

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT THE SHIP INN, MAIN ROAD, BRANCASTER, NORFOLK (ENF125537)

Work Undertaken For Parworth Developments

January 2011

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# Quality Control The Ship Inn, Main Road Brancaster, Norfolk (ENF 125537)

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### 1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation comprising a single trench was undertaken in the car park of The Ship Inn, Main Road, Brancaster, Norfolk.

The site lies in an area of archaeological interest within the historic core of the settlement of Brancaster, directly opposite the parish church of St Mary. The Roman fort of Branodunum, a Scheduled Ancient Monument, lies approximately 850m to the east of the proposed development. On either side of the fort are the remains of a Romano-British settlement or 'vicus'.

The evaluation revealed a ditch and pit of 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century medieval date, along with a shallower linear feature of probable similar date, and a north-south aligned chalk and limestone wall of late or post-medieval date.

The evaluation confirmed that the site lies within the medieval settlement area. However, no evidence was revealed of Romano-British remains extending into the site.

Finds comprised mainly medieval pottery and late post-medieval pottery and ceramic building material (CBM).

### 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

An archaeological evaluation is defined as 'a limited programme of non-intrusive fieldwork intrusive and/or which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or If site. 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 2008).

### 2.2 Planning Background

Planning permission (application number 09/02128/F) for a residential development was granted by King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council subject to a condition requiring an archaeological evaluation on the site. Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Parworth Developments to undertake this work which was carried out on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> January 2011 in accordance with a brief issued by Norfolk Landscape Archaeology.

### 2.3 Topography and Geology

Brancaster is located on the north Norfolk coast approximately 12km east of Hunstanton and within the administrative borough of King's Lynn and West Norfolk (Fig. 1). The development site is located on the south side of Main Road (A149) opposite the parish church of St Mary, centred on National Grid Reference TF 7727 4386 at approximately 10m OD (Fig. 2).

Local soils are of Hunstanton Association, deep well drained coarse loamy soils developed over till, and glaciofluvial drift over chalk (SSEW 1983, 6 & 12).

### 2.4 Archaeological Setting

Excavations in advance of housing development approximately 700m to the east of the site, during the mid 1970s, revealed features of Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age date. These features were scattered, and in many cases disturbed by later Romano-British contexts. Their presence suggests domestic occupation during the Neolithic, evidenced by possible post-holes. Later, during the Iron Age, an apparent enclosure ditch was dug. The nature of the Bronze Age activity is unclear although fragments of collared urn were recovered. Overall the results of these excavations suggest that sporadic seasonal occupation, possibly exploiting intertidal resources during the earlier periods, evolved into settled occupation, most probably a farmstead, during the Iron Age (Hinchcliffe and Sparey Green 1985, 15-19).

The Scheduled remains of the Roman fort of 'Branodunum', one of a series of 'forts of the Saxon shore' built northwards along the coast from Hampshire to Norfolk, in order to protect against raiding and to control excise, during the third and fourth centuries, lie 850m to the east of the site. Although the dating of the fort is unclear, as only limited excavations have been carried out within its interior, a date of AD225-250, based on similarities with the fort at Reculver (Kent), has been suggested for its construction, whilst a second phase of alteration is dated to AD250-300 (Hinchcliffe and Sparey Green 1985, 178).

The remains of an extensive Romano British settlement have been identified from aerial photography and excavation on either side of the fort. Problematically, excavation has shown the layout of the settlement to have probably been planned on a grid system, but also to predate the known fort. This had led to a suggestion that the settlement is likely to have been planned around an earlier late 2nd century fort which was then replaced during the third century by a further fort on the same site. (Hinchcliffe and Sparey Green 1985, 176-80).

Evidence for Anglo-Saxon settlement at Brancaster is limited and it is likely that neither the fort nor the associated 'vicus' were occupied after the end of the fourth century. A cruciform brooch dated to c.AD500, recovered during surface collection in the vicinity of the fort, remains, despite extensive excavations and surveys, the only Saxon artefact known from the fort/ 'vicus' site (Sparey-Green and Gregory in Hinchcliffe and Sparey Green 1985, 221). The parish church, immediately north of the current development site, is partially constructed from re-used Roman masonry, presumably derived from the fort, and it is possible that the south chancel wall, largely constructed from this re-used material, is Saxo-Norman in origin. Roman masonry has also been identified within a number of dwellings and farm buildings within the vicinity, although it is likely that this material has been 'recycled' several times since the demolition of the fort (Rose in Hinchcliffe and Sparey Green 1985, 188-9 and Allen, Fulford and Pearson, 2001).

The Domesday Survey of 1086 records Brancaster as under the ownership of the Abbey of St Benedict, Ramsey and the presence of approximately 46 households, a mill and arable land in the manor (Morris 1984,16,4). This reference to Brancaster would imply that a settlement had been reestablished by the late Saxon period, the lack of Saxon evidence from the 'vicus' site suggests that the focus of occupation had shifted to the vicinity of the parish church by this time. In support of this, Late Saxon pottery and oyster shell was recovered from spoil from the digging of foundations during development of a site immediately north of the church in 1979 (Norfok Heritage Explorer).

A watching brief on groundworks for the construction of a detached dwelling adjacent to the site of the Roman fort, 700m northeast of the current site, revealed an early to mid  $2^{nd}$  century ditch and two undated ditches (Bradley-Lovekin 2007).

# 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of the work was to establish the presence, or absence, of archaeological remains on the site in order to determine the need, or otherwise, for further archaeological investigations or preservation measures. The objectives were to determine the date of the archaeological remains present on the site, their likely extent and spatial arrangement, character and state of preservation, and to determine the extent to which surrounding archaeological remains extend into the site and identify the way in which they fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

# 4. METHODS

A single trench measuring 15m x 1.8m machine excavated by was under archaeological supervision (Fig. 3). The trench was cleaned by hand and examined for archaeological remains. 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 plans and sections were drawn at scales of 1:20 and 1:10. Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services' practice.

Following excavation, records were checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them, and supplemented by provisional artefact dating.

# **5. RESULTS** (Figs 4, 5)

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

Natural deposits comprised mid orange brown sand and gravel (028) which was cut by several features.

At the east end of the trench was probable north-south aligned ditch [012]. This had a

gently sloping side and was at least 3.5m wide by at least 0.5m deep (Fig 5, Section 1, Plate 2). Lower fill (011) was at least 0.5m thick dark brown sandy silt containing 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century pottery and an oyster shell. Upper fill was orange brown sand (013). Immediately adjacent to the ditch was possible linear terminus [010] (Fig 5, Section 1, Plate 2) which was at least 1.4m long, 0.9m wide and 0.17m deep with gradually sloping sides and filled with dark brown sandy silt (009) containing a single sherd of 12<sup>th</sup> to mid 13<sup>th</sup> century pottery.

At the western end of the trench were two pits (Plate 3). Pit [025] (Fig 5, Section 2) was sub-circular with near vertical sides and a flat base. Measuring 1.1m wide and 0.5m deep, the pit had been lined around the sides, but not the base, with a roughly 0.1m wide band of soft dark reddish brown clay (024). It was filled with 0.5m thick dark brown sandy silt (023) containing 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century pottery and two cockle shells. Adjacent to this pit was 0.9m wide, 0.25m thick, sub-circular, concave sided undated pit [027] (Fig 5, Section 3) which was filled with dark brown clayey silt (026).

Sealing the two pits was 0.18m thick dark greyish brown sandy silt layer (022) containing a sherd of 13<sup>th</sup> to mid 15<sup>th</sup> century pottery.

This was cut by wall construction cut [016] which was filled by north-south aligned chalk and limestone wall [015] which was bonded with lime mortar (Fig 5, Sections 2, 3, Plate 3). The wall was at least 0.75m wide, at least 1.8m long and 0.5m deep. Overlying layer (022) and probably post-dating the wall was 0.4m thick mid brownish grey sandy silt layer (021) with frequent small chalk and flint fragments.

On the east side of the wall a number of rubble layers filled a large feature [029], the edges of which, apart from below the edge of the wall, were not identified. The east side of the cut would have been within a baulk not excavated due to the presence of an electicity cable. The feature was at least 3.8m x 1.8m in plan and at least 0.7m deep (1.2m below the surface). The lowest fill exposed was mid grey sandy silt and chalk and flint rubble (020) containing 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery and CBM. This was overlain by dumps of 0.55m thick orange sand (019) containing 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century CBM and 0.45m thick dark greyish brown sand (018), in turn sealed by up to 0.23m thick chalk rubble with occasional red brick (017) (Fig 5, Section 2).

Features [010] and [012], on the east side of the electricity cable baulk, were sealed by further rubbly layers (Fig 5, Section 1, Plate 2). Layer (007) was up to 0.18m thick mid greyish brown clayey silt, containing 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery and CBM, above which, at the east end of the trench, was up to 0.38m thick loose crushed chalk rubble (008). Above this was an up to 0.1m thick layer of redeposited natural sand and gravel (006). This was overlain by 0.2m thick mid grevish brown clayey silt (005) which was below a 0.2m thick dump of chalk, brick and mortar rubble (004). Sealing this was a mid brownish grey sandy silt levelling layer (014), up to 0.4m thick and very similar to (021).

This was sealed by a 0.4m thick layer of dark greyish brown clayey silt former topsoil (003), containing 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery, which extended across the entire trench. This was overlain by the make-up layers for the current gravel car park.

# 6. **DISCUSSION**

The north-south aligned 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> century medieval ditch was probably a property boundary and was adjacent to a shallower, linear feature of similar date. The nearby 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> century pit indicated medieval domestic activity on the site and was sealed by a probable occupation layer of similar date. The wall was probably a later medieval or post-medieval property boundary or the wall of a building. The large feature adjacent to it may represent a cellar and had been infilled with 19<sup>th</sup> century rubble which extended below the safe excavation limit. Similar rubble extended to 1.1m below the current surface at the east end of the trench.

# 7. CONCLUSION

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken prior to a residential development at The Ship Inn, Main Road, Brancaster as the site lay within the historic core of the village.

The evaluation revealed a ditch and pit of 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century medieval date, along with a shallower linear feature of probable similar date, and a north-south aligned chalk and limestone wall of late or post-medieval date.

The evaluation confirmed that the site lies within the medieval settlement area. However, no evidence was revealed of Romano-British settlement associated with the fort of *Branodunum* extending into the site.

Finds comprised mainly medieval pottery and late post-medieval pottery and CBM.

# 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Parworth Developments, who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Dale Trimble, who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Dave Start kindly permitted access to the library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

### 9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Dale Trimble Site Supervisor: Mark Peachey Site Assistant: Jonathon Smith Finds Processing: Denise Buckley Photographic reproduction: Mark Peachey CAD Illustration: Mark Peachey Post-excavation analysis: Mark Peachey

### **10. BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Allen, J.R.L., Fulford, M.E. And Pearson, A.F., 2001 Branodunum on the Saxon Shore (North Norfolk): a Local Origin for the Building Material' *Britannia 32 271-5* 

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Sparey-Green, C., and Gregory, T., 'Surface Finds' in Hinchliffe, J., and Sparey Green, C. 1985 Excavations at Brancaster 1974 and 1977, East Anglian Archaeology Report No.23

SSEW, 1983, Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales, Harpenden

### **11. ABBREVIATIONS**

- APS Archaeological Project Services
- OD Ordnance Datum
- SSEW Soil Survey of England and Wales



Figure 1 General Location Plan

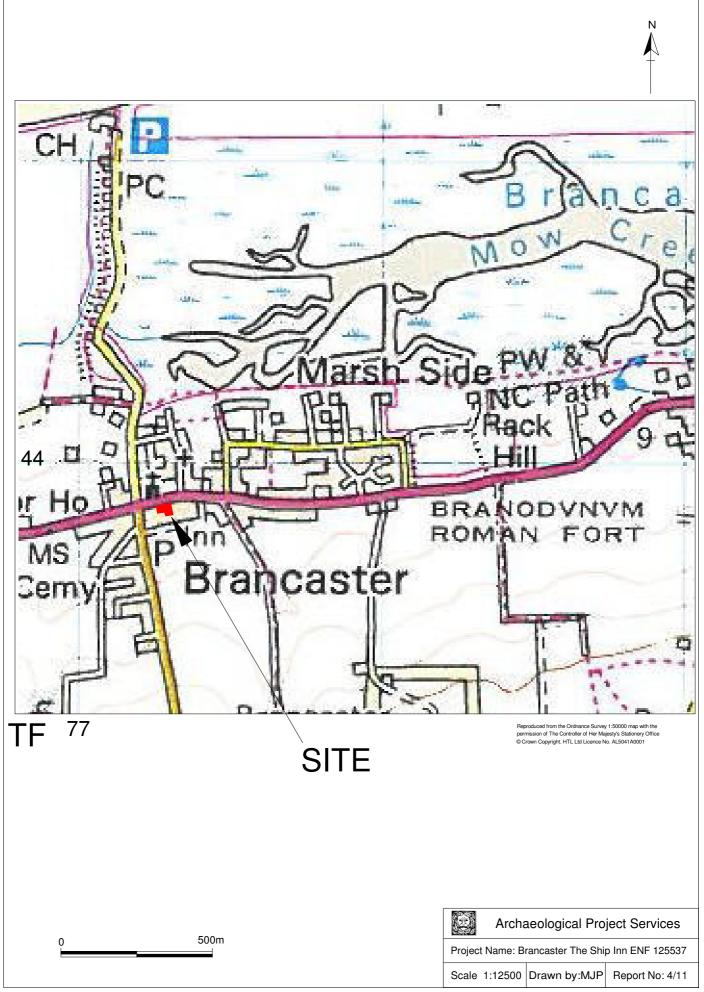


Figure 2. Site Location Plan

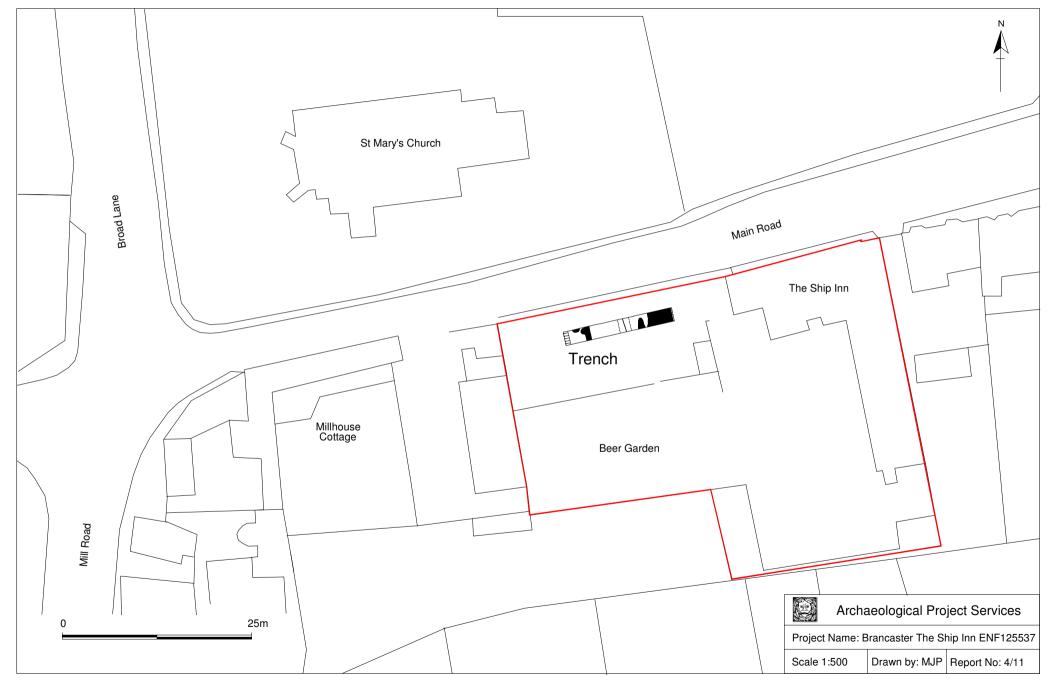
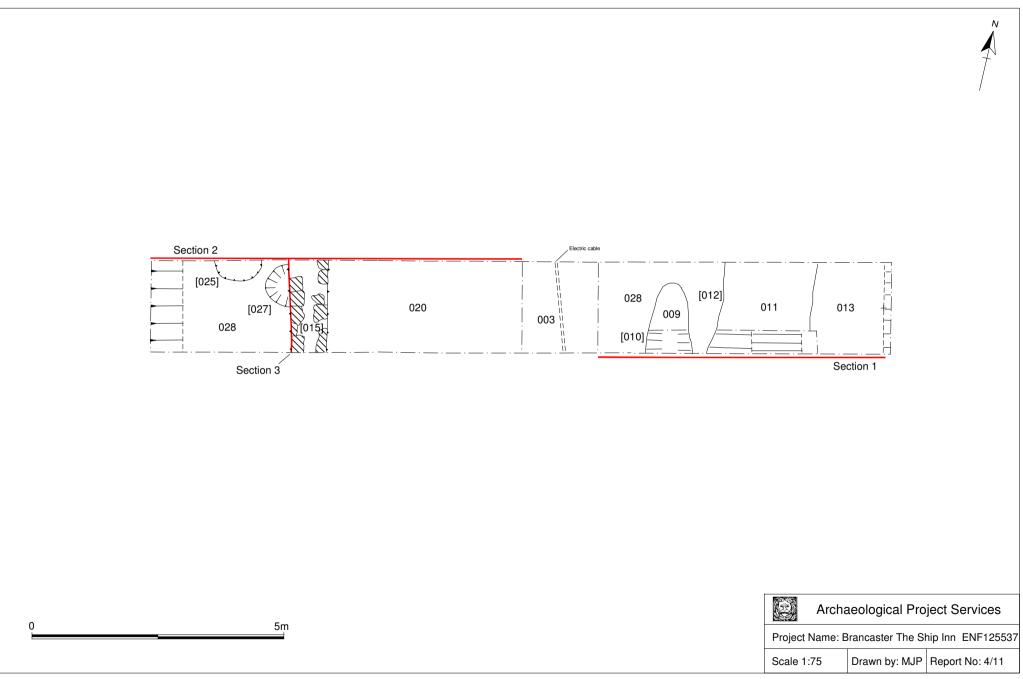


Figure 3. Trench Location Plan



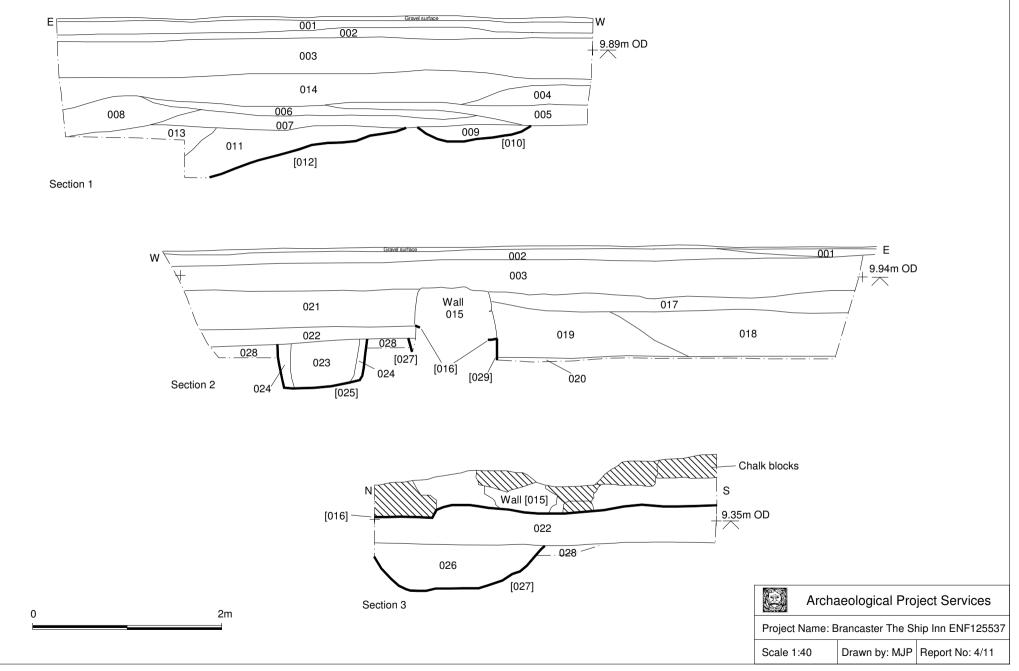


Figure 5. Sections



Plate 1. General view of trench looking west



Plate 2. Ditch [010] and feature [012], Section 1 looking southwest



Plate 3. Pits [025], [027], Wall [015], Sections 2, 3 looking northeast



Plate 4. General view looking northwest towards church

# Appendix 1: SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT THE SHIP INN, MAIN ROAD, BRANCASTER, NORFOLK

#### PREPARED FOR PARWORTH DEVELOPMENTS

#### **DECEMBER 2010**

#### 1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This document comprises a specification for archaeological field evaluation of land at The Ship Inn, Main Road, Brancaster, Norfolk.
- 1.2 The site lies within an area of archaeological interest, within the historic core of the settlement of Brancaster, directly opposite the parish church of St. Mary. A Roman fort which is protected as a nationally important Scheduled Monument lies approximately 1km to the east of the proposed development. On either side of the fort are the remains of a Romano-British settlement which is thought to have possibly grown up around an earlier military establishment.
- 1.3 An archaeological evaluation by trial trenching is required to determine the archaeological implication of residential development at the site.
- 1.4 On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the investigation. The report will consist of a text describing and interpreting the archaeological deposits located during the trenching. The text will be supported by illustrations and photographs.

#### 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land at The Ship Inn, Main Street, Brancaster, Norfolk.
- 2.2 The document contains the following parts:
  - 2.2.1 Overview
  - 2.2.2 The archaeological and natural setting
  - 2.2.3 Stages of work and methodologies to be used
  - 2.2.4 List of specialists
  - 2.2.5 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

#### 3 SITE LOCATION

3.1 Brancaster is located on the north Norfolk coast approximately 12km east of Hunstanton and within the administrative borough of King's Lynn and West Norfolk. The site is located on the south side of the Main Street through Brancaster and opposite the parish church of St. Mary, centred on National Grid Reference TF 7727 4386.

#### 4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 Planning permission (application number 09/02128/F) has been granted by King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council subject to a condition (condition 10) requiring that an archaeological evaluation is undertaken to provide Norfolk Landscape Archaeology with information regarding the extent, date, phasing,

character, function, status and significance of the site. This will enable an assessment to be made as to whether further investigations are necessary.

#### 5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 Local soils are of Hunstanton Association, deep well drained coarse loamy soils developed over till and glaciofluvial drift over chalk (SSEW 1983, 6 & 12).

#### 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 6.1 Excavations in advance of housing development approximately 1km to the east of the site revealed features of Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age date. These features were scattered, and in many cases disturbed by later Romano-British contexts. Their presence suggests domestic occupation during the Neolithic, evidenced by possible post-holes. Later, during the Iron Age, an apparent enclosure ditch was dug. The nature of the Bronze Age activity is unclear although fragments of collared urn were recovered. Overall the results of these excavations suggest that sporadic seasonal occupation, possibly exploiting intertidal resources during the earlier periods evolved into settled occupation, most probably a farmstead, during the Iron Age (Hinchcliffe and Sparey Green 1985, 15-19).
- 6.2 The Scheduled remains of the Roman fort of 'Branodunum', one of a series of 'forts of the Saxon shore' built northwards along the coast from Hampshire to Norfolk in order to protect against raiding and to control excise during the third and fourth centuries, lie to the immediate west and southwest of the site (Fig. 4). Although the dating of the fort is unclear, as only limited excavations have been carried out within its interior, a date of AD225-250, based on similarities with the fort at Reculver (Kent), has been suggested for its construction, whilst a second phase of alteration is dated to AD250-300 (Hinchcliffe and Sparey Green 1985, 178).
- 6.3 The remains of an extensive Romano British settlement have been identified from aerial photography and excavation on either side of the fort. Problematically, excavation has shown the layout of the settlement to have probably been planned on a grid system, but also to predate the known fort. This had led to a suggestion that the settlement is likely to have been planned around an earlier late 2nd century fort which was then replaced during the third century by a further fort on the same site. (Hinchcliffe and Sparey Green 1985, 176-80).
- 6.4 The Domesday Survey of 1086 records Brancaster as under the ownership of the Abbey of St Benedict, Ramsey and the presence of approximately 46 housholds, a mill and arable land in the manor (Morris 1984,16,4). This reference to Brancaster would imply that a settlement had been re-established by the late Saxon period, the lack of Saxon evidence from the 'vicus' site suggests that the focus of occupation had shifted to the vicinity of the parish church by this time. In support of this, Late Saxon pottery and oyster shell was recovered from spoil from the digging of foundations during development of a site immediately north of the chuch in 1979 (Norfok Heritage Explorer).

#### 7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aim of the work will be to establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains on site to determine the need, or otherwise, for further archaeological investigations or preservation measures.
- 7.2 The objectives of the work will be to:
  - 7.2.1 Determine the date of the archaeological remains present on the site.

- 7.2.2 Determine the likely extent and spatial arrangement of archaeological remains present within the site.
- 7.2.3 Establish the character of archaeological remains that may be present within the site.
- 7.2.4 Determine the state of preservation of archaeological remains in the area.
- 7.2.5 Determine the extent to which the surrounding archaeological remains extend into the site.
- 7.2.6 Identify the way in which the archaeological remains identified fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

#### 8 TRIAL TRENCHING

- 8.1 Reasoning for this technique
  - 8.1.1 Trial trenching enables the *in situ* determination of the sequence, date, nature, depth, environmental potential and density of archaeological features present on the site.
  - 8.1.2 The trial trenching will consist of the excavation of one (1) trench measuring 15m x 1.8. Should archaeological deposits extend below 1.2m depth then the trench widths may be extended and the sides stepped in, or shored, as appropriate. In some instances where hand excavation is impractical, augering may be used to determine the depth of deposits.

#### 8.2 <u>General Considerations</u>

- 8.2.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the evaluation.
- 8.2.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practice issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA). Archaeological Project Services is an IFA registered archaeological organisation (no. 21) managed by a Member of the Institute.
- 8.2.3 All work will be carried out in accordance with accordance with *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003) and any revisions of such received up to the acceptance of this specification.
- 8.2.4 Any artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and the discovery promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.
- 8.2.5 Excavation of the archaeological features exposed will only be undertaken as far as is required to determine their date, sequence, density and nature. Not all archaeological features exposed will necessarily be excavated. However, the evaluation will, as far as is reasonably practicable, determine the level of the natural deposits to ensure that the depth of the archaeological sequence present on the site is established.
- 8.2.6 Open trenches will be marked by hazard tape attached to road irons or similar poles. Subject to the consent of the archaeological curator, and following the appropriate recording, the trenches, particularly those of excessive depth, will be backfilled as soon as possible to minimise any health and safety risks.

- 8.2.7 The trenches, all exposed surfaces, excavation horizons, and spoil, will be regularly and repeatedly metal-detected to ensure optimum recovery of artefacts. Any identified artefacts will be excavated from its parent context in normal stratigraphic sequence.
- 8.2.8 An accession number will be obtained from the Norfolk HER for allocation to the site archive.

#### 8.3 <u>Methodology</u>

- 8.3.1 Removal of the topsoil and any other overburden will be undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. To ensure that the correct amount of material is removed and that no archaeological deposits are damaged, this work will be supervised by Archaeological Project Services. Thereafter, the trenches will be cleaned by hand to enable the identification and analysis of the archaeological features exposed.
- 8.3.2 A metal detector will be used during normal hand excavation in order to maximise artefact retrieval. The spoil heap will also be scanned with a metal detector.
- 8.3.3 Investigation of the features 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, (*i.e.* the minimum disturbance) necessary to interpret the form, function and date of the features.
- 8.3.4 The archaeological features encountered will be recorded on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma context record sheets. The system used is the single context method by which individual archaeological units of stratigraphy are assigned a unique record number and are individually described and drawn. All context and site numbering used will be compatible with the Norfolk Sites and Monuments Record.
- 8.3.5 Plans of features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. Should individual features merit it, they will be drawn at a larger scale.
- 8.3.6 Throughout the duration of the trial trenching a photographic record consisting of black and white prints (reproduced as contact sheets) and digital colour images will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
  - the site before the commencement of field operations.
  - the site during work to show specific stages of work, and the layout of the archaeology within individual trenches.
  - individual features and, where appropriate, their sections.
  - groups of features where their relationship is important.
  - the site on completion of fieldwork
- 8.3.7 Should human remains be encountered, they will be left *in situ* with excavation being limited to the identification and recording of such remains. The archaeological curator, local environmental health department and, if appropriate, the coroner and the police will be informed. If removal proves necessary, appropriate Home Office

licences will be obtained before excavation of human remains commences.

- 8.3.8 Finds collected during the fieldwork will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered, ready for later washing and analysis. All finds work will be carried out to accepted professional standards and the Institute of Field Archaeologists *Guidelines for Finds Work* (1992).
- 8.3.9 Conservation of artefacts will be carried out by Lincoln City and County Museum. The resources available for conservation is dependent on the quantity and type of artefacts recovered from the site.
- 8.3.10 The spoil generated during the evaluation will be mounded along the edges of the trial trenches with the topsoil being kept separate from the other material excavated for subsequent backfilling.
- 8.3.11 The precise location of the trenches within the site and the location of site recording grid will be established by an EDM survey or tape survey to established features recorded on Ordnance Survey maps, as appropriate.
- 8.3.12 Samples will be taken from all waterlogged feature fills. Otherwise, samples will be taken from primary and secondary fills of ditches and pits, the level of sampling being appropriate to the content of the individual feature. Samples will be retained from approximately 50% of half-sectioned postholes where they form parts of recognizable structures. All sampling will follow the procedures in *Centre for Archaeology Guidelines Environmental Archaeology* (English Heritage 2002).
- 8.3.13 Representative samples of structural masonry will be retained. The retention of unworked structural stone and plain ashlar will be determined by the number of geological types present. All dressed, inscribed or moulded stone masonry will be retained except where there are logistical, or archaeological considerations, not to do so.

#### 9 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

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

#### 10 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT

- 10.1 <u>Stage 1</u>
  - 10.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the trial trenching will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence constituting a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued: the colour images will be stored on CD and the black and white contact prints will be labelled, in both cases the labelling will refer to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
  - 10.1.2 All finds recovered during the trial trenching will be washed, marked, bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum.

- 10.2 <u>Stage 2</u>
  - 10.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.
  - 10.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

#### 10.3 <u>Stage 3</u>

- 10.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the evaluation will be prepared. This will consist of:
  - A non-technical summary of the findings of the evaluation.
  - A description of the archaeological setting of the site to include results of background research into the history and former land-use of the site.
  - Description of the topography and geology of the evaluation area
  - Description of the methodologies used during the evaluation and discussion of their effectiveness in the light of the findings of the investigation.
  - Text describing the findings of the evaluation.
  - Plans of the trenches showing the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
  - Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.
  - Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape.
  - Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
  - Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.
  - A consideration of the significance of the archaeological remains encountered, in local, regional and national terms.

#### 11 ARCHIVE

- 11.1 The documentation, finds, photographs and other records and materials generated during the evaluation will be sorted and ordered in accordance with the procedures in the Society of Museum Archaeologists' document *Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Museums* (1994), and any additional local requirements, for long-term storage and curation. This work will be undertaken by the Finds Supervisor, an Archaeological Assistant and the Conservator (if relevant). The archive will be deposited with the receiving museum as soon as possible after completion of the project, and within 12 months of that completion date.
- 11.2 Microfilming of the archive will be carried out at Lincolnshire Archives. The silver master will be transferred to the RCHME and a diazo copy will be deposited with the Norfolk Sites and

Monuments Record.

- 11.3 Prior to the project commencing, Norfolk Museums Service will be contacted to obtain their agreement to receipt of the project archive and to establish their requirements with regards to labelling, ordering, storage, conservation and organisation of the archive.
- 11.4 Upon completion and submission of the evaluation report, the landowner will be contacted to arrange legal transfer of title to the archaeological objects retained during the investigation from themselves to the receiving museum. The transfer of title will be effected by a standard letter supplied to the landowner for signature.

#### 12 **REPORT DEPOSITION**

12.1 Copies of the evaluation report will be sent to: the client and the Principal Landscape Archaeologist, Norfolk Landscape Archaeology (3 copies); two copies for Norfolk County Sites and Monuments Record and one for the local planning authority; the English Heritage Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science.

#### 13 **PUBLICATION**

- 13.1 A report of the findings of the excavation will be submitted for inclusion in the journal *Norfolk Archaeology*. Notes or articles describing the results of the investigation will also be submitted for publication in the appropriate national journals: *Post-medieval Archaeology*, *Medieval Archaeology* and *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for medieval and later remains, and *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date.
- 13.2 Details of the investigation will also be input to the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS).

#### 14 CURATORIAL MONITORING

14.1 Curatorial responsibility for the project lies with Norfolk Landscape Archaeology. As much notice as possible, ideally fourteen days, will be given in writing to the curator prior to the commencement of the project to enable them to make appropriate monitoring arrangements. However, the curator will be contacted at the earliest opportunity to seek reduction, or waiving, of this notification period.

#### 15 VARIATIONS TO THE PROPOSED SCHEME OF WORKS

- 15.1 Variations to the scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptability from the archaeological curator.
- 15.2 Should the archaeological curator require any additional investigation beyond the scope of the brief for works, or this specification, then the cost and duration of those supplementary examinations will be negotiated between the client and the contractor.

#### 16 STAFF TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

- 16.1 The work will be directed by Tom Lane MIFA, Senior Archaeologist, Archaeological Project Services. The on-site works will be supervised by an Archaeological Supervisor with knowledge of archaeological evaluations of this type. Archaeological excavation will be carried out by Archaeological Technicians, experienced in projects of this type.
- 16.2 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any

Task	Body to be undertaking the work	
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln.	
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric: David Knight Trent and Peak Archaeological Trust or Dr Carol Allen, independent specialist. Small assemblages may be reported on by Dale Trimble, Project Manager for APS or by Dr Anne Boyle, the in house pottery specialist at APS. All work by the latter will be mentored by the named specialists.	
Roman:	Barbara Precious, independent specialist (formerly City of Lincoln Archaeological Unit), or local specialist if required. APS is currently operating an IFA workplace bursary employing a Alex Beeby who may undertake the work mentored by the named specialist.	
Anglo-Saxon:	Dr Anne Boyle, APS in house pottery specialist.	
Medieval and later:	Dr Anne Boyle, APS in house pottery specialist.	
Other Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist	
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, independent specialist	
Animal Remains Analysis	M . Holmes, independent specialist	
Environmental Analysis	Val Fryer, independent specialist	
Soil Micromorphology	Dr Charly French, independent specialist	
Pollen Assessment	Pat Wiltshire, independent specialist	
Radiocarbon dating	Beta Analytic Inc., Florida, USA	
Dendrochronology dating	University of Sheffield Dendrochronology Laboratory	

particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

#### 17 PROGRAMME OF WORKS

17.1 The site works are timetabled to take 1 day depending on the quantity and complexity of archaeological remains encountered and will be staffed by a Project Officer and a site assistant. Post-excavation work is timetabled to take about 5 days, depending on the quantity and complexity of archaeological remains encountered.

#### 18 INSURANCES

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

#### 19 COPYRIGHT

- 19.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.
- 19.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.
- 19.3 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 and may result in legal action.
- 19.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

#### 20 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Hodge, CAH, Burton, RGO, Corbett, WM, Evans, R, and Seale, RS, 1984 *Soils and their use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales **13** 

Hinchliffe, J., and Sparey Green, C, 1985 Excavations at Brancaster 1974 and 1977, East Anglian Archaeology Report No.23

Morris, J, (ed.) 1986 Domesday Book Norfolk, Part 3, Chichester

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### **APPENDIX 2**

# **Context Summary**

Context	Description	Interpretation	Date
001	Soft dark yellowish brown sand, 0.1m thick	Base for gravel car park	Modern
002	Compacted light grey crushed chalk/brick/mortar, up to 0.12m thick	Hardcore base for car park	Modern
003	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small chalk and flint frags, 0.4m thick	Former topsoil/garden soil	19 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup> C
004	Loose chalk/red brick/yellow mortar rubble, 0.2m thick	Rubble dump	
005	Friable mid greyish brown clayey silt with occasional brick frags, 0.2m thick	Dumped deposit	
006	Loose mid orangey brown sand and gravel, up to 0.1m thick	Dump of redeposited natural	
007	Loose mid greyish brown clayey silt with frequent red brick/chalk/flint frags, up to 0.18m thick	Dump of rubble	19 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup> C
008	Loose off white crushed chalk rubble, up to 0.38m thick	Dump of chalk rubble	
009	Friable dark brown sandy silt with occasional small angular flints, 0.17m thick	Fill of [010]	12 <sup>th</sup> -mid 13 <sup>th</sup> C
010	N-S aligned oblong cut with concave sides and rounded base, at least 1.4m long, 0.9m wide, 0.17m deep	Either a linear terminus or badly truncated feature of unknown function	12 <sup>th</sup> -mid 13 <sup>th</sup> C
011	Friable dark brown sandy silt with occasional small angular flints, at least 0.5m thick	Fill of [012]	13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> C
012	N-S aligned linear cut with gently sloping W side, at least 1.8m long, at least 3.5m wide, at least 0.5m deep	Cut of probable large ditch	13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> C
013	Friable orangey brown sand, at least 0.3m thick	Top fill of [012]	
014	Friable mid brownish grey sandy silt with frequent small chalk frags, occasional small angular flints, up to 0.4m thick	Levelling deposit	
015	N-S aligned wall formed of chalk (up to 0.32m across) and light grey stone blocks bonded with lime mortar, at least 1.8m long, 0.75m wide, up to 0.5m deep	Probably a property boundary or side wall of a house	
016	N-S aligned construction cut for [015] with vertical sides, at least 1.8m long, 0.75m wide, up to 0.5m deep	Wall construction cut	
017	Loose off white chalk rubble with occasional red brick, up to 0.23m thick	Fill of [029]	
018	Loose dark greyish brown sand, at least 0.45m thick	Fill of [029]	
019	Loose orange sand with occasional angular flints, 0.55m thick	Fill of [029]	$18^{\text{th}}$ to $20^{\text{th}}$ C

020	Loose mid grey 50% sandy silt/50% small to medium chalk and flint rubble, at least 0.05m thick	Fill of [029]	19 <sup>th</sup> C
021	Friable mid brownish grey sandy silt with frequent small chalk frags and angular flints, 0.4m thick	Levelling deposit	
022	Friable very dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small angular flints, up to 0.18m thick	Occupation layer	13 <sup>th</sup> -mid 15 <sup>th</sup> C
023	Friable dark brown sandy silt with common small angular flins, 0.5m thick	Fill of [025]	13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> C
024	Soft dark reddish brown clay, 0.1m wide, 0.5m thick band of clay around sides of [025]	Clay lining of [025]	13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> C
025	Sub-circular cut with near vertical sides and flat base 1.1m wide, 0.5m deep	Cut of pit	13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> C
026	Firm dark brown clayey silt with frequent small angular flints/gravel, 0.25m thick	Fill of [027]	
027	Sub-circular cut with concave sides and rounded base, 0.9m wide, 0.25m deep	Cut of pit	
028	Friable mid orange brown sand/gravel	Natural	
029	Probable (but only one side seen) rectangular cut, in plan at least 3.8m x 1.8m, at least 0.7m deep	Large undefined feature, possibly a cellar	

#### Appendix 3

#### THE FINDS

#### **POST ROMAN POTTERY**

By Anne Boyle

#### Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001). The pottery codenames (Cname) are in accordance with the Post Roman pottery type series for Lincolnshire, as published in Young *et al.* (2005). Additional Cnames for products unique to Norfolk and therefore not present in the Lincolnshire series have been taken from Anderson (2005) and Jennings *et al.* (1981). A single code (EMHM) is equivalent to Jennings' early handmade production of local medieval unglazed ware (LMU). This has been used to help highlight the earlier nature of this material within the archive.

A total of 17 sherds from 13 vessels, weighing 279 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 medieval to the early modern period.

#### Condition

All the pottery is in fairly fresh condition, although some of the medieval material is possibly burnt.

#### Results

Cname	Full name	Earliest	Latest	NoS	NoV	W (g)
		date	date			
BL	Black-glazed wares	1550	1750	3	2	35
EMHM	Early Medieval Handmade ware	1100	1250	4	4	13
ENGS	Unspecified English Stoneware	1690	1900	1	1	30
GRIM	Grimston ware	1200	1550	5	2	117
LMU	Local Medieval Unglazed ware (generic)	1200	1450	2	2	67
PEARL	Pearlware	1770	1900	1	1	15
WHITE	Modern whiteware	1850	1900	1	1	2
			TOTAL	17	13	279

#### Table 1, Post Roman Pottery Archive

#### Provenance

Medieval pottery came from Linear [010], Ditch [012], occupation layer (022) and Pit [025], with late post-medieval and early modern material associated with former topsoil (003) and dumped deposit (007).

#### Range

The assemblage comprises medieval types produced locally (GRIM, LMU, EMHM) and late post-medieval and early modern wares.

#### Potential

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

#### Summary

A small mixed assemblage of medieval and late post-medieval and early modern pottery was retrieved from seven contexts.

#### **CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL**

By Anne Boyle

#### Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the ACBMG (2001) and to conform to Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook*. A total of five fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 589 grams was recovered from the site.

#### Methodology

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

#### Condition

All the fragments are fresh.

#### Results

Table 2, Ceramic Building Material Archive

Cname	Full name	NoF	W (g)
BRK	Brick	1	128
PANT	Pantile	4	461
	TOTAL	5	589

#### Provenance

Early modern brick and tile came from the fills of feature [029] and dumped deposit (007).

#### Range

All the brick and tile dates to between the 18th and 20th centuries.

#### Potential

All of the brick and tile is suitable for discard. No further work is required.

#### **OTHER FINDS**

By Gary Taylor

#### Introduction

A total of three mollusc shells ,weighing 31 grams were retrieved from stratified contexts.

#### Condition

The overall condition of the remains is good to moderate.

Results

Table 3, Other Materials

Cxt	Material	Description	NoF	W (g)
011	Oyster shell		1	30
023	Cockle shell		2	<1

#### Provenance

Mollusc shells were retrieved from ditch fill (011) and pit fill (023).

#### Potential

The shell has limited potential other than to say oysters and cockles were being consumed at the site. The assemblage is suitable for discard.

#### SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 4 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 4, Spot d
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Table 4, Spot dates							
Cxt	Date	Comments					
003	19th to 20th	Date on a single sherd					
007	19th to 20th						
009	12th to mid 13th	Date on a single sherd					
011	13th to 15th						
019	18th to 20th	Date on CBM					
020	19th	Date on a single sherd					
022	13th to mid 15th	Date on a single sherd					
023	13th to 15th						

#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

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

#### REFERENCES

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

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Lyman, R. L., 1996, Vertebrate Taphonomy, Cambridge Manuals in Archaeology (Cambridge)

Slowikowski, A. M., Nenk, B., and Pearce, J., 2001, *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2

Young, J., Vince, A.G. and Nailor, V., 2005, A Corpus of Saxon and Medieval Pottery from Lincoln (Oxford)

#### **ARCHIVE CATALOGUES**

Archive catalogue 1, Post Roman Pottery

Cxt	Cname	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Decoration	Part	Comment	Date
003	ENGS	Straight sided	1	1	30		BS		19th to 20th
		jar							
007	BL	Jar/ bowl	2	1	33		BS		Late 17th to 18th
007	BL	Drinking vessel	1	1	2		BS		Late 17th to 18th
007	WHITE	?	1	1	2	Blue	BS		19th to 20th
						transfer			
						print			
009	EMHM	Jar	1	1	4		BS		12th to Mid 13th
011	GRIM	Jug	4	1	108		Handle +	Strap with central	13th to 15th
							BS	hollow; misfired or	
								burnt?	
011	LMU	?	1	1	23		BS	Spalled; ?ID	13th to mid 15th
011	EMHM	?	1	1	3		BS?	Burnt	12th to mid 13th
020	PEARL	Plate/ bowl	1	1	15	Blue	Rim		19th

						transfer print			
022	LMU	Jar	1	1	44		Rim	Long everted rim	13th to mid 15th
023	EMHM	Jar/ bowl	2	2	6		BS	Soot	12th to mid 13th
023	GRIM	Jug/ jar	1	1	9		BS		13th to 15th

### Archive catalogue 2, Ceramic Building Material

Cxt	Cname	Fabric	NoF	W (g)	Description	Date
007	PANT		1	127	Suitable for discard	18th to 20th
007	BRK	Calcareous	1	128	Flake; handmade; mortar; suitable for discard	18th to 19th
019	PANT		2	231	Suitable for discard	18th to 20th
020	PANT		1	103	Suitable for discard	18th to 20th

# Appendix 4

## GLOSSARY

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).
Iron Age	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
Layer	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity
Neolithic	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500 - 2250 BC.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany
Till	A deposit formed after the retreat of a glacier. Also known as boulder clay, this material is generally unsorted and can comprise of rock flour to boulders to rocks of quite substantial size.

### Appendix 5

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 2 Context register sheets
- 28 Context record sheets
- 1 Masonry recording sheet
- 1 Photographic record sheet
- 1 Section record sheet
- Plan record sheet
  Daily record sheet
- 2 Daily record sheets
- 5 Sheets of scale drawings
- Stratigraphic Matrix
  Bag of finds

All primary records are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Norfolk Museums Service Union House Gressenhall Dereham Norfolk NR20 4DR

Archaeological Project Services Site Code:	BRSH10
Norfolk Museums Accession No:	ENF125537
Oasis Record No:	archaeol1-91186

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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