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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL STRIP, MAP AND SAMPLE  
EXCAVATION AND  
MONITORING AND RECORDING  
ON LAND SOUTH OF  
ST. PETER'S CLOSE,  
GREAT LIMBER,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(GLSP 09)**

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**Work Undertaken For  
Lindum Construction Ltd**

June 2010

Report Compiled by  
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National Grid Reference: TA 1350 0841  
The Collection Accession No: LCNCC: 2008.70  
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Report No: **47/10**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
SERVICES**

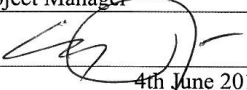
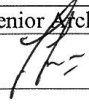




## Quality Control

### Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Investigation and Monitoring and Recording at Land off St Peter's Close, Great Limber, Lincolnshire (GLSP 09)

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Date: 4th June 2010	Date: 7th June 2010



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## 1. SUMMARY

*A strip, map and sample excavation was undertaken prior to residential development at St. Peter's Close, Great Limber, Lincolnshire.*

*The site is archaeologically-sensitive, lying close to the historic core of this shrunken medieval village, and alongside earthworks of medieval settlement closes. Romano-British artefacts have also been found within the vicinity and a trenching evaluation of the development area revealed a gully terminus and several ditches of that date, a medieval ditch or pit and a probable post-medieval trackway. The Roman remains appeared to be confined to the southern half of the site with finds indicating settlement of this date in the vicinity. Some of the Roman pottery was substandard or waster material, perhaps implying the proximity of a kiln.*

*The strip, map and sample excavation revealed ditches and pits of 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century Romano-British date. As on the evaluation Roman pottery from the features occurred as large, unworn fragments and this, together with building materials and evidence of industrial activity, initially quarrying and later iron smithing, suggests the site was on the periphery of settlement. No further evidence of possible pottery wasters was found however.*

*Finds retrieved included Roman pottery and roofing tile, fired clay, animal bone and industrial residues.*

*Subsequent monitoring of a soakaway revealed no archaeological remains.*

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Definition of an Excavation

*An archaeological excavation is defined as, "a programme of controlled, intrusive fieldwork with defined research objectives*

*which examines, records and interprets archaeological deposits, features and structures and, as appropriate, retrieves artefacts, ecofacts and other remains within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. The records made and objects gathered during the fieldwork are studied and the results of that study published in detail appropriate to the project design"* (IfA 1999).

### 2.2 Planning Background

A Planning Application for residential development of the site comprising social housing has been submitted to West Lindsey District Council. A desk-based archaeological study identified the potential for medieval remains (Bradley-Lovekin 2007) and an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching was subsequently undertaken. This revealed Roman remains at the site (Peachey 2009). As a result, Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) Historic Environment Team advised that a programme of archaeological strip, map and sample investigation and monitoring of development was required. The strip, map and sample excavation was carried out by Archaeological Project Services (APS) between 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> September 2009, and the monitoring and recording on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2010, in accordance with a specification designed by APS and approved by LCC.

### 2.3 Topography and Geology

Great Limber is located in the northern part of the administrative county of Lincolnshire, within the district of West Lindsey, 14km west of Grimsby and 19km north of Market Rasen (Fig. 1). The site is located at the southern end of the village, on land to the south of St Peter's Close, which is presently rough ground with partial tree cover (Fig. 2). It is centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference TA 1350 0841 and lies on a south-facing slope at approximately 39-40m OD.

Soils at the site are of the Swaffham Prior Association, well-drained calcareous coarse and fine loamy soils developed over chalky drift and Burnham Chalk (Hodge *et al* 1984, 119). Permeable calcareous coarse loamy soils of the Landbeach Association, over glaciofluvial sand and gravel are mapped to the north (SSEW 1983 and BGS 1985). A small area of glacial silt and clay is mapped immediately east of, and extending onto the site. It is possible that the pond within the site (shown on Fig. 3) represents water accumulation above this clay (BGS 1985).

## 2.4 Archaeological Setting

Romano-British artefacts, including a cremation urn, are known from separate sites located approximately 230m north of the present investigation area (Fig. 2).

Great Limber is probably late Saxon or earlier in origin as the parish is first referred to in Anglo-Saxon wills from the conquest period of 1066-8 (Cameron 1991, 219) and the settlement was well established at the time of the Domesday Survey of 1086 (Foster and Longley 1976). The place-name 'Limber', is of Old English origin and means '*the hill where lime-trees grow*' (Cameron 1991, 222).

Located north of the investigation site is the medieval parish church of St. Peter.

The Scheduled earthwork remains (SAM 22688) of a *camera* of the Knights Hospitallers, elements of the shrunken medieval settlement, medieval cultivation remains and later post-medieval house and gardens survive 105m northeast of the site (Fig 2). The site was possibly held by the Knights Templar during the 12<sup>th</sup> century.

Extensive earthworks, formerly extending onto the application area and characteristic of shrunken medieval settlement, were largely levelled for arable cultivation in 1967 and 1976 (Everson *et al.* 1991). An earthwork extends onto the northern

boundary of the site before continuing into the gardens of St. Peter's Close (Fig. 2). This earthwork is recorded as a road or trackway on an estate map of 1676 and may have medieval antecedents. Traces of 'ridge and furrow' cultivation have also been identified in the area (Bradley-Lovekin 2007).

An archaeological reconnaissance survey undertaken in the field immediately north of the site, within the levelled area, recorded evidence of earthworks, chalk building rubble and concentrations of tile fragments (Fig. 2). Although sherds of medieval pottery were recovered, post-medieval pottery was more common (Cope-Faulkner and Lane 1999, 19).

A watching brief on three water seepage test pits within the development area (Fig. 3) revealed a sequence of natural and undated deposits. The undated deposits were probably colluvial in nature with those nearest the surface possibly representing agricultural subsoils (Failes 2008).

A trenching evaluation of the development area revealed a gully terminus and several ditches of Romano-British date, a medieval ditch or pit and a probable post-medieval trackway. The Roman remains appeared to be confined to the southern half of the site. Limited medieval and post-medieval remains suggested the area probably had an agricultural function in these periods. Finds retrieved included Roman pottery and tile indicating settlement of this date in the vicinity. Some of the Roman pottery was substandard or waster material, perhaps implying the proximity of a kiln (Peachey 2009).

## 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims of the work were to recover as much information as possible on the origins, date, development, phasing,



spatial organisation, character, function, status, significance and nature of social, economic and industrial activities on the site as well as to record and interpret the deposits and any archaeological features exposed.

The objectives were to determine the date of the archaeological remains present on the site, their extent and spatial arrangement, to identify their character, to establish the extent to which surrounding archaeological remains extended into the site and to identify the way in which the archaeological remains identified fitted into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

#### 4. METHODS

The footprint of the new terrace of houses was excavated by machine under archaeological supervision (Fig. 4). The trench, which measured 50m x 8.5m, was cleaned by hand and the sides rendered vertical. Each deposit was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their descriptions appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:20. Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services' practice.

The location of the excavated trench was surveyed with a Thales Z-MAX GPS in relation to fixed points on boundaries.

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, supplemented by artefact dating.

Soil samples were taken from representative archaeological deposits.

These were sieved and the residues examined.

#### 5. RESULTS

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

##### Phase 1 Natural Deposits

The natural deposit over most of the trench was mottled dark yellow/orange sand with gravel patches (412). However, there was an area of dark brown clay (413) towards the southwest end of the trench and an area of chalk brash (447) in the northernmost corner, the highest part of the site, which had been recorded as (102) in evaluation Trench 1.

##### Phase 2 Romano-British Deposits

The Roman phase can be subdivided into three broad structural phases which may not have been long-lived, dating overall from the early 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> centuries, based on the pottery evidence:

##### Phase 2a

Located in the northern corner of the site, was the south side of east-west aligned cut [433] (Fig 5, Section 19, Plate 9). This was the same feature as ditch [120] in evaluation Trench 1 (which was dated to the Roman period) and was filled with mid brown silty sand (434).

Much of the northeastern corner of the site was taken up by shallow (up to 0.25m deep), undulating feature [439] (Fig 5, Sections 20, 21, Plate 7). This was filled by greyish brown/orange brown silty clay (438) which contained early-mid 3<sup>rd</sup> century pottery. This feature may represent small-scale sand and gravel quarrying.

##### Phase 2b

Cutting the Phase 2a feature [439] was an

irregular-sided east-west ditch [441]. This was at least 5m long, 1m wide and 0.68m deep and filled with mid greyish brown silty sand (440) which contained early to mid 3<sup>rd</sup> century pottery. As the initial slot across it proved to be at an angle, a further segment [445] (Fig 5, Section 24, Plate 11) was excavated to the west where it was 1.1m wide and 0.22m deep. This was filled with light greyish brown silty sand (446) which also contained early to mid 3<sup>rd</sup> century pottery.

Immediately to the north, the Phase 2a feature [439] was also cut by slightly curvilinear, approximately east-west aligned, ditch [430] (Fig 5, Section 19, Plate 9). Ditch [430] was the same as [104/105/107], identified in Trench 1 of the evaluation, and which cut the Phase 2a ditch [120]/[433]. Ditch [430] was at least 8m long, 1.2m wide and 0.5m deep. In the north side of the feature was 0.18m thick mid brownish red sandy clay (431) which was possibly slip from a ditch-side bank. Above this, and filling the remainder of the feature, was 0.5m thick mid brown silty sand (432) which contained a single sherd of 2<sup>nd</sup>- 3<sup>rd</sup> century pottery and some animal bone.

Also cutting the fill (438) of the Phase 2a feature [439] was east-west aligned ditch [443] (Fig 5, Sections 22, 23, Plate 10). This was at least 4m long, 0.8m wide and 0.3m deep and filled with mid greyish brown clayey sand (444) which contained animal bone.

In the southwestern part of the site were two ditches. Ditch [400] (Fig 5, Section 12, Plate 3) was aligned northeast-southwest and measured at least 16m long by 1.15m wide and 0.3m deep. Mid brownish yellow clayey sand lower fill (401) was 0.1m thick and probably represented slumping of the east side. Sealing this, 0.2m thick mid grey silty sand (402) filled most of the feature. This was overlain by 0.2m thick brownish grey clay and silt (403) containing cattle bone

and a single sherd of 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century pottery. To the east, a further segment of this ditch was recorded as [419] (Fig 5, Section 16) which was filled with grey sand (421) which contained a single sherd of late 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> century pottery.

Ditch [404] (Fig 5, Section 14) was aligned approximately northeast-southwest site and was 12m long, 1.36m wide and 0.31m deep. It was filled with dark grey brown silty sand and chalk gravel (405) containing Roman tile, fired clay and cattle bone. This ditch was the continuation of feature [311] in evaluation Trench 3 which was also assigned a Roman date. A further segment [420] (Fig 5, Section 17) was excavated to the east. This was filled with grey, with brown mottles, clayey sand (422) which contained a single sherd of Roman pottery along with a few pieces of iron smithing slag and furnace lining.

### Phase 2c

In the northeastern part of the site, the Phase 2b ditch [441/445] was cut by northeast-southwest aligned ditch [437] which terminated to the southwest (Fig 5, Sections 20, 21, Plate 7). Ditch [437] was the same as ditch [109] in evaluation Trench 1 and was filled with dark greyish brown sandy silt (436) which contained mid 3<sup>rd</sup> century pottery (Fig 5, Section 25).

In the southwestern part of the site, Phase 2b ditch [400] was cut by sub-rectangular pit [414] (Fig 5, Section 15, Plate 5) which had rounded corners and stepped sides. Lower fill (415) was mid brownish grey silty sand and chalk gravel with occasional chalk cobbles, perhaps from land clearance, and contained animal bone. This was overlain by mid grey silty sand (416) which contained late 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century pottery, animal bone, burnt stone, coal and cindery-slaggy material. Above this was mid brownish grey silty clay (417). This fill was sealed by dark grey clayey silt (418).

Phase 2b ditch [404] was cut by steep-

sided oval pit [406] (Fig 5, Section 13). Primary fill (407) was 0.08m thick mid greyish brown silty/gravelly sand. This was overlain by 0.2m thick mid to dark grey sandy clay (408) containing a single sherd of 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century pottery and a piece of burnt stone. Above this 0.2m thick mid grey sandy silty clay (409) contained Roman pottery, tile, animal bone, including pig and amphibian, and iron slag (with attached furnace lining), coal and charcoal indicative of iron smithing. This was overlain by dark grey sandy clay (410) containing mid 3<sup>rd</sup> century pottery, animal bone, burnt stone, slagged and vitrified furnace lining and fired clay.

### Phase 3 Undated deposits

In the central part of the site, cutting ditches [419] (Fig 5, Sections 16, 18, Plate 6), [420] (Fig 5, Section 17), [430], [443] and [445], was a large feature [423/429] 26.5m long by at least 8.5m wide. On its west side [423] was filled by 0.27m thick dark grey clayey sand (424) which contained two sherds of clearly residual mid to late 2<sup>nd</sup> century pottery. This was overlain by 0.15m thick dark greyish brown clayey silt (425). A machine sondage (Fig 4, Plate 8) on the east side of the feature established that it had a very steep side and was up to 1.8m deep. Dark grey clayey silt (428) formed the earliest fill seen of this large feature, probably a pond. This was overlain by dark greyish brown, with greenish patches, clayey silt (427), similar to (425). Over the northern part of this fill was dark greyish brown sandy silt with frequent chalk inclusions (426). However, the sondage was unsafe to enter and clean and had to be immediately backfilled. The pond was probably the same feature as [206] in evaluation Trench 2.

Overlying the pond at the northern end of the site was up to 0.23m thick dark greyish brown sandy silt layer (442) (Fig 5, Section 21). This was sealed by up to 0.6m thick mid yellowish brown silty sand

subsoil (435) (Fig 5, Section 21) which covered the whole site. The topsoil had been removed by machine prior to the archaeological work (Plate 1).

### Monitoring and Recording

A subsequent visit to monitor and record a soakaway north of the excavation area (Fig 3) revealed only the contractor's made ground over topsoil and subsoil (Fig 5, Section 26).

## 6. DISCUSSION

In the highest part of the site, in the northern corner, the natural deposit was chalk brash, as it was in the northern part of evaluation Trench 1. Over most of the remainder of the site natural was sand with gravel patches with a small area of brown clay.

There was possible small scale gravel quarrying of 3<sup>rd</sup> century Roman date in the northeastern part of the site.

A number of intercutting ditches, probably boundary or drainage features, were identified. These all date to the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century AD and cannot be separated chronologically. However, stratigraphic relationships between the features show that they represent three distinct phases of activity within this fairly short time span.

In the final late 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century Roman phase, pits and ditches at the southwest end of the site contained industrial residues including iron slag and pieces of furnace lining which, together with coal and charcoal, indicate that iron smithing occurred at the site or close by.

A dearth of imports and finewares among the pottery suggests relatively low status occupation through the Roman period, probably on the periphery of a larger settlement, with many of the vessels showing evidence of use over a hearth or

fire. No further evidence was found for possible pottery production, as suggested by sub-standard or waste ceramics recovered during the previous evaluation. However, the majority of the pottery found during the present investigation was probably produced fairly locally, with some pieces similar to items manufactured at Dragonby, about 25km to the west.

The presence of Roman roofing tile, including some from the evaluation, indicates buildings of this date in the vicinity.

Only a few Roman remains have been found in Great Limber previously and those were recovered about 250m north of the present site near to the parish church. This may imply that the present discoveries constitute a second focus of Roman activity, rather than a continuation of that indicated by the previous discoveries. Supporting this suggestion is the discovery of a Roman cremation near the church. Cremations tend to occur early in the Romano-British period and were mostly replaced by inhumation burial by the mid 2<sup>nd</sup> century, which is earlier than the majority of the remains found in the present investigation, which are of 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century date. Moreover, Roman law forbade the disposal of the dead, by burial or cremation, in towns or other settlement areas and therefore cemeteries and habitation zones tend to be mutually exclusive.

The general dearth of medieval material from the site, on both evaluation and excavation, implies that the area was not occupied during the medieval period but used for agriculture, although the probable pond may be of this date, despite producing only residual Roman sherds.

No post-medieval artefacts were recovered on the excavation, and few on the evaluation, and this suggests the agricultural usage of the site continued from the medieval into the post-medieval

period.

## **7. CONCLUSION**

An archaeological strip, map and sample excavation was carried out on land just south of St. Peter's Close, Great Limber, Lincolnshire. The site is located close to remains of the shrunken medieval settlement of Great Limber.

The strip, map and sample excavation revealed ditches and pits of 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century Romano-British date. As on the evaluation, Roman pottery from the features occurred as large, unworn fragments and this, together with building materials and evidence of industrial activity, in the form of first, quarrying and later, iron smithing, suggests the site was on the periphery of settlement.

No medieval remains were encountered although it appears likely that the probable pond is of this date.

Finds retrieved included Roman pottery and roofing tile, fired clay, animal bone and industrial residues.

Monitoring of the excavation of a soakaway revealed no archaeological remains.

## **8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Lindum Construction Ltd who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. Thanks are also due to Focus Consulting (UK) Ltd. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Dave Start kindly allowed access to the library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

## 9. PERSONNEL

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Surveying: Chris Moulis  
Monitoring and recording: Vicky Mellor  
Finds processing: Denise Buckley  
Photographic reproduction: Mark Peachey  
CAD Illustration: Andrew Failes, Mark Peachey  
Finds illustration: David Hopkins  
Post-excavation analysis: Mark Peachey

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## 11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

IfA Institute for Archaeologists

BGS British Geographical Society

SSEW Soil Survey of England and Wales





Figure 1 - General location plan





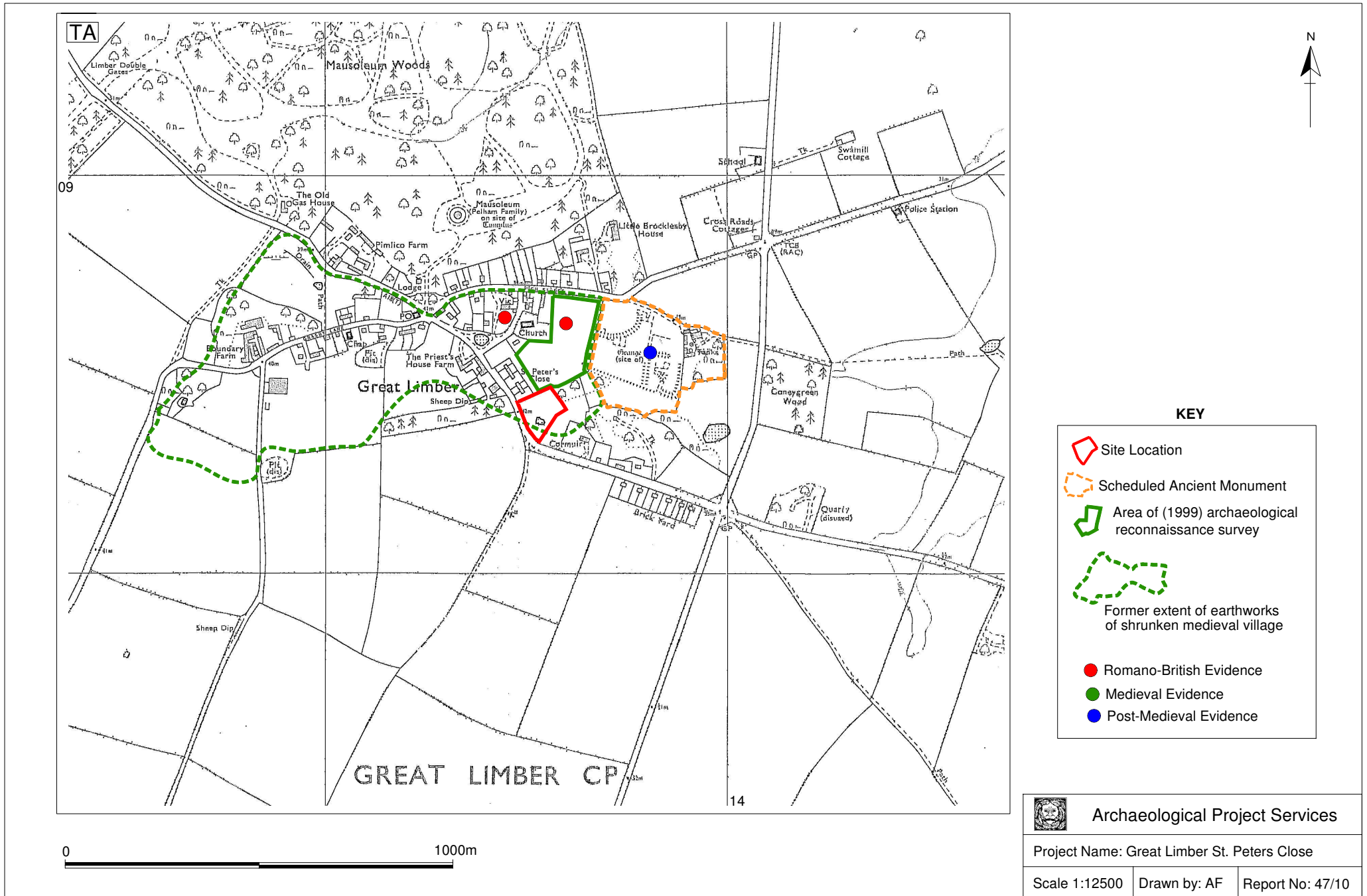


Figure 2 - Site location within archaeological setting



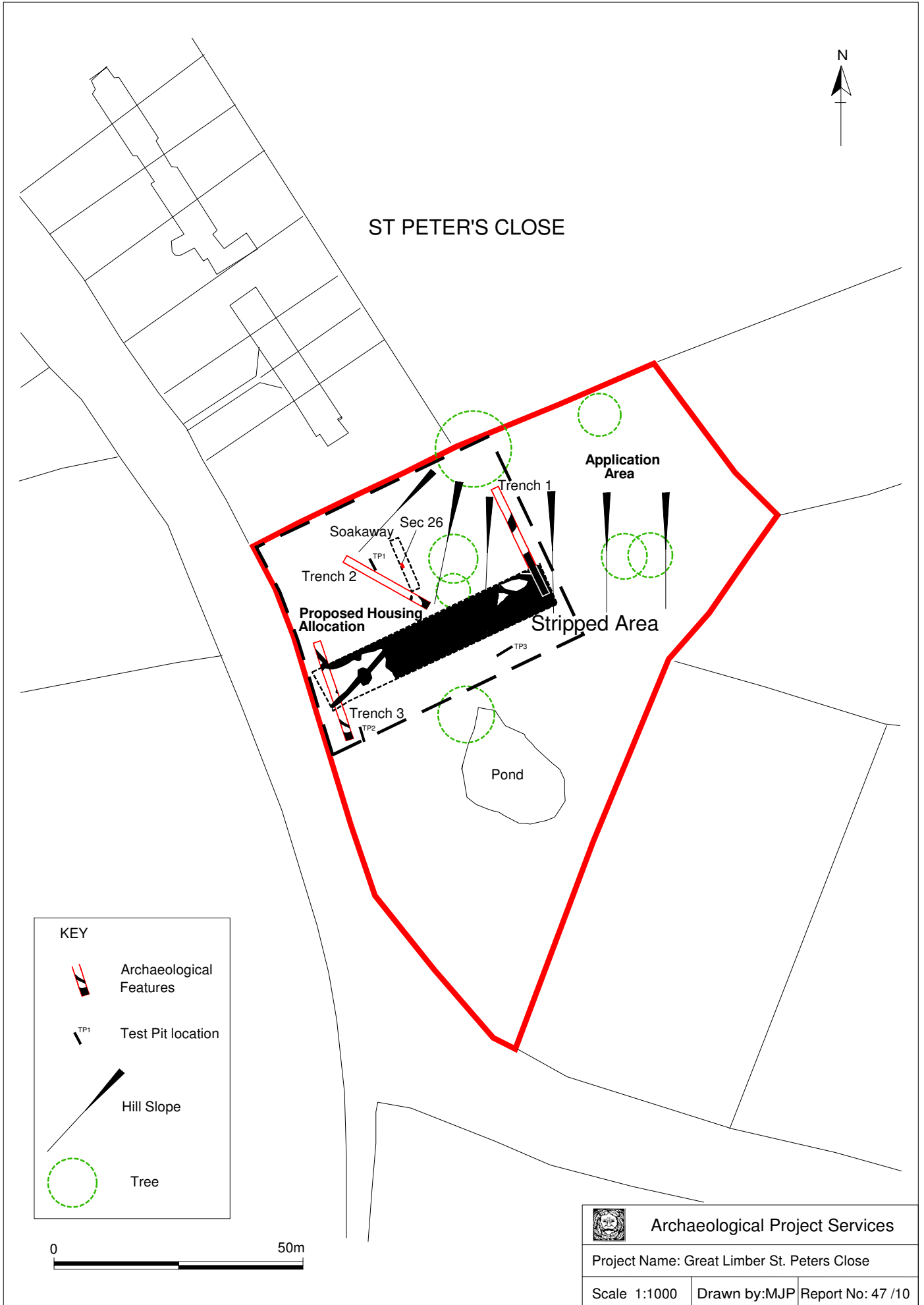
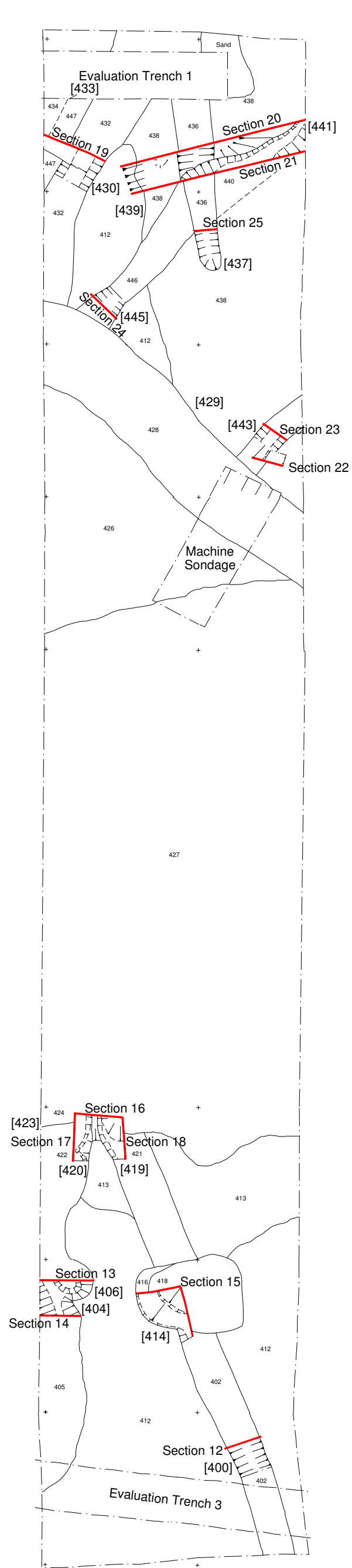


Figure 3. Trench Location Plan






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Figure 4. Site Plan



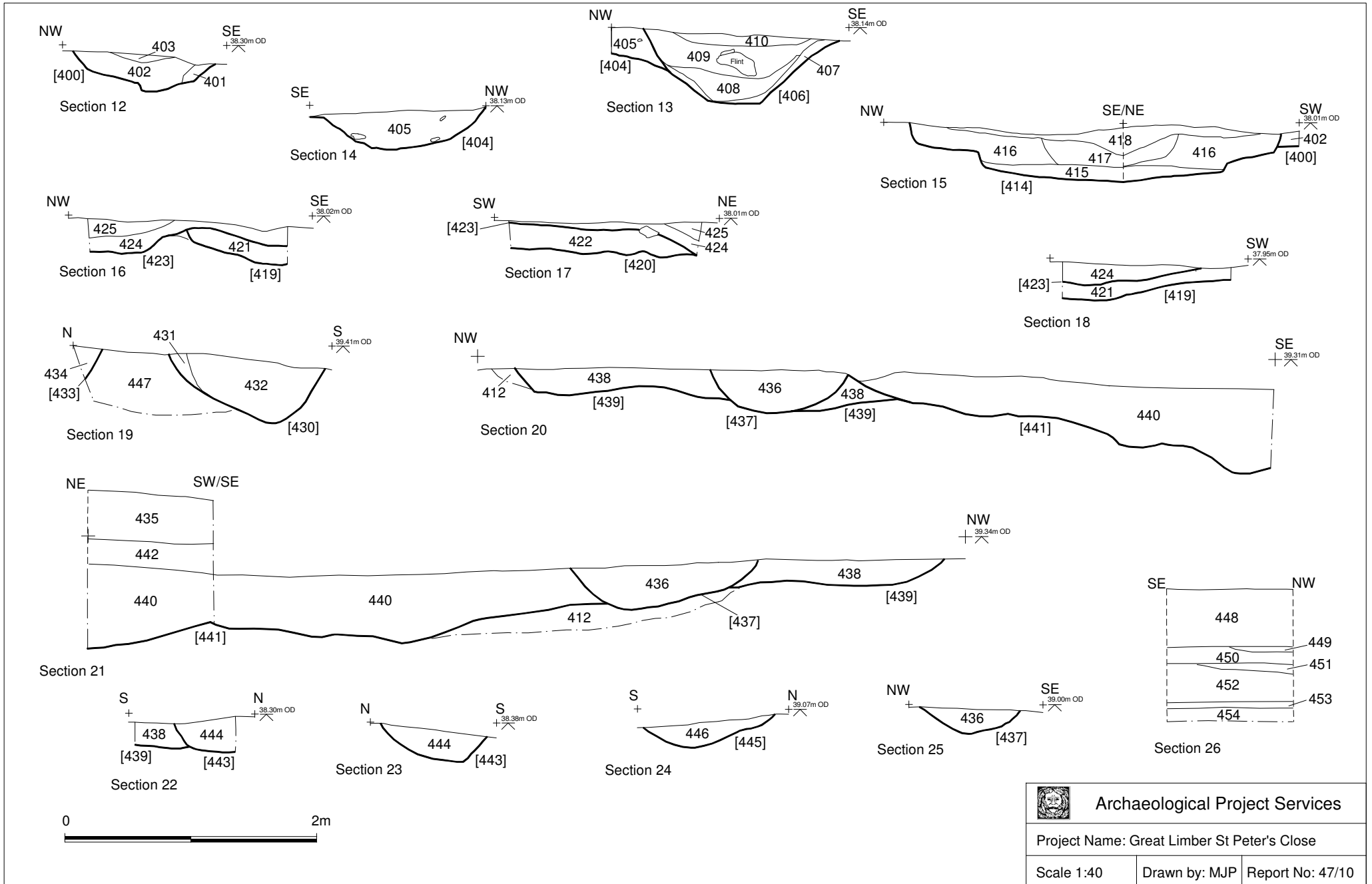
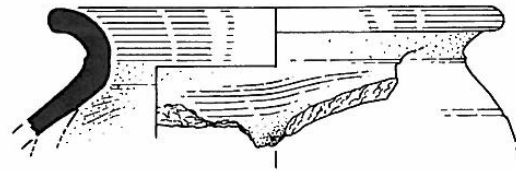


Figure 5. Sections

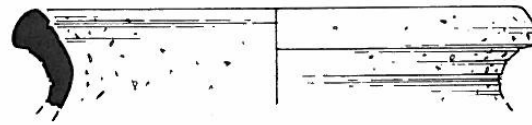




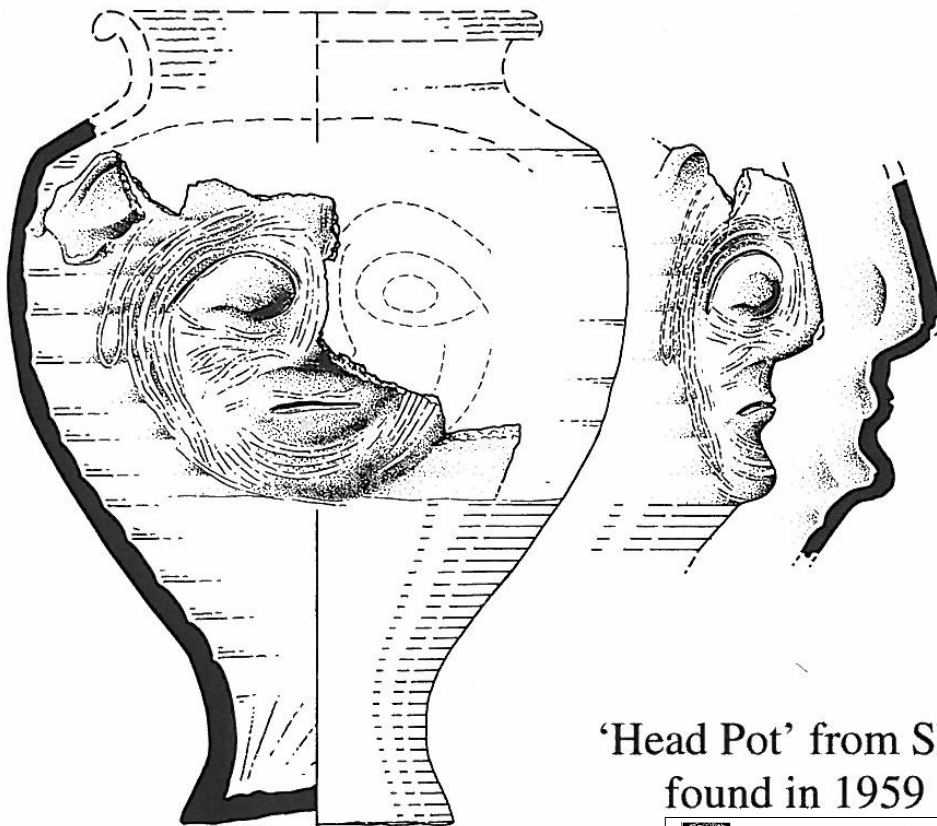
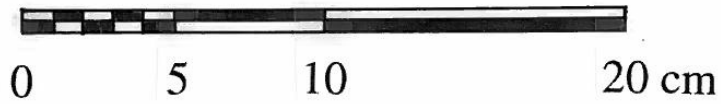


1 (410)

? Looks like the rim of a 'Head Pot'



2 (424)



'Head Pot' from Sleaford  
found in 1959



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Great Limber St. Peter's Close GLSP09

Scale 1:2.5

Drawn by: DH

Report No: 47/10

Figure 6 Roman Pottery, with face pot from Sleaford, for comparison





Plate 1. General view of marked out site following topsoil stripping looking west



Plate 2. Site immediately after machine stripping looking west





Plate 3. Ditch [400], Section 12 looking northeast



Plate 4. Ditch [404], Pit [406], Section 13 looking northeast





Plate 5. Pit [414], Section 15 looking northeast



Plate 6. Ditches [420], [419], Pond [423], Section 16 looking northeast







Plate 7. Ditches [441], [437], Feature [439], Section 21 looking south



Plate 8. Unstable machine sondage showing almost 2m depth of pond fills, looking south





Plate 9. Ditches [433], [430], Section 19, looking east



Plate 10. Ditch [443], Section 23 looking east





Plate 11. Ditch [445], Section 24, looking west



Plate 12. Working view of northeastern end of site



**Appendix 1: SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION (STRIP, MAP & SAMPLE)  
ON LAND SOUTH OF ST PETER'S CLOSE, GREAT LIMBER,  
LINCOLNSHIRE**

**PREPARED FOR LINDUM CONSTRUCTION LTD**

**BY ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES  
Institute for Archaeologists' Registered Organisation No. 21**

**AUGUST 2009**

**1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 *A programme of archaeological investigation involving a strip, map and sample excavation is required on land south of St. Peter's Close, Great Limber, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The site is archaeologically sensitive and previous investigations revealed Roman remains including ditches and pits in the southern part of the area. Some of the pottery recovered in the previous investigations was sub-standard, possible kiln waste, and perhaps indicates pottery making in the area. The site is also close to earthworks of the shrunken medieval settlement.*
- 1.3 *The investigation will involve supervision of the stripping of the site, planning, sample excavation and recording of archaeological remains. Development groundworks in the remainder of the site will be subject to archaeological monitoring and recording. Features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.*
- 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 an archaeological strip, map and sample investigation and monitoring of development groundwork on land south of St. Peter's Close, Great Limber, Lincolnshire.
- 2.2 This document contains the following parts:
  - 2.2.1 Overview.
  - 2.2.2 Stages of work and methodologies.
  - 2.2.3 List of specialists.
  - 2.2.4 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

**3 SITE LOCATION**

- 3.1 Great Limber is located 7km north of Caister in the West Lindsey district of Lincolnshire. The site is in the southern part of the village, on the north side of High Street and immediately south of St Peter's Close, at national grid reference TA 1353 0840.

**4 PLANNING BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 A Planning Application for residential development of the site comprising social housing has been submitted to West Lindsey District Council. A previous desk-based archaeological study has been undertaken and identified the potential for medieval remains at the site and an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching was subsequently undertaken. This revealed Roman remains at the site. As a result, Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team has advised that a programme of archaeological strip, map and sample investigation and monitoring of development is required.

**5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY**

- 5.1 Soils at the site are mostly Swaffham Prior calcareous loams developed on chalky drift and Burnham chalk (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 119). Glacial silt and clay also extends into the eastern part of the site. The investigation site is on the south side of a slight ridge at about 42m OD).

## 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Great Limber is a shrunken medieval village and earthworks of abandoned settlement closes have been recorded immediately north of the development site. Moreover, the boundary of a range of these closes passes through the northern part of the site. A map of 1676 shows a probable trackway passing through the site. In addition to these medieval remains, Roman artefacts have been found at various locations around the village, including either side of the church, about 200m to the north. These finds include a cinerary urn, implying the presence of a cremation cemetery, while another assemblage of pottery suggests occupation of the period (Archaeological Project Services 2007).
- 6.2 Previous investigations at the site revealed Roman remains including pits and ditches that may represent settlement boundaries. Roof tile was recovered suggesting the presence of Roman buildings close by. In addition, some of the recovered pottery was sub-standard or kiln waste which might indicate there was pottery making in the vicinity of the site (Archaeological Project Services 2009).

## 7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aim of the work will be to recover as much information as possible on the origins, date, development, phasing, spatial organisation, character, function, status, significance and nature of social, economic and industrial activities on the site.
- 7.1.1 To record and interpret the deposits and any archaeological features exposed.
- 7.2 The objectives of the investigation will be to:
- 7.2.1 Determine the date of the archaeological remains present on the site.
- 7.2.2 Determine the extent and spatial arrangement of the archaeological remains encountered;
- 7.2.3 Identify the character of archaeological remains present within the site.
- 7.2.4 Establish the extent to which surrounding archaeological remains extend into the site.
- 7.2.5 Identify the way in which the archaeological remains identified fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

## 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 investigation.
- 8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute for 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 Recent deposits will be removed by mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket under archaeological supervision, down to the first archaeological horizon. The area to be stripped will be the footprint of the block of buildings to be located at the site. The stripping depth is likely to be variable but mostly between about 0.6 – 0.85m below ground surface, but possibly to 1m depth in places. This will be the top of the archaeological remains, and sample excavation of the features will proceed from this level.
- 8.2.2 Following the site stripping the area will be cleaned if necessary and a plan made.
- 8.2.3 A representative sample of exposed features will be hand-excavated. This will include: the excavation of structures, post trenches or other structural slots; half-sectioning of postholes and pits; cross-sectioning of linear features of earlier than medieval date, where not forming parts of structures. Buried soils will also be fully excavated.



- 8.2.4 Development groundwork elsewhere in the site will be subject to archaeological monitoring and recording.
- 8.2.5 Features will be recorded on APS pro-forma context record sheets. The system used is the single context method by which individual archaeological units of stratigraphy are assigned a unique record number and are individually described and drawn.
- 8.2.6 Plans of features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. Should individual features merit it, they will be drawn at more appropriate scales
- 8.2.7 Finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 8.2.8 Throughout the investigation a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
- the site during the investigation to show specific stages of work, and the layout of the archaeology within the area.
  - individual features and, where appropriate, their sections.
  - groups of features where their relationship is important.
- 8.2.9 Should human remains be located they will be left *in situ* and only excavated if absolutely necessary. Should removal be required the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before the exhumation of the remains. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department, coroner and the police will be informed, where appropriate.

## 9 POST-EXCAVATION

### 9.1 Stage 1

- 9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the investigation will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence 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 Collection, 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 investigation will be prepared.
- 9.3.2 This will consist of:
- 9.3.2.1 A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
  - 9.3.2.2 A description of the archaeological setting of the investigation.
  - 9.3.2.3 Description of the topography of the site.
  - 9.3.2.4 Description of the methodologies used during the investigation.
  - 9.3.2.5 A text describing the findings of the investigation.
  - 9.3.2.6 A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the investigation findings

- 9.3.2.7 Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
- 9.3.2.8 Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.
- 9.3.2.9 Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
- 9.3.2.10 Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- 9.3.2.11 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 client; West Lindsey District Council Planning Department; and the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Record.

## 11 ARCHIVE

- 11.1 The documentation and records generated during the investigation will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to The Collection, Lincoln, in accordance with the requirements of *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives* for long-term storage and curation.

## 12 PUBLICATION

- 12.1 Details of the investigation will be input to the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS).
- 12.2 If appropriate, notes on the findings will be submitted to the appropriate national journals: *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date, and *Medieval Archaeology* and the *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for findings of medieval or later date.

## 13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- 13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team. They will be given written notice of the commencement of the project to enable them to make monitoring arrangements.

## 14 VARIATIONS AND CONTINGENCIES

- 14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 14.2 In the event of the discovery of any unexpected remains of archaeological importance, or of any changed circumstances, it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to inform the archaeological curator.
- 14.3 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation additional resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.
- 14.4 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.

## 15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 15.1 The investigation will precede the programme of construction. The duration of the site works is difficult to determine as it is to a large extent reliant on the speed of stripping and spoil removal, and also depending on the quantity and complexity of archaeological remains encountered. Post-excavation work is likewise dependent on the quantity and complexity of archaeological remains encountered.
- 15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of investigations of this type will undertake the work.
- 15.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists.



## Appendix 2

### CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation	Date
400	NE-SW aligned linear cut with concave sides 16m long, 1.15m wide, 0.3m deep	Cut of ditch	
401	Firm mid brownish yellow clayey sand with chalk gravel and occasional grey sand patches, 0.1m thick.	Fill of [400], probably slumping	
402	Firm mid grey silty sand with chalk gravel and occasional angular flint pebbles, 0.2m thick.	Fill of [400]	
403	Soft dark brownish grey clay sand silt with occasional flint pebbles, frequent chalk gravel, 0.2m thick.	Fill of [400], probably silting	3 <sup>rd</sup> to 4 <sup>th</sup> century
404	ENE-WSW aligned, concave sided ditch 12m long, 1.36m wide, 0.31m deep	Cut of ditch	
405	Loose dark grey brown chalk gravel and silty sand with flint gravel and occasional charcoal, 0.31m thick.	Fill of [404]	Roman
406	Oval cut, steep straight sides, flat base 1.5m long, 0.9m wide, 0.54m deep	Cut of pit	
407	Fairly loose mid grey brown silty gravelly sand with occasional charcoal and flint, 0.08m thick.	Primary fill of [406]	
408	Friable mid to dark grey sandy clay with occasional chalk and flint gravel, 0.2m thick.	Fill of [406]	3 <sup>rd</sup> to 4 <sup>th</sup> century
409	Friable mid grey sandy, silty clay with occasional flint/chalk gravel, large flint and chalk lumps up to 0.15m in diameter, 0.2m thick.	Secondary fill of [406], probably backfill	Roman
410	Plastic dark grey sandy clay with occasional chalk gravel, 0.1m thick	Tertiary fill of pit [406]	Mid 3 <sup>rd</sup> century+
411	General unstratified finds number		Late 2 <sup>nd</sup> to 3 <sup>rd</sup> century
412	Soft mottled dark yellow/orange sand with occasional fine gravel patches	Natural sand and gravel	
413	Firm dark brown clay with pockets of sand and gravel	Natural clay	
414	Sub-rectangular cut with rounded corners and stepped sides, 3.6m long, 2.25m wide, 0.45m deep.	Cut of pit	
415	Firm mix of mid brownish grey with white flecks silty sand/chalk gravel with occasional chalk cobbles, 0.12m thick.	Fill of [414], cobbles perhaps from land clearance.	
416	Soft mid grey silty sand with frequent chalk gravel, 0.25m thick.	Fill of [414]	Late 3 <sup>rd</sup> to 4 <sup>th</sup> century
417	Soft mid brownish grey silty clay with frequent chalk gravel, 0.18m thick.	Fill of [414]	
418	Soft dark grey clayey silt with occasional chalk gravel, 0.22m thick.	Fill of [414]	
419	NE-SW linear cut 1.3m wide, 0.3m deep, same as [400]	Cut of ditch	
420	ENE-WSW linear cut, gradually sloping sides, 1.55m wide, 0.24m deep, same as [404].	Cut of ditch	
421	Quite soft mid to light grey, slightly brownish, sand with frequent small chalky frags and grits, 0.13m thick.	Fill of [419]	Late 2 <sup>nd</sup> to 3 <sup>rd</sup> century
422	Fairly firm medium grey, with dark rusty brown mottles, clayey sand with frequent small chalk frags and grits, 0.18m thick.	Fill of [420]	Roman
423	Large cut of unknown overall shape at least 8m wide and 0.27m deep	Cut of probable pond	
424	Fairly firm dark grey clayey sand with frequent small chalky frags and grits, 0.27m thick	Fill of [423]	Mid to late 2 <sup>nd</sup> century
425	Fairly firm dark greyish brown, mottled dark olive green, clayey silt with moderate flints, at least 0.15m thick	Fill of [423]	

No.	Description	Interpretation	Date
426	Friable dark greyish brown sandy silt with frequent small chalk lumps, occasional small to medium angular flints	Layer, possibly colluvium or dumping over pond	
427	Soft dark greyish brown, with greenish patches, clayey silt with occasional small chalk lumps and angular flints	Fill of [429]	
428	Soft very dark grey clayey silt with occasional grit, up to 1.8m thick, seen in machine sondage.	Silt fill of [429]	
429	Large cut of unknown overall shape, with very steep northern side seen in machine sondage, 26.5m long by at least 8m wide, 1.8m deep, same as [423].	Cut of probable pond	
430	Curvilinear cut, aligned roughly east-west with rounded base, at least 8m long, 1.2m wide, 0.5m deep.	Cut of ditch	
431	Firm mid brownish red sandy clay with occasional chalk/flint angular pebbles, 0.18m thick, present in north side of ditch only.	Fill of [430], possibly slip from a ditch side bank	
432	Friable mid brown silty sand with occasional chalk and flint pebbles, 0.5m thick.	Fill of [430]	2 <sup>nd</sup> to 3 <sup>rd</sup> century
433	East-west aligned ditch with steep southern side, seen only in corner of site, so not fully excavated, but same as ditch [120] on evaluation, at least 2m long, 0.25m wide, 0.25m deep.	Cut of ditch	
434	Friable mid brown silty sand with occasional chalk gravel, at least 0.25m thick.	Fill of [433]	
435	Friable mid yellowish brown silty sand with common chalk gravel, up to 0.6m thick.	Subsoil across site	
436	Friable dark greyish brown sandy silt with common small to medium chalk lumps, occasional small angular flints, 0.34m thick.	Fill of [437]	Mid 3 <sup>rd</sup> century+
437	Terminating NE-SW aligned linear cut with concave sides and rounded base, at least 7.5m long by 1.1m wide and 0.34m deep. Same as ditch [104] on evaluation.	Cut of ditch	
438	Friable mottled greyish brown/orange brown silty sand with occasional small flint and chalk lumps, up to 0.25m thick.	Fill of [439]	Early to mid 3 <sup>rd</sup> century
439	Large cut of unknown shape with uneven sides and base, up to 0.25m thick.	Cut of possible sand/gravel quarrying	
440	Friable mid greyish brown silty sand with occasional small chalk lumps, rare small flint fragments, 0.68m thick.	Fill of [441]	Early to mid 3 <sup>rd</sup> century
441	Roughly east-west aligned linear cut at least 5m long, 1m wide, 0.68m deep with irregular sides and uneven base	Cut of ditch	
442	Friable dark greyish brown sandy silt with frequent chalk lumps, occasional small to medium angular flints, up to 0.23m thick.	Dark layer in NE area of site	
443	East-west aligned linear cut with rounded base, at least 4m long, 0.8m wide, 0.3m deep.	Cut of ditch	
444	Soft mid greyish brown clayey sand with occasional chalk pebbles, 0.3m thick.	Fill of [443]	
445	East-west aligned ditch with rounded base, at least 5m long, 1.1m wide, 0.22m deep. Same as [441]	Cut of ditch	
446	Loose light greyish brown silty sand with occasional chalk pebbles, 0.22m thick	Fill of [445]	Early to mid 3 <sup>rd</sup> century
447	Friable mottled white/mid brown chalk/light brown silt, present only in north corner of site, same as (102) on evaluation.	Natural chalk brash	
<b>Monitoring and recording contexts</b>			
448	Friable dark greyish brown slightly clayey silt with occasional gravel, 0.46m thick	Redeposited topsoil	Modern
449	Firm light yellow limestone rubble over terram sheet, 0.05m thick	Made ground	Modern
450	Firm dark brown slightly clayey silt with frequent gravel, occasional CBM flecks, 0.14m thick	Redeposited topsoil	Modern
451	Loose mid yellowish brown coarse sand and grit, 0.07m thick	Made ground	Modern

<b>No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Date</b>
452	Fairly firm dark brown slightly clayey silt with frequent gravel, occasional CBM flecks, 0.23m thick	Made ground	Modern
453	Firm light yellowish brown limestone rubble, 0.06m thick	Made ground	Modern
454	Fairly firm dark greyish brown silt with frequent limestone pebbles, 0.01m thick	Topsoil	
455	Soft dark brown silt with occasional pebbles, 0.3m thick	Subsoil	
456	Soft mid reddish brown silty sand with gravel	Natural	

## Appendix 3

### THE FINDS

#### INTRODUCTION

A moderate quantity of artefacts, about 260 items weighing a total of 4565g, was recovered. Pottery was fairly abundant, as were industrial residues, and brick/tile, fired clay and burnt stone was also collected. Where datable all the artefacts are Roman. Faunal remains were also recovered.

#### ROMAN POTTERY

*By Alex Beeby and Barbara Precious*

##### Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by Darling (2004) and to conform to Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook*. The pottery was recorded using the codes developed by the City of Lincoln Archaeological Unit (Darling and Precious, forthcoming). A total of 67 sherds from 41 vessels, weighing 2173 grams, were recovered from the site. Two sherds were removed for the Roman pottery type series held by the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire. These are a sherd of miscellaneous oxidised ware (OX) from context (410) and a single piece of Iron Age tradition, coarse shell-tempered ware (IASHC), from context (436).

##### 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 Archive catalogue 1.

##### Condition

This is a small group which includes some fairly large and fresh pieces. This is reflected in the high average sherd weight of 32 grams. Although this figure is fairly representative of the group as a whole, a single sherd from (403) weighs considerably more than this at 349 grams, and five of the sherds recovered from samples weigh one gram or less.

A high proportion of vessels (13% of the total) show evidence of use over a hearth or fire, nine displaying internal and/or external sooting. At least four vessels show evidence of surface ware, probably due to domestic use. One of these, a jar or bowl from (403), has a very unusual triangular internal wear pattern, perhaps caused by a spoon or other stirring implement. Sherds from a further two vessels are burnt, possibly the result of post depositional burning. Many of the sherds within this group seem to be encrusted with a natural ferruginous concretion, and/or to have a kind of organic 'staining' characteristic of exposure to a waterlogged environment. There are no cross-context vessels and there are no groups which could be classed as primary deposition with any degree of certainty.

##### Dating

Much of the material is Later Roman in date, the latest pieces in each context belonging to the mid third to fourth Centuries AD. A single context (424), within cut [423], is the only one which solely contains demonstrably pre-third century material, although only two sherds were recovered from here.

*Table 1, Date of the Roman Pottery*

Cut	Fill / Layer	Latest Date Within Context	NoS (all dates)	W (g)	Av. Sherd Weight (g)
400	403	3rd to 4th Century	1	349	349
406	408	3rd to 4th Century	1	69	69
	409	Roman	8	4	2
	410	Mid 3rd Century+	6	253	42.2
-	411*	Late 2nd to 3rd Century*	3	33	11
414	416	Late 3rd to 4th Century	10	502	50.2
419	421	Late 2nd to 3rd Century	1	16	16
420	422	Roman	1	2	2
423	424	Mid to Late 2nd Century	2	38	27

430	432	2nd to 3rd Century	1	9	9
437	436	Mid 3rd Century+	24	677	30.5
439	438	Early to Mid 3rd Century	2	66	33
441	440	Early to Mid 3rd Century	5	147	29.4
445	446	Early to Mid 3rd Century	2	8	4
<b>Total</b>			<b>67</b>	<b>2173</b>	<b>-</b>

*\*Unstratified Context*

## Results

A summary of pottery types recovered from GLSP09 is included in the table below (Table 2). It is of note that the assemblage is composed almost entirely of coarsewares. There is just one piece from a fineware vessel and this is considerably earlier in date than most of the rest of the material.

*Table 2, Summary of the Roman Pottery*

Fabric	Cname	Full name	NoS	NoV	W(g)
Samian	SAMSG	South Gaulish Samian ware	1	1	2
Oxid	OX	Miscellaneous Oxidised ware	5	4	85
Reduced	GREY	Miscellaneous Grey ware	20	11	572
	GREY1	Miscellaneous Grey Ware Type 1 (Site Specific)	17	10	1064
	GREY1C	Miscellaneous Grey Ware Type 1 - Coarse Variant (Site Specific)	2	1	107
	GRFF	Fairly Fine Greyware	1	1	1
	GYMS	Grey Wheel-made with Minimal Fine Shell	3	3	45
Shell	DWSH/DWSH?	Late Shell Tempered Ware	13	6	204
	IASHC	Iron Age Tradition Coarse Shell-Tempered	2	1	87
	SHEL	Miscellaneous Undifferentiated Shell-Tempered	3	3	6
<b>Total</b>			<b>67</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>2173</b>

## Provenance

Most of the Roman pottery came from ditch or pit features. Linear ditches yielding material include cuts [400], [419], [420], [437], [441] and [445]. Material was also recovered from curvilinear ditch [430] as well as pits [406] and [414]. Pit [406] was the only feature to produce pottery from more than one fill, this yielding 22% of the total assemblage by sherd count, from three fills. Small amounts of Roman pottery were also recovered from possible quarry pit [439] and probable pond [423].

## Range

There is a relatively wide range of fabric and coarseware vessel types represented, in both open and closed forms. In total there are five types of grey fabric including Miscellaneous grey ware (GREY), a fairly fine miscellaneous grey ware variant (GRFF), a grey type with a small amount of shell filler (GYMS) and two site-specific grey ware types labelled (GREY1) and (GREY1C). Fabric GREY1 is a pale, fine to medium sandy fabric with moderately well sorted rounded to subrounded quartz inclusions up to 0.5mm in diameter. This fabric contains sparse rounded greenish (glauconitic?) inclusions and dark rounded Iron. Fabric Grey1C is a slightly coarser variation of the same.

There are three types of shell tempered fabric represented, including an Iron Age Type coarse shell-tempered fabric (IASHC), an undifferentiated Roman shelly type (SHEL) and Late Roman Dalesware (DWSH).

The five vessels in miscellaneous oxidised ware (OX) are a little unusual, especially as they are in fairly coarse fabrics these may actually be GREY vessels which have been reoxidised by exposure to a heat source. At least one of these vessels is clearly burnt, supporting this hypothesis. Two bowls in this fabric are discussed further below.

There is also a single piece of Samian ware in a South Gaulish fabric (SAMSG). This vessel, a Form 27 (27) cup, represents the only foreign import. There is no reason to suspect that the remainder of the pottery is not produced fairly locally or at least within the area of Northern Lincolnshire.

There is a mix of utilitarian open and closed forms, mostly jars and bowls. It is notable that there are no beakers, even in coarse fabrics. See Table 3 below for a full breakdown of all the types represented.

All the bowls are relatively late Roman types and are generally found within third and fourth Century assemblages in this area. There are four wide mouthed bowls (BWM), at least one, that from context (416), is a fourth Century



BWM Type 3 (BWM3). Both the form and the bluish-grey fabric of this are similar to that of vessels produced in Lincoln at the Swanpool kiln site (Webster and Booth, 1947, *fig* 4.37-43). The two B38 bowls in fabric OX, from contexts (410) and (436), are of a type imitating a late Samian Form 38. This was widely copied in the third and fourth centuries, especially in colour coated wares. It is probable that the reddish oxidised surfaces, one of which appears to be painted, are actually an attempt to imitate the finish of a colour coated piece. These may also be products of the Swanpool kilns, where vessels of a similar kind are known to have been produced, although the fabrics here are slightly atypical (see Webster and Booth, 1947, 73-74 *fig* 4.33-36).

There is a wide range of jar forms represented, ranging in date from Late Iron Age/early Roman to Later Roman varieties. Among the vessels of note are two lug handled jars (JLH), from contexts (410) (see drawing 1) and (436). These are of a similar type to those recorded from kiln 3 at Dragonby (c.f. Rigby and Stead, 1977, 137, *fig* 64.6) and have a thick, rolled, everted rim and a lightly burnished exterior finish. It is conceivable that these vessels and therefore fabric GREY1 are products of Dragonby, though this can only be speculation. What appears to be another type of handled jar type (JH) was also recorded from (438). This is very unusual and it is possible the grey fabric was actually intended to be cream, this vessel being misfired or damaged before or after deposition. This sherd could therefore be from a flagon rather than a jar. Other notable forms within this classification include a handmade native tradition 'cook pot' jar (CPN) in an Iron Age Type fabric (IASHC) from context (436) and at least one example of a late Roman Dales Ware Jar (JDW).

Table 3, Forms within the Assemblage

Form	Cname	Full name	NoS	NoV	W(g)
-	-	Undiagnostic of Form	11	10	24
Samian	27	Samian Form 27	1	1	2
Open	OPEN?	Unknown Open Form?	1	1	69
Bowl	BFBL	Bead and Flange Rim Bowl	1	1	44
	B38	Bowl Imitation Samian 38	3	2	84
	BWM	Wide Mouthed Bowl	5	3	244
	BWM 3	Late Roman Wide Mouthed Bowl (Type 3)	6	1	341
Closed	CLSD	Unknown Closed Form	9	7	189
Jar	CP	Cook Pot	1	1	8
	CPN	Native Tradition Cook Pot	2	1	87
	JDW	Dales Ware Jar	6	1	139
	JEV	Jar with Everted Rim	1	1	9
	JL	Large Jar	2	1	107
	JH?	Handled Jar?	1	1	47
	JLS	Lid Seated jar	1	1	34
	JLH	Lug-Handled Jar	8	2	261
	JS	Storage Jar	1	1	85
J	Unclassified Jar	5	3	49	
Jar or Beaker	JBK?	Jar or Beaker?	1	1	1
Jar or Bowl	JBL	Large Jar/bowl	1	1	349
<b>Total</b>			<b>67</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>2173</b>

### Potential

The assemblage poses no problems for long term storage and should be retained. Two vessels have been selected for illustration for their intrinsic value. See Table 4 below for a list of illustrated vessels.

Table 4, Illustrated Vessels

Draw	Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Form
01	410	GREY1	Miscellaneous Grey Ware Type 1 (Site Specific)	Jar with Lug Handles
02	424	GYMS	Grey Wheel-made with Minimal Fine Shell	Jar with Lid Seating

### Summary

An interesting small group of pottery was recovered during the strip map and sample investigation. The pottery ranges in date from the first or second to the fourth century, with most contexts dated to the third or fourth centuries. This is in contrast to the material recovered during the evaluation which yielded mostly second or third century pieces. Together these two groups suggest a long period of both industrial and domestic activity on the site during

the Roman era. The dearth of imports, finewares or drinking paraphernalia may suggest a relatively low status level of occupation throughout the Roman period, perhaps on the periphery of a larger settlement

## CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

By Alex Beeby

### Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the ACBMG (2001) and to conform to Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook*. A total of 6 fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 411 grams were 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 5 below.

### Condition

The assemblage is fragmentary but fairly fresh, only a single piece of ceramic building material is notably abraded. The average fragment weight is 68.5 grams which is fairly low for material of this type suggesting some level of redeposition.

### Results

Table 5, Ceramic Building Material Archive

Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Fabric	Description	Date	NoF	W (g)
405	RTMISC	Miscellaneous Roman or Post Roman Tile	Bright Oxid; fine sandy;+ Ca grits up to 0.25mm	abraded; Surfaceless; Fe Concretion	Roman or Post Roman	1	20
	TEG	Tegula	Bright Oxid; fine sandy; dark red ferruginous subangular to angular clay/mudstone pellets; fine mica	End; Signature; bedding sand slightly coarser than fab; poss soot on upper surf; knife trimmed base and sides; 21mm thick	Roman	1	135
409	RTIL?	Miscellaneous Roman Tile	R/OX/R with oxidised surfaces; rare sub-rounded Fe; dark red ferruginous clay/mudstone pellets and streaks of lighter firing clay; sample 5	Tiny piece with upper and lower surfaces; probably Roman; 16mm thick	Roman?	1	8
	TEG	Tegula	R/OX/R with oxidised surfaces; dark red ferruginous clay/mudstone pellets up to 1mm, single Fe grit	Signature; cloth marks on base; 21mm thick	Roman	1	129
410	RBRK?	Roman Brick?	Bright Oxid; dark red ferruginous subangular to angular clay/mudstone pellets	corner; knife trimmed side; probably RBRK	Roman	1	49
416	IMB	Imbrex	Bright oxid; fine sandy; sparse Fe and Ca; Micaceous	Knife trimmed underside; poss cloth marks	Roman	1	70
<b>Total</b>						<b>6</b>	<b>411</b>

### Provenance

Material was retrieved from fill (405) within pit [404], fills (409) and (410) within pit [406] and fill (416) within pit [414].

### Range

Most of the ceramic building material is Roman roofing tile with at least two Tegulae and one Imbrex represented. The two Tegulae are in slightly different fabrics perhaps suggesting multiple buildings or phases of roofing repair in the vicinity of the site. A further piece of tile, from pit [406], is very thin but in a similar fabric to the Roman material suggesting it is of this date; this piece maybe a part of very thin Tegula or some other unidentifiable tile type or roof dressing. There is also a piece from a possible Roman brick.

The fabric of most of the material is generally a well mixed, pale, oxidised, fine sandy variety with dark red clay or mudstone pellets and occasional fine mica. The material from Pit [409] is slightly different with reduced margins, oxidised surfaces and hard ferrous inclusions.

Three fragments within the assemblage are knife trimmed and both of the Tegulae have clear signature marks. One of the Tegulae, as well as the piece of Imbrex from Pit [414], have what may be cloth impressions underneath. A single piece of Tegula has what is possibly a soot deposit on the upper surface, suggesting exposure to a heat source.

### **Potential**

No further work is required on the assemblage. The material should be retained and should pose no problems for long term storage.

### **Summary**

A small fragmentary group of Roman ceramic building material was recovered during the excavation; this includes roofing tiles and possibly at least one brick. All of the material was recovered from pit features.

## **FIRED CLAY**

*By Alex Beeby*

### **Introduction**

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in the Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook*. A total of 4 fragments weighing 72 grams were recovered from the site.

### **Methodology**

The material was laid out and viewed before being counted and weighed. This data was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the fired clay is included in Table 6, below.

### **Condition**

One piece is abraded and formless whilst one is formless with a wattle impression. All of the pieces of fired clay within the assemblage show evidence of burning.

### **Results**

*Table 6, Fired Clay Archive*

<b>Cxt</b>	<b>Sub type</b>	<b>Fabric</b>	<b>NoF</b>	<b>W (g)</b>	<b>Description</b>
410	Unclassified	Oxid; fine sandy	1	2	Formless; abraded; burnt
422	Daub	OX/R; Fine sandy; micaceous	3	70	Joining pieces; wattle impression; burnt/partially reduced

### **Provenance**

Fired clay was recovered from fill (410) within pit [406] and fill (422) within ditch [420]

### **Range**

There are four pieces of fired clay from GLSP09. One piece has a clear linear impression, probably from a wattle frame. This piece is also burnt and the fabric is partially reduced suggesting exposure to a high temperature heat source. A small formless abraded piece of fired clay was also recovered but is undiagnostic and undatable.

### **Potential**

The material should be retained and should pose no problems for long term storage. There is little scope for further work.

### **Summary**

Four pieces of fired clay were recovered from the site, one of which has a clear wattle impression.

## **FAUNAL REMAINS**

*By Paul Cope-Faulkner*

### **Introduction**

A total of 425 (2092g) fragments of animal bone were recovered from stratified contexts.

### **Provenance**

The animal bone derived from the fills of ditches (403, 405, 421, 432, 436, 444 and 446), the fills of pits (409, 410, 415 and 416), the fill of a pond (424) and as unstratified material (411).

## Condition

The overall condition of the remains was good to moderate, though a single bone exhibited chalkiness.

## Results

Table 7, Fragments Identified to Taxa

Cxt	Taxon	Element	Number	W (g)	Comments
403	cattle	mandible	15	224	includes 1 molar
	cattle	skull	2	29	
405	cattle	femur	2	231	join
	medium mammal	skull	1	2	
409	cattle	metacarpus	1	145	
409 <5>	pig	molar	1	8	
	medium mammal	skull	327	92	
	amphibian	various	10	<1	
	small mammal	scapula	1	<1	
410	large mammal	scapula	7	83	all join
	large mammal	?humerus	1	49	
411	cattle	skull; horn core	6	73	chalky
	horse	metatarsus	1	94	
415	large mammal	unidentified	2	14	
416	cattle	molar	9	431	2 join; rodent gnawing
	cattle	pre-molar	3	40	
	cattle	mandible	6	110	
	cattle	skull	1	32	
	cattle	metacarpal	3	250	
	cattle	phalange	1	16	
	large mammal	unidentified	9	28	
416 <6>	Unknown	Unidentified	10	2	Small fragment, uncertain fragment Minute fragment
	Banded snail?	Shell	1	<1	
	Ramshorn snail?	Shell	1	<1	
	unidentified	Snail shell	1	<1	
421	large mammal	unidentified	2	2	
424	cattle	horn core	3	22	heavily concreted
432	medium mammal	rib	1	21	
	medium mammal	scapula	1	4	
436	large mammal	mandible	8	80	all join; recent breaks
444	medium mammal	unidentified	1	1	
446	large mammal	unidentified	1	9	

## Summary

The animal bone assemblage is dominated by cattle with horse and pig also present, but the latter only represented by a single bone. The medium mammals may be sheep/goat which, otherwise, is absent from the assemblage. Smaller faunal remains (fish, bird etc) were not recognised in the samples which may suggest that the features were not close to settlement, but in an area set aside for a specialised function such as butchery.

Overall, the assemblage is too small for meaningful analysis, though should be retained as part of the site archive.

## ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS

By James Rackham

### Introduction and method statement

Investigations at Great Limber recorded ditches, pits and deposits of Roman date. Two samples for the retrieval of the palaeoenvironmental remains were taken from the features and were submitted for examination.

The samples were bulk floated and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. No assemblages contained waterlogged remains so all the residues and flots were stored dry. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16, and the environmental remains noted are listed in Table 8.

### Results

Both samples contained modern roots and Sample 6 also contained uncharred elder seeds, which will be modern. No other palaeoenvironmental material was present.

Table 8, Environmental Material

Context No.	Sample No.	Feature Type	Sample volume (litres)	Flot volume (litres)	% Flot sorted	Contents
409	5	Pit 406	10	<0.1	100	Modern roots
416	6	Pit 414	10	<0.1	100	Modern roots; uncharred elder seeds

### Discussion

The presence of modern roots and seeds indicates the Roman deposits have been affected by modern plant growth. This may be responsible for the lack of ancient environmental material.

## OTHER FINDS

By Gary Taylor

### Introduction

A mixed assemblage of other finds, at least 185 items weighing a total of 1909g, was recovered.

### Condition

The other finds are in good, archive-stable condition.

### Results

Table 9, Other Materials

Cxt	Material	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
402	Wood	Worked, cut to rectangular shape and end squared off, stake?	1	15	
408	Stone	Burnt stone	1	518	
409	Slag	Iron slag with attached furnace lining; abundant charcoal inclusions	1	399	
	Coal	Coal	19	1	
	Charcoal	Charcoal	9	1	
	Magnetic material	Some cindery-slaggy grains, no obvious hammerscale	n/a	1	
	Fire residue/slag	Some cindery-slaggy fragments	106	16	
410	Slag	Slagged and vitrified furnace lining	1	11	
	Stone	Burnt stone, several smooth areas, quern fragment?	1	584	
416	Stone	Burnt stone, 1 side very smooth, possible paving	1	347	
	Charcoal	Charcoal	7	1	
	Magnetic material	Some cindery-slaggy grains, 2-3 flakes of hammerscale	n/a	1	
	Coal	Coal	4	1	
	Fire residue/slag	Some cindery-slaggy fragments	32	4	
422	Slag	Iron smithing slag	2	4	
	Slag	Slagged and vitrified furnace lining	1	5	

### Provenance

The other finds were recovered from ditch fills (402 and 422), and pit fills (408, 409, 410, 416).

### Range

Almost all the other artefacts are associated with pyrotechnological activity and these include pieces of coal and charcoal. Industrial residues include iron slags, including a few pieces of plate hammerscale, and pieces of furnace lining. The largest individual piece of slag, from (409), is indeterminate; it has some of the characteristics of smithing slag, and its attachment to the hearth lining is more typical of smithing slags, particularly hearth bottoms, but it lacks the usual diagnostic traits of such. It is also heavy and also has some similarities to unusual Roman smelting slags that have been found near Gainsborough (*J. Cowgill, pers comm*). However, overall these residues suggest that iron smithing took place at the site, but the bulk slags normally associated with this process are lacking. This may be because slag was removed from the site, or that the slag dumping was very confined and was located away from the excavation area.

### Potential

The other finds have moderate potential and in particular the industrial residues indicate that iron smithing took place at the site or very nearby.

## SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 10 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 10, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
403	3rd to 4th Century	Based on a single sherd
405	Roman	
408	3rd to 4th Century	Based on a single sherd
409	Roman	
410	Mid 3rd Century+	
411	Late 2nd to 3rd Century*	
416	Late 3rd to 4th Century	
421	Late 2nd to 3rd Century	Based on a single sherd
422	Roman	Based on a single sherd
424	Mid to Late 2nd Century	
432	2nd to 3rd Century	Based on a single sherd
436	Mid 3rd Century+	
438	Early to Mid 3rd Century	
440	Early to Mid 3rd Century	
446	Early to Mid 3rd Century	

## 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, Roman Pottery

Cxt	Cname	Form	Dec	Alter	Dr	Comments	NoS	NoV	W(g)
403	GREY1	JBL		SOOT EX; SCALE; WORN INT		BASE 100%; INTRESTING TRIANGULAR WEAR PAT; REUSE?; PALE GREY MARGINS	1	1	349
403	ZDATE					3-4C	0	0	0
403	ZZZ					CURIOUS WEAR PATTERN	0	0	0
408	GREY1	OPEN?		BURNT+OBRE AK; DEPOSIT; WORN UNDER BASE; FS		BASE 50%; STRING SMOOTHED	1	1	69
408	ZDATE					3-4C	0	0	0
409	GREY			V ABR; SAMPLE 5		V SMALLFRAGS	4	3	1
409	GRFF	JBK?		ABR; SAMPLE 5		FRAG	1	1	1
409	OX			V ABR; SAMPLE 5		V SMALL FRAGS	2	2	1
409	SHEL			V ABR; SAMPLE 5		V SMALL FRAG	1	1	1
409	ZDATE					RO	0	0	0
409	ZZZ					SCRAPPY GROU; SAMPLE ONLY	0	0	0
410	DWSH			SOOT EX; WORN OR LEACHED INT		BS	1	1	10
410	GREY	BWM	BIA?; BHL	FE CONC		BSS; JOIN	2	1	105
410	GREY1	JLH			1	RIM TO TOP OF SHLDR; CF DRAGONBY AND ROXBY TYPES	1	1	81
410	OX	B38	PAINT BLOBS?	ABR; WORN INT		BS;FLANGE; FS; CF ROXBY/DRAGONBY FAB ABUN BLACK FE	1	1	55
410	SAMSG	27		WORN LIP		RIM; 1E2C	1	1	2
410	ZDATE					M3+	0	0	0
410	ZZZ					MIXED GROUP	0	0	0
411	GREY	BWM	B			BS; ROXBY FAB?	1	1	18
411	GREY	CLSD				BS	1	1	7
411	GREY	CP	BDL			BS	1	1	8
411	ZDATE					L2-3C	0	0	0
416	GREY	BFB	B?	FE CONC ENCRUSTED; HEAVILY SOOTED		RIM TO LWALL; THIN WALL	1	1	44
416	GREY	BWM3	B	FE CONC		RIMS TO GIRTH; BSS; V LARGE 37CM DIAM; SPOOL?	6	1	341
416	GREY 1	CLSD		ABR		BASE FRAG; SAMPLE 6	1	1	6
416	GREY1	CLSD		TRIMMED?		BASE 100%; REUSE?	1	1	110
416	SHEL					FRAG; SAMPLE 6	1	1	1
416	ZDATE					L3-4C	0	0	0
416	ZZZ					SOME V FRESH PIECES	0	0	0
421	GREY1	CLSD	B	FE STAIN INT		BS	1	1	16
421	ZDATE					L2-3+	0	0	0
422	GYMS	CLSD		FE CONC		BS	1	1	2
422	ZDATE					RO	0	0	0

Cxt	Cname	Form	Dec	Alter	Dr	Comments	NoS	NoV	W(g)
424	GREY	CLSD		FE CONC		BS	1	1	4
424	GYMS	JLS	B	FE CONC	2	RIM; CF ROXBY TYPE	1	1	34
424	ZDATE					ML2C	0	0	0
432	GYMS	JEV	B; WM			RIM; NICE BURNISHED AS BB1	1	1	9
436	DWSH	JDW		SOOT INT AND EX		RIM; BSS; LARGE VESS	6	1	139
436	DWSH?		WIPE INT			FLAKE	1	1	6
436	GREY	CLSD				BSS	3	1	44
436	GREY1	JS		ABR OR WORN BASE; WATER STAIN		BS BASAL	1	1	85
436	GREY1	JLH	B	FE STAIN		RIMS; BSS; JOIN; CF DR 1	7	1	180
436	GREY1C	JL		FE STAIN		BSS	2	1	107
436	IASHC	CPN	WIPE EX WF	SOOT EX		RIM; BS; NO LTR THN M2C; FS; PB IN RIM	2	1	87
436	OX	B38		BURNT; WORN INT		BSS;FLANGE	2	1	29
436	ZDATE					M3C+	0	0	0
436	ZZZ					GD GRP	0	0	0
438	DWSH	J	HM	SOOT EX		BS	1	1	19
438	GREY1	JH?		BURNT EX		HANDLE; POSS BURNT CR FLAGON HANDLE?	1	1	47
438	ZDATE					EM3C+	0	0	0
440	DWSH	J	WIPE EX	SOOT INT AND EX		BSS	3	1	26
440	GREY1	BWM	B EX	WATER CONC	3	BSS	2	1	121
440	ZDATE					EM3C+	0	0	0
446	DWSH			SOOT INT		BS	1	1	4
446	SHEL	J		SOOT INT		BS	1	1	4
446	ZDATE					EM3C	0	0	0



## Appendix 4

### GLOSSARY

<b>Anglo-Saxon</b>	Pertaining to the period when Britain was occupied by peoples from northern Germany, Denmark and adjacent areas. The period dates from approximately AD 450-1066.
<b>Camera</b>	A residence used during short visits by an official and attendants of the Knights Hospitallers for administrative purposes on their estates.
<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>Domesday Survey</b>	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
<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>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>Old English</b>	The language used by the Anglo-Saxon (q.v.) occupants of Britain.
<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.

## Appendix 5

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

3	Context register sheets
47	Context record sheets
2	Photographic record sheets
1	Plan record sheet
1	Section record sheet
6	Daily record sheets
1	Sample record sheet
2	Environmental sample sheets
7	Levels sheets
20	Sheets of scale drawings
1	Stratigraphic Matrix
1	Box of finds

All primary records are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

The Collection  
Danes Terrace  
Lincoln  
LN2 1LP

The archive will be deposited in accordance with the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives*, produced by the Lincolnshire City and County Museum.

The Collection Accession Number:	2008.70
Archaeological Project Services Site Code:	GLSP 09
OASIS Record No:	archaeo11-64689

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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