

**LAND ADJACENT TO PLAYGROUND, YARBOROUGH ROAD,
KEELBY, WEST LINDSEY, LINCOLNSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING
REPORT**

NGR: TA 1634 1024
WLDC Planning Ref.: 128542
PCAS job no. 1456
Site code: YRKM 15
Archive acc. no.: 2015.94
Oasis Report No.: 288818

Report prepared for
Ross Davy Associates Ltd.

By

R. Dickinson

B. P. Hobbs

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PCAS Archaeology Ltd
47, Manor Road
Saxilby
Lincoln
LN1 2HX
Tel. 01522 703800
e-mail info@pre-construct.co.uk

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Contents

	Summary	1
1.0	Introduction	2
2.0	Site Location and Description	2
3.0	Topography and Geology	2
4.0	Planning Background	3
5.0	Archaeological and Historical Background	4
6.0	Methodology	5
7.0	Results	5
8.0	Conclusion	8
9.0	Effectiveness of Methodology	8
10.0	Acknowledgments	8
11.0	Site Archive	8
12.0	Bibliography	8

Figures

- Fig. 1:** Site location plan at scale 1:25,000
Fig. 2: Location plan of the site at scale 1:1250
Fig. 3: Site plan at scale 1:500
Fig. 4: Section drawings

Plates

- Plate 1:** Ditch **104**, west facing section
Plate 2: Soakaway no. 1, east facing section
Plate 3: Ditch **110** plan
Plate 4: Ditch **110** section

Appendices

- Appendix 1:** Context summary
Appendix 2: Oasis report summary

Summary

Archaeological monitoring and recording took place during residential development on land off Yarborough Road in the village of Keelby, in the district of West Lindsey, Lincolnshire.

Keelby is a Shrunken Medieval Village: the medieval settlement, consisting of numerous small manors and landholdings, exceeded the size of the modern village, and its remains have been recorded as earthworks around the fringes of the village. Surviving earthwork remains, interpreted as the site of a medieval building, lie some 200m to the south of the site, while the earthwork remains of other possible houses have been identified in four places between 250m and 500m from the site.

Two ditches; one modern, the other undated, were observed and recorded during construction groundworks.

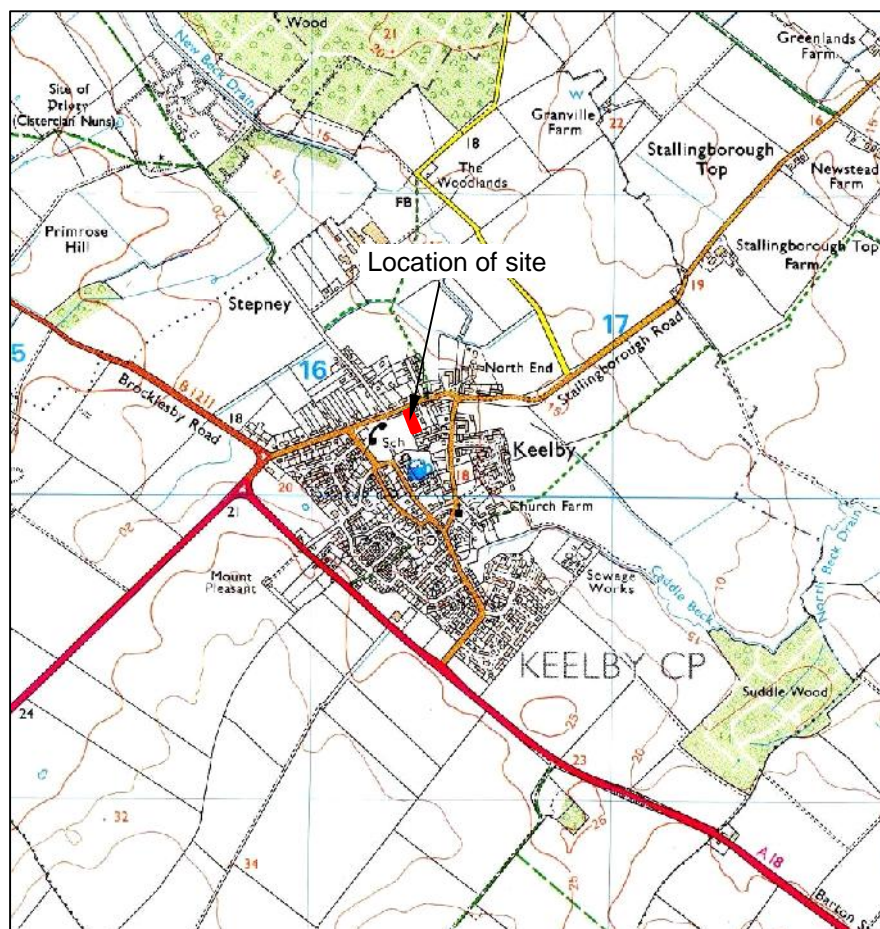


Figure 1: Location plan of the site (marked in red) at scale 1:25,000. OS mapping © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. PCAS licence no. 100049278.

1.0 Introduction

PCAS Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Ross Davy Associates Ltd. to carry out a scheme of archaeological monitoring and recording associated with residential development groundworks. The objective of the monitoring was to preserve 'by record' any archaeological remains impacted by development.

2.0 Site Location and Description

The village of Keelby is situated at the north-eastern edge of the district of West Lindsey, approximately 4km south-south-west of Immingham and 7km from the south bank of the Humber estuary. It lies near the foot of the slope of the Lincolnshire Wolds, the village being sited at the junction of the A18 and the B1211. Keelby has no designated Conservation Area.

The development site is to the north of the village centre and consists of a roughly rectangular area of land on the south side of Yarborough Road, bordered to the west by the playing fields of the village school and to the east and south by residential development. The site is currently undeveloped and divided into three plots, approximately 0.229 ha in area.

3.0 Topography and Geology

Keelby lies on the northward slope of the Lincolnshire Wolds, extending down into the basin of the Humber estuary. It is sited at a spring line, and several streams rise within or near the village, cutting shallow valleys down towards the Humber (although none pass close to the site). The village topography slopes from approximately 20m OD at its south-western edge to approximately 15m on the north-eastern edge; the site is at approximately the mid-point of this slope.

Keelby is situated on a band of fluvioglacial sand and gravel, lying near the foot of the Wolds and deposited by rivers running down from them: this material forms the drift geology of the area. The underlying solid geology is Burnham Chalk (BGS, 1990).

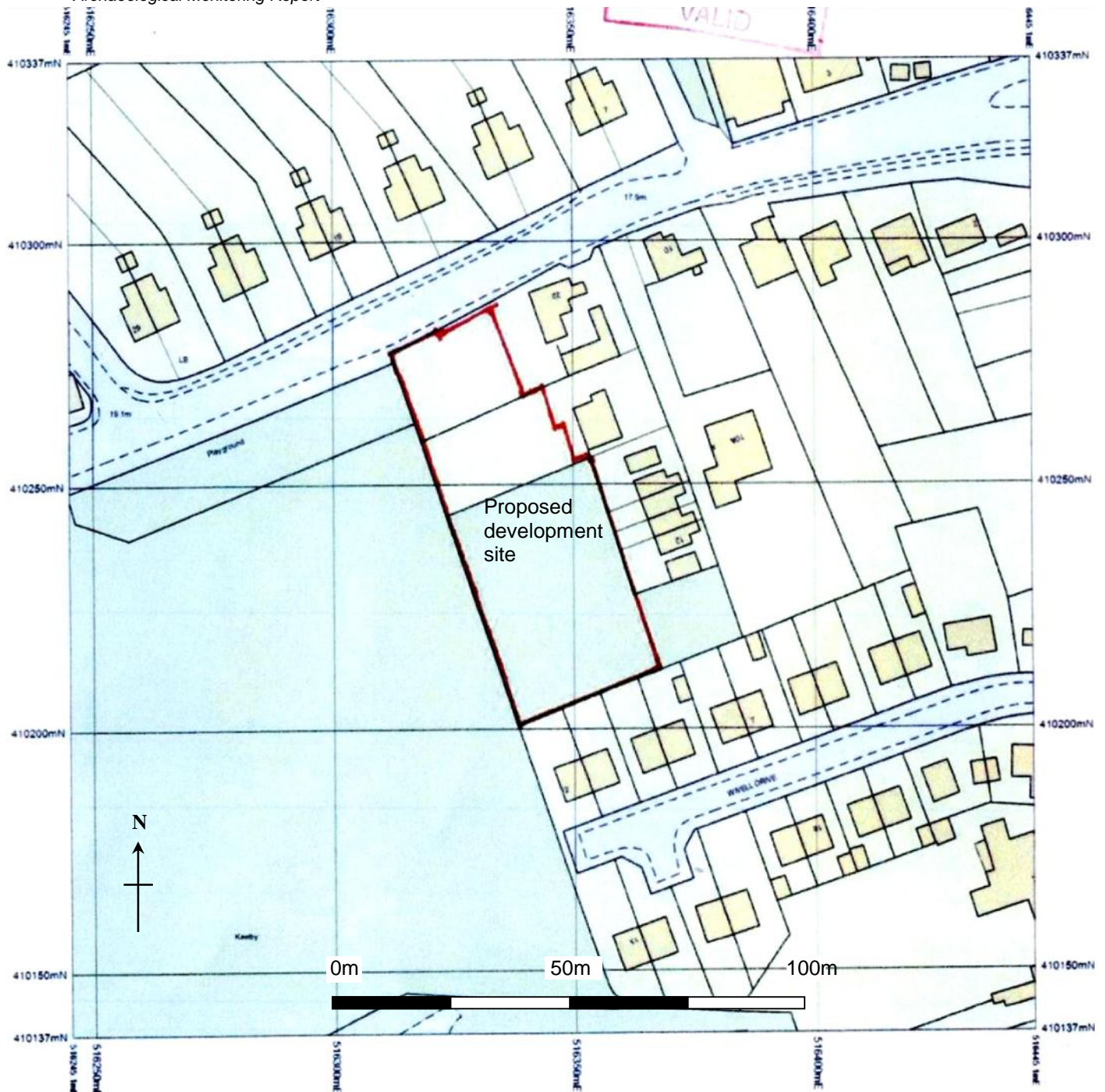


Figure 2: Location plan of the site at scale 1:1250. Plan supplied by client.

4.0 Planning Background

Full planning permission for the construction of five detached dwellings and two detached garages, with associated access and landscaping works, was granted in September 2012 (planning application number 128542). Conditions 5 and 6 of the grant of planning permission stipulate that a written scheme of archaeological investigation must be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to the commencement of groundworks, and that the scheme of archaeological work must be carried out in full accordance with the approved WSI; the Planning Authority must be notified of the intention to

commence at least 14 days before the start of archaeological work, in order to facilitate adequate monitoring arrangements. Condition 16 requires a copy of the final archaeological report to be submitted to the Local Planning Authority within 6 months of the completion of the monitored groundworks and the material and paper archive to be deposited with an appropriate archive in accordance with the guidelines published in the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook.

5.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

There is evidence to indicate the presence of a settlement at Keelby since the Roman period. Late Roman/early Germanic metalwork finds indicate the possibility of continuous occupation, reinforced by 5th -6th century metalwork finds of 17 cruciform brooches, 4 small-long brooches, a sleeve clasp and a pair of funerary tweezers. Coins dateable to the 8th and 9th centuries have also been recovered (Hamilton, 2006). Finds recovered by metal-detecting are believed to indicate the presence of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery to the north of the modern village (HER ref. 54542); this deduction is potentially borne out by the find of a human skull in a garden on Stallingborough Road (HER ref. 54697). No evidence of habitation pre-dating the Norman Conquest has been recovered within 500m of the proposed development site.

The Domesday Survey of AD 1086 records Keelby as being divided between eight major and minor landowners, chiefly holding small manorial estates. Both the Archbishop of York and the Bishop of Bayeux had small manors there: the Bishop's estate was occupied by only five households other than his administrator, while the Archbishop's estate fielded only four, but had a mill in whose profits the Archbishop had a half share. The Bishop of Lincoln had a slightly larger manor, possessing both arable and pasture land, also occupied by his administrator and five households; this estate also had a mill. The royal manor of Caistor and Hundon administered a portion of arable land in Keelby roughly equivalent in size to all three of the ecclesiastical manors and occupied by 16 households. Ivo Taillebois' manor is recorded as having 'the site of a mill', suggesting that this estate had been neglected; it was occupied by Ivo's administrator and three households farming a small amount of arable and meadow land. The minor landowner Drew de Beurere had a substantial manor, occupied by 11 households farming arable and meadow land: this estate also profited from a salt-pan, indicating that Keelby was close enough to the estuarine coastline at the time for sea water to be available at high tide. Norman de Arci's manor featured six households and an administrator, farming a small amount of arable land, while Waldin the Engineer's manor oversaw three households on a small manorial estate consisting of both arable and pasture land (Foster and Longley, 1924, pp.22, 26, 40, 50, 83, 140, 147, 168-9). This multiplicity of landowners is reflected in the form of the existing settlement and the earthworks derived from former medieval occupation on the fringes of the modern village: Keelby has no coherent plan, but is characterised by a network of curving and looping streets, suggesting a number of discrete nuclei (HER ref. 53780). Three of these can still be identified by the surviving place-names Church End, North End and South End (Everson *et al.*, 1991, p.28); the proposed development site is located in the neighbourhood of North End.

In spite of its plethora of ecclesiastical landowners, Domesday Keelby had no church: the present parish church of St. Bartholomew is 13th-century with a 14th-century tower, but excavations on its south side exposed the remains of a 12th to 13th-century aisle, suggesting that the present building was altered from an earlier one (HER ref. 50001).

By the early 14th century, Keelby had shrunk to a fraction of its former size: only 36 taxpaying households were recorded by the Poll Tax in 1377 (HER ref. 56096). Earthwork traces of possible medieval buildings have been identified from aerial photographs near the centre of the modern village, on its south-western edge and on the north-eastern edge near Church Farm: one of these lies about 200m to the south of the site (HER ref. 50031), while four more have been recorded at distances of between 250m and 500m from it (HER refs. 50032-5).

Archaeological monitoring on land at South Street in 2005, about 200m to the east of the present site, recorded several post-holes, a ditch and a linear depression caused by a hedged boundary. None of the features could be dated, and the lack of occupational material suggests they were agricultural in nature (LCC HER ref. 55432).

6.0 Methodology

The archaeological requirement for the site was to monitor all groundworks associated with the development, to ensure that any archaeological remains encountered during work would be effectively preserved by record.

The attending archaeologist was present to ensure that construction excavations be paused if undisturbed archaeological horizons were encountered; at all times causing the least possible disruption to the development process. Where identified, archaeological features were examined sufficiently to determine their date, character and survival condition and then recorded by measured plan and section drawings at appropriate scales (normally 1:50; 1:20).

A written record of each significant stratigraphic horizon and archaeological feature was made on standard PCAS context recording forms. This was supplemented by a narrative account in the form of a site diary.

All features and deposits of archaeological interest were manually cleaned and recorded, subject to health and safety considerations.

Features and deposits were recorded on standard PCAS context recording sheets, and the progress of the groundworks noted on a standard PCAS site diary sheet. Sample sections were drawn as appropriate at a scale of 1:20, and plotted on a base plan. A colour slide and digital photographic record was maintained.

The archaeological supervision was undertaken over 7 days by R. Mandeville and J. Sleaf.

7.0 Results

Initial site work involved the stripping of topsoil, **101**, to average depths between 0.35m and 0.40m to create road access. This process was not required to be monitored due to the shallow aspect of the stripping. Beneath the topsoil was a mid-brown sandy silt subsoil, **102**, with an average depth between 0.46m and 0.66m. Geological deposits were a mid-yellow brown loose gravelly sand, **107**, with an irregular undulating interface with the subsoil.

During the excavation of footing trenches for the eastern house plots, a modern construction cut, **103**, was observed running east to west in the footings of house plot 5. This appeared to cut a north-east to south-west shallow ditch feature, **104**, (drawing number 4, figure 4). The east-west line of this feature was also observed in one of the footings on the west side of the plot. The single fill of this feature was a mid-brown sandy silt, **106**, containing frequent small stones but with no artefactual evidence for dating being recovered.



Plate 1: Ditch **104**, west facing section

Six soakaway pits were machine excavated across the site in relation to the five housing plots; one in the south-west corner of the site, two to the south-west of house plot 1 in the north portion of the site and three on the east side of the site. The latter three were not recorded as they were observed to be excavated through the hardcore of the previously monitored road. The two soakaway pits to the north of the site were photographed and the one to the south-west was recorded in section (drawing number 7, figure 4). The cut for a modern rubbish pit, **108**, was observed in the section of soakaway no. 1. Its single fill, **109**, was a mixed dump deposit of grey-brown silt-sand incorporating modern ceramics and metal debris.



Plate 2: Soakaway no. 1, modern pit **108** east facing section

A ditch feature, **110**, was observed in the footings of house plot 1 running NE to SW with a single mid brown sandy silt fill, **111**, similar to the subsoil **102**. The ditch was shallow with concave sides with a depth of 0.20m to 0.30m cut into natural sand deposit **107**. Several sections of the line of this feature were observed in the footings of the house plot with the same fill, recorded as **112** and **113**, but with varying sizes of pebble inclusions. This feature was interpreted as a possible drainage channel from which no dating evidence was recovered (drawing number 11, figure 4).



Plate 3: Ditch **110** plan, facing south



Plate 4: Ditch **110**, north facing section

8.0 Conclusion

Other than the two shallow ditches **104** and **110**, no features of archaeological interest were observed during development groundworks. The lack of dating evidence from the fills of these features meant that interpretation of purpose was restricted to conjecturing possible post-medieval drainage ditches. The only other feature observed was a modern rubbish pit, **108**, in soakaway no. 1.

9.0 Effectiveness of Methodology

The methodology employed during this project achieved its primary objective, ensuring that any archaeological remains that might have been present on the site would not have been destroyed unrecorded, while causing the minimum of disruption to the construction process.

10.0 Acknowledgements

Pre-Construct Archaeological Services would like to thank Ross Davy Associates for this commission.

11.0 Site Archive

The site records, currently in the custody of PCAS, will be prepared according to published guidelines and deposited with a printed copy of this report with The Collection, Lincoln, where it can be accessed under the museum assigned accession number LCNCC 2015.94. Archiving is provisionally scheduled for December 2017.

12.0 Bibliography

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Ordnance Survey, 2006, *Grimsby, Cleethorpes & Immingham, Caistor & North Thoresby, 1:25,000 scale Explorer series no. 284*. The Ordnance Survey, Southampton.

List of conservation areas in West Lindsey consulted online 21-05-2015 at <http://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/residents/planning-and-building/conservation-and-environment/conserv>

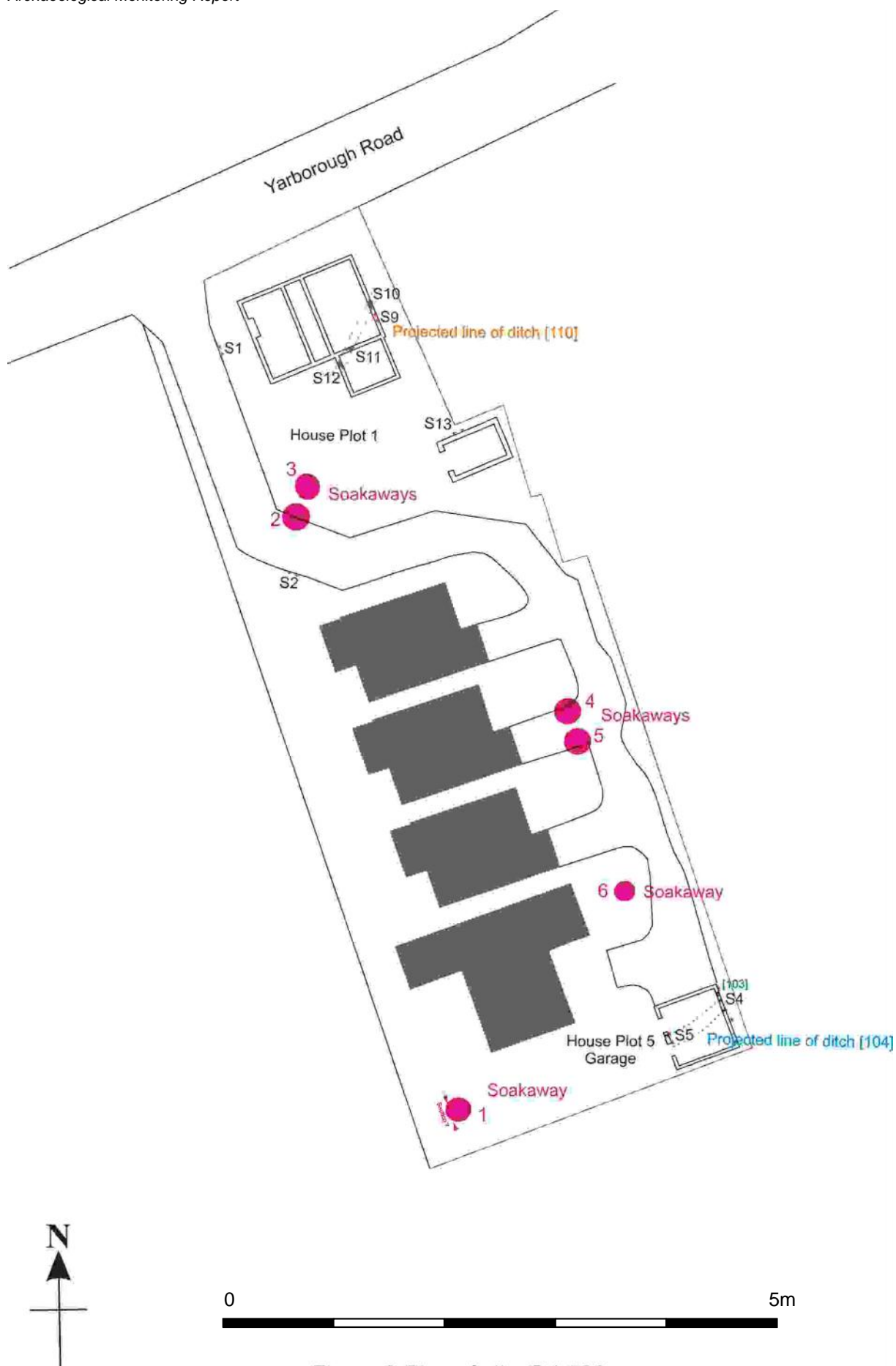
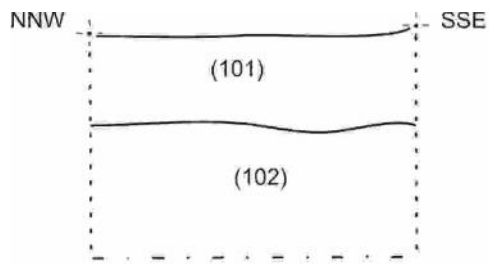
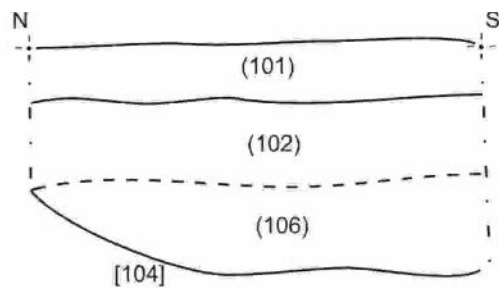


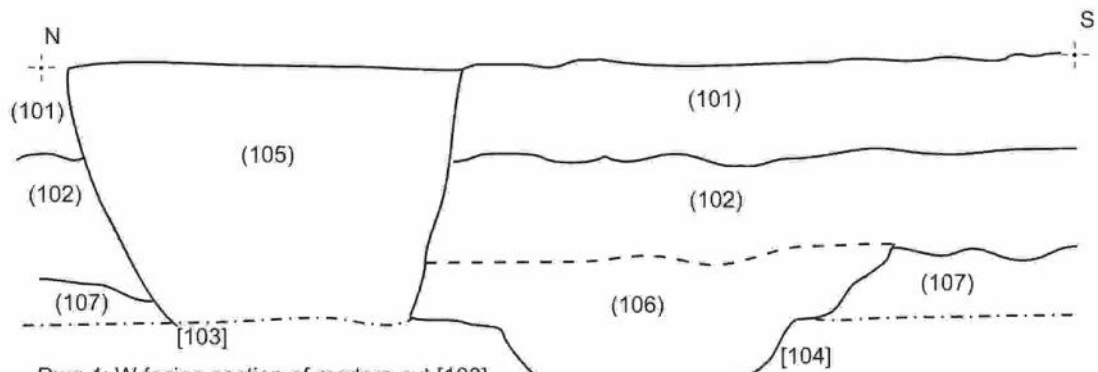
Figure 3 Plan of site @1:500



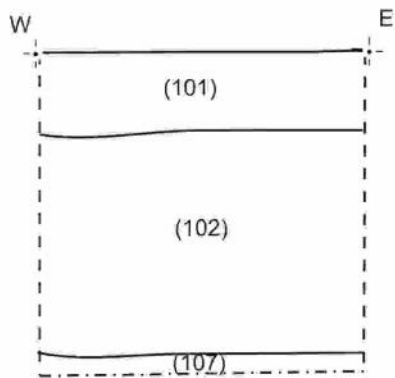
Dwg 1: WSW facing section of drive



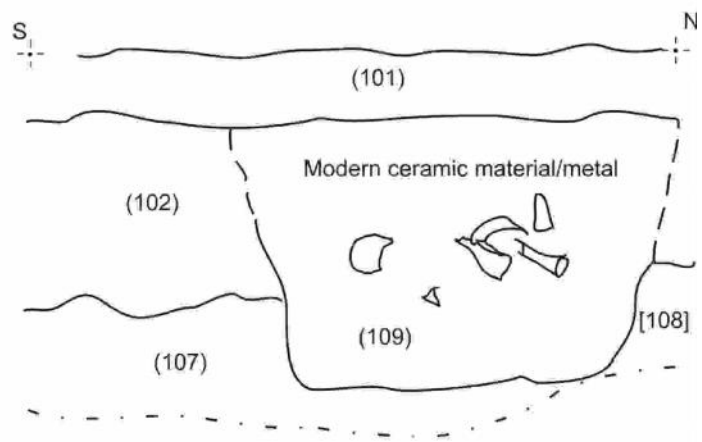
Dwg 5: W facing section of ditch [104]



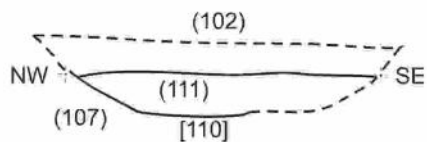
Dwg 4: W facing section of modern cut [103]
cutting ditch [104]



Dwg 9: S facing section



Dwg 7: E facing section of Soakaway # 1



Dwg 10: SW facing section of ditch [110]

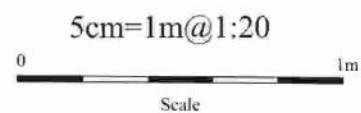


Figure 4: Section drawings

Appendix 1: Context Summary

Context No.	Type	Description	Finds/Dating
101	Deposit	Dark grey-brown silty sand topsoil	-
102	Layer	Mid orange-brown silty sand subsoil	-
103	Cut	East-west aligned possible construction cut- possible removed wall line.	Modern
104	Cut	Shallow east-west aligned ditch, cut by 103 .	None
105	Deposit	Mixed pale sandy mortar and redeposited topsoil	None
106	Deposit	Single mid brown sandy silt fill of ditch 104	None
107	Layer	Loose gravel/sand natural layer, undulating interface with subsoil 102	Geological
108	Cut	Cut of rubbish pit located in section of soakaway no. 1	Modern
109	Deposit	Single mixed deposit of grey brown silty sand	Modern ceramics and metal
110	Cut	South-west to north-east aligned ditch	None
111	Deposit	Single fill of ditch 110	None
112	Deposit	Fill of ditch 110 , same as 111	None
113	Deposit	Fill of ditch 110 , same as 111	None

Appendix 2: Oasis Report Summary

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

Printable version

OASIS ID: preconst3-288818

Project details

Project name	Archaeological monitoring of land adjacent to Yarborough Road, Keelby, Lincolnshire
Short description of the project	A programme of archaeological monitoring of groundworks at land adjacent to Yarborough Road Keelby, Lincolnshire found two undated linear features, possible drainage ditches.
Project dates	Start: 09-09-2015 End: 19-01-2016
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	128542 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	2015.94 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 13 - Waste ground
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Monument type	PIT Modern
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	LINCOLNSHIRE WEST LINDSEY KEELBY Land adjacent to Yarbourough Road, Keelby, Lincs.
Study area	0.23 Hectares
Site coordinates	TA 1634 1024 53.575585297196 -0.242730986157 53 34 32 N 000 14 33 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	PCAS Archaeology Ltd.
Project brief originator	Local Planning Authority (with/without advice from County/District Archaeologist)
Project design originator	PCAS Archaeology Ltd.
Project director/manager	Will Munford
Project supervisor	Richard Mandeville
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	The Collection, Lincoln
Digital Archive ID	2015.94
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	The Collection, Lincoln
Paper Archive ID	2015.94
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Unpublished Text"
Entered by	Ben Philip Hobbs (ben.hobbs@pcas-archaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	28 June 2017