

**M & M ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES**

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

*Tel: 01775 822759 Fax: 01775 822025 email: magriff@talk21.com*

**RESULTS OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF:  
26 SPRING GARDENS, SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE**



**PLANNING APPLICATION REFERENCE: H16/1279/05/FULL.**

**NGR: TF 257 237**

**Site Code: SGSP 05**

**Accession No.: LCNCC 2005. 262**

**COMMISSIONED BY:**

**MRS P. PETTIT  
The Old Chapel  
Money Bridge Lane  
West Pinchbeck  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
PE11 3SB**

**UNDERTAKEN BY**

**M & M ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES**

**December 2005**



acknowledgement sent 23/3/06  
jdo/Bill

EVENT EL16545

SOURCE SL1 10511  
- SL1 10512

NEGATIVE

## M & M ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

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

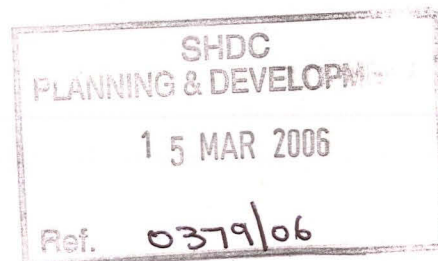
Tel: 01775 822759 Fax: 01775 822025 email: [magriff@talk21.com](mailto:magriff@talk21.com)

RESULTS OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF:  
26 SPRING GARDENS, SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE

PLANNING APPLICATION REFERENCE: H16/1279/05/FULL.

NGR: TF 257 237

Site Code: SGSP 05  
Accession No.: LCNCC 2005. 262



COMMISSIONED BY:

MRS P. PETTIT  
The Old Chapel  
Money Bridge Lane  
West Pinchbeck  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
PE11 3SB

UNDERTAKEN BY

M & M ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

December 2005

*Results of an Archaeological Watching Brief:  
26 Spring Gardens, Spalding, Lincolnshire*

CONTENTS

SUMMARY.....	3
2.0 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION.....	3
3.0 PLANNING BACKGROUND.....	3
4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND .....	4
5.0 AIMS .....	4
6.0 METHODOLOGY & RESULTS.....	4
7.0 DISCUSSION.....	5
8.0 FIGURES.....	6
9.0 PLATES.....	7
APPENDIX A: Context Summary Sheet. ....	8



## SUMMARY

- 1.1 *South Holland District Council granted planning permission for the construction of an single two storey dwelling and garage on land at 26 Spring Gardens, Spalding, Lincolnshire. (Planning Application H16/1279/05/FULL).*
- 1.2 *As a condition of the Planning Permission, an archaeological scheme of works in the form of a watching brief was required. A specification for this fieldwork was approved by the Conservation Services Team at Lincolnshire County Council on behalf of South Holland District Council prior to ground-works commencing. The fieldwork was undertaken according to this document and within nationally recognised archaeological guidelines.*
- 1.3 *The earliest deposit encountered was orange red sand at a depth of 1.5m which was considered natural geology. Only the eastern side of the footings for the new house were excavated to this depth due to construction conditions imposed by the building inspector. The majority of the footings were excavated to a depth of 0.7m into brown silty sand.*
- 1.4 *A bottle shaped well of red brick construction was seen in the south east corner of the garage footings, this well was capped with concrete and it was unnecessary to disturb the brickwork. The well was re-sealed by the concrete.*

## 2.0 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

- 2.1 The site is approximately 1km to the south west of Spalding centre and comprises a rectangular piece of land measuring around 50m x 20m. It is bounded by residential properties to the east west and south with gardens to the north and east (see Figure 2). The development area is centred on NGR TF 257 237 at an altitude of approximately 5m OD. The underlying drift geology is Terrington Beds typified by younger marine alluvium (Romano-British to present day), salt marsh, tidal creek and river deposits (sandy silt, sand and clay) (BGS 1995 – Spalding Sheet 144 1:50,000).

## 3.0 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Mrs P. Pettit applied for planning permission to develop land adjacent to 26 Spring Gardens, Spalding. The development comprises a single town house with associated garage/store and associated services. South Holland District Council granted planning permission for the erection of the new build (Planning Application H16/1279/05/FULL). A condition of the planning permission required an archaeological watching brief to be maintained during ground works.
- 3.2 This report details the methodology which was maintained during the watching brief and reports on the results. It is prepared in accordance with current best archaeological practices and the appropriate national standards and guidance including:

Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage 1991);  
Code of Conduct (Institute of Field Archaeologists 1999);  
Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (IFA 1994);



Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook (LCC 1998).

- 3.3 The watching brief was undertaken by Martin Griffiths BA (Hons), PGDip, AIFA in December 2005.

#### 4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Archaeological remains dating from the Roman period and later have been recorded close to the application site. To the southeast of the site are recorded sherds of Samian, greyware and calcite gritted wares found at approximately 3ft depth in 1952 (SMR 22357). A possible Roman statue has been recorded at the Gentlemans Society Meeting Place (SMR 23610).
- 4.2 The application site lies close to the centre of medieval Spalding (SMR 23602 & 23603) which includes the roads of Swan Street, Church Street, New Road, Market Place, Vine Street, Bridge Street and Sheep Market. To the east, lies the possible site of the priory of St. Mary (SMR 22355). A range of brick built medieval cottages (SMR 22363) have also been recorded and are thought to be buildings associated with the Abbey. Finds of medieval pottery have been recorded at 21 Priory Gardens (SMR 23709).
- 4.3 Post-medieval remains include the site of a pinfold (SMR 23229) shown on Grundys map of Spalding. The pinfold lies in the area known as Sheepmarket today. The site of St. Peters Church (SMR 23617) has been recorded to the east. The church was built in 1876 and demolished in 1968. A further 19<sup>th</sup> century church has been recorded (SMR 23816) and called the church of Immaculate Conception. The General Baptist Chapel and Sunday School has been recorded to the northeast (SMR 23956). The Church Gote Parish Hall has been recorded to the northeast (SMR 23958) and dates from 1897. Post-medieval pottery sherds have been recorded during evaluation at 21 Priory Gardens (SMR 23710).
- 4.4 Modern remains include an air raid shelter constructed from brick and concrete (SMR 23708) recorded adjacent to 21 Priory Gardens and a church and school hall off St. Thomas Street (SMR 23816).

#### 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 new build on land adjacent to 26 Spring Gardens,



Spalding, Lincolnshire. The watching brief was undertaken on a comprehensive/intensive basis. Monitoring included site stripping and the excavation of trenches for the footings.

- 6.2 A wall to the west of the rear of the property and along the road frontage was demolished and a large tree was removed during the site strip. The remains of the wall were used as a base for the new driveway (see plate 1). On excavation of the strip footings for the garage, a well was seen in the south east corner of the footings trench (see plate 4 Fig 2). It was bottle shaped and constructed of red brick. The well had been capped by concrete after being filled in during the past century. As the well was not being demolished, it was photographed and left in situ. The garage footings ceased at a depth of 1m (see plates 2 & 3).
- 6.3 The garage plot was covered by a dark brown black humic top-soil (101) which was on average 0.3m in depth. This overlay brown silty sand (102) with occasional grey clay banding (103) which was regarded as natural deposits.
- 6.4 In the eastern side of the new house footings, the footings were excavated to a depth of 1.5m. The earliest deposits encountered was red orange sand (104) recorded as natural geology. Water started to enter the trench at a depth of 1.5m. The sand was sealed by a 1.2m layer of brown silty sand (102) containing a grey band of silty clay (103) which was approximately 0.10m in thickness. This was also interpreted as natural deposition and represents the normal geological deposits for the area (see plates 6 & 7). This material was sealed by a black humic top-soil which was 0.3m in depth (101).

## 7.0 DISCUSSION

- 7.1 The site was cleared of vegetation prior to the excavation of the footings and in most areas the footings were fairly shallow with a maximum depth of 0.7m below ground surface. There were no indication of past human activity on the site apart from the well which was probably built in the 19<sup>th</sup> century from its appearance and was probably contemporary with some of the surrounding adjacent properties along Spring Gardens. No archaeological artefacts apart from modern pottery and refuse were seen during the site strip. These were noted but not collected.
- 7.2 The lack of archaeological activity on the site could be due to the relatively shallow footings not reaching any archaeological features buried at depth. The natural deposits recorded (deposits of the Terrington Beds Association) were laid down from the Romano-British period and later and represent episodes of flooding. However, it is considered more likely that the absence of archaeological material indicates no past activity being present, apart from more recent use as gardens or pasture.

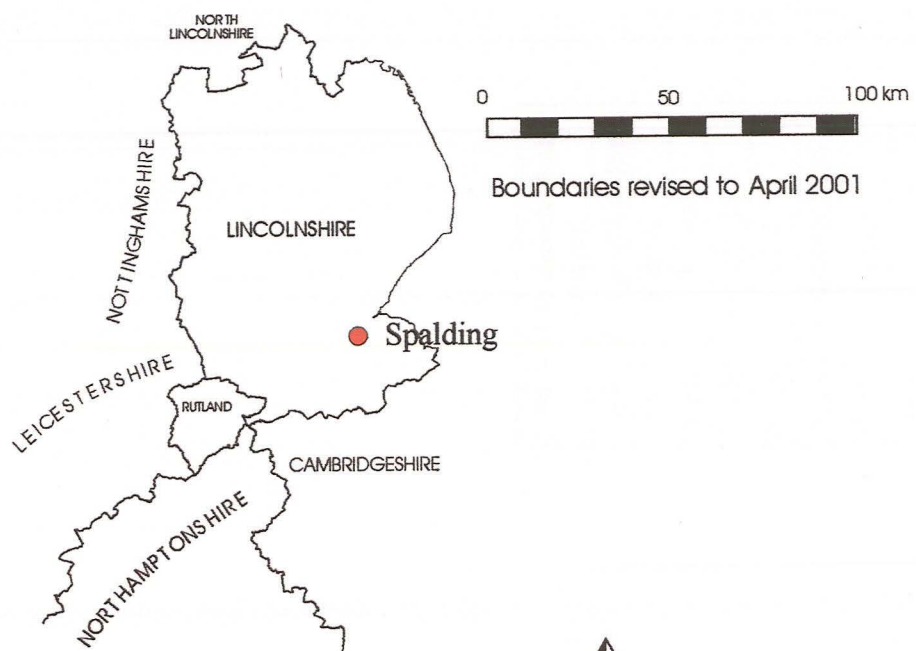
## 8.0 FIGURES

Figure 1. Site location plan.

Figure 2. Development site plan.

Figure 3. Representative section drawing of the trench.



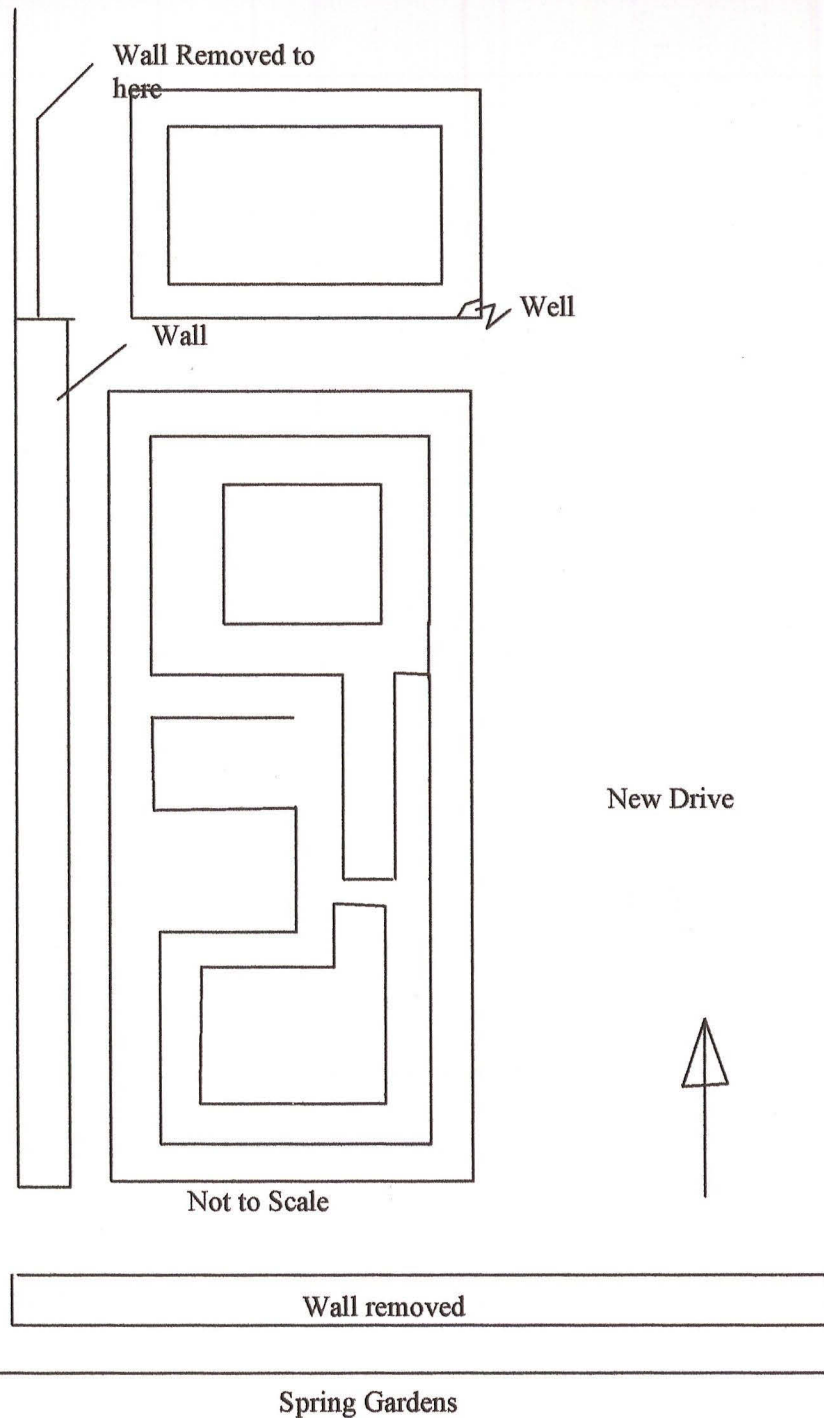


Map based on Ordnance Survey with the sanction of the  
 Controller of H.M. Stationery Office,  
 Crown Copyright Reserved.  
 Licence Number AL 100035919



**Figure 1. Site location**





M & M Archaeological Services	
Job	26 Spring Gardens
Title	W Brief
Scale	Not to Scale
NGR	TF 257 237
Drawn	MG
Date	December 2005
Dwg	Figure 2
Site Code	SGSP 05



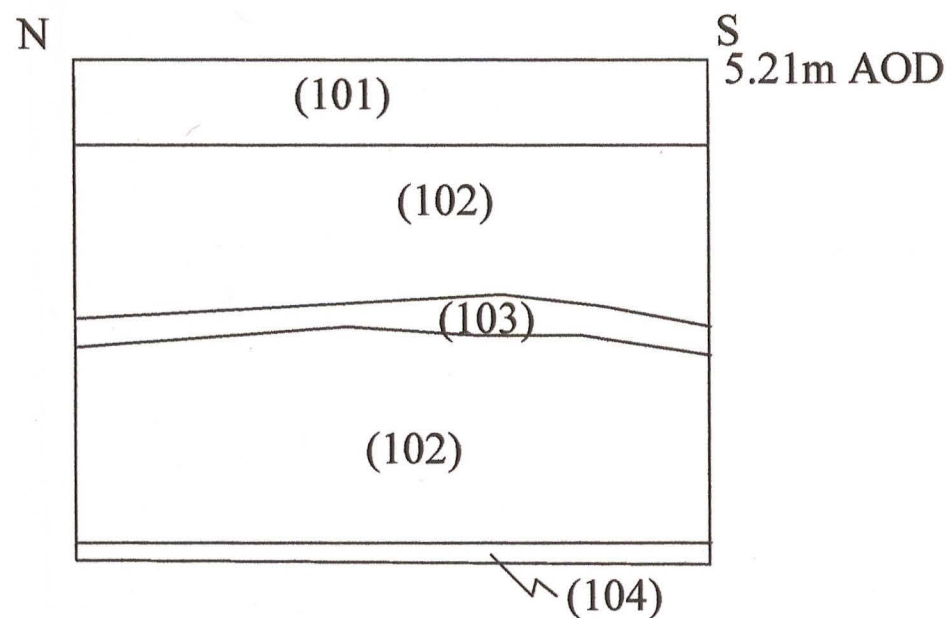


Figure 4. Representative section of footings



M & M Archaeological Services	
Job	26 Spring Gardens
Title	W Brief
Scale	As drawn
NGR	TF 257 237
Drawn	MG
Date	December 2005
Dwg	Figure 3
Site Code	SGSP 05



## 9.0 PLATES

Plate 1. Site looking north showing old wall used as footings for new drive.

Plate 2. Footings for new garage.

Plate 3. General shot of garage footings.

Plate 4. Showing well revealed in south east corner of garage footings.

Plate 5. General shot of footings for new build.

Plate 6. General shot of site stratigraphy.

Plate 7. Showing maximum depth of footings in east of site.

Plate 8. Showing average depth of footings.





Plate 1. Site looking north showing old wall used as footings for new drive.



Plate 2. Footings for new garage.





Plate 3. General shot of garage footings.



Plate 4. Showing well revealed in south east corner of garage footings.





Plate 5. General shot of footings for new build.



Plate 6. General shot of site stratigraphy.





Plate 7. Showing water table at depth of 1.7m below original ground surface in east of site.



Plate 8. Showing average depth of footings.



**APPENDIX A: Context Summary Sheet.**

<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>
101	Black humic soil	Top-soil
102	Brown silty sand	Natural Geology
103	Grey sandy clay	Natural Geology
104	Red orange sand	Natural Geology