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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
DURING DEVELOPMENT ON LAND AT  
DALLYGATE,  
GREAT PONTON,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(GPD00)**



**A P S**  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
SERVICES



EVENT LI 4448

SOURCE LI 9049  
LI 9050

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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
DURING DEVELOPMENT ON LAND AT  
DALLYGATE,  
GREAT PONTON,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(GPD00)**

Work Undertaken For  
Harnfield Developments

December 2002

Report Compiled by  
Steve Thomson BSc (Hons)

Planning Application Nos.: S98/1181/38 & S98/1182/38  
National Grid Reference: SK 9260 3040  
City and County Museum Accession No: 2000.148


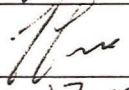


A.P.S. Report No.214/02



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## 1. SUMMARY

*An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during groundworks associated with residential development on land at Dallygate, Great Ponton, Lincolnshire, as the site lies within the village core, close to the church and Manor house. A previous watching brief within the development area had recovered pottery and tile of Romano-British date.*

*The investigation identified colluvial soils overlying natural geological deposits. Dumps of mortar-based deposits, possibly related to construction of the medieval manor and/or church to the west, were recorded along with evidence of part of a post-medieval field system.*

*Later post-medieval and modern dumped deposits, a well and a possible stone built cote/animal shelter formed the final phases of activity on the site.*

*There was a general dearth of artefactual material, with a single piece of metal working slag, of medieval or earlier date, and a prehistoric flint flake being the earliest artefacts recovered. The lack of finds suggests that the site had not been subject to domestic occupation during the medieval or earlier post medieval period.*

## 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

Planning applications (S98/1181/38 and S98/1182/38) for the construction of five properties on land at Dallygate, Great Ponton were submitted for approval to South Kesteven District Council. A desk based archaeological assessment of the site had previously been requested to determine the implications of the development (Albone 2000). Planning permission was granted subject to a condition requiring an archaeological watching brief.

Archaeological Project Services (APS) was commissioned by Harnfield Developments to undertake the watching brief. The investigation was carried out between the 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2000 and 26<sup>th</sup> September 2002, in accordance with a specification designed by APS (Appendix 1) and approved by the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist.

Initially six properties were to be constructed and subject to a watching brief. However, one of these (Plot 7) was sold to a new owner and does not form part of this report.

### 2.3 Topography and Geology

Great Ponton is situated 5km south of Grantham in South Kesteven District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site is located south of Dallygate, on the east side of Archers Way, near the centre of the village, at National Grid Reference SK 9260 3040. The site lies at about 69m OD on land sloping gently down to the east and overlooks the Cringle Brook, a tributary of the River Witham.

Local soils are Elmton 1 Association brashy, calcareous fine loamy soils developed over Jurassic limestone (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 179).



## 2.4 Archaeological Setting

Evidence of prehistoric activity has been recorded in the area around Great Ponton. To the south of the village, Neolithic remains have been recovered which have been interpreted as a possible settlement (May 1976). There is also the report of a perforated stone axe-hammer of late Neolithic or early Bronze Age date found in the village, although the specific location is not known.

To the north of the village is an undated cropmark representing a C-shaped enclosure, which may be prehistoric (Albone 2000). Undated linear cropmarks have been identified to the east, and northwest of the village (*ibid.*).

Romano-British remains have also been identified in the area around the village. Remains of a tessellated pavement, and reports of coins, urns, bricks, arches and vaults, indicate the presence of a villa to the northeast of the village. The major Roman road of Ermine street passes 1.3km to the east of this villa and Great Ponton lies between two important Roman settlements of Saltersford to the north and Easton to the south (*ibid.*).

No archaeological evidence of Saxon activity has been identified at Great Ponton. The place-name, however, is derived from Old English, which strongly suggests a Saxon settlement was present (Cameron 1998). The Domesday Survey of c. 1086 records three landowners; King William, Drogo of La Beuvriere and Countess Judith. The survey listed 6 mills in the parish. These were probably located on the River Witham or the Cringle Brook. The population at the time was recorded as 13 villeins, 5 smallholders and 12 freemen, giving the parish at least 30 households (Morris 1986).

Two medieval buildings survive at Great Ponton. The Holy Cross Church includes features dating from the 13<sup>th</sup> century and

the manor house, built by Anthony Ellis, a Calais merchant, was constructed in the late 15<sup>th</sup> or early 16<sup>th</sup> century (Pevsner & Harris 1989).

The population of the parish does not seem to have declined during the medieval and early post-medieval periods, as was the case in many rural parishes. In 1563 the diocesan return gives the population as 37 households (Hodgett 1975).

A number of post-medieval buildings of listed status are located close to Dallygate. At Church Farm to the north, is a 16<sup>th</sup> century limestone barn and a 17<sup>th</sup> century stable range. Several 18<sup>th</sup> century houses at Archers Way, Dunkirk Cottage and North Road Farmhouse are afforded listed status. To the north of the village, located on the River Witham is Mill Farm and watermill, which are originally 18<sup>th</sup> century (Albone 2000).

Watching briefs undertaken during development on Plots 3, 4, 8 & 9 identified undated pits and possible alluvial deposits (Snee 2002a & b). Romano-British pottery and a prehistoric flint flake were amongst the finds recovered.

## 3. AIMS

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

## 4. METHODS

Following topsoil stripping, the foundation trenches for 5 dwellings and two detached garages (Fig. 3) were opened by mechanical excavator, fitted with a 600mm wide toothed blade to depths of up to 1.60m below ground surface, as required by the development. Spoil removed from



the trenches was monitored to retrieve artefactual material, which may have assisted with the interpretation of the site.

Sides of the open foundation trenches were inspected, cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were partially excavated to retrieve artefactual material. The depth and thickness of each deposit was measured from the ground surface. Each archaeological deposit or feature was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A summary of all contexts and their interpretations appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at scales of 1:10 and 1:20, with their locations plotted on scale and annotated sketch plans. Recording of deposits was undertaken according to standard APS' practice.

Finds retrieved during the watching brief were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 3). Records of the deposits and features recognised during the watching brief were also examined and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them, supplemented by artefact dating where appropriate.

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

## 5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis, three phases were identified;

- 5.1 Phase 1 – Natural geological deposits
- 5.2 Phase 2 – Undated deposits
- 5.3 Phase 3 – Post-medieval and Modern deposits

### 5.1 Phase 1 – Natural geological deposits

The earliest recorded deposits comprised sands and gravels. Within Plot 1 (Fig. 3), a mixed orange and yellow sand and gravel (006) was recorded. A similar deposit of sands and gravels (048) was recorded in the central area of the site in Plot 5.

Towards the southwest corner of the site, in Plot 6, a mid-bluish grey clay (056) was sealed by a mid-yellow gritty silt (055) containing occasional patches of clay.

### 5.2 Phase 2 – Undated deposits

On the northern edge of Plot 1 (Fig. 4) a sequence of deposits of sandy silts, sands and sands and gravels were recorded (002, 003, 004, 005, 007, 008, 009, 010, 011, 012, 013, 014, 015) (Fig. 9 – section 1, Plate 1). The ground in this area sloped gradually downwards to the south and east and the deposits were interpreted as a combination of colluvium, dumped deposits and possible plough material. Ceramic building material and animal bone was recovered from (010).

Further colluvial deposits were identified in Plot 2 (Fig 5, Fig. 6 – section 3) (024, 025, 026) and (036, 037) (Fig. 10 – section 4).

Also recorded in Plot 2 was a light greyish white clayey sandy silt (044) (Figs. 9 & 10 – sections 4 & 5) which was rich in mortar (Plate 2). This was sealed by a light yellowish brown-grey clayey silty sand (043) also rich in mortar. A further mortar rich dumped deposit of light greyish white clayey sandy silt (035) was also recorded in Plot 2. A dark grey-brown sandy silt buried topsoil (038) sealed (035).

Within Plot 10 (Fig. 8), a linear cut (061) was oriented east-west and measured 1.35m wide, 0.7m deep and greater than 12m long. The cut was interpreted as a ditch and contained a single fill of light greyish brown silty clay (060). Truncating



(061) was a further ditch (058) some 2.5m wide. The ditch was interpreted as a recut of (061) and had been backfilled with a series of dumped deposits (071, 070, 072, 058) (Fig. 12 – section 10). The latter of these fills contained patches of redeposited natural soils, suggesting the deliberate backfilling of the ditch.

### 5.3 Phase 3 – Post-medieval and modern deposits

Identified in Plots 1, 2 & 5 was a yellowish brown to dark brown sandy silt and clayey sandy silt subsoil (001, 020, 023, 029, 032, 033, 042, 047, 062). The subsoil varied in thickness from 0.9m to 0.2m. Within Plots 1 & 2, two distinct Phases of subsoil were noted which may have been the result of colluviation or turbation of the soil. Iron slag, of medieval or earlier date, and animal bone was recovered from (001); pottery of 19<sup>th</sup> century date from (032) and a prehistoric flint flake from (033).

A dumped deposit of light yellowish white sandy silt and mortar (034) formed a lens within (033).

Cutting the subsoil (023) in Plot 2 was a linear feature (018) (Fig. 9 – section 3) identified as a ditch. The ditch was oriented north-south and measured 4m wide and greater than 6m long. It contained a primary fill of dark brown sandy silt (017) overlain by a mid-yellowish brown sandy silt (028) and a dark brown sandy silt (027). A dark brown sandy silt (022) containing occasional small stones and mortar fragments formed the final fill of the ditch.

In Plot 2, a further ditch (041) (Fig. 9 – section 5) oriented east-west was recorded. The ditch contained a primary fill of mottled yellow-brown silty sand (040) partially overlain by a small lens of black charcoal (039), which was sealed by a mid-brown silty sand (069).

A third ditch (052) was partially exposed in Plot 5 (Fig. 6, Fig. 11 – section 7, Plate 3).

The ditch measured greater than 12m long and was oriented east-west. A mid-yellowish greyish brown sandy silt (051) containing ash mortar and charcoal fragments and a mid-greyish brown silt (050) containing frequent limestone fragments formed the fills of the ditch. A sherd of 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery was retrieved from (050).

In Plot 6 (Fig. 7) a 1.3m diameter brick well was recorded. To the northern edge of the site, in Plot 10, further structural remains were identified. A foundation cut (065) for a limestone wall (064) was recorded (Fig. 12 – sections 10 & 12, Plate 4). The cut formed a roughly rectangular shaped feature measuring approximately 4m x 3.5m, which also contained a light yellowish brown mortar and limestone demolition deposit (063). Overlying this was a spread of limestone blocks in a dark reddish brown silt (068), which was interpreted as also representing demolition debris. The demolition debris and foundation were interpreted as possibly representing the remains of a cote.

Within Plot 5, a dumped deposit (049) of dark blackish grey ash, coke and cinders, brick fragments and stones was recorded. This was sealed by a dark greyish brown silt topsoil (046). Although the topsoil had largely been stripped across the site it was also noted to survive in Plots 1 & 2 (019, 021).

The final deposits encountered were a series of dumped and levelling deposits related to the current development work (030, 031, 053, 054) and the construction cut and hardcore for the access road (066, 067).

## 6. DISCUSSION

Phase 1 deposits were represented by sands and gravels. The topography of the site shows it to sit at the edge of a valley and the natural geological deposits identified



are probably river terrace gravels, related to the Cringle Brook.

Phase 2 deposits consisted of layers of colluvial type deposits, dumped material and a ditch. The layers recorded in Plot 1 probably originate from a combination of factors. Sitting on the cusp between level ground to the north and a slope to the south, it is highly likely that some of the material derives from dumping of refuse, ploughing (forming part of a lynchet) and slopewash.

Dumped deposits of mortar were recorded in Plot 2. The nature of the deposits suggests that they are related to relatively large-scale building projects in the vicinity. West of the site are the locations of a medieval manor and church and it is possible that the mortar deposits are connected with the construction of either, or both, of these. The lack of artefactual evidence precludes unequivocal dating of the deposits, however, one of the mortar dumps was sealed by a buried topsoil which suggests a relatively early date.

An east-west oriented ditch, probably a field boundary, was also undated. The ditch was truncated by Phase 3 features and may also be of an early date.

Phase 3 features comprised a subsoil, a well, structural remains, three ditches and dumped deposits. In general terms, much of the subsoil recorded on the site is likely to derive from colluviation and turbation (soil movement/creep) with the artefactual material recovered being residual and transported.

The ditches identified are likely to represent field boundaries, indicating post-medieval agricultural use of the site. This is supported in the form of structural remains of a probable field barn or cote. The structure appeared too small and roughly constructed to represent a domestic dwelling and some form of agricultural function is likely. A desk based assessment

of the site (Albone 2000) identified structural remains as first appearing on the site on the 1904 Ordnance Survey map, in a relatively dispersed pattern, probably indicative of a series of farm buildings.

The brick built well recorded in the southwest area of the site is also probably related to the same period of occupation.

The current investigation recovered little in the way of finds, predominantly from colluvial and subsoil deposits. The earliest artefact was a prehistoric flint flake. A further flint flake was recovered during monitoring of Plots 8 and 9 (Snee 2002a) and indicates a prehistoric presence. No Romano-British material was recovered during the present investigation as had been retrieved previously and it is likely that finds earlier than post-medieval date derive from colluvial deposits, with only post-medieval material relating to occupation of the site.

## 7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Dallygate, Great Ponton, Lincolnshire, as the development lay within an area of known archaeological remains.

Dumped mortar deposits, probably of medieval date and perhaps relating to the construction of the manor or church, were the earliest identified archaeological remains. Colluvial soils were cut by post-medieval field boundaries and structural remains and it is likely that these represent the main phase of occupation of the site. Although archaeological remains were identified throughout the site, their nature, and the lack of occupation debris, suggests the site served a primarily agricultural function, rather than for habitation.

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 Tim Miller of Harnfield Developments, who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor, who jointly edited this report with Tom Lane. Gail Smith, the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist, kindly provided access to the parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

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Snee, J., 2002b *Archaeological Watching Brief During Development on Plots 3 & 4 Dallygate, Great Ponton, Lincolnshire* APS unpublished report no. 105/02

## 10. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services  
 IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

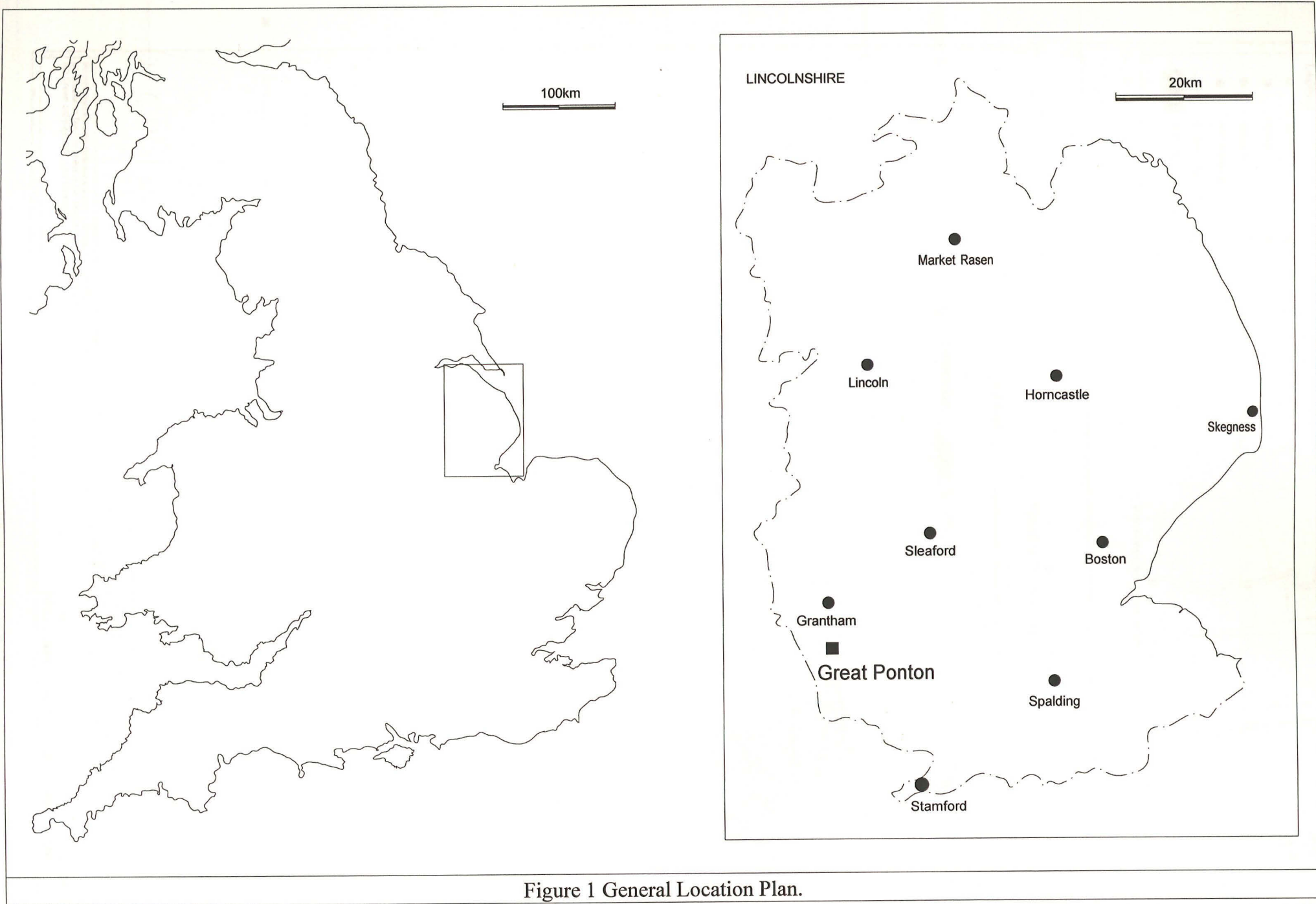
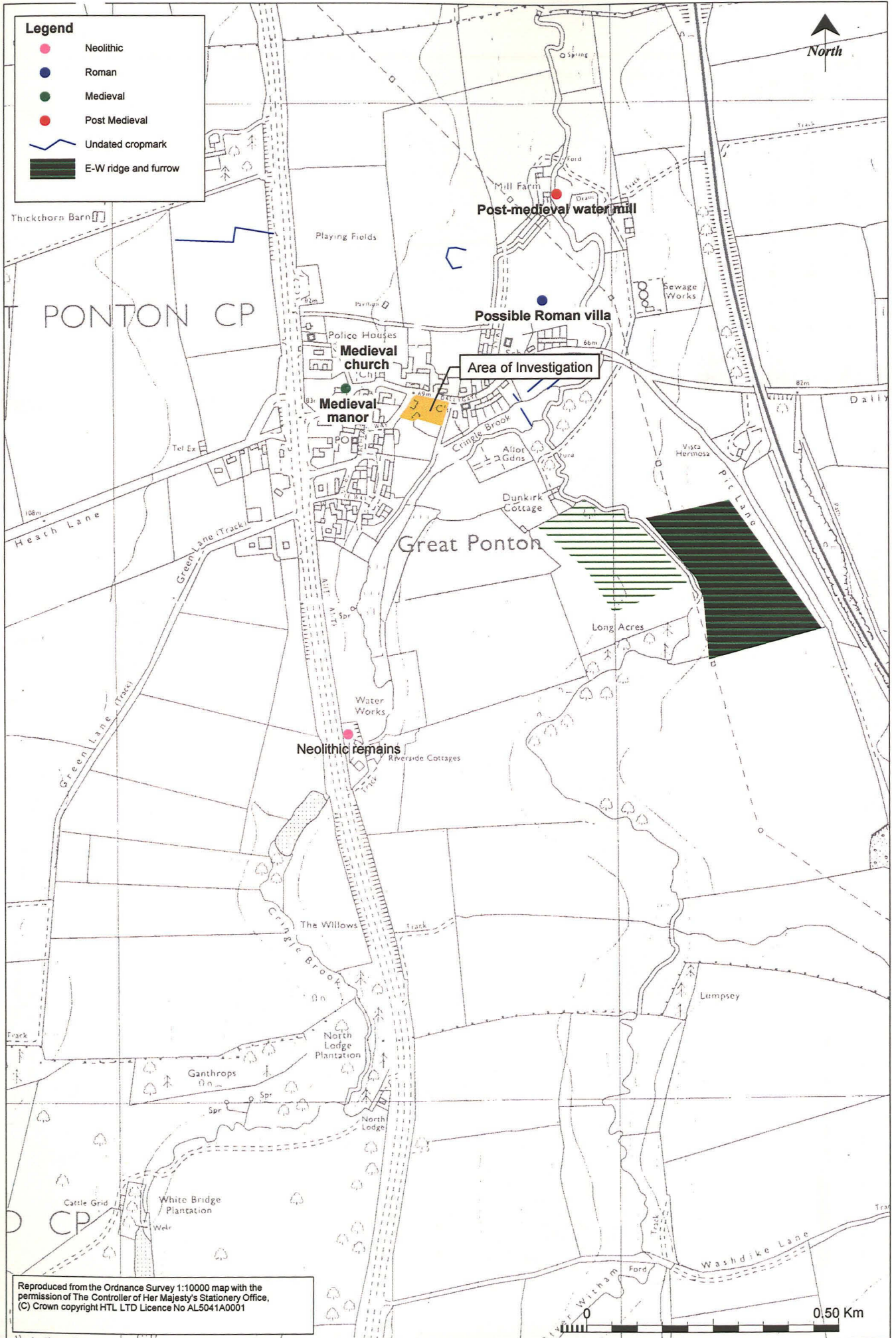


Figure 1 General Location Plan.





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Figure 2 Known archaeological sites and finds within c.500m of the proposed developmentsite

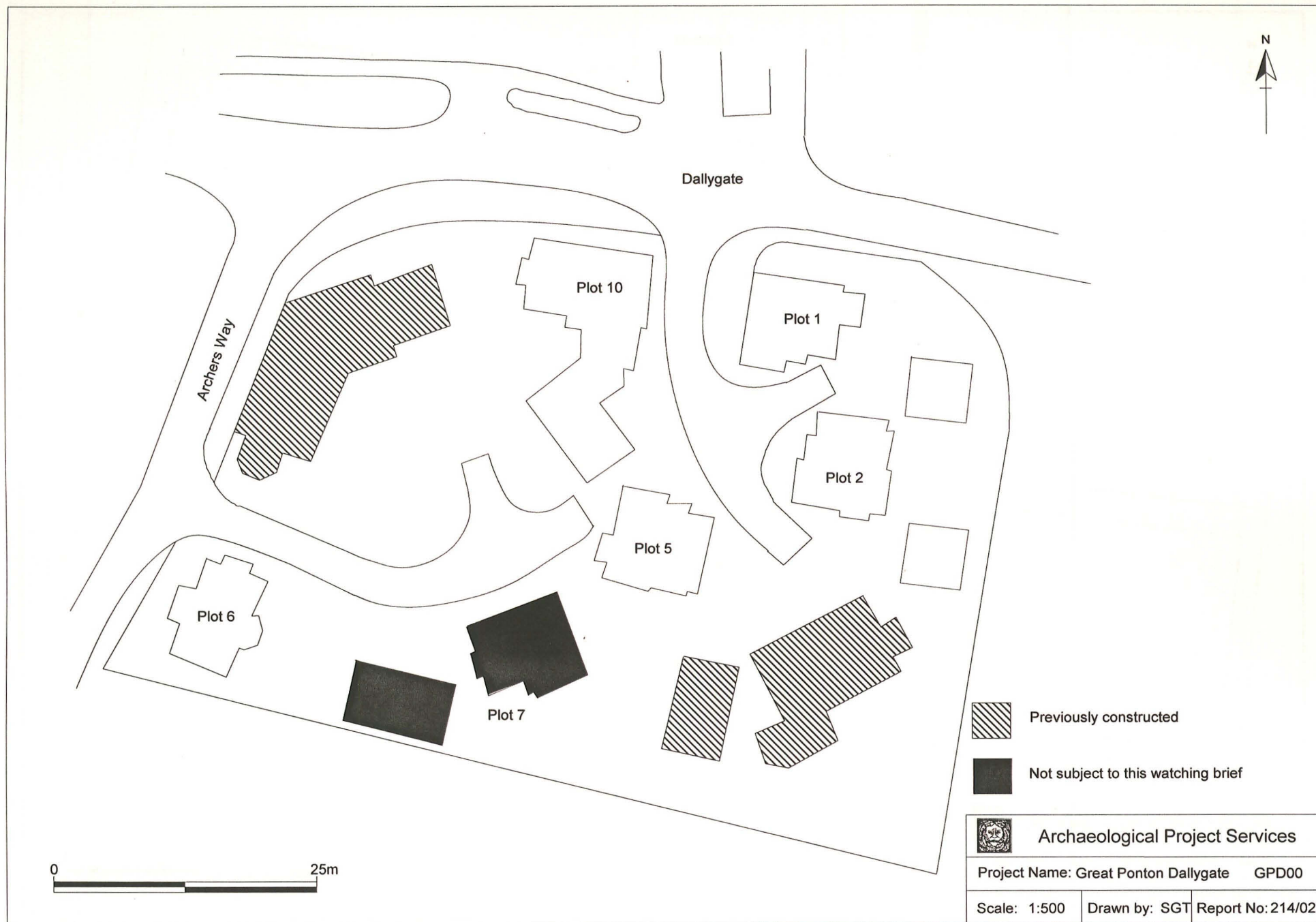


Figure 3 - Detailed site plan



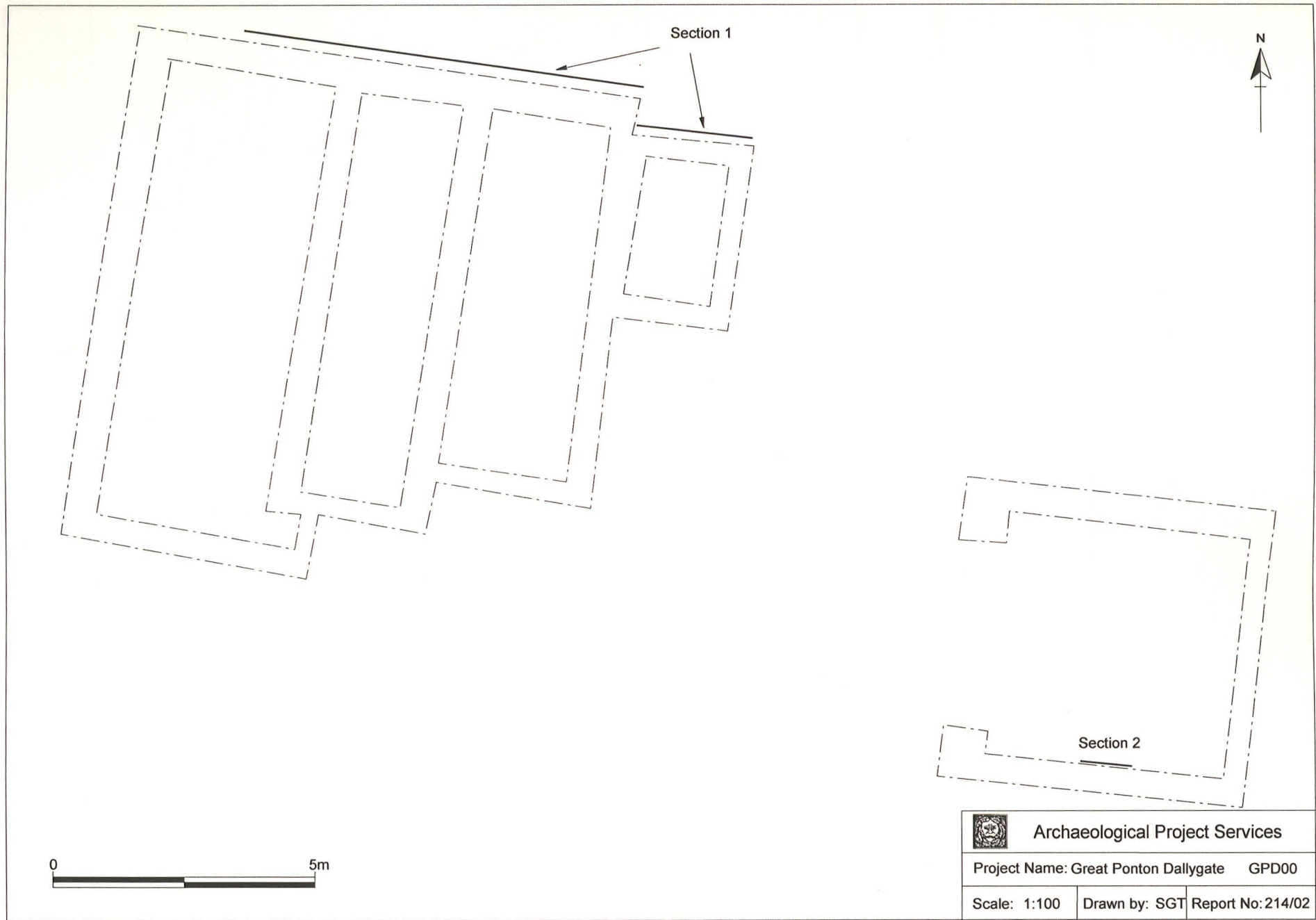


Figure 4 - Plot 1 foundations showing section locations

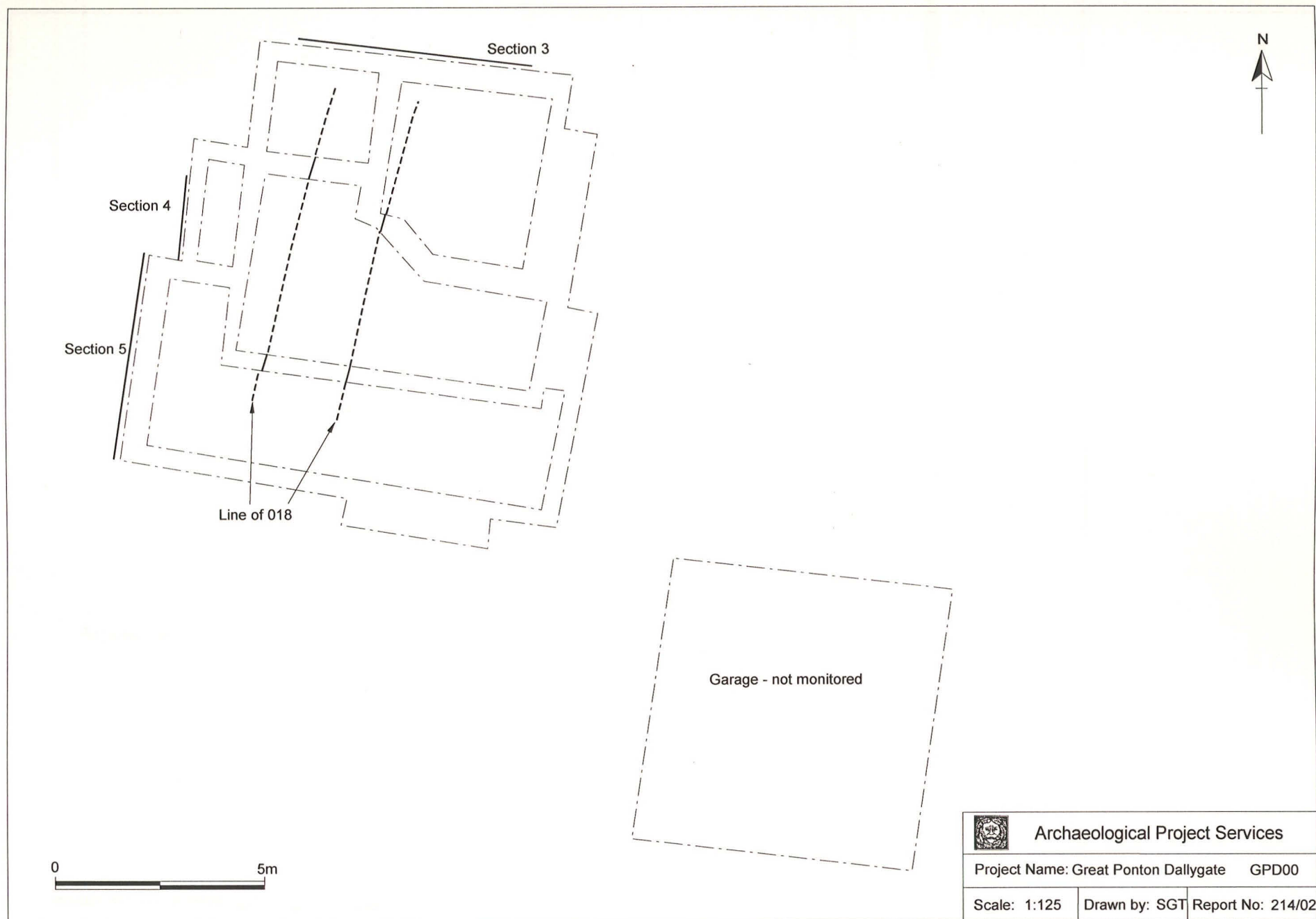


Figure 5 - Plot 2 foundation plan showing section locations and features



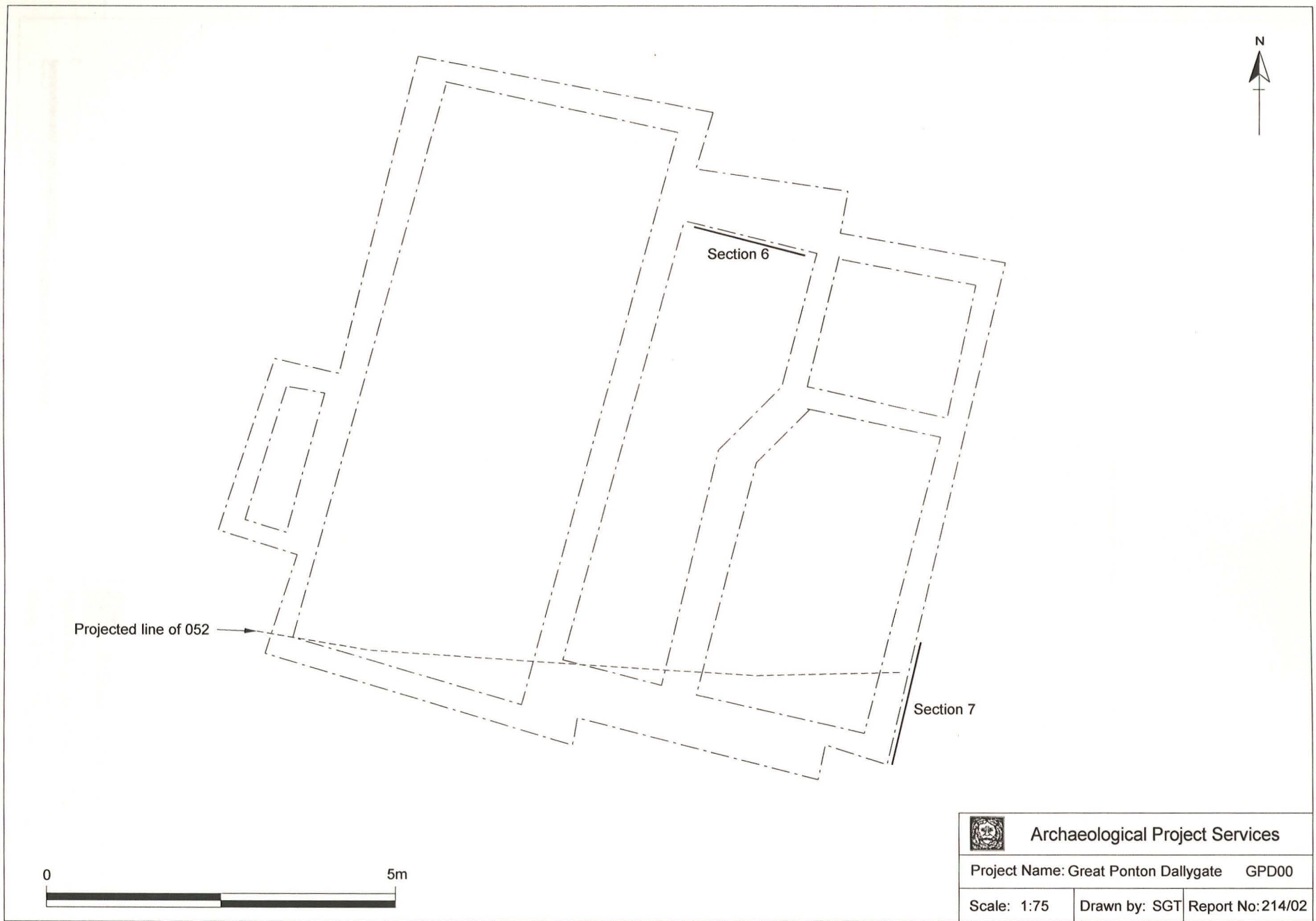


Figure 6 - Plot 5 foundation plan showing section locations

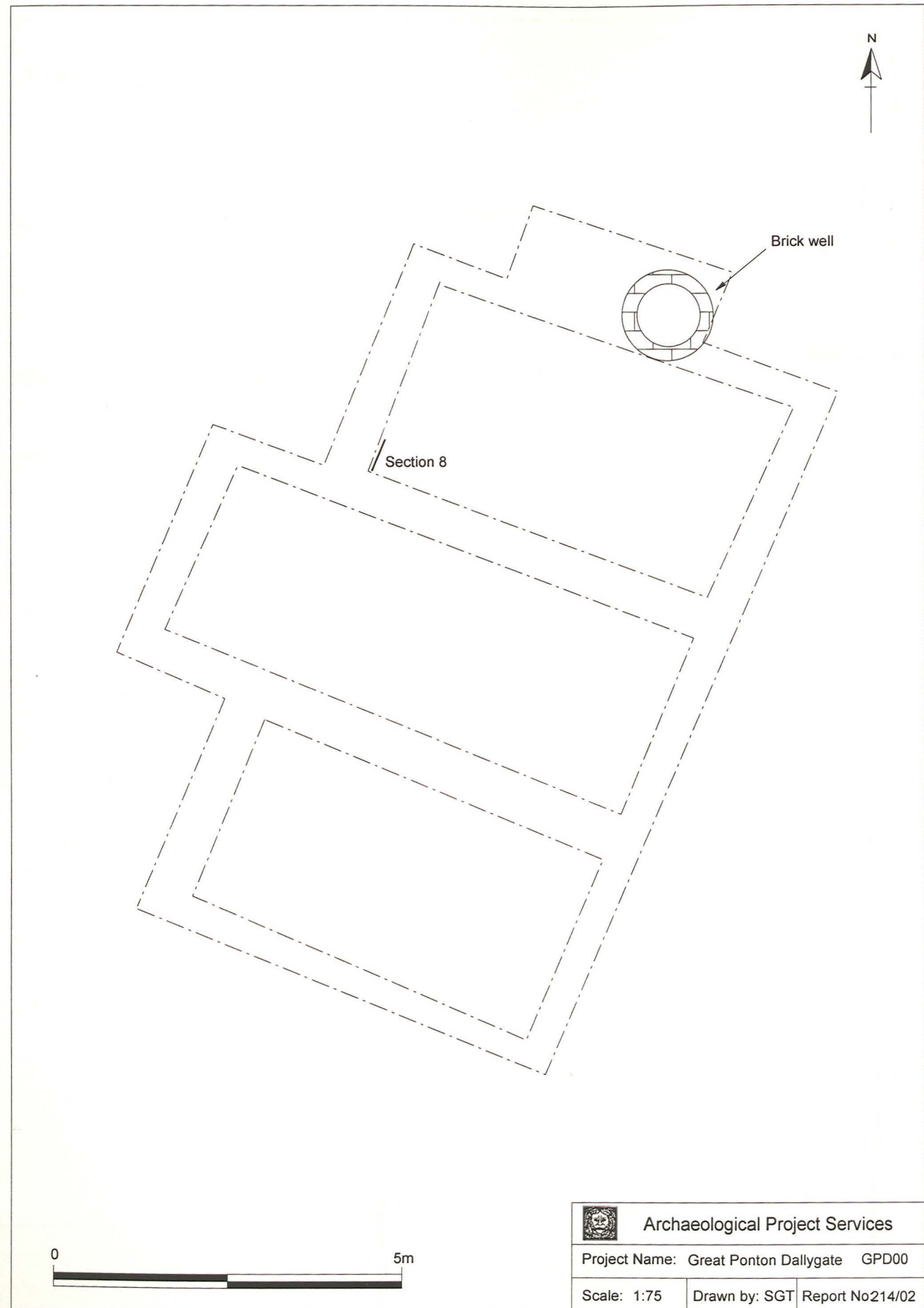


Figure 7 - Plot 6 foundation plan showing section location and features



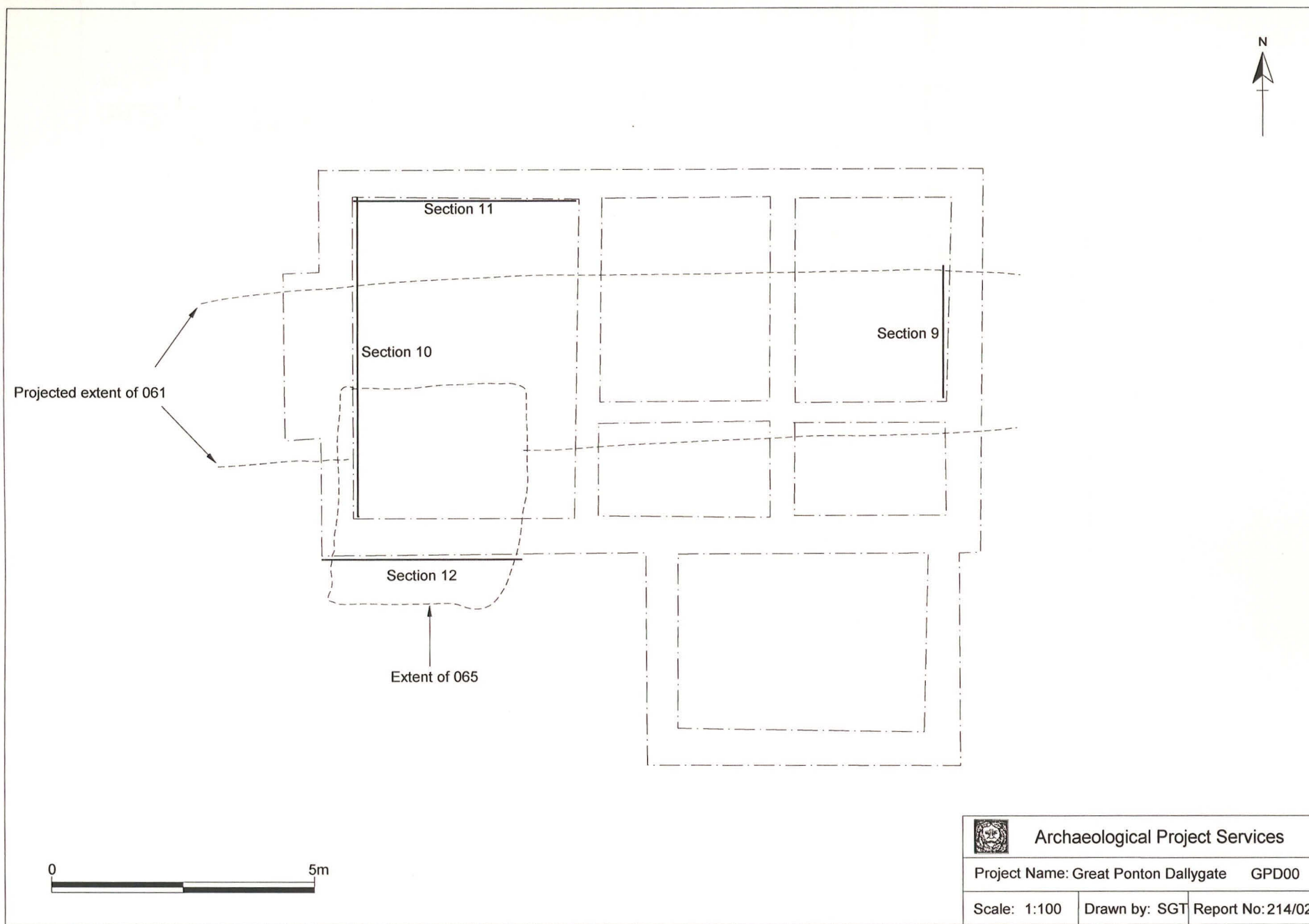

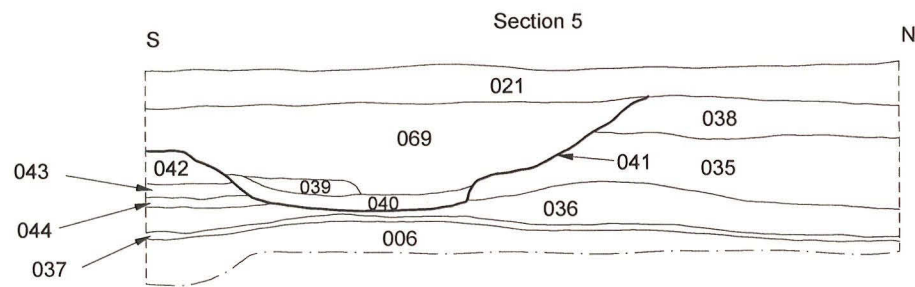
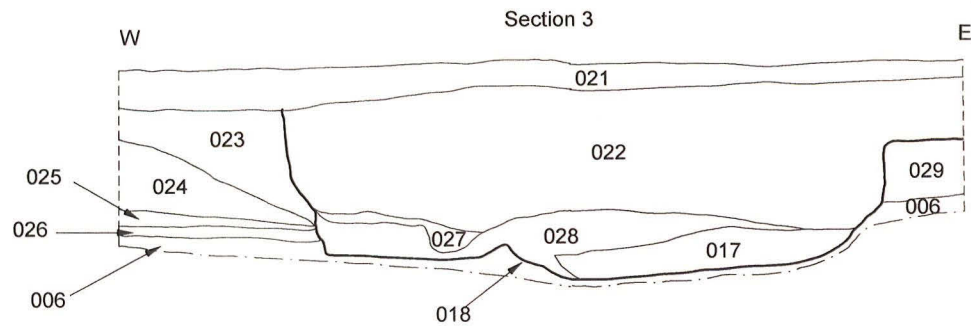
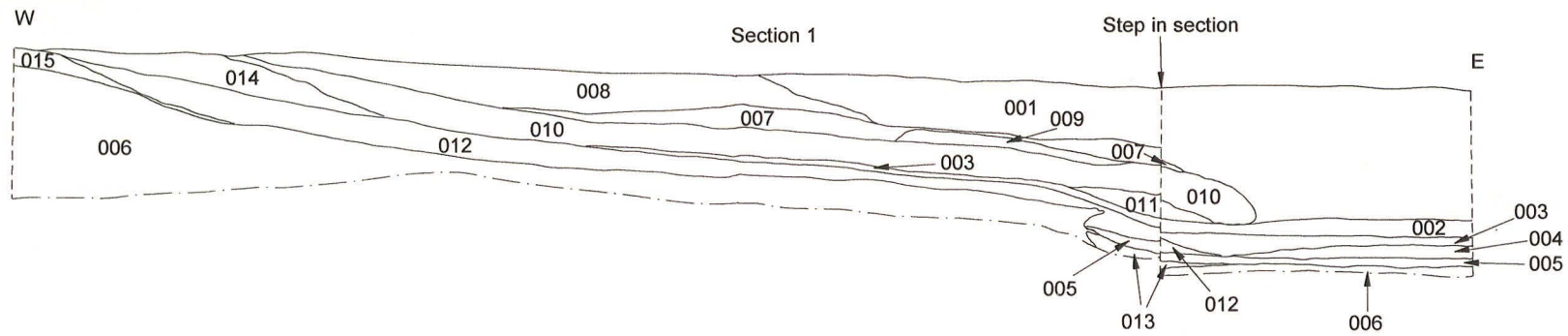


Figure 8 - Plot 10 foundation plan showing section locations and features

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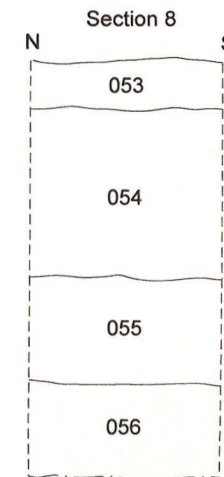
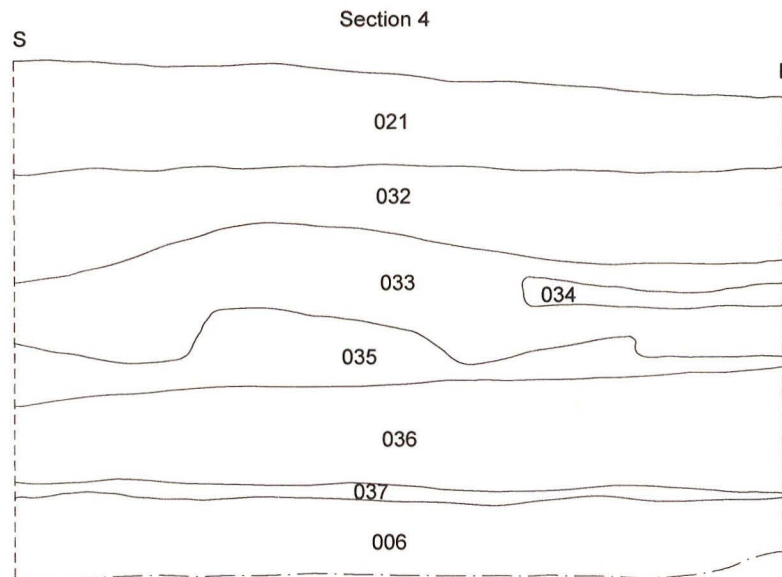
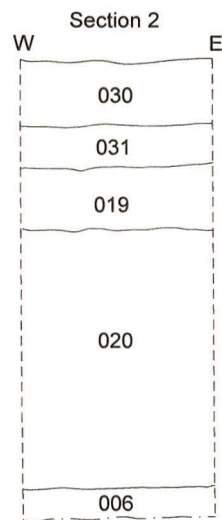
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Figure 9 - Section drawings 1, 3, 5





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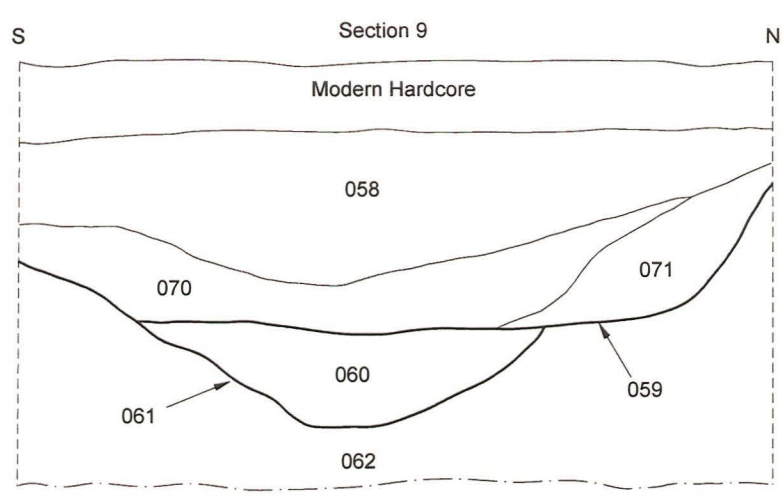
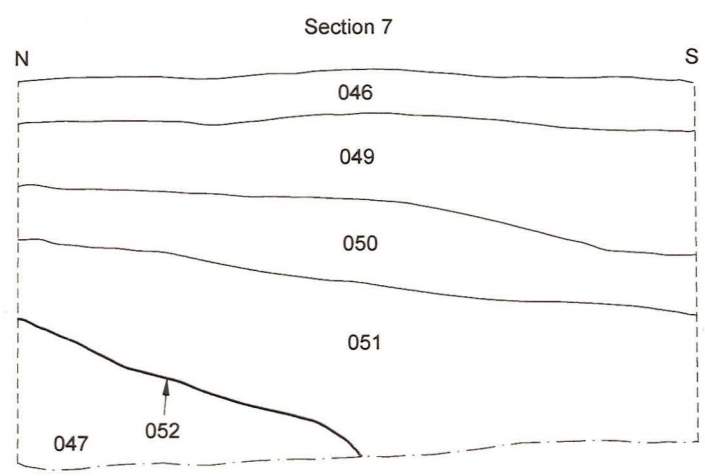
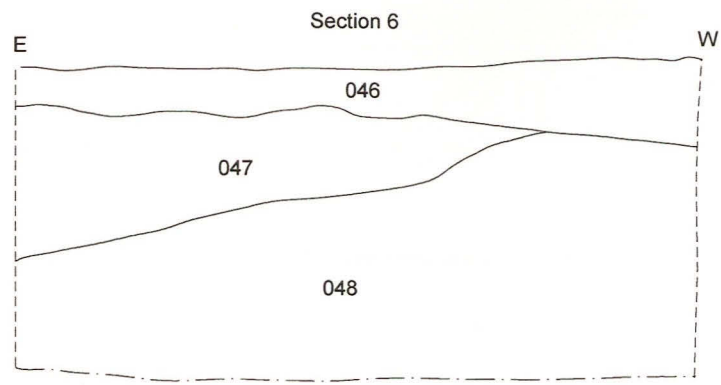
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Figure 10 - Section drawings 2, 4, 8




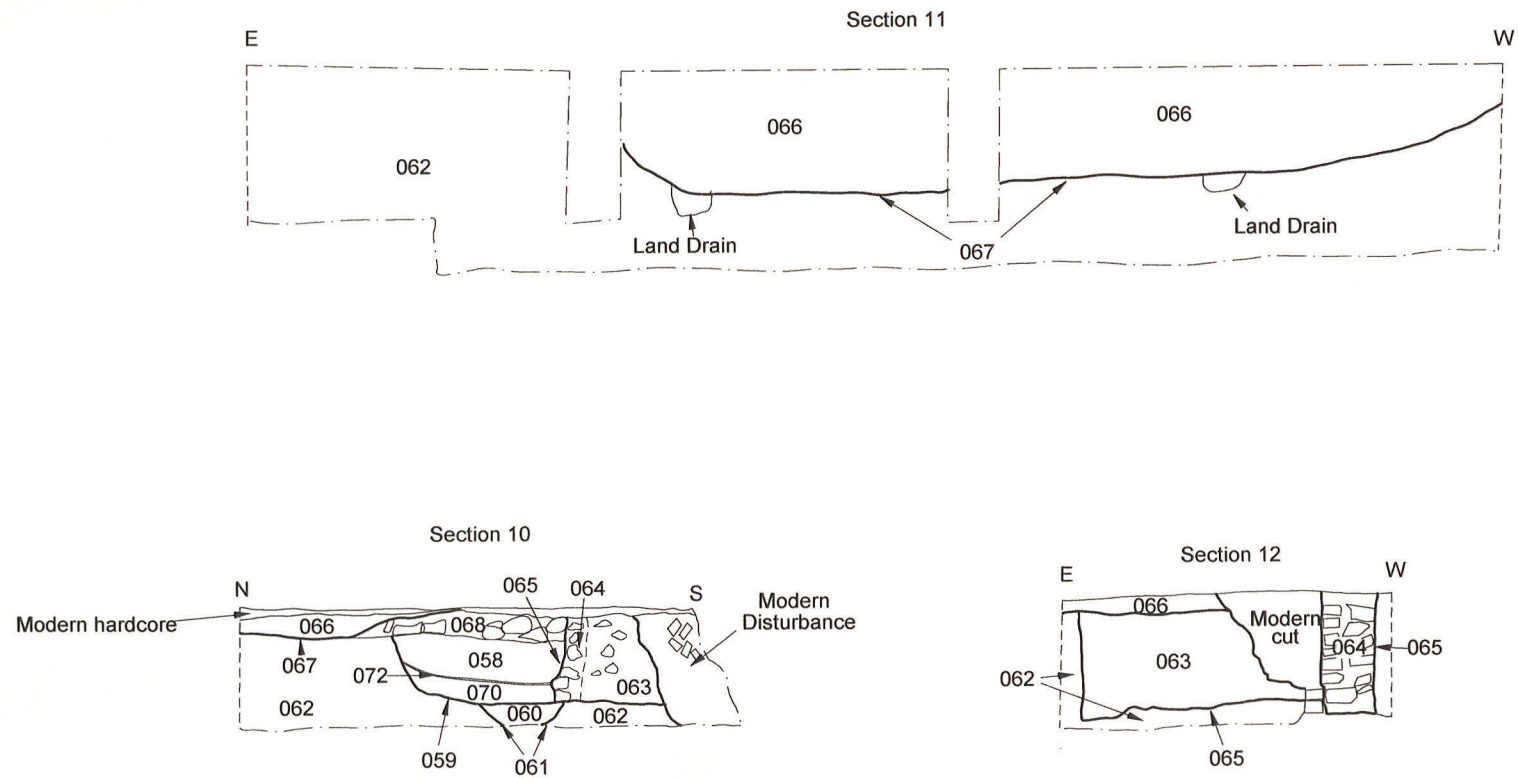
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Figure 11 - Section drawings 6, 7 & 9






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Figure 12 - Section drawings 10, 11, 12

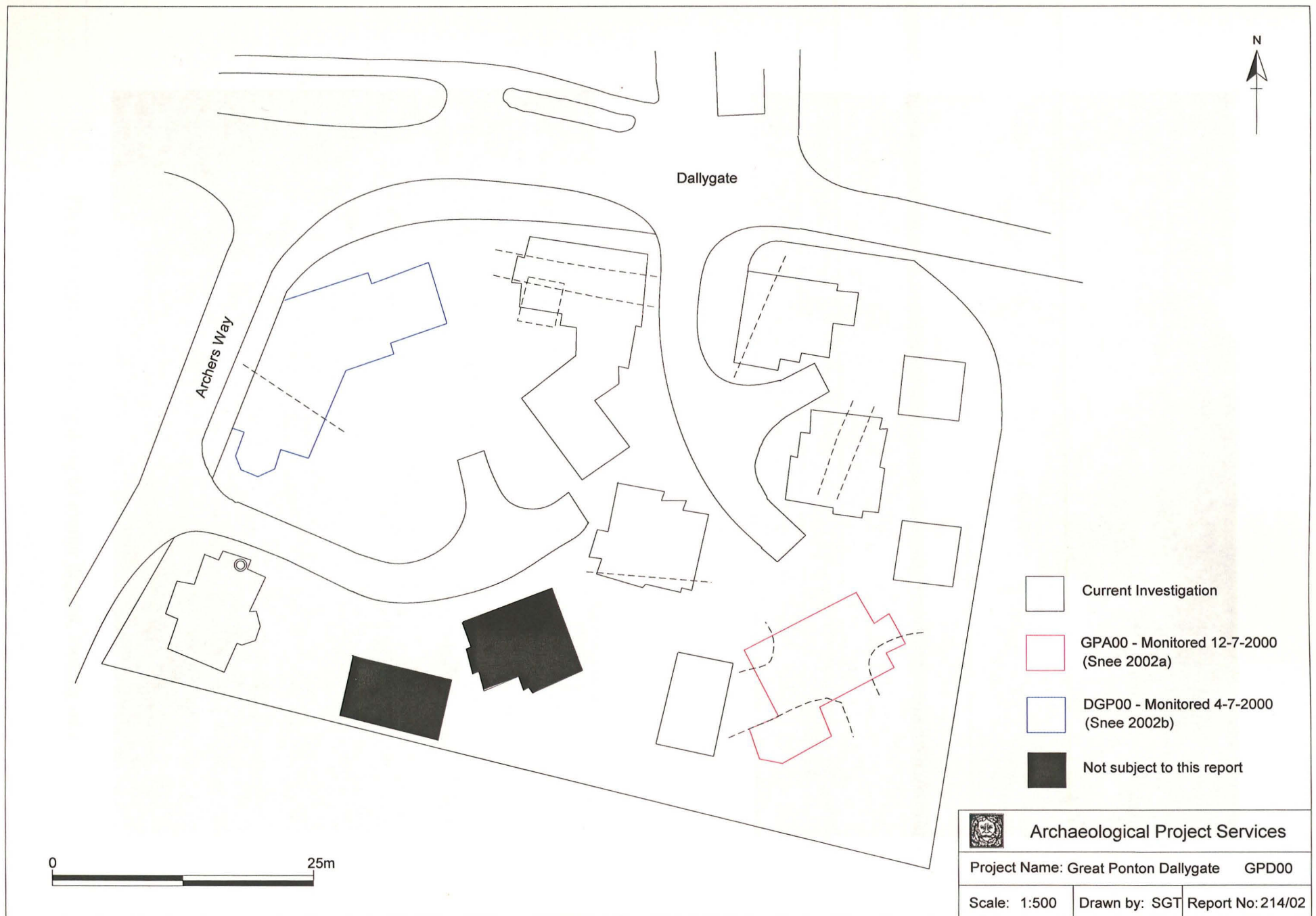


Figure 13 - Composite plan of investigation results, incorporating prior work





Plate 1 View of plough/colluvial/dumped deposits Plot1, looking north



Plate 2 Section 4, showing dumped mortar deposit, looking west





Plate 3 Ditch 052, section 7, looking east



Plate 4 Stone foundation (064), looking south



**Appendix 1**

**LAND AT  
DALLYGATE,  
GREAT PONTON,  
LINCOLNSHIRE**

**SPECIFICATION FOR  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

**PREPARED FOR  
HARNFIELD DEVELOPMENTS**

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

**JUNE 2000**

**1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during development at Dallygate, Great Ponton, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The site is in the medieval village core, close to the church and Manor House and there is potential for Late Saxon and medieval remains to be revealed.*
- 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 groundworks connected with development at Dallygate, Great Ponton, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference SK 926 304.
- 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 Great Ponton is located 5km south of Grantham in the South Kesteven district of Lincolnshire. The works are to take place on the south side of Dallygate, near the centre of the village, at National Grid Reference SK 926 304.

**4 PLANNING BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 Planning applications (S98/1181/38 and S98/1182/38) were submitted to South Kesteven District Council for proposed residential development, consisting of 10 houses. Three plots within the development were sold separately and are subject to conditions requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief during groundworks (S00/0093/38 and S00/1283/38).

**5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY**

- 5.1 The site is on a gentle slope down to the east and lies at approximately 69m OD overlooking the Cringle Brook, a tributary of the River Witham. Local soils are the Elmton 1 Association brashy, calcareous fine loamy soils developed on Jurassic limestone (Hodge *et al.* 1984 179).

**6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW**

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- 6.1 Evidence of prehistoric settlement, or possibly funerary activity, in the form of pottery, flint tools and human bone, has been revealed c. 700m south of the development site. A prehistoric stone axe-hammer has also been found in the parish.
- 6.2 A Roman villa is located 300m northeast of the development. The major Roman road, Ermine Street, is about 1.5km to the east and two large Roman settlements occur a few kilometres to north and south of the development.
- 6.3 The place-name Ponton suggests an Anglo-Saxon origin for the settlement and the parish was referred to in the Domesday Survey of 1086, indicating it was in existence in the Late Saxon period. Domesday records 6 mills, probably located on the river or Cringle Brook, in the parish. The parish church, dating from the 13th century, and the 15th/16th century Manor House are both located close to the development area. Various 16th-18th buildings of listed status are also located nearby.

## 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 South Kesteven Community Archaeologist; South Kesteven District Council Planning Department; and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

**11 ARCHIVE**

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

**12 PUBLICATION**

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

**13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

- 13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist. 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 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS**

- 15.1 The watching brief will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on

the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the archaeological site work.

- 15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- 15.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one person-day) will require a post-excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half person-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about four days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

16 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

- 16.1 The following organisations/persons will, in 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, 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

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.



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**SPECIFICATION FOR WATCHING BRIEF AT DALLYGATE, GREAT PONTON**

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- 18.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.
- 18.3 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 and may result in legal action.
- 18.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

19 **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Hodge, CAH, Burton, RGO, Corbett, WM, Evans, R, and Seale, RS, 1984 Soils and their use in Eastern England, Soil Survey of England and Wales 13

Specification: Version 1, 15-06-00

**Appendix 2**  
Context Summary

Context No.	Plot	Section	Description	Interpretation
001	1	1	Friable, mid-yellowish brown sandy silt, 0.9m thick	Subsoil
002	1	1	Firm, mid-reddish yellow brown silt and sand, 0.12m thick	Colluvial deposit
003	1	1	Firm, light grey sandy silt, 0.14m thick	Colluvial deposit
004	1	1	Firm, light pinkish brown sand and silt	Colluvial deposit
005	1	1	Compact, dark blackish brown sandy silt containing occasional small stones	Colluvial deposit
006	1	1	Firm, orange and yellow sand and gravel, up to 0.9m thick	Natural geological deposit
007	1	1	Firm, yellowish white sand containing occasional decayed stone	Colluvial/Plough deposit
008	1	1	Firm, mid-yellowish brown silty sand containing occasional decaying stone	Colluvial/Plough deposit
009	1	1	Firm, mid-yellowish brown sandy gravel	Colluvial/Plough deposit
010	1	1	Firm, mixed mid-grey and brown sand and silts containing occasional grit	Colluvial/Plough deposit
011	1	1	Firm, mid-yellowish brown sand and gravel	Colluvial/Plough deposit
012	1	1	Firm, dark grey sandy silt containing occasional chalk fragments	Colluvial/Plough deposit
013	1	1	Firm, dark blackish brown sandy silt containing occasional small stone	Colluvial/Plough deposit
014	1	1	Compact, light pinkish yellow-brown silt	Colluvial/Plough deposit
015	1	1	Firm, mid-reddish yellow-brown sand, 0.1m thick	Colluvial/Plough deposit
016	1	1	Initially assigned as a cut – represents interface between natural deposits and probable plough and colluvial deposits	-
017	2	3	Firm, dark brown sandy silt containing occasional small stones	Fill of 018
018	2	3	Linear cut, 4m wide x 1.2m deep >6m long, steep sides flat, slightly irregular base, N-S orientation	Ditch
019	1 Garage	2	Firm, dark blackish brown sandy silt containing frequent ash and occasional small stones, 0.17m thick	Buried topsoil
020	1 Garage	2	Firm, mid-brown sandy silt containing moderate small stones, 0.68m thick	Subsoil



021	2	3,4	Firm, dark brown sandy silt, 0.2m thick containing occasional small stones	Topsoil
022	2	3	Firm, dark brown sandy silt containing occasional small stones and mortar fragments	Fill of 018
023	2	3	Firm, mid-brownish yellow sandy silt containing occasional shell fragments	Subsoil
024	2	3	Firm, mottled mid-grey, white and light yellow brown sands, containing patches of clay	?Colluvial deposit
025	2	3	Firm, mid-grey silty clay	?Colluvial deposit
026	2	3	Compact, dark blackish brown sandy silt containing occasional small stones	?Colluvial deposit
027	2	3	Firm, dark brown sandy silt	Fill of 018
028	2	3	Firm, mid-yellowish brown sand and silt containing patches of clay	Fill of 018
029	2	3	Firm, mid-yellowish brown sandy silt	Subsoil
030	2	2	Firm, mid-yellowish brown sandy silt containing occasional brick, stone, mortar and tarmac fragments, 0.17m thick	Current ground surface
031	1 Garage	2	Firm, mid-yellowish brown sandy silt containing occasional brick, stone and mortar fragments, 0.13m thick	Dumped/levelling deposit
032	2	4	Firm, mid-brown sandy silt, 0.3m thick	Subsoil
033	2	4	Firm, yellow-brown clayey silty sand, 0.3m thick	Subsoil
034	2	4	Compact, light yellowish-white sandy silt, 0.1m thick	Dumped deposit
035	2	4	Firm, light greyish-white clayey silty sand, 0.2m thick	Dumped deposit
036	2	4	Firm, mid-grey silty clay, up to 0.2m thick	?Colluvial deposit
037	2	4	Firm, dark grey clayey sand, 50mm thick	?Colluvial deposit
038	2	5	Firm, dark grey-brown sandy silt, 0.2m thick containing frequent small off-white 'mortar' flecks and fragments	Dumped deposit
039	2	5	Firm, black charcoal. 0.1m thick	Fill of 041
040	2	5	Firm, mottled yellow-brown silty sand	Fill of 041
041	2	5	Linear cut, E-W orientation, >0.3m wide >0.7m long x 0.7m deep, gently sloping sides, concave base	Ditch
042	2	5	Firm, yellow-brown sandy silt, 0.2m thick	Subsoil
043	2	5	Firm, light yellowish brown-grey clayey silty sand, 0.1m thick	Dumped deposit
044	2	5	Firm, light greyish-white, clayey sandy silt, 0.1m thick	Dumped deposit

045	2	5	Initially assigned as a cut – represents interface between natural deposits and probable plough and colluvial deposits	-
046	5	6,7	Friable, dark greyish brown silt, 0.25m thick containing moderate limestones, occasional brick, charcoal fragments and ash	Topsoil
047	5	6,7	Firm, mid-yellowish brown silt containing occasional small stones	Subsoil
048	5	6	Loose, light brownish yellow and orangey-yellow sands and gravel, >0.7m thick	Natural geological deposit
049	5	7	Loose, dark blackish grey ash, coke and cinders, 0.3m thick containing occasional brick fragments and moderate stones	Dumped deposit
050	5	7	Firm, mid-greyish brown silt containing frequent limestone fragments, 0.25m thick	Fill of 052
051	5	7	Firm, mid yellowish, greyish brown sandy silt containing occasional ash, mortar and charcoal fragments	Fill of 052
052	5	7	Linear cut, >1.7, N-S x 0.8m deep, E-W orientation	Ditch
053	6	8	Firm, mid-reddish yellow clayey silt	Redeposited natural
054	6	8	Loose, mid-grey and yellowish white silt and stone cobbles	Hardstand
055	6	8	Firm, mid-yellow silty grit containing occasional patches of clay	Natural geological deposit
056	6	8	Firm, mid-bluish grey clay	Natural geological deposit
057	-	-	Circular brick structure, 1.3m diameter, >1.1m deep	Well
058	10	9,10	Firm, light reddish brown silt and sand	Fill of 059
059	10	9,10	Linear cut, >12m long, 2.5m wide x 0.7m deep, E-W orientation	Ditch
060	10	9,10	Firm, light greyish brown silty clay containing frequent gravel lenses and occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of 061
061	10	9,10	Linear cut, 0.3m deep, 1.35m wide x >12m long, E-W orientation	Ditch
062	10	9,10	Firm, light reddish brown sandy silt, up to 1.2m thick	Subsoil
063	10	10,12	Firm, light yellowish brown mortar and stone	Demolition deposit
064	10	10,12	Limestone wall foundation, limestone blocks, roughly hewn, random bond, 4.3m N-S x 0.6m wide x 1.4m deep	Wall foundation



065	10	10,12	Rectangular cut, 4.3m N-S x 3.4m E-W x 1.4m deep, steep vertical sides, flat base	Construction cut for 064
066	10	10,11	Firm, mid-reddish brown clayey silt containing limestone fragments and modern debris	Make up layer for road construction
067	10	10,11	Linear cut, 8m wide x >7m long x 1m deep, N-S orientation	Construction cut for road
068	10	10	Firm, dark limestone blocks and fragments in dark reddish brown silt	Disturbed former platform or floor surface
069	2	5	Firm, mid-brown silty sand	Fill of 041
070	9	10	Soft, light reddish brown sand	Fill of 059
071	9	10	Firm, light reddish brown silt	Fill of 059
072	10	10	Grey silt	Fill of 059

## Appendix 3

### THE FINDS

by Paul Cope-Faulkner, Jane Cowgill,  
Tom Lane 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. Two fragments of pottery weighing 7g was recovered. In addition to the pottery, other items, industrial residue, brick/tile and flint, comprising 3 objects weighing a total of 118g, was retrieved. Faunal remains were also recovered.

#### Provenance

The material was recovered from subsoil (001, 032, 033), a colluvial deposit (010) and a ditch fill (050).

Both pieces of pottery are probably Staffordshire products.

#### Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Context	Fabric Code/Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
001	Industrial residue	Iron slag, ?hearth bottom	1	92g	Medieval or earlier
010	Ceramic Building Material	Brick/tile	1	21g	
032	EMOD	Blue and white transfer printed tableware	1	6g	19 <sup>th</sup> century
033	Flint	Waste flake	1	5g	Prehistoric
050	EMOD	Creamware, late	1	1g	Early 19 <sup>th</sup> century

The fragment of slag is probably part of a hearth bottom, deriving from iron smithing, though lacks discriminatory characteristics and could be tap slag from iron smelting. Great Ponton is at the edge of the geological range for iron production.

The flint flake, which has a bulb of percussion and a ripple of a hinge fracture, is completely patinated white.

Context	Species	Bone	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
001	Pig	Mandible	1	10	Shaft fragment
	Cattle sized	Skull fragments	2	14	
	Sheep sized	Femur	1	12	
	Sheep sized	skull	2	8	
010	Cattle sized	unidentified	2	12	chalky

#### 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 few previous archaeological investigations at Great Ponton, though examination of adjacent development yielded post-medieval artefacts comparable with those from the current monitoring, though Romano-British material, not found in this investigation, was also recovered at the adjoining site (Cope-Faulkner *et al.*). The adjacent site also yielded a prehistoric flint (*ibid.*). Additionally, a desk-based survey of the archaeological and historical evidence for the current development site was previously produced. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

### **Potential**

As a small collection, the assemblage is of limited local significance and potential. However, a further flint artefact was found on the adjacent monitoring and together these point to some low level prehistoric activity in the general area.

The absence of any Romano-British material, as found on the adjacent site, is informative and suggests this investigation area lies further from the focus of Roman activity.

### **References**

Cope-Faulkner, P., Healey, H., Lane, T. and Taylor, G., 2002 'The Finds', in J. Snee, *Archaeological Watching Brief During Development on Plots 8 & 9 Dallygate, Great Ponton Lincolnshire* Unpublished Archaeological Project Services report no. 106/02

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>Bronze Age</b>	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
<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>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>Neolithic</b>	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500-2250 BC.
<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 1 <sup>st</sup> 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:

72	Context records
10	Sheets of scale drawings
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Section record sheet
1	Plan record sheet
6	Daily record sheets
1	Stratigraphic matrix
1	Bag of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

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

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

Lincolnshire City and County Museum Accession Number:      LCNCC : 2000.148

Archaeological Project Services Site Code:                      GPD00

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.