

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT JUBILEE DRIVE AND JUBILEE CLOSE, BARDNEY, LINCOLNSHIRE (BJDC 07)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES





ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT JUBILEE DRIVE AND JUBILEE CLOSE, BARDNEY, LINCOLNSHIRE (BJDC 07)

Work Undertaken For The Gelder Group

January 2008

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

Planning Application No: M06/P/0948 National Grid Reference: TF 119 697 City and County Museum Accession No: 2007.236 OASIS Record No: archaeol1-36771

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 11/08

Table of Contents

List of Figures

List of Plates

1.	SUMMARY1
2.	INTRODUCTION1
2.1 2.2 2.3 2.4	DEFINITION OF A WATCHING BRIEF
3.	AIMS2
4.	METHODS2
5.	RESULTS2
6.	DISCUSSION3
7.	CONCLUSION3
8.	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS3
9.	PERSONNEL3
10.	BIBLIOGRAPHY3
11.	ABBREVIATIONS4
Apper	ndices
1.	Specification for archaeological watching brief
2.	Context descriptions
3.	Glossary
4.	The Archive

List of Figures

Figure 1 General location plan

Figure 2 Site location plan

Figure 3 Plan of the development showing section locations

Figure 4 Sections 1 to 4

List of Plates

Plate 1 Section 3 showing the sequence of deposits in Plot 1/2

Plate 2 Section 4 showing the sequence of deposits in Plot 3/4

Plate 3 Plot 5 during excavation

1. SUMMARY

A watching brief was undertaken during groundworks at Jubilee Drive and Jubilee Close, Bardney, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of foundation trenches for 5 new dwellings.

The site lies between the medieval (AD 1066-1540) core of the village and the earthworks of the 12th century Bardney abbey, which had its origins in the 7th century. Earthworks of crofts and ridge and furrow are also known from the village. A Neolithic (4000-2250 BC) flint scraper and Romano-British (AD 43-410) finds are also recorded from the general vicinity.

The watching brief revealed a sequence of natural, subsoil and modern deposits. The intermittent subsoil suggests the site was under an agricultural regime in the past. There were also indications that the site had previously been lowered. No archaeological features were identified and no artefacts were recorded.

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 The Gelder Group to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with new residential development at Jubilee Drive and Jubilee Court, Bardney, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application M06/P/0948. The watching brief was carried out between the 28th November 2007 and 22nd January 2008 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the Historic Environment Countryside Advisor, Lincolnshire County Council.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Bardney is located 14km east of Lincoln and 14km west of Horncastle in the administrative district of West Lindsey, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The sites are located 360m north of the centre of Bardney as defined by the parish church of St Lawrence at National Grid Reference TF 119 697 (Fig. 2). The sites lie on the junction of Jubilee Drive and Carron Close and on the south side of Jubilee Close at a height of c. 7m on land that slopes gently down to the west, towards the River Witham.

Local soils are of the Beccles 2 Association, typically stagnogleys (Hodge *et al.* 1984). These soils are developed on a drift geology of freshwater alluvium, recorded as containing peat, which overlies boulder clay and seals a solid geology of Jurassic Oxford Clay (BGS 1973).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Bardney is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Neolithic to the present day. A Neolithic flint scraper was found to the south of the church. Romano-British remains include a coin of Constantine I and pottery of the period found during excavations at Bardney Abbey.

Bardney is first mentioned in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle for the year AD 641.

Referred to as *Bearddan* and *Beardanege*, the name is derived from the Old English and means ' the island ($\bar{e}g$) belonging to *Bearda*' (Cameron 1998, 9). The reference in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle relates how Oswald, the Northumbrian king, was killed and was buried at a monastery in Bardney (Swanton 1997, 27). This monastery was later endowed by King Ethelred of Mercia who renounced the world following the death of his wife Osthryd, ultimately becoming Abbot (Page 1988, 97).

Bardney is mentioned in the Domesday Survey of *c*. 1086 when the manor is recorded as being held by Gilbert de Gand and containing a mill, 5 fisheries, 20 acres of meadow and 500 acres of woodland for pannage (Foster and Longley 1976, 24/17). In the subsequent Lindsey Survey of *c*. 1115, the land is recorded as being held by Gilbert's heir, Walter de Ganto (*ibid*. L 16/7).

Gilbert de Gand founded the Benedictine priory consecrated to Saints Peter, Paul and Oswald in 1087 and endowed the priory with land from his estates. In 1116, Walter, his heir, raised the status of Bardney to an abbey.

The only extant remains of the medieval period is St Lawrence's church which dates from the 15th century and replaced a parochial church that once stood adjacent to the abbey precinct (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 114). To the north of the present church is the site of St Andrew's chapel and earthworks of crofts, ponds and ridge and furrow of the medieval field system are known from around the village.

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, the turf layer was removed from the site. Trenches were then excavated by machine to depths required by the development. Where soil conditions permitted, the sides of the trenches were 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. The level of monitoring was reduced with agreement of the archaeological curator. 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.

Plot 1/2

Natural was identified as a layer of greyish brown sand (009) that exceeded 0.35m thick. This was overlain by a former topsoil of brown silt (008) which was beneath a levelling deposit of brownish grey sand (007).

Plot 3/4

The earliest deposit found towards the rear of this plot (Fig. 4, Section 2) was a natural layer of yellowish brown and grey sand and gravel (006). This measured in excess of 1m thick.

Within the plot, natural grey sand (012) was recorded that was over 0.25m thick. This was overlain by 0.15m of hardstanding comprising yellowish brown limestone fragments (011).

Sealing all deposits was a topsoil varying between greyish brown silty sand (005) and greyish brown silt (011) with gravel.

Plot 5

Natural comprised a layer of bluish grey sandy clay (004) that was sealed by 1m of yellowish brown sand and gravel (003).

This was overlain by a subsoil of grey silty sand with gravel (002) that was 0.25m thick. Topsoil of brown silty sand (001) completed the sequence.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits of sand and gravel, sand and sandy clay were encountered during the watching brief and relate to the underlying drift geology of freshwater alluvium.

A subsoil was encountered in Plot 5 and implies that the area was under an agricultural regime in the past. Its absence from the remaining areas suggests that the site may have been truncated, perhaps when the existing buildings along Jubilee Drive and Jubilee Court were constructed. This is emphasised by the layer of hardstanding that directly overlies natural in Plot 3/4.

No archaeological features were identified and no artefacts were retrieved during the investigation.

7. CONCLUSION

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at Jubilee Drive and Jubilee Close, Bardney, as the site lay close to the medieval core of the village and a cropmark of probable medieval agricultural enclosures.

However, no archaeological features were identified with only natural, subsoil and recent deposits encountered during the watching brief. It seems likely that at least part of the site had previously been reduced in height. No artefacts were retrieved during the investigation.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr R Porter of The Gelder Group for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor 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: Gary Taylor Site Supervisors: Chris Moulis, Mary Nugent, Jim Robertson 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

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists



Figure 1 - General location plan

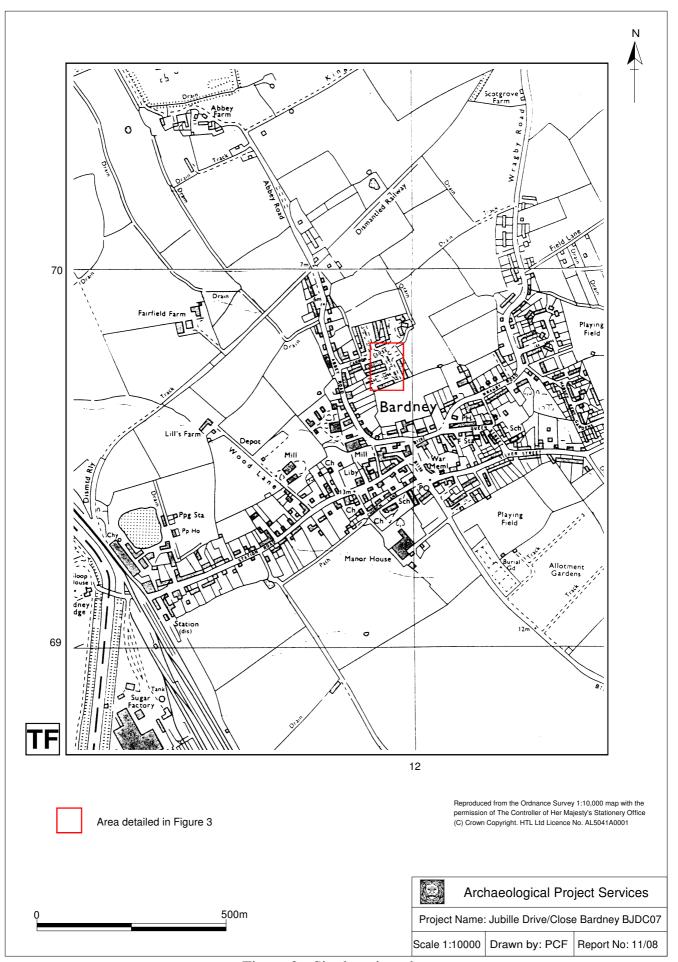


Figure 2 - Site location plan

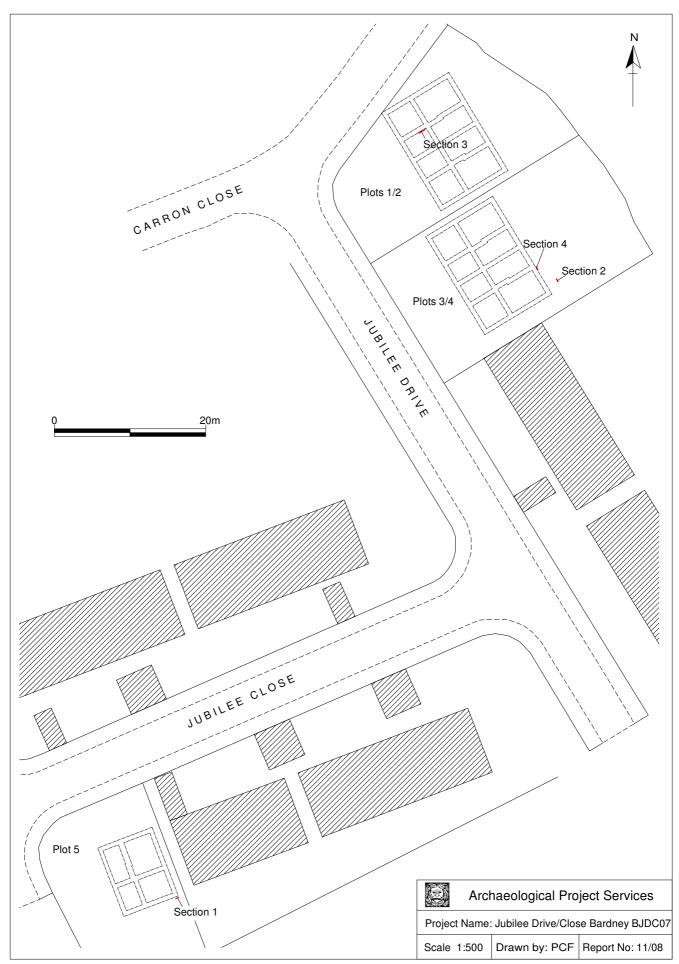


Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section locations

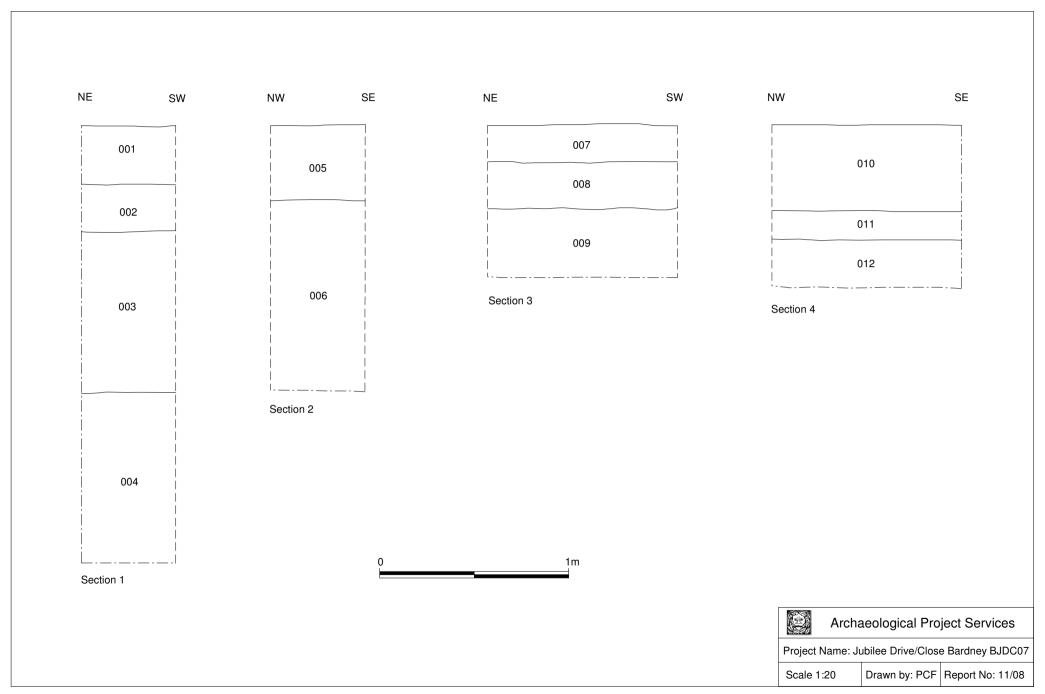


Figure 4 - Sections 1 to 4



Plate 1 – Section 3 showing the sequence of deposits in Plot 1/2, looking northwest



Plate 2 – Section 4 showing the sequence of deposits in Plots 3/4, looking northeast



Plate 3 – Plot 5 during excavation, looking northwest

LAND AT JUBILEE CLOSE, BARDNEY, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 A watching brief is required during construction of five dwellings at Jubilee Close, Bardney, Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The site lies in an area of known archaeological significance. There is a substantial cropmark complex of medieval field systems and settlement. A prehistoric flint has also been found 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 five dwellings on land at Jubilee Close, Bardney, 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 Bardney is located approximately 15km east of Lincoln on the east bank of the River Witham, in the administrative district of West Lindsey, Lincolnshire. The site is located on the north side of the village, on Jubilee Close and Jubilee Drive, which are cul-de-sacs off Carron Close, a road east off Abbey Road, approximately 400m north of the church. It is centred on National Grid Reference TF 119 697.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 A planning application (M06/P/0948) was submitted to West Lindsey District Council for the construction of five dwellings. 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 Bardney is at the northern end of a slight northwest-southeast ridge parallel to the river Witham, which lies to the west. The site is just off this ridge, on a slight north-facing slope at about 7m OD. Local soils are the Beccles 2 Association stagnogleys over Upper Jurassic Corallian limestones (Hodge *et al.* 1984).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

6.1 The site is in an area of a large cropmark complex of large closes, probably a field system of

medieval or early post-medieval date with adjacent settlement of these dates. Artefacts of medieval and post-medieval date have been found close by and a prehistoric flint scraper was also collected in the area.

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; West 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 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 Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section. They will be given written notice of 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.
- 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> Body to be undertaking the work

Conservation Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln

Pottery Analysis Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust/D Trimble, APS

Roman - B Precious, Independent Specialist/m Wood, APS Post-Roman - J Young, Independent Specialist/A Boyle, APS

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

Animal Bones J Kitch, APS

Environmental Analysis J Rackham/V Fryer, Independent Specialists

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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CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Plot	Description	Interpretation
001	5	Soft mid brown silty sand, 0.3m thick	Topsoil
002	5	Soft mid grey silty sand with frequent gravel, 0.25m thick	Subsoil
003	5	Soft light yellowish brown sand and gravel, 1m thick	Natural deposit
004	5	Firm/still dark bluish grey sandy clay, >0.9m thick	Natural deposit
005	3/4	Soft dark greyish brown silty sand, 0.4m thick	Topsoil
006	3/4	Soft mixed light yellowish brown and light grey sand and gravel, >1m thick	Natural deposit
007	1/2	Soft light brownish grey sand, 0.2m thick	Levelling deposit
008	1/2	Soft dark brown silt, 0.25m thick	Former topsoil
009	1/2	Soft light greyish brown sand, >0.35m thick	Natural deposit
010	3/4	Loose dark greyish brown silt with frequent gravel, 0.45m thick	Topsoil
011	3/4	Loose light yellowish brown limestone fragments, 0.15m thick	Hardstanding
012	3/4	Soft light grey sand, >0.25m thick	Natural deposit

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.

Boulder Clay A deposit formed after the retreat of a glacier. Also known as till, this material is

generally unsorted and can comprise of rock flour to boulders to rocks of quite

substantial size.

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

2250 and 800 BC.

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

example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by

brackets, e.g. (004).

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.

Pannage Right given to the owners of pigs to go into a wood and to allow the pigs to eat the

acorns or beech mast which fall to the ground.

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 1st century AD.

Romano-British Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

Saxon Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by

tribes from northern Germany.

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 12 Context records
- 1 Photographic record sheet
- 4 Sheets 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: 2007.236

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: BJDC 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.

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.