

---

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND  
RECORDING AT  
28 MAIN STREET,  
BASTON,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(BAMS 13)**

---

**Work Undertaken For  
Seagate Homes Limited**

April 2013

Report Compiled by  
Paul Cope-Faulkner BA (Hons)

National Grid Reference: TF 1159 1397  
Planning Application No: S10/2650/OUT  
The Collection Accession No: LCNCC: 2013.31  
OASIS Record No: archaeol1-147126

APS Report No. **34/13**

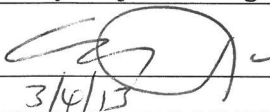
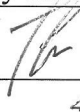
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
SERVICES**





**Quality Control**  
 28 Main Street,  
 Boston  
 BAMS 13

Project Coordinator	Gary Taylor
Supervisor	Bob Garland
Illustration	Paul Cope-Faulkner
Photographic Reproduction	Sue Unsworth
Post-excavation Analyst	Paul Cope-Faulkner

Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
 Gary Taylor	 Tom Lane
Date: 3/4/13	Date: 3.4.13



## Table of Contents

### List of Figures

### List of Plates

1.	SUMMARY .....	1
2.	INTRODUCTION.....	1
2.1	PLANNING BACKGROUND.....	1
2.2	TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY .....	1
2.3	ARCHAEOLOGICAL SETTING .....	1
3.	AIMS .....	2
4.	METHODS .....	2
5.	RESULTS .....	2
6.	DISCUSSION .....	3
7.	CONCLUSION .....	3
8.	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....	3
9.	PERSONNEL .....	3
10.	BIBLIOGRAPHY .....	3
11.	ABBREVIATIONS .....	4

### Appendices

1. Context descriptions
2. Glossary
3. The Archive

### **List of Figures**

- Figure 1      General location plan
- Figure 2      Site location plan
- Figure 3      Plan of the development showing section locations
- Figure 4      Sections 1 to 3
- Figure 5      Section 4

### **List of Plates**

- Plate 1        The site after excavation
- Plate 2        Section 1
- Plate 3        Section 2 showing pond (207)
- Plate 4        Section 3 showing pond (211)
- Plate 5        Section 4 showing quarry pit (216)

## 1. SUMMARY

*A programme of archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken during groundworks at 28 Main Street, Baston, Lincolnshire. The investigations monitored the excavation of foundation trenches for a new detached dwelling and garage.*

*The site is located close to the core of a Late Saxon (AD 850-1066) settlement, identified through excavation to the southwest, and medieval (AD 1066-1540) village. Romano-British (AD 43-410) remains are known from the vicinity and an Early Saxon (AD 410-650) cemetery has been identified to the west of the village. Previous evaluation of the site had revealed a 12<sup>th</sup> century ditch and undated pits, postholes and gullies.*

*The current investigations revealed a sequence of natural, undated and recent deposits. Undated features comprise two ponds and a quarry pit which were sealed beneath subsoil deposits, perhaps later altered by landscaping. No artefacts were retrieved from the investigation.*

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Seagate Homes Limited to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks associated with new residential development at 28 Main Street, Baston, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application S10/2650/OUT. The investigations were carried out on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> March 2013 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the Senior Historic Environment Officer, Heritage Lincolnshire.

### 2.2 Topography and Geology

Baston is located approximately 6km south of Bourne and 11km northeast of Stamford, in the administrative district of South Kesteven, Lincolnshire (Figure 1).

The site is 195m east of the centre of Baston as defined by the parish church of St John the Baptist at National Grid Reference TF 1159 1397 (Fig. 2). The site lies south of Main Street and immediately east of Aveland Way at a height of c. 7m OD on land that slopes gently down to the east.

Local soils are of the Badsey 2 Association, typically fine loamy soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 101). These are developed upon a drift geology of terrace gravel which in turn seals a solid geology of Jurassic Oxford Clay (BGS 1978).

### 2.3 Archaeological Setting

Baston is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric period to the present day. Evidence of earlier prehistoric activity is limited, though a number of Neolithic stone axes have been found in the parish.

Romano-British activity is evidenced by the proximity of King Street, 900m to the west, and the Baston Outgang which is believed to be fossilised in the route of Greatford Road and Main Street. As might be expected from this confluence of roads, there is further evidence of occupation of this period. Cropmarks are evident on either side of King Street and a number of artefacts have been found throughout the parish. Located 290m to the east is the Car Dyke, a Roman watercourse that once connected Peterborough to Lincoln.

Located approximately 600m southwest of the development is the site of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery of mid 5<sup>th</sup> to late 6<sup>th</sup> century date. Although dominated by cremations, the cemetery is mixed and

included a small number of inhumations (Mayes and Dean 1976, 6). Late Saxon remains were excavated at Hall Farm, 200m to the south, where Late Saxon metalworking was also identified (Taylor 2003, 14).

Baston is first reliably mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as *Bacstune* and *Bastune*, the name is derived from the Old Norse personal name *Bak* and the Old English *tūn* meaning farm or village (Cameron 1998, 11) the Domesday Survey records that Baston was held jointly by Gilbert de Gand and Crowland Abbey and contained a church, a half share of a mill, 85 acres of meadow and marsh (Foster and Longley 1976).

The only extant remains of the medieval period is the parish church of St John the Baptist which dates to the 13<sup>th</sup> century (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 129).

The Hall Farm excavations also revealed evidence for a medieval manorial centre which had ceased to operate by the mid 14<sup>th</sup> century (Taylor 2003, 21). Previous evaluation of the site had revealed some evidence for medieval and post-medieval remains relating to occupation closer to the street frontage (Coates 2011, 17).

### 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

Prior to the excavation of foundation trenches, topsoil and other overburden was stripped from the site. Foundation trenches were then excavated by machine to depths required by the development, generally

1.05m below the 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. Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

Following excavation the records were checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

## 5. RESULTS

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

The earliest deposit encountered at the base of the foundation trenches was a layer of yellow sand and gravel (203). Identified as natural, this measured in excess of 0.6m thick. This was overlain by a 0.25m thick layer of yellowish brown sandy silt (217) in the eastern part of the house foundations.

Located within the footings of the house were three large features. The first (207) was 2.6m wide and 0.75m deep (Fig. 4, Section 2; Plate 3). Two fills were recorded, a lower of grey/black organic silt (206) and an upper of yellowish brown sandy silt (205).

Located 8.5m to the north, was feature (211) which measured over 6m wide and 0.6m deep (Fig. 4, Section 3; Plate 4). Fills were similar, comprising a lower



grey/black organic silt (210) and an upper fill of yellowish brown sandy silt (209).

The third feature (216) appears to have been a quarry pit that was over 2.3m wide by 0.3m deep (Fig. 5, Section 4; Plate 5). Three fills were recorded, a basal fill of yellowish brown clayey silt (215), over which were layers of brown sandy silt (214) and mottled brown sandy silt (213). The uppermost fills also preserved tip lines. None of the features contained any finds.

Sealing these three features was a subsoil, perhaps altered by landscaping, comprising yellowish brown sandy silt (202 and 208) or silty sand (212). These deposits measured between 0.25m and 1m thick.

Sealing all deposits was the current topsoil of brownish grey sandy silt (201) that was 0.15m thick.

## 6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits of sandy silt, sand and gravel relate to the underlying drift geology of terrace deposits.

Cut into the natural deposits were two former ponds, as indicated by basal fills of organic silt, and a quarry pit. These remain undated due to a lack of artefactual material. However, such features have been identified in Baston previously and span a date range from the medieval to post-medieval periods. These features were sealed beneath a subsoil layer which in places was up to 1m thick, perhaps suggesting some localised landscaping. The presence of subsoil suggests that the site has been under an agricultural regime in the past.

No remains were encountered which could relate to the results of the previous evaluation of the site.

## 7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Main Street, Baston, as the site lay close to the medieval core of the village and close to known sites of Romano-British and Saxon date.

However, only undated ponds and a quarry pit were revealed during the investigation, which were sealed beneath an extensive subsoil layer. No artefacts were observed or retrieved.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr A Brotherton of Seagate Homes Limited 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 Supervisor: Bob Garland  
 Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth  
 Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner  
 Post-excavation analysis: Paul Cope-Faulkner

## 10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

BGS, 1978, *Stamford; Solid and Drift geology*, 1:50,000 map sheet **157**

Cameron, K, 1998 *A Dictionary of Lincolnshire Place-Names*, English Place-Name Society Popular Series Vol. **1**

Coates, G, 2011 *Archaeological Evaluation Trial Trenching: Land at 28*

*Main Street, Baston, Lincolnshire*, unpublished PCAL report **374b**

Foster, CW and Longley, T (eds), 1976 *The Lincolnshire Domesday and the Lindsey Survey*, The Lincoln Record Society **19**

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**

Mayes, P and Dean, MJ, 1976 *An Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Baston, Lincolnshire*, Occasional Papers in Lincolnshire History and Archaeology **3**

Pevsner, N, and Harris, J, 1989 *Lincolnshire*, The Buildings of England (2<sup>nd</sup> edition revised N Antram)

Taylor, G, 2003 'Hall Farm, Baston, Lincolnshire: Investigation of a late Saxon village and Medieval manorial complex', *Lincolnshire History and Archaeology* **38**, 5-33

## **11. ABBREVIATIONS**

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

PCAL Phoenix Consulting Archaeology Limited



Figure 1 - General location plan







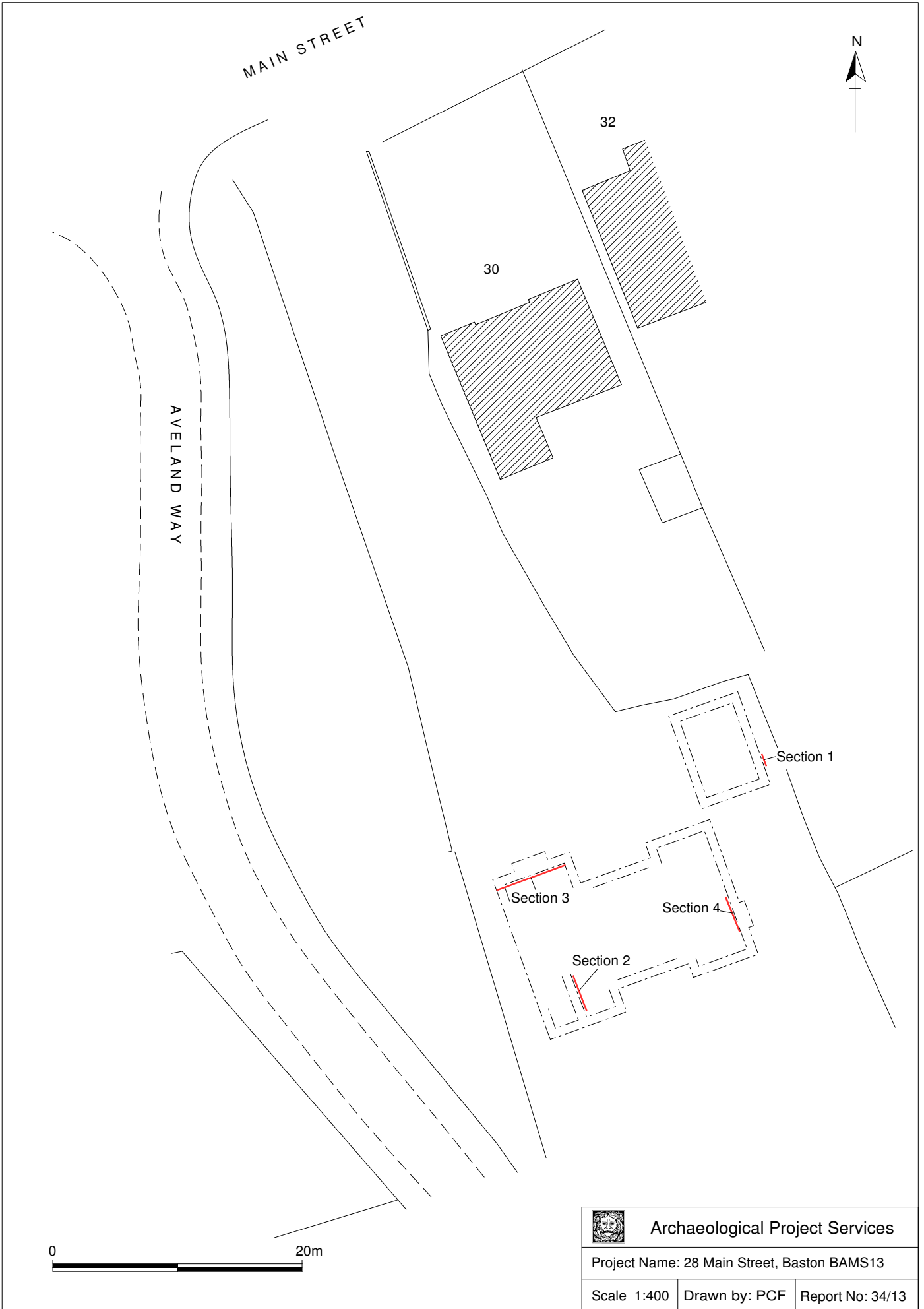

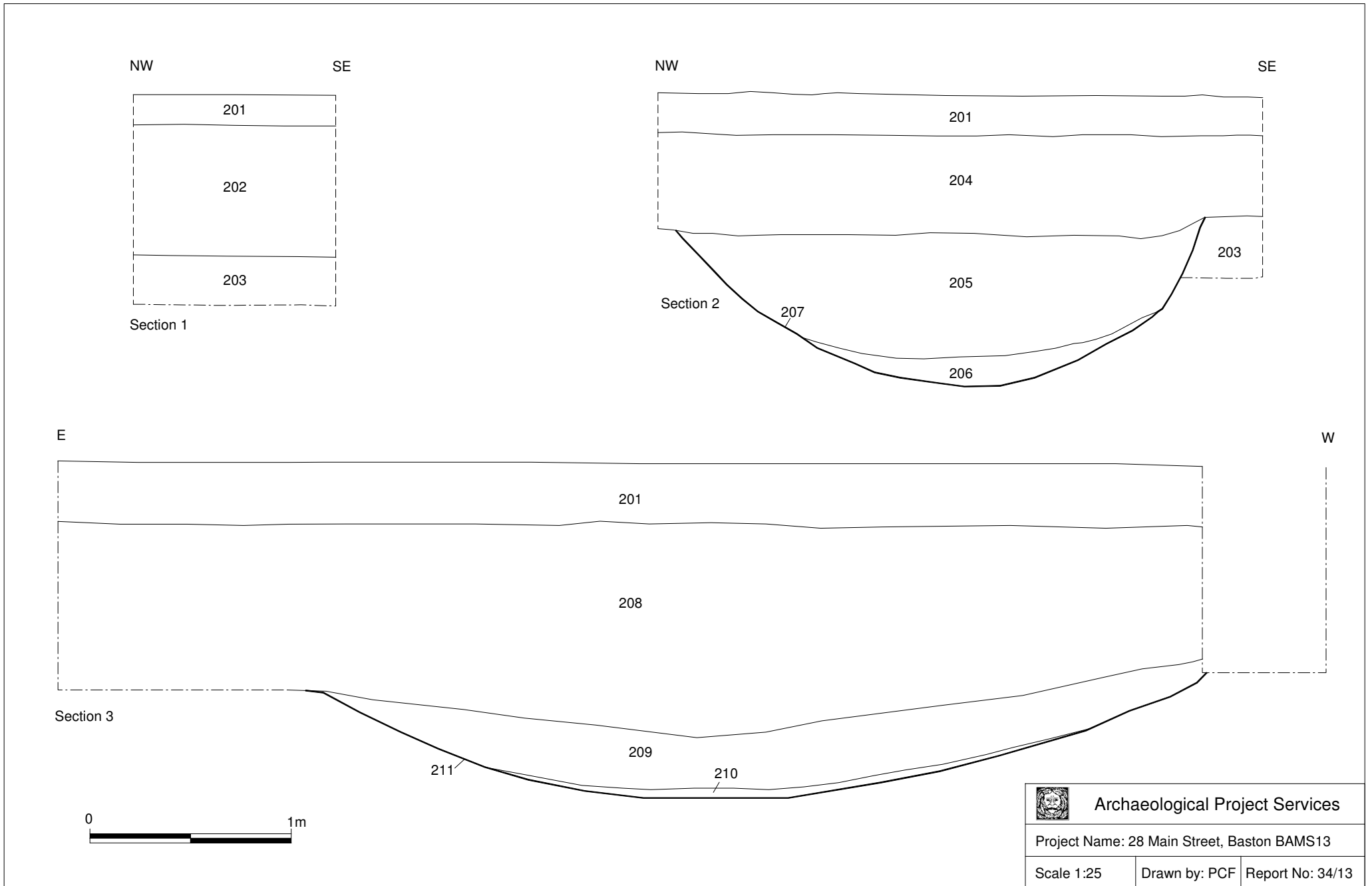


Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section locations

 <b>Archaeological Project Services</b>		
Project Name: 28 Main Street, Baston BAMS13		
Scale 1:400	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 34/13








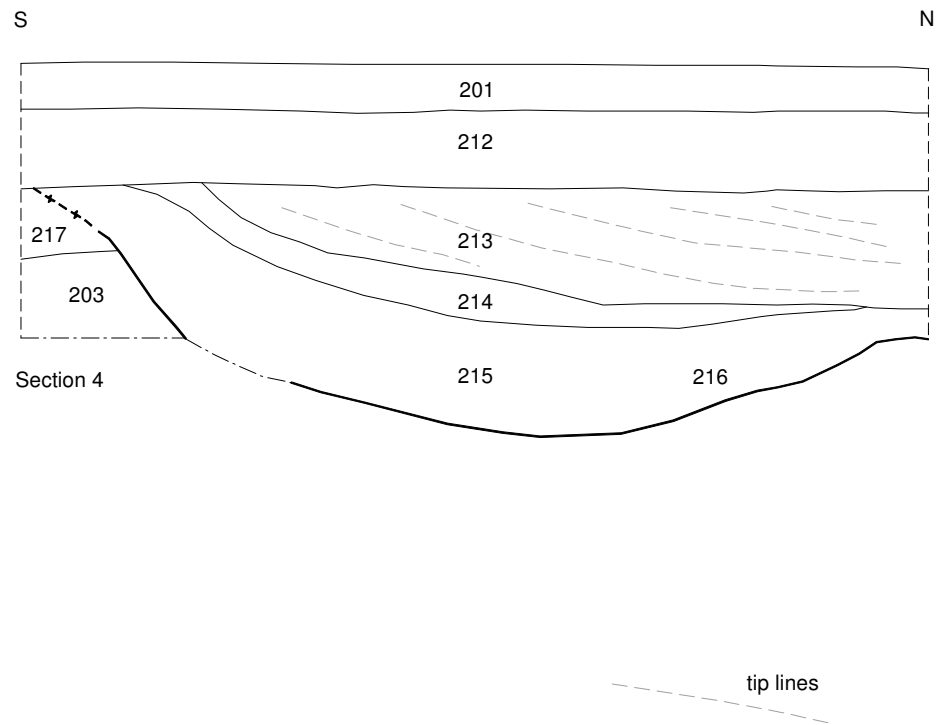
 <b>Archaeological Project Services</b>		
Project Name: 28 Main Street, Baston BAMS13		
Scale 1:25	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 34/13

Figure 4 - Sections 1 to 3





Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: 28 Main Street, Baston BAMS13

Scale 1:25

Drawn by: PCF

Report No: 34/13

Figure 5 - Section 4





Plate 1 – The site after excavation, looking northeast



Plate 2 – Section 1, looking west



Plate 3 – Section 2 showing pond (207), looking northeast



Plate 4 – Section 3 showing pond (211), looking southeast



Plate 5 – Section 4 showing quarry pit (216), looking west

## Appendix 1

### CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
201	Friable dark brownish grey sandy silt, 0.15m thick	Topsoil
202	Friable mid yellowish brown sandy silt, 0.65m thick	Subsoil
203	Friable mid yellow sand and gravel, >0.25m thick	Natural deposit
204	Friable mid yellowish brown sandy silt, 0.5m thick	Subsoil
205	Soft mid yellowish brown sandy silt	Fill of (207)
206	Soft dark grey/black organic silt	Fill of (207)
207	Feature, 2.6m wide by 0.75m deep, moderate sides and rounded base	Pond
208	Friable mid yellowish brown sandy silt, 1m thick	Subsoil
209	Soft mid yellowish brown sandy silt	Fill of (211)
210	Soft dark grey/black silt	Fill of (211)
211	?oval feature, >6m wide by 0.6m deep, moderate sides and rounded base	Pond
212	Friable mid yellowish brown silty sand, 0.25m thick	Subsoil
213	Friable mottled mid brown and dark brown sandy silt	Fill of (216)
214	Friable dark brown sandy silt	Fill of (216)
215	Firm mid yellowish brown clayey silt	Fill of (216)
216	Feature, >2.3m wide by 0.3m deep, gradual sides and rounded base	Quarry pit
217	Friable mid yellowish brown sandy silt, 0.25m thick	Natural deposit





## Appendix 2

### GLOSSARY

<b>Context</b>	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).
<b>Cut</b>	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.
<b>Fill</b>	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).
<b>Layer</b>	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
<b>Medieval</b>	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
<b>Natural</b>	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
<b>Neolithic</b>	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500-2250 BC.
<b>Post-medieval</b>	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
<b>Prehistoric</b>	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 <sup>st</sup> century AD.
<b>Romano-British</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
<b>Saxon</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.



## Appendix 3

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

17	Context records
1	Photographic record sheet
6	Sheets of scale drawings
2	Daily record sheets

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:

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

Accession Number: LCNCC: 2013.31

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: BAMS 13

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.

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.