
Site Code: TPLS05
LCCM Accession No.: 2005.158
Planning Application No.: M05/P/0679
NGR: SE 8885/0080

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**A Report to
Dr A. Abbas**

September 2005

**Land adjacent to 'The Paddocks',
Lindholme, Scotter, Lincolnshire**

By K Wragg

Archaeological Evaluation

Conservation
Services

27 SEP 2005

Highways & Planning
Directorate



Lincoln Archaeo-tech

PRN 55244 medieval

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Archaeological Evaluation

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Land adjacent to 'The Paddocks', Lindholme, Scotter, Lincolnshire

Archaeological Evaluation

Non-Technical Summary

- ❖ This project was prompted by plans to develop an area of land in the village of Scotter, Lincolnshire. Scotter lies in the administrative district of West Lindsey approximately 9km south of Scunthorpe, 12km north-east of Gainsborough, and 30km north of Lincoln.
- ❖ The site lies on the south-eastern side of the village, and comprises an irregular parcel of land (formerly in use as a paddock) covering a total area of approximately 0.16 hectare. It is bounded by the River Eau to the west (and beyond that, Lindholme), existing residential properties to the north and north-east, and open farmland to the east and south. The church of S^t Peter lies approximately 80m to the west.
- ❖ Outline planning permission is presently being sought for a single detached dwelling, with associated infrastructure and services.
- ❖ Consultation with Dr Beryl Lott at Lincolnshire County Council Conservation Services has shown that the site lies close to areas of known archaeological importance. Specifically, these include the remains of a log boat preserved in the waterlogged deposits adjacent to the River Eau.
- ❖ In view of the significant potential for archaeological remains on the site, West Lindsey District Council, in consultation with Dr Lott, requested that an archaeological evaluation comprising a programme of trial trenching be carried out on the site in advance of any planning determination in order to investigate the nature and extent of any archaeological remains preserved on the site.
- ❖ Lincs Archaeo-tech was commissioned on the 25th of July to carry out the required archaeological services, with attendance undertaken on the 8th and 9th of August 2005.
- ❖ A single evaluation trench, measuring 10m x 1.6m was excavated within the anticipated 'footprint' area of the proposed new dwelling, in a location agreed in advance with Dr Lott.
- ❖ However, in spite its apparent potential, the results of this evaluation have provided no direct evidence for ancient occupation on the site. Only very limited dating evidence was uncovered, all of which appears residual, and no structural remains were revealed. It would appear, therefore, that the development in its proposed form is unlikely to encounter buried archaeological deposits and/or features.
- ❖ Notwithstanding this however, the body of existing evidence for preserved archaeological remains in the vicinity still suggests that any future developments in the village and surrounding area have a significant chance of encountering archaeological remains.

Land adjacent to 'The Paddocks', Lindholme, Scotter, Lincolnshire

Archaeological Evaluation

1.0 Introduction

This project was prompted by plans to develop an area of land in the village of Scotter, Lincolnshire. Scotter lies in the administrative district of West Lindsey approximately 9km south of Scunthorpe, 12km north-east of Gainsborough, and 30km north of Lincoln.

The site lies on the south-eastern side of the village, and comprises an irregular parcel of land (formerly in use as a paddock) covering a total area of approximately 0.16 hectare. It is bounded by the River Eau to the west (and beyond that, Lindholme), existing residential properties to the north and north-east, and open farmland to the east and south. The church of S^t Peter lies approximately 80m to the west (see Figure 1).

Outline planning permission is presently being sought for a single detached dwelling, with associated infrastructure and services (see Figure 2, and 2.0, below).

Consultation with Dr Beryl Lott at Lincolnshire County Council Conservation Services has shown that the site lies close to areas of known archaeological importance. Specifically, these include the remains of a log boat preserved in the waterlogged deposits adjacent to the River Eau (see 3.0, below).

In view of the significant potential for archaeological remains on the site, West Lindsey District Council, in consultation with Dr Lott, requested the excavation of a single archaeological trial trench measuring 10m x 1.6m, in order to investigate the nature and extent of any archaeological remains preserved on the site (see Figure 2).

Lincs Archaeo-tech (LAtech) was approached by the owner/developer, Dr Abbas, on the 21st of July 2005 to provide a quotation for the required archaeological services. LAtech was subsequently commissioned on the 25th of July to carry out the work, with attendance undertaken on the 8th and 9th of August 2005.

Notes:

1) This document is presented on the understanding that further data pertaining to this site may subsequently emerge, which may affect the conclusions drawn herein. Lincs Archaeo-tech, its employees, and/or principals cannot therefore be held responsible for any loss, delay or damage, material or otherwise, arising from use of any information contained in this report.

2) Lincs Archaeo-tech has adopted, and subscribes to, the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and its Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology.

3) All maps and extracts are reproduced under Ordnance Survey Copyright Licence Number: 100043257 unless otherwise credited.

2.0 Planning Background

An outline planning application to build a single detached dwelling, with associated infrastructure and services, is currently being considered by West Lindsey District Council (WLDC planning application number: M05/P/0679).

In order to investigate the nature and extent of any archaeological remains preserved on the site, West Lindsey District Council, in consultation with Lincolnshire County Council Conservation Services, requested that a pre-determination archaeological evaluation be carried out. This report describes the results of that investigation.

3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

The village of Scotter lies on the eastern side of the Trent Valley, c. 12km north-east of Gainsborough, at a nominal elevation of 10m OD. The settlement is bisected by the River Eau, a tributary of the River Trent which lies c. 5km to the west.

The geology comprises soils of the *Crannymoor* Association - very acid well-drained sandy podzols and other sandy soils, overlying glaciofluvial sands and gravels on Jurassic clays (Hodge *et al*, 1984; 151).

The name Scotter is variously referred to historically as *Scottere*, *Scotere*, *Scotre*, and *Scotra*, and probably derives from a combination of the Old English *Scot(t)a* (plural) and *trēow* - literally translated as 'the tree of the Scots' (Cameron, 1998; 107).

At the beginning of the medieval period, the *Domesday Book* of 1086 refers to land at *Scotere*, and shows the major landowners as Alnoth and Asketill, together with Abbot Thorald, of S^t Peter's of Peterborough. Asketill is also recorded as stating a claim to free authority in the manor of *Scotre*, as granted by King Edward (Morgan and Thorn, 1986; 8,17; CW,16).

By the end of the 12th century, an annual fair and weekly market had been granted to Peterborough Abbey, who held the majority of the village holdings by this time. The market was still a feature in the 16th century, when the lease of the manor to Sir William Tyrwhitt in 1538 refers to '*markett shoppes in the markett place*' (Everson *et al*, 1991; 22).

The church of S^t Peter also exhibits Norman origins, principally its south doorway; together with the north arcade which dates from the late 13th century. Unfortunately, poor restoration in 1820 resulted in the loss of many earlier features (Pevsner *et al*, 1989).

Within an approximate radius of 200m around the site, ten findspots, monuments, and/or known (or suspected) areas of archaeological potential are recorded in the Lincolnshire County Sites & Monuments Record. These include: a Bronze Age dug-out boat; the remains of a possible Anglo-Saxon cemetery; isolated finds or scatters of pottery; earthworks indicating the probable locations of buried archaeological features, including a water mill and a town well; together with documentary and other evidence for medieval buildings.

In brief, the SMR results can be summarised as follows (see also Figure 1):

SMR No.:	Description:
50050	Possible Anglo-Saxon inhumation cemetery (found pre-1892)
50051	Probable site of medieval water mill on west bank of River Eau
50063	The church of S ^t Peter
50066	Site of medieval rectory
50068	Site of medieval manor house
50072	Scotter town well (or <i>Halliwell</i>)
50080	Timber dug-out boat (found 1836)
52140	Undated features, Church Lane, Scotter
52142	Medieval pottery, including a sherd of 14 th century <i>Potterhanworth shelly-ware</i>
53864	Medieval settlement of Scotter

An archaeological walk-over survey (part of a desk-based assessment), an evaluation, and a watching brief have also been carried out in areas to the west of the site in recent years, all undertaken by Lindsey Archaeological Services.

While the majority of the work revealed little other than Post-medieval remains, the walk-over survey (on land adjacent to No.72 High Street) revealed a fragment of a Bronze Age 'collared' urn and a piece of pottery dating from the 10th century. While no further work was undertaken to investigate the origins of these finds, their presence suggests the possibility of both Bronze Age cremations and later Anglo-Saxon occupation in the area (Tann, 2001).

4.0 Methodology

This scheme of pre-determination archaeological trial trenching was designed to evaluate the nature and extent of any archaeological remains present on the named site. The results of the investigation would be used to allow the archaeological implications of the proposed development to be considered by the local planning authority. This would allow a final decision on the application to be made, and any required mitigation strategy to be formulated.

The scheme of investigation and recording was designed in accordance with the requirements of the *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* issued by Lincolnshire County Council Conservation Services (LCC, 1998). This document refers to The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological evaluations*, produced in 1994 (revised 2001), which defines an archaeological field evaluation as:

A limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate

Accordingly, this scheme of investigation was designed to:

- a) Establish the presence or absence, nature, date and relative quality of survival of any archaeological deposits and remains which might be contained within the site, and assess their importance;
- b) Assess the possible scale of development impact on any remains and provide information which might influence development design so that detrimental impact can be avoided or minimised;
- c) Provide information that will allow the local planning authority to reconcile development proposals with their policy for preserving archaeological remains, and make an informed and reasoned decision on the planning application;
- d) Provide site-specific archaeological information, which (if necessary) would allow the design, costing, and implementation of any further archaeological work (or other mitigating strategy) which might be required in advance of, or during, any subsequent development programme;
- e) Produce a project archive for deposition with the appropriate museum together with a client report;
- f) Provide information for accession to the County Sites and Monuments Record.

4.1 Fieldwork Methodology

An archaeologist from Lincs Archaeo-tech attended site to mark out the location of the single evaluation trench, measuring 10m x 1.6m. The trench was positioned within the anticipated 'footprint' area of the proposed new dwelling (see Figure 2).

The archaeologist then supervised the excavation of all topsoil, subsoil and other non-archaeological deposits contained within the trench, using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. The overburden was removed in c. 200mm thick 'spits' until the first archaeologically-significant or natural (*i.e.*, geological) horizon was exposed.

The excavated area was then closely inspected for archaeological deposits, features, artefacts and/or ecofacts, with all excavated spoil also checked for disturbed material.

The trench was then recorded on plan and section drawings, with each discrete deposit issued with a unique *context number* (e.g., context [100]). The deposits were described in detail on *pro-forma* recording sheets, specifically in terms of their physical appearance, composition, and interrelation with other contexts.

Artefacts were retrieved, and photographs taken, as required, and finally, level readings were taken at selected points across the site area, and all drawing locations were referenced to the British National Grid.

5.0 Results

The results from the investigation are presented below, with the stratigraphic sequence described from earliest (*i.e.*, oldest) to latest (see also Figures 3 & 4). For more comprehensive context descriptions, and for details of the pottery and bulk finds recovered, see *Appendices C to E*, below.

The earliest deposit revealed in the trench was [104], a layer of moderate-well compacted, mid-brown clayey sand, which contained no obvious inclusions.

This deposit was *c.* 400mm-500mm thick to the limit of excavation (L.O.E.), and was overlain by [103], a 200mm-300mm thick layer of mid-brown silty clay, which contained several 'pockets' of med-large, irregularly-shaped, limestone pieces. Both [103] and [104] were present throughout the trench, and represent the upper elements of the natural (*i.e.*, geological) strata.

Overlying these deposits was a 200mm thick layer of moderate-well compacted mid-brown silty clay subsoil, [102], again present across the whole trench. This contained small pieces and flecks of limestone, together with one very small, very worn, fragment of *Beverley Orange-type* pottery dating to the 13th or 14th century.

The upper deposit in the sequence was [101], a layer of mid-dark grey-brown silty topsoil. This was between 150mm and 200mm thick, and contained only occasional small limestone flecks and pieces. It bore a surface covering of coarse turf and weeds, and was present across the whole site area.

A final context, [100], was allocated to identify any unstratified finds recovered during machining, and those subsequently retrieved from the spoil-heaps. This material comprised a single piece of fuel-ash slag, and a very abraded pottery sherd from a *Toynton* ware jug dating from between the late 13th to 15th centuries.

6.0 Discussion of Results and Conclusions

As outlined above, this investigation was designed to evaluate the archaeological potential of this site (if any), in advance of development, and to determine the likely effect of subsequent development on any preserved remains.

However, in spite its apparent potential, the results of this evaluation have provided no direct evidence for ancient occupation on the site. Only very limited dating evidence was uncovered, all of which appears residual, and no structural remains were revealed. It would appear, therefore, that the development in its proposed form is unlikely to encounter buried archaeological deposits and/or features.

Notwithstanding this however, the body of existing evidence for preserved archaeological remains in the vicinity still suggests that any future developments in the village and surrounding area have a significant chance of encountering archaeological remains.

7.0 Acknowledgements

Lincs Archaeo-tech would like to thank Dr Abbas for funding this project, and for his support and assistance during the works.

Thanks are also due to: Dr Beryl Lott, Principal Archaeologist, Conservation Services, Highways & Planning Directorate, Lincolnshire County Council, for her advice prior to, and during, the project; Mr C. S. Fox (groundworks contractor), for his assistance and co-operation during the groundworks; and to the staff of the Lincolnshire Sites & Monuments Record.

8.0 Selected References

Cameron, K, 1998 *A Dictionary of Lincolnshire Place-names*, English Place-Name Society

Everson, P L, Taylor, C C, & Dunn, C J (eds), 1991 *Change and Continuity. Rural settlement in north-west Lincolnshire*, RCHM(E)

Hodge, C A H, Burton, R G O, Corbett, W M, Evans, R, Seale, R S, 1984 *Soils and their use in eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales 13, Harpenden

LCC, 1998 *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook: A Manual of Archaeological Practice*, Lincolnshire County Council, Lincoln

Morgan, P, and Thorn, C (eds), 1986 *Domesday Book 31 - Lincolnshire (parts one and two)*, Phillimore and Co. Ltd., London and Chichester

Pevsner, N, Harris, J & Antram, N (eds) 1989 *Lincolnshire, The Buildings of England*, Penguin Books, London

Tann, G, May 2001 *Archaeological desk-based assessment of land south of High Street, Scotter, Lincolnshire*, LAS Report 528, Lindsey Archaeological Services, Lincoln

9.0 Summary of Site Details

Site Code:	TPLS05
Museum Accession Number:	2005.158
Planning Application Number:	M05/P/0679
Supervising Archaeologist:	K. Wragg
NGR:	SE 8885/0080
Civil Parish:	Scotter
Date of Intervention:	8 th and 9 th August 2005
Type of Intervention:	Archaeological Evaluation
Undertaken for:	Dr A. Abbas, 'The Paddocks', Lindholme, Scotter, Lincolnshire, DN21 3UR

Appendix A

Archive Deposition

The archive comprises:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	Site diary
5	Context records
4	Scale drawings
2 copies	Report (plus digital copy on CD)
1 set	Colour negatives
1 assemblage	Post-Roman pottery (as detailed in <i>Appendix D</i> , below)
1 assemblage	Bulk finds (as detailed in <i>Appendix E</i> , below)
Various	Miscellaneous supporting documentation

The primary archive material, as detailed above, is currently held by :

**Lincs Archaeo-tech,
50 High Street,
Martin,
Lincolnshire,
LN4 3QT**

It is intended that transfer to the City and County Museum, 12 Friars Lane, Lincoln, LN2 5AL, in accordance with current published requirements, under Museum Accession Number 2005.158, will be undertaken following completion of this project.

Colour Plates



Plate 1: General view of site showing trench location - looking north-east



Plate 2: General view of site showing trench location - looking south-west

Colour Plates



Plate 3: Overall view of trial trench - looking north-east



Plate 4: General view of stone 'pockets' in natural clay - looking north-east

Appendix C

Context Listing

Context No.	Description
[100]	Unstratified finds - Trial Trench 1
[101]	Topsoil layer - moderate-well compacted, friable, mid-dark grey-brown silty topsoil; contains only occasional small limestone flecks & pieces; bears a covering of coarse turf and weeds at upper boundary; c. 150mm-200mm thick
[102]	Subsoil layer - moderate-well compacted mid-brown silty clay subsoil; contains moderately frequent small pieces & flecks of limestone, and one very small, very worn, fragment of pottery; c. 200mm thick
[103]	Natural (<i>i.e.</i> , geological) clay layer - well-moderately compacted, mid (slightly orange-) brown silty clay; contains several 'pockets' of med-large, irregularly-shaped, limestone pieces; c. 200mm-300mm thick
[104]	Natural (<i>i.e.</i> , geological) clayey sand layer - moderate-well compacted, mid (slightly orange-) brown clayey sand; contains no obvious inclusions; c. 400mm-500mm thick to the limit of excavation (L.O.E.)

Appendix D

Post-Roman pottery: Archive Listing

Jane Young, Ceramic Consultant

Post-Roman Pottery Archive

Context no.	Cname	Form type	Sherds	Weight (g)	Part	Description	Date (century)
[100]	TOY	Jug	1	3	Body sherd	Very abraded	Late 13 th - 15 th
[102]	BEVO2T	?	1	1	Body sherd	Very abraded; ?ID	13 th - 14 th

Pottery glossary

BEVO2T Beverley Orange-type ware Fabric 2 (1230-1350)
TOY Toynton Medieval Ware (1250-1450)

Appendix E

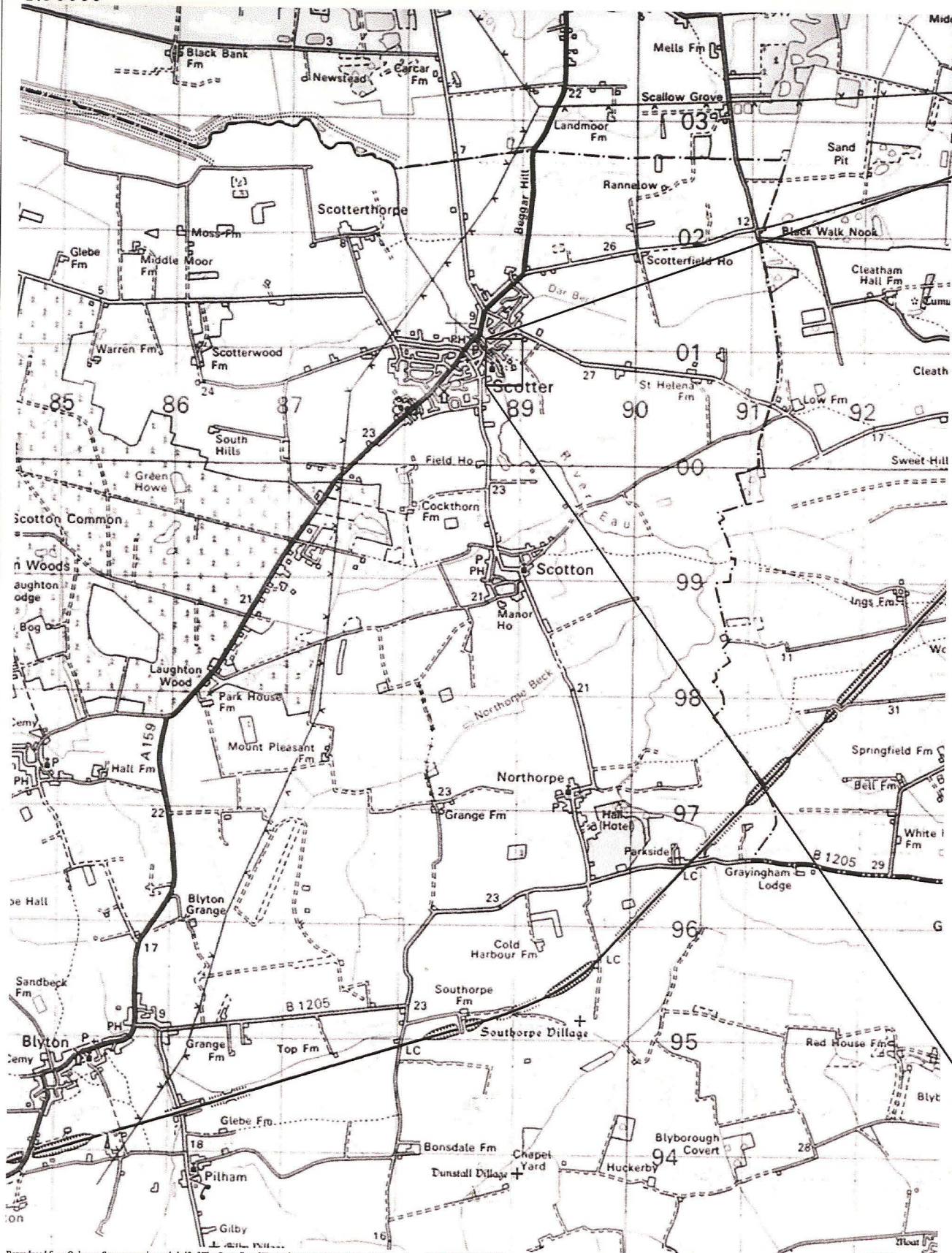
Bulk finds: Archive Listing

Yvonne Rose, Lincs Archaeo-tech

Bulk Finds Archive

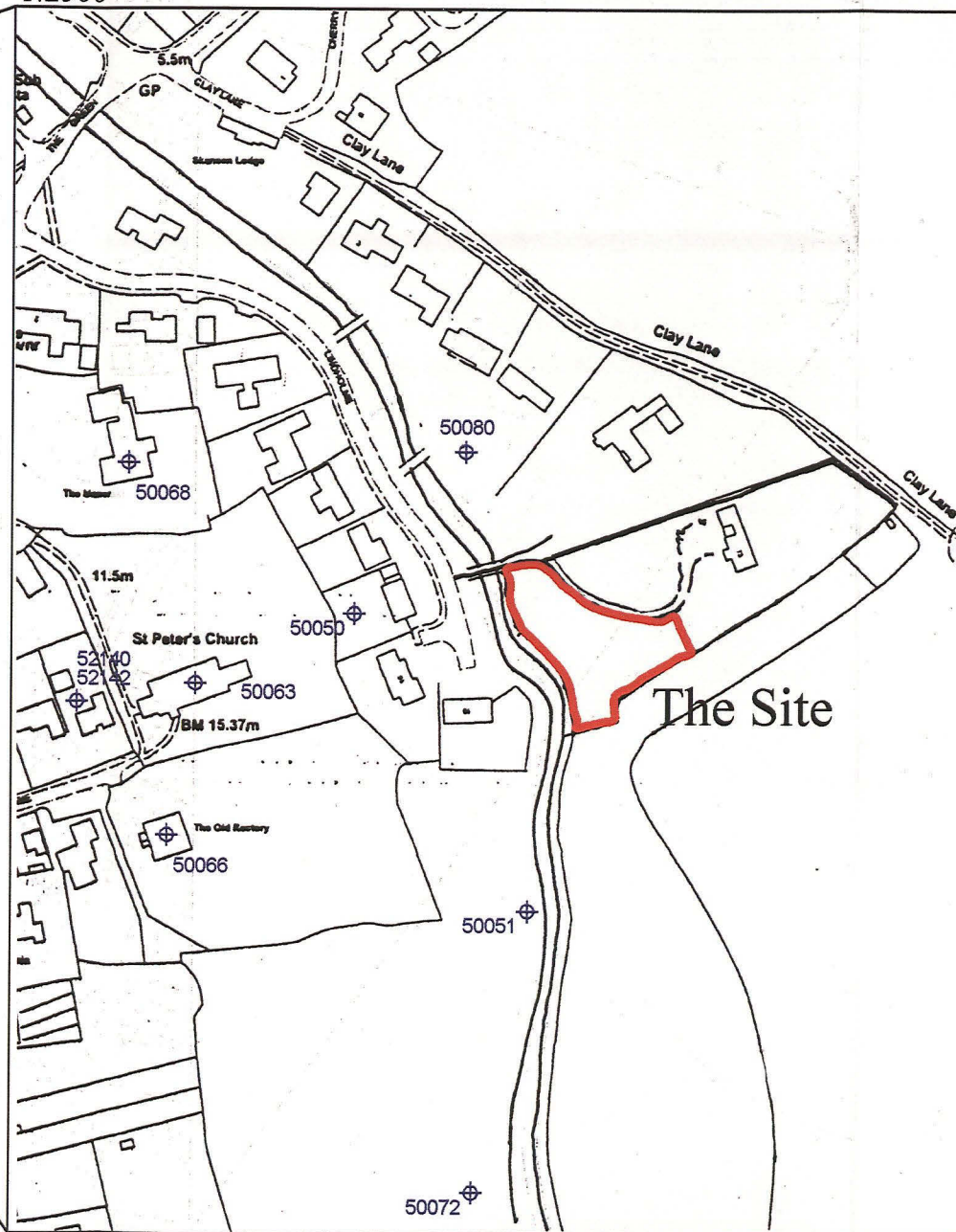
Context number	Category	Count	Comments/Weight (g)
[100]	Slag	1	fuel-ash slag; 1 g; discarded

1:50000



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1:2500



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Lincs **Archaeo-tech**

50 High Street, Martin
Lincolnshire, LN4 3QT
Telephone & Fax: (01526) 378 020
Mobile: (07969) 145 173
E-mail: lincs.archaeotech@btinternet.com

SITE CODE:
TPLS05

CLIENT:
Dr A. Abbas

DESCRIPTION:
Site Location Plan

SCALE:
See Individual Plans

DRAWN BY:

DATE:

ARCHIVE NO:

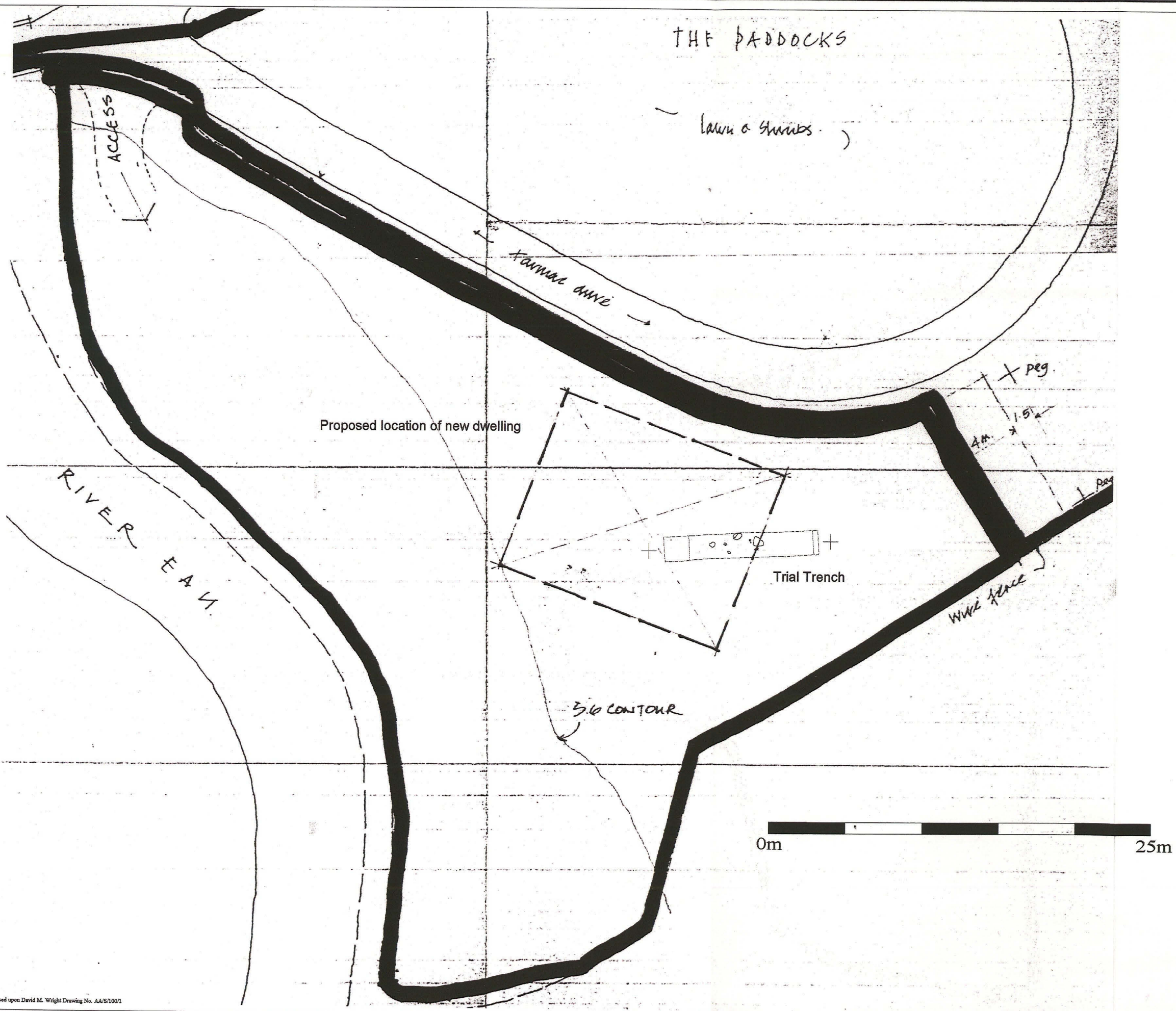
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO:
2005.158

KEY:
⊕ SMR Reference
50050



FIGURE NO:

1



SITE CODE:
TPLS05

CLIENT:
Dr A. Abbas

DESCRIPTION:
**Plan of Proposed
 Development & Location
 of Trial Trench**

SCALE:
1:250

DRAWN BY:
 -

DATE:
 -

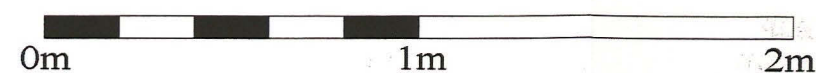
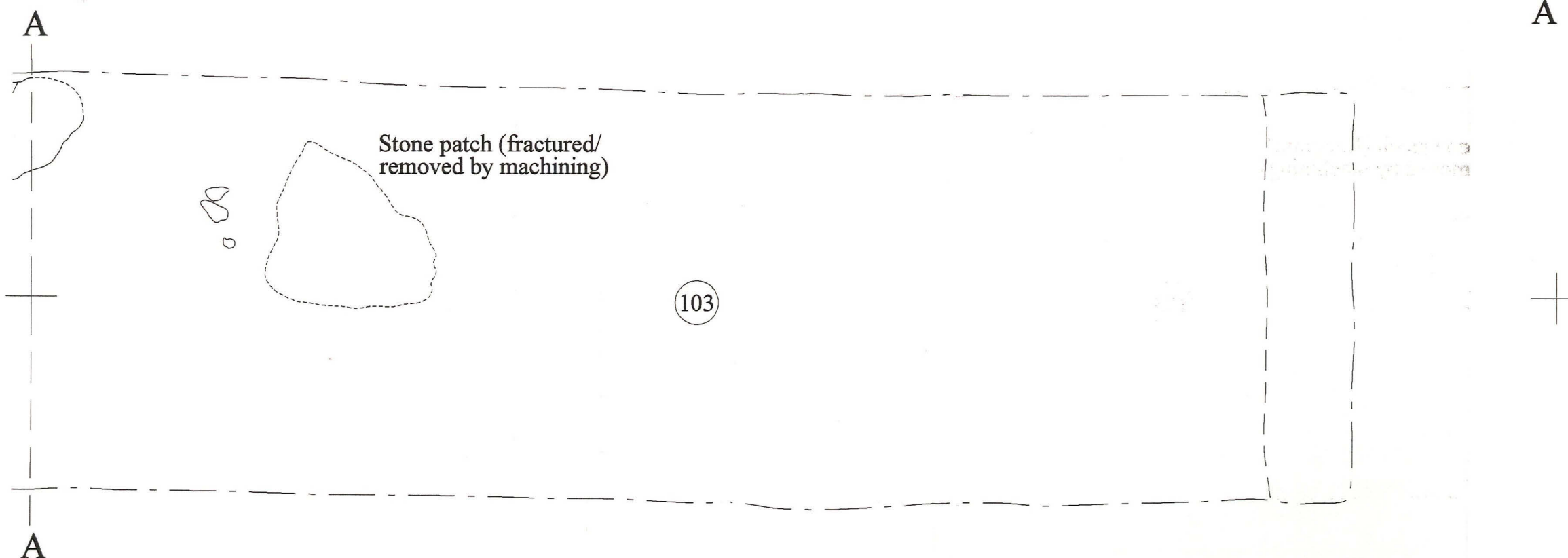
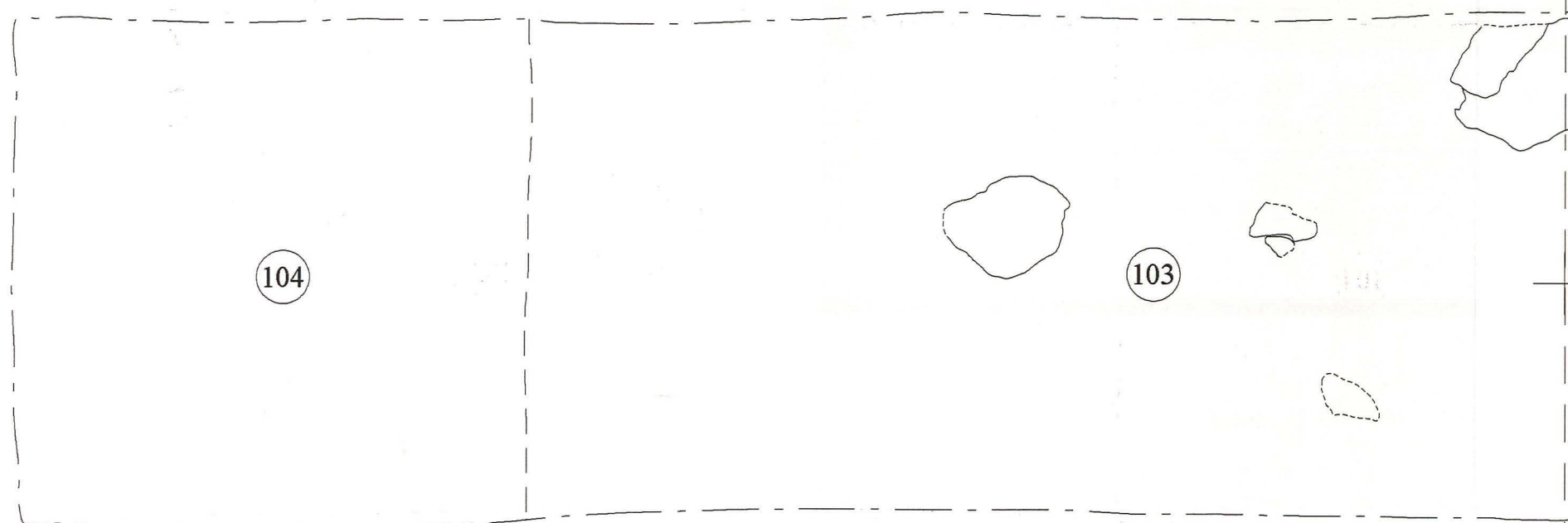
ARCHIVE NO:

MUSEUM ACCESSION NO:
2005.158

KEY:



FIGURE NO: **2**



Lincs
Archaeo-tech

50 High Street, Martin
Lincolnshire, LN4 3QT
Telephone & Fax: (01526) 378 020
Mobile: (07969) 145 173
E-mail: lincs.archaeotech@btinternet.com

SITE CODE:
TPLS05

CLIENT:
Dr A. Abbas

DESCRIPTION:
**Overall Plan of Trial
Trench**

SCALE:
1:20

DRAWN BY:
KW

DATE:
9th September 2005

ARCHIVE NO:

MUSEUM ACCESSION NO:
2005.158

KEY:





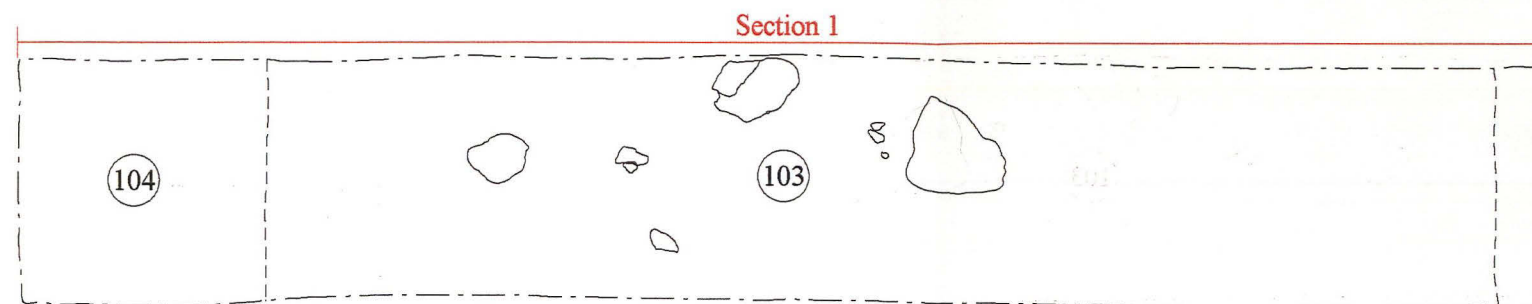
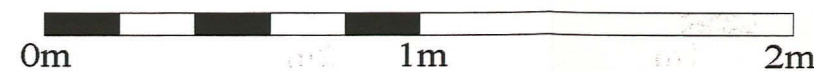
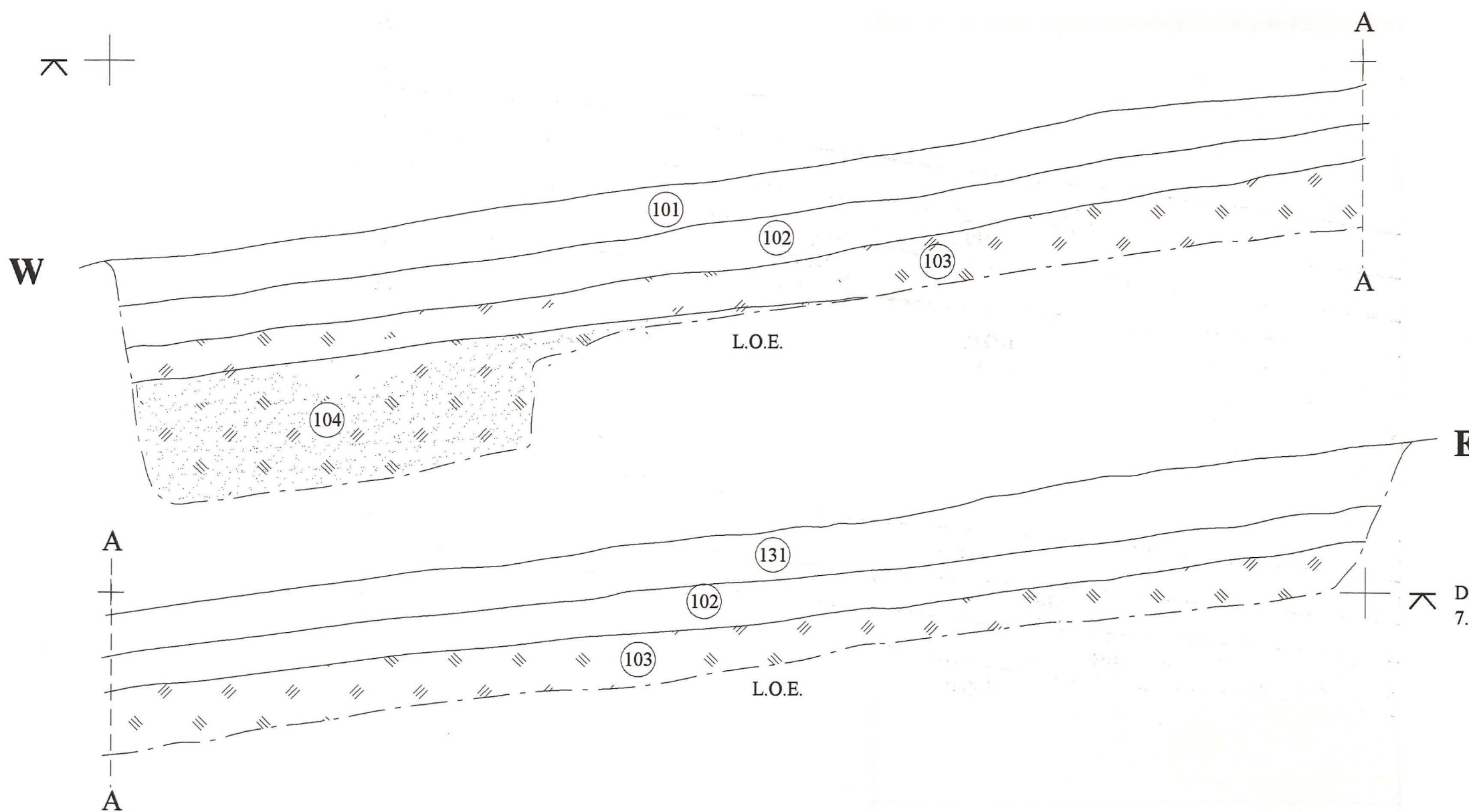
-  Limit of excavation
-  Arbitrary edge
-  Limestone pieces
-  Context number

FIGURE NO:

3



Overall Trench Plan - Scale 1:50



Lincs
Archaeo-tech

50 High Street, Martin
Lincolnshire, LN4 3QT
Telephone & Fax: (01526) 378 020
Mobile: (07969) 145 173
E-mail: lincs.archaeotech@btinternet.com

SITE CODE:
TPLS05

CLIENT:
Dr A. Abbas

DESCRIPTION:
South-facing Section 1

SCALE:
1:20

DRAWN BY:
KW

DATE:
8th September 2005

ARCHIVE NO:

MUSEUM ACCESSION NO:
2005.158

KEY:

- Limit of excavation
- Clay
- Sand
- Context number

FIGURE NO:

4