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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ALONG THE GREATFORD CUT,
GREATFORD TO MARKET DEEPING,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(NGC 95)**



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ALONG THE GREATFORD CUT,
GREATFORD TO MARKET DEEPING,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(NGC 95)**

Work Undertaken For
the
National Rivers Authority

Report Compiled by
Gary Taylor and Fiona Walker

May 1996

A.P.S Report Number 19/96

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during repair work to relief channels alongside the Greatford Cut. This watercourse runs between Greatford and Market Deeping, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the repair of two sections towards each end of the Cut.

The Greatford Cut is located in the Welland Valley, one of the most important archaeological landscapes in the British Isles. Prehistoric settlements of Neolithic date (4000-2000 B.C.) and later are crossed by the Cut. Several farms and field systems dated to the Romano-British period (c. A.D. 50-400) are located near to the Greatford Cut, which also crosses the important Roman road, King Street. Additionally, the Cut passes close by the deserted medieval village of Stowe.

Cutting of the channels revealed natural alluvial spreads of sand and gravel. Archaeological remains were only identified at the Greatford end of the channel repairs and comprised two probable ditches cut into the natural gravels. Probably indicating attempts at land demarcation and drainage, these features had been sealed by flood silts of probable late Roman - post-Roman date (c. A.D. 350-600). Another probable ditch was cut into these silts. Finds were only retrieved from modern deposits and included unidentifiable metal objects and a single fragment of glass.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Background

On the 7th December 1995 and the 3rd and 4th April 1996, an archaeological watching brief was undertaken during repair and recutting of relief channels alongside the

Greatford Cut, Market Deeping. This archaeological work was commissioned by the National Rivers Authority and carried out by Archaeological Project Services in accordance with a brief set by the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council (Appendix 1).

2.2 Topography and Geology

Located in the lower Welland Valley, the Greatford Cut runs between the River Glen at Greatford (National Grid Reference TF08371162) and the River Welland at Market Deeping (TF12560992), in South Kesteven District, Lincolnshire. Greatford is located 7km northeast of Stamford and 8km south of Bourne. Market Deeping is situated 11km southeast of Bourne and 17km southwest of Spalding (Fig. 1).

The topography along the route of the Greatford Cut is relatively level and consists of arable land throughout. At Greatford the ground surface is at c. 13m above sea level, and 9m O.D. at Market Deeping, 2km to the southeast. Local soils are the Badsey 2 Association typical brown calcareous earths developed on river terrace gravels (Hodge *et al.*, 1984, 101). Beneath these gravels is a solid geology of Kellaways Sand of Upper Jurassic age (Ordnance Survey 1957).

Repairs to two sections of the relief channels alongside the Greatford Cut involved recutting that would affect previously undisturbed ground. These two sections are located c. 1km west of Market Deeping at National Grid Reference TF12351043 and approximately 2km southeast of Greatford in the parish of Barholm and Stowe at TF09961073 (Fig. 2).

2.3 Archaeological Setting

The Greatford Cut is located in the lower Welland Valley and passes through one of the most important archaeological landscapes

in the British Isles. The Cut traverses an area with remains dating from the prehistoric to medieval periods (Fig. 2).

South and east of Greatford are extensive areas of archaeological remains evident as cropmarks visible from the air. Immediately south of Greatford village, and crossed by the Cut, is a large cropmark complex. This comprises a ladder pattern of rectangular enclosures, possibly a field system, and a series of small, square compounds. These rectilinear features are possibly of late Iron Age or Romano-British date. In the same area is a large, circular cropmark that probably represents a ditch around a prehistoric burial mound (Plate 3).

Just to the south, in Barholm and Stowe parish and again crossed by the Greatford Cut, is another band of cropmarks, consisting of linear ditches, a polygonal enclosure and a series of rectangular compounds (Plate 4). Within the enclosure was a timber building associated with Romano-British pottery of mainly 4th century date (May 1963, 6). Both of these cropmark complexes are Scheduled Ancient Monuments, County Monument Numbers 294 and 160 respectively (English Heritage 1992, 15; 14). These two scheduled complexes are located between 0.5 - 1km northeast of the Barholm section of repair to the Greatford Cut, though further cropmarks have been recorded close to the area of recutting.

Just south of the Barholm repair, close to where the Greatford Cut turns eastwards, is the site of a Neolithic settlement (SMR33566). Iron Age pits were also found at the site, indicating that a contemporary occupation area was located in the proximity. In addition, Roman ditches and medieval agricultural remains were identified in the area (May 1965, 8).

Approximately two-thirds of the way between Greatford and Market Deeping, the Greatford Cut crosses the north-south Roman road, King Street. At this point the cut is just 0.5km south of Stowe Farm, the site of the deserted medieval village of Estou (SK04.1). This settlement was mentioned in the Domesday survey of 1086, at which time it had a church (SK04.2), though this was removed in the late 18th century.

East of King Street, cropmarks reveal an extensive, buried, multi-period archaeological landscape. Circular and rectangular enclosures, characteristic of Bronze and Iron Age settlement, are located in the area (Saracino and Symonds 1991, 3-4). A concentration of prehistoric flints is broadly coincident with one of the circular cropmarks and other flint scatters occur close to the Greatford Cut (Mayer nd, 8; Ills 2, 6).

An extensive, rectangular pattern of cropmarks occurs in this same area bounded by King Street on the west, the Greatford Cut to north and east and the River Welland to the south. A series of droveways or roads, aligned northeast-southwest or square to this, crosses the area. Within this network are rectangular enclosures that are considered to represent remnants of prehistoric and Romano-British fields and recent excavations have revealed the site of a villa or Romano-British farmstead (Hunn and Guttmann nd, 67). Concentrations of pottery of Roman date occurs in proximity to these enclosures and very close to the Greatford Cut (Mayer nd, 8-9; Ills. 3, 6).

The present land parcelling pattern, based on north-south and east-west divisions, was probably instituted in the medieval period. Cropmarks reveal removed elements of this network (Saracino and Symonds 1991, Ill 3). Saxon and medieval artefacts are mostly concentrated alongside the Greatford Cut, close to the Market Deeping section of repair (Mayer nd, 9; Ill 4).

3. AIMS

The aims of the watching brief, as outlined in the brief set by the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council, were to locate and record the archaeological resource, if present, and to determine its date and interpret the function and origin of the deposits encountered.

4. METHODS

A mechanical excavator was used to cut back the sides of the channels from the present ground level down to the surface of the water, a depth of *c.* 1.5m (Plate 2). The sides of the cutting were cleaned and examined to identify any archaeological features. Each archaeological deposit or feature revealed in the cutting was allocated a unique reference (context) number with an individual written description. A summary of all contexts appears as Appendix 2. Natural geological deposits were also recorded. A photographic record was compiled, and sections were drawn at 1:10 and 1:20 whilst plans were drawn at a scale of 1:2500 and 1:250.

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 Archaeological deposits
Phase 3	Modern deposits

Archaeological contexts are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are

the context numbers assigned in the field.

Phase 1 Natural deposits

Exposed at the Market Deeping repair (Fig. 3) was a sequence of sand and sandy gravel layers (006, 007, 008 and 009) that exceeded 0.5m in depth (Fig. 5). These were mostly grey in colour, but brown at the top of the sequence. Together, these are interpreted as natural alluvial deposits.

To the northwest, at the Barholm length of the repairs (Fig. 4), the lowest deposit was a yellowish-red gravel layer (014). In excess of 0.6m thick, this deposit was interpreted as natural. Above gravel (014) was a deposit of mid brown sandy silt that contained small angular and subangular stones (013). This deposit was *c.* 0.3m thick and was identified as the natural alluvium.

Phase 2 Undated Archaeological deposits

Located midway along the Barholm stretch of repair (Fig. 6), and observed cutting natural (014), was a feature recorded in section only (019). This was 0.6m wide by 0.2m deep and contained a single fill (021) of dark greyish brown sandy silt (Fig. 7, Section 4). This feature has been interpreted as either a pit or a ditch.

Sealing (021) was a light-mid greyish brown clayey sandy silt deposit (020). This was 0.14m thick and has been interpreted as alluvium.

Located *c.* 35m north of cut (019) was a further possible linear feature (015). This was exposed for a width of 2.2m and a depth of 0.5m (Fig. 7, Section 3). It contained a single fill of a light-mid greyish brown clayey sandy silt (018) and has been interpreted as a probable ditch (Plate 1).

Visible in all recorded sections along the Barholm stretch of repair (Figure 6), and

observed sealing the above layers and features, was a layer of a mid brown sandy silt (017). This deposit was 0.48m thick and was interpreted as alluvium (Figure 7).

Sealing the natural sandy gravel layers at the Market Deeping section of repairs were deposits of brown sandy clay (003 and 004) that were also interpreted as natural alluvium (Figure 5).

Cutting the alluvium (017) at Barholm was a possible linear feature (022), aligned roughly southwest-northeast. This was at least 3m wide and was observed to a depth of 1.06m (Figure 8). It contained two deposits, the upper (023) of mid-dark brown clayey sandy silt and the lower (024) of mid grey clay that was 0.36m thick. The feature was interpreted as a ditch.

Phase 3 Modern deposits

Sealing the natural and archaeological deposits and features was a variable layer of dark brown silty clay (002) and dark brownish grey sandy silt (016), interpreted as topsoil. Towards the southern end of the Market Deeping section of repairs the topsoil was covered by a brown silty clay (001), explained as a dumped deposit, which formed the surface of the area (Figure 5). Cutting through this was a 2m wide, flat-based feature (011). Interpreted as a ditch, this was in line with an east-west aligned hedge located on the east side of the Greatford Cut. The ditch was filled with a mixed, dark brown sandy silt (010). Containing frequent charcoal, burnt soil, limestone, metal objects and glass, this is explained as a backfill deposit.

At the Barholm stretch of repair, and cutting through the topsoil (016), was a linear feature (026) which was 2.4m wide and at least 1.1m deep (Figure 8). This was filled by a light yellowish brown sandy

gravel (025) and has been identified as a 1950s drainage ditch.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural alluvial sands and gravels (Phase 1) were exposed across the whole of the investigation area. These constitute part of a river terrace. This terrace itself was formed as a fan of bedded gravels, deposited by rivers which issued from the higher limestone and clay country to the west. The brown colouration of the uppermost gravel deposit was caused by oxidation, probably as a result of exposure to the atmosphere. This may, therefore, suggest that this deposit formed a ground surface at one period.

In the Barholm stretch of repairs the natural gravels were cut by two features (Phase 2). Only observed in section, these features were identified as pits or, more probably, ditches. They were sealed by an alluvial deposit which, in turn, was cut by another probable ditch. These features probably all functioned as boundaries or for drainage. No dating evidence was recovered from these features. However, elsewhere in this area the alluvium has been seen to overlie late Roman remains (Lane 1992, 43). This would indicate, therefore, that the ditches sealed by the alluvium are no later than the late Roman to early post-Roman period (*c.* 350-600 A.D.).

Modern deposits (Phase 3) consisted of a topsoil that sealed the earlier layers and remains. Near Market Deeping this topsoil was in turn capped by dumped soil, probably derived from cleaning out the Greatford Cut. Cutting through this dump was a recent field boundary ditch. Although a modern feature, the form of this boundary has been changed through backfilling of the ditch and the laying of a hedge which constitutes the present field division. Also cutting the topsoil near Barholm were drainage works, carried out in the 1950s, which involved changing the course of the pre-existing drain

and building culverts over the satellite drains of the Greatford Cut.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were carried out during repairs to the Greatford Cut, between Greatford and Market Deeping. This was because numerous archaeological remains of prehistoric and later date were located in the area traversed by the Cut and there was a consequent likelihood of certain of these remains being disturbed by the repairs.

The investigations revealed a sequence of natural to modern deposits. No ancient archaeological remains were identified on the Market Deeping length of repair to the Greatford Cut. However, along the observed stretch near Barholm three ancient features, probably ditches, were identified. These ditches possibly functioned for both boundary and drainage purposes. Although the features produced no dateable material, two were sealed by alluvium that has been identified elsewhere as of probable late Roman to early post-Roman date. A further two ditches, one each located at the Barholm and Market Deeping sections of repair, were identified as being of relatively recent origin.

The significance of the earlier archaeological features is that, where they have survived below alluvial deposits, no previous indication of them would have been attained through aerial photography. Any further, comparable remains in the vicinity are likely to survive in a similar condition. However, due largely to the drainage of the area, environmental material is unlikely to survive in all but the deepest ditches, other than through charring.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to thank Nigel Pask and Alastair Woodley of the National Rivers Authority who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. Steve Haynes and Gary Taylor coordinated the work and Tom Lane edited this report. Examination of the relevant parish files was kindly permitted by Jenny Stevens, the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinators: Steve Haynes, Gary Taylor
Site Supervisors: Chris Moulis, Rene Mouraille
Illustration: Denise Buckley
Post-excavation Analysts: Gary Taylor, Fiona Walker

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

- DoE, 1990 *Archaeology and Planning*, Planning Policy Guidance note 16
- Hodge, C.A.H., Burton, R.G.O., Corbett, W.M., Evans, R. and Seal, R.S., 1984 *Soils and their Use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales Bulletin No. 13 (Harpenden)
- Hunn, J.R. and Guttman, E.B., nd *Interim Report on the Archaeology of Rectory Farm, West Deeping*, Unpublished TEMPVS REPERATVM report
- Lane, T., 1992 Excavation and evaluation of an Iron Age and Romano-British waterlogged site at Market Deeping, Lincolnshire, *Fenland Research* 7
- May, J. (ed), 1963 *East Midlands*

Archaeological Bulletin 6

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Archaeological Bulletin 8*

Mayer, A., nd *Cropmark and Fieldwalking
Programme at Rectory Farm, West
Deeping, Lincolnshire, TR31021a*
LIWDRF 90, TEMPVS REPARATVM

Ordnance Survey, 1957 *Stamford,*
Geological Survey of Great Britain

Saracino, E. P., and Symonds, J., 1991
*Report on the Cropmark Evidence of:
Rectory Farm, West Deeping Lincolnshire*
(**TR310210.N**), TEMPVS REPARATVM

11. ABBREVIATIONS

Numbers prefixed by 'SMR' are the primary reference codes used by the County Sites and Monuments Record maintained by the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council.

Numbers prefixed 'SK' are the reference codes used by the North Kesteven Community Archaeologist for identifying archaeological sites and finds.

'DoE' refers to publications by the Department of the Environment.

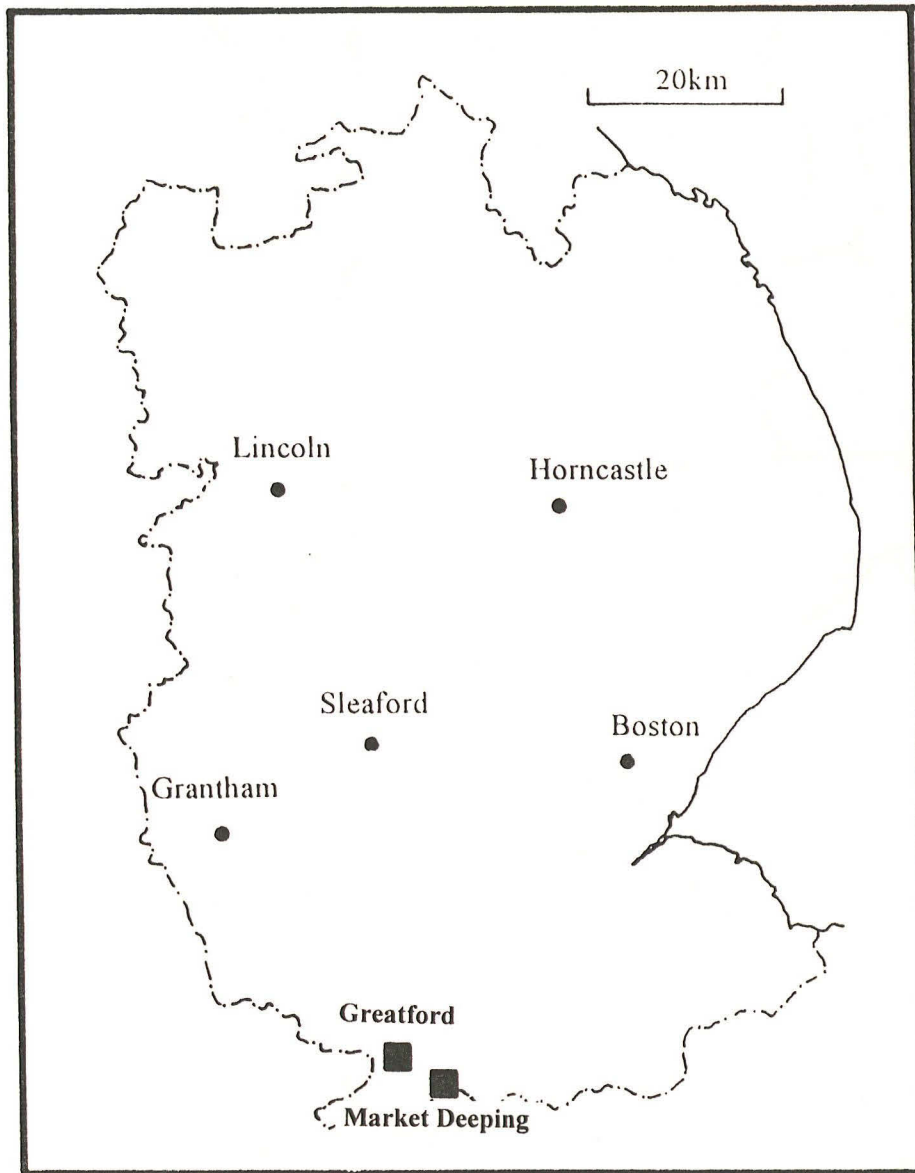
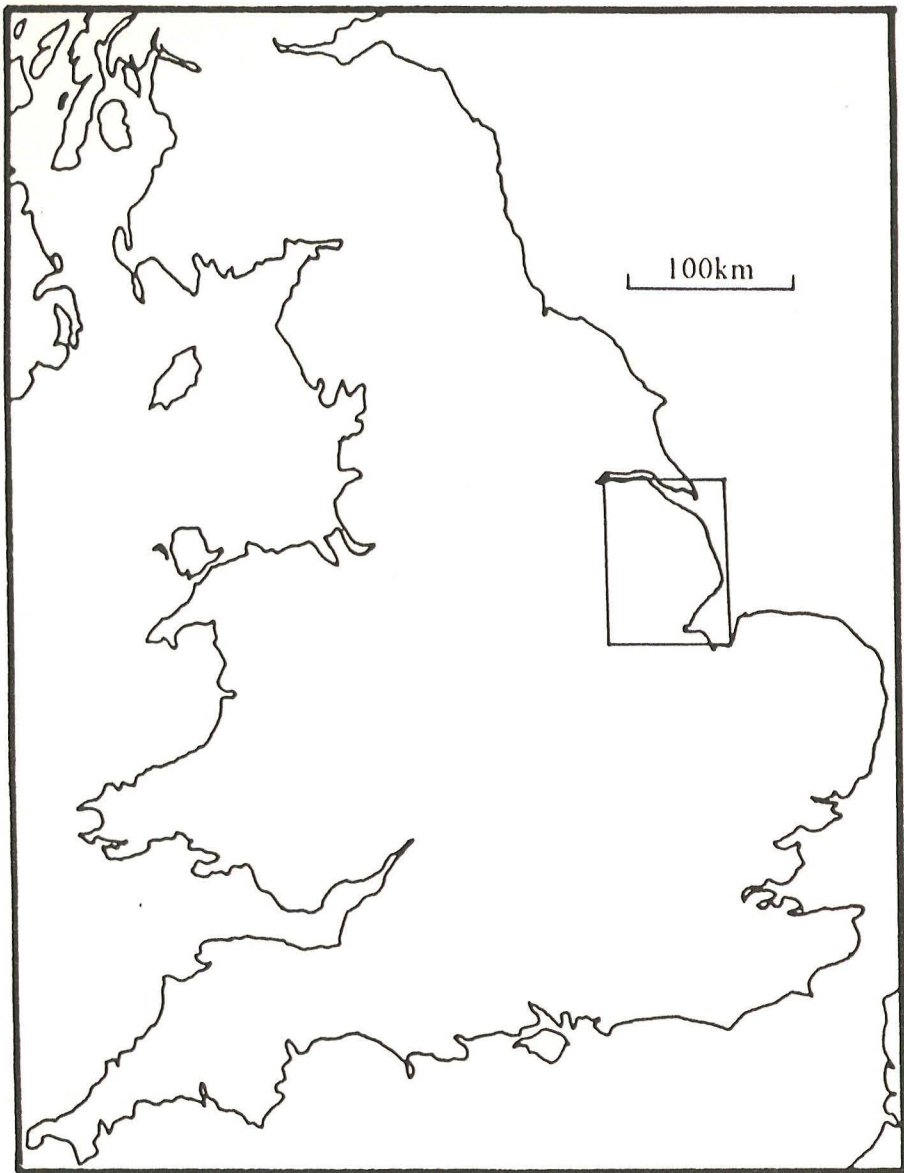


Fig. 1 General Location Plan

Fig. 2 Site Location Plan

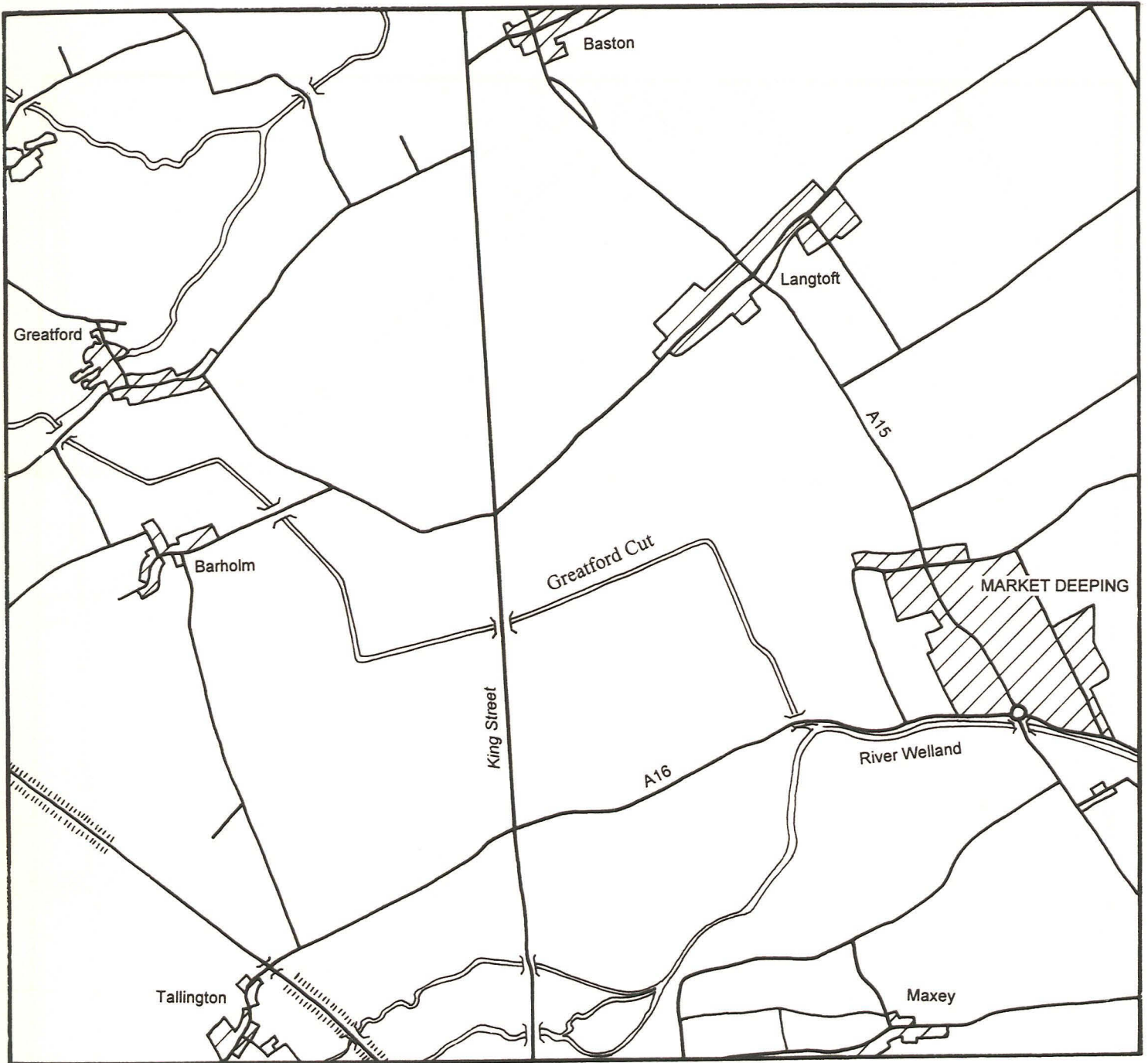
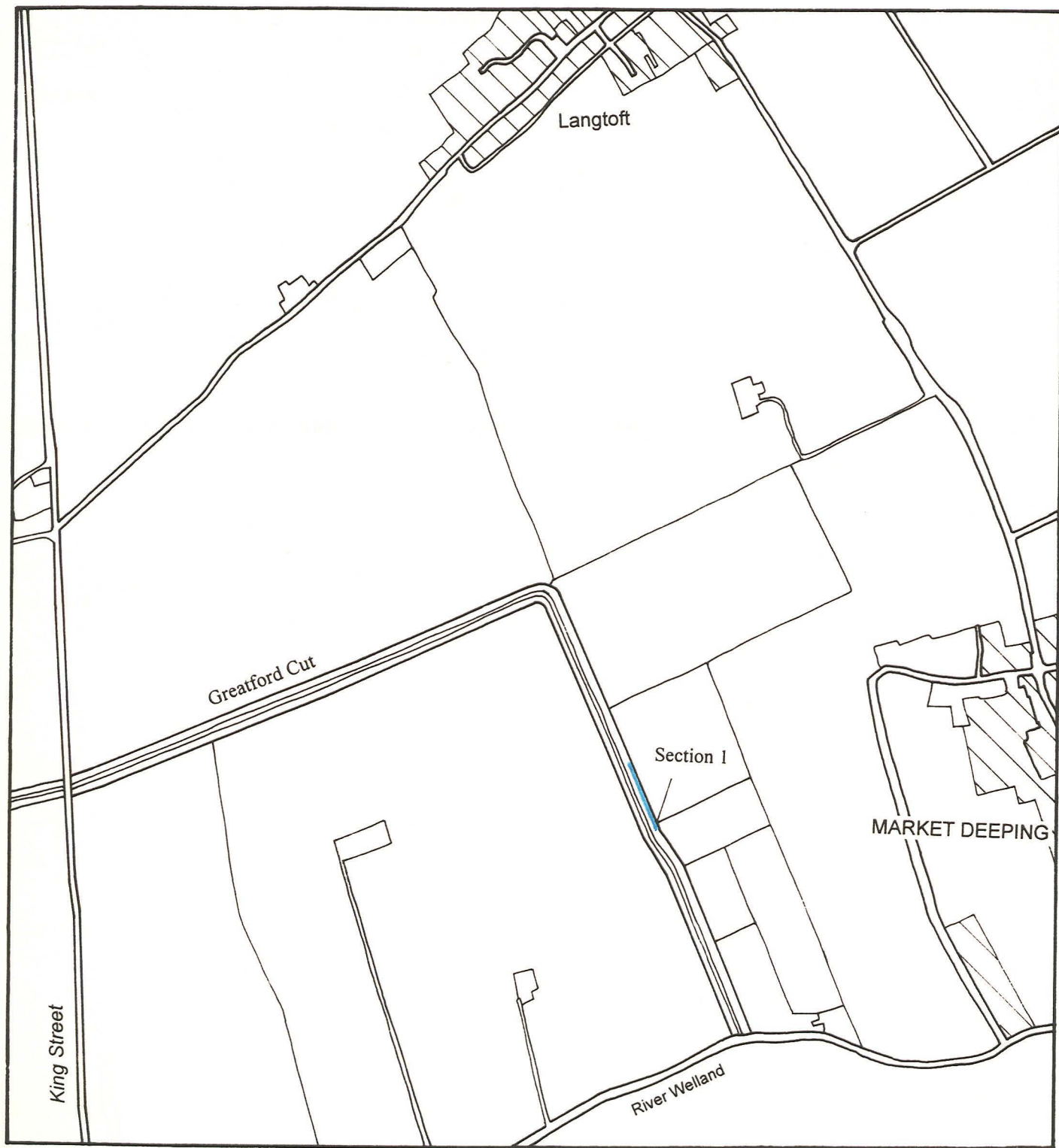


Fig. 3 Greatford Cut, near Market Deeping



— Investigated area

Fig. 4 Greatford Cut, near Barholm

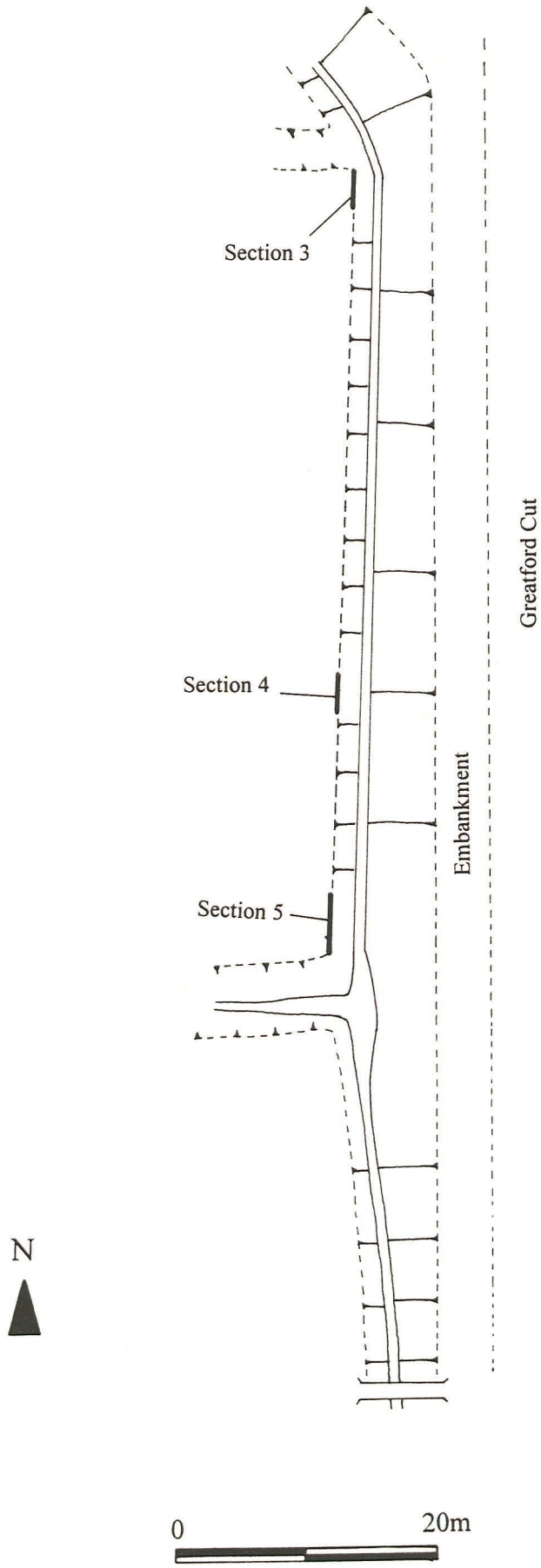


— Investigated area

Fig. 5 Section 1



Fig. 6 Plan showing location of Sections 3, 4 and 5



For location, refer to Fig. 4

Fig. 7 Sections 3 and 4

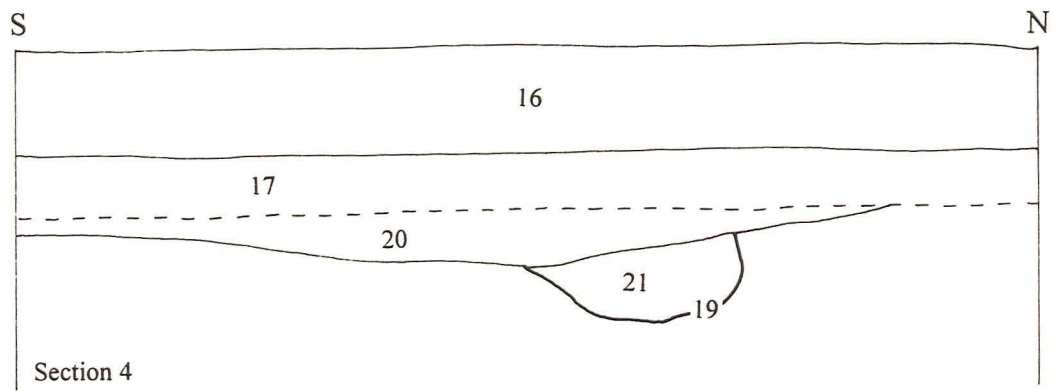
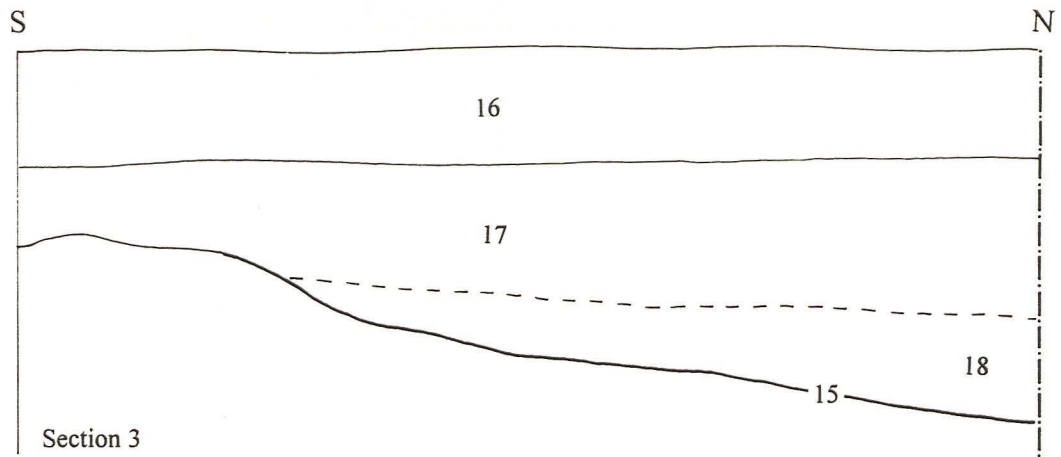


Fig. 8 Section 5

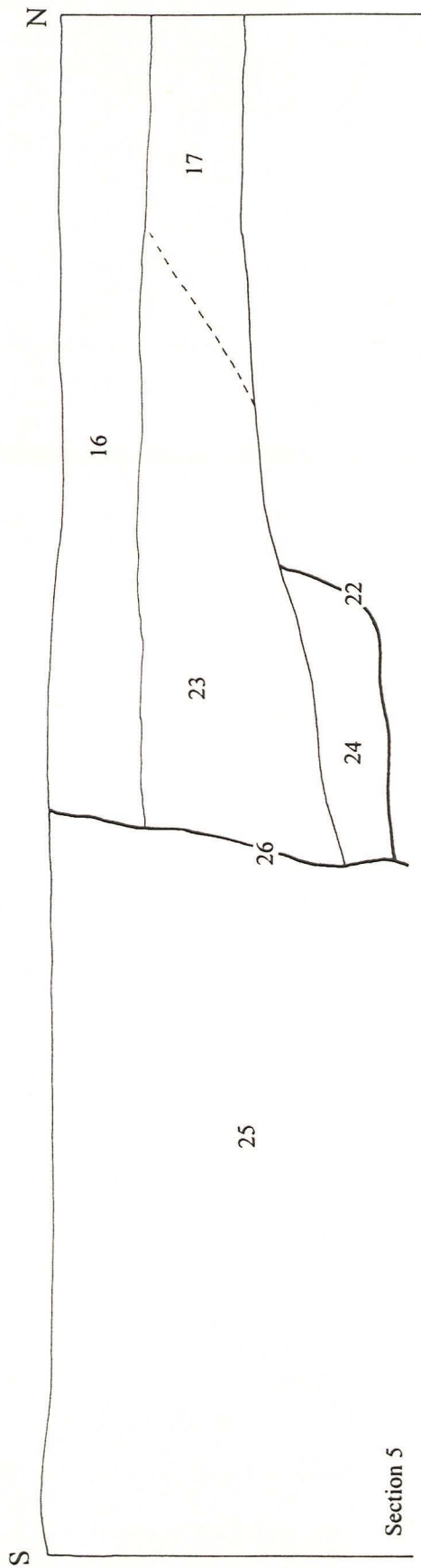




Plate 1. Section 15, looking West (profile highlighted by dotted line).



Plate 2. General view after the site operations had ceased.

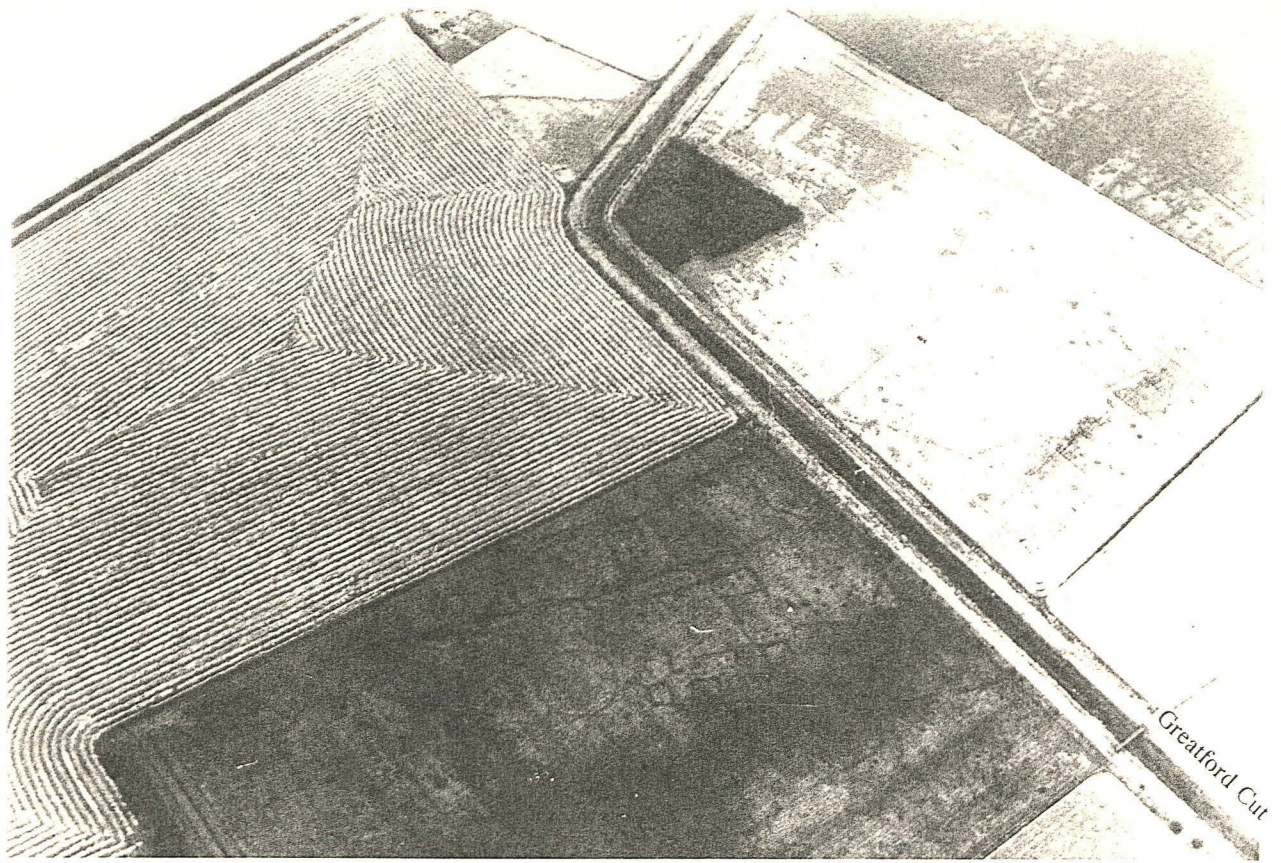


Plate 3. Cropmarks to the east of Greatford



Plate 4. Cropmarks in Barholm and Stowe

APPENDIX 1

BRIEF FOR AN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCHEME OF WORKS,
produced by
THE ARCHAEOLOGY SECTION,
LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

SITE: Greatford Cut
COMPANY: National Rivers Authority
DATE: April 1995
LOCATION: Greatford Cut, Market Deeping, LINCS

PLANNING APP. NO.: N/A

1. Summary

- 1.1 This document is the brief for archaeological work to be undertaken on a scheme of water course repairs in the parishes of Market Deeping, West Deeping and Barholm and Stowe by the National Rivers Authority. It sets out the requirements for a watching brief to be carried out on all groundworks. Such a scheme should facilitate the preservation by record of any archaeological deposits.
- 1.2 This brief should be used by archaeological contractors as the basis for the preparation of a detailed archaeological project design. In response to this brief contractors will be expected to provide details of the proposed scheme of work, to include the anticipated working methods, timescales and staffing levels.
- 1.3 The detailed specification will be submitted to the company above subject to approval of the Archaeological Officer of Lincolnshire County Council. If more than one, the client will be free to choose between those specifications which adequately satisfy this brief.

2. Site location and description

- 2.1 The Greatford Cut runs between the river Glen at Greatford (national grid reference TF 0837 1162) and the river Welland west of Market Deeping (TF 1256 0992). It acts as a flood relief channel and the flow is controlled by the Greatford Cut Sluice. In Appendix 1 there is a location plan showing the channel.
- 2.2 The landscape is one of flat and low-lying arable land. The underlying geology consists of a fan of alluvial gravels with the settlement concentrated on the floor of the floodplain of the river Welland. The altitude is approximately 12m above sea level with arable vegetation throughout.

3. Planning background

- 3.1 The National Rivers Authority intend to repair and improve the banks which retain the Greatford Cut. Work will also be undertaken to repair the relief channels which run parallel with and along both sides of the Greatford Cut. Archaeological work is required along the two sections of relief channel which will necessitate recutting affecting previously undisturbed ground. The importance of the archaeological remains in the vicinity is reflected in the fact that a number of them are scheduled ancient monuments.

4. Archaeological background

4.1 The Welland valley and its floodplain have long been regarded as one of the country's richest zones of archaeological remains. The river forms the county boundary between Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire and on both sides recent research has revealed remains of international importance. Along with excavation, much has been discovered as a result of aerial surveys and the English Heritage Fenland Survey project.

4.2 The results of previous surveys have confirmed that this area contains remains of superimposed buried landscapes reflecting human occupation and arable use of the fertile fenland soils. Evidence forthcoming from projects being undertaken in advance of gravel extraction at both Rectory Farm and Stowe Farm have revealed rich prehistoric remains of both domestic and ritual origin. It appears the organisation of the landscape changed in the Roman period and the fields were on a slightly different orientation. At the heart of this system at Rectory Farm was a substantial high status villa. Settlement and land use changed again during the medieval period as villages developed and remains of the open field system are visible on air photos.

5. Objectives of an archaeological watching brief

5.1 According to the definition by the Institute of Field Archaeologists "an archaeological watching brief will record the archaeological resource during development within a specified area". To be carried out during groundworks, the objective of the watching brief should be to ensure that any archaeological features exposed by the groundworks are recorded and interpreted. This should be a comprehensive watching brief with staff on site throughout the period of working on the two stretches identified in Appendix I.

5.2 The requirements of this scheme will be such that a contingency must be allowed for partial rescue excavation of features revealed by the watching brief.

6. Requirements for work

6.1 On the development outlined in 3.1 it is required that a watching brief be undertaken, to include:

- 6.1.1 archaeological supervision of topsoil stripping;
- 6.1.2 inspection of subsoil for archaeological features;
- 6.1.3 recording of archaeological features in plan;
- 6.1.4 limited excavation of features where appropriate;
- 6.1.5 archaeological supervision of subsoil stripping;

6.1.6 inspection of natural deposits for archaeological features and their recording if extant.

6.2 As mentioned in 5.2 a contingency must provide for partial rescue excavation of features identified during the watching brief phase.

6.3 Allowance must be made for the potential of deposits to yield data of a palaeo-environmental significance.

7. Post-fieldwork programme

7.1 After completion of the fieldwork the following procedures should be undertaken:

7.1.1 that, after agreement with the landowner, arrangements are made for long term storage of all artefacts in City and County Museum, Lincoln;

7.1.2 that a site archive is produced and should be deposited with the artefacts as detailed in 7.1.1;

7.1.3 a full report is produced and deposited with the appropriate bodies within two months of the completion of fieldwork.

8. Reporting requirements

8.1 A report of the fieldwork should be produced and supplied to the client and the planning authority. A further copy must be deposited with the county Sites and Monuments Record within two months of completion of fieldwork. The report should contain:

1. a location plan of trenches;
2. section and plan drawings, with ground level, Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scales as appropriate;
3. specialist descriptions of artefacts and/or ecofacts;
4. any indication of potential archaeological deposits not disturbed by the present development;
5. any indication of potential archaeological deposits not disturbed by the present development;
6. a summary of the archaeology discovered and a consideration of its local, regional and national significance.

8.2 A short note in the appropriate format must be presented to the editor of Lincolnshire History and Archaeology for publication in the Archaeological Notes.

9. **Monitoring arrangements**

- 9.1 Curatorial responsibility for this project lies with the Archaeological Officer of Lincolnshire County Council. He should be given at least seven days notice, in writing, of the proposed date of commencement of site work and may exercise his prerogative of monitoring of fieldwork.

10. **Additional information**

- 10.1 This document attempts to define the best practice expected of an archaeological watching brief but cannot fully anticipate the conditions that will be encountered as work progresses. If requirements of the brief cannot be met they should only be excluded after attainment of the written approval of the Archaeological Officer of Lincolnshire County Council.

10.2 Contact addresses:

Mr M Howell
National Rivers Authority
Kingfisher House
Goldhay Way
Orton Goldhay
PETERBOROUGH
PE2 5ZR Tel: 01733 464119 or Fax: 01733 231840

Mr S Catney
Archaeological Officer
Lincolnshire County Council
12 Friars Lane
LINCOLN
LN2 5AL Tel: 01522 575292 or Fax: 01522 530724

Mr T Page
City and County Museum
12 Friars Lane
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LN2 5AL Tel: 01522 530401 or Fax: 01522 530724

Brief set by Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council.

References

East Anglian Archaeology **Various volumes**

Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record

APPENDIX 2

Context Summary

Context	Area	Description	Interpretation
001	Market Deeping	Brown silty clay	Dumped deposit
002	Market Deeping	Dark brown silty clay with moderate gravel and occasional roots	Topsoil
003	Market Deeping	Whitish-brown sandy clay with angular gravel and occasional roots	Natural
004	Market Deeping	Reddish-brown sandy clay with frequent roots and angular gravel	Natural
005	Market Deeping	Greyish-brown sandy clay with fine gravel	Natural
006	Market Deeping	Angular gravel with light brown silty sand	Natural
007	Market Deeping	Light grey sand with very frequent gravel	Natural
008	Market Deeping	Yellowish-grey sand	Natural
009	Market Deeping	Grey sand	Natural
010	Market Deeping	Dark brown sandy silt with frequent charcoal, burnt soil, limestone fragments	Fill of 11
011	Market Deeping	Cut, 2.3m wide, 0.4m deep, only seen in section	?Ditch
012	Barholm	Mid-dark brown sandy silt with frequent small angular stone fragments	Topsoil
013	Barholm	Brown sandy silt with frequent small angular stone fragments	Natural
014	Barholm	Yellowish red gravel	Natural
015	Barholm	Cut, over 3m wide, 1.1m deep, only seen in section	?Ditch
016	Barholm	Dark brownish grey sandy silt with frequent small angular stones	Topsoil

017	Barholm	Brown sandy silt with frequent grit and moderate small angular stones	Natural
018	Barholm	Greyish brown clayey sandy silt with moderate small angular stones	Fill of 015
019	Barholm	Cut, 0.6m wide, 0.2m deep, only seen in section	?Ditch/pit
020	Barholm	Greyish brown clayey sandy silt with moderate small angular stones	Natural
021	Barholm	Dark greyish brown sandy silt with moderate small angular stones	Fill of 019
022	Barholm	Cut, over 3m wide, 1.06m deep, only seen in section	?Ditch
023	Barholm	Mid-dark brown clayey sandy silt, frequent small angular stones	Upper fill of 022
024	Barholm	Mid grey clay	Lower fill of 022
025	Barholm	Mixed yellowish brown sandy gravel	Fill of 026
026	Barholm	Cut, over 2.4m wide, over 1.1m deep, only seen in section	Ditch

APPENDIX 3

Finds List

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DATE
010	Iron spike?	?19th-20th century
010	Iron object, bucket handle?	?19th-20th century
010	Bottle glass fragment	19th-20th century

APPENDIX 4

Glossary

- Alluvial deposit** Material that is laid down in water. The deposit material can be either fine (clays, silts) or coarse (cobbles, boulders) and may be laid down under freshwater or marine conditions. Also known as alluvium.
- Bronze Age** Part of the prehistoric era characterised by the introduction and use of the metal bronze for tools and weapons. In Britain the period dates from approximately 2000-750 BC.
- Context** An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, *e.g.* (004).
- Cropmarks** Because they retain moisture differently to the soils and other deposits around them, buried archaeological remains often affect the growth rates of overlying vegetation. This differential growth is particularly noticeable in arable crops where buried archaeological remains may retard or accelerate the ripening process. Thus, for example, a crop above a buried ditch may be slow to ripen and remain green when the rest of the field has turned yellow, thereby betraying the presence of the ditch. These deviations from the normal pattern of plant growth are described as cropmarks. Cropmarks are generally more obvious, and more easily understood, from elevated positions and are recorded on photographs taken from aeroplanes.
- Cut** A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, *etc.* Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
- Dumped deposits** These are deposits, often laid down intentionally, that raise a land surface. They may be the result of casual waste disposal or may be deliberate attempts to elevate the ground surface for drainage or other purposes.
- Environmental material** The term 'environmental material' is used to describe all kinds of plant and animal substances, such as bones, skin, hair, beetle wing cases, mollusc shells, wood, pollen *etc.* When present, these materials can be used to indicate past environmental conditions at the archaeological site. The materials survive

differentially under varied burial conditions, though waterlogging or extreme dehydration often provides the optimum circumstances for the preservation of the most classes of this type of evidence.

- Feature** An archaeological feature refers to an entity, resulting from natural or human activities, that has altered the appearance of the ground surface. All 'cuts' are features. Additionally, constructions or other alterations that build up the landscape, such as walls or embankments, are also features. Natural features can be caused by the action of weathering, such as ice cracks and ancient water courses.
- Fill** Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
- Iron Age** Part of the prehistoric era characterised by the introduction and use of the metal iron for tools and weapons. In Britain the period dates from approximately 750 BC - AD 50.
- Layer** A layer is an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
- Medieval** Pertaining to the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
- Natural** Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
- Neolithic** Part of the prehistoric era characterised by the introduction and use of the polished stone tools and weapons and the introduction of farming. In Britain the period dates from approximately 4000 - 2000 BC. Also known as the New Stone Age.
- Prehistoric** The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.

APPENDIX 5

The Archive

The archive consists of:

- 26 . Context Records
- 2 . . Photographic records
- 4 . . Scale Drawings
- 1 . . Stratigraphic Matrix

All primary records are currently kept at:

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

Archaeological Project Services project code
City and County Museum, Lincoln Accession number

NGC95
39.96