
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT 8 EAST END,
BURGH LE MARSH,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BMEE 07)**

Work Undertaken For
Dr RN Hartzenberg

July 2007

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

Planning Application No: S/023/03028/06
National Grid Reference: TF 5042 6492
City and County Museum Accession No: 2007.81
OASIS Record No: archaeo11-28838

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES**



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1. SUMMARY

A watching brief was undertaken during groundworks at 8 East End, Burgh le Marsh, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of foundation trenches for new extensions to existing buildings.

The watching brief was undertaken as the site was located in an area of archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric to the post-medieval periods.

The watching brief revealed a sequence of natural, subsoil and topsoil deposits. No archaeological features were recorded during the investigation. Finds retrieved from the watching brief include pottery, clay pipe and glass of post-medieval date.

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 was commissioned by Dr RN Hartzenberg to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with new extensions to an existing building at 8 East End, Burgh le Marsh, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application S/023/03028/06. The watching brief was carried out on the 5th and 6th July 2007 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project

Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section

2.3 Topography and Geology

Burgh le Marsh is located approximately 5km west of Skegness in the administrative district of East Lindsey, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site is located 350m east of the centre of Burgh le Marsh as defined by the parish church of SS Peter and Paul at National Grid Reference TF 5042 6492 (Fig. 2). The site lies west of East End at a height of c. 3m OD on a slight slope down to the east.

Local soils are of the Holderness Association, typically fine-coarse loamy soils, with calcareous clayey soils of the Wallasea 2 Association immediately east of the site (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 214, 351). These soils overlie a drift geology of glacial till which seals a solid geology of Cretaceous Claxby Ironstone and Tealby Mudstone (BGS 1996).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Burgh le Marsh is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Mesolithic period to the present day. A Mesolithic microlith, a small worked flint often used with others to form composite tools, was found with other, possibly later, flints in the area around Cock Hill, west of the church.

At Burgh le Marsh Primary School, flints dating from the Neolithic through to the Late Bronze Age and an Early Bronze Age pot sherd were recovered as residual finds from a later ditch (Tann 1999). In addition, a Bronze Age stone axe was discovered to the south of The Mount in 1937.

It has been conjectured that Burgh le Marsh is situated close to or on a major prehistoric route across the Wolds. This

route, known as Bluestone Heath Road, connected Ludford to the town (May 1976, 9).

During the Romano-British period, Burgh le Marsh was the probable site of a settlement at the terminus of a Roman road that ran from Lincoln and through Horncastle to the town (Margary 1973, 238). The road has also been thought to continue southeast towards the coast of the Wash. Frequent finds of pottery and coins dating to the Romano-British period have been made from the area around High Street, particularly between Cock Hill and the church. Two Romano-British burials have been recorded close to Cock Hill House, both of which were covered in roofing tile.

Recent evaluation southwest of the church identified possible Romano-British structural remains and evidence for crop processing (Bradley-Lovekin and Kitch 2006, 6).

Anglo-Saxon pottery has been found in Burgh le Marsh, again concentrated in the area between Cock Hill and West End, suggesting continuity of settlement. In addition, two *Sceatta* coins of the 8th century from the lower Rhineland have been found (Blackburn 1993, 87).

Cock Hill, a large mound beside High Street, was excavated in 1933, when human remains associated with a Saxon bronze buckle were uncovered (Leahy 1993, 39). Subsequent work at Cock Hill during the 1970s cast doubt on this interpretation and it is now thought that the mound was constructed to support a windmill or used for cock fighting (Everson 1993, 94).

By the Late Saxon period, Burgh is likely to have been an important estate centre. The name is derived from the Old English *burh* and usually refers to some form of fortification (Cameron 1998, 23). Its importance is reflected in the Domesday

Survey of c. 1086 where Burgh le Marsh was the centre of an estate with lands in Sutton, Addlethorpe, Wainfleet and Skegness (Foster and Longley 1976). At the time of the Domesday Survey, the land was held by Count Alan, Gilbert de Gand, Eudo and Robert the Steward and contained a church and 585 acres of meadow (*ibid.*).

Extant remains of the medieval period are restricted to the parish church of SS Peter and Paul, dating from c. 1500 (DoE 1988, 6), which presumably replaced the church referred to in the Domesday Survey. A chapel dedicated to St Mary was also located in the town (Owen 1975, 17). Traces of the medieval field system, in the form of ridge and furrow, has been observed in the vicinity on aerial photographs.

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

Prior to the excavation of foundation trenches, topsoil was stripped from the area of the new build. Foundation trenches were then 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. Recording was undertaken according to

standard 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

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

The earliest deposit encountered at the base of the foundation trenches was a natural layer of yellowish brown silty clay (005). This was subsequently sealed by a layer of grey silty clay with chalk fragments (004) followed by reddish brown clay (003).

Developed upon these natural layers, though only evident in the northwest of the foundation trenches, was a subsoil comprising a 0.3m thick layer (Fig. 4, Section 1) of greyish brown silty clay (002). Sealing all deposits was the topsoil of brown/black humic silt (001) that contained post-medieval pottery, glass and clay pipe.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits of clay and silty clay relate to the underlying drift geology of glacial till.

Developed upon this was an intermittent subsoil which may imply agricultural activity at the site. However, its absence from the western part of the site may indicate that the site had previously been truncated.

Finds retrieved from the investigation include pottery of 16th – 19th century date along with glass and clay pipe.

7. CONCLUSION

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at East End, Burgh le Marsh, as the site lay close to known remains of prehistoric and later date.

However, only a sequence of natural, subsoil and topsoil was recorded at the site. No archaeological features were identified. Finds from the investigation include post-medieval pottery, glass and clay pipe.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Dr RN Hartzenberg for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Steve Malone who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Dave Start kindly allowed access to the parish files and library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Steve Malone
 Site Supervisor: Fiona Walker
 Finds processing: Denise Buckley
 Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
 Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
 Post-excavation analysis: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

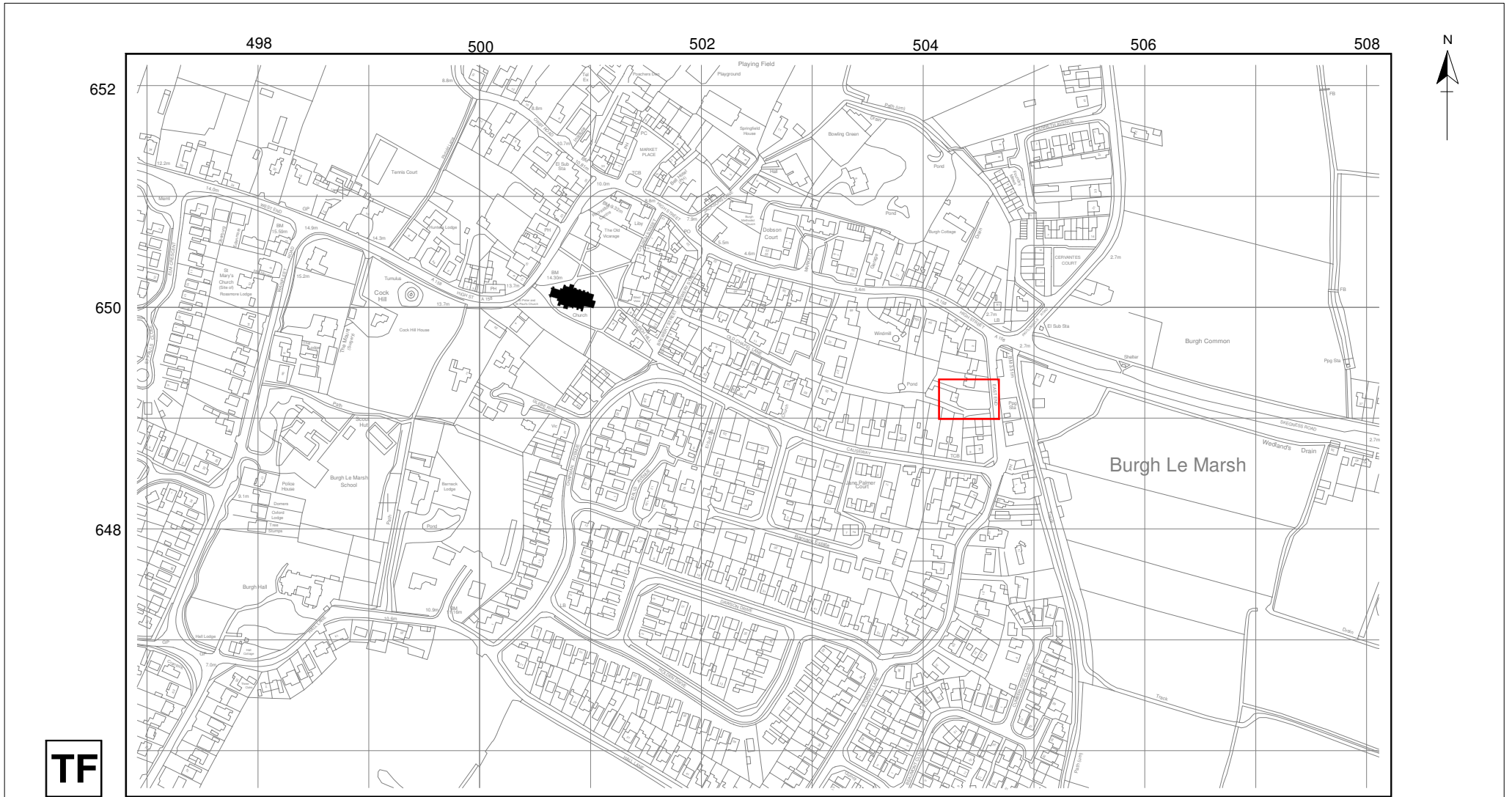
DoE Department of the Environment

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

LAS Lindsey Archaeological Services



Figure 1 - General location plan



TF

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office
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Area detailed in Figure 3


 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: East End, Burgh le Marsh BMEE07		
Scale 1:5000	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 98/07

Figure 2 - Site location plan

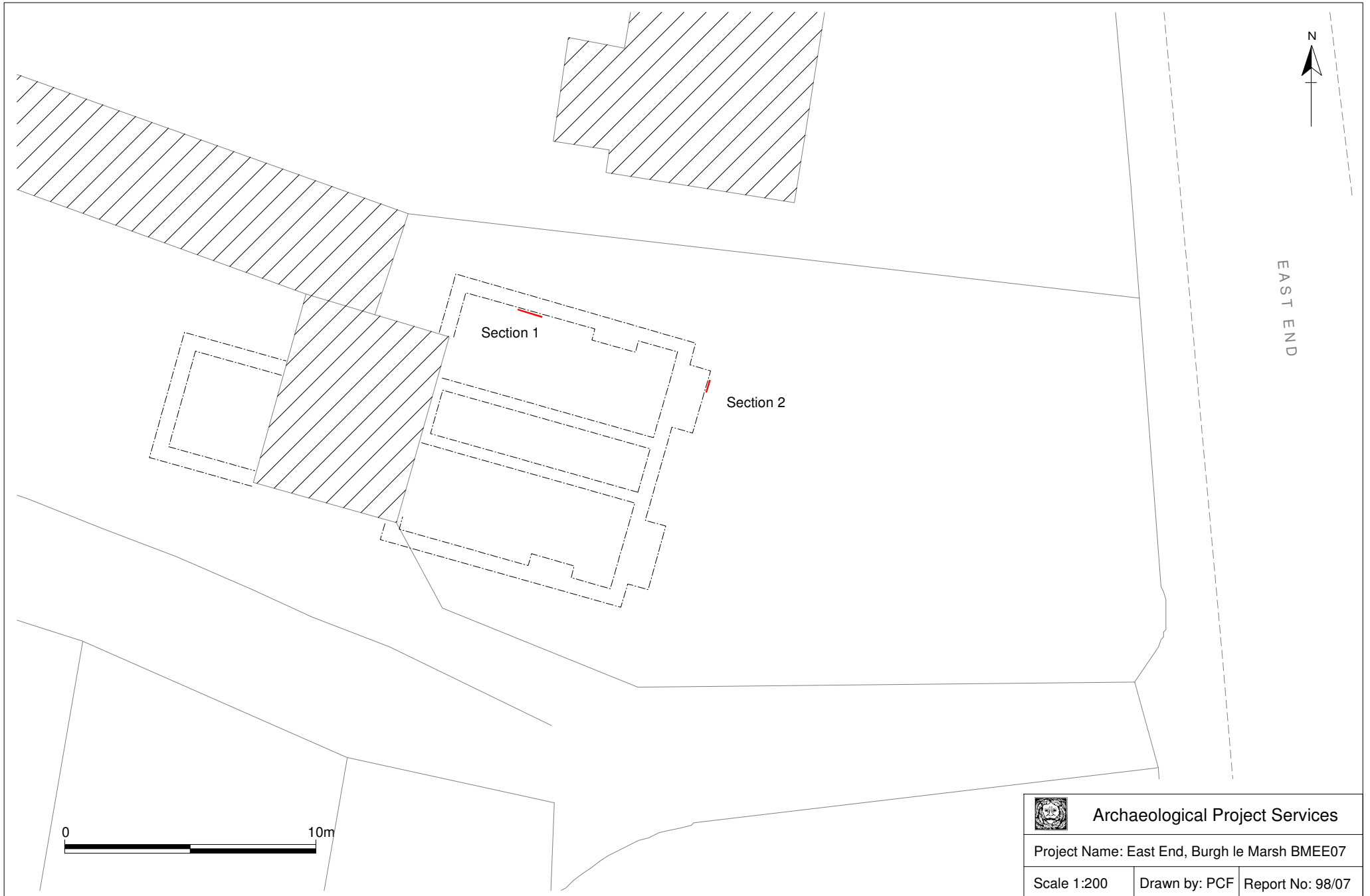
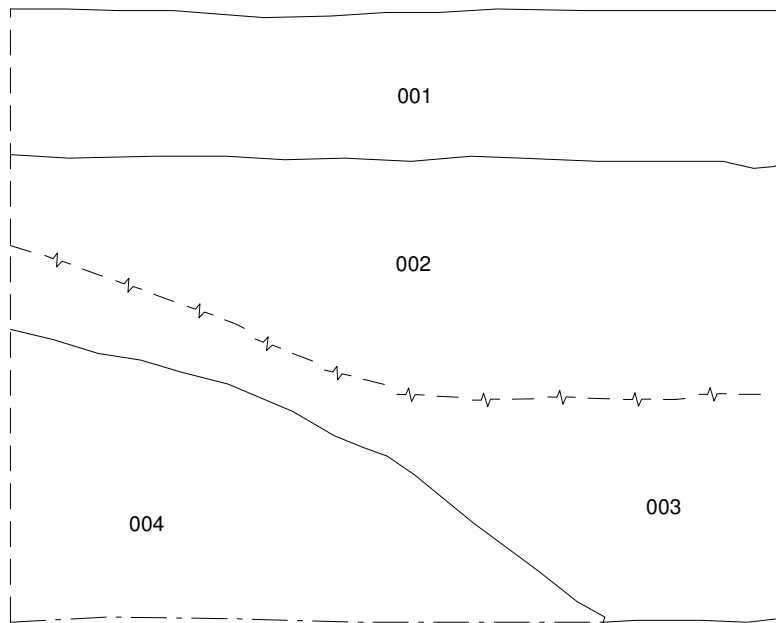
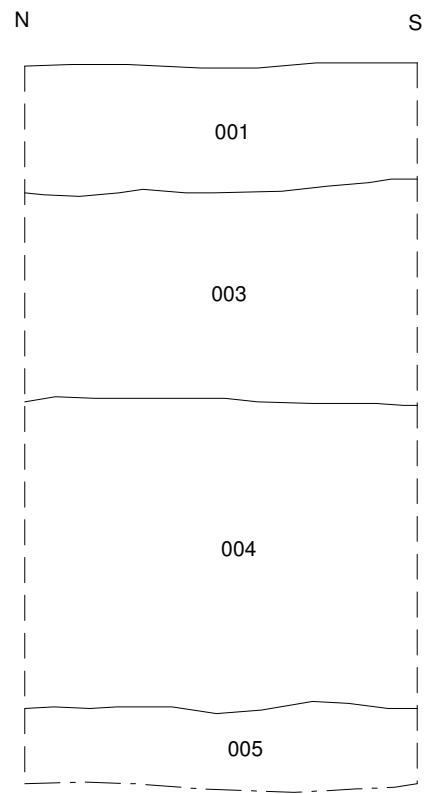


Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section locations



Section 1



Section 2




 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: East End, Burgh le Marsh BMEE07		
Scale 1:10	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 98/07

Figure 4 - Sections 1 and 2



Plate 1 – General view of the development site, looking west



Plate 2 – Section 1, looking south



Plate 3 – Section 2, looking east

Appendix 1

LAND AT 8 EAST END, BURGH LE MARSH, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during construction of an extension to the existing dwelling at 8 East End, Burgh le Marsh, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The site lies in an area of archaeological significance and potential. Burgh le Marsh is the site of Romano-British settlement; Roman remains have previously been found during developments in the area.*
- 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 an extension to the existing dwelling at 8 East End, Burgh le Marsh, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 5048 6485.
- 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 Burgh le Marsh is located approximately 6km west of Skegness in the East Lindsey District of Lincolnshire. It lies on an area of slightly higher ground looking out over the Lincolnshire Marsh. East End lies at the lower end of the town, some 400m east of the parish church. The site is centred on National Grid Reference TF 5048 6485.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Planning permission for construction of the extension (Application No. S/023/03028/06) has been granted by East Lindsey District Council subject to a condition requiring the undertaking of a watching-brief during groundworks associated with the development.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 East End lies on the lower edge of Burgh le Marsh village at approximately 3m OD. Local soils are the Wallasea 2 Association, calcareous clayey soils developed on marine alluvium (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 351).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 The site lies 400m east of the parish church of St Peter and St Paul on the eastern edge of the settlement. Evidence of Roman occupation has frequently been identified within the town, but its

full extent remains uncertain. The Scheduled Anglo-Saxon burial mound Cock Hill lies to the west beyond the church. The present structure was built in the late 19th century, but prior to that little is known of the history of the site and there is potential for earlier remains to survive.

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 Methodology
- 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 Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section; East Lindsey District 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 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.

13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- 13.1 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.

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 economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

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.

<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 – 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

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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Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Soft and friable dark brown/black humic silt, 0.35m thick	Topsoil
002	Firm mid greyish brown silty clay, 0.3m thick	Subsoil
003	Firm light to mid reddish brown clay, >0.6m thick	Natural deposit
004	Soft mid grey silty clay with chalk fragments, >0.37m thick	Natural deposit
005	Firm light to mid yellowish brown silty clay, >100mm thick	Natural deposit

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

By Rachael Hall and Gary Taylor

In addition to the pottery (reported separately), a small quantity of other artefacts, clay pipe and glass, comprising 3 items weighing a total of 5g, were retrieved from a single context. No faunal remains were recovered.

Provenance

The material was recovered from the topsoil (001).

The clay pipes may be relatively local products of the Burgh le Marsh area.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: Other Artefacts

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
001	Glass	Colourless window glass, moderate iridescence, 19 th century	1	1	19 th century
	Clay pipe	Stem, bore 5/64", 18 th century	1	3	
	Clay pipe	Stem, bore 4/64", 19 th century	1	1	

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 numerous previous archaeological investigations at Burgh le Marsh that are the subjects of reports. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

As a small collection of late post-medieval material the assemblage is of limited local potential and significance but indicates use of the site in the 19th century.

The lack of any material earlier than the 18th century is informative and suggests that archaeological deposits dating from prior to this period are absent from the area, or were not disturbed by the development, or were of a nature that did not involve artefact deposition.

Appendix 4

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Appendix 5

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.
Burh	Old English (Saxon) term for a fortified town or dwelling.
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).
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.
Mesolithic	The 'Middle Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 8200-4500 BC.
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.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1 st century AD.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.
Till	A deposit formed after the retreat of a glacier. Also known as boulder clay, this material is generally unsorted and can comprise of rock flour to boulders to rocks of quite substantial size.

Appendix 6

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

5	Context records
1	Photographic record sheet
1	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: 2007.81

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: BMEE 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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