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**DESK-TOP ASSESSMENT OF THE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS OF
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF LAND
ADJACENT TO GAS LANE,
STAMFORD,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SWR 01)**



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ADJACENT TO GAS LANE,
STAMFORD,
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(SWR 01)**

Work undertaken for
Lattice Property Holdings

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1. SUMMARY

A desk-based assessment was undertaken to determine the archaeological implications of proposed development at Gas Street, Stamford, Lincolnshire. Archaeological evidence dating from the medieval to modern periods has been identified within the vicinity of the proposed development site.

No prehistoric or Romano-British remains are known from the assessment area, although prehistoric activity is known downstream from the town and Romano-British remains are recorded to the west.

The site appears to have been first occupied in the mid 13th century when a Dominican friary was established to the northwest of the site. Part of the precinct boundary is thought to go through the proposed development area. No earlier medieval or Saxon remains are known although it is possible that industries were undertaken alongside the river.

Following the dissolution of the friary, the monastic precinct formed part of a post-medieval house and garden until the 18th century when this was demolished. Soon after the area was parcelled into small plots or gardens which were retained until the mid 19th century when the area was developed into the Blackfriars Estate. Located immediately west was the site of a gas works which, in the 20th century, expanded to include the proposed development area. The site was retained as part of the gas works until the 1970s when they were demolished. The site has since been used as a storage area for British Gas. The 19th and 20th century use of the site might have caused some disturbance to any earlier archaeological deposits present at the site.

A walkover survey identified that much of the site is covered by hardstanding. Two modern buildings have been retained. The eastern portion of the site is slightly overgrown. Geophysical survey has been ruled out as a viable means of assessing the buried archaeological remains due to the presence of the hardstanding. Fieldwalking is also not valid.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Desk-based assessment

A desk-top assessment is defined as 'assessments of the known or potential archaeological resource within a specified area or site on land. They consist of a collation of existing written, graphic, photographic or electronic information in order to identify the likely character, extent, quality and worth of the known or potential archaeological resource in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate' (IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Lattice Property Holdings to undertake a desk-top assessment of land at Gas Street, Stamford, Lincolnshire. This was in order to determine the archaeological implications of proposed development at the site

more planning

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). The town lies on the bank of the River Welland, close to its confluence with the Gwash which provides the eastern boundary of the town.

Gas Street is located 325m east of St. Mary's church and connects Wharf Road with the River Welland (Fig. 2). Centred on National Grid Reference TF 0341 0698 the proposed development area lies at a height of 22m OD on fairly level ground adjacent to the river .

Stamford sits in a narrow valley of which the northern side cuts through the Lower Lincolnshire Limestone, Upper Lincolnshire Limestone and the overlying Great Oolite. The site is situated over alluvial deposits associated with the river which have formed above older First Terrace gravels (BGS 1978). Geotechnical investigations identified alluvium and terrace gravels to a depth of 5.6m overlying blue grey clay, of the Upper Lias Clay, to a depth of 7m (Komex Europe 2001, 14).

3. AIMS

The purpose of the desk-based assessment is to obtain information about the known and potential archaeological resource within the vicinity of the proposed development site. In addition to the above, statutory and advisory heritage constraints were identified.

4. METHODS

All archaeological remains or documentary evidence relating to the area within c. 150m of the proposed development site was considered. Compilation of the archaeological and historical data relevant to the area of the proposed development site involved examination of appropriate primary and secondary sources available. These have included:

- Historical documents, held in Lincolnshire Archives Office.
- Enclosure, tithe, parish and other

maps and plans, held in Lincolnshire Archives Office.

- Recent and old Ordnance Survey maps.
- Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.
- Parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.
- Aerial photographs.
- Archaeological books and journals.
- Geotechnical data.

Information obtained from the literature and cartographic examination was supplemented by a walkover survey of the site to assess present land-use and ground conditions.

Results of the archival and field examinations were committed to scale plans of the area.

5. RESULTS

5.1 Historical Data

Stamford is mentioned as early as AD 658 as the site of a new monastic foundation, although the reference is generally considered unreliable. However, by the end of the ninth 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 north of the Welland and also records that the King commanded a new borough be built on the south side of the river (Mahaney 1982, 3). This was in response to the Danish army encamped in Stamford. Edward's sister, Æthelflaed, fortified the *burh*, after which the Danes surrendered (Stenton 1971, 329).

From about 979 to the 12th century, a mint was established in the Saxon *burh*. The number of dies and moneyers suggest that this was an important regional mint (RCHME 1977, xxxix).

In the Domesday Book of c.1086, Stamford is referred to as a royal borough comprising six wards, five of these north of the river. 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, one dedicated to St. Peter, were located in the northern part of the town (Foster and Longley 1976, 9).

Previously *Steanford* and *Stanford*, the major place-name Stamford derives from the Old English *stan* and *ford*, meaning 'stony ford' (Cameron 1998, 116).

Stamford remained in the royal demesne until it was successfully besieged in 1153. Stone walls were erected around the town from the mid 13th century, perhaps replacing an earlier wooden circuit (Mahaney 1982, 6).

Numerous religious establishments were founded in Stamford during the medieval period. Of particular relevance to the proposed development area was the Dominican friary established in the 13th century. The exact date of its foundation and its original benefactor are unknown, although it was suggested by Francis Peck as being William de Fortibus, lord of Bytham and earl of Albermarle (Peck 1727, viii 4). This was concluded from the fact that William's son, Thomas, was buried there soon after 1260.

The first mention of the friary dates to 1241 when 2 shillings were granted to the friars in a will and Henry III gave them oaks for a refectory and conduit in 1243-4 (Page 1906, 226). Stalls were being set up in the choir in 1293 and aisles on the church were built in 1297 (Hartley and Rogers 1974, 61). The church was rebuilt before 1310, when license to dedicate the new church was given by Bishop Dalderby (Page 1906, 226). Within the friary precinct was a chapel dedicated to the Holy Trinity (Hartley and Rogers 1974,

62).

The friary was a large foundation and is recorded as housing between 34 to 42 brethren between 1299 and 1337 although by the time the house was dissolved there were only nine brethren (Hartley and Rogers 1974, 62).

Medieval industries were located to the immediate west of the Dominican friary where four acres of land called the Tenter Meadows and, beyond that, the tanning yards were located (Drakard 1822, 439).

The house was surrendered in 1538. The glass within the church and brewing vessels were sold and the plate sent to London (Page 1906, 227). The friary comprised 10 acres of land, a conduit, a close or meadow with gardens and pools and 2 acres of waste land. A David Vincent became tenant of the site in 1539 although soon appears to have completely owned the house and surrounding property (*ibid.*).

The Vincent family sold the friary land in 1574 to Sir Edward Heron who subsequently built a large house there. An account dating to 1615 describes '*Yt is very well walled round about; and in the mydst a fayre hows that was built by Baron Hearon. There is a good deal of wood of yt, fishponds and other comodytis*' (Hartley and Rogers 1974, 62). This house may have incorporated elements of the old friary as 17th century maps of the area depict this arrangement (see 5.2 below) although a drawing entitled a '*Prospect of Stamford*' depicts an ordinary house in this location (Peck 1727, frontispiece). Part of the former monastic land was enclosed in 1583, although it was opened up in 1587 before reverting to common (Drakard 1822, 440). Heron's house was sold in 1611, possibly to the Cave family, who subsequently sold the house and lands to Richard Cust in 1654 (Hartley and Rogers

1974, 62).

The main house stayed with the Cust family until it was demolished in 1775 when it fell into disrepair. The property is well documented and included gardens, coach house, stables, granaries, a brewhouse and other accommodation (Hartley and Rogers 1974, 62). Occupation of the former friary site continued into the 19th century (Drakard 1822, 195).

The site of the friary subsequently came into the hands of the 1st earl Brownlow who divided the area into streets and building plots which were subsequently sold at three auctions between 1840 and 1844 (RCHME 1977, 69). The pattern of streets to the east of the proposed development site dates from this period.

Gas works were constructed by the Stamford and Saint Martin's Gas Light and Coke Company in 1824 immediately west of Gas Street (White 1856, 884). Coal for the works was brought into Stamford by way of the Welland Navigation, possibly to a wharf located at the southern end of Gas Street, until the railways provided cheaper transport costs about the 1860s (Birch 1999, 14). In 1839, a gasometer was capsized in a strong gale and in 1885 one of the gas holders was enlarged (*ibid.*). By 1950 the southern part of Gas Street, including the proposed development site, was incorporated into the gas works and a number of ancillary buildings were constructed. Structures associated with the original gas works (to the west of Gas Street) were demolished in 1971 and the remainder by 1991 (Komex Europe 2001, 7).

5.2 Cartographic Data

The proposed development site is located southeast of Stamford town centre. Appropriate maps of the vicinity were

examined.

The earliest known map of the area is Speed's plan of the town dating to *c.* 1600 (Fig. 4). The development area is not shown in any particular detail, the plan being rather pictographic. The development site lies adjacent to the River Welland and straddles the western boundary of the monastic precinct and east of the Tenter Meadows. The Dominican friary is shown as a church with an apparent cloistral arrangement to the south. A 17th century map held by the British Library (BL, MS. Add.11564, reproduced as Plate 1 in Mahaney *et al.* 1982) is similar in detail to Speed's plan and depicts a very similar layout.

Dating from 1833, J. Knipes '*Plan of the Borough of Stamford*' is the first detailed map of the investigation area (Fig. 5). Gas works are shown to the west of Gas Street and small enclosed fields or gardens to the east. A number of buildings line Gas Street on both sides, particularly towards the northern end. Three small buildings are shown within the development area, which also encompasses some of the small garden plots.

The proposed development area lies at the extreme western end of the former St. George's parish. A tithe map for this parish was drawn in 1842 and is entitled '*The Parish of St. George with St. Paul annexed in Stamford in the County of Lincoln*' (Fig. 6). No buildings are depicted within the proposed development area, although the plan does show the individual garden plots east of Gas Street. The accompanying schedule indicates that this land was tithe free and belonged to Lord Brownlow. A list of tenants is also given. The plan appears to date before Lord Brownlow executed his plans for the Blackfriars Estate.

The second edition Ordnance Survey plan of

1901 is the first available map to show the developed Blackfriars Estate (Fig. 7). The pattern of roads to the east of Gas Street had become formalised and the area built upon, largely comprising terrace housing. The development site incorporates a few of these buildings, along part of Gas Street and Welland Street. Alongside the river is a boat house, immediately north of which lies a further building. In subsequent Ordnance Survey maps little change occurs apart from the addition and loss of a number of small minor buildings until the late 1960s when the majority of the gas works (those to the east of Gas Street) were demolished.

5.3 Aerial Photograph Data

As an urban area aerial photographs have limited use in identifying any unknown archaeological remains. However, two photographs are shown as Plates 1 and 2 which depict recent changes at the site.

The first photograph is a vertical picture taken in June 1951 (Code: 3084) and held by Heritage Lincolnshire. The site is dominated by the gas works, particularly the gas holders, and illustrates the layout of this area prior to the demolition of the works.

The second photograph, dating from 1993, is a colour oblique picture also maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire (Code: 5104). The gas works have been demolished and the surrounding buildings cleared for light industrial use. The development site is used as a yard storage area

5.4 Archaeological Data

Records of archaeological sites and finds are held in the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record and in the parish files maintained by the Community archaeologist for South Kesteven District Council. Other, secondary, sources were also examined.

Details of archaeological and historical remains falling within c.150m of the proposed development site are collated in Table 1.

Prehistoric, Romano-British Archaeology

No evidence, at present, of the prehistoric period has been found within the investigation area, although the river gravels to the east of Stamford support a wide range of ceremonial and occupation sites of the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods. Romano-British archaeology comprises disparate findspots, the closest of which is situated 360m to the west outside of the assessment area.

Saxon and Medieval Archaeology

Saxon settlement in the vicinity is restricted to areas within the early urban core and south of the river. The site is located outside of the walled medieval town which lies to the northeast of the development site. The site partly falls within the precinct of the Dominican friary which was established in the mid 13th century. It is not known what the land was used for prior to the establishment of the friary. However, tanning and cloth manufacturing (as recorded in the Tenter Meadows place-name) indicates that industrial activities were occurring along the river. Pottery production, albeit Late Saxon, may have

Map Code No.	Sites and Monuments No.	Description	National Grid Reference
1	30620, 30686	Dominican friary (site of), exact layout unknown, includes medieval rings found on the site	TF 0349 0717
2	30634, 30639	Water Gate (site of) and remains of tower	TF 0329 0706
3	30749	Medieval finds, building debris and pottery	TF 0320 0680
4	30628	Medieval town wall (course of)	-
5	30659, 30660, 30661	Post-medieval house, on site of Dominican friary (site of), includes fishponds and dovecote	TF 0352 0714
6	30744	Blashfield Terracotta works	TF 0312 0698
7	34776	Electricity Generating Station (site of), dating from 1903	TF 0324 0695
8	-	Railway station (site of)	TF 0342 0692
9	-	19 th century house	TF 0324 0707
10	-	19 th century inn	TF 0327 0707
11	-	18 th /19 th century house	TF 0329 0708
12	-	19 th century house (assoc. with the gas works)	TF 0332 0708
13	-	19 th century houses	TF 0340 0702

Table 1: Known archaeological sites within the vicinity

also occurred alongside the river.

The site also lies directly south of the Water Gate (Fig. 8, No.2) which may imply that there was a thoroughfare from this gate to the riverside, although the course of Wharf Road may also have served this purpose. However, in Grantham Water Gate is a corruption of Walker's Gate, the walkers being fullers (*Pers. comm.* Tom Lane).

The Dominican priory church and associated buildings were centred northeast of the site (Fig. 8, No. 1). The precincts may have been walled or ditched and may also contain fishponds, mills and dovecotes, features such as these are recorded in this vicinity in the post-medieval period (Hartley and Rogers 1974, 62) although their origins cannot be

assigned a medieval date as yet.

Post-medieval Archaeology

Following the dissolution of the Dominican friary, the main conventual buildings were converted to a dwelling (Fig. 9, No. 5), with associated fishponds, brewhouses and dovecotes. The dwelling is described as being walled about (Hartley and Rogers 1974, 62) and it possible that this wall falls within the development area.

Modern Archaeology (1800-present)

The river side after 1800 was the site of a number of industries including an iron foundry which was subsequently replaced by a terracotta factory, the gas works and in the early 20th century an electricity generating station. Associated with the earlier industries

would be wharfs connecting the works with settlements downstream.

Urban expansion saw a number of 19th century buildings constructed within the assessment area. Many of these still survive and those that appear on Figure 9 (Nos. 9-13) are those that appear in the RCHME volume.

Archaeological Interventions

Four archaeological interventions have occurred within the investigation area although none have occurred at the site. Northeast of the site a watching brief located undated silts and 18th century deposits to a depth of 1m below the present ground surface (Snee 2001a, 4).

To the west of the site an archaeological evaluation identified natural alluvial deposits 2m below the present ground level (Priest 2000, 4). This was overlain by recent clay and limestone used to raise the ground level, presumably to stop flooding. This also retrieved plaster mouldings and finds associated with Blashfield's Terracotta works.

To the northwest a recent watching brief has identified a sequence of stratified deposits, although none were dated due to the depths of the trenches required by the development (Snee 2001b, 4). To the north of this site a ditch, dating to the Danish occupation of the town, was recorded although this site has yet to be written up (*pers. comm.* Gail Smith).

5.5 Walkover Survey

The site was visited on 19th March 2001 to assess the possible level of survival of archaeological deposits. Conditions were bright and visibility was clear. Results of the walkover survey are shown as Figure 10.

Access to the site is through a gate located

at the northwest corner of the site. The site is largely fenced about apart from the eastern boundary which is marked by a hedge. A tarmac track leads to a large open area bounded by storage bays along the east side. Two buildings remain on the site south of the entrance and alongside a pressure reduction unit.

Access to the eastern part of the site is via a gate located at the southern end of the storage bays. The eastern area is concreted and slightly overgrown.

Few services were visible apart from two manhole covers and a small concrete post over the point where a 33,000 volt electricity cable leaves the site along its northern boundary.

The location of most test pits and boreholes was still clear, although most had been tarmacked over.

Due to concrete and tarmac surfacing, geophysical and fieldwalking are not valid means of assessing the buried archaeology.

5.6 Geotechnical Information

Geotechnical information and borehole data was kindly supplied by Lattice Property Holdings (Komex Europe 2001). A number of boreholes and trial pits were examined as part of their investigation that revealed between 1.5m and 2m (21m-19m OD) of 'made-ground' above the underlying naturally formed alluvium. This made-ground increased to 2.5m thick (19.5m OD) adjacent to the river and suggests that levelling and reclamation of the site has occurred. No indication is given of possible archaeological deposits within the 'made-ground'. However, brick or tile fragments are recorded within most records of the 'made-ground' and may be archaeological in origin (Komex Europe 2001, Appendix V).

The second trial pit revealed the circular brick base of the former gasholder located here. The foundations for this structure were approximately 1.5m deep and had been infilled with waste material. Other brick structures were encountered which probably relate to buildings formerly associated with the gas works.

6. CONSTRAINTS

6.1 Heritage Constraints

No Scheduled Ancient Monuments protected by the 1979 Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act (HMSO 1979) are located within the assessment area. Consequently, all archaeological remains are protected only through the implementation of PPG16 (DoE 1990).

Significant historic buildings within the assessment area are 'listed' and consequently protected by the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act of 1990. The proposed development area also falls outside the Conservation Area which runs along Wharf Road and down Albert Street (SKDC 1995, Plan 2).

6.2 Other Constraints

Specific checks for the presence of services within the site were undertaken by Komex Europe as part of their environmental assessment of the site (2001, Appendix 1). These were supplemented by the walk-over survey and the results are depicted on Fig. 10.

- a) Utilities within the proposed development site include electricity, gas, water and foul services. Of particular note is a 33,000 volt electricity service across the site. Any rupture, or other physical

alteration, to gas and electricity services (unless carried out by service personnel) are a source of particular danger.

- b) If further archaeological intervention is required, the excavation of trenches would entail a certain degree of risk which would be enhanced by the use of a mechanical excavator.

7. DISCUSSION

Within the proposed development area activity from the mid 13th century to the present day has been identified. The earliest known activity is related to the Dominican friary, located to the northeast, the boundary of which dissected the site. East of this boundary may be remains of fishponds or other features related to the friary complex. Although these features are typical of monastic institutions of the period they are rare and often contribute to the schedulable status of monastic monuments.

Prior to the establishment of the friary the area may have served as a route to the river, as suggested by the Water Gate that stood formerly at the junction of Wharf Road, Blackfriars Street and Gas Lane (formerly Water Lane). To the east of Gas Street, the area supported light industry (tanning and cloth production). Earlier remains of the prehistoric and Romano-British periods may also survive, although this is considered unlikely due to the proximity of the river.

During the post-medieval period, the former Dominican friary was converted to a dwelling with attached gardens which are recorded along with fishponds, brewhouses, coach-houses and stables. This was walled about and, if this wall followed the course of the former monastic boundary, remnants may

survive within the development area. The land associated with this dwelling was gradually parcelled up and more buildings were gradually built, although it is considered unlikely that any were constructed so close to the river. This and subsequent periods are quite well documented and even appear in a number of published sources (in particular Hartley and Rogers 1974).

Gardens were recorded in Knipe's map of 1833 in the eastern portion of the site and a few buildings, along Gas Street, are depicted within the western portion. This situation was maintained until the establishment of the Blackfriars Estate in the 1840s. By the end of the 19th century, terraced housing occurs at the northern part of the site while smaller plots, possible remnants of the early 19th century plots, occupied the southern end. By the 1950s, the site had been incorporated into the gas works founded to the north in 1823. Test pits have identified thick deposits of 'made-ground' which may indicate that this land was levelled prior to the construction of the Blackfriars Estate or the extension to the gas works.

The presence of the gas works, in particular a gasometer, indicates that disturbance to any stratified layers is to be expected. However, deep features, such as a precinct boundary moat or wall foundation, may have escaped this disturbance. A number of services exacerbate this disturbance to stratified deposits and also entail a degree of risk in any below ground investigation.

Details of the proposed development are not known, so the impact of the development into any surviving archaeological deposits cannot be assessed.

8. CONCLUSIONS

This assessment has identified that the proposed development site has been in use since at least the mid 13th century to the present day. These remains range from part of the precinct of a medieval friary, a post-medieval garden, 19th century housing and 20th century industry. However, apart from the precinct boundary, which may survive as a ditch or wall, nothing with certainty can be indicated as falling within the proposed development area.

Site conditions are largely unsuitable for geophysical and fieldwalking survey as the site is covered with hard standing (concrete).

9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Jo Cutler of Lattice Property Holdings who commissioned this report. Thanks are also due to Matthew Parry of Town Planning Consultancy. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor and this report was edited by Tom Lane. Access to the County Sites and Monuments Record was kindly provided by Mark Bennet and Sarah Grundy of the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council. Gail Smith, the Community Archaeologist for South Kesteven District Council permitted access to the parish files and David Start allowed access to the library, both maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire. Thanks are also due to the staff of the Lincolnshire Archives Office and Lincoln Central Library.

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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LAO Lincolnshire Archives Office

LAS Lindsey Archaeological Services

RCHME Royal Commission on Historical Monuments of England

SKDC South Kesteven District Council

SMR Sites and Monuments Record Office

ULAS University of Leicester Archaeological Services

11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

DoE Department of the Environment

HMSO Her Majesties' Stationery Office

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

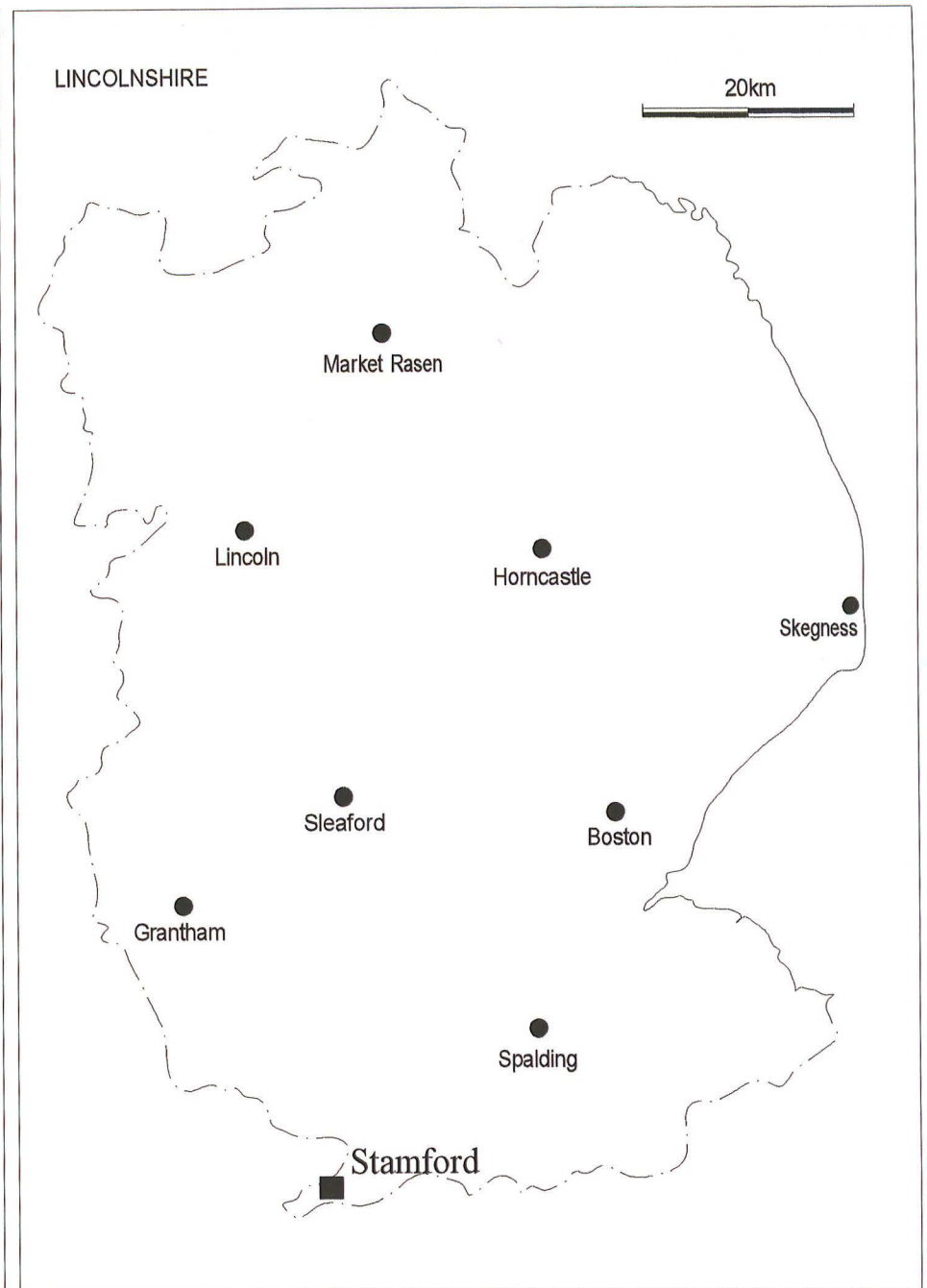
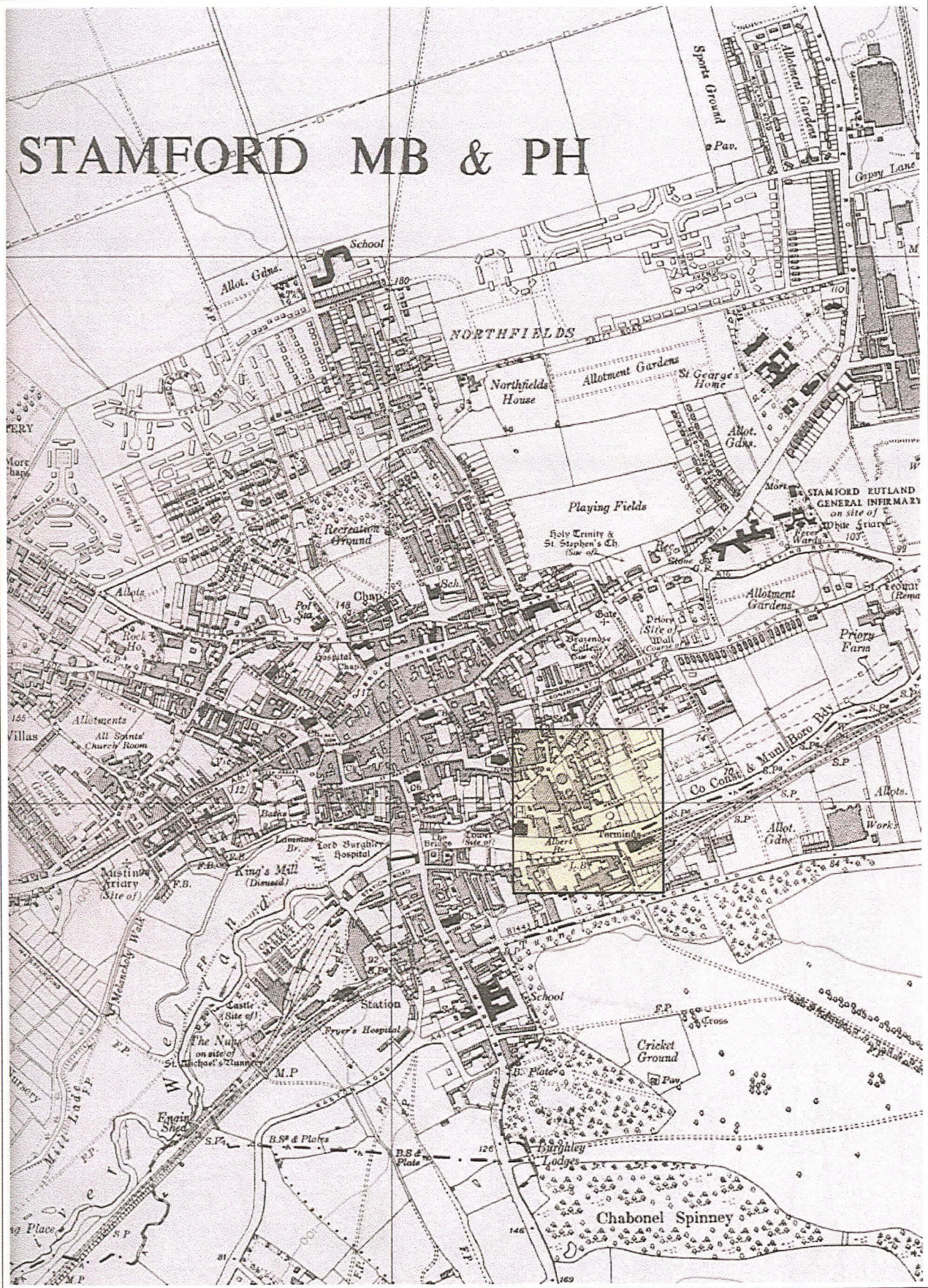


Figure 1 - General Location Plan.

STAMFORD MB & PH



 Investigation Area

Figure 2 - Location of the investigation area

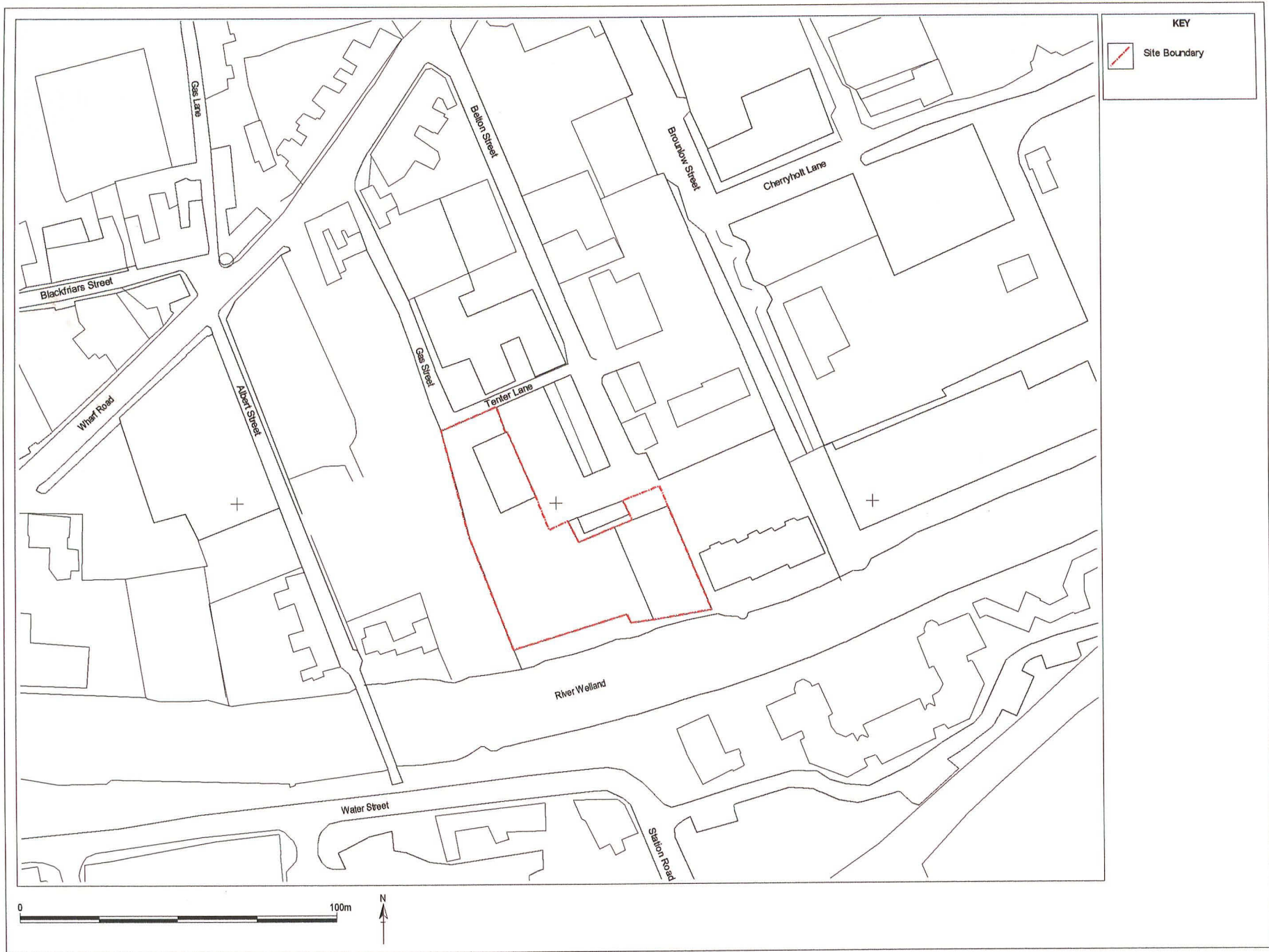


Figure 3 - The Investigation Area

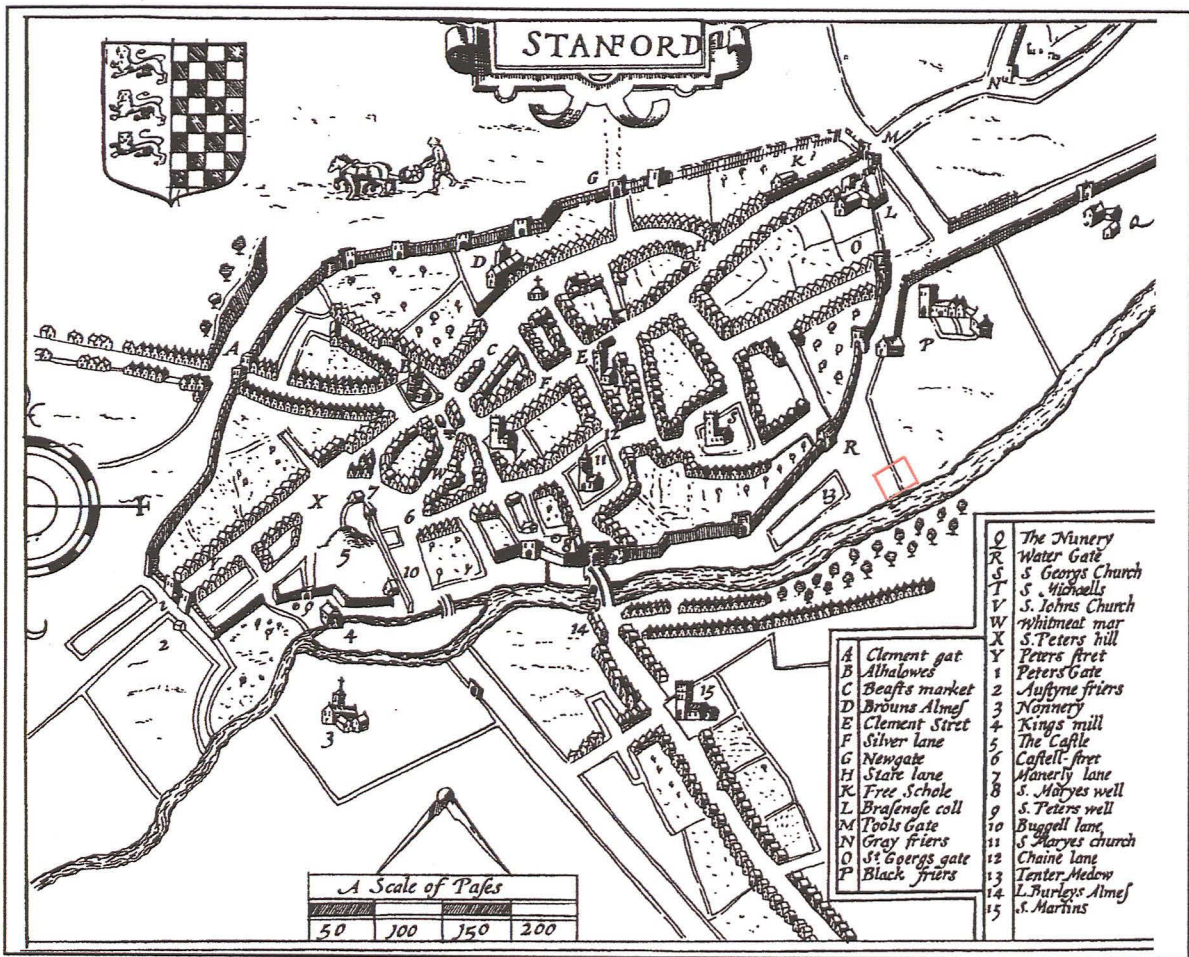


Figure 4 - Speed's map of Stamford, 1600

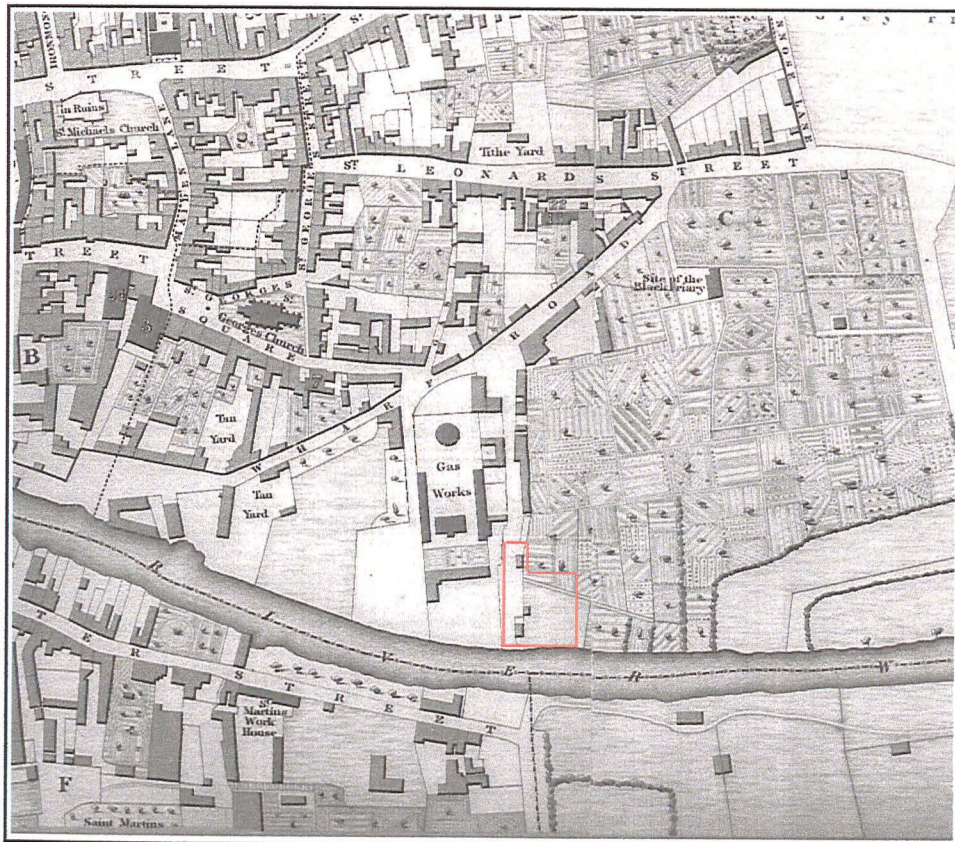


Figure 5 - Extract from 'A Plan of the Borough of Stamford and Saint Martins in Stamford Baron' by J.A. Knipe, 1833

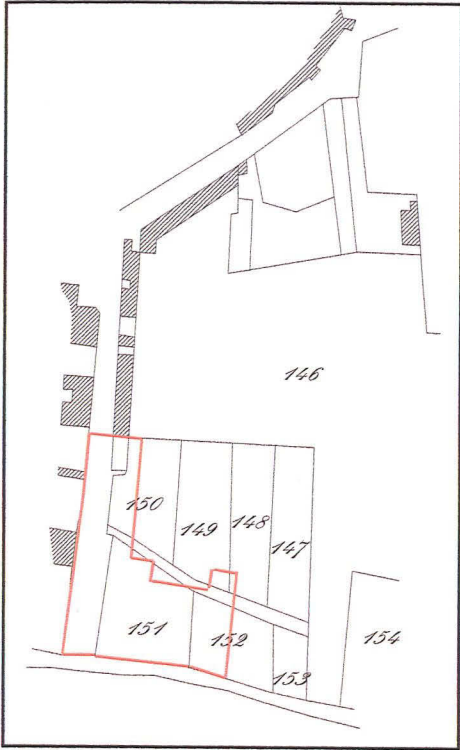


Figure 6 - Extract from 'The Parish of St George with St Paul annexed in Stamford in the County of Lincoln', 1842



Figure 7 - Extract from the Ordnance Survey 2nd edition, 1901 (parts of Kesteven, Sheet CLI.5.)



Figure 8 - The Investigation Area showing location of medieval sites

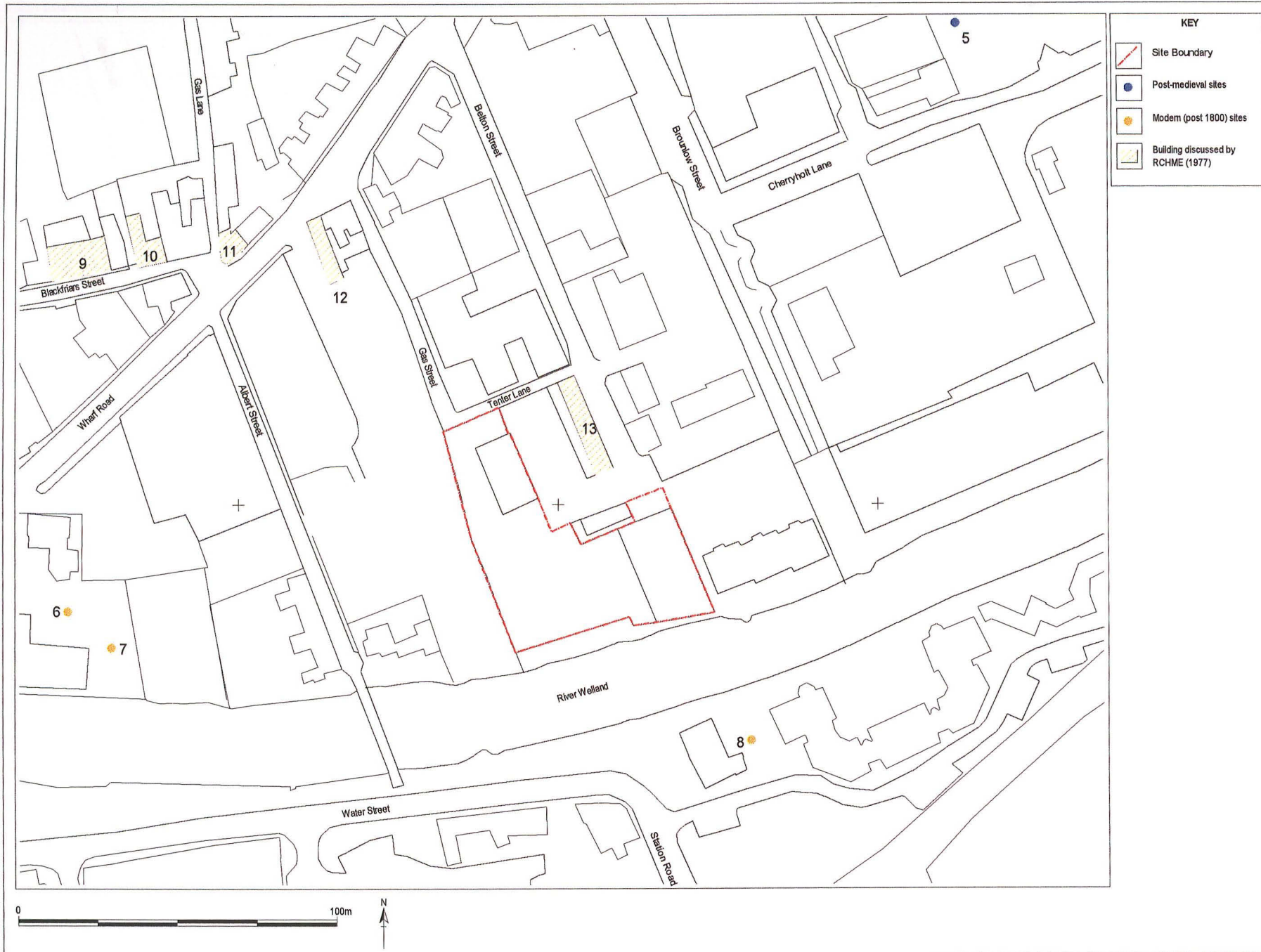


Figure 9 - The Investigation Area showing location of post-medieval and modern sites

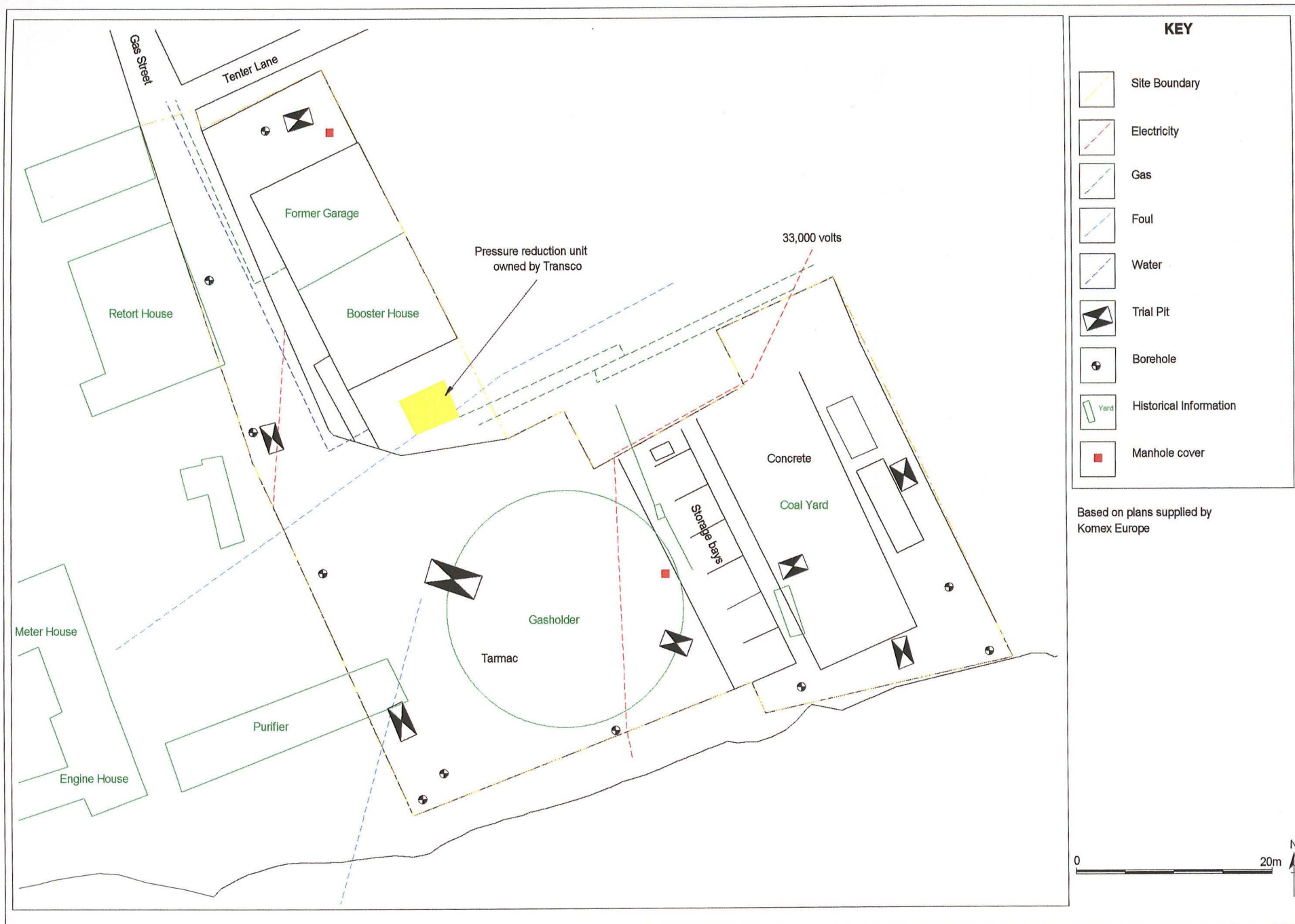


Figure 10 - Constraints and the results of the Walk-over Survey



Plate 1 - Aerial view of the proposed development area showing the site occupied by a gasometer, June 1951 (HTL Code: 3084)



Plate 2 - Second aerial view of the site, taken from the north, 1993 (HTL Code: 5104)



Plates 3 and 4 - Views of the site, March 2001, showing partial storage areas and present buildings

Appendix 1

GLOSSARY

Geophysical Survey	Essentially non-invasive methods of examining below the ground surface by measuring deviations in the physical properties and characteristics of the earth. Techniques include magnetometry and resistivity survey.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Messuage	A dwelling and the land surrounding it.
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 1 st 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.