

98/22

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION  
ON LAND AT  
HOLBEACH ROAD, SPALDING  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(SHA98)**

2.2 Topography and Geology  
2.4 Area  
Methods  
Results  
3.1 Stratigraphic Summary  
3.2 Phase 1 pre-Roman Natural Deposits  
4.3 Phase 2 Roman Deposits



**A P S**  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
SERVICES



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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION  
ON LAND AT  
HOLBEACH ROAD, SPALDING  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(SHA98)**

Lincolnshire County Council  
Archaeology Section

Work Undertaken For  
Brightsolo Limited

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## 1. SUMMARY

*An archaeological evaluation was undertaken to determine the implications of the proposed construction of a petrol station and restaurant at the junction of the Spalding bypass and Holbeach Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire.*

*Previously, evidence for Romano-British (AD 50-410) settlement had been identified in the investigation area, comprising cropmarks and occasional finds indicative of agricultural settlement. However, the full form and layout of these Romano-British settlements is not easily understood due to full or partial burial by marine flood deposits.*

*Following the compilation of a desk-top survey, fieldwalking on the area of proposed development yielded a quantity of Late Saxon and medieval finds, suggesting settlement on the site or in the immediate vicinity.*

*During the medieval period (AD 1066-1500) settlement was largely centred on Spalding. However, there are historical references to Fulney, located immediately west of the proposed development, which suggest that this settlement existed by at least the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Limited archaeological fieldwork had previously identified that the limits of this settlement included land to the immediate west of the proposed development.*

*Trial trenching undertaken as part of the evaluation described in this report has recorded a series of alluvial deposits sealing Romano-British features of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> century date.*

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Planning Background

Following a desk based study and programme of fieldwalking undertaken in April 1998 (Cope-Faulkner 1998), Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Brightsolo Limited to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land at the junction of Holbeach Road and Ashtree Lane, near Spalding, Lincolnshire. This was in order to determine the archaeological implications of the construction of a proposed petrol station and restaurant. The archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a specification designed by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the Assistant Archaeology Officer, Lincolnshire County Council (Appendix 1).

Archaeological evaluation is defined 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. If such archaeological remains are present Field Evaluation defines their character and extent, and relative quality; and it enables an assessment of their worth in a local, national or international context as appropriate'. (IFA 1994, 1).

### 2.2 Topography and Geology

Spalding is situated 23km southwest of Boston and 30km southeast of Sleaford, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The proposed development site is located c. 2km northeast of Spalding town centre as defined by the market place. Situated at a height of c. 4m OD on land bounded by Holbeach Road to the south, the A17 Spalding bypass to the west and crossed by Ashtree Lane to the east (National Grid Reference TF 2664 2394), the proposed development site is approximately 0.5 hectares in extent.



Local soils are of the Stockwith Series, typically silty over clayey calcareous alluvial gley soils developed over creek ridges (Robson 1990, 28). Coarse silty alluvial soils of the Wisbech Association occur to the east and west of the site (*ibid.* 36). These soils are developed on young marine alluvium or former estuarine deposits and overlie a solid geology of Oxford Clay (BGS 1992).

### 2.3 Archaeological Background

Plotting of cropmarks has shown former field systems in the vicinity of the proposed development. These are probably of Roman date and together with occasional finds indicate agricultural settlement during the Romano-British period (AD 50-410).

The 7<sup>th</sup> century Tribal Hideage refers to a tribe named the 'Spaldas' who are thought to have inhabited the southern Lincolnshire Fenland, presumably centred on Spalding. The town itself probably derived its name from the Old English '*Spaldingas*', meaning 'descendants of the *Spaldas*' (Ekwall 1974). The first written account referring to Spalding occurs in a charter to the monks of Crowland by King Ethelbald in AD 716 (Clark 1978). The Domesday Book of 1086 records that Spalding was owned principally by Ivo Taillebois with land also belonging to Crowland Abbey and Guy of Craon (Foster and Longley 1976). The survey also mentions a market, six fisheries, salt-pans and a wood of alders. Although the name of the town is Saxon in derivation, numerous street-names in Spalding have a Danish origin (Hallam 1954, 8).

Quantities of Late Saxon (AD 850-1150) pottery, including Stamford ware, have been found during fieldwalking at two locations immediately west of the proposed development area, close to Fulney, now a suburb of Spalding.

The first reference to Fulney is in 1189 when Ælfric de Fulney is mentioned amongst those that invaded the lands of Crowland Abbey on behalf of the Prior of Spalding (Hallam 1954, 31). By 1307 there was a track named *Fulnedrove* and a drain named *Fulney Gote* (Wheeler 1896, 103, Appendix 1.16). Such evidence confirms that Fulney was established as a hamlet by the beginning of the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Historical records refer to a chapel sited at Fulney in 1486 (Marrat 1814, 275; Gooch 1940, 117). The placename of Fulney is probably Old English in origin and may mean 'foul island' (Ekwall 1974, 189). The presence of the Late Saxon pottery recovered during fieldwalking may indicate an earlier origin for Fulney than that suggested by the historical references.

### 3. AIMS

The aims of the archaeological evaluation, as outlined in the specification (Appendix 1), were to locate archaeological deposits and, if present, to determine their extent, state of preservation, date, type, vulnerability, documentation, quality of setting and amenity value. Such location and assessment of significance would permit the Archaeology Officer, Lincolnshire County Council, to formulate appropriate policies for the management of the archaeological resource on the site.

### 4. METHODS

A mechanical excavator, fitted with a toothless bucket, was used to open six of the proposed nine trenches (Fig. 4). These six trenches, positioned to gain as wide a sample as possible across the investigation area, were excavated during June 1998. Trenches 1 and 3 measured approximately 1.60m x 10m and were excavated to a depth of 1.20m. Trenches 2, 4 and 5, each measuring ten metres in



length, were excavated to a depth of approximately 1.60m, and widened to 2.40m to comply with HSE regulations. Trench 9 was the smallest, measuring 1.60m x 5m. The three deeper trenches were excavated specifically to test for deeply buried archaeological deposits, as specified by the Lincolnshire county Council Assistant Archaeological Officer, Mr Jim Bonner. Supervised machine excavation was continued to the surface of undisturbed archaeological deposits, which were cleaned and excavated by hand. It is proposed that a tree barrier will be planted on a c. 10m wide strip on the west side of the site, adjacent to the A16. Currently, this area contains a number of rose bushes which are to be moved before the tree planting is undertaken. To avoid unnecessary disturbance of the rose beds, the remaining three trenches will be excavated after the roses have been moved, probably towards the autumn of 1998.

Each archaeological deposit or feature revealed within the trenches was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and plans at a scale of 1:20. Recording of deposits encountered during the evaluation was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practise. Soil samples were retrieved from selected deposits for the retrieval of preserved environmental remains (Appendix 2)

Finds recovered from the deposits identified in the evaluation were washed, marked and subjected to specialist analysis and a date assigned where possible. Records of the deposits and features recognised during the evaluation were also examined. A list of all contexts and interpretations appear as Appendix 3. Phasing was assigned based on artefact dating and the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

A stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced and forms part of the site archive.

## 5. RESULTS

### 5.1 Stratigraphic Summary

Following the incorporation of specialist reports with the post-excavation analyses four phases were recognised:

Phase 1	Pre-Roman natural deposits
Phase 2	Iron Age / Roman deposits
Phase 3	Post-Roman natural deposits
Phase 4	Recent deposits

Archaeological contexts are listed below and described. Numbers in parenthesis are the context numbers assigned in the field.

#### 5.2 Phase 1 Pre-Roman Natural Deposits

Deposits known to belong to this phase were recorded in Trenches 2 and 4 and are represented by horizontally bedded sediments of sandy or silty texture often displaying thin laminations of variable thickness. This phase is definable in these two trenches due to the discovery of later features with fills containing artefacts datable to the early Romano-British period. Within the excavated depths of Trenches 1, 3 and 9 it is thought that only post-Roman silts were identifiable. In Trench 5 a continuous sequence of silt and sand deposits were recorded, although the absence of datable archaeological remains precludes the allocation of deposits to phases, apart from on the grounds of level O.D.

In Trench 2, the highest point of the uppermost deposit of Phase 1 (084) was recorded at a height of 2.86m O.D, (Fig. 5 Section 6) although truncation by later features [019] and [056] may have reduced



this level. Deposits (079), (077) and (080) recorded in the north section of the trench (Fig. 6 Section 8) are also included in this phase.

In Trench 4 the upper surface of deposit (064) was recorded at 2.6m O. D. and defines the limit of the pre-Roman silting phase (Fig. 7 Section 10). Numerous fine laminations recorded in (064) became increasingly faint towards the top of the context. These laminated Phase 1 deposits display characteristics which approximate in environmental terms to Shennan's zone 9 saltmarsh (Shennan 1994, 37). Topographically, this would place the site in an intercreek area of a dendritic tidal creek system, drained by one or more major channels (Shennan 1994).

### 5.3 Phase 2 Roman Deposits

Features dating to this phase were recorded in Trenches 2 and 4. All were cut into the upper surface of the natural layers of Phase 1 and sealed by later silts. In Trench 2, the upper limits of Phase 2 features occurred at 2.86m O.D, sealed beneath 1m of later silts and topsoil. In Trench 4, the equivalent surface was recorded 2.6m OD, underneath 0.96 m of later silts and topsoil.

Aligned roughly east to west along the length of Trench 2, linear cut [019] displayed irregular, slightly sinuous edges in plan (Fig.8 and Plate 3). A section excavated through [019] at the west end of the trench showed the feature to be 0.78m deep with initially gradually sloping sides becoming steep towards a rounded base marked by a series of shallow scoops (Fig. 5 Section 6 and Plate 4). These scoops may represent tool marks, created during the initial excavation of this feature.

The feature was filled by light grey brown fine sand (018) which contained lenses of

mottling and displayed some laminations, although not in the lower levels. A single sherd of shelly ware pottery retrieved from the lower levels of (018) probably dates to the early second century A.D.

In plan [019] resembles a typical marsh creek, although the discovery of possible tool marks cut into the base of the feature would suggest that [019] is an archaeological feature. Whichever interpretation is correct, the retrieval of the sherd of shelly pottery is evidence that the creek or ditch was contemporary with human settlement at some stage, probably during the early second century. The laminations recorded in fill (018) suggest deposition within a salt marsh environment similar to that represented by sediments in Phase 1.

Section 6 (Fig. 5) also shows a 0.40m deep and 0.80m wide cut [056] truncating the northern upper edge of [019]. In plan this feature follows the same alignment as [019] and is likely to represent the recutting of the original feature, which had become totally filled by saltmarsh silts.

The northern edge of a cut [017] recorded at the south end of Trench 4 also truncates the upper surface of the Phase 1 deposits (Fig. 9 and Fig. 7 Section 10, Plates 5 and 6). This feature extended across the full width of Trench 4 and continued beyond the limits of excavation on all other sides. In plan, the curved northern edge of this feature describes a gently curving arc. A section excavated through [017] confirmed that the feature did terminate to the north and continued underneath the limit of excavation to the south. The top edge of [017] was recorded in the west facing section of Trench at a height of 2.60m O.D, 0.96 m below modern ground level.

The base of the cut [017] appeared to be lined with a very fine sandy silt with occasional clay



patches (065). This friable material was generally of a mid-grey colour, although the edges displayed distinct orange mottling. No datable artefacts were retrieved from this 0.10m thick deposit, although occasional flecks of charcoal and fragments of burnt stone were identified. Overlying (065), a very fine dark grey to black silty clay (016) contained abundant charcoal and displayed a degree of mixing with several fine lenses of mid brown clay and pale grey brown very fine silt. Numerous fragments of pottery, together with animal bone and burnt bone were retrieved from (016). The pottery was of several different fabric types, all of which date to the late first to early second century AD within the Romano-British period, although certain pieces are in a Late Iron Age tradition (Fig. 11). The upper fill of feature (017) was a friable, mid-light brown silty sand (015). This homogeneous fill also contained occasional flecks of charcoal together with tiny fragments of degraded brick.

Interpretation of the character and function of this feature is difficult due to the limited area exposed within the trench. It is possible that the portion exposed represents part of the terminal end of a north south aligned ditch. The more likely interpretation is that the northern side of a substantial pit has been revealed. This argument is supported by the northern edge of [017] which curves as though part of a round, rather than linear feature. In addition, the feature appears to have been deliberately lined, perhaps with a view to preventing erosion of the sides or to retain water. This is more likely if the feature represents a pit of some kind rather than a ditch.

Processing of environmental samples has recovered abundant peat from the primary (065) and secondary (016) fills of the pit. The primary fill also contained worm tubes, preserved as small rods or columns of

concreted silt. This evidence for the growth of peaty deposits in the features suggests that the feature was open and held water for a considerable time. The presence of the concreted worm tubes suggests that the water level in the feature fluctuated over time, leading to the accretion of silts in the worm holes.

Interpretation of all the evidence together, indicates that this feature acted as a pond, possibly lined to maintain water levels. The pottery, animal bone and other artefacts retrieved from the fills of the feature probably represent casual dumping of domestic refuse.

#### 5.4 Phase 3 Post Roman Natural Deposits

A range of deposits relating to this phase was recorded in all of the trenches. In Trenches 1 (Plates 1 and 3), 3 and 9, these deposits acting as the base of excavation.

Situated at a height of approximately 2.58m O.D., a 0.12m thick, horizontally bedded, light orange brown sand (027) formed a continuous deposit throughout Trench 1. This was sealed by (026), a 0.22m thick horizontally bedded deposit of very similar character, distinguishable by its light grey brown colour. Overlying (026), a horizontally bedded silty sand deposit (025) was recorded along the entire length of the trench. In turn, (025) was sealed by (024), a 0.18m thick yellow brown sandy silt which formed the latest of the post Roman silts in Trench 1. All these deposits were clearly the result of natural depositional processes consistent with a salt marsh environment.

Several palaeochannels and 0.4m of silty deposits from this phase were also identified in Trench 2. As with Trench 4, these sealed archaeological deposits.

The south facing section (Fig. 10 Section 3) of



Trench 3 shows several cut features interleaved with horizontally bedded silty deposits. These include [049], a 1.8m wide feature recorded at the base of the trench on a north south alignment, and cut from a height of 2.6m O.D. This feature was sealed by a 0.40m thick sequence of layers comprising (047), (046) and (038) and (029), all horizontally bedded naturally formed silty deposits. These layers were truncated by a sequence of cut features including [035] and [037], both on the same course and southwest to northeast alignment. This sequence of horizontally laid sediment interleaved with cut features represents a build up of salt marsh deposits with subsequent truncation by palaeochannels. However, there is a possibility that the tops of features [044] and [049] exposed in Section 10 (Fig 10) are archaeological. Without further excavation this cannot be determined, but they appear at the height at which archaeological deposits were recorded in Trenches 2 and 4.

In Trench 4 the Romano-British levels were sealed by a 0.4m thick, horizontally bedded, light orange very fine sandy silt (063) (Fig. 7 Section 10). Laminations were visible throughout much of this deposit, although they were better defined at lower levels. Overlying (063), a 60mm thick layer of sandy clay silt material (062) extended the length of the trench. This deposit was overlain by (061) and (062) which formed the upper 0.38 m of silts in this phase.

Palaeochannels were absent in Trench 5, although 0.94m of silty deposits were recorded. There is no stratigraphic means of separating these layers between phases, but it should be noted that no archaeological remains were identified, even though the trench was excavated to 0.5m below 2.6m O.D., the lowest level at which artefacts were retrieved at the site.

Trench 9 was excavated to 2.63m O.D, the approximate upper limit of the Phase 1 natural silts. No archaeological deposits were identified in the trench, and it is thought that the 0.5m of silty deposits and a cut feature recorded in the north facing section, represent natural post-Roman silts and a palaeochannel.

#### 5.5 Phase 4 Recent Deposits

Recent deposits include ploughsoils, topsoils and modern field drains. Single sherds of pottery were retrieved from the topsoil in Trench 1 and Trench 4. Both sherds were dated to the medieval period.

The depth of topsoil ranged between 0.20m and 0.40m across the area, and comprised mid to dark grey brown sandy silts.

### 6. DISCUSSION

The trenches excavated at Holbeach Road have identified archaeological deposits buried beneath up to 1m of silts and topsoil. In Trench 4 a possible pit with fills containing burnt bone, pottery, charcoal flecks., fired clay and a possible loomweight probably represents the remains of a pond backfilled with domestic waste. A single sherd of pottery recovered from [019] in Trench 2 may indicate an archaeological origin for this linear feature. It should be noted that archaeological evidence was recorded in both trenches excavated to below the deposits representing post-Roman silting.

Potential of archaeological remains is often considerably enhanced by the protection offered by burial underneath later sediments. Lack of truncation by ploughing leads to the survival of surface deposits often absent in unprotected sites. Deep burial can lead to permanent waterlogging and the preservation of organic material and fragile environmental



indicators such as seeds and other vegetable matter.

The discovery of buried Early Roman deposits at Holbeach Road, Spalding is of some archaeological significance. Archaeological remains on the site are likely to be well preserved, even if only for the absence of truncation by recent ploughing. No organic archaeological remains were retrieved during the processing of environmental samples from the fills of pit [017] in Trench 4, although the presence of peat indicates that this should not be ruled out for the site in general. Some erosion of archaeological deposits by later flooding is likely. Section 10 (Fig 7 Section 10)) from Trench 4 shows a very sharp break of slope at the top of cut [017], suggesting the horizontal truncation of this surface.

The artefacts retrieved from the pit [017] in Trench 4 and the linear feature [019] in Trench 2, represent a phase of human activity at the site between the marine silting of Phases 1 and 3. The identification of peat within [017] is evidence of standing freshwater at the site during Phase 2.

The presence of pottery, animal bone and charcoal within pit [017] suggest that a settlement was located nearby, or actually on the site. If correctly identified, a possible loomweight recovered from [017] indicates that weaving occurred at the site. It is also possible however, that these remains represent casual dumping of domestic refuse at the periphery of an occupied area. With only two trenches excavated to below the depth of the archaeology, it would be difficult to comment on the extent, character or exact location of any settlement. However, within the terms of the proposed development at the site, the evaluation has accurately determined that archaeological deposits are buried beneath up to 1.00m of silts on the east and south sides of the area.

Although Roman in date, the ceramics from the site display signs of being transitional between the Late Iron Age to early Roman period, a crucially important and poorly understood phase of change in British archaeology. Despite extensive surveys of the Fens in the 1950's (Hallam, 1954) and by the Fenland Survey (Hayes and lane, 1992), few settlements of this period have been excavated.

No remains dating to the Saxon or medieval periods were recorded during the evaluation. However, numerous finds dating to the Late Saxon and medieval periods were recovered from topsoil deposits during fieldwalking undertaken as part of the pre evaluation desk-to assessment of this site. Finds of these dates have also been recovered from areas immediately west of the development.

It is possible that during the medieval period the development area was located in a peripheral area, perhaps at the edge of Fulney, where horticulture/market gardening was undertaken. The pottery and other artefacts would have been incorporated into kitchen and other waste and then added to the topsoil to enhance fertility. This would also offer an explain the lack of settlement features from these periods on the site.

## 7. EFFECTIVENESS OF TECHNIQUES

The techniques employed during the archaeological evaluation on land at the junction of Holbeach Road and Ashtree Lane, Spalding, were successful and have allowed the achievement of the aims set at Appendix 1.

Machine excavation and subsequent manual excavation successfully identified a feature of 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> century Romano British date which also contained ceramics dating to the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period.



## 8. 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 2).

### Period

Archaeology dating from the early Romano-British period has been excavated at the site. Although Roman in date, the ceramic assemblage contains pieces of Late Iron Age tradition. In terms of material culture the archaeology at the site could be interpreted as transitional.

### Rarity

Early Romano-British settlements are not particularly rare in the Fens. However, the identification of transitional elements within the material culture, enhances the rarity of the site.

### Documentation

Published volumes exist for surveys of the Fens undertaken by Hallam (Hallam, 1954) and by the Fenland Survey (Hayes and Lane (1992). Archive reports are available or forthcoming for similar sites excavated at Horseshoe Road, Spalding and Pennygate Drain, Spalding.

### Group value

Cropmarks presumed to represent Romano-British remains have been recorded in the vicinity. Other buried sites have been recorded at Pennygate drain and Horseshoe Road in the Spalding area. Numerous other sites of Roman date have been recorded by field survey in the Fens.

### Survival/Condition

Survival of remains is likely to be very good due to burial beneath up to 1m of marine silts. However, some truncation or erosion by later flooding is likely. The survival of peat deposits on the site suggests that

survival of organic remains is possible.

### Fragility/Vulnerability

Although buried beneath up to 1m of marine silts, the archaeological deposits are vulnerable to disturbance. De-watering of the site will threaten the survival of any preserved organic remains.

### Diversity

A pit, possible ditch and several palaeochannels were identified at the site. Artefacts retrieved during the evaluation included pottery, animal bone, charcoal and a possible loomweight. This is not a particularly diverse group, but this may be due to the limited area exposed.

### Potential

The potential of the archaeological remains is enhanced by good physical preservation. The Iron Age tradition identified within the early Roman ceramic assemblage enhances the potential for study of an important phase of transition between the two periods.

## 9. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological evaluation has achieved the aims set out in the specification for work prepared in response to the Project Brief.

Archaeological features of Roman date were identified at the base of trenches 2 and 4. The quality of the deposits in trench 4 was high; layers were clearly defined, well-stratified, well-preserved. Although no waterlogged environmental remains were recovered, the preservation of peat in feature [017] suggests that preserved organic material might survive on the site..

## 10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to



acknowledge the assistance of Mr Keith Flintham of Brightslo Limited who commissioned this report. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor and the report edited by Dale Trimble.

## 11. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor  
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Supervisor: Ian Miller  
Site Assistants: David Bower, Mike Garret, Chris Moulis  
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley  
Illustration: David Hopkins  
Post-excavation Analyst: Ian Miller

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All of the following sources were consulted in the data-gathering exercise. However, as some references duplicated information available in others, not all of them have been specifically referred to in the text.

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## 13. ABBREVIATIONS

APS	Archaeological Project Services
BGS	British Geological Survey
IFA	Institute of Field Archaeologists
SMR	County Sites and Monuments Record number



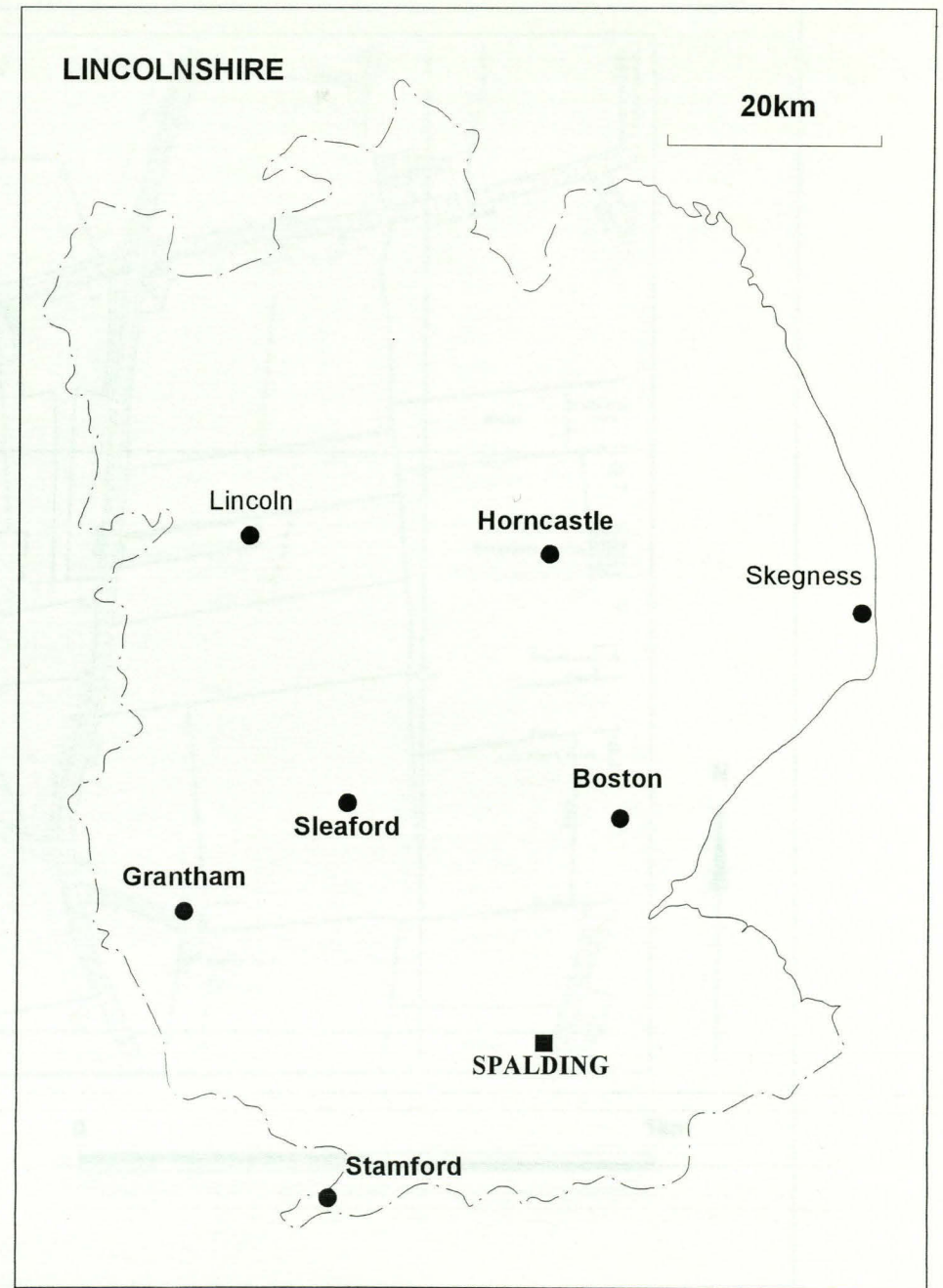
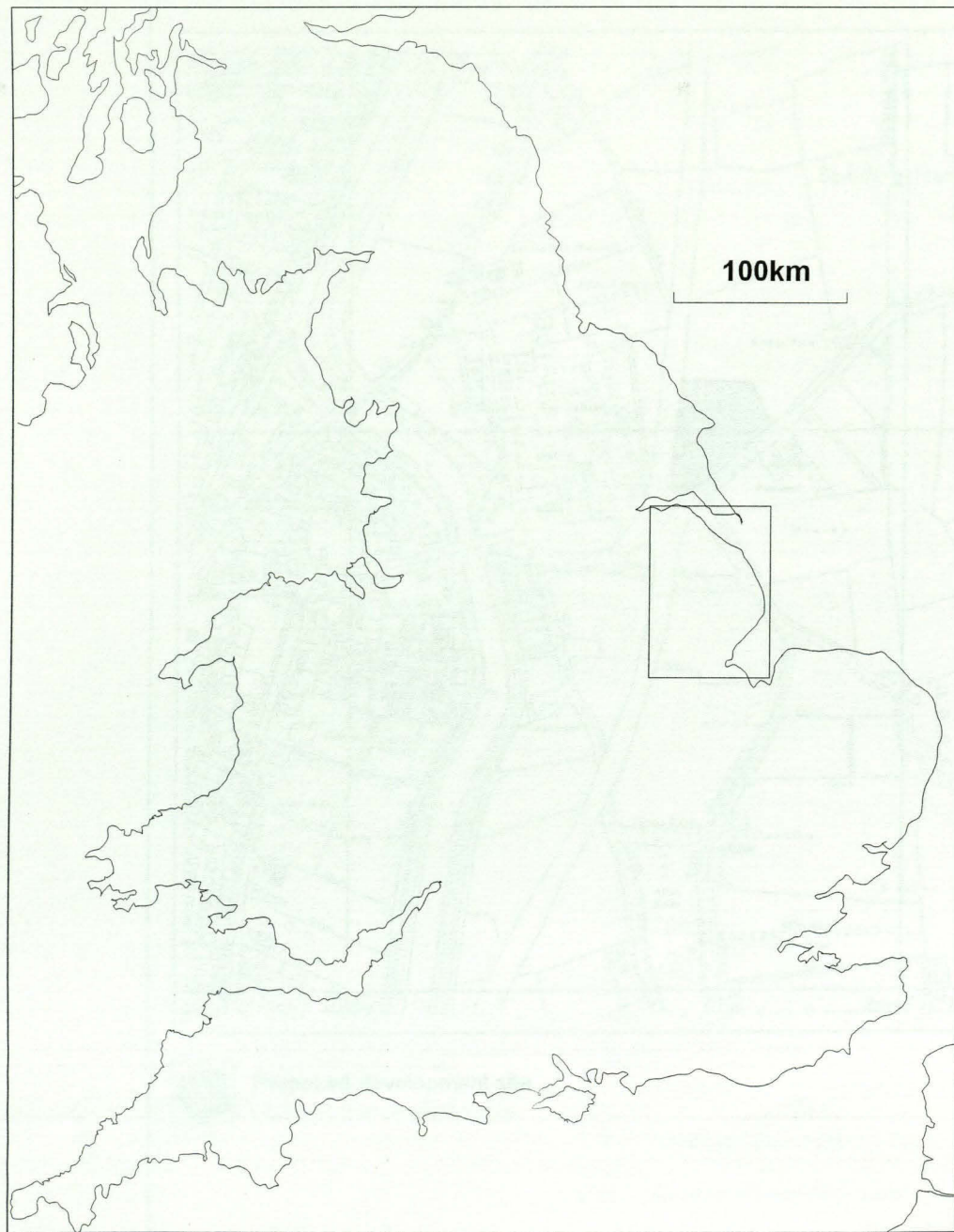


Figure 1 - General Location Plan



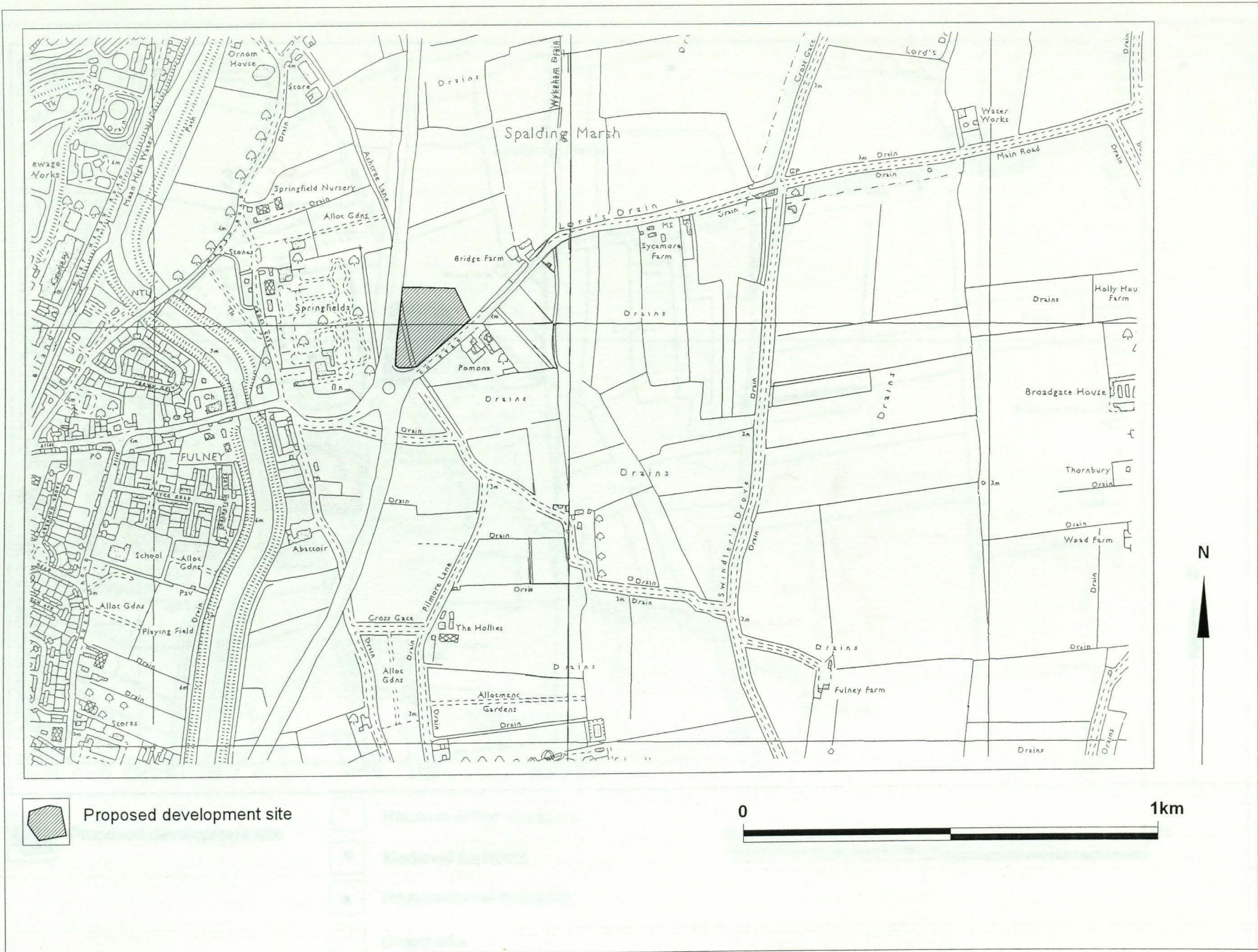


Figure 2 - Site Location Plan



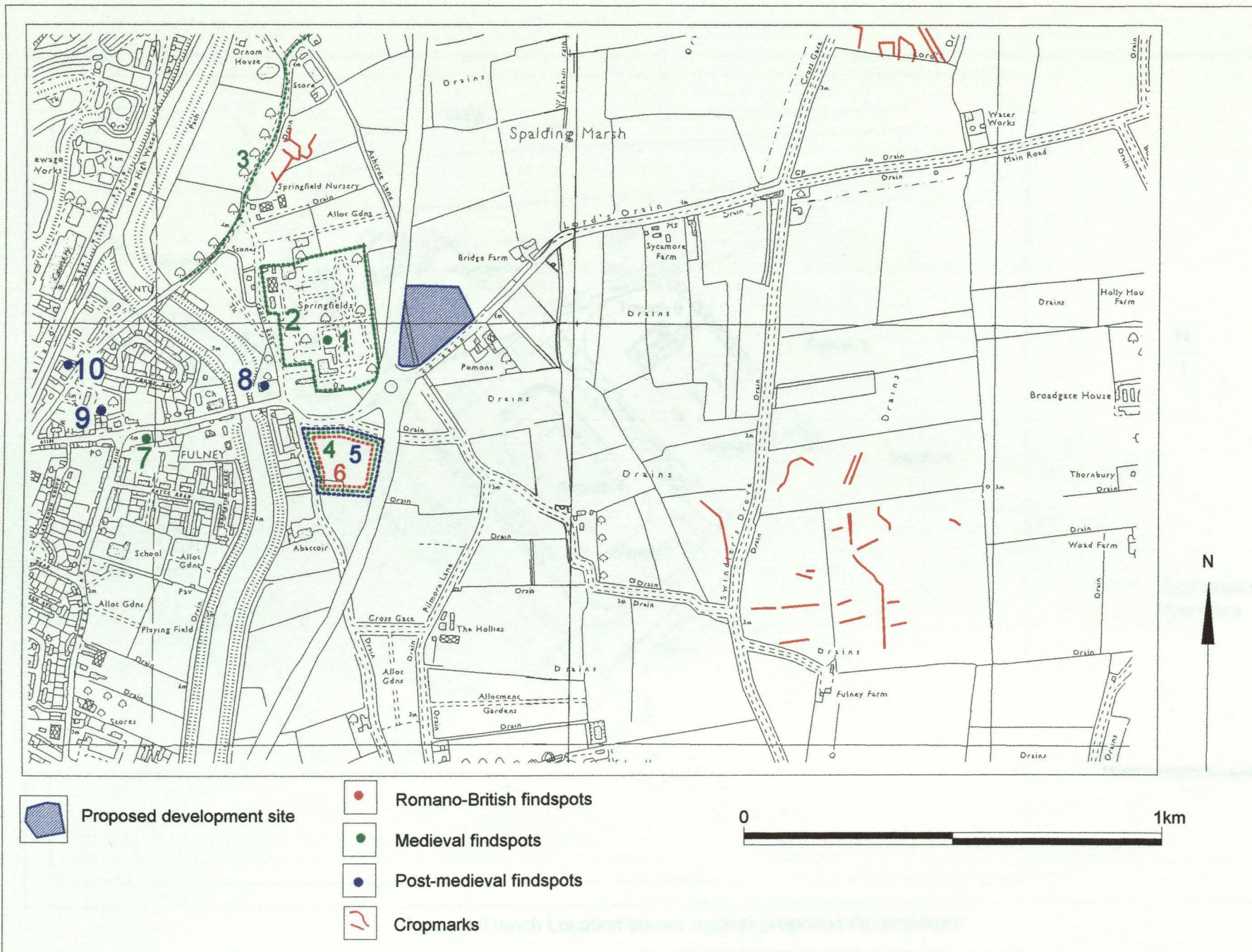


Figure 3 - Known Archaeological sites in the vicinity of the proposed development



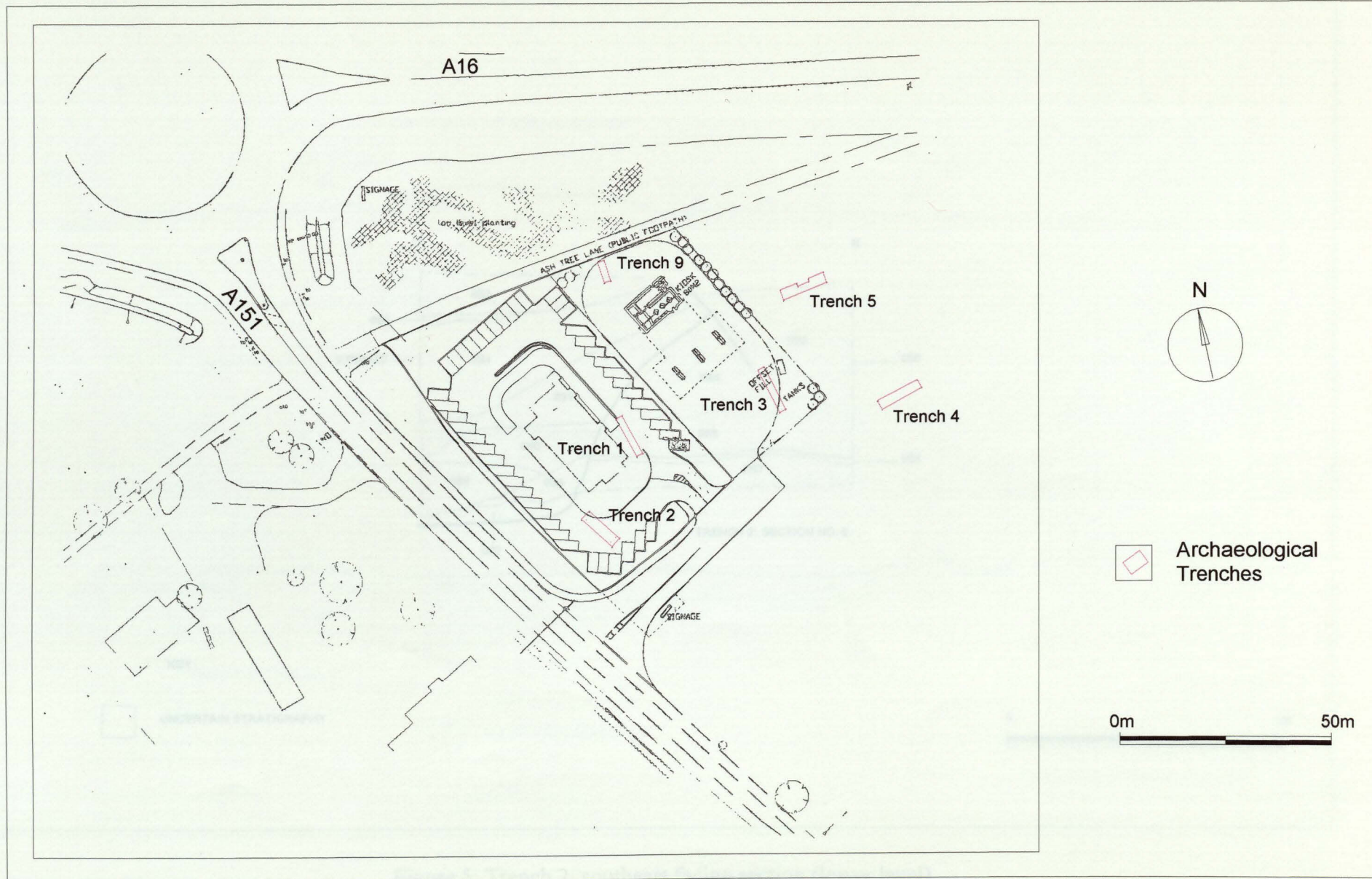


Figure 4 Trench Location shown against proposed development



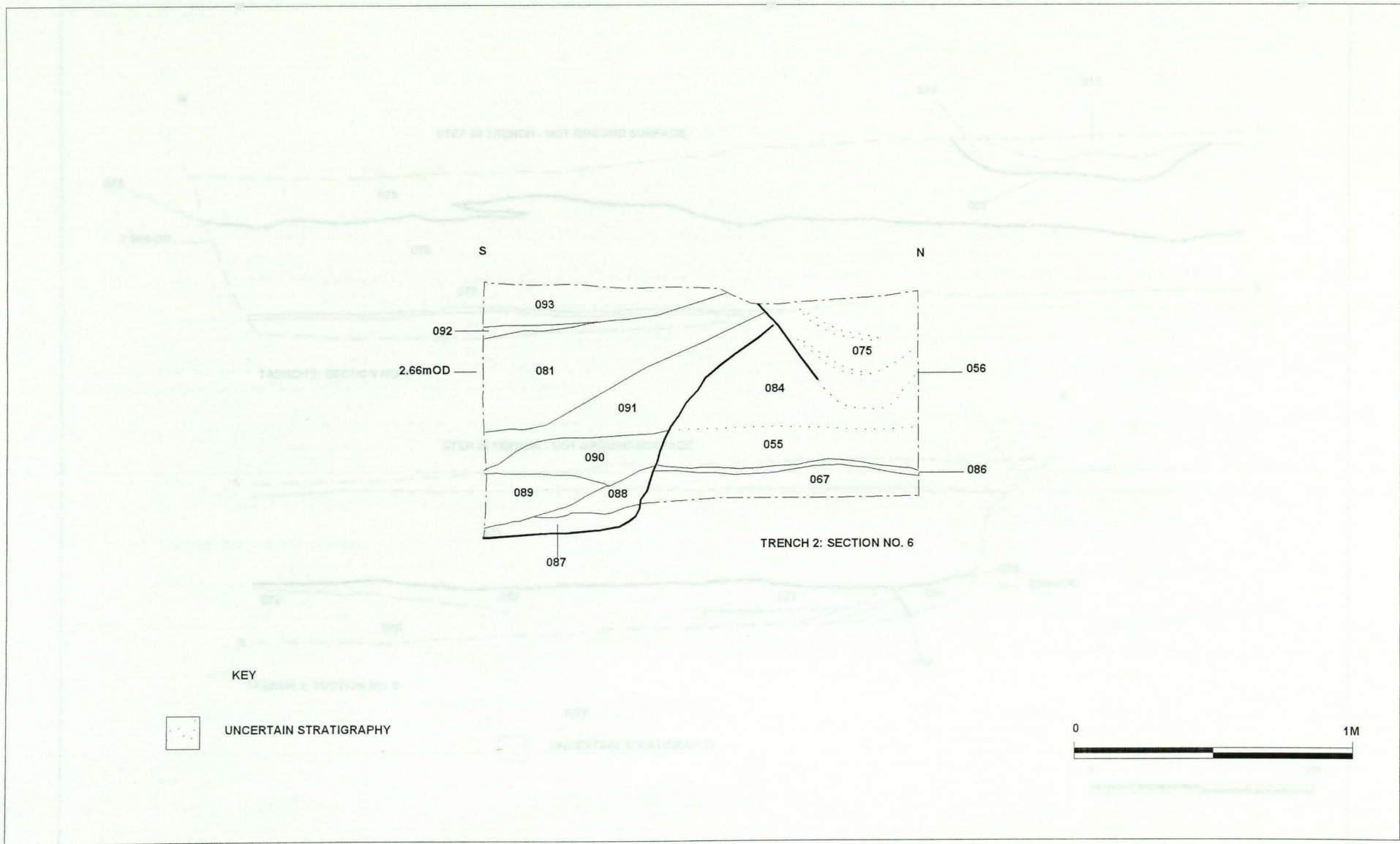


Figure 5: Trench 2, southeast facing section (lower level)



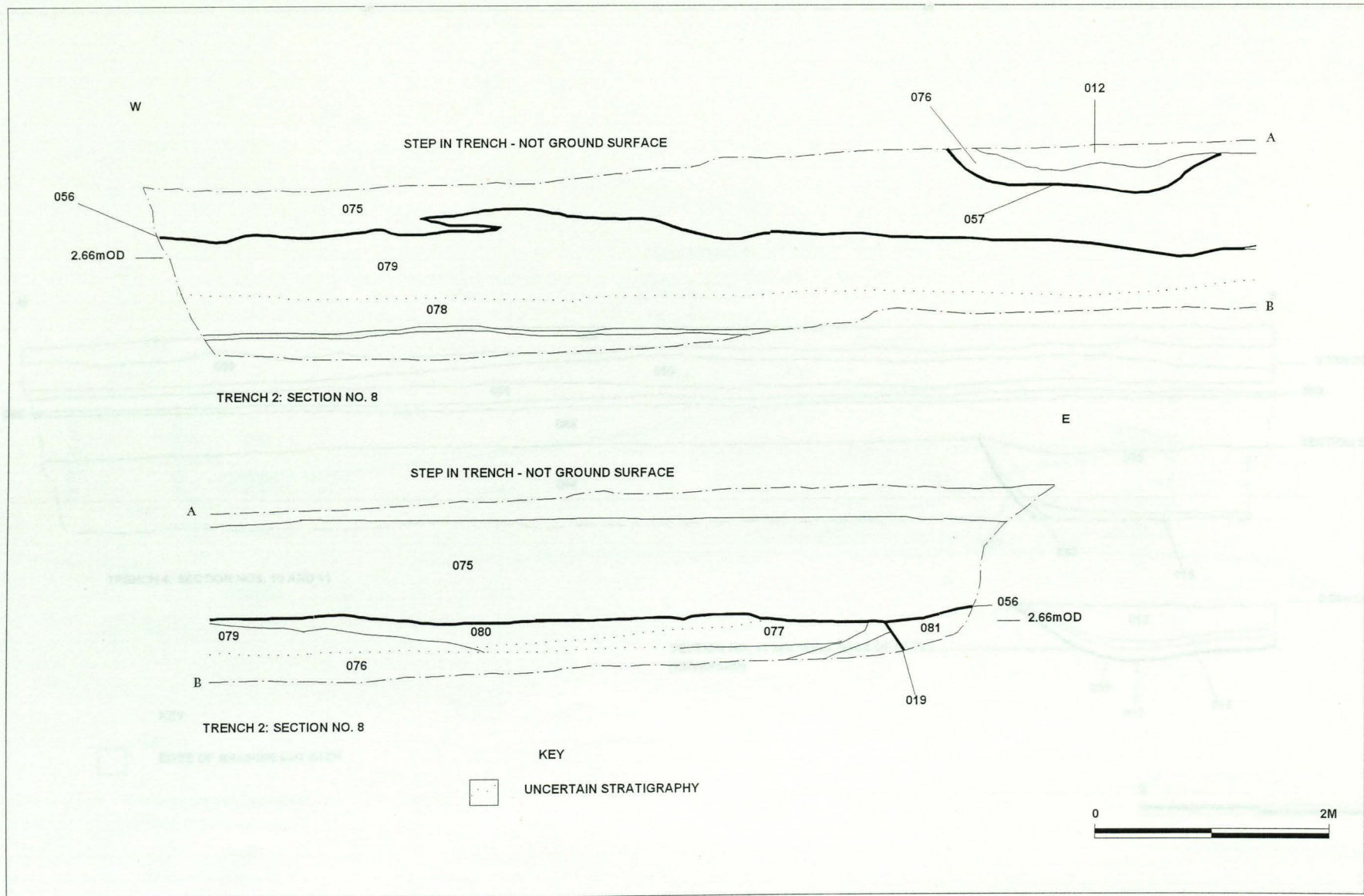


Figure 6: Trench 2, south facing section (below trench step)



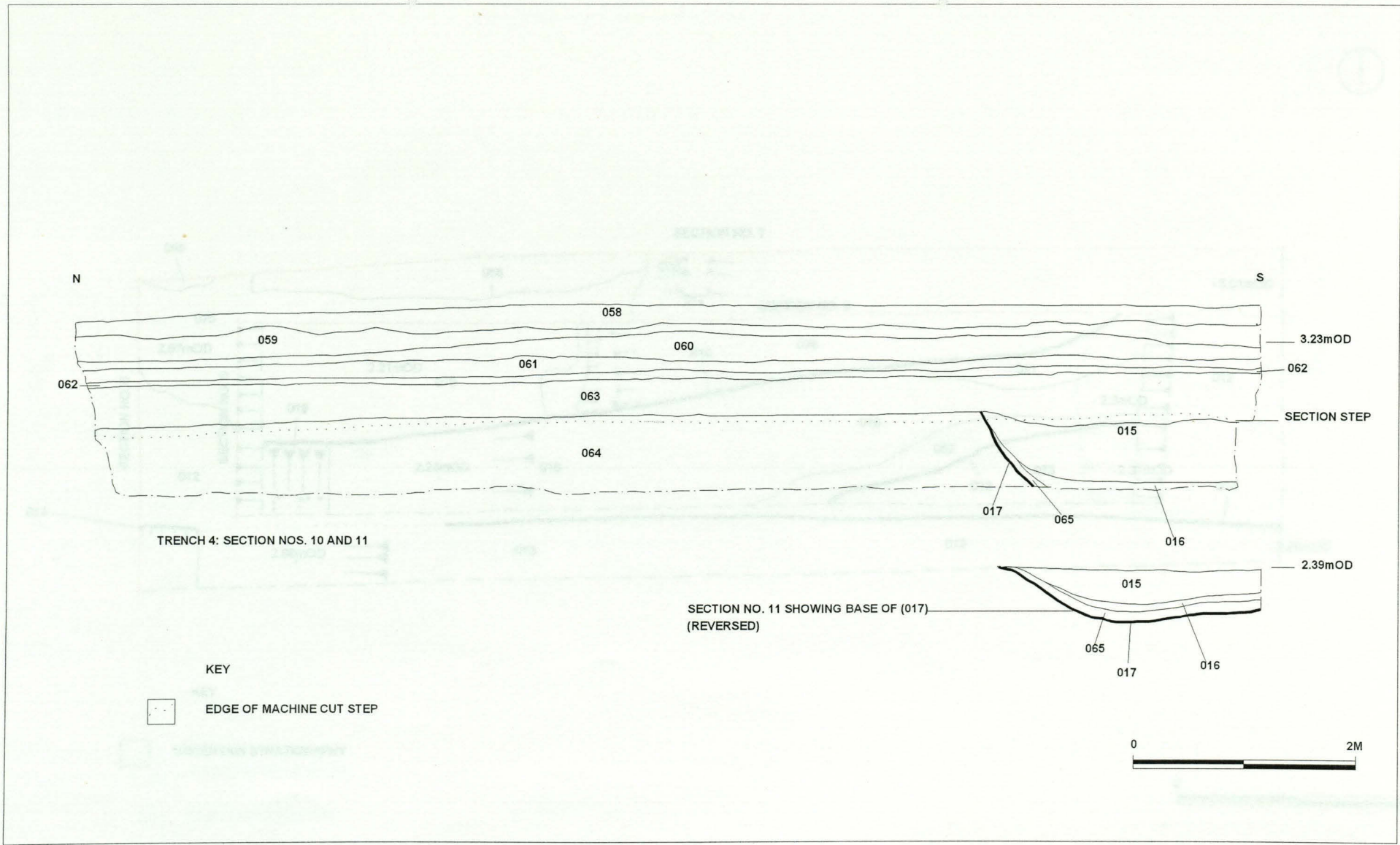


Figure 7: Trench 4, west and east facing sections

Figure 8. Plan of Trench 2



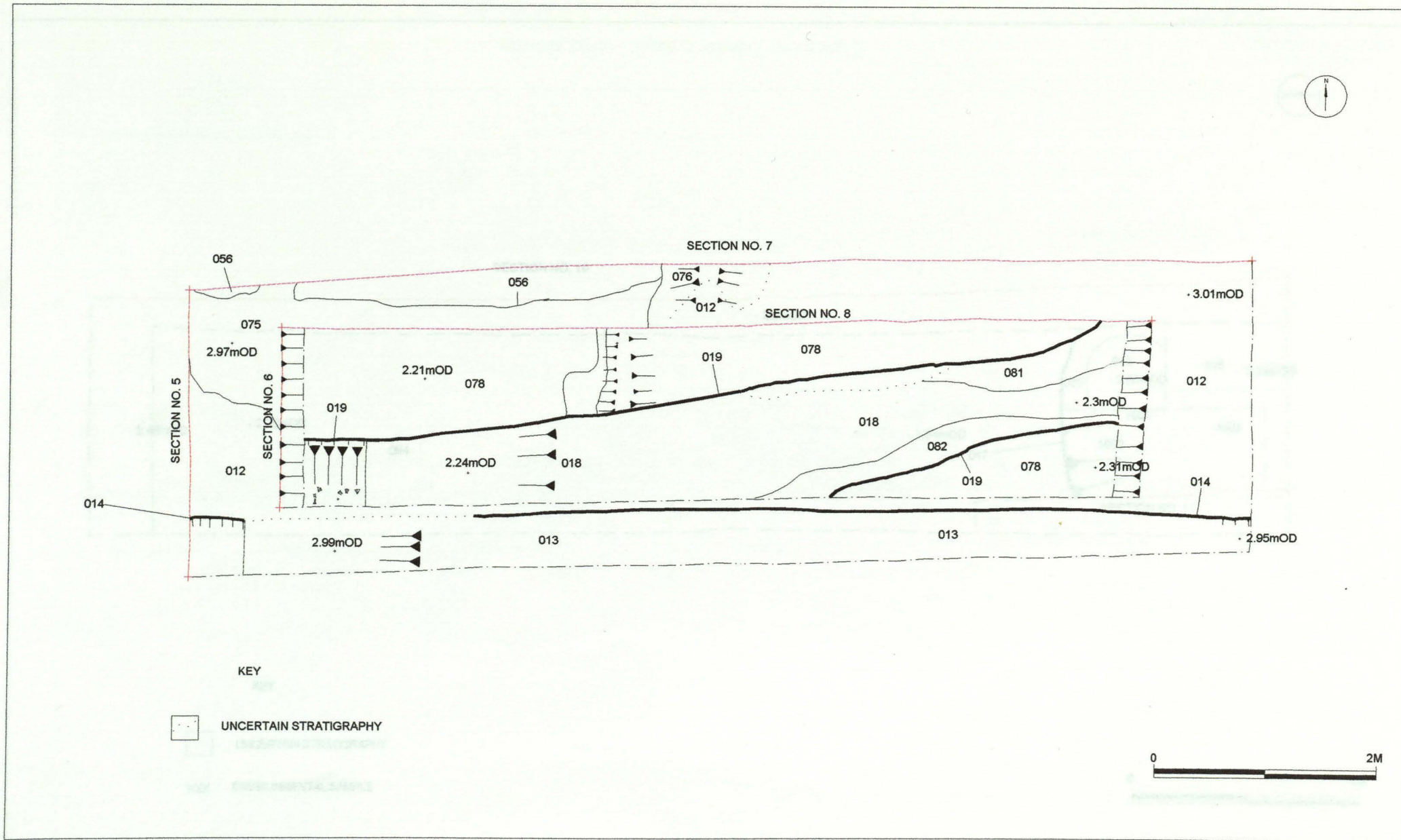


Figure 8: Plan of Trench 2



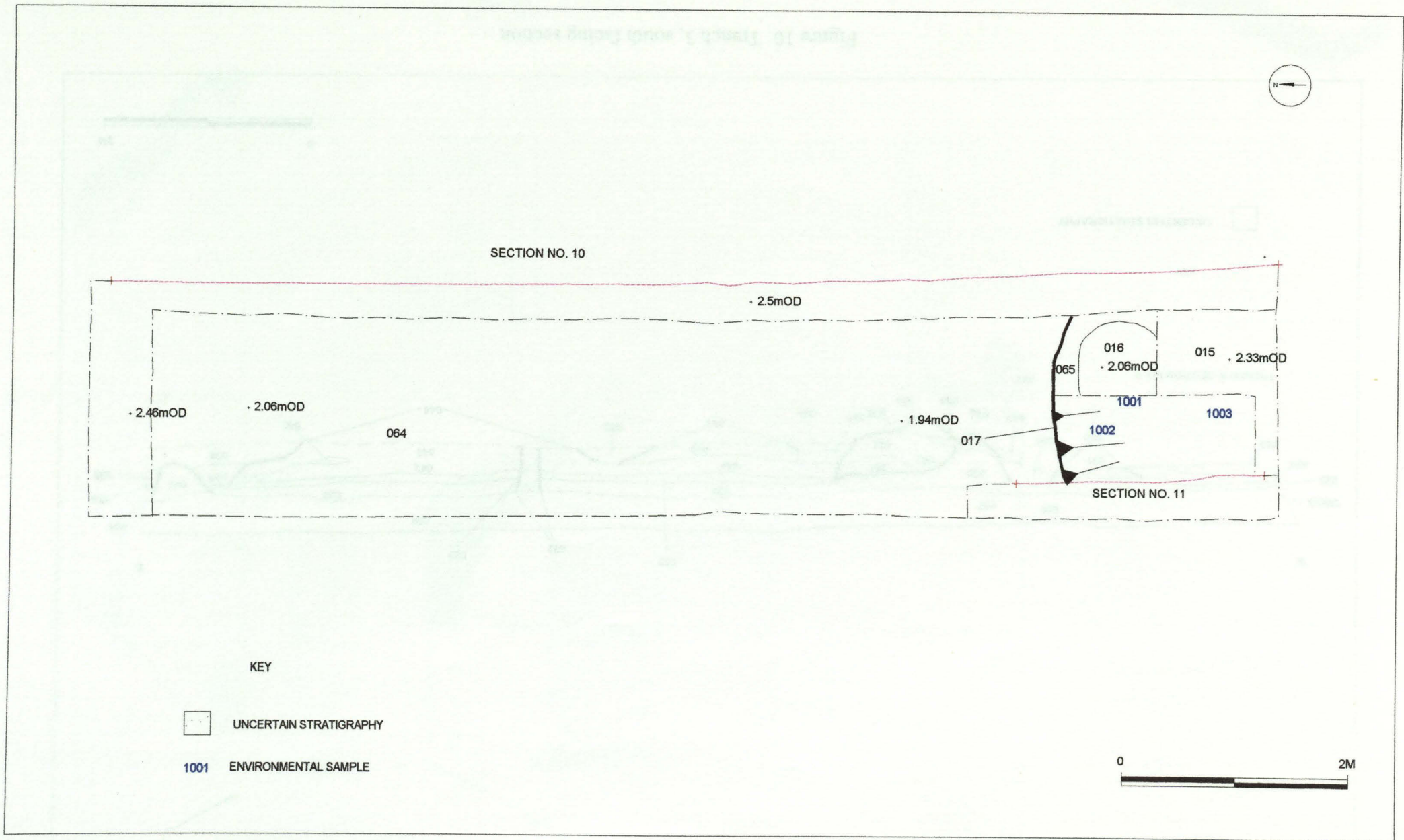


Figure 9: Plan of Trench 4



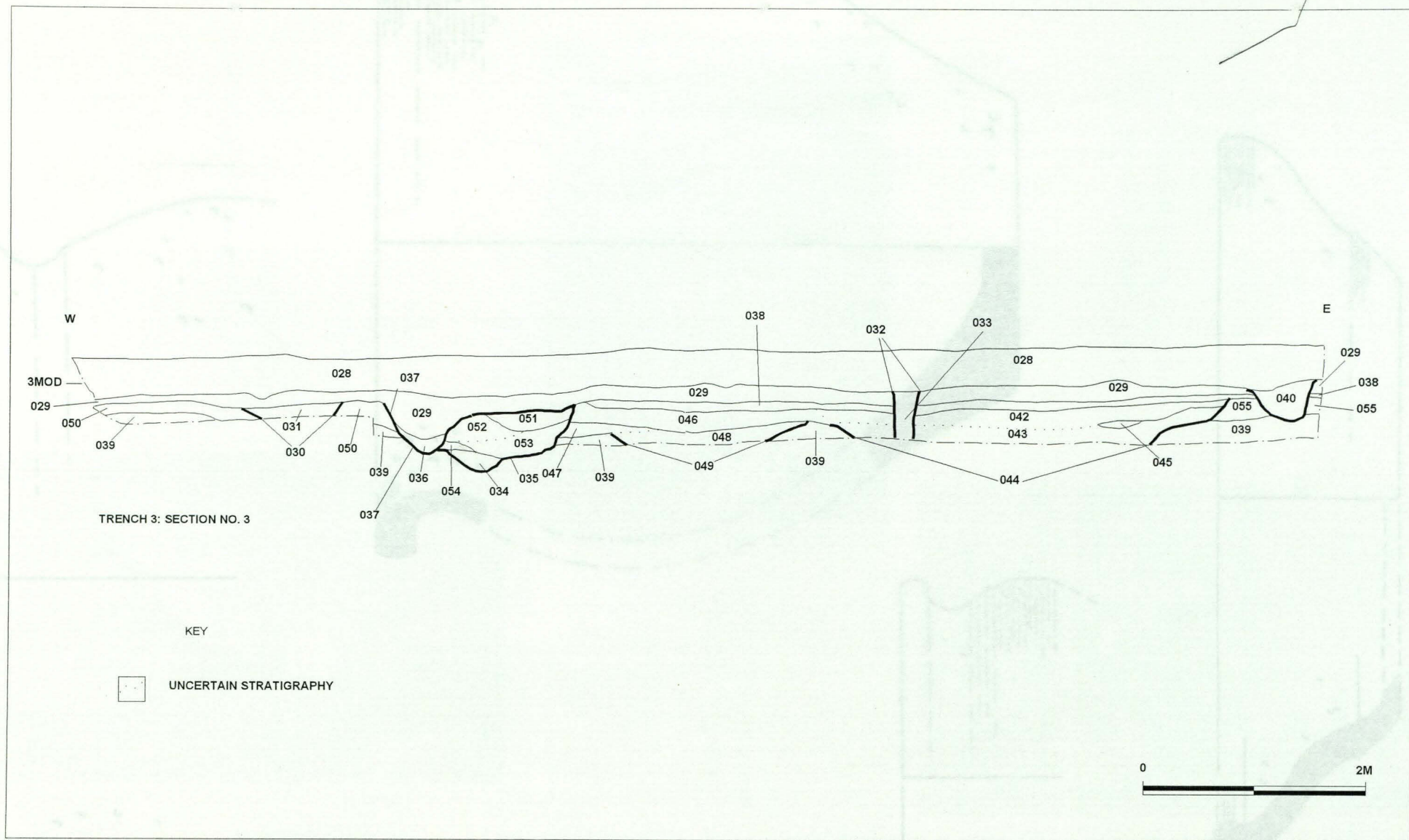


Figure 10: Trench 3, south facing section



1st and 2nd century Roman pottery from 016 in feature 017

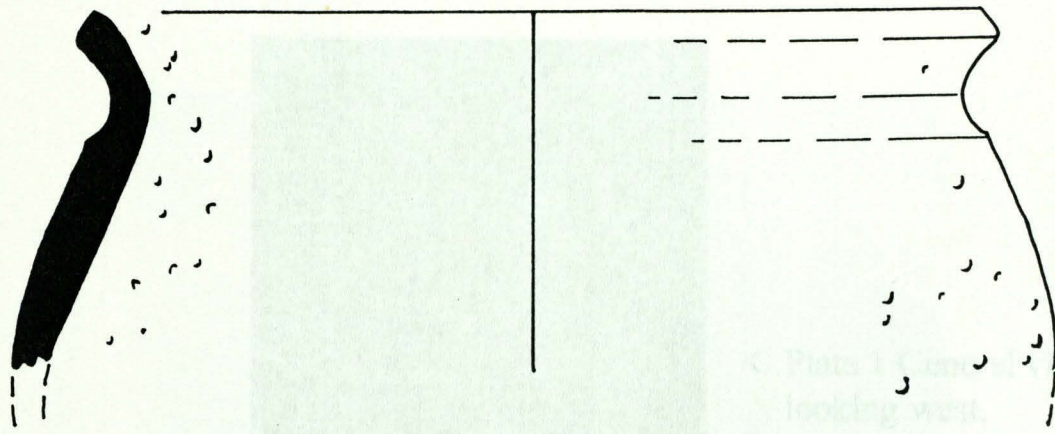


Plate 1 General view of Trench 1, looking west.

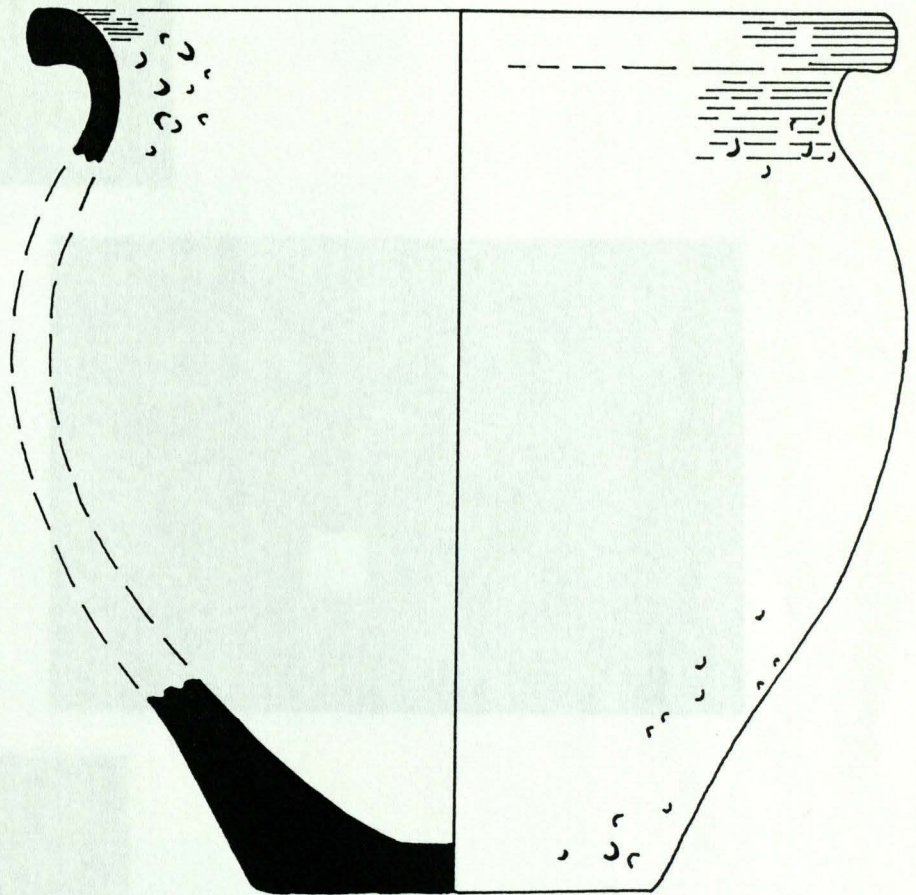


Plate 2 Trench 1, west end north facing section

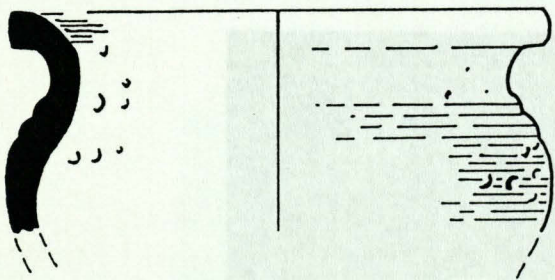


Plate 3 General view of Trench 2, looking east.

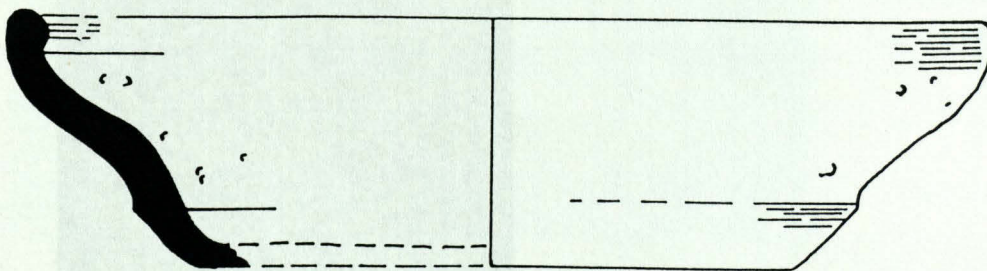


Fig. 11





Plate 1 General view of Trench 1,  
looking west.

Plate 2 Trench 1, west end  
north facing section



Plate 3 General view of Trench 2,  
looking east.





◀ Plate 4 Trench 2,  
feature (019) looking  
west.



◀ Plate 5 Trench 4,  
feature (017) half  
section through  
upper fill.



◀ Plate 6 Trench 4,  
feature (017), quarter  
section through all  
fill deposits.



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## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1 General Location Plan ..... Between pages 1 and 2

Figure 2 Site Location Plan ..... Between pages 1 and 2

1.2 Low Saxon and medieval pottery has previously been found immediately to the west and south of the site and fieldwalking of the area recovered large quantities of similar material, suggestive of settlement.

1.3 A planning application has been made for development of the area. The archaeological works are being undertaken to provide information to assist the determination of the application.

1.4 The archaeological work will consist of a programme of trial trenching of the site.

1.5 On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results. The report will consist of a text describing the nature of the archaeological deposits located and will be supported by illustrations, photographs and specialist reports where relevant.

## 2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 This document comprises a specification for the field evaluation of land alongside the A151 Holbeach Road and crossed by Ashree Lane, Spalding, Lincolnshire. The investigation site is located at national grid references TF 266 367, and is shown on Figures 1 and 2.

2.2 The document contains the following parts:

2.2.1 Overview

2.2.2 The archaeological and natural setting

2.2.3 Stages of work and methodologies to be used

2.2.4 List of specialists

2.2.5 Programme of work and staffing structure of the project.

## 3 SITE DESCRIPTION

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1 **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 *This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land alongside Holbeach Road, Spalding.*
- 1.2 *Late Saxon and medieval pottery has previously been found immediately to the west and south of the site and fieldwalking of the area recovered large quantities of similar material, suggestive of settlement.*
- 1.3 *A planning application has been made for development of the area. The archaeological works are being undertaken to provide information to assist the determination of the application.*
- 1.4 *The archaeological work will consist of a programme of trial trenching of the site.*
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- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for the field evaluation of land alongside the A151 Holbeach Road and crossed by Ashtree Lane, Spalding, Lincolnshire. The investigation site is located at national grid references TF 266 367, and is shown on Figures 1 and 2.
- 2.2 The document contains the following parts:
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  - 2.2.4 List of specialists
  - 2.2.5 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 **SITE DESCRIPTION**



- 3.1 Spalding is located approximately 22km southwest of Boston in the fens of south Lincolnshire. The site is located northwest of the town at the junction of the A16 Spalding bypass and the A151 Holbeach Road. The site is a triangular area of general agricultural land and is located at national grid reference TF 266 367.

#### 4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Brightsolo Ltd have applied to South Holland District Council for planning permission to construct a petrol station and restaurant at the junction of the A151 Holbeach Road and the A16 Spalding bypass. The Archaeology Section of Lincolnshire County Council have requested an archaeological evaluation of the site. This initially consisted of a desk-top study and programme of fieldwalking which revealed a high probability for the location of archaeological remains of Late Saxon to post-medieval date on the site. Now further field investigation, in the form of evaluation excavation, is required.

#### 5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 Spalding is situated in the fens of south Lincolnshire. The site and surrounding area is on fairly flat and level land and lies at approximately 3m OD. Soils at the site are Wallasea 2 Association pelo-alluvial gleys with, immediately to the west, Wisbech Association calcareous alluvial gleys. Both soils are developed on marine alluvium (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 338; 361).

#### 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Moderately large quantities of pottery of Late Saxon and medieval date has previously been recovered on the Springfield site, immediately west of the present investigation area, and the field just to the south. Much of this material is Saxo-Norman in date (10th-12th centuries AD) and the two separate collections are very similar in composition. The medieval aspects of the assemblages are smaller in quantity and noticeably later, dating mainly from the 15th-17th centuries. The Saxo-Norman material, in particular, may signify that settlement of that period is located in the proximity. Additionally, a small number of worn Roman pottery sherds have been found on the field to the south.
- 6.2 Fieldwalking of the present investigation site recovered a large quantity of medieval and early post-medieval pottery suggestive of settlement of the periods in the area. Additionally, a small but noticeable concentration of Late Saxon pottery was found on the west part of the site (Cope-Faulkner 1998, 6).
- 6.3 Evidence of Romano-British activity has not been located in the vicinity of the site



10 TRIA but may be deeply buried beneath alluvium.

## 7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

7.1 The aim of the work will be to gather sufficient information for the Archaeology Officer, Lincolnshire County Council, to be able to formulate appropriate policies for the management of the archaeological resource present on the site.

7.2 The objectives of the evaluation will be to establish:

7.2.1 The type of archaeological remains that may be present within the site.

7.2.2 The likely extent and spatial arrangement of archaeological remains present within the site.

7.2.3 The extent to which the surrounding archaeological remains extend into the site.

7.2.4 The way in which the archaeological remains identified fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

7.2.5 The date and function of the archaeological remains present on the site.

## 8 GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

8.1 Reason for not using this technique

8.1.1 Geophysical survey is used as a means of identifying buried archaeological remains. However, for effective survey, the ground should be clear of debris, long vegetation and buildings. The investigation area is situated within farmland with most of it under an established crop. Additionally, the western side of the site appears to have been subject to some dumping of materials, perhaps during construction of the adjacent bypass.

## 9 LIAISON WITH THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CURATOR

9.1 Prior to the commencement of the evaluation the arrangement of the trial trench will be agreed with the Archaeological Curator to ensure that the proposed scheme of works fulfils their requirements.



## 10 TRIAL TRENCHING

### 10.1 Reasoning for this technique

- 10.1.1 Trial trenching enables the *in situ* determination of the sequence, date, nature, depth, environmental potential and density of archaeological features present on the site.
- 10.1.2 The trial trenching will consist of the excavation of a *c.* 2% sample of the proposed development area. As the site is divided by Ashtree Lane the extents of both parts of the site will be calculated and *c.* 2% of each part will be examined.
- 10.1.3 Some of the trenching will be focussed on parts of the site where the development proposals are for deep excavations or other disturbance, for example, the location of underground fuel tanks. In these areas evaluation trenches may be wider than the usual 1.6m to permit investigation of potential Roman or prehistoric ground surfaces beneath later alluvium. Augering may also be used to determine the depth of the sequence of deposits present. Other trenches will be placed partially at random and located to give sample coverage across the entire area.
- 10.1.4 In general, evaluation trenches will be long slit trenches excavated to JCB bucket width. However, in the western part of the site, due to existing vegetation and the need to provide sample coverage across that area, trenches may be more square with dimensions perhaps 2m x 2m, or as appropriate.

### 10.2 General Considerations

- 10.2.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the evaluation.
- 10.2.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practice issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists. *Archaeological Project Services* is an IFA Registered Archaeological Organisation (Number 21).
- 10.2.3 Excavation of the archaeological features exposed will only be undertaken as far as is required to determine their date, sequence, density and nature. Not all archaeological features exposed will be excavated. However, the evaluation will, as far as is reasonably practicable, determine the level of the natural deposits to ensure that the depth of the archaeological



sequence present on the site is established.

- 10.2.4 Open trenches will be marked by hazard tape attached to road irons or similar poles. Subject to the consent of the County Archaeological Officer, and following the appropriate recording, the trenches, particularly those of any depth, will be backfilled as soon as possible to minimise any health and safety problems.

### 10.3 Methodology

- 10.3.1 Removal of the topsoil and any other overburden will be undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. To ensure that the correct amount of material is removed and that no archaeological deposits are damaged, this work will be supervised by Archaeological Project Services. On completion of the removal of the overburden, the nature of the underlying deposits will be assessed by hand excavation before any further mechanical excavation that may be required. Thereafter, the trenches will be cleaned by hand to enable the identification and analysis of the archaeological features exposed.

- 10.3.2 Investigation of the features will be undertaken only as far as required to determine their date, form and function. The work will consist of half- or quarter-sectioning of features as required and, where appropriate, the removal of layers. Should features be located which may be worthy of preservation *in situ*, excavation will be limited to the absolute minimum, (*ie* the minimum disturbance) necessary to interpret the form, function and date of the features.

- 10.3.3 The archaeological features encountered will be recorded on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma context record sheets. The system used is the single context method by which individual archaeological units of stratigraphy are assigned a unique record number and are individually described and drawn.

- 10.3.4 Plans of features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. Should individual features merit it, they will be drawn at a larger scale.

- 10.3.5 Throughout the duration of the trial trenching a photographic record consisting of black and white prints (reproduced as contact sheets) and colour slides will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:



- 10.3.5.1 the site before the commencement of field operations.
  - 10.3.5.2 the site during work to show specific stages of work, and the layout of the archaeology within individual trenches.
  - 10.3.5.3 individual features and, where appropriate, their sections.
  - 10.3.5.4 groups of features where their relationship is important.
  - 10.3.5.5 the site on completion of field work
- 10.3.6 Should human remains be encountered, they will be left *in situ* with excavation being limited to the identification and recording of such remains. The appropriate Home Office licences will be obtained and the local environmental health department and the police informed.
- 10.3.7 Finds collected during the fieldwork will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered ready for later washing and analysis.
- 10.3.8 The spoil generated during the evaluation will be mounded along the edges of the trial trenches with the top soil being kept separate from the other material excavated for subsequent backfilling.
- 10.3.9 The precise location of the trenches within the site and the location of site recording grid will be established by an EDM survey.

## 11 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

- 11.1 If deemed necessary, during the evaluation specialist advice will be obtained from an environmental archaeologist. The specialist will visit the site and will prepare a report detailing the nature of the environmental material present on the site and its potential for additional analysis should further stages of archaeological work be required. The results of the specialists assessment will be incorporated into the final report

## 12 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT

### 12.1 Stage 1

- 12.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the trial trenching will be checked and ordered to ensure that they



form a uniform sequence constituting a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued: the colour slides will be labelled and mounted on appropriate hangers and the black and white contact prints will be labelled, in both cases the labelling will refer to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

- 12.1.2 All finds recovered during the trial trenching will be washed, marked, bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

12.2 Stage 2

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

12.3 Stage 3

- 12.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the evaluation will be prepared. This will consist of:

- 12.3.1.1 A non-technical summary of the findings of the evaluation.
- 12.3.1.2 A description of the archaeological setting of the site with reference to the desk-top assessment.
- 12.3.1.3 Description of the topography and geology of the evaluation area
- 12.3.1.4 Description of the methodologies used during the evaluation and discussion of their effectiveness in the light of the findings of the investigation.
- 12.3.1.5 A text describing the findings of the evaluation.
- 12.3.1.6 Plans of the trench showing the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be



produced.

12.3.1.7 Sections of the archaeological features.

12.3.1.8 Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape.

12.3.1.9 Specialist reports on the finds from the site.

12.3.1.10 Appropriate photographs of specific archaeological features.

12.3.1.11 A critical review of the effectiveness of the techniques used during the evaluation.

12.3.1.12 A consideration of the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological deposits encountered, and the options available for the mitigation of any such impact.

### 13 ARCHIVE

13.1 The documentation, finds, photographs and other records and materials generated during the evaluation will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the City and County Museum, Lincoln. This sorting will be undertaken according to the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives* for long term storage and curation.

### 14 REPORT DEPOSITION

14.1 Copies of the evaluation report will be sent to: the client, Brightsolo Ltd; the County Archaeology Section (County Sites and Monuments Record); and South Holland District Council Planning Department.

### 15 PUBLICATION

15.1 A report of the findings of the evaluation will be published in Heritage Lincolnshire's annual report and an article of appropriate content will be submitted for inclusion in the journal of the Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology. Notes or articles describing the results of the investigation will also be submitted for publication in the appropriate national journals: *Medieval Archaeology* and *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for



medieval and later remains, and *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date.

16 **CURATORIAL MONITORING**

16.1 Curatorial responsibility for the project lies with the Archaeological Officer, Lincolnshire County Council. Seven days notice in writing will be given to the officer prior to the commencement of the project to enable them to make appropriate monitoring arrangements.

17 **VARIATIONS TO THE PROPOSED SCHEME OF WORKS**

17.1 Variations to the scheme of works will only be made following written acceptance from the Archaeological Officer, Lincolnshire County Council.

17.2 Should the archaeological curator require any additional investigation beyond the scope of this specification, then the cost and duration of those supplementary examinations will be negotiated between the client and the contractor.

18 **SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT**

18.1 The following organisations/persons will, in principal and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

<u>Task</u>	<u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln.
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric: Dr D Knight, Trent and Peak Archaeological Trust
	Roman: B Precious, independent specialist
	Anglo-Saxon: J Young, City of Lincoln Archaeological Unit, Lincoln.
	Medieval and later: H Healey, independent archaeologist



gist

Flints	Dr I Brooks, independent specialist
Other Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, Archaeological Project Services
Animal Remains Analysis	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

19 **PROGRAMME OF WORKS**

19.1 See enclosed programme of works.

20 **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Cope-Faulkner, P, 1998 *Desk-top Assessment of the Archaeological Implications of Proposed Development of land at Holbeach Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire (SHA98)*, Archaeological Project Services Report No: **32/98**

Hodge CAH, Burton, RGO, Corbett, WM, Evans, R and Seale, RS, 1984 *Soils and their use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales No. **13**



## Appendix 2

### ENVIRONMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY ASSESSMENT

Paul Cope-Faulkner and Gary Taylor

#### 1. INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

The evaluation exposed a pit (017) containing early Roman pottery and with a variety of fills. These fills were sampled for environmental assessment of the feature.

No.	Context	Weight	Weight processed	Deposit description
1001	016	c. 20kg	c. 12kg	Secondary fill of (017)
1002	065	c. 10kg	c. 10kg	Primary fill of (017)
1003	015	c. 20kg	c. 12kg	Tertiary fill of (017)

The samples were processed in the following manner:

Sample weight was measured and subsampled prior to processing. The samples were washed in a siraf tank on a 1mm mesh. Floating material was washed over onto a 250 $\mu$  mesh. Both residues were dried, and the weight of the residue and the volume of the flot recorded.

The residue of the floated portion was scanned under a low power binocular microscope while the coarser fraction was sorted by eye. Environmental and archaeological finds were picked out and bagged separately. The presence of environmental finds (*ie* snails, charcoal, carbonised seeds, bones, *etc.*) were noted and their abundance and species diversity recorded on an assessment sheet.

#### 2. RESULTS

##### Context 016 <1001>

A deposit of fine silty clay with frequent charcoal, the secondary fill of pit (017). Upon processing it was found to contain much peat and plant fragments, abundant charcoal with some of the pieces up to 10mm across, and moderately frequent burnt clay pieces. Pieces of burnt unidentified animal bone fragment was also recovered. However, other environmental indicators and artefacts were absent.

##### Context 065 <1002>

A deposit of mid grey very fine sandy silt with occasional charcoal, the primary fill of the pit. This deposit was similar in nature to (016) and contained abundant peat and plant fragments and occasional charcoal. A single animal bone was recovered and the deposit also contained casts of worm holes, preserved as small rods or columns of concreted silt.

##### Context 015 <1003>

A layer of brown silty sand, this deposit provided the bulk, upper fill of the pit. It contained abundant roots hairs, which are probably modern contamination from recent plant growth in the field, and moderately frequent charcoal. However, no other environmental material or artefacts were identified.

#### 3. INTERPRETATION



The two lower fills (016, 065) of the pit indicate that vegetation probably gradually developed in the feature, and in wet conditions. The fragment of animal bone in the primary fill indicates a human presence and this is emphasised by further bone, almost all of it burnt, and burnt clay in the secondary fill. However, the burnt clay pieces are too small to be diagnostic and could, therefore, have derived from a variety of processes or features including salt-making, ovens or structures. The presence of apparent fossilized worm holes, preserves as silt columns, in the secondary deposit (016) probably indicates that the water table was fluctuating such that the plant matter (peat) was preserved but with periods when the water was low enough to permit worm burrowing. Moreover, the presence of these preserved worm holes probably indicates that the tertiary fill (015) was laid down by flooding and natural silt deposition. However, although the sampling results indicate that vegetation grew in wet conditions in the feature, and there was occasional waste discard into it, no clear indications of the function of the pit, or the adjacent environment, was obtained.

#### 4. STORAGE AND CURATION

Due to the limited nature of the contents of the samples only the bone will be retained to form part of the site archive and be deposited with the receiving museum. After examination the residues were discarded. As only subsamples were processed, the remaining bulk of the samples will be kept by Archaeological Project Services for a period of six months before disposal, unless any further action is required.

Table 1: Summary of Results

Sample	Charcoal	Root hairs	Peat	Plant matter	Mollusc	Bone	Beetles	Burnt clay	Hammer-scale
1001	2	0	3	1	0	1	0	2	0
1002	1	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0
1003	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

(\* - Scales for these categories are: 1=1-10 items, 2=11-100 items, 3=>100 items)



### Appendix 3

#### The Finds

Sheila M Elsdon BA, FSA and Paul Cope-Faulkner BA, AIFA

#### Provenance

The majority of the finds material was recovered from the fill of a pit (017) that was sealed below later flooding/silting deposits. The medieval pottery was recovered from the topsoil.

#### Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Apart from two sherds of medieval pottery (contexts 020 and 058) the assemblage reflects a date ranging from the late 1st century AD to the 2nd century AD. Although early Roman in date, certain of the pieces are in Iron Age tradition. A possible loomweight was also recovered and, if correctly identified, would indicate weaving occurred at the site in the early Roman period. The presence of sheep bones in the contemporary faunal assemblage further indicate this possibility.

Table 1: Artefacts

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DATE
016	3x rim sherds (2 black and 1 red) in a sandy fabric from a platter. Imitation Gallo-Belgic.	Late 1st century AD
	1x sherd from a small necked jar with a square everted rim and horizontal milling on the body. Black with a shell filler.	Late 1st century AD to early 2nd century AD
	3x rim sherds, 1x base sherd, and 1x body sherd in a coarse red shelly ware with an slightly undercut everted rim.	
	1x rim sherd of a ?hand made jar with a square slightly everted rim in a coarse red/black shelly fabric.	
	3x body sherds in a coarse shelly fabric with a red exterior and a black interior with a dense burnt deposit.	
	1x body sherd in a shelly fabric from a small jar with a light horizontal combing.	?Late 1st century AD



	1x base sherd in a sandy fabric from a platter.	
	1x fired clay ?loomweight, in 3 linked pieces.	
	1x fired clay.	
	4x fragments charcoal.	
/1001	4x sherds (2 black) with a profuse shell filler. The black sherds may be from a Late Iron Age cup.	??Late Iron Age
	1x fired clay.	
	2x fragments charcoal.	
018	1x sherd from a fine concave-sided cup.	Late 1st century AD to early 2nd century AD
	1x sherd of undiagnostic shelly ware.	
	1x iron-panned worm hole.	
020	1x sherd with traces of glaze.	Medieval
058	1x sherd with traces of glaze.	Medieval

Table 2: Faunal Remains

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	COMMENTS
016	1x cattle-size lower jaw fragment.	
	1x cattle-size rib.	
	1x goat metatarsus fragment.	In 2 pieces.
	1x sheep-size metatarsus fragment.	
	1x goat? scapula fragment.	Burnt.
	1x horse femur? fragment.	Juvenile.
	18x unidentifiable bone fragments.	2 burnt.
/1001	2x cattle lower jaw fragments	1 molar tooth.
	2x cattle-size unidentified bone fragments.	
	9x fragments of sheep lower jaw.	4 molar teeth.
	1x sheep rib.	4 burnt.
	1x sheep metarsus.	Unfused epiphysis - juvenile.



	1x sheep-size scapula.	
	21x unidentified bone fragments.	
018	1x cattle humerus.	Poor condition; in 2 pieces (modern break).
065	1x cattle-size unidentified bone fragment.	

### Condition

With the exception of the charcoal fragments, which are fragile, all the material is in good condition and presents no long-term storage problems. Much of the bone is highly fragmented but otherwise stable. The assemblage should be archived by material class.

### Documentation

Early Roman or Iron Age-Roman transitional assemblages have previously been recovered in the Spalding area and reported upon (Elsdon 1997; Precious 1997). These previously reported material collections, both artefacts and faunal remains, have been obtained in reported investigations elsewhere in the Spalding area (Herbert 1997). The present investigation site has previously been investigated and a large assemblage of Late Saxon-medieval pottery recovered from the site surface (Cope-Faulkner 1998). This material provides comparabilia for the rare medieval pottery fragments recovered during the present evaluation.

what is all this about?

### Potential -

The assemblage has moderate-high potential, and indicates that well preserved archaeological remains of early Roman date occur at depth in the area. Moreover, the artefacts derive from unsuspected archaeological remains. Furthermore, because the depth of overburden sealing these remains largely negates cropmark production in this area, the extent of settlement represented by the features is unknown. Additionally, the presence of carbonised material, and waterlogged plant matter in the samples, indicate that there is very high potential for environmental remains and organic artefacts surviving in good condition elsewhere on the site.

this is ref

what about this? includes individually

### References

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APPENDIX 4

CONTEXT	TRENCH	DESCRIPTION	INTERPRETATION
001	9	Fracture, light grey brown medium sandy silt, 0.1m thick	Topsoil
002	9	Fracture, light grey brown medium sandy silt, 0.1m thick	Ploughed or into face of topsoil and alluvial silt
003	9	Fine, light yellow brown medium to coarse sandy silt, 0.25m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
004	9	Soft, light blue grey coarse sandy silt, 0.1m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
005	9	Fine, light brown medium sandy silt, 0.1m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
006	9	Cracked, soft to dark brown grey clay, 0.1m thick	Fill of o-w gully (07)
007	9	Linear, shallow ditch o-w sloped cut	Fluvial erosion feature
008	9	Fine, light grey brown to light grey brown, coarse sand, 0.25m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
009	9	Yellow brown, coarse sandy silt, layer of stratification	Natural silt/clay
010	2	Fracture, dark brown silty sand, 0.1m thick	Topsoil
011	2	Soft to friable yellowish brown silty sand, 0.1m thick	Ploughed or into face of topsoil and alluvial silt
012	2	Fracture, light yellow silty fine sand with iron staining	Natural alluvium deposit
013	2	Fracture, shaly dark brown to light yellow brown silty sand with charcoal flecks	Fill of o-w linear cut (014)
014	2	Linear, o-w sloped, very steep sided flat bottomed cut	Linear feature of recent agricultural origin



## Appendix 4

CONTEXT	TRENCH	DESCRIPTION	INTERPRETATION
001	9	Friable, mid grey brown medium sandy silt, 0.40m thick	Topsoil
002	9	Firm, orange to grey brown medium sandy silt, 0.23m thick	Ploughsoil at interface of topsoil and alluvial soils
003	9	Firm, light yellow brown medium to coarse sandy silt, 0.25m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
004	9	Soft, light blue grey coarse sandy silt, 0.12m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
005	9	Firm, red brown coarse sandy silt, 0.15m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
006	9	Compact, mid to dark brown grey clay, 0.50m thick	Fill of n-s gully (007), natural alluvium deposit
007	9	Linear, gradual sided n-s aligned cut.	Fluvial erosion feature
008	9	Firm, mixed orange brown to light grey brown, coarse sandy silt 0.28m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
009	9	Yellow brown, coarse sandy silt. Level of excavation	Natural subsoil
010	2	Friable, dark brown silty sand, 0.30m thick	Topsoil
011	2	Soft to friable yellowish brown silty sand, 0.2m thick	Ploughsoil at interface of topsoil and alluvial soils
012	2	Friable, light yellow silty fine sand with iron panning	Natural alluvium deposit
013	2	Friable, mixed dark brown to light yellow brown silty sand with charcoal flecks	Fill of e-w linear cut (014)
014	2	Linear, e-w aligned, very steep sided flat bottomed cut	Linear feature of recent agricultural origin



015	4	Friable, mid brown silty sand with flecks of charcoal, 0.50m thick	Naturally deposited upper fill of feature (017)
016	4	Plastic, very fine silty clay with frequent charcoal, 0.08m thick	Fill of burnt deposits within feature (017)
017	4	Sub-rectilinear, concave sided flat bottomed cut, probably aligned e-w	Cut of a large pit use as pond. Early Roman
018	2	Friable, light grey brown laminated fine sand, 0.16m thick	Fill of (019), natural silting deposit
019	2	Steep sided, linear e-w aligned cut with uneven base	Fluvial erosion feature
020	1	Friable, mid grey brown silty sand, 0.36m thick	Topsoil
021	1	Loose, mid grey brown sandy silt, 0.50m thick	Fill of recent land drain trench
022	1	Linear, steep sided ne-sw aligned cut	Cut of recent land drain trench
023	1	Friable, light brown sandy silt, 0.07m thick	Ploughsoil at interface of topsoil and alluvial soils
024	1	Loose, light yellow brown sandy silt, 0.18m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
025	1	Loose, light grey brown silty sand, 0.1m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
026	1	Loose, light grey brown sand with light grey streaks, 0.22m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
027	1	Loose, light orange brown sand, 0.12m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
028	3	Friable, mid grey brown sandy silt, 0.30m thick	Topsoil
029	3	Firm, mid to dark grey brown sandy silt, 0.1m thick	Ploughsoil at interface of topsoil and alluvial soils
030	3	Linear, straight sided cut with a tapered base, aligned n-s 0.41m deep	Cut of a drainage channel



031	3	Friable, mid brown silty clay with occasional small stones	Fill of channel (030), natural silting deposit
032	3	Linear, steep sided e-w aligned cut, 0.54m deep	Cut of recent land drain trench
033	3	Friable, dark brown silty clay, 0.54m thick	Fill of recent land drain cut (032)
034	3	Firm, pale blue grey medium sandy silt, 0.55m thick	Naturally deposited primary fill of gully (035)
035	3	Linear, irregular sided nw-se aligned cut with rounded base, 0.55m deep	Fluvial erosion feature
036	3	Firm, mid brown grey silty clay, 0.40m thick	Naturally deposited fill of gully (037)
037	3	Linear, regular sided n-s aligned cut with rounded base, 0.40m deep	Fluvial erosion feature
038	3	Firm, pale grey clay sandy silt with brown mottling	Small lens of material, possibly a buried topsoil
039	3	Firm, pale yellow brown medium sandy silt	Natural alluvium deposit
040	3	Firm, mid to dark brown grey sandy silt, 0.36m thick	Naturally deposited fill of gully (041)
041	3	Linear, steep sided n-s aligned cut, 0.36m deep	Fluvial erosion feature
042	3	Firm, reddish brown coarse sandy silt, 0.18m thick	Naturally deposited upper fill of channel (044)
043	3	Firm, reddish brown medium sandy silt, 0.15m thick	Naturally deposited lower fill of channel (044)
044	3	Linear, regular sided, n-s aligned cut, 0.30m deep	Fluvial erosion feature
045	3	Firm, yellow brown sandy silt, 0.10m thick	Naturally deposited lens within channel (044)
046	3	Firm, reddish brown medium sandy silt, 0.20m thick	Natural alluvial deposit sealing channel (044)
047	3	Firm, pale grey brown sandy silt, 0.12m thick	Natural alluvial deposit sealing channel (049)
048	3	Firm, reddish brown medium sandy silt, 0.20m thick	Naturally deposited fill of channel (049)



049	3	Linear, regular sided n-s aligned cut, 0.20m deep	Alluvial erosion feature
050	3	Firm, pale blue grey medium to coarse sandy silt	Natural alluvium deposit
051	3	Firm, mixed pale grey to light brown sandy silt, 0.19m thick	Naturally deposited upper fill of channel (035)
052	3	Firm, light brown sandy silt, 0.30m thick	Naturally deposited fill of channel (035), below (051)
053	3	Firm, pale grey slightly clay sandy silt, 0.35m thick	Naturally deposited fill of channel (035), below (052)
054	3	Firm, blue grey clay silt, 0.12m thick	Naturally deposited lower fill of channel (035)
055	3	Firm, pale grey brown sandy silt, 0.18m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
056	2	Linear, steep sided e-w aligned cut, 0.46m deep cut	Alluvial erosion feature
057	2	Linear, steep sided n-s aligned cut, 0.20m deep	Alluvial erosion feature
058	4	Firm, dark brown medium sandy silt, 0.20m thick	Topsoil
059	4	Firm, mid brown fine sandy silt, 0.30m thick	Ploughsoil at interface of topsoil and alluvial soils
060	4	Firm, mid orange brown fine sandy silt, 0.22m thick	Disturbed subsoil
061	4	Soft, pale orange brown very fine sandy silt, 0.18m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
062	4	Friable, light brown fine sandy clay silt, 0.06m thick	Possible former ground surface
063	4	Friable, faintly laminated light orange brown very fine sandy silt, 0.40m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
064	4	Friable, light orange brown very fine silt, with distinct laminations towards base	Natural alluvium deposit. Possible ground surface during the Roman period
065	4	Friable, mid grey very fine sandy silt with occasional charcoal, 0.10m thick	Primary fill of cut (017), possibly a lining for a fire pit



066	5	Firm, mid to dark grey brown, 0.34m thick	Firm, dark brown medium sandy silt, 0.34m thick
067	5	Firm, yellow brown medium sandy silt, 0.12m thick	Ploughsoil at interface of topsoil and alluvium soils
068	5	Firm, mid pale grey medium clay silt, 0.08m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
069	5	Firm, pale grey brown medium sandy silt, discontinuously 0.06m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
070	5	Firm, pale grey brown medium clay silt, 0.04m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
071	5	Firm, mid grey brown sandy silt, 0.18m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
072	5	Firm, mixed pale grey to yellow brown medium sandy silt, 0.18m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
073	5	Firm, pale grey brown medium sandy silt, 0.28m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
074	5	Firm, mid yellow brown coarse sandy silt	Natural alluvium deposit
075	2	Friable, mottled mid grey brown medium silty sand	Naturally deposited fill of gully feature (056)
076	2	Friable, light blue grey with orange mottle fine sand	Naturally deposited fill of gully feature (057)
077	2	Friable, coarsely laminated mid grey blue sandy silt, 0.14m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
078	2	Friable, laminated mid grey brown fine sandy silt with iron concretions, 0.26m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
079	2	Friable, finely laminated mid to light grey brown medium sandy silt, 0.37m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
080	2	Friable, laminated mid grey brown medium silty sand, 0.10m thick	Natural alluvium deposit
081	2	Soft, very light brown fine silty sand with iron panning	Naturally deposited fill of (019), overlying (018)



082	2	Soft, light grey fine silty sand lens	Naturally deposited fill of (019), overlying (018)
083	5	Friable, light orange brown very fine silt, with distinct laminations towards base	Natural alluvium deposit. Possible ground surface during the Roman period
084	2	Friable, Light yellow-beige medium/fine sand. Laminated towards base of deposit	Alluvial deposit
085	2	Soft mid brown sandy silt	Alluvial deposit
086	2	Mid blue clayey silt	Alluvial deposit
087	2	Firm mid brown sandy clayey silt	Alluvial deposit
088	2	Clean, light brown medium sand	Alluvial deposit
089	2	Light greyish brown fine sand. Laminated	Alluvial deposit
090	2	Friable light greyish brown fine sand.	Alluvial deposit
091	2	Soft light/mid greyish brown sandy silt	



## Appendix 5

### 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.