
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
ON LAND AT
OUNDLE ROAD,
PETERBOROUGH**

Work Commissioned by
Persimmon Homes East Midlands

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Report Compiled by
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES

A.P.S. Report No. **69/12**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES**



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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Oundle Road, Peterborough in order to determine the archaeological implications of proposed development at the site.

The trial trenching revealed little of potential archaeological interest, identifying only a single undated pit and shallow gully. Deeper deposits and dumped 18th-19th century material at the northern end of the field reflect a different land use history here.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

An archaeological evaluation is defined as *'a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If such archaeological remains are present Field Evaluation defines their character and extent, quality and preservation, and it enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate'* (IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Persimmon Homes East Midlands Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological investigation in advance of proposed development on land at Oundle Road, Peterborough. The evaluation was undertaken between the 18th and 19th of September 2012 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the Peterborough City Archaeologist.

2.3 Topography and Geology

The site is about 6km southwest of the centre of Peterborough close to the village of Alwalton. The site lies on the south side of the A605 Oundle Road some 300m southeast of the centre of the village at National Grid Reference TL 13645 95789

The lies at about 20m OD on gently sloping ground on the south side of the River Nene. Soils of the area are calcareous clayey and fine loamy over clayey soils of the Evesham 3 Association developed on Jurassic clay (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 189). The site is more or less level, but sitting slightly higher than the level of Oundle Road sloping down at the northern end.

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Although no finds are known from within the boundaries of the site, past excavations in the wider area have revealed evidence for prehistoric and later activity in the form of settlement, field systems and funerary monuments. Iron Age and Roman settlement remains have been recorded around Alwalton immediately to the north and extensively either side of the river with evidence for villa settlement, human burials and pottery production.

3. AIMS

The aim of the evaluation was to gather information to establish the presence or absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits in order to enable the Peterborough City Archaeologist to formulate a policy for the management of archaeological resources present on the site.

4. METHODS

Four trenches were excavated to a depth at which archaeological remains were visible, or to the surface of the underlying natural geology. Trenches were placed randomly to give good coverage of the site area (Fig 3).

Removal of topsoil and other overburden was undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. The exposed surfaces of the trenches were then cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains.

Each deposit exposed during the evaluation was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A photographic record was also compiled and sections and plans were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and 1:20 respectively. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

The location of the excavated trenches was surveyed using a Total Station and fixed in relation to points on boundaries and on existing buildings.

Following excavation, finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 3). The records were also checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

5. RESULTS

The results of the archaeological evaluation are discussed in trench order. Archaeological contexts are described below. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

Trench 1 (Fig 4) (Plate 1)

The earliest deposit recorded in Trench 1 was a moderately stony orange sandy clay (102) which was present throughout the trench.

A possible pit [104], at least 1.5m by 1m and 0.24m deep, was cut into (102) and filled with compact orange brown sandy clay (103) (Fig 4). The pit had an irregular profile and uneven base. No artefacts were recovered from the fill and this remains undated.

Deposit (102) was overlain by a 0.32m mid brown sandy clay loam topsoil (101).

Trench 2 (Fig. 3; Plate 2)

The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 2 was a stony orange sandy clay (202), very similar to (102), present throughout the trench.

Natural deposit (202) was overlain by a 0.3m thick mid brown sandy clay loam topsoil (201).

No archaeological features were identified in this trench.

Trench 3 (Fig 4) (Plates 3 & 4)

Two natural layers were identified in Trench 3. At the western end was a stony orange sandy clay (303), very similar to the natural deposits identified in Trenches 1 and 2. Towards the east was a paler orange, and slightly less stony, sand clay (302). Part of a gravel-filled drain cutting through (302) was excavated in order to characterise this deposit further and established that this did form part of the natural soil profile.

Towards the western end of the trench the natural deposits were cut by a shallow flat-bottomed gully [305] at least 6.7m long by 0.4m wide but only 0.04m deep. This was filled with compact mid brown sandy clay (304). No artefacts were retrieved

from this fill.

All features and deposits were overlain by a 0.36m thick mid brown sandy clay loam topsoil (301).

Trench 4 (Fig 4; Plates 5 & 6)

At the base of Trench 4 natural deposits comprised a compact pale orange sandy clay (402). This was overlain by dumped deposits except at the northernmost limit of the trench closest to Oundle Road where the ground level was somewhat lower.

In the southern half of the trench a 0.2m thick deposit of orangish mid-brown sandy clay (407) overlay (402).

Where the ground sloped down towards Oundle Road there was a deeper accumulation of deposits. (406) was up to 0.7m deep, comprising compact mid grey sandy clay with orange mottles. No cultural material was retrieved from this layer, but it was overlain by a 0.15m thick mid-dark brown moderately compact sandy clay (403) which contained post-medieval porcelain, glass, brick, and iron objects (Appendix 3).

These layers were sealed by grey brown compact sandy clay subsoil (405) and the whole trench covered with 0.40-0.45m thick mid brown sandy clay loam topsoil (401).

6. DISCUSSION

Archaeological evaluation revealed very little of potential archaeological interest. One pit in Trench 1 at the southern end of the site yielded no cultural material or dating evidence. Its irregular profile and uneven base might suggest origin as a tree bowl.

A shallow gully was identified in Trench 3 running southwest-northeast. This was

not well preserved, being only some 4cm deep, and yielded no dating evidence. However, its alignment does not fit in with the current layout of the field, so this may be of greater age.

Trench 4 showed evidence for post-medieval dumping and levelling of the ground at the northern end of the field. In contrast to the remainder of the site, a 0.2m deep subsoil was present across this area with deeper deposits on the slope down towards the road. A thin deposit below the subsoil contained 18th and early 19th century material but the thicker deposit beneath yielded nothing further. Earlier Ordnance Survey mapping and online aerial photography both indicate a different history of land use towards the northern end of the field. The development area previously fell within the East of England Showground. A track shown on 1980s and 90s OS mapping crosses this northern edge of the field. More recently this area was in use by contractors during development of the housing estate immediately to the east. Neither of these episodes has left any very clear trace but might account for the different deposits observed at this end of the field.

7. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Oundle Road, Peterborough in advance of residential development. The trial trenching revealed little of potential archaeological interest, identifying only a single undated pit and shallow gully. Deeper deposits and dumped 18th-19th century material at the northern end of the field reflect a different land use history here.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to

acknowledge the assistance of Todd Merrell in commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis on behalf of Persimmon Homes East Midlands Ltd and arranging access. The work was coordinated by Steve Malone who edited this report along with Tom Lane.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Steve Malone
Site Staff: Steve Malone, Andrew Failes, Steve Thomson
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
Illustration: Steve Malone
Post-excavation Analyst: Steve Malone

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Hodge, CAH, Burton, RGO, Corbett, WM, Evans, R, and Seale, RS, 1984 *Soils and their use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales 13

IFA, 1999 *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation*

11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services
GPS Global Positioning System
IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists
OS Ordnance Survey



Figure 1 General location map

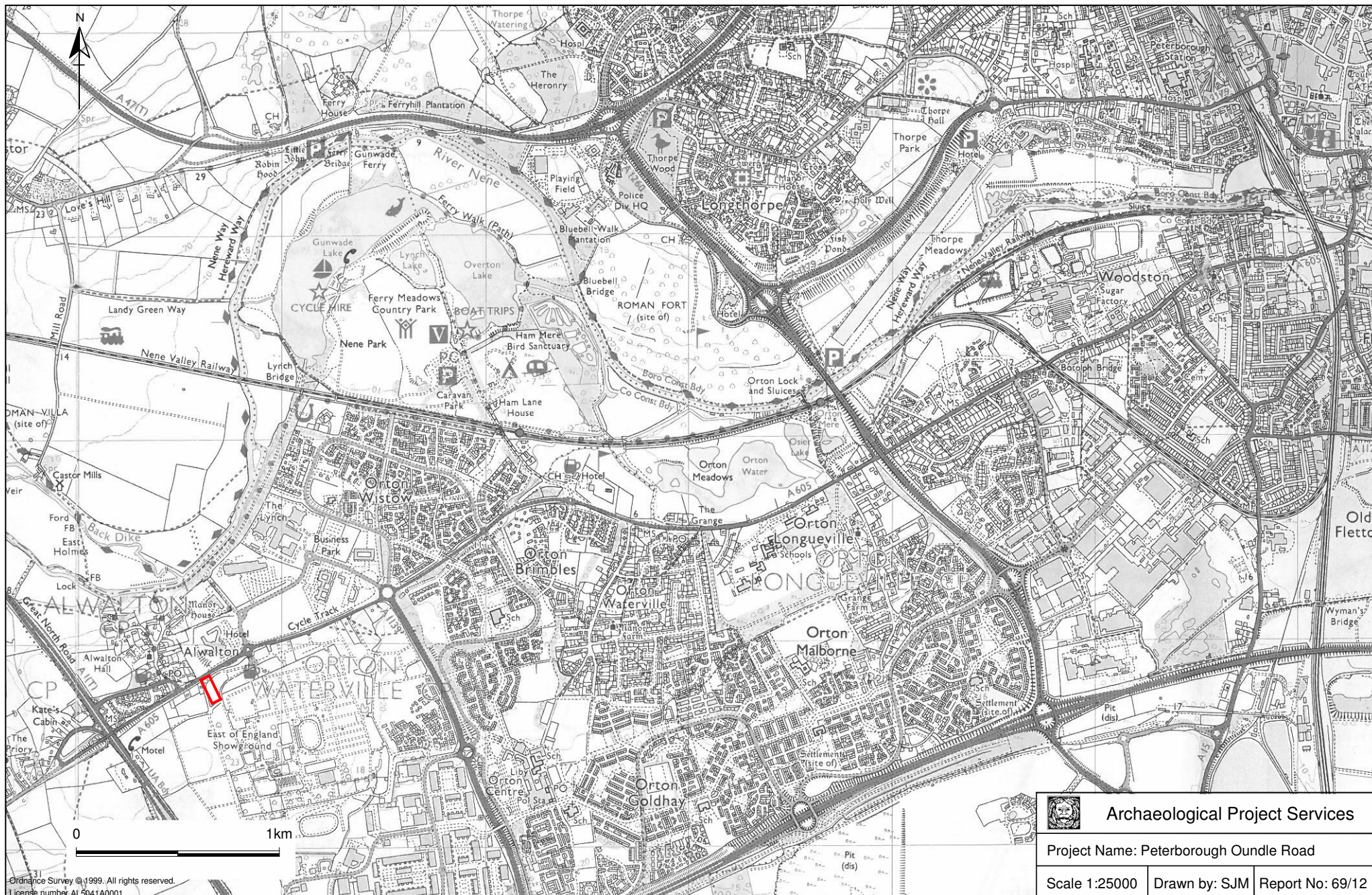


Figure 2 Site location

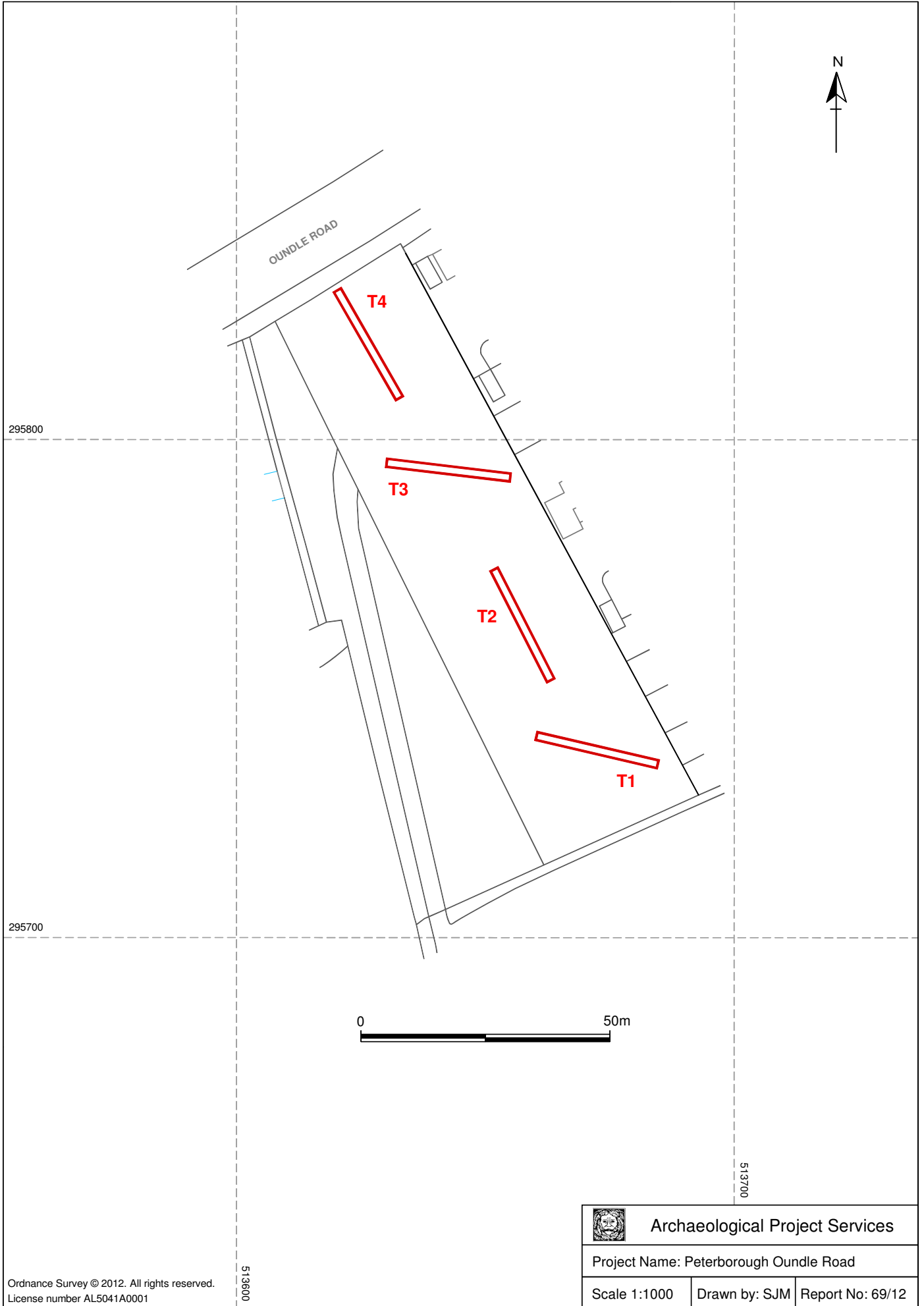


Figure 3 Location and layout of trenches

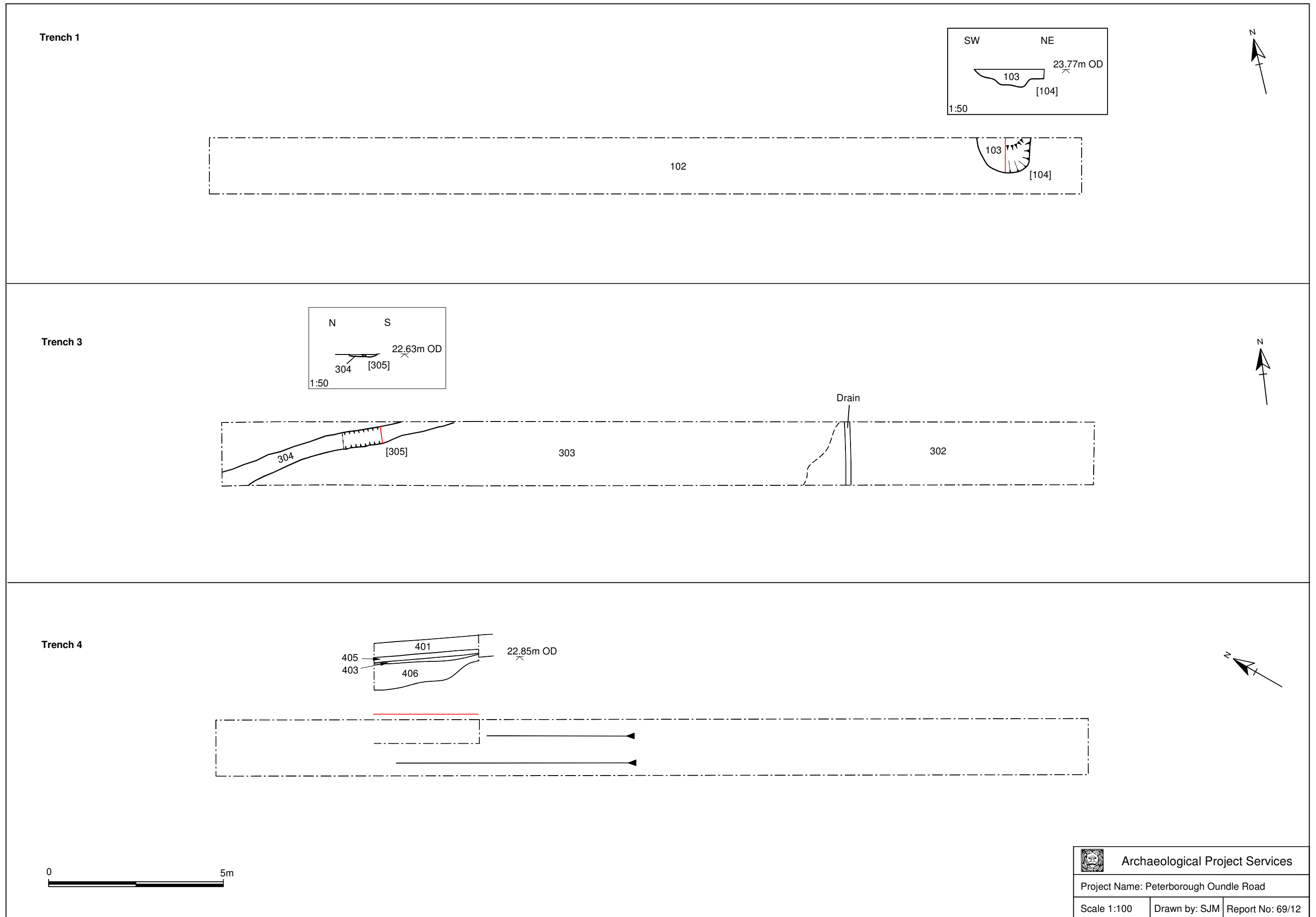


Figure 4 Trenches 1, 3 and 4 excavated features



Plate 1 Trench 1 looking northwest, pit [104] in foreground



Plate 2 Trench 2 looking south



Plate 3 Trench 3 looking northwest



Plate 4 Trench 3 [304] excavated section



Plate 5 Trench 4 looking south



Plate 6 Trench 4
deposits 403, 406

Appendix 1

Specification for Archaeological Evaluation

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land at Oundle Road, Alwalton, Peterborough.*
- 1.2 *The area is archaeologically sensitive, lying in an area with potential to contain prehistoric and Roman remains.*
- 1.3 *A programme of archaeological evaluation by trial trenching is required at the site.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the findings of the investigation. The report will consist of a text describing the nature of the archaeological deposits located and will be supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land at Oundle Road, Alwalton, Peterborough (land west of East of England Way, Orton Northgate).
- 2.2 The document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview
 - 2.2.2 The archaeological and natural setting
 - 2.2.3 Stages of work and methodologies to be used
 - 2.2.4 List of specialists
 - 2.2.5 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 Alwalton is located about 6km southwest of the centre of Peterborough. The site lies on the south side of the A605 Oundle Road some 300m southeast of the centre of the village at National Grid Reference TL 13645 95789.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Planning permission (12/00355/FUL) has been granted for development of the site, subject to a condition requiring a programme of archaeological evaluation by trial trenching.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The lies at about 20m OD on gently sloping ground on the south side of the River Nene. Soils of the area are calcareous clayey and fine loamy over clayey soils of the Evesham 3 Association developed on Jurassic clay (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 189).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Although no finds are known from within the boundaries of the site, past excavations in the wider area have revealed evidence for prehistoric and later activity in the form of settlement, field systems and funerary monuments. Iron Age and Roman settlement remains have been recorded around Alwalton itself and extensively either side of the river with evidence for villa settlement, human burials and pottery production.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aim of the work will be to gather sufficient information for the archaeological curator to be able to formulate a policy for the management of the archaeological resources present on the site.
- 7.2 The objectives of the work will be to:
 - 7.2.1 Establish the type of archaeological activity that may be present within the site.
 - 7.2.2 Determine the likely extent of archaeological activity present within the site.
 - 7.2.3 Determine the date and function of the archaeological features present on the site.
 - 7.2.4 Determine the state of preservation of the archaeological features present on the site.
 - 7.2.5 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features present within the site.
 - 7.2.6 Determine the extent to which the surrounding archaeological features extend into the application area.
 - 7.2.7 Establish the way in which the archaeological features identified fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

8 LIAISON WITH THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CURATOR

- 8.1 Close contact will be maintained with the archaeological curator throughout the investigation to ensure that the scheme of works fulfils their requirements.

9 FIELDWORK

- 9.1 Reasoning for techniques
 - 9.1.1 Trial trenching enables the *in situ* determination of the sequence, date, nature, depth, environmental potential and density of archaeological features present on the site.
 - 9.1.2 The trial trenching of 100 linear metres is proposed, in an arrangement of 4 trenches, in locations to be agreed with the Peterborough City Archaeologist (subject to constraints, eg, services). A further 20 linear metres of trenching will be carried out as a contingency, in the event of significant remains being encountered.
- 9.2 General Considerations
 - 9.2.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the investigation.
 - 9.2.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practice issued by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA). *Archaeological Project Services* is an IfA Registered Archaeological Organisation (No. 21), managed by a member (MifA) of the institute.
 - 9.2.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be ‘treasure’, as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner’s office.
 - 9.2.4 Excavation of the archaeological features exposed will only be undertaken as far as is required to determine their date, sequence, density and nature. Not all archaeological

features exposed will necessarily be excavated. However, the investigation will, as far as is reasonably practicable, determine the level of the natural deposits to ensure that the depth of the archaeological sequence present on the site is established.

- 9.2.5 If necessary, open trenches will be marked by orange mesh fencing attached to road irons or similar poles. Subject to the consent of the archaeological curator, and following the appropriate recording, the trenches, particularly those of excessive depth, will be backfilled as soon as possible to minimise any health and safety risks.

9.3 Methodology

9.3.1 Removal of the topsoil and any other overburden will be undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. To ensure that the correct amount of material is removed and that no archaeological deposits are damaged, this work will be supervised by Archaeological Project Services. On completion of the removal of the overburden, the nature of the underlying deposits will be assessed by hand excavation before any further mechanical excavation that may be required. Thereafter, the trenches will be cleaned by hand to enable the identification and analysis of the archaeological features exposed.

9.3.2 Investigation of the features will be undertaken only as far as required to determine their date, form and function. The work will consist of half- or quarter-sectioning of features as required and, where appropriate, the removal of layers. Should features be located which may be worthy of preservation *in situ*, excavation will be limited to the absolute minimum, (*ie* the minimum disturbance) necessary to interpret the form, function and date of the features.

9.3.3 The archaeological features encountered will be recorded on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma context record sheets. The system used is the single context method by which individual archaeological units of stratigraphy are assigned a unique record number and are individually described and drawn.

9.3.4 Plans of features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. Should individual features merit it, they will be drawn at a larger scale.

9.3.5 Throughout the duration of the trial trenching a photographic record consisting of black and white prints (reproduced as contact sheets) and colour slides will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:

- the site before the commencement of field operations.
- the site during work to show specific stages of work, and the layout of the archaeology within individual trenches.
- individual features and, where appropriate, their sections.
- groups of features where their relationship is important.
- the site on completion of fieldwork

9.3.6 Should human remains be encountered, they will be left *in situ* with excavation being limited to the identification and recording of such remains. If removal of the remains is necessary the appropriate Ministry of Justice licences will be obtained and the local environmental health department informed. If relevant, the coroner and the police will be notified.

9.3.7 Finds collected during the fieldwork will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered ready for later washing and analysis. The soil heaps and excavation surfaces will be metal detected to aid artefact recovery.

9.3.8 The spoil generated during the investigation will be mounded along the edges of the trial trenches with the topsoil being kept separate from the other material excavated for subsequent backfilling.

9.3.9 The precise location of the trenches within the site and the location of site recording grid will be established by a GPS and/or EDM survey.

10 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

10.1 If appropriate, during the investigation specialist advice will be obtained from an environmental archaeologist. The specialist will visit the site and will prepare a report detailing the nature of the environmental material present on the site and its potential for additional analysis should further stages of archaeological work be required. The results of the specialist's assessment will be incorporated into the final report

11 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT

11.1 Stage 1

11.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the trial trenching will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence constituting a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued: the colour slides will be labelled and mounted on appropriate hangers and the black and white contact prints will be labelled, in both cases the labelling will refer to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

11.1.2 All finds recovered during the trial trenching will be washed, marked, bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

11.2 Stage 2

11.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.

11.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

11.3 Stage 3

11.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the investigation will be prepared. This will consist of:

- A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
- A description of the archaeological setting of the site.
- Description of the topography and geology of the investigation area.
- Description of the methodologies used during the investigation and discussion of their effectiveness in the light of the results.
- A text describing the findings of the investigation.
- Plans of the trenches showing the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.

- Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.
- Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape.
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features or groups of features.
- A consideration of the significance of the remains found, in local, regional, national and international terms, using recognised evaluation criteria.

12 **ARCHIVE**

12.1 The documentation, finds, photographs and other records and materials generated during the investigation will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the appropriate local museum. This sorting will be undertaken according to the guidelines and conditions stipulated by the museum, and appropriate national guidelines, for long-term storage and curation.

13 **REPORT DEPOSITION**

13.1 Copies of the investigation report will be sent to: the client; the Peterborough City Archaeologist; and the Peterborough City Council Historic Environment Record.

14 **PUBLICATION**

14.1 Details of the investigation will be input to the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS).

14.2 A report of the findings of the investigation will be submitted for inclusion in the journal *Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society*. Notes or articles describing the results of the investigation will also be submitted for publication in the appropriate national journals: *Medieval Archaeology* for medieval and later remains, and *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date.

15 **CURATORIAL MONITORING**

15.1 Curatorial responsibility for the project lies with the Peterborough City Archaeologist. As much notice as possible, ideally fourteen days, will be given in writing to the curator prior to the commencement of the project to enable them to make appropriate monitoring arrangements. However, the curator will be contacted at the earliest opportunity to seek reduction, or waiving, of this notification period.

16 **VARIATIONS TO THE PROPOSED SCHEME OF WORKS**

16.1 Variations to the scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation from the archaeological curator, the client and their consultant.

16.2 Should the archaeological curator require any additional investigation beyond the scope of the brief for works, or this specification, then the cost and duration of those supplementary examinations will be negotiated between the client and the contractor.

17 **STAFF TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT**

17.1 The work will be directed by Tom Lane MifA, Senior Archaeologist, Archaeological Project Services. The on-site works will be supervised by an Archaeological Supervisor with knowledge of archaeological evaluations of this type. Archaeological excavation will be

carried out by Archaeological Technicians, experienced in projects of this type.

- 17.2 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

| <u>Task</u> | <u>Body to be undertaking the work</u> |
|-------------------------|---|
| Conservation | Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln. |
| Pottery Analysis | Prehistoric: D Trimble, APS Roman: A Beeby, APS Post-Roman: A Beeby in consultation with A Irving, independent specialist |
| Other Artefacts | J Cowgill, independent specialist/G Taylor, APS |
| Human Remains Analysis | G Weston, Ossafreelance |
| Animal Remains Analysis | P Cope-Faulkner, APS |
| Environmental Analysis | Environmental Archaeology Consultancy, or Val Fryer, independent specialist |
| Radiocarbon dating | Beta Analytic Inc., Florida, USA |
| Dendrochronology dating | University of Sheffield Dendrochronology Laboratory |

18 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 18.1 Evaluation fieldwork will be undertaken by appropriate staff, including supervisors and assistants, and to take about 3 days.
- 18.2 Post-excavation analysis and report production will take about 10 days. A project officer or supervisor will undertake most of the analysis, with assistance from the finds supervisor, CAD illustrator and external specialists.

19 INSURANCES

- 19.1 Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains Employers Liability insurance to £10,000,000. Additionally, the company maintains Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation are enclosed.

20 COPYRIGHT

- 20.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.
- 20.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.

- 20.3 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* and may result in legal action.
- 20.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

21 **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Hodge, CAH, Burton, RGO, Corbett, WM, Evans, R, and Seale, RS, 1984 Soils and their use in Eastern England, Soil Survey of England and Wales 13

Specification: Version 1, 29 August 2012

APPENDIX 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

| No. | Description | Interpretation |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| 101 | moderately compact mid brown sandy clay loam + occ. small-med rounded pebbles | Topsoil |
| 102 | compact orange – pale orange sandy clay + freq. small-med pebbles + moderate small angular flint (in patches) | Natural |
| 103 | compact orange brown sandy clay + moderate small-med pebbles and flint | Fill of [104] |
| 104 | pit at least 1.5m x 1m x 0.24m deep – irregular profile, uneven base, no artefacts | pit (tree bowl?) |
| 201 | as 101 | Topsoil |
| 202 | compact orange – pale orange sandy clay + occ small-med pebbles + rare small flint | Natural |
| 301 | as 101 | Topsoil |
| 302 | compact pale orange sandy clay + occ small-med pebbles | Natural |
| 303 | as 202 | Natural |
| 304 | compact mid brown sandy clay + occ small stones | Fill of [305] |
| 305 | shallow flat-bottomed gully at least 6.7m long x 0.4m wide x 0.04m deep | Gully |
| 401 | as 101 | Topsoil |
| 402 | as 302 | Natural |
| 403 | mid-dark brown moderately compact sandy clay + occ small-med stones + charcoal flecks + porcelain, brick, iron | Deposit |
| 404 | shallow cut into slope 0.6m deep | Terrace cut |
| 405 | grey brown compact sandy clay + few small stones | Subsoil |
| 406 | compact mid grey + orange mottles sandy clay + few small pebbles | Deposit |
| 407 | compact orangish mid -brown sandy clay | Dumped deposit |

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

THE FINDS

By Gary Taylor

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification where necessary. This information was then added to an Access database. A list of the pottery and other material is given in Table 1. The assemblage ranges in date from the 17th to early 19th century.

Condition

Generally the harder creamware and pearlware sherds are in good condition but the earthenware sherds somewhat abraded. The poor condition of the glass in particular, broken into small pieces, and mixed nature of the deposit, suggests all the material is redeposited and probably represents dumping of material derived from nearby properties rather than domestic occupation within the site itself.

Results

Table 1, Summary of the material from (403)

| Material | Full name | NoS | Date |
|----------|---|-----|----------|
| CERAMIC | pearlware saucer, blue painted | 1 | L18 |
| CERAMIC | pearlware saucer | 2 | L18 |
| CERAMIC | creamware | 2 | E19 |
| CERAMIC | glazed red earthenware, green-brown glaze | 1 | C17 |
| CERAMIC | glazed red earthenware, white slipped | 1 | E18 |
| CBM | roof tile | 1 | post-med |
| GLASS | glass phial | 7 | C19 |
| GLASS | window glass | 1 | C19 |
| Fe | Iron spike | 1 | |
| Fe | heavy-headed iron spike | 1 | |
| Bone | cattle bone | 1 | |

Provenance

All of the material was recovered from layer (403) in Trench 4.

Potential

No further work is required on the assemblage. The material is recommended for discard.

Summary

A small group of 18th and early 19th century pottery was recovered from the site. The material has probably been dumped.

SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 2 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 2, Spot dates

| Cxt | Date | Comments |
|-----|----------------|----------|
| 403 | early-med 19th | |

Appendix 4

GLOSSARY

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Alluvium | Deposits laid down by water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea, and fresh water alluvium is laid down by rivers and in lakes. |
| Bronze Age | A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 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]. |
| 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) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s). |
| Headland | Strip of uncultivated land left between areas of ridge and furrow which was used for turning the plough. These strips provided access and often became lanes or roads. |
| Iron Age | A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50. |
| Layer | A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut. |
| Medieval | 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 | The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500 - 2250 BC. |
| Post-medieval | The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800. |
| Ridge and Furrow | The remains of arable cultivation consisting of raised rounded strips separated by furrows. It is characteristic of open field agriculture. |
| Romano-British | Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain. |
| Saxon | Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany. |

Appendix 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| 4 | Trench recording sheets |
| 2 | Context records |
| 1 | Photographic record sheets |
| 1 | Section record sheet |
| 1 | Plan record sheet |
| 2 | Daily record sheets |
| 3 | Sheets of scale drawings |

All primary records are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery
Priestgate,
Peterborough
PE1 1LF

The archive will be deposited in accordance with 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* (Museum & Galleries Commission 1992).

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Archaeological Project Services Site Code: | ALOR12 |
| OASIS Record Number | archaeo11-134808 |

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

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