LAND OFF MATTHEW HUMBERSTONE SCHOOL, CLEETHORPES

Archive Report:
Archaeological Trench Evaluation

Prepared by Project Code: CMH24

NETWORK ARCHAEOLOGY February 2022

Report No: 22004

For

EQUANS on behalf of North East Lincolnshire Council

Planning Reference:

Outline





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Contents

Doc	ument Control Sheet	. i
Con	tents	ii
List	of Appendices	iii
	of Tables	
	of Plates	
Non	-technical Summary	. 1
1	Introduction	2
1.1	Purpose of this Report	
1.2	Project Background	
1.3	Archaeological Context	
1.4	Aims and objectives	
1.5	Methods	
1.6	Resources	.7
2	Results	8
2.1	Introduction	. 8
2.2	Stratigraphy	
2.3	Trench 1	. 8
2.4	Trench 2	8
2.5	Trench 3	9
2.6	Trench 4	10
2.7	Trench 5	
2.8	Trench 6	
2.9	Trench 7	
2.10	Trench 8	
2.11	Trench 9	
	Trench 10	
	Trench 11 Trench 12	
2.14	Trench 13	
2.15	Trench 14	
3	Interpretation and Discussion	4
4	Conclusions	15
5	Archive	16
6	Acknowledgements	17
7	References	8



List of Appendices

Appendix A: OASIS submission form

Appendix B: Summary table of contexts

Appendix C: Catalogue of Trench specification

Appendix D: Plates

Appendix E: Specialist Finds Reports:

Appendix F: Figures

List of Tables

List of Figures

Figure 1: Location Plan

Figure 2: Proposed Development Area and evaluation trenches

Figure 3: Trench 2 plan and sections
Figure 4: Trench 3 plan and sections
Figure 5: Trench 5 plan and sections
Figure 6: Trench 6 plan and sections

Figure 7: Archaeology and geophysical survey interpretation

Non-technical Summary

This report presents the results of an archaeological trench evaluation undertaken in advance of the construction of *c*.58 residential units and an extra care facility with associated infrastructure and landscaping on former playing fields associated with Matthew Humberstone School, Cleethorpes, Northeast Lincolnshire (NGR 529390 408130).

The evaluation followed on from a desk-based assessment and geophysical survey (Network Archaeology 2021a) and comprised the excavation of 14no. 30m long trenches targeted on anomalies identified by the geophysical survey.

The evaluation identified a total of eight archaeological features in Trenches 2, 3, 5 and 6, located in the northeast corner of the PDA. The remaining trenches across the site revealed a sequence of natural geology with some modern disturbance.

Archaeological evaluation revealed a concentration of archaeological remains in the northeast corner of the site, focused on Trenches 2, 3, 5 and 6 all c.0.3m below the current ground surface.

Trenches 2 and 6 both contained mid-Saxon artefacts suggesting a possible settlement within a coaxial ditch system on slightly elevated land. Trenches 3 and 5 both contained ditches that are tentatively dated to the Roman and medieval period respectively based on single artefacts and their dating may change if further investigation takes place.



1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of this Report

This report provides the results of the archaeological trench evaluation undertaken in advance of development works on land off Matthew Humberstone School, Cleethorpes, Northeast Lincolnshire (Figure 1, 2 and 7).

This report will assist the Heritage Officer for Northeast Lincolnshire Council in devising, if required, further mitigation methodology to better understand and manage any archaeological resources.

1.2 Project Background

1.2.1 Development and planning history

The current proposal was to apply for outline planning permission for the creation of *c*. 58 residential properties and an extra care facility on the former playing fields. The playing fields have been lapsed since 2008 and were identified as being surplus to requirements by a recent strategy document (North East Lincolnshire Council (NELC) 2020) and suitable for up to 80 units as laid out by the Local plan (NELC 2018).

There have been several planning applications associated with the adjacent school, which lies next to the Proposed Development Area (PDA) including DM/1148/17/CND and DM/0576/17/FUL, which related to demolition and replacement of the existing sub-station for the school. A heritage statement (Engie Architectural Consultancy 2017) was previously prepared for application DM/0576/17/FUL, which was granted without any archaeological conditions or comments made on the application.

Following submission of the heritage assessment, the Heritage Officer for NELC requested a desk-based assessment and a geophysics survey (Network Archaeology July 2021a). Based on the results of these surveys, the Heritage Officer for NELC requested an archaeological trench evaluation in order to clarify the impact of the proposed development on any unknown heritage assets or archaeological remains in line with the principles of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government 2021).

1.2.2 Location, description, and natural environment

- **Location:** The PDA is located *c*.300m southeast of the junction of the A46 and A1031 on the western side of Cleethorpes. To the northwest lies the current playing fields associated with the Matthew Humberstone school (NGR 529390 408130, Figure 1).
- Conservation Areas: The PDA lies just outside the Old Clee Conservation area of Cleethorpes
- o Size: 2.54ha

- **Description**: The PDA occupies a roughly "L-shaped" block of land bounded to the west, east and southeast by residential buildings and to the south by Davenport Drive (Figure 2).
- Land-use: The PDA occupies broadly flat grass fields, these being the unmaintained former playing fields.
- Solid geology: Chalk of the Flamborough Chalk Formation (British Geological Survey, 2021)
- Superficial Deposits: Superficial deposits are recorded as Till, Devensian Diamicton (ibid).
- Soils: The soil is recorded as Slowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey (Cranfield University 2021).
- o **Ground levels:** Relatively flat at approximately 10m aOD.

1.3 Archaeological Context

This section provides a brief overview of the history and known heritage assets in the vicinity of the PDA. This information is taken from the existing DBA, which contained data supplied by North Lincolnshire HER (NLHER) along with supplementary information taken from publicly available sources and Network Archaeology's own library.

NLHER asset numbers are prefixed with MNL whilst monument numbers recorded by Historic England are prefixed with MON. Listed building numbers are prefixed LB.

1.3.1 Previous Archaeological Surveys Geophysical Survey

The geophysical survey (Network Archaeology 2021) indicted potential anomalies of archaeological origin present within the PDA including linear and curvilinear anomalies forming possible enclosures. Although undated, a Romano-British date was considered probable. Also, present were fragments of ridge and furrow, a former field boundary and agricultural trends along with modern disturbance

1.3.2 Early Prehistoric (1,000, 000BC to 4,000BC)

No heritage assets dating to the prehistoric period are recorded within the PDA.

Within the wider landscape, Prehistoric flints have been recorded from allotments to the east of the PDA (MNL 2509), these recorded only as being Prehistoric.

1.3.3 Later Prehistoric (4,000BC to 43AD) Neolithic (4,000BC to 2,500BC)

A number of Neolithic flints are mentioned in the Heritage List entry for the Beacon Hill Barrow (MNL 1211), located approximately 575m southeast of the PDA, these possibly being suggestive of occupation in the area during this period.

Bronze Age (2,500BC to 800BC)



No heritage assets dating to the Bronze Age have been recorded within the PDA.

Beacon Hill, a Scheduled Monument (MON 1019865, MNL 1211) lies c.550m to the southeast of the PDA, this being described as

'a prehistoric burial mound located on the southwestern side of Cleethorpes cemetery'.

The mound, which dates to the Bronze Age, was partially excavated in 1935 with a large number of artefacts, including a large undecorated urn and a further four smaller decorated urns recovered from the centre of the mound. These urns contained cremated human remains, including the remains of a child.

Iron Age (800BC to AD43)

No heritage assets dating to the Iron Age period are recorded within the PDA or wider study area.

1.3.4 Roman (AD43 to AD410)

Roman pottery and a 4th century coin have been discovered in a residential garden north of Holy Trinity Church (MNL 1163) whilst further pottery has been recovered from the Beacon Hill Scheduled Monument (MNL 1211) and from a possible mill mound (MNL 2153) located close to Cleethorpes Football Club, approximately 330m to the northwest of the PDA.

1.3.5 Saxon and Medieval (AD414 to AD1540)

The origins of Cleethorpes lie in the Early Medieval Period. The Domesday Book records the settlement of 'Clee', now known as 'Old Clee', as the origin of the modern town. The first element means 'clay' and the second is an Old English or Norse word for a village. The PDA is located adjacent to Clee a relatively large village listed in the Domesday Book as *Cleia* comprising 23 households and mostly meadow with smaller areas of ploughland, with no church mentioned.

Continuous occupation of the area probably dates started with arrival of Danish settlers in the sixth century with the more substantial communities of Clee, Weelsby and Scartho developing in the ninth century (Network Archaeology 2021a).

No heritage assets dating to the medieval period are recorded within the PDA, however; evidence of early medieval activity was recorded during the excavation of the Beacon Hill Scheduled Monument (MNL 1211) where an Anglo-Saxon bowl, probably indicative of funerary activity, was recovered.

Evidence of possible medieval or earlier fortifications at Clee or Cleethorpes are indicated through the placename *Burghill* recorded in 1358 and likely derived from the Old English for fortified hill whilst there is also reference to Castle Croft in 1443 (MNL 4291).



The Church of The Holy Trinity and Holy Mary the Virgin (LB 1379405) has an 11th century tower with additions from the 12th to 15th century as well as more recent renovation whilst a medieval moated site (MNL 1136) lies in Old Clee approximately 250m to the northwest of the PDA.

A possible medieval kiln was identified in the 1950s on the edge of what is now Cleethorpes football club to the northwest of the PDA (MNL 1150). In addition, the aforementioned excavation of the mill mound (MNL 2153) also produced medieval and Roman pottery sherds.

There is little evidence for change in population or land-use into the Later Medieval period, suggesting that the small settlements continued to operate as distinct villages, rather than unifying into a single town. The NLHER lists ridge and furrow plotted from Aps throughout Cleethorpes (MNL 2241, MNL 2206, MNL 2247) which, although undated, most likely dates to the Later Medieval period, as they bear no relation to planned enclosure in the 19th century or modern field boundaries.

1.3.6 Post-medieval to modern (1540 to present)

During the Post-Medieval period Cleethorpes developed as a fishing village and by the time of the 1801 census had a population of just under 300 people. During the early 19th century, the PDA lay in an open field near the small settlement of Clee and by the 1820s Cleethorpes had developed a reputation as a seaside resort.

Although no post-medieval to modern heritage assets are recorded within the PDA, a number of listed buildings are recorded within the vicinity, including Sidney Farmhouse (MNL2464), Mackrill Farm (MNL 3880) along with a number of the Listed structures associated with Clee Farmhouse (LB 1379411-14).

Post-medieval parkland also survives at Weelsby Woods (MNL 2247) to the southwest of the PDA, the location of a military camp first utilised during World War I for the training and transit of soldiers. The camp was re-used in World War II as a prisoner of war camp and then as a demobilisation post for the Polish Carpathian Lancers after the war. Wojtek the Bear memorial was erected to their memory in 2011 (MNL 4093).

The former grammar school, to which the former playing fields forming the PDA belonged built in 1882 for the Humberstone Foundation, a trust set up after the death of Matthew Humberstone, the former Lord Mayor of Humberston. The school was expanded in 1909 and again in 1937, being further expanded and renamed as the Clee Humberston Foundation School by 1964.

1.4 Aims and objectives

The **Specific** aims of the archaeological evaluation were to:



- generate a reliable predictive model of the location, extent, date, character, date, condition and quality of any archaeology in the PDA
- · ascertain significance, and
- determine potential impacts.

The **General** aims of the archaeological evaluation were to:

- determine, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeology.
- assess preservation levels.
- determine truncation levels.
- elucidate site formation processes.
- "
- define the extent of previous ground disturbance and made ground.
- and deposit the project archive.

1.4.1 Research frameworks

The works were carried out in consideration with existing and developing national and regional research frameworks (Historic England, 1991, 1997), primarily the East Midlands Historic Environment Research Framework (Research Frameworks Network 2021), which covers this area.

All works were undertaken in compliance with the relevant quality standards including CIfA 2014a, 2019, 2014b, 2014c, 2020.

1.5 Methods

A total of fourteen 30m long by 1.8m wide trenches were excavated equating to 702m².

All overburden (topsoil and subsoil) was removed using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket to either the first identified archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was reached first.

Stripping was undertaken under the continuous supervision and control of the attending archaeologist in accordance with the methodologies laid out in the written scheme of investigation (Network Archaeology 2021b).



1.6 Resources

The archaeological excavation was undertaken by a team of three archaeologists over 8 days between the 13th and 22nd December 2021.



2 RESULTS

2.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the factual results of the archaeological investigations. Throughout this section, cut features and deposits are referred to by unique context numbers. A convention has been adopted whereby cut features and structures are referenced in **bold** type, whilst deposits such as fills, and layers are referenced in plain type.

A summary table of context data is presented in Appendix B.

The results of the evaluation are discussed in trench order below and presented on Figures 2 to 7.

The visibility during the evaluation was clear and the clarity of the geological horizon sharp.

2.2 Stratigraphy

Specific details about the stratigraphy are described below as well as listed in Appendix B.

The general stratigraphy recorded in the trenches 1, 2, 5 and 6 was natural glacial boulder clay overlain by topsoil and turf, o with no apparent subsoil present.

Across the rest of the site, underlying natural trended towards a silty, alluvium sediment likely deposited by marine or freshwater activity.

2.3 Trench 1

2.3.1 Introduction

Trench 1 was northwest to southeast aligned and located in the northernmost corner of the PDA (Figure 2). This trench was targeted on two possible northeast to southwest linear anomalies

2.3.2 Archaeological Findings

No archaeological features were present within the limits of the trench. A natural substrate of boulder clay (002) was exposed beneath a 0.15 metres thick topsoil (001).

2.4 Trench 2

2.4.1 Introduction

Trench number 2 was located in the north portion of the PDA, oriented northeast to southwest. It was targeting three linear anomalies (Figure 2)



Archaeological Trench Evaluation Ver. 01.00

2.4.2 Archaeological Findings

Two linear archaeological features were investigated within the limits of the trench at 8.51 m.OD (Figures 2 and 3; plates 1 and 2). A natural substrate boulder clay (002) was exposed at 0.15 metres below the topsoil (021).

Ditch **024** was north-south oriented with steep sides and concave base. It was c.0.7 metres deep and contained a single fill (025), which contained one sherd of Middle Saxon pottery, fragments of animal bone and a copper alloy pin of Middle Saxon hairpin. An environmental sample from this feature suggests the presence of spelt wheat, more typically associated with the Roman period.

Ditch **026** was northeast-southwest oriented, with steep sides and a concave base. It was c. 0.54 metres deep and contained a single fill (027) with no finds.

2.5 Trench 3

2.5.1 Introduction

Trench number 3 was located in the northwest portion of the PDA, circa fifteen metres to the southwest of Trench2. It was northwest-southeast oriented and was targeting three linear anomalies. (Figure.2 and 4, Plates 3 and 4)

2.5.2 Archaeological Findings

Two linear archaeological features were investigated within the limits of the trench at 8.56 m OD. A natural substrate boulder clay (033) was sealed by a 0.10 metres subsoil (032), which was cut by ditches **035** and **037**.

Ditch **035** was exposed across the centre of the trench. It measured 0.75 metres wide and 0.23 metres deep. It was northwest-southeast oriented and had a steep straight side to flat base. Its single fill (034) was a compact greyish brown silt that contained animal bone, oyster shell and a single fragment of Roman roof tile. An environmental sample recovered from this feature suggests domestic debris such as waste disposal.

Ditch **037**was exposed across the southeast end of the trench. It measured 1 metre wide and 0.2 metres deep. It was northwest-southeast oriented and had a steep straight side to flat base. Its single fill, (036) was a compact dark brown silty clay, which contained occasional small fragments of oyster shell which were not retained.

Both features were sealed below 0.3m of topsoil.



2.6 Trench 4

2.6.1 Introduction

Trench number 4 was located in the north portion of the PDA, circa ten metres to the southwest of Trench no.1. It was north-south oriented and was targeting three linear and one discreet anomaly. (Figure 2)

2.6.2 Archaeological Findings

No archaeological features were present within the limits of the trench. A natural substrate boulder clay with chalk inclusions (043) was exposed. It sloped down to the south, and it was beneath a 0.25 metres thick light brown clay subsoil (042), which was sealed below 0.1m of topsoil.

2.7 Trench 5

2.7.1 Introduction

Trench number 5 was located in the central-north portion of the PDA, seven metres to the southwest of Trench 3. It was northeast-southwest oriented and was targeting one curvilinear, two linear and two discrete anomalies. (Fig.2)

2.7.2 Archaeological Findings

Two linear archaeological features were exposed in the trench. A natural substrate boulder clay with chalk (052) was cut by ditches **054** and **056**.

Ditch **054** was noted across the southwest of the trench. It measured 0.55 metres wide and 1.6 metres deep. It was northwest-southeast oriented and had a moderate straight side to flat base. Its single fill, (053) was a firm dark brown silt. It contained modern glass, brick pottery And appears to relate to a boundary visible on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey.

Ditch **056** was revealed across the northeast end of the trench. It measured 1.18 metre wide and 0.41 metres deep. It was northwest-southeast oriented and had a steep straight side to flat base. Its single fill, (055) was a firm mid brown silt. It contained one single sherd of medieval pottery of possible 13th or 14th century date. This ditch was then overlain by 0.3m of topsoil.

Also present in this trench was the remains of a long jump pit from the sites use as a former playing field.



2.8 Trench 6

2.8.1 Introduction

Trench 6 was located in the northwest portion of the PDA, approximately fourteen metres to the south of Trench 5. It was north-south oriented and was targeting one curvilinear and two linear and anomalies (Figure 2 and 6; Plates 5 and 6).

2.8.2 Archaeological Findings

One curvilinear and one linear archaeological feature were investigated in the trench. A natural substrate boulder clay with chalk fragments (063) was present sloping down to the south That was cut by ditches **065** and **067**.

Ditch **065** was exposed across the north of the trench And measured 1.12 metres wide and 0.52 metres deep. This feature was northeast-southwest oriented with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill, (064) contained twelve sherds of pottery dated to the Middle Saxon period (mid-8th to early 9th century).

Ditch **067** was noted across the northeast end of the trench And measured 1.18 metre wide and 0.41 metres deep. This feature was was east-west oriented with straight, steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill, (056) contained animal bone but no dateable finds.

Both features were sealed below c.0.3m of topsoil.

2.9 Trench 7

2.9.1 Introduction

Trench 7 was located in the south portion of the PDA. It was northeast-southwest oriented and was targeting two large ferrous anomalies. (Figure 2)

2.9.2 Archaeological Findings

No archaeological features were present within the limits of the trench. A natural substrate of clay (701) was exposed, under c.0.25m of topsoil.

2.10 Trench 8

2.10.1 Introduction

Trench 8 was located in the northeast portion of the PDA, circa 25 metres to the southeast of Trench 1. It was northeast-southwest oriented and was targeting one linear and two large ferrous anomalies. (Figure 2)



2.10.2 Archaeological Findings

No archaeological features were present within the limits of the trench. A natural alluvium layer (084) was exposed beneath a succession of two make up layers: the earlier context (083), a 0.3m thick clayey silt, the later a 0.1m mid brown clayey silt (082). This was sealed below 0.2m of topsoil.

2.11 Trench 9

2.11.1 Introduction

Trench 9 was located in the central-south portion of the PDA. It was northeast-southwest oriented and was targeting two linear anomalies(Figure 2).

2.11.2 Archaeological Findings

No archaeological features were present within the limits of the trench, which revealed two modern land drains aligned with the targeted anomalies.

A natural substrate boulder clay (093) was exposed at the lowest point of the trench below a 0.25 metres thick mid brown friable clay subsoil (092). Two modern land drains were revealed cutting into the subsoil, which was sealed below topsoil.

2.12 Trench 10

2.12.1 Introduction

Trench 10 was located in the northwest portion of the PDA. It was east-west oriented (Figure 2).

2.12.2 Archaeological Findings

No archaeological features were present within the limits of the trench. A natural substrate of boulder clay (102) was exposed beneath (101), a 0.12 m thick topsoil.

2.13 Trench 11

2.13.1 Introduction

Trench 11 was located in the north-central portion of the PDA; it was oriented northwest-southeast. It targeted a large ferrous anomaly (Figure 2).

2.13.2 Archaeological Findings

No archaeological features were present within the limits of the trench. A natural marine silt sediment (112) was exposed beneath (111), a 0.2 thick topsoil.

2.14 Trench 12

2.14.1 Introduction

Trench 12 was located in the southwest portion of the PDA, it was northeast-southwest oriented.



2.14.2 Archaeological Findings

No archaeological features were present within the limits of the trench. A natural boulder clay glacial till (122) was exposed beneath (121), a 0.18 thick turf on Mid/dark brown silty sand, firm with occasional stones topsoil (Figure 2).

2.15 Trench 13

2.15.1 Introduction

Trench 13 was located in the southernmost portion of the PDA, it was northeast-southwest oriented and targeted two curvilinear features (Figure 2).

2.15.2 Archaeological Findings

No archaeological features were present within the limits of the trench. A natural boulder clay glacial till (132) was exposed beneath (131), a 0.20 thick topsoil.

2.16 Trench 14

2.16.1 Introduction

Trench 14 was located in the east portion of the PDA, it was northwest-southeast oriented. It targeted a large ferrous anomaly (Figure 2).

2.16.2 Archaeological Findings

No archaeological features were present within the limits of the trench. A natural boulder clay glacial till (143) was exposed beneath (142), a 0.4 m silt marine sediment Sealed below 0.22m of topsoil.



3 INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION

The evaluation recorded archaeological features in trenches number 2, 3, 4 and 5. The archaeology was exposed beneath the topsoil at an average depth of 0.3m below the current ground surface at c.8.5m AOD. Archaeological features were constrained to a relatively compact area targeted on the most positive anomalies exposed in a previous geophysical survey. These features were also exclusively cut into boulder clay rather than some of the more alluvial natural exposed across the site, suggesting the northeast corner of the site may have been historically slightly elevated allowing settlement on the margins of surrounding wetland.

The earliest possible feature was a ditch in Trench 3, which is tentatively dated to the Roman period based on a single fragment of tile. It should be noted that this robust material can often appear in later features and an early medieval or medieval date may be more likely. The other ditch in this trench was undated.

Two mid Saxon ditches were present in Trench 2, which can be positively identified to the mid-8th to early 9th century based on both pottery and a metal hairpin. Another mid Saxon ditch was recorded in Trench 6 suggesting part of a co-axial field system may have been present, perhaps creating small plots for settlement and agricultural use. Whilst undated, the parallel aligned ditch in Trench 6 is also likely of this date.

A possible medieval ditch was identified in Trench 5, again tentatively based on a single sherd of 13th to 14th century pottery.

Modern features were identified in several trenches, including a ditch in Trench 5 that is approximately orientated with a known backfilled boundary on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map as well as areas of more recent disturbance such as a buried long jump pit and other features relating to the sites previous land use as a playing field.



4 CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological evaluation revealed a concentration of archaeological remains in the northeast corner of the site, focused on Trenches 2, 3, 5 and 6 all c.0.3m below the current ground surface. The remainder of the PDA was either devoid of archaeology or contained only modern disturbance, largely aligning with the results of the geophysical survey.

Trenches 2 and 6 both contained mid-Saxon artefacts suggesting a possible settlement within a co-axial ditch system on slightly elevated land. Trenches 3 and 5 both contained ditches that are tentatively dated to the Roman and medieval period respectively based on single artefacts and their dating may change if further investigation takes place.

The archaeological works have assured the long-term survival of the data collected through the compilation of a site archive and this report.



5 ARCHIVE

The archaeological works produced the following document archive, under the site code of CMH24.

Table 6-1 Archive summary

Item	Count
Context indices	3
Context records	51
Drawing registers	1
Sample register	1
Sample records	2
Trench records	14
Permatrace sheets	1
Digital images	137

The recipient museum will be North Lincolnshire Museum Service, Oswald Rd, Scunthorpe, DN15 7BD.

The accession number is **GRIMS:2021.018.**



6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Network Archaeology would like to thank the following people and organisations for their assistance during the evaluation and the production of this report.

Table 7-1 Acknowledgements

Organisation	Name	Position	Contribution
Equans	Cliff Vivian	Client	
Northeast Lincolnshire County Council Heritage officer	Louise Jennings	Historic Environment Officer	Curatorial monitoring
	Mike Wood. BA (Hons) MLitt MCIfA	Snr Project Manager	Project management and report QA
	Kealy Manvell	Resources Manager	Logistics and preparation
Network Archaeology	Ruben Lopez	Trainee Project Manager	Fieldwork and Reporting
	Harvey Tesseyman	Geomatics Supervisor	Fieldwork and Figures
	Stuart Weston	Project Supervisor	Fieldwork
	Stephen Thorpe	Snr Project Officer	Reporting



7 REFERENCES

Table 8-1: Bibliography

Network Archaeology Ltd	2021	Land off Matthew Humberstone School, Cleethorpes Heritage Assessment	Unpublished client report
Wessex Archaeology	2020	Former Western School Cambridge Road, Grimsby Archaeological Desk-based Assessment	Unpublished client report 218080.01

Table 8-2: On-line sources

AHDS, undated	Digital Archives from Excavation and Fieldwork: Guide to Good Practice Second Edition	http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/goodguides/excavation/
British Geological Survey, undated	Geology of Britain viewer	http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html
CIfA	The Selection Toolkit for Archaeological Archives	http://cifa.heritech.net/selection-toolkit
Department for Communities and Local Government, undated	National Planning Policy Framework	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework2



APPENDIX A

OASIS Submission Form

Summary for networka2-504302

OASIS ID (UID)	networka2-504302
Project Name	Archaeological Intervention at Land off Matthew Humberstone School, Cleethorpes
Activity type	Archaeological Intervention, Evaluation, Trial Trench
Project Identifier(s)	LAND OFF MATTHEW HUMBERSTONE SCHOOL, CLEETHORPES Archive Report: Archaeological Trench Evaluation, NAL Report no.21008, GRIMS:2021.018.
Planning Id	
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Pre application
Organisation Responsible for work	Network Archaeology Ltd
Project Dates	13-Dec-2021 - 17-Dec-2021
Location	Land off Matthew Humberstone School, Cleethorpes
	NGR : TA 29348 08157
	LL: 53.5541099854401, -0.04893749451883
	12 Fig : 529348,408157
Administrative Areas	Country : England
	County : Lincolnshire
	District : North East Lincolnshire
	Parish: North East Lincolnshire, unparished area
Project Methodology	A total of fourteen 30m long by 1.8m wide trenches were excavated equating to 702m2 (approximately 3% of the PDA). All overburden (topsoil and subsoil) was removed using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket to either the first identified archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was reached first. Stripping was undertaken under the continuous supervision and control of the attending archaeologist in accordance with the methodologies laid out in the written scheme of investigation (Network Archaeology 2021b).
Project Results	The archaeology was exposed at c.0.35 meters below the topsoil and was located in the northeast corner of the PDA. The remaining trenches were devoid of archaeology. The evaluation identified a total of eight archaeological features in trenches 2, 3, 5 and 6, they were interpreted as agricultural activity, part of a rural landscape through the Roman, Middle Saxon, Medieval and Modern periods. Trench 2 exposed two ditches, one ditch dated to the Middle Saxon period and one undated. Trench 3 Also revealed two ditches, one Roman and one undated. Trench 5 contained two ditches, one Medieval and one Modern field boundary. Finally, Trench 6 revealed one Middle Saxon ditch as well as one undated ditch.The works did not identify any definite settlement related activity, the ditches likely associated with agricultural activity away from any focus of settlement activity.
Keywords	Field System - EARLY MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Field System - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Field System - MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Field Boundary - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
HER	North East Lincolnshire HER - unRev - STANDARD
HER Identifiers	THE PART CONTROL OF THE PART O
Archives	Physical Archive Decumentary Archive Digital Archive to be
	Physical Archive, Documentary Archive, Digital Archive - to be deposited with North East Lincolnshire Archives
	proposited with Hortin East Emodifishing Archives

APPENDIX B

Summary Table of Contexts

Trench		Context						
no.	Context	type	Interpretation	Filled by	Fill of	Cut by	Dimensions (m.)	Description
			-					Turf on Mid/dark brown silty sand, friable
001	001	Layer	Topsoil	-	-	-	T 0.15	with occasional stones
001	002	Layer	Natural	-	-	-	T 0.23	Boulder clay
								Turf on Mid/dark brown silty sand, firm with
002	021	Layer	Topsoil	-	-	-	T 0.25	occasional stones
		1.						
002	022	Layer	Natural	-	-	024, 026	T 0.15	Boulder clay with chalk inclusions
002	023	Fill	Fill of ditch	-	024	-	T 0.7	Firm Mid brown silt
								N-S oriented linear, steep sides and concave
002	024	Cut	Ditch	023	-	-	D 0.7	base
002	025	Fill	Fill of ditch		026	-	T 0.54	Firm dark brown silt
								NW-SE oriented linear, uneven steep sides to
002	026	Cut	Ditch	025			D 0.54	concave base
								Turf on Mid/dark brown silty sand, firm with
003	031	Layer	Topsoil	-	-	-	T 0.3	occasional stones
003	032	Layer	Subsoil			035, 037	T 0.1	Soft light orange brown clayey silt
003	032	Layer	Natural	_		033, 037	T 0.15	Boulder clay with chalk inclusions
003	033	Layer	Naturai		-		1 0.13	Boulder clay with chark inclusions
003	034	Fill	Fill of ditch	-	035	-	T 0.23	Compact greyish brown silt
								NW-SE oriented linear. steep straight sides to
003	035	Cut	Ditch	034		-	W 0.75 D 023	flat base
003	036	Fill	Fill of ditch	-	037		T 0.2	Compact dark brown silty clay
		_						NW-SE oriented linear, steep straight sides to
003	037	Cut	Ditch	036	-	-	W 1 D 0.2	flat base

Trench		Context						
no.	Context	type	Interpretation	Filled by	Fill of	Cut by	Dimensions (m.)	Description
			-					Turf on Mid/dark brown silty sand, friable
004	041	Layer	Topsoil	-	-	-	T 0.1	with occasional stones
004	042	Layer	Subsoil	-	-	-	T 0.25	Light brown clay
004	043	Layer	Natural	-	-	-	T 0.10	Boulder clay with chalk inclusions
								Turf on Mid/dark brown silty sand, friable
005	051	Layer	Topsoil	-	-	-	T 0.3	with occasional stones
005	052	Layer	Natural	_		054, 056	T 0.1	Boulder clay with chalk inclusions
003	032	Layer	Ivaturar	_	_	034, 030	1 0.1	Boulder clay with chark inclusions
			Fill of Modern					
			boundary					
005	053	Fill	ditch		054		T 0.65	Firm dark brown silt
			Boundary					NW-SE oriented linear, mod straight sides to
005	054	Cut	Ditch	053			W 1.6 D 0.65	flat base
005	055	Fill	Natural silting		065		T 0.41	Firm mid brown silt
								NW-SE oriented linear, steep straight sides to
005	056	Cut	Ditch	055			W 1.18 D 0.41	flat base
								Turf on Mid/dark brown silty sand, friable
006	061	Layer	Topsoil	-	-	-	T 0.3	with occasional stones
006	062	Layer	Subsoil	-	-	-	T 0.15	Aluvium
006	063	Natural	Natural			065, 067	T 0.1	Boulder clay with chalk inclusions
						·		·
006	064	Fill	Alluvial silting		065		T 0.7	Firm, mid greyish brown silt.
								NE-SW oriented linear, very steep straight
006	065	Cut	Bundary ditch	064			W 1.3 D 0.7	sides to concave base
006	066	Fill	Fill of ditch		067		T 0.52	Firm mid brownish grey silt
		_	Curvilinear					E-W oriented curvilinear, straight steep sides
006	067	Cut	ditch	066			W 1.12 D 0.52	to concave base
007	700		- "				T 0 25	Turf on Mid/dark brown silty sand, friable
007	700	Layer	Topsoil	-	-	-	T 0.25	with occasional stones
007	701	Layer	Natural	-	-	-	T 0.3	Glacial till

Trench		Context						
no.	Context	type	Interpretation	Filled by	Fill of	Cut by	Dimensions (m.)	Description
								Turf on Mid/dark brown silty sand, friable
800	081	Layer	Topsoil	-	-	-	T 0.2	with occasional stones
800	082	Layer	Make up	-	-	-	T 0.1	MId brown clayey silt
800	083	Layer	Make up	-	-	-	T 0.3	Dark brown clayey silt
800	084	Layer	Natural	-	-	-	T 0.2	Alluvium
								Turf on Mid/dark brown silty sand, friable
009	091	Layer	Topsoil	-	-	-	T 0.15	with occasional stones
009	092	Layer	Subsoil	-	-	-	T 0.10	Mid brown friable clay
009	093	Layer	Natural	-	-	-	T 0.25	MId brown clayey silt
								Turf on Mid/dark brown silty sand, friable
010	101	Layer	Topsoil	-	-	-	T 0.12	with occasional stones
010	102	Layer	Natural	-	-	-	T 0.37	Glacial till
								Turf on Mid/dark brown silty sand, friable
011	111	Layer	Topsoil	-	-	-	T 0.2	with occasional stones
011	112	Layer	Natural	-	-	-	T 0.34	Marine silt sediment
								Turf on Mid/dark brown silty sand, friable
012	120	Layer	Topsoil	-	-	-	T 0.18	with occasional stones
012	121	Layer	Natural	-	-	-	T 0.2	Glacial till
								Turf on Mid/dark brown silty sand, friable
013	130	Layer	Topsoil	-	-	-	T 0.20	with occasional stones
013	131	Layer	Natural	-	-	-	T 0.28	Glacial till
								Turf on Mid/dark brown silty sand, friable
014	141	Layer	Topsoil	-	-	-	T 0.22	with occasional stones
014	142	Layer	Subsoil	-	-	-	T 0.40	Marine silt sediment
014	143	Layer	Natural	-	-	-	T 0.14	Boulder clay

APPENDIX C Catalogue of Trench Specifications

Trench 1		THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE	Trend	ch 2		
Length	30m	The state of the s	Length	30m	ARGARA.	
Width	1.6m		Width	1.6m		
Max depth	0.38m		Max depth	0.40m		
Min depth			Min depth			
Easting 1			Easting 1			
Northing 1			Northing 1			
Easting 2			Easting 2			
Northing 2			Northing 2			
Archaeology	N		Archaeology	Υ	一种,不是一种,	
(Y/N)		CMH24	(Y/N)			
Finds (Y/N)	N	001	Finds (Y/N)	Υ	The state of the s	
Trencl	h 3		Trend	ch 4		
Length	30m	work A The	Length	30m		
Width	1.6m		Width	1.6m		
Max depth	0.5m		Max depth	0.35m		
Min depth		CAMBA 3	Min depth		Син24 В 04	
Easting 1			Easting 1			
Northing 1			Northing 1			
Easting 2			Easting 2			
Northing 2		The second second	Northing 2			
Archaeology	Υ	A STATE OF THE STA	Archaeology	N		
(Y/N)		and the second second	(Y/N)		A PARTY OF PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF THE PART	
Finds (Y/N)	Υ		Finds (Y/N)	N		

Trench 5					
Length	30m				
Width	1.6m				
Max depth	0.4m				
Min depth					
Easting 1					
Northing 1					
Easting 2					
Northing 2					
Archaeology	Υ				
(Y/N)					
Finds (Y/N)	Υ				



Trench 6					
Length	30m				
Width	1.6m				
Max depth	0.48m				
Min depth					
Easting 1					
Northing 1					
Easting 2					
Northing 2					
Archaeology	Υ				
(Y/N)					
Finds (Y/N)	Y				



Trench 7			Trench 8		
Length	30m		Length	30m	
Width	1.6m	A STATE OF THE STA	Width	1.6m	100
Max depth	0.55m		Max depth	0.8	
Min depth			Min depth		CAMIDA OR
Easting 1			Easting 1		
Northing 1			Northing 1		
Easting 2			Easting 2		
Northing 2			Northing 2		
Archaeology	N		Archaeology	N	
(Y/N)	.,	CMH24	(Y/N)		MANAGE AND THE STATE OF THE STA
Finds (Y/N)	N	007	Finds (Y/N)	N	
Trench 9		The wall may be a second	Trenc	h 10	WAYA AND THE COMMENT OF THE COMENT OF THE COMMENT OF THE COMMENT OF THE COMMENT OF THE COMMENT O
Length	30m	No. of the second	Length	30m	
Width	1.6m		Width	1.6m	
Max depth	0.5m		Max depth	0.46m	
Min depth		C1803	Min depth		
Easting 1			Easting 1		
Northing 1			Northing 1		
Easting 2			Easting 2		
Northing 2			Northing 2		A Commence of the second
Archaeology	N		Archaeology	N	CMH24
(Y/N)		The second secon	(Y/N)		01.0
Finds (Y/N)	N	-	Finds (Y/N)	N N	
Trench			Trenc	1	
Length	30m	Walley Control of the	Length	30m	
Width	1.6m		Width	1.6m	and the same
Max depth	0.54m		Max depth	0.38m	
Min depth			Min depth		
Easting 1			Easting 1		
Northing 1			Northing 1		
Easting 2			Easting 2		
Northing 2		- CMH24	Northing 2		
Archaeology	N	011	Archaeology	N	The Land of Contract of the Co
(Y/N) Finds (Y/N)	N		(Y/N) Finds (Y/N)	N	CMH24 012
Finas (Y/N)	IN		FINUS (Y/N)	IV	CONTRACTOR OF THE SECOND
Trench			Trench 14		
Length	30m		Length	30m	A STERNING
Width	1.6m		Width	1.6m	
Max depth	0.48m		Max depth	0.76m	
Min depth			Min depth		1/2 1/2
Easting 1			Easting 1		
Northing 1			Northing 1		
Easting 2			Easting 2		
Northing 2		A THE TAX AND A SECOND	Northing 2		CMH24
Archaeology	N	CMH24 013	Archaeology	N	014
(Y/N) Finds (Y/N)	N		(Y/N) Finds (Y/N)	N	Sept Marie Control of the Control of
111143 (1/14)	110		111103 (1/14)	IN	<u> </u>

APPENDIX D

Plates



Plate 1: Trench 2 northwest facing section of 024



Plate 2: Trench 2 northwest facing section of 026



Plate 3: Trench 3 northeast facing section of 035



Plate 4: Trench 3 northeast facing section of 037



Plate 5: Trench 6 west -west facing section of o65



Plate 6: Trench 6 east facing section of 067

APPENDIX E

Specialist Finds Reports:

Assessment of small finds

Adam Daubney PhD FSA

Discussion

Archaeological evaluation at land off Matthew Humberstone School, Cleethorpes, produced a single copper alloy pin of Middle Saxon date. This pin is complete and was discovered in fill (025) of ditch [026]. The head is globular with a slightly flattened upper hemisphere and a small collar directly below this. The shank is circular in section and has been bent in antiquity in order to grasp clothing or hair. The shank has a 180-degree bend halfway along its length in addition to another bend near the tip. The shank also has a slight swelling to it towards the tip. The pin dates to the seventh or eighth century. The pin is in a stable condition.

Recommendations

The pin is of a type often encountered on rural settlements of Middle Saxon date in the region. The pin falls into Rogers' Type 112 'Globular head, collar, shank swollen' (Rogers 2009, 49). No further work is recommended. The pin should be deposited with the appropriate museum as part of the archaeological archive of the site, and in accordance with the museums' guidelines for deposition.

Catalogue

Copper alloy pin. Context 025. Small Find Number 1. Flattened globular head with collar below. Shank of circular section, bent halfway along. Shaft swollen. Tip bent. Head diameter 9mm. Length 43mm. Shaft diameter 1.5mm. Weight 3.77g.

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The Post-Roman Pottery

Jane Young

INTRODUCTION

A small group of fourteen Post-Roman pottery sherds recovered from the site was examined for this report. The pottery ranges in date from the Middle Saxon to the medieval periods and represents seven vessels. The pottery was examined both visually and using a x20 binocular microscope, then catalogued by ware (common name) and fabric type using mnemonic codenames (Table 1) based on those used for the Lincoln Fabric Type Series (Young, Vince and Nailor 2005) and expanded for use in the County (available online as part of the Lincolnshire County website). The North and North East Lincolnshire (Boyle and Young 2008 revised Collyer 2018) and Lincolnshire County Type Series were consulted. The assemblage was quantified by four measures: number of sherds, vessel count, estimated rim equivalent (REVE) and weight. The resulting archive was entered onto an Access database (Appendix 1). Recording of the assemblage was in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski, et al. (2001) and the PCRG, SGRP, and MPRG guidelines (2016). Vessel forms were identified using the Medieval Pottery Research Group's guide to the classification of forms (MPRG 1998; 2001).

CONDITION

The middle Saxon pottery is in slightly abraded condition whilst the small medieval sherd is abraded. Individual recovered sherd size ranges from 2grams to 90grams, although all of the Saxon vessels were at least partially freshly broken during excavation. Each Saxon vessel has at least one freshly broken edge with no recovered joining sherds indicating that on deposition the sherd size would have been much greater.

THE RANGE AND VARIETY OF MATERIALS

A range of two post-Roman pottery ware types were identified; the type and general date range for these is shown in Table 1. The post-Roman pottery ranges in date from the Middle Saxon to medieval periods and comprises entirely of vessels made within Lincolnshire. A narrow range of vessel types was recovered. The presence of external soot residues and internal carbonised deposits suggest that these vessels have been used for cooking.

Table 1 Pottery types from the site with total quantities by sherd, vessel count and weight in grams

Codename	Full name	Earliest	Latest	Total	Total	REVE
		date	date	sherds	vessels	
MAX	Northern Maxey-type ware	680	870	13	6	0.08
MEDLOC	Local medieval fabrics	1180	1500	1	1	0
Totals				14	7	0.08%

Middle Saxon

Twelve sherds representing five vessels found in Trench 3 and a single small sherd recovered from Trench 2 are of Middle Saxon date. All the vessels are in shell-tempered Northern Maxey-type ware (MAX) although three fabrics are represented. None of the recovered vessels are in the common fabrics (see Young, Vince and Nailor 2005, 34-37 and Young and Vince 2009) found in North and North-east Lincolnshire (Fabrics A, B, C and E). Abundantly fossil shell-tempered, Northern Maxey-type ware, mainly appears to have been produced from outcrops of Jurassic clay on the eastern, dip, slope of the Lincolnshire Jurassic ridge and then tempered with a sand composed of shelly limestone, probably from the Great Oolite outcrop, although some fabrics may suggest other areas of production.

Two of the sherds recovered from ditch 065 (fill 064) in Trench 3 are in Fabric G, which although uncommon, is found in North Lincolnshire with a single example being recovered from Flixborough (Young and Vince 2009, 354) and sherds being found at Peaks Lane in Grimsby (Young 2009). The other vessels are in two fabrics designated CL1 and CL2 for the purposes of this report. The coarser of the fabrics found on this site (CL2) may relate to a coarse-shelled fabric designated Fabric ST at Stallingborough (Young 2011) whilst the finer fabric (CL1) may be similar to sherds found at Peaks Lane in Grimsby), (Boyle 2008 and Young 2009). There has been no opportunity to make a direct comparison within the scope of this report due to Covid restrictions.

Two of the vessels recovered from ditch 065 in Trench 3 and the single sherd found in fill 025 of ditch 026 in Trench 2 are in Fabric CL1. Two of the vessels can only be classified as jars or bowls but the rim sherd found in ditch 065 is from a large lugged jar (DR 1). The rim has been slightly finger flattened suggesting an earliest date in the second half of the 8th century and a potential latest date in the first quarter of the 9th century. Unfortunately there is not enough of the jar profile remaining to determine the shape of the vessel as this might have tightened the dating. There is enough of a rise on the rim to indicate the presence of a lug, most probably of upright type, but no indication of shape.

A single large flat-based jar or bowl with an internal carbonised deposit in Fabric CL2 was recovered from ditch 065. This fabric visually appears to be coarser than Fabric CL1, however this distinction may be due to more careful finishing masking the finer inclusions.

The absence of the early Maxey-type Fabrics A and U.1 does not in itself preclude an early 8th century date for any of the material, but the presence of a slightly flat-edged rim rather than the sharp-edged rims of the early to mid 8th century groups and the more clumsy manufacture of the Maxey-type vessels suggest a post mid-8th century date.

Medieval

A single abraded sherd recovered from fill 055 of ditch 056 in Trench 5 is from a small jug of potential 13th or 14th century date. The fine sandy fabric suggests a fairly local source.

DISCUSSION

This is a small assemblage, which provides us with an opportunity to look at the use of Middle Saxon pottery in Cleethorpes. Initial analysis suggests occupation in the vicinity of Trenches 2 and 6 between the mid 8th and early/mid 9th centuries. Overall the Saxon pottery recovered is in a fairly fresh to fresh condition suggesting the potential for a high degree of primary deposition. Groups of Middle Saxon pottery including Ipswich ware have previously been recovered from Peak's Lane in Grimsby roughly 3km away.

A single medieval sherd found in Trench 5 indicates medieval activity, although this may only represent manuring in the local fields.

One vessel should be drawn. Sherds from the two new designated fabrics have been added to the North/North-east Lincolnshire and County Fabric Type Series. The remaining collection should be kept for future study.

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trench	context	cname	full name	sub fabric	form type	sherds	vessels	weight	part	action	ref no	description	rim diameter	rim EVE
			Northern Maxey-type									fresh breaks no		
Trench 01	025	MAX	ware	Fabric CL1	jar/bowl	1	1	4	BS			joining sherds	0	0
												13th to		
												14th;abraded;abunda		
				OX/R fine								nt fine quartz below		
Trench 05	055	MEDLOC	Medieval local fabrics	sandy	small jug ?	1	1	2	BS			0.2mm	0	0
										County Fabric		flat base;reduced		
										Type Series;1		internal surface;fresh		
			Northern Maxey-type							sherd to North		break no joining		
Trench 06	064	MAX	ware	Fabric CL1	jar/bowl	7	1	66	base	Lincs Fabric		sherds	0	0
												slightly flattened		
			Northern Maxey-type		large lugged							rim;fresh break no		
Trench 06	064	MAX	ware	Fabric CL1	jar	1	1	27	rim		DR 01	joining frags	18	8
												flat base;int		
												carbonised		
										1 sherd to		deposit;ext soot		
										County Fabric		patches;int finger		
										Type Series;1		pressings from		
					·					sherd to North		manufacture;fresh		
			Northern Maxey-type		large					Lincs Fabric		breaks no joining		
Trench 06	064	MAX	ware	Fabric CL2	jar/bowl	2	1	95	base	Type Series		sherds	0	0
												slightly smoothed ext		
												surface;part reduced		
					·							int surface;fresh		
-	004		Northern Maxey-type		large			0.4				breaks no joining		
Trench 06	064	MAX	ware	Fabric G	jar/bowl	1	1	21	base			sherds	0	0
												small soot patch		
-	004		Northern Maxey-type	.	small							ext;fresh break no		•
Trench 06	064	MAX	ware	Fabric G	jar/bowl	1	1	2	BS			joining sherds	0	0

The Tile

JANE YOUNG

INTRODUCTION

A single fragment of Roman tile weighing 0.096 kgs was submitted for examination. The fragment was examined both visually and under x20 binocular microscope. The tile was recorded using locally and nationally agreed codenames. The resulting archive (Appendix 1) was then recorded on an Access database and complies with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski, *et al.* (2001), the Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group (2001) and the Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeological Handbook* (sections 13.4 and 13.5).

CONDITION

The tile is in a slightly abraded and stable condition with soot patches over the surfaces and part of the breaks. The original tile fragment would have been larger on deposition as it has been freshly broken during excavation with only this fragment being retained.

SITE SEQUENCE

A single fragment of tile recovered from fill 034 of ditch 035 in Trench 3 was presented for examination. The fragment is from the end of a Roman Imbrex near to the apex of the tile. The medium sandy fabric would be typical for the local area.

DISCUSSION

The recovered tile is of Roman date and probable local manufacture suggesting Roman occupation in the vicinity of Trench 3.

The tile should be retained for any future analysis of Roman ceramic building material in the area.

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site code	trench	context	cname	full name	fabric	frags	weight	description	thickness	date
CMH24	Trench 3	034	IMB	Imbrex	oxidised medium sandy	1	96	end towards apex;soot patches incl breaks;abundant round to subround quartz most 0.4- 0.6mm;fresh breaks no joining frags	12	Roman

Land off Matthew Humberstone School, Cleethorpes, Lincolnshire (CMH24). Animal bone assessment

Matilda Holmes.

Introduction

28 fragments of animal bones and teeth were recovered from ditches of middle Saxon date. 18 fragments could be identified to taxon. This report aims to characterise the zooarchaeology present at the site and assess the potential for understanding human-animal interactions in the past.

Methods

All bones and teeth were recorded, although for some elements a restricted count was employed to reduce fragmentation bias: vertebrae were recorded when the vertebral body was present, and maxilla, zygomatic arch and occipital areas of the skull were identified from skull fragments. A basic recording method was undertaken to assess the potential of the animal bone assemblage. The number of bones and teeth that could be identified to taxon were noted, as well as those used to age the major domesticates (tooth wear and bone fusion). The quantity of bones likely to be useful for metrical data were also recorded. Other information included condition and the incidence of burning, gnawing and butchery marks. All hand-collected fragments were recorded by context including those that could not be identified to taxon. Material from environmental samples was scanned and fragments that could be identified to taxon or group (bird, fish, micro-mammal or frog/ toad) were counted. Recording methods and analysis are based on guidelines from Baker and Worley (2014).

Summary of Findings

Bones were in good condition, with some butchery and gnawing providing evidence of processing and delayed burial. Cattle and sheep/ goat remains were most commonly recovered (Table 1), with individual finds of equid (horse or donkey) and domestic fowl. These are not unusual on sites of this date and there were no obvious deposits of primary butchery, craft-working or skin-processing waste.

Potential and Recommendations

This is a very small sample of animal bones and teeth and no further work is recommended.

Bibliography

Baker, P and Worley, F (2014). *Animal Bones and Archaeology: Guidelines for Best Practice.*

Portsmouth: English Heritage

Table 1: Su	ımmary data	a by context				
Context	Feature	Unidentified	Cattle	Sheep/ goat	Equid	Domestic fowl
34	Ditch 35	2	1			
66	Ditch 67	5	1		1	
64	Ditch 65	3	6	8		1

AN EVALUATION OF THE CHARRED PLANT MACROFOSSILS AND OTHER REMAINS FROM LAND OFF MATTHEW HUMBERSTONE SCHOOL, CLEETHORPES, NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE (CMH 24)

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Introduction and method statement

Evaluation excavations at Cleethorpes, undertaken by Network Archaeology, recorded a small number of features of Roman, Middle Saxon, medieval and later date. Two samples for the evaluation of the content and preservation of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from Trench 2 Middle Saxon ditch [24] (sample 21) and Trench 3 Roman ditch [34] (sample 31).

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Table 1. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (2010). All plant remains were charred. Modern roots were present within both assemblages but are not listed in the table.

The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and were sorted when dry. Animal bone and oyster shells were present within both assemblages and sample 31 also included small fragments of pottery.

Results

Charcoal/charred wood fragments are common/abundant within both assemblages, but other plant macrofossils are generally scarce. Oat (*Avena* sp.) awn fragments are recorded along with a wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grain, spelt wheat (*T. spelta*) glume bases and fragmentary indeterminate cereal grains. The latter are all severely puffed and distorted, probably as a result of very high temperature combustion. Weed seeds are absent. Other remains include fragments of black porous material (probably derived from the high temperature combustion of organic materials including cereal grains), small pieces of bone, eggshell, fish bone and marine mollusc shell (oyster and mussel) and mineralised faecal residues. Small pieces of coal (coal 'dust') are also common, but

it is currently unclear whether this material is contemporary with the features from which the samples were taken, or a later contaminant.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In summary, both assemblages are limited in composition, but both also include materials of potential note. Sample 31 is largely typical of material of Roman date and probably comprises a mixed refuse deposit including domestic detritus and animal or human ordure. The assemblage from Middle Saxon ditch [24] is sparse, but the presence of spelt glume bases is possibly of note, largely because if contemporary, this would represent a late occurrence of spelt wheat with eastern England. It is possible that the material may be residual from underlying or nearby Roman features, but this hypothesis is currently unclear.

Although charred material is scarce within the current assemblages, it is now clear that plant macrofossils are present within the archaeological horizon in this area of Cleethorpes. As these remains have the potential to provide data about both Roman and Post-Roman activities occurring within the area, it is suggested that additional samples should be taken if further work is anticipated, especially as the existing data set for the area is somewhat limited.

Reference

Stace, C., 2010

New Flora of the British Isles. 3rd edition. Cambridge University Press

Key to Table

x = 1 - 10 specimens xx = 11 - 50 specimens xxx = 51 - 100 specimens xxxx = 100 + specimens xxx = 100 + specimens xx = 100 + speci

M.Sax = Middle Saxon Rom = Roman

Sample No.	21	31
Context No.	25	34
Feature No.	24	35
Feature type	Ditch	Ditch
Trench	T2	T3
Date	M.Sax.	Rom.
Cereals		
Avena sp. (awn frags.)	х	х
Triticum sp. (grain)		х
(glume bases)		х
(spikelet bases)	Х	
T. spelta L. (glume bases)	х	х
Cereal indet. (grains)		xxfg
Other plant macrofossils		
Charcoal <2mm	XXX	xxxx
Charcoal >2mm	xx	xxx
Charcoal >5mm	х	х
Charcoal >10mm	х	х
Charred root/stem		х
Other remains		
Black porous material	XXX	XX
Bone	х	x xb
Burnt/fired clay		х
Eggshell		х
Fish bone		х
Marine mollusc shell	Х	XX
Mineralised faecal material		Х
Small coal frags.	xxxx	XX
Small mammal/amphibian bones		х
Vitreous material	Х	
Sample volume (litres)	8	19
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	<0.1
% flot sorted	100%	100%

Table 1: Environmental samples

APPENDIX F

Figures













