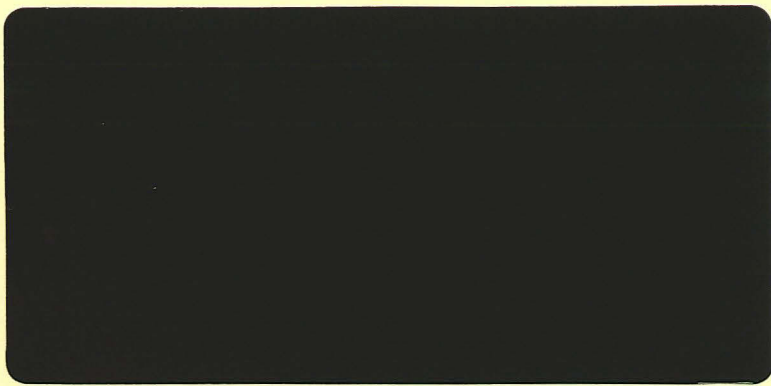


M7/02/01

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT ARDEN HOUSE, CASTHORPE ROAD,
BARROWBY,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BCR99)**



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES



19 JAN 01

Lincoln County Council
Administration Building

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT ARDEN HOUSE, CASTHORPE ROAD,
BARROWBY,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BCR99)**

Work Undertaken For
Mr & Mrs R. Wilson

Report Compiled by
James Snee BSc

January 2001

National Grid Reference: SK 8755 3603
Planning Application Number: S99/0022/06
City and County Museum Accession No: LCNCC : 116.99

A.P.S. Report No. 3/01



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1. SUMMARY

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Arden House because the site lay within an area of known archaeological remains.

Although close to extant earthworks, the development did not disturb any archaeological remains. This could indicate that any features or deposits associated with these earthworks do not extend as far south as Casthorpe Road.

No artefacts were recovered from this investigation.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

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

2.2 Planning Background

A watching brief was undertaken on 16th April 1999 during the excavations of footings for a garage extension at Arden House, Casthorpe Road, Barrowby, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application S99/0022/06 to South Kesteven District Council. Permission was granted subject to a standard watching brief condition for archaeological recording.

The archaeological recording was commissioned by Mr and Mrs R. Wilson and carried out by Archaeological Project

Services following the recommendation of the South Kesteven District Council Heritage Officer (Appendix 1).

2.3 Topography and Geology

Barrowby is located approximately 37km south of Lincoln and c. 3km west of Grantham in the administrative district of South Kesteven. (Fig. 1). Casthorpe Road is located on the southwest side of the village.

The development site is located on the outskirts of the village, north of Casthorpe Road at national grid reference SK 8755 3603 (Fig. 2).

The site lies on solid geology of Lower Jurassic limestone. The principle soils are fine loam over clayey stagnogleyic ferritic brown earths of the Banbury Association. To the west the soils are of the Denchworth Association, typically stoneless clays formed on a solid geology of lower Lias clays (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 103; 155).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Prehistoric and Romano-British finds have been reported throughout the parish of Barrowby, in particular to the west of the village.

The name Barrowby is of Old Scandinavian derivation, *Berga-by* meaning 'bi' or village, on the hill of Berga' (Ekwall 1974, 28).

Barrowby is referred to in the Domesday Survey of 1086 as *Bergebi*, a manor with a mill and a church (Foster and Longley 1976). All Saints church is mainly late 13th to mid 14th century, although it was restored in 1854.

Although the development lies outside the main centre of the village, it lies immediately south of a field containing significant

earthwork remains. These consist of a possible medieval or post-medieval boundary ditch or hollow way associated with an enclosure and a pond. It is not certain what the function of these earthworks was but it is believed that they are associated with Barrowby Old Hall, a 17th century hall (much altered in the 19th century) with medieval fragments incorporated into the front wall.

Other surviving early post-medieval buildings in the village includes Barrowby Hall which is dated 1691 and the Rectory, dated 1588.

A watching brief carried out by the community archaeologist in 1990, identified Romano-British and medieval pottery and other finds in an area to the northeast of the development.

3. AIMS

The aim of the archaeological investigation, was to ensure that any archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance should be recorded and, if present, to determine their date, function and origin.

4. METHODS

The site was initially stripped of vegetation. The footings were excavated by machine using a toothed bucket to produce a trench c. 0.95m deep. All surfaces exposed by the excavation were examined and where necessary cleaned using a pointing trowel. Each archaeological deposit or feature revealed within the trench was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10.

Records of the deposits and features recognised during the investigation were examined. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them, supplemented by artefact dating where relevant. A stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced.

5. RESULTS

Three phases were identified:

Phase 1: Natural deposits
Phase 3: Undated deposits
Phase 2: Modern deposits

Archaeological contexts are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

5.1 Phase 1: Natural Deposits

The earliest deposit encountered during this investigation was loose, mid yellowish brown clayey silt (003) with frequent small to medium sized angular limestone fragments. This natural deposit was greater than 0.30m thick (Fig. 4).

5.2 Phase 2: Undated Deposits

Overlying (003) was 0.60m of firm, mid reddish brown sandy silt (002), interpreted as a subsoil (Fig. 4).

5.3 Phase 3: Modern Deposits

Above the subsoil (002) was firm, dark greyish brown sandy silt topsoil (001). This deposit was approximately 0.11m thick and contained occasional small angular stones (Fig. 4).

6. DISCUSSION

Phase 1 was represented by a natural limestone brash deposit (003) typical of the soils formed over limestone bedrock.

The natural brash (003) was sealed by a 0.60m thick subsoil (002) (Phase 2) that was probably formed through prolonged agricultural activity.

Topsoil (001) sealed the subsoil and formed the modern ground surface (Phase 3).

7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Arden House because the site lay within an area of known archaeological remains.

Although close to extant earthworks, the development did not disturb any archaeological remains. This could indicate that any features or deposits associated with these earthworks do not extend as far south as Casthorpe Road.

No artefacts were recovered from this investigation.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr and Mrs R. Wilson who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor and this report was edited by Dale Trimble and Tom Lane. Gail Smith, the South Kesteven Heritage Officer, kindly permitted examination of the relevant parish archaeological files.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
Supervisor: Dale Trimble
Illustration: Rachael Hall
Post-excavation Analyst: James Snee
Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Ekwell, E., 1974, *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place-names*, University Press, Oxford.

Foster, C.W., and Longley, T., 1976 *The Lincolnshire Domesday and the Lindsey Survey*, The Lincoln Record Society 19

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services
IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

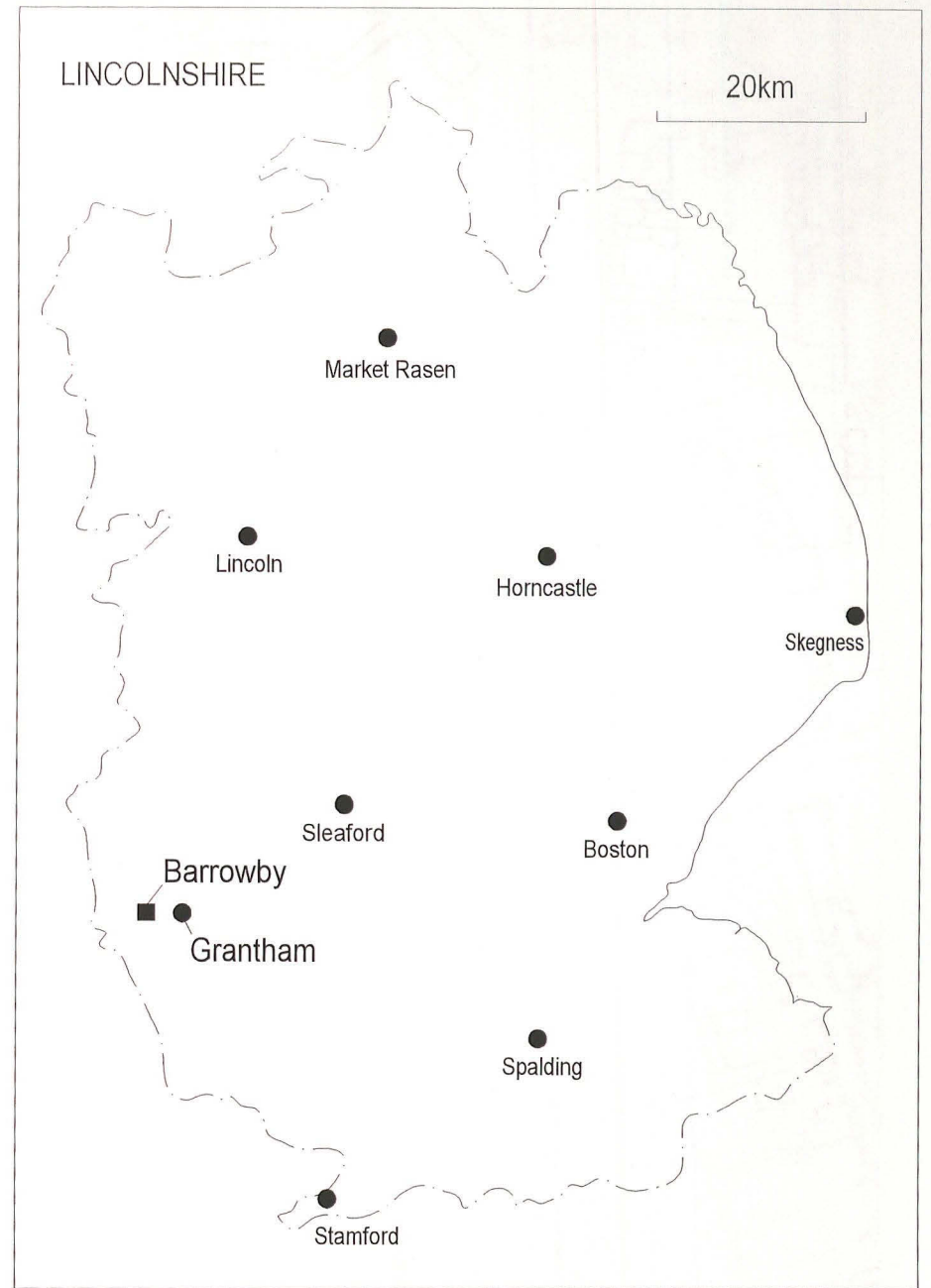
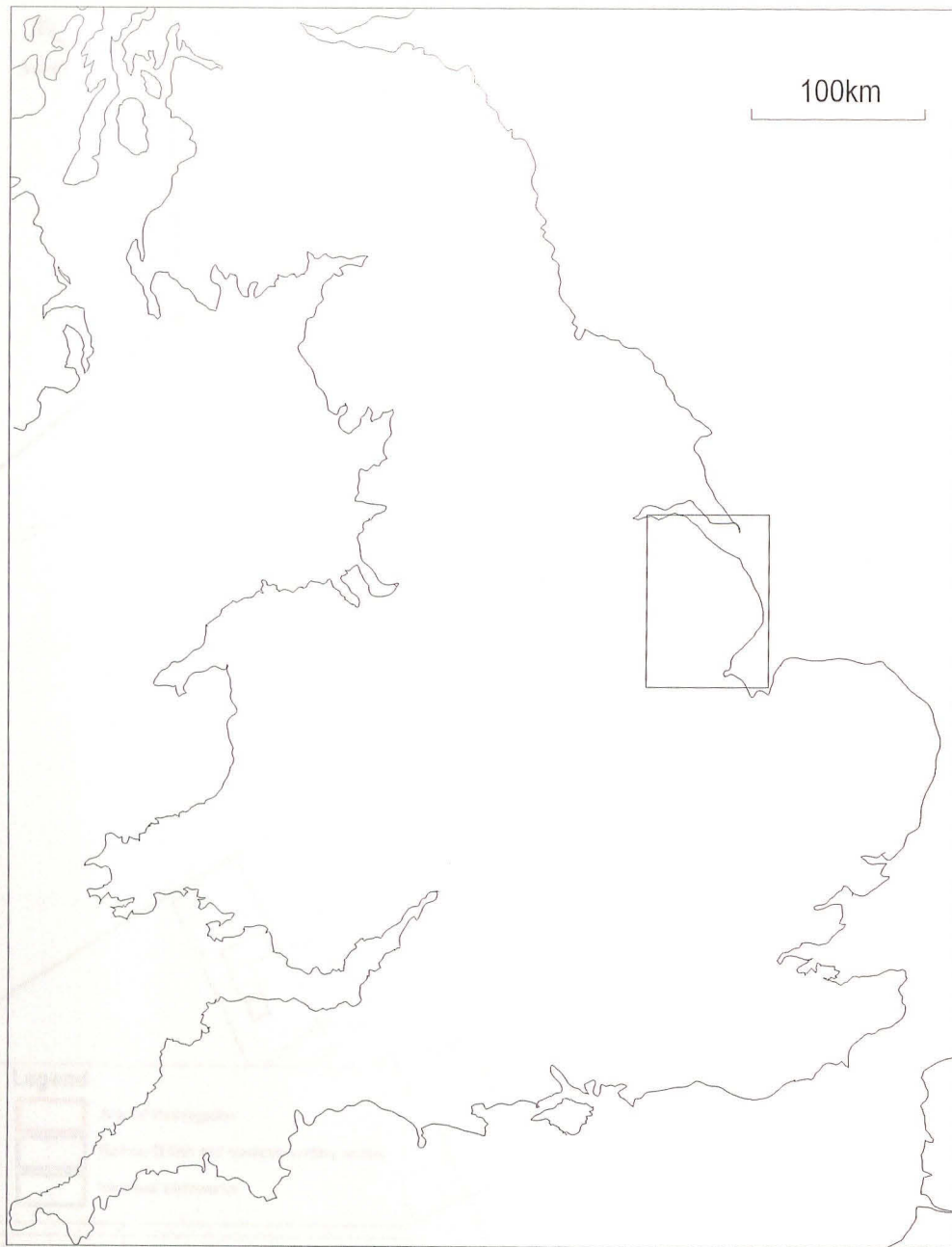


Figure 1 General Location Plan

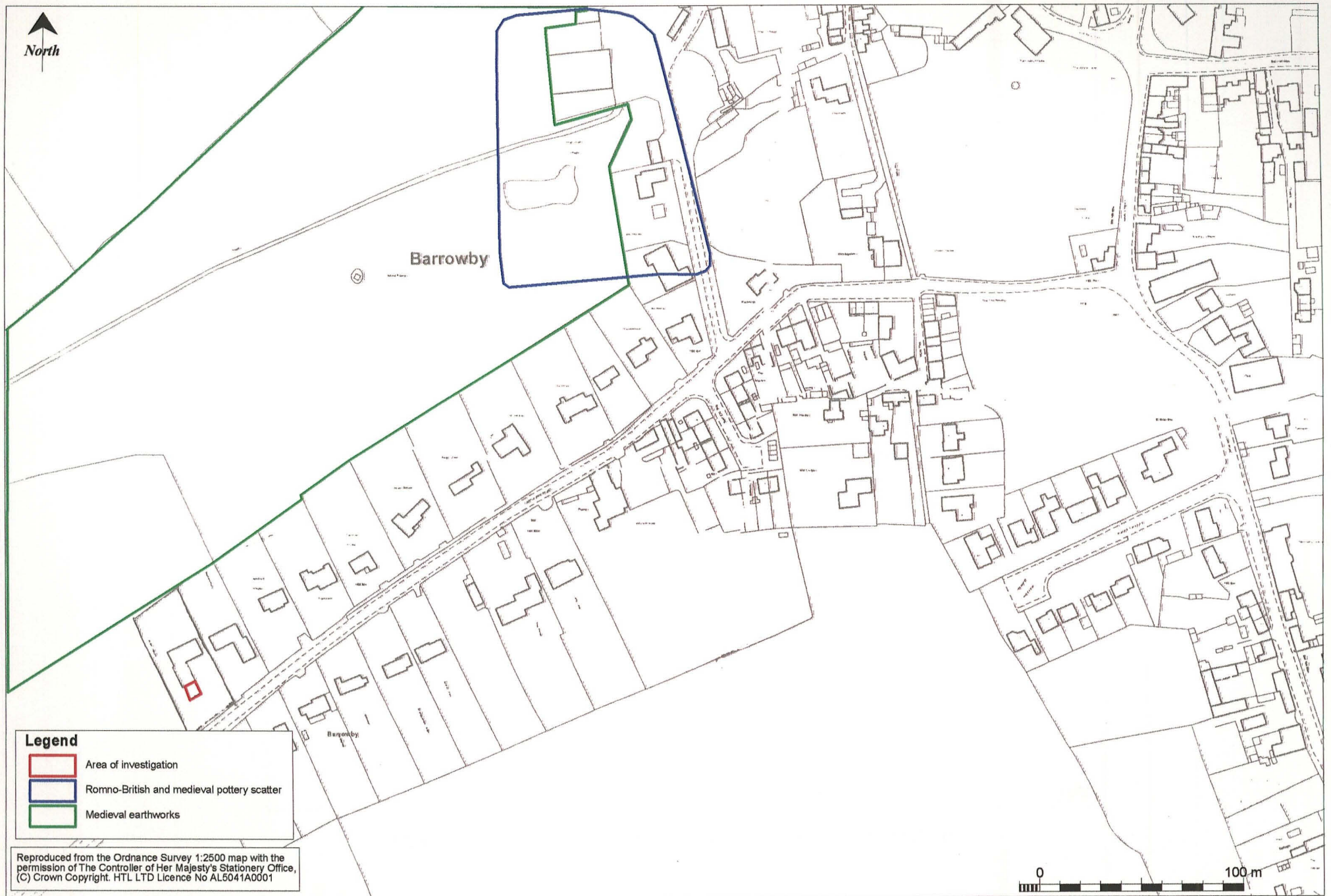


Figure 2 Location plan

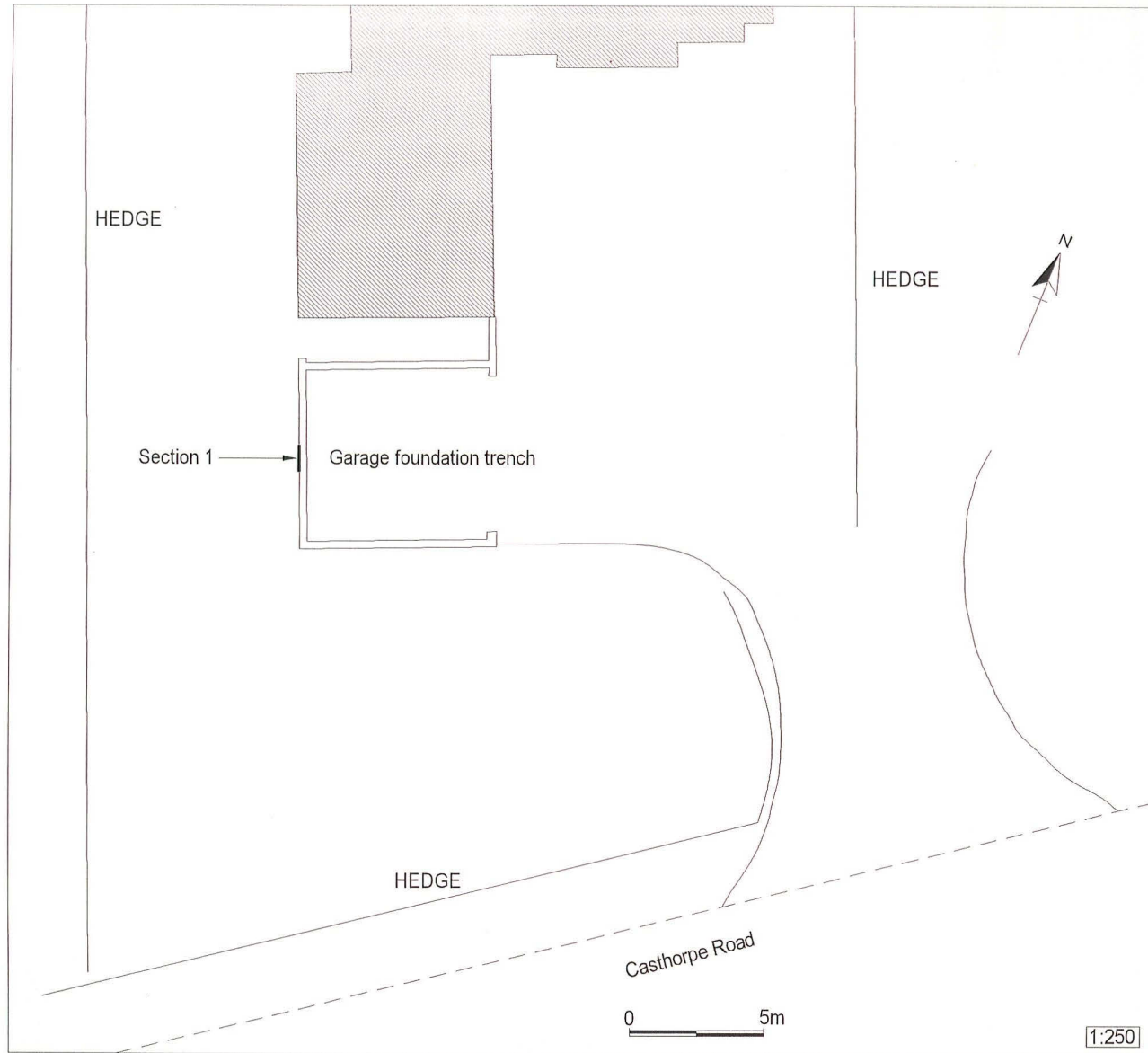


Figure 3 Plan showing foundation trench and section location

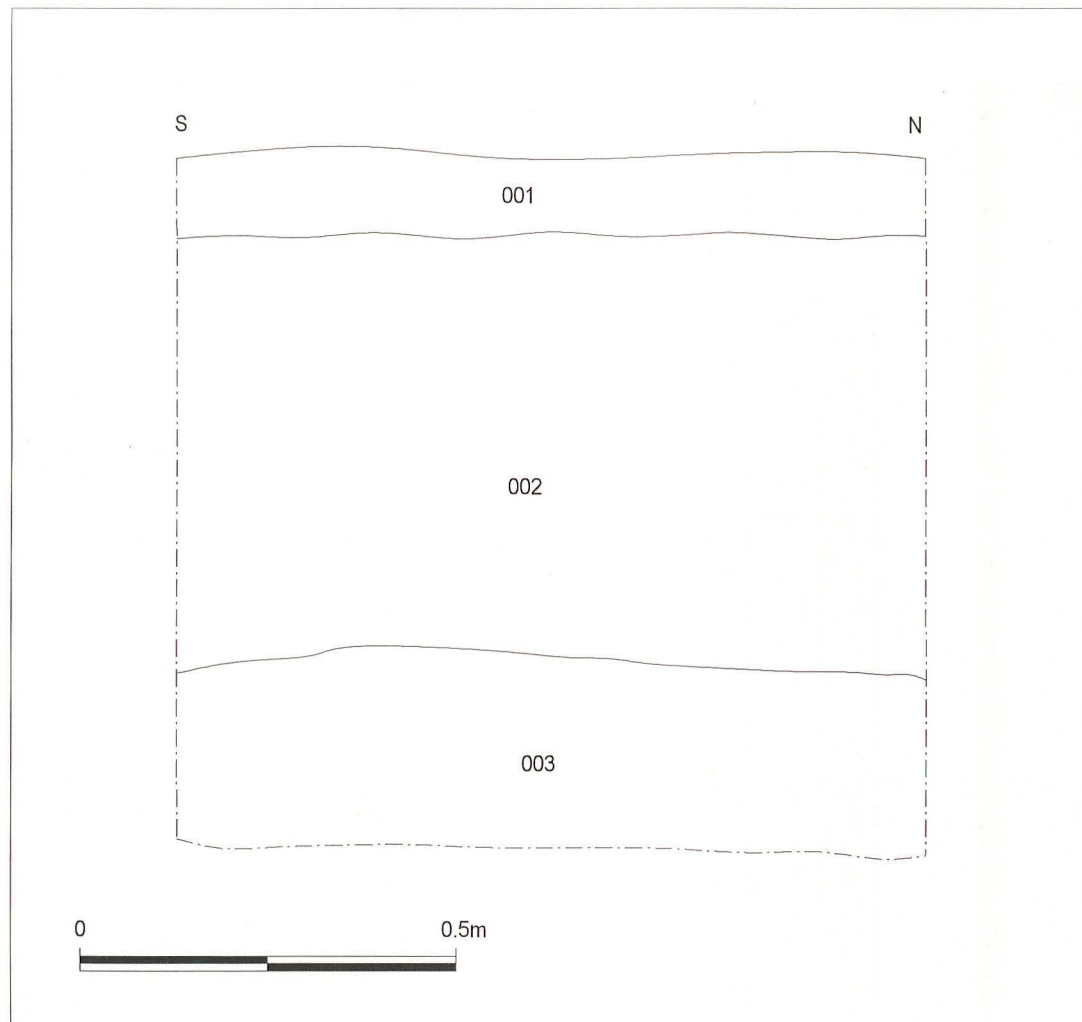


Figure 4 Section 1



Plate 1 General view of development area during excavation,
looking southwest



Plate 2 Representative section, looking west

**SOUTH KESTEVEN COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGIST
INITIAL ASSESSMENT**

APPLICATION NUMBER: S99/0022/06

APPLICATION DESCRIPTION: Alterations and garage extension, Arden House, Casthorpe Road, Barrowby.

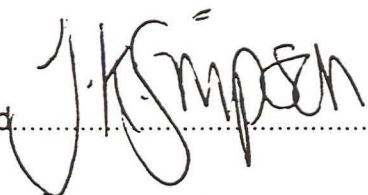
Recommended Action:

Although the application site lies outside the main centre of Barrowby, it is certainly in an important area. Indeed, this western area of the village contains a lot of archaeological activity. The proposed development lies very close to a field containing significant earthwork remains, their exact function is unknown but may be; the remains of a formal 17th century garden, Cromwellian defences associated with the Old Hall, Medieval remains, or a combination of all of these. To the north-east of the site lies a moated site possibly linked with the Old Hall. A Watching Brief carried out in 1990 by the Community Archaeologist in the area uncovered Medieval and Romano-British pottery, a bone domino, some slag and dry-stone walling.

To the west and south-west of the site a substantial number of flints have been found along with Iron-age pottery and a bronze brooch.

Due to the site's position within such an important area, it is recommended that an archaeologist be contracted to carry out a watching brief during the groundworks stages of the development in order to record and retrieve any archaeological remains which are disturbed.

Signed.....



Date.....

23.1.99

Jo Simpson
South Kesteven Community Archaeologist.

Heritage Lincolnshire
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Sleaford. Lincs. NG34 9RW
(01529) 461499 Fax (01529) 461001
E-Mail Jo@heritage.compulink.co.uk

APPENDIX 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context	Section	Description	Interpretation
001	1	Firm, dark greyish brown slightly sandy silt with occasional grass roots and small stones, 0.11m thick.	Topsoil
002	1	Firm, mid reddish brown slightly sandy silt, 0.60m thick.	Subsoil
003	1	Loose, mid yellowish brown clayey silt, frequent small to medium angular limestone fragments, >0.30m thick.	Natural limestone brash

Appendix 3

GLOSSARY

Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Layer	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

Appendix 4

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

3	Context records
1	Scale drawings
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Stratigraphic matrix

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

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

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

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number: LCNCC: 116.99

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: BCR99

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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