ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION ON LAND ADJACENT TO CARRSIDE/AXHOLME DRIVE EPWORTH NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE (EPAD09)

Work Undertaken For
The Robert Doughty Consultancy and
J. Breheny Contractors Ltd

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES

Quality Control

Archaeological Evaluation at
Axholme Drive/Carrside,
Epworth,
North Lincolnshire
EPAD09

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation comprising nine trenches was undertaken on land adjacent to Carrside and Axholme Drive, Epworth, North Lincolnshire in order to assess the impact of the proposed development on archaeological remains.

The area is archaeologically-sensitive, with remains interpreted as parts of an Iron Age-Roman field system previously found immediately to the south. Cropmarks of ditches have also been identified just to the south. Geophysical survey of the site itself recorded remains of ridge and furrow agricultural features of probable medieval date.

The evaluation revealed two possible Iron Age ditches that may relate to field systems and agricultural use of the land during the period. A silted up watercourse also contained some Iron Age pottery.

Medieval activity at the site was attested to by a single pit which contained four sherds of pottery, a significant amount of burnt animal bone (mostly fish) and environmental evidence of crop processing waste, suggesting nearby habitation and an agricultural use of the land in the medieval period. A ditch terminus at the southern end of the site contained a single sherd of medieval pottery, though it is possible that this was redeposited.

Two features of probable 18th century date were identified in the northern part of the site. These probably relate to buildings that were mapped on the northern street frontage of the site by the 1795 Epworth Inclosure Map.

It was found that the western side of the site had been lowered significantly, possibly when the adjacent railtrack was constructed in the 19th century. A modern pit and ditch were also identified in this area.

Finds retrieved during the investigation comprised a small quantity of pottery of Iron Age, medieval and post-medieval date, and animal bone.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

An archaeological evaluation is defined as, *'a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If such archaeological remains are present Field Evaluation defines their character and extent, quality and preservation, and it enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate'* (IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services (APS) was commissioned by the Robert Doughty Consultancy on behalf of J. Breheny Contractors Ltd to undertake a programme of trial trench archaeological evaluation.

Planning permission (application no. PA/2007/1970) for residential development comprising 40 houses has been granted by North Lincolnshire Council. The North Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record Office (NLSMR) has advised that an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching is required to inform any necessary mitigation measures, and provided a brief for investigations (NLSMR 2006) and a generic brief for evaluation (NLSMR nd). In response to those briefs a specification was prepared by APS and approved by NLSMR (Appendix 1). The fieldwork was carried

out between 19th-26th October 2009.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Epworth is located 12km southwest of Scunthorpe in North Lincolnshire (Fig. 1). The site is in the southwestern part of the town, on the south side of Carrside, immediately east of the disused railtrack at national grid reference SE 7740 0395. Axholme Drive meets the eastern side of the site (Fig. 2-3).

Epworth is on the west side of a ridge of higher ground known as the Isle of Axholme. The investigation site is on a very gentle slope down to the west at *c*. 5m OD. Soils at the site are Worcester Association reddish clayey soils developed on Lower Triassic Mercian mudstone (Hodge *et al*. 1984).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Numerous finds of prehistoric artefacts have been recorded in the area, largely through archaeological fieldwalking projects. Surface finds of worked flints, including blades tentatively dated to the Mesolithic period, were found near Skyers Farm, *c*.450m southwest of the southern end of the site (SMR ref. 17389). The closest finds to the site are a broken Neolithic stone axe-head, found in the garden of a house at Battle Green, *c*. 100m from the northeast corner of the site (SMR ref. 19596), and a single unstratified flint flake found during an archaeological evaluation directly to the south of the site (SMR ref. 19819). However, overall, the finds record suggests that prehistoric activity was concentrated on the higher ground to the north of the village (Gardner 2006).

The site is in an area of Iron Age and Roman remains. Investigations just to the south revealed magnetic anomalies of several north-south linear features (EAS 2002). Subsequent trenching in that area identified several (6) ditches, two of which contained Iron Age and Roman pottery. These are likely to be ditches of a field system related to nearby settlement of Iron Age-Roman date (McCluskey 2003).

Epworth is first recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 and was in existence in the Late Saxon period. The place-name is of Old English derivation and probably means 'Eoppa's enclosure', from the personal name Eoppa and '*worth*' (Cameron 1998, 41-2). At the time of Domesday the land was largely agricultural but there were 11 fisheries (Foster and Longley 1976).

No buildings survive from the medieval period, but finds are quite common. Fieldwalking carried out by the Humber Wetlands Project retrieved medieval and post-medieval pottery to the north and west of the town (SMR refs. 2457, 17302, 17308), and medieval pottery has also been found to the east of Skyers Farm (SMR ref. 17389).

The inhabitants of the Isle of Axholme had specific common rights under the terms of the Mowbray Deed, a charter granted by Sir John Mowbray, lord of the manor of Epworth, in 1360. Tenant farmers had full use of the common land and privileges included turbary (the right to dig turf or peat), felling trees for the banking of the Trent and retting hemp in certain waters. Hemp appears to have been a major crop in Epworth's history, along with flax. Due to the smell, retting pits were located away from the centre of the village and possible post-medieval retting pits have been identified as cropmarks to the west of Skyers Farm (SMR ref. 19476). The dressing of flax and hemp was the town's main industry during the 18th and 19th centuries (Ella 1994).

Epworth is mostly built of brick. Brick

manufacture had taken place in the Isle of Axholme from the medieval period and grew in Epworth from the 16th century (Ella 1994).

Epworth is unusual in retaining its medieval open-field system of agriculture. However, in 1787 the site itself was at the edge of the enclosed land of Epworth, immediately alongside the Low Carr Common (LAO MCD851/17/1). By 1795 the area was divided into fields and there were buildings on the northern street frontage (Epworth Inclosure Map 1795). The land parcelling remained unchanged until the 20th century though, by then, the railway had been constructed along the western boundary of the site and buildings recorded on the western part of the northern frontage in 1795 had been removed (OS 1907).

Cropmarks of north-south aligned ditches have been reported in the area and may extend into the current investigation site. Geophysical survey of the southern part of the present site revealed evidence of ridge and furrow ploughing and some anomalies suggestive of pits or areas of burning. Most of the ridge and furrow was aligned north-south but at the western edge of the site it was northeast-southwest. A possible ditch was also recorded at the western edge of the site (Gardner 2006).

3. AIMS

The aims and objectives of the evaluation were to determine or confirm the general nature of any remains present, their approximate date or date range by means of artefactual or other evidence and their condition and state of preservation, to determine the degree of complexity of the horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present, to determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of any artefactual evidence present and to determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence and the forms in which such evidence may be present.

4. METHODS

The trial trenching arrangement was specified as nine trenches, four at 15m long, three of 20m, and two of 30m. A trench layout arrangement was defined by the NLSMR. Due to the presence of live services, detected by use of a cable avoidance tool, the location of one of the trenches (Trench 8) was moved slightly to the south from its proposed position.

The locations of all trenches were surveyed to the Ordnance Survey National Grid by GPS. The location of each is shown on Figure 3.

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

Following excavation, all records were checked and ordered to ensure that they constituted a complete Level II archive and a stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced. Phasing was based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

5. RESULTS

The observations recorded for each of the trial trenches are discussed in trench order.

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

Trench 1

A natural deposit of orange sand (102), 0.8m below ground surface at 4.25mOD, was recorded in the base of Trench 1 (Figs 4 & 10, Section 24). This was overlain by a 0.25m thick brownish grey clayey sand subsoil (101) (Fig 10, Section 24). The subsoil was sealed by 0.55m thick dark greyish brown sandy clay topsoil (101) (Fig 10, Section 24). Two ceramic field drains crossed the trench.

Trench 2

The earliest deposits recorded in this trench were layers of naturally deposited yellowish white silty clay (204), greyish red silty clay (203) (Fig 4), yellowish grey silty clay (202) (Figs 4, 9 & 10, Sections 17 & 22) (Plates 1 & 5) and greyish red sand (211) (Fig 4). The top of these natural deposits occurred approximately 0.85m below the current ground surface at a height of *c.* 4.55mOD.

Cut into natural deposit (211) was a 6m wide palaeochannel [212] oriented northeast-southwest (Figs 4 & 10, Section 21) (Plate 3). This had irregular shaped sides and base and was filled with grey sand and clayey sands (213-215). Two fragments of Iron Age pottery and 12 fragments of animal bone were recovered from (213) and another bone was found in (214).

Towards the south-eastern end of the trench a heavily truncated curvilinear feature [207] was exposed (Figs 4 & 9, Section 17) (Plate 5). This feature formed an approximate 'U' shape, entering and exiting the trench from the south-west edge. It measured 0.62m in width and had a depth of 60mm and a flat base. This shallow feature was filled with brownish grey clayey silt (208).

Gully [207] was cut by a sub-rectangular pit [205] with rounded corners measuring 1.28m long x 1.05m wide x at least 0.65m deep (Figs 4 and 9, Section 16) (Plate 4). This steep-sided pit was not fully excavated due to its depth below the water table. A single fill consisting of soft mid reddish grey clayey silt (206), with occasional charcoal flecks and a fragment of 16th to 17th century brown glazed earthenware pottery, was recorded within this feature.

Feature [207] was also truncated by northeast-southwest oriented ditch [209], which measured 0.87m wide x 0.45m deep with fairly steep sides breaking gradually to a concave base (Figs 4 & 9, Section 17) (Plate 5). This ditch was filled with a soft light greyish brown clayey silt (210), containing occasional fragments of mudstone.

A 0.40m thick layer of firm mid greyish brown clayey silt (201) subsoil overlay all features and was sealed by a 0.45m thick firm dark grey silt topsoil (200) (Fig 10, Section 22).

Trench 3

At the base of Trench 3, approximately 0.60m below the ground surface at a height of 5.70m OD, lay a natural deposit of soft light whitish grey clayey silt (302) containing frequent fragments of mudstone (Figs 4, 9 & 10, Sections 18 & 20) (Plates 6 & 7).

Towards the northern end of the trench the natural clayey silt (302) was cut by an east-west oriented ditch [304], 1.05m wide x 0.44m deep, with steep sides, breaking gradually to a concave base (Figs 4 & 9, Section 18) (Plate 6). This was filled with a soft mid brownish grey clayey silt (305) which contained occasional charcoal flecks and pieces of mudstone along with a single sherd of Late Iron Age to Roman pottery.

In the southern part of the trench an ovoid pit [308] was partially exposed cut through natural deposit (302) and measuring 1.15m wide by at least 0.28m deep, with gently sloping sides breaking gradually to a concave base (Figs 4 & 10, Section 20) (Plate 7). The fill of this feature comprised mid brownish grey silt (309) with occasional charcoal flecks and four sherds of medieval pottery. Numerous, though small, pieces of animal bone were also retrieved from this deposit, including 77 fragments of fish bone, 12 amphibian and 15 mammal. Charred wheat and barley grains and legumes were also present in the deposit and retrieved by environmental sampling.

A shallow linear feature [306], 0.40m wide x 60mm deep, was recorded near the centre of the trench and truncated during machining due to its diminutive size (Figs 4 & 10, Section 19). This feature was filled with a soft dark brown clayey silt (307) which contained three sherds of 17th to 18th century pottery.

All features were overlain by a 0.28m thick mid brownish grey silt (301) subsoil, which in turn was sealed by a 0.32m thick dark brownish grey silt topsoil (300) (Figs 9 & 10, Sections 18 & 20) (Plates 6 & 7).

Trench 4

A layer of firm to hard, light greyish green clay and mudstone (402) occurred approximately 0.40m below ground surface, at a height of *c.* 6.46m OD, in the base of Trench 4 (Figs 5 & 10, Section 23) (Plate 8).

A single northwest-southeast oriented linear feature [405] cut through the natural in the northern end of this trench (Figs 5 & 10, Section 23) (Plate 8). This ditch measured 1.24m wide x 0.61m deep and had gentle then steep sloping sides, breaking gradually to a slightly concave base. The feature contained two separate fills, the lower consisting of firm, light to mid yellowish brown silty sand and redeposited natural (404) with some slightly darker patches, 0.20m thick. The upper fill comprised firm, light to mid yellowish brown silty sand (403), 0.42m thick.

A firm mid brown slightly clayey sand subsoil (401) overlay feature [405] and was 0.17m thick (Fig 10, Section 23) (Plate 8). The subsoil was sealed by a 0.36m wide dark greyish brown sandy clay topsoil (400) with occasional mudstone flecks (Fig 10, Section 23) (Plate 8).

Trench 5

Natural deposits at the base of Trench 5 consisted of light greyish green mudstone (504), overlain by light grey silty clay (503) (Figs 5 & 8, Section 9) (plate 9) and red silty clay (502) (Fig 4). The natural deposits began to occur approximately 0.45m below the current ground surface, at a height of 6.07m OD.

A 0.27m wide x 80mm deep, north-south oriented linear feature [505], with gently sloping sides breaking gradually to a shallow concave base, cut through natural deposit (502) (Figs 5 & 8, Section 7). This shallow feature was filled with a soft mid reddish grey silt (506), containing occasional charcoal flecks.

A second north-south oriented linear feature [507] cut natural deposit (502) and measured 0.90m wide by 0.15m deep (Figs 5 & 8, Section 8). This cut had moderately steep sides, breaking gradually to a flat base and was filled with firm, mid reddish grey clayey silt (508), with occasional charcoal flecks and mudstone fragments and a piece of burnt stone. Environmental sampling of the deposit yielded snail shells that suggested the gully was in an open grassland environment, but seasonally held water.

A third north-south oriented linear [509], 1.4m wide and 0.42m deep, cut through natural deposit (503) and had irregular sides breaking fairly sharply to a flat base (Fig 5 & 8, Section 9) (Plate 9). Deposit (510) filled this ditch and consisted of mid reddish grey clayey silt containing occasional charcoal flecks and pieces of mudstone. A piece of burnt stone and three very fragmentary sherds of probable Iron Age pottery were recovered from this deposit, while environmental sampling yielded snail shells indicating an open grassland environment at the time this small ditch was silting up.

To the west of ditch [509] an oval shaped feature [511] was partially exposed cut into natural deposit (503) (Figs 5 & 8, Section 10). This cut measured at least 0.78m long x 0.82m wide x 0.17m deep and displayed irregular sides and base. It was filled with firm, mid greyish red clayey silt (512), containing occasional charcoal flecks.

All features were overlain by a firm, mid reddish brown clayey silt subsoil (501), up to 0.62m thick (Fig 8, Sections 7-10) (Plate 9). This subsoil was sealed by a 0.50m thick topsoil deposit (500) of soft dark brownish grey clayey silt, containing occasional pieces of mudstone and modern debris (Fig 8, Sections 7-10) (Plate 9).

Trench 6

A natural deposit of firm to hard, light greyish green clay and mudstone (602), mixed with firm red clay and brownish red sandy clay occurred at the base of this trench *c.* 0.63m below ground level at a height of 6.46m OD (Fig 4).

An oval feature [604] measuring 0.68m wide x 1.70m long x 0.21m deep with irregular sides and a concave base was cut into natural deposit (602) (Figs 4 & 7, Section 4). This feature was filled with a firm, slightly yellowish brown clayey sand (603).

To the south of feature [604] a thin linear [606] and a wider linear [608], both oriented east-west, ran into each other before exiting the trench (Fig 4). However, no stratigraphic relationship between them could be ascertained. The narrow linear [606] had a width of 0.44m and a maximum depth of 0.20m, with irregular sides and base and may be an animal burrow (Figs 4 & 8, Section 5). A firm, slightly yellowish brown clayey sand (605) filled this feature. The wider linear [608] measured 1.10m in width and had a depth of 0.12m and a concave base (Figs 4 & 8, Section 8). This probable furrow was filled by a deposit of firm, mid reddish greyish brown sandy clay (607), containing occasional fragments of mudstone.

A possible linear or ovoid feature (610) was partially exposed in the northernmost end of the trench, cut through natural layer (602) (Figs 4 & 8, Section 6). Perhaps a ditch terminal, this cut had steep sides breaking gradually to a concave tapering base and was filled with a firm mid brown clayey sand (609).

Trench 7

The natural deposit in this trench, revealed *c.* 0.45m below ground level at 5.6m OD, comprised hard light greyish green mudstone (702) (Fig 6).

This was cut, towards the south end of the trench by east-west aligned linear feature [704] (Fig 9, Section 13) which was 1.8m wide, 0.14m deep and filled by mid brown slightly clayey sand with mudstone flecks (703). The natural was also cut, 8m to the north, by steep-sided, flat bottomed ovoid post hole [707] (Fig 9, Section 14) (Plate 10), which measured 0.43m by 0.42m and had a 0.36m depth. This was filled by 0.23m thick mid greyish brown sandy clay (706), which in turn was overlain by 0.12m thick dark brown sandy clay (705),

which contained animal bone and a fragment of burnt stone, possibly former packing material. Bone fragments were also recovered from (706).

These features were sealed by 0.2m thick mid brown clayey sand subsoil (701) which was below 0.28m thick topsoil (700) (Fig 9, Section 13).

Trench 8

At the base of the trench in the eastern end, approximately 1m below ground level at 3.33m OD, was light grey-green clay and mudstone (803) (Fig 6). At 1.80m from the eastern end of the trench the natural changed to a friable light reddish yellowish brown sand (802) which occurred at a height of 3.41m OD (Figs 6 & 10, Section 25). These natural deposits were overlain by a 0.46m thick, friable, mid yellowish greyish brown sand subsoil (801) (Fig 10, Section 25). The subsoil layer was sealed by a 0.47m thick, firm, dark greyish brown sandy clay topsoil (800) (Fig 10, Section 25).

Trench 9

In this trench, the natural was a mix of light orangey red and light greyish green clay, light grey green silt and yellowish red sand (902) (Figs 6 & 7, Section 1) (Plates 2 & 11). These natural deposits were encountered 0.35m below ground level at approximately 7m OD.

This was cut by a number of features. At the west end of the trench, northwest-southeast oriented linear feature [922] (Figs 6 & 9, Section 15) was at least 4.5m long, 0.6m wide and 0.2m deep. It was filled with mid brownish grey clayey silt (923).

North to south oriented shallow linear feature [920] (Figs 6 & 9, Section 12) was 1.8m wide and 0.06m deep and filled with mid reddish grey clayey silt (921).

Probable linear terminus [915] (Figs 6 & 7, Section 3) (Plate 12) measured 1.25m wide by 0.34m deep and was filled by 0.26m thick mid yellowish greyish brown silt (916) overlain by 0.08m thick mid greyish brown clayey silt (917). Animal bones were recovered from (916) along with a sherd of pottery dating to the mid 13th to 15th century.

At the east end of the trench northwest-southeast aligned ditch [903] (Figs 6 & 7, Section 1) (Plate 11) cut into the natural. This measured 1.65m wide by 0.42m deep. The lower fill was 0.05m thick light greyish green and white clayey silt (904) overlain by 0.1m thick mid greyish green clayey silt (905). Above this was 0.26m thick mid orangey brown clayey sand (906) overlain by 0.09m thick dark orangey brown sand (907). This was topped by 0.11m thick mid greyish brown silty sand (908).

These features were sealed by mid greyish brown clayey silt subsoil (901) that was up to 0.26m thick, but occurred intermittently (Figs 7 & 8, Sections 1 & 11). Two features were cut into this subsoil.

Steep-sided north-south ditch [918] (Figs 6 & 8, Section 11) (Plate 13) was 1m wide and 0.65m deep and filled with mid greyish brown silt (919).

Approximately oval, steep-sided pit [909] (Figs 6 & 7, Section 2) (Plate 7) was 1.76m wide and 0.95m deep. Lower fill (914) was 0.5m thick brownish grey silt and ash overlain by 0.35m thick mid grey brown silt (913). Above this was 0.28m thick dark greyish brown silt (912) which was below 0.2m thick mid greyish brown silt (911) with frequent flecks of limestone. This was sealed by mid greyish brown silt (910).

These features were overlain by 0.3m thick dark greyish brown sandy silt topsoil (900)

(Figs 7 & 8, Sections 1 & 11).

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits mostly consisted of mudstones and clay, though toward the northern end of the site they were silty clays and sand. The surface of the natural deposits declined from southeast to northwest from 7m OD down to about 4.3m OD. On the west side of the site, at Trench 8, natural was much lower, at *c*. 3.3m OD, though in nearby Trench 5, only 20m away, is was at 6.1m OD. It seems likely that the lower level of the natural in Trench 8 is due to major truncation, perhaps when the adjacent railtrack was constructed in the 19th century.

Toward the northern end of the site, in the area where sand forms the natural, was a palaeochannel. Although a natural feature, this yielded animal bone and Iron Age pottery, indicating it was open but gradually infilling at that time. Iron Age remains are known in the area and their presence here indicates at least some activity of the period at the site.

A single sherd of Late Iron Age to Roman pottery was recovered from an east-west oriented linear ditch [304] in Trench 3. To the south of the site, six north-south aligned linear features were identified previously, two of which contained Iron Age and Roman pottery (McCluskey 2003). These probably represent field ditches and raise the possibility that the linear in Trench 3 also represents part of a field system, possibly the same field system observed to the south, perhaps forming a northern boundary running from east to west. A north-south running linear in Trench 5 contained four sherds of Iron Age pottery and could also form part of the same field system. It is possible that this ditch may continue to extend north to meet with the east-west oriented ditch in Trench 3, possibly demarcating an enclosed field to the east of the ditch (with the possibility of another to the west). The presence of field systems would indicate agricultural use of the land during this period. However, the pottery recovered from the fills of these ditches is both scarce and fragmentary, suggesting that it may be redeposited, which raises problems with regards to dating.

In the southern part of Trench 3 an ovoid pit [308] was revealed which contained four sherds of medieval pottery. This pit also contained a significant amount of animal bone, mostly fish, which was burnt. Environmental sampling of the fill revealed the presence of barley and wheat grains, large and small legumes and small charred weed seeds. These probably represent crop processing waste and suggest nearby occupation and an agricultural use of the land in this period. The significant amount of burnt fish bone, along with some mammal and amphibian, suggests that food was being prepared and consumed in the area, perhaps associated with habitation in the vicinity or by those who were labouring in the fields. A ditch terminal [915] in Trench 9, at the southeastern corner of the site, was also medieval.

In Trench 2 a shallow thin linear feature which appeared to be describing a U shape contained no dateable material but was truncated by a steep-sided sub-rectangular pit which contained a fragment of 16th to 17th century pottery. However, the 16th to 17th century date must remain tentative, as only a single sherd (which may have been redeposited) was recovered. Although the U shaped feature contained no remains, it is cut by, and so must predate, the sub-rectangular pit. A northeast-southwest ditch also cut the U shaped feature. Although this ditch contained no dateable material, it is probable that it dates to the same period as the sub-rectangular pit, as

they both contain similar fills and probably relate to buildings that were mapped on the northern street frontage of the site by the 1795 Epworth Inclosure Map.

A number of undated features were observed and investigated across the site. These included an undated northwest-southeast oriented ditch in Trench 4 which had a substantial depth of 0.61m. Much shallower undated features were recorded in Trench 5 and included an ovoid cut, a 0.90m wide shallow north-south linear and a second, much thinner, north-south linear. In Trench 6 a fairly shallow undated ovoid cut had irregular sides and was interpreted as natural, as was another shallow and thin linear within that trench. An undated wide shallow feature and what could possibly be the terminus of an undated small ditch were also recorded in this trench. Trench 7 contained an undated east-west oriented thin shallow feature and an undated post-hole from which animal bone and a burnt stone were retrieved. The stone may represent the remains of packing material placed around the post. In Trench 9 undated features included a northwest-southeast oriented shallow linear and substantial ditch, as well as a wide and shallow north-south linear which could possibly be the base of a furrow. All of these undated features were sealed by a layer of subsoil.

Two features in Trench 9 cut through the subsoil layer. The first of these was an ovoid shaped feature [909], with a charcoal-rich fill. The other was not completely exposed but looked to be the terminal end of a north-south ditch [918].

Across the site the subsoil was overlain by a dark grey silty layer of topsoil.

7. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on land at Carrside/Axholme Drive, Epworth, North Lincolnshire. This was to determine the archaeological potential of the site in advance of proposed development. The site lies adjacent to an area where ditches thought to be parts of an Iron Age-Roman field system were identified previously.

The evaluation revealed two possible Iron Age ditches, one near the centre of the site and the other in the northeastern corner. These both contained small quantities of pottery of the period and possibly represent field systems, suggesting an agricultural use for the land at this time. Further Iron Age pottery was found in a silted up natural watercourse.

An ovoid pit near the eastern edge of the site contained medieval pottery, a significant amount of burnt animal bone (mostly fish) and environmental evidence associated with crop processing waste. This suggests that there may have been habitation of the period nearby. The environmental specialist recommends that if any further investigation is carried out at the site then this sample assemblage, and any others of contemporary date, should be subject to detailed analysis.

Towards the south of the site, the possible terminal end of a ditch contained a sherd of medieval pottery. A similar adjacent feature contained no dateable material but is possibly of the same period.

Two features of probable 18th century date were identified in the northern part of the site. These probably relate to buildings that were mapped on the northern street frontage of the site by the 1795 Epworth Inclosure Map.

The majority of features investigated at the site contained no dateable material or artefacts of any kind. Some of these were interpreted as natural features while others

were considered sterile.

Part of the western side of the site had been lowered significantly, perhaps when the adjacent railtrack was constructed in the 19th century. A modern pit and ditch were also identified in this area.

Finds retrieved during the investigation comprised a small quantity of pottery of Iron Age, medieval and post-medieval date, and animal bone.

7.1 Assessment of Impact

In general, the archaeological remains are thinly distributed with no obvious period-specific clustering, except perhaps for post-medieval features. The greatest quantity of features, albeit almost all undated, are located in the southeastern corner of the site. This particular group of archaeological features is located in an area that is mostly assigned to proposed gardens. Due to the thin distribution of remains, and because the greatest concentration of them is in an area intended as gardens, it is considered that the proposed development will have a low-moderate impact on the archaeological resource of the site.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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9. PERSONNEL

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The Manor of Epworth Co. Lincoln, 1787 (LAO MCD 851/17/1)

OS, 1907 *Lincolnshire [Parts of Lindsey] Sheet XXV.N.E.* 6 inches to 1 mile map (2nd ed)

11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

EAS Engineering Archaeological Services

GSGB Geological Survey of Great Britain

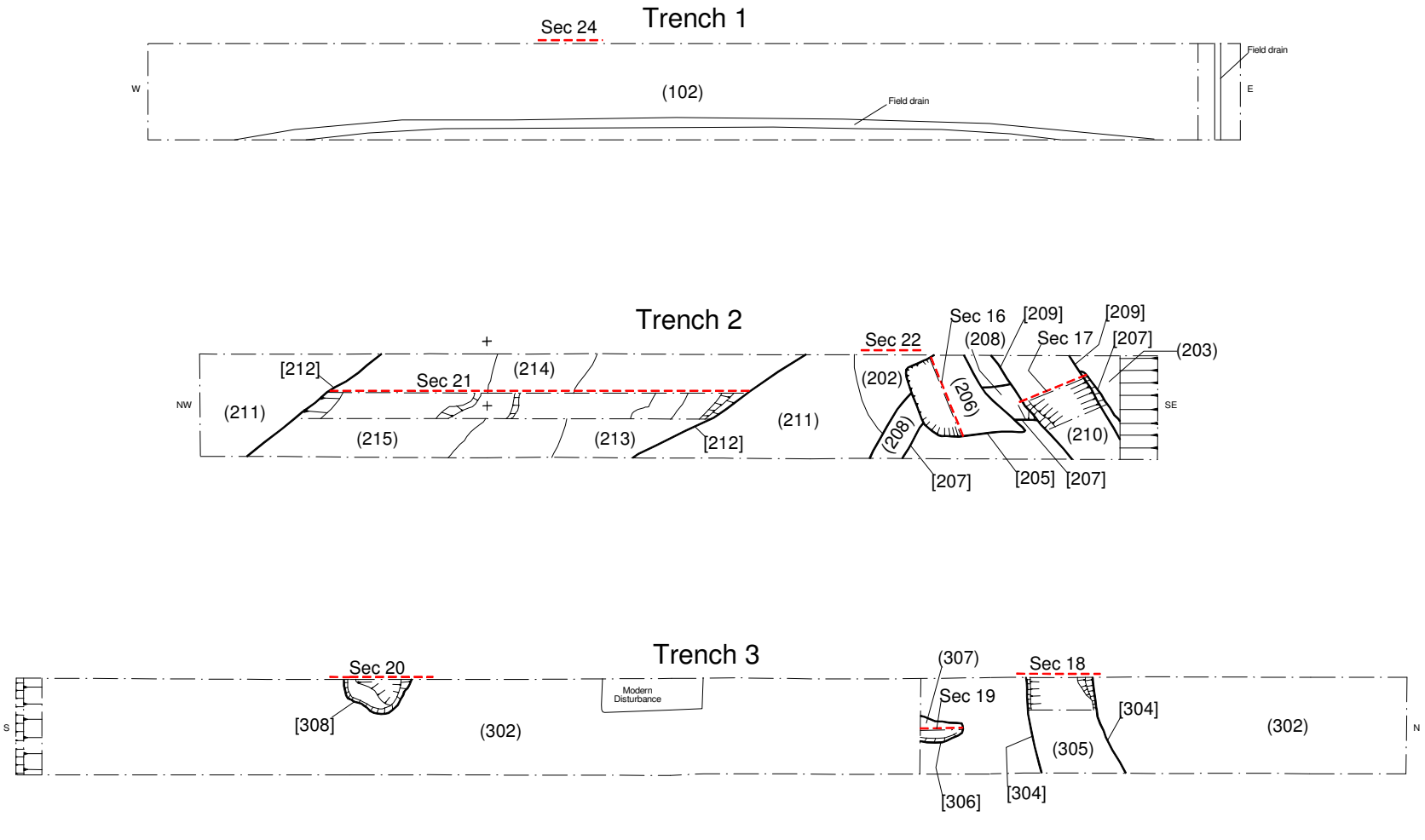
IfA Institute for Archaeologists

WYAS West Yorkshire Archaeological Sevices

Figure 1 - General location plan

Figure 2 - Site location

Figure 3 - Site and Trench location plan



Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Epworth Axholme Drive EPAD09		
Scale 1:100	Drawn by: AF	Report No: 125/09

Figure 4 - Trenches 1-3

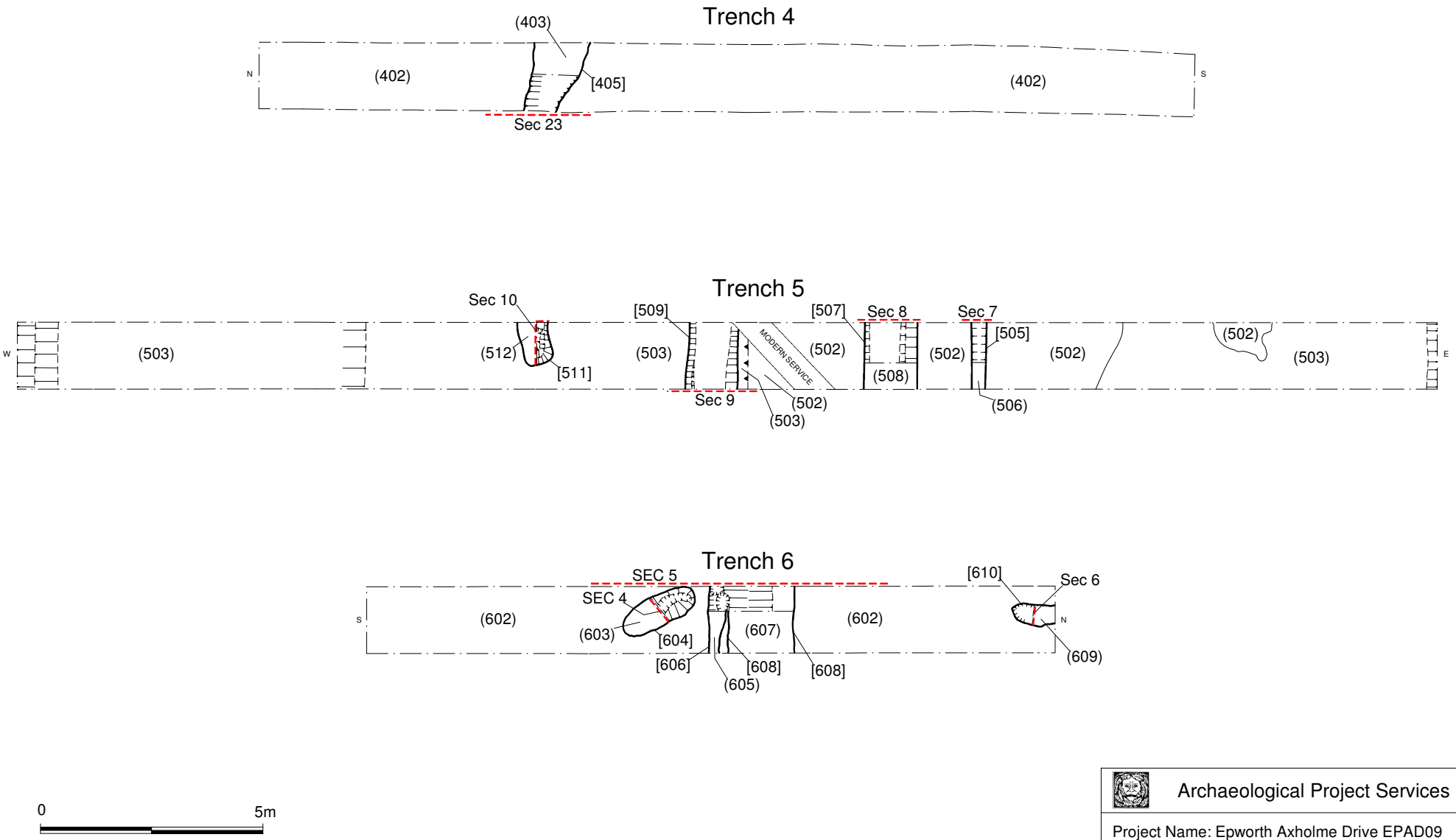


Figure 5 - Trenches 4-6

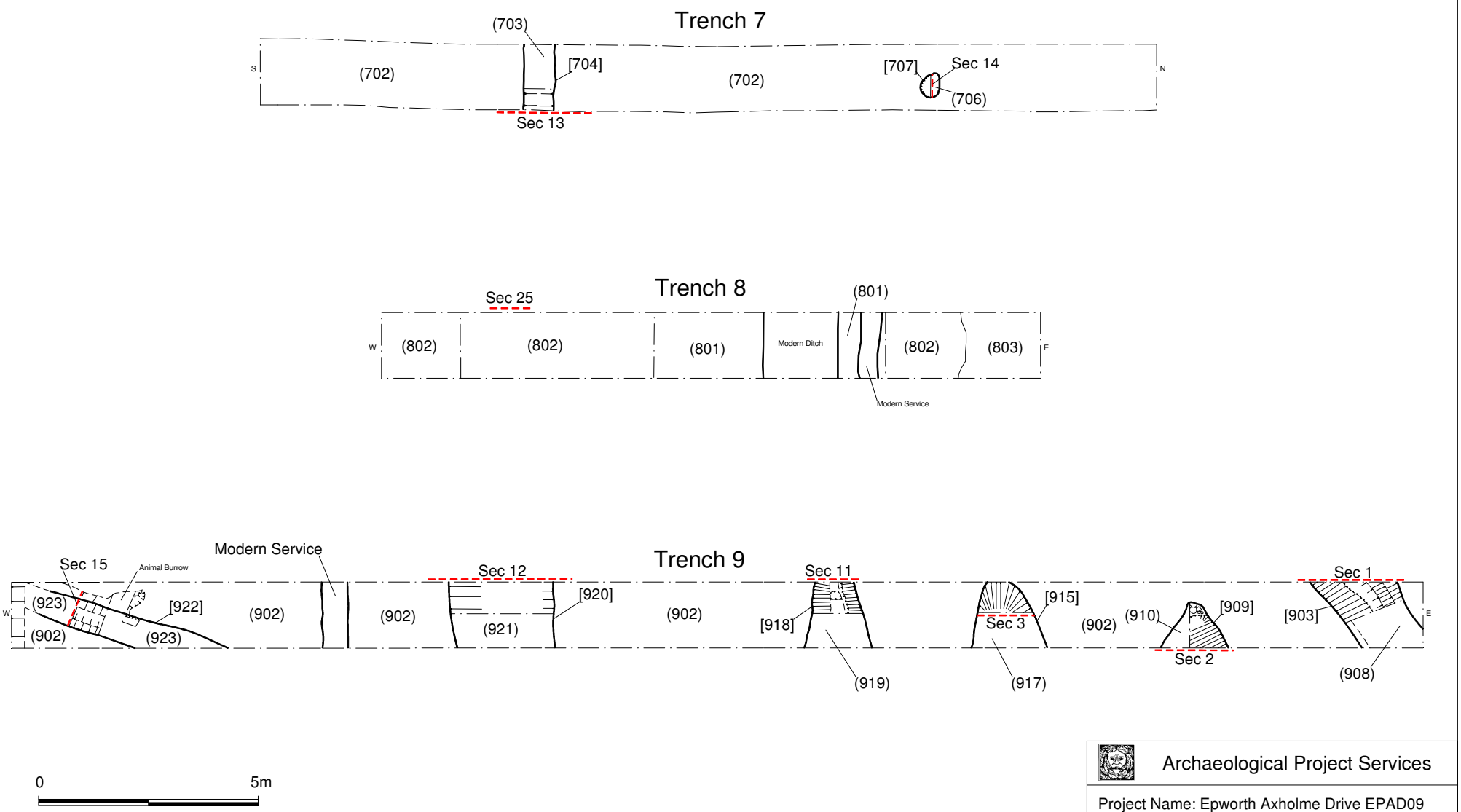


Figure 6 - Trenches 7-9

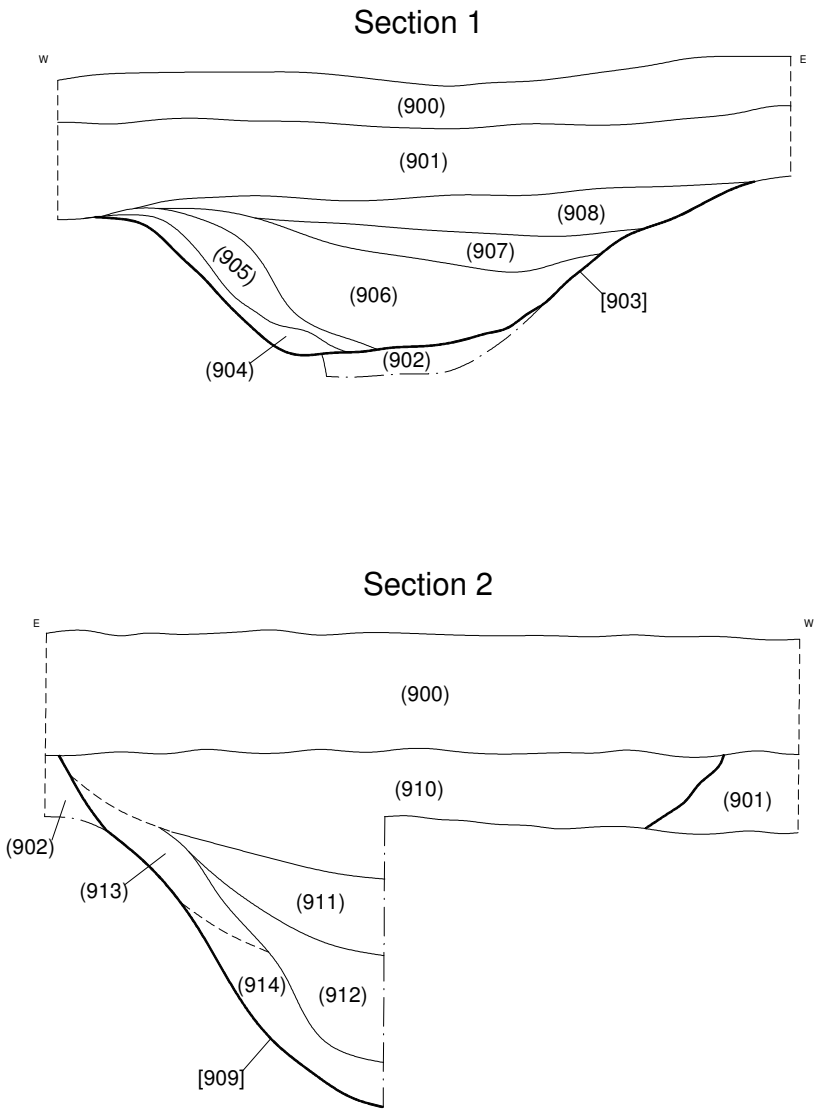


Figure 7 - Sections 1-4

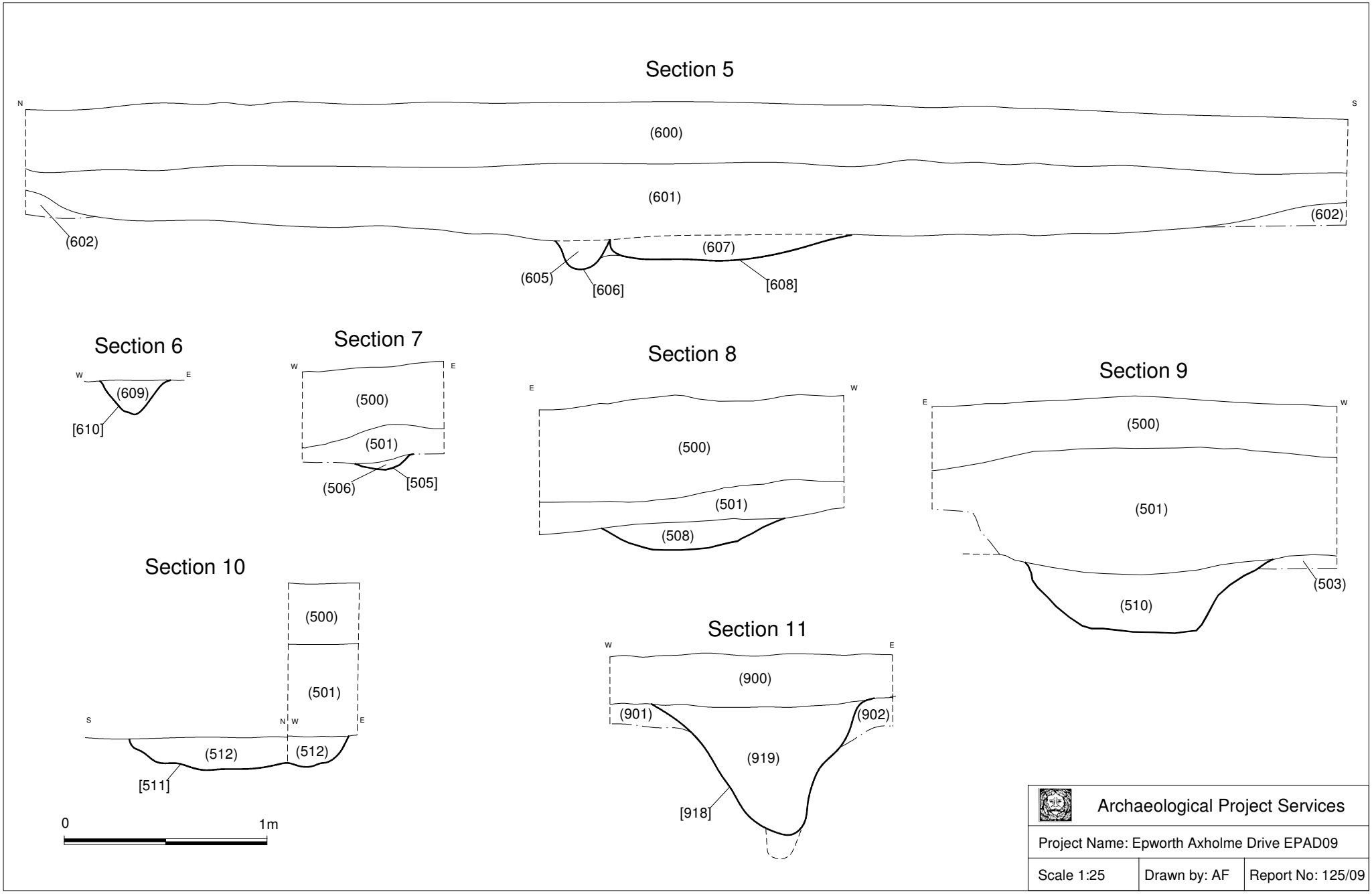


Figure 8 - Sections 5-11

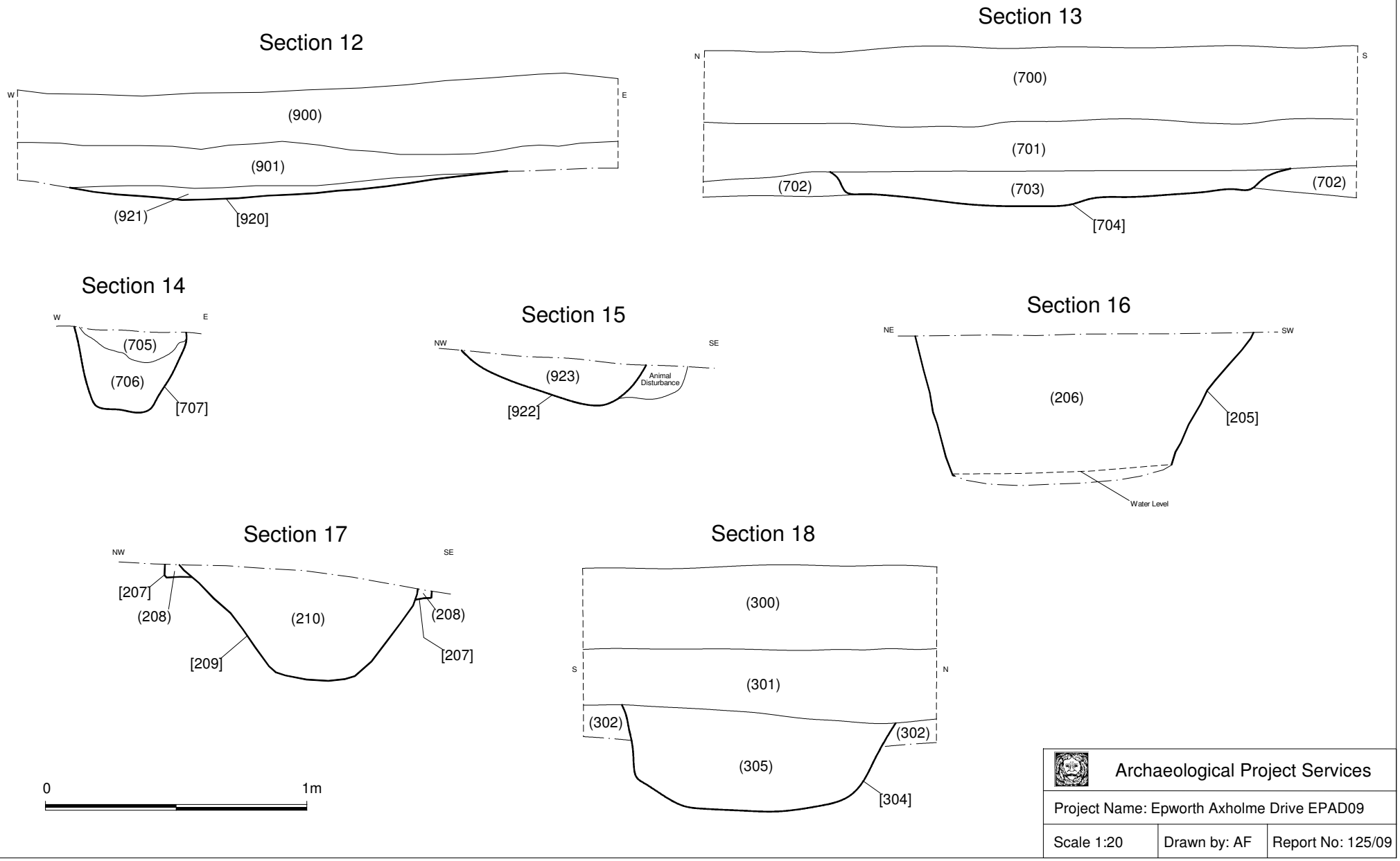


Figure 9 - Sections 12-18

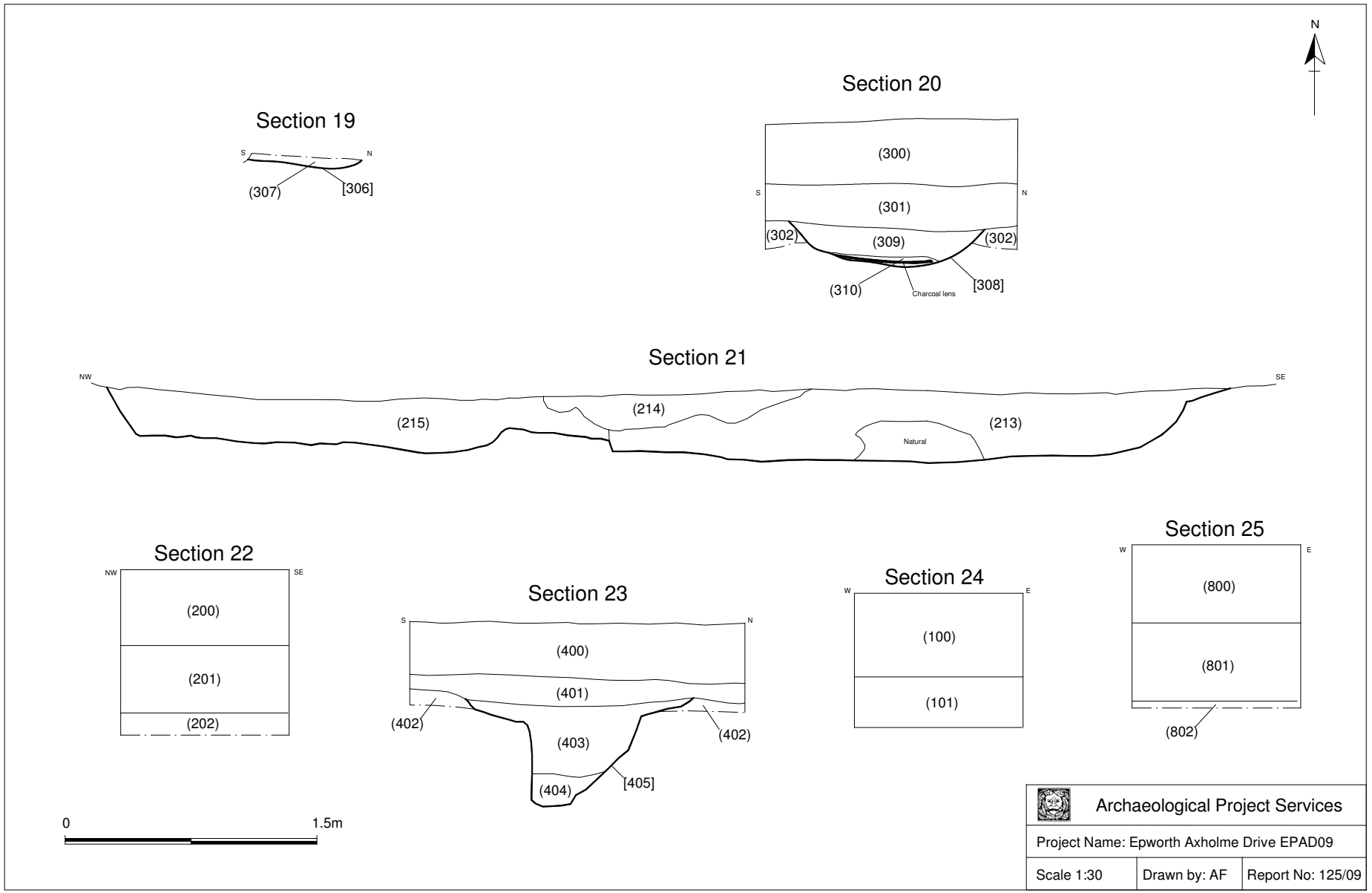


Figure 10 - Sections 19-25

Plate 1 – Trench 2, looking northeast

Plate 2 – Trench 9, looking east

Plate 3 – Ditch cut [212], Section 21, looking southeast

Plate 4 – Pit cut [205], Section 16, looking southeast

Plate 5 – Ditch cuts [207] and [209], Section 17

Plate 6 – Ditch [304], Section 18

Plate 7 – Pit [308], Section 20

Plate 8 – Ditch [405], Section 23

Plate 9 – Ditch [509], Section 9

Plate 10 – Post-hole [707], Section 14

Plate 11 – Ditch [903], Section 1

Plate 12 – Terminus of ditch [915], Section 3

Plate 13 – Ditch [918], Section 11

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REGISTERED IFA ORGANISATION

Appendix 1

LAND ADJACENT TO CARRSIDE AND AXHOLME DRIVE, EPWORTH, NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE

SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

PREPARED FOR
ROBERT DOUGHTY CONSULTANCY AND J BREHENY CONTRACTORS LTD

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

SEPTEMBER 2009

1 SUMMARY

1.1 This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land adjacent to Carrside and Axholme Drive, Epworth, North Lincolnshire.

1.2 The area is archaeologically sensitive, with evidence of Iron Age and Roman remains, perhaps parts of field systems associated with settlement, identified. Geophysics and cropmarks indicate a number of ditch-like features aligned on the site. Previous geophysical survey of the site revealed evidence of ridge and furrow ploughing and some anomalies suggestive of pits or burnt areas.

1.3 A programme of archaeological evaluation by trial trenching is required at the site.

1.4 On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the findings of the investigation. The report will consist of a text describing the nature of the archaeological deposits located and will be supported by illustrations and photographs.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land adjacent to Carrside and Axholme Drive, Epworth, North Lincolnshire.

2.2 The document contains the following parts:

2.2.1 Overview

2.2.2 The archaeological and natural setting

2.2.3 Stages of work and methodologies to be used

2.2.4 List of specialists

2.2.5 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

3.1 Epworth is located 12km southwest of Scunthorpe on the west side of the ridge of higher ground known as the Isle of Axholme in North Lincolnshire. The site is in the southwestern part of the town, on the south side of Carrside, immediately east of the disused railtrack at national grid reference SE 7740 0395. Axholme Drive meets the eastern side of the site.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 Planning permission (application no. PA/2007/1970) for residential development comprising 40 houses has been granted by North Lincolnshire Council. The North Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record Office (NLSMR) has advised that an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching is required to inform any necessary mitigation measures, and provided a brief for investigations (NLSMR 2006). This document has been produced in reference to that brief, and a generic brief for evaluation produced by North Lincolnshire Museum (NLSMR nd).

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 Epworth is on a ridge of higher ground known as the Isle of Axholme. The investigation site is on a very gentle slope down to the west at *c*. 5m OD. Soils at the site are Worcester Association reddish clayey soils developed on Lower Triassic Mercian mudstone (Hodge *et al*. 1984).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

6.1 The site is in an area of Iron Age and Roman remains. Investigations just to the south revealed magnetic anomalies of several north-south linear features (EAS 2002). Subsequent trenching identified several (6) ditches, two of which contained Iron Age and Roman pottery. These are likely to be ditches of a field system related to nearby settlement of Iron Age-Roman date (McCluskey 2003). Cropmarks of north-south aligned ditches have also been reported in the area and may extend into the current investigation site. Geophysical survey of the southern part of the present site revealed evidence of ridge and furrow ploughing and some anomalies suggestive of pits or areas of burning.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

7.1 The aim of the work will be to gather sufficient information for the archaeological curator to be able to formulate a policy for the management of the archaeological resources present on the site.

7.2 The objectives of the work will be to:

7.2.1 Establish the type of archaeological activity that may be present within the site.

7.2.2 Determine the likely extent of archaeological activity present within the site.

7.2.3 Determine the date and function of the archaeological features present on the site.

7.2.4 Determine the state of preservation of the archaeological features present on the site.

7.2.5 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features present within the site.

7.2.6 Determine the extent to which the surrounding archaeological features extend into the application area.

7.2.7 Establish the way in which the archaeological features identified fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

8 LIAISON WITH THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CURATOR

8.1 Close contact will be maintained with the archaeological curator throughout the investigation to ensure that the scheme of works fulfils their requirements.

9 TRIAL TRENCHING

9.1 Reasoning for this technique

9.1.1 Trial trenching enables the *in situ* determination of the sequence, date, nature, depth, environmental potential and density of archaeological features present on the site.

9.1.2 The trial trenching arrangement has been specified as nine trenches each 2m wide. Four of the trenches will be 15m long; three will be 20m; and two will be 30m. A trench layout arrangement has been defined by the NLSMR.

9.2 General Considerations

9.2.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the investigation.

9.2.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practice issued by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA). *Archaeological Project Services* is an IfA Registered Archaeological Organisation (No. 21), managed by a member (MIfA) of the institute.

9.2.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

9.2.4 Excavation of the archaeological features exposed will only be undertaken as far as is required to determine their date, sequence, density and nature. In accordance with the briefs set by NLSMR, a sufficient sample of any archaeological features exposed will be sample excavated, except where there are legal, logistical, Health & Safety, or archaeological (eg, clearly modern, or likely to require preservation *in situ*) reasons not to do so (see also Sections 9.3.2 and 9.3.6). However, the investigation will, as far as is reasonably practicable, determine the level of the natural deposits to ensure that the depth of the archaeological sequence present on the site is established.

9.2.5 Open trenches will be marked by orange mesh fencing attached to road irons or similar poles. Subject to the consent of the archaeological curator, and following the appropriate recording, the trenches, particularly those of excessive depth, will be backfilled as soon as possible to minimise any health and safety risks.

9.3 Methodology

9.3.1 Removal of the topsoil and any other overburden will be undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. To ensure that the correct amount of material is removed and that no archaeological deposits are damaged, this work will be supervised by Archaeological Project Services. On completion of the removal of the overburden, the nature of the underlying deposits will be assessed by hand excavation before any further mechanical excavation that may be required. Thereafter, the trenches will be cleaned by hand to enable the identification and analysis of the archaeological features exposed.

9.3.2 Investigation of the features will be undertaken only as far as required to determine their date, form and function. The work will consist of half- or quarter-sectioning of features as required and, where appropriate, the removal of layers. Should features be located which may be worthy of preservation *in situ*, excavation will be limited to the absolute minimum, (*ie* the minimum disturbance) necessary to interpret the form, function and date of the features.

9.3.3 The archaeological features encountered will be recorded on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma context record sheets. The system used is the single context method by which individual archaeological units of stratigraphy are assigned a unique record number and are individually described and drawn.

9.3.4 Plans of features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. Should individual features merit it, they will be drawn at a larger scale.

9.3.5 Throughout the duration of the trial trenching a photographic record consisting of black and white prints (reproduced as contact sheets) and colour images (slides and digital) be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:

9.3.5.1 the site before the commencement of field operations.

9.3.5.2 the site during work to show specific stages of work, and the layout of the

archaeology within individual trenches.

9.3.5.3 individual features and, where appropriate, their sections.

9.3.5.4 groups of features where their relationship is important.

9.3.5.5 the site on completion of fieldwork

9.3.6 Should human remains be encountered, they will be left *in situ* with excavation being limited to the identification and recording of such remains. If removal of the remains is necessary the appropriate Home Office licences will be obtained and the local environmental health department informed. If relevant, the coroner and the police will be notified.

9.3.7 Finds collected during the fieldwork will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered ready for later washing, conservation, and analysis, in accordance with national and regional archaeological and museum standards and common practice. Artefacts, mostly ceramic and metal, of later prehistoric to modern date may be found at the site and all observed items will be collected unless there are archaeological, logistical, Health & Safety reasons not to do so (eg, extensive modern material will be sampled; kiln debris should not be entirely recovered in an evaluation; articulated human remains should not be moved; animal burials of clearly, or suspected, recent date should not be removed).

9.3.8 If necessary, scientific dating techniques will be considered. These will be applied where archaeological remains are encountered that lack artefactual or stratigraphic dating but which have the potential for such scientific dating methods (eg, C14, dendrochronology, TRM, etc).

9.3.9 The spoil generated during the investigation will be mounded along the edges of the trial trenches with the topsoil being kept separate from the other material excavated for subsequent backfilling.

9.3.10 The precise location of the trenches within the site and the location of site recording grid will be established by a dGPS and/or EDM survey in relation to fixed points on field boundaries and buildings shown on current OS mapping.

10 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

10.1 The sampling strategy will be discussed with the environmental specialist. There is a slight possibility for waterlogged deposits at depth. Otherwise, standard rural soil deposits are expected. Features will be sampled (30-40 litres) for environmental assessment (all environmental material will be assessed). If appropriate other deposits may also be sampled but this will be undertaken under advisement. The specialist will visit the site, as appropriate (eg, in the event of buried soils, carbonised or waterlogged organic deposits, etc., being encountered), and prepare a report detailing the nature of the environmental material present on the site and its potential for additional analysis should further stages of archaeological work be required. The results of the specialist's assessment will be incorporated into the final report.

10.2 If appropriate the English Heritage Regional Science Advisor will be consulted regarding the sampling strategy and/or invited to visit the site

11 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT

11.1 Stage 1

11.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the trial

trenching will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence constituting a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued: the colour slides will be labelled and mounted on appropriate hangers and the black and white contact prints and digital thumbnail images will be labelled, in both cases the labelling will refer to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

11.1.2 All finds recovered during the trial trenching will be washed, marked, bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment, X-radiography and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

11.2 Stage 2

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

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

11.3 Stage 3

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

11.3.1.1 A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.

11.3.1.2 A description of the archaeological setting of the site.

11.3.1.3 Description of the topography and geology of the investigation area.

11.3.1.4 Description of the methodologies used during the investigation and discussion of their effectiveness in the light of the results.

11.3.1.5 A text describing the findings of the investigation.

11.3.1.6 Plans of the trenches showing the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced. All plans will be related to OS grid and datum.

11.3.1.7 Sections of the trenches and archaeological features, with OS datum heights.

11.3.1.8 Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape.

11.3.1.9 Specialist reports on the finds from the site.

11.3.1.10 Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features or groups of features.

11.3.1.11 A consideration of the significance of the remains found, in local, regional, national and international terms, using recognised evaluation criteria.

11.3.1.12 An assessment of the impact of the proposed development.

12 ARCHIVE

12.1 The documentation, finds, photographs and other records and materials generated during the investigation will be sorted and ordered into the format specified by North Lincolnshire Museums Service. This sorting will be undertaken according to the guidelines and conditions stipulated by the museum (*Guidelines for deposition of Archaeological Archive with North Lincolnshire Museum*, 2008), and appropriate national guidelines, for long-term storage and curation. It is estimated that the archive will be deposited within 6 months of completion of the project. A North Lincolnshire Museum site code will be obtained prior to the commencement of the investigation. An archive deposition request form will be completed and copied to the North Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record Office.

13 REPORT DEPOSITION

13.1 Copies of the investigation report will be sent to: the client; North Lincolnshire Council Planning Department; and the North Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record and the Regional Science Advisor (in suitable format). An electronic copy of the report (in PDF format) will be provided to the NLSMR and EH Regional Science Advisor.

14 PUBLICATION

14.1 Details of the investigation will be input to the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS).

14.2 Notes or articles describing the results of the investigation will also be submitted for publication in the appropriate national journals: *Medieval Archaeology* for medieval and later remains, and *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date.

15 CURATORIAL MONITORING

15.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the North Lincolnshire Site and Monuments Record Office. They will be given written notice of the commencement of the project to enable them to make monitoring arrangements.

15.2 If appropriate, the English Heritage Regional Scientific Advisor will be invited to monitor and advise at the site.

16 VARIATIONS TO THE PROPOSED SCHEME OF WORKS

16.1 Variations to the scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation from the archaeological curator, the client and their consultant.

16.2 Should the archaeological curator require any additional investigation beyond the scope of the brief for works, or this specification, then the cost and duration of those supplementary examinations will be negotiated between the client and the contractor.

17 STAFF TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

17.1 The work will be directed by Tom Lane MIfA, Senior Archaeologist, Archaeological Project Services. The on-site works will be supervised by an Archaeological Supervisor with knowledge of archaeological evaluations of this type. Archaeological excavation will be carried out by Archaeological Technicians, experienced in projects of this type. Site staff will be from: **P Cope-Faulkner, V Mellor, M Peachey, A Failes, C Moulis**, B Garlant, R Kendall, J Smith (potential supervisors in bold).

17.2 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or

material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

Task	Body to be undertaking the work
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln.
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric: D Trimble, APS in consultation with Dr D Knight
	Roman: A Beeby, APS, in consultation with B Precious, independent specialist
	Post-Roman: A Boyle, APS
Other Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist/G Taylor, APS
Human Remains Analysis	J Wood, independent specialist
Animal Remains Analysis	P Cope-Faulkner, APS/J Wood independent specialist
Environmental Analysis	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy/V Fryer, independent specialist
Radiocarbon dating	Beta Analytic Inc., Florida, USA
Dendrochronology dating	University of Sheffield Dendrochronology Laboratory

18 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

18.1 Fieldwork is expected to be undertaken by appropriately experienced staff, including supervisors and assistants, and to take about 5-6 days.

18.2 Post-excavation analysis and report production will take about 10 days. A project officer or supervisor will undertake most of the analysis, with assistance from the finds supervisor, CAD illustrator and external specialists.

19 INSURANCES

19.1 Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains Employers Liability insurance to £10,000,000. Additionally, the company maintains Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation are enclosed.

20 COPYRIGHT

20.1 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.

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

20.3 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.

20.4 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.

21 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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North Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Records Office, nd Brief for Archaeological Evaluation of Template for Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching

North Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Records Office, 2006 Brief for Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching at Carrside, Epworth

Specification: Version 2, 30/09/09

APPENDIX 2

Context Summary

No.	Trench	Description	Interpretation
100	1	Firm dark greyish brown sandy clay, 0.55m thick	Topsoil
101	1	Soft mid brownish grey clayey sand, 0.25m thick	Subsoil
102	1	Soft mid orange to greyish orange sand	Natural
200	2	Firm dark grey silt with occasional mudstone pieces, 0.45m thick	Topsoil
201	2	Firm mid greyish brown clay and silt with occasional mudstone pieces, 0.40m thick	Subsoil
202	2	Firm light yellowish grey silty clay with occasional pieces of mudstone	Natural
203	2	Firm mid greyish red silty clay	Natural
204	2	Firm light yellowish white silty clay	Natural
205	2	Sub-rectangular cut with rounded corners, 1.28m long x 1.05m wide x at least 0.65m deep with steep sides	Sub-rectangular pit
206	2	Soft mid reddish grey clayey silt	Fill of [205]
207	2	Sub-rectangular/linear cut, 0.62m wide x 60mm deep with shallow sides breaking gradually to a flat base	Shallow feature
208	2	Soft light brownish grey clayey silt	Fill of [207]
209	2	Northeast to southwest oriented linear cut, 0.87m wide x at least 1.60m long x 0.45m deep with fairly steep sides breaking gradually to a slightly concave base	Linear feature
210	2	Soft light greyish brown clayey silt with occasional pieces of mudstone	Fill of [209]
211	2	Loose mid greyish red sand	Natural
212	2	Linear feature oriented NE/SW, 6m wide x 0.42m deep with irregular, and in some places steep, sides with an irregular base	Possible water channel/channels
213	2	Loose mid grey clayey sand, 0.43m thick	Fill of [212]
214	2	Soft mid grey clayey sand with brown mottle, 0.22m thick	Fill of [212]
215	2	Loose light grey sand, 0.33m thick	Fill of [212]
300	3	Firm dark brownish grey silt, 0.32m thick	Topsoil
301	3	Firm mid brownish grey silt with occasional pieces of mudstone, 0.28m thick	Subsoil
302	3	Soft light whitish grey clayey silt with frequent pieces of mudstone, at least 0.27m thick	Natural
303	3	Compact/hard mid to light greenish grey mudstone	Natural
304	3	Linear cut, oriented E/W, 1.05m wide x at least 1.60m long x 0.44m deep with steep sides breaking gradually to a concave base	Linear feature
305	3	Soft mid brownish grey clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks and small pieces of mudstone, 0.44m thick	Fill of [304]
306	3	Linear feature, oriented N/S, 0.40m wide x at least 0.68m long x 60mm deep with shallow sides breaking imperceptibly to an uneven base	Linear feature
307	3	Soft dark brown clayey silt, 60mm thick	Fill of [306]
308	3	Ovoid/semi-circular cut, 1.15m wide x at least 0.62m	Ovoid feature

		length x 0.28m deep with shallow sides breaking gradually to a concave base	
309	3	Firm mid brownish grey silt with frequent charcoal flecks, 0.16m thick	Fill of [308]
310	3	Firm mix of mid yellowish grey and light grey clayey silt with frequent charcoal flecks and a lens of charcoal within, 60mm thick	Fill of [308]
400	4	Firm dark greyish brown sandy clay with occasional mudstone flecks, 0.36m thick	Topsoil
401	4	Firm mid brown slightly clayey sand, 0.17m thick	Subsoil
402	4	Firm to hard light greyish green clay and mudstone	Natural
403	4	Firm light to mid yellowish brown silty sand, 0.42m thick	Fill of [405]
404	4	Firm light to mid yellowish brown silty sand containing redeposited natural and slightly darker patches	Fill of [405]
405	4	Linear feature, oriented NW/SE, 1.24m wide x at least 1.60m long x 0.61m deep, with shallow then steep sides, breaking gradually to a slightly concave base	Linear feature
500	5	Soft dark brownish grey clayey silt with occasional pieces of mudstone and modern debris, 0.50m thick	Topsoil
501	5	Firm mid reddish brown clayey silt with occasional mudstone pieces, 0.62m thick	Subsoil
502	5	Firm mid brownish red silty clay, at least 0.10m thick	Natural
503	5	Firm light grey silty clay with frequent pieces of mudstone, 0.23m thick	Natural deposit
504	5	Hard light grey mudstone	Natural
505	5	Linear feature, oriented N/S, 0.27m wide x at least 1.60m long x 80mm deep, with shallow concave sides breaking gradually to a concave base	Shallow ephemeral linear feature
506	5	Soft mid reddish grey silt with occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of [505]
507	5	Linear feature, oriented N/S, at least 1.60m long x 0.90m wide x 0.15m deep, with concave sides breaking gradually to a flat base	Linear feature
508	5	Firm mid reddish grey clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks and pieces of mudstone, 0.15m thick	Fill of [507]
509	5	Linear feature, oriented N/S, at least 1.60m long x 1.40m wide x 0.42m deep, with gradual to steep concave sides breaking sharply to a flat base	Linear feature
510	5	Firm mid reddish grey clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks and mudstone pieces, 0.42m thick	Fill of [509]
511	5	Oval cut, at least 0.78m long x 0.82m wide x 0.17m deep, with irregular sides and an uneven base	Possible pit
512	5	Firm mid greyish red clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks, 0.17m thick	Fill of [511]
600	6	Firm very dark brown sandy clay with occasional flecks of mudstone, 0.32m thick	Topsoil
601	6	Firm mid brown (with a yellowish hue) clayey sand with occasional mudstone flecks, 0.30m thick	Subsoil
602	6	Firm to hard mix of light greyish green clay and mudstone, firm mid red clay and firm brownish red sandy clay	Natural

603	6	Firm mid brown and slightly yellow clayey sand	Fill of [604]
604	6	Ovoid cut, 0.68m wide x 1.70m long x 0.21m deep with irregular sides breaking gradually to a concave base	Irregular shaped feature, probably an animal burrow
605	6	Firm mid, slightly yellowish, brown clayey sand	Fill of [606]
606	6	Irregular shaped feature, oriented E/W and extending through the width of the trench x 0.44m wide x 0.20m deep, with irregular sides breaking gradually to a concave base	Irregular shaped feature, probably an animal burrow
607	6	Firm mid reddish greyish brown sandy clay with occasional mudstone flecks	Fill of [608]
608	6	Linear feature, oriented E/W, 1.10m wide x 0.12m deep, breaking gradually to a concave base	Possible furrow
609	6	Firm mid brown clayey sand	Fill of [610]
610	6	Possible terminal end of a linear feature, 0.44m wide x at least 0.90m long x 0.21m deep with steep sides breaking gradually to a concave base	Terminal end of a small ditch
700	7	Firm very dark brown sandy clay with occasional flecks of mudstone, 0.28m thick	Topsoil
701	7	Friable mid brown slightly clayey sand with occasional mudstone flecks, 0.20m thick	Subsoil
702	7	Hard light greyish green mudstone	Natural
703	7	Friable mid brown slightly clayey sand with occasional mudstone flecks, 0.24m thick	Fill of [704]
704	7	Linear feature, oriented E/W, 0.70m wide x 0.14m deep, with steep slightly convex sides breaking gradually to a concave base	Linear feature
705	7	Firm dark brown sandy clay containing occasional charcoal flecks and a fragment of burnt stone, 0.12m thick	Fill of [707]
706	7	Firm mid greyish greenish brown sandy clay containing frequent mudstone flecks and fragments, 0.23m thick	Fill of [707]
707	7	Oval cut, 0.43m wide x 0.42m long x 0.36m deep, with steep sides breaking gradually to a flat base and a 90 degree inclination of axis	Post-hole
800	8	Firm dark greyish brown sandy clay with rare flecks of CBM, 0.47m thick	Topsoil
801	8	Friable mid yellowish greyish brown sand, 0.36m thick	Subsoil
802	8	Friable light reddish yellowish brown sand	Natural
803	8	Firm to hard, light greyish green clay and mudstone	Natural
900	9	Loose dark greyish brown sandy silt, up to 0.30m thick	Topsoil
901	9	Friable mid greyish brown clayey silt with occasional flecks of chalk, charcoal and flints, 0.26m thick	Subsoil
902	9	Mixture of light orangey red and light greyish green clay, light grey green silt and yellowish red sand	Natural
903	9	Linear feature, oriented N/S, with 45 degree angle fairly straight sides breaking gradually to an unevenly sloped base	[903]
904	9	Friable mid to light greyish green and white speckled clayey silt	Fill of [903]
905	9	Friable mid greyish green clayey silt with brownish	Fill of [903]

		orange patterns, 0.10m thick	
906	9	Loose mid orangey brown clayey sand, approximately 0.26m thick	Fill of [903]
907	9	Loose mid to dark orangey brown sand	Fill of [903]
908	9	Friable mid greyish brown silty sand, with occasional pieces of mudstone, 0.11m thick	Fill of [903]
909	9	Oval cut, 1.76m wide x 0.95m deep, steep sided braking gradually to a probably concave base	Pit cut
910	9	Firm mid greyish brown silt with occasional flecks of limestone, charcoal, patches of burnt red silt and plant roots	Fill of [909]
911	9	Firm mid greyish brown silt with frequent flecks of limestone and lumps of burnt red silt as well as occasional charcoal flecks and plant roots	Fill of [909]
912	9	Firm yet friable dark greyish brown silt with frequent charcoal flecks, moderate lumps of burnt silt and occasional plant roots	Fill of [909]
913	9	Firm mid greyish brown silt with moderate charcoal flecks and occasional limestone flecks	Fill of [909)
914	9	Loose brownish grey mix of silt and ash with occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of [909]
915	9	Linear cut, 1.25m wide x 0.34m deep with a 45 degree angle side to the east and a gentle slightly convex side to the west, both sides break imperceptibly to a concave base	Terminus of linear feature
916	9	Firm mid yellowish greyish brown silt with moderate limestone fragments and plant roots	Fill of [915]
917	9	Firm mid greyish brown clayey silt with moderate limestone fragments and plant roots	Fill of [915]
918	9	Linear cut, oriented N/S, c. 1m wide x 0.65m deep, with a steep west side and stepped east side breaking gradually to a concave base, there is possibly a post-hole in the base this feature	Linear feature
919	9	Firm mid greyish brown silt with moderate limestone fragments and occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of [918]
920	9	Linear cut, oriented N/S, 1.80m wide x 60mm deep, with shallow concave sides breaking gradually to a concave base	Shallow ephemeral linear feature
921	9	Soft mid reddish grey clayey silt with occasional mudstone pieces	Fill of [920]
922	9	Linear cut, oriented NE/SW, with moderately steep concave sides breaking gradually to a concave base	Shallow linear feature
923	9	Firm mid brownish grey clayey silt with occasional small mudstone pieces	Fill of [922]

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

INTRODUCTION

A small assemblage of finds was recovered during investigations at Epworth. Pottery provided the majority of the artefacts, though only 16 pieces were retrieved. This pottery ranged in date from the Iron Age-Roman period, the medieval and post-medieval, and much of it was abraded and in small pieces suggesting some degree of redeposition. This limited quantity of artefacts suggests the investigation site was located away from occupation of any of the periods represented. Faunal remains were more abundant and a fairly large collection of bone fragments, including a large number of pieces from probably a single fish, were retrieved from a pit.

ROMAN AND IRON AGE 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*. A total of seven sherds from four vessels, weighing 60 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 Table 1. A single sherd from context (213) in fabric NAT, was removed for the Roman pottery fabric type series held by the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire.

Condition

The group is small and fragmentary; this is reflected by the very low average sherd weight of just 9 grams. Sherds from two vessels are classed as very abraded.

Dating

The material is probably of an Iron Age date, although one piece may be slightly later, possibly dating to the Roman period. Table 1 below shows the date of the pottery by context and the average sherd weight.

Table 1, Date of the pottery

Trench	Context	Latest Date Within Context	Total Sherds In Context	Total Weight (g)	Av. Sherd Weight
2	213	1st Century BC to 1st Century AD	2	28	14
3	305	Late Iron Age to Roman	1	30	30
5	510	Iron Age	4	2	0.5
		Total	**7**	**60**	**-**

Results

A summary of the pottery types recovered from EPAD09 is included in the table below (Table 2).

Table 2, Summary of the pottery

Fabric	Cname	Full name	NoS	NoV	W(g)
Shell	NAT	Miscellaneous Native Tradition Fabric	5	3	30
	SHEL	Miscellaneous Shell-tempered fabric	2	1	30
		Total	**7**	**4**	**60**

Provenance
Trench 2
Sherds from two vessels were recovered from context (213) within linear feature [212], a possible water channel.

Trench 3
A single sherd was retrieved from (305), fill of linear feature [304].

Trench 5
Three sherds from a single vessel came from context (510), fill of linear feature [509].

Range
There are two jars and a single bowl within the assemblage. Only two fabric types are represented, a soft gritty native tradition type (NAT) and a harder miscellaneous shell tempered type (SHEL). All of the material is very fragmentary and may be redeposited.

Trench 2
This trench produced rim sherds from two handmade vessels in NAT fabric. One of these, a carinated bowl is similar in form to those within 'pottery type group 4' at Dragonby (Elsdon, 1996, fig 19.6). These appear in the earliest features there, perhaps dating from as early as the 3rd-2nd to late 1st century BC (Elsdon, 1996, 411-412). This gives a broad late Iron Age date for this vessel type. The second vessel from Trench 2 is an everted rim jar with an internal ledge. This is in a similar NAT fabric to the bowl. This vessel is paralleled by vessels in type group 20 at Dragonby, categories C to D. These forms are dated to the very late Iron Age, probably the first century BC to the 1st century AD. (Elsdon, 1996, 416) The fabric of both of the vessels however, is not exactly paralleled at Dragonby and may well be entirely local.

Trench 3
A single sherd in SHEL was retrieved from Trench 3. This is from a large storage jar. The shell patterning appears superficially similar to that from Roman vessels in this area, although large shell-tempered storage jars are known locally in the late Iron Age.

Trench 5
Three tiny sherds from a single vessel in NAT were retrieved from this trench. These are probably Iron Age in date, although they are too fragmentary to be more specific.

Potential
The assemblage poses no problem for long term storage and should be retained. The pottery would warrant further consideration in the light of any further work on the site.

Summary
A small group of fragmentary pottery was recovered from EPAD09. The only diagnostic pieces date to the late Iron Age. The remainder may also be of a similar date.

POST ROMAN POTTERY
By Anne Boyle

Introduction
All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001) and to conform to Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook.* The pottery codenames (Cname) are in accordance with the Post Roman pottery type series for Lincolnshire, as published in Young *et al.* (2005). A total of nine sherds from eight vessels, weighing 39 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 1. The pottery ranges in date from the Saxo-Norman to post medieval period.

Condition
The assemblage comprises small, abraded sherds, as indicated by the average sherd weight of four grams.

Results
Table 3, Summary of Post Roman Pottery

Cname	Full name	Earliest date	Latest date	NoS	NoV	W (g)
BERTH	Brown glazed earthenware	1550	1800	1	1	12
HUM	Humberware	1250	1550	1	1	2
MEDLOC	Medieval local fabrics	1150	1450	2	1	4
NLFS	North Lincolnshire Fine-Shelled ware	975	1100	1	1	1
NLST	North Lincolnshire Shell-tempered	1180	1450	1	1	3
SLIP	Unidentified slipware	1650	1750	3	3	17
			TOTAL:	**9**	**8**	**39**

Provenance
Pottery came from pit [205], feature [308] and linears [306] and [915].

Range
This small assemblage is of mixed date and contains a range of wares which are commonly found in assemblages from this area. Most of, if not all, the pottery is redeposited.

Potential
All the pottery is stable and poses no problems for long term storage. No further work is required on the assemblage.

Summary
A small collection of redeposited pottery post-dating the Roman period was recovered from four contexts.

FAUNAL REMAINS
By Paul Cope-Faulkner

Introduction
A total of 142 (367g) fragments of animal bone were recovered from stratified contexts.

Provenance
The bone was retrieved from possible palaeochannel fills (213, 214), pit fill (309), posthole fill (705, 706) and ditch/gully fill (916).

Condition
The overall condition of the remains was good to poor, with some exhibiting chalkiness.

Results
Table 4, Fragments Identified to Taxa

Cxt	Taxon	Element	Number	W (g)	Comments
213	cattle	molar	1	35	both join, chalky
	large mammal	vertebra	1	18	
	large mammal	metacarpus	2	8	
	large mammal	unidentified	1	8	
	medium mammal	unidentified	7	3	
214	cattle	metatarsus	1	95	
309 <5>	large mammal	?skull	1	1	
	medium mammal	unidentified	14	1	all but one burnt
	fish	various, incl vertebra & ribs	77	1	mainly small fish, 1 cod/ling
	amphibian	unidentified	12	<1	
705	cattle	mandible	5	98	all join, chalky
706 <3>	large mammal	unidentified	13	2	

916	cattle	femur	3	84	all join
	pig	metatarsus	1	10	juvenile
	medium mammal	unidentified	1	2	

Summary
Large mammals, probably cattle, dominate the assemblage and are particularly common in fills of the Late Iron Age-Early Roman palaeochannel (213 and 214). Medieval deposits (309 and 916) provide a wider range of species which has been enhanced by environmental sampling to include a quantity of fish and amphibian bone. If further work is undertaken at the site, it would be beneficial to devise a suitable sampling strategy for the recovery of smaller fauna. The fill (705) of a posthole produced a substantial portion of a cattle mandible which may suggest that the feature may have served another purpose.

Overall, the assemblage is not large and does not, at this stage, require further analysis. If future work is undertaken, this collection may warrant re-examination and, thus, should be retained as part of the site archive.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

By James Rackham

Introduction and method statement

Excavations at Epworth revealed ditches, pits and postholes. These were mostly undated, though some may be prehistoric with other medieval and later. Samples for the retrieval of the palaeo-environmental material and artefacts were taken and were submitted for assessment.

The sample was bulk floated and the flot was collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. There was no evidence of waterlogged plant remains so the flots were dried. The dried flots were examined under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16, and the remains noted are listed in Table 5.

Table 5

context	sample	Vol. (ltrs)	date	feature type	Comments
508	1	10	Undated	Ditch/gully	Snails- *Vallonia excentrica, Vallonia pulchella, Lymnaea truncatula, Anisus leucostoma*; charcoal; charred - indet cereal grain, *Rumex* sp.; 1 flake hammerscale; uncharred - *Chenopodium* sp.
510	2	10	Prehistoric?	Ditch/gully	Snails – *Cecilioides acicula, Vallonia* sp.; uncharred *Chenopodium* sp., charcoal;
706	3	10	Undated	Posthole	*C. acicula*; charcoal.
309	5	10	Medieval	Pit fill	Charred wheat, barley, large legume, smaller legume, *Chenopodium* sp., *Rumex* sp., and several small seeds; uncharred *Rubus* sp.; charcoal including identifiable charcoal and twigs; magnetic fraction with no hammerscale

Sample 1.
The flot contains a number of snail shells with *Vallonia excentrica* the most abundant, with occasional shells of *V. pulchella*, *Lymnaea truncatula* and *Anisus leucostoma*. The latter indicate damp conditions with perhaps the ditch seasonally holding standing water. The abundance of *V. excentrica* suggests an open grassland type of habitat. Charcoal and charred seeds are present in very low numbers with an unidentifiable charred cereal grain and *Rumex* seed present. A single flake of hammerscale in the magnetic fraction indicates some iron smithing activity on the site, but this could be intrusive in the context.

Sample 2.
The parallel ditch/gully, 510, produced very little material with a couple of shells, including *Cecilioides acicula*, which could have burrowed into the deposit, a little charcoal and uncharred *Chenopodium* seeds that are likely to be of recent origin.

Sample 3.
The undated posthole fill, 706, produced a little charcoal and a few apices of the shell *C. acicula*.

Sample 5.
The sample from pit fill 309, of medieval date, produced the richest assemblage of the four samples. The charred remains include identifiable charcoal fragments, charred barley and wheat grains, large legumes of pea size and smaller legume cotyledons, *Chenopodium* sp. and *Rumex* sp. seeds among other small charred weed seeds. The assemblage may reflect crop processing waste and specific identification of the cereals may also suggest a possible age for the deposits.

Recommendations
Only sample 5 contains enough material to justify further analysis. On the basis that it appears to be medieval it suggests occupation of the period nearby. Should any further investigation be undertaken at the site there should be detailed analysis of this assemblage, together with any other samples of comparable date recovered.

OTHER FINDS
By Gary Taylor

Introduction
Three other finds weighing a total of 355g were recovered.

Condition
The other finds are in good condition.

Results
Table 6, Other Materials

Cxt	Material	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
508	stone	Burnt stone	1	32	
510	stone	Burnt stone	2	323	

Provenance
All of the other finds were recovered from Trench 5 and were found in gully/ditch fills.

Range
Only burnt stone was retrieved.

Potential
As undatable material occurring in small quantities, the burnt stone is of very limited significance and potential but suggests the former presence of hearths or other areas of burning.

SPOT DATING
The dating in Table 7 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 7, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
206	Late 16th to 17th	Date on a single sherd
213	1st BC to 1st AD	
305	Late Iron Age to Roman	Date on a single sherd
307	17th to 18th	
309	13th to 15th	Date on a single sherd
510	Iron Age	
916	Mid 13th to 15th	Date on a single sherd

ABBREVIATIONS

BS	Body sherd
CXT	Context
NoF	Number of Fragments
NoS	Number of sherds
NoV	Number of vessels
PCRG	Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group
TR	Trench
W (g)	Weight (grams)

REFERENCES

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

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ARCHIVE CATALOGUES

Archive catalogue 1, Roman and Iron Age Pottery

Tr	Context	Cname	Form	Alter	Draw	Comments	NoS	NoV	W(g)
2	213	NAT	JEV			RIM NECK; INTERNAL LEDGE; CF DRAGONBY TYPE 20 C-E; VERY RARE SHELL; LEDGE SIM TO JDW	1	1	15
2	213	NAT	BCAR		1	RIM TO GIRTH; CF DRAGONBY TYPE 2 OR 4; SOME SHELL; FS	1	1	13
2	213	ZDATE				LIA 1C BC-1C AD	0	0	0
3	305	SHEL	JL	V ABR		BS	1	1	30
3	305	ZDATE				LIA-RO			
5	510	NAT		V ABR		BSS	3	1	2
5	510	ZDATE				IA			

Archive catalogue 2, Post Roman Pottery

Cxt	Sam.	Cname	Fabric	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Decoration	Part	Description	Date
206		BERTH		Jug	1	1	12		BS	Humber type	Late 16th to 17th
307		SLIP	Buff	?	1	1	3		BS	Flake	17th to 18th
307		SLIP	Buff	Hollow	1	1	1	Brown jewelling	BS	Yorkshire product?	17th to 18th
307		SLIP	Red	Bowl	1	1	13	Tan, brown and yellow slip trailed lines	BS	Yorkshire product	18th

309		MEDLOC	OX/R/OX; medium sandy	Jug/ jar	2	1	4		BS	Fine background with occasional sub angular to sub round quartz 0.1 to 0.5mm with sparse up to 0.8mm + sparse ca	13th to 15th
309		NLFS		?	1	1	1		BS	Very abraded; ?ID	Late 10th to 11th
309	5	NLST		Jar/ bowl	1	1	3		BS		Late 12th to 14th
916		HUM		?	1	1	2		BS	Abraded; ?ID	Mid 13th to 15th

Appendix 4

GLOSSARY

Alluvium Deposits laid down by water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea, and fresh water alluvium is laid down by rivers and in lakes.

Anglo-Saxon 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.

Bronze Age A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.

Context An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and 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].

Cut A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, *etc*. Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded**.**

Domesday Survey A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.

Fill Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).

Intrusive Artefacts of later date found in deposits that must pre-date them are said to be intrusive. Such intrusive artefacts will usually be small and have worked down in the soil through cracks, or by root, worm or rodent action. Intrusive artefacts will generally be isolated and be distinctively later than a larger assemblage of earlier artefacts, for example, a single 19th century pottery fragment found in a large collection of medieval ceramics in a refuse pit.

Iron Age A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.

Layer A layer is an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut

Medieval The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.

Natural Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity

Neolithic The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500 - 2250 BC.

Post hole The hole cut to take a timber post, usually in an upright position. The hole may have been dug larger than the post and contain soil or stones to support the post. Alternatively, the posthole may have been formed through the process of driving the post into the ground.

Post-medieval The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.

Prehistoric The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.

Redeposited An artefact that is redeposited is one that has been removed in the past from its original place of deposition. Redeposition can introduce earlier artefacts into later deposits, ie. medieval or post-medieval ditch or pit digging may have invaded Roman levels, bringing Roman artefacts to the surface. When the medieval/post-medieval features are infilled the Roman artefacts become incorporated with those deposits; these Roman artefacts are said to be redeposited. If the age differences within an assemblage are not great it is sometimes difficult to determine if an artefact is redeposited or residual (*q.v.*).

Ridge and Furrow The remains of arable cultivation consisting of raised rounded strips separated by furrows. It is characteristic of open field agriculture.

Appendix 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

89	Context records
8	Context register sheets
2	Trench record sheets
2	Photographic record sheets
32	Scale drawing sheets
1	Evaluation report
1	Stratigraphic matrices
1	Bag of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

North Lincolnshire Museum
Oswald Road
Scunthorpe
DN15 7BB

The archive will be deposited in format museum in accordance with *Guidelines for deposition of Archaeological Archive with North Lincolnshire Museum* (2008), prepared by North Lincolnshire Museums Service.

Archaeological Project Services Site Code:	EPAD09
North Lincolnshire Museums Accession No.:	EPAU
OASIS Identification No:	archaeol1-66889

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 necessarily of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

List of Projects | Search Projects | New project | Change your details | HER coverage | Change country | Log out

Printable version

OASIS ID: archaeol1-66889

Project details

Project name	Archaeological Evaluation on land adjacent to Carrside/Axholme Drive, Epworth, North Lincolnshire
Short description of the project	Thin, disparate scatter of mostly undated ditches and pits. A couple of Iron Age-Roman ditches, possibly additional elements to a field system of the period previously identified immediately to S. A natural palaeochannel also yielded a few pieces of Iron Age pot. A pit and a ditch of medieval date were identified at opposite ends of the site. A couple of post-medieval pits were also recoded at the north end of the site, in the area where buildings are shown on 18th century maps.
Project dates	Start: 19-10-2009 End: 26-10-2009
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	EPAD09 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	EPAU - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 3 - Despoiled land (contaminated derelict and ?brownfield? sites)
Monument type	DITCH Iron Age
Monument type	PIT Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	'Sample Trenches'
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE EPWORTH LAND ADJACENT TO CARRSIDE/AXHOLME DRIVE
Study area	1.18 Hectares
Site coordinates	SE 7740 0395 53.5262562571 -0.8322934729 53 31 34 N 000 49 56 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 3.30m Max: 7.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Project Services
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Gary Taylor
Project director/manager	Gary Taylor
Project supervisor	Andrew Failes
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	North Lincolnshire Museum
Physical Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental','other'
Digital Archive recipient	North Lincolnshire SMR
Digital Contents	'Ceramics','Survey'
Digital Media available	'Database','Images raster / digital photography','Images vector'
Paper Archive recipient	North Lincolnshire Museum
Paper Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental','Stratigraphic','other'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Correspondence','Map','Matrices','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION ON LAND ADJACENT TO CARRSIDE/AXHOLME DRIVE, EPWORTH, NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE (EPAD09)

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