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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
OF DEVELOPMENT AT  
WEST MARSH ROAD,  
SPALDING,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(SWMA01)**



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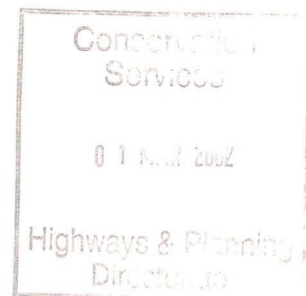
Work Undertaken For  
Sworder Belcher Holt

Report Compiled by  
James Albone MA, PIFA

February 2002

Planning Application No: H16/1234/00  
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City and County Museum Accession No: 2001.34

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## 1. SUMMARY

*An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during development at West Marsh Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire. Evidence of Romano-British occupation and an inhumation burial, probably of contemporary date, had previously been recorded in the vicinity of the site.*

*A series of ditches were identified in the southeastern part of the development area on a northwest to southeast alignment. Two of these were dated to the 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> century and 12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> century. These features were sealed by a flood silt deposit believed to be of late medieval or early post-medieval date. A number of undated ditches were also sealed by this deposit and are likely to be of medieval date.*

*Further undated and late post-medieval to modern ditches were also recorded. No evidence of Romano-British date was identified during the watching brief. Remains of this period probably lie at a greater depth beneath the lower naturally deposited flood silts recorded at the site.*

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as, 'a formal program of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits maybe disturbed or destroyed.' (IFA 1999).

### 2.2 Planning Background

An archaeological watching brief was

undertaken during the construction of a chill store at a site off West Marsh Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire. The archaeological work was requested by the County Archaeological Officer as a condition of planning permission (H16/1234/00) granted by South Holland District Council.

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Sworder Belcher Holt to carry out the watching brief. The work was undertaken in accordance with a specification produced by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the County Archaeological Officer (Appendix 1). The watching brief was undertaken between 12<sup>th</sup> February and 25<sup>th</sup> April 2001.

### 2.3 Topography, Geology, and Soils

Spalding is situated 23km southwest of Boston and 30km southeast of Sleaford in the South Holland district of Lincolnshire (Fig.1). The area of investigation lies to the west of West Marsh Road approximately 1.3km north of the town centre at National Grid Reference TF 2536 2416 (Fig.2).

Soils at the site have not been mapped in any detail but are likely to be coarse silty calcareous alluvial gley soils of the Wisbech Series, developed on marine alluvium (Robson 1990: 36). These overlie Jurassic Oxford Clay deposits (BGS 1992). The site is situated at approximately 3.0m OD.

### 2.4 Archaeological Background

Romano-British remains have been identified in the vicinity of the development site. A layer containing pottery, indicative of settlement activity was recorded at Oakley Drive c.700m south of the development site (Phillips 1970, 292).

An undated burial, on a north to south alignment, was recovered during pipe laying

work 500m southeast of the monitored area. The skeleton was of a young adult female, with nails in the grave fill suggesting the presence of a coffin. A Romano-British date has been put forward for this burial which may have formed part of a larger cemetery (Cope-Faulkner 1999a). A second watching brief, 60m southeast of the present development site, revealed an undated ditch, probably also of Romano-British date (Cope-Faulkner 1999b).

Spalding is generally connected with a tribal group called the *Spaldas* who are recorded in the Tribal Hideage, a 7<sup>th</sup> century Mercian tribute list (Sawyer 1998, 47). The place-name is Old English in origin and refers to the 'the people of the Spalde' (Cameron 1998, 114). Although little evidence of Saxon activity has been recorded at Spalding, pottery from the later part of the period has been found 1km east of the development site (Cope-Faulkner 1998, 6).

The town was recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086, when land there was owned by Ivo Tallboys, Guy of Craon and Crowland Abbey (Morris 1986). Among the holdings were a market, six fisheries, salt pans and a wood of alders.

Medieval evidence for Spalding is largely concentrated in the town centre with little having been recorded in the vicinity of the development site (Cope-Faulkner 1999b).

### 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims of the watching brief were to determine the form, function and spatial arrangement of any archaeological remains encountered during the groundworks and interpret those remains through the analysis of a completed record.

### 4. METHODS

For the purposes of this report the monitored area was divided into two. Area A comprised the access road and yard area to the southeast. Area B included the building itself and drainage works to its north (Fig.3). Excavation involved the removal of topsoil from both areas. Deeper excavation was subsequently carried out along the line of the access road and in the loading bay area of the yard in Area A. Monitoring of stanchion pits for the building and a pipe trench to its northwest was also undertaken in Area B.

All soil exposures in plan and section were inspected and selectively cleaned to identify archaeological deposits. Where identified, deposits were partially or fully excavated by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. Each deposit or feature revealed 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 and 1:20. A plan of the development showing the locations of the features and monitored areas was compiled. Recording of the deposits encountered during the watching brief was undertaken according to standard APS practice.

Records of the deposits and features identified during the watching brief were examined. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them, supplemented by artefact dating (Appendix 3). A summary of all contexts, with interpretations, appears as Appendix 2. Contexts are described below with the numbers assigned in the field shown in brackets.

## 5. RESULTS

Following post excavation analysis, four phases of deposits were identified;

- Phase 1: Naturally Deposited Layers
- Phase 2: Medieval and Early Post-Medieval Deposits
- Phase 3: Undated Deposits
- Phase 4: Late Post-Medieval and Modern Deposits

### 5.1 Naturally Deposited Layers

Naturally deposited layers were exposed in both areas of the groundworks. However, these did not appear to be consistent across the whole of the monitored area. Within Area A these deposits were shown to have been deposited prior to the 10<sup>th</sup> century. It is probable that all these deposits represent phases of post-Roman, but pre-medieval, flooding which have been recognised elsewhere around Spalding (eg. Miller 1998). The upper surface of these deposits appeared to lie at between c.2.6m and c.2.8m OD.

In Area A, a similar sequence of natural deposits was recorded in a number of sections (Figs. 4, 6, 7 and 8). The earliest deposit encountered was a light brown silt, sometimes recorded with a slightly greyish colour (022 / 026 / 034 / 044). This was sealed beneath light blueish grey silt or sandy silt (021 / 025 / 033 / 043). Overlying these deposits was medium grey clayey silt with a brown mottling (024 / 029 / 035). In one section this layer was sealed by light grey clayey silt (023).

A different sequence of natural deposits was recorded in the section of a lorry cleaning tank in the southern part of Area A (Figs. 4 and 6; Sect.4). The earliest deposit exposed at that location was mottled medium grey

and reddish brown clayey silt (085). This was sealed by medium reddish brown clayey silt (084) and mottled medium grey and light reddish brown clayey silt (083). The upper natural deposit recorded in this sequence comprised medium reddish brown clayey silt (082).

Initial monitoring at the northwestern side of the building in Area B exposed light brown slightly silty fine sand (007) as the earliest deposit (Fig. 9). This was sealed by light grey silty clay (006) and mottled light brown and light grey silt (005). In the eastern part of the building area, mottled light brown and whitish grey sandy silt (012) was recorded (Fig. 9).

Monitoring of stanchion pits for piles in the construction of the building revealed several different sequences of deposits (Figs 5 and 9; Sects.14 - 16). A dark reddish brown silt (076) was sealed by light blueish grey silt (075). These layers were beneath a deposit of medium reddish brown clayey silt (074). Elsewhere, stanchion pits revealed light reddish brown silt (069) containing a lens of medium blueish grey silt (068). A third stanchion pit exposed a sequence of dark brown silty clay (072) beneath dark brown clayey silt (071).

A section of the pipe trench in the northwest part of Area B (Figs. 5 and 9; Sect.17), revealed light to medium yellowish brown fine sandy silt (080).

### 5.2 Medieval and Early Post-Medieval Deposits

A series of ditches of medieval to early post-medieval date were recorded in Area A. These were all on a northwest to southeast alignment and were positioned at relatively even spacings (Fig. 4).

Two of these features were dated by

artefacts with the remainder being assigned to this phase on the basis of their stratigraphic relationships.

Ditch [059] was located in the northern part of the yard area and was traced for a length of 6m (Fig. 4). It measured 0.9m across and contained three fills (Fig. 6; Sect. 2). The lowest of these (062) comprised mottled light grey to medium brown clayey silt. Two sherds of 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> century pottery and burnt clay were recovered from this deposit. This was sealed by black silt and ash containing fragments of burnt clay (061). The upper fill of this feature was light brown silt with rusty brown mottling (060).

The second dated medieval feature was ditch [020] which was located 22m southwest of ditch [059]. It was observed for a distance of 9m, had a steep-sided profile and was 2.2m wide (Fig.6; Sect.1). Its primary fill comprised medium to dark olive grey silt with organic material (019). This was sealed by mottled light grey and medium orangey brown clayey silt (018). Six sherds of 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century pottery were recovered from this deposit. The upper fill (017) consisted of medium brown clayey silt with light to medium grey mottling.

Sealing this ditch [020] was a light to medium brown sandy silt or silt with grey mottling (010 / 016 / 064). This deposit appears to represent a late medieval or early post-medieval flooding event. The lower surface of this deposit was identified between c.2.6m and 2.7m OD. Several other ditches were also sealed by this deposit. Although none of these features produced artefacts, their relationship to this flood silt suggests that they are of broadly contemporary date.

Ditch [028] was located 11.2m south of [020] (Fig. 4). The profile of this feature was not revealed and only its upper fill exposed.

This comprised medium brown clayey silt with light to medium grey mottling (027) comparable with the upper fill of [020]. This ditch was sealed by the flood silt (016) and is likely to be of broadly contemporary date to [020].

Further to the southwest in the road strip area was ditch [030] which was traced for 9m across the road strip area (Fig. 4). It contained mottled medium brown and light to medium grey silt (031) overlain by mottled medium grey and medium brown clayey silt (032). This ditch was also sealed by flood silt (016) (Fig. 8; Sect. 9).

To the northeast of ditch [020] were further ditches that were also sealed by the flood silt layer (Fig. 4). The most southerly of these, [048] was traced for a distance of c.9m westwards across the stripped area, although its full extent was not known. It had a rounded profile with a width of c.1.80m (Fig. 7; Sect. 7). The primary fill of this feature comprised medium grey clayey silt with brown mottling (050). This was sealed beneath medium brown silt with medium grey mottling (049).

To the north of [048] were two intercutting ditches [051 and 052]. The earliest of these was [051], which had a steep-sided profile, although its full width was not revealed (Fig.7; Sect.5). Its primary fill comprised medium grey clayey silt with brown mottling (058). This was sealed by light to medium brownish grey clayey silt with brown mottling (057). The upper fill of this feature was light to medium brownish grey clayey silt with brown mottling (056). This feature could be traced for 24m west from the limit of stripping. However, by that point it [063] contained light blueish grey clayey silt (066) beneath medium to dark grey clayey silt with brown mottling (065). These were sealed by the flood silt (064) (Fig.7; Sect.6).



Cutting the northern side of ditch [051] at the eastern limit of the yard area was [052] This feature had a rounded profile *c.*1.6m wide (Fig. 7; Sect.5). However, its length was not clear as it did not cross [051] and may have terminated a short distance into the monitored area (Fig. 4). The primary fill of this feature comprised a mixed deposit of medium brown and medium grey clayey silt (055). On the northern side of the ditch, this was sealed by medium grey clayey silt with reddish mottling (054). Overlying these deposits, and forming the main fill of the feature was light to medium brown silt (053). Although than ditch [051], this feature was also sealed by flood silt (016).

One feature [086] identified in Area B was also sealed by the flood silt (010) indicating that it was likely to be of late medieval or early post-medieval date (Fig.9). It had a shallow sloping southeastern side and may have been linear in form although its extent and plan were not determined (Fig.9; Sect. 12). The single fill identified within this feature comprised light brown sandy silt (011).

### 5.3 Undated Deposits

An isolated ditch [040] was recorded during topsoil stripping for the road in Area A. this was aligned northwest to southeast, parallel to the medieval ditches discussed above (Fig. 4). The fills of this feature comprised blueish medium grey clayey silt (041) beneath light brown silt (042) and did not contain any artefacts (Fig.8; Sect.8). No evidence of the flood silt (016) was recorded at the southwestern end of the road strip area and ditch [040] was directly sealed by modern topsoil (015). The absence of the flood silt at this location may be due to later truncation. However, this ditch cut through the light blueish grey sandy silt (043), which underlay the flood silt elsewhere on the site, indicating that it was of medieval or later

date.

In the central part of the building in Area B, to the south of modern ditch [009], was an east to west aligned ditch [014] (Fig. 5) This feature was recorded for a length of *c.*10m although its full extent and relationship with [009] were not established. The full profile of ditch [014] was not revealed (Fig.9; Sect.11) although its upper fill was recorded as light brown sandy silt (013).

A light reddish brown silt (002) subsoil was also recorded in the northeastern part of Area B during the initial topsoil stripping phase.

### 5.4 Late Post-Medieval and Modern Deposits

Two ditches, on northwest to southeast alignments, were recorded during the road monitoring in Area A (Fig.4). Ditch [045] had an even sided profile with a maximum width of 2.8m. This feature contained dark reddish brown sandy silt (046) from which 19<sup>th</sup> century artefacts were recovered (Fig.8; Sect.10). Sealing this deposit was a layer of dark olive brown clayey silt subsoil (047).

The second ditch [036] was located 7m further north (Fig. 4). Its fills, a dark brown silt (037a) overlying a dark blueish grey silt (037b), contained 20<sup>th</sup> century artefacts. This feature cut through the flood silt layer (016) suggesting a post-medieval or later date.

Aligned northeast to southwest across Area A was ditch [038]. This feature contained dark brown silt (039). This feature formed a T-junction with Ditch [009] which extended for a distance of 100m on a northwest to southeast alignment across Areas A and B (Figs. 3 - 5). Ditch [009] measured 4.2m across and contained a dark brown silt fill (008). Pottery of 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century date was recovered from this deposit. A third

ditch [004], aligned at approximately right angles to [009] in the northwest part of the building in Area B, contained dark brown silt (003). Although this feature did not contain any artefacts it was considered to be relatively modern. Its relationship to ditch [009] was not clear.

A further modern feature was exposed in the drain trench along the northern side of the Area B (Figs. 5 and 9; Sect.13). Ditch or gully [079] was aligned northwest to southeast and contained dark grey organic silt (078) with 20<sup>th</sup> century artefacts.

Sealing the archaeological features in both areas was a topsoil deposit (Figs. 6 - 9). This varied from dark brown silt (015), through medium reddish brown to dark greyish brown clayey silt (001 / 073 / 081) to medium brownish grey silt (077 / 067). Artefacts of 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century date were recovered from this layer. In the area of the stanchion pits in Area B, a modern hardcore deposit was also recorded (070).

## 6. DISCUSSION

The archaeological features identified during the watching brief comprised a series of ditches medieval and later date. The majority of the ditches in Area A were parallel to one another on a northwest to southeast alignment. These features were sealed by a late medieval or early post-medieval flood silt at a depth of approximately 0.35m below the present ground surface. The presence of the flood silt suggested that these ditches were of broadly contemporary date. Two late post-medieval or modern ditches in this area also shared the same alignment and may have been re-cut along the line of earlier features.

The similarity in the alignment and spacing of these ditches suggests that they formed

part of the same landscape. However, their purpose is unclear. It is possible that the ditches formed agricultural boundaries although their close spacing may make this unlikely. An alternative interpretation is that they represent the ditches between dylings; a Fenland type of raised strip fields specifically designed to assist drainage.

The generally low levels of artefacts recovered suggests that the site lay at some distance from an area of settlement during the medieval period. The only anomalous feature was the earliest dated ditch. The 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> century ditch [059] contained burnt clay, ash and pottery in its fills indicating some activity on the site at that time. However the limited evidence means that it is not possible to say whether this relates to settlement, agricultural, salt-making or other activities. These may have been taking place immediately to the southeast of the monitored area.

No evidence of any Romano-British features or deposits was revealed during the watching brief. It is possible that these may lie buried beneath the lowest naturally deposited layers revealed, below a depth of c.1.9m OD. In view of this, the Romano-British date assigned to the undated ditch in the earlier watching brief to the southeast needs to be treated with caution. It is now possible that, the ditch exposed there was also of medieval or early post-medieval date.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at West Marsh Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire, as the site lay close to finds of Romano-British date. No evidence of this period was recorded.

Ditches, possibly field boundaries or dylings, of medieval or early post-medieval

date were revealed. Some of these may have been re-cut in the later post-medieval and modern periods. Enhanced activity adjacent to one of the medieval ditches between the 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries had resulted in burnt fills. The nature of this activity is unclear but may relate to salt-making, agriculture or even limited settlement at the site.

Medieval features at the site were sealed by a flood silt representing a phase of flooding in the late medieval or early post-medieval period.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to thank Mr R. Holloway of Sworder Belcher Holt for commissioning the watching brief and the post-excavation report. Denise Drury co-ordinated the project, and Tom Lane undertook the final editing of this report.

## 9. PERSONNEL

Project Co-Ordinator: Denise Drury  
Site Supervisor: Rachael Hall, Andrew Hardwick, Barry Martin and Chris Moulis  
CAD Illustration: Vicky Mellor and James Albone  
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley  
Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth  
Post-Excavation Analyst: James Albone

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## 11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey  
DoE Department of the Environment  
IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists  
LCC Lincolnshire County Council

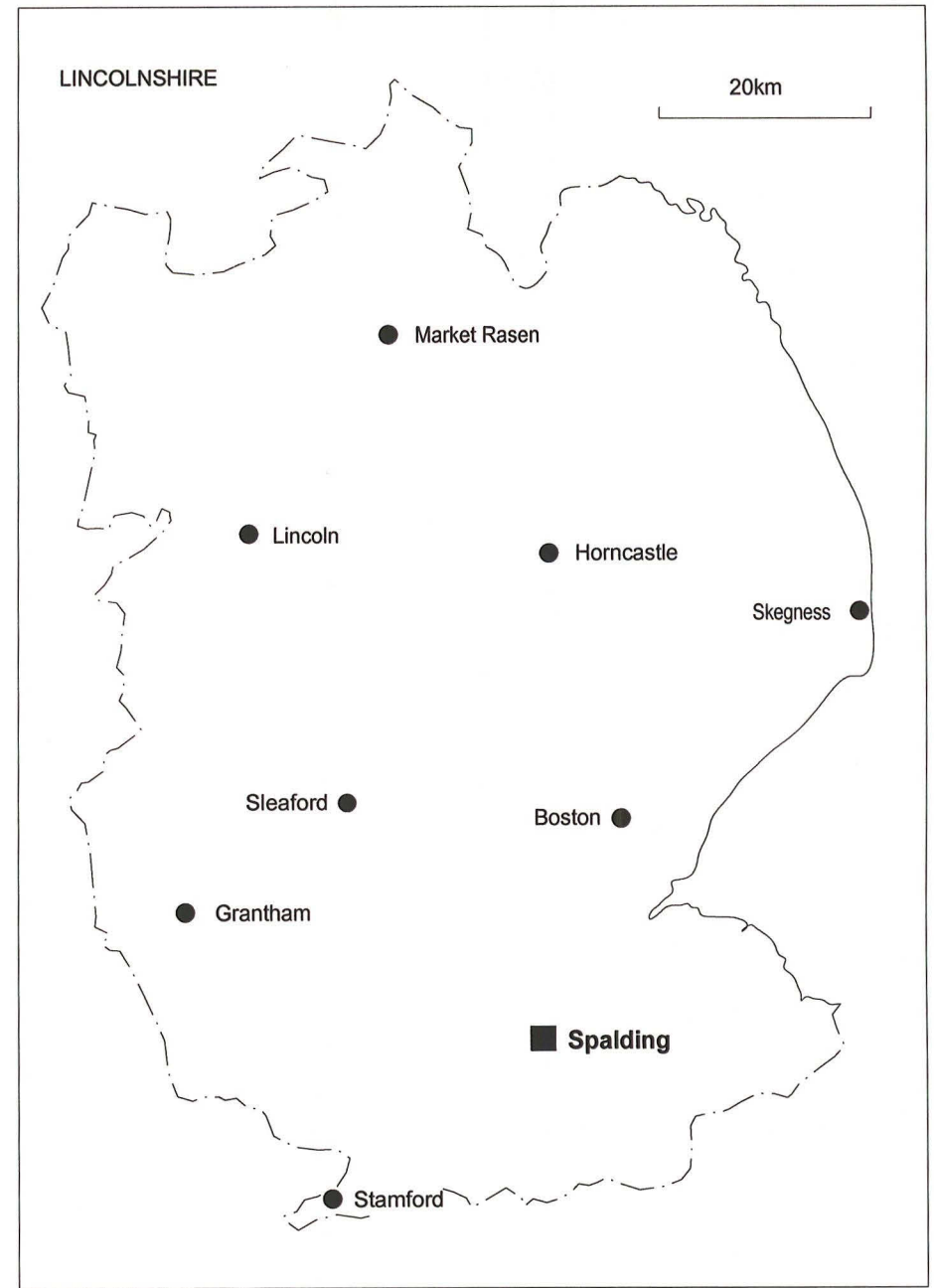
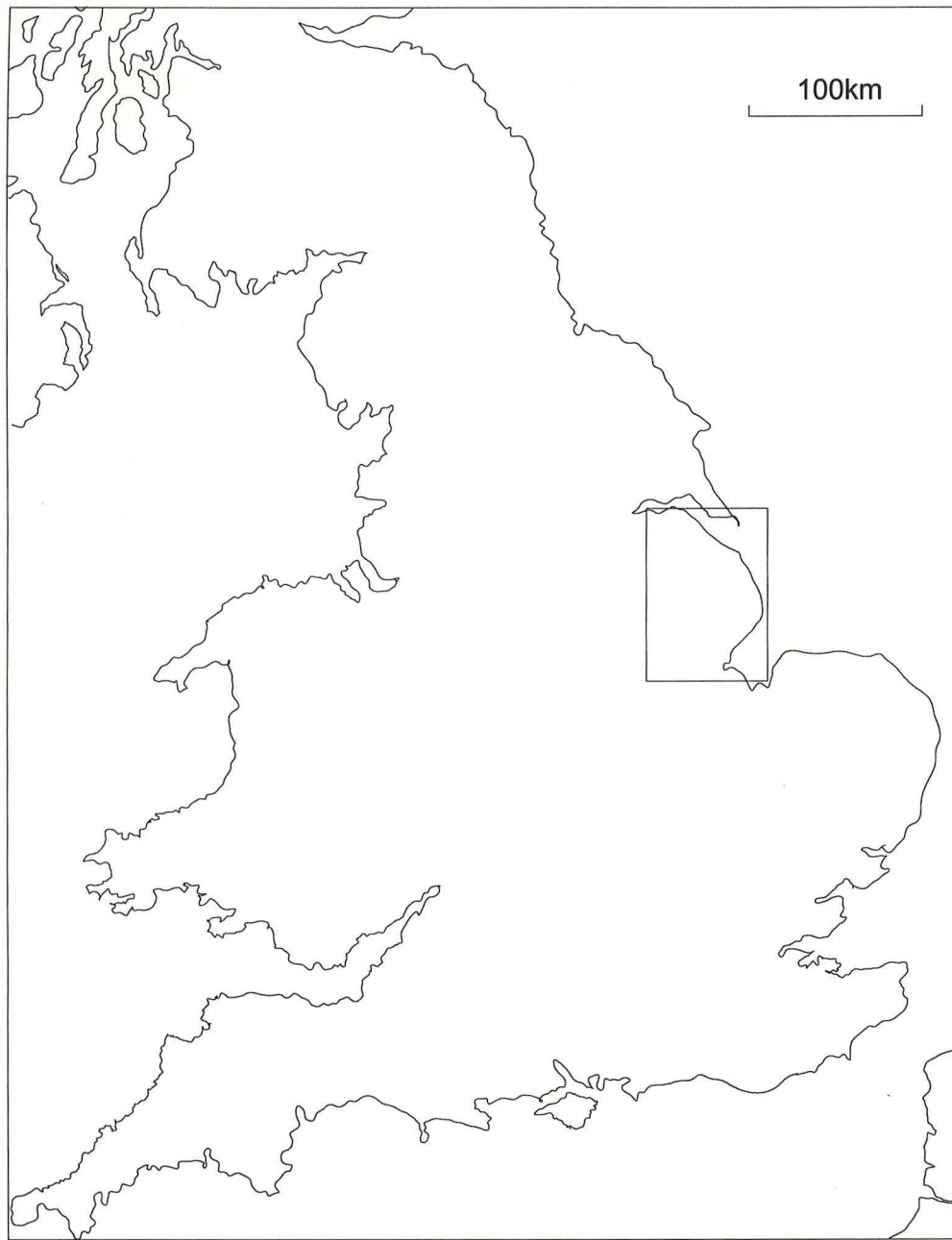


Figure 1 General Location Plan

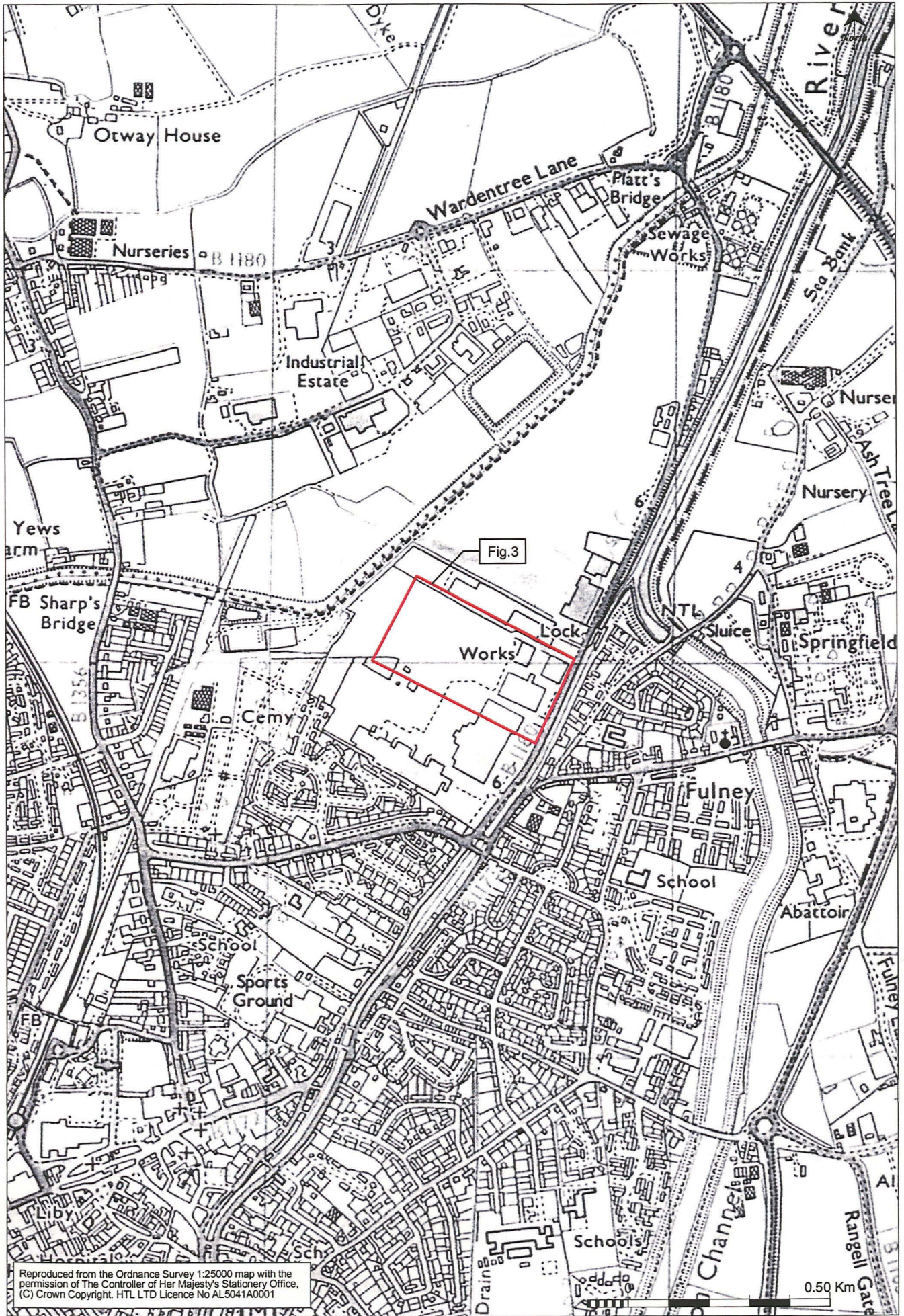
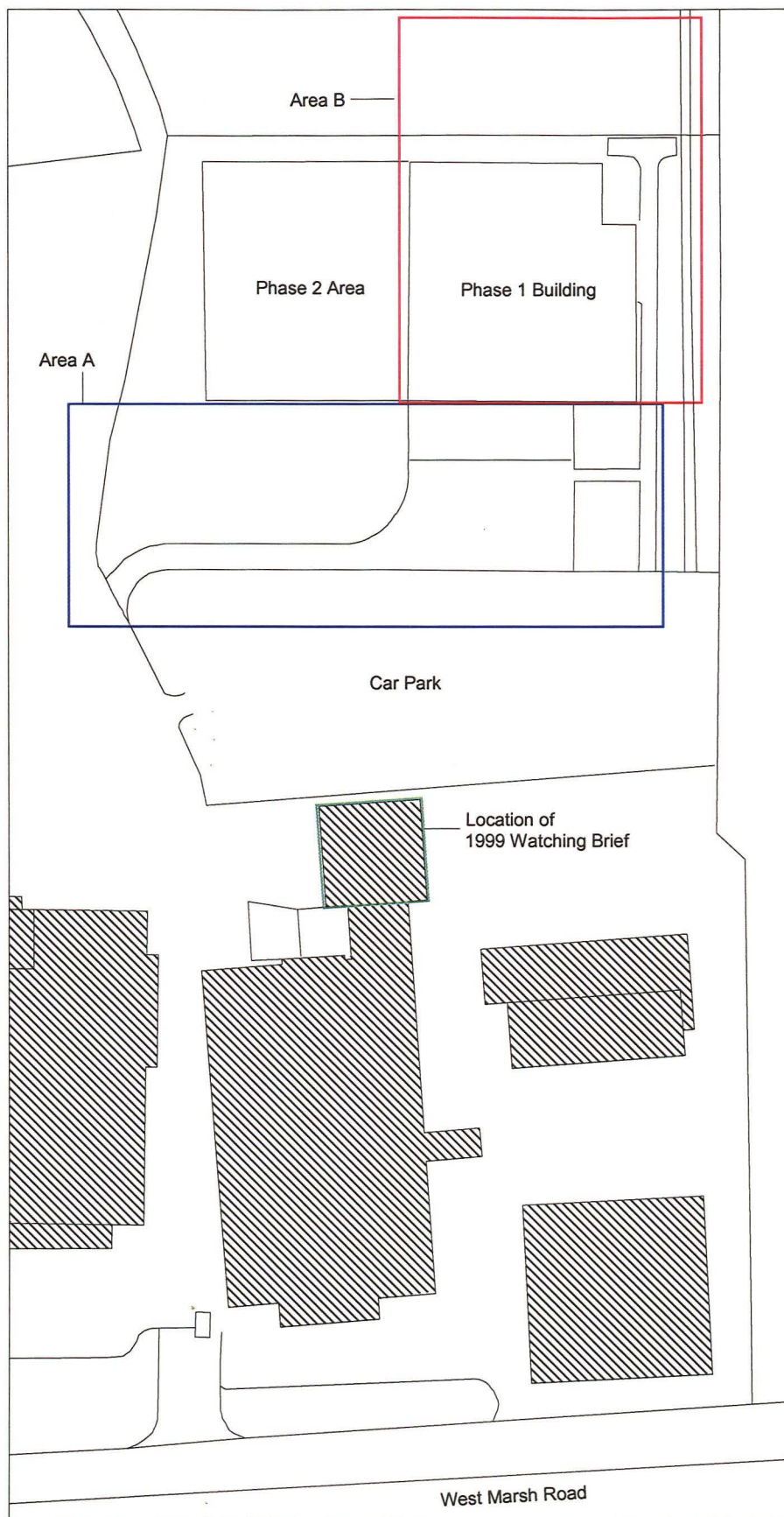


Figure 2 Site location plan, (12500)



KEY

- Area A
- Area of Previous Watching Brief (1999)
- Area B
- Existing Buildings

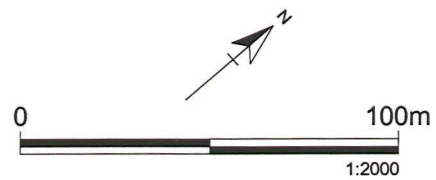
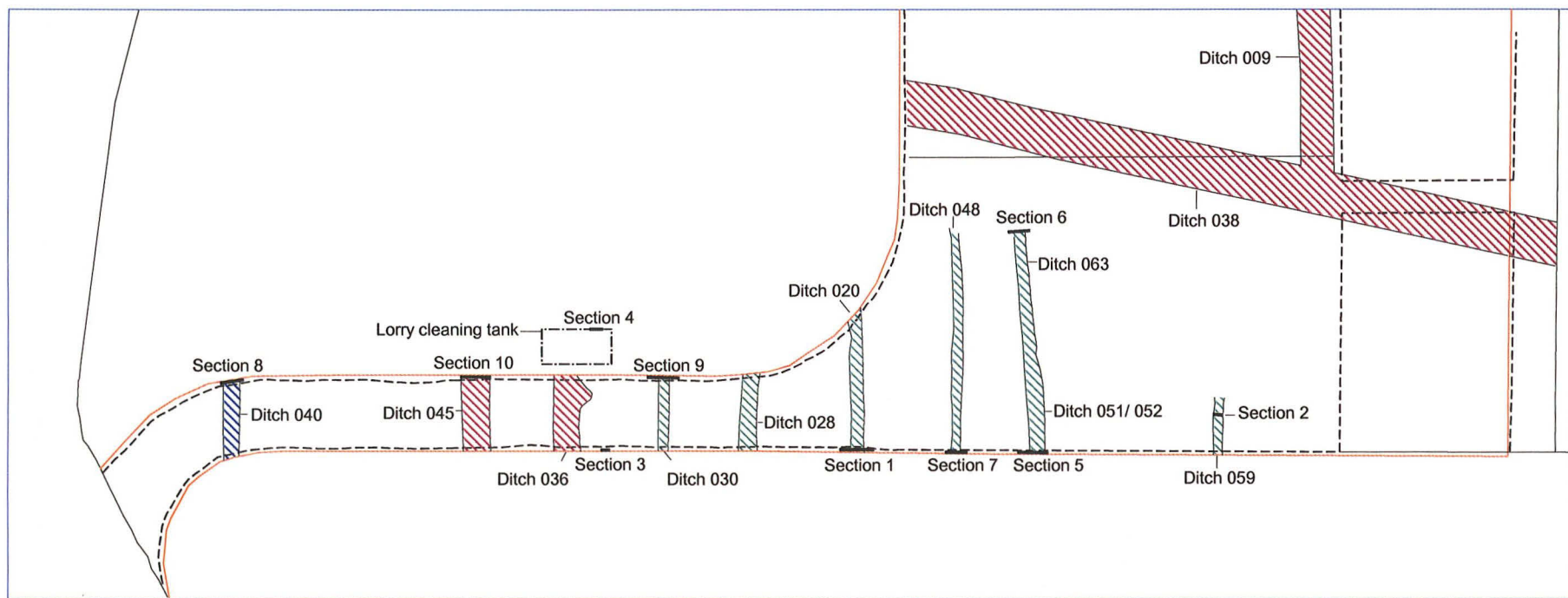


Figure 3 Site plan showing the location of the monitored areas



**KEY**

Edge of Area A	Medieval / Early Post-Medieval feature
Limit of topsoil stripping	Undated feature
Edge of road / yard	Late Post-Medieval / Modern feature
Lorry cleaning tank excavation	

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Figure 4 Plan of Area A showing archaeological features and section locations



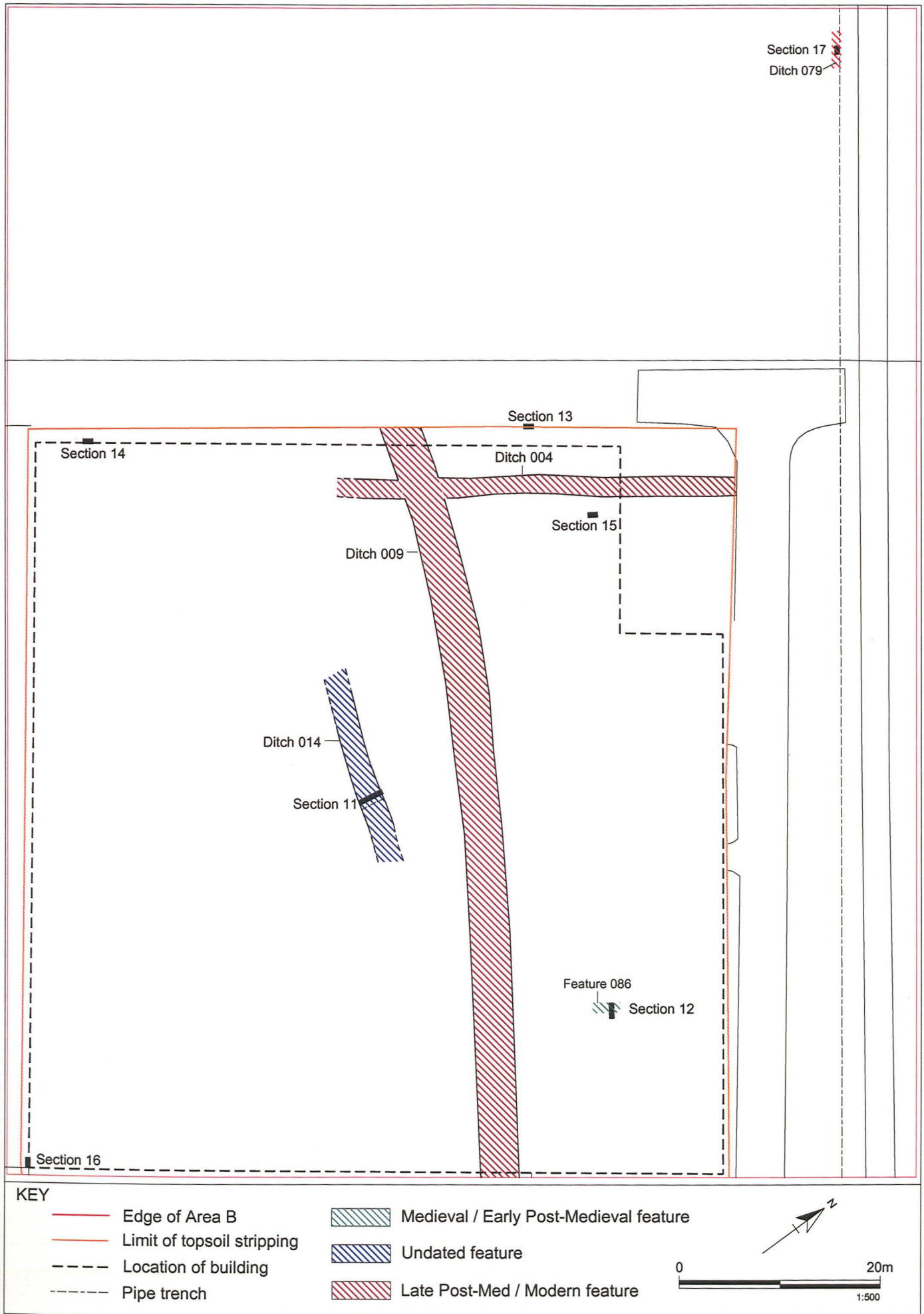


Figure 5 Plan of Area B showing archaeological features and section locations

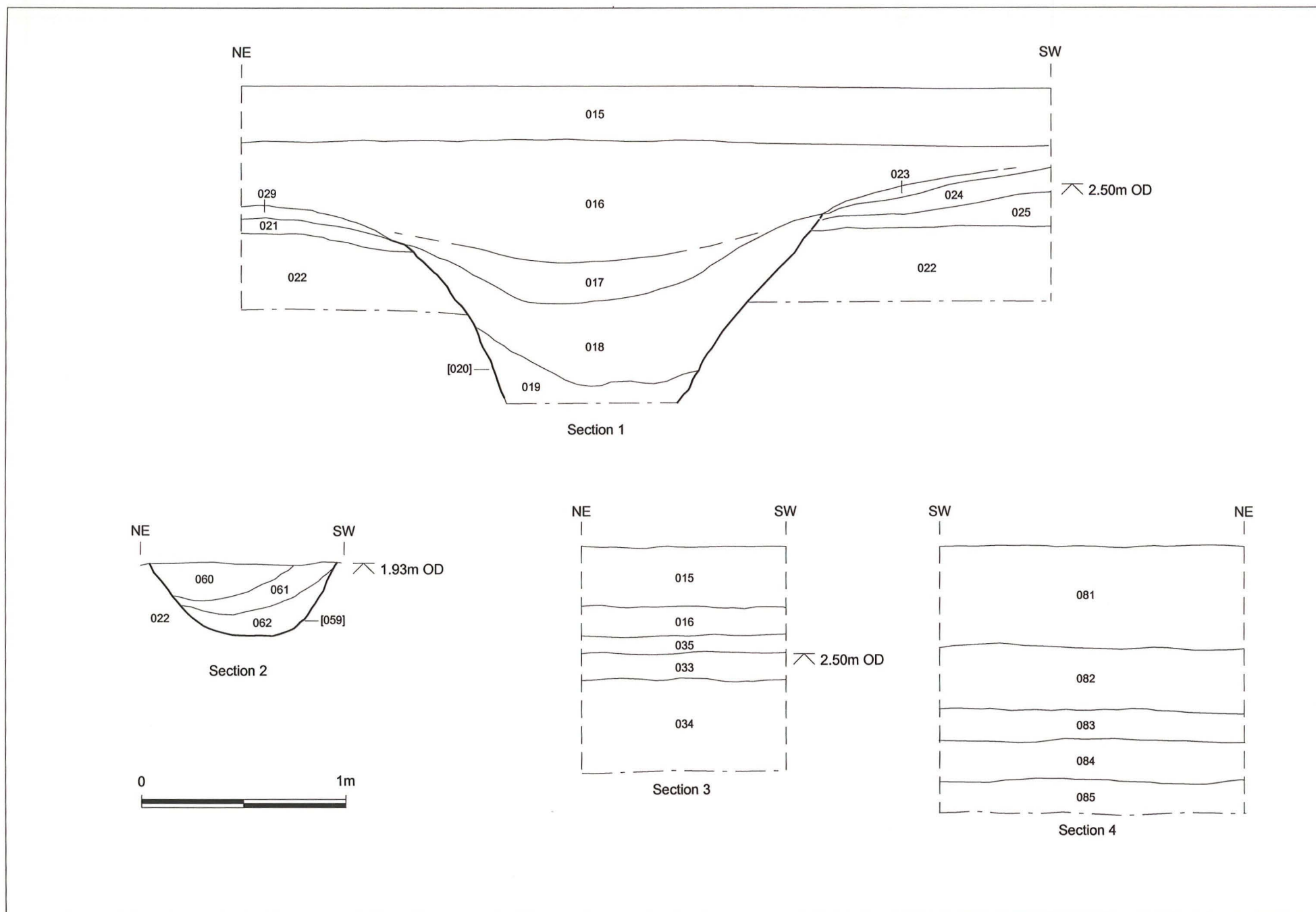


Figure 6 Sections 1 and 2 of medieval ditches and representative Sections 3 and 4 in Area A

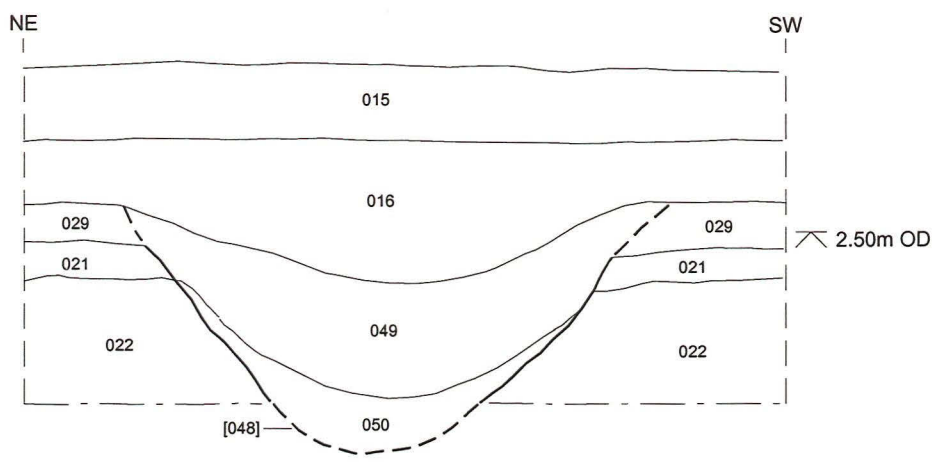
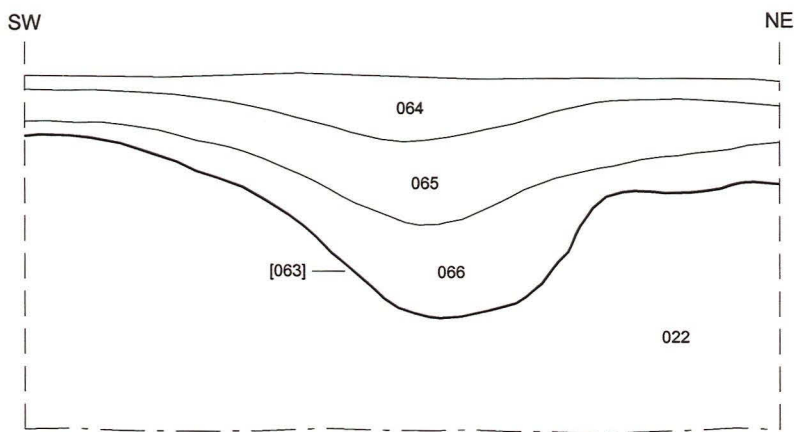
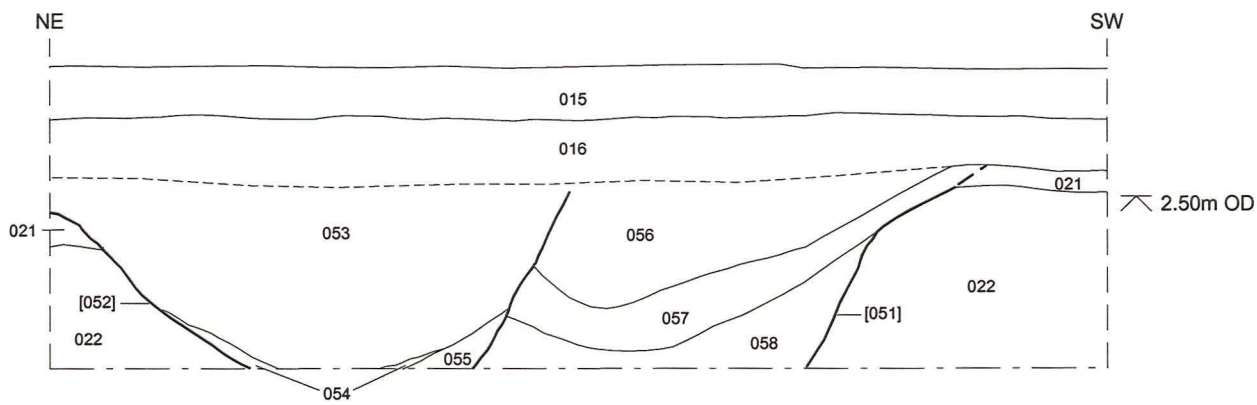


Figure 7 Sections 5 - 7, Area A

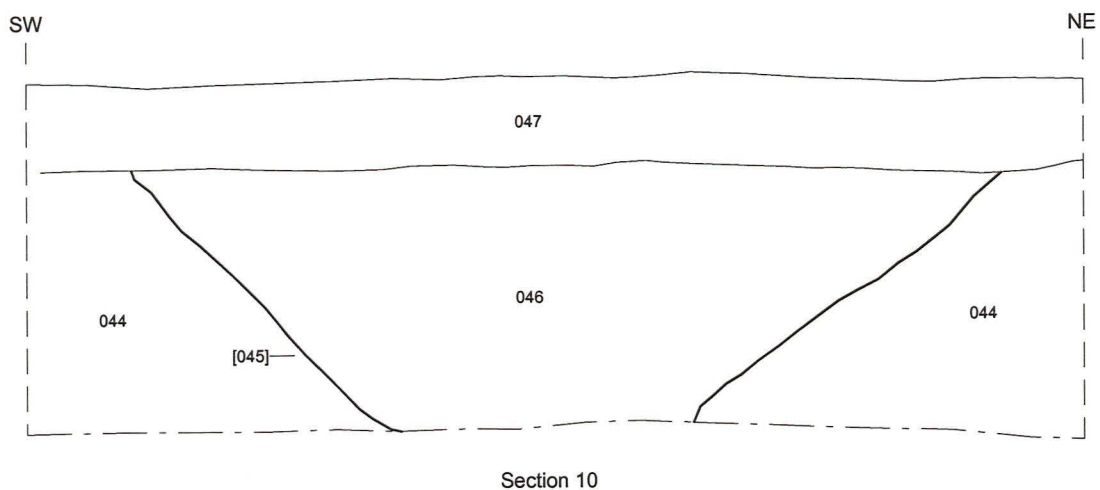
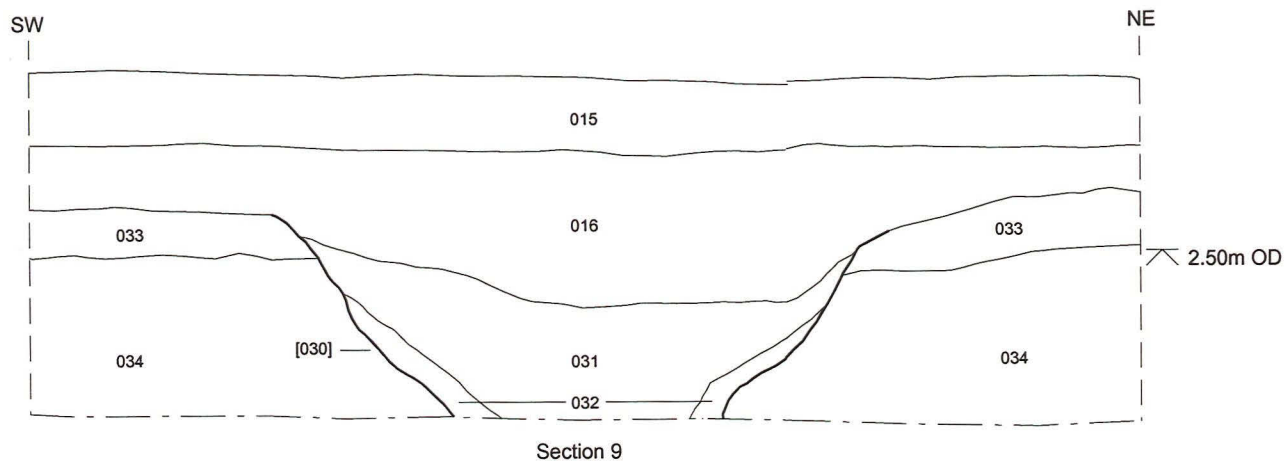
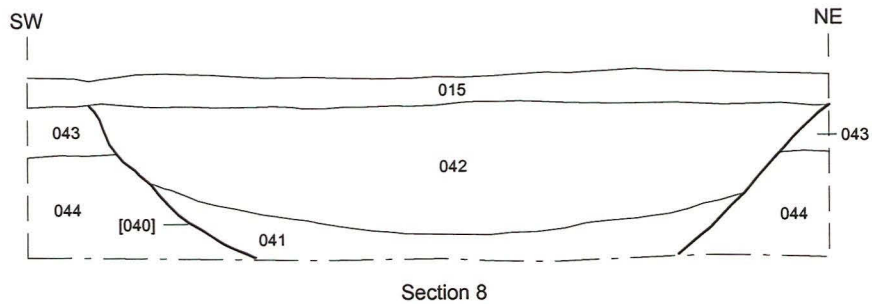


Figure 8 Sections 8 - 10, Areas A

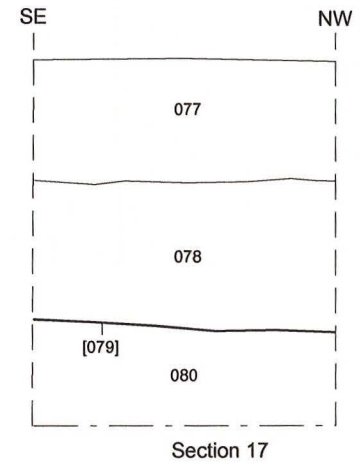
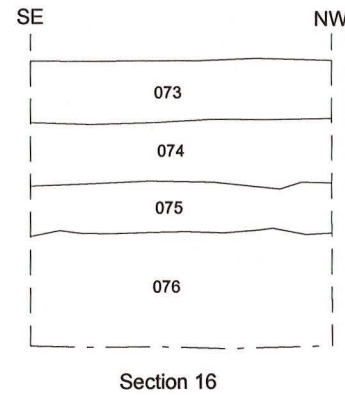
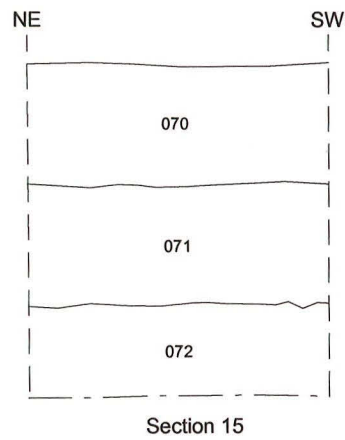
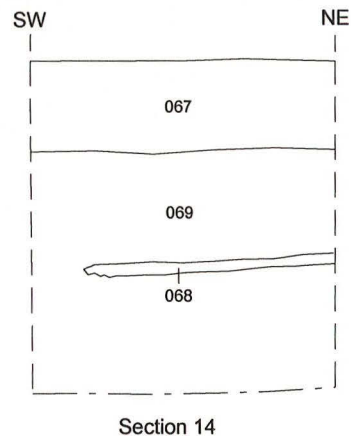
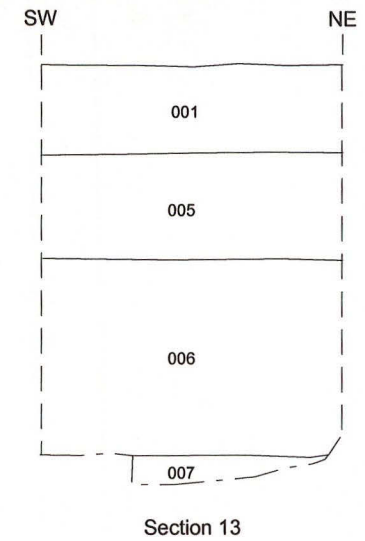
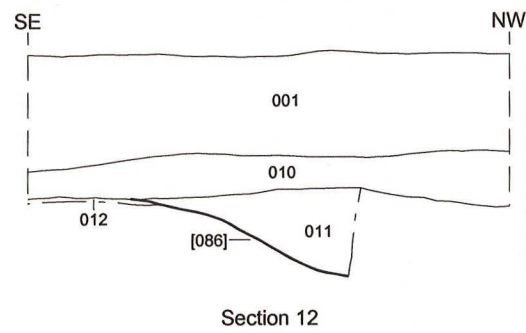
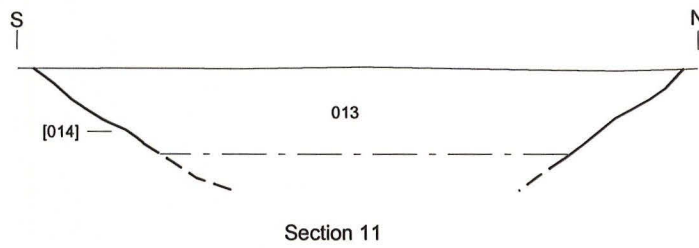


Figure 9 Sections 11 - 17, Area B



Plate 1 General view the watching brief area looking northwest.



Plate 2 Section 1 showing medieval ditch [020], looking southeast.



Plate 3 Section 10 showing 19<sup>th</sup> century ditch [045], looking northwest.

**Appendix 1**

**LAND AT  
WEST MARSH ROAD  
SPALDING  
LINCOLNSHIRE**

**SPECIFICATION FOR  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

**PREPARED FOR  
SWORDER BELCHER HOLT**

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

**JANUARY 2001**

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during development at West Marsh Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *Evidence of Romano-British occupation and an inhumation of possible Romano-British date have been found in the vicinity of the proposed development.*
- 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 groundworks connected with development at West Marsh Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 2536 2416.
- 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 is located 23km southwest of Boston and 30km southeast of Sleaford in the South Holland district of Lincolnshire. The works are to take place at West Marsh Road (Geest Foods site), approximately 1.3km northeast of Spalding town centre, centred on National Grid Reference TF 2536 2416.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application (H16/1234/00) was submitted to South Holland District Council for the development of a chill store. Permission is subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief during all stages of the groundworks.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The site lies on fairly flat land at approximately 6m OD. Local soils are likely to be of the Wisbech Series, typically coarse silty calcareous alluvial gley soils developed on marine alluvium.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 West Marsh Road is situated in an area of known archaeological remains and sites of Romano-British date have been identified in the area. Evidence of Romano-British occupation in this area generally lies below layers of alluvium.
- 6.2 Evidence of Romano-British occupation has been identified in the vicinity, including to the south of the proposed development site and during the excavation of the Coronation channel, at between 1.3m and 2m OD. A burial found close to the development site, about 1.2m below ground surface is believed to be Romano-British in date (Archaeological Project Services 1999a and 1999b). An archaeological watching brief, undertaken in the vicinity, identified a ditch below an alluvial deposit, c1m below the ground surface, which may be of Romano-British date (Archaeological Project Services 1999b).
- 6.3 It is possible that archaeological remains will be disturbed during the groundworks associated with the development.



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 The proposed building will be constructed on piles, at approximately 3.5m centres over the footprint of the whole structure. (The building measures approximately 80m by 75m). Archaeological monitoring will be undertaken during the soil stripping. An archaeological inspection will also be undertaken during piling and during subsequent excavation for pile caps, ground beams or similar. A watching brief will also be undertaken during the construction of service trenches, such as drains, associated with the development.
- 8.2.3 Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed regularly 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. 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.
- 8.2.4 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 8.2.5 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
  - 8.2.5.1 the site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
  - 8.2.5.2 groups of features where their relationship is important

- 8.2.6 Should human remains be located they will be left *in situ* and only excavated if absolutely necessary. Should removal be required the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before the exhumation of the remains. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department, coroner and the police will be informed, where 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 Lincolnshire County Council Archaeological Officer;

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**SPECIFICATION FOR WATCHING BRIEF AT WEST MARSH ROAD, SPALDING**

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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 Council Archaeological Officer. They will be given seven days notice in writing before the commencement of the project.

**14 VARIATIONS AND CONTINGENCIES**

- 14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 14.2 In the event of the discovery of any unexpected remains of archaeological importance, or of any changed circumstances, it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to inform the archaeological curator (*Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* 1998, Sections 5.7 and 18).
- 14.3 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation additional resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.
- 14.4 Any contingency requirement for additional fieldwork or post-excavation analysis outside the scope of the proposed scheme of works will only be activated following full consultation with the archaeological curator and the client.

**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 three 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

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**SPECIFICATION FOR WATCHING BRIEF AT WEST MARSH ROAD, SPALDING**

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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 - H Healey, Independent Archaeologist with G Taylor, APS
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, 1999a *Archaeological watching brief of a pipeline at Geest Foods, West Marsh Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire (SWM98)* APS Report No 22/99

Archaeological Project Services, 1999b *Archaeological watching brief of development at Geest Foods, West Marsh Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire (SWM99)* APS Report No 75/99

Specification: Version 1, 26/01/2001

**Appendix 2**  
**Context Summary**

Context No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Medium reddish brown clayey silt.	Topsoil
002	Light reddish brown silt	Subsoil / natural deposit
003	Dark brown silt.	Fill of ditch 004
004	Linear cut. 1.9m wide x >37m long. ?deep	Cut of ditch
005	Light brown silt mottled with light grey	Natural deposit
006	Light grey silt and clay	Natural deposit
007	Light brown slightly silty fine sand	Natural deposit
008	Dark brown silt	Fill of ditch 009
009	Linear cut. >100m long x 4.2m wide. ?deep	Cut of ditch
010	Light brown sandy silt	Flood silt deposit (Same as 016 / 064)
011	Medium grey clayey silt with small brown mottling	Fill of feature 086
012	Light brown sandy silt with whitish grey mottling	Natural deposit
013	Light brown sandy silt	Fill of 014
014	Possible linear cut	Ditch or natural feature
015	Dark brown silt	Topsoil
016	Medium brown silt with frequent grey mottling	Flood silt deposit (Same as 010 / 064)
017	Medium brown clayey silt with light - mid grey mottling	Upper fill of ditch 020
018	Light grey clayey silt with medium orangey brown	Fill in ditch 020
019	Medium - dark olive grey silt	Primary fill in ditch 020
020	Linear cut. >15m long x 2.2m wide x >0.85m deep	Cut of ditch
021	Light blue grey silt	Natural deposit
022	Light brown silt	Natural deposit
023	Light grey clayey silt	Natural deposit
024	Medium grey clayey silt with brown mottling	Natural deposit / Buried surface
025	Light bluish grey silt	Natural deposit
026	Light brown silt	Natural deposit
027	Light grey clayey silt with medium orangey brown mottling	Fill in 028
028	Linear cut. >9m long x 2m wide x ?deep	Cut of ditch

029	Medium grey clayey silt with brown mottling	Natural deposit / Buried surface
030	Linear cut. >9m long x 2.1m wide x >0.65m deep	Cut of ?ditch
031	Mottled medium brown and medium light grey silt	Fill in ?ditch 030
032	Medium grey clayey silt with medium brown mottling	Fill in ?ditch 030
033	Mixed slightly blueish grey and medium reddish brown silt	Natural deposit / Buried surface
034	Light greyish brown silt	Natural deposit
035	Medium grey clayey silt with brown mottling	Natural deposit
036	Linear cut. >9m long x 4.1m wide x ?deep	Cut of ?ditch
037	Unspecified deposits	Fills of ?ditch 036
038	Linear cut. >75m long x 5m wide x ?deep	Cut of ditch
039	Dark brown silt	Fill of ditch 038
040	Linear cut. >9m long x 2.4m wide x >0.5m deep	Cut of ditch
041	Blueish medium grey clayey silt	Fill of ditch 040
042	Light brown silt	Upper fill of ditch 040
043	Light blueish grey sandy silt	Natural deposit
044	Light brown laminated silt	Natural deposit
045	Linear cut. >9m long x 2.9m wide x >0.9m deep	Cut of ditch
046	Dark reddish brown sandy silt	Fill of ditch 045
047	Dark olive brown clayey silt	Subsoil / Natural deposit
048	Linear cut. >25m long x 1.8m wide x 0.8m deep	Ditch cut
049	Medium brown silt with medium grey mottling	Fill of ditch 048
050	Medium grey clayey silt with brown mottling	Primary fill of ditch 048
051	Linear cut. ?long x >1.6n wide x > 0.65m deep	Cut of ditch
052	Linear cut. >25mlong x 1.6m wide x 0.6m deep	Cut of ditch
053	Light - medium brown silt	Upper fill of ditch 052
054	Medium grey clayey silt with reddish mottling	Fill of ditch 052
055	Mixed medium brown and medium grey clayey silt	Primary fill of ditch 052
056	Light - medium brown silt with brown mottling	?Natural deposit
057	Light - medium brownish grey clayey silt with brown mottling	?Fill of ditch 051
058	Medium grey clayey silt with brown mottling	Fill of ditch
059	Linear cut. >7m long x 0.9m wide x 0.35m deep	Cut of ditch

060	Light brown silt with brown mottling	Fill of ditch 059
061	Black silt with ash	Fill of ditch 059
062	Light grey clayey silt with light - medium brown mottling	Fill of ditch 059
063	Linear cut. >25m long x 1.6m wide x 0.4m deep	Cut of ditch
064	Light brown silt	Flood silt deposit (Same as 010 / 016)
065	Medium - dark grey clayey silt with brown mottling	Natural deposit
066	Light blueish grey clayey silt	Natural deposit
067	Medium brownish grey silt	Topsoil
068	Medium blueish grey silt	Natural deposit
069	Light reddish brown silt	Natural deposit
070	Yellowish gravel and limestone fragments	Modern hardcore
071	Dark brown clayey silt	Natural deposit
072	Dark brown silty clay	Natural deposit
073	Dark grey brown clayey silt	Topsoil
074	Medium reddish brown clayey silt	Natural deposit
075	Light blueish grey silt	Natural deposit
076	Dark reddish brown silt	Natural deposit
077	Medium brown silt	Topsoil
078	Dark grey organic silt	Fill of ditch 079
079	Linear cut. ?long x ?wide x 0.48m deep	Cut of ditch
080	Light - medium yellow brown fine sandy silt	Natural deposit
081	Dark reddish brown clayey silt	Topsoil / former ploughsoil
082	Medium reddish brown clayey silt	Subsoil layer
083	Medium grey mottled with light reddish brown clayey silt	Natural deposit
084	Medium reddish brown clayey silt	Natural deposit
085	Medium grey mottled light reddish brown clayey silt	Natural deposit
086	Cut of unknown form or extent. ?long x > 0.7m wide x >0.3m deep	Cut of pit / ditch

## Appendix 3

### THE FINDS

*Paul Cope-Faulkner, Hilary Healey  
Tom Lane and Gary Taylor*

#### Provenance

The material was recovered from the fills of ditches and topsoil and subsoil deposits.

All of the medieval pottery was probably made relatively locally to Spalding at Bourne, 15km to the west and elsewhere in south Lincolnshire. There is a piece that may be an Ely product from Cambridgeshire, 50km to the southeast. Many of the post-medieval pottery items are likely to be products of Staffordshire.

#### Range

A total of 34 items weighing 1602g was recovered and the range of material is detailed in the table.

Fragments of post-medieval pottery dominate the assemblage, though medieval ceramics were also found. Building materials, glass, metal and other items were also recovered, together with a small quantity of faunal remains.

Context	Description	Number	Weight (g)	Context Date
001	Midlands Purple type ware, 17 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup> century	1	28g	19 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup> century
	White glazed tableware, 19 <sup>th</sup> -early 20 <sup>th</sup> century	1	2g	
	Grey salt-glazed stoneware, 18 <sup>th</sup> century	1	9g	
	White salt-glazed stoneware, 18 <sup>th</sup> century	1	2g	
	Bourne D ware, 16 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> century	1	3g	
	Plant pot, 19 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century	1	4g	
	Machine-made brick, late 19 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century	1	12g	
	Tile, machine-made, 19 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century	1	17g	
008	Red painted earthenware, black-glazed, 18 <sup>th</sup> - 19 <sup>th</sup> century	1	12g	18 <sup>th</sup> - 19 <sup>th</sup> century
	Midlands Yellow ware, 17 <sup>th</sup> century	1	2g	
018	?Ely ware, 12 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup> century	1	20g	12 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup> century
	Bourne A ware, 12 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup> century	1	9g	
	Bourne A/B ware, 12 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup> century	3	11g	
	Bourne C ware, 12 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup> century	1	11g	
037	Blue and white transfer printed tableware, 19 <sup>th</sup> century	1	9g	20 <sup>th</sup> century
	Cast iron saucepan, blue enamelled, 20 <sup>th</sup> century	1	330g	
	Stone roof tile, mortar adhering	1	31g	
	Handmade brick, 55mm thick, late post-medieval	2	680g	
	Clinker	1	19g	
	Cattle sized rib, sawn at both ends	1	31g	
046	Underglaze blue painted tableware, 19 <sup>th</sup> century	1	52g	19 <sup>th</sup> century
	Blue and white transfer printed tableware, 19 <sup>th</sup> century	1	36g	



	Blue glass moulded vase	1	81g	
061	Burnt clay/brick	1	43g	
062	?South Lincs. sandy ware, 10 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> century	2	25g	10 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> century
	Burnt clay	1	3g	
	Goat tibia	1	13g	
078	Glazed Red earthenware, 17 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup> century	1	8g	20 <sup>th</sup> century
	Handmade brick, post-medieval	1	37g	
	Ceramic drain, 20 <sup>th</sup> century	1	62g	
TOTAL		34	1602g	

#### Condition

Although some of the pieces are slightly abraded all the material is in good condition and present no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the collection is by material class.

#### Documentation

Numerous previous archaeological investigation have been undertaken at Spalding, including in very close proximity to the present site, and are subjects of reports. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

#### Potential

Although represented by only a small number of items, the medieval aspect of the assemblage is of moderate local potential and importance. It is noteworthy that all the medieval material derives from two deposits of the period, and not as redeposited artefacts. These two coherent contexts therefore signify medieval activity, of indeterminate nature but possibly settlement fringe, at the site.

The post-medieval material is perhaps of limited local potential. However, much of the material of this period dates to the 18<sup>th</sup> century and perhaps indicates occupation of the area at that time.

## Appendix 4

### GLOSSARY

<b>Anglo-Saxon</b>	Pertaining to the period when Britain was occupied by peoples from northern Germany, Denmark and adjacent areas. The period dates from approximately AD 450-1066.
<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 interpretation 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>Cut</b>	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.
<b>Domesday Survey</b>	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
<b>Fill</b>	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) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
<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 used 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>Natural</b>	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity
<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 1st century AD.
<b>Romano-British</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

## Appendix 5

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

86	Context records
3	Photographic record sheet
28	Sheets of scale drawings
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 Museum Accession Number:      LCNCC : 2001.34

Archaeological Project Services Site Code:                      SWMA01

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.

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.