

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT 26 REGENT STREET NORTHAMPTON NORTHAMPTONSHIRE (NARS 10)

Work Undertaken For Westleigh Developments Limited

October 2010

Report Compiled by Paul Cope-Faulkner BA (Hons)

Planning Application No: N/2005/0774 National Grid Reference: SP 7522 6299 OASIS Record No: archaeol1-80539

APS Report No. 73/10



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1. SUMMARY

A watching brief was undertaken during groundworks at 26 Regent Street, Northampton. The watching brief monitored the excavation of foundation trenches associated with a new block of flats.

The site lies within the formerly walled circuit of the medieval (AD 1066-1540) town, close to the Cluniac Priory of St. Andrew. The only extant medieval remains in the vicinity is the 12th century church of the Holy Sepulchre. Late Saxon (AD 850-1066) remains are known to the south.

The watching brief revealed a sequence of natural sand, overlain by a former topsoil upon which were walls of late postmedieval cellars. The ground had then been raised. Recent deposits, mainly overburden resulting from the demolition of more recent buildings at the site, were also encountered.

Finds retrieved during the investigation include two sherds of post-medieval pottery and clay pipe with later glass and brick.

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 may be disturbed or destroyed." (IfA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Westleigh Developments Limited to undertake an

archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with new residential development at 26 Regent Street, Northampton, Northamptonshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application N/2005/0774. The watching brief was carried out between the 20th and 23rd July 2010 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1).

2.3 Topography and Geology

Northampton is located fairly centrally in the county of Northamptonshire (Fig. 1).

The site is located 600m northwest of the centre of Northampton as defined by All Saints Church at National Grid Reference SP 7522 6299 (Fig. 2). The site lies on the north side of Regent Street next to its junction with St Andrew's Street at a height of 78m OD on a slope down to the east towards the valley of the Brampton River.

As an urban area, local soils have not been mapped. The site lies over the junction of Jurassic Upper Lias and Inferior Oolite series.

2.4 Archaeological Setting

The site is located within the historic walled town of Northampton. Prehistoric and Romano-British remains are known from the general area, but the main settlement began in the Saxon period. Late Saxon remains have been found to the south of the site which were enclosed by earthen defences, although a suburb may have existed at the junction of St. Andrew's Street and Broad Street (Williams and Bamford 1979, 24). Late Saxon features were also recorded along King Street (Chapman 2000-1).

The site lies to the west of the extant church of the Holy Sepulchre, a circular church dating to c. 1110 built by Simon de

Senlis, Earl of Northampton (Pevsner 2002, 323). Simon de Senlis was also responsible for the construction of the castle, which lay to the southwest of the site. De Senlis is also thought to have planned the town defences, which followed the line of Grafton Street to the immediate north, although available murage grants date to the 13th century.

To the north of the town defences was the site of St. Andrew's Priory, also founded by de Senlis between 1093 and 1100, for monks of the Cluniac order (Serjeantson and Adkins 1906, 102).

A watching brief undertaken during the construction of flats immediately to the west only revealed demolition and hardstanding deposits (Cope-Faulkner 2007a, 1). A probable post-medieval cellar was identified during a subsequent watching brief during the insertion of a service trench (Cope-Faulkner 2007b).

3. AIMS

The requirements of the watching brief, as detailed in the specification (Appendix 1), 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

The site was stripped of overburden to depths of 1.8m below the current ground surface. Where safe, selected portions of the side of the stripped area were cleaned. 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 2. A photographic record was compiled and a section was drawn at a scale of 1:10.

Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

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 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 deposit encountered towards the northern part of the site was a layer of natural yellowish brown sand (001) at a depth of 1.7m below the current ground level which was sealed beneath overburden (002) comprising rubble and concrete foundations from previous buildings at the site.

In the southern part of the site, the earliest deposit was a possible former topsoil comprising grey sandy silt (009). This measured in excess of 50mm thick.

Constructed over this former topsoil were a series of cellar walls (003, 005, 010, 011, 012, 013 and 014). These were generally built of ironstone and sandstone and some incorporated brick (Plates 2 to 5). These walls were between 0.4m and 0.35m thick and were up to 1.8m in height. A brick floor (015) was found associated with the easternmost cellar wall. Brick from this floor was dated to the early 20th century.

Following the construction of the cellars, the land was raised by a number of deposits of made ground. These consisted of mixed brown and yellowish brown sandy silt (006) and brown sandy silt with

brick fragments (007 and 008). These measured between 1.45m and 0.6m thick (Fig. 4, Section 1).

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits were encountered at depth and comprise sand representing the upper weathered surface of the underlying solid geology. It is probable that a former topsoil, encountered towards the south of the site, developed over this.

A series of walls were encountered which represent cellars of buildings that formerly stood at the site. These all lie at the south end of the site and were probably associated with buildings fronting Regent Street. Early 20th century brick from one cellar floor suggests that the floor was later.

Finds retrieved from the investigation comprise unstratified $18^{th} - 19^{th}$ century pottery, $19^{th} - 20^{th}$ century glass and late post-medieval clay pipes. An iron nail and oyster shell were also collected.

7. CONCLUSION

A watching brief was undertaken at Regent Street, Northampton, as the site lay with the core of the medieval town and in an area of Late Saxon remains.

However, no Saxon or medieval remains were encountered during the watching brief. Instead, a series of post-medieval walls were recorded that probably belonged to buildings that formerly fronted Regent Street.

The watching brief produced pottery, clay pipe, brick and glass of $18^{th} - 20^{th}$ century date.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr G Corbo of Westleigh Developments Limited for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Steve Malone who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Dave Start kindly allowed access to the library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Steve Malone
Site Supervisors: Vicky Mellor, Chris
Moulis
Finds processing: Denise Buckley
Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
Post-excavation analysis: Paul CopeFaulkner

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Cope-Faulkner, P, 2007a An Archaeological Watching Brief at Regent Street, Northampton, Northamptonshire (NARS 06), unpublished APS report 39/07

Cope-Faulkner, P, 2007b An Archaeological Watching Brief of a service trench at Regent Street, Northampton, Northamptonshire (NARS 06), unpublished APS report 97/07

IfA, 1999 Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs

Pevsner, N, 2002 *Northamptonshire*, The Buildings of England (2nd edition revised B Cherry)

Serjeantson, RM and Adkins, WRD, 1906 The Victoria History of the County of

Northampton Vol. II

Williams, J and Bamford, H, 1979 Northampton – the first 6000 years

11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

If A Institute for Archaeologists

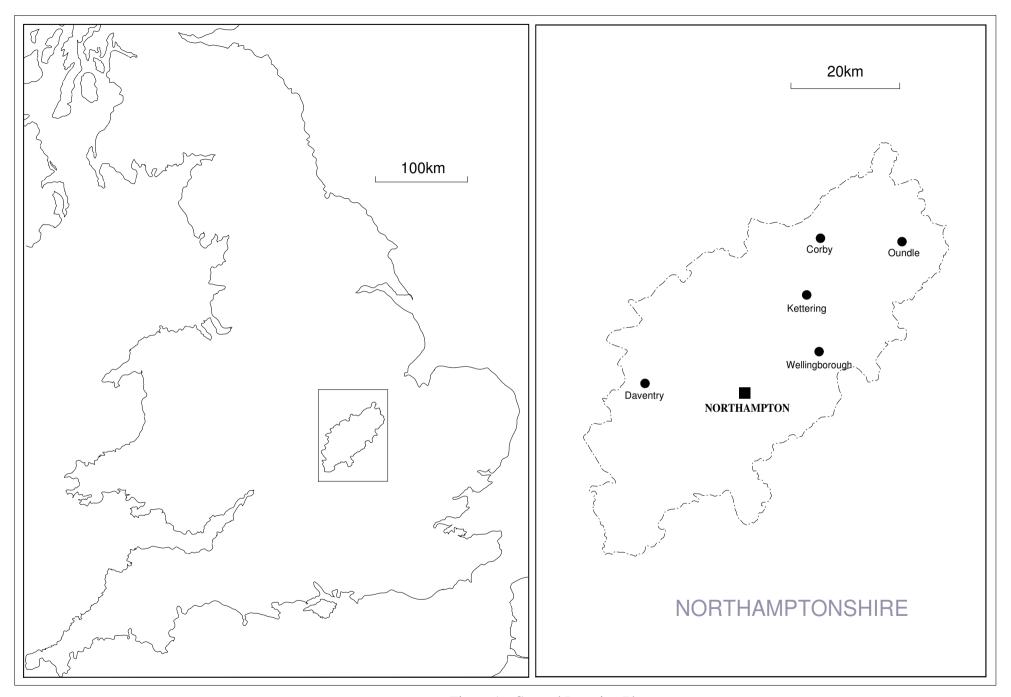
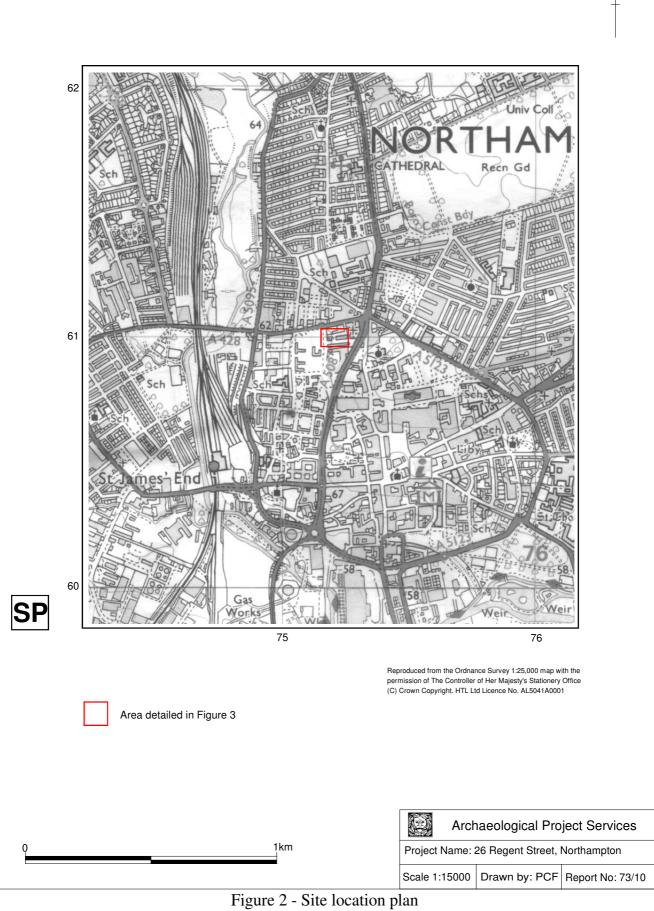


Figure 1 - General Location Plan





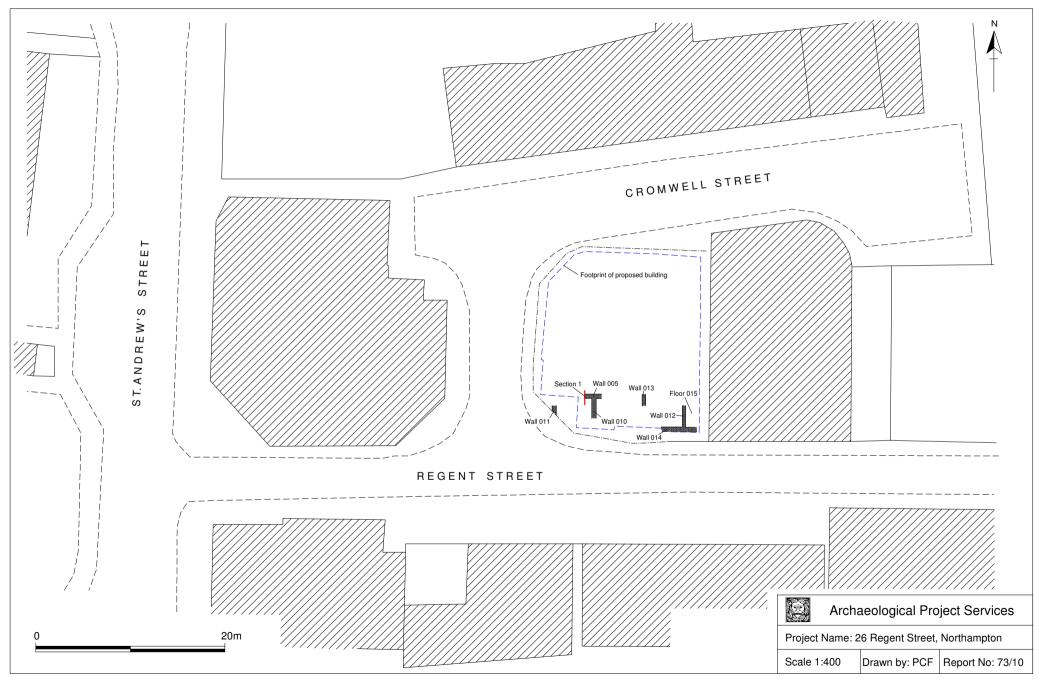


Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing principal features and section location

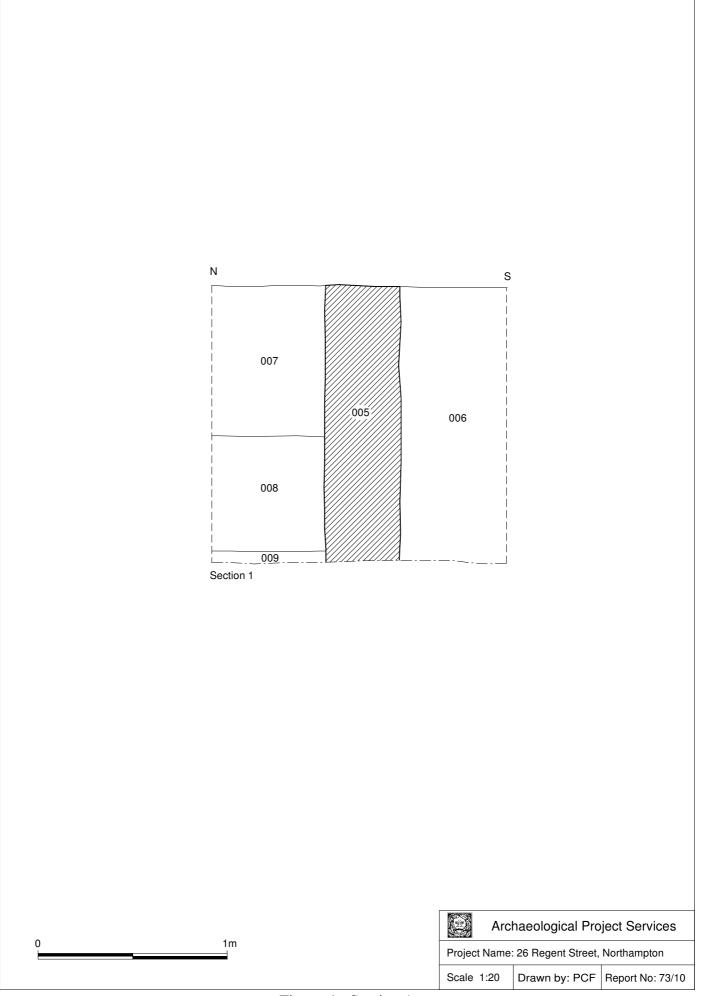


Figure 4 - Section 1



Plate 1 – View looking northeast towards the development site



Plate 2 - Wall (003) as exposed, looking northeast



Plate 3 – Section 1 with wall (005), looking east



Plate 4 – Wall (011), looking southwest



Plate 5 – Wall (014) with floor (015) just visible at the base of the trench, looking southeast

LAND AT 26 REGENT STREET, NORTHAMPTON - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 A watching brief is required during construction of flats on land at Regent Street, Northampton.
- 1.2 The site lies in an area of known archaeological significance. It lies in the historic core of the medieval walled town, between the castle bailey and the precinct of St Andrew's Priory, both established in the 11th century. Late Saxon, medieval and later remains have previously been found nearby.
- 1.3 The archaeological work will consist of a watching brief during development works on the site.
- 1.4 On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the watching brief. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for archaeological watching brief during construction of flats on land at 26 Regent Street, Northampton.
- 2.2 This document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview.
 - 2.2.2 Stages of work and methodologies.
 - 2.2.3 List of specialists.
 - 2.2.4 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

3.1 Northampton is located in the southern part of the county of Northamptonshire. Regent Street is in the northern part of the town centre, immediately west of the church of St Sepulchre. The site is located towards the western end of Regent Street, on its northern side, near to its junction with St Andrew's Street, centred on National Grid Reference SP 7522 6299.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 A planning application (N/2005/774) was submitted to Northamptonshire Borough Council for the construction of 15 flats with parking. Permission is subject to a condition requiring the undertaking of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation that has been submitted to and approved by the Local planning Authority. This document provides such a written scheme of investigation.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

As an urban area soils have not been mapped. Ironstone provides the natural geology. The site is on a slope westward down to the Brampton Rover, a tributary of the River Nene, and lies at about 75m OD.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

The development site is located within the historic walled town core of Northampton, between the castle bailey and the precinct of St Andrew's Priory, both established in the late 11th century. The

site also lies a short distance to the west of the Norman church of St Sepulchre, and immediately east of St Andrew's church, built in the 1840s. Prehistoric remains have previously been identified in Northampton but the main settlement begins in the Saxon period. Late Saxon remains have been found a short distance to the south on King Street and, at that same location, medieval quarry pits were identified, and there was evidence of post-medieval activity (Chapman 2000-1). Much of Northampton was destroyed in a major fire of 1675, but was rebuilt quickly. Both Regent Street and St Andrew's Street are shown on Speed's 1610 map of the city (Williams 1979).

Watching briefs undertaken during works immediately adjacent on Regent Street revealed only late post-medieval deposits and cellars (Cope-Faulkner 2007a; 2007b).

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the watching brief will be:
 - 7.1.1 To record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.
 - 7.1.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be 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.

8 SITE OPERATIONS

8.1 <u>General considerations</u>

- 8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the watching brief.
- 8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIfA). Archaeological Project Services is IfA Registered Organisation no. 21.
- 8.1.3 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.

8.2 Methodology

- 8.2.1 The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.
- 8.2.2 Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.
- 8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 8.2.4 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
 - the site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology

within the trench.

- groups of features where their relationship is important
- 8.2.5 Should deposits or feature fills with environmental potential be encountered then samples of such fills will be collected for processing. Environmental samples will be collected in accordance with English Heritage (2002) guidelines.
- 8.2.6 Should human remains be located the appropriate care will be taken and the appropriate Department for Constitutional Affairs and environmental health regulations followed. The County Archaeological Advisor and the local Coroner will be informed immediately upon discovery of human remains. Where human remains are encountered as part of the investigation, they will be left in situ and only removed if absolutely necessary. If they are removed, post-excavation assessment will contain an analysis of the remains and a statement for the final deposition of the assemblage. The qualified statement will address future research potential, where applicable, and the options for reburial.

9 POST-EXCAVATION

9.1 Stage 1

- 9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming 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 and labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
- 9.1.2 All finds recovered during the fieldwork will be washed, marked and packaged according to the 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.

9.2 <u>Stage 2</u>

- 9.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.
- 9.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

9.3 <u>Stage 3</u>

- 9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.
- 9.3.2 This will consist of:
 - A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
 - A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.
 - Description of the topography of the site.
 - Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.
 - A text describing the findings of the watching brief.
 - A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.
 - Plans of 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 chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10 REPORT DEPOSITION

10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the Client; the Northamptonshire County Council Built and Natural Environment Service; West Northamptonshire Development Corporation; and the Northamptonshire County Historic Environment Record. The Historic Environment Record will also be provided with a digital copy of the report and all data.

11 ARCHIVE

11.1 The documentation and records generated during the watching brief will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to Northampton Museum, for long-term storage and curation (AAF 2007; IfA 2008). As there is currently no archaeological archive depository able to accept material from this part of the county, provision will therefore be made for retaining the project archive until such time as a suitable depository is available and arrangements have been made for the transfer of the archive.

12 PUBLICATION

- 12.1 Details of the investigation will be input to the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS). A note on the investigation will also be submitted to the journal *Northamptonshire Archaeology*.
- 12.2 If appropriate, notes on the findings will be submitted to the appropriate national journals: *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date, and *Medieval Archaeology* and the *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for findings of medieval or later date.

13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Northamptonshire County Council Built and Natural Environment Service. They will be given written notice of the commencement of the project.

14 VARIATIONS AND CONTINGENCIES

- 14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 14.2 In the event of the discovery of any unexpected remains of archaeological importance, or of any changed circumstances, it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to inform the archaeological curator.
- 14.3 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation additional resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.
- Any contingency requirement for additional fieldwork or post-excavation analysis outside the scope of the proposed scheme of works will only be activated following full consultation with the archaeological curator and the client.

15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 15.1 The watching brief will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the archaeological site work.
- 15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- 15.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one person-day) will require a post- excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half person-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about four days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

16 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

16.1 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.

<u>Task</u> <u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>

Conservation Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln

Pottery Analysis Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust

 $\begin{array}{lll} Roman-A\ Beeby,\ APS\ or\ B\ Precious,\ Independent\ Specialist\\ Post-Roman\ -\ Dr\ A\ Boyle,\ APS\ or\ P\ Blinkhorn,\ Independent \end{array}$

Specialist

Non-pottery Artefacts J Cowgill, Independent Specialist, or G Taylor, APS

Animal Bones J Kitch, independent specialist or P Cope-Faulkner, APS

Environmental Analysis J Rackham, Independent Specialist

Human Remains Analysis G Weston, independent specialist

17 INSURANCES

17.1 Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains Employers Liability Insurance of £10,000,000, together with Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied on request.

18 COPYRIGHT

- 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.
- 18.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.
- 18.3 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.

18.4 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.

19 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Cope-Faulkner, P, 2007b An Archaeological Watching Brief of a service trench at Regent Street, Northampton, Northamptonshire (NARS 06), unpublished APS report 97/07

English Heritage 2002, Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from sampling and recovery to post excavation (Centre for Archaeology Guidelines)

If A 2008, Standards and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials

Williams, J., 1979 St Peter's Street, Northampton, Excavations 1973-1976

Specification: Version 2, 15 July 2010

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Soft mid yellowish brown sand	
002		Overburden
003	Ironstone structure, roughly hewn, aligned east-west	Wall
004	Unstratified finds retrieval	
005	Sandstone structure, roughly hewn, aligned east-west, 0.4m wide by 1.45m high	Wall
006	Soft mixed dark brown and yellowish brown sandy silt with brick fragments, 1.45m thick	Made ground
007	Loose dark brown sandy silt with brick fragments, 0.8m thick	Made ground
008	Soft to loose dark brown sandy silt with brick fragments, 0.6m thick	
009	Soft dark grey sandy silt, >50mm thick	Former topsoil
010	Sandstone and occasional brick structure, stone is roughly hewn in random coursing, aligned north-south	Wall
011	Sandstone and occasional brick structure, stone is roughly hewn in random coursing, aligned north-south	Wall
012	Sandstone structure, stone is roughly hewn in random coursing, aligned north-south, 2.5m long by 0.35m wide by 1.8m high	Wall
013	Sandstone structure, stone is roughly hewn in random coursing, aligned north-south, 2m long by 0.35m wide by 1.8m high	Wall
014	Sandstone structure, stone is roughly hewn random coursing, aligned north-south, 3.5m long by 0.35m wide by 1.8m high	Wall
015	Brick structure, laid flat	Floor

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). There are no fabrics within this group listed within the Northamptonshire county ceramic type series (CTS) (Blinkhorn, 1996) and so the pottery codenames (Cname) used are in accordance with the Post Roman pottery type series for Lincolnshire, as published in Young *et al.* (2005). This work also covers surrounding counties. A total of two sherds from two vessels, weighing 31 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 early modern period.

Condition

Both fragments are fragmentary, but not greatly abraded.

Results

Table 1, Post Roman Pottery Archive

Cxt	Cname	Form	Decoration	Part	Date	NoS	NoV	W(g)
004	PEARL	Dish		Base	ML18th-L19th	1	1	30
009	PEARL	Hollow	Blue transfer print	BS	ML18th-L19th	1	1	1
	•	•		•	Total	2	2	31

Provenance

A single piece of pottery was recovered from former topsoil layer (009) whilst the remaining sherd is unstratified. This second piece was labelled with finds retrieval context number (004).

Range

There are two pieces of early modem Pearlware (PEARL). This pottery was widely distributed and is very common within 19th century domestic assemblages across the country.

Potential

There is little potential for further work; the material is suitable for discard.

Summary

Two pieces of early modern pottery were recovered during the watching brief.

CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

By Alex Beeby

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the ACBMG (2001). A total of 1 fragment of ceramic building material, weighing 3161 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed before being weighed. The ceramic building material was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the ceramic building material is included in Table 2 below.

Condition

The piece of ceramic building material (a brick) is virtually complete and in a very fresh state. There is no adhered mortar or cement deposit.

Results

Table 2, Ceramic Building Material Archive

Context	Cname	NoF	Weight	Description	Condition	Date
015	MODERN BRICK	1	3161	Modern moulded brick		E20th

Provenance

The brick came from a brick floor structure

Range

There is a single brick; this probably dates to the early 20th century.

Potential

There is little potential for further work, the brick is suitable for discard.

Summary

A modern brick was the only piece of ceramic building material recovered during the watching brief.

FAUNAL REMAINS

By Gary Taylor

Introduction

A total of one (5g) fragment of faunal remains was recovered.

Provenance

The faunal remains were unstratified.

Condition

The faunal remains are in good condition.

Results

Table 3, Fragments Identified to Taxa

	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
Cxt	Taxon	Element	Side	Number	W (g)	Comments
004	oyster	shell		1	5	

Summary

A single mollusc shell, probably food waste, was found.

GLASS

By Gary Taylor

Introduction

Four pieces of glass together weighing a total of 14g were recovered.

Condition

Although naturally fragile the glass is in good condition.

Results

Table 4, Glass Archive

Cxt	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
	Colourless bottle, 20th century	1	12	20 th
004	Colourless window, 19th century	1	1	century
	Colourless, burnt/melted, late post-medieval	2	1	

Provenance

The glass was recovered as unstratified artefacts.

Range

Vessel and window glass was recovered and was all of early modern date. Half of the assemblage has been affected by intense heat and is melted.

Potential

As an unstratified assemblage of early modern date the glass is of very limited potential. However, the burnt items suggest intense fires at the site, and this is supported by the clay pipe evidence (see below).

CLAY PIPE

By Gary Taylor

Introduction

Analysis of the clay pipes followed the guidance published by Davey (1981) and the material is detailed in the accompanying table.

Condition

The clay pipe is in good condition.

Results

Table 5, Clay Pipes

Context		Bore	diamete	r /64"		NoF	W(g)	Comments	Date
no.	8	7	6	5	4	NOI	W(g)	Comments	Date
004				2	1	3	6	Stems only; 2 are burnt externally, 1 of them highly burnt	19 th century

Provenance

The clay pipes were recovered as unstratified artefacts. They are probably local Northampton products.

Range

Three stems, all of probable 19th century date, were retrieved. Two of them have been burnt externally.

Potential

As an unstratified assemblage of early modern date the clay pipe is of limited potential. However, two of the pierces are burnt and these, together with examples of molten glass (see above) suggest intense fires at the site.

OTHER FINDS

By Gary Taylor

Introduction

A single other find weighing 8g was collected.

Condition

A metal item, the other artefact is corroded but in otherwise good condition.

Results

Table 6, Other Materials

Cxt	Material	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
004	iron	nail	1	8	

Provenance

The other find was unstratified.

Range

A single iron nail was found.

Potential

As an unstratified and undated object the other find is of very limited potential and could be discarded.

SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 7 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 7, Spot dates

Ī	Cxt	Date	Comments
	004	unstratified	Contains 19th-20th century material
	009		E20th

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)

REFERENCES

~ 2001, Draft Minimum Standards for the Recovery, Analysis and Publication of Ceramic Building Material, third version [internet]. Available from http://www.geocities.com/acbmg1/CBMGDE3.htm

Blinkhorn, P, 1996 Northamptonshire *Anglo-Saxon and Medieval County Ceramic Type Series*, Handbook for Type Series Users, Northamptonshire County Council

Davey, PJ, 1981 Guidelines for the processing and publication of clay pipes from excavations, *Medieval and Later Pottery in Wales* 4, 65-88

Slowikowski, AM, Nenk, B and Pearce, J, 2001 *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2

Young, J, Vince, AG and Nailor, V, 2005 A Corpus of Saxon and Medieval Pottery from Lincoln (Oxford)

GLOSSARY

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.

Dumped deposits These are deposits, often laid down intentionally, that raise a land surface. They may be

the result of casual waste disposal or may be deliberate attempts to raise the ground

surface.

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).

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.

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 15 Context records
- 2 Photographic record sheets
- 7 Sheets of scale drawings
- 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 Northampton Museum:

Accession Number: Pending

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: NARS 10

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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