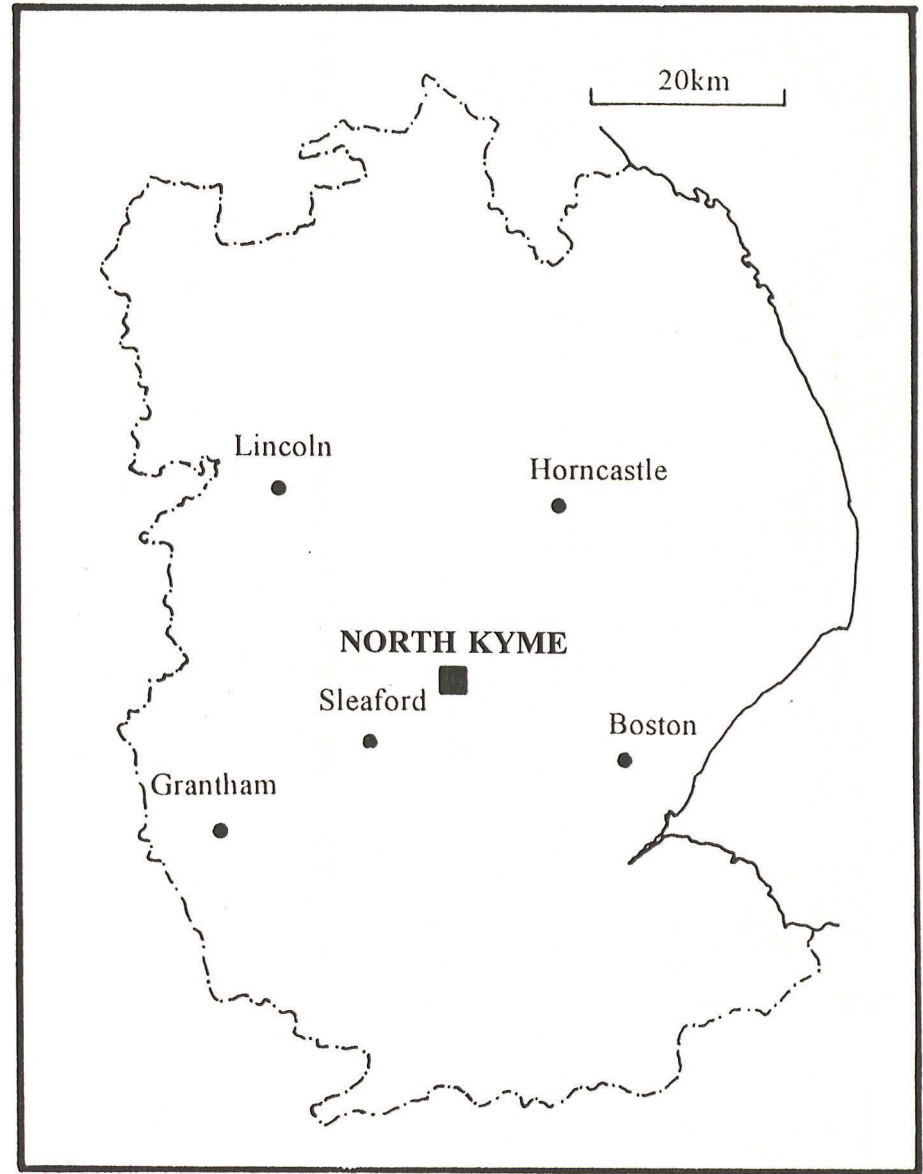
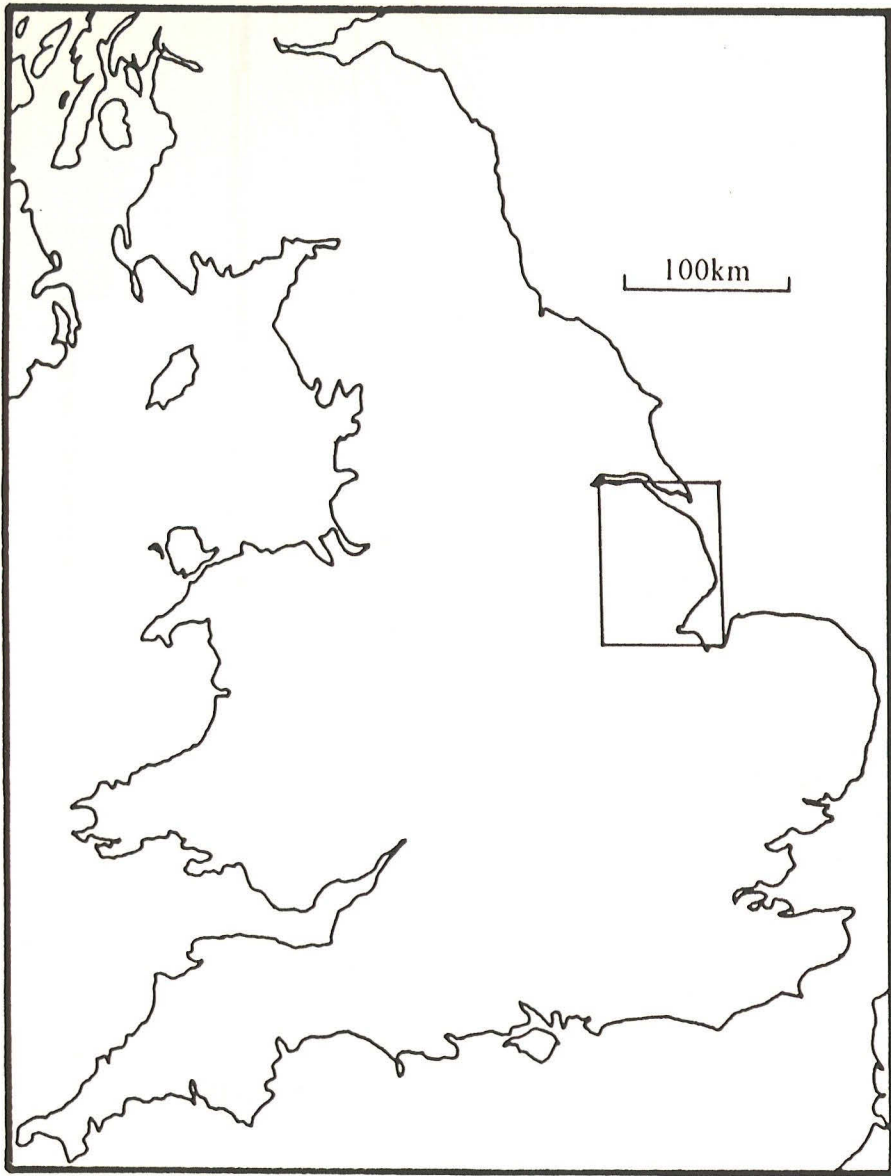
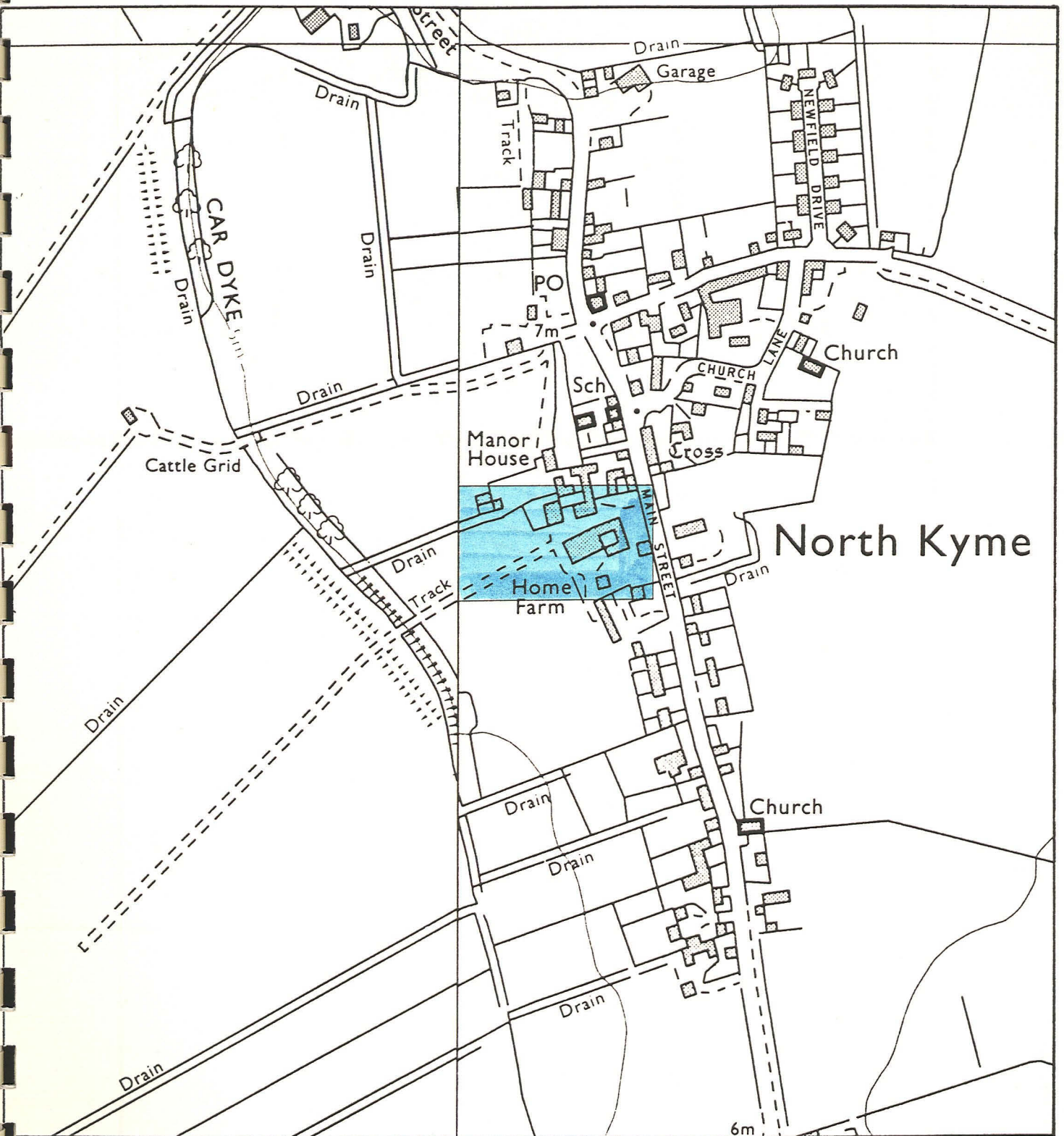


Fig. 1 General Location Plan

Fig. 2 Site Location Plan




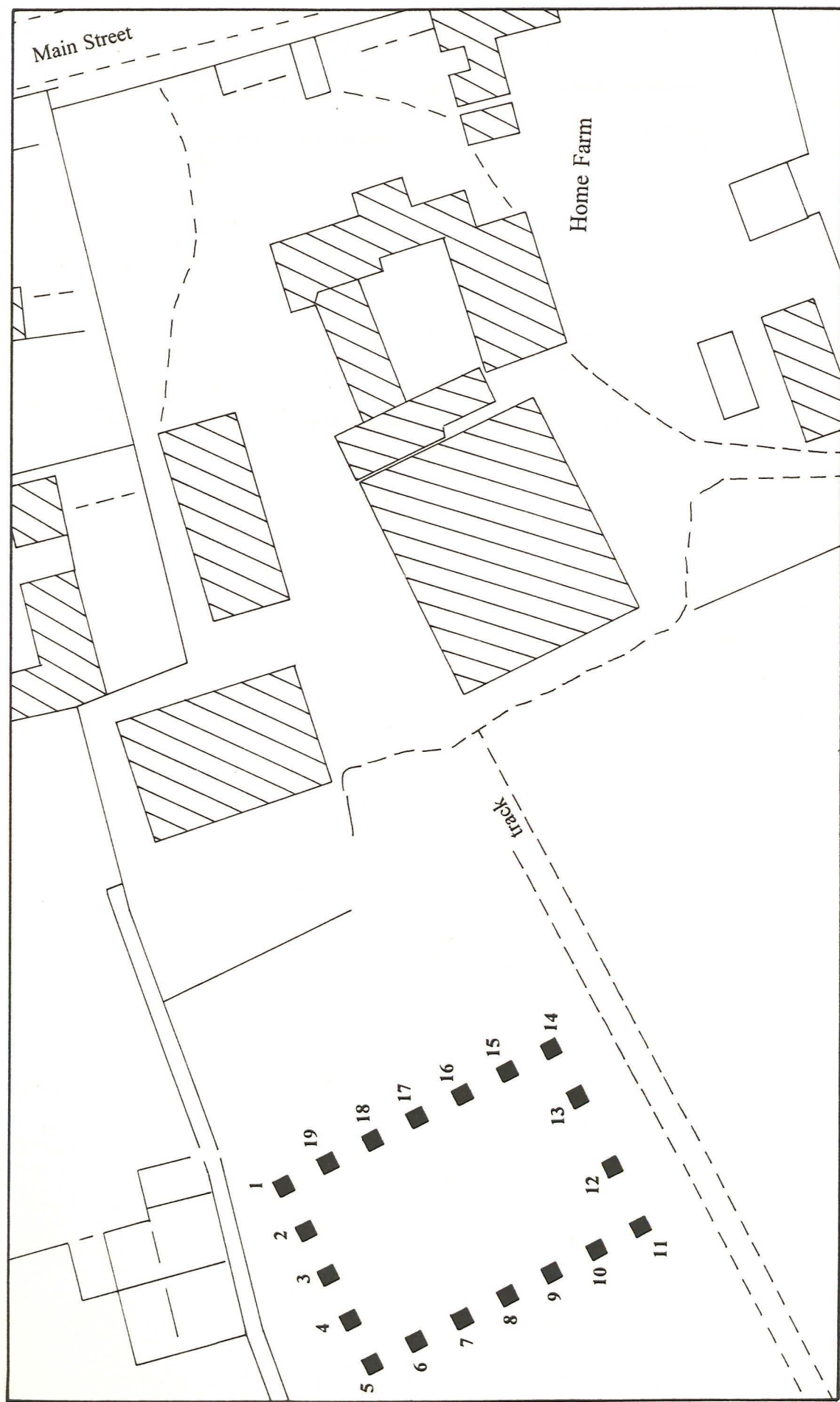
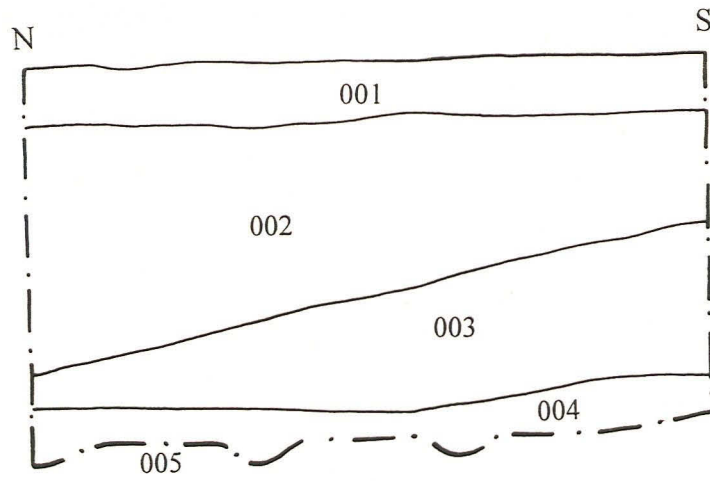
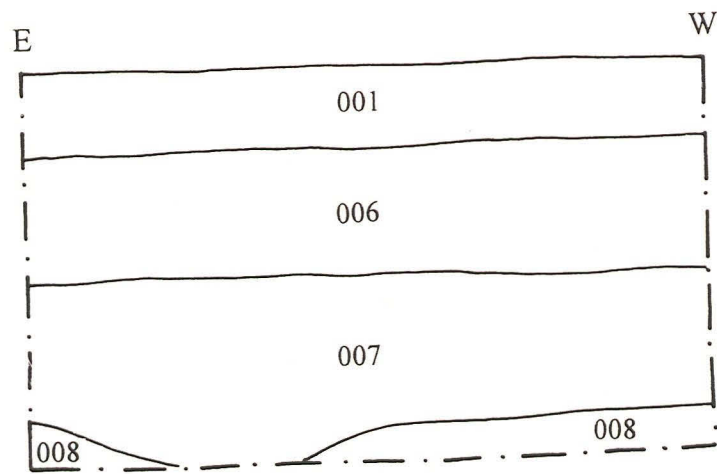
 Area of Development

Fig. 3 Area of Development





Section 1. West facing section, Pit 1



Section 2. North facing section, Pit 12



Plate 1

Pit 12, North-Facing Section



Plate 2

Pit 1, West-Facing Section



APPENDIX 1

BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION AND RECORDING (WATCHING BRIEF)

Home Farm, 58 Main St, North Kyme, Lincs

Planning Application Number: N/44/0160/96

NGR: 515040 352540

Applicant: HE Drury and Co.

1. Summary

1.1 This brief should be used by archaeological contractors as the basis for the preparation of a detailed archaeological project specification. In response to this brief contractors will include the anticipated working methods, timescales and staffing levels.

1.2 These detailed specifications will be submitted by the client for approval by the North Kesteven Heritage Officer. The client will be free to choose between those specifications which are considered to adequately satisfy the brief

2. Site Location and Description

2.1 North Kyme is a small village approximately 10km north east of Sleaford. The site is in the west of the village, behind Home Farm (see enclosed map).

3. Planning Background

3.1 Planning permission has been given to erect a grain store at Home Farm. Its length and breadth are 36 x 25.6m.

4. Archaeological Background

4.1 The site is near the Medieval core of the village; an area that may well contain remains of settlements that focused around the church. Additionally, the Cardyke, a Roman Drain, runs 200m west of the site making Roman remains likely as well as Medieval.

5. Requirements for Work

5.1 The objective of the watching brief should be to ensure that any archaeological features exposed by the groundworks are recorded and interpreted.

5.2 Any adjustments to the brief for the watching brief project should only be made after consultation with the Heritage Officer for North Kesteven.

5.3 The following details should be given in the contractor's specification:

5.3.1 A projected timetable must be agreed for the various stages of work.

5.3.2 The staff structure and numbers must be detailed. This should include lists of specialists and their role in the project.

5.3.3 It is expected that all on-site work will be carried out in a way that complies with the relevant Health and Safety legislation and that due consideration will be given to site security.

5.3.4 The recovery and recording strategies to be used must be described in full.

5.3.5 An estimate of time and resources allocated for the post-excavation work and report production.

6. Methods

6.1 The project should be carried out by a recognised archaeological body in accordance with the code of conduct of The Institute of Field Archaeologists.

6.2 The watching brief should involve:

6.2.1 archaeological supervision of topsoil stripping;

6.2.2 inspection of subsoil for archaeological features;

6.2.3 recording of archaeological features in plan;

6.2.4 rapid excavation of features if necessary;

6.2.5 archaeological supervision of subsoil stripping

6.2.6 inspection of natural for archaeological features and recording them.

6.2.7 any human remains encountered must be left in situ and only removed if absolutely necessary. The contractor must comply with all statutory consents and licences regarding the exhumation and interment of human remains. It will also be necessary to comply with all reasonable requests of interested parties as to the remains or associated items. Attempt must be made at all times not to cause offence to any interested parties.

7. Monitoring Arrangements

7.1 The Heritage Officer for North Kesteven will be responsible for monitoring progress and

standards throughout the project and will require preferably fourteen days notice but at least five working days prior to the commencement of the work.

8. Reporting Requirements

8.1 A full report should be produced and deposited with the planning department of North Kesteven District Council, the Heritage Officer, the client and the County Sites and Monuments Record. The report should include:

8.1.1 location plan of the trenches;

8.1.2 section and plan drawings, with ground level, Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scales as appropriate;

8.1.3 specialist descriptions of artefacts and ecofacts;

8.1.4 an indication of potential archaeological deposits not disturbed by the present development;

8.2 After agreement with the landowner, arrangements are to be made for long term storage of all artefacts and paper archive in an appropriate museum.

8.3 If the receiving museum is to be the City and County Museum, Lincoln then the archive should be produced in the form outlined in the museum's document 'Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives', see address below.

9. Publication and Dissemination

9.1 The deposition of a copy of the report with the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record will be deemed to put all information into the public domain, unless a special request is made for confidentiality. If material is to be held in confidence a timescale must be agreed with the North Kesteven Heritage Officer but is expected this will not exceed six months. Consideration must be given to a summary of the results being published in 'Lincolnshire History and Archaeology' in due course.

10. Additional Information

10.1 This document attempts to define the best practice expected of an archaeological watching brief but cannot fully anticipate the conditions that will be encountered as work progresses. However, changes to the programme are only to be made with the prior written approval of the Heritage Officer.

10.2 Further contact addresses

Kate Orr
North Kesteven Heritage Officer
Heritage Lincolnshire
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Lincolnshire
NG34 9RW

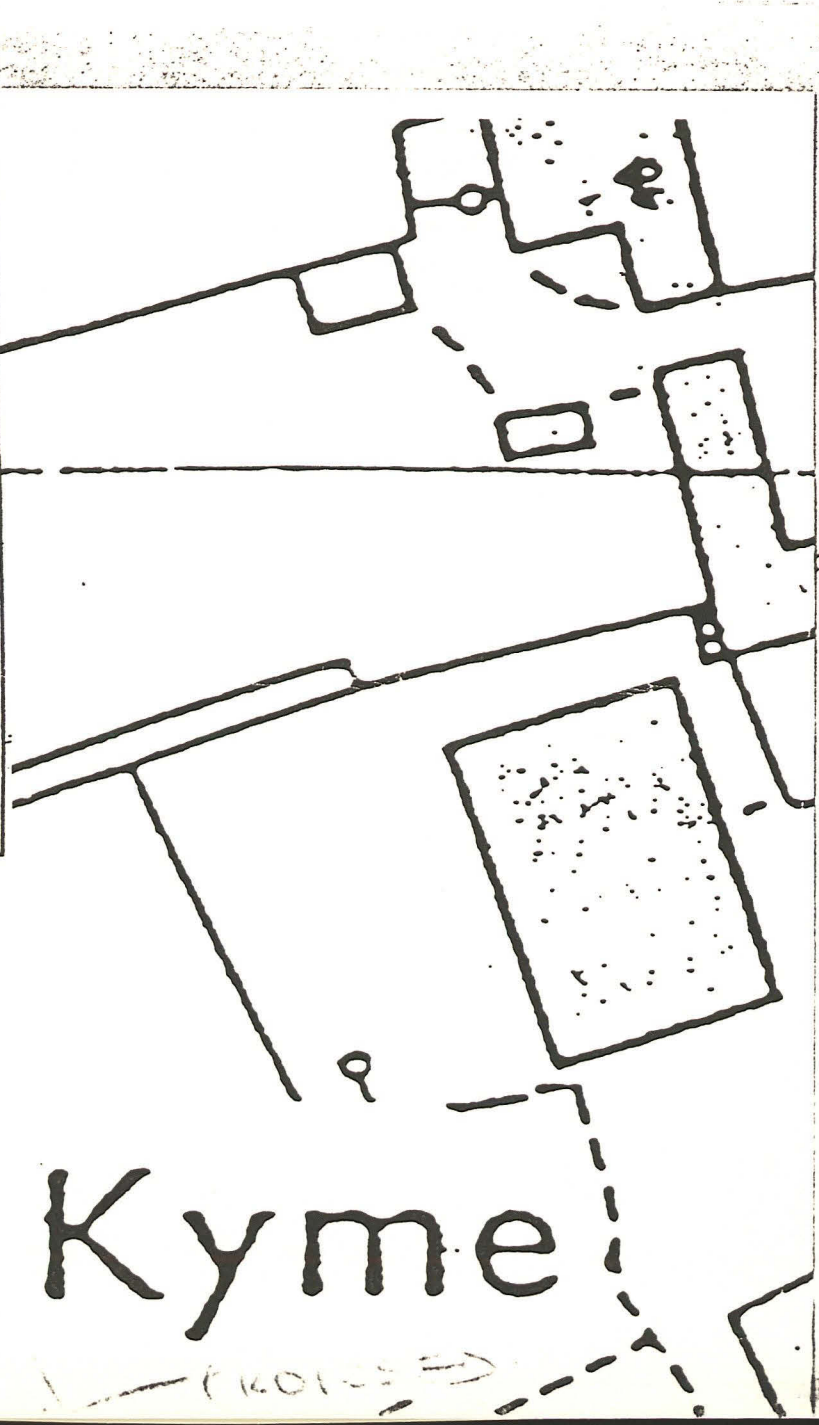
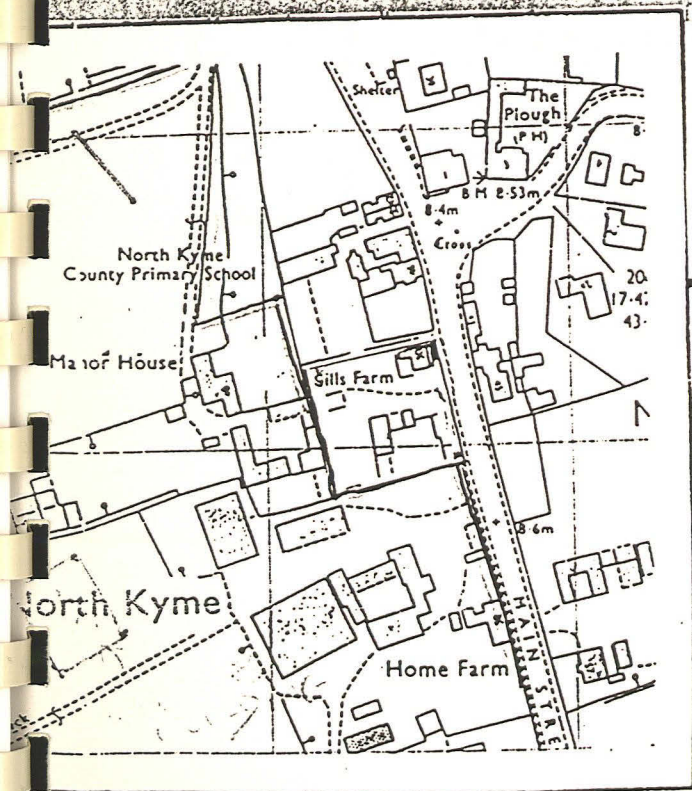
Mr S. Catney
Archaeological Officer
Lincolnshire County Council
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Lincoln
LN2 5AL

Mr T. Page
City and County Museum
12 Friars Lane
Lincoln
LN2 5AL

Department of Planning
North Kesteven District Council Offices
Kesteven Street
Sleaford
Lincolnshire
NG34 7EF

Brief set by Heritage Officer, North Kesteven 27/3/1996

44/0160



North Kyme

1100100 →

APPENDIX 2

Context Summary

| Context | Pit | Description | Interpretation |
|----------------|------------|--|-----------------------|
| 001 | All | Brown with orange mottles silty clay with occasional stones | Ploughsoil |
| 002 | 1-4 | Orange-brown silty clay with occasional lumps of clay and stones | Dumped deposit |
| 003 | 1-4 | Light yellow clay with occasional stones | Silting in hollow |
| 004 | 1-4 | Brown-black silt, very organic and wet | Topsoil |
| 005 | 1-4 | Grey with orange mottles silty clay with occasional stones | Natural |
| 006 | 5-19 | Light brown sandy silty clay with occasional stones | Natural |
| 007 | 5-19 | Mottled grey and orange clay with moderate stones | Natural soil horizon |
| 008 | 5-19 | Light grey clay with occasional stones | Natural |

APPENDIX 3

Glossary

- Bronze Age** Part of the prehistoric era characterised by the introduction of the metal bronze for tools and weapons. The period dates from approximately 2000-750 BC.
- Context** An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are generally identified within the report text by brackets, *e.g.* (004).
- Cut** A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, *etc.* Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
- Dumped deposits** These are deposits, often laid down intentionally, that raise a land surface. They may be the result of casual waste disposal or may be deliberate attempts to elevate the ground surface for drainage or other purposes.
- Fill** Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The sediment(s) and soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
- Glaciofluvial drift** Natural deposits formed and laid down as a result of the action of both glaciers (during the Ice Age) and rivers.
- Layer** A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
- Medieval** Pertaining to the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
- Natural** Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
- Reformation** The political and religious changes that led to the destruction of Papal authority and the rise of the Protestant religion. In England, the Reformation occurred between 1529 and 1539.

APPENDIX 4

The Archive

The archive consists of:

- 8 . . . Context Records
- 1 . . . Photographic Record
- 3 . . . Scale Drawings
- 1 . . . Stratigraphic Matrix

All primary records are currently kept at:

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

| | |
|--|-------|
| Archaeological Project Services project code | NKM96 |
| City and County Museum, Lincoln Accession number | 69.96 |