



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT LYNTON COTTAGE,
FEN ROAD,
FRAMPTON FEN,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(FFFR 06)**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES**



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT LYNTON COTTAGE,
FEN ROAD,
FRAMPTON FEN,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(FFFR 06)**

Work Undertaken For
Barnhay Design Services
on behalf of
Mr and Mrs R Collins

January 2008

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

National Grid Reference: TF 3002 4178
City and County Museum Accession No: 2006.267
Planning Application No: B/03/0392/FULL
OASIS Record No: archaeo11-36222

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. **3/08**

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1. SUMMARY

A watching brief was undertaken during groundworks at Lynton Cottage, Fen Road, Frampton Fen, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of foundation trenches for an extension to the existing building.

The site lies in close proximity to Romano-British (AD 43-410) settlement, typified by surface concentrations of pottery, bone and shell. One site has roof tile which may suggest a high status building. During the medieval period (AD 1066-1500), the site lay within the meadowlands of Frampton.

The watching brief revealed a sequence of natural and modern deposits with no archaeological features identified. No finds were observed or recorded during the work.

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 Barnhay Design Services on behalf of Mr and Mrs R Collins to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with a new extension to existing buildings at Lynton Cottage, Fen Road, Frampton Marsh, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application

B/03/0392/FULL. The watching brief was carried out on the 3rd January 2008 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the Boston Borough Planning Archaeologist.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Frampton is located 4km southwest of Boston and 18km northeast of Spalding in the Boston Borough administrative district, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1). Frampton Fen lies 3km northwest of the centre of Frampton.

The site is located 350m north of the minor hamlet, Frampton West End at National Grid Reference TF 3002 4178 (Fig. 2). Lynton Cottage is located on the east side of Fen Road at a height of c. 2m on relatively level ground.

Local soils are of the Stockwith series, typically silty over calcareous alluvial gley soils (Robson 1990, 28). These are developed close to the junction of younger and older marine alluvium which in turn seals a solid geology of Jurassic Ampthill Clay (BGS 1995).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Lynton Cottage is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Romano-British period to the present day. A possible Romano-British settlement lies to the south and southwest of the site indicated by pottery, bone and shell. A further settlement lies to the west and finds included a quern and roof tile, suggesting the possibility of a high status structure.

During the medieval period, the site lay within the meadowlands of Frampton. To the northwest of the site is an area known as the Friths, which are first mentioned in 1257 (Hallam 1965, 185).

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 for the new extension were excavated by machine to a depth of 0.9m below the present ground level. 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, the records were checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

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 in the base of the foundation trenches was a natural layer of yellowish brown clayey silt (004). This measured in excess of 0.5m thick.

Above the natural, northwest of the house, was a former topsoil comprising a 0.3m thick brownish grey clayey silt (003). This

was partly sealed by brick rubble and sand (002), a make-up deposit for a concrete path (001).

To the northeast of the house, above natural was a topsoil of greyish brown silt (005). This was 0.4m thick.

6. DISCUSSION

A natural deposit of clayey silt relates to the underlying drift geology of marine alluvium. This was sealed by topsoil deposits and a modern path. The lack of a subsoil may indicate that the area had previously been stripped. No archaeological features were identified and no finds retrieved from the investigation.

7. CONCLUSION

A watching brief was undertaken at Fen Road, Frampton Fen, as the site lay close to known Romano-British settlements.

However, the watching brief revealed only natural and modern deposits with no archaeological features identified. No finds were recovered from the investigation.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr B Heward of Barnhay Design Services for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis on behalf of Mr and Mrs R Collins. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor 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 by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
Site Supervisor: Tom Bradley-Lovekin
Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
Post-excavation analysis: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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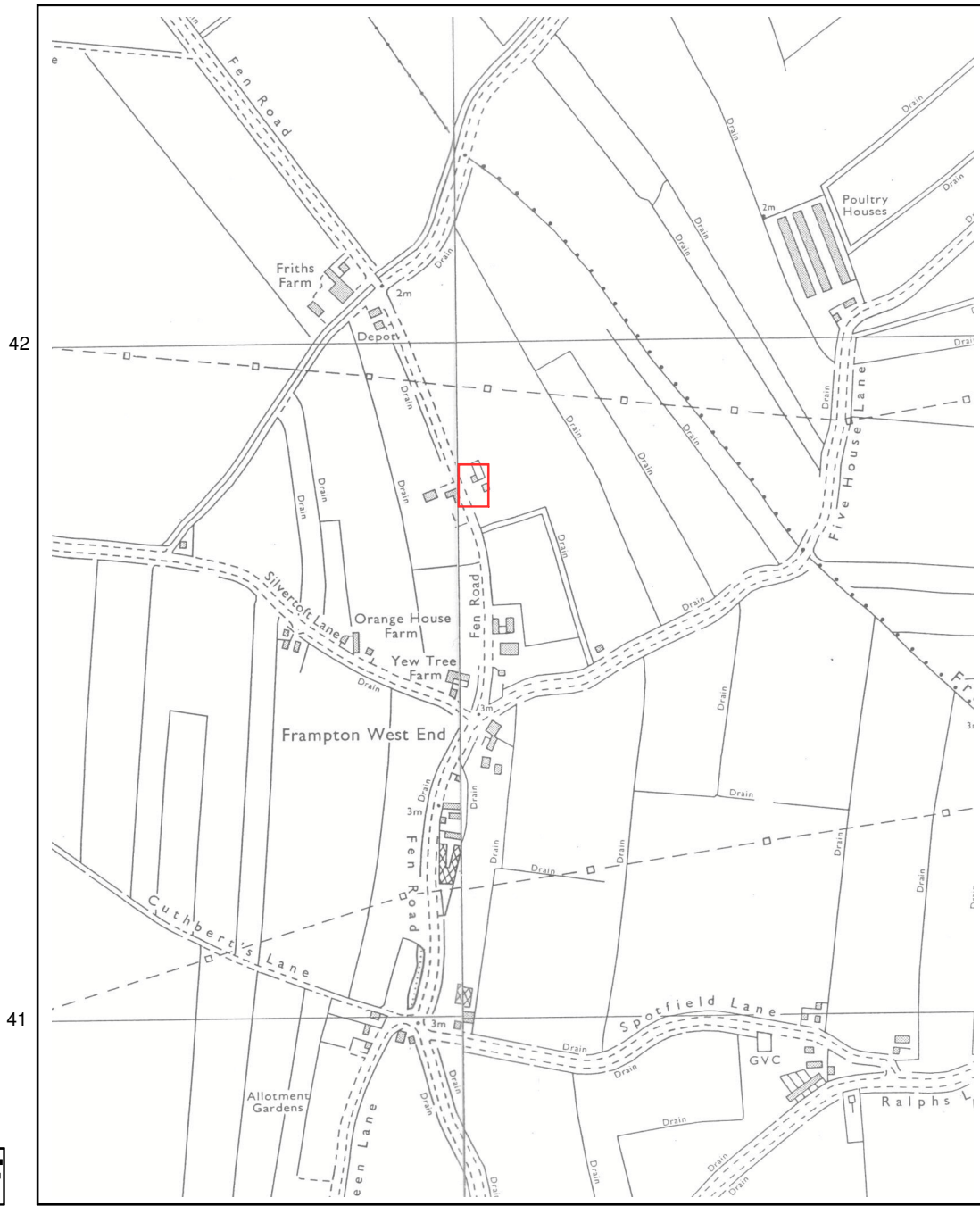
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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services
BGS British Geological Survey
IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists



Figure 1 - General location plan



TF

30

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:10000 map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office (C) Crown Copyright. HTL Ltd Licence No. AL5041A0001

 Area detailed in Figure 3




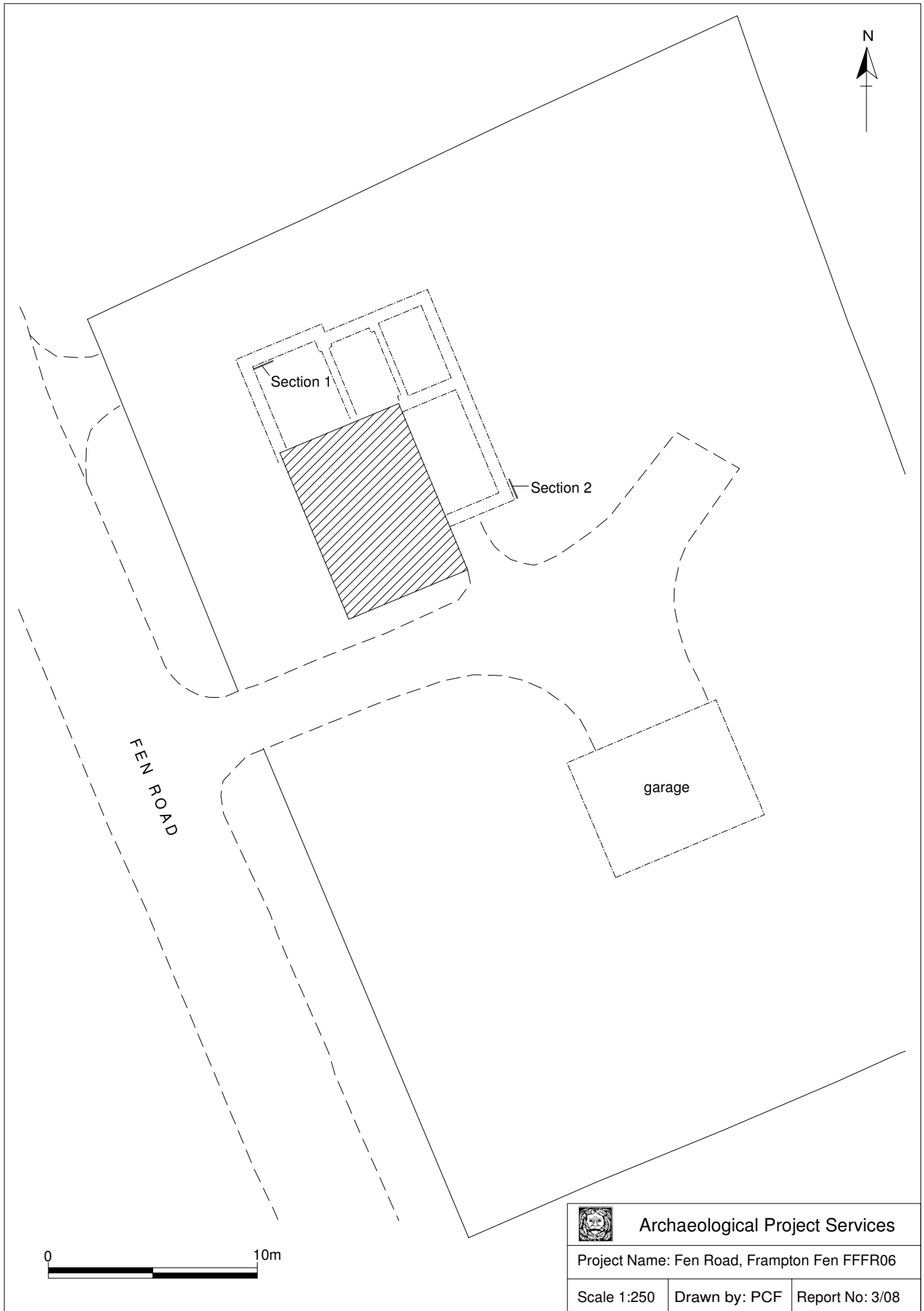
	Archaeological Project Services	
Project Name: Fen Road, Frampton Fen FFFR06		
Scale 1:10000	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 3/08

Figure 2 - Site location plan




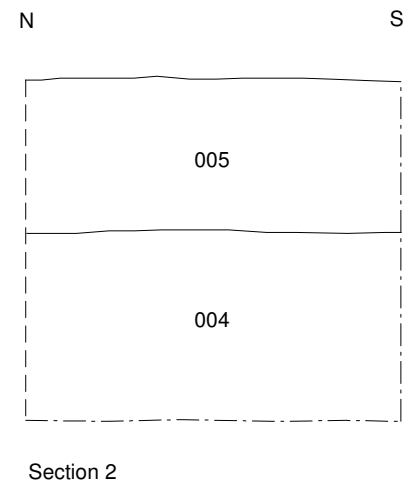
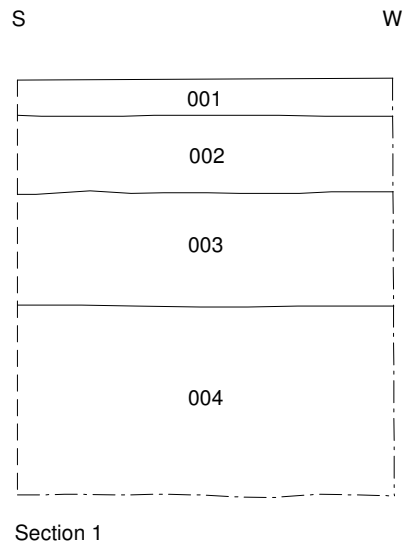
 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Fen Road, Frampton Fen FFFR06		
Scale 1:250	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 3/08

Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section locations




		
Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Fen Road, Frampton Fen FFFR06		
Scale 1:20	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 3/08

Figure 4 - Sections 1 and 2



Plate 1 – View of Lynton Cottage with work in progress, looking east



Plate 2 – Section 1, looking southeast



Plate 3 – Section 2, looking northeast

Appendix 1

LAND AT LYNTON COTTAGE, FEN ROAD, FRAMPTON FEN, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during construction of an extension to Lynton Cottage, Fen Road, Frampton Fen, Boston, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The site lies in an area of known archaeological significance. Spreads of Romano-British settlement debris, apparently associated with ditches, have been identified just to the southwest and a little further west.*
- 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 at Lynton Cottage, Fen Road, Frampton Fen, Boston, Lincolnshire.
- 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 Frampton is located approximately 4km south of Boston, in the administrative district of Boston. Frampton Fen is in the area of Frampton West End, about 3km northwest from Frampton village. Fen Road extends northward from Frampton West End and the site, Lynton Cottage, is located on the east side of Fen Road, approximately 350m north of the centre of Frampton West End, centred on National Grid Reference TF 3002 4178.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application (B/03/0392/FULL) was submitted to Boston Borough Council for the construction of an extension to provide a double garage and play room, new vehicular access, and change of use from agricultural land to garden. 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 on fairly level ground at approximately 3m OD, the site is at the junction of two soil types. To the south are Wallasea Association peilo-alluvial gleys on while to the north are Wisbech Association, calcareous alluvial gley soils, both developed on marine alluvium (Hodge *et al.* 1984).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 A large spread of Roman occupation debris, probably defining settlement of the period, has been

identified about 100m southwest of the development site. Ditches, assumed to be Roman, have also been found in this area. Another spread of Roman occupation debris lies has been identified about 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.

7.1.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:

- Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
- Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
- As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
- 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 Home Office 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 fieldwork 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 trenches and 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 Borough Council Community 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 Collection, 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 investigation will be input to the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS).
- 12.2 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 the Boston Borough Council Community Archaeologist. 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 - B Precious, Independent Specialist Post-Roman - J Young, Independent Specialist/A Boyle, APS
Non-pottery Artefacts	J Cowgill, Independent Specialist, or G Taylor, APS
Animal Bones	J Kitch, APS
Environmental Analysis	J Rackham, Independent Specialist
Human Remains Analysis	J Kitch, APS

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	Concrete, 0.1m thick	Path
002	Loose mid yellowish brown brick rubble and sand, 0.2m thick	Make-up for (001)
003	Friable dark brownish grey clayey silt, 0.3m thick	Former topsoil
004	Soft mid yellowish brown clayey silt, >0.5m thick	Natural deposit
005	Soft dark greyish brown silt, 0.4m thick	Topsoil

Appendix 3

GLOSSARY

Alluvium	A deposit (usually clay, silts or sands) laid down in water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea and freshwater alluvium by streams, rivers or within lakes.
Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
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.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

Appendix 4

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

5	Context records
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Sheet of scale drawings
1	Stratigraphic matrix

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:

The Collection
Art and Archaeology in Lincolnshire
Danes Terrace
Lincoln
LN2 1LP

Accession Number: 2006.267

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: FFFR 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.

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.