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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF A DEVELOPMENT AT
28 HIGH STREET,
CARLBY,
LINCOLNSHIRE.
(CHS 94)**



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

ELI 6904

SLI 5082 1436

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF A DEVELOPMENT AT
28 HIGH STREET,
CARLBY,
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(CHS 94)**

Work Undertaken For
Persimmon Homes

August 1995

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during development of land adjacent to the High Street, Carlby. The watching brief monitored the excavation for the foundations and service trenches.

Development at High Street affects an area containing archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric to the medieval period. Prehistoric remains, evident from cropmarks, survive in the south of the parish. Finds of the Romano-British period include a coin hoard, steelyard and a statue of the god Mercury, and suggest some form of high status establishment in the vicinity.

The parish church provides evidence of medieval occupation of the village as do a number of earthworks to the west, indicating the village was once larger than today. Finds of medieval pottery have been retrieved from the village.

A quarry pit for the extraction of limestone was the earliest feature encountered, although this remains undated. Also undated was a deposit containing charcoal. Recent features included part of a Victorian structure and deposits associated with the former use of the site as a yard.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Background

Between the 4th October 1994 and 4th April 1995, an archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the construction of houses (Application numbers SK.93/0269/17/11 and SK.94/0572/17/21) on land adjacent to High Street, Carlby, Lincolnshire (NGR TF 0512 1410). The work was commissioned

by Persimmon Homes, and was carried out by Archaeological Project Services in accordance with a brief set by the South Kesteven District Community Archaeologist.

2.2 Topography and Geology

Carlby is situated 7km northeast of Stamford and 8km southwest of Bourne adjacent to the county boundary with Leicestershire in the southwest corner of Lincolnshire. Lying on a plateau on the north side of the West Glen River, the village is located in South Kesteven District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

Situated at the northeast corner of the village, 28 High Street is located at a height of c. 30m OD, 100m northeast of St Stephen's parish church. Centred on National Grid Reference TF05121410, the proposed development site covers approximately 1.1 hectares (Fig. 2).

Local soils are the Elmton 1 Association brown rendzinas (stony or sandy clay loam) on a solid geology of Jurassic limestone (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 179). Pello-alluvial gley soils of the Fladbury 1 Association flank the West Glen River south of the village (*ibid.*, 194).

2.3 Archaeological Setting

High Street, Carlby is located in an area of archaeological activity dating from the prehistoric to the medieval period. Evidence of prehistoric remains, in the form of cropmarks, is concentrated in the south of the parish, near the West Glen River. Several circular cropmarks may represent ring ditches around prehistoric burial mounds. Approximately 100m to the west of the largest ring ditch (SMR34721), but over the county boundary in Essendine

parish, is a large rectangular cropmark, possibly of an Iron Age enclosure.

Romano-British activity is scarce save for the find of a bronze statue of Mercury (SMR33595). Also found in the village was a hoard of coins and urns (SMR33597) and an agate bead and steelyard (SMR34720), though no exact location is given for these finds. They may suggest a high status Romano-British establishment in the vicinity.

Medieval activity is represented by St Stephen's Church, built *c.* 1190 AD, and containing a medieval wall painting. Situated within the village are a number of earthworks identified as house platforms and a sunken way (SMR 34718 and 34719), suggesting that the village was larger in the medieval period. Approximately 800m to the north of the village, medieval pottery was unearthed.

3. AIMS

The aims of the watching brief were to locate and record archaeological deposits, if present, and to determine their date, function and origin.

4. METHODS

Foundation trenches were excavated to the required depths using a mechanical excavator. Of the 24 plots on the site, only plots 1 to 4, 7 and 8 were examined before investigation ceased with the agreement of the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist (Fig. 3). The sides of the trenches were then cleaned and examined to identify any archaeological features. Each archaeological deposit or feature revealed within the trench was allocated a unique reference number with an individual written description. Natural geological

deposits were also recorded. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and plans at a scale of 1:50.

5. RESULTS

Records of the deposits and features identified during the watching brief were examined. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them. Three phases were identified:

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Undated deposits
Phase 3	Modern deposits

Phase 1 Natural deposits

Natural deposits throughout the site are well represented by limestone bedrock encountered across the site (Group 102). Layers of mudstone and clay were interbedded with the limestone.

Phase 2 Undated Deposits

A large sub-circular feature (group 111), exposed for a length of *c.* 10m and a width of 3m, was observed cutting into the phase 1 deposits at the south-east side of plot 1 (Fig.4). Interpreted as a pit, possibly for the quarrying of limestone, this feature had a fill of grey clay and limestone fragments.

Approximately 10m to the north of this pit was a deposit of mid greyish brown sandy silt with frequent charcoal flecks (Group 107). It was observed beneath the garages associated with plots 1 and 2, and no function could be ascertained.

Phase 3 Modern deposits

Overlying phase 1 deposits across most of the site was a greyish brown clayey silt

interpreted as the natural subsoil (Group 101).

Located in the area of the shared plot 1 and 2 garage was a linear cut (Group 108) containing a wall footing of brick and concrete. Aligned southeast to northwest, this was 0.45m wide and 0.18m in height and truncated subsoil deposits 101. As only part of the wall was revealed, the extent of the structure could not be determined. Demolition of this structure was indicated by a levelling cut (Group 109).

Cutting subsoil 101 in plot 1, was a northeast to southwest aligned cut containing a ceramic pipe set in a fill of brown clayey silt (Group 105). This was identified as a storm drain.

Also cutting subsoil 101 was a large shallow feature of unknown extent (Group 106). Observed twice in the area of plot 4, this group was identified as a levelling cut associated with the previous use of the site as a yard (Fig. 6, Section 6). Both cuts contained a grey or brown clayey silt.

Overlying cut 105 was an area of contaminated soil (Group 104). Contaminated with petrochemicals, this was also interpreted as being associated with the former use of the site.

Present in most plots examined was a topsoil of dark greyish brown clayey silt (Group 100). This was overlain in part by a deposit of limestone rubble (Group 103) that once formed a make-up layer to a concrete surface, that has since been removed.

A road surface was observed overlying group 111 (Group 110). Consisting of tarmac and make-up layers this was identified as the former access to the development site.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural limestone, occasionally interbedded with mudstone and clays (Phase 1) across the site represents the underlying geology of the region.

Undated archaeological deposits (Phase 2) represent human activity in the area. A pit identified in the area of plot 1 indicates quarrying activities, possibly for limestone building material. A deposit of uncertain function indicates the use of fire in the vicinity.

Modern deposits (Phase 3) were represented by a subsoil, affected by a drainage trench, a structure of possible Victorian date and various activities associated with the former use of the area as a yard. Topsoil, also affected by recent activities, was recorded and constituted some of the present ground surface.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations of land adjacent to the High Street, Carlby show a sequence of natural to modern deposits. Undated remains indicate that part of the site functioned as a quarry area. Part of a possible Victorian structure, a storm drain and the present ground surface represented modern use of the site.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project services wish to thank Persimmon Homes for funding the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. Steve Haynes coordinated the work and Dave Start edited this report. Jenny Stevens, the South Kesteven District Community Archaeologist provided information from the relevant parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Manager: Steve Haynes
Site Assistant: Chris Moulis, Kate Hughes,
Rene Mouraille
Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
Post-excavation Analyst: Paul Cope-
Faulkner

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Soil Survey of England and Wales Bulletin
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Pevsner, N and Harris, J., 1989
Lincolnshire, The Buildings of England,
(2nd ed, revised Antram, N)

11. ABBREVIATIONS

Numbers prefixed with SMR are the
primary reference numbers used by the
Sites and Monuments record for
Lincolnshire.

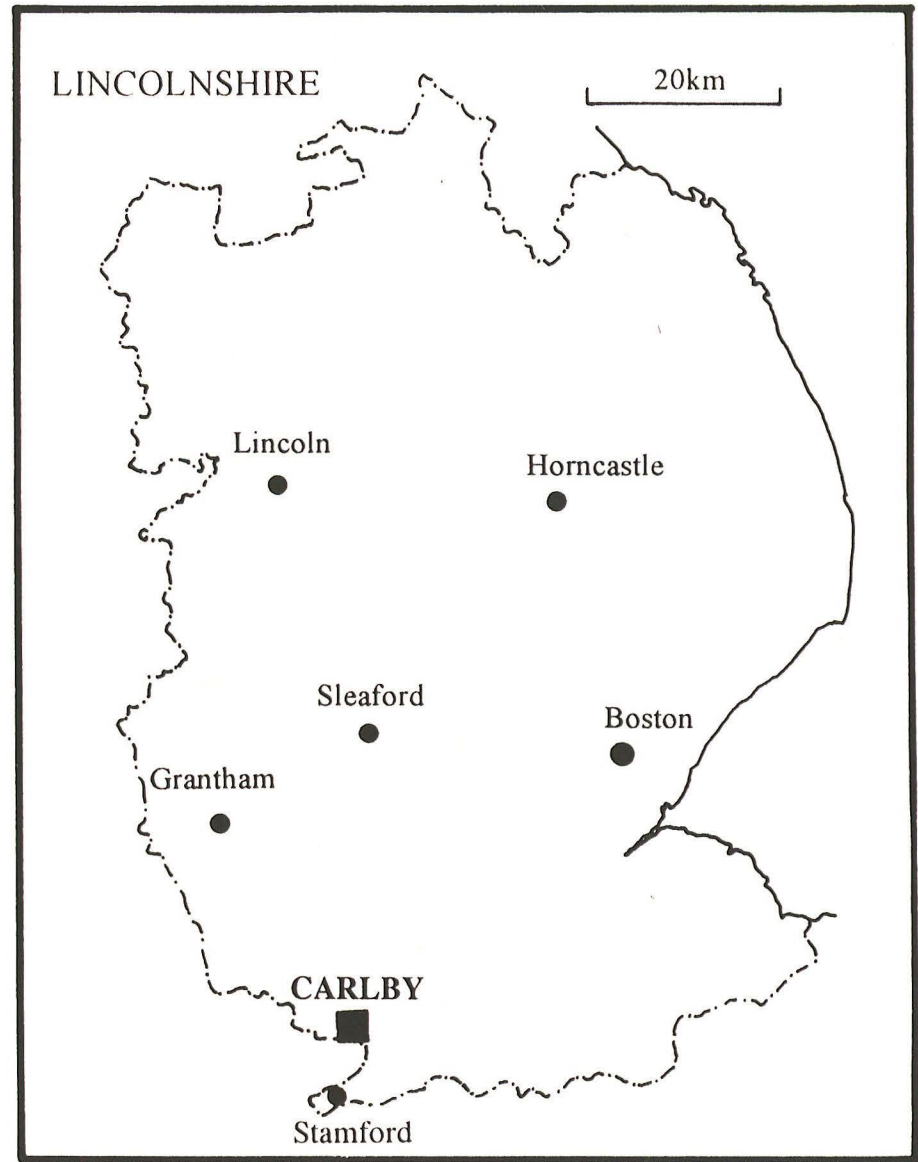
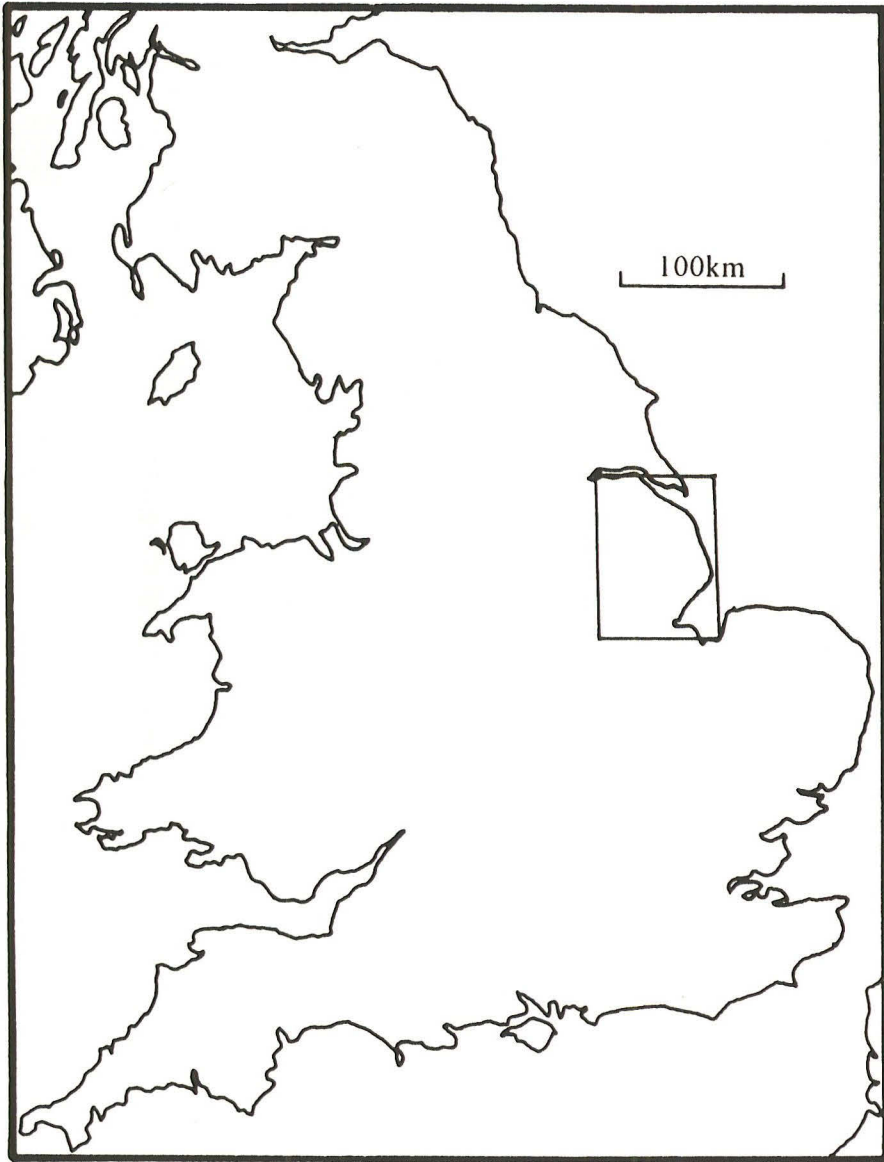
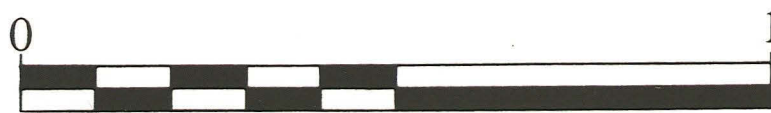
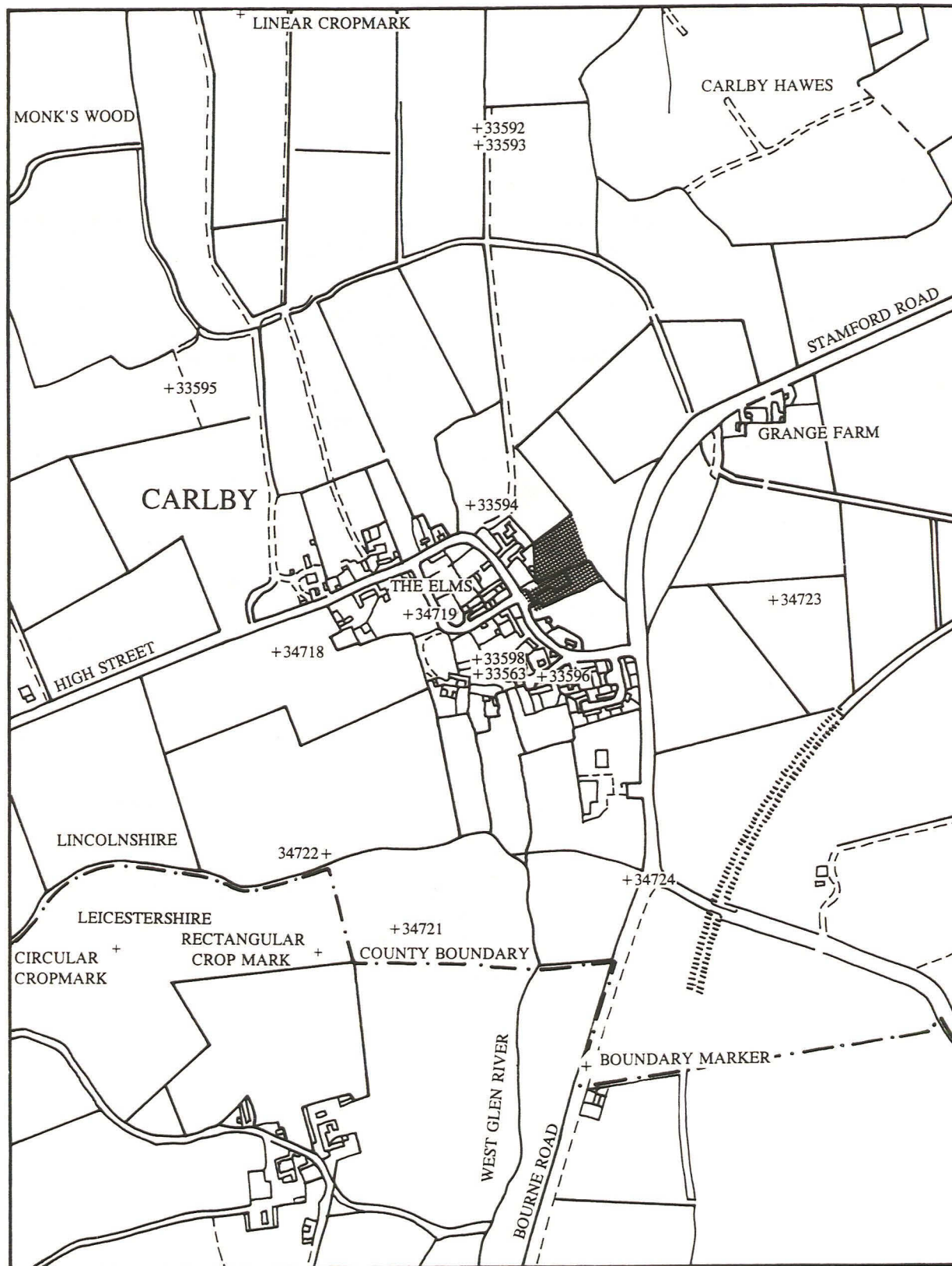


Fig. 1 General Location Plan

Fig. 2 Site Location Plan,
with Recorded Archaeological Sites and Finds



AREA OF INVESTIGATION

Fig. 3 Proposed Development

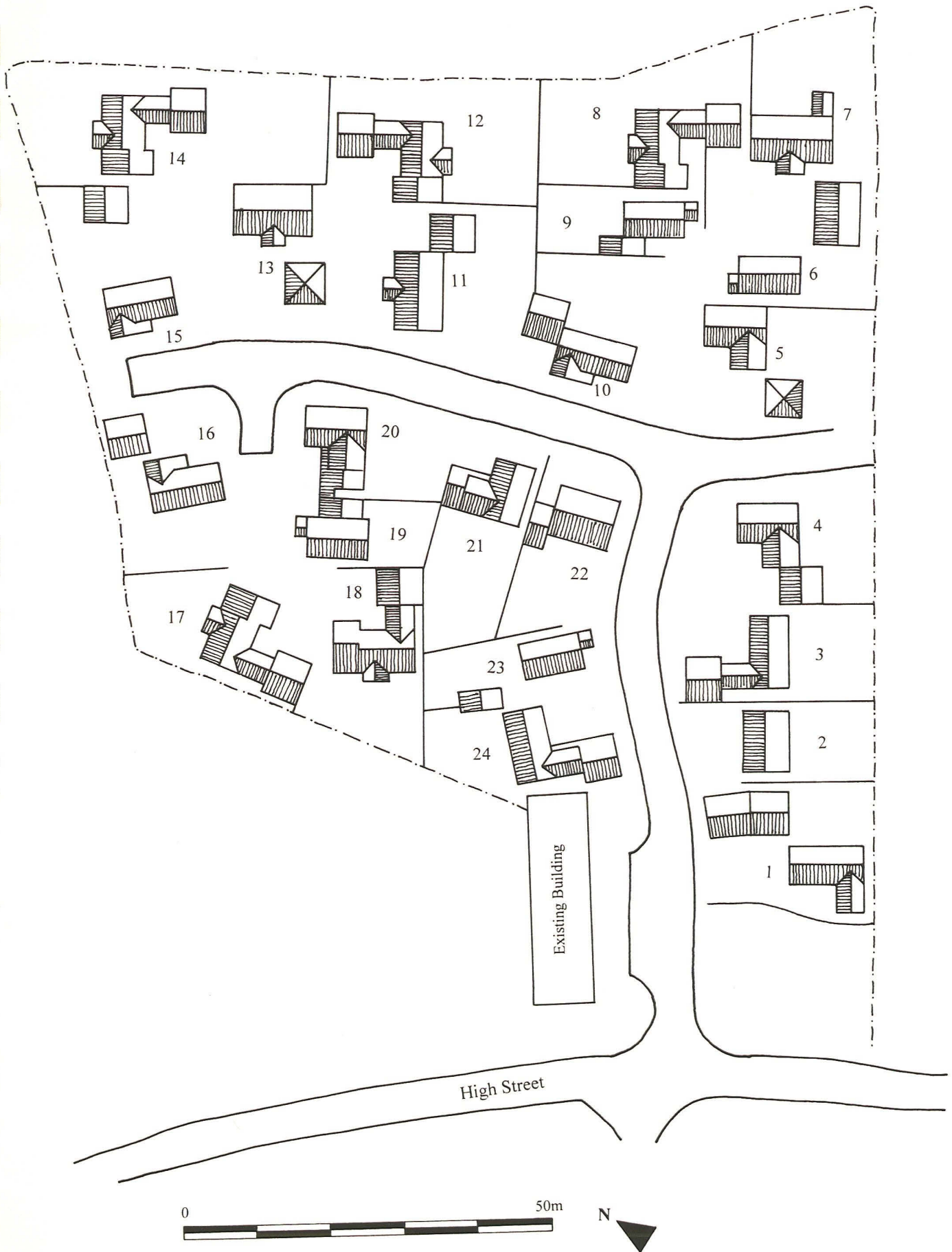


Fig. 4 Plot 1, Plan and Section

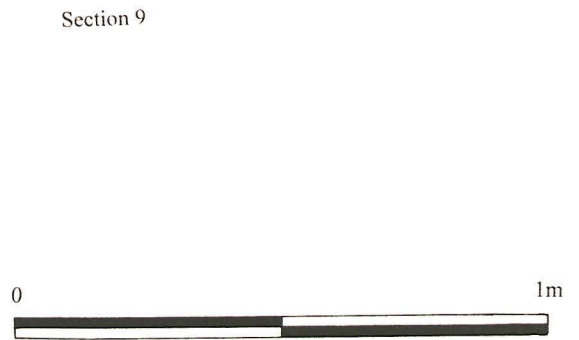
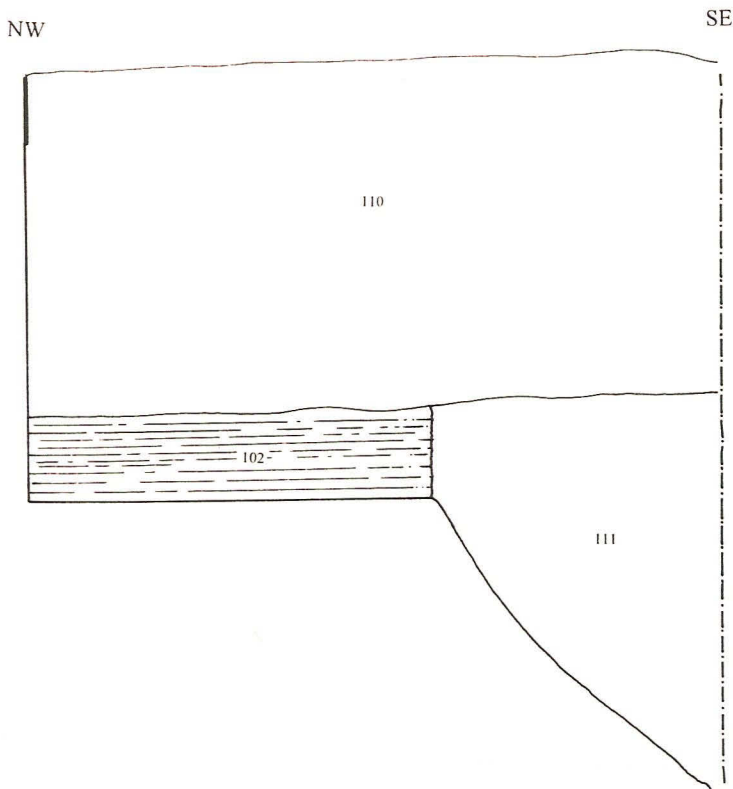
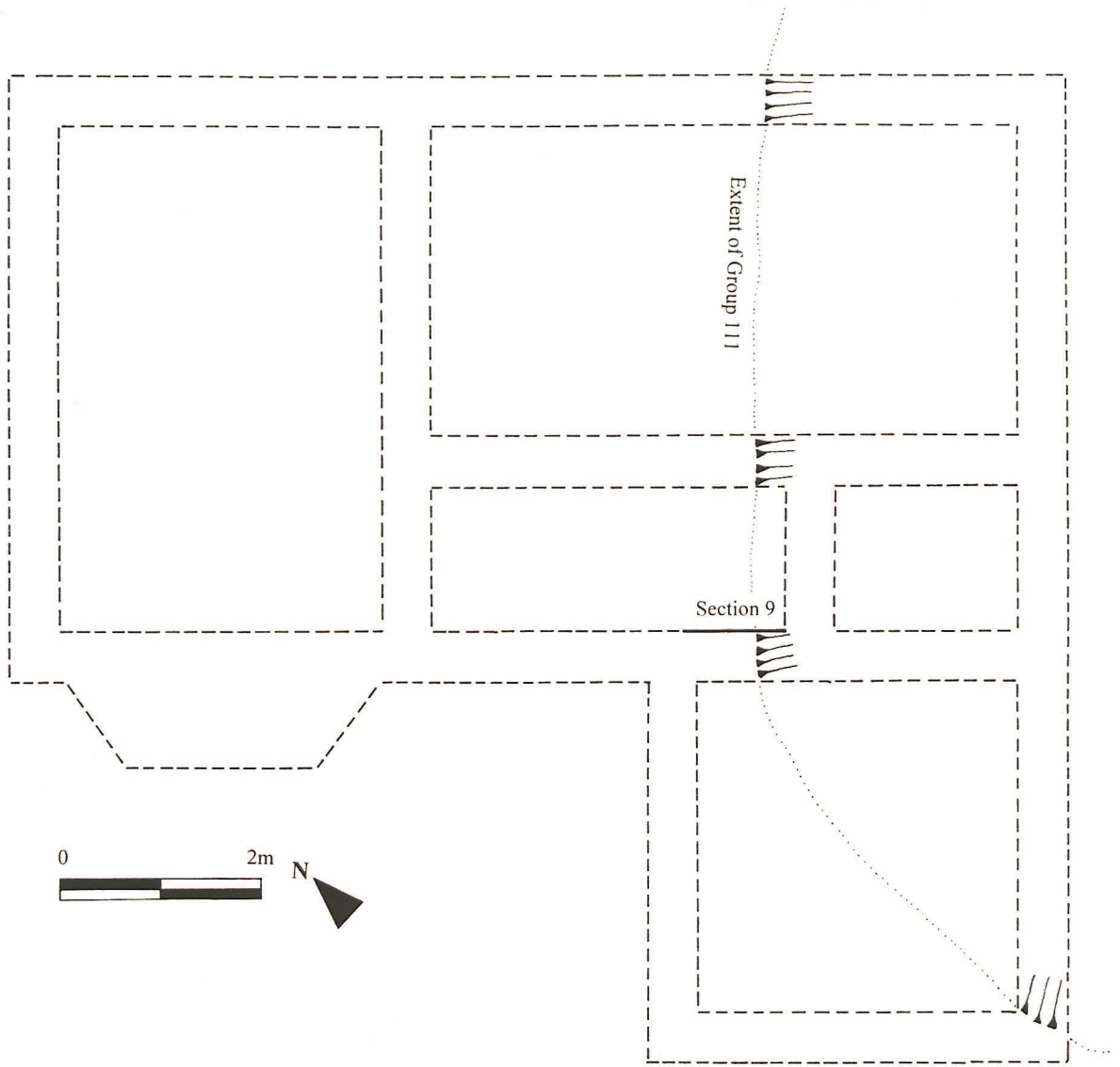


Fig. 5 Plot 2, Plan and Sections

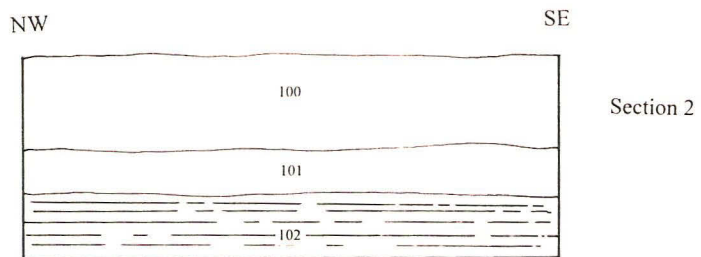
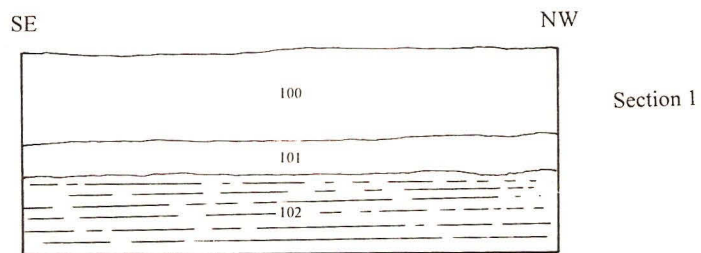
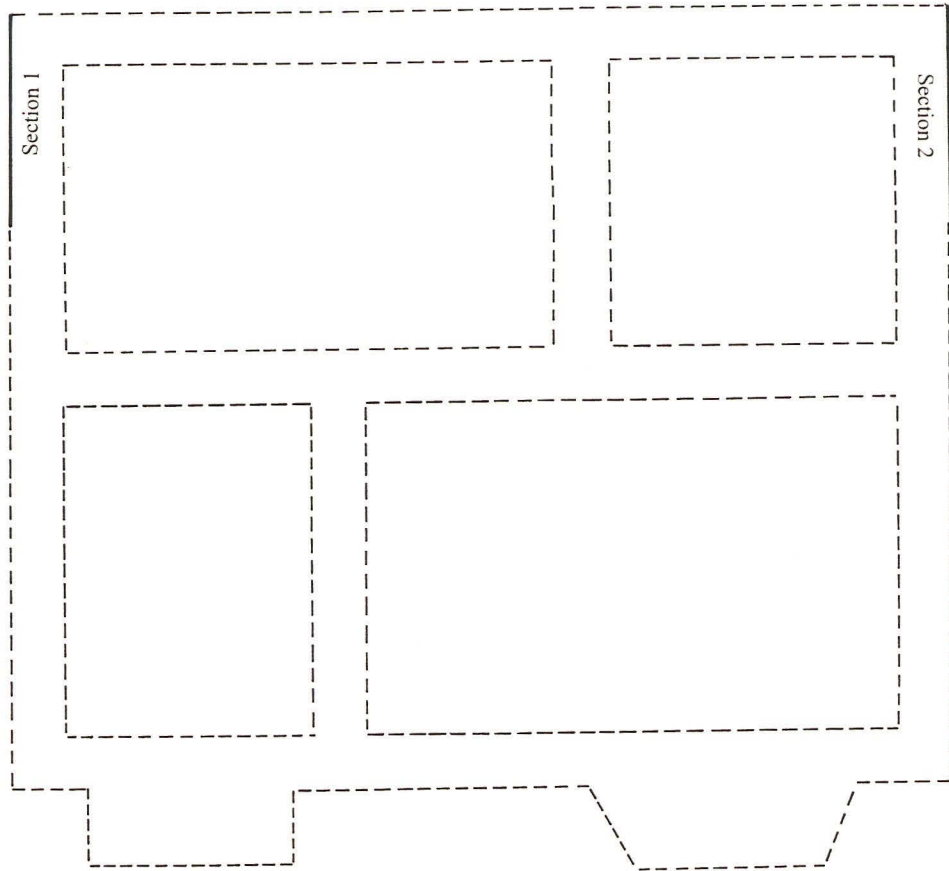
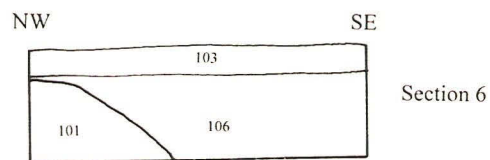
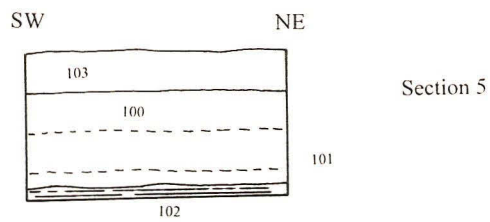
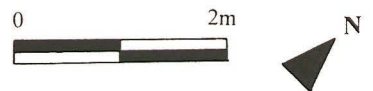
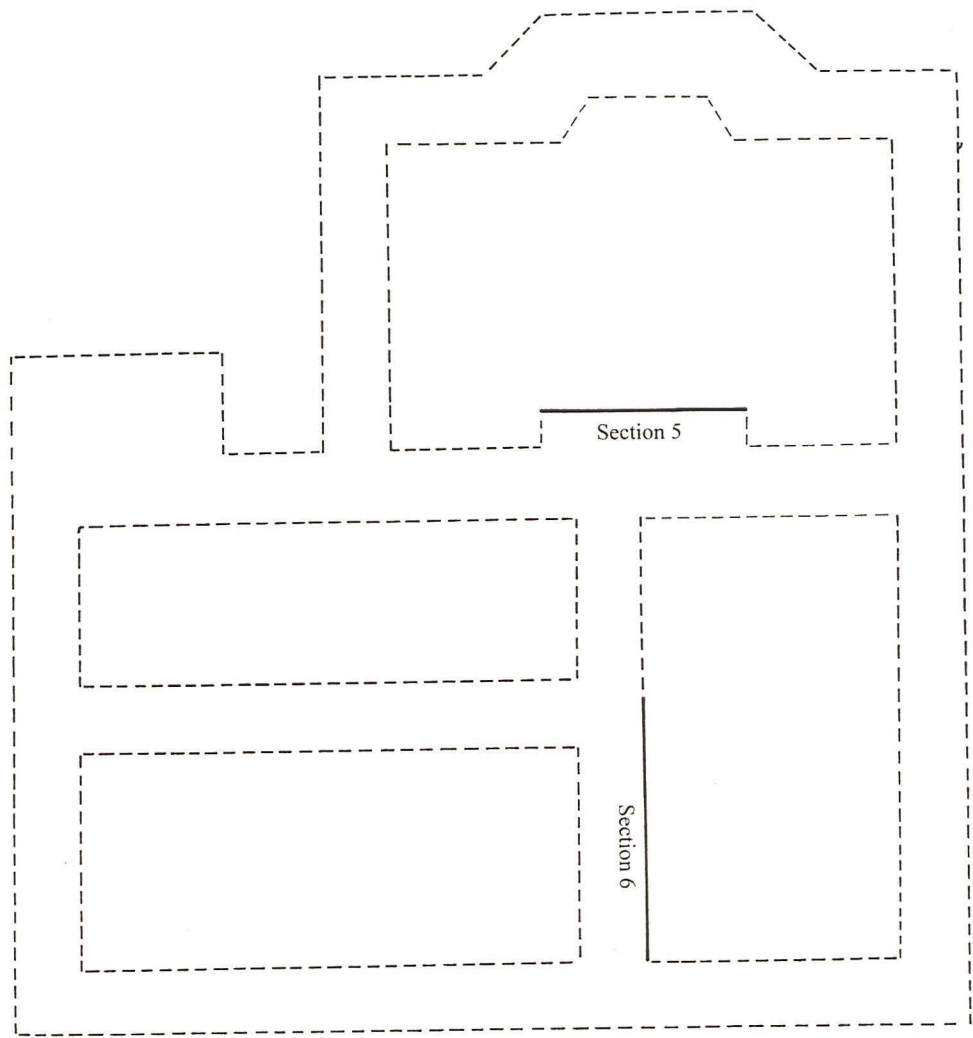


Fig. 6 Plot 4, Plan and Sections



APPENDIX 1

Context Group Summary.

Context Group No.	Description	Interpretation
100	Brown clayey silt, 0.3m thick	Topsoil
101	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	Subsoil
102	Limestone, interbedded with mudstone and clay	Natural bedrock
103	Limestone rubble	Make-up layer for concrete (Since removed)
104	Brownish grey clayey silt	Contaminated topsoil and subsoil
105	Linear cut, with topsoil and ceramic pipe	Storm drain
106	Large shallow cut with dark grey clayey silt	Levelling cut for recent yard surface
107	Mid greyish brown sandy silt	Indeterminate layer
108	Wall footing of brick and concrete set in linear cut	Wall of indeterminate structure
109	Shallow horizontal cut	Truncation of group 108
110	Tarmac and road make-up	Recent road surface
111	Sub circular cut with grey clay fill	Quarry pit

APPENDIX 2

The Archive

The archive consists of:

- 66 . . Context records
- 12 . . Context Group records
- 5 . . . Photographic records
- 16 . . Scale drawings
- 2 . . . Stratigraphic matrices
- 1 . . . bag of finds

All primary records are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Lincolnshire
NG34 9RW

City and County Museum, Lincoln Accession Number: 133:94

Archaeological Project Services project code: CHS94