

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING ON LAND AT A17/A52 BICKER BAR ROUNDABOUT, SWINESHEAD, LINCOLNSHIRE (BBBF11)

# Work Undertaken For KG Contractors (Eastern) Limited

August 2011

Report Compiled by Bob Garlant BA Dip NEBSS and Paul Cope-Faulkner BA (Hons)

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#### 1. SUMMARY

A programme of archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken during groundworks on land southwest of the A17/A52 Bicker Bar roundabout, Swineshead. The investigations monitored the excavation of a new drainage ditch, foundation work for a new building and the removal of soil for a loading bay.

The site lies in an area of Romano-British (AD 43-410) and medieval (AD 1066-1540) occupation as evidenced by surface finds of pottery and other material. Medieval salterns also lie in the vicinity of the site.

The watching brief revealed a sequence of natural, undated, medieval and post-medieval deposits. Two ditches, a channel and a subsoil remain undated, though the ditches are probably elements of a post-medieval or earlier field system. A possible ditch or channel containing medieval pottery was recorded along with two pits of post-medieval date.

Finds retrieved during the investigation include a small group of  $12^{th}$  Century Stamford ware, a fragment of deer bone and the skeleton of a horse, thought to be of modern date. Artefacts of  $17^{th} - 18^{th}$  century date were particularly common and were probably scattered on the field in fertilizer.

# 2. INTRODUCTION

# 2.1 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by KG Contractors (Eastern) Limited undertake to investigations archaeological during commercial development on land southwest of the A17/A52 Bicker Bar roundabout. Swineshead, Boston. Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application B09/0168/FUL. The watching brief was carried out between the 14<sup>th</sup> March and 8<sup>th</sup> April 2011 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the Senior Historic Environment Officer, Boston Borough Council.

# 2.2 Topography and Geology

Bicker is located 12km southwest of Boston and 18km southeast of Sleaford in the administrative district of Boston Borough, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The site is 1.8km northwest of Bicker as defined by the parish church of St Swithin at National Grid Reference TF 2403 3844 (Fig. 2). The site lies mainly within the parish of Swineshead with the northern part within Bicker parish. The site lies west of the A17 and east of the Donington Road (A52) at a height of c. 3m OD on generally level ground.

Local soils are of the Wisbech Series, typically coarse silty calcareous alluvial gley soils (Robson 1990, 36). The soils overlie a drift geology of younger marine alluvium with older marine alluvium immediately north of the site which in turn seal a solid geology of Jurassic Ancholme Group mudstone and limestones (BGS 1995).

# 2.3 Archaeological Setting

The development lies in an area of known archaeological significance. Earliest of the remains in the vicinity are several Roman sites located within 1km to the north, such as Coney Hill, where Romano-British pottery and a considerable quantity of samian ware was discovered (HER 12560).

Saltern mounds of medieval date fringe the line of the former Bicker Haven, the nearest of which are located immediately north and south of the development.

Medieval artefacts, including a large concentration of medieval pottery and material associated with salt-making have also been identified at Coney Hill to the north (HER 12564).

Pits containing shellfish, exposed in ditch sections approximately 200m to 300m south of the site, have also been reported (H Healey *pers comm.*). Similar features in the fens have been dated to the late Saxon and medieval periods.

#### 3. AIMS

The aim of the archaeological investigation was to ensure that any archaeological features exposed during the groundworks should be recorded and, if present, to determine their date, function and origin.

#### 4. METHODS

Monitoring was undertaken excavation of a new drainage ditch around the eastern and northern boundaries of the site, running parallel to the A17 and A52 respectively. Reduction of soil levels and the subsequent excavation of stanchion pits for a new building and adjacent loading bay were also monitored. All work was undertaken by machine to depths required by the development. Following excavation, the sides of the trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical and exposed surfaces were examined for archaeological features. Selected deposits were excavated further to retrieve artefactual material and to determine their function. Each deposit was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their descriptions appears as Appendix 1. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and 1:20. Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

Following excavation, finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 2). The records were also checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them and supplemented by artefact dating.

# 5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis, five phases were identified;

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Undated deposits
Phase 3	Medieval deposits
Phase 4	Post-medieval deposits
Phase 5	Modern deposits

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

# Phase 1: Natural deposits

Natural deposits were encountered in all areas of the development. The natural was formed of marine alluvium and assigned context numbers (003), (011), (015), (021), (022), (029), (030), (042), and (043). The composition of the alluvium varied from light yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional sub-rounded stones towards the east of the site to light brown, mid-brown and light greyish brown towards the west.

#### Phase 2: Undated deposits

Located towards the centre of the site was a northwest-southeast aligned ditch (033/046). This measured 4.7m wide and was over 0.6m deep (Fig. 9, Section 10). A lower fill of grey clayey silt (045) was recorded above which lay deposits of brown silt (031 and 032) and greyish brown silt (044).

Aligned northwest-southeast (Fig. 7), to the southwest of ditch (033/046), was feature (039). Perhaps representing a natural channel, it measured over 4.1m wide and over 0.6m deep (Fig. 9, Section 9). Three fills were recorded, a lower of yellowish brown sandy silt (038), followed by bluish grey silty clay (037) and finally an upper layer of brown silt (036).

Parallel to this channel was a second channel (041) which may represent the northeast side of the same feature. This was over 3.8m wide and deeper than 0.6m and contained a single fill of greyish brown silt (040). If channels (039) and (041) represent the same feature, it would give a combined width of 12.34m.

The channels were cut by a ditch (028/035) following the same alignment. These had a combined width of 6.6m and were filled with brown silt (027) and brownish grey silt (034).

Located within the building foundations was a possible subsoil (020) comprising brown sandy silt that was 0.15m thick (Fig. 8, Section 6).

# **Phase 3: Medieval deposits**

A dark grey silty band (050), revealed during excavation of the southern part of the new ditch (Fig. 3), may represent the fill of a ditch or a natural channel. Stamford ware pottery of 12<sup>th</sup> century date was retrieved from this deposit.

# Phase 4: Post-medieval deposits

A large pit, [013], was recorded in the northern part of the new boundary ditch (Fig. 5). A single fill of mixed sandy silt (014) was recorded that contained pottery, glass and clay pipe of late 18<sup>th</sup> to early 19<sup>th</sup> century date.

A small pit, [054], located in the area of the new loading bay, measured 0.9m by 0.6m and was 0.2m deep (Fig. 6). It

contained a fill of black charcoal rich clayey silt (055). Pottery and brick of 17<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> century date was retrieved along with a 19<sup>th</sup> century clay pipe fragment that may be intrusive.

# Phase 5: Modern deposits

A horse skeleton, (004), thought to be of recent date, was found along the eastern part of the newly cut ditch.

Located near the horse burial was ditch [008] that was aligned northeast to southwest. This measured 1.5m wide and over 1m deep and was filled with greyish brown sandy silt (009), which contains a ceramic field drain.

Representing a re-cut of the undated ditch (028/035) was ditch (026) that was 2.8m wide and over 0.6m deep (Fig. 9, Section 9). This ditch had been infilled recently with modern rubble (025).

Situated at the north of the site within the new drainage ditch was ditch (051) that measured over 3m wide and was deeper than 0.7m (Fig. 9, Section 12). This contained a single fill of brown clayey silt (052) that incorporated trimmed tree branches.

Sealing all deposits was the current topsoil that comprised greyish brown silt (001 and 005), greyish brown sandy silt (010) and brown silt (019) that measured up to 0.45m thick.

A number of deposits associated either with a previous phase of the modern development of the site or with the current work itself were recorded. These include deposits of made-ground (016) and (017), a modern tarmac road surface (018), a modern clearance cut (049) with its rubble infill (048).

Artefacts of medieval and later date, much of it  $17^{th} - 18^{th}$  century, was recovered as unstratified material from the field surface

(012, 047 and 053).

probably deposited on the field in manuring scatters.

# 6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits comprise sandy silts and represent the underlying drift geology of younger marine alluvium. The slight variation in the colour of natural layers to the west may indicate a change to older marine alluvium.

A number of deposits remain undated (Phase 2) due to a lack of artefactual material. These comprise two ditches, a possible natural channel and a subsoil. The channel appears to have been a significant feature and had subsequently been re-cut as a ditch. These ditches are mostly aligned northwest-southeast. Historic maps of the area dating from 1891 depict field boundaries aligned northeast-southwest (OS 1891 a and b). This perhaps suggests northwest-southeast that the identified during the investigation pre-date those shown on the 1891 maps. As such, they probably constitute parts of a postmedieval or earlier field system.

A single medieval deposit (Phase 3) was encountered which may represent a ditch or possibly a furrow of the medieval field system.

Post-medieval features (Phase 4) consist of two pits that were dated to between the 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Both pits probably functioned as refuse pits and may be associated with the nearby farm.

The earliest material retrieved from the investigation was pottery of 12<sup>th</sup> century date manufactured at Stamford. Most finds were post-medieval and include pottery, brick, clay pipe and glass. A small number of animal bones were also collected. The artefacts suggest the area has been in arable use since the medieval period, with increased emphasis on this function in the 17<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, suggested by the greater quantities of this date which were

# 7. CONCLUSION

An archaeological investigation was undertaken at Bicker Bar Roundabout as the site lay in an area of Romano-British and medieval remains.

However, no Romano-British remains were encountered and medieval deposits were restricted to a single possible ditch. A possible natural channel, two ditches and a subsoil remain undated due to a lack of artefactual material. However, the ditches are probably parts of a field system of post-medieval or earlier date. Two post-medieval pits were also encountered during the investigation.

Finds retrieved from the investigation include medieval and later pottery, post-medieval brick and tile, glass, clay pipe and metalwork. A small quantity of animal bone was also retrieved.

# 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr T Hicks for commissioning the fieldwork and postexcavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Jenny Senior Historic Environment Young, Officer, Boston Borough Council, kindly allowed access to the parish files and library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

# 9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor Site Supervisors: Bob Garlant, Bryn Leadbetter, Chris Moulis, Liz Murray Finds processing: Denise Buckley Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING ON LANDAT A17/A52 BICKER BAR ROUNDABOUT, SWINESHEAD

Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner, Andrew

Failes

Post-excavation analysis: Paul Cope-

Faulkner, Bob Garlant

# 10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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OS, 1891 Lincolnshire Sheet: CXVII. S.W.

OS, 1891 Lincolnshire Sheet: CXVII. N.W.

Robson, 1990, Soils of the Boston and Spalding District (sheet 131), Soil Survey and Land research Centre

# 11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

If A Institute for Archaeologists

HER Historic Environment Record

OS Ordnance Survey



Figure 1 - General location plan

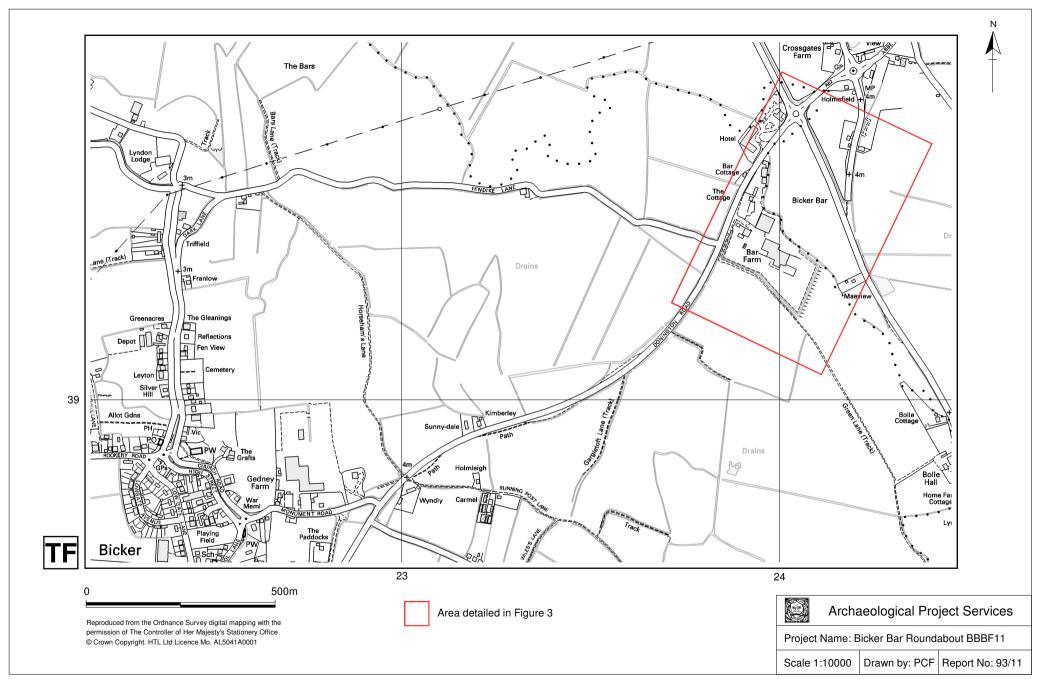


Figure 2 - Site location plan

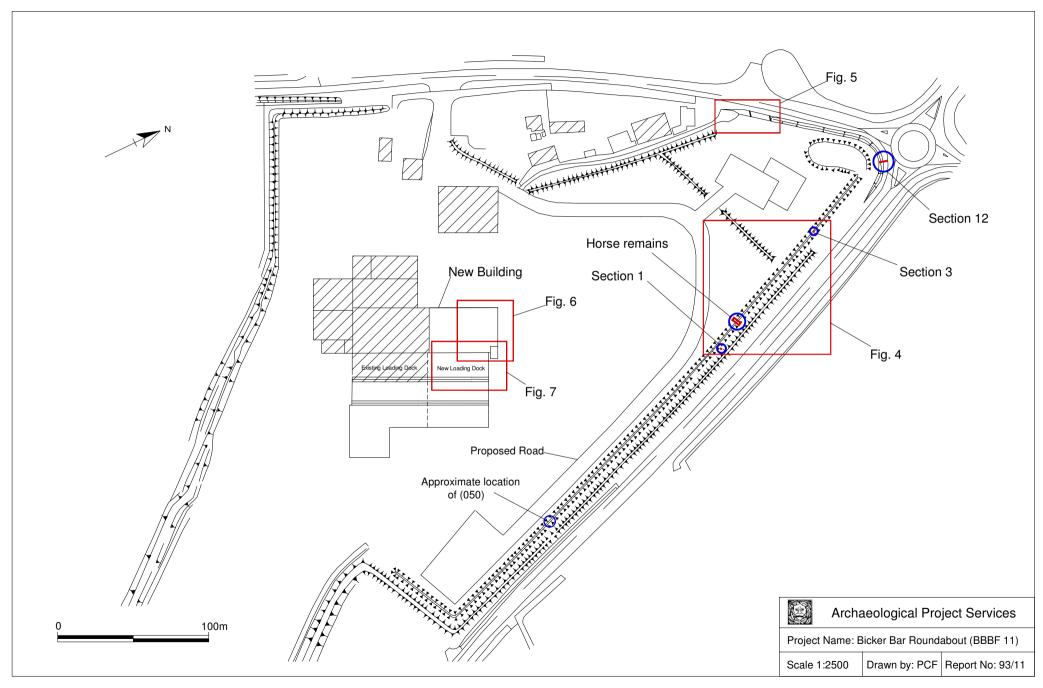


Figure 3 - Site Plan showing location of Figures and Section 12

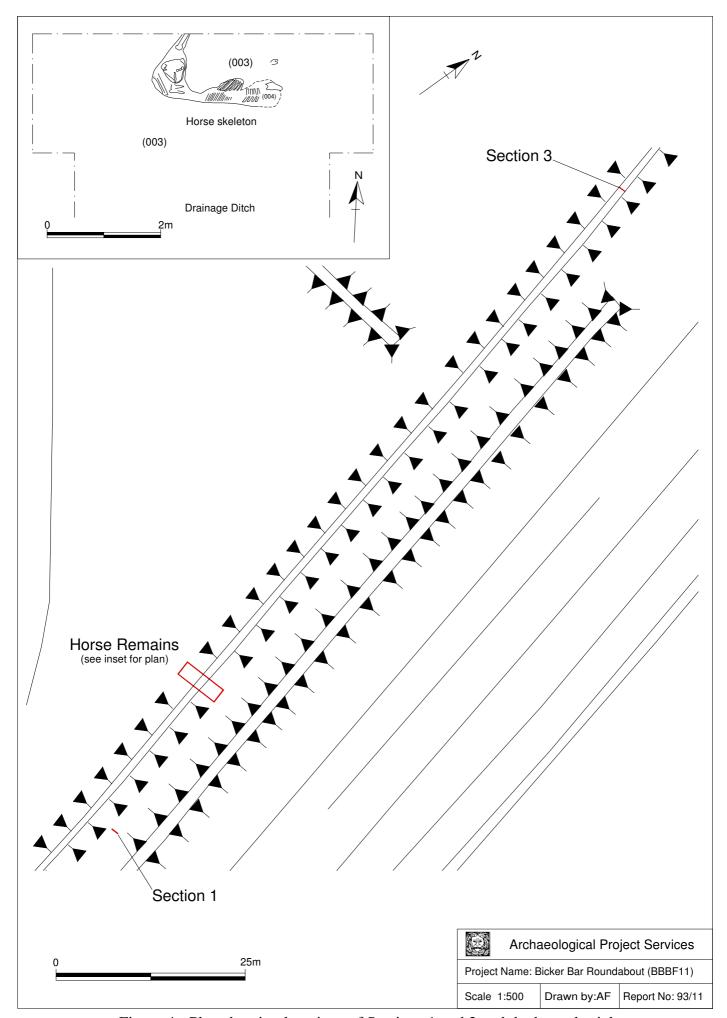


Figure 4 - Plan showing locations of Sections 1 and 3 and the horse burial

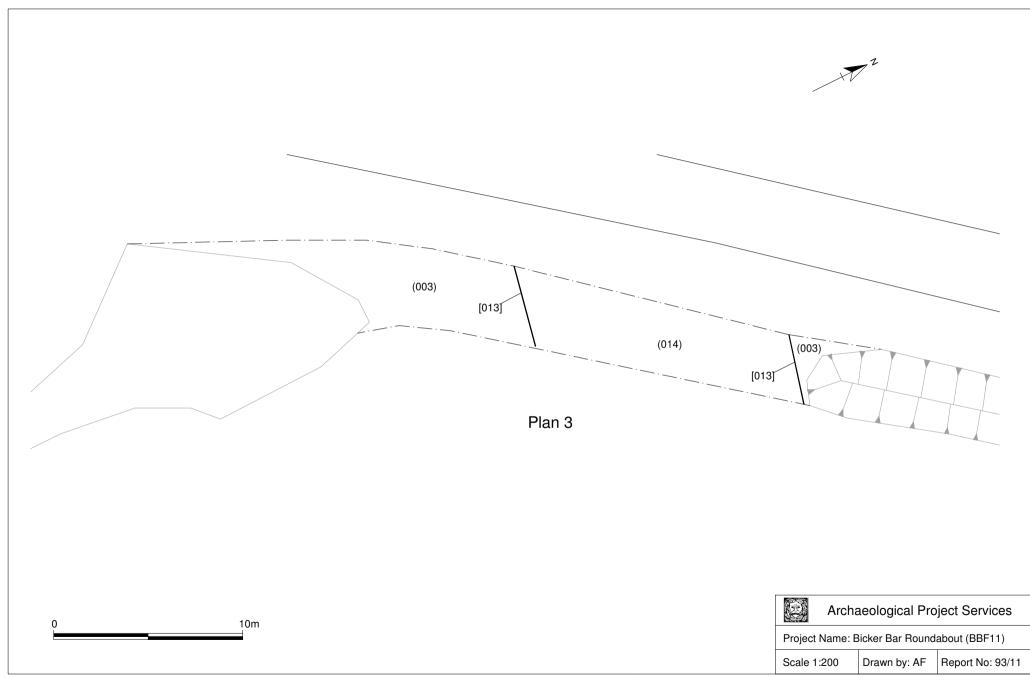


Figure 5 - Plan showing ditch (013)

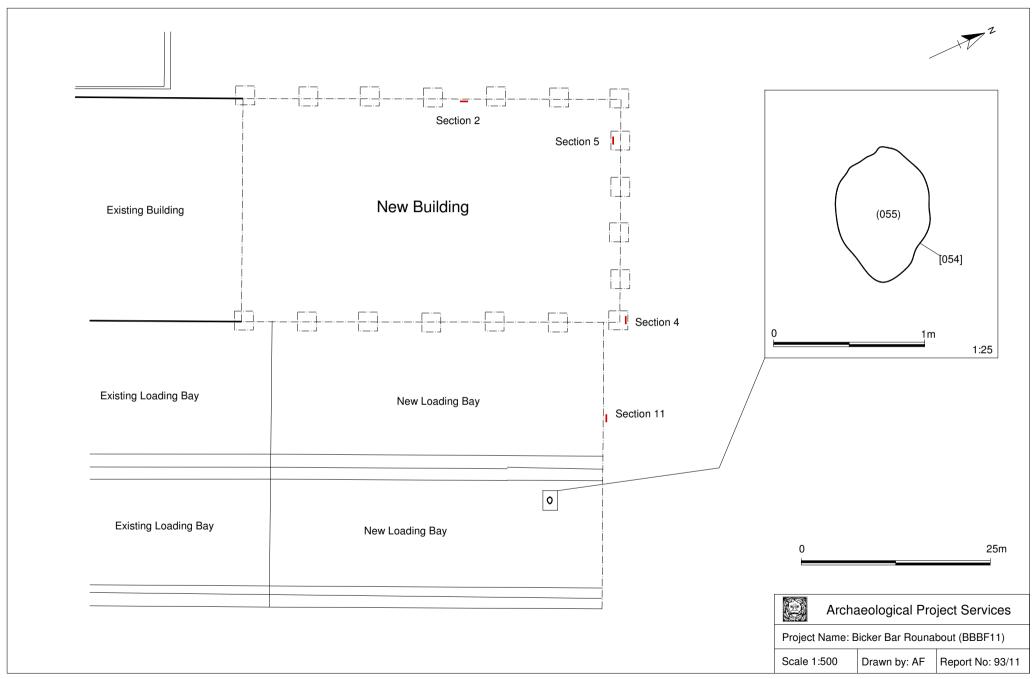


Figure 6 - Plan showing the location of Sections 2, 4-5, 11 and pit [054]

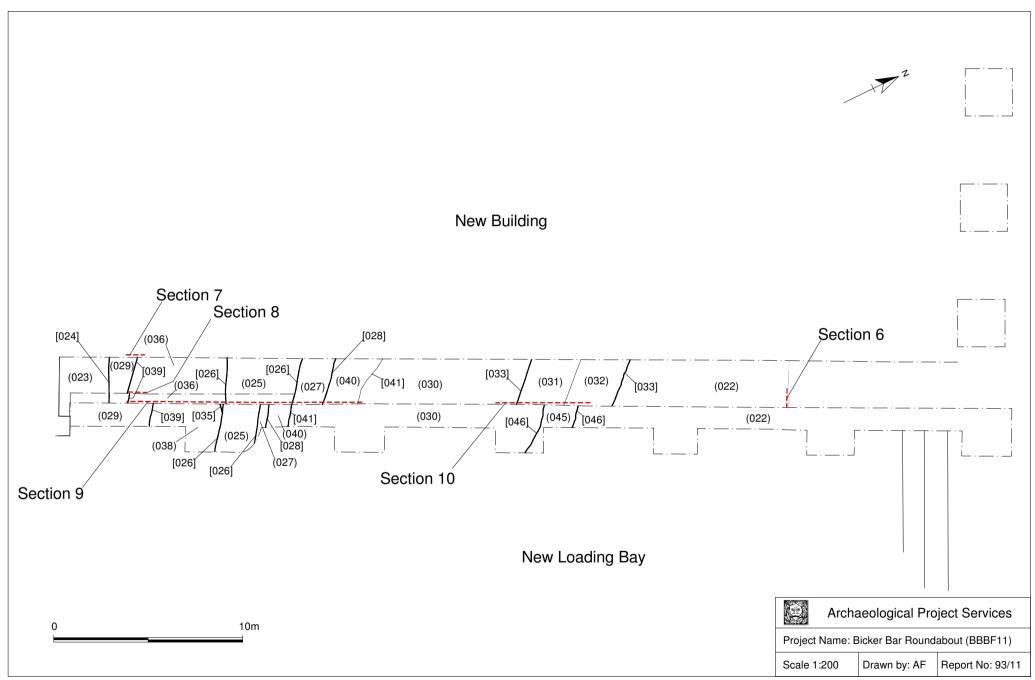


Figure 7 - Foundation trench for new building showing locations of Sections 6-10

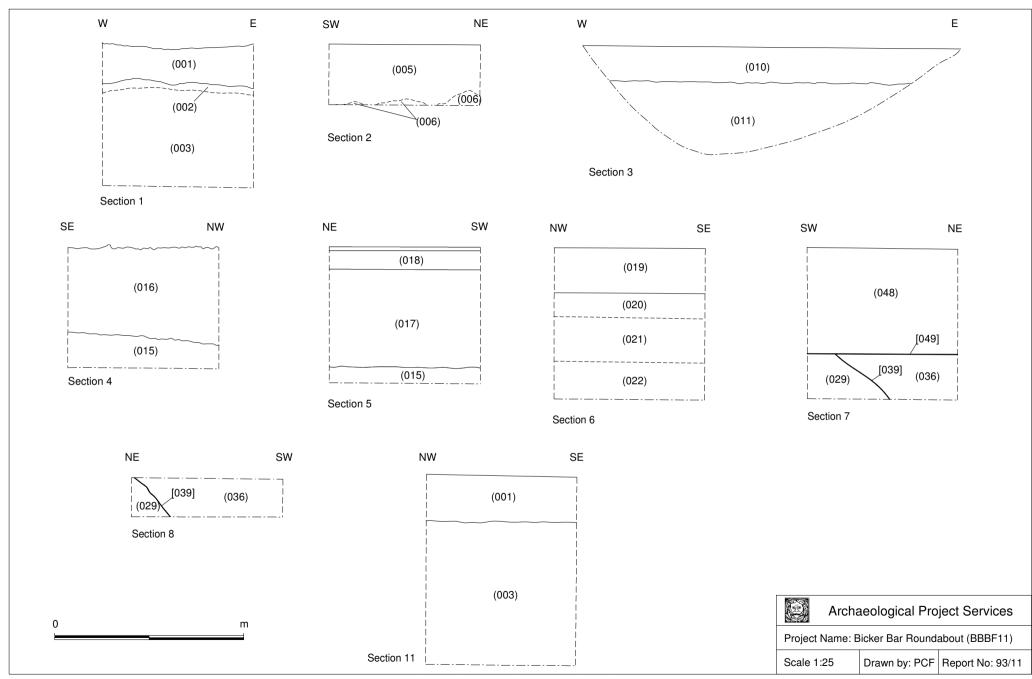


Figure 8 - Sections 1 to 8 and 11

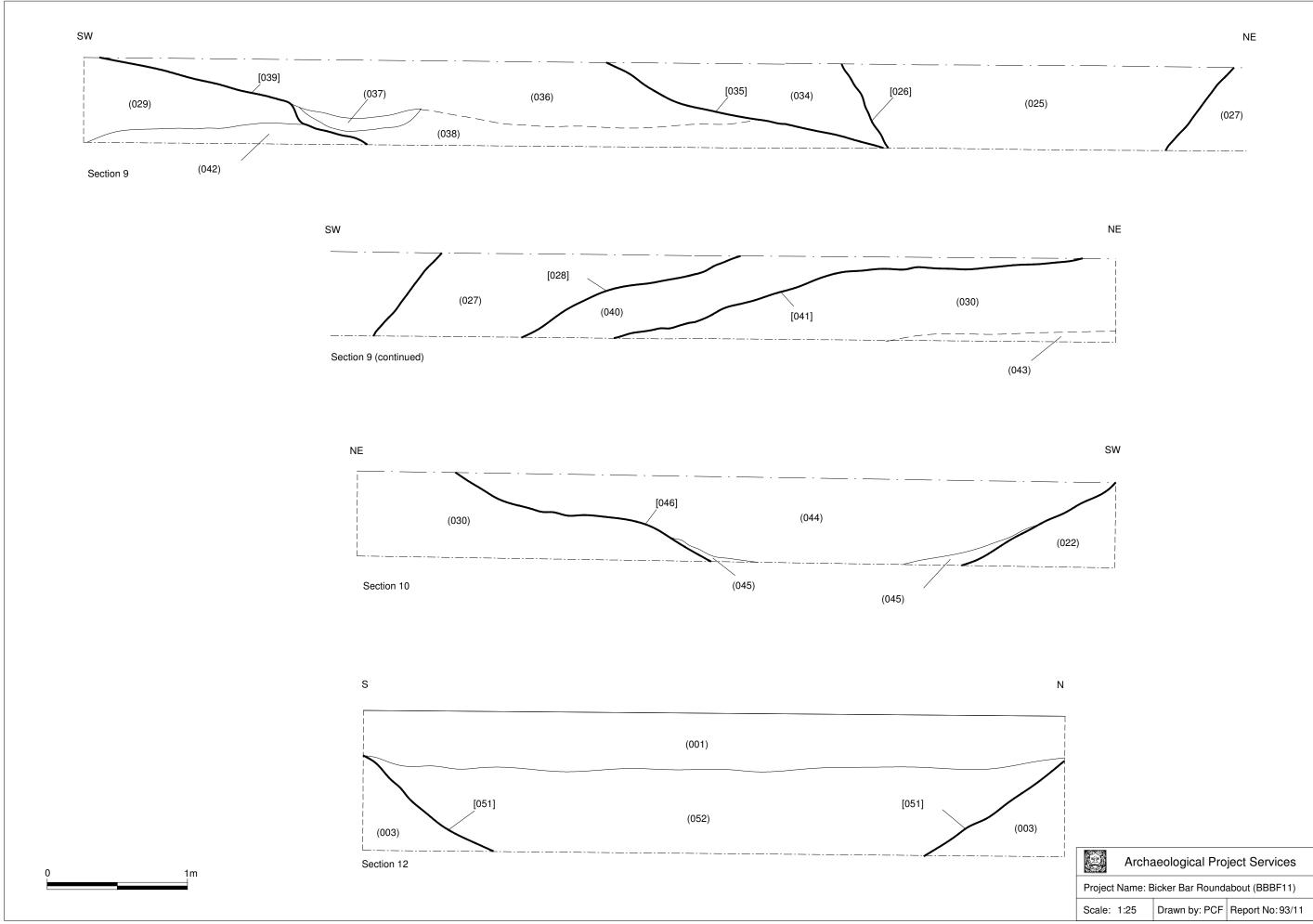


Figure 9 - Sections 9, 10 and 12



Plate 1 – General view of drainage ditch



Plate 2 – Section 1, looking northeast



Plate 3 – Horse burial (004), looking northeast



Plate 4 – Section 3, looking northwest



Plate 5 – General view of stanchions in area of new building



Plate 6 – Section 4



Plate 7 – Section 6, looking east



Plate 8 – Sections 7 & 8 showing channel [039]/[041]



Plate 9 – Section 9 showing channel [039]/[041]



Plate 10 – Section 10 showing ditch [046], looking north



Plate 11 – Section 11, looking north



Plate 12 – Section 12, showing possible ditch [051]

# CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Trench	Description	Interpretation
001	New Ditch	Friable mid greyish brown silt with occasional sub- angular stones and shell, 0.3m thick	Topsoil
002	New Ditch	Firm light greyish brown silt with occasional stones and shell fragments, 0.1m thick	Horizon between topsoil and natural deposits
003	New Ditch	Firm light yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional sub- rounded stones, 0.65m thick	Natural marine alluvium
004	New Ditch	Horse skeleton	Animal burial
005	Building	Friable mid greyish brown, silt with occasional sub-angular stones and shell fragments, 0.4m thick	Topsoil (same as 001)
006	Building	Friable light greyish brown silt with minimal inclusions, 0.1m thick (same as 002)	Horizon between topsoil and natural deposits
007	Not used		
008	New Ditch	Linear feature, aligned northeast-southwest, 1.5m wide by >1m deep	Ditch
009	New Ditch	Friable mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small rounded stones	Fill of [008]
010	New Ditch	Friable pale greyish brown sandy silt with occasional shell fragments, up to 0.45m thick (same as 001)	Topsoil
011	New Ditch	Soft pale yellowish brown fine sandy silt at least 095m thick (same as 003)	Natural marine alluvium
012	New Ditch	Unstratified finds retrieval from adjacent field	
013	New Ditch	?rectangular feature, 1.6m wide by >0.3m deep	Pit
014	New Ditch	Soft to friable mottled dark brown mixed deposit of sandy silt and clayey sandy silt with occasional red brick fragments at least 0.3m thick	Fill of [013]
015	Building	Natural sandy silt	Natural marine alluvium
016	Building	Rubble	Made ground
017	Building	Concrete, brick, stone & plastic	Made ground
018	Building	Tarmac over stone	Modern road surface
019	Building	Moderately firm dark brown silt, 0.3m thick	Topsoil
020	Building	Quite soft mid brown sandy silt, 0.15m thick	Subsoil
021	Building	Quite soft light brown silt, 0.3m thick	Natural marine alluvium
022	Building	Soft light greyish brown laminated silt, >0.25m thick	Natural marine alluvium
023	Building	Modern rubble	Fill of [024]
024	Building	Cut of disturbance associated with existing modern building	Modern disturbance
025	Building	Modern rubble backfill	Fill of [026]
026	Building	Modern re-excavation of earlier ditch	Modern re-cut of earlier ditch
027	Building	Moderately firm dark brown silt	Fill of [028]
028	Building	Linear feature, aligned northwest-southeast, 2.5m wide by >0.6m deep, gradual sides, not fully excavated	Ditch
029	Building	Quite soft very light yellowish brown fine sandy silt, 0.5m thick	Natural marine alluvium
030	Building	Quite soft light brown fine sandy silt	Natural marine alluvium
031	Building	Moderately firm mid brown silt	Fill of [033]
032	Building	Quite soft greyish mid brown, silt	Fill of [033]

No.	Trench	Description	Interpretation
033	Building	Linear feature, 1.7m wide x at least 5.0m long	Ditch
034	Building	Moderately firm mid light brownish grey silt with frequent small snail shells, up to 2.0m wide x 0.6m thick	Fill of [035]
035	Building	Linear feature, aligned northwest-southeast, >5m long by 1.7m wide and >0.6m deep, gradual sides, not fully excavated	Ditch
036	Building	Quite soft light brown silt	Fill of [039]
037	Building	Firm light bluish grey silty clay	Fill of [039]
038	Building	Quite soft light yellowish brown fine sandy silt	Fill of [039]
039	Building	Linear feature, aligned northwest-southeast, >5m long by >4.1m wide and >0.6m deep, steep to gradual sides, not fully excavated	Probably a natural channel
040	Building	Quite soft mid light greyish brown silt	Fill of [041]
041	Building	Linear feature, aligned northwest-southeast, >3.8m wide and >0.6m deep, gradual sides, not fully excavated	Ditch or channel. Possibly same as [035]
042	Building	Quite soft light brownish grey fine sandy silt, >0.12m thick	Natural marine alluvium
043	Building	Quite soft light brownish grey fine sandy silt, 0.8m thick	Natural marine alluvium
044	Building	Soft light greyish brown silt	Fill of [046]
045	Building	Quite soft mid grey with occasional darker grey organic patches clayey silt,	Fill of [046]
046	Building	Linear feature, aligned northwest-southeast, >5m long by 4.7m wide and >0.6m deep, gradual sides	Ditch
047	Building	Unstratified finds retrieval	
048	Building	Rubble	Fill of [049]
049	Building	Machine cut	Clearance cut
050	New Ditch	Pottery find in dark grey silt band (possible channel fill) revealed by new ditch machining	
051	New Ditch	Possible linear feature, aligned northeast-southwest, >3m wide by >0.7m deep	Possible ditch
052	New Ditch	Soft, mottled brown, sandy clayey silt, containing several pieces of trimmed tree branches	Fill of [051]
053	Loading Bay	Unstratified finds retrieval	
054	Loading Bay	Oval feature, 0.9m long by 0.6m by 0.2m deep, steep sides and rounded base	
055	Loading Bay	Friable black with some light to mid brown patches, charcoal rich, clayey silt	Fill of [054]

# THE FINDS

#### POST ROMAN POTTERY

By Anne Irving

#### 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 44 sherds from 41 vessels, weighing 1379 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 Catalogue 1, with a summary in Table 1. The pottery ranges in date from the medieval to the post-medieval period.

#### Condition

Most of the pottery is abraded and appears to be redeposited.

#### Results

Table 1, Post Roman Pottery Archive

Cname	Full name	Earliest date	Latest date	NoS	NoV	W (g)
BL	Black-glazed wares	1550	1750	15	15	657
BOU	Bourne D ware	1350	1650	13	13	156
BOUA	Bourne-type Fabrics A, B, C, E, F and G	1150	1400	3	3	23
CIST	Cistercian-type ware	1480	1650	1	1	8
GRE	Glazed Red Earthenware	1500	1650	2	2	22
LERTH	Late Earthenwares	1750	1900	1	1	24
ST	Stamford Ware	970	1200	7	4	79
STMO	Staffordshire/Bristol mottled-glazed	1670	1800	2	2	410
				44	41	1379

#### **Provenance**

Most of the medieval pottery appears to be redeposited in later features. Late 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century material came from deposits (014), (053) and (055). A small group of 12<sup>th</sup> century Stamford wares in relatively fresh condition was recovered from contexts (047) and (050), including a miniature bottle form.

#### Range

All the wares present are common in assemblages from this area.

#### Potential

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

#### **Summary**

A small assemblage of mixed date was recovered from the site. Of note is the presence of 12th century Stamford ware.

#### **CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL**

By Anne Irving

#### Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the ACBMG (2001) and to conform to Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook*. A total of 11 fragments of ceramic building material

(CBM), weighing 1158 grams was recovered from the site.

#### Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments were counted and weighed within each context. The ceramic building material was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the ceramic building material is included in Table 2.

#### **Condition**

Most of the material is very abraded and in poor condition.

#### Results

Table 2, Ceramic Building Material Archive

Cxt	Cname	Fabric	NoF	W (g)	Description	Date
012	BRK		3	45	Very abraded	16th to 18th
012	PNR		1	10	Flat roofer	16th to 18th
053	BRK	Various	3	789	Large fragments, one overfired and two worn/abraded	17th to 18th
055	BRK	Oxidised fine sandy	1	271	Handmade; end; slop moulded; worn surface; 45 mm thick	17th to 18th
055	BRK		2	22	Very abraded	16th to 18th
055	CBM		1	21	?ID or burnt stone	?
Totals	i		11	1158		

#### **Provenance**

All of the brick (BRK) and tile (PNR) is contemporary with the  $17^{th}$  to  $18^{th}$  century pottery found in contexts (053) and (055).

#### **Potential**

All of the material is stable and poses no problem for long-term storage. No further work is required.

#### **Summary**

A small group of late post-medieval brick and tile was recovered from the site.

#### **FAUNAL REMAINS**

By Paul Cope-Faulkner

# Introduction

A total of 15 (6571g) fragments of animal bone were recovered from stratified contexts.

#### Provenance

The bone was collected from the fill of a ditch (034), the fill of a pit (055), as unstratified material (047) and parts of an animal burial (004).

#### Condition

The overall condition of the remains was good.

# Results

Table 3, Fragments Identified to Taxa

Cxt	Taxon	Element	Number	W (g)	Comments
	horse	mandible	3	1310	
	horse	skull	4	523	
004	horse	pelvis	2	c. 2800	
	horse	metacarpus	1	489	
	horse	metatarsus	2	1240	
034	deer	radius	1	187	

Cxt	Taxon	Element	Number	W (g)	Comments
047	large mammal	rib	1	16	
047	mussel	shell	1	<1	
055	medium mammal	rib	1	6	

#### **Summary**

As a small assemblage, the animal bone is of limited potential. However, the deer bone is unusual and indicates that hunting was undertaken although as no dating evidence was recovered it is impossible to state when this happened. The horse bones are a random sample taken of the burial. The horse is large and is likely to be of a modern beast. With the exception of the horse bones, the assemblage should be retained as part of the site archive.

# **GLASS**

By Gary Taylor

#### Introduction

Three pieces of glass weighing a total of 441g were recovered.

#### **Condition**

Although naturally fragile the glass is in good condition.

#### Results

Table 4, Glass Archive

Cxt	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
	Dark green glass bottle base, steep kick up, late 18th-early 19th century	1	391	late 18 <sup>th</sup> -
014	Dark green glass bottle neck, late 18th-early 19th century	1	45	early 19 <sup>th</sup>
	Green glass body sherd, late 18th-early 19th century	1	4	century

## **Provenance**

All of the glass was recovered from a pit fill.

#### Range

Fragments of bottles, probably all of early 19<sup>th</sup> century date, were recovered. Two of the pieces, the base and neck, are probably from the same bottle.

#### **Potential**

Other than providing some dating evidence, the glass is of limited potential

# **CLAY PIPE**

By Gary Taylor

# Introduction

Analysis of the clay pipes followed the guidance published by Davey (1981) and the material is detailed in the accompanying table.

#### **Condition**

#### **Results**

Table 5, Clay Pipes

Context	Bore diameter /64"			NoF	W(g)	Comments	Date		
no.	8	7	6	5	4				
014			1	5	3	9	21	Stems only	18th-early 19th century
055						1	2	Facetted bowl fragment	Early 19th century?
Totals			1	5	3	10	23		

#### **Provenance**

The clay pipes were recovered from two separate pit fills (014) and (055). Most of the clay pipes are likely to be fairly local products, probably from nearby Boston. However, the facetted bowl fragment is unusual. It has some similarities to bowls from Boston (Wells 1970, fig 2, nos. 28, 31), though it is not clear if these are facetted or, more probably, with upright ribbing. Lacking close comparisons with other pipes observed across Lincolnshire and the surrounding area, it may be an import.

#### Range

Most of the pipe fragments are stems and all are probably 18<sup>th</sup>-early 19<sup>th</sup> century in date. It is likely that most are local products, though one piece may be an import.

#### **Potential**

Other than providing some dating and functional evidence the clay pipe is of limited potential. However, the possible imported piece is of note.

#### **OTHER FINDS**

By Gary Taylor

#### Introduction

Sixteen other finds weighing a total of 377g, were recovered.

#### Condition

The other finds are generally in good condition, though most of the metal is corroded and the fire residues are a little fragile.

#### **Results**

Table 6, Other Materials

Cxt	Material	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
014	Copper alloy	Round buttons,1 with loop fastener on back, late post-medieval	2	17	Late post-
	Iron	Nails	2	22	medieval
047	White metal/pewter	Cast mount; laurel wreath (1 half missing) attached to ridged conical top, a rod beneath with a circular disc with a nibbed edge and central ring, late post-medieval	1	33	Late post- medieval
	Iron	Nail?	1	20	
	Fire residue	Cinders	5	115	
	Iron	Strap hinges	2	133	
055	Iron	Nail	1	26	
	Iron	Nail, link	2	11	

#### **Provenance**

The other finds were recovered from pit fills (014, 055) and as unstratified material (047).

#### Range

Structural remains are represented by strap hinges and nails. More domestic items are provided by buttons. There is also evidence of fires, or the dumping of fire residues. A cast decorative mount is noteworthy and may be part of a toy, though is rather on the large side for that function.

#### **Potential**

The other finds provide some functional evidence, and some indications of date, but are of limited potential.

#### SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 7 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 7, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
012	Unstratified	
014	late 18th-early 19th century	
047	Unstratified	
050	12th	
053	Late 17th to 18th	
055	Late 17th to 18th, or early 19th	Later date suggested by single clay pipe

#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

ACBMG Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group

BS Body sherd

CBM Ceramic Building Material

CXT Context

NoF Number of Fragments
NoS Number of sherds
NoV Number of vessels
W (g) Weight (grams)

#### REFERENCES

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- ~ 2003, *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* [internet]. Available at <a href="http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/section.asp?catId=3155">http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/section.asp?catId=3155</a>
- Davey, PJ, 1981 Guidelines for the processing and publication of clay pipes from excavations, *Medieval and Later Pottery in Wales* **4,** 65-88
- Slowikowski, AM, Nenk, B and Pearce, J, 2001 Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2
- Wells, PK, 1970 The excavation of a 19<sup>th</sup> century clay tobacco pipe kiln in Boston, Lincolnshire, *Lincolnshire History and Archaeology* **5**, 21-9

Young, J, Vince, AG and Nailor, V, 2005 A Corpus of Saxon and Medieval Pottery from Lincoln (Oxford)

# **ARCHIVE CATALOGUES**

Archive catalogue 1, Post Roman Pottery

Cxt	Cname	Fabric	From	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Part	Description	Date
012	BL		Jar/ bowl	5	5	62	BS	Abraded	17th to 18th
012	BL	MP type	Jar/ bowl	4	4	41	BS		Late 16th to 17th
012	BOU	Various	Jar/ bowl	13	13	156	BS + Bases	Abraded; one misfired	15th to 16th
012	BOUA	A/B	Jar	3	3	23	BS		Late 12th to 14th
012	CIST		Drinking vessel	1	1	8	BS		16th
012	GRE		Jar/ bowl	2	2	22	BS	Abraded	17th to 18th
014	BL	Cream	Jar + bowl	3	3	250	Rim + BS		18th
014	LERTH		Garden pot	1	1	24	BS		18th
014	STMO		Jar + bowl	2	2	410	Base + BS		18th
047	ST	В	tiny bottle	1	1	2	Rim	?ID; burnt/misfired	12th

Cxt	Cname	Fabric	From	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Part	Description	Date
050	ST	В	Pitcher	2	1	30	BS	Same vessel?; brown concretion, no glaze	12th
050	ST	A/D	Jar	1	1	4	BS	Soot	11th to 12th
050	ST	В	Jar/ pitcher	3	1	43	BS	Thin yellow/green glaze	12th
053	BL		Pancheon	1	1	198	BS		Late 17th to 18th
055	BL		Jar	2	2	106	BS	One covered in powdery yellow deposit including over breaks	Late 17th to 18th

#### **GLOSSARY**

Alluvium A deposit (usually clay, silts or sands) laid down in water. Marine alluvium is deposited

by the sea and freshwater alluvium by streams, rivers or within lakes.

Briquetage A term given to fragments of ceramic equipment and hearth/oven remains from the

processing of salt.

**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 interpretations 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).

**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.

**Dumped deposits** These are deposits, often laid down intentionally, that raise a land surface. They may be

the result of casual waste disposal or may be deliberate attempts to raise the ground

surface.

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) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as

its fill(s).

**Layer** A layer is a term 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.

**Natural** Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of

human activity.

**Post-medieval** The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.

**Romano-British** Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

Saltern Salt producing site typified by ash, derived from fuel needed to evaporate sea water, and

briquetage.

Saxon Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by

tribes from northern Germany.

# THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 55 Context records
- 2 Photographic record sheets
- 15 Sheets of scale drawings
- 13 Daily Record Sheets
- 1 Bag of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services The Old School Cameron Street Heckington Sleaford Lincolnshire NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

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

Accession Number: LCNCC: 2011.33

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: BBBF 11

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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