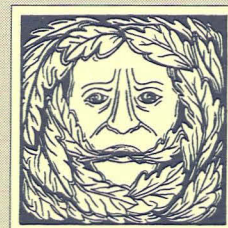


DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT OF THE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS OF
PROPOSED RESERVOIR CONSTRUCTION AT
SALTERSFORD, GRANTHAM,
LINCOLNSHIRE

(SWR99)



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
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SERVICES

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Note that there are sites recorded in the DTA
which have not yet received SMR numbers: This is
particularly true of sites seen on AEs held by
Hastings Homes taken by Hastings. This should be
picked up as data exchange continues.

20.3.00 MBT

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Work undertaken for Anglian Water

January 2000

Report compiled by Joanna Hambly

National Grid Reference: SK 926333

APS Report No: **11/00**



Archaeological Project Services is an IFA Registered
Archaeological Organisation (No. 21)

1. SUMMARY

A desk-based assessment was undertaken to determine the archaeological implications of locating a reservoir with an area of 3 hectares in an area covering approximately 8 square kilometres.

Investigations within a 200m radius of the proposed development have located archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric, Romano-British, Anglo-Saxon (AD 450-1066), medieval (AD 1066-1485) and post-medieval periods (post AD 1485).

A moderate density of prehistoric (pre AD 43), remains have been identified, distributed generally to the west of the River Witham. A well-documented Romano-British (AD 43-450) small town and Roman road, the Salters Way, occupies the fording point of the river in the centre of the study area. A second Roman road bounds the east side of the area.

There is a moderate to high probability of encountering well preserved and high value archaeological remains of the prehistoric and Romano-British periods in the central and western zones of the investigation area and along the routes of identified Roman roads. There is a low potential of encountering archaeological remains in most of the rest of the study area according to the concentration and nature of known finds and sites.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

Anglian Water is undertaking a feasibility study on an area covering approximately 8 square kilometres, situated south of Grantham. The purpose of the study is to find a suitable location for a lake, covering

up to 3 hectares, to provide raw water storage for the waterworks at Saltersford. The construction of the lake will involve intrusive excavation.

Consequently, Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Anglian Water to undertake a desk-based assessment of the site. This archaeological assessment was undertaken in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologist's *Standard and Guidance for the Preparation of Desk-based Assessments* (IFA 1997).

The purpose of this assessment was to determine the archaeological implications of proposed development at the site.

2.2 Topography, Geology and Soils

The area of investigation is situated within the civil parishes of Little Ponton and Stroxtun, Grantham and Londonthorpe and Harrowby Without in South Kesteven, Lincolnshire. The area covers approximately 8 square kilometres, bounded by: the town limits of Grantham and Spitalgate Airfield to the north, the Roman High Dyke (Ermine Street) to the east, the village boundary of Little Ponton to the south and the A1 in the west.

The river Witham flows from south to north through the centre of the area of investigation, cutting Jurassic limestone of the inferior oolitic series and a pocket of glaciofluvial sand and gravel deposited on the western river bank. The ground on either side of the Witham slopes gently from approximately 60m OD in the river valley to 120m OD at the outer eastern and western limits of the designated area. The soil type is, generally, the Elmton 1 series, a brown rendzina developed on the oolitic limestone, with small deposits of Ecsrick 2 series, a coarse loamy typical argillic

brown earth, on the glacio-fluvial sands and gravels (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983; Hodge *et al.* 1984, 345).

2.3 Definition of a desk-based assessment

Desk-based assessment is defined by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) as '*assessments of the known or potential archaeological resource within a specified area or site on land or intertidal zone or underwater. They consist of the collation of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the character, extent, quality, and worth of the known or potential archaeological resource in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate*' (IFA 1997).

3. AIMS

The aims of the desk-based assessment were to locate and, if present, appraise known archaeological sites in the vicinity and to determine the archaeological potential of the proposed development area. Such location and assessment of significance would permit formulation of an appropriate response to integrate the needs of the archaeology with the proposed development programme.

4. METHODS

All archaeological remains or documented evidence within the defined area and including a 200m radius around it, were considered. Compilation of the archaeological and historical data relevant to the area of the proposed development site involved examination of all appropriate primary and secondary sources available. These have included:

- historical documents, held in the Lincolnshire Records Office
- enclosure, tithe, parish and other maps and plans, held in the Lincolnshire Records Office
- Ordnance Survey maps
- Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record Office
- aerial photograph transcriptions
- archaeological books and journals

5. RESULTS

5.1 Historical data

The area of investigation incorporates a number of sites that have been historically documented. It has been suggested that the present day Saltersford waterworks (SK926333) can be identified as the Roman settlement of *Causennae*, mentioned in the Antonine Itinerary, a 3rd century guide to the main roads of the Roman Empire. Although this place-name has traditionally been linked with Ancaster, the location of Saltersford, according to its distance from other named locations, (*Durobrivae* and Lincoln), corresponds much more closely with the description of the location of *Causennae* (Whitwell, 1982). William Stukeley, writing in the *Itinerarium Curiosum* of 1776 noted that "30 miles from *Durobrivae* you come to Paunton, which must be *Causennae*. Where the river divides many Roman coins are found, mosaic pavements, roman bricks, urns and the like." (Stukeley, 1776). Stukeley is presumably referring to an area within the parish of Little Ponton and Stroxton, or a site near to the present day village of Little Ponton. The evidence available is too limited to make a positive identification of Saltersford with the recorded Roman town, however, the settlement certainly developed around an important crossing point of the river Witham, at least as early

as the Roman period. Traffic carrying salt from the Lincolnshire coast, using the Roman Road now called the Salters Way, forded the river on its way to the Midlands, hence the place-name, Saltersford which means 'salt sellers ford' (Ekwall, 1974).

Just beyond the northern boundary of the area of investigation and incorporated within it as Spittlegate Heath Farm (SK 937342), occurs the place-name Spittlegate or Spitalgate. The hospital from where the area takes its name is mentioned in Bishop Sanderson's Index. This records that Richard Bloer was the master of the hospital during the reign of Edward IV and Mr. Thomas Isham was the master of the hospital of St. Leonard and the Rector of the parochial church of Spital during the reign of Henry VII (Marrat, 1816). The Domesday Survey of 1086, identifies Spittlegate as 'Nongetune' or 'Nongtone'. The King owned part of the land, 3 carucates in area, which was held by a man called Granham. In the holding there were 13 sokemen, 6 villeins, 4 teams, a mill rendering 13 shillings and 4 pence and 3 acres of meadow. Bishop Osmund of Salisbury also owned land in Spittlegate. This was held by St. Wlfrann of Grantham and comprised enough land for 4 oxen which was ploughed by 1 villein. The name Nongtone is not found after 1086, but in records of 1316, 1327 and 1333, Houton, Walton and Spitelgate together constitute a *uillata*. The same three names formed a lordship at the time of Enclosure (Foster & Longley, 1924). Houton and Walton are also not recorded as individual settlements in the 1086 survey, but cartographic evidence helps to possibly locate them. Maps produced in 1828, 1841 and 1905 record Houton and Walton as farms or hamlets. Thus, the place-names live on and may indicate the location of extinct medieval settlement.

At the southern limit of the area of investigation, lies the village of Little Ponton. The name Ponton means 'place on a ridge' (Ekwall 1974). Land in Little Ponton is recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086 as belonging to Drew de Beurere and Countess Judith. The countess had 10 carucates of land and 10 teams. One of these was held by Nigel, along with 8 sokemen on 3 carucates of land, 12 villeins, 3 bordors with 5 teams, 4 mills rendering 63 shillings and an underwood, 6 furlongs long and 5.5 furlongs wide, worth 6 pounds. Drew de Beurere held 2 carucates of land and 2 teams. A dispute was also recorded in the Domesday Survey involving the Countess Judith. She had to give up 2 manors, in Little Ponton, to a Robert de Todei who laid claim to them, in exchange for Marston (Foster & Longley, 1924).

The area of investigation skirts the southern boundary of the nearest major town, Grantham. The name Grantham means, either, the *Ham* (settlement) of Granta, or, a settlement on a sand bank (Ekwall 1974). Grantham probably originated in the 6th century (Marrat 1816) and by the time of the Domesday survey of 1086 had a population of 1300 and yielded £100. Before the Norman invasion, during the reign of Edward the Confessor, Grantham belonged to Harald, through his wife, Edith, the daughter of Algar, Earl of Mercia. After the invasion, Maud, the wife of William the Conqueror, held the town. A parliamentary survey of 1650 mentions a castle, which stood on the river, but by 1816 there was no actual evidence of a building except for the street names of Castlegate and Castle Dyke. The names Watergate, Swinegate and Westgate may indicate that Grantham was once a walled town (Marrat, 1816). However, this may be a misinterpretation of the Old English 'gata', meaning a road or street (Ekwall, 1974).

5.2 Cartographic Data

The earliest drawing available is an illustration facing the title page of Tournor's book, 'Collections for the History of the Town and Soke of Grantham...', published in 1806. The map is not detailed and shows the main thoroughfares, 2 mills on the Witham in the Spitalgate area and a settlement at the Salters ford identified as Little Paunton (Tournor, 1806). (This may explain why Stukely identified Paunton as a candidate for *Causennae* (see above), although, now, the area of the Roman settlement is only known as Saltersford and the village of Little Ponton is situated a kilometre further south.)

The 1813 Inclosure Plan for The Lordship of Little Ponton is mainly concerned with land division and ownership. It records that all the land within the area of investigation was held by William Dowdeswell and was under cultivation, except a stretch of woodland along Ermine Street and Glebe common to the west of Little Ponton, owned by the Rector of Ponton. The village Little Ponton is shown but the Salters ford, which lies on the parish boundary, is not marked.

Bryant's map of Lincolnshire, drawn in 1828, records further evidence of industrial activity developing within the area (figure 3). The mills depicted by Tournor remain and the southern one of the two is identified as the Houghton Paper Mill. Still within the Spittlegate area, a kiln is depicted on the western bank of the river. The site of a limekiln is shown in the northeast of the area of investigation.

A map drawn in 1841 of the 'Chaply District of Spittlegate' identifies the Hamlet of Houghton on the site of the paper mill and the Hamlet of Walton, just beyond the western limits of the

investigation area (figure 4). This is the clearest cartographic evidence supporting historical documentation of the pre conquest settlements of Houghton and Walton.

Two major 19th century developments, the main line railway and the Grantham Water Works are significant features of the 2nd edition 1905 Ordnance Survey 6 inch map. The railway cuts north-south across the centre of the area of investigation and the water works, constructed in 1853 are situated at the site of the Salters ford. Quarrying activity is shown on the site of the lime kiln on the northern limits of the area and in the extreme south east corner adjacent to Woodnook farm. Gravel and sand extraction are also taking place in the area at this time and the kiln, first recorded in 1828, appears to have expanded and is now identified as a brick and tile works.

5.3 Aerial Photograph Data

There is generally good aerial photographic coverage of the area of investigation. All photographs held by the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record and by Heritage Lincolnshire were consulted, but not those in the Cambridge University Collection or the National Monuments Record in Swindon. Most of the results of the aerial photographs, including those from the Cambridge University Collection and the National Monuments Register, have been transcribed by the county SMR and appear on the RCHME 1:10 000 map sheet plot (sheet SK 93 SW). This was examined and supplemented with further records made by Heritage Lincolnshire. Crop mark evidence appearing on aerial photographs (taken by R.F. Hartley) which were not transcribed onto the RHCME overlays were plotted and are numbered **21**, **22** and **25** on figure 6.

The archaeological remains shown on the aerial photographs, generally fall into 3 categories:

- Concentrations of linear earthworks and rectangular or irregular crop mark enclosures.
- Isolated, distinctive linear crop marks.
- Dispersed small circular crop marks and earthworks.

Evidence falling in the first category is concentrated to the north of Little Ponton and in fields west of the river Witham. It is historically documented that Little Ponton was a well-established settlement during the medieval period, therefore, it is likely the earthworks show evidence for medieval land use associated with agriculture and property division, represented by ridge and furrow and enclosures.

In the second category, the alignment and location of the isolated ENE-WSW linear crop mark at 930340, (number 5 on figure 6), suggest it could represent the continuation of the Roman Road, the Salters Way, which marks the parish boundary to the west of the Witham. Unpublished archaeological evidence described below, supports this route for the road, rather than a route following the parish boundary east of the river, between Little Ponton and Stroxton and Londonthorpe and Harrowby Without, as has been suggested previously (Shaw, 1982). Another distinctive east-west linear crop mark, (number 25 on figure 6), lies near to the conjectured limits of the Roman settlement and runs parallel with the Salters Way. It may be a trackway or possibly a boundary associated with the Roman settlement.

The final category comprises a dispersed distribution of circular crop marks and earth works, generally interpreted as Bronze Age ring ditched enclosures and barrows. They appear mainly to the west of the river Witham, with only 2 examples recorded in the east of the proposed reservoir area. There is a particular concentration around the Bronze Age barrow, Scheduled Ancient Monument 27863 (number 17 on figure 6).

Generally, therefore, aerial photographs show a moderate density of dispersed crop marks and earthworks occurring throughout the area of investigation, except for an apparently clear zone covering the central area east of the river Witham. This, however, may be a result of flying conditions and agricultural land use, not a true representation of archaeological remains.

5.4 Archaeological Data

Records of archaeological sites and finds held in the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record were consulted. Other, secondary, sources were also examined. Details of relevant archaeological and historical remains falling within and up to 200m outside of the proposed development area are collated in Table 1 and their distribution illustrated in figure 6.

Table 1: Known Archaeology Within Area of- Proposed Development

Map Code (Fig.6)	Sites and Monuments Record Code	Description	Grid Ref. (SK)
1	30517	Late Neolithic – Early Iron Age. 2 cinerary urns, 1 vessel.	92303436
2	34958	Modern. RAF Grantham and Spitalgate airfield and pillbox.	942347
3	30489	Medieval. Possible site of Houghton DMV	92553415
4	34823	Middle Bronze Age spearhead.	93683401
5	33919	Crop mark, undated. Linear with double ditches. Possibly unidentified part of Roman road, the Salters Way	939341
6	33895	Undated crop mark. Possible ring ditch.	92183377
7	30765	Late Neolithic – Early Iron Age flint scraper.	92593370
8	33848	Undated crop mark. Circular enclosure with double ditch.	914334
9	33968	Significant Roman settlement.	927334
10	30490	Medieval hollow-way to old ford. (Possibly part of Roman road, the Salters Way.)	92783355
11	33977 33978	Romano British and Iron Age pottery.	92833310
12	30507	Medieval. Possible site of deserted medieval village.	91303300
13	30590	Post medieval limekiln.	94203254
14	33842	Undated crop mark. Trapezoidal enclosure.	943326
15	33973	Romano – British pottery, brick and tile.	914324
16	33819	Undated crop mark. Oval enclosure with double ditch.	919326
17	30082	Bronze Age. Bowl Barrow, scheduled ancient monument 27863.	92243260

Map Code (Fig.6)	Sites and Monuments Record Code	Description	Grid Ref. (SK)
18	30591	Adam's Well. Undated.	92203200
19		Roman apsidal structure, infant burial and possible Roman road.	930337
20		Undated crop marks.	930338
21		Undated crop mark. Probable natural watercourse/dry valley.	937336
22		Undated crop mark. Possible rectangular enclosure.	936340
23		Undated crop mark. Circular enclosure.	340917
24		Undated crop mark. Barrow.	914333
25		Undated crop mark. Linear, east-west.	920335
26		Undated crop mark. Possibly Bronze Age barrow.	938329
27		Undated crop mark. Possible circular enclosure.	928328
28		Undated crop mark. Possible barrow.	944330
29		Crop marks. Probable medieval Ridge and Furrow.	Various locations throughout area

Prehistoric

Remains of a possible Neolithic structure with associated pottery and a worked flint were revealed during excavation of the filter beds at the Grantham Water Works (Philips 1934). A possible flint scraper, two cinerary urns and one other vessel, all dated from the Late Neolithic to the Early Iron Age have been retrieved in the area (number 1, figure 6). During excavations of a Romano-British cemetery at Saltersford, a number of unstratified Neolithic – Bronze Age flint tools were recovered (Taylor 1995), and an isolated find of a bronze spearhead, (number 4 on figure 6), has been identified as Middle Bronze Age. Non artefactual prehistoric remains are represented by the circular crop marks and earthworks, which are generally believed to be Bronze Age, distributed throughout the area of investigation. These are concentrated between the old Great North Road and the Grantham bypass, with a potential grouping at the junction of the two roads in the south (16 and 17 on figure 6). Just beyond the southern boundary of the study area, an apparently undisturbed, circular mound and bowl barrow, occupy a prominent ridge on the western slope of the river valley (scheduled monument 27863, number 17 on figure 6). This has been attributed to the Bronze Age (2200 BC-801 BC) according to its form.

The Iron Age is poorly represented in the study area but the Salters Way road is generally considered to have been used in the pre Roman period (Whitwell 1970 64) and Iron Age pottery has been present consistently during excavations of the Roman settlement at Saltersford, (Lane nd).

Romano-British

The Roman site of Saltersford has been known since at least the 18th century as remarked by Stukeley in his *Itinerarium Curiosum* of 1776. Henry Preston, the

manager of Grantham Water Works at the turn of the century, recorded evidence of stone buildings on both sides of the River Witham spreading about half a mile west to the Great North Road and at least 200m north of the fording point. Near the river, stone walls and foundations were buried under 4 to 5 metres of river sediments. Preston recorded wall footings, roof tiles, wall plaster, window glass, wells, a 17 foot wide metalled road, and evidence of metal working activity during the redevelopment of the water works at the end of the 19th century (Preston 1916). The finds indicate the settlement spanned the Romano-British period and was certainly urban in nature.

The actual limits of the Roman town are still uncertain, but field walking undertaken by J. Dable confirms that it stretches at least as far as the Great North Road to the west and 200m north and south of the fording point. The steep scarp, which forms the eastern river cliff, may have been the natural boundary on this side. Land north of the Salters Way has not been available for systematic archaeological investigation (Lane nd).

Recent work at the water treatment plant uncovered the remains of a Romano-British cemetery in use in the early 3rd century AD and subsequently encroached upon by the expanding settlement (Taylor 1995).

An apsidal structure, located approximately 400m northeast of the crossing point of the river, was excavated on the route of a pipeline from Saltersford to Harrowby reservoir, (number 19 on figure 6). An infant burial and a hoard of 58 coins dated to between 260AD and 364AD were recovered. A single limestone wall and a possible limestone paved road surface were also observed in the immediate vicinity of the excavation (Lane nd). The structures revealed in this excavation are well situated to support an

interpretation of the east-west linear crop mark (number 5 on figure 6), identified by aerial photography, as being a likely candidate for the continuation of the Roman road, the Salters Way. Although the structure has been interpreted as an isolated building (*ibid*), the surrounding fields were not available for archaeological investigation.

Anglo-Saxon

Nearly all Anglo-Saxon material recovered in the area of investigation has been found within the limits of the Roman settlement at Saltersford. This includes an inhumation burial represented by a shield boss, a gilt stud and a scramasax (knife) (Meaney 1964, 162), 2 complete Romano-Saxon grey ware bowls (Whitwell 1970, 143) and a sherd of Saxon pottery near the Salters Way, recorded on the SMR. Outside of the settlement limits, two Anglo-Saxon inhumation burials were found near the entrance of Little Ponton cutting during the construction of the railway (Lane nd).

Grantham and Little Ponton represent settlement of Saxon origin, which lie on the northern and southern boundaries of the study area, respectively.

Pevsner has identified the chancel arch of St Guthlac church in Little Ponton as typically late Saxon in style. The northern arcade and the southern doorway are Early English (1190-1250), and the chancel late 13th century. The rest of the church was rebuilt on medieval foundations in 1850, although it contains various 17th and 18th century features inside (Pevsner 1989).

The sites of the extinct villages of Houghton, Nongetune and Walton all lie on the boundaries of the area of investigation.

Medieval field systems in the form of ridge and furrow are present in much of

the agricultural land north of the village of Little Ponton and west of the Saltersford water works. A hollow-way to the old ford (10 on figure 6) has been recorded in the SMR as being medieval in origin. There is a possibility, however, in the light of evidence outlined above, that it occupies the route of the Roman Salters Way road and so has an earlier (possibly even prehistoric) derivation.

Post-medieval

In the post medieval period, industrial activities were based on local, raw materials. These included, lime kilns, brick and tile works, a paper mill and quarries for mineral extraction and are recorded on maps from the early 19th century onwards, although some of these activities were probably taking place in the medieval period.

The 19th century saw the construction of the main north-south railway line and the establishment of the Grantham Waterworks Company at Saltersford in 1853.

6. CONSTRAINTS

6.1 Heritage Constraints

Statutory and Advisory Constraints

There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments protected by the Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act of 1979 (HMSO 1979) within the area of investigation. However, the southwestern boundary of the study area passes within 10 metres of a Bronze Age barrow that is Scheduled Ancient Monument 27863, (number 17 on figure 6).

As such, any archaeological remains within the area of the proposed development are protected only through the implementation of PPG 16 (DoE 1990).

Should human remains be encountered at the site, and the proposed development require their removal, it would be necessary to obtain a Home Office licence. Failure to do so constitutes an offence under the Disused Burial Grounds (Amendment) Act 1981.

6.2 Other Constraints

Health and Safety Constraints

Plots and details of underground services have not been examined in this survey. Their location is necessary prior to any development in the proposed area.

7. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

For assessment of significance the *Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling ancient monuments* has been used (DoE 1990, Annex 4; see Appendix 1).

Period:

Activity dateable from the Neolithic period has been recognised within the investigation area. Ring ditches surrounding barrows are the most characteristic feature of the Bronze Age. Settlement remains of the period, as previously possibly found in the area, are much less distinctive, though this is due to their rarity, rather than idiosyncrasies of the evidence.

Nucleated settlement with an urban aspect is a major characteristic of the Romano-British period, as such occupation patterns first developed in Britain at that time. Roman roads, as located in the area, are also a major characteristic of the period.

Funerary remains with grave goods is perhaps the most characteristic feature of the Anglo-Saxon period.

Abandoned settlement is a distinctive feature of rural areas in the medieval period. Ridge and Furrow is perhaps the most distinctive feature of medieval land use.

Rarity:

Prehistoric barrow cemeteries are not especially rare but may possess scarce or unusual features. However, prehistoric settlement remains as previously recorded, close to the river, are rare at all scales, from local to regional and international.

Romano-British nucleated settlement with a strongly urban characteristic and long continuity is not common and can be expected to contain rare or unusual aspects. Moreover, previous investigations at Saltersford Romano-British town have shown it to have certain out of the ordinary characteristics. Roman roads are not rare, but may provide a focus for scarce or rare remains, such as cemeteries and other ceremonial sites and settlements.

Anglo-Saxon funerary remains, for which there is some evidence in the area, are rare and often contain rare features.

Extinct medieval settlement, as located on the edges of the study area, is not particularly scarce but can contain rare examples of undisturbed remains of the period. Ridge and furrow remains of medieval and later agricultural activities, are commonplace and occur extensively around the villages of Little Ponton and Saltersford.

Documentation:

Records of archaeological sites and finds made in the Saltersford area are kept in the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record and the files of the South Kesteven community archaeologist. The Lincolnshire Archives Office currently holds cartographic and historical

documents covering the proposed development site.

The present report provides the first site-specific consideration of the archaeological and historical aspects for the whole, proposed development area.

Group value:

Crop marks and earthworks of probable prehistoric barrows occur on the western side of the investigation area. These have moderate group value, which is enhanced by burial, cremation and artefactual evidence unearthed during excavations of a well-preserved barrow enclosure, located 3km southwest of the present investigation area (Greenfield 1985).

Evidence of occupational, industrial, agricultural, funerary and ceremonial activity have been identified at Saltersford Roman town. This multiplicity of function, together with related roads and peripheral remains, confer high group value on the Roman town site.

Two deserted medieval settlements on the peripheries of the investigation area and evidence of agricultural activity of the period occurs at various locations throughout the area. Although there is no obvious relationship between the settlements and farming activities, these remains have moderate group value.

Survival/Condition:

Previous investigations in the area have indicated that archaeological remains generally survive in moderate or good condition. Moreover, Preston records that structures in the river valley were buried beneath 4 to 5 metres of alluvial deposits. Survival and condition of archaeological deposits within the limits of the Roman town, near the river, therefore, can be expected to be excellent, as well as the potential for the preservation of organic remains through waterlogging.

Agricultural activity has caused the degradation of archaeological remains in the area, however, with earthworks of prehistoric date being ploughed out. Artefact scatters in and around the Romano-British town at Saltersford, indicate that agricultural activity has also damaged this site.

Ridge and furrow agricultural remains survive in good condition as earthworks in some parts of the study area.

Fragility/Vulnerability:

As the proposed development will impact the investigation area, into natural strata, any and all archaeological deposits present on the site are vulnerable. Furthermore, the construction of a reservoir will have the effect of de-watering the immediate vicinity, thereby compromising any potential waterlogged survival of archaeological remains.

Diversity:

High functional diversity is represented by the conjunction of nucleated urban settlement, dispersed rural settlement, communication routes with a continuity of use stretching from the prehistoric to the post medieval period, funerary remains, symbolic and religious sites, agricultural land use and local raw materials based industry.

High period diversity is represented by evidence of: Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age, Romano-British. Anglo-Saxon, medieval and post medieval remains in the study area.

Potential:

In the western part of the study area, particularly between the A1 and the old Great North Road, there is moderate or high potential for prehistoric remains to be encountered.

High potential for Romano-British settlement and funerary remains, associated with the town, exist in the centre of the investigation area. However, the extents of the Romano-British town are not accurately known, therefore, there is moderate potential for Roman remains to be encountered around the periphery of the known concentration of finds. One of the proposed reservoir locations, just south of the Roman town, may fall within this zone of moderate archaeological potential.

A Roman road extends SW-NE through the Saltersford Roman town. There is moderate potential for road-side settlement or cemeteries to occur along this route. There is also moderate potential for similar Roman remains along the eastern boundary of the investigation area, which is marked by the major Roman road, Ermine Street. Otherwise, most of the eastern half of the study area, which encompasses the second proposed reservoir location, has low archaeological potential. However, this assessment of low potential is based on the amount of known, visible, archaeological remain and there may be other, as yet unknown, archaeological sites within this zone.

8. CONCLUSIONS

A desk-top archaeological assessment was undertaken in respect of proposals for the construction of a reservoir. The study examined the archaeological potential of the area in order to find locations where the reservoir could be sited with minimum impact on known remains.

A zone of high archaeological potential relating to a known Roman town was identified in the centre of the study area. Due to the town having a poorly defined limit, a halo of moderate archaeological potential surrounds the main concentration of Roman finds. A further zone of moderate archaeological potential,

ascribed to prehistoric funerary remains, occupies much of the study area. However, the research indicated that much of the eastern part of the investigation area was of low archaeological potential. This encompasses one of the preferred locations for the reservoir.

9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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10. REFERENCES

All of the following sources were consulted in the data-gathering exercise. However, as some references duplicated information available in others, not all of them have been specifically referred to in the text.

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

- 1) APS refers to Archaeological Project Services
- 2) DoE refers to publications by the Department of the Environment.
- 3) HMSO refers to Her Majesties' Stationery Office.
- 4) IFA refers to the Institute of Field Archaeologists.
- 5) SMR refers to the Sites and Monuments Record.

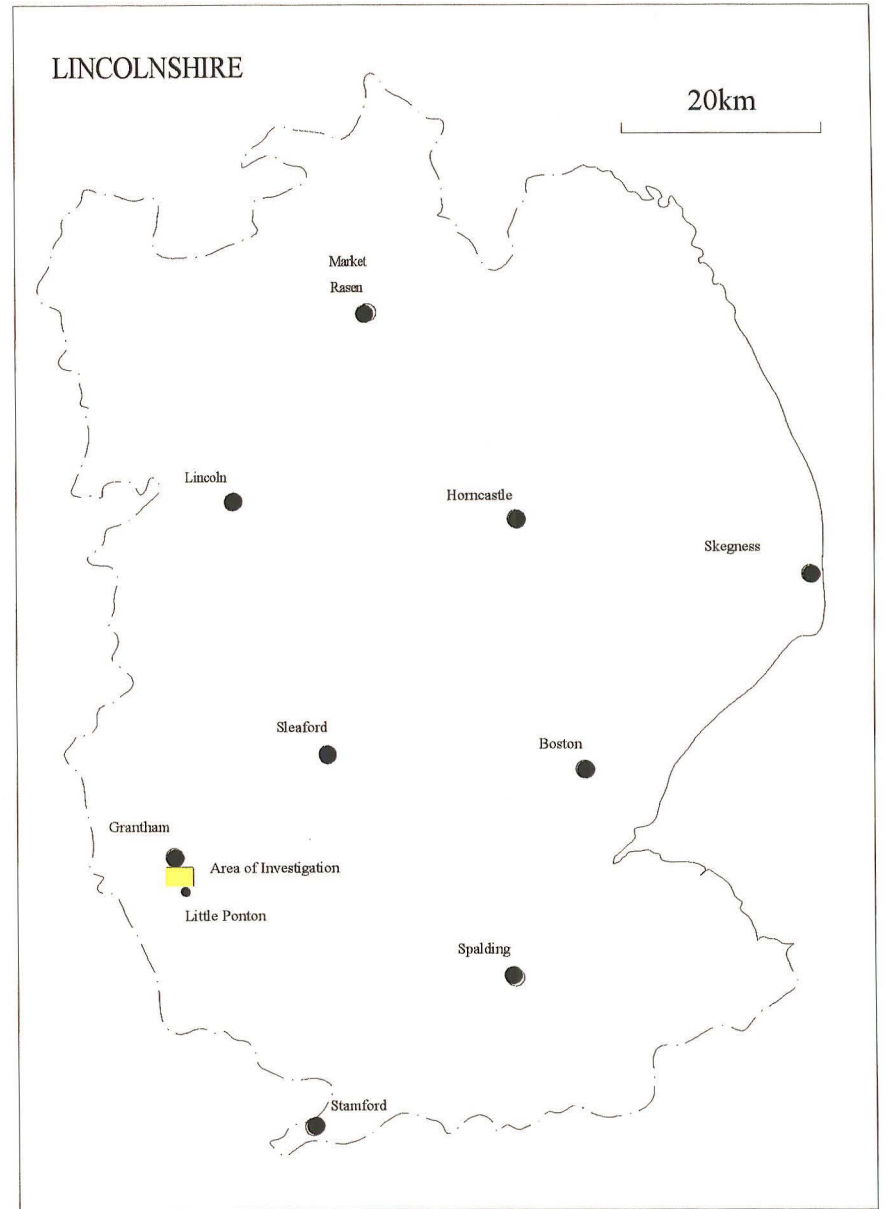


Figure 1 General Location Plan

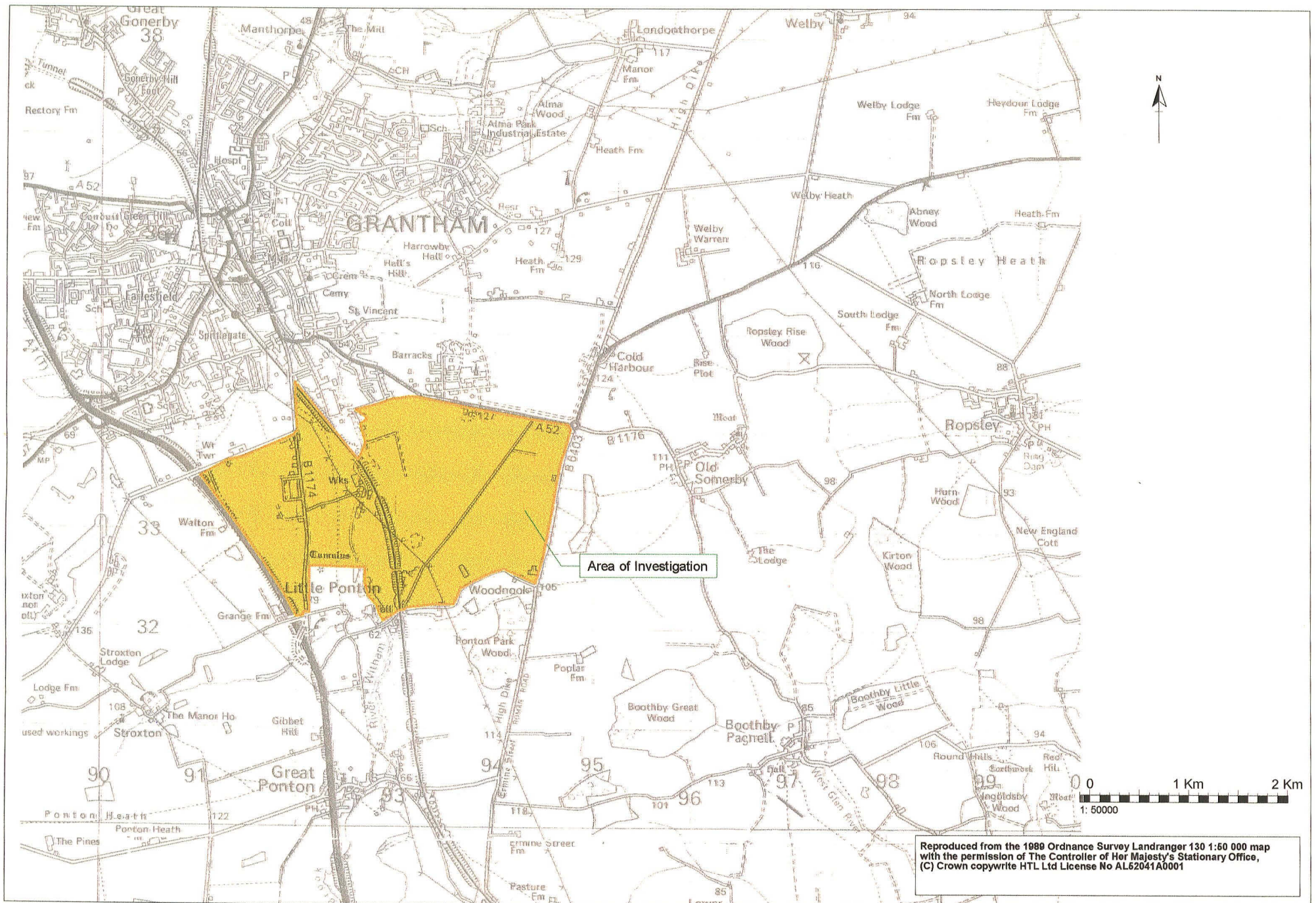


Figure 2 Site Location Plan



Figure 3 Extract from Bryant's 'Map of the County of Lincoln' 1828

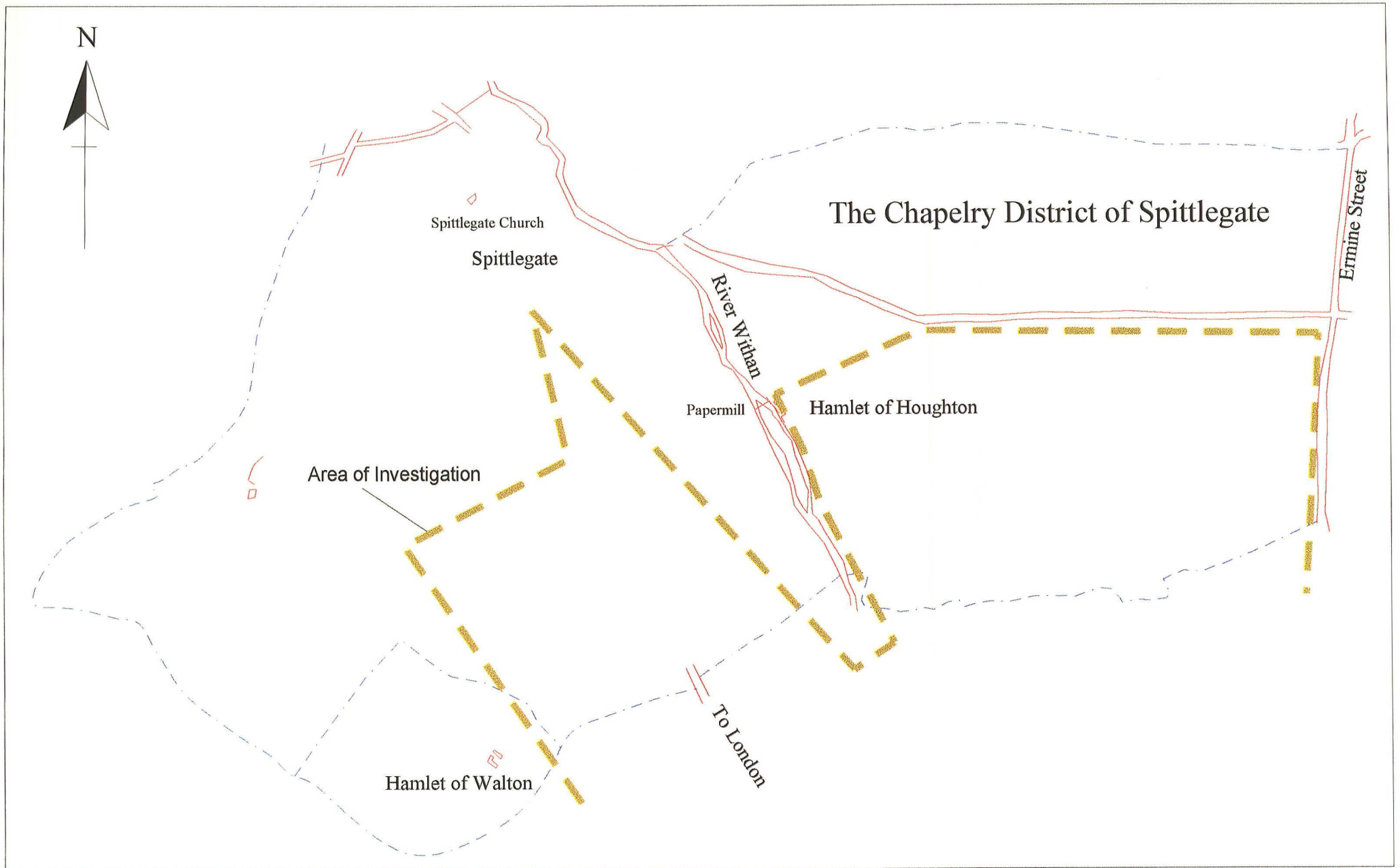


Figure 4 Copy of Map of the Chapelry District of Spittlegate in the Parish of Grantham 1841

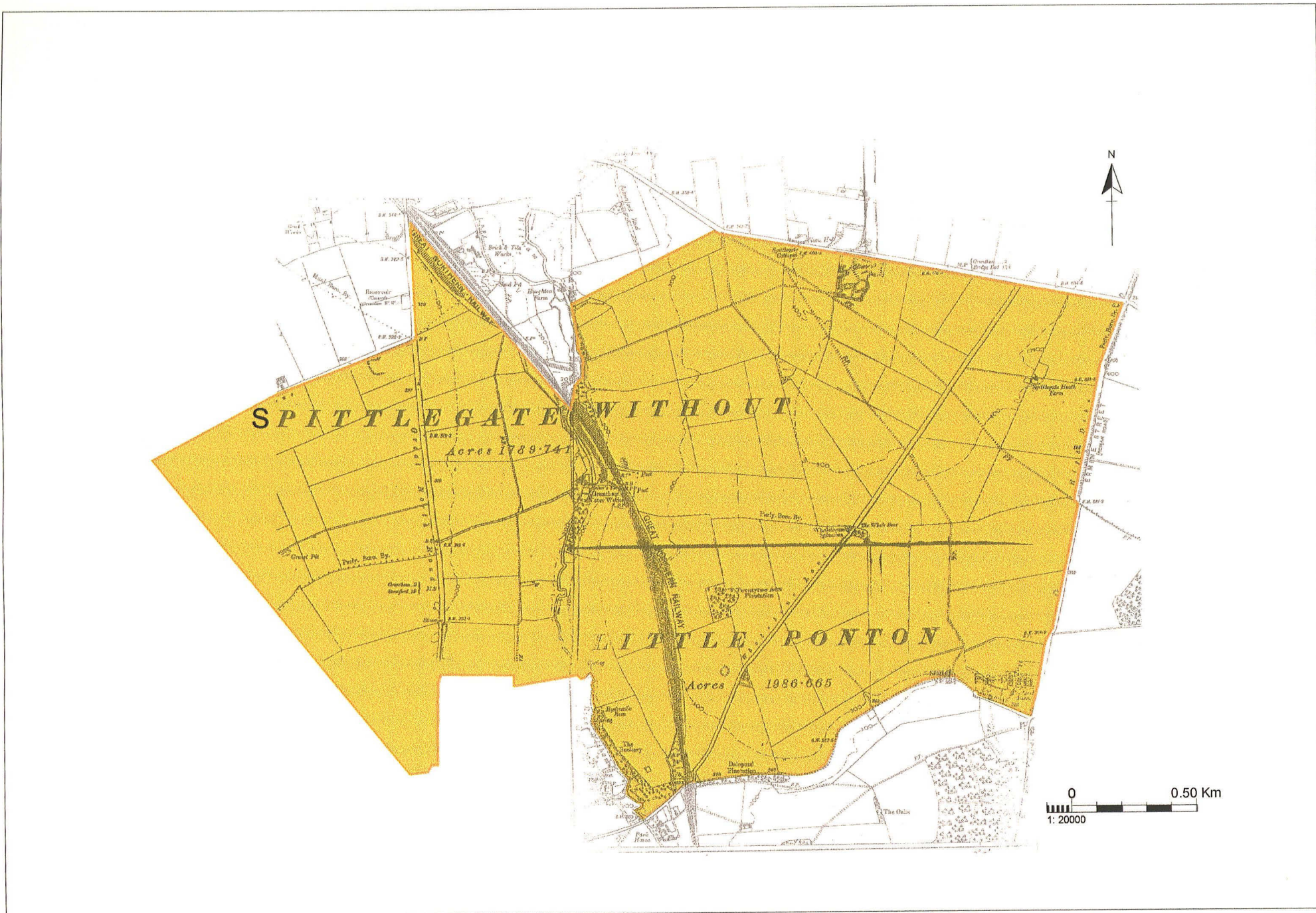


Figure 5 Extract from the Second Edition 6" Ordnance Survey Map 1905

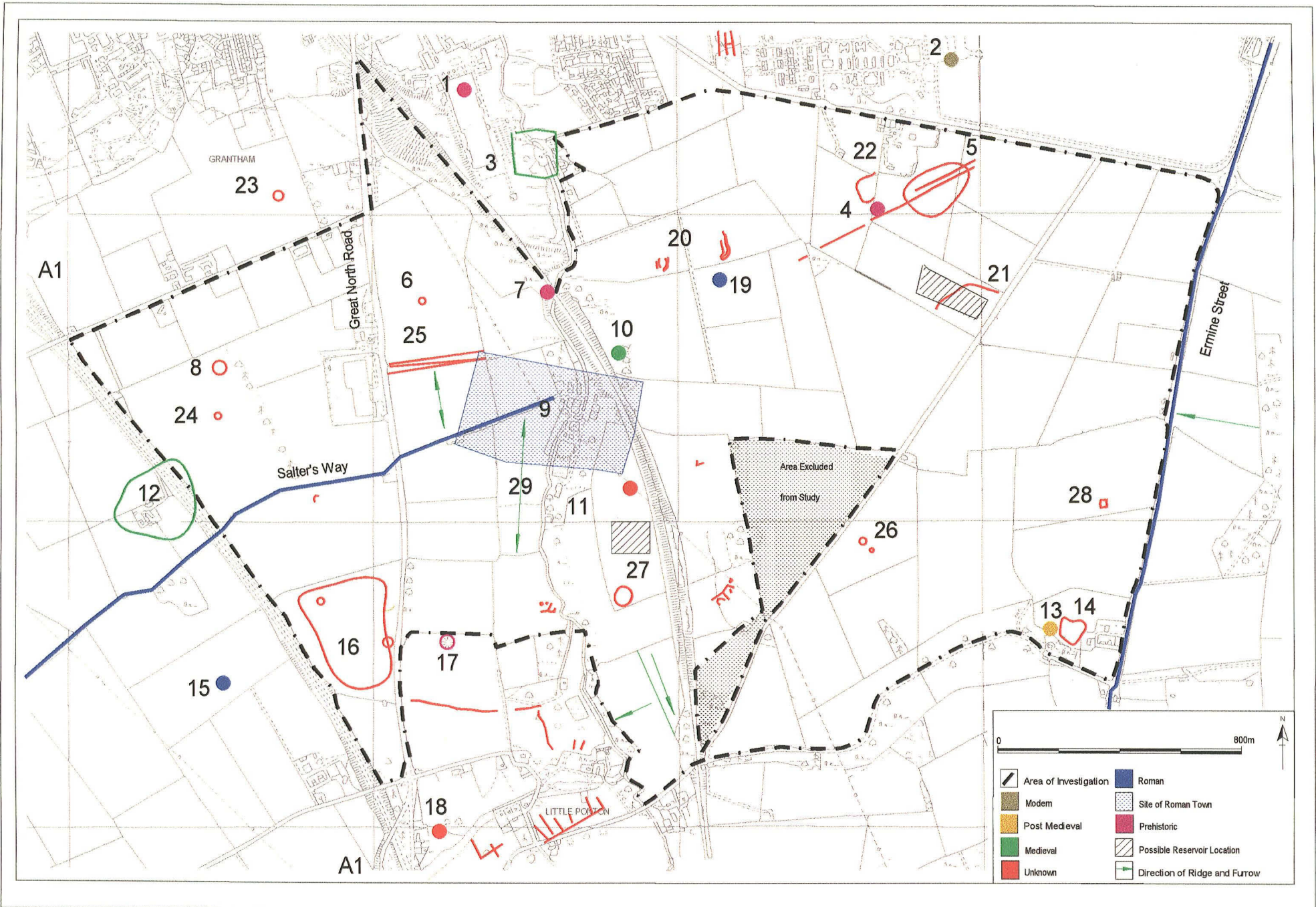


Figure 6 Archaeological Sites Recorded within Area of Investigation

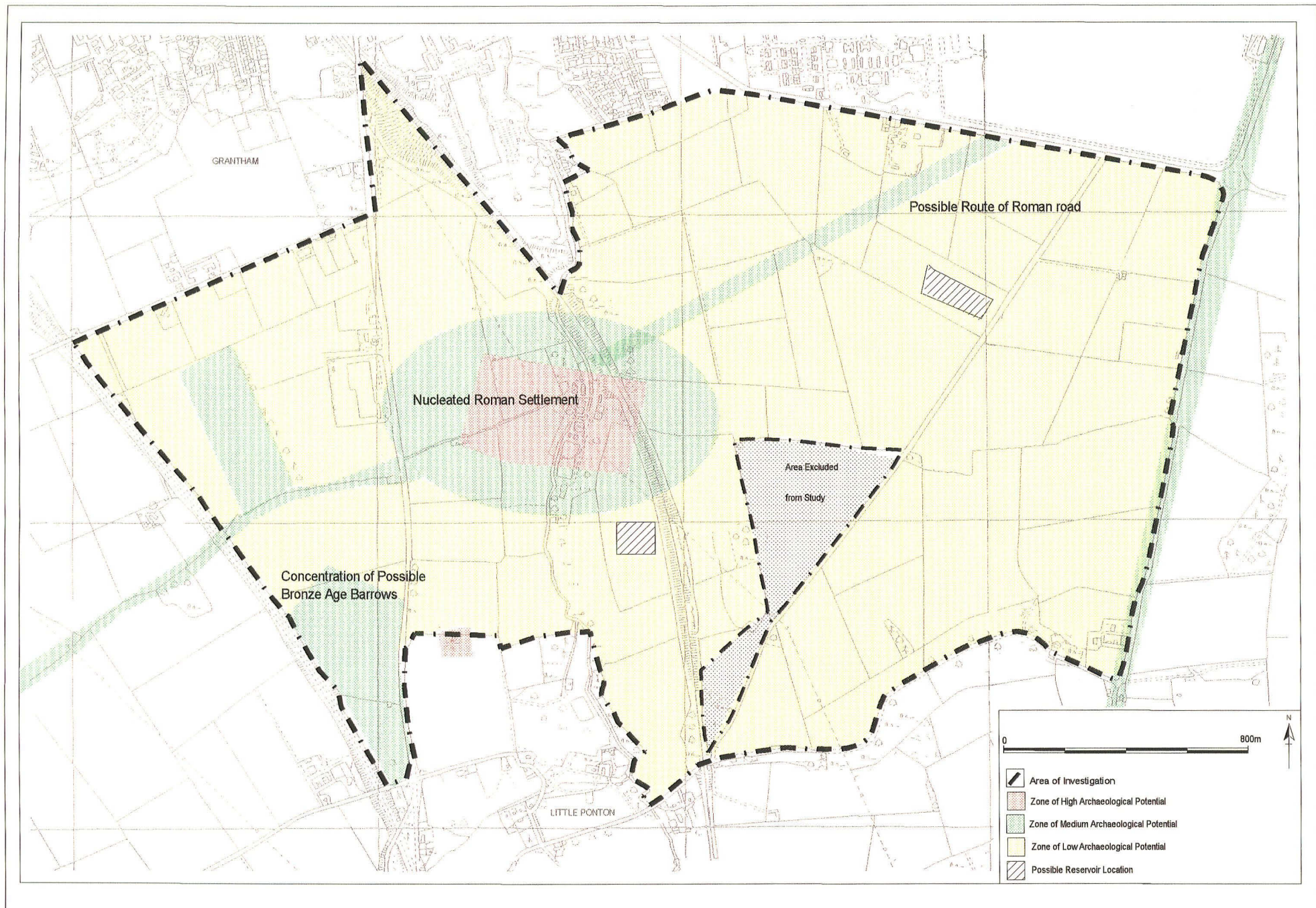


Figure 7 Relative Archaeological Potential of Zones within Area of Investigation, based on recorded archaeological sites

APPENDIX 1

Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling Ancient Monuments - Extract from *Archaeology and Planning DoE Planning Policy Guidance note 16, November 1990*

The following criteria (which are not in any order of ranking), are used for assessing the national importance of an ancient monument and considering whether scheduling is appropriate. The criteria should not however be regarded as definitive; rather they are indicators which contribute to a wider judgement based on the individual circumstances of a case.

i *Period*: all types of monuments that characterise a category or period should be considered for preservation.

ii *Rarity*: there are some monument categories which in certain periods are so scarce that all surviving examples which retain some archaeological potential should be preserved. In general, however, a selection must be made which portrays the typical and commonplace as well as the rare. This process should take account of all aspects of the distribution of a particular class of monument, both in a national and regional context.

iii *Documentation*: the significance of a monument may be enhanced by the existence of records of previous investigation or, in the case of more recent monuments, by the supporting evidence of contemporary written records.

iv *Group value*: the value of a single monument (such as a field system) may be greatly enhanced by its association with related contemporary monuments (such as a settlement or cemetery) or with monuments of different periods. In some cases, it is preferable to protect the complete group of monuments, including associated and adjacent land, rather than to protect isolated monuments within the group.

v *Survival/Condition*: the survival of a monument's archaeological potential both above and below ground is a particularly important consideration and should be assessed in relation to its present condition and surviving features.

vi *Fragility/Vulnerability*: highly important archaeological evidence from some field monuments can be destroyed by a single ploughing or unsympathetic treatment; vulnerable monuments of this nature would particularly benefit from the statutory protection that scheduling confers. There are also existing standing structures of particular form or complexity whose value can again be severely reduced by neglect or careless treatment and which are similarly well suited by scheduled monument protection, even if these structures are already listed buildings.

vii *Diversity*: some monuments may be selected for scheduling because they possess a combination of high quality features, others because of a single important attribute.

viii *Potential*: on occasion, the nature of the evidence cannot be specified precisely but it may still be possible to document reasons anticipating its existence and importance and so to demonstrate the justification for scheduling. This is usually confined to sites rather than upstanding monuments.

APPENDIX 2

Glossary of Terms

Anglo-Saxon	Pertaining to the early part of the Saxon period and dating from approximately AD 450-650.
Bronze Age	Part of the prehistoric era characterised by the introduction and use of bronze for tools and weapons. In Britain this period dates from approximately 2200-700 BC.
Carucate	A measure of land, though notional in use, which averaged about 160 acres.
Cropmark	A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological or geological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.
Iron Age	Part of the prehistoric era characterised by the introduction and use of iron for tools and weapons. In Britain this period dates from approximately 700 BC - AD 50.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Neolithic	The New Stone Age. The period within prehistory defined by the emergence of sedentary farming communities. Dating between 3,500 and 2,000 BC.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800
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 000BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1 st century AD
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.