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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON LAND ADJACENT TO
STAMFORD HIGH SCHOOL,
KETTERING ROAD,
STAMFORD,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SJS00)**



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES



Lancashire County Council
Archaeology Section
29 AUG 00
29 AUG 00

00/20

VENTS L12048 L12049
SOURCES L16791 L16792

PRN 30617 L130617
35227 L180573
35257 L180776
80011 L181787

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON LAND ADJACENT TO
STAMFORD HIGH SCHOOL,
KETTERING ROAD,
STAMFORD,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SJS00)**

Work Undertaken For
W.J. Hemmings and Partners

July 2000

Report Compiled by
Joanna Hambly

Planning Application No: S99/0836/69
National Grid Reference: TF 02751 06465
City and County Museum Accession No: 2000.88

A.P.S. Report No. 103/00



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1. SUMMARY

The area of classroom extensions to the north of Stamford Junior School, service trenches to the north and west of the building and a gas pipe line to the east of the building were subject to an archaeological watching brief. The work was undertaken as part of a mitigation strategy, following previous archaeological evaluation of the site that uncovered substantial medieval remains believed to be cloistral buildings of St. Michael's priory.

Limited excavations in the area of classroom extensions and in service trenches north and west of the school revealed a relatively undisturbed sequence of naturally formed deposits, overlain by recent layers associated with the present school.

A small quantity of medieval and post-medieval pottery was recovered from the service trenches. The medieval pottery and tile which formed the largest component of the assemblage is very likely to originate from the nearby medieval cloister buildings. Post-medieval material possibly came from an unlocated post-dissolution house or farm. The absence of structural remains of these periods may be due to the location of the trenches on the steep slope of the school playing field, outside the supposed western limit of the medieval priory and beyond the site of a later building.

A continuous gas pipeline trench to the east of the school extending from the Kettering Road entrance in the south to the north east corner of the school extension in the north, revealed a clearly defined boundary between undisturbed natural strata with a low density of archaeological remains and concentrated archaeological deposits. This boundary was located approximately three

metres south of the southwest corner of the present car park and possibly represents part of the southern limit of the monastic complex.

A possible drain or wall oriented northeast southwest, was found north of this boundary. It is probably associated with medieval buildings to the west of the gas pipe line, possibly the reredorter.

The depth of recent disturbance associated with the construction of the car park and the access road, extended more than a metre beyond the level at which archaeological features were recorded during a previous archaeological investigation on the adjacent sports field. Some archaeological deposits, therefore, are very likely to have been destroyed in these areas, particularly within the present car park.

Outside of the areas occupied by school buildings and associated amenities, deposits appeared to be undisturbed, indicating that any archaeological remains present could be well preserved.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of an Archaeological 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 Planning Background

A full planning application (S99/0836/69) was submitted to South Kesteven District Council for extensions to the existing Stamford High School, Junior School, Kettering Road, Stamford, Lincolnshire. An archaeological evaluation was requested by the South Kesteven community archaeologist, consisting of a programme of trial trenching. Important archaeological remains were uncovered and consequently a mitigation strategy for the development was devised. As part of the mitigation, a watching brief was undertaken during all phases of soil movement and a provision made for manual excavation and recording if archaeological remains were encountered (Appendix 2). Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by W. J. Hemmings and Partners to undertake the work which was carried out between 3rd April and 12th July 2000.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Stamford is situated 63km south of Lincoln and 23km southwest of Spalding, in the administrative district of South Kesteven, Lincolnshire (Fig.1). Stamford lies on the banks of the River Welland, close to the confluence with the Gwash which provides the eastern boundary of the town.

The development site (Fig. 2 and 3) is located south of the River Welland, adjacent to Kettering Road, approximately 500m south of the town centre as defined by All Saints' parish church (National Grid Reference TF 02751 06465).

The site of the classroom extensions lies at approximately 25m OD on a flat paved playing area with a terraced slope along the western edge, sloping down to a sports field. The services to the west of the school follow

the natural slope of the land down from east to west. The gas pipe line follows the eastern edge of the access road located east of the school building (Fig. 3).

Local soils are the Denchworth Association, wet clayey (pelostagnogley) soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 155) and Fladbury 1 Association pelo-alluvial gley soils, developed on clayey alluvial subsoils (*ibid.*, 194). Stamford sits in a narrow valley cut in the Lower Lincolnshire Limestone. Upper Lincolnshire Limestone and the overlying Great Oolite form the northern valley sides. In contrast, the southern part of the town, including the development area, is located on a solid geology of Northampton Sand and Lower Lincolnshire Limestone (Inferior Oolite). Remains of a river terrace and recent alluvium fill the valley bottom (Anderson 1982, 1).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Stamford is situated in an area of known archaeological remains dating generally from the prehistoric to the medieval periods. Two worked flints of Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date were recovered during an archaeological evaluation approximately 70m east of the area of investigation (Hambly 2000 a). Romano-British archaeology comprises unrelated find spots. The Roman road, Ermine Street, crosses the River Welland to the west of the town and adjacent to the proposed development (Figure 2).

By the end of the 9th century, Stamford was described as one of the five boroughs of the Danelaw. A reference to the visit of Edward the Elder in 918 indicates that the Danish *burh* lay to the north of the River Welland and also records that the King commanded a new borough to be built on the south side of the river (Mahaney 1982, 3). One piece of

Early Saxon pottery recovered in a previous archaeological investigation (Hambly 2000) is the only evidence of this period in the vicinity of the site.

The Domesday Book of 1086 refers to Stamford as a royal borough comprising six wards, five of these north of the river. At that time, the sixth ward, south of the river, was located in the County of Northamptonshire. A bridge spanned the river and in the wards to the north were over four hundred messuages, three and a half mills and a castle. In addition, four churches, were located in the northern part of the town (Foster and Longley 1976, 9 - 11).

Previously *Steanford* and *Stanford*, the place-name Stamford - 'stony ford' derives from Old English *stan* and *ford* (Ekwall 1974, 436 - 7).

Numerous religious foundations were established during the medieval period. Of particular significance is the Benedictine Nunnery of St. Michael which is located within the development area. The Nunnery was founded by William de Waterville, abbot of Peterborough, about 1155 (English Heritage 1994). Originally the house was founded for 40 nuns with a prior and brethren until 1323 when it became entirely a nunnery (Knowles and Hadcock 1953, 219).

Following the dissolution, St. Michael's Nunnery was acquired by the Cecil family of nearby Burghley House. It is not known whether a post-dissolution house was constructed at the site although Speed's map of Stamford, dating to 1600, depicts conventual buildings set within a defined outer precinct. Later maps of 1773, 1779 and 1839 all depict buildings on the site, some named as Nun's Farm (APS 1994).

Construction of the railway in 1846 revealed a number of features associated with the nunnery (RCHME 1977, 32). These included foundations, carved stonework, a coffin lid and a quantity of human bones. Excavations of the site in 1973, prior to the construction of the present school buildings, revealed part of an elaborate rere-dorter (latrine) comprising a 4 bay arcade set in front of a channel which was supplied with water from a reservoir fed by rainwater from a roof (Mahaney 1977, 10). The rere-dorter, and its associated features, are a Scheduled Monument No. 22607 (English Heritage 1996, 23).

Excavations carried out on the site, prior to this watching brief, revealed part of a priory building including a room with painted plaster walls and a mortar floor, roofed with slate and green glazed ridge tiles (Cope Faulkner 1999). Archaeological investigations on the playing field to the east of the junior school identified part of a medieval cemetery and a probable ironstone quarry, also likely to be of medieval date (Hambly 2000 a). On the north side of the railway cutting, archaeological investigations during an extension to the school boarding house (The Nuns), uncovered the remains of five skeletons and a corner of a limestone wall foundation (APS forthcoming).

3. AIMS

The aims of the archaeological watching brief, as outlined in the brief (Appendix 1), were to locate, record and interpret, archaeological deposits and to recover disturbed archaeological remains.

4. METHODS

Excavation

A mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket was used to remove topsoil to a maximum depth of 0.10m over the development site in preparation for raft construction. Thereafter all intrusive groundworks were confined to the excavation of trenches for essential services, located west, north and east of the present school buildings.

The topsoil stripping was monitored and archaeological material collected. Following excavation of the service trenches, the sides were cleaned by hand and each deposit or feature was given a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. All plans were drawn at a scale of 1:20 and all sections and elevations at a scale of 1:10. A photographic record was compiled using colour slide and monochrome formats.

Post-excavation

Following excavation, all records were checked and ordered to ensure that they constituted a complete Level II archive and a stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced. Finds recovered from those deposits excavated were examined and a period date assigned where possible. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. Phasing was based on artefact dating and the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis, a total of four phases were identified:

Phase 1: Natural deposits

Phase 2: Undated deposits
Phase 3: Post-medieval deposits
Phase 4: Recent deposits

Archaeological contexts are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned during the watching brief.

Phase 1 Natural Deposits

The earliest deposits encountered during the investigations west of the school buildings were a loose, yellowish red silty limestone and ironstone brash [002] and a firm yellowish red clayey sand containing frequent stone and shattered fragments of ironstone [005], [021] and [024]. The top of these natural deposits occurred at between 0.45m to 0.90m below the present ground surface. In the gas pipe trench along the access road east of the school buildings, natural mottled blue and orange clay [028] was encountered at the entrance to the school, 0.55m below the ground surface where the ground level is at its lowest point. A natural outcrop of limestone and ironstone [031] was recorded in section 8 immediately east of the school building (Figs. 3 and 4) 0.35m below the present ground surface. An apparently undisturbed 0.7m thick layer of natural shattered ironstone brash subsoil [039], and compact, mid-brownish orange sandy clay subsoil [030], containing occasional fragments of limestone, overlay the bedrock along the entire length of the gas pipe line between section 9 and section 7 (Fig. 3).

Phase 2: Undated deposits

Cutting the brash subsoil, approximately 3m south of the present car park and recorded in section 9 (Figs. 3 and 5) was an extremely ill-defined cut [045] (located on Fig. 3). The cut marked the interface between undisturbed natural deposits to the south and

archaeological deposits to the north. Crossing the base of the trench, within cut [045], although not definitely associated with it, were two parallel alignments of large, rough limestone blocks [043], possibly representing a wall or drain, oriented northeast southwest (Fig. 5, plate 6). The feature measured 1.4m wide and was composed of possible squared blocks and rubble ranging in size from 0.1m x 0.2m to 0.4m x 0.2m. No bonding material was observed. The feature was overlain by a very loose layer of limestone rubble [040], which in turn was sealed by a loose mid-brown silt [041] containing large quantities of small and medium sized limestone fragments. Lying against the upper part of the southern edge of the cut (Fig. 5) was a layer of loose, white crushed limestone [038], tipping downwards from south to north. The final deposit within the area defined by the cut consisted of a loose, mid-grey silt [035] mixed with limestone fragments.

Phase 3: Post-medieval Deposits

Overlying the sterile natural deposits, recorded in service trenches to the north and west of the school buildings, subsoil layers [004], [010], [015], [020], [022] and [023] were recorded. The deposit was composed of firm mid-orangey brown sandy or clayey silt with varying quantities of angular limestone and ironstone fragments. The thickness of the layer ranged from 0.30m to 0.78m. A number of sherds of pottery, dating from the 10th to the 17th centuries were recovered from the subsoil. These generally comprised local wares produce in Nottingham, Bourne and Stamford (Appendix 4). Animal bone and three pieces of smithing slag were also recovered.

Throughout most of the development area west of the school building, a layer of former topsoil, now buried under modern

levelling deposits, overlay the subsoil. The buried topsoil included contexts [003], [009], [014] and [019]. It was composed of a compacted dark brownish grey sandy silt containing occasional limestone fragments. One sherd of Bourne ware (12th-14th century) was recovered from layer [009].

Phase 4: Recent Deposits

Overlying the former topsoil west of the school were various deposits associated with the landscaping of the playing field and surfacing of the school playground. These included [008], a friable mid-yellowish brown sandy silt that was recorded in the service trenches (Fig. 4), and also the hardcore foundations, [018] and [017], for the tarmac playground surface [016]. An unidentified recent cut [013], measuring 0.32m deep and 0.88m wide with vertical sides and a flat base, cut the buried soil in the playing field and was recorded in section 4 (Figs. 3 and 4). It was filled with a friable, light reddish brown silt [012].

Located in the gas pipe trench along the access road east of the school, the northern extent of the undated remains bounded by cut [045] described above, were truncated by recent disturbance associated with the construction of the present car park, terraced into the northwest corner of the school playing field. These included cut [044], pale yellow crushed limestone hard core [042], mixed stone and gravel levelling [037] and tarmac surface [036] (Fig. 5). The total depth of the foundations of the car park was at least 0.7m. The disturbance, therefore, affects all deposits to a minimum level of 27.54m OD. A similar sequence was recorded in the east facing section of the gas pipe trench where it cut through the access road. These included layers of make-up [027], [026] and [033], predominantly composed of limestone rubble (Fig. 4, section 7), overlain by tarmac [025]. The

total depth of the road foundations extended 0.45m below the present surface.

A layer of modern topsoil, typically a dark greyish brown sandy silt, [001], [006], [007], [011], [029] and [034] occurred in all grassed areas and was the final deposit recorded in the sequence. A mixed assemblage of medieval and post-medieval pottery, as well as, medieval green glazed roof tile, animal bone, clay pipe and an iron key were found in topsoil [001] (Appendix 4).

6. DISCUSSION

The natural deposits, comprising limestone/ironstone brash and clayey sand containing frequent stone and shattered fragments of ironstone represent the weathered surface of the underlying parent rock. The natural outcrop of limestone [031] encountered in the gas pipe trench is likely to be the same outcrop as was identified in a recent archaeological evaluation trench less than 10m to the east (Hambly 2000 a).

The limestone feature [043], identified in the gas pipe trench, at the corner of the present car park represents a structure, perhaps a drain or wall associated with the medieval priory. If a drain, it may relate to the medieval reredorter preserved beneath the school, approximately 20m to the west (Fig. 3). The structure is located within cut [045], although the level of disturbance was such that it was not clear if the two were related. The location and projected alignment of the cut westwards corresponds with a similar shaped cut, filled with limestone blocks and rubble, recorded in a recent archaeological investigation during extensions to the school porch (Hambly 2000 b). The possible drain/wall was also covered by a layer of limestone rubble, and

it is likely that these deposits, revealed in both investigations, represent demolition material originating from nearby medieval buildings and perhaps, more precisely, from the destruction of possible drain/wall [043] surviving at the base of the gas trench. The shape of the cut and the nature of the fills suggests it is more likely to relate to demolition and clearance activities following the dissolution of the priory, rather than a construction cut, or a ditch or pit as was suggested in the previous investigation of the school porch (*ibid*). The cut is also significant in that it forms the interface between apparently natural deposits observed along the exposed gas pipe trench southwards as far as Kettering Road, and archaeological deposits observed in a three metre stretch north of the cut before being truncated by recent activity associated with the car park (Fig. 3).

West of the school buildings, the layer of subsoil recorded in the service trenches contained medieval and post-medieval material, though this was sparse and no evidence of medieval or later structures or features were encountered. The subsoil was generally observed in trenches that followed the steep slope of the playing field, where the topography would be unsuitable for building. A similar sequence of undisturbed deposits overlain by a thin layer of demolition material was observed near the break of slope during the previous evaluation of the site (Cope-Faulkner 1999). It was suggested that the break of slope may have defined the western extent of St. Michael's Priory (*ibid*), therefore, deposits beyond this would be expected to contain small amounts of medieval material, but would remain relatively undisturbed.

The presence of post-medieval pottery and clay pipe dating from the 17th to 19th centuries in the topsoil indicates that there

was habitation in the vicinity during the post-medieval period. Pottery of the 16th to 18th century and animal bone, representing typical domestic refuse was also found in the previous evaluation. The author notes that there is no real indication of a post-dissolution house, but that a farm is shown near the site on 17th and 18th century maps of the area (Cope-Faulkner 1999).

7. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological watching brief on land to the north, west and east of Stamford High School, Junior School, Stamford was undertaken because important archaeological remains representing buildings and demolition of the medieval priory of St. Michael were uncovered during previous evaluations of the site.

The limited excavations to the north and west of the school buildings revealed a relatively undisturbed sequence of naturally formed deposits, overlain by recent layers associated with the present school. A small quantity of medieval and post-medieval pottery was recovered from the subsoil and topsoil layers. The medieval pottery formed the largest component of the assemblage and probably originates from the nearby cloister buildings. No evidence of structural remains were present, but this is probably due to the location of the trenches on the steep slope of the school playing field, outside the supposed western limit of the medieval priory.

Post-medieval finds may have originated from a post-dissolution house or farm in the vicinity of the medieval complex.

A continuous trench, extending from the Kettering Road entrance of the school, to the northeast corner of the new school

extension, adjacent to the bridge over the railway cutting, revealed a clearly defined limit to concentrated archaeological deposits, located approximately three metres south of the south western corner of the present car park (Fig. 3). Only apparently natural deposits were observed throughout the remainder of the trench southwards. This is broadly consistent with the results of previous work (Hambly 2000 a) which revealed concentrated archaeological activity associated with a cemetery in the northernmost trench and relatively undisturbed natural brash and subsoil in the southern excavations. Discrete features, however, were found cutting the natural brash and subsoil, indicating that there is an archaeological presence in this area, though less dense and different in nature to deposits occurring further north. It is possible, the observed interface between the differing stratigraphy in the gas pipe trench represents the boundary of the monastic complex at this location.

Within the area of concentrated archaeological deposits, as defined by the cut, a possible drain or wall oriented northeast southwest, is probably associated with medieval buildings located west of the gas pipe line, possibly the reredorter.

Where the gas pipe trench cut through the recent school access road and car park, the depth of disturbance extended from 0.45m to 0.7m respectively, below the tarmac surfaces. That is, to depths of approximately 28.19m OD and 27.24m OD. Previous work has shown that archaeological deposits survive from 29m OD in the playing field adjacent to the trench (Hambly 2000 a). It must be assumed, therefore, that some archaeological deposits have been destroyed in these areas, particularly within the present car park.

Outside of the areas occupied by school buildings and associated amenities, deposits appeared to be undisturbed, indicating that any archaeological remains present would be well preserved.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr A. Delaney of W. J. Hemmings and Partners for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. Steve Malone coordinated this project and Denise Drury and Tom Lane edited this report. Anwin Cooper, the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist, provided access to the relevant parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project coordinator	Denise Drury
Field staff	Andy Failes, Joanna Hambly, Tobin Rayner, Jim Snee, Fiona Walker
Finds processing	Denise Buckley
Illustration	Mark Dymond, Andy Failes, Joanna Hambly, Rachel Hall
Photographic reproduction	Sue Unsworth
Post-excavation analyst	Joanna Hambly

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RCHME, 1977, *The Town of Stamford*

11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

RCHME Royal Commission on
Historical Monuments for
England

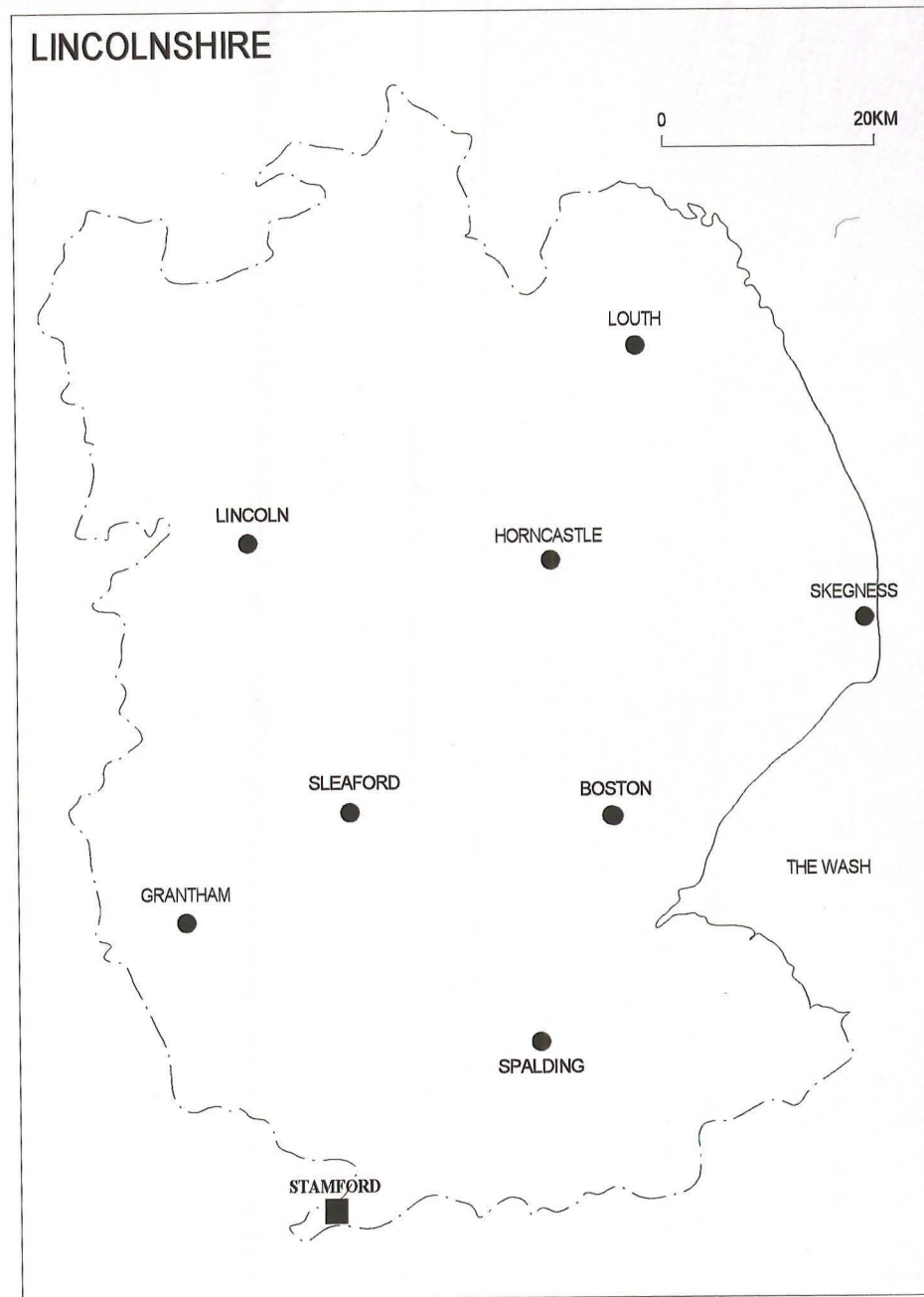
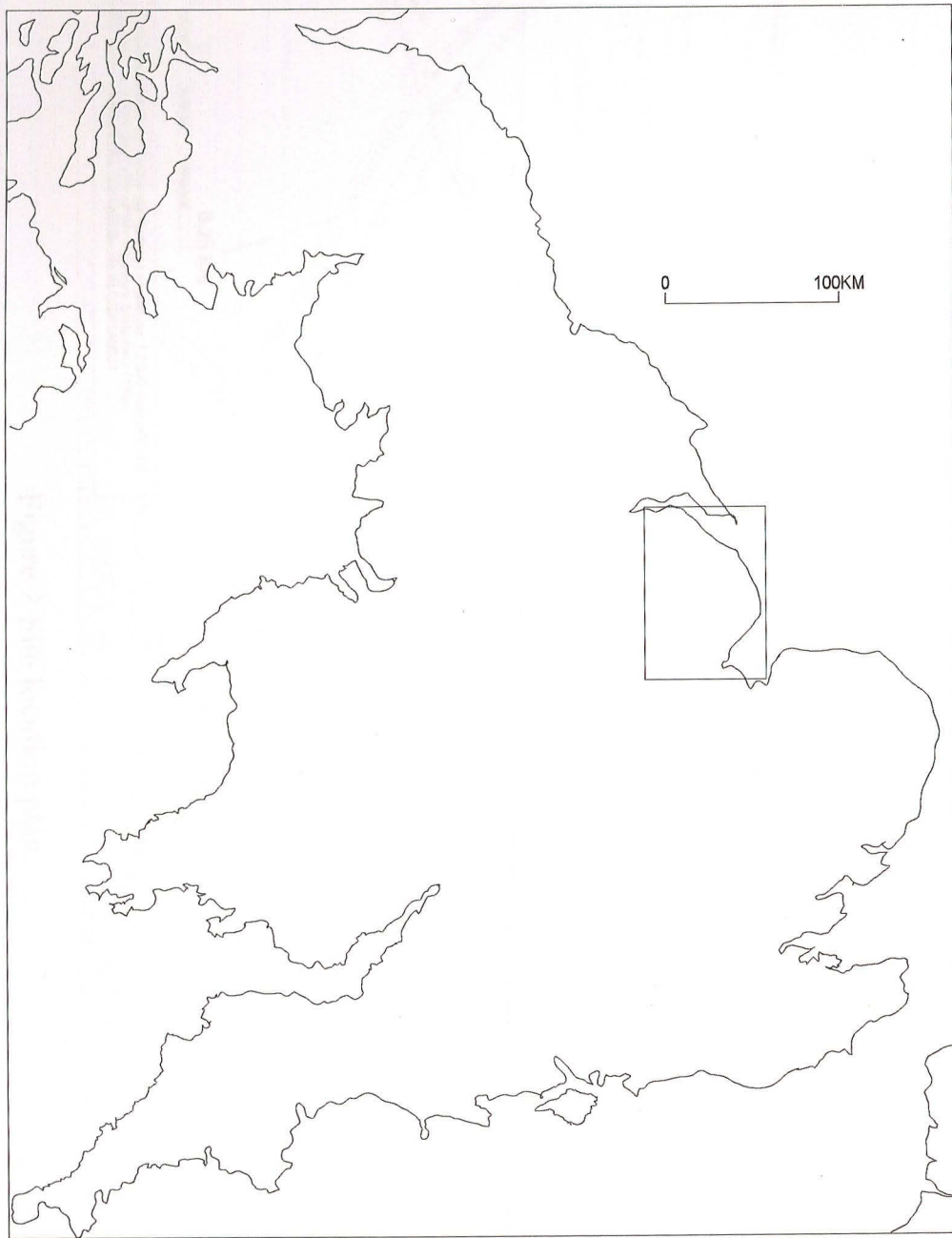


Figure 1 - General location map

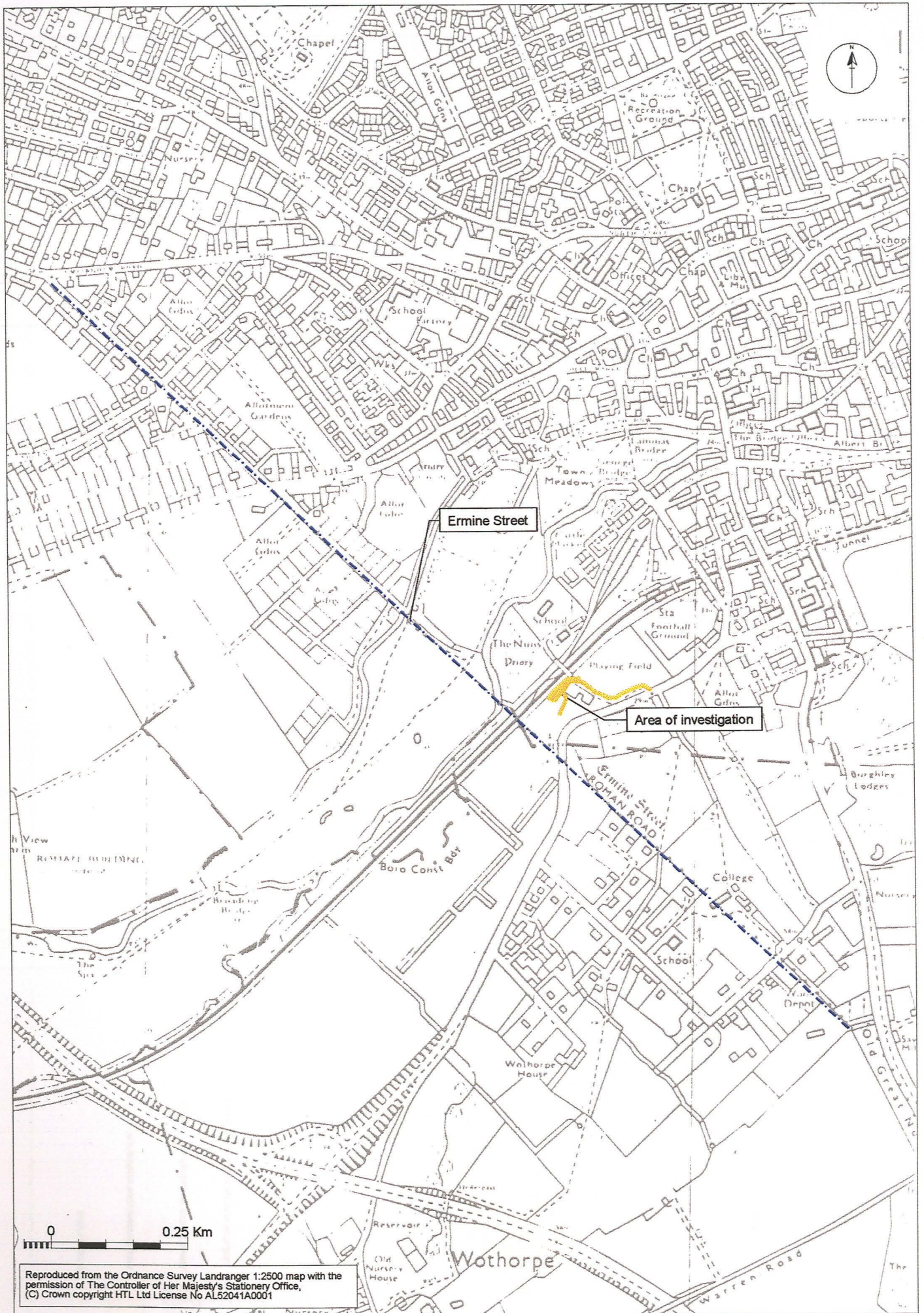


Figure 2 Site location plan

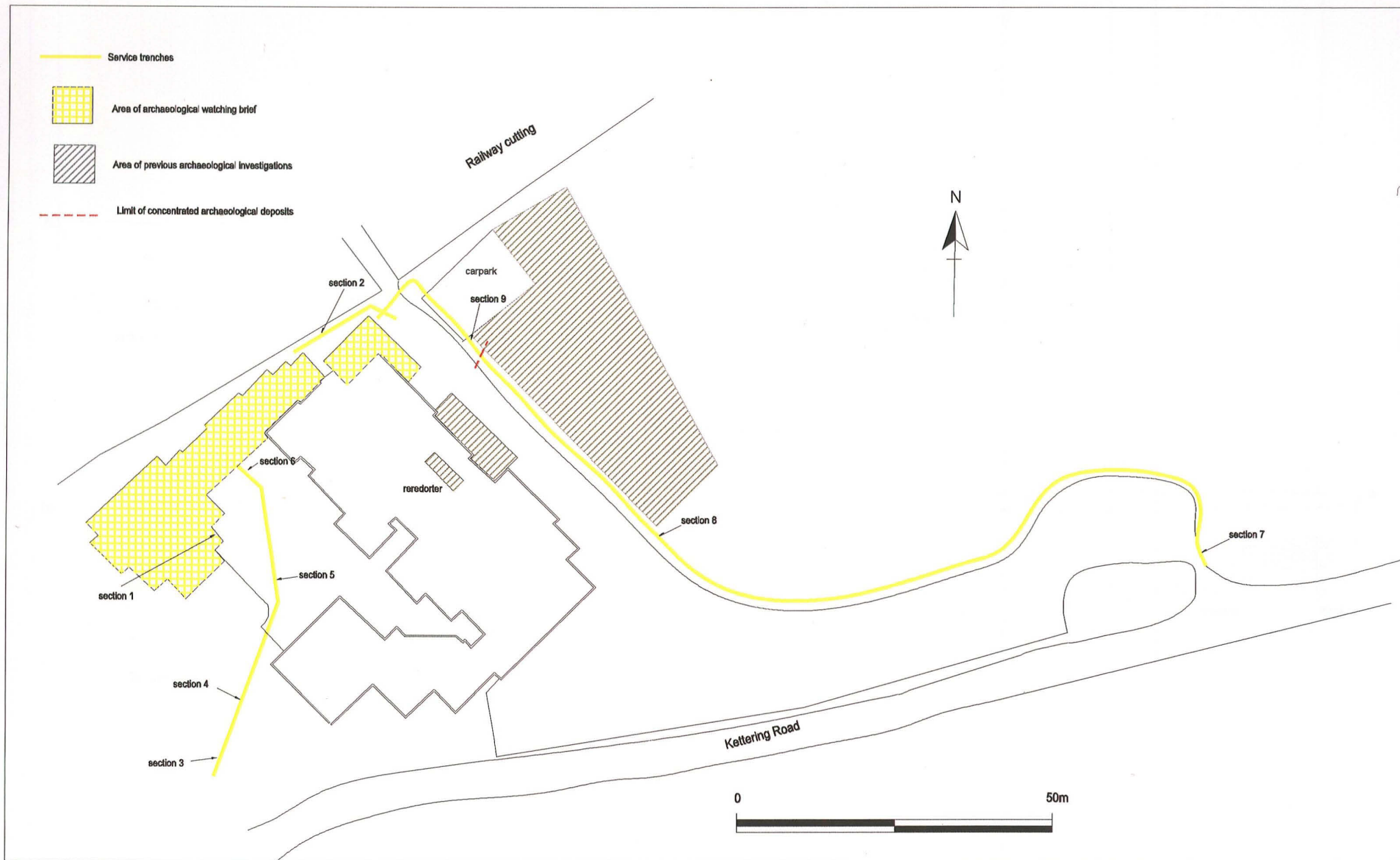


Figure 3. Detailed development area and section location plan

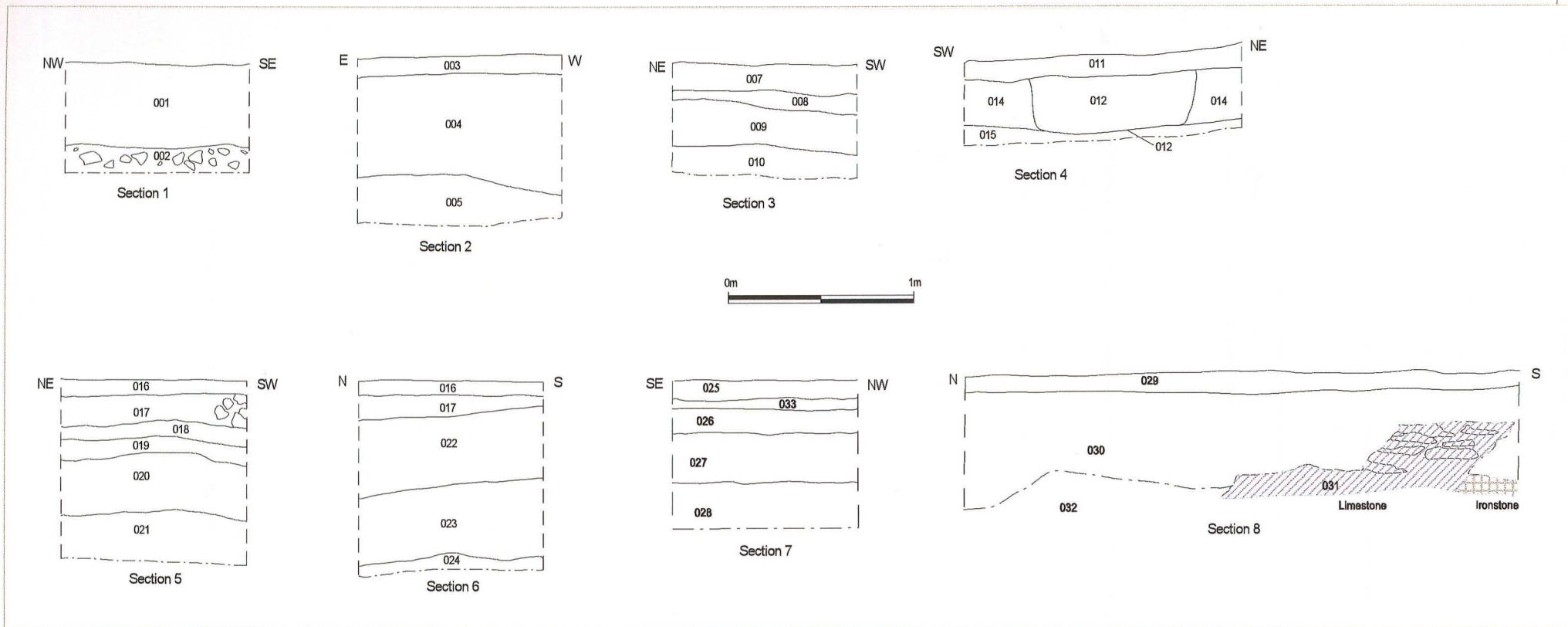


Figure 4 The Sections

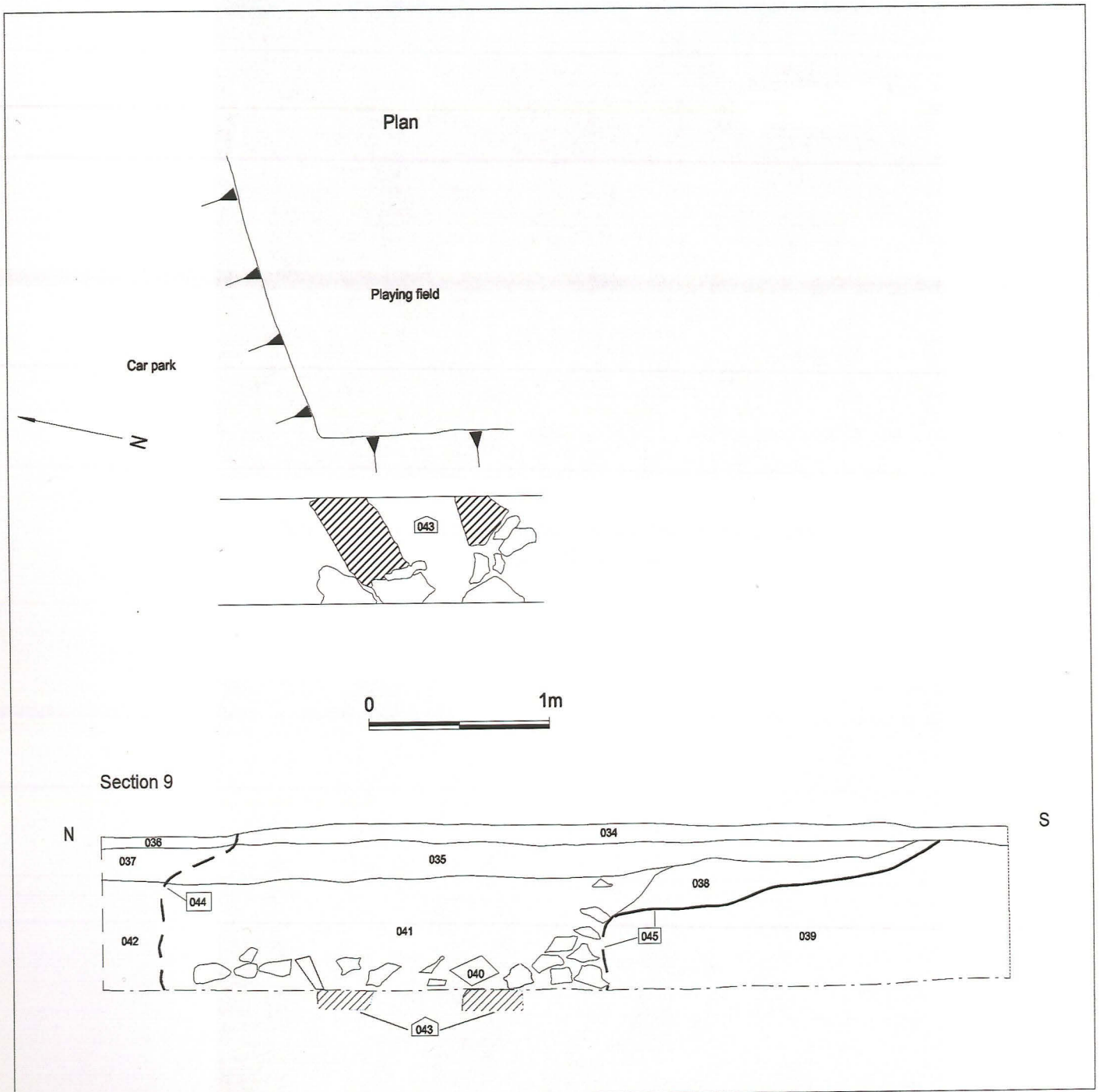


Figure 5. Plan and section of possible structure [043]



Plate 1 General view of topsoil stripping, looking northeast towards the school



Plate 2 General view of stripping in preparation for the raft, north of the school



Plate 3 General shot of service trench, looking northeast towards the school



Plate 4 Section 5 showing typical stratigraphy



Plate 5 General view of route of gas pipeline,
looking northwest



Plate 6 Possible limestone structure [043], looking east

Appendix 1

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT BRIEF

1. SUMMARY

The purpose of this brief is to provide a concise overview of the archaeological project, including its objectives, scope, and key findings.

The project was conducted at the site of [Site Name], located in [Location]. The primary goal was to investigate the [Site Name] and its relationship to the surrounding [Area].

The project was carried out by [Organization/Team] and was funded by [Funding Source]. The work was completed over a period of [Duration].

The project has resulted in the discovery of [Key Findings], which provide valuable insights into the [Site Name] and its [Significance].

2. OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of the project were to [List Objectives].

3. SCOPE

The project focused on the [Site Name] and its [Area].

4. METHODOLOGY

The project employed a range of archaeological methods, including [List Methods].

5. RESULTS

The project has identified [List Results].

6. CONCLUSIONS

The project has provided valuable insights into the [Site Name] and its [Significance].

Key findings include [List Key Findings].

Recent investigations of the [Site Name] have revealed the remains of the [Site Name], including [List Features].

mortar flux suggests that the [Site Name] was constructed during the [Period].

WATCHING BRIEF DURING EXTENSIONS AND ALTERATIONS TO STAMFORD HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR SCHOOL, KETTERING ROAD, STAMFORD.

1. SUMMARY.

1.1 This document is the brief for an archaeological watching brief to be carried out during development at Stamford Junior High School.

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 be expected to provide details of the proposed scheme of work, to include the anticipated working methods, timescales and staffing levels.

(The Community Archaeologist does not maintain a list of archaeological contractors but names of local units can be found in the Yellow Pages or from the Institute of Field Archaeologists Tel 0118 931 6446.)

1.3 The detailed specifications will be submitted for approval to the Community Archaeologist of South Kesteven District Council. 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 The application site lies in the south west of Stamford, which is in the very south of the South Kesteven administrative district, Lincolnshire. The actual site itself is situated at approximately NGR: TF 02751 06465. Please see location map.

3. PLANNING BACKGROUND.

3.1 A full planning application renewal has been submitted to South Kesteven District Council for: Extensions and alterations (S99/0836/69). An archaeological evaluation was requested by the Community Archaeologist, and consisted of a trial-trench scheme. Important archaeological remains were uncovered, and following discussions, a mitigation strategy was devised. This Watching Brief scheme forms a part of the mitigation.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.

4.1 The proposed development is located in the area of the site of the 13th century Benedictine priory of St. Michael, founded c. 1155 to house forty nuns, some monks and a prior. It was dissolved in 1536. When the current junior school was built, part of the latrine to the priory was exposed and subsequently scheduled as an Ancient Monument. During construction of the railway in the 19th century, significant remains were uncovered including 'ancient foundations. . . broken mullions of windows and other carved stones, five stone coffins, a quantity of human bones, coloured glass' etc.

Recent investigations at the junior school as part of the evaluation have identified further remains of the priory buildings in the form of an L-shaped wall. Painted plaster and a mortar floor suggest this was perhaps part of a cloister. Later deposits uncovered were associated with the demolition of the nunnery during the post-medieval period.

5. REQUIREMENT 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 and that any remains disturbed are recovered.

5.2 The Watching Brief should be carried out on excavations for all new foul drainage runs and manholes, and for new soakaways and associated manholes and drainage runs.

There are new foul drains and soakaways on the east part of the development, and new drains running away to the southwest.

5.3 A toothless ditching bucket attachment should be used on the mechanical excavator for any areas of soil-stripping, and these areas to be monitored under archaeological supervision. The soil strip will be 100mm deep only (as agreed with the architects)

5.4 Any adjustments to the brief for the Watching Brief project should only be made after discussion with the Community Archaeologist of South Kesteven District Council.

5.5 The contractor's specification should be prepared according to requirements of this brief and the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook's section 'Standard Briefs for Archaeological Projects in Lincolnshire' (August 1997) and should include the following details:

5.5.1 A projected timetable must be agreed for the various stages of work.

5.5.2 The staff structure and numbers must be detailed.

5.5.3 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.

5.5.4 The recovery and recording strategies to be used must be described in full. It is expected that an approved single context recording system will be used for all on-site and post fieldwork procedures;

5.5.5 An estimate of time and resources allocated for the post-excavation report in the form of 'person hours'. This should include lists of specialists and their role in the project. **There should be no change to any of the specialists listed in the specification, unless previously discussed with the Community Archaeologist.**

6. METHODS

6.1 The investigation should be carried out by a recognised archaeological body in accordance with the code of conduct of The Institute of Field Archaeologists. **If the specialists to be used by the archaeological body are not IFA registered and are not locally recognised, a CV or some other form of reference should be provided with the specification.**

6.2 Where appropriate, the watching brief should involve:

6.2.1 archaeological supervision of soil 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 if necessary.

6.2.5 archaeological supervision of subsoil stripping;

6.2.6 inspection of natural for archaeological features and recording of them;

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 licences under the Disused Burial Grounds (Amendment) Act, 1981 or other Burial Acts 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 method of removal, reinterment or disposal of the remains or associated items. Attempt must be made at all times not to cause offence to any interested parties;

6.2.8 If discovered during excavation, finds of gold and silver must be archaeologically removed to a safe place and reported to the local Coroner immediately (within 14 days) in accordance with the procedures of the Treasure Act 1997 and Code of Practice. If removal of such finds is not possible on the same day then adequate security arrangements must be made.

6.2.9 The use of a metal detector on site is encouraged. Especially for the survey of spoil heaps.

7. MONITORING ARRANGEMENT.

7.1 The Community Archaeologist of South Kesteven District Council will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project and will require at least fourteen days notice prior to the commencement of the work. The Community Archaeologist should be kept informed of any unexpected discoveries and regularly updated on the project's progress. They should be allowed access to the site at their convenience and will comply with any health and safety requirements associated with the site.

8. REPORTING REQUIREMENT.

8.1 A full report should be produced and deposited with the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist, South Kesteven District Council Planning Department, the Developer and the County Sites and Monuments Record. The report should include:

8.1.1 location plan of the development;

8.1.2 section and plan drawing, with ground level, Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scales as appropriate;

8.1.3 specialist descriptions of artefacts and ecofacts;

8.1.4 an indication of potential archaeological deposits not disturbed by the present development;

8.2 After agreement with the landowner, arrangements should be made for long term storage of all artefacts in the City and County Museum, Lincoln, as outlined in that Museum's document 'Conditions for the acceptance of Project Archives'. The City and County Museum should be contacted at the earliest possible opportunity so that the full cost implications of the archive deposition can be taken into account.

8.3 A site archive should be produced and deposited with the artefacts as detailed in 8.2.

8.4 A summary of the results will be published in Lincolnshire History and Archaeology in due course.

8.5 Should the Watching Brief reveal finds of national or regional importance, provision should be made for publication in the appropriate regional or national journal.

9. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

9.1 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 approved programme of excavation are only to be made with the prior written approval of the Community Archaeologist.

9.2 Further contact addresses:

Miss Jo Simpson
South Kesteven Community Archaeologist
Heritage Lincolnshire
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Sleaford
Lincolnshire
NG34 9RW

Archaeology Section
Highways and Planning Directorate
Lincolnshire County Council
3rd Floor
City Hall
Lincoln
LN1 1DN

Mr T Page
City and County Museum
12 Friars Lane
Lincoln
LN2 5AL

Brief set by Community Archaeologist, South Kesteven District Council. February 2000. This project brief is valid for a period of six months. After that period consult the SKCA.

Appendix 2

**EXTENSIONS AND ALTERATIONS
TO JUNIOR SCHOOL
STAMFORD HIGH SCHOOL
SPECIFICATION FOR
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING-BRIEF**

**PREPARED FOR
W. J. HEMMINGS & PARTNERS**

**BY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES
Institute of Field Archaeologists'
Registered Archaeological Organisation No. 21**

JUNE 2000

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1 **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 *This document comprises a specification for the archaeological watching-brief during extensions and alterations at Stamford High School, Kettering Road, Stamford.*
- 1.2 *Medieval St. Michael's Priory was located in the area of the site, with the priory toilet block (reredorter) being in the immediate vicinity. This priory latrine is a Scheduled Ancient Monument. Archaeological evaluation at the site has recorded medieval remains, including substantial masonry and surviving floor levels within the development area.*
- 1.3 *The watching brief will be undertaken during groundworks associated with the development. The archaeological features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the investigation. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 **INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for an archaeological watching brief during extensions and alterations to the Junior School (Client Ref: SHS54) at Stamford High School, Kettering Road, Stamford, Lincolnshire, national grid reference TF 027 065.
- 2.2 The document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview
 - 2.2.2 The archaeological and natural setting
 - 2.2.3 Stages of work and methodologies to be used
 - 2.2.4 List of specialists
 - 2.2.5 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 **SITE LOCATION**

- 3.1 Stamford is located 63km south of Lincoln and 17km northwest of Peterborough in the southwest corner of Lincolnshire. The site is in the southwestern part of the town, south of the River Welland and about 600m south of the town centre as defined by All Saints' parish church. Kettering Road lies just to the south, with the rail track immediately north of the site which is centred on national grid reference TF 027 065.
- 3.2 The site is an irregular rectangular block of land approximately 550 square metres in extent on the northwest side of existing school buildings. Currently the ground cover is a mixture of tarmac, paving stones and grassed.

4 **PLANNING BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 A full planning application (S99/0836/69) for extensions and alterations to an existing school has

been approved by South Kesteven District Council subject to a condition that an archaeological watching-brief be implemented as part of the mitigation strategy following an archaeological evaluation of the area. A brief for the works has been produced by the Community Archaeologist, South Kesteven District Council.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 Located on the south bank of the River Welland, the site lies at approximately 25m OD on land that slopes down northward to the river. Soils at the site are Denchworth Association pelostagnogleys, with Fladbury 1 Association pelo- alluvial gleys immediately to the north (Hodge *et al.* 1984 155; 194). These soils are developed on clayey alluvial subsoils. Beneath this alluvium is a solid geology of Lower Lincolnshire Limestone.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 The major Roman road, Ermine Street, crosses the River Welland approximately 150m to the west of the site. No Romano-British activity is known in the area of this river crossing, though Roman artefacts and remains have been found elsewhere in Stamford, including near the main river bridge, 500m to the northeast.
- 6.2 In the 9th century AD part of the northern bank of Stamford was fortified by the Danes. However, in 918 Stamford submitted to Edward the Elder who ordered a new *burh* (fortified settlement) built south of the river. The location of this Saxon fortification is unknown, though it is generally thought to have been in the area bisected by High Street St. Martin's, approximately 400m to the east. However, an alternative position closer to, or on, the present investigation site has been postulated. In possible support of this, early Ordnance Survey maps note the site of a castle close to the Welland bank, *c.* 150m north of the proposed development area (Archaeological Project Services 1994a).
- 6.3 The proposed development area is in the location of St. Michael's Priory, a nunnery founded in 1155. The nunnery was set within an enclosure that also accommodated a cemetery. Part of the reredorter (toilet block) of the nunnery has been excavated and is preserved in an underground chamber beneath the entrance of the Junior School. This reredorter is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, County Number 22607.
- 6.4 The nunnery was dissolved in 1536, though ruins of the establishment seem to have been evident at least until 1779. Remains of the nunnery, including burials, were found during construction of the railway yard, north of the railtrack, in the mid 19th century.
- 6.5 Archaeological investigation of the development site by APS (Cope-Faulkner 1999) revealed well-preserved medieval masonry and floor levels of one of the Priory buildings, perhaps part of a cloister, standing *c.* 0.5m high.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the watching brief will be:
- 7.1.1 To record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.

- 7.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:
 - 7.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
 - 7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
 - 7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
 - 7.2.4 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

8 SITE OPERATIONS

8.1 General considerations

- 8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the watching brief.
- 8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA). *Archaeological Project Services* is IFA registered organisation no. 21.
- 8.1.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

8.2 Methodology

- 8.2.1 The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.
- 8.2.2 A toothless ditching bucket attachment should be used on the mechanical excavator for any areas of soil stripping. The mechanical excavations will be under archaeological control, to ensure archaeological remains are investigated and recorded before removal.
- 8.2.3 The Archaeological Curator (South Kesteven Community Archaeologist) has advised that mechanical stripping may have to be interrupted should archaeological remains be revealed. Rapid excavation and recording of any remains revealed will take place before machining continues. Although *Archaeological Project Services* will attempt to facilitate the progress of the development groundwork, should significant or extensive archaeological remains be encountered then time will be required to undertake adequate investigation.
- 8.2.4 Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Features will be recorded in plan at a scale of 1:20. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on *Archaeological Project Services* pro-

forma record sheets.

8.2.5 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.

8.2.6 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:

8.2.6.1 The site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.

8.2.6.2 groups of features where their relationship is important

8.2.7 Should human remains be located the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department, the coroner and police will be informed, as appropriate.

9 POST-EXCAVATION

9.1 Stage 1

9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued and labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

9.1.2 All finds recovered during the field work will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

9.2 Stage 2

9.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.

9.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

9.3 Stage 3

9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.

9.3.2 This will consist of:

9.3.2.1 A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.

- 9.3.2.2 A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.
- 9.3.2.3 Description of the topography of the site.
- 9.3.2.4 Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.
- 9.3.2.5 A text describing the findings of the watching brief.
- 9.3.2.6 A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.
- 9.3.2.7 Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
- 9.3.2.8 Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.
- 9.3.2.9 Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
- 9.3.2.10 Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- 9.3.2.11 Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10 **REPORT DEPOSITION**

- 10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the client; the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist; South Kesteven District Council Planning Department; and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

11 **ARCHIVE**

- 11.1 The documentation and records generated during the watching brief will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the City and County Museum, Lincoln. This will be undertaken following the requirements of the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives* for long term storage and curation.

12 **PUBLICATION**

- 12.1 A report of the findings of the watching brief will be published in Heritage Lincolnshire's Annual Report and a note presented to the editor of the journal *Lincolnshire History and Archaeology*. If appropriate, notes on the findings will be submitted to the appropriate national journals: *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date, and *Medieval Archaeology* and the journal of the *Medieval Settlement Research Group* for findings of medieval or later date.

13 **CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

- 13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Community Archaeologist of South Kesteven District Council. They will be given seven days

notice in writing before the commencement of the project.

14 **VARIATIONS**

14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.

15 **PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS**

15.1 The watching brief will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the archaeological site work.

15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.

15.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one person-day) will require a post-excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half person-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about four days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

16 **SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT**

16.1 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

<u>Task</u>	<u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric - D. Knight, Trent & Peak Archaeological Unit Roman - B Precious, Independent Specialist Anglo-Saxon - J Young, Independent Specialist Medieval and later - G. Taylor APS in consultation with H Healey, Independent Archaeologist
Non-pottery Artefacts	J Cowgill, Independent Specialist
Animal Bones	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
Environmental Analysis	J Rackham, Independent Specialist

Human Remains Analysis R Gowland, Independent Specialist

17 **INSURANCES**

17.1 Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains Employers Liability Insurance of £10,000,000, together with Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied on request.

18 **COPYRIGHT**

18.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

18.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.

18.3 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* and may result in legal action.

18.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

8 **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Cope-Faulkner, P. 1999 *Archaeological Evaluation on Land Adjacent to Stamford High School, Kettering Road, Stamford, Lincolnshire* unpublished APS report 118/99

Hodge, CAH, Burton, RGO, Corbett, WM, Evans, R, and Seale, RS, 1984 *Soils and their use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales 13

Specification: Version 1, 06-06-00

Appendix 3

CONTEXT SUMMARY

Context number	Description	Interpretation
001	Loose, mid-brown clayey silt, 0.45m thick	Topsoil
002	Loose, mid-yellowish reddish brown silt with frequent angular limestone, 0.15m thick	Natural limestone brash
003	Moderately compacted dark brownish grey gritty silt, 0.10m thick	Possible residual topsoil below path
004	Moderately crumbly mid yellowish brown gritty clayey silt & limestone, 0.70m thick	Subsoil
005	Moderately compact, light-mid reddish brown yellow clayey silty sand & Stone, 0.30m thick	Natural
006	Context assigned to unstratified finds from topsoil (004/005)	Finds
007	Friable, dark greyish brown sandy silt, 0.18m thick	Topsoil
008	Friable, mid-yellowish brown sandy silt, 0.10m thick	Possible made up ground/levelling
009	Friable, dark greyish brown sandy silt, 0.26m thick	Old turf line
010	Firm, mid-reddish brown sandy silt, 0.19m thick	Subsoil
011	Friable, dark greyish brown sandy silt, 0.11m thick	Topsoil
012	Friable, light reddish brown silt, 0.32m thick	Fill of 013
013	Indeterminate shape cut feature, 0.88m wide x 0.32m deep, orientation unknown, exposed in section only	Unidentified modern cut
014	Friable, dark greyish brown sandy silt, 0.24m thick	Buried soil (same as 009)
015	Firm, mid-reddish brown sandy silt, 0.10m thick	Subsoil
016	Indurated black tarmacadam, 0.08m thick	Modern/current tarmac ground surface

017	Weakly cemented, light yellowish brown stoney sandy clay, 0.17m thick	Make up layer for tarmac [016]
018	Loose, mid-brown silty sand, 0.10m thick	Make up layer
019	Firm, dark greyish black clayey silt, 0.11m thick, "organic" look	Possible buried turf line
020	Firm, mid-brown clayey silt, 0.28m thick	Subsoil
021	Firm, mid-reddish brown clayey silt, regular ironstone fragments, sand & stones, 0.25m thick	Natural
022	Moderately compact, mid-yellowish brown with orangey yellow and orangey brown patches, clayey stoney sand, 0.45m thick	Levelling/subsoil
023	Moderately compact, mid-yellowish reddish brown, stoney clayey sand, 0.40m thick	Subsoil
024	Moderately compact, mid-yellowish red brown stone and clayey sand, 0.10m thick	Natural
025	Tarmac	Access road surface
026	Loose, pale yellow, limestone rubble	Hardcore for tarmac surface [025]
027	Loose, white and orangey brown large limestone fragments in a sandy matrix	Make-up for tarmac road [025]
028	Plastic, mottled blue and orange clay	Natural lense/layer of clay
029	Turf and topsoil	Turf and topsoil
030	Compact, mid-brownish orange, clean sandy clay, limestone fragments occasional	Subsoil
031	Limestone bedrock	Limestone outcrop, same as found in SHS00
032	Ironstone natural rock	Natural ironstone rock
033	Loose, white large limestone fragments	Hardcore for tarmac access road, same as [026]
034	Turf/topsoil	Turf/topsoil, same as [029]
035	Loose, mid-grey, silt and limestone fragments	Fill? of [045]
036	Tarmac	Tarmac surface of corner car park, same as [025]
037	Mixed stone and gravel	Hardcore for tarmac corner carpark [036]

038	Loose, white crushed limestone	? Fill of [045]. Tip line marking southern limit of disturbance to natural strata
039	Firm, orangey brown shattered ironstone in a clay matrix	Subsoil
040	Loose, white limestone rubble	?Fill of [045]. Demolition associated with structure [043]?
041	Loose, mid-brown silt, limestone fragments frequent	Fill of [045]. Demolition? Levelling?
042	Loose, pale yellow crushed limestone	Hardcore/preparation for corner car park
043	Limestone masonry? Two lines of parallel limestone blocks and rubble oriented northeast-southwest	Possible structure - drain or wall
044	?cut	Interface between modern car park deposits to the north[042] and other deposits to the south
045	?cut	Interface between undisturbed natural deposits to the south and disturbed demolition possible structural remains [043] to the north

Appendix 4

THE POTTERY AND OTHER FINDS By Hilary Healey MPhil and Gary Taylor MA

Provenance

The material was recovered from topsoil [001], buried topsoil [009] and subsoil [004], [010], [020] and [023].

Pottery from various production centres was recovered, with material made in Stamford and nearby Bourne providing the most commonly recovered fabric types. Ceramics made in Nottingham and Northamptonshire were also recovered and much of the latest material was probably manufactured in Staffordshire.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the table.

Context	Description	Context Date
unstratified	1x Nottingham saltglazed stoneware	18 th century
001	1x Developed Stamford ware, 11 th -mid 13 th century 1x Nottingham ware, 13 th - 14 th century 1x Bourne A/B ware, 12 th - 14 th century 1x ?Northamptonshire ware, 13 th - 15 th century 1x red painted earthenware, black glazed, 17 th -early 18 th century 1x blue and white transfer printed tableware, 19 th -early 20 th century 1x window glass, 20 th century 1x clay pipe stem, bore 7/64", 17 th century 1x clay pipe stem, bore 5/64", 18 th -19 th century 1x whelk shell	20 th century
004	1x ?Nottingham ware, 13 th - 14 th century 1x Bourne D ware, 16 th -17 th century	16 th -17 th century
006	1x Chinese porcelain, 18 th century 1x yellow glazed earthenware, 19 th century 5x blue and white transfer printed tableware, 19 th -early 20 th century 1x iron key	19 th -early 20 th century
009	1x ?Bourne A/B ware	12 th -14 th century
010	1x Stamford ware, 10 th - 12 th century 1x Developed Stamford ware, 11 th -mid 13 th century 1x Bourne D ware, 16 th - 17 th century 3x iron smelting slag	16 th -17 th century
020	2x Stamford ware	10 th - 12 th century
023	1x ?Stanion-Lyveden ware	12 th -early 15 th century

The key from (006) has a near-circular bow, a short shank and a moderately large bit with mixed narrow and wide clefts. The shape of the bit bears similarities to 14th century examples, but would not be out of place on keys of 18th-19th century date (Monk 1994, 11; 47). This type of small key would have been used on boxes or other lockable items rather than for doors.

Although iron smelting slag was recovered from the site the quantity is too small to indicate metal production in the immediate vicinity.

Fragments of pottery of probable 10th -12th century date are the earliest artefacts and medieval pottery generally forms the largest component of the assemblage.

Condition

Although some of the pottery is slightly worn, all of the material is in good condition and presents no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the assemblage is by material class.

Documentation

A number of archaeological investigations have been undertaken in Stamford, with several in particular proximity to the present investigation site (eg, Mahany 1977, 10; Cope-Faulkner 1999).

Potential

The assemblage has moderate potential and indicates medieval activity, though of indeterminate nature, on the site. Of significance is the presence of Saxo-Norman and medieval Stamford ware in the assemblage, as comparable material was conspicuously absent from previous investigations elsewhere at the site (Cope-Faulkner 1999).

References

Cope-Faulkner, P., 1999 *Archaeological Evaluation on Land Adjacent to Stamford High School, Kettering Road, Stamford, Lincolnshire (SKR 99)*, A.P.S. Report No. **118/99**

Mahany, C.M., 1977, St. Michael's Nunnery, Stamford, *South Lincolnshire Archaeology* **1**

Monk, E., 1994, *Keys Their History and Collection* (Shire)

Appendix 5

THE CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL from SJS00

By Phil Mills BSc. (Hons) AIA

Introduction

A total of 3 fragments weighing a total of 390 grams was recovered from the site. The material ranges from the 14th to 16th century AD. The fragments of ceramic building material recovered from the site were examined under a x20 hand lens. Their fabrics were described and compared with the fabric type series retained at Archaeological Project Services.

Condition of the material

The material was recovered in good condition. The assemblage was recovered from hand and machine excavated contexts, which will bias the results in favour of larger pieces. Abrasion was observed for the glazing of the tiles. The size of the fragments was medium. There will be no special requirements for storage.

Statement of potential

The nearby presence of high status building with a decorated roof should be considered. The common occurrence of this fabric around the region suggests an import source of tiles. One piece of ridge tile had been pierced with a pin prior to firing this produced a regular spaced matrix of pin pricks.

Recommendations

Further research into the pin pricked ridge tile should be carried out to find parallels and to ascertain function if any. No conservation work is required for this material. Other specialist work required. It is recommended that samples of the separate forms and fabrics are retained for future information about the spread of tile fabric types over the region, therefore helping to map out the changing development of the medieval brick and tile industry. Long term storage: material from the catalogued assemblage should be selected for storage as a representative sample. The rest of the catalogued material may be disposed of. The retained material represents no unusual requirements for long term storage.

The Material recovered

Fabrics

NCG1

A light reddish with reddish grey surface (munsell: 2.5YR 6/6) very hard granular feel irregular fracture, with inclusions of sparse well-sorted fine rounded mica, abundant moderately-sorted medium sub-rounded quartzite and moderate moderately-sorted medium sub-rounded voids.

This fabric was recovered in similar amounts with spot dated material from 14th century to 16th century and has been recovered from sites at Newark,

Forms

Ridge Tiles

Two pieces of possible ridge tile were recovered . They had been glazed with a green to dark greenish brown glaze. One piece had been pricked repeatedly with a pin prior to firing.

All the pieces had been glazed. However the tile fragment only exhibited dribbles of glaze, suggesting accidental glazing during firing by being in contact with glazed items.

The Catalogue

	Fabric	Wt (g)	No	Cnrs	Len(mm)	Wth(mm)	Tk (mm)	Mortar
Tile	RIDGE	155	1				13.35	No
<i>Thick green glaze</i>								
Tile	RIDGE	165	1				10.85	No
<i>Pierced by multiple pin stabs from glazed side fairly regular placing. Green brown glaze on surface some mortar on glazed surface as well</i>								
Tile		70	1				11.8	Yes
<i>dribbles of green glaze on one surface mortar on other side</i>								

Wt = Weight, No = No of fragments, Cnrs = No of Corners, Len = Mean Length, Wth = Mean Width TK = Mean Thickness, Mortar = presence or absence

Appendix 6

THE ANIMAL BONE *by Paul Cope-Faulkner*

Introduction

A total of five fragments of animal bone were retrieved from archaeological investigations weighing a total of 55g. The bone was retrieved from topsoil deposit [001] and subsoil deposits [004], [010] and [023].

Range

The range of material is detailed in the table:

Context	Species	Bone	Remarks
001	Cattle	Unknown	possible limb bone fragment
004	Sheep	Radius	
010	Sheep	Scapula	Sawn
023	Cattle	Radius	2 fragments, chalky

Condition

The animal bone is in quite good condition apart from the fragmentary radius in (023) which is chalky.

Documentation

Previous bone reports from the site of the Benedictine Nunnery of St. Michael have been produced (Rackham 1999).

Potential

The size of the assemblage is too small to consider further analysis at this stage.

References

Rackham, J., 1999, 'Environmental Archaeology Assessment', in Cope-Faulkner, P., *Archaeological Evaluation on land adjacent to Stamford High School, Kettering Road, Stamford, Lincolnshire (SKR 99)*, unpublished APS report No. 118/99

Appendix 7

GLOSSARY

Bronze Age	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
Domesday Survey	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Neolithic	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500-2250 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 500,000 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.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany

Appendix 8

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

14	Daily record sheets
1	Context record sheet
45	Context records
1	Section record sheet
7	Scale drawing sheets
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Box of finds

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: 2000.88

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: SJS 00

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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