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**RESULTS OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION:
LAND ADJACENT TO CARDON HOUSE, RECTORY LANE, CHURCH END, GEDNEY,
LINCOLNSHIRE**

M & M ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

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**RESULTS OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION:
LAND ADJACENT TO CARDON HOUSE, RECTORY LANE, CHURCH
END, GEDNEY, LINCOLNSHIRE
NGR TF 4026 24206**



PLANNING APPLICATION REFERENCE:

H06/0575/02

PREPARED FOR:

Mr. T. Young
Cardon House,
Rectory Lane,
Gedney.
Lincolnshire
PE12 0BU

Site Code: CHG 02
Accession No.: 2002.426

September 2002

Conservation
Services

21 OCT 2002

Highways & Planning
Directorate

Event H13448
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H 8154
Mon 4/20/01
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NGR TF 4026 2420

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H06/0575/02

PREPARED FOR:

Mr. T. Young
Cardon House,
Rectory Lane,
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SUMMARY

- 1.1 Mr. T. Young applied for the renewal of full planning permission for the construction of a single dwelling and access on land adjacent to Cardon House, Church End, Gedney, Lincolnshire (Planning Application H06/0575/02).*
- 1.2 Prior to the determination of the planning renewal, Conservation Services, Lincolnshire County Council (acting as archaeological advisors to South Holland District Council) has requested that a pre-determination archaeological trial trench evaluation of the site should be undertaken so that any archaeological remains may be taken into account.*
- 1.3 A specification for fieldwork was prepared and agreed prior to fieldwork commencing. The fieldwork and subsequent reporting on the results of the evaluation was undertaken according to this document and within nationally recognised archaeological guidelines.*
- 1.4 The evaluation recorded a single gully cutting through the natural geology. Three sherds of 15th century Bourne D ware were recovered. It is likely that the purpose of the gully was for field drainage based on its profile and alignment.*

2.0 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

- 2.1 Gedney is located 14km east of Spalding in the administrative district of South Holland. The site is located on land adjacent to Cardon House off Rectory Lane in the centre of Gedney and opposite the church of St. Mary Magdalen. The site is situated along the frontage of Church End. The site is a rectangular piece of landscaped gardens measuring approximately 600m² in total (see Figure 1).
- 2.2 The development area is centred on NGR TF 4026 2420 and lies at an altitude of 2.9m AOD. Soils at the site are Wisbech Association (812b) comprising deep stoneless calcareous coarse silty soils overlying Marine Alluvium (SSEW 1983).

3.0 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Mr. T. Young has applied to South Holland District Council to renew full planning permission for the construction of a single dwelling and access (Planning application reference: H06/0575/02). In response to this application, Conservation Services (LCC) acting as advisors to South Holland District Council requested that a pre-determination archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken. The requirement is for a 12m x 1.6m evaluation trench, located diagonally across the site.
- 3.2 A specification detailing the methodology to be maintained during the evaluation was prepared and the fieldwork and subsequent reporting has been undertaken in

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accordance with the specification and current best archaeological practices and the appropriate national standards and guidance including:

Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage 1991);
Code of Conduct (Institute of Field Archaeologists 1999);
Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations (Institute of Field Archaeologists 1999).
The Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook (Lincolnshire County Council 1998).

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 There are no securely dated prehistoric remains in Gedney parish although cropmarks recorded towards the fen may date from the Iron Age. It is likely that early prehistoric remains are buried beneath more recent flood deposits.
- 4.2 The Roman period is represented by sites to the south of the village towards the fen. Cropmarks and artefact scatters are recorded from this area. An archaeological watching brief undertaken 40m to the southwest of the site has recorded features, pottery and briquetage of Roman date and suggests a possible Romano-British saltern close by.
- 4.3 Gedney is mentioned in c. 973 AD although few finds of post-Roman date been found. The Church of St. Mary Magdalene dates mainly to the 13th-14th centuries but was considerably restored in the 19th century. The church itself lies on raised ground which is thought to be the remains of an earlier saltern mound. The site of a former moated manor house belonging to Crowland Abbey is recorded to the north of the church.

5.0 AIMS

The aims of the trial trench evaluation were to:

- a) to gather sufficient information to assess the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits and features;
- b) to report on the results of the evaluation and place them within their Local, Regional or National context
- c) to gather sufficient information so that an assessment may be made regarding the potential impact of the development on any archaeological remains that may exist

6.0 METHODOLOGY & RESULTS

- 6.1 A trial trench evaluation was required of the site. The area to be evaluated is 600m². A trench 12m x 1.6m was requested and therefore the total area evaluated covered 19.2m². This equates to a 3% evaluation of the site by area. The evaluation took the form of a single trench. The location of the trench is detailed in Figure 2. A mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket was used to remove the topsoil. This was stored alongside the trench for back filling.

- 6.2 The earliest deposit recorded was the natural geology, a yellow brown alluvium (103). A linear gully [106] 0.6m wide and 0.3m deep cut through this deposit. The gully was lying north-south across the northwest end of the trench (see Figure 3 & Plates 2 & 3). The gully was almost boat shaped in profile and it is probable that it represents some form of drainage channel.
- 6.3 It contained a single medium grey silty soil (107) from which three sherds of light green glazed pottery was retrieved. These have been identified as possibly Bourne D ware, although it is suspected that it may represent similar pottery from Cambridgeshire (see Appendix A). The pottery is thought to be part of a 15th century jug. The fill of this feature was sealed by a dark grey silty loam subsoil (102) 0.4m deep.
- 6.4 The subsoil (102) varied from 0.3m to 0.4m in depth, late pottery of 19th and 20th century date was recorded along with occasional broken brick and animal bones. These bones may have come from a former butchers shop and slaughter house in close proximity to the site.
- 6.5 A roughly circular pit 0.7m in diameter and 0.6m deep [104] was recorded cutting through the subsoil (see Figure 3 & Plates 4 & 5). This pit had straight vertical sides with a slightly flattish base. The pit contained a single fill of medium grey silty soil (105). Pottery of 19th and 20th century date was recovered along with modern glass and a few clay pipe stem fragments
- 6.6 The whole of the site is sealed by a dark grey silty loam topsoil (101) under grass. It is possible that this material was imported for landscaping when a new lawn was established 18 months ago. This layer did not exceed 0.3m in depth.
- 6.7 Modern field drainage pipes ran across the trench at various depths. The south eastern end of the trench was extended down to a depth of 1.1m (see Plate 6) and a further drain can be seen at this level although it was not recorded on the plan drawing.

7.0 DISCUSSION

- 7.1 The archaeological evaluation has recorded a gully containing pottery of 15th century date at a depth of approximately 0.7m below the present ground surface. Its' function is likely to be for land drainage based on its recorded profile. However given the alignment of the gully (north-south), it may also represent land division occurring on a north-south alignment off Church End. No other associated archaeological features were recorded.
- 7.2 The only interesting artefacts encountered were the 15th century pottery sherds recovered from the gully. It is possible that these were deposited through manuring of the surrounding soils at this date and were redeposited through natural movement in the soil. The remains are of no more than Local Significance.

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8.0 FIGURES

Figure 1. Site location plan.

Figure 2. Trench location plan.

Figure 3. Plan and section of trench.



0km

1km

Map based on Ordnance Survey with the sanction of the
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Figure 1. Site location

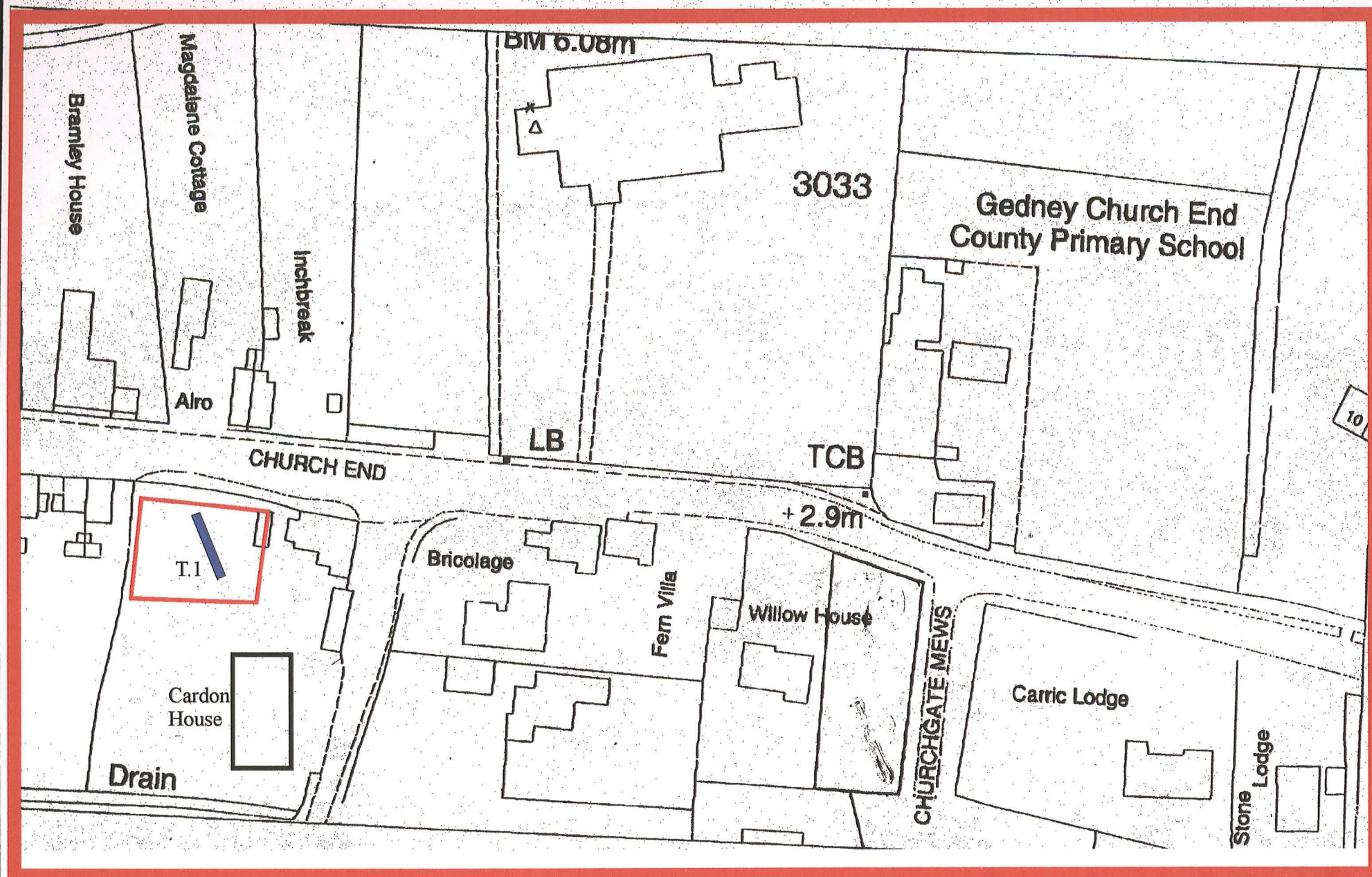
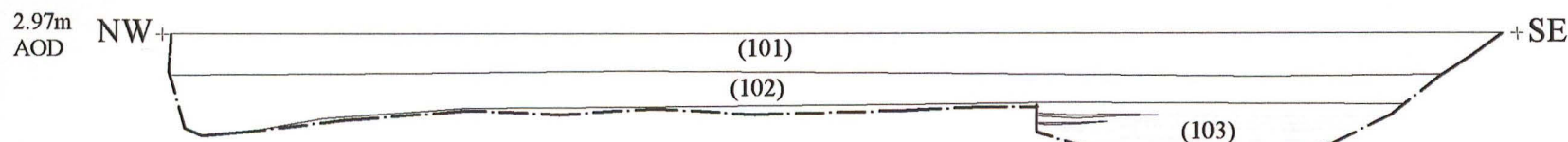
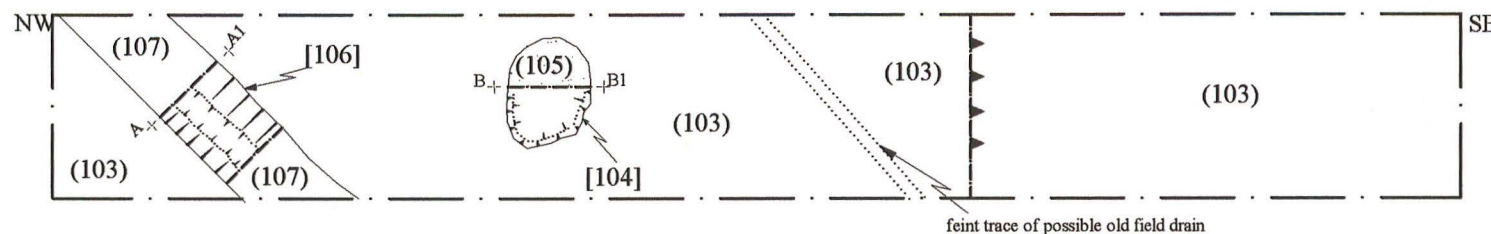
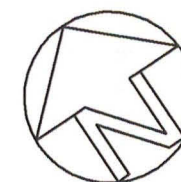


Figure 2. Trench locations

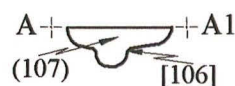


North East Section Trench 1

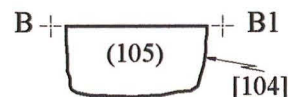


Plan Trench 1

Section
A, A1



Section
B, B1



M & M Archaeological Services	
Job	Cardon House Church End Gedney Sth - Evaluation
Title	Trench 1 Plan & Sections
Scale	As Drawn
NGR	TF 4026 2420
Drawn	mpc
Date	October 2002
Dwg	Figure 3
Site Code	CHG - 02

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9.0 PLATES

Plate 1. Trench looking north west.

Plate 2. Gully [106] looking north.

Plate 3. Gully [106] after excavation

Plate 4. Pit [104] looking north east.

Plate 5. Pit [104] after excavation.

Plate 6. Sondage in south east of trench.



Plate 1. Trench 1 looking north west.



Plate 2. Gully [106] looking north.



Plate 3. Gully [106] after excavation.



Plate 4. Pit [104] looking north east.

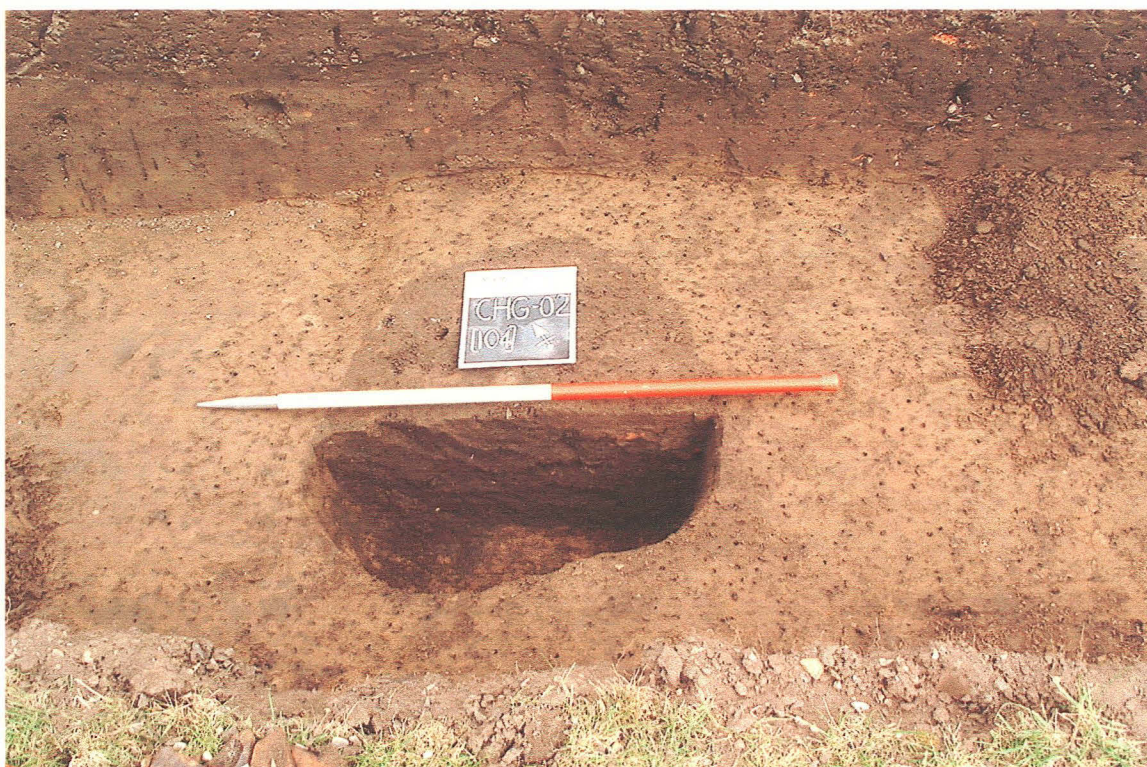


Plate 5. Pit [104] after excavation.



Plate 6. Sondage in south east of trench.

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10.0 APPENDIX A.

Pottery Report.

Pottery Archive CHG02

Jane Young

trench	context	cname	full name	form type	sherds	vessels	weight	part	description	date
1	107	BOU	Bourne D ware	jug	2	1	7	BS	cu speckled glaze over white slip;? ID as sandy fabric could be Cambs	15th
1	107	BOU	Bourne D ware	jug	1	1	6	BS	cu speckled glaze over white slip;? ID as sandy fabric could be Cambs	15th

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11.0 APPENDIX B.

Context Sheet Record.

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Context	Location	Description	Samples	Interpretation
101	Trench 1	Dark grey silty loam under grass.	No	Top-soil
102	Trench 1	Dark grey silty loam with occasional building rubble and pottery	No	Subsoil
103	Trench 1	Yellow brown alluvial silts	No	Alluvial deposits (natural)
104	Trench 1	Circular pit straight sides flattish base	No	Modern refuse pit. 19 th & 20 th century
105	Trench 1	Medium grey silty soil, occasional 19 th 20 th C. pottery.	No	Single fill of cut [104]
106	Trench 1	Gully lying n – s	No	Probably drainage 15 th century pottery
107	Trench 1	Medium grey silty soil	No	Single fill of cut [106]