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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND  
RECORDING AT  
191 BELTON LANE,  
GRANTHAM,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
( GRBL 15)**

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Work Undertaken For  
**Manthorpe Construction Limited**

December 2015

Report Compiled by  
Mark Peachey BA(Hons)

Planning Application No: S14/3499/FULL  
National Grid Reference: SK 9223 3735  
The Collection Accession No: LCNCC:2015.202  
OASIS Record No: archaeo11-232606

APS Report No. **110/15**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
SERVICES**

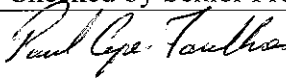
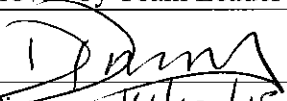




## Quality Control

Archaeological Monitoring and Recording at  
(191) Belton Lane,  
Grantham  
Lincolnshire  
GRBL 15

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Site Supervisor	Neil Jefferson
CAD Illustration	Mark Peachey
Photographic Reproduction	Mark Peachey
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 Paul Cope-Faulkner	 Denise Drury
Date: 11-12-15	Date: 14/12/15



## Table of Contents

### List of Figures

### List of Plates

1.	SUMMARY .....	1
2.	INTRODUCTION.....	1
2.1	DEFINITION OF A WATCHING BRIEF.....	1
2.2	PLANNING BACKGROUND.....	1
2.3	TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY.....	1
2.4	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.....	3

### Appendices

1. Context descriptions
2. Glossary
3. The Archive
4. Oasis form

### **List of Figures**

Figure 1      General location plan

Figure 2      Site location plan

Figure 3      Trench location plan

Figure 4      Sections

### **List of Plates**

Plate 1      Stripping turf from the house plot looking northeast

Plate 2      Test Pit 1, Section 1, looking east

Plate 3      Test Pit 2, Section 2, looking east

## 1. SUMMARY

*A programme of archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken during development groundwork on land to the rear of 191 Belton Lane, Grantham, Lincolnshire. This was because the site was archaeologically sensitive, located in an area from where Neolithic (4200-2250 BC) stone tools have been retrieved and close to the site of a Late Bronze Age (1000-800 BC) urn cemetery. Small quantities of Romano-British (AD 50-410) and Saxon (AD 410-1066) pottery have also been found in the vicinity.*

*However, the investigation revealed only natural, topsoil and modern deposits. No finds were retrieved.*

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as “*a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits maybe disturbed or destroyed.*” (CIFA 2014).

### 2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Manthorpe Construction Limited to undertake archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks associated with a new residential development to the rear of 191 Belton Lane, Grantham, Lincolnshire. The site was the subject of a planning application (S14/3499/FULL) for residential development comprising a single dwelling with detached garage. The investigation was carried out on 25<sup>th</sup>

November 2015 in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the Planning Archaeologist for South Kesteven.

### 2.3 Topography and Geology

Grantham is situated 35km south of Lincoln and 19km southwest of Sleaford in the district of South Kesteven, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site is located 1.5km northeast of the town centre as defined by the parish church of St. Wulfram on the parish boundary with Belton and Manthorpe (Fig. 2). Centred on National Grid Reference SK 9223 3735 the site is situated at a height of c. 50m OD on the east bank of the River Witham.

Local soils have not been mapped as the area is urban, but are likely to be sandy and coarse loamy soils of the Blackwood Association (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 127). Beneath these soils is recent alluvium associated with the Witham which overlies a drift geology of older sands and gravels which in turn seal a solid geology of Jurassic Lower Lias Clays and Sandstones (GSGB 1972).

### 2.4 Archaeological Setting

The development site is situated in an area of archaeological remains dating from the Neolithic to the present day. Neolithic flint tools and a polished stone axe are known from the immediate vicinity. The site lies close to a Late Bronze Age urn cemetery which was revealed during construction work on Belton Lane during the 1930s. Pottery of Romano-British and Saxon date have also been found in the vicinity.

Grantham is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as *Grantham*, *Grandham*, *Granham* and *Graham*, the name is derived from the Old

English personal name (*Granta*) and *ham*, meaning settlement, although the Old English *grand* meaning gravel may suggest an alternative derivation (Cameron 1998, 53). At the time of the Domesday Survey the land was held by the king and contained a hall, a church and four mills (Foster and Longley 1976).

The medieval town of Grantham lay 1.5km southwest of the development. The parish church of St. Wulfram represents the most extant building of this period and dates to the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 316). Adjacent to the church lies Grantham House which has a 14<sup>th</sup> century core to the largely 16<sup>th</sup> century exterior (*ibid.* 325).

A watching brief undertaken immediately northeast of the site in 2001 revealed an undated pit and retrieved a prehistoric flint flake (Cope-Faulkner 2001, 1). A further watching brief, just to the north, adjacent to house no. 193, revealed an undated pit containing a horse bone (Cope-Faulkner 2007).

### 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of the work was to record and interpret the deposits and any archaeological features exposed during the development groundwork.

The objectives of the investigation were to:

- determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
- determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
- as far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features and

- establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

### 4. METHODS

Stripping of the area for the proposed house and the excavation of two test pits were observed in order to identify and record any archaeological features that were exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions.

Following excavation, selected sides of the test pits were recorded. 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.

### 5. RESULTS (Fig. 3)

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

Stripping of the area of the proposed house involved only the removal of turf (Plate 1).

As the house was to be built on piles, two test pits were excavated south of it to check for archaeological deposits.

#### Test Pit 1

Natural yellowish orange sand and gravel (102) was overlain by 0.26m thick mid brown clayey sand topsoil (101). This was sealed by 0.45m thick mixed made ground (100) containing modern brick rubble and general rubbish (Fig. 4, Section 1; Plate 1).



## Test Pit 2

Similarly in this trench, natural yellowish orange sand and gravel (102) was overlain by 0.3m thick mid brown clayey sand topsoil (101). This was sealed by 0.5m thick mixed made ground (100) containing modern brick rubble and general rubbish (Fig. 4, Section 2; Plate 2).

## 6. DISCUSSION

Above the natural sand and gravel deposits, only former topsoil and modern made ground was recorded in the test pits. No archaeological deposits were encountered, though these may survive at depth. The intention to pile from the current ground level indicates that archaeological deposits are unlikely to be observed as no further excavations are envisaged.

## 7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out prior to the construction of a house and garage at 191 Belton Lane, Grantham, Lincolnshire.

Two test pits revealed natural, topsoil and modern deposits with no prehistoric or Roman remains being identified.

No finds were retrieved during the investigation.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Manthorpe Construction Limited for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Paul Cope-Faulkner who edited this report along with Denise Drury.

## 9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Paul Cope-Faulkner  
 Site Supervisor: Neil Jefferson  
 Photographic reproduction: Mark Peachey  
 CAD Illustration: Mark Peachey  
 Post-excavation analysis: Mark Peachey

## 10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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## 11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

CIfA Chartered Institute for  
Archaeologists

GSGB Geological Survey of Great Britain





Figure 1 - General location plan





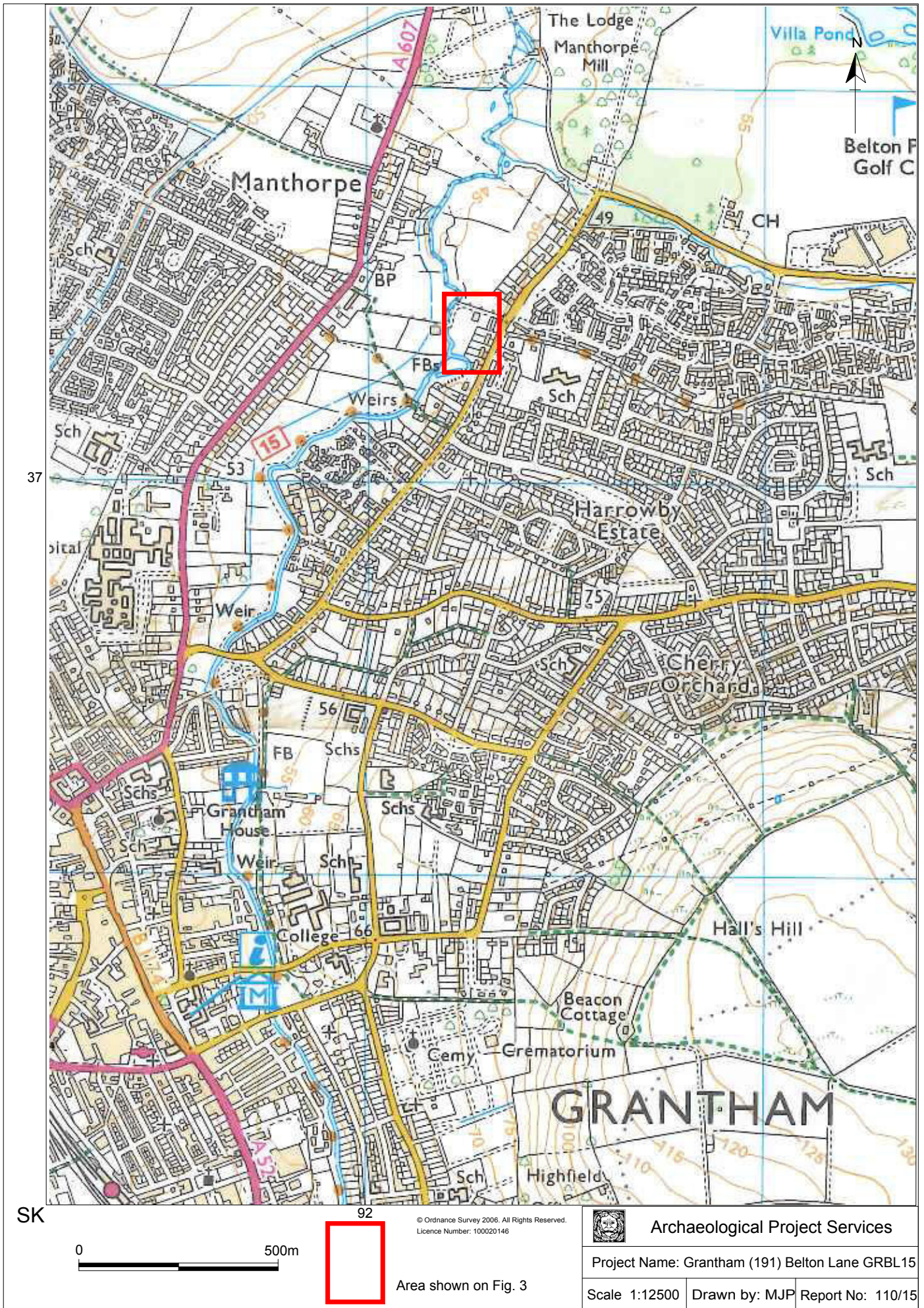


Figure 2. Site location plan





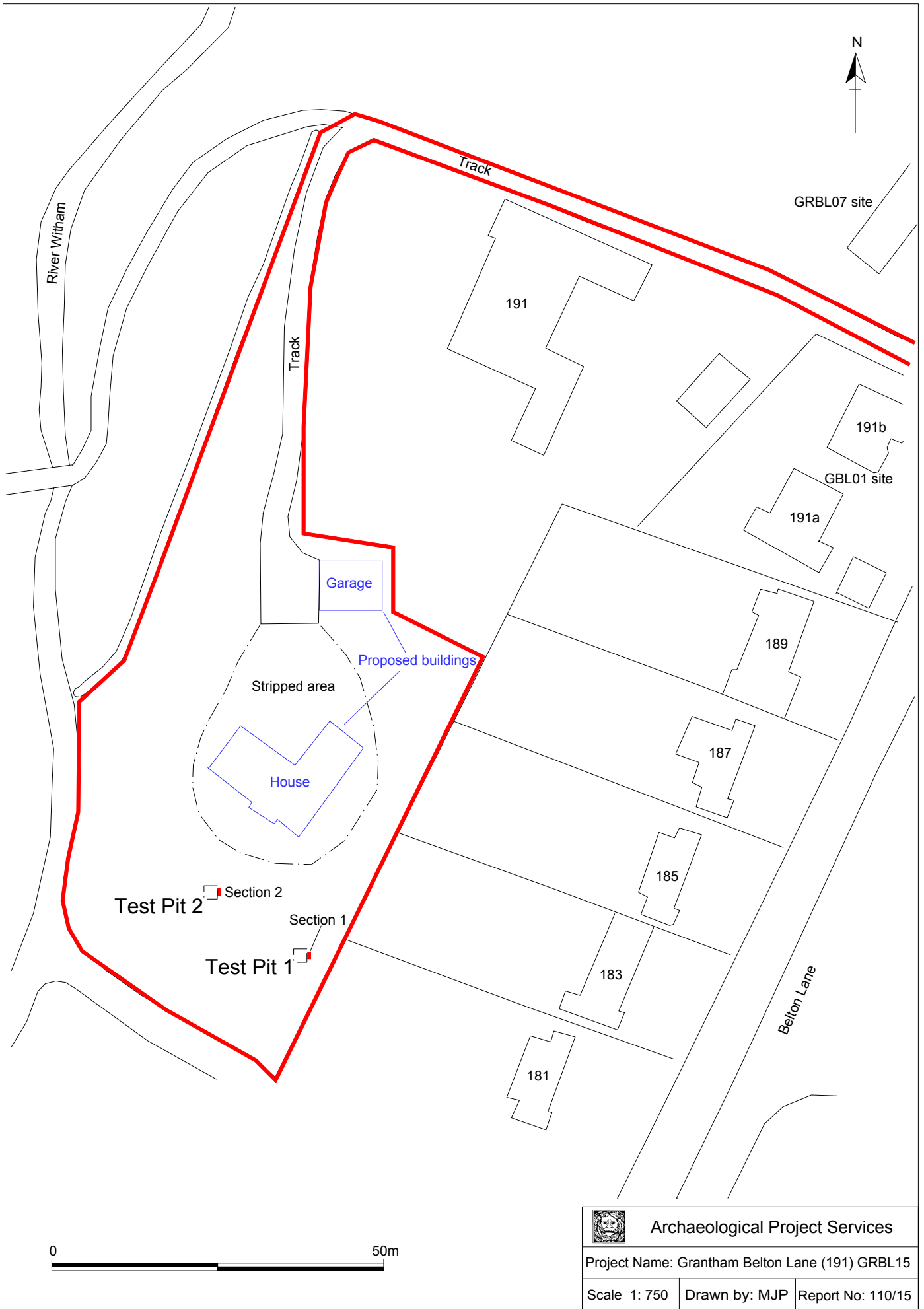

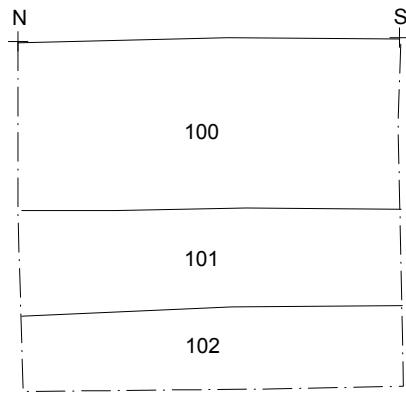


Figure 3. Trench location plan

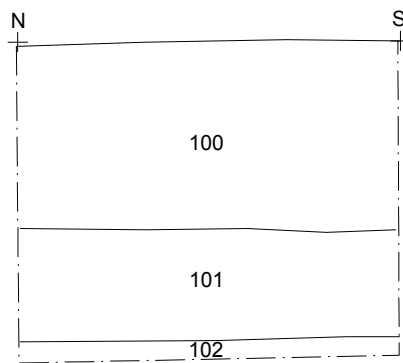
 <b>Archaeological Project Services</b>		
Project Name: Grantham Belton Lane (191) GRBL15		
Scale 1: 750	Drawn by: MJP	Report No: 110/15







Section 1, Test Pit 1



Section 2, Test Pit 2



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Grantham Belton Lane (191), GRBL15

Scale 1: 20

Drawn by: MJP

Report No: 110/15

Figure 4. Sections



Plate 1. Stripping turf from the house plot looking northeast



Plate 2. Test Pit 1, Section 1, looking east



Plate 3. Test Pit 2, Section 2, looking east



## Appendix 1

### CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

<b>No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>
100	Soft mix of dark brown, greyish brown sand and gravel mixed with clays, 0.5m thick	Mixed made ground
101	Friable mid brown clayey sand with gravel inclusions, 0.3m thick	Buried topsoil
102	Firm yellowish orange sand and gravel at least 0.2m thick	Natural

## Appendix 2

### GLOSSARY

<b>Alluvium</b>	Deposits laid down by water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea, and fresh water alluvium is laid down by rivers and in lakes.
<b>Bronze Age</b>	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
<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 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, <i>e.g.</i> [004].
<b>Domesday Survey</b>	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
<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>Old English</b>	The language used by the Saxon ( <i>q.v.</i> ) occupants of Britain.
<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 1st 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, Denmark and adjacent areas.

## Appendix 3

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

1	Context register sheet
3	Context record sheets
1	Section record sheet
1	Daily record sheet
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Sheet of scale drawings

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: 2015.202
Archaeological Project Services Site Code:	GRBL 15
OASIS record number	archaeo11-232606

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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**OASIS ID: archaeol1-232606**

### Project details

Project name	Archaeological Monitoring and Recording at 191 Belton Lane, Grantham, Lincolnshire
Short description of the project	The monitoring and recording of two test pits at the site of a house and garage, to be piled, revealed only a sequence of natural, topsoil and modern made ground.
Project dates	Start: 25-11-2015 End: 25-11-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	GRBL15 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	S14/3499/FULL - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	LCNCC:2015.202 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Planning condition

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	LINCOLNSHIRE SOUTH KESTEVEN GRANTHAM 191 Belton Lane
Postcode	NG31 9FA
Study area	0.4 Hectares
Site coordinates	SK 9223 3735 52.925308792297 -0.627895036935 52 55 31 N 000 37 40 W Point



Height OD /  
Depth            Min: 50m Max: 50m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation            Archaeological Project Services

Project brief originator            Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body

Project design originator            Paul Cope-Faulkner

Project director/manager            Paul Cope-Faulkner

Project supervisor            Neil Jefferson

Type of sponsor/funding body            Developer

Name of sponsor/funding body            Manthorpe Construction Limited

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?            No

Digital Archive recipient            The Collection

Digital Archive ID            LCNCC:2015.202

Digital Contents            "Stratigraphic"

Digital Media available            "Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Text"

Paper Archive recipient            The Collection

Paper Archive ID            LCNCC:2015.202

Paper Contents            "Stratigraphic"

Paper Media available            "Context sheet","Correspondence","Diary","Map","Matrices","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

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