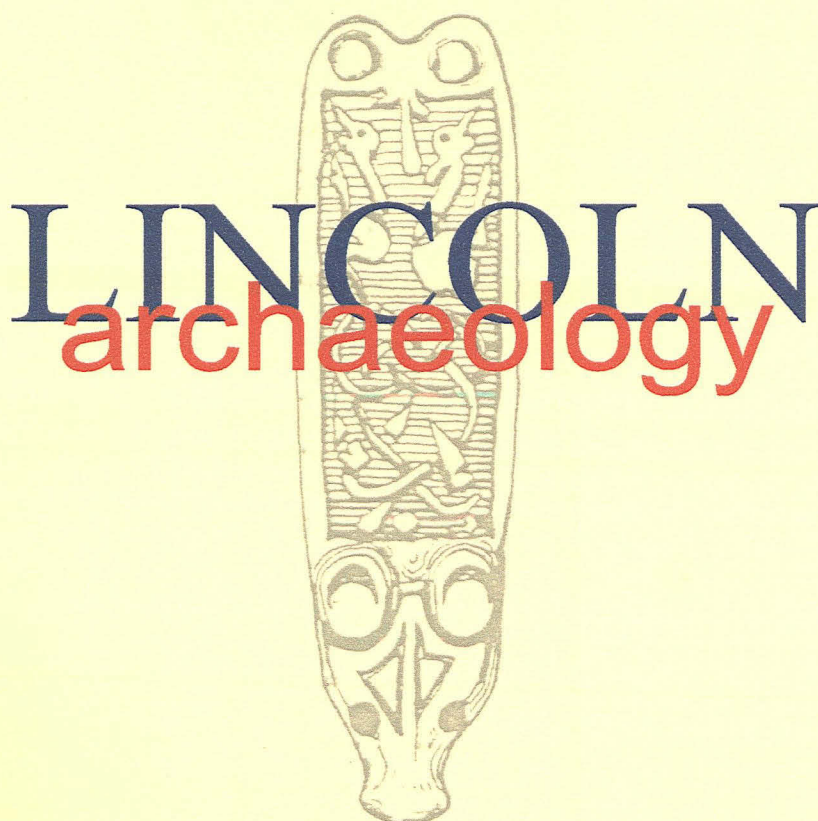


**A Report to
Mr and Mrs P McDonald
May 2003**



**41 Meadow Lane,
North Hykeham,
Lincolnshire**

Archaeological Watching Brief

Report No.: 517

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Services

23 MAY 2003

Highways & Planning
Directorate

41 MEADOW LANE, NORTH HYKEHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

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**41 MEADOW LANE,
NORTH HYKEHAM,
LINCOLNSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

- *On 7th April 2003, a representative of the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit undertook a watching brief on behalf of Mr and Mrs P McDonald, during groundwork associated with the construction of an extension and swimming pool to the above named property.*
- *The property lay adjacent to an area where important remains dating to the Roman period have previously been discovered.*
- *The watching brief revealed no archaeological features or deposits. However, whilst negative, this information could be of value to future decision making regarding the management of the archaeological resource in this area of North Hykeham.*

41 MEADOW LANE, NORTH HYKEHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1.0 INTRODUCTION

On 7th April 2003, a representative of the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit (CLAU) undertook a watching brief on behalf of Mr and Mrs P McDonald, during groundwork associated with the construction of an extension and swimming pool to the above named property. The watching brief was carried out in response to a brief set out by the Heritage Officer to North Kesteven District Council. The brief required the implementation of a watching brief during groundwork associated with the development in accordance with a condition of planning consent (Planning Application N/43/0696/01).

The site lies on the south-west edge of North Hykeham in the administrative district of North Kesteven, approximately 1km to the west of the River Witham on a south-sloping field lying on the 5-10m contour (National Grid Reference: SK 94684 65530). The site is currently a garden associated with 41 Meadow Lane, a bungalow (Fig. 1).

The following archaeological background information has been extracted from the *Brief for Comprehensive Archaeological Watching Brief At 41 Meadow Lane, North Hykeham, Lincolnshire* produced by the Heritage Officer, North Kesteven District council (Hambly 2001).

Archaeological investigations over the last 40 years have revealed the existence of a planned Roman settlement of some status in North Hykeham. The focus of the settlement was probably near Russell Avenue, within 200m north-west of the proposed development. Excavations earlier this year (2001) have shown that this settlement extended into the field which occupies the area south-east of the bend in Meadow Lane. These excavations uncovered evidence of settlement and industrial activity dating from the Roman period. The remains extended throughout the northern half of the field, just higher than the limit of the River Witham flood plain and there is every indication they continue into the western adjacent field to the proposed development, therefore, possibly into the development area itself.

More recently, an archaeological evaluation was carried out on land immediately to the south-east of the site, revealing further evidence for Roman occupation (ditches) as well as a post-medieval tile kiln (*pers comm.* J. Hambly).

2.0 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

The aims of the watching brief were:

- A. to produce an archive record of deposits and remains generally within the constraints of the groundwork contractors' working methods and programme as related to the project design, with due regard to current Health and Safety legislation.
- B. to produce a report on the potential archaeological importance of the discoveries.
- C. to produce a project archive from which the potential for further study and academic research could be assessed.

D. to provide information for accession to the County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR).

The watching brief required the close monitoring of all elements of the groundwork programme. The archaeological record was secured by means of trench side notes and scale drawings. A comprehensive photographic record was also compiled.

3.0 RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS (Fig. 2 and Pl. 1)

This watching brief revealed no evidence to suggest that archaeological deposits predating the 20th century exist on the site.

3.1 RESULTS

Excavation of the foundation trenches failed to reveal archaeological features and/or deposits predating the 20th century. Deposits of natural clay ([002]) occurred between 100mm and 700mm below ground level. Overlying [002] in the north-west half of the site was [001], an orange/brown coarse sand/gravel mix (also of natural origin). Three land drain runs (aligned north-west to south-east) cutting into the natural deposits crossed the extensions footprint. A 400mm thick topsoil ([003] – removed mechanically prior to the excavation of the foundation trenches) overlay all of the previously mentioned features and deposits.

No further deposits were recorded during the watching brief.



Plate 1: General view of the foundation trenches for the extension (looking east).

After discussions with the Heritage Officer to North Kesteven District Council, it was decided to discontinue monitoring further groundwork (foundations to the north-west of the existing bungalow and the excavation of the swimming pool).

3.2 CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, the monitoring of the groundwork revealed no archaeological deposits. And this information, although negative, could be of value to future decision making regarding to the management of the archaeological resource in this area of North Kesteven.

4.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit would like to thank Mr and Mrs P McDonald for funding the fieldwork and post-fieldwork analysis. Thanks are also extended to Joanna Hambly, Heritage Officer, North Kesteven District Council.

Maps contained within this report are reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of the Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown Copyright. Lincoln City Council, City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit. Licence No. AL 100028765.

Figure two of this report is based upon K Barrass (Architect) drawing Nos. BG/01/691 (April 2001) and RD1816/04 (September 2002).

Project Team

Michael Jarvis	Project Officer (Field/Post-excavation)
Graham Eyre-Morgan	Projects Manager

5.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Hambly, J 2001 *Brief for Comprehensive Archaeological Watching Brief at 41 Meadow Lane, North Hykeham, Lincolnshire* Heritage Officer for North Kesteven, Heritage Lincolnshire.

NOTE

The information in this document is presented with the proviso that further data may yet emerge. Lincoln City Council cannot, therefore, be held responsible for any loss, delay or damage, material or otherwise, arising out of this report. The document has been prepared in accordance with the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

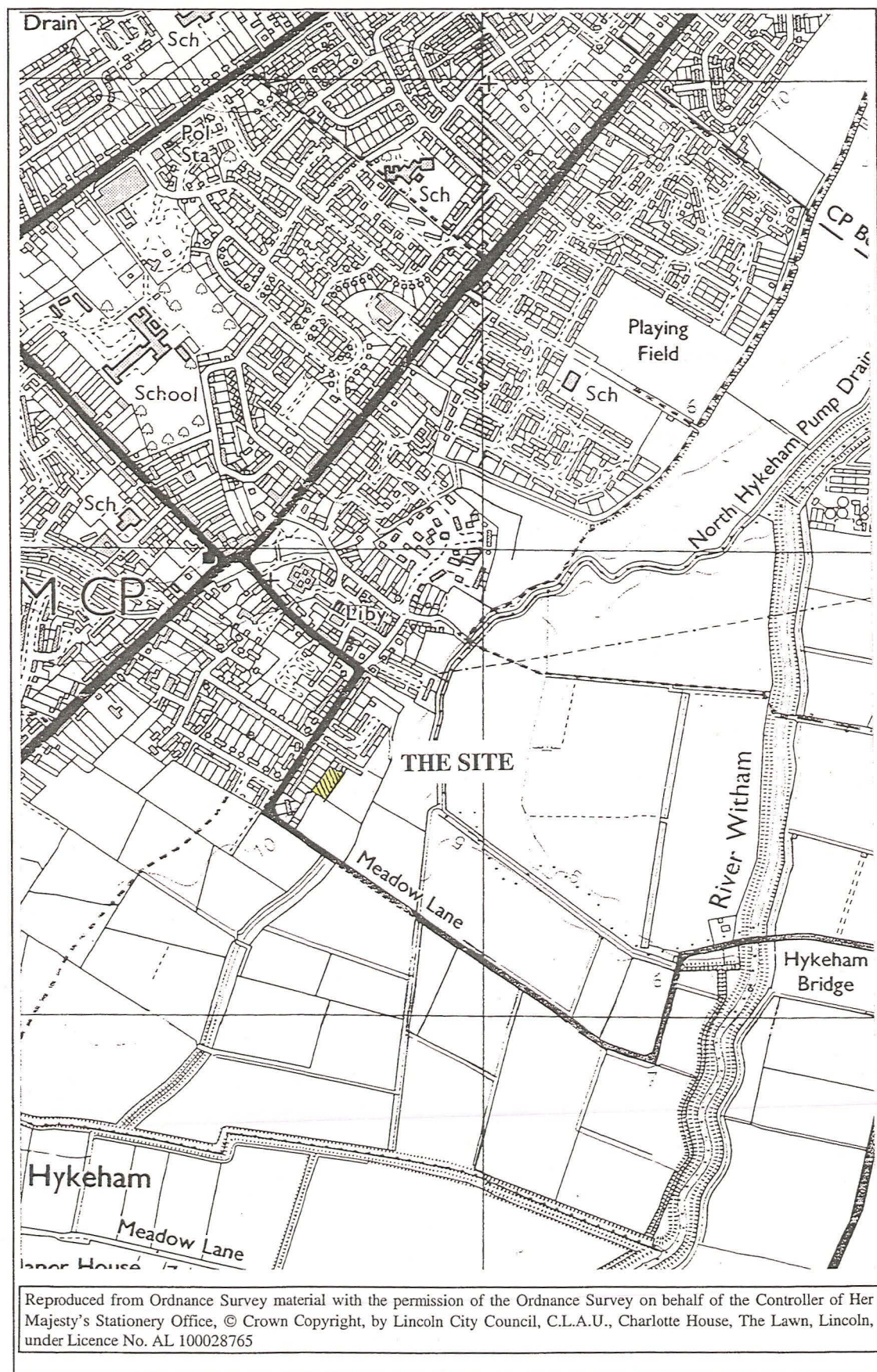


Fig. 1: Site location plan (not to scale).

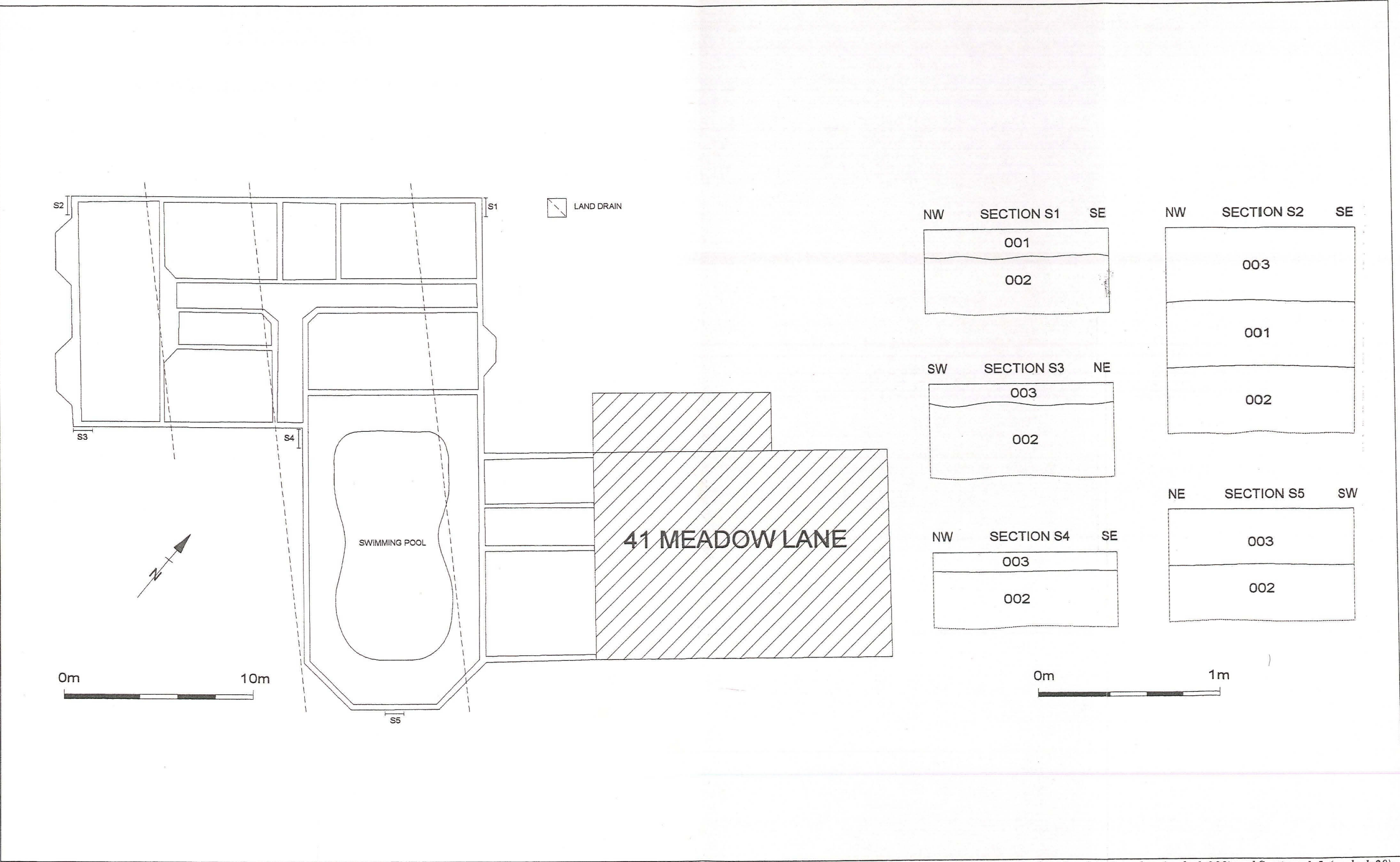


Fig. 2: Foundation and section location plan (scale 1:200) and Sections 1-5 (scale 1:20).

**41 MEADOW LANE,
NORTH HYKEHAM,
LINCOLNSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

APPENDIX 1 - LHA NOTE & ARCHIVE DETAILS

LHA NOTE DETAILS

CLAU CODE: NHMA03

CLAU REPORT No.: 517

PLANNING APPLICATION NO.: N/43/0696/01

FIELD OFFICER: Michael Jarvis

NGR: SK 94684 65530

CIVIL PARISH: North Hykeham

SMR No.: -

DATE OF INTERVENTION: 7th April 2003

TYPE OF INTERVENTION: Archaeological Watching Brief

UNDERTAKEN FOR: Mr and Mrs P McDonald, 41 Meadow Lane, North Hykeham

ARCHIVE DETAILS

PRESENT LOCATION: City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit, Charlotte House, The Lawn, Union Road, Lincoln, LN1 3BL

FINAL LOCATION: The City and County Museum, Friars Lane, Lincoln

MUSEUM ACCESSION No.: 2003:92

ACCESSION DATE: -