ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT:

LAND TO THE REAR OF THE OLD COACH HOUSE, BURGHLEY STREET, BOURNE, LINCOLNSHIRE

Planning Reference: S04/0551/12 NGR: TF 09385 20229 AAA Site Code: BOCH 07 LCCM Accession Number: 2007.211



Report prepared for Quadrant Surveying Ltd

by

Allen Archaeological Associates Report Number 2008/022

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Cover image: 1881 First Edition Ordnance Survey Map at scale 1:2500 with the site outlined in red

Summary

- Allen Archaeological Associates was commissioned by Quadrant Surveying Ltd to carry out an archaeological watching brief during groundworks for the construction of a single dwelling to the rear of the Old Coach House, Burghley Street in Bourne, Lincolnshire.
- Bourne is situated on the line of a Roman military road known as King Street, as well as the Roman Car Dyke canal. The site is located within the medieval core of the town in close proximity to both the castle and the market place.
- □ No archaeologically significant features or deposits were encountered during the scheme of archaeological works.

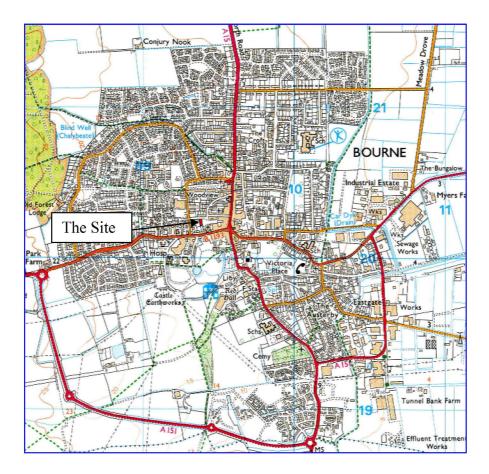


Figure 1: Site location in red at scale 1:25000 © Crown Copyright 2000. All rights reserved. License Number 100047330

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Allen Archaeological Associates was commissioned by Quadrant Surveying Ltd to carry out a watching brief during the groundworks associated with the construction of a single dwelling to the rear of the Old Coach House, Burghley Street, Bourne, Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The site works and reporting conform to current national guidelines, as set out in the Institute for Field Archaeologists '*Standards and guidance for archaeological watching briefs*' (IFA 2001) and *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook: a manual of archaeological practice.* (Lincolnshire County Council, Built Environment Department 1998).
- 1.3 The archive will be submitted to The Collection, Lincoln and archived under the LCCM Accession Number 2007.211.

2.0 Site location and description

- 2.1 The site lies within the historic core of the town, upon a level plot of land to the south of the Old Coach House. The site is accessed from Burghley Street by a driveway along the eastern side of the existing building. Brick walling delineates the full length of the western boundary with conifer hedging to the east and a timber fence to the south. The site centres upon NGR TF 09385 20229.
- 2.2 The local geology comprises Jurassic deposits of Oxford Clay, with no drift deposits identified (British Geological Survey 1990).

3.0 Planning background

3.1 Full planning permission was granted by South Kesteven District Council for the erection of a single dwelling on land to the rear of the Coach House, Burghley Street, Bourne, Lincolnshire (Planning Application: S04/0551/12) Planning consent was subject to the undertaking of an archaeological watching brief during all intrusive groundworks associated with the development.

4.0 Archaeological and historical background

- 4.1 There is very limited evidence of pre-Roman activity around Bourne, and it has been suggested that a substantial settlement developed as a result of military activity early in the Roman occupation (Hayes and Lane 1992). The town is situated on the line of a Roman military road known as King Street, as well as the Car Dyke canal.
- 4.2 The Fenland Survey identified a possible focus of settlement activity to the north of the town, on the west bank of the Car Dyke, producing pottery, tile and building rubble (*ibid.*). Excavations in the town have identified a possible villa at Home Close (Archaeology Data Service Ref. NMR_NATINV-348165), and pottery kilns were excavated to the south of the town in 1959 (NMR_NATINV-348170). South-east of the site, the remains of a Roman building were found on the west side of South Street in 1880 while attempting to locate a tunnel between the castle and abbey (NMR_NATINV-348169), and an urn containing sixty 4th century coins was found near to the castle, approximately 0.4km to the south of the site (NMR_NATINV-348168).
- 4.3 Anglo-Saxon activity is limited, although early Saxon pottery was found to the north of the town during the Fenland Survey, suggesting possible continuity from the Roman period (Hayes

and Lane 1992). The town is first documented as early as AD 960 (NMR_NATINV-925899), and in the Domesday Book the parish was divided between five landowners; Ivo Tallboys, Alfred of Lincoln, Odger the Breton, Robert of Stafford and Kolgrimr. These large estates included numerous mills and fisheries, as well as extensive woodland, meadow and a church (Morgan and Thorne 1986).

- 4.4 In 1138, the Augustinian abbey of St. Peter and St. Paul was founded in the town; the existing church to the south-east of the site being all that remains, although it is believed that there was already a church on the site before the abbey was founded. Excavations to the north of the church in 1985 identified an extensive range of stone buildings of the former abbey (Pevsner and Harris 2002). To the south of the site are the earthwork remains of the Norman motte and bailey castle (*ibid*.).
- 4.5 The site is located within the medieval core of the town in close proximity to both the castle and the market place. Archaeological evidence in the form of a life sized stone head of a Norman knight was recovered during demolition works on the Crown Hotel (adjacent to the site) in the 1960s and construction work for a new Woolworths store unearthed significant quantities of medieval pottery (Young 2008).

5.0 Methodology

- 5.1 The monitoring of the site was limited to two sections of drainage (see Figure 3), due to the building foundations being excavated and backfilled before Allen Archaeological Associates were commissioned to undertake the watching brief. The remaining groundworks were monitored by Mark Allen and Phil Chavasse between 22nd October 2007 and 11th March 2008 to investigate and record any archaeological features encountered as the work progressed.
- 5.2 During excavation, all exposed plan and section surfaces were examined and periodically cleaned, in order to determine the stratigraphic sequence. A full written record of the work was maintained with plans and sections drawn at appropriate scales (1:20 and 1:50) and pro-forma context recording sheets used to record each individual context.
- 5.3 A colour photographic record was maintained throughout the watching brief, including general site shots and photographs of the sequence of deposits with appropriate scales and a north arrow. A selection of these shots has been included as an appendix (Appendix 1).

6.0 **Results** (Figures 3 and 4)

- 6.1 The site was sealed by a layer of dark brown clay topsoil 001, which produced a single sherd of 15th to 17th century Bourne Ware and two fragment of animal bone. Below this was a 0.30m thick layer of mottled greenish yellow silty clay 002 that appeared to represent a sequence of alluvial deposition.
- 6.2 The basal layer, encountered at a depth of 0.90m below the existing ground surface, consisted of plastic blue/grey clay, 003 that was the underlying natural (Oxford Clay) solid geology.
- 6.3 At the northern end of the site, a section of drainage trench excavated through modern concrete driveway 005, revealed a 0.20m thick layer of modern made ground 004 consisting of brown silty clay with frequent brick fragments. This layer was sealing a 0.18m depth of buried topsoil 001, overlying alluvial layer 002.

7.0 Discussion and conclusion

- 7.1 No archaeologically significant deposits or features were encountered during the watching brief. Only a sequence of naturally-silted deposits and topsoil horizons were exposed, suggesting that the development has had a limited impact upon the archaeological resource.
- 7.2 Cartographic research has demonstrated that in 1881 (1:2500 Ordnance Survey Map) the site was in use as an orchard to the rear of a property fronting onto Burghley Street, although there is no indication of earlier land use.

8.0 Effectiveness of methodology

8.1 The application of an archaeological watching brief was an appropriate level of mitigation for the scale of these works, although the limited extent of the groundworks that were able to be monitored has lessened the effectiveness of the methodology in this instance.

9.0 Acknowledgements

9.1 Allen Archaeological Associates would like to thank Quadrant Surveying Limited for this commission.

10.0 References

British Geological Survey, 1972, *Bourne. England and Wales Sheet 143. Drift Edition. One Inch Series.* Keyworth, Nottingham: British Geological Survey

Hayes, P. and Lane, T., 1992, 'The Fenland Project Number 5: Lincolnshire Survey, The South-West Fens', *East Anglian Archaeology*, Report no. 55, Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, Sleaford

I.F.A., 1999, Standards and guidance for archaeological watching briefs. Reading, Institute of Field Archaeologists

L.C.C., 1998, *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook: a manual of archaeological practice*. Lincoln, Lincolnshire County council, Built Environment Department.

Morgan, P. and Thorn, C., (eds.), 1986, *Domesday Book: vol.31: Lincolnshire*, Phillimore & Co. Ltd, Chichester

Young, J., 2008, South Kesteven Planning Archaeologists Comments. Unpublished planning document.

11.0 Site archive

11.1 The documentary and physical archive is currently in the possession of Allen Archaeological Associates. It will be submitted to The Collection, Lincoln within six months, where it will be stored under the unique archive Accession Number 2007.211

Appendix 1: Colour Plates



Plate 1: General view of the site looking north along the driveway.



Plate 2: The eastern end of the drainage trench, looking north-west.



Plate 3: East facing section, in a drainage trench excavated along the driveway. Looking west-southwest.

Appendix 2: Post-Roman pottery assessment

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 single sherd, weighing 15 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 data was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in table 1. The pottery dates to the Late to Post-medieval period.

Condition

The sherd is of medium size but is abraded.

Results

Table 1, Post Roman Pottery Archive

| C | xt | Cname | Full Name | Fabric | Form | NoS | NoV | W (g) | Part | Comment | Date |
|---|----|-------|---------------|--------|------|-----|-----|-------|------|---------|------------------------------|
| 0 | 1 | BOU | Bourne D ware | Smooth | Bowl | 1 | 1 | 15 | Rim | Abraded | Mid 15 th to 17th |

Provenance

The single sherd was recovered from the topsoil, context (01).

Range

Bourne D ware is produced at several kilns in Bourne and its appearance on the site is expected. The Bowl rim can be paralleled at other sites in the town.

Potential

The assemblage offers limited potential for further work.

Summary

A single bowl rim sherd was recovered from the site. The fragment dates to the Late-Post medieval period.

Spot Dating

The dating in table 2 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 2, Spot dates

| Cxt Date | | Comments |
|----------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 01 | Mid 15 th to 17th | Date on a single sherd |

Abbreviations

| BS | Body sherd |
|-------|-------------------|
| CXT | Context |
| NoS | Number of sherds |
| NoV | Number of vessels |
| TR | Trench |
| W (g) | Weight (grams) |

References

~ 2003, *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* [internet]. Available at http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/ section.asp?catId=3155

Slowikowski, A. M., Nenk, B., and Pearce, J., 2001, *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2 Young, J., Vince, A.G. and Nailor, V., 2005, *A Corpus of Saxon and Medieval Pottery from Lincoln* (Oxford)

Appendix 3: Animal bone assessment

By Jen Wood

Introduction

A total of 2 (31g) fragments of animal bone were recovered by hand during archaeological works undertaken by Allen Archaeological Associates at The Old Coach House, Burghley Street, Bourne. The remains were recovered from a topsoil layer (01)

Results

The remains were generally of a good overall condition, averaging grade 2 on the Lyman criteria (1996). No evidence of butchery, burning, gnawing or pathology was noted on any of the bone.

Table 1, Summary of Identified Bone

| Context | Taxon | Element | Side | Number | Weight | Comments |
|---------|--------------------|---------|------|--------|--------|----------|
| 01 | Pig | Humerus | L | 1 | 29 | Midshaft |
| 01 | Medium Mammal Size | Rib | X | 1 | 2 | Blade |

The assemblage is too small to provide meaningful information on animal husbandry and utilisation on site, save the presence/use of the animals on site. The skeletal element present suggests the remains mainly represent food waste.

References

Lyman, R L, 1996 Vertebrate Taphonomy, Cambridge Manuals in Archaeology, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge

Appendix 4: Context summary list

| Context | Туре | Description | Interpretation |
|---------|-------|---|---|
| 001 | layer | Dark brown clay silt topsoil | Modern topsoil horizon |
| 002 | layer | Greenish yellow silty clay alluvium | Laminated deposit indicating successive episodes of alluvial deposition |
| 003 | layer | Firm plastic clay (Oxford Clay) natural | Natural drift geology |
| 004 | layer | Mid brown silty clay and rubble | Modern re-deposited layer of clay and rubble forming a firm base for the driveway |
| 005 | layer | Concrete | Concrete driveway surface |

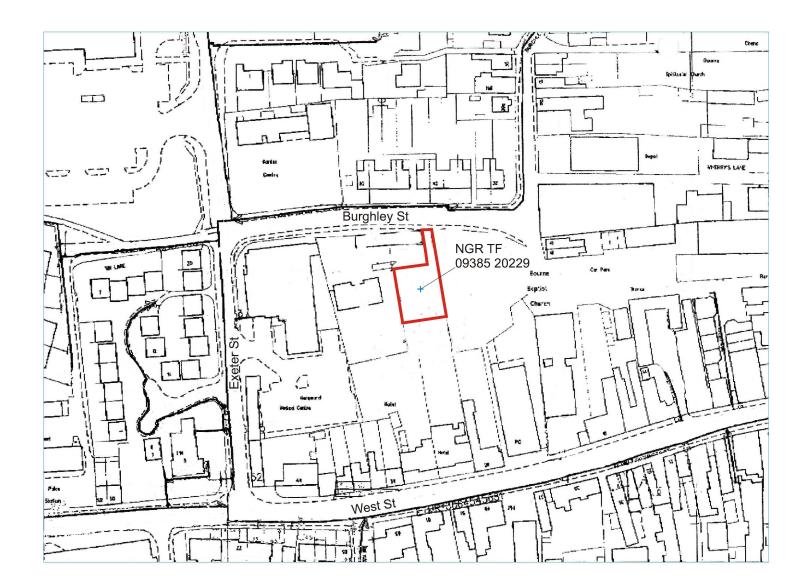


Figure 2: Site location plan, with the site outlined in red at scale 1:1500

