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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT STATION ROAD,
SLEAFORD,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SSR 03)**



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT STATION ROAD,
SLEAFORD,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SSR 03)**

**Work Undertaken For
Westleigh Developments Ltd**

October 2003

Report Compiled by
Paul Cope-Faulkner BA (Hons) AIFA

National Grid Reference: TF 0667 4545
Planning Reference: N/57/0606/2
City and County Museum Accession No: 2003.70

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 169/03

Quality Control
Station Road, Sleaford
SSR 03

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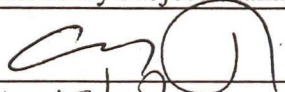

Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
 Gary Taylor	 Tom Lane
Date: 17/10/03	Date: 25-10-03

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during residential development on land off Station Road, Sleaford, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of foundation trenches for 17 new dwellings.

The site lies at the southern extent of the medieval (AD 1066-1540) town in an area where an extensive Anglo-Saxon (AD 411-650) cemetery has been identified. Artefacts of the Neolithic (4000-2200 BC) and Bronze Age (2200-800 BC) have also been recovered in the vicinity and Iron Age (800 BC-AD 43) settlements are known to the east. Sleaford Castle, built in the 12th century, is located just to the west of the site.

The watching brief identified natural deposits and three limestone filled pits, which remain undated due to a lack of artefactual material. A former topsoil was also recognised. Above this and the pits were dumped deposits. The origin of the pits and dumped layers is also uncertain, but probably relates to gravel extraction or railway construction during the mid 19th century.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

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

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Westleigh Developments Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with residential development on land at Station Road, Sleaford, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application N/57/0606/2. The watching brief was carried out between the 9th and 13th June 2003, in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the North Kesteven Heritage Officer.

2.3 Topography and Geology

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

The development site is located 500m south of Sleaford town centre as defined by the Market Place (Fig. 2). Lying at the west end of Station Road, the site is centred on National Grid Reference TF 0667 4545 at a height of 16.5m OD on land that slopes gently down to the north and east.

Local soils have not been mapped as they lie within an urban area. However, they are likely to be of the Aswarby Series, typically brown calcareous earths (George and Robson 1978, 44). These soils overlie a drift geology of Fen sand and gravel which in turn seals a solid geology of Jurassic Cornbrash (GSGB 1972).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

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

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

Located 600m to the east is a Middle Iron Age enclosure, one of several around Sleaford, and which may have been associated with settlement of the period identified further east (Rayner 1999, 10). By the Late Iron Age, the focus of settlement centred on Old Place, south of the River Sleas, about 1km to the east of the current site. High status pottery and a significant collection of coin pellet mould fragments were found adjacent to Old Place and have led to speculation that at this time Sleaford was an important centre or *oppida* of the *Corieltavi*, a local tribe (Elsdon 1997, 75).

The Iron Age occupation of Sleaford was succeeded by an extensive Romano-British settlement that straddled Mareham Lane. The line of this road is approximately 900m east of the site, the modern road of that name being a medieval diversion.

In the vicinity of the railway station is a large Anglo-Saxon inhumation cemetery part of which, the area south of the railway station, was excavated in 1881 (Thomas 1882, 384). Further burials were found to the east of the station in 1858 (Trollope 1872, 100) and on the north side of the station during gravel digging prior to 1881. A total of 242 burials were recorded although it was estimated that there were in the region of 600 in total, all dating to the 6th century. A further Saxon burial was found during the widening of Mareham Lane, although the exact position is not clear (White 1988, 87).

Sleaford is first mentioned in AD 825 in a charter relating to the leasing of land at Sempringham by Peterborough Abbey (Hart 1966, 100) and confirmed in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle (Swanton 1997, 65). Referred to as *Slioforda*, the name is derived from the Old English and means the ford over the 'sliowa', meaning muddy water (Cameron 1998, 112).

There has been some debate as to Sleaford's inclusion in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086, although it is now assumed that Sleaford, referred to as *Eslaforde*, relates to the modern town, and Old Sleaford is included within the entry for Quarrington (Roffe 1979, 13). If so, the survey records that the Bishop of Lincoln held the land which contained a church with a priest, 320 acres of meadow, 1 acre of underwood and 330 acres of marsh (Foster and Longley 1976). The site lies 500m southwest of the parish church of St. Denys which dates from the 12th century (DoE 1974, 23) and presumably replaced the earlier church mentioned in the Domesday Survey.

Immediately west of the site is Sleaford Castle. This was built by Bishop Alexander of Lincoln between 1124 and 1139 (Healey and Roffe forthcoming). The castle now exists as a series of earthworks comprising moats and a rectangular keep (Cathcart-King 1983, 262).

Recent archaeological work in the vicinity of the site includes a watching brief at the Carre Arms which identified undated pits and stake holes, indicating the presence of a temporary structure (Snee 2000, 4) and an evaluation to the southwest that recorded remnants of ridge and furrow of the medieval field system (Albone 2001, 1).

3. AIMS

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

4. METHODS

Prior to the excavation of foundation trenches for the new development, the upper surface of the former car park and

surrounding area was stripped. Foundation trenches were then excavated by machine to depths required by the development. Four areas were excavated (Blocks A to D), although Block C was not examined. Portions of the trenches were then cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were then examined by hand to determine the nature of the deposits and to retrieve artefactual material. Each deposit encountered was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their interpretations appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. Recording was undertaken to standard Archaeological Project Services' practice.

Following excavation, records were checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis, three phases were identified;

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Undated deposits
Phase 3	Recent deposits

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

Phase 1 Natural deposits

In Block A, natural comprised a layer of greenish brown clay (009). This measured over 0.4m thick (Fig. 7, Sections 1 to 3). This was sealed by a 0.5m to 1.05m thick deposit of yellowish brown silty sand (007 and 008).

The earliest deposit encountered in Block B was a layer of bluish grey silty clay (017) which was over 50mm thick (Fig. 8, Section 7).

Natural deposits in Block D comprised a layer of yellowish brown clay (014). This was over 100mm thick (Fig. 8, Section 6).

Phase 2 Undated deposits

Cutting into the natural silty sands in Block A were three pits. The first (018) was 1.9m wide by 0.88m deep. The second (019) was 0.74m wide by 1.05m deep and the final pit (020) measured over 0.95m wide and 0.56m deep. Each pit was filled with yellowish white limestone (004, 005 and 006). Above these were two dumped deposits, a lower comprising yellowish brown clayey silt (003) and an upper of yellowish brown sandy gravel (002) with a total thickness of 0.45m.

Overlying the natural silty clay (017) in Block B was a dumped deposit of greyish brown silty clay (016). This was 0.9m thick (Fig. 5, Section 7).

Sealing natural deposits towards the northeast corner of Block D was a former topsoil of grey silt (013) that was 0.2m thick. Overlying the topsoil and natural deposits in the remainder of the Block were dumped deposits of greenish brown clay (012) and yellowish brown clayey silt with limestone (011) which still exhibited tip lines (Fig. 8, Section 5; Plate 5).

Phase 3 Recent deposits

Above the dumped deposits in Block A was a layer of hardstanding, comprising brownish yellow limestone rubble (001).

Recent deposits in Block B comprised a 0.4m thick layer of greyish brown and white crushed limestone (015).

Sealing the undated dumped deposits in Block D was a topsoil of yellowish brown

silty sand (010). This was 0.35m thick, although had largely been stripped prior to the development.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Phase 1) comprise clays, silty clays and silty sands which are likely to be local variations within the underlying drift geology of Fen sand and gravel.

Undated deposits (Phase 2) comprise a former topsoil, three limestone filled pits and a number of dumped deposits. Its probable that the dumped layers relate to past use of the site and may derive from gravel extraction or the construction of the railway, both in the mid 19th century. The function of the pits is less clear, although they may have served as foundation supports for the railway yard that extended across this area or as drainage soakaways. The former topsoil may be a remnant of agricultural activity.

No artefacts were retrieved or recorded during this investigation.

7. CONCLUSION

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at Station Road, Sleaford, as the site lay within the known limits of an Anglo-Saxon inhumation cemetery and close to the medieval castle.

However, no remains were identified that were associated with Anglo-Saxon burial or the castle and only undated pits, dumped deposits and a former topsoil were identified. These undated features and layers were possibly formed during gravel extraction or railway construction during the mid 19th century. No artefacts were found during the watching brief.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr S. Preston of Westleigh Developments Ltd for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. Gary Taylor coordinated this work and edited this report along with Tom Lane. Jo Hambly, the North Kesteven Heritage Officer, kindly permitted access to the parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
 Site Supervisors: Mark Dymond, Barry Martin
 Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
 Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
 Post-excavation analysis: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS	Archaeological Project Services
DoE	Department of the Environment
GSGB	Geological Survey of Great Britain
IFA	Institute of Field Archaeologists

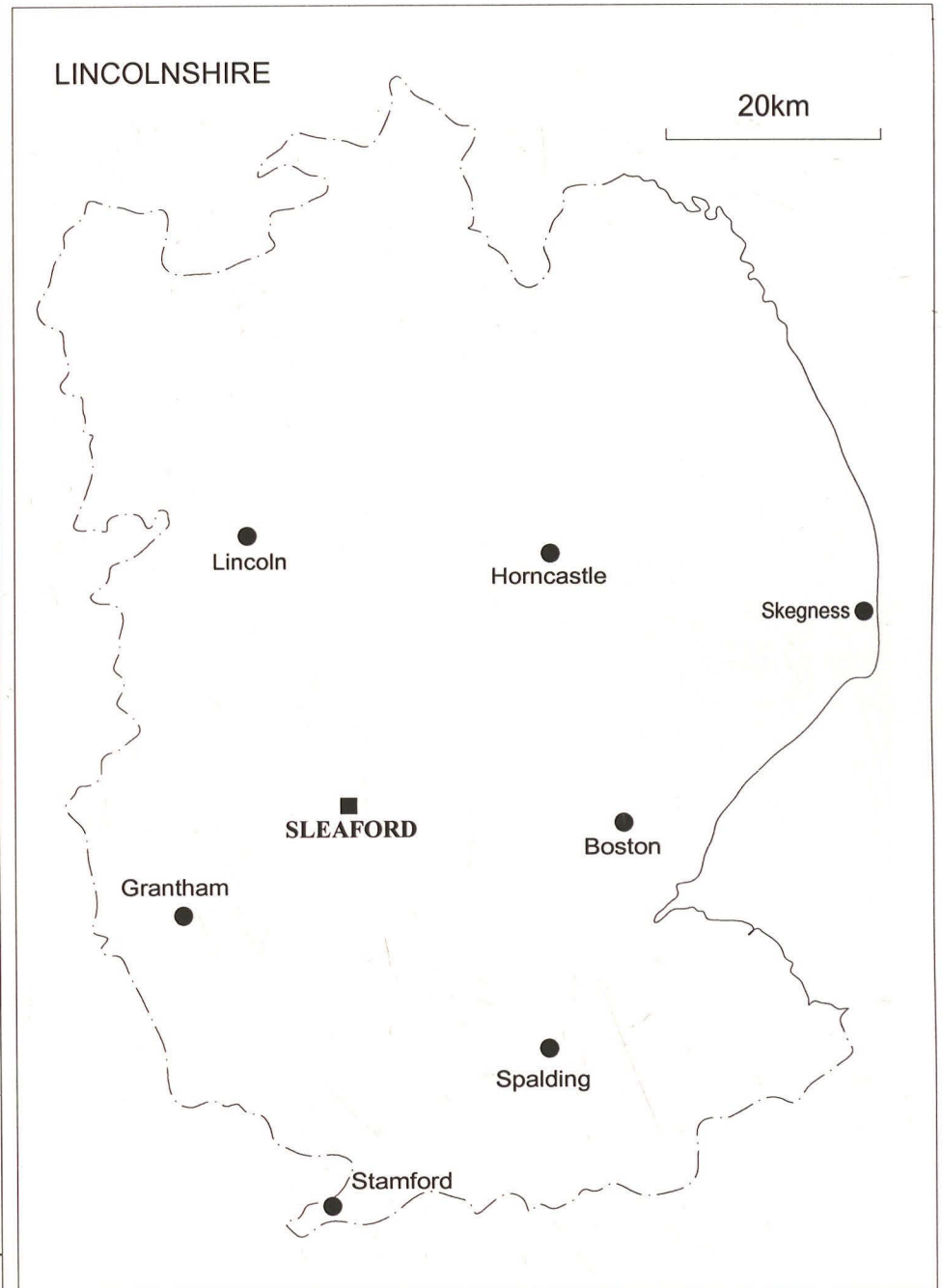
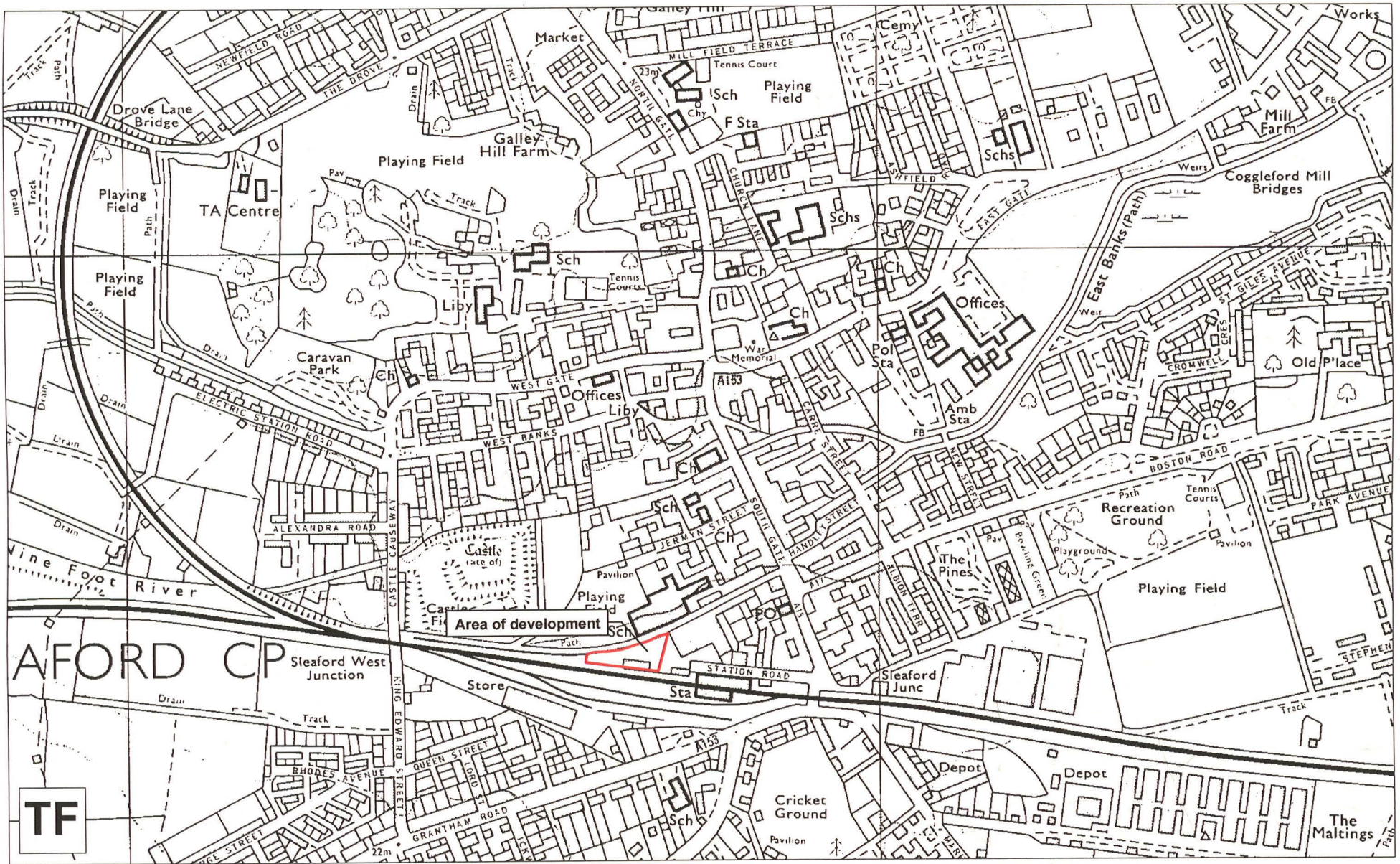


Figure 1 - General Location Plan



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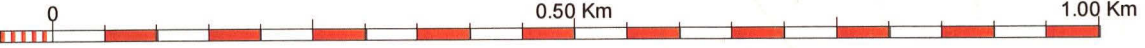


Figure 2 - Site location plan

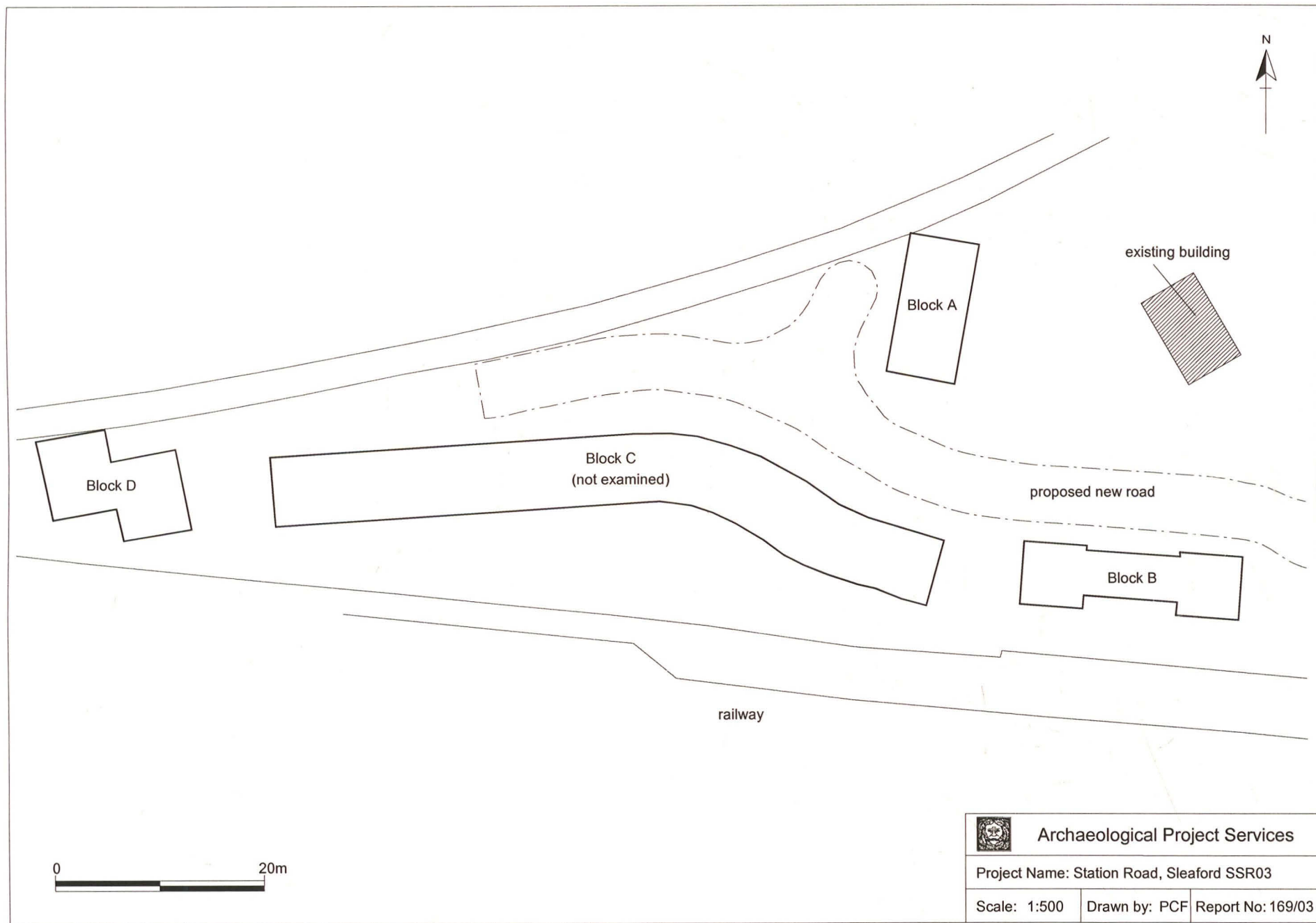


Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing locations of Blocks A, B and D

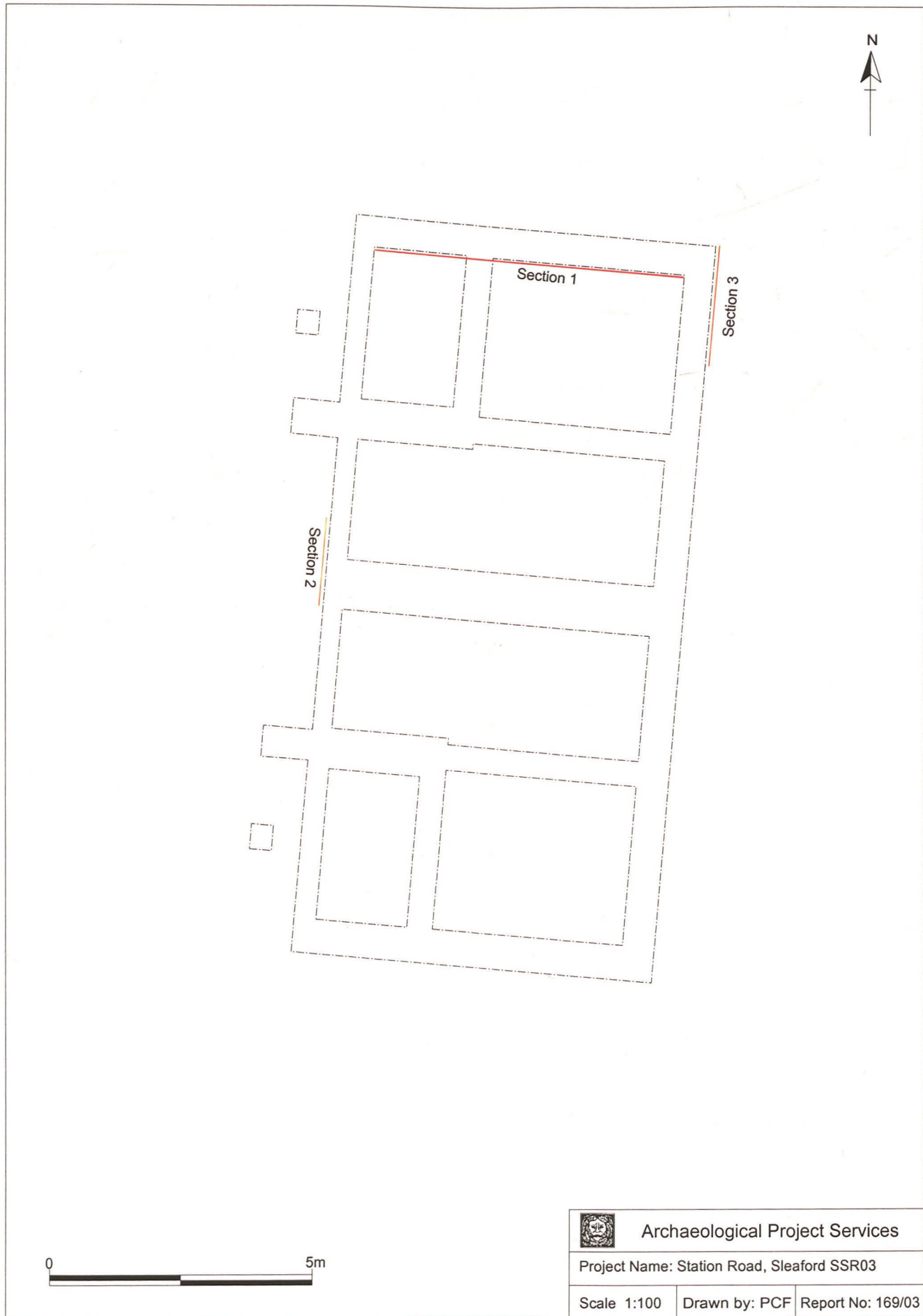


Figure 4 - Plan of Block A showing section locations

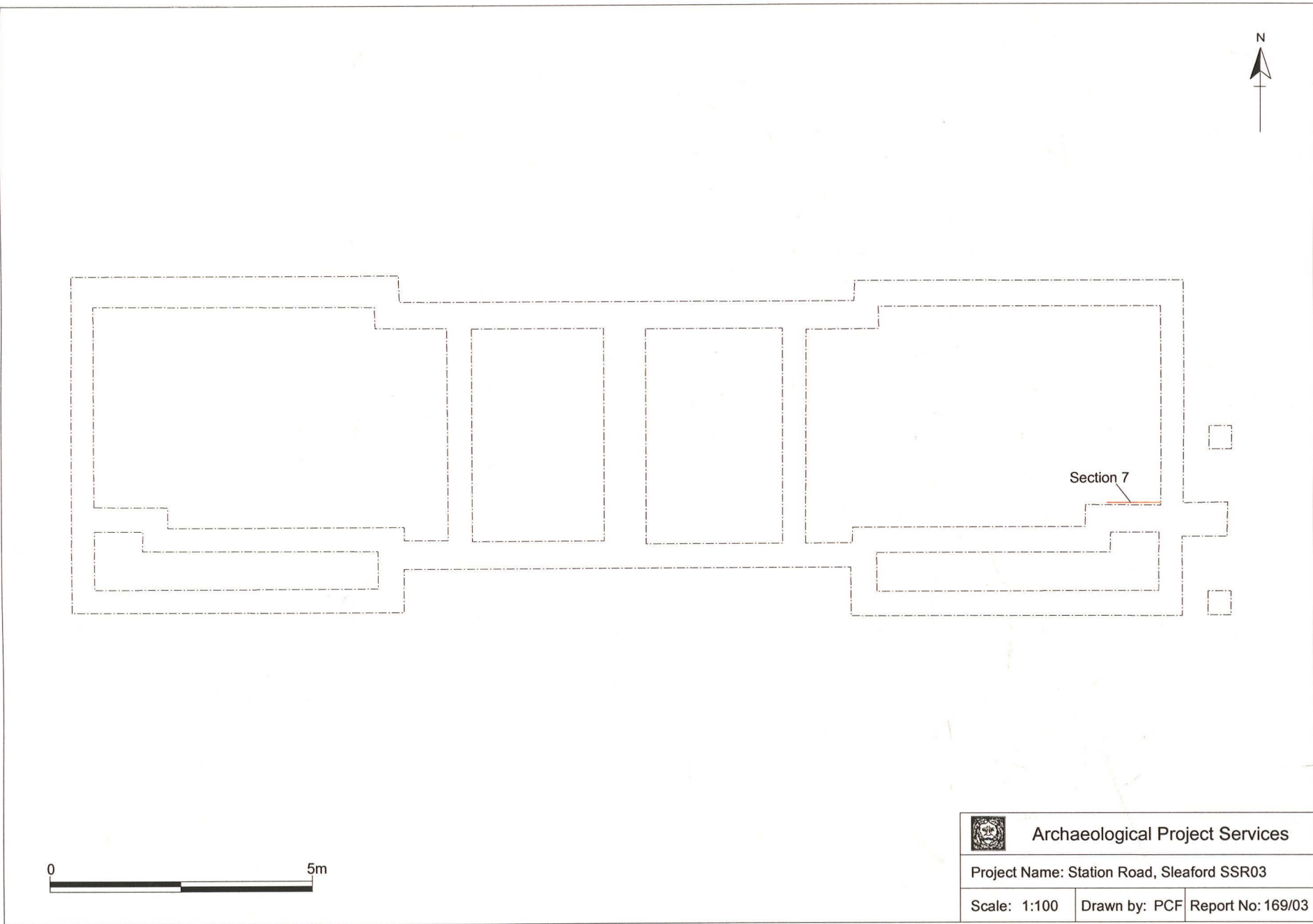
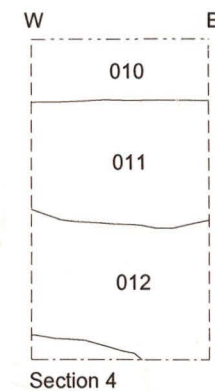
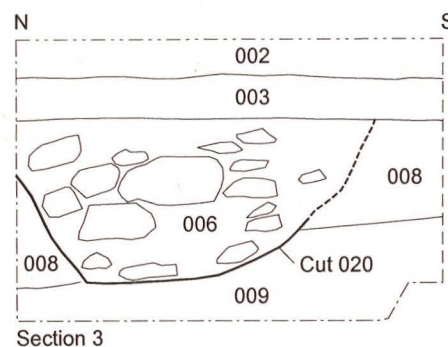
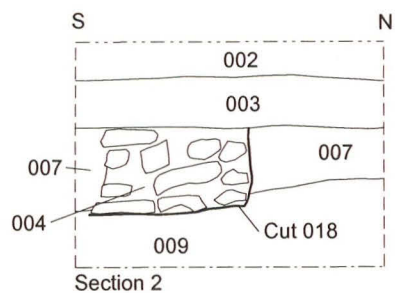
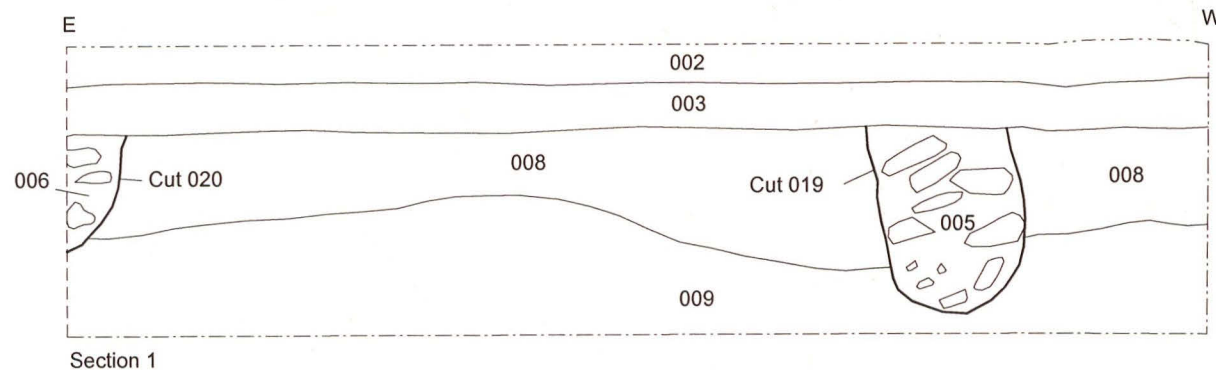


Figure 5 - Plan of Block B showing section location



Figure 6 - Plan of Block D showing section locations




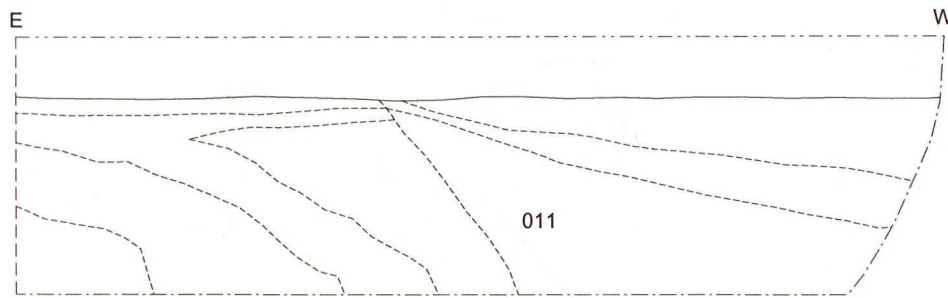
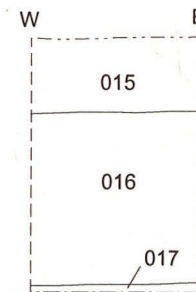
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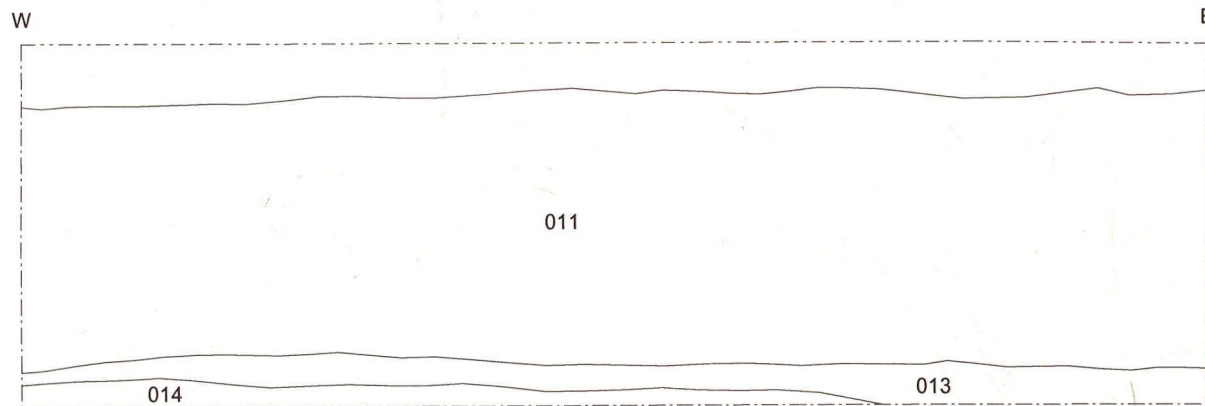
Figure 7 - Sections 1 to 4



Section 5



Section 7



Section 6




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Figure 8 - Sections 5 to 7



Plate 1 - General view of the development area,
looking southwest



Plate 2 - Section 1,
looking northwest



Plate 3 - Section 2 showing pit (018) looking northwest



Plate 4 - Section 3 showing pit (020), looking southeast

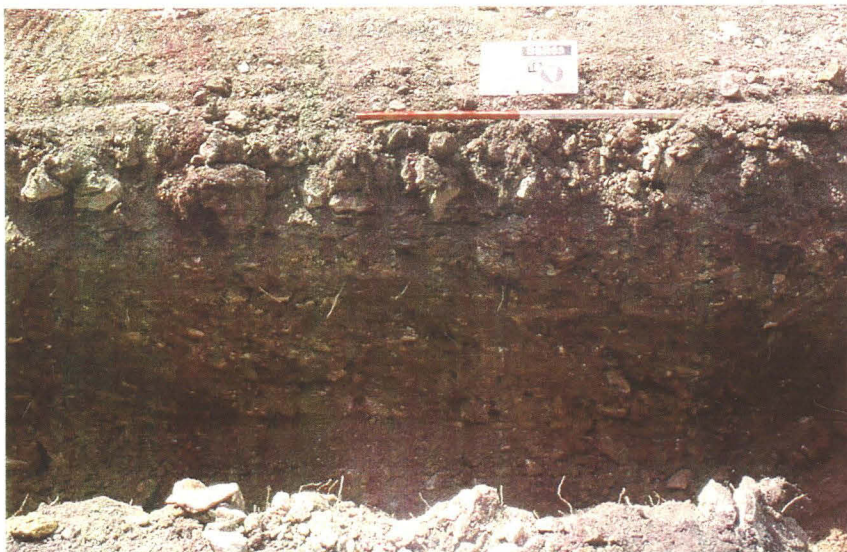


Plate 5 - Section 5 showing dumped deposit (011), looking south

Appendix 1

LAND AT STATION ROAD, SLEAFORD, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during residential development at Station Road, Sleaford, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The site lies in an area of known archaeological significance close to the site of a large Early Anglo-Saxon cemetery discovered during construction of the railway line and station in the 19th century.*
- 1.3 *The archaeological work will consist of a watching brief during development works on the site.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the watching brief. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for archaeological watching brief during residential development on land at Station Road, Sleaford, Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference TF 06674 45456.
- 2.2 This document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview.
 - 2.2.2 Stages of work and methodologies.
 - 2.2.3 List of specialists.
 - 2.2.4 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 Sleaford lies approximately 27km south of Lincoln in the administrative district of North Kesteven. The site is located close to the centre of the town on the site of a former station yard alongside the railway. It is centred on National Grid Reference TF 06674 45456.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application (N/57/0606/2) was submitted to North Kesteven District Council for demolition of the existing warehouse and residential development of the site. Permission is subject to a condition requiring the undertaking of a watching-brief during groundworks associated with the development.
- 4.2

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The site lies within the town centre on the south side of the River Sleas at approximately 14m OD. Local soils are the Ruskington Association, gleyic brown calcareous earths, developed on glaciofluvial sand and gravel (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 304).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 A large Anglo-Saxon cemetery of probable 6th century AD date is located in the immediate vicinity of the development site. Excavations in the 19th century during construction of the railway line and station recorded over 240 burials with grave goods and the excavator estimated that the cemetery contained a further 350 burials and encompassed an area of 3,300 sq metres. The development site is on the presumed edge of the cemetery and it is possible that the cemetery, or outlying burials from it, may be located in the development area.
- 6.2 Investigations near to the railway crossing have revealed undated but possibly medieval ditches, pits and stakeholes (Archaeological Project Services 2000).

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the watching brief will be:
- 7.1.1 To record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.
- 7.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:
- 7.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
- 7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
- 7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
- 7.2.4 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

8 SITE OPERATIONS

- 8.1 General considerations
- 8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the watching brief.
- 8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA). Archaeological Project Services is IFA registered organisation no. 21.
- 8.1.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.
- 8.2 Methodology
- 8.2.1 The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.
- 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.

- Throughout the watching brief a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
- the site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
- groups of features where their relationship is important

8.2.4 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:

- A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
- A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.
- Description of the topography of the site.
- Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.
- A text describing the findings of the watching brief.
- A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.
- Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological

deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.

- Sections of the archaeological features.
- Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10 REPORT DEPOSITION

- 10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the Client; the North Kesteven Heritage Officer; North Kesteven District Council Planning Department; and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

11 ARCHIVE

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

12 PUBLICATION

- 12.1 A report of the findings of the watching brief will be presented as a condensed article 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 North Kesteven Heritage Officer. They will be given seven days notice in writing before 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 archaeological curator.
- 14.2 In the event of the discovery of any unexpected remains of archaeological importance, or of any changed circumstances, it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to inform the archaeological curator (*Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* 1998, Sections 5.7 and 18).
- 14.3 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation additional resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.
- 14.4 Any contingency requirement for additional fieldwork or post-excavation analysis outside the scope of the proposed scheme of works will only be activated following full consultation with the archaeological curator and the client.

15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 15.1 The watching brief will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the archaeological site work.
- 15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- 15.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one person-day) will require a post-excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half person-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about four days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

16 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

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

<u>Task</u>	<u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust Roman - B Precious, Independent Specialist Anglo-Saxon - J Young, Independent Specialist Medieval and later - G Taylor, APS in consultation with 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.

- 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

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Specification: Version 1, 14 March 2003

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Block	Description	Interpretation
001	A	Firm light brownish yellow limestone rubble, 0.4m thick	Hardstanding
002	A	Firm light to dark yellowish brown sandy gravel, 0.2m thick	Dumped deposit
003	A	Firm dark yellowish brown clayey silt with gravel, 0.25m thick	Dumped deposit
004	A	Firm light yellowish white limestone	Fill of (018)
005	A	Firm light yellowish white limestone	Fill of (019)
006	A	Firm light yellowish white limestone	Fill of (020)
007	A	Firm mid yellowish brown silty sand, 0.5m thick	Natural deposit
008	A	Firm mid yellowish brown silty sand, 1.05m thick	Natural deposit
009	A	Firm light greenish brown clay, 0.4m thick	Natural deposit
010	D	Firm dark yellowish brown silty sand, 0.35m thick	Topsoil
011	D	Firm mid yellowish brown clayey silt with limestone fragments, 0.65m thick	Dumped deposit
012	D	Firm light greenish brown clay, 0.7m thick	Dumped deposit
013	D	Soft mid to dark grey silt, 0.2m thick	Former topsoil
014	D	Firm light yellowish brown clay, >100mm thick	Natural deposit
015	B	Hard greyish brown and white limestone fragments, 0.4m thick	Hardstanding
016	B	Firm mid greyish brown silty clay, 0.9m thick	Dumped deposit
017	B	Firm mid bluish grey silty clay, >50mm thick	Natural deposit
018	A	Cut, 1.9m wide by 0.88m deep, near vertical sides and flat base	Pit
019	A	Cut, 0.74m wide by 1.05m deep, steep near vertical sides and rounded base	Pit
020	A	Cut, >0.95m wide by 0.56m deep, steep sides and flattish base	Pit

Appendix 3

GLOSSARY

Bronze Age	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Dumped deposits	These are deposits, often laid down intentionally, that raise a land surface. They may be the result of casual waste disposal or may be deliberate attempts to raise the ground surface.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Iron Age	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
Layer	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
Neolithic	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500-2250 BC.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1 st century AD.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.

Appendix 4

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

20	Context records
2	Photographic record sheets
10	Drawing sheets
1	Stratigraphic matrix

All primary records 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: 2003.70

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: SSR 03

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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