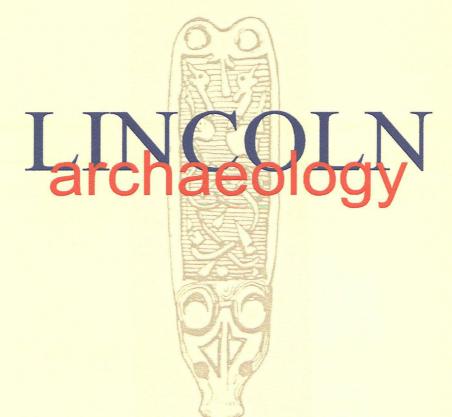
# A Report to Scrivelsby Estate

February 2000



# **Development at Back Lane Wood Enderby, Lincolnshire**

**Archaeological Watching Brief** 

By K Wragg

Report No.: 407



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Site Code: WEBL99 LCCM Accession No.: 218.99 Planning Application No.: S/213/0423/99 NGR: TF 2750/6400

Archaeological Watching Brief

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Fig.2	Plan of proposed development - scale 1:200

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# DEVELOPMENT AT BACK LANE, WOOD ENDERBY, LINCOLNSHIRE

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

#### NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

This project involved the construction of a detached house and triple garage on a plot close to the northern end of the village of Wood Enderby, which lies approximately 5.5km to the south of Horncastle.

The site was under grass and used for parking for neighbouring properties. A number of existing detached garages were situated at various locations across the site, and a large septic tank was also present on the site serving the domestic properties to the east and west.

Groundworks involved the demolition of the existing structures on the site, followed by foundation trenching for the new house and garage. A new sewage treatment tank was also required, together with associated connections to both the new and existing properties on the site.

East Lindsey District Council consulted the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section, who commented that the site lies within an area likely to produce archaeological remains of the medieval period or earlier.

On the basis of this, the planning consent held a condition requiring archaeological recording during the groundworks.

This watching brief was the response to that planning condition, and was carried out intermittently between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of October 1999.

Unfortunately, in spite of the potential of this site, the results of this watching brief have proved negative.

There was no sign of any ancient occupation revealed on the site, and the few sherds of pottery revealed by the groundworks were all unstratified (and ranged in date from the late  $13^{\text{th}}$ - $14^{\text{th}}$  century through to the  $19^{\text{th}}$  and  $20^{\text{th}}$  centuries).

It is possible that this particular site was traditionally used for grazing stock or horticulture (as can presently be seen in areas surrounding the site). However, it could also be the case that modern intrusive features, such as the septic tanks present in at least two locations on the site, have destroyed any evidence for earlier occupation.

# DEVELOPMENT AT BACK LANE, WOOD ENDERBY, LINCOLNSHIRE

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This project involved the construction of a detached house and triple garage on a plot close to the northern end of the village of Wood Enderby, which lies approximately 5.5km to the south of Horncastle.

The site was under grass and used for parking for neighbouring properties. A number of existing detached garages were situated at various locations across the site, and a large septic tank was also present on the site serving the domestic properties to the east and west.

Groundworks involved the demolition of the existing structures on the site, followed by foundation trenching for the new house and garage. A new sewage treatment tank was also required, together with associated connections to both the new and existing properties on the site.

Following consultation with the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section, East Lindsey District Council issued a planning consent with a condition that archaeological recording should be carried out during the course of the development.

This watching brief was the response to that planning condition, and was carried out intermittently between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of October 1999.

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

As part of the planning process, East Lindsey District Council consulted the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section in order to determine any potential archaeological implications of this development.

Following appraisal of the scheme against the Lincolnshire Sites & Monuments Record (SMR), Mr J. Bonnor of the Archaeology Section commented as follows:

'Little is known about the settlement of Wood Enderby. St. Benedict's church exhibits Norman features within its 1860 rebuilt fabric and late Saxon origins are likely. The application site lies within one of the most likely areas to produce archaeological remains of the medieval period or earlier. The site is encircled by Back Lane which is usually a feature of medieval settlement, running to the side and rear of properties. A bronze medieval seal was also found close to this site'.

#### 3.0 RESULTS

The development proposed for this site involved three basic elements, as follows:

- Foundation excavation for a new detached dwelling;
- Foundation excavation for a new detached triple garage;
- Trenching for a new sewage treatment tank and associated drainage connections (for both the new buildings and existing neighbouring properties)

In addition to the above, several modern structures also required demolition and/or removal, including a septic tank in the area of the new house.

All trenching was carried out with a mechanical backhoe excavator, and archaeological recording was carried out by means of trenchside observation.

The deepest excavation was for the new sewage treatment tank which was located along the site boundary fronting on to Back Lane (see Fig.2).

In this area, the trench reached a depth of 3m and exposed both the natural strata and the remains of an old septic tank (see Fig.3).

The earliest deposit was [107], a well compacted yellow-brown/off-white clayey chalk layer.

This was at least 1.6m thick to the limit of excavation (L.O.E.), with its upper boundary appearing at a depth of between 1.3m-1.4m below the existing ground level (G.L.).

The natural chalk was overlain by a series of three layers, [104], [105] and [106].

The earliest of these, [106], was c. 300mm thick and comprised a mid-dark orange-brown sand and gravel layer. This was sealed beneath two layers of sandy silt, [105] and [104].

These two deposits were very similar in appearance, although [105] contained frequent chalk inclusions, while [104] contained only occasional flint/stone pieces.

These layers were then cut by a large modern pit feature [103], which appeared to be the remains of a collapsed/demolished septic tank.

This feature was not revealed in plan, but was seen to extend for at least 1.7m (N-S) in the trench section. It was also at least 1.3m deep.

The cut feature was infilled with [102], a foetid, waterlogged mixture of clayey silt, flint & chalk pieces, tree roots, corrugated iron, drain pipes, brick & tile, wood, and assorted modern refuse.

The top of this dumping/infill material lay approximately 300mm below the existing G.L., and was overlain by the topsoil deposit present across the whole site.

This layer, [101], comprised a mid grey-brown sandy silt, which contained occasional small flint and stone pieces, infrequent pottery inclusions, and occasional areas of modern dumped material (ash/clinker, brick etc.). The upper surface of the topsoil layer also bore a thin covering of rough turf. The various trenches for the foundations and the interconnecting drainage pipework, in contrast, only reached depths of between 900mm and 1m. As a consequence, the only layers revealed in these parts of the development were the topsoil/turf [101], and the subsoil deposits [104] and [105].

Four sherds of unstratified pottery were recovered from the spoil heaps during the groundworks, but these unfortunately do not appear to indicate any focus of occupation on the site (see *Appendix C*, below).

#### 4.0 DISCUSSION OF RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

Unfortunately, in spite of the potential of this site, the results of this watching brief have proved negative.

There was no sign of any ancient occupation revealed on the site, and the few sherds of pottery revealed by the groundworks were all unstratified (and ranged in date from the late 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century through to the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries).

It is possible that this particular site was traditionally used for grazing stock or horticulture (as can presently be seen in areas surrounding the site). However, it could also be the case that modern intrusive features, such as the septic tanks present in at least two locations on the site, have destroyed any evidence for earlier occupation.

#### 5.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit would like to thank the following for their assistance during this project: Mr F.J.F.M. Dymoke, Scrivelsby Estate, Scrivelsby Grange. Horncastle, Lincolnshire, LN9 6JL; Mr J. Bonnor, Archaeology Officer, Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section, Highways & Planning Directorate, City Hall, Lincoln, LN1 1DN; Mrs E. Sardeson, East Lindsey District Council Planning Department, Tedder Hall, Manby Park, Louth, Lincolnshire, LN11 8UP; and all on-site groundworks staff

#### 6.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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J. Bonnor/LCC Archaeology Section, letter to East Lindsey District Council regarding planning proposal, 19<sup>th</sup> April 1999

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

#### 7.0 LHA NOTE/ARCHIVE DETAILS

#### 7.1 LHA NOTE DETAILS

CLAU CODE: WEBL99

PLANNING APPLICATION Nos.: S/213/0423/99

FIELD OFFICER: K.Wragg

NGR: TF 2750/6400

CIVIL PARISH: Revesby

SMR No.: n/a

DATE OF INTERVENTION: 01-12/10/99

TYPE OF INTERVENTION: Watching Brief

UNDERTAKEN FOR: Mr F.J.F.M. Dymoke, Scrivelsby Estate, Scrivelsby Grange, Horncastle, Lincolnshire, LN9 6JL

#### 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.: 218.99

ACCESSION DATE: -

### APPENDIX A - ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

The archive consists of:

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No.	Description
1	Site diary
1	Report
8	Context records
3	Site drawings
1 set	Colour photographs
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 218.99, will be undertaken following completion of this project.

## APPENDIX B - COLOUR PLATES



Plate 1: General view of trenching for new sewage treatment tank, showing underlying natural chalk & modern contamination/infill - looking north-west



Plate 2: General view of house foundation network, showing remains of modern septic tank - looking east

### APPENDIX C - MEDIEVAL AND LATER POTTERY: ARCHIVE REPORT

By Claire D Angus, Lindsey Archaeological Services

#### Introduction

A small quantity of pottery was recovered during the watching brief at Wood Enderby; the material included medieval and later pottery.

#### Description

A total of 4 sherds of pottery were found. Two Toynton ware sherds dating from the period between the late thirteenth and fourteenth century were recovered. Two pieces of post-medieval pottery were also found.

#### Condition

All of the pottery was in a fresh condition.

#### Statement of potential

The assemblage is too small for a broad statement about the status and function of the site to be made.

#### Storage and curation

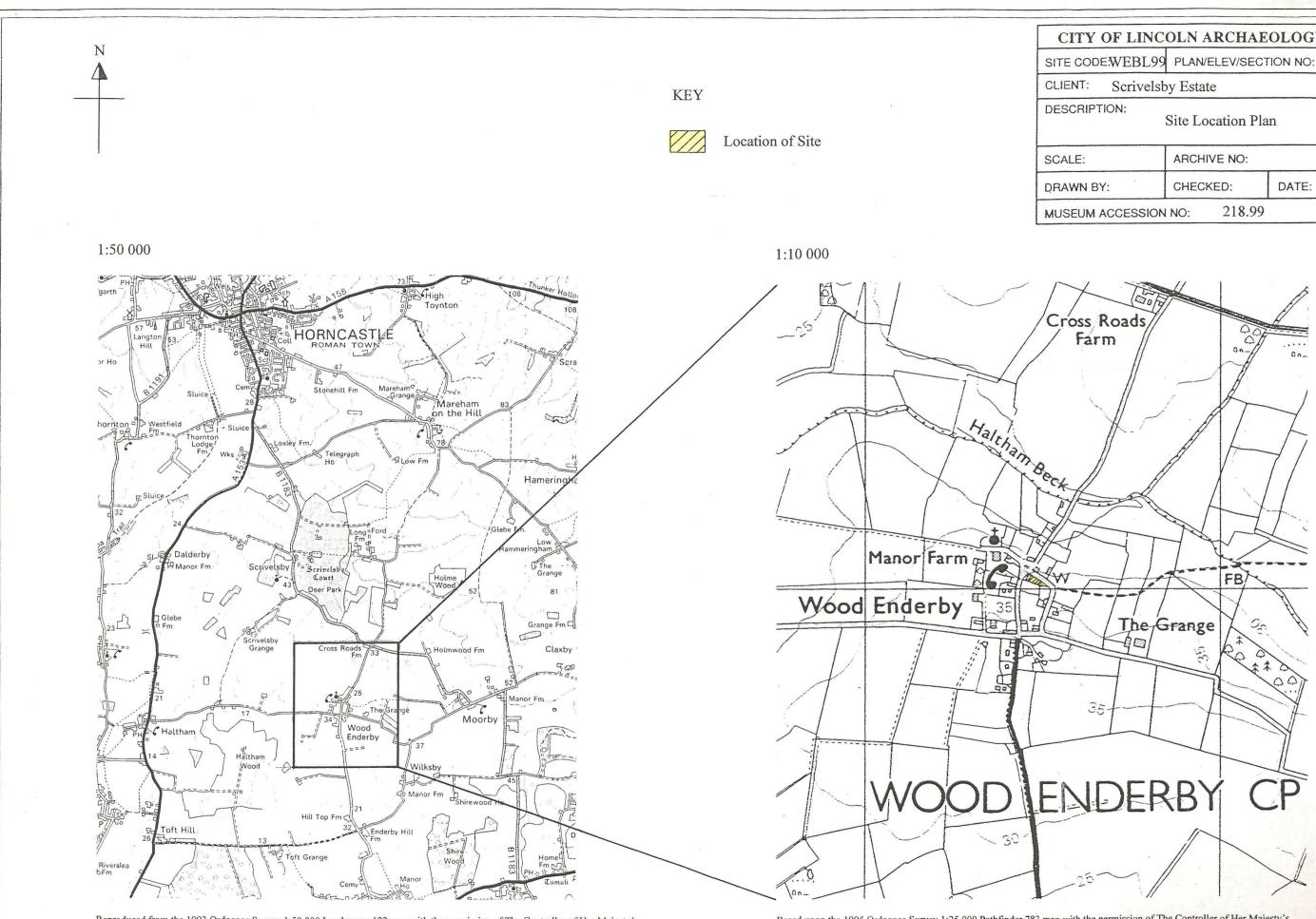
The pottery should be retained for future study. No further work is needed on the assemblage.

#### Ware Types By Context

Context:	Ware:	Sherds:	Form:	Comments:
[100]	TOY	1	Jug	Body sherd; Fe applied strip; Late 13th-14th century
[100]	TOY	1	Jug	Body sherd; ?ID; white slip; Late 13th-14th century
[100]	LPM	1	Cup	Rim sherd; overglaze paint; Late 18th-19th century
[100]	LPM	1	Dish	Body sherd; black/white transfer print; 19th/20th century

Key to Ware codes:

LPM	Early modern or modern wares
TOY	Toynton ware; kiln 1 (Roses)



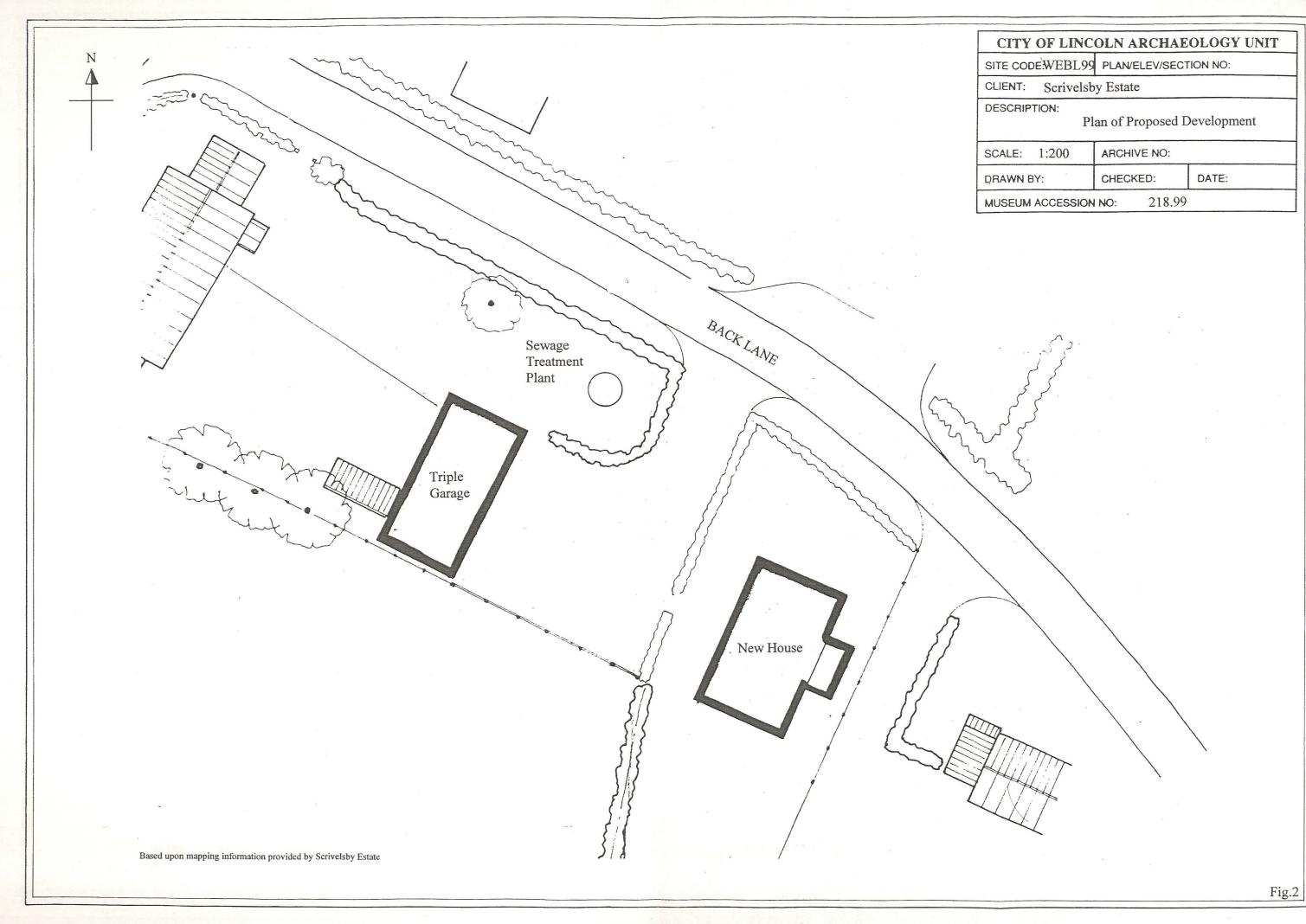
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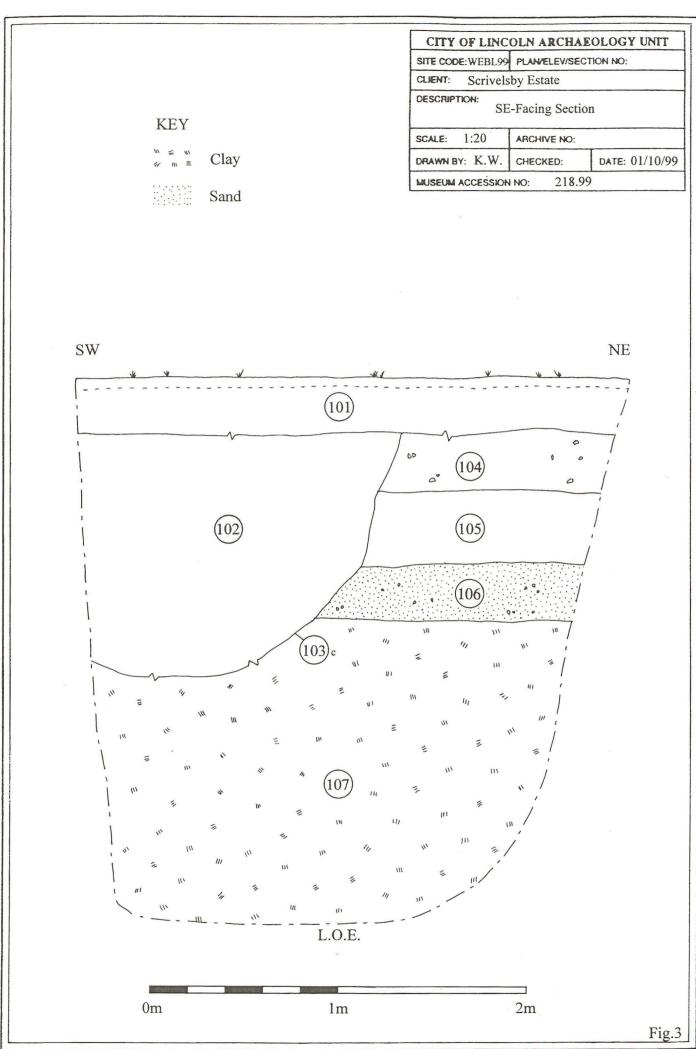
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CODE:WEBL99 PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:				
NT: Scrivelsby Estate				
CRIPTION: Site Location Plan				
LE: ARCHIVE NO:				
WN BY: CHECKED:		DATE:		
EUM ACCESSION NO: 218.99				

Fig.1



CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT				
E CODE WEBL99	PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:			
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SCRIPTION: Plan of Proposed Development				
ALE: 1:200 ARCHIVE NO:				
AWN BY: CHECKED: DATE:				
ISEUM ACCESSION NO: 218.99				



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