ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON LAND AT FORDINGTON WATER TREATMENT WORKS, FORDINGTON LINCOLNSHIRE (FWTW07)

Work Undertaken For Anglian Water Services

June 2007

Report Compiled by Thomas Bradley-Lovekin PIFA

National Grid Reference: TF 415 714 City and County Museum Accession No: LCNCC 2007.114 Oasis Reference: archaeol1-27845

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 078/07

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1. SUMMARY

A watching brief was undertaken during groundworks relating to the construction of a working platform for the drilling of a new borehole at Fordington Water Fordington, Treatment Works. Lincolnshire. The watching brief was requested by Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Section as the site lay immediately west of the Scheduled remains of Fordington deserted medieval village and was also set within a wider landscape of known prehistoric burial mounds of Neolithic to Bronze Age date and to the west of a Roman road along the course of which settlement is suspected.

Only natural deposits of silty clay and silt overlain by recent topsoil and subsoil, and modern features associated with the water treatment works were present.

No archaeological artefacts were found.

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 nonarchaeological 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 maybe disturbed or destroyed." (IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Anglian Water Services to undertake an archaeological watching brief during construction of a working platform for the drilling of a new borehole at Fordington Water Treatment Works, Fordington, Lincolnshire. The watching brief was requested by Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Section and was carried out between the 31st of May and the 1st of June 2007.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Fordington is located approximately 5km north of Spilsby and 7.5km southwest of Alford in the administrative district East Lindsey, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1). The site itself is located at National Grid Reference TF 415 714, on the southern side of a valley with the groundworks being terraced into the north facing hillslope for a depth of 1.28m (Figs 2 and 3, Plates 1 and 2). A spot height datum within the water treatment works compound records ground level at 50.1m OD.

Local soils are mapped as slowly permeable, seasonally waterlogged, loamy, silty and clayey soils of the of the Wickham 2 Association developed over Jurassic and cretaceous clay or mudstone at the base of the valley, with shallow, well drained, calcareous silty soils over chalk of the Andover 1 Association overyling the valley slopes (SSEW 1983, 7 & 16)

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Three Neolithic long barrows (Giants Hills 1, 2 and 3) stand southeast of Ulceby to the west of the A1028 approximately 1400m east-southeast of the site. The first Giants Hills 1, is the shortest but best preserved and was excavated between 1933 and 1934. The second, Giants Hills 2, has been severely damaged by ploughing and survives only as a low earthwork. The third, Giants Hills 3, is known only from cropmark evidence (http://www.stone-circles.org.uk). All three long barrows are scheduled monuments (SAM No's 27853, 27867 and Ordnance Survey maps record 27872). additional long barrows, further afield to the west and east of the site.

Two cropmarks of possible Bronze Age round barrows are known from aerial photographs c.550m and c.1100m north of the site, whilst a further two possible round barrows are known from cropmarks c.700m and c1100m to the northeast (http://www.pastscape.org).

The line of a Roman Road, partially overlain by the modern A1028 runs c.1000m to the east of the site on a northwest to southeast alignment. Cropmark enclosures known from aerial photographs, to the east of the road, c1100m east of the site may represent an Iron Age or Romano-British farmstead (http://www.pastscape.org).

Referred to as Fortintone in the 1086 Domesday Survey, Foorthintuna in the Lindsey Survey of c.1115, Forpinton in the Fees of 1212, Forpingeton in another 13th century document *Fordinton* in c1180. and Fordington from 1230 onwards, the place name Fordington. reflects Scandanavian influence being most probably derived from 'The TUN of the people by the ford' (Eckwall 1960, 184)

Reference to the settlement in Domesday is however brief;

In Fordington, Ashby (by Partney), Bratoft and Langene, a jurisdiction, 181/2 caracutes of land taxable. Land for 18 ploughs. Now 49 Freemen, 26 villagers and 22 smallholders have 18 ploughs. Three churches; meadow, 620 acres. (Morris 1986, 13.6).

The Lindsey Survey of c.1115-18 reports that at that time Fordington was one of eleven manors in Lindsey held by Earl Richard (Foster and Longley 1976 edition, 253 14,7).

The site is located c.220m west of the scheduled remains of Fordington deserted medieval village (SAM No. 284 (County No.)). The National Monuments Record records the presence of earthworks

representing crofts, tofts, other buildings, a church a pond and trackways in the site (http://www.pastscape.org).

Two mounds present amongst the earthworks of the deserted medieval village east of the site, within the scheduled area (SAM No. 284 (County No.)), most probably medieval or postwindmill medieval mounds (http://www.pastscape.org), although they have been suggested as possible Bronze Age Round barrows (http://www.stonecircles.org.uk).

3. AIMS

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

4. METHODS

Groundworks, involving the stripping of topsoil and the partial removal of subsoil and natural, for the laying of a working platform for the sinking of a borehole were monitored.

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

Following the watching brief the site records were examined, interepreted and the contexts catalogued (Appendix 2). Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them. No archaeological artefacts were recovered.

5. **RESULTS**

Following post-excavation analysis two phases were identified;

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Recent deposits

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

5.1 Natural Deposits

The earliest deposit revealed, a natural light brownish yellow silty clay (004), was exposed along the southwestern limit of excavation where the groundworks were terraced into a north facing hillslope (Fig. 4). This deposit was sealed by a light to mid–brownish reddish yellow silt (002), also of natural origin, which extended across the southeast corner of the groundworks (Figs. 4 and 5 Section 1). This silt was light to medium brownish reddish yellow in colour and at least 0.68m thick.

The final natural deposit (003), a light yellowish grey clay overlying (002) was only partially exposed alongside the trackway in the centre of the site.

5.2 Recent Deposits

Across the northern half of the groundworks ground reduction was contained within the subsoil (005) and the topsoil (001) as this area lay within the valley bottom and so terracing was not necessary.

Other recent contexts included a trackway (006), and concrete base (007) and disturbed ground resulting from the removal of a second concrete base (008) were all associated with the water treatment works.

6. **DISCUSSION**

Two phases of deposition were identified; natural strata (004,002 and 003), all clearly relating to the underlying natural drift geology, exposed across the southern area of the site where the groundworks were terraced into the north facing hillslope and recent deposits of subsoil or topsoil (001 and 005). The latter deposits were exposed across the northern half of the site and may represent prolonged agricultural activity, although given their position at the base of the valley at least some of the soil is likely to have either washed or eroded into position from the hillslope to the south.

The remaining recent contexts (006, 007 and 008) all related to the site's current usage as a water treatment works.

7. CONCLUSION

A watching brief was undertaken during groundworks relating to the construction of a working platform for the drilling of a borehole at Fordington new Water Works, Fordington, Treatment Lincolnshire. The watching brief was requested by Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Section as the site lay immediately west of the Scheduled remains of Fordington deserted medieval village and was also set within a wider landscape of known prehistoric burial mounds of Neolithic to Bronze Age date. A kilometre to the east of the site the A1028 follows the course of a Roman road and settlement associated with the road is suspected from several locations along its course.

In the event however only natural deposits of silty clay and silt overlain by recent topsoil and subsoil, and modern features associated with the water treatment works, were present. No archaeological artefacts were found.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr Nick Walters of Anglian Water who commissioned both the fieldwork and this report. Mark Williams coordinated the project and Tom Lane edited the report.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Mark Williams Site Supervisor: Fiona Walker Photographic reproduction: Thomas Bradley-Lovekin Illustration: Thomas Bradley-Lovekin Post-excavation analysis: Thomas Bradley-Lovekin

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Morris, J.(ed), 1986, Domesday Book Lincolnshire, Part 1, Chichester

SSEW, 1983, Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales, Harpenden

<u>http://www.pastscape.org</u> (English Heritage National Monument Record website)

http://www.stone-circles.org.uk (Independent website)

11. ABBREVIATIONS

- APS Archaeological Project Services
- DoE Department of the Environment
- IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists
- SSEW Soil Survey of England and Wales



Figure 1: General Location Plan

N

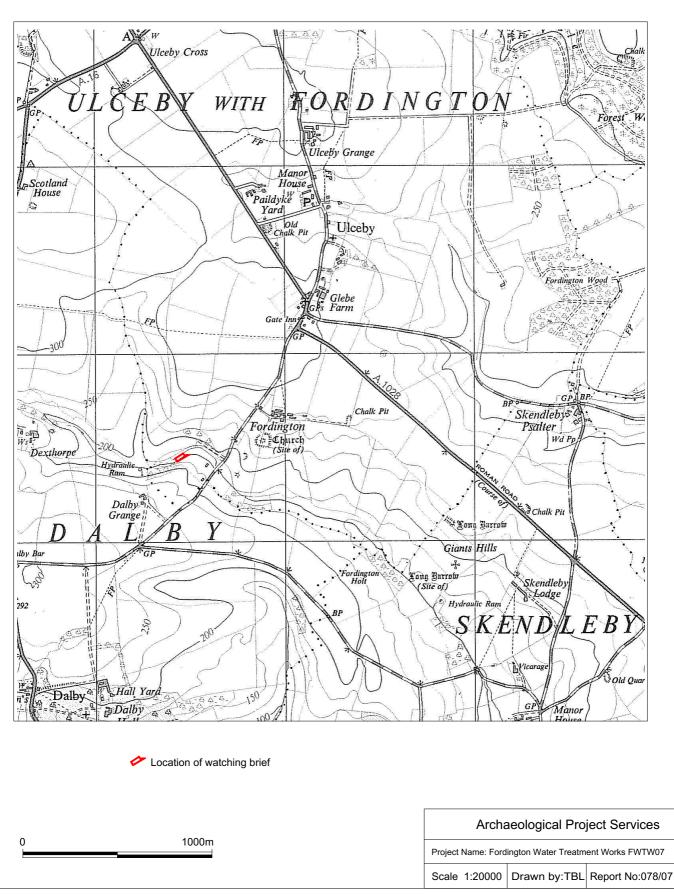


Figure 2 Site Location Plan

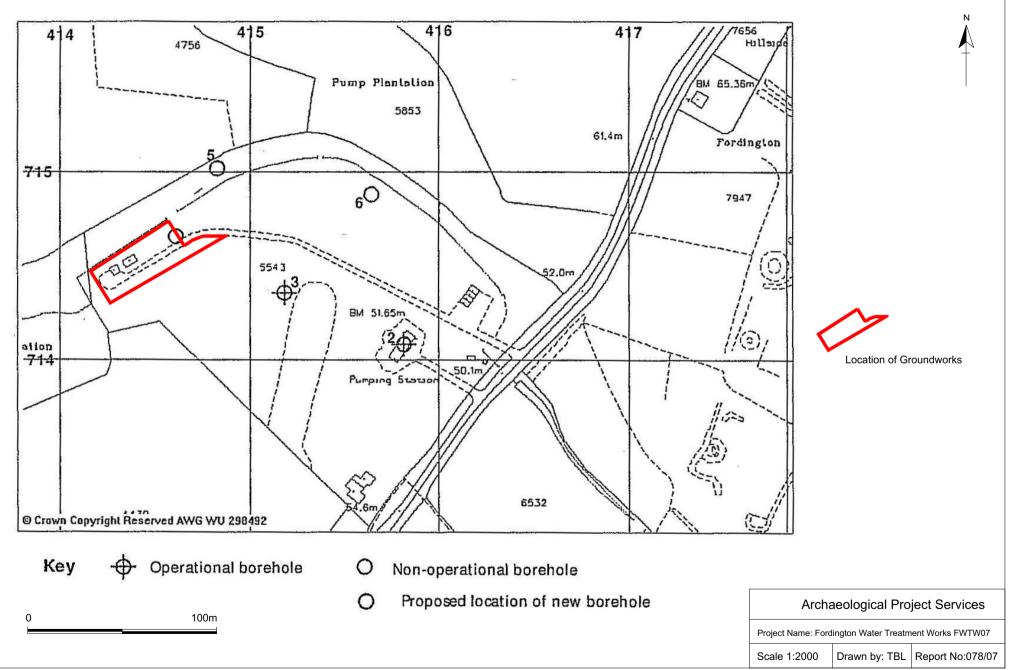


Figure 3 Location of groundworks monitored

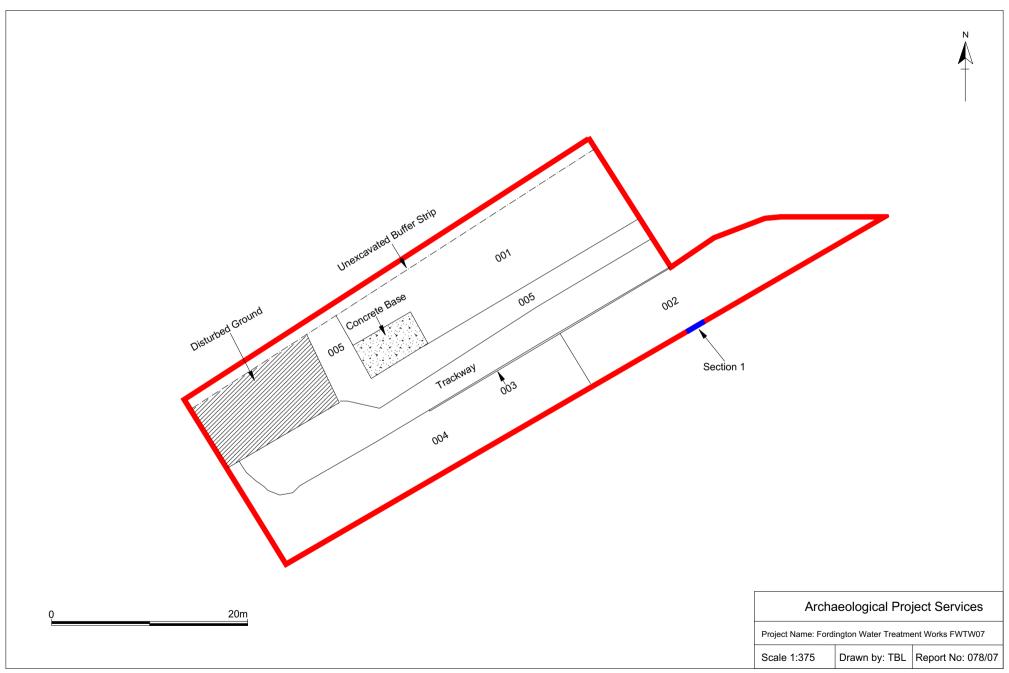


Figure 4 Plan of groundworks showing deposits exposed

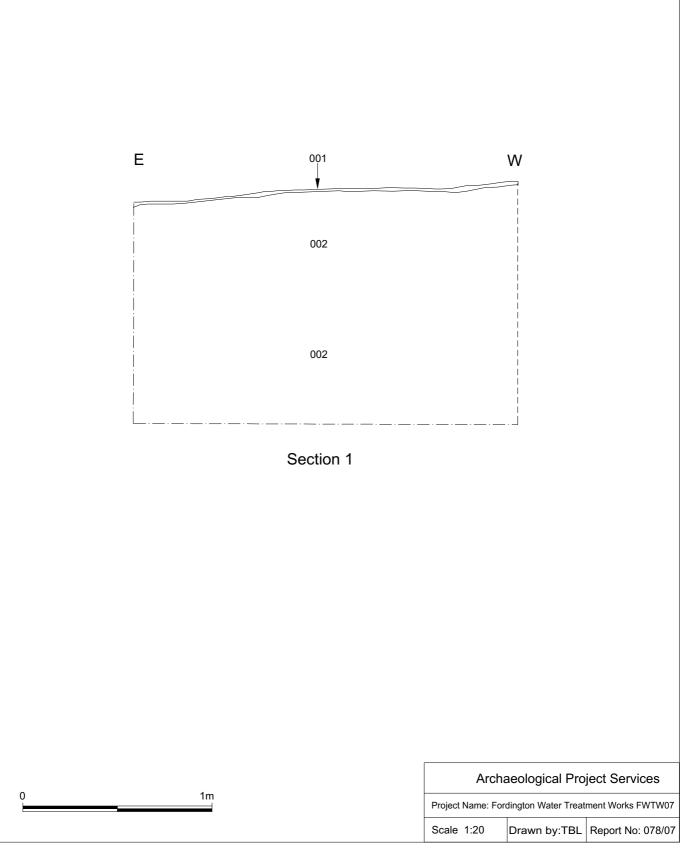




Plate 1 Southwest facing view across groundwork area, Section 1 located in left hand corner



Plate 2 Southwest facing view across groundwork area



LAND AT FORDINGTON WATER TREATMENT WORKS LINCOLNSHIRE NGR TF 415714

> SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

PREPARED FOR ANGLIAN WATER

BY ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES Institute of Field Archaeologists' Registered Organisation No. 21

MAY 2007



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1	SUMMARY

- 1.1 A watching brief is required during construction of a working platform for the drilling of a new borehole at Fordington Water Treatment Works.
- 1.2 The site lies in an area of archaeological significance and potential, being adjacent to the location of the Old Fordington Village, a Scheduled Monument.
- 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 working platform for the excavation of a new borehole at Fordingham, East Lindsey, Lincolnshire NG RTF 415 714.
- 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 Fordingham is located approximately 5km north of Spilsby and approximately 7.5km south west of Alford at NGR TF415714.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 A watching brief has been requested by Lincolnshire County Council in advance of the construction of a working platform for the excavation of a new borehole at Fordington, East Lindsey, Lincolnshire.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

5.1 The site adjacent to the site of Old Fordinton Village, a deserted mediaeval

village designated as a scheduled ancient monument. Also known from the area are Prehistoric funerary monuments. Two possible Bronze age barrows from within the Scheduled Area and a Neolithic long barrow to the south east.

6 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 6.1 The aims of the watching brief will be:
 - 6.1.1 To record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.
 - 6.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:
 - 6.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
 - 6.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
 - 6.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and

6.2.4 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

7 SITE OPERATIONS

- 7.1 <u>General considerations</u>
 - 7.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the watching brief.
 - 7.1.2 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.
 - 7.1.3 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.

7.2 <u>Methodology</u>

7.2.1 The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of

soil movement.

- 7.2.2 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.
- 7.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 7.2.4 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
- 7.2.5 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.

8 **POST-EXCAVATION**

- 8.1 <u>Stage 1</u>
 - 8.1.1 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.
 - 8.1.2 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.
- 8.2 <u>Stage 2</u>
 - 8.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.

- 8.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.
- 8.3 <u>Stage 3</u>
 - 8.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.
 - 8.3.2 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.

9 **REPORT DEPOSITION**

9.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the Client; the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section; East Lindsey District Council Planning Department; and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

10 ARCHIVE

10.1 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.

11 **PUBLICATION**

11.1 Details of the project will be entered into the OASIS online database. If appropriate 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*. Notes on the findings may also 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.

12 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

12.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section. They will be given seven days notice in writing before the commencement of the project.

13 VARIATIONS AND CONTINGENCIES

- 13.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 13.2 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).
- 13.3 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.
- 13.4 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.

14 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

14.1 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.

- 14.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- 14.3 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 economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

15 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

15.1 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>	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, APS in consultation with J Young, Independent Specialist
	Medieval and later – A Boyle and G Taylor, APS
Non-pottery Artefacts	G Taylor, APS or J Cowgill, Independent Specialist
Animal Bones	J Kitch, APS
Environmental Analysis	J Rackham or V Fryer, Independent Specialist
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, Independent Specialist
INSURANCES	

16

16.1 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.

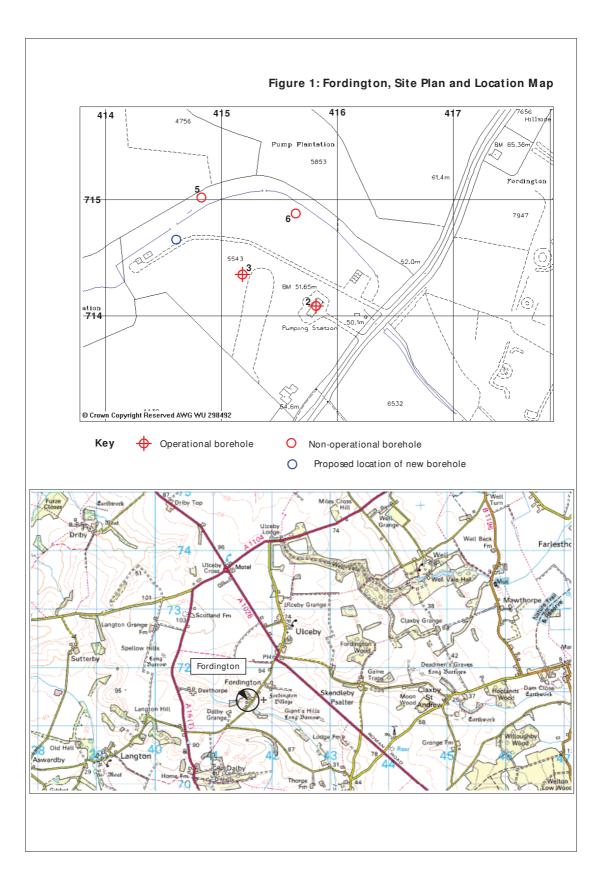
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- 17.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

18 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Specification: Version 1, 30th May 2007



APPENDIX 2 Context Summary

Context	Description	Depth/ Height	Interpretation
001	Friable mid-brown sandy silt	0.02-0.35m	Topsoil
002	Friable Light to mid-brownish reddish yellow silt	0.63m>	Natural
003	Plastic light yellowish grey clay	-	Natural
004	Friable light brownish yellow silty clay	0.2m>	Natural
005	Friable light yellowish brown silt	-	Subsoil
006	Modern Trackway (associated with water treatment works)	-	-
007	Concrete base (associated with water treatment works)	-	-
008	Disturbed ground (associated with water treatment works)	-	-

Appendix 3

GLOSSARY

Anglo-Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.
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, <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.
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).
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.
Neolithic	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500-2250 BC.
Palaeolithic	The earliest part of the 'Stone Age' dating from the first period of human occupation to the end of the last ice age (approximately 10,000 years ago). It is usually sub-divided into lower, middle and upper, each characterised by differing stone tools and subspecies of humans.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1 st century AD.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

Appendix 4

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 2 Trench recording sheets
- 1 Photographic record sheet

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The project archive will be deposited at;

Lincolnshire Museums Service The Collection Art and Archaeology in Lincolnshire Danes Terrace LN21LP

The archive will be deposited in accordance with the guidelines contained in *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for long-term storage* (UKIC 1990) and *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections* (Museum & Galleries Commission 1992).

Accession Number:	LCNCC 2007.114
Archaeological Project Services Site Code:	FWTW 07

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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