

Summary

- *An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at St Mary's Works, Barton Upon Humber to inform an application for planning permission. This report details the results of this work and discusses the site in 6 zones of archaeological potential.*
- *It is concluded that the majority of the application area is of low archaeological potential and should not require any further intervention in advance of, or during, development.*
- *It is also considered that the site has a high potential for remains of local importance. These remains reflect the settlement and development history of the Soutergate frontage from the late Saxon period onwards. They are vulnerable to development and will require either voluntary preservation in situ by avoidance or foundation design; or a scheme of mitigation in advance of development.*
- *The implication of redevelopment on other archaeological remains within the development area can be risked away on the basis that there is little further information that can be learned other than that already considered within this report. A possible exception to this is in area around zone 1 where the implementation of a scheme of archaeological recording during development would preserve by record any further low density features disturbed by development.*
- *These works can be secured by a standard negative condition based on the model in PPG 16 paragraph 30 or by section 106 agreement.*

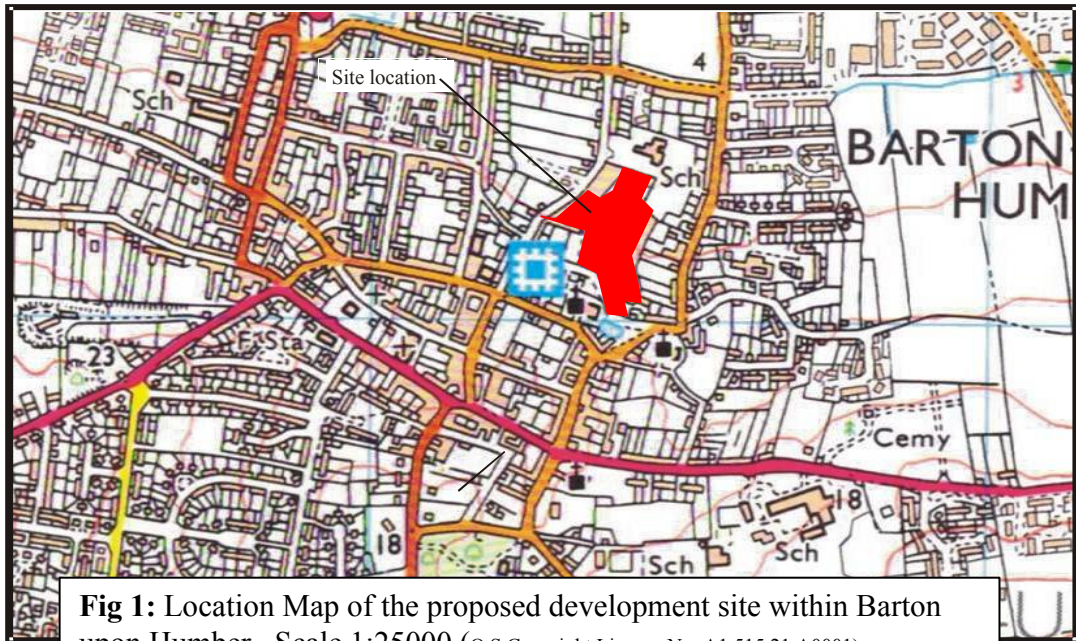


Fig 1: Location Map of the proposed development site within Barton upon Humber . Scale 1:25000 (O.S Copyright Licence No. A1 515 21 A0001)

1.0 Introduction

Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) was commissioned by Meldan Fabrications Ltd to undertake an archaeological field evaluation prior to the proposed development of a unit of land which currently constitutes St. Mary's Works, Marsh Lane, Barton-upon-Humber. This was to fulfil a brief prepared by the North Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Office which was based upon the findings of a Desk-Based Assessment prepared by Pre-Construct Archaeology (see PCA 2006).

This approach complies with the recommendations of *Archaeology and Planning: Planning Policy Guidance Note 16*, Dept. of Environment (1990) and the document *Management of Archaeological Projects*, English Heritage (1991).

2.0 Site location and description

The proposed development site comprises approximately 1.8 hectares centred upon NGR TA03372214. The site lies to the north of Barton-upon-Humber town centre and slightly north of St. Mary's Church. The south of the site is defined by Soutergate, the west by the rear of properties on Marsh Lane and the east by the rear of properties on Pasture Road. At the northern extent is St. Peter's School. At the time of the current scheme the site was still a working foundry and the buildings shown in grey in figure 1 were all standing and in use.

3.0 Planning background

The evaluation was undertaken as part of a planning application (ref. 2005/1898) for the prospective development of the site. This report details the results of this work.

4.0 Archaeological and historical background

The following historical background is extracted from the Desk Based Assessment which preceded this field evaluation. An unabridged version can be found in that document (see PCA 2006).

Prehistoric period

Whilst there is very little evidence relating to the prehistoric period from the area of the proposed development site, it is documented that the nearby Wolds were a focus for activity from the Mesolithic period onwards.

The Neolithic and Bronze Age periods are evidenced within the area by the recovery of two Neolithic polished stone axes, a Middle Bronze Age axe and a Late Bronze Age sword blade. What is noteworthy in this context is that immediately south of the development area, a north / south beaded ditch was discovered during the excavation of the Castledyke Anglo Saxon cemetery. This feature was assigned by typology to the Neolithic/Bronze Age period.

The only feature that may be of significance within the environs of the site is a D-shaped enclosure that was discovered to the east and partially below St Peter's church. It has been suggested that it may be an Iron Age enclosure, but this is un-substantiated, and it is more likely to be Late Saxon (see Late Saxon period). A scatter of flint flakes, also from the location of St. Peter's church, are similarly undated.

Romano-British period

The earliest evidence for the Romano British period within the vicinity of the development study is a countersunk coin of the Emperor Claudius (41-54 AD). This coin can doubtless be attributed to a stray find from the army as it was un-stratified, and there has been no occupation evidence or other artefacts attributable to the 1st century discovered within the Parish of Barton to date.

The 2nd-4th centuries AD, however, are well represented within the study area. There is evidence of occupation from within this date range from several excavations; St. Peter's church (1978-1984), Tyrwhitt Hall (1981), and the new vicarage, (1981). Whilst the majority of the evidence is from pottery, there are the remains of a structure in the form of an eaves-drip gully.

Also of note is some Roman building material contained within the fabric of St. Peter's Church. Whilst there is nothing to suggest that this was sourced locally, a substantial roof-tile was discovered from the ditch of a Roman road during 1967-8 excavations at East Acridge. The road was orientated NNW/SSE and is the most significant feature for the Romano British period in the study area. 2nd-4th century pottery recovered from the roadside ditch also places the road within the main phase of occupation.

It is possible that the road ran to South Ferriby where a ferry was presumed to run between the south and north banks of the River Humber. This indicates the possibility of trade links with other areas, and could be reinforced by a rare leaf-stamped bowl. The bowl discovered at East Acridge is thought to have been imported from the Continent, although it may be a local copy.

Early Saxon period

The site of St. Peter's church, was the focus for occupation in the Early Saxon period. Gravel floor surfaces delineating rectilinear buildings were discovered. Associated pottery sherds dated the building remains to the 6th-7th centuries. Contemporary with the occupation site and almost certainly associated with it, was the Castledyke cemetery. Although it is not within the immediate area of the site, the majority of evidence for what we know of Early Saxon Barton comes from this site. It was situated south of the occupation area and it is estimated that that it contained between 400 and 500 graves. The burial goods from some of the graves suggest that Barton might have been an affluent trading centre during this period

Also contemporary with the occupation site and the Castledyke cemetery were two sunken metallised trackways. These ran north of St. Peter's church.

A layer of fine grey alluvial silt sealed the occupation evidence from the Early Saxon phase below St Peter's Church. This suggests that there was a hiatus of activity at the end of the Early Saxon period and is reinforced by evidence from the Late Saxon period when a change of use occurs on the site.

Late Saxon period

During the 9th century, graves were cut into the layer of silting sealing the Early Saxon occupation at St. Peter's church. This utilisation of the former occupation site as a cemetery suggests that the 6th-7th century cemetery at Castledyke had ceased to be used. It is also indicative of a shift of occupation.

This shift was evidenced from excavations at the new vicarage site Pasture Road and Beck Hill, and at Tyrwhitt Hall. Unstratified sherds of 8th-9th century pottery have also been recorded from Norman close.

The most significant change in the Late Saxon period is the building of a 9th century Saxon Manor situated below the Medieval Tyrwhitt Hall. It was situated within a large sub-circular enclosure. The enclosure covered approximately 5 acres and its shape is still apparent in the road layout today.

Further evidence of occupation was discovered immediately south of the study area during excavations at Birketts Garage.

The focus of occupation for the Saxon period comes from the location of the tidal creek to the River Humber known as 'The Beck'. This was a tributary which is known to have run to the east of the development site on a north south alignment to join with the Humber.

Pre-Conquest period

The immediate Pre-Conquest period is arguably the most difficult to put into context. Archaeological evidence suggests that it is during this period that the 'Turriform' church of St. Peter was erected, sealing a large part of the 9th century cemetery. It is possible that it replaced an earlier church, which was probably situated within the Late Saxon enclosure boundary encompassing Tyrwhitt Hall.

It has been suggested that during this period a planned layout of properties and streets evolved, focused around St. Peter's Church. Excavations at Soutergate revealed well stratified archaeological deposits dating from the Late Saxon period, confirming domestic activity in this area. There is also pottery dateable to the 10th and 11th centuries from Saxon Close.

The Domesday entry for Barton, 1086 (*Bertone* or *Bertune*) also supports the theory for an early town, “*There is a church and a priest and 2 mills...and 1 market and a ferry...*”. Barton’s market was one of only six listed for Lincolnshire in Domesday and was almost certainly located close to St. Peter’s church.

Medieval period

Early medieval Barton thrived as a trading centre and its prosperity was evidenced in the 12th century by the construction of a second church, All Saints (later changed to St. Mary’s), this was probably used as a chapel of ease by the market traders.

Soutergate, part of the Saxo-Norman street plan, continued to be occupied in the medieval period, evidenced by the pottery from the excavations in the 1960s. Further evidence pertaining to the continued occupation of this area is the street name. First recorded in the Middle- Ages, the name derives from either the Old English *sutere* or Old Norse *sutari*, meaning “shoe maker”.

During the civil unrest of the 1140’s, a castle and a town ditch were constructed at the behest of Gilbert de Gant. Although the location of the castle has always been disputed, a massive ditch, dateable to the 12th century, was discovered between St. Peter’s Church and Tyrwhitt Hall.

Towards the end of the medieval period, Barton began an economic decline and the population fell to below a thousand. This was due to the rapid rise in the 14th century of the port of Kingston-upon-Hull. However, late medieval pottery from Soutergate, Tyrwhitt Hall, and Priestgate attest to the study area continuing as a focus for occupation.

Post-medieval period

Although there is evidence of decline in post-medieval Barton, it is not as pronounced as in nearby towns. The ‘Town Book of Barton’, records that in c.1600, the community was largely dependent upon agriculture and livestock. Similarly to the late medieval period, pottery has been recovered from Soutergate, Tyrwhitt Hall, Priestgate, St. Mary’s Lane, and Newport Street, some of which can be dated to the 17th century.

Glebe Terriers of 1671 and 1707 record that the rectory house and much of the town was destroyed by fire in 1642. This may have been caused by troops from Hull during the Civil War. St Mary’s church also suffered during the Civil War, being vandalised by Cromwell’s troops in 1643.

One of the mills mentioned in the Domesday survey has been recorded as being burnt down in antiquity. There is however, no evidence to suggest that it was either the mill situated close to the north- east boundary of the development site or that it was during the Civil War that it burnt down.

5.0 Methodology

The evaluation methodology required the investigation of 13 trial trenches. These were positioned to determine the nature of deposits across the site.

The planned extent and final status of each trench is listed.

- Trench 1 – A 10m x 2m trench. - restricted to 4.5m by 2m.
- Trench 2 - A 10m x 2m trench. - restricted to 2m by 2m.
- Trench 3 - A 3m x 3m trench. - unexcavated.
- Trench 4 – A 2m x 8m by 8m T shaped trench. - fully excavated.
- Trench 5 – A 20m x 2m trench. – fully excavated.
- Trench 6 – A 30m x 2m trench. – fully excavated.
- Trench 7 - 2 2m x 2m boxes - unexcavated.
- Trench 8 – A 15m x 2m trench - fully excavated.
- Trench 9 – A 15m x 2m trench - fully excavated.
- Trench 10 – A 5m x 5m trench - unexcavated.
- Trench 11 – A 6m x 2m trench - restricted to 1m by 2m.
- Trench 12 - A 10m x 2m trench - restricted to 2m by 5.5m
- Trench 13 – A 10m x 2m trench - fully excavated.

Following initial machine excavation all exposed surfaces were examined and cleaned, and the trenches were recorded in section and plan drawings at 1:50. Written accounts were prepared on pro forma context record sheets. Colour and black and white photographic records were maintained throughout the project, and selected prints have been reproduced in this report.

The author, supervised the excavation and recording of the trenches intermittently between the 30th of October 2006 and the 23rd of February 2007.

6.0 Results

Trench 1

The excavation of Trench 1 revealed a series of deposits. These can be split into two broad phases beginning with a probable natural channel.

Phase 1: A natural channel truncating the natural substratum.

A deposit of natural light coloured sandy gravel (107) was revealed within a sondage at the base of Trench 1 approximately 1.7 m below existing ground level.

The section through sondage (see section D - C, Figure 3) showed that a potentially large feature [108] with a moderately sloped side (the full extent of which was impossible to

ascertain) had truncated the natural material. This contained two fill horizons; a primary layer of dark blueish grey compact clay (106) which was approximately 0.50m deep and a similarly deep overlying deposit of light greyish brown compact clay (103), both of which were devoid of obvious finds. The partial section of the feature suggested it was aligned east west and (considering the clayey consistency of its fills) it is possible that it was a natural channel running towards the beck which is known to have existed on the eastern side of the site. An environmental sample of context (106) revealed it to contain preserved organic remains, including wood fragments, roots and non-carbonised elder seeds.

Phase 2: Medieval made ground deposits and a medieval pit.

Overlying layer (103) was a 0.55m deep deposit of mid orangey brown silty clayey sand (102) which contained numerous stones and flecks of charcoal. A single sherd of pottery from this apparent made ground deposit dated to the 13th or 14th centuries. Layer (102) was sealed by 0.30m deep deposit of dark grey silty sand (101) which also contained angular and rounded stones.

Layer (101) had been truncated by a substantial, roughly circular pit [104] which extended from the south facing section approximately half way across the trench. This measured 1.40m wide and 0.45m deep and had a rounded profile and a flat base. It contained a single fill of dark brownish grey silty sand which had inclusions of small rounded stones. A single sherd of pottery dating from between the 14th and mid 16th centuries was retrieved from this context.

Sealing the fill of pit [104] was a quarry tile surface of 19th or 20th date. This suggested that the construction of a former industrial building had involved truncation down to the level of the pit. Above this surface, and completing the section, was a 0.60m deep layer of rubble (100) of a similar date. This appeared to represent the demolition phase of the same building.

Trench 2

Trench 2 was located close to a working electrical substation and its extent was limited as a precaution against encountering live cables. A total length of 3m was excavated of the originally planned 10m long trench. This revealed only modern deposits.

A single deposit of modern rubble (201) was revealed within trench 2. This overlay a reinforced concrete surface at approximately 1m below existing ground level. A member of staff of the current foundry indicated that this was the base of a storage tank, which had been largely dismantled, and that it was up to 0.40m thick. This indicated that no archaeological horizons would be present within 1.4m of the existing surface of the site in the footprint of the former tanks and these apparently occupied the greater part of the area within which Trench 2 was located.

Trench 3

Not excavated owing to presence of live services.

Trench 4

The full excavation of Trench 4 revealed a number of archaeological deposits dating between the early and late medieval periods. These included a remnant of stone wall, an associated floor surface and a pit dating from around the 11th century. A larger pit containing pottery from the mid to late 12th century, and a substantial boundary ditch dating to the later medieval period (around the 15th century) were also revealed. These deposits are described within 4 phases.

At approximately 0.35m below existing ground level the excavation of Trench 4 revealed a light orange-beige gravel natural substratum (417). A number of archaeological features and horizons sealed and truncated this material.

Phase 1: An early medieval stone wall and associated floor surfaces and representing domestic occupation.

At the southern end of the trench a single course of irregular and unmortared stone blocks (413) had been set in a shallow cut [416] within the natural substratum to form a roughly right angled foundation or stanchion. This structural remnant measured approximately 0.50m wide, 0.20m tall, and a total length of around 3m was visible. There was some evidence of collapse associated with this structure (see context (414) below) and there were indications that it had been partially robbed out following dismantling.

Abutting structure (413) on its north facing 'internal' side was a thin band of mid yellowish grey sandy clay (415). This was the remnant of an early floor surface.

To the north, context (415) was truncated by a subsequent floor layer of compact mid brownish orange silty sand (412) which was 0.10m deep. An environmental sample of context (412) contained carbonised bread/spelt wheat grains along with a number of animal bones, including butchered sheep and goose fragments. Together the butchered bones and the lack of agricultural weed remains (which showed that the grain had reached the site in a processed condition) indicated that the floor surface (and the other contexts) had been associated with domestic consumption and therefore occupation rather than processing or agriculture (see appendix 3). In addition the animal bone included no evidence of industrial activities such as horn working or tanning.

No ceramic dating evidence was recovered from contexts (413), (415) or (412) but the stratigraphy suggests an early medieval date of the the 11th or early 12th century, as floor surface (412) had been truncated by a pit containing pottery dating to the 12th century at the latest (see below).

Phase 2: 12th century rubbish pits and posthole, indicating with the abandonment of the structure of Phase 1.

A shallow pit [410] measuring 0.6m across and 0.15m deep truncated floor surface (412) on its northern edge within the east facing section of the trench. This feature had a rounded profile and contained a fill of dark greyish brown silty sand (411). This incorporated pottery sherds dating from the 10th to 12th centuries and carbonised cereal grains, including oat and spelt wheat and a relatively large number of animal bones (including 16 fragments of sheep) which indicated that it was a rubbish pit.

The excavation of pit [410] may have coincided with the collapse or demolition of the structure associated with contexts (413), (415) and (412) as its 0.10m deep upper fill (414) appeared to consist of fallen stone rubble material of a similar character to that used to construct wall (413).

To the north east of pit [410], a second larger pit [405] and an adjacent posthole [403] truncated the natural substratum. Pit [405] (see section E-F) was 0.35m deep, approximately 1m wide and had a rounded profile with moderately sloped sides. It contained a single fill deposit of dark greyish brown silty sand which included pottery fragments dating to the mid to late 12th century. It also contained carbonised spelt wheat grains and, like pit [410], a relatively large number of sheep bones and also a large number of fish bones which suggested this was also a rubbish pit. Close by, posthole [403] measured 0.30m across, 0.2m deep and had a neat rounded profile. It contained a fill of dark greyish brown silty sand (404) which contained no finds.

Phase 3: A large boundary ditch that continued in existence into the later medieval period.

To the north of the posthole a large north east east – south west west aligned ditch [407] crossed the trench. This feature had a moderately sloped rounded profile and contained two layers of fill. The basal deposit consisted of dark greyish brown silty sand and contained carbonised wheat grain, a single piece of hammerscale (metal working debris) and a small assemblage of animal bone. Overlying layer (408) was a 0.45m deep deposit of light orangey brown silty sand (409). A single sherd of pottery dating to between the 14th and 16th centuries and a lump of slag produced in a metal working furnace (see appendix 3) were recovered from this material.

This feature appeared to respect the archaeology of Phases 1 and 2 and may have served originally as a boundary to the rear of a frontage property represented by the structural remnants of phase 1. The pottery dating from its upper fill suggests that it either continued to be used as a boundary or simply survived as an earthwork into the later medieval period.

Phase 4: A post-medieval layer.

All of the features described within Trench 4 were sealed by a homogenous layer of mid greyish brown silty sandy loam (402) which appeared to reflect a period of soil development through abandonment or cultivation. This was sealed by a layer of modern rubble dating to the 19th or 20th centuries which was in turn sealed by the existing stoney surface of the site (400).

Trench 5

The full excavation of Trench 5 revealed a number of archaeological deposits dating from between the Late Saxon and late medieval periods in the eastern half of the trench. In the western half the section had largely been truncated down to the natural substratum by the construction of a building in the 18th century. The archaeology is described in four phases.

Phase 1: A made ground deposit predating the 9th or 10th centuries and a series of pits dating to the 9th or 10th centuries, including a probable soakaway pit for a structure.

A deposit of light reddish brown sand and chalk gravel (526) representing the natural substratum was revealed at the base of the trench approximately 0.70m below existing ground level at the western end of the trench and 1.15m below at the eastern edge of the trench. This variation in the height of the natural beneath the existing surface resulted from the gradual sloping of the natural down from west to east. At the eastern end of the trench an effort had been made to consolidate this slope through the deliberate deposition of a 0.50m deep layer of mid reddish brown silty sand (517). No dating evidence was recovered from this deposit but it evidently predated the late Saxon period, as several features of this date truncated it (see below).

A small circular pit [540], recorded in the north facing section of the trench, was the earliest feature cut through layer (517). This measured 0.50m in diameter and 0.20m deep and had a regular wide U shaped profile. It was filled with mid greyish brown clayey silt (541) which contained no finds.

The upper reaches of pit [540] had been truncated by one of two much larger pits ([509] and [511]) which also truncated layer (517). Pit [509], in the north section measured 2.5m across and extended approximately halfway across the trench in a wide semicircle. It was excavated to a depth of 0.6m but its true extent was difficult to determine because its lowest fills were contaminated with hydrocarbons. Its two visible fills began with a lower layer of mid reddish brown sandy clay (508) which contained frequent small lumps of stone, animal bone and carbonised cereal remains including specimens of oat, spelt wheat and a large number of barley grains (see context (537) within appendix 3). Sealing (508)/(537) was a deposit of mid greyish brown silty clay (533) containing frequent large chalk lumps. A single sherd of pottery dating from between the late 9th and 10th centuries was recovered from this material. The stoney nature of the fills within pit [509] and the substantial size of the feature suggested that it served as a soak away pit to provide drainage for a building. This would support the notion that layer (517) was a ground

raising layer, laid to counteract the natural west to east slope of the frontage and prepare it for occupation.

The second large pit [511] truncating layer (517) was recorded in the north facing section of the trench further to the west. This measured approximately 2m across and 0.75m deep and had a regular moderately sloped profile. It contained two deposits of brown sandy clay of slightly different hues ((512) and (510)). On its western edge another smaller pit [507] cut pit [511]. This was 0.5m across, 0.35m deep and contained a single fill of very dark grey silty sand including sherds of a ceramic vessel dating between the late 9th and 10th centuries.

Phase 2: Two 12th or 13th century gullies aligned at right angles, possibly representing a building.

A right angled alignment of two gullies ([532] and [530]) truncated layer (517) towards the east of the trench.

Gully [532] was 0.25m wide and 0.15m deep and ran across the width of the trench. Its fill contained an apparently residual fragment of a prehistoric fired clay object (see appendix 2).

Gully [530] was approximately 0.40m wide 0.30m deep, extending from the north section of the trench to where the two features met with neat rounded butt ends. Its fill of dark brownish grey silty sand (529) contained pottery dating between the mid 12th and the early 13th centuries.

Both features may have been beamslots, indicating part of a right angled building dating to the 12th or 13th centuries. This may have been replaced by (or incorporated into) a building represented by four later postholes, described in Phase 3 (see below).

Phase 3: Four small pits or postholes representing a wooden structure and a probable boundary ditch dating to the 14th century.

Four postholes ([528], [535], [514] and [518]) truncated layer (517) and appeared to present a possible structure dating to the 14th century. Three of these crossed the trench on an approximate north east to south west alignment. Each roughly circular feature was around 0.5m in diameter. Cuts [535] and [518] and [514] were all 0.30m deep whilst cut [528] had a steeper sided profile and was 0.40m deep. Cuts [528], [514] and [518] each contained brick fragments dating to the 14th century (possibly post packing).

At the east end of the trench, layer (517) was again truncated by a large ditch [524] which ran on a north east - south west alignment across the easternmost end of the trench. This feature was possibly a boundary ditch related to the structure represented by the four postholes. It had a steep sided profile, measuring 2m wide and 0.7m deep. It contained a fill of dark greyish brown silty clay (523) which included frequent large stone fragments and lumps, suggesting the feature had been deliberately backfilled. A fragment of brick

dating within the 14th century was retrieved from deposit (523) and a sample of the fill was found to contain a number of animal bone fragments.

Phase 4: A late medieval abandonment layer and a post-medieval pit.

A 0.40m deep layer of mid yellowish brown sandy clay (503) observed in both the long sections of the trench sealed all of the features described above. This contained a fragment of pottery dating to the 15th century. This layer appeared to reflect a period of abandonment and probably equated to layer (402) in trench 4. It was truncated in the south facing section by a substantial V shaped pit [538] which had a single fill of loose dark grey silty clay containing a single sherd of pottery dating from the late 16th to 18th centuries.

Phase 5: A 19th century floor surface and building incorporating 18th century structural elements

Close to the eastern end of the trench, a simple brick built culvert had been constructed within a channel that truncated layer (503). The bricks of this feature dated to between the 18th and 20th centuries. Overlying this structure (and running the length of the trench in the south section) was a single course of quarry tiles from a 19th or 20th century floor surface. In the western half of the trench this surface abutted against the remnant of a slightly earlier 18th brick structure (520) which itself was associated with an underlying rendered wall and hardstanding (521). Together these contexts appeared to represent an 18th century building with 19th or 20th century modifications. The construction of this building had evidently involved the truncation of the site down to the natural horizon (526) in the western half of the trench, removing any earlier archaeology that had survived there in the process

The remainder of the section of Trench 5 consisted of the modern rubble and the existing stoney surface of the site.

Trench 6

The full excavation of Trench 6 revealed a number of archaeological deposits dating between the early and late medieval periods in the southern half of the trench. In the northern half, the trench hydrocarbon contamination prevented close analysis of deposits. The archaeology is described in three phases.

Machining within Trench 6 revealed a deposit of light yellowish brown sand (615) which represented the natural substratum at approximately 1.40m below existing ground level. The majority of the surface of this deposit was covered with hydrocarbons which may have obscured archaeological features within the trench.

Phase 1: A pit and ditch dating to between the 12th or 13th centuries, and an area of rubble associated with a structural remnant dating to the 13th century.

Close to the centre of the trench, two features truncated the natural substratum. A 1m wide ditch [603] crossed the trench on a north east – south west alignment. This had a rounded profile and was 0.25m deep. Its fill of light greyish brown silty sand (604) contained no finds.

A short distance to the west a pit [601] was recorded at the base of the east facing section. This was 0.90m wide and had a similar 0.25m deep rounded profile to that of ditch [603]. It contained a fill of light greyish brown silty sand (602) that contained numerous sherds of pottery dating from between the mid 12th and mid 13th centuries. A sample of the material context (602) was found to contain fragments of charcoal derived from oak fragments of sheep and fish bones.

At the southern end of the trench, machining revealed an area of stone rubble consisting of roughly shaped blocks of limestone (607), amongst which a fragment of tile dating to the 13th century was found. To the north this material overlay a single course of five aligned angular shaped blocks (605) which had been arranged to form a flush wall face looking north. These were unmortared and appeared to stand in a purpose-made cut [614] truncating the natural substratum beneath. These represented the only intact part of a stone structure and it is likely that the overlying rubble represented the demolition of this same structure.

Phase 2: A made ground layer and subsequent layer of compacted rubble and tile fragments dating to the 14th century.

A 0.35m deep layer of mid brownish grey silty sand (613) made ground sealed the features and deposits described in Phase 1, rising gently at the north end of the trench to cover the stone blocks of contexts (607) and (605). This material contained a fragment of pottery dating to the 14th century, suggesting that at this time a period of abandonment occurred following the activity associated with the earlier features.

Towards the centre of the trench a 0.30m deep layer of compacted rubble (612) overlay context (613). This spread for approximately 4.5 meters through the east section of the trench and pertered out to the north and south. A sherd of pottery dating to the 14th century was recovered from the matrix of this material.

Layer (612) had apparently been laid as a base for a yard surface, as overlying its extent was a crude tough surface of compacted stone (616). This may have served as a surface for a yard or outbuilding as it seemed too uneven for an internal domestic floor.

Phase 3: An abandonment or made ground layer dating to between the 15th or early-mid 16th centuries and a brick culvert of the same date set within earlier stone work.

At the south end of the trench a crude culvert fashioned from half bricks and large tile fragments had been set amongst the stones of context (607). The materials used to construct this date to the 16th or 17th centuries and implied that the site of the structure associated with the earlier stone work may have been maintained into the post-medieval period.

A layer of mid-greyish brown silty sand sealed layer (616) and the the surrounding surface of context (613). This deposit contained a single sherd of 15th to early 16th pottery.

The remainder of the sections of Trench 6 consisted of a layer of modern rubble (610) and the existing stoney surface of the site.

Trench 7

Not excavated owing to presence of live services.

Trench 8

The full excavation of trench 8 revealed only modern made ground deposits to a depth of 1.5m below existing ground level.

Machining of Trench 8 revealed a deposit of light orangey brown silty clay (803) at the base of the trench. Although the full depth of this deposit was not revealed, it existed at 0.5m below existing ground level and extended to at least 1.5m below. It contained modern glass and metal fragments and a sherd of pottery dating between the 18th and 20th centuries and therefore appeared to represent a layer of material deposited within a large excavation carried out in the modern period.

Overlying layer (803) were two further deposits of brown silty clay ((801) and (802)) of varying hue which both contained modern glass and metal finds associated with the industrial era. These were sealed in the section by a layer of topsoil (800).

Trench 9

A series of made ground deposits, including one containing medieval pottery, were revealed at the north end of Trench 9. Much of the area of the trench had been truncated in the modern era.

A deposit of natural sand and gravel (907) was revealed at the north end of the trench, 1.5m below existing ground level.

Layer (907) was overlain by a 0.5m deep deposit of mid greyish brown silty clay (906) which was in turn sealed by a 0.70m deep layer of mid brownish grey clayey loam (905) which contained pottery dating to late 13th or mid 14th centuries.

The surface of layer (905) sloped gently from north east to south west. Towards the south, a pause in the deposition of layer (905) was marked by a thin band of loose chalk rubble (904) set within its matrix.

Overlying the surface of layer (905) was a 0.6m deep layer of dark greyish brown clayey silt (903) which increased in depth as layer (905) became shallower. This deposit contained a fragment of tile dating between the 18th and 20th centuries.

Layer (902) was sealed by two further contexts consisting of modern overburden and the constituting modern overburden and the modern surface of the site (contexts (902) and (901)).

The south end of the trench section was taken up entirely with the fills of modern cellars and dumps of industrial waste, dating to the previous century.

Trench 10

Not excavated owing to presence of live services.

Trench 11

The excavation of Trench 11 was limited to a small area by the presence of a modern drain and an existing building and its concrete foundations. Two horizons of sandy silty made ground indicated that earlier deposits may exist in this area of the site.

Machining of Trench 11 was limited to a 2m by 2m area of the original 10m long trench. At its base this work revealed a deposit of dark greyish brown sandy loam (1101) which may have represented a made ground deposit or buried soil horizon. This was revealed at 0.5m below the ground level of the site and extended to at least 1.2m below. No finds were retrieved from this layer.

Overlying layer (1101) was a deposit of dark grey silty clayey topsoil (1100). This contained fragments of modern brick suggesting it had been laid as a made ground horizon deposited at some point during the sites industrial history.

Trench 12

The excavation of the originally planned 10m long Trench 12 was limited due to the exposure of a live drain. The 5m long area opened revealed a series deposits beginning

1.6m below existing ground level. The lower deposits contained 12th to 15th century finds indicating that made ground horizons had been laid in this part of the site in the medieval and or post-medieval periods.

At the base of Trench 12, 1.6m below existing ground level, a deposit of light yellow coarse sand (1204) represented the natural substrata in this area of the site.

Overlying the natural horizon was a 0.15m deep deposit of mid orangey brown silty sand (1203) which contained a fragment of tile dating to the 12th or 13th centuries. Sealing (1203) was a 0.5m deep layer of dark brownish grey sandy loam (1202) which also contained a fragment of pottery tile dating to between the 12th and 15th centuries. Deposits (1202) and (1203) appeared to represent a plough and subsoil horizon which had become buried by an overlying thin layer of dark sandy loam (1205) and two deeper deposits of clayey material containing modern rubble (1201) and (1200) which completed the section.

Trench 13

The full excavation of Trench 13 revealed a probable natural channel and a series of undated made deposits.

A deposit of mid orangey brown natural gravel (1301) was revealed at the base of the Trench 13, 1.6m below existing level.

At the north end of the trench a large channel [1306] truncated the natural substratum on a north east - south west alignment. This was 0.50m deep and the visible part of its profile in the east facing section of the trench was broad and gradually sloping. Its full width was impossible to determine. The feature contained two distinct fill horizons; a thin basal seam of dark greyish brown silty clay (1305) which was overlain by mid blueish grey silty clay (1302). Neither fill contained any finds and each had the appearance of a clean fill undisturbed by human activity, suggesting this was an early and probably natural feature similar to that revealed within Trench 1.

Overlying fill horizon (1302) were two deposits of brown silty loam ((1303) and (1304)) which contained no finds. These included lumps of angular chalky stone, suggesting they represented deliberate made ground deposits.

The upper profile of the section of Trench 13 consisted of modern made ground horizons.

7.0 Discussion

The results of the evaluation are discussed in terms of the potential impact of the proposed development. Where appropriate, trenches are grouped to represent larger areas of the site.

Trench 1

The channel revealed at the base of Trench 1 may be a natural tributary of the Beck which ran to the east of the site. If this feature is considered to be of any significance, it should fortunately be safeguarded from the impact of development by its depth below existing ground level. Archaeological deposits and horizons associated with it could be affected if a program of deep piling were undertaken in this area of the site, but this impact would be limited.

Although overlying medieval features and deposits were recorded in the trench, the paucity of finds suggested that activity in this area of the site was peripheral to more significant remains on the frontage. Because of this, it is probable that a low level watching brief might be adequate to safeguard the medieval horizons here. The area that this work might need to cover is illustrated as Zone 1 in figure 2.

Trench 2

The excavation of Trench 2 indicated that no archaeological horizons existed within 1.3m of the existing surface in this area of the site. Therefore it is unlikely that development will have any significant impact on any archaeology in the near vicinity of the trench (assuming there will be no significant ground reduction prior to construction).

Trench 3

Not excavated owing to presence of live services.

Trenches 4, 5 and 6.

Significant archaeological remains ranging in date from the 10th century to the 18th century were recorded within Trenches 4, 5 and 6. The area that these trenches covered might be considered as a unit of land requiring consideration in terms of mitigation because this archaeology existed between 0.30m and 1.3m below the existing surface of the site, where the potential for development to impact upon them is high. Three broad areas of archaeology can be postulated and should be considered within the area of Trenches 4, 5 and 6. These are listed as Zones 2, 3 and 4 and are illustrated on figure 2.

Zone 2: An area of well preserved medieval archaeology representing frontage occupation dating from the early to the late medieval periods, which is likely to extend between Trench 4 and the eastern half of Trench 5. The archaeology of Phase 1 within Trench 4 and of Phases 1, 2 and 3 of Trench 5 all included evidence for medieval or earlier structures. These remains exist between 0.30m and 1.3m below the existing surface of the site. Because of the shallow depths of these deposits within Trench 4, they are not likely to extend further eastward because they would have already been destroyed by the construction of existing buildings to the east of that trench. It is possible that the long lived large boundary ditch at the north end of Trench 4 [407] represents the

boundary between dense frontage archaeology and more peripheral remains to the north such as those represented by Trench 1.

Zone 3: An area truncated by 19th century building works at the west end of Trench 5. These included structural remnants and a floor surface and incorporate poorly preserved 18th century elements. They probably extend from close to the modern boundary with Soutergate to several meters north of the extent of Trench 5. They appear to have truncated the site to its natural substrata and therefore represent an area devoid of earlier remains.

Zone 4: An area of medieval remains dating from the 12th to the 14th century, including evidence for stone structures concentrated in the area of the southern half of Trench 6. This may have extended further to the north where the evaluation was ineffective because of hydrocarbon contamination. The stone remains at the southern end of Trench 6 may represent a wider area of preserved structural remains, ranging in date from the 13th to the 17th centuries.

Trench 7

Not excavated owing to presence of live services.

Trench 8

The presence of deposit (803) within Trench 8 suggested that this area of the site had either been substantially truncated (and then backfilled) or levelled through the deposition of a made ground layer in the modern period.

However it was formed, the discovery of (803) shows that earlier deposits are unlikely to exist in this area of the site within 1.2m below the existing the ground surface and this alone should protect any archaeology from the potential impact of development.

It is likely that the northern limit of this area of low archaeological potential is marked by the boundary between modern truncation and medieval made ground horizons, which was revealed within Trench 9 (see below).

Trench 9

The medieval made ground or buried soil horizon should be viewed as a part of a larger area of undisturbed deposits possibly joining with similar dated deposits in Trench 12 to the north east (illustrated as Zone 5 in figure 2). Although these deposits are close enough to the sites surface to be impacted during future development of the site, there is little reason to suggest they are of great significance considering the paucity of finds and cut features associated with them, but may still benefit from inclusion in a low level mitigation strategy such as watching brief in this area of the site.

The modern deposits in the southern half of the trench may represent the northern extent of a larger area of modern disturbance centred upon Trench 8, (see above).

Trench 10

Not excavated owing to presence of live services.

Trench 11

The made ground deposit (1101) revealed at the base of Trench 11 may indicate that a substantial and late made ground deposit extends to at least 1.2m below the existing site surface and therefore that the impact of development in this area of the site will be low, as earlier deposits will be beyond the depth of most groundworks.

Trench 12

Deposits (1203) and (1202) appeared to constitute medieval plough and subsoil horizons overlying the natural substratum and their presence indicates that it is unlikely that earlier underlying deposits existed in this area of the site.

It is likely that these deposits extend to link with those revealed in the northern half of Trench 9 to form a large area of preserved medieval made ground deposits (illustrated as Zone 5 in figure 2). Whilst these will necessitate some form of mitigation to protect them from the impact of development, their depth below the existing surface of the site and the lack of cut features associated with them should be considered. A watching brief to record any further related deposits revealed may be deemed adequate for example.

Trench 13

It is likely that the channel at the base of Trench 13 has the same origin as that revealed within Trench 1; probably as a former tributary of the beck known to have existed to the east of the site. Regardless of its significance, its depth (1.5m beneath the existing surface of the site) should safeguard it from any negative impact during future development.

The overlying deposits were devoid of finds and associated cut features, so the area of the site represented by Trench 13 appears to be of negligible archaeological potential.

8. 0 Conclusions

The results of the evaluation indicate that there are five zones of negligible to high archaeological potential within the proposed development site. These are listed below and illustrated within figure 2. The remainder of the site appears to be of low archaeological potential.

PPG 16 draws a distinction between remains of national and lesser importance. There is presumption in the physical preservation of nationally important remains. The remains

identified within the evaluation have been considered in terms of their characteristics and potential to contribute to the state of current knowledge at a national, regional, local and negligible level. No remains of national importance have been identified within the site. Remains of local importance have been found in the following 5 zones and within four of these mitigation works may be required depending upon the developmental impact. Such a scheme could be effectively managed by condition or section 106 agreement.

Zone 1

Medieval horizons and deposits including cut features between approximately 0.4m and 1m below the existing surface of the site. The paucity of finds (from Trench 1) suggested that medieval activity in this area had been peripheral to more significant remains on the site frontage. There is also the possibility of archaeological deposits and horizons associated with a possible tributary of the 'Beck' which ran to the east of the site approximately 1.5m below the existing surface.

No archaeological remains giving a human context to the paleochannel were identified and a clear stratigraphic break was identified between this feature and overlying archaeological deposits. Thus, whilst this feature has been shown to hold some paleo-environmental potential it falls outside of what is considered archaeology within national planning guidance. It is therefore assessed as being of negligible importance and no further work should be required.

The importance of the archaeological deposits in this area is considered negligible to local, on the basis of paucity of artefacts and low environmental potential. The main outstanding archaeological issues of this area are the extent of the medieval layer identified in Trench 1 and its relationship with that in Zone 5. This does not require extensive mitigation works and could be resolved by the implementation of an archaeological watching brief during development.

Zone 2

An area of well preserved medieval archaeology representing frontage occupation dating from the Late Saxon to the late medieval periods which is likely to extend between Trench 4 and the eastern half of trench 5. The archaeology of phase 1 within Trench 4 and of Phases 1, 2 and 3 of Trench 5 all included evidence for medieval or earlier structures. These remains exist between 0.30m and 1.3m below the existing surface of the site.

Because of the shallow depths of these deposits within Trench 4, they are not likely to extend further eastward because they would have already been destroyed by the construction of the existing buildings to the east of that trench.

It is possible that the long-lived large boundary ditch at the north end of Trench 4 [407] represents the boundary between dense frontage archaeology and more peripheral remains to the north, such as those represented by Trench 1.

These remains are typical of what would be expected to be found on the frontage of a medieval street. The artefacts recovered indicate the development of this part of Barton from the late Saxon to the late medieval periods whilst these are of some importance at a local level specialist appraisal of recovered artefacts and recorded remains don not have any potential to significantly add to our knowledge of these periods at a regional level or national level they are thus considered of local importance.

These remains lie at a relatively shallow depth and are thus vulnerable to redevelopment of the site. These remains will require either preservation by foundation design or a scheme of mitigation prior to development. Such a scheme can also be secured by condition or legal agreement.

Zone 3

An area truncated by 19th century building works at the west end of Trench 5. These included structural remnants and a floor surface and incorporate poorly preserved 18th century elements. They probably extend from close to the modern boundary with Soutergate to several meters north of the extent of Trench 5. They appear to have truncated the site to its natural substrata and therefore represent an area devoid of earlier remains.

Whilst these remains reflect late post medieval development along Soutergate they are considered to be of negligible importance. They do not constitute the remains of any structure of demonstrable importance to the post medieval development history of the site or the wider town. Their physical characteristics and stratigraphic relationship to earlier remains had been established and no further works should be required in this area.

Zone 4

An area of medieval remains dating from the 12th to the 14th century including evidence for stone structures concentrated in the area of the southern half of Trench 6 between 0.5m and 1.5m below the existing surface of the site. This may have extended further to the north, where the evaluation was ineffective because of hydrocarbon contamination.

The stone remains at the southern end of Trench 6 may represent a wider area of preserved structural remains ranging in date from the 13th to the 17th centuries. Whilst it may be possible to avoid these features by foundation design, it is likely that a further scheme of archaeological work would be needed to mitigate against the effects of development in this area.

These remains lie at a slightly deeper level than those exposed in zone three and thus preservation may be more viable in this area. Where remains cannot be avoided then mitigation by condition or agreement will be required here also.

Zone 5

A large area of preserved medieval made ground deposits between 0.7m and 1.5m below the existing surface of the site. Although these deposits are close enough to the sites surface to be impacted during future development of the site, there is little reason to suggest they are of anything other than negligible importance considering the paucity of finds and cut features associated with them. No further work should be required in this area of the site.

The remainder of the site

The results of the evaluation suggest that the remainder of the site is of low or negligible archaeological potential. Existing buildings currently occupy large areas of the site and the results of Trench 9 for example have shown that where this is the case, deep truncation has occurred, removing any underlying archaeological deposits.

The potential for unexpected remains here is low and the importance is considered negligible thus no further works are recommended in this area.

In summary, it is considered that the site has a high potential for remains of local importance that reflect settlement and development on the Soutergate from the late Saxon period onwards. These remains are vulnerable to development and will require either voluntary preservation in situ by avoidance or foundation design; or a scheme of mitigation in advance of development.

The implication of redevelopment on other archaeological remains within the development area can be risked away on the basis that there is little further information that can be learned other than that already considered within this report. A possible exception to this is in area around zone 1 where the implementation of a scheme of archaeological recording during development would preserve by record any further low density features disturbed by development. These works can be secured by a standard negative condition based on the model in PPG 16 paragraph 30 or by section 106 agreement.

9.0 Effectiveness of methodology

The methodology employed in this field evaluation has been effective and appropriate. It has provided the information necessary to assess the impact of the proposed development on the site.

10.0 Acknowledgements

Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) would like to thank Meldan Fabrications Ltd for this commission and for their help during the fieldwork.

11.0 Site archive

The documentary and photographic archive for the site is currently in the possession of Pre-Construct Archaeology. This will be deposited at Scunthorpe Museum within six months. Access to the archive may be gained by quoting the North Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record Office accession number BMBY.

12.0 Reference

PCA, 2006. *Land at St. Mary's Works, Marsh Lane, Barton-upon-Humber, Desk Based Study and Buildings Assessment Report* Prepared for Gabbitas Gill Partnership Ltd by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln).