Archaeology in Lincolnshire 1998

Edited by Naomi Field and Ian George

The notes below cover archaeological work carried out by archaeological units largely as a result of development controlled by the planning system. All the work was undertaken during the period from 1 April 1997 to 31 March 1998 and was an obligation enforced through the planning process placed upon developers. The majority of archaeological work carried out in Lincolnshire is funded by developers and their input is duly acknowledged. The relationship between archaeologists and developers has not always been a happy one. Nevertheless, an increasing number of developers are taking an interest in the process of archaeology and are seeing a value in it. By sharing the results of this work with the public through this publication the interested resident can at last find out some of what was going on behind those hordings in their town or village.

The editors are aware that the work listed below does not reflect all the archaeological work undertaken in that period and this will be addressed in the next volume of this journal. Full reports of this archaeological work have been deposited with the appropriate Sites and Monuments Record and they are available for consultation.

Abbreviations

AOC Archaeological Unit
APS Archaeological Project Services
CLAU City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit
GSP Geophysical Surveys of Bradford
JSAC John Sambels Archaeological Consultants
LASC Lincoln Archaeological Services
LCNCC Lincoln City and County Museum
LNM North Lincolnshire Museum
OA Oxford Archaeological
PCA Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln)
SMR Sites and Monuments Record

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Baston: Cross Drain, TF 1453 1581, SMR No.34999

Following an evaluation which revealed Bronze Age remains (see LHA 32 (1997) pp.65-66), a watching brief was carried out by staff of APS at Baston. Discrete areas of postholes and hearths, probably representing the locations of timber buildings, were identified. Associated with these buildings were pits containing cattle bone and Bronze Age pottery and flints, including waste flakes and a partly worked blade, indicating tool production occurred at the site. Approximately 200 metres to the north of these occupation remains was an apparently rectangular ditched enclosure at least 35m by 25m in extent. No occupation remains other than two small surface fires and a limited quantity of butchered cattle bone were revealed, suggesting that this enclosure probably functioned as a field associated with the Bronze Age settlement.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.136.96

Bicker: Red Lion Street, TF 225 375, SMR Nos 13321, 13323

Development in the medieval core of Bicker was monitored, by GTh of APS. Evidence of medieval salt making had previously been identified nearby. Several pits, gullies, postholes and a clay-lined hearth were revealed and, although most of these were undated, one of the pits, a refuse dump of shellfish, contained fourteenth-century pottery. In addition to these medieval remains, several boundary ditches, brick-lined wells and a pair of pits, all of post-medieval date, were revealed.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.88.97

Billingborough: Chapel Street, TF 118 342, SMR no. pending

Development near to the thirteenth-century parish church in the medieval core of Billingborough was the subject of a watching brief, carried out by FW of APS. Several undated pits were revealed. These were deeply buried and are probably no later than the early post-medieval period. A possible natural watercourse and a limited number of nineteenth- and twentieth-century artefacts were recovered.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.297.97

Billinghay-North Kyme: water pipeline, TF 148 548 to TF 157 548, SMR no. pending

Installation of a water pipeline alongside the Car Dyke Roman waterway between North Kyme and Billinghay was the subject of a watching brief, undertaken by staff of APS. A ditch or channel was revealed near North Kyme and may be associated with the adjacent Car Dyke. Worked timber recovered from the ditch edge suggested that a bridge may have run alongside it. Although undated, the ditch was sealed by soil layers that were, in turn, covered by the modern road. The road was shown on its present course on Armstrong’s map of 1778 therefore the ditch is earlier than this date.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.55.98

Billinghay: The Whyche/Church Street, TF 154 550, SMR No.6810

A water pipeline passing near to a Roman cemetery at The Whyche, on the west side of Billinghay, and also by the thirteenth-century church in the medieval core of the village, was subject to monitoring by staff of APS. A pit and gully, both undated, were revealed, in addition to several modern services trenches.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.178.97

Boston: South Square, TF 3274 4380, SMR no. pending

A field evaluation and follow-on excavation took place on the site of the former Johnson’s Warehouse in April and July 1997, respectively. Two evaluation trenches identified a sequence of deposits dating from the late twelfth century, incorporating timber and stone building remains and well preserved organic deposits. In one trench, the overlapping remains of at least six timber building phases were identified in the form of post pits and holes (occasionally with post bases in situ) and linear slots. Purpose-laid floors were not identified, although internal occupation deposits were substantial and included hearth bases and partition features. It is suggested that the building components related to structures fronting South Square itself, and that these buildings extended westwards to the edge of the river Witham. The excavation trench may have been sited within a workshop/storage area, close to the rear of properties dating between the early thirteenth and later fourteenth centuries. Temporary abandonment of the site in the fifteenth century may have resulted from the general economic decline known to have prevailed at this time, although there was some evidence to suggest a significant breakdown in water management. This may have been encouraged by the decline of the sluice built by Alan de Coon in 1142, known to have been in decline by 1315. Seed remains included fig and grape, and exotic pottery forms included imports from France, Germany and from as far afield as Damascus. The excavation was supervised by SJ of PCA on behalf of Mr A. Chung.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.80.97

Boston: Boston Grammar School, TF 3301 4374, SMR Nos 12650, 13452, 13453

In the spring and summer of 1997, an archaeological watching brief took place during the construction of a new music and arts block. These works constituted the mitigation strategy devised following the evaluation of the site in 1996, and incorporated the use of a sympathetic foundation design. The evaluation had demonstrated that the site lay within the former Francisca friary cemetery, and that the
cemetery remains were over in situ Romano-British industrial deposits. The watching brief resulted in the exposure of ten inhumation burials, comprising men, women and children. Clearly, this part of the cemetery was not exclusively used to bury monks, and it is possible that the burials were of members of the Harseatic League (which had close connections with the Franciscan friars). The watching brief was carried out by RS for PCA on behalf of Boston Grammar School.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.102.96

Boston: Wide Bargate, TF 331 443, SMR Nos 13475, 13476
An evaluation, supervised by FW of APS, was undertaken to assess the implications of proposed development in Wide Bargate, Boston. Research indicated that the site lay outside the medieval boundary of the town (as defined by the Burditch), medieval and later remains, including livestock and ditch areas, were located in the vicinity and that these archaeological remains were deeply stratified and waterlogged. Subsequent trial excavations largely confirmed the results of the research. Medieval pits and ditches occurred up to 2.5m below the present ground level and the animal remains reflected the local livestock management, with some evidence for bone working. Additionally, there was evidence that the casting of copper alloy objects, possibly cannon, had occurred in the immediate vicinity of the site in the sixteenth century. Perhaps related to the Civil War, this apparent cannon production was represented by fragments of clay mould used in the casting process, together with copper alloy slag. No evidence of any furnace related to this process was revealed. The clay mould deposits extended beyond the trench limits.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.31.97

Bourne: Bedehouse Bank, TF 104 198, SMR no. pending
Due to the proximity of the Car Dyke, and because previous investigations immediately to the south (see LHA 32 (1997), pp.46-47) had identified a large ditch that may be the original course of the Roman waterway, a watching brief was undertaken by FW of APS during development on the south-east side of Bourne. A ditch of uncertain dimensions, but clearly large, crossed the area from north-east to south-west. The ditch itself was undated but abundant dumped artefacts indicated that the latter stages of infilling the feature had occurred in the seventeenth to early eighteenth century. Moreover, mollusc shell recovered from some of these later fills indicated that the ditch still held freshwater at that time. This ditch, and that previously identified immediately to the south, are almost certainly parts of the same feature. This latest information enhances the evidence previously obtained and strengthens the earlier suggestion that the ditch identified in these two watching briefs may represent the original course of the Car Dyke waterway.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.38.97

Bourne: 15a Potters Close, TF 1035 1993, SMR no. pending
Following an evaluation at the site which recovered near complete post-medieval jugs (see LHA 32 (1997), p.47), development in the medieval and later pottery making area of Bourne was subject to a watching brief by FW of APS. An east-west double-ditched boundary of probable fourteenth-century date was identified, but remains of artefacts of the medieval period were not abundant suggesting that the area was peripheral to settlement at that period. These medieval remains were partially covered by what appeared to be a flood silt. Re-occupation of the area probably occurred in the sixteenth century. Dumps of burnt soils, charcoal, ash, overfired pottery and brick indicated that pottery production had occurred in the vicinity, supporting the earlier evaluation results, with Bourne D ware pottery confirmed as the product. In addition, several post-medieval and recent ditches and pits were identified.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.150.96

Bourne: Spalding Road Industrial Estate, TF 104 194, SMR Nos 35054, 35055
A proposal to develop in the known medieval and later pottery production area of Bourne was addressed by an evaluation supervised by NH of APS. The investigation confirmed previous discoveries in the vicinity, revealing a large pit filled with fragmented pottery, much of it overfired and distorted kiln waste. Sealing the medieval remains were silts which indicated that flooding had apparently terminated the industry. However, pottery manufacture was re-established at the site in the sixteenth century and a working floor and clay preparation pit were identified. Archaeologically, the pottery industry ceased in the seventeenth century and this accords with documentary evidence of a major fire that destroyed the Eastgate potteries in 1637.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.303.97

Bourne: Tunnel Bank, TF 105 201, SMR Nos 35118 to 35121
Staff of APS maintained a watching brief during excavation of a water pipe trench near to previous discoveries of prehistoric pottery south of Bourne. Several undated but clearly ancient ditches or, possibly, natural stream channels were revealed. These are possibly related to Iron Age remains identified to the south, and were buried by peats and soils. Additionally, medieval and later artefacts occurred in localised concentration and may indicate the presence of otherwise unknown habitation during this time.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.248.97

Bourne-West Pinchbeck: pipeline, TF 158 225 to TF 165 227, SMR no. pending
A programme of research and field investigation was undertaken by staff of APS to assess the archaeological implications of pipeline construction near Bourne. A desk-based study indicated that Neolithic and Bronze Age sites were concentrated at the northern and southern ends of the pipeline route. Additionally, the study indicated that Roman remains were much more widespread, with several settlements known along the pipeline course, which would also cross a possible Roman waterway, the Bourne-Morton canal. Subsequent field reconnaissance and excavations, supervised by FW, identified this possible canal and also a Roman settlement, probably a farmstead. The settlement was located within an apparently rectangular enclosure, of which only one corner was revealed, and the enclosure may be attached to a long linear ditch in 'clothes-line' fashion. Artefacts from the enclosure indicated the settlement dated from the first to third centuries AD. Though some prehistoric pottery and flints suggest earlier activity in the area, Environmental investigation indicated that the Roman settlement had been located in fenland, with some of the enclosure ditches holding water. The economic basis of this small settlement was established on a mixed agricultural regime with wheat and barley cultivation and sheep and cattle rearing, supplemented by the hunting of deer and fox.

Fig.1. Remains of an elderly woman who had suffered a stab wound, found during work on the Bourne to West Pinchbeck pipeline.
Within one of the ditches in the enclosure was the skeleton of an elderly woman (Fig.1). Still wearing a copper alloy bangle on her wrist, this individual had suffered a stabbing wound to the head and was possibly a murder victim. Above the body was a dump of iron slag, demonstrating that smithing had occurred at the site. Hammerscale was also plentiful, and some of it unusually large, suggesting that fire welding was one of the processes undertaken. The quantity of these residues appears to signify a extended period of smithing activity. Moreover, the industrial process had, at least in part, been fuelled by coal which was found in the smithing waste.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn nos 162.97, 167.97 and 168.97

Brant Broughton: Church Lane, SK 916 540, SMR Nos 60781, 60782

FW of APS monitored development near the medieval core of Brant Broughton. Several undated pits, ditches and a posthole were revealed beneath a medieval soil layer.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.224.97

Caistor: Caistor Grammar School, Church Street, TA 1664 0132, SMR Nos 54186, 54246

A recording brief was carried out by NF and MM of LAS on behalf of Caistor Grammar School during excavation of the foundation trench for the new west gable at Castleby House. It revealed a wall aligned east to west, which produced one sherd of pottery dating from the twelfth or thirteenth century. Beneath the medieval soil horizon, within the wall, was a well aligned north-west to south-east, which contained Roman pottery. A layer that was possibly the remains of the Roman ground surface was the last deposit excavated.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.12.97

Colsterworth: Old Post Lane, SK 926 227 to SK 929 224, SMR no. pending

FW of APS monitored groundworks for a water pipeline near to a Roman villa site at Colsterworth and identified a robbed foundation trench and two ditches, all of Roman date.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.161.97

Colsterworth: Woolsthorpe Manor, SK 9222 2418, SMR No.33898

An archaeological watching brief was carried out by NF of LAS, on behalf of the National Heritage Trust during the replacement of a fence. The watching brief revealed the core of a stone wall that had previously acted as a boundary also a gateway was located that appeared on the 1797 map.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.197.97

Donington-on-Bain: Stenigot Reservoir extension, TF 2580 8280, SMR Nos 43689 to 43694

Non-intrusive evaluation of a proposed new reservoir, west and east of the existing reservoir, at Donington-on-Bain included a fieldwalking survey by GT of LAS on behalf of Anglian Water Services Ltd. The survey, located fifteen flint artefacts (including an arrowhead), one sherd of Roman pottery and two medieval/post-medieval sherd. Geophysical survey by OIA identified a possible Neolithic mortuary enclosure west of the existing reservoir and the remains of a large enclosure to the east. The proposed location of the reservoir extension was moved from the west to the east side of the existing reservoir in the light of the geophysical survey results (see report below).

Archive at LCNCC Accn no.132.97

Donington-on-Bain: Stenigot Reservoir extension, evaluation and excavations, TF 2585 8280, SMR Nos 43692 to 43694

In June 1997, RAC of LAS carried out evaluation trenching, on behalf of Anglian Water Services Ltd, on the site of the proposed new reservoir at Donington-on-Bain. This revealed part of a late Iron Age enclosure and a group of chalk extraction pits first identified by geophysical survey. An area of forty square metres, with a northern extension of thirty-six square metres, was subsequently stripped of topsoil revealing a complex series of linear and curvilinear features within the enclosed area. In addition there was a human burial, the first positively identified Iron Age inhumation burial in the country. Domestic occupation of the site, probably a small farmstead, occurred over a relatively short span of time in the late Iron Age probably encompassing the Roman Invasion of AD43 shortly after which the site was abandoned and levelled. It included the corner of a Roman enclosure mostly lying beneath the reservoir to the west. The group of chalk extraction pits lying north of the enclosed area was more modern date, almost certainly post-medieval or later and completely unrelated to activities within the enclosed area.

Archive at LCNCC Accn no.53.97

Donington-on-Bain and Kenwick: Stenigot Reservoir to Kenwick Pumping Station water trunk main, TF 2580 8280 - TF 3430 8510, SMR Nos 43466, 43604 to 43615, 43624, 43656 to 43699, 43703

An archaeological watching brief was maintained by GT of LAS, on behalf of Anglian Water Services Ltd, during groundworks along the route of a water trunk main along the parishes of Donington-on-Bain, Withcalk, Hallington, Radby-cum-Maltby and Louth, linking the pumping station and the reservoir extension. A previously unknown Bronze Age ring-ditch was found and partly excavated close to the Barnstone Heath Road in Donington-on-Bain parish. The construction sequence of that road was also examined but no date was obtained for it. Roman-British shallow ditches, perhaps flanking a narrow trackway, were found near Pole's Hole, an area where other Roman-British finds were made. Beside Kenwick Road, Louth, a Roman-British field ditch was excavated. Flint artefacts were found but not in the anticipated numbers.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.13.97

Eagle with Swithlithorpe: Whisby Quarry, Job's Lane, SK 890 666, SMR Nos 60755, 60756

An evaluation supervised by PCF of APS was undertaken in an area of proposed quarrying near Whisby. A previous desk-top assessment of sites had identified earthworks suggesting the presence of a Bronze Age barrow cemetery and other linear ditches. The possible barrow cropmarks were most distinct on photographs taken in 1947- 48 but were much less evident on later ones, perhaps suggesting that the barrows were gradually being ploughed away. The trenching established that one of these ditches was post-medieval in date. Other ditches were also revealed but were undated. Additionally, an undated but apparently ancient refuse pit containing pitted remains and beet fragments was identified. However, no evidence of the possible barrow cemetery was revealed.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.121.97

Fiskthorpe: Willoughby Road, TF 330 461, SMR no. pending

A watching brief, by FW of APS, was undertaken on the north side of Boston Road, near to Roman and medieval remains. Late Saxon and medieval pottery was recovered and an undated, ditched drowsey identified.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.126.97

Great Gonerby: Manor Farm, SK 903 384, SMR No.30460

Land adjacent to the seventeenth-century Manor Farm and medieval settlement remains was subject to evaluation, supervised by NH of APS. A large pond and a small timbered house was identified. Filled in during the nineteenth century, the pond contained large quantities of relatively recent debris and a small amount of medieval and Roman pottery.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.219.97

Greethwell: Quarry extension, TF 007 724, SMR Nos 50348, 52842, 54247, 54248

Evaluation trenching comprising fourteen machine trenches and six test pits was carried out by RAC of LAS on behalf of Buttery Aggregates Ltd, on the site of a proposed extension to an existing limestone quarry. The trenching demonstrated the presence of a triple ditch system, dated to the middle and later Iron Age. An additional linear feature of later Iron Age/early Roman date was also recorded. Substantial Roman remains were also present, predominantly in the north-west of the site, including the remains of buildings, a pit complex related to industrial activity, and a ring ditch, possibly the remains of a burial mound, all datable to the third century AD. Post Roman features on the site were confined to the remains of medieval/post-medieval ridge and furrow agriculture.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn nos 226.97 and 273.97

Heckington: Millfield Farm, TF 132 442, SMR No.60751

Staff of APS, prior to the destruction of the earthworks surveyed one of the last remaining examples of ridge and furrow in Heckington parish.

Archive at APS, site code HMF 97

Horbings: Sandygate Lane, TF 119 352, SMR Nos 32843, 35040

A watching brief was undertaken, by NH of APS, during development in the medieval core of Horbings ditches was post-medieval and accreted church parish church. The terminal of a large, twelfth-century ditch was identified and a further ditch and pit, both undated, were recorded.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.163.97

Horncastle: South Street, TF 261 694, SMR No.43564

Land in the southern part of Horncastle, and in an area of prehistoric and Roman remains, including a cemetery, was the subject of an
evaluated, supervised by NH of APS. Beneath a thick layer of ‘clay earth’ were several Roman ditches and a single post-hole. A human bone was retrieved from one of the ditches, complementing previous discoveries of funerary remains in the area.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.182.97

Kirby la Thorpe: Mount Lane, TF 099 453 and TF 099 451, SMR Nos 60509 to 60571, 60780

Watching briefs were carried out by staff of APS at the north and south ends of Mount Lane in the Shurnkin medieval settlement of Laythorpe and near to previous discoveries of Iron Age, Roman and medieval remains. At the northern site, a possible Roman pit and several medieval ditches were revealed, together with a number of undated ditches and pits. However, at the southern site only a single undated pit was revealed.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn nos 64.97 and 265.97

Kirton: High Street, TF 305 386, SMR Nos 13500 to 13502

Development in the centre of Kirton in Holland was the subject of a watching brief, carried out by PCF of APS. A previous evaluation at the site had identified a pit or pond containing late Saxon material and medieval and later occupation remains. During the excavation the upper part of the site was identified and several recent pits were also recorded.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.123.96

Langtoft: Peterborough Road, TF 124 123, SMR no. pending

An excavation was carried out by JSAC on behalf of M. Parker & Sons Ltd. This followed a desk-based assessment, fieldwalking and a geophysical survey which had identified the potential for prehistoric, Roman and medieval activity. The evaluation identified an Iron Age/Roman-British settlement focus in the northern part of the site, comprising a probable enclosure ditch and pits containing pottery and bone. A double-ditched trackway was dated to the medieval period in the southern part of the site but crop marks evidence for two ring-ditches was not confirmed by the evaluation and it is likely that these features have been destroyed by ploughing.

Archive at JSAC, site code PRL97.

Lincoln: Bernadette House, South Park, SK 9727 6958, SMR No.70159

Two trial trenches were dug by RM for LAS on behalf of Mrs B. Browne, on the site of a proposed extension at the rear of Bernadette House Nursing Home. This is known to be the site of the Hospital of the Holy Innocents or the Maladry, a medieval leper hospital founded in the twelfth century. A shallow pit and a ditch were found in the westernmost trench, which contained early to mid-thirteenth-century pottery. It was almost all of a type which is unusual in Lincoln, and may have originated from another source to the south of the city. The ditch appears to be a field or property boundary which may have been the southern boundary of the leper hospital. There were no archaeological features in the eastern trench.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.227.97

Lincoln: Bunkers Hill, TF 015 7280, SMR no. pending

A preliminary archaeological assessment on land comprising 17.5 hectares was undertaken by LAS on behalf of the Church Commissioners and Mr N. Ward. Part of a triple linear ditch system, showing as a cromlech on aerial photographs, crosses the east side of the proposed development site. Geophysical survey by OA showed that the ditches cross the eastern half of the development area in a continuous line, possibly underlying colluvium and/or alluvium at the southern limit of the survey area. A ring-form within an oval enclosure may have been deliberately avoided by the triple ditch, suggesting they are of an earlier date. A second ring form was identified south of the triple ditches. The geophysical survey results elsewhere within the proposed development area show that it is generally of good-quality with enhanced magnetism revealing a number of possible pits and linear anomalies of unknown date and function. Of 383 finds retrieved during fieldwalking by LAS the majority proved to be either post-medieval in date (later discarded) or undiagnostic. A small quantity of Roman tile was retrieved and there was no Roman pottery. The medieval and post-medieval pottery and tile probably represent manuring of cultivated fields rather than evidence of occupation. Concentrations of post medieval brick and tile in the south-east corner of the survey area are probably associated with the demolition of the farm complex adjacent to the survey area.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.156.96

Lincoln: The Coach House, Deloraine Court, James Street, SK 9775 7198, SMR Nos 70130, 70131

A watching brief was carried out by MJ of CLAU on behalf of Mr and Mrs Lodge during groundworks for conversion of the late seventeenth-century Coach House into a residential dwelling. The watching brief revealed two earlier phases of occupation, including the remains of at least two stone structures of medieval or post-medieval date. A sequence of metal surfaces believed to represent the medieval/post-medieval alignment of James Street was also recorded but no precise dating evidence was recovered.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.97

Lincoln: 320 High Street, SK 9750 7102, SMR Nos 70137, 70158

A watching brief was carried out by RS of PCA, on behalf of Dorothy Perkins, during the construction of an extension to the above property. A series of medieval or early post-medieval hearths, an oven, and possible floor surfaces were exposed. A demolition layer sealing these features contained eighteenth-century pottery and worked stone, including fragments of a chimney and a window mullion. Deposits earlier than the hearths were exposed but could not be fully interpreted.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.96.97

Lincoln: rear of 5/6 Eastgate SK 9767 7191, SMR no. pending

Archaeological evaluation by KW of CLAU on behalf of Kerbal Properties Ltd comprised three trenches which revealed extensive evidence of occupation from the Roman period to the present day. The alignment of a substantial limestone wall in trench 3 (the most northerly) confirmed to the boundary and conjectured Roman street grid of the area. The site lies immediately west of a re-built section of the Cathedral Close Wall and in close proximity to the site of the medieval church of All Saints-in-the-Bail. A cist grave dated by style of burial to the twelfth or thirteenth century had been found during earlier building work on the site in 1984. The recording of a further cist burial in trench 3 suggests that the eastern half of the site overlies part of the burial ground of the medieval church. Other features associated with medieval occupation included two lime-stone walls, metalised surfaces and pottery dating to the twelfth century. Some of the finds from the site are dated to the nineteenth to eighteenth-century tin-glazed earthenware and an imported nineteenth-century French vinegar bottle, suggest some affluence in the structure. It was possibly built during the eighteenth century, or earlier, and was demolished in the nineteenth century.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.28.97

Lincoln: Sessions House, Lindum Road, SK 9785 7145, SMR no. pending

Archaeological evaluation by MJ of CLAU on behalf of North Lincolnshire College. The site is a Scheduled Ancient Monument and hence was carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Department of Culture, Media and Sport and under the terms of the ‘Review of the County Monuments (Class Consents) Order 1994’. Seven trenches were excavated in order to assess the potential impact of the proposed development. Roman activity in the area was represented by a series of mortar, clay and metalised surfaces recorded in trench 6 on the northern side of the building. These were overlain by deposits of the late Saxon period. Part of a late-tenth-century pottery kiln was identified and two different ware types, shall tempered ware (LH) and reduced quartz sand tempered ware (SNLS), are now known to have been manufactured at this site. The presence of both types suggests that the kiln may be an early experimental stage in the production of the latter pottery type and as such it is a find of regional importance. The late Saxon remains are presumed to lie to the rear of properties facing onto a street, ‘Pottergate’ to the west. Medieval activity at the northern edge of the site was limited to pitting and localised soil dumping, while, to the south of the site, in the area adjacent to Monks Road, a probable churchyard is identified by surface finds of mortar and cobbles. Recent documentary research (by C. Johnson) has confirmed this to be the parish church of St Rumbold and not that of St Clement as suggested by Thomas Symson in c.1740. Human remains were recorded in both trenches 2 and 3 with one individual on the site being buried with no trace of the body, the site may have been a medieval churchyard or graveyard. Recent documentary research (by C. Johnson) has confirmed this to be the parish church of St Rumbold and not that of St Clement as suggested by Thomas Symson in c.1740. Human remains were recorded in both trenches 2 and 3 with one individual on the site being buried with no trace of the body, the site may have been a medieval churchyard or graveyard.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.28.97
construction of gardens and exercise yards, the arrangement of which is confirmed by nineteenth-century maps of the area. These finds led to a period of fieldwalking, which revealed a significant impact of the development. Provision was made for archaeological recording, the foundation and piling design was modified and, in addition, some landscaping took place and the ground levels of the parking areas were raised so as to maximise its in situ preservation. 

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no. 34.97 and 139.97

Lincoln: land between Spring Hill and Michaelsgate, SK 9753 7163, SMR no. pending
Archaeological evaluation by RT of CLAU on behalf of Foxby Court Developments Ltd. The site is located approximately 150 metres south of Lincoln Castle on the south facing scarp of the Lincoln Gap. Parts of this terraced hillside site and adjacent areas have been subject to a number of previous archaeological investigations including a major excavation in 1983-84 on the site of a high status Roman dwelling and the medieval church of St Peter Stanthorpe. The evaluation, consisting of seven trenches, was designed to incorporate information from previous work and more recent geotechnical investigations. Stratified Roman deposits were recorded in three trenches but, other than an indication of a major east-west terrace wall, evidence was too fragmentary to draw any firm conclusion about the topography of the site during the Roman period. Analysis of ceramic material from a series of pits suggests post-Roman re-occupation from the tenth century onwards. Evidence of early medieval activity included the base of an eleventh or twelfth-century kiln or furnace which in size and form resembled a single-flue pottery kiln without internal structure. However, it was not possible to assign a specific industrial function to this feature due to the absence of pottery wasters, the lack of any signs of burning and the truncation of its upper levels. The evaluation also succeeded in further defining the limits of the pre-Christian and early medieval area with human remains found in trenches 4, 6 and 7.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no. 36.97

Lincoln: St Mary’s School, Pottergate, SK 9800 7175, SMR no. pending
Archaeological evaluation was carried out by MJ of CLAU, on behalf of Manton and Burtle Architects for St Mary’s Preparatory School. Three phases of activity were recorded in the single trench excavated. The natural limestone was overlain by a metre of accumulated deposits dated to the Roman period. The possibility of Roman structures in the near vicinity was suggested by a north-south alignment of un-bonded limestone rubble and a series of shallow pits – one being clay lined. Roman pottery ranged in date from the first century to the mid third century including examples of first-century South Gaulish Samian. Deposits although only marginally datable could possibly be attributed to medieval/post-medieval activity, possibly agricultural in nature. Modern deposits of soil and turf result from recent landscaping following construction of a new hall and topic rooms in 1994.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no. 294.97

Lincoln: University of Lincolnshire, SK 6800 7120, SMR No. 70189
An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by KW of CLAU in connection with site remediation works, Ropewalk-Carholme Road Link and Phase I University Construction. Although it was possible to record the stratigraphic sequence of deposits in some locations across the site there was no evidence for ancient human occupation within the areas investigated. A combination of high levels of ground contamination and the use of wire mesh methods and the limited exposure of organic deposits prevented controlled sampling for environmental analysis. Recommendations were made for a programme of controlled sampling in advance of any further development on the site.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn nos. 11.95, 49.95 and 161.95

Lincoln: Rasen Lane/Ballgate, SK 9765 7195, SMR Nos 70018, 70188
Watching brief by KW of CLAU for Lincoln City Council in connection with groundwork for a local traffic calming scheme. Most of the carriageway groundwork was very shallow and did not impact upon archaeological levels. A localised 2.3 metre deep trench for connection of surface water drainage in Ballgate allowed only restricted access recording of archaeological features. Two 400mm square, flat, limestone slabs at the base of the trench appeared to form part of a paved surface. Although the full extent of this feature is unknown and no dating evidence was recovered, it was likely to represent either the main north/south street of the Roman city or a roadside pavement. This feature was overlain by a series of thin mortaria/limestone layers. The subsequent metalfilled surfaces probably indicate the presence of a later road alignment which from its relative depth is believed to be of medieval date.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no. 54.97

Little Carlton: Manor Farm, TF 4031 8538, SMR Nos 43532, 43533
A watching brief was carried out by GT of LAS on behalf of Mr Hamessy. The western edge of a deep north-south linear feature was identified to the east of the existing house. This was thought to be part of the most associated with the medieval manor house, but only seventeenth-century pottery was recovered from the backfill. On the west edge of the moth, a thirteenth- or fourteenth-century pottery sherd was found; this was the earliest find present.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no. 97.97

Little Carlton: Main Road, TF 399 855 and TF 399 856, SMR Nos 43706, 43707
Watching briefs were carried out by FW of APS on adjacent plots in the medieval core of Little Carlton. An undated ditch, running parallel to the modern road, passed through both plots. To the south was a second undated ditch set at a right angle to the road. This ditch had functioned as a boundary and, following infilling, was replaced by a stone wall, evident as a spread of limestone rubble. Small amounts of fourteenth- to sixteenth-century and later pottery were recovered from both plots.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn nos 253.97 and 254.97

Louth: 76a Eastgate, TF 3295 8742, SMR Nos 43639, 43640
A watching brief was carried out by JA of PCA on behalf of Stuart Grant (Building Surveyor) during the construction of an extension to Secrets Nightclub. A series of undated post-medieval deposits were exposed, including a baked clay surface. Due to time constraints and access difficulties, these could not be fully interpreted.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no. 237.97

Mablethorpe: land south of Seaholme Road, TF 5080 8380, SMR Nos 43684, 43685
A desktop assessment and non-intrusive evaluation, comprising fieldwalking and an earthwork survey, was carried out by staff of PCA, on behalf of Robert Lowe Architect, on land between the Seahan Spring Caravan Park and the Wold Grift Drain. The fieldwalking produced a single sherd of Roman pottery, two possible Roman tile fragments and five sherds of medieval pottery. The earthwork survey found indistinct evidence of ridge and furrow, probably due to the levelling of a former railway embankment that had crossed the site.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no. 260.97

Marcham-le-Fen: land off Watery Lane, TF 2772 6114, SMR Nos 43711, 43632
An evaluation of ten trenches in the centre of Marcham-le-Fen by MJ of LAS on behalf of Owl Homes, revealed a number of domestic refuse pits containing pottery dating to the twelfth to fifteenth centuries. Also present were linear features, probably representing field boundaries. A small area fronting Watery Lane was investigated but failed to produce evidence of significant archaeological remains.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no. 258.97

Market Rasen: Linwood Road, TF 111 885, SMR No. 54269
A desk-based assessment and field evaluation (consisting of field walking, geophysical survey and trial excavation) took place on just under seven hectares of land on the east side of Linwood Road. This was in advance of a proposed residential development by High Bourn Developments (Wragby) Ltd. An extensive Roman-British pottery production site was identified, incorporating kilns, linear ditches and pits containing small quantities of lead, slag and smelted glass. The smelting area was identified and Smelting was also taking place. The site appears to have been active between the second and fourth centuries AD. Kiln products were, in the main, domestic forms; mainly grey sandy and coarse wares (no Nene Valley forms were present within the relatively large area surveyed). Seven sherds of Parisian-type ware were recovered, although it was not determined whether these were imports or were actual manufactured at the site. Given the importance of pottery production and related industries in the Market Rasen area, a substantial part of this site will now be preserved indefinitely, although it is envisaged that a proportion of the production centre will be fully excavated in advance of development. The project was supervised by JA and RS of PCA. Geophysical surveys were undertaken by OA.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no. 301.97
Navenby: Grantham Road, SK 9890 5730, SMR No.60557
Following a largely negative magnetometer survey result, an archaeological recording brief was carried out for Ploughhound Ltd., by PCA, during the groundworks for a residential development on land west of Grantham Road on the south side of Navenby village. The work was carried out by CPB. An isolated group of middle to late Iron Age pits were exposed during sewer and access construction, some of which contained significant quantities of charred plant remains, pottery sherds and fire-cracked pebbles. These results complement work carried out closer to Ermine Street, where late Iron Age settlement was superseded by Roman occupation in the first century AD.
Archive at LCNC, Accn no.25.96

North Hykeham: land to the north of Russell Avenue, SK 9445 6563, SMR No.60783
A watching brief was carried out by staff of PCA for Hurt Properties (Lincoln) Ltd during the construction of eighteen bungalows. Enclosures and boundary ditches associated with a Romano-British settlement were recorded. A large quantity of pottery was recovered, the date of which suggests the greatest activity on the site took place during the third century AD. A complete colour-coated New Forest beaker and most of the upper stone of a quern were recovered. Later activity on the site was confined to a single medieval boundary ditch.
Archive at LCNC, Accn no.118.97

North Hykeham: Newark Road, SK 9326 662, SMR No:60752
Archaeological investigations were undertaken by staff of APS in advance of and during development alongside Newark Road, a modern highway that preserves the line of the Foss Way Roman road. Geophysical survey by GSB identified a number of possible pits in the area and a watching brief recorded several ditches, pits and postholes, though these were all undated.
Archive at LCNC, Accn no.135.96

Old Bolingbroke: Hagnaby Road, TF 348 650, SMR Nos 43534, 43535
RG of APS supervised an evaluation on land adjacent to Bolingbroke Castle, the birthplace of Henry IV, and in an area of post-medieval pottery manufacture. A cluster of postholes, perhaps defining the location of a timber structure, was revealed and an undated ditch identified. A quantity of fourteenth to seventeenth-century pottery was recovered and is likely to have been made locally, though some of the material is thought to be earlier than any previously identified pottery production in the village.
Archive at LCNC, Accn no.165.97

Pinchbeck: Church Street, TF 242 263, Report No. R798 in SMR
A desk-top study of proposed development implications on the north side of Pinchbeck was produced by PFC of APS. This assessment indicated the possibility for Roman remains in the area and noted presence of dishes of medieval and later pottery in the vicinity. However, these artefacts were thought to represent manuring scatter, rather than settlement and the probable agricultural function of the site was emphasised by ridge and furrow earthworks. It was considered, therefore, that the site probably lay beyond the extent of medieval and later settlement.
Archive at LCNC, Accn no.218.98

Potterhanworth: Barf Road, TF 857 662, SMR No.60811
Development in Potterhanworth, near to previous discoveries of medieval pottery, was the subject of a watching brief, carried out by GTay of APS. Extensive deposits of kiln waste (burnt soils, ash and charcoal) containing thirteenth- to fourteenth-century pottery wasters were revealed. Some of these overlay a large stone wall of uncertain function, though it may be part of a kiln. Much of the pottery represented cooking vessels, though a carrow, or jug, and a kiln stand, all in local Potterhanworth ware, were recovered. Cumulatively, the evidence strongly indicates medieval pottery production on, or in the immediate vicinity of, the site. Several post-medieval pits and a boundary bank were also recorded.
Archive at LCNC, Accn no.249.97

Ropsley: Hall Close, SK 9915 3425, SMR no. pending
An excavation evaluation was carried out by JSAC (report by SJ) on behalf of Allen Homes (East Midlands) Ltd. Three of the five trenches excavated contained pits and postholes, two of which were dated from the fourteenth to the sixteenth centuries. Although the site was within the historic core of the village, the features formed no discernible pattern and were insufficient to prove dense habitation.
Archive at LCNC, Accn no.7.98

Sleaford: East Road, TF 078 471, SMR Nos 60766 to 60768
An evaluation, supervised by NH of APS, was undertaken on the outskirts of Sleaford, near to the Mareham Lane Roman road and cropmarks of prehistoric or Roman enclosures. On arrival at the site a previously unrecorded cropmark of part of an apparently rectangular enclosure was identified and surveyed. Trial excavation of this cropmark established that it was produced by a double ditch alignment. A second double-ditched enclosure was also identified and although both enclosures were undated they are considered, on the basis of form, to be stock compounds of probable prehistoric or Roman date. In addition to the enclosures, several other ditches, gullies and pits were identified. Most of these were undated, though one of the gullies is Roman. Some of the ditches are adjacent and parallel to existing hedging and are therefore likely to represent earlier field boundaries.
Archive at LCNC, Accn no.164.97

Spalding: Bourne Road, TF 231 220, SMR Nos 20553, 20554
The implications of proposed development on the south-west side of Spalding was assessed by investigations carried out by APS. A programme of desk-based research indicated a strong possibility of Roman remains in the area. Subsequent evaluation excavations, supervised by SC, identified several ditches and pits, mostly localised in one part of the site. Associated with these features was pottery of transitional late Iron Age to Roman date and a small quantity of briquetage was recovered, indicating salt making had occurred in the area.
Archive at LCNC, Accn no.166.97

Spalding: Horseshoe Road, plots 15-17 Horse Fayre Fields, TF 2315 2210, SMR No.40623
Ditches and pits containing Romano-British briquetage and fired clay were found during monitoring of a four-block house foundation by GT of LAS on behalf of Stamford Homes. The site has been interpreted as lying within, or at the edge of, a salt-making site. Subsequent marine transgression spread a layer of silt, mixed with brickeage, across the site, partially filling features which may have been in active use. A thin desiccated peat layer survived above the filled features, indicating the environmental sequence at this location.
Archive at LCNC, Accn no.131.97

Spalding: Turner’s Turkeys, TF 253 210, SMR No.20558
Development near to cropmarks of Romano-British field systems on the outskirts of Spalding was monitored by staff of APS. Several Iron Age or Roman ditches, probably extensions of the adjacent field systems, were identified.
Archive at LCNC, Accn no.222.97

Stixwould: mains replacement scheme, TF 1840 6638 and TF 1738 6622, SMR Nos 40031, 40054
A watching brief was carried out by GT of LAS on behalf of Anglian Water Services Ltd during trenching. Re-used brick and roof tile fragments from a backfilled pit close to the clay pits west of Halstall Hall, and evidence of backfilled features beneath the road close to the site of Stixwould Priory were found. The clay pits may be nineteenth century, and not associated with the original construction of either Tattershall Castle or Halstall Hall. Ditches associated with the surviving earthworks of Stixwould Priory appear to continue below Duckpool Lane.
Archive at LCNC, Accn no.100.97

Stoke Rochford: golf course, SK 925 289, SMR Nos 33932, 35060 to 35063
A watching brief by staff of APS took place during development near to suspected Roman villa sites and the deserted medieval settlement of Ganthorp. No archaeological features were encountered though a localised concentration of Iron Age and medieval pottery was recovered. This cluster of artefacts occurred at the periphery of Ganthorp deserted village and probably represents a spread of occupation debris from the settlement.
Archive at LCNC, Accn no.221.97

Stickney: Hall Lane, TF 341 569, SMR Nos 43708 to 43710
Development in the medieval core of Stickney was subject to archaeological monitoring by staff of APS. The ridge of high ground occupied by the present village has been a favoured settlement area since the prehistoric period. Several pits and ditches were identified across the area. Most of these were undated but one probable pit contained the base of a Tootyn All Saints medieval jug. A cobble path was also recorded and a spread of demolition debris and eighteenth-century pottery suggested the possibility of an otherwise unknown building of this date in the area.
Archive at LCNC, Accn no.19.97
Swineshead: Abbey Road, TF 239 402, SMR No.13514
A probable medieval pit and a single fragment of pottery of the period were found during a watching brief, by PCF of APS, in the medieval core of Swineshead.
Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.179.97

Swineshead: Station Road, TF 328 414, SMR No.13516
Due to the proximity of late Saxon and medieval remains, a watching brief was carried out by staff of APS during development on the north side of Swineshead. Several undated ditches, gullies, postholes and a pit, probably all agricultural features serving drainage or boundary functions, were revealed. Additionally, a possible buried land surface was revealed at a depth of approximately 2.5 metres. A fragment of butchered cattle bone recovered from this surface indicated an ancient, but undated, human presence in the area. Several modern artefacts were also recovered, together with a single pottery fragment of probable Roman date.
Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.40.97

Tallington: Main Road, TF 9545 0852, SMR no. pending
Excavation of part of a sixth-century Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Tallington was carried out by JA of PCA for Anglican Water Services Ltd. A total of ten in situ graves were excavated, all but one of which contained grave goods. The bodies were placed in the graves in extended and crouched positions and were generally aligned towards the south-west. The graves were traced over a forty-five metre length of the pipeline easement although the extent of the cemetery was only established in one direction. The graves included a mature adult female with five brooches and glass beads, a young female with a key group and ivory bag ring and a young male with a spear and shield. One grave, which had unfortunately been truncated by a gas pipeline in the 1960s, had sleeve clasps on the lower legs. The place in this position is known in Scandinavia, where they are interpreted as fasteners on trousers, but had not previously been identified in England. A full report on the cemetery will be published in a national journal in due course. The excavation also exposed the remains of a twelfth- to thirteenth-century stone building above part of the cemetery. Associated with this building were a series of lignite-gleaning pits, two of which were cut through graves.
The course of the former Stamford to Deeping St James Canal was identified in Tallington village during the earlier watching brief phase of the project.
Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.88.96

Woodhall Spa: Roeze Close (off Witham Road), TF 1803 6219, SMR No.43238
A watching brief was carried out by NF of LAS on behalf of Ray Jackson Builders during excavation of house foundations. Small ditches, tree throw-holes and other features which contained no dating material were recorded. The edge of a large iron Age ditch found during a previous evaluation of the site may have extended across the edges of two house plots and the access road. Other gullies or small pits present at the edge of that ditch close to Witham Road. The ditch apparently acted as a boundary to an Iron Age site extending further south-east.
Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.194.95

The following is a list of archaeological works carried out in the same period for which the results were either entirely or substantially negative.

Ancestor: Ermine Close, SK 9887 439, Report No. R728 in SMR
Work carried out by APS. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.79.97

Ashby-by-Partney: Halton Road, TF 425 663, Report No. R904 in SMR
Work carried out by APS. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.263.97

Boston: Swan Building, Trinity Street/James Street, TF 3230 4400, SMR No. N/A
Work carried out by JASAC. No accession number.

Boston: Tattershall Road, TF 312 466, SMR Nos 13503, 13504
Work carried out by APS. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.181.97

Boston: Wyberton West Road, TF 320 429, Report No. R781 in SMR
Work carried out by APS. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.122.97

Boston: 2-4 High Street, TF 3277 4399, Report No. R857 in SMR
Work carried out by PCA. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.43.97

Bourne: Abbey churchyard, TF 098 197, Report No. R859 in SMR
Work carried out by APS. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.252.97

Bourne: Spalding Road, TF 105 201, SMR Nos 35044, 35045
Work carried out by APS. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.159.97

Brinkhill: Main Road, TF 380 734, SMR Nos 43731 to 43715
Work carried out by APS. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.223.97

Broughton: land off Craig Close, plot 7, SE 9578 0875, SMR No. N/A
Work carried out by LAS. Archive at NLM

Culverthorpe and Kelby: Holme Farm, Kelby, TF 004 414, Report No. R817 in SMR
Work carried out by APS. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.220.97

Cumberworth: land south of Willoughby Road, TF 5064 7335, SMR No.43730
Work carried out by PCA. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.42.98

Dunholme; St Chad's church, TF 0250 7940, Report No. R732 in SMR
Work carried out by CLAU. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.129.97

Glenthorn to Welton: water main, SK 9950 8940 to SK 9941 8772, SMR Nos 54182 to 54185
Work carried out by CLAU. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.119.97

Grayingham: Main Street, SK 9345 9602, Report No. R755 in SMR
Work carried out by CLAU. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.194.97

Grayingham: Grange Farm, SK 9565 9588, SMR Nos 54238, 54239, 54261
Work carried out by PCA. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.243.97

Heydour and Aisby: water pipeline, TF 0090 3960 - TF 0120 3880, SMR No.30083
Work carried out by PCA. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.95.97

Holbeck: Fishpond Lane, TF 225 375, SMR No. N/A
Work carried out by APS. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.180.97

Horncastle: Banovalum Gardens, plots 85 – 87, TF 2671 6919, SMR No.43167
Work carried out by LAS. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.199.97

Ingam: land off High Street, SK 9478 8348, Report No. R847 in SMR
Work carried out by JASAC. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.192.97

Ingooldenells: land south of High Street, TF 5562 6877, SMR No.43729
Work carried out by PCA. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.76.98

Kirkby-on-Bain: Church of England Primary School, TF 2139 6242, Report No. R749 in SMR
Work carried out by LAS. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.131.96

Work carried out by LAS. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.22.98

Kirtlin-in-Lindsey: corner of St Andrews Road and Grove Street, SK 9329 9858, SMR No. N/A
Work carried out by LAS. Archive at NLM, site code KLA 97

Knaint: Station Road, Knaint Park, SK 8415 8570, Report No. R786 in SMR
Work carried out by AOC. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.52.98

Langtoft: land between Ash Close and 31 Stowe Road, TF 118 119, SMR No.35033
Work carried out by ATS. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.102.97

Lea: St Helen’s church, SK 8310 8670, Report No. R750 in SMR
Work carried out by CLAU. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.152.97

Leighton, Keisby and Osgodby: water pipeline, TF 0250 3050 - TF 0240 2830, SMR Nos 33765, 35087
Work carried out by PCA. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.130.97

Lincoln: 383-84 High Street, SK 9733 7047, Report No. R733 in SMR
Work carried out by CLAU. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.152.97

Lincoln: land to rear of 14 Hawthorn Road, TF 0025 7297, Report No. R816 in SMR
Work carried out by CLAU. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.35.97

Lincoln: Newland, New Life Church, SK 9735 7127, Report No. R796 in SMR
Work carried out by CLAU. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.128.97

Lincoln: 18 Westgate, SK 9753 7200, Report No. R784 in SMR
Work carried out by CLAU. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.244.97
Toft to Thurlby: water pipeline, TF 0760 1730 - TF 0860 1760, Report No. R793 in SMR
Work carried out by PCA. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.199.97

Waddingham: Grange Farm, SK 9720 9630, Report No. R813 in SMR
Work carried out by PCA. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.302.97

Walent: Main Street, TF 5062 3352, SMR No.60765
Work carried out by PCA. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.218.97

Washingborough: Livingstone Cottage, TF 0200 7076, Report No. R775 in SMR
Work carried out by PCA. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.239.97

Wetton: Welton Cliffe Farm, SK 9820 8070, Report No. R834 in SMR
Work carried out by CLAU. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.280.97

Wetton: Welton Manor Golf Course, TF 0066 810, SMR Nos 52214, 54146
Work carried out by APS. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.78.97

Whaplode: Kirkgate, TF 3241 2411, SMR No.20555
Work carried out by LAS. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.257.97

Wyberton: Long Road, TF 326 408, SMR Nos 13473, 13474
Work carried out by APS. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.62.97

REPORTS

Asterby: St Peter’s church, TF 2639 7951, SMR No.40568
Naomi Field
LAS was commissioned by Mr D. Dennis to carry out archaeological recording at Asterby church during new drainage works, part of a larger repair programme.

The parish church of St Peter, Asterby was made redundant in 1981. It comprises a chancel, which was largely rebuilt in 1896, and a nave, which had a north aisle added in the thirteenth century. This was demolished but the piers survive. A vestry was built in 1879 onto the north side of the nave, about half the length of the original aisle. The tower was rebuilt in 1900 but its lower stages are fourteenth century in date.

There were no archaeological remains revealed in the drainage trenches dug on the side of the church and on the north side of the tower. However, the foundations for an earlier building were found lying beneath the west wall of the vestry and a second foundation was recorded north of the vestry, parallel to the nave and vestry north walls. The size of the excavated trenches allowed only a glimpse at these earlier remains and makes interpretation only tentative. It is possible that the foundations are of the demolished north aisle but this would make its width almost as great as the nave and does not explain the existence of the cross wall about midway along the nave. The standing fabric shows that the aisle extended the full length of the nave so the foundations located half way along the nave probably belong to an earlier structure, unless the aisle was divided into two chapels and the foundations represent an internal dividing wall. Alternatively, it is possible that the stonework represents the west wall of a north transept. The presence of a transept which pre-dates the thirteenth-century aisle raises the possibility that a church of some status existed on this site.

A single piece of late Saxon pottery was found in the topsoil together with a piece of medieval pottery. Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.103.97

Greatford: land west of King Street, TF 1010 1225, SMR no. pending
Naomi Field
Archaeological survey was carried out by LAS and OA on a 41.4 hectare area of farmland in two large fields situated immediately west of King Street, approximately one kilometre north-east of the village of Greatford, in advance of proposed sand and gravel extraction. The survey comprised geophysical survey (global ten metre topocam magnetic susceptibility mapping, magnetometer scanning and selective detailed magnetometer survey), topographic survey and sketch plotting of residual earthworks, hand surveying (combined with hand cleaning of modern ditch sides where applicable), and fieldwalking (on twenty metre transects).

The evaluation was designed to determine the extent and geometry of underlying archaeological features, several of which had already been plotted as cropmarks from the air, and to assess their continuity...
with elements of ancient landscape remains revealed in cropmarks upon adjoining land and previously mapped.

Topsoil magnetic susceptibility mapping and fieldwalking identified a strong focus of activity associated with a previously recorded cropmark enclosure within the north-east quadrant of the west field. Gradinometer survey confirmed the precise location of the polygonal (irregular pentagon) ditched enclosure and identified within it, situated upon a slight topographic rise, the probable robber trenches of a high status rectilinear building or complex of buildings. Fieldwalking recovered quantities of Romano-British pottery of predominantly mid-third- to fourth-century date from the area of the enclosure, together with tile fragments, both roofing tile and box flue tile (suggestive of a structure with a hypocaust), limestone fragments, mortar, concrete flooring, a fragment of painted wall plaster and a number of limestone tesserae (mosaic flooring).

Hand augering into the enclosure ditch demonstrated waterlogging, with organic remains present at a depth of 1.2 metres beneath the present ground surface.

Numerous other features were recorded including trackways and further small rectilinear and curvilinear ditched enclosures (some of which may contain structures); pits and burnt features (possibly industrial) were generally present. The locations of two ring ditches (probably ploughed down Bronze Age burial mounds) previously recorded from air photographs were confirmed. A small number of prehistoric worked flints was also found.

The majority of the magnetic anomalies, surface artefacts and areas of dispersed, magnetically enhanced topsoils were confined between a pair of low residual banks. The function and relationship of these and two similar banks within the east field, which were recorded by topographic survey, remain uncertain.

Both magnetic survey and fieldwalking indicate that the majority of archaeological activity is confined within the north-east quadrant of the west field, with little evidence extending into the east field. Elements of earlier landscape organisation, possibly of Romano-British date, which were indicated by aerial photographs within this field were suggested on the topsoil magnetic susceptibility map.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.206.97

Kirkby la Thorpe: Boston Road, the new Sleaford Police Station, TF 078 458, SMR No.60584

Simon Askew

In advance of redevelopment, excavations were undertaken by APS on the east side of the Mareham Lane Roman road in the core of Iron Age and Romano-British settlement at Sleaford. Previous investigation at the site (by CLAU, see LHA 32 (1997), pp.48-49) had revealed third- to fourth-century timber and stone buildings.

Although the known late Iron Age settlement and coin production area lies just to the west, beyond the Roman road, no clear remains, and extremely few artefacts, of the period were identified. This may suggest that the Iron Age occupation area had a very firm boundary, though no physical evidence of this has yet been revealed.

Robbed foundations of early Roman timber buildings were recorded, the foundation trenches lying parallel, or at right angles, to the Roman road. A possibly ritual pit containing a partially articulated horse skeleton was also identified. These remains were overlain by a transformed ‘dark earth’ deposit. This soil layer may have been used for ad hoc burial purposes as two, apparently random, adult inhumations were revealed. Later Roman stone buildings were established on the surface of the dark earth; in one instance a stone wall maintained the exact line of an earlier wooden one. An apparently domestic building, eight metres wide by over twelve metres long externally, was revealed lying parallel to the Roman road. An east-west side lane, which presumably had branched from the main north-south road, ran past the northern side of the building (Fig.2). An alignment of five infant burials was found in and adjacent to the structure but precluding it, possibly serving as some form of ritual foundation deposit or, perhaps, relating to an earlier building in the area.

Probably two-stories high, this building had internal walls, creating three rooms, and had been decorated with painted plaster. Keyed flue tile was fairly abundant in the area, though there was no evidence, in the part of the building exposed, for the hypocaust underfloor heating system that these artefacts imply. On the east side of the building was a malled courtyard that had been repaired several times. Several stone-lined kilns, of uncertain function, were also revealed close to the building.

Fig.2. Late Roman domestic building on the site of the new police station, Boston Road, in Kirkby la Thorpe parish.
The building appears to have been abandoned late in the Roman period and some degree of robbing or dismantling occurred at that time, with much of the masonry being removed. A sixth infant burial was found in the rubble of the building. Further robbing of masonry may have taken place in the medieval period, perhaps to provide stone for the nearby church and hall, and a pit containing a substantial cooking pot of the period was found.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn no.120.97

Lincoln: St Mark's station, SK 9735 7075, SMR Nos 70006, 70173 to 70176
Russell Trumble

In advance of the redevelopment of the site of the former St Mark’s Railway Station and Goods Yard to the west of the High Street, Lincoln, CLAU was commissioned by Simons Estates Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation and excavation. This work which was supervised by RT, assisted by MJ, commenced with an evaluation in July 1995 and ended with the completion of the final phase, a watching brief, in June 1997. The site is bounded by the High Street to the east, the River Witham to the west, St Mark’s Street to the north and Firth Road to the south.

The evaluation was successful in locating and then characterising the remains of two important monuments within the boundaries of the redevelopment area: the church of St Edward the Martyr in the southeast corner of the site, and the Carmelite friary lying between this and the site of St Mark’s church to the north. Further information concerning the Carmelite friary was obtained from simultaneous excavations along the line of a recovery trench (the Remidiation Trench) designed to remove leaked diesel oil from ground beneath the bus station.

Subsequent excavations extended over much of the station yard, beneath the former bus station to the north, and into the car park behind the terraced houses on the High Street frontage. Remains of the friary were revealed over a wide area but the opportunity to carry out detailed investigation was restricted to those locations where actual destruction of deposits was anticipated.

Although the principal objective of the excavation was to record the remains of the Carmelite friary, earlier deposits were also encountered. The earliest evidence took the form of the stone walls of Roman ‘strip’ buildings – traders’ houses – on the Ermine Street frontage. Remains of possibly four separate houses were encountered during the work in 1994-96 (two of which are noted in 1987). Although excavation within and around these structures was mainly confined to post-demolition deposits, a stone floor and an oven or kiln flué were located in the southermost structure. Associated pottery suggests that the buildings were abandoned during the late or very late fourth century.

Pottery evidence is also the key to the reoccupation date, in the first quarter of the tenth century. There were obvious structural features associated with this phase of activity: postholes, slots for timber beams and successive clay floors in the area adjacent to the High Street attest to continuous occupation during the tenth and eleventh centuries. The incidence of oyster and barley in environmental samples, and finds of certain pottery vessels, indicate that brewing may have taken place on the site during this period.

Another concentration of late Saxon deposits was encountered on more low-lying ground within the Remediation Trench. This activity comprised a complex of ditches, deposits, and a clay-lined feature, possibly a hearth. This, and the charcoal-rich primary fills within the ditches, may indicate that some form of processing was taking place in the immediate locality.

Evidence for twelfth and thirteenth-century occupation was less prominent but there is no reason to suppose that this reflects a discontinuity in occupation. Instead, it seems likely that the relative absence of this period in the stratigraphic record results from the ground disturbance sustained during use of the area as a graveyard during the friary period. Pottery evidence suggests reasonably high status occupation of the area during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries.

The Carmelite friary was probably founded at some time between 1242 (the date of the earliest Carmelite foundations in England) and 1260. As a result of the recent excavations, it is now clear that the friary buildings eventually came to occupy the entire area bounded by the High Street to the east, the river to the west, St Edward the Martyr’s Church to the south and St Mark’s church to the north. The main friary complex therefore extended over an area of seventy-five to ninety metres north-south by ninety metres east-west. It is likely that the area between the friary and the River Witham to the west was exploited in some way, possibly for growing crops and/or as pasture. A building located in the Remediation Trench appeared to be set apart from the main complex and may have functioned as a warehouse connected with use of the river for the transportation of goods to and from the friary.

Contrary to the more usual monastic practice of siting the church to the north of the site to avoid depriving the cloister of light, the church in its developed form, at least, appears to have lain at the southern fringe of the friary. The construction date of the cloister is unclear but it continued in use until the Dissolution. The church, on the other hand, was probably demolished at some time in the second half of the fifteenth century and then rebuilt. The exact position and layout of the early church could not be established but a group of high status burials of fourteenth-fifteenth century date - possibly lay benefactors of the friary – are thought to have been contained within the church or in a chapel, or the chapter house, attached to it. To the west of the cloister lay a kitchen which may have served the refectory.

The nave of the later church lies directly beneath the Victorian station building. The south wall of the structure, as revealed by excavations in 1996, backed directly to the south of the north platform. The recent excavations located a corresponding northern wall, also buttressed, immediately to the north of the station portico.

At the Dissolution, the majority of the friary structures were demolished, although the inner walls of the cloister to the south and west may have been retained as property boundaries for the area which now contains the terraced buildings on the High Street frontage. St Mary’s Conduit, further north on High Street, was probably constructed out of the remains of a chapel within the friary. There is evidence to suggest that the kitchen and immediately adjacent buildings to the north continued in use as private accommodation at least into the seventeenth century. Documentary sources describe that area as an orchard in the eighteenth century. In 1846-47 the railway station was constructed and the associated tracks covered an extensive area.

In summary, the investigations produced a very substantial amount of new information about the occupation of this large area over almost 2,000 years, and have added to our knowledge of the Roman, late Saxon and medieval cities. In particular, a considerable amount of evidence was revealed about the Carmelite friary which occupied the site for three centuries. With further research and integration with the results of previous excavations, an even deeper understanding could be obtained of the Carmelite friary’s influence in Lincoln, contributing towards national research issues in relation to monastic sites. It is hoped that funding can be found for this work. The final element of the developer’s contribution to the dissemination of the archaeological results was the sponsorship of a Heritage Room within a shop inside the former station building.

Archive at LCNCC, Accn nos 95.95 & 165.95

Lincoln: Newport - Bishop Grosseteste College, SK 9769 7277, SMR Nos 70046, 70047
Kevin Wragg

Excavations were conducted by CLAU in advance of groundwork for the construction of an extension to the college library. Extensive remains of Roman and medieval date were recorded and the stratigraphic sequence and general description of the remains is outlined below.

The undisturbed geological deposits included limestone bedrock, boulder clay, ‘brash’, and a layer of sand.

The earliest Roman occupation dated to the middle and late second century. This activity possibly represents a site clearance phase in advance of the colonisation of the site and the construction of permanent structures. There was also a possible Roman timber phase, dating to slightly later in the second and early third century.

Later, probably in the late second to early third centuries, there was evidence of the consolidation of the Roman occupation, with the construction of a large stone building. This building measured about nine metres north to south, and the easternmost nine metres of the structure was revealed on the site, continuing into the east facing
section (possibly extending to front on to the Roman Ermine Street to the west, resulting in a possible length of about thirty metres). The building itself featured a mortared internal floor surface, with a linear cut running parallel to the south wall possibly representing a drainage gully (to contain run-off water from the roof, a basic form of gutter). To the north of the building, a large metalled area was present, probably representing a yard.

The Roman occupation continued through the third century, until abandonment probably in the late third or early fourth century. During this period of occupation, the large building constructed during the previous phase appears to have been extensively modified, if not completely demolished and rebuilt. Again the easternmost nine metres of the structure was revealed in the excavation trench, but this showed that the stone walls belonging to the original building had been demolished, with a new limestone wall, orientated from north to south, constructed some seven metres further to the west. A possible timber structure was then erected, on an alignment closely respecting the outline of the previous stone building, apparently featuring timber beam foundations. No evidence for a new timber wall at the eastern end was found, suggesting that this was possibly an open ended structure, probably used as a workshop or stage area rather than for domestic/residential purposes. A cut-feature, possibly the remains of an oven or hearth, was discovered within this wooden structure. To the south of the building, a new metalled area was constructed, while to the north, the original metalled area was repaired and resurfaced in several places.

The site was re-occupied in the Saxo-Norman/earliest medieval period that is the late eleventh to early/mid twelfth centuries. The most noticeable features associated with this phase were three large pits, revealed along the eastern side of the site. It seems likely that these cut features represent stone-quarrying activities on the site. Also revealed were several smaller cut features, including a possible cesspit, and at the extreme eastern end of the site, a stone well was present. Only one structure appeared to be associated with this phase, a possible timber building found to the west of the quarry pits, apparently oriented east to west. No evidence for eastern or western end walls, or internal flooring was found.

Later there was further building on the site, probably during the mid twelfth to early thirteenth centuries. This involved the construction of at least four stone buildings across the site. The stone pits and the cess-pit belonging to the earlier period appear to have served their purpose and were backfilled, followed by the construction of a series of limestone structures, each measuring between five and six metres wide (north to south), and continuing beyond the boundaries of the excavated area to the west; presumably forming on to the street. The timber building appears to have been replaced by a new stone building of the same size and shape; the outline almost exactly, and a new metalled lane was constructed towards the north of this building to provide access to the eastern part of the site. The well also appears to have continued in use during this phase.

During the thirteenth century all of the buildings in use during the previous period seem to have been demolished, and superseded by structures built anew. The structures appear to have had a gradual re-organisation of the site. The construction of one of the new buildings effectively blocked the metalled lane between the earlier structures, and a new metalled roadway was constructed to the south of the new building. Further new building was then excavated towards the new lane, again comprising a five metre wide, stone walled structure oriented east to west. A new metalled yard surface was also constructed which covered much of the northern part of the site. At the northern edge of this possible yard area another stone building was constructed; there was a large cut feature, also present in this area. Only other substantial development recorded from this phase was a limestone 'trench', at least six metres long (which appeared to have been clay-lined) buttressing the eastern side of the well, presumably to allow water to be channelled to the east, perhaps to be used in an industrial process.

The final phase of occupation, and eventual abandonment of the site occurred in the late thirteenth to early fourteenth centuries. Only one building appears to have continued in use during this phase of the occupation; the structure to the north of the possible access lane. This was re-filled at least twice. Of the other two buildings belonging to the earlier phase, both were demolished, and only the structure situated at the northern end of the metalled yard was replaced. The replacement building had substantial foundations with a very sturdy floor consisting of pitched limestone. The purpose of such a heavy duty floor construction was not apparent, but was in marked contrast to the mortar floors seen within the other buildings, and might indicate that this building was used for the stabling of stock, rather than as a residential and/or workshop property. To the east of the site some evidence was found of ditches, possibly the result of wagons using unmetalled routes across the site, but more probably the marks left by ploughing. Unfortunately these remains had been truncated by modern activity, and no positive conclusions could be drawn from them. Finally, towards the end of this period, it would seem that the remaining structures were also abandoned, with remains of roofing and other material apparent across the site.

There was little or no evidence actually found to conclusively prove later occupation on the site, and the only features and deposits postdating the medieval occupation were all associated with the present college buildings and the landscaping of the grounds.

Archaeology in Lincolnshire, Acca no. 84.95

Seaford: North Junction, TF 078 468, SMR Nos 60812 to 60814

Neil Herbert

Croppmarks of a large subrectangular enclosure, though to be of prehistoric or Roman date, and those of an adjacent Roman road, Mileham Lane, were subject to evaluation because of a proposal to develop a site of the north-east side of Seaford.

Trial excavations, supervised by JY of APS, established that the enclosure ditches defined a settlement of middle to late Iron Age date and that there was no evidence for its continued occupation into the Roman period. Investigation within the interior of the enclosure was limited but did identify a corner entrance to the compound. Numerous pollens near this entrance probably signify the location of a timber gateway or, possibly, a rampart retaining structure. Foundation remains of a second timber structure, probably a building, identified within the enclosure contained occupation debris including house mouse bones.

Approximately three metres wide and over a metre deep, the enclosure ditch had contained water since it was open and is likely to have remained waterlogged ever since; water flea snails, freshwater snails and aquatic beetles were found in the ditch. Fragments of small round wood with chopped ends may indicate some woodland management occurred close by and the remains of red deer further indicate that forested areas were located in the vicinity.

Bones of new-born pigs and lambs indicate that these animals were being bred at the settlement and the presence of dung beetles emphasises that stock was kept in the area. However, there was little evidence that the inhabitants were involved in arable agriculture or crop processing.

Examination of the Roman road, Mileham Lane, established that it was a rather insubstantial metalled track up to 3.7m wide. More significantly though, it was revealed that the Roman road was superimposed on a middle to late Iron Age ditched track about twelve metres wide. Numerous wheel ruts were identified on this track, preserved by the deposition of the Roman metalling.

Metal detection on the site retrieved several late eighteenth- to early nineteenth-century coins, perhaps related to the construction of the adjacent railway in the late nineteenth century. Additionally, an Italian silver coin, a soldino of Agostino Barbarigo, Doge of Venice between 1486 and 1501, was recovered.

Archaeology in Lincolnshire, Acca no.256.97

Baumber: SMR no. pending

Neil Herbert

Following the discovery of a Bronze Age gold bracelet near Baumber, an investigation was carried out by APS as part of a Treasure Trove inquiry. No evidence survived to indicate whether or not the bracelet had been deliberately buried. However, a quantity of Roman pottery was found on the field surface and this complements previous discoveries of Roman coins and brooches in the area.

Archaeology in Lincolnshire, Acca no.90.97

North Kesteven hedgerows

Paul Cope-Paulkner

As a requirement of the Hedgerow Regulations (1997), staff of APS have carried out archaeological and historical investigations in relation to proposals to remove various hedges in North Kesteven District. Hedgerows at Ashby Magna-Launde, Heighington, Scoopwick, South Hykeham and Wellington have been examined and although many of the hedges have been found to be historically significant, appearing on early maps, few have had any obvious archaeological significance. However, at South Hykeham, a double bank and ditch
which served as a woodland bank was identified. This earthwork formed the boundary of Dunker Wood, and was depicted on a map of 1774.

South Holland Conservation Areas
Paul Cope-Faulkner
As part of Conservation Area appraisals in South Holland district, archaeological assessments were undertaken, by PCF of APS, for Holbeach and Long Sutton. At Holbeach, two zones of archaeological interest were defined. One of these was largely coincident with the Conservation Area boundary and encompassed the medieval and later core of the settlement. A second zone, located outside the Conservation Area, was also proposed to include the site of a medieval chapel and graveyard south of the village. At Long Sutton, although there were outlying Roman remains, artefacts of the period had been found within the Conservation Area, which also enclosed most of the medieval core of the village. It was therefore proposed that the Conservation Area should also be defined as a zone of archaeological importance.

Two prehistoric tools from Salmonby, SMR Nos 54298, 54299
William Bee and Mark Bennet
During field walking in the parish of Salmonby, Mr William Bee has recovered two flint tools which are unusual in having been fashioned from fragments of Neolithic polished axe (Fig.3). The first tool is a flake worked to form cutting or scraping edges on two of the edges and with a small remaining section of serration on one of the edges; the smooth, polished side of the flake betrays its origins as a Neolithic axe. The second tool is a spall from a knife blade. The two tools come from different polished axes.

May reports over 500 neolithic axeheads as having been found in Lincolnshire and Mr William Bee has found at least twenty Neolithic polished axehead fragments in this area of the Lincolnshire Wolds. It is not possible to say whether the original axes were accidentally broken during use or deliberately broken. In any event, at some later stage of the Neolithic or Bronze Age, the broken fragments were made into tools.

The shortage in Lincolnshire of good quality flint for tool making may be one reason why these axe fragments were reworked. However, in addition to this functionalist explanation, it is also possible, perhaps even likely, that the tool-makers were aware that they were working with objects that had been used before. Any polished axehead would have been a prestigious possession, probably handed down as an heirloom to succeeding generations. They are believed to have held ritual significance associated with the dead; one of the orthostats at the entrance to West Kennett long barrow has a series of axe-polishing grooves, perhaps indicating a connection with some aspect of ancestor worship. One might surmise that these axe fragments were deliberately reused, allowing the new tool to inherit some of the ritual associations of the original axehead and to preserve a memory of ancestors by prolonging the life of the artefact, albeit by reusing a broken part of that artefact.

Notes
1. Bee collection HC2 972; SMR No.54298.
2. Bee collection HC3 237; SMR No.54299.

Fig.3. Two prehistoric tools. SMR No.54298 to left; SMR No.54299 to right. (M. Bennet).