



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND
RECORDING AT CAMEL GATE/
MARSH ROAD,
SPALDING,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SPCG 11)**

**Work Undertaken For
TF Bowman and Sons**

January 2013

Report Compiled by
Paul Cope-Faulkner BA (Hons)

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Planning Application No: H16-0426-11
The Collection Accession No: LCNCC: 2011.347
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APS Report No. **12/13**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES**



Quality Control
 Marsh Road,
 Spalding
 SPCG 12

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Finds Processing	Denise Buckley
Illustration	Paul Cope-Faulkner
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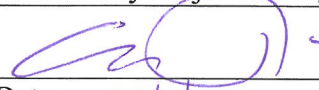

Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
 Gary Taylor	 Tom Lane
Date: 22/1/13	Date: 22-1-13

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1. SUMMARY

A programme of archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken at Camel Gate/Marsh Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire. The investigations monitored the excavation of stanchion pits for a new storage warehouse.

The site lies close to the hamlet of Fulney which is first documented during the medieval period (AD 1066-1540), although finds from the area suggests that it may have originated in the Late Saxon era (AD 850-1066). Previous investigations in the vicinity of the site have revealed remains of Romano-British date (AD 43-410), often buried beneath later deposits of alluvium.

The investigations revealed extensive alluvial deposits of which some may be of pre-Roman date which were overlain by younger alluvium, including one layer dated to the medieval period. A medieval ditch was revealed as was an undated pit and palaeochannel.

Finds retrieved from the investigation comprise three sherds of pottery dated to the 11th – 13th century and fragments of fired clay.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by TF Bowman and Sons to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks associated with new storage facilities at Marsh Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application H16-0426-11. The investigations were carried out between the 1st and 20th June 2012 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services and

approved by the Historic Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council.

2.2 Topography and Geology

Spalding is located 22km southwest of Boston and 30km southeast of Sleaford in the administrative district of South Holland, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development area is located 2.5km northeast of Spalding town centre at National Grid Reference TF 2645 2450 (Fig. 2). Situated on the east side of Marsh Road, the site lies at a height of c. 3.5m OD on generally level ground adjacent to the River Welland.

Local soils are of the Wisbech and Stockwith Series, typically coarse and silty over clayey calcareous alluvial gley soils respectively (Robson 1990, 28, 36). These are developed upon a drift geology of younger marine alluvium which in turn seals a solid geology of Jurassic Oxford Clay (BGS 1992).

2.3 Archaeological Setting

Little evidence of prehistoric activity has been discovered in the Spalding area as it is believed that the prehistoric land surfaces are now deeply buried by alluvial silts. However, occasional casual finds of late prehistoric date have been reported.

For the Roman period evidence is also sparse, although cropmarks around Spalding reveal a number of roads, including the Baston-Outgang, centring on the town. This could suggest the presence of a sizeable Romano-British settlement, such as a small town, in the area. Previous investigations just to the east of the present development site revealed remains of early Roman date, perhaps a small settlement. These remains were buried about 1m below the present ground surface by later flood silts (Miller 1998). Some of the pottery recovered from the site was in an Iron Age tradition, and there were possible

late Iron Age fragments amongst the ceramics (Elsdon and Cope-Faulkner 1998).

Very little early to mid Saxon remains have been identified in Spalding though it is believed that the town was an important centre during this period. The name Spalding is derived from the Old English group name, *Spaldingas* 'the people of the Spalde'. *Spalde* is the name of a tribe, recorded in the 7th - 8th century tribute list known as the Tribal Hideage (Cameron 1998, 114).

Spalding is also documented in the Domesday Book survey of c. 1086 and was by this time an important centre having a priory, castle and a market as well as resources such as fisheries and salt-pans (Foster and Longley 1976). However, the development site lies to the east of the town in the area of the small hamlet of Fulney.

Fulney is first referred to in the Pipe Rolls of 1166 and the name is derived from the Old English *fūl* and *ēa* meaning 'the dirty stream' (Cameron 1998, 48). By 1307 there was a track called *Fulneydrove* and a drain named *Fulney Gote* (Wheeler 1896, 103; app. 1.16). A chapel is recorded as existing in Fulney in 1486 (Marrat 1814, 275).

Large quantities of pottery of Late Saxon and medieval date have been identified as surface scatters during previous investigations southeast of the site and in the general vicinity. These artefact spreads are generally thought to derive from the Fulney hamlet, and also to suggest an earlier origin for the settlement than indicated by documentary sources (Cope-Faulkner 1998). Furthermore, ditches of the Late Saxon and medieval field systems were identified during investigations at Springfields to the south of the site (ASUD 2002). Marsh Road follows the line of the former sea-bank, which may date to the Late Saxon period.

3. AIMS

The aim of the archaeological investigation was to ensure that any archaeological features exposed during the groundworks should be recorded and, if present, to determine their date, function and origin.

4. METHODS

Stanchion pits and connecting trenches for the new store were excavated by machine to depths required by the development, generally 1m below the current ground level. Following excavation the sides of the trenches were then cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were excavated further to retrieve artefactual material and to determine their function. Each deposit was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their descriptions appears as Appendix 1. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and 1:20. Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

Following excavation finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 2). The records were also checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them and supplemented by artefact dating.

5. RESULTS

Archaeological contexts are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

The earliest deposits encountered were of bluish grey clay (012) and silty clay (028

and 038) encountered in Pits 19, 51 and 61.

These were sealed by sequences of alluvial deposits across the site. In the southernmost row of pits, the sequence consisted of grey and reddish brown silty clay (005) overlain by brownish grey sandy silt (006) or greyish brown silty clay (004), followed by greyish yellow sandy silt (003). These had a maximum combined thickness of 0.69m (Plate 1).

To the north, in Pits 21 to 40, the lowest alluvial deposit was a layer of mixed yellowish brown and grey silty clay (021) that was over 0.2m thick (Fig. 4, Section 5; Fig. 5, Sections 6 and 7). This was sealed by a 0.55m thick layer of yellowish brown silty clay (020).

The next row of pits northwards (Nos. 63-85) had a lower deposit of greyish brown clayey silt (032). This was overlain by greyish brown laminated silt (031 and 035) followed by yellowish brown silt (030 and 034). The maximum combined thickness of these layers was 0.71m (Fig. 5, Sections 10 and 11). A sherd of 12th to 13th century date was retrieved from (031).

Overlying the bluish grey silty clay in the northernmost row of pits was an alluvial deposit of greyish brown silt (024 and 027), measuring over 0.39m thick (Fig. 5, Sections 8 and 9). This was in turn sealed by yellowish brown silt (023, 026 and 037).

Cut into the upper level of alluvial deposits in Pit 14 was a pit (009). This measured 2.3m long, over 0.6m wide and was 0.25m deep (Fig. 4, Section 3; Plate 3). Two fills were recorded, a lower of mixed grey charcoal with greyish brown clayey silt (008) and an upper of greyish brown clayey silt (007). Undated fired clay fragments were found within (008).

Situated 28m to the northeast, in Pit 19, was a possible palaeochannel (011) which

was over 3m long, wider than 2m and deeper than 0.46m (Fig. 4, Section 4; Plate 4). This contained a single fill of greyish yellow sandy silt (010).

Located 30m northwest of this was ditch (019) recorded in Pits 39 and 40. This was visible for a length of 4.5m and was 2m wide and over 0.58m deep (Fig. 4, Section 5; Fig. 5, Sections 6 and 7; Plates 5 and 6). Six fills were recorded, the lowest comprising grey silty clay (018) over which was mixed yellowish brown silty clay and grey silt with fired clay fragments (017) followed by grey/black silt with charcoal (016), then grey clayey silt (015), greyish brown clayey silt (014) and finally a deposit of greyish brown sandy silt (013). Stamford ware, of 11th – 12th century date was recovered from fills (013) and (016) and fired clay from (017).

Sealing all archaeological deposits in the southern part of the site (between Pits 1 and 20) was a subsoil layer. This consisted of a 0.18m thick layer of brown clayey silt (002). This was in turn sealed by the current topsoil of greyish brown clayey silt (001) and brownish grey clayey silt (022, 029, 033 and 036).

6. DISCUSSION

Alluvial deposits of sandy silts, silty clays, clay, silts and clayey silts relate to the underlying drift geology of marine alluvium. The bluish grey clays and silty clays are possibly older marine alluvium, perhaps deposited during the Iron Age. The remaining alluvial deposits in the sequence may be of Post-Roman date with continued deposition into the early medieval period. A palaeochannel is also of natural origin, though remains undated.

A single ditch was dated to the medieval period. This was dated to the 11th – 12th centuries and appears to occupy a slightly higher stratigraphic position than the alluvial deposit from which broadly

contemporary pottery was retrieved. This may indicate that the final alluvial sequence occurred rapidly, perhaps as a flooding episode from the nearby Welland.

A pit also contained fired clay but this was undateable.

Finds retrieved from the investigation comprise pottery of 11th – 13th century date and fired clay fragments.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Camel Gate/Marsh Road, Spalding, as the site lay close to previous discoveries of Iron Age-Roman, Late Saxon and medieval date.

The investigations revealed extensive alluvial layers of which one was dated to the medieval period and probably relates to a flooding episode associated with the nearby Welland. An undated palaeochannel and pit were also recorded as was a large medieval ditch.

Finds from the investigation comprise medieval pottery and fired clay.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Rita Bowman of TF Bowman and Sons for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Dave Start kindly allowed access to the parish files and library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor

Site Supervisors: Alex Beeby, Mark Peachey, Russell Trimble

Finds processing: Denise Buckley

Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth

Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner

Post-excavation analysis: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

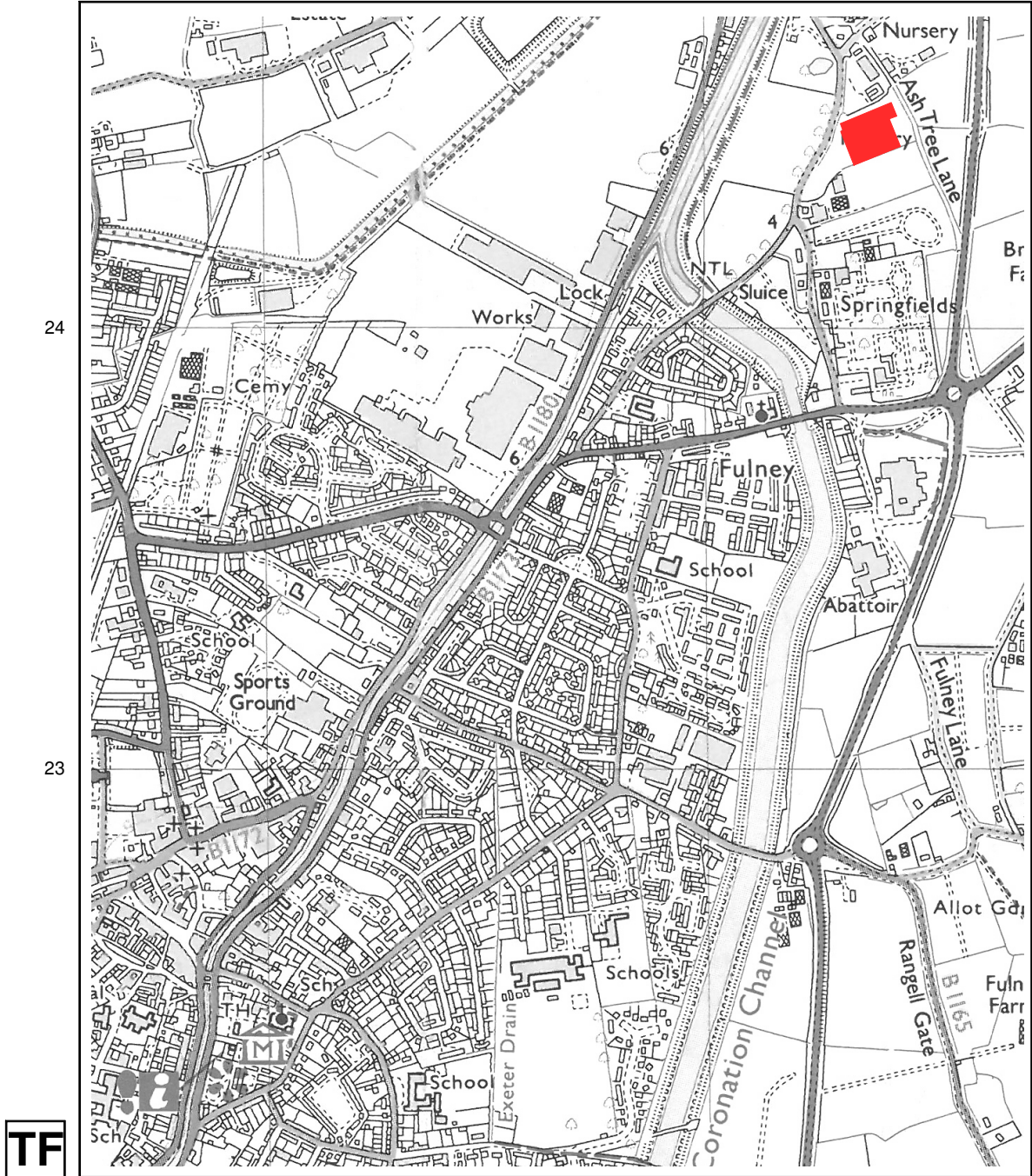
APS Archaeological Project Services


ASUD Archaeological Services, University of Durham

BGS British Geological Survey



Figure 1 - General location plan



 Proposed new building

0  800m

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	Archaeological Project Services	
Project Name: Marsh Road, Spalding SPCG11		
Scale 1:15000	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 12/13

Figure 2 - Site location plan

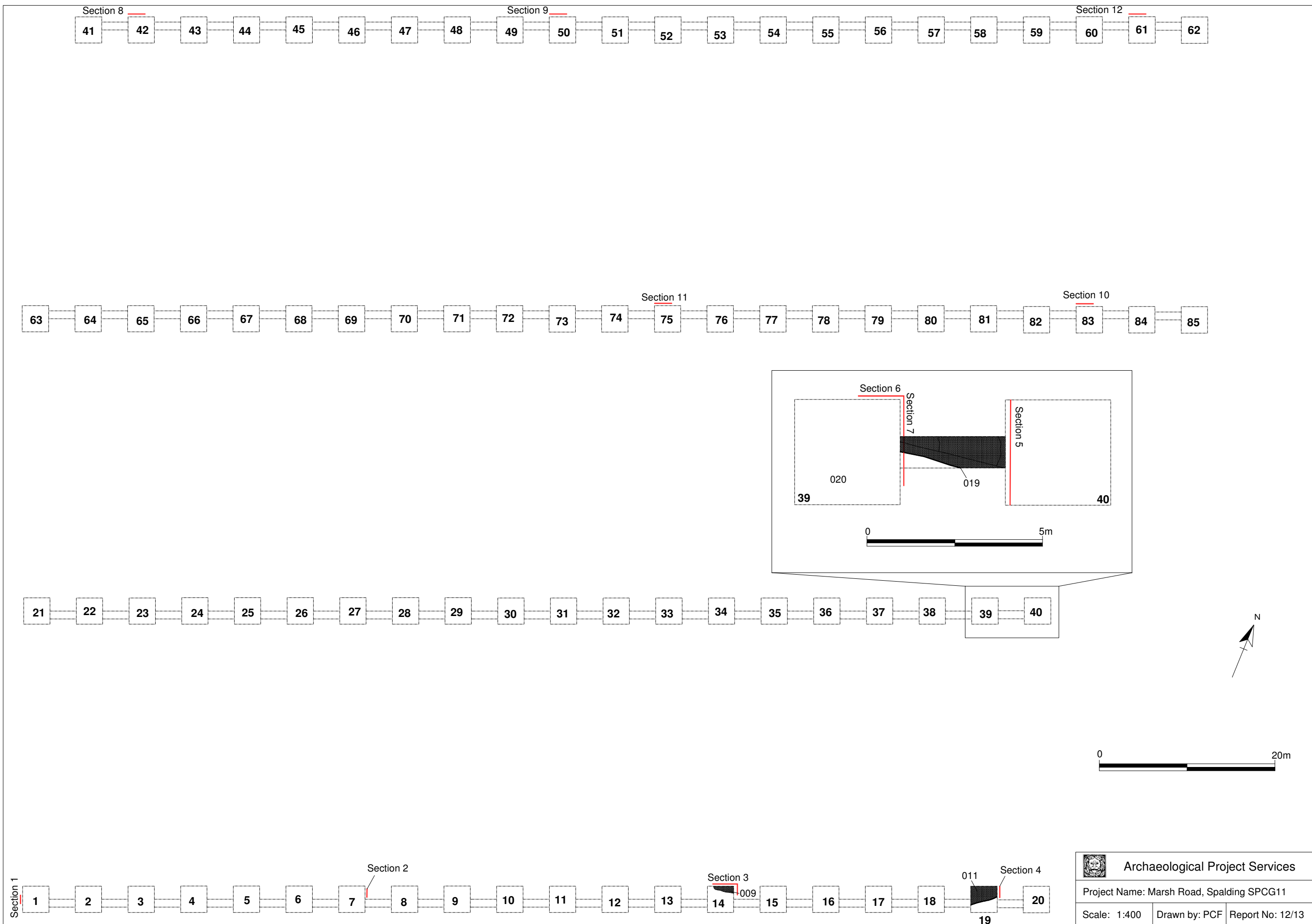
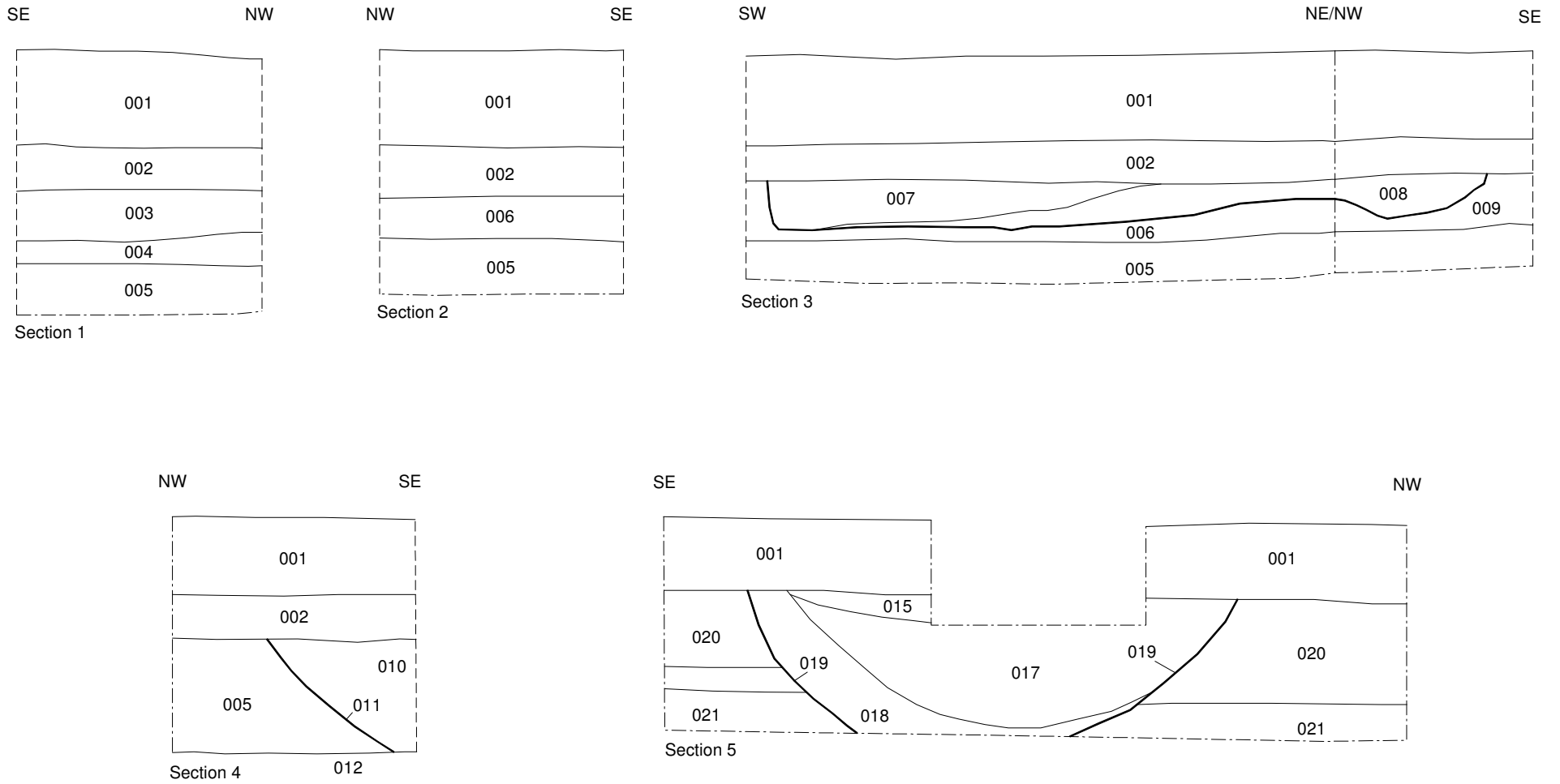


Figure 3 - Plan showing the layout of stanchion pits and connecting trenches with principal features and section locations




 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Marsh Road, Spalding SPCG11		
Scale 1:25	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 12/13

Figure 4 - Sections 1 to 5

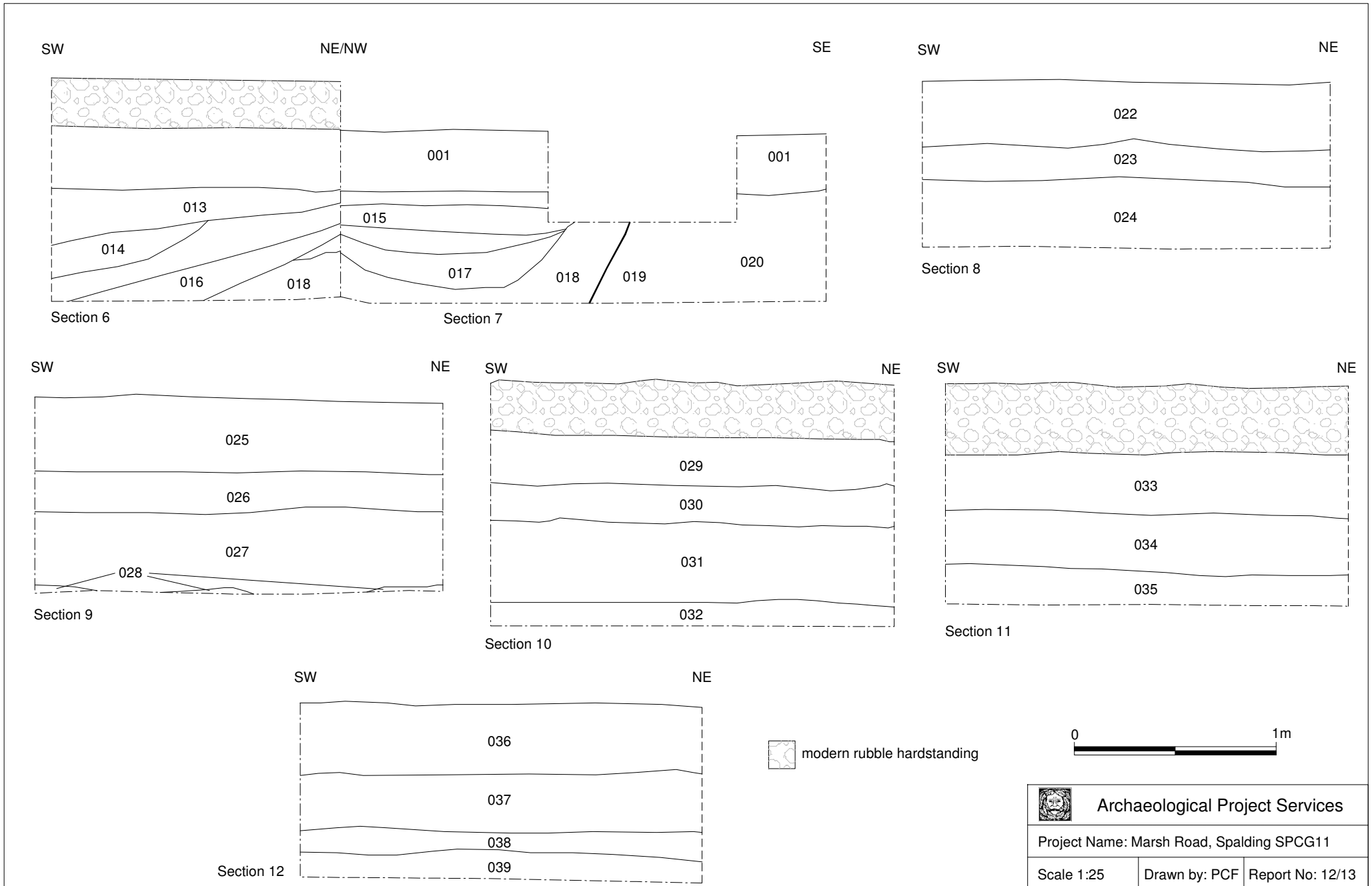


Figure 5 - Sections 6 to 12



Plate 1 – View along the southern row of pits, looking northeast



Plate 2 – Section 1 showing the general sequence of deposits, looking southwest



Plate 3 – Section 3 showing undated pit (009), looking northeast



Plate 4 – Section 4 showing the undated palaeochannel (011), looking northeast



Plate 5 – Section 5 showing the medieval ditch (019), looking southwest



Plate 6 – Pit (019) as exposed in the connecting trench, looking north



Plate 7 – Section 9, looking northwest

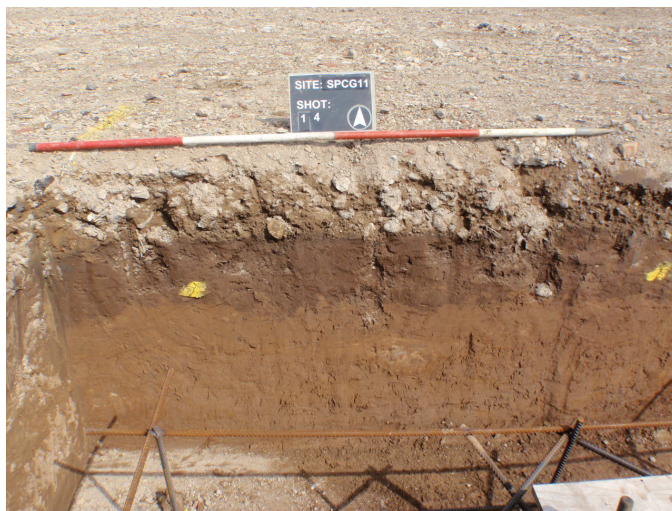


Plate 8 – Section 10, looking northwest



Plate 9 – Section 12, looking northwest

Appendix 1

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Pit	Description	Interpretation
001	1-40	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.39m thick	Topsoil
002	1-20	Friable mid brown clayey silt, 0.18m thick	Subsoil
003	1	Soft mid greyish yellow sandy silt, 0.2m thick	Alluvial deposit
004	1	Soft mid greyish brown silty clay, 0.13m thick	Alluvial deposit
005	1-19	Firm mottled mid grey and reddish brown silty clay, >0.2m thick	Alluvial deposit
006	7-14	Soft light brownish grey sandy silt, 0.17m thick	Alluvial deposit
007	14	Soft light greyish brown clayey silt	Fill of (009)
008	14	Soft mixed dark grey charcoal and mid greyish brown clayey silt	Fill of (009)
009	14	Feature, 2.3m long by >0.6m wide by 0.25m deep, near vertical to moderate sides and uneven base	Pit
010	19	Soft light greyish yellow sandy silt	Fill of (011)
011	19	Linear feature, aligned northeast-southwest, >3m long by >2m wide by >0.46m deep, moderate sides, not fully exposed	Palaeochannel
012	19	Firm mid bluish grey clay	Alluvial deposit
013	39/40	Firm to soft mid greyish brown sandy silt	Fill of (019)
014	39/40	Firm to soft mid greyish brown clayey silt	Fill of (019)
015	39/40	Firm to soft mid grey clayey silt	Fill of (019)
016	39/40	Firm to soft dark grey/black silt with frequent charcoal fragments	Fill of (019)
017	39/40	Firm to plastic mid yellowish brown silty clay and mid grey silt with frequent fired clay fragments	Fill of (019)
018	39/40	Firm mid grey silty clay	Fill of (019)
019	39/40	Linear feature, aligned east-west, >4.5m long by 2m wide by >0.58m deep, moderate sides, not fully exposed	Ditch
020	39/40	Firm mid yellowish brown silty clay, 0.55m thick	Alluvial deposit
021	40	Firm mid yellowish brown and mid grey silty clay, >0.2m thick	Alluvial deposit
022	43	Friable dark brownish grey clayey silt, 0.33m thick	Topsoil
023	43	Friable light yellowish brown silt, 0.16m thick	Alluvial deposit
024	43	Friable mid greyish brown silt, >0.4m thick	Alluvial deposit
025	51	Friable dark brownish grey clayey silt, 0.38m thick	Topsoil
026	51	Friable light yellowish brown silt, 0.2m thick	Alluvial deposit
027	51	Friable mid greyish brown silt, >0.39m thick	Alluvial deposit
028	51	Plastic mid bluish grey silty clay	Alluvial deposit
029	83	Friable dark brownish grey clayey silt, 0.26m thick	Topsoil
030	83	Friable mid to light yellowish brown silt, 0.2m thick	Alluvial deposit
031	83	Friable mid greyish brown laminated silt, 0.4m thick	Alluvial deposit
032	83	Friable mid to dark greyish brown clayey silt, >0.13m thick	Alluvial deposit
033	75	Friable dark brownish grey clayey silt, 0.31m thick	Topsoil
034	75	Friable mid to light yellowish brown silt, 0.31m thick	Alluvial deposit
035	75	Friable mid greyish brown laminated silt, >0.2m thick	Alluvial deposit
036	61	Friable dark brownish grey clayey silt, 0.36m thick	Topsoil

No.	Pit	Description	Interpretation
037	61	Friable light yellowish brown silt, 0.31m thick	Alluvial deposit
038	61	Plastic mid bluish grey silty clay, >0.25m thick	Alluvial deposit

Appendix 2

THE FINDS

POST ROMAN POTTERY

By Alex Beeby

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001) and to conform to Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook*. The pottery codenames (Cname) are in accordance with the Post Roman pottery type series for Lincolnshire, as published in Young *et al.* (2005). A total of three sherds from three vessels, weighing 19 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Table 1 below. The pottery dates to the Saxo-Norman and/or the Early Medieval period.

Condition

The pottery is fragmentary but not abraded. Two sherds have external soot or carbonised deposits, a sign of use over a hearth or fire.

Results

Table 1, Post Roman Pottery Archive

S. Pit	Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Sub Fab	Form	Part	Description	Dec	Date	NoS	NoV	W(g)
39/40	016	ST	Stamford ware	B	Jar or Pitcher	BS	Thick glossy yellow glaze; stacking scars		11th-12th	1	1	10
39/40	013	ST	Stamford ware	B/C	Jar	BS	External carbon deposit; unglazed		11th-12th	1	1	2
83	031	EMHM	Early Medieval Handmade ware	BOUA	Jar	Rim	Sooted rim; plain everted rim	Finger pressed rim	12th-13th	1	1	7

Provenance

Pottery was recovered from ditch [019] within stanchion pit 39/40 and alluvial silt layer (031) in stanchion pit 83.

Range

There are two sherds of Stamford ware (ST) from ditch [019] and a piece of Early Medieval Handmade ware (EMHM) from an alluvial deposit (031).

The recovery of a sherd of EMHM from (031) is interesting as this layer is relatively low down in the alluvial sequence. It is possible that the sherd has been pushed down by bioturbation or some other natural action into a stratigraphically earlier layer, or the silt may be of that date. The Stamford ware from ditch [019] is of Saxo-Norman or Early Medieval date and could be contemporary with the material recovered from (031). This ditch seems to cut the alluvial silt layers on the site at a high level however, which seems to contradict the earlier terminus post quem of 12th -13th century for silt layer (031). It could be that both pieces of Stamford ware are residual, they are relatively small and could have deposited a long time after manufacture, or it could be that the sherd from (031) is intrusive.

Potential

There is limited potential for further work, the pottery should be retained as part of the site archive and should pose no problems for long term storage.

Summary

Three sherds of post Roman pottery were recovered from stratified layers during the watching brief. These date from the 11th to the 13th century AD. Two came from a ditch [019] and the third from an alluvial silt layer (031).

FIRED CLAY*By Alex Beeby***Introduction**

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in the Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook*.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments of fired clay were counted and weighed within each context. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the fired clay is included in Table 2 below. There are 18 fragments weighing 120 grams.

Condition

The fired clay comprises abraded and surfaceless flakes and pieces. All of the material is relatively soft and low fired.

Results*Table 2, Fired Clay Archive*

S. Pit	Context	Classification	Fabric	Comment	Date	NoF	W(g)
14	008	FIRED CLAY	OX/R/OX; medium sandy; micaceous	Rough curved surface; probably oxidised over break; abraded; vegetable voids;	Undated	2	11
39/40	017	FIRED CLAY	Oxidised; fine sandy; micaceous	No obvious surfaces; abraded flakes and pieces; poorly mixed	Undated	16	109

Provenance

The material was recovered from pit [009] within stanchion pit 14 and ditch 39/40 in stanchion pit 39/40

Range

The fired clay is largely undiagnostic and undatable.

Potential

There is limited potential for further work. The material should be retained as part of the site archive and should pose no problems for long term storage.

Summary

Two features produced fired clay. This material is largely undiagnostic and undatable.

SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 3 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 3, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
008	Undated	
013	11th-12th	Based on a single sherd
016	11th-12th	Based on a single sherd
017	Undated	
031	12th-13th	Based on a single sherd

ABBREVIATIONS

ACBMG	Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group
BS	Body sherd
CBM	Ceramic Building Material
CXT	Context
NoF	Number of Fragments
NoS	Number of sherds
NoV	Number of vessels
W (g)	Weight (grams)

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Appendix 3

GLOSSARY

Alluvium	A deposit (usually clay, silts or sands) laid down in water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea and freshwater alluvium by streams, rivers or within lakes.
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 interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Dyings	Medieval strips (selions) that are generally broader than ridge and furrow and separated by wide flat bottomed ditches, typical in areas prone to flooding where the upcast from the ditch raises the ground level of the ridge.
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	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 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.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
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 1 st century AD.
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 4

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

38	Context records
1	Photographic record sheet
9	Sheets of scale drawings
4	Daily record sheets
1	Bag of finds

All primary records and finds 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:

The Collection
Art and Archaeology in Lincolnshire
Danes Terrace
Lincoln
LN2 1LP

Accession Number: LCNCC: 2011.347

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: SPCG 11

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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