

**EXTENSION AT PARKWOOD, PARK LANE, DONINGTON, SPALDING,
LINCOLNSHIRE, PE11 4UE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

NGR: TF 20738 35824
Planning App. No.: H04-0082-14
PCAS Job No.: 1346
PCAS Site Code: PWDM 14
Accession no.: LCNCC 2014.241

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For
Kingsmead Design Ltd

On behalf of
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Appendix 1: Context Summary

Summary

PCAS Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Kingsmead Design Ltd to carry out a scheme of archaeological monitoring and recording on all development groundworks for a new single storey extension for a new swimming pool, to be added to the south side of the existing property at Parkwood, Park Lane, Donington.

Historic mapping indicated that the site had not previously been developed, however as the site lies directly between the vicarage and the church there is likely to have been an access route between the two that is not shown on available mapping. In addition, given the proximity to the church there is a small chance for human remains to be encountered, or for evidence of early medieval activity around the church.

The underlying natural clay was encountered in all excavated areas, overlain by buried soils and topsoil. Despite the close proximity of the development area to the church no archaeological finds or features of any period were encountered during the groundworks associated with the development.

1.0 Introduction

PCAS Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Kingsmead Design Ltd to carry out a scheme of archaeological monitoring and recording on all development groundworks for a new single storey extension for a new swimming pool, to be added to the south side of the existing property at Parkwood, Park Lane, Donington.

The aims of the archaeological monitoring were to preserve by record any archaeological remains discovered on the site, which were impacted by development. The results of this project fulfil the requirements of the planning condition attached to the planning application response. (Application ref Ho4-0082-14).

2.0 Site location and description (Fig. 1 & 2)

Donington is a village and civil parish in the northwest corner of the South Holland district of Lincolnshire. It lies on the south side of the A52, at the junction with the A152, around 15km and 17km from Boston and Sleaford to the northeast and northwest respectively, and around 13km north of Spalding. The approximate central NGR of the development is TF 20738 35824.



Figure. 1: Site location plan with site outlined in red. OS mapping © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. PCAS licence no. 100049278.

Park Lane lies in the north half of the village, on the north side of the A152, extending from Church Street in a westerly direction. Parkwood lies at the end of the first cul-de-sac off Park Lane on the right as approached from Church Street, accessed along a private gravel driveway. The new indoor swimming pool is to be housed in a single storey extension on the south side of the existing house at Parkwood, occupying land that was formerly part of the garden. The new extension is to measure c. 16.41m(E-W) x 10.11m (N-S), attached to the existing garage and

cycle store, with access from both within the house via the utility room and the driveway in front of the garage.

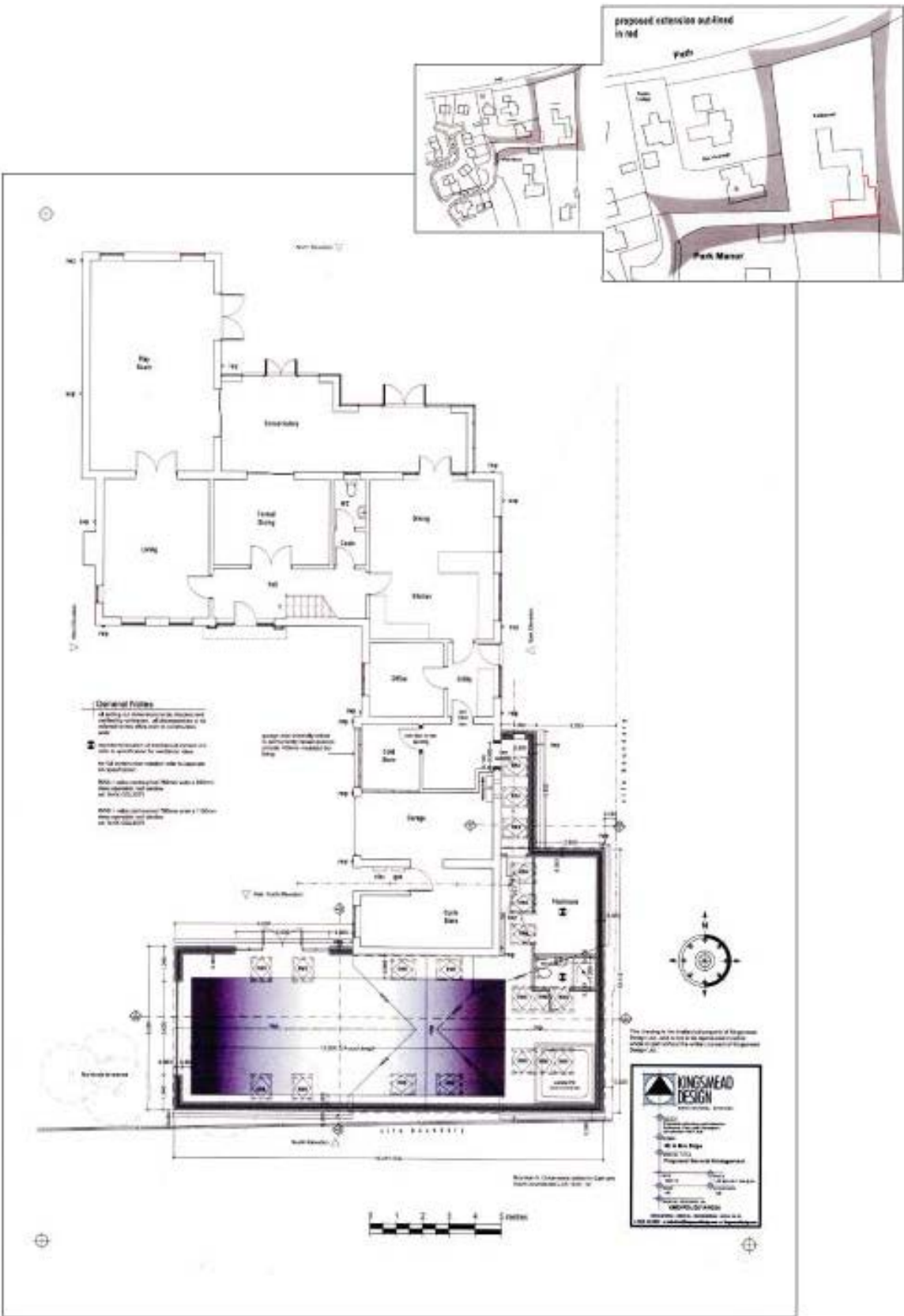


Figure 2: Plan of development footings for new single storey swimming pool extension to Parkwood, Donington. Plan supplied by client. 1:200@A4. Inset: Site location map, not to scale.



3.0 Topography and geology

Donington lies on the edge of a band of Oxford Clay Formation Mudstone, formed in a shallow sea in the Jurassic period. This mudstone is generally smooth and grey in colour, with sporadic beds of limestone nodules. This is overlain by Tidal Flat Deposits of clay and silt, formed in a shoreline environment on beaches and barrier islands (mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html).

As a former tidal zone on the Lincolnshire Fens, Donington is largely flat with only minor local undulations. There are two benchmarks recorded in the vicinity; the closest is on the buttress at the northeast corner of the Church of St. Mary and the Holy Rood, c. 160m northeast of the area of the footings. This level is recorded as 5.26mOD, the cut mark lying c. 0.60m above existing ground level. The second benchmark lies on the side of the Black Bull pub on the market place and is recorded as 4.76mOD (0.50m above existing ground level).

4.0 Planning Background (Fig. 2 & 3)

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) came into force in March 2012. This places the responsibility for dealing with heritage assets affected by development proposals with the developer. Developers are required to 'record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible' (NPPF, s141).

A planning application for the construction of a new single storey extension for a new swimming pool was submitted to South Holland District Council (SHDC), application ref: H04-0082-14. The Historic Environment Officer for SHDC advised that as the site lies in the vicinity of the village church, and both Roman and medieval artefacts have been recovered from the immediate area, that it was necessary to include an archaeological condition in the planning consent.

The application proposals were subsequently granted subject to conditions. Conditions 3, 4 & 5 of the document refer to the archaeological conditions of the permission:

1. *No development shall take place until a written scheme of archaeological investigation has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. This scheme should include the following and should be in accordance with the archaeological brief supplied by the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment advisor on behalf of the Local Planning Authority: 1. An assessment of significance and proposed mitigation strategy (i.e preservation by record, preservation in situ or a mix of these elements). 2. A methodology and timetable of site investigation and recording 3. Provision for site analysis 4. Provision for publication and dissemination of analysis and records 5. Provision for archive deposition 6. Nomination of a competent person/organisation to undertake the work 7. The scheme to be in accordance with the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook. The archaeological site work shall only be undertaken in accordance with the approved written scheme. Reason: To ensure the preparation and implementation of an appropriate scheme of archaeological mitigation in accordance with national guidance contained in Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework, 2012.*
4. *The applicant shall notify the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Department in writing of the intention to commence at least fourteen days before the start of archaeological work required in connection with Condition 3 above in order to facilitate adequate monitoring arrangements. Reason: To ensure satisfactory archaeological investigation and retrieval of archaeological finds in accordance with national guidance contained in Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework, 2012.*

5. A copy of the final report required in connection with Condition 3 above shall be submitted within three months of the work being carried out to the Local Planning Authority and the Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record. The material and paper archive required as part of the written scheme of investigation shall be deposited with an appropriate archive in accordance with guidelines published in The Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook. Reason: To ensure satisfactory arrangements are made for the recording of possible archaeological remains in accordance with national guidance contained in Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework, 2012.

A methodology (WSI) for archaeological evaluation (Lane 2014) was written by PCAS and approved on behalf of the LPA by the Historic Environment Officer for SHDC.

5.0 Archaeological and historical background

There is little evidence for early occupation or activity around Donington; the village lies in the Lincolnshire Fens and probably remained largely inaccessible for much or prehistory, the low-lying, frequently flooded marshes being unattractive sites for either early prehistoric hunting or later efforts of early agriculture.

The Fens began to be occupied in the late Iron Age-Early Romano British period, as sea level fell and small islands of higher, drier ground emerged from the marshes. Donington sits on the edge of one such shallow island; scatters of Romano British pottery have been recovered from the topsoil of fields c. 300m north of the site, and on the southeastern edge of the village (LHER ref: 23672/23644). No features have been identified to correspond with this dating evidence, although it suggests the presence of Roman occupation or activity in the vicinity.

The first documentary record for Donington is the Domesday Book, in which the village appears in three entries, two of which are held by Count Alan of Brittany, a new Norman overlord, and the third held by St. Peter's Abbey in Peterborough (<http://domesdaymap.co.uk>). The total sum of the population at 65 households is large, with only comparatively small area of meadow and ploughland suggesting subsistence farming. More significant are the twenty-seven salthouses recorded, which suggests the primary occupation of the villagers was in salt production. The village was well established by the 11th century and it is likely continuous occupation began in the mid-Saxon period when salt production along the east coast was common, although salt production may also have taken place in the Roman period. To date no Roman, Saxon or medieval salterns have been identified around Donington.

Scatters of medieval and post-medieval pottery have been recovered at various locations around Donington, found both unstratified and within cut features, confirming occupation throughout these periods. Finds are concentrated around the historic core of the village, with potential cropmarks indicating ridge and furrow on the outskirts of the village, c. 600m north of the site. The church of St. Mary and the Holy Rood lies less than 200m to the northeast of the site; first built in the early 13th century this church will have been a prominent feature of the early medieval village in the wide open landscape, and probably a focus of activity. Pottery dating from the 13th century and a silver penny of Edward I (1272-1307) has been recovered from the field to the west of the church (LHER ref: 22989), suggesting this area was occupied in the early medieval period before the focus of the settlement moved to the south around the market place.

The population of the village slowly rose in the post-medieval period, reaching a peak at slightly over 2000 inhabitants in the mid-19th century. It is during this most prosperous period that many of the historic buildings in Donington were constructed, although The Park, an early 18th century manor house built for the Gleed family for which Park Lane was named, pre-dates this slightly. The former vicarage which lies immediately to the south of the development site dates from the early 19th century but underwent multiple phases of alteration and construction throughout the 19th century (List Entry No. 1359284).

Historic mapping indicates the site has not previously been developed, however as the site lies directly between the vicarage and the church there is likely to have been an access route between the two that is not shown on available mapping. In addition, given the proximity to the church there is a small chance for human remains to be encountered, or for evidence of early medieval activity around the church.

6.0 Methodology

The scheme of works was implemented in accordance with all relevant national and local guidelines regarding agreed best practice for such projects. It comprised the archaeological monitoring of all groundworks and recording of any archaeological remains exposed, effectively 'preserving archaeology by record'. The monitored areas were excavated using a tracked 360° excavator fitted with a toothless bucket to a maximum depth of 1.6m below current ground level. Fieldwork was undertaken over a period of four working days in December 2014 and an experienced field archaeologist was present during all groundworks.

All observed features and deposits were recorded on standard PCAS context recording sheets, and the progress of the groundworks noted on a standard PCAS site diary sheet. Sample sections were drawn at intervals at a scale of 1:20, and plotted on a base plan. A digital photographic and colour slide record was maintained.

7.0 Results (Fig 3, Plates 1 – 4)

The natural mid brown clay (105) was encountered in all excavated areas at c. 1m below the present ground surface. This was overlain by buried dark brown silty soils (103) and (104) and topsoil/buried topsoil (102), which was overlain, to the east of the house, by patio slabs (100) and bedding material for the slabs (101).

No archaeological finds or features from any period were observed during the groundworks associated with the development.

8.0 Conclusion

The monitored area consisted of the footings for a single storey extension and new swimming pool to the south of the existing building. The underlying natural clay was encountered in all excavated areas, overlain by buried soils and topsoil. Despite the close proximity of the development area to the church no archaeological finds or features of any period were encountered during the groundworks associated with the development.

9.0 Effectiveness of Methodology

The Methodology employed during this project achieved its primary objective, ensuring that any archaeological remains that might have been present on the site would not have been destroyed unrecorded, while causing the minimum of disruption to the construction process.

10.0 Acknowledgements

PCAS Archaeology Ltd would like to Kingsmead Design Ltd for this commission.

11.0 Site Archive

The project archive is currently held at the offices of PCAS Archaeology in Saxilby, Lincolnshire while being prepared for deposition, and will be deposited with the Lincoln City and County Museum ('The Collection').

12.0 References

ClfA, 2014, *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists: Reading

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Lane, A. 2014. *Extension at Parkwood, Park Lane, Donington, Spalding, Lincolnshire: Written Scheme of Investigation of archaeological monitoring and recording*. Unpublished client document: PCAS Archaeology Ltd.

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Websites:

<http://boulthampark.co.uk/history/>

<http://www.heritageconnectlincoln.com/>

<http://www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/map-search?clearresults=True>

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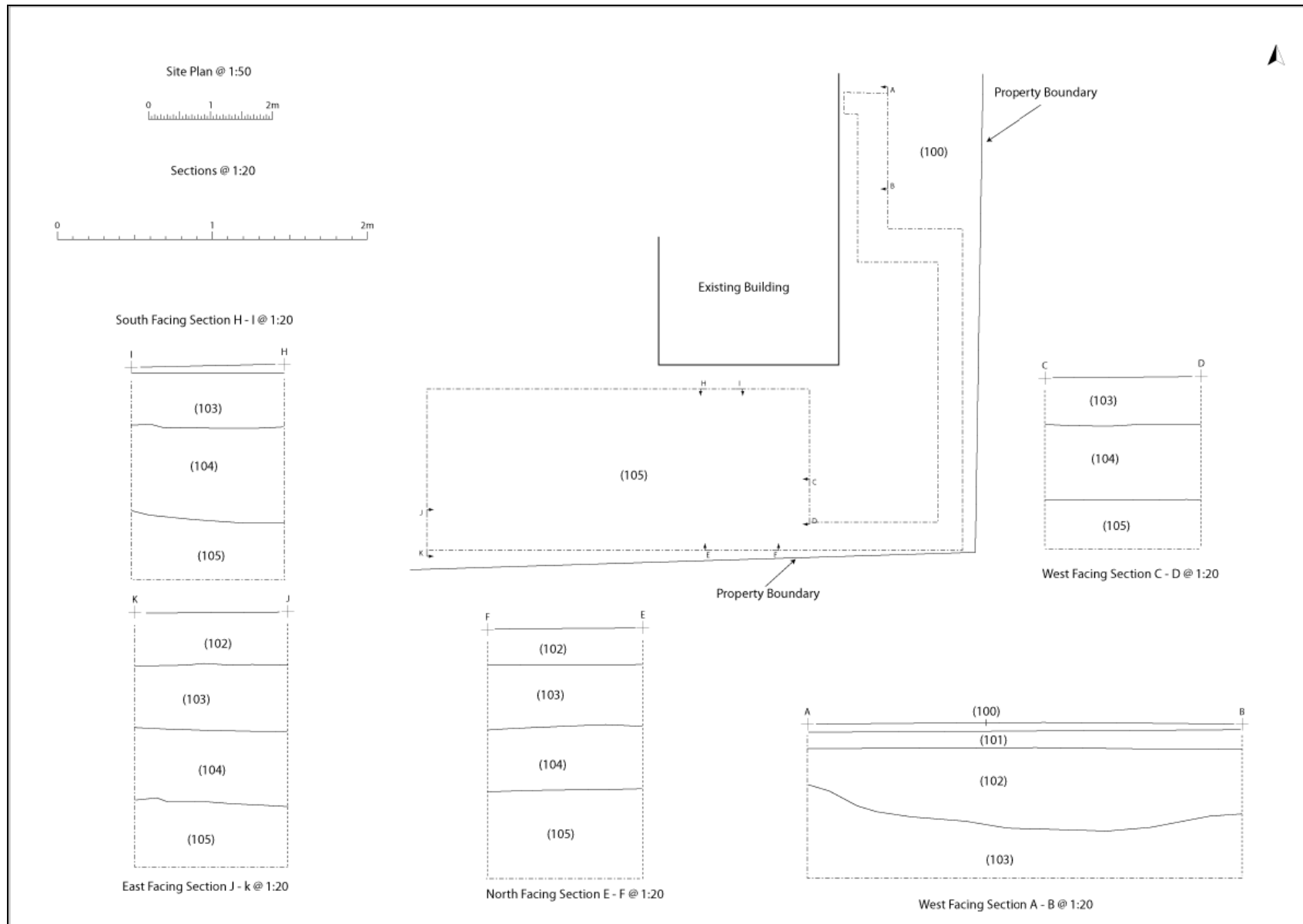


Figure 3: Plan and Section drawings recorded during the site monitoring and recording



Plate. 1: Looking east pre-excitation during site clearance works



Plate. 2: Looking north-east at the northern foundation excavations



Plate. 3: Looking north at south facing section south of existing building



Plate. 4: Looking south-west at the north facing section of swimming pool area

Appendix 1: Context Summary

Context	Type	Description	Thickness/depth
100	Layer	Patio Slabs	0.06m
101	Layer	Hardcore bedding for (100)	0.1m
102	Layer	Topsoil: Dark brown silty loam	up to 0.5m
103	Layer	Buried Soil: Mid to light brown silty clay	up to 0.6m
104	Layer	Buried Soil: Mid to dark brown silty clay	up to 0.4m
105	Layer	Mid brown Natural Clay	N/A