

Event L13913
Sources L18538 L18539
62629 L183940 Medieval
62630 L183941 Medieval
62631 L183942 Roman

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON LAND AT
BUNGALOW FARM
74 MAREHAM LANE,
SLEAFORD,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SMLC 01)**

**Work Undertaken For
Digby Developments Limited**

February 2003

Report Compiled by
Steve Thomson BSc (Hons)

National Grid Reference: TF 0735 4490
Planning Reference: N/57/0250/01
City and County Museum Accession No: 2001.272

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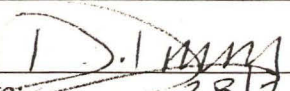
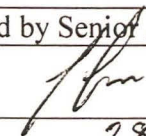
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APS Report No. 5/03

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CONTENTS

List of Figures

List of Plates

1.	Summary.....	1
2.	Introduction.....	1
	2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief.....	1
	2.2 Planning Background.....	1
	2.3 Topography and Geology	1
	2.4 Archaeological Setting.....	1
3.	Aims	2
4.	Methods	2
5.	Results	3
	5.1 Natural geological deposits.....	3
	5.2 Pre 18 th century deposits.....	3
	5.3 Post-medieval deposits	4
	5.4 Recent deposits	4
6.	Discussion.....	4
7.	Conclusions	5
8.	Acknowledgements.....	5
9.	Bibliography	5
10.	Abbreviations.....	6

Appendices

1	Specification for Archaeological Watching Brief
2	Context Summary
3	The Finds by <i>Paul Cope-Faulkner, Rachael Hall, Hilary Healey and Gary Taylor</i>
4	Glossary
5	The Archive

List of Figures

- Figure 1 General location plan
- Figure 2 Site location plan
- Figure 3 Detailed site plan
- Figure 4 Detailed site plan showing archaeological remains
- Figure 5 Plot 1 foundation plan showing features and section locations
- Figure 6 Plot 2 foundation plan showing features and section locations
- Figure 7 Plot 3 foundation plan showing section location
- Figure 8 Plot 4 foundation plan showing features and section locations
- Figure 9 Plot 5 foundation plan showing features and section locations
- Figure 10 Plot 6 foundation plan showing features and section locations
- Figure 11 Section drawings 1 - 6
- Figure 12 Section drawings 7 - 9
- Figure 13 Section drawings 10 - 13
- Figure 14 Section drawings 14 & 15

List of Plates

- Plate 1 General View Plot 4 prior to excavation, looking southwest
- Plate 2 Ditch 030, Plot 2, looking northeast
- Plate 3 Pit 040, Plot 2, looking northwest
- Plate 4 Well 047, looking north

1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during development on land off Mareham Lane, Sleaford, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored groundworks associated with the construction of Plots 1-6.

The site lies outside the southern extent of the medieval town in an area where Middle Iron Age enclosure, Romano-British features and an Anglo-Saxon cemetery have previously been identified. Artefacts of the Neolithic and the Bronze Age have also been recovered in the vicinity.

Undated, though probably medieval, furrows, ditches and pits were recorded suggesting a split between habitation to the north and agricultural use of the land to the south. This appears to continue into the post-medieval period with a well recorded in the north of the site and a ploughsoil to the south.

A single, residual sherd of Romano-British pottery was the earliest artefact recovered, along with a quantity of medieval, post-medieval pottery and animal bone.

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

Archaeological Project Services (APS) was commissioned by Digby Developments Limited to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with residential development of Plots 1-6 at Bungalow Farm, 74 Mareham Lane, Sleaford, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application N/57/0250/01. The watching brief was carried out between the 28th November 2001 and 20th November 2002, in accordance with a specification designed by APS (Appendix 1) and approved by the North Kesteven Heritage Officer.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Sleaford is situated approximately 27km south of Lincoln in the administrative district of North Kesteven, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site is located approximately 1.5km southwest of Sleaford town centre as defined by the Market Place (Fig. 2). Lying on the west side of Mareham Lane, the site is centred on National Grid Reference TF 0735 4490 at a height of approximately 13m OD.

Soils at the site are of the Ruskington Series, typical brown earths, with Newsleaford Series, gleyic brown calcareous sands, immediately to the east (George and Robson 1978, 79; 86). These soils overlie a drift geology of older sand and gravel which in turn seals a solid geology of Jurassic Cornbrash (GSGB 1972).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

The development site lies in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Neolithic period to the present day. Prehistoric flints of probable Neolithic date have been recovered from the general

vicinity of the site and two Bronze Age axe heads were found to the east.

Located north of the development area, is a Middle Iron Age agricultural enclosure, one of several around Sleaford, and which may have been associated with settlement of the period identified further east (Thomson 2002a).

By the Late Iron Age, the focus of settlement was centred on Old Place, south of the River Sleas, about 800m to the northeast of the current site. High status pottery and a significant collection of coin pellet mould fragments were found adjacent to Old Place and has led to speculation that at this time Sleaford was an important centre or *oppidum* of the *Corieltavi*, a local tribe (Elsdon 1997, 75).

The Iron Age occupation of Sleaford was succeeded by an extensive Romano-British settlement. It is probable that Sleaford was a small Romano-British town that straddled Mareham Lane. The line of this road is approximately 500m to the east of the site, the modern road of that name being a medieval diversion.

To the north of the site, in the vicinity of the railway station, is a large Anglo-Saxon inhumation cemetery, which was partly excavated in 1881 (Thomas 1882). Altogether, 242 burials were recorded although it was estimated that there were in the region of 600 in total, all dating to the 6th century. A further Saxon burial was found during widening of Mareham Lane, although the exact position is not clear (White 1988, 87).

Sleaford is first mentioned in AD 825 in a charter relating to the leasing of land at Sempringham by Peterborough Abbey (Hart 1966, 100) and confirmed in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle (Swanton 1997, 65). Referred to as *Slioforda*, the name is derived from the Old English and means

the ford over the '*sliowa*', meaning muddy water (Cameron 1998, 112).

There has been some debate as to Sleaford's inclusion in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. The site lies within the former parish of Old Sleaford, which is included in the entry for Quarrington, whereas the modern town is referred to as *Eslaforde* which was held by the Bishop of Lincoln (Roffe 1979, 13).

Recent archaeological work in the vicinity of the site includes a watching brief to the south which revealed an undated ditch (Thomson 2002b) and an evaluation to the northwest which identified remnants of ridge and furrow, part of the medieval field system (Albone 2001). Undated ditches and pits have also been recorded during investigations on Mareham Lane (Cope-Faulkner 2002, Snee, 2000 a & b) and a possible timber structure was recorded during a watching brief at the Carre Arms to the northwest (Snee 2000c).

3. AIMS

The requirements of the watching brief, as outlined in the specification (Appendix 1), were to locate and record archaeological deposits and, if present, to determine their date, function, origin and spatial arrangement.

4. METHODS

Following topsoil stripping, foundation trenches for six properties (Fig. 3) were opened using a mechanical excavator fitted with a 0.6m toothless blade to depths of up to 0.95m. Exposed areas of the trenches were inspected, selectively cleaned and rendered vertical. Archaeological deposits were partially excavated by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. The depth and thickness of each deposit was measured from the present ground surface.

Each archaeological deposit or feature revealed within the trenches was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled depicting the setting of the site and the recorded deposits. Sections were drawn at scales of 1:10 and 1:20, with their locations plotted on scale and annotated sketch plans. Recording of the deposits encountered during the watching brief was undertaken according to standard APS' practice.

Finds recovered from excavated deposits were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 3). Records of the deposits and features recognised during the investigation were also examined. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them, supplemented by artefact dating. A stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced.

Archaeological contexts are described below. The numbers in bold and in brackets refer to the context numbers assigned in the field.

5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis a total of four phases were identified;

- 5.1 Phase 1 - Natural deposits
- 5.2 Phase 2 - Pre-18th century deposits
- 5.3 Phase 3 - Post-medieval deposits
- 5.4 Phase 4 - Recent deposits

5.1 Phase 1 - Natural deposits

The earliest recorded deposit, identified in all six house plots, was a light to mid-brownish yellow sand and gravel (**005**, **014**, **019**, **028**, **031**, **046**) (Fig. 11 - Sections 1 - 6, Fig. 12 - Sections 7 - 9, Fig.

13 - Sections 10 - 13, Fig. 14 - Sections 14 - 15) which represented natural geological deposition.

5.2 Phase 2 - Pre 18th century deposits

To the south of the site in Plot 6, a north-south oriented furrow was recorded (**004**) (Fig. 11 - sections 1 & 2). The ditch measured greater than 2m wide, 0.3m deep and greater than 10m long and contained a single fill of mid-yellowish brown silty sand (**003**).

A ditch in Plot 6 (**010**) was oriented northwest-southeast. The ditch measured 1.4m wide and 0.3m deep and was filled with a dark brown ashy sand (**009**) containing occasional charcoal and decayed mortar or stone fragments (Fig. 11 - section 3).

To the north in Plot 5, a linear cut (**016**) (Fig. 11 - sections 5 & 6) measured 3.6m wide, 0.4m deep and greater than 15m long. The cut was oriented north south and was interpreted as a furrow. Subsoil (**013**) had filled the cut.

A further furrow (**021**), probably representing a continuation of (**016**) was recorded in Plot 4 (Fig. 12 - section 8) and also contained a subsoil fill.

A north-south oriented ditch (**023**) was also recorded in Plot 4 (Fig. 12 - section 8). The ditch measured 0.61m wide, 0.22m deep and greater than 0.6m long. A mid-reddish brown silty sand (**050**) formed the single fill of the ditch.

At the northern edge of Plot 4 was a partially exposed linear cut (**025**) (Fig. 12 - section 9) which was interpreted as a pit. The pit measured 0.6m x 1m x 0.3m deep and was filled with a mottled mid-reddish brown and grey silty sand (**024**) containing small rounded pebbles and lime.

Towards the northern end of the site in Plot 2, a north-south oriented ditch (035) (Fig. 13 – section 11) measured 0.25m wide, 0.16m deep and greater than 9.8m long. The ditch contained a single fill of light brown clayey sand (034).

Truncating the western edge of (035), and representing a recut on a similar alignment, was a further ditch (030) (Plate 2). The ditch measured 0.52m wide, 0.18m deep and greater than 9.8m long. A light brown clayey sand (029) containing frequent charcoal flecks and gravel formed the fill of the ditch. Animal bone and a fragment of probable medieval ceramic building material was recovered from (029).

Two pits were also recorded in Plot 2, sealed by a subsoil layer. Pit (037) (Fig. 13 – section 12) measured 0.78m wide and 0.3m deep and was filled with a mid-greyish brown clayey sand (036).

Pit (040) (Fig. 13 – section 13, Plate 3) measured 2.18m north-south, 0.6m east-west and was 0.4m deep. The pit contained a primary fill of mottled red and grey silty sand (039) containing frequent ash and occasional gravel, with a secondary fill of light brown clayey sand (038) containing occasional patches of burnt soil.

To the north of Plot 2, in Plot 1, a pit (041) (Fig. 14 – section 14) was partially exposed. The pit measured at least 1.1m x 0.6m and was 0.35m deep. A mid-grey clayey silt (045) and a light grey sandy silt (044) formed the fills of the pit.

5.3 Phase 3 – Post-medieval deposits

Recorded in all six plots, was a generally mid-reddish brown to light brown subsoil (002, 013, 018, 027, 032, 043). Pottery of Romano-British and medieval date was recovered from (032) together with a fragment of clay pipe of 18th century date.

Located in Plot 6, to the south of the site, was an east-west oriented ditch (008) (Fig. 11 – section 2) measuring 0.9m wide and greater than 10m long. The ditch contained primary fills of mid-brownish yellow silty sand (011) and light brownish yellow sandy silt (007). These were overlain by a mid-yellowish brown sandy silt (006). Pottery dating to the late 19th century was recovered from (006) and (011).

Overlying the ditch was a deposit of mid-reddish brown silty sand (020) containing moderate small pebbles. The deposit was interpreted as the levelling or infilling of a hollow.

A further probable dumped deposit of mid-reddish brown silty sand (015) was recorded in Plot 5 (Fig. 11 – sections 5 & 6) and also appeared to be levelling of a depression caused by an earlier Phase 2 furrow.

To the north of the site in Plot 1, a circular brick-lined well (049) measuring 1.4m in diameter (Plate 4) and its associated cut (047) and backfill (048) were recorded.

5.4 Phase 4 - Recent deposits

In Plot 1 was a dark brown sandy silt (042) containing frequent building debris. The deposit represented overburden associated with the current development. Elsewhere on the site, a dark brown sandy silt topsoil (001, 012, 017, 026, 033) was the most recent deposit recorded.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Phase 1) represent the underlying drift geology formed during the last glaciation.

Phase 2 deposits comprised a series of ditches, furrows and pits. These features were sealed by a subsoil deposit, which has been dated to the 18th century. This

confirms a pre-18th century date for the features.

A single fragment of ceramic building material, recovered from a ditch fill, is tentatively dated to the medieval period and it is highly likely that the majority of the Phase 2 features also relate to this period.

Spatially, a functional division in land use is apparent (Fig. 4). Furrows, representing the remnants of north-south oriented ridge and furrow are located to the south of the site as are, predominantly, the ditches. Pits, probably representing refuse pits, were recorded in the northern half of the site, suggesting that any habitation in proximity to the area was located towards the northern end. One pit contained a fill of burnt soil and frequent ash and it is possible that this represents hearth rakings.

However, the dearth of domestic artefactual material would suggest that the site lay to the fringe of settlement and was chiefly used for agricultural purposes.

This is evident in the post-medieval subsoil or ploughsoil. Artefactual material recovered from the deposit was heavily abraded, probably due to ploughing. Ploughing is also likely to have been responsible for subsoil filling of the furrows recorded in the south of the site and generally for the truncation of earlier Phase 2 features which were relatively shallow, between 0.18 and 0.4m deep. Infilling of depressions or hollows, probably created by earlier ridge and furrow, also appears to have taken place.

The location of a well to the north of the site would suggest continuity in land use during the post-medieval period, with settlement of the period lying to the north of the development site and agriculture in the southern part.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken along Mareham Lane, Sleaford, as the site lay in proximity to prehistoric and later remains, notably an Anglo-Saxon cemetery.

The earliest recovered artefact was a single, residual sherd of Romano-British pottery recovered from a subsoil deposit.

A series of undated, though probably medieval furrows, ditches and pits were recorded sealed by a post-medieval plough soil. Occupation appears to have lain to the north of the site with the development area having existed as primarily agricultural land.

Functional continuity from earlier periods to the post-medieval period was also evidenced in the form of a brick well towards the northern edge of the site suggesting habitation of the period in this area. Agricultural use, represented by a ploughsoil in the southern area, appears to have been responsible for the denudation of earlier features.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr D. Brownlow of Digby Developments Limited for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Denise Drury, who jointly edited this report with Tom Lane. Jo Hambly, the North Kesteven Heritage Officer, permitted examination of the relevant parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

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10. ABBREVIATIONS

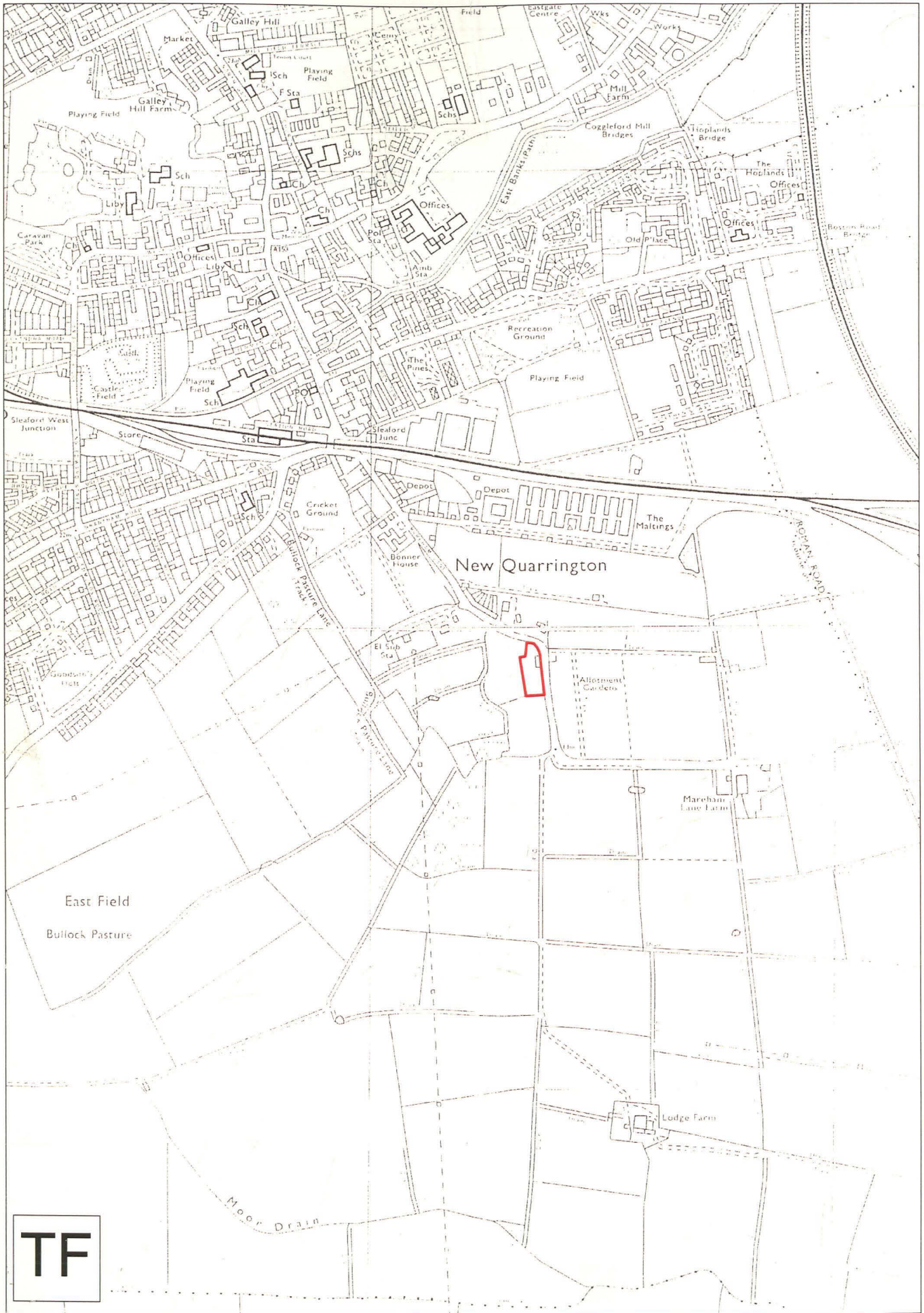
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GSGB Geological Survey of Great Britain

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists



Figure 1 - General Location Plan



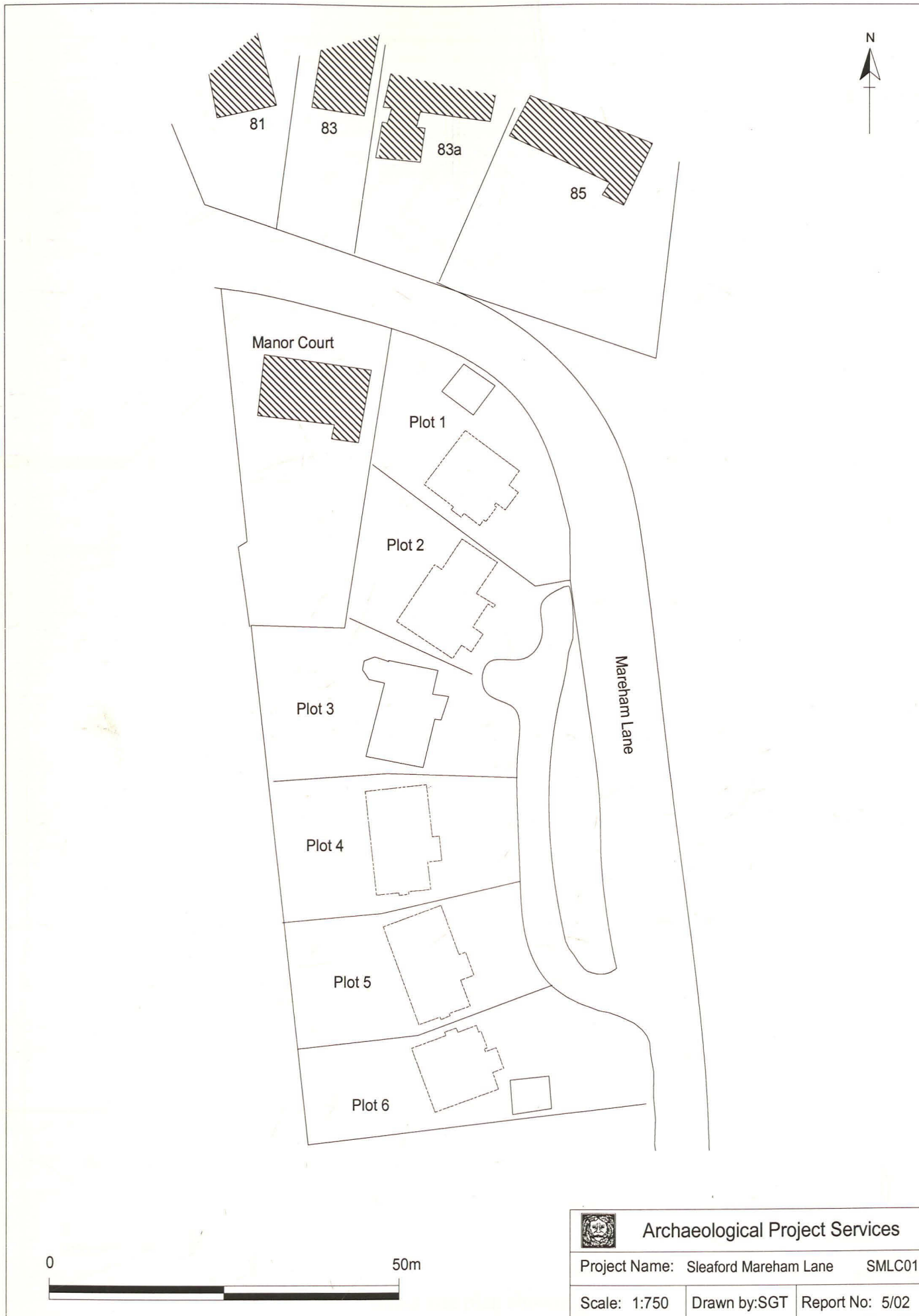
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Figure 2 Site location plan




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Figure 3 - Detailed site plan



Figure 4 - Detailed site plan showing archaeological remains

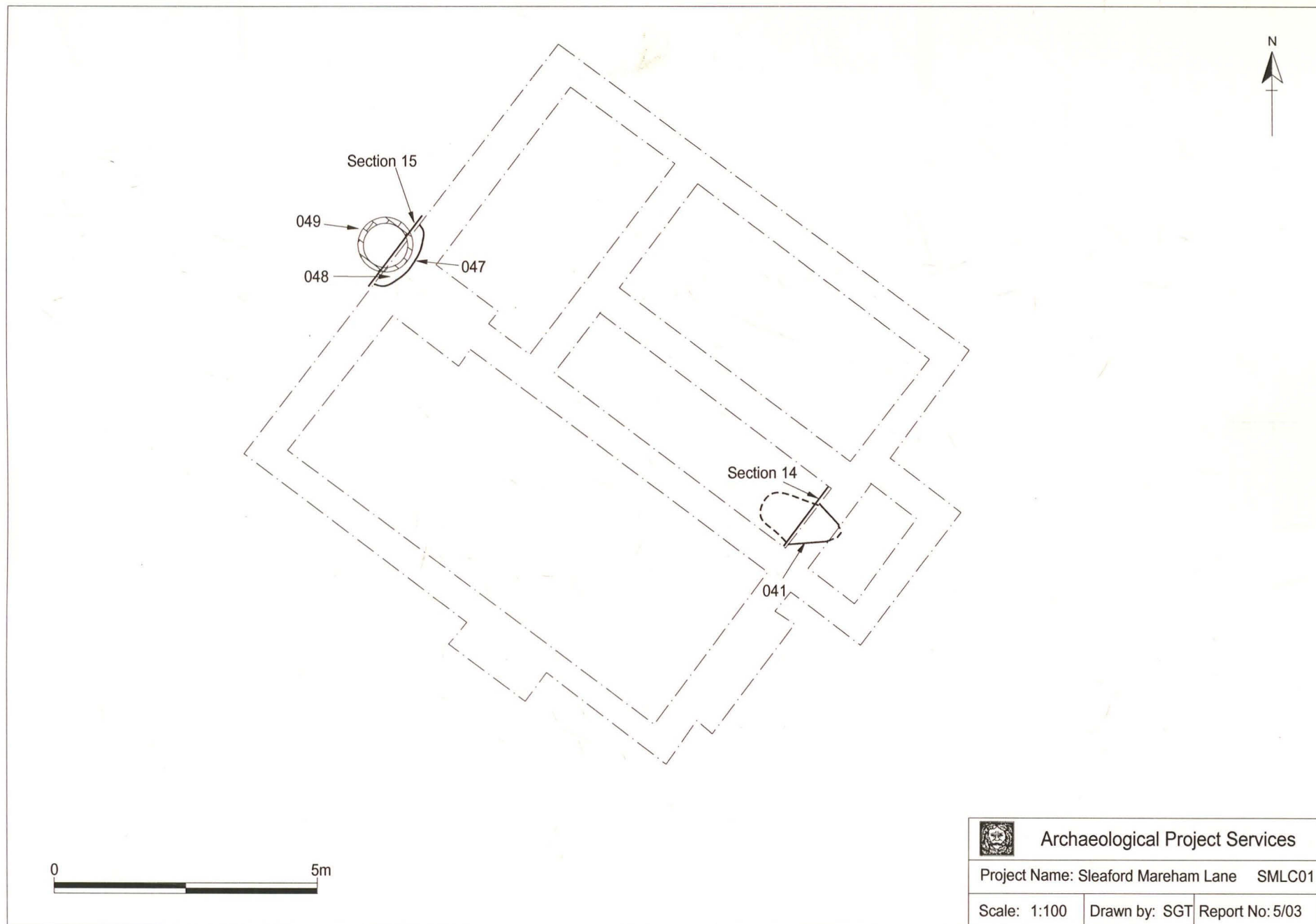
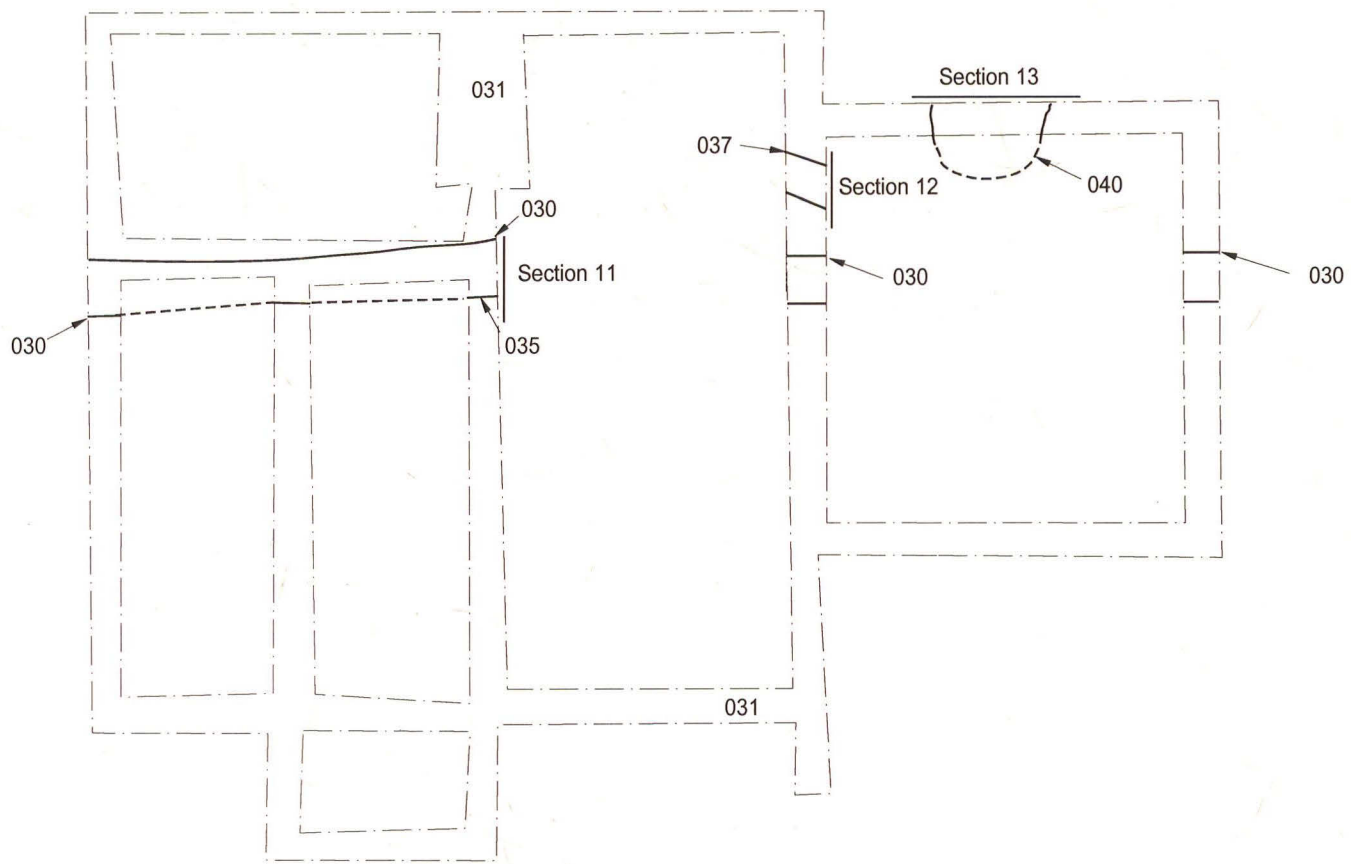


Figure 5 - Plot 1 foundation plan showing features and section locations




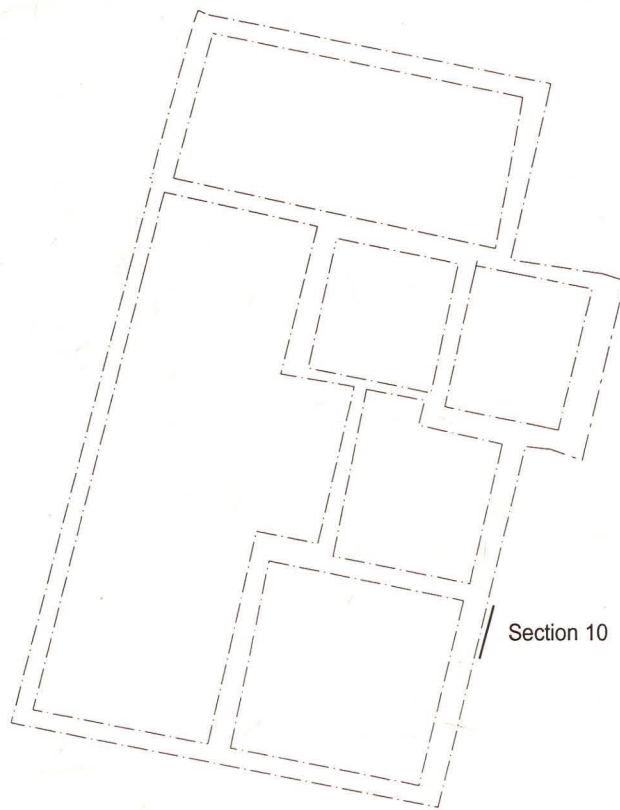
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Figure 6 - Plot 2, foundation plan showing features and section locations



Section 10

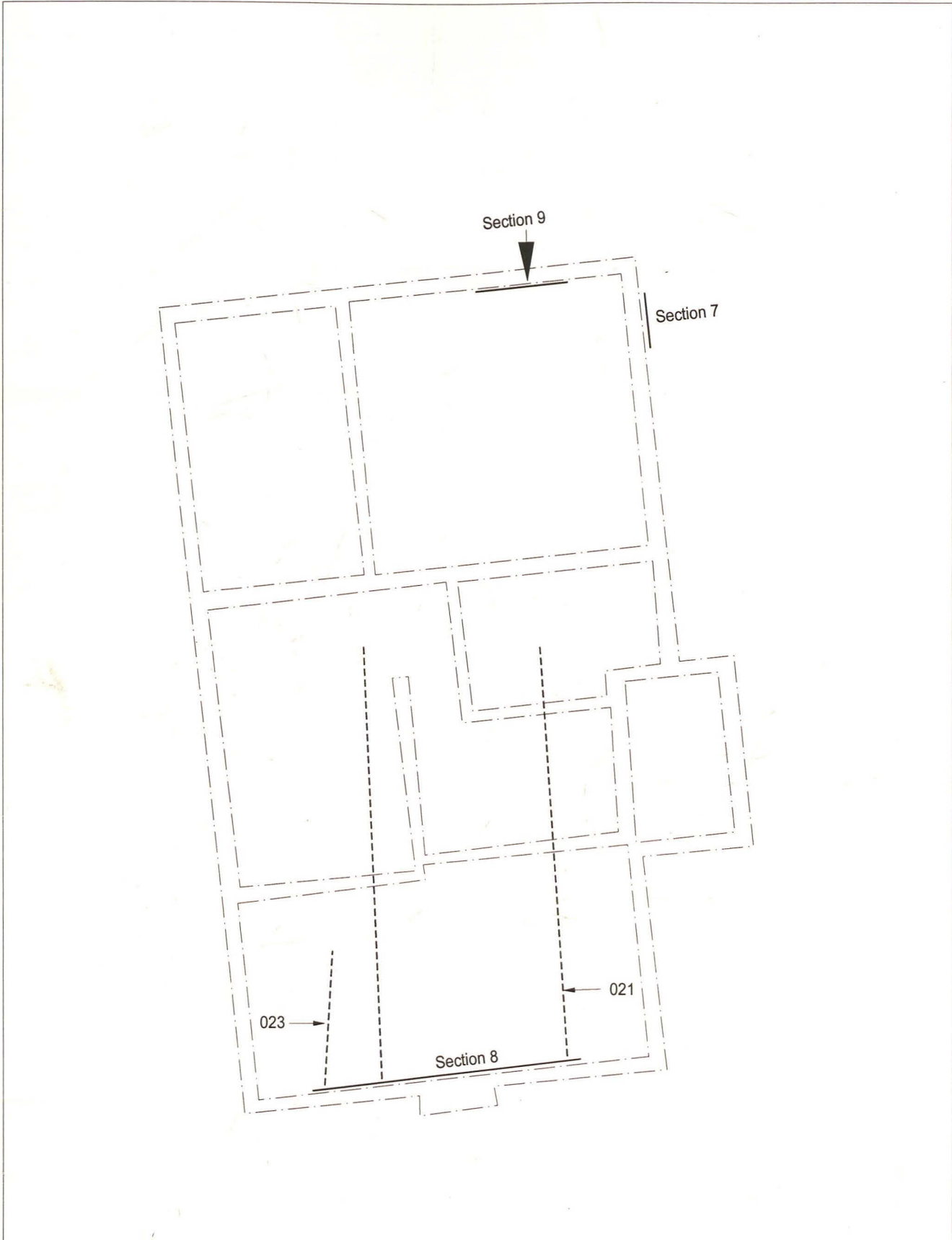


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Figure 7 - Plot 3 foundation plan



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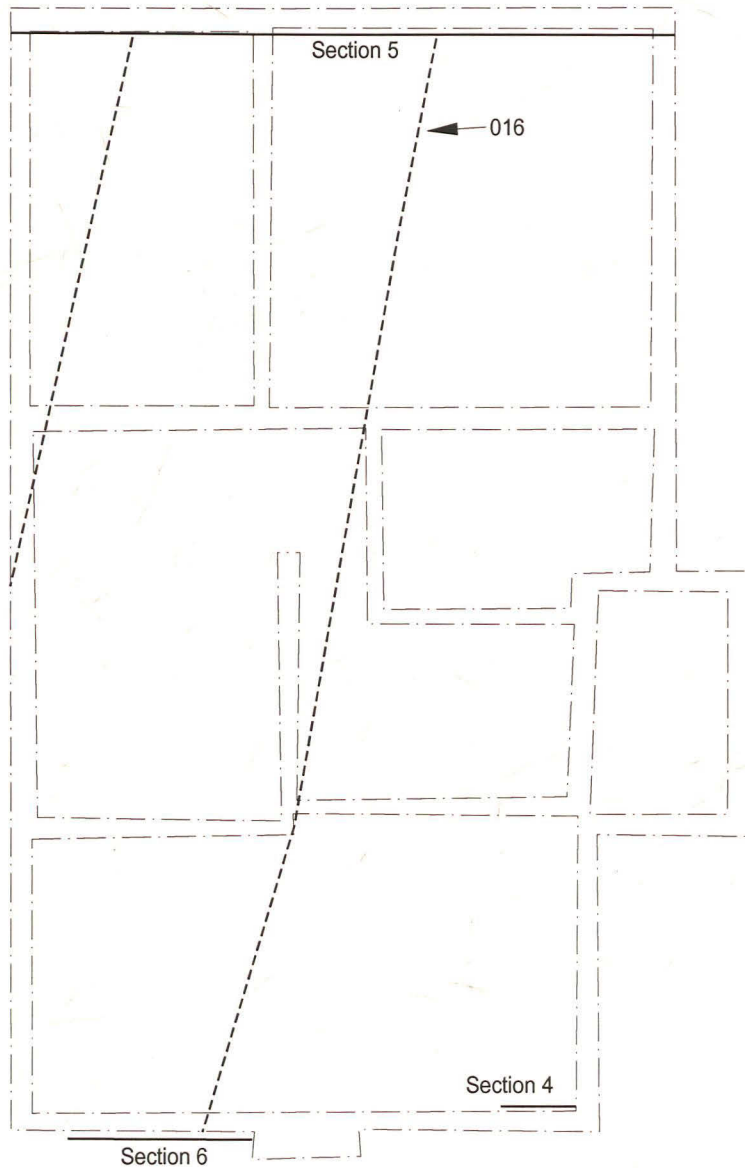
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Figure 8 - Plot 4 foundation plan showing features and section locations



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Figure 9 - Plot 5 foundation plan showing features and section locations

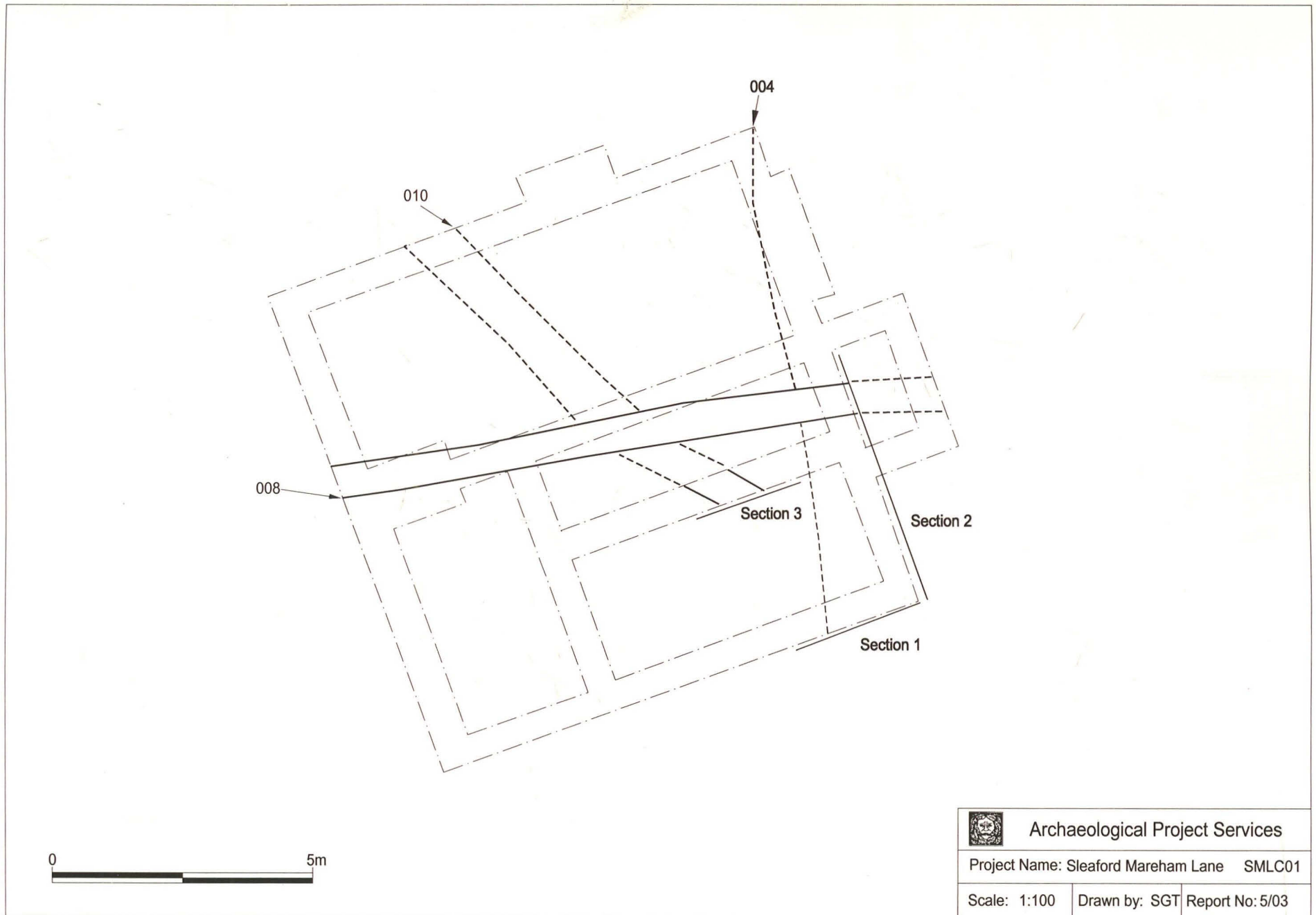
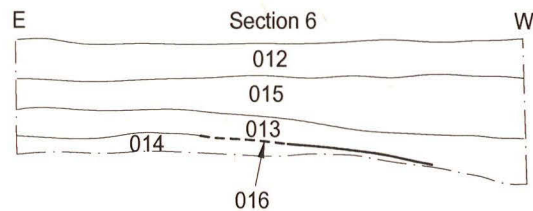
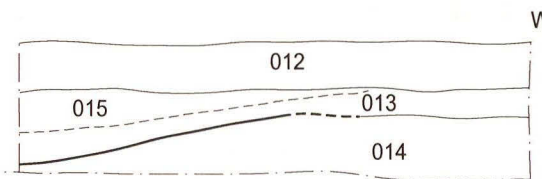
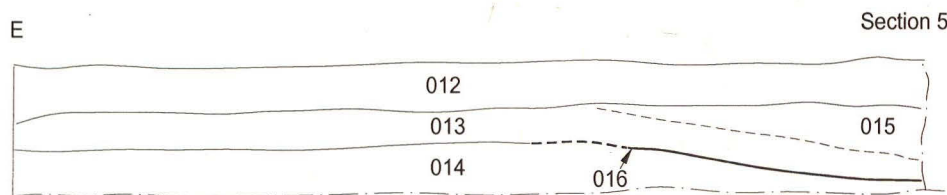
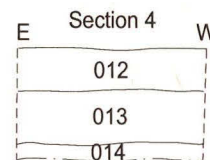
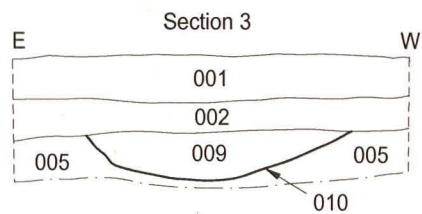
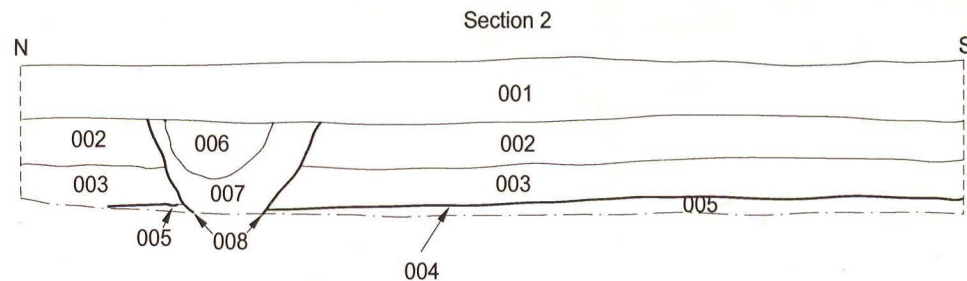
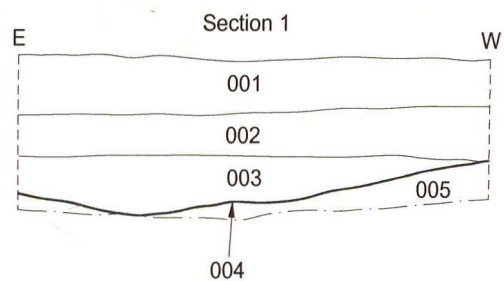


Figure 10 - Plot 6 foundation plan showing features and section locations




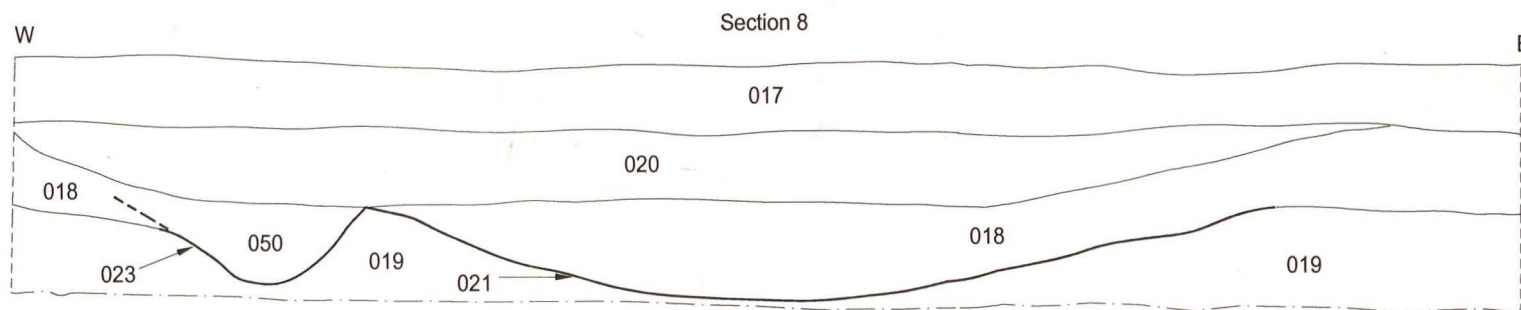
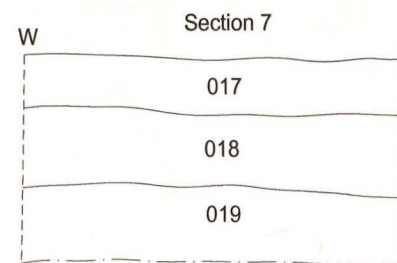
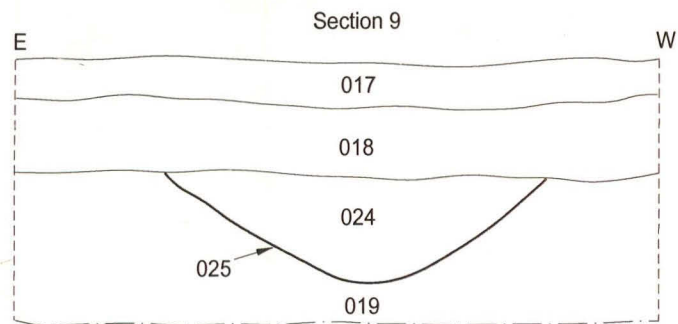
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Figure 11 - Section drawings 1 - 6




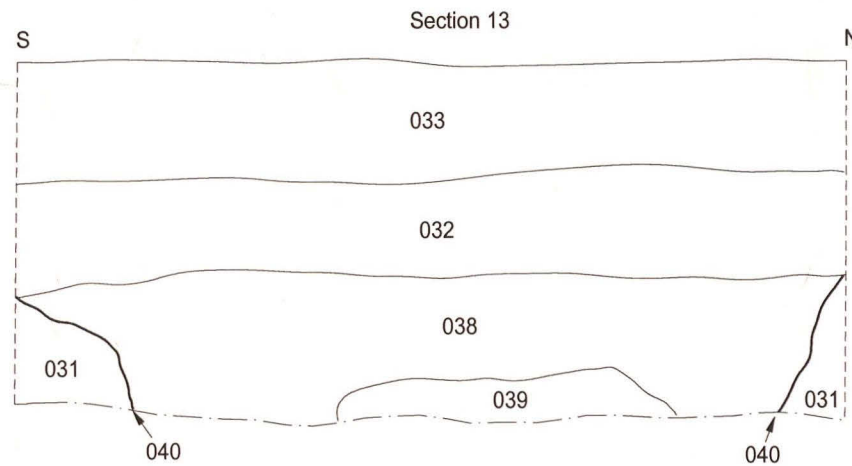
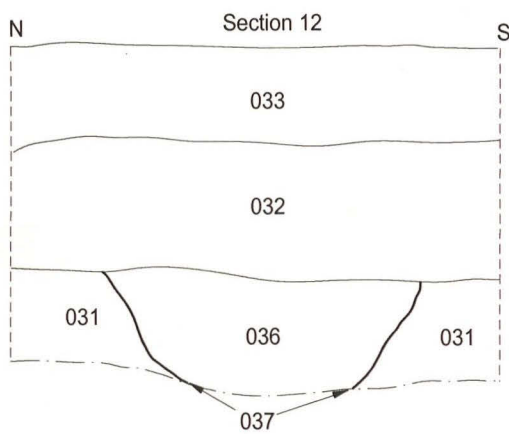
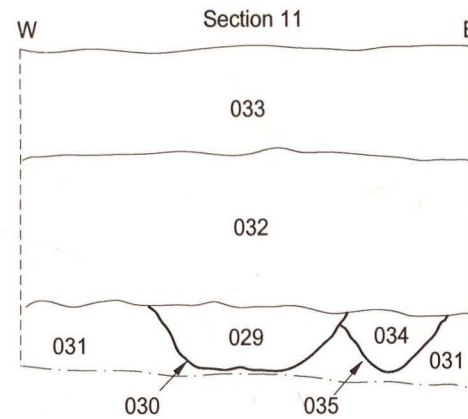
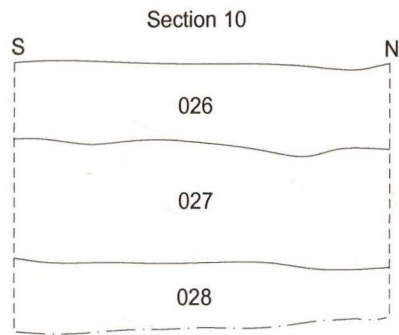
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Figure 12 - Section drawings 7 - 9




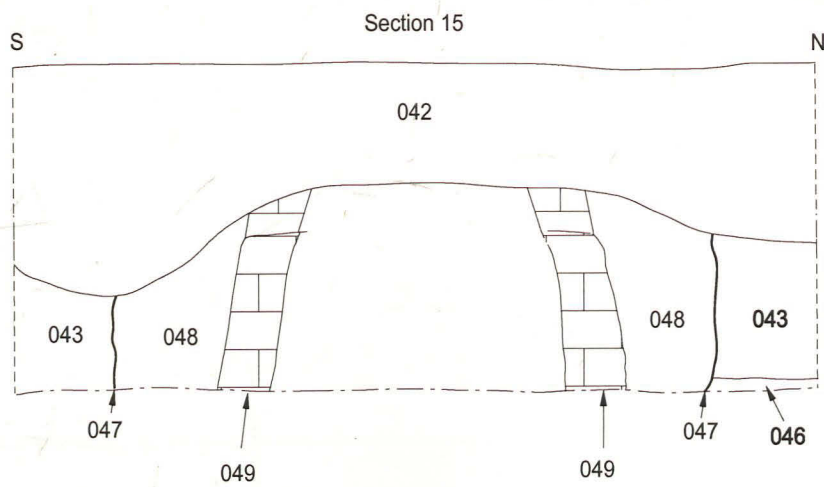
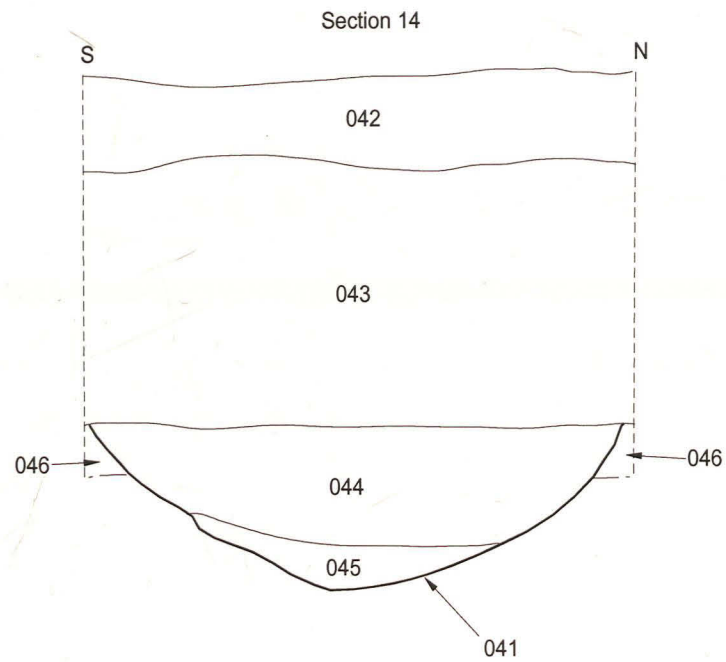
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Figure 13 - Section drawings 10 - 13



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Figure 14 - Section drawings 14 & 15



Plate 1 General View Plot 4 prior to excavation, looking southwest

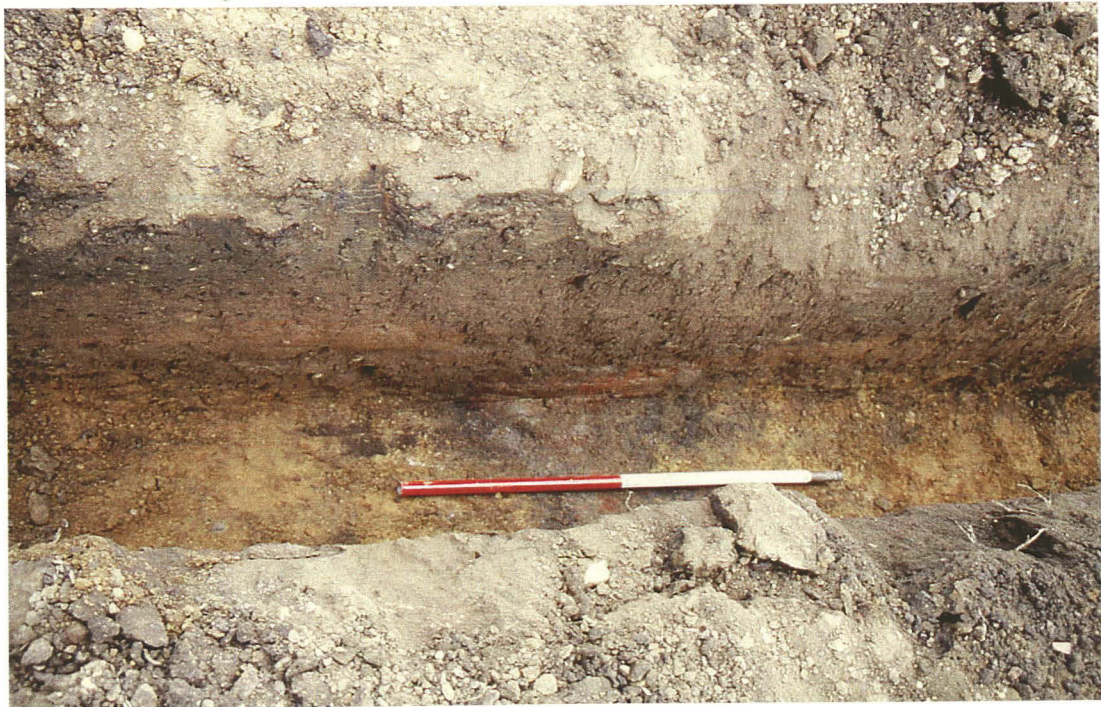


Plate 2 Ditch 030, Plot 2, looking northeast



Plate 3 Pit 040, Plot 2, looking northwest



Plate 4 Well 047, looking north

Appendix 1

**LAND AT
BUNGALOW FARM
74 MAREHAM LANE
SLEAFORD
LINCOLNSHIRE**

**SPECIFICATION FOR
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

**PREPARED FOR
DIGBY DEVELOPMENTS LTD**

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

SEPTEMBER 2001

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during development on land at Bungalow Farm, 74 Mareham Lane, Sleaford, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The proposed development site lies adjacent to Mareham Lane which here follows a westward line, leading from the north - south Roman road, toward the site of a Saxon cemetery.*
- 1.3 *The watching brief will be undertaken during groundworks associated with the development. The archaeological features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the investigation. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for an archaeological watching brief during development on land at Bungalow Farm, 74 Mareham Lane, Sleaford, Lincolnshire. The site is located at national grid reference TF 0735 4490.
- 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 Sleaford lies approximately 27km south of Lincoln in the administrative district of North Kesteven. The site is located on the west side of Mareham Lane, covering an area of approximately 0.45ha, at national grid reference TF 0735 4490.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application (N/57/0250/01) was submitted to North Kesteven District Council for the erection of six dwellings. Outline planning permission has been granted requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief during all phases of the groundworks associated with the development.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The site lies to the south of the town centre at approximately 13m OD. The site was formerly agricultural land and is presently overgrown. Local soils are the Curdrige Association, typically deep, permeable, coarse loamy soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 154).

6 THE ARCHAEOLOGY

- 6.1 The development site lies in an area where prehistoric and Roman finds and deposits have been recorded. Worked flints, Bronze Age axes and artefacts dating from the Romano-British period

have been recovered from various sites to the north of the development area.

- 6.2 Mareham Lane Roman road, established on a prehistoric route, follows a north - south alignment, which passes approximately 700m to the east of the site. However, a branch appears to leave the line of the north - south road south of Sleaford, turning westward and then north, toward the Saxon cemetery, located in the vicinity of Sleaford railway station. The proposed development lies alongside this westward deviation of Mareham Lane although a prehistoric or Roman origin has not been proven for this part of the road, its apparent route, toward the Saxon cemetery may indicate the possibility of a Saxon origin.
- 6.3 Watching briefs in the vicinity of Mareham Lane have revealed a series of features such as ditches, gullies and pits and recovered fragments of Romano-British pottery (Archaeological Project Services 1997 and 2000).

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. The machine used for the groundworks will be fitted with a toothless bucket.

- 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 North Kesteven Heritage Officer; North 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 Heritage Officer of North Kesteven District Council. 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.
- 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 four days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

16 **SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT**

- 16.1 The following organisations/persons will, in principal and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

<u>Task</u>	<u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust Roman - B Precious, Independent Specialist Anglo-Saxon - J Young, Independent Specialist Medieval and later - 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, 1997 *Archaeological watching brief of drain cutting on land adjacent to Mareham Lane, Sleaford, Lincolnshire (SML96)*, APS unpublished report No 3/97

Archaeological Project Services, 2000 *Archaeological watching brief at 83-85 Mareham Lane, Sleaford, Lincolnshire (SMLA00)*, APS unpublished report No 190/00

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, 20/09/2001

Appendix 2
Context summary

Context No.	Plot	Section	Description	Interpretation
001	6	1,2,3	Firm, dark brown sandy silt, 0.3m thick containing occasional pebbles	Topsoil
002	6	1,2,3	Firm, mid-reddish brown silty sand, 0.23m thick	Subsoil
003	6	1,2	Firm, mid-yellowish brown silty sand containing occasional sub-angular stones	Fill of 004
004	6	1,2	Linear cut, 2.1m wide x 0.3m deep x >10m long, N-S orientation	Ditch
005	6	1,2,3	Firm, mid-brownish yellow sand and gravel	Natural geological deposit
006	6	2	Firm, mid-yellowish brown silty sand containing occasional charcoal fragments, oyster shell, stones and patches of clay	Fill of 008
007	6	2	Firm, light brownish yellow sandy silt	Fill of 008
008	6	2	Linear cut, >10m long x 0.9m wide x >0.46m deep, steeply sloping sides, E-W orientation	Ditch
009	6	3	Dark brown ashy sand containing occasional charcoal and decayed mortar/stone fragments	Fill of 010
010	6	3	Linear cut, 1.4m wide x 0.3m deep, NW-SE orientation, concave base	?ditch
011	6	-	Firm, mid-brownish yellow silty sand containing occasional charcoal and patches of clay	Fill of 008
012	5	4	Firm, dark brown sandy silt, 0.22m thick containing occasional small pebbles	Topsoil
013	5	4	Firm, mid-reddish brown silty sand, 0.3m thick containing moderate pebbles	Subsoil
014	5	4	Firm, mid-brownish yellow sand and gravel	Natural geological deposit
015	5	5,6	Loose, mid-reddish brown silty sand containing moderate small pebbles	Dumped deposit
016	5	5,6	Linear feature, 3.6m wide x >15m long x 0.4m deep, N-S orientation	?Furrow
017	4	9	Firm, dark brown sandy silt, 0.3m thick containing occasional pebbles	Topsoil
018	4	9	Firm, mid-reddish brown silty sand, 0.23m thick	Subsoil

Context No.	Plot	Section	Description	Interpretation
019	4	9	Firm, mid-brownish yellow sand and gravel	Natural geological deposit
020	4	8	Loose, mid-reddish brown silty sand containing moderate small pebbles	021
021	4	8	Linear feature, 3.6m wide x >15m long x 0.4m deep, N-S orientation	?Furrow
022	-	-	VOID	-
023	4	8	Linear cut, >0.6m long x 0.61m wide x 0.22m deep, N-S orientation	Ditch
024	4	9	Loose, mottled mid-reddish brown and grey silty sand containing occasional small to medium rounded pebbles and lime	Fill of 025
025	4	9	Cut feature, 0.6m x 1m x 0.3m deep exposed, concave sides and base	Pit
026	3	10	Firm, dark brown sandy silt, 0.25m thick	Topsoil
027	3	10	Firm, mid-reddish brown silty sand, 0.33m thick containing moderate angular and sub-rounded pebbles	Subsoil
028	3	10	Loose, light brownish yellow sand and gravel >0.3m thick	Natural geological deposit
029	2	11	Loose, light brown clayey sand containing frequent charcoal flecks and rounded and angular gravel	Fill of 030
030	2	11	Linear cut, >9.8m long x 0.52m wide x 0.18m deep, N-S orientation, gradually sloping sides, concave base	Ditch
031	2	11	Loose, light brownish yellow gravel and sand, >0.2m thick	Natural geological deposit
032	2	11	Loose, light brown clayey sand, containing frequent charcoal fragments, frequent rounded and angular gravel, occasional roots and occasional coal and cinders	Subsoil
033	2	11	Compact, dark grey clayey sandy silt, 0.3m thick	Topsoil
034	2	11	Loose, light brown clayey sand containing moderate pea gravel and occasional charcoal fragments	Fill of 035
035	2	11	Linear cut, >9.8m long x 0.28m wide x 0.16m deep, N-S orientation	Ditch

Context No.	Plot	Section	Description	Interpretation
036	2	12	Loose, mid-greyish brown clayey sand containing frequent charcoal fragments and occasional pea gravel	Fill of 037
037	2	12	Linear cut, 0.6m N-S x 0.78m wide x 0.3m deep. NNE-SSW orientation	Pit
038	2	13	Loose, light brown clayey sand containing moderate pea gravel and moderate patches of burnt soil	Fill of 040
039	2	13	Firm, mottled red and grey silty sand containing frequent fine ash and occasional gravel	Fill of 040
040	2	13	Sub-circular cut, 2.18m N-S x 0.6m E-W x 0.4m deep, E-W orientation	Pit
041	1	14	Cut feature, 1.1m N-S x 0.6m E-W x 0.35m deep concave sides and base	Pit
042	1	14,15	Loose, dark brown sandy silt, 0.2m thick containing frequent building debris	Modern overburden
043	1	14,15	Loose, mid-brownish red-yellow sandy silt, 0.5m thick containing occasional ceramic building material fragments and gravel	Subsoil
044	1	14	Loose, light grey sandy silt	Fill of 041
045	1	14	Soft, mid-grey clayey silt	Fill of 041
046	1	14,15	Firm, mid-brownish red-yellow sandy gravel	Natural geological deposit
047	1	15	Circular cut, 1.4m diameter, steep vertical sides	Cut for well 049
048	1	15	Loose, mottled grey and yellow sandy silt containing occasional charcoal fragments	Backfill in well cut 047
049	1	15	Brick built structure, stretcher bond, hand cut bricks, 1.4m diameter	Well
050	4	8	Firm, mid-reddish brown silty sand, 0.23m thick	Fill of 023

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

by Paul Cope-Faulkner, Rachael Hall, Hilary Healey 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 total of 17 fragments of pottery weighing 106g was recovered from 5 separate contexts. In addition to the pottery, a quantity of other artefacts, brick/tile, clay pipe and glass, comprising 9 items weighing a total of 150g, was also retrieved. Faunal remains were also collected.

Provenance

The material was recovered from topsoil (001, 012), ditch fills (006, 011, 029) and subsoil (032).

Most of the pottery was probably made in Staffordshire, though the medieval material was manufactured in moderate proximity to Sleaford, at Nottingham, 28km to the west. The Roman greyware is probably a south Lincolnshire product. One piece may be a foreign import from Germany, or from London.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: Pottery

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
001	WHITE	White glazed tableware, 19 th century	4	10	19 th century
	TPW	Blue and white transfer-printed tableware, 19 th century	2	3	
006	LPM	Underglaze blue painted earthenware	1	49	Early 19 th century
011	TPW	Blue and white transfer printed pearlware, early 19 th century	1	1	Early 19 th century
	CREA	Creamware, late 18 th -early 19 th century	1	2	
	BL	Red painted earthenware, black glazed, 18 th century	2	13	
012	FREC/LONS	Frechen/London salt-glazed stoneware jug/bottle, 17 th century	1	14	17 th century
	NOTG	Nottingham green-glazed ware, very abraded, 13 th -15 th century	2(link)	4	
032	NOTG?	Nottingham glazed ware, very abraded, 13 th -15 th century	2(link)	5	13 th -15 th century
	GREY?	Romano-British greyware, very abraded, 2 nd -3 rd century	1	5	

Roman and medieval pottery was recovered in small quantities and all the fragments were small and very worn. It is likely that these are components of manuring scatter. This would, in turn, imply the land had an agricultural function during these times.

Most of the pottery dates from the 18th-19th centuries and perhaps reflects occupation of this date in the proximity.

Table 2: Other Artefacts

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
001	Clay pipe	Stems, bore 4/64", 19 th century	3	6	19 th century
	Glass	Shoulder fragment of wine bottle, early 19 th century	1	21	
011	Clinker	Clinker	1	2	
029	Ceramic building material	Brick/tile	1	14	
032	Clay pipe	Stem, bore 5/64", 18 th century	1	3	Early 19 th century
	Ceramic building material	Roof tile, reduced core, medieval	1	75	
	Ceramic building material	Handmade brick/tile, abraded, medieval?	1	29	

The range of the other artefacts corresponds to the composition of the pottery assemblage in that there is a small quantity of worn medieval material and a greater amount of 18th-19th century items.

Table 3: Faunal Remains

Context	Species	Bone	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
029	pig	metatarsus/tarsal cuboid	2/1	53	fused juvenile
	pig	ulna	1	6	
	cattle	tibia	1	48	

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 several previous archaeological investigations on Mareham Lane, Sleaford, that are the subjects of reports. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the North Kesteven Heritage Officer and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

Although Roman and medieval artefacts were recovered these are probably components of manuring scatter. As such they have limited local potential and significance, though do indicate occupation of both periods somewhere in the general vicinity. The greater part of the assemblage is of later post-medieval date and is also of limited local potential but does indicate occupation of 18th-19th century date in close proximity.

The dearth of material dating between the 15th and 18th centuries is informative and suggests that the site was not only uninhabited at this time but had probably experienced a change of agricultural regime from arable to pasture.

References

Slowikowski, A., Nenck, 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

Bronze Age	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
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 interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
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.
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) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Iron Age	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
Layer	A layer is a term 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.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
Neolithic	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500-2250 BC.
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 1 st 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:

50	Context records
14	Drawing sheets
11	Daily record sheets
2	Photographic record sheets
1	Plan register
1	Section register
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: 2001.272

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: SMLC 01

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

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