
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF LAND
AT NORTHGATE HOUSE,
NORTHGATE,
SLEAFORD,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SLNG 08)**

Work Undertaken For
DB Lawrence and Associates Limited
On behalf of
Sleaford Development Co Limited

May 2008

Report Compiled by
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A.P.S. Report No. **62/08**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES**



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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Northgate House, Northgate, Sleaford, Lincolnshire. The evaluation was undertaken in advance of proposed residential development of the site.

The site lies within the medieval (AD 1066-1540) core of the town, best represented by the 12th century church of St Denys. Mesolithic (10000-4000 BC) flints are also known from the vicinity and a Saxon (AD 410-1066) site was excavated within the current Market Place. Northgate House dates to the early 19th century and is a listed building.

The evaluation identified a sequence of natural, post-medieval and recent deposits. A post-medieval levelling layer was the earliest deposit encountered and may be associated with the construction of Northgate House.

Finds retrieved from the investigation comprised pottery of 17th – 18th century and later date. Modern tile was also collected as was clay pipe and animal bone.

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 DB Lawrence and Associates Limited on behalf of Sleaford Development Co Limited to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land to the rear of Northgate House, Northgate, Sleaford, Lincolnshire. This was undertaken in advance of proposed residential development of the site as detailed in planning application N/57/1344/07. The work was undertaken on the 14th April 2008 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the North Kesteven Heritage Officer.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Sleaford is located 27km south of Lincoln and 26km west of Boston in the administrative district of North Kesteven, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

Northgate House is located 120m northwest of the centre of Sleaford as defined by the parish church of St Denys at National Grid Reference TF 0679 4604 (Fig. 2). Northgate House lies on the east side of Northgate at a height of c. 20m OD on land that slopes down to the south, towards the valley of the River Sleas.

As an urban area, local soils have not been mapped but may belong to either the New Sleaford Series, typically gleyic brown calcareous sands, or brown calcareous earths of the Ruskington Series (George and Robson 1978, 79, 86). These soils are developed at the junction of Jurassic Cornbrash and Oxford Clay (GSGB 1972).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Sleaford is located in an area of known

archaeological remains dating from the Mesolithic to the present day. Mesolithic flint flakes were retrieved during excavations undertaken in the Market Place (Mahaney 1979, 23) and a Mesolithic macehead was found immediately east of the church.

The same excavations revealed a complex of ditches, gullies and a possible structure, perhaps a forerunner of the market which dated to the early-mid Saxon period (*ibid.*).

Sleaford is first mentioned in AD 825 in a charter relating to the leasing of land at Sempringham by Peterborough Abbey (Sawyer 1968, S1440). Referred to as *Slioforda*, the name is derived from the Old English and means the ford over the 'sliowa', meaning muddy water (Cameron 1998, 112).

There has been some debate as to Sleaford's inclusion in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. The site lies within the former parish of New Sleaford (*Eslaforde*), which was held by the Bishop of Lincoln (Roffe 1979, 13). The Bishop's holdings included a church with a priest, 8 mills, 320 acres of meadow and 330 acres of marsh (Foster and Longley 1976).

To the southwest of the site lies St Denys' church which dates largely to 1180 with a 13th century tower. The site lies within the postulated boundaries of the medieval town and the form suggests that the site represents a burgage plot fronting Northgate with Church Lane representing the back street. A rental of 1258 indicates that most burgage plots were centred along Northgate, Eastgate and Westgate (Pawley 1996, 24).

Northgate House dates to the early 19th century and is a Grade II listed building (DoE 1974).

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 the North Kesteven Heritage Officer to formulate a policy for the management of archaeological resources present on the site.

4. METHODS

A single trench (measuring 13m by 2m) was placed to provide sample coverage within the proposed development area (Fig. 3). This was excavated by machine to the upper surface of natural deposits. Following excavation, the base and sides of the trench 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 trench was measured in relation to existing 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.

The earliest deposit encountered in the base of the trench was a layer of yellowish brown sandy clay (007). This measured in excess of 0.7m thick but thinned significantly towards the southern end of the trench. This was partially overlain by a 0.15m thick layer of yellowish brown sandy clay with calcareous gravel (006).

A levelling layer of greyish brown silty clay (004) was identified at the southern end of the trench. This measured up to 0.5m thick and contained pottery of 17th – 18th century date (Appendix 3).

Above this was a layer of grey clayey silt (005). Identified as a former topsoil, this was 0.2m thick, but was absent from the north end of the trench. This was partially overlain at the south end of the trench by a dumped deposit of yellowish brown sand (003).

A subsoil had developed across the ground consisting of greyish brown clayey silt (002). This measured 0.3m thick. Pottery and tile of 19th – 20th century date was retrieved from this layer.

Situated in the northern part of the trench and cutting the subsoil was a pit (008) that was 1.55m wide and 0.71m deep. This contained three fills, the lowest of yellow sandy gravel and brick rubble (009), followed by grey clinker (010) and finally grey clayey silt with brick rubble (011).

Sealing all archaeological deposits was the current topsoil comprising a 0.15m thick layer of greyish brown sandy silt (001).

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits comprise sandy clays representing the upper weathered surface of the underlying solid geology of Jurassic Oxford Clay. Some of this is recorded as containing gravel, which may have originated as colluvium. The natural layers slope generally down to the south.

A post-medieval levelling deposit was identified, only at the southern end of the trench. As this layer directly overlies the natural, it is possible that earlier remains have been truncated. This is likely to have been deposited prior to the construction of Northgate House in the early 19th century.

Finds include pottery, tile and clay pipe of post-medieval and modern date. A small collection of animal bone was also retrieved.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Northgate, Sleaford, in order to determine the range of archaeological deposits prior to development of the site and as the site lies in an area of known archaeological remains of prehistoric, Saxon and medieval date.

However, no remains dateable to these periods were identified. Instead, a post-medieval levelling layer overlying natural deposits was the earliest archaeological deposit encountered. This was overlain by dumped and subsoil deposits.

Pottery and a piece of tile of 17th -20th century date were retrieved along with animal bone and 19th century clay pipe.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr M Curt of DB Lawrence and Associates Limited for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis on behalf of Sleaford Development Co Limited. The work was coordinated by Steve Malone who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Jo Hambly, the North Kesteven Heritage Officer, kindly allowed access to the parish files and library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Steve Malone
 Site Supervisor: Michael Wood
 Site Staff: Jim Robertson
 Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
 Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner, Michael Wood
 Post-excavation Analyst: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

DoE Department of the Environment

GSGB Geological Survey of Great Britain

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

MoLAS Museum of London Archaeology Service



Figure 1 - General location plan



TF

Area detailed in Figure 3

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Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Northgate, Sleaford SLNG08		
Scale 1:10000	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 62/08

Figure 2 - Site location plan

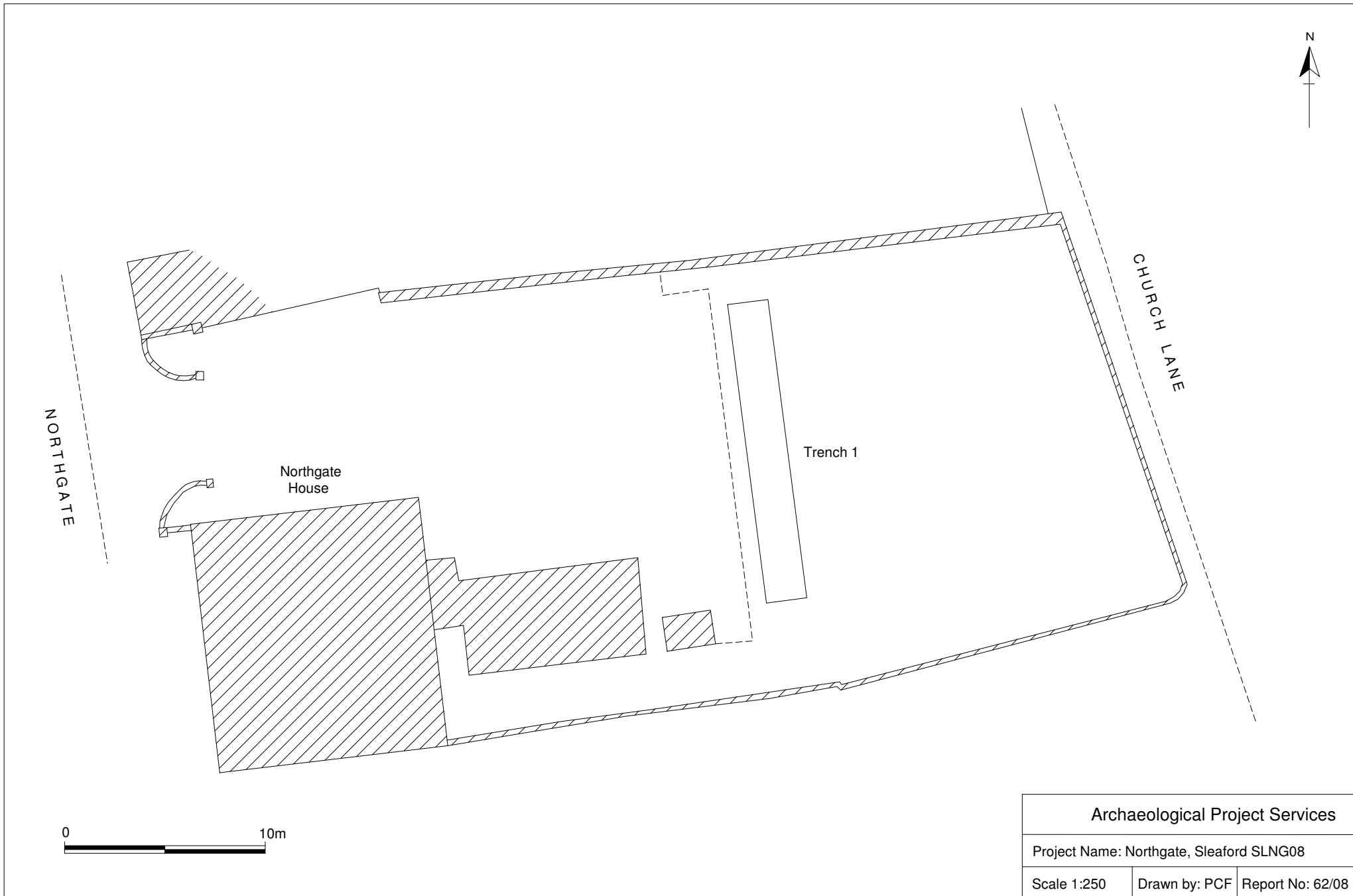


Figure 3 - Trench location plan

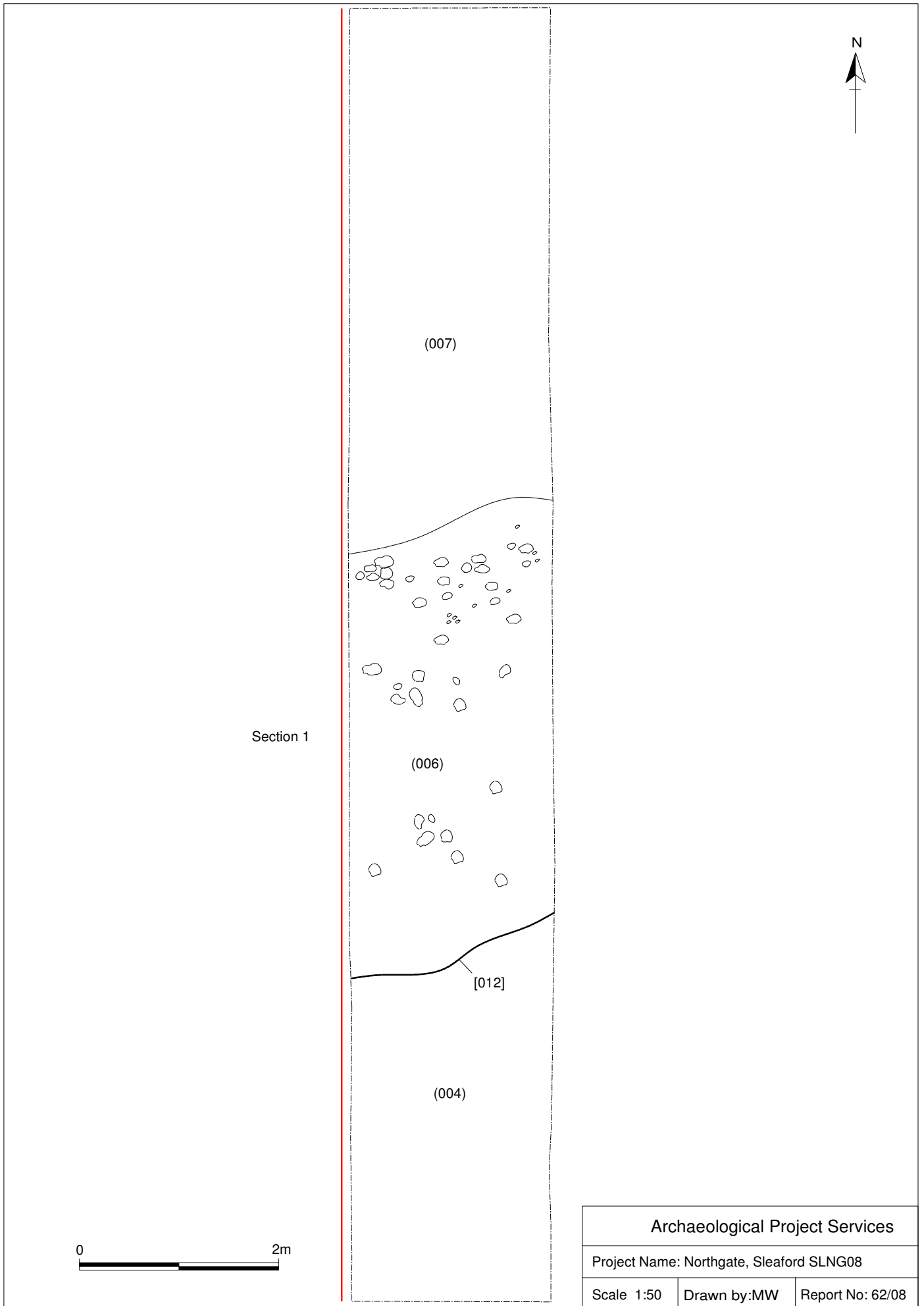


Figure 4 - Trench 1: Plan

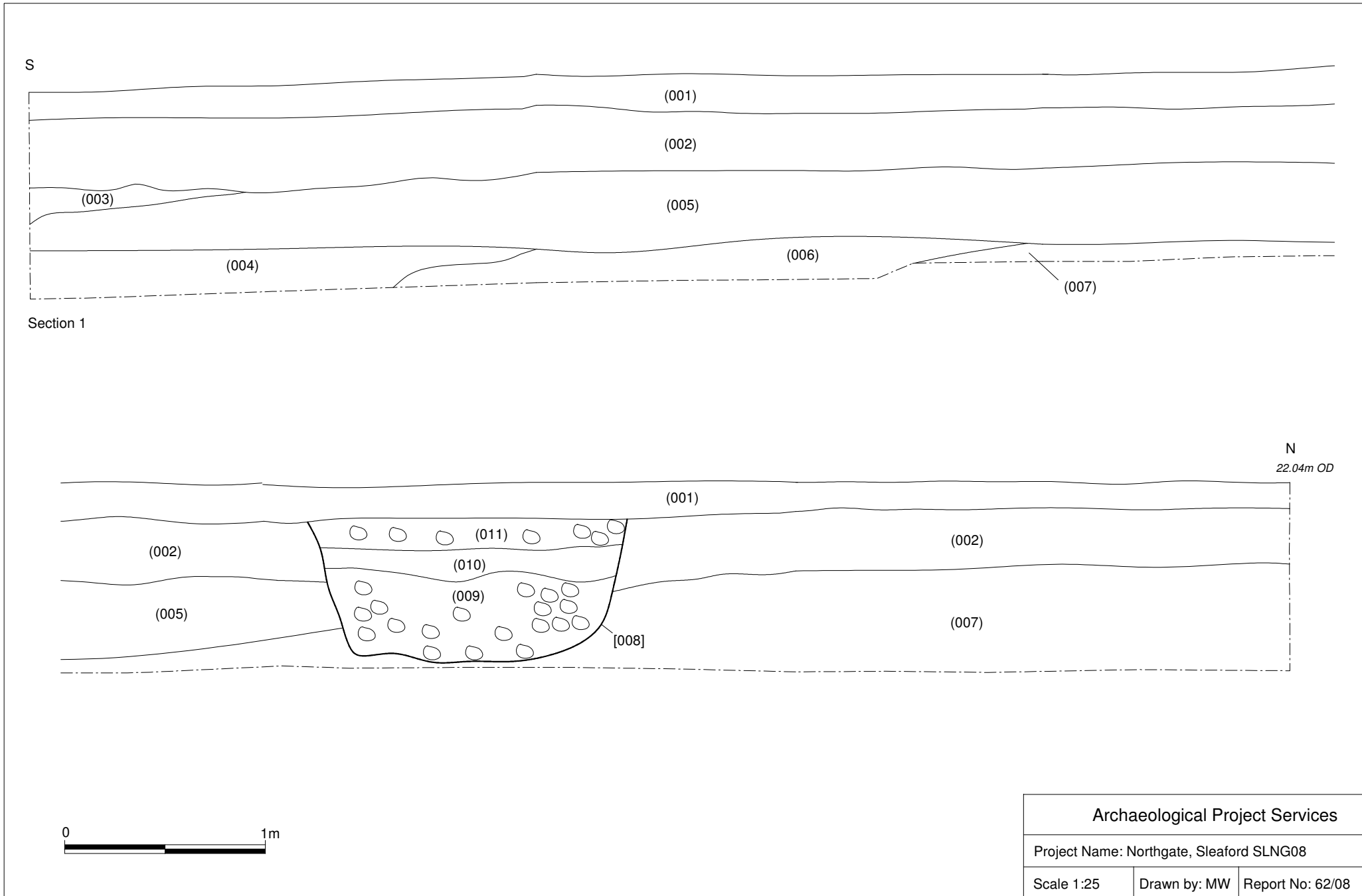


Figure 5 - Trench 1: Section



Plate 1 – Trench 1 after cleaning, looking south



Plate 2 – Section 1 at the north end of the trench, looking west



Plate 3 – Section 1, central portion, looking west



Plate 4 – Section 1, southern portion, looking west

Appendix 1

LAND AT NORTHGATE HOUSE, NORTHGATE, SLEAFORD - SPECIFICATION FOR THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land to the rear of Northgate House, Northgate, Sleaford.*
- 1.2 *The site lies in an area of archaeological potential close to the historic core of Sleaford.*
- 1.3 *Residential development of the site is proposed. The archaeological works are being undertaken to provide information to assist the determination of any application.*
- 1.4 *The archaeological work will consist of a programme of trial trenching of the site. On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the findings of the investigation. The report will consist of a text describing the nature of the archaeological deposits located and will be supported by line drawings and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land to the rear of Northgate House, Northgate, Sleaford, Lincolnshire.
- 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 DESCRIPTION

- 3.1 Sleaford is located 27km south of Lincoln in the administrative district of North Kesteven. The site is located to the north of Sleaford town centre on land to the rear of Northgate House on the east side of Northgate. The site is a rectangular piece of land c. 20m x 25m, centred on National Grid Reference TF 0679 4604.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Residential development of the site is proposed (Application No N/57/1344/07). Archaeological evaluation is required in order to provide information to assist in the determination of any application.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 Located at a height of c. 20m OD, the investigation area lies on rising ground on the north side of the Old River Sleas. As an urban area the investigation area has not been fully mapped by the Soil Survey, but two soil regimes occur in the vicinity. To the northwest are Aswarby Series calcareous fine loamy soils over limestone and clay, to the southeast are probably New Sleaford Series gleyic brown calcareous sand on calcareous Fen sand and gravel (George and Robson 1978, 86-7).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 The site of the proposed development is located within the centre of medieval and post-medieval Sleaford. The site was once the walled gardens of the early 19th century Northgate House and remained undeveloped throughout the 19th and early 20th centuries until becoming partly used as a

car park to the offices on the frontage. It is unlikely therefore that any recent development has taken place on the site and so earlier archaeological deposits, particularly of the medieval period, may survive.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aim of the work will be to gather sufficient information for the North Kesteven Planning Archaeologist to be able to formulate an appropriate policy for the management of the archaeological resource of the site.
- 7.2 The objectives of the work will be to:
 - 7.2.1 Establish the type and date of archaeological activity that may be present within the site;
 - 7.2.2 Determine the likely extent, depth, state of preservation and potential of archaeological activity present within the site;
 - 7.2.3 Determine the way in which the archaeological features identified fits into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape;
 - 7.2.4 Identify the extent to which the surrounding archaeological features extend into the application area;
 - 7.2.5 Establish the likely impact of proposed development upon the archaeological resource; and
 - 7.2.6 Provide an evidence base against which options for mitigation might be assessed.

8 TRIAL TRENCHING

- 8.1 Reasoning for this technique
 - 8.1.1 Trial trenching enables the *in situ* determination of the sequence, date, nature, depth, environmental potential and density of archaeological features present on the site.
 - 8.1.2 The trial trenching will consist of the excavation of a single trench c. 15m x 2m within the grassed area to the rear of the car park.
 - 8.1.3 Should archaeological deposits extend below 1.2m depth then the trench sides may be stepped in, or shored, as appropriate. Augering may be used to determine the depth of the sequence of deposits present.
- 8.2 General Considerations
 - 8.2.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the evaluation. A risk assessment will prepared prior to the commencement of site works.
 - 8.2.2 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).
 - 8.2.3 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.
 - 8.2.4 A metal detector will be used during mechanical and subsequent manual excavation. Mechanically excavated spoil will be scanned by detector and all excavated surfaces, of all trenches, will be scanned daily by detector. Heras fencing will be used to secure the site against unauthorised access.
 - 8.2.5 Excavation of the archaeological features exposed will only be undertaken as far as is required to determine their date, sequence, density and nature. Not all archaeological

features exposed will necessarily be excavated. However, the evaluation will, as far as is reasonably practicable, determine the level of the natural deposits to ensure that the depth of the archaeological sequence present on the site is established.

8.3 Methodology

- 8.3.1 Removal of the topsoil and any other overburden will be undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. To ensure that the correct amount of material is removed and that no archaeological deposits are damaged, this work will be supervised by Archaeological Project Services. On completion of the removal of the overburden, the nature of the underlying deposits will be assessed by hand excavation before any further mechanical excavation that may be required. Thereafter, the trenches will be cleaned by hand to enable the identification and analysis of the archaeological features exposed.
- 8.3.2 Should 'dark earth' deposits be encountered they may be tested by machine excavation. If this indicates the deposit is extensive then excavation of the deposit may be undertaken by machine, in thin spits. Should artefact clusters occur in the otherwise homogeneous deposit they will be separately recorded.
- 8.3.3 Investigation of the features will be undertaken only as far as required to determine their date, form and function. The work will consist of half- or quarter-sectioning of features as required and, where appropriate, the removal of layers. Should features be located which may be worthy of preservation *in situ*, excavation will be limited to the absolute minimum, (*ie* the minimum disturbance) necessary to interpret the form, function and date of the features.
- 8.3.4 The archaeological features encountered will be recorded on Archaeological Project Services 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.
- 8.3.5 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.
- 8.3.6 Throughout the duration of the trial trenching a photographic record in both black and white and colour will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
- the site before the commencement of field operations.
 - the site during work to show specific stages of work, and the layout of the archaeology within individual trenches.
 - individual features and, where appropriate, their sections.
 - groups of features where their relationship is important.
 - the site on completion of fieldwork
- 8.3.7 Should human remains be encountered, they will be left *in situ* with excavation being limited to the identification and recording of such remains. If exhumation is necessary, the appropriate Home Office licences will be obtained and the local environmental health department, the coroner and the police informed.
- 8.3.8 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.
- 8.3.9 The spoil generated during the evaluation will be mounded along the edges of the trial trenches with the topsoil being kept separate from the other material excavated for subsequent backfilling.
- 8.3.10 The precise location of the trenches within the site and the location of site recording grid will be established, relative to the National Grid, by an EDM survey.

9 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 If appropriate, during the evaluation specialist advice will be obtained from an environmental archaeologist. The specialist will visit the site and will prepare a report detailing the nature of the environmental material present on the site and its potential for additional analysis should further stages of archaeological work be required. The results of the specialist's assessment will be incorporated into the final report

10 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT

10.1 Stage 1

10.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the trial trenching 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.

10.1.2 All finds recovered during the trial trenching 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.

10.2 Stage 2

10.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.

10.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

10.3 Stage 3

10.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the evaluation will be prepared. This will consist of:

- A non-technical summary of the findings of the evaluation.
- A description of the archaeological setting of the site with reference to previous discoveries in the area.
- Description of the topography and geology of the evaluation area
- Description of the methodologies used during the evaluation and a critical review of their effectiveness in the light of the findings of the investigation.
- A text describing the findings of the evaluation.
- 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.
- Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.
- Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape.
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

- A consideration of the importance of the findings on a local, regional and national basis.

11 ARCHIVE

- 11.1 The documentation, finds, photographs and other records and materials generated during the evaluation will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the City and County Museum, Lincoln. This sorting will be undertaken according to the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives* for long-term storage and curation.

12 REPORT DEPOSITION

- 12.1 Copies of the evaluation report will be sent to: the client; the North Kesteven Planning Archaeologist; and the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record.

13 PUBLICATION

- 13.1 Details of the project will be entered onto the OASIS online database and a pdf copy of the report uploaded. Notes or articles describing the results of the investigation will also be submitted for publication in the appropriate national journals: *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date; and *Medieval Archaeology* and *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for medieval and later remains.

14 CURATORIAL MONITORING

- 14.1 Curatorial responsibility for the project lies with the North Kesteven Planning Archaeologist. They will be given notice in writing of the commencement of the project to enable them to make appropriate monitoring arrangements.

15 VARIATIONS TO THE PROPOSED SCHEME OF WORKS

- 15.1 Variations to the scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation from North Kesteven Planning Archaeologist.
- 15.2 Should the North Kesteven Planning Archaeologist 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.

16 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

- 16.1 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 D Knight, Trent and Peak Archaeological Trust Roman: A Boyle, APS with B Precious, independent specialist Anglo-Saxon: A Boyle, APS with J Young, independent specialist Medieval and later: A Boyle, APS
Other Artefacts	G Taylor, APS
Human Remains Analysis	Jen Kitch, APS
Animal Remains Analysis	Jen Kitch, APS
Environmental Analysis	Val Fryer, independent specialist

Radiocarbon dating Beta Analytic Inc., Florida, USA

Dendrochronology dating University of Sheffield Dendrochronology Laboratory

17 **PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS**

17.1 Fieldwork is expected to be undertaken by 2 staff and to take up to 2 days.

17.2 Post-excavation analysis and report production is expected to take 7 person-days within a notional programme of 10 days. A project officer or supervisor will undertake most of the analysis, with assistance from the finds supervisor and CAD illustrator.

18 **INSURANCES**

18.1 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.

19 **COPYRIGHT**

19.1 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.

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

19.3 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.

19.4 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.

20 **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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Appendix 2

CONTEXT SUMMARY

Context	Description	Dimensions	Interpretation	Phase
001	Loose, dark greyish brown silty sand	0.15m thick	Topsoil	Modern
002	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt	0.3m thick	Subsoil	Modern
003	Loose yellowish brown sand	0.2m thick	Dump deposit	Modern
004	Friable dark greyish brown silty clay	0.24m thick	Levelling deposit	Modern
005	Soft light grey clayey silt	0.2m thick	Former topsoil	Modern
006	Friable yellowish brown sandy clay with calcareous pebbles	0.15m thick	Natural deposit	Natural
007	Compact yellowish brown sandy clay	0.3m+ thick	Natural deposit	Natural
008	Near vertical sides and flat base. Seen in section.	1.55m wide by 0.71m deep	Pit	Modern
009	Loose yellow sandy gravel and frequent brick rubble	0.45m thick	Dump of demolition rubble in pit [008]	Modern
010	Compact dark grey clinker	0.2m thick	Dump of rubble in pit [008]	Modern
011	Friable dark grey clayey silt with frequent brick rubble	0.15m thick	Dump of rubble in pit [008]	Modern

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

INTRODUCTION

A small assemblage of post-medieval to modern pottery, tile, clay pipe and animal bone was retrieved from evaluation at Horthga6te House, Northgate, Sleaford.

POST ROMAN POTTERY

By Anne Boyle

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* 2001 and to conform to Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook*. The pottery codenames (Cname) are in accordance with the Post Roman pottery type series for Lincolnshire, as published in Young *et al.* 2005. Six sherds from six vessels, weighing 26 grams 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 and using x20 magnification. This data was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in table 1. The pottery ranges in date from the Post medieval to the Early Modern periods.

Condition

The sherds are small and abraded, as indicated by the average sherd weight of four grams.

Results

Table 1, Post Roman Pottery Archive

Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Fabric	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Decoration	Part	Comment	Date
002	CREA	Creamware		Hollow	1	1	1		BS		
002	CREA	Creamware		Flat	1	1	7		Base	Chipped; soot	
002	PEARL	Pearlware		Hollow	1	1	2		BS		
002	PEARL	Pearlware		Jar?	1	1	4		Base		
002	TPW	Transfer printed ware		Cup	1	1	1	Blue transfer print	BS		
004	SLIP	Slipware	Coarse; buff	Jar	1	1	11		Base	Soot; fe slipped	Late 17 th to 18 th

Provenance

The assemblage came from subsoil (002) and levelling deposit (004).

Range

The range of wares is typical of Post-medieval and Early Modern assemblages and consists of types known from other excavations in the area.

Potential

The pottery has limited potential for further work, although the assemblage should be retained.

Summary

A small assemblage of Late 17th to 20th century pottery was recovered from two contexts on the site. The pottery suggests limited activity of this date in the vicinity.

CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

By Anne Boyle

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in the ACBMG guidelines (2001) and to conform to Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook*. A single tile, weighing 137 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments were counted and weighed within each context. The ceramic building material was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This data was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the ceramic building material is included in table 2.

Condition

The single tile fragment is complete and in fresh condition.

Results

Table 2, Ceramic Building Material Archive

Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Fabric	NoF	W (g)	Description	Date
002	MODTIL	Modern tile	White	1	137	Floor/wall tile; 77mm x 77mm x 10mm; moulded floral design; yellow/brown glaze; mortar	19 th to 20 th

Provenance

The tile came from subsoil deposit (002).

Potential

The assemblage requires no further work; the tile should be retained.

Summary

A single Early Modern tile was recovered from topsoil.

FAUNAL REMAINS

By Paul Cope-Faulkner

Introduction

A total of 16 (120g) fragments of animal bone were recovered from stratified contexts.

Provenance

The animal bone was retrieved from a subsoil (002) and a levelling deposit (004).

Condition

The overall condition of the remains was good to moderate.

Results

Table 3, Fragments Identified to Taxa

Cxt	Taxon	Element	Number	W (g)	Comments
002	cattle	molar	1	8	
004	Cattle	Metacarpus	3	50	
	Cattle	Molar	1	27	
	Large mammal	Unidentified	1	9	
	Sheep/goat	Molar	1	7	
	Sheep/goat	Humerus	1	15	
	Small mammal	unidentified	8	4	

Summary

As a small assemblage, the animal bone has limited potential. All the material should be retained.

CLAY PIPE

By Gary Taylor

Introduction

Analysis of the clay pipes followed the guidance published by Davey (1981) and the material is detailed in the accompanying table.

Condition

All of the clay pipe is in good condition.

Results

Table 4. The Clay Pipe

Context no.	Bore diameter /64"					NoF	W(g)	Comments	Date
	8	7	6	5	4				
002			1	3	1	6	11	Includes fragment of fluted bowl of c.1790-1810. 1 stem (4/64") has yellow glaze	19 th century

Provenance

All of the clay pipe was recovered from the subsoil. It is likely that all the clay pipe was produced locally in Sleaford.

Range

Mostly stems were recovered but have variable bore dimensions indicating disparate dating, with deposition probably in the early-mid 19th century.

Potential

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

SPOT DATING

The dating in table 5 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 5, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
002	19 th to 20 th	
004	Late 17 th to 18 th	Date on a single sherd

ABBREVIATIONS

ACBMG	Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group
BS	Body sherd
CBM	Ceramic Building Material
CLAU	City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit
CXT	Context
LHJ	Lower Handle Join
NoF	Number of Fragments
NoS	Number of sherds
NoV	Number of vessels
NRFC	National Roman Fabric Reference Collection
PCRG	Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group

TR	Trench
UHJ	Upper Handle Join
W (g)	Weight (grams)

REFERENCES

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- ~ 2003, *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* [internet]. Available at <http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/section.asp?catId=3155>
- Davey, PJ, 1981 Guidelines for the processing and publication of clay pipes from excavations, *Medieval and Later Pottery in Wales* **4**, 65-88
- Lyman, RL, 1996 *Vertebrate Taphonomy*, Cambridge Manuals in Archaeology (Cambridge)
- Slowikowski, A.M, Nenk, B, and Pearce, ., 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

Colluvium	Weathered material that has been transported downslope by gravitational forces and deposited at the base of the slope.
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.
Dumped deposits	These are deposits, often laid down intentionally, that raise a land surface. They may be the result of casual waste disposal or may be deliberate attempts to raise the ground surface.
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).
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.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1 st century AD.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.

Appendix 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

12	Context records
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Section record sheet
1	Plan record sheet
1	Daily record sheet
7	Sheets of scale drawings
1	Stratigraphic matrix
1	Bag of finds

All primary records are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

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

Accession Number: 2008.51

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: SLNG 08

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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