

**BARFF ROAD, POTTERHANWORTH,
LINCOLNSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
WATCHING BRIEF REPORT**

Site code	BRPH 06
NGR:	TF 0569 6608
LCCM Acc No:	2006.156
Planning refs.	06/0573
Contract Ref:	06-268

Report prepared for Mr J. Groom

by

N. Hall

August 2006



Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln)
 Unit G
 William Street Business Park
 Saxilby
 Lincoln
 LN1 2LP
 Tel. & Fax. 01522 703800
 e-mail mail.pca@virgin.net
 ©Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln)

acknowledged receipt of report

*7/8/06
Jan Hall*

Conservation
Services

07 AUG 2006

Highways & Planning
Directorate

Contents

	Summary	1
1.0	Introduction	2
2.0	Site location and description	2
3.0	Planning background	2
4.0	Archaeological and historical background	3
5.0	Methodology	3
6.0	Results	4
7.0	Discussion and Conclusions	4
8.0	Effectiveness of methodology	4
9.0	Acknowledgements	4
10.0	Bibliography	5
11.0	Site Archive	5

Illustrations

Fig. 1:	Site location plan, scale 1:12,500
Fig. 2:	Site location
Fig. 3:	Site plan
Fig. 4:	Sections

Appendices

Appendix 1:	Colour plates
Appendix 2:	List of contexts
Appendix 3:	Pottery archive by J. Young

Summary

- An archaeological watching brief was carried out during the groundworks for the construction of a proposed new detached 3-bedroomed residential dwelling on land adjacent to "Tally Ho", Barff Road, Potterhanworth, Lincolnshire.
- The watching brief identified a probable medieval clay extraction pit associated with local pottery manufacture and an undated well shaft. The clay extraction pit yielded one sherd of the locally produced Potterhanworth Ware of 13th -14th century date.



Fig. 2: Site Location

Fig. 1: Site Location plan at scale 1:12,500.
(OS Copyright Licence No: AL 515 21 A0001)

1.0 Introduction

Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) was commissioned by Mr J. Groom to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks for the construction of a new detached 3-bedroomed residential dwelling on land adjacent to "Tally Ho", Barff Road, Potterhanworth, Lincolnshire.

The archaeological monitoring was undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Planning Archaeologist of North Kesteven District Council, a project specification prepared by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln), and the recommendations of *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook: A Manual of Archaeological Practice* (LCC, 1998), *Archaeology & Planning: Planning Policy Guidance Note 16* (Department of the Environment, 1990), *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 1991) and *Standards and guidance for archaeological watching briefs* (IFA, 1999).

Copies of this report will be deposited with the client, the Planning Archaeologist of North Kesteven District Council and the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record. A further report will also be deposited at the Lincoln City and County Museum (The Collection), along with an ordered project archive for long-term storage and curation.

2.0 Site location and description (Figs. 1 and 2)

The village of Potterhanworth is situated approximately 8km to the south-east of Lincoln and c.21km north of Sleaford in the administrative district of North Kesteven, county of Lincolnshire.

The development site is located on a slightly undulating upland area to the west of the Potterhanworth Fen. The site lies in the south-eastern area of the village, south of the Barff Road and within a broadly rectangular shaped parcel of land that is bounded by residential dwellings that include "Tally Ho" to the south and "The Forge" to the north.

The local soils are of the Beccles 1 Association; typically fine loamy over clayey soils that have developed on deposits of chalky till and glaciofluvial drift comprising sands and gravels of the Pleistocene (Hodge *et al* 1984, British Geological Survey, 1973).

NGR: TF 0569 6608

3.0 Planning Background

A planning application has been submitted to and granted consent by North Kesteven District Council for proposed residential development on land adjacent to "Tally Ho", Barff Road, Potterhanworth, Lincolnshire. However, as the proposed development site is situated within an archaeologically sensitive area, an archaeological condition has been attached to this consent requiring an archaeological watching brief to be carried out during the construction phase of development.

Planning reference: 06/0573

4.0 Archaeological and historical background

The settlement of Potterhanworth is likely to have had Late Anglo-Saxon origins as “Hanworth” is derived from the Old English personal name prefix *Hana* and the suffix *Worth* denoting enclosure, hence “*Hana’s enclosure*”. Hanworth is first documented in the Domesday Survey of AD1086 as *Hanewrorde* or *Hanewrda*. Various later medieval documentary references detail *Hanewurd* (AD1195) and *Hanewrthe* (AD1196-1203) (Cameron 1998). The later prefix *Potter* was first documented in AD1327 and is derived from medieval pottery kilns situated in the contemporary settlement.

The Domesday Survey also refers to one Walter d’Aincourt holding jurisdiction over much of the land in this parish (Morgan and Thorn 1986). This included 12 carucates of land held on behalf of Walter by Halfdan and included land for six ploughs along with 150 acres of meadow, woodland and pasture. Domesday also details a priest and a church. The present church of St Andrew was constructed in the mid 19th century and replaced an earlier church of 1749 with only remnants of the medieval church surviving both rebuildings (Pevsner and Harris 1989).

The situation of the medieval settlement at the intersection of various sandy and clayey drift deposits provided raw materials for pottery production, which became established here. Although no definitive date has yet been identified when pottery production commenced, sherds of the resultant Potterhanworth Ware have been recovered from early 13th century archaeological contexts in nearby Lincoln. Large-scale pottery production took place throughout the 14th century with eventual decline setting in from the end of the 15th century onwards. The typical fabric types were unglazed coarse sandy and shelly and glazed finer wares (Rylatt 2001).

5.0 Methodology (Fig. 3)

The watching brief was carried out on the 21st and the 22nd of June 2006. On the 21st of June the mechanical excavations for the soakaway and the foul water/sewer trench were monitored. This was followed by the monitoring of the mechanical excavation of the house foundations on the second day.

Where necessary, surfaces were hand cleaned for examination and recording, and deposits and structures observed were recorded on standard context recording sheets. Plans and sections were compiled of the exposed structures and deposits at a scale of 1:200 and 1:50 respectively and were located on a site plan supplied by the developer. A complementary colour photographic slide record was also maintained, extracts from which are reproduced in Appendix 1.

The watching brief was completed on the 22nd of June 2006 and was carried out by Will Munford.

6.0 Results (Figs. 3 and 4, Plates 1-6)

The watching brief identified a modern topsoil 001, which comprised a mid grey brown clayey silt that overlay the natural horizon 002, a mid reddish grey silty clay (Section 3).

During the monitoring of the mechanical excavation of the soakaway, a large pit or wide ditch [003] was observed, which was cut into the natural horizon 002 (Section 1). The cut [003] was at least seven metres in width, but as the soakaway trench was only excavated to a maximum depth of 0.70m, its full profile and dimensions were not realised. The single fill of cut [003] was 004, a mid grey brown silty clay that yielded one sherd of the local Potterhanworth Ware, a jar or bowl form type that has been ascribed to the 13th-14th centuries (Appendix 2).

Within the house foundations and cut into the natural horizon 002, a possible well shaft [005] was recorded (Section 2). This measured 1.7m in width and was greater than 2m in depth. The single fill of the well cut [005] was 006, a mid orange sandy silty clay. No finds were retrieved from this fill.

7.0 Discussion and conclusions

The watching brief revealed a modern topsoil and the underlying natural silt clay horizon over the site. Two archaeological features were also recorded. The first of these comprised a substantial feature that was interpreted as either a large pit or a wide ditch. Given that its full dimensions and potential profile were not realised, it is difficult to be precise concerning its potential origin and function. However, as the single fill yielded one sherd of the local Potterhanworth Ware, that the feature measured at least 7m in width, and given also that Potterhanworth was the centre of an important rural pottery manufactory in the medieval period, it is likely that this feature represented a clay extraction pit.

The second archaeological feature recorded during the watching brief was a potential well shaft. This is a probable interpretation given its form, profile and rural setting.

8.0 Effectiveness of methodology

The methodology chosen adequately demonstrated the likely nature of significant archaeological remains in the development area, while providing sufficient time to record the deposits observed: a more detailed level of archaeological intervention would not have been necessary.

9.0 Acknowledgements

Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) would like to thank Mr Groom for this commission.

10.0 References

British Geological Survey, 1973, *Lincoln: England and Wales Sheet 114, Solid and Drift Geology, 1:50 000 Provisional Series*. BGS, Keyworth.

Cameron, K., 1998, *A Dictionary of Lincolnshire Place Names*.

Hodge, C., Burton, R., Corbett, W., Evans, R., & Seale, R., 1984, *Soils and their Use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales Bulletin No. 13.

Morgan, P. Thorn, C., (eds), 1986, *Domesday Book 31: Lincolnshire*.

Pevsner, N, Harris, J., 1989, *The Buildings of England: Lincolnshire*.

Rylatt, J., 2001, *Archaeological Evaluation Report, Potterhanworth Primary School, Potterhanworth, Lincolnshire*. PCA client report.

Rylatt, J., 2002, *Archaeological Excavation Report, Potterhanworth Primary School, Potterhanworth, Lincolnshire*. PCA client report.

11.0 Site archive

The documentary archive for the site is currently in the possession of Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln). The paper and object archive will be deposited at Lincoln City and County Museum within six months. Access to the archive may be gained by quoting the global accession number: 2006.156.

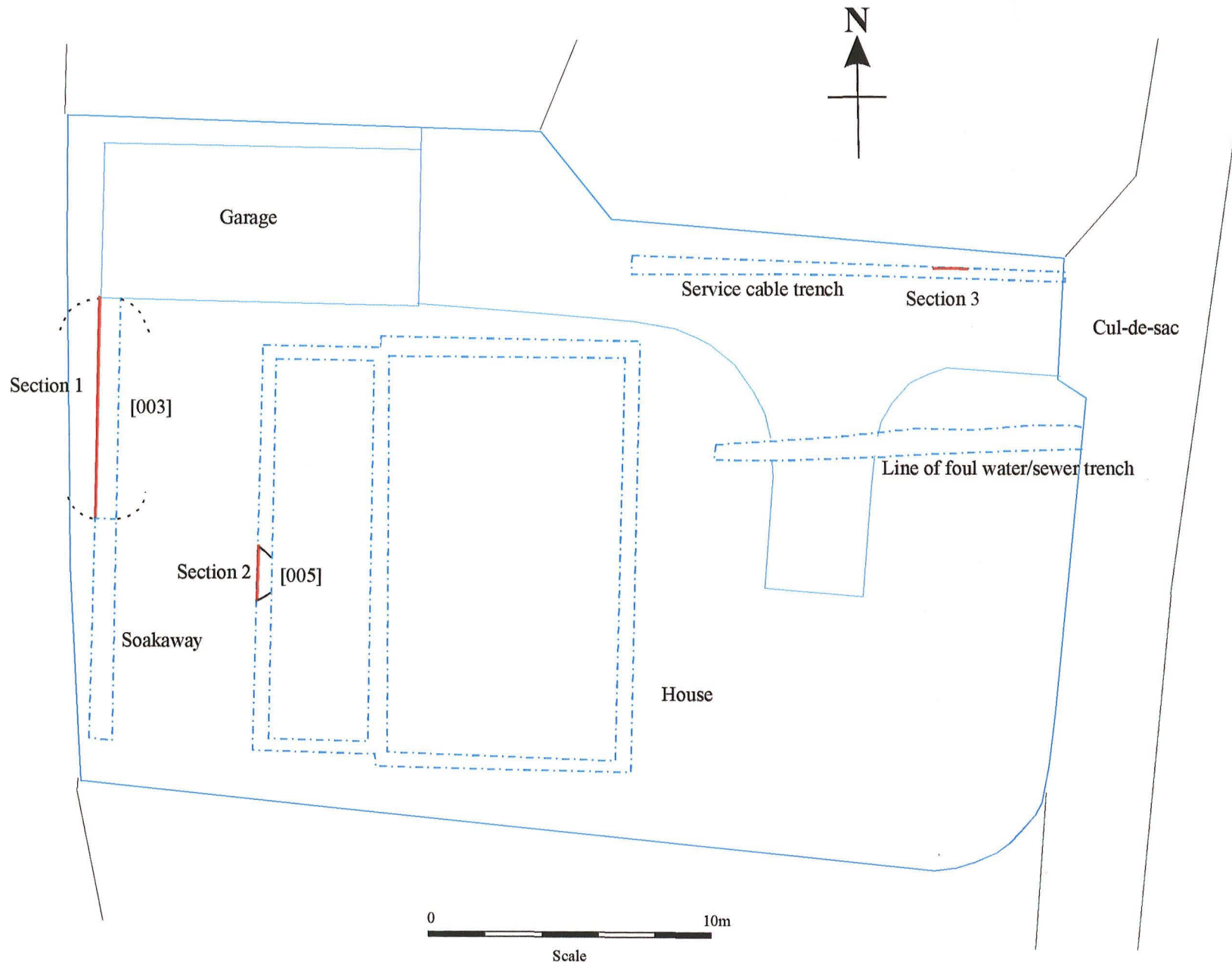


Figure 3: Site plan

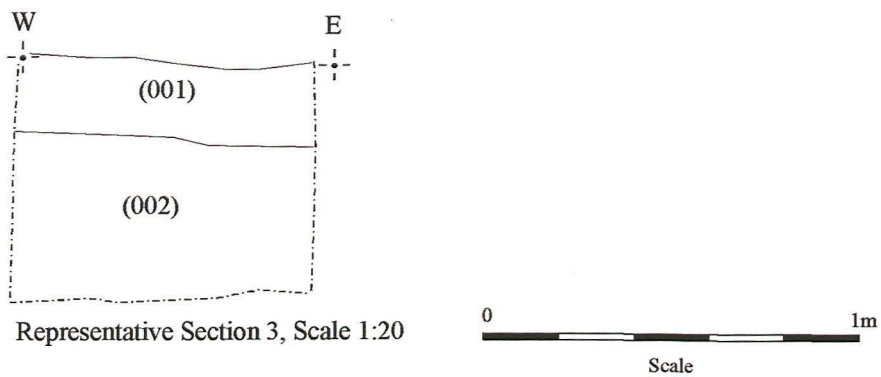
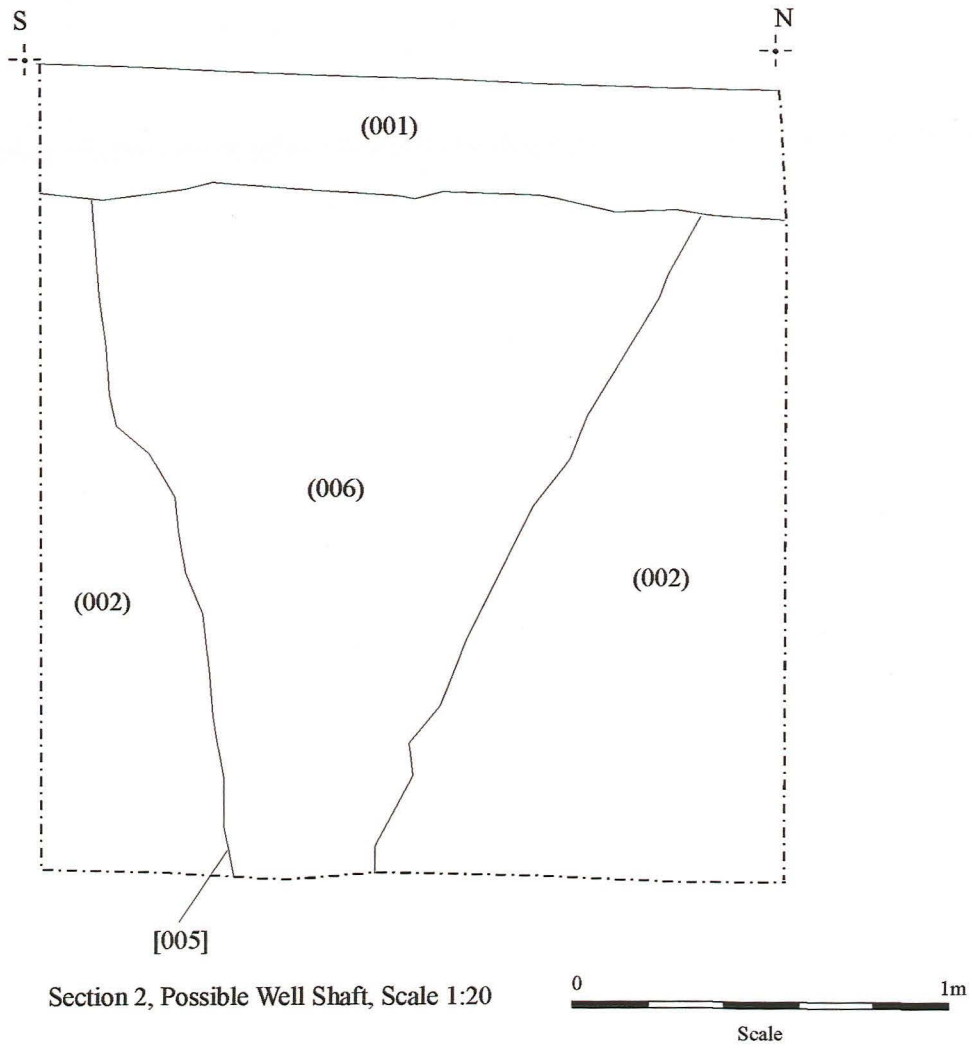
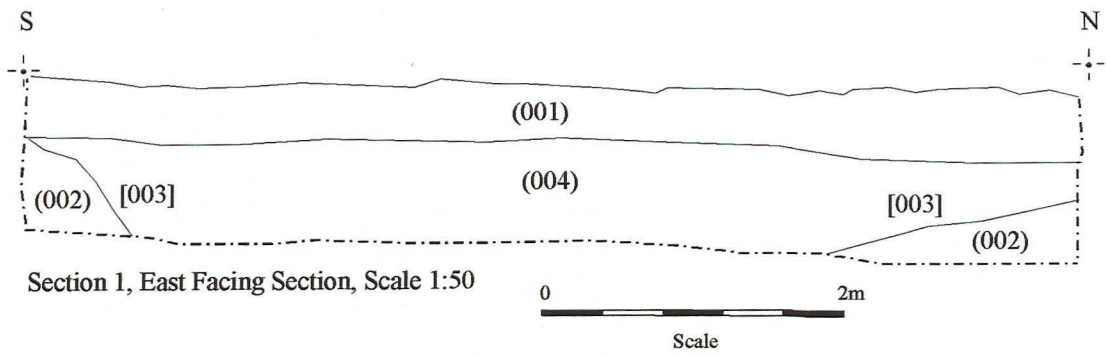


Figure 4: Sections

Appendix 1: Plates



Plate 1: Soakaway with Feature [003], looking west



Plate 2: As above



Plate 3: Negative foul water trench, looking south



Plate 4: As Plate 3



Plate 5: Section 2 with Feature [005], looking west



Plate 6: As Plate 5

Appendix 2

Pottery Archive BHPH06

Jane Young

context	cname	full name	form type	sherds	weight	part	description	date
04	POTT	Potterhanworth-type Ware	jar/bowl	1	12	BS	slightly abraded	13th to 14th1

Appendix 3 Context list

- 001** Mid grey brown clay silt with moderate rounded & angular stones, topsoil horizon.
- 002** Mid red grey silty clay with frequent large angular & rounded stones, natural horizon.
- 003** Large pit or wide ditch, up to 7m in width.
- 004** Fill of cut [003], mid grey brown silty clay with moderate angular & rounded stones.
- 005** Possible well shaft, 1.70m in width & >2m in depth.
- 006** Fill of cut [005], orange brown sandy silty clay with frequent medium angular stones. Not bottomed.