

**M & M ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES**

*The Old Coach House, Church End, Donington, Lincolnshire PE11 4SQ*

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**RESULTS OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF:  
LAND OFF LADYWOOD ROAD, SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE**

**PLANNING APPLICATION REFERENCE: H16/0293/03 OUTL  
RESERVED MATTERS H16/0025/04**

NGR: ~~TF 252 236~~ TF 2508 2359

**Site Code: LWRS 04**

**Accession No.: LCNCC 2004.216**

**COMMISSIONED BY:**

**ASHWOOD HOMES**

Seagate Hall  
The Coach House  
Vicarage Lane  
Long Sutton  
Spalding  
Lincolnshire  
PE12 9AF

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Event L15610

INTERVENTION: 419766

EXCAVATION: 419767

negative

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## SUMMARY

- 1.1 South Holland District Council granted planning permission for the erection of four chalet bungalows with garages on land off Ladywood Road, Spalding (Planning Applications H16/0293/03/OUTL & RESERVED MATTERS H16/0025/04).*
- 1.2 As a condition of the Planning Permission, an archaeological watching brief was required. A specification was prepared for this fieldwork and the monitoring and subsequent reporting on the results was undertaken according to this document and within nationally recognised archaeological guidelines.*
- 1.3 The archaeological watching brief recorded the natural geology overlain by topsoil. Early termination of the watching brief was sought due to the negative nature of the findings. As such, only three of the four properties, garages, road and drains were monitored following a discussion with the Lincolnshire County Council Conservation Services Team.*

## 2.0 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

- 2.1 The site is located to the north of the centre of Spalding, off Ladywood Road, in the administrative district of South Holland. The development area is centred on NGR TF 252 236. The underlying drift geology is alluvium (BGS Sheet 144 – Spalding 1:50,000 Series 1992).

## 3.0 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Ashwood Homes proposed the development of land off Ladywood Road, Spalding (Planning Applications H16/0293/03/OUTL & RESERVED MATTERS H16/0025/04). The development comprises four chalet bungalows, garages and associated services.
- 3.2 As a condition of the Planning Permission, an archaeological watching brief was required. This report has been prepared based on the field work results.

Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage 1991);  
Code of Conduct (Institute of Field Archaeologists 1999);  
Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (Institute of Field Archaeologists 1999).  
Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook (LCC 1998).

- 3.2 The watching brief was undertaken by Martin Griffiths BA (Hons), AIFA in October 2004.

## 4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Spalding lies along the River Welland at around 5m AOD. Although no archaeological remains have been recorded within the site boundary, it was considered likely that remains may exist and these may date from the Roman period and later.

- 4.2 To the southeast of the site, off Oakley Drive, Romano-British pottery was found in a garden just below the surface (SMR 22365). Further below the surface, an occupation layer containing a lot of pottery has been recorded (SMR23598). Further to the east, Roman greyware, samian and a mortaria rim have been recorded during a new housing development (SMR 22377).
- 4.3 The closest remains dating to the medieval period, are recorded to the east of the site, off West Elloe Avenue. Medieval pottery and a Henry VI groat have been recorded (SMR 22375) in a back garden. To the northeast, off West Marsh Road, ditches or possible dyings have been recorded during an archaeological watching brief (SMR 23731). Some artefacts were also retrieved and comprise 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> century pottery sherds, burnt clay, 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century pottery sherds, animal bone and clinker. Later pottery was also recorded and suggested that some of the features may have been later re-cuts.
- 4.4 Undated remains have been recorded to the southeast of the site, close to the former gas works (SMR 23062). These remains are four skeletons which were recorded while digging a well at a depth of 3ft.
- 4.5 An archaeological evaluation off Albion Street, recorded the presence of an undated ditch (SMR 23734).

#### 5.0 AIMS

The aims of the watching brief were to:

- a) To monitor ground disturbance during the course of development
- b) to ensure the recording of the extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits and features where they may not be left in-situ;
- c) to report on the results of the watching brief and place them within their Local, Regional or National context

#### 6.0 METHODOLOGY & RESULTS

- 6.1 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during ground works associated with the construction of the building plots and their associated garages and access road. The watching brief was undertaken on a comprehensive/intensive basis. The method of construction was the removal of turf and strip foundations. Strip foundations were excavated to a depth of 0.4m after removal of the turf.
- 6.2 The earliest deposit exposed was the natural underlying geology, comprising yellow orange clay silt (102). Overlying the natural geology was a layer of top soil. The topsoil comprised of a rich black brown silty clay loam (101) which varied in depth from 0.3m to 0.4m. The same situation occurred in Plots 2, 3 and 4 along with their associated garage plots.
- 6.3 The watching brief revealed no archaeological features. No dating material was recovered from the foundation excavation, other than a single piece of blue and white glazed pottery of modern date.



## 7.0 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

7.1 The watching brief encountered no archaeological features, deposits or artefacts.

The earliest deposit recorded was yellow orange sandy silt which represents the natural geology which was overlain by topsoil. Three of the four house plots were examined without result and following consultation with the Lincolnshire County Council Conservation Services Team it was agreed that no further archaeological supervision was necessary.

7.2 There were no features of archaeological significance found and it is considered likely that past usage of the land was limited to pastoral activity. The topsoil was devoid of any modern (bar one piece of modern pottery) or archaeological material. The absence of archaeological remains may be due to the shallow depth of the ground-works. Elsewhere close to the site, remains dating to the Roman period appear to be at a depth of approximately 1m below the surface.

7.3 It is considered that the development would not impact any archaeological features which may be present at deeper depth and these would be protected in situ.

## 8.0 FIGURES

Figure 1. Site location plan.

Figure 2. Development plan.





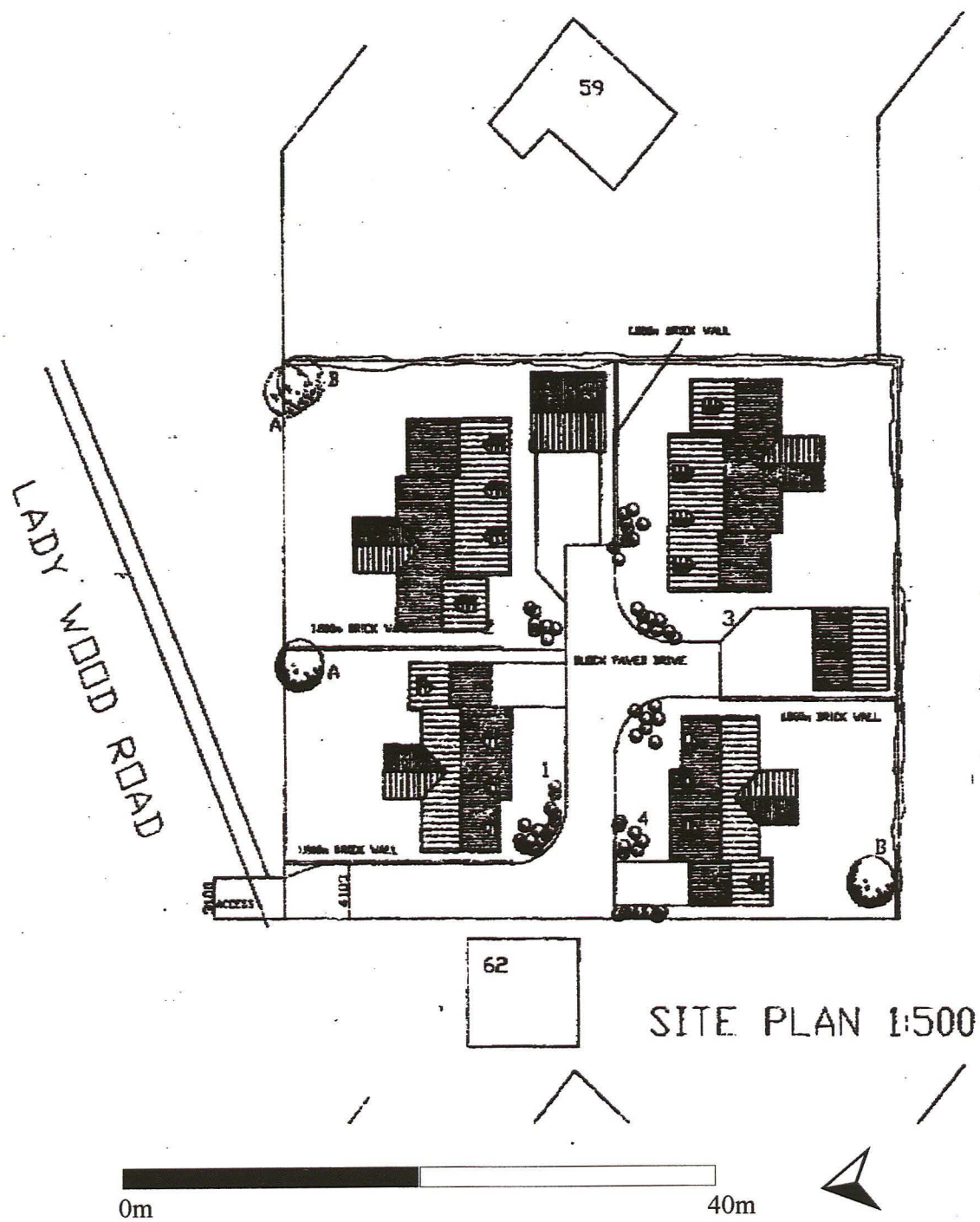


Figure 2. Development plan

## 9.0 PLATES

Plate 1. Site looking south east.

Plate 2. Plot 2 looking south east.

Plate 3. Plot 3 showing general shot of footings.

Plate 4. Plot 3 looking south.

Plate 5. Footings in Plot 2 looking east.

Plate 6. Footings in Plot 4 looking north.





Plate 1. Site looking south east.



Plate 2. Plot 2 looking south east.





Plate 3. Plot 3 showing general shot of footings.



Plate 4. Plot 3 looking south.





Plate 5. Footings in Plot 2 looking east.



Plate 6. Footings in Plot 4 looking north.



*Results of an Archaeological Watching Brief:  
Land off Ladywood Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire*

**APPENDIX A: CONTEXT SUMMARY**

<b>Context</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>
101	O/A	Dark brown black silty clay loam	Top-soil
102	O/A	Yellow Orange sandy clay silt	Natural geology