

# A1 Peterborough to Blyth

## Separated Junctions Scheme

A1/B1174 Gonerby Moor  
Interchange, Lincolnshire



### Archaeological Watching Brief Report



**Oxford Archaeology**

January 2008

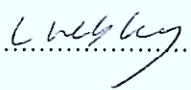
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## **A1/B1174 Gonerby Moor Interchange, Lincolnshire**

### ***ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT***

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## SUMMARY

*On the 14th and 15th of May 2007 and the 9th and 10th of January 2008 Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out an archaeological watching brief on land adjacent to the A1/B1174 Gonerby Moor Interchange, Lincolnshire (NGR: SK 8880 4000). The work was commissioned by Interserve Atkins JV on behalf of The Highways Agency in advance of the construction of a Grade Separated Junction. The watching brief revealed that there would be no impact to any potential archaeology as the construction work did not extend beyond modern fills associated with the A1 road.*

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Scope of work**

1.1.1 On the 14th and 15th of May 2007 and the 9th and 10th of January 2008 Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out an archaeological watching brief on land adjacent to the A1/B1174 Gonerby Moor Interchange, Lincolnshire (NGR: SK 8880 4000). The work was commissioned by Interserve Atkins JV on behalf of The Highways Agency in advance of the construction of a Grade Separated Junction. The watching brief was undertaken as part of a programme of archaeological investigation as part of a wider Environmental Impact Assessment, and in accordance with Stage III of the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) and PPG16.

1.1.2 Interserve Atkins JV commissioned OA to undertake further works at Gonerby Moor, monitoring construction works, and OA prepared a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) detailing how it would meet the requirements of the brief (OA, 2007).

### **1.2 Location, geology and topography**

1.2.1 The site is located directly to the west of the A1 and north-west of the existing A1/B1174 junction, approximately 6.4 km north-west of Grantham, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1). The development site is currently the existing northbound carriageway of the A1 and the land directly adjacent to the west.

1.2.2 The solid geology of the area around Gonerby Moor comprises Jurassic Middle Lias strata. The land is predominantly level with a typical elevation of c.40 m AOD (ASUD, 2004).

### **1.3 Archaeological background**

1.3.1 The archaeological background of the site has been covered in detail elsewhere, most recently in the evaluation report produced for the latest stage of evaluation works (OA, 2006), and will not be reproduced here.

## **2 PROJECT AIMS AND METHODOLOGY**

### **2.1 Aims**

- 2.1.1 Following on from the initial stage of monitoring work, suitable mitigation measures were to be proposed and agreed with the relevant archaeological representative should this be required.
- 2.1.2 In general, the preferred option for important archaeological remains is "preservation in situ". However, as this may not be feasible or archaeologically meaningful, "preservation by record" or excavation was to be undertaken.
- 2.1.3 The objective of this monitoring exercise was to define and understand the archaeological resource within the site within a framework of defined aims, to seek a better understanding of that resource, to analyse the findings/record and then to disseminate the results of the work.

### **2.2 Methodology**

- 2.2.1 The work was undertaken using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket for the land adjacent to the A1 and a mechanical shaving excavator for removal of the existing tarmac on the A1.
- 2.2.2 The methodology outlined in the WSI for this project (OA, 2007) was closely followed on site with no modifications.



### **3 RESULTS**

#### **3.1 Description of deposits**

- 3.1.1 The area directly to the west of the A1 (Fig. 2) was taken down to approximately 0.8 m below the ground surface through modern fills. Natural deposits were not encountered.
- 3.1.2 The tarmac on the A1 northbound carriageway (Fig. 2) was removed to a maximum of 0.8 m below the current road surface. Tarmac was still visible at this depth and natural deposits were not encountered.

#### **3.2 Finds**

- 3.2.1 No finds were recovered during the watching brief.

#### **3.3 Palaeo-environmental remains**

- 3.3.1 No deposits suitable for palaeo-environmental sampling were encountered during the course of the watching brief.

#### 4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1.1 The watching brief showed that the development area has been built up, probably when the A1 was originally constructed. As the impact of the current improvement works did not extend beyond these modern deposits, no possible archaeology was affected by these works.
- 4.1.2 However, as the works did not extend beyond modern deposits, it is not possible to say if any archaeology still survives below the development site.

## APPENDICES

### APPENDIX 1 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

- ASUD 2004, A1 Peterborough to Blyth. Grade Separated Junctions at Apleyhead, Gonerby Moor and Colsterworth. Geophysical Surveys
- IFA 1999, Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations
- OA 1992, Fieldwork Manual (ed. D Wilkinson, first edition, August 1992)
- OA 2000, Oxford Archaeology Environmental Sampling Guidelines and Instruction Manual (First edition, July 2000)
- OA 2004, A1 Peterborough to Blyth Grade Separated Junctions Scheme, A1/B1174 Gonerby Moor Interchange, Archaeological evaluation report, Oxford Archaeology, June 2004
- OA 2006, A1 Peterborough to Blyth Grade Separated Junctions Scheme, A1/B1174 Gonerby Moor Interchange, Archaeological evaluation report, Oxford Archaeology, November 2006
- OA 2007, A1 Peterborough to Blyth Grade Separated Junctions Scheme - A1/B1174 Gonerby Moor Interchange: Written scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief

## **APPENDIX 2    SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS**

**Site name:** A1/B1174 Gonerby Moor Interchange

**Site code:** A1GMT07

**Grid reference:** SK 8880 4000

**Type of watching brief:** Construction of a Grade Separated Junction

**Date and duration of project:** 14th-15th May 2007 and 9th-10th January 2008, 4 days

**Area of site:** Approximately 200 m<sup>2</sup>

**Summary of results:** The watching brief showed that the area had been previously built up. The natural was not uncovered and no archaeology was uncovered

**Location of archive:** The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with the appropriate museum in due course.



Scale 1:50,000

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Figure 1: Site Location



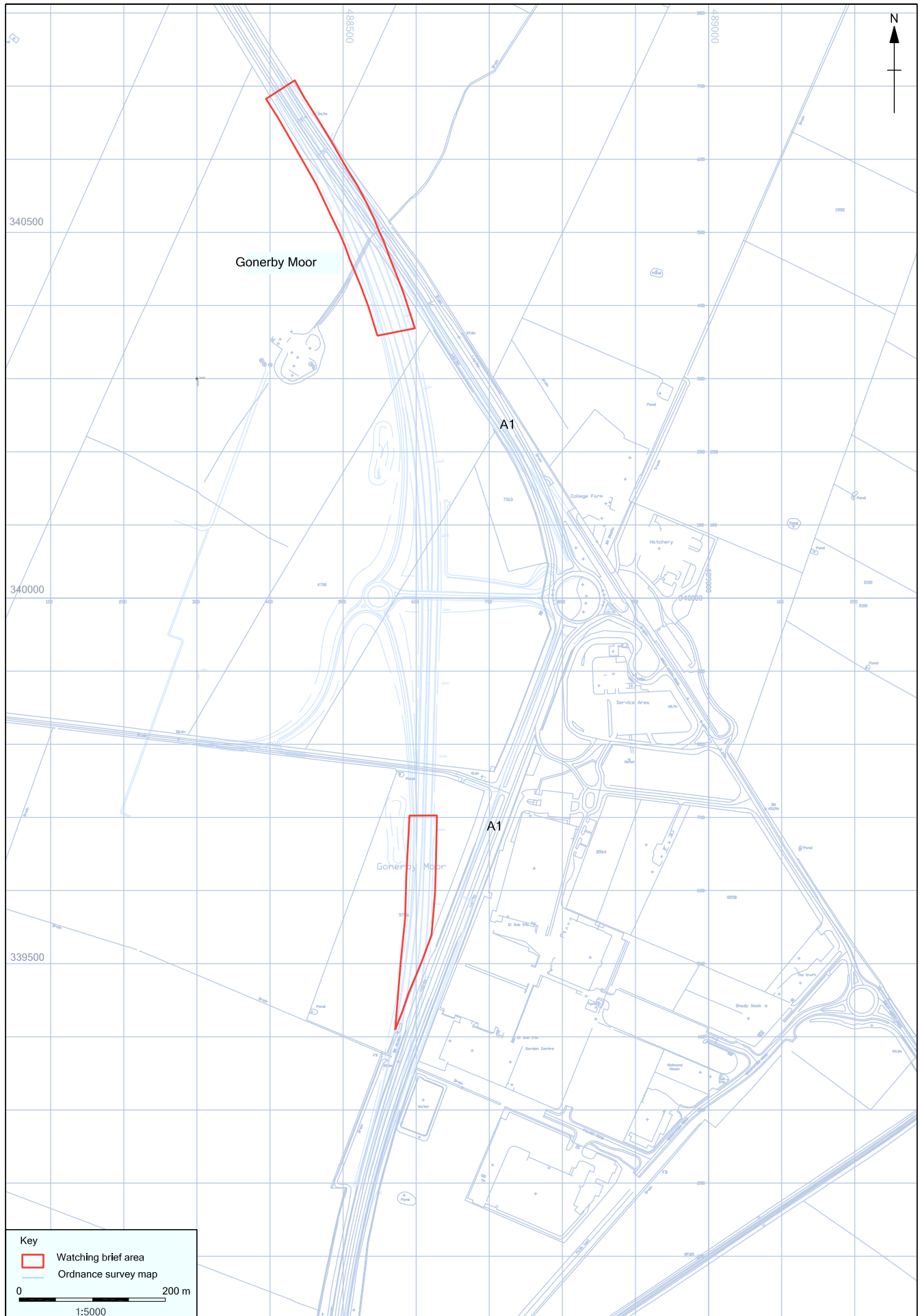


Figure 2: Site plan showing area of watching brief







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