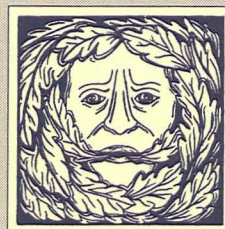


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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF DEVELOPMENT ON LAND AT
HIGH STREET,
SOUTH KYME,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SKH98)



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

Lincolnshire County Council
Archaeology Section
0100 98
ackd 01/10/98
accepted 10/11/98

60815 - early med -
post med
settlement

Event LI3414

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF DEVELOPMENT ON LAND AT
HIGH STREET,
SOUTH KYME,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SKH98)**

Work Undertaken For
Mrs J. Lewis

October 1998

Report Compiled by
Paul Cope-Faulkner

Planning Application No: N/58/298//98
National Grid Reference: TF 1763 4957 TF 1760 4976
City and County Museum Accession No: 167.98

A.P.S. Report No. 69/98

*Archaeological Project Services is an IFA Registered Archaeological
Organisation (No. 21).*

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1. SUMMARY

A watching brief was undertaken by Archaeological Project Services during development at High Street, South Kyme, Lincolnshire.

The watching brief condition was imposed as the development is located in an area of known archaeological interest dating from the Bronze Age (2250-800 BC) and lies close to the medieval (AD 1066-1500) priory which may have had its origins in the Late Saxon period (AD 850-1066).

An animal grave, two pits and an unidentified feature, all broadly of the post-medieval period were located during the investigation. Such features are typical of agricultural usage of the site prior to development. Artefacts retrieved from the site include post-medieval and later pottery, animal bone, tile coal and window glass.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

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 1997, 1).

2.2 Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mrs J. Lewis to undertake a watching brief at land adjacent to High Street, South Kyme, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application N/58/298/98. The watching brief was carried

out on the 10th August 1998 in accordance with a brief set by the Heritage Officer for North Kesteven District Council (Appendix 1).

2.3 Topography, Geology and Soils

South Kyme is located 11km to the northeast of Sleaford and 16km northwest of Boston, in North Kesteven District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The area of investigation is located approximately 250m east of St. Mary and All Saints' Church (Fig. 2). Situated at a height of approximately 7m OD the site is located at National Grid Reference TF 1763 4957.

The local topography describes South Kyme sited along a ridge above the surrounding fen. Local soils are of the Beccles 2 Association, typically fine loamy topsoils over slowly permeable clay subsoils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 119). The soils overlie a drift geology of river and glaciofluvial deposits which in turn are above a solid geology of Jurassic Amphill clays (BGS 1995).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

South Kyme is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Bronze Age (2250-800 BC) and later. Situated 400m southwest of the development is a Bronze Age round barrow which produced two bronze rapiers when excavated.

Anglo-Saxon remains are also evident within the village. Within the parish church are six pieces of sculpture, of 8th century date, more typically associated with early Christian monasteries (Stocker 1993, 112). The location of South Kyme parallels known Anglo-Saxon monasteries in Lincolnshire, such as Bardney and Partney, indicating the

possibility of an early monastery at the site (*ibid.*).

South Kyme is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086. Referred to as *Chime*, the name is believed to derive from the Old English *Cymbe* or *Cumb* meaning a vessel or tub and possibly denoting a hollow in the ground (Ekwall 1974, 283). The Domesday Survey records that the village was owned by the King and Gilbert de Gand and contained 2 churches, 1 priest, 3 acres of meadow, 292 acres of woodland, 700 acres of marsh, 6 fishponds and 3 fisheries (Foster and Longley 1976).

In 1135, King Stephen had passed his lands in South Kyme to Philip de Kyme, Sheriff of Lincolnshire. Philip was responsible for the foundation of Kyme Priory sometime before 1169 (Page 1988, 172). Cropmarks and earthworks identify the location of the priory 200m west of the development and surrounding the present church which once formed the priory church.

Located south of the church is Kyme Tower dating to the 14th century. The tower is set within a large moated area and would once have been part of a larger building, such as a defended manor house (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 664). The house was demolished in the early 18th century.

Lawn Hall (formerly Lawn Hill House) dates back to the 17th century although incorporates stonework in 18th century additions from the moated manor

3. AIMS

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

4. METHODS

Foundation trenches were excavated by machine to depths required for the development (generally 1-1.45m below the ground surface). The sides of the trench were rendered vertical and cleaned by hand and then examined to identify any archaeological deposits. Each deposit or feature (pits, ditches, postholes *etc.*) exposed during the watching brief was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A photographic record was compiled, sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and measured from the present ground surface. Recording of deposits encountered during the watching brief was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Projects Services practice.

Records of the deposits encountered during the watching brief were examined. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them. A stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced.

5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis, four phases were identified:

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Undated deposits
Phase 3	Post-medieval deposits
Phase 4	Recent deposits

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

Phase 1 Natural Deposits

The earliest recorded layers comprise a light

brownish yellow clayey silt (003) which was evident in the base of all foundation trenches. These natural deposits were recorded to a maximum thickness of 0.92m.

Phase 2 Undated deposits

A layer of dark brownish grey clayey silt (004) was evident across the northern trenches of the site (Fig. 4, Sections 1 and 2). Identified as a buried soil it measured 0.3m thick.

Phase 3 Post-medieval deposits

Located along the southern trench was a feature (008), 0.82m wide by 0.37m deep (Fig. 4, Section 3). Containing part of an articulated skeleton, possibly cattle or horse, the feature had been backfilled with brown silt (007) from which pottery of 16th - 17th century date was retrieved.

East of the animal grave was a feature (006) with near vertical sides and a depth of 0.7m (Fig. 4, Section 4). Identified as a pit, it contained two fills, the lower of black organic silt (009) and an upper of brown clayey silt (005).

Pit (006) was in turn cut by another feature (011), probably a second pit, which was 0.96m wide by 0.78m deep. A single fill of brown organic clayey silt (011) was recorded.

A final feature (012) was revealed along the eastern trench that measured 3.6m long by 0.8m deep. No function could be determined for this feature.

Phase 4 Recent Deposits

Sealing all archaeological deposits, and infilling feature (012), was a subsoil of blackish brown silt (002), sealed in turn by a topsoil of brownish black silt (001),

measuring up to 0.33m thick.

Modern disturbance of the site was also noted but was not recorded in any detail and comprised land drains aligned east-west across the development site.

6. DISCUSSION

Archaeological investigations on land adjacent to High Street, South Kyme has recorded a sequence of natural, undated, post-medieval and recent deposits.

Layers of clayey silt were recorded across the area and are part of the sequence of glaciofluvial sands and gravels (Phase 1), probably deposited during the last ice age.

Undated deposits comprised a buried soil, only evident across the northern part of the site. The remnants of buried soil may signify the position of medieval ridge and furrow, although this is not evident on aerial photographs of the area.

An animal grave, two pits and an unidentified feature comprise post-medieval deposits and may represent nothing more than limited agricultural presence in the vicinity.

A range of finds was retrieved including locally made 16th and 17th century Boston or Toynton All Saints pottery. The most abundant material was tablewares of the 18th to 20th century. Clay pipes, tile, coal and a fragment of window glass were also collected. Most of the finds were from topsoil layers and may indicate nothing more than discarded rubbish incorporated into midden heaps and later spread on the soil to improve fertility.

7. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological watching brief undertaken on land adjacent to High Street, South Kyme located a single undated deposit and a number of post-medieval features, possibly relating to agricultural use of the site. Pottery of the post-medieval period was the earliest material recovered, although may represent nothing more than refuse disposal.

No features or finds indicate any association with the medieval monastic site or the medieval village.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mrs J. Lewis who commissioned the watching brief and post-excavation analysis. Site plans were provided by Clive Wicks Associates. 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, kindly permitted examination of the relevant parish files.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
Site Supervisor: Fiona Walker
Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
Post-excavation Analyst: Paul Cope-Faulkner

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

N Numbers prefixed thus relate to the records maintained by the Heritage Officer for North Kesteven District Council.

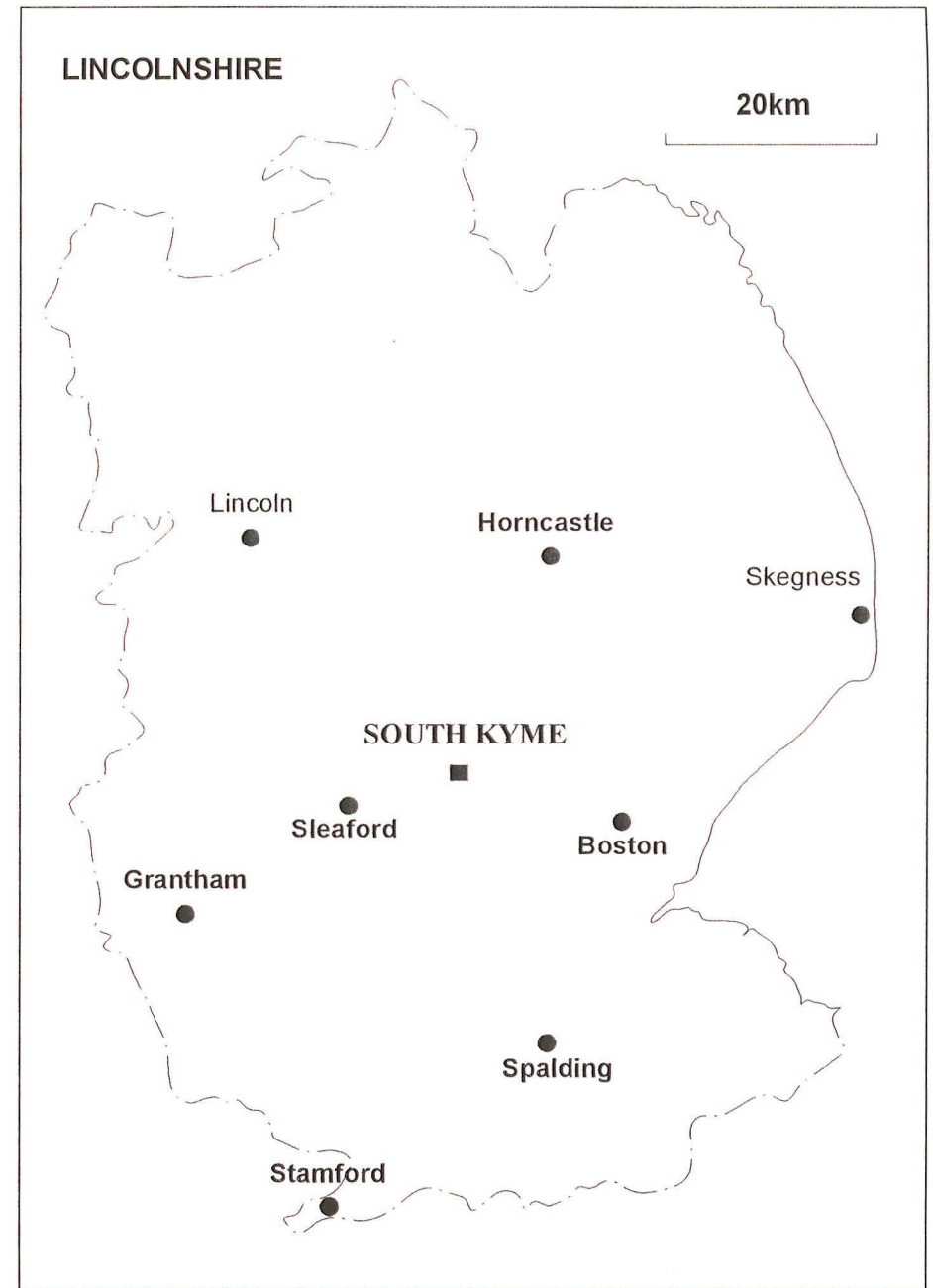
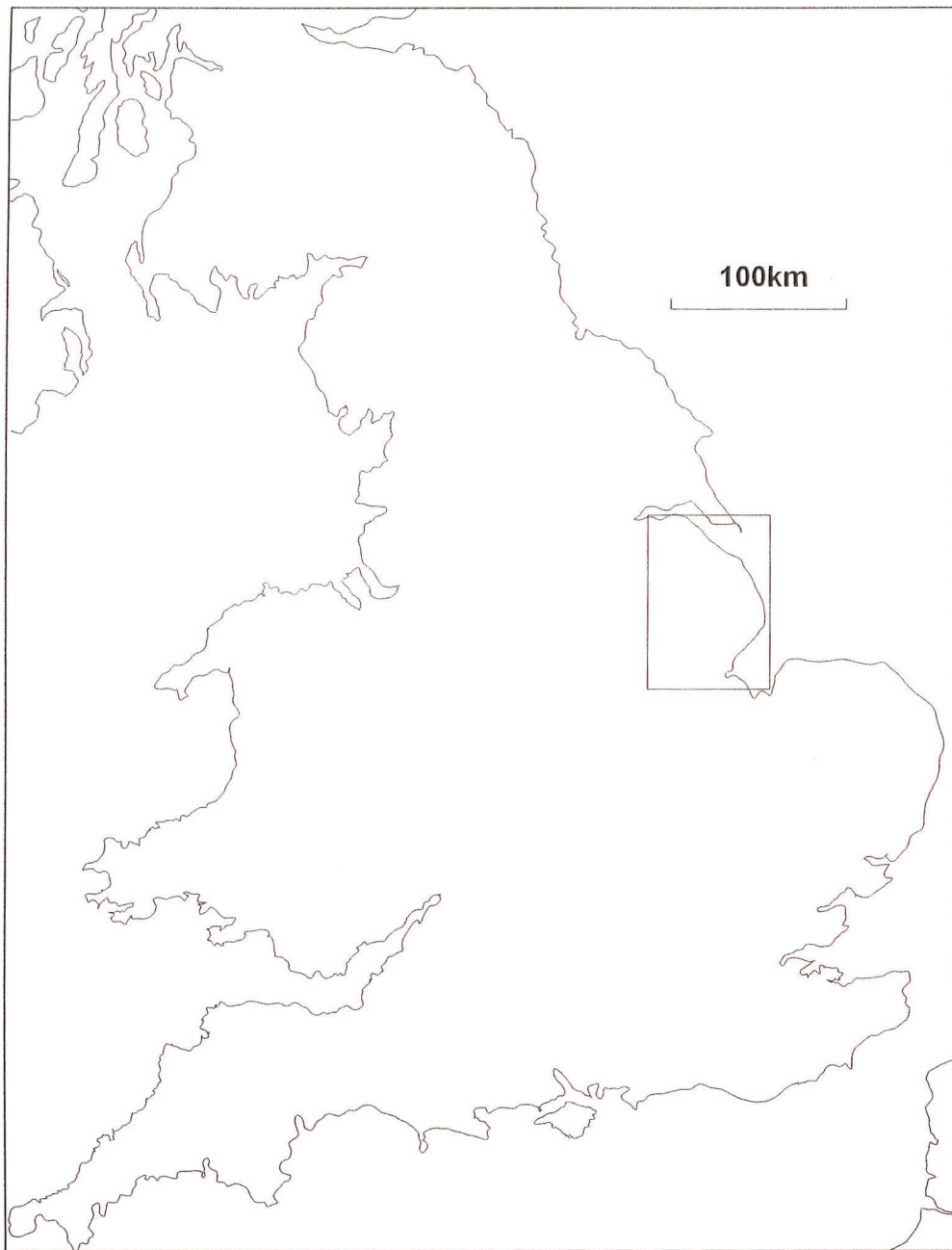
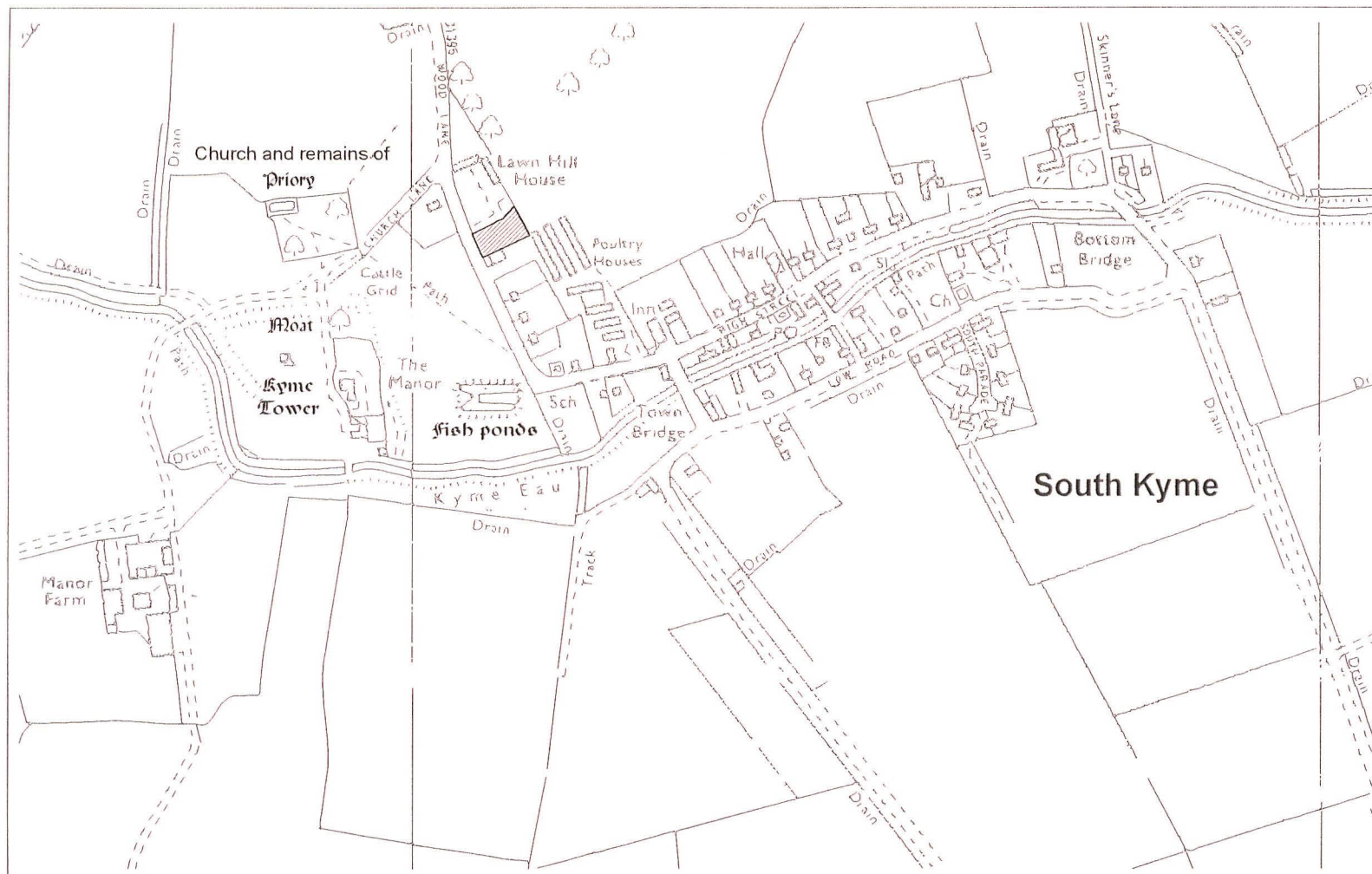


Figure 1 - General Location Plan



 Development Site

0 400m



N



Figure 2 - Site Location Plan

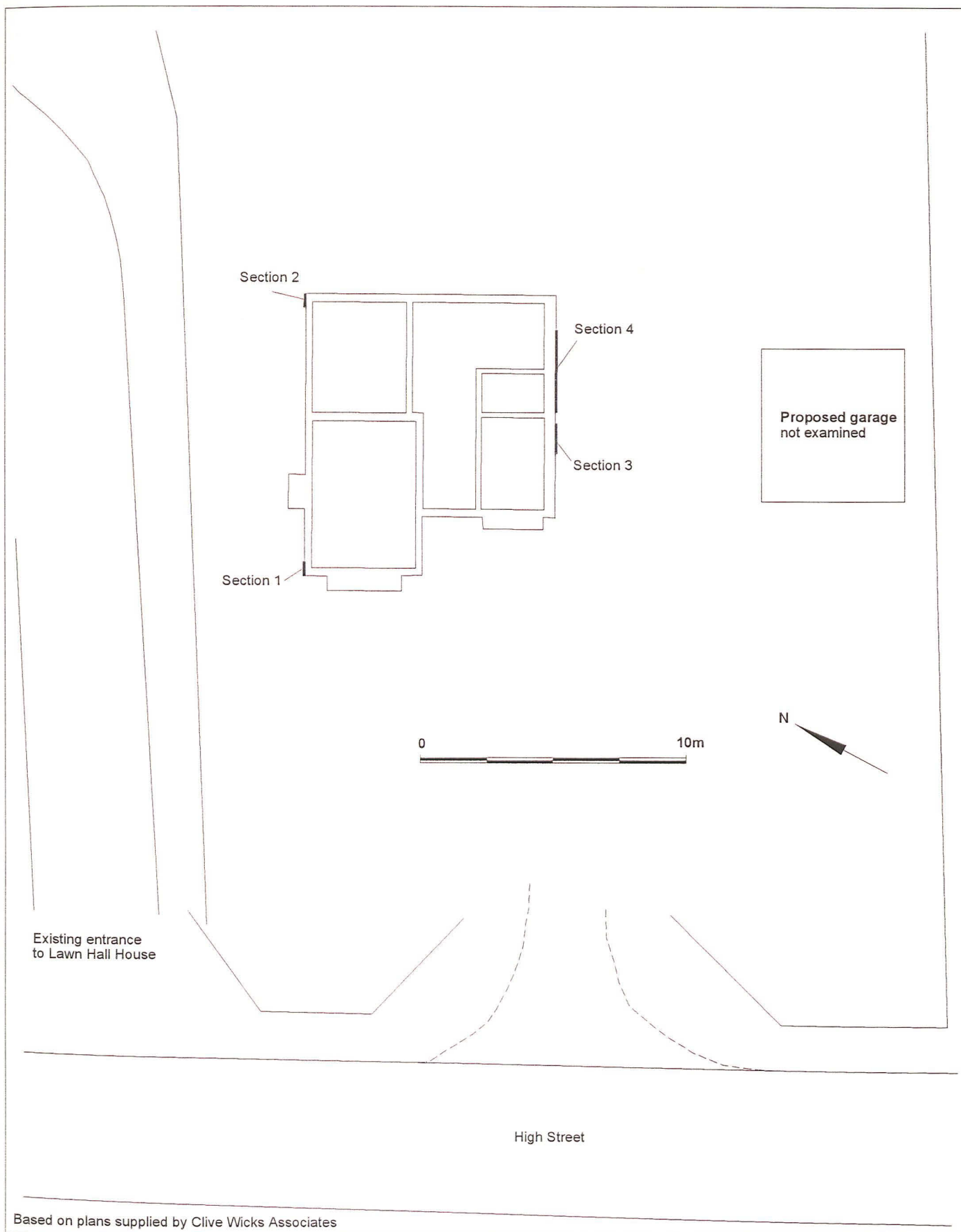
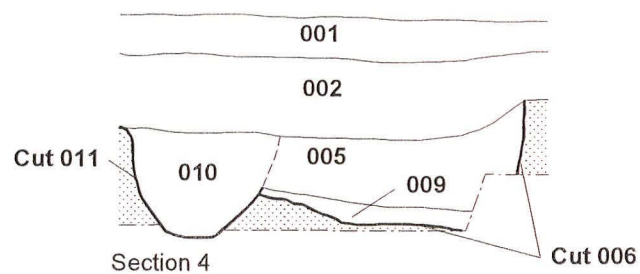
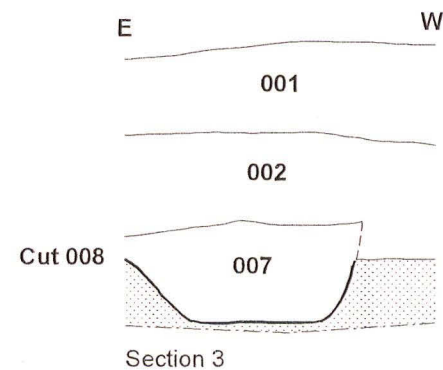
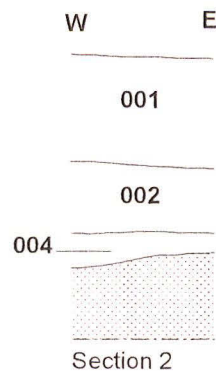
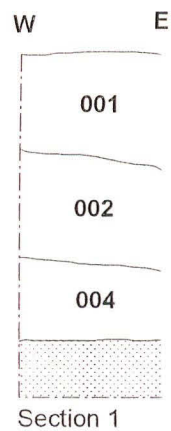


Figure 3 - Plan of Development showing Section locations



 Natural Deposit (003)



Figure 4 - Sections 1,2, 3 and 4



Plate 1 - General view of the development,
looking west towards Kyme Tower



Plate 2 - Section 3, looking south

Appendix 1

BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION AND RECORDING - (WATCHING BRIEF) LAWN HALL, HIGH STREET, SOUTH KYME, Lincs

Planning Application Number: N/58/298/98

NGR: 517630 349570

Applicant: J Lewis

Agent: Clive Wicks Associates

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 South Kyme is a village situated 11km to the north east of Sleaford. The development area is located in the north of the village near the Old Rectory and south of Lawn Hill House.

3. Planning Background

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

4. Archaeological Background

- 4.1 The site is approximately 200m from the medieval priory church of St Mary and All Saints. This used to be part of the Augustinian Priory. Most of the Priory remains are located to the north and west of the church, buried under the fields. Although no remains of the priory are expected to be found at the application site, there may possibly be features connected with the moated manor to the west, of which only the tower, moat and fishponds remain. The application area may also have formed part of the medieval village, being on the main street and near the church and manor. Remains of peasants houses and yards may remain under the ground. The reason that so little is known about the medieval village is that there have been no previous known investigations.

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 'person' 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 these areas.
- 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 and the client.

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.
 - 6.2.8 Under the new Treasure Act, all gold and silver artefacts found during the watching brief, thought to be 'treasure' should be reported to the appropriate coroner's office in Lincoln or Sleaford within fourteen days.

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', see address below.
- 9. **Publication and Dissemination**
- 9.1 The deposition of a copy of the report with the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record will be deemed to put all information into the public domain, unless a special request is made for confidentiality. If material is to be held in confidence a timescale must be agreed with the North Kesteven Heritage Officer but is expected this will not exceed six months. Consideration must be given to a summary of the results being published in 'Lincolnshire History and Archaeology' in due course.
- 10. **Additional Information**
- 10.1 This document attempts to define the best practice expected of an archaeological watching brief but cannot fully anticipate the conditions that will be encountered as work progresses. However, changes to the programme are only to be made with the prior written approval of the Heritage Officer.

Brief set by Heritage Officer, North Kesteven 29/4/1998
This brief is only valid for one year from this date.

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Soft dark brownish black silt, 0.33m thick	Topsoil
002	Friable dark blackish brown silt, 0.4m thick	Subsoil
003	Soft light brownish yellow clayey silt	Natural deposit
004	Moderately firm dark brownish grey clayey silt, c. 0.3m thick	Buried soil
005	Soft brown clayey silt	Secondary fill of 006
006	Feature, 0.9m wide by 0.7m deep, near vertical sides	Pit
007	Loose light-mid brown silt, containing articulated bones, mainly vertebra and ribs (not retrieved), of either a cattle or horse	Fill of 008
008	Feature, 0.82m wide by 0.37m deep, gradual sides on east, steep sided to west, slightly concave base	Animal grave
009	Soft black organic silt	Primary fill of 006
010	Moderately firm mid brown organic clayey silt	Fill of 011
011	Feature, 0.96m wide by 0.78m deep, moderately steep sides with concave base	Pit
012	Feature, 3.6m long by 0.8m deep, steep sides and flat base	Possible pit

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

By Hilary Healey MPhil, Paul Cope-Faulkner BA, AIFA and Gary Taylor MA

Provenance

Much of the early post-medieval material derives from production centres in the vicinity, at Boston 15km southeast of South Kyme, or, possibly, Toynton All Saints, 25km to the northeast. It is likely that the later post-medieval and recent pottery fragment comes from sources in the Midlands, particularly Staffordshire, though the plant pot appears to have been made in Nottingham. The clay pipe was probably made locally.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

The earliest artefacts are fragments of pottery of probable 16th-17th century date, though the most abundant objects in the small assemblage are tablewares of the 18th-20th century. However, the greater part of the assemblage was recovered from context (001), the topsoil, and was mixed with material dating from the 16th-17th century to the 19th-20th. The context is therefore dated by the latest material, of the 19th-20th century, and the earlier artefacts are residual/redeposited. The assemblage consists of pottery, tile, clay pipe, coal and animal bone.

Table 1: The Pottery and Slate

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DATE
001	4x plant pot, 1 stamped '...NOTTM...'	late 19th-20th century
	4x white glazed tableware	19th-20th century
	1x creamware	18th-early 19th century
	2x blue and white transfer printed tableware	19th-20th century
	1x white, yellow and brown painted tableware	18th-19th century
	4x black glazed earthenware	18th-19th century
	3x Midlands Purple type ware	17th-18th century
	1x Toynton All Saints/Boston type ware pancheon	16th-17th century
	2x clay pipe stems	17th-18th century
	1x window glass	
	1x coal	
005	1x tile	
007	1x Boston/Toynton-All Saints ware pancheon	16th-17th century
	1x Boston/Toynton-All Saints ware pancheon	16th-17th century

Table 2: The Animal Bone

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	NOTES
001	1 horse radius	Aged, displays evidence of disease
002	1 cattle sized radius	Gnawing apparent from dog and rodent

Condition

All of the material is in good condition and presents no long-term storage problems. The assemblage should be archived by material class.

Documentation

Post-medieval and recent artefact assemblages from throughout the county have previously been examined and reported, though the examination of such late post-medieval assemblages, as recovered in the present investigation, is usually cursory. A variety of artefacts from prehistoric to late medieval date are known from the parish but there have been no formal archaeological investigations in the area in the recent past (North Kesteven Heritage Officer's records).

Potential

The assemblage has limited potential, though the presence of the early post-medieval pottery, including the Boston/Toynton All Saints wares and the Midlands Purple type pottery, probably indicate occupation or other, undefined, activity in the vicinity during the 16th-17th century.

Appendix 4

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

12	Context records
1	Photographic record sheet
4	Scale drawings
1	Stratigraphic matrix
1	Bag 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 titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives*, produced by the Lincolnshire City and County Museum.

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number: 167.98

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: SKH98

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

Appendix 5

GLOSSARY

Bronze Age	Part of the prehistoric era characterised by the introduction and use of bronze for tools and weapons. In Britain this period dates from approximately 2250-800 BC.
Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
Cropmarks	Alterations in plant growth caused by buried remains (both archaeological and natural). Cropmarks can often be seen at ground level but are more easily observed and understood when recorded on photographs taken from aeroplanes.
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.
Layer	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	Pertaining to the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.