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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION  
LAND ADJACENT TO 76a EASTGATE, BOURNE,  
LINCOLNSHIRE**

Site Code: EGB98  
LCNCC Acc No. 154.98<sup>1060</sup>  
NGR TF ~~1060~~ 1992  
Planning Ref. SK96/929/12/41

SLI 1870 1950

35054 med.  
35055 p.med  
35133 prob.

Event LI1049

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Report prepared for Allen Homes Ltd  
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July 1998

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## Illustrations

**Fig. 1** 1:10,000 Site Location

**Fig. 2** Site Location Showing the Location of Trench 1 (1:1250)

**Fig. 3** Plan of Trench 1 (1:50) and Section of Pit (1:20)

Summary

- \* An archaeological field evaluation was undertaken on land adjacent to 79a Eastgate, Bourne, Lincolnshire (TF 1060 1992) (Fig. 1).
- \* A single trench was excavated to establish the archaeological potential of the site.
- \* A small pit containing 15th century Bourne ware pottery was the only archaeological feature encountered.
- \* A quantity of 13th to 18th century Bourne ware pottery was recovered from the overlying topsoil and subsoil.
- \* A single worked flint was found in the topsoil.

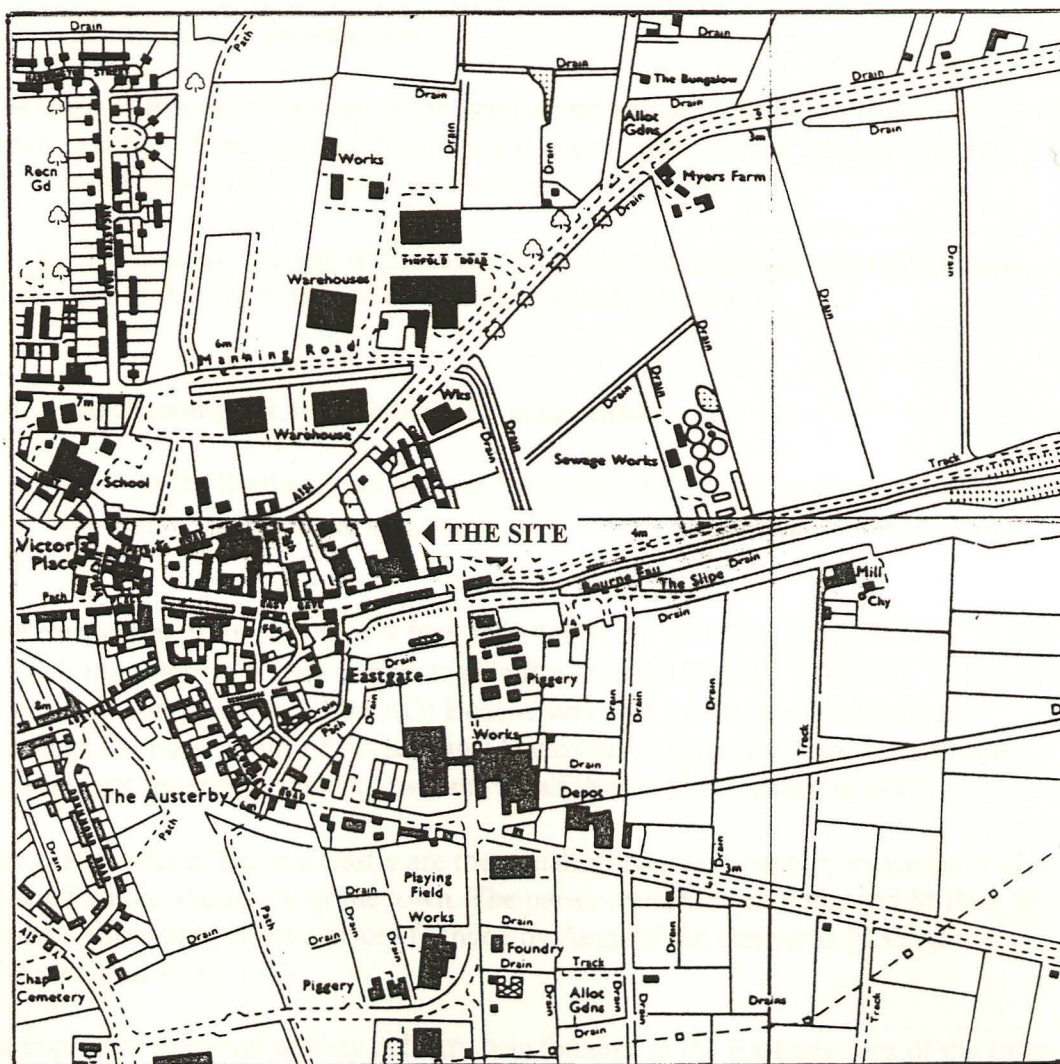


Fig. 1: Site location (1:10,000)  
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## 1.0 Introduction

A one day archaeological trial excavation was carried out on a site to the north-west of 79a Eastgate, Bourne, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1.). The work was commissioned by Allen Homes on behalf of their client.

The results of this report will assist the local planning authority in assessing the archaeological significance of the site, the potential impacts which may be imposed by development and the requirement / non-requirement for further archaeological investigation in advance of or during development.

A copy of this report will be deposited at the County SMR, and a short text will be submitted to the editor of the county journal, *Lincolnshire History and Archaeology*; effectively placing the information in the public domain. Reports will be deposited at the City and County Museum, Lincoln, accompanied with an ordered project archive.

## 2.0 Location and Description

The town of Bourne is situated in the administrative district of South Kesteven, approximately 24 km. south of Sleaford and 8 km. north-west of Market Deeping. The site is centred on NGR TF 1060 1992 and lies at c.5 m. OD.

The site is currently covered with rough vegetation and small agricultural buildings. The extent of the site is defined by existing property boundaries.

## 3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

Bourne lies on the Roman Road of King Street and the Car Dyke. Roman pottery kilns have been found at the Grammar School, 0.6km to the south-west of the site (Swan 1984, 141).

The place-name Bourne, which is first recorded in the year 960 AD as *Brunne*, is Old English and refers to a stream, presumable Bourne Eau (Ekwall 1989, 55). At the time of the Domesday Survey (1086 AD) Bourne was held by five main landowners. Amongst the possessions of the principal landowner, Odger the Breton, were three mills and six fisheries producing two and a half thousand eels (Morris 1986).

The earthworks of Bourne Castle are the remains of an 11th century motte and bailey situated on the south side of the town. The parish church, of St Peter and St Paul, is the only surviving part of a priory founded by Augustinian canons in 1138 AD (Pevsner et al 1995, 172).

An important medieval pottery industry was founded in the Eastgate area of the town during the 13th century and production continued for at least five hundred years. Large amounts of pottery, resulting in the initial identification of the industry, have been found within 100m of the site (Whitwell and Wilson 1969, 108-109).

4.0 Methodology

The County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) contains entries which indicate that the site lies within the production area of Bourne's important medieval pottery industry. In such an area there is the potential for disturbance of important archaeological remains during the course of development.

A single trench (the location of which is shown in Fig. 2.) was excavated to determine the nature of the archaeology (its character, date, depth, state of preservation, extent and significance). The overall objective of this phase of work was to present the District Planning Authority with a set of data from which reasoned decisions may be taken regarding future management of the archaeological resource.

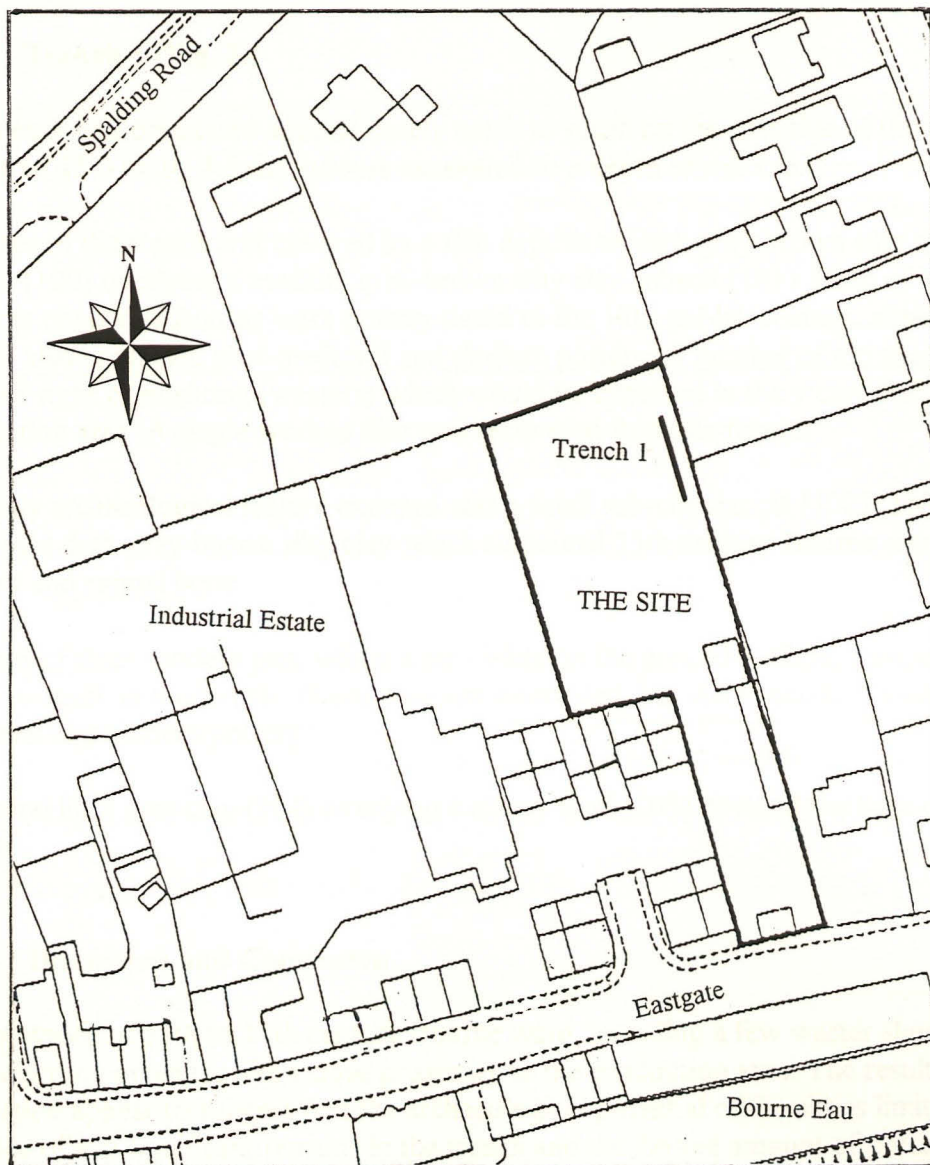


Fig. 2. Site location showing the position of Trench 1. (Scale 1:1250)

Recording was undertaken using standard context record sheets (incorporating physical descriptions, interpretations, and stratigraphic relationships). Features were planned and drawn to scale in section, and photographic recording was undertaken (some prints are reproduced in this report). The drawings, and the rest of the paper record, will form the basis for a long-term project archive. A quantity of pottery, was recovered and a specialist report is included in the appendices. No deposits which were considered to have potential for environmental remains were encountered and consequently no sampling was undertaken.

The evaluation was supervised by the writer assisted by Mr Jim Snee.

## 5.0 Results

### 5.1 Trench 1 (Fig. 3.)

The trench was orientated approximately north to south on the east side of the plot. It measured 15.0 m. by 1.5 m. and was excavated to a depth of c.0.3 m.

The area of the trench was covered by a thin deposit of dark grey-brown silty clay topsoil (100) overlying a medium grey-brown silty clay subsoil (101). Both of these deposits contained Bourne ware pottery dated to the 13th to 14th century, although the topsoil also contained post-medieval and modern pottery. A number of the sherds showed signs of misfiring (wasters) which would be expected in the vicinity of a production area. A single worked flint was recovered from the topsoil.

The only archaeological feature exposed was a small sub-circular pit [102]. This was filled by a dark grey-brown silty clay which contained 15th century Bourne ware pottery and animal bone.

A series of three modern pits, which were visible on the ground surface, were aligned north to south in the trench. These were not excavated, but were seen to contain medieval and modern pottery.

A natural light grey clay (104) overlying a clayey sand (105) covered the base of the trench.

## 6.0 Discussion and Conclusion

The presence of 13th to 18th century Bourne ware, including a few waster sherds, is not surprising given the site's close proximity to the production area. The results of the evaluation appear to suggest that the archaeological potential of the site is limited. The absence of any significant remains in the trench and the limited amount of pottery recovered would seem to suggest that there are no kilns in close proximity to the excavated area. As much of the rest of the site has already been disturbed, its archaeological potential must be deemed to be low.

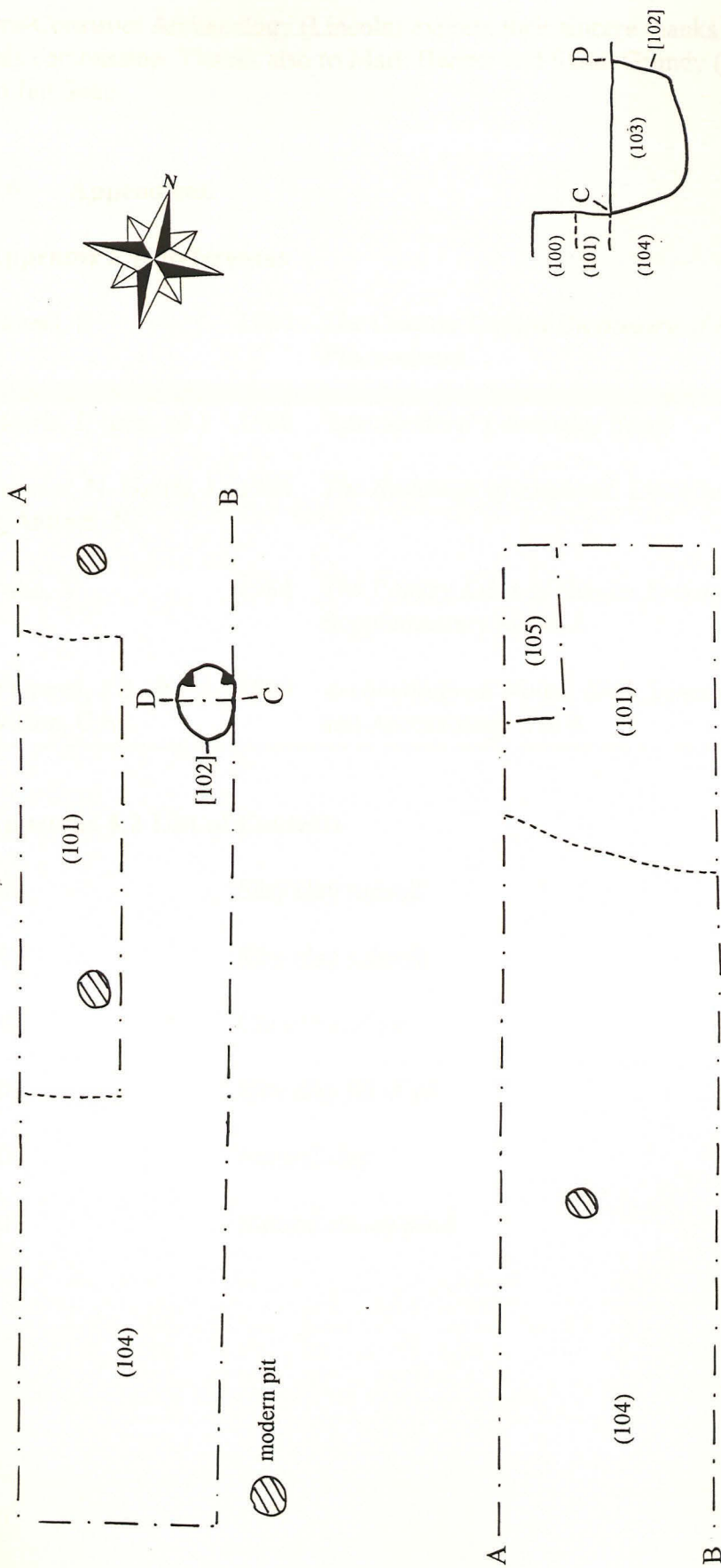


Fig. 3. Plan of Trench 1 (1:50) and Section of Pit 102 (1:20).



## 7.0 Acknowledgements

Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) express their sincere thanks to Allen Homes for this commission. Thanks also to Mark Bennet and Sarah Grundy (County SMR), and to Jim Snee.

## 8.0 Appendices:

### Appendix 8.1 References

- |                                     |      |   |
|-------------------------------------|------|---|
| Ekwall, E.                          | 1989 | <i>The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place-names.</i>                  |
| Morris, J. (gen. ed.)               | 1986 | <i>'Lincolnshire' Domesday Book.</i>  |
| Pevsner, N. Harris, J. & Antram, N. | 1995 | <i>The Buildings of England: Lincolnshire.</i>                                |
| Swan, V.                            | 1984 | <i>The Pottery Kilns of Roman Britain.</i> RCHME Supplementary Series 5       |
| Whitwell, J.B. & Wilson, C.M.       | 1969 | <i>Archaeological Notes, 1968.</i> Lincolnshire History and Archaeology Vol 4 |

### Appendix 8.2 List of Contexts

- |     |                        |
|-----|------------------------|
| 100 | Silty clay topsoil     |
| 101 | Silty clay subsoil     |
| 102 | Cut of small pit       |
| 103 | Silty clay fill of pit |
| 104 | Natural clay           |
| 105 | Natural clayey sand    |

## Appendix 8.3

Eastgate, Bourne 1998 EGB98

## Post-Roman pottery archive: ware types by context by J. Young

Context	Ware	Sherds	Form	Comments
100	BL	1	BOWL	EVERT RIM; INT GLZE; LOCAL; 17TH?
	BOU	1	JUG	UHI
	BOUA	1	JAR	BS; THU APP VERT STRIP; OOLITIC FABRIC
	BOUA	1	JAR	RIM; OOLITIC FABRIC; X2
	BOUA	1	JAR	BS; OOLITIC FABRIC; ?WASTER
	BOUA	1	JAR	FLANGED RIM
	BOUA	1	JUG?	BS; UNDERFIRED GLZE; ?WASTER
	BOUA	1	JUG	THU BASE
	BOUA	1	JUG/JAR	BS
	BOUA	1	BOWL	BASE; UNDERFIRED INT GLZE
	BOUA	1	BOWL	SIMPLE RIM; INT GLZE

Date: PMH5-8. Early/mid 17th to mid 18th century single sherd. Rest 13th-14th century.

101	BOUA	1	JUG	RIM & UHI; PROB WASTER/SECOND
	BOUA	1	JUG	LARGE JUG; RIM & UHI
	BOUA	1	JUG	BS; UNDERFIRED; APP NOTCHED FE STRIP DEC
	BOUA	1	JAR	RIM
	BOUA	1	JAR	RIM; SECOND/WASTER?
	BOUA	1	BOWL/JAR	BASE; UNDERFIRED; INT GLZE
	BOUA	1	BOWL/JAR	BASE; INT GLZE
103	BOUA	1	JAR/JUG	BS; X4
	BOUA	1	JAR/JUG	BASE
	BOUA	1	JAR	ODD OVERHANG RIM; ?DATE, COULD BE 14- 15TH
	BOU	1	JUG	THU BASE; THICK WHITE SLIP; DARK REDUCED COPPER

GLZE; WASTER?; POSS  
15TH; SEPARATOR  
SCARS ON BASE

Also:

100 PANTILE 1

LOCAL

Most of the material is typical medieval Bourne fabrics A-C dating to the 13th to the 18th century. Many vessels show signs of mis-firing and may be waste material. Two of the sherds in (103) are of especial interest as they may represent the transition from the medieval to post-medieval industry. The BOU base appears to be copying examples of late medieval Toynton-types.

Appendix 8.4 Colour Photographs



Pl 1. General view of Trench 1 looking south.



Pl 2. Pit 102 looking south.