

JB/SMR

M3/5

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
OF DEVELOPMENT ON LAND AT  
FEN GATE,  
MOULTON CHAPEL,  
SPALDING,  
LINCOLNSHIRE.  
(MCF00)**



**A P S**  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
SERVICES

Event LI 4007  
Sources LI 8591 LI 8592  
23822 LI 84091 Undated



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
OF DEVELOPMENT ON LAND AT  
FEN GATE,  
MOULTON CHAPEL,  
SPALDING,  
LINCOLNSHIRE.  
(MCF00)**

Work Undertaken For  
Robert Doughty Consultancy  
On behalf of  
Allison Homes

Report Compiled by  
Steve Thomson BSc (Hons)

March 2003

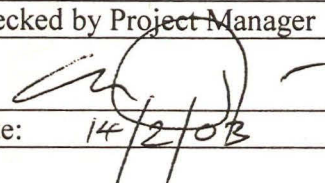
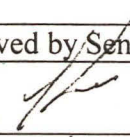
Planning Application No: H13/0104/00  
National Grid Reference: TF 2950 1840  
City and County Museum Accession No: 2000.107

A.P.S. Report No: 40/03



**Quality Control  
Moulton Chapel FenGate  
(MCF00)**

Project Coordinator	Gary Taylor
Supervisors	James Albone, Rachael Hall, Barry Martin, James Snee and Fiona Walker
Finds Processing	Denise Buckley
Illustration	Steve Thomson
Photographic Reproduction	Sue Unsworth
Post-excavation Analyst	Steve Thomson

Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
 Gary Taylor	 Tom Lane
Date: 14/2/03	Date: 14-03-03

## CONTENTS

### List of Figures

### List of Plates

1.	Summary .....	1
2.	Introduction .....	1
2.1	Definition of an Archaeological Watching Brief.....	1
2.2	Planning Background .....	1
2.3	Topography, Geology and Soils .....	1
2.4	Archaeological Setting .....	1
3.	Aims .....	2
4.	Methods.....	2
5.	Results .....	3
6.	Discussion .....	5
7.	Conclusions .....	6
8.	Acknowledgements.....	6
9.	Bibliography .....	6
10.	Abbreviations .....	7

### Appendices

1	Specification for an Archaeological Watching Brief
2	Context Summary
3	The finds by Hilary Healey and Gary Taylor
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 Map detailing cropmarks in the area
- Figure 5 Monitored plots showing section locations
- Figure 6 Monitored plots showing archaeological remains
- Figure 7 Section drawings 1, 2, 4 & 5
- Figure 8 Section drawings 3, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11 & 12
- Figure 9 Section drawings 13, 14, 15, 16 & 18
- Figure 10 Section drawings 19, 20 & 21

### **List of Plates**

- Plate 1 General view of development at commencement of groundworks, looking southwest
- Plate 2 Ditch 013, Plot 25, looking north
- Plate 3 Section 10, Plot 22 looking west
- Plate 4 Section 13, ditch 059, Plot 20, looking south

## 1. SUMMARY

*An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during residential development on land at Fen Gate, Moulton Chapel, Lincolnshire. The area is archaeologically sensitive, with cropmarks of probable Romano-British settlements and field systems lying immediately to the south and southeast. The course of a Roman road also lies to the south of the site.*

*Possible remnants of ridge and furrow agriculture was identified together with a series of ditches which appeared to serve as drainage and field boundaries. A general lack of artefactual material suggests that the site had been subject to agricultural use as opposed to domestic occupation. This is likely to have been continuous, from at possibly the Romano-British period until the present day.*

*A sherd of 12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> century date pottery was the earliest artefact recovered. A fragment of clay 18<sup>th</sup> century clay pipe was also retrieved.*

*No definitive evidence of Romano-British occupation was encountered, though the possibility that some of the undated ditches are of the period is considered.*

## 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

A planning application (H13/0104/00) was submitted to South Holland District for the construction of 59 residential properties on land at Fen Gate, Moulton Chapel, Lincolnshire. Permission was granted subject to a condition requiring an archaeological watching brief.

Archaeological Project Services (APS) was commissioned by the Robert Doughty Consultancy, on behalf of Allison Homes, to undertake the watching brief. The work was carried out between the 27<sup>th</sup> October 2000 and 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2001 in accordance with a specification designed by APS (Appendix 1) and approved by the Senior Built Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council.

### 2.3 Topography, Geology, and Soils

Moulton Chapel is located 6km southeast of Spalding in the South Holland district of Lincolnshire (Fig.1).

The site is located at the northeast corner of the main Moulton Chapel crossroad, on the east side of Fen Gate at National Grid Reference TF 2950 1840 (Fig.2). The area is flat, low-lying and lies at approximately 3m OD.

Local soils are the Wisbech Association, calcareous alluvial gleys (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 319; 361) developed in marine alluvium which in turn overlies Oxford Clays.

### 2.4 Archaeological Background

Previous research, based on field walking and mapping of crop and soil marks from aerial photographs, has identified a densely occupied Roman landscape of settlements, enclosures and industrial sites linked by a

network of droveways, accessed by a Roman thoroughfare. The route of this thoroughfare is followed by a possible Roman Road, oriented east-west through Moulton Chapel and only 50m to the south of the site (Phillips 1970, 284-302). However, it is possible that this route may be a later droveway.

Pottery indicates habitation of the area from the 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> centuries A.D. Three of these sites have been classified as Scheduled Ancient Monuments. The industrial sites, commonly associated with settlements, are represented by fragmentary ceramic equipment (briquetage) indicative of salt production and are referred to as salterns. These tend to be located along the courses of ancient tidal creeks.

Investigations 500m to the west and up to 3km to the south of the development, revealed extensive agricultural remains and a small rural settlement of the Romano-British period (Dymond 1996). Further, extensive, settlement remains, in the form of cropmarks, are recorded surrounding Moulton Chapel, indicating domestic and agricultural settlement of the period (Fig. 4 - 2817, 2716N, 2816N, 2816S, 2716E, 2716S, 2916, 2718, 2719).

Subsequent to this period of occupation, localised marine transgression occurred, creating marshes and rendering much of the area uninhabitable. This situation slowly reversed before or during the Saxon period (450-1150 A.D.), when some land was reclaimed and farmed. However, it was not until the medieval period (1150-1500 A.D.), when large scale land reclamation occurred, that more widespread rural habitation could develop. These newly established settlements, like their Roman antecedents, exploited salt production to boost their economy, though the medieval salterns were restricted to coastal areas and controlled by the religious

estates.

The village of Moulton is recorded in the Domesday survey of 1086 and is referred to as '*Multune*'. The name either derives from the Old English personal name *Mi la* and *tun*, meaning a 'farmstead or village'. Alternatively the Old English *mi l*, meaning 'a mule', may apply, although the former is more likely (Cameron 1998, 89).

Domesday records that land in the area was held by Ivo Taillebois and Guy of Craon and amounted to 10 carucates and 15 bovates of land, approximately 1825 acres (Foster and Longley 1976).

Post-medieval (1500-1700) and modern development of the area has been restricted to agricultural activities, though it is apparent that the area has not been so densely settled as during the Roman period.

The church of St. James in Moulton Chapel was constructed in 1722 and was a brick octagon (Pevsner & Harris 1989, 568). Also of note is a brick tower mill constructed in 1865 (*Ibid*).

### 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

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

### 4. METHODS

The watching brief required the archaeological monitoring of foundations for 59 new dwellings. However, 41 of these were constructed prior to APS being advised

(Fig.3). This report, therefore, deals with the results from the remaining properties.

Foundation trenches were opened using a mechanical excavator fitted with a 0.8m wide blade. The depths of the foundation trenches varied from 0.6m to 1.1m below ground surface.

Exposed soils were inspected and selectively cleaned to identify archaeological deposits. Where identified, deposits were partially or fully excavated by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. Each deposit or feature revealed was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A photographic record was compiled depicting the setting of the site, work in progress and the recorded deposits. Sections were drawn at scales of 1:10 and 1:20. The locations of the identified features, section drawings and monitored areas were recorded on 1:50 and annotated sketch plans. Recording of the deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard APS' practice.

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

## 5. RESULTS

Following post excavation analysis, three phases were identified;

Phase 1 - Alluvial deposits

Phase 2 - Undated deposits

Phase 2 - Recent deposits

### 5.2 Phase 1 - Alluvial deposits

The earliest recorded deposits were alluvial in nature and were identified in all plots monitored. These comprised a generally mid-yellowish brown to greyish brown silt and fine sand (**002, 011, 019, 027, 029, 036, 044, 060, 068, 076, 081, 088**).

Within Plot 27, the alluvium was seen to be gleyed (reduced in waterlogged conditions) (**005, 008**) (Fig. 7 - sections 1 & 2, Fig. 8 - section 3), where it underlay two Phase 2 features .

Alluvial deposits were generally encountered directly below the topsoil at depths of approximately 0.3m to 0.4m below ground surface.

Within Plots 16, 31 and 32, a subsoil deposit, also likely to have been alluvial in origin and subject to later transformation through re-working and leaching, was recorded.

This comprised a 0.25m thick, mid-yellowish brown silt (**021**) in Plot 16 and a mid-brown silt (**075, 077**) in Plots 31 and 32.

### 5.2 Phase 2 - Undated deposits

Towards the southern edge of the site, in Plot 31, a probable circular cut (**074**) measuring approximately 0.8m diameter and 0.4m deep was interpreted as a pit (Fig. 10 - section 19). The pit had a primary fill of dark brown silt (**073**) containing occasional brick and tile and charcoal fragments. A secondary fill of mixed light yellowish brown silt and mid brown silt (**072**) was sealed by re-deposited alluvium and a mid brown silt (**071**) containing occasional



charcoal fragments.

A sequence of linear cuts was recorded across the monitored plots, though no dateable material was retrieved from the fills of the features. However, the linear features occur in three distinct orientations as described below.

### 5.2.1 Northeast-Southwest alignment

Recorded in Plot 26, was a ditch (004) measuring 1.5m wide, 0.12m deep and greater than 4.5m long (Fig. 7 - section 1). The ditch was heavily truncated, probably by later agriculture. A dark greyish brown silt (003) filled the ditch.

In the central eastern area of the site, a ditch (043=049) (Fig. 8 - sections 11 & 12) was recorded in Plot 21. A light grey silt (048=042) formed the primary fill of the ditch and was overlain by a secondary fill of black silt (047=041). A slight variation in the tertiary fill of the ditch was identified with a mid-brown sandy silt (040) overlain by a light brownish yellow silty sand (039) recorded in the southern section of the ditch and a light yellowish brown clayey silt (046) in the northern. A mid-brown sandy silt (038=045) formed the final fill of the ditch.

Cut into (045) was a probable linear feature (090) (Fig. 8 - section 7) which was interpreted as a drainage gully. A mid-brownish yellow fine sand (050) formed the single fill of the cut.

### 5.2.2 Northwest-Southeast alignment

Located in Plots 26 and 27, and truncating (005), was a linear cut (007) measuring 0.3m deep, 2m wide and greater than 22m long (Fig. 7 - section 1, Fig.8 - section 3). The feature was interpreted as a furrow and was filled with a mid-reddish brown silt (006).

### 5.2.3 North northeast-South southwest alignment

In the southeastern corner of the site in Plot 34, the eastern edge of a linear cut (089) (Fig. 10 - section 21) measuring 0.5m deep and greater than 0.95m wide and 8m long. The feature was identified as a ditch and had a primary fill of dark blackish grey silt (087) containing frequent charcoal flecks. This was sealed by a mid-brownish yellow fine sand and silt (086). Overlying (086) was a dark brown silt (085) and a mid-greyish brown silt (084). The final fill of the ditch comprised a mid-brownish grey fine sand and silt (083).

Continuations of the ditch were recorded to the north in Plots 22 and 21 (035) (Plate 3) and Plots 19 and 20 (059) (Plate 4). A similar sequence of deposits filled the ditch (Fig. 8 - section 10, Fig. 9 - sections 13, 14, 16).

Truncating the upper fill of (059) were two linear features (053, 062) (Fig. 9 - section 14) identified as drainage gullies. Both gullies were filled with a mid-yellowish brown silt (052, 061).

Within the garage foundation of Plot 20, a further ditch (067) was identified (Fig. 9 - section 15). The ditch contained a primary fill of dark yellowish brown silt (066) overlain by a light yellowish brown silt (065) and an upper fill of mid-yellowish brown clayey silt (064). The ditch was observed to continue northeast into the garage foundations of Plot 19.

To the north of Plot 19, a linear cut (018) was identified as a ditch (Fig. 8 - section 6), and may represent a further continuation of (067). The earliest recorded fill of the ditch comprised a mid-bluish grey silty clay (017) overlain by a dumped deposit of 0.15m thick black ashy silt (016). The final fill was

a mid-yellowish brown silt (015).

In the adjacent plot, to the northwest, Plot 16, a ditch (026), measuring 3.8m wide, 0.68m deep and greater than 4.5m long was recorded, filled with a light grey sandy silt (025). A recut (091) (Fig. 8 - section 7) of the ditch was observed containing a primary fill of mid-grey clayey silt (024). This was overlain by a dark brown silt (023) and a mid-yellowish brown silt (022).

The final feature recorded was located in the northern part of the site in Plot 13. A ditch (013) measuring 3.8m wide and 1.4m deep (Fig. 8 - section 5, Plate 2) was observed extending across the foundation trenches and was filled with a dark brown clayey silt (012) containing land drain fragments.

Further sections of ditches were also observed in Plots 13 and 24 (Fig. 6), but the foundations in Plot 24 were concreted before recording could take place.

### 5.3 Phase 3 - Recent deposits

Overlying Phase 1 alluvial deposits and Phase 2 undated deposits, the present topsoil was recorded (001, 009, 014, 020, 028, 030, 037, 051, 063, 070, 082). The layer was generally between 0.3m and 0.4m thick. A sherd of 12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> century pottery and an 18<sup>th</sup> century clay pipe fragment were recovered from (030) and (037) respectively

Within Plot 25, a 0.09m thick layer of whitish grey stone (010) represented a hardstanding.

## 6. DISCUSSION

Phase 1 deposits were represented by alluvium. Although it cannot be definitively attested, the alluvium is likely to have

resulted from marine transgression. This was encountered some 0.3m to 0.4m below ground surface. Previous investigations to the south and southwest (Dymond 1996) also recorded alluvial deposits below a ploughsoil at shallow depth.

Phase 2 deposits comprised a pit and a sequence of ditches, none of which yielded any dateable material. However, the alignments of the ditches suggest three separate elements relating to use of the land.

This would appear to commence with southwest-northeast aligned ditches which are likely to represent field boundary and drainage ditches.

A northwest-southeast furrow truncated one of the ditches and would suggest a later, second element of land use. The furrow possibly indicates ridge and furrow agriculture on the site, which may imply a medieval date. The presence, in the overlying topsoil, of an abraded 12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> century pottery sherd, probably deriving from a manuring scatter, may support such a conclusion, however this remains tentative.

A final element involves more broadly north northeast- south southwest and north- south ditches, again likely to represent field boundary and drainage ditches. The contrast in orientation with the furrow identified, suggests a further element, perhaps later though this may equally represent an earlier form of land use. However, the lack of artefactual material generally, makes drawing any specific conclusions regarding dating difficult.

It is noticeable that the majority of the ditches contained multiple fills, many of which are likely to be alluvial, although an element of dumping was also observed. The evidence of several fills within the ditches

may be indicative of a less stable environment, which would argue for a relatively early date for the ditches, possibly Romano-British but certainly earlier than medieval.

More generally, the absence of any Romano-British finds is surprising, given the proximity of settlement related cropmarks in the vicinity. Dymond (1996) encountered remains of the period cut into alluvium, immediately below the topsoil. The features identified on the present investigation site were also encountered at relatively shallow depths. Furthermore, the alignments of some of the ditches, not being specifically north-south or east-west, would fit well with the landscape defined by cropmarks. Without secure dating evidence this remains speculative, however the possibility of a Romano-British date for some of the ditches must be considered.

The need for clearing of ditches was attested in the form of one recorded recut, which would also suggest sustained use of the contemporary field system.

In broader terms, the site appears to have served an agricultural function for a considerable time, perhaps under cultivation from at least the medieval period, reverting to pasture during the early post-medieval period, before returning to arable land in the later post-medieval era.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during development on land at Fen Gate, Moulton Chapel, as the site is archaeologically sensitive, lying in proximity to Romano-British remains.

No definitive evidence of the Romano-

British period was encountered though undated ditches representing field boundaries and/or drainage ditches occurred extensively. Possible ridge and furrow, likely to be medieval in date was also recorded.

The site appears to have existed as agricultural land from at least the medieval period to the present day.

The nature of the soils exposed suggests that paleo-environmental evidence (e.g. seeds, wood etc.) would not survive other than through charring, though other indicators (e.g. shell, bone) would be preserved.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge Emma Banbury of the Robert Doughty Consultancy for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis on behalf of Allison Homes. Gary Taylor coordinated the project and jointly edited this report with Tom Lane.

## 9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Cameron, K. 1998 *A Dictionary of Lincolnshire Place-Names*

Dymond, M., 1996, *Archaeological Investigations along the Route of a Water Pipeline Between Moulton Chapel and Whaplode, Lincolnshire*. APS unpublished report no. 59/96

Hallam, S.J., 1970 'Settlement around the Wash' in Phillips, C.W., 1970 *The Fenland in Roman Times*. Royal Geographical Society Research Series No. 5

IFA., 1999 *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON LAND AT FEN GATE, MOULTON CHAPEL, LINCOLNSHIRE

Pevsner, N., and Harris, J., 1989 *The Buildings of England, Lincolnshire* 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (Revised N. Antram)

Phillips, C.W., 1970 *The Fenland in Roman Times*. Royal Geographical Society Research Series No. 5

**10. ABBREVIATIONS**

APS Archaeological Project Services

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

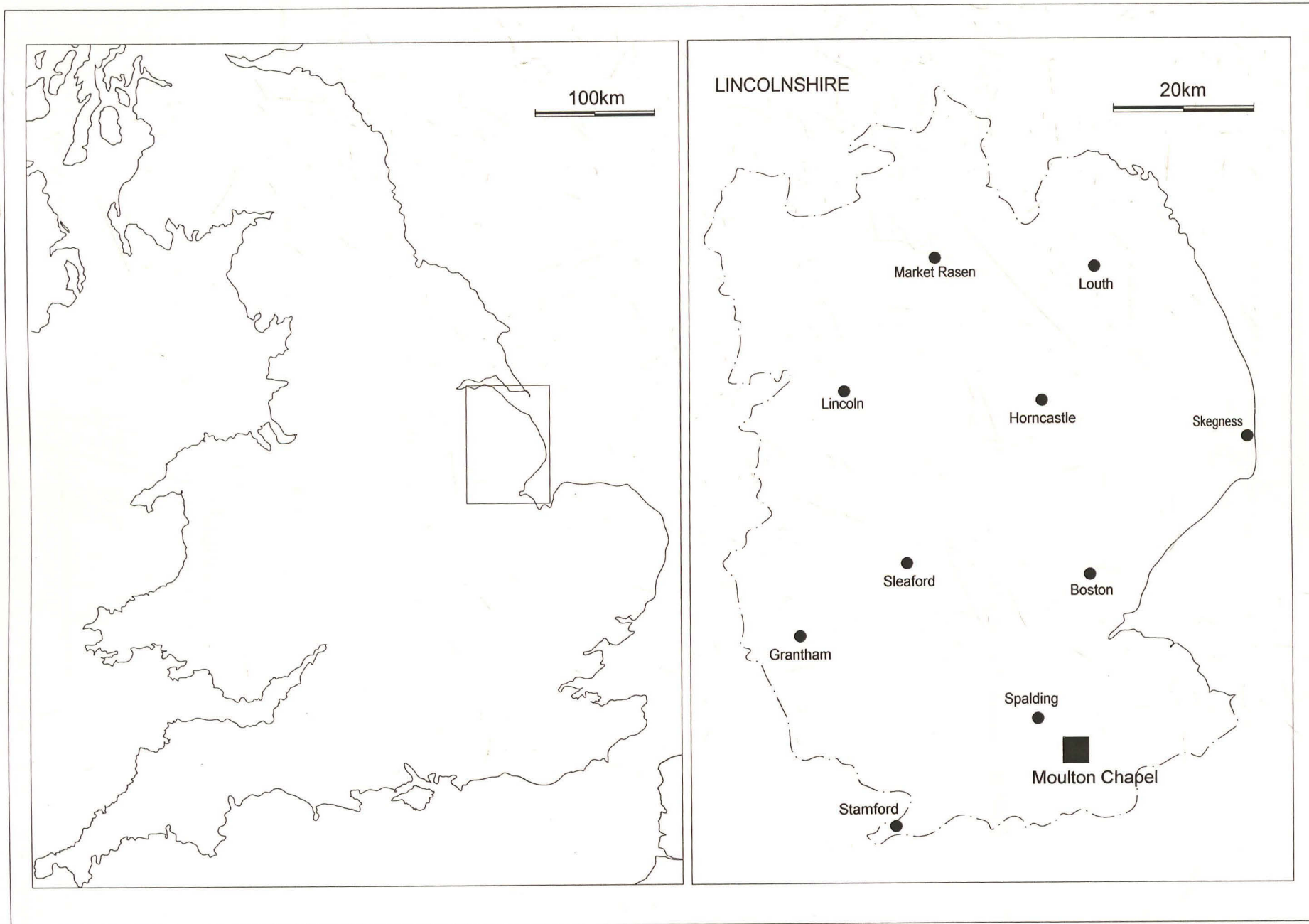
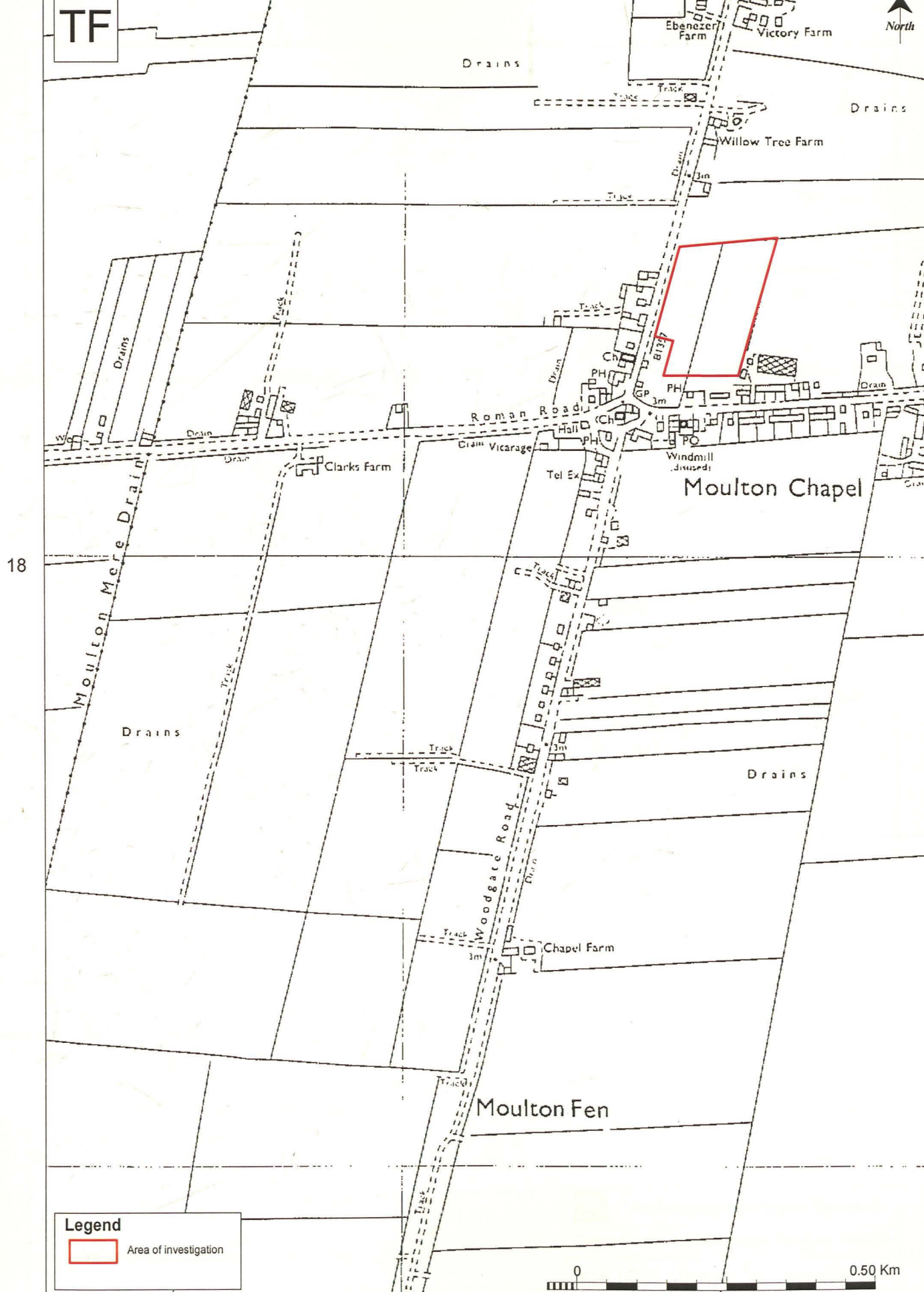




Figure 1: General Location Plan



Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright. HTL LTD Licence No AL5041A0001

Figure 2 - Site location plan



-  Dwellings constructed prior to monitoring
-  Monitored plot



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Moulton Chapel Fen Gate MCF00

Scale 1:1500    Drawn by: SGT    Report No: 40/03

Figure 3 - Detailed site plan

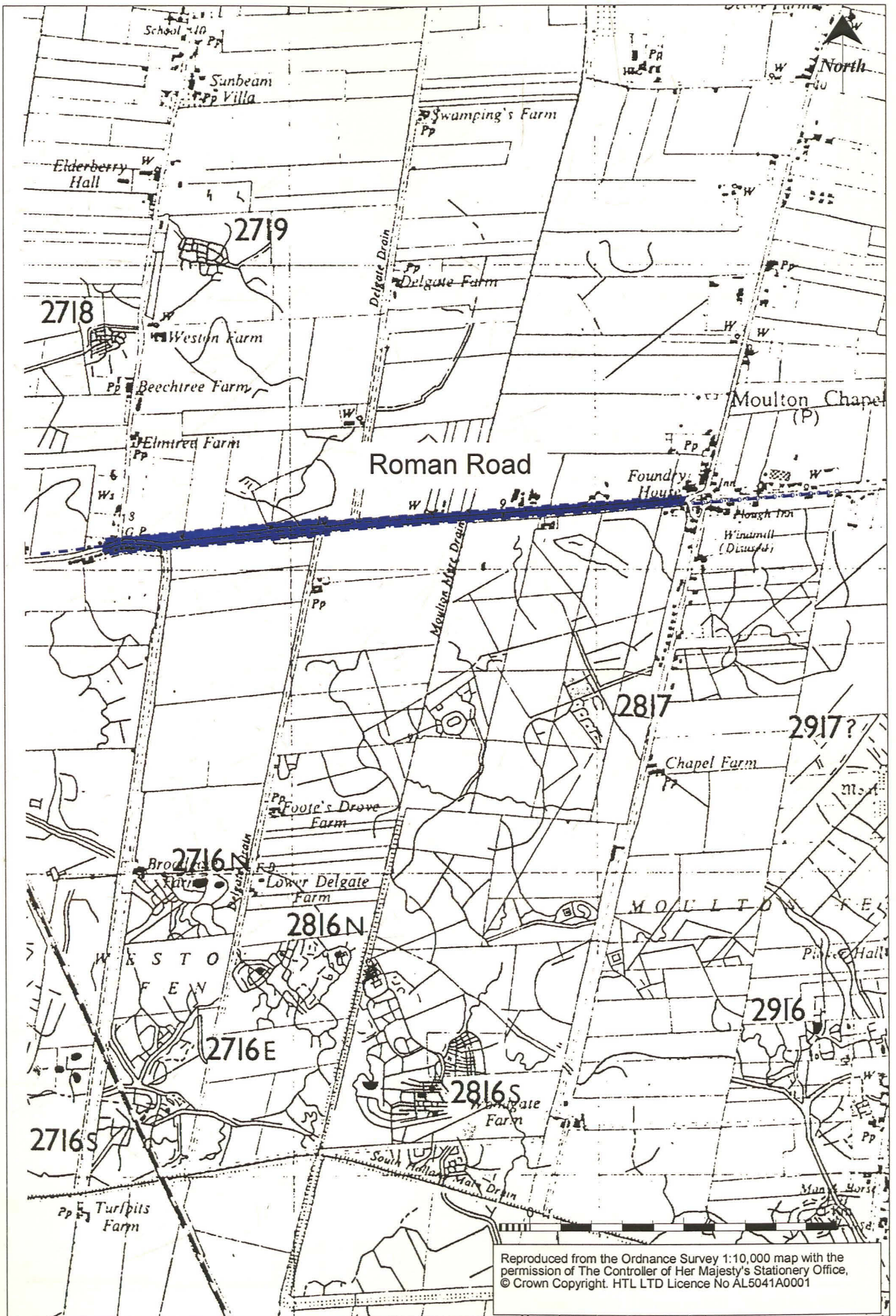
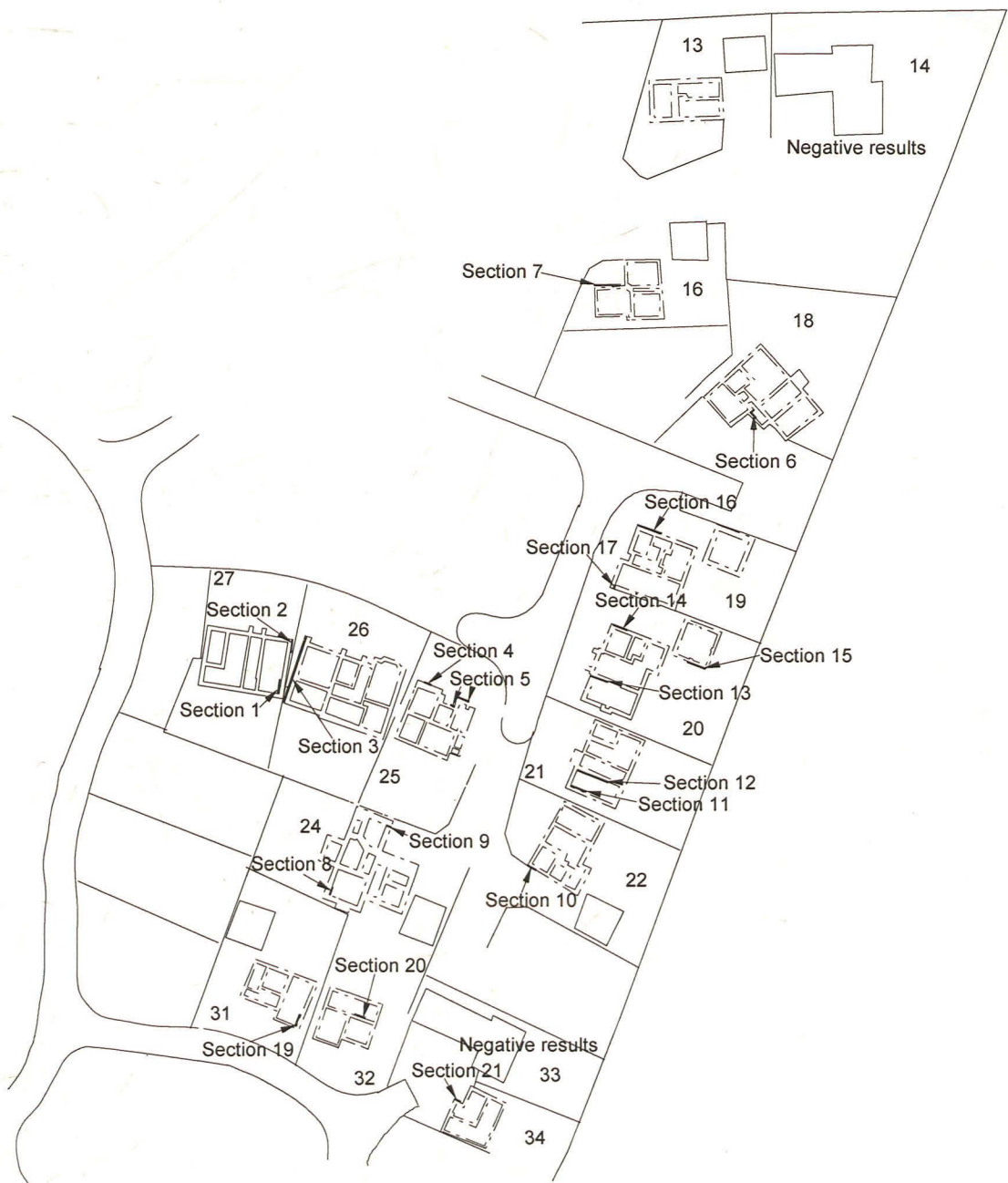


Figure 4 - Map detailing Romano-British cropmarks After Phillips 1970






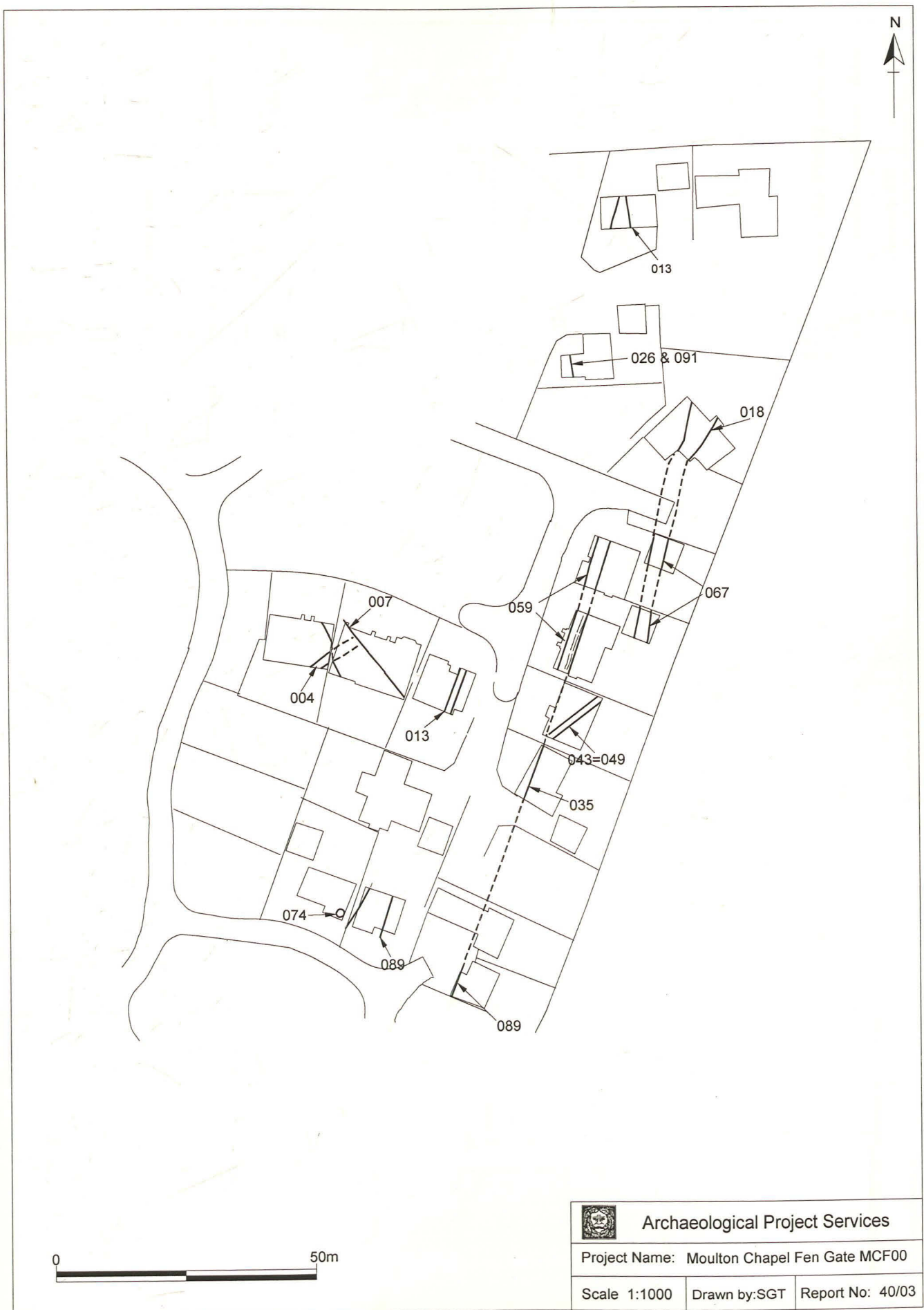
	Archaeological Project Services	
Project Name: Moulton Chapel Fen Gate MCF00		
Scale 1:1000	Drawn by:SGT	Report No: 40/03

Figure 5 - Monitored plots showing section locations




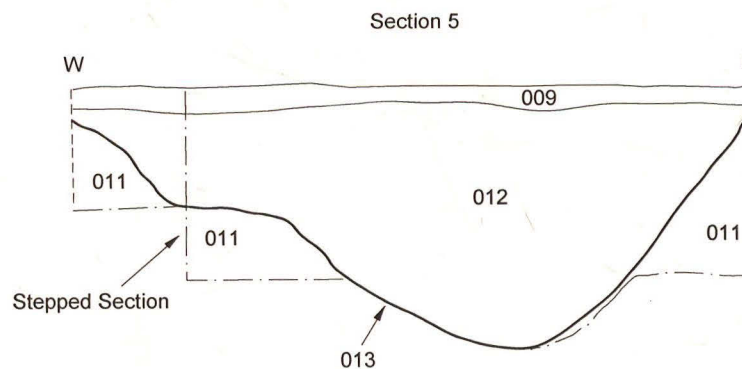
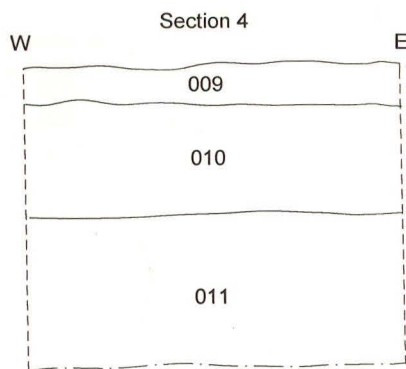
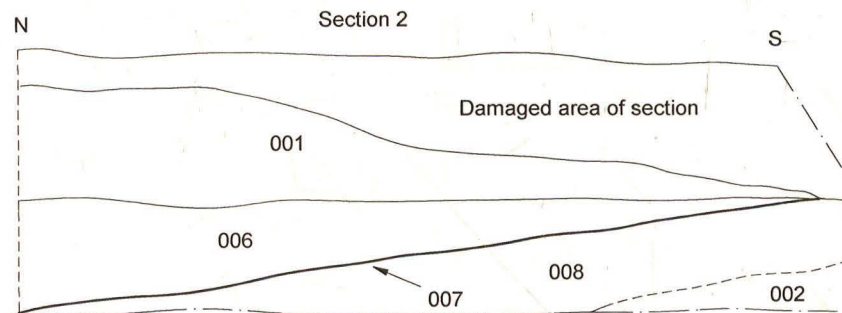
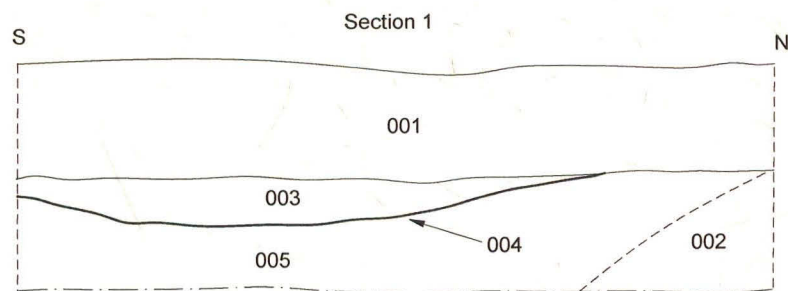
 <b>Archaeological Project Services</b>		
Project Name: Moulton Chapel Fen Gate MCF00		
Scale 1:1000	Drawn by:SGT	Report No: 40/03

Figure 6 - Monitored plots showing archaeological remains




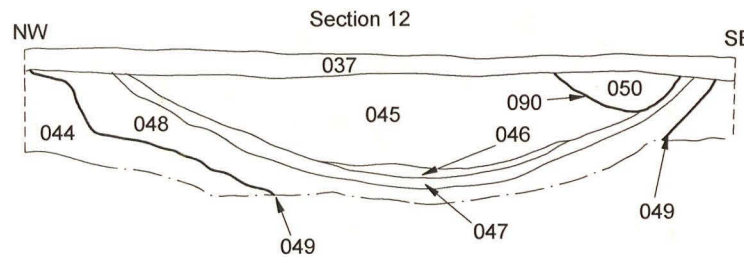
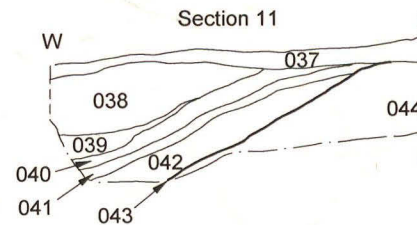
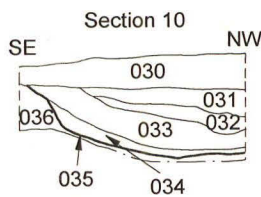
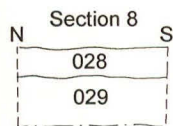
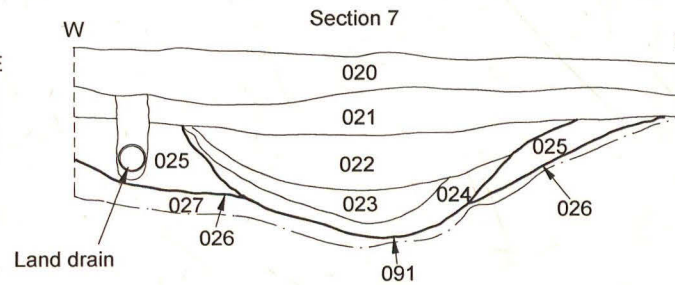
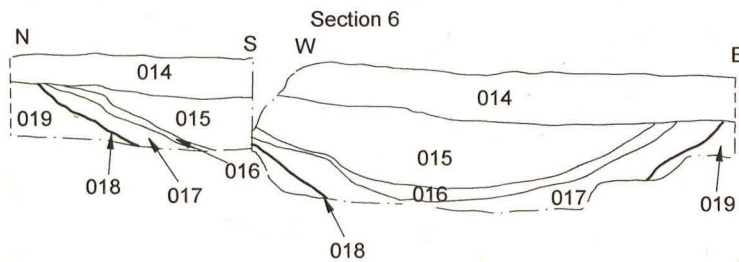
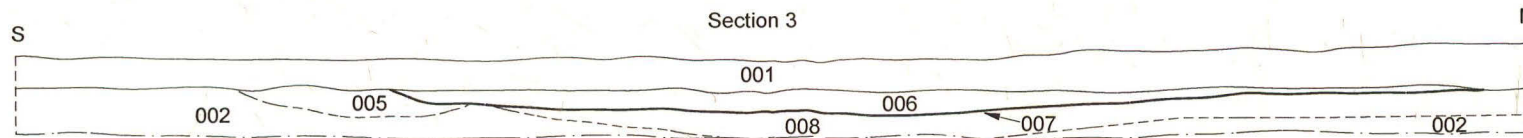
 <b>Archaeological Project Services</b>		
Project Name: Moulton Chapel Fen Gate MCF00		
Scale 1: 20	Drawn by: SGT	Report No: 40/03

Figure 7 - Section drawings 1, 2, 4 & 5




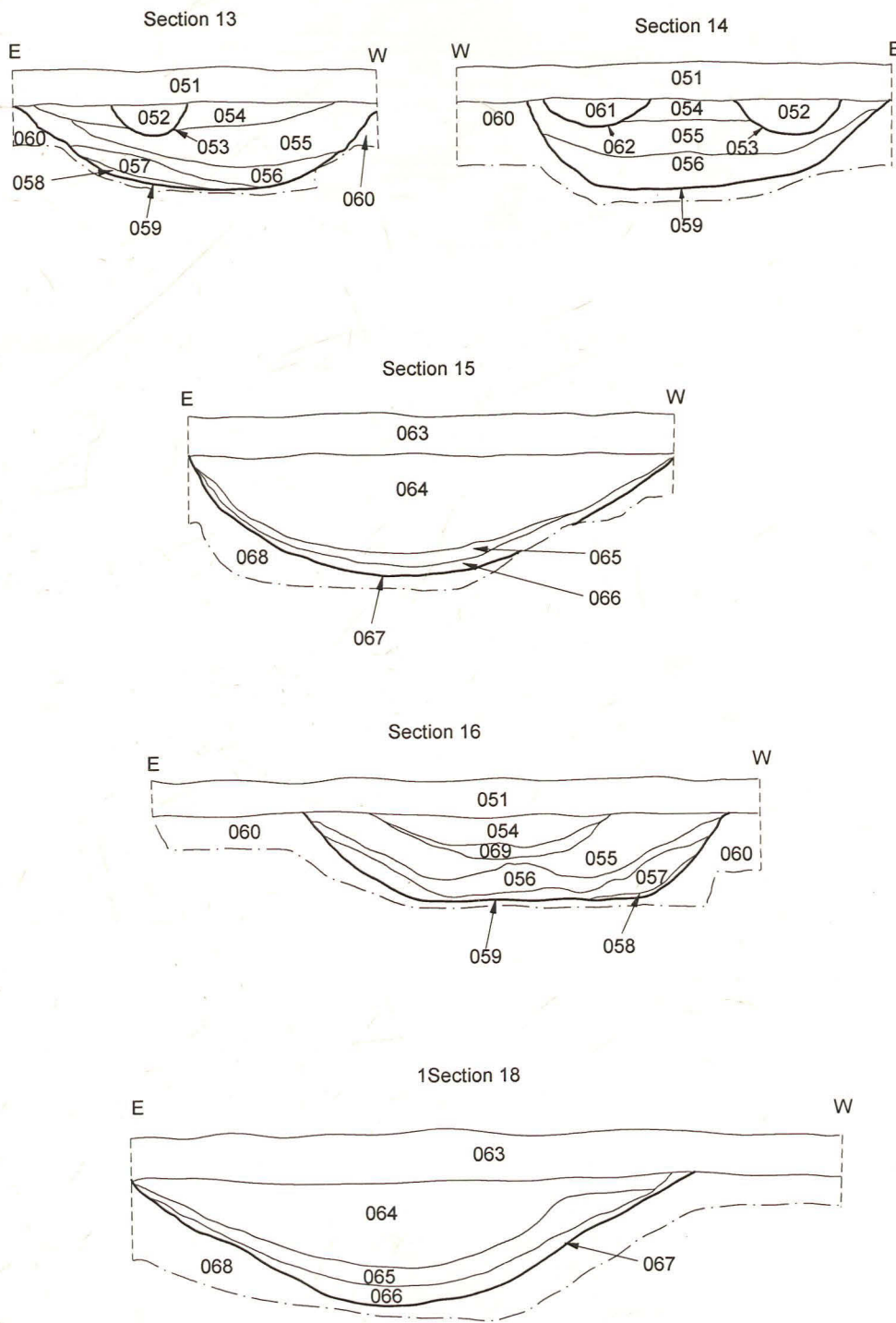
 <b>Archaeological Project Services</b>		
Project Name: Moulton Chapel Fen Gate MCF00		
Scale 1:50	Drawn by: SGT	Report No: 40/03

Figure 8 - Section drawings 3,6,7,8,10,11 & 12




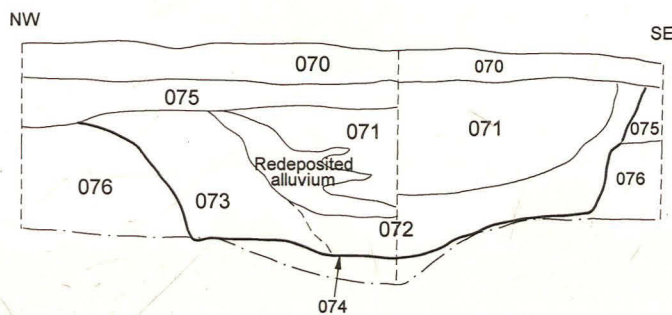
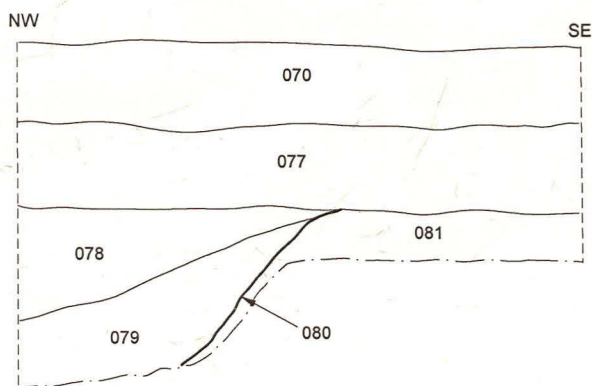
 <b>Archaeological Project Services</b>		
Project Name: Moulton Chapel Fen Gate MFC00		
Scale 1:40	Drawn by:SGT	Report No: 40/03

Figure 9 - Section drawings 13, 14, 15, 16 & 18

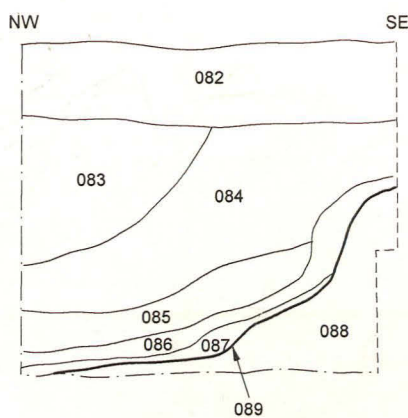
Section 19



Section 20



Section 21



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Moulton Chapel Fen Gate MCF00

Scale 1:20

Drawn by:SGT

Report No: 40/03

Figure 10 - Section drawings 19, 20 & 21



Plate 1 General view of development at commencement of groundworks, looking southwest



Plate 2 Ditch 013, Plot 25, looking north

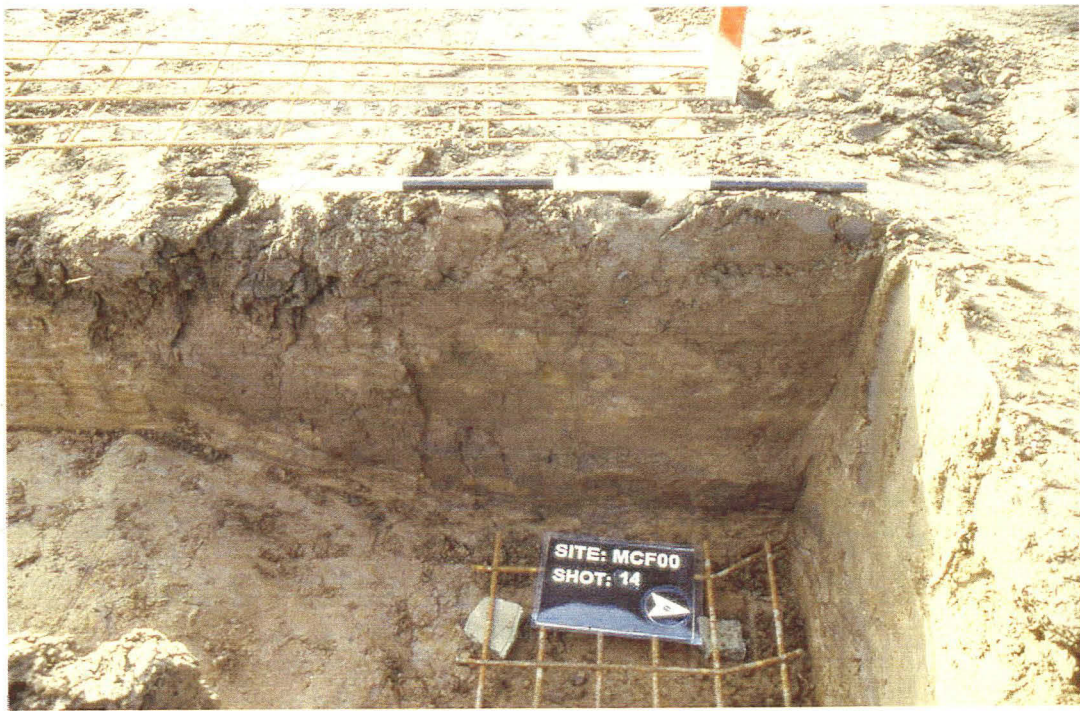


Plate 3 Section 10, Plot 22 looking west



Plate 4 Section 13, ditch 059, Plot 20, looking south



**Appendix 1**

**LAND AT  
FEN GATE,  
MOULTON CHAPEL,  
SPALDING,  
LINCOLNSHIRE**

**SPECIFICATION FOR  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

**PREPARED FOR  
ROBERT DOUGHTY CONSULTANCY**

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

**NOVEMBER 2000**

1 **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during development at Fen Gate, Moulton Chapel, Spalding, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The area is archaeologically sensitive, with cropmarks of probable Romano-British settlements and field systems immediately to the south and southwest.*
- 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 groundworks at Fen Gate, Moulton Chapel, Spalding, Lincs. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 295 184.
- 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 Moulton Chapel is located 6km southeast of Spalding in the South Holland district of Lincolnshire. The works are to take place at northeast corner of the main Moulton Chapel crossroads, on the east side of Fen Gate at National Grid Reference TF 295 184.

4 **PLANNING BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 A planning application (H13/0104/00) was submitted to South Holland District Council for the construction of 61 dwellings with garages and off street parking. Planning permission is subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief during all stages of the groundworks associated with the development.

5 **SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY**

- 5.1 The site is on low-lying flat ground at approximately 3m OD. Local soils are the Wisbech Association calcareous alluvial gleys (Hodge *et al.* 1984 319; 361). The soils are developed in marine alluvium which in turn overlies Oxford Clays.

6 **ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW**

---

- 6.1 Cropmarks of settlement remains of probable Romano-British date are located approximately 700m to the southwest of the site. Other cropmarks, of possible field systems associated with this settlement, are located immediately to the south and southwest of the site.

## 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 Lincolnshire County Council Archaeological Officer; South Holland District Council Planning Department; and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

11 **ARCHIVE**

- 11.1 The documentation and records generated during the watching brief will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the City and County Museum, Lincoln. This will be undertaken following the requirements of the document titled Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives for long term storage and curation.

12 **PUBLICATION**

- 12.1 A report of the findings of the watching brief will be published in Heritage Lincolnshire's Annual Report and a note presented to the editor of the journal *Lincolnshire History and Archaeology*. If appropriate, notes on the findings will be submitted to the appropriate national journals: *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date, and *Medieval Archaeology* and the *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for findings of medieval or later date.

13 **CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

- 13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeological Officer. They will be given seven days notice in writing before the commencement of the project.

14 **VARIATIONS**

- 14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.

15 **CONTINGENCIES**

- 15.1 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).
- 15.2 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.
- 15.3 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.

**16 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS**

- 16.1 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.
- 16.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- 16.3 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.

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

- 17.1 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, 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
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

18 **INSURANCES**

18.1 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.

19 **COPYRIGHT**

19.1 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.

19.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.

19.3 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.

19.4 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.

20 **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

Lincolnshire County Council, 1998 *Lincolnshire archaeological handbook: a manual of archaeological practice*

Specification: Version 2, 01/11/2000

**Appendix 2**  
Context Summary

Context No.	Plot	Section	Description	Interpretation
001	-	-	Soft, dark greyish brown silt, 0.3m thick containing occasional stones	Topsoil
002	-	-	Firm, light reddish brown silt >0.3m thick	Alluvial deposit
003	27	1,3	Firm, dark greyish brown silt	Fill of 004
004	27	1,3	Linear cut, 1.5m wide x 0.12m deep x > 4.5m long, NE-SW orientation	?Ditch
005	27	1,3	Firm, bluish grey silt, >0.3m thick x c.2.5m wide	Gleyed silt
006	27	2,3	Firm, mid-reddish brown silt	Fill of 007
007	27	2,3	Linear cut, 2m wide x 0.3m deep x >22m long, NW-SE orientation	Ditch
008	27	2,3	Firm, bluish grey silt, c.4m wide	Gleyed silt
009	25	4	Firm dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.31m thick	Topsoil
010	4	4	Loose, whitish grey stone, 0.09m thick	Modern hardstanding
011	25	4	Soft, light reddish grey fine sandy silt, >0.4m thick	Alluvial deposit
012	25	5	Soft, dark brown clayey silt containing land drain fragments	Fill of 013
013	25	5	Linear cut, 3.8m wide x 1.3m deep, N-S orientation	Ditch
014	18	6	Firm, dark brown silt, 0.35m thick containing occasion charcoal, coal and brick fragments	Topsoil
015	18	6	Firm, mid-yellowish brown silt	Fill of 018
016	18	6	Firm, black ashy silt	Fill of 018
017	18	6	Firm, mid-bluish grey silty clay	Fill of 018
018	18	6	Linear cut, 3m wide x >0.6m deep, NE-SW orientation	Ditch
019	18	6	Firm, mottled mid-yellowish brown and light greyish brown silt	Alluvial deposit
020	16	7	Compact, mid-greyish brown silt, 0.3m thick	Topsoil
021	16	7	Firm, mid-yellowish brown sandy silt, c. 0.25m thick	Subsoil
022	16	7	Firm, mid-yellowish brown silt	Fill of 026
023	16	7	Friable, dark brown silt	Fill of 026



Context No.	Plot	Section	Description	Interpretation
024	16	7	Firm, mid-grey clayey silt	Fill of 026
025	16	7	Firm, light grey sandy silt	Fill of 026
026	16	7	Linear cut, >3.8m wide x 0.68m deep, NE-SW orientation	Ditch
027	16	7	Firm, light brownish yellow fine sand and silt, >0.2m thick	Alluvial deposit
028	24	8,9	Firm, mid-yellowish brown sandy silt, 0.4m thick	Topsoil
029	24	8,9	Firm, light yellowish brown fine sand, >0.33m thick	Alluvial deposit
030	22	10	Firm, dark brown silt, 0.22m thick	Topsoil
031	22	10	Firm, mixed mid-greyish brown and brownish yellow fine sand and silt	Fill of 035
032	22	10	Firm, mid-greyish brown fine sand and silt	Fill of 035
033	22	10	Firm, dark greyish brown fine sand and silt	Fill of 035
034	22	10	Firm, mixed mid-greyish brown and yellowish brown fine sand and silt	Fill of 035
035	22	10	Linear cut, >1.45m wide x 0.46m deep, N-S orientation	Ditch
036	22	10	Firm, mid-yellowish brown fine sand and silt, >0.32m thick	Alluvial deposit
037	21	11,12	Firm, dark brown silt, 0.22m thick	Topsoil
038	21	11	Firm, mid-brown fine sand and silt	Fill of 043
039	21	11	Firm, light brownish yellow silty sand	Fill of 043
040	21	11	Firm mid-brown sandy silt	Fill of 043
041	21	11	Firm, black silt	Fill of 043
042	21	11	Firm, light grey silt	Fill of 043
043	21	11	Linear cut, 3.1m wide x >0.8m deep, NE-SW orientation	Ditch
044	21	11,12	Firm, mid-yellowish brown fine sand and silt, >0.48m thick	Alluvial deposit
045	21	12	Firm, mid-brown fine sandy silt	Fill of 049
046	21	12	Firm, light yellowish brown clayey silt	Fill of 049
047	21	12	Firm, black silt	Fill of 049
048	21	12	Firm, light grey silt	Fill of 049
049	21	12	Linear cut, 4.4m wide x >0.9m deep, NE-SW orientation	Ditch
050	21	12	Mid-brownish yellow fine sand	Fill of 090
051	19/20	13,14,16	Firm, mid-yellowish brown clayey silt, 0.4m thick	Topsoil

Context No.	Plot	Section	Description	Interpretation
052	20	13,14	Firm, mid-yellowish brown silt	Fill of 053
053	20	13,14	Linear cut, >12m long x 0.42m wide x 0.17m deep, N-S orientation	Ditch
054	19/20	13,14,16	Firm, light greyish brown silt containing occasional ceramic building material fragments	Fill of 059
055	19/20	13,14,16	Firm, mixed light yellowish brown and light greyish brown silt	Fill of 059
056	19/20	13,14,16	Firm, dark yellowish brown silt	Fill of 059
057	19/20	13,14,16	Firm, mixed light yellowish brown and light greyish brown silt	Fill of 059
058	19/20	13,16	Firm, dark yellowish brown silt	Fill of 059
059	19/20	13,14,16	Linear cut, 2.4m wide x 0.5m deep x >12m long, N-S orientation	Ditch
060	19/20	13,14,16	Firm, light yellowish brown silt >0.4m thick	Alluvial deposit
061	20	14	Firm, mid-yellowish brown silt	Fill of 062
062	20	14	Linear cut, N-S orientation, 0.6m wide x 0.16m deep	?Ditch
063	20	15	Firm, mid-yellowish brown clayey silt, 0.22m thick	Topsoil
064	20	15	Firm, mid-yellowish brown clayey silt	Fill of 067
065	20	15	Firm, light yellowish brown silt	Fill of 067
066	20	15	Firm, dark yellowish brown silt	Fill of 067
067	20	15	Linear cut, 2.8m wide x 0.7m deep x >5.5m long N-S orientation	Ditch
068	20	15	Firm, light greyish brown with light yellowish brown mottling, >0.77m thick	Alluvial deposit
069	19	16	Firm, mid-yellowish brown silt	Fill of 059
070	31	19	Firm, dark brown silt, 0.2m thick	Topsoil
071	31	19	Firm, mid-brown silt containing occasional charcoal	Fill of 074
072	31	19	Soft, mixed light yellowish brown and mid-brown silt	Fill of 074
073	31	19	Firm, dark brown silt containing occasional charcoal fragments and occasional degraded brick/tile fragments	Fill of 074
074	31	19	Cut feature measuring 0.8m x 0.75m x 0.4m deep, steeply sloping sides, irregular base	Pit
075	31	19	Firm, mid-brown silt, 0.14m thick	Subsoil

Context No.	Plot	Section	Description	Interpretation
076	31	19	Firm, mid-brownish yellow fine sand and silt	Alluvial deposit
077	32	20	Firm, mid-brown silt, 0.14m thick	Subsoil
078	32	20	Firm, dark brown silt	Fill of 080
079	32	20	Firm, mid-yellowish brown silt containing occasional charcoal fragments	Fill of 080
080	32	20	Linear cut, 4m wide x >2.6m deep, NE-SW orientation	Ditch
081	32	20	Firm, mid-brownish yellow fine sand and silt	Alluvial deposit
082	34	21	Firm, dark greyish brown silt, 0.22m thick	Topsoil
083	34	21	Firm, mid-brownish grey fine sand and silt	Fill of 089
084	34	21	Firm, mid-greyish brown silt	Fill of 089
085	34	21	Firm, dark brown silt	Fill of 089
086	34	21	Firm, mid-brownish yellow fine sand and silt, containing moderate charcoal fragments	Fill of 089
087	34	21	Firm, dark blackish grey silt, containing frequent charcoal flecks	Fill of 089
088	34	21	Firm, mid-brownish yellow fine sand and silt	Alluvial deposit
089	34	21	Linear cut, >0.95m wide x >8m long x 0.5m deep, N-S orientation	Ditch
090	21	12	Cut feature, measuring 0.82m wide x 0.28m deep	Ditch
091	16	7	Linear cut, 2.5m wide x 0.7m deep x >5m long, N-S orientation	Ditch, recut of 026

## Appendix 3

### THE FINDS

by 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 single piece of pottery weighing 4g was recovered. In addition to the pottery, a fragment of clay pipe weighing 2g was collected. No faunal remains were retrieved.

#### Provenance

The material was recovered from topsoil (030, 037).

The pottery was made in moderate proximity to Moulton Chapel, at Bourne 18km to the west. The clay pipe was probably also made locally to Moulton Chapel.

#### Range

The range of material is detailed in the table.

Context	Fabric Code/Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
030	BOUA	Borne A/B ware, abraded	1	4	12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> century
037	Clay pipe	Stem, bore 5/64"	1	2	18 <sup>th</sup> century

The single fragment of pottery, which is of 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century date, is small and abraded. As such, it is likely to be a component of manuring scatter, which would, in turn, suggest the area was agricultural land in the medieval period.

#### 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 previous archaeological investigations in the Moulton Chapel area that are the subjects of reports. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

#### Potential

As a small, mixed collection the assemblage is of very limited local potential and significance. The medieval pottery is likely to derive from manuring scatter and would tend to suggest that the area was arable land at that period. The absence of later medieval and post-medieval artefacts may indicate that the function of the land changed, perhaps to pasture. Similarly, the lack of any artefacts dating before the 12<sup>th</sup> century is informative and indicates that archaeological remains dating from prior to this period are absent from the area, or were not disturbed by development, or were of a nature that did not involve artefact deposition.

#### References

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

<b>Anglo-Saxon</b>	Pertaining to the period when Britain was occupied by peoples from northern Germany, Denmark and adjacent areas. The period dates from approximately AD 450-1066.
<b>Bovate</b>	An area of land of between 15 and 40 acres
<b>Carucate</b>	An area of land which could be ploughed annually by a team of eight oxen, usually between 160 and 180 acres.
<b>Context</b>	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> [004].
<b>Cut</b>	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
<b>Domesday Survey</b>	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
<b>Fill</b>	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
<b>Iron Age</b>	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
<b>Layer</b>	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
<b>Medieval</b>	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
<b>Natural</b>	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity
<b>Post-medieval</b>	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
<b>Prehistoric</b>	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.
<b>Romano-British</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

## Appendix 5

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

90	Context records
18	Daily record sheets
2	Photographic record sheets
1	Plan register
1	Section drawing register
20	Sheets of scale drawings
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 Museum Accession Number:      LCNCC : 2000.107

Archaeological Project Services Site Code:                      MCF 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.

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.