

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF DEVELOPMENT ON LAND AT
RED LION STREET,
BICKER,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BRL97)**



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF DEVELOPMENT ON LAND AT
RED LION STREET,
BICKER,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BRL97)**

Work Undertaken For
Ms. D.C. Bennett

August 1997

Report Compiled by
Paul Cope-Faulkner

A.P.S. Report No. 36/97

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the construction of a bungalow and garage at Red Lion Street, Bicker. The watching brief monitored the excavation of the foundations.

The development site lies at the head of Bicker Haven, formerly an inlet to the sea, around which an extensive salt-making industry was established. Bicker came to prominence as a salt-making centre and even utilised the Haven as a small port during the early medieval period. Evidence for salt-making has been found during two archaeological investigations in the immediate vicinity.

The investigation revealed deposits indicating widespread flooding of the area, possibly of 6th century date. These flood deposits were then utilised during the medieval period (AD 1066-1500), indicated by several pits, ditches, a gully and a hearth. By the post-medieval period (AD 1500-1800) the area was under an agricultural regime and several brick lined wells were constructed in the area. Finds include locally made pottery and a single sherd of imported pottery from northern France.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Background

On the 12th April 1997, an archaeological watching brief was undertaken during excavation of foundation and service trenches for a detached bungalow and garage at land adjacent to Red Lion Street (National Grid Reference TF 2248 3748). Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application B04/0038/97). The archaeological work was commissioned by

Ms. D.C. Bennett and was carried out by Archaeological Project Services in accordance with a brief set by the Community Archaeologist for Boston District Council (Appendix 1).

2.2 Topography and Geology

Bicker is located 12km southwest of Boston and 17km southeast of Sleaford, in Boston District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1). Local topography is relatively flat, typical of the fen landscape of this part of the country.

The proposed development is located 400m to the south of Bicker village centre as defined by the parish church of St. Swithin (Fig. 2). Situated at a height of c. 4m OD on land to the south of Red Lion Street the proposed development encompasses some 200 square metres.

Local soils are predominantly of the Romney Series, coarse silty gleyic brown calcareous alluvial soils developed on roddons in the reclaimed marshlands. However, where medieval salt making has occurred the soils often become more silty and contain ash and charcoal (Robson 1990, 26). Beneath these deposits is a solid geology of Jurassic clays.

2.3 Archaeological Setting

Evidence for prehistoric activity in the Bicker region is likely to be scarce as the contemporary land surface lay several metres below subsequent flood deposits.

During the Romano-British period the former marshland stabilized, enabling settlement, agricultural and salt making activities. An important Roman thoroughfare, the Salter's Way, is believed to have originated near Donington and continued west to Grantham and beyond (Margary 1973, 223). Romano-British pottery has been found within the village, c. 200m northeast of the church. A settlement, probably dating to this period,

has been identified from aerial photographs to the northwest of the village.

During the Saxon period (5th-9th centuries) more land was reclaimed from the sea and by the 10th and 11th centuries, Bicker had developed into a sizeable settlement centred around a church. Anglo-Saxon worked stones have been noted in the medieval fabric of St. Swithin's church that may relate to an earlier church, the present church dating to the 11th and 12th centuries (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 142).

Bicker is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086. Referred to as 'Bichere' the name is from the Old Scandinavian *bijkiarr* meaning 'the village marsh' (Ekwall 1974, 41). The Domesday Book records that Bicker had a church and a total of 23 salt-pans. The land was owned by the Archbishop of York, Count Alan, Countess Judith and Guy of Craon with smaller parcels of land owned by Colegrim and others (Foster and Longley 1976).

Bicker lay at the east end of Bicker Haven, an ancient estuary that discharged into The Wash. The Haven became an important centre for the production of salt and was utilised as a small port. Salterns were an important part of the local economy and were highly valued as renders to the local Lords were quite high. The industry attracted interest from as far afield as Owston Abbey in Leicestershire which owned part of the salt operation in Bicker and nearby Donington (Hallam 1965).

To the southeast of the village large mounds are apparent in the landscape and represent medieval salterns that once lined Bicker Haven. More of these mounds existed between Bicker and the neighbouring village of Donington and were recorded during the construction of the Bicker bypass (Healey 1988, 44).

Pits and drainage ditches containing pottery of 13th century date have been identified adjacent to the present development area (B04/027). A silt deposit sealing these features was interpreted as a flooding episode that had occurred during the 13th century. More pits and ditches were subsequently cut into this material (Cope-Faulkner 1994). An archaeological evaluation of the land south of the present investigation area revealed further ditches and gullies as well as quantities of waste material, possibly from salt extraction (Dymond 1996).

3. AIMS

The requirements of the watching brief, as set by the brief (Appendix 1), were to locate and record archaeological deposits, if present, and to determine their date, function and origin.

4. METHODS

The proposed development required the excavation of foundation trenches for new walls to a depth of *c.* 0.6m. Following excavation by mechanical excavator, the sides of all trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. The depth and thickness of each deposit was measured from the ground surface. Each deposit or feature revealed within an opened area was allocated a unique reference number (Context number) with an individual written description. Plans were drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections drawn at a scale of 1:10. A photographic record was also compiled.

5. DESCRIPTION OF THE TRENCHES

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. A list of all contexts with interpretations appears as Appendix 2. Three periods of activity were recognised:

- Group 1 Medieval activity
- Group 2 Post-medieval activity
- Group 3 Modern activity

The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

Group 1 Medieval activity

The earliest deposits encountered during this investigation were a series of alluvial layers (006, 030 and 031). The most predominant of these, (006), was a light greyish brown silty sand and contained a single sherd of pottery from northern France of 12-13th century date and a butchered cattle bone. The remaining alluvial deposits were dark green and brownish grey silt.

Cut into the alluvial deposit at the western end of the development (Fig. 4, Plan 4) was an east-west gully (025) containing a dark greyish brown sandy silt (024). This was in turn cut by a ditch (023) and a rectangular pit (027). The ditch (023) contained a fill of reddish brown clayey silt (022) and was aligned northeast to southeast but did not appear in the foundation trenches to the south.

Pit (027) is rectangular and contains brown and yellow sandy silt (026). Located 0.5m south of pit (027) is a hearth (032), defined by a circular cut some 0.6m in diameter. A primary fill of brownish grey clayey silt (033) was recorded, sealed by a red brown clay layer (034), possibly a re-lining of the hearth. A further pit (016) with a fill of brownish red silt (015) lay within 1m of the hearth to the south (Fig. 4, Plan 2). Truncating hearth (032) was a small rectangular cut (035) defined as a posthole.

This posthole contained reddish brown clay (034), suggesting that the post had been removed rather than decaying *in situ*.

Lying north of the gully (025) was the remnants of a feature (029), possibly the base of a small pit or posthole. This contained a mottled silt fill (028).

Situated towards the eastern end of the development (Figure 5, Section 2) was a small refuse pit (008) filled with dark grey silt (007) and greyish brown silt (009). This pit contained numerous shells, crushed shells and a medieval pottery fragment of 14th-15th century date.

Group 2 Post-medieval activity

Sealing activity of the medieval period were subsoil deposits of greyish brown silts (005, 014, 020, 045 and 046) recorded across the entire development area and measuring between 80mm and 0.4m thick.

Three parallel ditches cut the subsoil deposits, all aligned east to west. The earliest of these ditches (041) contained a fill of dark greyish brown clayey silt (040). This ditch, present in Section 6 (Fig. 6) was in turn cut by ditch (004) and has a similar fill (003), although this contained eight pot sherds, seven glass bottle fragments, cattle bone and shells dating the ditch to the late 18th or early 19th century. The final east-west ditch (013), was situated 6m south of, and parallel to, ditch (004), with a fill of mottled brown clayey silt (011 and 012) and greyish brown clayey silt (010).

A single linear pit (019) was uncovered along the northern edge of the development (Fig. 6, Section 4). This was c. 1m long by 0.46m wide and 0.4m deep and contained a fill of dark brown sandy silt (017). A possible feature (Fig. 4, Plan 3), represented by brown clayey silt (021), was located

adjacent to pit (019).

Three brick lined wells were found during the investigation (Fig. 3). Two wells were located away from the foundation trenches and were not recorded (042 and 044). The remaining well (043) also lay beyond the development, however, the cut (039) and backfills (037 and 038) for this feature were recorded in Section 5 (Fig. 6) and Plan 3 (Fig. 4).

Group 3 Modern activity

Modern activity is represented by a topsoil of dark greyish brown silty sand that constitutes the present ground surface (001).

6. DISCUSSION

Medieval activity (Group 1) begins with a widespread alluvial deposit. Previous archaeological investigations in the vicinity have identified this flooding episode as of probable 6th century date (Rackham 1996). The finds of later date within this layer are probably later inclusions, suggesting disturbance by animals or other means. Upon the flood deposit a gully and ditch represent early land boundaries for properties within which a number of pits were dug. The function of these pits is, at present, unclear with the exception of a single refuse pit. A posthole was also uncovered and suggests structural activity on the site.

Agricultural activity is generally thought to be responsible for the subsoil (Group 2) as this is derived from natural soil accumulation hastened by ploughing (Rackham 1996). Three east-west aligned ditches and a pit of unknown function may also be regarded as agricultural in origin, the ditches serving as drains or land

boundaries. Three wells or cisterns are also recorded and would normally be associated with dwellings in the immediate vicinity.

Finds include a range of locally made medieval pottery representing a typical Lincolnshire collection. A single sherd, imported from northern France, is unusual and may suggest some sort of status associated with the site. No material associated with salt-making was recovered during the investigation unlike finds of this material adjacent to the site. Post-medieval pottery and glass were also recovered.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations at land adjacent to Red Lion Street were undertaken because the site fell within an area of known archaeological activity, notably medieval occupation and industrial activity, and the likelihood existed of archaeological remains being disturbed.

Deposits encountered suggest a moderate amount of activity having occurred on the site from the medieval period onwards. No structures were found but are suggested by several pits and a hearth in the medieval period and by three wells or cisterns in the 18th or 19th centuries. Agricultural activities are thought to be responsible for a subsoil development and the construction of ditches for drainage and land demarcation.

Several sherds of pottery were recovered and represent a typical, if small, assemblage common in Lincolnshire with the exception of a single sherd from northern France. Animal bone was recovered in small numbers but was not particularly revealing, however, with the right conditions could be informative regarding the local economy of the site. The nature of the local site conditions would suggest that few environmental indicators would survive,

other than through charring.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish acknowledge the assistance of Ms D.C. Bennett for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. Gary Taylor coordinated the work and Tom Lane edited this report. Steven Membery, the Community Archaeologist for Boston District Council, permitted examination of the relevant parish files maintained by the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire. Hilary Healey and Jane Young (City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit) commented upon the fragments of pottery found during this investigation.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
Site Supervisor: Gary Taylor
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
Post-excavation Analyst: Paul Cope-Faulkner

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

B Numbers prefixed with this letter are the reference codes used by the Community Archaeologist for Boston Borough District Council

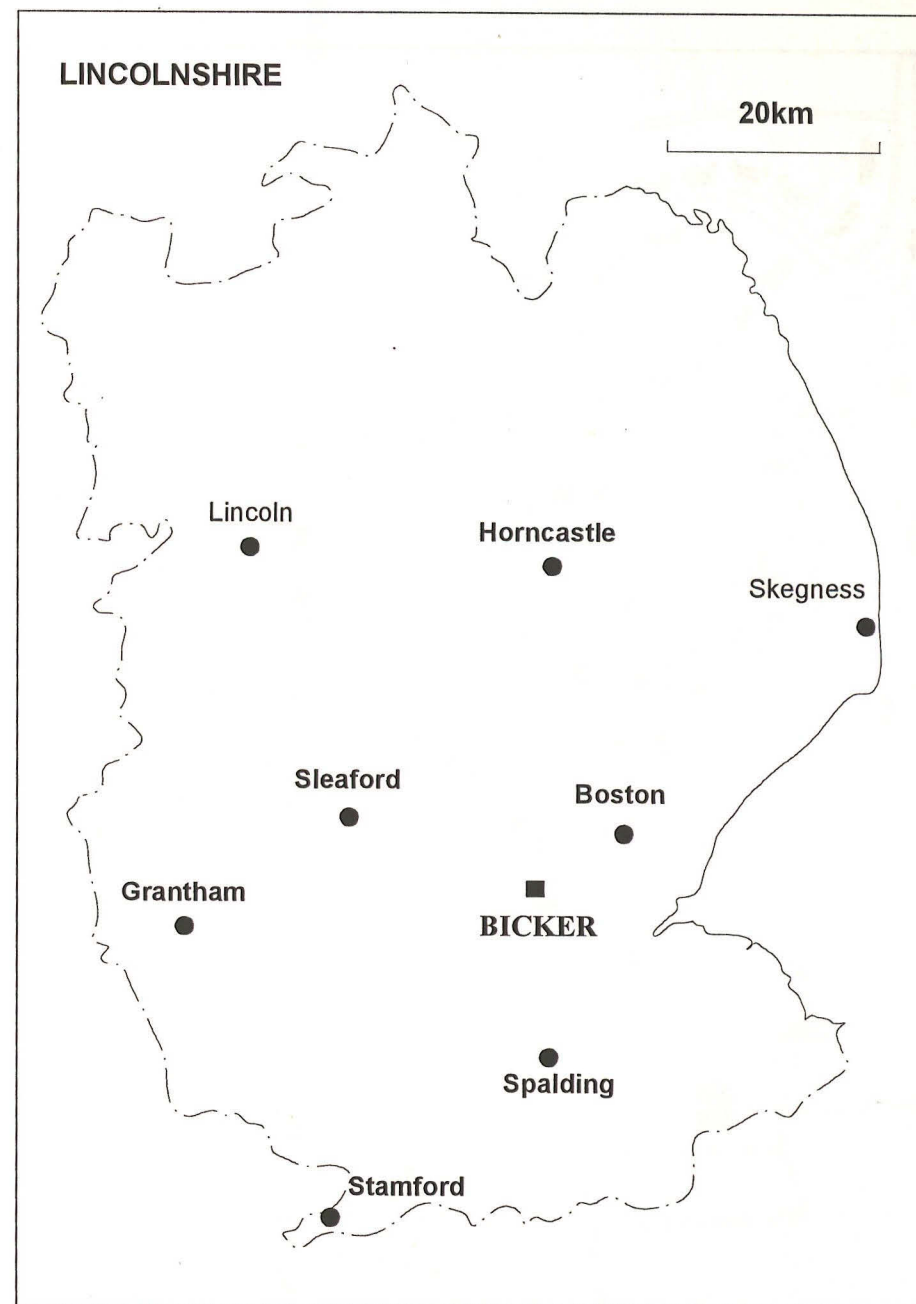
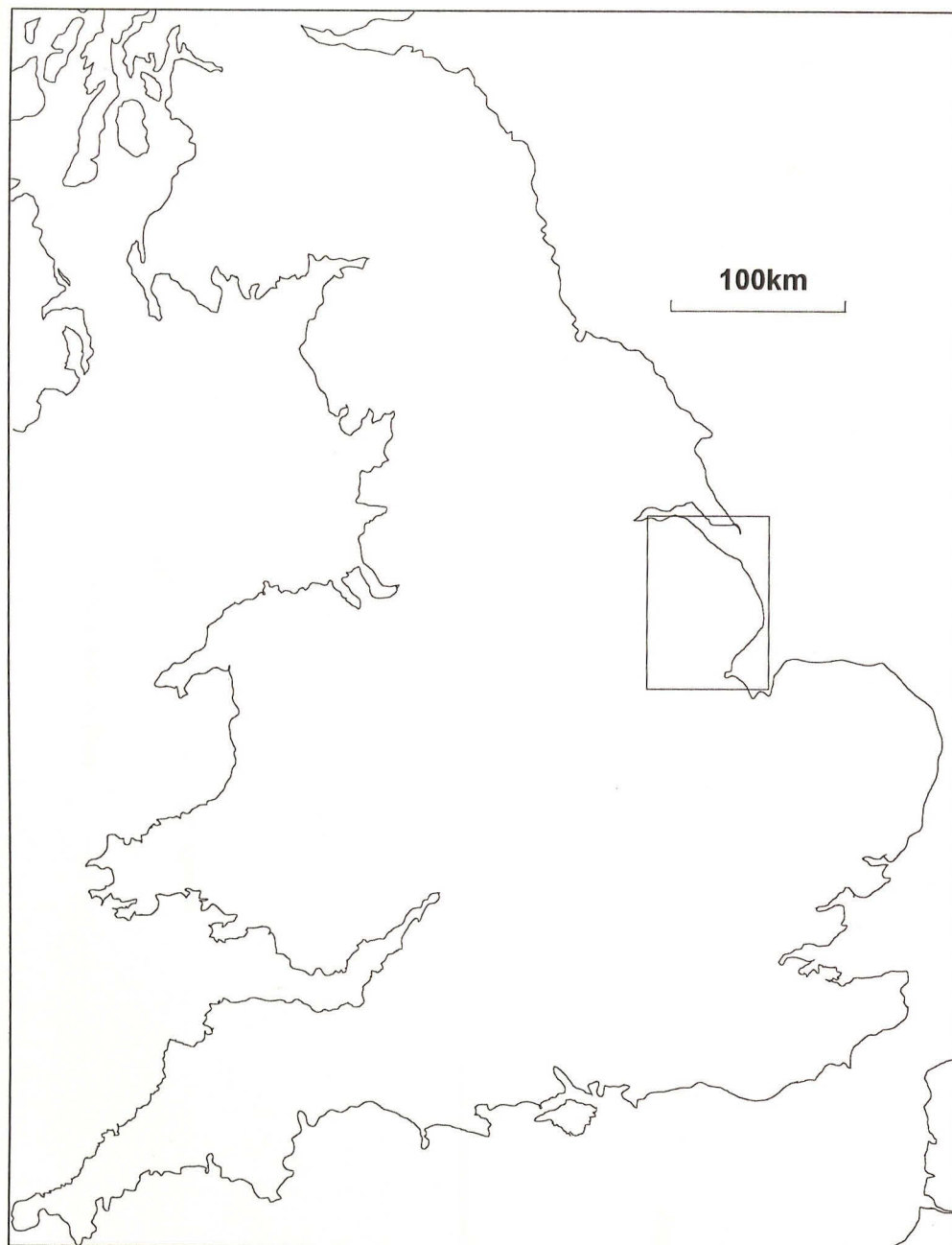
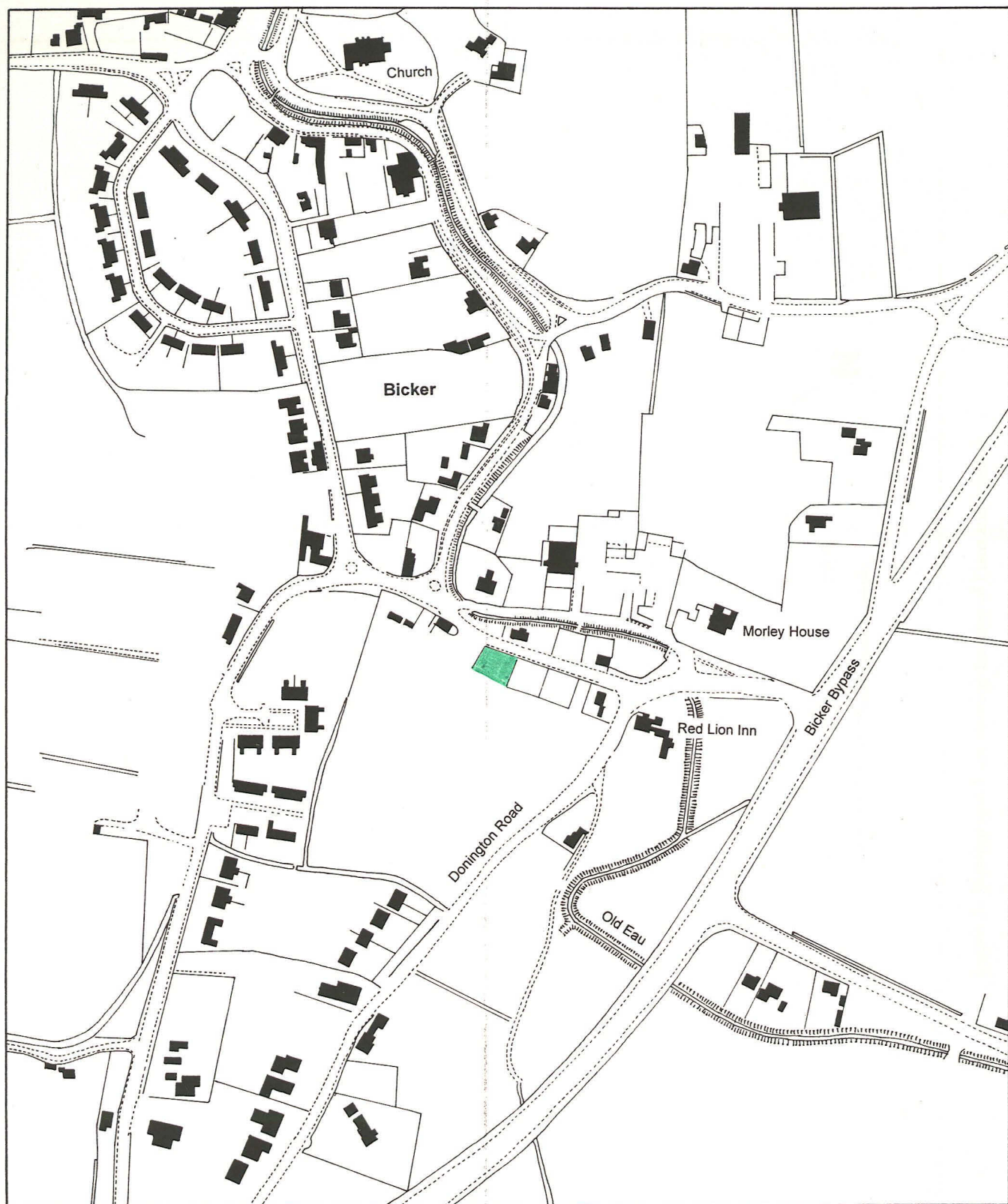


Figure 1 - General Location Plan



Area of Proposed Development

Figure 2 - Site Location Plan

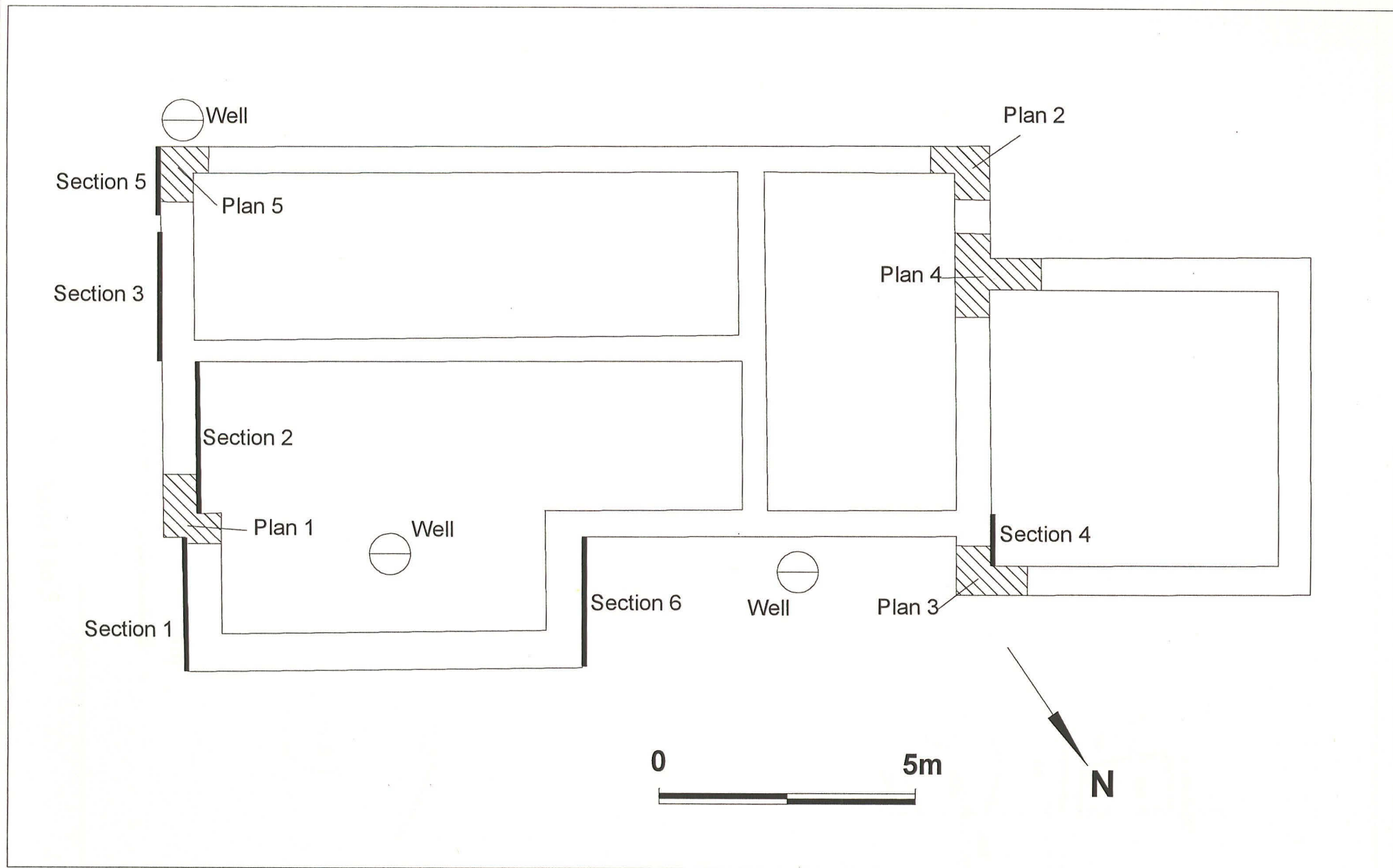


Figure 3 - Development Plan, showing location of Plans and Sections

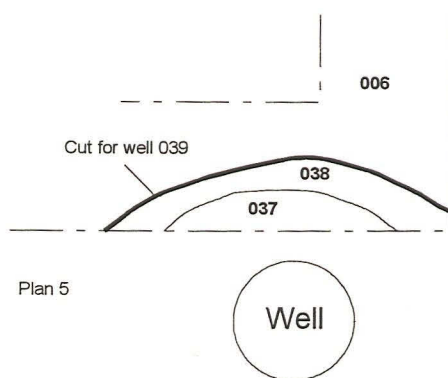
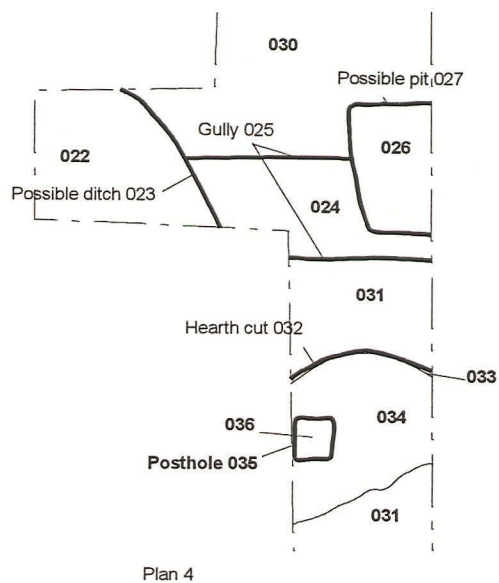
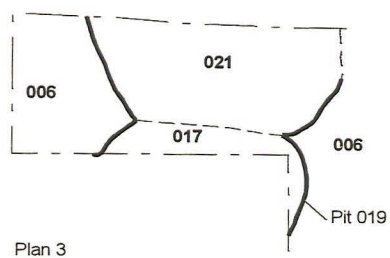
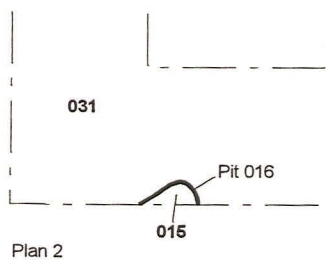
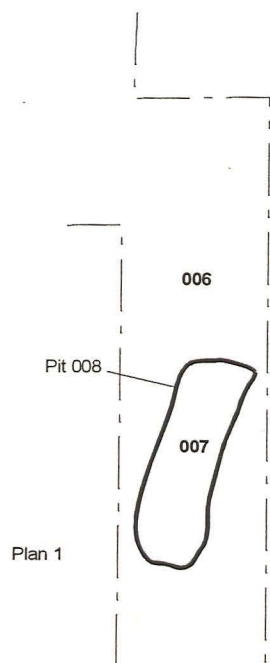


Figure 4 - Plans 1 to 5

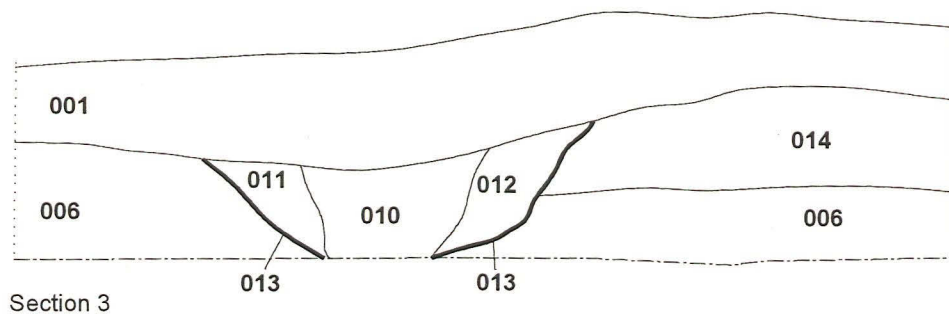
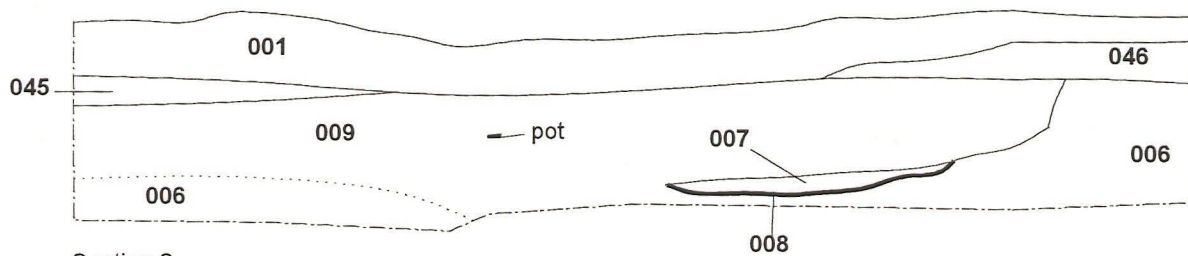
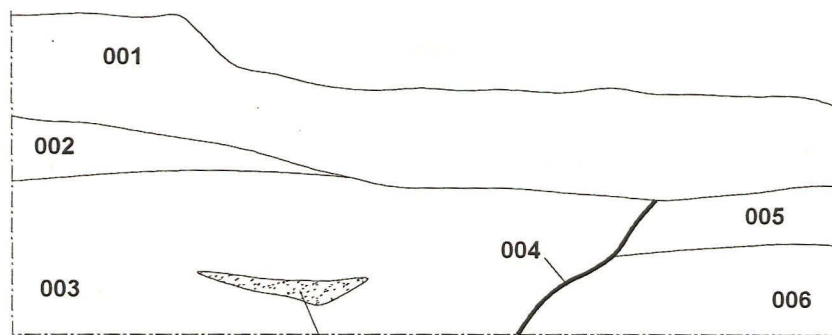


Figure 5 - Sections 1, 2 and 3

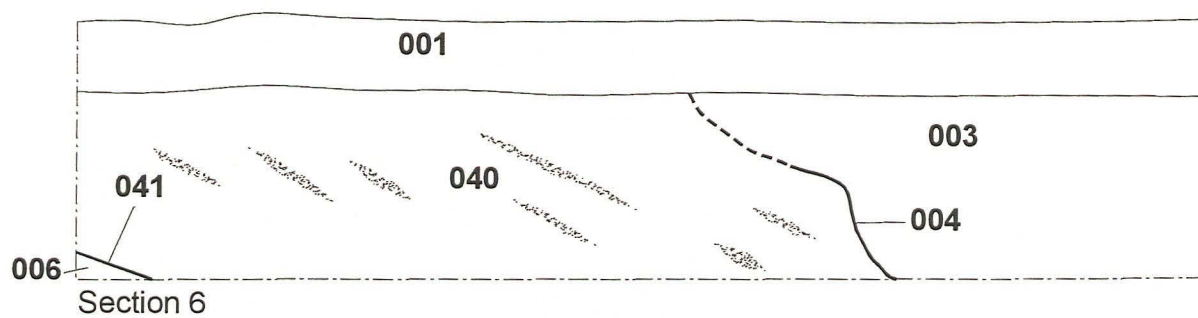
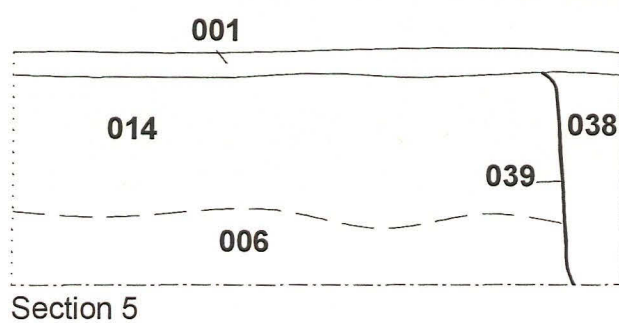
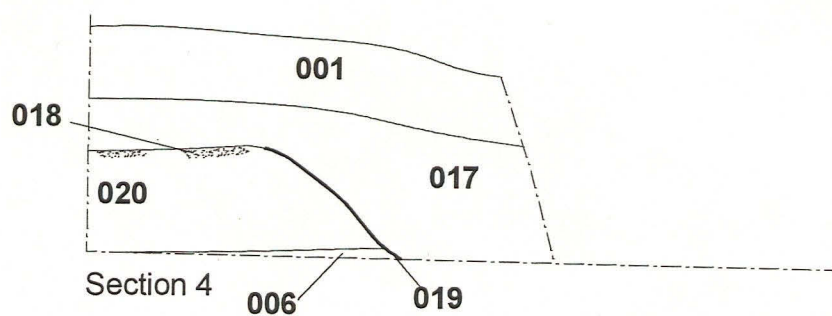


Figure 6 - Sections 4, 5 and 6



^ Plate 1 - General view of Development Area, looking west.



< Plate 2 - Pit (007), looking south.



Plate 3 - General view of Plan 4, looking east.

Plate 4 - Cut for well (039), looking east.



Appendix 1

BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION AND RECORDING

Plot 1, Red Lion Street, Bicker, Boston

1. Summary

- 1.1 This document is the brief for archaeological observation and recording work to be carried out during the construction of a detached bungalow and attached garage at Red Lion Street, Bicker, Boston on behalf of Mr J. Purkiss, 'Cherry Trees', Frampton Lane, Hubberts Bridge, Boston.
- 1.2 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.
- 1.3 The detailed specification will be submitted for approval by the Boston Community Archaeologist. 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 Boston is situated in the south Lincolnshire Fens, approximately 45km southeast of Lincoln and 7km from the northwest coast of the Wash. The Village of Bicker lies approximately 12km south-west of Boston between the villages of Swineshead and Donington.
- 2.2 The site lies on Red Lion Street on the South side of the village.

3. Planning Background

- 3.1 This brief was written in response to a planning application (B04/0038/97)

4. Archaeological Background

- 4.1 Although prehistoric evidence from this area is scarce Romano-British activity/occupation is attested to at Bicker and it is probable that a Roman thoroughfare (Salter's Way) originated in the vicinity of the village.
- 4.2 Pottery recovered from the village suggests that Bicker as a village was established in the Late Saxon period and finds of dressed masonry indicates the presence of a church probably that referred to in the Domesday Survey (which also records 20 salt production establishments in the parish).

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 Community Archaeologist for Boston Borough Council.
- 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 soil 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 Community Archaeologist of Boston Borough Council will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project and will require at least seven days notice prior to the commencement of the work.

8. Reporting Requirements

- 8.1 A full report should be produced and deposited with the Boston Borough Council the developer, the Community Archaeologist, 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 drawing, 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 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 Boston Community Archaeologist 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 Community Archaeologist.

Brief set by Steven Mambery Community Archaeologist for borough of Boston February 1997

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Section	Description	Interpretation
001	1 - 6	Dark greyish brown silty sand, 0.22m thick	Topsoil
002	1	Dark greyish brown sandy silt, 0.18m thick	Dumped deposit
003	1, 6	Dark greyish brown clayey silt	Fill of 004
004	1, 6	Linear cut, >7.9m long by > 1.7m wide by >0.4m deep, aligned E-W	Boundary ditch
005	1	Light greyish brown clayey silt	Subsoil
006	1 - 6	Light greyish brown silty sand, >0.25m thick	Subsoil
007	2	Dark grey silt,	Fill of 008
008	2	Sub-rectangular cut, c. 1m by 0.13m extent	Refuse pit
009	2	Light greyish brown silt	Fill of 008
010	3	Dark greyish brown clayey silt	Fill of 013
011	3	Light mottled brown clayey silt	Fill of 013
012	3	Light mottled brown clayey silt	Fill of 013
013	3	Linear? cut, c. 1m wide by 0.35m deep, aligned E-W?	Ditch
014	3, 5	Mottled light brown and dark greyish brown sandy silt	Subsoil
015	-	Brownish red silt	Fill of 016
016	-	Sub rectangular cut, >0.27m long by >0.12m wide by 60mm deep	Pit
017	4	Dark brown sandy silt	Fill of 019
018	4	Pale yellow silt, 1m long by 20mm thick	Redeposited natural
019	4	Linear cut, c. 1m long by 0.46m wide by 0.4m deep, aligned E-W	Pit
020	4	Light greyish brown silt, 0.23m thick by > 7m extent	Alluvial deposit
021	-	Mottled dark and light brown clayey silt	Possible ditch or pit fill
022	-	Mid reddish brown clayey silt	Fill of 023
023	-	Linear? cut, >0.75m long by >0.65m wide, unexcavated	Possible ditch
024	-	Dark greyish brown sandy silt	Fill of 025
025	-	Linear? cut, >1.85m long by >0.4m wide, unexcavated, aligned E-W	Gully
026	-	Mottled brown and yellow sandy silt	Fill of 027

No.	Section	Description	Interpretation
027	-	Rectangular? cut, 0.63m long by >0.36m wide, unexcavated	Possible pit
028	-	Mottled reddish brown and yellow clayey silt	Fill of 028
029	-	Oval? cut, >0.2m long by c. 0.15m wide, unexcavated, aligned NW-SE	Possible base of truncated pit
030	-	Mid to dark green silt	Alluvial deposit
031	-	Mid brownish grey silt	Alluvial deposit
032	-	Circular cut, 0.63m diameter	Foundation cut for hearth
033	-	Dark brownish grey clayey silt	Fill of 032
034	-	Purple to reddish brown clay	Hearth base
035	-	Rectangular cut, 0.2m long by 0.18m wide	Posthole
036	-	Yellow brown clayey silt	Fill of 035
037	-	Mottled greyish brown and yellow silt	Fill of 039
038	5	Dark greyish brown sandy silt	Fill of 039
039	5	Circular cut, >1.5m diameter by >0.5m deep	Cut for well
040	6	Dark greyish brown clayey silt, with off-white streaks	Fill of 041
041	6	Linear? cut, >1.7m wide by >0.4m deep, aligned E-W	Poss. ditch
042	-	Brick circular structure, 1.2m diameter	Well/cistern
043	-	Brick circular? structure	Well/cistern
044	-	Brick circular structure	Well/cistern
045	2	Light greyish brown clayey silt, 80mm thick	Subsoil
046	2	Light greyish brown silt, 100mm thick	Subsoil

Appendix 3

THE POTTERY by Hilary Healey

No.	Description	Object Date	Context Date
+	2x Midland Yellow ware pottery, ; 1x Nottingham ware medieval pottery; 1x ?Lincoln ware medieval pottery	17th century; 13th-15th century; 13th-15th century	-
002	1x brick; 1x ?Bourne D ware pottery or possible land drain;	?18th-20th century; 15th century or 19th-20th century	?19th century
003	1x brick; 2x black glazed; 1x white salt glazed; 1x Tin glazed 1x Staffordshire; 1x Midland Yellow ware pottery; 1x ?Lincoln ware medieval pottery; 5x apothecaries' glass bottle; 2x glass bottle fragments	?18th-20th century; 18th-early 19th century; Late 18th century; 18th century; 18th century; 17th century; 13th-15th century; 18th century; late 18th-early 19th century	late 18th-early 19th century
006	1x Northern France type pottery	-	Late 12th-early 13th century
007	1x Bourne type	-	13th-14th century
015	1x Heated silt containing chopped grass	-	-

Appendix 4

THE ANIMAL BONE by James Rackham Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

Context No.	Species	Identification
002	cattle-size	?ulna; butchered
003	cattle	radius; butchered
006	cattle	mandible (lower jaw); butchered

Although only a small quantity of animal bone was recovered all of it displays signs of butchery. On the basis of size the cattle radius from context (003) is likely to be of post-medieval date.

Appendix 5

THE MOLLUSC SHELLS by James Rackham Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

Context No.	Description
003	1x common mussel; 1x garden snail, <i>helix</i> sp.
007	20x common mussel 7x common cockle 2x periwinkle 2x dog whelk 1x <i>tellina</i>
009	1x common cockle 1x garden snail, <i>helix</i> sp. (fragmented)
015	oyster, upper valve

All of the mussel shell, from contexts (003) and (007), is probably too small to be considered as food. Similarly, some of the cockle from context (007) is also very small and unlikely to represent food waste. It seems probable that, on account of the small examples present and the mixed nature of the assemblage from context (007), that these shells represent discard following possible dredging for shellfish, in particular mussel catching.

Appendix 6

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

46	Context records
1	Photographic record sheet
11	Scale drawings
1	Bag of finds
1	Stratigraphic matrix

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Lincolnshire City and County Museum
12 Friars Lane
Lincoln
LN2 1HQ

The archive will be deposited in accordance with the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives*, produced by the Lincolnshire City and County Museum.

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number: 88.97

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: BRL97

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Appendix 7

GLOSSARY

Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (4).
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
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 raise the ground surface.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Layer	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.