

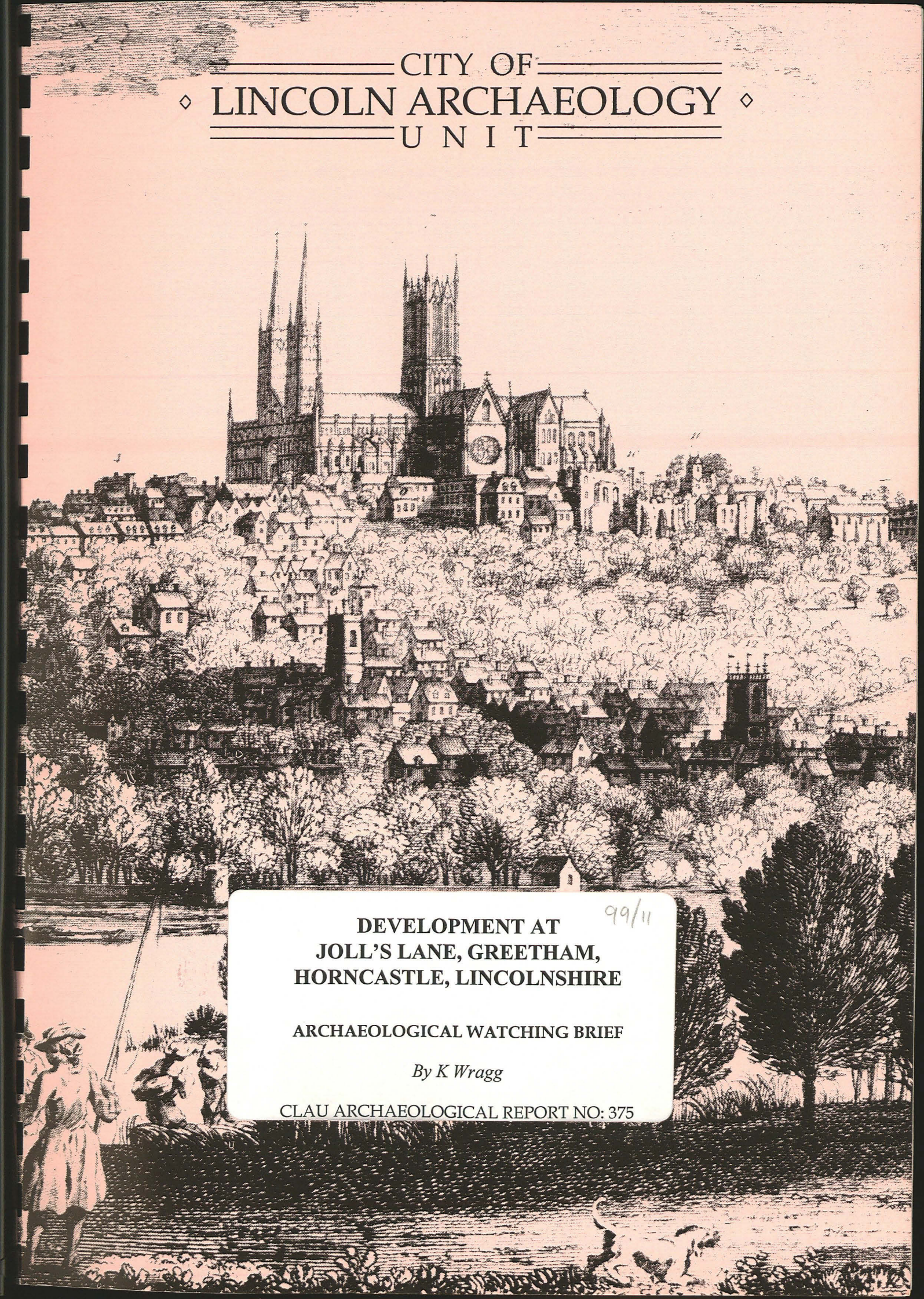
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◇ LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY ◇  
U N I T

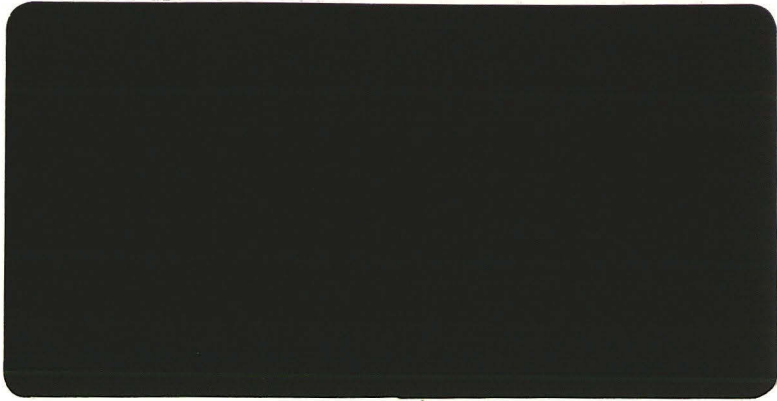
99/11  
DEVELOPMENT AT  
JOLL'S LANE, GREETHAM,  
HORNCastle, LINCOLNSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

*By K Wragg*

CLAU ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT NO: 375





Lancashire County Council  
Archaeology Section

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ack. 10/8/99

2 of 2 copies

EVENT L13240  
SOURCES 47975 47976  
44486 483094 undated  
44487 483095 Post-med  
44488 483096 Roman

**A**  
**Report to**  
***Ellerby Homes***

**August 1999**

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*Site Code: GJL98*

*LCCM Accession No.: 132.98*

*NGR: TF 0870/0640 ~ 3087 7064*

*Planning Application Nos.: S/066/1868/97 & S/066/0874/98*

*L13244*

**DEVELOPMENT AT** 99/11  
**JOLL'S LANE, GREETHAM,**  
**HORNCastle, LINCOLNSHIRE**

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## *Archaeological Watching Brief*

<i>Contents</i>	<i>Page</i>
NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY.....	1
1.0 INTRODUCTION.....	2
2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.....	3
3.0 RESULTS.....	3
4.0 DISCUSSION OF RESULTS & CONCLUSIONS.....	4
5.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	5
6.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	5
7.0 LHA NOTES/ARCHIVE DETAILS.....	5
7.1 LHA Note Details.....	5
7.2 Archive Details.....	5
APPENDIX A - Archive Deposition.....	6
APPENDIX B - Colour Plates.....	7
APPENDIX C - List of Finds.....	8

### *List of Illustrations*

- Fig.1 Site location plans - scale 1:50000 & 1:2500
- Fig.2 Development plan - scale 1:200
- Fig.3 Trench location plan - scale 1:100
- Fig.4 West-facing section 1 - scale 1:20
- Fig.5 North-facing section 2 - scale 1:20

# **DEVELOPMENT AT JOLL'S LANE, GREETHAM, HORNCASTLE, LINCOLNSHIRE**

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

### ***NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY***

This project was prompted by plans to redevelop an area of former farmyard/pasture, lying adjacent to Black Horse Farm, Greetham, in the Lincolnshire district of East Lindsey (approximately 6km to the east of Horncastle).

The development involved the construction of a new detached dwelling and double garage, on the site which is situated close to the centre of the small village. Access to the site is via Joll's Lane which runs along the northern boundary of the site. The remainder of the site is surrounded by either open farmland (generally laid to grass), or existing properties.

The site itself is measures approximately 30m (N-S) x 45m (E-W), and is bounded by existing hedges and mature trees to the north and east, and temporary wooden post & rail fencing along the remaining boundaries.

In view of local interest in the site, and the proximity of several potential areas of archaeological interest, it was decided by East Lindsey District Council (following consultation with the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section) that the groundworks on the site should be monitored archaeologically. The resulting condition to the planning consent required a watching brief to be carried out during all groundwork operations.

Accordingly, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of June 1998, the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit was commissioned by Mr Ashley Stickland, of Ellerby Homes, to carry out an intermittent watching brief on the site.

Observations were carried out on the site between June and November 1998, but in spite of the potential of the site, the results proved to be largely inconclusive.

Only two cut features were revealed, both of uncertain date and function. It is possible that the cuts were originally excavated for the purpose of chalk extraction, although the cess-like material present in the larger of the two possibly suggests that this feature represents an infilled/silted-up pond (probably used to water stock).

The recovered finds, whilst including some fragments of Roman brick, generally suggest a Post-medieval date for the site (probably 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century), a date contemporary with the neighbouring Beech Farm to the south-east.

However, given the historical and archaeological background to the area, the lack of archaeological evidence from this particular site does not, of course, preclude future discoveries in the vicinity.

# DEVELOPMENT AT JOLL'S LANE, GREETHAM, HORNCASTLE, LINCOLNSHIRE

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This project was prompted by plans to redevelop an area of former farmyard/pasture, lying adjacent to Black Horse Farm, Greetham, in the Lincolnshire district of East Lindsey (approximately 6km to the east of Horncastle).

The development involved the construction of a new detached dwelling and double garage, on the site which is situated close to the centre of the small village. Access to the site is via Joll's Lane which runs along the northern boundary of the site. The remainder of the site is surrounded by either open farmland (generally laid to grass), or existing properties.

The site itself is measures approximately 30m (N-S) x 45m (E-W), and is bounded by existing hedges and mature trees to the north and east, and temporary wooden post & rail fencing along the remaining boundaries (see Figs.1 & 2).

In view of local interest in the site, and the proximity of several potential areas of archaeological interest (see 2.0, below), it was decided by East Lindsey District Council (following consultation with the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section) that the groundworks on the site should be monitored archaeologically. The resulting condition to the planning consent required a watching brief to be carried out during all groundwork operations.

Accordingly, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of June 1998, the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit was commissioned by Mr Ashley Stickland, of Ellerby Homes, to carry out an intermittent watching brief on the site. Observations were carried out on the site between the 10<sup>th</sup> of June and the 10<sup>th</sup> of November 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).

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## 2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

This development site lies in an area of considerable archaeological potential, with the possibility of remains dating from the prehistoric, Roman, Anglo-Saxon, medieval and Post-medieval periods.

The earliest evidence of possible occupation comes in the form of a prehistoric flint scraper recovered in 1990 from the garden of the Rectory, which lies c.200m to the north of the site (Lincolnshire County Sites & Monuments Record (SMR), record no.43438).

Occupation during the Roman period seems very likely given the proximity of Greetham to Horncastle and Ashby Puerorum, both known to have been Roman settlements (Whitwell, 1992).

The name of Greetham itself suggests a probable Anglo-Saxon heritage, possibly indicating that the village was part of a tribal group or district. Certainly, in the medieval *Domesday Book*, Greetham lies at the centre of a *Soke*, a term indicating an estate (Sawyer, 1998).

Further evidence of medieval occupation in the village is present in elements of the church (primarily a doorway, albeit reset, of c.13<sup>th</sup> century date – Pevsner *et al*, 1989), with various earthworks present around the site (and the south of the village in general) also potentially of this period. These earthworks possibly indicate the remains of property boundaries (crofts), field enclosures, and the remnants of *ridge & furrow* (pers.comm. P.Losco-Bradley, and SMR record no.43441).

Beech Farm, which lies immediately to the south-east of the site, appears to date from the 17<sup>th</sup> century (Pevsner *et al*, 1989), while a *post mill* originally located at the southern edge of the village (and demolished at the beginning of the present century), is also thought to date from the Post-medieval period (SMR record no.43440).

## 3.0 RESULTS

Groundworks for this development included: a phase of topsoil stripping in the areas of the proposed building 'footprints', and along the length of the proposed access driveway; the networks of machine-excavated linear foundation trenches for both the main dwelling and a double garage; and excavation for a new sewage treatment tank and associated service trenches (see Fig.2).

The initial phase of site-stripping involved the removal of the topsoil deposit to depths of between 300-500mm. Stripping was carried along the route of the main driveway, and at the locations of both the house and the garage. However, although the areas involved covered a substantial proportion of the site, the depth was sufficient only to reveal the very upper surface of the underlying chalk, with no sign of any archaeological finds or features.

The network of trenches for the new house covered an area approximately 10m (N-S) x 13m (E-W), while that for the garage was considerably smaller, measuring c.6m (N-S) x 7m (E-W) (see Figs.2 & 3).

The foundation trenches themselves were on average 700mm wide, and excavated (following consultation with the East Lindsey District Council Building Control Officer) to depths of between 800mm and 1.2m.

The stratigraphic sequence revealed during the main trenching was as follows:

The earliest deposit was [102], a moderate-well compacted off-white/very light brown clayey chalk layer, representing the prevailing natural (i.e., geological) deposit for the area.. This was present at a depth of c.300mm-400mm below the existing ground level (G.L.), and continued to beyond the limit of excavation (L.O.E.). A resulting thickness of up to 2.5m+ was identified at the location of the sewage treatment tank. No finds were visible within this layer.

In the area of the house foundations the upper surface of the chalk was cut by what appeared to be two large circular/sub-circular pits (see Figs.3-5).

The smaller of the these, [108], was roughly oval in shape (3m (N-S) x 2.5m (E-W) and

c.800mm deep) and was wholly contained within the foundation network. It was filled by a moderately compacted mid-brown clayey, sandy silt, [107]. This deposit contained only occasional 'pea-grit'/gravel and small flint inclusions.

The second cut feature [106] was present approximately 1m to the south of [108], but only its north-west quadrant was present within the foundation network.

[106] was much larger than [108], with the exposed area measuring at least 2.5m (N-S) x 3m (E-W) (suggesting a possible total diameter in the order of 6m), and c.1.2m deep towards its centre. Three fill deposits were present within [108].

The earliest of these, [105], comprised a mid-light grey clayey, sandy silt containing occasional small-medium sized flint pieces/fragments. Towards the upper boundary of this deposit, however, the overall colour was seen to change, gradually becoming a shade of grey-green.

[105] lay beneath [104], a 100mm thick friable light yellow-brown sandy silt, which was in turn sealed by [103], a mid-light grey clayey silt, a maximum of 200mm thick. Both of these deposits contained high proportions of pebble/flint/'pea-grit' inclusions (up to 70% in the case of [104]), but nothing to indicate date or function.

These features were sealed by the topsoil deposit, [101], present across the whole site. This layer was between 250mm and 300mm thick, and comprised a mid brown sandy, clayey silt containing moderately frequent small-medium sized pebble/flint inclusions, chalk pieces & flecks, together with several pieces of pottery, brick and tile (see *Appendix C*). Several other finds were recovered from unstratified material and identified as context [100].

The final element of the groundworks involved the excavation of a series of trenches for service and drainage connections, together with a c.3m deep hole for the new sewage treatment tank. However, in spite of the increased depths required for some of this work, the stratigraphy was found to be identical to that seen during the foundation

trenching, with no sign of further archaeological finds or features.

#### **4.0 DISCUSSION OF RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS**

Notwithstanding the potential of the site, as related above, the results from this watching brief have proved to be largely inconclusive.

Only two cut features were revealed, both of uncertain date and function. It is possible that the cuts were originally excavated for the purpose of chalk extraction, although the cess-like material present in the larger of the two possibly suggests that this feature represents an infilled/silted-up pond (probably used to water stock).

The recovered finds, whilst including some fragments of Roman brick, generally suggest a Post-medieval date for the site (probably 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century), a date contemporary with the neighbouring Beech Farm to the south-east.

However, given the historical and archaeological background to the area, the lack of archaeological evidence from this particular site does not, of course, preclude future discoveries in the vicinity.



## 5.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit would like to thank the following for their assistance during this project: Mr A.Stickland, Ellerby Homes, 11 Stainesway, Louth, Lincolnshire, LN11 0DE, for funding this project; Mr J.Bonner, Archaeology Officer, Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section, Highways & Planning Directorate, City Hall, Lincoln, LN1 1DN; P.Losco-Bradley, Greetham, Lincolnshire for historical background information.

## 6.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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

Sawyer, P 1998 *Anglo-Saxon Lincolnshire, History of Lincolnshire 3*, History of Lincolnshire Committee, Lincoln

Whitwell, J B 1992 *Roman Lincolnshire - Revised Edition, History of Lincolnshire 2*, Lincolnshire Local History Society, Lincoln

## 7.0 LHA NOTE/ARCHIVE DETAILS

### 7.1 LHA NOTE DETAILS

CLAU CODE: GJL98

PLANNING APPLICATION Nos.:  
S/066/1868/97 & S/066/0874/98

FIELD OFFICER: K.Wragg

NGR: TF ~~0870/0640~~ 3087 7064

CIVIL PARISH: Greetham

SMR No.: n/a

DATE OF INTERVENTION: 20/06/98 -  
10/11/98

TYPE OF INTERVENTION: Watching Brief

UNDERTAKEN FOR: Ellerby Homes, 11  
Stainesway, Louth, Lincolnshire, LN11 0DE

### 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.: 132.98

ACCESSION DATE: -

**APPENDIX A - ARCHIVE  
DEPOSITION**

The archive consists of:

No.	Description
1	Site diary
1	Report
9	Context records
3	Site Plan drawings
2	Site Section drawing
1 set	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 132.98, will be undertaken following completion of this project.

**APPENDIX B - COLOUR PLATES**



*Plate 1: General view of site, following stripping & foundation trenching - looking south-west*



*Plate 2: View of west-facing trench section, showing cut feature [106] - looking east*

## APPENDIX C - LIST OF FINDS

### A) POST-ROMAN POTTERY ARCHIVE

#### Horizon Dating

Context:	Earliest Horizon:	Latest Horizon:	Date Range:
[100]	PMH5	PMH9	Mid 17 <sup>th</sup> -late 18 <sup>th</sup> century
[101]	PMH3	PMH9	Mid/late 16 <sup>th</sup> -late 18 <sup>th</sup> century

#### Ware Types By Context

Context:	Ware:	Sherds:	Form:	Comments:
[100]	TB	1	Bowl	Rim sherd; 17 <sup>th</sup> or 18 <sup>th</sup> century
[101]	GRE	1	Bowl	Base sherd; wear mark around edge on underneath

#### Key to Ware codes:

GRE                    Glazed red earthenwares  
 TB                     Toynton or Bollinbroke-type ware

### B) TILE/BUILDING MATERIAL

#### Ware Types By Context

Context:	Form:	Count:	Weight:	Comments/ Date:
[100]	PNR	1	0	Unusual; possibly Post-medieval; retained
[100]	PANTDISC	1	97	Post-medieval
[101]	RBRKDISC	1	62	Roman
[101]	RBRKDISC	1	108	Roman
[101]	RBRKDISC	1	178	Roman

#### Key to Tile/Building Material Form codes:

PANTDISC            Discarded pantile  
 PNR                    Unglazed undiagnostic roofing tile  
 RBRKDISC            Discarded Roman brick

### C) REGISTERED FINDS

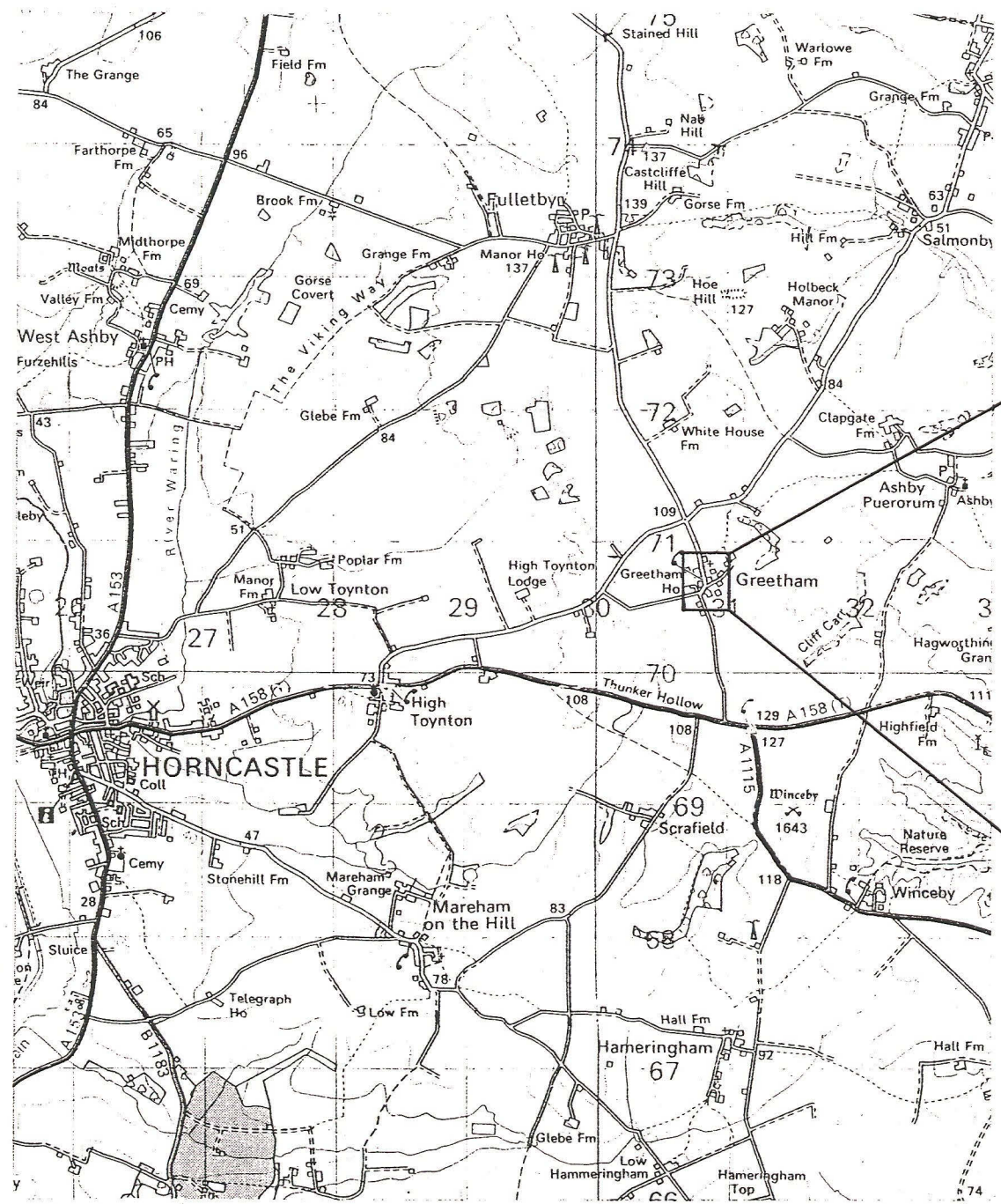
Context:	Finds Number:	Material:	Type:	Comments/date:
[100]	1	IRON	OXSH	Medieval/Post-medieval

#### Key to Registered Finds Type codes:

OXSH                 Ox-shoe



1:50 000

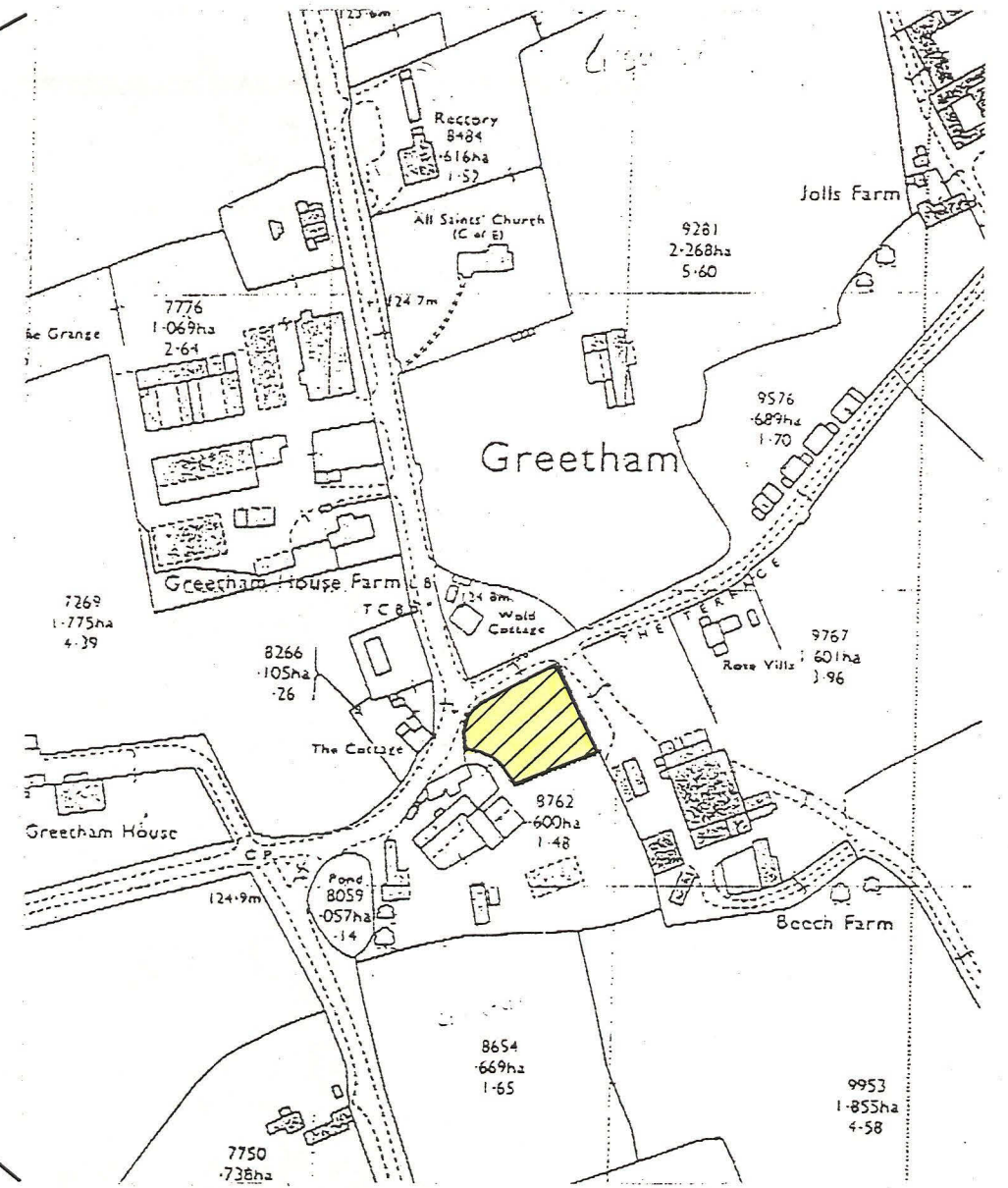


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KEY

 Location of Site

1:2500

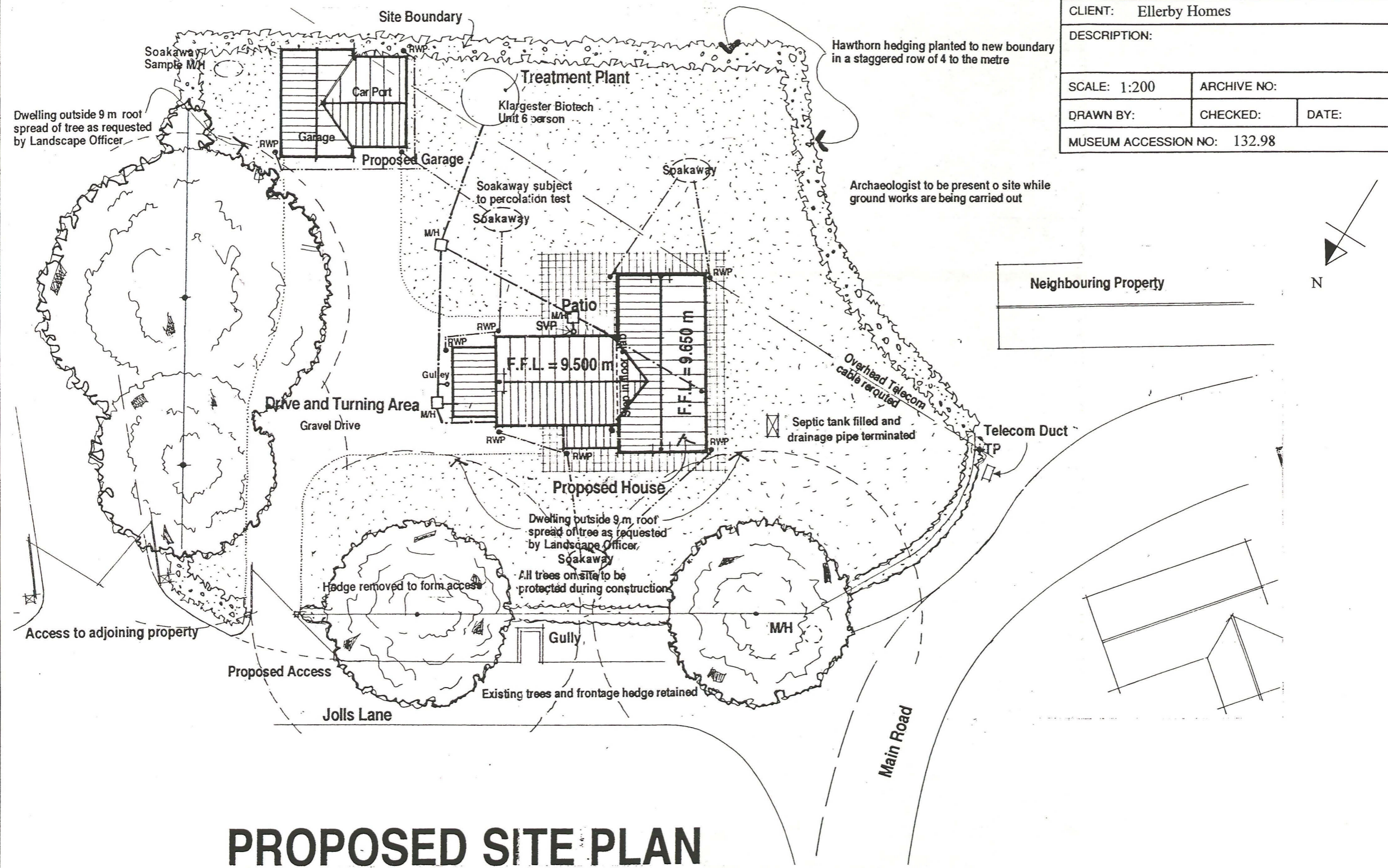


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CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
SITE CODE: GJL98	PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:	
CLIENT: Ellerby Homes		
DESCRIPTION:	Site Location Plan	
SCALE:	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY:	CHECKED:	DATE:
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 132.98		

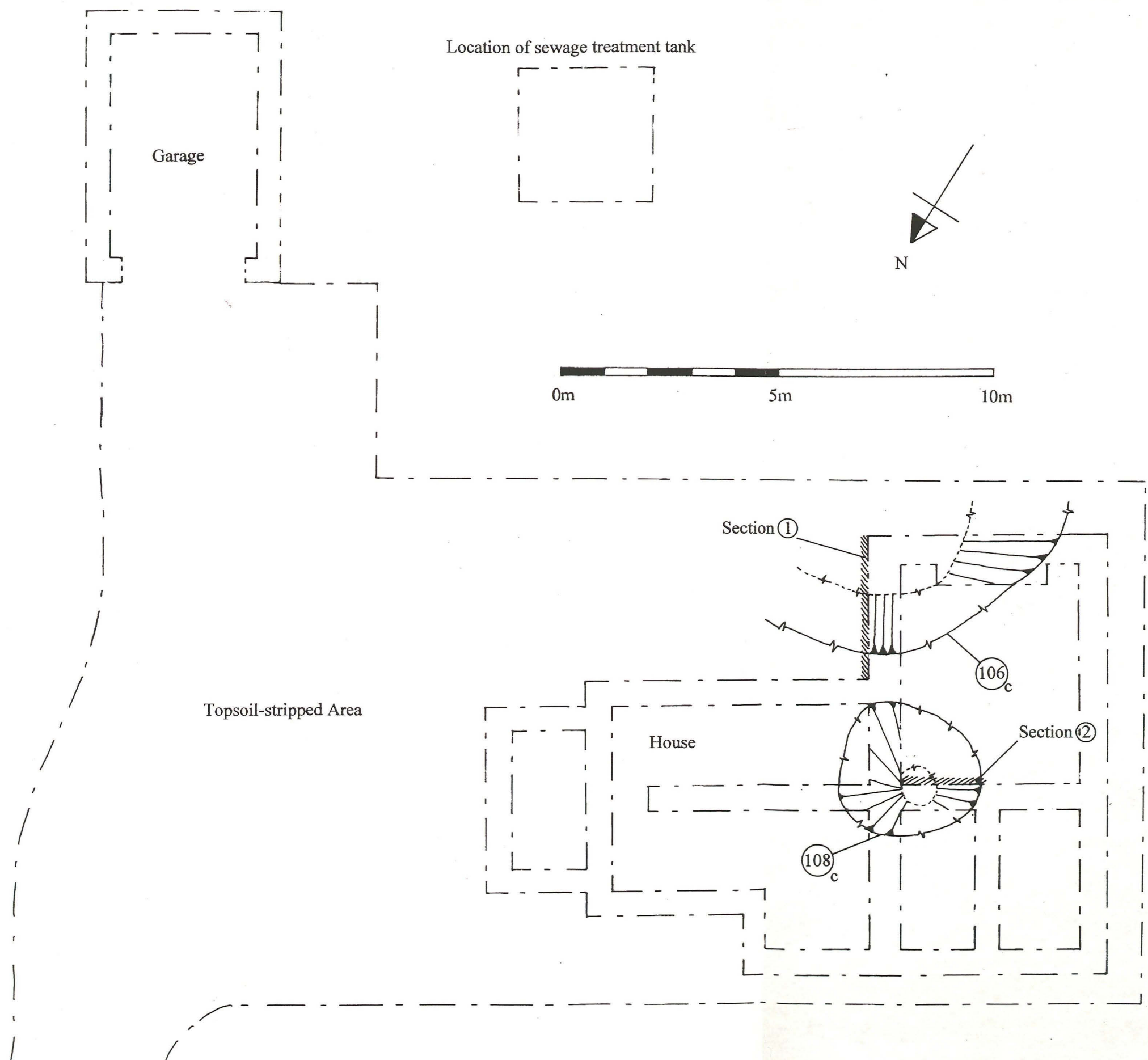
Fig.1

CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
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CLIENT: Ellerby Homes		
DESCRIPTION:		
SCALE: 1:200	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY:	CHECKED:	DATE:
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 132.98		



# PROPOSED SITE PLAN

CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
SITE CODE: GJL98	PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:	
CLIENT: Ellerby Homes		
DESCRIPTION: Trench Location Plan		
SCALE: 1:100	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY: KW	CHECKED:	DATE:
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 132.98		



- KEY
- Limit of excavation
  - /// Cut feature
  - | Conjectured continuation of edge
  - /// Location of section drawing

CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
SITE CODE: GJL98	PLANELEV/SECTION NO:	
CLIENT: Ellerby Homes		
DESCRIPTION: West-Facing Section ①		
SCALE: 1:20	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY: K.W.	CHECKED:	DATE: 21/10/98
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 132.98		

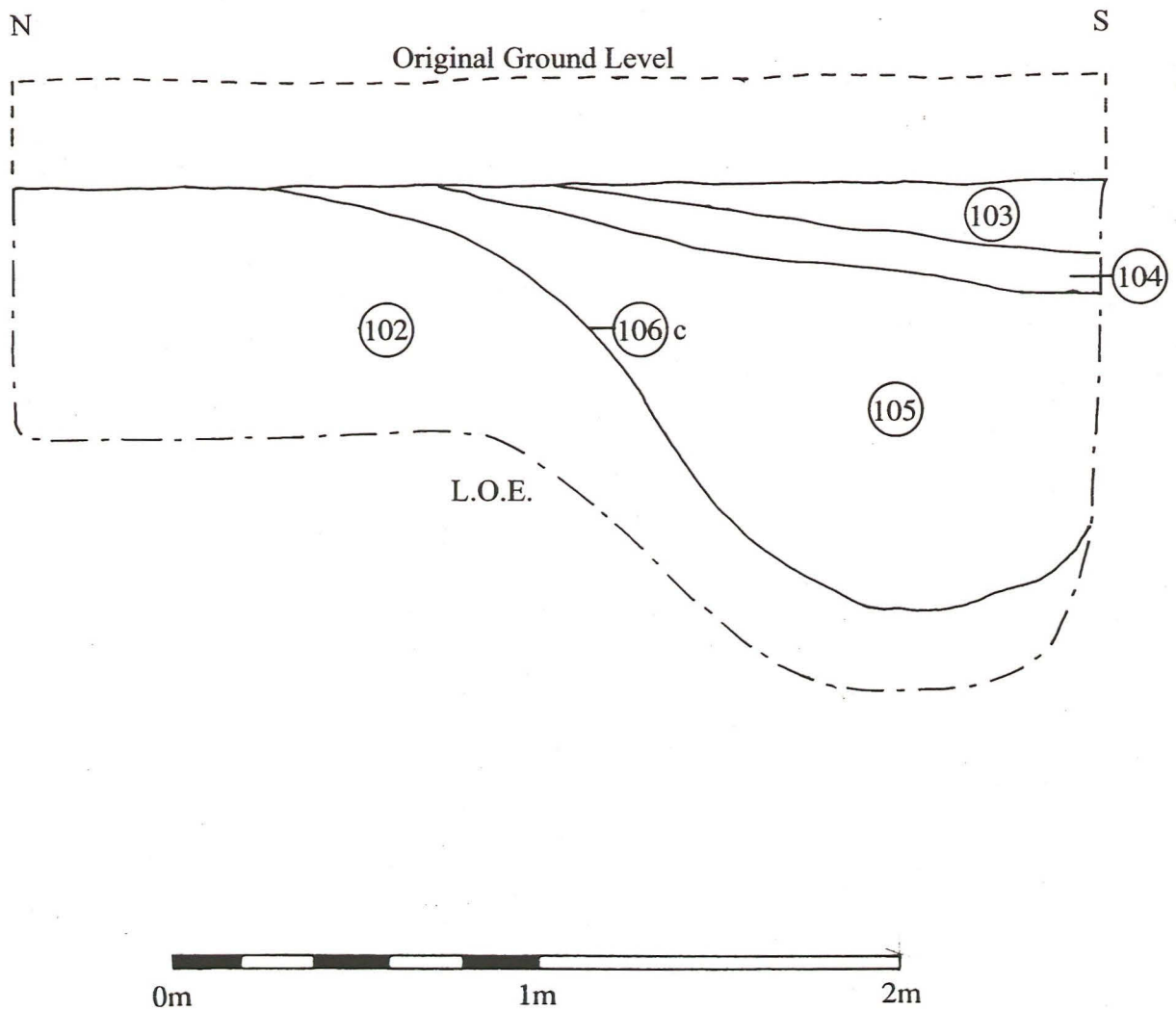


Fig.4



CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
SITE CODE: GJL98	PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:	
CLIENT: Ellerby Homes	DESCRIPTION: North-Facing Section ②	
SCALE: 1:20	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY: K.W.	CHECKED:	DATE: 21/10/98
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 132.98		

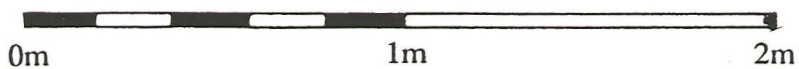
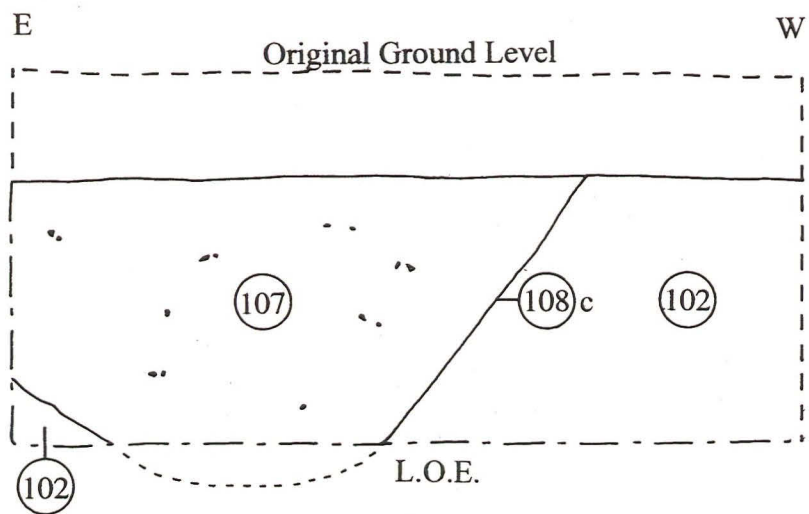


Fig.5