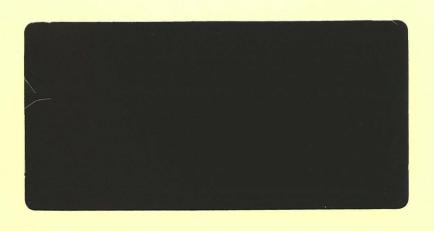
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON LAND ADJACENT AT
SPRINGFIELDS,
CAMEL GATE,
SPALDING,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SCG99)



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON LAND ADJACENT AT
SPRINGFIELDS,
CAMEL GATE,
SPALDING,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SCG99)

Work Undertaken For South Lines Construction Ltd

April 2000

Report Compiled by Gary Taylor BA (Hons), MA

Planning Application No: H16/0153/99 National Grid Reference: TF 2634 2414 City and County Museum Accession No: 119.99

A.P.S. Report No. 57/00



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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was during development undertaken Springfields, Camel Gate. Spalding, Lincolnshire. The site lay within the area of the medieval hamlet of Fulney. Pottery of Late Saxon and medieval date (10th-14th century) has previously been found on and in the immediate vicinity of the site. Additionally, evidence of a settlement of early Roman date (1st-2nd century AD) has been identified just to the east, buried by natural silts to 1m depth.

However, the development groundworks were shallow, to a maximum of 0.4m deep, and only disturbed modern and natural deposits were encountered. No archaeological remains were identified and no artefacts were recovered during the investigation.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as 'a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons within a specified area,..., where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed,' (IFA 1997).

2.2 Planning Background

A watching brief was undertaken on 22nd and 23rd April 1999 during the excavations of foundation trenches for the construction of a snooker hall and office extension at Springfields, Camel Gate, Spalding, Lincolnshire. Approval for development was sought through the planning application submission of H16/0153/99 to South Holland District Council. Permission was granted subject to a standard condition for archaeological recording.

The archaeological recording was commissioned by South Lincs Construction Ltd and carried out by Archaeological Project Services in accordance with a specification accepted by the Archaeological Officer for Lincolnshire County Council (Appendix 1).

2.3 Topography and Geology

Spalding is located within the fens of south Lincolnshire and lies approximately 22km southwest of Boston and 30km southeast of Sleaford in the administrative district of South Holland (Fig. 1). The development area is on the Springfields site which is located approximately 2km northeast of Spalding town centre on the west side of the A16 Spalding bypass and north of the A151 Holbeach Road at national grid reference TF 2634 2414 (Fig. 2). The development area is adjacent to existing buildings (Plate 1) in the northwestern part of the Springfields site, east of Camel Gate (Figs. 2 and 3).

Just to the west of the site is the Coronation Channel artificial watercourse. About 600m to the west is the River Welland. The development site lies at about 4m OD on fairly flat and level land.

Soils at the site are Wallasea 2 Association pelo-alluvial gleys with, immediately to the west, Wisbech Association, calcareous alluvial gleys (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 338, 361). Both soils are developed on marine alluvium which overlies a solid geology of Oxford Clay (BGS 1992).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Little evidence of prehistoric activity has been discovered in the Spalding area as it is believed that the prehistoric land surfaces are now deeply buried by alluvial silts. However, occasional casual finds of prehistoric date have been reported.

For the Roman period evidence is also around although cropmarks sparse, Spalding reveal a number of roads, including the Baston Outgang, centring on the town. This could suggest the presence of a nucleated Romano-British settlement. such as a small town, in the area. Previous investigations just to the east of the present development site revealed remains of early Roman date, perhaps a small settlement. These remains were buried about 1m below the present ground surface by later flood silts (Miller 1998). Although of early Roman date some of the pottery from the site was in an Iron Age tradition, and there was possible late Iron Age fragments amongst the ceramics (Elsdon and Cope-Faulkner 1998).

Very little Saxon activity has been identified in Spalding though it is believed that the town was an important centre in the Saxon period. The name Spalding is derived from the Old English group name, *Spaldingas* 'the people of the Spalde'. *Spalde* is the name of a tribe, recorded in the 7th/8th century tribute list known as the Tribal Hideage (Cameron 1998). It has also been documented that although Spalding is believed to be of Saxon origin there are numerous street-names of Danish derivation (Hallam 1954, 8).

Spalding is documented in the Domesday Book of 1086 and was by this time an important centre having a priory, castle, market as well as resources such as fisheries and salt-pans (Foster and Longley 1976). However, the development site lies to the east of the town in the area of Fulney hamlet.

Fulney is first referred to, indirectly, in

1189 when Ælfric de Fulney is mentioned amongst those that invaded the lands of Crowland Abbey (Hallam 1954, 31). By 1307 there was a track called *Fulneydrove* and a drain named *Fulney Gote* (Wheeler 1896, 103; app. 1.16). A chapel is recorded as existing in Fulney in 1486 (Marrat 1814, 275).

Large quantities of pottery of Late Saxon and medieval date have been identified as surface scatters during previous investigations on the site and in the vicinity. These artefact spreads are generally thought to derive from the Fulney hamlet, and also to suggest an earlier origin for the settlement than indicated by documentary sources (Cope-Faulkner 1998).

Fulney Hall, a little west of the development site, was long associated with the Gamlyn family. This family took their name from a diminutive 'ling' as they were descended from a younger member of the Camel family. These were an important family in Spalding in the 13th century and their name survives in Camel Gate, adjacent to the site (Gooch 1940, 580).

In his will dated 27th January 1616, Thomas Wimberley of Ayscoughfee Hall, Spalding, bequeathed land in 'Camellgate' to his wife (LAO LCC Wills 1616/53).

An indenture of 1720 in respect of Fulney Hall noted a field of 12 acres (5ha) of pasture called 'Pot Sheards'. This may indicate that a significant artefact scatter was evident in the early 18th century. In addition, the indenture detailed buildings, dovecotes, barns, stables and outhouses (LAO Misc Dep 74/4/5).

3. AIMS

The aim of the archaeological

investigation, as detailed in the specification (Appendix 1), was to ensure that any archaeological features exposed during the development works should be recorded and, if present, to determine their date, function and origin.

4. METHODS

The footings for the development were opened predominantly by mechanical excavator. A limited amount of manual excavation also took place in areas where it was impractical to use a machine. Excavation of a number of tree stumps was also undertaken by machine in the northern part of the site.

All exposed surfaces and trench sides were examined and where necessary cleaned. Each archaeological deposit or feature revealed within the trench was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A photographic record was compiled and a representative section was drawn at a scale of 1:10 and a sketch plan prepared.

Records of the deposits and features recognised during the investigation were examined. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them. A stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced.

5. RESULTS

Two phases were identified:

Phase 1 Natural deposits
Phase 2 Modern deposits

Archaeological contexts are listed below

and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

Phase 1 Natural Deposits

A layer of light orange-brown clayey silt (002) was recorded in the lower parts of the construction trenches (Fig. 4) and was also observed during removal of tree stumps. Interpreted as subsoil, this deposit was encountered approximately 200mm below the present ground surface and was at least 170mm thick, to the limit of excavation in the southern part of the development site.

The upper part of this subsoil has been extensively disturbed by tree roots and impacted by recent material at the interface with the overlying deposit (001).

Phase 2 Modern Deposits

Overlying the natural subsoil was a deposit of dark grey-brown clayey silt mixed with modern debris (001). This topsoil deposit was c. 0.2m thick and formed the site surface prior to development. Manholes were observed on the west side of the site (Plate 2) and the southern part of the development area had been extensively disturbed by modern services. A recent pipe was also noted on the west side of the site (Fig. 3). No artefacts were recovered during the investigation.

6. DISCUSSION

A subsoil (phase 1) was revealed across the area. This may be natural in origin or formed by agricultural processes. This silt subsoil was undated though previous investigations in the vicinity would suggest that the deposit is post-Roman in origin. Excavations approximately 300m to the east revealed Late Iron Age-early Roman remains approximately 1m below the

ground surface, sealed by a sequence of natural silts and subsoil (Miller 1998). The ground surface across the area is broadly equivalent and subsoil encountered in the present investigation was revealed at only 0.2m depth. It is likely, therefore, that this deposit corresponds with the subsoil or one of the later silts in the post-Roman sequence revealed to the east.

Modern deposits (phase 2) consisted of topsoil and services. Bricks and other recent debris was observed in the topsoil but not retained. These materials were noted intruding into the surface of the underlying subsoil. This would suggest that the site had previously been stripped down to the surface of the natural silt subsoil and that the present topsoil is an imported, dumped deposit. This postulated site stripping probably occurred during previous development at the Springfields site.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Camel Gate, Spalding, because medieval and Roman remains had previously been found on and in the immediate vicinity of the site.

However, only recent and natural deposits were encountered and no archaeological remains were revealed, nor artefacts recovered. It is possible that the site has been stripped in the relatively recent past, which may account for the lack of any medieval or post-medieval remains. The depth of excavations was too shallow to affect any earlier, Roman or prehistoric, remains similar to those previously found in the vicinity.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr M. Senior of South Lincs Construction Ltd who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The co-operation of Mr Goodyear (site foreman) is also gratefully acknowledged. The work was co-ordinated by Gary Taylor and this report edited by Tom Lane. Access to the County Sites and Monuments Record was kindly provided by Mark Bennet and Sarah Grundy of the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council. Thanks are also due to the staff of Lincolnshire Archives Office.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor

Supervisor: David Fell Illustration: Phil Mills

Photographic Processing: Sue Unsworth Post-excavation Analyst: Gary Taylor

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Will, 1616 *Will of Thomas Wimberley*, LAO LCC Wills 1616/53

11. ABBREVIATION

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

LAO Lincolnshire Archives Office

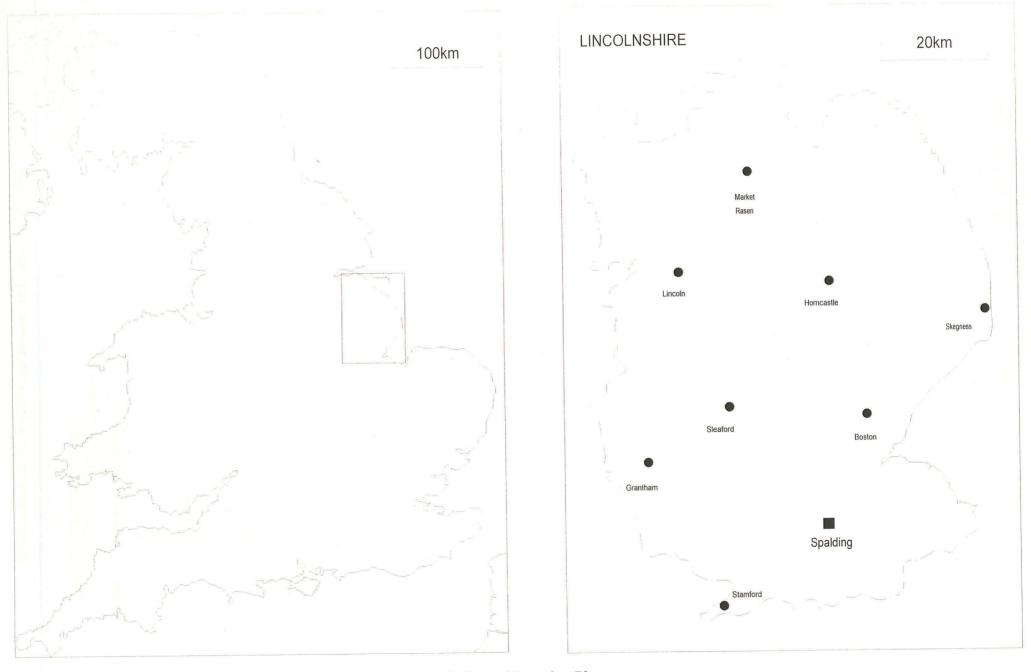


Figure 1 General Location Plan

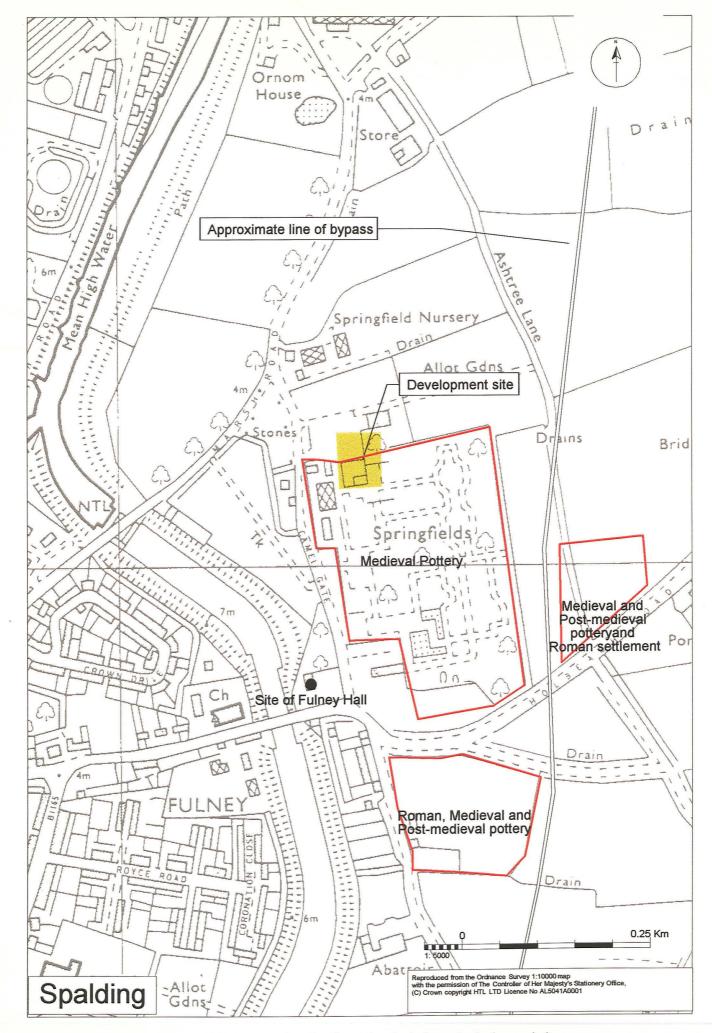


Figure 2 Site location plan, showing archaeological remains in the proximity

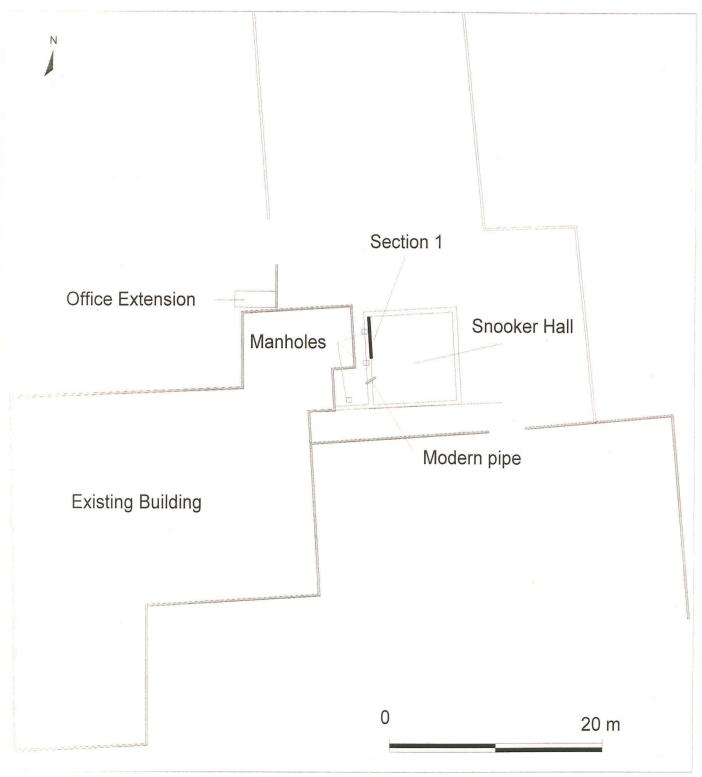


Figure 3 Plan of the development area, showing section location

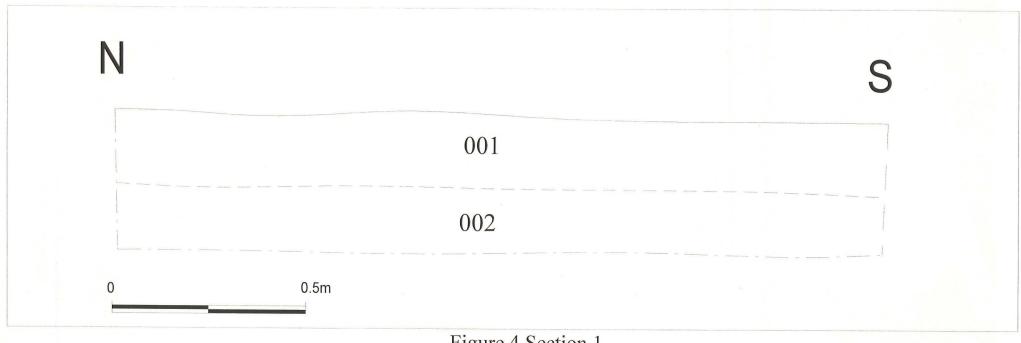


Figure 4 Section 1



Plate 1 General site view, looking southwest



Plate 2 Western trench of development showing manholes, looking south

Appendix 1

LAND AT SPRINGFIELDS, CAMEL GATE, SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE

SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

PREPARED FOR SOUTH LINCS CONSTRUCTION LTD

BY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES
Institute of Field Archaeologists'
Registered Organisation No. 21

APRIL 1999

Planning Application No: H16/0153/99

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SUMMARY

- 1.1 A watching brief is required during development at Springfields, Camel Gate, Saplding, Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 Previous investigations at the site recovered Late Saxon and medieval pottery from the field surface. Similar material has been found on land just to the south and east. Trial trenches a little to the east revealed Early Roman remains at depth.
- 1.3 The watching brief will be undertaken during groundworks associated with the development. Specifically, this involves the stripping of topsoil to permit the laying of a concrete foundation slab. The archaeological features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.
- 1.4 On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the findings of the investigation. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for an archaeological watching brief during development of land alongside at Springfields, Spalding.
- 2.2 This document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview.
 - 2.2.2 Stages of work and methodologies.
 - 2.2.3 List of specialists.
 - 2.2.4 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project.

3 SITE LOCATION

3.1 Spalding is located approximately 22km southwest of Boston in the fens of south Lincolnshire. The site is located on land to the east of Spalding town centre, on the west side of the A16 Spalding bypass at its junction with the A151 Holbeach Road. The investigation site is located at national grid references TF 264 240.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 A planning application (H16/0153/99) has been submitted to South Holland District Council for the construction of a snooker hall and office extension. on land adjacent to the A16 Spalding bypass. Permission has been granted subject

to a requirement for an archaeological watching brief at the site, to be carried out in accordance with a scheme of works submitted to and approved by the local planning authority. This document provides such a scheme of works.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 Spalding is situated in the fens of south Lincolnshire. The site and surrounding area is on fairly flat and level land and lies at approximately 3m OD. Soils at the site are Wallasea 2 Association pelo-alluvial gleys with, immediately to the west, Wisbech Association calcareous alluvial gleys. Both soils are developed on marine alluvium (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 338; 361).

6 THE ARCHAEOLOGY

- 6.1 Moderately large quantities of pottery of Late Saxon and medieval date has previously been recovered on the Springfield site, and the field just to the south. Much of this material is Saxo-Norman in date (10th-12th centuries AD) and the two separate collections are very similar in composition. The medieval aspects of the assemblages are smaller in quantity and noticeably later, dating mainly from the 15th-17th centuries. The Saxo-Norman material, in particular, may signify that settlement of that period is located in the proximity. Additionally, a small number of worn Roman pottery sherds have been found on the field to the south.
- 6.2 Fieldwalking on land on the east side of the A16, immediately opposite the Springfield site, recovered a large quantity of medieval and early post-medieval pottery and a small but noticeable concentration of Late Saxon pottery in the western part of that area, nearest to the Springfield site (Cope-Faulkner 1998, 6).
- 6.3 Trial excavation on the land immediately east of the Springfield site identified well-preserved remains of early Roman date at depth, sealed beneath later alluvium. Certain of these remains contained peaty deposits, indicated the possibility for the survival of waterlogged environmental remains (Miller 1998, 7).

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the watching brief will be:
 - 7.1.1 To record and interpret any archaeological remains exposed during the groundworks.
- 7.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:
 - 7.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological remains

encountered;

- 7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological remains encountered;
- 7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological remains, and
- 7.2.4 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.
- 7.2.5 Relate any archaeological remains revealed to those previously identified at the site.

8 SITE OPERATIONS

8.1 General considerations

- 8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the watching brief.
- 8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA). Archaeological Project Services is an IFA registered archaeological organisation (no. 21), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA).
- 8.1.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

8.2 Methodology

- 8.2.1 The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.
- 8.2.2 Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.
- 8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.

- 8.2.4 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record consisting of colour prints will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
 - 8.2.4.1 The site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
 - 8.2.4.2 groups of features where their relationship is important
- 8.2.5 Should human remains be located the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department and the police will be informed.

9 POST-EXCAVATION

9.1 <u>Stage 1</u>

- 9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued: the colour prints will be labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
- 9.1.2 All finds recovered during the field work will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

9.2 Stage 2

- 9.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.
- 9.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

9.3 Stage 3

- 9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.
- 9.3.2 This will consist of:
 - 9.3.2.1 A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.

9.3.2.2	A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.
9.3.2.3	Description of the topography of the site.
9.3.2.4	Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.
9.3.2.5	A text describing the findings of the watching brief.
9.3.2.6	A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.
9.3.2.7	Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
9.3.2.8	Sections of the archaeological features.
9.3.2.9	Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
9.3.2.10	Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
9.3.2.11	Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10 REPORT DEPOSITION

10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the client; the County Sites and Monuments Record; and South Holland District Council Planning Department.

11 ARCHIVE

11.1 The documentation and records generated during the watching brief will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the City and County Museum, Lincoln. This will be undertaken following the requirements of the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives* for long term storage and curation.

12 **PUBLICATION**

12.1 A report of the findings of the watching brief will be published in Heritage Lincolnshire's Annual Report and a note presented to the editor of the journal of the Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology. If appropriate, notes on

the findings will be submitted to the appropriate national journals: *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date, and *Medieval Archaeology* and the journal of the *Medieval Settlement Research Group* for findings of medieval or later date.

13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Assistant Archaeology Officer, Lincolnshire County Council. They will be given as much notice as possible, ideally seven days, in writing before the commencement of the project.

14 VARIATIONS

14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from Assistant Archaeology Officer, Lincolnshire County Council.

15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- The watching brief will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the archaeological site work.
- 15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- 15.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one man-day) will require a post-excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half man-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about six days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

16 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

16.1 The following organisations/persons will, in principal and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

Task

Body to be undertaking the work

Conservation

Conservation Laboratory, City and County

Museum, Lincoln

Pottery Analysis Prehistoric Pottery - Trent & Peak

Archaeological Trust

Roman - B Precious, independent specialist Saxon - J Young, independent specialist

Medieval and later - Hilary Healey, independent

archaeologist

Non-pottery Artefacts J Cowgill, independent specialist

Animal Bones Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

Human Remains Analysis R Gowland, independent specialist

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APPENDIX 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No	Description	Interpretation
001	Dark grey-brown clay silt with abundant stones, moderate charcoal, moderate roots and moderate brick fragments, <i>c</i> . 0.2m thick	Topsoil
002	Light orange-brown clayey silt, over 0.17m thick	Subsoil

Appendix 3

GLOSSARY

Alluvium Deposits laid down by water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea while freshwater alluvium is laid down in rivers, lakes, *etc*.

Context

Cropmark

Iron Age

Late Saxon

Layer

Medieval

Natural

Old English

Prehistoric

Saxon

Romano-British

An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, *e.g.* (004).

A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological or geological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.

The final part of the prehistoric period (q.v.) in Britain, dating from c.700 BC to AD 50. The period is characterised by the introduction and use of iron for tools and weapons, the development of coinage and the construction of hillforts.

The latter part of the Saxon period (q.v.), up to the time of the Norman conquest. The period dates from approximately AD 850-1066.

A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.

The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.

Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.

The language used by the Saxon (q.v.) occupants of Britain.

The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.

Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when Britain was occupied by peoples from northern Germany, Denmark and adjacent areas. The period dates from approximately AD 450-1066.

Appendix 4

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 2 Context records
- 1 Photographic record sheet
- 1 Sketch drawing
- 1 Scale drawing
- 1 Stratigraphic matrix

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services The Old School Cameron Street Heckington Sleaford Lincolnshire NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Lincolnshire City and County Museum 12 Friars Lane Lincoln LN2 1HQ

The archive will be deposited in accordance with the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives*, produced by the Lincolnshire City and County Museum.

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number: 119.99

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: SCG99

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright*, *Designs and Patents Act* 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.