



LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Church Lane, Glentham, Lincs.

WLDC Planning Application: 98/P/0710
Site Code: GCL 01
NGR: TF 0038 9050
LCNCC Museum Accn No.: 2001.69

Archaeological Watching Brief

**Report
for**

Marque Homes

LAS Report No. 522

March 2001

W
GREEN
LONDON

W
GREEN
LONDON

21 APR 01
Reading County Council
Reading City Council

EVENT 41834
SOURCES 416591 416592
PRN 54550 4181516
54551 4181517
54552 4181518
54553 4181519

Contents

Page

List of Figures

List of Plates

Summary

1

Introduction

1

Site Description

1

Archaeological Background

1

Aims and Objectives

1

Method

1

Results

2

Discussion and Conclusion

2

Acknowledgements

2

The Figures

The Plates

Appendix 1- Pottery archive by Jane Young

List of Plates

- Pl. 1 The site prior to excavation looking south-east away from Church Lane.
- Pl. 2 Topsoil removal under archaeological supervision.
- Pl. 3 Excavation of foundation trenches under archaeological supervision looking north-west.
- Pl. 4 The site after partial topsoil removal looking south-east.
- Pl. 5 The plot after excavation of foundations of the proposed building.
- Pl. 6 Foundation trench, note in the foreground feature 104, looking south-east.
- Pl. 7 Footing displaying difficult ground conditions.

List of Figures

- Fig. 1 Glenthams, site location, reproduced from the 1:25,000 OS Map © Crown copyright reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO, LAS Licence number AL 50424A.
- Fig. 2 Area of watching brief showing location of the building plot.
- Fig. 3 Plan and section showing the location of features within the footprint of the proposed building.

Church Lane, Glentham, Lincs.
Archaeological Watching Brief
WLDC Planning Application: 98/P/07/10
NGR: TF 0038 9050
LCNCC Accn No.: 2001.69
Site Code: GCL 01

Summary

An Archaeological watching brief was carried out at the above site in March 2001. Several undated drainage ditches and the edge of a large feature possibly relating to a former pond, quarrying or indeed a natural depression were noted during the groundworks.

Introduction

An archaeological watching brief was carried out on behalf of Marque Homes Ltd in accordance with the general requirements set out in the *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* published by the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council (1998).

Site Description

The 0.15ha plot was located on the east side of Church Lane (Fig. 1), to the SE of the green and the parish church. The plot (Pl. 1 & Fig. 2) had been ploughed agricultural land.

Archaeological Background

Glentham is mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086 and its origins therefore lie in the Saxon period or earlier. Roman and Saxon remains have been found within the parish. The site fronts onto the village green, and it is possible that the development will disturb medieval settlement remains on the site.

Aims and Objectives

In general terms the purpose of the watching brief was to

- establish the presence or absence, quality and extent of archaeological remains and their location within the development area
- gather sufficient information to enable an assessment of the potential and significance of any archaeological remains to be made and the impact which development will have upon them
- enable an informed decision to be made regarding the future treatment of any archaeological remains and consider any appropriate mitigatory measures either in advance of and/or during development

Method

Topsoil removal, excavation of foundations (PI. 2) and other groundworks were carried out by a JCB (PI. 3), and monitored by an archaeologist. Where appropriate the exposed layers were recorded (Fig. 3). A full photographic record was maintained during the excavations. All recorded deposits were assigned context numbers by LAS who operate a standard context recording system, developed by its staff over the past 20 years, based on MOLAS and CAS formats. All works were carried out between 12/03/01–14/03/01.

Results

A dark brown silty sand topsoil, **101** was removed during the excavations of the footprint of both the house and detached garage along with access to the aforementioned buildings (PI. 4). It ranged in depth from 0.30m- 0.40m. An early modern sherd from an unknown vessel and a 10th century jar or bowl sherd were recovered from this deposit. Beneath **101** was **102** a mid grey brown silty sand subsoil with a maximum depth of 0.15m. One sherd of brown stoneware from the 18th century was retained for analysis. The foundation trench ranging in depth from 1.00m–1.30m (PI. 5).

Two linear features, **106** and **108**, within the southern section of the footprint were noted. Both were of a similar nature, form and east-west alignment. Feature **106** was 0.60m wide and had a maximum depth of 0.24m. It contained a single fill **107**, a mid brown grey silty sand with occasional rounded stones and broken sandstone fragments. No finds were recovered from this deposit. Immediately south of **106** was **108**, an east west ditch 0.60m wide and 0.46m deep with a length greater than 6.00m. It contained one fill, **109**, a mid brownish grey silty sand with occasional small fragments of sandstone.

North of both linear features was **104**, a large depression containing a single fill, **105**, a mid grey brown silty sand with occasional sandstone and sub-rounded stone inclusions (PI. 6). One sherd of 13th century pottery was recovered from this deposit.

Further interpretation of these features was difficult due to very wet ground conditions (PI. 7) inevitably making the sides of the trenches unstable and prone to collapse, therefore no further excavations were possible.

Discussion and Conclusion

Despite the building plot being within close proximity to Glenthams church and located in an area where both Roman and Saxon remains have been discovered very few archaeological remains were unearthed.

Both linear features are most likely ditches or possibly represent the remains of Medieval ridge and furrow farming practices. Alternatively they may represent successive phases of property boundaries, or indeed have functioned in a dual drainage/boundary role.

Feature **104** may relate to the former quarrying of sand in the area or may represent the infilling of a former pond or natural depression. Indeed local sources have suggested a pond existed on the site in living memory

One sherd of 10th century pottery (significantly pre-Norman conquest) retrieved from the topsoil and one medieval sherd within deposit **105** suggest domestic activity within the vicinity. Whilst no significant archaeological features were discovered on the building plot itself there is still the possibility of Medieval settlement remains nearby.

Acknowledgements

LAS would like to thank Marque Homes for their co-operation during these excavations. Fieldwork was carried out by the author. This report was edited by Naomi Field and produced and collated by Jane Frost.

Sue Farr
30/03/01

The Appendices

Pottery Archive GCL01

Jane Young

Lindsey Archaeological Services

context	cname	full name	form type	sherds	decoration	part	description	date
101	LSH	Lincoln shelly ware	jar/bowl	1		base	leached;wheel thrown;broken in firing as oxidised across break;? ID	10th
101	LPM	Early Modern wares (general term)	?	1	transprint	BS		19th to 20th
102	BS	Brown stoneware	bowl	1		rim		18th to 19th
105	BEVO2T	Beverley Orange-type ware Fabric 2	jug	1		BS	thick cu glaze	13th

The Figures



Fig. 1 Glentham, site location, reproduced from the 1:25,000 OS Map. © Crown copyright; reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence number AL 50424A.

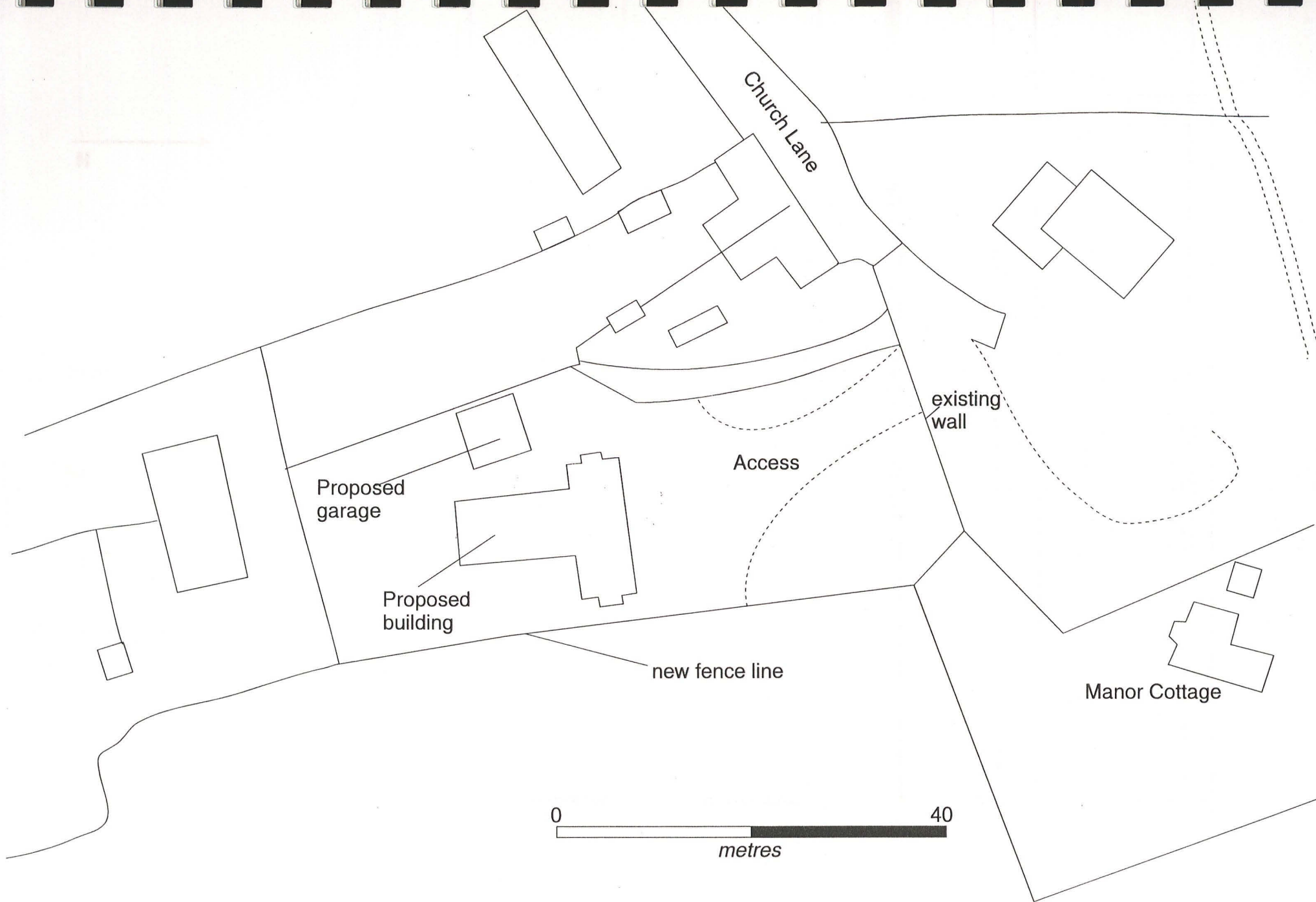


Fig. 2 Area of watching brief showing location of the building plot.

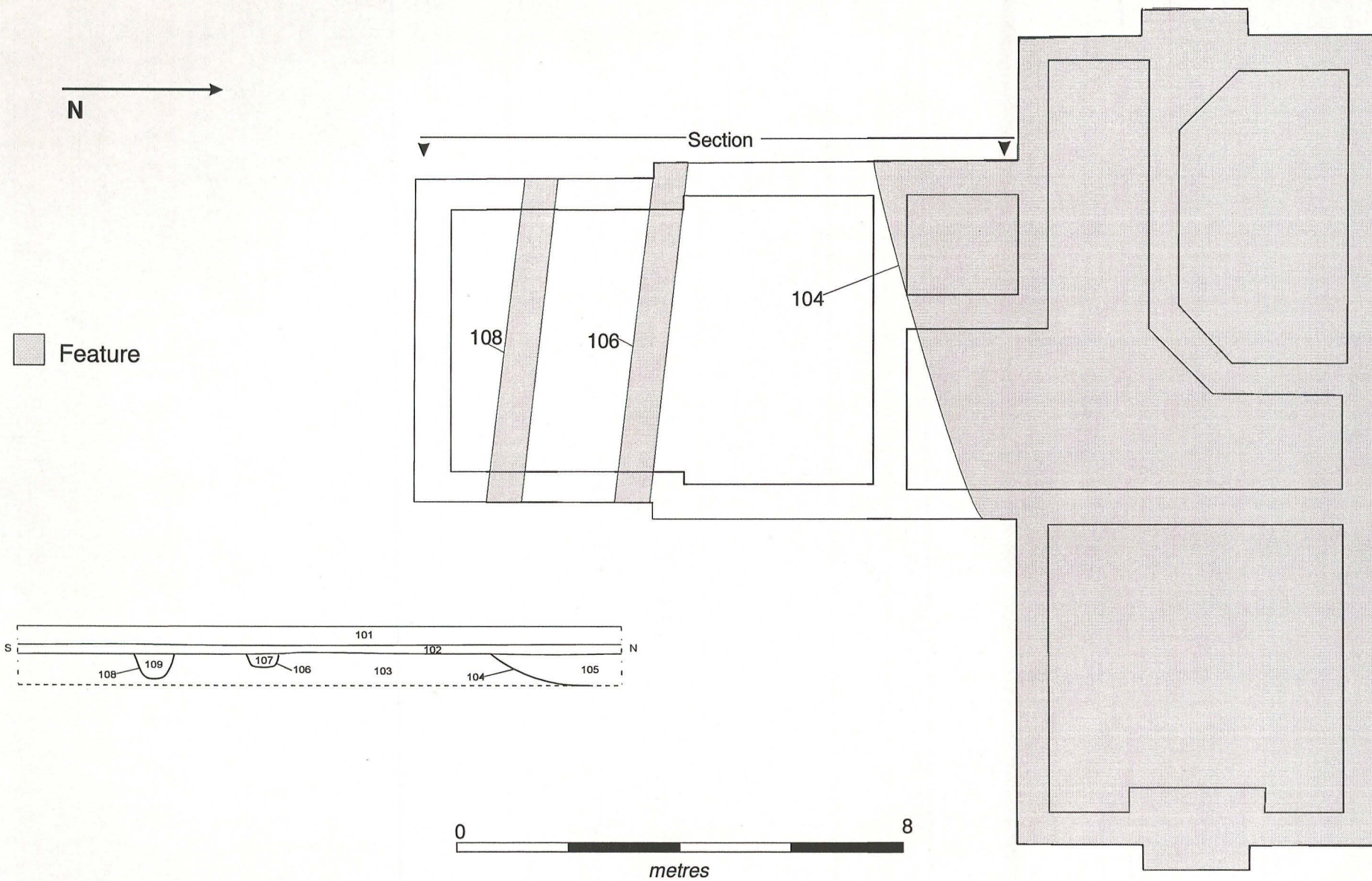


Fig. 3 Plan and section showing the location of features within the footprint of the proposed building

The Plates



PI. 1 The site prior to excavation looking south-east away from Church Lane.

PI. 2 Topsoil removal under archaeological supervision.





PI. 3 Excavation of foundation trenches under archaeological supervision looking north-west.

PI. 4 The site after partial topsoil removal looking south-east.





Pl. 5 The plot after excavation of foundations of the proposed building.

Pl. 6 Foundation trench, note in the foreground feature 104, looking south-east.





PI. 7 Footing displaying difficult ground conditions.