

Conservation
Services

06 JAN 2005

Highways & Planning
Directorate

WITHAM ARCHAEOLOGY

A Report To Mr C Harness

December 2004



14 MARKET PLACE, TATTERSHALL, Lincs

Archaeological Watching Brief

R Trimble

Event: L15802

INTERVENTION L19898

CON L19847

EXCAVATION: L19899

PRN: 45858 undated
45859 medieval

14 MARKET PLACE, TATTERSHALL, LINCS.

Site Code: MPT04

LCCM Accession No.: 2004.158

Planning Application No.: S/175/00079/04

NGR: TF 21200 57850

Archaeological Watching Brief

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14 MARKET PLACE, TATTERSHALL, Lincs.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

SUMMARY

This report describes the results of an Archaeological Watching Brief undertaken by Witham Archaeology during the excavation of foundations for a double garage at 14 Market Place, Tattershall, Lincolnshire. The work was commissioned Mr C Harness in response to a condition of planning permission issued by East Lindsey District Council. Recording took place during a site visit made on 9 July 2004.

The watching brief resulted in the discovery of an undated feature cut into the natural sands and gravels of the area. The feature - apparently a ditch - was sealed by a series of layers, thought to be comparatively recent in date.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report describes the results of an Archaeological Watching Brief undertaken by Witham Archaeology during the excavation of foundation trenches for a new double garage at 14 Market Place, Tattershall, Lincolnshire. The work, commissioned by Mr C Harness in response to a condition of planning permission issued by East Lindsey District Council, was carried out on 9 July 2004. Construction work relating to a proposed conservatory (included in the same planning application) was not, in the event, monitored as part of the current watching brief, changes to the design (to allow construction upon an existing concrete base) having mitigated the need for ground-intrusive excavations. This alteration to the scope of the project required was approved by the archaeological advisor to East Lindsey District Council, Dr Beryl Lott.

The information in this document is presented with the proviso that further data may yet emerge. Witham Archaeology 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.

2.0 SITE LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY & GEOLOGY

No. 14 Market Place is located in the village of Tattershall, in the administrative district of East Lindsey, at NGR TF 21200 57850. The new garage lies to the northwest of the existing house, in the angle between the boundary of Town Farm and a wall fronting onto Market Place.

Tattershall is situated on the River Bain, close to its meeting with the Witham, on the east side of the Witham Valley. The superficial geology of the area is predominantly terrace sand and gravel (Lane 1993, 14).

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Tattershall is mentioned in the Domesday book of c. 1086 AD, where is referred to as *Tateshale*. The latter appears to have derived from the Old English 'Tathere's nook of land' (Cameron 1998, 123). Tattershall castle on the southwestern side of the village was first built under a licence granted in 1231 to Sir Robert de Tateshall. Parts of the original castle have survived but most of the existing buildings were built by Ralph Cromwell, Treasurer of England, beginning in 1434-1435 (Pevsner et al 1989, 743-5). The castle is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (County No.2).

Cromwell was granted a charter in 1439, to establish a college in Tattershall. Founded to serve the church of Holy Trinity (also founded by Cromwell and built in the perpendicular style), most of its buildings have been destroyed. However, a two-storied brick building with stone dressings (Scheduled Ancient Monument, County No.32), now used as a barn or potato store, almost certainly belonged to the college.

Another Scheduled Ancient Monument (County No. 92), the Buttercross, is situated within the Market Place, on the village green. Its base, comprising four octagonal steps, probably dates to c. 1200 AD, while its shaft could date to the fourteenth century. A recent watching brief in the immediate vicinity of the monument succeeded in locating an 18th century wall, possibly part of an earlier surround. The Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments record also contains references to a medieval roof finial standing on the roof of a more recent house at No.12 Market Place.

There have been several archaeological interventions in the immediate vicinity of the Market Place. A watching brief on land to the northeast (Cope-Faulkner & Hall 2000) produced a largely negative result, the most significant finds consisting of unstratified 16th-17th century pottery. To the southwest, on land adjoining Sleaford Road (Raynor 2002), an evaluation located a parallel pair of ditches, tentatively dated to the late medieval/post medieval period, while a subsequent watching brief resulted only in the identification of a north-south aligned ditch and a large pit, both undated. A watching brief c. 200m to the east of the current site, on the High Street, produced a largely negative result (Trimble 2000).

4.0 AIMS & OBJECTIVES

The principal objectives of the project, as set out in a Witham Archaeology specification of 8 July 2004 were to:

- *produce an archive record of any surviving deposits, remains and artefacts exposed by the development groundwork within the constraints of the contractor's working methods, programme and the particular development dign.*
- *produce a project archive for deposition with the appropriate museum together with a client report.*
- *provide information for accession to the County Sites and Monuments Record.*

5.0 METHODOLOGY

The new garage, with its long axis aligned southwest – northeast, occupies a plot of c. 9.0m x 5.0m. Foundation trenches were approximately 500mm wide, with depth varying between 600 and 700mm from existing ground level.

All trenches were visually inspected prior to selection of the trench forming the south-western side of the plot for more detailed examination and recording. The base and north-east facing side of the latter were hand-cleaned. A section drawing at scale 1:50 was supplemented by a series of colour photographs and written context descriptions.

6.0 RESULTS

A sequence of deposits, all undated, was recorded on the south-western side of the plot.

The superficial geology of the area, which consisted of loose, light yellow-brown coarse sand and gravel (008), was encountered at a minimum depth of c. 0.4m below existing ground level

(southeastern end of the recorded section); a sandier deposit (007) occurred at the northwestern end of the trench.

A negative feature (005) - probably a ditch but conceivably a large pit - was located within the cleaned area. On an approximate southwest-northeast orientation, the feature was at least 3.5m wide and 0.50m deep (extending below the lower limit of excavation), with gradually sloping sides (upper levels only). It was filled by a loose to moderately compact, mid grey-brown, silty sand (004). A slight hollow at the the northwestern end of the trench, containing a mid brown deposit of fairly compact silty sand (006), could have formed a second cut feature but this could not be ascertained with certainty. The latter contained a concentration of bone (visible in the adjacent southeast facing section) - possibly the articulated remains of a farm animal; these remains were left *in situ*.

The 'ditch' (005) and deposit 006 were sealed by a thick layer (003) of moderately compact dark grey-brown silty sand, which was in turn sealed by a mix of dark grey-brown silty sand and small angular stone (002), and finally topsoil (001). A small assemblage of unstratified pottery collected during hand-cleaning dates mostly to the 15th/16th century AD.

Visual examination of the remainder of the site indicated broadly comparable deposits to 003, 002 and 001 extending throughout the area. There was, in addition, considerable evidence of truncation by much later pits and service trenches. A number of spherical flint nodules encountered during hand-cleaning appeared to have derived from one of the late pits.

7.0 CONCLUSION

The project has made a valuable contribution towards increased understanding of the nature and extent of archaeological deposits in this part of Tattershall. In particular, it succeeded in locating drainage/boundary ditch (possibly a pit), which, although undated, might best be assigned to the late medieval or early post medieval period. The assemblage of unstratified pottery from the site reflects its position at the heart of the medieval/post medieval village. With the agreement of the landowner, some of this material is to be included in the relevant regional type series.

8.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author of this report would like to thank the owners of the property, Mr and Mrs Harness, for their assistance and co-operation in facilitating the recording element of the project.

9.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Cope-Faulkner, P & Hall, R 2000 *Archaeological Watching Brief of Development on Land Adjacent to the Market Place, Tattershall, Lincolnshire (TMP99)*. Unpublished Archaeological Services Report

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Pevsner, N & Harris, J 1989 *The Buildings of England. Lincolnshire*. Penguin (2nd Ed., Revised by N Antram)

Raynor, T 2002 *Archaeological Evaluation on Land at Sleaford Road, Tattershall, Lincolnshire (TSR02)*. Archaeological Project Services Report 50/02

Trimble, R 2000 *Houses between Plots 12A and 14, High Street, Tattershall, Lincs. Archaeological Watching Brief*. City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit Report 442

10.0 PROJECT/ ARCHIVE DETAILS

10.1 LHA NOTE DETAILS

CLAU CODE: MPT04

PLANNING APPLICATION No.: S/175/00079/04

FIELD OFFICER: R Trimble

NGR: TF 21200 57850

CIVIL PARISH: Tattershall

SMR No.:

DATE OF INTERVENTION: 9.7.04

TYPE OF INTERVENTION: Watching Brief

UNDERTAKEN FOR: Mr C Harness

10.2 ARCHIVE DETAILS

PRESENT LOCATION: Witham Archaeology, 65 Grantham Road, Sleaford, Lincolnshire, NG34 7NG

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

MUSEUM ACCESSION No.: 2004.158

ACCESSION DATE: -

The Site Archive Comprises:

Context Records	9
Plans at Scale 1:20	-
Section Drawings at Scale 1:50	1
Colour Print Photographs	8
Set of Site Notes	1

It is intended that transfer of the archive in accordance with current published requirements will be undertaken following completion of this project.

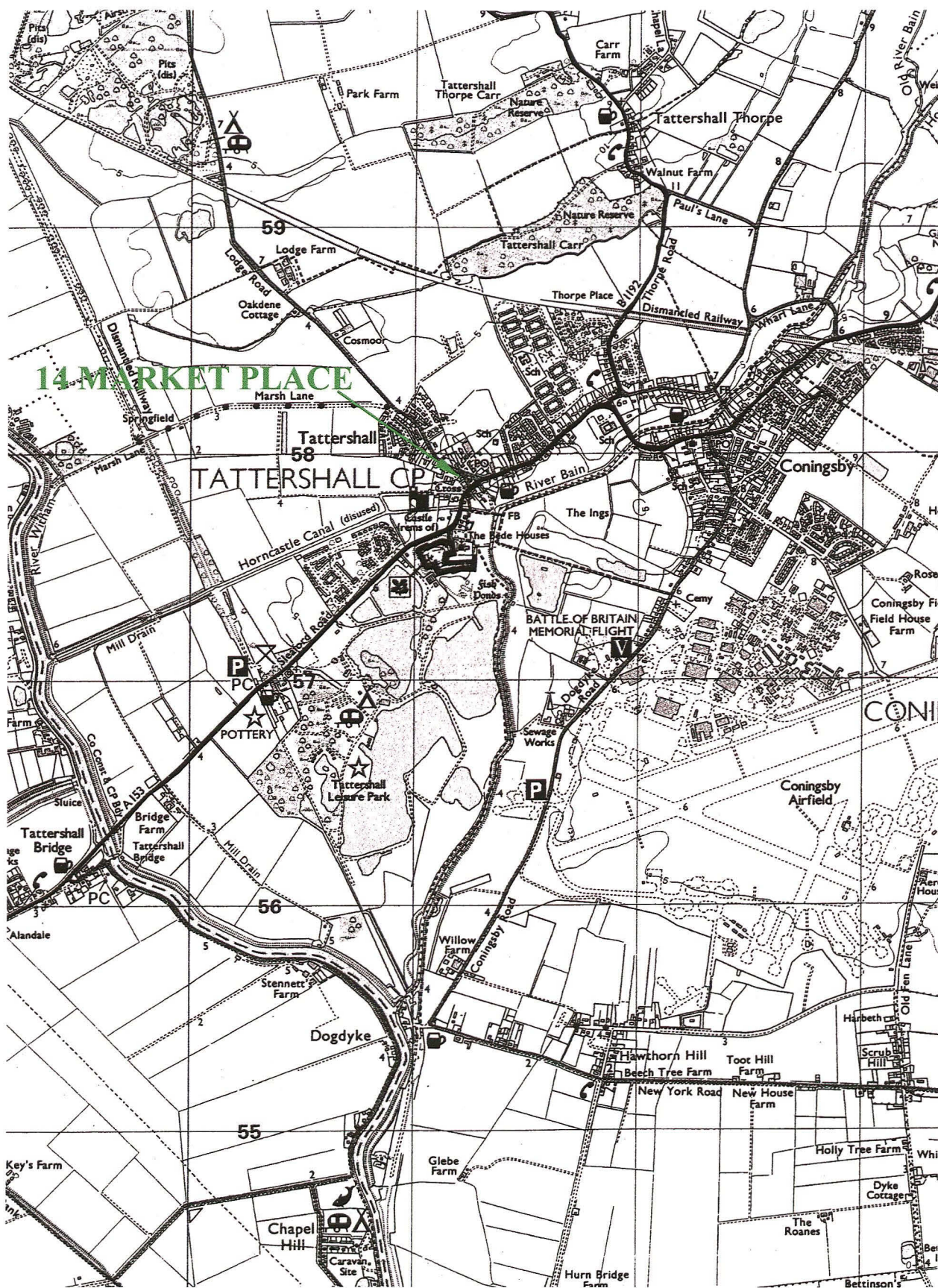
COLOUR PLATES



Plate 1 - View showing cut feature 005, looking west (1m scale).



Plate 2 - General view of the garage plot with foundation trenches excavated, looking northeast.

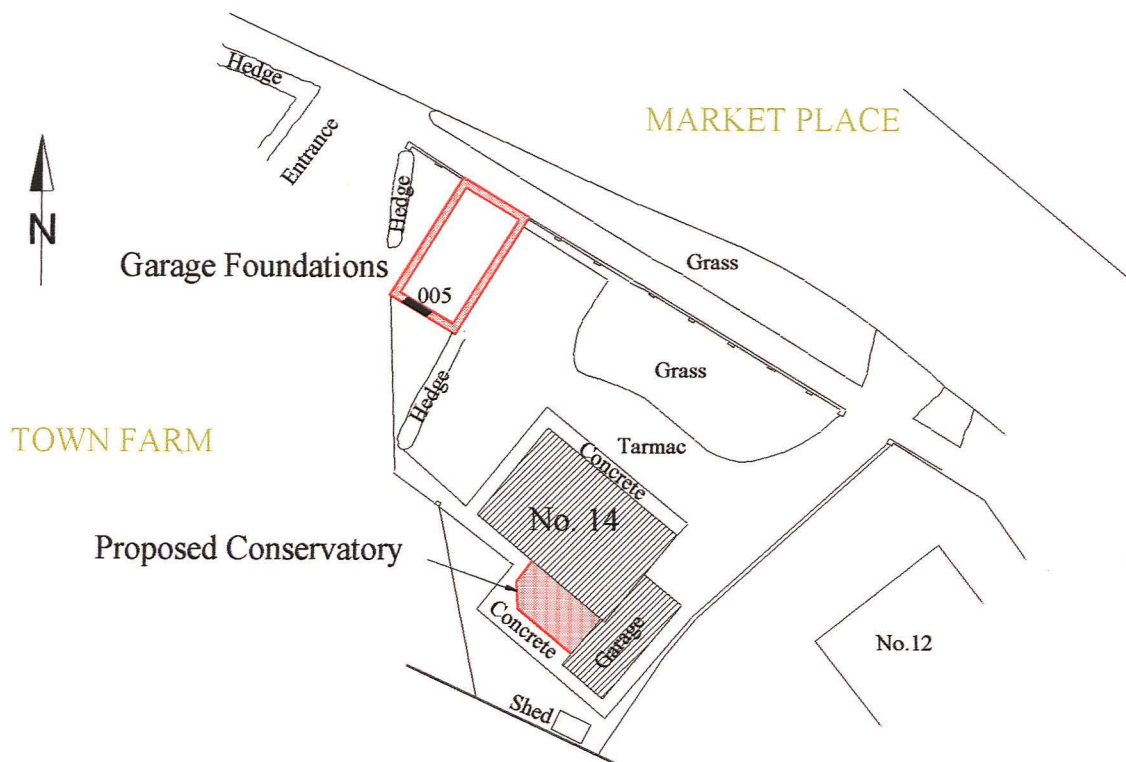


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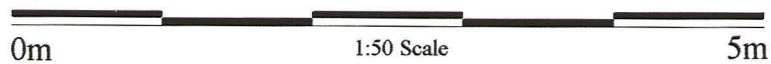
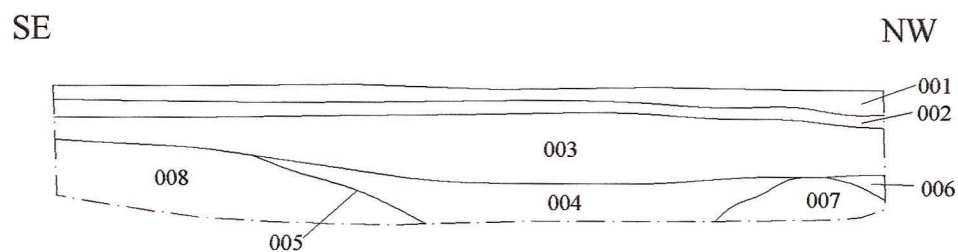
Site Location Map Scale 1:25 000

Fig. 1

Scale 1:500



Scale 1:50



APPENDIX – POST ROMAN POTTERY ARCHIVE

Jane Young

context	cname	full name	sub fabric	form type	sherds	weight	decoration	part	description	date
009	BOU	Bourne D ware		jug	1	24		BS	hard fired	15th to 16th
009	LPM	Early Modern wares (general term)		teapot	1	11	moulded decoration	BS	black stoneware ?	19th
009	MEDX	Non Local Medieval Fabrics	OX/R/OX;fine sandy;hard	jug	1	45		BS	slightly abraded;comm fine quartz mod fe occ ca	13th to 15th
009	PMLOC	Post-medieval Local fabrics	K	jug/jar	1	2		BS		late 15th to 16th
009	PMLOC	Post-medieval Local fabrics	OX/R/OX;med-coarse sandy;hard	large bowl	1	74		rim	very abraded;comm round-subround quartz mod fe	late 15th to 16th
009	TB	Toynton/Bolingbroke wares	W ?	jug	1	22		BS		15th to 16th
009	TB	Toynton/Bolingbroke wares	W	large bowl	1	132		rim	sloping/hooked rim;stacking scar on rim edge;int horizontal groove at rim/body junction;does not look like Toynton product;taken for Fabric Type sherd	15th to mid 16th

POST ROMAN POTTERY (Cont.) - GLOSSARY

cname	full name	earliest date	latest date
BOU	Bourne D ware	1450	1650
LPM	Early Modern wares (general term)	1750	1900
MEDX	Non Local Medieval Fabrics	1150	1450
PMLOC	Post-medieval Local fabrics	1450	1700
TB	Toynton/Bolingbroke wares	1450	1750