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<p>Conservation Services</p> <p>24 JAN 2006</p> <p>Highways & Planning Directorate</p>
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Witham Archaeology

A Report To Mr A Popple
December 2005



**LAND WEST OF 29A EDENHAM ROAD,
HANTHORPE, LINCOLNSHIRE**

Archaeological Watching Brief

R Trimble

acknowledged receipt 24/1/00

LAND WEST OF 29A EDENHAM ROAD, HANTHORPE, LINCOLNSHIRE

Site Code: ERH05
LCCM Accession No.: 2005.185
Planning Application No.: S05/142/58
NGR: TF 08389 23810

Archaeological Watching Brief

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LAND WEST OF 29A EDENHAM ROAD, HANTHORPE, LINCOLNSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

SUMMARY

This report describes the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by Witham Archaeology during groundworks relating to the construction of a single house with garage on land west of 29A Edenham Road, Hanthorpe, Lincolnshire. The work was commissioned Mr A Popple in response to a condition of planning permission issued by South Kesteven District Council. Recording took place during visits made on 17th and 24th September 2005.

The watching brief resulted in the discovery of a shallow, north-south aligned, ditch or gully. The feature, which was located on the western side of the site, produced a single fragment of pottery dated 13th to 14th century AD.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report describes the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by Witham Archaeology during groundworks relating to the construction of a single house with garage at, 29A Edenham Road, Hanthorpe, Lincolnshire. The work, commissioned by Mr A Popple in response to a condition of planning permission issued by South Kesteven District Council, was carried out during visits made on 17th and 24th September 2005.

Initial ground reduction across the footprint of the house and garage was carried out to depths of between 300mm (eastern side) and 600mm (western side). Further excavations for the garage and house foundations were confined to trenches c. 600mm deep and 600mm wide.

The information in this document is presented with the proviso that further data may yet emerge. Witham Archaeology cannot, therefore, be held responsible for any loss, delay or damage, material or otherwise, arising out of this report. The document has been prepared in accordance with the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

2.0 SITE LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY & GEOLOGY (See Fig. 1)

The village of Hanthorpe, in the parish of Morton and Hanthorpe (until recently, Morton parish) and administrative district of South Kesteven, lies c. 4km north of Bourne. The site lies on the periphery of the southwestern part of the village, on the southern side of Edenham Road, at TF 08389 23810.

The site is generally level, approximately rectangular in plan, measuring between 12.5 – 17m wide x 45m deep.

The site lies close to the Lincolnshire fen edge on a Jurassic geology of Oxford Clay (Geological Survey of Great Britain, Solid and Drift, Sheet 143).

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Although there is little evidence of prehistoric activity in the immediate vicinity of Hanthorpe, remains of the period have been recorded on the fen edge, in the eastern part of Morton parish.

Two Roman roads traverse the parish: King Street which passes to the east of Hanthorpe on its route to Sleaford, and 'Long Hollow', which leaves King Street to link with Ermine Street just south of Ancaster (Whitwell 1970). Romano-British pottery (SMR No. 33160), has been found on small plot of ground to the east of the current site.

In the Domesday book of 1086, Hanthorpe is recorded as 'Hermodestorp', deriving from the Norse personal name 'Homothr' and the Danish 'thorpe'. This suggests a secondary settlement, dependant farmstead, or hamlet (Cameron 1998). Aerial photographs reveal fragmentary evidence of shrunken village remains (SMR No. 33181), in the form of minor earthworks including a possible moat or pond on land to the east of the current site. Medieval pottery (SMR 33159) - including undeveloped Stamford rims - has been found yet further to the east, in close association with the Romano-British pottery mentioned above.

A recent watching brief (Snee 2001), on land to the north of Edenham Road (SMR Nos. 35382, 35383, 35384), located evidence of an undated channel. The feature was interpreted as either a canalised stream (formerly draining the uplands to the west) or a drainage ditch. Pottery dating to the 16th - 17th century was also recovered from the site.

A Windmill (SMR 33155), formerly located on the road between Morton and Hanthorpe, appears to have been demolished.

4.0 AIMS & OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the project, as set out in a Witham Archaeology specification of 10 September 2005 was to:

- *allow the preservation by record of any surviving archaeological deposits and artefacts exposed by the development groundwork within the constraints imposed by the contractor's working methods, programme and development design.*

Specific objectives were to:

- *produce a project archive for deposition with the appropriate museum together with a client report.*
- *provide information for accession to the County Sites and Monuments Record.*

5.0 METHODOLOGY

All groundworks were subject to continuous archaeological monitoring, with foundation trenches closely inspected for evidence of archaeological deposits and/or artefacts. A representative section was drawn showing the stratigraphic sequence on the western side of the site, and a single linear feature was planned at scale 1:20. The foundation trenches did not reveal any evidence of archaeological deposits - being cut into the naturally occurring clays - and were not therefore recorded in detail. A series of colour print photographs includes views of the groundworks in progress, as well as views of specific archaeological features and the general stratigraphic sequence.

6.0 RESULTS (See Fig. 2)

The superficial geology of the area, consists of firm, yellowish brown and mid grey clay (008) with large, irregular patches of mixed sand and clay containing small frequent fragments of chalk and occasionally flints. Over the northern part of the site occupied by the garage footprint, the clays became bluish-grey within the lower extents of the excavated trenches.

A small north-south aligned gully or ditch (004/006) was partially revealed near the western limit of excavation. The ditch, partially truncated during topsoil removal, was *c.* 0.25m wide, and extended over a distance of *c.* 16.40m. A break mid way along the length of the feature could represent a point of access, but might, alternatively, be regarded as the result of a variation in its base level. The ditch, which was filled by a mid brown silty sand (003/005), produced a single sherd of medieval pottery dated as 13th to 14th century. This was recovered from the surface of 003, which filled its southern extent (004). A mixed silty sand and clay (002), visible in the east facing section at the western limit of the plot (see Fig. 2, Section 1), could represent a ploughsoil sealing 003, but this relationship was not conclusively demonstrated. Deposit 002 was sealed by a *c.* 0.5m depth of topsoil. The depth of topsoil dropped to *c.* 300mm at the eastern limit of the plot, corresponding with a general fall in ground level from west to east. Two fragments of unstratified pottery (007), dated 13th to 14th century, were recovered during removal of the topsoil from across the footprint of the building.

7.0 CONCLUSION

The results of the watching brief suggest an absence of intensive settlement evidence in this part of the village. However, a single ditch or gully, and stray sherds of pottery indicate sporadic activity in the area, which may have been peripheral to the main centre of later Anglo-Saxon and medieval occupation. The watching brief did not reveal any evidence relating to the nearby Romano-British artefact scatter.

8.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author of this report would like to thank the owner of the plot, Mr Andrew Popple, for his interest in the project and for his assistance in providing necessary information etc. Thanks are also due to the groundwork contractor, Mr George Bates, and his staff, for their cooperation in ensuring that fieldwork was brought to a successful conclusion.

9.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Pevsner, N & Harris, J 1989 *The Buildings of England. Lincolnshire*. Penguin (2nd Ed., Revised by N Antram)
- Snee, J 2001 *Archaeological Watching Brief during development at Edenham Road, Hanthorpe, Lincolnshire (HER00)*. Archaeological Project Services Report 92/01
- Whitwell, JB 1970 *Roman Lincolnshire. History of Lincolnshire II*. History of Lincolnshire Committee, Lincolnshire Local History Society

10.0 PROJECT/ ARCHIVE DETAILS

10.1 LHA NOTE DETAILS

SITE CODE: ERH05

PLANNING APPLICATION No.: S05/142/05

FIELD OFFICER: R Trimble

NGR: TF 08389 23810

CIVIL PARISH: Morton & Hanthorpe

SMR No.:

DATE OF INTERVENTION: 17 – 24 September 2005

TYPE OF INTERVENTION: Watching Brief

UNDERTAKEN FOR: Mr A Popple

10.2 ARCHIVE DETAILS

PRESENT LOCATION: Witham Archaeology, 65 Grantham Road, Sleaford, Lincolnshire, NG34 7NG

FINAL LOCATION: The City and County Museum, Friars Lane, Lincoln

MUSEUM ACCESSION No.: 2005.185

ACCESSION DATE: -

The Site Archive Comprises:

Context Records	8
Plans at Scale 1:50	1
Section Drawings at Scale 1:20	1
Colour Print Photographs	33
Set of Site Notes	1

It is intended that transfer of the archive in accordance with current published requirements will be undertaken following completion of this project.

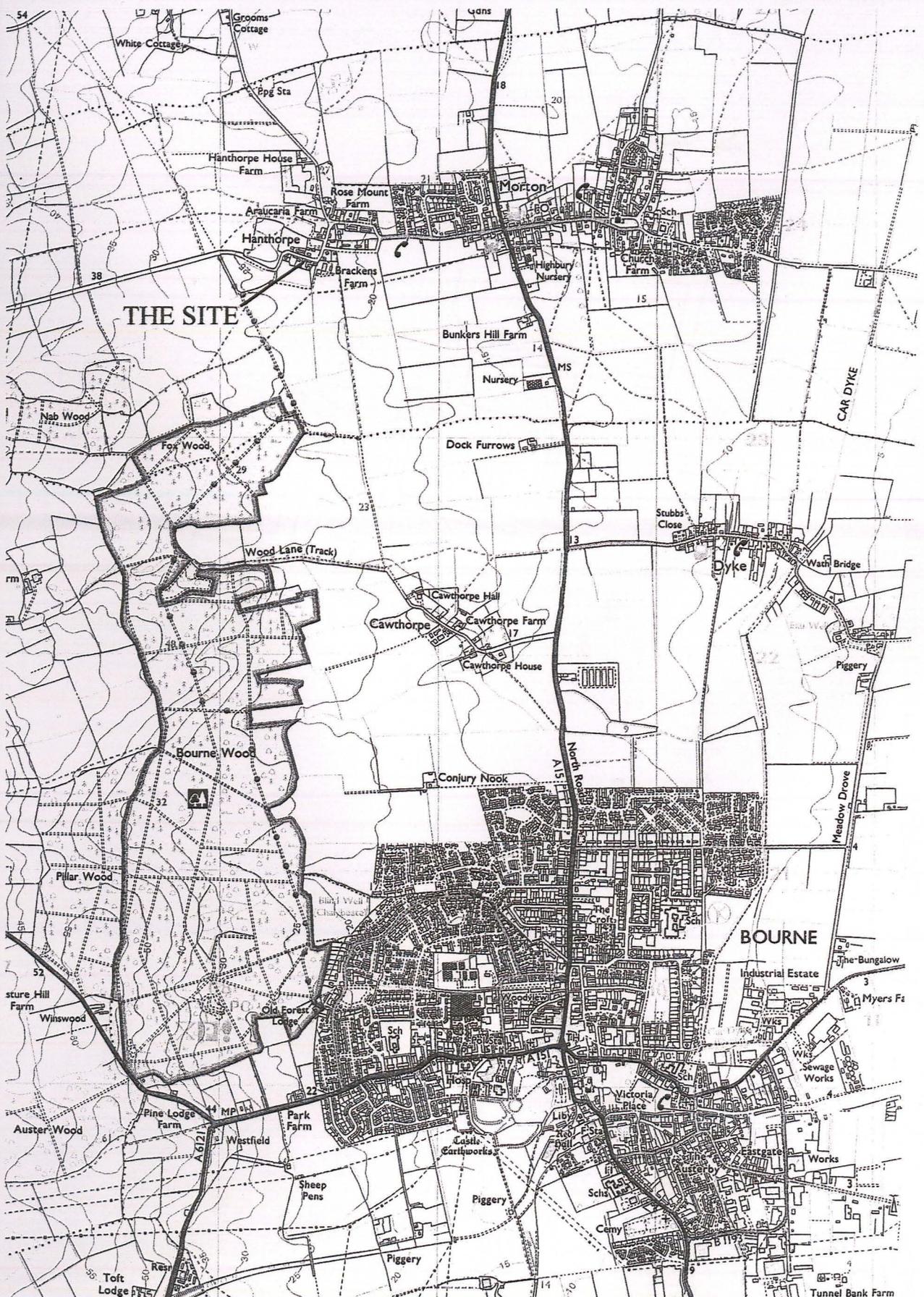
COLOUR PLATES



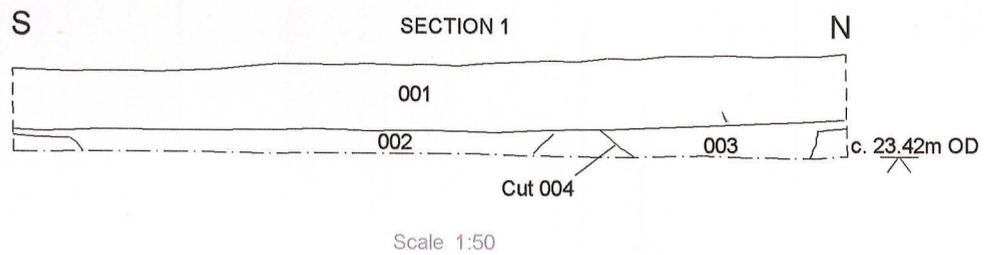
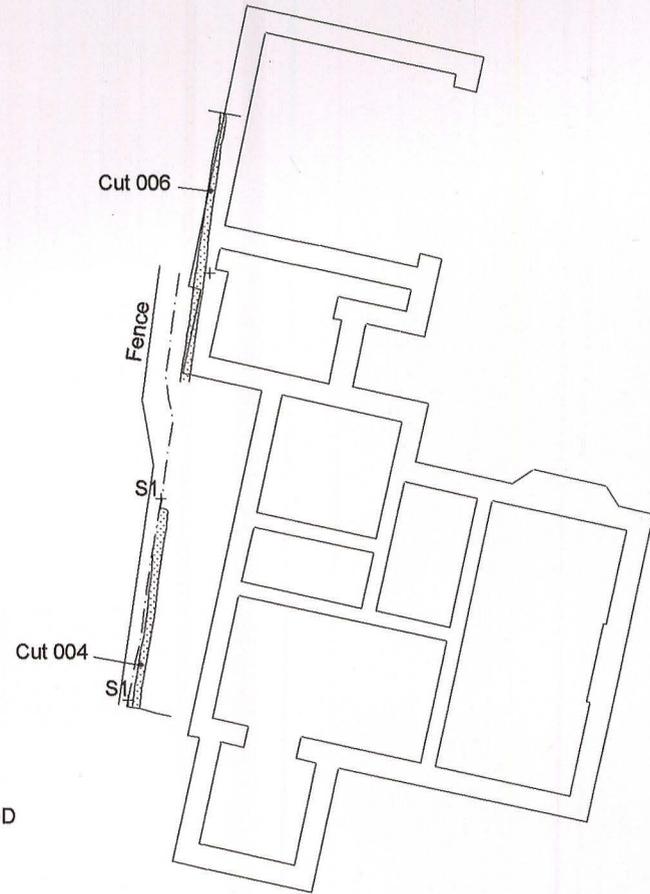
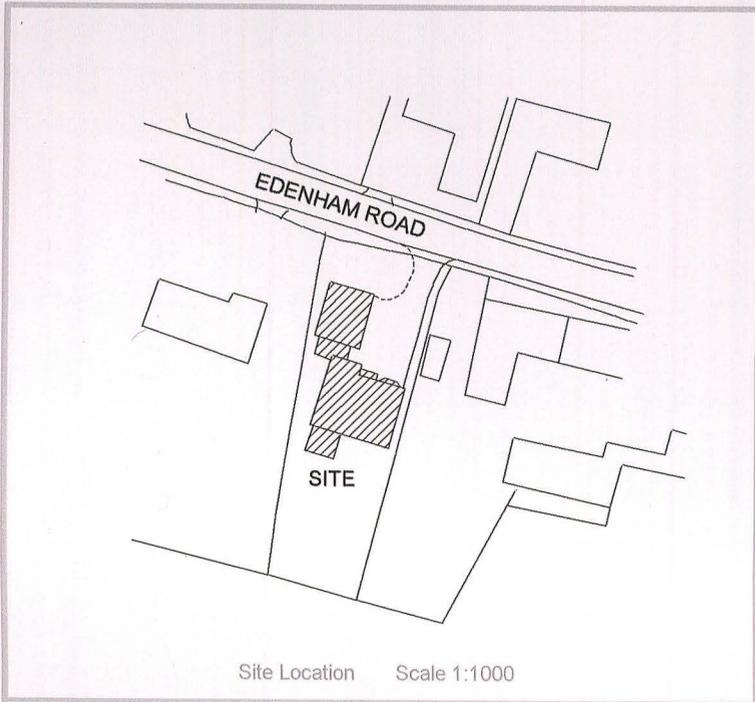
Plate 1 - View showing work in progress, looking north.



Plate 2 - View showing stratigraphy in foundation trenches, looking north (1m scale).



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APPENDIX
POTTERY ARCHIVE

Pottery Archive ERH05

Jane Young

site code	context	cname	full name	sub fabric	form type	sherds	vessels	weight	part	description	date
erh05	003	BOUA	Bourne-type Fabrics A, B and C	A/B	jug	1	1	39	handle	abraded;leached surfaces;unusual folded strap handle with one pressed edge	13th to 14th
erh05	007	BOUA	Bourne-type Fabrics A, B and C	A/C	jar/jug	2	1	12	BS	slightly abraded	13th to 14th