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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF DEVELOPMENT AT
QUEEN STREET/POST OFFICE LANE,
SPILSBY,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SQS99)**



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES



Lancashire County Council
Archaeology Section
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF DEVELOPMENT AT
QUEEN STREET/POST OFFICE LANE,
SPILSBY,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SQS99)**

Work Undertaken For
Brightsolo Ltd and
LCS Property Ltd

August 1999

Report compiled by
Gary Taylor MA

Planning Application No: S/165/1254/98
National Grid Reference: TF 4038 6617
City and County Museum Accession No: 77.99

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CONTENTS

List of Figures

List of Plates

| | | |
|-----|--|---|
| 1. | Summary | 1 |
| 2. | Introduction | 1 |
| | 2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief | 1 |
| | 2.2 Planning Background | 1 |
| | 2.3 Topography and Geology | 1 |
| | 2.4 Archaeological Setting | 1 |
| 3. | Aims | 2 |
| 4. | Methods | 2 |
| 5. | Results | 3 |
| 6. | Discussion | 4 |
| 7. | Conclusions | 5 |
| 8. | Acknowledgements | 5 |
| 9. | Personnel | 5 |
| 10. | Bibliography | 5 |
| 11. | Abbreviations | 6 |

Appendices

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Specification for Archaeological Watching Brief |
| 2 | Context Descriptions |
| 3 | Finds Summary, by Gary Taylor |
| 4 | Glossary |
| 5 | The Archive |

List of Figures

- Figure 1 General Location Plan
- Figure 2 Site Location Plan
- Figure 3 Possible Location of Medieval Planned Town
- Figure 4 Site Plan, showing location of recorded sections
- Figure 5 Sections 1, 4 and 5
- Figure 6 Sections 2 and 3
- Figure 7 Section 6

List of Plates

- Plate 1 General Site View, looking east
- Plate 2 Section 5, showing former topsoil and subsoil
- Plate 3 General Sequence of Deposits
- Plate 4 Section 2, showing service trench (034) and soakaway (012)

1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during development on land between Queen Street and Post Office Lane, Spilsby, Lincolnshire.

A major settlement of the Late Iron Age (c. 150BC -AD50) is known to be located in the Spilsby area. Additionally, Spilsby is a medieval planned town and the investigation site is located close to the Market Place, which dates from the 14th century, and near to 17th century and later buildings.

However, the investigations revealed apparently recent deposits, including brick structures, perhaps cellars, services, dumped and demolition deposits and former yard surfaces. There was no evidence of any remains earlier than about the 19th century and artefacts retrieved from the site dated to the 18th-20th century. It appears probable that the site lay outside the medieval town and has only been developed since the 19th century.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as 'a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons within a specified area, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed.' (IFA 1997).

2.2 Planning Background

A planning application (S/165/1254/98) was submitted to East Lindsey District Council for permission to erect a retail store, demolish existing buildings and provide car

parking and services. Permission was granted subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief during the development.

In consequence, Archaeological Project Services was commissioned, by Brightsolo Ltd on behalf of LCS Property Ltd, to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the development groundworks. The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a specification designed by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1).

2.3 Topography and Geology

Spilsby lies at the south end of the Lincolnshire Wolds, approximately 25km north of Boston and 15km southeast of Horncastle in the administrative district of East Lindsey, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1). The site is at the northeast corner of the town, between Queen Street and Post Office Lane at national grid reference TF 404 662 (Fig. 2). Located near the east end of an east-west ridge, the site lies at approximately 43m OD on a slight slope down to the northeast. Local soils are the Cuckney 2 Association, typical brown sands (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 152). These soils are developed on Upper Jurassic Spilsby Sandstone which overlies Kimmeridge Clay (BGS 1995). Partially canalised streams, which join the River Lymn 2km to the east of Spilsby, are located to the north and south of the site. Prior to development much of the site was an open yard with prefabricated and brick buildings (Plate 1). Natural deposits encountered during the investigation comprised light yellow-brown silty sands.

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Spilsby lies in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric period to the present. Prehistoric

artefacts, including a polished flint axe and a socketed axe, have been found in the parish. Additionally, a major Late Iron Age settlement is located in the area, evident as an artefact scatter with numerous coins of the period (May 1984, 22).

An Anglo-Saxon glass bead and medieval pottery have previously been found in the parish.

Spilsby is first referred to in the Domesday Book of 1086 and the place-name derives from the Old Scandinavian *Spilli's by*, meaning 'Spilli's homestead or village' (Ekwall 1974, 434).

At the time of Domesday, Spilsby formed part of a large manor with Eresby and Thorpe St Peter. This manor, which was held by the Bishop of Durham, had two mills (Foster and Longley 1976, 33).

Spilsby is a medieval planned market town (Everson and Hayes 1984, 39) and still retains much of its original structure. The central spinal road of the medieval settlement is Market Street, approximately 100m southwest of the investigation site. On either side of the spinal highway there are parallel back lanes or property boundaries that appear to define the primary planned unit of the settlement. Queen Street, on the immediate west of the investigation site, would seem to form the eastern limit of this original planned unit (Fig. 3).

In 1302 Spilsby obtained its market charter and approximately 100m southwest of the investigation site is the Market Cross which dates from the 14th century (Jacques nd, 3). The cross is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, no. 22697 (English Heritage 1996, 8).

A chapel in Spilsby is referred to in 1291 and was endowed in the 14th century with

construction of a chancel (Marjoram 1984, 79). This became the parish church of St. James which dates from the 14th century and was founded as a college for priests (Doe 1987, 33).

Near the church is the Grammar School, founded in 1550, though now comprising predominantly 18th century and later buildings (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 681). In addition, there are a number of buildings dating from the 17th century and later in the town, including nearby on Queen Street (DoE 1987, 43).

Approximately 1km to the north of the present investigation site are earthwork remain of the deserted village of Old Spilsby, a Scheduled Ancient Monument, no. 22715 (English Heritage 1996, 8). A survey of the earthwork remains has suggested that the village probably originated in the Late Saxon period, though cartographic evidence indicated that some of the village enclosures had gone out of use by 1771 (Field and George 1996, 61).

3. AIMS

The requirements of the watching brief, as described in the specification (Appendix 1), were to record and interpret archaeological deposits, if present, and to determine their form, function, spatial arrangement, date and sequence.

4. METHODS

Trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator to variable depths as required for the foundations and services (Fig. 4). In part due to depth, shoring was used in many places in the trenches (Plates 2-4). Following excavation, and where safe to do so, parts of the sides of the trenches were

cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were partially or fully excavated by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. The depth and thickness of each deposit were measured from the ground surface. Each archaeological deposit or feature revealed was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. Recording of deposits encountered during the watching brief was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

5. RESULTS

Artefacts recovered during the investigation were examined and a period date assigned where possible. Records of the deposits and features recognised during the watching brief were also examined. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

Two phases of activity were identified:

- Phase 1 Natural deposits
- Phase 2 Undated and Recent deposits

Archaeological contexts are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

Phase 1 Natural deposits

Layers of light yellowish brown silty sand (007, 026) were recorded at the base of the trenches throughout most of the area (Figs. 5 and 6). The surface of these deposits was about 1.25m-1.5m below the present ground surface in the southern part of the site,

lowering to 1.8m beneath ground level in the north of the area.

In the southern part of the site, the natural silty sand was sealed by a thin layer of orange sand (018), thought to be natural stained by overlying archaeological remains (Fig. 6, Section 3).

Above the natural silty sands, or the lowest deposit encountered in some of the shallower excavations, were deposits of yellowish brown silty sand (006, 014, 023, 025, 030). These deposits were up to 1.3m thick and are interpreted as subsoil (Plate 2).

Phase 2 Undated and Recent deposits

Near the southeast corner of the site, in Section 6, the subsoil (030) was cut by a broad feature (033) of uncertain extent but at least 1m wide and over 0.2m deep (Fig. 7). The function of this feature is unknown but it may be for clearance. Filling the feature were brown sandy silts (029 and (031), the latter containing brick fragments and plastic, which indicate a recent date.

In Section 2, on the south side of the site, the subsoil (014) was cut by a possibly east-west linear feature (034). Approximately 0.4m deep, this contained a cement-clad pipe (013), overlain by brown sandy silt with charcoal and brick fragments (010). This is interpreted as a service trench and backfill (Fig. 6, Section 2). A further deposit of brown sandy silt with brick fragments (005) may also be service trench backfill, though could be dumped material.

The service trench (013) was truncated by two features. One of these was a 1.2m deep trench (032) containing two brick walls (020) about 1m apart. These are thought to represent part of a cellar or basement passage, though may be sump or soakaway. Also cutting through service trench (013)

was a vertical-sided, flat-based feature (012). Approximately 0.9m wide and deep and filled by brown silty sand with bricks, metal and ceramic pipe fragments (011), this is thought to be a soakaway (Plate 4).

Filling the brick 'passage' (020) was a layer of brown silty sand with brick and charcoal fragments (017). This deposit contained a lens of blackish silty sand with metal and brick pieces (019). These are both considered to be dumped deposits. Other layers of brown sandy silts or silty sands, some containing brick, charcoal and plastic (004, 029, 031), were revealed nearby and are also thought to be dumped deposits.

Cutting through one of these dumped deposits (017) was a north-south linear feature (016). Approximately 0.2m deep and filled with a brown-yellow sandy silt containing a metal pipe (015), this is a service trench (Fig. 6, Section 3).

Overlying this service trench, the soakaway (012), dumped deposits (025, 029) and subsoil (023), were layers of dark brown silty sand with brick, coal, mortar and charcoal fragments (003, 009, 022, 024, 027). These are thought to be a former topsoil or, possibly, a dumped deposit. Above this were variable layers of concrete (002), pinkish silty sand and ash (008), brick rubble (021) and blackish sandy silt with brick and charcoal fragments (028). The concrete (002) is a former surface and the brick rubble (021) is a demolition deposit. These, and the two layers (008, 028) which are dumped materials, served as a base for tarmac which formed the present site surface, though the tarmac had already been stripped off part of the site, exposing deposit (028 - Fig. 7).

No stratified artefacts were recovered during the investigation, though a small quantity of 18th-20th century pottery and clay pipe

fragments was retrieved as unstratified objects (Appendix 3).

6. DISCUSSION

Deposits of silty sand (Phase 1) were recorded throughout the area. These are thought to have derived from degradation of the underlying sandstone. The surface of these deposits dipped toward the north, reflecting the general trend of the natural topography with the site located at the end of a ridge. Above the natural silty sands were thick deposits of subsoil, considered also to have been naturally formed.

Above, or cutting, the natural sand and subsoil were service trenches, soakaway, possible clearance cuts, brick structural remains, perhaps cellars, and spreads of demolition debris (Phase 2). These were mostly undated but are likely to be 19th-20th century and relate to previous and present buildings on the site. Cartographic evidence indicates that the overall parcelling pattern of the site has changed several times since the first quarter of the 20th century and buildings have been erected or removed (OS 1956 - Fig. 3; OS 1976 - Fig. 2). Former topsoil and concrete surfaces, probably representing open yards as recorded on the Ordnance Survey maps, were also revealed. Unstratified artefacts of 18th-20th century date were recovered during the investigation, though there was no clear evidence for any earlier remains at the site.

Spilsby still retains elements of its original structure as a planned medieval town. The main thoroughfare, Market Street/Hundelby Road, forms the central route through the town, with broadly parallel back lanes or property boundaries to north and south and Queen Street apparently forming the eastern limit of the medieval planned system (Fig. 3). This would suggest that the development

site lay outside the medieval settlement zone, though in an area with potential for post-medieval expansion of the town.

However, structural remains identified during the investigation appear to be 19th-20th century and, moreover, only a small quantity of artefacts were recovered and these were entirely of 18th-20th century date. As excavations extended up to 2.5m below the present ground surface, it seems likely that there are no remains earlier than the 18th century at the site. Broadly confirming this, the Ordnance Survey Surveyors Drawing of 1819 records that the east side of Queen Street was largely free of buildings, other than a few on the southern stretch of the road where it turns and becomes Halton Road (OS 1819). It is possible that the lack of buildings at this date reflect some post-medieval settlement shrinkage. However, the site is located close to the edge of the Spilsby ridge and the slopes around the town are largely unoccupied. Therefore, perhaps more likely than settlement contraction, and because of prevailing topographic reasons, this area of the town may have only been developed since the 19th century.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations were carried out during development on land at Spilsby because the site lies near the core of the medieval market town. Additionally, there is a major Iron Age settlement in the vicinity. It was therefore possible that development at the site would disturb archaeological remains.

However, few archaeological remains were encountered and these were mostly recent and related to previous structures, services, ground level raising and surfaces at the site. There was no evidence of any remains

earlier than about the 18th-19th century and no artefacts before this date, although excavations extended well into natural deposits throughout the site. This would suggest that there are no post-medieval or earlier remains at the site. Additionally, no evidence of waterlogged deposits was found during this investigation and, therefore, few environmental indicators (snails, seeds, pollen, *etc.*) will survive other than through charring.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr K. Flintham of Brightsolo Ltd who commissioned the fieldwork and post excavation analysis. Mr D. Wightman of Mike Alford Construction Ltd also assisted during the fieldwork stage of the project. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor and this report was edited by Tom Lane. David Start permitted access to the library and parish files maintained by the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
Site Supervisors: Neil Herbert, Fiona Walker
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
Illustration: Phil Mills
Post-excavation Analyst: Gary Taylor

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

BGS British Geological Survey

DoE Department of the Environment

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

OS Ordnance Survey

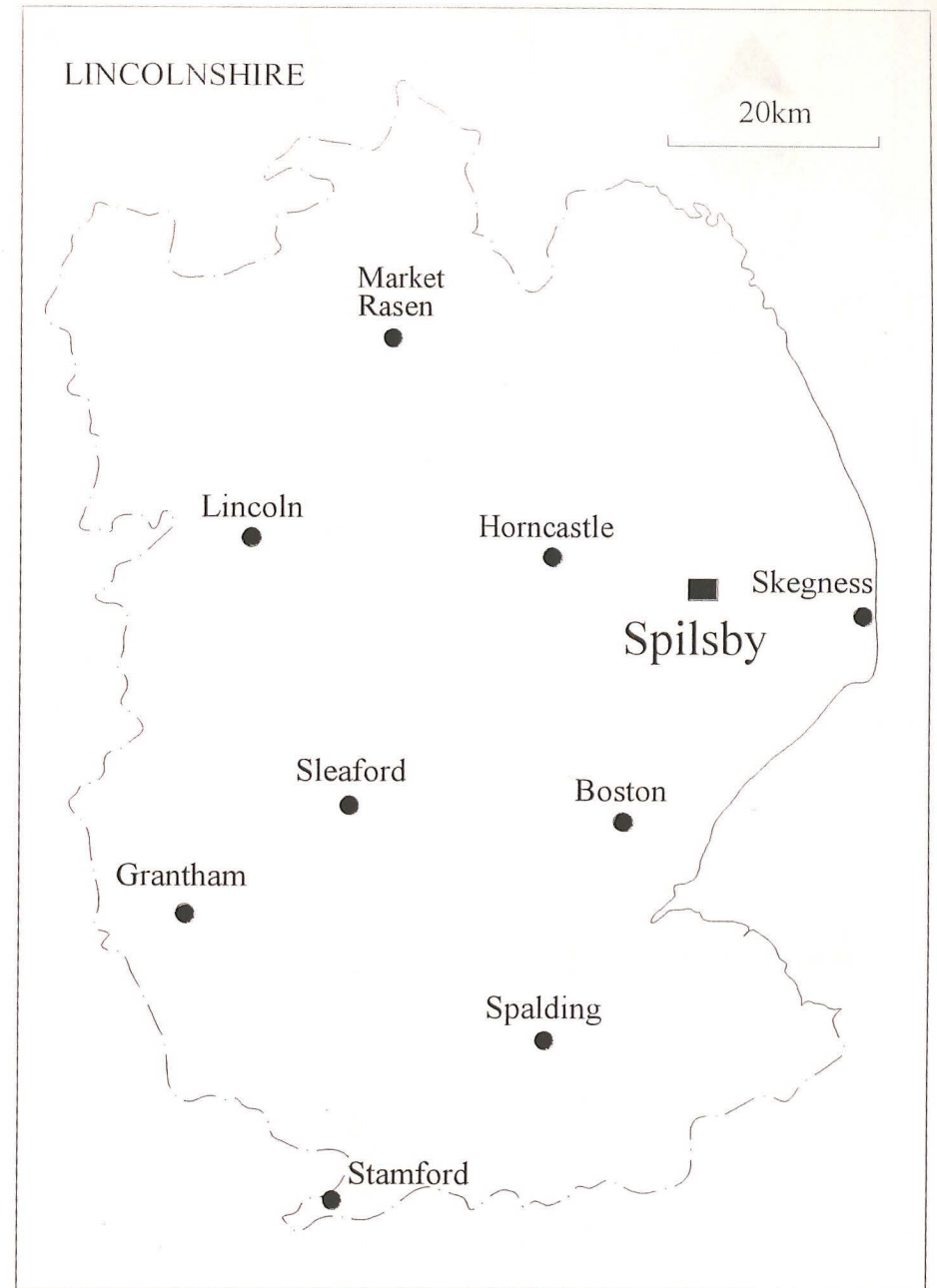
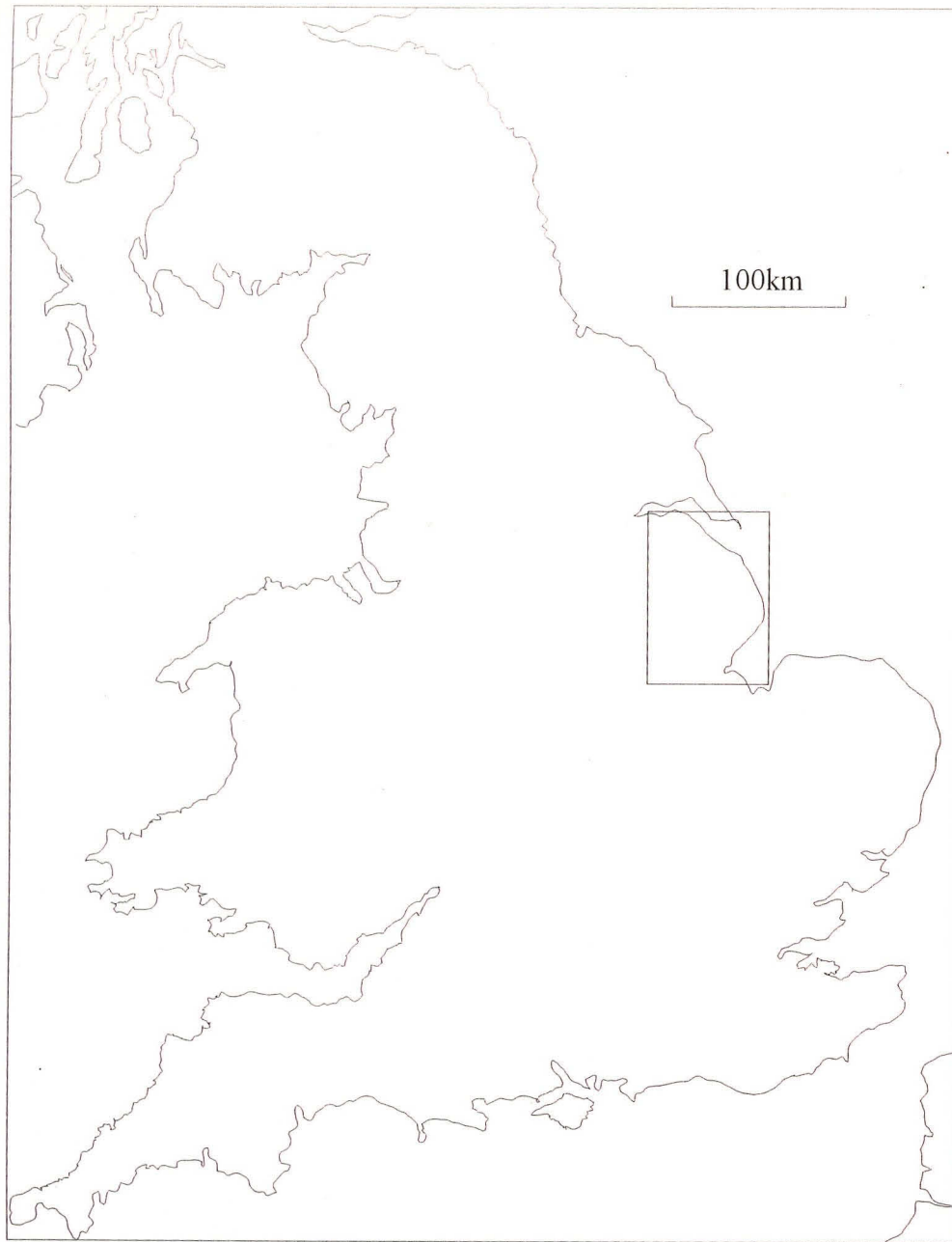


Figure 1 General Location Plan

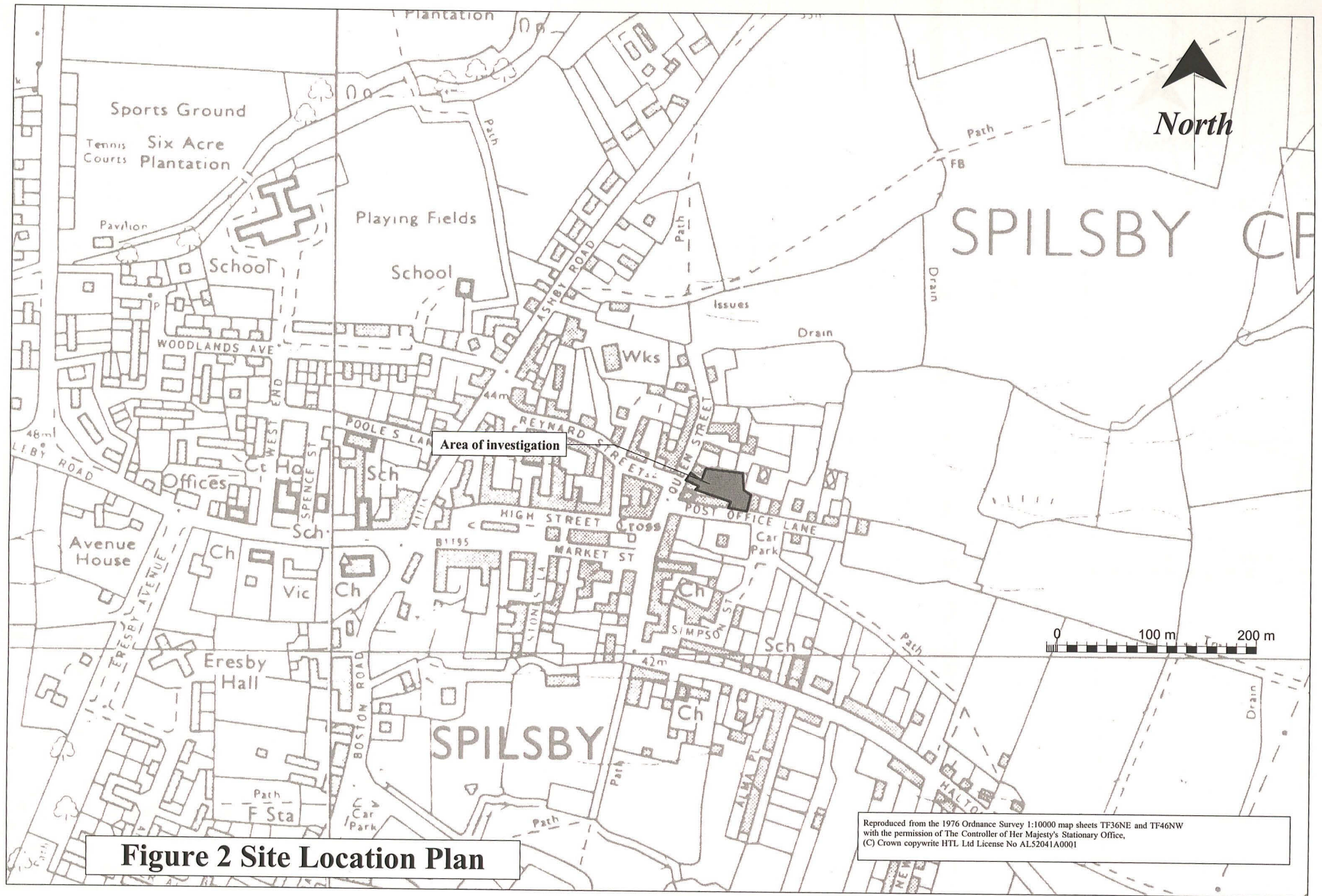
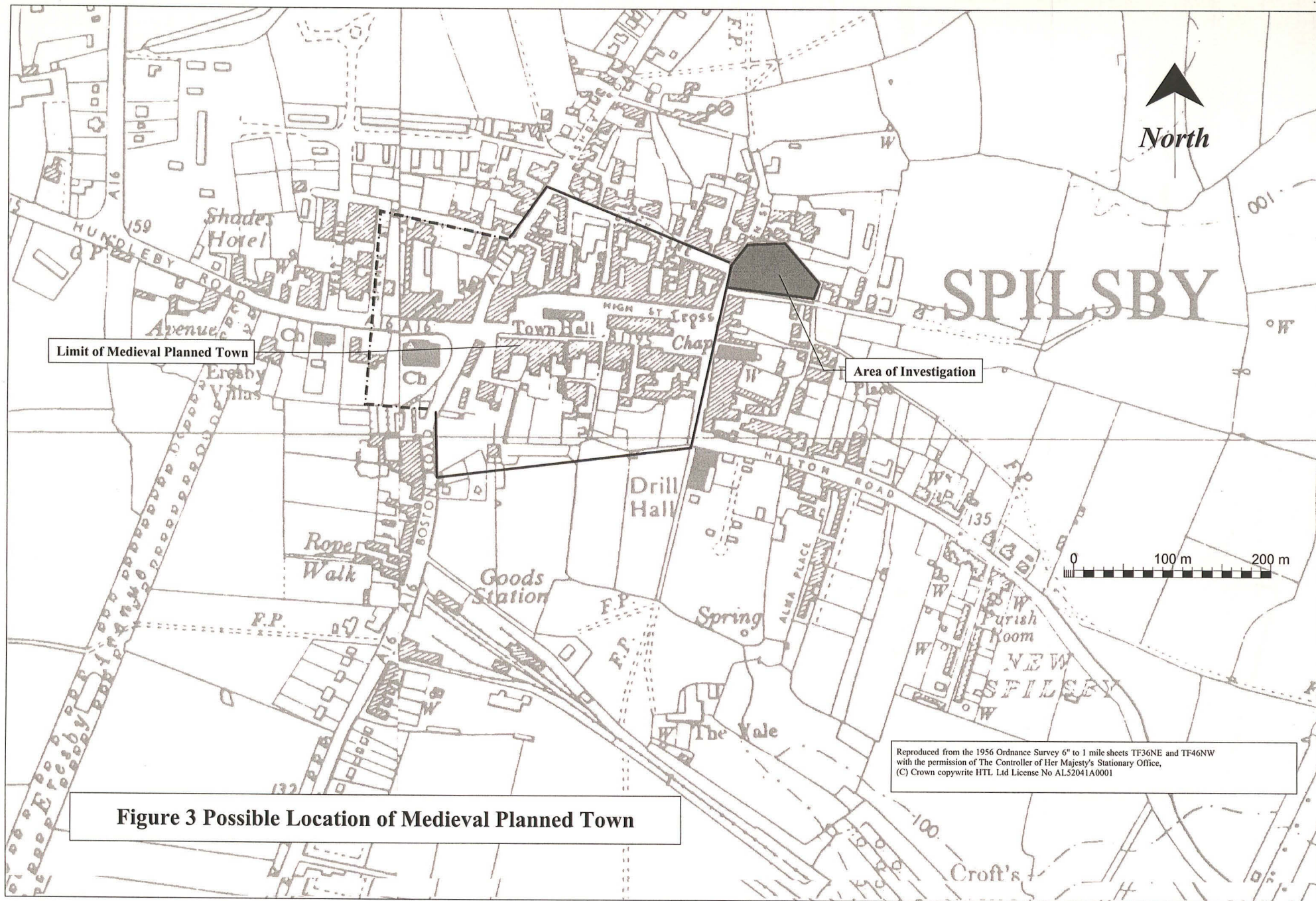


Figure 2 Site Location Plan

Reproduced from the 1976 Ordnance Survey 1:10000 map sheets TF36NE and TF46NW with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office, (C) Crown copyright HTL Ltd License No AL52041A0001



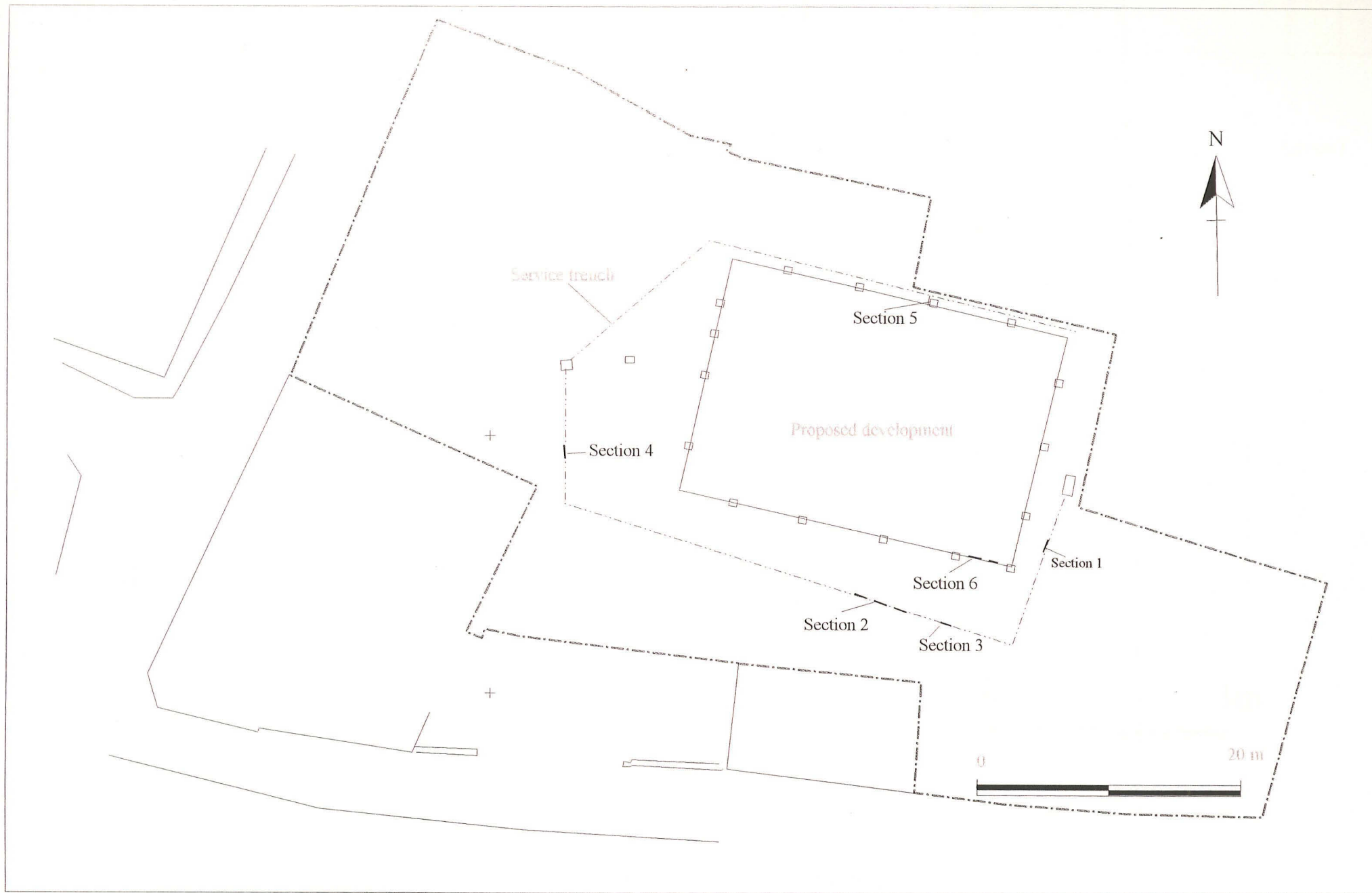


Figure 4 Site Plan, showing location of recorded sections

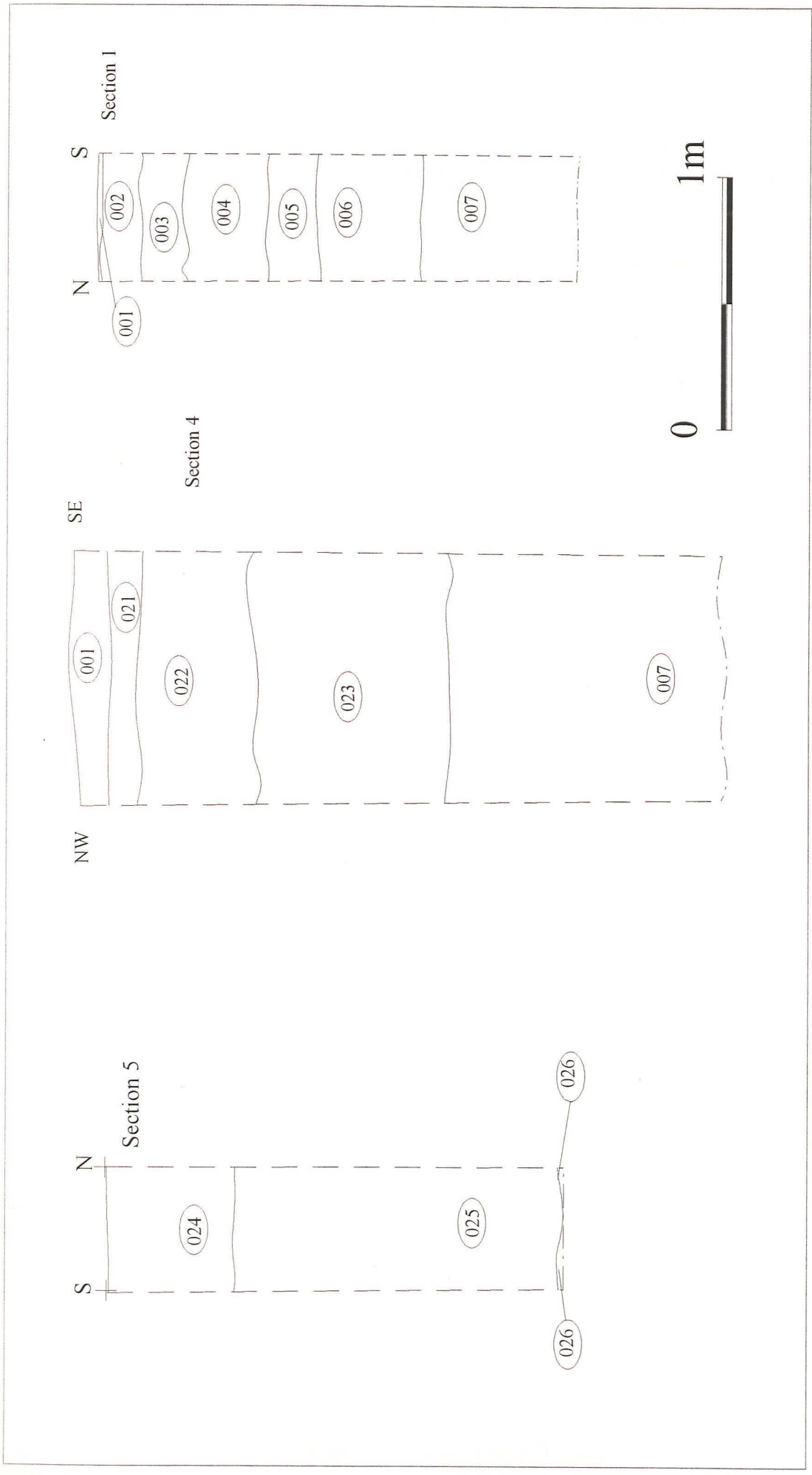


Figure 5 Sections 1, 4 and 5

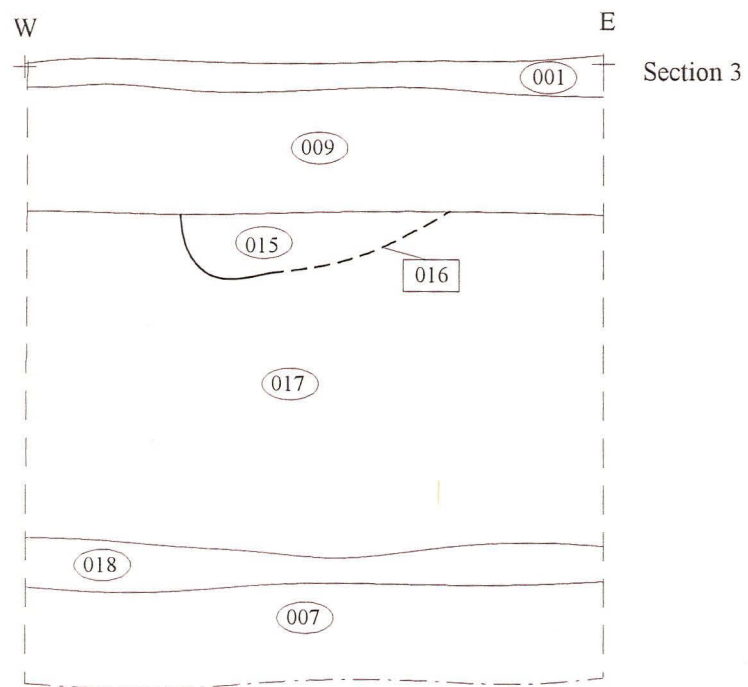
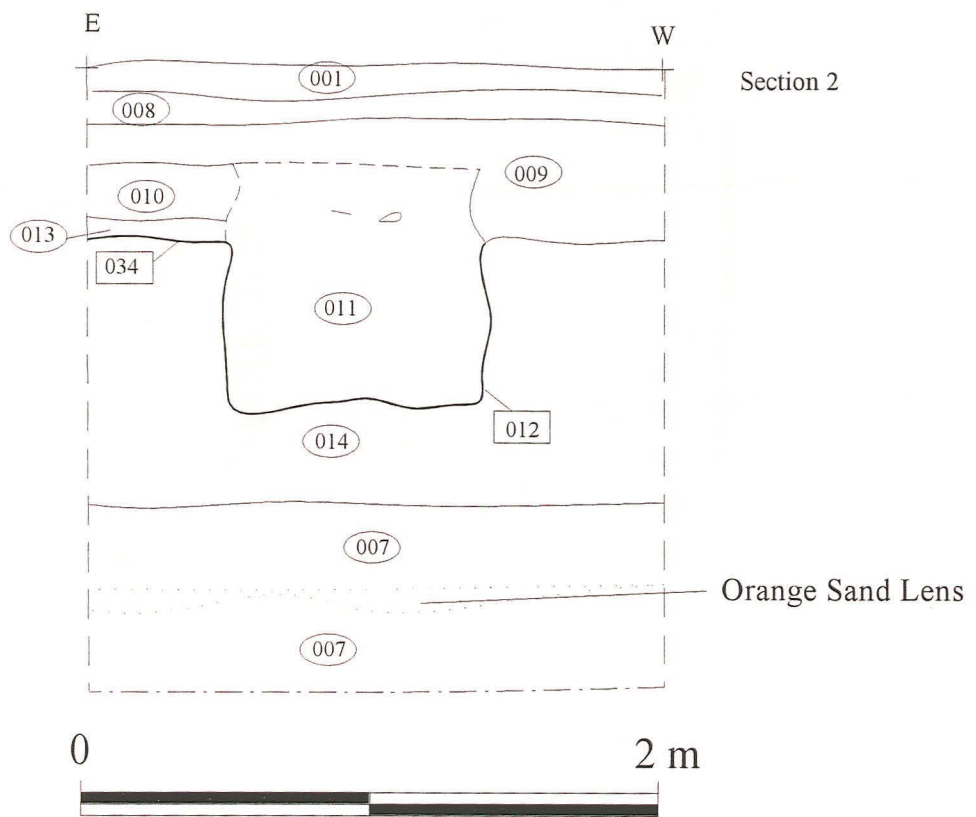


Figure 6 Sections 2 and 3

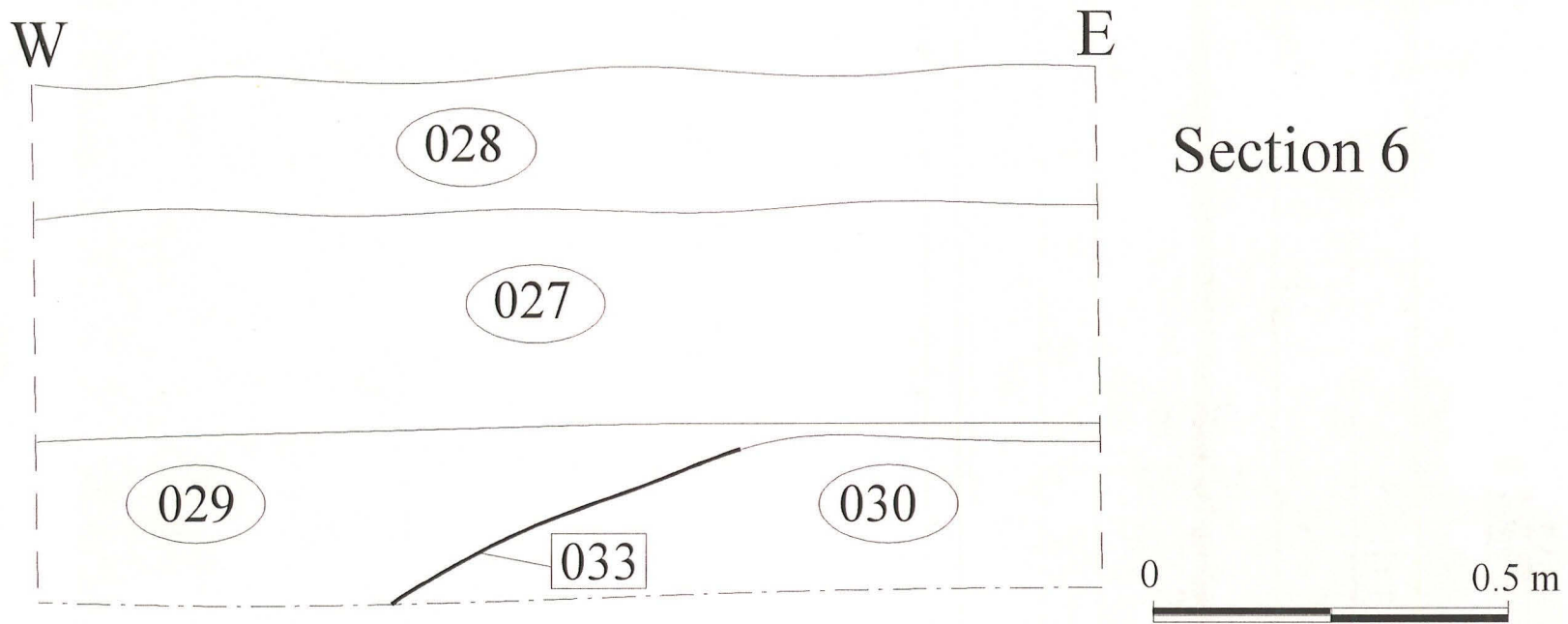


Figure 7 Section 6



Plate 1 General Site View, looking east



Plate 2 Section 5, showing former
topsoil (024) and subsoil (025)



Plate 3 General sequence of deposits



Plate 4 Section 2, showing Service Trench [034]
and Soakway [012]

Appendix 1

LAND AT QUEEN STREET/POST OFFICE LANE, SPILSBY, LINCOLNSHIRE SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1. SUMMARY

- a. *A watching brief is required during development at Queen Street/Post Office Lane, Spilsby, Lincolnshire.*
- b. *A major Iron Age settlement is known at Spilsby, though its extent is uncertain. Anglo-Saxon and medieval artefacts have also been found in the area and Spilsby, referred to in the Domesday Book of 1086, was a medieval market town. In addition to the medieval church, there are buildings of 17th century and later date in the town.*
- c. *The watching brief will be undertaken during groundworks associated with the development. The archaeological features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.*
- d. *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the investigation. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2. INTRODUCTION

- a. This document comprises a specification for an archaeological watching brief during development on land at Queen Street/Post Office Lane, Spilsby. The site is located at national grid reference TF 404 662.
- b. This document contains the following parts:
 - i. Overview.
 - ii. Stages of work and methodologies.
 - iii. List of specialists.
 - iv. Programme of works and staffing structure of the project.

3. SITE LOCATION

- a. Spilsby lies at the south end of the Lincolnshire Wolds, approximately 25km north of Boston and 15km southeast of Horncastle in the administrative district of East Lindsey. The site is at the northeast corner of the town, between Queen Street and Post Office Lane at national grid reference TF 404 662.

4. PLANNING BACKGROUND

- a. A planning application (S/165/1254/98) was submitted to East Lindsey District Council for an permission to erect a retail store, demolish existing buildings and provide car parking and services. Permission was granted subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief during the development.

5. SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- a. The site lies at the northeastern corner of the town at approximately 43m OD near the east end of an east-west ridge. Local soils are the Cuckney 2 Association, typical brown sands on Cretaceous sandstone (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 152). Partially canalised streams are located to the south and north of the site.

6. THE ARCHAEOLOGY

- a. Prehistoric remains, including a polished flint axe and a socketed axe, have been found at Spilsby. A major Iron Age settlement is located in the area, evident as an artefact scatter with numerous coins of the period.
- b. An Anglo-Saxon glass bead and medieval pottery has previously been found in the parish.
- c. Spilsby is referred to in the Domesday Book of 1086 when it formed part of a large manor with Eresby and Thorpe St Peter. This manor had two mills. The town obtained its market charter at the beginning of the 14th century. The parish church of St. James dates from the 14th century and there are a number of buildings dating from the 17th century and later in the town.

7. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- a. The aims of the watching brief will be:
 - i. To record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.
- b. The objectives of the watching brief will be to:
 - i. Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
 - ii. Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
 - iii. As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
 - iv. Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

8. SITE OPERATIONS

- a. General considerations
 - i. All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the watching brief.
 - ii. The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA). *Archaeological Project Services* is IFA registered organisation no. 21.
 - iii. Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.
- b. Methodology
 - i. The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.
 - ii. Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.
 - iii. Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.

- iv. Throughout the watching brief a photographic record consisting of colour prints will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
 - (1) The site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
 - (2) groups of features where their relationship is important
- v. Should human remains be located the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department and the police will be informed.

9. POST-EXCAVATION

a. Stage 1

- i. On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming 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 prints will be labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
- ii. All finds recovered during the field work will be washed, marked and packaged according to the 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.

b. Stage 2

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

c. Stage 3

- i. On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.
- ii. This will consist of:
 - (1) A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
 - (2) A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.
 - (3) Description of the topography of the site.
 - (4) Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.
 - (5) A text describing the findings of the watching brief.
 - (6) A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.
 - (7) Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.

- (8) Sections of the archaeological features.
- (9) Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
- (10) Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- (11) Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10. REPORT DEPOSITION

- a. Copies of the report will be sent to the client; the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record; and East Lindsey District Council Planning Department.

11. ARCHIVE

- a. The documentation and records generated during the watching brief will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the City and County Museum, Lincoln. This will be undertaken following the requirements of the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives* for long term storage and curation.

12. PUBLICATION

- a. A report of the findings of the watching brief will be published in Heritage Lincolnshire's Annual Report and a note presented to the editor of the journal *Lincolnshire History and Archaeology*. If appropriate, notes on the findings will be submitted to the appropriate national journals: *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date, and *Medieval Archaeology* and the journal of the *Medieval Settlement Research Group* for findings of medieval or later date.

13. CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- a. Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Assistant Archaeological Officer, Lincolnshire County Council. They will be given seven days notice in writing before the commencement of the project.

14. VARIATIONS

- a. Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.

15. PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- a. The watching brief will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the archaeological site work.
- b. An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- c. Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one person-day) will require a post-excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half person-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about four days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

16. SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

- a. 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 - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust Roman - B Precious, Independent Specialist Anglo-Saxon - J Young, Independent Specialist Medieval and later - H Healey, Independent Archaeologist; or G Taylor, Archaeological Project Services |
| Non-pottery Artefacts | J Cowgill, Independent Specialist; or G Taylor, Archaeological Project Services |
| Animal Bones | Environmental Archaeology Consultancy |
| Environmental Analysis | J Rackham, Independent Specialist; or P Cope-Faulkner, Archaeological Project Services |
| Human Remains Analysis | R Gowland, Independent Specialist |

17. **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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 13

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

| No. | Description | Interpretation |
|-----|---|------------------------------------|
| 001 | Firm black tarmac, 20mm thick | Carpark surface |
| 002 | Solid greyish white concrete, 0.2m thick | Former surface |
| 003 | Dark brown silty sand with occasional stones, brick fragments and charcoal, 0.16m thick | Former topsoil or dumped deposit |
| 004 | Mid brown silty sand, 0.33m thick | ?Dumped deposit |
| 005 | Dark brown sandy silt with occasional stone and brick fragments, 0.2m thick | Dumped deposit |
| 006 | Mid yellowish brown silty sand, over 0.43m thick | Subsoil |
| 007 | Light brownish yellow silty sand, over 0.62m thick | Natural |
| 008 | Pinkish brown silty sand with ash and brick fragments, <i>c.</i> 0.12m thick | Levelling for 001 |
| 009 | Blackish brown gritty silty sand with coal, ash, charcoal and tarmac fragments, 0.4m thick | Dumped deposit |
| 010 | Mid brown sandy silt with charcoal and brick fragments, 0.28m thick | Dumped deposit, ?fill of 034 |
| 011 | Mid brown silty sand and bricks with metal and ceramic pipe fragments, 0.86m deep | Fill of 012 |
| 012 | Vertical sided, flat-based cut, 0.9m wide, 0.86m deep | Possible soakaway |
| 013 | Light brownish yellow cement, 0.14m thick | Service pipe cladding, fill of 034 |
| 014 | Mid yellowish brown silty sand, over 0.9m thick | Subsoil |
| 015 | Mid brownish yellow silty sand with metal pipe, 0.21m deep | Fill of 016 |
| 016 | N-S linear cut, 0.82m wide, 0.21m deep | Service trench |
| 017 | Mid brown silty sand with occasional brick and charcoal fragments, <i>c.</i> 1.2m deep | ?Dumped deposit |
| 018 | Light orange sand, 100mm thick | Natural, ?stained |
| 019 | Blackish brown silty sand with frequent metal pieces and occasional brick fragments, 0.5m thick | Dumped deposit |
| 020 | N-S brick and mortar walls, <i>c.</i> 1.1m high, <i>c.</i> 1m apart | ?Cellar/passage walls |
| 021 | Firm dark brown and red brick rubble and silty sand, 0.14m thick | Levelling for 001 |
| 022 | Dark brown sandy silt with brick, coal and mortar fragments, 0.46m thick | Former topsoil/levelling deposit |
| 023 | Mid reddish brown sandy silt, 0.78m thick | Subsoil |

| | | |
|-----|--|--|
| 024 | Blackish brown sandy silt with organic matter, brick, stone, metal and ceramic fragments, 0.5m thick | Topsoil |
| 025 | Mid yellowish brown sandy silt, 1.3m thick | Subsoil |
| 026 | Light yellowish red-brown sandy silt, over 50mm thick | Natural |
| 027 | Blackish brown sandy silt with clay patches, brick fragments, stones and charcoal, 0.5m thick | Topsoil |
| 028 | Blackish brown sandy silt with brick fragments, stones and charcoal, 0.2m thick | Levelling deposit (overlying tarmac removed) |
| 029 | Mid brown sandy silt with rare charcoal, up to 0.25m thick, thins to E | Fill of 033 |
| 030 | Light greenish yellowy grey silty sand, over 0.2m thick | ?Subsoil |
| 031 | Mid brown sandy silt with brick fragments and plastic, <i>c.</i> 1.2m deep | Dumped deposit |
| 032 | N-S linear vertical sided, flat-based cut, 1.2m deep, containing brick walls 020 | Foundation trench |
| 033 | Cut, over 0.2m deep, over 1m wide | Cut of unknown function |
| 034 | Linear cut, ?E-W, <i>c.</i> 0.4m deep | Service trench |

Appendix 3

FINDS SUMMARY

By Gary Taylor

Provenance

All the artefacts were recovered as unstratified objects and were random in distribution. The pottery is likely to have been made in the Staffordshire area of the Midlands, though it is probable that the clay pipe was produced more locally in the vicinity of Spilsby. Machine-made brick was also observed widely in dumped deposits throughout the site but was not collected.

Range

The artefacts recovered are entirely ceramic, with pottery of predominantly 19th century date dominating the small assemblage. A single fragment of clay pipe was also recovered. This clay pipe and pottery of probable 18th-19th century date are the earliest items found. No faunal or environmental remains were retrieved, though organic deposits were observed during the investigation.

| Context | Description | Date |
|--------------|--|-------------------------|
| unstratified | 4x blue and white transfer-printed tablewares, 19th-early 20th century | 19th-early 20th century |
| | 2x brown glazed stoneware, 19th century | |
| | 1x black glazed large pancheon, 19th century | |
| | 1x brown glazed earthenware, 18th-19th century | |
| | 1x glazed stoneware bottle, 19th century | |
| | 1x clay pipe stem, late 18th-19th century | |

Condition

The material is in good condition and presents no long-term storage problems. The assemblage will be stored in archive by material class.

Documentation

There has been limited previous archaeological investigation in Spilsby, though details of sites and finds in the area are maintained in the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

As an entirely unstratified and post-medieval collection, the assemblage has only limited potential. However, the coherent dating of the material, with an absence of any pre-18th century objects, would tend to suggest that medieval or earlier deposits are either absent, or have been removed, from this area of Spilsby.

Appendix 4

GLOSSARY

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Anglo-Saxon | Pertaining to the early part of the Saxon period and dating from approximately AD 450-650. |
| Context | An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004). |
| Cut | A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded. |
| Dumped deposits | These are deposits, often laid down intentionally, that raise a land surface. They may be the result of casual waste disposal or may be deliberate attempts to raise the ground surface. |
| Fill | Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s). |
| Iron Age | The final part of the prehistoric period (<i>q.v.</i>) in Britain, dating from <i>c.</i> 700 BC to AD 50. The period is characterised by the introduction and use of iron for tools and weapons, the development of coinage and the construction of hillforts. |
| Late Saxon | The latter part of the Saxon period, upto the time of the Norman conquest. The period dates from approximately AD 850-1066. |
| Layer | A layer is an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut. |
| Medieval | The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500. |
| Natural | Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity. |
| Post-medieval | The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800. |
| Prehistoric | The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD. |

Appendix 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

| | |
|----|-----------------------------|
| 34 | Context records |
| 6 | Scale drawings, on 3 sheets |
| 2 | Photographic record sheets |
| 1 | Bag of finds |
| 1 | Stratigraphic matrix |

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Sleaford
Lincolnshire
NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Lincolnshire City and County Museum
12 Friars Lane
Lincoln
LN2 1HQ

The archive will be deposited in accordance with the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives*, produced by the Lincolnshire City and County Museum.

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number: 77.99

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: SQS99

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

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