

**Report on the Archaeological Monitoring And Recording:
Land Adjacent to Nos. 1 & 2 Ruby Villas, Chapel Street,
Market Rasen, Lincs.**

Site code: MRRM11
NGR: TF 1068 8899
WLDC Planning Ref: 126688
LCNCC Acc No: 2011.39
PCAS Job No.: 748

Report prepared for
Heronswood Design Limited
On behalf of Rase Developments

by

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2. Location plan of the site showing the house plots. Scale 1:500.
3. Plan of plots 5 & 6. Scale 1:200.
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Plates

1. General view of the site looking North.
2. Representative section (Figure 4.1).
3. Representative section (Figure 4.2).
4. Modern rubbish pit [107].
5. Excavated footings looking north-west.
6. Excavated footings looking north-east.

Summary

West Lindsey District Council (WLDC) granted conditional planning permission for the erection of a third pair of semi-detached dwellings (plots 5 & 6), with alterations to proposed parking arrangements of the existing permissions. The development is situated on land to the east of Nos. 1 & 2 Ruby Villas, Chapel Lane, Market Rasen, Lincolnshire (Planning Ref.: 126688). The development site covers an area of c. 0.09ha and is centred on NGR TF 1068 8899.

In August 2011, a scheme of archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out on the site during construction groundworks. This exposed a large modern rubbish pit and associated dumps of building materials and debris but no significant archaeological features or horizons were identified.

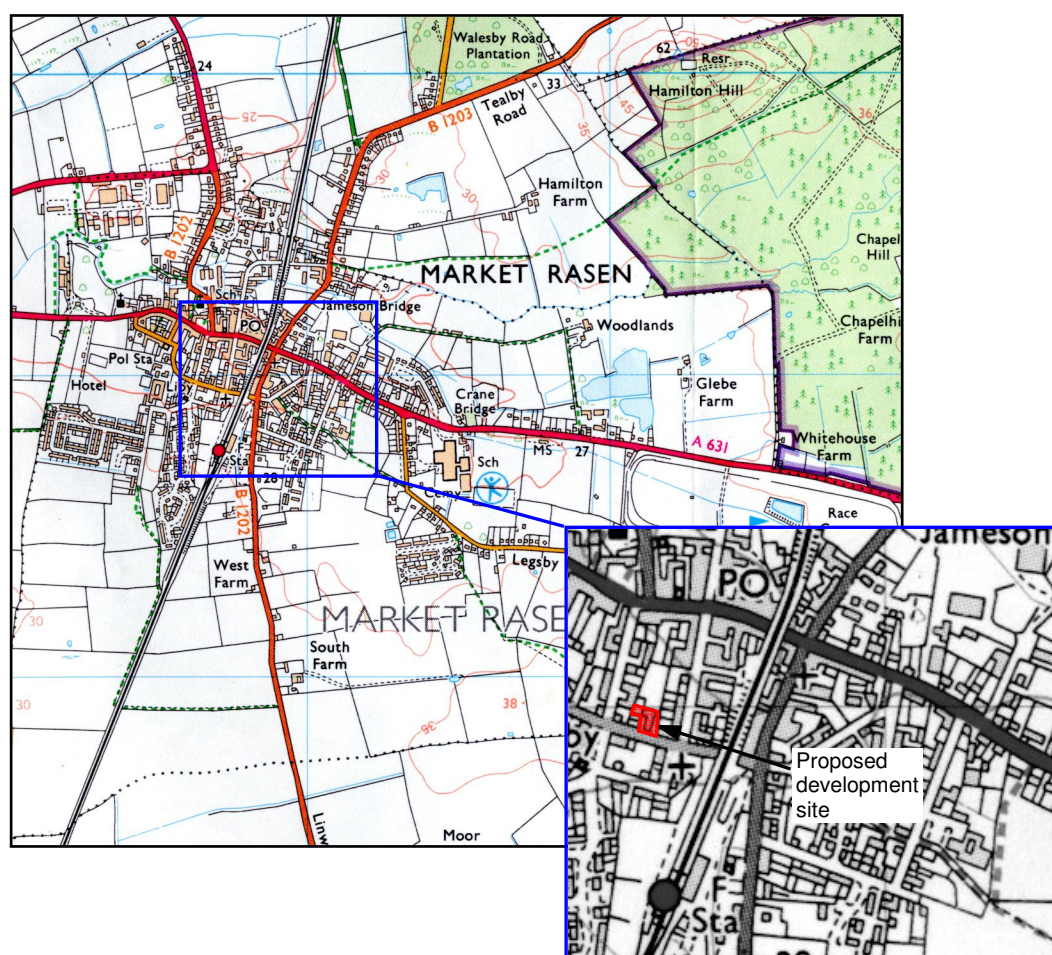


Figure 1. Location of the site (based on the 1999 Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 Explorer map, Sheet 282). Scale 1:25,000 with detailed extract at 1:10,000. ©Crown copyright. All rights reserved. PCAS Licence No. 100049278.

1.0 Introduction

Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd (PCAS) undertook archaeological monitoring and recording at land adjacent to Nos. 1 & 2 Ruby Villas, Chapel Street, Market Rasen, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1). Controlled monitoring by J. Sleaf took place on 11-08-2011.

The archaeological scheme was undertaken to fulfil a condition of planning permission 126688, granted on 11-01-2011 by the Development Services Manager for West Lindsey District Council.

2.0 Site location and description

The town of Market Rasen is situated approximately 18km north-east of Lincoln, in the administrative district of West Lindsey. It lies in the clay vale between the two limestone ridges of the Lincoln Edge and the Lincolnshire Wolds. Chapel Street is an east-west aligned street to the south of the town centre. The development site is on land to the east of Ruby Villas, which has been cleared of structures. The c.0.09ha site extends back from Chapel Street and behind adjacent buildings to the west (NGR TF 1068 8899), (Fig. 2).

Site elevation is approximately 27m OD. The British Geological Survey has mapped the drift deposits in the vicinity as blown sand drift deposits, overlying a solid geology of Upper Jurassic Kimmeridge Clay (BGS 1:50,000 Sheet 102).

3.0 Planning Background

Planning permission was previously granted for the construction of two pairs of semi-detached houses, with the removal of existing garages (planning refs.: M06-P-1263 and 123415). On 16th November 2010, a further application was made to WLDC to '*erect 2no dwellings - semidetached, and alterations to proposed parking arrangements of extant permissions M06-P-1263 and 123415*' (planning ref.: 126688). Planning permission was granted on 11th January 2011, subject to a condition (8), for an archaeological watching brief to be conducted during all stages of the development involving ground disturbance in accordance with an approved scheme (PCAS March 2011).

4.0 Archaeological Background

During the Roman period, an extensive pottery manufacturing industry developed in the Market Rasen area, mostly concentrated towards the south of the town in the Linwood Road area; there is no evidence for Roman pottery production in the vicinity of the development site.

A minor settlement is believed to have arisen here in the late Saxon period, but the focus of this is unknown, and the Domesday Survey of 1086 AD does not record it, referring only to West and Middle Rasen. The early medieval town was known as either 'East Rasen' or 'Little Rasen'. Its market status was not granted until the 14th century: the first known reference to 'Market Rasen' is in 1358.

The population of Market Rasen increased during the Parliamentary Enclosures, as former agricultural workers moved to urban centres. The Enclosure Award of 1780 refers to the street now known as Chapel Street as Kilnwell Lane. This name could indicate that local sand and clay resources were in industrial use in this area in the medieval, or even into the modern period, although not necessarily as the raw material for pottery: at least twenty inhabitants of the town were working in brick and tile manufacture as late as 1851. The 1780 map marks a stream alongside Kilnwell Lane, presumably flowing from the 'kiln well' of the street name, which would have provided another necessary resource for ceramics production (Whitwell 1992).

The railway station was opened in 1848, at the edge of the town, and this prompted expansion to the south: at this time, Market Rasen finally outstripped its sister settlements of Middle and West Rasen. The modern name of Chapel Street derives from the Centenary Wesleyan Chapel, built of red brick and stone in 1863 (Pevsner 1990).

5.0 Methodology

The Scheme of Works (PCAS March 2011) was designed in collaboration with the Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record (LHER). Both the scheme of works and this report follow current best practice and appropriate national guidance including:

- *The Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)*, (English Heritage, 1991);
- PPS5, *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning and the Historic Environment* (DCLG 2010, March 2010);
- *National Planning Policy Framework*. Department for Communities and Local Government. March 2012
- *Standard Briefs for Archaeological Projects in Lincolnshire: Lincolnshire Archaeology Handbook* (Lincolnshire County Council, 1997, Last Rev. 2010);
- *IFA Code of Conduct* (1994 as revised);
- *IFA Standards and Guidance for archaeological excavation* (2008);
- *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE).

The groundworks monitored comprised the excavation of footing trenches for plots 5 & 6 to a depth of between 0.6 and 0.8m by a machine equipped with a toothless bucket, within a previously stripped area of approximately 350m by 400m.

The monitored works were photographically recorded and selected prints are included in this report (Appendix 1). Context numbers were assigned for recording purposes and these are listed in Appendix 2.

Before the field work commenced, an OASIS online record was initiated (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis>). This has now been completed and will be submitted to the Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record as part of this phase of works (Appendix 4). A Lincolnshire HER accession number was also assigned

(LCNCC 2011.39) and arrangements were made with the developers and an appropriate museum (The Collection, Lincoln) for the future deposition of the object and paper archives (see Section 10).

All archaeological deposits and features, including those revealed by machine were manually cleaned and recorded and were sample excavated by hand in accordance with the approved Written Scheme (PCAS March 2011). Context information was recorded on standard Context Record Sheets. Archaeological deposits were drawn at appropriate scales (1:10 and 1:20 for sections; and 1:100 for plans extending over a wide area), with Ordnance Datum heights being calculated for each class of drawing. Photography in 35mm colour supplemented by monochrome and digital format formed an integral part of the recording strategy.

The archaeological recording was conducted in August 2011.

6.0 Results (Figs. 3 & 4)

The earliest deposit encountered comprised pale yellow, grey-white soft natural sand (102), above which a red-brown sandy subsoil (101) was encountered (Figs. 4.1 – 4.5).

Above the subsoil were two dump deposits of modern debris. The earliest (109) comprised dark brown-grey silty sand, approximately 0.44m thick, containing frequent ceramics, glass and metal springs, bike wheels, peddles and buckets. This deposit was covered by a 0.2m thick deposit of dirty yellow-brown sand and building debris (108).

The two dump layers were sealed by a general spread of dark grey-brown sandy topsoil (100), 0.34m thick, very disturbed and containing gravel inclusions, late post-medieval ceramics and brick fragments (see Appendix 3).

The only feature recorded was a substantial modern rubbish pit [107], seen cutting through the topsoil deposit and approximately 1.8m wide and visible to a depth of 1.6m (see fig. 4.5). The lower fill (106) comprised dark brown-grey silty sand over 1m thick containing frequent brick fragments, metal buckets, remnants of a chimney pot and ceramics. Above this was dirty orange-brown sandy clay (105), 0.32m thick and yielding glass, brick fragments and old lead water pipe sections. The upper fill (104), dark brown-grey sandy clay, 0.24m thick, was similar to topsoil (100) and not immediately visible in plan but apparent in section due to numerous brick fragments.

The most recent deposit appears to be the remains of a redundant, degraded tarmac drive, (103), partially covered by re-deposited topsoil (figs. 4.2 and 4.3). The location of this deposit adjacent to gates onto Chapel Street suggests that it may be the remnants of a modern drive or pathway.

7.0 Conclusion

The monitoring of plots 5 and 6 on land adjacent to Nos. 1 & 2 Ruby Villas, Market Rasen revealed no significant archaeological features or horizons.

The modern deposits encountered were probably derived from the original construction of the now demolished structures (garages, store, garden walls), the depth of which would significantly hamper the observation or survival of any archaeology present within the development.

8.0 Bibliography

BGS. 1973. *British Geological Survey of Great Britain (England and Wales); Solid and Drift; Sheet 114: Lincoln*. Scale 1:50,000.

Pevsner, N., Harris, J. 1990. *The Buildings of England: Lincolnshire*.

Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd. March 2011. *Land Adjacent To Nos. 1 & 2 Ruby Villas, Chapel Street, Market Rasen, Lincs.: Specification for a Scheme of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording*. R. D. Savage.

Whitwell, J. B. 1992. *Roman Lincolnshire*. History of Lincolnshire Committee for the Society of Lincolnshire History & Archaeology, Vol. 2

9.0 Acknowledgements

PCAS Ltd would like to thank Heronswood Design Limited (On behalf of Rase Developments) for this commission.

10.0 Site Archive

The archive is currently held at the offices of PCAS Ltd, Saxilby, Lincolnshire and will be deposited at The Collection, Lincoln under the unique accession code: LCNCC 2011.39.

Appendix 1: Plates.



1. General view of the site looking North.



2. Representative section (Figure 4.1).



3. Representative section (Figure 4.2).



4. Modern rubbish pit [107].



5. Excavated footings looking north-west.



6. Excavated footings looking north-east.

Appendix 2: Context Summary

Context No.	Type	Description	Finds/Dating
100	Layer	Dark grey-brown sandy topsoil (disturbed)	Pottery
101	Layer	Red-brown friable sandy subsoil	-
102	Layer	Pale yellow, grey-white soft natural sand	-
103	Layer	Dark brown soil and degraded tarmac	-
104	Fill	Dark brown-grey sandy clay: upper fill of 107	-
105	Fill	Dirty orange-brown sandy clay: middle fill of 107	Modern glass & metal
106	Fill	Very dark brown-grey silty sand containing frequent brick fragments and modern refuse: lower fill of 107	Modern glass, pottery, chimney pot & metal
107	Cut	Steep-sided cut for modern rubbish pit	-
108	Layer	Dump of mid dirty yellow-brown sand and building debris	Modern glass & metal
109	Layer	Dump of very dark brown-grey silty sand with modern debris	Modern glass, pottery & metal

Appendix 3: The Ceramic Finds

MARKET RASEN, LINCOLNSHIRE (MRRM11) THE CERAMIC FINDS

Dr Anne Irving

POTTERY

Table 1, Summary of the Pottery

Cname	Full name	Earliest date	Latest date	NoS	NoV	W (g)
CREA	Creamware	1770	1830	1	1	18
ENGS	Unspecified Stoneware English	1690	1900	1	1	198
PEARL	Pearlware	1770	1900	5	5	785
WHITE	Modern whiteware	1850	1900	1	1	102
			TOTAL	8	8	1103

Table 2, Pottery Archive

Cxt	Cname	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Part	Decoration	Description
100	CREA	Flat	1	1	18	Base		
100	ENGS	Bottle	1	1	198	Complete		
100	PEARL	Jar/ chamber pot	1	1	663	Rim with handle join	Blue floral transfer print	
100	PEARL	Cup/ bowl	1	1	15	Base	Blue transfer print chinoiserie	Footring
100	PEARL	Flat	1	1	6	Base	Blue transfer print	
100	PEARL	Open	1	1	72	Base	Brown transfer print chinoiserie; over paint	Footring
100	PEARL	Open	1	1	29	Rim	Blue transfer print	
100	WHITE	Hollow	1	1	102	BS with LHJ		Moulded with green wash

SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 3 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 3, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comment
100	19th	-

Appendix 4: Oasis Form