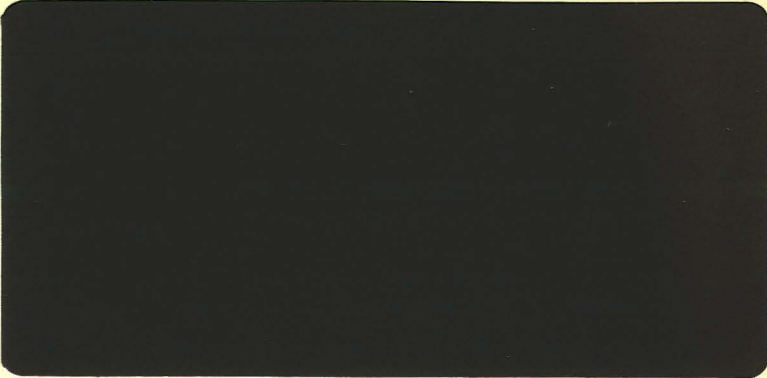


**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION ON  
LAND SOUTH OF BOURNE ROAD,  
SPALDING,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(SBR97)**



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION ON  
LAND SOUTH OF BOURNE ROAD,  
SPALDING,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(SBR97)**

Work Undertaken For  
Broadgate Builders (Spalding) Ltd

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Report Compiled by  
Neil Herbert BA (Hons)

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## CONTENTS

Appendices

List of Figures

Plates

1.	Summary .....	1
2.	Introduction .....	1
2.1	Background .....	1
2.2	Topography, Geology and Soils .....	1
2.3	Archaeological Setting .....	2
3.	Aims .....	3
4.	Methods .....	4
4.1	Geophysical Survey Results .....	4
4.2	Evaluation Techniques .....	4
5.	Results .....	4
5.1	Description of the Excavation .....	4
5.2	Phase 1: Natural Deposits .....	5
5.3	Phase 2: Undated Archaeology .....	6
5.4	Phase 3: Late Iron Age Activity .....	6
5.5	Phase 4: Roman Activity .....	6
5.6	Phase 5: Flooding/Marine Transgression .....	8
5.7	Phase 6: Modern Development .....	8
6.	Discussion .....	8
7.	Assessment of Significance .....	10
7.1	Site Importance .....	11
8.	Effectiveness of Techniques .....	11
9.	Conclusions .....	12
10.	Acknowledgements .....	12
11.	Personnel .....	12
12.	Bibliography .....	12
13.	Abbreviations .....	13

## Appendices

- 1 Brief for an Archaeological Field Evaluation, by the Assistant Archaeology Officer, Lincolnshire County Council
- 2 Extract from *Criteria for the scheduling of ancient monuments*
- 3 Context Summary
- 4 The Iron Age Pottery, by *Sheila Elsdon*
- 5 The Roman Pottery, by *Barbara Precious*
- 6 The Finds, by *Gary Taylor*
- 7 Environmental Assessment, by *James Rackham*
- 8 The Archive
- 9 Glossary of Archaeological Terms

## List of Figures

- Figure 1 General Location Plan
- Figure 2 Location of Archaeological Sites in the vicinity of the proposed development
- Figure 3 Plan of the Development Area showing the projected route of the Outgang
- Figure 4 Plan of Excavated Trenches
- Figure 5 Section showing undated natural palaeochannel
- Figure 6 Undated Archaeological Features within Trench 17
- Figure 7 Undated Gully cut (005) containing evidence of Salt Production
- Figure 8 Prehistoric and Roman archaeological features within Trench 6
- Figure 9 Detailed plan of Pottery Vessel within ashy deposit
- Figure 10 Prehistoric/Early Roman pits within Trench 19
- Figure 11 Selection of Distinctive Pottery Fragments

## Plates

- Plate 1 General Site View
- Plate 2 Section No.7: Showing gully cut (015) dateable to the prehistoric period.
- Plate 3 Showing ashy deposit (016) and pot (014) at centre
- Plate 4 Section 9: Showing undated ashy and charcoal rich deposit overlain by later natural deposits

## 1. SUMMARY

*An evaluation was undertaken to determine the archaeological implications of proposed development on land south of Bourne Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire. Archaeological sites and remains of Romano-British (AD 43-410) and later date are located in the vicinity of the proposed development. In particular, cropmarks showing the route of a probable Roman road and outlying settlement enclosures have been recorded in close proximity to the site.*

*The excavation revealed a sequence of natural, Late Iron Age, Romano-British and modern deposits. Undated former stream channels were recorded criss-crossing most of the area investigated. Artefacts recovered from several of these natural channels indicate that at least some of them were active during the late prehistoric or Romano-British periods.*

*Several small gullies and pits containing pottery dateable to the Late Iron Age and Romano-British periods were identified. A fragmented pottery vessel of late prehistoric date and containing burnt animal bones was also recovered.*

*A small amount of briquetage (a coarse type of pottery associated with the production of salt), was also retrieved during the investigation. It is probable that this material derives from a Romano-British saltern, as yet undiscovered, in the near vicinity of the proposed development.*

*These archaeological deposits and features occurred in a restricted area near the west side of the site. No clear archaeological remains were revealed anywhere else on the site.*

*These archaeological deposits were sealed by layers of flood silts which in turn were*

*covered by topsoil and modern materials associated with glasshouses which occupied the site until recently. Little or no disturbance to surviving archaeological deposits had been caused since their formation.*

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Background

Between the 14th July and the 25th July 1997, an archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land south of Bourne Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire. An application for renewal of outline planning permission H/16/0215/92 was submitted to the planning authority in December 1996 (H/16/1145/96). The applicants were requested by the planning authority to provide further information in the form of an archaeological evaluation prior to the determination of this application. This was in order to determine the archaeological resource affected by proposed development at the site.

The archaeological investigation was commissioned by Mr Simon Liquorish of Broadgate Builders (Spalding) Ltd. Archaeological Project Services carried out the work according to the brief for works produced by the Assistant Archaeological Officer for Lincolnshire County Council (Appendix 1).

### 2.2 Topography, Geology and Soils

Spalding is situated 23km southwest of Boston and 30km southeast of Sleaford, in the Fenland of south Lincolnshire (Fig.1).

The proposed development site is located c. 2km west of Spalding town centre as defined by the Market Place (Fig.2). Situated at a height of c. 3.5m OD on land bounded by Bourne Road to the north and

Horseshoe Road to the south and east (National Grid Reference TF 2315 2197), the proposed development sites cover approximately 4.3 hectares on fairly level ground (Plate 1; Fig.3).

Local soils are of the Wisbech Association, coarse silty calcareous alluvial gley soils developed in stoneless marine alluvium (Robson 1990, 36-37). These soils are developed on young marine alluvium or former estuarine deposits and overlie a solid geology of Oxford Clay (B.G.S. 1992).

### 2.3 Archaeological Setting

Spalding is situated in an area of moderate known archaeological activity. Earlier prehistoric activity has not been identified within the area under investigation. It is likely that most of Spalding was typically salt marsh or submerged during the prehistoric period, though the course of the River Welland may have come through this area at this time.

A Desk-Top Assessment of the area of development has previously been prepared, and a more comprehensive summary of the archaeological setting of the site can be obtained from this document (Cope-Faulkner 1997).

Romano-British activity is best represented by the Baston Outgang, a gravel road that starts in Baston and has been traced by cropmarks to within 700m of the investigation area (Hallam 1970, 30; Margary 1973, 235) (Fig.2). By continuing the alignment of the cropmarks, the Baston Outgang road would cross the proposed development site and meet with the Westlode, a possible Romano-British canalization of a former river (Hallam 1970, 34) (Fig.3). There is a change in the direction of the Baston Outgang road southwest of the site. One reason for this

has been to align it with a crossing point over the River Welland, although an alternative is that it follows a roddon or infilled creek, thus raising it above the surrounding land (Hayes and Lane 1992, 171). The location of the Baston Outgang road and a potential river crossing suggests a possible small but important settlement in the vicinity of Spalding. It has been further suggested that Spalding may have been a Roman port (Tom Lane *pers. comm.*).

The Fenland Survey correlated Roman sites and cropmarks to landscape data to within a kilometre of the investigation site (Hayes and Lane 1992). This showed that Roman sites were concentrated on the raised silt levees of ancient watercourses. However, in the vicinity of the proposed development the Roman landscape shelves beneath thickening, Post-Roman, silts representing marine flooding, thus preventing the development of cropmarks (Lane 1996).

Cropmarks have also revealed trackways and settlements branching off from the Baston Outgang road (Nos. 3, 9 and 10 on Fig.2). The settlement features comprise regular enclosures and larger field systems with particular concentrations around Podge Hole, east of the investigation area (Phillips 1970, 288-89).

Archaeological investigations along the course of Pennygate Drain, 1.2km northwest of the proposed development area, revealed a significant number of Romano-British ditches and gullies (Fig.2; No.11). Finds of pottery, animal bone and slag were also recorded and indicate a high status settlement occupied from the 1st to 2nd centuries AD (Herbert 1996, 7).

Investigations on land immediately to the northeast of the present site revealed ditches and pits sealed by layers of alluvium and degraded peat (Tann 1997). Containing fired clay and perhaps mixed

with industrial waste, the alluvium was up to 0.15m thick (Fig.2; No.12).

Though no Saxon activity has been identified in or around Spalding it is maintained that the site of the town continued in importance after the Romano-British period as suggested by the name and the tribal hideage of the 7th century (Phillips 1970, 30, 41 and 60). Spalding is first referred to in a Tribal Hideage of the 7th century where a tribe known as the *Spaldas* are recorded. Spalding itself probably dates back to the Old English *Spaldingas* 'descendants of *Spaldas*' (Ekwall 1974, 432).

The Domesday Book of 1086 records that Spalding was owned principally by Ivo Taillebois with land also belonging to Croyland Abbey and Guy of Craon (Foster and Longley 1976, 60, 89 and 184). The survey also mentions the existence of a market, six fisheries, salt-pans and a wood of alders. Although the name is thought to be Saxon in origin, numerous street-names in Spalding have a Danish origin (Hallam 1954).

Medieval activity is represented by Monk's House, 400m to the north of the development site. This is the site of a moated grange belonging to Spalding Priory (Page 1906, 118). After the conquest Ivo Taillebois settled in Spalding and forced the monks of Crowland out of the town and then invited the abbot of St. Nicholas of Angers to build a monastery in its place (*ibid*, 119). The monastery had several granges, one located at Monks House, 150m north of the development site (Figs 2 and 3). Monk's House was certainly in existence by the end of the 13th century, when it was noted in a survey of that period (Hallam 1965, 177).

No trace of the medieval moats can be seen and the present house dates to the

16th or 17th centuries. Although it has been suggested that the Westlode was Romano-British in date, it is equally possible that the canalization took place in the earlier medieval period, especially when related to the New Fendyke and Old Fendyke, both of which are first mentioned at this time, although may be of earlier origin (Hallam 1965, 51-3) (Fig.3).

During the 17th and 18th centuries, Spalding was still an important centre located as it was on the lowest bridging point of the Welland. The river was still navigable to Stamford and Spalding became a centre for river traffic between the fens of south Lincolnshire and the uplands to the west. The river Westlode, located along the northern boundary of the development site, was also an important feature and was said to be used to import corn from the surrounding villages (Spalding Guardian, June 7th, 1963), although the Fenland was more noted for pastoral agriculture until the last century.

The 17th century also saw the widespread drainage of the fens. Deeping Fen was drained in 1642 by the construction of Vernatt's Drain, *c.* 1km north of the development (Wheeler 1896, 323).

Recent archaeological activity is represented by the course of a former railway, south of the development area, and a defensive line of three pill boxes dating to World War II.

### 3. AIMS

The aims of the archaeological evaluation, as outlined in the specification (Appendix 1), were to locate archaeological deposits if present and to establish their extent, condition, character, quality and date. The purpose of this identification and assessment of deposits was to establish



their archaeological significance, in order to facilitate recommendations for an appropriate mitigation strategy that could be integrated with the proposed development. In particular, the presence or absence of the Baston Outgang and settlement, or agricultural features, of prehistoric or Roman date was to be established. The potential of environmental evidence, where present, was also to be considered.

## 4. METHODS

### 4.1 Geophysical Survey Results

Geophysical survey of the site, using a magnetometer, did not detect any archaeological features (Price 1997). The previous use of the site as a garden centre had littered the surface with metal fragments, concrete foundations and trackways associated with the construction of greenhouses for use at the garden centre. This prevented the survey from being used across the majority of the proposed development site.

### 4.2 Evaluation Techniques

The site surface was unsuitable for fieldwalking and contained a coverage of weeds and broken ground that prevented visibility of the surface. This coverage also mitigated against the use of aerial survey techniques.

A mechanical excavator, with a toothless bucket, was used to open 22 trenches, measuring approximately 25m x 1.5m (Fig.4). Trenches 1-7 were placed in order to locate the route of the Baston Outgang Roman road. Trenches 17-19 were placed in order to locate any further archaeological remains associated with Trench 6. All other trenches were placed to provide a random distribution of coverage

across the proposed development area.

Most trenches were overlain by a thin layer of waste ground, incorporating frequent gravel, sand, and occasional concrete pathways from the former use of the site as a garden nursery. Following the machine excavation, trenches were then cleaned and selected deposits excavated by hand in order to determine their nature and retrieve dating, economic and environmental evidence.

Each archaeological deposit or feature was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and plans at a scale of 1:20. A complete survey record of the site was made using a *Geodolite TST* (Fig.4). Recording of deposits encountered during the evaluation was undertaken according to standard *Archaeological Projects Services* practice.

## 5. RESULTS

### 5.1 Description of the Excavation

Finds recovered from the deposits identified in the evaluation were examined and a date was assigned where possible. Records of the deposits and features recognised during the evaluation were also examined. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 3. Phasing was assigned based on artefact dating and the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them. A stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced. Six phases were identified:

Phase 1: Natural Deposits

Phase 2: Undated Archaeological Deposits

Phase 3: Late Iron Age Activity  
Phase 4: Roman Activity  
Phase 5: Flooding/Marine Transgression  
Phase 6: Modern Development

## 5.2 Phase 1: Natural Deposits

All deposits that are likely to have formed without human intervention are included within this phase. Marine silts and palaeochannels, common elements of the Lincolnshire fenlands, are dominant features of this phase.

The earliest layer encountered during the investigation was deposit (039). Comprising a friable orangish-brown clayey sandy silt, this layer probably formed as a result of deposition within a coastal marine environment. This layer was present in all of the evaluation trenches and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.5m below the present ground surface.

At the base of Trench 1, at the western limit of the area of development, was an orangish-grey clay (067) that was exposed to a minimum depth of 0.5m. Cutting this deposit was an east-west linear feature (068) interpreted as a palaeochannel. This contained a series of sandy silt deposits (060, 061, 062 and 064) and a layer of black peat (063).

Cutting into the natural silt (039) in Trench 3, due north of Trench 1, was a possible palaeochannel (082). Approximately 0.61m deep, it was filled with a sequence of clayey silt to sandy silt deposits (079, 080 and 081), formed as a result of natural deposition. Two sherds of pottery, dateable to the prehistoric period, were retrieved from (080). Their presence in a natural feature is mentioned later (see Discussion, Section 6).

Overlying (039) in Trench 5, at the southwestern limit of the area of

investigation, was a sequence of greyish-brown clays and silty clays (105-119), interpreted as natural geological deposits. Cutting into these natural silts was a steep-sided, 3.9m wide, palaeochannel (130). This, in turn, had been recut or scoured by further palaeochannel activity (120). Deposit (102), the primary fill of the scoured channel, was composed of a peaty organic clay.

Trench 8, approximately 60m northeast of Trench 5, contained a 3.5m wide cut with shallow concave sides and base (126). Orientated north-south, this feature has been interpreted as a small palaeochannel. It contained a single fill of dark-brown clayey silt (125) forming a deposit that was only 60mm thick.

Located at the southeastern limit of the area of development, Trench 15 revealed a slightly narrower and deeper cut (078) orientated northwest-southeast. This contained a sequence of clays, silts and sands (072-077).

Trench 16, at the northeastern limit of the area of development, also contained a small cut interpreted as a palaeochannel (058). Approximately 0.59m wide and 0.11m deep, it contained a single fill of loose, black clayey-silt (057) with frequent inclusions of organic material.

In Trench 22, located at the easternmost limit of the investigation area, was a thick sequence of silts and clays (129, 134-139), including a thin layer of black clayey silt (140). These were interpreted as natural deposits.

In Trench 20, situated at the northernmost limit of the area of development, was a 2.93m wide and 0.34m deep, east-west linear feature (024). Interpreted as a palaeochannel, it was filled by a deposit of mid grey-brown clayey silt (025).

### 5.3 Phase 2: Undated Archaeology

A series of small features, cut during a phase of human activity, were recorded within Trench 17, although no dateable artifacts were retrieved.

Trench 17 was machine cut, measuring approximately 5m long and 3m wide, directly west of Trench 6 (Fig.4). Three small sub-rectangular cuts (005, 041 and 088) were exposed at the base of this trench, interpreted as pits (Fig.6). The most northerly of the pits (088), measured 0.85m long by 0.43m wide with a depth of 0.15m. This feature was filled with a greyish-brown sandy silt (087) containing flecks of burnt bone and possible briquetage fragments. As these fragments were too small to recover it has been impossible to date this feature. The briquetage content suggests an industrial function (saltmaking); the presence of burnt bone is likely to represent the deposition of refuse following cooking activity.

Immediately south of pit (088) was a smaller sub-rounded cut (041), with a diameter of 0.45m and a depth of 0.15m. Deposit (040), contained by (041), had frequent inclusions of charcoal, burnt bone and lenses of light-yellow silty sand.

Approximately 0.1m south of (041), continuing the alignment of (041) and (088), was cut (005) (Figs 6 and 7). At least 0.45m in diameter, with a depth of 0.14m, this feature has been interpreted as a possible refuse pit cut. It contained light-grey clayey silt (004) with frequent charcoal inclusions, fragments of burnt bone and pottery. A secondary fill of the pit, overlying (004), was composed of a dark-grey clayey silt (003) containing frequent charcoal flecks. This may also be related to the deposition of refuse, or possibly industrial activity.

### 5.4 Phase 3: Late Iron Age Activity

Within Trench 6 a linear cut, orientated west-east, was excavated to a depth of 0.45m. Measuring approximately 1.8m wide, it has been interpreted as a gully (015). At the base of this feature was a light grey silty charcoal (016), forming an amorphous spread approximately 0.34m wide (Plate 3). At the northern edge of this deposit was a small, incomplete hand-made pot (Plate 2; Figs 8 and 9). This pot (Fig.11), of Late Iron Age date (Appendix 4), contained a quantity of burnt animal bone fragments (Appendix 6).

Overlying the pot and deposit (016) within the gully was a mid grey sandy silt (014) and a dark grey-brown silty clay (056) with charcoal inclusions.

### 5.5 Phase 4: Roman Activity

Within Trench 6, overlying deposit (056) (see 5.4) and contained by gully (015), was an orange-brown sandy silt with charcoal and burnt clay inclusions (012). Two fragments of briquetage of probable Roman date were retrieved from this deposit. It is probable that (012) has formed as a natural accumulation of silts within gully (015), the presence of briquetage representing nearby salt-production. Above deposit (012) was a sequence of fills, (013) and (053-055), forming the uppermost layers within gully (015). Comprised chiefly of brown silts, these are likely to have formed as a result of natural accumulation.

Approximately 5m north of cut (015), within Trench 6, was a sequence of features that has been dated to the Roman period. Cut (069), was an east-west linear feature with shallow sides and a flat base approximately 2.5m wide. Deposit (045/022), the primary fill of this feature, contained 3 fragments of briquetage, dateable to the Roman period. Fragments

of burnt clay and charcoal occurred frequently within this deposit.

Overlying (045) was another layer predominantly composed of clay (086/002). Flecks of pottery, burnt clay and charcoal occurred frequently within this deposit. Large fragments of briquetage, approximately 40mm thick, and a single quartzite hammerstone were retrieved from the deposit, in association with pottery dateable to the Late Iron Age or early 1st century AD. One of the briquetage fragments is likely to have come from a tray or bowl, forming either a basal corner or a rim. The quartzite hammerstone is likely to have originated from the Mountsorrel outcrop in Leicestershire. It has been smoothed and rounded, through continuous wear, and displays evidence of deliberate roughening at the narrow end; possibly in order to facilitate the grinding and pounding of plant stuffs (James Rackham *pers comm*).

Overlying this deposit was a greyish-orange sandy silt (085/001), with frequent inclusions of charcoal flecks and burnt clay. This deposit contained pottery that has been dated to the Late Iron Age or the early 1st century AD (Fig.11). Overlying this deposit within cut (069) were layers of sandy and silty clay (084) and (083) that contained no dateable material. These deposits are likely to have formed as a natural accumulation following the disuse of the ditch (069).

Immediately south of, and adjacent to, ditch (069) was a small irregular east-west cut, (044), interpreted as a gully. A dark grey-brown sandy, ashy clay with frequent flecks of pot, bone, burnt bone and fired clay (043) formed the primary fill of this feature. A single fragment of briquetage associated with pottery of Late Iron Age date, was recovered from the deposit, together with an ox or cattle scapula in

relatively good condition.

Overlying (043) was an orange-brown sandy silt, also containing fragments of pottery, bone, burnt bone and fired clay (042). A single fragment of briquetage, associated with pottery that is likely to date to the early 1st century AD, suggests that the final dumping within (042) must have been completed by this date.

Approximately 0.5m south of (044) were two wider and more irregular cuts (021 and 023), probably orientated northeast-southwest. Interpreted as a pit, feature (021) contained a fill of sandy silt with frequent charcoal, bone, calcined (severely burnt) bone and fired clay inclusions. Fragments of briquetage associated with pottery dateable to the Late Iron Age were recovered from (021). The possible Roman date of the briquetage may indicate that the earlier pottery fragments are residual; although alternatively it may reflect the continuity of indigenous traditions into the Early Roman period.

Cut (023), immediately west of (044), has been interpreted as a shallow scoop approximately 0.1m deep. It contained deposit (022), comprising a dark grey sandy silty ash. Fragments of bone and burnt clay occurred with moderate frequency throughout this layer. A few fragments of briquetage, dateable to the Roman period, were also retrieved from the deposit.

Cut (009), recorded in Trench 19, has been interpreted as a refuse pit. Deposits (030) and (008) were contained by this feature. The uppermost fill, (008), contained fragments of briquetage. Both fills had frequent inclusions of charcoal and burnt clay, that are likely to have resulted from the deposition of waste materials from nearby salt-production (Fig.10).

South of pit (009), at the limit of excavation for Trench 19, a similar shaped cut (011) was recorded. The primary fill of (011), deposit (010), contained two fragments of briquetage. Overlying (010) was a deposit of grey-brown clayey silt (035). Both (010) and (035) contained fragments of burnt clay and charcoal. On the basis of these observations cut (011) has been interpreted as a refuse pit, probably associated with the production of salt.

### 5.6 Phase 5: Flooding/Marine Transgression

Overlying the undated features in Trench 17 were several layers interpreted as natural deposits (Plate 4; Fig.7). The earliest of these, of similar relative date, were contexts (046) and (047). Respectively composed of light red-brown and mid grey-brown silts, these formed a layer approximately 0.1m thick. Overlying these deposits were thinner (approximately 20-50mm thick) layers of clays and silts (048-051). These are interpreted as alluvium (Appendix 7).

A similar sequence of deposits was recorded in Trench 20. Deposits of grey-black silt (018) and (037) directly overlay a waterborne layer of grey-brown clayey silt (019) which contained inwashed fragments of briquetage. Deposits (038) and (036), consisting of clay and silt layers, sealed (018) and (037) to a thickness of 0.35m. Also interpreted as alluvium, these are likely to represent a later phase of flooding on the site (Appendix 7).

### 5.7 Phase 6: Modern Development

Various deposits associated with the development of the site as a garden centre were recorded during the archaeological evaluation. Interpreted as topsoil, deposits

(017, 029, 034, 059, 071, 091, and 127) consisted of mid-brown organic sandy silts exposed to a thickness of 0.4m below the ground surface.

Trench 5, at the southwestern corner of the area of development, displayed evidence of a small narrow cut (090) into the topsoil. Interpreted as a stakehole, this was filled by a brown sandy silt that may represent the rotting of any post *in situ* (Fig.5).

Within Trench 19, also occurring later than the topsoil, were deposits (029/034, 028/083, 027/032 and 026/031). The earliest of these layers, (029/034), comprised a mixture of rubble that is likely to have been dumped. This had been overlain by (028/083), consisting of a limestone rubble deposit sealed by tarmac. A 0.12m thick layer of gravel (026/031) formed the uppermost layer. These contexts were formed during the previous development of the site as a garden centre (Plate 1).

Cut (007), interpreted as a land-drain, crossed Trench 6 truncating deposits (020, 022 and 042). Context (006), forming the fill of (007), contained fragments of pottery and bone that had been disturbed from the earlier features even though the drain was securely of modern date.

## 6. DISCUSSION

Archaeological evaluation on land south of Bourne Road, Spalding, has revealed a restricted area of small gullies and pits dating to the late Iron Age/Roman transition.

Precise dating of the features has been problematical. The majority of the pottery recovered has been of Late Iron Age style and form, although there appears to be a very limited Romano-British presence.

Dating of pottery in this transitional phase is difficult. Lane (1988) and Hayes and Lane (1993) have previously noted the apparent continuation of Middle Iron Age forms into the Later Iron Age in the Fenland. Moreover, excavations at a Saltmaking site in Morton Fen, 8km to the northwest, has demonstrated the continuation of 'native' pottery styles into the early Second century.

Dating of briquetage from the Fenland by means of typological affinities was first undertaken by Lane (1992) and later refined by Morris (forthcoming). However, the method is reliant on the presence of diagnostic pieces, in particular, ceramic stands, of which none were present at Spalding. Nevertheless, the briquetage fragments recovered from Spalding contained the classic 'salt colours', typical of Roman collections, but also present on sites of the transitional period.

In general, all of the material collected is likely to belong to the late first century BC/early first century AD. There is some stratigraphic separation of the finds (see below) but the whole period of activity appears to be limited to a short time span. The Phasing classification of Iron Age and Roman (5.3 and 5.4, above) is used to demonstrate the stratigraphical succession and it is accepted that the dating, particularly in this area of late surviving ceramic styles and traditions, could be shunted a few decades either way, rather than represent precisely activity occurring either side of 43AD.

The earliest remains encountered during the investigation were natural silts and clays (Phase 1). These geological strata are typically attributed to a marine coastal environment and reflect increasing sea levels over the past 6000 years.

Numerous irregular palaeochannels were

revealed within these natural silts. Although naturally formed features, some of these channels contained artifacts of Late Iron Age and early Roman date. The presence of this material implies that at least some of the streams were open and active when the area was occupied.

A few archaeological features from the site remain undated (Phase 2). These were located in a confined area near the west side of the site. Comprising a linear arrangement of sub-rectangular pits containing burnt clay, charcoal flecks and animal bone, these are likely to have been associated with salt production and the deposition of associated refuse. Although undated, on the basis of their size and content the features are probably related to the Late Iron Age and Roman remains revealed in the same restricted area of the site.

A large Late Iron Age gully (Phase 3) was identified in proximity to the undated remains. Perhaps a boundary or drainage feature, this contained a deposit of apparently domestic refuse consisting of the remains of a single pottery vessel, the earliest datable object on the site, and a quantity of burnt animal bone.

In the same area were gullies and pits of probable early Roman date (Phase 4).

Remains from salt-production occurred frequently in the vicinity of Trenches 6, 17 and 19, and the presence of burnt animal bone suggests that cooking activities were also being conducted on the site. If this is the complete sample, then it is only the remains of, at most, a few meals.

Gully (069), at the northern end of Trench 6, contained a substantial sequence of deposits, approximately 0.5m thick, dated to the Early Roman period by the presence of pottery and briquetage. Orientated east-

west the feature may originally have been cut as a boundary or for refuse disposal. Most of the deposits contained by (069) contained frequent or moderate inclusions of charcoal, bone and burnt clay. Some are likely to have been deposited as a result of the processing of salt in the near vicinity.

Pits (009) and (011), within Trench 19, are likely to have been used for refuse disposal. These irregular, shallow features contained fragments of briquetage and a single sherd of pottery that is likely to be of prehistoric date.

Further fragments of briquetage were located in Trench 20, some 60m northwest of the core activity area. These occurred within a probable flood deposit (019) and are likely to have been washed in from nearby salt working. This could be sited in the adjacent developed area to the northwest where briquetage was found during archaeological investigations (Tann 1997).

Salt-production, likely to be the result of a localised small-scale industry, and small-scale habitation (though no structural remains were recognised) are likely to have been conducted on site during the Late Iron Age/Early Roman transitional period. The lack of stratigraphic build-up and the shallow and irregular nature of the features encountered suggests that any activities were of a sporadic nature, and were likely to be short-lived. Seasonal occupation of the site is therefore a possibility. The environment of the area is likely to have mitigated against more permanent occupation and the presence of channels (one of which contained material dateable to the Roman period) are likely to have severely restricted the possibilities of settlement growth.

Overlying the sequence of prehistoric/early Roman remains was a phase of

natural deposition (Phase 5). This has been interpreted as a sequence of flooding, probably both fresh water and marine. Although undated, it is likely that this alluviation occurred in the Late Roman or post-Roman periods, by comparison with similar deposits encountered elsewhere in southeast Lincolnshire.

Modern activity and development of the site was represented by the present topsoil and remains associated with the previous use of the site for glass houses.

## 7. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

For assessment of significance the *Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling ancient monuments* has been used (DoE 1990, Annex 4; See Appendix 2).

### Period

Activity dateable to the Late Iron Age and/or Early Roman periods was identified during the investigation. However, the general nature of the evidence (gullies, pits and ditches) is not period-specific.

### Rarity

Activity dating to the late prehistoric and Early Roman periods is scarce in the vicinity of Spalding. Later Roman deposits are more common and have previously been extensively surveyed.

### Documentation

Records of archaeological sites and finds made in South Holland District are kept in the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record. Synopses of nearly all the archaeological work carried out in the vicinity, including a Desk-Top Assessment of the site, has previously been produced.

### Group value

Salt-production, or low key industrial activity and food processing in conjunction

with small-scale habitation is likely to confer a moderate group value on the site. However, the nature of the occupation is as yet unproven and may not include any structural remains. Evidence of broadly contemporary settlement sites and field systems in the proximity enhances the group value.

### **Survival/Condition**

A small area of archaeological interest was defined toward the western end of the site, concentrating in the vicinity of Trenches 6, 17 and 19. In part due to burial by later flood deposits and by virtue of limited post-medieval development of the site, the archaeological remains of late prehistoric and Roman date have survived in a relatively good state of preservation.

Peaty deposits were well-preserved and were recorded in several of the excavated natural palaeochannels on the site. Bone also survived in good condition.

### **Fragility/Vulnerability**

Any surviving archaeological deposits are vulnerable. However, archaeological remains were restricted in quantity and extent and have been partially removed and preserved by record as part of this evaluation.

### **Diversity**

Late prehistoric and Early Roman pits and gullies, probably associated with salt-production and small-scale occupation has a low archaeological diversity. Additionally, period diversity is low.

### **Potential**

Potential is high that archaeological remains, associated with late prehistoric and Early Roman settlement and salt-production, are situated in the vicinity of Trenches 6, 17 and 19 toward the western edge of the site.

Groundwater was not reached during the investigations, but deposits became sodden at a depth of 1.4m below the present ground surface. Consequently, environmental material may survive through waterlogging. Charcoal is also well-preserved and, although no environmental remains have been recorded, where they do exist they are likely to be preserved in a charred state.

## **7.1 Site Importance**

In summary, the criteria for assessment have indicated that the late prehistoric/Early Roman deposits present on site are of low-moderate local significance. As such, they make a minor contribution towards understanding the origins and development of the Spalding area.

## **8. EFFECTIVENESS OF TECHNIQUES**

Techniques employed during the archaeological evaluation on land south of Bourne Road, Spalding, were successful and have allowed for the achievement of the aims set at Appendix 1.

Machine opening of the trenches allowed for a rapid assessment of the overlying natural and modern deposits. Moreover, the method also effectively revealed that archaeological remains were spatially restricted.

Manual excavation of the archaeological deposits enabled the recovery of dateable artifacts from the majority of features. Similar techniques applied to the palaeochannels established their natural origin and revealed organic deposits in many of the features. However, although the basic function of individual archaeological features was indicated, the



overall nature of the archaeological remains at the site was not clearly established.

## 9. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological evaluation at Bourne Road, Spalding has achieved the aims set out in the Project Brief. A spatially-restricted and small number of late prehistoric and/or Roman remains were recorded to a depth of c. 1.0m below the present ground surface. Comprising small pits and gullies filled with charcoal, animal bone, pottery and briquetage, the features are likely to represent small-scale industrial activity and occupation amongst a series of natural streams and channels. The pottery recovered from the archaeological deposits may reflect transitional late prehistoric and Early Roman traditions.

Deposits of alluvium overlay and had largely protected the archaeological remains from more recent disturbance. Moreover, modern development of the site had been minimally invasive and had not caused significant damage to surviving archaeological deposits.

Animal bone was well preserved and environmental evidence survived both through charring and waterlogging.

## 10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr Simon Liquorish of Broadgate Builders (Spalding) Ltd who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor and this work was edited by Gary Taylor and Tom Lane. Tom Lane also commented on the briquetage. James Rackham commented on the bone and hammerstone and Barbara

Precious and Sheila Elsdon identified the pottery.

## 11. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor  
Site Supervisors: Simon Cox and Mike Garrett  
Site Assistants: Bert Ashford, Dave Bower, Ian MacGregor, Mandy Marshall and Darren Pullen.  
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley  
Illustration: Dave Hopkins  
Post-excavation Analyst: Neil Herbert

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## 10. ABBREVIATIONS

A.P.S. Archaeological Project Services

B.G.S. British Geological Survey

DoE Department of the Environment

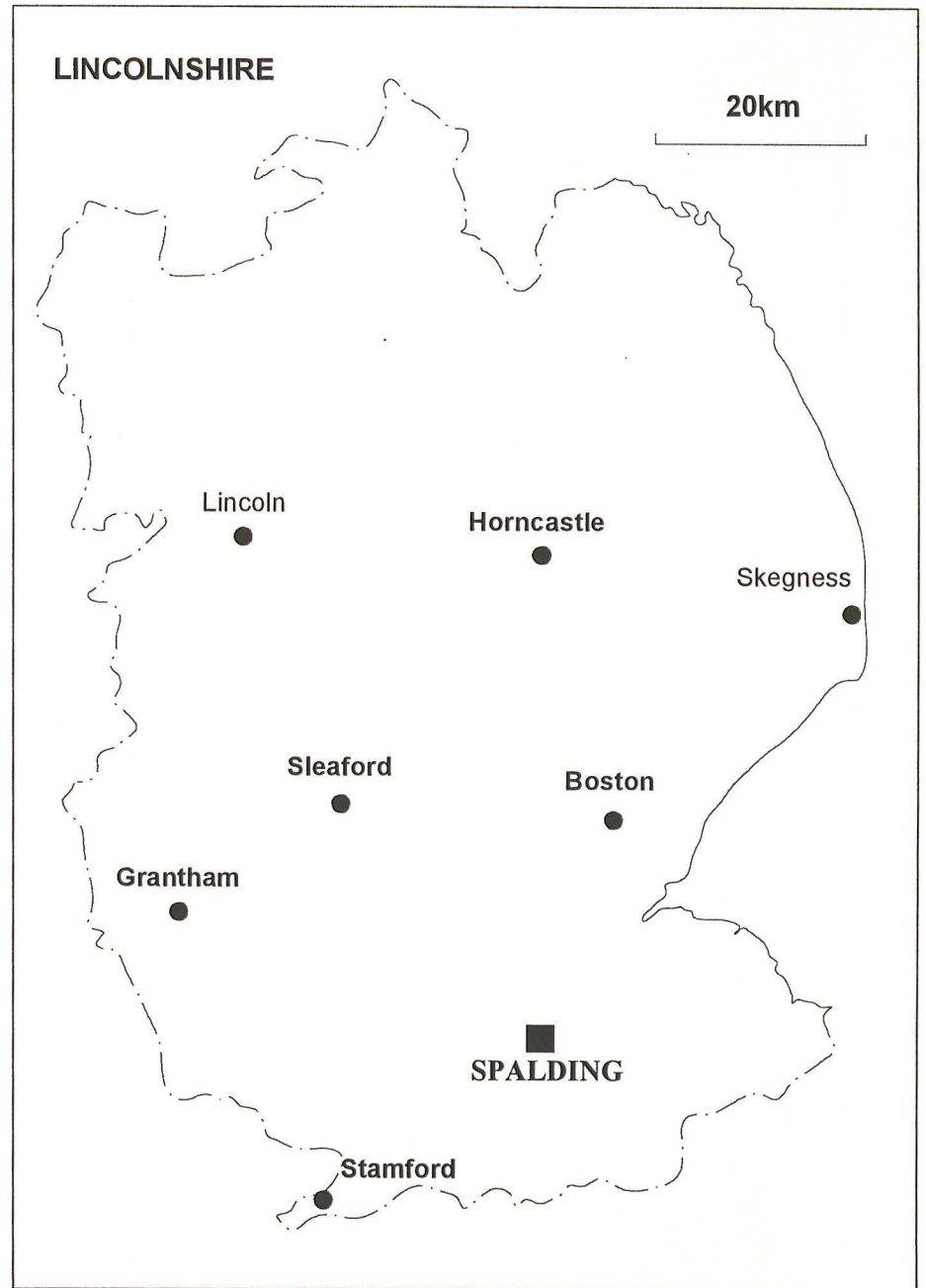
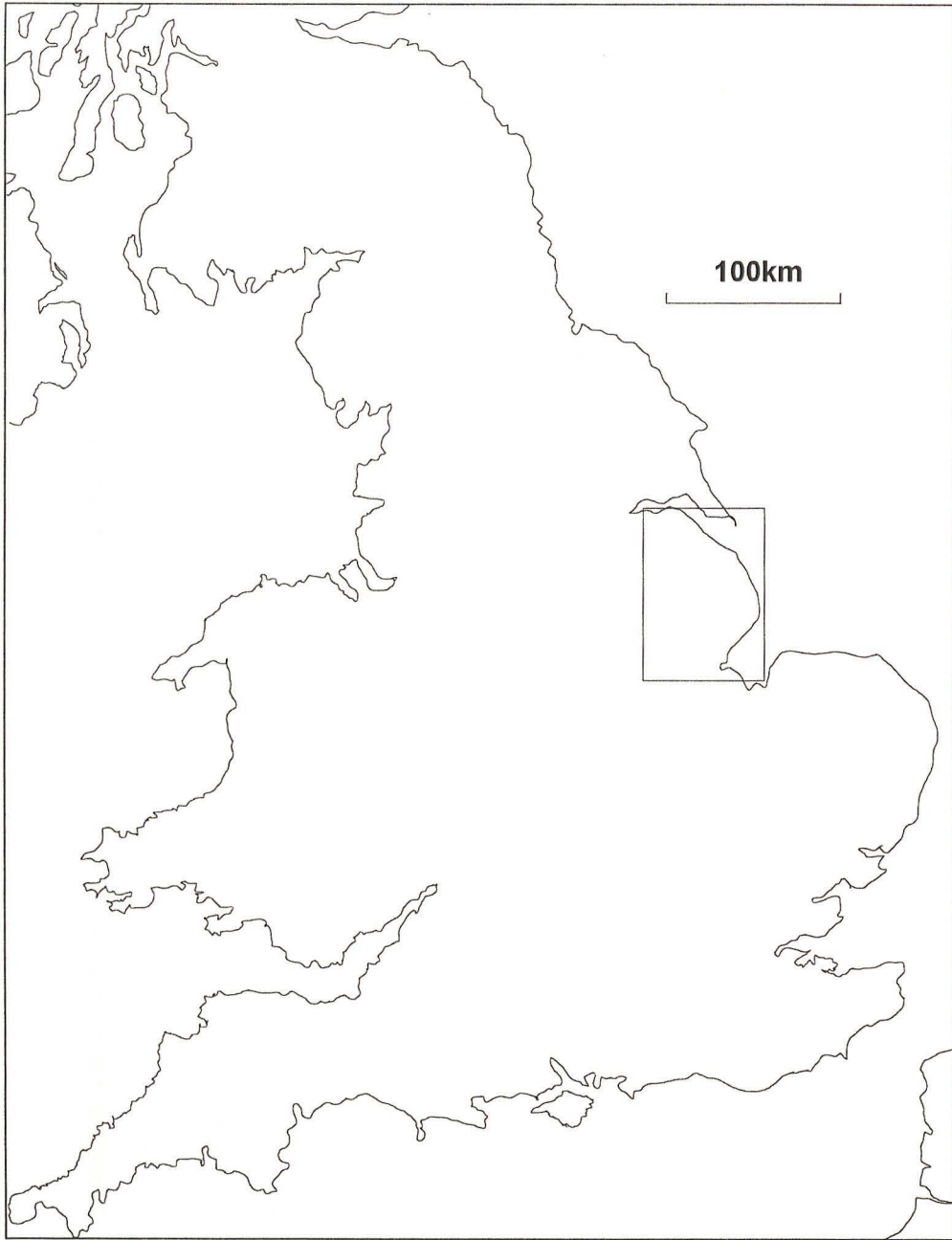
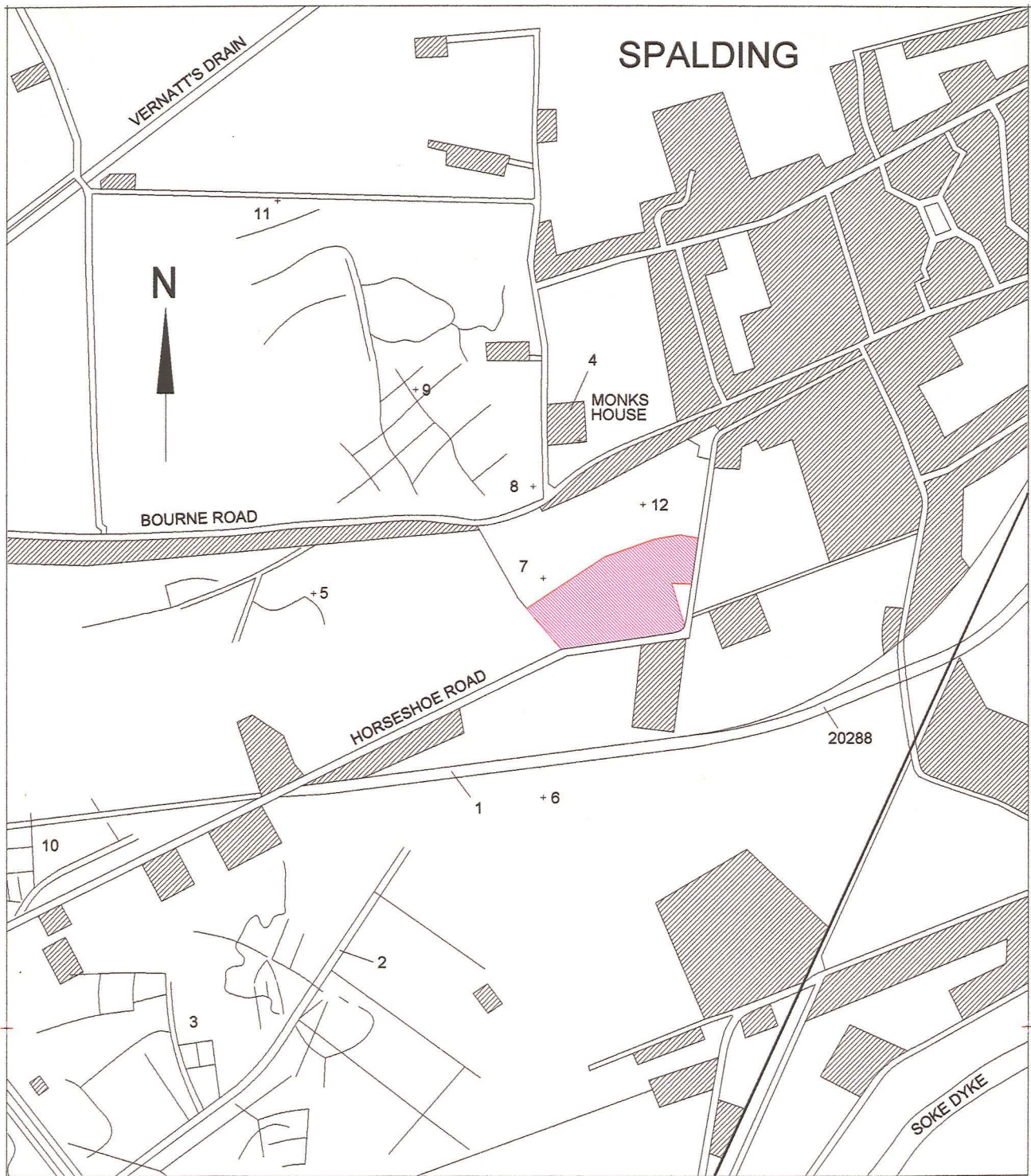


Figure 1 - General Location Plan



 Built Up Area

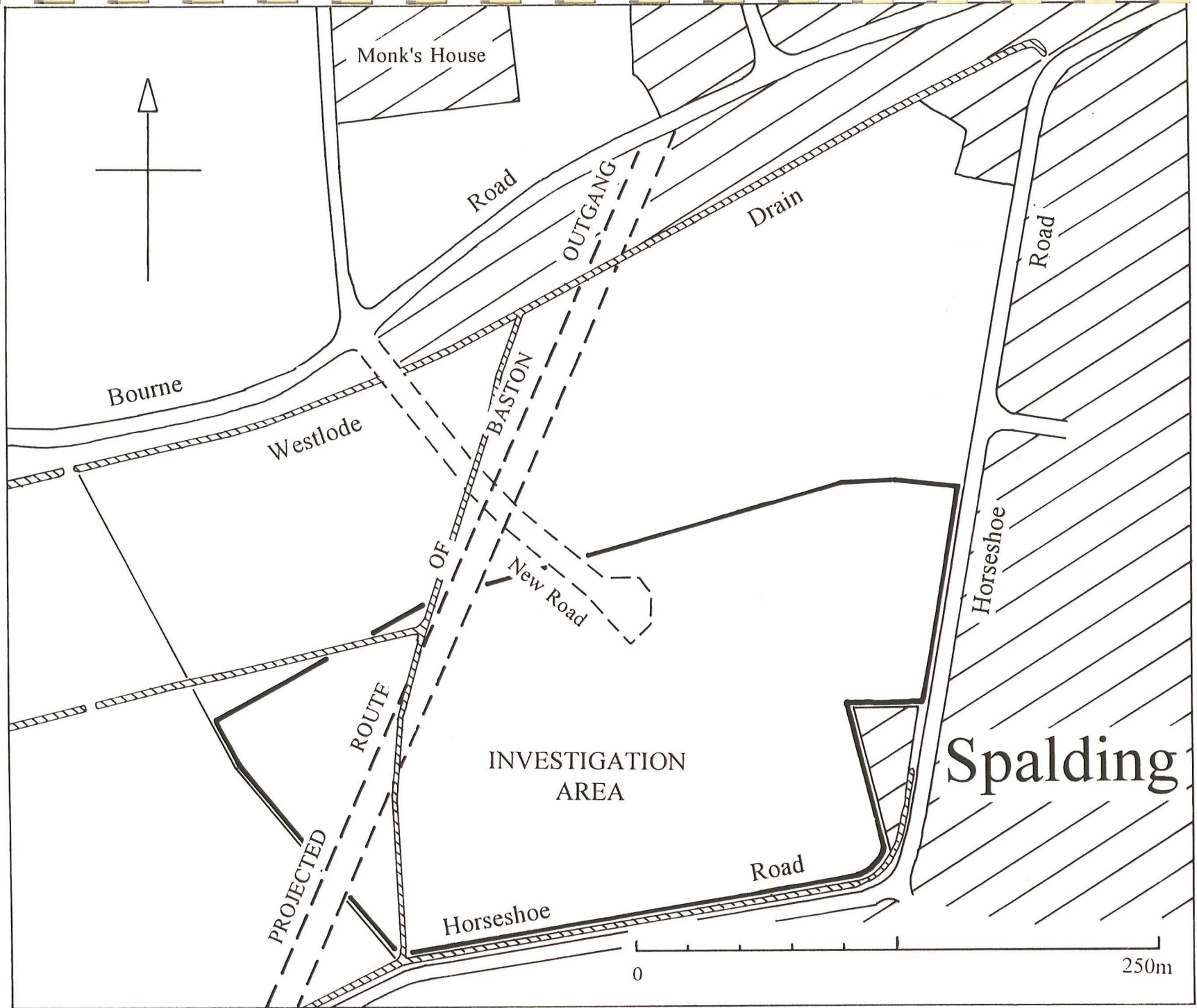
 Proposed Development Site

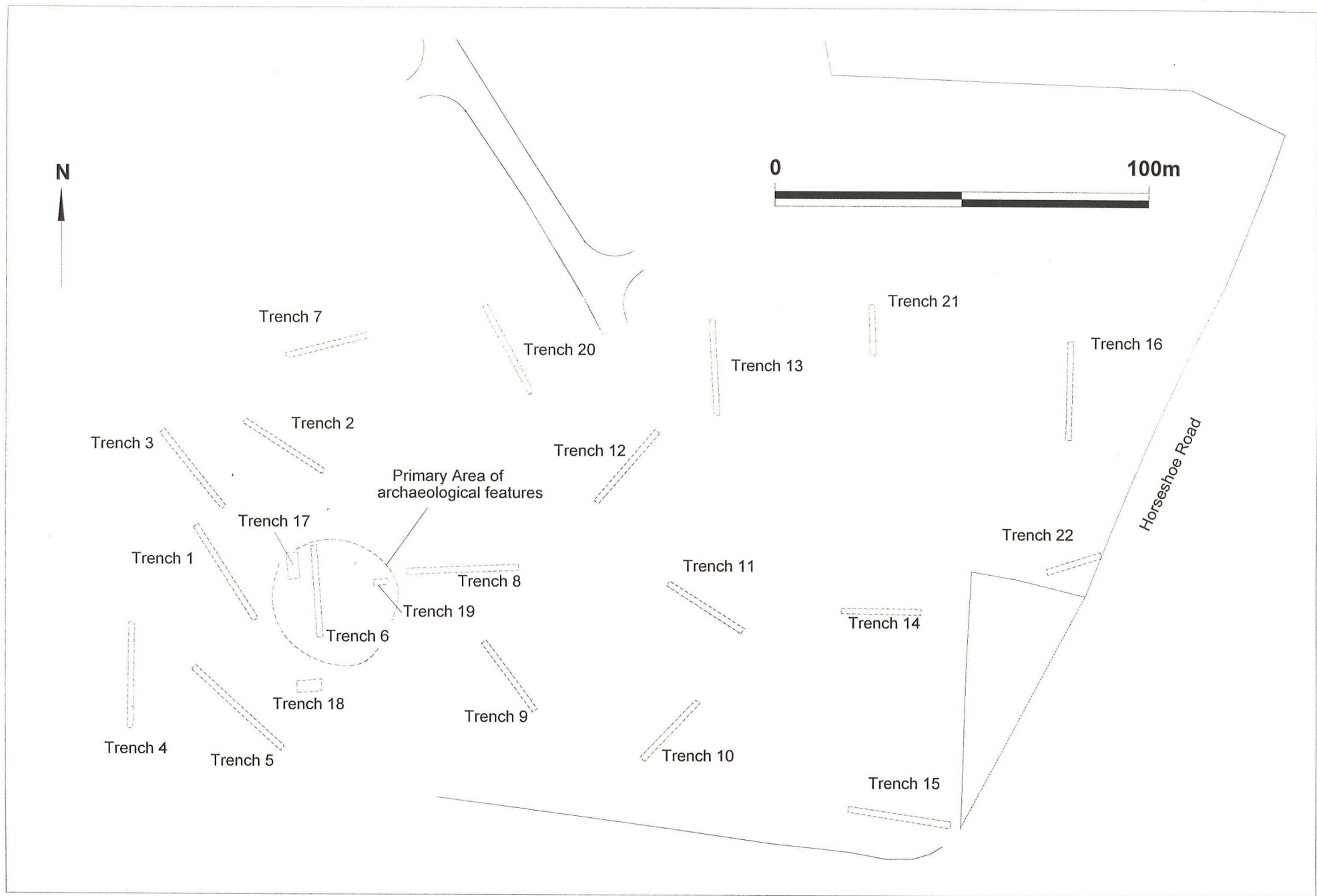
 Cropmarks



**Figure 2 - Location of Archaeological Sites in the vicinity of proposed development**

Figure 3 Plan of the Development Area showing the projected route of the Outgang





**Figure 4 Plan of Excavated Trenches**

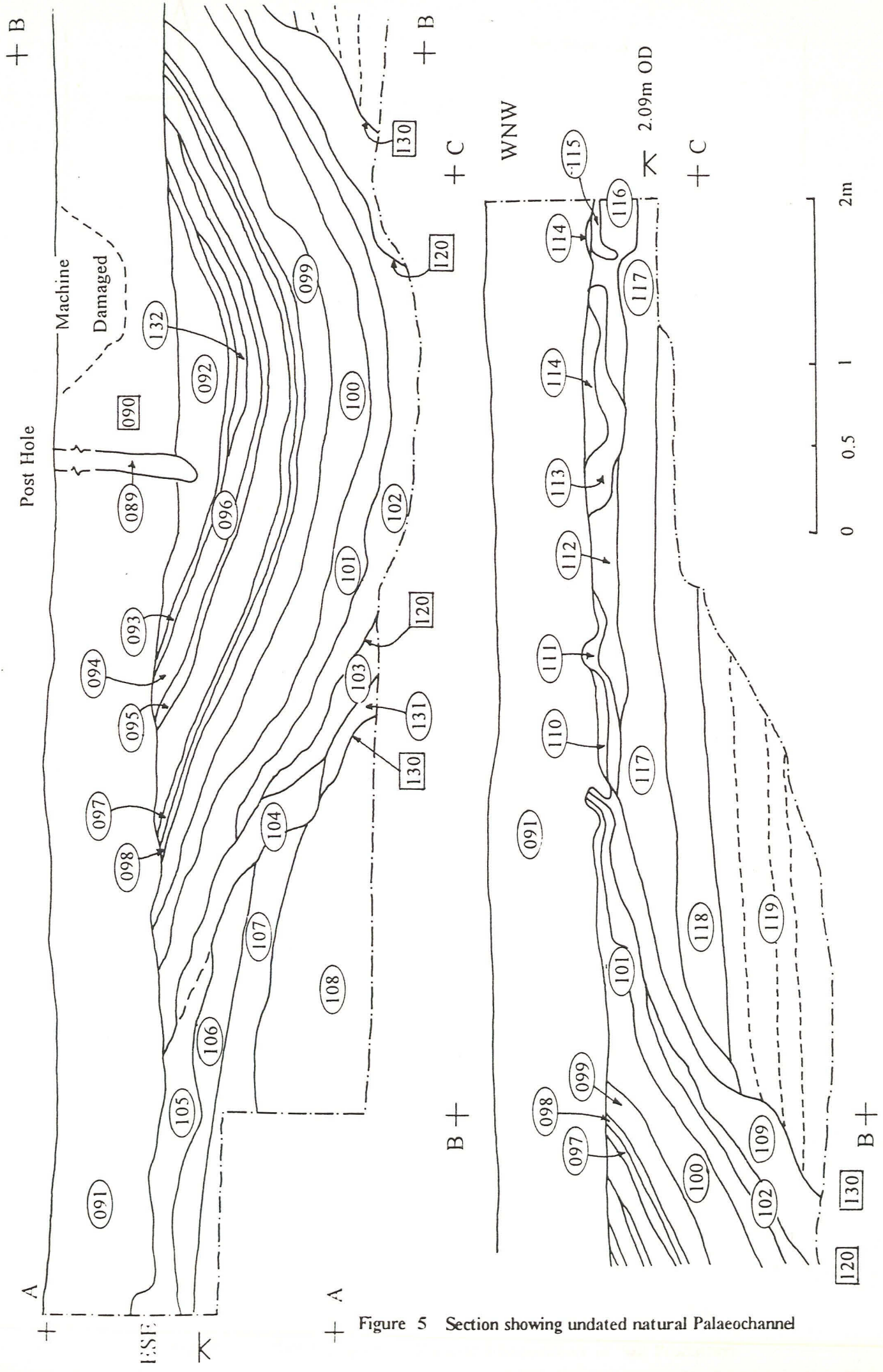


Figure 5 Section showing undated natural Palaeochannel

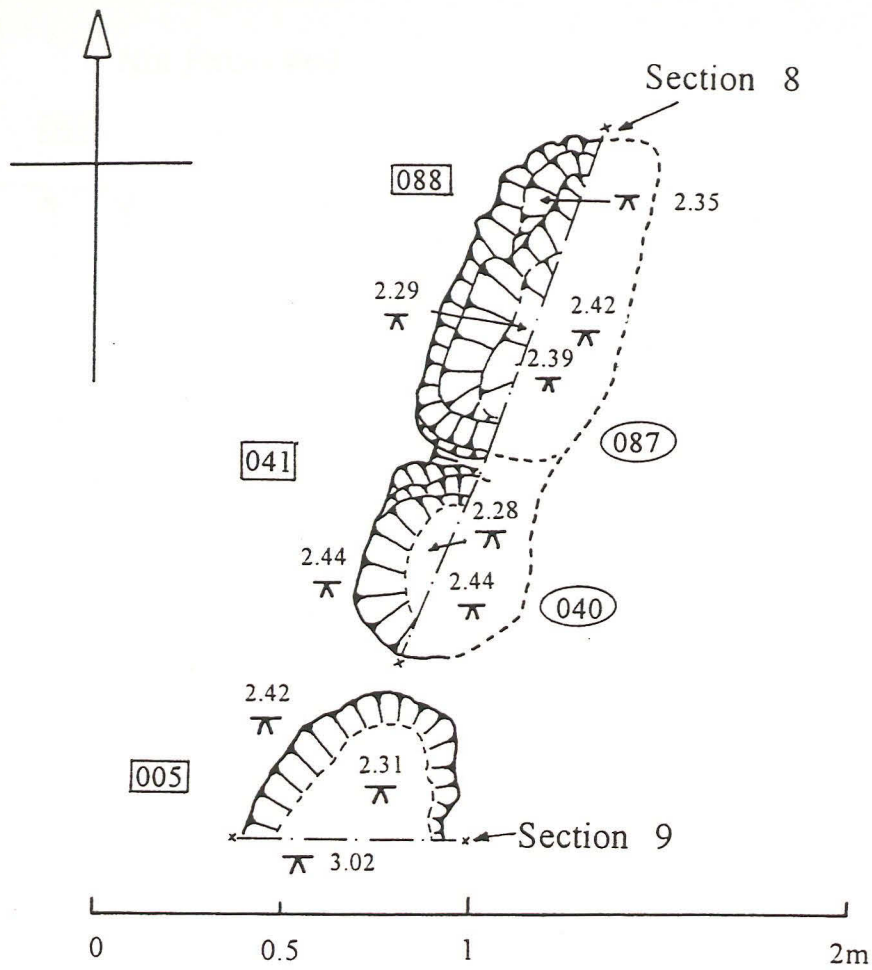


Figure 6 Undated Archaeological Features within Trench 17

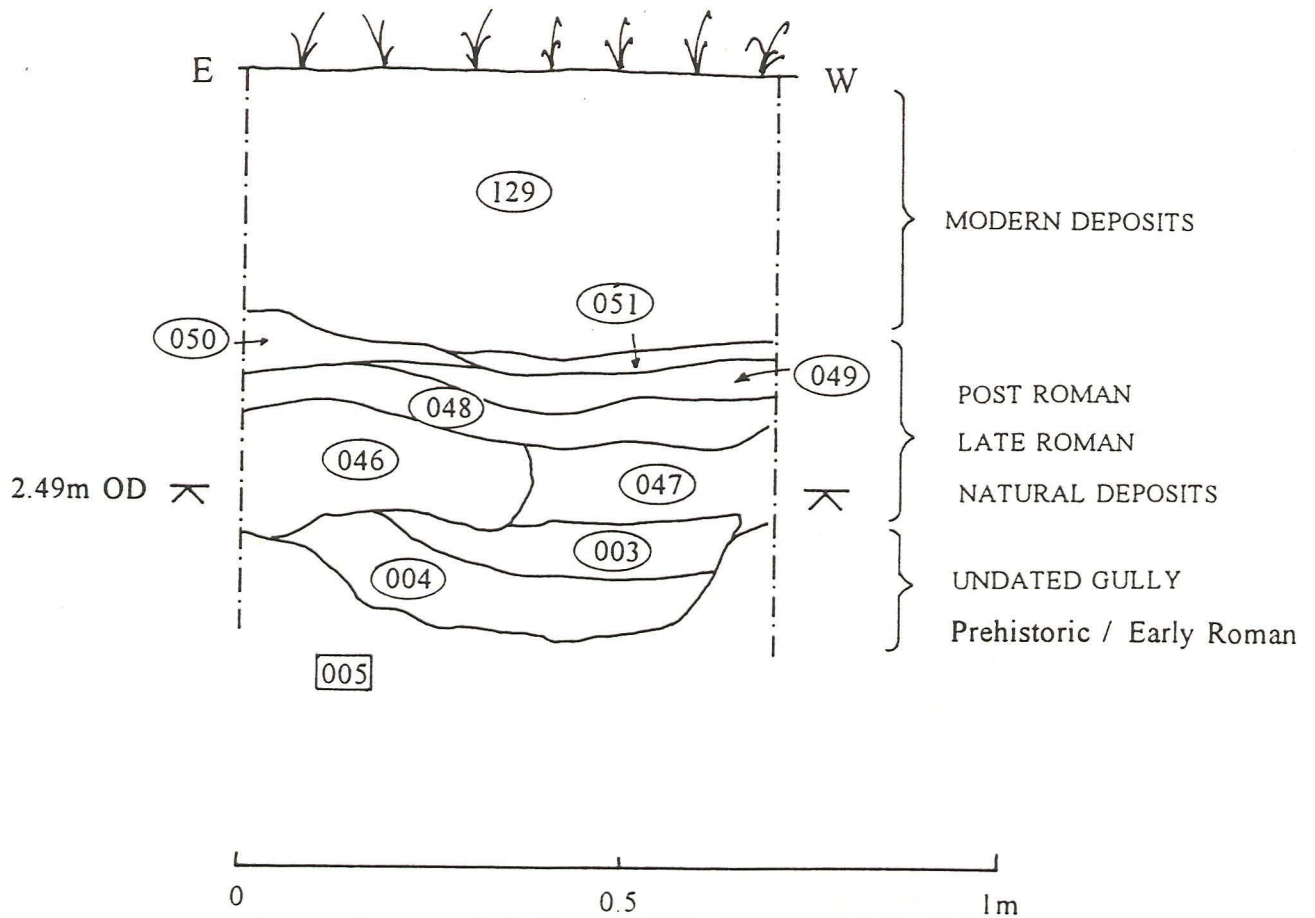


Figure 7 Undated Gully cut (005) containing evidence of Salt Production



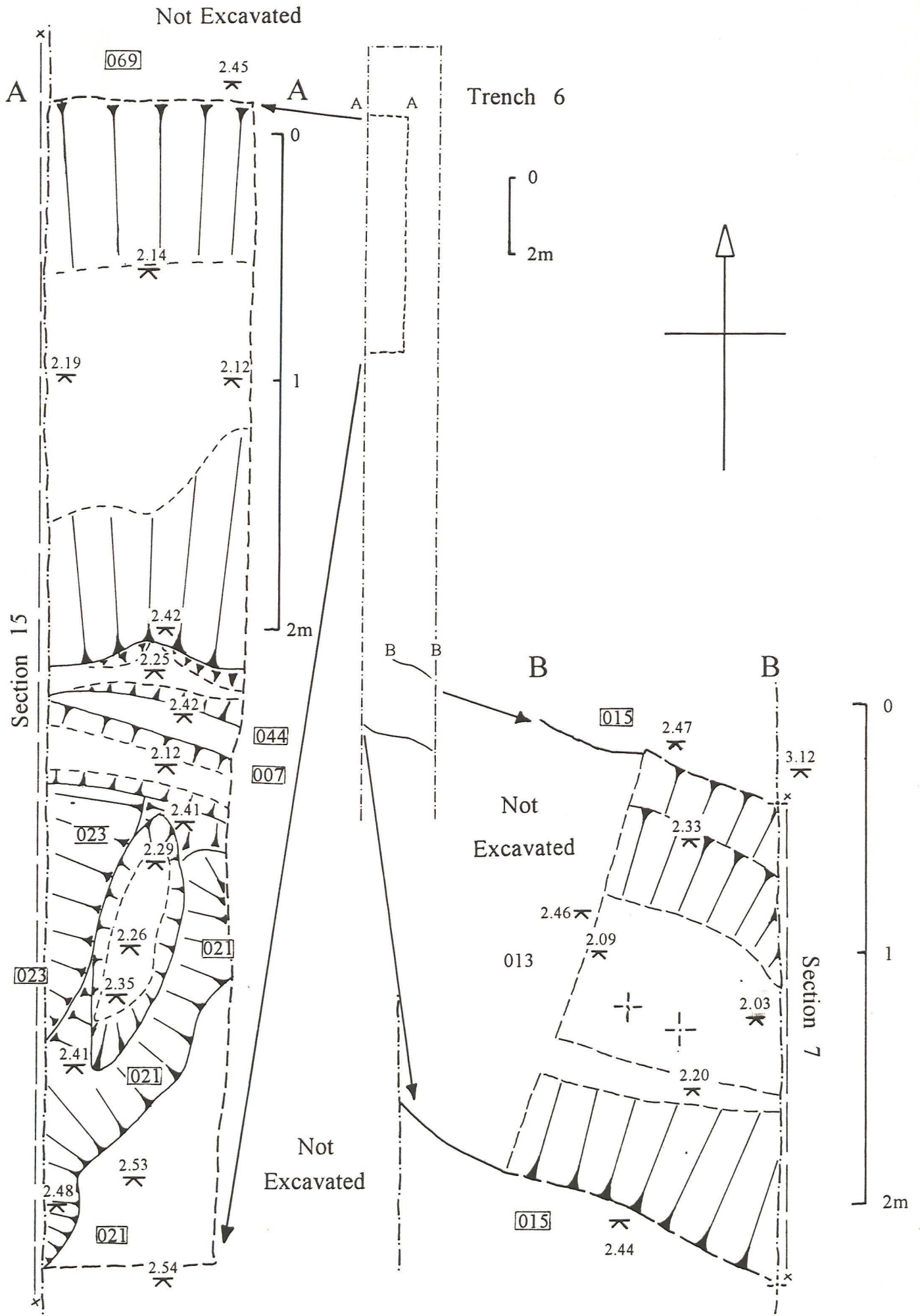


Figure 8 Prehistoric and Roman Archaeological Features in Trench 6

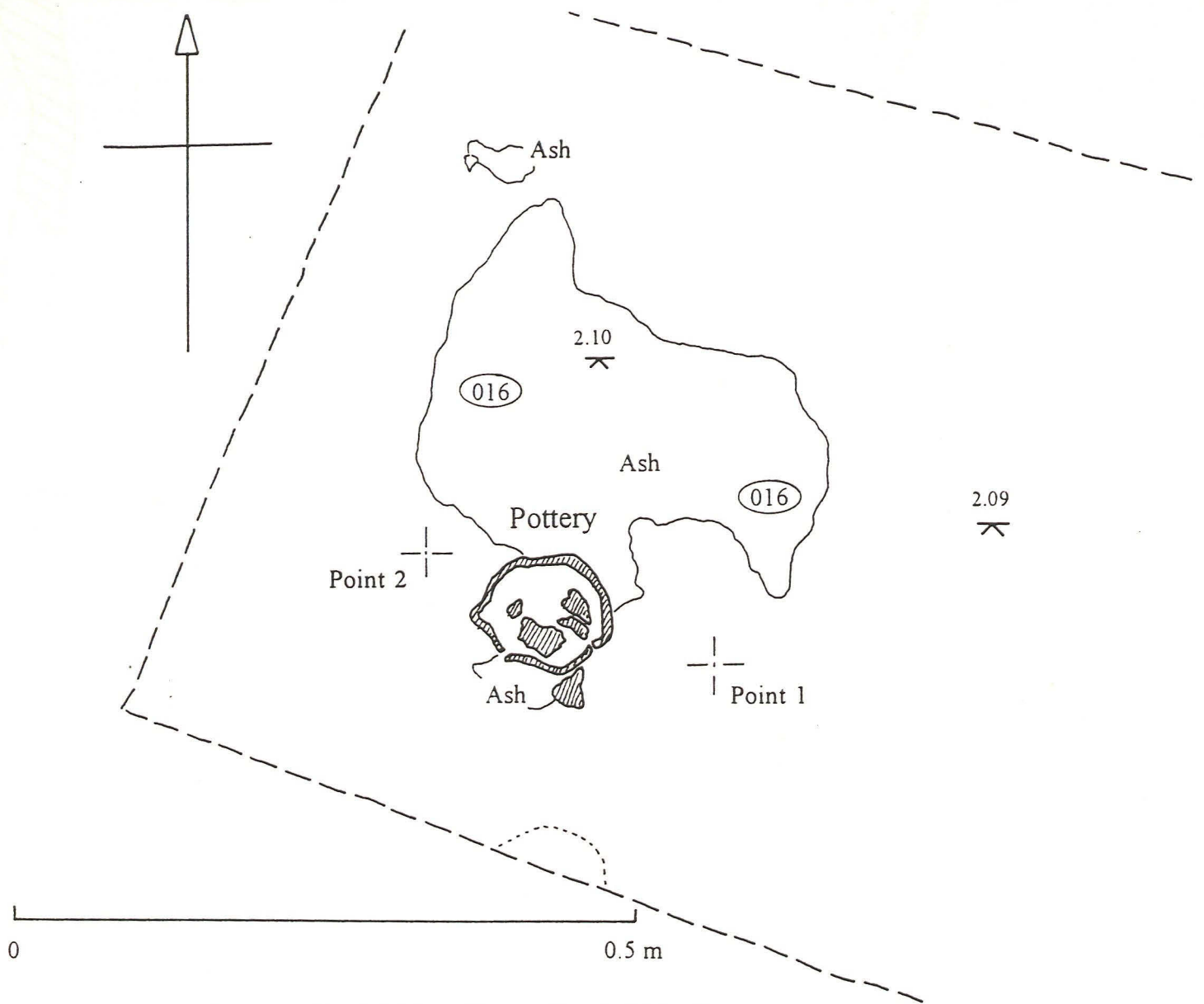


Figure 9 Detailed Plan of Pottery Vessel within ashy deposit ( 016 )

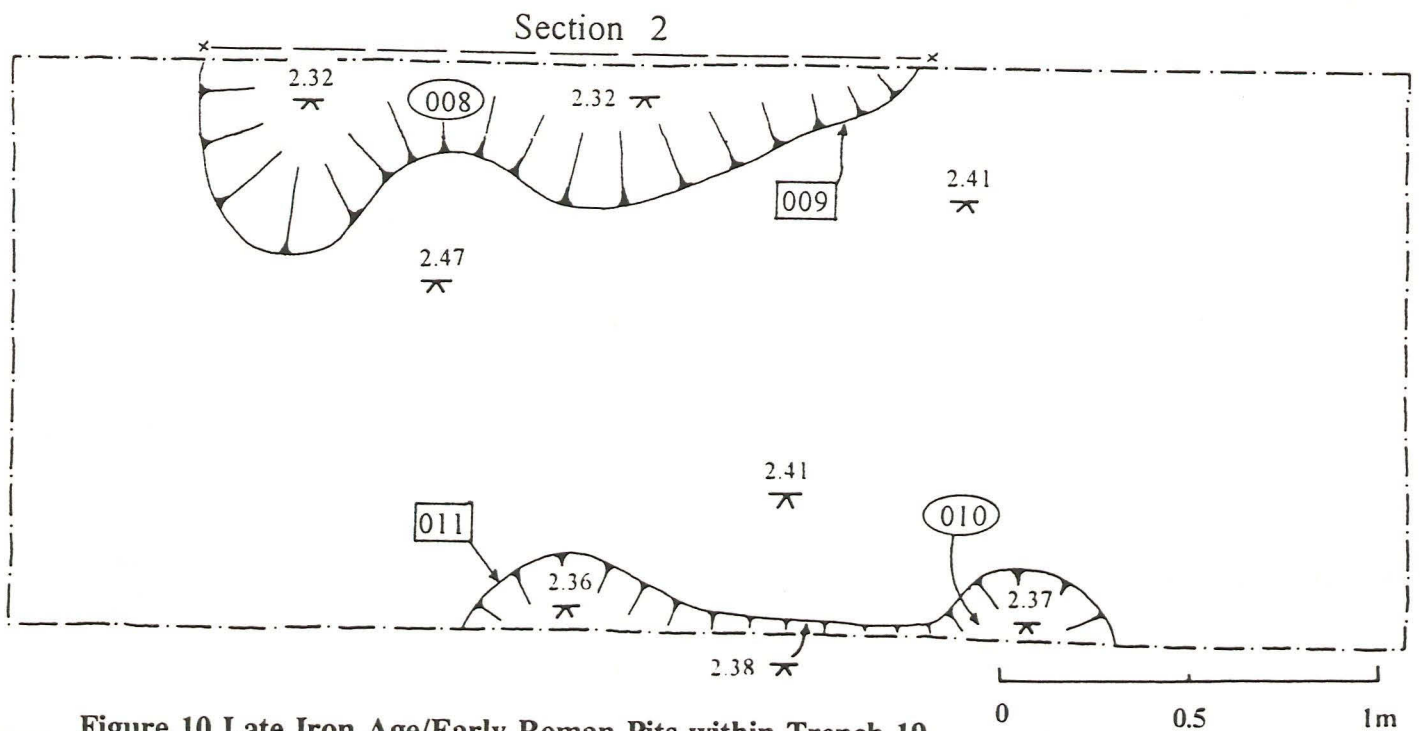
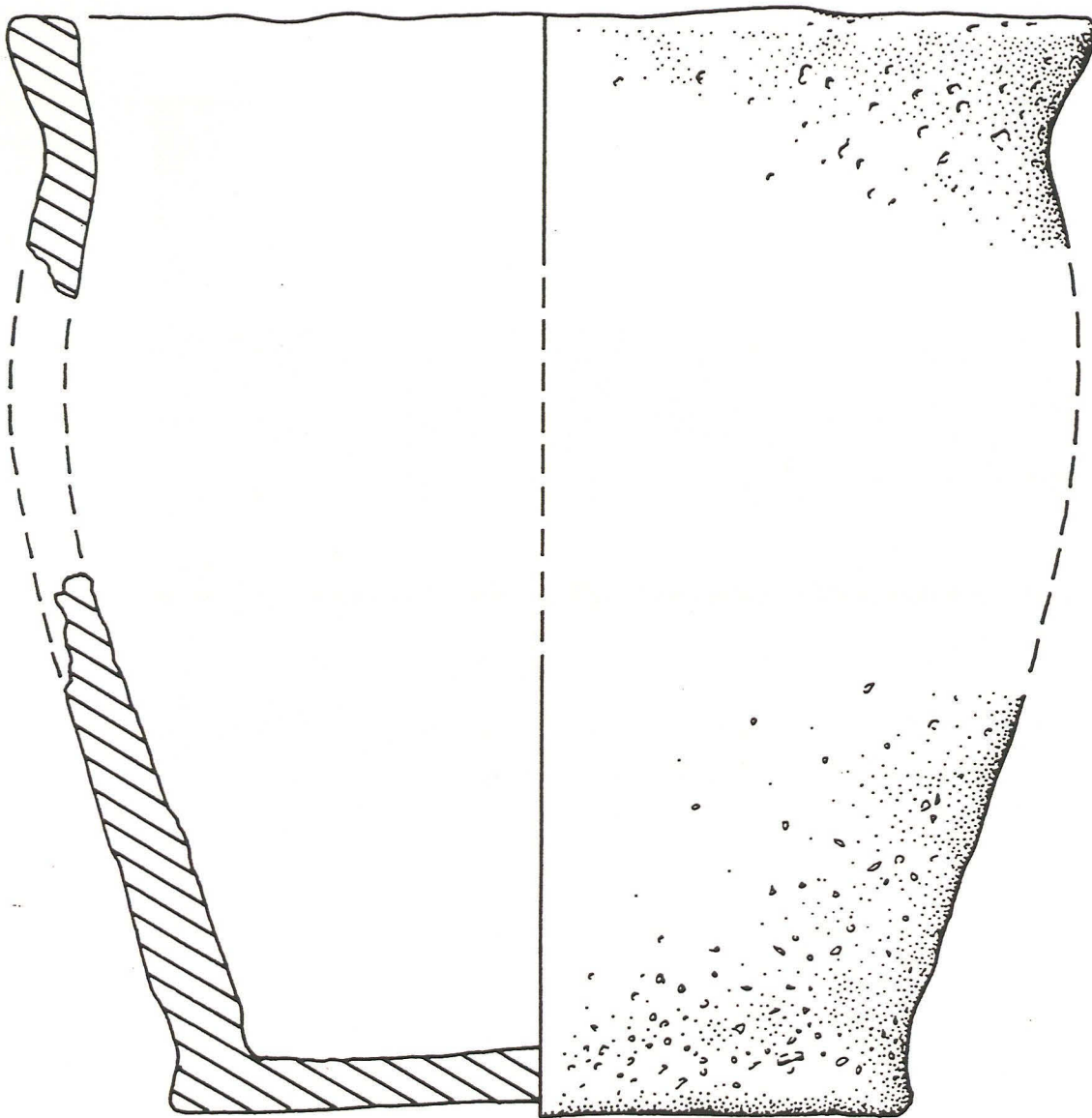
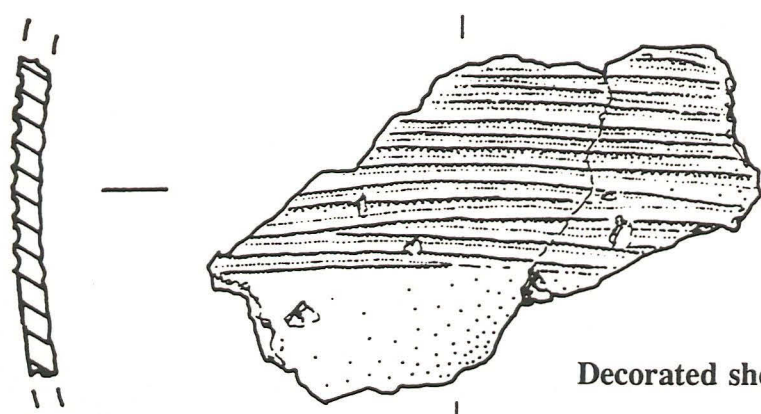


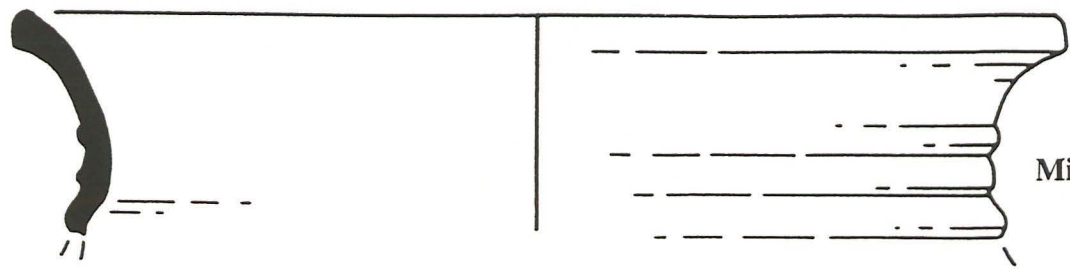
Figure 10 Late Iron Age/Early Roman Pits within Trench 19



Reconstruction of shell-fabric handbuilt jar (014)



Decorated sherd (014)



Mid 1st century Roman jar

Figure 11 Selection of Distinctive Pottery Fragments 1:1



Plate 1 : General Site View



Plate 2 : Section No. 7 showing gully cut [015] dateable to the Prehistoric period. Note charcoal rich ash deposits at the base of this feature



◀ Plate 3 : Showing ashy deposit (016) and pot (014) centre

▼ Plate 4 : Section 9, showing undated ashy and charcoal rich deposit overlain by later natural deposits



## Appendix 1

### BRIEF FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

**SITE:** Bourne Road/Horseshoe Road  
**COMPANY:** Broadgate Builders (Spalding) Ltd  
**LOCATION:** Spalding, LINCS  
**PLANNING APP. NO.:** H/16/1145/97

#### 1. Summary

- 1.1 This document is the brief for archaeological work to be undertaken on a scheme of residential development at land between Bourne Road and Horseshoe Road by Broadgate Builders (Spalding) Ltd. It sets out the requirements for a full field evaluation to be carried out of the area which should help to define the character and extent of the archaeological remains. Evaluation offers an efficient and effective way of retrieving such information. Guidelines on such matters are set out in D.O.E. Planning and Policy Guidance Note 16 (1990), see paragraph 21.
- 1.2 This brief should be used by archaeological contractors as the basis for the preparation of a detailed archaeological project design. In response to this brief contractors will be expected to provide details of the proposed scheme of work, to include the anticipated working methods, timescales and staffing levels.
- 1.3 The detailed specification will be submitted to the company above subject to approval of the Archaeological Officer of Lincolnshire County Council. If more than one, the client will be free to choose between those specifications which are considered to adequately satisfy this brief.

#### 2. Site location and description

- 2.1 Spalding is situated approximately 55km southeast of Lincoln on the east coast within the fens of southern Lincolnshire. The site is situated to the north of Horseshoe Road (which also bounds the site to the east) and to the south of associated development presently being constructed off Bourne Road. To the west is agricultural land. The NGR is TF 23152197.
- 2.2 The site is of an irregular shape and occupies an area of approximately 4.3 hectares. At present much of the central area of the site is occupied by the remains of glasshouses consisting of shallow concrete bases within which the area is filled by sand over some form of plastic sheeting. Some of the site at the western end is waste ground and grass and may be suitable for geophysical survey. This end of the site is crossed by a north-south drain and band of mature trees. The eastern part of the site contains some hard standing and grass.

#### 3. Planning background

- 3.1 Outline planning permission was granted for this site for residential development on 24th June 1994 by South Holland District Council (H16/0215/92). No archaeological condition was attached. Further planning permission was granted on 23rd January 1996 for modification to phasing of residential development (H16/1180/95). Detailed planning permission already exists for phases A, B and C. An application for renewal of outline planning permission H16/0215/92 was submitted to the planning authority in December 1996 (H16/1145/96). The applicants were requested by the planning authority to provide further information in the form of an archaeological evaluation prior to the determination of the application.

#### 4. Archaeological background

- 4.1 Finds of prehistoric material in this area of the fens is not common. Occasional stray finds have been reported but stratified archaeological deposits of these periods most probably lie beneath later deposits laid down by inundations.
- 4.2 Roman period activity in this area is widespread. Aerial photographic evidence has revealed that much of the fen area is covered in a complex network of farmsteads, settlements and field systems of this date. Fieldwalking and watching briefs have further enhanced our understanding of the distribution of the archaeology of this period.
- 4.3 Spalding itself has produced evidence of Roman period occupation and possible settlement sites have been identified at Pennygate Lane to the northwest of the site and west towards Pode Hole from fieldwork and aerial photographs.
- 4.4 Of particular interest to this site is a probable Roman trackway running towards Spalding from Baston Outgang. The road is of gravel and is flanked by settlements, field systems and trackways along its route. Just to the southwest of Spalding and the site in question the line of the road fades but aerial photographs clearly suggest that the road continues towards the town. The projected line of the road would take it through or close to the development site. If the road is heading for a river crossing as has been suggested then establishing the line of the road at this point could be invaluable to the location of the crossing. It is assumed that the reason that the cropmarks are not visible in this area is due to the presence of alluvial deposits which cover the archaeological deposits.
- 4.5 The site lies beyond the periphery of the medieval town but to the north of the site off Bourne Road is the site of Monk's House, once a moated grange of Spalding Priory much evidence of the moat has disappeared, having been incorporated into drainage features while the present buildings date to the 16th and 17th century.
- 4.6 To the north and south of the development site runs a line of second world war defences defined by pillboxes. One of these pillboxes has been incorporated as a feature of the development immediately to the north.

#### 5. Objectives of an archaeological evaluation

- 5.1 The purpose of the archaeological evaluation should be to gather sufficient information to establish the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts.
- 5.2 In particular the evaluation will seek to establish whether the gravel road (see 4.4 above) runs through the site, whether it is associated with any other settlement or agricultural features of the period and the reason for the masking of the deposits. The potential of environmental evidence must be considered.

#### 6. Requirements for work

- 6.1 In order that the planning authority has sufficient information upon which to base its decision, prior to this scheme of development being undertaken a full archaeological field evaluation must be carried out. If any archaeological discovery is made it will be accommodated within the scheme and preservation *in situ* be given due consideration. Preservation by record is considered an action of last resort.
- 6.2 Where relevant, the archaeological evaluation should attempt to address the relationship between any upstanding structure and the buried archaeology.
- 6.3 If upstanding earthwork remains or buildings form part of the archaeological record these must be considered part of the evaluation phase. Such remains should be surveyed to a standard and level of accuracy in line with the recording of the buried remains.

## 7. Stages of works and techniques

- 7.1 The archaeological evaluation must be preceded by a fully detailed desk-top assessment. This will indicate the presence of any archaeological constraint hitherto unidentified. As this detailed desk-top assessment will be followed by a field investigation of the sites identified and an evaluation of the threat to their survival *in situ*, the project specification must be sufficiently flexible.
- 7.2 The desk-top assessment should include an assessment of the site within the local, regional and national context. It should highlight any particularly relevant research priorities which may be addressed by this project.
- 7.3 In order to ensure that all possible archaeological constraints are evaluated thorough use must be made of all secondary sources as part of the desk-top assessment. The project design should detail those sources to be consulted, but it is expected that they should include:
- 7.3.1 the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record;
  - 7.3.2 all Ordnance Survey maps;
  - 7.3.3 Tithe, Enclosure Award and parish maps (where available);
  - 7.3.4 historical documents, particularly those held by Lincolnshire Archives Office;
  - 7.3.5 archaeological books and journals;
  - 7.3.6 unpublished reports and archives (where appropriate);
  - 7.3.7 aerial photographs;
  - 7.3.8 a survey of available borehole and other geophysical and/or geotechnical information;
  - 7.3.9 any other sources deemed appropriate;
  - 7.3.10 a visit to verify site conditions.
- 7.4 For the field evaluation phase, the specification will be expected to contain a reasoned discussion of field techniques selected. The rejection of a particular technique must be explained. Consideration should be given to additional aerial survey, fieldwalking, site survey, geophysical survey and the observation of geotechnical test pits (if appropriate) as well as the undertaking of archaeological test-pits as possible field evaluation techniques. When preparing the specification account must be taken of the local geology, topography and land-use as it affects the feasibility of the various techniques.
- 7.5 The evaluation should also take into account environmental evidence and provide an assessment of the viability of such information should further archaeological work be carried out.

## 8. Methods

- 8.1 In consideration of methodology the following details should be given in the contractor's project design:
- 8.1.1 a proposed timetable for the various stages of work;
  - 8.1.2 the staff structure and numbers, including a list of all specialists and their respective roles;
  - 8.1.3 a statement on Health and Safety policy and site security;
  - 8.1.4 a full description of the field survey techniques to be used, including such details as plotting conventions, transect spacing, presentation of geophysical and statistical data and the plotting of aerial photographs.
- 8.2 Excavation is a potentially destructive technique and the specification should include a detailed reasoning behind the application of this technique. The following factors should be borne in mind:
- 8.2.1 the most recent archaeological deposits are not necessarily the least important and this should be considered when determining the level to which machining will be carried out;
  - 8.2.2 the machine should be used to remove topsoil down to the first archaeological horizon;
  - 8.2.3 the use of an appropriate machine with a wide, toothless ditching blade;
  - 8.2.4 the supervision of all machine work by an archaeologist;
  - 8.2.5 when archaeological features are revealed by machine these will be cleaned by hand;



- 8.2.6 a representative sample of every archaeological feature must be excavated by hand (although the depth of surviving deposits must be determined, it is not expected that every trench will be excavated to natural);
  - 8.2.7 all excavation must be carried out with a view to avoiding features which may be worthy of preservation;
  - 8.2.8 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 under the Burial Act 1857 and subsequent legislation regarding the exhumation of human remains. It will also be necessary to comply with all reasonable requests of interested parties as to the method of removal, reinterment or disposal of the remains or associated items. Attempt must be made at all times not to cause offence to any interested parties.
- 8.3 It is expected that an acceptable recording system will be used for all on-site and post fieldwork procedures. The recording procedure must take into account the long-term archival requirements of archaeological records. Due attention must be given to the drawn and photographic record. Both artefacts and ecofacts must be handled in a way sympathetic with the requirements of the document "Guidelines for the transfer of project archives" produced by City and County Museum, Lincoln and in line with national guidelines as detailed therein. Prior to fieldwork commencing discussions should take place with City and County Museum regarding archive deposition. At this time an accession number will be issued and should be used throughout the project.

## 9. Post-fieldwork programme

- 9.1 After completion of the fieldwork phase of the project the following procedures should be undertaken:
- 9.1.1 that, after agreement with the landowner, arrangements are made for long term storage of all artefacts in City and County Museum, Lincoln;
  - 9.1.2 that a site archive is produced and should be deposited with the artefacts as detailed in 9.1.1;
  - 9.1.3 a full report is produced and deposited with the appropriate bodies, see 10.1 below.

## 10. Reporting requirements

- 10.1 The final report must be produced in two stages. There must be a preliminary report of the desk-top assessment. This report must:
- 10.1.1 summarise all available information;
  - 10.1.2 provide a comprehensive list of all sources consulted, along with an explanation if sources detailed in paragraph 6.2 above are not consulted;
  - 10.1.3 outline all possible options for further work, including recommendations for alterations to the original evaluation specification.
- 10.2 The second stage shall be an evaluation report which should be a straight-forward account of the fieldwork carried out. Ideally it should be produced within three months of the completion of the fieldwork phase. If this is not possible then the County Archaeological Officer must be consulted at the earliest possible opportunity. The report should include:
- 10.2.1 computer generated plots of geophysical survey data and interpretation;
  - 10.2.2 distribution plots, analysis and interpretation of field walking and other data;
  - 10.2.3 plans of the trench layout;
  - 10.2.4 section and plan drawings, with ground level, Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scales as appropriate;
  - 10.2.5 plans of actual and potential deposits;
  - 10.2.6 specialist descriptions of artefacts and/or ecofacts;
  - 10.2.7 a consideration of the evidence within the wider landscape setting;
  - 10.2.8 a consideration of the archaeology within its local, regional and national context;
  - 10.2.9 a critical review of the effectiveness of the methodology;

10.2.10 a projected timetable for the completion and final location of the site archive (if not already undertaken).

10.3 A short note should be prepared for publication in the Archaeological Notes of the county journal *Lincolnshire History and Archaeology*.

#### **11. Monitoring arrangements**

Curatorial responsibility for this project lies with the Archaeological Officer of Lincolnshire County Council. He should be given at least seven days notice, in writing, of the proposed date of commencement of site work and may exercise his prerogative of monitoring fieldwork.

#### **12. Additional information**

This document attempts to define the best practice expected of an archaeological evaluation but cannot fully anticipate the conditions that will be encountered as work progresses. If requirements of the brief cannot be met they should only be excluded after attainment of the written approval of the Archaeological Officer of Lincolnshire County Council.

Brief prepared by Jim Bonnor, Assistant Archaeological Officer, Lincolnshire County Council, April 1997

## Appendix 2

### Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling Ancient Monuments - Extract from *Archaeology and Planning DoE Planning Policy Guidance note 16, November 1990*

The following criteria (which are not in any order of ranking), are used for assessing the national importance of an ancient monument and considering whether scheduling is appropriate. The criteria should not however be regarded as definitive; rather they are indicators which contribute to a wider judgement based on the individual circumstances of a case.

i *Period*: all types of monuments that characterise a category or period should be considered for preservation.

ii *Rarity*: there are some monument categories which in certain periods are so scarce that all surviving examples which retain some archaeological potential should be preserved. In general, however, a selection must be made which portrays the typical and commonplace as well as the rare. This process should take account of all aspects of the distribution of a particular class of monument, both in a national and regional context.

iii *Documentation*: the significance of a monument may be enhanced by the existence of records of previous investigation or, in the case of more recent monuments, by the supporting evidence of contemporary written records.

iv *Group value*: the value of a single monument (such as a field system) may be greatly enhanced by its association with related contemporary monuments (such as a settlement or cemetery) or with monuments of different periods. In some cases, it is preferable to protect the complete group of monuments, including associated and adjacent land, rather than to protect isolated monuments within the group.

v *Survival/Condition*: the survival of a monument's archaeological potential both above and below ground is a particularly important consideration and should be assessed in relation to its present condition and surviving features.

vi *Fragility/Vulnerability*: highly important archaeological evidence from some field monuments can be destroyed by a single ploughing or unsympathetic treatment; vulnerable monuments of this nature would particularly benefit from the statutory protection that scheduling confers. There are also existing standing structures of particular form or complexity whose value can again be severely reduced by neglect or careless treatment and which are similarly well suited by scheduled monument protection, even if these structures are already listed buildings.

vii *Diversity*: some monuments may be selected for scheduling because they possess a combination of high quality features, others because of a single important attribute.

viii *Potential*: on occasion, the nature of the evidence cannot be specified precisely but it may still be possible to document reasons anticipating its existence and importance and so to demonstrate the justification for scheduling. This is usually confined to sites rather than upstanding monuments.

### Appendix 3

#### CONTEXT SUMMARY

Context Number	Trench	Description	Interpretation
001	6	Grey orangish-brown sandy silt.	Fill of (069)
002	6	Dark blue-grey sandy clay.	Fill of (069)
003	17	Dark-grey clayey silt.	Fill of (005)
004	17	Light grey clayey silt.	Fill of (005)
005	17	Ovular cut with shallow sides and a concave base. 0.45m x 0.53m x 0.14m deep.	Refuse pit
006	6	Greyish-brown sandy silt.	Fill of (007)
007	6	Linear cut with vertical sides. ??	Land drain
008	19	Grey-brown clayey silt.	Fill of (009)
009	19	Irregular cut with shallow sides and a concave base. 1.5m x 0.4m x 0.6m deep.	Refuse pit
010	19	Greyish-brown clayey silt.	Fill of (011)
011	19	Irregular cut with concave sides and base. 1.57m x 0.24m x 0.2m deep.	Refuse pit
012	6	Light brown sandy silt.	Fill of (015)
013	6	Light brown sandy silt.	Fill of (015)
014	6	Mid-grey sandy silt.	Fill of (015)
015	6	Linear cut with steep sides and a concave base. 1.7m x 1.68m x 0.45m deep.	Poss. gully
016	6	Light grey silty charcoal.	Fill of (015)
017	20	Mid-grey clayey silt.	Topsoil
018	20	Mid-grey clayey silt.	Poss. buried soil
019	20	Mid-grey clayey silt.	Natural deposit
020	6	Dark grey-brown sandy silt.	Fill of (021)
021	6	Cut with gradual sides and a flat base. 1.03m x 0.34m x u/k depth.	Poss. pit
022	6	Dark greyish-white sandy silt.	Fill of (023)
023	6	Linear cut with shallow sides. 0.8m x 0.2m x 0.14m deep.	Poss. pit
024	20	Linear cut with shallow sides and an uneven base. 2.93m x 1.5m x 0.34m deep.	Poss. palaeochannel
025	20	Mid brownish-grey clayey silt.	Natural deposit

Context Number	Trench	Description	Interpretation
026	19	Mid grey-brown sandy gravel.	Surface
027	19	Dark-grey tarmac.	Surface
028	19	White limestone rubble.	Make-up layer
029	19	Grey-brown silt.	Natural deposit
030	19	Red-brown silty clay.	Fill of (009)
031	19	Mid grey-brown sandy gravel.	Surface
032	19	Dark-grey tarmac.	Surface
033	19	White limestone rubble.	Make-up layer
034	19	Grey-brown silt.	Natural deposit
035	19	Grey-brown clayey silt.	Fill of (011)
036	20	Mid-grey fine sandy silt.	Natural deposit
037	20	Mid-grey sandy silt.	Natural deposit
038	20	Blue-grey clay.	Natural deposit
039	20	Mid-brown sandy silt.	Natural deposit
040	17	Light-grey silty sand.	Fill of (041)
041	17	Rectangular cut with steep sides an an irregular base. 0.52m x 0.22m x 0.15m deep.	Refuse pit
042	6	Orange-brown sandy silt.	Fill of (044)
043	6	Dark grey-brown sandy ashy clay.	Fill of (044)
044	6	Linear cut with steep sides and a tapered base. 0.7m x 0.2m x 0.3m deep.	Gully cut
045	6	Dark greyish-brown sandy clay.	Fill of (069)
046	17	Light red-brown silt.	Natural deposit
047	17	Grey-brown silt.	Natural deposit
048	17	Dark brown-grey silty clay.	Natural deposit
049	17	Light-brown silty sand.	Natural deposit
050	17	Mid brown-grey clayey silt.	Natural deposit
051	17	Mid brown-grey clayey silt.	Natural deposit
052	6	Mid pink-brown fine silt.	Fill of (015)
053	6	Mid-brown silt.	Fill of (015)
054	6	Light yellow-brown silt.	Fill of (015)
055	6	Mid brown-grey silt.	Fill of (015)
056	6	Dark grey-brown silty clay.	Fill of (015)

Context Number	Trench	Description	Interpretation
057	16	Black clayey silt.	Fill of (058)
058	16	Linear cut with shallow sides and a concave base. 1.51m x 0.59m x 0.11m deep.	Poss. palaeochannel
059	1	Mid-brown silt.	Topsoil
060	1	Grey-brown sandy silt.	Fill of (068)
061	1	Mid-brown sandy silt.	Fill of (068)
062	1	Orange-grey silty sand.	Fill of (068)
063	1	Black-brown peat.	Fill of (068)
064	1	Grey-green sandy clay.	Natural deposit
065	*	Not Used	*
066	*	Not Used	*
067	1	Orange-grey clay.	Natural deposit
068	1	Linear cut with convex sides. 2.8m x 2.0m x 1.0m deep.	Palaeochannel
069	6	Linear cut with gradual sides and a flat base. 2.1m x 0.8m x 0.25m deep.	Poss. palaeochannel
070	*	Not Used	*
071	15	Dark-brown sandy silt.	Fill of (078)
072	15	Light yellow-brown fine sand.	Fill of (078)
073	15	Mid greyish-brown silty sand.	Fill of (078)
074	15	Dark greyish-brown clayey silt.	Fill of (078)
075	15	Light yellowish-brown sandy silt.	Fill of (078)
076	15	Dark greyish-brown silty clay.	Fill of (078)
077	15	Light grey clayey-silt.	Fill of (078)
078	15	Linear cut with steep sides and a concave base. 2.94m x 1.47m x 0.49m deep.	Palaeochannel cut
079	3	Red-orange sandy silt.	Fill of (082)
080	3	Light-grey sandy silt.	Fill of (082)
081	3	Mid grey-brown clayey silt.	Fill of (082)
082	3	Circular cut with steep sides and a concave base. 2.8m x 0.61m deep.	Poss. pit cut
083	6	Light orange-brown sandy clay.	Dumped deposit
084	6	Dark-grey organic clayey silt.	Dumped deposit
085	6	Grey-orange clay.	Natural deposit
086	6	Orange-brown clay.	Natural deposit

Context Number	Trench	Description	Interpretation
087	17	Grey-brown sandy silt.	Fill of (088)
088	17	Rectangular cut with steep sides and an uneven base. 0.93m x 0.51m x 0.15m.	Pit
089	5	Mid brown-grey clayey sandy silt.	Fill of (090)
090	5	Circular cut with vertical sides and a narrow base. 60mm x 0.42m deep.	Poss. stakehole
091	5	Mid brown-grey clayey silt.	Topsoil
092	5	Light-brown sandy silt.	Fill of (120)
093	5	Light-brown silty clay.	Fill of (120)
094	5	Light-brown sandy silt.	Fill of (120)
095	5	Light-brown silty clay.	Fill of (120)
096	5	Light-brown sandy silt.	Fill of (120)
097	5	Light-brown silty clay.	Fill of (120)
098	5	Light-brown sandy silt.	Fill of (120)
099	5	Pale-grey clayey silt.	Fill of (120)
100	5	Light-brown sandy silt.	Fill of (120)
101	5	Dark grey-brown silty clay.	Fill of (120)
102	5	Dark-grey organic clay.	Fill of (120)
103	5	Pale grey-brown sandy silt.	Natural deposit
104	5	Pale-grey silty sand.	Natural deposit
105	5	Pale-grey silty sand.	Natural deposit
106	5	Light-grey silty clay.	Natural deposit
107	5	Orange-brown silty clay.	Natural deposit
108	5	Orange-brown silty clay.	Natural deposit
109	5	Light-grey silty clay.	Natural deposit
110	5	Light grey-brown silty clay.	Natural deposit
111	5	Light grey-brown clayey silt.	Natural deposit
112	5	Light-grey silty clay.	Natural deposit
113	5	Light grey-brown silty clay.	Natural deposit
114	5	Light grey-brown clayey silt.	Natural deposit
115	5	Light grey-brown silty clay.	Natural deposit
116	5	Light-grey silty clay.	Natural deposit
117	5	Blue-grey clay.	Natural deposit

Context Number	Trench	Description	Interpretation
118	5	Mid-brown clay.	Natural deposit
119	5	Mid grey-brown clay.	Natural deposit
120	5	Linear cut with irregular sides and a concave base. 1.0m x 0.7m x 3.95m deep.	Palaeochannel
121	*	Not Used	*
122	*	Not Used	*
123	*	Not Used	*
124	*	Not Used	*
125	8	Dark-brown clayey silt.	Fill of (126)
126	8	Curving cut with convex sides and a concave base. 5.8m x 1.5m x 60mm deep.	Palaeochanel
127	ALL	Mid grey-brown clayey silt.	Topsoil
128	ALL	Dark-grey silt.	Subsoil
129	ALL	Light-grey clayey silt.	Natural deposit
130	5	Irregular cut. 4.0m x 0.6m deep.	Palaeochannel cut
131	5	Dark-grey silt	Fill of (130)
132	5	Light-brown silt	Fill of (130)



## Appendix 4

### THE IRON AGE POTTERY

Sheila M. Elsdon

#### Trench 6

- Context 002 3 body sherds; shell and very sparse ironstone filler, 1 angular sherd; probably Late Iron Age concave sided cup; soft, sandy fabric with grog filler.
- Context 014 1 hand made jar; fine crushed shell and larger lumps of crushed limestone; Late Iron Age. cf. Weekley, Northants (Jackson and Dix 1987).
- 2 body sherds from hand made vessel with horizontal rilling on the shoulder; very finely crushed shell filler and some limestone; shell leached out. Late Iron Age. cf. St Nicholas Circle, Leicester (Clay and Mellors 1985).
- Context 020 1 body sherd with horizontal rilling; coarse sandy fabric with some finely crushed shell filler. Late Iron Age.
- 6 body sherds in a thin, sandy fabric; possibly convex-sided cup. Late Iron Age.
- 2 body sherds in a hard sandy fabric.
- 1 body sherd; vesicular; shell filler
- 1 body sherd; red R.B.
- Context 042 1 body sherd; vesicular; shell filler as in context 020.
- 1 small fragment baked clay
- Context 043 1 body sherd; vesicular; shell filler as in context 020
- 1 small fragment baked clay with one smoothed surface, ? Daub.

#### Other trenches

- Context 008 Hand made body sherd with horizontal rilling; very finely crushed shell filler, some leached out; grog and ironstone. Late Iron Age, see context 014
- Context 080 Small sherd from the base of a pot; sand and ironstone filler.

#### Comments

Whilst some sherds are unidentifiable due to their size and lack of distinctive features, the sherds which can be recognised are all Late Iron Age in date.

#### Bibliography

Clay, P. and Mellor, J.E., 1986, *Excavations at Bath Lane, Leicester*, Leicestershire Museum and Art Galleries Archaeological Report 10

Jackson, D.A. and Dix, B., 1987, 'Late Iron Age and Roman Settlement at Weekley, Northants', *Northamptonshire Archaeology* 21, 41-94

## Appendix 5

### THE ROMAN POTTERY

by  
Barbara Precious

CONTEXT	TRENCH	DESCRIPTION	CONTEXT DATE
001	6	Four friable fragments of probable Iron Age pottery and one basal sherd of a fine cream fabric which could be conquest period. The vessel is thinly walled and finely made but the surfaces have been lost. There is a similar sherd from (042) in Trench 6.	Early 1st century
002	6	A rim-herd of a small jar or beaker with a curved neck; cordons at the neck with an oxidised fabric with a pale external and internal surface. The vessel has Roman qualities but could be Late Iron Age in date and may be Conquest period in date.	Early 1st century
006	6	Rim sherd of a necked jar in a cream fabric with a bead at the top of the rim. This vessel is more definitely Roman form.	Mid to Late 1st century

## Appendix 6

### THE FINDS

#### The Non-Pottery Finds by Gary Taylor

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION
004	2 small pieces charcoal
008	9 pieces burnt clay
010	2 pieces burnt clay
012	2 pieces burnt clay
014	2 pieces burnt clay
019	<i>c.</i> 30 pieces burnt clay
Trench 6, 002	3 pieces burnt clay
Trench 6, 002	hammerstone
Trench 6, 020	16 pieces burnt clay
Trench 6, 022	3 pieces burnt clay
Trench 6, 043	1 piece burnt clay
Trench 6, 045	1 piece burnt clay

Much of the burnt clay has 'salt colours' and therefore constitutes fragments of briquetage. However, only the fragments from Trench 6, context 002 have evident form and probably constitute parts of a salt tray or stand. The form and appearance of the material is typically Late Iron Age-early Roman in date (T Lane, pers comm).

The hammerstone from Trench 6, context 002, has a pecked end. This object was probably used for grinding and pulverising vegetable stuffs; more abrasive materials would have resulted in a more polished working surface to the hammerstone (J Rackham, pers comm).

## Appendix 7

### ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, BOURNE ROAD SPALDING

James Rackham

The Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

The site was visited on 22nd July and a series of trench sections inspected.

The underlying fine sandy silts across the site showed, at some depth, many fine laminations formed by very thin lenses of fine sand capped by thicker lenses of silt, with a number of laminations visible per centimetre. In the upper levels of these deposits this laminate pattern had been generally lost. These deposits are consistent with the tidal marine silts typical of the fens and probably equate with zone 10, a pioneering mudflat, of Shennan (1986), along the estuary of the Welland. The upper levels of the deposit may have lost its laminations or reflect a grading into a saltmarsh environment in which the laminar pattern is lost. In some trenches where these deposits were covered by sediments of a different character it was possible to establish the level to which these tidal sediments rose. The upper surface of these sediments ranged in general from 2.2m OD to 2.75m OD indicating an undulating surface varying by at least 0.5m across the site. The Late Iron Age and early Roman archaeology appears to be associated with activity on this surface and indicates that these deposits were probably laid down in the first millennium BC and became available for exploitation in the latter half of the millennium. These levels appear to indicate that during the 1st millennium BC clastic marine sediments were being deposited up to levels of 2.75m OD at the site.

The animal bones from the late Iron Age and early Roman features are typical of the small gracile animals found on sites of Iron Age date and it may be that the dominance of sheep bones, which occur with twice the frequency of cattle bones in the small sample (see Archive catalogue), indicates that grazing of sheep flocks on pastures on the silts was the focus of the animal husbandry at the site. The presence of bones of young lambs in the collection indicates that breeding was taking place at the site and that occupation, if seasonal, certainly included the late spring and summer. The only other species identified, pig, is represented by only one bone in the collection of 107 fragments.

The deposits covering the archaeology and its contemporary ground surface in many of the sections comprise a fine dark clay/silt that appears alluvial in character and is rarely more than a few centimetres thick. This appears to represent a short episode of freshwater flooding with fine silt/clay sediments carried suspended in the waters of the Welland being deposited during overbank flooding across the river's floodplain or freshwater ponding up behind tidal levees and associated with a general rise in water table across the fens (Waller 1994). This deposit appears to seal the archaeological horizons and can presumably, on these grounds, be dated to the Roman period or later. The deposits covering this 'alluvial' horizon return to fine sandy silts but lack any evidence of laminar structure. Unfortunately these deposits are relatively shallow and have been affected by soil processes so any such original structure would have been lost. Nevertheless the texture of these sediments continue to reflect the pattern typical of the marine sediments and suggests a return to a tidal sedimentary environment. With the modern ground surface in general no higher than 3.0m OD the whole of this area could have been overtaken during the late/post-Roman episode of marine incursion (Waller 1994), and it is probable that this incursion was responsible for the sandy silts deposited above the 'alluvial' horizon.

In summary the site lay within a tidal area for much of the 1st millennium BC, but became available for occupation towards its end. The area was 'dry' and occupiable during the late Iron Age and early Roman period although not necessarily beyond the limits of the highest astronomical tides. There followed a short period during which the site was subject to freshwater flooding possibly due to a general rise in watertable or overbank flooding of the River Welland, perhaps combined with the beginnings of the late Roman/post-Roman marine incursion. Subsequently the area was again overtaken by the sea and up to 40cm of marine sandy silts deposited across the site. Sometime during the Saxon period the site must have dried out, perhaps as a result of the construction of sea banks to the east and/or a slight relative drop in sea level ascribed to this period (Shennan, p82 in Waller 1994).

#### Bibliography

Shennan, I., 1986, 'Flandrian sea-level changes in the Fenland. II: tendencies of sea level movement, altitudinal changes, and local and regional factors'. *Journal of Quaternary Science*. 1, 155-179

Waller, M., 1994, *The Fenland Project, No. 9: Flandrian Environmental Change in Fenland*, East Anglian Archaeology 70

14/09/97

The Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

ARCHIVE CATALOGUE OF ANIMAL BONE FROM

BOURNE ROAD, SPALDING - SBR97  
LCCM 166.97

D.James Rackham  
The Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

14 September 1997

## THE ENVIRONMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY CONSULTANCY

Key to codes used in the cataloguing of animal bones

SPECIES		BONE		SIDE	FUSION
BOS	cattle	SKL	skull	W - whole	Records the fused/unfused condition of the epiphyses
CSZ	cattle size	TEMP	temporal	L - left side	P - proximal; D - distal; E - acetabulum;
SUS	pig	FRNT	frontal	R - right side	N - unfused; F - fused; C - cranial; A - posterior
OVCA	sheep or goat	PET	petrous	F - fragment	
OVI	sheep	PAR	parietal	<b>TOOTH WEAR</b> - Codes are those used in Grant, A. 1982 <i>The use of tooth wear as a guide to the age of domestic animals</i> , in B.Wilson, C.Grigson and S.Payne (eds) <i>Ageing and sexing animal bones from Archaeological sites</i> , 91-108.	
SSZ	sheep size	OCIP	occipital	Teeth are labelled as follows in the tooth wear column:	
EQU	horse	ZYG	zygomatic	h ldpm4/dupm4	f ldpm2/dupm2
CER	red deer	MAN	mandible	H lpm4/upm4	g ldpm3/dupm3
CAN	dog	MAX	maxilla	I lm1/um1	
MAN	human	ATL	atlas	J lm2/um2	
UNI	unknown	AXI	axis	K lm3/um3	
CHIK	chicken	CEV	cervical vertebra		
GOOS	goose, dom	TRV	thoracic vertebra		
LEP	hare	LMV	lumbar vertebra		
UNB	indet bird	SAC	sacrum		
MALL	duck, dom.	CDV	caudal vertebra	<b>ZONES</b> - zones record the part of the bone present.	
GULL	gull sp.	SCP	scapula	The key to each zone on each bone is on page 2	
FISH	fish	HUM	humerus		
UNIB	bird indet	RAD	radius		
UNIF	fish indet	MTC	metacarpus	<b>MEASUREMENTS</b> - Any measurements are those listed in A.Von den Driesch (1976) <i>A Guide to the Measurement of Animal Bones from Archaeological Sites</i> , Peabody Museum Bulletin 1, Peabody Museum, Harvard, USA	
GSZE	goose size	MC1-4	metacarpus 1-4		
BEAV	beaver	INN	innominate		
CORV	crow or rook	ILM	ilium		
BUZZ	buzzard	PUB	pubis		
		ISH	ischium		
		FEM	femur		
		TIB	tibia		
		AST	astragalus		
		CAL	calcaneum		
		MTT	metatarsus		
		MT1-4	metatarsus 1-4		
		PH1	1st phalanx		
		PH2	2nd phalanx		
		PH3	3rd phalanx		
		LM1-LM3	Lower molar 1 - molar 3		
		UM1-UM3	upper molar 1 - molar 3		
		LPM1-LPM4	lower premolar 1-4		
		UPM1-UPM4	upper premolar 1-4		
		DLPM1-4	deciduous lower premolar 1-4		
		DUPM1-4	deciduous upper premolar 1-4		
		MNT	mandibular tooth		
		MXT	maxillary tooth		
		LBF	long bone		
		UNI	unidentified		
		STN	sternum		
		INC	incisor		
		TTH	indet. tooth		
		CME	carpo-metacarpus		

ZONES - codes used to define zones on each bone

SKULL -	1. paraoccipital process 2. occipal condyle 3. intercornual protuberance 4. external acoustic meatus 5. frontal sinus 6. ectorbitale 7. entorbitale 8. temporal articular facet 9. facial tuber 0. infraorbital foramen	METACARPUS -	1. medial facet of proximal artciulation, MC3 2. lateral facet of proximal articulation, MC4 3. medial distal condyle, MC3 4. lateral distal condyle, MC4 5. anterior distal groove and foramen 6. medial or lateral distal condyle
MANDIBLE	1. Symphyseal surface 2. diastema 3. lateral diastemal foramen 4. coronoid process 5. condylar process 6. angle 7. anterior dorsal acsending ramus posterior M3 8. mandibular foramen	FIRST PHALANX	1. proximal epiphysis 2. distal articular facet
		INNOMINATE	1. tuber coxae 2. tuber sacrale + scar 3. body of illium with dorso-medial foramen 4. iliopubic eminence 5. acetabular fossa 6. symphyseal branch of pubis 7. body of ischium 8. ischial tuberosity 9. depression for medial tendon of rectus femoris
VERTEBRA	1. spine 2. anterior epiphysis 3. posterior epiphysis 4. centrum 5. neural arch	FEMUR	1. head 2. trochanter major 3. trochanter minor 4. supracondyloid fossa 5. distal medial condyle 6. lateral distal condyle 7. distal trochlea 8. trochanter tertius
SCAPULA	1. supraglenoid tubercle 2. glenoid cavity 3. origin of the distal spine 4. tuber of spine 5. posterior of neck with foramen 6. cranial angle of blade 7. caudal angle of blade	TIBIA	1. proximal medial condyle 2. proximal lateral condyle 3. intercondylar eminence 4. proximal posterior nutrient foramen 5. medial malleolus 6. lateral aspect of distal articulation 7. distal pre-epiphyseal portion of the diaphysis
HUMERUS	1. head 2. greater tubercle 3. lesser tubercle 4. intertuberal groove 5. deltoid tuberosity 6. dorsal angle of olecranon fossa 7. capitulum 8. trochlea	CALCANEUM	1. calcaneal tuber 2. sustentaculum tali 3. processus anterior
RADIUS	1. medial half of proximal epiphysis 2. lateral half of proximal epiphysis 3. posterior proximal ulna scar and foramen 4. medial half of distal epiphysis 5. lateral half of distal epiphysis 6. distal shaft immediately above distal epiphysis	METATARSUS	1. medial facet of proximal artciulation, MT3. 2. lateral facet of proximal articulation, MT4 3. medial distal condyle, MT3 4. lateral distal condyle, MT4 5. anterior distal groove and foramen 6. medial or lateral distal condyle
ULNA	1. olecranon tuberosity 2. trochlear notch- semilunaris 3. lateral coronoid process 4. distal epiphysis		



## Bourne Road, Spalding- SBR97 Archive Animal Bone Catalogue

site	cont.	species	bone	no.	side	fusion	zone	butchery	gnawing	toothwear	measurement	comments
SBR97	2	CSZ	MAX	1	F							FRAG OF TOOTH AVEOLI
SBR97	2	CSZ	RIB	1	F							SHAFT FRAGMENT
SBR97	2	CSZ	UNI	1	F							POSS JAW FRAG- 3 PIECES
SBR97	2	CSZ	UNI	1	F							INDET
SBR97	2	OVCA	HUM	1	L		50					SHAFT- 5 PIECES
SBR97	2	UNI	UNI	3	F							CALCINED FRAGMENTS
SBR97	4	CSZ	UNI	1	F							EPIPHYSEAL FRAG
SBR97	4	OVCA	MAN	1	L		237			GH14I17J13K12		
SBR97	6	BOS	UM	1	R							UNWORN MOLAR-POSS M3
SBR97	6	OVCA	HUM	1	R		0	KN				DISTAL TWO THIRDS SHAFT-DISTAL END CUT
SBR97	6	UNI	UNI	1	F							CALCINED FRAGMENT
SBR97	8	SSZ	LBF	1	F							SHAFT FRAGMENT
SBR97	8	UNI	UNI	4	F							CALCINED FRAGMENTS
SBR97	10	OVCA	MAN	1	L		23			fgh1119		M2 LOST BUT PROBABLY HALF UP
SBR97	10	SSZ	LBF	1	F							SHAFT FRAGMENT
SBR97	12	BOS	DUP3	1	R					g6		NO WEAR
SBR97	12	BOS	PET	1	F							COMPLETE
SBR97	12	BOS	SKL	1	L		8					TEMPORAL FACET
SBR97	12	BOS	TIB	1	F							SPLIT DISTAL SHAFT FRAG
SBR97	12	CSZ	LBF	1	F							SHAFT FRAG
SBR97	12	OVCA	AST	1	L		1				L1-21.9 L2-21 Bp-16.4 Bd-14.9 Dd-11.6	COMPLETE- SMALL-GRACILE
SBR97	12	OVCA	CAL	1	R	PF	123				GL-47.4 Bp-11.9	COMPLETE-SMALL
SBR97	12	OVCA	MAN	1	L		24578			gh13I10J5		10PIECES- M3 NOT UP
SBR97	12	OVCA	RAD	1	L							DISTAL HALF SHAFT-GRACILE
SBR97	12	OVCA	SKL	1	R		8					TEMPORAL FRAG WITH FACET
SBR97	12	OVCA	SKL	1	R							SUPRAORBITAL FRAG WITH BASE HC
SBR97	12	OVCA	TIB	1	L			CH	DG1			DISTAL SHAFT-END CHEWED OFF-SHAFT CHOPPED
SBR97	12	SSZ	LBF	1	F							SHAFT FRAG
SBR97	12	SSZ	LBF	1	F							CALCINED SHAFT FRAGMENT
SBR97	12	SSZ	SKL	1	F							INDET FRAG
SBR97	12	SSZ	SKL	5	F							MAXILLARY FRAGS
SBR97	12	SSZ	UNI	1	F							INDET
SBR97	14	BOS	MAN	1	R		7			J12K11		POST PART HORI RAMUS- 3 PIECES
SBR97	14	OVCA	DUP4	1	R					h13		
SBR97	14	OVCA	RAD	1	R		3		DG			DISTAL TWO THIRDS SHAFT-DISTAL END CHEWED- SMALL-GRACILE
SBR97	14	OVCA	TIB	1	L		4					SHAFT-VERY SMALL-LAMB
SBR97	14	SSZ	LBF	1	F				DG			SHAFT FRAG-POROUS-CHEWED
SBR97	14	SSZ	LBF	1	F							SHAFT FRAGMENT-CALCINED
SBR97	20	BOS	LPM4	1	R					H6		NO WEAR
SBR97	20	CSZ	LBF	1	F							CALCINED SHAFT FRAGMENT



## Appendix 8

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

132	Context records
30	Sheets of scale drawings
2	Photographic record sheets
1	Stratigraphic matrix
1	Box of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

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

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

Archaeological Project Services project code: SBR97  
City and County Museum, Lincoln Accession Number: 166.97

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## Appendix 9

### GLOSSARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TERMS

<b>Anglo-Saxon</b>	Pertaining to the early part of the Saxon period and dating from approximately AD 450-650.
<b>Briquetage</b>	Very coarse pottery (VCP) shaped into various forms for the production and carriage of salt.
<b>Conquest Period</b>	Dating to the Roman invasion of Britain, in the years succeeding AD 43.
<b>Context</b>	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).
<b>Cut</b>	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.
<b>Dumped deposits</b>	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.
<b>Fill</b>	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).
<b>Iron Age</b>	Period dating from 600BC - AD43, during which iron tools became more common. This period is characterised by complex tribal societies and is traditionally believed to end with the Roman invasion of Britain.
<b>Layer</b>	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
<b>Natural</b>	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
<b>Palaeochannel</b>	A remnant stream or river channel, since infilled.
<b>Post-medieval</b>	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
<b>Prehistoric</b>	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.
<b>Romano-British</b>	Pertaining to the period from AD43 to AD450, when Britain was gradually occupied as part of the Roman Empire.