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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION  
AT 37 WEST END ROAD,  
MAXEY,  
PETERBOROUGH  
(MWER 09)**

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**Work Undertaken For  
Mr. Warren Garford**

June 2009

Report Compiled by  
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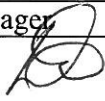
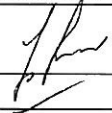
APS Report No: **62/09**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
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Maxey, Peterborough  
(MWER 09)**

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## 1. SUMMARY

*An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at 37 West End Road, Maxey, Peterborough. This was in order to determine the archaeological implications of proposed development at the site.*

*The site is located in an area rich in archaeological remains dating from the Neolithic to the present day.*

*The evaluation identified Late-Saxon occupation and medieval settlement.*

*Evidence of Late-Saxon activity was sparse, consisting of a large pit containing pottery and animal bone.*

*Medieval settlement was characterised by ridge and furrow cultivation recorded at the north of the site running south to meet an east-west aligned headland. To the south of this headland a medieval ditch and possible pit were identified along with a ditch and sub-circular feature that probably date to the same period.*

*The same headland was identified c. 250m to the west of the site (Hickling 2005), demarcating arable land from medieval properties fronting onto West End Road. It is suggested that a similar morphology of settlement may occur at the development site.*

## 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 1999).*

### 2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr. Warren Garford to undertake a programme of archaeological investigation in advance of proposed development at 37 West End Road, Maxey, Peterborough, as detailed in Planning Application 09/00242/DISCHG. The evaluation was carried out on the 9<sup>th</sup> of April 2009, 12<sup>th</sup> of May 2009, 14<sup>th</sup> of May 2009 and the 19<sup>th</sup> of May 2009 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the Peterborough City Archaeologist.

### 2.3 Topography and Geology

Maxey is located 3km southwest of Market Deeping and 8km northwest of the centre of Peterborough (Fig. 1).

The site is located at the northern edge of the modern village, on the north side of West End Road, at National Grid Reference TL 1282 0831 (Fig. 2). The site lies immediately east of Wisteria Farm, 550m south of Maxey Castle and 800m northeast of the medieval parish, occupying generally flat and even topography.

Maxey is situated on river terrace gravels overlying Kelleways clays. The lower fringes of 'Maxey Island' are covered by alluvial clays (BGS 1984).

### 2.4 Archaeological Setting

The gravel terraces of the Welland valley have been a focus for settlement since at least the Neolithic period. The area of

terrace gravels between the villages of Maxey and Etton exhibit an abundance of prehistoric and Roman sites and monuments. Excavation in the Maxey area by Dr. F. Pryor and Dr. C. French since 1979 have revealed, for example, a waterlogged Neolithic causewayed enclosure (Pryor *et al.* 1985), five late Neolithic henge monuments, two Neolithic cursus monuments, numerous Bronze Age barrows and various types of Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age and Romano-British settlements (French 1990; Pryor & French 1985).

Although the remains of the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods represent, for the most part, funereal and ceremonial practices associated with the construction and use of monuments, the agricultural productivity of the land is attested to in the Iron Age. The excavation of an Iron Age settlement within the parish has recorded roundhouses associated with pits, four-post structures and other features indicative of agriculture practice (Pryor *et al.* 1985). An early Iron Age settlement was also uncovered towards the eastern edge of the parish during excavations in advance of the Market Deeping bypass (Trimble 2000).

A Middle Saxon settlement located on the west side of the modern village of Maxey was excavated during the 1960's (Addyman 1964) and lies approximately 500m west of the proposed development site. A number of post built rectangular buildings were recorded along with pits, ditches and other ancillary structures.

Extensive deposits of Saxo-Norman 11<sup>th</sup> century pottery were found in Stepping Lane, approximately 130m south of the development, in 1962 by W G Simpson on behalf of the Welland Valley Research Committee. To the south of Stepping Lane in an area centred on TF 1300 0824 is a small new housing complex erected in

1962, which is probably the site of the above pottery finds (Addyman 1964).

More recently, archaeological investigations at 19 West End Road c. 250m west of the proposed development, recorded evidence of occupation and development of the village from the early 12<sup>th</sup> century, including boundaries defining the rear plots of properties fronting onto West End Road and High Street, a limestone-lined step well, six structures (including the extant dwelling at No. 19) and quarry pits for gravel extraction (Hickling 2005) (HER 51324 & HER 51411) (Fig 2). Five distinct phases of activity were identified during the investigation. The earliest (1100-1200) comprised a timber-framed and earth-fast structure, two boundary ditches aligned north-south and east-west defining the east side and rear of a tenement plot respectively, and quarry pits towards the rear of the plot. The second phase (1200-1450) included two stone built structures, the limestone lined well, a number of ditches re-defining the rear of the plot(s) and several more quarry pits. Phase 3 (1450-1550) saw the well fall into disuse, the boundary ditches re-defined again and a few quarry pits located north of the rear boundary of the plot. Phase 4 (1550-1700) included the extant building (Grade II Listed) a ditch and two quarry pits. Phase 5 (1700+) consisted of a post-hole, ditches and pits. It is suggested that the West End formed one of the foci of settlement in the area during the medieval period (Hickling 2005). Land to the rear of the investigated area appears to have been arable. The field to the north of the evaluation area contained ridge and furrow which would probably have originally extended south into the development area, as suggested by the presence of an east-west aligned headland (mound) on the same orientation as several medieval ditches representing the rear of the street front plots.

Excavations in the Castle End area, approximately 150m north and slightly west of the site, also recovered evidence of medieval occupation organised along the present street pattern (Hickling 2003 & 2005) (HER 51372 & HER 51250) (Fig 2). The earliest features dated from the 10th to mid 12th century and consisted of pits, post holes and small ditches, which related to activities within the backyards of properties along Castle End Road (an area focused on a large medieval moated site). Increased activity and possible changes in property alignments were noted between 1150 and 1350. The settlement appeared to have declined between c.1350-1450. A large quarry or water hole and possible stone-lined drain were also recorded, together with later medieval stone buildings and a hearth. The ceramic assemblage associated with the site included Stamford Ware, Bourne fabrics, and Black Glazed wares, which suggest occupation from the Late Saxon period to the early post-medieval period. One sherd of Roman greyware was also recovered.

### 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 the Peterborough City Archaeologist to formulate a policy for the management of archaeological resources present on the site.

### 4. METHODS

In addition to a program of trial trenching, a survey of the area, in order to record the surviving remnants of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation, and an east to west aligned linear earthwork, was undertaken using a Thales Z-Max survey grade

differential GPS. The ridge and furrow was mapped using readings taken at intervals along the highest part of ridges and the lowest part of furrows. The east-west aligned earthwork was surveyed in the same fashion, using readings taken along its zenith and the lowest part of its slopes on either side.

The program of trial trenching included two test pits and four trenches (Fig 3) which were excavated to the surface of the underlying natural geology. Trench 1 was located within the area of the proposed dwelling. Trenches 2-4 were located along the route of the proposed driveway (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.

Trenches were then assessed by Archaeological Project Services and Peterborough City Council Historic Environment Manager Ben Robinson, in the presence of the client, Mr. Warren Garford. The decision to extend trenches 1 and 3 was made based upon the already exposed archaeology and recovered finds. An area of Trench 1 was extended to the south (Fig 3) in order to expose the full extent of a circular feature which had previously been recorded in both section and plan and had produced Late Saxon pottery. An area near the centre of Trench 3 was extended to the north (Fig 3) in order to more fully expose a north-west to south-east aligned ditch and increase the chance of recovering dateable material from its fill. The extension exposed two more features and was successful in facilitating the recovery of dateable material from the known ditch.

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 their interpretations 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 using a Thales Z-Max differential GPS and fixed in relation to existing boundaries and 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 investigations are discussed below and contexts are described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

### *Ridge and Furrow survey*

Subtle remains of ridge and furrow cultivation were identified in the north of the site running south towards an east to west aligned earthwork (Plate 3). These were recorded using a differential GPS and the results appear on Fig 3. The client explained that the ridge and furrow was at one time far more pronounced and that an effort to level the land by infilling the furrows had been made in recent history.

### **Test Pit 1 (Fig 6, Section 1) (Plate 2)**

The earliest deposit encountered within Test Pit 1 was a loose yellowish brown

layer of naturally deposited gravel (004) c. 0.75m below the current ground surface.

Deposit (004) was overlain by a layer of loose yellowish brown gravel and clayey silt (003) with an average thickness of 0.18m.

Sealing natural layer (004) was a 0.40m thick, firm greyish brown silty clay (002) subsoil, with occasional rounded and sub-angular pebbles.

The subsoil (002) was overlain by a 0.20m thick deposit of firm yet friable, mid grey silty clay topsoil (001), containing occasional rounded and sub-angular pebbles.

### **Test Pit 2 (Fig 6, Section 2)**

The earliest deposit recorded in Test Pit 2 was a subsoil consisting of firm mottled greyish brown and yellowish brown silty clay (006), at least 0.62m thick.

Subsoil layer (006) was overlain by a firm yet friable mid brownish grey clayey silt (005) topsoil, averaging approximately 0.30m in thickness and containing occasional rounded and sub-angular pebbles.

### **Trench 1**

The earliest deposit encountered within this trench was a loose, light yellowish grey naturally deposited sandy gravel (104) (Plate 4).

A 0.22m wide x 0.20m long x 0.20m deep sub-circular cut [113] with straight, near vertical sides, breaking sharply to a flat base was observed cutting through (104) (Fig 6, Section 5). This cut [113] was filled with a firm mid yellowish grey stoney silt (114) containing frequent small gravel.

Overlying deposit (104) was a 0.21m thick layer of naturally deposited loose and friable mid reddish grey silty gravel (103),



containing frequent small, rounded and angular stones (Fig 6, Section 4) (Plate 5).

Sealing deposit (103) was a 0.57m thick layer of firm mid yellowish grey silty clay subsoil (102), containing occasional small angular pebbles (Fig 6, Section 4) (Plate 5).

Cut through subsoil (102) in the western end of Trench 1 was a circular cut [106] which was visible in plan and section. The top of this cut measured 2.18m in width and broke sharply to fairly straight sides angled at approximately 45 degrees, before becoming straight and nearly vertical. The sides broke gradually to a slightly concave fairly flat base (Figs 6 & 7, Sections 4 & 11) (Plates 5 & 6). This feature was partially exposed in the trench and recorded as Section 4 (Plate 5) before the trench was extended to reveal its full extent (Fig 4). After the trench was extended a second section (Section 11) (Plate 6) was drawn which recorded a number of additional fills.

The earliest fill contained within pit [106] was composed of firm mid grey silty clay (118) with rusty red patches and occasional charcoal flecks and gravel. This was followed by a 0.44m thick, soft mid greyish brown clay (117), which contained occasional shell and charcoal fragments, along with two fragments of cattle bone. Overlying the clay (117) was a 0.22m thick, firm, mid greyish brown silty clay with orange mottling (116). Fill (116) was overlain by 0.34m thick, soft light greyish brown clay (115) with frequent gravel and occasional shell fragments. Deposit (115) was sealed by two separate fills which had no stratigraphic relationship with each other. The first of these was a soft and somewhat plastic, mid yellowish grey clayey silt (107), at least 0.48m thick, containing occasional small gravel inclusions, a fragment of animal bone from a large mammal and a Bronze Age flint

waste flake. The second (108) had the same description with a thickness of 0.55m. These two deposits (107)/108) were overlain by a soft yet somewhat friable dark grey clayey silt (109), at least 1m thick, containing occasional small gravel and frequent animal bone. A total of ten pieces of animal bone were recovered from this deposit, eight of these were from large mammals and two were pig. Two sherds of early to mid 11<sup>th</sup> century Early Stamford ware were also retrieved from this deposit. Deposit (109) was followed by a firm yet slightly plastic, 0.55m thick, light to mid yellowish brown silty clay (110) with occasional small gravel. This was the latest fill of feature [106]. When the trench was extended in order to record the full extent of this feature, a percentage of its fills were machined away. A total of 26 fragments of animal bone were recovered (from the pit fills) during this machining. All the bone came from large mammals with the exception of one fragment of sheep/goat bone.

Cut into [106] and only observed in the trench edge, was a 0.85m wide x 0.34m deep cut [111] with moderately steep concave sides breaking sharply to a shallow and concave base (Fig 6, Section 4) (Plate 5). This feature was filled with a firm dark reddish grey silty clay (112), with frequent charcoal flecks.

This feature [111] was overlain by the latest deposit recorded in Trench 1, a 0.52m thick firm mid brownish grey silty clay topsoil (101) with occasional angular pebbles (Fig 6, Section 4) (Plate 5).

### ***Trench 2***

A loose to soft, mid orange clayey gravel (203), at least 0.19m thick was identified as the natural in Trench 2 (Figure 8, Section 8) (Plates 7 & 8).

The natural clayey gravel (203) was sealed by a 0.63m thick, firm mid yellowish

brown silty clay subsoil (202), containing occasional chalk and charcoal flecks (Fig 8, Section 8) (Plate 8).

A 0.30m thick layer of firm dark grey silty clay topsoil (201) overlay the subsoil in Trench 2 (Fig 8, Section 8) (Plate 8).

### **Trench 3**

The earliest deposit recorded in Trench 3 was a loose, naturally deposited, light grey gravel (304) with dark patches (Figs 7 & 8, Sections 6 & 9) (Plate 9).

This was sealed by a second natural deposit consisting of firm to loose mid orange clayey gravel (303), 0.30m thick and containing a number of darker patches (Figs 7 & 8, Sections 6 & 9) (Plate 9).

Overlying natural deposit (303) was a firm mid greyish reddish brown clayey sand (302) subsoil, 0.35m thick, containing occasional charcoal and chalk flecks (Figs 7 & 8, Sections 6 & 9) (Plate 9).

Four features were observed cutting through subsoil layer (302) in Trench 3. Towards the eastern edge of the trench a 4.40m wide cut [313], with fairly steep sides (one near vertical) was recorded, although not bottomed (Fig 7, Section 6) (Plate 9). Two fills were identified within this feature. The earliest of these was a firm, mid to dark olive brown sandy clay (315) with occasional burnt stone and large pieces of sand stone. A single sherd of 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century Stanion/Lyveden ware was recovered from this deposit. The second fill overlay deposit (315) and consisted of firm dark greyish brown sandy clay (314) at least 0.49m thick, with occasional pebbles, charcoal flecks and frequent chalk fragments. A sherd of late 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century Peterborough Shelly Ware was retrieved from this fill.

Towards the central area of the trench, a north-west to south-east aligned linear cut

[305], with steep concave sides, breaking gradually to a fairly flat slightly concave base, was observed extending through the width of the Trench 3 (Figs 4 & 7, Section 6) (Plates 9 & 10). The curator requested that the trench should be extended northwards in order to expose more of this ditch. As a result two more features were discovered (ditch [307] and sub-circular feature [309]) and ditch [305] was observed intersecting with feature [309] in the extended area of excavation (Fig 4) (Plate 10). Ditch cut [305] was 0.40m wide x 0.39m deep, aligned northwest-southeast and was filled with a firm mid yellowish grey silty clay (306) with occasional small gravel. Deposit (306) contained a fragment of Early or Mid Saxon Ware generic pottery dating from the 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> century, two sherds of 10<sup>th</sup> to early 11<sup>th</sup> century Early Stamford Ware, six sherds of early to mid 11<sup>th</sup> century Stamford Ware and four sherds of 12<sup>th</sup> century Stamford Ware. A single fragment of unidentified animal bone was also recovered from this deposit.

Ditch [307] was also observed intersecting with [309] in the extended area of the trench (Fig 4) (Plate 10). The feature was at least 1.03m long x 0.44m wide, with a concave base and was filled with a firm mid yellowish grey silty clay (308) with occasional small gravel.

Feature [309] had a sub-circular shape in plan and a diameter of at least 1.89m (Fig 4) (Plate 10).. This feature was filled with a firm mid yellowish grey silty clay (310) with occasional small gravel which contained a single sherd of 11<sup>th</sup> century Stamford Ware and single piece of cattle bone.

These four features were overlain by a 0.30m thick, firm to hard, dark grey silty clay topsoil (301) (Figs 7 & 8, Sections 6 & 9) (Plate 9).

In the eastern end of the trench a 3.20m

wide x 0.52m deep feature [311], with shallow concave sides breaking gradually to a concave base, was recorded in section, cut into topsoil deposit (301) (Fig 7, Section 6) (Plate 9). This feature was filled with a hard dark greyish brown slightly sandy clay (312) which contained a single fragment of sheep/goat bone.

#### **Trench 4**

The earliest deposit observed in Trench 4 was a loose, light grey, naturally deposited gravel (403), which had a number of patches of darker gravel within it (Fig 8, Section 10) (Plates 11 & 12).

This natural gravel (403) was overlain by a firm mid brownish orange clayey sand subsoil (402), 0.19m thick (Fig 8, Section 10) (Plate 12).

The subsoil layer (403) was sealed by a hard, dark grey, sandy clay topsoil (401) containing frequent stones, chalk and charcoal flecks. This deposit had a thickness of 0.57m. (Fig 8, Section 10) (Plate 12).

## **6. DISCUSSION**

Natural deposits comprise sandy and clayey gravels which represent the underlying river terrace geology of the area.

These natural deposits were overlain by firm greyish brown and yellowish brown clayey subsoil deposits.

Late Saxon and medieval phases of occupation were identified during the investigation. In both cases the features representing these phases were observed cutting through the subsoil.

The earliest phase of activity was identified in Trench 1 where a large pit produced pottery dating from the early to

mid 11<sup>th</sup> century. It should be noted that the Late Saxon pottery was recovered from one of the upper fills of this pit, and so the feature itself may in fact be of greater antiquity than the recovered pottery. The feature also contained a significant amount of animal bone representing cattle and horse, with pig also present. It also appears that the top of this feature was re-cut at some point. Evidence of Middle Saxon occupation occurs 500m to the west of the site. Work at the Hamlet of Castle End (Hickling 2005), 200m to the north-east records settlement beginning at (900-1150), while Saxo-Norman pottery has been found c. 130m to the south. This taken into consideration with the Late Saxon remains at the investigation site suggests significant continuity of settlement in the area.

The second phase of occupation at the site was recognised in Trench 3, where a number of features were identified, including two ditches, a sub-circular feature and a large possible pit. The large pit like feature was only partially exposed and contained pottery dating from the 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century. A northwest-southeast aligned ditch contained 12<sup>th</sup> century pottery and intersected with a sub-circular feature which contained no dateable material. Although no stratigraphic relationship could be identified between these two features due to the similarity of their fills, the lack of relationship and identical fills raise the possibility that they may have been contemporary. The second ditch identified in this trench also intersected with the sub-circular feature and once again no stratigraphic relationship could be ascertained for the same reasons. Again, although no material was recovered from the ditch or the sub-circular feature, the similarity of the fills to the ditch containing 12<sup>th</sup> century pottery, along with the fact that no relationship can be observed between them raises the possibility at least, that these features date

to the same period as the 12<sup>th</sup> century ditch and may have been open at the same time.

Medieval ridge and furrow cultivation was identified in the northern part of the site; aligned north-south and extending south towards an east-west aligned earthwork (Fig 3). This earthwork is probably a headland which the ridge and furrow would have extended south to meet. This is almost certainly the same east-west aligned ridge which was identified 250m to the west (Hickling 2006) at 19 West End Road, where it was also interpreted as a headland, with ridge and furrow to the north. The headland at 19 West End Road was on the same orientation as several medieval ditches representing the rear of medieval street front plots. It could well be that a similar morphology of settlement is occurring at the investigation site with arable land to the north of the headland, and medieval settlement to the south along the frontage of West End Road, as the medieval remains from Trench 3 are located just to the south of the headland. The work at 19 West End Road showed intense domestic occupation at the street front. The location of trenches at the investigation site makes comparisons to the 2006 investigation problematic as Trench 3 is located so close to the headland. The only trench located significantly south of the headland is Trench 4, and although it produced no medieval remains, it may be that much of this area has been truncated, as evidenced by the absence of a subsoil layer in this trench.

The pottery recovered from the recent work in the neighbouring hamlet of Castle End (Hickling 2005) as well as at West End (Hickling 2006), showed intense activity in the period 1150-1350 followed by a decline until the period 1450-1650. Although the assemblage from the investigation area is very small, the pottery recovered from south of the headland (with

the exception of a single sherd dated to the 11<sup>th</sup> century) dates from the 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century, suggesting that further work in the area might confirm the same pattern of decline in settlement as seen elsewhere in the area.

The largest category of finds recovered from the site comprised animal bone, of which the majority was recovered from the Late Saxon pit. Although the assemblage is of a relatively small size, there is a notable difference in species proportion recovered from this site and that excavated to the west by Addyman (Seddon *et. al* 1964) which produced greater numbers of sheep, pig and bird and lesser large mammal bones. Although the Addyman site is Middle Saxon in date its assemblage of bone is perhaps indicative of a more intensive kind of domestic occupation, rather than differences in diet. This raises the possibility that the Late Saxon assemblage from the investigation site might represent less intensive use of the land, perhaps as pastureland for cattle and horse linked with the more intensive Late Saxon occupation seen at Castle End. If this was the case, the large Late Saxon pit may represent the remains of a watering hole.

The only other feature of note was a modern fire pit cut into the topsoil. This apparently represents the remains of the village's recent Guy Fawkes celebrations which have now moved to another location.

A single unstratified sherd of Roman greyware was recovered during the investigation.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at 37 West End Road, Maxey, as the site lay in an area of known

archaeological remains dating from the Neolithic to the present day.

The investigation revealed evidence of Late Saxon and medieval occupation. Late Saxon remains were characterised by a large pit containing pottery and cattle and horse bone. It is suggested that the Late Saxon remains are possibly linked to settlement in the Castle End area.

Medieval settlement was defined by a ditch and a large feature of unknown shape, possibly a pit. Another ditch and a sub-circular feature are possibly from the same period, but contain no dateable material. Medieval ridge and furrow cultivation at the north of the site extends south towards an east-west aligned headland. This same headland was identified during a previous investigation c. 250m to the west of the development area, where it demarcated arable land to the north and settlement to the south, defined by boundary ditches representing the rear of medieval properties fronting onto West End Road. Medieval remains at the investigation site were also identified south of this headland suggesting that a similar morphology of settlement may occur at the site. A trench placed south of the headland did not reveal any archaeological remains; however, it may be that the area has been truncated, as the subsoil deposit which features were cut into did not occur in this trench.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr Warren Garford for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Dale Trimble who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Ben Robinson, the Peterborough City Archaeologist, kindly provided background information. Dave Start

allowed access to the library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

## 9. PERSONNEL

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## **11. ABBREVIATIONS**

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

.



Figure 1 General location map

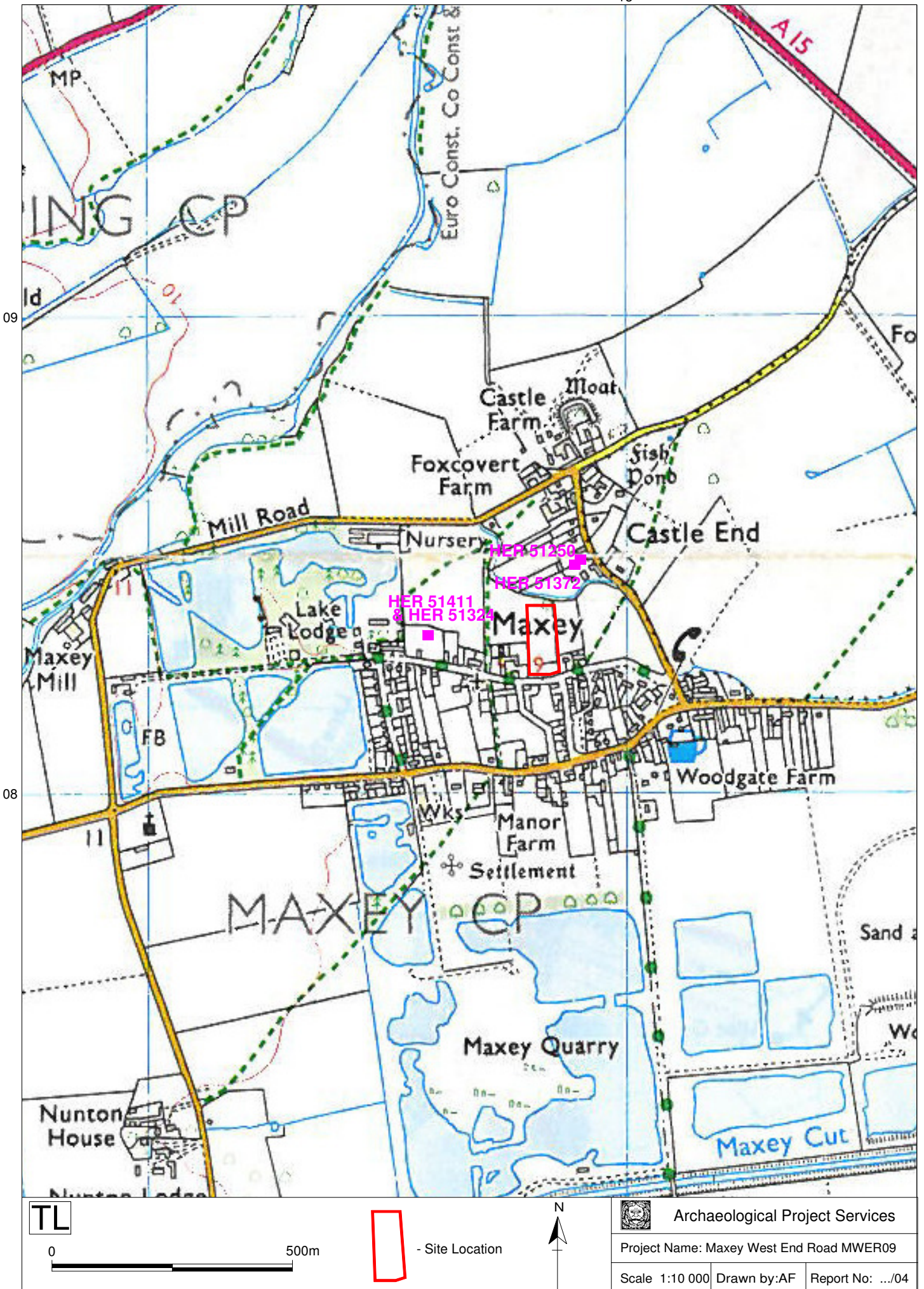



Figure 2 Site location





Figure 3 - Site plan showing trench locations and ridge and furrow survey

 <b>Archaeological Project Services</b>		
Project Name: Maxey West End Road MWER09		
Scale 1:750	Drawn by:AF	Report No: 62/09

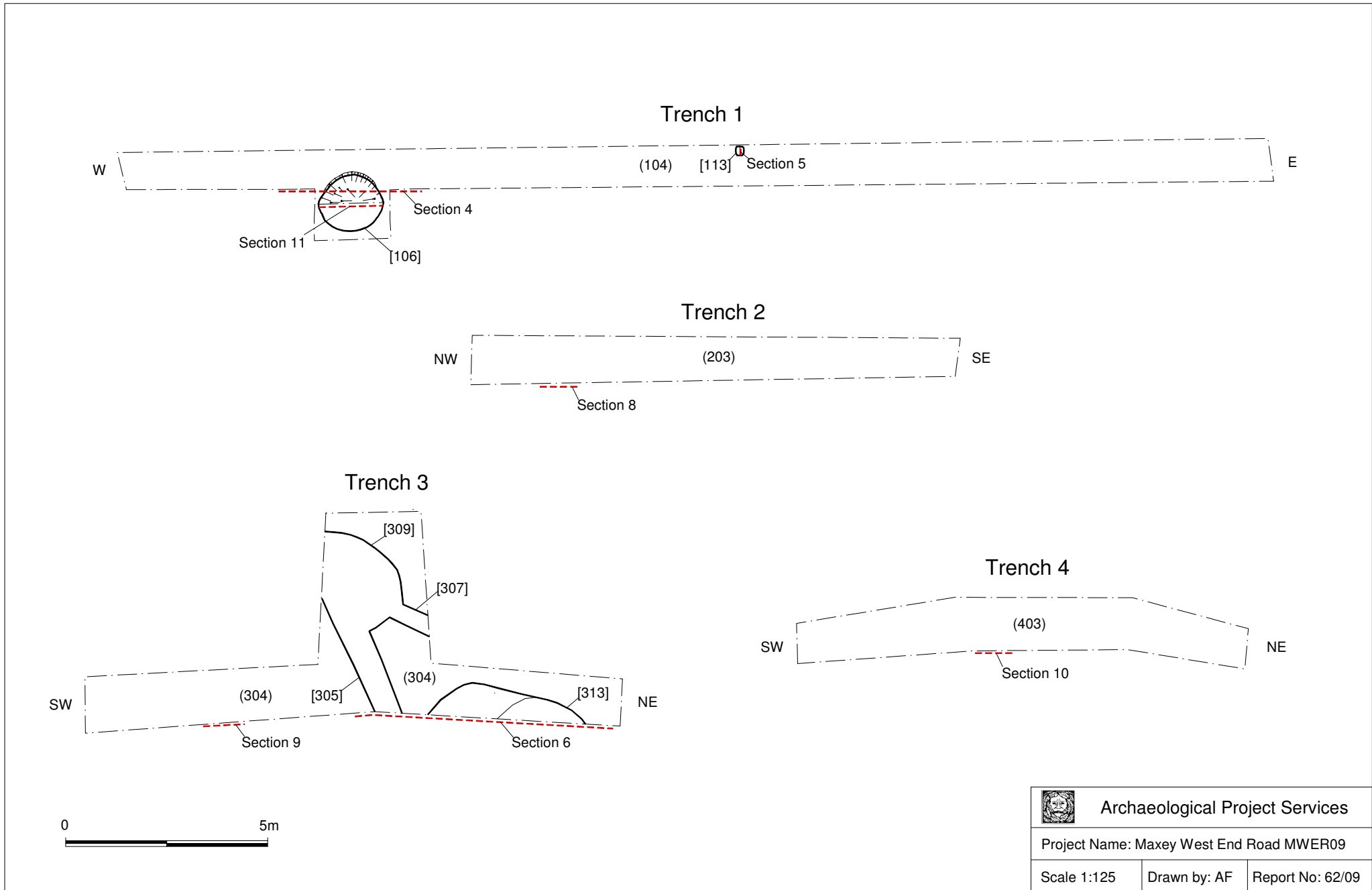
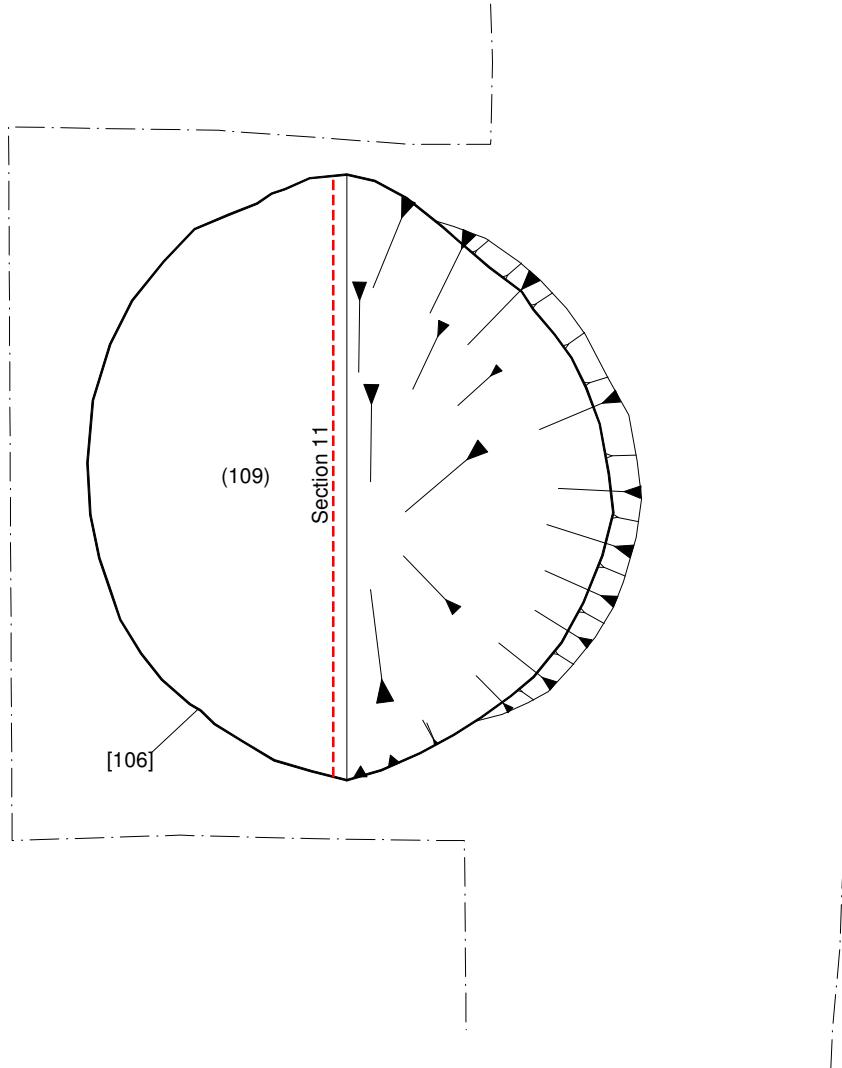


Figure 4 - Trench plans




	Archaeological Project Services	
Project Name: Maxey West End Road MWER09		
Scale 1:20	Drawn by:AF	Report No: 62/09

Figure 5 - Plan of pit [106]

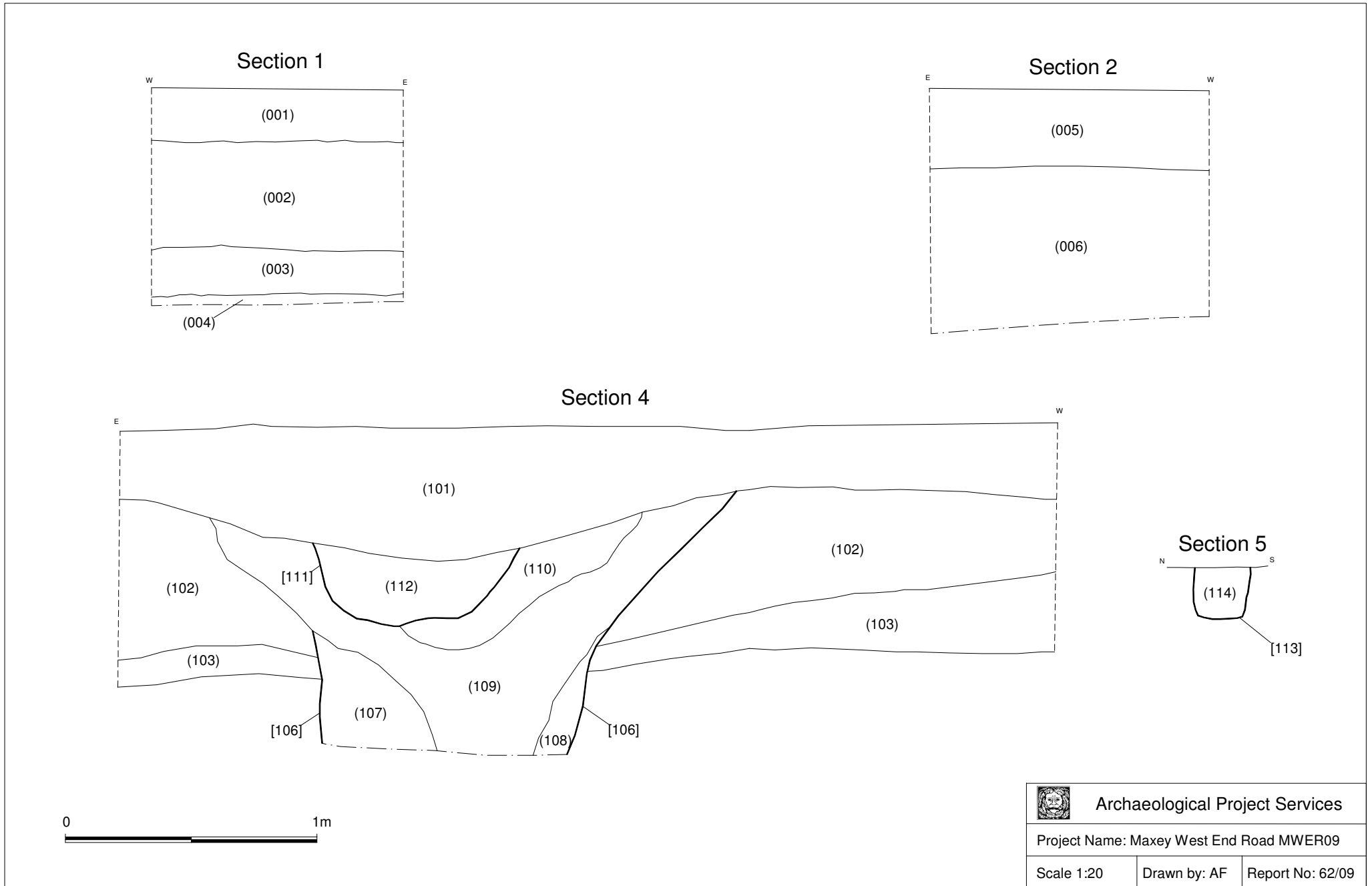


Figure 6 - Sections 1, 2, 4 and 5

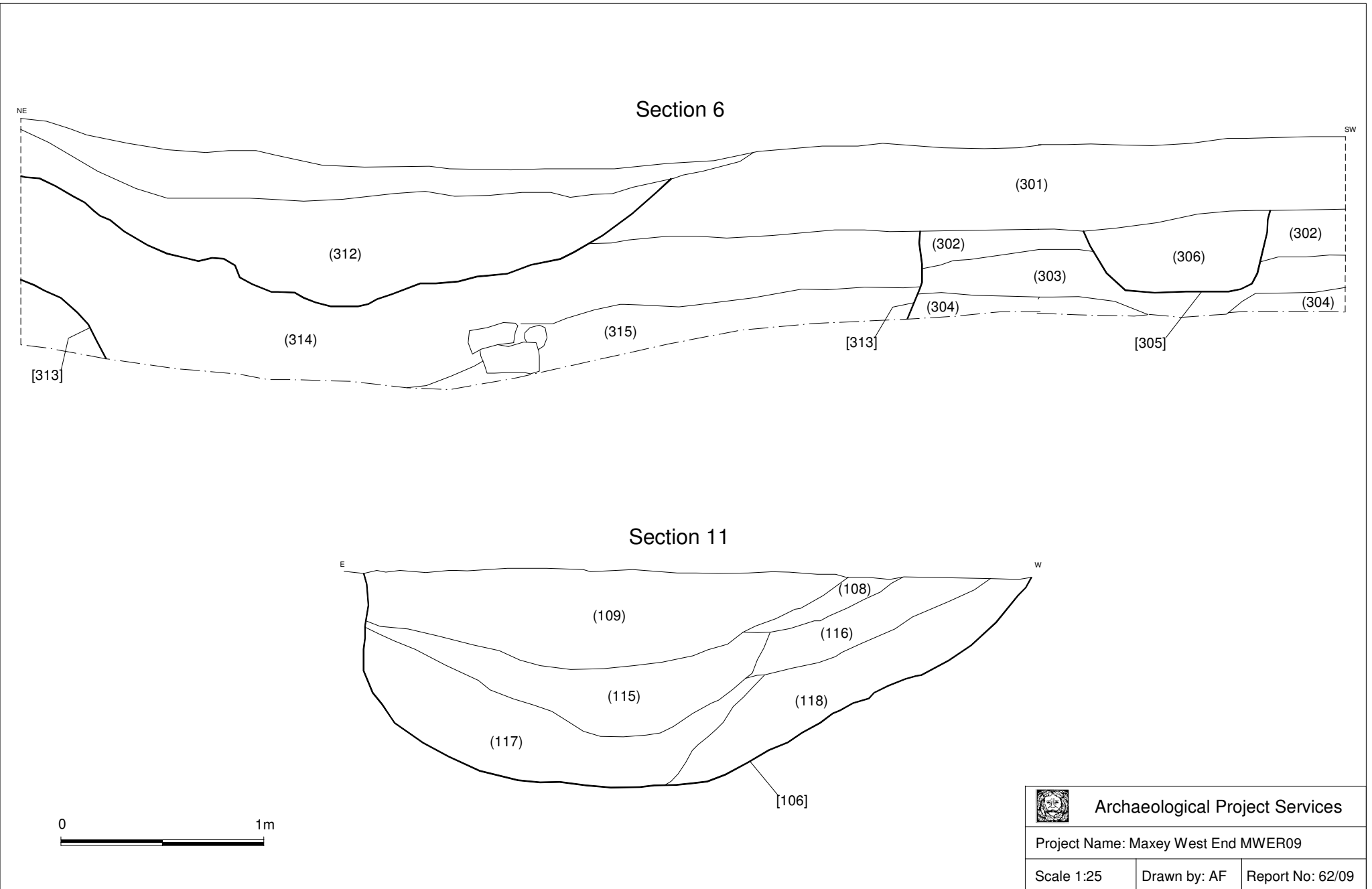
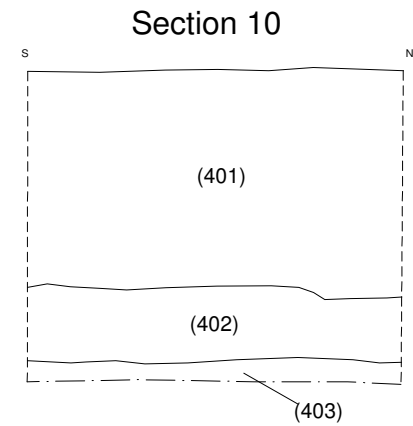
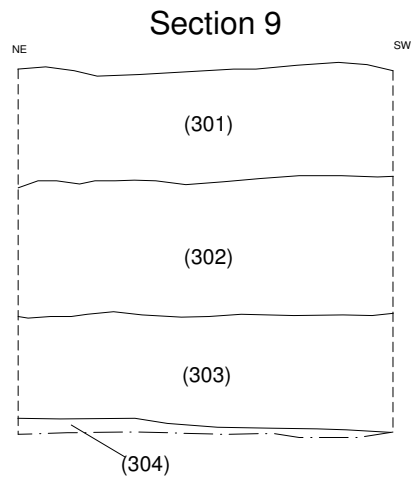
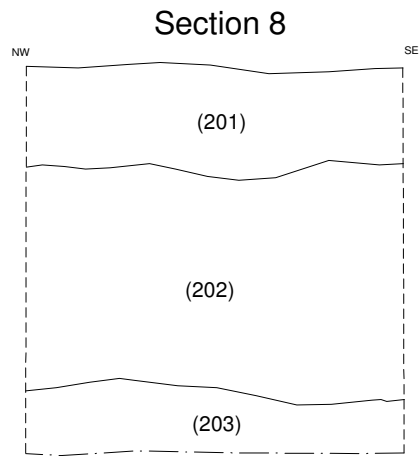


Figure 7 - Sections 6 and 11




 <b>Archaeological Project Services</b>		
Project Name: Maxey West end Road MWER09		
Scale 1:20	Drawn by: AF	Report No: 62/09

Figure 8 - Sections 8, 9 and 10



Plate 1 – General view of site looking north



Plate 2 – Test Pit 1, Section 1



Plate 3 – General view of site looking south, showing subtle ridge and furrow remains



Plate 4 – Trench 1 plan





Plate 5 – Pit [106], Section 4



Plate 6 – Pit [106], post-excavation after extension of trench



Plate 7 – Trench 2 plan



Plate 8 – Section 8



Plate 9 – Section 6



Plate 10 – Trench 3 extension showing [305], [307] and [309]



Plate 11 – Trench 4 plan



Plate 12 – Section 10

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# **APPENDIX 1**

**LAND AT  
37 WEST END ROAD, MAXEY  
PETERBOROUGH**

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**SPECIFICATION FOR  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING &  
RECORDING  
AND EARTHWORK SURVEY**

**PREPARED FOR  
MR W GARFORD**

**APRIL 2009**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
SERVICES**



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## 1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *Archaeological monitoring and recording is required during development at 37 West End Road, Maxey, Peterborough.*
- 1.2 *The area is archaeologically sensitive, lying close to the core of the medieval village and within an area where important Anglo-Saxon and prehistoric deposits have previously been excavated.*
- 1.3 *As a condition of the planning permission groundworks will be monitored and a record made of any archaeological features exposed. In advance of the groundworks a record will be made of surviving ridge and furrow earthworks within the development area.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the investigation. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

## 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording to be undertaken during excavations for construction of a bungalow at 37 West End Road, Maxey, Peterborough. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 1282 0831.
- 2.2 This document contains the following parts:
  - 2.2.1 Overview.
  - 2.2.2 Stages of work and methodologies.
  - 2.2.3 List of specialists.
  - 2.2.4 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

## 3 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 Maxey is located approximately 8km northwest of Peterborough and 3km southwest of Market Deeping. The proposed area of development lies towards the northern edge of the modern village, on the north side of West End Road immediately east of Wisteria Farm, 550m south of Maxey Castle and around 800m northeast of the medieval parish

#### 4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Planning permission (Application No 09/00242/DISCHG) has been granted subject to a condition requiring the submission of a Written Scheme of Archaeological Investigation to the local authority to be approved in writing in advance of the commencement of groundworks at the site. In this instance an 'enhanced archaeological watching brief' is required during which all groundworks are monitored and all revealed archaeological deposits are recorded. In order to assess the depth and character of archaeological remains at the site a programme of controlled stripping of topsoil/overburden will be undertaken in advance of bulk stripping of impacted areas. It is also required that medieval ridge and furrow earthworks within the application area of recorded prior to any excavation at the site.

#### 5 TOPOGRAPHY & GEOLOGY

- 5.1 Maxey is situated on river terrace gravels overlaying Kellaways clays. The lower fringes of 'Maxey Island' are covered by alluvial clays. The site occupies generally flat and even topography.

#### 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 6.1 The gravel terraces of the Welland valley have been focus for settlement since at least the Neolithic period. A number of major Neolithic and Bronze Age ceremonial and funerary monuments have been excavated and recorded in the area over the last four decades, including a Henge, Cursus, Causewayed enclosure and numerous round barrows (Pryor et al. 1985).
- 6.2 Occupation of the area continued through the later prehistoric periods and excavation of an Iron Age settlement in the parish recorded round houses associated with pits, four post structures and other features indicating the agricultural productivity of the area (ibid). Excavations in advance of the Market Deeping bypass recorded an early Iron Age settlement towards the east edge of the parish (Trimble, 2000).
- 6.3 A middle Saxon settlement located on the west side of the modern village was excavated during the 1960's and this lies approximately 500m west of the proposed development (Addyman, 1964). A number of post built rectangular building were recorded as well as pits, ditches and other ancillary structures.
- 6.4 More recently, trial trenching in advance of development at 19 West End Road, just 300 metres west of the proposed development, recorded evidence of occupation dating to the period 1150-1350, probably concentrated on the West



End Road street frontage. Ditches and quarry pits of this date were recorded as well as a wall of uncertain age (Hickling, 2005). It is suggested that the West End formed one of the foci of settlement in the area during the medieval period

- 6.5 Other excavations in the Castle End area to the north and west of the application area have also recovered evidence of medieval occupation organised along the present street pattern (Hickling 2003 and 2005).
- 6.6 A watching brief undertaken during the excavation of two geotechnical pits at the site identified that natural gravel deposits are buried at between 0.8m and 1.0m below the current ground surface. The presence of ridge and furrow within the development indicates at least some of the area was under an agricultural regime during the medieval period.

## 7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the monitoring will be to:
- 7.1.1 Provide detailed information regarding the sequence and character of activity at the site.
- 7.1.2 Interpret the archaeology of the site within its local, regional and national context; and
- 7.1.3 Inform modifications to the exact route of the service trench as necessary.

## 8 SITE OPERATIONS

- 8.1 General considerations
- 8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the investigations.
- 8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA). Archaeological Project Services is IFA registered organisation no. 21.
- 8.1.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's

office.

## 8.2 Methodology

- 8.2.1 In order to assess the depth and character of archaeological remains on the site, all areas of the site subject to development, including driveways, footprints of proposed building and areas of hardstanding, will be subject to a programme of stripping which will comprise the excavation of trenches as shown on Figure 1. Further stripping of impacted areas will depend on the results of the initial strip but could entail stripping of the all areas of development. A mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket will be used for removal of overburden. All areas will be stripped to the upper surface of natural deposits or to the level at which archaeological deposits are revealed, whichever comes first.
- 8.2.2 Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Sections will be recorded at 1:10. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.
- 8.2.3 Throughout the investigations a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
- the site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of any archaeological features revealed.
  - groups of features where their relationship is important
- 8.2.4 Should human remains be located the appropriate licence will be obtained before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department and the police will be informed.
- 8.2.5 Recording of extant ridge and furrow at the site will be undertaken using a survey grade differential GPS system. Points will be recorded at the top of the ridges and at the base of all slopes. This will enable plotting of the alignment and scale of the earthworks.

## 9 **POST-EXCAVATION**

### 9.1 Stage 1

- 9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced

during the investigations will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued and labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

9.1.2 All finds recovered during the fieldwork will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

9.2 Stage 2

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

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

9.3 Stage 3

9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the investigations will be prepared.

9.3.2 This will consist of:

- A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
- A description of the archaeological setting of the investigations.
- Description of the topography of the site.
- Description of the methodologies used during the investigations.
- A text describing the findings of the investigations.
- A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the findings of the investigations.
- Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.

- Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

## 10 REPORT DEPOSITION

10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the client; the Peterborough City Council Archaeology Service; Peterborough City Council Planning Department; and to the Peterborough Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

## 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 Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery. The archiving of raw data and physical samples/artefacts, acquisition of site archive reference, archiving formats, boxing etc. will be undertaken in accordance with the Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery *Standards for Archaeological Archive Preparation*.

11.2 The results of the investigation will be entered onto the *Online Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS)* database maintained by ADS, the Archaeological Data Service.

## 12 PUBLICATION

12.1 A report of the findings of the investigations will be presented to the editor of the *Journal of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society*. If appropriate, notes on the findings will be submitted to the appropriate national journals: *Medieval Archaeology* and the *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for findings of medieval or later date, and *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date.

## 13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the project lies with the Peterborough City Council Archaeology Service. As much written notice as possible, ideally at least seven days, will be given to the archaeological curator prior to the commencement of the project to enable them to make appropriate monitoring arrangements.

**14 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS**

- 14.1 The investigations will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the archaeological site work.
- 14.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of such investigations will undertake the work.
- 14.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one person-day) will require a post-excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half-person-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about four days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

**15 VARIATION AND CONTINGENCIES**

- 15.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 15.2 In the event of the discovery of any unexpected remains of archaeological importance, or of any changed circumstances, it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to inform the archaeological curator.
- 15.3 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation additional resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis
- 15.4 Any contingency requirement for additional fieldwork or post-excavation analysis outside the scope of the proposed scheme of works will only be activated following full consultation with the archaeological curator and the client.

**16 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT**

- 16.1 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

<u>Task</u>	<u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeology
Roman	Dr A Boyle, APS with B Precious, Independent Specialist
Anglo-Saxon	Dr A Boyle, APS with J Young, Independent Specialist
Medieval and later	Dr A Boyle, APS
Non-pottery Artefacts	J Cowgill, Independent Specialist
Animal Bones	Jen Kitch, Independent Specialist
Environmental Analysis	V Fryer, Independent Specialist
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, Independent Specialist

## **17 INSURANCES**

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

## **18 COPYRIGHT**

18.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

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

18.3 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and

Patents Act 1988 for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 and may result in legal action.

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

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Pryor. F. and French C., 1985 *The Fenland Project, No. 1, Archaeology and the Environment in the Lower Welland Valley, Volumes 1 and 2. East Anglian Archaeology* **27**.

Trimble, D., 1998, *Excavations along the route of the Market Deeping bypass, Volume 1, Descriptions of the Excavations*. APS report number **93/00**

Specification: Version 2      14 April 2009



## Appendix 2

### CONTEXT SUMMARY

No.	Description	Interpretation	Date
001	Firm yet friable grey silty clay with occasional gravel, 0.20m thick	Topsoil	
002	Firm greyish brown silty clay with occasional small gravel, 0.40m thick	Subsoil	
003	Loose yellowish brown mix of clayey silt and gravel, 0.18m thick	Natural	
004	Loose mid yellowish brown and light yellowish brown gravel	Natural	
005	Firm yet friable brownish grey clayey silt with occasional gravel, 0.30m thick	Topsoil	
006	Firm mottled greyish brown and yellowish brown silty clay with occasional gravel, at least 0.62m thick	Subsoil	
101	Firm mid brownish grey silty clay with occasional gravel, 0.52m thick	Topsoil	
102	Firm mid yellowish grey silty clay with occasional gravel, 0.57m thick	Subsoil	
103	Moderately soft and friable mid reddish grey silty gravel, 0.21m thick	Natural	
104	Loose light yellowish grey sandy gravel	Natural	
105	Large cut at least 3m wide with very shallow sides breaking gradually to a concave base	Concave slope leading to possible well [106]	
106	Sub-circular cut, 1.20m wide with near vertical sides	Pit cut	Early to mid 11 <sup>th</sup> century
107	Moderately soft and slightly plastic mid yellowish grey clayey silt with occasional small gravel, at least 0.48m thick	Fill of [106]	Early to mid 11 <sup>th</sup> century
108	Moderately soft and slightly plastic mid yellowish grey clayey silt with occasional small gravel, at least 0.55m deep	Fill of [106]	Early to mid 11 <sup>th</sup> century
109	Moderately soft and friable mid to dark grey clayey silt with occasional small gravel and frequent animal bone, at least 1m deep	Fill of [106]	Early to mid 11 <sup>th</sup> century
110	Firm and slightly plastic light to mid yellowish grey silty clay with occasional small gravel, 0.55m thick	Fill of [106]	Early to mid 11 <sup>th</sup> century
111	0.85m wide x 0.34m deep cut breaking sharply to a shallow concave base	Pit cut	

112	Firm dark reddish grey silty clay with frequent charcoal flecks, 0.34m thick	Fill of [111]	
113	Sub-circular cut, 0.22m wide x 0.20m deep x 0.20m long with near vertical sides breaking sharply to a fairly flat base	Possible post hole	
114	Firm mid yellowish grey stony silt with frequent small gravel	Fill of [113]	
115	Soft light greyish brown clay with frequent gravel and occasional shell fragments, 0.34m thick	Fill of [106]	Early to mid 11 <sup>th</sup> century
116	Firm mid greyish brown silty clay with orange mottle, 0.22m thick	Fill of [106]	Early to mid 11 <sup>th</sup> century
117	Soft mid greyish brown clay with occasional shell and charcoal fragments, 0.44m thick	Fill of [106]	Early to mid 11 <sup>th</sup> century
118	Firm mid grey silty clay with rusty red patches, occasional charcoal flecks and gravel	Fill of [106]	Early to mid 11 <sup>th</sup> century
119	Finds from machining [106]	Finds from [106]	
120	Unstratified finds from spoil heap	Unstratified finds from spoil heap	
201	Firm dark grey silty clay with moderate gravel, 0.30m thick	Topsoil	
202	Very firm mid yellowish brown silty clay with occasional chalk and charcoal flecks, 0.63m thick	Subsoil	
203	Loose to soft mid orange clayey gravel, at least 0.20m thick	Natural gravel	
301	Firm to hard dark grey silty clay, 0.30m thick	Topsoil	
302	Firm mid greyish orange yellowy brown clayey sand with occasional chalk and charcoal flecks, 0.35m thick	Subsoil	
303	Firm to loose mid orange clayey gravel with patches of black gravel, 0.30m thick	Natural gravel	
304	Loose light grey gravel with patches of darker gravel occurring throughout	Natural gravel	
305	North-west to south-east aligned linear cut with steep concave sides breaking gradually to a fairly flat, slightly concave base	Ditch cut	12 <sup>th</sup> century
306	Firm mid yellowish grey silty clay with occasional small gravel	Fill of [305]	12 <sup>th</sup> century
307	Shallow cut, at least 1.03m long x 0.44m wide, with concave base	Ditch cut	

308	Firm mid yellowish grey silty clay with occasional small gravel	Fill of [307]	
309	Sub-circular cut, at least 2.0m wide	Uninvestigated feature	
310	Firm mid yellowish grey silty clay with occasional small gravel	Fill of [309]	
311	3.20m wide x 0.52m deep cut, with shallow concave sides breaking gradually to a concave base	Possible pit cut	18 <sup>th</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup> century
312	Hard dark greyish brown slightly sandy clay	Fill of [311]	18 <sup>th</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup> century
313	4.40m wide cut, not bottomed, with fairly steep sides (one near vertical)	Large cut	12 <sup>th</sup> to 14 <sup>th</sup> century
314	Firm dark greyish brown sandy clay at least 0.49m thick, with occasional pebbles, charcoal flecks and frequent chalk fragments	Fill of [313]	12 <sup>th</sup> to 14 <sup>th</sup> century
315	Firm mid to dark olivey brown sandy clay with occasional burnt stone and large pieces of sand stone	Fill of [313]	12 <sup>th</sup> to 14 <sup>th</sup> century
401	Hard dark grey sandy clay with frequent stones, chalk and charcoal flecks, 0.54m thick	Topsoil/made up ground	
402	Firm mid brownish orange clayey sand, 0.31m thick	Natural deposit	
403	Loose light whitish grey gravel with darker gravel patches	Natural gravel	

## Appendix 3

**THE FINDS****ROMAN POTTERY***By Alex Beeby***Introduction**

The material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by Darling (2004) Using the codes developed by the City of Lincoln Archaeological unit (Darling and Precious, Forthcoming). A single sherd from a single vessel, weighing 13 grams was recovered from the site.

**Methodology**

The material was laid out and then weighed. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Table 1 below.

**Condition**

The sherd is fairly small, but not overly abraded.

**Results***Table 1, Roman Pottery Archive*

<b>Cxt</b>	<b>Fabric</b>	<b>Form</b>	<b>Vessel</b>	<b>NoS</b>	<b>W (g)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
120	GREY	CLSD	1	1	13	BS
120	ZDATE					RO

**Provenance**

The sherd was recovered from the spoil heap and is unstratified.

**Range**

There is a single piece of Roman greyware

**Potential**

There is limited potential for further work. This material is suitable to be discarded.

**Summary**

A single fragment of Roman greyware was recovered from the spoil heap during the watching brief. The sherd is non-diagnostic and cannot be dated more precisely than to the Roman period.

**POST ROMAN POTTERY***By Anne Boyle and Ross Kendall***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), which also covers surrounding counties. A total of 32 sherds from 25 vessels, weighing 389 grams was 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 information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Archive Catalogue 1 with a summary in Table 2. Most of the pottery ranges in date from the Saxo-Norman to medieval periods; a single sherd may be of early/middle Saxon date.

### Condition

Most of the sherds are small and exhibit varying degrees of abrasion; this is indicated by the low average sherd weight of 12 grams. Four vessels have soot and carbonised deposits adhering to them, probably indicating their use for domestic cooking. Two vessels have internal deposits and an equally small number have leached fabric, although the latter may be the result of burial conditions rather than use.

### Results

Table 2, Summary of the Post Roman Pottery

cname	Full name	Earliest date	Latest date	NoS	NoV	W (g)
BOJA	Bourne-type Fabrics A, B, C, E, F and G	1150	1400	2	2	21
EMHM	Early Medieval Handmade ware	1100	1250	1	1	17
EMSAX	Early or Middle Saxon wares (generic)	400	870	1	1	5
EST	Early Stamford ware	870	1010	4	3	32
MISC	Unidentified types	-	-	1	1	1
PSHW	Peterborough Shelly Ware	1175	1400	2	2	22
SAMLFFE	Stamford Area Light Firing with Iron	1200	1350	1	1	2
SLBTOL	South Lincolnshire Baston Type Oolitic ware	1200	1350	1	1	13
ST	Stamford Ware	970	1200	13	8	179
STANLY	Stanion/Lyveden ware	1150	1250	5	4	69
TOY	Toynton Medieval Ware	1280	1500	1	1	28
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>32</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>389</b>

### Provenance

Most of the pottery is unstratified and was assigned to context (120). A small number of mixed date sherds came from topsoil (005) and (301), pit [106], ditch [305] and features [309] and [313].

### Range

For such a small assemblage, a relatively wide range of ware types are present. These comprise types which are common in assemblages from this area, including the products of Bourne, Baston, Stamford, Toynton, Stanion/Lyveden as well as vessel manufactured in Cambridgeshire. A single sherd may be early/middle Saxon in date and a small number of Stamford wares may pre-date the mid 11th century. The remainder of the pottery spans the 12th to 14th centuries.

### Potential

All of the pottery is stable and suitable for long-term storage. No further work is required on the assemblage.

### Summary

A small group of redeposited Saxo-Norman and medieval pottery was recovered. The range and nature of the pottery indicates domestic occupation of this date was occurring on, or close to, the site.

## CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

By Anne Boyle

### Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the ACBMG (2001). A total of two fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 114 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 information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the ceramic building material is included in Table 3.

### Condition

**Results***Table 3, Ceramic Building Material Archive*

Cxt	Cname	Full name	Fabric	NoF	W (g)	Description	Date
120	RTIL	Roman tile	OX/R/OX; fine to medium sandy	1	84	Possibly tegula	Roman
312	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; calcareous	1	30	Corner; leached; handmade?; slight vitrification	18th-20th?

**Provenance**

A single fragment is unstratified (120), with a brick fragment present in the fill of pit [311].

**Range**

Single fragments of Roman and early modern ceramic building material were recovered.

**Potential**

Both fragments are suitable for discard. No further work is required on the assemblage.

**Summary**

A small mixed date assemblage of brick and tile was recovered from the site.

**WORKED FLINT**

*By Tom Lane*

**Introduction**

A single flint flake was recovered.

**Condition**

The flake is in good condition, is unabraded and requires no special conservation treatment.

**Results***Table4, Worked Flint Archive*

Cxt	Description	No	Wt (g)	Date
107	Flint waste flake.	1	4	Bronze Age

**Potential**

Given that it is just a single find there is little potential, either for further study of this artefact or for greater understanding of prehistory in the area.

**Summary**

A single find, a waste flake of probable Bronze Age date, was retrieved from context 107. No further work is recommended.

**SPOT DATING**

The dating in Table [#] is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

*Table 5, Spot dates*

Cxt	Date	Comments
005	?	
109	Early to mid 11th	
120	Unstratified	
301	Late 13th to 15th	
306	12th	

310	11th	
312	18th to 20th	Date on CBM
314	Late 12th to 14th	Date on a single sherd
315	12th to 14th	Date on a single sherd

**ABBREVIATIONS**

ACBMG	Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group
BS	Body sherd
CBM	Ceramic Building Material
CXT	Context
LHJ	Lower Handle Join
NoF	Number of Fragments
NoS	Number of sherds
NoV	Number of vessels
UHJ	Upper Handle Join
W (g)	Weight (grams)

**REFERENCES**

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**ARCHIVE CATALOGUES***Archive catalogue 1, Post Roman Pottery*

Cxt	Cname	Fabric	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Part	Description	Date
005	MISC	Oxidised; fine sandy + common ca	?	1	1	1	BS	Leached; flake	?
109	EST	A	Jar	1	1	20	Rim	Everted; soot + carb dep including over break	Early to mid 11th
109	EST	A	Jar	1	1	10	Rim	Small hollow cuff; soot	Early to mid 11th
120	BOUA	B	Jar/ bowl	1	1	12	BS		Mid 12th to 14th
120	BOUA	A + ca	Bowl?	1	1	9	BS	ID? or Glapthorn	Mid 12th to 14th
120	PSHW		Jar/bowl	1	1	10	BS		Late 12th to 14th
120	SAMLFFE		Jug	1	1	2	BS	ID?	13th to mid 14th
120	SLBTOL		Jar	1	1	13	Rim	Soot rim edge and lower body	13th to mid 14th
120	ST	A	Jar/ bowl	1	1	5	BS		11th
120	ST	A/D		1	1	2	BS		Early to mid 11th
120	STANLY	B	Jug/jar	2	1	16	BS	Burnt	12th to 14th
120	STANLY	A	Jar	1	1	8	BS		12th to 14th
120	STANLY	B	Jug	1	1	9	BS		Late 12th to 14th
301	EMHM		Jar/ bowl	1	1	17	Base	ID?; soot; internal burnt glaze/deposit; odd	12th to 13th
301	TOY		Jar/jug	1	1	28	BS	ID?	Late 13th to 15th
306	ST	A	Jar?	4	1	80	BS	Internal deposit	12th
306	EMSAX	Reduced;	?	1	1	5	BS	Maxey type?; ?ID;	5th to 8th

		common shell						fabric includes millstone grit and limestone	
306	EST	D?	Jar?	2	1	2	BS	Thick yellow glaze	10th to early 11th
306	ST	A/D	Jars?	6	4	88	BS		Early to mid 11th
310	ST	A	Jar?	1	1	4	BS		11th
314	PSHW		Jar/ bowl	1	1	12	BS	Soot; internally leached	Late 12th to 14th
315	STANLY	A	Jar	1	1	36	BS	Pressed rim?	12th-14th



## **Maxey, West End Road (MWER 09): Animal bone assessment**

**Matilda Holmes, June 2009**

### **Introduction**

The majority of animal bones were recovered from pit 106 (early – mid 11th century), as well as Ditch 305 12th century, pit 311(18-20th century) and unexcavated feature 309. Nearly all the bones from undated contexts came from the upper fill of pit 106, but were similar in nature to the other fills of the same pit.

### **Methodology**

The bones were scanned and basic information recorded for those that could be identified to species or anatomy in order to give an idea of the size of workable data likely to be retrieved from a full catalogue. Data recorded included species, anatomy, condition (based on a score of 1-5, where 1 is fresh bone and 5 almost unrecognisable; after Lyman, 1994), the presence of gnawing, burning, bone fusion, tooth wear, butchery, pathology and bone working was also noted.

### **Condition of the material**

The bones were in good condition. Butchery marks were noted on three fragments, although the assemblage was not very fragmentary, suggesting minimal processing had occurred. Two fragments had been burnt, and a larger proportion (ten bones) of the late Saxon assemblage showed signs of canid gnawing which may mean they were not buried immediately after disposal, allowing dogs access to them.

### **Basic quantification**

Table 1 shows the species represented in the assemblage. The late Saxon phase is dominated by the larger mammals, with pig also present. There are some similarities with the undated bones, of which all but one come from the top fill of the late Saxon pit, where cattle and horse also predominate.

There is little fusion (13 fragments), tooth wear (5) or metrical (8) data available.

No sieved samples were available at this stage of analysis, which may lead to a bias in favour of the larger mammals, to the detriment of smaller mammal, bird and fish remains.

### **Summary of potential**

The extremely small sample size (30 fragments identified to species) means there is little that can be reliably understood of the animal economy, diet or social structure of the inhabitants of the site. The difference in species proportions recovered from this site and that excavated to the west by Addyman (Seddon *et al.*, 1964) is notable (the latter site producing more sheep, pig, bird and fewer horse bones), and may indicate some spatial differences in refuse disposal within the village.

### **Suggested further work**

At this stage, there is no recommendation for further work. However, the general dearth of animal bone assemblages from Saxon sites means that it would be desirable for the species list to be made

available in the site report that can be used as comparanda if further fieldwork is carried out in the local area.

### **Bibliography**

Lyman, R. L. (1994). *Vertebrate Taphonomy*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

Seddon, D., Calvocoressi, D. and Cooper, C. (1964). Fauna. *A dark-age settlement at Maxey, Northants*. 8. pp. 69-73.

Table 1: Species representation (NISP)

Species	Early - mid 11th century	12th century	18-20th century	Undated
Cattle		5		15
Sheep / Goat			1	1
Pig		2		
Horse		1		5
Total Identified		8	1	21
Unidentified Mammal			1	
Large Mammal		5		13
Total		13	1	34

## Appendix 4

### GLOSSARY

<b>Alluvium</b>	Deposits laid down by water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea, and fresh water alluvium is laid down by rivers and in lakes.
<b>Bronze Age</b>	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
<b>Context</b>	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 interpretation 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].
<b>Cut</b>	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.
<b>Fill</b>	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) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
<b>Headland</b>	Strip of uncultivated land left between areas of ridge and furrow which was used for turning the plough. These strips provided access and often became lanes or roads.
<b>Iron Age</b>	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
<b>Layer</b>	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
<b>Medieval</b>	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
<b>Natural</b>	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity
<b>Neolithic</b>	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500 - 2250 BC.
<b>Post-medieval</b>	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
<b>Ridge and Furrow</b>	The remains of arable cultivation consisting of raised rounded strips separated by furrows. It is characteristic of open field agriculture.
<b>Romano-British</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
<b>Saxon</b>	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:

41	Context records
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Section record sheet
1	Plan record sheet
4	Daily record sheet
7	Sheets of scale drawings
1	Stratigraphic matrix

All primary records are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery  
Priestgate,  
Peterborough  
PE1 1LF

Archaeological Project Services Site Code:

MWER09

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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