

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF LAND TO THE REAR OF 10-12 COMMON ROAD, SNETTISHAM, NORFOLK (51519)

Work Undertaken For **Fieldview Homes**

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Quality Control Land at 10-12 Common Road, Snettisham, Norfolk (51519)

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land to the rear of 10-12 Common Road, Snettisham, Norfolk in order to determine the archaeological implications of the planned redevelopment of the site.

The site lies in an archaeologically sensitive location, close to finds of Bronze Age metalwork and high status Iron Age metalwork, as well as Iron Age and Romano-British settlement and religious activity. Close to the site are remains of Iron Age and Romano British field systems and enclosures evident as cropmarks. occupation Post-medieval has been identified a little to the west, by the modern bypass, and field boundaries of the period were revealed a short distance to the east.

The evaluation revealed three parallel ditches within Trench 6. Whilst one of these ditches was undated, the other two are of probable medieval date. Fragments of Romano-British pottery and building materials recovered with the medieval material are indicative of 2^{nd} to 4^{th} century AD activity occurring in proximity to Trench 6.

Elsewhere evidence was limited to an undated pit identified within Trench 2 and recent features found within Trenches 3 and 4. Only deposits of natural, subsoil and topsoil were found at the northern end of the site within Trenches 1 and 5.

A range of archaeological artefacts including, Romano-British pottery, Romano-British building material, medieval pottery, post-medieval pottery and marine mollusc shells were found during the evaluation.

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 features, archaeological 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 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Fieldview Homes to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of proposed residential development on land to the rear of 10 to 12 Common Road, Snettisham, Norfolk, as Application detailed in Planning 08/00052/F. The evaluation was undertaken between the 1st and 13th of May 2008 in accordance with a specification Archaeological prepared by Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by Norfolk Landscape Archaeology.

2.3 Location, Topography and Geology

Snettisham is located 14km north of King's Lynn, close to the coast of the Wash, in northwest Norfolk. The proposed development site is located on the west side of the village, on the south side of Common Road, close to its junction with the A149, at National Grid Reference TF 6810 3410 (Figs. 1 and 2).

The site lies at c.10m OD in a slight valley to the east of Ken Hill. Soils of the area are likely to be of the Blackwood Association, typical sandy gleys developed on drift geology of glaciofluvial deposits (SSEW 1980)

2.4 Archaeological Setting

The site lies in an archaeologically sensitive location, with much evidence of Iron Age and Romano-British occupation and religious activity. A Romano-British temple has been identified, and significant hoards of Iron Age metalwork including a major collection of torcs, have been found. A hoard of Roman jewellery was found and there have been several hoards of Bronze Age metalwork discovered.

Romano-British artefacts suggestive of settlement have been found a short distance to the southwest, by the A149 bypass, while there are cropmarks of Iron Age and Romano-British field systems and enclosures a little to the south and southeast of the proposed development site. Post-medieval occupation and metalworking of medieval date has been identified around the bypass, close to where it meets Common Road (Flitcroft, 2001).

A previous investigation about 100m to the east identified probable boundary ditches and banks of post-medieval date, though a scatter of Roman brick/tile was also recovered. An archaeological monitoring exercise between 22-24 Common Road, about 75m southwest of the site, did not reveal any remains, though much rubble was noted and may imply the former presence of structures in the area.

3. AIMS

The aim of the evaluation 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 any archaeological resources found to be present on the site.

All work was undertaken with accordance to the current Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney 2003) and with attention to the regional research frameworks (Glazebrook, 1997). The latter has identified the nature of Romano-British settlement as one of its major themes.

4. METHODS

Four trenches (Trenches 1-4), measuring 20m x 1.6m were excavated according to the previously agreed specification. Unfortunately, the proposed fifth trench could not be excavated in its proposed location due to heavy tree cover. This trench was split into two shorter lengths; Trench 5 measuring 11 x 1.6m and Trench 6 measuring 9m by 1.6m and relocated outside the wooded area (Fig. 3).

Removal of topsoil and other overburden was undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. The exposed surfaces of the trenches were then cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains.

Each deposit exposed during the evaluation was allocated unique a reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of contexts and their interpretations all appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was also compiled and sections and plans were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and 1:20 respectively. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

The location of the excavated trenches was

surveyed in relation to fixed points on boundaries and on existing buildings.

Following excavation, finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 3). The records were also checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

5. **RESULTS**

The results of the archaeological evaluation are discussed in trench order. Archaeological contexts are described below. Numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

Four phases of archaeological activity were identified:

Phase 1 Natural deposits Phase 2 Undated deposits Phase 3 Medieval deposits Phase 4 Recent deposits

The phasing is based upon the analysis of both the stratigraphic relationships evident between features within the trenches and the analysis of the artefacts recovered during the evaluation.

Full context descriptions are provided on Appendix 2.

5.1 Trench 1

No evidence of archaeological activity was identified within Trench 1, at the extreme western end of the site (Fig. 3).

The only deposits identified were a silty sand (013), clearly of natural origin, which extended across the base of the trench and was sealed by a sandy silt subsoil (012), overlain by sandy silt topsoil (011) (Fig. 6).

5.2 Trench 2

Evidence of undated and recent activity was identified within Trench 2, excavated in the southwest corner of the site (Fig. 3).

A single deposit of natural silty sand (020) extending across the base of the trench was cut by a steep sided flat-based cut [019], which was partially exposed at the western end of the trench (Figs. 4 and 6: Section 2, Plate 2). Most probably a sub-rectangular pit-cut, this was undated although the looseness of its silt fill (018), suggested that it may not have been particularly old. Pit [019] was truncated by [017], one of a series of uniform southwest-northeast aligned plough furrows extending across the site at c.1.50-1.60m intervals.

All the undated deposits within the trench were sealed by a sandy silt subsoil (015), overlain by a sandy silt topsoil (014).

5.3 Trench 3

Only evidence for recent activity was identified within Trench 3, excavated in the central part of the site (Fig. 3).

A single deposit of natural clayey silt (003) extending across the base of the trench was sealed by a sandy silt subsoil (002).

The subsoil was truncated by a broad 2.2m wide concave-based ditch [008], which extended on a northeast-southwest alignment (Figs. 4 and 6: Section 1). Subsoil (002) was partially overlain by a compacted deposit of chalk pebbles set within a clayey silt (004), which was most probably a remnant of a former path or surface.

Both ditch and surface (004) were truncated by a broad 2.90m wide cut feature [005], from which a single sherd of late 18th -19th century pottery was

recovered from its intermediary fill (006) (Appendix 3).

Despite the presence of this single sherd, the fact that all the features present in the trench, either cut or overlie the subsoil strongly indicates that they are of recent origin. A visitor to the site recalled a ditch in this location being backfilled during the 1950s.

All the features in the trench were sealed by a single deposit of sandy silt topsoil (001).

5.3 Trench 4

Only evidence of recent activity was identified within Trench 4, located to the east of Trench 3 (Fig. 3).

The single deposit of natural sandy silt (023) extending across the base of the trench was sealed by a clayey sandy silt subsoil (022) through which two linears [024] and [026] were cut (Figs. 4 and 6: Sections 3 and 4). Aligned east-west, flat-based and 0.80m wide, ditch [024], was undated although the fact it cuts subsoil indicates that it is of recent origin.

The second more substantial 2.50m wide linear [026], was also aligned east-west. Although aligned slightly differently [026] probably represents the continuation of [008] extending east from Trench 3. A single sherd of 18th century pottery recovered from (027), the fill of [026], may be residual.

The chalk surface (004) encountered within Trench 3 was again recorded sealing subsoil (022) at the northern end of Trench 4, indicating that the surface extended eastwards.

All the features in the trench were sealed by a single deposit of sandy silt topsoil (021).

5.5 Trench 5

No evidence of archaeological activity was identified within Trench 5, excavated at the extreme eastern end of the site (Fig. 3).

The only deposits identified were a natural loose sand (040) which extended across the base of the trench and was in turn sealed by a sandy silt subsoil (039), overlain by sandy silt topsoil (038) (Fig. 6).

5.6 Trench 6

Evidence of archaeological activity of undated, medieval and recent date was identified in the southeast corner of the site within Trench 6 (Fig. 3). Re-deposited Romano-British pottery and building material recovered from medieval contexts indicates that earlier activity occurred within the vicinity of the site (Appendix 3).

Extending across the base of the trench, the sandy silt natural (032) was cut by three northeast-southwest aligned linears [028], [033] and [036] (Figs. 5 and 6: Sections 5-7, Plates 5-7).

At the southern end of the trench, ditch [036] had an irregular base, was 2.00m wide and was filled with a single deposit of soft mid-greyish brown silty sand (037) from which a ten fragments of handmade 12th to mid 13th century medieval pottery, and a single sherd of residual 2nd to 4th century Romano-British pottery was recovered (Appendix 3).

Located towards the centre of the trench, the second ditch [033] was concave based, measured 1.76m across and was filled with two deposits, a loose medium yellowish brown slightly clayey sand (035) primary fill sealed by a loose medium greyish yellowish brown slightly clayey sand secondary fill (034) from which a single sherd of handmade 12th to mid 13th century pottery was recovered along with single fragments or re-deposited 2nd to 4th century Romano-British pottery and ceramic building material (Appendix 3).

It is possible that the fragments of medieval handmade pottery recovered from (034) and (037), may have originated from the same vessel, which may suggest that at least some of the material is re-deposited (Appendix 3).

No dating evidence was recovered from the third ditch [028], which was concavebased and 1.10m wide.

All the features within Trench 6, including the undated ditch [028], were sealed by a sandy silt subsoil (031), in turn overlain by a sandy silt topsoil (030).

6. **DISCUSSION**

Three northeast-southwest aligned ditches were identified in the southeast corner of the site within Trench 6. Although pottery of 12th to mid-13th date was recovered from the fills of two of these ditches, it is possible that all the medieval pottery fragments relate to the same vessel, which would suggest that, in at least one of the ditches, the material was residual and the feature may be of later date. However three of the linears were clearly sealed by subsoil, which can be seen as an indicator of age. Sherds of Romano-British pottery, along with a single fragment of Romano-British brick or tegula was found redeposited along with the medieval material suggesting activity in proximity to Trench 6 during the 2^{nd} to 4^{th} century AD.

An undated rectangular pit was sealed by subsoil within Trench 1, although the loose fill of this feature may suggest a comparatively recent origin. Only recent features were identified within Trenches 3 and 4, whilst only deposits of natural, subsoil and topsoil were present within Trenches 1 and 5.

9. CONCLUSIONS

Six trial trenches were excavated on land to the rear of 10-12 Common Road, Snettisham in order to determine the potential for archaeological remains being disturbed during proposed residential development on the site.

The site lies in an archaeologically sensitive location, close to finds of Bronze Age metalwork and high status Iron Age metalwork, as well as Iron Age and Romano-British settlement and religious activity at Snettisham. Close to the site are remains of Iron Age and Romano British field systems and enclosures evident as redeposited cropmarks. The Roman artefacts from this investigation contribute to similar evidence from nearby in suggesting some limits to the Romano-British occupation.

Post-medieval occupation has been identified a little to the west, by the modern bypass, and field boundaries of the period were revealed a short distance to the east.

Three parallel ditches were identified in the southeast corner of the site within Trench 6. Whilst one of these ditches was undated, the other two are of probable medieval date. Fragments of Romano-British pottery and building materials recovered with the medieval material are indicative of 2^{nd} to 4^{th} century AD activity occurring in proximity to Trench 6.

Elsewhere evidence for human activity was limited to an undated pit identified within Trench 2 and recent features found within Trenches 3 and 4. Only deposits of natural, subsoil and topsoil were found at the northern end of the site within Trenches 1 and 5.

A range of archaeological artefacts, including Romano-British pottery and building material, medieval pottery, postmedieval pottery, animal bone and marine mollusc shells, were found during the evaluation (Appendix 3).

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Fieldview Homes Ltd for commissioning both the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor who edited this report along with Tom Lane.

11. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor Site Supervisors: Thomas Bradley-Lovekin and Mark Peachey Site Assistant: Jonathon Smith Finds Processing: Denise Buckley Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth Illustration: Thomas Bradley-Lovekin and Sue Unsworth Post-excavation Analyst: Thomas Bradley-Lovekin

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SSEW, 1980 Soils of Eastern England Sheet 4

11. ABBREVIATIONS

- APS Archaeological Project Services
- IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists
- OS Ordnance Survey
- SSEW Soil Survey of England and Wales



Figure 1 General Location Plan



Figure 2 Site Location Map



Figure 3 Plan of development showing the location of the trenches excavated



Figure 4 Plan of Trenches 2, 3 and 4



Figure 5 Plan of Trench 6



Figure 6 Sections 1-7 and representative sections Trenches 1 and 4-5



Plate 1 North facing view across the site prior to the excavation of trenches



Plate 2 South facing view Section 2 showing pit [019] truncated by plough furrow [017]



Plate 3 South facing view of Trench 6 showing pits [028], [033] and [036] prior to excavation



Plate 4 West facing view Section 7 showing ditch [036]



Plate 5 West facing view Section 6 showing ditch [033]



Plate 6 West facing view Section 5 showing ditch [028]



A P S ARCHAEOLOGICAL P R O J E C T S E R V I C E S

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Appendix 1

SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT COMMON ROAD SNETTISHAM NORFOLK

PREPARED FOR ROBERT DOUGHTY CONSULTANCY AND FIELDVIEW HOMES

BY

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES Institute of Field Archaeologists' Registered Archaeological Organisation no: 21

APRIL 2008

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land at Common Road, Snettisham, Norfolk.
- 1.2 The site lies within an area of archaeological interest and potential, close to finds of Bronze Age metalwork, Iron Age treasure, as well as Iron Age and Roman settlement and religious activity. Close to the site are remains of Iron Age and Roman field systems and enclosures evident as cropmarks. Post-medieval occupation has been identified a little to the west, by the modern bypass, and field boundaries of the period were revealed a short distance to the east.
- 1.3 An application for planning permission has been made for residential development of the site. Norfolk Landscape Archaeology has advised that a pre-determination field evaluation is required to inform any future subsequent planning consent.
- 1.4 A programme of trial trenching will be carried out. On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the investigations. The report will consist of a text describing and interpreting the archaeological deposits located during the trenching. The text will be supported by illustrations and photographs. If significant archaeological remains are found then mitigation measures, in the form of further investigation or preservation, may be required.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land at Common Road, Snettisham, 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 Snettisham is located 14km north of King's Lynn, close to the east coast of The Wash in northwest Norfolk. The development site is on the west side of the town, on the south side of Common Road, close to the junction with the A149, at National Grid Reference TF 6810 3410.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 A previous application for planning permission for the residential development of this site has been submitted to King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council (Planning ref. 08/00052/F). Norfolk Landscape Archaeology has requested that the site be subject to an archaeological field evaluation to inform any subsequent mitigation programme. A brief for a programme of trial trenching was produced by the Norfolk Landscape Archaeology. The trial trenching may indicate a need for further investigation if significant remains are found and these cannot be preserved *in situ*.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 The site lies at approximately 10m OD is a slight valley to the east of Ken Hill. Soils of the area

are likely to be of the Blackwood Association, typical sandy gleys developed on a drift geology of glaciofluvial deposits.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 6.1 The area around Snettisham is archaeologically-rich, with much evidence of Iron Age and Roman occupation and religious activity. A Romano-British temple has been identified, and significant hoards of Iron Age metalwork including a major collection of torcs, have been found. A hoard of Roman jewellery was found and there have been several hoards of Bronze Age metalwork discovered.
- 6.2 Roman artefacts suggestive of settlement have been found a short distance to the southwest, by the A149 bypass, while there are cropmarks of Iron Age and Roman field systems and enclosures a little to the south and southeast of the proposed development site. Post-medieval occupation and metalworking of medieval date has been identified around the bypass, close to where it meets Common Road. A previous investigation about 100m to the east identified probable boundary ditches and banks of post-medieval date, though a scatter of Roman brick/tile was also recovered. An archaeological monitoring exercise between 22-24 Common Road, about 75m southwest of the site, did not reveal any remains, though much rubble was noted and may imply the former presence of structures in the area.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The general aims of the work will be to establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains on site to determine the need, or otherwise, for further archaeological investigations or preservation measures. All investigations will be carried out with attention to the regional research frameworks (Glazebrook 1997; Brown and Glazebrook 2000).
- 7.2 The objectives of the work will be to:
 - 7.2.1 Determine the date of the archaeological remains present on the site.
 - 7.2.2 Determine the likely extent and spatial arrangement of archaeological remains present within the site.
 - 7.2.3 Establish the character of archaeological remains that may be present within the site.
 - 7.2.4 Determine the state of preservation of archaeological remains in the area.
 - 7.2.5 Determine the extent to which the surrounding archaeological remains extend into the site.
 - 7.2.6 Identify the way in which the archaeological remains identified fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

8 TRIAL TRENCHING

- 8.1 <u>Reasoning for this technique</u>
 - 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 5% sample of the development area. This amounts to five trenches each 20m x 1.6m in extent. Following initial breaking out of the concrete car park surface and the mechanical excavation under archaeological supervision of overburden, the trial pits will be hand excavated until natural undisturbed deposits are reached. Should archaeological deposits extend below

1.2m in depth then the sides of the trial pits will be shored, as appropriate.

8.2 <u>General Considerations</u>

- 8.2.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the evaluation. Appropriate tools will be used.
- 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) managed by a Member of the Institute.
- 8.2.3 All work will be carried out in accordance with accordance with *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003) and any revisions of such received up to the acceptance of this specification.
- 8.2.4 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.
- 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. 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.
- 8.2.6 Open trenches will be marked by hazard tape attached to road irons or similar poles. Subject to the consent of the archaeological curator, and following the appropriate recording, the trenches, particularly those of excessive depth, will be backfilled as soon as possible to minimise any health and safety risks.
- 8.2.7 The trenches, 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.
- 8.2.8 Prior to commencement of site operations, Archaeological Project Services will liase with the Norfolk SMR to ensure that the Site Code and Context Numbering system is compatible with the Norfolk SMR.
- 8.2.9 Responsibility for investigation of the site for the possibility of toxin contamination lies with the site owner/developer. Archaeological Project Services will require copies of any such contamination tests prior to commencing the archaeological investigation.

8.3 <u>Methodology</u>

- 8.3.1 Removal of the topsoil and overburden will be undertaken by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under archaeological supervision until the first significant archaeological horizon is reached. Thereafter, the trenches will be cleaned and excavated by hand, using appropriate tools, to enable the identification and analysis of the archaeological features and/or deposits exposed.
- 8.3.2 A metal detector will be used during normal hand excavation in order to maximise artefact retrieval. The spoil heap will also be scanned with a metal detector.
- 8.3.3 Investigation of the features and /or deposits will be undertaken to determine their date, form and function. The work will consist of the half-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, (*i.e.* 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. All context and site numbering used will be compatible with the Norfolk Sites and Monuments Record.
- 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 a larger scale.
- 8.3.6 Throughout the duration of the trial trenching a photographic record consisting of black and white prints (reproduced as contact sheets) and colour slides/digital images 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. The archaeological curator, local environmental health department and, if appropriate, the coroner, police and environmental health officer will be informed. If removal proves necessary, appropriate Ministry of Justice licences will be obtained before excavation of human remains commences.
- 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. All finds work will be carried out to accepted professional standards and the Institute of Field Archaeologists *Guidelines for Finds Work* (1992).
- 8.3.9 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.
- 8.3.10 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.
- 8.3.11 The precise location of the trenches within the site and the location of site recording grid will be established by an EDM survey or tape survey to established features recorded on Ordnance Survey maps, as appropriate.
- 8.3.12 Samples will be taken from all waterlogged feature fills. Otherwise, samples will be taken from primary and secondary fills of ditches and pits, the level of sampling being appropriate to the content of the individual feature. Samples will be retained from approximately 50% of half-sectioned postholes where they form parts of recognizable structures. All sampling will follow the procedures in *Centre for Archaeology Guidelines Environmental Archaeology* (English Heritage 2002).

8.3.13 Representative samples of structural masonry will be retained. The retention of unworked structural stone and plain ashlar will be determined by the number of geological types present. All dressed, inscribed or moulded stone masonry will be retained except where there are logistic, or archaeological considerations, not to do so.

9 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

9.1 If relevant, during the evaluation specialist advice may be obtained from an environmental archaeologist. If necessary, 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 any such specialist's assessment will be incorporated into the final report.

10 **POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT**

- 10.1 <u>Stage 1</u>
 - 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. Digital images will be printed out as thumb-nails and stored on cd.
 - 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.
- 10.2 <u>Stage 2</u>
 - 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 <u>Stage 3</u>
 - 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 to include results of background research into the history and former land-use of the site.
 - Description of the topography and geology of the evaluation area
 - Description of the methodologies used during the evaluation and discussion of their effectiveness in the light of the findings of the investigation.
 - 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 significance of the archaeological remains encountered, in local, regional and national terms.

11 ARCHIVE

- 11.1 The documentation, finds, photographs and other records and materials generated during the evaluation 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 that completion date.
- 11.2 Microfilming of the archive will be carried out. The silver master will be transferred to the RCHME and a diazo copy will be deposited with the Norfolk Sites and Monuments Record.
- 11.3 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.
- 11.4 Upon completion and submission of the evaluation report, the landowner will be contacted to arrange legal transfer of title to the archaeological objects retained during the investigation from themself to the receiving museum. The transfer of title will be effected by a standard letter supplied to the landowner for signature.

12 **REPORT DEPOSITION**

- 12.1 Copies of the evaluation report will be sent to: the client, to Norfolk Landscape Archaeology (3 copies); two copies for Norfolk Historic Environment Record and one for the local planning authority; and the English Heritage Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science.
- 12.2 On completion of the project an OASIS online form will be completed and will be submitted to the Norfolk Historic Environment Record. This will include a .pdf version of the competed evaluation report.

13 **PUBLICATION**

13.1 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.

14 CURATORIAL MONITORING

14.1 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.

15 VARIATIONS TO THE PROPOSED SCHEME OF WORKS

- 15.1 Variations to the scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptability from the archaeological curator.
- 15.2 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.

16 STAFF TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

- 16.1 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 evaluations of this type. Archaeological excavation will be carried out by Archaeological Technicians, experienced in projects of this type.
- 16.2 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: Dr D Knight, Trent and Peak Archaeological Trust/D Trimble, APS						
	Roman: A Boyle, APS, in consultation with B Precious, independent specialist						
	Anglo-Saxon-later: A Boyle, APS						
Other Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist/G Taylor, APS						
Human Remains Analysis	J Kitch, APS						
Animal Remains Analysis	J Kitch, APS						
Environmental Analysis	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy/V Fryer, independent specialist						
Soil Assessment	Dr C French, independent specialist						
Pollen Assessment	P Wiltshire, independent specialist						
Wood Assessment	M Taylor, Soke Archaeological Services Ltd						

Masonry/dressed stone Assessment J Ashbee, independent specialist/P Cope-Faulkner, APS

Radiocarbon dating	Beta Analytic Inc., Florida, USA
Dendrochronology dating	University of Sheffield Dendrochronology Laboratory

17 **PROGRAMME OF WORKS**

17.1 The site works are timetabled to take approximately 5 days, depending on the quantity and complexity of archaeological remains encountered. Post-excavation work is timetabled to take about 10 days, depending on the quantity and complexity of archaeological remains encountered.

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**

Brown, N. and Glazebrook, J. (eds), 2000 *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties*, 2. *Research agenda and strategy*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers **8**

Glazebrook, J (ed), 1997 Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties, 1. resource assessment, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers **3**

Gurney, D, 2003 Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England, ALGAOEE

Specification: Version 1, 17th April 2008

Appendix 2

CONTEXT SUMMARY

Context	Location	Description	Depth/ Height	Interpretation
001	Trench 3	Soft dark brown sandy silt	0.40m	Topsoil
002	Trench 3	Firm mid grey brown clayey sandy silt	0.40m	Subsoil
003	Trench 3	Soft light greyish yellow clayey silt	-	Natural
004	Trench 3	Compacted white sub-angular medium chalk pebbles within a mid brown clayey silt	0.10m	Former path / surface
005	Trench 3	Concave based, broad 2.90m wide, ditch or pit cut present only in section	0.60m	Modern feature
006	Trench 3	Soft mid-yellowish brown sandy silt	0.40m	Intermediary fill of [005]
007	Trench 3	Soft mid-yellowish brown sandy silt	0.27m	Upper fill of [005]
008	Trench 3	Northeast southwest aligned ditch concave based, 2.2m wide. Witness recalls ditch in this location being backfilled during the 1950's	0.90m	Modern ditch cut
009	Trench 3	Soft mid-brown clayey silt	0.90m	Fill of [008]
010	Trench 3	Soft-mid brown clayey sandy silt	0.15m	Lower fill of [005]
011	Trench 1	Friable dark greyish brown sandy silt	0.35m	Topsoil
012	Trench 1	Soft mid-brown sandy silt with rare small rounded stones	0.18m	Subsoil
013	Trench 1	Soft mottled mid-yellow/ light grey silty sand	0.10m	Natural

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Context	Location	Description	Depth/ Height	Interpretation
014	Trench 2	Friable dark greyish brown sandy silt	0.30m	Topsoil
015	Trench 2	Soft mid-brown sandy silt	0.50m	Subsoil
016	Trench 2	Soft mid-brown sandy silt	0.21m	Fill of [017]
017	Trench 2	Southwest- northeast aligned linear concave based plough furrow one of several uniform parallel furrows	0.21m	Plough furrow
018	Trench 2	Soft/ loose dark grey silt	0.27m	Fill of [019]
019	Trench 2	Rectangular square cornered flattish based pit cut, at least 1m wide.	0.27m	Pit cut
020	Trench 2	Soft mid-yellow, mottled light grey silty sand	-	Natural
021	Trench 4	Soft dark brown clayey sandy silt	0.25m	Topsoil
022	Trench 4	Soft mid-greyish brown clayey sandy silt	0.45m	Subsoil
023	Trench 4	Soft light yellow sandy silt	-	Natural
024	Trench 4	nch 4 East west aligned flat based linear, 0.80m wide		Linear cut
025	Trench 4	Soft dark brown clayey sandy silt	0.30m	Fill of [024]
026	Trench 4	East west aligned flat based linear, 2.50m wide. Probable eastward continuation of [008]	0.60m	Modern ditch cut
027	Trench 4	Loose mid-brown clayey silt	0.60m	Fill of [026]
028	Trench 6	East west aligned concave based linear, 1.10m wide	0.20m	Linear cut
029	Trench 6	Firm light grey silty sand	0.20m	Fill of linear [028]
030	Trench 6	Soft mid-brown clayey sand silt	0.20m	Topsoil

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Context	Location	Description	Depth/ Height	Interpretation
031	Trench 6	Soft-mid yellowish brown sandy silt	0.35m	Subsoil
032	Trench 6	Firm mid-yellow silty sand	-	Natural
033	Trench 6	Northeast southwest aligned concave based linear, 1.76m wide	0.42m	Linear cut
034	Trench 6	Loose medium greyish yellowish brown slightly clayey sand	0.18m	Upper fill of [033]
035	Trench 6	Loose medium yellowish greyish brown slightly clayey sand	0.16m	Primary fill of [034]
036	Trench 6	East west aligned irregular based linear, 2m wide	0.40m	Linear cut
037	Trench 6	Soft mid-greyish brown silty sand	0.40m	Fill of [036]
038	Trench 5	Loose dark brown clayey sandy silt	0.30m	Topsoil
039	Trench 5	Firm mid-brown clayey sandy silt	0.22m	Subsoil
040	Trench 5	Loose mid-yellow sand with occasional large angular pebbles	0.08m>	Natural

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Appendix 3

THE FINDS

INTRODUCTION

A small assemblage of artefacts, all ceramic, comprising 17 items weighing a total of 390g, was recovered from 4 separate contexts. These 17 pieces derive from 8 original objects. Items of Roman, medieval and late post-medieval date were recovered. In addition, a few faunal remains were retrieved.

ROMAN POTTERY

By Anne Boyle and Barbara Precious

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by Darling 2004. The assemblage consisted of two sherds from two vessels, weighing 65 grams.

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.

Condition

The average sherd weight is high at 32 grams, although the pottery is in varied condition.

Results

Tr	Cxt	Cname	Full name	Form	Alter	Comments	NoS	NoV	W (g)
6	034	GREY	Grey ware	J		BS	1	1	13
6	037	GYBN	Grey ware with brown	BD	ABR	Base; wheel thrown but finger	1	1	52
			surfaces			pressed; 23cm diam; unusual.			

Table 1, Roman Pottery Archive

Provenance

Both of the Roman sherds come from linear features [033] and [036] in Trench 6 and are

stratified with later pottery.

Range

Both of the Roman vessels are represented by single sherds. Grey ware is common in assemblages from this area, although the example from (037) has brown surfaces, which is unusual.

Potential

The pottery poses no problems for long term storage and should be retained. The pottery requires no further work, although it should be reassessed in light of subsequent investigation at the site.

Summary

Two sherds of Roman pottery, dating to the 2^{nd} to 4^{th} centuries, were recovered from the site. The presence of this material indicates activity in the vicinity during the Roman period.

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. The pottery codenames (Cname) are in accordance with the Post Roman pottery type series for Lincolnshire, as published in Young *et al.* 2005. Thirteen sherds from four vessels, weighing 60 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 2. The pottery ranges in date from the Early Medieval to the Early Modern period.

Condition

The Early Medieval pottery is highly fragmented and burnt, whilst the Post Medieval and

Early Modern material is in fresh condition. The average sherd weight is five grams.

Results

Tr	Cxt	Cname	Full name	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Part	Description
3	006	CREA	Creamware	Small	1	1	1	BS	
				hollow					
4	022	GRIMT	Grimston type	?	1	1	10	Base	
			ware						
4	027	SWSG	Staffordshire White	Small	1	1	18	Rim	Worn inner rim edge
			Saltglazed	dish/ bowl					
			stoneware						
6	034	EMHM	Early Medieval	Jar/ bowl	1	1	8	Base	Soot including over break; fe
			Handmade ware						concretion; same vessel as
									(037)?
6	037	EMHM	Early Medieval	Jar/ bowl	10	1	33	Base +	Same vessel as (034)?
			Handmade ware					BS	

Table 2, Post Roman Pottery Archive

Provenance

Pottery was recovered from five contexts in three trenches.

Range

Recent pottery came from features in Trench 3 and 4; Early Modern Creamware from (006) and an 18th century Staffordshire White Salt-glazed vessel from (027). A single medieval sherd came from Trench 4. In Trench 6, Early Medieval pottery was associated with linear features [033] and [036]. It is possible that the Early Medieval Handmade ware (EMHM) sherds from these features came from the same vessel, suggesting the material has been redeposited at some stage.

Potential

The assemblage poses no problems for long term storage and should be retained. The pottery should be reassessed in light of further work at the site.

Summary

The small assemblage of pottery suggests activity occurring in the vicinity during the 12^{th} to mid 13^{th} century, as well as in the 18^{th} and 19^{th} centuries. The limited nature of the assemblage makes further interpretation difficult, although it is likely the pottery is linked to domestic activity.

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). A single fragment of ceramic building material, weighing 255 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 3.

Condition

The single fragment of brick is abraded.

Results

Table 3, Ceramic Building Material Archive

Cxt	Cname	Full name	Fabric	NoF	W (g)	Description	Date
034	RBRK	Roman brick	Oxidised fine sandy + light firing streaks + flint + ca	1	255	Abraded; possibly tegula	Roman

Provenance

A single fragment of ceramic building material came from linear [034] in Trench 6.

Range

The brick or tegula fragment dates to the Roman period.

Potential

The fragment should be retained; no further work is required.

Summary

A single fragment of Roman brick/tile was recovered from the site.

FAUNAL REMAINS

By Paul Cope-Faulkner

Introduction

A total of 6 (313g) fragments of faunal remains were recovered from stratified contexts.

Provenance

All the faunal remains were recovered from ditch fills.

Condition

The overall condition of the remains was good to moderate.

Results

Table 4, Fragments Identified to Taxa

Cxt	Taxon	Element	Side	Number	W (g)	Comments
027	oyster	shell		2	74	
034	cattle	mandible		4(link)	239	Contains very worn molar tooth

SPOT DATING

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

Table 5, Spot dates

Tr	Cxt	Date	Comments
3	006	Late 18th to 19th	Date on a single sherd
4	022	13 th to 15 th	Date on a single sherd
4	027	18 th	Date on a single sherd
6	034	12 th to mid 13 th	Includes Roman residual
6	037	12 th to mid 13 th	Includes Roman residual

ABBREVIATIONS

ACBMG Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group

BD Bowl/dish

BS	Body sherd
CBM	Ceramic Building Material
CXT	Context
J	Jar
NoF	Number of Fragments
NoS	Number of sherds
NoV	Number of vessels
TR	Trench
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>
- Darling, M. J., 2004, 'Guidelines for the Archiving of Roman Pottery', *Journal of Roman Pottery Studies* 11, 67-74
- Slowikowski, A. M., Nenk, 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, A.G. 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, *e.g.*(004).
- **Cut** A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, *etc*. Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
- **Fill** Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) 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.
- **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.
- **Romano-British** Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

Appendix 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 40 Context records
- 11 Sheets containing scale drawings (plans and sections)
- 2 Photographic record sheets
- 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.

Norfolk Historic Environment Record Site Number: 51519

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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