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Summary

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
OF DEVELOPMENT ON LAND AT  
44 DOUBLE STREET,  
SPALDING,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(SDS 01)**

Intro

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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
OF DEVELOPMENT ON LAND AT  
44 DOUBLE STREET,  
SPALDING,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(SDS 01)**

Work Undertaken For  
Poddingtons

October 2001

Report Compiled by  
Paul Cope-Faulkner BA (Hons) AIFA

Planning Application No: H16/0174/00  
National Grid Reference: TF 2510 2291  
City and County Museum Accession No: 2001.158

A.P.S. Report No. 135/01



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 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 or site, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or damaged (IFA, 1997).

### 1.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Planning Officers to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the construction of an extension to an existing building at 14, 16, 18 and 20, Spalding Lane, Boston. Approval for the development was sought through planning application 11/01/402. Permission was granted subject to a standard condition for archaeological monitoring. The watching brief was agreed upon on the 21<sup>st</sup> June 2001 and

was signed off in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the County Archaeological Officer (Appendix 1).

### 1.3 Topography and Geology

Spalding lies 2 km southwest of Boston and is situated in the administrative district of South Holland, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site is located approximately 470m northwest of Spalding town centre, as defined by the Market Place, on the southeast side of Double Street (Figs 2 and 3). Situated alongside the River Welland, the land is at a height of 6.3m at National Grid Reference TF 2510 2294.

As an urban site the local soils have not been mapped but, on the basis of nearby deposits, are considered to be of the Wisbech Series, typically coarse silty calcareous alluvial gley soils (Robson 1990, 36). These soils are developed on young marine alluvium, usually salt marsh, tidal creek and river deposits, that overlie a sand geology of Jurassic Oxford Clay (BGS 1997).

### 1.4 Archaeological Setting

There is little evidence for prehistoric remains in the Spalding region as the land surface is now buried by late alluvium (silt, silt, clay, etc.). However, later Iron Age remains are known from south west of the town. Similarly, there is sparse evidence for the Romano-British occupation of the district, although remnants of roads and settlement indicate that Spalding may have been an important centre during this period.

At present no Saxon remains have been found in Spalding. However, Saxon activity has been recognised in place-name evidence.

## 1. SUMMARY

*A watching brief was undertaken during development at 44 Double Street, Spalding, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of the foundation trenches.*

*Spalding was an important centre during the Medieval (AD 1066-1500) period, although this was focused towards the centre of the town. Double Street is first depicted on plans dating to the 18<sup>th</sup> century and indicates post-medieval expansion in the town.*

*A sequence of probable modern deposits relating to dumping and demolition and a former topsoil were recorded in this investigation. No artefacts were retrieved.*

## 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 or site, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed' (IFA 1997).

### 2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Poddingtons to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the construction of an extension to an existing building at 44 Double Street, Spalding, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through planning application H16/0174/00. Permission was granted subject to a standard condition for archaeological recording. The watching brief was undertaken on the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2001 and

was carried out in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the County Archaeological Officer (Appendix 1).

### 2.3 Topography and Geology

Spalding lies 23km southwest of Boston and 30km southeast of Sleaford in the administrative district of South Holland, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site is located approximately 420m northeast of Spalding town centre, as defined by the Market Place, on the southeast side of Double Street (Figs. 2 and 3). Situated alongside the River Welland, the land is at a height of c. 5m at National Grid Reference TF 2510 2291.

As an urban area the local soils have not been mapped but, on the basis of nearby deposits, are considered to be of the Wisbech Series, typically coarse silty calcareous alluvial gley soils (Robson 1990, 36). These soils are developed on young marine alluvium, usually salt marsh, tidal creek and river deposits, that overlie a solid geology of Jurassic Oxford Clay (BGS 1992).

### 2.4 Archaeological Setting

There is little evidence for prehistoric remains in the Spalding region as the land surface is now buried by later alluvium (peats, silts, clays *etc.*). However, later Iron Age remains are known from southwest of the town. Similarly, there is sparse evidence for the Romano-British occupation of the vicinity, although cropmarks of roads and settlement indicate that Spalding may have been an important centre during this period.

At present no Saxon remains have been found in Spalding. However, Saxon activity has been recognised in place-name evidence.

The name Spalding is derived from the Old English group name, *Spaldingas* 'the people of the Spalde'. *Spalde* is the name of a tribe, recorded in the 7<sup>th</sup> century tribute list known as the Tribal Hideage (Cameron 1998, 114).

The Domesday Survey of c. 1086 records that Spalding was owned principally by Ivo Taillebois with land also belonging to Crowland Abbey and Guy of Craon (Foster and Longley 1976). The survey also records the existence of a market, six fisheries, salt-pans and a wood of alders. The focus of medieval settlement was in the vicinity of the Market Place.

During the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century Spalding remained an important centre as it was the lowest bridging point of the Welland. It also became a centre for river traffic and in 1743 the Welland was canalised and deepened. Maps of this period indicate that Double Street was in existence by 1732 as evidenced on a map by John Grundy. Furthermore, buildings and their associated plots of land are shown to front the street.

An evaluation of land adjacent to the current development revealed remains of post-medieval development on reclaimed alluvial deposits. These remains included the foundation of a cottage and refuse pits. Finds included medieval and later pottery, glass, clay pipes and a bronze spur (Cope-Faulkner 1996, 1).

### 3. AIMS

The aim of the archaeological investigation, as detailed in the specification (Appendix 1), was to ensure that any archaeological features exposed during the drainage works should be recorded and, if present, to determine their date, function and origin.

### 4. METHODS

Foundation trenches had been excavated and partially filled with concrete prior to archaeological recording. Recording was undertaken on deposits that were visible at the time of the visit. The sides were cleaned and rendered vertical. 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. A stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced.

### 5. RESULTS

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

The earliest deposit encountered was a dark greyish brown sandy silt (004) which was over 50mm thick and was identified as a former garden soil (Fig. 4, Sections 1 and 2). This was overlain by a 0.35m thick greyish brown sandy silt (003) containing brick rubble and possibly derived from demolition of a building in the vicinity.

A dumped deposit of greyish brown silt with charcoal and ash lenses (002) sealed the demolition deposit to a thickness of 50mm. This was then sealed by a 0.4m thick levelling deposit of brick rubble and mortar (001) which was partly sealed by black clinker (005).

## 6. DISCUSSION

A sequence of deposits was recorded which, although none contained dateable artefacts, are probably recent in date. The deposits relate to past activity at the site and are probably associated with general land build-up, demolition and dumping at the site.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Double Street, Spalding because the site lay within an area of known remains dating from the post-medieval period.

A general sequence of probable modern deposits was identified and comprise a former soil, demolition and dumped layers. No artefacts were retrieved during this investigation.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Poddingtons who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Steve Malone and this report was edited by Tom Lane. Dave Start permitted access to the parish files and library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

## 9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Steve Malone  
Supervisor: Steve Malone  
Photographic Reproduction: Sue Unsworth  
Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner  
Post-excavation Analyst: Paul Cope-Faulkner

## 10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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## 11. ABBREVIATION

APS      Archaeological Project Services  
BGS      British Geological Survey  
IFA      Institute of Field Archaeologists

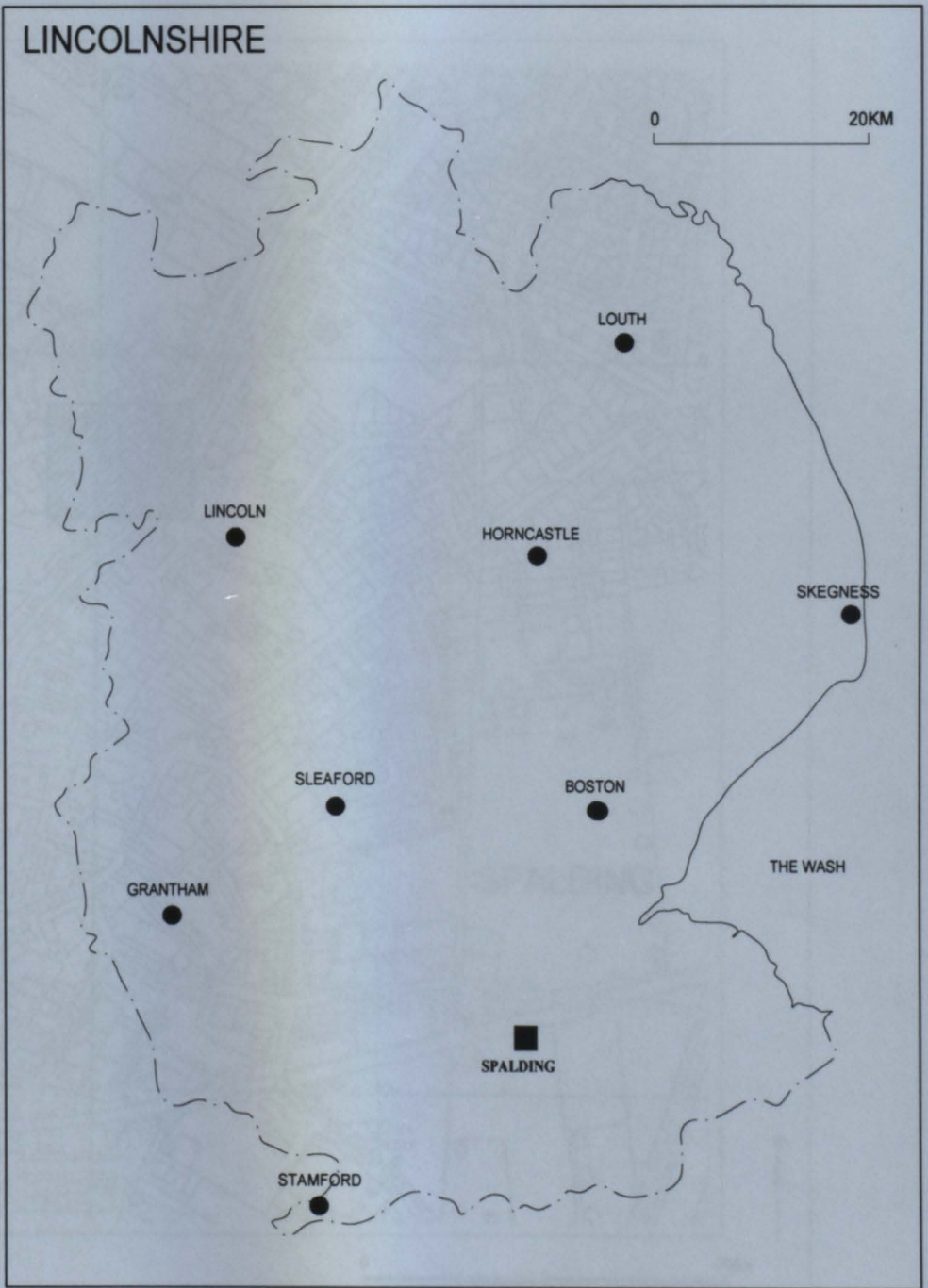
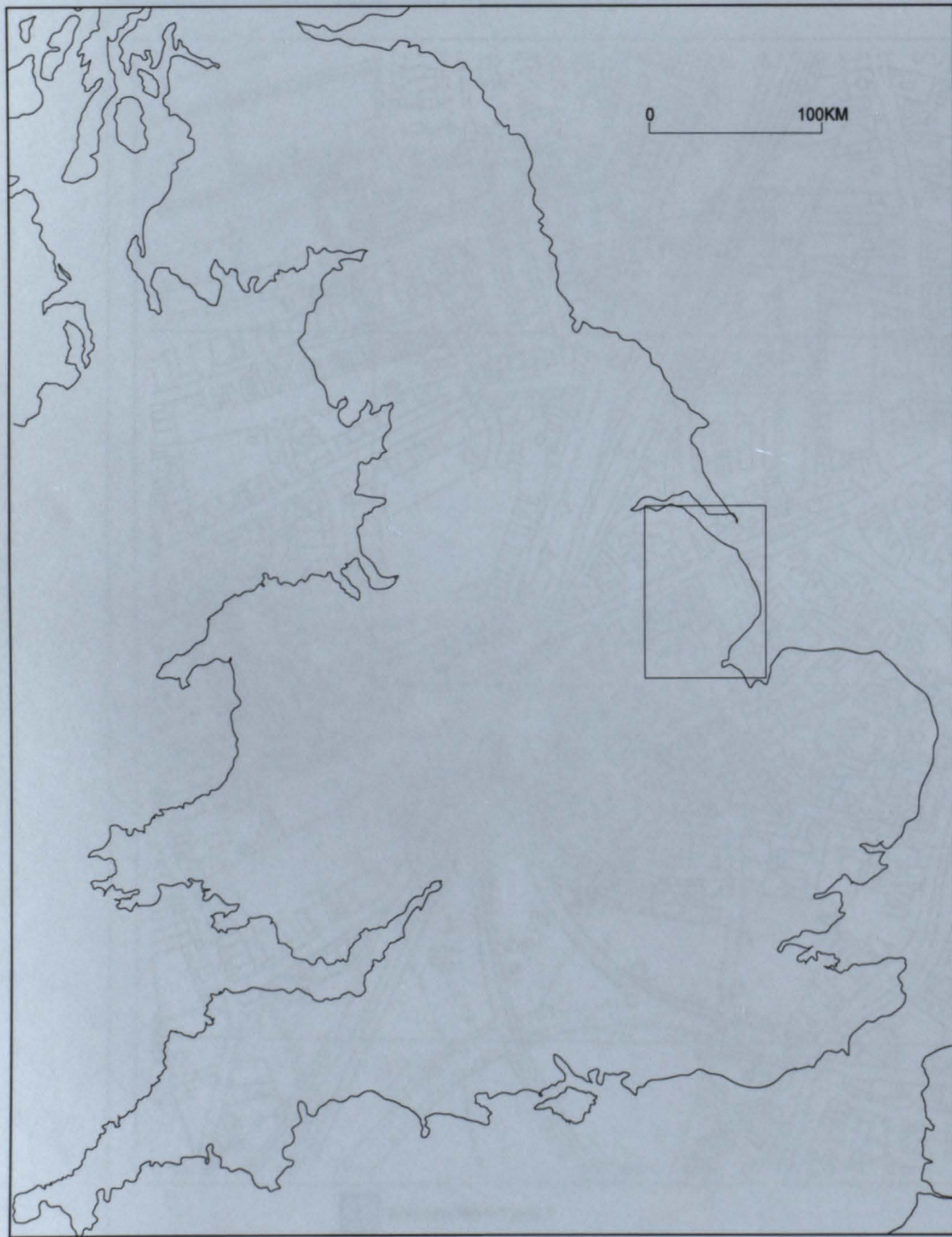


Figure 1 - General location map



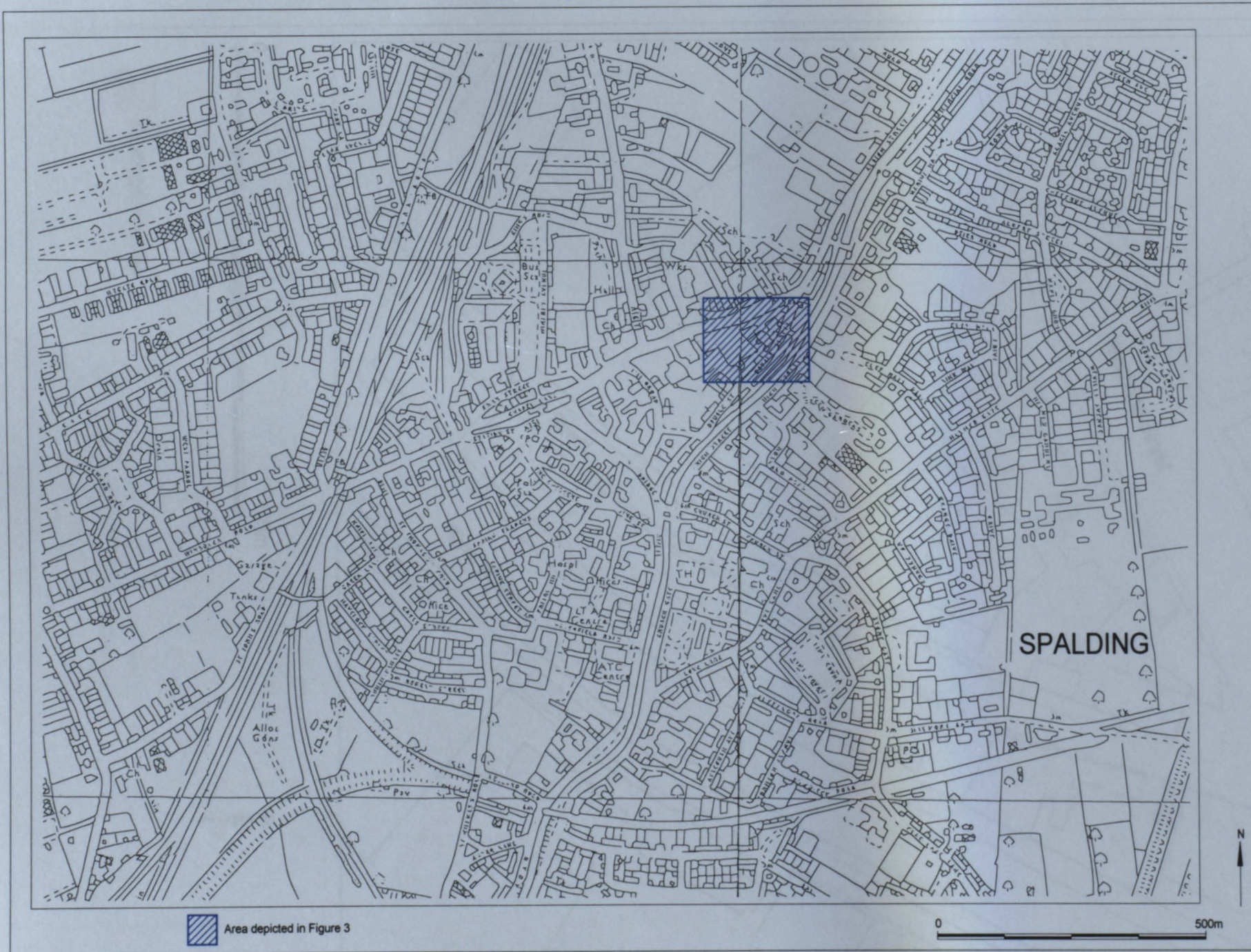


Figure 2 - Location of Investigation Area

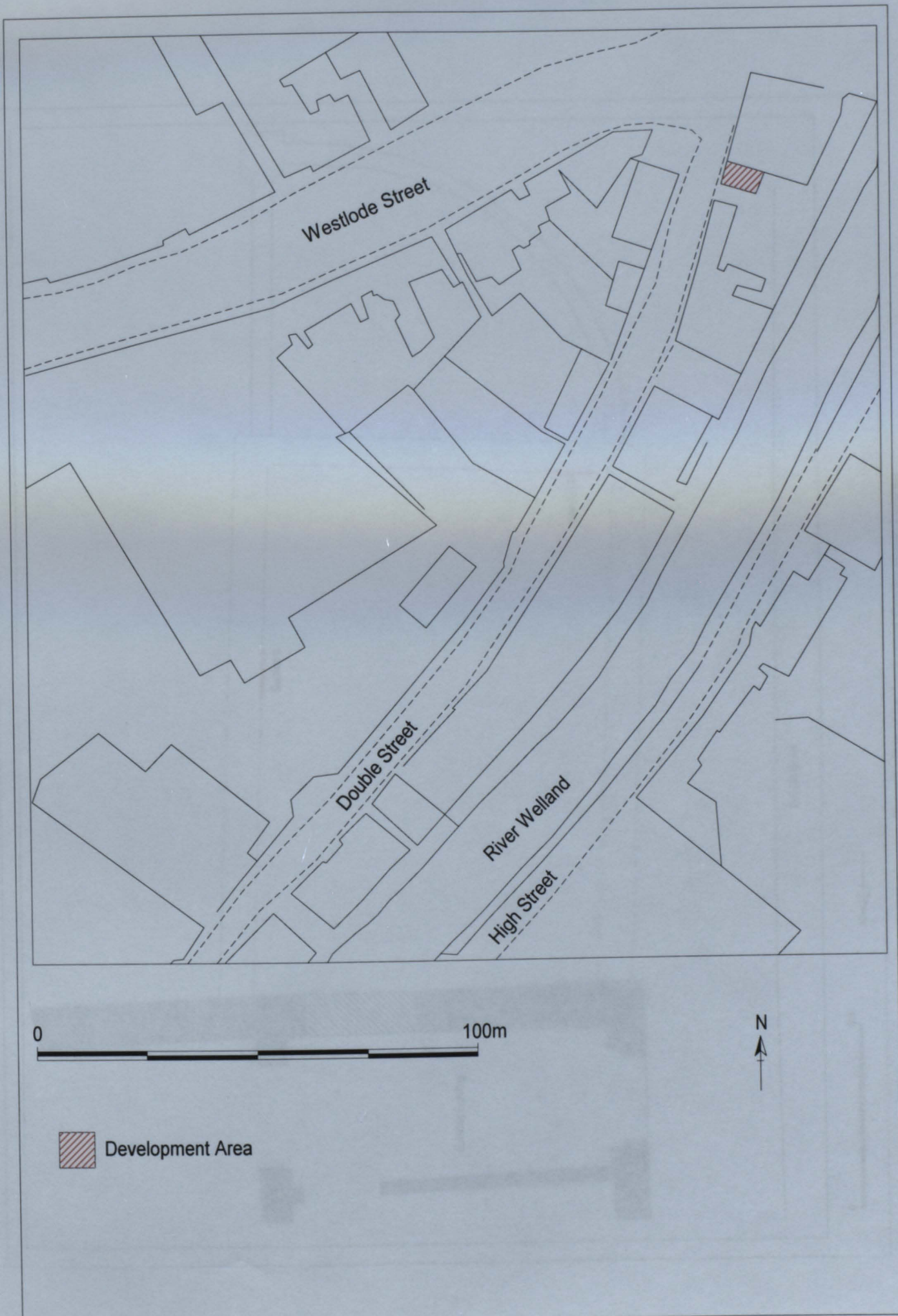


Figure 3 - Location of Development Area

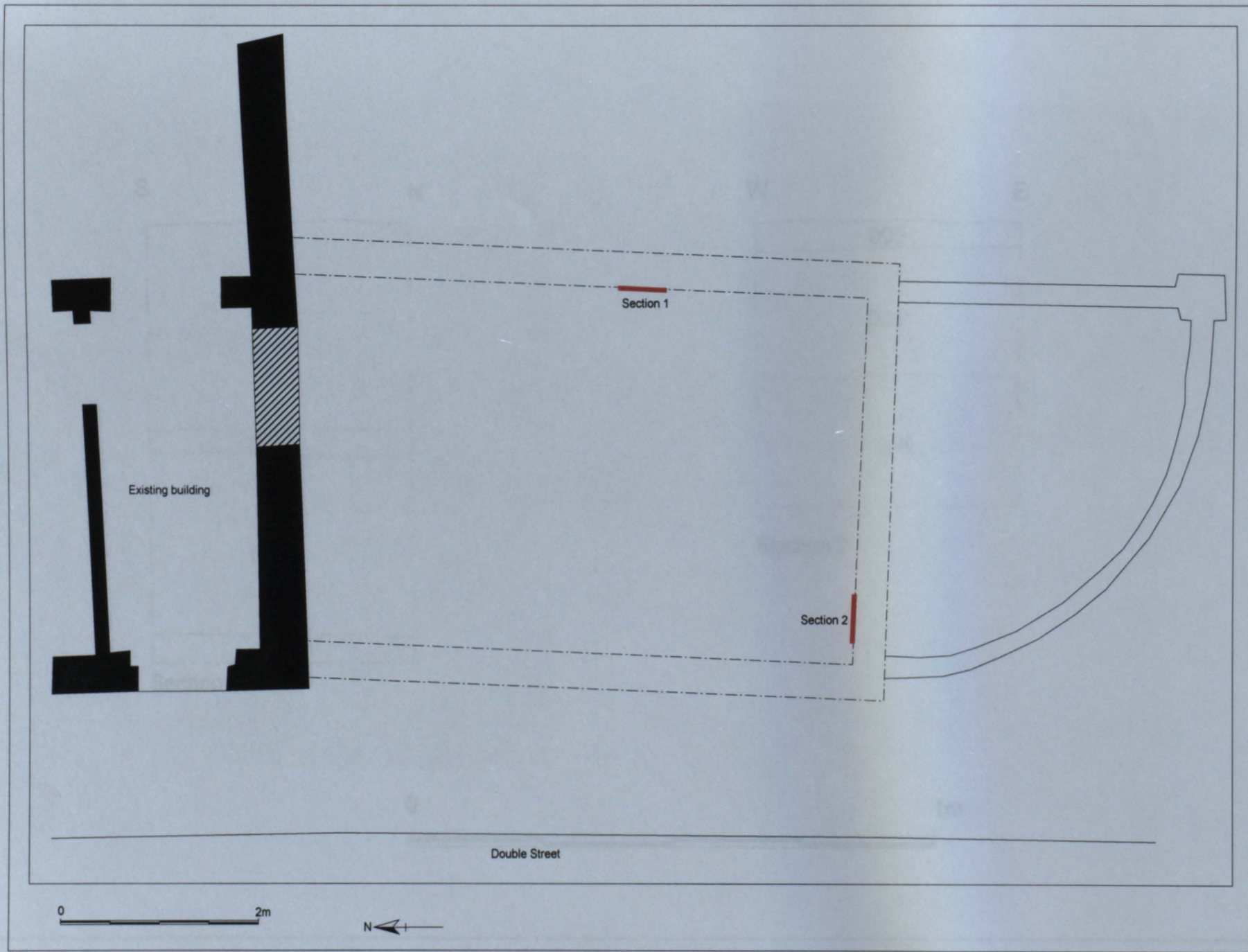


Figure 4 - Plan of the development showing section locations

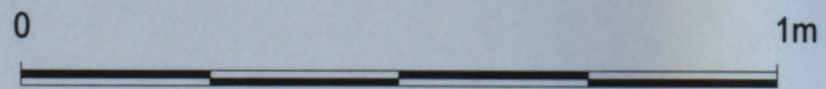
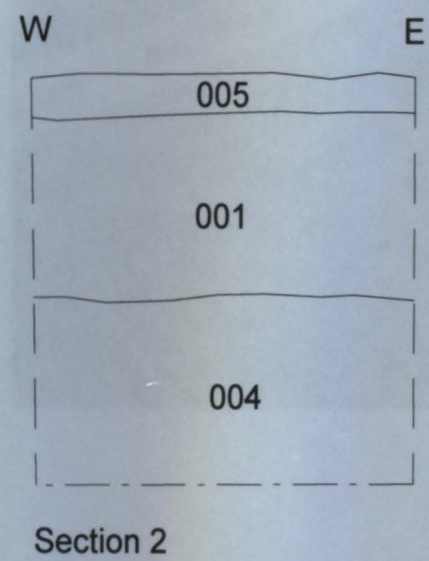
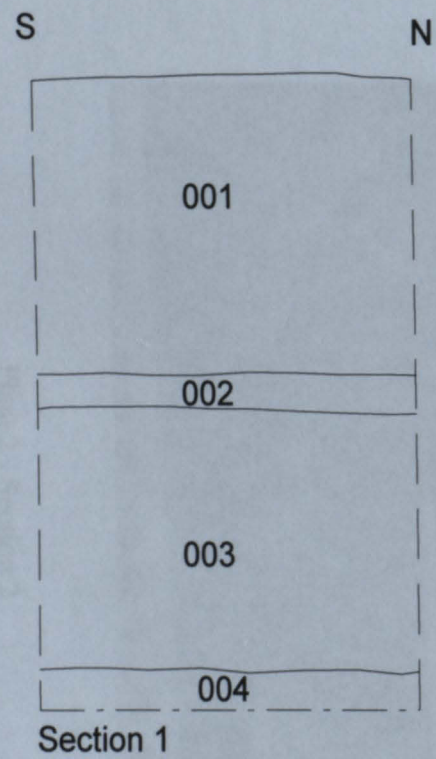


Figure 5 - Sections 1 and 2



Plate 1 - Section 1



Plate 2 - Section 2

## Appendix 1

### LAND AT 44 DOUBLE STREET, SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

#### 1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during construction of an extension at 44 Double Street, Spalding, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The development lies to the northeast of the town centre and close to the River Welland. Previous archaeological investigations along Double Street have revealed evidence of post-medieval development on alluvial deposits and recovered finds of medieval and post-medieval date.*
- 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 development on land at 44 Double Street, Spalding. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 25103 22910. Development is to involve demolition of the existing lean-to shop and replacement extension with only minor changes to the footprint.
- 2.2 This document contains the following parts:
  - 2.2.1 Overview.
  - 2.2.2 Stages of work and methodologies.
  - 2.2.3 List of specialists.
  - 2.2.4 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project.

#### 3 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 Spalding lies 23km southwest of Boston and 30km southeast of Sleaford in the administrative district of South Holland. The development site is located approximately 350m northeast of Spalding town centre on the east side of Double Street near to its junction with Westlode Street at National Grid Reference TF 25103 22910.

#### 4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Planning permission (H16/0174/00) has been granted by South Holland District Council for construction of an extension with a standard condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief during the development.

#### 5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The development site lies close to the town centre, on the northwestern side of the River Welland at approximately 5m OD. As an urban area the local soils have not been mapped but are considered to be of the Wisbech Association, coarse silty calcareous soils, or the Wallasea 2 Association, peoalluvial gley soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 338, 361).

## 6 THE ARCHAEOLOGY

- 6.1 Romano-British occupation has been identified in the vicinity of Spalding and within the town. Documents of Saxon date mention the Spaldas tribe, from which the town name derives. Spalding is recorded in the Domesday survey and was an important centre during the medieval period, having both a priory and a castle. A fishing centre during the medieval period, the port later declined but Spalding continued as an important centre into the post-medieval period for river traffic and as the lowest bridging point of the River Welland.
- 6.2 Double Street lies on the northwest side of the River Welland. Archaeological investigations in the immediate vicinity have revealed evidence for post-medieval development on alluvial deposits and recovered pottery dating from the medieval and post-medieval periods (Archaeological Project Services 1996).
- 6.3 Groundworks may disturb archaeological remains of the medieval and post-medieval periods and may disturb earlier deposits depending on the depth of excavations.

## 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 Foundation trench sections will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. Section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn 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.

- 8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 8.2.4 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
- The site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
  - groups of features where their relationship is important
- 8.2.5 Should human remains be located the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department and the police will be informed.

## 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:
- A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
  - A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.
  - Description of the topography of the site.
  - Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.
  - A text describing the findings of the watching brief.
  - A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.
  - Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
  - Sections of the archaeological features.
  - Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within



the surrounding landscape.

- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- 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 Lincolnshire County Archaeology Officer; South Holland 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 Lincolnshire County Archaeology Officer. 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 principal 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 - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust
	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.

## 19 BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Archaeological Project Services, 1996 *An archaeological evaluation of land adjacent to Double Street, Spalding, Lincolnshire (SDS96)*, APS unpublished report 37/96
- Archaeological Project Services, 2000 *Archaeological watching brief on land at Double Street, Spalding, Lincolnshire (SDSA99)*, APS unpublished report 76/00
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## Appendix 2

### CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Compact brick rubble and mortar, 0.4m thick	Levelling deposit
002	Compact greyish brown sandy silt with charcoal/ash lenses, 50mm thick	Dumped deposit
003	Firm mid greyish brown sandy silt with brick rubble, 0.35m thick	Demolition deposit
004	Compact dark greyish brown sandy silt, >50mm thick	Former topsoil
005	Compact black clinker/cinders, 50mm thick	Levelling deposit

## Appendix 3

### GLOSSARY

<b>Context</b>	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).
<b>Iron Age</b>	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
<b>Layer</b>	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
<b>Medieval</b>	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
<b>Post-medieval</b>	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
<b>Prehistoric</b>	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 <sup>st</sup> century AD.
<b>Romano-British</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
<b>Saxon</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.

## Appendix 4

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 5 Context records
- 1 Photographic record sheets
- 2 Drawing sheets
- 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: 2001.158

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: SDS 01

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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