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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
AT 2/3 HIGH STREET,
SPALDING,
LINCOLNSHIRE

Work Undertaken For
Patterson Properties

June 1995



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

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Contents

| | | |
|------------|---|----|
| 1. | SUMMARY | 1 |
| 2. | INTRODUCTION | 1 |
| | 2.1 Background | 1 |
| | 2.2 Topography and Geology | 1 |
| | 2.3 Archaeological Setting | 1 |
| 3. | AIMS | 3 |
| 4. | METHODS | 4 |
| 5. | ANALYSIS | 4 |
| | 5.1 Phase 1 Early post-medieval | 4 |
| | 5.2 Phase 2 Post-medieval deposits | 4 |
| | 5.3 Phase 3 Late? post-medieval deposits | 5 |
| | 5.4 Phase 4 20 th century deposits | 6 |
| | 5.5 Phase 5 later 20 th century deposits | 6 |
| 6. | DISCUSSION | 7 |
| 7. | ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE | 9 |
| | 7.1 Site Importance | 10 |
| 8. | EFFECTIVENESS OF TECHNIQUES | 10 |
| 9. | CONCLUSIONS | 10 |
| 10. | ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS | 11 |
| 11. | PERSONNEL | 11 |
| 12. | BIBLIOGRAPHY | 11 |
| 13. | ABBREVIATIONS | 12 |
| APPENDIX 1 | | |
| | Context summary | 13 |
| APPENDIX 2 | | |
| | The Archive | 17 |
| APPENDIX 3 | | |
| | Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling Ancient Monuments - Extract from <i>Archaeology and Planning</i> DoE Planning Policy Guidance note 16, November 1990 | 18 |

List of Figures

- Fig. 1 General Location Plan
- Fig. 2 Site Location Plan
- Fig. 3 Trench Location Plan
- Fig. 4 Trench A - Plan
- Fig. 5 Trench A section 1
- Fig. 6 Map of Spalding in 1732 showing site location

1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at 2/3 High Street, Spalding, Lincolnshire, during May 1995, in response to a proposal for development of the site.

Layers of alluvium, possibly redeposited, were the earliest deposits encountered. The thickness of this deposit was not determined as the excavations were limited to the depth of the proposed foundations (0.6m). Consequently, the trenches did not establish whether earlier remains were buried beneath the alluvium. Early post-medieval activity (1500-1600) takes the form of building foundations and industrial/ domestic refuse that was dumped over a floor surface.

Later post-medieval activity (1600-1700) takes the form of brick foundations, a pit and several drainage gullies. Possibly related to these are a brick and stone floor and a brick wall that may have had a cellar located adjacent to its northern side.

The latest activity on the site is in the form of a brick foundation and a concrete raft that supported a floor. These remains are considered to be those of a building visible on an aerial photograph taken during 1930. East of these remains are modern dumped deposits, and covering much of the area and constituting the present ground surface are dumped deposits of sand and silt that have been deposited during the last seven years.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Background

Archaeological Project Services were commissioned by Mr D. Patterson of Patterson Properties to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at the

corner of High Street and Church Street, Spalding, Lincolnshire. This was in respect of a planning application submitted by Patterson Properties for proposed construction of a residential development, and in accordance with a brief set by the County Archaeological Officer.

2.2 Topography and Geology

Spalding lies 23km southwest of Boston and 16km east of Bourne in Spalding parish, South Holland District (Fig. 1), among the fens of south Lincolnshire. Situated on the west bank of the River Welland, the site is immediately west of the Market Place, adjacent to the main river crossing.

The site is located at a height of c. 6.5m OD and is centred on National Grid Reference TF 2490 2254. The area covers approximately 700 square metres (Fig. 2).

As an urban area, the local soils have not been mapped by the soil survey of England and Wales, but are probably the Wallasea 2 Association peloalluvial gley soils, that consistently occur on the west bank of the River Welland north and south of Spalding.

2.3 Archaeological Setting

Spalding is located in an area of archaeological activity dating from the prehistoric to post-medieval periods.

Prehistoric activity is represented by two unprovenanced stone axe hammers found in 1733 (SMR TF 22 S.E. 7).

Discovered at the same time was an urn, probably Roman, of "coarse red earth" found near the "old bank by the mouth of the River Lenda" (*ibid.*). Approximately 530m southwest of the investigation area Romano-British pottery, including samian,

grey and calcite gritted ware and a small quantity of charcoal, was found at a depth of c. 1m in 1952 (SMR 22357). A votive model of a horse, discovered during 1981 and dated to the Roman period, is reported from an unknown location in Spalding parish (private correspondence record in Spalding Parish file, Lincoln SMR office). Crop marks, indicative of Romano-British domestic occupation are located on the outskirts of the town and beyond.

A statue of the goddess Venus, undated but probably Roman, was discovered beneath house foundations during 1722 (private correspondence, Spalding parish file, Lincoln SMR office).

Situated c. 500m north of the area is the site of the former castle, constructed during the 11th century, where Ivo de Taillebois, nephew of William the Conqueror, held court after he became the Lord of Spalding and all Holland (SMR 22358). Located 140m southwest of the study area was the site of a Benedictine Priory, a dependency of the Benedictine Abbey of Crowland, built 1052. Refounded in 1074 as a cell of St. Nicholas' Abbey, Angers, it eventually became independent in 1397 and finally surrendered in 1540 (SMR 22355). Approximately 300m to the northwest is the Prior's Oven, an octagonal room with a vaulted wooden ceiling, possibly a turret, and thought to be medieval (SMR 22362). Abbey Yard, a range of brick built medieval cottages traditionally associated with the priory (SMR 22363) are situated 250m northwest of the site.

Medieval pottery has been found at various locations within 0.5km north and east of the site (SMR TF 251 224; SMR TF 251 2292; SMR 23066), including at Red Lion Street, immediately northwest of the proposed development area (SMR 23061).

Situated c. 220m to the northwest is the former site of Holy Rood church. The building was probably located near the present town hall and was in ruins by 1284. Associated with it were a coffin containing a skeleton, and other human skeletal remains from a single individual were found on the site. White's Directory of Lincolnshire also records that when old houses in Bridge Street were demolished, in excess of 40 stone coffins and associated human remains were unearthed. No known foundations of Holy Rood church remain (SMR 22354).

Located 180m southeast of the investigation area is SS Mary and Nicholas church, built in 1284 by the then Prior of Spalding, William of Littleport. The fabric is early Decorated (1290-1350) and Perpendicular (1335-1530) and has been rebuilt and restored. This church was built on the site of the Norman cemetery chapel of St Thomas à Becket and the chancel covers the greater portion of the site of a cemetery chapel of St Thomas the Martyr that stood before 1284. The rough and irregular masonry in the east wall of the church is believed to be the lower portion of the east wall of the chapel that was utilised for the new building (SMR TF 22 S.E. 1). Situated in the general vicinity of the site, although the exact location has not been ascertained, was St Nicholas hospital, intended to care for the lepers of the neighbourhood. It is thought to be connected with Spalding Priory as it shares the same dedication. It is referred to in 1313 and 1323 in the Lincoln Episcopal Register, (V.C.H. 2, 1906, 234) and was possibly extinct by the time of the Black Death (SMR 22352). Approximately 200m south of the site is Ayscoughfee Hall. Built c. 1420, additions and restorations have been made to its fabric, particularly during 1793 and 1845 (SMR 22359 and SMR 22360).

Approximately 340m southwest of the site a brass box containing 17th century tokens has been found (SMR TF 22 S.W. 13). Immediately to the east disarticulated human skeletal remains from at least six individuals, associated with several clay pipes (SMR 22348), were discovered beneath a cellar floor during construction work. Approximately 110m east of the site was the location of the market cross (SMR 22361), that existed in this spot until 1772 (Wright, N., 1973, 2).

The *Map of Spalding in 1732*, (based on a map by John Grundy), shows a pinfold on the site of the Gore (the area now occupied by the sheep market) situated immediately northwest of the site (SMR 23229). The map also depicts buildings occupying the investigation area and shows that Church Street was originally *Church Gate* (see Fig. 6).

Aerial photographic evidence shows that during May, 1930, the site was occupied by a 2-3 story building (Aerofilms ref: 31858).

The name Spalding is probably derived from the Old English *Spaldingas*, meaning the descendants of the *Spaldas*, a Saxon tribe. The name *Spaldas* is obscure but is considered to be continental in origin (Ekwall, E., 1974, 433). Historical sources suggest that Spalding, the principle town in the Wapentake of Elloe, began as a Royal Estate centre before Domesday, possibly in the 7th or 8th century. The settlement became established where the navigable portion of the Welland crossed the higher land situated between the fens and the marshes. It was dominated by a Benedictine Priory, established at one of the seats of the Earls of Mercia, that grew to be one of the richest religious houses in Lincolnshire. The local populace used the Westlode, an artificial drainage channel, to enter Spalding where they would land on

the Gore (see above), north of the priory, outside its main gate (Wright, N 1973, 1-2).

The manor of "*Spalding with its members*" was at various times after the Dissolution, held by the Crown, the Duchy of Lancaster and the Buccleuch family. In the latter part of the 18th century it passed to Sir Sampson Gideon, whose family, after 1831, sold the larger portion of their estates held in the neighbourhood (*ibid.*, 2).

Spalding's wealth has been dependent on the Welland as the town was the nearest port with trade routes to southwest Lincolnshire. It developed into a transport and administrative centre for the surrounding agricultural area, its main industries being shipping, the railway (construction of the railway station began in June 1848), and those using agricultural produce or providing a service for the local farmers. Once the railway, the Loop Line between Peterborough and Lincoln built by the Great Northern Railway, had opened, the port trade began to diminish and the port was last used in 1939 (*ibid.*, 3, 38, 39).

3. AIMS

The aims of the evaluation were to locate archaeological deposits and determine, if present, their extent, state of preservation, date, type, vulnerability, documentation, quality of setting and amenity value. The purpose of this identification and assessment of deposits was to establish their significance, since this would make it possible to recommend an appropriate treatment that could be integrated with any proposed development programme.

4. METHODS

Three trenches (c. 5m by 2m and 0.6m deep - see Fig. 3) were opened and all deposits were partially excavated by hand to retrieve artefactual material. The trenches were located to provide sample coverage of the entire development site in order to evaluate the potential survival of archaeological deposits and features across the area.

All three trenches were opened by machine then cleaned and excavated by hand. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

5. ANALYSIS

Records of the deposits identified in the evaluation were examined. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them. A stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced and phased. Five phases were identified during the evaluation:

- Phase 1 Early post-medieval deposits
- Phase 2 Post-medieval deposits
- Phase 3 Late? post-medieval deposits
- Phase 4 20th century deposits
- Phase 5 Modern deposits

5.1 Phase 1 Early post-medieval deposits

Layers of yellow brown fine sand (3, 5, 11 and 42), occurring at 6m OD and containing frequent inclusions of charcoal, were encountered in trench A (located nearest to the River Welland). These have been interpreted as alluvial sand either dredged from the river and redeposited, or representing an episode of flooding.

5.2 Phase 2 Post-medieval deposits

Truncating the alluvial sand in trench A was a sub-square feature (81) 0.7m long by 0.68m wide, containing a primary fill of grey brown fine sand (9). The function of this feature is indeterminate. Sealing 9 was a layer of pale yellow fine sand (8), interpreted as the dumped tertiary fill of 81, that was probably derived from the alluvial sand. Overlying the alluvial sand west of feature 81 was a layer of yellow brown fine sand (29) 5cm thick (as exposed) that was sealed by a layer of grey brown silt (30) 0.1m thick (as exposed). These layers are of indeterminate function. Also of indeterminate function and overlying phase 1 deposits was a layer of light brown fine sand (41) 2cm thick (as exposed), containing a pottery fragment dated to the medieval period. This was the only instance where medieval pottery was retrieved from the site and it is almost certainly residual. Located east of 41 was a layer of grey green silt (40) 3cm thick (as exposed) of indeterminate function. This was sealed by a layer of pale yellow fine sand (39) 7cm thick (as exposed), also of indeterminate function.

Truncating the tertiary fill 8 and indeterminate layer 30 was an east-west linear feature (70/78), 3.5m long by 0.89m wide, containing a single fill of grey brown fine sand (4/28/74 - see Fig. 4). Dated by associated pottery to the 16th century, this feature has been interpreted as a drainage gully. Overlying the fill of the gully was an indeterminate layer of dark grey fine sand (86) only the surface of which was exposed.

Cutting into layers 41 and 86 was a possibly linear feature (73) aligned north-south, 1.62m long by 0.52m wide and 0.24m deep (as exposed). Interpreted as a drainage gully, this had a single fill of

variable brown fine sand (10/38) containing frequent inclusions of ceramic building material flecks and fragments. Within 38 was a lens of pale cream mortar (43) 8cm thick, containing frequent inclusions of charcoal, flint and shell fragments. This has been interpreted as a dumped deposit, discarded into gully 73.

Sealing fill 10 was a short linear arrangement of regularly coursed bricks (83) aligned north-south, 0.36m long and 0.23m wide. This has been interpreted as an indeterminate brick structure and was overlaid by a deposit of grey orange fine sand (88) of which only the surface was exposed. This has been interpreted as an indeterminate layer.

Overlying layer 88 and fill 28 was a 5cm thick deposit of grey brown fine sand (6/27) of indeterminate function. Sealing this was a deposit of orange/black fine sand (7/25), 8cm thick. This has been interpreted as a dumped deposit, intended to raise the ground surface.

Overlying fill 38 was a layer of yellow brown fine sand (37) 2cm thick (as exposed), that was sealed by a deposit of grey-green fine sand 7cm thick (as exposed). Both of these layers are of indeterminate function.

Truncating layers 36 and 39 was a feature (90) 1.25m long and 9cm deep (as exposed), containing a single fill of grey brown silt (35). This feature is of indeterminate function. Cutting into layer 36 only was an indeterminate feature (91) 0.39m long by 5cm deep (as exposed), containing a single fill of brown fine sand/silt (57).

Overlying fill 35 was a layer of orange red fine sand (34) 4cm thick. This has been tentatively interpreted as a floor surface. Sealing this surface and fill 57 was a layer

of brown silt (32/33) 0.1m thick, containing frequent inclusions of brachiopod shell and localised ceramic building material fragments. Dated by associated pottery to the 16th century, this deposit has been interpreted as dumped domestic or industrial waste.

Truncating fill 38 and lens 43 was a linear feature (72) oriented north-south, 0.8m wide and 0.39m deep, filled by fair faced limestone blocks and randomly coursed bricks laid on both bed and edge (52) with occurrences of pale cream mortar containing coal, flint and shell fragments. This feature has been interpreted as a brick foundation for an indeterminate structure.

5.3 Phase 3 Late? post-medieval deposits

Truncating the brick foundation 52 (Phase 2) in trench A was a linear(?) feature (71) 0.31m long and 0.29m deep, probably aligned north-south, containing a primary fill of mixed dark grey, orange, brown and white silt (44), with frequent inclusions of charcoal and ceramic building material fragments. Overlying this were regular coursed bricks (51) 0.24m wide and 0.24m thick, bonded with hard pale cream mortar containing flint and coal fragments. This feature has been interpreted as a foundation trench.

Cutting the western edge of foundation trench 71 was a sub-circular(?) feature (69) 0.31m long by 0.3m wide and 0.26m deep (as exposed), containing a primary fill of yellow brown fine sand (50) 0.1m thick (as exposed). This feature has been interpreted as a pit of indeterminate function. Overlying fill 50 and filling the remainder of pit 69 was a layer of yellow brown fine sand (46/26) 0.21m thick. This has been interpreted as the tertiary fill of pit 69.

Overlying layer 25 was a deposit of yellow

brown fine silt (23), 5cm thick, and a layer of yellow fine sand (21) 9cm thick (as exposed). Sealing 23 was a deposit of grey brown fine sand (22), 5cm thick. Each of these have been interpreted as indeterminate layers.

Truncating layer 22 was a feature (89), 0.85m long and 0.16m deep, containing a primary fill of dark grey silty sand (24), 2cm thick. This was sealed by a 0.15m thick deposit of yellow brown fine sand (20), interpreted as the tertiary fill of 89. Although interpreted as an indeterminate feature, it is possible that 89 represents the same cut as 69, the whole being a broad shallow cut - 89, with a pit located against one edge - 69. This would suggest therefore, that the primary fill 24 is a secondary fill.

Cutting fill 20 from above was a feature (68) 0.32m long and 0.1m deep, containing a single fill of dark grey sandy silt (19). This feature has been interpreted as a possible drainage gully. Truncating fill 20 from the north and layer 21 from the south was a feature (67) 0.65m long and 5cm deep (as exposed), containing a single fill of grey brown sandy silt (18). This feature has been interpreted as a ditch or gully. Cutting layer 20 from the north was an indeterminate feature (66) 0.51m wide and 0.11m deep (as exposed), with a single fill of yellow grey brown silt and fine sand (17).

Truncating layer 32/33 (phase 2) was a feature (75) 1.4m long and 0.23m deep (as exposed), containing a primary fill of grey brown silt (31). This feature has been interpreted as a construction cut, into which has been dumped 31, functioning as a make-up layer. Laid directly onto this make-up layer was a single course of bricks (53) 1.29m long and 0.12m thick (as exposed), laid on edge, bonded with 20% pale cream mortar containing coal

and ceramic building material fragments, and 80% grey brown fine sand. This has been interpreted as a brick structure functioning as a floor. Probably contemporary with 53 and located against the western edge of construction cut 75 were two fair faced limestone blocks (54 and 55). These are interpreted as a hard standing surface, probably representing a variation to the function of 53.

Situated in trench B was a brick wall (59) constructed of regularly coursed bricks, some separated by thin fragments of slate, bonded by a pale cream mortar containing frequent inclusions of small flint fragments. Located in the western extent of the wall was a partially exposed arch. This has been interpreted as an external arched wall for an indeterminate structure. No construction cut for this wall was identified. Sealing 59 was a layer of grey brown fine sand (58/61) with frequent inclusions of brick, mortar, coal and charcoal fragments. Containing pottery fragments dated to the 18th century, this layer has been interpreted as a dumped deposit, intended to raise the ground surface. Truncating 58/61 was a regular coursed indeterminate brick structure (63) 1m long and 0.23m wide. Although indeterminate, this structure may be associated with brick wall 59.

5.4 Phase 4 20th century deposits

Truncating fills 17, 18, 19 and 46 (phase 3) in trench A was a feature (92) 3.26m long by 1.96m wide (as exposed), containing a primary fill of grey brown fine sand (16/45) 8cm thick, with frequent quantities of ceramic building material and mortar fragments. This feature has been interpreted as a clearance cut into which was dumped 16/45, functioning as a make-up layer. Overlying 16/45 is a layer of light grey concrete (1), 8cm thick. Whilst the concrete was still wet, wooden beams

had been laid horizontally into its surface, oriented east to west, at intervals of approximately 0.3m. This has been interpreted as a hard standing surface into which has been set wooden floor supports.

Situated just east of 1, and truncating fill 28 (phase 2), was an east-west linear feature (76), 1.72m long and 0.56m wide (as exposed). This has been interpreted as a construction cut for a foundation trench. Contained within 76 was a structure of regularly coursed bricks (77), 1.72m long and 0.24m wide, bonded by a pale cream mortar. Sealing 77 was a layer of yellow brown fine sand (12), containing frequent quantities of mortar fragments. This has been interpreted as the backfill of foundation trench 76. Located against the northern edge of 77 was a 0.6m thick layer of grey brown fragmented brick rubble, plywood and linoleum in fine sand (13). This has been interpreted as a dumped deposit, intended to raise the ground surface.

Located south of 13 was a sub-oval cut feature (79) 0.29m long and 0.24m wide (as exposed), containing a primary fill of grey green brown fine sand (14). This feature has been interpreted as a posthole. Also interpreted as a posthole and situated immediately east of 14 was a circular feature (80) 0.24m diameter, containing a primary fill of grey brown fine sand (15).

5.5 Phase 5 later 20th century deposits

Situated in trench B and sealing brick structure 63 was a layer of brown sandy silt (64/65) 0.6m thick, containing frequent inclusions of brick, mortar, glass and tarmac fragments. This layer has been interpreted as a dumped deposit, intended to raise the ground surface. Located at the interface between 58/61 (Phase 3) and 64/65, immediately south of structure 63, was a ceramic pipe (62), 1.6m long and

0.13m wide. No construction cut was identified. However, as the feature was observed at the base of 64/65, it is assumed that it was cut from the top of this layer. This feature has been interpreted as a drainage facility, probably associated with existing structures located east of the investigation area.

Overlying the concrete 1 (phase 4, trench A), was a layer of light brown fine sand (48) 8cm thick. Dated by associated coinage to 1988 (or later), this layer has been interpreted as a dumped deposit intended to raise the ground surface. This was sealed by a layer of grey brown fine sand (47/56) 0.12m thick, that also sealed feature 85 in trench B (see above). This layer has been interpreted as a dumped deposit intended to raise the ground surface, and functions as the present topsoil.

Located in trench B and truncating topsoil 47 was a cut feature (84) 1.96m long by 1.6m wide and 0.6m deep (as exposed), containing a fill of brick (including a portion from an arch that may have derived from wall 59), mortar, glass and tarmac fragments set in a matrix of grey brown fine sand (60). This feature is interpreted as a pit, perhaps intended to expose, and grant access to, a possible cellar located against the northern edge of wall 59, so that it could be backfilled.

Situated east of trench B and comprising the entirety of trench C was a deposit of brick and mortar fragments (87). This has been interpreted as a dumped deposit, intended to raise the ground surface.

6. DISCUSSION

Layers of alluvial sand (phase 1 - trench A) were identified as the earliest deposits exposed in the evaluation area. These are considered to have been either dredged

from the River Welland, or to represent an episode of flooding. Activity dated to the early post-medieval period (phase 2) developed over these.

Situated at the western extent of the area in trench A was an indeterminate feature (81) that had been deliberately backfilled after it had begun to silt up. Such action indicates sustained activity on the site during this period. West of this were indeterminate layers of fine sand and silt, that had been truncated by an east-west gully (78/70) dated to the 16th century, that would have drained towards the River Welland. Subsequent to this gully going out of use, two indeterminate layers of fine sand were deposited, one of which contained a small fragment of medieval pottery (41). This single sherd represents the only evidence for medieval activity on the site, and in view of its uniqueness, it is considered to be residual, redeposited or imported.

Each of these layers were truncated by a gully oriented north-south (73). Such an alignment, which is at right angles to gully 70/78 suggests that the area was being utilised for a different purpose. Once the gully had become redundant, it was allowed to partially silt up, and then mortar was dumped into it. The primary fill was sealed by one of four indeterminate layers of fine sand and silt (36, 37, 39, 40), that were cut by two indeterminate features (90, 91). Feature 90 was sealed by a layer of orange red fine sand, interpreted as a possible floor surface, although no inclusions indicative of domestic nor industrial activity were identified. Sealing this layer was a deposit of shell-rich refuse (32/33), that contained 15th century Cistercian ware and 16th century Bourne ware, and interpreted as a layer of domestic or industrial waste.

The dump of mortar was truncated by a

foundation trench (72), that contained an irregularly-laid brick foundation oriented north-south. This foundation represents part of an indeterminate structure, possibly one of the earliest buildings on the site. Located north of this foundation was a linear arrangement of bricks (83), that was sealed by three layers of fine sand. The latest of these (7/25) was coloured dark orange and black, colours that normally indicate that a soil has been burnt or at least heated. Although of uncertain origin, it is likely that this deposit derived from a domestic or industrial process. Sealing deposit 7/25 were two indeterminate layers of fine silty sand (21, 23 - Phase 3). Deposit 23 was sealed by indeterminate layer 22.

Truncating the phase 2 brick foundation 72 was another foundation, also constructed of brick (71 - phase 3), although with a more regular arrangement. Once foundation 71 had become redundant it was cut by an indeterminate pit (69), that was truncated by, and may be the same as, feature 89 (see above - Analysis 5.3), that also cut deposit 22.

Cutting feature 89 and layer 21 were three gullies (66, 67, 68). Although there is no stratigraphic relationship between these, it is possible that each gully supersedes one of the others. The orientation of these was indeterminate, but it is likely that they drained towards the River Welland, and would therefore have had an east-west alignment.

Truncating the shell-rich refuse deposit 32/33 (phase 2) was the construction cut (75) for a brick floor (53). This is considered to be contemporary with the limestone blocks 54 and 55 that butt against its western edge. Between the edge of the floor and limestone block 54 was a deposit of mortar, contained by 75, that would have extended the hard standing

surface from the bricks to the limestone, creating one surface. It is possible that the mortar represents a division between the two surfaces, and that it may have helped to support a partition wall.

Located in trench B were the remains of a brick wall (59) that incorporated an arch at its western extent. This wall was sealed by a dumped deposit containing building debris, coal and charcoal and dated to the 18th century. It is likely that this layer is contemporary with the construction of the building represented by wall 59, and was intended to raise the ground surface. The reason that the ground surface had to be raised lies in the fact that the building was probably cellared, and that the entire area was initially excavated to the cellar depth and then built up. This dumped deposit was truncated by an indeterminate brick structure that may be associated with wall 59, perhaps representing modifications to its structure.

Truncating the gullies 66, 67 and 68 in trench A was a cut feature 92 (phase 4) that was designed to clear the area. It was filled by a make-up layer (16/45) onto which was laid a concrete slab (1). Whilst the concrete was still wet, timber beams were pushed into its surface at 0.3m intervals. These beams are considered to have supported a floor, of which no evidence survives. East of the concrete slab was an east-west oriented brick foundation (76). After this structure had become redundant the area delineated by the foundation (as exposed in trench A) was backfilled with domestic rubbish including plywood and linoleum (13). This structure and the concrete slab may constitute part of the building depicted in the aerial photograph taken during 1930 (see above - 2.3 Archaeological setting). South of this were two indeterminate postholes (79, 80) c. 0.1m apart.

Located in trench B was a 0.6m thick dumped deposit (64/65) containing brick, mortar, glass and tarmac. This was probably deposited after the building represented by 59 had been demolished. Exposed at the base of 64/65 was a small drain aligned east-west (62) that appears to have drained water from buildings located east of the investigation area.

Once the structure supported by the concrete (1) in trench A became redundant, it was demolished and removed. The exposed slab, and the top of the construction cut for the drain in trench B, were subsequently covered by a dumped layer of fine sand (48), that contained a two pence piece minted in 1988. Over this was dumped another layer of fine sand (47) that constitutes the present ground cover.

Truncating deposit 47 was a pit (84) containing fragments of glass and tarmac and part of a brick arch that may have derived from wall 59. This pit might have been designed to enable access to an empty cellar located on the northern side of wall 59, so that it could be backfilled.

East of trench B was a substantial deposit of brick and mortar rubble (87), dumped to raise the ground surface.

7. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

For assessment of significance the Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling ancient monuments has been used (DoE 1990, Annex 4; see Appendix 3)

Period

Artefacts typical of the medieval, post-medieval and modern periods are represented. Chance finds made in the vicinity of the evaluation extend this date from the prehistoric period to the present.

Rarity

The post-medieval artefacts and structures encountered are a common archaeological site type.

Documentation

Records of archaeological and historical sites and finds made in the Spalding area are kept in the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record. A synopsis of the industrial history of Spalding has been produced (Wright, N., 1973).

Group value

The presence of post-medieval brick structures of presumed domestic or industrial nature on the site confers moderate group value on the investigation area. The location of the evaluation in proximity to the main historical thoroughfare through Spalding, and its position adjacent to the River Welland enhances the group value.

Survival/Condition

Extensive invasive post-medieval development has occurred on the site, therefore any buried deposits that occur beyond the depth of the evaluation are likely to be disturbed and incomplete. A single fragment of medieval pottery suggests that medieval archaeological remains may survive beneath the limit of the evaluation, or elsewhere in the evaluation area.

The post-medieval archaeological deposits comprising the structures appear to be fairly complete.

Fragility/Vulnerability

As the proposed development will impact the investigation area, possibly into the earliest deposits encountered, any and all archaeological deposits present on the site are vulnerable.

Diversity

Low functional diversity is provided by the sites position adjacent to the River Welland, and the domestic and possible limited industrial archaeological remains.

Potential

A single medieval pottery sherd from the investigation area indicates low potential that medieval archaeological remains survive on the site. The limited industrial remains, presumably associated with the river trade, indicate low to moderate potential for the survival of industrial processes on the site. The potential for domestic post-medieval archaeological remains occurring on the site is extremely high.

7.1 Site Importance

The criteria for assessment have established that the site is of limited local importance.

8. EFFECTIVENESS OF TECHNIQUES

The methods and strategies employed in the investigation proved to be effective in determining the presence of post-medieval and modern remains. However, because the trench depths did not exceed 0.6m (the limit of the proposed disturbance), the presence of any medieval deposits was not established.

9. CONCLUSIONS

The evaluation identified the presence of buried alluvial layers that were deposited either during an episode of flooding, or have been dredged from the River Welland and redeposited. These layers may therefore, mask any buried medieval archaeological remains.

A single sherd of medieval pottery from an

indeterminate layer suggests medieval activity occurred in the vicinity of the site.

Sustained activity occurred on the area during and after the early post-medieval period and is illustrated by dumped deposits of industrial/domestic waste material occurring over a floor surface, and a non-diagnostic deposit of uncertain origin. These are probably associated with the remains of brick foundations that may belong to the first building to be constructed on the site.

Management of the land is illustrated by drainage gullies that drained towards the River Welland.

Late post-medieval activity takes the form of brick foundations, a pit, and several gullies that drained toward the river. Possibly associated with these is a brick floor and the substantial remains of a brick wall with an associated cellar, that may have been modified at a later date.

The latest activity on the site took the form of brick foundation and also a concrete raft that appears to have supported a wooden floor. These structures may represent the building visible on an aerial photograph taken during 1930, that has subsequently been demolished.

East of this area are modern dumped deposits and a drainage facility. A pit had been dug adjacent to the substantial wall remains, presumably so that a cellar could be backfilled. A large dumped deposit of brick and mortar fragments constitutes part of the present ground surface along with dumped layers of fine sand and silt that have been deposited within the last seven years.

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to

thank Mr D Patterson who commissioned the evaluation and post-excavation analysis. Ms H Healey for identifying the pottery. Mr M Bennet for granting access to the County Sites and Monuments Record maintained by Lincolnshire County Council. This work was coordinated by Steve Haynes and this report was edited by Gary Taylor and Dave Start.

11. PERSONNEL

Project Manager: Steve Haynes
Supervisor: Mark Dymond
Site Assistant: Chris Moulis
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
Illustration: Denise Buckley
Post-excavation Analyst: Mark Dymond

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13. ABBREVIATIONS

Numbers prefixed with 'SMR' are the primary reference numbers used by the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record, Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council.

Appendix 1

CONTEXT SUMMARY

| No. | Description | Interpretation | Trench |
|-----|--|--|--------|
| 1 | Grey concrete | Floor support (tertiary fill of 92) | A |
| 2 | unused | | |
| 3 | Yellow brown fine sand | Alluvial sand (same as 5, 11, 42) | A |
| 4 | Grey brown fine sand | Fill of 70 (same as 28, 74) | A |
| 5 | Yellow brown fine sand | Alluvial sand (same as 3, 11, 42) | A |
| 6 | Grey brown fine sand | Indeterminate layer (same as 27) | A |
| 7 | Orange/black fine sand | Indeterminate layer (same as 25) | A |
| 8 | Yellow fine sand | Dumped tertiary fill of 81 | A |
| 9 | Grey brown fine sand | Primary fill of 81 | A |
| 10 | Grey brown fine sand | Primary fill of 73 (same as 38) | A |
| 11 | Yellow brown fine sand | Alluvial sand (same as 3, 5, 42) | A |
| 12 | Yellow brown fine sand | Tertiary fill of 76 | A |
| 13 | Grey brown fine sand, brick rubble and linoleum. | Dumped deposit | A |
| 14 | Grey green brown fine sand | Fill of 79 | A |
| 15 | Grey brown fine sand | Fill of 80 | A |
| 16 | Grey brown fine sand | Dumped primary fill of 92 (same as 45) | A |
| 17 | Yellow grey brown silt and fine sand | Fill of 66 | A |
| 18 | Grey brown sandy silt | Fill of 67 | A |
| 19 | Grey sandy silt | Fill of 68 | A |
| 20 | Yellow brown fine sand | Tertiary fill of 89 | A |
| 21 | Yellow fine sand | Indeterminate layer | A |
| 22 | Grey brown fine sand | Indeterminate layer | A |
| 23 | Yellow brown fine silt | Indeterminate layer | A |
| 24 | Grey silty sand | Primary fill of 89 | A |

| | | | |
|----|--|--|------|
| 25 | Orange black fine sand | Indeterminate layer | A |
| 26 | Yellow brown fine sand | Primary fill of 69 (same as 46) | A |
| 27 | Grey brown fine sand | Indeterminate layer (same as 6) | A |
| 28 | Grey brown fine sand | Fill of 70 (same as 4, 74) | A |
| 29 | Yellow brown fine sand | Indeterminate layer | A |
| 30 | Grey brown silt | Indeterminate layer | A |
| 31 | Grey brown silt | Primary fill of 75 | A |
| 32 | Brown silt | Dumped refuse (same as 33) | A |
| 33 | Brown silt | Dumped refuse (same as 32) | A |
| 34 | Orange red fine sand | Floor surface | A |
| 35 | Grey brown silt | Primary fill of 90 | A |
| 36 | Grey green fine sand | Indeterminate layer | A |
| 37 | Yellow brown fine sand | Indeterminate layer | A |
| 38 | Yellow brown silty fine sand | Primary fill of 73 (same as 10) | A |
| 39 | Yellow fine sand | Indeterminate layer | A |
| 40 | Grey green silt | Indeterminate layer | A |
| 41 | Brown fine sand | Indeterminate layer | A |
| 42 | Yellow brown fine sand | Alluvial sand (same as 3, 5, 11) | A |
| 43 | Pale cream mortar | Dumped deposit | A |
| 44 | Dark grey orange brown and white silt | Primary fill of 71 | A |
| 45 | Grey brown fine sand | Dumped primary fill of 92 (same as 16) | A |
| 46 | Yellow brown fine sand | Tertiary fill of 69 (same as 26) | A |
| 47 | Grey brown fine sand | Dumped deposit (same as 56) | A, B |
| 48 | Brown fine sand | Dumped deposit | A |
| 49 | Orange grey brown black blue grey silt | Lens within 52 | A |
| 50 | Yellow brown fine sand | Primary fill of 69 | A |
| 51 | Brick and mortar | Foundation fill of 71 | A |
| 52 | Limestone, brick and mortar | Foundation fill of 72 | A |

| | | | |
|----|--|-------------------------------|---|
| 53 | Brick and mortar | Floor | A |
| 54 | Limestone | Floor | A |
| 55 | Limestone | Floor | A |
| 56 | Grey brown fine sand | Dumped deposit (same as 47) | A |
| 57 | Brown fine sand | Fill of 91 | A |
| 58 | Grey brown fine sand | Dumped deposit (same as 61) | B |
| 59 | Brick and mortar | Wall | B |
| 60 | Grey brown fine sand and brick, mortar, glass and tarmac | Dumped fill of 84 | B |
| 61 | Grey brown fine sand | Dumped deposit (same as 58) | B |
| 62 | Ceramic drain | Drainage pipe | B |
| 63 | Brick | Indeterminate brick structure | B |
| 64 | Brown sandy silt | Dumped deposit (same as 65) | B |
| 65 | Brown sandy silt | Dumped deposit (same as 64) | B |
| 66 | Cut feature | Indeterminate | A |
| 67 | Cut feature | Gully? | A |
| 68 | Cut feature | Gully? | A |
| 69 | Sub-circular cut feature | Pit | A |
| 70 | Linear cut feature | Gully (same as 78) | A |
| 71 | Linear? cut feature | Construction cut | A |
| 72 | Linear? cut feature | Construction cut | A |
| 73 | Cut feature | Gully? | A |
| 74 | Grey brown fine sand | Fill of 78 (same as 4, 28) | A |
| 75 | Cut feature | Construction cut | A |
| 76 | Linear cut feature | Construction cut | A |
| 77 | Brick and mortar | Foundation fill of 76 | A |
| 78 | Linear cut feature | Gully (same as 70) | A |
| 79 | Sub-oval cut feature | Posthole | A |
| 80 | Sub-circular cut feature | Posthole | A |
| 81 | Square? cut feature | Indeterminate | A |

| | | | |
|----|-------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 82 | Brick | Indeterminate structure | A |
| 83 | Brick | Indeterminate structure | A |
| 84 | Sub-linear cut feature | Pit | B |
| 85 | Linear cut feature | Pipe trench | B |
| 86 | Grey fine sand | Indeterminate layer | A |
| 87 | Brick and mortar rubble | Dumped deposit | B |
| 88 | Grey orange fine sand | Indeterminate layer | A |
| 89 | Cut feature | Indeterminate | A |
| 90 | Cut feature | Indeterminate | A |
| 91 | Cut feature | Indeterminate | A |
| 92 | Cut feature | Construction cut | A |

Appendix 2

The Archive

The archive consists of:

- 92 . Context records
- 35 . Photographic records
- 5 . . Scale drawings
- 1 . . Stratigraphic matrix

All primary records are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Lincolnshire
NG34 9RW

City and County Museum, Lincoln Accession Number: 77:95
Archaeological Project Services project code: SCS95

Appendix 3

Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling Ancient Monuments - Extract from *Archaeology and Planning DoE Planning Policy Guidance note 16, November 1990*

The following criteria (which are not in any order of ranking), are used for assessing the national importance of an ancient monument and considering whether scheduling is appropriate. The criteria should not however be regarded as definitive; rather they are indicators which contribute to a wider judgement based on the individual circumstances of a case.

i *Period*: all types of monuments that characterise a category or period should be considered for preservation.

ii *Rarity*: there are some monument categories which in certain periods are so scarce that all surviving examples which retain some archaeological potential should be preserved. In general, however, a selection must be made which portrays the typical and commonplace as well as the rare. This process should take account of all aspects of the distribution of a particular class of monument, both in a national and regional context.

iii *Documentation*: the significance of a monument may be enhanced by the existence of records of previous investigation or, in the case of more recent monuments, by the supporting evidence of contemporary written records.

iv *Group value*: the value of a single monument (such as a field system) may be greatly enhanced by its association with related contemporary monuments (such as a settlement or cemetery) or with monuments of different periods. In some cases, it is preferable to protect the complete group of monuments, including associated and adjacent land, rather than to protect isolated monuments within the group.

v *Survival/Condition*: the survival of a monument's archaeological potential both above and below ground is a particularly important consideration and should be assessed in relation to its present condition and surviving features.

vi *Fragility/Vulnerability*: highly important archaeological evidence from some field monuments can be destroyed by a single ploughing or unsympathetic treatment; vulnerable monuments of this nature would particularly benefit from the statutory protection that scheduling confers. There are also existing standing structures of particular form or complexity whose value can again be severely reduced by neglect or careless treatment and which are similarly well suited by scheduled monument protection, even if these structures are already listed buildings.

vii *Diversity*: some monuments may be selected for scheduling because they possess a combination of high quality features, others because of a single important attribute.

viii *Potential*: on occasion, the nature of the evidence cannot be specified precisely but it may still be possible to document reasons anticipating its existence and importance and so to demonstrate the justification for scheduling. This is usually confined to sites rather than upstanding monuments.

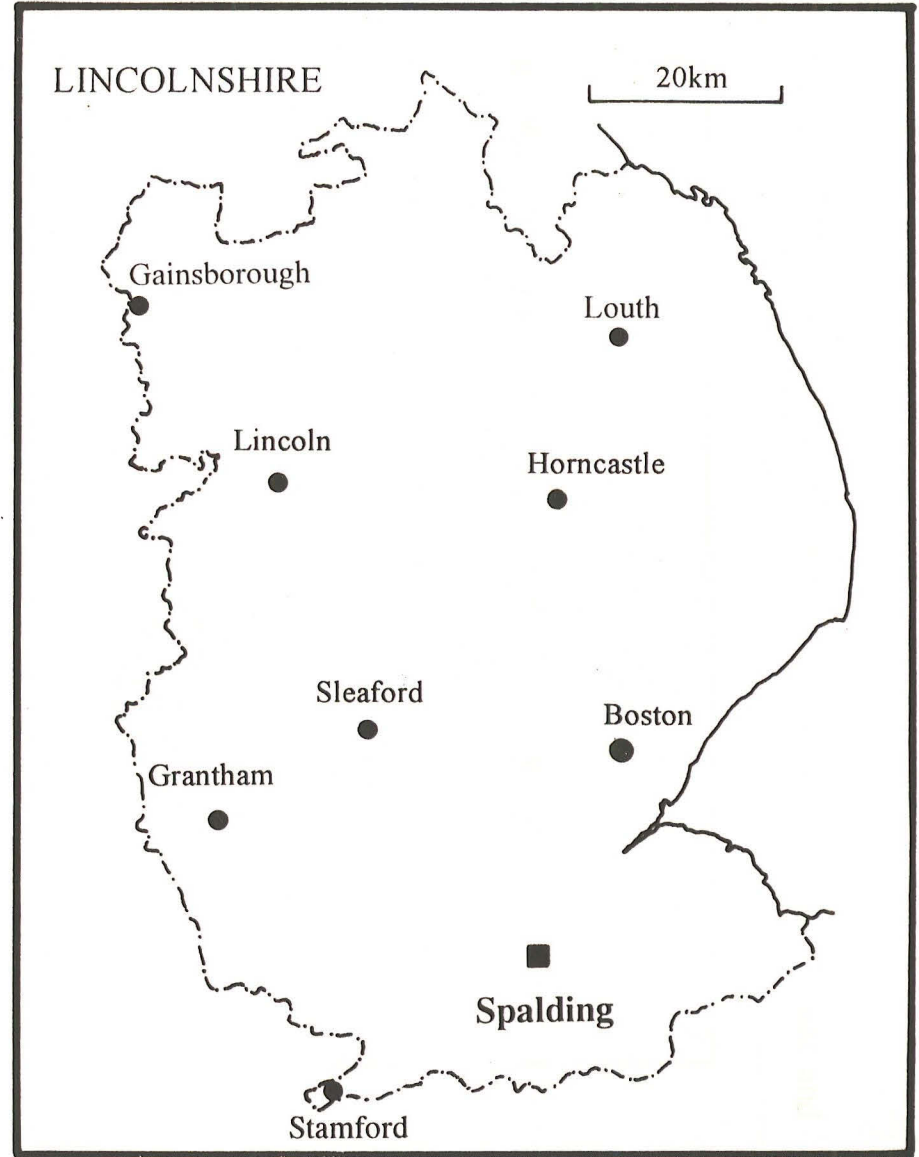
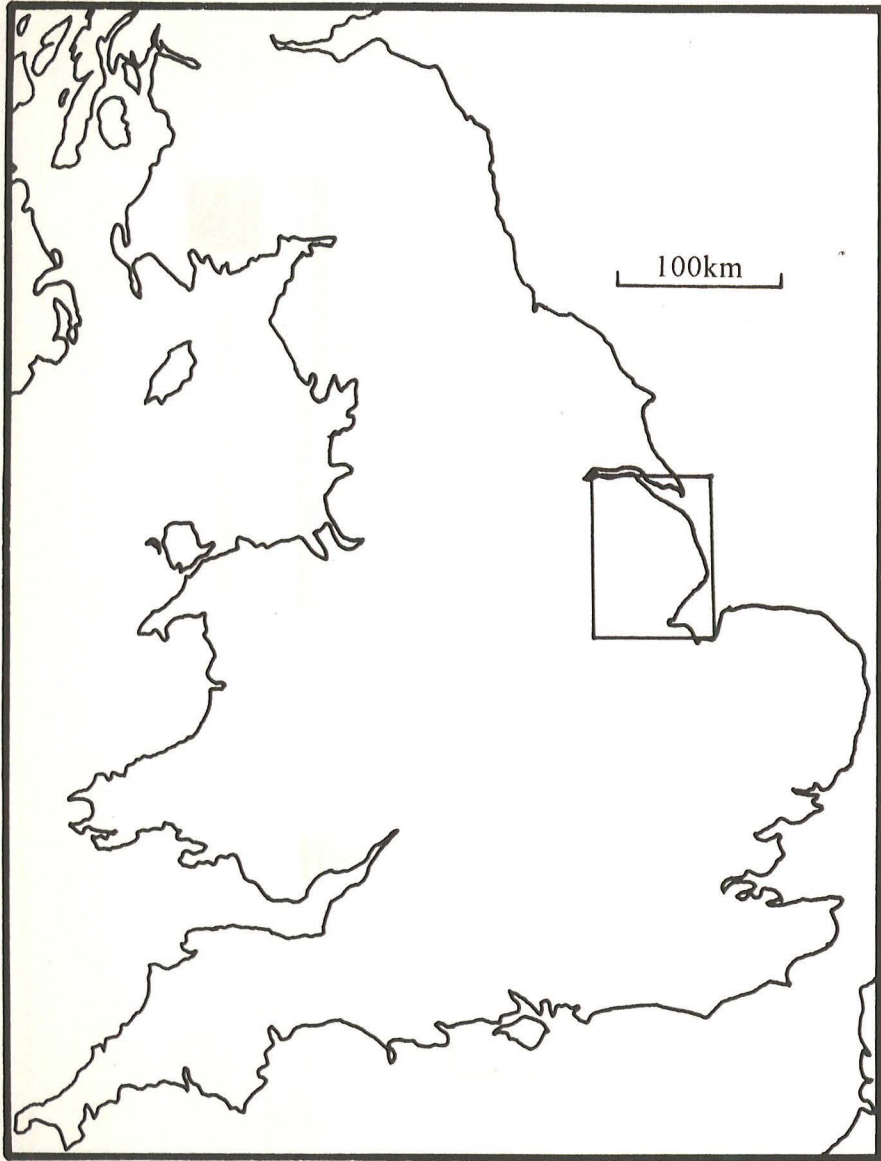


Fig. 1 General Location Plan

Fig. 2 Site Location Plan Showing Known Archaeological Sites and Finds in the Vicinity

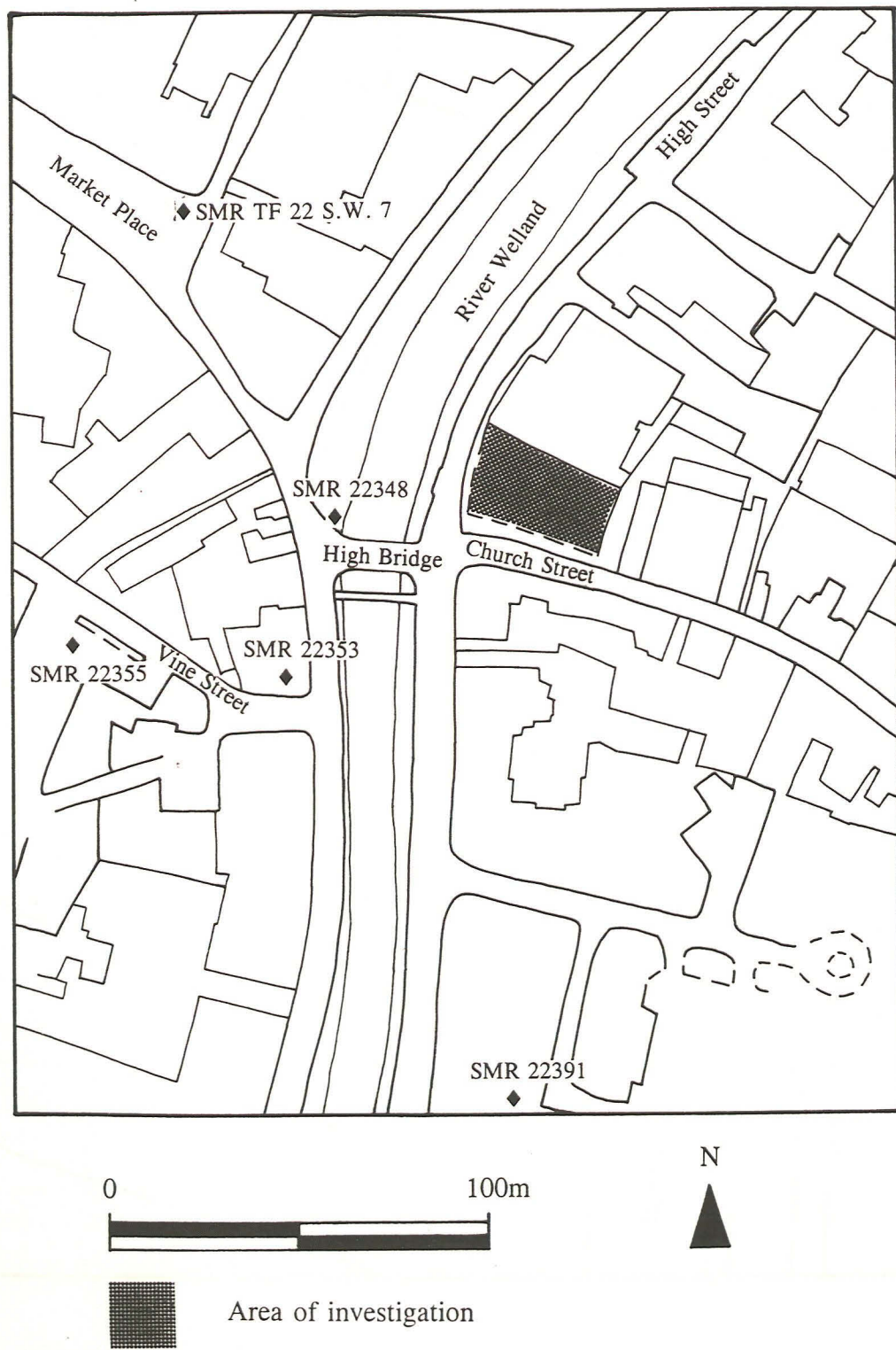


Fig. 3 Trench Location Plan

Fig. 3 Trench Location Plan

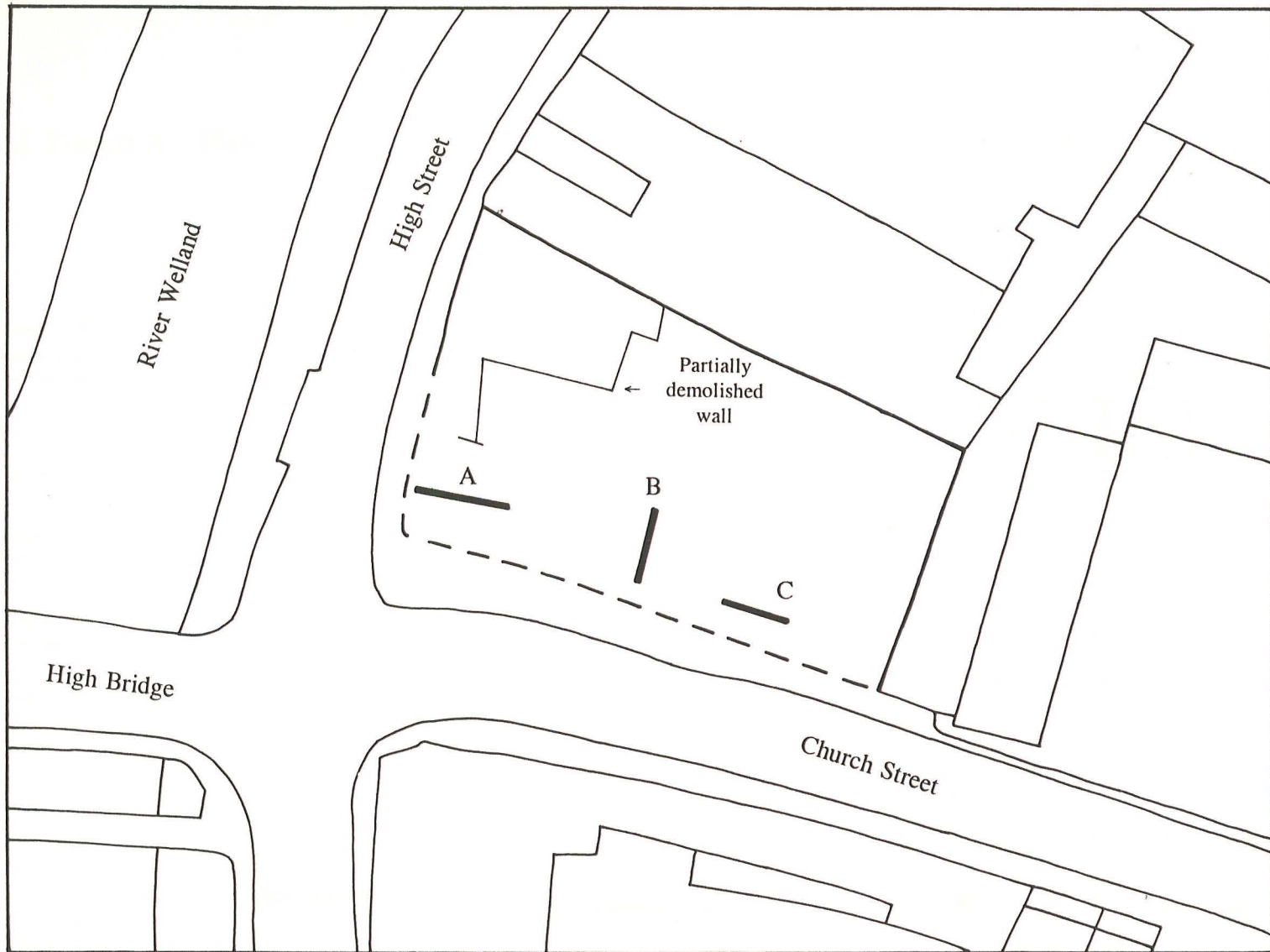
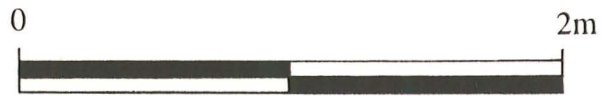
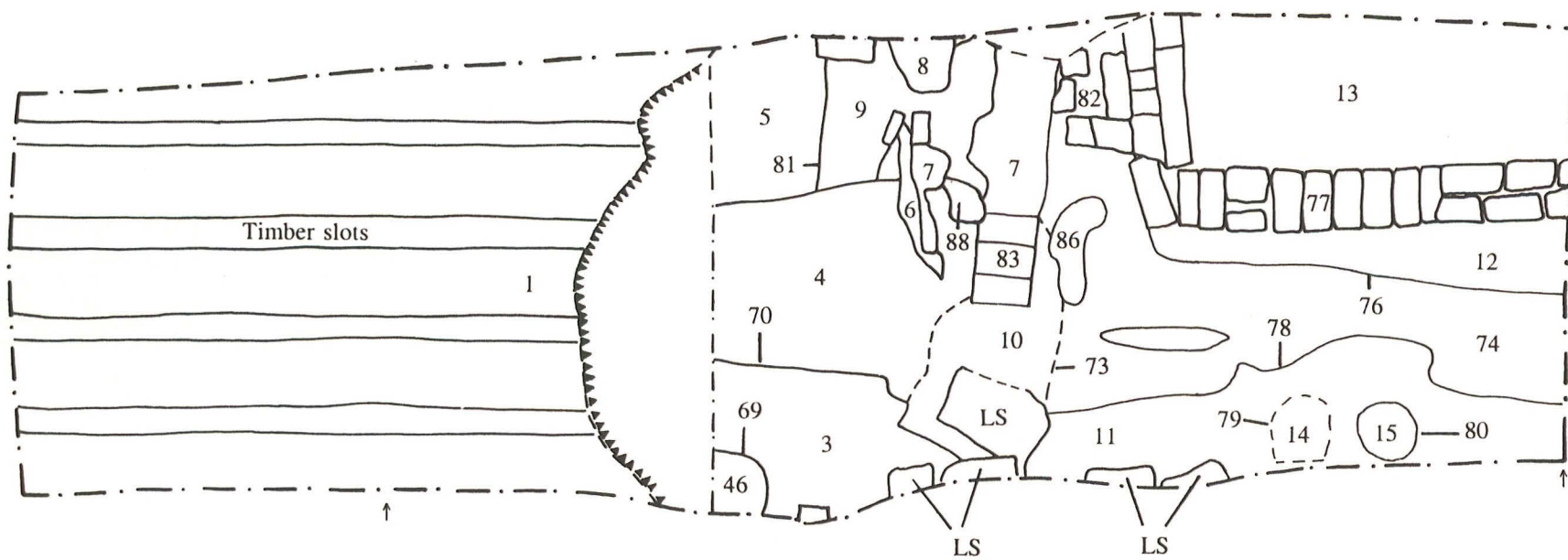


Fig. 4 Trench A - Plan



N
▲
↑ = Extent of section 1
LS = Limestone

Fig 5 Trench A section 1

