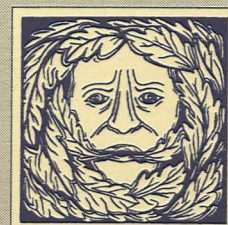
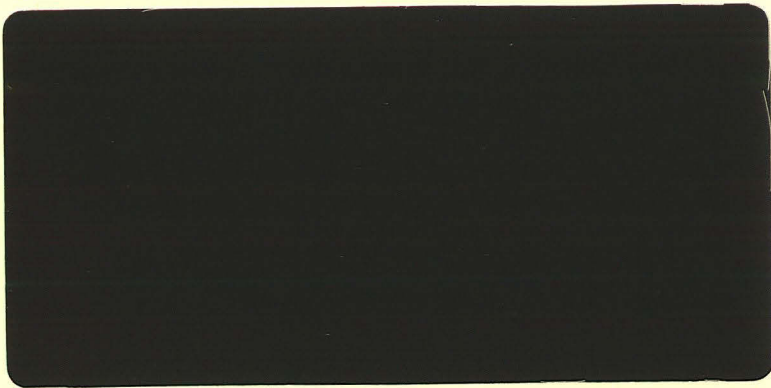


98/17

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF DEVELOPMENT ON LAND AT
MAIN STREET,
NORTH KYME,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(NMK98)**



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES



ack 7/10/98
received 10/11/98

0 7. 00 98

Lincashire County Council
Archaeology Section

62510 - Updated

Event - LI3350

Source - LI8057
LI8058

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF DEVELOPMENT ON LAND AT
MAIN STREET,
NORTH KYME,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(NMK98)**

Work Undertaken For
Mrs E.M. Maplethorpe

October 1998

Report Compiled by
Paul Cope-Faulkner

Planning Application No: N/44/188/98
National Grid Reference: TF 1516 5247
City and County Museum Accession No: 168.98

A.P.S. Report No. **62/98**

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

CONTENTS

List of Figures

List of Plates

1.	Summary	1
2.	Introduction	1
2.1	Definition of a Watching Brief	1
2.2	Background	1
2.3	Topography and Geology	1
2.4	Archaeological Setting	1
3.	Aims	2
4.	Methods	2
5.	Results	2
6.	Discussion	3
7.	Conclusions	3
8.	Acknowledgements	3
9.	Personnel	3
10.	Bibliography	4
11.	Abbreviations	4

Appendices

1	Brief for Archaeological Observation and Recording
2	Context Summary
3	The Archive
4	Glossary

List of Figures

- Figure 1 General Location Plan
- Figure 2 Site Location Plan
- Figure 3 Development Site Plan, showing Section locations
- Figure 4 Sections 1 and 2

Plates

- Plate 1 General view across the development area, looking west

1. SUMMARY

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

The watching brief 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 Romano-British (AD 50-410) waterway, the Car Dyke.

An undated cut, probably a pit, represents the only archaeological feature revealed during the site investigations. No artefacts were recovered.

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 E.M. Maplethorpe to undertake a watching brief at land adjacent to Main Street, North Kyme, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application N/44/188/98. The watching brief was carried out on the 4th 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

North Kyme is located *c.* 10km to the northeast of Sleaford and 18km northwest of Boston, in North Kesteven District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The area of investigation is located approximately 260m southwest of the village centre as defined by the parish church of St. Luke (Fig. 2). Situated at a height of approximately 8m OD the site is located at National Grid Reference TF 1516 5247.

The local topography describes North 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

North Kyme is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Bronze Age (2250-800 BC) and later. Situated 1km south of the development is a Bronze Age round barrow which produced two bronze rapiers when excavated, and a socketed axe was found adjacent to St. Luke's church.

The site lies *c.* 200m east of the Car Dyke, a Romano-British waterway connecting the Witham near Lincoln to the River Nene near Peterborough. Originally this was thought to be a canal but recent opinion is that it may serve as an aid to divert water away from the low lying fens (Simmons and Cope-Faulkner 1997, 7).

Aerial photographs show a rectangular enclosure, located 1.5km to the south of the

development. Associated with this enclosure are a series of roads heading south and west towards Sleaford and a road north aligned with Main Street, North Kyme. The enclosure survived as earthworks until 20 years ago and it has been postulated that this may be a Roman fort (Simmons and Cope-Faulkner 1997, 23).

North Kyme is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086. Referred to as *Nortchime*, 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 Robert de Toden and Colsuain and contained 76 acres of meadow, 35 acres of woodland and a single fishery (Foster and Longley 1976).

The only extant remains of the medieval period is the former Market Cross, located c. 200m northeast of the development. Dating to the 15th century, the cross is now a Scheduled Ancient Monument (County No. 91). A medieval church was once located in the village but was destroyed during the Reformation in the 16th century. It was replaced in 1877 by the parish church of St. Luke's (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 584).

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, three phases were identified:

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Undated deposits
Phase 3	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 silty sand (003) which was evident in the base of all foundation trenches. These natural deposits were recorded to a maximum thickness of 0.78m.

Phase 2 Undated deposits

A layer of mid yellowish brown sand and silt (002) was evident across the southern trenches of the site (Fig. 4, Section 1). Identified as a subsoil it measured 0.22m thick.

The subsoil is not evident in Section 2 where a feature (005), identified in section only, was cut directly into natural deposits (Fig. 4, Section 2). Measuring 1.6m wide and 0.6m deep this feature may represent a pit and contained a single fill of yellowish grey sandy silt (004).

Phase 3 Recent Deposits

Sealing all archaeological deposits was a topsoil of blackish brown sandy silt (001), measuring up to 0.45m thick.

Modern disturbance of the site was also noted but was not recorded in any detail. This disturbance to the site included land drainage, levelling and dumped deposits, which were generally located in the area of the proposed new garage (Figure 3).

6. DISCUSSION

Archaeological investigations on land adjacent to Main Street, North Kyme has recorded a sequence of natural, undated and recent deposits.

Layers of silty sand 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.

A single pit (in Section 2) and subsoil were recorded above the natural deposits (Phase 2). However, no dateable artefacts were retrieved from any of these deposits. Recent use of the site is seen in the formation of a

topsoil and general disturbance across the site.

An archaeological watching brief was also carried out 130m to the northwest and did not locate any archaeological features either (Walker 1996, 3). It is therefore possible that archaeological deposits are more likely to be found in the region of the church and market cross as this represents the medieval core of the village.

7. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological watching brief undertaken on land adjacent to Main Street, North Kyme located an undated feature, probably a pit. No other archaeological deposits were present. The lack of features is consistent with an area of land outside the medieval settlement. The lack of finds may indicate the land was used for pasture.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mrs E.M. Maplethorpe who commissioned the watching brief and post-excavation analysis. Site plans were provided by Molsom and Partners. 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

BGS, 1995, *Boston, Solid and Drift geology*, 1:50,000 map sheet **128**

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**

Hodge, C.A.H., Burton, R.G.O., Corbett, W.M., Evans, R. and Seale, R.S., 1984 *Soils and their use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales **13**

IFA, 1994 *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*

Simmons, B. and Cope-Faulkner, P., 1997, *The Lincolnshire Car Dyke: Past work, Management Options and Future Possibilities*, Unpublished APS report **51/97**

Walker, F., 1996, *Archaeological Watching Brief at Home Farm, 58 Main Street, North Kyme, Lincolnshire (NKM96)*

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.

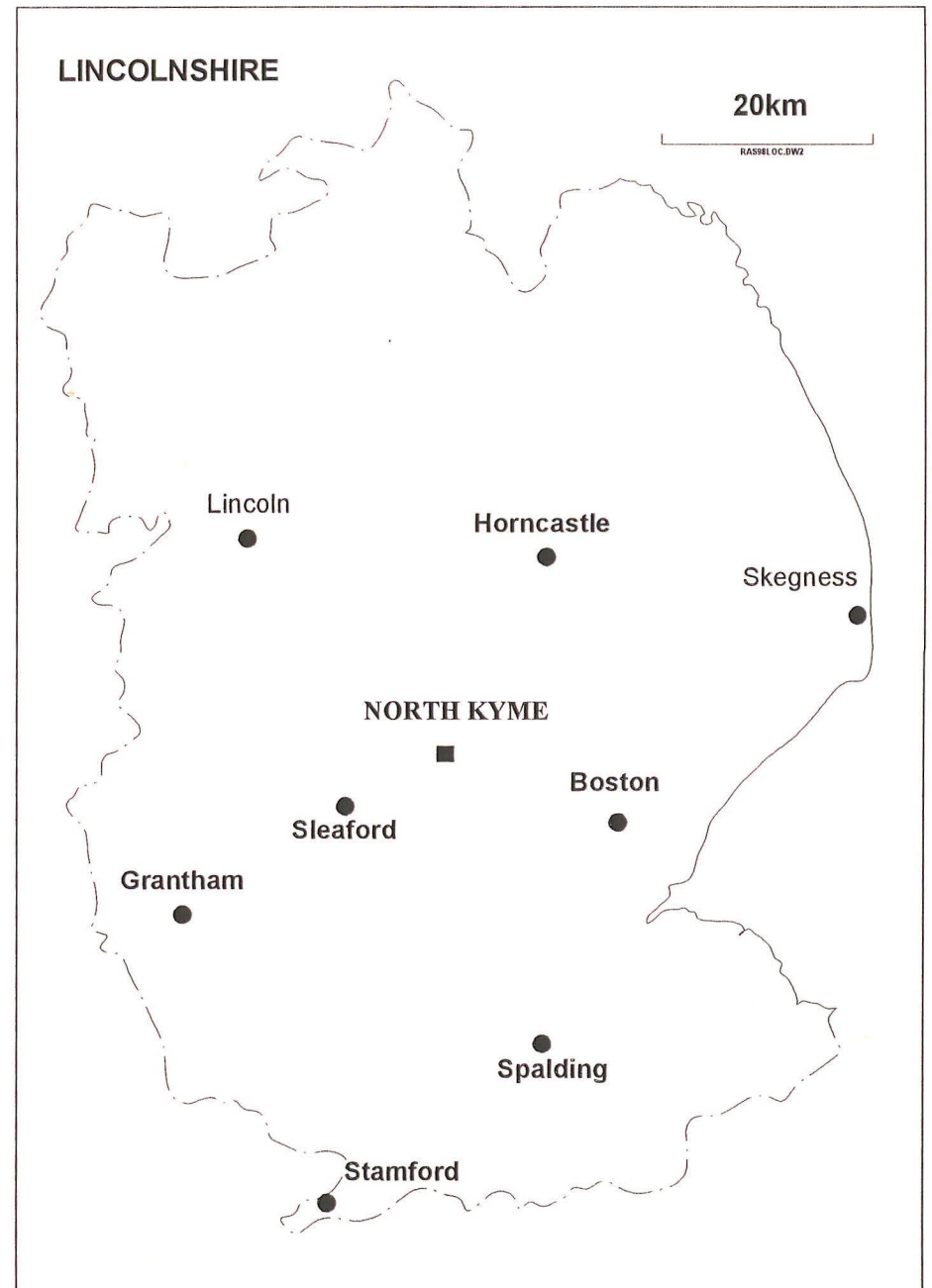
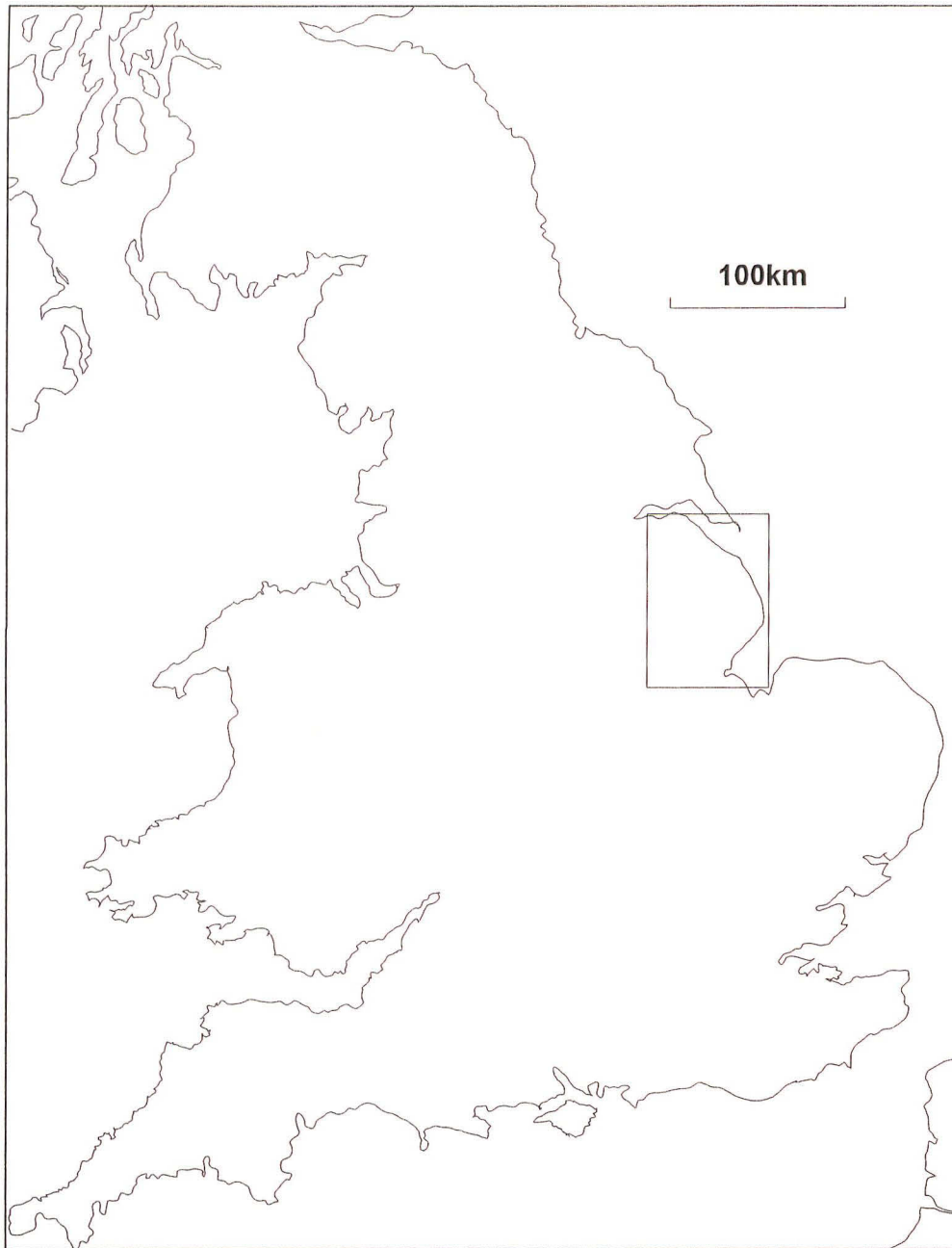
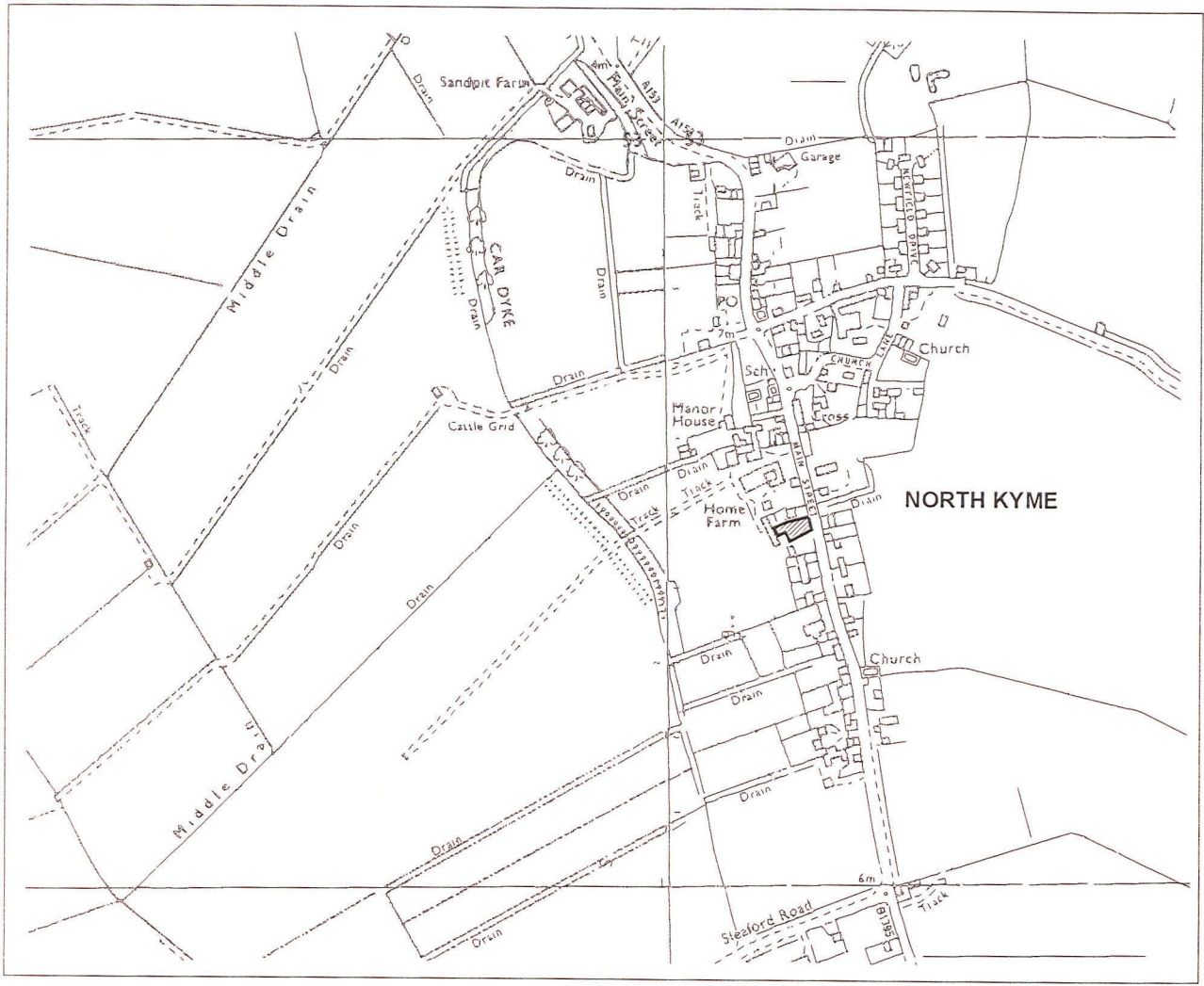


Figure 1 - General Location Plan



 Development Area

Figure 2 - Site Location Plan

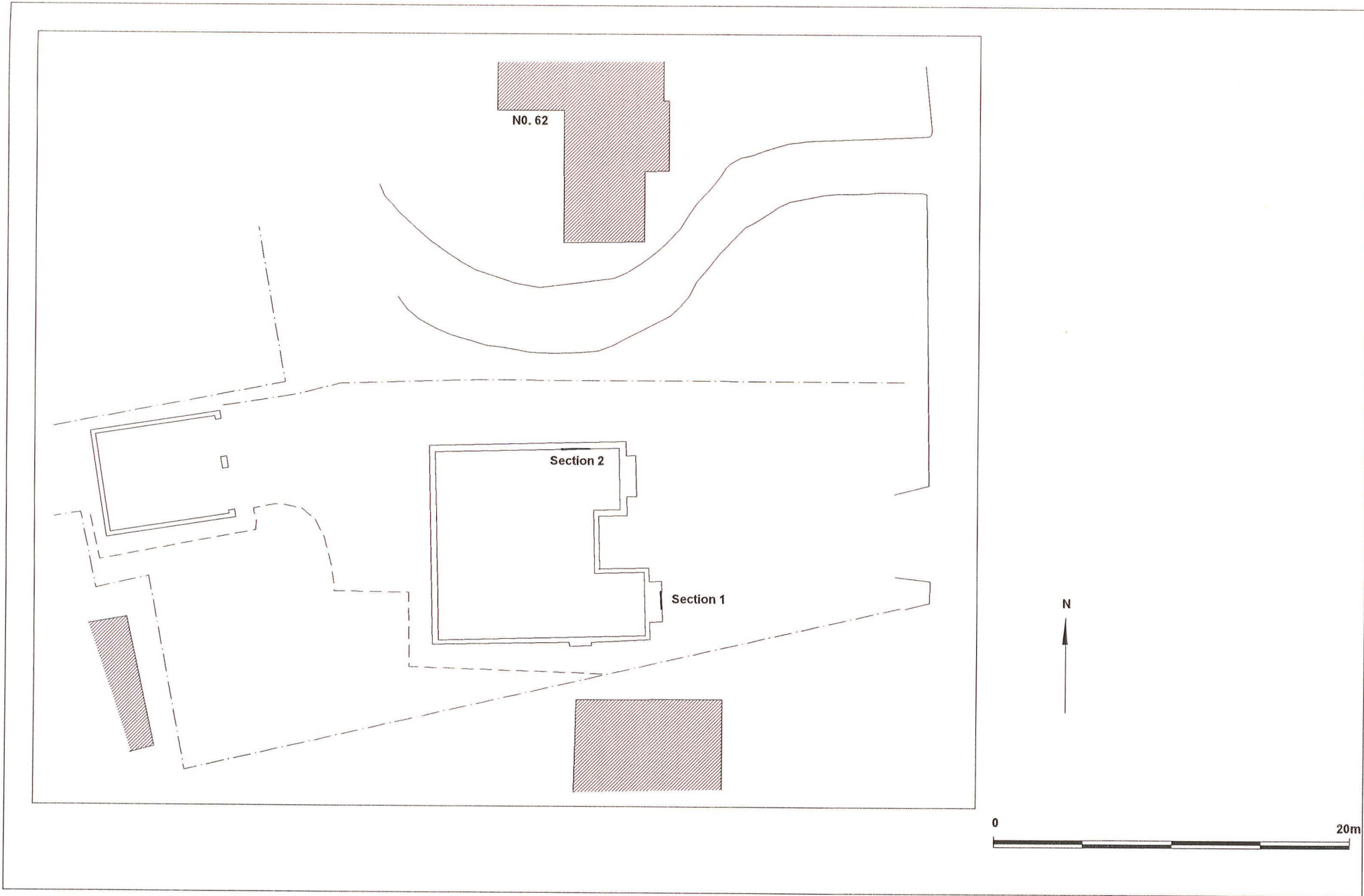


Figure 3 - Development Site Plan, showing Section locations

N S

001

002

003

Section 1

E W

001

004

Cut 005

003

Section 2

0 1m

Figure 4 - Sections 1 and 2



Plate 1 - General view across the development area, looking west

Appendix 1

BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION AND RECORDING (WATCHING BRIEF) LAND ADJACENT TO 62 MAIN ST, NORTH KYME, LINCS

Planning Application Number: N /44/188/98 **NGR:** 515160 352470

Applicant: GM Maplethorpe **Agent:** Molson & Partners

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

North Kyme is a fen-edge village situated to the north east of Sleaford. The application site is located on the west side of the main street near Home Farm.

3. Planning Background

Full planning permission has been given to erect one bungalow and garage at this site.

4. Archaeological Background

- 4.1 Watching brief conditions have been recommended for other applications in this area that involve substantial groundworks. This is due to North Kyme village occupying a ridge of land that would have been something of an island in prehistoric times. Bronze Age (c. 1500-600 BC) finds have been made in the surrounding fenland and it is therefore likely that there was some sort of settlement in the area.
- 4.2 The site also occupies a situation in the medieval core of the village, being along the main street which would have been lined with dwellings and yards in the Middle Ages (c.1050-1500).

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 Bronze Age and 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 30/1/1998

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Soft dark blackish brown sandy silt with occasional gravel, 0.45m thick (max)	Topsoil
002	Moderately firm yellowish brown sand and silt with occasional gravel, 0.22m thick	Subsoil
003	Moderately firm brownish yellow silty sand with occasional gravel, 0.78m visible thickness	Natural deposit
004	Moderately firm light yellowish grey sandy silt with occasional gravel	Primary fill of 005
005	Cut, shape unknown, 1.6m wide by 0.6m depth. Vertical slope to east, gentle slope on the western side.	Possible pit

Appendix 3

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 5 | Context records |
| 1 | Photographic record sheet |
| 2 | Scale drawings |
| 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: 168.98

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: NMK98

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 4

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, *e.g.* (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, *etc.* 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.