
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
ON LAND AT
QUEENS ROAD,
WISBECH,
CAMBRIDGESHIRE
(ECB 4135)**

DRAFT COPY

Work Undertaken For
Dene Homes Limited

March 2014

Report Compiled by
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National Grid Reference: TF 4604 0943
Planning Application No: F/YR13/0820/F
OASIS Record No: archaeo11 - 175272

APS Report No. 32/14

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES**



Quality Control
 Queens Road
 Wisbech
 ECB 4135

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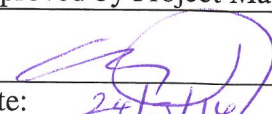
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Date: 24-03/14	Date: 24/3/14

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1. SUMMARY

A programme of archaeological trial trenching was undertaken at Queens Road, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire. This was in order to determine the archaeological potential of the site prior to development.

The site lies close to the core of the medieval (AD 1066-1540) which is best represented by the church of SS Peter and Paul. Closer to the site itself was Wisbech Castle, though no trace of this remains. Finds of Romano-British date (AD 43-410) may indicate settlement in the vicinity.

The evaluation revealed natural, undated and modern deposits. Above the natural was an undated former topsoil which was sealed by deposits relating to the construction and use of an adjacent school dating to 1928. No features of archaeological interest were encountered and no artefacts were retrieved.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

An archaeological evaluation is defined as *'a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If such 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

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Dene Homes Limited to undertake a programme of archaeological investigation in advance of proposed development at Queens Road, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, as detailed in Planning

Application F/YR13/0820/F. The evaluation was undertaken on the 10th March 2014 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the Senior Archaeologist, Historic Environment Team, Cambridgeshire County Council.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Wisbech is located 15km northeast of March and 29km northeast of Peterborough in the Administrative District of Fenland, Cambridgeshire (Fig 1).

The site is located 320m southwest of the centre of Wisbech as defined by the parish church of SS Peter and Paul at National Grid Reference TF 4604 0943 (Fig 2). The site is located on the northeast side of Queens Road at a height of c. 4m on generally level ground.

As an urban area, local soils have not been mapped but are likely to be of the Wisbech Association, typically coarse silty calcareous soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 361). These soils are developed on marine alluvium and tidal flat deposits which in turn seals a solid geology of Jurassic Amphill Clay Formation (BGS 1995).

2.4 Archaeological and Historical Background

Wisbech is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Romano-British period to the present day. No prehistoric sites are known, although an Iron Age scabbard with a partial sword blade is reputed to have come from the town.

Romano-British remains include the findspots of coins from various locations within the town and along with Roman tile from South Brink may indicate that a settlement lay in the vicinity (Phillips 1970, 323).

Wisbech is first reliably mentioned in *c.* 1016. Referred to as *Wisebeche*, the name derives from the Old English and means ‘the valley (*bæce*) of the Wissey’ (Ekwall 1989, 526), the latter perhaps referring to a former course of the Nene or Ouse. Wisbech appears in the *Liber Eliensis*, when it was granted to Ely by Ælfwine (Blake 1962, 144).

The Late Saxon manor is believed to have been located in the vicinity of the Old Market, on the west bank of the Nene. Saxon material has also been recovered in and around the town and includes two bronze Early Saxon brooches discovered at Wisbech in 1858 (Phillips 1939).

At the time of the Domesday Survey in *c.* 1086, Wisbech was still held by the abbot of Ely and contained extensive arable, pasture and meadow lands with fisheries, of which fishermen owed dues to Crowland Abbey and William de Warenne (Williams and Martin 1992, 525-7, 535).

The principal medieval site is the church of SS Peter and Paul which dates from the 12th century onwards (Pevsner 2002, 494). To the west of the church is the site of Wisbech Castle, now marked by The Crescent, which is believed to have been constructed by William the Conqueror between 1072 and 1079 (Pugh 2002, 251).

Maps of late 19th century date indicate that the site was part of an orchard (OS 1888). The site was first developed as a school in 1928 (Pugh 2002, 267).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

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 any archaeological resources present on the site.

The specific objectives of the work were to:

- Establish the date, nature and extent of activity or occupation that may be present within the development site.
- Determine the state of preservation of the archaeological features present on the site.
- Establish the way in which the archaeological features identified fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.
- Recover artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region
- Recover palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions.

4. METHODS

Two trenches, one measuring 20m long and one 15m long and both 1.6 metres wide, were excavated by machine to the surface of natural deposits. The trenches were placed to provide sample coverage of the site (Fig. 3). The exposed surfaces of the trench were cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains.

Each deposit exposed during the investigation 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 using colour digital and black and white print formats. Measured plans and sections were drawn. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

The location of the excavated trenches was surveyed in relation to fixed points on boundaries and on existing buildings.

Following excavation, finds were examined and a period date assigned

where possible (Appendix 3). The records were also checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

5. RESULTS

Archaeological deposits are listed below and described in trench order. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

Trench 1

The earliest deposit encountered in this trench was a natural layer of greyish brown silt (103). This measured in excess of 0.5m thick.

Above this was a former topsoil comprising a 0.25m thick layer of greyish brown clayey silt with charcoal and brick/tile fragments (102).

Cut into this was a backfilled swimming pool, which was not recorded in detail, although its position is shown on Figure 3.

This was sealed by a layer of made-ground composed of reddish brown sandy gravel, limestone fragments and silt (101). This measured 0.38m thick (Fig. 4, Section 1).

Sealing all deposits was a greyish brown silty clay (100) that was 0.12m thick.

Trench 2

Natural within this trench was a greyish brown silt (204) that was over 0.42m thick. In the central part of the trench, natural had been contaminated with possible hydrocarbons and stained black (205).

Natural was also overlain by a former topsoil of greyish brown clayey silt (203), also with inclusions of charcoal and brick/tile fragments. This was 0.21m thick (Fig. 4, Section 2).

Above the former topsoil was a levelling deposit of greyish brown silt (202) over

which was crushed limestone and brick (201) that provided a make-up for a tarmac surface (200). These had a combined thickness of 0.54m.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits of silt relate to the underlying drift geology of alluvium.

A former topsoil sealed alluvial deposits. Though no dating evidence was retrieved, it may pre-date the construction of the school in the 1920s and early maps show the area as open ground or as an orchard (OS 1888).

Later deposits are related to the construction and use of the adjacent school (now a library).

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Queens Road, Wisbech, as the site lay close to the core of the medieval town and in an area of possible Romano-British settlement.

However, no Romano-British or medieval deposits were revealed. It is probable that the site was open ground prior to the construction of a school adjacent to the site in the 1920s.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr D Edgson who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis on behalf of Dene Homes Limited. The work was coordinated by Dale Trimble who edited this report along with Gary Taylor. Elizabeth Bates kindly allowed access to the library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Dale Trimble
 Supervisor: Liz Murray
 Archiving: Sarah Pritchard
 Photographic reproduction: Liz Murray
 Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
 Post-excavation analysis: Liz Murray, Paul Cope-Faulkner

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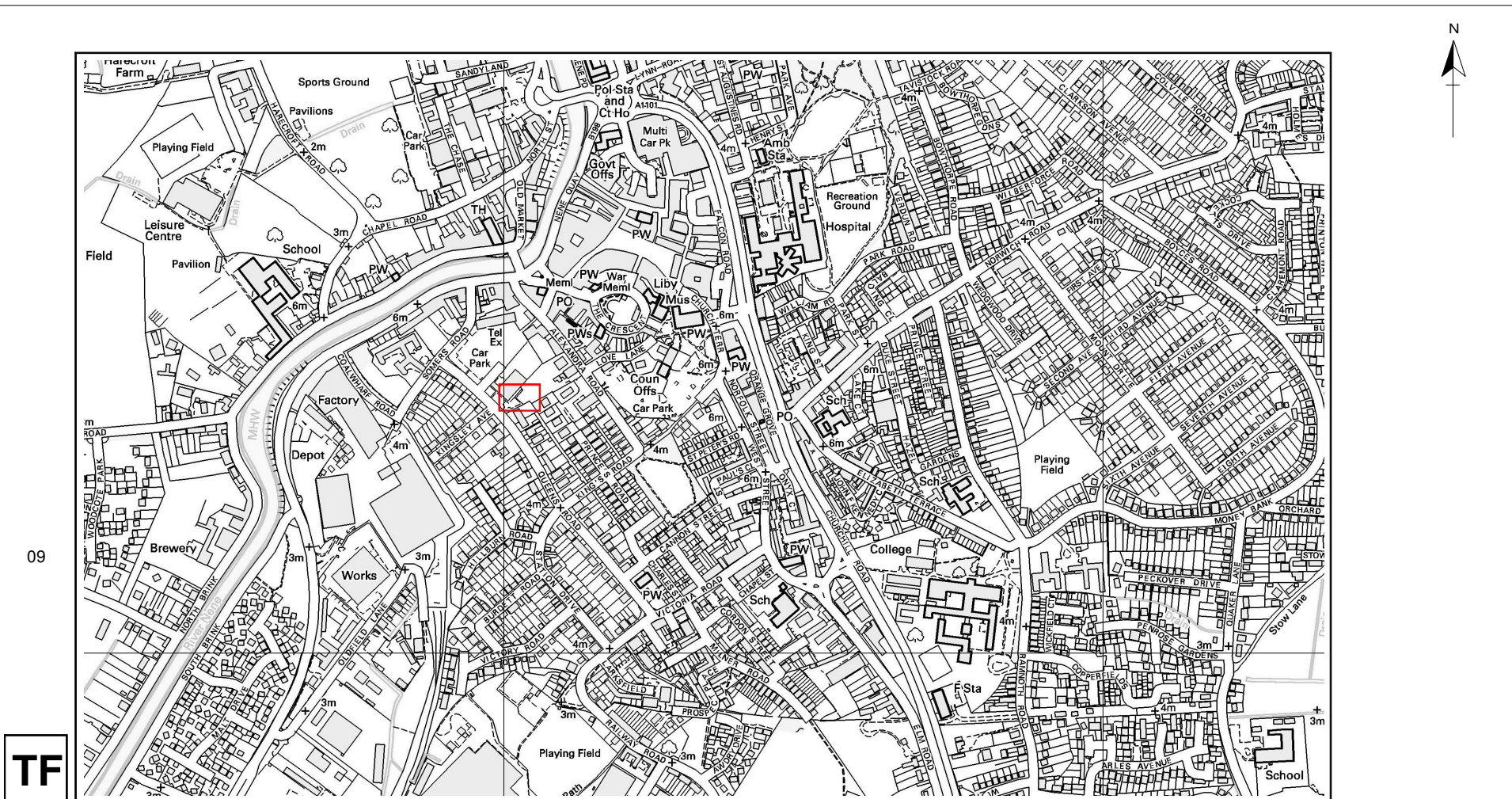
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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services
 BGS British Geological Survey
 IfA Institute for Archaeologists
 OD Ordnance Datum (height above sea level)
 OS Ordnance Survey



Figure 1 General location map



TF



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Area detailed in Figure 3


 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Queens Road, Wisbech		
Scale 1:10000	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 32/14

Figure 2 - Site location plan

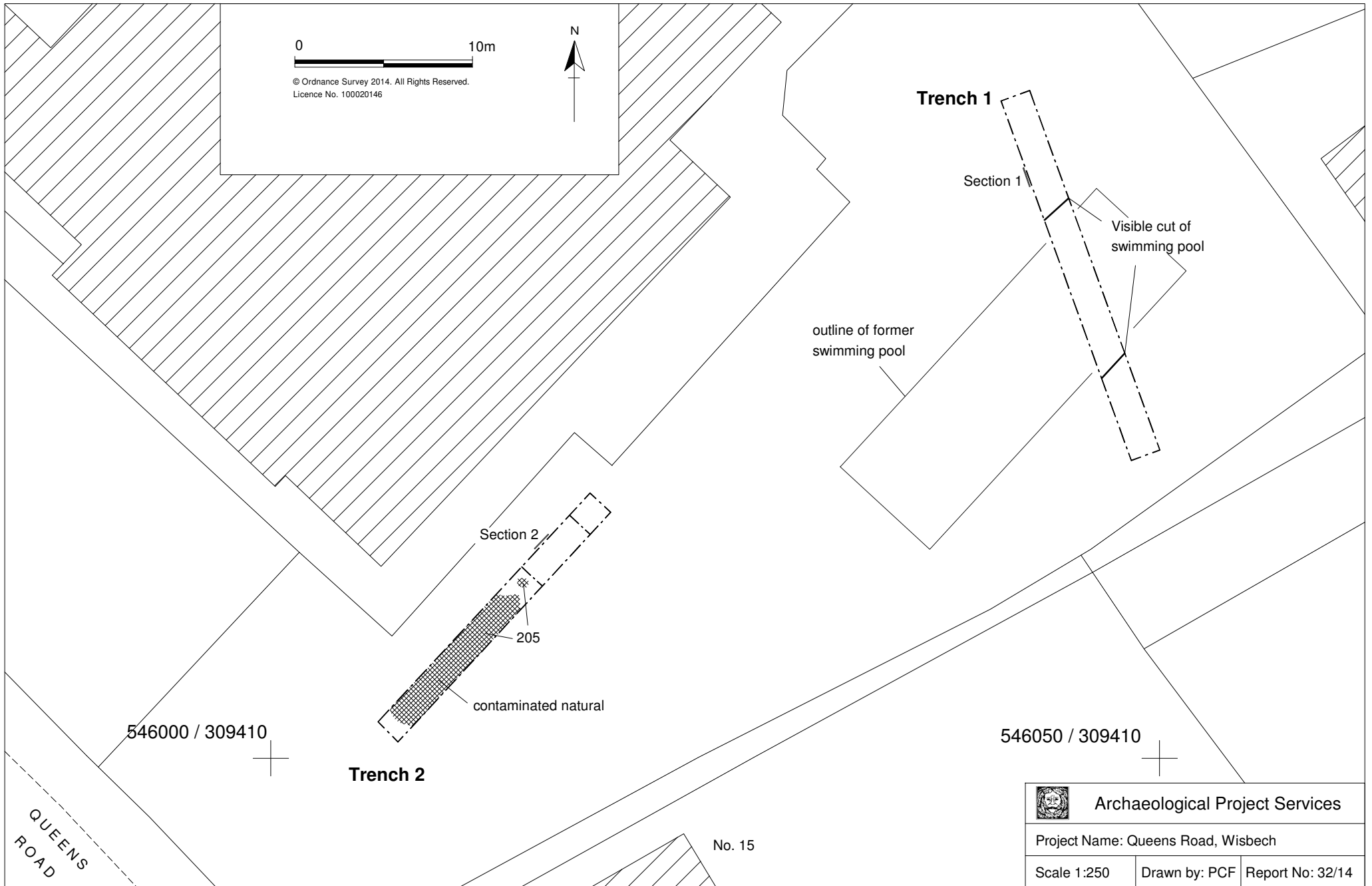
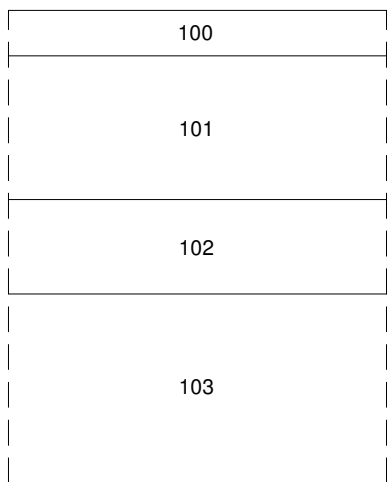


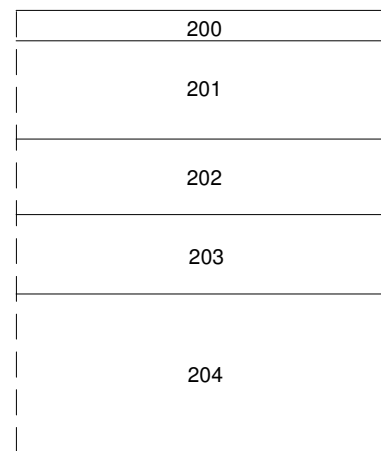
Figure 3 - Trench location plan showing position of drawn sections

NW SE



Section 1

NE SW



Section 2




	Archaeological Project Services	
Project Name: Queens Road, Wisbech		
Scale 1:20	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 32/14

Figure 4 - Sections 1 and 2



Plate 1 – Trench 1 after excavation, looking north



Plate 2 – Trench 1, Section 1, looking west



Plate 3 – Trench 2 after excavation, looking northeast



Plate 4 – Section 2, looking northwest

Appendix 1

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION – QUEENS ROAD, WISBECH, CANBRIDGESHIRE

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *An archaeological investigation comprising an archaeological evaluation is required on land north of 15 Queen Street, Wisbech,, Cambridgeshire.*
- 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 north of 15 Queen at Wisbech Grammar School, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire at NGR TF4604 0943.
- 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 20km from the coast of the Wash, and 28km northeast of Peterborough, in the Fenland district of Cambridgeshire (Fig. 1). The historic core of the town is laid out around the Norman castle and market. The proposed area of development is located at north of 15 Queen's Road, on the southwestern edge of the historic core of the town.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Fenland District Council require that an archaeological evaluation of the proposed development site is required as a condition of planning permission (Application F/YR13/0820/F) for residential development of land north of 15 Queen's Road, Wisbech.
- 4.2 The aim of the evaluation is to characterise any archaeological deposits which survive on the site so that the curatorial archaeologists is able to make an informed judgement on any mitigation measures which may be required to protect archaeological remains at the site.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The site was at a height of between 2m and 4m O.D. The site surface is underlain by sand silt and clay layers which comprise the post-glacial Terrington beds which in turn overlie the dark stiff clays of the Ampthill Series (Hodge et al 1984).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 The site is located on the south western edge of the medieval core of the town, within 200m of the site of Wisbech Castle (HER 01926)
- 6.2 Investigations in the area have confirmed the depth and richness of archaeological remains in the core of the town with flooding episodes leading to the creation of multiple settlement horizons.
- 6.3 The settlement was well established by the time of Domesday and a late Saxon Manor is thought to have been located in the area. Saxon and Roman material has also been recovered in and around the town.
- 6.4 The development lies to the south of the Old Market, which is potentially of pre Norman origin. The new market was established on the east bank in 1221. A late Saxon Manor was thought to exist in the area but remains have yet to be found, although there has been very little investigation in the area.

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 20m 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: RG Carter the contractor for Wisbech Grammar School; 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. The site code for the archaeological records will be Wiqr14 and Accession number ECB4135 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

- 13.1 Details of the investigation will be input to the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS).
- 13.2 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 Historic Environment Team. 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.
- 15.4 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 to three days and utilise 4 person days of staff time.
- 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

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Specification: Version 1, 27th February 2014

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench 1

No.	Description	Interpretation
100	Firm dark greyish brown silty clay, 0.12m thick	Topsoil
101	Firm mid reddish brown sandy gravel, limestone fragments and silt, 0.38m thick	Made ground
102	Firm mid to dark greyish brown clayey silt with frequent charcoal and brick/tile fragments, 0.25m thick	Former topsoil
103	Friable to soft light greyish brown silt, >0.5m thick	Natural deposit

Trench 2

No.	Description	Interpretation
200	Indurated black tarmac, 80mm thick	Surface
201	Friable crushed limestone and brick, 0.26m thick	Make-up for (200)
202	Firm dark greyish brown silt, 0.2m thick	Levelling deposit
203	Firm mid to dark greyish brown clayey silt with frequent charcoal and brick/tile fragments, 0.21m thick	Former topsoil
204	Friable to soft light greyish brown silt, >0.42m thick	Natural deposit
205	Friable to soft dark grey/black silt	Contaminated natural deposit

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).
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> 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) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
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 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 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:

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: WIQR 14

Cambridgeshire C.C. HER Event No: ECB 4135

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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Appendix 5

OASIS RECORD SHEET

OASIS ID: archaeol1-175272

Project details

Project name	Queens Road, Wisbech
Short description of the project	Two trench evaluation revealed nothing of archaeological interest
Project dates	Start: 10-03-2014 End: 10-03-2014
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ECB4135 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	WIQR14 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 15 - Other
Monument type	N/A None
Significant Finds	N/A None
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After outline determination (eg. As a reserved matter)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE FENLAND WISBECH Queens Road
Study area	56.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TF 4604 0943 52.6625149227 0.159661947209 52 39 45 N 000 09 34 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Project Services
Project brief originator	Cambridge Archaeology Planning and Countryside Advice
Project design originator	Dale Trimble
Project director/manager	Dale Trimble
Project supervisor	Liz Murray
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
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Digital Archive recipient	Archaeological Project Services
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Spreadsheets", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire County Store
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Correspondence", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological evaluation at Queens Road, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Cope-Faulkner, P.
Other bibliographic details	32/14
Date	2014
Issuer or publisher	Archaeological Project Services
Place of issue or publication	Heckington, Sleaford
Description	A4 comb-bound