

**NEVILLE HALL
FREELANCE ARCHAEOLOGIST & CONSULTANT**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON LAND TO THE REAR OF
25-27, ERMINE STREET,
ANCASTER, LINCOLNSHIRE.

National Grid Reference: SK 9830 4373
Site Code: ESAN16
Accession No: LCNCC: 2016.13
Planning Reference: S15/2746/FUL

PREPARED FOR MR. PAUL HEARD OF PAUL HEARD PROPERTIES LTD.

By

Neville Hall

April 2016

List of Contents:

Summary

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Site Location and Description**
- 3. Planning Background**
- 4. Aims and Objectives of the Archaeological Monitoring**
- 5. Archaeological and Historical Background**
- 6. Methodology**
- 7. Results**
 - 7.1 The Excavation of the Foundations**
 - 7.2 The Excavation of the Services**
- 8. Discussion and Conclusions**
- 9. Effectiveness of Methodology and Confidence Rating**
- 10. Acknowledgments**
- 11. Bibliography**

List of Figures:

- Figure 1:** Site location at a scale of 1:25,000.
- Figure 2:** Site location at a scale of 1:1,250.
- Figure 3:** Block plan showing the proposed layout of the development site at an original scale of 1:500, (extract from Architects plan).
- Figure 4:** Plan of the Monitored New Build Groundworks at a scale of 1:50.
- Figure 5:** Plan of the Monitored Service Trenches at a scale of 1:250.
- Figure 6:** **Representative Sections 1-9** at a scale of 1:20.

Appendices

- Appendix 1:** Plates
- Appendix 2:** List of Contexts
- Appendix 3:** The Archive
- Appendix 4:** Photographic Register
- Appendix 5:** OASIS Summary Sheet

Appendix 6: Specification for Archaeological Monitoring

Summary

The archaeological monitoring of the groundworks pertaining to the construction of a new detached two storey residential dwelling on land to the rear of 25-27, Ermine Street, Ancaster, Lincolnshire was carried out on the 30th of March and the 1st of April 2016.

The first phase of this groundworks programme comprised the archaeological monitoring of the excavation of the foundation trenches for the new build. This monitoring identified a deposit sequence which comprised a modern made ground deposit, (from the recent demolition and site clearance of cottages which had stood on this site), two undated buried soil deposits and an underlying natural horizon, which was recorded within four representative sections.

It was clear from the observation of surrounding lands to the north, west and south of this site that the ground levels here had been deliberately built up to a height of around one metre and that the two uppermost deposits in the identified deposit sequence here represented two imported landscaping deposits associated with this raising of ground levels. The third deposit in this sequence was undoubtedly an archaeological deposit, though the lack of any datable finds both from this deposit and from this area of the site made it impossible to date this archaeological deposit and that of the raising of the ground levels. The archaeological deposit was certainly an undated buried soil and may have represented an original ground level.

The second phase of this groundworks programme consisted of the mechanical excavation of a service trench from the western frontage of Ermine Street to connect to the new build area. Particular attention was paid to the area to the immediate west of this Roman road. This indentified a further deposit sequence which consisted of a modern made ground deposit which overlay the uppermost of the two buried soil deposits or the lowermost imported landscaping deposit, which had been used to build up the ground levels on this site. This sequence was recorded within a further four representative sections. This sequence changed as the trenching approached the new build area and became identical to that which was previously recorded earlier within the new build area. This sequence was recorded within a final representative section. There were no finds from this second phase of monitoring.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Neville Hall was commissioned by Mr. Paul Heard of Paul Heard Properties Ltd. to undertake the archaeological monitoring of the groundworks pertaining to the construction of a new detached two storey residential dwelling on land to the rear of 25-27, Ermine Street, Ancaster, Lincolnshire, centred at National Grid Reference SK 9830 4373. The archaeological monitoring was carried out at the development site on the 30th of March and the 1st of April 2016.
- 1.2 The work was carried out according to the requirements of an archaeological condition, which was attached to the granting of planning consent for this development by South Kesteven District Council, the Local Planning Authority (LPA), and acting on the advice of Ms Jenny Young, Senior Historic Environment Officer of Heritage Lincolnshire, in her capacity as archaeological advisor on planning issues to the LPA. This is in accordance with the principles established in *NPPF: Planning for the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide* (Department of Culture, Media and Sport, 2012), and *Standard and guidance for archaeological watching briefs* (IFA, 2008).
- 1.3 Copies of the final report will be deposited with the client, Ms Jenny Young of Heritage Lincolnshire (on behalf of the local planning authority), the Planning Department of South Kesteven District Council, the Lincolnshire Heritage Environment Record (HER) and The Collection, Lincoln, along with an ordered project archive for long term storage and curation.

2. Site Location and Description

- 2.1 The development site is situated on land at the rear of Nos. 25-27, Ermine Street, which is in turn located on the western frontage of Ermine Street, at National Grid Reference SK 9830 9373, and at a height of approximately 5mAOD. The village of Ancaster is located approximately 9km to the west of Sleaford and 11km to the north-east of Grantham. The village of Ancaster is located within the modern civil parish of the same name, within the administrative district of South Kesteven, county of Lincolnshire [Figures 1-2].
- 2.2 The development site is located within an undulating upland area of the Jurassic limestone escarpment known as the Lincoln Edge that traverses Lincolnshire from south-north, at a height of approximately 45mAOD. The area of the development site is situated on deep permeable sandy and coarse loamy soils of the Blackwood Series, which have developed on Oolitic limestones of the Middle Jurassic [BGS, 1972; Soil Survey, 1983].

3. Planning Background

- 3.1 A planning application for the proposed construction of a new detached two storey residential dwelling on land to the rear of 25-27, Ermine Street, Ancaster, Lincolnshire, (Planning Reference: S15/2746/FUL), has been submitted to and granted consent by South Kesteven District Council, the Local Planning Authority (LPA) [Figure 3]. However, as the proposed development was situated within a known area of high archaeological potential, an archaeological condition (No. 4) was attached to this planning consent which stated that:

Before the development hereby permitted is commenced, details of an archaeological watching brief shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

The development shall be carried out in strict accordance with the approved archaeological watching brief....

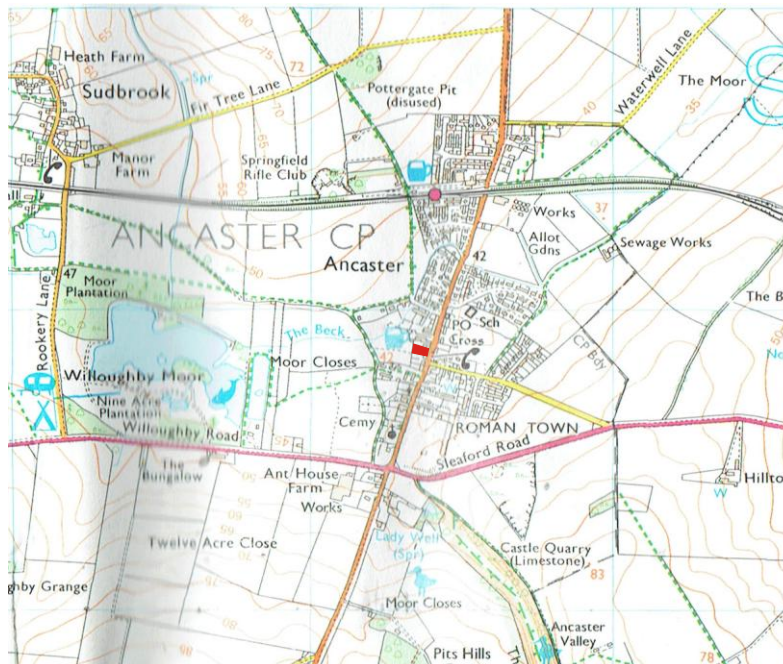


Figure 1: Site location at a scale of 1:25,000. The site is shown in red. (O.S. copyright licence number 100048723)

- 3.2 A specification or a written scheme of investigation for an archaeological watching brief to be maintained during the groundworks stage of development at the site was submitted to and approved by Ms Jenny Young, Senior Historic Environment Officer of Heritage Lincolnshire (on behalf of the LPA) prior to the commencement of the on-site works.

4. Aims and Objectives of the Archaeological Monitoring

- 4.1 The aims of the project were the **continual archaeological monitoring** of all site groundworks, which comprised the mechanical excavation of the foundations and services for the new detached dwelling.

- 4.2 The objectives of the project were:

To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the area of the development site.

To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.

To allow the preservation by record of archaeological deposits.

- 4.3 It is clear that the development site lies to the immediate north of the scheduled Roman settlement of Ancaster and certainly also within the contemporary extra-mural settlement. The development site also lies within the historic core of the medieval and post-medieval settlements of Ancaster. The specific aims of this archaeological watching brief will

therefore be to record any archaeological features, deposits, structures or finds which may be associated with this multi-period settlement activity.

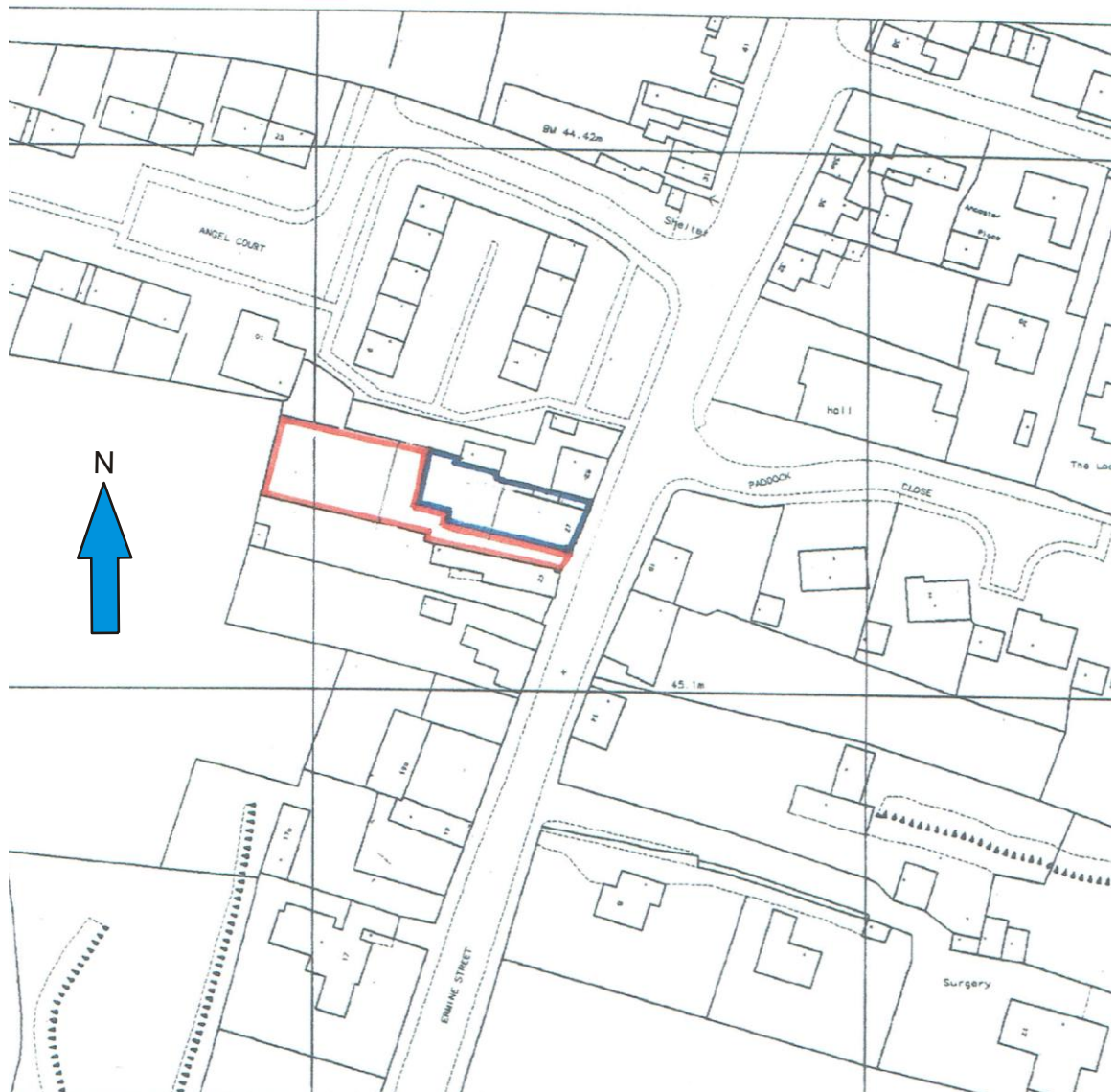


Figure 2: Site location at a scale of 1:1,250

5. Archaeological and Historical Background

- 5.1 Background research sources were consulted at the Lincolnshire Archives, the Lincoln Local Studies Library and the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Record (HER). A search of the Lincolnshire HER was conducted within the vicinity of the development site.

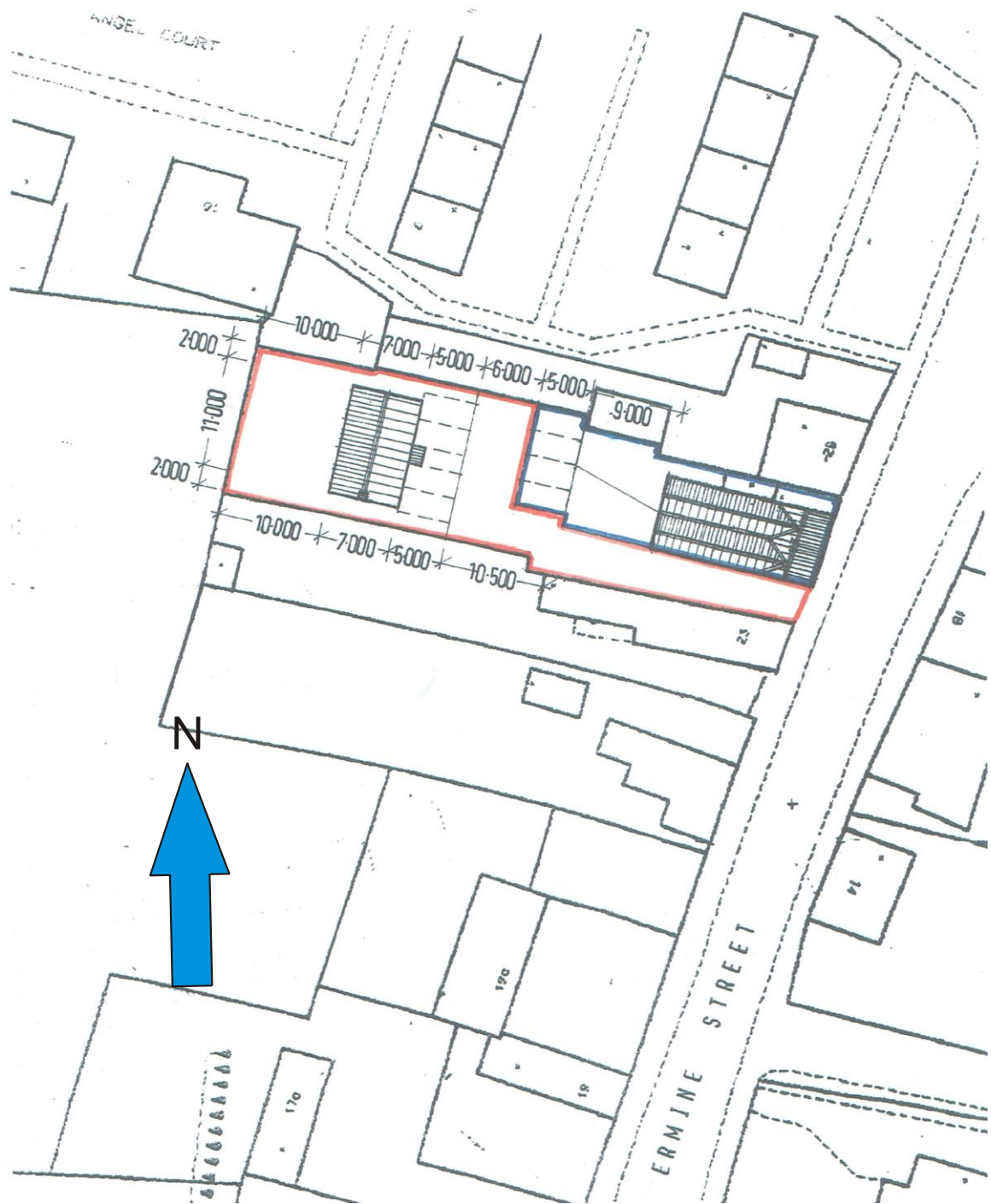


Figure 3: Block plan showing the proposed layout of the development site at an original scale of 1:500, (extract from Architects plan)

- 5.2 The Roman settlement at Ancaster is one of a series of such settlements located on Ermine Street (HER 30324; NMR SK 94 SE 10). This began as a settlement in the Iron Age on which the site of a Roman military fort and later a civilian settlement were subsequently founded. Finds from the ditch of the fort suggested a foundation from the mid-1st century AD onwards. This fort was succeeded by a civilian settlement around which was later constructed a defensive town wall from the late 2nd century AD onwards.

The town wall was accompanied by an earthen rampart, outer and inner ditches and several associated bastions have also been identified. Within the area of some 9 acres enclosed by the town wall, buildings and streets have been found. Outside of this town wall, other buildings have also been found, indicating the presence of an extra-mural settlement. This extra-mural settlement is situated to the south-east and west of the walled town. Several contemporary cemeteries flanking Ermine Street are also known to lie to the north and south of the Roman settlement; further cemetery sites are also known to the west and east of the town defences. This settlement has been scheduled as an ancient monument (SM No. 1005004).

- 5.3 Several evaluation trenches were excavated in 1961 slightly to the west of the scheduled area of the Roman settlement (HER 30324, ELI993). Finds from this excavation included including 1st-3rd century AD pottery, several sherds of amphora and a brooch.
- 5.4 During the excavation of the foundations for a new bungalow in 1966 on the site of the former Angel Inn and just to the north of the Roman town on the western side of Ermine Street, sherds of Roman pottery and nine inhumation burials were found (HER 30329, 35749). The spread of these burials suggested a sizeable cemetery to the north of the Roman settlement at this location. In 2012, two shallow north-south aligned graves were found just to the north of the modern junction of Ermine Street and Paddock Close during the groundworks for a new electric cable trench. The graves contained the remains of two infant burials. No other material was recovered alongside the remains in either grave (HER 30329, Site code: ANER 12).
- 5.5 Ermine Street was the main Roman road from the south to the centre of the Roman settlement at Lincoln (HER 60638). This Roman road is located to the immediate east of the development site and follows the line of the modern Ermine Street through the village of Ancaster. The Roman Ermine Street was one of the most important thoroughfares in Britain. It was designed to give direct communication to the main centres of military occupation in Lincoln and York. It was probably designed and laid out at a very early stage in the Roman occupation of Britain. It has regularly spaced contemporary settlements such as Ancaster along its length, which by and large owed their origin to military posts.
- 5.6 The site of a former Primitive Methodist Chapel occurred near Ermine Street at Ancaster (HER 39361). The building is now demolished, though its exact location is uncertain.
- 5.7 There have been other previous archaeological investigations within the vicinity of this development site. A geophysical survey followed by the excavation of four trial trenches took place at 5, Paddock Close in 2004 (HER ELI6708-9). The geophysical survey located anomalies related to buried building remains. Two of the trial trenches were positioned within the build footprint of a new doctors surgery with the remaining two in the area of a proposed new car park. This evaluation identified wall foundations and a floor surface associated with a 3rd century AD Roman building and overlying demolition deposits. Sections of the town wall and of the inner defensive ditch were also located. Finds included 2nd-4th century AD pottery, painted wall plaster, roof tile and tesserae [Northamptonshire Archaeology, 2004].
- 5.8 An archaeological watching brief at 10, Ermine Street in 2000 on the groundworks for a new conservatory identified a sequence of modern deposits which were associated with the construction of the present bungalow on the site in 1956. No archaeological remains were encountered (HER ELI1179, Site code: AES99).
- 5.9 An archaeological watching brief on the groundworks for new extensions at 10, Ermine Street in 2013 did not identify any Roman deposits due to the shallow nature of the excavated foundations (HJER ELI11949, Site code: ANES13). A possible 'dark earth'

layer was identified which was thought to overlie the remains of the Roman settlement was found. Finds recovered from this deposit comprised a Roman coin and pottery, Roman or later roof tile, medieval and post-medieval pottery, glass and clay pipe fragments and undated animal bone.

- 5.10 A landscape survey was conducted in 2001 as part of the Time Team investigations of the Roman settlement and cemetery at Ancaster (HER ELI12057). The remains of a Roman road, now surviving as an earthwork causeway was the main feature identified.
- 5.11 An archaeological watching brief was maintained in 2012 during the excavation of a new electricity cable trench along part of the route of Ermine Street and through the village of Ancaster (HER ELI12171). Roman and post-Roman deposits were identified along with the possible remains of Roman structures and two infant burials. A large assemblage of Roman material was also found including pottery along with a smaller assemblage of medieval finds.
- 5.12 In 1959-60 emergency archaeological excavations were carried out, which identified the town wall and portions of Ermine Street near to the north gate of the Roman town (HER 30324, ELI994).
- 3.13 An archaeological excavation took place prior to building works in 1960 and in 1961 (HER 30324, ELI994). These excavations identified five superimposed levels of gravel bedded surfaces of the western edge of Ermine Street along with the foundations of the Roman town wall and the western edge of the north gateway of the Roman town.
- 5.14 An archaeological watching brief at 2, Wilsford Lane in 2002 took place during the groundworks for a new extension. This only identified post-medieval dumping and levelling deposits. One sherd of post-medieval pottery was also found (HER ELI3210, Site code: AWL201).
- 5.15 An archaeological watching brief at 4, Wilsford Lane in 2002 took place during the groundworks for a new extension. This identified medieval soils overlain by undated make-up deposits which were probably associated with a medieval or later building. Overlying this were 18th century and later make-up deposits. Finds comprised three sherds of Roman pottery and tile along with six sherds of 12th-13th century medieval pottery (HER 35683-4, ELI3211, Site code: AWL401). A buried soil was recorded in 2012 at the junction of Ermine Street and Wilsford Lane during the monitoring of groundworks for the installation of a new cable trench in Ancaster. A small assemblage of 13th century pottery was recovered (HER 35683).
- 5.16 An archaeological watching brief took place on a water mains replacement scheme along the eastern frontage of Ermine Street in 1997. A trench was excavated against the eastern kerb of Ermine Street of some 260m in length and adjacent to the scheduled area of the Roman settlement. No Roman road deposits were recorded anywhere along the length of this trench, so it was suggested that the Roman Ermine Street may have followed a slightly different alignment to that postulated. At its northern end of the trench cut through the northern Roman town defences. The trench cut through both the outer and inner defensive ditches, the town wall and an internal earthen rampart. The inner ditch yielded sherds of 3rd-4th century AD pottery. To the south of this, substantial post-Roman dark earth deposits were encountered below the modern road make-up. The dark earth deposits had accumulated between the disuse and demolition of the Roman walled town and the creation of the modern Ermine Street. This deposit yielded three sherds of residual Roman pottery. These deposits were found in turn to overlie Roman demolition horizons and a pit, which yielded a fragment of decorated tessellated floor. This in turn provided an indication of high status buildings in this area. Towards the southern end of these trench excavations, two phases of the rear of an internal Roman building of 3rd

century AD date were identified, which appeared to have been destroyed by fire (HER ELI7001, Site code: ESA96).

- 5.17 During archaeological excavations on the north-western defences of the Roman town in 1981, a post-medieval structure was revealed (HER 30336). This comprised a large circular shaped foundation of limestone walling with clay bonding. The bonding yielded sherds of early 17th century pottery. The structure was interpreted as a dovecote dating to around 1600. These excavations in the north-western area of the Roman town also identified a lime kiln of post-medieval date (HER 30337). This was a circular shaped structure which was built within a large pit with 17th century rubble backfill and limestone rubble at the base. A sherd of 17th century pottery found between the pit and the wall of the kiln provided an effective date.
- 5.18 Situated to the immediate east of the dovecote found during the 1981 excavation, was part of a possible malting kiln with two chambers and a flue (HER 30338). This was interpreted as being of 17th century in date and part of the same complex at the dovecote.
- 5.19 Close to a 17th century dovecote, (which was found during an archaeological excavation in 1981 in the north-western area of the Roman town), was a badly damaged building of medieval date (HER 30339). This building was located immediately outside the line of the Roman town wall and close to a north-western corner bastion. Pottery of 13th century date was recovered from it. The buildings consisted of two mortar floors overlain by rubble collapse. To the north of the building, and below the 17th century dovecote was an occupation deposit of 13th-14th century date.
- 5.20 A buried soil layer which yielded sherds of medieval pottery and roof tile was found in 2012 at the north-western corner of Castle Close during the monitoring of the excavation of a new electricity cable trench in Ancaster (HER 39405, Site code: ANER 12).
- 5.21 A limited map regression exercise was also carried out of the area of the proposed development site with copies of Ordnance Survey (O.S.) maps obtained from the Lincoln Local Studies Library and from the Lincolnshire Archives. The First Edition six inch to one mile scale Ordnance Survey (O.S.) map of 1891, the Second Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1905, the Provisional Edition six inch to one mile scale of 1947 and the 1:10,560 scale O.S. map of 1956 all feature the development site as lying at the rear of a land plot which includes buildings fronting onto the western frontage of Ermine Street with a further outbuilding to the rear; the site is thus already densely occupied by contemporary building activity by 1891.

6. Methodology

- 6.1 The archaeological monitoring at the development site was undertaken by Neville Hall on the 30th of March and on the 1st of April 2016. This comprised the continual archaeological monitoring and recording of the mechanical excavation of the foundations for the new residential dwelling along with the mechanical excavation of the associated services under archaeological supervision westwards from the Ermine Street frontage. The mechanical trench excavations were undertaken by a 5-ton 360° excavator fitted with a 0.80m wide toothed bucket. The service trench excavations were carried out by 1.5-ton 360° excavator fitted with a 0.45m toothed bucket.
- 6.2 Where necessary, surfaces were hand cleaned for examination and recording, and the deposits observed were recorded on standard *pro-forma* context recording sheets. A plan at a scale of 1:50 was compiled on site of the monitored foundation trench excavations for the new build. This is reproduced at this same scale as **Figure 4**. A second plan

based on an architect's plan was also compiled of the line of the monitored excavated service trenches at a scale of 1:250. This is reproduced at this scale as **Figure 5**. A total of nine sections of the identified deposit sequences on this site [designated as **Representative Sections 1-9**] were also compiled on site at a scale of 1:20 and are also reproduced at this same scale as **Figure 6**. A complimentary digital colour photographic record was also maintained, which are reproduced as **Plates 1-57, Appendix 1**. A list of the contexts recorded is reproduced in **Appendix 2**.

- 6.3 All work was carried out according to the approved Specification and to the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) standards and guidance for archaeological watching briefs.

7. Results [Figures 4-6; Appendix 1, Plates 1-57]

7.1 The Excavation of the Foundations

- 7.1.1 The foundations for the new build had already been set out prior to arrival [**Plate 1**]. The foundation trenches for the new build were excavated under archaeological supervision to varying lengths, to widths of between 0.60m-0.80m and to depths of between 1.20m-1.60m below ground levels [**Plates 2-4; 6-8; 11-12; 14-17; 19-23 and 25-29**]. These excavations extended through a deposit sequence which comprised a redeposited topsoil horizon (**001**), (which contained much demolition material within its make-up from the recent demolition and site clearance of the cottages which had formerly stood on this site), a buried soil horizon (**002**), a second buried soil horizon (**003**) and an underlying natural horizon (**004**), which was encountered at the base of the trench excavations. This deposit sequence was recorded within four sections, designated as **Representative Sections 1-4 [Plates 5, 13, 18 and 24]**.

- 7.1.2 It was clear from the substantial depth of these foundation trench excavations that the area of this site had been built up to a level of at least one metre in height above that of the surrounding land plots to the north, south and west. **Plates 9 and 10** provide images of the adjoining field to the immediate west of the development site to illustrate this differential in ground levels; the levels in this field being correspondingly much lower. The deposits (**001**) and (**002**) comprised the horizons which represented the extent of these built up ground levels. The deposits (**001**) and (**002**) represented redeposited landscaping deposits comprising imported soils with the deposit (**001**) containing much demolition material within its make-up from the recent demolition and site clearance of the cottages which had formerly stood on this site. The deposit (**003**) was clearly an archaeological deposit and/ or a further buried soil horizon, which may have represented an original ground level, though the lack of datable finds from this site made the dating of the identified deposit sequence within this new build area uncertain and problematical.

- 7.1.3 This was followed by limited ground reduction within the northern portion of the new build area to an average depth of 0.25m below ground levels. This was entirely confined to within the deposit (**001**) [**Plates 30-32**].

7.2 The Excavation of the Services

- 7.2.1 The second phase of this groundworks programme comprised the mechanical excavation under archaeological supervision from the western frontage of Ermine Street to connect westwards to the new build area. The mechanical excavations began at the site boundary on the western frontage of Ermine Street. The trench was excavated to a total length of 35.0m, to a width of 0.45m and to depths of between 0.70m-0.80m below ground levels [**Plates 33-35; 37-38 and 40-42**]. The first portion of this trench extended from this street frontage and westward along the site entrance between 23 and 25, Ermine Street.

- 7.2.2 Within the first portion of the service trench, the mechanical excavations extended through a modern made ground deposit (**005**), which was a very heterogeneous and a very disturbed deposit. Contained within its make-up were occasional large worked, shaped and faced limestone blocks, which probably represented building demolition material. This deposit also contained a high proportion of other dumped demolition material including brick/tile, mortar and angular limestone fragments. This deposit was also found to be both deep and substantial and in places extended almost to the base of this trench excavation. Remnants of several former modern yard surfaces were also apparent within the uppermost levels of the horizon (**005**) composed of light buff mortar and compacted small brick/tile fragments. The made ground deposit (**005**) was above an undated buried soil deposit (**006**), which extended to the base of this excavation. There was also some disturbance within this trench from modern services, which may have accounted for part of the disturbance to the deposit (**005**). This deposit sequence was recorded within **Representative Sections 5-7 [Plates 36, 39 and 43]**.
- 7.2.3 The second portion of this service trench extended beyond the rear of the new buildings on the site which were situated on the western frontage of Ermine Street comprising Nos. 25-27 **[Plates 44-48 and 50]**. Within this second section the deposit sequence of the modern made ground deposit (**005**) and the underlying and undated buried soil deposit (**006**) continued with the deposit (**006**) extending to the base of this excavation. Just to the rear of this building, the brick foundations of a substantial modern manhole were encountered along with further disturbance from modern ceramic service pipes. Within the uppermost levels of the made ground deposit, the remnants of the former modern yard surfaces also continued. This deposit sequence within this second portion of the service trench was recorded within **Representative Section 8 [Plate 49]**.
- 7.2.4 This second section terminated at and the third and final section of this service trench occurred at the approaches to the new build area. Here there was a change to this deposit sequence with the deposit (**001**) replacing the made ground deposit (**005**) such that the deposit (**001**) lay above the deposit (**006**) **[Plates 51-52]**. This deposit sequence was recorded within **Representative Section 9 [Plate 53]**. The deposit (**006**) was also found to be identical to that of the deposit (**002**), which was recorded within the new house build area. At the final approaches to the new build area, this third and final section of the service trench diverged into two further short sections of trench to connect to the excavated house foundations **[Plates 54-57]**. Here these two final trenches extended to depths of 1.20m below ground levels and extended through the deposits, (**001**), (**002**) and (**003**), that were previously identified within the new house build area. There were no finds from any of these deposits. The two divergent service trenches were both 0.45m in width and measured 5.40m and 4.90m respectively.

8. Discussion and Conclusions

- 8.1 The first phase of this groundworks programme comprised the archaeological monitoring of the excavation of the foundation trenches for the new build. This monitoring identified a deposit sequence which comprised a modern made ground deposit, (from the recent demolition and site clearance of cottages which had stood on this site), two undated buried soil deposits and an underlying natural horizon, which was recorded within four representative sections.
- 8.2 It was clear from the observation of surrounding lands to the north, west and south of this site that the ground levels here had been deliberately built up to a height of around one metre and that the two uppermost deposits in the identified deposit sequence here represented two imported landscaping deposits associated with this raising of ground levels. The third deposit in this sequence was undoubtedly an archaeological deposit, though the lack of any datable finds both from this deposit and from this area of the site

made it impossible to date this archaeological deposit and that of the raising of the ground levels. The archaeological deposit was certainly an undated buried soil and may have represented an original ground level.

- 8.3 The second phase of this groundworks programme consisted of the mechanical excavation of a service trench from the western frontage of Ermine Street to connect to the new build area. Particular attention was paid to the area to the immediate west of this Roman road. This identified a further deposit sequence which consisted of a modern made ground deposit which overlay the uppermost of the two buried soil deposits or the lowermost imported landscaping deposit, which had been used to build up the ground levels on this site. This sequence was recorded within a further four representative sections. This sequence changed as the trenching approached the new build area and became identical to that which was previously recorded earlier within the new build area. This sequence was recorded within a final representative section. There were no finds from this second phase of monitoring.

9. Effectiveness of Methodology and Confidence Rating

- 9.1 The methodology chosen clearly demonstrated the nature of the archaeological activity and the nature of the deposit sequences on this site; while providing sufficient time to record the archaeological activity and deposit sequences observed. A more detailed level of archaeological assessment and investigation clearly would not have been necessary. It is considered that the implemented methodology was sufficient to confirm and record the nature of the archaeological activity and the nature of the deposit sequences present within the area of the development site with a high degree of confidence.

10. Acknowledgements

- 10.1 Thanks are gratefully extended to Mr. Paul Heard of Paul Heard Properties Ltd. for commissioning this work. Thanks are also extended to Ms Jenny Young of Heritage Lincolnshire, and to the staff of the Lincolnshire Heritage Environment Record, the Lincolnshire Archives and the Lincoln Central Library for their kind assistance.

11. Bibliography

British Geological Survey, (1972), *Grantham, Solid & Drift, 1:50,000 scale map sheet no. 127.*

Cameron, K., (1998), *A Dictionary of Lincolnshire Place Names.*

Ekwall, E., (1991), *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place Names. Fourth Edition.*

Extract from the First Edition six inch to one mile scale Ordnance Survey (O.S.) map of 1891, map sheet no. Lincolnshire 105SE.

Extract from the Second Edition Ordnance Survey (O.S.) six inch to one mile map of 1905, map sheet no. Lincolnshire 105SE.

Extract from the Provisional Edition Ordnance Survey (O.S.) six inch to one mile map of 1947, map sheet no. Lincolnshire 105SE.

Extract from the 1:10,560 scale Ordnance Survey (O.S.) map of 1956, map sheet no. SK 94 SE.

Mills, A., (1991), *A Dictionary of English Place Names*.

Morris, J., (1986), *Domesday Book: Lincolnshire, Parts 1 and 2*.

Northamptonshire Archaeology, (2004), *An Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation at 5, Paddock Close, Ancaster, Lincolnshire*.

Ordnance Survey, (2008), 1:25,000 scale Explorer Map Sheet No. 247, *Grantham, Bottesford & Colsterworth*.

Pevsner, N., Harris, J., (2002), *The Buildings of England: Lincolnshire*.

Soil Survey of England & Wales, (1983), *Soils of Eastern England, Sheet 4*.

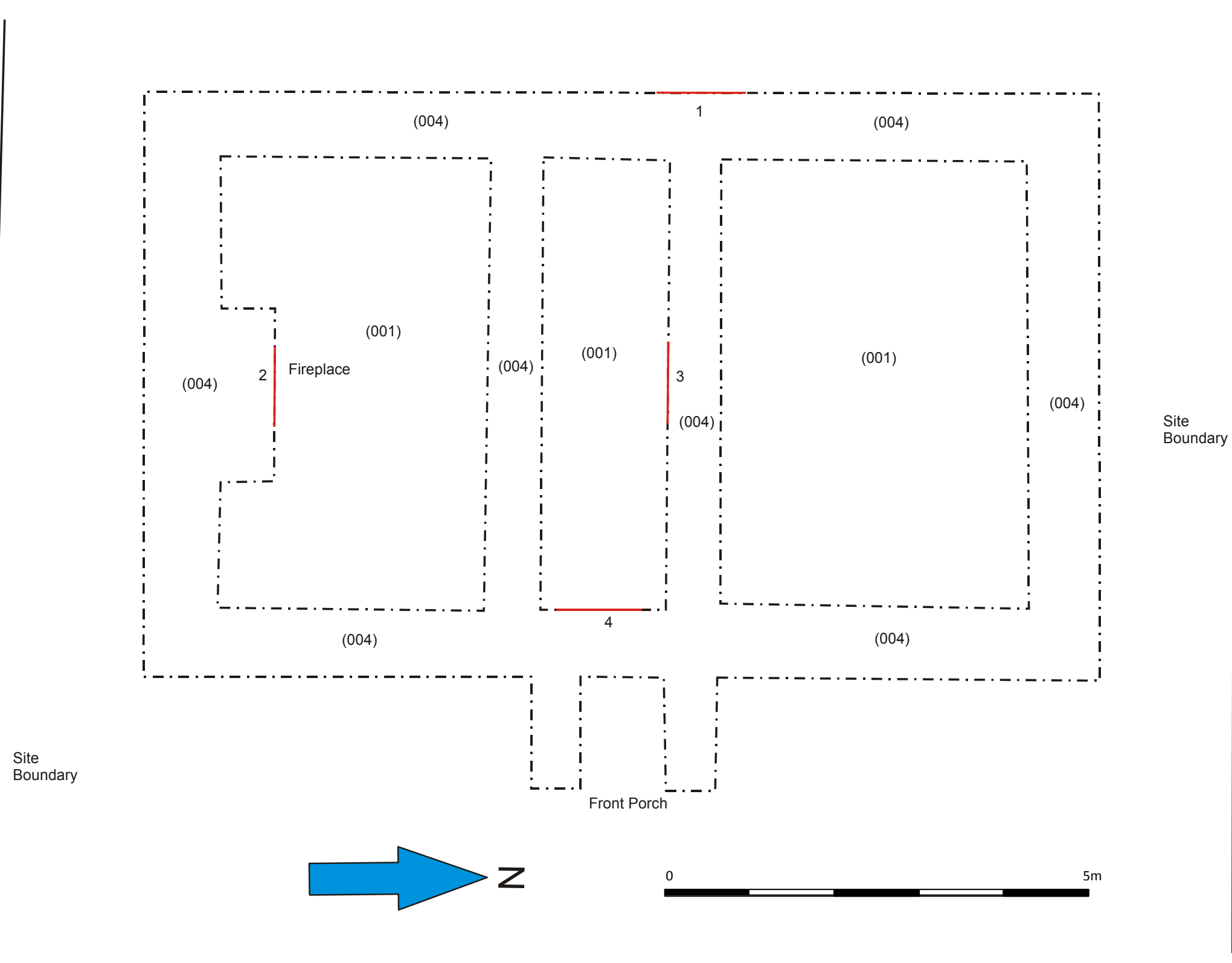
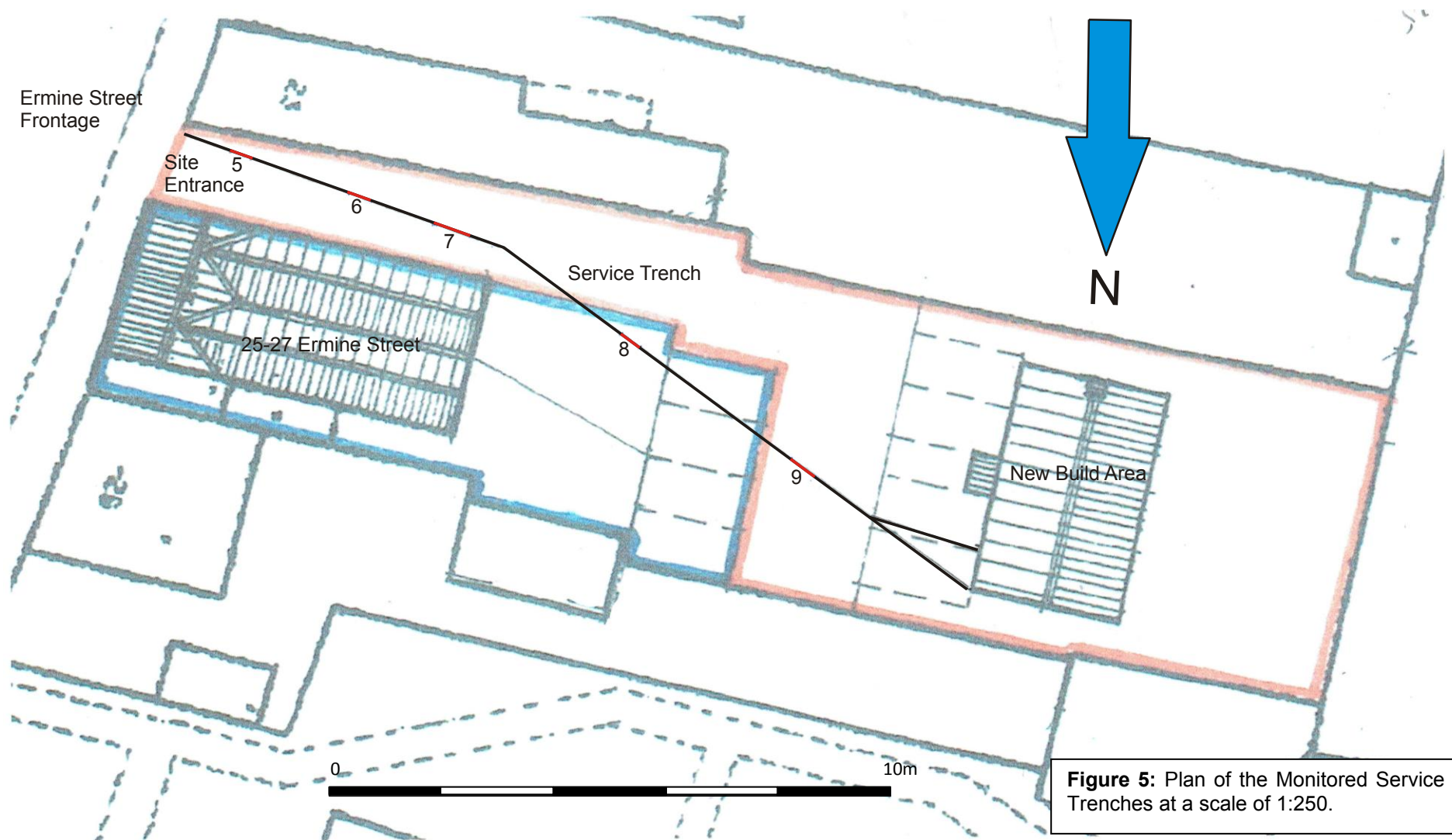
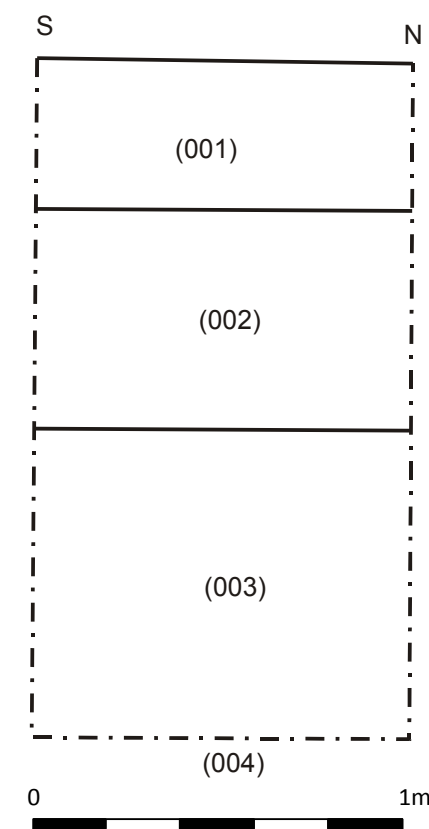
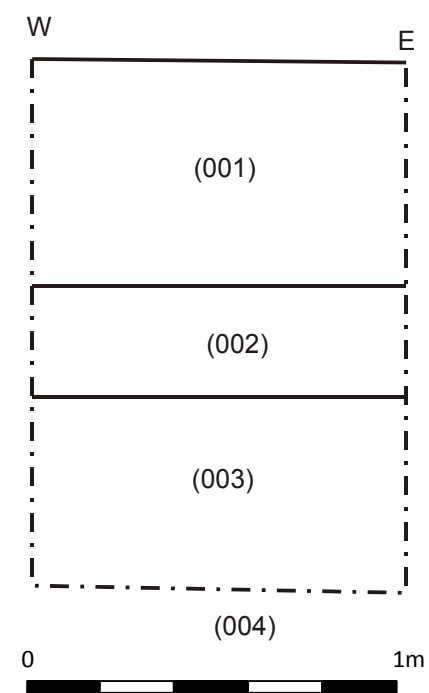


Figure 4: Plan of the Monitored New Build Groundworks at a scale of 1:50

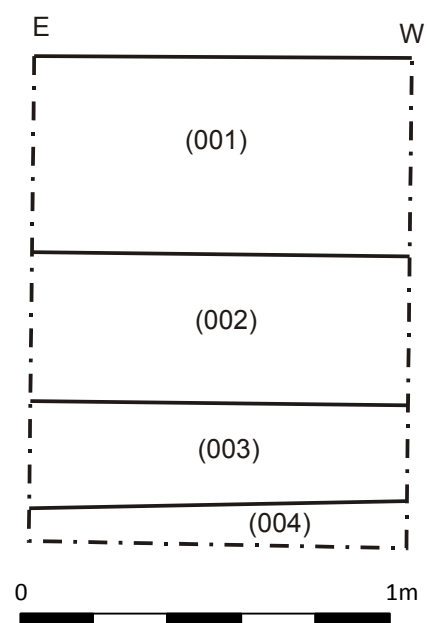




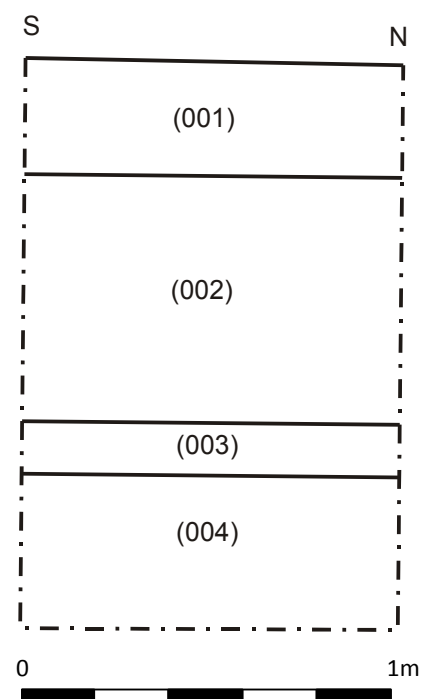
Representative Section 1, East Facing Section, scale 1:20



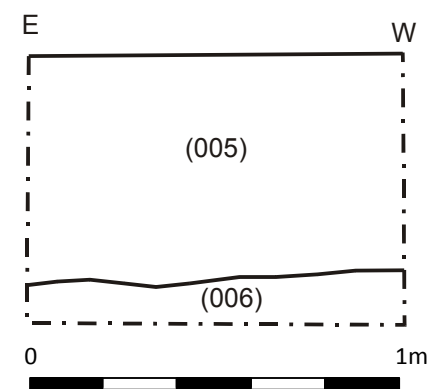
Representative Section 2, South Facing Section, scale 1:20



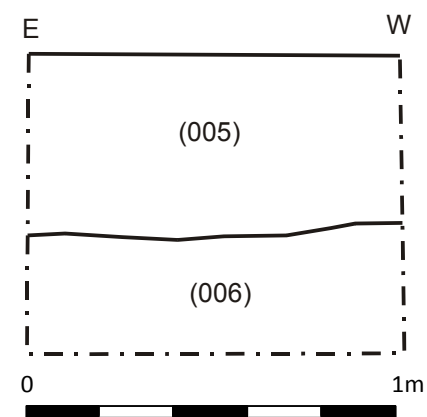
Representative Section 3, North Facing Section, scale 1:20



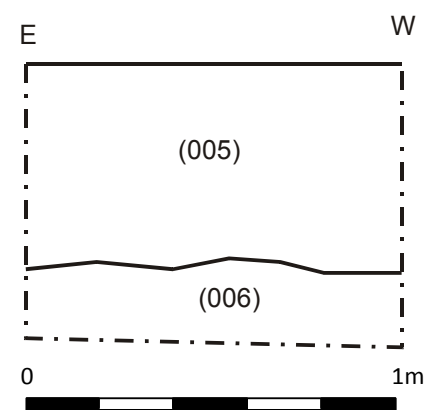
Representative Section 4, East Facing Section, scale 1:20



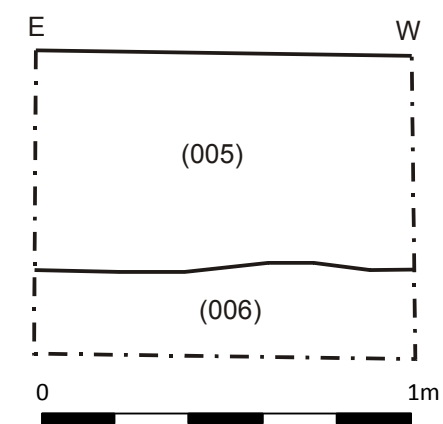
Representative Section 5, North Facing Section, scale 1:20



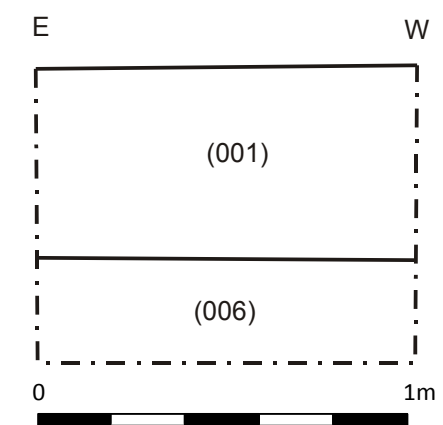
Representative Section 6, North Facing Section, scale 1:20



Representative Section 7, North Facing Section, scale 1:20



Representative Section 8, North Facing Section, scale 1:20



Representative Section 9, North Facing Section, scale 1:20

Figure 6: Representative Sections 1-9 at a scale of 1:20

Appendix 1: Plates

The Excavation of the Foundations



Plate 1: Set out foundations, from the east



Plate 2: Excavation of the foundations, from the east



Plate 3: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 4: Excavation of the foundations, from the east



Plate 5: Representative Section 1, from the east



Plate 6: Excavation of the foundations, from the east



Plate 7: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 10: View of the lower ground levels to the west of the development site, from the east



Plate 8: Excavation of the foundations, from the north



Plate 11: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 9: View of the lower ground levels to the west of the development site, from the east



Plate 12: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 13: Representative Section 2,
from the south



Plate 14: Excavation of the foundations,
from the west



Plate 15: Excavation of the foundations,
from the west



Plate 16: Excavation of the foundations,
from the west



Plate 17: Excavation of the foundations,
from the west



Plate 18: Representative Section 3,
from the north



Plate 19: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 22: Excavation of the foundations, from the east



Plate 20: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 23: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 21: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 24: Representative Section 4, from the east



Plate 25: Excavation of the foundations, from the east



Plate 28: Excavation of the foundations, from the east



Plate 26: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 29: Excavation of the foundations, from the west



Plate 27: Excavation of the foundations, from the east



Plate 30: Limited ground reduction within the new build interior, from the west



Plate 31: Limited ground reduction within the new build interior, from the west



Plate 34: Excavation of the service trench, from the east



Plate 32: Limited ground reduction within the new build interior, from the west



Plate 35: Excavation of the service trench, from the east

The Excavation of the Services



Plate 33: Excavation of the service trench, from the east



Plate 36: Representative Section 5, from the north



Plate 37: Excavation of the service trench, from the east



Plate 40: Excavation of the service trench, from the east



Plate 38: Excavation of the service trench, from the east



Plate 41: Excavation of the service trench, from the west



Plate 39: Representative Section 6,
from the north



Plate 42: Excavation of the service trench, from the west



Plate 43: Representative Section 7, from the north



Plate 46: Excavation of the service trench, from the west



Plate 44: Excavation of the service trench, from the west



Plate 47: Excavation of the service trench, from the west



Plate 45: Excavation of the service trench, from the west



Plate 48: Excavation of the service trench, from the west



Plate 49: Representative Section 8,
from the north



Plate 52: Excavation of the service
trench, from the west



Plate 50: Excavation of the service
trench, from the west



Plate 53: Representative Section 9,
from the north



Plate 51: Excavation of the service
trench, from the west



Plate 54: Excavation of the service
trench, from the west



Plate 55: Excavation of the service trench, from the west



Plate 56: Excavation of the service trench, from the west



Plate 57: Excavation of the service trench, from the west

Appendix 2: List of Contexts

The Foundation Trench Excavations

- 001** Redeposited topsoil horizon and modern made ground deposit. Friable, dark grey brown sandy silt with small--large brick/tile fragments 5% and small fragments of friable light buff mortar 2%. Above (**002**). Recorded within **Representative Sections 1-4 and 9**. Depth - 0.48m.
- 002** Undated buried soil horizon. Friable, dark orange brown sandy silt with small angular limestone fragments 2% and occasional small fragments of charcoal and flecking and small fragments of brick/tile. Below (**001**) and above (**003**). Same as (**006**). Recorded within **Representative Sections 1-4**. Depth - 0.65m.
- 003** Undated buried soil horizon. Friable, mid orange brown sandy silt with frequent small angular limestone fragments and small fragments of charcoal and flecking. Below (**002**) and above (**004**). Recorded within **Representative Sections 1-4**. Depth - 0.79m.
- 004** Natural horizon. Friable, light orange brown sandy silt with small-medium angular limestone fragments 10%. Below (**003**). Recorded within **Representative Sections 1-4**. Depth - >0.39m.

The Service Excavations

- 005** Modern made ground deposit. Very heterogeneous and disturbed. Friable, mid orange brown/.mid grey brown sandy silt matrix with small angular limestone fragments 5%, small-medium light buff mortar fragments 5%, small brick/tile fragments 2% and occasional large and dumped worked, shaped and faced limestone blocks and whole house bricks. Above (**006**). Recorded within **Representative Sections 5-8**. Depth -
- 006** Undated buried soil deposit. Soft, dark orange brown sandy silt with occasional small angular limestone fragments, small brick/tile fragments and flecking and small charcoal fragments and flecking. Below (**005**). Same as (**002**). Recorded within **Representative Sections 5-8**. Depth -

Appendix 3: The Archive

The archive consists of:

Six context records

One site plan of the monitored foundation trench excavation at a scale of 1:50 on one sheet of drawing film

Nine representative sections of the identified deposit sequence at a scale of 1:20 on one sheet of drawing film

One context register

One photographic register

All records are currently held at:

38 Finningley Road
Lincoln
LN6 0UP

And will be deposited in due course at:

The Collection
Danes Terrace
Lincoln
LN2 1LP

Under the accession number **LCNCC: 2016.13** and the site code **ESAN16**

Appendix 4: Photographic Register

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD SHEET

Camera No.	Date Loaded / /	Time Loaded :	Comments	B&W Col. Digi. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Frame	Comments	View	Scale	Init & Date
	Identification Shot	N/A	N/A	Site
	THE EXCAVATION OF THE FOUNDATIONS			
1	Set out Foundations	E		At 30/3/16 ESAN16
2	Excavation of the Foundations	E		At 30/3/16 ESAN16
3	Excavation of the Foundations	N		At 30/3/16 ESAN16
4	Excavation of the Foundations	E		At 30/3/16 ESAN16
5	Representative Section 1	E		At 30/3/16 ESAN16
6	Excavation of the Foundations	E		At 30/3/16 ESAN16
7	Excavation of the Foundations	N		At 30/3/16 ESAN16
8	Excavation of the Foundations	N		At 30/3/16 ESAN16
9	View of the lower ground levels to the west of the development site	E		At 30/3/16 ESAN16
10	View of the lower ground levels to the west of the development site	E		At 30/3/16 ESAN16
11	Excavation of the Foundations	W		At 30/3/16 ESAN16
12	Excavation of the Foundations	W		At 30/3/16 ESAN16
13	Representative	S		At 30/3/16 ESAN16

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD SHEET

Camera No.	Date Loaded / /	Time Loaded :	Comments		B&W Col. Digi. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Frame	Comments	View	Scale	Init & Date	Site
	Identification Shot	N/A	N/A		
	Section 2				
14	Excavation of the Foundations	W		At 30/3/16	ESAN16
15	Excavation of the Foundations	W		At 30/3/16	ESAN16
16	Excavation of the Foundations	W		At 30/3/16	ESAN16
17	Excavation of the Foundations	W		At 30/3/16	ESAN16
18	Representative	N		At 30/3/16	ESAN16
	Section 3				
19	Excavation of the Foundations	W		At 30/3/16	ESAN16
20	Excavation of the Foundations	W		At 30/3/16	ESAN16
21	Excavation of the Foundations	W		At 30/3/16	ESAN16
22	Excavation of the Foundations	E		At 30/3/16	ESAN16
23	Excavation of the Foundations	W		At 30/3/16	ESAN16
24	Representative	E		At 30/3/16	ESAN16
	Section 4				
25	Excavation of the Foundations	E		At 30/3/16	ESAN16
26	Excavation of the Foundations	W		At 30/3/16	ESAN16
27	Excavation of the Foundations	E		At 30/3/16	ESAN16
28	Excavation of the Foundations	E		At 30/3/16	ESAN16
29	Excavation of the Foundations	W		At 30/3/16	ESAN16
30	Limited ground			At 1/4/16	ESAN16

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD SHEET

Camera No.	Date Loaded / /	Time Loaded :	Comments		B&W Col. Digi. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Frame	Comments	View	Scale	Init & Date	Site
	Identification Shot	N/A	N/A		
	reduction within the new build interior				
31	Limited ground reduction within the new build interior	W		1/4/16	ESAM16
32	Limited ground reduction within the new build interior	W		1/4/16	ESAM16
THE EXCAVATION OF THE SERVICES					
33	Excavation of the service trench	E		1/4/16	ESAM16
34	Excavation of the service trench	E		1/4/16	ESAM16
35	Excavation of the service trench	E		1/4/16	ESAM16
36	Representative Section 5	N		1/4/16	ESAM16
37	Excavation of the service trench	E		1/4/16	ESAM16
38	Excavation of the service trench	E		1/4/16	ESAM16
39	Representative Section 6	N		1/4/16	ESAM16
40	Excavation of the service trench	E		1/4/16	ESAM16

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD SHEET

Camera No.	Date Loaded / /	Time Loaded :	Comments		B&W Col. Digi. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Frame	Comments	View	Scale	Init & Date	Site
	Identification Shot	N/A	N/A		
41	Excavation of the service trench	w		11/1/16	ESAN 16
42	Excavation of the service trench	w		11/1/16	ESAN 16
43	Representative Section 7	N		11/1/16	ESAN 16
44	Excavation of the service trench	w		11/1/16	ESAN 16
45	Excavation of the service trench	w		11/1/16	ESAN 16
46	Excavation of the service trench	w		11/1/16	ESAN 16
47	Excavation of the service trench	w		11/1/16	ESAN 16
48	Excavation of the service trench	w		11/1/16	ESAN 16
49	Representative Section 8	N		11/1/16	ESAN 16
50	Excavation of the service trench	w		11/1/16	ESAN 16
51	Excavation of the service trench	w		11/1/16	ESAN 16
52	Excavation of the service trench	w		11/1/16	ESAN 16

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD SHEET

[illegible]

Appendix 5: OASIS Summary Sheet

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

Land to the Rear of 25-27, Ermine Street, Ancaster, Lincolnshire - Neville Hall MIFA

OASIS ID - nevilleh1-249240

Versions

View	Version	Completed by	Email	Date
View 1	1	Neville Hall	nhallarchaeologicalservices@gmail.com	21 April 2016

Completed sections in current version

Details	Location	Creators	Archive	Publications
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	1/1

Validated sections in current version

Details	Location	Creators	Archive	Publications
No	No	No	No	0/1

File submission and form progress

Grey literature report submitted?	Yes	Grey literature report filename/s	Sent by other means
Boundary file submitted?	No	Boundary filename	
HER signed off?		NMR signed off?	

[Upload images](#)

[Upload boundary file](#)

[Request record re-opened](#)

[Printable version](#)

Email Heritage Trust Lincolnshire about this OASIS record

OASIS:

Please e-mail Historic England for OASIS help and advice

© ADS 1996-2015 Created by Jo Gilham and Jen Mitcham, email Last modified Wednesday 16 December 2015

Cite only: <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/formctl.cfm?oid=nevilleh1-249240> for this page

Appendix 6: Specification for Archaeological Monitoring

**Specification for Archaeological Monitoring
on Land to the Rear of 25-27, Ermine Street,
Ancaster, Lincolnshire.**

**Prepared for Mr. Paul Heard of Paul Heard Properties
Ltd.**

National Grid Reference: SK 9830 4373
Site Code: ESAN16
Accession No: LCNCC: 2016.13
Planning Reference: S15/2746/FUL

**Prepared by Neville Hall, Freelance Field Archaeologist &
Consultant**

February 2016

S Non-technical summary

- S1 *A scheme of works comprising archaeological monitoring is required during the groundworks pertaining to the construction of a new detached two storey residential dwelling on land to the rear of 25-27, Ermine Street, Ancaster, Lincolnshire.*
- S2 *It is clear that the development lies to the immediate north of the scheduled Roman settlement of Ancaster and certainly also within the contemporary extra-mural settlement. The development site also lies within the historic core of the medieval and post-medieval settlements of Ancaster. The specific aims of this archaeological watching brief will therefore be to record any archaeological features, deposits, structures or finds which may be associated with this multi-period settlement activity.*
- S3 *The archaeological monitoring will be undertaken during the groundworks stage of development, which will comprise the mechanical excavation of the foundations and services. Any archaeological features, structures and/or deposits will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.*
- S4 *On the completion of the monitoring, a report will be produced detailing the results of the archaeological investigation. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

1. Site location and description [Figures 1-2]

- 1.1 The development site is situated on land at the rear of Nos. 25-27, Ermine Street, which is in turn located on the western frontage of Ermine Street, at National Grid Reference SK 9830 9373, and at a height of approximately 5mAOD. The village of Ancaster is located approximately 9km to the west of Sleaford and 11km to the north-east of Grantham. The village of Ancaster is located within the modern civil parish of the same name, within the administrative district of South Kesteven, county of Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The development site is located within an undulating upland area of the Jurassic limestone escarpment known as the Lincoln Edge that traverses Lincolnshire from south-north, at a height of approximately 45mAOD. The area of the development site is situated on deep permeable sandy and coarse loamy soils of the Blackwood Series, which have developed on Oolitic limestones of the Middle Jurassic

2. Planning background

- 2.1 This document comprises a Specification or a written scheme of works for archaeological monitoring which is required during the construction of a new detached two storey residential dwelling on land to the rear of 25-27, Ermine Street, Ancaster, Lincolnshire, (Planning Reference: S15/2746/FUL) [Figure 3]. This document has been prepared in accordance with a Planning Brief issued by Ms Jenny Young, Senior Historic Environment Officer of Heritage Lincolnshire on behalf of South Kesteven District Council, (the Local Planning Authority), and will be submitted to same for approval prior to the commencement of the on-site archaeological monitoring.

3. Historical and Archaeological Background

- 3.1 Background research sources were consulted at the Lincoln Local Studies Library, the Lincolnshire Archives, the Lincoln Local Studies Library and the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Record (HER). A search of the Lincolnshire HER was conducted within the vicinity of the development site.

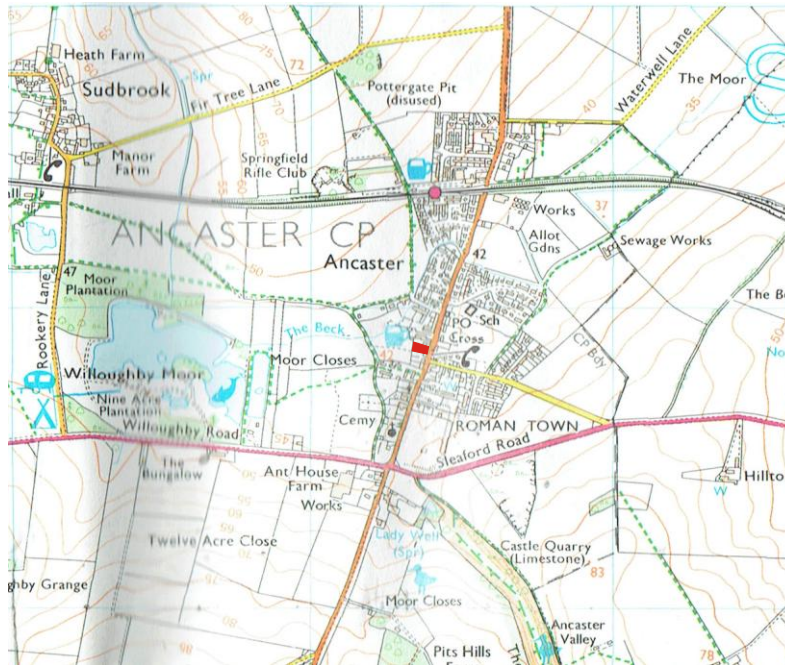


Figure 1: Site location at a scale of 1:25,000. The site is shown in red. (O.S. copyright licence number 100048723)

- 3.2 The Roman settlement at Ancaster is one of a series of such settlements located on Ermine Street (HER 30324; NMR SK 94 SE 10). This began as a settlement in the Iron Age on which the site of a Roman military fort and later a civilian settlement were subsequently founded. Finds from the ditch of the fort suggested a foundation from the mid-1st century AD onwards. This fort was succeeded by a civilian settlement around which was later constructed a defensive town wall from the late 2nd century AD onwards. The town wall was accompanied by an earthen rampart, outer and inner ditches and several associated bastions have also been identified. Within the area of some 9 acres enclosed by the town wall, buildings and streets have been found. Outside of this town wall, other buildings have also been found, indicating the presence of an extra-mural settlement. This extra-mural settlement is situated to the south-east and west of the walled town. Several contemporary cemeteries flanking Ermine Street are also known to lie to the north and south of the Roman settlement; further cemetery sites are also known to the west and east of the town defences. This settlement has been scheduled as an ancient monument (SM No. 1005004). Part of this scheduled area is situated within the area of this assessment site, through the area of the proposal site is situated within an unscheduled part of the assessment site.
- 3.3 Several evaluation trenches were excavated in 1961 slightly to the west of the scheduled area of the Roman settlement (HER 30324, ELI993). Finds from this excavation included including 1st-3rd century AD pottery, several sherds of amphora and a brooch.
- 3.4 During the excavation of the foundations for a new bungalow in 1966 on the site of the former Angel Inn and just to the north of the Roman town on the western side of Ermine Street, sherds of Roman pottery and nine inhumation burials were found (HER 30329, 35749). The spread of these burials suggested a sizeable cemetery to the north of the Roman settlement at this location. In 2012, two shallow north-south aligned graves were found just to the north of the modern junction of Ermine Street and Paddock Close during the groundworks for a new electric cable trench. The graves contained the remains of two

infant burials. No other material was recovered alongside the remains in either grave (HER 30329, Site code: ANER 12).

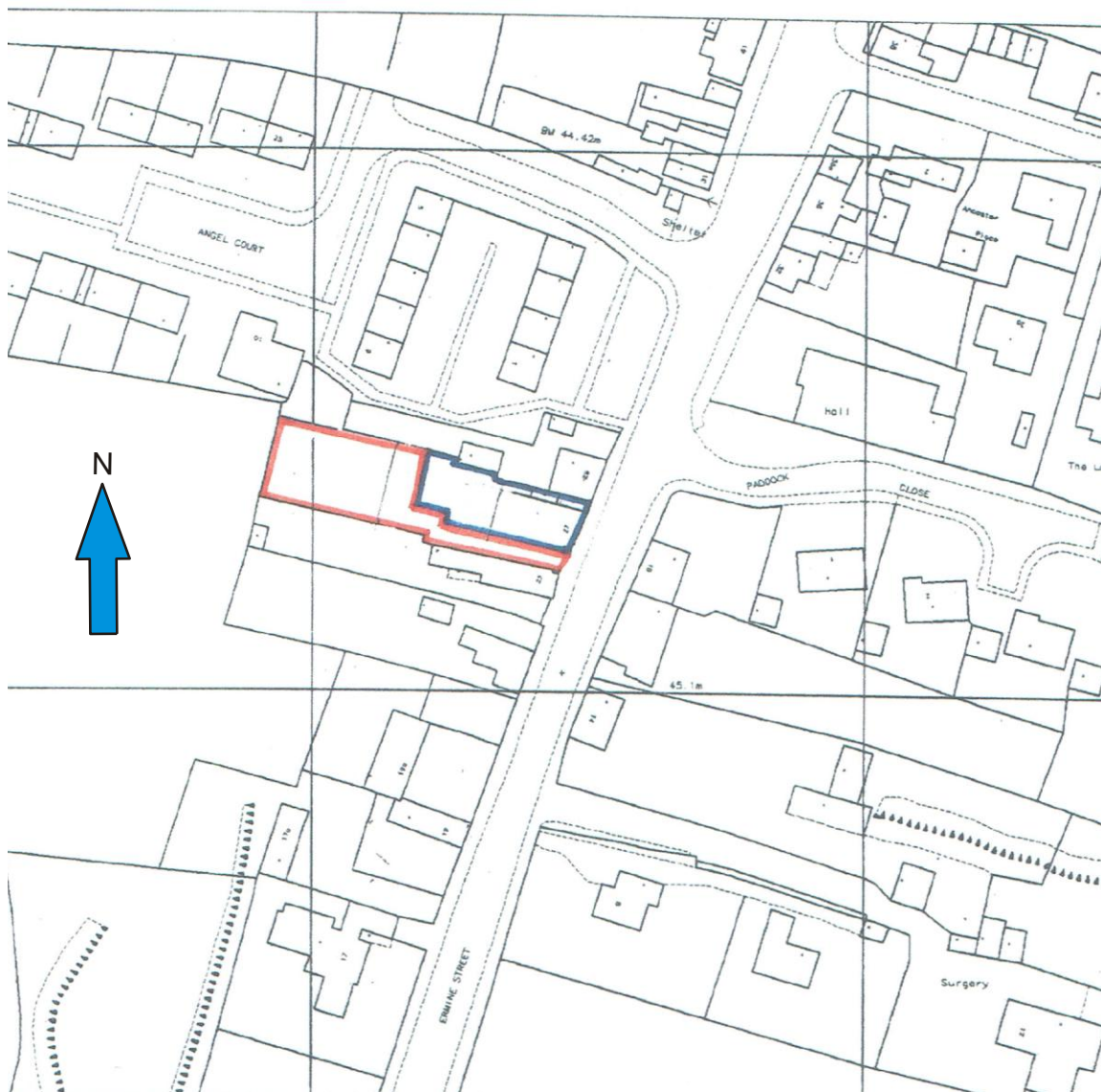


Figure 2: Site location at a scale of 1:1,250

- 3.5 Ermine Street was the main Roman road from the south to the centre of the Roman settlement at Lincoln (HER 60638). This Roman road is located to the immediate east of the assessment site and follows the line of the modern Ermine Street through the village of Ancaster. The Roman Ermine Street was one of the most important thoroughfares in Britain. It was designed to give direct communication to the main centres of military occupation in Lincoln and York. It was probably designed and laid out at a very early stage in the Roman occupation of Britain. It has regularly spaced contemporary settlements such as Ancaster along its length, which by and large owed their origin to military posts. To the south of the Ancaster crossroads, during drain clearance in 2000, it is thought that part of Ermine Street was discovered. Layers of stone cobbles were observed below the ground surface (HER 60638).

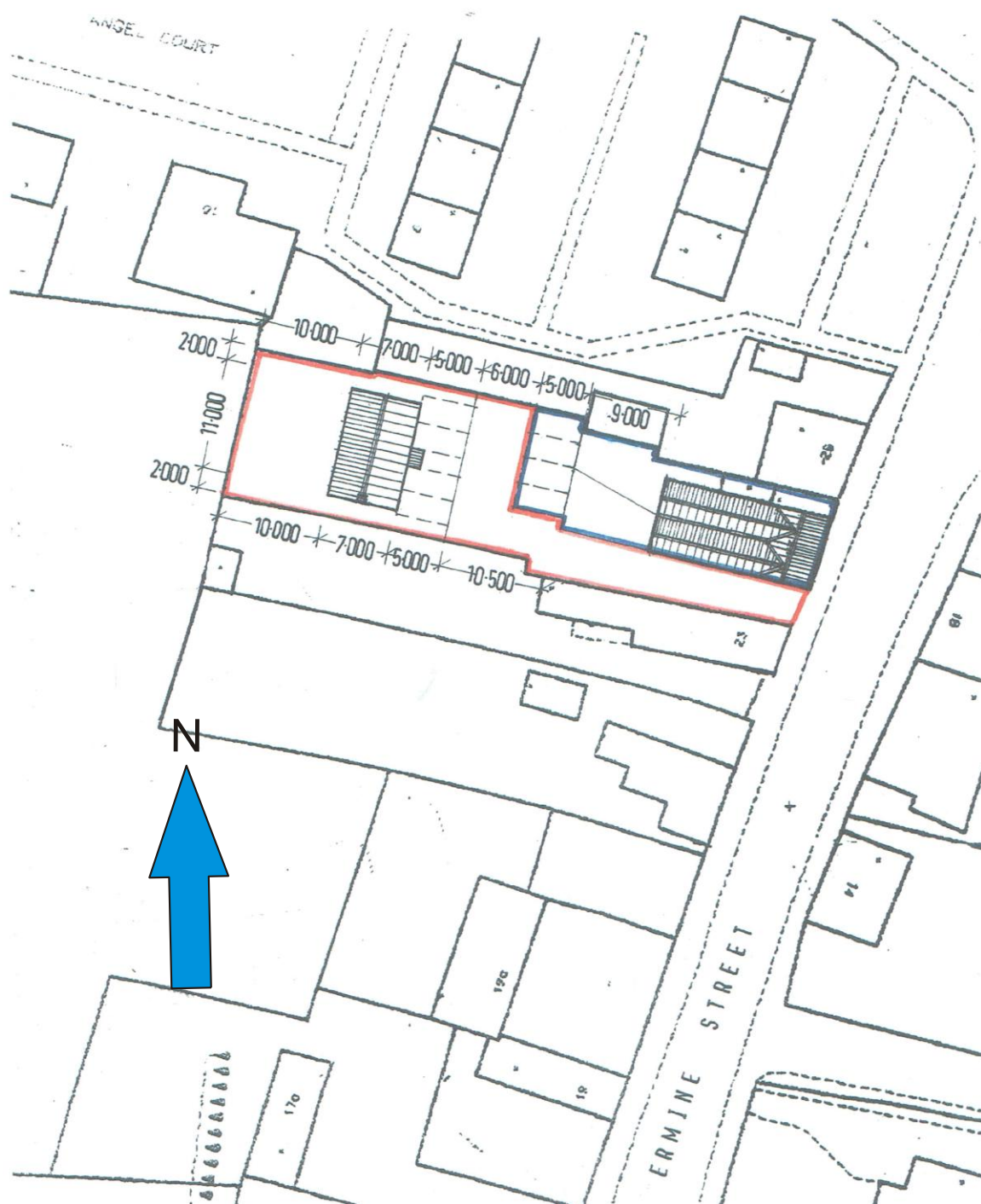


Figure 3: Block plan showing the proposed layout of the development site at an original scale of 1:500, (extract from Architects plan)

- 3.6 The site of a former Primitive Methodist Chapel occurred near Ermine Street at Ancaster (HER 39361). The building is now demolished, though its exact location is uncertain.
- 3.7 There have been other previous archaeological investigations within the vicinity of this development site. A geophysical survey followed by the excavation of four trial trenches took place at 5, Paddock Close in 2004 (HER ELI6708-9). The geophysical survey

located anomalies related to buried building remains. Two of the trial trenches were positioned within the build footprint of a new doctors surgery with the remaining two in the area of a proposed new car park. This evaluation identified wall foundations and a floor surface associated with a 3rd century AD Roman building and overlying demolition deposits. Sections of the town wall and of the inner defensive ditch were also located. Finds included 2nd-4th century AD pottery, painted wall plaster, roof tile and tesserae.

- 3.8 An archaeological watching brief at 10, Ermine Street in 2000 on the groundworks for a new conservatory identified a sequence of modern deposits which were associated with the construction of the present bungalow on the site in 1956. No archaeological remains were encountered (HER ELI1179, Site code: AES99).
- 3.9 An archaeological watching brief on the groundworks for new extensions at 10, Ermine Street in 2013 did not identify any Roman deposits due to the shallow nature of the excavated foundations (HJER ELI11949, Site code: ANES13). A possible 'dark earth' layer was identified which was thought to overlie the remains of the Roman settlement was found. Finds recovered from this deposit comprised a Roman coin and pottery, Roman or later roof tile, medieval and post-medieval pottery, glass and clay pipe fragments and undated animal bone.
- 3.10 A landscape survey was conducted in 2001 as part of the Time Team investigations of the Roman settlement and cemetery at Ancaster (HER ELI12057). The remains of a Roman road, now surviving as an earthwork causeway was the main feature identified.
- 3.11 An archaeological watching was maintained in 2012 during the excavation of a new electricity cable trench along part of the route of Ermine Street and through the village of Ancaster (HER ELI12171). Roman and post-Roman deposits were identified along with the possible remains of Roman structures and two infant burials. A large assemblage of Roman material was also found including pottery along with a smaller assemblage of medieval finds.
- 3.12 In 1959-60 emergency archaeological excavations were carried out, which identified the town wall and portions of Ermine Street near to the north gate of the Roman town (HER 30324, ELI994).
- 3.13 An archaeological excavation took place prior to building works in 1960 and in 1961 (HER 30324, ELI994). These excavations identified five superimposed levels of gravel bedded surfaces of the western edge of Ermine Street along with the foundations of the Roman town wall and the western edge of the north gateway of the Roman town [East Midlands Archaeological Bulletin 1961].
- 3.14 An archaeological watching brief at 2, Wilsford Lane in 2002 took place during the groundworks for a new extension. This only identified post-medieval dumping and levelling deposits. One sherd of post-medieval pottery was also found (HER ELI3210, Site code: AWL201).
- 3.15 An archaeological watching brief at 4, Wilsford Lane in 2002 took place during the groundworks for a new extension. This identified medieval soils overlain by undated make-up deposits which were probably associated with a medieval or later building. Overlying this were 18th century and later make-up deposits. Finds comprised three sherds of Roman pottery and tile along with six sherds of 12th-13th century medieval pottery (HER 35683-4, ELI3211, Site code: AWL401). A buried soil was recorded in 2012 at the junction of Ermine Street and Wilsfords Lane during the monitoring of groundworks for the installation of a new cable trench in Ancaster. A small assemblage of 13th century pottery was recovered (HER 35683).

- 3.16 An archaeological watching brief took place on a water mains replacement scheme along the eastern frontage of Ermine Street in 1997 and directly opposite the assessment site. A trench was excavated against the eastern kerb of Ermine Street of some 260m in length and adjacent to the scheduled area of the Roman settlement. No Roman road deposits were recorded anywhere along the length of this trench, so it was suggested that the Roman Ermine Street may have followed a slightly different alignment to that postulated. At its northern end of the trench cut through the northern Roman town defences. The trench cut through both the outer and inner defensive ditches, the town wall and an internal earthen rampart. The inner ditch yielded sherds of 3rd-4th century AD pottery. To the south of this, substantial post-Roman dark earth deposits were encountered below the modern road make-up. The dark earth deposits had accumulated between the disuse and demolition of the Roman walled town and the creation of the modern Ermine Street. This deposit yielded three sherds of residual Roman pottery. These deposits were found in turn to overlie Roman demolition horizons and a pit, which yielded a fragment of decorated tessellated floor. This in turn provided an indication of high status buildings in this area. Towards the southern end of these trench excavations, two phases of the rear of an internal Roman building of 3rd century AD date were identified, which appeared to have been destroyed by fire (HER ELI7001, Site code: ESA96).
- 3.17 During archaeological excavations on the north-western defences of the Roman town in 1981, a post-medieval structure was revealed (HER 30336). This comprised a large circular shaped foundation of limestone walling with clay bonding. The bonding yielded sherds of early 17th century pottery. The structure was interpreted as a dovecote dating to around 1600. These excavations in the north-western area of the Roman town also identified a lime kiln of post-medieval date (HER 30337). This was a circular shaped structure which was built within a large pit with 17th century rubble backfill and limestone rubble at the base. A sherd of 17th century pottery found between the pit and the wall of the kiln provided an effective date.
- 3.18 Situated to the immediate east of the dovecote found during the 1981 excavation, was part of a possible malting kiln with two chambers and a flue (HER 30338). This was interpreted as being of 17th century in date and part of the same complex at the dovecote.
- 3.19 Close to a 17th century dovecote, (which was found during an archaeological excavation in 1981 in the north-western area of the Roman town), was a badly damaged building of medieval date (HER 30339). This building was located immediately outside the line of the Roman town wall and close to a north-western corner bastion. Pottery of 13th century date was recovered from it. The buildings consisted of two mortar floors overlain by rubble collapse. To the north of the building, and below the 17th century dovecote was an occupation deposit of 13th-14th century date.
- 3.20 A buried soil layer which yielded sherds of medieval pottery and roof tile was found in 2012 at the north-western corner of Castle Close during the monitoring of the excavation of a new electricity cable trench in Ancaster (HER 39405, Site code: ANER 12).
- 3.21 A limited map regression exercise was also carried out of the area of the proposed development site with copies of Ordnance Survey (O.S.) maps obtained from the Lincoln Local Studies Library and from the Lincolnshire Archives. The First Edition six inch to one mile scale Ordnance Survey (O.S.) map of 1891, the Second Edition six inch to one mile scale O.S. map of 1905, the Provisional Edition six inch to one mile scale of 1947 and the 1:10,560 scale O.S. map of 1956 all feature the development site as lying at the rear of a land plot which includes buildings fronting onto the western frontage of Ermine Street with a further outbuilding to the rear; the site is thus already densely occupied by contemporary building activity by 1891.

4. Aims and objectives of the project

4.1 The aims of the project are the **continual archaeological monitoring** of all site groundworks, which will comprise the mechanical excavation of the foundations and services.

4.2 The objectives of the project are:

To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the area of the development site.

To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.

To allow the preservation by record of archaeological deposits.

4.3 It is clear that the development lies to the immediate north of the scheduled Roman settlement of Ancaster and certainly also within the contemporary extra-mural settlement. The development site also lies within the historic core of the medieval and post-medieval settlements of Ancaster. The specific aims of this archaeological watching brief will therefore be to record any archaeological features, deposits, structures or finds which may be associated with this multi-period settlement activity.

5. Methodology

5.1 The archaeological monitoring will be undertaken during the groundworks phase of development, and will include the **continual monitoring** of any topsoil stripping, ground reduction, and of any other ground disturbance, using where possible a toothless ditching bucket.

5.2 All work will be carried out according to the Lincolnshire Archaeological handbook, (LCC, 2012), to the Institute of Field Archaeologists (CIfA) standards and guidance (CIfA, 2008) and with guidance detailed in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment, The MoRPHE Managers Guide*, (English Heritage, 2009).

5.3 All work will be undertaken following all statutory Health and Safety requirements and legislation in operation at the time of the monitoring.

5.4 A Risk Assessment will be prepared for the site.

5.5 Stripped areas and trench sections will be continually observed to identify any archaeological features and/or deposits which may be exposed.

5.6 Any archaeological features exposed during the groundworks will be excavated as far as reasonably possible to meet the objective of the Planning Brief.

5.7 Section drawings at a scale of 1:10 will be made of any archaeological features identified in the course of the groundworks, including representative sections of trenches at appropriate intervals. These will be related to a site plan drawing at a scale of 1:50, which may also record archaeological features and/or deposits identified. Any significant archaeological features in plan will also be recorded at a scale of 1:20.

5.8 Written descriptions detailing the nature of archaeological features and/or deposits encountered will be compiled on pro-forma context record sheets. A single context recording system will be used.

5.9 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for further analysis. All relevant finds will be ordered into an archive. Most modern material will not be retained, although notes will

be made of the appropriate context. An appropriate sample of materials such as ceramic building materials will be made.

- 5.10 Any and all artefacts found during the monitoring and thought to come under the provisions of the *Treasure Act* (1996) and Code of Practice, will be removed from the site to a secure location, and will be promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office within fourteen days. All such finds will also be reported to the local Portable Antiquities Officer
- 5.11 Throughout the monitoring a digital photographic record will be compiled, and will comprise an overview of the site prior to work starting, and during as well as after completion of the work, and will include any excavated features, sections and other relevant details that aid interpretation.
- 5.12 Should human remains be encountered, they will be left *in situ*, and only excavated if absolutely necessary. Proper respect will be accorded to these remains, which will be cleaned to allow positive identification. Should removal be required, the appropriate Ministry of Justice Licence will be obtained prior to the removal of the remains. In addition, any remains will be reported to the local Environmental Health Department, coroner and the police will be informed, where appropriate.
- 5.13 Should environmental sampling be required, a suitable archaeological scientist (probably James Rackham) will be requested to make a site visit in order to advise on an appropriate sampling and recording strategy.
- 5.14 The fieldwork will be undertaken by Neville Hall. Additional personnel may be appointed if required.

6. Post-fieldwork methodology

- 6.1 On the completion of the fieldwork, all of the written, drawn and photographic records produced by the archaeological monitoring will be checked, ordered, labelled (where appropriate) and catalogued to compile a distinctive site archive.
- 6.2 All finds recovered during the fieldwork will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which there were recovered. They will also be ordered into (and form part of) the site archive.
- 6.3 An assessment of significant finds will be made in light of general site information.
- 6.4 Any finds requiring specialist treatment and/or conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at The Collection, Lincoln, and in consultation with the relevant curator.
- 6.5 The site archive will be examined to enable the determination of various phases of activity on the site (if appropriate).
- 6.6 Relevant finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.
- 6.7 All post-excavation work will be carried out according to the Lincolnshire Archaeological handbook, (LCC, 2015), to the Institute of Field Archaeologists (CIfA) standards and guidance (CIfA, 2008) and with guidance detailed in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment, The MoRPHE Managers Guide*, (English Heritage, 2009),

6. Monitoring arrangements

- 6.1 Provision will be made for Ms Jenny Young (Senior Historic Environment Officer of Heritage Lincolnshire (on behalf of South Kesteven District Council, the Local Planning Authority)) to monitor the works during the fieldwork stage and any other aspect of the archaeological project as required including the post fieldwork analysis and report preparation stages of the project.
- 6.2 Ms Jenny Young, Senior Historic Environment Officer of Heritage Lincolnshire will be notified as soon as possible of the start date of works on the site. This notification period will be at least of fourteen days prior to this start.
- 6.3 All aspects of the archaeological programme will be undertaken in accordance with this project specification.
- 6.4 Any variation to the project programme in terms of works or recording on or off site will be fully discussed and agreed with the Senior Historic Environment Officer of Heritage Lincolnshire.
- 6.5 Arrangements will be made for the Senior Historic Environment Officer of Heritage Lincolnshire (Ms Jenny Young) for access to the site to undertake monitoring visits, and such visits will be accounted for in the final report preparation.
- 6.6 Ms Jenny Young shall be regularly updated on the project's progress and shall be kept fully informed of any unexpected or unforeseen discoveries made during the course of the archaeological monitoring and recording programme.

7. Archive preparation and deposition

- 7.1 The documentation, records, and artefacts, (comprising the archive) generated by the archaeological monitoring will be sorted and ordered in the format acceptable to The Collection, Lincoln, and to the standards and requirements as laid out in their Guide Book
- 7.2 Following written authorisation from the landowner, the archive will be deposited at The Collection, Lincoln.
- 7.3 A unique accession number will be obtained from The Collection for the site archive.
- 7.4 It is anticipated that the project archive will be deposited with the Collection by October 2016.

8. Reporting procedures

- 8.1 A report detailing the findings of the archaeological monitoring will be completed within two months after the finalisation of the fieldwork. Any delays will be related to the relevant authorities.
- 8.2 The report will consist of:

A title page, with project name and location, national grid reference, planning reference, site code, accession number, client name, author and date;

A contents page listing report sections, illustrations and appendices;

A non-technical summary of the results of the monitoring;

An introduction, site description and location;

Planning background to the project;

A section on the archaeological and historical background to the project;

A description of the methodology used in the project;

A section describing the results of the monitoring;

A section on the discussion and results of the project including a consideration of the findings of the project in a local and regional context;

A consideration of the effectiveness of the project methodology and a confidence rating of the results;

A complete bibliography of all sources consulted;

Illustrations including scaled site location plans, scaled plans showing monitored areas, all archaeological features and sections thereof (including representative trench sections) with scale bars; and

Appendices comprising appropriate digital photographs of the site and of specific and significant archaeological features and representative sections and a list of contexts, and any specialist reports on finds from the site.

8.3 The report will follow the guidelines set out in the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook, Section 14.

8.4 An online record will be initiated with OASIS prior to the commencement of the fieldwork. An electronic copy of the report will be deposited with the OASIS project (On-line Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations) <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/index.cfm>.

9. Publication and dissemination

9.1 Copies of the report will be deposited with the clients; the Senior Historic Environment Officer of Heritage Lincolnshire; the Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record; (including a digital copy in .pdf format) and the Planning Department of South Kesteven District Council within two months of the completion of the site fieldwork.

9.2 A note will be placed in 'Lincolnshire History and Archaeology' describing the results.

9.3 The deposition of the site archive will be in accordance with guidelines outlined in the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook (LCC, 2015), to the Institute of Field Archaeologists (CIfA) standards and guidance (CIfA, 2008) and with guidance detailed in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment, The MoRPHE Managers Guide*, (English Heritage, 2009),

9.4 Should the results of the archaeological investigation merit it, a note will also be placed in appropriate national journals e.g. *Medieval Archaeology*.

10. Other factors (including contingency)

- 10.1 In the event of the discovery of any unexpected remains of archaeological importance, or of any changed circumstances, it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to inform the Senior Historic Environment Officer of Heritage Lincolnshire.
- 10.2 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation, additional financial resources will be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.
- 10.3 Appropriate financial contingencies have been made in the event of the finding of prehistoric, Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon pottery; and medieval and post-medieval pottery, brick and tile.
- 10.4 Any additional financial contingency requirement for additional fieldwork or post-excavation analysis outside the scope of the proposed scheme of works will only be activated following full consultation with the Senior Historic Environment Officer of Heritage Lincolnshire and the client.

11. Variations to the proposed scheme

- 11.1 Variations to the proposed scheme will only be made following written confirmation with the archaeological curator.

12. Resources

- 12.1 The monitoring will be undertaken by Neville Hall using standard archaeological field techniques during the appropriate duration of the groundworks programme of the construction stage of development. It is anticipated that the monitoring of the groundworks programme will require at least five days on site.
- 12.2 Post-excavation analysis and report preparation (up to three days in duration) will be undertaken by Neville Hall; and where available specialist analysis from:-

Jane Young	Medieval and Post-medieval Ceramics
Ian Rowlandson	Anglo-Saxon and Roman Ceramics
Val Fryer	Environmental
Carol Allen	Neolithic and Bronze Age
Malin Holst	Osteoarchaeology
Jane Cowgill	Metallurgy

- 12.3 Small finds requiring conservation will be conserved by the City and County Museum Laboratory.
- 12.4 Recognised specialists will be sought in the event that other data are retrieved in the course of the monitoring.

13. Insurance statement

- 13.1 Public indemnity of £2,000,000 and private indemnity insurance of £250,000 with Towergate Insurance.

14. Copyright

- 14.1 Copyright will remain that of the author. Licence will be given to the client to present any reports, copyright of the author, to the planning authority in good faith of satisfactory settlement of account.

15. Ownership

- 15.1 It will be asked of the client, at the outset, that the ownership of any portable objects discovered in the course of the monitoring be donated along with the archive and deposited with The Collection, Lincoln.