

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
ON LAND ADJOINING  
THE WESTERN BOUNDARY OF  
NORTON BOTTOMS QUARRY OPERATIONS CENTRE  
NORTON DISNEY,  
LINCOLNSHIRE**



**A P S**  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
SERVICES

Conservation  
Services

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Highways & Planning  
Directorate



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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
ON LAND ADJOINING  
THE WESTERN BOUNDARY OF  
NORTON BOTTOMS QUARRY OPERATIONS CENTRE,  
NORTON DISNEY,  
LINCOLNSHIRE**

Work Undertaken For  
C & G Concrete Limited

Report Compiled by  
Steve Thomson BSc (Hons)

September 2002

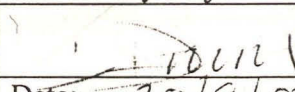
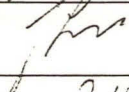
National Grid Reference: <sup>SK</sup>TF 8620 5920  
Planning Application No: N/47/0959/01  
City and County Museum Accession No: LCNCC: 2001.385

A.P.S. Report No. 194/02



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NBQ01**

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 Denise Drury	 Tom Lane
Date: 20/9/02	Date: 24-09-02

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## 1. SUMMARY

*An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at Norton Bottoms Quarry, Norton Disney, Lincolnshire, during groundworks associated with mineral extraction.*

*Iron Age and Romano-British archaeological sites are known in the area and the site has been subject to a programme of field walking, during which, two sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered.*

*The investigation revealed a sequence of topsoil, subsoil and natural geological deposits. Pottery of medieval and post-medieval date was recovered as unstratified material with no archaeological features encountered except land drains.*

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

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

### 2.2 Planning background

A planning application (N/47/0959/01) for the removal of acceptable fill on 12.1ha of arable land at Norton Bottoms, Norton Disney, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1), was submitted for approval to Lincolnshire County Council. The site had previously been the subject of a programme of fieldwalking (Lane & Rayner 2001). A recommendation

requiring an archaeological watching brief during associated groundworks was made.

Archaeological Project Services (APS) was commissioned by Wardell Armstrong on behalf of C & G Concrete Limited to undertake the watching brief. The works took place between the 11<sup>th</sup> January and 27<sup>th</sup> June 2002, in accordance with a specification designed by APS (Appendix 1) and approved by the Senior Built Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council.

### 2.3 Topography and Geology

The field, sited at TF8620 5920, is situated in Norton Disney parish, some 2.8km west of Norton Disney village and less than 500m from the county boundary with Nottinghamshire (Fig.2). It lies at the southern edge of a ridge of high ground, which represents the watershed between streams draining into the rivers Trent to the west and Witham to the east. The field, which is very slightly undulating, slopes gently down from the north to south, with the northern end at c.20m OD.

On the site itself surface soils vary from slightly clayey sand to sandy clays. Soils have been mapped previously as the Blackwood Series, deep permeable sandy and coarse loamy soils over river gravels (Hodge *et al.* 1984). Such soils are described as having a low inherent fertility and liable to long periods of waterlogging. The overall poor quality and low potential of these soils is reflected in the local minor place names in which 'moor' names, meaning 'marsh or barren upland' (Cameron 1998,154), are frequent. Examples are Stapleford Moor, adjacent to the south and Turfmoor (peatmoor), immediately to the west.

### 2.3 Archaeological setting

The area generally has a low level of archaeological presence. Previous fieldwalking along the route of the A46 corridor (TPAT 1991) located few finds of medieval or earlier periods, as did systematic walking in Eagle parish to the northeast (Lane 2000). Moreover, the land either side of the line of the A46 Fosse Way, including the Norton Bottoms site, has one of the fewest incidences of cropmarks in Lincolnshire (Kershaw 1998, fig.2). This is all the more surprising, given that much of the area lies on sands and gravels, a type of geology where cropmarks and ancient settlements are usually abundant.

Where cropmarks do occur they are generally around Brough, the Roman small town *Crococalana*, and further west towards the Trent.

However, there are a number of significant sites in the vicinity of Norton Bottoms. Iron Age finds are now known from Brough, on the Fosse Way little over 2km to the west of the field. This confirms a pre-Roman foundation for settlement, which also continued after the decline of Roman control (Jones and Knight 2001). Iron Age pits and post holes have recently been excavated at Gallows Nooking Common, some 1.5km to the north of the Norton Bottoms site and also located adjacent to the Fosse Way, while there is also some pre-Roman material from the Villa site excavated in the 1930s (Oswald 1937).

Lying less than 500m northwest of the Norton Bottoms field and at the southern extent of a high sandy ridge is a possible Iron Age fortified site identified from cropmarks. Now occupied by Brills Farm, the site dominates the area, with extensive views to the south, west and east. In addition to the sites noted above a number

of lesser sites, generally of Roman date, are known but generally these are sparsely distributed.

Fieldwalking on the site in October 2001 yielded a low density of artefacts in the form of two sherds of post-medieval pottery (Lane & Rayner, 2001).

### 3. AIMS

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

### 4. METHODS

Topsoil was stripped using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless blade to the top of subsoil and natural geological deposits. A drainage trench and soakaway were excavated to depths of up to 5m in the eastern end of the investigation area.

Exposed areas were examined to identify archaeological features and deposits and spoil was monitored to retrieve artefactual material which may have assisted with the interpretation of the site. The depth and thickness of each deposit was measured from the ground surface. Each deposit revealed was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A summary of all contexts and their descriptions appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record, depicting the setting of the site and the recorded deposits, was compiled. Sections were drawn at scales of and 1:20, with their locations recorded on annotated sketch plans. Recording of deposits encountered during the watching brief was undertaken according to standard APS practise.



Records of the deposits recognised 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 where appropriate (Appendix 3)

Contexts are described below, with the numbers assigned in the field shown in bold and in brackets.

## 5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis, two phases were identified;

- 5.1 Phase 1 - Natural deposits
- 5.2 Phase 2 - Recent deposits

### 5.1 Phase 1 – Natural deposits

The earliest deposits recorded comprised a sequence of sands and clayey silts (**103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109**) (Fig. 4 – sections 1 & 2), which were identified as natural geological deposits. The earliest of these (**105, 109**) was noted to be black and gritty as opposed to a sand or clayey silt.

### 5.2 Phase 2 – Recent deposits

Sealing the Phase 1 deposits was a mid-yellowish brown silty sand (**102**) containing moderate pebbles and sub-rounded stones and up to 0.3m thick, which was identified as a subsoil.

Sealing the subsoil was a 0.37m thick, mid-greyish brown sandy silt topsoil (**101, 111**).

Pottery of the 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> centuries and 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> centuries was recovered as unstratified material during topsoil stripping together with fragments of post-medieval ceramic building material.

A number of land drains, broadly oriented north-south were also noted during topsoil stripping.

## 6. DISCUSSION

Phase 1 deposits represented natural geological deposition. These deposits are likely to have formed as a result of glaciofluvial action, deposited during the last ice age.

The black gritty layer identified at the limits of excavation is of interest. The depth at which the layer was encountered (3 – 5m below ground surface) suggests that this is likely to be manganese and iron oxides precipitating as a result of water percolation.

Phase 2 deposits comprised a subsoil and topsoil. Unstratified pottery finds, recovered during topsoil stripping, derive from these layers and suggest that they represent ploughsoils with the pottery finds resulting from manuring scatters.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations at Norton Bottoms Quarry, Norton Disney, Lincolnshire, were undertaken as the site lies in an area of known archaeological remains.

A sequence of natural geological deposits, subsoil and topsoil was revealed with no archaeological features identified.

Unstratified finds of pottery indicate probable agricultural use of the land from the medieval period to present date.

The nature of the local site conditions would suggest that few environmental indicators (seeds, wood, pollen *etc.*) would survive other than through charring.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr D Hodgkinson of Wardell Armstrong and C & G Concrete Limited who commissioned 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 access to the relevant parish files held by Heritage Lincolnshire.

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## 10. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

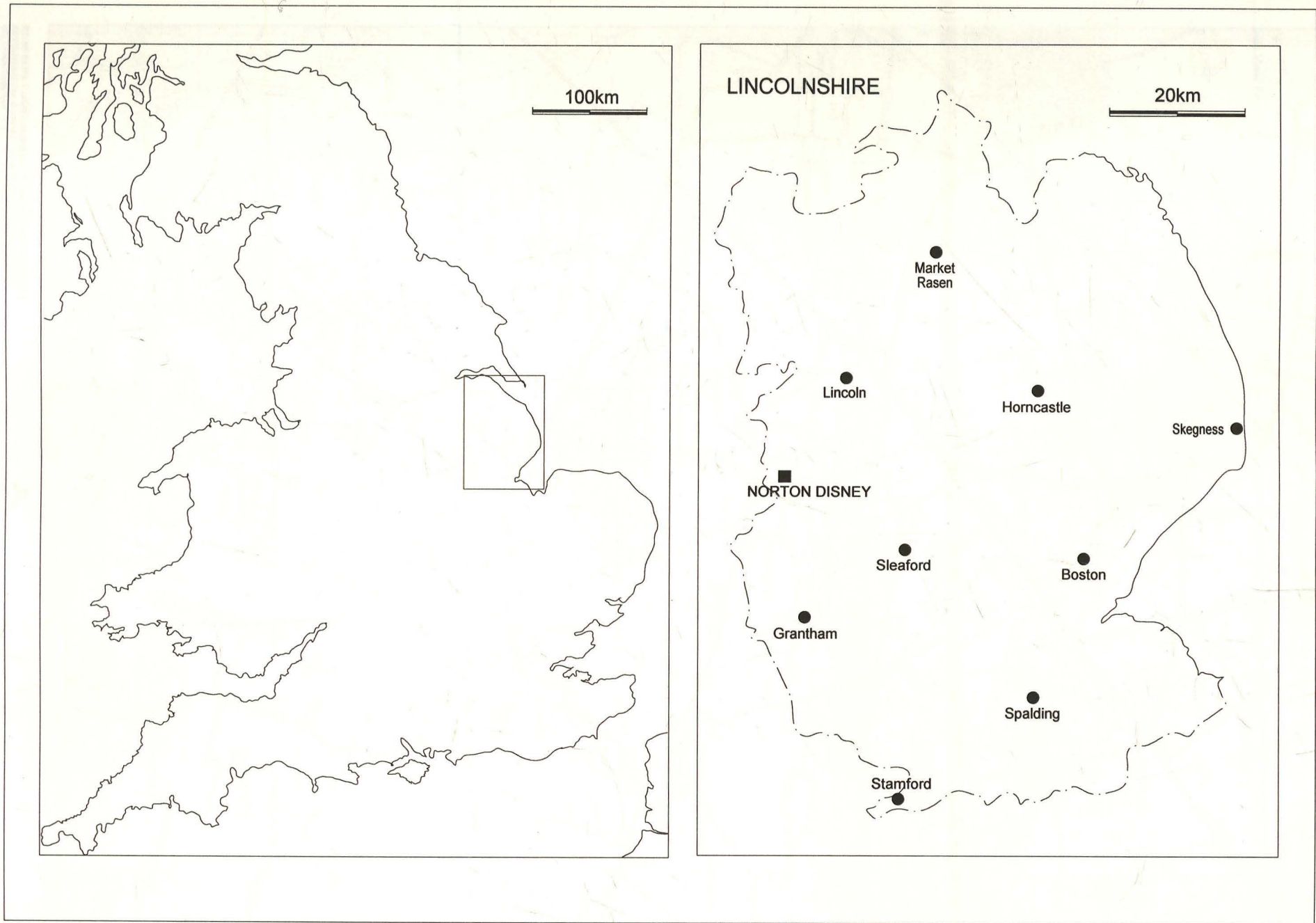
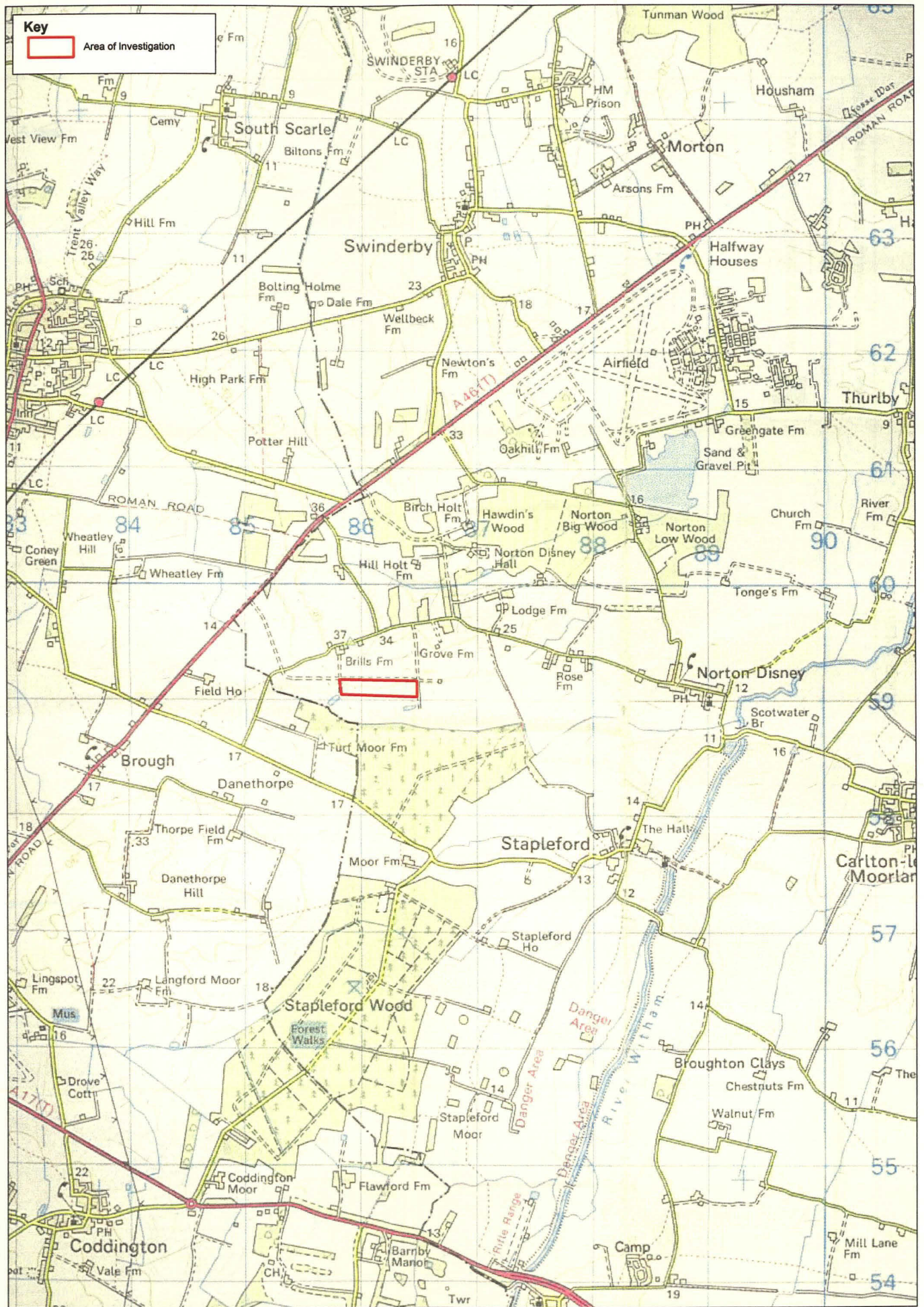


Figure 1: General Location Plan



Based on the 1:50000 Landranger Ordnance Survey map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. (C) Crown Copyright. HTL LTD Licence No AL5041A0001



Figure 2: Area of Investigation

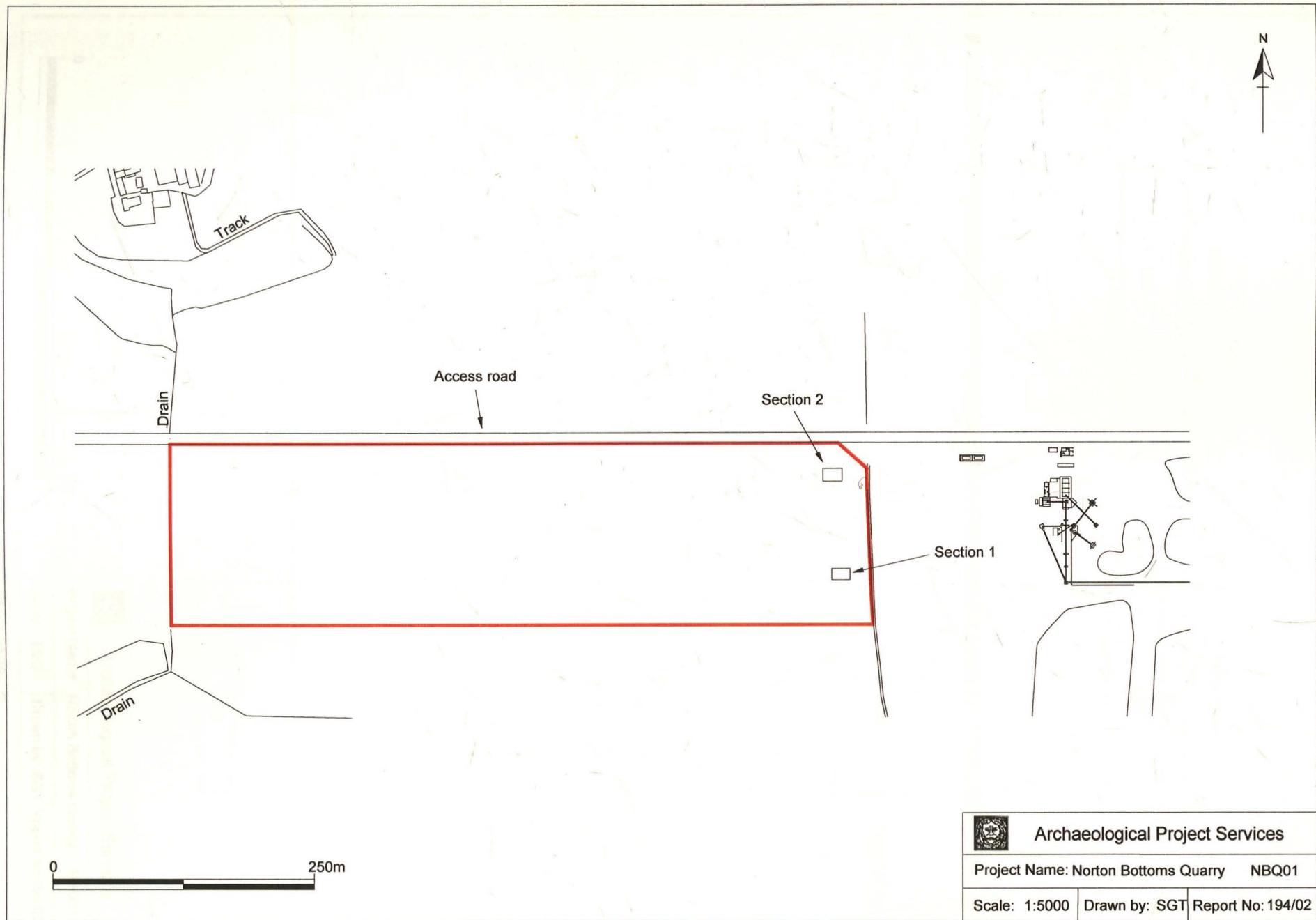
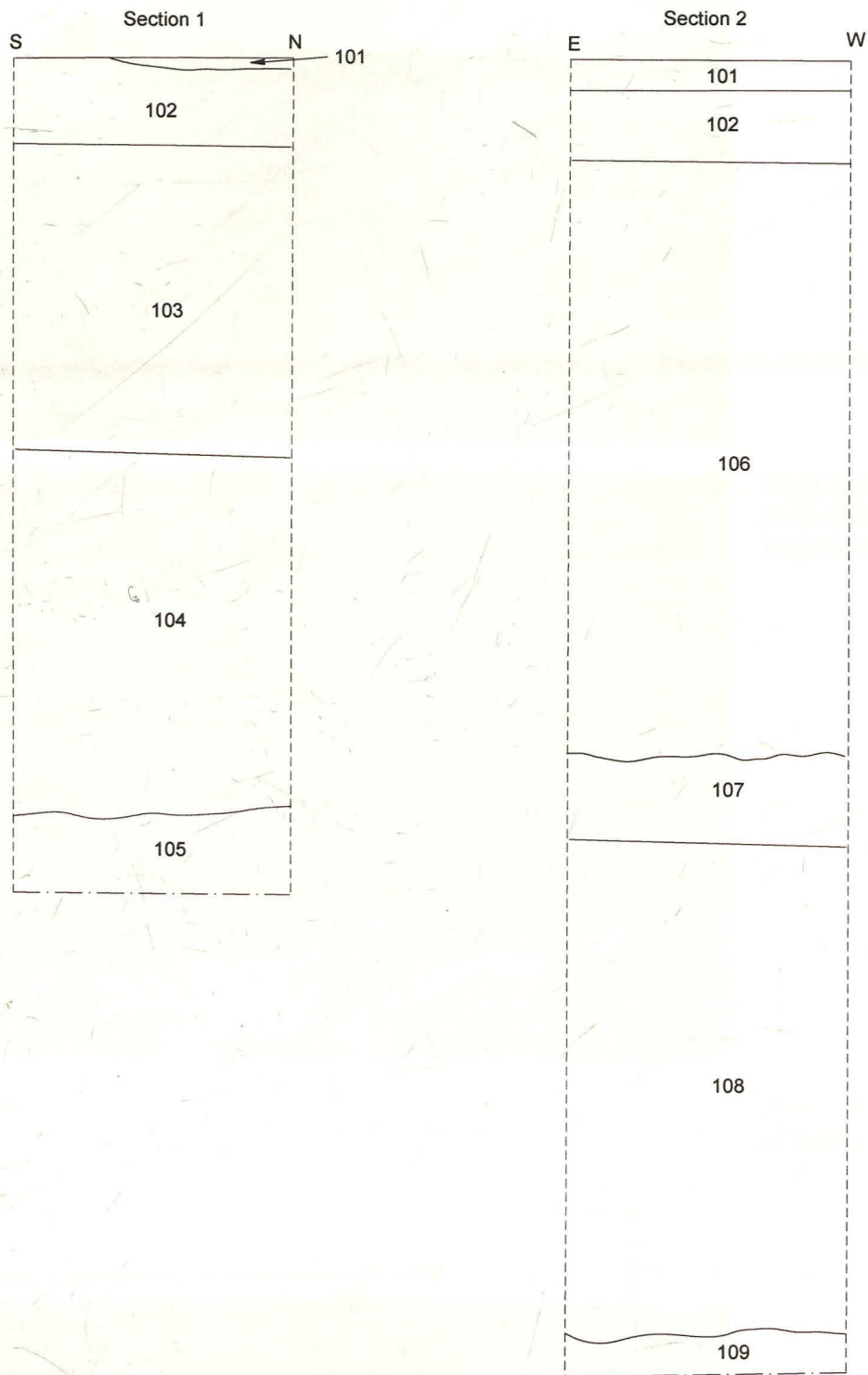


Figure 3 - Section locations




 <b>Archaeological Project Services</b>		
Project Name: Norton Bottoms Quarry NBQ01		
Scale: 1:25	Drawn by: SGT	Report No:194/02

Figure 4 - Section drawings



Plate 1 General view  
of area of trial  
stripping, looking east

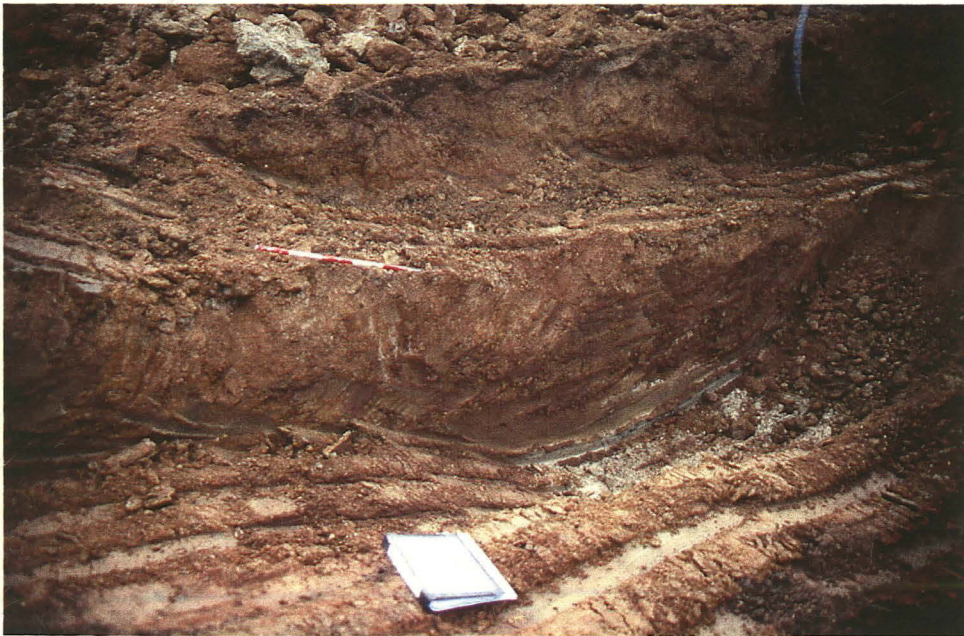


Plate 2 Profile of  
soils (Section 2),  
looking south



Plate 3 General view  
of topsoil stripped  
area

**Appendix 1**

**LAND ADJOINING  
THE WESTERN BOUNDARY OF  
NORTON BOTTOMS QUARRY OPERATIONS CENTRE  
NORTON DISNEY  
LINCOLNSHIRE**

**SPECIFICATION FOR  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

**Planning Application No. N47/0959/01**

**PREPARED FOR  
C & G CONCRETE LIMITED**

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

**DECEMBER 2001**



## 1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during the removal of acceptable fill and site works preparatory thereto (ie soil stripping and screening bank formation) from land adjacent to Norton Bottoms Quarry, Norton Disney, Lincolnshire (the site).*
- 1.2 *Iron Age and Roman archaeological sites are known in the general area. The site has previously been subject of a programme of fieldwalking during which two sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered.*
- 1.3 *The watching brief will be undertaken during all groundworks associated with the development. The archaeological features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the investigation. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

## 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for an archaeological watching brief during groundworks connected with the removal of acceptable fill at the site, National Grid Reference TF 862 592.
- 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 The site is located in the North Kesteven district of Lincolnshire. The works are to take place immediately to the west of Norton Bottoms Quarry, situated some 2.8km west of Norton Disney village at National Grid Reference TF 862 592.
- 3.2 The application site is a rectangular block of land covering approximately 12ha (Fig. 1).

## 4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application (N47/0959/01) has been made for removal of acceptable fill from the site and it has been recommended *inter alia* that any permission is subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief during groundworks.

## 5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The site lies at the southern edge of a ridge of high ground which represents the watershed between streams draining into the river Trent to the west and the river Witham to the east. Located on a gentle south-facing slope the site lies at approximately 43m OD. Local soils are the of the Blackwood Series, deep permeable sandy and coarse loamy soils over river gravels (Hodge *et al.* 1984).

## 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Archaeological sites in the vicinity of Norton Bottoms include a possible Iron Age fort, identified from cropmarks, lying approximately 500m northwest of the application site at the southern extent of a high sandy ridge. The Roman town of Brough, lies on the Fosse Way (A46) c2km west of the site, Iron Age finds have also been recovered confirming a pre-Roman foundation of the settlement. Evidence of Iron Age occupation has been found c1.5km to the north at Gallows Nooking Common, also adjacent to the Fosse Way, and there is also some pre-Roman material from the villa site which was excavated in the 1930s.
- 6.2 The site has been subject to a programme of fieldwalking which revealed a very low density of artefacts. Two sherds of 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery were recovered and probably represent material brought to the site during manuring and subsequent ploughing. Previous fieldwalking in the general area has also produced low levels of finds (APS 2001).

## 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 groundworks.
- 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 groundworks, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of topsoil stripping. The stripping will be by machine, a 360 degree mechanical excavator, fitted with a toothless blade. Spoil will be removed from the area by dump trucks. Vehicles will not track over the exposed surfaces once the topsoil has been removed.
- 8.2.2 Stripped areas will be observed regularly to identify and record any archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. Where features are identified these will be investigated by hand to establish their nature and date. Features will be recorded in plan at a scale of 1:20 and section drawings will be at a scale of 1:10. 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.
  - 8.2.4.2 groups of features where their relationship is important
- 8.2.5 Should human remains be located they will be left *in situ* and only excavated if absolutely necessary. Should removal be required the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before the exhumation of the remains. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department, coroner and the police will be informed, where appropriate.

9 POST-EXCAVATION

9.1 Stage 1

9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief will be checked and ordered to ensure that they constitute a uniform sequence forming a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued and labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

9.1.2 All finds recovered during the field work will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

9.2 Stage 2

9.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.

9.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

9.3 Stage 3

9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.

9.3.2 This will consist of:

9.3.2.1 A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.

9.3.2.2 A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.

9.3.2.3 Description of the topography of the site.

9.3.2.4 Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.

9.3.2.5 A text describing the findings of the watching brief.

9.3.2.6 A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.

9.3.2.7 Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.

9.3.2.8 Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.

9.3.2.9 Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.

9.3.2.10 Specialist reports on the finds from the site.

9.3.2.11 Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

## 10 REPORT DEPOSITION

10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the Client; the Archaeology Officer, Lincolnshire County Council; 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 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 Archaeology Officer, Lincolnshire County Council. He will be given written notice of the commencement of the project.

## 14 VARIATIONS AND CONTINGENCIES

- 14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the Senior Built Environment Officer of Lincolnshire County Council.
- 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 site preparation and subsequent extraction operations and is dependent on the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the archaeological site work.
- 15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- 15.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one person-day) will require a post- excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half person-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about three days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

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

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

<u>Task</u>	<u>Body to undertake 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 - G Taylor in consultation with H Healey, Independent Archaeologist
Non-pottery Artefacts	J Cowgill, Independent Specialist
Animal Bones	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
Environmental Analysis	V Fryer, 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 appropriate bodies 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, 2001 *Archaeological fieldwalking of land at Norton Bottoms Quarry, Norton Disney, Lincolnshire*, APS Report No. 123/01

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Specification: Version 3, 13/12/2001



**Appendix 2**  
Context Summary

Note – Context 110 - unallocated

Context No.	Section	Description	Interpretation
101	1,2	Firm, mid-greyish brown sandy silt containing moderate small pebbles and pea shingle, 0.37m thick	Topsoil
102	1,2	Firm, mid-yellowish red-brown silty sand containing moderate pebbles and sub-rounded stones, 0.34m thick	Subsoil
103	1,2	Firm, mid-yellow reddish brown sand, 0.57m thick	Natural geological deposit
104	1	Soft, mid-yellowish brown sand up to 1.5m thick	Natural geological deposit
105	1	Firm, black, ironised grit, 0.3m thick	Natural geological deposit
106	2	Firm, mid-reddish brown sand containing occasional gravel, 1.07m thick	Natural geological deposit
107	2	Firm, light yellowish-grey clayey silt containing moderate sand and gravel, 0.16m thick	Natural geological deposit
108	2	Soft, mid-yellow reddish-brown sand, 0.9m thick	Natural geological deposit
109	2	Firm, black, ironised grit, 0.3m thick	Natural geological deposit
111	-	Firm, mid-greyish brown sandy silt containing moderate small pebbles and pea shingle, 0.37m thick	Topsoil
112	-	Unstratified finds	-
113	-	Topsoil stripping – unstratified finds	-
114	-	Unstratified finds	-

## Appendix 3

### THE FINDS

*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 City of Lincoln post-Roman pottery codes. A total of 4 fragments of pottery weighing 174g was recovered from 3 separate contexts. In addition to the pottery, fragments of ceramic building material, 2 items weighing a total of 88g, was also recovered from two separate contexts.

#### Provenance

The material was recovered from the topsoil (101), (111) and as unstratified finds (113).

The earliest identifiable artefact is probably relatively local, perhaps made at Toynton All Saints, 50km to the east. The single piece of early modern tableware is likely to be a Staffordshire product, though the post-medieval earthenwares were probably made in the general west Lincolnshire, east Nottinghamshire region. The tile was probably also made relatively locally in the area between Lincoln-Newark.

#### Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables. Pottery is the most abundant material recovered, with most of it being late post-medieval, 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> century. Ceramic building materials were also retrieved. No faunal remains were found.

*Table 1: Pottery*

Context	Fabric code	Description	Number	Weight (g)	Context Date
101	BL	Red painted earthenware, black-glazed (very dark brown, mottled black), pancheon, abraded	1	85	18 <sup>th</sup> century
111	BL	Red painted earthenware, black-glazed, pancheon, abraded, 18 <sup>th</sup> -early 19 <sup>th</sup> century	1	71	19 <sup>th</sup> century
	WHITE	White glazed tableware, 19 <sup>th</sup> century	1	4	
113	TOY?	?Toynton All Saints ware, jug, extremely abraded	1	14	13 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup> century
TOTAL			4	174	

Most of the small pottery collection is late post-medieval, though there is one medieval piece. This is part of a jug handle in what appears to be Toynton All Saints ware, though the fragment is too severely abraded for this to be certain.

*Table 2: The Other Artefacts*

Context	Description	Number	Weight (g)	Context Date
111	Ceramic roof tile, oxidized, 14mm thick, abraded	1	9	Post-medieval
113	Ceramic floor tile, oxidized, possible remnant of glazing on worn upper face, 23mm thick, abraded	1	79	late medieval-post-medieval
TOTAL		2	88	

All the artefacts are probably components of manuring scatter.

**Condition**

Much of the material is abraded. However, all the material is in good, stable condition and presents no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the collection is by material class.

**Documentation**

There have been a number of previous archaeological investigations in the vicinity of Norton Bottoms, including at the current site itself, which are the subjects of reports. Previous investigations at the site recovered a similarly composed assemblage of artefacts. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record and the North Kesteven Heritage Officer.

**Potential**

As a small and predominantly post-medieval assemblage that probably constitutes manuring scatter, the material is of limited potential but does signify that the area was uninhabited farm land from the post-medieval period onward, and possibly medieval times.

The absence of any material clearly earlier than about the 13<sup>th</sup> century suggests that archaeological deposits dating prior to this period are not present in the area or were of a nature that did not involve artefact use.

**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

<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 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).
<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>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) which become contained by the cut are referred to as its fill(s).
<b>Layer</b>	A layer is a term 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>Saxon</b>	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:

14	Context records
15	Daily record sheets
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Section record sheet
2	Sheets of scale drawings
1	Stratigraphic matrix
1	Bags of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services  
The Old School  
Cameron Street  
Heckington  
Sleaford  
Lincolnshire  
NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Lincolnshire City and County Museum  
12 Friars Lane  
Lincoln  
LN2 1HQ

The archive will be deposited in accordance with the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives*, produced by the Lincolnshire City and County Museum.

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number: LCNCC : 2001.385

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: NBQ01

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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