



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND
RECORDING AT
ABBEY ROAD,
BARDNEY,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BAAR 09)**

**Work Undertaken For
Mr L Kitson**

November 2011

Report Compiled by
Paul Cope-Faulkner BA (Hons)

National Grid Reference: TF 1178 7000
Planning Application No: 123105
The Collection Accession No: LCNCC: 2009.20
OASIS Record No: archaeo11-113599

APS Report No. **128/11**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES**



Table of Contents

List of Figures

List of Plates

1.	SUMMARY	1
2.	INTRODUCTION.....	1
2.1	PLANNING BACKGROUND.....	1
2.2	TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY	1
2.3	ARCHAEOLOGICAL SETTING	1
3.	AIMS	2
4.	METHODS	2
5.	RESULTS	2
6.	DISCUSSION	3
7.	CONCLUSION	3
8.	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	3
9.	PERSONNEL	3
10.	BIBLIOGRAPHY	3
11.	ABBREVIATIONS	3

Appendices

1. Context descriptions
2. The Finds *by Alex Beeby and Gary Taylor*
3. Glossary
4. The Archive

List of Figures

- Figure 1 General location plan
- Figure 2 Site location plan
- Figure 3 Plan of the development showing section locations
- Figure 4 Sections 1 to 4

List of Plates

- Plate 1 View over the house plot
- Plate 2 The garage plot during excavation
- Plate 3 Section 1
- Plate 4 Section 2
- Plate 5 Section 3
- Plate 6 Section 4

1. SUMMARY

A programme of archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken at Abbey Road, Bardney, Lincolnshire. The investigations monitored the excavation of foundation trenches for a new detached dwelling and garage.

The site lies between the medieval (AD 1066-1540) core of the village and the earthworks of the 12th century Bardney abbey, which had its origins in the 7th century. Earthworks of crofts and ridge and furrow are also known from the village. A Neolithic (4000-2250 BC) flint scraper and Romano-British (AD 43-410) finds are also recorded from the general vicinity.

The investigations revealed a sequence of natural sands and gravels, overlain by subsoil and recent deposits. No archaeological features were encountered. Finds retrieved from the investigation include modern pottery and brick as well as a clay pipe fragment and a piece of medieval roofing tile.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr L Kitson to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks associated with a new residential development at 88A Abbey Road, Bardney, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application 123105. The investigations were carried out between the 29th March and 10th November 2011 in accordance with a written scheme of investigation prepared by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the Historic Environment Assistant (Records), Lincolnshire County Council.

2.2 Topography and Geology

Bardney is located 18km east of Lincoln and 14km west of Horncastle in the administrative district of West Lindsey, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The site is located 650m north of the centre of Bardney as defined by the parish church of St Lawrence at National Grid Reference TF 1178 7000 (Fig. 2). Located on the east side of Abbey Road, the site lies at a height of c. 7m on land that slopes gently down to the west, towards an embayment of the River Witham.

Local soils are of the Beccles 2 Association, typically stagnogleys (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 119). These soils are developed on a drift geology of freshwater alluvium, recorded as containing peat, which overlies glacial sands and gravel and seals a solid geology of Jurassic Oxford Clay (BGS 1973).

2.3 Archaeological Setting

Bardney is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Neolithic to the present day. A Neolithic flint scraper was found to the south of the church. Romano-British remains include a coin of Constantine I and pottery of the period found during excavations at Bardney Abbey.

Bardney is first mentioned by the Venerable Bede who was writing around AD 731. Referred to as *Beardaneu*, the name is derived from the Old English and means 'the island (*ēg*) belonging to *Bearda*' (Cameron 1998, 9). Bede relates how Oswald, the Northumbrian king, was killed and was buried at a monastery in Bardney. This monastery was later endowed by King Ethelred of Mercia who renounced the world following the death of his wife Osthryd, ultimately becoming Abbot (Page 1988, 97).

Bardney is mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086 when the manor is recorded as being held by Gilbert de Gand and containing a mill, 5 fisheries, 20 acres of meadow and 500 acres of woodland for pannage (Foster and Longley 1976, 24/17). In the subsequent Lindsey Survey of c. 1115, the land is recorded as being held by Gilbert's heir, Walter de Ganto (*ibid.* L 16/7).

Gilbert de Gand founded the Benedictine priory consecrated to Saints Peter, Paul and Oswald in 1087 and endowed the priory with land from his estates. In 1116, Walter, his heir, raised the status of Bardney to an abbey.

The only extant remains of the medieval period is St Lawrence's church which dates from the 15th century and replaced a parochial church that once stood adjacent to the abbey precinct (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 114). To the north of the present church is the site of St Andrew's chapel and earthworks of crofts, ponds and ridge and furrow of the medieval field system are known from around the village.

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

Foundation trenches for a house and detached garage (Fig. 3) were excavated by machine to depths required by the development. Following excavation, the sides of the trenches were then cleaned and rendered vertical. 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. 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

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

The earliest deposit encountered within the garage plot was a layer of brownish yellow sand and gravel (003) which measured in excess of 0.12m thick. Within the house plot, natural deposits comprised reddish brown sand and gravel (006).

Developed on the natural deposits was subsoil which varied between yellowish brown silty sand with frequent gravel (002) to a greyish brown sandy silt (005). The subsoil had a uniform thickness of 0.3m (Fig. 4, Sections 1 to 4) and contained medieval roof tile and modern brick.

Sealing the subsoil was the current topsoil, comprising a 0.2m thick layer of greyish brown silty sand with frequent gravel (001).

Towards the east of the house plot, the subsoil had been removed and replaced with a layer of grey sandy silt (008) upon which was a layer of mixed debris (007)

that formed a temporary driveway into the property (Fig. 4, Section 4). A number of finds were retrieved as unstratified objects (004) and include modern pottery and 18th century clay pipe.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural layers comprise sand and clayey sand with gravel which relates to the underlying drift geology of glacially derived sands and gravels. The absence of peat and alluvial deposits suggest these have been eroded from the immediate area.

Developed over the natural was a subsoil deposit which may indicate that the area was under an agricultural regime in the past. No archaeological features were recorded and most finds were post-medieval or later in date except for a fragment of medieval roof tile.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Abbey Road, Bardney, as the site lies between the medieval core of Bardney and the precinct of an abbey.

However, no medieval deposits were encountered. Instead, a sequence of natural, subsoil and topsoil was encountered with no archaeological features observed. Finds include medieval roof tile, 18th century clay pipe and modern brick and pottery.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr L Kitson for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Dale Trimble who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Dave Start kindly allowed access to the

library and parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Dale Trimble
 Site Supervisors: Alex Beeby, Bob Garland
 Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
 Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
 Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
 Post-excavation analysis: Paul Cope-Faulkner

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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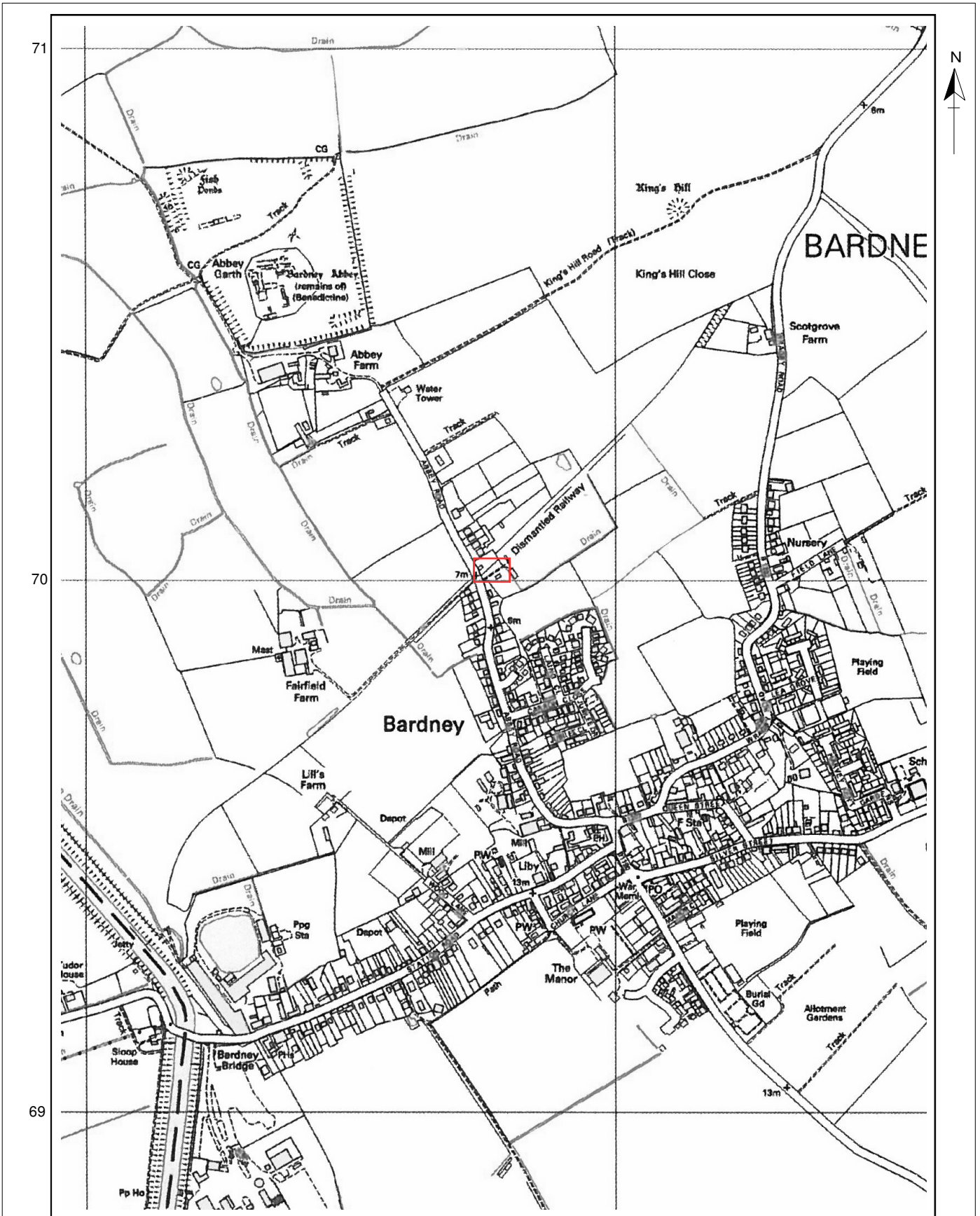
Pevsner, N and Harris, J, 1989 *Lincolnshire*, The Buildings of England (2nd edition, revised Antram, N)

11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services
 BGS British Geological Survey



Figure 1 - General location plan



TF

11

12

Area detailed in Figure 3

0 500m

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Scale 1:10000 Drawn by:PCF Report No: 128/11

Figure 2 - Site location plan

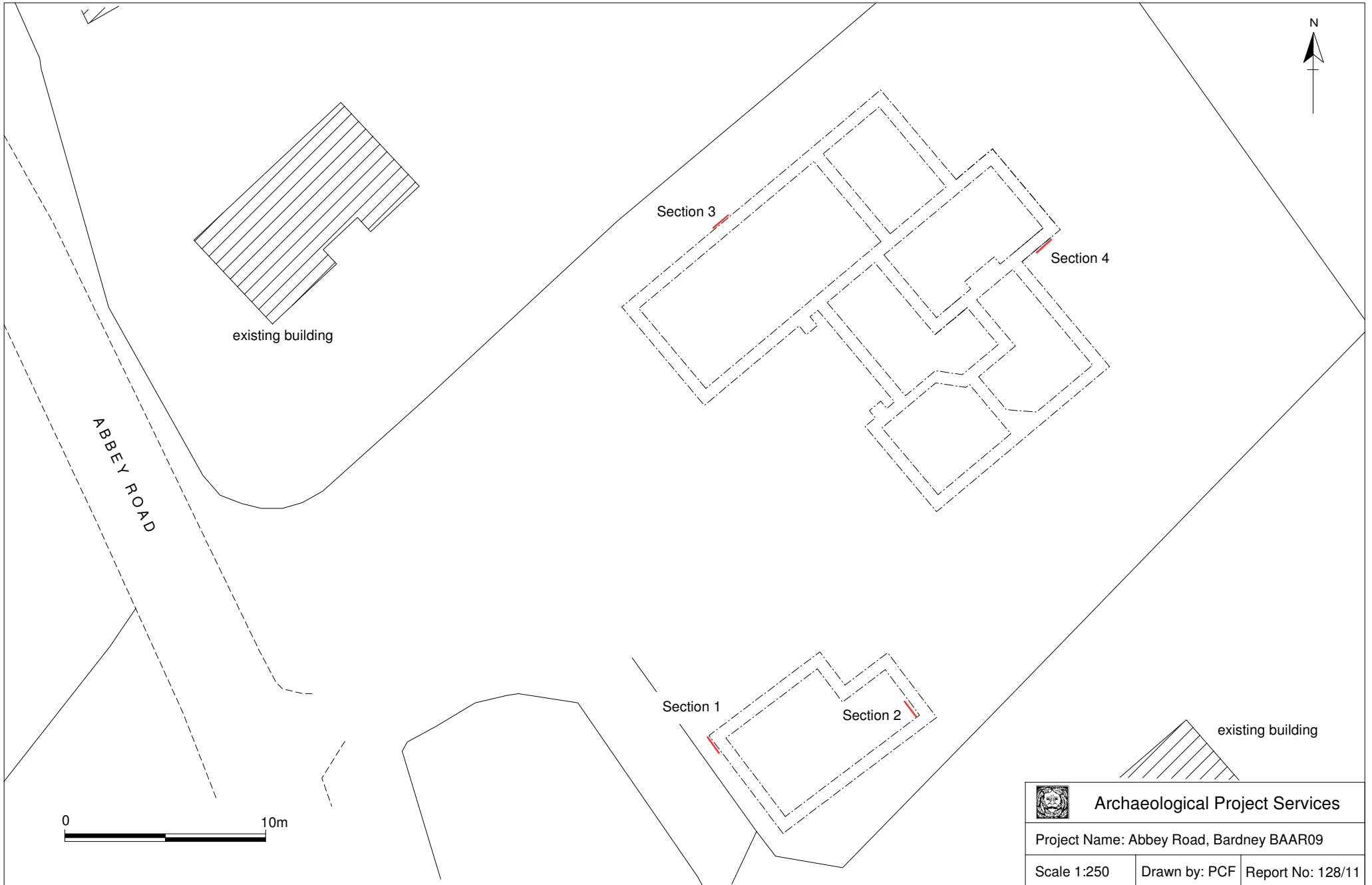
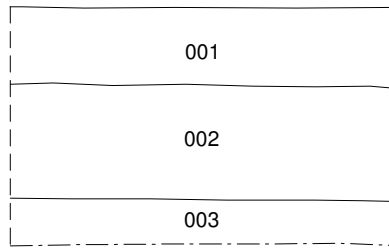


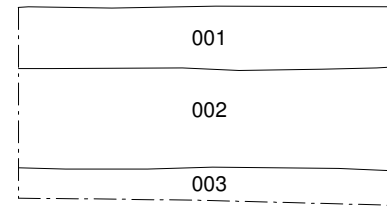
Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section locations

SE NW



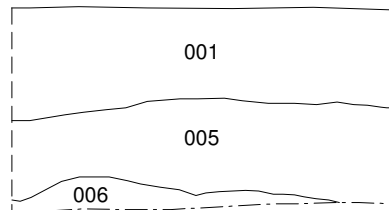
Section 1

SE NW



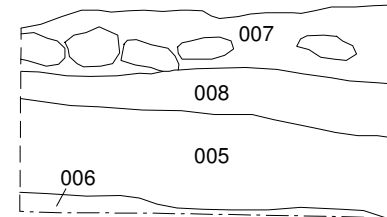
Section 2

SW NE



Section 3

NE SW



Section 4



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Drawn by: PCF

Report No: 128/11

Figure 4 - Sections 1 to 4



Plate 1 – View over the house plot, looking east



Plate 2 – The garage plot during excavation, looking south



Plate 3 – Section 1, looking southwest



Plate 4 – Section 2, looking southwest



Plate 5 – Section 3, looking northwest



Plate 6 – Section 4, looking southeast

Appendix 1

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Friable mid greyish brown silty sand with frequent gravel, 0.2m thick	Topsoil
002	Friable mid yellowish brown silty sand with frequent gravel, 0.3m thick	Subsoil
003	Friable light brownish yellow clayey sand and gravel, >0.12m thick	Natural deposit
004	Unstratified finds retrieval	
005	Loose mid greyish brown sandy silt, 0.3m thick	Subsoil
006	Loose dark reddish brown sand and gravel	Natural deposit
007	Loose dark grey and yellowish brown limestone, asphalt and modern debris, 0.1m thick	Driveway
008	Loose dark grey sandy silt, 0.15m thick	Layer

Appendix 2

THE FINDS

POST ROMAN POTTERY

By Alex Beeby

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 single sherds from a single vessel, weighing 22 grams, was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was viewed and weighed before being examined visually. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Table 1 below. The pottery dates to the early modern period.

Condition

The sherd is fresh

Results

Table 1, Post Roman Pottery Archive

Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Part	Comment	Date
004	LERTH	Late Earthenware	Garden Pot	1	1	22	Rim		L19th-20th

Provenance

The sherd is unstratified.

Range

There is a single sherd from a garden pot dated to the late 19th to 20th century.

Potential

There is no potential for further work, the sherd can be discarded.

Summary

A piece of pottery dating to the early modern period was recovered during the watching brief.

CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

By Alex Beeby

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 three fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 175 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out before being counted and weighed. 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.

Results

Table 2, Ceramic Building Material Archive

Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Fabric	NoF	W (g)	Description	Date
002	MODERN BRICK	Modern Brick		2	83		EM20th

Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Fabric	NoF	W (g)	Description	Date
002	PNR	Peg, Nib or Ridge Tile	Oxidised; medium sandy; flint	1	92	Flatroofer	13th-15th

Provenance

The material was recovered from subsoil layer (002).

Range

There are pieces from two modern bricks (MODERN BRICK) and a medieval peg, nib or ridged tile (PNR).

Potential

There is limited potential for further work. The material is of little archaeological importance and can be discarded.

Summary

Two pieces of modern brick and a piece of residual medieval roof tile were recovered during the watching brief.

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

The clay pipe is in good condition.

Results

Table 3, Clay Pipes

Context no.	Bore diameter /64"					NoF	W(g)	Comments	Date
	8	7	6	5	4				
004				1		1	3	Stem only	18 th century

Provenance

The clay pipe was recovered as unstratified material. It is probably a fairly local product, perhaps from nearby Lincoln.

Range

A single 18th century stem was recovered.

Potential

As an isolated unstratified artefact, the clay pipe is of limited potential.

SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 4 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 4, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
002	Early to mid 20 century	Subsoil
004	N/A	Unstratified finds retrieval

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

~ 2001, *Draft Minimum Standards for the Recovery, Analysis and Publication of Ceramic Building Material*, third version [internet]. Available from <http://www.geocities.com/acbmg1/CBMGDE3.htm>

~ 2003, *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* [internet]. Available at <http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/section.asp?catId=3155>

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

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

Appendix 3

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.
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, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
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.
Neolithic	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500-2250 BC.
Pannage	Right given to the owners of pigs to go into a wood and to allow the pigs to eat the acorns or beech mast which <i>fall to the ground</i> .
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 1 st 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 4

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

8	Context records
1	Photographic record sheet
2	Daily record sheets
5	Sheets of scale drawings
1	Stratigraphic matrix
1	Bag of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

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

Accession Number:

LCNCC: 2009.20

Archaeological Project Services Site Code:

BAAR 09

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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