
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF LAND
AT PINE COTTAGE,
HIGH STREET,
THORNHAM,
NORFOLK
(51386)**

Work Undertaken For
Mr N Gough

April 2008

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

Planning Application No: 07/1388/F
National Grid Reference: TF 7365 4331
OASIS Record No: archaeo11-41051

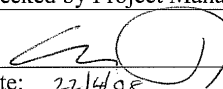

A.P.S. Report No. **45/08**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES**



Quality Control
Pine Cottage,
High Street, Thornham
51386

Project Coordinator	Gary Taylor
Supervisor	Paul Cope-Faulkner
Site Staff	Tom Bradley-Lovekin
Finds Processing	Denise Buckley
Illustration	Paul Cope-Faulkner, Mary Nugent
Photographic Reproduction	Sue Unsworth
Post-excavation Analyst	Paul Cope-Faulkner

Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
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Date: 22/4/08	Date: 23-04-08

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Pine Cottage, High Street, Thornham, Norfolk. The evaluation was undertaken in advance of proposed redevelopment of the site.

The site lies close to the medieval (AD 1066-1540) core of the village, best represented by the 13th century All Saints' church. Roman (AD 43-410) human burials are known from the immediate vicinity of the site and an enclosure, settlement and various finds of this period are also recorded from the parish. Prehistoric finds, principally stone tools, have also been identified from the area.

The evaluation identified a sequence of natural, medieval, post-medieval and recent deposits. An isolated medieval pit of 12th – 13th century date was identified, as well as a single late 18th – early 19th century boundary ditch along the street frontage.

Finds retrieved from the investigation comprised pottery of medieval and later date, clay pipe, roof tile and mortar. A small quantity of animal bone was also retrieved.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

An archaeological evaluation is defined as, 'a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If such archaeological remains are present Field Evaluation defines their character and extent, quality and preservation, and it enables an assessment of their worth in a

local, regional, national or international context as appropriate' (IFA 1997).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr N Gough to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land at Pine Cottage, High Street, Thornham, Norfolk, in advance of proposed residential development of the site. The work was undertaken on the 15th April 2008 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the Norfolk Landscape Archaeology

2.3 Topography and Geology

Thornham is located 6km northeast of Hunstanton and 39km northwest of Dereham, in the administrative district of West Norfolk and King's Lynn, Norfolk (Fig. 1).

Pine Cottage is situated 300m southeast of the village centre as defined by All Saints parish church at National Grid Reference TF 7365 4331 (Fig. 2). The site lies on the south side of High Street at heights of between 11.64m and 11.15m OD on land that slopes down to the north, towards the coast of The Wash.

Local soils are of the Hunstanton Association, typically argillic brown earths (Hodge *et al.* 1984). These soils overlie a drift geology of glacially derived till which seals a solid geology of Cretaceous Chalk (IGS 1976).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Thornham is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Mesolithic to the present day. A Mesolithic macehead has been found in the parish and three Neolithic stone axes have

also been recorded.

A few sherds of impressed Beaker pottery of Early Bronze Age date were found in excavations undertaken southwest of the village (Bamford 1982, 137). These were sealed beneath the rampart of a small Roman enclosure, perhaps the product of native planning and possibly dating to between AD 43 and AD 61 (Gregory 1986, 13).

Several human skeletons of probable Roman date were revealed around 1933 in close proximity to the site. These were crouched and faced west and one was identified as an Ethiopian. A Roman cremation is also recorded from the parish and a possible settlement is known from the southeast of the village.

Thornham is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as *Tornham*, the name is derived from the Old English and means 'the settlement (*hām*) where thorn bushes grow' (Ekwall 1989, 467). The Domesday Survey records that Thornham was held by the Bishop of Thetford from before 1066 and contained a mill and 14 acres of meadow (Brown 1984).

The only extant remains of the medieval period is the church of All Saints which has elements of 13th century date with most dating to the 15th century (Pevsner 1990, 348). To the south of the village lies the site of a medieval beacon, which has documentary records dating back to the 13th century, and earthwork remains of ridge and furrow of the medieval field system have been recorded within the parkland surrounding Thornham Hall.

3. AIMS

The aim of the evaluation, as detailed in the specification (Appendix 1), was to

gather information to establish the presence or absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits in order to enable Norfolk Landscape Archaeology to formulate a policy for the management of archaeological resources present on the site.

4. METHODS

Two trenches were placed, within the proposed new building footprints, to provide sample coverage within the proposed development area (Fig. 3). These were excavated by machine to the upper surface of natural deposits. Following excavation, the base and sides of the trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. Archaeological deposits were then examined by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. Each deposit exposed during the evaluation was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and plans at 1:20. A photographic record was also compiled. Recording of the deposits encountered was undertaken based on the single context approach developed by the Museum of London (MoLAS 1994) with minor modifications by Archaeological Project Services.

The location of the excavated trenches were surveyed by reference to standing buildings.

Following excavation, all records were checked and ordered to ensure that they constituted a complete MAP II (English Heritage 1991) archive and a stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced. Phasing was based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable

relationships between them and supplemented by artefact dating.

5. RESULTS

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

Trench 1 (Fig. 4)

The earliest deposit encountered at the base of this trench was a layer of brown sandy clay with chalk inclusions (004).

Cutting into natural at the western end of the trench was a pit (005). This measured over 0.8m long, was 0.56m wide and 0.12m deep (Fig. 5, Section 2). A single fill of reddish brown silty clay (006) was recorded from which pottery of 12th – 13th century date was retrieved.

Cutting the pit was a rectangular pit (007) that was over 1.42m long and wider than 0.72m. This contained a fill of greyish brown sandy clay (008) which contained modern debris.

Sealing the pits was a subsoil comprising a 0.19m thick layer of grey sandy silt (003). This was in turn sealed by a topsoil of grey sandy silt (002) that was 0.4m thick (Fig. 5, Section 1).

Trench 2 (Fig. 4)

Natural deposits within this trench comprised greyish brown clay with bands of flint pebbles (012). This measured in excess of 0.74m thick.

Located at the north end of Trench 2 was an east-west aligned ditch (010). This measured over 1.4m wide and was 0.74m deep (Fig. 5, Section 3). Three fills were recorded, the lowest comprising yellowish brown sandy clay (014) followed by reddish brown sandy clay with mortar

fragments (013) and an upper fill of greyish brown clayey sand (009). Finds of late 18th to early 19th century date were retrieved from the uppermost fill.

Sealing the pit was a topsoil of greyish brown silty clay (011) that was 0.33m thick. Other recent deposits include the foundations of a garage that formerly stood at the site, though these were not recorded.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits comprise clay and sandy clay of the underlying drift geology of glacial till. These range in height from 11.03m to 10.59m OD.

A medieval pit was the earliest feature recorded during the evaluation. Lying in isolation, it is probable that this represents casual waste disposal.

An east-west aligned post-medieval ditch was encountered close to the street frontage. This is likely to have had a boundary function relating to fields south of the High Street. No dateable finds were retrieved from its earlier fills, though a final fill contained late 18th - early 19th century pottery. This may suggest it was infilled prior to the construction of Pine Cottage immediately to the west.

Finds retrieved from the investigation comprise locally produced pottery of 12th – 13th century date as well as later, post-medieval, types. A single clay pipe, a roof tile and mortar were also retrieved along with a small assemblage of animal bone.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Pine Cottage, High Street, Thornham, in order to determine the range of archaeological deposits prior to

development of the site, which lies in an area of known archaeological remains of prehistoric, Roman and medieval date. In particular, Roman skeletons are known from the immediate vicinity of the site.

However, no Roman features or deposits were identified during the evaluation. Instead a sequence of natural, post-medieval and recent deposits were encountered. Medieval deposits comprise a single pit dug for casual waste disposal. A boundary ditch, along the High Street frontage, was dated to the post-medieval period.

Pottery of medieval and later date represents the largest category of finds recovered from the evaluation. A clay pipe, tile, mortar and animal bone was also retrieved.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr N Gough 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 library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
 Site Supervisor: Paul Cope-Faulkner
 Site Staff: Tom Bradley-Lovekin
 Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
 Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
 Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner, Mary Nugent
 Post-excavation Analyst: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

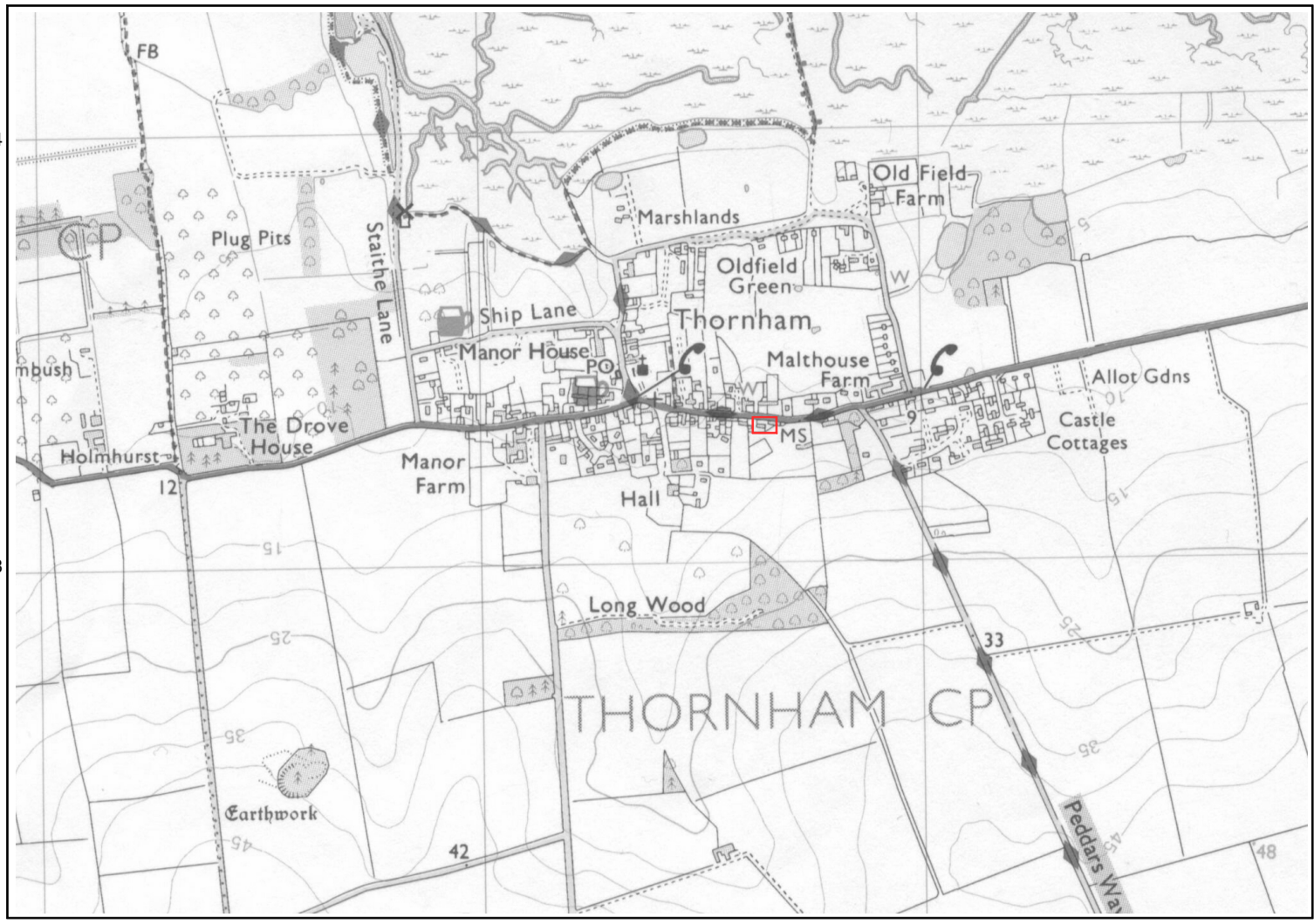
IGS Institute of Geological Sciences

MoLAS Museum of London Archaeology

Service



Figure 1 General Location Plan



TF

Area detailed in Figure 3



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Project Name: High Street, Thornham 51386		
Scale 1:15000	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 45/08

Figure 2 - Site location plan

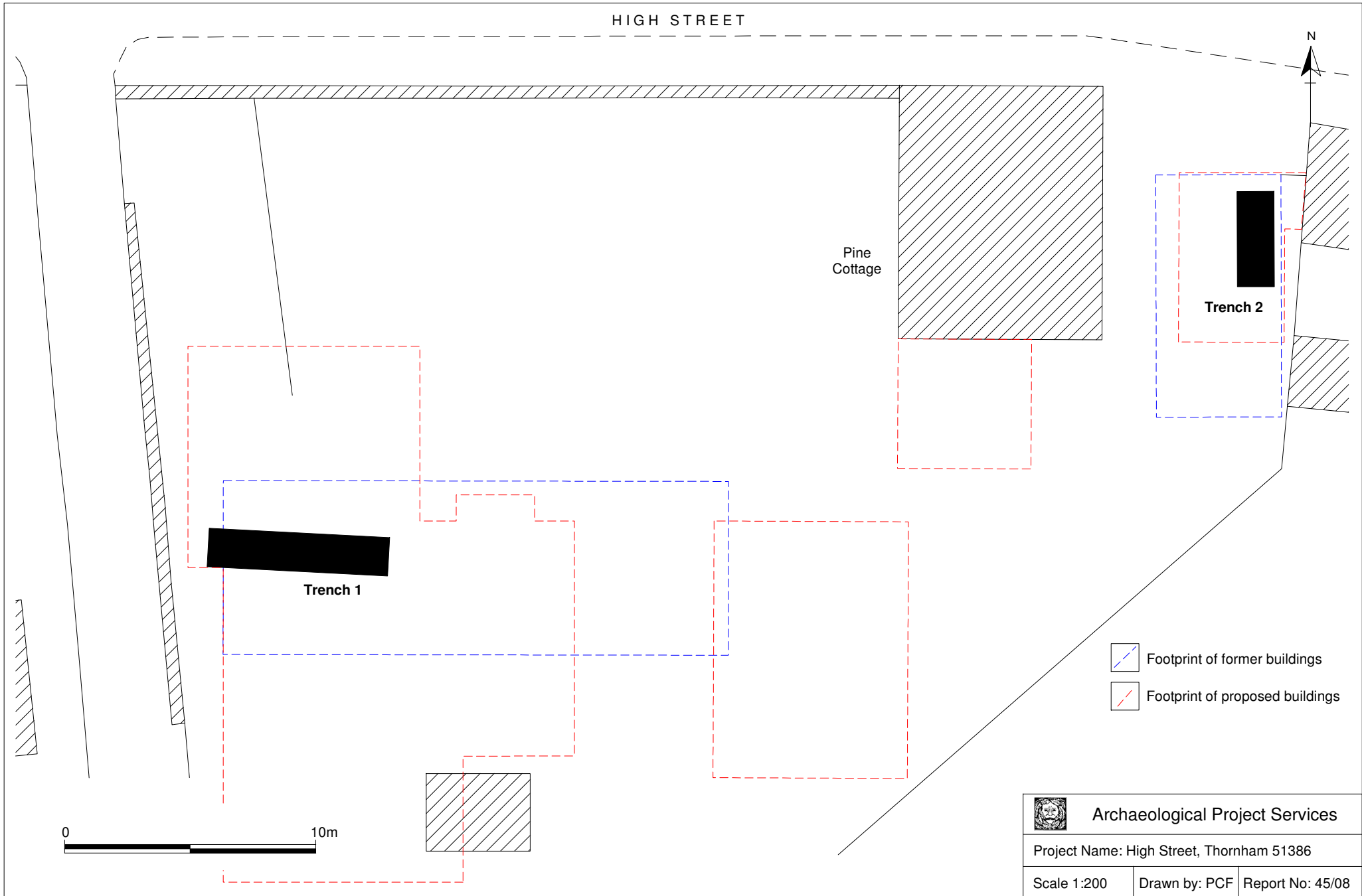


Figure 3 - Trench location plan

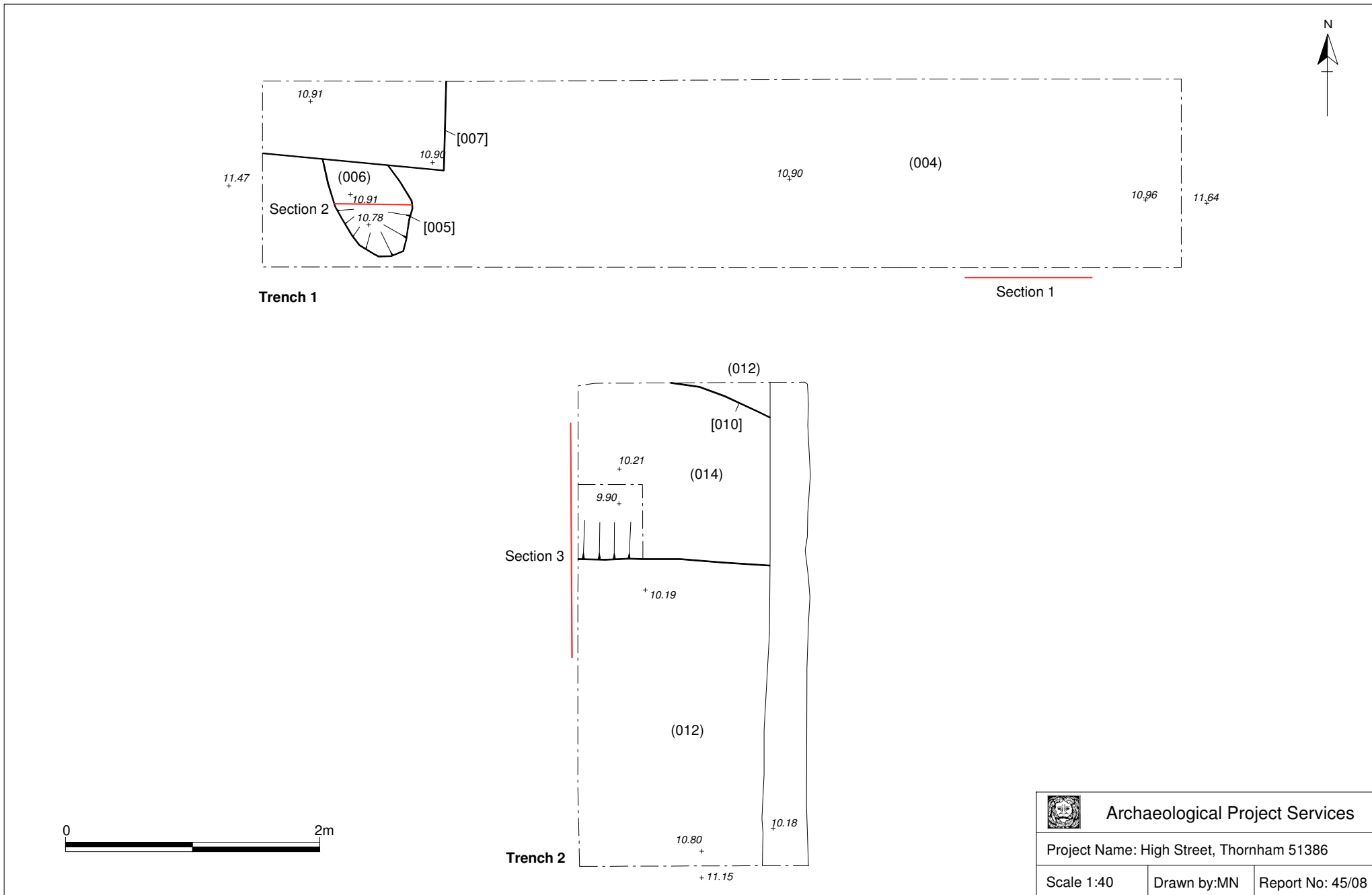
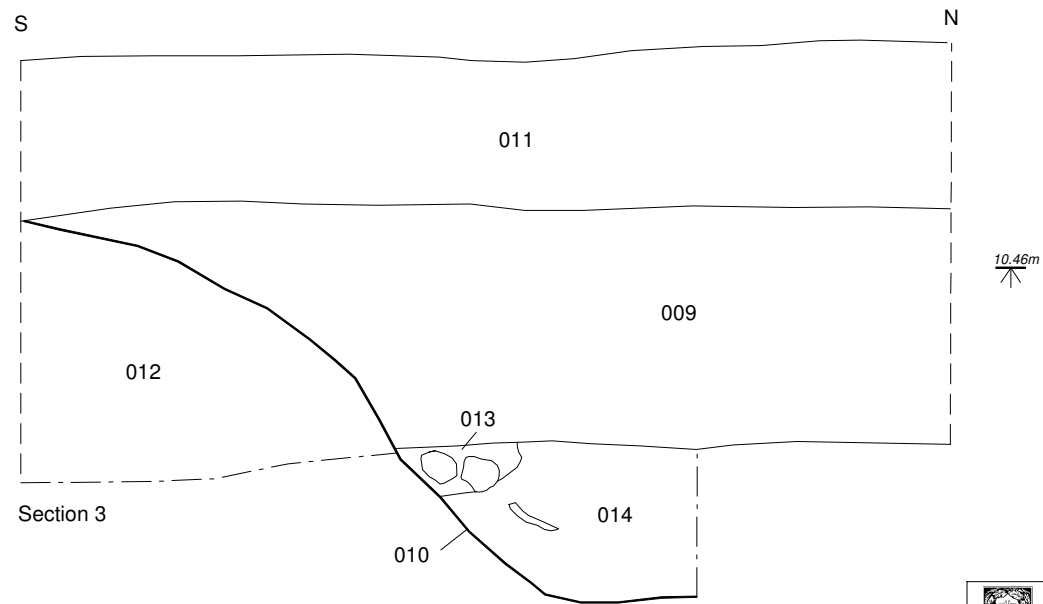
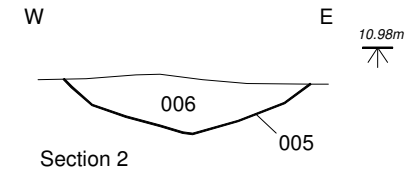
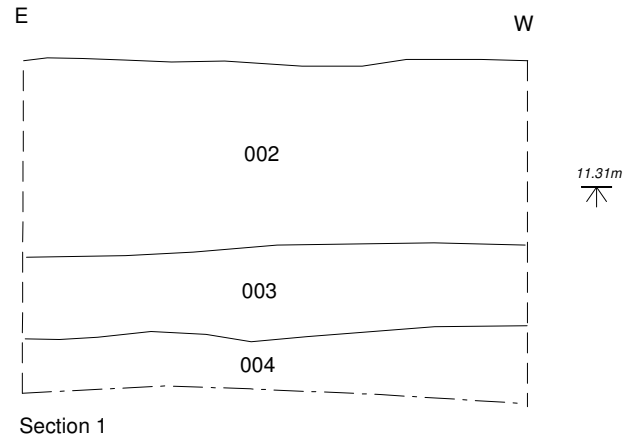


Figure 4 - Trench plans




 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: High Street, Thornham 51386		
Scale 1:15	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 45/08

Figure 5 - Sections 1 to 3



Plate 1 – View over the proposed development area, looking northeast



Plate 2 – Trench 1 after cleaning, looking east



Plate 3 – Trench 1, Section 1, looking south



Plate 4 – Trench 2 after cleaning, looking south



Plate 5 – Trench 2, Section 3 showing post-medieval ditch (010), looking west

Appendix 1

PINE COTTAGE, THORNHAM, NORFOLK - SPECIFICATION FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *This document comprises a specification for archaeological investigation at land at Pine Cottage, Thornham, Norfolk.*
- 1.2 *The site is potentially archaeologically lying close to the core of the medieval village. Inhumations have been identified within the proposed development area.*
- 1.3 *Norfolk Landscape Archaeology has requested that the results of an archaeological evaluation be submitted as part of the planning application.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the investigation. The report will consist of a text describing and interpreting the archaeological deposits located. The text will be supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for a programme of archaeological work at land Pine Cottage, Thornham, Norfolk.
- 2.2 The document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview
 - 2.2.2 The archaeological and natural setting
 - 2.2.3 Stages of work and methodologies to be used
 - 2.2.4 List of specialists
 - 2.2.5 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 The site is located 300m of the Parish Church, Thornham lies on the North Coast of Norfolk.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Planning Permission has been granted subject to the provision of a Program of archaeological works. This will aid Norfolk Landscape Archaeology in developing a suitable mitigation strategy, if necessary.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 5.1 The site lies within an area of archaeological significance within 1km of the site is a roman fort. And post medieval structures lies in the immediate vicinity.
- 5.2 In 1933 burials were recovered on the development site. This current phase of works is to ensure that further remains are not present.

6 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 6.1 The aim of the work will be to recover as much information as possible on the origins, date, development, phasing, spatial organisation, character, function, status, significance and nature of social, economic and industrial activities on the site. More specifically the aims will be to provide an deposit model for the site in order to aid mitigatory measures.
- 6.2 The objectives of the work will be to:
- 6.2.1 Determine the depth below the contemporary ground surface (and absolute depths O.D) at which the uppermost significant archaeological remains are encountered.
- 6.2.2 Ensure that no inhumations remain within the development area.

7 SITE OPERATIONS

7.1 General Considerations

- 7.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the investigation. A Risk Assessment will be prepared prior to the investigation, and updated throughout its duration. All reasonable effort will be made to ascertain the presence of contaminants and utilities cables / pipes present in the proposed evaluation areas.
- 7.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practice issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA). Archaeological Project Services is an IFA registered archaeological organisation (no. 21) managed by a Member (MIFA) of the institute.
- 7.1.3 All work will be carried out in accordance with *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England, 2003*.
- 7.1.4 Any 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 the discovery promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

7.2 Methodology

- 7.2.1 Two trenches, one 3m x 1.8m (site of proposed extension) and one 8m x 1.8m in the area of the proposed house are required.
- 7.2.2 The precise location of the trenches will be determined by specific onsite health and safety issues such as the presence of services and cellars.
- 7.2.3 The trench will be hand cleaned and sufficient of the revealed archaeological deposits will be excavated to provide dating evidence.
- 7.2.4 Archaeological features will be recorded on APS pro-forma context record sheets. The system used is the single context method by which individual archaeological units of stratigraphy are assigned a unique record number and are individually described and drawn. All context and site numbering used will be compatible with the Norfolk Sites and Monuments Record.
- 7.2.5 Plans of features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. Should individual features merit it, they will be drawn at more appropriate scales.
- 7.2.6 Throughout the duration of the investigation a photographic record consisting of black and white prints (reproduced as contact sheets) and colour slides will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
- the site before the commencement of field operations

- the site during the investigation to show specific stages of work, and the layout of the archaeology within the area.
 - individual features and, where appropriate, their sections.
 - groups of features where their relationship is important.
 - the site on completion of fieldwork
- 7.2.7 Should human remains be located they will be left *in situ* and only removed if absolutely necessary. If removal of human remains proves necessary then the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained and the coroner and police informed, as appropriate. Consideration will be given at all times to ensure that no offence is caused to any interested parties.
- 7.2.8 Finds collected during the fieldwork will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered, ready for later washing and analysis. All finds work will be carried out to accepted professional standards and the Institute of Field Archaeologists *Guidelines for Finds Work* (1992).
- 7.2.9 Conservation of artefacts will be carried out by Lincoln City and County Museum. The resources available for conservation is dependent on the quantity and type of artefacts recovered from the site.
- 7.2.10 The location of the site recording grid will be established by an EDM survey and accurately related to the Ordnance Survey grid and to suitably mapped local features.
- 7.2.11 During the investigations, all exposed surfaces, excavation horizons, and spoil, will be regularly and repeatedly metal-detected to ensure optimum recovery of artefacts. Any identified artefacts will be excavated from its parent context in normal stratigraphic sequence.
- 7.2.12 Prior to commencement of site operations, Archaeological Project Services will liaise with the Norfolk SMR to ensure that the Site Code and Context Numbering system is compatible with the Norfolk SMR.

8 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT

8.1 Stage 1

- 8.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the investigation will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence constituting 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: the colour slides will be labelled and mounted on appropriate hangers and the black and white contact prints will be labelled, in both cases the labelling will refer to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
- 8.1.2 All finds recovered during the investigation will be washed, marked, bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

8.2 Stage 2

- 8.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.
- 8.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

8.3 Stage 3

- 8.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the investigation will be prepared. This will consist of:
- 8.3.1.1 A non-technical summary of the findings of the investigation.
 - 8.3.1.2 A description of the archaeological setting of the site.
 - 8.3.1.3 Description of the topography and geology of the area
 - 8.3.1.4 Description of the methodologies used during the investigation and discussion of their effectiveness in the light of the results.
 - 8.3.1.5 Text describing the findings of the evaluation.
 - 8.3.1.6 Plans of the trenches showing the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
 - 8.3.1.7 Sections of the archaeological features.
 - 8.3.1.8 Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape.
 - 8.3.1.9 Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
 - 8.3.1.10 Appropriate photographs of the site and specific or grouped/associated archaeological features.
 - 8.3.1.11 A consideration of the significance of the archaeological remains encountered, in local, regional and national terms.

9 ARCHIVE

- 9.1 The documentation, finds, photographs and other records and materials generated during the investigation will be sorted and ordered in accordance with the procedures in the Society of Museum Archaeologists' document *Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Museums* (1994), and any additional local requirements, for long-term storage and curation. This work will be undertaken by the Finds Supervisor, an Archaeological Assistant and the Conservator (if relevant). The archive will be deposited with the receiving museum as soon as possible after completion of the project, and within 12 months of completion.
- 9.2 The archive will be microfilmed. The silver master will be transferred to the RCHME and a diazo copy will be deposited with the Norfolk Sites and Monuments Record.
- 9.3 Prior to the project commencing, Norfolk Museums Service will be contacted to obtain their agreement to receipt of the project archive and to establish their requirements with regards to labelling, ordering, storage, conservation and organisation of the archive.
- 9.4 Upon completion and submission of the investigation report, the landowner will be contacted to arrange legal transfer of title to the archaeological objects retained during the investigation from themselves to the receiving museum. The transfer of title will be effected by a standard letter supplied to the landowner for signature.

10 REPORT DEPOSITION

- 10.1 Copies of the investigation report will be sent to: the client; Norfolk Landscape Archaeology (1 for the local planning authority and two for the Norfolk County Sites and Monuments Record); the

English Heritage Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science.

11 PUBLICATION

- 11.1 A report of the findings of the investigation will be submitted for inclusion in the journal *Norfolk Archaeology*. Notes or articles describing the results of the investigation will also be submitted for publication in the appropriate national journals: *Post-medieval Archaeology*, *Medieval Archaeology* and *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for medieval and later remains, and *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date.
- 11.2 The post-excavation assessment may establish that fuller reporting and publication is required. If such is the case, the format, nature and extent of such publication will be determined by review of the assessment in consultation with the archaeological curator. Costs for such publication would be negotiated with the client as a separate piece of work, following the completion and submission of the assessment.
- 11.3 Details of the investigation will also be input to the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS).

12 CURATORIAL MONITORING

- 12.1 Curatorial responsibility for the project lies with Norfolk Landscape Archaeology. As much notice as possible, ideally fourteen days, will be given in writing to the curator prior to the commencement of the project to enable them to make appropriate monitoring arrangements. However, the curator will be contacted at the earliest opportunity to seek reduction, or waiving, of this notification period.
- 12.2 It is envisaged that there will be a site meeting with the curator immediately upon completion of the stripping/cleaning to discuss the extent of investigation by archaeological excavation required.

13 VARIATIONS TO THE PROPOSED SCHEME OF WORKS

- 13.1 Variations to the scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptability from the archaeological curator.
- 13.2 Should the archaeological curator require any additional investigation beyond the scope of the brief for works, or this specification, then the cost and duration of those supplementary examinations will be negotiated between the client and the contractor.

14 STAFF TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

- 14.1 The work will be directed by Tom Lane MIFA, Senior Archaeologist, Archaeological Project Services. The on-site works will be supervised by an Archaeological Supervisor with knowledge of archaeological investigations of this type. Archaeological excavation will be carried out by Archaeological Technicians, experienced in projects of this type.
- 14.2 The following organisations/persons will, in principal 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: Dr C Allen, Oxford Archaeology; or Dr D Knight, Trent and Peak Archaeological Unit Anglo-Saxon and later: Anne Boyle, Archaeological Project Services,

Other Artefacts	Gary Taylor, Archaeological Project Services and J Cowgill, independent specialist (formerly City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit)
Human Remains Analysis	Jen Wood, Archaeological Project Services
Animal Remains Analysis	Jen Wood, Archaeological Project Services
Environmental Analysis	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
Soil Assessment	Dr Charly French, independent specialist
Pollen Assessment	Pat Wiltshire, independent specialist
Radiocarbon dating	Beta Analytic Inc., Florida, USA
Dendrochronology dating	University of Sheffield Dendrochronology Laboratory

15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS

15.1 The duration of the site works is difficult to determine, as it is to a large extent reliant on the speed of stripping and spoil removal, and also depending on the quantity and complexity of archaeological remains encountered. Post-excavation work is likewise dependent on the quantity and complexity of archaeological remains encountered.

16 INSURANCES

16.1 Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains Employers Liability insurance to £10,000,000. Additionally, the company maintains Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied on request.

17 COPYRIGHT

17.1 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.

17.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.

17.3 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.

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

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Specification: Version 1, 9th August 2007.

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Trench	Description	Interpretation
002	1	Firm dark grey sandy silt, 0.4m thick	Topsoil
003	1	Firm dark grey sandy silt with moderate small chalk fragments, 0.19m thick	Subsoil
004	1	Firm dark brown sandy clay with moderate small chalk fragments	Natural deposits
005	1	Oval feature, >0.8m long by 0.56m wide and 0.12m deep, steep sides and undulating base	Pit
006	1	Firm mid reddish brown silty clay	Fill of (005)
007	1	Rectangular feature, >1.42m long by >0.72m wide, not excavated	Pit
008	1	Firm dark greyish brown sandy clay with modern debris	Fill of (007)
009	2	Friable mid greyish brown clayey sand, 0.49m thick	Fill of (010)
010	2	Linear feature, aligned east-west, >1.5m long by >1.4m wide and 0.74m deep, steep sides and flat base	Ditch
011	2	Friable dark greyish brown silty clay with frequent charcoal, chalk fragments and fired clay, 0.33m thick	Topsoil
012	2	Plastic mid greyish brown clay with bands of flint pebbles, >0.53m thick	Natural deposit
013	2	Plastic mid reddish brown sandy clay with mortar fragments	Fill of (010)
014	2	Friable mid yellowish brown sandy clay	Fill of (010)

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

INTRODUCTION

A moderate quantity of mixed artefacts, 14 items weighing a total of 832g, was recovered. Most of the material was late post-medieval, though there was also a small quantity of medieval items. Pottery was the most abundant category of artefact, and there was also building material and clay pipe. Faunal remains, both mammal bones and marine molluscs, together comprising 7 items weighing 348g, were also retrieved.

POST ROMAN POTTERY

By Gary Taylor

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* 2001. The pottery codenames (Cname) are in accordance with the Post Roman pottery type series for Lincolnshire, as published in Young *et al.* 2005. Eleven sherds from 9 vessels, weighing 320grams were recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually. An archive list of the pottery is included in table 1. The pottery ranges in date from the medieval to the late post-medieval period.

Condition

All the material is in good condition and presents no long-term storage problems.

Results

Table 1, Post Roman Pottery Archive

Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Fabric	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Decoration	Part	Date
006		Dark sandy ware		Bowl?	1	1	21		Bs	12 th -13 th century
		Dark sandy ware		Bowl?	1	1	4		bs	12 th -13 th century
009	PEARL	Pearl ware		cup	1	1	10	Blue transfer print, chinoiserie	base	Late 18 th -early 19 th century
	PEARL	Pearl ware		bowl	1	1	6	Blue sponged	bs	Early 19 th century
	NOTS	Nottingham salt-glazed stoneware		bowl	1	1	160		base	Late 18 th century
	CRMWARE	Creamware	fine	bowl	4	2	21		Base/Bs	Late 18 th -early 19 th century
	CRMWARE	Creamware	coarse	Pancheon /bowl	1	1	76	Brown streaks	Rim/bs	Late 18 th -early 19 th century
	RGRE	Reduced glazed red earthenware		bowl	1	1	22		bs	17 th -18 th century

Provenance

The pottery was recovered from the fills of a pit (006) and a ditch (009). The earliest items, sherds of dark sandy ware from (006), were probably made relatively locally to Thornham, perhaps at Grimston, about 25km (15 miles) to the south. In contrast, the later pottery types are probably mostly Staffordshire products.

Range

Medieval pottery was recovered but was limited in quantity and was retrieved from a single context. Post-medieval pottery was more abundant and again recovered from a single context. In general, this post-medieval material was tightly dated. All of the ceramics were domestic, with the medieval items being utilitarian cooking wares.

Potential

Other than providing dating evidence the pottery assemblage is of limited local potential.

FAUNAL REMAINS

By Paul Cope-Faulkner

Introduction

A total of 3 (250g) fragments of animal bone were recovered from stratified contexts along with 4 (98g) of seawater molluscs.

Provenance

The faunal remains were retrieved from the fills of a pit (006) and a ditch (009).

Condition

The overall condition of the remains was good.

Results

Table 2, Fragments Identified to Taxa

Cxt	Taxon	Element	Number	W (g)	Comments
006	cockle	shell	2	7	
009	oyster	shell	2	91	
	horse	pelvis	1	52	
	Large mammal	pelvis	1	98	
	Sheep/goat	tibia	1	100	

Summary

The assemblage is considered too small for meaningful analysis, though may all be food waste.

OTHER FINDS

By Gary Taylor

Introduction

Three mixed artefacts weighing a total of 512g were recovered from 2 contexts.

Condition

Although the mortar is friable, the condition of the finds is good.

Results

Table 3, Other Materials

Cxt	Material	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
009	Clay pipe	Stem, square spur, bore 5/64", 18 th century	1	3	18 th century
	Ceramic building material	Tile, pantile? Post-medieval	1	270	
013	mortar	mortar	1	239	

Provenance

The artefacts were recovered from two fills of the same ditch.

Range

Clay pipe and building debris were recovered, the latter perhaps indicating the former presence of structures in the vicinity.

Potential

In general, the potential of the other finds is low, though the material provides some dating evidence, and perhaps suggestions of post-medieval buildings, at the site.

SPOT DATING

The dating in table 4 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 4, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
006	12 th -13 th	
009	Early 19 th	
013	undatable	

ABBREVIATIONS

ACBMG	Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group
BS	Body sherd
CXT	Context
NoF	Number of Fragments
NoS	Number of sherds
NoV	Number of vessels
W (g)	Weight (grams)

REFERENCES

~ 2001, *Draft Minimum Standards for the Recovery, Analysis and Publication of Ceramic Building Material*, third version [internet]. Available from <http://www.geocities.com/acbmg1/CBMGDE3.htm>

Slowikowski, AM, Nenck, B, and Pearce, J, 2001 *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2

Young, J, Vince, AG and Nailor, V, 2005 *A Corpus of Saxon and Medieval Pottery from Lincoln* (Oxford)

Appendix 4

GLOSSARY

Bronze Age	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Iron Age	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
Layer	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
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.
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 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

13	Context records
3	Sheets containing scale drawings (plans and sections)
1	Photographic record sheet
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:

Norfolk Museums Service
Union House
Gressenhall
Dereham
Norfolk
NR20 4DR

The archive will be deposited in accordance with the document titled *County Standards for Field Archaeology in Norfolk*, produced by Norfolk Landscape Archaeology.

Archaeological Project Services Site Code:

51386

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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