
**STRIP AND RECORD EXCAVATIONS AT
LINCOLN ROAD,
SLEAFORD,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(McDONALD'S RESTAURANT
CAR PARK EXTENSION)**

(SLRM11)

Work Undertaken For

McDonald's Restaurants Ltd.

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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES**



REGISTERED
ORGANISATION
IFA

**LINCOLN ROAD,
SLEAFORD,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(McDONALD'S CAR PARK EXTENSION)**

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1. SUMMARY

Archaeological excavations were required in advance of development at Lincoln Road, Sleaford, as the site lay in an archaeologically sensitive area. Saxon settlement sites had been previously excavated immediately to both the west and east, and it was thought likely that similar remains would extend across the development site itself.

The investigations recorded a cluster of post holes which provide evidence for at least one building of early to middle Saxon date which appeared to be aligned onto a nearby boundary ditch. These remains appear to integrate with evidence for a regularised system of land division recorded during adjacent excavations.

Environmental and artefactual evidence from the various pits, post holes and the boundary ditch include house mouse bones, pottery, loomweight fragments and larger pieces of animal bone, suggesting occupation at the site was domestic in nature.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

A planning application (11/0202/FUL) has been approved by North Kesteven District Council for an extension to the existing car park at the McDonald's restaurant off Lincoln Road, Sleaford, Lincolnshire.

As the site lay within an archaeologically sensitive area, permission was subject to an archaeological condition requiring strip and record excavation prior to commencement of the development works.

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by McDonald's to undertake the archaeological excavation of the site in accordance with a specification of works written by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the Heritage

Officer of North Kesteven District Council.

The investigations were undertaken between the 10th and 17th May 2011.

2.2 Topography and Geology

Sleaford is located 27km south of Lincoln in the administrative district of North Kesteven (Figure 1).

The former hamlet of Holdingham is located on the northern edge of the town (Figure 2). The site lies to the northeast of Lincoln Road and south of the A17, immediately to the east of the existing car park of the McDonald's restaurant, comprising an area of some 0.11 hectares centred on National Grid Reference TF 0589 4730 (Figure 3).

The site lies at c. 25m O.D. on ground sloping to the south and east. Local soils are fine loamy soils of the Aswarby Association developed on Jurassic limestone and clay (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 99).

Prior to the start of works the area was grassed and undeveloped (Plate 1).

2.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

Archaeological remains dating from the early to middle Saxon period were uncovered during development on land immediately to the north and west, underneath the existing car park and the main restaurant itself (Figures 3 & 7, SLH01/SLR01). The finds assemblage, which included pottery, loom weights and bone tools, is characteristic of domestic settlement. Dating of the pottery suggests that the site was occupied from the 6th to the 8th centuries, and possibly into the 9th century. Archaeological remains were concentrated in the north of the site on a prominent east-west ridge which extends into the current development area. The

remains included post-built structures, ditched enclosures and sunken featured buildings (D Trimble, APS, *pers. comm.*)

Excavations undertaken in advance of construction of the housing estate which now stands to the east of the proposed development revealed that the Saxon settlement extended at least 150m to the east of the site (Figures 3 & 7, SLLR06, SLLR07 & SLLR08). Archaeological remains here included Saxon ditches and post holes which formed several structures. Small quantities of residual Roman material were retrieved during the investigations. The remains of a stone-built medieval building of possible 12th to 13th century date were also excavated during the course of these works (S Malone, APS, *pers. comm.*).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of the works was to:

- Archaeologically excavate and record features in the area of excavation.

The objectives of the scheme of works were to:

- Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
- Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
- As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
- Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

4. METHODS

The excavation area was to extend across the footprint of the car park extension, although the actual excavated area was slightly reduced due to obstacles on site. The northern and western edges of the area were limited by hedgerows, the edge of the excavation area being beyond the canopy of the existing trees to avoid damage to their roots (Plates 1 & 2). An overhead power line crossed the site north to south, to the east of the excavated area. The eastern extent of the excavation area was therefore limited in order to maintain a safe working distance between this power line and the mechanical excavator

The area was stripped of overburden under archaeological supervision by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket.

The exposed surfaces of the area were inspected for archaeological remains.

A representative selection of the features identified on the site was excavated whilst key stratigraphic relationships between features were also targeted.

Each deposit exposed during the investigation was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A photographic record was compiled using colour digital and black and white slide formats. Hand-drawn plans of features were at a scale of 1:20 and sections at 1:10. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice. A list of all contexts and their descriptions appears as Appendix 1.

The locations of the excavation area and archaeological features within it were surveyed using a Thales Z-Max GPS. Raw satellite data is calibrated via the OS NET service resulting in extremely accurate readings. The calibrated data is logged in the field to a mobile device running Fast

Survey and subsequently processed in the office by n4ce data processing software which is used to produce customised CAD files.

Environmental samples were retrieved from the fills of several features with apparent archaeological potential and with an emphasis on dated and structural features.

All exposed features were scanned with a metal detector to aid finds retrieval.

5. RESULTS

Natural deposits

The earliest deposits encountered during the excavations were two naturally-formed layers. These comprised a firm light brownish-yellow slightly silty clay and limestone (007) and a soft to slightly firm mid reddish-brown with grey mottles silt and sand (008). These two deposits occurred in patches across the site, and were perhaps essentially variations within a single deposit (Figure 6; Section 3, Plates 2 & 3).

Post holes

The majority of features identified during the excavations were post holes and possible post holes, which are fully described in Appendix 1. Of the 109 which were identified, 44 (40%) were excavated by half-sectioning (Figures 4 & 5).

A clear concentration of the post holes was identified towards the centre of the area (Figure 4, Plates 2 & 7) of investigation.

The excavated post holes were generally oval to circular in plan, with steep to moderately steep sides (Figures 5 & 6, Appendix 1, Plates 2, 4, 5, 7-10 & 17). Some had concave, vertical or gently sloping sides whilst undercutting was very occasionally recorded. The bases of the

post holes were usually flat to gently concave.

They ranged in width from 0.17m to 0.60m, the average width being 0.34m. The maximum recorded depth was 0.38m, with the shallowest recorded post hole being only 20mm deep. The average depth of post holes was 0.12m.

The fills of each post hole were generally similar to one another, the majority being slight variations on moderately firm mid greyish-brown slightly sandy clayey silt. Some fills contained occasional charcoal flecks and limestone fragments were recorded in several fills.

Of the 44 excavated post holes, 2 produced only a single sherd of Roman pottery each [084] & [101]. A further post hole [115] contained a single fragment of fired clay, possibly part of an Iron Age to Roman loomweight (Appendix 2). This material is likely to be residual from earlier activity on the site, and to have been redeposited within these post hole fills.

Post holes [049, 053, 119 & 094] produced a total of 13 sherds of early to middle Saxon pottery between them, along with small quantities of other materials including animal bone (Appendix 2). A further eight post holes contained no dateable material, but did produce material including animal bone and fired clay.

Post holes [042] and [119] contained fragments of fired clay, charcoal was recovered from post hole [099] and a fragment of an unidentifiable copper alloy object was retrieved from post hole [057] (Appendix 2).

Animal bone was hand-collected from 8 of the post holes, [011, 035, 082, 049, 053, 092, 057, & 123] (Appendix 3). Between 1 and 3 animal bones were retrieved from each of these post holes in this way, and these comprised sheep or goat and cow bones along with unidentifiable fragments

and sheep-sized and cow-sized elements.

Environmental samples were collected from the fills of 3 dated Saxon post holes [049, 053 & 119] (Samples 3-5, Appendix 3). These each produced small quantities of hammerscale in addition to charred cereals including barley and wheat. The sample from post hole [049] produced over a dozen charred cereal grains and weed seeds along with a single piece of chaff. Further animal bone was retrieved in sampling, and species identified from these 3 post hole samples included dog, eel, house mouse, frog or toad, cattle, sheep or goat and goose. Snail shells were also retrieved from each sample, but were mainly of a burrowing species and likely to be later and intrusive. Other snail shells revealed through sampling were of species found in open grassland, with an absence of snails associated with wooded or shaded habitats

A single post hole [037] showed possible evidence for a post pipe (Section 14). A slight difference in the fill at the centre of this feature might represent the former position of a now-degraded post, with backfilled packing material to either side, although this interpretation is uncertain.

Variations in the profile of some post holes may reflect the methods by which the posts were raised. The clearest example of this is perhaps post hole [057], near the southern end of the site, which had a markedly more gently sloping edge at the top and east, possibly representing the side from which the original post was raised (Section 23, Plate 17).

In general though, only the bases of post holes survived and little evidence for the actual presence of posts or the methods by which they may have been raised was apparent.

Stones within some of the post holes might have been used as packing material around posts, but the occurrence of natural stone

on the site means these could just have easily been accidentally incorporated into the fills, and no clear evidence for the use of packing material was revealed.

Other features

To the south of the main concentration of post holes, was a westnorthwest-eastsoutheast aligned linear feature [045] (Figure 5). This ditch continued to the southeast as [065], and in total was over 8.50m long. It had moderately steep sides and a wide 'V'-shaped base, and was 0.61m wide and was 0.27m deep (Figure 6; Sections 17, 18 & 32, Plate 11). Ditch [045] contained a single fill (046) of firm mid greyish-brown clayey and sandy silt with occasional pebbles and black mineral flecks. A single sherd of sooted 5th to 9th century Saxon pottery was retrieved from this fill, in addition to ten fragments of animal bone, including sheep or goat and cattle (Appendices 2 & 3). The southeastern continuation of this ditch [065] contained a single fill of mid greyish-brown clayey and sandy silt with occasional pebbles and cobbles and occasional black mineral flecks (066) from which a piece of cow bone and 2 sherds of late 7th to 8th century Saxon pottery were retrieved, one of which had soot and chaff impressions (Appendices 2 & 3).

What appeared in plan to be a c.2.64m long northeast-southwest aligned linear feature crossed ditch [045=065] (Figure 5), although the stratigraphic relationship between these features was not apparent. On excavation, a deeper sump at the northeastern end of this apparent linear was identified, this perhaps being a post hole [059], possibly the same as a further deeper area of this group of features, [061].

Feature [059] was an elongated northeast-southwest aligned feature with a rounded end at the northeast, and was at least

0.40m long, 0.42m wide and 0.23m deep with steep sides and moderately steep slope at northeastern end, and a concave base (Plate 12, Figure 6; Section 28). It contained a single fill (060) of firm mid greyish-brown clayey sandy silt with occasional limestone cobbles and occasional black mineral flecks. This produced 2 fragments of fired clay, possibly hearth lining, along with a single sherd of mid 5th to mid 8th century Saxon pottery (Appendix 2). Animal bone was also retrieved, 3 pieces in total, one of which was identifiable as sheep. (Appendix 3).

Feature [061] was possibly circular or elongated, and was not fully visible in plan (Figure 5, Figure 6; Sections 29 & 30, Plate 12). This feature was over 0.20m by over 0.23m wide and 0.31m deep, although if this was the same as feature [059] it would be c.0.80m long. It had very steep sides and a concave base and contained a single fill (062) of firm mid greyish-brown clayey sandy silt with occasional limestone cobbles and occasional black mineral flecks. This fill contained 9 sherds of early to mid Saxon pottery, dating this feature to the 8th to 9th centuries (Appendix 2). This group of early to middle Saxon pottery included a near-complete bowl (Appendix 2 Drawing 1). Fired clay, possibly hearth lining, was also retrieved from deposit (062) (Appendix 2). An environmental sample of this deposit was found to contain hammerscale, charred barley and grass along with snail shells and animal bones including sheep or goat bones (Appendix 3).

At the southern edge of the 'sump' formed by feature [061] was a shallower feature [063], apparently a northeast-southwest aligned linear feature, at least 0.30m long, 0.36m wide and 0.14m deep (Figure 5, Figure 6; Sections 30 & 31, Plate 12). This had steep sides and a concave base, but was indistinguishable from [061] and [045], meaning the stratigraphic

relationships between these features could not be established. Feature [063] contained a single fill of firm mid greyish-brown clayey and sandy silt (064) with occasional limestone cobbles, occasional charcoal flecks and occasional black mineral flecks, which was devoid of finds.

To the south of ditch [045] was a possible continuation of feature [063], here recorded as [111] (Figure 5). This northeast-southwest aligned linear feature was at least 0.92m long, 0.43m wide and 0.10m deep and had steep to moderately steep sides and a gently concave base (Figure 6; Sections 50 & 51, Plate 13). Feature [111] had an apparent terminus at southern end which had sub-square corners. Its single fill (112) was a firm mid greyish-brown slightly clayey sandy silt with occasional limestone fragments. Two cow bones and one cow-sized bone were retrieved from this deposit (Appendix 3).

The interpretation of features [059, 061, 063 & 111] is uncertain, but it may well be that these were all contemporary. The deeper feature [059] and [061] may have formed post holes, suggesting that this group of features might have been structural, although this remains uncertain.

Feature [111] truncated an earlier feature [113] (Figure 5, Figure 6; Section 50, Plate 13). This possibly sub-circular feature was truncated at the west and north, but was over 0.63m by over 0.52m wide and 0.14m deep with steep to moderately steep sides and a gently concave profile. This feature may perhaps have continued beyond the western edge of [111], but this was uncertain. If so, the overall length of [113] would be at least 1.46m (Figure 5). Filling [113] was (114), a firm mid greyish-brown slightly clayey and sandy silt which was mottled with frequent dark grey patches from which no artefacts were retrieved. The nature and function of this feature remains uncertain.

A short distance to the south west of these

features was Pit [055] (Figure 5). This northwest-southeast aligned oval feature was 1.44m long, 0.89m wide and 70mm deep with a moderately flat to gently undulating base (Figure 6; Section 22, Plate 14). Its single fill (056) was a soft to moderately firm mid greyish-brown slightly clayey silt and sand with occasional pebbles. A single burnt limestone fragment was noted within this fill, and a flake of fired clay and one sherd of Saxon pottery of possible 8th to 9th century date were retrieved from it (Appendix 2). Animal bone from this deposit comprised single examples of cow, horse, sheep or goat and unidentifiable bone (Appendix 3).

A little over a metre to the southwest of this was a further pit [030] (Figure 5). This oval feature was 0.78m long, 0.64m wide and 0.11m deep. It had steep near-vertical sides, with a gradual break of slope at its base and a moderately flat base (Figure 5, Figure 6; Section 16, Plates 16 & 17). The single fill of this feature (044) was distinct from the other recorded fills on the site in including frequent black burnt wood (Plates 16 & 17). Preliminary identification of this burnt wood indicates it may be oak (Appendix 3). Fill (044) was a soft to moderately firm mid to dark greyish-brown slightly sandy and clayey silt with moderately frequent yellow mottles near its base. It included occasional pebbles along with c.10% black burnt wood fragments, up to 0.15m long and 0.15m wide, along with some redeposited natural mottles and occasional reddish patches and flecks of heat-affected silt. No clear evidence for *in situ* burning was identified within or surrounding this pit, but it could be that it was a fire pit used for cooking. A Roman coin, dating to 365-78AD was retrieved from an environmental sample of this deposit (Appendix 2), although this was probably redeposited. Further material from this sample included charred weeds, burnt snails, vitrified fuel ash slag, hammerscale and mouse and rodent bones (Appendix 3).

A west-northwest to east-southeast aligned linear to sub-rectangular feature [075] was investigated near the southern limit of excavation (Figure 5). This had a rounded end at the west and possibly square corners at east although these were unclear. This feature was 2.60m long, 0.77m wide and 0.12m deep with moderately steep sides to the north where cut into soft natural (008) and more gently sloping sides to the west where cut into stony natural 007 (Figure 6; Sections 33, 36 & 37, Plates 18 & 19). This contained (076), a soft to moderately firm mid greyish-brown slightly sandy clayey silt with occasional pebbles and rare charcoal flecks. Saxon pottery of mid 5th to mid 9th century date was retrieved from this deposit, and of 3 sherds, 2 were sooted and 1 was abraded (Appendix 2). Fired clay, possibly hearth lining or clinker was retrieved, and further fired clay flakes were found to be sooted. A piece of copper alloy wire was retrieved in metal detecting of this feature, which may have been a pin shaft but would be very thin for this function (Appendix 2). The animal bones recovered from this feature comprised 2 cow, 1 chicken, 6 cow-sized pieces, one of which was possibly chopped, 2 sheep or goat bones, one of which was chewed and further unidentified and sheep-sized bone (Appendix 3). The function of this feature remains uncertain.

At its eastern end, feature [075] apparently truncated deposit (079), although this relationship was uncertain. This 30mm thick layer of soft to firm mid greyish-brown and mid orangey-brown mottled slightly sandy clayey silt (Figure 6; Section 36, Plate 19) may have represented the scant remains of buried soil.

Deposit (079) was clearly truncated by feature [077], a north-south aligned linear feature with a rounded possible terminus at its north end (Figure 5). This feature was over 2.30m long, 0.43m wide and 0.13m deep with steep, regular sides and a flat base (Figure 6; Section 34, 35, 36, 41, &

42, Plate 19). It was increasingly shallow towards its possible terminus to the north. Filling [077] was (078), a soft to slightly firm mid greyish-brown slightly sandy clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks and small fragments, occasional limestone pebbles and cobbles. A single sherd of mid 6th to 9th century Saxon pottery was retrieved from this fill along with a goose bone, 1 sheep or goat and 1 sheep-sized bone, 3 cow bones, one of which was chopped, and a cow-sized rib, along with a complete horse rib (Appendices 2 & 3). The likely function of feature [077] was uncertain, but it might potentially be part of a structure, perhaps a beam slot or similar feature.

A single pit was identified in the northern half of the excavation area [015] (Figure 5). This sub-circular feature was 0.89m by 0.85m wide and 0.38m deep with steep sides and a narrow, gently concave base (Plate 6, Figure 6; Section 4). The earliest fill of this pit was (014), a moderately firm to friable mid greyish-brown sandy clayey silt matrix with up to c.50% limestone fragments, some of which were flat and at least one of which was heat-affected and pink in colour. It also contained occasional charcoal fragments and was 0.12m thick. Sealing this was fill (013), a moderately firm to friable mid greyish-brown sandy clayey silt with occasional charcoal, which was 0.29m thick. Faunal remains retrieved from this fill comprised 12 cattle bones in total, some of which were butchered (Appendix 3). The function of this pit was uncertain, but the quantity of limestone fragments in the earliest fill (014) is likely to be of significance. The association of burnt stone, animal bone and charcoal could relate to cooking in the vicinity of the pit, this material perhaps having been dumped within it. No clear evidence for *in situ* heating was identified, although it could be that this feature was used as a cooking pit.

Overburden

Sealing the fills of all the excavated features on the site was (009), a 0.28m thick layer of firm to moderately firm dark greyish-brown sandy and silty clay, which contained occasional pebbles, many of these being limestone, rare charcoal flecks and occasional mottles of redeposited natural (007) at its junction with this deposit (Figure 6; Section 3, Plate 3). Sealing this was (010), a firm dark greyish-brown sandy and silty clay with occasional limestone pebbles and cobbles, occasional other pebbles, rare wood fragments, rare very small pottery fragments and occasional patches and mottles of redeposited natural, along with rare asphalt fragments. Layer (009) was apparently a buried topsoil layer, which had been sealed by the dumping of (010) in the recent past. It is likely that (010) represents material stripped from the adjacent McDonald's site during its construction, which was subsequently dumped here. A single burnt stone, three sherds of early to middle Saxon pottery and a single sherd of mid 18th to 19th century pottery were retrieved from deposit (010) (Appendix 2).

6. DISCUSSION

Of the excavated features on the site, relatively few produced dateable material. Three post holes and one pit each produced a single Roman or Iron Age to Roman artefact, whilst a further four post holes produced early to middle Saxon pottery. Ditch [045], pit [055] and three elongated features at the south of the site also produced early to middle Saxon pottery (Figure 8). The general finds assemblage from the site is of early to middle Saxon date, with no later material being retrieved from archaeological deposits. Later finds from the site were restricted to single sherds of medieval and 18th to 19th century pottery. This, coupled with the general character of the archaeological features, indicates a likely early to middle Saxon date for the

remainder of the undated features on the site. The small quantities of Roman or earlier material were almost certainly redeposited in later, presumably Saxon, features, but do indicate some activity in the vicinity in earlier times. Additionally, previous investigations to the west and east of the present investigation site revealed Saxon archaeology of very similar character. In both cases, a number of post-built structures were identified in association with largely domestic artefact assemblages (Figure 7).

Although apparently all early to middle Saxon, the archaeology of this and the surrounding sites could represent successive features and structures spanning several hundred years, and may not all be directly contemporary. At both previously excavated sites, to the west and east, a succession of enclosures was identified (Figure 7), and this suggests the site was occupied over a prolonged period, with sufficient time passing for ditched boundaries to become silted and infilled and to be re-cut in slightly altered positions.

The Saxon archaeology identified on the site is characterised by a northwest-southeast ditch, a few metres to the north of which was a defined cluster of post holes (Figure 8). Further post holes, pits and indeterminate features were also excavated adjacent to, and to the south of, this ditch. A scattering of post holes and a single pit were spread across the northern part of the excavation area (Figure 8).

Ditch [045] aligns on a ditch identified during the previous investigations to the west of the site (Figure 7). Although this does not seem to have been a continuous boundary, these are likely to be contemporary. This ditch may have served both boundary and drainage functions. This is on a similar alignment to a ditch identified to the east (SLLR07 Area 2) and could represent a continuation of this boundary (Figure 7).

The concentration of post holes a few metres north of the boundary in the present investigation area appear to be on a similar alignment to it, perhaps suggesting these are contemporary (Figure 8). Although the nature of the structure or structures identified here remains uncertain, several right-angled and rectangular trends are readily identifiable in this group of post holes (Figure 8). These may represent the outlines of buildings, and a possible interpretation for at least some of these is that they formed one or more Saxon dwellings, although they might equally be ancillary buildings, part of the wider settlement.

Similar structures have been recorded locally, at Quarrington south of Sleaford (Taylor 2003). At this site evidence for formal 'planning' of the landscape, with hall type long houses set into regularised enclosures and fields, emerged in the late early to middle Saxon period. This process seems to be reflected at the Holdingham site although the settlement appears more dispersed in character.

Further afield in Lincolnshire Anglo-Saxon structures have been excavated in the Fens as part of the investigation undertaken for the Fenland Project at Dowsby on the landward fen edge and also at two sites in Gosberton on the silt fen (Crowson, *et al.* 2005).

The artefact and environmental assemblages from the site are consistent with domestic activity. Pottery and animal bone, cereals and burnt remains provide evidence for food preparation on the site. The bone assemblage is dominated by domestic species, especially cattle, but also including chicken and sheep or goat (and possibly domestic goose), suggesting farming at the site. The open grassland suggested by the snail assemblage is consistent with areas of pasture and mixed agriculture surrounding domestic

settlement. House mouse bones were retrieved from sampling, indicating domestic occupation in the immediate vicinity. Eel bones retrieved from two of the five samples could have been caught nearby.

The previous investigations to the west identified structures interpreted as possible post-built weaving sheds. Hearths of possible industrial association were recorded at the site to the east, and together this suggests the wider area saw a wide range of Saxon activity, focused on domestic occupation and agriculture but including various specialised activities. Small quantities of hammerscale were retrieved from each of five environmental samples from the site, and could provide evidence for ironworking in the vicinity. However, it is possible that this material might be redeposited and could potentially represent an earlier phase of activity.

The Saxon elongated features at the south of the site are of uncertain interpretation, a group of features crossing ditch [045] may have had a structural association, as may linears at the southeast edge of the area, although this is uncertain.

Undated but presumably Saxon pit [015] contained moderate quantities of cattle bone and stone, and may have been associated with cooking. Similarly, cooking may explain the quantity of burnt wood recorded in pit [030], although in neither case was any clear evidence of *in situ* burning identified.

The present site appears to lie within one or other of a sequence of sub-rectangular enclosures identified in investigations of the wider area (Figure 7). Further detailed and synthesised analysis of the sites to east and west would provide valuable insights as to the interpretation of the present investigation site as part of this wider pattern of land use in the early to middle Saxon period. It would be informative in indicating which of the nearby recorded

features and structures might be contemporary with those features identified in the present investigation. Comparison of the artefact and environmental assemblages from the different sites would be invaluable in aiding interpretation of the possible function of the various structures.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological excavations were required in advance of development at Lincoln Road, Sleaford, as the site lay in an archaeologically sensitive area. Saxon settlement sites had been previously excavated immediately to both the west and east, and it was thought likely that similar remains would extend across the development site itself.

The Anglo Saxon deposits recorded during this investigation enhance the existing data for occupation of the period from previous investigations in the area. Identification of a building with clear evidence for domestic activity extends the already extensive area of the settlement, although it is unclear whether all of the area was occupied at one time.

Known sites of early to middle Saxon settlements are rare, even at a national level and the Holdingham site has significant potential to enhance our understanding of the development of nucleated villages during this poorly understood period.

The Holdingham site also provides a valuable addition to the already burgeoning corpus of excavated evidence for Anglo-Saxon occupation in the Sleaford area, particularly the settlement at Quarrington.

Further integrated analysis and comparison with the results of the adjacent archaeological investigations would be invaluable in shedding further light as to

the wider pattern of early to middle Saxon land use.

Later artefacts retrieved during the investigation were limited to single sherds of medieval and post-medieval pottery retrieved from overburden and as unstratified material. A thick overburden of recently redeposited topsoil probably represented material stripped during the construction of the adjacent McDonald's restaurant.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Dale Trimble
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 Site team: Denise Buckley, Bob Garland, Chris Moulis, Jon Smith
 Surveying: Chris Moulis
 Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
 Photographic reproduction: Vicky Mellor
 CAD Illustration: Vicky Mellor
 Post-excavation analysis: Vicky Mellor

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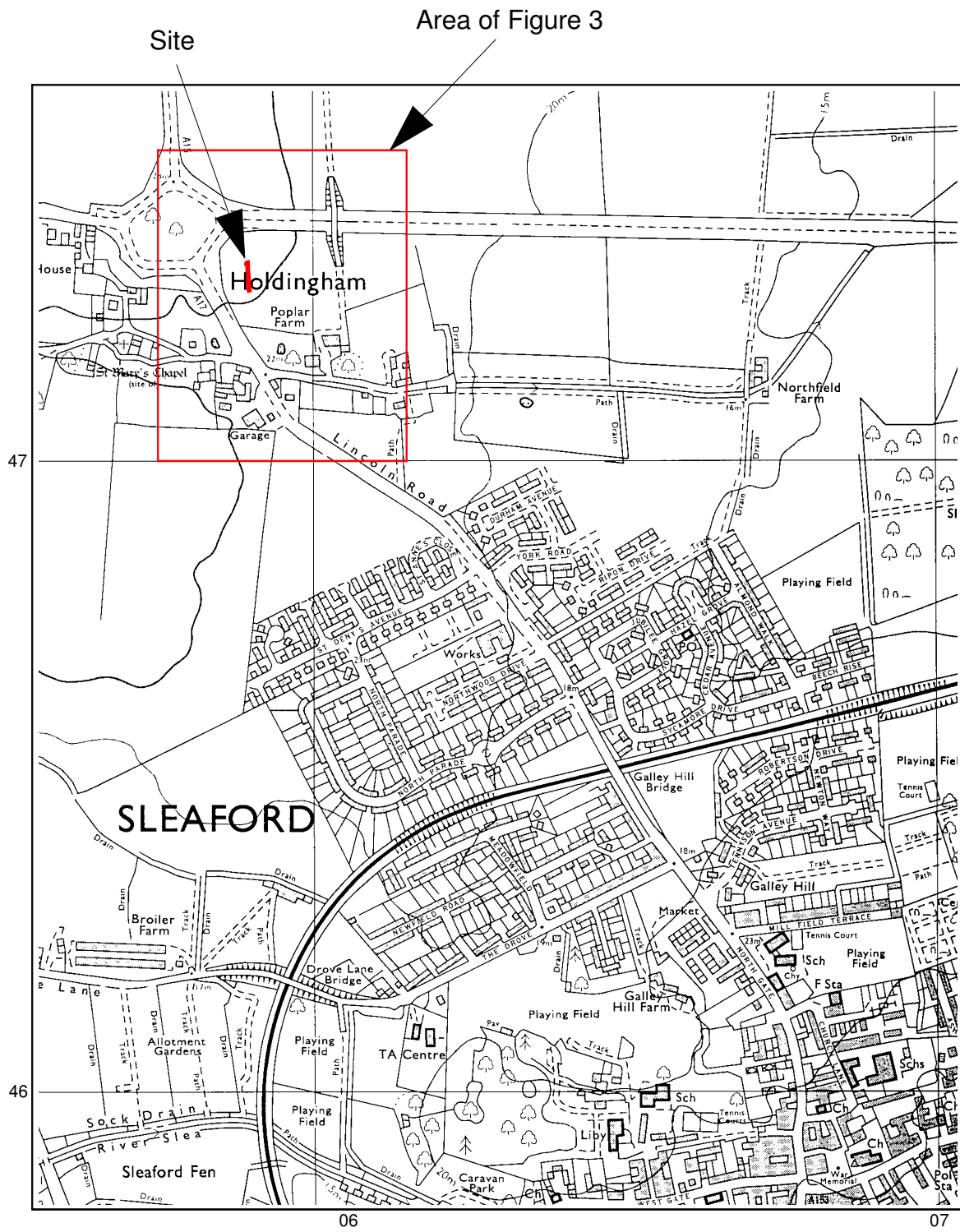
Taylor, G., 2003, *An early to middle Saxon Settlement at Quarington, Lincolnshire*. The Antiquaries Journal, 2003 Vol **83**

11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services
 OD Ordnance Datum (height above sea level)



Figure 1 General location map



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Archaeological Project Services

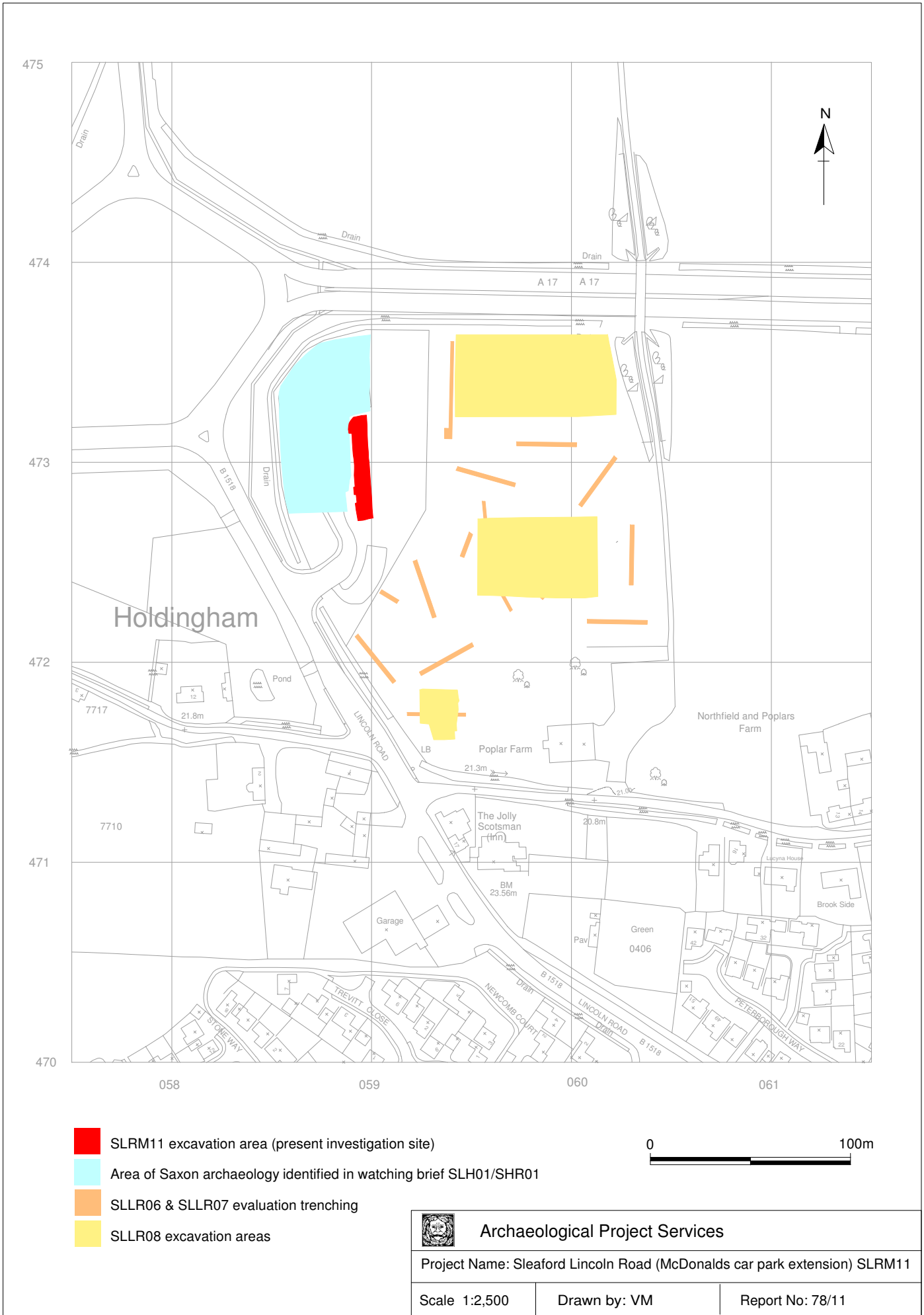
Project Name: Sleaford Lincoln Road (McDonalds car park extension) SLRM11

Scale 1:10,000

Drawn by: PCF/VM

Report No:78/11

Figure 2 Site location map



- SLRM11 excavation area (present investigation site)
- Area of Saxon archaeology identified in watching brief SLH01/SHR01
- SLLR06 & SLLR07 evaluation trenching
- SLLR08 excavation areas


 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Sleaford Lincoln Road (McDonalds car park extension) SLRM11		
Scale 1:2,500	Drawn by: VM	Report No: 78/11

Figure 3 Detailed site location map, also showing location of neighbouring archaeological works

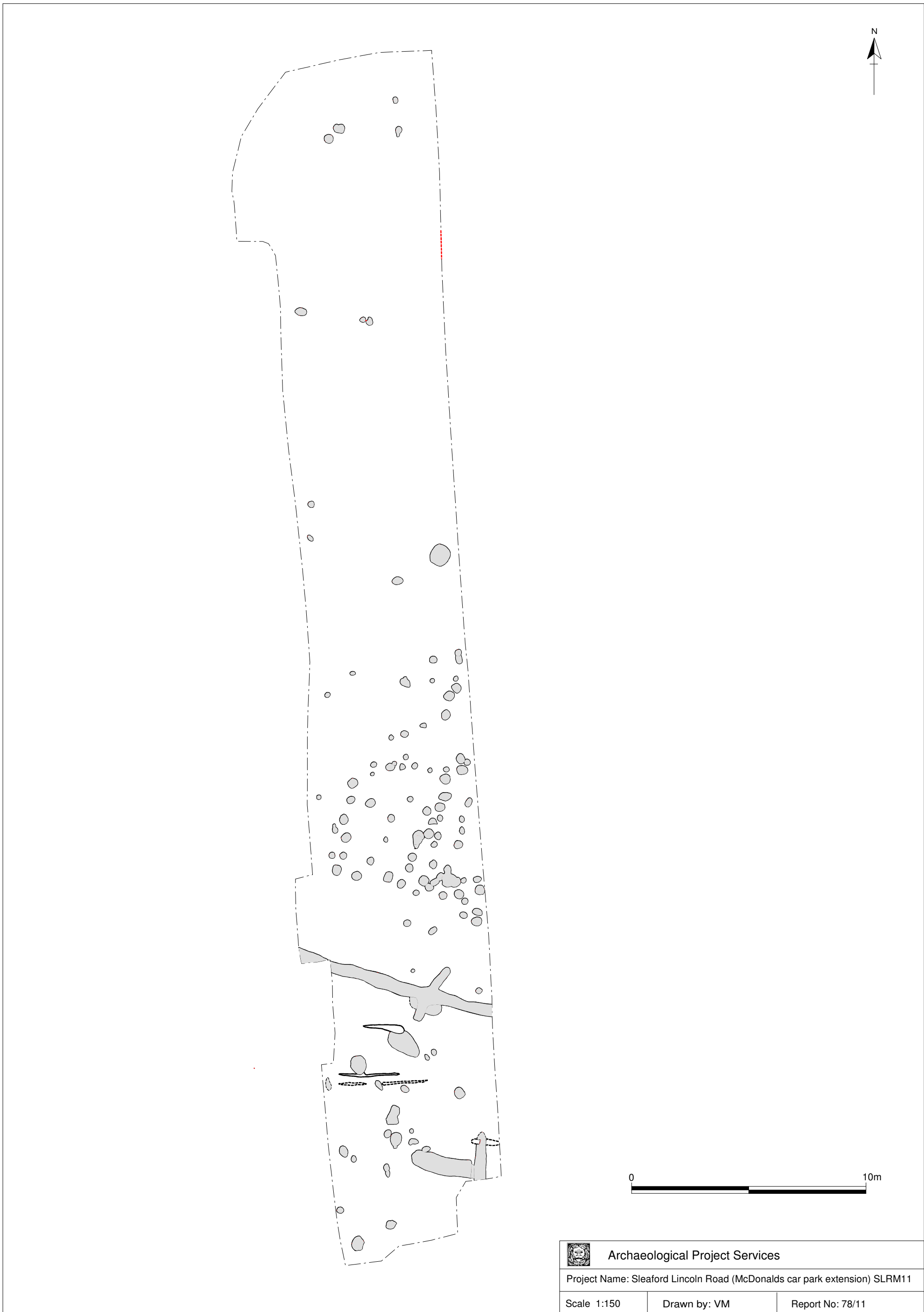


Figure 4 Site plan




 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Sleaford Lincoln Road (McDonalds car park extension) SLRM11		
Scale 1:100	Drawn by: VM	Report No: 78/11

Figure 5 Detailed site plan

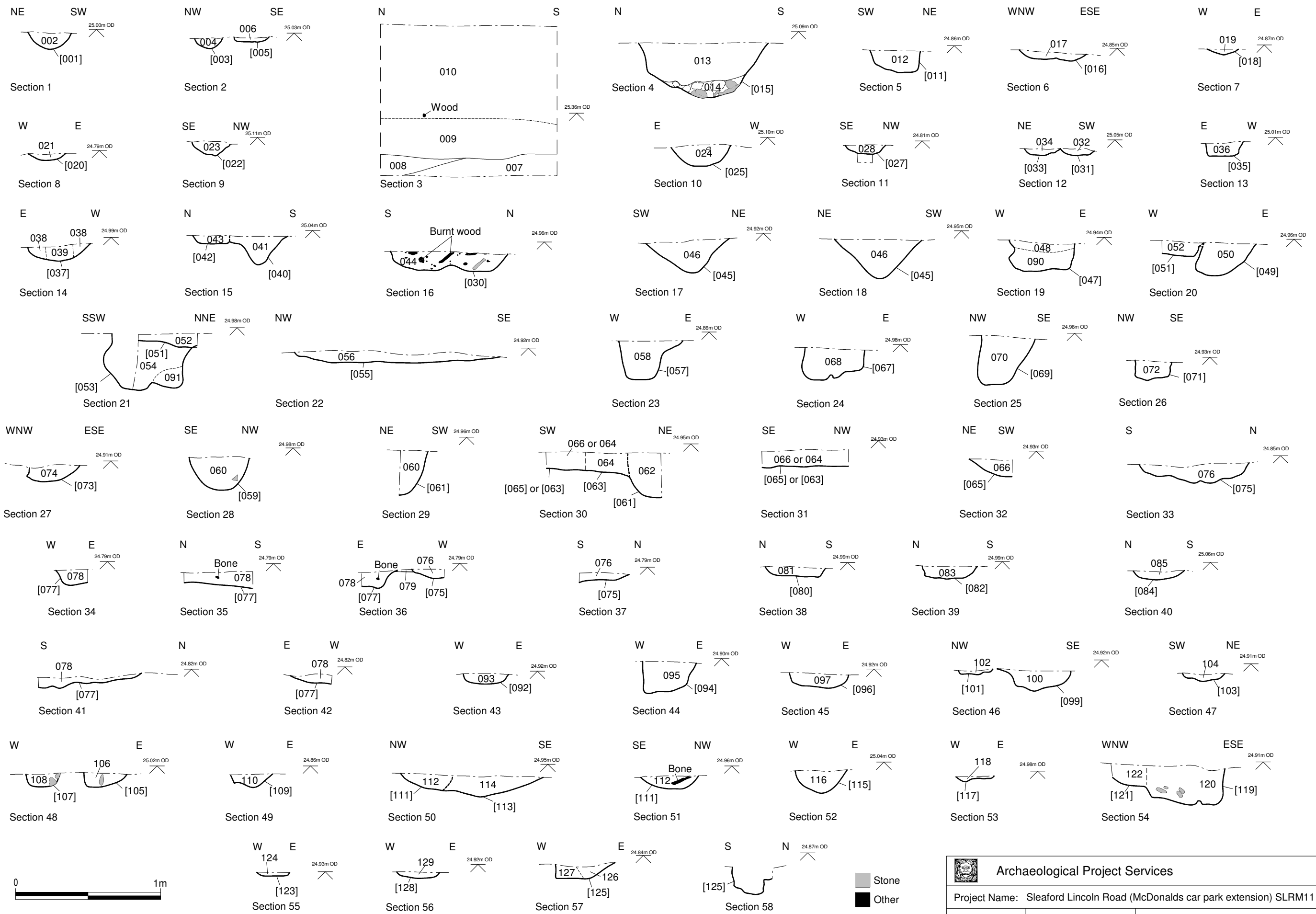


Figure 6 Sections 1-58

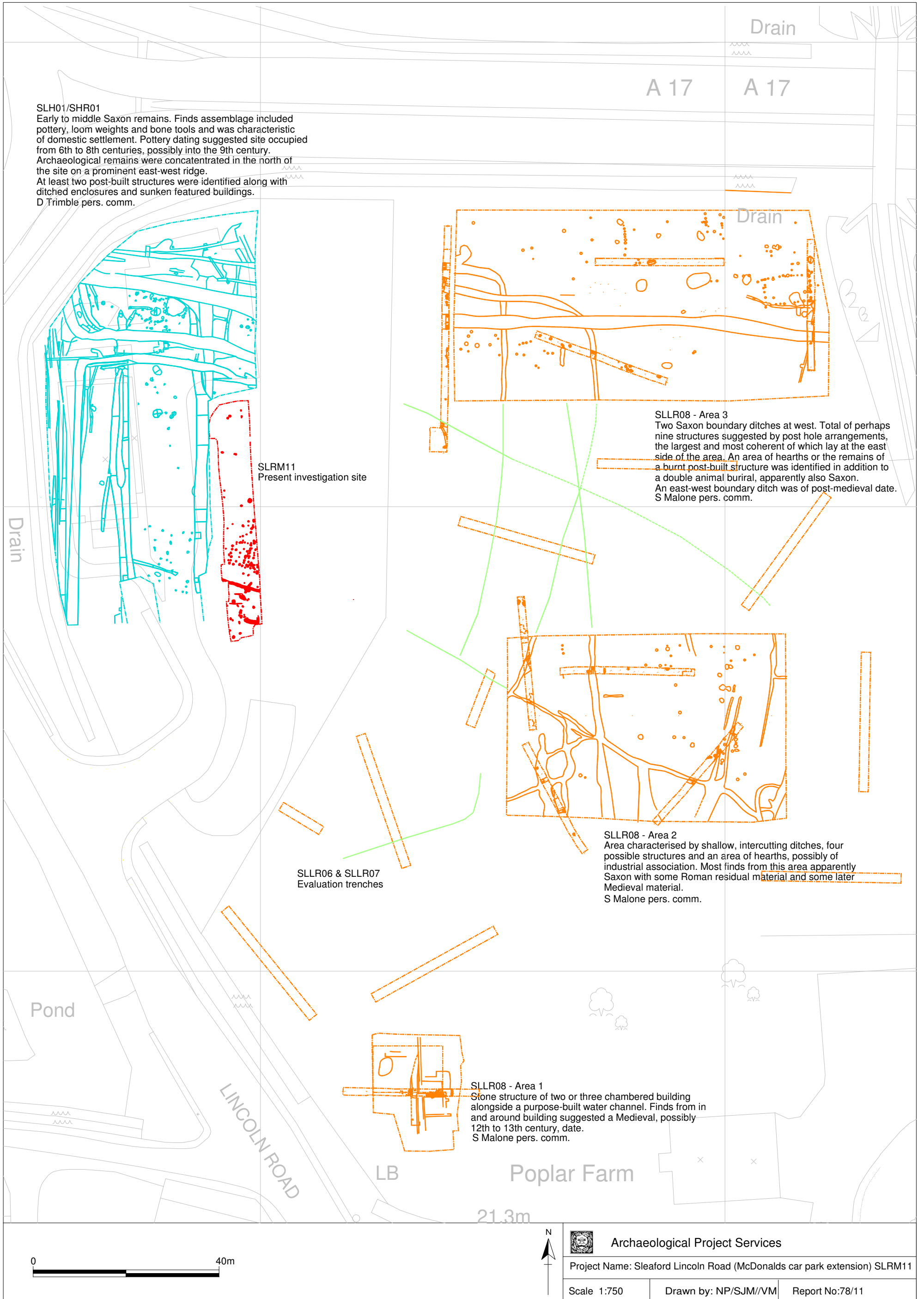


Figure 7 Site in archaeological setting



Plate 1 General view of site
before start of excavations,
looking north



Plate 2 General view of excavated features within excavation area, looking east



Plate 3 Representative Section 3, showing thick overburden of redeposited topsoil (010), looking east



Plate 5 Possible post holes [003] and [005], Section 2, looking northeast

Plate 4 Possible post holes [020] and [018], Sections 8 & 7, looking north



Plate 6 Pit [015], Section 4, looking east



Plate 7 Post-excavation view of concentration of early to middle Saxon and undated post holes near centre of excavation area, looking east



Plate 8 Early to middle Saxon post holes [049], [051] and [053], Sections 20 and 21, looking west



Plate 9 Undated post holes [073], Section 27 (foreground), post holes [069, 071, 067 & 047] in background, looking northeast



Plate 10 Undated post hole [096], Section 45 (foreground) and general view of undated and Saxon post holes in background, looking north



Plate 12 Early to middle Saxon features [063] and possible post hole [061], Sections 29 & 30, feature [059] in background, looking northeast



Plate 11 Early to middle Saxon ditch [045], Section 18, looking southeast



Plate 13 Undated features [111] & [113], Section 50, looking north



Plate 14 Early to middle Saxon pit [055],
Section 22, looking northeast



Plate 15 Pre-excavation view of pit [030], looking east



Plate 16 Post-excavation
view of late Roman or
later pit [030], Section
16, looking west



Plate 17 Undated post hole [057], Section 23, looking north



Plate 18 Early to middle Saxon elongated feature [075], Section 33, looking west



Plate 19 Early to middle Saxon feature [075] (at right) and early to middle Saxon linear [077] (at left), Sections 35-37, looking south

Appendix 1

CONTEXT SUMMARY

Context	Description	Interpretation
001	Oval feature, 0.48m long, 0.30m wide and 0.12m deep with concave sides and a concave base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
002	Firm mid brownish-grey clayey sand and silt with occasional charcoal, 0.12m thick	Single fill of post hole [001]
003	Sub-circular feature, 0.20m wide and 80mm deep with steep concave sides and a gently concave base	Possible post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
004	Firm mid brownish-grey clayey sand and silt, 80mm thick	Single fill of possible post hole [003]
005	Oval to amorphous feature, 0.30m long, 0.25m wide and 20mm deep with steep, concave sides and a flat base	Possible post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
006	Firm mid brownish-grey clayey sand and silt, 20mm thick	Single fill of possible post hole [005]
007	Firm light brownish-yellow slightly silty clay and limestone fragments (brash), over 0.14m thick	Natural clay and limestone brash, occurring in patches along with 008
008	Soft to slightly firm mid reddish-brown with grey mottles silt and sand, over 0.14m thick	Natural sand and silt, perhaps essentially same as 007, along with which it occurs in patches. Generally though 008 seems to overlie 007.
009	Firm to moderately firm dark greyish-brown sandy and silty clay with occasional pebbles, many of these being limestone, rare charcoal flecks and occasional mottles same as natural (007) at junction with this deposit, 0.28m thick, upper boundary with 010 unclear	Buried topsoil layer, buried by 010, probably dumped topsoil from construction of adjacent McDonalds site approximately 10 years previously
010	Firm dark greyish-brown sandy and silty clay with occasional limestone pebbles and cobbles, occasional other pebbles, rare wood fragments, rare tiny ancient pottery fragments, occasional patches and mottles of redeposited natural, both 007 and 008, rare asphalt fragments.	Redeposited, dumped topsoil, presumably stripped from adjacent McDonalds site to west during construction approximately 10 years previously, essentially same as 009 but redeposited
011	Sub-circular feature, 0.36m by 0.35m wide and 0.16m deep with vertical sides and a concave base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
012	Moderately firm mid greyish-brown with mid orange mottles clayey sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks, 0.16m thick	Single fill of post hole [011]
013	Moderately firm to friable mid greyish-brown sandy clayey silt with occasional charcoal, 0.29m thick	Uppermost fill of pit [015] containing moderate quantities of animal bone. Possibly comprising backfilled waste
014	Moderately firm to friable mid greyish-brown sandy clayey silt matrix with up to c.50% limestone fragments, some flat and at least one heat-affected and pink in colour, with occasional charcoal fragments, 0.12m thick	Earliest fill of pit [015], largely comprising limestone fragments, including some heat-affected fragments, possibly material discarded from a nearby hearth, or might potentially reflect <i>in situ</i> heating, but unclear.
015	Sub-circular feature, 0.89m by 0.85m wide and 0.38m deep with steep sides and a narrow, gently concave base	Pit, containing quantities of limestone fragments, some burnt, animal bone and charcoal, perhaps relating to cooking in vicinity of pit, this material perhaps being dumped, or possibly a cooking pit.
016	Irregularly shaped feature, 0.46m long, 0.34m wide and 60mm deep with gently sloping sides and a double base of two concave depressions	Possible post hole, perhaps two adjacent post holes, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
017	Moderately firm c.50% mid orange and c.50% mid greyish-brown mottled and mixed clayey silty sand, 60mm thick	Single fill of possible post hole [016]
018	Sub-oval feature, 0.24m long, 0.15m wide and 40mm deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base	Possible post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
019	Moderately firm mid greyish-brown clayey sandy silt with occasional charcoal, 40mm thick	Single fill of possible post hole [018]
020	Sub-circular feature with irregular protrusion to south, 0.42m long, 0.24m wide and 50mm deep with gently	Possible post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.

Context	Description	Interpretation
	sloping sides and a gently concave base	
021	Moderately firm c.50% mid orange and c.50% mid greyish-brown mottled and mixed clayey sandy silt, 50mm thick	Single fill of possible post hole [020]
022	Circular feature, 0.25m wide and 0.10m deep with steep sides and a concave base	Possible post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
023	Firm mid brownish-grey sandy silt, 0.10m thick	Single fill of possible posthole [022]
024	Moderately firm but friable mid greyish-brown sandy clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks and stones, 0.14m thick	Single fill of post hole [025]
025	Oval feature, 0.41m long, 0.35m wide and 0.14m deep with gently concave steep sides and a slightly concave base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
027	Oval feature, 0.28m long, 0.17m wide and 60mm deep with moderately steep sides and a flat base	Possible post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
028	Firm mid reddish-brown and mid grey mottled clayey sandy silt, 0.10m thick	Single fill of possible post hole [027]
029	Unstratified pottery from cleaning section of excavation area in grid square 015/195	Unstratified finds
030	Oval feature, 0.78m long, 0.64m wide and 0.11m deep with steep near-vertical sides, with a gradual break of slope at base and a moderately flat base, with somewhat irregular sides and base due to stony natural	Pit, undated but perhaps likely contemporary with known Saxon settlement in immediate vicinity. Function uncertain but contained large quantities of burnt wood fragments. No clear evidence of <i>in situ</i> burning, but possibly a fire pit used for cooking
031	Sub-circular feature, 0.22m wide and 50mm deep with moderately steep sides and a flat to gently concave base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
032	Moderately soft mid greyish-brown clayey sand and silt with frequent limestone pebbles, 50mm thick	Single fill of post hole [031]
033	Circular feature, 0.24m wide and 50mm deep with moderately steep sides and a flat to gently concave base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
034	Firm mid brownish-grey clayey sand and silt, 50mm thick	Single fill of post hole [033]
035	Circular feature, 0.25m wide and 0.10m deep with steep sides and a flat base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
036	Moderately soft mid brownish-grey clayey sand and silt, 0.10m thick	Single fill of post hole [035]
037	Sub-circular feature, 0.40m wide and 0.11m deep with steep concave sides and a gently concave base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features. Includes possible post pipe.
038	Firm mid greyish-brown with reddish hue clayey silty sand, 90mm thick	Fill of post hole [035], possibly mixed material including redeposited natural forming packing around post.
039	Firm mid brownish-grey clayey sandy silt, 0.11m thick	Fill of post hole [035], within possible post pipe, possibly representing remains of post which degraded <i>in situ</i>
040	Oval feature, 0.41m long, 0.28m wide and 0.20m deep with steep sides and a narrow concave base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
041	Firm mid brownish-grey clayey sandy silt, 0.20m thick	Single fill of post hole [040]
042	Circular feature, 0.26m wide and 70mm deep with moderately steep sides and a flat base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
043	Firm mid greyish-brown clayey sandy silt, 70mm thick	Single fill of posthole [042]
044	Soft to moderately firm mid to dark greyish-brown with moderately frequent yellow mottles near base and much black burnt wood throughout, slightly sandy and clayey silt with occasional pebbles and c.10% black burnt wood fragments up to 0.15m long and 0.15m wide, some redeposited natural mottles at base and occasional reddish patches and flecks of heat-affected silt, 0.11m thick	Single fill of pit [030]. Burnt wood within fill makes this fill very distinct compared with other fills recorded on site.
045 = 065	Westnorthwest-eastsoutheast aligned linear feature, over 8.50m long, 0.61m wide and 0.27m deep with moderately steep sides and a wide 'V'-shaped base	Narrow ditch, perhaps serving boundary and drainage functions, associated with Saxon settlement
046	Firm mid greyish-brown clayey and sandy silt with	Single fill of ditch [045]

Context	Description	Interpretation
	occasional pebbles, black mineral flecks	
047	Sub-oval feature, 0.46m by 0.34m wide and 0.21m deep with vertical to slightly undercut sides and a moderately flat base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
048	Moderately firm mid to dark brown clayey sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks and sub-rounded limestone fragments, 50mm thick	Uppermost fill of post hole [047]
049	Sub-circular feature, 0.40m wide and 0.23m deep with very steep sides, sharply undercut at west, and a concave base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
050	Moderately firm mid to dark greyish-brown clayey sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks and fragments and occasional limestone fragments, 0.23m thick	Single fill of post hole [049]
051	Sub-circular feature, 0.44m by 0.38m wide and 0.10m deep with very steep sides and a moderately flat base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features. Might potentially be the same as [053], and be an upper stepped area of this feature, but uncertain.
052	Moderately firm mid slightly greyish-brown clayey sandy silt with occasional charcoal and occasional limestone fragments, 0.10m thick	Single fill of post hole [051]
053	Elongated feature, almost triangular with rounded corners, 0.56m long, 0.36m wide and 0.38m deep with very steep to vertical sides, undercut at south, with an uneven base with marked depression at southern corner, possibly marking position of post	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
054	Moderately firm mid greyish-brown clayey silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks and occasional angular limestone fragments, 0.33m thick	Single fill of post hole [053]
055	Northwest-southeast aligned oval feature, 1.44m long, 0.89m wide and 70mm deep with a moderately flat to gently undulating base	Shallow pit, with little evidence to attest to function. Fill contained only small quantity of animal bone and single burnt limestone fragment, perhaps suggesting a general domestic association.
056	Soft to moderately firm mid greyish-brown slightly clayey silt and sand with occasional pebbles, 70mm thick	Single fill of pit [055], of fairly homogenous character, mode of deposition uncertain
057	Oval to irregularly-shaped feature, 0.35m by 0.42m wide and 0.27m deep, at east sides irregular and moderately sloping at top, lower down and elsewhere sides very steep to vertical, with a gradual break of slope at base and a flat base, possibly with a vertical inclination of axis	Undated post hole, one of many in vicinity, all likely to relate to Saxon settlement. Irregularities at east may be significant, perhaps representing the side from which the post was raised, but uncertain.
058	Soft mid greyish-brown with occasional yellowish-brown mottles of redeposited natural, particularly near base and at east, and some slightly grey mottles near base, slightly sandy clayey silt, 0.27m thick	Single fill of post hole [057], perhaps a mix of material formed after post degraded <i>in situ</i> along with some redeposited natural and other material packed around post and slumped in from edges.
059	Elongated northeast-southwest aligned feature with rounded end at northeast, at least 0.40m long, 0.42m wide and 0.23m deep with steep sides and moderately steep slope at northeastern end, and a concave base	Feature, in plan appearing to be part of a 2.64m long linear, but on excavation perhaps more likely a c.0.80m long deeper feature within this, perhaps the same as postulated post hole [061], perhaps part of a structure associated with Saxon settlement
060	Firm mid greyish-brown clayey sandy silt with occasional limestone cobbles and occasional black mineral flecks, 0.21m thick	Fill of feature [059]
061	Possibly circular or elongated feature, not fully visible in plan, over 0.20m by over 0.23m wide and 0.31m deep with very steep sides and a concave base	Feature, interpreted on site as a possible post hole, but potentially an elongated feature and same as [059]. In either case possibly structural and related to Saxon structures. Indistinguishable from feature [063]
062	Firm mid greyish-brown clayey sandy silt with occasional limestone cobbles and occasional black mineral flecks, 0.31m deep	Single fill of feature [061]
063	Northeast-southwest aligned linear feature, at least 0.30m long, 0.36m wide and 0.14m deep with steep sides and a concave base	Feature, perhaps a short linear feature same as [111]. Possibly part of Saxon structure. Indistinguishable from [061] and [045]

Context	Description	Interpretation
064	Firm mid greyish-brown clayey and sandy silt with occasional limestone cobbles, occasional charcoal flecks and occasional black mineral flecks, 0.14m thick	Single fill of feature [063]
065	See [045]	
066	Firm mid greyish-brown clayey and sandy silt with occasional pebbles and cobbles and occasional black mineral flecks, over 0.11m thick	Fill of ditch [045], same as 046
067	Sub-circular feature, 0.42m wide and 0.23m deep with vertical sides and an uneven base, deepening to west	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
068	Moderately firm mid greyish-brown with occasional mid orange and light brownish-yellow mottles clayey sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks, 0.23m thick	Single fill of post hole [067]
069	Sub-circular feature, 0.40m by 0.36m wide and 0.34m deep with very steep sides, gently undercut at west, and a moderately flat base	Possible post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
070	Moderately firm mid orange (c.75%) with mottles of mid greyish-brown (c.25%) clayey sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks, 0.34m thick	Single fill of possible post hole [069]
071	Sub-oval feature, 0.38m long, 0.24m wide and 0.14m deep with very steep to vertical sides with more gently sloping side at the southwest end	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
072	Moderately firm mid greyish-brown clayey sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks and small angular limestone fragments, 0.14m thick	Single fill of post hole [071]
073	Sub-circular feature, 0.36m by 0.30m wide and 0.12m deep with steep, near-vertical sides and a moderately flat base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
074	Moderately firm mid greyish-brown clayey sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular limestone fragments, 0.12m thick	Single fill of post hole [073]
075	Westnorthwest-eastssoutheast aligned linear to sub-rectangular feature with rounded end to west, possibly square corners at east but unclear, 2.60m long, 0.77m wide and 0.12m deep with moderately steep sides at north where cut into soft natural 008 and more gently sloping sides at west where cut into stony natural 007, with a gradual break of slope at base to east and imperceptible break of slope at base to west, and a flat to very gently concave base	Elongated feature of uncertain nature which lies at right angles to a narrow linear feature [077] at southern end. Feature [075] appears to terminate close to edge of [077], possibly indicating these features are contemporary.
076	Soft to moderately firm mid greyish-brown slightly sandy clayey silt with occasional pebbles and rare charcoal flecks, 0.12m thick	Single fill of linear or elongated feature [075]. Feature of uncertain nature and function but fill contained small quantities of domestic waste possibly indicating casual disposal of waste, but not a clear 'rubbish' pit.
077	North-south (slightly northnortheast-southsouthwest) aligned linear feature with rounded possible terminus at north, over 2.30m long, 0.43m wide and 0.13m deep with steep, regular sides, a sharp to gradual break of slope at base and a flat base with a gentle slope down to the south. Increasingly shallow to north, towards possible terminus	Linear feature containing small quantities of domestic debris, probably Saxon. Probably closely associated with Saxon settlement on site, possibly even a structural element such as a beam slot, but very uncertain
078	Soft to slightly firm mid greyish-brown slightly sandy clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks and small fragments, occasional limestone pebbles and cobbles, 0.13m thick	Single fill of linear [077], containing moderate quantities of pottery and bone indicative of Saxon occupation.
079	Soft to firm mid greyish-brown and mid orangey-brown mottled slightly sandy clayey silt, 30mm thick	Possible scant remains of buried soil. Clearly truncated by feature [077]. Relationship with [075] less certain, and it may be that this is actually a further fill of this feature, but very unclear.
080	Sub-circular to amorphous feature, 0.42m by 0.34m wide and 60mm deep with steep sides and a flat base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
081	Firm mid greyish-brown clayey sandy silt with occasional patches of redeposited natural at edges of	Single fill of post hole [080]

Context	Description	Interpretation
	feature	
082	Oval feature 0.38m long, 0.37m wide and 90mm deep with steep sides and a flat base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
083	Firm mid greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt with occasional limestone, 90mm thick	Single fill of post hole [082]
084	Sub-circular feature, 0.35m by 0.42m wide and 60mm deep with moderately steep sides and a flat to gently concave base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
085	Firm mid greyish-brown slightly clayey sandy silt, 60mm thick	Single fill of posthole [084]
090	Moderately firm mixed mid to dark brown with moderately frequent mottles of light yellowish brown clayey sandy silt, 0.14m thick	Earliest fill of post hole [047]
091	Moderately firm <i>c.</i> 60% mid orange-brown and <i>c.</i> 40% mid to dark greyish-brown clayey sandy silt, 0.14m thick	A fill of post hole [053]
092	Sub-circular feature, 0.32m by 0.28m wide and 70mm deep with very steep, near-vertical sides and a very gently concave base	Probable base of a post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
093	Moderately firm mid greyish-brown clayey sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks, 70mm thick	Single fill of post hole [092]
094	Sub-rectangular to rounded feature, 0.36m by 0.37m wide and 0.22m deep with very steep sides at east and near-vertical sides elsewhere and a moderately flat base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
095	Moderately firm mid greyish-brown clayey sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks and limestone fragments, 0.22m thick	Single fill of post hole [094]
096	Sub-circular feature, 0.38m by 0.41 m wide and 90mm deep with very steep, near-vertical sides and a very gently concave base	Probable base of a post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
097	Moderately firm mid greyish-brown clayey sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks and limestone fragments, 0.41m thick	Single fill of post hole [096]
098	Unstratified finds from site	
099	Oval feature, 0.55m long, 0.43m wide and 0.13m deep with steep, generally quite regular sides but having a curious irregularity at southern edge, with a gradual break of slope at base and a flat to gently concave base	Undated feature, possibly a small pit but more likely a substantial post hole. Likely associated with Saxon settlement and activity in vicinity.
100	Soft mid greyish-brown slightly sandy clayey silt with occasional pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks and fragments and occasional bone flecks, 0.13m thick	Single fill of post hole [099]
101	Sub-circular to oval feature, 0.30m long and 0.24m wide and 20mm deep with steep sides at northwest, not seen elsewhere, with a gently concave base	Possible post hole, appeared convincingly round to oval in plan but very shallow. Possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
102	Soft mid greyish-brown slightly sandy clayey silt, 20mm thick	Single fill of possible post hole [101]
103	Sub-oval feature, 0.37m by 0.33m wide and 50mm deep with a gently concave base	Probable post hole, undated. One of many across site probably associated with Saxon settlement.
104	Soft mid greyish-brown slightly sandy clayey silt, 50mm thick	Single fill of probable post hole [103]
105	Circular feature, 0.30m wide and 0.10m deep with steep sides at southwest and moderately steep sides at southeast and a gently concave base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
106	Firm mid greyish-brown slightly clayey sandy silt with moderately frequent limestone fragments, 0.10m thick	Single fill of post hole [105]
107	Circular feature, 0.23m wide and 90mm deep with steep sides and a flat to gently concave base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
108	Firm mid brownish-grey slightly clayey sandy silt with moderately frequent limestone fragments, 90mm thick	Single fill of post hole [107]
109	Circular feature 0.27m in diameter and 90mm deep with steep to moderately steep sides, a gradual break of slope at base and a flat to gently concave base, slightly stepped at the west	Post hole, undated. One of many across site probably associated with Saxon settlement.

Context	Description	Interpretation
110	Soft mid greyish-brown slightly sandy clay and silt with occasional pebbles and rare charcoal flecks, 90mm thick	Single fill of post hole [109]
111	Northeast-southwest aligned linear feature, at least 0.92m long, 0.43m wide and 0.10m deep with steep to moderately steep sides and a gently concave base. Apparent terminus at southern end with sub-square corners	Feature, perhaps a short linear feature same as [063]. Possibly part of Saxon structure.
112	Firm mid greyish-brown slightly clayey sandy silt with occasional limestone fragments, 0.10m thick	Single fill of feature [111]
113	Possibly sub-circular feature, truncated at west and north, over 0.63m by over 0.52m wide and 0.14m deep with steep to moderately steep sides and a gently concave profile	Feature, possibly a shallow pit, possibly continuing beyond western edge of [111] but uncertain
114	Firm mid greyish-brown slightly clayey and sandy silt mottled with frequent dark grey patches	Single fill of feature [114]
115	Oval to sub-circular feature 0.34m by 0.41m wide and 0.15m deep with steep, gently concave, sides and a concave base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
116	Firm mid greyish-brown slightly clayey sandy silt, 0.15m thick	Single fill of post hole [115]
117	Oval feature, 0.30m long, 0.26m wide and 40mm deep with irregular fairly gently sloping sides and an irregular concave base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
118	Firm mid brownish-grey slightly clayey and sandy silt, 40mm thick	Single fill of post hole [117]
119	Sub-circular feature 0.42m by 0.57m wide and 0.28m deep with vertical sides and a flat to uneven base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
120	Moderately firm mid greyish-brown clayey sandy silt with moderately frequent limestone fragments and occasional charcoal flecks, 0.28m thick	Single fill of post hole [119]
121	Sub-circular feature, 0.60m by 0.55m wide and 0.16m deep with vertical sides and a moderately flat base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features. Might possibly be a wider area of post hole [119] but uncertain. No clear relationship with [119]
122	Moderately firm mid greyish-brown clayey sandy silt with moderately frequent limestone fragments and occasional charcoal flecks, 0.16m thick	Single fill of post hole [121]
123	Circular feature, 0.26m wide and 30mm deep with steep to moderately steep sides and a flat base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features.
124	Firm mid greyish-brown clayey sandy silt, 30mm thick	Single fill of post hole [123]
125	Amorphous to sub-circular feature, 0.55m by 0.45m wide and 0.28m deep with near-vertical sides at west and south and a sump at centre with steep to vertical sides, and gently sloping at east, moderately flat base with sharp drop down to central sump	Curious feature. In plan appeared to be a patch of heat-affected natural (126) truncated by post hole containing fill (127). On excavation however these two fills are very mixed and (127) does not appear to represent the fill of a post hole. However sump is reminiscent of a post hole.
126	Soft mid reddish-brown with occasional bright red flecks slightly sandy silty clay with occasional pebbles, 0.10m thick and mottled and mixed with (127)	A fill of feature (or features) [125], appears to comprise natural which has been reddened by heat, mixed with (127) a grey 'fill-like' deposit. Possibly represents burning directly above this spot but uncertain.
127	Soft mid greyish-brown slightly sandy silty clay with occasional pebbles and occasional bright red flecks, 0.28m thick and mottled and mixed with (126)	A fill of feature [125], similar in composition to many post hole fills across site
128	Circular feature, 0.27m wide and 40mm deep with a flat base	Post hole, possibly part of cluster of Saxon settlement features. Slightly darker fill than majority of post holes on site, possibly indicating this is not contemporary, but very unsure
129	Firm mid to dark greyish-brown slightly clayey and sandy silt with occasional limestone, 40mm thick	Single fill of post hole [128]

Appendix 2

THE FINDS

By Alex Beeby, Anne Boyle, Steve Malone & Gary Taylor

ROMAN POTTERY

By Alex Beeby

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by Darling (2004) and to conform to Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook*. A total of two sherds from two vessels, weighing seven grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Table 1 below.

Condition

Both sherds are very small and are most likely residual. One piece maybe burnt, although neither are especially abraded.

Results

Table 1, Roman Pottery Archive

Cxt	Cname	Fabric Name	Form Code	Form Name	Dec	NoV	Alter	Comments	NoS	W(g)
085	GREY?	Miscellaneous Greyware?	JBKCOR	Jar or Beaker with Cordoned Decoration	CORD; B EX	1	BURN T OXID?	SMALL FRAG; BURNT GREY?; COULD BE OXIDISED WITH SLIP; FE	1	4
085	ZDATE							L1-3C		
102	GREY	Miscellaneous Greyware	CLSD	Closed Form		1		SMALL FRAG	1	3
102	ZDATE							RO		
Total									2	7

Provenance

Both pieces came from the fills of postholes. One came from (085) within cut [084], whilst the second came from (102) in [101].

Range

There are two pieces of Roman greyware (GREY). One is from a cordoned jar or bowl (JBKCOR), and although it could be slightly earlier, it probably dates to the second or third centuries AD. The sherd from (102) is from a closed form, probably a jar and cannot be closely dated.

Potential

There is limited potential for further work. The pottery should be retained as part of the site archive and should pose no problems for long term storage.

Summary

Two sherds of Roman pottery were recovered during the strip map and sample excavation. Both are very small and are most likely residual.

POST ROMAN POTTERY

By Anne Boyle

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001) and to conform to Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook*. The pottery codenames (Cname) are in accordance with the Post Roman pottery type series for Lincolnshire, as published in Young *et al.* (2005). A total of 37 sherds from 30 vessels, weighing 473 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Archive List 1, with a summary in Table 2. The pottery ranges in date from the early Saxon to the early medieval period.

Condition

Most of the pottery appears to be redeposited. A single context (062) contained a group of early to middle Saxon pottery including a near complete bowl (DR 01).

Results

Table 2, Summary of the Post Roman Pottery

Cname	Full name	Earliest date	Latest date	NoS	NoV	W (g)
CHARN	Charnwood ware	450	800	3	2	29
CREA	Creamware	1770	1830	1	1	1
EMSAX	Early or Middle Saxon wares (generic)	400	870	8	8	24
FE	Anglo Saxon Ironstone tempered	550	800	1	1	1
LEMS	Lincolnshire Early Medieval Shelly	1130	1230	1	1	1
LIM	Oolitic limestone-tempered fabrics	700	1070	10	5	323
MAXQ	South Lincolnshire Maxey-type ware	670	800	2	2	23
NOTGL	Nottingham Light Bodied Glazed ware	1220	1320	1	1	2
RQCL	Central Lincolnshire Early to Mid Saxon Rounded Quartz Fabric	450	750	1	1	23
SSTCL	Central Lincolnshire Early to mid Saxon sandstone-tempered	450	750	4	4	33
SSTMG	Early to mid Saxon sandstone-tempered (carboniferous sandstone)	450	750	5	4	13
			TOTAL	37	30	473

Provenance

Early to middle Saxon pottery came from dumped topsoil (010); (046=066) fills of ditch [045]; (095), (120), (050), (054) fills of post holes [094], [119], [053] and [056] respectively; (056) fill of pit [055]; (076), the fill of feature [075]; (078) fill of linear [077]; (062), fill of possible post hole or elongated feature [061], (060) fill of elongated feature [059]; (056) fill of pit [055] and as unstratified material (098).

Range

The early to middle Saxon fabrics are identical in range to that recovered from earlier phases of excavation carried out at Holdingham roundabout. Unfortunately, the longevity of fabrics in the Saxon period means the material covers a general date span of the mid 5th to 9th century. Poor stratigraphy and a lack of other dateable finds prevent any refinement of this dating, and this is also the case for the previous excavations at the site.

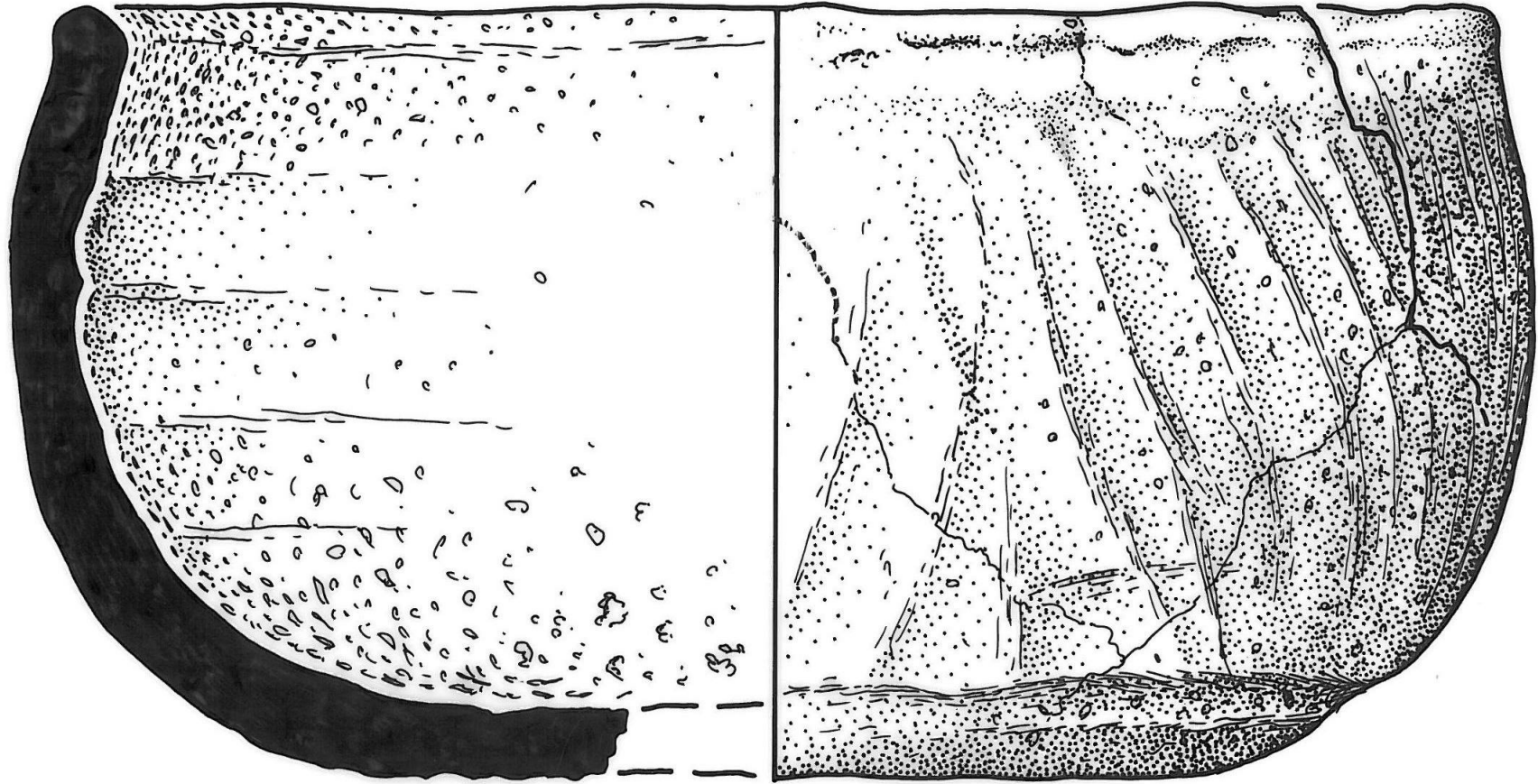
Potential

All the pottery is stable and poses no problems for long-term storage. No further work is required on the assemblage.

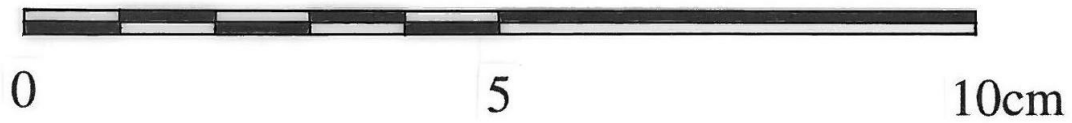
Summary

A small assemblage of Saxon pottery recovered from the site ties in well with the evidence recovered from previous excavations.

Pottery (062), Drawing 1, D Hopkins, Scale 1:1



Sleaford Lincoln Road (SLMR11). Mcdonalds Restaurant Car Park Extension



FIRED CLAY

By Anne Boyle

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in the Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook*.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments of fired clay were counted and weighed within each context. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the fired clay is included in Table 3.

Results

Table 3, Fired Clay Archive

Cxt	Class	Type	Fabric	NoF	W (g)	Comment
043	FCLAY	HEARTH	Fine sandy; vitrified	1	2	?ID
056	FCLAY		LIM	1	1	Flake
060	FCLAY	HEARTH	Fine sandy; vitrified	2	33	?ID
062	FCLAY	HEARTH	Fine sandy; vitrified	5	45	?ID
076	FCLAY	HEARTH	Vitrified	1	2	?ID or clinker
076	FCLAY		LIM	3	13	Flakes; soot
116	FCLAY	LOOM	SSTMG	1	6	
120	FCLAY		LIM	1	3	Flake

Provenance

Possible industrial/hearth material came from features [059] (060), [061] (062) and [075] (076) and post hole [042] (043). A single fragment of loom weight is present in post hole [115] (116). Fired clay came from pit [055] (056), linear [075] (076) and post hole [119] (120).

Range

Several fragments are heavily vitrified and may come from a hearth surface or be related to an industrial process. A single fragment potentially comes from a loomweight (see 'Other Finds', below).

Potential

The fired clay is stable and poses no problems for long-term storage. No further work is required on the assemblage.

Summary

A small group of fired clay indicates domestic and possibly industrial activity took place at the site.

ROMAN COIN

By Steve Malone

Table 4, Roman coin

SF No.	Cxt	Ruler/Denomination	Cat			Date
1	044	House of Valentinian	as LRBCII 965	Diam: 12mm Wt: 2.3 Axis: 6 Wear: VW/VW	Obv: <i>illegible</i> Rev: [GLORIA ROMAN]ORVM emperor and captive	365-78

Catalogue references by RIC volume and mint or LRBC (where relevant).

Single small corroded bronze coin from fill of post-hole. Mint mark uncertain S[M]AQ? But products of Aquileia mint should have other marks in the field and circulation from this mint in Britain is less usual. Perhaps irregular? Fourth-century coinage is more prevalent in Roman site assemblages than that of earlier periods (Reece 1995); a single site find of this period is not unusual.

Potential

The coin finds is probably residual in a later feature and of limited potential.

Recommendations

No further work is required.

OTHER FINDS*By Gary Taylor***Introduction**

Five other finds weighing a total of 16g were recovered.

Condition

The other finds are in moderate condition, though the charcoal is naturally fragile and the metal object from (058) is very corroded and delicate.

Results*Table 5, Other Materials*

Cxt	Material	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
010	stone	Burnt stone	1	7	
058	Copper alloy	Unidentified, possible pin head or coin fragment	1	1	
076	Copper alloy	Wire, possible pin shaft (but thin)	1	1	
100	charcoal	Charcoal, roundwood	1	1	
116	Fired clay	Possible loomweight	1	6	Iron Age- Early Roman

Provenance

The other finds were recovered from redeposited topsoil (010), posthole fills (058) [057], (100) [099], (116) [115], and the fill of a linear feature (076) [075].

Range

Two metal objects, both of copper alloy, were recovered, together with a fragment of fired clay, a burnt stone and a piece of charcoal. Although small, the fired clay has two angled sides and is probably part of a loomweight of triangular form. Loomweights of this shape occur widely across southeastern Britain, south of the Humber, on Iron Age sites (Elsdon and Barford 1996, 330). However, at Newton on Trent, about 15km west of Lincoln, loomweights of this same triangular form were found in an early-mid 2nd century Roman pottery kiln (Field and Palmer-Brown 1991, 49) and were clearly being made and in use in the early Roman period.

Potential

The other finds are of limited potential, as a small assemblage of mostly undated material, some of which is of uncertain identification.

Recommendations

No further work is required. The burnt stone and charcoal could be discarded.

SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 6 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 6 , Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
010	Mid 18th to 19th	
029	Unstratified	
044	365-78AD	Dated on coin
046	5th to 9th	Date on a single sherd
050	8th to 9th	
054	8th to 9th	
056	8th to 9th?	Date on a single sherd
058	Undated	
060	Mid 5th to mid 8th	Date on a single sherd
062	8th to 9th	
066	Late 7th to 8th	
076	Mid 5th to mid 9th	
078	Mid 6th to 9th	Date on a single sherd
095	Mid 5th to 8th	Date on a single sherd
098	Mid 5th to 8th	Date on a single sherd
100	Undated	
116	Iron Age-early Roman	Date on single piece of possible loomweight
120	Mid 5th to 9th	

ABBREVIATIONS

ACBMG	Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group
BS	Body sherd
CBM	Ceramic Building Material
CXT	Context
LHJ	Lower Handle Join
NoF	Number of Fragments
NoS	Number of sherds
NoV	Number of vessels
PCRG	Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group
TR	Trench
UHJ	Upper Handle Join
W (g)	Weight (grams)

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ARCHIVE CATALOGUES

Archive catalogue 1, Post Roman Pottery

Cxt	Cname	Fabric	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Part	Description	Date
010	CREA		Cup	1	1	1	Rim	Blue transfer print	
010	LEMS		Jar/ bowl	1	1	1	BS		
010	MAXQ		Jar/ bowl	1	1	1	BS		
010	SSTCL	F	Jar/ bowl	1	1	2	BS		
029	NOTGL		Jug	1	1	2	BS		Early 13th to 14th
046	EMSAX		Jar/ bowl	1	1	14	Rim	Upright rounded rim; soot	
050	LIM		Jar/ bowl	1	1	7	BS	Soot	
050	CHARN		Jar/ bowl	1	1	1	BS		
050	SSTMG		Jar/ bowl	1	1	1	BS		
054	LIM		Jar/ bowl	1	1	1	BS	Leached	
054	EMSAX		?	2	2	6	BS		
056	LIM		Jar/ bowl	1	1	1	BS		
060	RQCL		Large bowl	1	1	23	Rim		
062	LIM		Jar/ bowl	1	1	3	BS	Flake	
062	LIM		Bowl	6	1	311	Profile	Soot; rim edge for 1cm unsooted? Possibly uppermost coil made from different clay batch; DR01	
062	SSTMG		Jar/ bowl	1	1	2	BS		
062	EMSAX		?	1	1	1	BS		
066	MAXQ		Bowl	1	1	22	BS	Soot	
066	SSTCL		Bowl	1	1	23	BS	Soot; chaff impressions on outer surface	
076	SSTCL		Jar/ bowl	1	1	3	BS	Abraded	
076	SSTMG		Jar/ bowl	2	1	9	BS	Soot; same vessel?	
078	FE		Jar/ bowl	1	1	1	Base		
095	SSTMG	F	Jar/ bowl	1	1	1	BS	Soot	
098	SSTCL		Jar/ bowl	1	1	5	BS	Soot	
120	CHARN		Jar/ bowl	2	1	28	BS	Internal soot	
120	EMSAX		?	4	4	3	BS		

Appendix 3

THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES AND ANIMAL BONE ASSEMBLAGE

By James Rackham, The Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

Environmental Archaeology

Excavations conducted by Archaeological Project Services (APS) on a car park extension at MacDonalds, Holdingham, uncovered Anglo-Saxon features from which environmental soil samples were taken and animal bone fragments collected. These were submitted to the Environmental Archaeology Consultancy for assessment and identification. The soil samples were processed by APS and a single flot from each submitted for assessment along with the animal bone hand sorted from the sample residue, although the residue mesh size is not known. The location of each of the samples is indicated on Figure 5.

Table 1. Soil samples collected from site and processed by APS

Sample	context	vol	Description	date
1	044	?	Single fill of pit 030	Late 4 th C AD +
2	062	?	Single fill of feature 061	8-9 th C
3	050	?	Single fill of posthole 049	8-9 th C
4	054	?	Single fill of posthole 053	8-9 th C
5	120	?	Single fill of posthole 119	Mid 5 th -9 th

Soil samples

The flots supplied were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications of 10 to 40 times and preliminary identifications made of the plant and animal remains present (Table 2). A score of the frequency of remains in each category was recorded or their weight and fragment count (see Table 2).

Terrestrial snails, animal bone, charcoal and charred weed seeds were present in all the samples, while charred cereal grain occurred in four and charred chaff in one. Uncharred seeds, particularly of *Chenopodium* sp. (goosefoot and orache) occurred in all the samples along with a few other taxa but these are deemed to be intrusive recent or modern seeds. Fish vertebra were recovered from two samples. Two samples also produced a little vitrified siliceous material ('vitrified fuel ash slag'). The identified charred elements include barley, wheat, grasses, other weed seeds, and the bone includes cattle, sheep/goat, dog, goose, house mouse, rodent, frog/toad and eel, the latter represented by a single vertebra in samples <3> and <4>. The presence of house mouse is suggestive of buildings nearby, since this species tends to live in close proximity with humans, occupying their buildings and would be consistent with the postholes found representing timber buildings. The only sample with more than a few finds, other than terrestrial snails, was the fill of posthole 49 in which over a dozen charred cereal grains and weeds seeds and a single piece of chaff were present.

The terrestrial snail assemblage is dominated by shells of *Cecilioides acicula*, a small blind snail that lives in the soil and can burrow to a depth of over 1m. In these contexts this taxon is likely to be more recent than the deposits. The remaining snail assemblages are dominated by shells of *Vallonia excentrica* and *Trichia hispida* with occurrences of *Pupilla muscorum*, *Vertigo pygmaea*, *Cochlicopa* sp., *Punctum pygmaeum* and *Carychium* sp. (Table 2). This is largely an open grassland fauna with a few catholic taxa, and there are no shells of species more typical of woodland or shaded habitats, although *Punctum pygmaeum* can be found in shaded environments although it is fairly catholic in habit, also occurring in dry habitats (Evans 1972).

Table 2. Environmental remains recovered from the samples – SLRM11

samp. no.	cont. no.	samp. vol. in l.	flot vol. (ml)	charcoal */\$	charr'd grain *	charr'd chaff	charr'd seed *	snail *	animal bone wt g./no	fish *	comment
1	044	?	175	5/5			1	2	1/24		Charred – weed; uncharred- <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.; snails – <i>C. acicula</i> , <i>V. excentrica</i> , <i>V. pygmaea</i> (burnt), <i>P. muscorum</i> , <i>Carychium</i> sp. (burnt); a little vitrified fuel ash slag; indet bone; mouse, rodent;
2	062	?	1	1/2	1		1	3	5/40		Charred - barley, grass; uncharred - <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.; snails- <i>Cecilioides acicula</i> , <i>Trichia hispida</i> , <i>Vallonia excentrica</i> ; indet bone, sheep/goat mandible and ischium
3	050	?	5	1/4	2	1	2	5	11/121	1	Charred - barley, wheat, 1 piece chaff, grass and weed seeds; uncharred – <i>Chenopodium</i> , weed seeds; snails- <i>C. acicula</i> , <i>V. excentrica</i> , <i>Vertigo</i> sp., <i>V. pygmaea</i> , <i>T. hispida</i> , <i>Punctum pygmaeum</i> ; indet bone, dog, eel, house mouse, frog/toad
4	054	?	3	1/2	1		1	5	12/92	1	Charred – indet cereal and couple weed seeds; uncharred – <i>Chenopodium</i> , weed seeds; snails- <i>C. acicula</i> , <i>T. hispida</i> , <i>V. excentrica</i> , <i>Pupilla muscorum</i> ; indet bone, cattle, sheep/goat, cf goose, eel, frog/toad
5	120	?	4	1/3	1		1	5	1/28		Charred – indet grain, rare weed seed; uncharred – <i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Sambucus</i> sp.; snails- <i>C. acicula</i> , <i>V. excentrica</i> , <i>V. pygmaea</i> , <i>Cochlicopa</i> sp., <i>T. hispida</i> ; a little vitrified fuel ash slag; indet bone, rodent, frog/toad

Interestingly the posthole features appear richer in environmental material than the pit and other feature sampled. Pit 030 is recorded as having large pieces of charcoal and the flint from this sample is dominated by charcoal fragments. Preliminary identification of two of these fragments suggests the presence of oak and it is possible that much of the charcoal in this sample could derive from a single larger piece of burnt timber.

Animal bone

A small sample of eighty two bones was recovered from twenty one contexts by hand excavation. These were recorded using the standard methodology of the Environmental Archaeology Consultancy (see Appendix 1). The assemblage is presumably largely Anglo-Saxon in date although several contexts are undated and two contexts, 85 and 102, have only Roman ceramics. The assemblage in context 062 (Boyle, Appendix 2) is an early-mid Saxon group. The bulk of the bone probably derives from the Anglo-Saxon period. In general the bone was in good robust condition with little or no evidence for erosion.

Bones of cattle, sheep, sheep/goat, horse, chicken and goose have been identified, but no pig bones were recognised. Over 50% of the assemblage could not be identified to taxon, although half of these were clearly attributable to cattle size animals, and are more likely to derive from cattle than the other possible candidates – horse and red deer. Cattle clearly predominate in the assemblage in terms of fragment numbers (NISP-number of identified specimens), but also in the frequency of zones (see Appendix) with a total of 24 cattle zones to 4 sheep/goat zones and two horse zones.

context	Horse	Cattle	Cattle size	Sheep/goat	Sheep	Sheep size	Chicken	Goose	Unidentified
12				1					
13	1	8	1			2			
29			1						
38									1
39						1			
46		2	1	2		4			1
50			1			1			
54			2						
56	1	1		1					1
58		1	1						1
60				1		1			1
62		4	1		1				
66		1							
76		2	6	2		3	1		1
78		2	1			1		1	
79	1		1	1					
83		1	1						
85			1						
93			1						
112		2	1						
124			4						1
TOTALS	3	24	24	8	1	13	1	1	7

The sample is small but fragments from immature and juvenile cattle are more abundant than those from adult beasts, although one mandible fragment indicates an aged animal. The only sheep/goat mandible derives from a sub-adult animal.

Two cattle ribs and a skull fragment were chopped, eight bones showed evidence of dog gnawing and two small unidentifiable fragments were calcined. Only one bone was sufficiently intact to warrant measurement, the distal end of a cattle metatarsus.

Discussion

The results from the samples and the hand collected animal bone appear to suggest domestic food waste, with some elements of the local small vertebrate and terrestrial snail fauna. There may be burnt structural timber in pit 030. The postholes were relatively productive.

The assemblage can contribute to the analysis and interpretation of the whole of the excavated Anglo-Saxon settlement at Holdingham. Hammerscale was retrieved from each of the five samples from the present investigation.

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5th July 2011

Appendix

Key to codes used in the cataloguing of animal bones and marine shells

SPECIES:

SPECIES CODE			SPECIES CODE	
MAN	human		DOVE	Dove species
EQU	Horse		FER	Feral dove
EQSZ	Horse size		PART	Partridge
BOS	Cattle		SWAN?	Swan?
BOSL	Cattle-large		WOOD	Woodcock
CSZ	cattle size		CURL	Curlew
SUS	Pig		WADE	wader
OVCA	sheep or goat		CROK	Crow or rook
OVI	Sheep		CORV	Crow or rook
CRA	Goat		JACK	Jackdaw
SSZ	sheep size		OWL	Owl indet.
FEL	Cat		BUZZ	Buzzard
CAN	Dog		GULL	Gull sp.
AUR	Aurochs			
AUR?	Aurochs?		TURD	Turdidae
CER	red deer		BIRD	Identifiable but not id'd
DAM	Fallow deer		PASS	Passerine
CLS	roe deer		LBIRD	Large bird
LEP	Hare		UNIB	Bird indet
ORC	Rabbit			
LAG	Lagomorph		FROG	Frog
CARN	Carnivore		FRTO	Frog or toad
FOX	Fox			
POLE	Polecat/ferret			
WEA	weasel		GAD	Gadid, cod family
BADG	Badger		LING	Ling
SEAL	seal		HADD	Haddock
SQU?	Squirrel?		RAY	ray
BEAV	Beaver		FISH	Fish
ROD	Rodent		UNIF	Fish indet
RAT	Rat			
AGR	Field vole		OYS	oyster
ARV	Water vole		COK	Cockle
MUS	House mouse		MUSS	Common Mussel
SORA	Common shrew		WHELK	Common whelk
MOLE	Mole		HEL	Helix aspersa
SMA	Small mammal		HELIX	Helix sp.
UNI	Unknown		HELN	Helix nemoralis
			SNAIL	snail
CHIK	Chicken			
CHKZ	Chicken size		FOSS	Fossil bone
GOOS	Goose, dom			
GOOS?	Goose, dom.?			
GSSZ	Goose size			
GSSP	Goose species			
GOSZ	Goose, poss. Wild			
DUCK	Duck, domestic sp.			
DUCK?	Duck?			
DKSP	Duck species			
DSP	Duck species indet			
MALL	Duck, dom.			
TURK	Turkey			

BONE ELEMENT:

BONE CODE		BONE CODE	
SKEL	skeleton	SCP	scapula
SKL	skull	HUM	humerus
ANT	antler	RAD	radius
ANT?	antler?	ULN	ulna
ATT	antler tine	RUL	radius and ulna
HC	horn core	C/T	carpus/tarsus
TEMP	temporal	C23	carpus 2+3
FRNT	frontal	CAR	carpus
PET	petrous	CPA	accessory carpal
PAR	parietal	CPI	intermediate carpal
OCIP	occipital	CPR	radial carpal
ZYG	zygomatic	CPU	ulnal carpal
NAS	nasal	MTC	metacarpus
PMX	premaxilla	MC1-5	metacarpus 1-5
MAN	mandible	MTP	metapodial
MNT	mandibular tooth	MPL	lateral metapodial
DLI	deciduous lower incisor	INN	innominate
DLPM1-4	deciduous lower premolar 1-4	ILM	ilium
LI	lower incisor (and 1-3)	PUB	pubis
LC	lower canine	ISH	ischium
LPM1-LPM4	lower premolar 1-4	FEM	femur
LM1-LM3	lower molar 1 - molar 3	PAT	patella
MAX	maxilla	TIB	tibia
DUI	deciduous upper incisor	FIB	fibula
UI	upper incisor (1-3)	LML	lateral malleolus
UC	upper canine	AST	astragalus
DUPM	deciduous upper premolar	CAL	calcaneum
DUPM1-4	deciduous upper premolar 1-4	CQ	centroquartal
UPM1-UPM4	upper premolar 1-4	TAR3	tarsus 3
UM1-UM3	upper molar 1 - molar 3	T4	tarsus 4
MXT	maxillary tooth	TAR	tarsus
TTH	indeterminate tooth	MTT	metatarsus
INC	incisor	MT1-5	metatarsus 1-5
HYD	hyoid	MTL	lateral metatarsus
ATL	atlas	SES	sesamoid
AXI	axis	PH1	1st phalanx
CEV	cervical vertebra (and 3-7)	PH2	2nd phalanx
TRV	thoracic vertebra (and 1-13)	PH3	3rd phalanx
LMV	lumbar vertebra	PHL	lateral phalanx
SAC	sacrum	LBF	long bone
CDV	caudal vertebra	UNI	unidentified
VER	vertebra		
STN	sternum	CLV	clavicle
CC	costal cartilage	COR	coracoid
RIB1	first rib (2 etc)	CMP	carpo-metacarpus
RIB	rib	CMC	carpo-metacarpus
		WPH1-3	wing phalanges 1-3
URO	urostyle	WPH	wing phalanx
		LSA	lumbosacrale
DENT	dentary		
CLEI	cleithrum		
RAY	fin ray		
SHELL	shell		
UV	upper valve		
VAL	valve		

NUMBER: number of fragments in the entry

SIDE: W - whole L - left side R - right side F - fragment

FUSION: records the fused/unfused condition of the epiphyses

P - proximal; D - distal; E - acetabulum; N - unfused; F - fused; C - cranial; A - posterior

ZONES: records the part of the bone present.
The key to each zone on each bone is on page 4

BUTCHERY: records whether a bone has been chopped (CH), cut (KN), worked (W), burnt (C)

GNAWING: records if a bone has been gnawed by dogs (DG), cats (FEL) or rodents (RG)

TOOTH WEAR - Codes are those used in Grant, A. 1982 The use of tooth wear as a guide to the age of domestic animals, in B.Wilson, C.Grigson and S.Payne (eds) *Ageing and sexing animal bones from Archaeological sites*, 91-108.

Teeth are labelled as follows in the tooth wear column:

Deciduous	Permanent
f ldpm2/dupm2	F lpm2/upm2
g ldpm3/dupm3	G lpm3/upm4
h ldpm4/dupm4	H lpm4/upm4
	I lm1/um1
	J lm2/um2
	K lm3/um3

MEASUREMENTS :Any measurements are those listed in A.Von den Driesch (1976) *A Guide to the Measurement of Animal Bones from Archaeological Sites*, Peabody Museum Bulletin 1, Peabody Museum, Harvard, USA

Some measurements have been taken on juveniles. Measurements marked L1 are the greatest length of long bones lacking one unfused epiphysis – the measurement being taken from the epiphyseal junction. Measurements marked L2 are the greatest length of the long bones between epiphyseal junctions when both epiphyses are unfused.

PATHOLOGICAL: A 'P' indicates that the bone fragment carries a pathology

COMMENTS: This may include a short description of the fragments, any pathologies, butchery or gnawing evidence

PRESERVATION: records the condition of the bone in the following manner

- 1- enamel only surviving
- 2- bone very severely pitted and thinned, tending to break up; teeth with surface erosion and loss of cementum and dentine
- 3- surface pitting and erosion of bone, some loss of cementum and dentine on teeth
- 4- surface of bone intact, loss of organic component, material chalky, calcined or burnt
- 5- bone in good condition, probably with some organic component

ZONES - codes used to define the zones on each bone

SKULL	1. paraoccipital process	METACARPUS	1. medial facet of proximal articulation, MC3	
	2. occipal condyle		2. lateral facet of proximal articulation, MC4	
	3. intercornual protuberance		3. medial distal condyle, MC3	
	4. external acoustic meatus		4. lateral distal condyle, MC4	
	5. frontal sinus		5. anterior distal groove and foramen	
	6. ectorbitale		6. medial or lateral distal condyle	
	7. entorbitale			
	8. temporal articular facet		FIRST PHALANX	1. proximal epiphysis
	9. facial tuber			2. distal articular facet
	0. infraorbital foramen			
		INNOMINATE	1. tuber coxae	
MANDIBLE	1. Symphyseal surface		2. tuber sacrale + scar	
	2. diastema		3. body of illium with dorso-medial foramen	
	3. lateral diastemal foramen		4. iliopubic eminence	
	4. coronoid process		5. acetabular fossa	
	5. condylar process		6. symphyseal branch of pubis	
	6. angle		7. body of ischium	
	7. anterior dorsal ascending ramus posterior M3		8. ischial tuberosity	
	8. mandibular foramen		9. depression for medial tendon of rectus femoris	
VERTEBRA	1. spine	FEMUR	1. head	
	2. anterior central epiphysis		2. trochanter major	
	3. posterior central epiphysis		3. trochanter minor	
	4. centrum		4. supracondyloid fossa	
	5. neural arch		5. distal medial condyle	
		6. lateral distal condyle		
SCAPULA	1. supraglenoid tubercle		7. distal trochlea	
	2. glenoid cavity			
	3. origin of the distal spine		8. trochanter tertius	
	4. tuber of spine	TIBIA	1. proximal medial condyle	
	5. posterior of neck with foramen		2. proximal lateral condyle	
	6. cranial angle of blade		3. intercondylar eminence	
	7. caudal angle of blade		4. proximal posterior nutrient foramen	
		5. medial malleolus		
HUMERUS	1. head		6. lateral aspect of distal articulation	
	2. greater tubercle		7. distal pre-epiphyseal portion of the diaphysis	
	3. lesser tubercle			
	4. intertuberal groove	CALCANEUM	1. calcaneal tuber	
5. deltoid tuberosity	2. sustentaculum tali			
6. dorsal angle of olecranon fossa	3. processus anterior			
	7. capitulum			
	8. trochlea	METATARSUS	1. medial facet of proximal articulation, MT3.	
	9. coronoid fossa		2. lateral facet of proximal articulation, MT4	
	0. teres tubercle		3. medial distal condyle, MT3	
			4. lateral distal condyle, MT4	
RADIUS	1. medial half of proximal epiphysis		5. anterior distal groove and foramen	
	2. lateral half of proximal epiphysis		6. medial or lateral distal condyle	
	3. posterior proximal ulna scar and foramen			
	4. medial half of distal epiphysis			
	5. lateral half of distal epiphysis			
	6. distal shaft immediately above distal epiphysis			
ULNA	1. olecranon tuberosity			
	2. trochlear notch- semilunaris			
	3. lateral coronoid process			
	4. distal epiphysis			

Archive Catalogue of Animal Bone from Holdingham – SLRM11

context	species	bone	no.	side	fusion	zone	butchery	gnawing	toothwear	measurement	path.	comment	preservation
12	OVCA	MAN	1	F								ANT FRAG ASC RAMUS-PART ZONE7	4
13	BOS	CAL	1	L	PN	23						TUBERCLE BROKEN OFF-MODERN-	4
13	BOS	FEM	1	R	DN	5		DG				CHEWED FRAG DISTAL EPI	4
13	BOS	FEM	1	L		4						DISTAL SHAFT-IMMATURE	4
13	BOS	HUM	1	R	DF	6890						SPLIT DISTAL HALF	4
13	BOS	INN	1	R	EN	7						ANT ISCHIAL SHAFT-POROUS	4
13	BOS	LMV	1	F	CNAN	45	CH					CHOPPED DOWN BOTH SIDES-CENTRUM AND ARCH	4
13	BOS	MTT	1	R	DF	345				Bd-59.5		DISTAL THIRD	4
13	BOS	SKL	1	R								POST MEDIAL FRONTAL-5 PIECES-SUTURES OPEN	4
13	CSZ	RIB	1	F			CH					SHAFT FRAGMENT- 2 PIECES-DISTAL END CHOPPED	4
13	EQU	FEM	1	L		8						SHAFT FRAGMENT WITH PART 3RD TROCHANTER	4
13	SSZ	RIB	1	L								PROX SHAFT	4
13	SSZ	RIB	1	R								PROX MIDSHAFT	4
29	CSZ	UNI	1	F			C					BURNT INDET FRAGMENT	4
38	UNI	LBF	1	F								SHAFT FRAGMENT-BIRD?	4
39	SSZ	UNI	1	F								? INNOMINATE FRAGMENT- 2 PIECES	4
46	BOS	MAN	1	L								POST VENTRAL HORI RAMUS- 2 PIECES	4
46	BOS	MAN	1	L		5						CORONOID-POROUS	4
46	CSZ	SCP	1	F								BLADE FRAGMENT-CRANIAL MARGIN	4
46	OVCA	MAN	1	R		5						CORONOID	4
46	OVCA	SKL	1	R								PARIETAL	4
46	SSZ	LBF	1	F	DN							DISTAL SHAFT FRAGMENT	4
46	SSZ	LBF	1	F								SHAFT FRAGMENT	4
46	SSZ	LBF	1	F								SHAFT FRAGMENT-POROUS-IMM	4
46	SSZ	LMV	1	F								TRANS PROCESS	4

context	species	bone	no.	side	fusion	zone	butchery	gnawing	toothwear	measurement	path.	comment	preservation
46	UNI	UNI	1	F			C					CALCINED FRAGMENT	4
50	CSZ	UNI	1	F								INDET-SMALL FRAGMENT	4
50	SSZ	UNI	1	F								INDET-SMALL FRAG-2 PIECES-?MAN	4
54	CSZ	LBF	1	F				DG				CHEWED SHAFT FRAGMENT-POSS RAD	4
54	CSZ	LBF	1	F				DG				CHEWED SHAFT FRAGMENT-POSS PROX MTT	4
56	BOS	RAD	1	R				DG				PROX MIDSHAFT-SMALL-JUV-DISTAL CHEWED	4
56	EQU	RIB	1	F								FRAGMENTED MIDSHAFT- 12 PIECES	4
56	OVCA	RAD	1	R								SPLIT MIDSHAFT FRAGMENT	4
56	UNI	UNI	1	F								INDET SMALL FRAGMENT	4
58	BOS	SKL	1	F								CRANIAL FRAGMENT	4
58	CSZ	UNI	1	F								INDET SMALL FRAGMENT	4
58	UNI	UNI	1	F								? LMV TRANS PROCESS FRAG?	4
60	OVCA	MAN	1	L		7			J12K7			POST TOOTH ROW-FRAGMENTED- 10 PIECES	4
60	SSZ	LBF	1	F								SHAFT FRAGMENT-POROUS	4
60	UNI	UNI	1	F								INDET	4
62	BOS	CEV	1	W	CNAN	145						CENTRUM AND ARCH-SMALL-IMM/JUV	4
62	BOS	INN	1	L	ENAN	7						WHOLE JUV ISCHIUM- 2 PIECES	4
62	BOS	RIB	1	L	PN							1ST RIB-JUV-COMPLETE	4
62	BOS	RIB	1	L								PROX AND MID SHAFT-SMALL-IMM?- 2 PIECES	4
62	CSZ	RIB	1	F				DG				DISTAL SHAFT FRAGMENT-DISTAL CHEWED	4
62	OVI	SKL	1	L								POST FRONTAL WITH BASE HORN CORE-WETHER OR EWE	4
66	BOS	SKL	1	F		5						FRONTAL FRAGMENT	4
76	BOS	HUM	1	L		5						FRAGMENT PROX SHAFT	4
76	BOS	RIB	1	L								DISTAL THIRD MID AND DISTAL SHAFT	4
76	CHIK	ULN	1	L								PROX END	4
76	CSZ	CEV	1	F								ZYGAPOPHYSIS--ABRADED	4
76	CSZ	LBF	1	F								INDET SHAFT FRAGMENT	4
76	CSZ	LBF	1	F								SHAFT FRAGMENT-? TIB	4

context	species	bone	no.	side	fusion	zone	butchery	gnawing	toothwear	measurement	path.	comment	preservation
76	CSZ	LBF	1	F								SPLIT SHAFT SLIVER-POSS CHOPPED	4
76	CSZ	LBF	1	F								SHAFT FRAGMENT	4
76	CSZ	LBF	1	F								SHAFT FRAGMENT-SMALL	4
76	OVCA	MTT	1	L	DF	35		DG				DISTAL HALF -ONE CONDYLES CHEWED OFF	4
76	OVCA	TIB	1	L								DISTAL HALF SHAFT	4
76	SSZ	LBF	1	F								SHAFT FRAGMENT-?RAD	4
76	SSZ	LBF	2	F								SHAFT FRAGMENT	4
76	UNI	UNI	1	F								INDET SMALL FRAGMENT	4
78	BOS	SKL	1	R					K7			M3 WITH SMALL PART MAX ATTACHED	4
78	BOS	SKL	1	F			CH					MEDIAL SUTURE AND PART FRONTAL-CHOPPED	4
78	CSZ	LBF	1	F								SHAFT FRAGMENT	4
78	GOOS	STN	1	F								POST LATERAL FRAGMENT	4
78	SSZ	LBF	1	F								SHAFT FRAGMENT	4
78	CSZ	RIB	1	R								MIDSHAFT- 4 PIECES	4
78	EQU	RIB	1	R	PF	1						COMPLETE	4
78	OVCA	MTC	1	F				DG				ANT PROX SHAFT FRAGMENT-PROX END CHEWED	4
83	BOS	CPI	1	F		1						ANT PART	4
83	CSZ	LBF	1	F								SMALL INDET SHAFT FRAGMENT	4
85	CSZ	RIB	1	F								SPLIT SHAFT FRAGMENT	4
93	CSZ	RIB	1	F								SMALL SHAFT FRAGMENT	4
112	BOS	MAN	1	R					I17			ANT TOOTH ROW WITH M1- 4 PIECES	4
112	BOS	SKL	1	R		90			gh12I6J0			CALF MAXILLA- 2 PIECES	4
112	CSZ	LBF	1	F				DG				PROX SHAFT FRAG-CHEWED	4
124	CSZ	UNI	3	F								INDET SMALL PIECES-MODERN BREAKS	4
124	CSZ	UNI	1	F								INDET	4
124	UNI	UNI	1	F								SMALL INDET FRAGMENT	4

Appendix 4

GLOSSARY

Bronze Age	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 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].
Cropmark	A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological or geological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.
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.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Geophysical Survey	Essentially non-invasive methods of examining below the ground surface by measuring deviations in the physical properties and characteristics of the earth. Techniques include magnetometry and resistivity survey.
Iron Age	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
Layer	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Mesolithic	The 'Middle Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 11000 - 4500 BC.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity
Neolithic	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500 - 2250 BC.
Palaeolithic	The 'Old Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 500000 - 11000 BC in Britain.
Post hole	The hole cut to take a timber post, usually in an upright position. The hole may have been dug larger than the post and contain soil or stones to support the post. Alternatively, the posthole may have been formed through the process of driving the post into the ground.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany

Appendix 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

6	Daily record sheets
4	Photographic record sheets
124	Context records
6	Context register sheets
2	Section register sheets
1	Plan register sheet
17	Plan drawing sheets
11	Section drawing sheets
1	Environmental sample register sheet
5	Environmental sample record sheets
1	Small finds register sheet

All primary records 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:

The Collection
Art and Archaeology in Lincolnshire
Danes Terrace
Lincoln
LN2 1LP

Accession Number: LCNCC: 2011.82

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: SLRM11

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.

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