

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
LAND ADJACENT TO TWYDALE HOUSE,
WAINFLEET ROAD,
BOSTON,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BWRT 07)**

Work Undertaken For
Mr. G. Staniland

August 2007

Report Compiled by
Mark Peachey BA(Hons)

National Grid Reference: TF 3440 4520
City and County Museum Accession No: 2007.135
OASIS Record No: archaeo11-30264

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No.109/07

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1. SUMMARY

A watching brief was undertaken during groundworks associated with the construction of dwellings on land adjacent to Twydale House, Wainfleet Road, Fishtoft, Boston, as the site lay within an area of archaeological potential.

The watching brief revealed a circular brick structure, probably a cistern, of 19th century date.

Finds included post-medieval to modern brick and tile and modern glass bottles.

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 Mr. G. Staniland to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks on land adjacent to Twydale House, Wainfleet Road, Boston, Lincolnshire. Planning permission (Application no. B/02/0185) has been granted by Boston Borough Council for residential development at the site. The watching brief was carried out on the 26th June and 16th July 2007.

2.3 Topography and Geology

The site lies on the northeastern edge of Boston within the parish of Fishtoft. The development site lies on the north side of Wainfleet Road at National Grid

Reference TF3440 4520 (Fig. 2).

The site lies on level ground at about 3m OD. Soils at the site are deep stoneless calcareous coarse silty soils of the Wisbech Association developed on marine alluvium (Hodge et al. 1984, 319).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

350m east of the site is the presumed location of the chapel of the extinct hamlet of Fenne. The exact location is not known, but earlier writers have placed it within this area. Burton Hall, of late medieval/early post-medieval date lies approximately 300m west of the site.

An archaeological evaluation of a large area on the opposite side of Wainfleet Road in 2005 revealed 11th to 16th century settlement 250m southeast of the current site (Hall 2006).

3. AIMS

The aims of the watching brief were to record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.

The objectives were to determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered, their spatial arrangement and to recover any dating evidence from them and establish the sequence of archaeological remains present on the site.

4. METHODS

The house footings were excavated by machine to depths required by the development. Following excavation, representative sections of the trenches were then cleaned and rendered vertical. 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 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.

5. RESULTS Figs 3 and 4

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

The natural deposit encountered on the northern part of the site was firm bluey grey clay (104) (Fig 4, Section 1). In the western part of the site light brown silt natural (105) was recorded (Fig 4, Section 3).

Both types of natural deposit were overlain by mid greyish brown clayey silt (103) which was 0.55m thick. This was cut by a single circular brick lined feature [202] which measured 1.2m in diameter and was filled with dark greyish brown silt (201) (Fig 4, Section 2) containing rubble. In the northernmost footing layer (103) was overlain by 0.12m thick mid yellowish brown clayey sandy silt (102) (Fig 4, Section 1, Plate 2). A thin layer of topsoil (101) covered the site.

6. DISCUSSION

The circular brick structure [202] appeared to be a cess pit or cistern of probable 19th century date filled with rubble including 20th century material. The lack of any other features in the foundation trenches suggests that medieval settlement did not extend into the development area.

7. CONCLUSION

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken on land adjacent to Twydale House, Wainfleet Road, Boston, as the site lay within an area of archaeological potential.

The watching brief revealed a 19th century circular brick structure, probably a cistern. This contained late post-medieval to modern brick and tile and modern glass bottles.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr G. Staniland for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Steve Malone who edited this report along with Tom Lane.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Steve Malone
Site Supervisors: Jim Robertson, Fiona Walker
Photograph: Neil Parker
Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
Illustration: Mark Peachey
Post-excavation analysis: Mark Peachey

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Hall, R. V., 2006 *Archaeological Evaluation on land off Wainfleet Road, Boston, Lincolnshire*. APS report no. **182/05**

Hodge, C.A.H, Burton, R.G.O, Corbett, W.M, Evans, R, and Seale, R.S., 1984 *Soils and their use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales **13**

IFA, 1999 *Standard and Guidance for
Archaeological Watching Briefs*

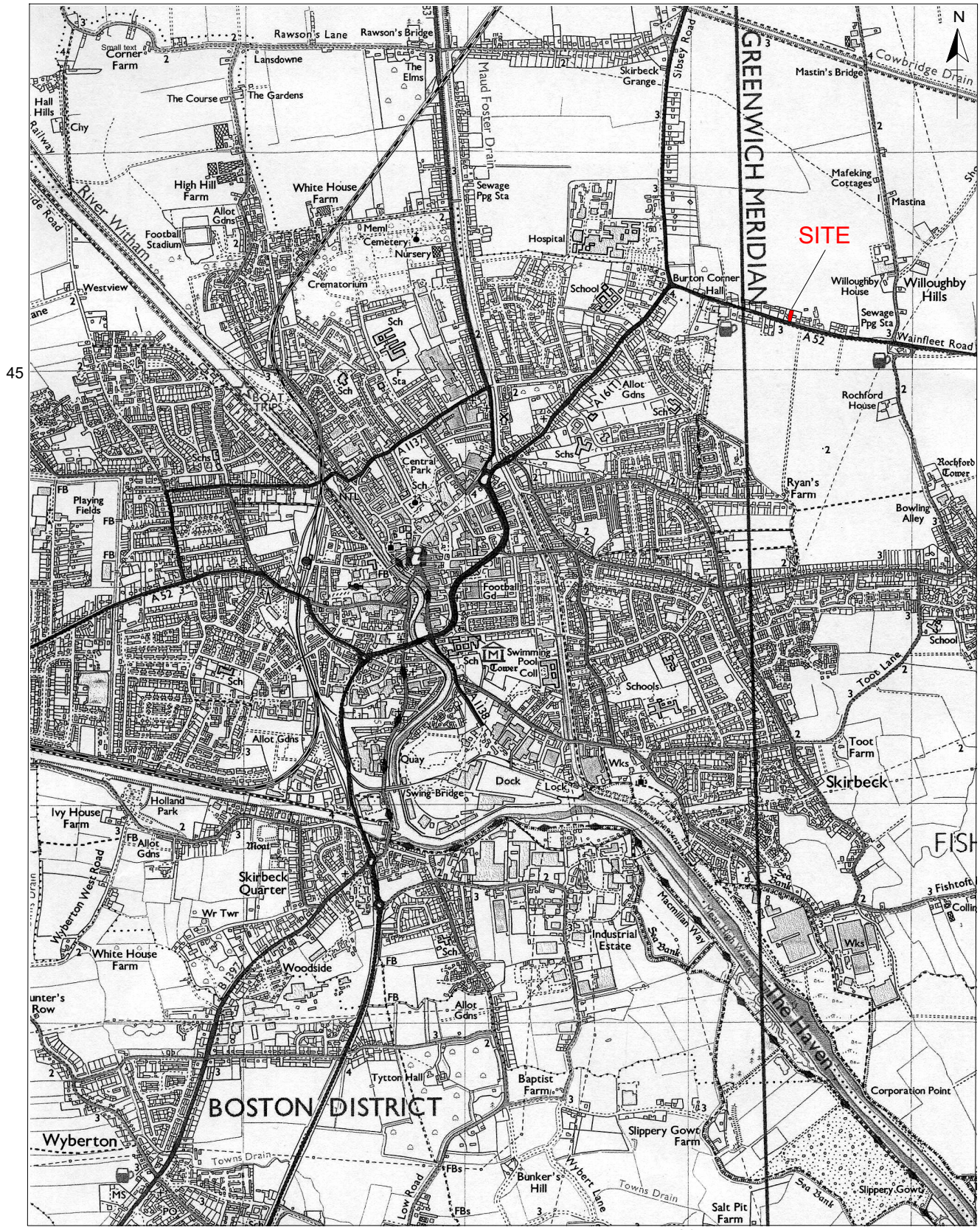
11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists



Figure 1: General Location Plan



TF

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 map with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office. (C) Crown Copyright. HTL Ltd Licence No. AL5041A0001



| | | |
|--|---------------|-------------------|
| Archaeological Project Services | | |
| Project Name: Boston Wainfleet Road BWRT07 | | |
| Scale 1:25000 | Drawn by: MJP | Report No: 109/07 |

Figure 2. Site Location Plan

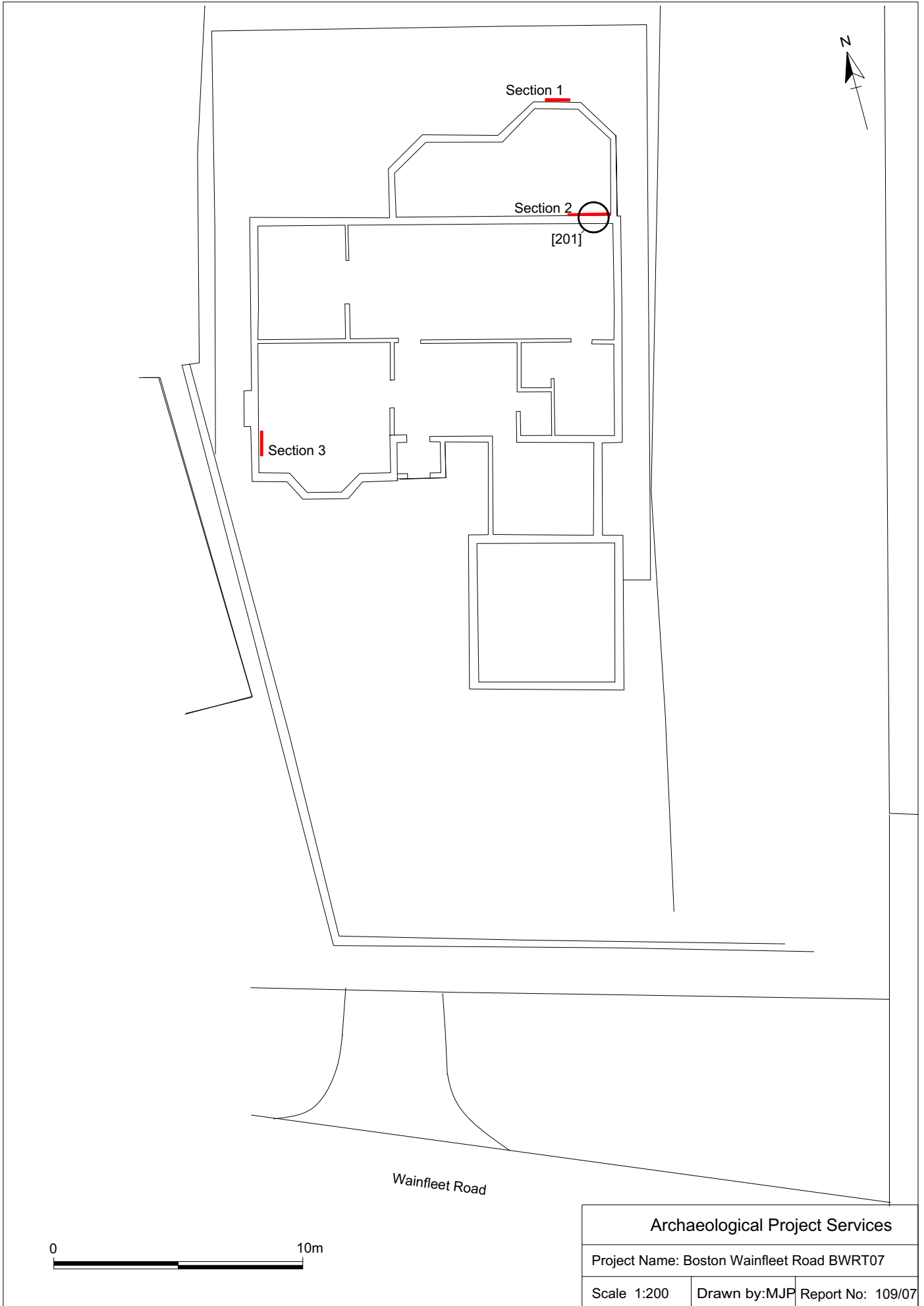
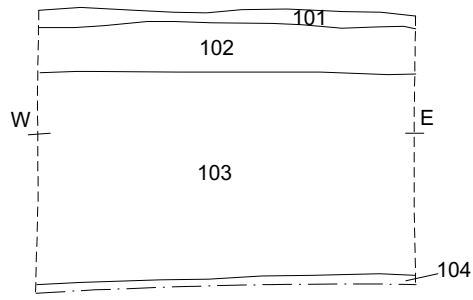
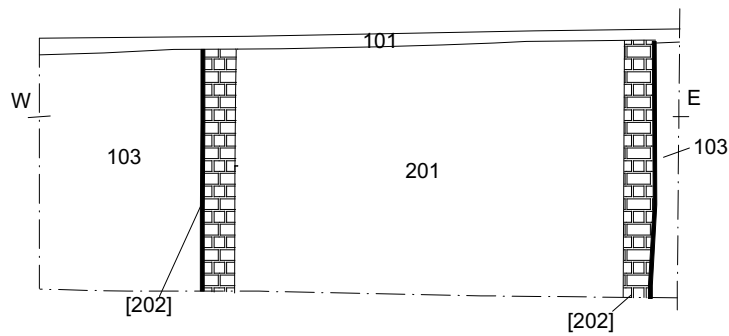


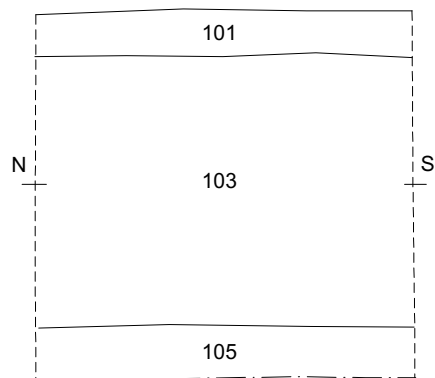
Figure 3. Site Plan



Section 1



Section 2



Section 3



| | | |
|--|---------------|-------------------|
| Archaeological Project Services | | |
| Project Name: Boston Wainfleet Road BWRT07 | | |
| Scale 1:20 | Drawn by: MJJ | Report No: 109/07 |

Figure 4. Sections



Plate 1. General view looking northwest during demolition



Plate 2. Section 1

**APPENDIX 1:
LAND ADJACENT TO TWYDALE HOUSE
WAINFLEET ROAD
BOSTON LINCOLNSHIRE**

**SPECIFICATION FOR
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

**PREPARED FOR
MR G STANILAND**

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

JUNE 2007

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during construction of dwellings on land adjacent to Twydale House, Wainfleet Road, Fishtoft, Boston, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The site lies in an area of archaeological potential close to extant remains of late medieval / early post-medieval date and within the possible extent of the extinct medieval hamlet of Fen.*
- 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 dwellings on land adjacent to Twydale House, Wainfleet Road, Fishtoft, Boston, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 3440 4520.
- 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 The site lies on the northeastern edge of Boston within the parish of Fishtoft. The development site lies on the north side of Wainfleet Road, adjacent to Twydale House, at National Grid Reference TF 3440 4520.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Planning permission (Application No. B/02/0185) 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 The site and surrounding area lie on level ground at c. 3m OD. Soils at the site are deep stoneless calcareous coarse silty soils of the Wisbech Association developed on marine alluvium (Hodge et al. 1984, 319).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 350m west of the site is the presumed location of the chapel of Fenne. The exact location and extent of the extinct hamlet and chapelry is not known, but earlier writers have placed it within this area. Burton Hall, of late medieval / early post-medieval date lies approximately 300m west 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 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 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 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 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

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

Appendix 2

CONTEXT SUMMARY

| Context | Description | Interpretation | Date |
|----------------|--|-----------------------|-------------|
| 101 | Loose dark greyish brown silt 0.05m thick | Topsoil | |
| 102 | Soft mid yellowish brown clayey sandy silt 0.12m thick | Levelling | |
| 103 | Friable mid greyish brown clayey silt 0.55m thick | Subsoil | |
| 104 | Firm bluey grey clay | Natural | |
| 105 | Soft light brown silt | Natural | |
| 201 | Dark greyish brown silt | Fill of [202] | Modern |
| 202 | Circular brick structure 1.2m diameter made of red clay fired bricks 0.2m x 0.1m x 0.07m, not bonded | Cess pit or cistern | Modern |

Appendix 3

POTTERY AND CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

BWTR07 POST ROMAN POTTERY ARCHIV

ANNE BOYLE

| context | cname | full name | form type | sherds | vessels | weight | decoration | part | description | date |
|---------|-------|-----------|-------------|--------|---------|--------|------------------------------|------|-------------|-----------------------|
| 201 | PEARL | Pearlware | dish / bowl | 1 | 1 | 3 | internal blue transfer print | BS | | late 18th to mid 19th |

BWTR07 DATING ARCHIVE

ANNE BOYLE

| context | date | comments |
|---------|------|----------|
|---------|------|----------|

| | | |
|-----|--------------|--|
| 201 | 19th to 20th | |
|-----|--------------|--|

BWTR07 CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL ARCHIVE

ANNE BOYLE

| context | cname | full name | fabric | frags | weight | description | date |
|---------|--------|-------------|--|-------|--------|---|--------------------------------|
| 201 | BRK | Brick | fine marbled orange + light firing | 2 | 1576 | same brick; complete; soft fired; worn; handmade; mortar including over break; 65mm x 109mm x 220mm; slop moulded | 16th to 18th |
| 201 | BRK | Brick | vittrified calcareous | 2 | 75 | abraded; handmade | late 13th to late 15th/16th |
| 201 | MODTIL | Modern tile | hard red | 1 | 42 | incised cross combed lines; suitable for discard | 19th to 20th |
| 201 | MODTIL | Modern tile | white | 1 | 4 | suitable for discard | 20th |
| 201 | PANT | Pantile | | 2 | 128 | suitable for discard | 19th to 20th |

Appendix 5

GLOSSARY

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Alluvium | Deposits laid down by water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea, and fresh water alluvium is laid down by rivers and in lakes. |
| Context | An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, e.g. [004]. |
| Cut | A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, etc. Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded. |
| Fill | Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s). |
| Layer | A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut. |
| Medieval | The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500. |
| Natural | Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity |
| Post-medieval | The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800. |

Appendix 6

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 2 Drawing sheets
- 1 Photographic record sheet
- 2 Daily record sheets
- 1 Box of finds

All primary records are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Lincolnshire City and County Museum
The Collection
Danes Terrace
Lincoln
LN2 1LP

The archive will be deposited in accordance with the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives*, produced by the Lincolnshire City and County Museum.

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number: 2007.135

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: BWRT07

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

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