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## ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT FISHTOFT MANOR, CLAMPGATE ROAD, FISHTOFT, LINCOLNSHIRE (FTFM 06)

Work Undertaken For Mr & Mrs Thompson

June 2007

Report Compiled by Paul Cope-Faulkner BA (Hons) AIFA

Planning Application No: B/05/0281 National Grid Reference: TF 3640 4235 City and County Museum Accession No: 2006.166 OASIS Record No: archaeol1-27484

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 79/07

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#### 1. SUMMARY

A watching brief was undertaken during groundworks at Fishtoft Manor, Clampgate Road, Fishtoft, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of foundation trenches for three new dwellings and their garages.

The site lies within an area of known Middle Saxon (AD 650-850) occupation identified through archaeological excavations to the north and south of the site. The site lies in the core of the medieval (AD 1066-1540) village which is best represented by the 12<sup>th</sup> century church of St Guthlac. Excavation of a mound c. 450m southeast of the site recovered Bronze Age and medieval pottery, and fieldwalking in the vicinity has identified a number of prehistoric and Roman finds scatters.

The watching brief revealed a sequence of undated and post-medieval deposits. Undated deposits include a buried soil and ditch. Post-medieval deposits comprised an extensive subsoil and two refuse pits. The depth of the foundation trenches probably precluded further Saxon deposits being identified.

Finds retrieved during the investigation include a single prehistoric flint flake, Late Saxon and later pottery, building material, glass and a small collection of animal bone.

## 2. INTRODUCTION

## 2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as "a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological

deposits may be disturbed or destroyed." (IFA 1999).

## 2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services commissioned by KMB Limited to undertake an archaeological watching brief on behalf of Mr J Thompson during groundworks associated with new residential development at Fishtoft Manor, Clampgate Road, Fishtoft, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application B/05/0281. The watching brief was carried out between the 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> 2007 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) approved by the Boston Borough Planning Archaeologist.

## 2.3 Topography and Geology

Fishtoft is situated 4.5km southeast of Boston in the administrative district of Boston Borough, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The site is located 200m south of the village centre as defined by the parish church of St Guthlac at National Grid Reference TF 3640 4235 (Fig. 2). Fishtoft Manor lies southwest of Clampgate Road at a height of c. 3m OD on generally level ground.

The site lies on soils of the Snargate Series, typically coarse silty gleyic brown alluvial soils (Robson 1990, 27). These soils are developed on younger marine alluvium which in turn seals further alluvial and glacial deposits which overlie a solid geology of Jurassic Ampthill Clay Series (BGS 1995).

## 2.4 Archaeological Setting

Fishtoft is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric period to the present day. Fishtoft village lies on the western

periphery of a concentration of prehistoric and Romano-British finds scatters identified during fieldwalking. In the early 1970s partial excavation of a possible barrow, south of the village, identified stone axes and flint tools with Middle Bronze Age pottery from the lower mound.

The investigation site lies within an area of substantial and important Middle Saxon undertaken remains. Excavations Clampgate Road in 2003, 150m to the northwest of the site, identified a complex Middle Saxon site characterised by a dense network of ditches and gullies interspersed with structural remains. Although postexcavation work is still in progress, the site at present has tentatively been interpreted as the industrial support services for a larger monastic complex or early urban centre (Hall 2005a). Further evidence for Middle Saxon occupation was recorded 100m to the south of the investigation area along Gaysfield Road, where Middle-Late Saxon features in the form of ditches were identified. It has been suggested that these ditches mainly represent drainage trenches and a possible droveway and that the main focus of any settlement would perhaps be to the east of the site (Zeffertt 1991).

Fishtoft is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of *c*. 1086. Recorded as *Toft*, the name is derived from the Old Danish meaning a 'plot of land' (Cameron 1998, 44). The *Fish*- prefix is first recorded in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. At the time of Domesday the land was held by Count Alan and Guy of Craon and contained a church with a priest, a mill and 80 acres of meadow (Foster and Longley, 1979).

The parish church of St. Guthlac lies 200m north of the site. The building dates in its earliest form to 1140 (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 277) and presumably replaced the earlier church mentioned in the Domesday Survey.

An evaluation of the site was undertaken in 2005 which recorded Middle Saxon deposits with early medieval layers (Hall 2005b, 7).

Fishtoft Manor is a late  $18^{th}$  century building with alterations of c. 1900 and is Grade II listed.

## 3. AIMS

The requirements of the watching brief, as detailed in the specification (Appendix 1), were to locate and record archaeological deposits and, if present, to determine their date, function and origin.

## 4. METHODS

Foundation trenches 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 2. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and 1:20. Recording was undertaken according standard to Archaeological Project Services practice.

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 assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them and supplemented by artefact dating.

#### 5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis four

phases were identified;

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Undated deposits
Phase 3	Post-medieval deposits
Phase 4	Recent deposits

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

## Phase 1 Natural deposits

No natural deposits were identified in Plot 1.

The earliest deposit encountered in Plot 2 was a layer of yellowish brown silty clay (022). This measured in excess of 20mm thick.

Within the foundation trenches of Plot 3 and its garage, natural was identified as a layer of yellowish brown silt, sand and gravel (009 and 012).

## Phase 2 Undated deposits

Overlying the natural in the southwest corner of Plot 2 was a layer of brown sandy silt (021). Identified as a buried soil, this measured 90mm thick.

Located within the garage foundations of Plot 3 was a north-south aligned ditch (013), terminating within the trench. This measured over 1.2m wide and was deeper than 0.7m (Fig. 5, Section 3). A single fill of greyish brown silty clay was recorded (014).

## Phase 3 Post-medieval deposits

Identified in all of the plots was a subsoil. It was the earliest deposit encountered in Plot 1 where it was recorded as a brown silty clay (024). This was over 0.5m thick. Brown silty clay (020) was also identified in Plot 2, where it sealed the buried soil (021).

In Plot 3 and its garage, a layer of greyish brown silty clay was identified (001 and 015). Finds from the subsoil include Late Saxon to modern pottery, a prehistoric flint flake and a small quantity of animal bone.

Cut into the subsoil in the southeast corner of Plot 3 was a pit (002). This was over 3.2m wide by 0.48m deep (Fig. 5, Section 1). Five fills were recorded, the lowest comprising grey/black charcoal and silt (003). The sequence of fills continued with yellowish brown sand (004), then yellowish brown silty clay (005) followed by grey/black silt (006) and an upper fill of greyish brown silty clay (007).

Located 8m to the north was a further pit (010) which was 0.77m wide and 0.54m deep (Fig. 5, Section 2). This contained a single fill of yellowish brown silt (011).

## Phase 4 Recent deposits

Sealing all deposits across Plot 1 and its garage was a topsoil comprising dark brown silty clay (023 and 025). This measured between 0.35m and over 0.62m thick.

Partly overlying the subsoil (020) in Plot 2 was a 0.12m thick dumped deposit of brown and yellowish brown silty clay (019). This was sealed beneath a 0.4m thick topsoil of brown silty clay (018).

Greyish brown sandy clay with gravel (008 and 016) was identified as the topsoil within Plot 3 and its garage. This was between 0.19m and 0.45m thick.

#### 6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Phase 1) comprise silt, silty clays, sand and gravel of the underlying drift geology of marine alluvium.

A ditch and buried soil are undated due to

a lack of artefactual material (Phase 2). However, previous investigations have also identified a buried soil which was dated to the Late Saxon period (Hall 2005, 6). The ditch may also be contemporary.

No Middle Saxon deposits were encountered, although such deposits were previously identified within a trench in the vicinity of Plot 2. This may be explained by the fact that the foundation trenches only penetrated subsoil layers intermittently.

Post-medieval deposits (Phase 3) comprise a subsoil and two pits. The subsoil was also encountered in the previous evaluation where it was described as a landscaping layer. The pits are probably for refuse disposal and may be linked to Fishtoft Manor.

Finds retrieved from the investigation include a range of pottery of Late Saxon, medieval and later date. A prehistoric flint flake was also retrieved. Other finds include a medieval stone roof tile, glass, brick and ceramic tile and a small quantity of animal bone.

## 7. CONCLUSION

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at Fishtoft Manor, Fishtoft, as the site lay in an area of known Saxon occupation and close to remains of prehistoric, Romano-British and medieval date.

However, the watching brief recorded only an undated buried soil and ditch along with post-medieval pits and a subsoil. The buried soil, previously encountered in the evaluation, may be Late Saxon in date.

The earliest find retrieved from the watching brief was a single prehistoric flint flake. Pottery of Late Saxon and later date was collected, along with building material, glass and animal bone.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr S Culling of KMB Limited and Mr & Mrs J Thompson for commissioning fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Steve Malone who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Jenny Young, the Boston Borough Planning Archaeologist, kindly allowed access to the parish files and library maintained Heritage by Lincolnshire.

## 9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Steve Malone

Site Supervisors: Tom Bradley-Lovekin,

Bob Garlant, Ray Holt

Finds processing: Denise Buckley

Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner, Rachael

Hall

Post-excavation analysis: Paul Cope-

Faulkner

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## 11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

HTL Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists



Figure 1 - General location plan

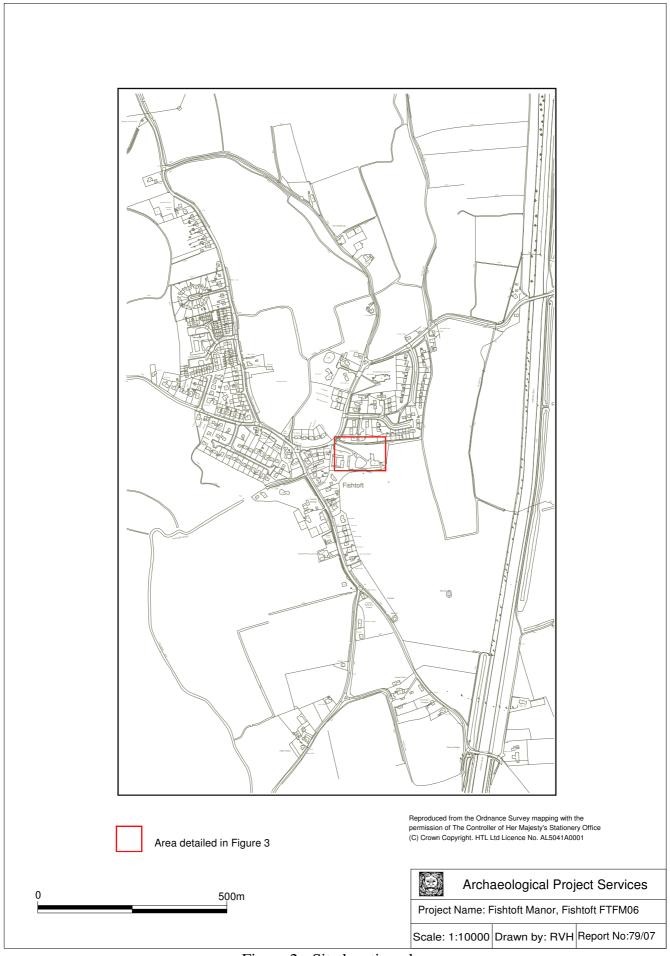


Figure 2 - Site location plan

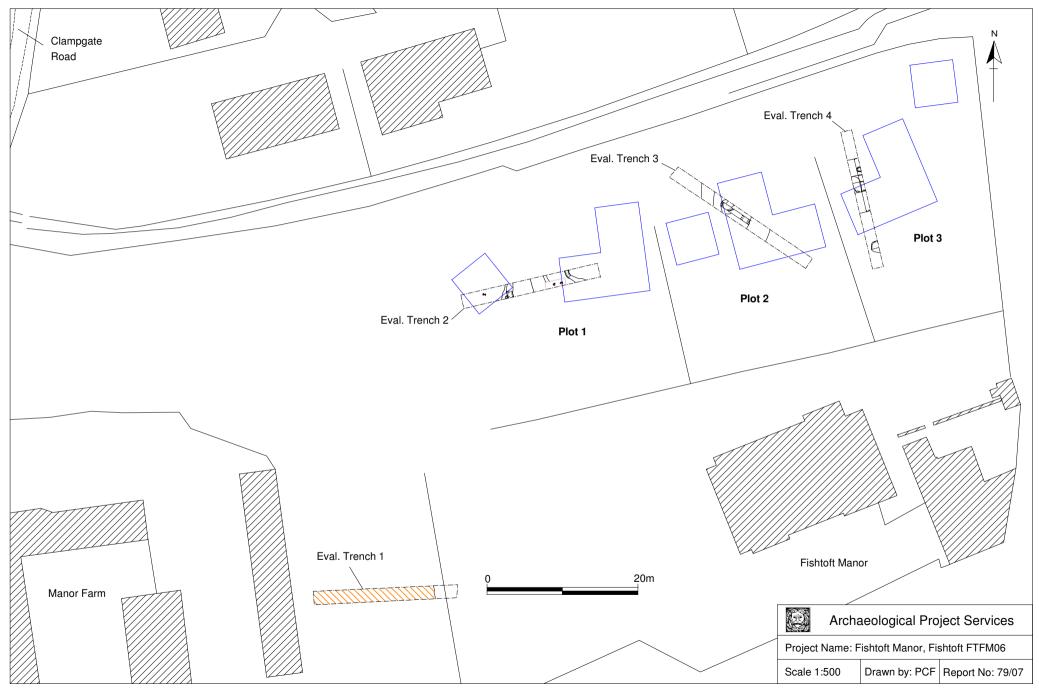


Figure 3 - Plan of the development

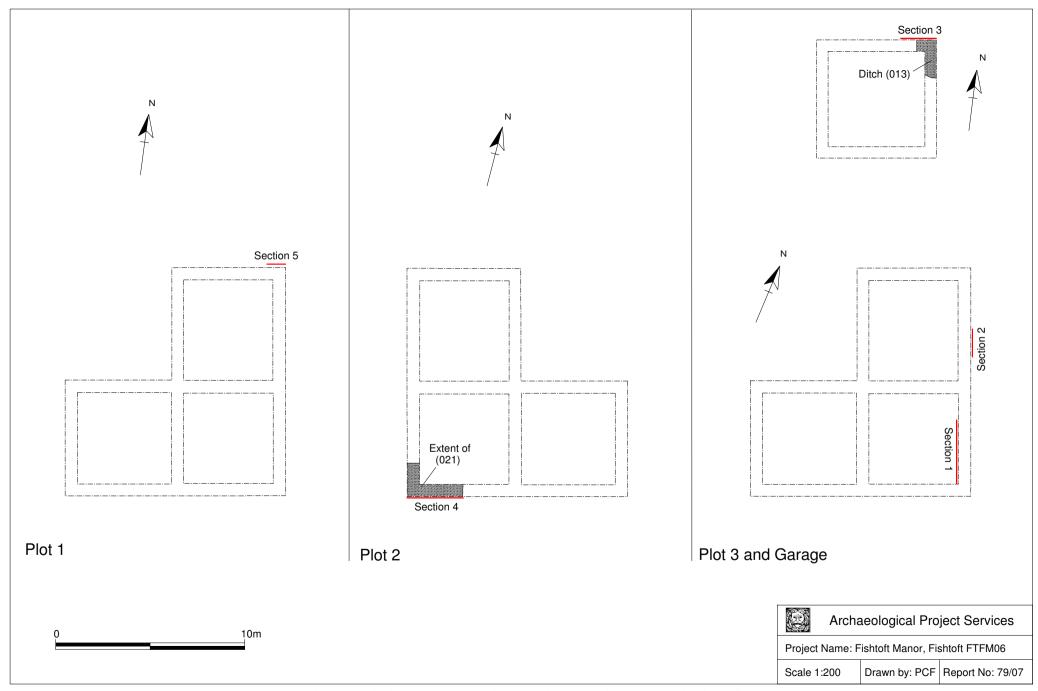


Figure 4 - Foundation plans showing section locations and principal features

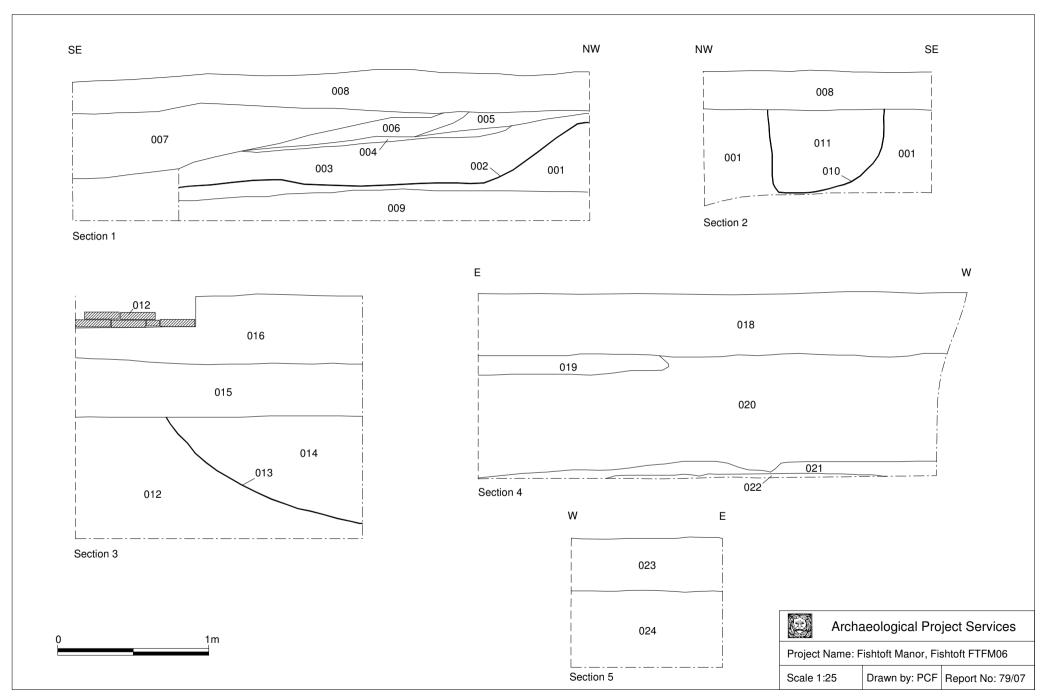


Figure 5 - Sections 1 to 5



Plate 1 - View of the development area with Fishtoft Manor in the background, looking



Plate 2 - Section 1 showing the post-medieval pit (002), looking south



Plate 3 - Section 2 showing the post-medieval pit (010), looking northeast



Plate 4 - Section 3 showing the undated ditch (013), looking northwest



Plate 5 - Section 5, looking north

# LAND AT FISHTOFT MANOR, FISHTOFT, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

#### 1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 A watching brief is required during construction dwellings on land at Fishtoft Manor, Clampgate Road, Fishtoft, Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The site is in the historic core of the village, about 200m from the Norman and later parish church. Activity ranging from prehistoric and Roman to Saxon and medieval date has been recorded in the vicinity. Excavations to the northwest identified extensive remains of Middle Saxon date. Trial trenching identified Late Saxon activity within the site itself.
- 1.3 The archaeological work will consist of a watching brief during development works on the site.
- 1.4 On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the watching brief. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.

## 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for archaeological watching brief during construction of a house and garage on land at Fishtoft Manor, Clampgate Road, Fishtoft, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 3640 4235.
- 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 Fishtoft is located 2km southwest of Boston in the administrative district of Boston Borough. The site, c. 0.5ha in extent, is in the centre of the village, 200m south of the parish church. It is located on the east side of Clampgate Road at National Grid Reference TF 3640 4235.

#### 4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 Planning permission (Application No. B/05/0281) has been granted by Boston Borough Council for residential development at the site. Permission is subject to a condition requiring the undertaking of a watching-brief during groundworks associated with the development.

## 5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 Lying 500m west of the canalized watercourse, Hobhole Drain, the site and surrounding area is on level ground at 3m OD. Soils at the site are alluvial gleys of the Tanvats Association developed on marine alluvium (Hodge et al. 1984, 319).

## 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

6.1 The site is in the historic core of the village, 200m south of the parish church of St Guthlac. This church contains Norman elements but is mostly 12th century. It is probably the same church

recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 which also noted a mill in the parish.

Part of a Neolithic polished stone axe, re-used as a scraper, was found a short distance south of the site. Roman pottery has also been found at several locations within 200m to both the northeast and southeast of the site. Trial trench evaluation and excavation prior to development just to the northwest identified evidence for Bronze Age activity together with extensive remains of Middle Saxon and medieval date. The site has been identified as a regionally important Saxon centre, possibly a precursor to Boston. Evaluation of the development site (Hall 2005) identified features of mid-late Saxon date in the north of the site.

## 7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the watching brief will be:
  - 7.1.1 To record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.
  - 7.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:
    - 7.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
    - 7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
    - 7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
    - 7.2.4 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

## 8 SITE OPERATIONS

#### 8.1 General considerations

- 8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the watching brief.
- 8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA). Archaeological Project Services is IFA registered organisation no. 21.
- 8.1.3 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.

## 8.2 <u>Methodology</u>

- 8.2.1 The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.
- 8.2.2 Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.
- 8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 8.2.4 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
  - the site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology

within the trench.

- groups of features where their relationship is important
- 8.2.5 Should human remains be located the appropriate licence will be obtained before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department and the police will be informed.

## 9 POST-EXCAVATION

## 9.1 Stage 1

- 9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief 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.
- 9.1.2 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.

## 9.2 Stage 2

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

## 9.3 Stage 3

- 9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.
- 9.3.2 This will consist of:
  - A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
  - A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.
  - Description of the topography of the site.
  - Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.
  - A text describing the findings of the watching brief.
  - A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief 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.

## 10 REPORT DEPOSITION

10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the Client; the Boston Planning Archaeologist; Boston Borough Council Planning Department; and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

#### 11 ARCHIVE

11.1 The documentation and records generated during the watching brief will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the City and County Museum, Lincoln. This will be undertaken following the requirements of the document titled Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives for long term storage and curation.

#### 12 PUBLICATION

12.1 Details of the project will be entered onto the OASIS online database. A report of the findings of the watching brief will be presented as a condensed article to the editor of the journal *Lincolnshire History and Archaeology*. If appropriate, notes on the findings will be submitted to the appropriate national journals: *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date, and *Medieval Archaeology* and the *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for findings of medieval or later date.

## 13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with Boston Planning Archaeologist. They will be given notice in writing before the commencement of the project.

## 14 VARIATIONS AND CONTINGENCIES

- 14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 14.2 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 (*Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* 1998, Sections 5.7 and 18).
- 14.3 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.
- 14.4 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.

## 15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 15.1 The watching brief will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the archaeological site work.
- 15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- 15.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one person-day) will require a post- excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half person-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about four days then there will be an

## 16 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

16.1 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.

Task Body to be undertaking the work

Conservation Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln

Pottery Analysis Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust

Roman – M Darling, Independent Specialist

Anglo-Saxon – A Boyle in consultation with J Young, Independent

Specialist

Medieval and later - A Boyle and G Taylor, APS

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

Animal Bones J Kitch, APS

Environmental Analysis V Fryer, Independent Specialist

Human Remains Analysis R Gowland, Independent Specialist

## 17 INSURANCES

17.1 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.

## 18 COPYRIGHT

- 18.1 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.
- 18.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.
- 18.3 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.
- 18.4 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.

## 19 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Specification: Version 1, 12 April 2007

# CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Plot	Description	Interpretation			
001	3	Friable light greyish brown silty clay, 0.45m thick  Subsoil				
002	3	Feature, >3.2m wide by 0.48m deep, gradual side and flattish base	Pit			
003	3	Loose dark grey/black charcoal and silt	Fill of (002)			
004	3	Loose mid yellowish brown sand	Fill of (002)			
005	3	Friable mid yellowish brown silty clay	Fill of (002)			
006	3	Loose dark grey/black silt	Fill of (002)			
007	3	Friable dark greyish brown silty clay	Fill of (002)			
008	3	Friable dark greyish brown sandy clay with frequent gravel, 0.19m thick	Topsoil			
009	3	Loose mid yellowish brown silt, sand and gravel, >0.18m thick	Natural deposit			
010	3	Feature, 0.77m wide by 0.54m deep, gradual sides and rounded base	Pit			
011	3	Loose mid yellowish brown silt	Fill of (010)			
012	3g	Loose mid yellowish brown silt, sand and gravel, >0.8m thick	Natural deposit			
013	3g	Feature, >1.2m wide by >0.7m deep, steep sides, base not observed	Ditch			
014	3g	Firm mid greyish brown silty clay	Fill of (013)			
015	3g	Friable light greyish brown silty clay, 0.4m thick	Subsoil			
016	3g	Friable dark greyish brown sandy clay with frequent gravel, 0.45m thick	Topsoil			
017	3g	Brick (230mm x 110mm x 50mm) structure, aligned # - #	Wall			
018	2	Friable dark brown silty clay, 0.4m thick	Topsoil			
019	2	Firm mixed mid brown and light yellowish brown silty clay, 0.12m thick	Dumped deposit			
020	2	Firm mid brown silty clay, 0.7m thick	Subsoil			
021	2	Friable dark brown sandy silt, 90mm thick	Buried soil			
022	2	Firm mid yellowish brown silty clay, >20mm thick	Natural deposit			
023	1	Friable dark brown silty clay, 0.35m thick	Topsoil			
024	1	Firm mid brown silty clay, >0.5m thick	Subsoil			
025	1g	Friable dark brownish grey silty clay, >0.62m thick	Topsoil			

## THE FINDS

## by Jennifer Kitch, Tom Lane and Gary Taylor

A small quantity of other artefacts, stone and glass, comprising 3 items weighing a total of 500g, was retrieved. Faunal remains were also recovered.

The excavated animal bone assemblage comprises 15 stratified fragments of bone weighing 190g. The animal bone was identified by reference to published catalogues. No attempt is made to sex or age animals represented within the assemblage, although where this is readily apparent is noted in the comments column.

#### **Provenance**

The material was recovered from channel fills (006 and 019).

#### Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: Artefacts

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
007	α.	G 11	1		36.11. 1
007	Stone	Collyweston roof slate, uneven	1	481	Medieval
		faces, 16mm thick			
020	Stone	Struck blade/flake, large,	1	16	Prehistoric,
		69mm x 29mm x 8mm, no			probably early
		retouch			
023	Glass	Colourless window glass	1	3	20 <sup>th</sup> century

A stone roof tile was recovered from (007). Previous examination of Collyweston tiles has shown that late medieval slates are generally about 20mm thick with uneven faces, whereas post-medieval examples are much thinner, as little as 5mm thick (RCHME 1984, xlvii). Therefore, the tile found in the present investigation appears to be medieval.

Table 2: The Faunal Remains

Context	Species	Bone	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
	Cattle	Humerus	1	20	Infant (calf)
018	Cattle	Radius	1	15	Infant (calf)
018	Cattle	Scapula	1	2	Infant (calf)
	Cattle	Rib	8	3	Infant (calf)
020	Cattle	Horncore	1	96	Large, possibly chopped through the base
	Equid	Astragalus	1	29	
	Large Mammal Size	Innominate	1	18	Chopped through the pubis
024	Large Mammal Size	Vertebra	1	7	Transverse process.

Cattle are predominant within the assemblage; however, the number of remains is too small to suggest that this is a true representation of animal husbandry or utilisation on site, save the presence of the species on site. The calf remains recovered from context (018) are from a very young individual which may suggests that the breeding of cattle was taking place in the vicinity. A large horncore recovered from context (020) had potentially chopped through the base which may suggest the horn was removed for working.

#### Condition

All the material is in good condition and presents no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the collection is by material class.

#### **Documentation**

There have been previous archaeological investigations at Fishtoft that are the subjects of reports. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the Boston Planning Archaeologist and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

## **Potential**

In general, the small collection of artefacts is of limited local potential and significance, though the prehistoric flint tool is notable.

## References

Royal Commission on Historical Monuments England, 1984 *Architectural Monuments in North Northamptonshire*, An Inventory of the Historical Monuments in the County of Northampton **VI** 

## THE OTHER FINDS

by Jennifer Kitch, Tom Lane and Gary Taylor

A small quantity of other artefacts, stone and glass, comprising 3 items weighing a total of 500g, was retrieved. Faunal remains were also recovered.

The excavated animal bone assemblage comprises 15 stratified fragments of bone weighing 190g. The animal bone was identified by reference to published catalogues. No attempt is made to sex or age animals represented within the assemblage, although where this is readily apparent is noted in the comments column.

#### **Provenance**

The material was recovered from a pit fill (007), subsoils (020 and 024) and topsoils (018 and 023).

#### Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: Artefacts

Context	Material	Description		Wt (g)	Context Date
007	Stone	Collyweston roof slate, uneven faces, 16mm thick	1	481	Medieval
020	Stone	Struck blade/flake, large, 69mm x 29mm x 8mm, no retouch	1	16	Prehistoric, probably early
023	Glass	Colourless window glass	1	3	20 <sup>th</sup> century

A stone roof tile was recovered from (007). Previous examination of Collyweston tiles has shown that late medieval slates are generally about 20mm thick with uneven faces, whereas post-medieval examples are much thinner, as little as 5mm thick (RCHME 1984, xlvii). Therefore, the tile found in the present investigation appears to be medieval.

Table 2: The Faunal Remains

Context	Species	Bone	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
	Cattle	Humerus	1	20	Infant (calf)
018	Cattle	Radius	1	15	Infant (calf)
016	Cattle	Scapula	1	2	Infant (calf)
	Cattle	Rib	8	3	Infant (calf)
	Cattle	Horncore	1	96	Large, possibly chopped through the base
020	Equid	Astragalus	1	29	
	Large Mammal Size	Innominate	1	18	Chopped through the pubis
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Cattle are predominant within the assemblage; however, the number of remains is too small to suggest that this is a true representation of animal husbandry or utilisation on site, save the presence of the species on site. The calf remains recovered from context (018) are from a very young individual which may suggests that the breeding of cattle was taking place in the vicinity. A large horncore recovered from context (020) had potentially chopped through the base which may suggest the horn was removed for working.

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#### **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.

**Bronze Age** A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between

2250 and 800 BC.

**Context** An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For

example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and 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.

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<sup>st</sup> 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.

## THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 25 Context records
- 1 Photographic record sheet
- 4 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: 2006.166

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: FTFM 06

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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