ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT 8 HIGH STREET, CASTOR, PETERBOROUGH (CHS 07)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT 8 HIGH STREET, CASTOR, PETERBOROUGH (CHS 07)

Work Undertaken For
Jan Macaig Architects
on behalf of
Mr R Cable

February 2008

Report Compiled by
Paul Cope-Faulkner BA (Hons) AIFA

Planning Application No: 06/00319/FUL
National Grid Reference: TL 1258 9857
OASIS Record No: archaeol1-37229

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES

A.P.S. Report No. **13/08**

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at 8 High Street, Castor, Peterborough. This was in order to determine the archaeological implications of proposed development at the site.

The site lies adjacent to an important Romano-British (AD 43-410) site of palatial proportions including a bath-house and a temple. During the Saxon period (AD 410-1066), Castor was the focus of a nunnery dedicated to St. Kyneburgha. The site lies close to the medieval (AD 1066-1540) core of the village which is best represented by the 12th century parish church.

The evaluation identified a sequence of natural, medieval and later deposits. Three ditches and a hollow were dated to the 12th – 13th centuries. These had been sealed beneath subsoil. Later activity was represented by two furrows and a gully, also possibly medieval.

The largest category of finds retrieved from the evaluation comprise pottery of the medieval period, though a single Romano-British sherd and three sherds of post-medieval date were also collected. Brick/tile and fired clay was also retrieved along with a small assemblage of animal bone.

Environmental data indicates that the processing of cereals was occurring at the site. Evidence for refuse disposal or light industrial activities were also encountered.

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 Jan Macaig Architects on behalf of Mr R Cable to undertake a programme of archaeological investigation in advance of proposed development at 8 High Street, Castor, Peterborough, as detailed in Planning Application 06/00319/FUL. The evaluation was undertaken on the 10th and 11th September 2007 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the Peterborough City Archaeologist.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Castor is located alongside the River Nene 5km west of the centre of Peterborough (Fig. 1).

The site is located 143m east of the centre of the village as defined by the parish church of St Kyneburgha at National Grid Reference TL 1258 9857 (Fig. 2). Situated on the south side of High Street, the site lies at a height of *c*. 23m OD on land that slopes down to the southwest towards the valley of the River Nene.

Local soils are of the Sherborne Association, typically brashy calcareous clayey soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 309). These overlie a solid geology of Jurassic Blisworth Clay (BGS 1984).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

There is little recorded evidence for prehistoric settlement within the village of Castor itself. An Early Iron Age pot and a Bronze Age flint arrowhead were found at the school during excavations in 1991 (Meadows 1991).

Substantially more evidence survives of the Romano-British settlement of Castor. The principle remains were first identified and published by ET Artis in his 1828 publication *Durobrivae of Antoninus*. These remains included the well-preserved remnants of a sizeable stone 'palatial' structure. His diagrams and illustrations indicate that the main range of this structure lay to the southwest of the current site, with the east arm located within the grounds of the Rectory. Furthermore, Artis indicated the existence of a bath house and rectangular structure to the south of the current school playing field.

Excavations carried out during 1957 and 1958 by Charles and Ida Green, sixty metres north of the school produced evidence of the southern range of a temple structure of this period. Further excavations within the area of the churchyard extension at that time located structural remains dating to the 2nd century and pre-dating the main 'palatial' structure (Green *et al* 1998).

Excavations prior to the construction of a new head teacher's office, in 1991, produced evidence of late Roman occupation of this site, suggesting the possibility for preservation of transitional deposits relating to the post-occupation era. The identified remains were a grave, dated to the late Roman period, which had been cut by a Roman masonry foundation (Meadows 1991). In addition, test pitting by the southwest corner of the school building turned up a single unstratified Roman coin depicting 'Constans', and dating to c. 337AD to 350AD (Hatton and Spoerry, 2000).

Evidence for the post Roman occupation of Castor is limited. The village name is believed to derive from the Old English term *ceastor* or *cæstra,* meaning 'a city or walled town, originally one that had been a Roman station' (Ekwall 1989, 89). The earliest mention of Castor dates from the 10th century and details the granting of land at Ailsworth to *Cyneburge cæstre* (Dallas 1973).

During the 7th century, a nunnery dedicated to St. Kyneburgha, was established at Castor and the monastic enclosure can be traced in the village road layout. This dedication of the site to St. Kyneburgha continued into the 12th century, when the existing church was built. A dedication inscription survives above the southern door to the chancel and is dated to 1124 (Robinson 1999).

Further evidence for Middle Saxon occupation has been recorded at sites to the north and south of the existing church. Furthermore, investigations at 'The Cedars' revealed timber structures of 9th to 11th century date (Robinson 1999).

At the time of the Domesday Survey (*c.* 1086), Castor was held by Peterborough Abbey and contained a mill, 15 acres of meadow and woodland 6 furlongs long by four wide (Thorn and Thorn 1979).

The earliest Ordnance Survey plan of the area indicates that the site lay was unenclosed and lay at the western edge of a large field (OS 1888).

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

Two trenches, each measuring 10m by 1.5m were excavated to the surface of the underlying natural geology. Trench 1 was located within an area of a proposed swimming pool and Trench 2 within the footprint of the proposed new dwelling (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 list of all contexts and their interpretations appears as Appendix 2. 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.

Environmental sampling was undertaken at the discretion of the site supervisor using guidelines established by English Heritage (2002). The subsequent processing of the samples is detailed in Appendix 4.

The location of the excavated trenches was surveyed in relation to fixed 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

The earliest deposit encountered in this trench was a layer of yellowish brown clay (104).

Cutting natural at the northwest end of the trench was a northwest-southeast aligned ditch (103) that terminated within the trench. This was over 1.28m long, wider than 0.7m and 0.31m deep (Fig. 5, Section 1). A single fill of grey clayey silt (102) was recorded that contained pottery of mid/late 12th to early 13th century.

Also cutting natural to the south was a possible pit or ditch terminus (114). This measured over 1.06m long and 1.25m wide and 0.26m deep (Fig. 5, Section 5). Contained within the ditch was a fill of brownish grey silty clay (113), from which pottery of 13th to 15th century date was recovered.

Sealing the ditches was a subsoil comprising a 0.22m thick layer of brownish yellow clayey silt (101).

Cut into the subsoil was a northwest-southeast aligned gully (110). This measured over 1m long by 0.3m wide and 90mm deep (Fig. 5, Section 3). A fill of grey clayey silt was recorded (109).

Truncating the east end of the gully was a northeast-southwest aligned possible furrow (106 and 108) that was 1.87m wide and up to 0.33m deep (Fig. 5, Sections 2 and 3). Fills comprised greyish brown clayey silt (105 and 107). Non-diagnostic tile and fired clay were retrieved from (105).

Parallel to this furrow was a second furrow (112). This measured 2.55m wide and 0.55m deep (Fig. 5, Section 5). A single fill of brownish grey clayey silt (111) was recorded.

Sealing all features within this trench was the current topsoil of brownish grey silty clay (100) that was 0.38m thick.

Trench 2

Brownish yellow to brown clay and silty clay (208) was identified as the natural layer within this trench.

Impacting the natural was a slight hollow (206) that was over 1.5m long by 1.8m wide and 50mm deep (Fig. 7, Section 4). This contained a single fill of grey clayey silt (205) from which pottery of 12th century date was retrieved.

This had in turn been cut on its northern side by an east-west aligned ditch (204). This was 2.1m wide and up to 0.36m deep. Three fills were recorded, the lowest comprising purplish grey silt (203) that contained 13th – 15th century pottery. Upper fills comprised yellowish brown clay (202) and greyish brown clayey silt (207). Environmental indicators suggest that (203) incorporated cereal processing waste.

Sealing the ditch was a subsoil of grey clayey silt (201) that was 0.47m thick that was overlain by a 0.36m thick topsoil of grey clayey silt with frequent charcoal (200).

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits comprise clays and silty clays representing the upper weathered surface of the underlying solid geology of Blisworth Clay.

No remains could be assigned to the Romano-British period despite the close proximity of the palatial building to the southwest. Furthermore, no Saxon remains were identified during the evaluation.

Three ditches and a hollow were dated to the medieval period and indicate probable agricultural activity at the site during this period. This is emphasised by a ditch fill in Trench 2 which was derived from cereal processing waste. A subsoil was apparent sealing the medieval features in both trenches. This was in turn cut by an undated gully and two furrows in Trench 1, the two furrows possibly also medieval in origin.

Pottery retrieved from the investigation comprised a range of local and regional wares of the medieval period, specifically 12th to 13th centuries. Earlier, Romano-British, pottery was also retrieved but was restricted to a single sherd of Nene Valley Colour Coated ware. Post-medieval pottery was also collected.

Fired clay and brick or tile were also collected of which most was abraded and non-diagnostic. Animal bone was also retrieved.

7. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at 8 High Street, Castor, as the site lay in an area of known archaeological remains of the Romano-British and Saxon periods.

However, no Romano-British or Saxon

remains were encountered during the evaluation. Instead, the earliest features recorded dated to the 12th century, continuing into the 15th century, and comprised three ditches and a hollow. These were subsequently sealed by subsoil into which a gully and two furrows had been inserted, possibly also during the medieval period.

Finds include a range of medieval and later pottery as well as brick and fired clay. A single sherd of Romano-British pottery was also retrieved. Environmental sampling has determined that a medieval ditch was backfilled with deposits containing cereal processing waste.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr J Macaig of Jan Macaig Architects for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis on behalf of Mr R Cable. The work was coordinated by Steve Malone who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Ben Robinson, the Peterborough City Archaeologist, kindly provided background information. Dave Start allowed access to the library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Steve Malone
Site Staff: Paul Cope-Faulkner, Michael Wood
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
Post-excavation Analyst: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

CAFU Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Field Unit

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

OS Ordnance Survey

PCCAS Peterborough City Council Archaeology Service

RCHM Royal Commission on Historical Monuments

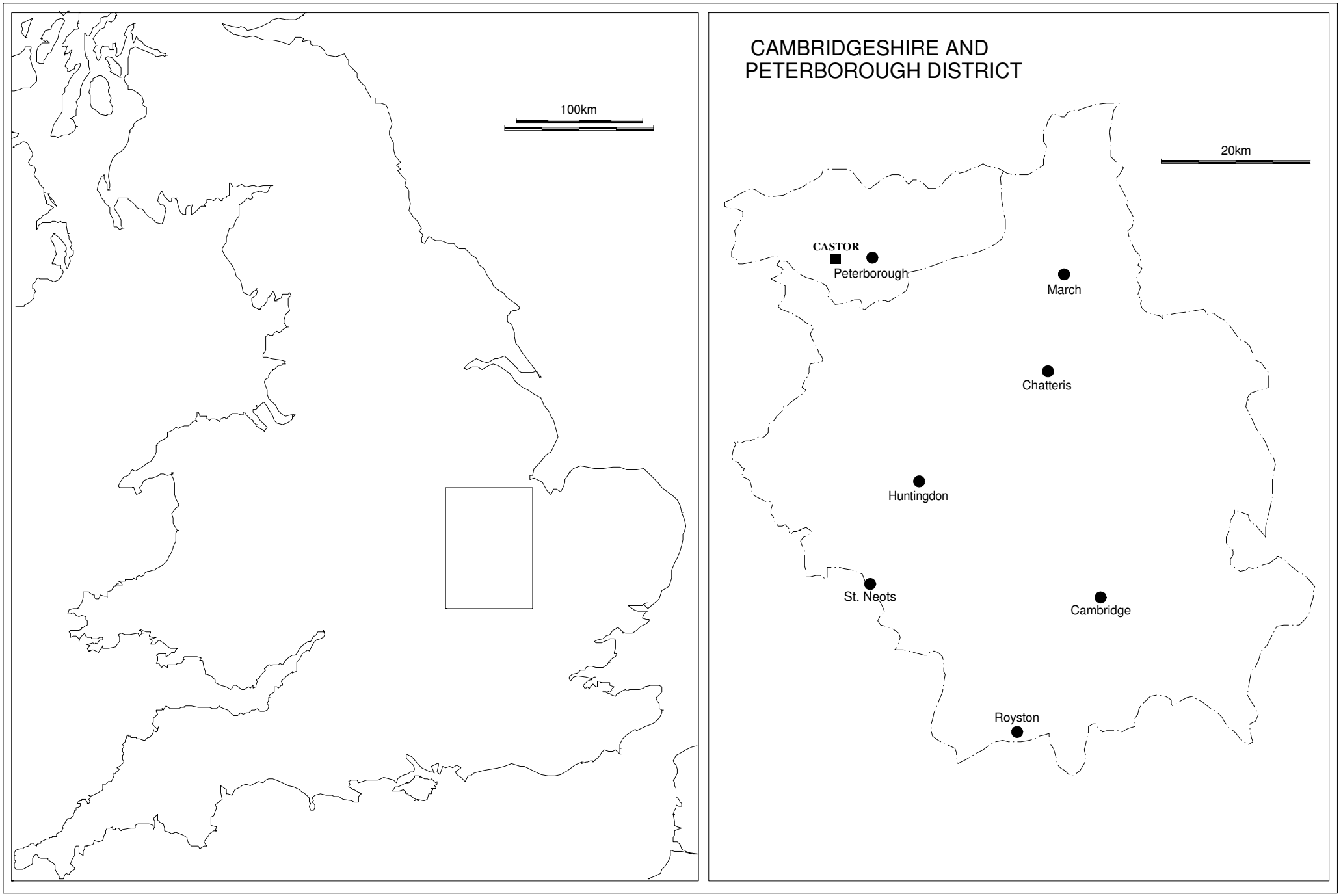
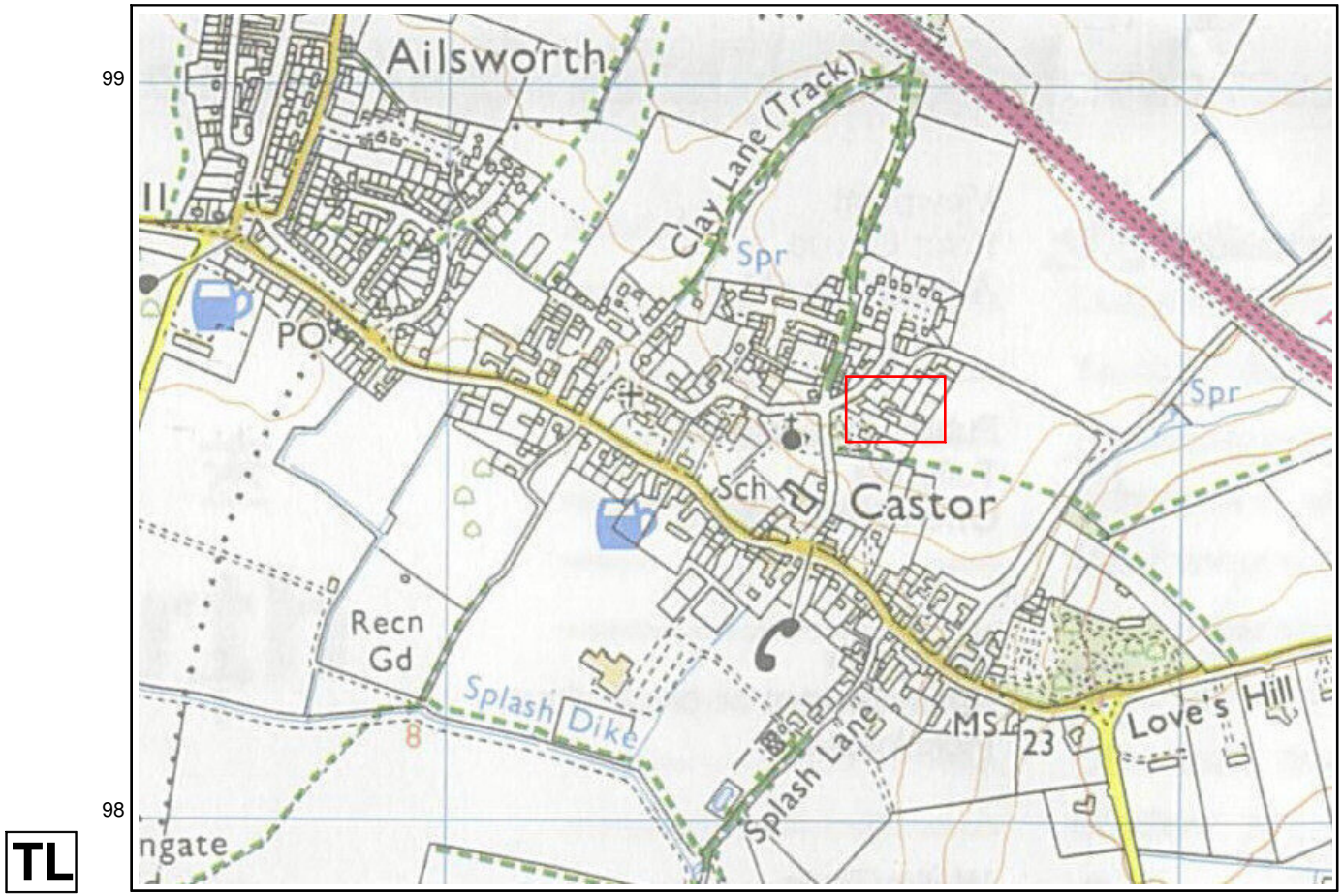


Figure 1 - General Location Plan



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Scale 1:10000	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 13/08

Figure 2 - Site location plan

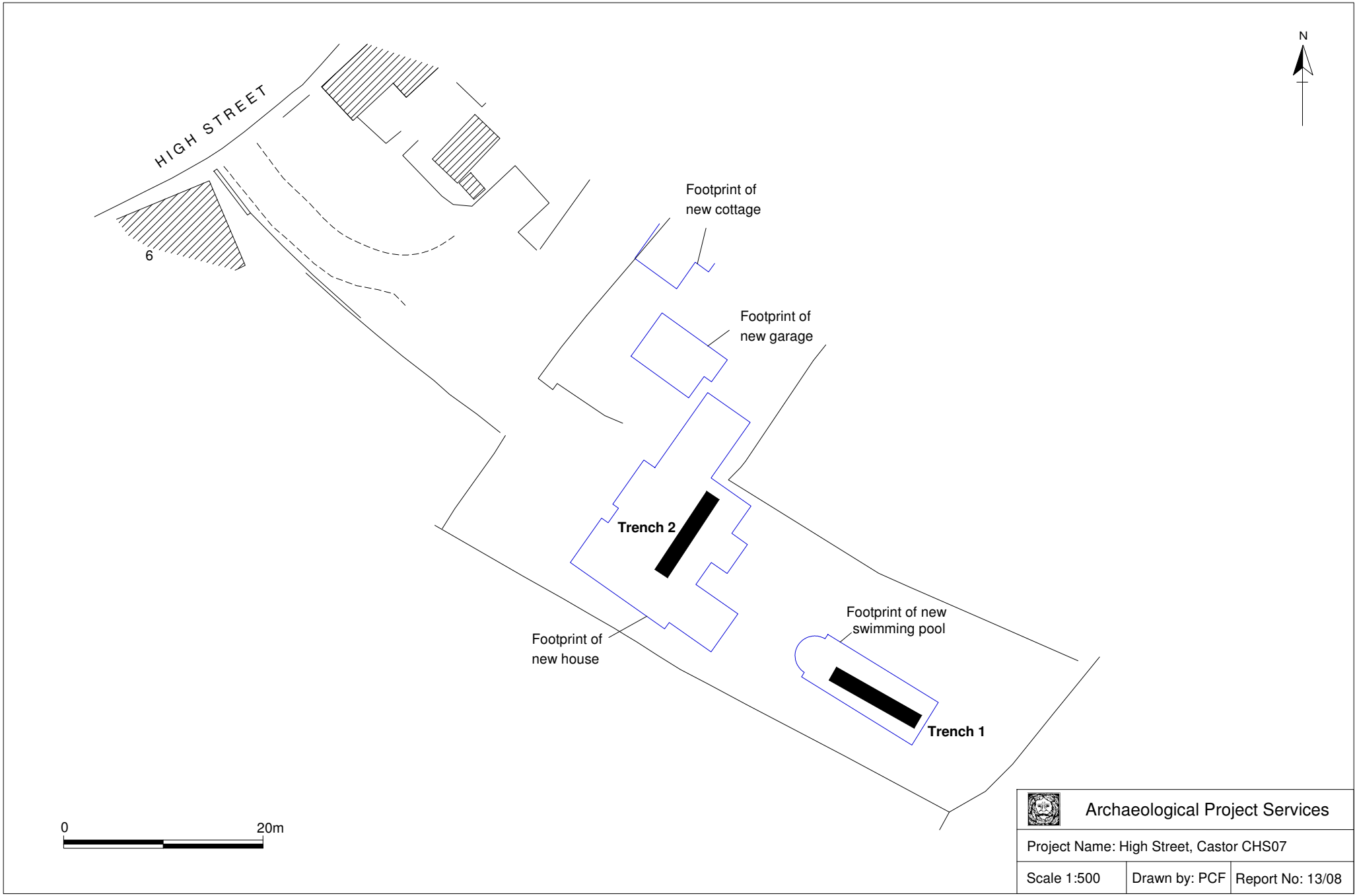

Figure 3 - Trench location plan

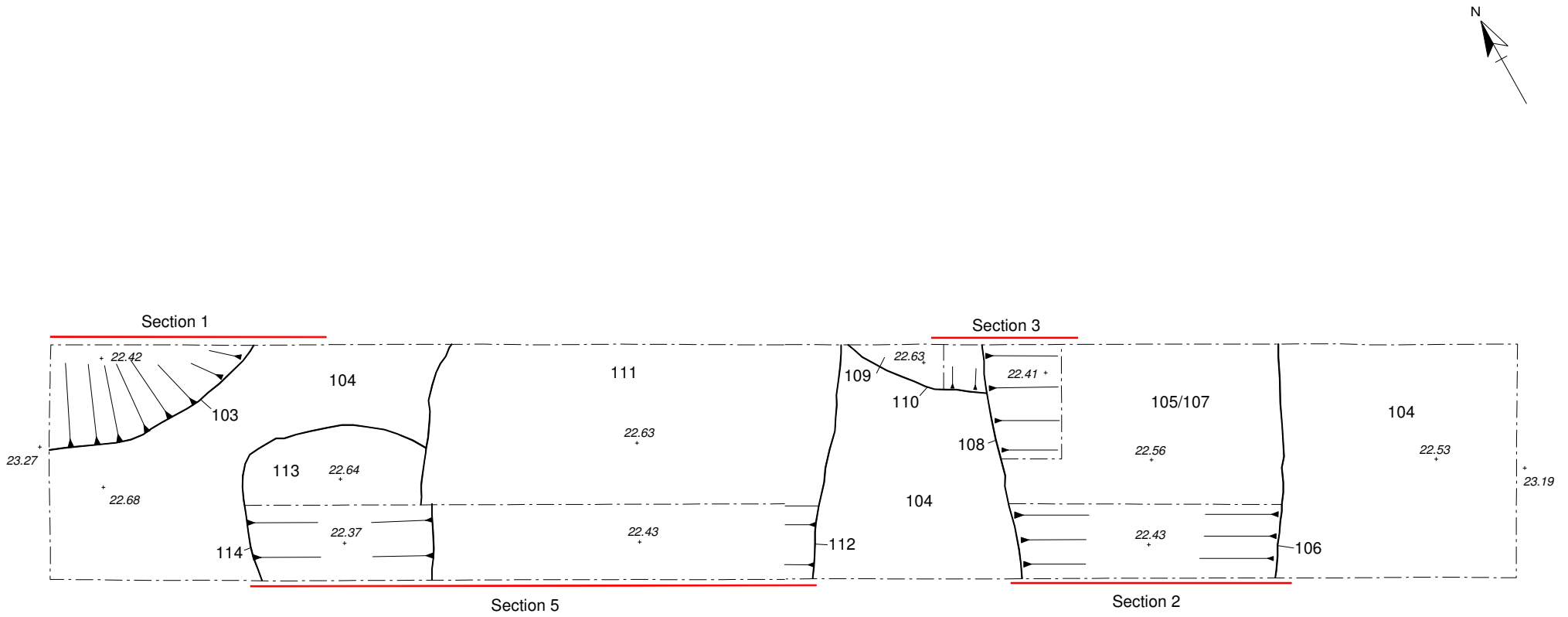

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Figure 4 - Trench 1: Plan

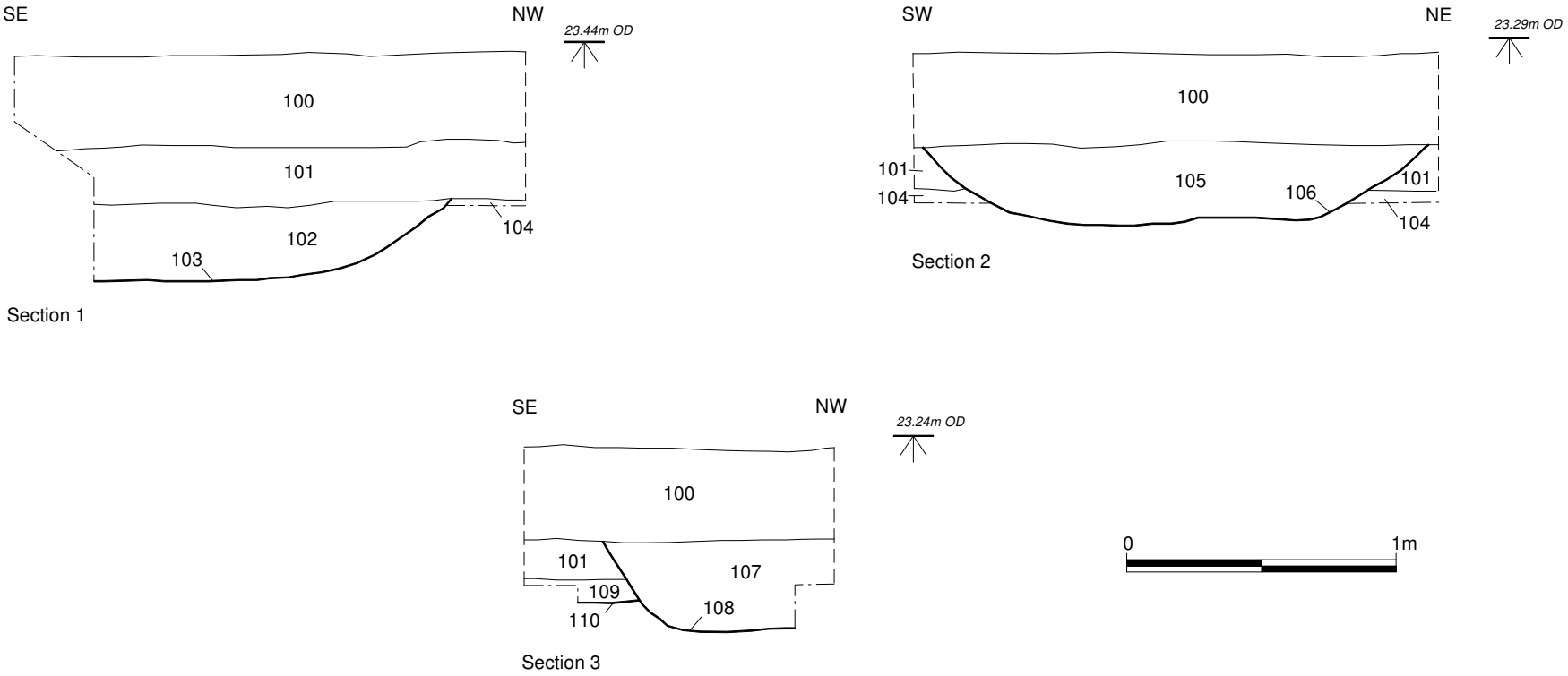


Figure 5 - Trench 1: Sections

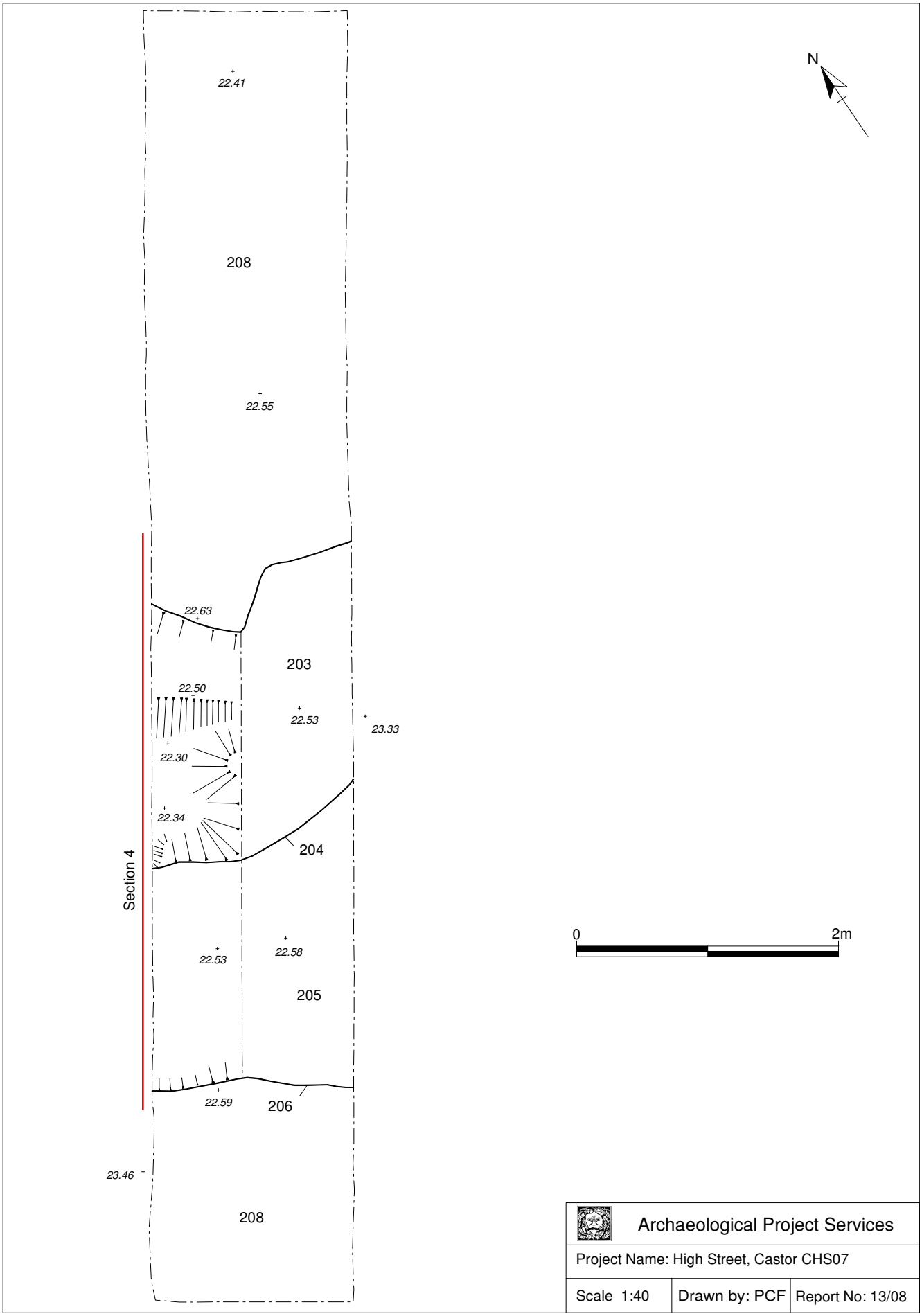
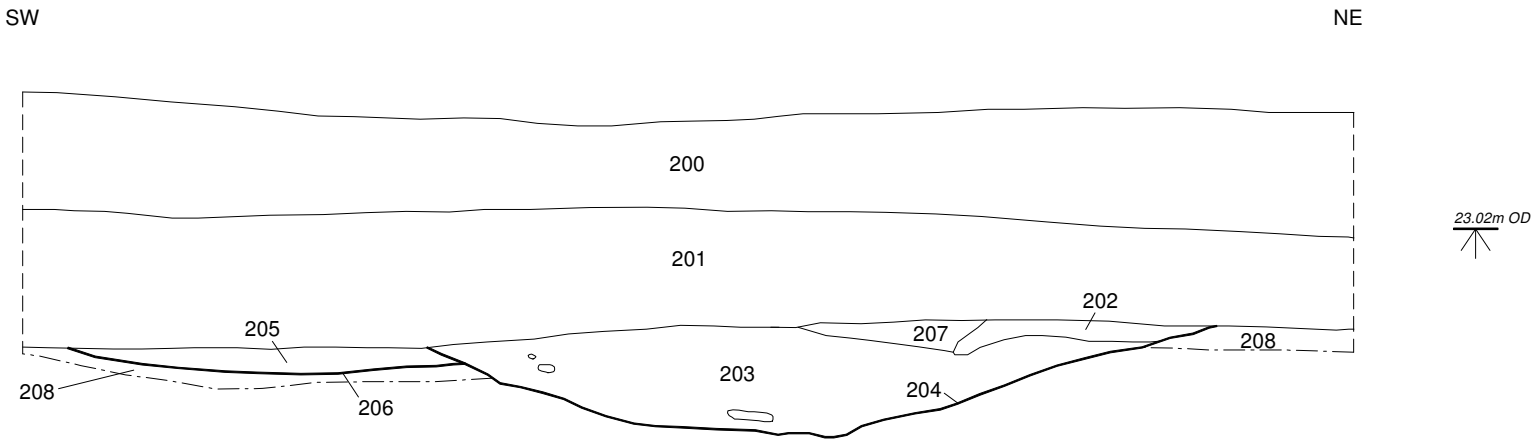


Figure 6 - Trench 2: Plan



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Project Name: High Street, Castor CHS07		
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Figure 7 - Trench 2: Section

Plate 1 – General view of the proposed development area, looking west

Plate 2 – Trench 1, Section 1 showing ditch (103), looking southwest

Plate 3 – Trench 1, Section 3 showing ditch (110) and furrow (108), looking southwest

Plate 4 – Trench 1, Section 5 showing furrow (112) and ditch (114), looking northeast

Plate 5 – Trench 2 before excavation, looking northeast

Appendix 1

LAND AT HIGH STREET, CASTOR, PETEROROUGH - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

1 SUMMARY

1.1 *This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land at High Street, Castor, Peterborough.*

1.2 *The area is archaeologically sensitive, lying in an area of archaeological interest and potential, close to the boundary of Scheduled Monument PE 93. This monument comprises substantial structural remains dating to the Roman period. A nunnery is said to have been founded in the village as early as the 7th century.*

1.3 *Archaeological evaluation is required in order to assess the potential impact of the proposed development. This will comprise the excavation of trial trenches within the area of the proposed development.*

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 High Street, Castor, Peterborough.

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 Castor is located approximately 5km west of Peterborough on the north side of the River Nene. The site, at 8 High Street, is located about 100m to the northeast of the church of St Kyneburgha, on the east side of the road, centred on National Grid Reference TL 1258 9857.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 Planning permission (06/00319/FUL) has been sought for the construction of a dwelling with basement and cottage. The site lies within the area of archaeological importance close to Scheduled Monument PE 93. Archaeological evaluation is required in order to assess the potential impact of the development works on any surviving archaeological deposits.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 Castor village sits on the interface between the clay capped limestone uplands and the terrace river gravels of the valley. The site lies on the south-facing valley side at *c*. 24m O.D. Local soils are brashy calcareous clayey soils of the Sherborne Association developed on Jurassic limestone and clay

(Hodge *et al*. 1984, 309).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

6.1 The development site is located close to Scheduled Monument PE 93, which incorporates a substantial portion of a complex of high status Roman buildings in the centre of Castor. These remains are thought to form part of a palatial structure together with the remains of preceding and succeeding activity.

6.2 The form of this structure is at present only conjectural, hypothesised from previous investigations (Robinson 1999). The scale of the structure makes the site at least nationally important, evidenced by the fact that much of the surrounding area is scheduled.

6.3 Elements of the palatial Roman building were revealed in the grounds of the Rectory, immediately south of the site, and consisted of a northwest-southeast aligned range of rooms. Monitoring of a service trench across the churchyard, a little further to the southwest also identified remains of a substantial Roman wall and cement floor.

6.4 A nunnery is said to have been founded in Castor in the seventh century by St Kyneburgha after whom the 12th-century parish church is dedicated. Evidence of middle and late Saxon settlement has also been recovered from excavations in the vicinity.

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.

7.3 In accordance with regional research frameworks (Glazebrook 1997; Brown and Glazebrook 2000) the investigation will consider the following general themes:

7.3.1 The character of Roman activity at the site and how this might relate to the known high status occupation in the vicinity

7.3.2 The presence of evidence for post-Roman settlement in the vicinity

7.3.3 The nature of medieval and early post-medieval activity at the site

8 LIAISON WITH THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CURATOR

8.1 Prior to the commencement of the trial trenching the arrangement of the interventions (excavations) will be agreed with the archaeological curator to ensure that the proposed scheme of works fulfils

their requirements.

9 TRIAL TRENCHING

9.1 Reasoning for this technique

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 It is proposed that the trial trenching will consist of the excavation of three trenches measuring up to 10m x 1.6m.

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 of Field Archaeologists (IFA). *Archaeological Project Services* is an IFA Registered Archaeological Organisation (No. 21).

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 Open trenches will be marked by hazard tape 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 field work

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 Home Office 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.

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 an EDM/GPS 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.

12 ARCHIVE

12.1 The documentation, finds, photographs and other records and materials generated during the evaluation will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery. The archiving of raw data and physical samples/artefacts, acquisition of site archive reference, archiving formats, boxing etc. will be undertaken in accordance with the Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery Standards for Archaeological Archive Preparation.

12.2 The results of the investigation will be entered onto the Online Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) database maintained by ADS, the Archaeological Data Service.

13 REPORT DEPOSITION

13.1 Copies of the investigation report will be sent to: the client; Peterborough City Council Archaeology Service; the County Sites and Monuments Record; and to the National Monuments Record.

14 PUBLICATION

14.1 A report of appropriate content on the findings of the investigation an article of appropriate content will be submitted for inclusion in the *Journal 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: *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date, and *Medieval Archaeology* and *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for medieval and later remains.

15 CURATORIAL MONITORING

15.1 Curatorial responsibility for the project lies with the Peterborough City Council Archaeology Service. As much written notice as possible, ideally at least seven days, will be given to the archaeological curator prior to the commencement of the project to enable them to make appropriate monitoring arrangements.

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.

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 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

17.1 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.

Task	Body to be undertaking the work
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln.
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric: Dr D Knight, Trent and Peak Archaeological Trust Roman: M Darling, independent specialist Anglo-Saxon: J Young, independent specialist Medieval and later: A Boyle, APS/J Young, independent archaeologist
Other Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist; or G Taylor, APS
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, independent specialist
Animal Remains Analysis	J Kitch, APS
Environmental Analysis	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
Radiocarbon dating	Beta Analytic Inc., Florida, USA
Dendrochronology dating	University of Sheffield Dendrochronology Laboratory

18 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

18.1 Fieldwork is expected to be undertaken by 2-3 staff, a supervisor and assistant(s), and to take 3-5 days.

18.2 Post-excavation analysis and report production is expected to take about 8 person-days. A project officer or supervisor will undertake most of the analysis, with assistance from the finds supervisor and CAD illustrator. Two half-days of specialist time are allotted in the project budget.

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 can be supplied on request.

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

Brown, N. and Glazebrook, J. 2000 *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. Research Agenda and Strategy*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper no. 8

Glazebrook, J. 1997 *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties, 1. Resource Assessment*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper no. 3

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**

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench 1

No.	Description	Interpretation
100	Friable dark brownish grey silty clay, 0.38m thick	Topsoil
101	Friable light brownish yellow clayey silt, 0.22m thick	Subsoil
102	Plastic mid grey clayey silt	Fill of (103)
103	Linear feature, aligned northwest-southeast, >1.28m long by >0.7m wide and 0.31m deep, steep sides and rounded base	Ditch
104	Plastic mid yellowish brown clay, >100mm thick	Natural deposit
105	Friable mid greyish brown clayey silt	Fill of (106)
106	Linear feature, aligned northeast-southwest, 1.87m wide by 0.3m deep, steep sides and rounded base	Furrow
107	Friable mid greyish brown clayey silt	Fill of (108)
108	Linear feature, aligned northeast-southwest, 0.85m wide by 0.33m deep, steep sides and rounded base	Furrow
109	Friable dark grey clayey silt	Fill of (110)
110	Linear feature, aligned northwest-southeast, 1m long by 0.3m wide and 90mm deep, steep sides and rounded base	Gully
111	Friable mid brownish grey clayey silt	Fill of (112)
112	Linear feature, aligned northeast-southwest, 2.55m wide by 0.55m deep, steep sides and rounded base	Furrow
113	Friable dark brownish grey silty clay	Fill of (114)
114	Linear feature, aligned northeast-southwest, 1.06m long by 1.25m wide and 0.26m deep, steep sides and rounded base	Ditch

Trench 2

No.	Description	Interpretation
200	Firm dark brownish grey clayey silt with frequent charcoal flecks, 0.36m thick	Topsoil
201	Firm mid grey clayey silt, 0.47m thick	Subsoil
202	Plastic mid yellowish brown clay	Fill of (204)
203	Soft dark purplish grey silt	Fill of (204)
204	?Linear feature, aligned east-west, >1.5m long by 2.1m wide and 0.36m deep, gradual sides and undulating base	Ditch
205	Firm mid grey clayey silt	Fill of (206)
206	Linear feature, aligned northwest-southeast, >1.5m long by 1.8m wide and 50mm deep, gradual sides and flattish base	Hollow
207	Firm dark greyish brown clayey silt	Fill of (204)
208	Firm to plastic mid brownish yellow to mid brown clay and silty clay with frequent flint pebbles	Natural deposit

Context (001) refers to unstratified finds collection

Appendix 3

THE POTTERY AND CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

By Dr. Anne Boyle

THE POTTERY

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* 2001 and to conform with Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery's *'Standards for Archaeological Archive Preparation*'. The assemblage consists of one hundred and eighteen sherds from eighteen vessels, weighing one thousand one hundred and thirty-seven grams. The majority of the material dates to the medieval period though some post medieval pottery is also present, as is a single sherd of Roman Nene Valley Colour Coated ware.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The chronology and coding system of the Lincoln Ceramic Type Series was used to assess the pottery (Young *et. al* 2005: Appendix 1), which was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This data was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in table 1. The Lincolnshire codenames, their Cambridgeshire equivalents and the date span of these ware types is shown in table 2.

Table 1, Pottery Archive

Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Fabric	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Decoration	Part	Date
001	BL	Black-glazed wares	Coarse	Bowl	1	1	9		BS	late 18th to 19th
Staffordshire										
001	LERTH	Late Earthenwares		Garden pot	1	1	9		BS	18th to 20th
Soot; ID?										
001	LERTH	Late Earthenwares		Garden pot	1	1	6		BS	18th to 20th
001	NVCC	Nene Valley Colour Coat		Jar/ Bowl	1	1	6		BS	late 3rd to 4th
001	STANLY	Stanion/ Lyveden ware	A	Jar	1	1	10		BS	mid 12th to mid 13th
100	PAEMSF	Peterborough Area Early Medieval Shell & Iron (generic)		Jar	1	1	5		BS	
Vessel 01; illustration 01										
102	PSHW	Peterborough Shelly Ware	2	Jar/ Bowl	1	1	14		base	
External soot; knife trimmed basal angle										
102	PAEMSF	Peterborough Area Early Medieval Shell		Jar	98	1	929		BS, rim,	

Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Fabric	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Decoration	Part	Date
		& Iron (generic)							base	
Slightly everted round rim which is wheel finished; knife trimmed basal angle; handmade/coil built; heavy soot on lower half of vessel; squat wide mouthed jar with a flat base; some inner shell leached; post firing hole pierced through base; vessel 01; illustration 01.										
102	STANLY	Stanion/Lyveden ware	B	Jar?	1	1	3		BS	
Abraded; ID?										
113	MEDLOC	Medieval local fabrics	Oxidised; medium sandy	?	2	1	1		BS	
Abraded; abundant round to sub round quartz 0.3 to 0.5mm including Triassic red coated quartz with occasional larger grains up to 1mm + occasional greensand + common sub round to round iron up to 1mm + occasional flint + occasional limestone										
113	STANLY	Stanion/ Lyveden ware	A	Jar	1	1	14		rim	
Slightly hooked rim; abraded										
203	GRIMT	Grimston- type ware		Jug	1	1	2	Applied white clay pad	BS	
Internal soot; ID?										
203	PSHW	Peterborough Shelly ware	1	Jar	3	1	72		BS	
Internal and external brown deposit - water lain?; patchy soot										
203	PSHW	Peterborough Shelly ware	2	?	1	1	1		BS	
Leached shell										
203	PSHW	Peterborough Shelly ware	2	Jar	1	1	38		BS	
Water lain concretions										
203	PSHW	Peterborough Shelly ware	2	Jar	1	1	6		BS	
Some shell on internal surface leached										
205	PSHW	Peterborough Shelly Ware	2	Jar	1	1	8		BS	
Patchy soot										
205	ST	Stamford Ware	B	Jar/ Pitcher	1	1	4		BS	Mid/late 11th to 12th
Thin yellow glaze; patchy internal soot										

Table 2, Concordance table of Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire Codenames

Lincolnshire codename	Cambridgeshire codename	Full name	Earliest date	Latest date
BL	PMBL	Black-glazed ware	1550	1750
GRIMT	GRIM	Grimston-type ware	1200	1550
LERTH	-	Late earthenware	1750	1900
NVCC	-	Nene Valley Colour Coat	2nd century	4th century
PAEMSF	-	Peterborough Area Shell and Iron (generic)	1100	1230
PSHW 1	SHW1	Peterborough Shelly ware 1	1175	1400
PSHW 2	SHW2	Peterborough Shelly ware 2	1175	1400
ST	STAM	Stamford ware	970	1200
STANLY	LYST	Stanion/Lyveden ware	1150	1250

Provenance and Range
The pottery mainly consists of types found previously in this part of Cambridgeshire. The Peterborough Shelly ware vessels are thought to be produced in the Rockingham Forest area and are therefore local. The other wares comprise regional imports, with pottery from Northamptonshire, Norfolk and Lincolnshire all being present at the site. The assemblage contains pottery dating from the Roman to Post Medieval period, though the 12th to early 13th century is represented by eight of the eighteen vessels.

Condition
The pottery is in fairly fresh condition; the low average sherd weight of nine grams is explained by the highly fragmented state of vessel 01. Some of the sherds show signs of water damage and concretions suggesting these have lain in a waterlogged deposit. Vessel 01 from **(102)** is slightly abraded. The post firing hole in the base of this vessel was probably a modification made prior to its breakage and deposition. Such modifications are relatively common though, as in this case, their purpose is not always clear.

Potential
The Peterborough Area Early Medieval Shell and Iron tempered wares are relatively rare and as this example (vessel 01) has a complete profile it is recommended that it is submitted for illustration. No further work is required on the material, though vessel 01 is suitable for inclusion into a programme of thin section and chemical analysis. All the pottery should be retained and reconsidered in light of further work at the site.

Summary
This is a small assemblage that possibly represents domestic activity in the area between the early medieval and post medieval periods. The majority of the pottery consists of types known from other sites in the area. The Peterborough Area Early Medieval Shell and Iron vessel represents one of the most complete examples of this type.

THE CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

Introduction
Six fragments of fired clay and ceramic building material, weighing fifty-six grams, was recovered from the site.

Methodology
The material was laid out and viewed in context order. The number of fragments were counted and weighed. The chronology and coding system of the Lincoln Ceramic Type Series was used to assess the ceramic building material, which was examined visually and using x20 magnification. An archive list of the fired clay and ceramic building material is included in Table 3.

Table 3 Ceramic building material and fired clay archive

Cxt	Codename	Full name	Fabric	NoF	W (g)	Description	Date
100	CBM	Ceramic building material		1	6	Flake	20th
203	FIRED CLAY	Fired clay	oxidised; medium sandy	1	27	Flat surface; part of surface; fabric contains calcareous material and greensand	
105	FIRED CLAY	Fired Clay	oxidised; fine	3	11	CBM?	
105	RTMISC	Roman or post-Roman tile		1	12	Flake	

Summary
A small number of ceramic building material and fired clay fragments were recovered from the site. The majority of this material is abraded and undiagnostic; the fired clay fragment from **(203)** should be retained, though the other pieces are suitable for discard.

DATING

The dating in Table 4 is based on the pottery and ceramic building material evidence.

Table 4, Spot dating for pottery and ceramic building material

Cxt	Date	Comment
001	Unstratified	
100	12th to early 13th	Date on a single sherd
102	mid/late 12th to early 13th	
105	roman to modern	Date on a single fragment of CBM
113	13th to 15th	
203	13th to 15th	
205	12th	

ABBREVIATIONS

BS Body sherd
CBM Ceramic building material
CXT Context
LHJ Lower handle join
NoF Number of fragments
NoS Number of sherds
NoV Number of vessels
UHJ Upper handle join
W (g) Weight (grams)

BIBLIOGRAPHY

~ n/d, *Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery Standards for Archaeological Archive Preparation*, Peterborough City Council.
Slowikowski, A.M., Nenk, B. and J. Pearce, 2001, *Minimum standards for the processing, recording, analysis and publication of post-Roman ceramics*, Occasional paper 2, London: Medieval Pottery Research Group.
Young, J. and Vince, A.G. and V. Nailor, 2005, *A corpus of Saxon and Medieval pottery from Lincoln*, Oxford: Oxbow.

Appendix 4

THE FAUNAL REMAINS
By Paul Cope-Faulkner

Introduction
A total of 17 (147g) fragments of animal bone were recovered from stratified contexts.

Provenance
The animal bone was retrieved from topsoil (100) and ditch fills (105, 113 and (203).

Condition
The overall condition of the remains was good to moderate.

Results

Table[1], Fragments Identified to Taxa

Context	Taxon	Element	Number	W (g)	Comments
100	pig	tibia	3	16	All join
105	Medium mammal	Tibia	1	1	
	Medium mammal	unknown	1	<1	
113	Sheep/goat	maxilla	7	19	Includes two molars
203	Sheep/goat	Humerus	2	94	
	Large mammal	Vertebra	1	8	
	Large mammal	Rib	1	7	
	Large mammal	unknown	1	1	

Summary
The assemblage is considered too small for meaningful analysis.

Appendix 5

AN ASSESSMENT OF THE CHARRED PLANT MACROFOSSILS AND OTHER REMAINS FROM THE HIGH STREET, CASTOR, LINCOLNSHIRE (CHS 07)

By Val Fryer

Introduction and method statement

Excavations at Castor High Street, undertaken by Archaeological Project Services, revealed features of probable medieval date including a ditch and a cut, the latter having a very dark, organic fill. Samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from both features, and two were submitted for assessment.

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 500 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed on Table 1. Nomenclature within the tables follows Stace (1997). All plant remains were charred. Modern contaminants including fibrous and woody roots and seeds were present in both assemblages.

Results

The assemblage from sample 1 (ditch [103]) was largely composed of fragments of black porous material, some of which appeared to have been heated to an extremely high temperature, and small pieces of coal. A single severely puffed wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grain was noted, but other plant remains were exceedingly scarce. The abundance of coal and black porous residues may indicate that this assemblage was largely derived from hearth waste or possibly 'industrial' refuse.

Cereal grains, many of which were puffed and distorted as a result of combustion at very high temperatures, were abundant with sample 2 from the fill of cut [204]. Oat (*Avena* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and wheat grains were recorded, with wheat being abundant. Rachis nodes of both bread wheat (*T. aestivum/compactum*) and rivet wheat (*T. turgidum*) type were also present along with a single large pulse (Fabaceae). Seeds of common cereal crop weeds were recovered, with taxa noted including stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*), orache (*Atriplex* sp.), cornflower (*Centaurea* sp.), corn gromwell (*Lithospermum arvense*) and dock (*Rumex* sp.). The numerous fragments of black porous material were almost certainly residues of the combustion of organic remains (including cereal grains) at very high temperatures.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

Both assemblages would appear to be derived from small, discrete deposits of refuse, which were dumped within the feature fills. Sample 1 is most likely to be derived from hearth or light industrial refuse while sample 2 is almost certainly derived from cereal processing waste. Wheat is the principal cereal present, with the other grains and the large pulse probably appearing as contaminants of the main crop. At least some of the grain was probably grown on the local clay soils, and soil fertility was almost certainly improved by the rotational growing of legumes, a practise common during the medieval period. The relative abundance of large weed seeds of a similar size to the grains may indicate that waste from an advanced stage of processing is represented, where the remaining seeds not removed by the initial winnowing would be removed by hand.

Although the assemblage from sample 2 does contain a sufficient density of material for quantification (i.e. 200+ specimens), analysis of a single sample in isolation would contribute little additional data to that already contained within this assessment. Therefore, no further work is recommended.

Reference

Stace, C, 1997 *New Flora of the British Isles*. Second edition. Cambridge University Press

Key to Table

x = 1 – 10 specimens xx = 10 – 50 specimens xxx = 50 – 100 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens
cf = compare b = burnt

Sample No.	**1**	**2**
Context No.	**102**	**203**
Feature No.	**103**	**204**
Feature type	**Ditch**	**Cut**
Cereal and other food plants		
Avena sp. (grains)		x
Large Fabaceae indet.		x
Hordeum sp. (grains)		x
(rachis nodes)		x
Hordeum/Secale cereale type (rachis nodes)		x
Triticum sp. (grains)	xcf	xxx
T. aestivum/compactum type (rachis nodes)		xx
T. turgidum type (rachis nodes)		x
Cereal indet. (grains)	x	xxxx
(sprout frags.)		x
(awn frags.)		x
Herbs		
Anthemis cotula L.		x
Atriplex sp.		x
Centaurea sp.		x
Fabaceae indet.		xx
Lithospermum arvense L.		xx
Small Poaceae indet.		x
Rumex sp.		x
Other plant macrofossils		
Charcoal <2mm	x	xx
Charcoal >2mm		x
Charred root/stem		x
Indet.culm nodes		x
Indet.seeds		x
Other materials		
Black porous 'cokey' material	xxx	xxxx
Burnt/fired clay	x	
Bone	x	
Fish bone		x
Small mammal/amphibian bone		xb
Small coal frags.	xxx	
Vitrified material		x
Sample volume (litres)	**10**	**10**
Volume of flot (litres)	**<0.1**	**0.3**
% flot sorted	**100%**	**50%**

Table 1. Charred plant macrofossils and other remains from High Street, Castor, Lincolnshire.

Appendix 6

GLOSSARY

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 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, *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) 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 1st 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 7

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

25	Context records
8	Sheets of scale drawings
1	Photographic record sheet
2	Daily record sheets
1	Stratigraphic matrix
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:

Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery
Priestgate,
Peterborough,
PE1 1LF

The archive will be deposited in accordance with the document titled *Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery Standards for Archaeological Archive Preparation*.

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: CHS 07

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.