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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF LAND ADJACENT TO MALTING YARD, STAMFORD, LINCOLNSHIRE (SMY96)

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF LAND ADJACENT TO MALTING YARD, STAMFORD, LINCOLNSHIRE (SMY96)

Work Undertaken For
W.J. Hemmings and Partners
on behalf of
Burghley House Preservation Trust

Report compiled by
Paul Cope-Faulkner

November 1996

A.P.S. Report No: **45/96**

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1. SUMMARY

An evaluation was undertaken to determine the archaeological implications of proposed development at the builder's yard, Malting Yard, Stamford, Lincolnshire. Several archaeological sites and findspots are located in the vicinity of the proposed development.

Prehistoric activity is virtually absent from the area. A major Roman (AD 50-410) highway, Ermine Street, bypasses the town, crossing the River Welland 1km to the west. Although unknown, the possibility of Roman settlement close to the river cannot be discounted. Elsewhere, finds and observations suggest that the town of Stamford may occupy a Roman ceremonial area.

Early Saxon settlement (AD 410-650) is believed to have been restricted to the north bank of the river, in the proximity of Lammas Bridge. The route south out of this settlement is believed to be represented by Wothorpe Road, 200m to the west of the development area, and it is possible that Saxon occupation may have occurred along this road.

Later settlement was concentrated on the north bank of the river. Part of this northern area of Stamford was fortified by the Danes in the ninth century. A new defended area was built south of the river in AD 918. High Street St. Martin's, and the area encompassing the proposed development site, is the favoured position for this late fortified Saxon settlement.

Remains of medieval date (between 1066 and 1500 AD) are more evident. Excavations have uncovered quarries to the north of the site. St. Martin's church, adjacent to the development area, was possibly built as early as the 12th century, though the surviving remains are of 15th century date. Early maps depict the investigation area as open ground associated with buildings fronting High Street St. Martin's.

This investigation uncovered part of a large quarry pit used to extract the underlying limestone bedrock. The quarry is probably of medieval date and had been backfilled with a variety of debris. Amongst this material was a range of the locally produced Stamford ware as well as pottery from Northamptonshire and other places in Lincolnshire. A quantity of slag was also retrieved, suggesting nearby iron smelting.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Background

Between the 28th and 31st October 1996, an archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land adjacent to Malting Yard, Stamford, Lincolnshire. This was in order to determine the archaeological resource affected by proposed development at the site, as detailed in planning application SK96/165/69/9. This archaeological investigation was commissioned by W.J. Hemmings and Partners on behalf of Burghley House Preservation Trust, and carried out by Archaeological Project Services, in accordance with a brief set by the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist (Appendix 1).

2.2 Topography and Geology

Stamford is situated 63km south of Lincoln and 17km northwest of Peterborough in the southwest corner of the county of Lincolnshire (Fig. 1). Located in South Kesteven District, Stamford lies on the north and south banks of the River Welland, close to the confluence with the Gwash which provides the eastern

boundary of the town (Fig. 2).

Stamford sits in a narrow valley cut in the Lower Lincolnshire Limestone. Upper Lincolnshire Limestone and the overlying Great Oolite Series form the northern valley sides. In contrast, the southern part of the town, including the proposed development area is located on a solid geology of Lower Lincolnshire Limestone (Inferior Oolite). Remains of a River Terrace and recent alluvium fill the valley bottom (Anderson 1982, 1).

Situated in the civil parish of St. Martin Stamford Baron on the south side of the Welland, the Malting Yard lies at a height of *c.* 29m OD, with a gradual slope down towards the river. Centred on National Grid Reference TF 0310 0676, the proposed development site covers approximately 1200 square metres and is located *c.* 60m southeast of St. Martin's parish church (Fig. 3).

Local soils are the Denchworth Association wet clayey (pelostagnogley) soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 155) and Fladbury 1 Association pelo-alluvial gley soils, developed on clayey alluvial subsoils (*ibid*, 194).

2.3 Archaeological Setting

Stamford is located in an area of known archaeological activity dating from the Romano-British period. The Roman road, Ermine Street, crossed the River Welland to the west of the town. William Stukeley, the 18th century antiquarian who lived in Stamford, postulated that a Roman fort lay to the northwest of the town. No evidence has been found to support this, although a number of finds have been found in the vicinity.

Located to the northwest of the proposed development area are the George and Lammas bridges which cross the river and mill-stream respectively. Recorded in the 17th century, but of earlier origin, these align with Wothorpe Road and the medieval North Road south of St. Martin's. On the basis of this topographical evidence the bridges are considered to represent the most probable position for the first Saxon river crossing. If such was the case, then it is probable that the original Saxon settlement focused around the bridge-head (RCHME 1977, xxxviii).

By the end of the 9th century, Stamford was described as one of the five boroughs of the Danelaw. A reference to the visit of Edward the Elder in 918 indicates that the Danish *burh* lay north of the Welland and also records that the King commanded a new borough be built on the south side of the river (Mahaney 1982, 3). This was in response to the Danish army encamped in Stamford. Edward the Elder's sister, Æthelflaed, fortified the *burh*, after which the Danes surrendered (Stenton 1971, 329).

Stukeley also postulated that the site of the Edwardian *burh* was later occupied by the precinct of St. Michael's Nunnery in the vicinity of the modern railway station. However, there is no surviving visible evidence to support this suggestion (*loc. cit.*). A situation bisected by High Street St. Martin's is generally considered the most probable location of the *burh* and would encompass the proposed development site, the area lying just within the eastern limit of the *burh*.

Archaeological excavations, carried out 100m to the northeast of the present investigation area, revealed a number of quarry pits, used to extract the limestone that occurred at about 1.35m deep at this point. Dating to the medieval period, no indication of earlier occupation of the site was found (Mahaney 1982, 31-2). Located farther to the north excavations revealed a

stone built merchant's house overlying Saxo-Norman pits.

From before the end of the 10th century through to the 12th, Stamford had a mint. Large numbers of moneyers and dies suggest high level coinage production. Additionally, Stamford was home to a thriving pottery industry through the same period. Stamford Ware, the product, was a high-quality ceramic that was distributed widely in Eastern England (RCHME, xxxix-xl).

Documents of the 12th and 13th centuries indicate that the main shopping areas were Red Lion Square, St. Mary's Hill and High Street St. Martin's. Stamford gained prosperity in the thirteenth century from the rich rural surrounds which provided grain, stock and fleece. Wool was woven in the town then sent down the Welland and on to Boston for subsequent export to the continent.

Brewing was established in the vicinity of the investigation site as early as 1814. This closed down in 1927, although buildings associated with the brewery can still be seen along Water Street and Lumby' Terrace (Smith 1994, 132-33).

In advance of this work a site specific desk-top assessment was carried out (Cope-Faulkner 1996). This identified the possibility of early medieval remains existing on the site.

3. AIMS

The aims of the archaeological evaluation, as outlined in the brief (Appendix 1), were to locate archaeological deposits and determine if present, their extent, state of preservation, date, type, vulnerability, documentation, quality of setting and amenity value. The purpose of this identification and assessment of deposits was to establish their significance, in order to facilitate recommendations for an appropriate strategy that could be integrated with the proposed development.

4. METHODS

Two trenches measuring 5 metres by 2 metres were excavated by machine in former gardens located on the site (Fig. 4).

Once the trenches were excavated they were cleaned and examined by hand. Each archaeological deposit or feature revealed within the trench was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and plans at a scale of 1:20.

5. RESULTS

Finds recovered from the deposits identified in the evaluation were examined and a date was assigned where possible. Records of the deposits and features recognised during the evaluation were also examined. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. Phasing was assigned based on artefact dating and the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them. A stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced. Three phases were identified:

Phase 1 Natural deposits
Phase 2 Early Medieval 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

Layer (006, 007, 014 and 028). Present in both trenches (Figs. 7 and 8). White to yellow sub-angular limestone. Frost shattering evident. Natural bedrock.

Layer (027). Overlying (028) in Trench A (Fig. 6, Section 4). Mid reddish brown silty sand. 0.3m thick. Natural glacial deposit.

Feature (005). Cutting (014) in Trench B (Fig. 8, Section 1). Linear cut 1.2m wide by 2.3m long as exposed. 0.4m deep. Contains a single fill (004) of mid reddish brown sand. Natural glacial feature.

Feature (016). Cutting natural bedrock (007). Circular cut, *c.* 0.4m diameter by 0.2m deep (Fig. 8, Section 2). Single fill (015) of mid reddish brown sand. Natural glacial feature.

Feature (017). Cutting natural bedrock (007 and 014). Linear cut 0.7m long by 0.2m wide and 90mm deep (Fig. 8, Section 3). Contains a single fill (013) of mid reddish brown sand. Natural glacial feature.

Phase 2 13th to 14th century Deposits

Feature (026). Cut into bedrock in Trench A. Possibly sub-rectangular in shape (Figs. 5 and 6). No depth was ascertained. Contained three fills, the lowest recorded (025) is mid brown silty sand with moderate limestone fragments. This was overlain by a limestone deposit with mid brown silty sand 0.8m thick (024). This was further overlain by a mid brown silty sand also with limestone fragments (023). Pottery recovered from the fills includes examples of Stamford ware, Lyveden ware and Bourne A ware of 13th to 14th century date. Two sherds of Romano-British pottery were also recovered but these are considered to be residual. Quarry pit.

Phase 3 Modern Deposits

Layer (022). Sealing quarry pit (026) in Trench A (Fig. 6). Dark grey silty sand 0.3m thick. Garden soil.

Deposit (021). Overlying part of topsoil (022). Concrete 0.12m thick. Remnants of garden path.

Layer (003, 008 and 009). Sealing natural deposits in Trench B (Fig. 8, Section 3). Greyish brown silty sand. 100mm to 120mm thick. Subsoil.

Feature (002). Cutting subsoil deposits. Sub-oval cut, 1.2m by 0.8m and 20mm deep. Containing a single fill (001) of dark greyish brown sandy silt. Indeterminate cut feature.

Layer (012). Overlying subsoil. Dark grey silty sand *c.* 0.2m thick. Lower part of topsoil.

Feature (011). Cutting deposit (012). Sub-rectangular vertical sided cut at least 0.4m deep. Contains a single fill of dark grey silty sand (010). Modern pit cut.

Feature (019). Also cutting deposit (012). Sub-circular cut, 0.45m deep. Contains an articulated cat skeleton and a fill of dark grey silty sand (018). Recent pet burial.

Layer (020). Sealing all deposits in Trench B. Dark grey silty sand. 0.12m to 0.28m thick. Upper part of topsoil.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural (Phase 1) deposits are represented by sub-angular limestone representing the natural bedrock. Into this are cut three features, possibly relating to periglacial

activity in the region. These are filled with deposits indicative of glacial and sometimes chemical weathering of the limestone.

Phase 2 deposits (13th to 14th centuries) are represented by a large quarry pit in Trench A. Used to quarry limestone, presumably for construction, other quarry pits have been found in the vicinity during excavations in the 1970s. The backfill of this pit indicates an opportunity for the disposal of refuse from a nearby source, including material associated with ironworking (Appendix 4).

Of some surprise is the apparent lack of post-medieval activity which would normally be expected in an urban environment. Although it is possible that terracing occurred in the area, no evidence to support this was uncovered.

Phase 3 deposits indicate the recent use of the proposed development area, this part of which was occupied by an orchard and garden of domestic properties fronting High Street St. Martin's.

7. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

For assessment of significance the *Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling ancient monuments* has been used (DoE 1990, Annex 4; See Appendix 7)

Period
Medieval quarrying activity was revealed by the exposure of a large pit in Trench A. This type of feature has previously been uncovered in close proximity to the development area. However, the nearby quarrying activities were dated to the early medieval period.

Rarity
None of the deposits encountered are considered to be nationally or regionally rare. However, locally these deposits are important in understanding the growth of Stamford.

Documentation
Records of archaeological sites and finds made in the Stamford area are kept in the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record and the files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire. Synopses of nearly all the archaeological work carried out in the vicinity has previously been produced. A number of historical syntheses of Stamford have previously been published and include a history of the industrial heritage of the town. A desk-top assessment prior to this evaluation provided the first site-specific consideration of the archaeological and historical aspects of the proposed development area.

Group value
Moderate group value is provided by the association of medieval extractive industries (quarrying) with disposal processes represented by the occupation and other debris used to backfill the quarry pit. The moderate group value is emphasised by the secondary evidence, provided by the slags, for iron smelting in the vicinity.

Survival/Condition
Archaeological deposits encountered survived in very good condition. This was largely due to the solid geology preserving the archaeological features.

Fragility/Vulnerability
As the proposed development will impact the investigation area to a depth of *c.* 1.2m any and all archaeological deposits present are extremely vulnerable. Furthermore, if the loose fills of large pits have to be excavated before building could take place, archaeological deposits are thus placed under a greater threat.

Diversity
Moderate functional diversity is indicated by the use of the site for quarrying activities and the presence of slag in the fills suggesting that localised iron smelting was occurring in the vicinity. Prior to this the area may have been under an agricultural regime.

Period diversity is low with deposits associated with the medieval period being present.

Potential
Potential for further archaeological remains of medieval date is considered to be moderately high.

Low potential is inferred for features prior to or dating after the medieval period.

8. EFFECTIVENESS OF TECHNIQUES

The strategy of using trial trenches to locate and evaluate archaeological deposits was, on the whole, effective. A single quarry pit was revealed with an associated sequence of pottery and slag.

9. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations on land adjacent to Malting Yard, Stamford were carried out to assist determination of a planning application required because of the location of the site near the river and the core of the medieval town. Investigations have revealed a single medieval feature, namely a quarry pit, sealed by recent topsoil.

Finds recovered include an assemblage of pottery dating from the 13th and 14th centuries, including the locally made Stamford ware as well as some imports from Northamptonshire and Bourne in Lincolnshire. A small quantity of slag was also retrieved and indicate that iron smelting was occurring in the vicinity.

Conditions are thought to generally unsuitable for the survival of environmental indicators, other than through charring.

It is recognised that the potential for further remains may exist within the proposed development area. These may include the remainder of the quarry pit revealed in this examination, the extent of which is unknown.

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr A.R. Delaney of W.J. Hemmings and Partners who commissioned this assessment on behalf of Burghley House Preservation Trust. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor and this report was edited by Tom Lane. Access to the County Sites and Monuments Record was kindly provided by Mark Bennet and Sarah Grundy of the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council. Jenny Stevens, the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist, permitted examination of the relevant files.

Hilary Healey examined the pottery and James Rackham studied the animal bones. Jane Cowgill commented upon the slag.

11. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
Supervisor: Paul Cope-Faulkner
Site Assistants: Neil Herbert, Chris Moulis
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
Post-excavation Analyst: Paul Cope-

Faulkner

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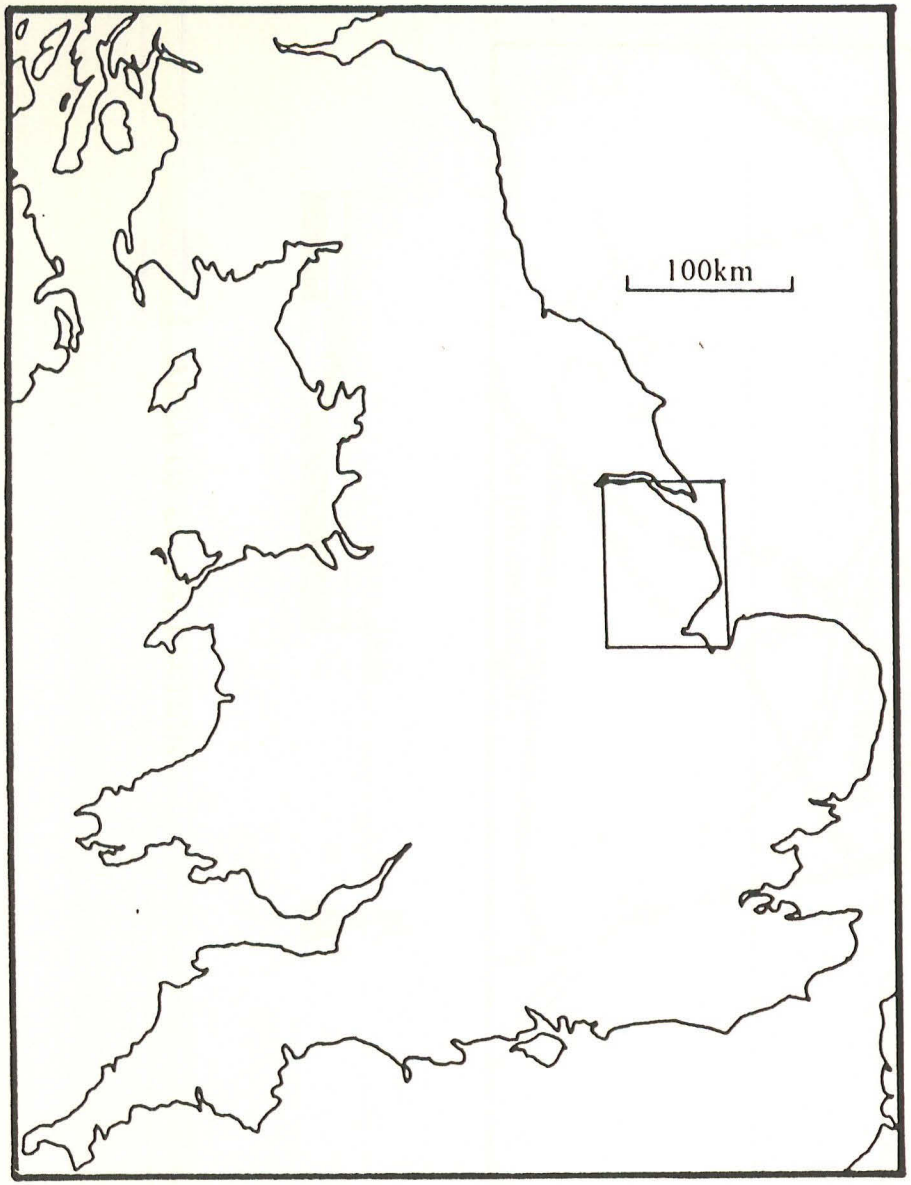
13. ABBREVIATIONS

A.P.S.	Archaeological Project Services
DoE	Department of the Environment
RCHME	Royal Commission on Historical Monuments of England



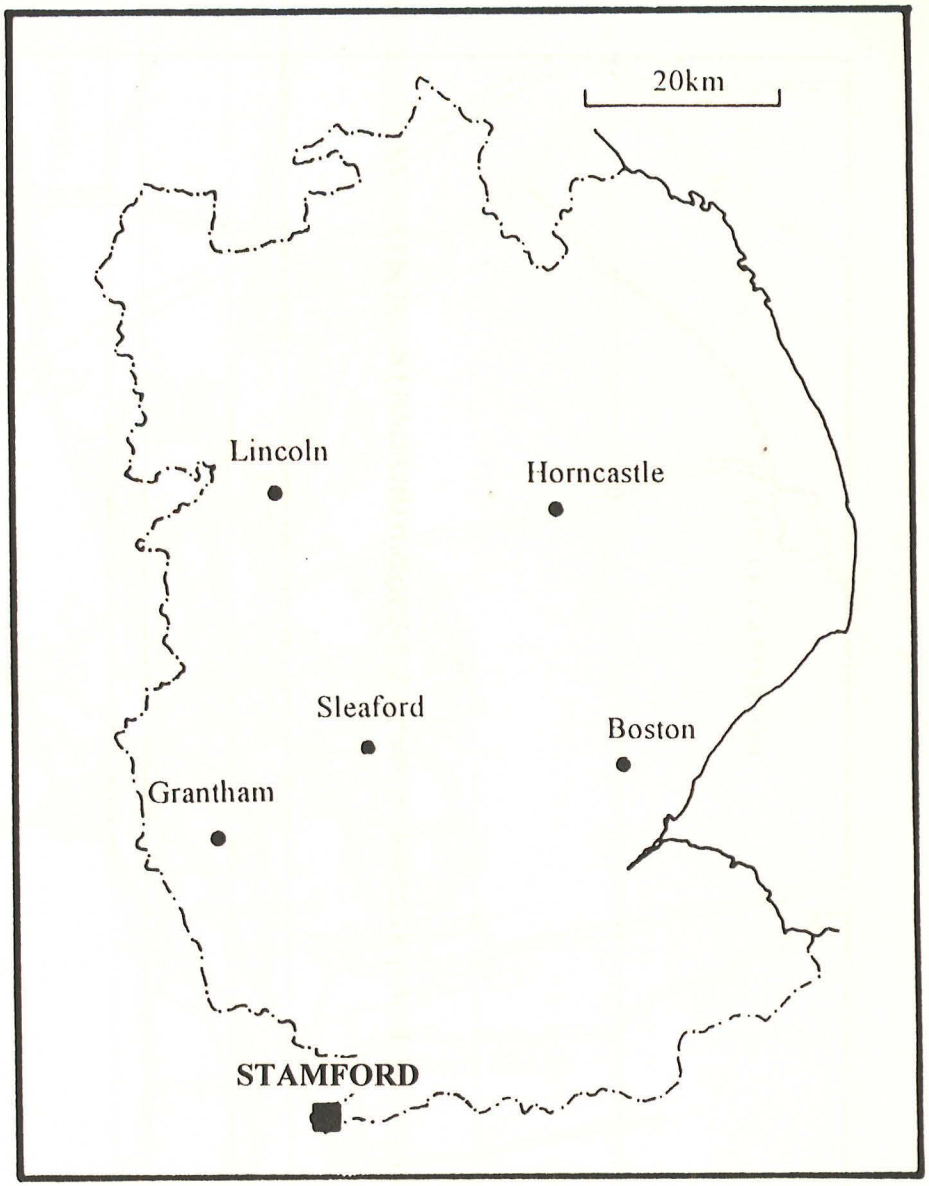


Figure 1 - General Location Plan

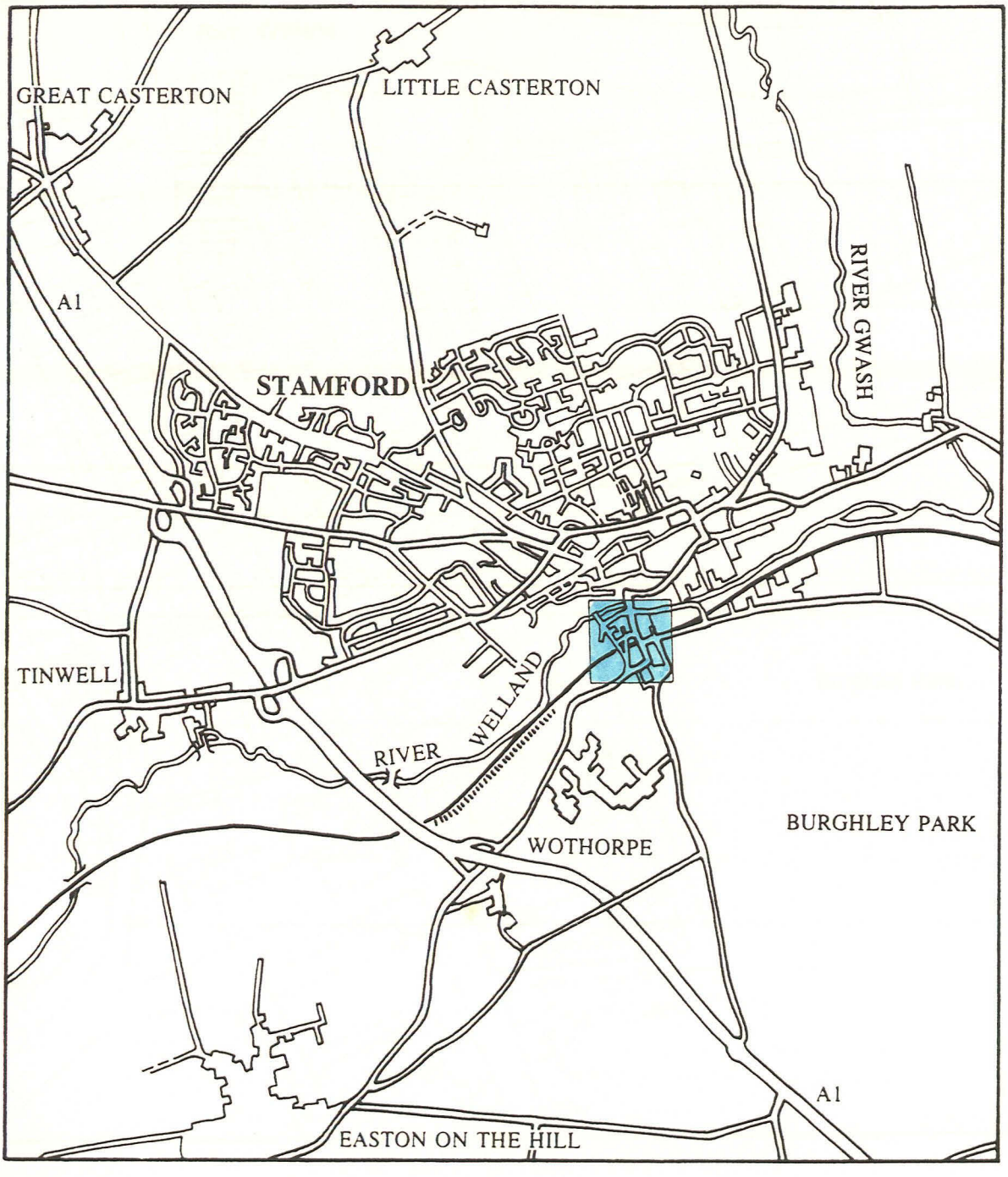


Figure 2 - Site Location Plan

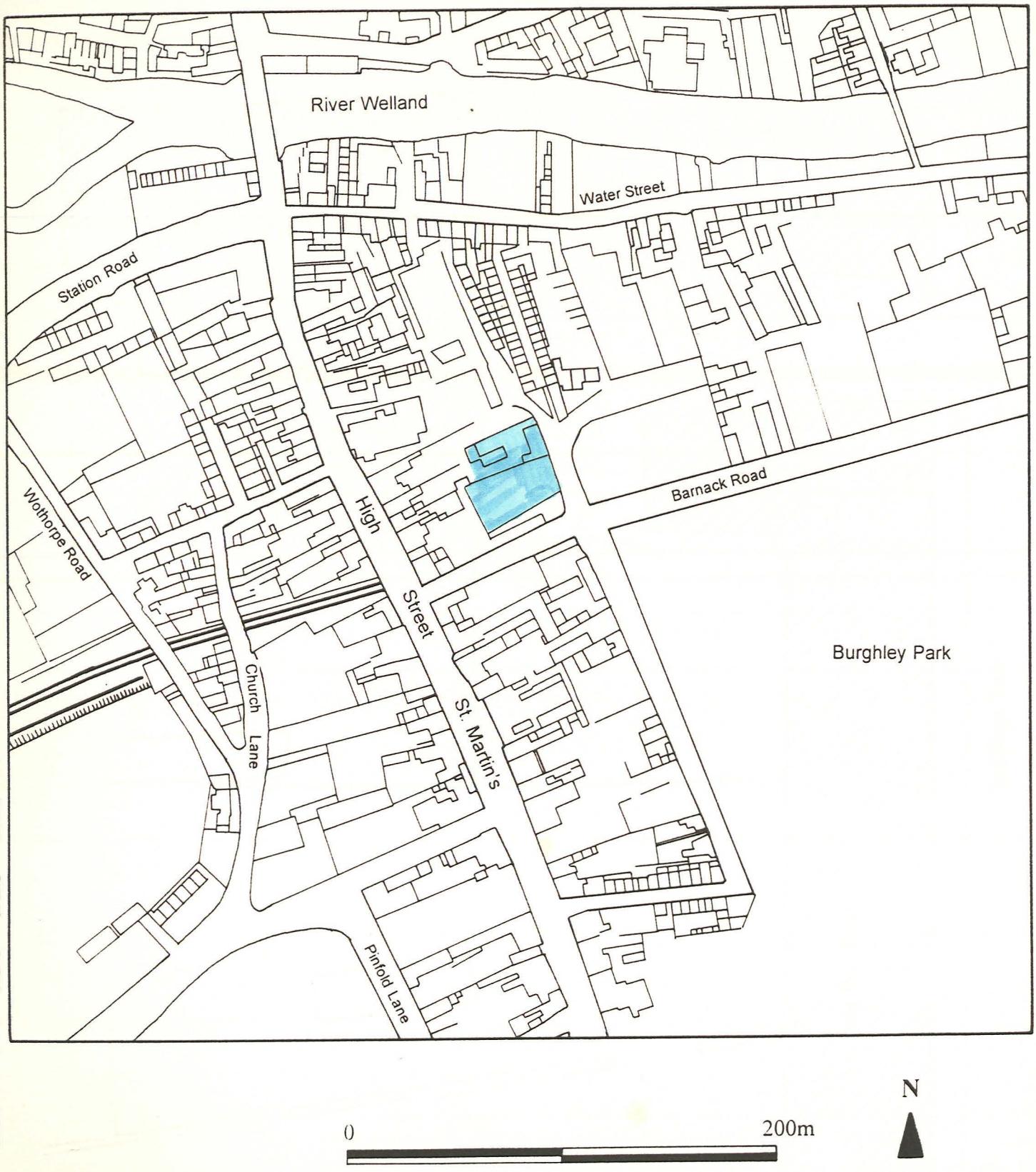


Figure 3 - Area of Investigation

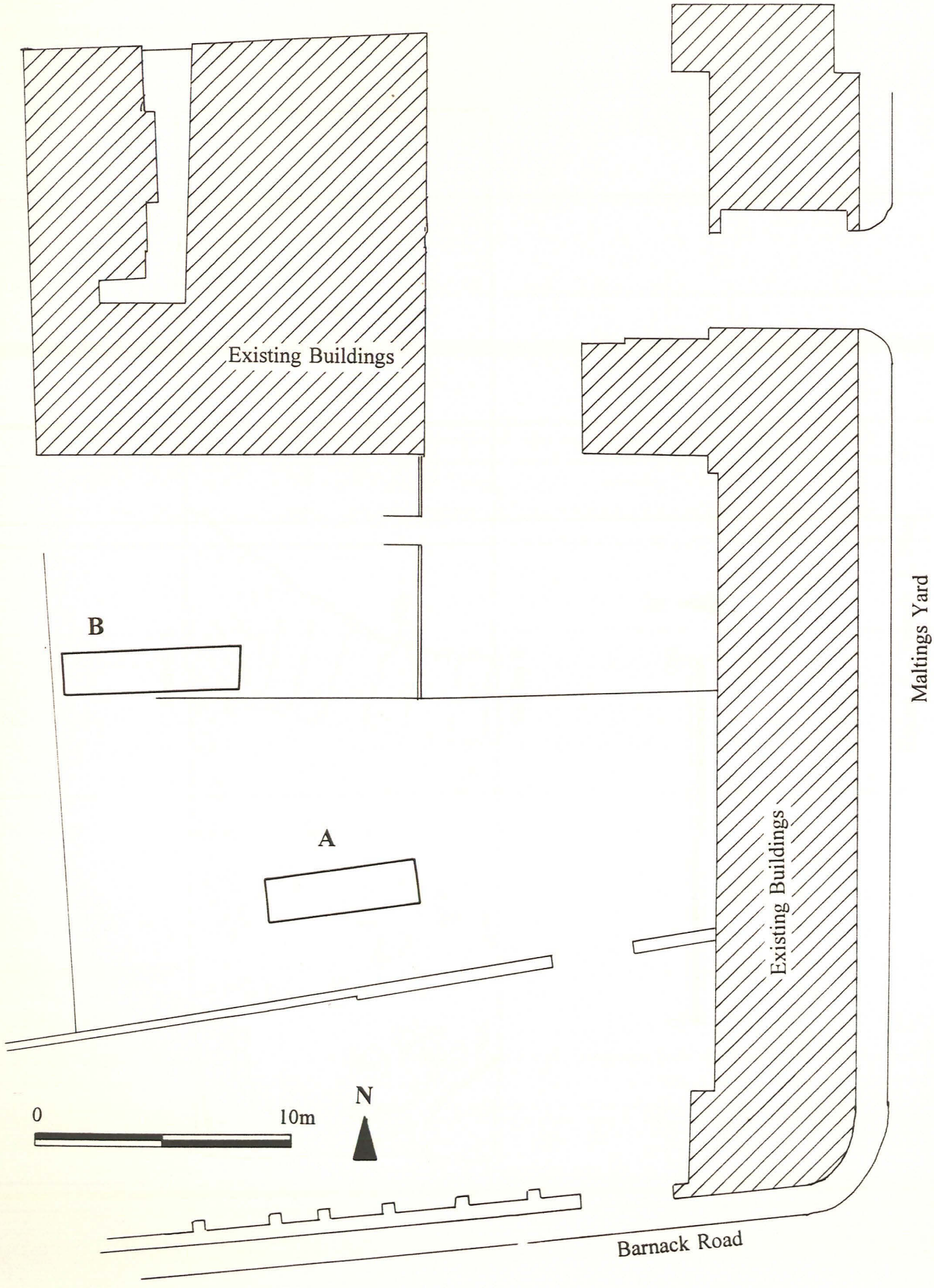


Figure 4 - Trench Location Plan

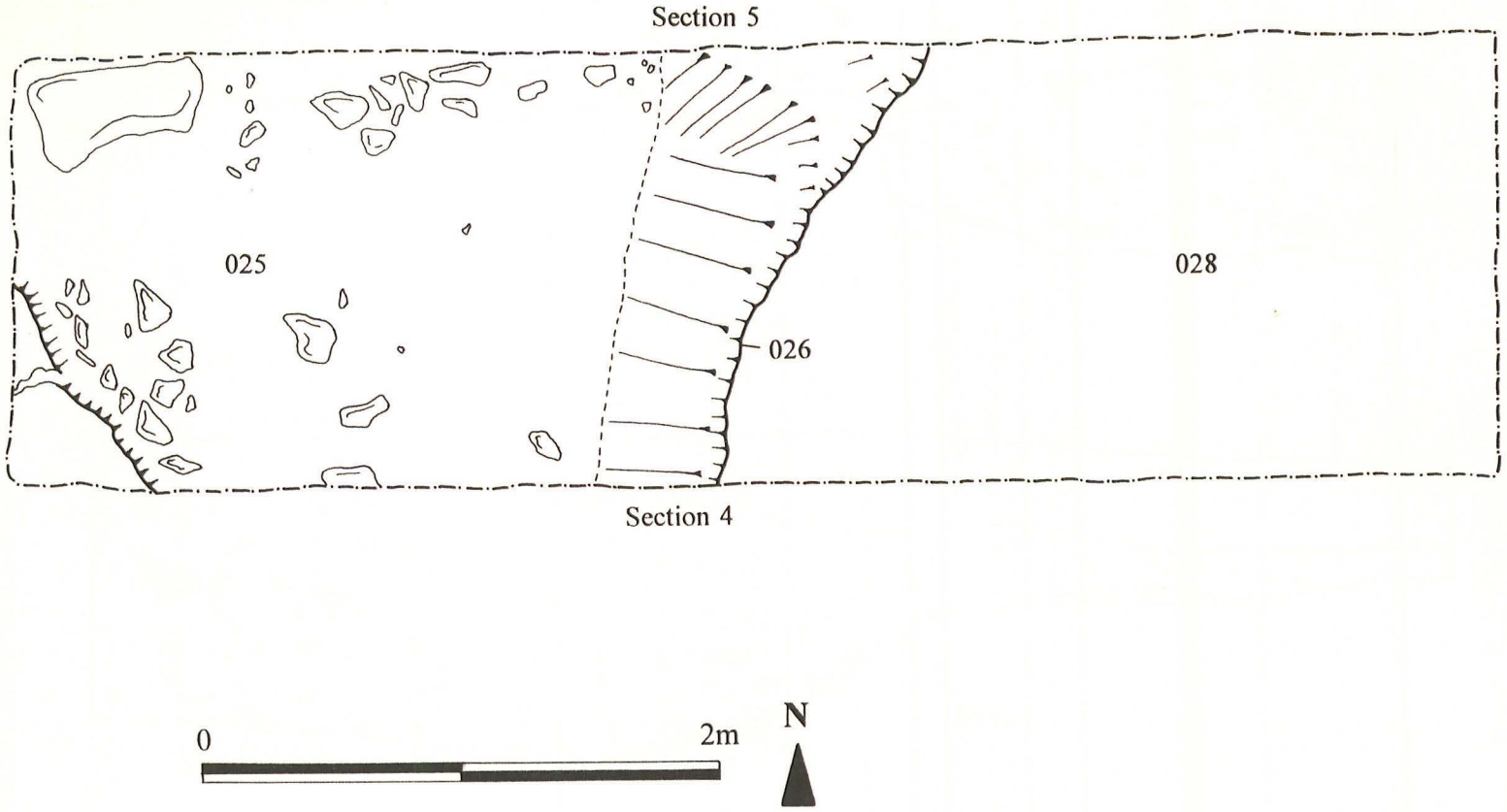


Figure 5 - Trench A, Plan

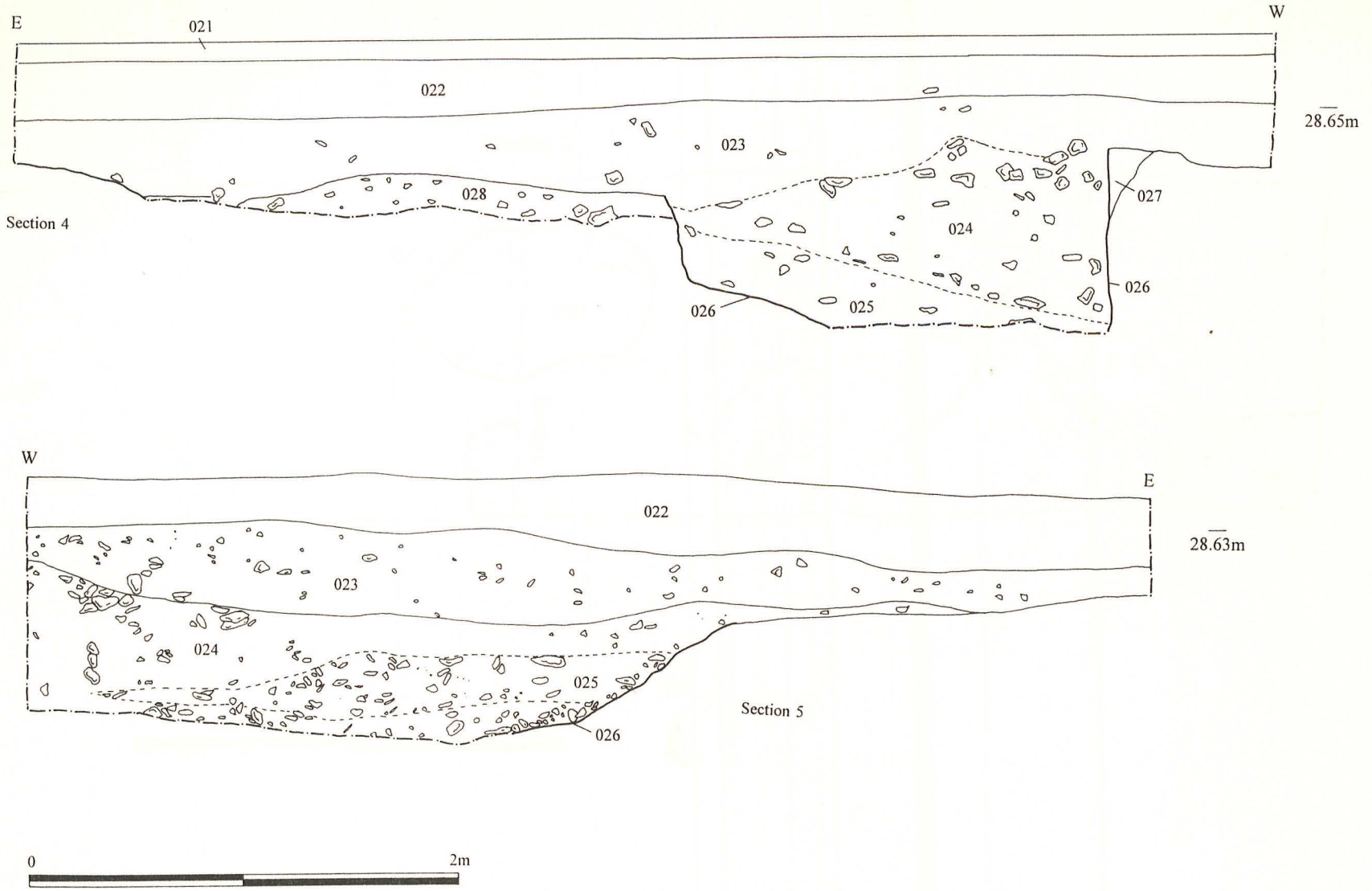


Figure 6 - Trench A, Sections

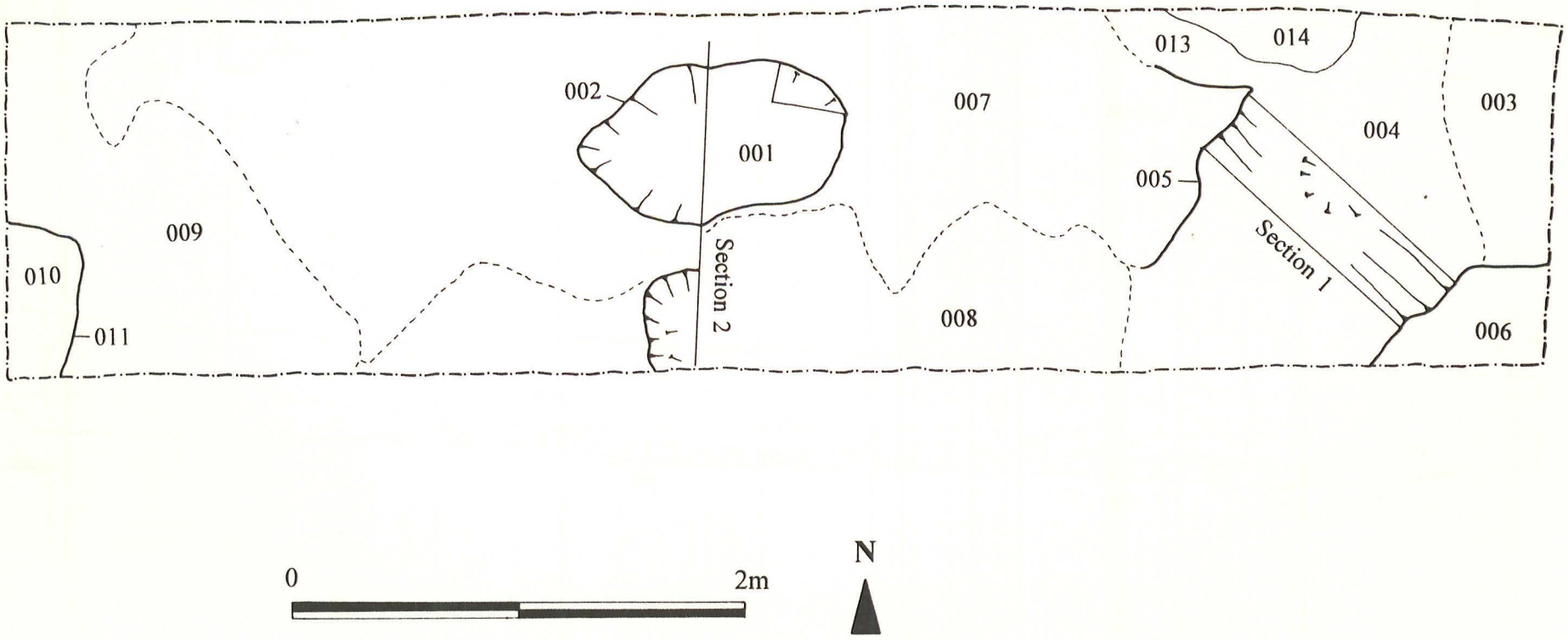


Figure 7 - Trench B, Plan

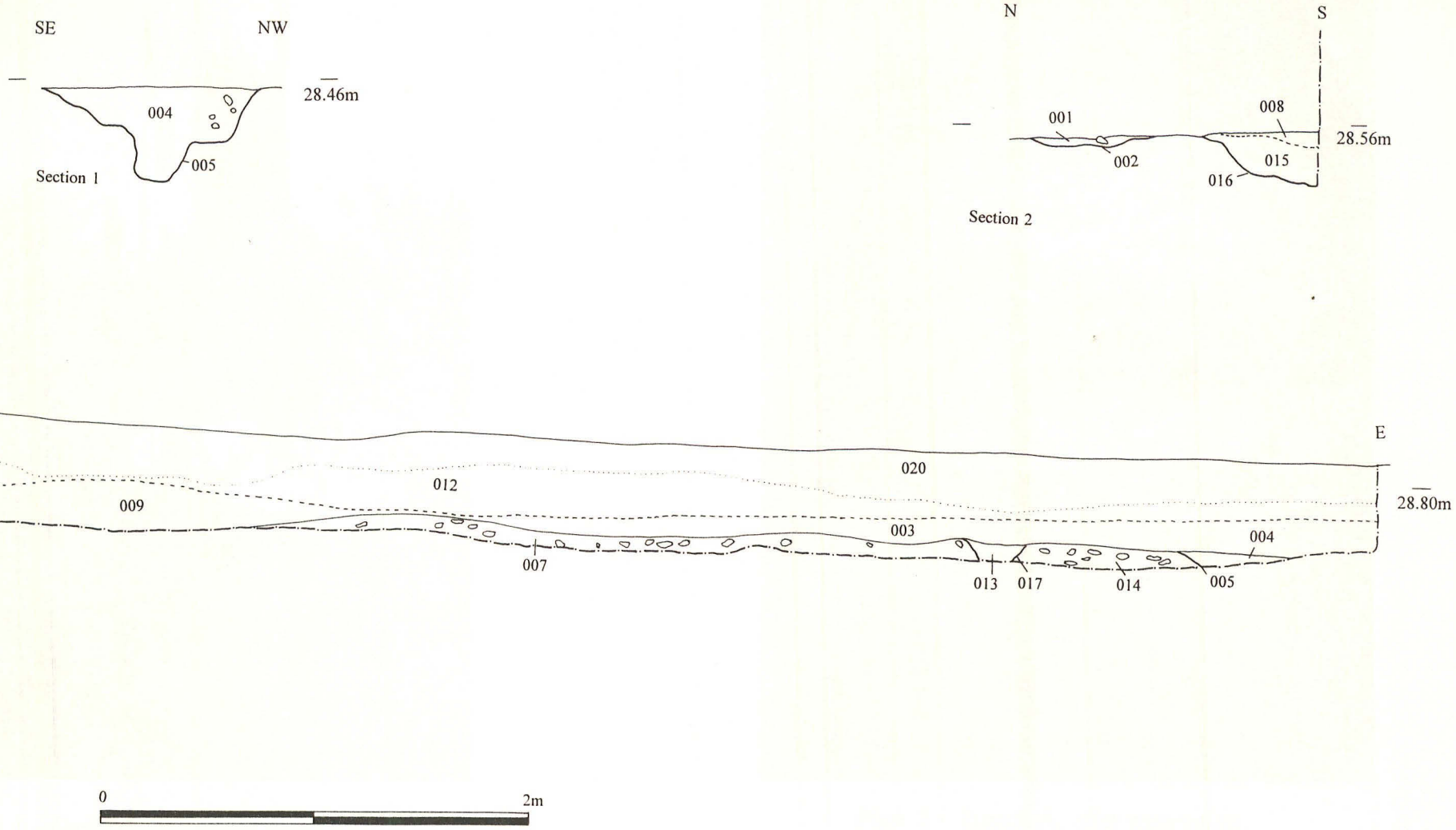


Figure 8 - Trench B, Sections

Plate 1 - General shot across proposed development area

Plate 2 - Trench A, after excavation showing the quarry pit (Trench width 1.5m)

Appendix 1

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF LAND AT THE CORNER OF BARNACK ROAD & MALTING YARD, STAMFORD.

1. SUMMARY

1.1 This document is the brief for an archaeological work to be carried out on an area of land on the corner of Barnack Road and Malting Yard, Stamford. It sets out the requirements for a detailed desk-top assessment of the area and subsequent trial trenches.

1.2 This brief should be used by archaeological contractors as the basis for the preparation of a detailed archaeological project specification. 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 All of the detailed specifications will be submitted for approval to the Community Archaeologist of South Kesteven District Council. The client will be free to choose between those specifications which are considered to adequately satisfy this brief.

2. SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION.

2.1 The site is in the town of Stamford, which is situated in the south of Lincolnshire. The proposed development site lies to the south of the town centre and is centred at National Grid Reference TF 03190 06750 Please see enclosed Map.

3. PLANNING BACKGROUND.

3.1 The development proposed is for conversion of existing buildings and the erection of four new dwellings. Outline planning permission is sought from South Kesteven District Council. SK96/165/69/9.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.

4.1 The site of the proposed development lies in an area which in previous excavations has proved to be rich in archaeological remains. Excavations off of St. Martin's in the 1960's discovered occupation material (including pottery, domestic rubbish, timber and stone buildings, garderobes and cellars) from the Late Saxon period until at least the 14th century. The site lies within the area which was believed to have been the Saxon borough in the late 9th early 10th centuries which fits in with the evidence found during excavation. It also lies directly adjacent to the church of St. Martin's which is at least 12th century in origin with a 15th century rebuild. The church's accompanying graveyard lies across from the proposed development site, suggesting that the development site lies within the boundaries of the former churchyard.

4.2 A number of modern buildings are currently situated on the site which are believed to have been constructed in the 1960's. These may act as a constraint to the trial trenching.

5. REQUIREMENT FOR WORK.

5.1 Prior to this scheme of development being undertaken a detailed desk-top assessment and appropriate trial trenching needs to be carried out.

5.2 The purpose of the archaeological desk-top assessment and trial trenches should be to gather

information from all known sources to establish the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits especially in the light of more modern development.

5.3 The investigation should be carried out by a recognised archaeological body in accordance with the code of conduct of The Institute of Field Archaeologists.

6. METHOD- DESK-TOP ASSESSMENT.

6.1 The fully detailed desk-top assessment will indicate the presence of any archaeological constraint hitherto unidentified and should include an assessment of the site within both the local and regional context. It should highlight any particularly relevant research priorities which may be addressed by this project.

6.2 In order to ensure that all possible archaeological constraints are evaluated all secondary sources must be consulted as part of the desk-top assessment. Sources to be consulted should include:

6.2.1 Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record;

6.2.2 All Ordnance Survey maps;

6.2.3 Tithe, Enclosure Award and Parish maps (where appropriate);

6.2.4 Historical documents, particularly those held in Lincolnshire Archives Office;

6.2.5 Archaeological books and journals;

6.2.6 Unpublished reports and archives (where appropriate), particularly those of the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist;

6.2.7 Aerial photographs;

6.2.8 Any other sources deemed appropriate;

6.2.9 A visit to verify site conditions.

7. METHOD- TRIAL TRENCHING.

7.1 In consideration of methodology the following details should be given in the contractor's specification:

7.1.1 A projected timetable must be agreed for the various stages of work.

7.1.2 The staff structure and numbers must be detailed. This should include lists of specialists and their role in the project.

7.1.3 It is expected that all on site work will be carried out in a way that complies with the relevant Health and Safety Legislation and that due consideration will be given to site security.

7.1.4 The recovery and recording strategies to be used must be described in full.

7.1.5 An estimate of time and resources allocated for post-excavation work and report production.

7.1.6 A list of specialist consultants who might be required to conserve and or report on finds and advise or report on other aspects of the investigation.

7.2 Excavation is a potentially destructive technique and the specification should take the following factors into account.

7.2.1 Where possible the use of an appropriate machine with a wide, toothless ditching blade to remove topsoil down to the first archaeological horizon.

7.2.2 The supervision of all machine work by an archaeologist.

7.2.3 When archaeological features are revealed by machine these will be cleaned and excavated and all archaeological deposits will be fully excavated by hand and all archaeological deposits will be fully excavated and recorded.

7.2.4 If human remains are encountered the contractor must comply with all statutory consents and licences under the Disused Burial Grounds (Amendment) Act 1981 or other Burial Acts regarding their exhumation and interment. It will be necessary to comply with all reasonable requests of interested parties as to the method of removal, reinterment or disposal of the remains or associated items.

7.2.4 Adequate recovery of finds and an adequate sampling programme to provide environmental evidence from all archaeological deposits should be ensured.

7.2.6 It is expected that an approved recording system will be used for all on-site and post-field work procedures.

8. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

8.1 The final Desk Top Assessment must:

8.1.1 Summarise all available information;

8.1.2 Provide a comprehensive list of all sources consulted along with an explanation if sources detailed in paragraph 6.2 are not consulted;

8.1.3 Outline all possible options for further work, including recommendations for alterations to the original specification.

8.1.4 The final report should be produced to the level outlined in The Management of Archaeological Projects, Appendix 3, English Heritage, 1991 and within a timescale agreed with the Community Archaeologist. The report should include:

8.1.5 Plans of the area investigated and the position of any trenches.

8.1.6 Tables summarising features and artefacts together with a full description and brief interpretation.

8.1.7 Plans and sections of deposits.

8.1.8 A consideration of the importance of the findings on a local and regional basis.

8.1.9 A critical review of the effectiveness of the methodology.

8.2 The completed report should be deposited with the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist and with the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record and the Developer.

9. PUBLICATION AND DISSEMINATION.

9.1 The deposition of a copy of the report with the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record and the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist will be deemed to put all the information into the public domain, unless a special request is made for confidentiality. If material is to be held in confidence a timescale

must be agreed with the Community Archaeologist, but it is expected that this shall not exceed six months.

10. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

10.1 This document attempts to define the best practice expected of an archaeological evaluation, but cannot fully anticipate the conditions that will be encountered as work progresses. However, changes to the approved programme of archaeological work are only to be made with the prior written approval of the Community Archaeologist.

Brief set by Jenny Stevens, Community Archaeologist for South Kesteven

Appendix 2

CONTEXT SUMMARY

Context	Trench	Description	Interpretation	Plan	Section
1	B	Dk greyish brown sandy silt	Fill of 002	1	2
2	B	Sub oval cut, 0.8m x 1.2m	Indeterminate cut feature	1,2	2
3	B	Greyish brown silty sand	Subsoil	1	3
4	B	Mid reddish brown sand	Natural deposit	1,2	1
5	B	Linear feature, 1.2m wide x 2.3m long	Natural cut	1,2	1
6	B	Sub-angular limestone	Natural bedrock	1	
7	B	Sub-angular limestone	Natural bedrock	1	
8	B	Greyish brown silty sand	Subsoil		
9	B	Greyish brown silty sand	Subsoil	1	3
10	B	Dark grey humic sand	Fill of 011	1	
11	B	Sub-rectangular feature, 0.5m x 0.3m	Recent pit cut	1	
12	B	Dark grey silty sand	Topsoil		
13	B	Mid reddish brown sand	Natural deposit		
14	B	Sub-angular limestone	Natural bedrock		
15	B	Mid reddish brown sand	Fill of 016	1,2	2
16	B	Sub-circular feature, c. 0.4m diameter	Indeterminate cut feature	1,2	2
17	B	Linear feature, 0.7m x 0.2m	Natural cut	1	3
18	B	Dark grey silty sand	Fill of 019		
19	B	Feature, 0.45m deep	Recent pet grave		
20	B	Dark grey silty sand	Topsoil		
21	A	Concrete deposit	Garden path		4
22	A	Dark grey silty sand	Topsoil		4,5
23	A	Mid brown silty sand	Fill of 026		4
24	A	Mid brown silty sand and limestone frags	Fill of 026		4,5
25	A	Mid brown silty sand	Fill of 026		4,5
26	A	Rectangular? feature	Quarry pit	3	4,5
27	A	Mid reddish brown silty sand	Natural deposit		4
28	A	Sub-angular limestone	Natural bedrock	3	

Appendix 3
POTTERY AND STONE
Hilary Healey

1. Introduction

Four contexts contain pottery. Unstratified material in TrA + includes locally made Stamford ware, both early glazed wares and later Developed Stamford ware types, dating from late ninth to the early thirteenth century. This industry has been well documented by Kilmurry (1980). The characteristic ware is off-white, unglazed or with a partial thin pale glaze. After about 1150 AD the use of copper oxide introduces bright green mottling into the glaze. Since the unglazed wares continue to be made after the introduction of the copper the earliest dates cannot be determined without detailed microscopic analysis. The medieval industry that takes over from Stamford ware is represented by fragments from Northamptonshire and Bourne, Lincs. The latest items are clay pipe stem with a narrow bore suggesting a nineteenth or twentieth century date and twentieth century pottery. Contents of context (020) comprise a small collection of modern material, black glazed ware, another modern clay pipe stem and part of a 1950/1960 decorated mug.

The assemblages of interest are from contexts (024) and (025). The largest number of sherds, 98, occur in (024). As is to be expected in Stamford, local products figure largely in any group, and here ' although residual, the 32 sherds represent almost 33% of the total sherd count. There are 23 shell-filled fabric pieces of which only 6 can with certainty (from the form of sagging based vessels) be described as Late Saxon. These are contemporary with early Stamford ware. The latest pieces are medieval, dating to the thirteenth or fourteenth century and are chiefly fragments of medieval jugs of Northamptonshire origin, some highly decorated (Webster 1975). Ten sherds are of Bourne B ware type jugs, also medieval in date. One unexpected piece is a solitary residual Roman grey ware sherd.

In context (025) the range is much as in (024), although only 28 sherds are present. The latest pieces are again the medieval jug sherds from Northamptonshire and Bourne with a single contemporary sherd of possible Lincoln or Nottingham origin. Eleven undatable shell-tempered sherds are probably also medieval pieces from Northamptonshire. One grey sherds is probably of Thetford type ware contemporary with the early Stamford ware. The remaining eleven earlier and therefore residual sherds are of Stamford and Developed Stamford ware. Also in (025), three fragments of Collyweston type stone roofing slate, one with a peg-hole.

The entire collection is typical of material found in Stamford medieval sites. A useful example for comparison is Site D in St.Martin's, excavated by C. Mahany in the 1960s (Mahany 1982)

2. Sources

Healey, R.H., 1969, "Bourne Ware" in J.B.Whitwell and C.M.Wilson, 'Archaeological Notes for 1968', *Lincolnshire History and Archaeology* **4**, 108-9.

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Mahany C., 1982, 'Site D (Water Street and St.Martins)' in Part Two of Mahany, Burchard and Simpson 1982.

Steane, J. and Bryant, G.F., 1975, Excavations at the Deserted Medieval Settlement at Lyveden. *Journal of Northampton Museums and Art Gallery* **12**

Webster, P.A., 1975, 'Pottery Report' in Steane and Bryant, 1975, 60-95

Table 1. Pottery Summary

Context	Finds	Comment/latest date
TA+	1 Nthants, 2 shelly, 3 Dev.Stamford, 1 early Stamford	Medieval
020	1950s/60s mug, 1 black glaze, 1 mod.clay pipe	Modern
024	30 Nthants, 1 ?Lincoln, 10 Bourne type, 17 med.shelly, 6 Late saxon shelly, 14 Dev. Stamford, 18 early Stamford, 1 Roman grey.	Medieval, no later than 13th/14th cent.
025	1 Nthants, 2 Bourne type, 11 med.shelly, 6 Late Saxon shelly, 1 grey (prob.late Saxon Thetford type) 3 Dev.Stamford, 8 Stamford	Medieval, no later than 13th/14th cent.

Appendix 4

THE IRON SLAG FROM THE EVALUATION AT THE MALTING YARD, STAMFORD

(SMY96: LCCM 151.96)

by Jane Cowgill

November 1996

During the evaluation at the Malting Yard, Stamford, a quarry pit was uncovered and a quadrant of it excavated to the depth specified by the brief; 13th - 14th century pottery was found within the feature. A small quantity of iron slag had also been used to backfill the quarry and two samples of this material were collected. A total of 3.154kg has been recorded on a standardised recording sheet and entered into a Microsoft Access database (Table 1). The natural ironstone fragments have been discarded.

THE SLAG

All the slag recovered is associated with iron smelting in a bloomery shaft furnace. The categories recorded are as follows:

TAP - The slag that is tapped out of the base of the furnace.

CHAN - Channel tap slag that has cooled in the channel between the furnace tapping arch and the slag cooling depressions/pits.

FURN - Furnace slag that was allowed to cool within the furnace.

VHL - Hearth lining that has become vitrified due to the amount of heat it has been subjected to.

The majority of the slag is the normal dense type of slag with a flowed morphology indicating that it has been tapped out of the base of a furnace. The presence of two possible channel pieces (both with a width of *c.* 27mm) suggest that there was a channel leading the slag away from the furnace to a cooling depression/s. Some of the slag cooled quite fast as is indicated by the creased upper surfaces.

Unusually there is also some tap slag with a more glassy appearance some of which has a pumice-like compostion being full of small circular voids. This slag also generally contains more frequent stoney inclusions. Another highly unusual group are the very glassy slags (4 pieces in total) which are very colourful with white, blue and blue-green silica rich areas and frequent sand inclusions. This latter group are mainly fragmented pieces with no clear form but they are associated with iron working, most probably the smelting (in appearance they are very unlike smithing slags).

The reason for the presence of the glassy slags suggest that either a silica rich ore was being used or that sand was added to assist with the production of slag. The silica:iron ratio is vitally important in the production of bloomery iron because the silica aids the liquation of the slag which in turn allows the gangue within the furnace to be incorporated in the slag and removed at the base. This is a delicate equation however, because the more silica present the more iron will also become entrapped in the slag (which being largely fayalite is a type of iron in itself). Too much silica results in large quantities of slag and no bloom; thus no iron. The presence of such glassy slags forming such a high percentage in a smelting assemblage is therefore puzzling. A few pieces may suggest some mishaps but these constitute more. The problem cannot be resolved without metallurgical analysis.

DISCUSSION

Only evidence for smelting the iron was recovered at the site suggesting that iron production was occurring south of the River Welland in the vicinity of the site in the 13th - 14th century. A previous excavation in Stamford identified an earlier phase of iron smelting north of the River at the Co-op site in the High Street (Burchard 1982). Although this site is dated to the late 9th - mid 11th century the technology used is probably comparible to that that produced the slag described here. The remains of shaft furnaces (bowl furnaces are now not thought to be used in Britain), tapping pits, ore processing areas were all found but interestingly no hammerscale (Tylecote, Biek and Haldane 1982, 142). To convert the bloom (the product of the furnace) to workable iron it

has to be smithed resulting in the by-products of smithing slags and hammerscale. There are none amongst the Maltings Yard assemblage and do not seem to be any recorded from the Co-op site. Although one would expect the two activities occurring on the same site at this date this may not be significant. Although hammerscale was sought at the Co-op site, the presence of smithing slags may not have been noted because the typology of slags was very under developed when that assemblage was recorded. The slag from the Maltings is a very small group and may simply not be large enough to include any smithing debris - always a small percentage of the total (no hammerscale was present in the soil samples checked). If, and a very big if, the bloom smithing occurred away from the smelting sites, a water-wheel powered bloomery on the River could be proposed but they are not thought to have been introduced until the 13th - 14th century.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Mahany Christine, Burchard Alan and Simpson Gavin 1982 'Excavations in Stamford Lincolnshire 1963 - 1969' *Soc Med Archaeol Monograph* Ser No **9.**

Tylecote R F, Biek L and Haldane J W 'Iron-Smelting Residues' in Mahany, Burchard and Simpson 1982, 135 - 144

Table 1: Catalogue of the slag

Context	Type	Weight	Comments	Quantity
025	Ironsto	204g	Discarded	9
025	TAP	674g	Dense flowed, some sandy based	31
025	CHAN	26g	width *c.* 27mm	1
025	FURN	88g	Pumice like, frequent circular voids	2
025	TAP	18g	Black glassy	2
025	TAP	3g	Frequent crystal voids	1
025	SLAG	69g	Tap? V. glassy, stone and sand inclusions	3
024	CHAR	15g	Charcoal floated from among slag	-
024	TAP	1794g	Some with sand, dense rapidly cooled	79
024	Ironsto	366g	Discarded	15
024	TAP	56g	Abraded, stove type	3
024	TAP	273g	Light, frequent circular voids	11
024	SLAG	13g	V. glassy, lots silica (?sand) visible	1
024	CHAN	107g	Width 25+mm, sand on base	1
024	IRON	6g	Object	1
024	VHL	4g	+HL; V. vitrified	1
024	POT	6g		2
024	FIRE	8g	Wattle imprint, slags, hams + fine temper	1

Appendix 5

THE ANIMAL BONE

James Rackham and Paul Cope-Faulkner

A total of 62 animal bones were retrieved from two contexts (024 and 025) during evaluation at Malting's Yard, Stamford. The bone was in generally good condition and thus was mostly identifiable. Some evidence of gnawing was apparent and some fragments showed signs of butchery processes. A full list of the bones retrieved appears in the archive catalogue.

The most dominant species represented in this sample were sheep, followed closely by cattle. Two other species represented include horse and chicken. The bones themselves are representative of parts of the entire skeleton and do not suggest specialised activities such as horn working.

Though these bones represent the economy of the site and are dated closely to the 13th and 14th centuries, the sample is considered too small for detailed analysis.

ARCHIVE CATALOGUE OF ANIMAL BONES FOR SMY96

SITE	CON.	SPEC.	BONE	NO	SIDE	FUS	ZONES	TOOTH WEAR	COMMENTS
SMY96	024	CSZ	LBF	3	F				SHAFT FRAGS
SMY96	024	CSZ	RIB	2	F				SHAFT FRAGS
SMY96	024	CSZ	CDV	1	F	CF			ANT CENTRUM
SMY96	024	BOS	CEV	1	R	CFAF			SPLIT DOWN MIDDLE
SMY96	024	SSZ	TRV	1	F		1		FRAG SPINE
SMY96	024	EQU	RAD	1	L	PF	12		PROX END- IN 4 PIECES
SMY96	024	EQU	RAD	1	F				DISTAL SHAFT
SMY96	024	CSZ	UNI	9	F				INDET FRAGS
SMY96	024	BOS	TIB	1	L	PN	4		PROX SHAFT-POST CHOPPED LONGITUDINALLY
SMY96	024	BOS	MTT	1	R		12		PROX END
SMY96	024	BOS	ULN	1	R		23		SEMILUNARIS FRAGMENT
SMY96	024	SSZ	LBF	5	F				SHAFT FRAG
SMY96	024	SSZ	RIB	4	F				SHAFT FRAGS-ONE CHOPPED AND CHEWED
SMY96	024	CHIK	MTT	1	F				PROX HALF AND SPUR-MALE
SMY96	024	CHIK	FEM	1	R				JUVENILE
SMY96	024	OVCA	SCP	1	L		235		DISTAL END-CHEWED
SMY96	024	OVCA	TIB	1	L		4		PROX MIDSHAFT
SMY96	024	OVCA	RAD	1	R	DF	456		DISTAL END-TWO PIECES-WELL CHEWED
SMY96	024	OVCA	HUM	1	R		69		DISTAL SHAFT
SMY96	024	OVCA	RAD	1	F				MIDSHAFT FRAG
SMY96	024	OVCA	MTT	1	F	DF	3		DAMAGED DIST END-GRACILE
SMY96	024	OVCA	MTT	1	L		5		SHAFT-GRACILE-FRAG PROX END
SMY96	024	OVCA	PH1	1	L	PF	12		COMPLETE- GL-32.1
SMY96	024	OVCA	LM3	1	L			K10	
SMY96	024	OVCA	LM2	1	L			J7	
SMY96	024	OVCA	MAND	1	R		3	G	ANT RAMUS FRAG
SMY96	024	BOS	INN	1	F				ISCHIAL FRAG-CHEWED
SMY96	024	UNI	HC	1	F				LOOKS LIKE BIT GOAT OR SHEEP
SMY96	025	SSZ	FEM	1	F				SHAFT FRAG
SMY96	025	CSZ	LBF	2	F				SHAFT FRAGS
SMY96	025	SUS	MAND	1	F			I17	

SMY96 025	OVCA	TIB	1	L	DF	567		DISTAL END- Bd-26.1
SMY96 025	OVCA	SKL	1	R				ZYGOMATIC ARCH
SMY96 025	SSZ	RIB	1	F				SHAFT FRAG
SMY96 025	BOS	TIB	1	L	DF	56		DISTAL END-CHOPPED

SITE	CON.	SPEC.	BONE	NO	SIDE	FUS	ZONES	TOOTH WEAR	COMMENTS
SMY96 025		BOS	SCP	1	L				FRAG GLENOID
SMY96 025		BOS	MTC	1	L		1		FRAG PROX END
SMY96 025		BOS	PH3	1	L		1		COMPLETE
SMY96 025		BOS	LM2	1	R			J10	
SMY96 025		BOS	UM1	1	R			I16	
SMY96 025		CSZ	SKL	1	F				INDET FRAG
SMY96 025		CSZ	UNI	1	F				INDET
SMY96 025		UNI	UNI	1	F				INDET
SMY96 025		BOS	MAND	1	R				ANT FRAG ASC RAMUS

MOLLUSC CATALOGUE

SMY96 024	HELIX ASPERSA	GARDEN SNAIL
SMY96 025	OYSTER	LOWER VALVE

Appendix 6

Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling Ancient Monuments - Extract from *Archaeology and Planning* DoE Planning Policy Guidance note 16, November 1990

The following criteria (which are not in any order of ranking), are used for assessing the national importance of an ancient monument and considering whether scheduling is appropriate. The criteria should not however be regarded as definitive; rather they are indicators which contribute to a wider judgement based on the individual circumstances of a case.

i *Period*: all types of monuments that characterise a category or period should be considered for preservation.

ii *Rarity*: there are some monument categories which in certain periods are so scarce that all surviving examples which retain some archaeological potential should be preserved. In general, however, a selection must be made which portrays the typical and commonplace as well as the rare. This process should take account of all aspects of the distribution of a particular class of monument, both in a national and regional context.

iii *Documentation*: the significance of a monument may be enhanced by the existence of records of previous investigation or, in the case of more recent monuments, by the supporting evidence of contemporary written records.

iv *Group value*: the value of a single monument (such as a field system) may be greatly enhanced by its association with related contemporary monuments (such as a settlement or cemetery) or with monuments of different periods. In some cases, it is preferable to protect the complete group of monuments, including associated and adjacent land, rather than to protect isolated monuments within the group.

v *Survival/Condition*: the survival of a monument's archaeological potential both above and below ground is a particularly important consideration and should be assessed in relation to its present condition and surviving features.

vi *Fragility/Vulnerability*: highly important archaeological evidence from some field monuments can be destroyed by a single ploughing or unsympathetic treatment; vulnerable monuments of this nature would particularly benefit from the statutory protection that scheduling confers. There are also existing standing structures of particular form or complexity whose value can again be severely reduced by neglect or careless treatment and which are similarly well suited by scheduled monument protection, even if these structures are already listed buildings.

vii *Diversity*: some monuments may be selected for scheduling because they possess a combination of high quality features, others because of a single important attribute.

viii *Potential*: on occasion, the nature of the evidence cannot be specified precisely but it may still be possible to document reasons anticipating its existence and importance and so to demonstrate the justification for scheduling. This is usually confined to sites rather than upstanding monuments.

Appendix 7
THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

28	Context records
4	Photographic record sheets
8	Scale drawings
1	Box of finds
1	Stratigraphic matrix

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

City and County Museum, Lincoln, Accession Number: 151.96
Archaeological Project Services Site Code: SMY96

Appendix 8

GLOSSARY

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.* (4).

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.

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).

Layer A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.

Natural Deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.