

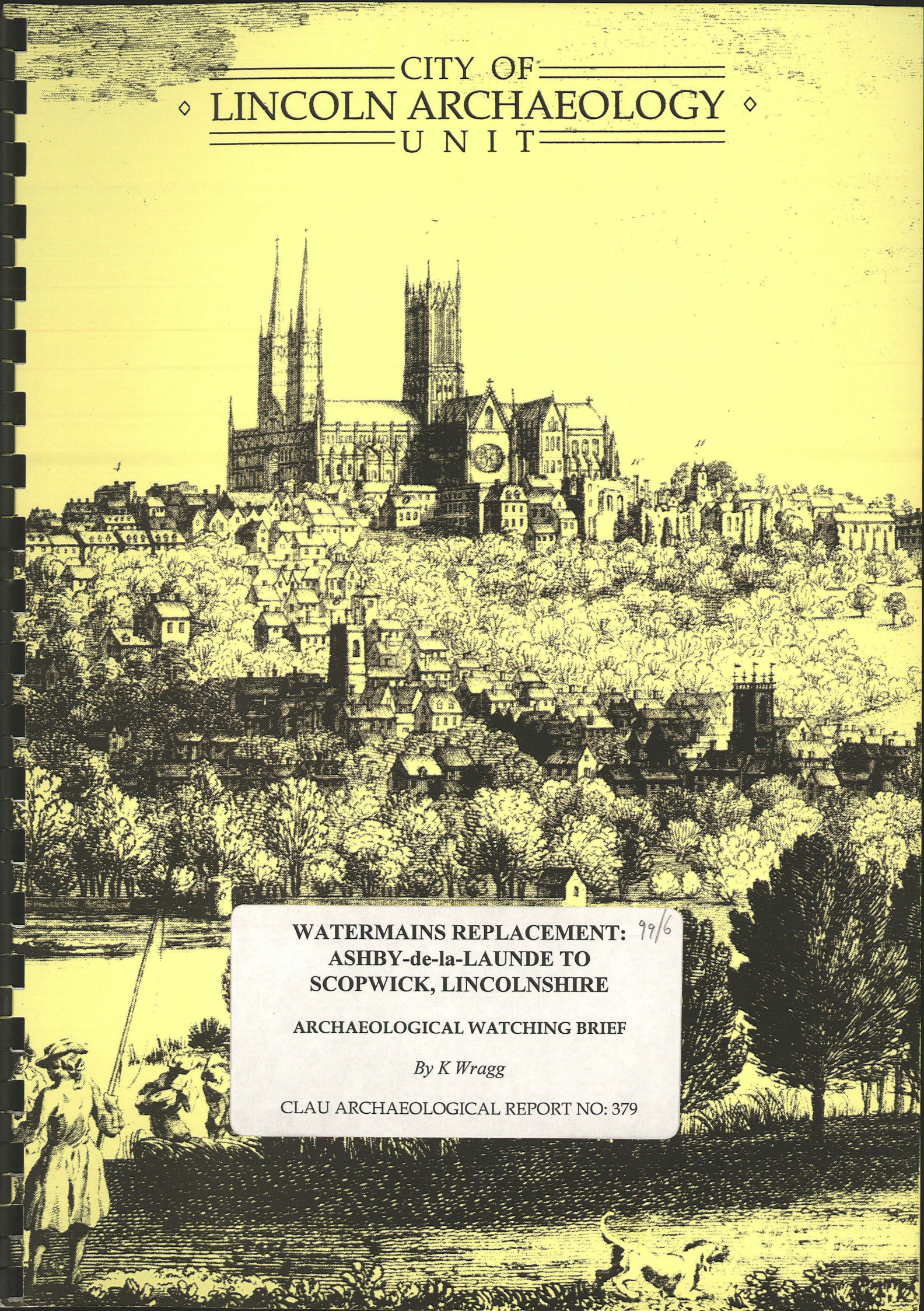
CITY OF
◇ LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY ◇
U N I T

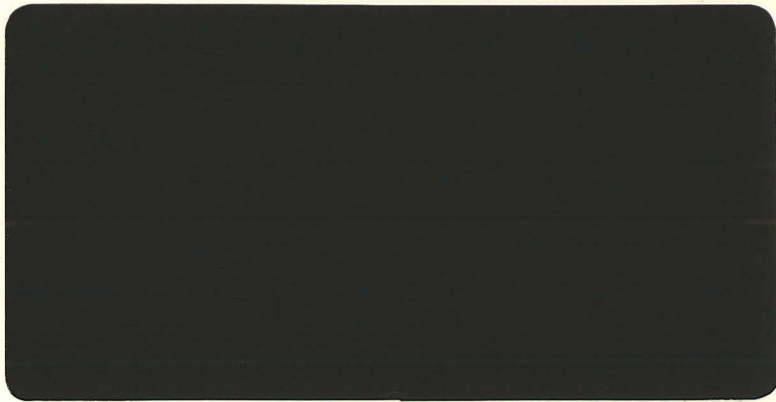
WATERMAINS REPLACEMENT: 99/6
ASHBY-de-la-LAUNDE TO
SCOPWICK, LINCOLNSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

By K Wragg

CLAU ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT NO: 379





Lincolnshire County Council
Microbiology Section
14. MAY 99
ack 14/5/99

EV: 42253

Source: L16946

L110923

**WATERMAINS REPLACEMENT:
ASHBY-de-la-LAUNDE TO
SCOPWICK, LINCOLNSHIRE**
A
Report to
Anglian Water Services Limited

April 1999

Prepared by

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Site Code: ASW98

LCCM Accession No.: 88.98

NGR: TF 0620/5790

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Archaeological Watching Brief

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**WATERMAINS
REPLACEMENT:
ASHBY-de-la-LAUNDE
TO SCOPWICK,
LINCOLNSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
WATCHING BRIEF**

evidence for earlier occupation or land-use was identified.

The results revealed only deposits of either natural/geological origin, or of obviously modern date.

However, given the limited extent of the trenches involved, this does not, of course, preclude the survival of important archaeological remains elsewhere, as suggested by the previous archaeological discoveries made in the area.

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

During March 1998, the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit (C.L.A.U.) was approached by Anglian Water Services Limited (A.W.S.L.), to carry out an archaeological watching brief on part of a watermains scheme between the villages of Ashby-de-la-Launde and Scopwick, in Lincolnshire.

In accordance with their usual practice, A.W.S.L. forwarded details of the proposed scheme to the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section, for their appraisal.

This appraisal revealed that one section of the pipeline to the west of Scopwick crossed an area of archaeological potential, and a watching brief was recommended for this part of the scheme.

As a result, the C.L.A.U. was commissioned on the 20th of March 1998 to carry out an intermittent watching brief on the pipelaying works immediately to the west of the village.

Subsequently, during June 1998, a further area of pipelaying was included in the scheme, situated close to the centre of the village on the Springfield Estate. As this area was also deemed by the County Council Archaeology Section to have archaeological potential, the watching brief was extended to cover these works.

Observation on the various elements of the scheme was carried out between the 24th of March and the 8th of December 1998, but in spite of the archaeological potential of the two areas investigated during this project, no

WATERMAINS REPLACEMENT: ASHBY-de-la-LAUNDE TO SCOPWICK, LINCOLNSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1.0 INTRODUCTION

During March 1998, the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit (C.L.A.U.) was approached by Anglian Water Services Limited (A.W.S.L.), to carry out an archaeological watching brief on part of a watermains scheme between the villages of Ashby-de-la-Launde and Scopwick, in Lincolnshire.

In accordance with their usual practice, A.W.S.L. forwarded details of the proposed scheme to the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section, for their appraisal.

This appraisal revealed that one section of the pipeline to the west of Scopwick crossed an area of archaeological potential (see Figs.1 & 2, and 2.0, below), and a watching brief was recommended for this part of the scheme.

As a result, the C.L.A.U. was commissioned on the 20th of March 1998 to carry out an intermittent watching brief on the pipelaying works immediately to the west of the village.

Subsequently, during June 1998, a further area of pipelaying was included in the scheme, situated close to the centre of the village on the Springfield Estate. As this area was also deemed by the County Council Archaeology Section to have archaeological potential, the watching brief was extended to cover these works.

Observation on the various elements of the scheme was carried out between the 24th of March and the 8th of December 1998.

The information in this document is presented with the proviso that further data may yet emerge. The Unit, its members and employees cannot, therefore, be held responsible for any loss, delay or damage, material or otherwise, arising out of this report. The document has been prepared in accordance with the terms of the Unit's Articles of Association, the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and *The Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (English Heritage, 1991).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

In order to determine any potential archaeological implications of this scheme, the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section was consulted by the Conservation Department of A.W.S.L. in advance of the commencement of the project.

While the scheme as a whole lies in the general historic landscape of North Kesteven, the Archaeology Section deemed that two specific areas of the route were of sufficiently high potential to warrant an archaeological watching brief. These areas were as follows (together with the county Sites & Monuments Record (SMR) appraisal for each area where available):

Area A - Heath Road, Scopwick (B1191 - between Mill Cottages and the western edge of the village)

'Our records show that this is an area which has witnessed considerable prehistoric and Romano-British activity. One section of the proposed route crosses possible prehistoric cropmarks which have been interpreted as enclosures and a pit alignment. An archaeological watching brief on this section would ensure any archaeological remains are recorded & potentially provide valuable information on the date and form of these earthworks'.

Area B - Springfield Estate, Scopwick

A watching brief was recommended in this area because of 'previous Roman finds'.

3.0 RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

The two areas of the project were physically unconnected, and the results from each part are therefore presented separately, below.

3.1 Area A: Heath Road, Scopwick (B1191 - between Mill Cottages and the western edge of the village)

This element of the scheme comprised approximately 400m of machine-excavated trench, situated in the verge immediately to the north of the road carriageway. The trench itself was only approximately 300mm wide, and was excavated to a depth of 1m-1.2m (see Plate 1).

During the course of the watching brief in this area no sign was seen of any archaeological finds or features, with only three deposits identified throughout the trench.

The earliest of these, [502], was revealed at the limit of excavation (L.O.E.), and comprised a moderately compacted mid-light brown clayey sand. This deposit contained only frequent pebble/gravel inclusions, and appeared to be geological in origin.

[502] was overlain by a 700mm thick layer of moderately compacted mid orange-brown sand and gravel, [501], which contained occasional small fragments of limestone and flint, again apparently natural in origin.

The final deposit revealed formed the surface deposit for the verge, comprising approximately 300mm of mid-light grey-brown sandy topsoil [500]. This contained frequent pebble/gravel inclusions, occasional limestone & flint pieces, and approximately 100mm of coarse turf at the upper boundary.

3.2 Area B: Springfield Estate, Scopwick

This part of the pipelaying was situated close to the centre of the village, and comprised a total of 200m of machine-excavated trench.

The trench was contained entirely in the road carriageway, and was again only approximately 300mm wide. The excavation in this area continued to a depth of between 900mm and 1m (see Plate 2).

As before, no positive sign was seen of any archaeological finds or features, although it is possible that apparent 'hollows' in the underlying clay deposit could represent the presence of ponds or similar features (although these are of course not necessarily the result of human agency).

The earliest deposit revealed was [507], a layer of coarse orange/yellow-brown sand and gravel. This was only revealed at the L.O.E. of the trench, and appeared to be natural (i.e., geological) in origin, possibly equating to layer [501] seen in Area A.

The sand and gravel was overlain by layer of mid grey-brown clay, [506], which was up to 400mm thick.

The upper surface of this deposit was fairly level throughout the trench, although adjacent to No.5 Springfield Estate, a sizeable 'depression' was recorded (see Fig.5). It is possible that it represents the remains of a pond, or similar feature, although this could not be confirmed.

[506] was then sealed beneath [505], the heavy pitched limestone foundations for the existing road surface ([503] - tarmac surface; [504] - limestone & bitumen bedding).

4.0 DISCUSSION OF RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

Notwithstanding the archaeological potential of the two areas investigated during this project, no evidence for earlier occupation or land-use was identified.

The results revealed only deposits of either natural/geological origin, or of obviously modern date.

However, given the limited extent of the trenches involved, this does not, of course, preclude the survival of important archaeological remains elsewhere, as suggested by the previous archaeological discoveries made in the area.

5.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit would like to thank the following for their assistance during this project: Anglian Water Services Limited, Networks, Saltersford WTW, Spitalgate level, Saltersford, Lincs., NG31 7UL, for their funding and support during this project; Messrs D.Waterfield (Project Engineer) and P.Holdich (Project Supervisor) and Mrs J.Bakewell (Technical Assistant) of A.W.S.L.; all on-site staff of ALH Co. Total Pipe Technology (main trenching contractors).

6.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section, *Ashby to Scopwick Watermain Replacement: SMR Appraisal*, 2nd March 1998

7.0 LHA NOTE/ARCHIVE DETAILS

7.1 LHA NOTE DETAILS

CLAU CODE: ASW98

PLANNING APPLICATION NO.: n/a

FIELD OFFICER: K.Wragg

NGR: TF 0620/5790 (centre)

CIVIL PARISH: Scopwick

SMR No.:

DATE OF INTERVENTION: 24/03/98 -
08/12/98

TYPE OF INTERVENTION: Watching Brief

UNDERTAKEN FOR: Anglian Water Services Limited, Networks, Saltersford WTW, Spitalgate level, Saltersford, Lincs., NG31 7UL.

7.2 ARCHIVE DETAILS

PRESENT LOCATION: City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit, Charlotte House, The Lawn, Union Road, Lincoln, LN1 3BL.

FINAL LOCATION: The City and County Museum, Friars Lane, Lincoln.

MUSEUM ACCESSION No.: 88.98

ACCESSION DATE:

APPENDIX A - ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

The archive consists of:

No.	Description
1	Site diary
1	Report
8	Context records
5	Scale drawings
1 set	Photographic records - Colour slides
1	Stratigraphic matrix

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

*The City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit,
Charlotte House,
The Lawn,
Union Road,
Lincoln,
Lincolnshire,
LN1 3BL.*

It is intended that transfer to the City and County Museum, Friars Lane, Lincoln, in accordance with current published requirements, under Museum Accession Number 88.98, will be undertaken following completion of this project.

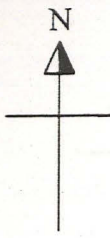
APPENDIX B - COLOUR PLATES



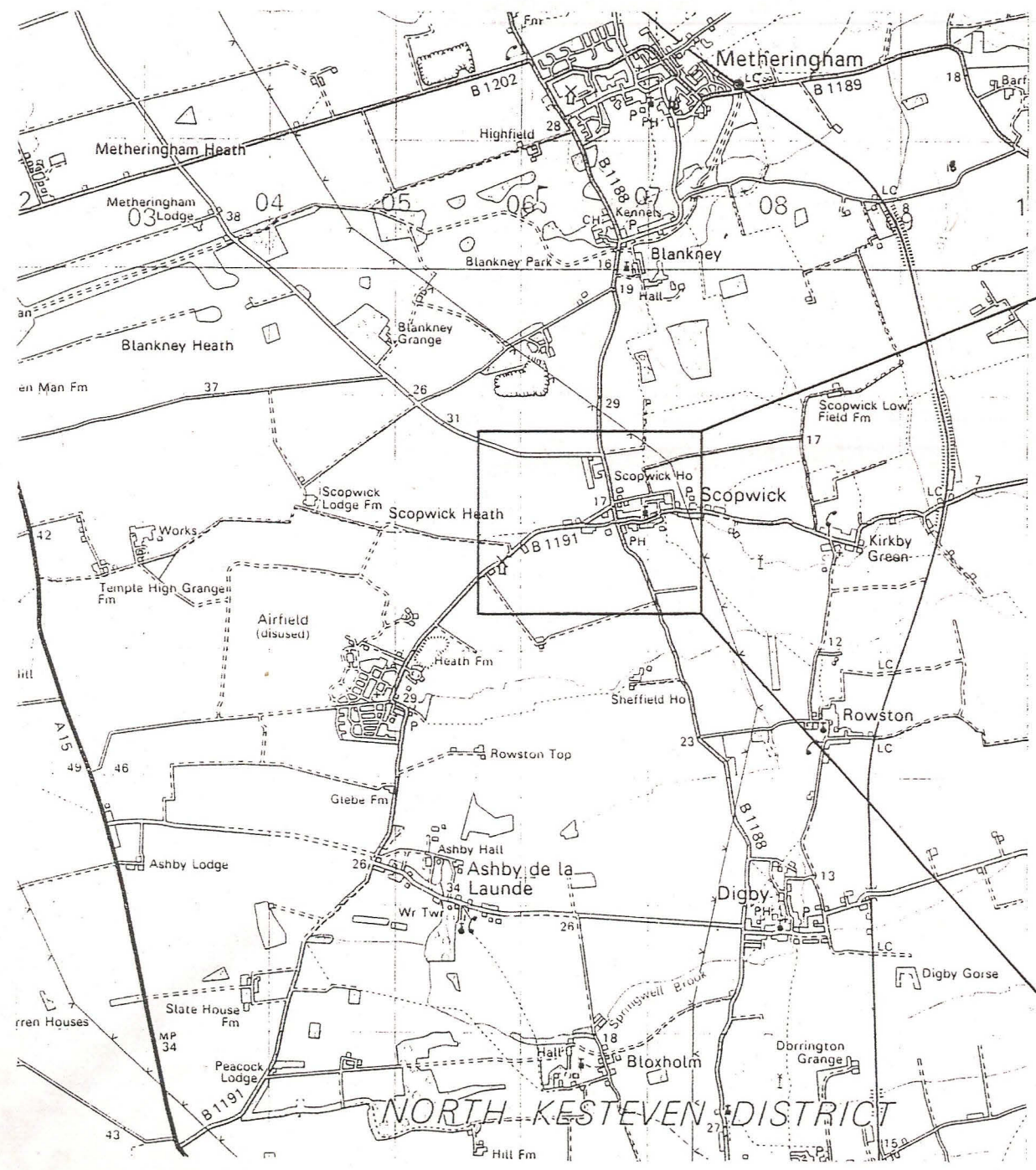
Plate 1: General view of Area A trench - looking east



Plate 2: General view of Area B trench - looking east




1:50 000

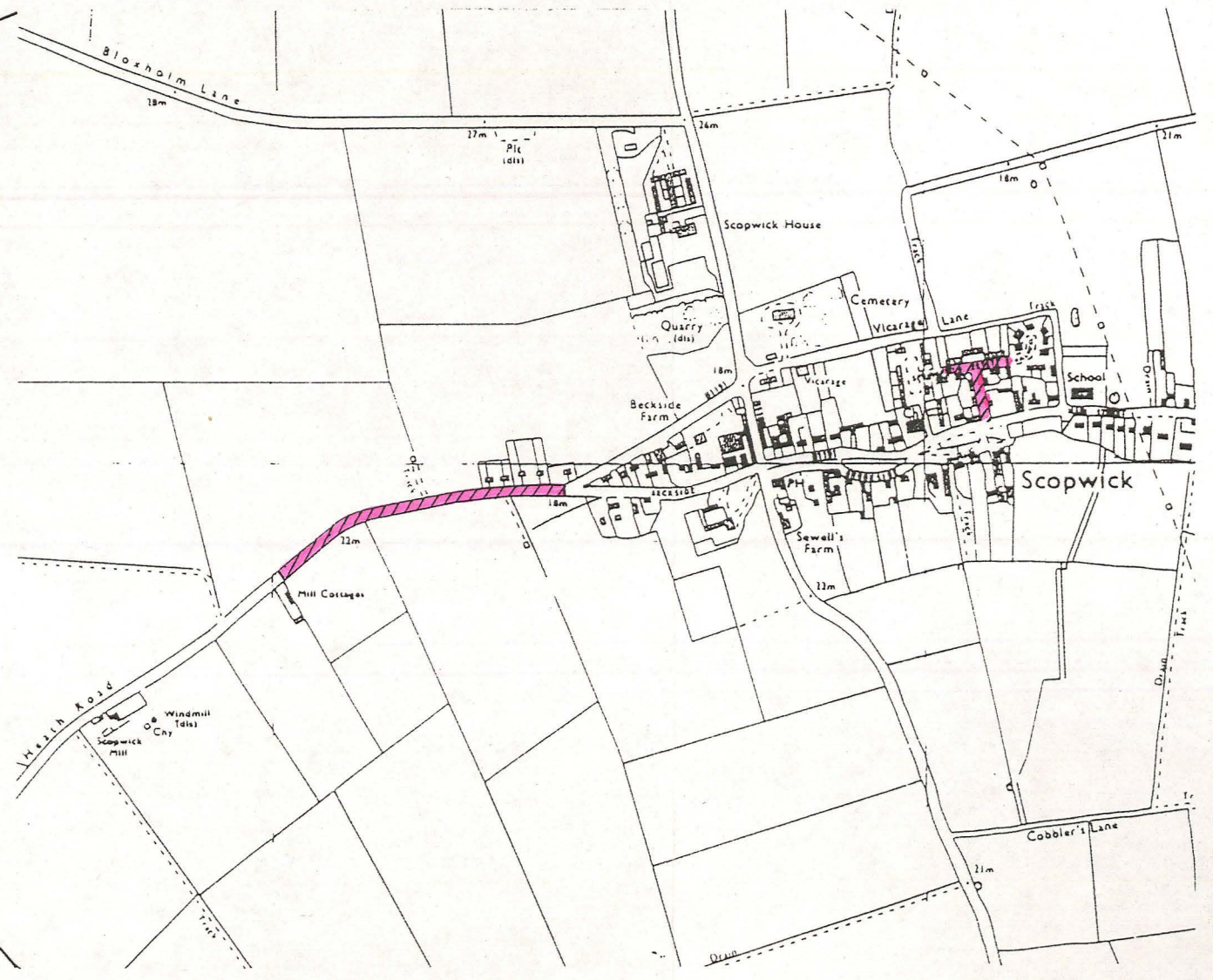


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KEY

 Location of Site

1:10 000



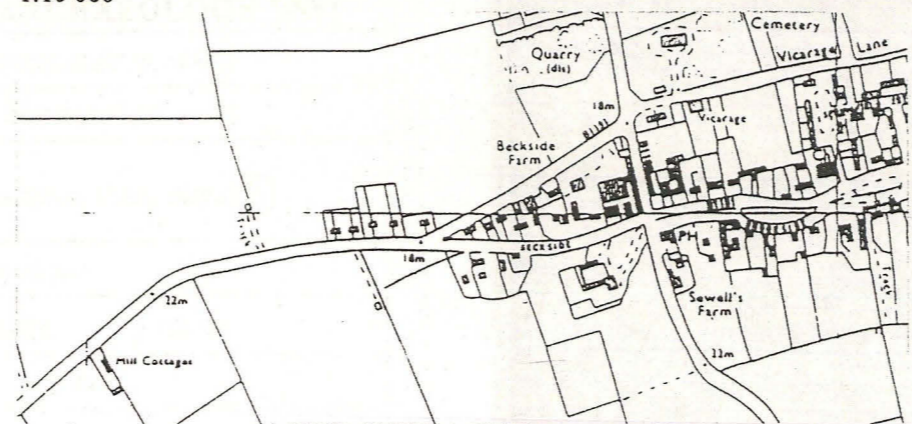
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CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
SITE CODE: ASW98	PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:	
CLIENT:	Anglian Water Services Ltd	
DESCRIPTION:	Site Location Plan	
SCALE:	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY:	CHECKED:	DATE:
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO:	88.98	

Fig.1

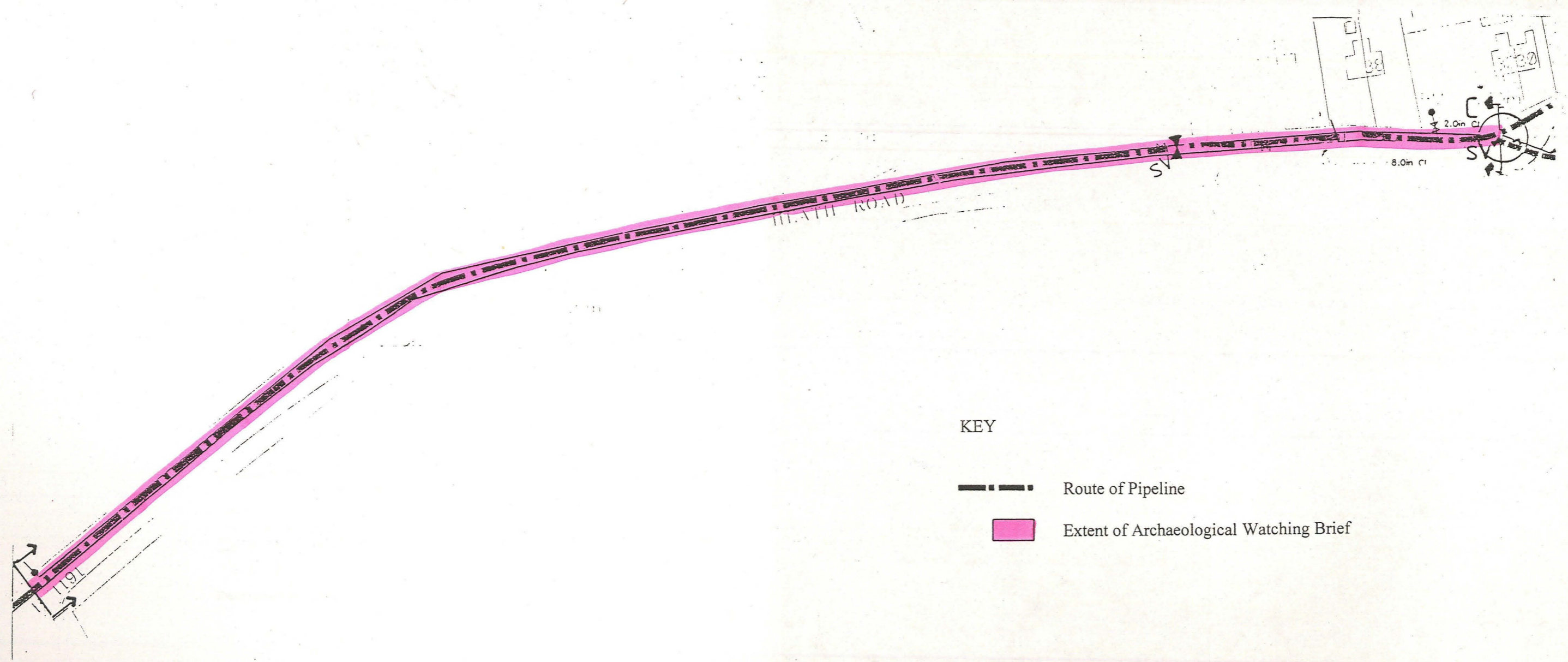


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CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
SITE CODE: ASW98	PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:	
CLIENT: Anglian Water Services Ltd		
DESCRIPTION:	Trench Location Plan, Area (A)	
SCALE: 1:1250	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY:	CHECKED:	DATE:
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 88.98		

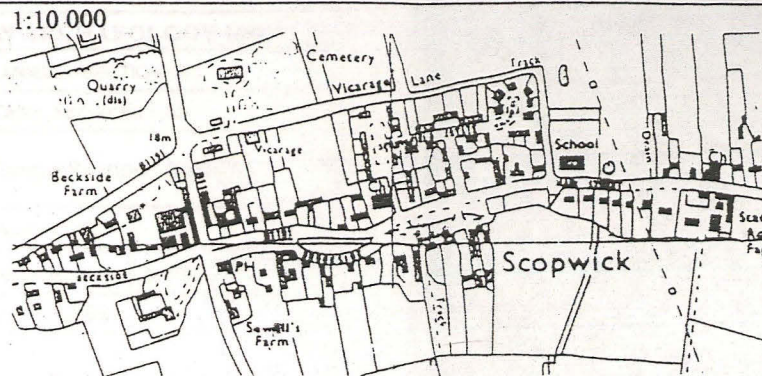
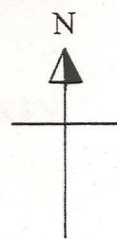


KEY

- Route of Pipeline
- █ Extent of Archaeological Watching Brief

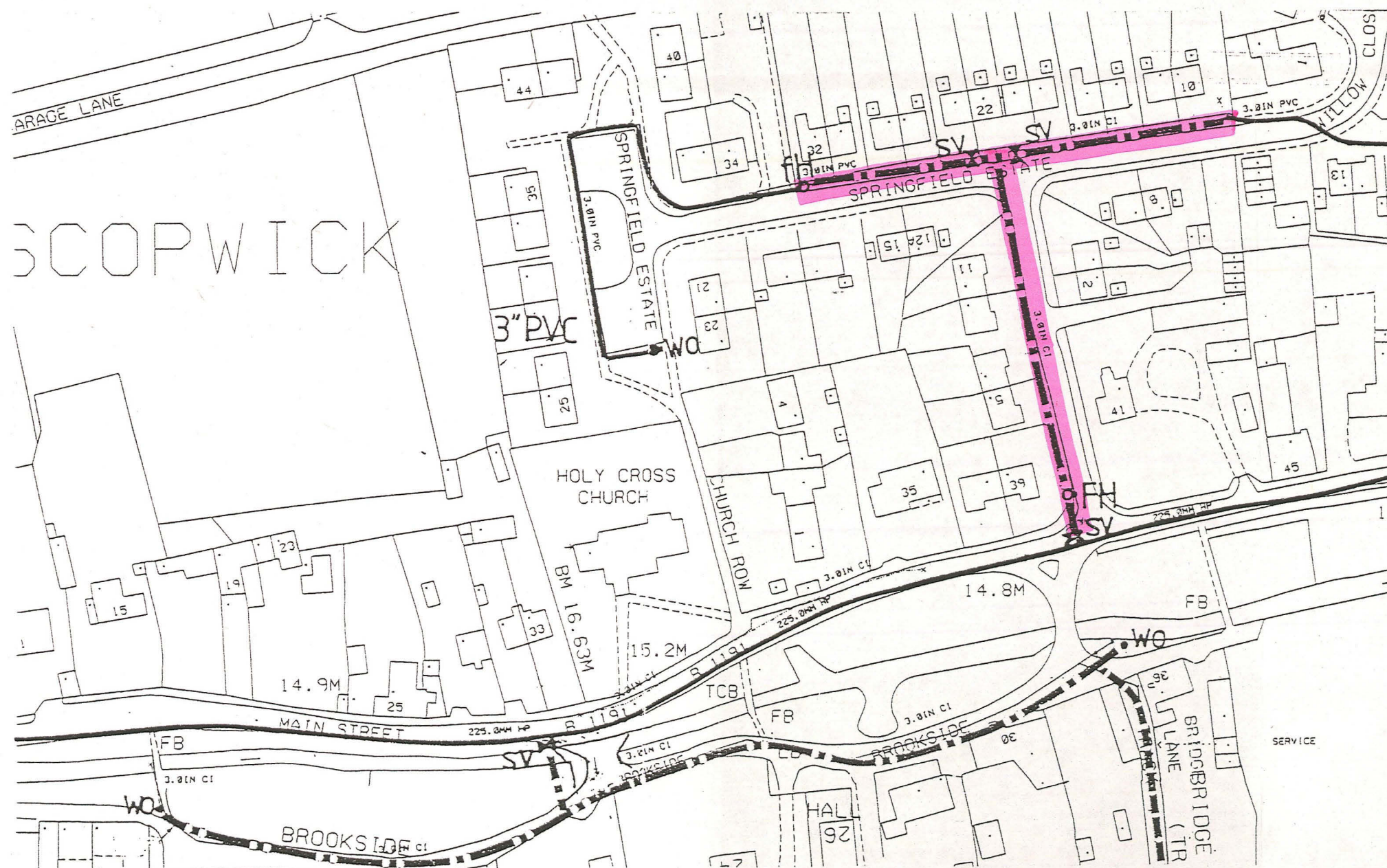
Based upon A.W.S.L. drawings Nos. 9721729/3 and 9721729/4

Fig.2



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CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
SITE CODE: ASW98	PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:	
CLIENT: Anglian Water Services Ltd		
DESCRIPTION: Trench Location Plan, Area (B)		
SCALE: 1:1250	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY:	CHECKED:	DATE:
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 88.98		



Based upon A.W.S.L. drawing No. 9721729/4A



KEY

- Route of Pipeline
- Extent of Archaeological Watching Brief

Fig.3

CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
SITE CODE: ASW98	PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:	
CLIENT: Anglian Water Services Ltd		
DESCRIPTION: South-Facing Section, Area (A)		
SCALE: 1:20	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY: K.W.	CHECKED:	DATE: 29/05/98
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 88.98		

KEY

-  Sand
-  Clay

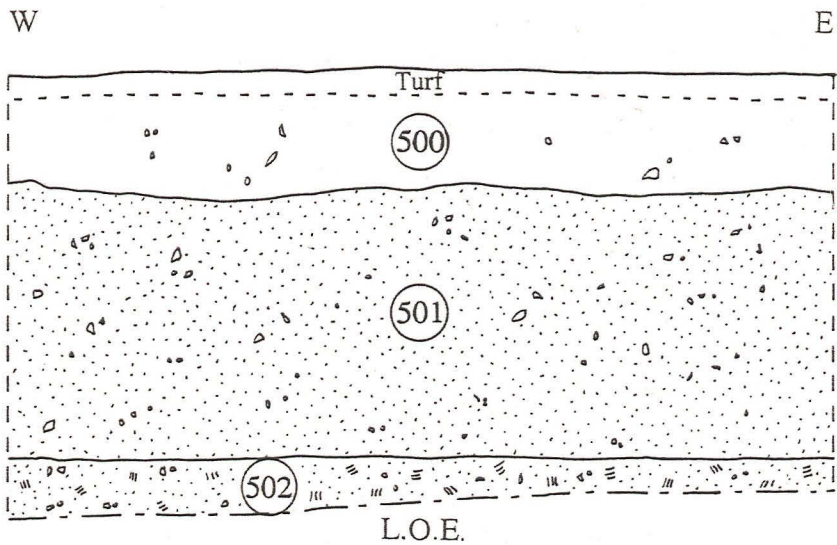


Fig.4

CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT

SITE CODE: ASW98 | PLANE/LEV/SECTION NO:

CLIENT: Anglian Water Services Ltd


DESCRIPTION: West-Facing Section, Area (B)

SCALE: 1:20 | ARCHIVE NO:


DRAWN BY: K.W. | CHECKED: | DATE: 01/12/98

MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 88.98

KEY

 Sand

 Clay

 Limestone

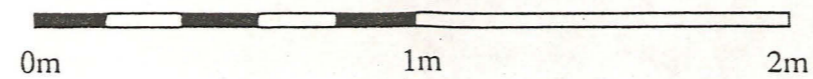
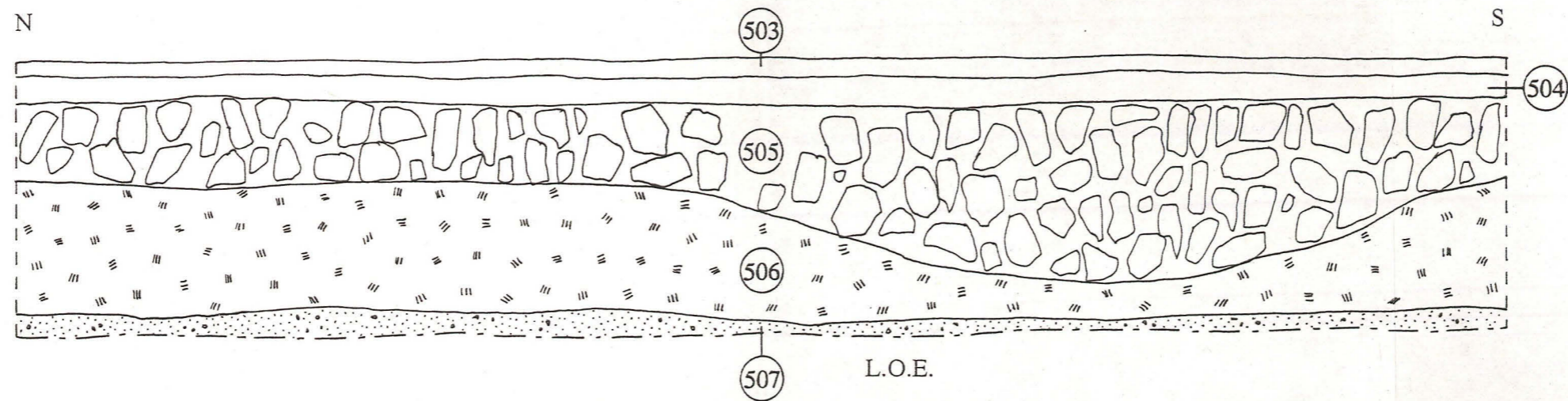


Fig.5