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An Archaeological Field Evaluation in connection with

residential development off Hall Close, Ropsley, Lincolnshire

Planning Application No. SK 97/0964/65/40

NGR SK 9915 3425

Produced by

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for

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JSAC 347/98/02 **January 1998**

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Summary

An archaeological field evaluation was undertaken in January 1998 on behalf of Allen Homes (East Midlands) Ltd on land off Hall Close, Ropsley, Lincolnshire.

In total, five trial excavation trenches were excavated. Two trenches were archaeologically sterile. The remaining trenches contained a number of largely undated pits and post holes, although pottery dating between the 14th and 16th centuries was recovered. Evidence from one trench suggests that a degree of quarrying was undertaken within the site at a relatively early date.

Although the site was within the historic core of the village, the remains discovered are not of any major significance. A lack of vertical stratigraphy, has resulted in a palimpsest of post holes which form meaningless clusters. No form or planning was discernable within these groups of features, nor had any evidence of floors or other occupation debris survived.

It is concluded that although these remains reflect past settlement within Ropsley, their condition and significance is only of negligible to local importance. It is recommended that further archaeological investigation is unlikely to result in any major advancement in the understanding of the development of the village.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Allen Homes (East Midlands) Ltd propose to develop approximately 1ha of land off Hall Close, Ropsley, Lincolnshire (Application No: Sk.97/0964/65/40)

1.2 South Kesteven District Council has requested that the site be evaluated to ascertain the presence, state of preservation and significance, of any archaeological remains which may exist within the application area. Allen Homes commissioned *John Samuels Archaeological Consultants* to undertake a programme of trial excavation in order to identify any remains within site and to assess the likely impact of development. A specification was agreed with the Community Archaeologist and is attached to this report as appendix A.

1.3 This report describes the results of a programme of trial excavation conducted in January 1998 and conforms to the requirements of *Planning Policy Guidance : Archaeology and Planning* (DoE 1990) (PPG16). It has been written in accordance with current best practice and the appropriate national standards and guidelines including:

Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage 1991);

Code of Conduct (Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994);

Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavations (Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994).

2.0 Location and Description

2.1 Ropsley lies in the administrative district of South Kesteven, approximately 7.5 km east of Grantham. The site of the proposed development forms an irregular unit of land 60 m west of the parish church of St Peter.

2.2 The site is an area of approximately 1 ha and was covered in rough vegetation with its boundaries marked predominantly by hawthorn hedging. It was formally used as allotments, the well drained calcareous loamy soils derived from underlying Jurassic Limestone being fertile and suited to the cultivation of root vegetables (SSEW sheet 4).

2.3 The site slopes markedly from the north and is centred on NGR SK 9915 3425, at an altitude of approximately 83 m OD.

3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

3.1 The parish of Ropsley and Humby has been the subject of a large scale landscape study (Lane 1995). This included not only a synthesis of previous research and archival material, but also comprehensive field survey, resulting in the parish being one of the most fully investigated in Lincolnshire.

3.2 The survey showed that the villages have essentially developed from Saxon foundations, although a number of Romano-British sites are recorded within the parish. The Domesday survey of 1086 records the parish church of St Peter, which still retains a great deal of Saxon fabric within the nave; a new chancel and North aisle being added after the Norman conquest (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 613-14).

3.3 Other entries, such as plough teams, woods and meadows, contained within Domesday imply a generally broad agrarian community. To the north of the village was an extensive tract of healthland, which although ploughed nearer the village was probably utilised for rough grazing. This may have been one of the factors which led to the founding of a late C12th monastic grange on the northern parish boundary. Under the jurisdiction of the Abbey at Vaudy, itself a daughter house of Fountains Abbey, the grange may have been active in the production of wool which created great wealth for the Cistercian Order during the High Middle Ages.

3.4 The site of the grange, which is now a Scheduled Ancient Monument, (SAM 53) fell into disrepair following the Dissolution in the mid C16th, and survived as visible foundations until the second world war when the site was ploughed. Excavations conducted in 1954 revealed much of the ground plan of the grange and showed that some of the walls survived to a height of *c.* 1.2m.

3.5 The present village is predominantly comprised of C18th and C19th limestone houses and cottages with un-sympathetic post-war brick houses and bungalows.

4.0 Methodology

4.1 The objectives of the fieldwork were to establish the nature, extent, date, function and significance of any archaeological remains present within the site, and to assess the likely impact of development.

4.2 A total of five trial trenches were excavated and recorded in January 1998. Each trench measured approximately 10 x 1.6m.

4.3 Topsoil and overburden were removed by a JCB fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under continual archaeological supervision. The spoil generated during machining was mounded along the edges of the trial trenches with a safe working distance between spoil and the trench side. Mechanical excavation ceased at either undisturbed natural deposits or when archaeological features were identified. All subsequent excavation was by hand.

4.4 The sections and bases of each trench were cleaned by hand and discrete archaeological features sample excavated in order to determine (where possible) their date, extent, sequence and depth.

4.5 The recording system was based upon the Museum of London's *Archaeological Site Manual* (1994) with revisions to take account of the rural context. The system is centred upon scale drawing in both plan and section format supplemented with proforma-context sheets. The locations of the trenches were plotted according to the site boundaries and levels were related to Ordnance Datum.

4.6 Each trench was photographed prior to excavation of individual features in colour slide, black and white and colour print. Discrete features were photographed following investigation.

4.7 All artefacts were treated in accordance with the UKIC guidelines, *'First Aid for Finds'* (1981). All finds were bagged and marked according to the deposit (context) where they were recovered. Following completion of fieldwork, the finds were processed in-house.

4.8 No deposits suitable for environmental sampling were exposed.

4.9 All work was undertaken with respect to health and safety provision. No hand excavation was undertaken at a depth greater than 1.2m and spoil was kept at a safe distance from the trench. The trenches were backfilled as soon as possible after the completion of field work.

4.10 Following analysis of the results of the excavations the significance of any archaeological remains will be assessed. As yet there is no agreed measurement of the importance of archaeological remains used nationally. Following the advice in PPG16 (paragraph 8)

there is a distinction drawn between nationally important archaeological remains, and those of lesser importance. An assessment of the importance of archaeological remains is achievable on the basis of their status in terms of national, regional, local or negligible importance :

National : Monuments that are scheduled and protected under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979), those suitable for scheduling, or considered to be of national importance but not covered by the Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling.

Regional : Sites listed in the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) or other sources which are of a reasonably well-defined extent, nature and date and significant examples in the regional context.

Local : Sites listed in the SMR or other sources which are either of very low potential or minor importance.

Negligible : Areas in which investigative techniques have produced negative or minimal evidence of antiquity, or where large-scale destruction of deposits has taken place (eg by mineral extraction).

4.11 Copies of this report will be sent to the client, the Local Planning Authority, and the County SMR.

4.12 Following project completion, an ordered site archive will be prepared in accordance with *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and deposited with the City and County Museum, Lincoln, where it may be accessed by quoting Global Accession No: LCNCC HCR 7.98.

5.0 Excavations

5.1 Trenches 1 and 3

5.1.1 Trench 1 and 3 were located at the extreme north and south ends of the site. They were both devoid of archaeological features and deposits. The basic stratification may be summarised thus:

Topsoil: undifferentiated dark grey/brown friable sandy loam containing occasional sub-rounded stones (0.10-0.17m thick)

Subsoil: light brown/grey loose sandy silt containing frequent sub-angular limestone fragments (0.05-0.10m thick)

Natural: loose bedded laminated limestone overlain by a brash comprise of angular limestones in a clayey matrix (unknown depth).

5.2 Trench 2

5.2.1 Trench 2 was positioned on the east side of the site. Sealed by the topsoil, a layer (201) comprised of light brown clayey silt with common stones sealed a further layer (202) which resembled (201) but with a more orange hue. These deposits were a-typical to the site and are interpreted as possible spoil from quarrying owing to the high incidence of small angular stones contained within a loose soil matrix.

5.22 This upper stratigraphy sealed two sub-rounded features cut into the underlying natural limestone brash. The first feature investigated [204] was located at the west end of the trench and comprised a regular bowl shaped pit 0.30m deep with a diameter of 0.60m. It contained a loose light brown fill with occasional charcoal flecks and two sherds of medieval pottery, probably 15th-16th century.

5.2.3 East of the above, a large pit [206] was recorded adjacent to the north section. It measured almost 2.00m in diameter with a maximum depth of 0.95 m, and contained a mid greyish brown mottled fill matrix with mixed limestone inclusions. The pit contained a small artefact assemblage comprised of medieval pottery of the 14th-15th century, animal bone and slag.

5.2.4 It was not clear whether these features had been truncated by (and therefore earlier than), or contemporary with, the quarry workings.

5.3 Trench 4

5.3.1 Positioned closest to the parish church on the east side of the site. The general stratigraphy of topsoil/subsoil/natural first recorded in Trench 1, once again characterised this trench,

although a number of features were observed cutting the natural brash after removal of the subsoil.

5.3.2 A large shallow pit [418], irregular in plan, contained a fill comprised of red-brown silty clay. Sectioning of this feature produced a small collection of animal bone, a large fresh sherd of early post-medieval slipware and a fragment of a 19th century clay tobacco pipe.

5.3.3 South of the above, was a cluster of small pits/post-holes. These were generally of oval or sub-rounded form and varied in depth from 0.18-0.40m. Each feature was filled by a homogenous mid grey/brown clayey silt which was not distinguished from the subsoil during machining: it is assumed, however, that these features cut through the subsoil (402) rather than being sealed by it, as there was a natural horizon formed by the breakdown of the underlying limestone brash.

5.3.3 Despite full excavation of these features, no diagnostic artefacts were recovered. This, together with a lack of vertical stratigraphy, makes it impossible to either date these features or to understand any form of sequence or phasing. It is also unclear whether they reflect timber structures of some antiquity or of a more recent period.

5.4 Trench 5

5.4.1 Trench 5 was an additional trench excavated in the centre of the application area. It was excavated in order to better establish the presence and significance of any deposits extant within the middle of the site, following the limited significance of the other four trenches.

5.4.2 The upper stratigraphy again comprised the familiar topsoil/subsoil/natural progression. A modern intrusive feature, possibly a test pit, was noted following removal of the topsoil, but machine excavation continued down to the natural brash.

5.4.3 Following cleaning of the base of the trench, two distinct clusters of small post-holes were observed. These were very similar to those recorded in trench 4, and again their fills bore little differentiation from the subsoil, though it is proposed these features also cut through it.

5.4.4 Again, no associated occupation material was observed associated with either grouping and they thus remain undated and of unknown purpose.

Table 1 - Summary of Contexts

Context	Trench	description	Comments
101	T1	Layer of dark grey/brown friable sandy loam containing occasional sub-rounded common stones	Topsoil, supporting rough vegetation
102	T1	Layer of light brown/grey loose sandy silt containing frequent sub-angular limestone fragments	Subsoil derived by weathering of underlying Jurassic Limestone
103	T1	Loose bedded laminated limestone	Jurassic Limestone
201	T2	Layer of dark grey/brown friable sandy loam containing occasional sub-rounded common stones	Topsoil, supporting rough vegetation
202	T2	Layer of light brown/orange friable clayey silt containing common sub-rounded limestones	Deposit, probably related to garden activity
203	T2	Loose bedded laminated limestone	Jurassic Limestone
204	T2	Small round pit with gradually sloping sides at an angle of 45^0 and a gently rounded base	Small medieval pit, ?post-hole
205	T2	Light brown loose sandy silt with occasional sub-angular limestone fragments and charcoal flecks	Fill of [204]
206	T2	Regular bowl shaped cut extending from South baulk. Sides slope even at *c.*30^0 to a slightly rounded base	Large pit, function unknown
207	T2	Mid greyish brown loam with irregular mottles of light grey brown. Small and medium sized limestones. Contained pottery, bone and slag	Fill of [206]
301	T3	Layer of dark grey/brown friable sandy loam containing occasional sub-rounded common stones	Topsoil supporting rough vegetation
302	T3	Loosely compacted layer of medium and small sub-angular limestone fragments and sand	?infill/spoil from quarrying

Context	Trench	description	Comments
303	T3	Loose bedded laminated limestone	Jurassic limestone
401	T4	Uniform mid-dark grey/brown clayey loam with rare small sub-rounded limestones	Topsoil supporting rough vegetation
402	T4	Dark orange-brown clayey silt with occasional limestone fragments	Subsoil derive from underlying Jurassic Limestone
403	T4	Loose bedded laminated limestone	Jurassic limestone
404	T4	Sub-circular regular bowl shaped cut	Base of post hole forming part of a cluster in southern part of trench
405	T4	Mid grey brown clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of [404]
406	T4	Ovoid cut; east side slightly curved and steep to a curved base. Other sides more regular at 45^0. Clear break of slope	Base of post hole forming part of a cluster in southern part of trench
407	T4	Mid grey brown clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of [406]
408	T4	Cut: bowl shaped in profile , ovoid in plan	Base of post hole forming part of a cluster in southern part of trench
409	T4	Mid grey brown clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of [408]
410	T4	Sub-rounded small cut with tapered base and 45^0 sides. Clear upper break of slope	Base of post hole forming part of a cluster in southern part of trench
411	T4	Mid grey brown clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of [410]
412	T4	Irregular in plan owing to disturbance, cut has a clear upper break of slope and curved sides and base	Base of post hole forming part of a cluster in southern part of trench
413	T4	Mid grey brown clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of [412]

Context	Trench	description	Comments
414	T4	Ovoid cut with near vertical sides and a tapered base, clear upper break of slope	Base of post hole forming part of a cluster in southern part of trench
415	T4	Mid grey brown clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of [414]
416	T4	Ovoid, bowl shaped cut with *c.* 45^0 sides. Upper break of slope	Base of post hole forming part of a cluster in southern part of trench
417	T4	Mid grey brown clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of [416]
418	T4	Irregular shallow cut with gradual sides to a flat base	Post-medieval pit
419	T4	Red-brown silty clay	Fill of [418]
501	T5	Layer comprised of a uniform mid grey/brown clayey loam with sub-rounded limestones	Topsoil supporting rough vegetation
502	T4	Mid red-brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular limestones	Subsoil derived from underlying Jurassic limestone
503	T5	Loose bedded laminated limestone, the upper margins forming a brash	Jurassic limestone/limestone brash
504	T5	Cut, ovoid in plan sloping sides to a flat base	Base of post-hole. One of a cluster forming a cluster in the North-East end of Trench 5
505	T5	Homogenous friable to firm reddish brown clayey silt	Fill of [504]
506	T5	Bowl shaped cut with slightly curved sides and base	Base of post-hole. One of a cluster forming a cluster in the North-East end of Trench 5
507	T5	Homogenous friable to firm reddish brown clayey silt	Fill of [507]
508	T5	Ovoid cut with slightly curved sides (except North-east side which was near vertical) to a curved base.	Base of post-hole. One of a cluster forming a cluster in the North-East end of Trench 5

Context	Trench	description	Comments
509	T5	Homogenous friable to firm reddish brown clayey silt	Fill of [508]
510	T5	Small bowl shaped cut, clear upper break of slope	Base of post-hole. One of a cluster forming a cluster in the North-East end of Trench 5
511	T5	Homogenous friable to firm reddish brown clayey silt	Fill of [510]
512	T5	Small sub-circular cut. South side slopes gently, the others had a slight curve and nearly vertical. Tapered base with a clear upper break of slope	Base of post-hole. One of a cluster forming a cluster in the North-East end of Trench 5
513	T5	Homogenous friable to firm reddish brown clayey silt	Fill of [512]
514	T5	Small circular cut with near vertical sides and a clear upper break of slope. Flat base	Base of post-hole. One of a cluster forming a cluster in the North-East end of Trench 5
515	T5	Homogenous friable to firm reddish brown clayey silt	Fill of [514]
516	T5	Ovoid cut with a clear upper break of slope, near vertical sides with a curved base	Base of post-hole. One of a cluster forming a cluster in the North-East end of Trench 5
517	T5	Homogenous friable to firm reddish brown clayey silt	Fill of [516]

Table 2 - Finds Analysis

Context	Material	Comments
un.strat	Pottery	2 sherds post-medieval 4 sherds medieval? 15th-16th century
205	Pottery	2 sherds splash glaze medieval 15th-16th century
207	Fired clay	4 fragments, oven or building fabric
	Slag	1 fragment
	Animal bones	10 fragments of ? sheep
	Pottery	24 sherds shelly ware (probably 6 vessels) 5 sherds splashed ware 3 sherds green glazed 3 sherds orange sandy ware 1 sherd grey ware Date range 14th-15th century
419	Animal	4 fragments ? cattle
	Clay tobacco pipe	1 fragment 19th century
	Pottery	1 fragment post-medieval slipped ware

6.0 Discussion and Conclusions

6.1 The application area lies in very close proximity to the parish church of St Peter and therefore at the heart of the medieval settlement.

6.2 It is not surprising, therefore, that remains associated with timber framed structures might have survived within the area. The largely undated remains recorded in Trench 4 and 5 may represent early post structures but a more recent date cannot be ruled out.

6.3 Quarrying in the form of face working and bell pitting was once a common practice in the surrounding area. Ropsley has several examples of buildings built of thin tabular limestones. The upper deposits recorded in Trench 2 are almost certainly the spoil generated from stone workings possibly associated with the construction of such buildings.

6.4 It was not clear whether medieval pits, which were sealed by these deposits, were in fact contemporary with the working life of the quarry; or whether the quarry workings are of a later date and have truncated earlier medieval features.

6.5 The remains recorded during the evaluation do not imply dense settlement remains surviving within the application area. The date of most features is uncertain and the artefact evidence from pits 204 and 206 is all that is available. The site would seem to be of negligible to local importance and any further archaeological investigation is unlikely to provide any fresh understanding of the historical development of the village.

6.6 The evaluation has demonstrated that although some archaeological remains exist on the site they are not of sufficient importance to warrant any further investigation.

7.0 Figures

Figure 1 : Site location

Figure 2 : Trench location with spot heights

Figure 3 : Plans and sections, Trench 1-3

Figure 4 : Plan and section of Trench 4 and 5

Figure 5 : Profiles of features recorded in Trench 2, 4 and 5

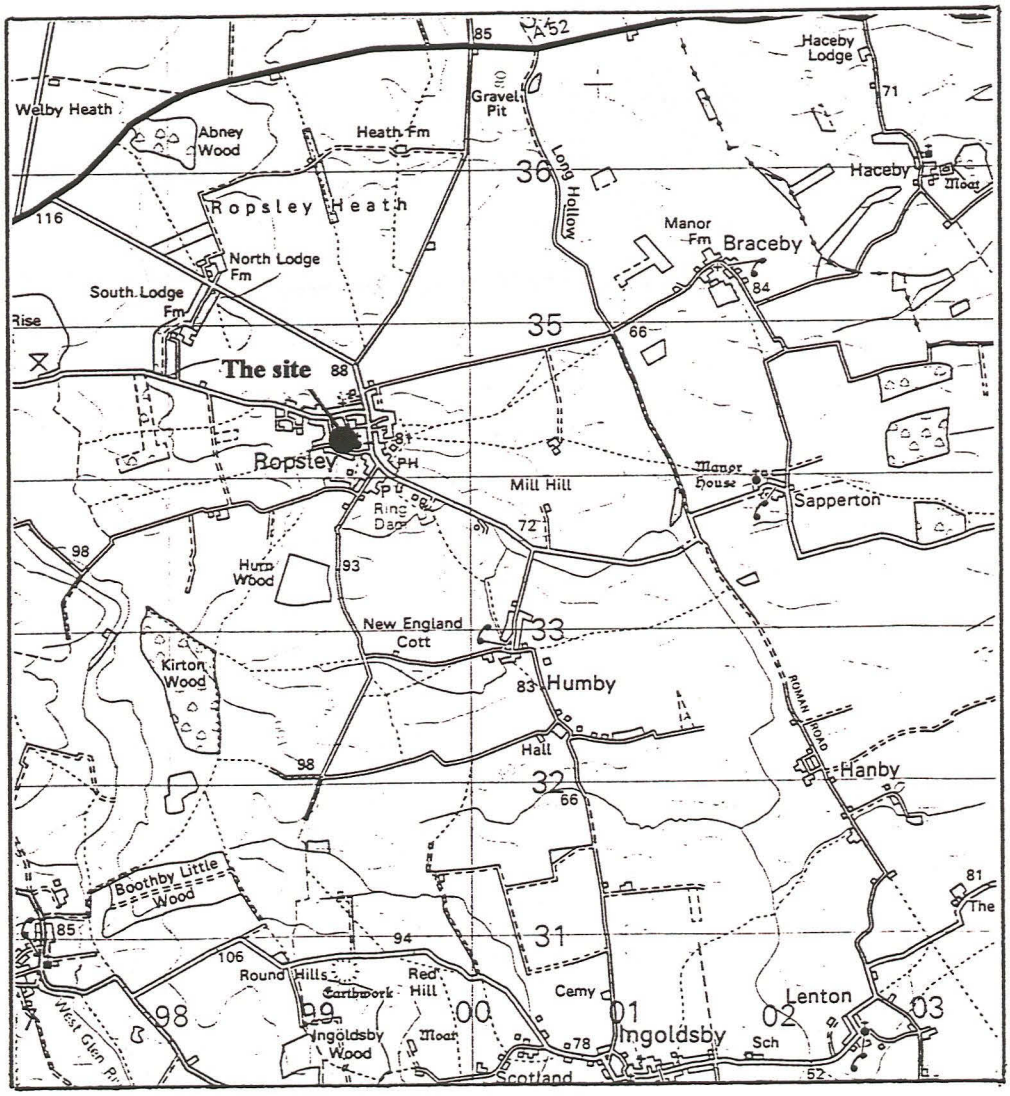


Fig. 1: Site Location, 1:50,000

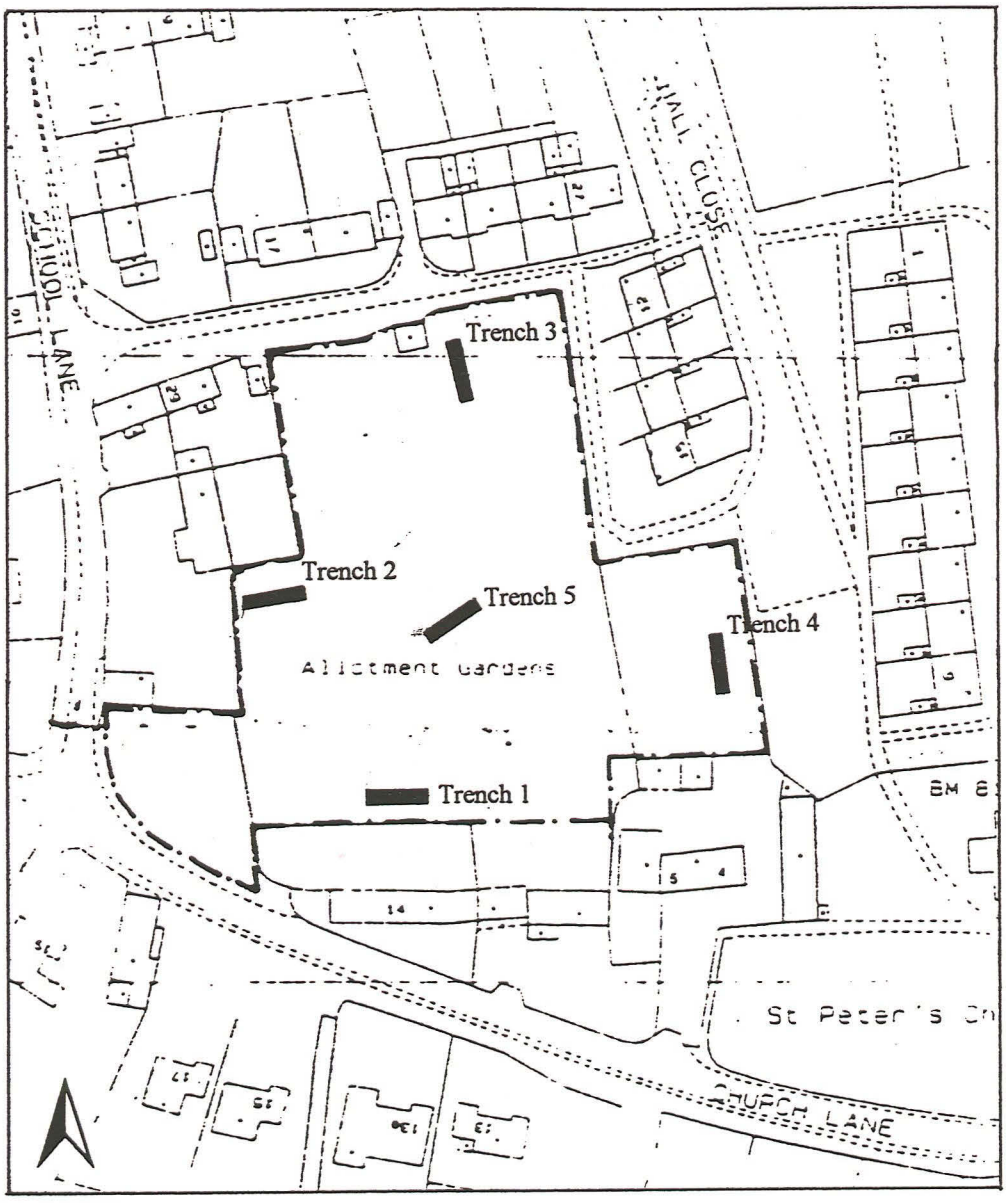
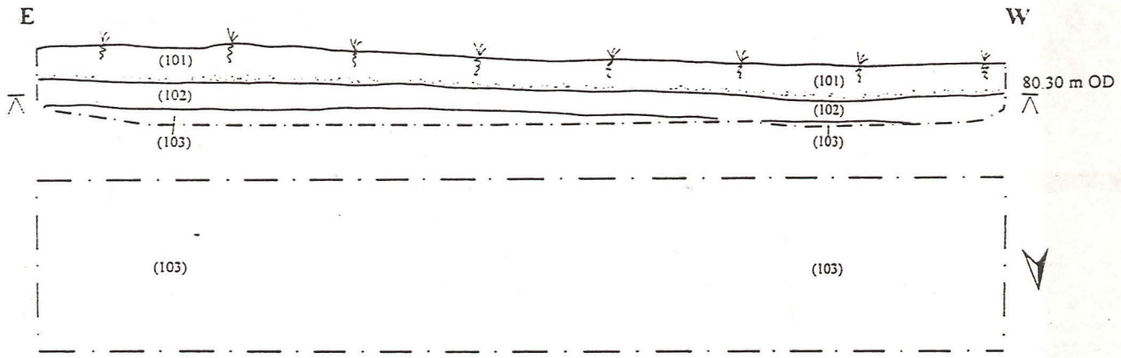
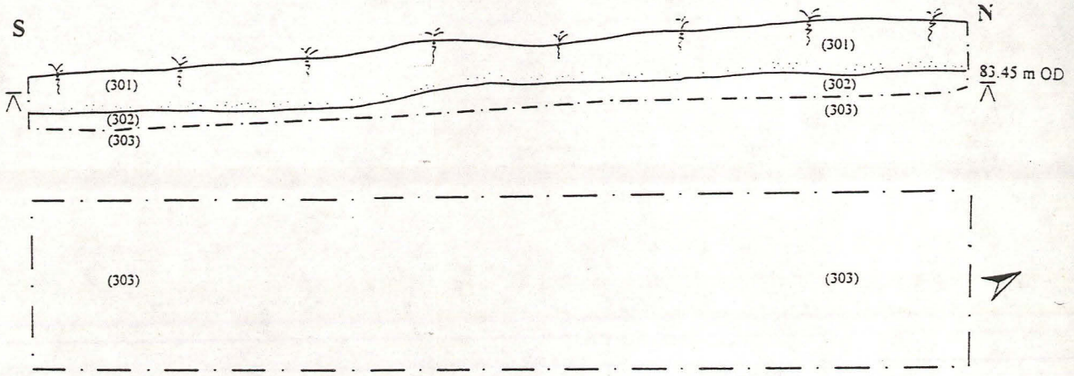


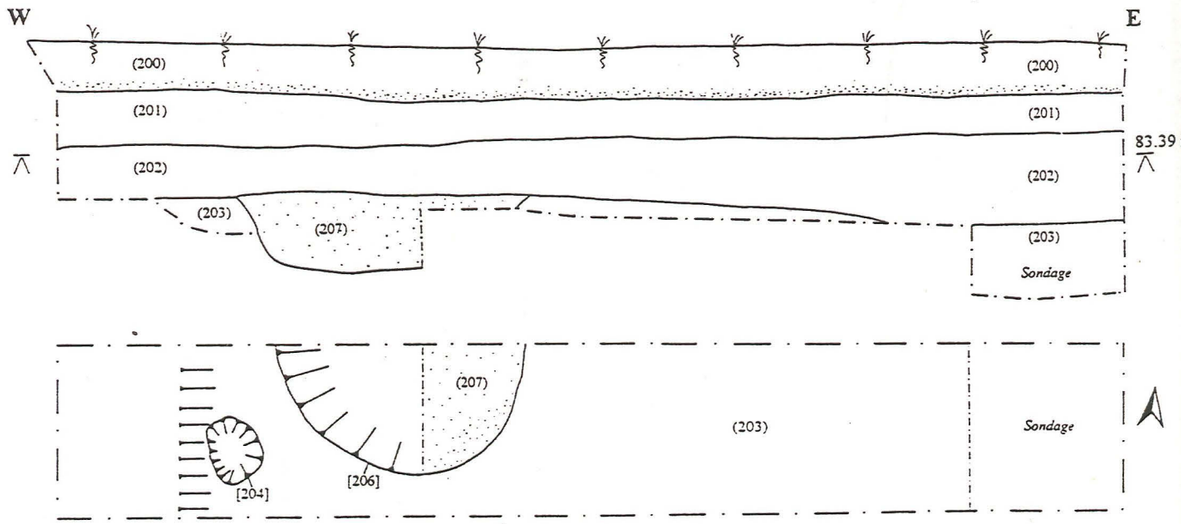
Fig. 2: Trench location plan, 1:1250



Trench 1

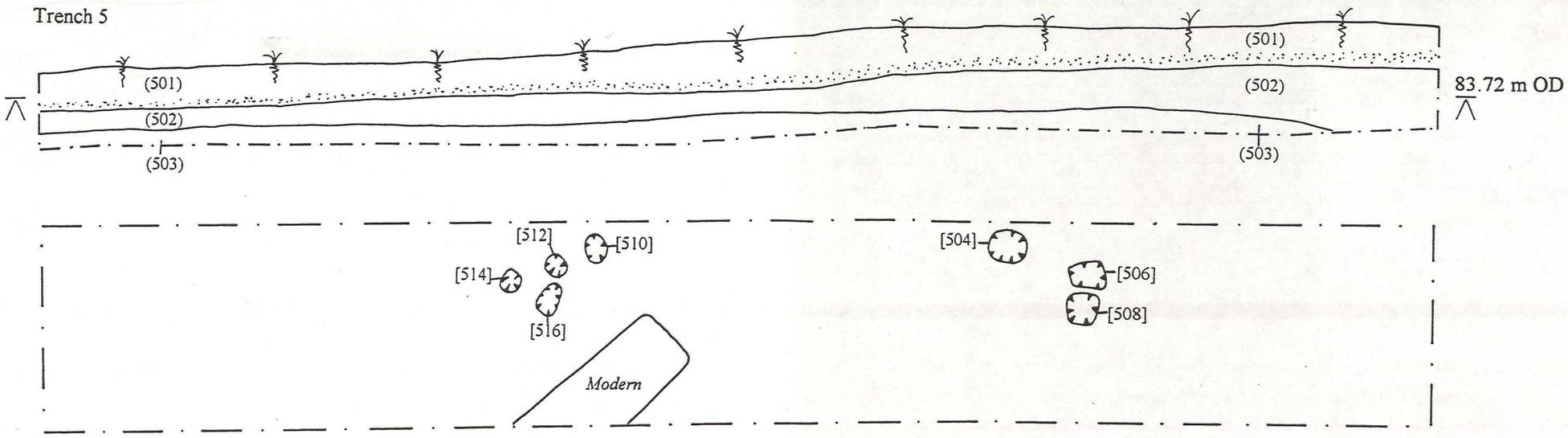


Trench 3



Trench 2

Fig. 3: Plans an sections, Trench 1-3



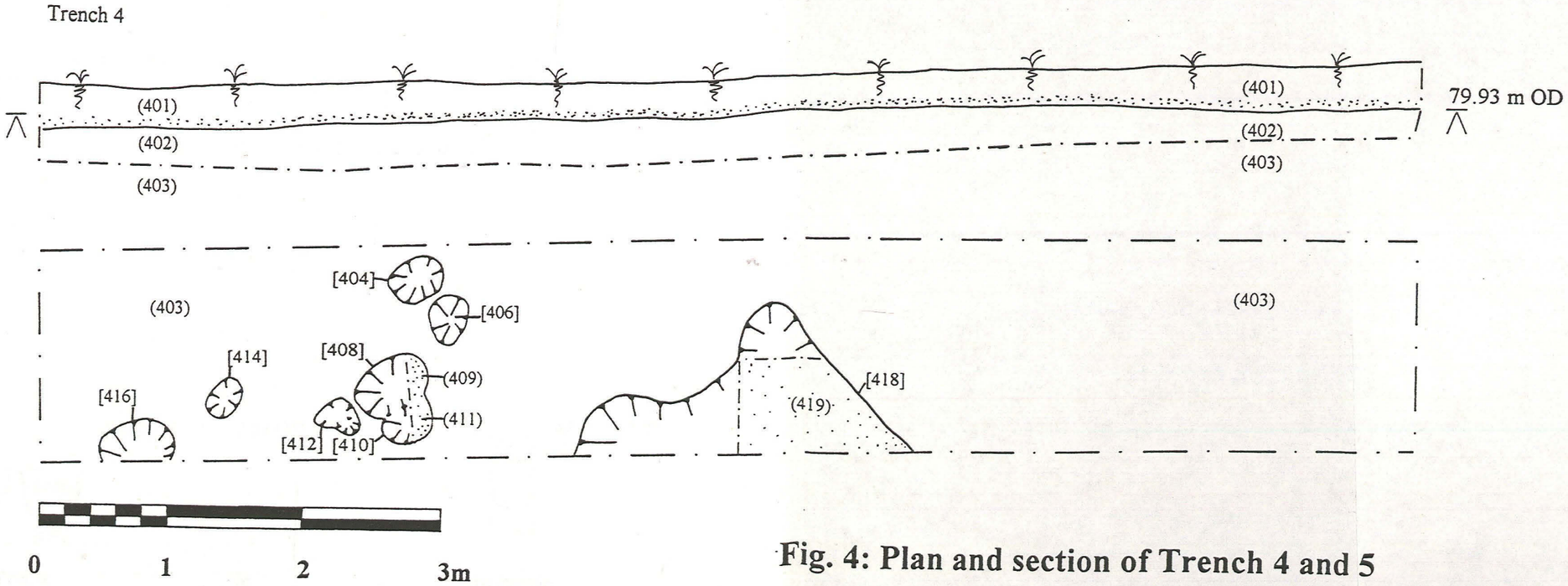
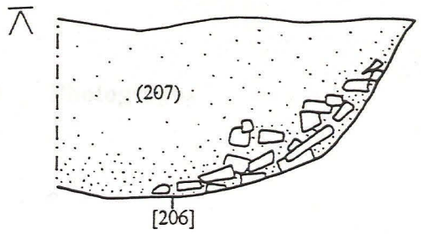
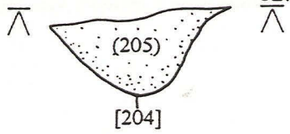


Fig. 4: Plan and section of Trench 4 and 5

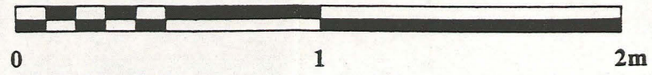
rench 2



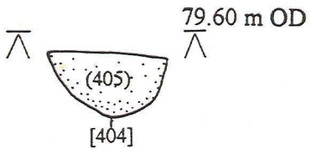
East Profile



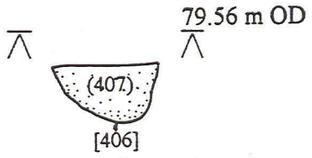
West Profile



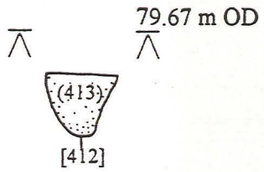
rench 4



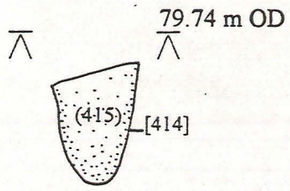
North-East Profile



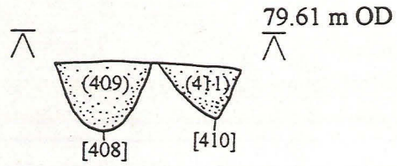
North Profile



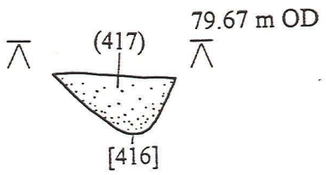
South Profile



East Profile



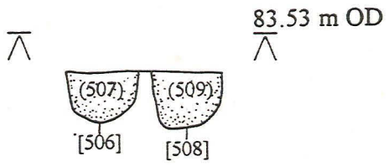
South Section



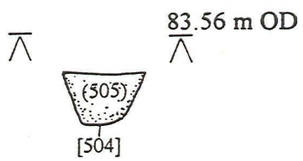
South Profile

Fig. 5: Profiles of features recorded in Trench 2, 4 and 5

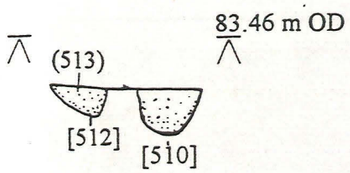
rench 5



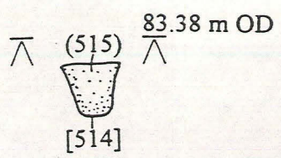
North-West Profile



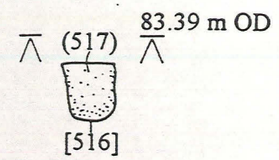
South-East Profile



West Profile



North-West Profile



North Profile

8.0 Photographs

Plate 1: Trench 2: Pit [204], post-excavation, looking west

Plate 2: Profile of Pit [206], Trench 2, looking east

Plate 3: Features recorded at the southern end of Trench 4, looking north

Plate 4: Post hole group [504]-[508] at the northern end of Trench 5, looking west

9.0 Bibliography and References

Allen	1833	The History of the Country of Lincoln
Foster CW & Langley T	1924	The Lincolnshire Domesday and Lindsey Survey
Lane T	1995	The Archaeology and Developing Landscape of Ropsley and Humby, Lincolnshire
Morgan P & Thorn C	1986	Domesday Book : Lincolnshire
Pevsner N & Harris J	1989	The Buildings of England : Lincolnshire
Platts G	1985	Land and People in Medieval Lincolnshire

Appendix A : Specification

John Samuels Archaeological Consultants

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A Specification for Archaeological Trial Excavations in connection with residential development off Hall Close, Ropsley, Lincolnshire

NGR SK 9915 3425

Produced by

John Samuels Archaeological Consultants

for

Allan Homes (East Midlands) Ltd
9 Glaisdale Drive (East),
Bilborough,
Nottingham
NG 8 4GU

JSAC 347/98/01 *January 1998*

Also at : Witham Park House, Waterside South, Lincoln LN5 7JP Telephone 01522 880050

A Specification for Archaeological Trial Excavations

in connection with residential development

off Hall Close, Ropsley, Lincolnshire

CONTENTS

Summary

This specification has been produced for undertaking archaeological trial excavations on land off Hall Close, Ropsley, Lincolnshire, in connection with proposed residential development by Allen Homes (East Midlands) Ltd. This specification sets out the method and timescale for undertaking the archaeological trial excavations.

This specification conforms to the guidelines produced by Central Government, English Heritage, the Institute of Field Archaeologists and the Association of County Archaeological Officers.

1.0 Introduction And Archaeological Background

1.1 Allen Homes (East Midlands) Ltd proposed to develop approximately 1 ha of land off Hall Close, Ropsley, Lincolnshire, centred on NGR SK 9915 3425.

1.2 Archaeological Project Background :

1.2.1 The development site lies in the heart of the village of Ropsley. The parish of Ropsley was the subject of a large scale archaeological and historic survey in the late 1970's. The survey which was published in 1995, *The Archaeology and Developing Landscape of Ropsley and Humby,* by T W Lane, showed that there had been settlement of some form in Ropsley since the Late Saxon period.

1.2.2 The proximity of the site to the Church of St Peter, elements of which are of *Anglo-Saxon* style indicating that the building was established prior to the compilation of the *Domesday Survey.* Evidence for occupation in the area around the church was found in 1967 by Grantham Archaeological Society. Generally the Church has provided a focus for village development.

1.2.3 The proposed development site has been used as public allotments for a number of years and it is expected that considerable ground disturbance will have taken place, however, given the close proximity of the site to the Church of St Peter, there is a possibility of the survival of evidence of earlier occupation.

1.3 In the light of the findings contained in the survey, *The Archaeology and Developing Landscape of Ropsley and Humby,* and the setting of the proposed site the District Archaeological Officer considered it necessary to undertake an archaeological evaluation of the site by trial trenching.

1.4 Allen Homes (East Midlands) Ltd has commissioned *John Samuels Archaeological Consultants* to undertake archaeological excavation of 64 square metres in the form of 4 trenches.

1.5 The objectives of the archaeological excavation will be to establish the nature, condition and extent of any archaeological remains and to provide sufficient information to enable the Local Planning Authority to decide on the most appropriate course of action.

1.6 This specification corresponds to the staged approach recommended in government guidance on '*Archaeology and Planning*' (PPG 16) (DoE 1990) and national standards and guidelines, including:

'Management of Archaeological Projects' (English Heritage, 1991);

'Code of Conduct' (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1994);

'*Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations'* (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1994)

2.0 Methodology

2.1 It is proposed that a total of 64 square metres be excavated in the form of four 1.6m wide trenches. The dimensions of the trenches will be as follows:

Trench 1	10m x 1.6m
Trench 2	10m x 1.6m
Trench 3	10m x 1.6m
Trench 4	10m x 1.6m

The locations of the above can be found on Figure 2.

2.2 Each trench will be located using a theodolite or similar. Topsoil and overburden will be removed by a JCB or similar machine under archaeological supervision. A toothless ditching bucket will be used and mechanical excavation will cease at either undisturbed natural deposits or when archaeological features are identified. The sides and bases of each trench will be cleaned, photographed (in black and white, colour print and colour slide) and recorded by measured drawing (normally at 1:20 scale) and written record.

2.3 Recording techniques will be by single context on standard forms and the system is based upon the Museum of London's '*Archaeological Site Manual*' (1994).

2.4 It is expected that any artefacts of antiquity shall, after analysis and recording, be transferred to an appropriate local museum. This excludes items of gold and silver which by law must be reported to Her Majesty's Coroner. All artefacts will be treated in accordance with UKIC guidelines, *'First Aid for Finds'* (1981).

2.5 Any material considered suitable for environmental analysis will be sampled in 30 litre quantities for examination by either Mr. James Rackham or Mr. Robert Alvey who will be available for advice on site.

2.6 Any human remains encountered will be left *in situ* and only removed if necessary. The contractor will comply with all statutory consents and licences under the Disused Burial grounds (Amendment) Act, 1981 or other Burial Acts regarding the exhumation and interment of human remains. The archaeological contractor will comply with all reasonable requests of interested parties as to the method of removal, reinterment or disposal of the remains or associated items. Every effort will be made, at all times, not to cause offence to any interested parties.

2.7 The District Archaeologist will be given notice of when work is due to commence and will be free to visit the site whenever she wishes. Should any significant remains be found it may be necessary, in liaison with the District Archaeologist, to formulate a strategy designed to fully establish their character, distribution, extent, condition, dating and further treatment.

2.8 Archaeological staff will respect Health and Safety provisions and site safety regulations.

2.9 On completion of the excavation all trenches will be backfilled.

2.10 The project archive will follow the guidelines contained in *"Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for long term storage"* (UKIC 1990) and *"Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections "* (Museums and Galleries Commission 1992).

2.11 A post-excavation report will be produced within 3 months of completion of fieldwork.

3.0 Timetable

3.1 The excavation is expected to take up to 6 working days with 4 staff. The anticipated timetable is as follows:

Day 1: Locating of trenches and setting up Temporary Bench Mark tied into Ordnance Datum. Machine cutting of trenches under archaeological supervision and initial cleaning of trenches.

Days 2 - 5: Hand cleaning, excavation, recording and sampling of features.

Day 6: Backfilling and re-instatement of ground.

3.2 Post-excavation analysis and report will be completed within 3 months of completion of fieldwork.

3.3 A copy of the report will be sent to Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record within 3 months of completion of fieldwork.

4.0 Personnel

4.1 The project is to be directed by Dr John Samuels BA, PhD, FSA, MIFA who will be assisted by Forbes Marsden BA Cert.Arch, Nansi Rosenberg BA, PIFA and Dan Slatcher BA. Additional staff may be brought in as required.

4.2 **John Richard Samuels BA, PhD, FSA, MIFA**

John Samuels has been an independent archaeological consultant since 1989. He has a BA (Hons) in history from University College, Cardiff (1974) and a PhD in archaeology from the University of Nottingham (1983). He has been a member of the only professional body for archaeologists, the Institute of Field Archaeologists, since its foundation in 1983 and is a member of the Prehistoric Society, The Society for Medieval Archaeology, The Vernacular Architecture Group and the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings. He has been an executive committee member of various archaeological specialist and advisory bodies and is currently an executive committee member of : the Trust for Nottinghamshire Historic Churches, Newark Castle Trust, Nottinghamshire Building Preservation Trust, Council for British Archaeology Regional Group 14 and editor of East Midlands Archaeology.

He has published over 40 academic articles in learned journals and publications and since 1962 has been involved in numerous archaeological excavations of all periods throughout Britain as well as site and historic building surveys. Appointed as the Archaeological Field Officer for the M180 Motorway in 1975, he has been successively Assistant Director of Liverpool University Rescue Archaeology Unit, lecturer in archaeology and local history for the WEA and University of Nottingham and Field Monuments Warden for English Heritage. He is an honorary Research Fellow in the Department of Archaeology at the University of Nottingham.

Since 1989 he has been an archaeological consultant for a wide range of projects from housing and office developments to golf courses and major trunk road schemes. In many cases archaeology has been a significant aspect of an Environmental Assessment and Dr. Samuels is also an advisor to the Department of Transport on the revised Manual of Environmental Assessment. Among the various road schemes in which he is involved is the upgrading of the A303 past Stonehenge, without doubt the most archaeologically sensitive area in Britain.

Dr. Samuels has also been appointed by the Redundant Churches Fund and English Heritage to advise upon the restoration of historic monuments. He is Chairman of Newark Castle Trust which is undertaking a long-term project to excavate and better display this important castle to the public. He has been involved in advising the National Rivers Authority on their approach to archaeology and has undertaken a number of surveys and assessments on their behalf. These include the Humber Tidal Defence Strategy and various flood alleviation works in Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire. In November 1996, Sweet and Maxwell published

Archaeology in Law, a text book on the archaeological implications of planning and development, of which Dr. Samuels is the co-author.

4.3 **John Forbes Marsden BA. Cert. Arch.**

Forbes Marsden has worked with John Samuels Archaeological Consultants since 1989, firstly on a part-time basis and from 1993 as a full-time employee.

He has BA in Geology and having completed his studies for the Certificate in Archaeology at the University of Nottingham, has now registered with The University Sheffield for their MA course in Historical Archaeology.

For 23 years Forbes worked for a regional brewing company as head of their Hotel and Catering Division. In this position he was responsible for the management of profitability of 36 hotels and catering establishments, with an annual budget of £3 million, reporting directly to the main board of the company. Following redundancy, Forbes decided to change direction and develop his long standing interest in archaeology and local history.

Since joining John Samuels Archaeological Consultants he has been involved in all aspects of archaeological work for example; assessments, evaluations and excavations for a variety of projects (in excess of 60) from road schemes and major building developments to quarries and landfill sites.

He has a particular interest in documentary and cartographic research and has undertaken several extensive surveys and reports in connection with schemes for the National Rivers Authority. He writes desk-top assessments, specifications and excavation reports for development sites throughout England, and has been involved in post-excavation analysis and reporting. Within the office he is responsible for in both pre-excavation project management and co-ordination of surveys and excavations, also dealing with financial aspects of projects

4.4 **Nansi Rosenberg BA, PIFA**

Nansi Rosenberg gained a BA(Hons) degree in Archaeology from the University of Durham in 1991. She has been involved in archaeology since she was sixteen and has worked on field and desk-based projects, both paid and voluntary on various sites in North Wales and Chester, Orkney and NorthYorkshire. She has a particular interest in the British Iron Age and is using her research for a post-graduate degree.

Nansi joined John Samuels Archaeological Consultants in November 1995 and undertakes desk-top assessments, specifications and impact assessment reports for development sites throughout England. She is still an active member of the field team and has been involved in both fieldwork project management and post-excavation analysis and reporting.

4.5 **Daniel Slatcher BA**

Dan graduated from the University of York in 1992 having been award a BA (Hons) in archaeology and history and has now registered with The University Sheffield for their MA course in Historical Archaeology. In following his long held interest in archaeology he has been involved in excavations in Britain and North Africa.

Following graduation he joined Staffordshire County Council as an Archaeological Assistant. His work involved him in fields surveys, field walking, desk top assessments, excavations and report writing. He was responsible for a county wide aerial photographic survey and has assisted in the production of strategic plans.

In 1995 Dan joined Stoke on Trent City Museum and Art Gallery as an Archaeological Assistant. In this capacity he was responsible for the a long term watching brief for a major road scheme. During his time at Stoke on Trent he was responsible for the reorganisation of the Sites and Monuments Record.

4.6 Specialist assistance where required will be provided by the following persons :
Jane Cowgill - Slags
Robert White - Conservation
Robert Alvey - Small finds/environmental sampling
John Samuels - Roman pottery
James Rackham - Environmental sampling
John Carney - Geological and soil analysis

5.0 Health and Safety

5.1 It is the policy of John Samuels Archaeological Consultants ('the Employer') to conform fully with the requirements of the Health & Safety at Work Etc.Act (1974).

5.2 It is accepted that it is the duty of the Employer to ensure, so far as is reasonably practical, the health and safety of all his employees at work.

5.3 The employer also has a duty to ensure that his employees are aware of their responsibility for their own health and safety, and for the health and safety of others, including the general public, who might be affected by their work.

5.4 Where employees are temporarily engaged at other workplaces, they are to respect relevant local regulations, both statutory and as imposed by other employers within the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act (1974).

5.5 In furtherance of the duty of care imposed by the Health & Safety at Work etc. Act (1974), the Employer shall make available to his employees whatever reasonable facilities are required by particular circumstances, e.g appropriate protective clothing, safety equipment, rest breaks for specialised tasks, etc.

5.6 Attention is paid to the requirements of more recent legislation including the provision and use of *Work Equipment Regulations* 1992, the *Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations* 1992 and the *Construction (Design and Management) Regulations* 1994. A risk assessment is undertaken, a safety officer appointed and all aspects of health and safety nominated during work.

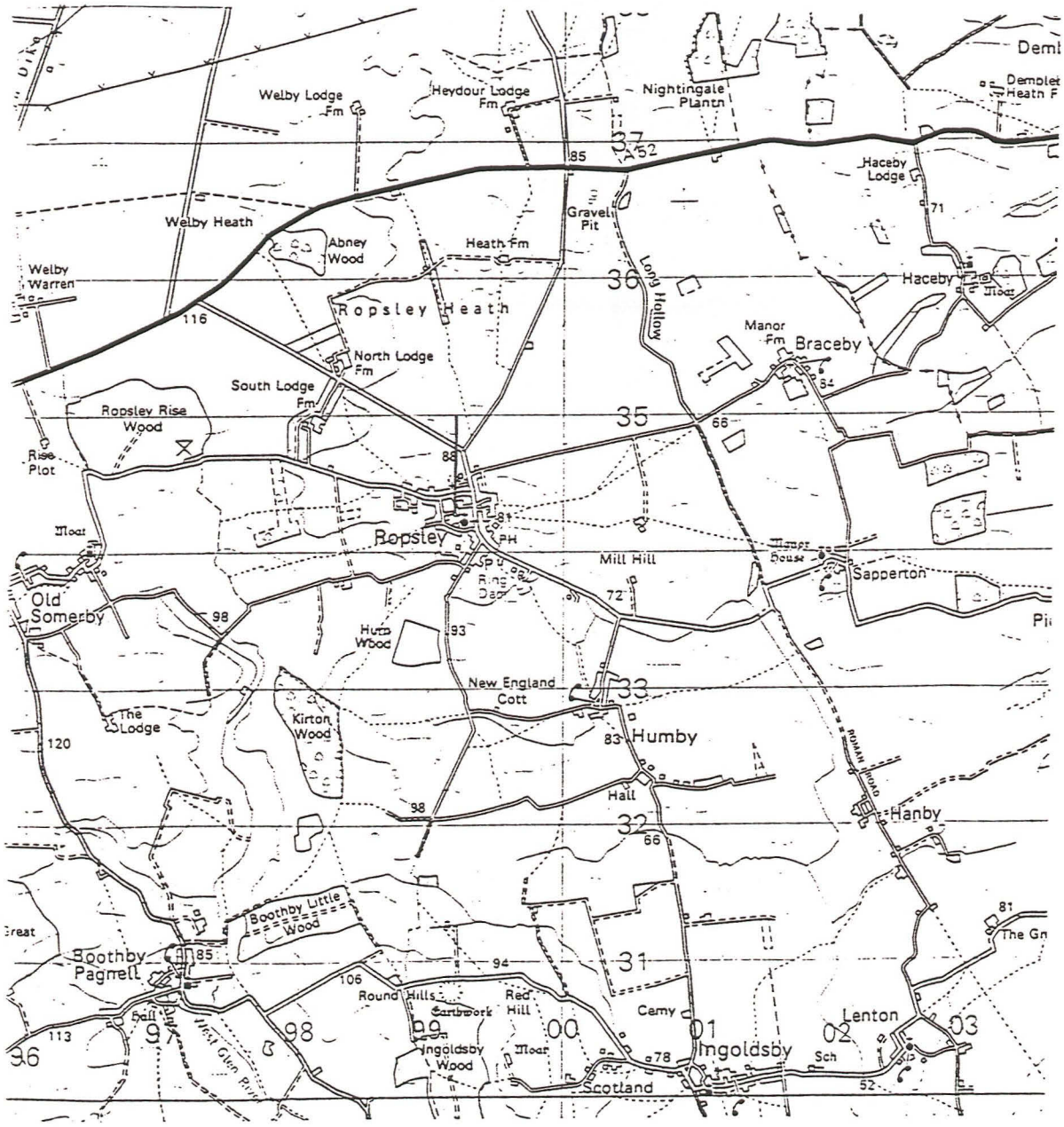
6.0 Insurance

6.1 The archaeological contractor will produce evidence of Public Liability Insurance to the minimum value of £10m and Personal Indemnity Insurance to the minimum of £5m.

7.0 Figures

Figure 1 : Location of Proposed Development Site.

Figure 2 : Trench Location Plan



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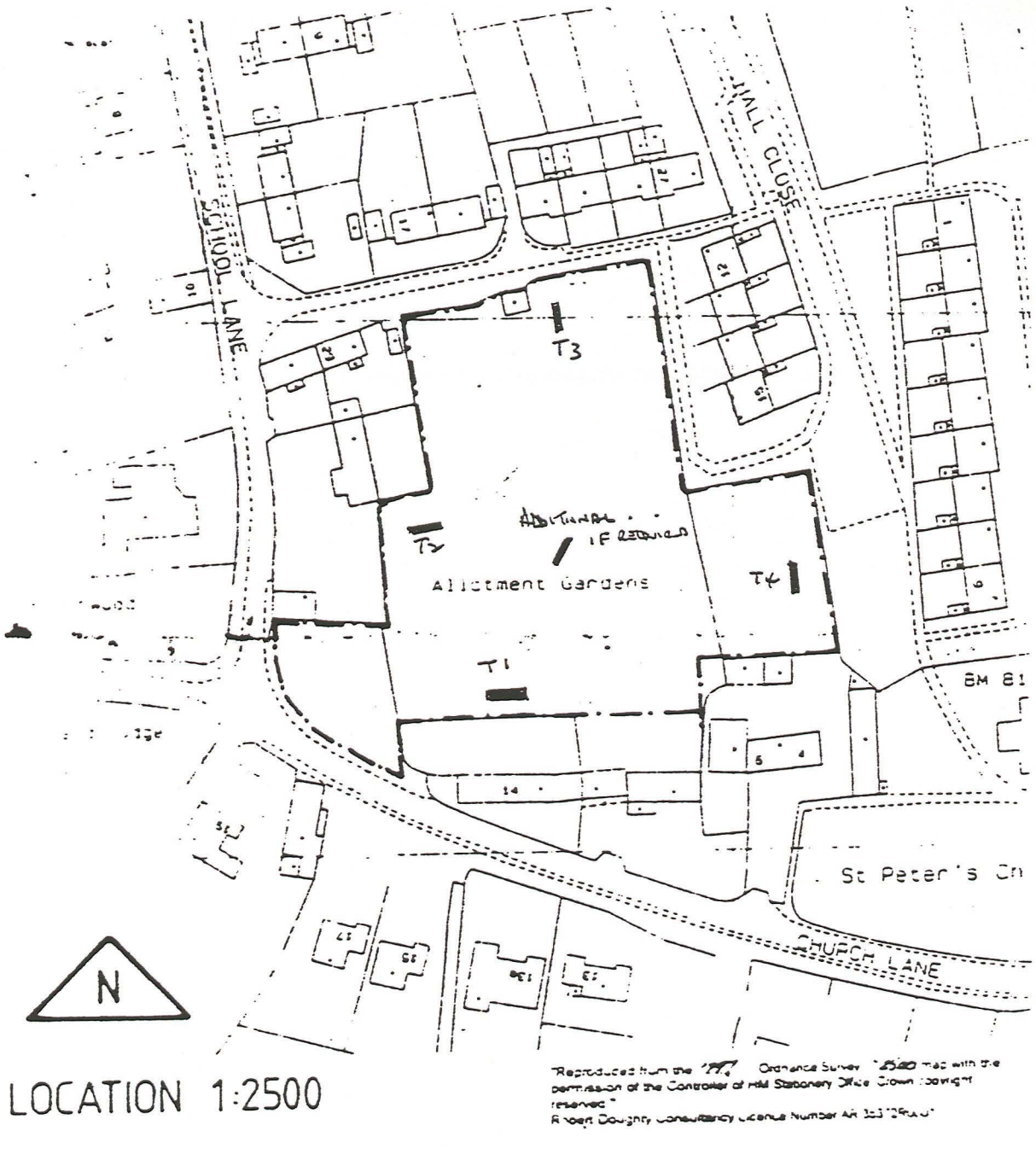

Figure 2 : Trench Location Plan