

M2/16



**Results of an Archaeological Watching Brief:
Construction of six bungalows
Godsey's Lane, Market Deeping, Lincolnshire**

NGR TF 1395 1080
Planning Reference: S01/0976/56

prepared by

John Samuels Archaeological Consultants

on behalf of

Morris Homes Ltd.
9 Glaisdale Drive (East)
Bilborough
Nottingham
NG8 4GU

JSAC 884/02/02
May 2002

Site Code : GLM01
Accession No. :2001.409



THE MANOR SOUTH STEET NORMANTON-ON-TRENT NEWARK NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NG23 6RQ
TELEPHONE 01636 821727 FAX 01636 822080 E-MAIL jsac@btconnect.com



Certificate Number 1967/99

EVENT L13152 L181533
SOURCE L17879 35351 Prehist
47880 1183002 20m
35669 updated

Results of an Archaeological Watching Brief: L183009
Godsey's Lane, Market Deeping, Lincolnshire
Planning Reference: S01/0976/56 35670

**Results of an Archaeological Watching Brief:
Godsey's Lane, Market Deeping, Lincolnshire
Planning Reference: S01/0976/56**

NGR TF 1395 1080

Contents

Summary1
1.0 Introduction2
2.0 Archaeological Background3
3.0 Aims3
4.0 Methodology and Results4
5.0 Discussion and conclusions5
6.0 Figures6
7.0 Plates7
8.0 Bibliography8
Appendix A: Context Summary9
Appendix B: Finds Summary10

Summary

Morris Homes Ltd. were granted planning permission to construct 6 bungalows on land to the east of Godsey's Lane, Market Deeping (centred on NGR TF 1395 1080). A condition of the planning permission required that a watching brief should be carried out during ground works associated with development.

A specification for the watching brief was prepared by John Samuels Archaeological Consultants and approved by the Community Archaeologist, South Kesteven District Council (SKDC) prior to groundworks commencing on site. The site had previously been used as a surplus soil dump from adjacent development, of which the majority was removed before groundworks commenced.

Monitoring of groundworks recorded two ditches containing 2nd-3rd century Roman pottery, an undated pit and a possible palaeochannel. The alignment of these features suggests that they continue onto land to the south and north as shown on aerial photographs for the immediate area.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Site location and description

- 1.1.1 Market Deeping is located 11km to the east of Stamford and 13km to the north of Peterborough. The site is located on the northern side of Market Deeping centred on NGR TF 1395 1080 at a height of 6m AOD (see Figures 1 and 2).
- 1.1.2 The site covers 0.32ha of level land to the east of Godsey's Lane and is bounded on the east and south side by agricultural land and to the north, recent residential development undertaken by Morris Homes Ltd. (previously Allen Homes) exists. The current development is a continuation of the larger recent development known as Swallows Reach.
- 1.1.3 Soils at the site are Badsey 2 Association comprising well drained calcareous fine loamy soils over limestone gravel. These overlie a geology of river terrace and lacustrine gravels (SSEW 1983).

1.2 Planning Background

- 1.2.1 Morris Homes Ltd. applied for planning permission from South Kesteven District Council to construct 6 bungalows (Planning Ref.: S01/0976/56). The presence of archaeological material, recorded near to the application area, promoted the Community Archaeologist, South Kesteven District Council to recommend that a watching brief be maintained during groundworks during development on the site. This was attached as a condition on the planning permission (Condition 6).
- 1.2.2 *John Samuels Archaeological Consultants* were commissioned by Morris Homes Ltd. to undertake the archaeological watching brief. A specification was prepared (*JSAC 884/01/01*) and approved by the Community Archaeologist (SKDC), prior to groundworks commencing.
- 1.2.3 The watching brief report is based on the requirements of *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 : Archaeology and Planning* (DoE, 1990). The watching brief was carried out in accordance with current best archaeological practice and the appropriate national and regional standards and guidelines, including:
Archaeology Handbook (Lincolnshire County Council 1998);
Code of Conduct (IFA 1997)
Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1994; rev. 1999); and
Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage, 1991).
- 1.2.4 The watching brief was undertaken by Jenny Young BA (Hons), MA, AIFA and Dan Slatcher BA, MA, MIFA during December 2001 with ground conditions generally dry. This report was written by Jenny Young in consultation with Dan Slatcher BA, MA, MIFA

2.0 Archaeological Background

- 2.1 Undated archaeological features have been recorded quite close to and within the development site. Linear ditches and trackways have been plotted by the Royal Commission from aerial photographs (Fig. 3) and these features are likely to represent both agricultural and settlement activity. Further indications of settlement in the form of enclosures, field systems and ring ditches have been recorded to the north and west of the site (SK 56.100, 56.105, 56.106, 56.107, 56.108, 56.109, 56.110; see Fig 3). An undated pond which has since been built over, has been recorded approximately 100m to the northwest of the study site (SMR 33454).
- 2.2 A Bronze Age cinerary urn and cremation located approximately 600m to the east of the study site are the earliest archaeological remains recorded (SK25.02). More recent archaeological evaluation followed by excavation along the route of the Market Deeping bypass prior to construction has confirmed the presence of archaeological remains comprising a Bronze Age barrow (A15/A16 roundabout), Roman enclosure (west of Market Deeping) and Iron Age/Roman settlement and multi-period burials to the southwest of Market Deeping (Cope-Faulkner & Trimble 1999).
- 2.3 The route of the Car Dyke to the north of the site was partially assessed during a watching brief when the remains of the eastern bank of the Car Dyke were revealed and recorded during trenching (Casa & Wood 1997).
- 2.4 The village cross (SK 56.60) has been recorded approximately 600m to the west of the study area and Saxon sculptural stonework (SK56.61) has been recorded 500m to the southwest at the site of St. Guthlacs Church (SK 56.66) The Old Rectory on Church Street dates from the 14th century and is thought to be the site of a priory of Crowland Abbey (SK 56.62).
- 2.5 Watching briefs undertaken to the west of the development site have recorded undated ditches (Taylor & Walker 1996; Cope-Faulkner 1999). A watching brief conducted at Towngate Farm revealed that 18th century farmyard surfaces had impacted on underlying deposits (Mills 1999). An archaeological desk-based assessment and field walking exercise was undertaken along the route of a water pipeline on Towngate East). Fieldwalking of the route failed to identify any artefactual remains (LAS 1998).

3.0 Aims

- 3.1 An archaeological watching brief has been defined as '*a programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons within a specified area or site...where there is the possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive*' (IFA, 1994).
- 3.2 The aims of the watching brief were:
 - a) to determine the presence or otherwise of buried remains of archaeological interest within the development area;
 - b) to preserve by record any archaeological remains within the development area where they may not be left *in situ*
 - c) to attempt a reconstruction of the history and use of the site.

4.0 Methodology and Results

- 4.1 A continuous archaeological watching brief was maintained during groundworks connected with the construction of six bungalows within the area shown on Figures 1 and 2. Strip foundations were the preferred method of construction and were excavated to a maximum depth of 1.6m and a width of 0.8m. Excavation commenced on the eastern extent of the site (Plot 1) and continued on a westerly basis through Plots 2, 3, 4 & 6 with Plot 5 being the last to be completed. No archaeological finds or features were recorded within Plots 3, 4 and 6.
- 4.2 The site had previously been used as a surplus soil dump for adjacent development. Prior to groundworks commencing, the majority of the surplus soil had been removed and the remainder levelled out. For this reason, there was a disturbed layer (001) of approximately 0.5m in depth across the site, which was created during and after dumping. This deposit sealed a 0.4m thick layer of mid grey silty clay comprising topsoil (002). All archaeological features were recorded immediately below the topsoil.
- 4.3 During excavation for Plot 1, on the eastern extent of the site, a pit [005] with concave sides and a flattish base was revealed (see Figure 4 for section and location). It extended to a width of 2m and a depth of 1m below the topsoil and cut through the subsoil (003). The fill was a slightly greenish grey silty clay (006), which contained no archaeological finds.
- 4.4 Excavation for Plot 2 revealed a north-south aligned ditch [008] with gently sloping sides cutting through the subsoil (003) (Figure 5). It was not bottomed and the remainder is preserved in-situ. The upper fill of this feature comprised a mid grey silty clay with occasional pebble flint (007). One sherd of shell-gritted pottery of 2nd-3rd century AD date was retrieved from this deposit. This feature was recorded across Plot 3 and is thought to extend into land to the north and south of the site.
- 4.5 Two ditches and a palaeochannel were recorded during excavations for Plot 5. A northeast-southwest aligned ditch [010] with gently sloping sides and a concave base was recorded cutting through the subsoil (Figure 6). This ditch was recorded across Plot 5 but was not recorded during excavation for Plot 4. Projection of the alignment of this ditch would suggest that it was immediately south of Plot 4.
- 4.6 Butting up to this feature, a further boundary ditch was recorded [012] on a north-south alignment (Figure 7). This ditch is quite substantial, being approximately 3m wide and extending further than the limit of excavation. A single sherd of Nene Valley Greyware pottery of 2nd-3rd century AD date was retrieved from (011), the fill of the ditch.
- 4.7 A possible northeast-southwest palaeochannel was also recorded during excavations for Plot 5. Although the exact stratigraphical sequence was not established, it considered most likely to have been cut by the Roman ditch [010]. The fill of the palaeochannel was very similar to the subsoil with the only differential between the two, being the darker orange colour of the subsoil.
- 4.8 All archaeological features had been excavated through a layer of subsoil (003) comprising a mid orange silty clay which varied in depth across the site. At the western side of the site, its depth was 0.2m but towards the eastern edge of the site, it extended to a thickness of 0.6m.
- 4.9 Immediately below the subsoil and representing the earliest deposits encountered, were the

natural sands and gravel (004) typical of the area (Badsey 2 Association). These soils are naturally well draining and therefore percolating groundwater was not present.

5.0 Discussion and conclusions

- 5.1 The archaeological watching brief undertaken during groundworks associated with six house plots on land east of Godsey's Lane, Market Deeping recorded two Roman ditches, a palaeochannel and an undated pit. The presence of such features is not surprising given the fact that linear and enclosure features are recorded on and adjacent to the site. The watching brief has confirmed that not only do these features exist but also established their likely date. It is considered likely that the linear features recorded during the watching brief, extend into land to the north and south.
- 5.2 The location of the site, adjacent to the Car Dyke, would suggest that these ditches may also be associated with this major Roman navigation/transport system. However, it is not currently known what the relationship may be, if any. It seems more likely that the features recorded during the watching brief represent Roman enclosures or boundaries associated with rural settlement.
- 5.3 The Car Dyke is a substantial earthwork and it was expected that a bank produced by upcast from its excavation, may have been encountered during the watching brief. However, no clear indication of the presence of a bank was recorded during the watching brief. This may be due to post-excitation levelling out/ploughing of the site or the bank may have been absent on the eastern seaward side of the Car Dyke.
- 5.4 In conclusion, the archaeological watching brief recorded ditches, which are thought to date from the Roman period. The purpose of these ditches is not fully understood, but are likely to be indicative of land division or drainage in a rural landscape.

6.0 Figures

Figure 1. Site location

Figure 2. The site in more detail

Figure 3. Development plan illustrating the projected alignment of archaeological features encountered

Figure 4. SMR Distribution plot illustrating the recorded cropmarks in the area

Figure 5. Plot 1 – section and plan

Figure 6. Plot 2 – section and plan

Figure 7. Plot 5 – [010]

Figure 8. Plot 5 – [012]

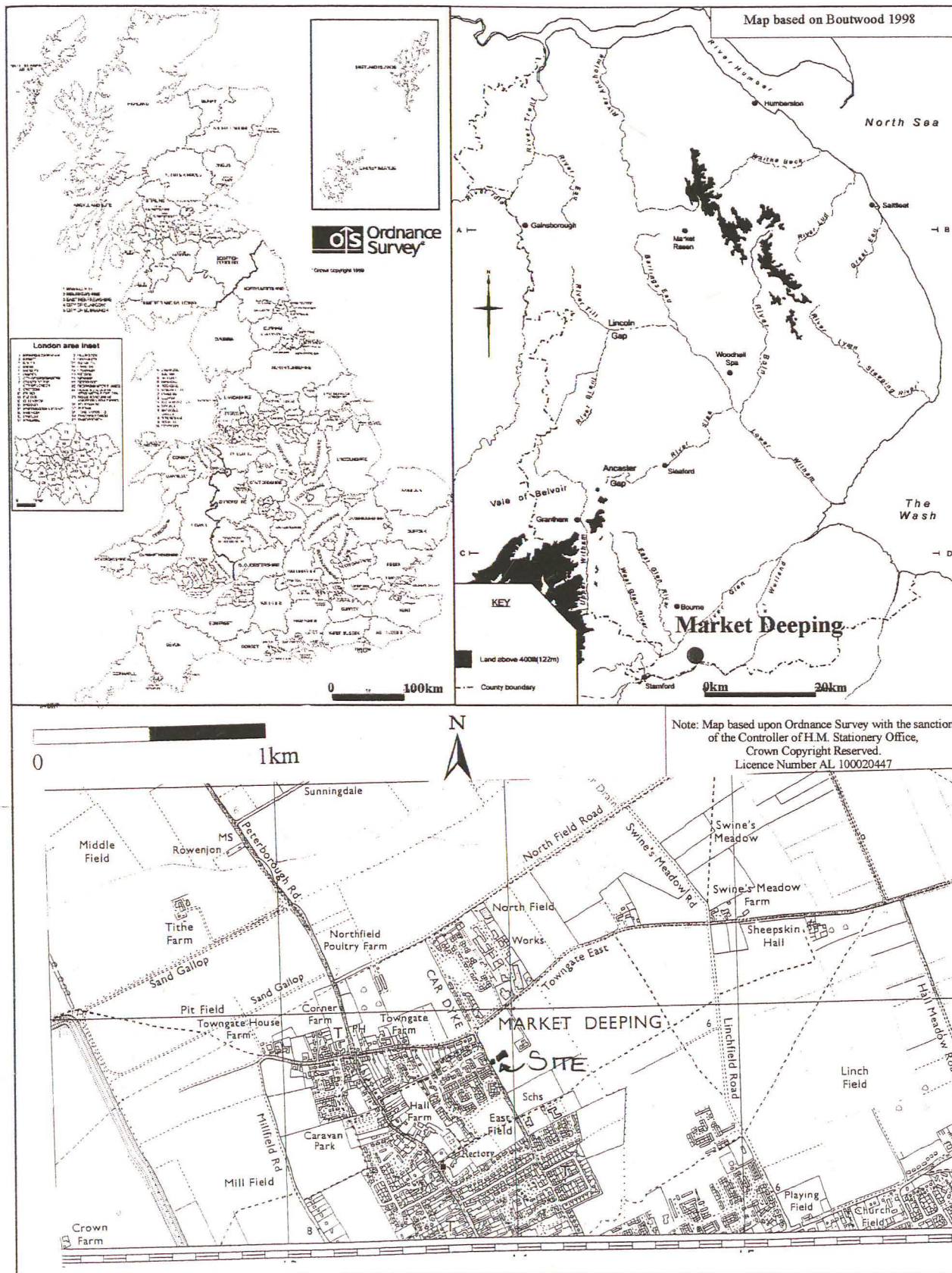


Figure 1. Site location

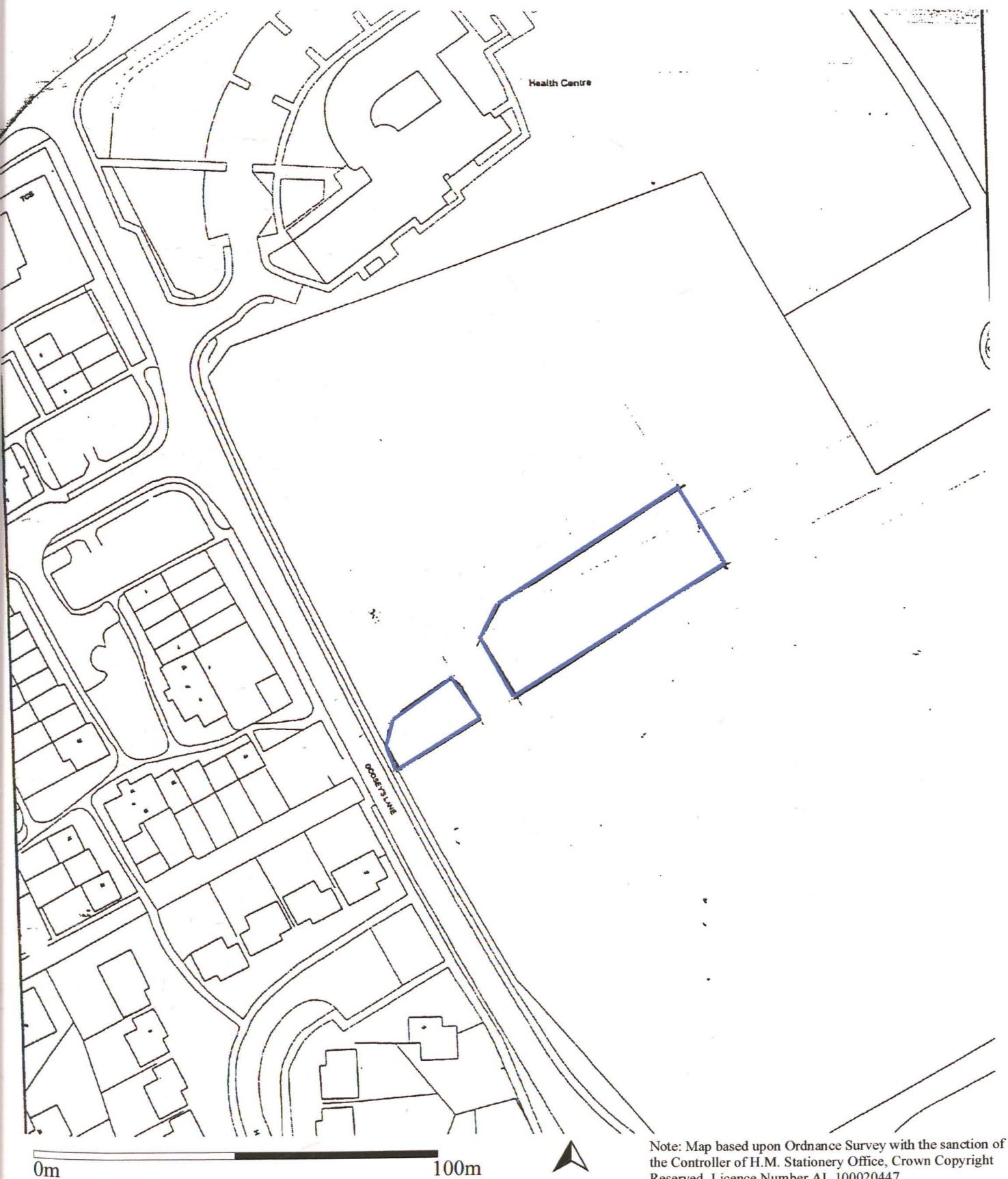


Figure 2. The site in more detail

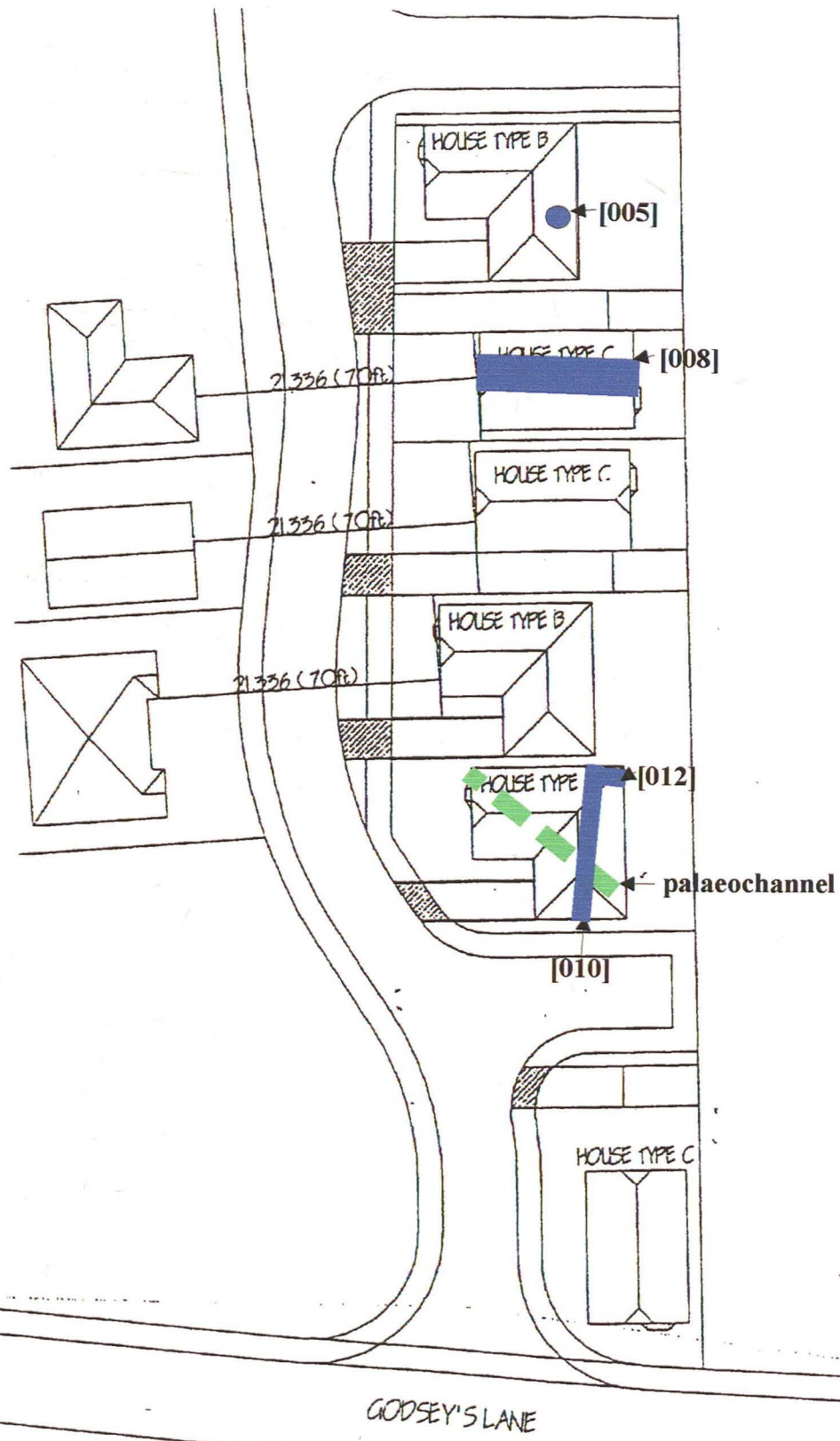
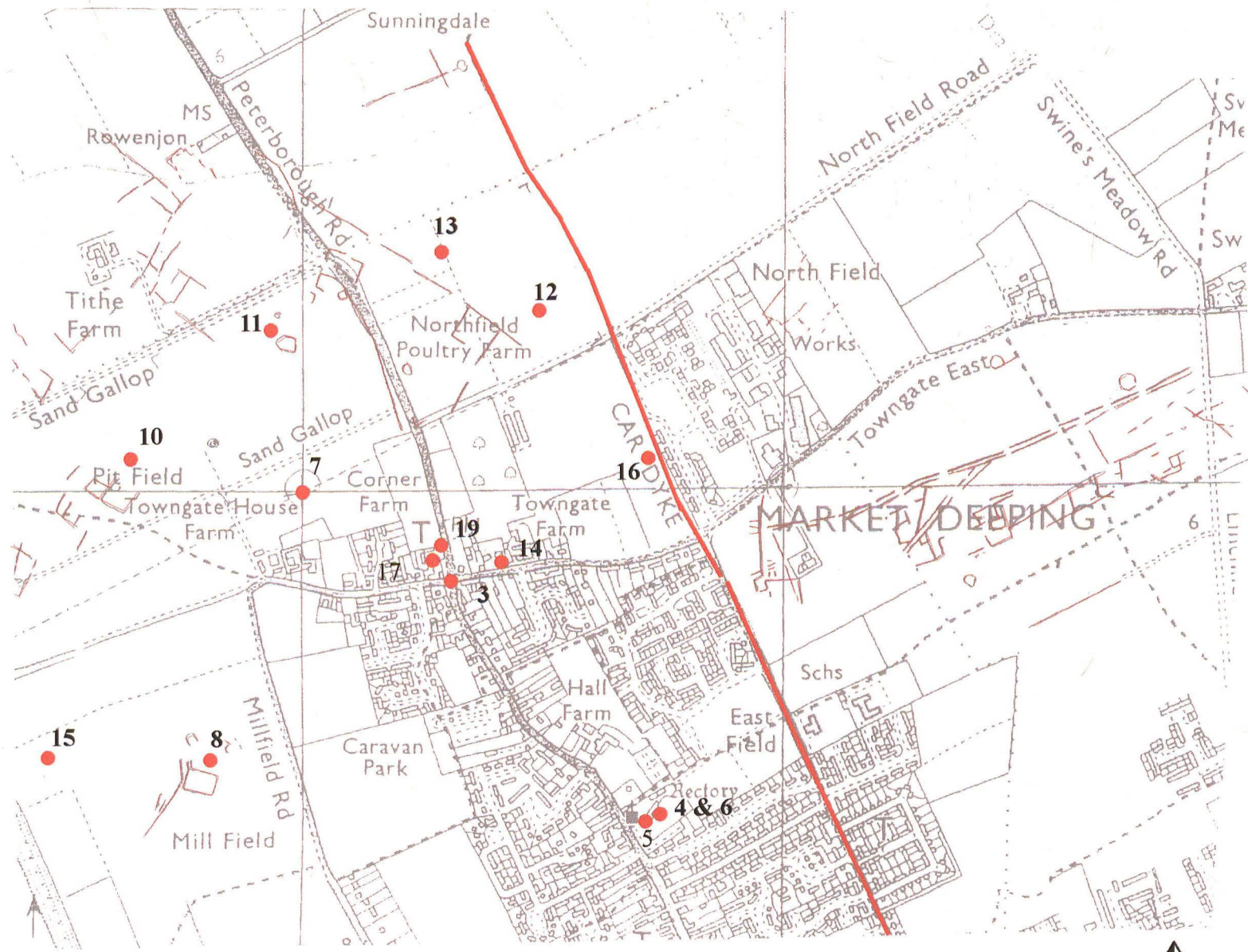


Figure 3. Development plan illustrating the projected alignment of archaeological features encountered



Note: Map based upon Ordnance Survey with the sanction of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office, Crown Copyright Reserved. Licence Number AL 100020447



Figure 4. SMR and RCHME Cropmark plot

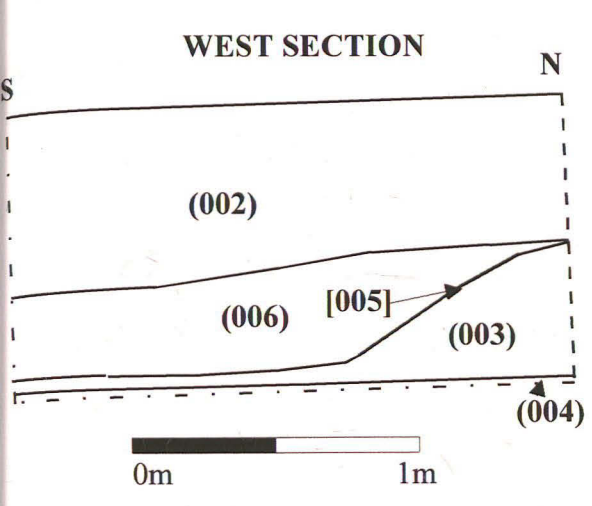
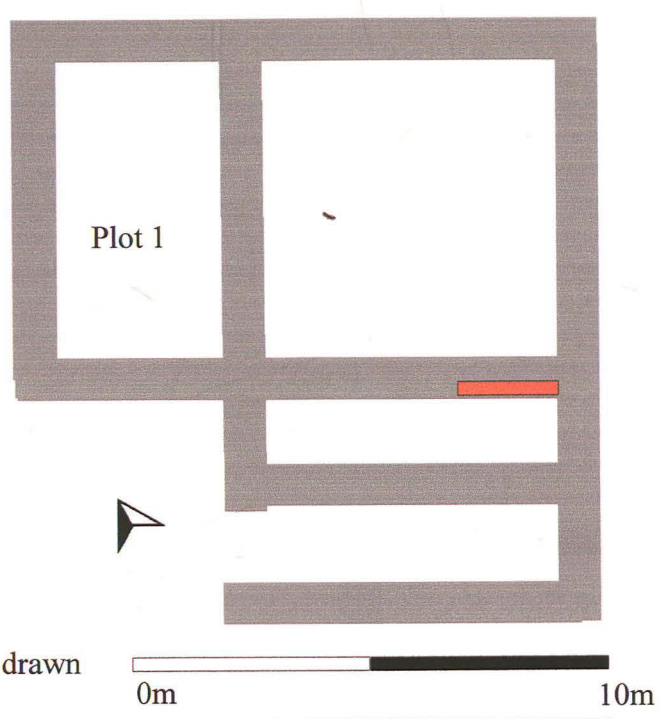


Figure 5. Plot 1 - section and plan



— = section drawn

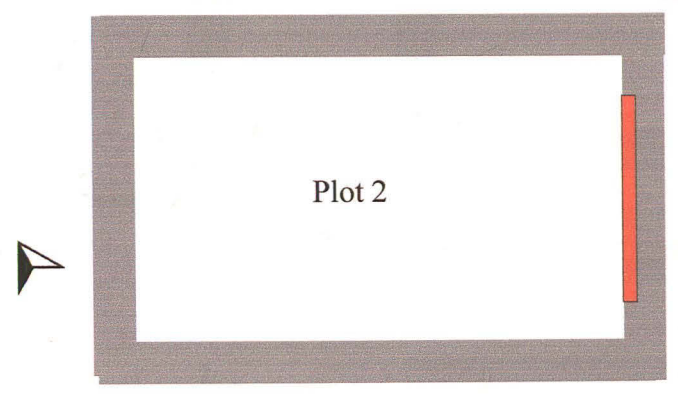
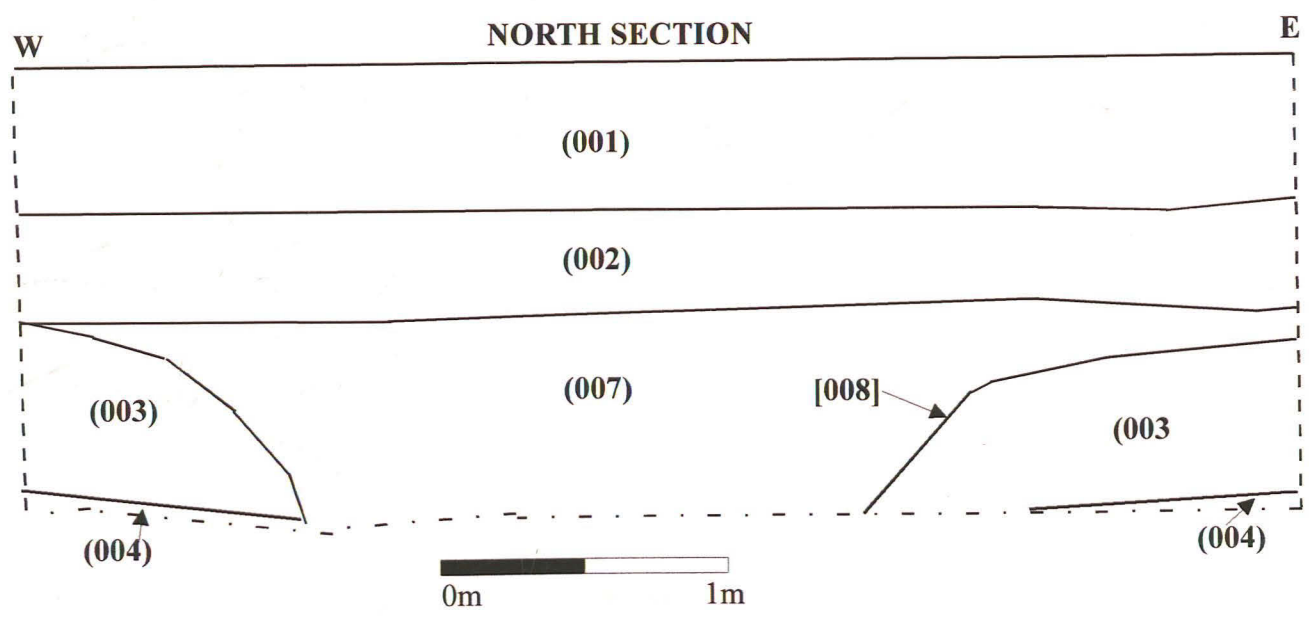


Figure 6. Plot 2 - section and plan



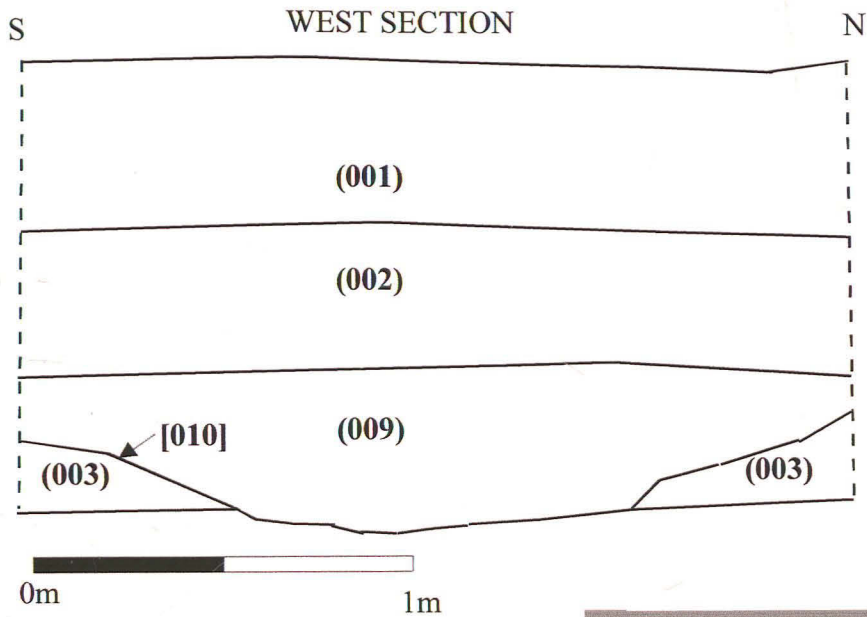
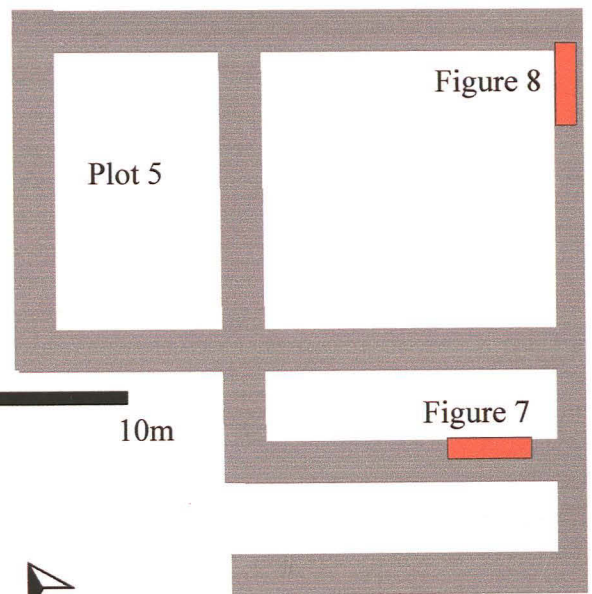


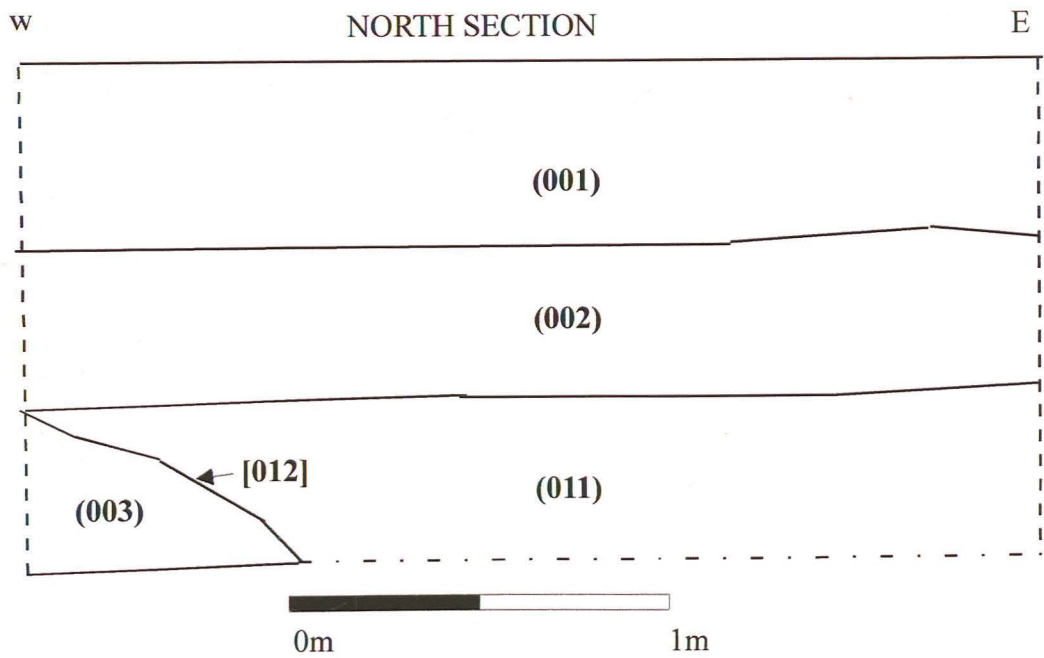
Figure 7. Plot 5 - [010]



— = section drawn



Figure 8. Plot 5 - [012]



7.0 Plates

Plate 1. Site prior to groundworks

Plate 2. Pit [005]

Plate 3. Ditch [010]

Plate 4. Ditch [012]



Plate 1. Site prior to groundworks



Plate 2. Pit [005]



Plate 3. Ditch [010]



Plate 4. Ditch [012]

8.0 Bibliography

- Casa, R. &
Wood, M. (1997). *A Watching Brief on land northwest of Wellington Way, Market Deeping, Lincolnshire.* Unpublished PISA Ltd. Report No. 97/11/2.
- Cope-Faulkner, P.C.
& Trimble, D. (1999). *Archaeological Evaluation of the Market Deeping Bypass. Vols 1, 2 & 3.* Unpublished APS Report No. 71/99.
- Cope-Faulkner, P.C.(1999). *Archaeological Watching Brief at Peterborough Road, Market Deeping, Lincolnshire.* Unpublished APS Report No. 87/99.
- Hayes, P.P. &
Lane, T.W. (1992). *The Fenland Project Number 5: Lincolnshire Survey, The South-West Fens.* East Anglian Archaeology No. 55.
- Lindsey Archaeology
Services. (1998). *Market Deeping Rising Mains: Towngate Sewage Pumping Station - Deeping St. James STW. Archaeological Desk-based Assessment and Fieldwalking Survey.* Unpublished LAS Report No. 332 Nov. 1998.
- Mills, P. (1999). *Archaeological Watching Brief on land at Towngate Farm, Market Deeping.* Unpublished APS Report No. 73/99.
- Phillips, C.W. (1971). *The Fenland in Roman Times.*
- SSEW (1983). *Soil Survey of England and Wales: Sheet 4.*
- Taylor, G. &
Walker, F. (1996). *Archaeological Watching Brief along the Greatford Cut, Greatford to Market Deeping.* Unpublished APS Report No. 19/96.

Records held by the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist, Heritage Lincolnshire

**Appendix A:
Context Summary**

Context No.	Location	Description	Interpretation
001	All	Gravel, concrete, soil	Dumped material
002	All	Mid grey, silty clay	Topsoil
003	All	Mid orange, silty clay	Subsoil
004	All	Greyish white and orange sand and gravels	Natural gravels
005	Plot 1	Cut (2m wide x 1m deep)	Pit
006	Plot 1	Greenish grey silty clay	Fill of pit [005]
007	Plot 2	Mid orange grey silty clay	Upper fill of [008]
008	Plot 2	North-south aligned cut with gently sloping sides (2.5m wide, length and depth unknown)	Ditch
009	Plot 5	Firm, dark grey silty clay	Single fill of [010]
010	Plot 5	Northeast-southwest aligned cut (1.5m wide x 0.7m deep – length unknown)	Boundary ditch
011	Plot 5	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Single fill of [012]
012	Plot 5	North-south aligned cut (3m wide – length and depth unknown)	Boundary ditch

Appendix B: Finds Summary

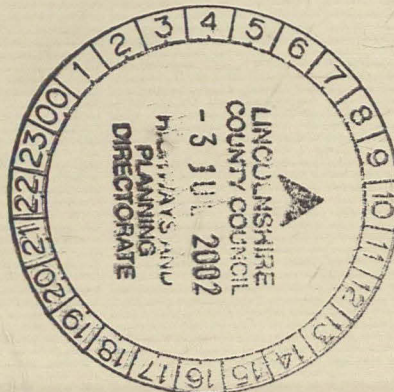
Context No.	Type	Description	No.	Date
007	Pottery	Shell gritted ware	1	2 nd -3 rd Century AD
009	Pottery	Nene Valley greyware	11	2 nd -3 rd Century AD
	Iron	Unknown	1	Unknown
011	Pottery	Nene Valley greyware	1	2 nd -3 rd Century AD
	Bone	Animal	1	Unknown

MB Sme.

JSAC JOHN SAMUELS
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
CONSULTANTS

July 1st, 2002
Our Reference: 884/jly

Mark Bennett
Sites and Monuments Record
Archaeology Section
3rd Floor
City Hall
Beaumont Fee
Lincoln
LN1 1DF

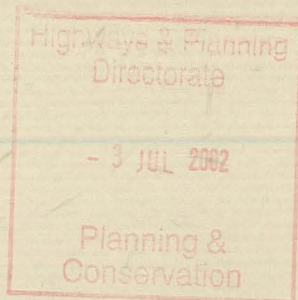


Dear Mark,
RE: Godsey's Lane, Market Deeping - JSAC Report 884/02/02 - Planning Application S01/0976/56
Please find enclosed a copy of the watching brief report for the site above. Copies of the document have been lodged with Gail Smith, Community Archaeologist, the client and the Planning Authority. In the meantime, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes,

Jenny

Jenny Young BA (Hons), MA, AIFA
Project Manager
for John Samuels Archaeological Consultants
Enclosure (1)



THE MANOR SOUTH STEET NORMANTON-ON-TRENT NEWARK NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NG23 6RQ
TELEPHONE 01636 821727 FAX 01636 822080 E-MAIL jsac@btconnect.com

