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**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF LAND ADJACENT TO HOLME FARM,
KELBY,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(KHF97)**



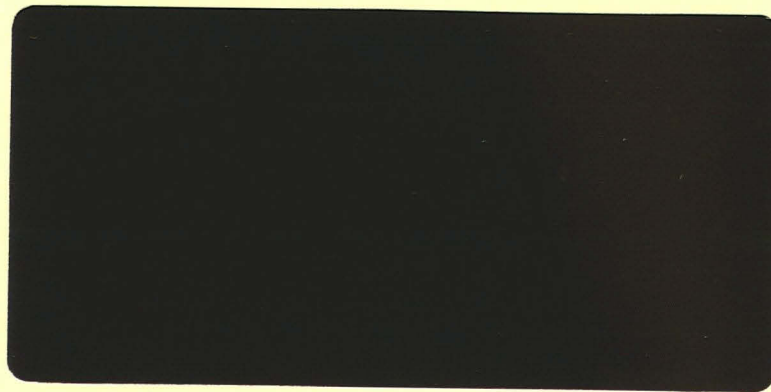
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL
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**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF LAND ADJACENT TO HOLME FARM,
KELBY,
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Work Undertaken For
F. Mawer and Sons

Report compiled by
Paul Cope-Faulkner

September 1997

Planning Application No: N/21/355/97
National Grid Reference: TF 0045 4138
City and County Museum Accession No:220.97

A.P.S. Report No: 44/97

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the construction of a dwelling on land adjacent to Holme Farm, Kelby, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of the foundation trenches.

The watching brief was undertaken as the site lay close to the 12th century church of St. Andrew. Churches were often the focus of small settlements such as Kelby.

The investigation identified a recent ditch, gully and an animal burial dating within the last century. Finds retrieved from this investigation included pottery of the 19th and 20th centuries, animal bone, as well as glassware.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by F. Mawer and Sons to undertake an archaeological watching brief during development at land adjacent to Holme Farm, Kelby, North Kesteven District, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application N/21/355/97. Permission was granted subject to a standard condition for archaeological recording. The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a brief set by the Heritage Officer for North Kesteven District Council (Appendix 1).

An archaeological watching brief is 'defined as a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological purposes within a specified area, where there is a possibility that

archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed.' (IFA 1994, 1).

2.2 Topography and Geology

Kelby is situated 7km southwest of Sleaford and 11km northeast of Grantham, in the civil parish of Culverthorpe and Kelby, North Kesteven District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site is located at a height of c. 72m OD, and lies 90m southeast of the parish church of St Andrew. Centred on National Grid Reference TF 0045 4138 (Fig. 2).

Local soils are the Sherborne Series typical fine loamy soils over Jurassic limestone (George and Robson 1978, 28).

2.3 Archaeological Setting

Kelby is situated in an area of known archaeological activity dating from the medieval period.

Kelby is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086. Referred to as 'Chelebi' and 'Chillebi', the name is derived from the Old Scandinavian *Kialar-býr* meaning homestead or village on a ridge (Ekwall 1974, 269). The Domesday Survey records that Kelby was owned by the Bishop of Durham and Guy of Craon and contained a priest, 70 acres of meadow and 90 acres of underwood (Foster and Longley 1976).

Evidence for medieval (AD 1066-1500) activity is represented by the parish church of St. Andrew. This church dates to the 12th century with later additions in the 13th and 14th century (DoE 1990, 25). A 17th century house, Kate's Cottage, indicates continuing activity in the post-medieval period (*ibid.* 26).

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. 1.15m. Following excavation by mechanical excavator, the sides of all trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were partially or fully excavated by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. The depth and thickness of each deposit was measured from the ground surface. Each archaeological deposit or feature revealed within the trench 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 or 1:20. Recording of deposits encountered during the watching brief was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

5. RESULTS

Finds recovered from those deposits excavated were examined and a period date assigned where possible. Records of the deposits and features recognised during the watching brief were also examined. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. Phasing was assigned based on artefact dating and the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them. Two phases of activity were identified:

Phase 1 - Natural deposits

Phase 2 - Recent activity

Archaeological contexts are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

Phase 1 Natural deposits

Deposits of brown sandy silt (008) and yellowish brown silty clay (014) overlain by whitish yellow sandy silt and limestone (003) and yellow and grey limestone fragments (007) represent natural layers found at the base of the trenches. These deposits are likely to have formed from weathering of the underlying bedrock.

Overlying these deposits was brownish yellow sandy silt (002) and yellowish brown silt (006) indicating a naturally formed subsoil.

Phase 2 Recent activity

Located at the southwest corner was a feature (009) 1.4m long by 0.4m deep (Fig. 4, Section 2). Containing an animal burial, possibly a dog, and a fill of brown sandy silt (004). A coin of George V (1910-36) was found in the fill of the animal grave.

A north-south aligned ditch (011) was recorded along the southern edge of the development (Fig. 4, Section 3). Measuring 1m wide by 0.45m deep this contained a single fill of reddish brown clayey silt (010) with a fragment of modern glass.

An east-west aligned feature (013), turning north at the western end, was located at the northeast corner of the development (Fig. 4, Section 4). A width of 1.4m and a depth of 0.25m was established. A single fill of mid brownish grey sandy silt (012) was recorded that contained 19th century pottery.

Sealing the animal grave was a second subsoil of brown sandy silt (005) that was 0.1-0.25m thick. Covering the entire development area was a topsoil of dark blackish grey silt (001).

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Phase 1) of limestone and silts were encountered in the base of all trenches. These deposits are derived from the sub-surface weathering of the underlying bedrock. Above these a subsoil represents early natural soil formation.

Phase 2 deposits, indicating recent activity, comprise an animal grave, a ditch and a gully.

Finds recovered include pottery dating largely to the 19th and 20th centuries, although some fragments are conceivably earlier in date. Other finds include bone, and fragments of glassware.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations on land adjacent to Holme Farm, Kelby were undertaken because the site fell within an area of known archaeological activity, notably the 12th century church of St Andrew.

A group of recent features comprising a ditch, a gully and an animal grave were the only features exposed during the investigation. However, as one of the first archaeological interventions in the village this investigation can provide useful data regarding depths of archaeological deposits and their state of preservation.

Several sherds of pottery were recovered, mostly from the topsoil. The collection is largely of 19th and 20th century wares and

the collection is typical of this part of Lincolnshire. Animal bone was also retrieved during the investigation, although in such small numbers to prevent comment upon animal husbandry or economic value. The nature of the local site conditions would suggest that few environmental indicators would survive, other than through charring.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr Mawer of F Mawer and Sons who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor and this report was edited by Tom Lane. Kate Orr, the Heritage Officer for North Kesteven District Council, permitted examination of the relevant files maintained by the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire. Hilary Healey examined the pottery and other finds.

9. PERSONNEL

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

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

DoE., 1990, *List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest: District of North Kesteven*

Ekwall, E., 1974, *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place-Names* (4th edition)

Foster, C.W. and Longley, T. (Eds), 1976, *The Lincolnshire Domesday and the Lindsey Survey*, The Lincoln Record Society 19

George, H. and Robson, J.D., 1978, *Soils in Lincolnshire II; Sheet TF 04 (Sleaford)*, Soil Survey Record No. 51

IFA, 1994, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*

11. ABBREVIATIONS

BGS. British Geological Survey

DoE Department of the Environment

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

SMR Sites and Monuments Record

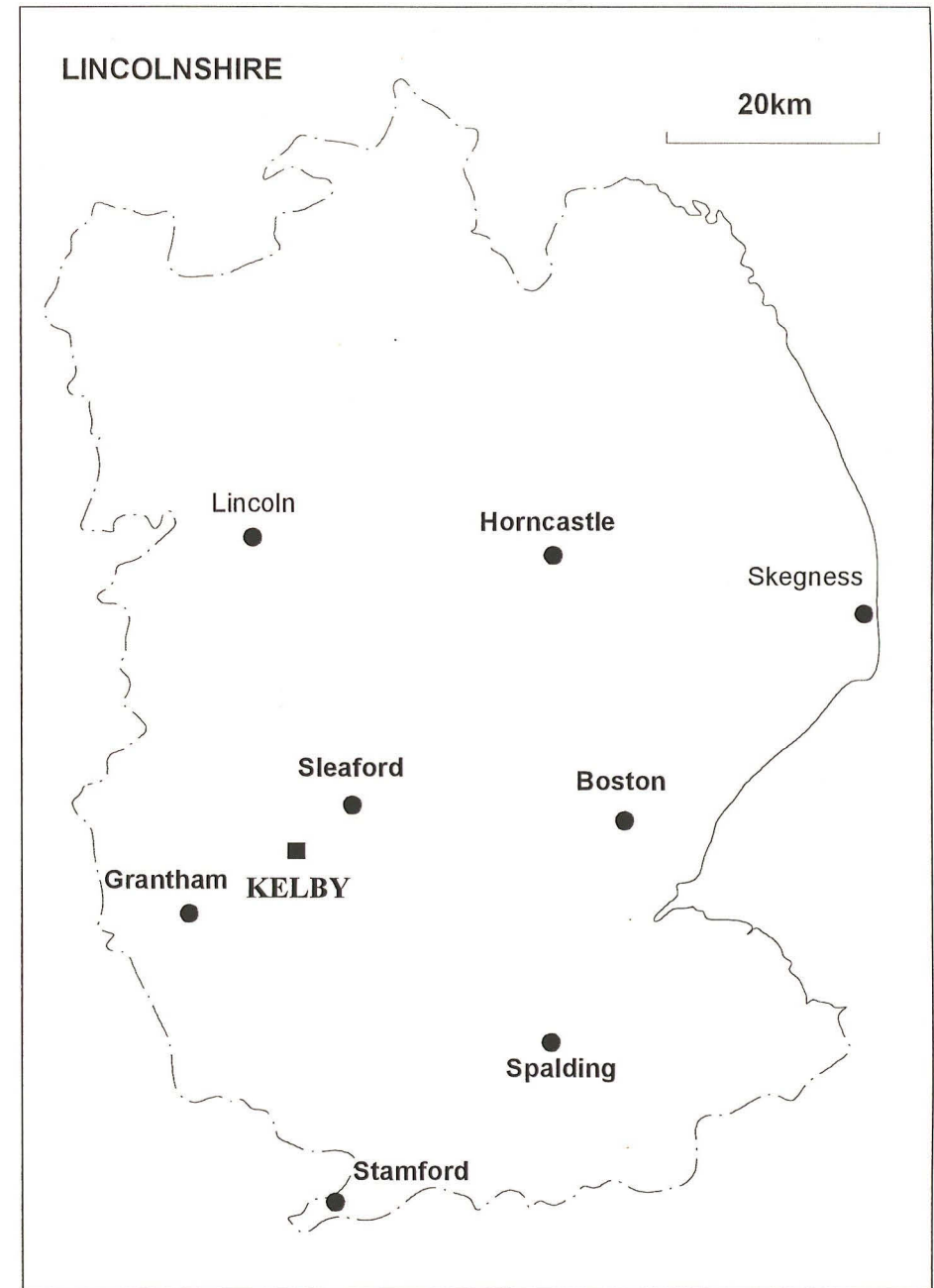
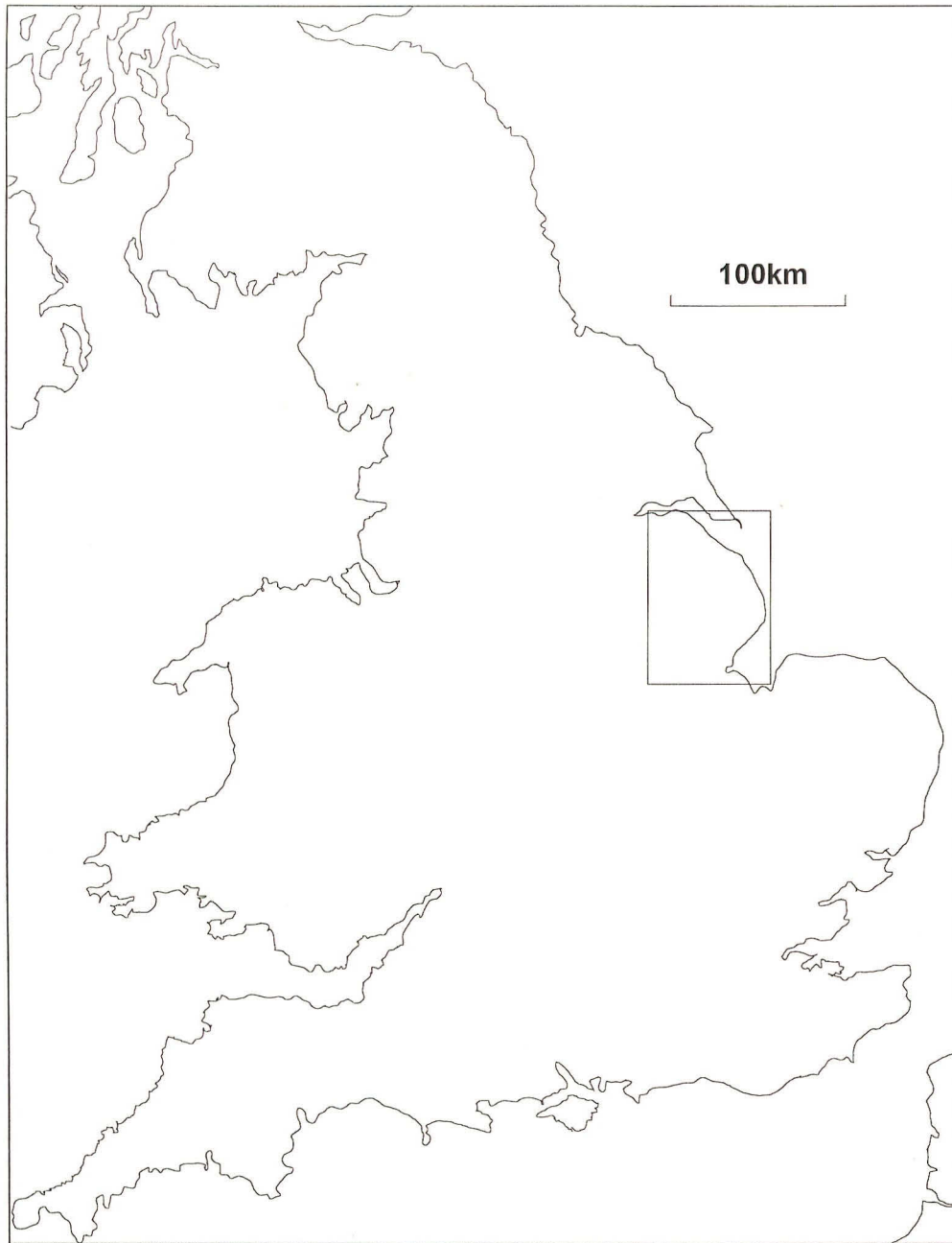
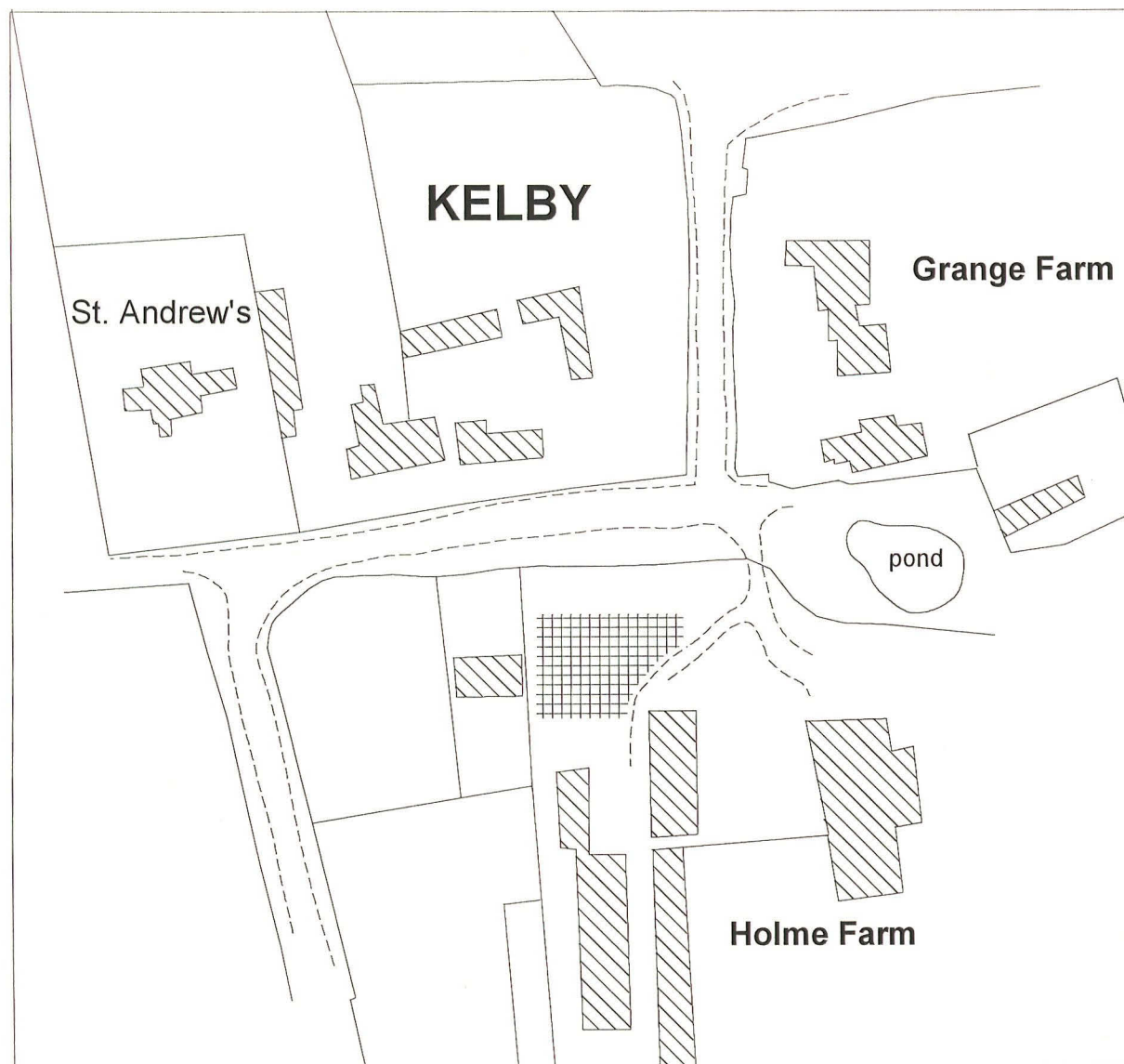


Figure 1 - General Location Plan



Proposed development

N



0



50m

Figure 2 - Site Location Plan

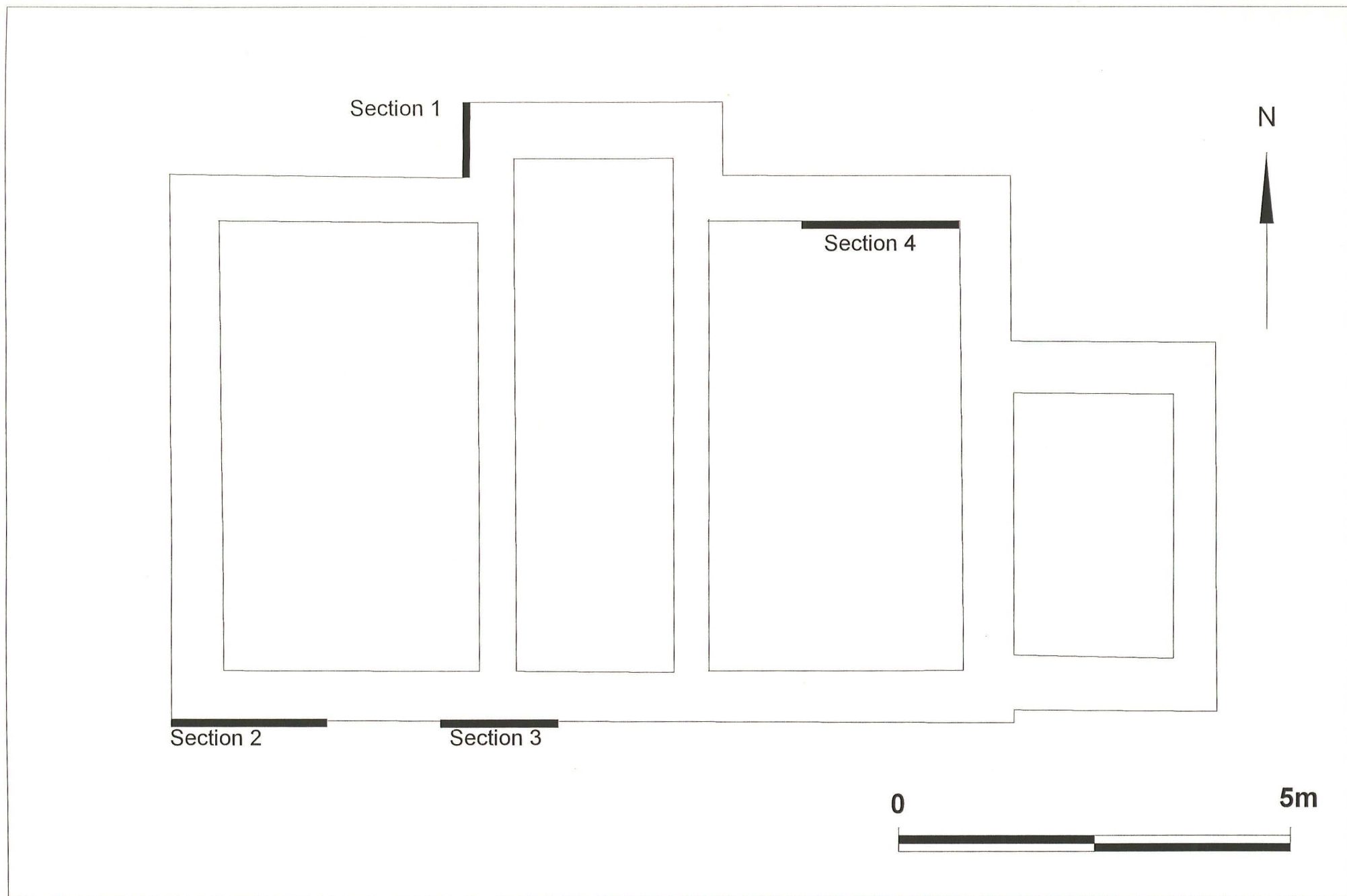


Figure 3 - Foundation Plan, showing Section Locations

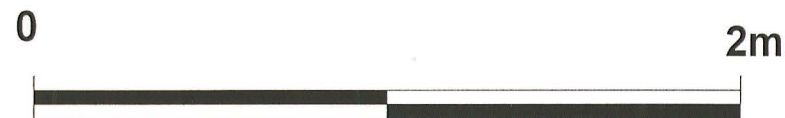
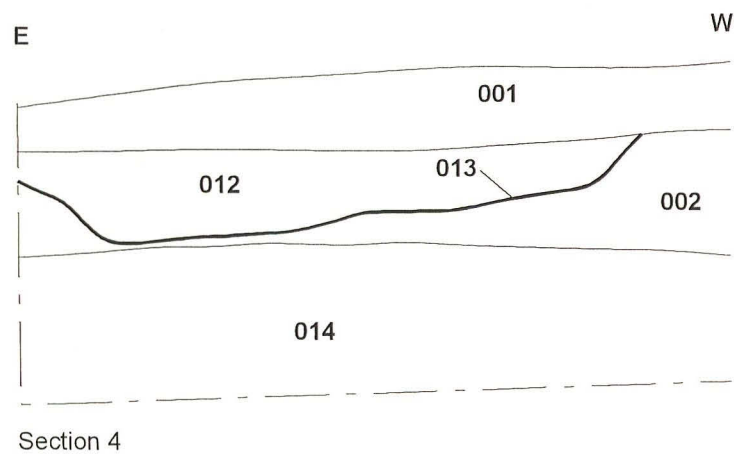
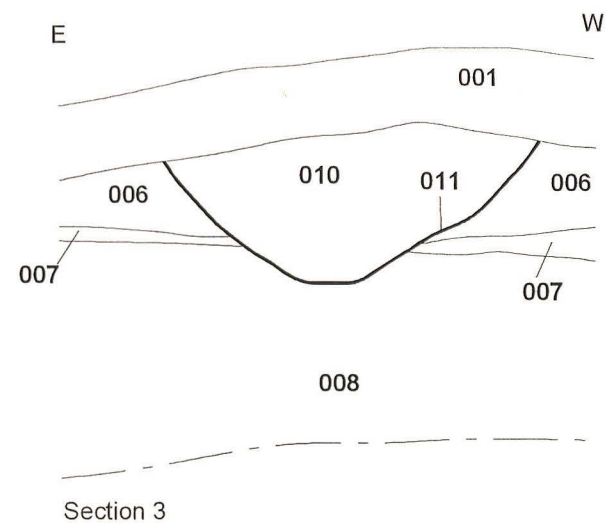
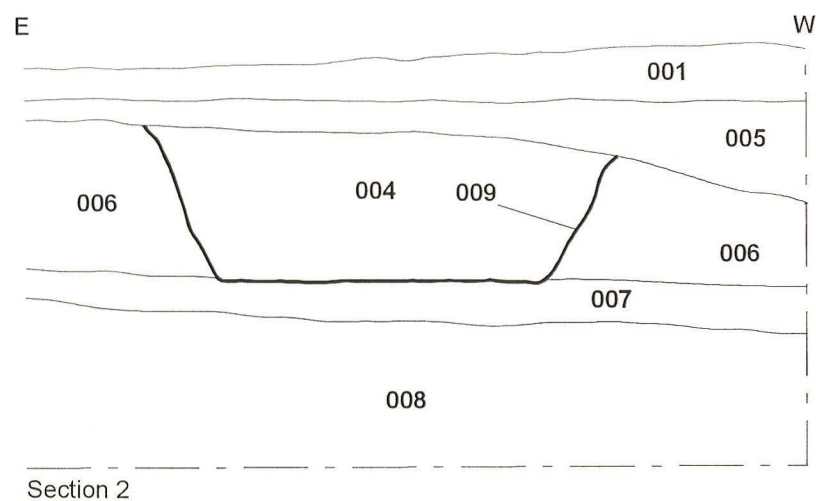


Figure 4 - Sections 2, 3 and 4

Appendix 1

BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION AND RECORDING (WATCHING BRIEF) HOLME FARM, WILSFORD ROAD, KELBY, LINCS

Planning Application Number: N /21/355/97

NGR: 500450 341380

Applicant: F Mawer and Sons

Agent: Benton and Co. Architects

1. Summary

- 1.1 This brief should be sent to archaeological contractors as the basis for the preparation of a detailed archaeological project specification. In response to this brief contractors will include the anticipated working methods, timescales and staffing levels.
- 1.2 These detailed specifications will be submitted by the client for approval by the North Kesteven Heritage Officer. The client will be free to choose between those specifications which are considered to adequately satisfy the brief

2. Site Location and Description

- 2.1 Kelby is a small village situated approximately 7km south west of Sleaford. The site is in the centre of the village, at Holme Farm.

3. Planning Background

- 3.1 Planning permission has been given to erect one dwelling and garage.

4. Archaeological Background

- 4.1 The development lies in the centre of what was the medieval village, being just to the south-east of the Norman church of St Andrew. It is likely that settlement from this period would have clustered around the church and may survive below the ground. Although there are no other archaeological sites known from within the village, this is probably due to a lack of investigation rather than the absence of past activity.

5. Requirements for Work

- 5.1 The objective of the watching brief should be to ensure that any archaeological features exposed by the groundworks are recorded and interpreted.
- 5.2 Any adjustments to the brief for the watching brief project should only be made after consultation with the Heritage Officer for North Kesteven.
- 5.3 The following details should be given in the contractor's specification:
 - 5.3.1 A projected timetable for the various stages of work.
 - 5.3.2 Details of the staff structure and numbers including person hours for on-site work.

- 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 A full description of the recovery and recording strategies to be used.
- 5.3.5 An estimate of time and resources allocated for the post-excavation work and report production in the form of 'man' hours. This should include lists of specialists and their role in the project. It is expected that medieval finds will be encountered and therefore adequate provision should be made for specialists in this area.
- 5.3.6 Contingency costs should only be used in the event of unexpected costs and should only be activated after discussion with the Heritage Officer.

6. Methods

- 6.1 The project should be carried out by a recognised archaeological body in accordance with the code of conduct of The Institute of Field Archaeologists.
- 6.2 The watching brief should involve:
 - 6.2.1 archaeological supervision of topsoil stripping;
 - 6.2.2 inspection of subsoil for archaeological features;
 - 6.2.3 recording of archaeological features in plan;
 - 6.2.4 rapid excavation of features if necessary;
 - 6.2.5 archaeological supervision of subsoil stripping
 - 6.2.6 inspection of natural for archaeological features and recording them.
 - 6.2.7 any human remains encountered must be left in situ and only removed if absolutely necessary. The contractor must comply with all statutory consents and licences regarding the exhumation and interment of human remains. It will also be necessary to comply with all reasonable requests of interested parties as to the remains or associated items. Attempt must be made at all times not to cause offence to any interested parties.

7. Monitoring Arrangements

- 7.1 The Heritage Officer for North Kesteven will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project and will require preferably fourteen days notice but at least five working days prior to the commencement of the work. The Heritage Officer should be kept informed of any unexpected discoveries and should be regularly updated on the project's progress. They should be allowed access to the site at their convenience and will comply with any health and safety requirements associated with the site.

8. Reporting Requirements

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

- 8.1.2 section and plan drawings, with ground level, Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scales as appropriate;
- 8.1.3 specialist descriptions of artefacts and ecofacts;
- 8.1.4 an indication of potential archaeological deposits not disturbed by the present development;
- 8.2 After agreement with the landowner, arrangements are to be made for long term storage of all artefacts and paper archive in an appropriate museum.
- 8.3 If the receiving museum is to be the City and County Museum, Lincoln then the archive should be produced in the form outlined in the museum's document 'Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives'.

9. **Publication and Dissemination**

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

10. **Additional Information**

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

Brief set by Heritage Officer, North Kesteven 30/5/1997

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context	Description	Interpretation
001	Dark blackish grey silt	Topsoil
002	Light brownish yellow sandy silt	Subsoil
003	Whitish yellow sandy silt and limestone	Natural deposit
004	Brown sandy silt	Fill of 009
005	Brown sandy silt	Subsoil
006	Yellowish brown silt	Subsoil
007	Light yellow and grey limestone fragments	Natural deposit
008	Light brown sandy silt	Natural deposit
009	Cut, 1.4m long by 0.4m deep, with animal burial	Animal grave
010	Mid reddish brown clayey silt	Fill of 011
011	Linear cut, >2.5m long by 1m wide by 0.45m deep	Ditch
012	Mid brownish grey sandy silt	Fill of 013
013	Curvilinear cut, 1.4m wide by 0.25m deep	Gully
014	Yellowish brown silty clay	Natural deposit

Appendix 3

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

14	Context records
1	Photographic record sheet
5	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:	220.97
Archaeological Project Services Site Code:	KHF97

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Appendix 4

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.
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.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.