

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF DEVELOPMENT ON LAND AT
WYNDHAM PARK,
GRANTHAM,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(GWP97)**



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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF DEVELOPMENT ON LAND AT
WYNDHAM PARK,
GRANTHAM,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(GWP97)**

Work Undertaken For
Property Division
Lincolnshire County Council

December 1998

Report Compiled by
Paul Cope-Faulkner

Planning Application No: AC/S.35/-/96/JS
National Grid Reference: SK 91804 36468
City and County Museum Accession No: 38.97

A.P.S. Report No. 82/98

*Archaeological Project Services is an IFA Registered Archaeological
Organisation (Number 21)*

CONTENTS

List of Figures

List of Plates

| | | |
|-----|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. | Summary | 1 |
| 2. | Introduction | 1 |
| 2.1 | Definition of a Watching Brief | 1 |
| 2.2 | Background | 1 |
| 2.3 | Topography and Geology | 1 |
| 2.4 | Archaeological Setting | 1 |
| 3. | Aims | 2 |
| 4. | Methods | 2 |
| 5. | Description of the Trenches | 3 |
| 6. | Discussion | 4 |
| 7. | Conclusions | 4 |
| 8. | Acknowledgements | 5 |
| 9. | Personnel | 5 |
| 10. | Bibliography | 5 |
| 11. | Abbreviations | 5 |

Appendices

| | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Brief for an Archaeological observation and recording |
| 2 | Context Summary |
| 3 | The Finds <i>Paul Cope-Faulkner, Hilary Healey and Gary Taylor</i> |
| 4 | The Archive |
| 5 | Glossary |

List of Figures

Figure 1 General Location Plan

Figure 2 Site Location Plan

Figure 3 Plan of development showing Section locations

Figure 4 Sections 1, 2, 4 and 5

Figure 5 Sections 6 and 7

Figure 6 Section 8

Figure 7 Mesolithic flint core

List of Plates

Plate 1 General view of the development area

Plate 2 Section 5

Plate 3 Section 7

1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the construction of a new school at Wyndham Park, Grantham.

The development site lies within an area from which Bronze Age (2250-800 BC) flints have been recovered. Finds of Romano-British (AD 50-410) and medieval (AD 1066-1500) are also known from the vicinity of Grantham town.

Natural deposits were found that indicate glaciofluvial or alluvial deposition at the site. Several ditches and a pit were revealed but all were undated. A small quantity of prehistoric flint tools was recovered, indicating probable human activity at the site during the Bronze Age and Mesolithic (8,000-4,500 BC) periods. Additionally, limited amounts of Roman and medieval artefacts were retrieved, but may indicate the area was agricultural land at those periods. A number of recent features, including cinder paths, are probably associated with the nursery school at the site.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

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

2.2 Background

Between the 10th March and 7th November 1997, an archaeological watching brief was

undertaken during excavation of foundation trenches for a new nursery school at Wyndham Park, Hill Avenue (National Grid Reference SK 91804 36468). The archaeological work was commissioned by the Property Division, Lincolnshire County Council and was carried out by Archaeological Project Services in accordance with a brief set by the Assistant Archaeological Officer, Lincolnshire County Council (Appendix 1).

2.3 Topography and Geology

Grantham is situated 35km south of Lincoln and 19km southwest of Sleaford in the civil parish of Grantham, South Kesteven District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

Wyndham Park is located 430m northeast of Grantham town centre as defined by the parish church of St. Wulfram (Fig. 2). The development site lies at a height of 50m OD on the floodplain of the River Witham which is located to the west. The development is 1875 square metres in size and is on a slight slope down westwards towards the River Witham.

As an urban setting, the area has not been mapped by the Soil Survey, but nearby records suggest that local soils are of the Blackwood Association, deep permeable sandy and coarse loamy soils in glaciofluvial drift (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 127). Beneath these drift deposits is a solid geology of Jurassic Middle Lias clays (GSGB 1972). Brownish sandy silts were the most frequent soil type encountered during the investigation.

2.4 Archaeological Setting

The development site lies in an area of known archaeological remains dating back to the Bronze Age (2200-800 BC). Sites of this period have been found 30m to the northeast (SK35.021), 40m north (SK35.08), 120m west

(SK35.019) and in the general area of Wyndham Park to the south (SMR30535). Finds from these sites include beaker pottery and flint artefacts such as plano-convex knives and arrowheads. Plano-convex knives and beaker pottery are often associated with funerary activity, but no evidence for such activity is yet known from Wyndham Park.

In contrast to the wealth of Bronze Age information, Iron Age (800BC-AD50) finds in the area of the development are minimal with a single find of a prototype Stater, a type of coin (SMR 30541), found 400m to the southwest.

Romano-British (AD50-410) finds are also rare and comprise greyware pottery (SMR30772) found 400m to the southwest and a coin of Constans (AD333-50) recovered 400m to the southeast (SMR30776).

Grantham is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086 where it is referred to as *Grantham*, *Granham* and *Grandham* (Ekwall 1974, 202-3). The name is derived from 'Granta's' Ham (Settlement of Granta) although the Old English 'grand' meaning gravel may suggest an alternative derivation. At the time of the Domesday Survey, Grantham belonged to the King and contained a hall, a church and four mills (Foster and Longley 1976).

The medieval town of Grantham lay 400m southwest of the development area to the west of the River Witham. The present parish church of St. Wulfram represents the most extant remains of this period and dates to the 11th and 12th centuries (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 316). Adjacent to the church lies Grantham House which has a 14th century core to the largely 16th century exterior (*ibid.* 325). Grantham House is situated on Castlegate, a possible reference to a castle in

the vicinity. No remains of this are known although William Stukeley, the 18th century antiquarian, reports of the foundations of the castle lying between Castlegate and the River Witham (Stukeley 1724, Iter III).

3. AIMS

The requirements of the watching brief, as set by the brief (Appendix 1), were to locate and record archaeological deposits, if present, and to determine their date, function and origin.

4. METHODS

The proposed development required the excavation of foundation trenches for new walls and trenches to provide services to the building. Prior to this, topsoil had been removed to a depth of between 0.4m and 0.6m across the site. Sides of all these trenches were then cleaned and rendered vertical. The depth of each deposit was measured from the stripped ground surface. Each deposit or feature revealed within an opened area was allocated a unique reference number (Context number) with an individual written description. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. A photographic record was also compiled. Recording of the deposits encountered during the watching brief was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services' practise.

Records of the deposits and features identified during the watching brief were examined. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them. A list of all contexts with interpretations appears as Appendix 2.

5. DESCRIPTION OF THE TRENCHES

Three periods of activity were recognised:

- Group 1 Natural deposits
- Group 2 19th century activity
- Group 3 Modern activity

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

Group 1 Natural deposits

Present across the west part of the site was a deposit of light orange-brown sand and grit (019). This was replaced to the east by an orange clay (025).

Towards the centre of the development these deposits were overlain by layers of yellowish brown sandy silt (035 and 040) and yellow silt and clay (041).

Group 2 Undated deposits

Located at the east end of the development, natural deposits had been altered by heat to a reddish purple and grey sand layer (038) and (039). The heat was sufficient to alter the natural to a depth of 0.2m.

Located at the northwest corner of the development was a feature (018) appearing in section only (Fig. 4, Section 1). This feature, possibly a small pit, measured 0.8m wide and 0.25m deep and contained a single fill of yellowish brown sandy silt (017).

Situated 10m to the south of Pit (018) was an east-west aligned linear feature (021/031). Interpreted as a ditch this feature was 1m wide by 0.35m deep and was visible for a length of 1.4m (Fig. 4, Section 2 and Fig. 6, Section 8). Two differing fills were recorded, a yellowish brown sandy silt to the east (020) and a reddish brown silty sand to

the west (030).

A second east-west aligned ditch (029) was located 4m to the east (Fig. 3). This feature measured 1.98m wide by 0.41m deep and had a recorded length of 3m (Fig. 4, Section 4 and Fig. 5, Section 6). The main fill was a reddish brown silty sand (027) although a secondary fill of brownish yellow grit (028) was recorded in Section 4.

Three interconnecting features (048, 049 and 050) were located north of ditch (029). It was not possible to ascertain whether these represent three ditches or a single feature with an undulating base. Overall this group of features measured 3.36m wide in section and 0.3m deep and each was filled with a reddish brown sand and silt (046). At the northern end of these features was evidence for a primary fill of yellowish brown silt and clay (047).

Sealing these features were deposits of sandy silt and silty sand varying in colour from reddish brown (014, 024, 036, 037 and 045) to yellowish brown (016, 026 and 032). These deposits, probably a former soil, were between 0.25m and 0.55m thick and were extant across the site. A residual mesolithic (8,500-4,500 BC) flint core, plus tile and possible Romano-British pottery was recovered from this deposit (Fig. 7).

Group 3 Modern deposits

Cut into the buried soil was a feature appearing in section only (034). Identified as a pit, this was 0.48m wide by 0.75m deep (Fig. 4, Section 5). A single fill of brownish grey sandy silt (033) was recorded and contained a medieval jug handle along with possible 19th century building material.

Overlying the buried soil and sealing pit (034) was a subsoil of brown silty sand and sandy silt (003, 007, 013 and 056). This layer was the horizon to which the machine excavated

during topsoil stripping and was up to 0.4m thick. Finds were recovered from contexts (007) and (056) and included a prehistoric flint, medieval pottery and tile, and recent pottery and glass.

Above the subsoil was evidence for three cinder paths across the site comprising ash and cinders (005, 010 and 054) often above a levelling deposit (055) or contained within a cut (006). Also above the topsoil was a number of dumped deposits (002, 008, 009 and 012).

Sealing the site, and removed prior to excavation of the foundation trenches was a topsoil of brown sandy silt (001, 011, 015 and 052). This was between 0.2m and 1m thick across the development area and contained modern pottery, glass and drain pipe, some of the artefacts having been severely burnt.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Group 1) of silts and clays may represent the underlying drift geology of glaciofluvial origin although they could also indicate alluvial activity from the nearby River Witham located 125m to the southwest.

Undated features (Group 2) comprise ditches, pits and an area of heat altered natural all sealed by a former, now buried, topsoil. The quantity of prehistoric flints of the Bronze Age noted from this area and recovered during this investigation may indicate a possible date for the ditches although Romano-British pottery was also recovered during the investigation.

Modern deposits are probably associated with the landscaping of Wyndham Park and the construction of a nursery school adjacent to the development.

A range of artefacts were recovered during the watching brief. The earliest material was several flints, reminiscent of Bronze Age styles although a mesolithic core was also recovered. Three pottery sherds and a roof tile were found to be of Romano-British date and indicate a presence of this period in the vicinity. However, all the Romano-British pottery came from unstratified sources. The medieval period is represented by both stratified and unstratified pottery and a fragment of glazed ridge tile. A mica-schist whetstone was also recovered and may even be Late Saxon in origin. The medieval assemblage may represent nothing more than discarded rubbish incorporated into midden heaps and later spread on the land to improve the fertility of the soil. If this is so, it is possible that the area was arable ground associated with the town. Artefacts of the 18th and 19th century were found to have been subject to high temperatures and in such quantities as to suggest they were deliberate dumps of this material.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations on land within Wyndham Park, Grantham was carried out because the site lay within an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Bronze Age.

A small number of archaeological remains were identified but are undated. Artefacts of prehistoric, Romano-British and medieval date were recovered from the site but cannot, with confidence, be associated with any of the undated remains.

The small collection of flints indicate human activity during the prehistoric period in the area and supplement previous discoveries in the vicinity. However, the Romano-British and medieval artefacts form only a limited assemblage, and are generally quite worn. As

such, they are likely to represent manuring scatter and signify that the area was used for agriculture, rather than occupation, in the Romano-British and medieval periods.

Recent features, probably associated with the adjacent nursery school, were also identified but had not significantly affected earlier deposits. The nature of the local site conditions would suggest that few environmental indicators would survive, other than through charring.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish acknowledge the assistance of Mr J Turner of the Property Division, Lincolnshire County Council for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. Gary Taylor coordinated the work and Tom Lane edited this report. Sarah Grundy, of the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council, allowed access to the Sites and Monuments Record. Jenny Stevens permitted access to the relevant parish files maintained by the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire. Hilary Healey commented upon the pottery.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
Site Supervisors: Chris Moulis, Darren Pullen, Fiona Walker
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
Finds Illustration: David Hopkins
Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
Post-excavation Analyst: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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11. Abbreviations

GSGB Geological Survey of Great Britain

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

SK Numbers prefixed by this letter relate to the reference codes used by the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist.

SMR Sites and Monuments Record reference code.

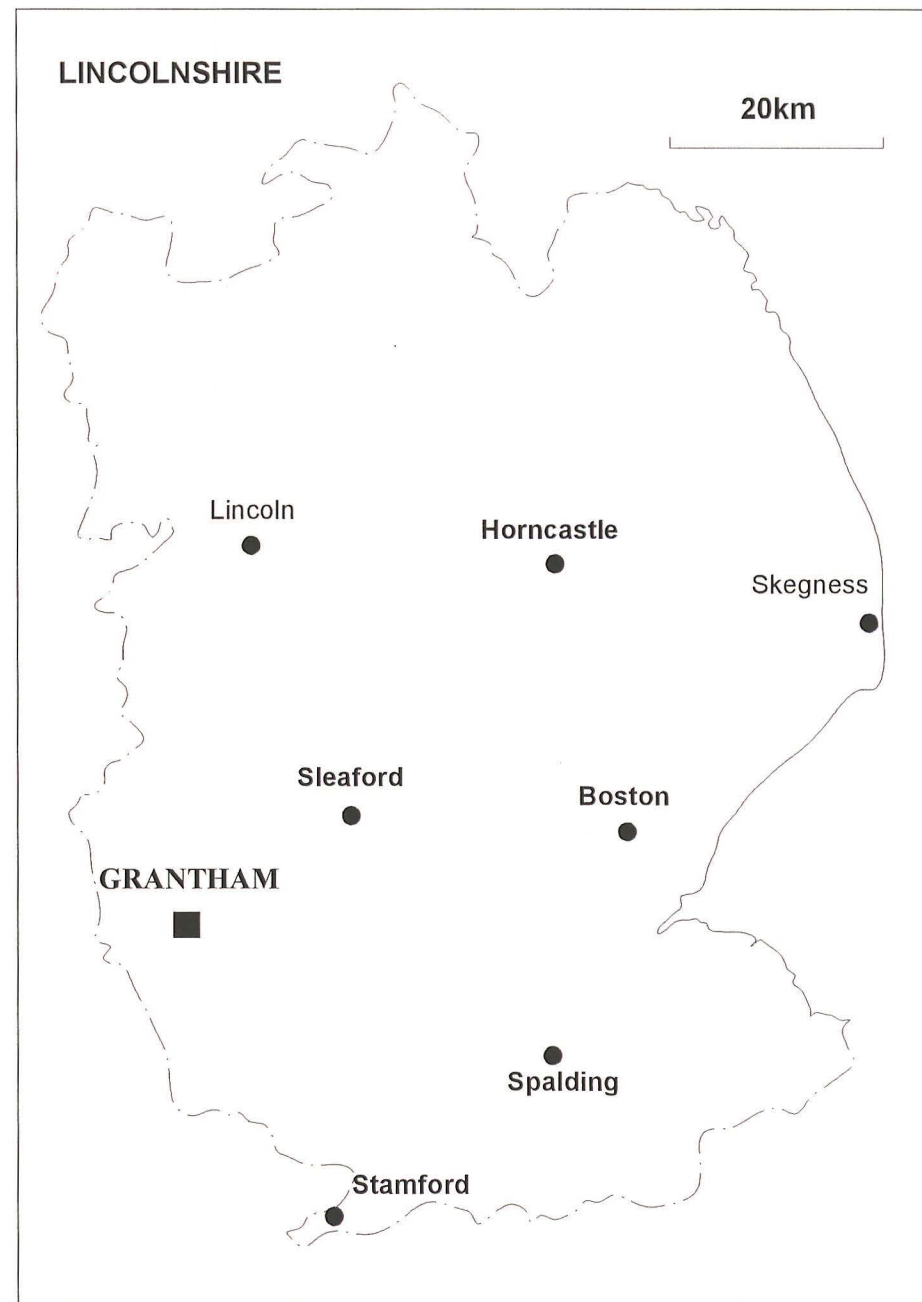
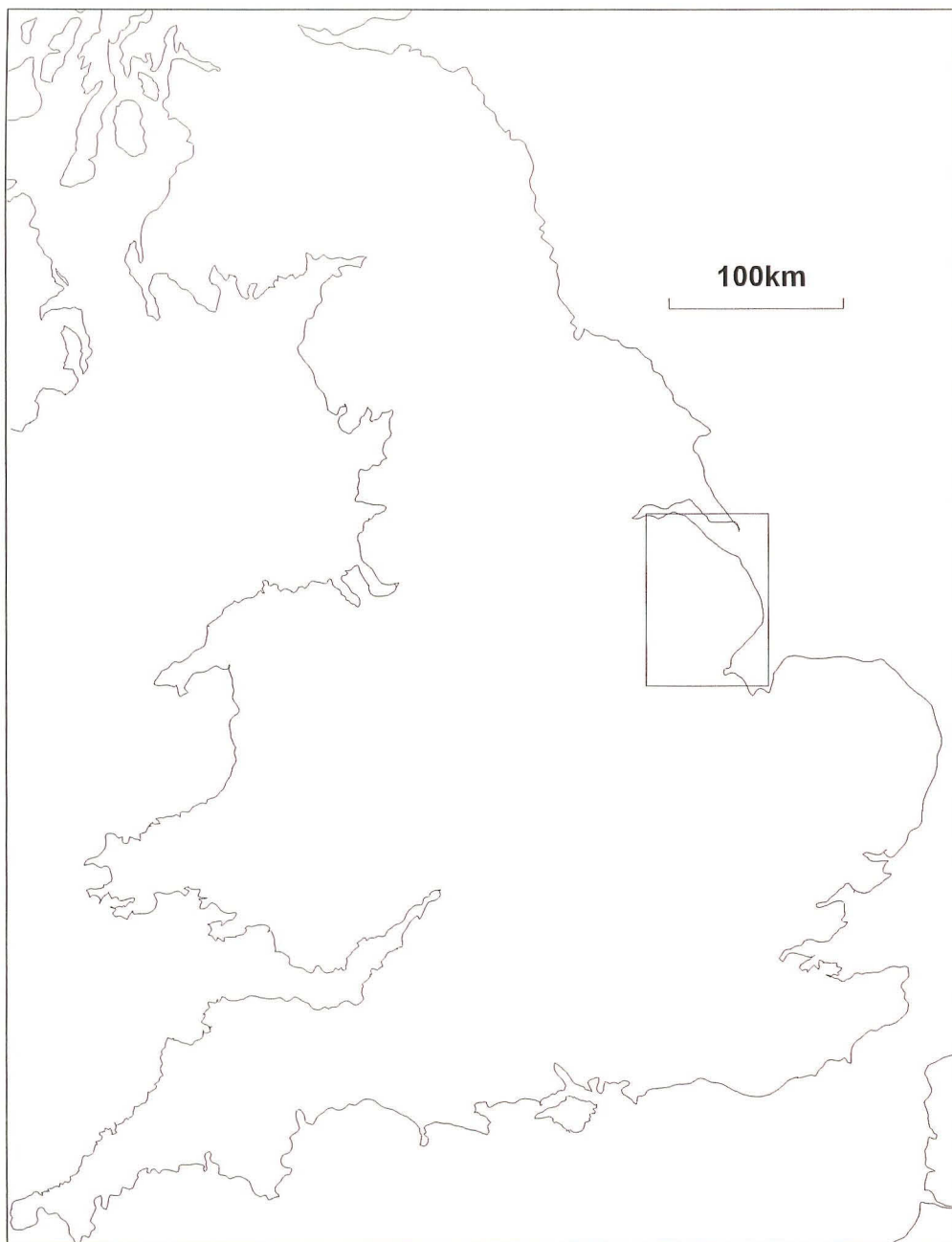


Figure 1 - General Location Plan

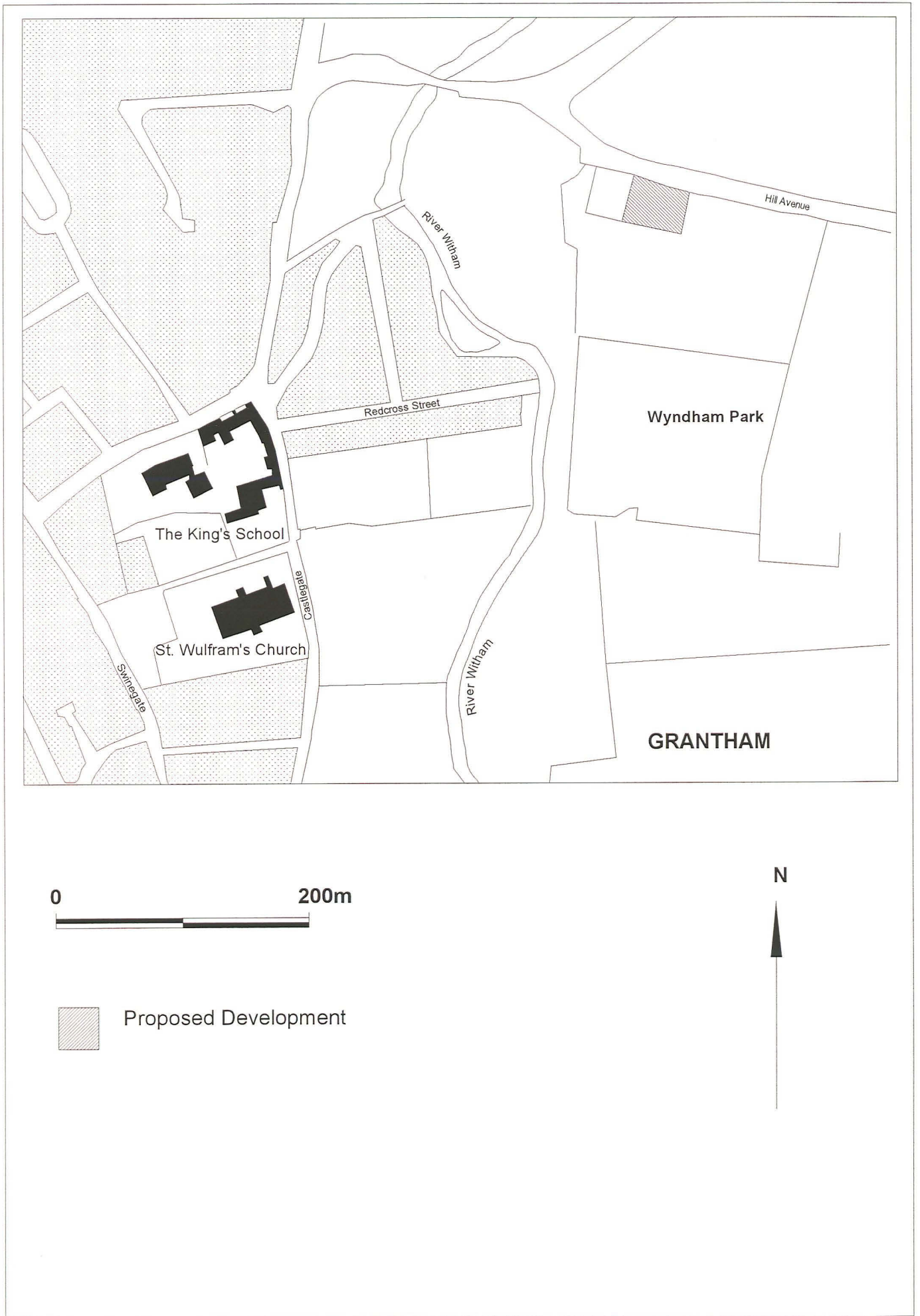


Figure 2 - Site Location Plan

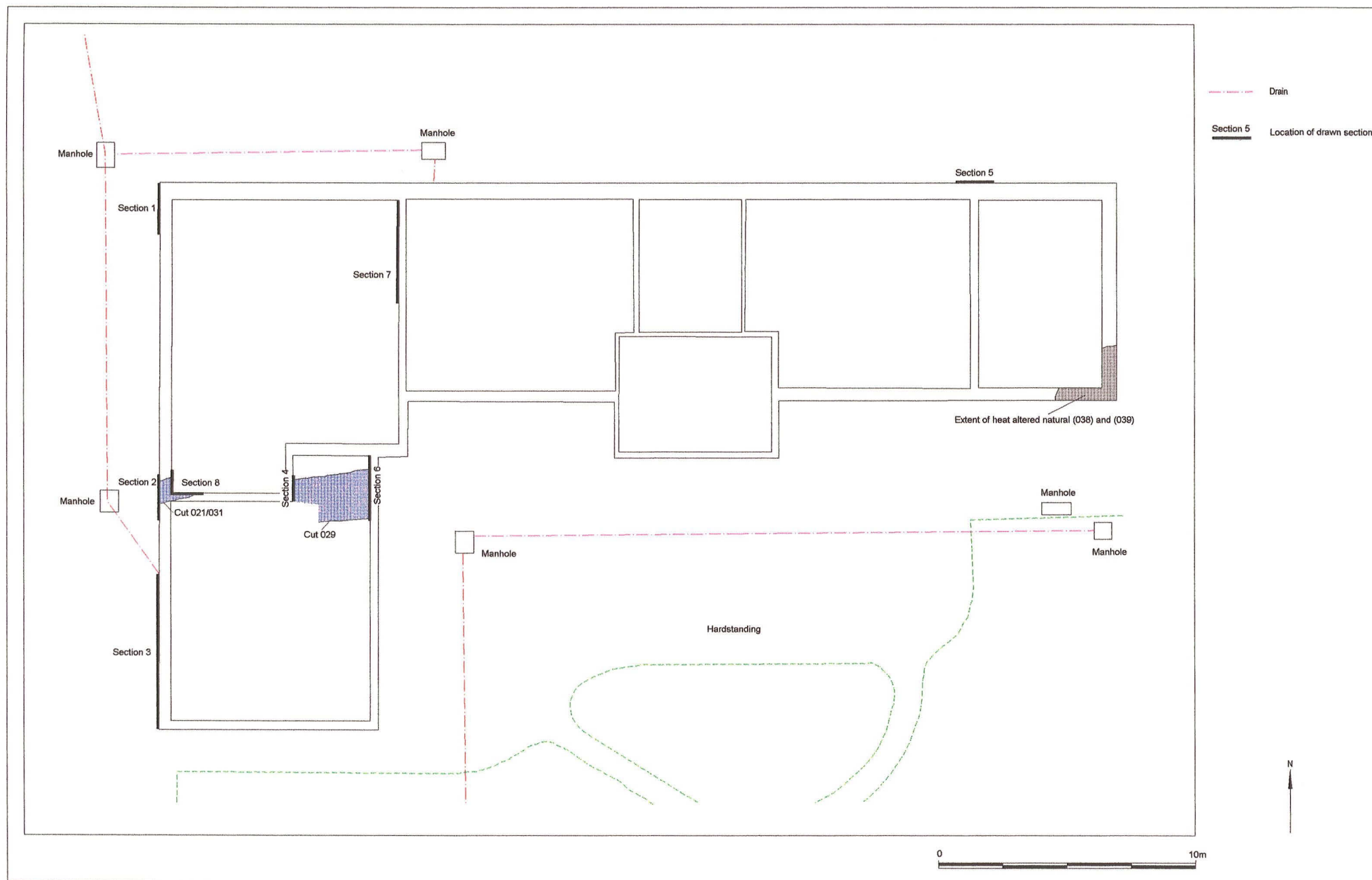


Figure 3 - Plan of development showing Section locations

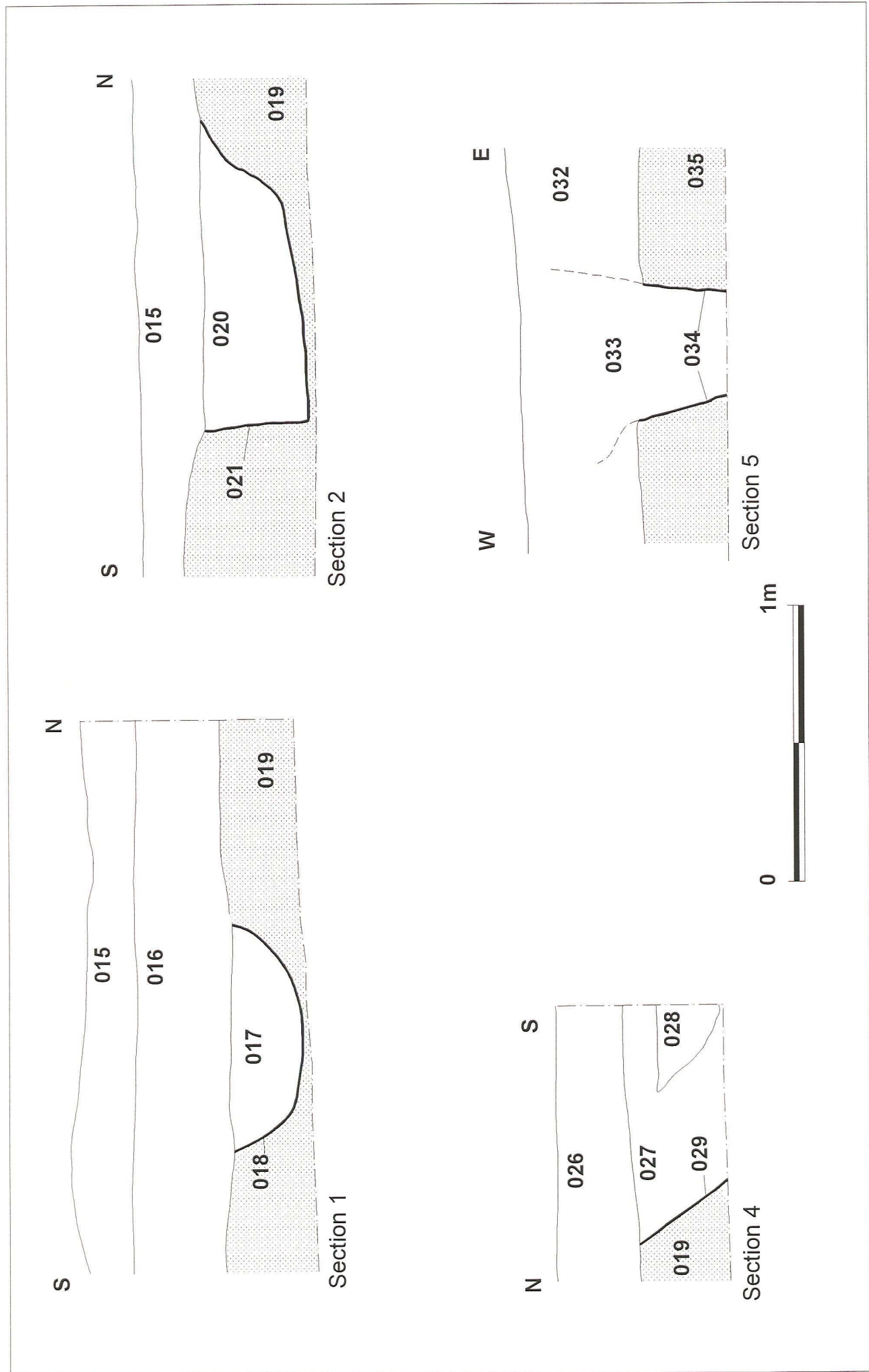


Figure 4 - Sections 1, 2, 4 and 5

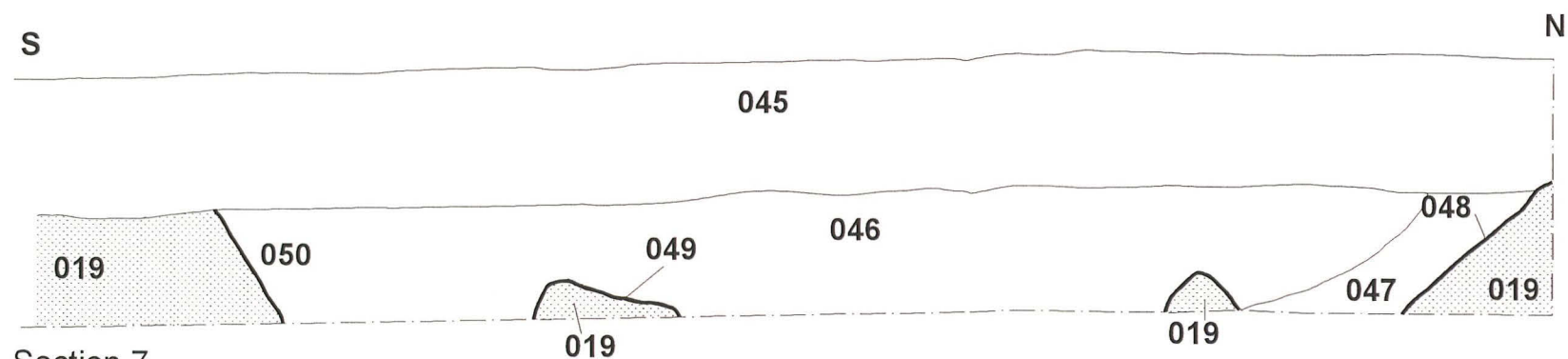
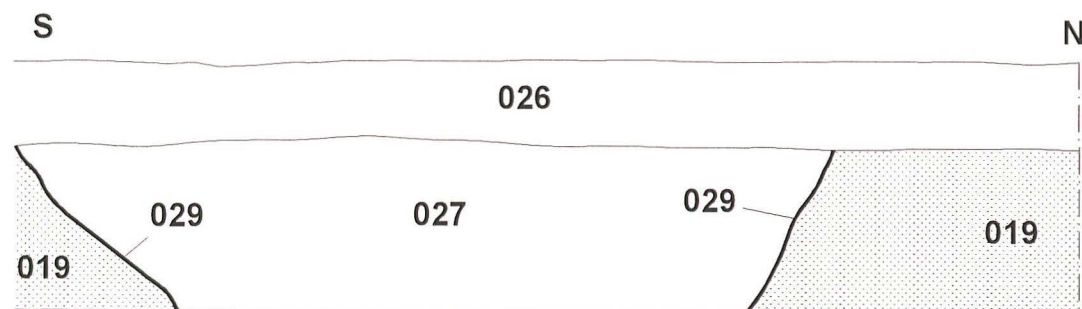
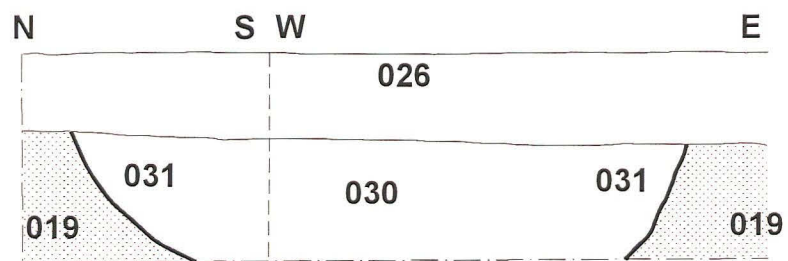


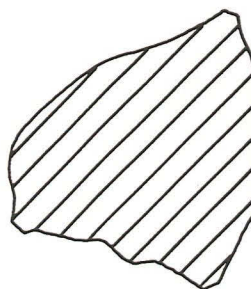
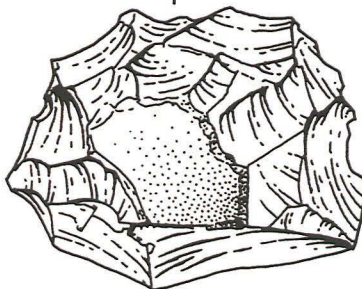
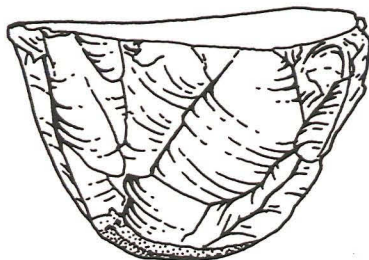
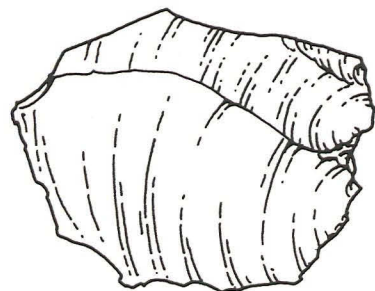
Figure 5 - Sections 6 and 7



Section 8



Figure 6 - Section 8



0

50mm

Context (016)

Figure 7 - Mesolithic flint core



◀ Plate 1 - General view of the development area looking west.

➤ Plate 2 - Section 5, looking north.



◀ Plate 3 - Section 7, looking west.

Appendix 1

BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION AND RECORDING

SITE: Wyndham Park, Hill Avenue
COMPANY: Lincolnshire County Council
LOCATION: Grantham
PLANNING APP. NO.: AC/S.35/-/96/JS

1. Summary

- 1.1 This document is the brief for archaeological observation and recording work to be carried out during the construction of a nursery school at Wyndham Park, Grantham on behalf of Lincolnshire County Council.
- 1.2 This brief should be used by archaeological contractors as the basis for the preparation of a detailed archaeological project specification. In response to this brief contractors will include the anticipated working methods, timescales and staffing levels.
- 1.3 The detailed specification will be submitted for approval of the Archaeological Officer of Lincolnshire County Council. If more than one, the client will be free to choose between those specifications which are considered to adequately satisfy this brief.

2. Site location and description

- 2.1 Grantham is situated towards the south of the county of Lincolnshire, approximately 35km south of Lincoln in the district of South Kesteven. The proposed nursery is located at Wyndham Park on Hill Avenue at NGR SK 9180436468.
- 2.2 At present the site is grass to the north of the present Wyndham Park Nursery School which is to be demolished. The site lies at approximately 50.5m OD and the local geology is oolitic limestone and upper lias clay.

3. Planning background

- 3.1 A Town and Country Planning General Regulations 1992 application was made by Lincolnshire County Council for the demolition of the existing nursery school and the erection of a new nursery school at Wyndham Park, Hill Avenue, Grantham. A condition requiring an archaeological watching brief accompanied the permission.
- 3.2 The construction will consist of three general phases. The first will be the demolition of the present building, the stripping of topsoil on the new site and the excavation of foundation trenches. Services will then be inserted and the final phase will be the construction of the car park and landscaping. The size of the new building is to be 36.5m x 22.0m.

4. Archaeological background

- 4.1 Over a number of years finds of Bronze Age date have been reported to Grantham Museum, having been found in the park. These finds have included pottery and flint artefacts which suggest that there are buried remains of this date located at a shallow depth in the vicinity of the park. No finds of any other period have been found in the immediate vicinity but the general area has seen some medieval activity.

5. Requirements for work

- 5.1 The objective of the watching brief should be to ensure that any archaeological features exposed by the

groundworks are recorded and interpreted.

- 5.2 Any adjustments to the brief for the watching brief project should only be made after consultation with the Archaeological Officer for Lincolnshire County Council.
- 5.3 It should be expected that evidence associated with Bronze Age activity will be observed.
- 5.4 The following details should be given in the contractor's specification:
 - 5.4.1 A projected timetable must be agreed for the various stages of work.
 - 5.4.2 The staff structure and numbers must be detailed. This should include lists of specialists and their role in the project.
 - 5.4.3 It is expected that all on-site work will be carried out in a way that complies with the relevant Health and Safety legislation and that due consideration will be given to site security.
 - 5.4.4 The recovery and recording strategies must be described in full.
 - 5.4.5 An estimate of time and resources allocated for the post-excavation work and report production.

6. Methods

- 6.1 The project should be carried out by a recognised archaeological body in accordance with the code of conduct of The Institute of Field Archaeologists.
- 6.2 The watching brief should involve:
 - 6.2.1 archaeological supervision of topsoil stripping;
 - 6.2.2 inspection of subsoil for archaeological features;
 - 6.2.3 recording of archaeological features in plan;
 - 6.2.4 rapid excavation of features where appropriate;
 - 6.2.5 archaeological supervision of subsoil stripping;
 - 6.2.6 inspection of natural deposits for archaeological features and their recording if extant.
 - 6.2.7 any human remains encountered must be left in situ and only removed if absolutely necessary. The contractor must comply with all statutory consents and licenses regarding the exhumation and interment of human remains. It will also be necessary to comply with all reasonable requests of interested parties as to the remains or associated items. Attempts must be made at all times not to cause offence to any interested parties.

7. Monitoring arrangements

- 7.1 The Archaeological Officer for Lincolnshire County Council will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project and will require at least seven days notice prior to the commencement of the work.
- 7.2 If archaeological remains of a character or quality which were not anticipated by this brief are revealed then the Archaeological Officer should be informed immediately so that contingency measures can be discussed.

8. Reporting requirements

- 8.1 A full report should be produced and deposited with the County Sites and Monuments Record and Lincolnshire County Council. The report should contain:
 - 8.1.1 location plans of the trenches;
 - 8.1.2 section and plan drawings, with ground level, Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scales as appropriate;
 - 8.1.3 specialist descriptions of artefacts and ecofacts;
 - 8.1.4 any indication of potential archaeological deposits not disturbed by the present development;
- 8.2 After agreement with the landowner, arrangements are to be made for long term storage of all artefacts and paper archive in the appropriate museum.
- 8.3 If the receiving museum is to be the City and County Museum, Lincoln then the archive should be produced in the form outlined in the museum's document 'Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives'.

9. Publication and Dissemination

- 9.1 The deposition of a copy of the report with the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record will be deemed to put all information into the public domain, unless a special request is made for confidentiality. If material is to be held in confidence a timescale must be agreed with the Archaeological Officer but is expected this will not exceed six months. Consideration must be given to a summary of the results being published in Lincolnshire History and Archaeology in due course.

10. Additional information

- 10.1 This document attempts to define the best practice expected of an archaeological watching brief but cannot fully anticipate the conditions that will be encountered as work progresses. However, changes to the programme are only to be made with the prior written approval of the Archaeological Officer.

Brief prepared by Jim Bonnor, Assistant Archaeological Officer, Lincolnshire County Council, 7th February 1997

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

| No. | Section | Description | Interpretation |
|-----|---------|--|----------------------|
| 001 | * | Dark grey brown sandy silt, 0.2m thick | Topsoil |
| 002 | * | Mixed browns silty sand, 0.2m thick | Dumped deposit |
| 003 | * | Mid brown silty sand, 140mm thick | Former topsoil? |
| 004 | * | Reddish brown silty sand, >90mm | Subsoil deposit |
| 005 | * | Grey ash and cinders | Fill of 006 |
| 006 | * | Sub-rectangular cut, 3.5m by 1.4m extent | Cut for cinder path? |
| 007 | * | Brown sandy silt, with limestone, >0.29m thick | Possible subsoil |
| 008 | * | Mixed browns silty sand, 0.17m thick | Levelling deposit |
| 009 | * | Dark grey silty sand, 70mm thick | Levelling deposit |
| 010 | * | Grey ash and cinders | Cinder path |
| 011 | * | Dark greyish brown sandy silt, 0.15m thick | Topsoil |
| 012 | * | Mixed browns silty sand, 0.17m thick | Dumped deposits |
| 013 | * | Brown silty sand, 0.16m thick | Former topsoil? |
| 014 | * | Reddish brown silty sand, >0.3m | Subsoil deposit |
| 015 | 1, 2 | Mid/dark brown sandy silt, >0.2m thick | Topsoil |
| 016 | 1, 3 | Mid yellowish brown sandy silt, 0.5m thick | Subsoil |
| 017 | 1 | Mid yellowish brown sandy silt | Fill of 018 |
| 018 | 1 | Cut, 0.8m wide by 0.25m deep | Pit |
| 019 | 1-6, 8 | Light yellow brown sand and grit, >0.45m thick | Natural deposit |
| 020 | 2 | Mid yellowish brown sandy silt, 0.35m thick | Fill of 021 |
| 021 | 2 | Cut, 1m wide by 0.35m deep | Ditch |
| 022 | 3 | Reddish brown sandy silt, c. 0.3m thick | Heat altered deposit |
| 023 | 3 | Reddish purple clay, 10mm thick | Heat altered deposit |
| 024 | 3 | Reddish brown sandy silt, 0.25m thick | Possible subsoil |
| 025 | 3 | Yellowish red clay, >0.27m thick | Natural deposit |
| 026 | 4, 6, 8 | Yellowish brown sandy silt, c. 0.3m thick | Subsoil |
| 027 | 4, 6 | Reddish brown silty sand | Fill of 029 |
| 028 | 4 | Brownish yellow grit | Fill of 029 |
| 029 | 4, 6 | Rectilinear cut, 3m long by 1.98m wide by 0.41m deep | Pit |
| 030 | 8 | Reddish brown silty sand | Fill of 031 |

| No. | Section | Description | Interpretation |
|-----|---------|---|-----------------------|
| 031 | 8 | Linear? cut, >1m long by >0.47m wide, 0.3m deep | See 021 |
| 032 | 5 | Mid yellowish brown sand and silt, 0.5m thick | Subsoil |
| 033 | 5 | Brownish grey sandy silt | Fill of 034 |
| 034 | 5 | Cut, 0.48m wide by 0.75m deep | Pit |
| 035 | 5 | Yellowish brown sandy silt, >0.3m thick | Natural deposit |
| 036 | * | Mid brown sand and silt, 0.55m thick | Subsoil |
| 037 | * | Reddish brown sand,, 120mm thick | Subsoil |
| 038 | * | Reddish purple and grey sand, 0.14m thick | Heat altered deposit |
| 039 | * | Grey sand, 20mm thick | Heat altered deposit |
| 040 | * | Yellowish brown sandy silt, >0.25m thick | Natural deposit |
| 041 | * | Yellow silt and clay, >10mm thick | Natural deposit |
| 042 | * | Brown sandy silt, 0.8m thick | Subsoil |
| 043 | * | Dark brown sandy silt | Fill of 044 |
| 044 | * | Cut, 0.25m wide by 0.2m deep | Posthole |
| 045 | 7 | Mid brown sandy silt, 0.4m thick | Former topsoil |
| 046 | 7 | Mid reddish brown sand and silt | Fill of 048, 049, 050 |
| 047 | 7 | Yellowish brown silt and clay | Fill of 048 |
| 048 | 7 | Cut, 0.9m wide by 0.3m deep | Indeterminate feature |
| 049 | 7 | Cut, 1.6m wide by 0.3m deep | Indeterminate feature |
| 050 | 7 | Cut, 0.86m wide by 0.3m deep | Indeterminate feature |
| 051 | 9 | Mid brown silty sand, 0.5m thick | Possible subsoil |
| 052 | 10, 11 | Mixed browns sandy silt, 1m thick | Topsoil |
| 053 | 10, 11 | Greyish brown silt, 0.7m thick | Subsoil |
| 054 | 10 | Brownish black cinders and ash, 10mm thick | Cinder path |
| 055 | 10 | Yellowish brown sand, 0.2m thick | Levelling deposit |
| 056 | 11 | Mid greyish brown silty sand, 0.4m thick | Former topsoil |
| 057 | | Greyish brown silty sand, 0.7m thick | Natural deposit |
| 058 | | Greyish brown silt and gravel, >10mm thick | Natural deposit |
| 059 | 12 | Brown silt and ash, 0.28m thick | Topsoil |
| 060 | 12 | Mid reddish brown silt, 0.83m thick | Subsoil |
| 061 | 12 | Yellow sand and gravel | Natural deposit |

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

Paul Cope-Faulkner, Hilary Healey and Gary Taylor

Provenance

Most of the post-medieval pottery is probably derived from production centres in the Midlands, particularly Staffordshire. In contrast, the earlier pottery of Roman and medieval date is likely to have been made at production centres nearer to Grantham, with identified pieces of medieval pottery from Lincoln and Stamford. One of the unstratified glass bottle fragments has the moulded legend WARW[], which may indicate that it was made or trademarked in Warwickshire.

The freshwater mollusc shell was probably obtained at the nearby river, which lies only 125m to the southwest.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the table.

Much of the material is post-medieval to recent, though there are small quantities of prehistoric, Roman and medieval artefacts in the collection. A large proportion of the unstratified material is burnt, some of it severely. Material in contexts (052) and (053) is also burnt. This suggests that there have been fires or other high temperatures events/processes at the site since the 19th century, and also that the material from these different contexts is related.

There are very few faunal remains. The mollusc shell are all the freshwater species Painter's Mussel, *Unio pictorum*, which lives in hard water rivers, canals and ponds over much of England (McMillan 1973, 113).

| Context | Description | Latest Context Date |
|--------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Unstratified | <p>Mica-schist whetstone, Late Saxon or medieval Small horseshoe 4x Clay pipe stem, 16th, 17th and 2x 19th century 2 brown stoneware bottles, severely burnt, 20th century 1 buff stoneware sherd 2 grey stoneware jar sherds, 20th century 1 Midlands Purple sherd, 18th century 40 assorted china, many burnt, 18th - 20th century 6 medieval sherds (inc. 3 Lincoln types and 1 Stamford ware sherd) 3 Romano-British sherds 2 pantile 1 brick/tile 1 machine-made brick 1 salt-glazed drainpipe 1 mirror tile 8 bottle glass, 1 marked WARW[], some burnt, 19th-20th century 1 piece melted glass 2 pieces industrial glassy slag 12 pieces tar/fire tile cement 1 iron slag 1 coal 5 clinker 1 flint flake, ?debitage, ?prehistoric 1 flint blade, utilised, broken in antiquity, Late neolithic-Early Bronze Age 1 flint flake, utilised, prehistoric 1 flint blade fragment, ?prehistoric 1 flint blade, core rejuvenation/debitage, prehistoric 1 unidentified bird bone, possibly chicken</p> | 20 th century |
| 007 | <p>2 medieval sherds 1 medieval glazed ridge tile 1 glass ink bottle, 19th-early 20th century 1 piece vitrified clay/slag 1 flint flake, ?debitage, ?prehistoric</p> | early 20 th century |
| 016 | 1 flint core, mesolithic | mesolithic |
| 032 | <p>1 worn tile or pot, Romano-British? 1 brick fragment 1 pantile fragment, 17th-20th century</p> | 17th-20th century |
| 033 | <p>4x Ceramic building material fragments, non-diagnostic 1 small medieval jug handle, 14th century</p> | 19 th century ? |
| 042 | <p>1 possible Romano-British tile fragment 2 Romano-British sherds 1 medieval base sherd, 14th century</p> | 14 th century ? |

| | | |
|-----|--|--------------------------------|
| 052 | 1 stoneware jar 1 white glazed earthenware Pot and slag fused from bonfire Tile and slag fused from bonfire 1 tile Fire tile cement 2 modern glass fragments 1 clay pipe stem, 19 th century Ceramic building material fragment, non-diagnostic 1 coal 1 clinker 1 cattle sized vertebra fragment 2 freshwater mussel shell fragments | 20 th century |
| 053 | 5 sherds of 'dendritic' ware, Late 19 th century/Early 20 th century 1 Clay pipe stem, 17 th -18 th century 1 freshwater mussel shell fragment | early 20 th century |
| 056 | 1 grey stoneware 1 pantile fragment 1 mortar aggregate | 20 th century |

Condition

All of the material is in moderate to good condition and presents no long term storage problems. One exception is the small quantity of ironwork which should be monitored regularly to avoid deterioration. The assemblage should be archived by material class.

Documentation

All of the categories of material recovered during this investigation have previously been examined and commented upon.

Potential

The assemblage has little potential. Sherds of medieval and Romano-British date and prehistoric flints suggest activity of these periods in the vicinity, though all such material recovered in this investigation is residual. Examination of the whetstone may establish a Late Saxon or medieval date for the item.

References

McMillan, N F, 1973 *British Snails*

Appendix 4

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

| | |
|----|---------------------------|
| 61 | Context records |
| 5 | Photographic record sheet |
| 9 | Drawing sheets |
| 1 | Box of finds |
| 1 | Stratigraphic matrix |

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

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

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

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number: 38.97

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: GWP97

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

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Appendix 5

GLOSSARY

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Context | An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (4). |
| Cut | A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded. |
| Layer | A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut. |
| Medieval | The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500. |
| Mesolithic | The period known as the 'Middle Stone Age', dating from approximately 10,000 - 4000 BC. |
| Natural | Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity. |
| Neolithic | The period known as the 'New Stone Age' ranging from 4000 - 2000 BC |
| Prehistoric | The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD. |
| Romano-British | Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain. |