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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
DURING DEVELOPMENT ON
PLOTS 8 & 9 DALLYGATE,
GREAT PONTON,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(GPA00)**

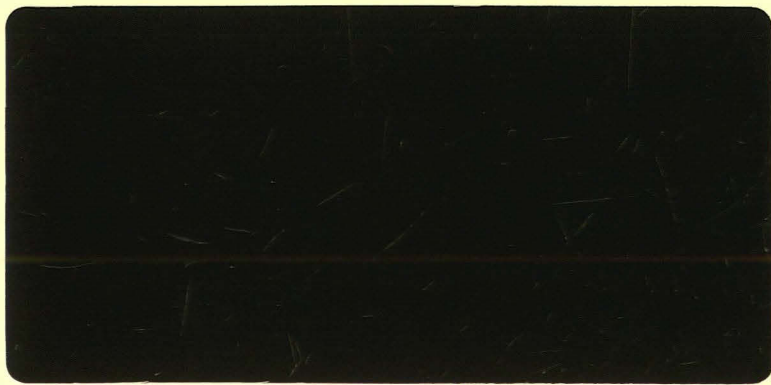


A P S
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SERVICES

Conservation
Services

14 JUN 2002

Highways & Planning
Directorate



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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
DURING DEVELOPMENT ON
PLOTS 8 & 9 DALLYGATE,
GREAT PONTON,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(GPA00)**

Work Undertaken For
Mr M. Cammies

May 2002

Report Compiled by
James Snee BSc (Hons)

Planning Application No. S99/1283/38
National Grid References: ~~TE~~ 926 304 SK
City and County Museum Accession No: LCNCC : 2000.148

A.P.S. Report No. 106/02



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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during construction of a pair of semi detached dwellings at Archers Way, Great Ponton, Lincolnshire. The site lies within the village core, close to the church and Manor house.

The investigations revealed a sequence of undated alluvial deposits, possibly associated with the nearby Cringle Brook. Modern features and deposits associated with demolished farm buildings formerly located on the site were also recorded.

Finds of animal bone and building material were recovered during this watching brief.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

A 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 on land or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed' (IFA 1997).

2.2 Planning Background

On the 12th July 2000 an archaeological watching brief was undertaken during groundworks associated with the erection of a pair of semi detached dwellings at Archers Way, Great Ponton, Lincolnshire.

A planning application (S99/1283/38) was submitted to South Kesteven District Council for the construction of a pair of semidetached houses, as part of a residential development. Permission was granted subject to a condition requiring a watching

brief.

Archaeological Services was commissioned by Mr M. Cammies to undertake the archaeological watching brief. The investigation was carried out in accordance with a specification produced by APS and approved by the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist (Appendix 1).

2.3 Topography and Geology

Great Ponton is situated 5km south of Grantham in South Kesteven District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site is located on the east side of Archers Way, near the centre of the village, at National Grid Reference SK 926 304. The site lies at about 69m OD on land sloping gently down to the east and overlooks the Cringle Brook, a tributary of the River Witham.

Local soils are Elmton 1 Association brashy, calcareous fine loamy soils developed over Jurassic limestone (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 179).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Evidence of prehistoric activity has been recorded in the area around Great Ponton. To the south of the village, Neolithic remains have been recovered which have been interpreted as a possible settlement (May 1976). There is also the report of a perforated stone axe-hammer of late Neolithic or early Bronze Age date found in the village, although the specific location is not known. To the north of the village is an undated cropmark representing a C-shaped enclosure, which may be prehistoric (Albone 2000).

Undated linear cropmarks have been identified to the east, and northwest of the village (Albone 2000).

Romano-British remains have been identified in the area around the village. Remains of a tessellated pavement, and reports of coins, urns, bricks, arches and vaults indicate the presence of a villa to the northeast of the village. The major Roman road of Ermine street passes 1.3km to the east of this villa and Great Ponton lies between two important Roman settlements of Saltersford to the north and Easton to the south (Albone 2000).

No archaeological evidence of Saxon activity as been identified at Great Ponton. The place name, however, is derived from Old English village (*tūn*) with an unknown first element, which strongly suggests a Saxon settlement was present (Cameron 1998, 97). The Domesday Survey of *c.* 1086 records three landowners; King William, Drogo of La Beuvriere and Countess Judith. The survey listed 6 mills in parish, these were probably located on the River Witham or the Cringle Brook. The population at the time was recorded as 13 villages, 5 smallholders and 12 freemen, giving the parish at least 30 households (Morris 1986).

Two medieval buildings survive at Great Ponton. The Holy Cross Church includes features dating from the 13th century and the manor house was built by Anthony Ellis, a Calais merchant, in the late 15th or early 16th century (Pevsner & Harris 1989). The population of the parish does not seem to have declined during the medieval and early post-medieval periods, as was the case in many rural parishes. In 1563 the diocesan return gives the population as 37 households (Hodgett 1975).

A number of post-medieval buildings of listed status are located close to Dallygate. At Church Farm to the north, is a 16th century limestone barn and a 17th century stable range. Several 18th century houses at Archers way, Dunkirk Cottage and North

Road Farmhouse are afforded listed status. To the north of the village, located on the River Witham is Mill Farm and watermill which are originally 18th century (Albone 2000).

3. AIMS

The aim of the watching brief, as set out in the specification (Appendix 1), was to record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the excavation of foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.

4. METHOD

Prior to the excavation of footings the site was stripped of topsoil and levelled. The strip footings were excavated by machine to a depth of 1.5m using a 0.7m wide toothed bucket. The base and sides of the footing trench were inspected and hand cleaned at intervals. The depth and thickness of each deposit was measured from the ground surface. Each deposit or feature was allocated a unique reference number (Context Number) with an individual written description. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and annotated sketch plans produced. A photographic record was compiled, depicting the setting of the site and the nature of recorded features and deposits. The spoil from the excavations was searched using a trowel to recover finds that may assist in the interpretation of the site.

5. RESULTS

The records of deposits excavated during development were examined. A list of contexts appears as Appendix 2. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits assisted by artefact dating where appropriate.

Phase 1	Undated Deposits
Phase 2	Modern Deposits

5.1 Phase 1: Undated Deposits

Throughout most of the investigation area the earliest deposit revealed was c. 1.06m of firm, dark greyish blue clay (007, 012, 018 & 025) which extended below the lower limit of excavation (Figures 5 & 6). On the northwest side of the footing (Figure 4) this was overlain by approximately 0.62m of firm, black silty clay (014) with moderate small stones (Figure 5). Overlying this was up to 0.65m of loose, light yellowish brown sandy gravel (013) with frequent large stones and pieces of sandstone.

Further south (Figure 4), undated clay (018) was overlain by up to 0.35m of loose, yellowish red stoney gravel (017) with patches of ruddy brown clayey silt and frequent small to large stones (Figure 6).

At the southern end of the footing a series of undated alluvial deposits probably represent sediments within an east-west oriented extinct river channel (Figure 5). The earliest of these was up to 0.13m of mid brownish grey sandy gravel (009) with frequent small to large stones, sealed by a 20mm thick layer of weakly cemented, black sandy stoney gravel (008). Above this was up to 0.22m of loose, dark grey sandy gravel (006), overlain by up to 0.29m of loose, orange sandy gravel (005) with frequent stones and wood fragments. Sealing these deposits was up to 0.18m of soft, dark grey-brown sandy clayey silt (004) with frequent twigs and wood fragments. The uppermost deposit was up to 0.39m of soft, mid brown silty clay (003) with frequent charcoal flecks, and occasional gravel and stones. Of these deposits, (003, 005 and 006) contained animal bone and a flint flake was also retrieved from (005).

5.2 Phase 2: Modern Deposits

In the centre of the footing (Figure 4), clay deposit (025) was cut by a steep sided, flat based cut (024) (Figure 6) containing a brick and mortar stanchion (022) which originally supported a timber post. This was sealed below 0.29m of loose, light yellowish brown gravelly silty sand (023), with frequent brick fragments and patches of clay. A short distance to the southwest (Figure 4), undated deposit (017) was cut by a post hole (019), containing the broken point of a modern post (5000) (Figure 6). The upper portion of the post hole had been filled with 0.12m of soft, light yellowish brown silt (021). Covering the top of the post hole, and sealing (021) was 0.43m of mixed reddish yellow and yellowish brown sandy gravel (015) with frequent small to large stones. Overlying this was 0.20m of loose, brown sandy silty clayey gravel (016) with frequent brick and mortar fragments.

On the west side of the footing (Figure 4) the undated alluvial deposits were sealed by 0.36m of friable, mid grey brown sandy silt (002 & 011) with occasional large stones, which was overlain by a layer of black tarmac (001 & 010) (Figure 5).

6. DISCUSSION

The undated (Phase 1) clays that formed the earliest deposits encountered, are not typical of the local soils. However, the presence of a series of alluvial deposits (003, 004, 005, 006, 008 & 009) at the south end of the site indicates the possible former presence of an east-west oriented river channel. It is therefore possible that the clays encountered were part of the bed of a stream, possibly a former tributary of the Cringle Brook, flowing towards the River Witham to the east. The dynamics of small streams are such that they can lay down a bed of alluvial

deposits much broader than the channel they flow through, and the shifting course of the channel will leave buried palaeo-channels containing a sequence of the more recent sediments.

Undated gravel deposits (013 & 017) probably represent levelling associated with farm buildings located in this part of the site. The modern (Phase 2) post (019 & 5000) and stanchion (024 & 022) are also related the remains of farm buildings, with rubble deposits (015, 016 & 023) resulting from demolition.

The latest deposits on the site formed a modern tarmac path.

Among the unstratified finds recovered from the site were a sherd of Romano-British pottery and a fragment of flue tile. It is suggested that these demonstrate the presence of Roman building in the general vicinity.

7. CONCLUSION

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during construction of a pair of semi-detached dwellings at Archers Way, Great Ponton, Lincolnshire. The site lies within the village core, close to the church and Manor house.

The investigations revealed a sequence of undated alluvial deposits, possibly indicating the course of a former tributary of the Cringle Brook. Modern features and deposits associated with demolished farm buildings located on the site were also recorded.

Finds of bone and building material were recovered from this development, and were mainly dated to the modern period. However, an unstratified sherd of Romano-British pottery and a fragment of flue tile suggest the

presence of Roman building in the general vicinity.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr M. Cammies who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Steve Malone and this report was edited by Dale Trimble and Tom Lane. Gail Smith, the Community Archaeologist for South Kesteven District Council, kindly permitted examination of the relevant parish files.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
Site Supervisor: Andrew Failes
Cad Illustration: Mark Dymond & James Snee
Photographic Reproduction: Sue Unsworth
Post Excavation Analyst: James Snee
Finds Supervisor: Denise Buckley

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

DoE Department of the Environment

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

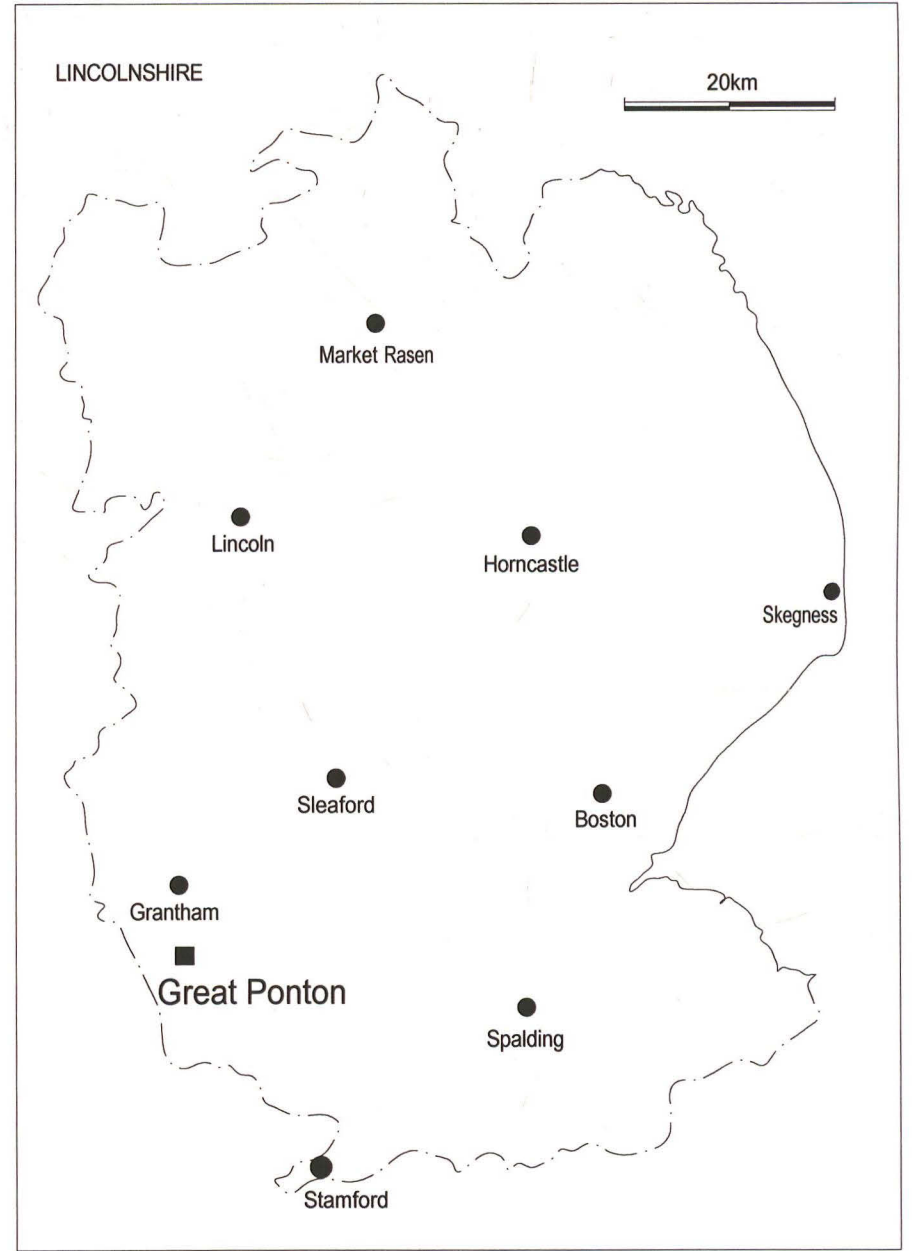
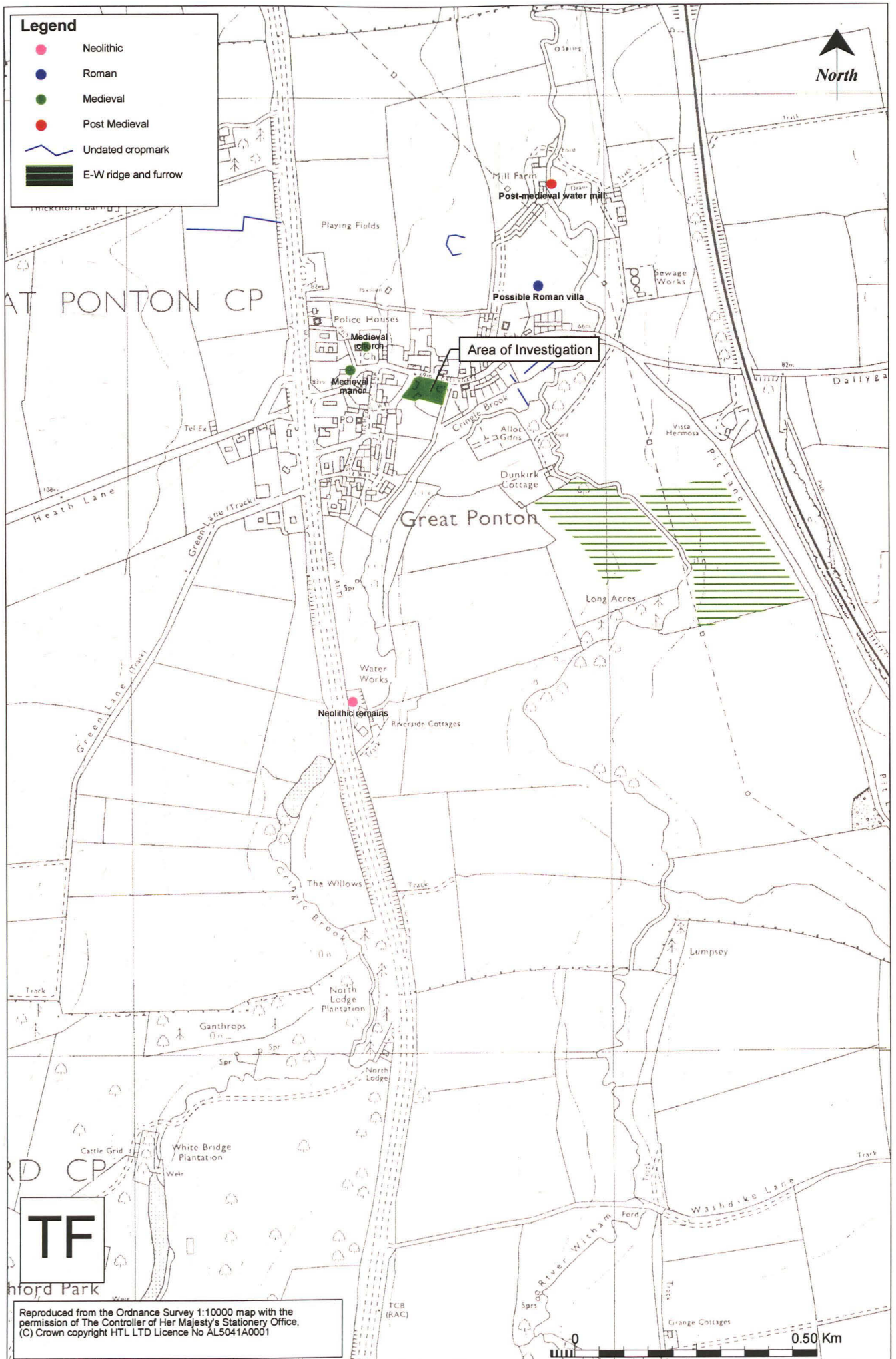


Figure 1 General Location Plan.



Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:10000 map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, (C) Crown copyright HTL LTD Licence No AL5041A0001

Figure 2 Known archaeological sites and finds within c.500m of the proposed development site

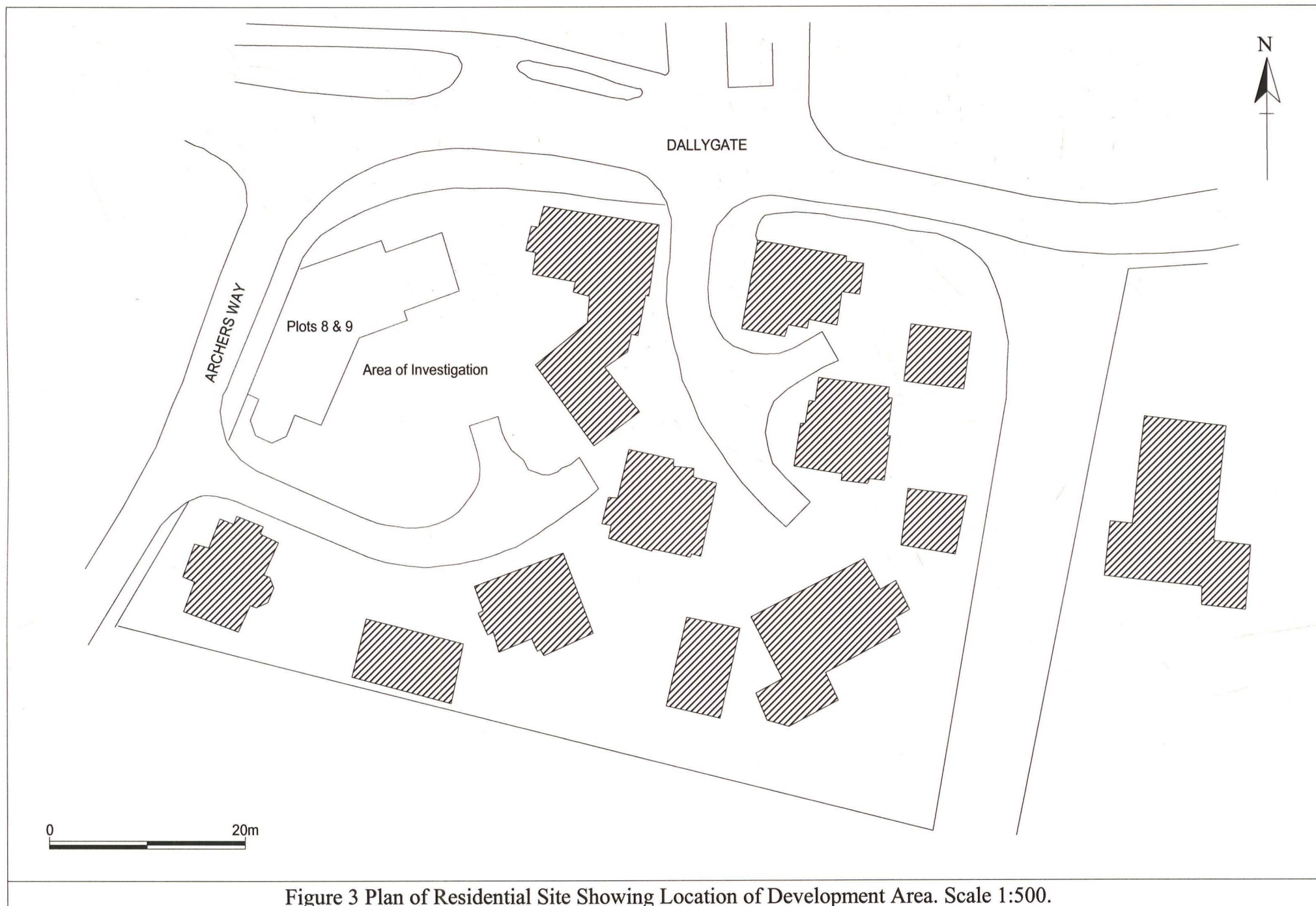


Figure 3 Plan of Residential Site Showing Location of Development Area. Scale 1:500.

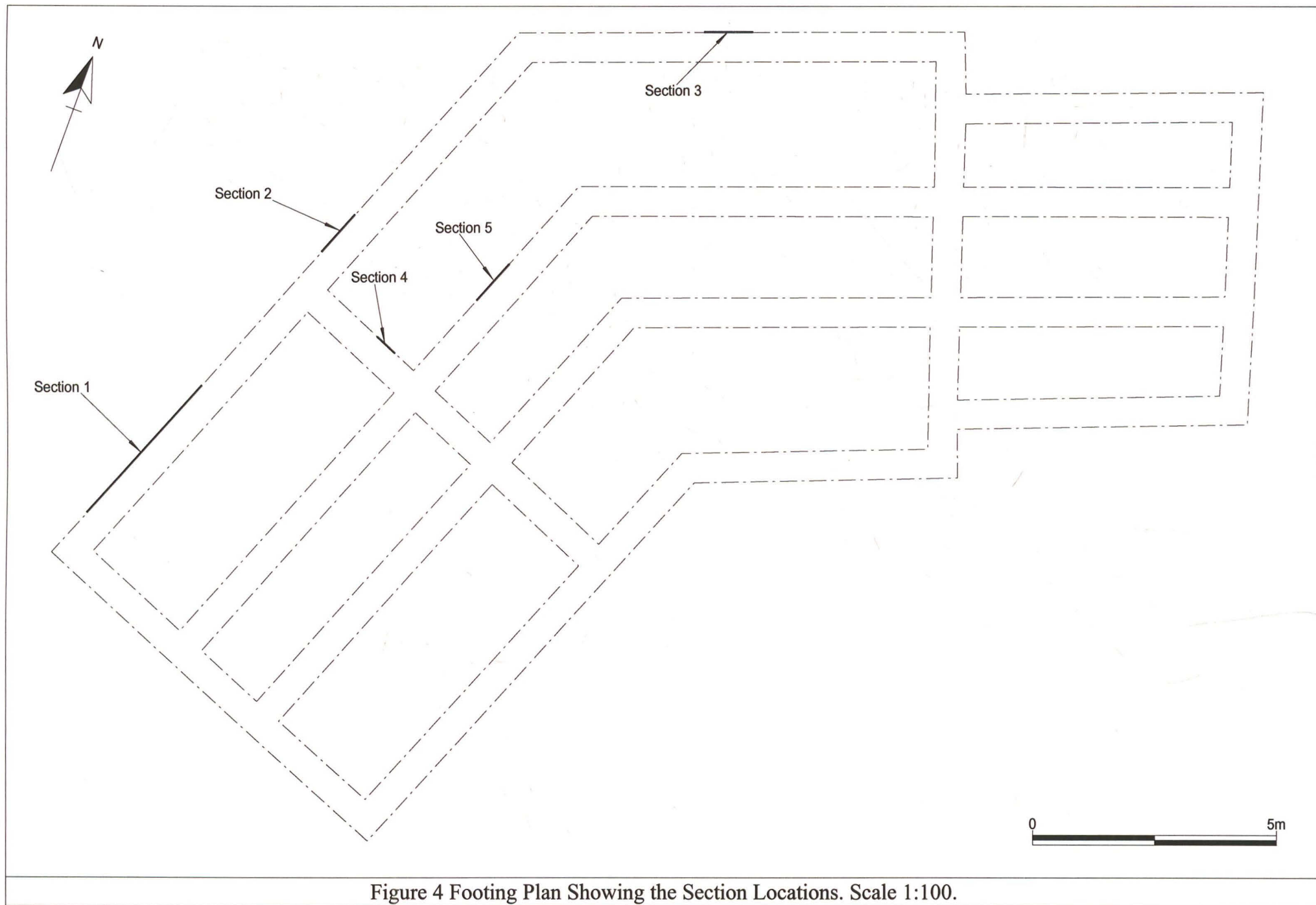


Figure 4 Footing Plan Showing the Section Locations. Scale 1:100.

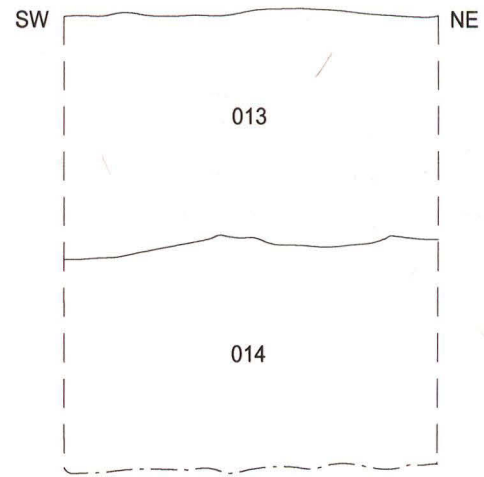
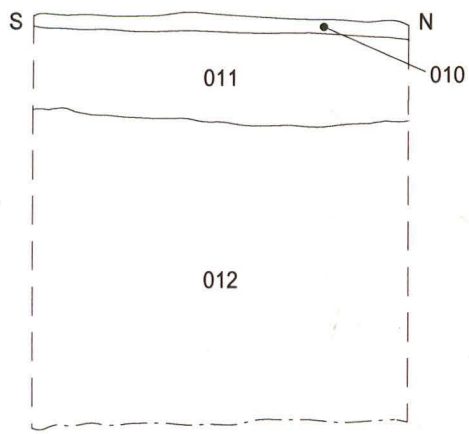
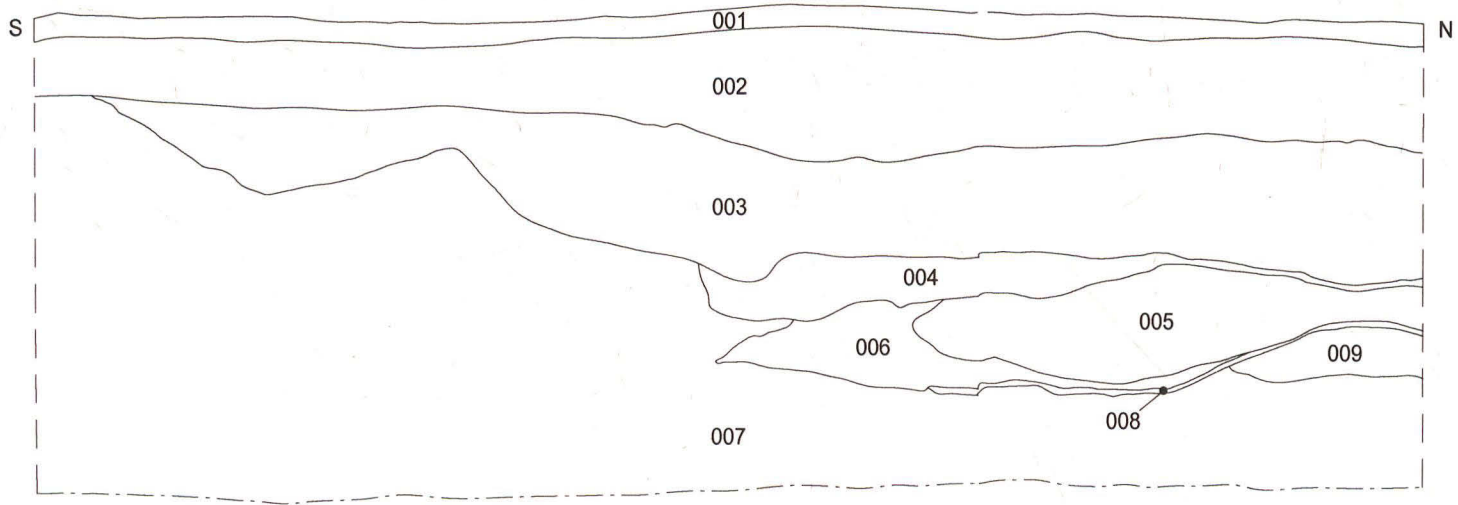
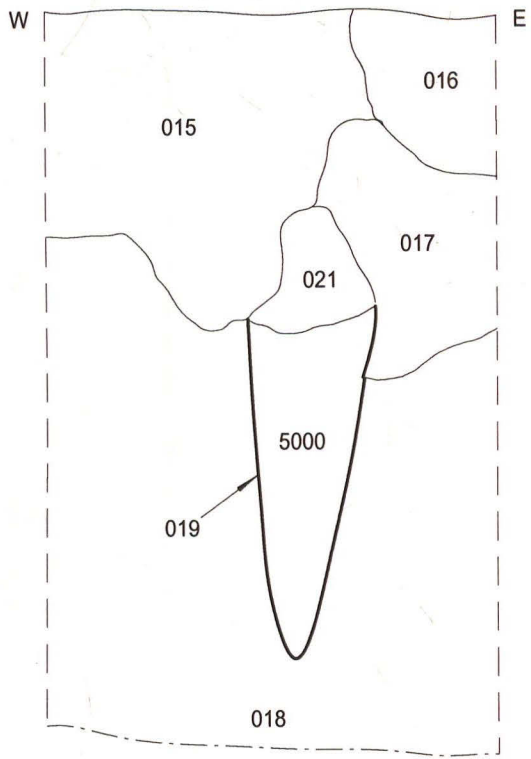
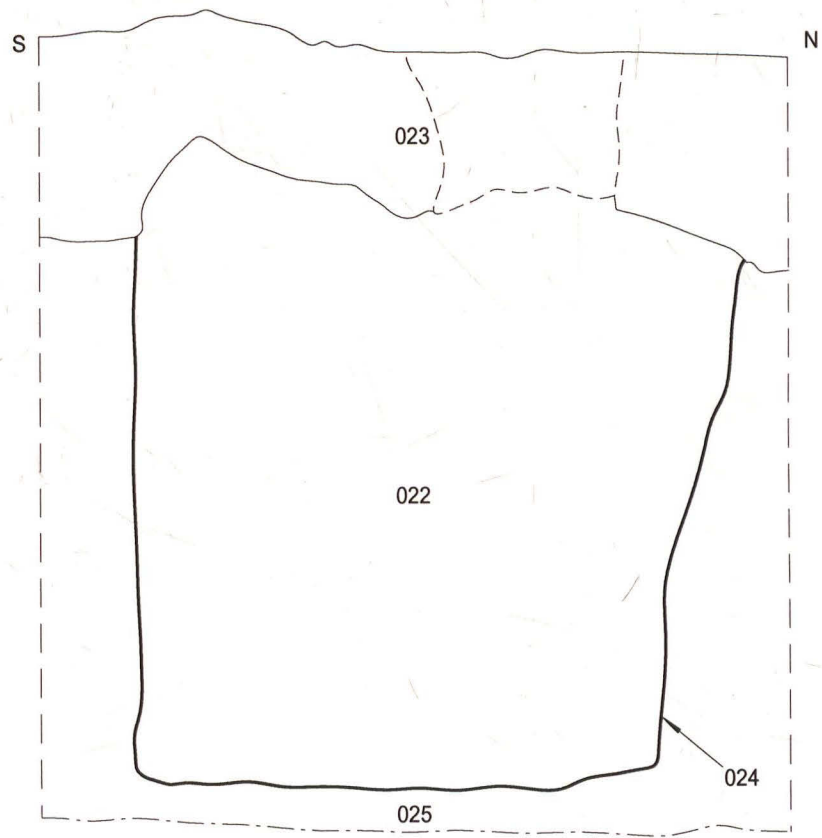


Figure 5 Sections 1 to 3. Scale 1:20.



Section 4 South Facing



Section 5 East Facing



Figure 6 Sections 4 and 5. Scale 1:10.



Plate 1 General view of site, looking north.



Plate 2 Section through undated alluvial deposits (section 1), looking west.



Plate 3 Section through modern post hole (019), looking north.

Appendix 1

**LAND AT
DALLYGATE,
GREAT PONTON,
LINCOLNSHIRE**

**SPECIFICATION FOR
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

**PREPARED FOR
HARNFIELD DEVELOPMENTS**

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

JUNE 2000

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1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during development at Dallygate, Great Ponton, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The site is in the medieval village core, close to the church and Manor House and there is potential for Late Saxon and medieval remains to be revealed.*
- 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 Dallygate, Great Ponton, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference SK 926 304.
- 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 Great Ponton is located 5km south of Grantham in the South Kesteven district of Lincolnshire. The works are to take place on the south side of Dallygate, near the centre of the village, at National Grid Reference SK 926 304.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Planning applications (S98/1181/38 and S98/1182/38) were submitted to South Kesteven District Council for proposed residential development, consisting of 10 houses. Three plots within the development were sold separately and are subject

to conditions requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief during groundworks (S00/0093/38 and S00/1283/38).

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The site is on a gentle slope down to the east and lies at approximately 69m OD overlooking the Cringle Brook, a tributary of the River Witham. Local soils are the Elmton 1 Association brashy, calcareous fine loamy soils developed on Jurassic limestone (Hodge *et al.* 1984 179).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Evidence of prehistoric settlement, or possibly funerary activity, in the form of pottery, flint tools and human bone, has been revealed *c.* 700m south of the development site. A prehistoric stone axe-hammer has also been found in the parish.
- 6.2 A Roman villa is located 300m northeast of the development. The major Roman road, Ermine Street, is about 1.5km to the east and two large Roman settlements occur a few kilometres to north and south of the development.
- 6.3 The place-name Ponton suggests an Anglo-Saxon origin for the settlement and the parish was referred to in the Domesday Survey of 1086, indicating it was in existence in the Late Saxon period. Domesday records 6 mills, probably located on the river or Cringle Brook, in the parish. The parish church, dating from the 13th century, and the 15th/16th century Manor House are both located close to the development area. Various 16th-18th buildings of listed status are also located nearby.

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 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.

8.2.3 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:

8.2.4.1 the site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.

8.2.4.2 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:
- 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 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 South Kesteven Community Archaeologist; South Kesteven 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 South Kesteven Community Archaeologist. 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 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 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, 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
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

Hodge, CAH, Burton, RGO, Corbett, WM, Evans, R, and Seale, RS, 1984 Soils and their use in Eastern England, Soil Survey of England and Wales 13

Specification: Version 1, 15-06-00

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTION

CONTEXT	SECTION	DESCRIPTION	INTERPRETATION
001	1,2	Indurated black tarmac.	Surface layer of adjacent path.
002	1,2	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt, up to 0.36m thick in section, occasional large stones.	Make up layer for 001.
003	1	Soft mid brown silty clay, up to 0.39m thick in section, frequent charcoal flecks, occasional gravel, occasional stones.	Alluvial deposit.
004	1	Soft dark grey-brown sandy clayey silt, up to 0.18m thick in section, frequent twigs and pieces of wood.	Alluvial deposit.
005	1	Loose orange gravel, up to 0.29m thick in section, frequent stones, frequent pieces of wood.	Alluvial deposit.
006	1	Loose dark grey sandy gravel, up to 0.22m thick in section, frequent small to large stones.	Alluvial deposit.
007	1	Firm dark greyish blue clay, seen throughout the whole of the plot, up to 1.06m thick in section.	Clay layer.
008	1	Weakly cemented black sandy stoney gravel, up to 20mm thick in section.	Gravel layer.
009	1	Mid brownish grey sandy gravel, up to 0.13m in section, frequent small to large stones.	Alluvial deposit.
010	2	Indurated black tarmac.	Surface layer of adjacent path.
011	2	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt, up to 0.26m thick in section, occasional large stones.	Make up layer for 010.
012	2	Firm dark greyish blue clay, up to 0.86m in section.	Clay layer.
013	3	Loose light yellowish brown sandy gravel, up to 0.65m thick in section, frequent large rocks and pieces of sandstone,	Levelling deposit.
014	3	Firm black silty clay, up to 0.62m thick in section, moderate small stones.	Clay layer.
015	4	Loose mix of reddish yellow and yellowish brown sandy gravel, up to 0.43m thick in section, frequent small to large stone, with some silt.	Rubble deposit.
016	4	Loose brownish mix of sandy silty clayey gravel, up to 0.20m thick in section, frequent CBM fragments and whole bricks, frequent mortar fragments.	Rubble deposit.
017	4	Loose orange stoney gravel, with bits of firm ruddy brown clayey silt, up to 0.35m thick in section, frequent small to large rocks.	Levelling deposit.

CONTEXT	SECTION	DESCRIPTION	INTERPRETATION
018	4	Firm dark greyish blue clay, up to 0.67m thick in section.	Clay layer.
019	4	Post hole cut with a tapered point, filled by 021, and 5000. Up to 0.14m diameter seen.	Post hole.
020	-	VOID	
021	4	Soft light yellowish brown silt with small amount of clay, up to 0.12m thick in section.	Fill of (019)
022	5	Brick structure with broken brick and mortar surrounding, before it was removed it held a post.	Stanchion for post.
023	5	Loose light yellowish brown gravelly silty sand, up to 0.29m thick in section, frequent brick fragments and lumps of clay.	Rubble deposit.
024	5	0.86m deep x 0.80 wide cut with vertical sides and flat base.	Cut for stanchion (022).
025	5	Firm dark greyish blue clay, up to 0.79m thick in section.	Clay layer.
5000	4	Post with tapered base, 0.15m diameter seen.	Modern post.

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

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

Recording of the pottery was undertaken with reference to guidelines prepared by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (Slowikowski *et al.* 2001) and the pottery was quantified using the chronology and coding system of the Lincolnshire ceramic type series. A single fragment of pottery weighing 25g was recovered. In addition to the pottery, other items, tile, glass and stone, comprising 6 items weighing a total of 810g, was retrieved. Faunal remains were also recovered.

Provenance

The material was recovered from alluvial layers (003), (005) and (006), and clay layer (007). A number of unstratified finds were also collected and allocated to context (026).

The single piece of pottery was made in moderate proximity to Great Ponton, in the Nene Valley near Peterborough 35km to the southeast. The tile fragments are probably all products of the general Great Ponton/Grantham area. Although Roman tiles were made in kilns at Heckington, 26km to the northeast, the fabric of this piece differs from known Heckington products and thus is from a different source.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

A single fragment of prehistoric flint is the earliest material recovered.

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
005		Flint, waste flake	1	4g	Prehistoric
007		Burnt stone	2 (link)	364g	
026	NVCC	Nene Valley colour-coated ware, shallow dish, 3 rd -4 th century	1	25g	19 th century
		Keyed flue tile, Romano-British	1	218g	
		Pantile, separate items, 18 th -19 th century	2	176g	
		Glass, Hamilton bottle fragment, 19 th century	1	48g	

The piece of flint from (005) is a waste flake and has patination over most of the surfaces and chip-scars.

Both of the Roman artefacts are fresh and unabraded. The tile bears traces of mortar and possible sooting internally, indicating it was used. Flue tile was employed in the ducting of hot air from underfloor heating systems in Roman buildings. This piece of tile therefore suggests the presence of a Roman building of this type in the general vicinity. The fragment of Nene Valley ware pottery further indicates a Romano-British presence in the vicinity.

Table 2: The Animal Bone

Context	Species	Bone	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
003	cattle sized	?scapula	1	6	Small fragment only
005	pig sheep cattle sized sheep sized unidentified	mandible	1	220	Right side present of adult Very worn
		molar	1	8	
		scapula	1	90	
		rib	1	50	
		unknown	1	5	
006	cattle cattle sized	molar	1	24	
		unknown	1	22	
026	sheep sized unidentified	radius	1	24	Rodent gnawing present
		unknown	1	4	

Condition

All the material is in good condition and present no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the collection is by material class.

Documentation

There have been few previous archaeological investigations at Great Ponton, though examination of adjacent development yielded post-medieval artefacts comparable with those from the current monitoring, though lacked any Romano-British material as retrieved in the current investigation (Hall and Taylor forthcoming). Additionally, a desk-based survey of the archaeological and historical evidence for the current development site was previously produced. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

Although only a limited quantity was recovered, the Romano-British aspect of the collection is of moderate-high local significance. These indicate the existence of a Romano-British building somewhere in the general vicinity. However, the limited quantity of artefacts of this period would tend to suggest that this was not in the immediate proximity of the development site.

The flint flake is of moderate local potential and points to some indeterminate prehistoric activity in the general area.

The post-medieval tile fragments are of limited local potential. Corresponding pieces were found on adjacent development and indicate the presence of buildings of the period in the area, or the proximity.

The absence of any material dating between the Roman and post-medieval periods is informative and suggests that the site was abandoned at this time.

References

Hall, R. and Taylor, G., 2002 'The Finds', in J. Snee, *Archaeological Watching Brief during Development on Plots 3 & 4 Dallygate, Great Ponton, Lincolnshire (DGP00)*, unpublished Archaeological Project Services report no. 105/02

Slowikowski, A., Nenk, B. and Pearce, J., 2001 *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2

Appendix 4

GLOSSARY

Anglo-Saxon	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.
Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and 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].
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Domesday Survey	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Layer	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.

Appendix 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

26	-	Context records
1	-	Photographic record sheets
3	-	Drawing sheets
1	-	Stratigraphic matrix
1	-	Bag 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 Council Museum Accession Number: LCNCC : 2000.148

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: GPA 00

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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