

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION ON LAND OFF COUNCIL ROAD, WISBECH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE (WICR 12)

Work Undertaken For **James England** 

January 2013

Report Compiled by Mark Peachey BA (Hons)

Planning Application No: F/YR09/0717/DC National Grid Reference: TF 4729 0998 Cambs.C.C.HER Event No: ECB 3906 OASIS Record No: archaeol1-141239

APS Report No: 6/13



# **Quality Control**

# Archaeological Evaluation on land off Council Road, Wisbech Cambridgeshire WICR 12

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Date: 17 <sup>th</sup> January 2013		Date: 17 <sup>th</sup> January 2013	

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## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION ON LAND OFF COUNCIL ROAD, WISBECH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

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#### 1. SUMMARY

An archaeological trenching evaluation was undertaken prior to residential development on land off Council Road, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire because the area was archaeologically sensitive, lying close to the historic village of Walsoken and the postulated site of the medieval Holy Trinity chapel.

However, the evaluation revealed only thick tidal silts and no archaeological features.

No artefacts were retrieved.

#### 2. INTRODUCTION

#### 2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

An archaeological evaluation is defined as a limited programme of non-intrusive intrusive fieldwork and/or determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If archaeological remains are present Field Evaluation defines their character and extent, quality and preservation, and it enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate (IfA 2008).

## 2.2 Planning Background

An archaeological trenching evaluation was required as a condition of planning permission (application F/YR09/0717/DC) for a residential development at the site, comprising four semi-detached houses.

The evaluation was undertaken by Archaeological Project Services (APS) on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2013 in accordance with a written scheme of investigation prepared by APS and approved by Cambridgeshire

County Council Historic Environment Team.

## 2.3 Topography and Geology

Wisbech is located approximately 5km of March in the Fenland south Administrative District of Cambridgeshire (Fig 1). The proposed development site lies on the eastern outskirts of the town, on land off Council Road at TF 4729 0998 2). The site comprises approximately triangular plot measuring 0.15 hectares (Fig. 3).

The site lies at around 4m OD on tidal flat deposits which overlay Ampthill clays (Hodge et al 1984).

#### 2.4 Archaeological Setting

Much of the prehistoric land surface in the Wisbech area is completely buried beneath Prehistoric and later silts. The impact of successive freshwater and marine flooding episodes on human occupation is well documented through the work of the Fenland Survey in Cambridgeshire (Hall 1987) and neighbouring Norfolk (Silvester 1988).

Roman sites in the form of salterns and settlements are known in the Wisbech area but none of these are located close to the proposed development. This is probably due to concealment by later silts as sites of this date are known from the eastern side of the neighbouring parish of Walsoken in Norfolk, about 1.5km from the proposed development, where the overlying deposits are thinner (Silvester, 1988).

It is likely that the village of Walsoken, with its medieval parish church of All Saints lying approximately 700m to the northeast of Council Road, was established by, at the latest, the late Saxon period, showing the area was habitable by this date. Medieval occupation is evidenced by

the village and the site of Holy Trinity Chapel, thought to lie some 600m north of the proposed development. The chapel site also contained a hermitage and a hospital. The full description of this site (CHER 04013) contained in the Cambs CC Historic Environment Record is as follows 'R5, Holy Trinity Chapel (NR) (Site of) (NAT). (Not mentioned in OS ONB 1925). O1, There was a chapel dedicated to the Holy Trinity in the parish of Walsoken, at a place called Stathe-Dytch, to which was attached a gild or fraternity, ruled by a master or warden and usually termed the Hospital of the Holy Trinity. Clay (R4) suggests that the foundation date was the before 1200AD but earliest documentary evidence seems to be an indulgence by Pope Urban (1378 - 1390). It was dissolved in 1545. A cast of a C15 seal in the BM shows the hospital as being of two storeys and with an embattled tower. A hermitage dedicated also to the Holy Trinity is recorded at Walsoken about 1390'.

The line of a sea bank follows the north-south aligned western boundary of Chapnall Field some 180m east of the proposed development. This is likely to be of late Saxon or medieval date and demonstrates the marsh conditions prevalent during these periods.

An evaluation at Hawkins Drive, 420m north of the current site, revealed only a probably late 19<sup>th</sup> century horticultural feature cutting marine silts (Peachey 2009).

#### 3. AIMS

The aim of the work was to gather sufficient information for the archaeological curator to be able to formulate a policy for the management of the archaeological resources present on the site.

The objectives were to establish the type of archaeological activity that might be present within the site, to determine its likely extent, the date and function of the archaeological features present on the site, state of preservation, spatial arrangement and the extent to which surrounding archaeological features extended into the application area, and to which the way establish in archaeological features identified fitted into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

#### 4. METHODS

Two trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator, each measuring 15m long by 1.5m wide (Fig. 3).

Removal of topsoil and other overburden was undertaken using a toothless ditching bucket. The exposed surfaces of the trenches were then cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains.

Each deposit exposed during the allocated evaluation was a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their interpretations appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was also compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and plans at 1:20. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

The location of the trenches was surveyed using a Thales Global Positioning System (GPS).

Following excavation, the records were also checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced.

#### 5. RESULTS

The results of the archaeological evaluation are discussed in trench order. Archaeological contexts are described below. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

## **Trench 1** (Fig 3, Plate 2)

This trench was machined onto pale yellowish brown fine sandy silt (102). At the east end of the trench, a sondage was machine excavated into this to a depth of 1.9m (Fig 4, Plate 3). However, no change in the silt was observed, there being no laminations. The silt was overlain by a 0.9m thickness of modern rubble, including plastic, mixed with topsoil (101). Heavier pieces of rubble had been pressed into the soft silt below.

### Trench 2 (Fig 3)

Trench 2 was also machined onto pale yellowish brown fine sandy silt (202), identical to that in Trench 1 (Fig 4, Plate 4). The silt was overlain by a 0.72m thickness of modern rubble, including plastic and a chrome car bumper, mixed with topsoil (201). Once again, heavier pieces of rubble had been pressed into the soft silt below.

#### 6. DISCUSSION

As at the nearby Hawkins Road site, thick marine tidal silts were encountered. No archaeological features cut the silts, which were very uniform in appearance. The modern overburden had been deposited within the last few decades.

#### 7. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land off Council Road, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire as the area was archaeologically sensitive.

However, the evaluation revealed no archaeological features and no artefacts were retrieved.

#### 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of James England for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Dale Trimble who edited this report along with Tom Lane.

#### 9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Steve Malone Site Staff: Bob Garlant, Mark Peachey Photographic reproduction: Mark Peachey CAD Illustration: Mark Peachey Post-excavation Analyst: Mark Peachey

#### 10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Hall, D., 1987, The Fenland Project, Number 2: Cambridgeshire Survey, Isle of Ely and Wisbech. East Anglian Archaeology No. **35** 

Hodge, CAH, Burton, RGO, Corbett, WM, Evans, R and Seale, RS, 1984 *Soils and their use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales **13** 

IfA, 2008 Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation

Peachey, M, 2009 Archaeological Evaluation on land off Hawkins Drive, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire (WIHD 09) Unpublished APS Report 118/09

R. J. Silvester., 1988, The Fenland Project, Number 3: Norfolk Survey, Marshland and the Nar Valley. East Anglian Archaeology No. **79** 

## 11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

HER Heritage Environment Record

If A Institute for Archaeologists

OD Ordnance Datum



Figure 1 General Location Plan

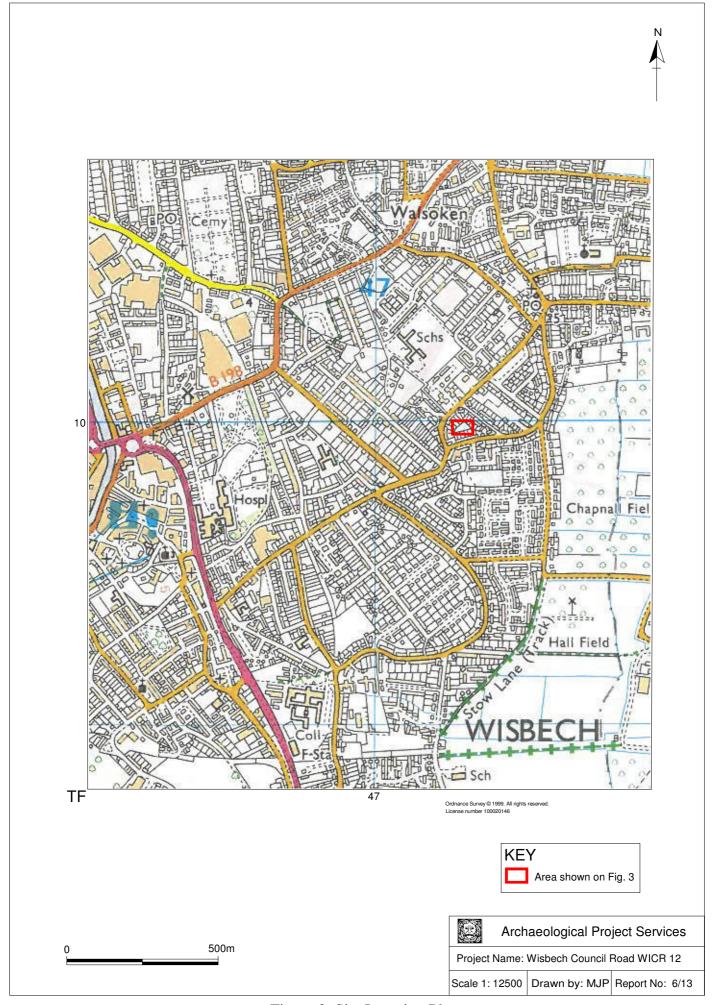


Figure 2. Site Location Plan

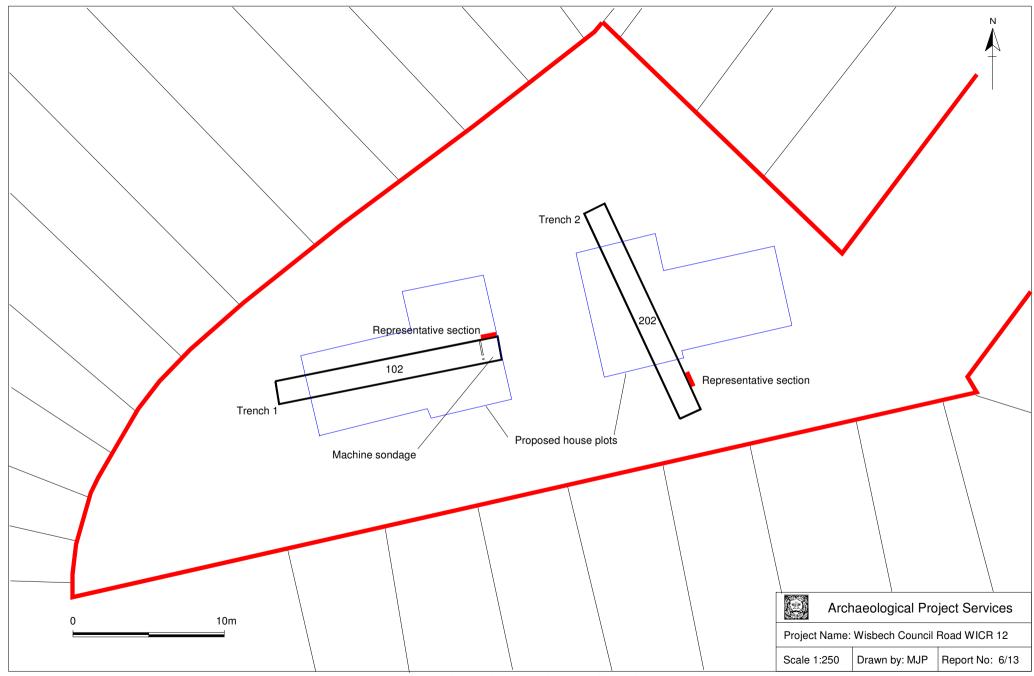


Figure 3. Trench Location Plan

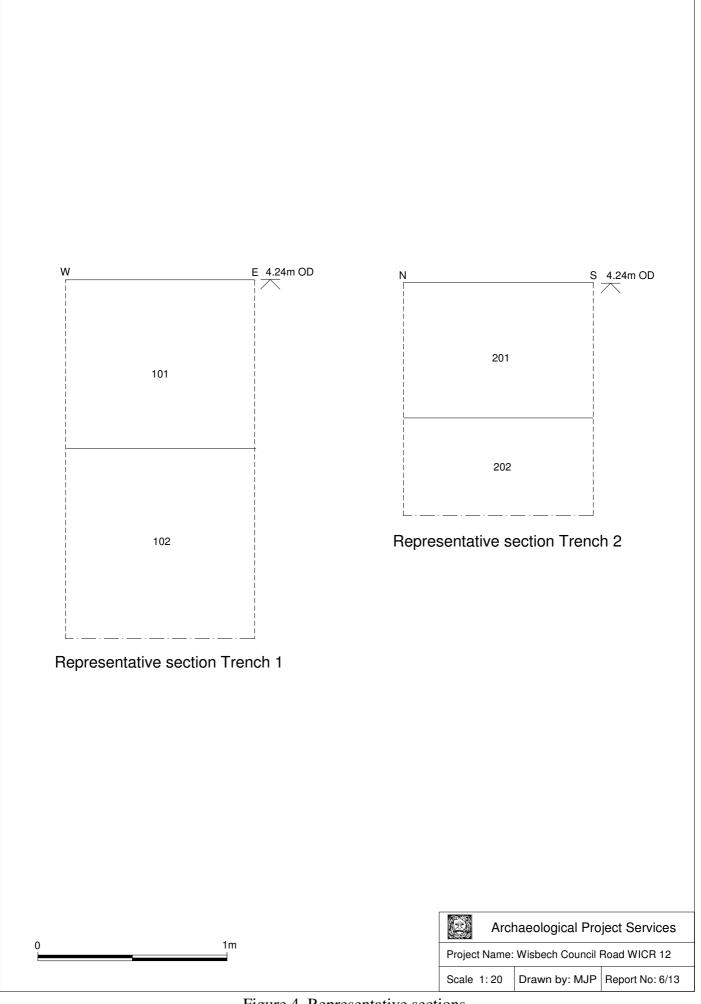


Figure 4. Representative sections



Plate 1. The site prior to machining looking west



Plate 2. Trench 1 looking WSW



Plate 3. Machine sondage, representative section Trench 1 showing collapsing



Plate 4. Trench 2 representative section

#### Appendix 1: LAND OFF COUNCIL ROAD, WISBECH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

#### SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

#### PREPARED FOR JAMES ENGLAND

#### 5<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2012

#### 1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 An archaeological investigation comprising an archaeological evaluation is required as a condition of planning on development on land off Council Road, Wisbech.
- 1.2 The site lies in an archaeologically sensitive area, identified as of significant archaeological potential based upon an assessment of the records held in the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record.
- 1.3 The archaeological work will consist of a programme of archaeological trial trenching in order to characterise any archaeological remains which may be preserved on the site.
- 1.4 On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the scheme of works. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.

#### 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for an archaeological investigation comprising a programme of trial trenching on land off Council Road, Wisech, Cambridgeshire, centred on TF4729 0998.
- 2.2 This document contains the following parts:
  - 2.2.1 Overview.
  - 2.2.2 Stages of work and methodologies.
  - 2.2.3 List of specialists.
  - 2.2.4 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

#### 3 SITE LOCATION

3.1 Wisbech is located 5km south of March in the Fenland district of Cambridgeshire. The proposed development site lies on the eastern outskirts of the town on land off Council Road comprises a triangular piece of land of of 0.15 hectares.

#### 4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The archaeological investigations are required as a condition of planning permission (application F/YR09/0717/DC).
- 4.2 The brief issued by Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team requires a programme of evaluation in advance of the development.

#### 5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 The site lies at around 4m OD on tidal flat deposits which overly Ampthill clays (Hodge et al 1984).

#### 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Much of the prehistoric land surface in the Wisbech area is completely buried beneath Iron Age and later silts. The impact of successive freshwater and marine flooding episodes on human occupation is well documented through the work of the Fenland Survey in Cambridgeshire (Hall et, al 1996) and neighbouring Norfolk (Silvester, 1988).
- Roman sites in the form of salterns and settlements are known in the Wisbech area but none of these known sites are located close to the proposed development. This may be due to concealment by later silts as sites of this date are known from the eastern side of the neighbouring parish of Walsoken in Norfolk where the overlying deposits are thinner (Silvester, 1988). Some of these sites in Walsoken lie within 1.5km of the proposed development.
- The site lies close to the historic village of Walsoken, with the medieval parish church of All Saints lying approximately 500m to the northeast of the proposed development. The site of Holy Trinity Chapel is thought to lie some 600m to the north, and this site also contained a hermitage and a hospital. The full description of this record (CHER 04013) in the Cambs CC Historic Environment Record is as follows 'R5, Holy Trinity Chapel (NR) (Site of) (NAT). (Not mentioned in OS ONB 1925). O1, There was a chapel dedicated to the Holy Trinity in the parish of Walsoken, at a place called Stathe-Dytch, to which was attached a gild or fraternity, ruled by a master or warden and usually termed the Hospital of the Holy Trinity. Clay (R4) suggests that the foundation date was before 1200AD but the earliest documentary evidence seems to be an indulgence by Pope Urban (1378 1390). It was dissolved in 1545. A cast of a C15 seal in the BM shows the hospital as being of two storeys and with an embattled tower. A hermitage dedicated also to the Holy Trinity is recorded at Walsoken about 1390.
- 6.4 The line of a sea bank lies approximately 180 to the east. This is likely to be of late Saxon or medieval date and demonstrates the marsh conditions prevalent during these periods. Excavtions to the north of the application site revealed Saxon and medieval activity.

#### 7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aim of the work will be to gather sufficient information for the archaeological curator to be able to formulate a policy for the management of the archaeological resources present on the site.
  - 7.2 The objectives of the scheme of works will be to:
    - 7.2.1 Establish the type of archaeological activity that may be present within the site.
    - 7.2.2 Determine the likely extent of archaeological activity present within the site.
    - 7.2.3 Determine the date and function of the archaeological features present on the site.
    - 7.2.4 Determine the state of preservation of the archaeological features present on the site.
    - 7.2.5 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features present within the site
    - 7.2.6 Determine the extent to which the surrounding archaeological features extend into the application area.
    - 7.2.7 Establish the way in which the archaeological features identified fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

#### 8 TRIAL TRENCHING

8.1 Reasoning for this technique

- 8.1.1 Trial trenching enables the in situ determination of the sequence, date, nature, depth, environmental potential and density of archaeological features present on the site
- 8.1.2 It is proposed that 2 trenches each measuring 15m x 1.6m will be excavated laid out as shown on Fig 1.

#### 8.2 General Considerations

- 8.2.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the investigation
- 8.2.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practice issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA). Archaeological Project Services is an IFA Registered Archaeological Organisation (No. 21).
- 8.2.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office. Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 8.2.4 Excavation of the archaeological features exposed will only be undertaken as far as is required to determine their date, sequence, density and nature. All archaeological features exposed will be excavated and recorded unless otherwise agreed with the Cambridgeshire Archaeology Office. The investigation will, as far as is reasonably practicable, determine the level of the natural deposits to ensure that the depth of the archaeological sequence present on the site is established
- 8.2.5 Open trenches will be marked by hazard tape attached to road irons or similar poles. Subject to the consent of the archaeological curator, and following the appropriate recording, the trenches, particularly those of excessive depth, will be backfilled as soon as possible to minimise any health and safety risks.

#### 8.3 Methodology

- 8.3.1 Removal of the topsoil and any other overburden will be undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. To ensure that the correct amount of material is removed and that no archaeological deposits are damaged, this work will be supervised by Archaeological Project Services. On completion of the removal of the overburden, the nature of the underlying deposits will be assessed by hand excavation before any further mechanical excavation that may be required. Thereafter, the trenches will be cleaned by hand to enable the identification and analysis of the archaeological features exposed.
- 8.3.2 Investigation of the features will be undertaken only as far as required to determine their date, form and function. The work will consist of half- or quarter-sectioning of features as required and, where appropriate, the removal of layers.
- 8.3.3 The archaeological features encountered will be recorded on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma context record sheets. The system used is the single context method by which individual archaeological units of stratigraphy are assigned a unique record number and are individually described and drawn.
- 8.3.4 Plans of features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. Should individual features merit it, they will be drawn at a larger scale.
- 8.3.5 Throughout the duration of the trial trenching a photographic record consisting of black and white prints (reproduced as contact sheets) and colour slides will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
  - the site before the commencement of field operations.
- the site during work to show specific stages of work, and the layout of the archaeology within individual trenches.
- individual features and, where appropriate, their sections.

- groups of features where their relationship is important.
- the site on completion of field work

#### 9 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

9.1 During the investigation specialist advice will be obtained from an environmental archaeologist. If necessary the specialist will visit the site and will prepare a report detailing the nature of the environmental material present on the site and its potential for additional analysis should further stages of archaeological work be required

#### 10 POST EXCAVATION

#### 10.1 Stage 1

- 10.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the scheme of works will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued and labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
- 10.1.2 All finds recovered during the field work will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

#### 10.2 Stage 2

- 10.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.
- 10.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

#### 10.3 Stage 3

- 10.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the scheme of works will be prepared.
- 10.3.2 This will consist of:
  - A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
  - A description of the archaeological setting of the scheme of works.
  - Description of the topography of the site.
  - Description of the methodologies used during the scheme of works.
  - A text describing the findings of the scheme of works.
  - A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the scheme of works findings.
  - Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
  - Sections of the archaeological features.
  - Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
  - · Specialist reports on the finds from the site.

Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

#### 11 REPORT DEPOSITION

11.1 An unbound draft copy of the report will be supplied initially to the County Archaeological Office for comment. Copies of the final report will be sent to: the client; the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Office (2 copies); and the Cambridgeshire County Historic Environment Record.

#### 12 ARCHIVE

- 12.1 The documentation, finds, photographs and other records and materials generated during the evaluation will be sorted and ordered in accordance with the procedures in the Society of Museum Archaeologists' document Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Museums (1994), and any additional local requirements, for long-term storage and curation. This work will be undertaken by the Finds Supervisor, an Archaeological Assistant and the Conservator (if relevant). The archive will be deposited within an approved County store as soon as possible after completion of the post-excavation and analysis. Accession number ECB3906 has been assigned to the archive.
- 12.2 If required, the archive will be microfilmed. The silver master will be transferred to the RCHME and a diazo copy will be deposited with the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Service Historic Environment Record.
- 12.3 Prior to the project commencing, the Cambridgeshire County Archaeological Office will be contacted to obtain their agreement to receipt of the project archive and to establish their requirements with regards to labelling, ordering, storage, conservation and organisation of the archive. An event number for this project will be obtained from Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record..
- 12.4 Upon completion and submission of the evaluation report, the landowner will be contacted to arrange legal transfer of title to the archaeological objects retained during the investigation from themselves to the receiving museum. The transfer of title will be effected by a standard letter supplied to the landowner for signature.

#### 13 PUBLICATION

- Details of the investigation will be input to the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS).
- 13.2 Notes on the investigation will be submitted to the journals: Rutland Record and Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society.
- 13.3 If appropriate, notes on the findings will be submitted to the appropriate national journals: Britannia for discoveries of Roman date, and Medieval Archaeology for findings of medieval or later date.

#### 14 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

14.1 Curatorial responsibility for the project lies with Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Office. As much notice as possible will be given in writing to the curator prior to the commencement of the project to enable them to make appropriate monitoring arrangements.

#### 15 VARIATIONS AND CONTINGENCIES

- 15.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 15.2 In the event of the discovery of any unexpected remains of archaeological importance, or of any changed circumstances, it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to inform the archaeological curator.

- 15.3 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation additional resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.
- Any contingency requirement for additional fieldwork or post-excavation analysis outside the scope of the proposed scheme of works will only be activated following full consultation with the archaeological curator and the client.

#### 16 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 16.1 It is expected that the fieldwork programme will last two days and utilise 4 person days of staff
- 16.2 An archaeological project office or supervisor with experience of such monitoring will undertake the work.
- 16.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists.

#### 17 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

17.1 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

<u>Task</u> <u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>

Conservation Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln

Pottery Analysis Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust

Roman – Alex Beeby, in house IFA bursary trainee mentored by Barbara Precious independent Roman pottery specialists.

Anglo-Saxon and Medieval – A Boyle APS

Post-medieval - G Taylor, APS

Non-pottery Artefacts G Taylor APS or J Cowgill, Independent Specialist

Animal Bones Matilda Holmes, independent faunal remains specialist

Environmental Analysis J Rackham or V Fryer, Independent Specialists

Human Remains Analysis R Gowland, Independent Specialist

#### 18 INSURANCES

18.1 Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains Employers Liability Insurance of £10,000,000, together with Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied on request.

#### 19 COPYRIGHT

19.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

- 19.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.
- 19.3 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 and may result in legal action.
- 19.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

#### 20 BIBLIOGRAPHY

English Heritage, 1991 The Management of Archaeological Projects. London.

Hall, D., 1987, The Fenland Project, Number 2: Cambridgeshire Survey, Isle of Ely and Wisbech. East Anglian Archaeology **No. 79** 

R. J. Silvester., 1988, The Fenland Project, Number 3: Norfolk Survey, Marshland and the Nar Valley. East Anglian Archaeology **No. 79** 

Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1997 Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Excavation.

Specification: Version 1, December 6<sup>th</sup> 2012

# **APPENDIX 2**

# **Context Summary**

Context	Trench	Description	Interpretation	Date
101	1	Friable dark brown fine sandy silt with frequent modern rubble including whole bricks, carpet pieces and plastic, 0.9m thick	Mix of topsoil/modern overburden	Modern
102	1	Friable pale yellowish brown fine sandy silt, no laminations or inclusions, at least 1m thick	Marine silt	
201	2	Friable dark brown sandy silt with frequent modern material including a chrome car bumper, tarmac, metal, plastic, 0.72m thick	Mix of topsoil/modern overburden	Modern
202	2	Soft pale yellowish brown sandy silt, no laminations or inclusions, at least 0.51m thick	Marine silt	

#### Appendix 3

#### **GLOSSARY**

**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].

**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).

**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.

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

influence of human activity

**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 4

#### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 2 Trench record sheets
- 1 Photographic record sheet
- 1 Daily record 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:

Cambridgeshire County Council Castle Court Shire Hall Cambridge CB3 0AP

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: WICR 12

OASIS Record No: archaeol1-141239

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright*, *Designs and Patents Act* 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.