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LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

**Canwick STW Extension
Washingborough, Lincs.**

Archaeological Watching Brief

NGR: ^{SK}TF 9970 7044

Site Code: WCSW 04

LCNCC Accession No.: 2004.43

**Report for
Anglian Water Services Ltd**

**By
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LAS Report No. 747

May 2004

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Conservation
Services

17 MAY 2004

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Summary

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken in the areas of proposed development, located north and south of the B1190, Washingborough Road. This work revealed modern ground works but produced no archaeological remains.

Introduction

Lindsey Archaeological Services (LAS) was commissioned by Anglian Water Services Ltd to carry out an archaeological watching brief at Canwick STW, Washingborough, during the excavation of groundworks prior to construction of an extension to the STW. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out in the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook published by the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council (1998). The watching brief was undertaken by Matthew Jordan during March 2004.

Site Description

The Canwick sewage treatment works is located in the Witham valley c. 2km south of Lincoln, on either side of the B1190 west of Washingborough village. The works were expanded in the 1980s and new improvements are now proposed which comprise the demolition of existing buildings and re-routing of services

Planning Background

The County Archaeology Section requires that all groundworks excavations are to be carried out under archaeological supervision, to allow for the identification and recording of any archaeological remains.

Archaeological Background

Archaeological investigations over the past 20 years in the Witham valley have established that this is an exceptionally rich area for archaeological remains ranging in date from the Neolithic to medieval periods. Peat deposits which formed in the Iron Age sealed earlier land surfaces, and since drainage of the valley on the 19th century erosion of the peat has exposed a number of Bronze Age barrow cemeteries, including one just east of the sewage treatment works, close to the railway line. A major Roman settlement is also located east of the sewage treatment works.

Although the area within the compound of the sewage treatment works may have been disturbed by past programmes of construction it is possible that the new improvements may expose archaeological remains protected by deposits of peat. The potential for waterlogged organic remains is high.

Aims and Objectives

The purpose of the Watching Brief will be to record any archaeological deposits disturbed during groundworks at the above site

Method

One experienced archaeologist observed earth moving operations. Each find or feature was located on the 1:500 map supplied by Anglian Water. A photographic record was made and archaeological features were be drawn at a larger scale of 1:20 or 1:50, where appropriate and depending upon safe access. Finds which are located in archaeological features were identified accordingly and a context numbering system for archaeological remains was in operation. LAS operates a standard context recording system, developed by its staff over the past 20 years.

Results

Two areas of the Sewage treatment works were included in the watching brief, these areas lay to the north and south of the B1190.

Area to north of B1190 (Figures 3, 4 and plates 1 – 6)

Groundworks in this area included excavation of a service trench, repairs to a damaged sewage pipe resulting in a 3m x 3.5m x 2.30m deep trench and the reducing of the area of development to 0.70m – 1m below the present ground surface. This work revealed several deposited layers but no natural layers or archaeological remains. The excavated layers revealed a 0.20m – 0.25m thick brown grey sand and gravel layer (assigned context numbers **1,3,8**). In the south of the area this overlay 2 possible surface layers including a 0.10m – 0.15m thick dark grey rubble tarmac layer, **4**, and a 0.05m grey orange sand rubble layer, **5**. Under these layers was various sandy silt layers represented by contexts **2, 6,7,9,10,11, 16** and were visible to a depth of 0.70 to 1m deep. To the west of the site however there was just one layer, a uniform orange brown sand, **12**. The trench cut to repair the sewage pipe revealed further mixed sandy silt layers, represented by numbers **13-15**, to a depth of over 2m. However it is likely these may have been the fill of the cut for the sewage pipe, the cut was not visible in the sections of the trench

Area to south of B1190 (Plates 7,8)

Ground works in this area included the machining of an area 30m x 20m to depth of 0.50m. A

Lindsey

Archaeological Services

0.20m thick concrete slab was present over much of this area which had been broken up and removed prior to arrival on site. Beneath this was a layer of mid brown silty sand with inclusions of coal, coke and broken sewage pipes, 17. Several concrete foundations and brick demolition rubble were present along the south side of the area, removal of much of this loose rubble revealed no new layers.

Discussion

To the north of the road the mixed sandy silt layers represent deposits made prior to or during construction of the STW and any natural layers are sealed beneath these and should not be affected by the development. The development to the south is occurring on the demolished remains of a former building and any archaeological remains that may be present will have been disturbed by this structure and its subsequent demolition. The extent of the activities undertaken to change the ground level, surface can be seen on the south side of the road where terracing has been inserted on the hillside.

Conclusion

No archaeological features, finds or surfaces were revealed during the groundworks.

Matthew Jordan
Lindsey Archaeological Services
May 2004

Acknowledgements

LAS would like to thank Anglian Water, Alan Jones of Interserve and Gordon Shannon. All illustrations were produced by Matthew Jordan. This report was edited and collated by Naomi Field.

References

IFA (1999) *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*

Contents of Site Archive

Correspondence

Photographs: LAS film no: 04/39, 04/58

Photocopies of Ordnance Survey and other maps

Drawings

Context Register

APPENDIX 1

APPENDIX 1

Canwick STW Extension, Washingborough

WCSW 04

Context Summary

Context No.	Type	Description
1	Deposit	0.25m thick, brown grey medium sand,
2	Deposit	0.70m thick mid dark brown silty sand
3	Deposit	0.20m thick grey orange sand and gravel layer
4	Deposit	0.10m-0.15m thick dark grey rubble/tarmac layer
5	Deposit	0.05m thick grey orange sand rubble layer
6	Deposit	0.40m thick mid orange brown sand,
7	Deposit	0.25m thick dark brown sandy silt
8	Deposit	0.20m thick dark grey gravelly sand,
9	Deposit	Orange yellow gravelly sand
10	Deposit	0.45m thick dark brown black sandy silt,
11	Deposit	0.20m thick compact grey black sand
12	Deposit	1m thick orange brown medium sand
13	Fill	0.30m thick orange yellow sand
14	Fill	0.45m thick dark brown sandy silt
15	Fill	1.10m thick mid orange sand
16	Deposit	Red brown sand frequent modern inclusions
17	Deposit	Mid brown silty sand

THE FIGURES

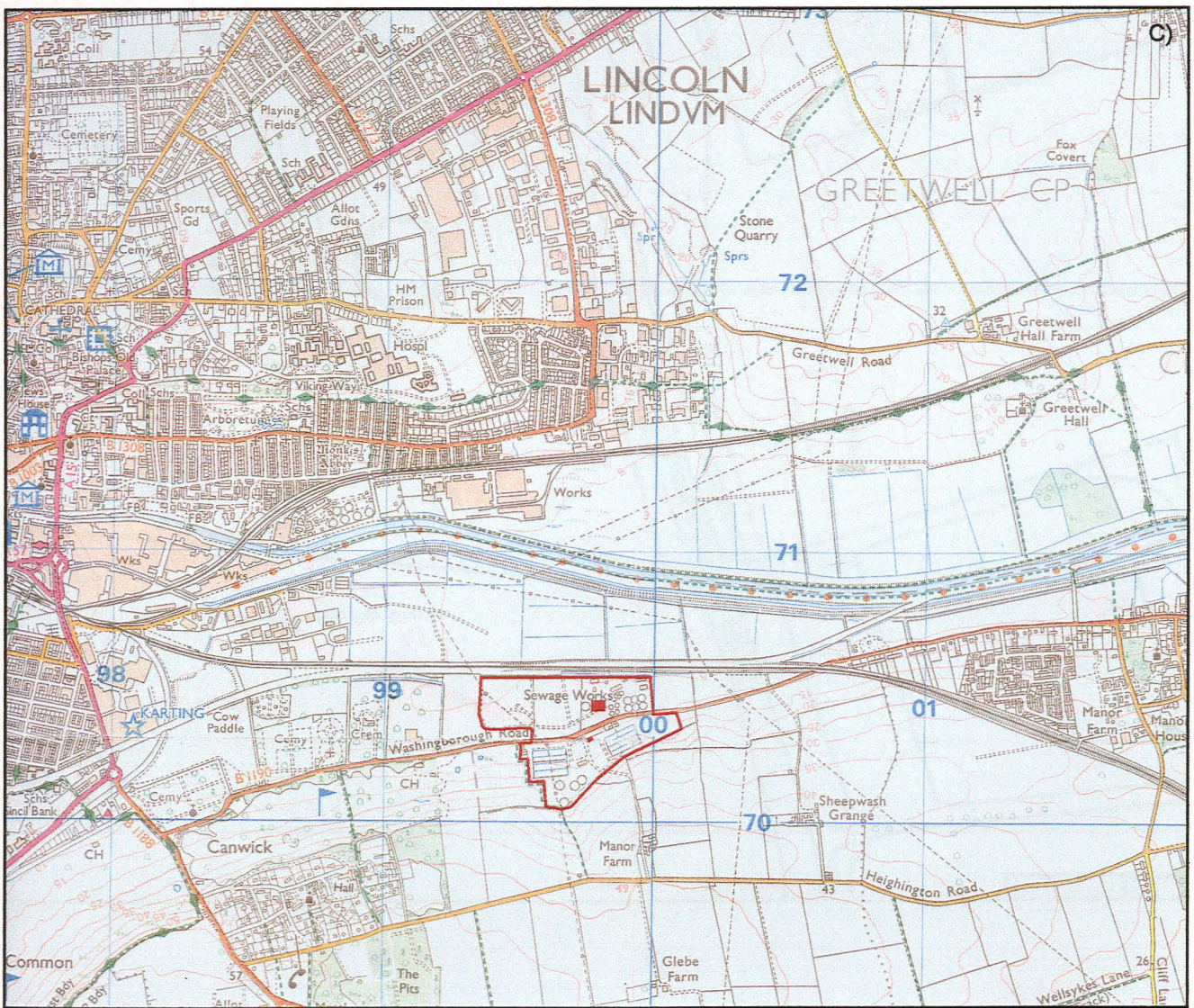
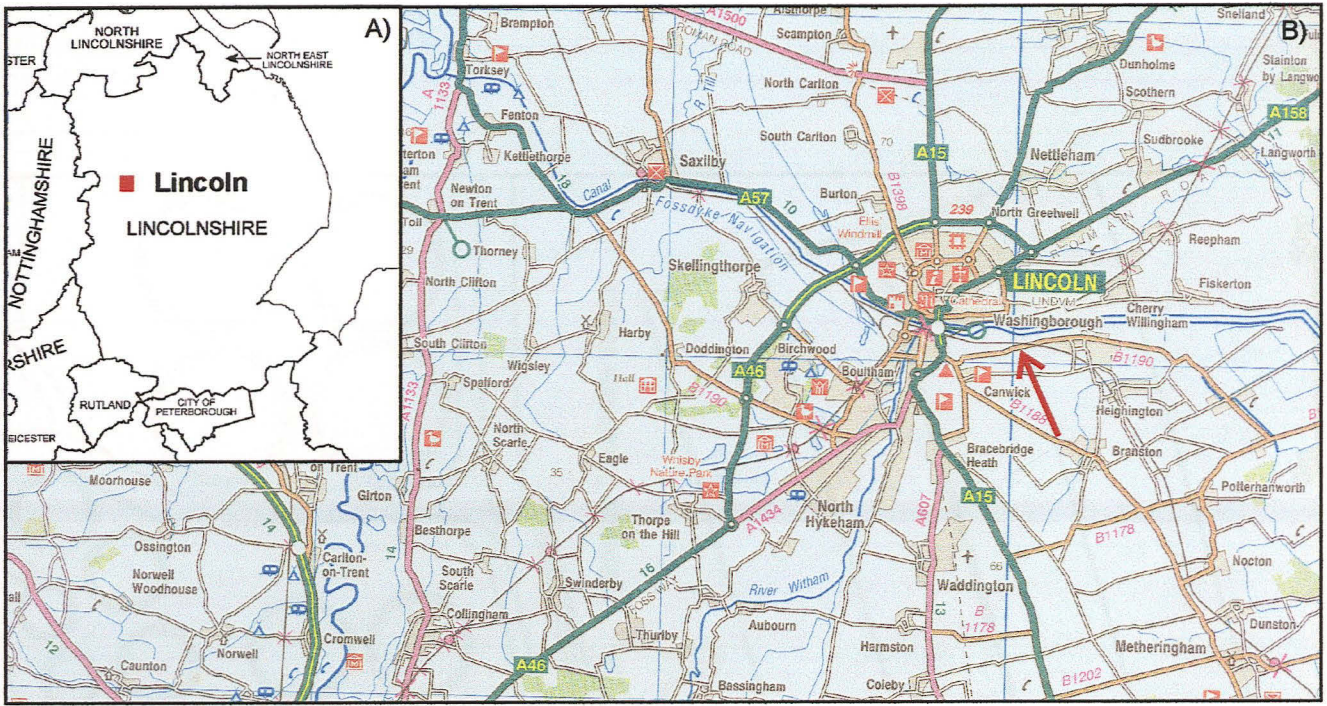


Fig. 1 Location of Canwick STW, Washingborough. (C based on the 2000, 1:25 000 Ordnance Survey map, Explorer 272, Crown copyright, reproduced with the permission of the controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 10002165).

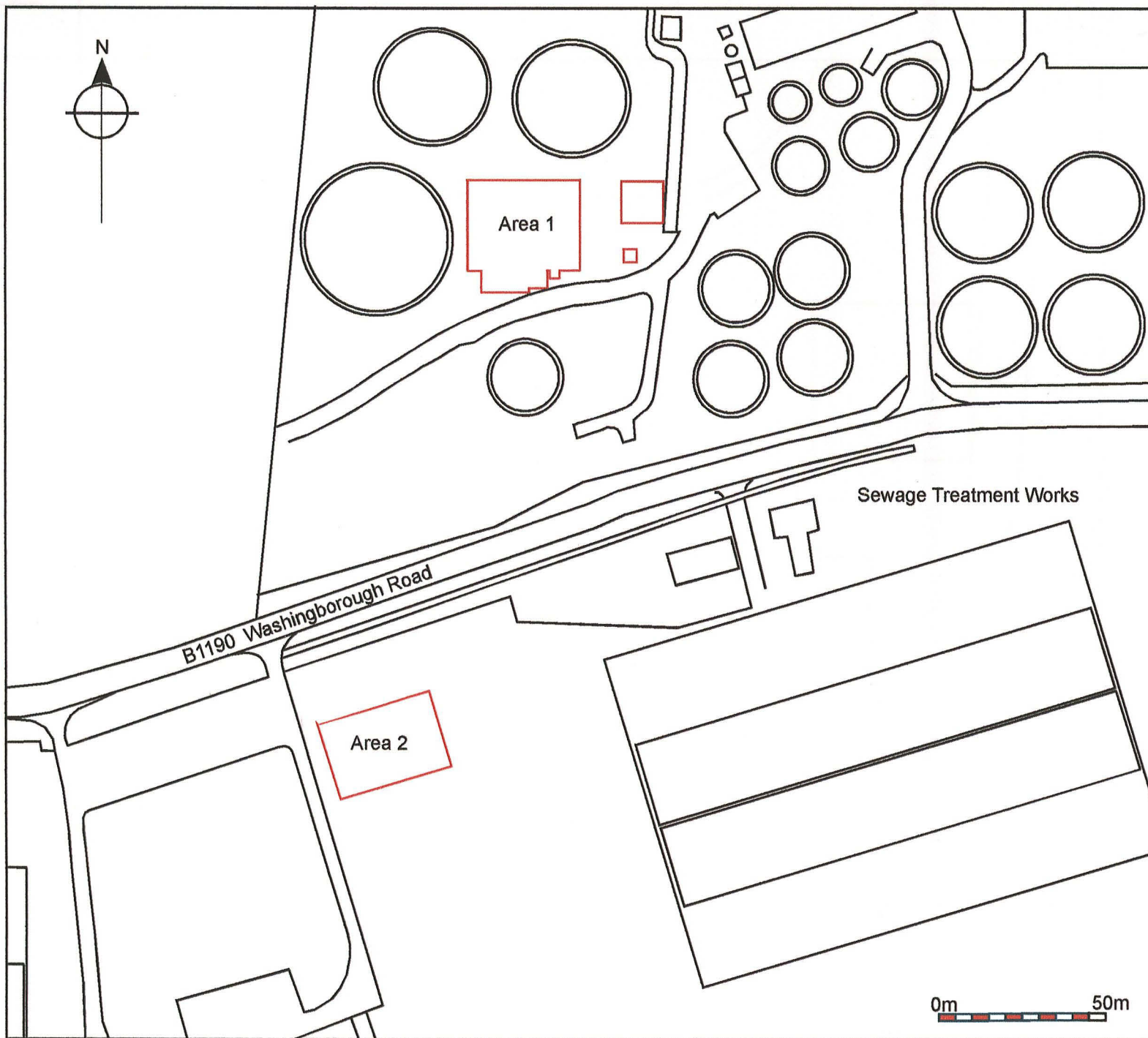


Fig 2 Location of archaeological watching brief

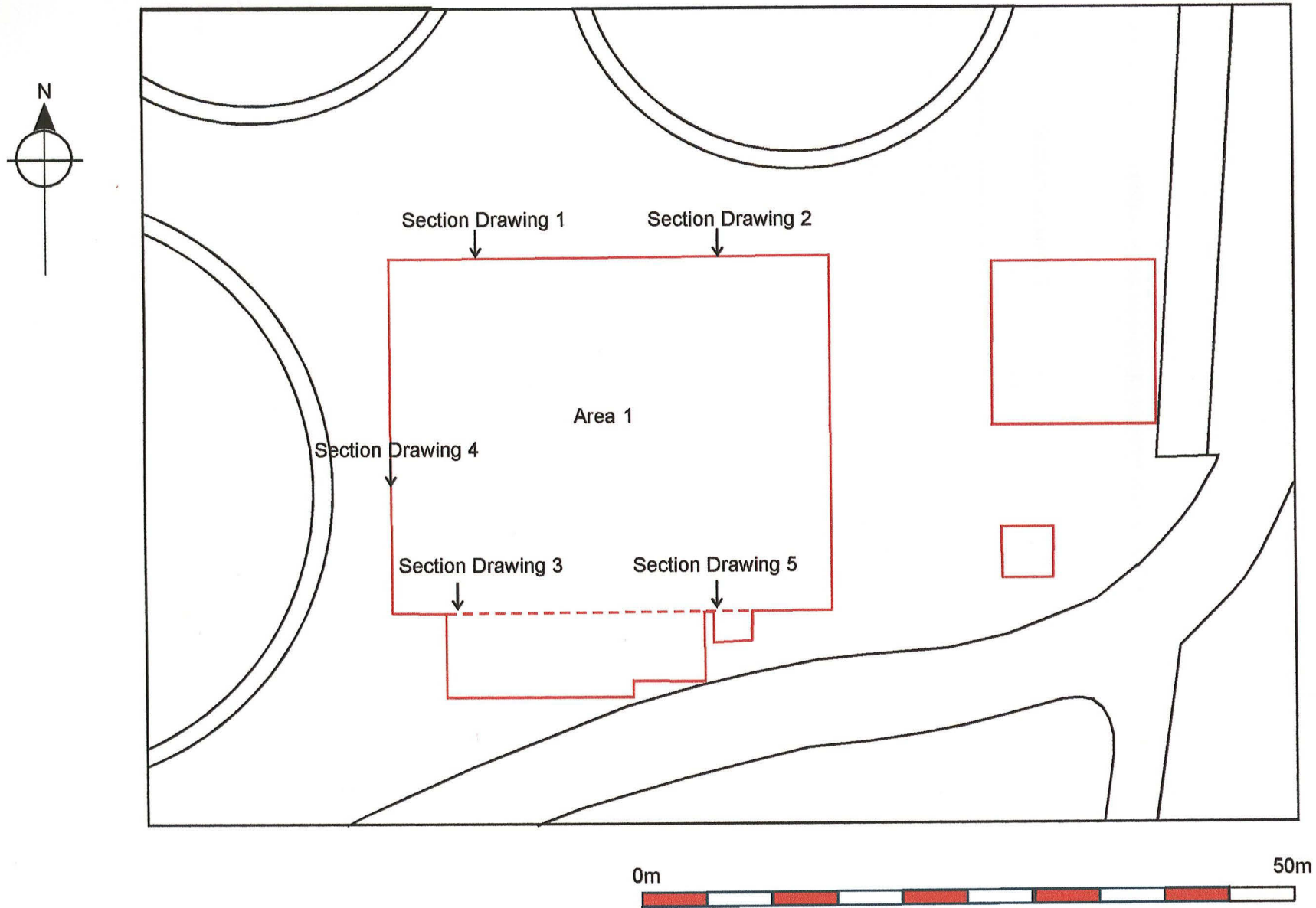
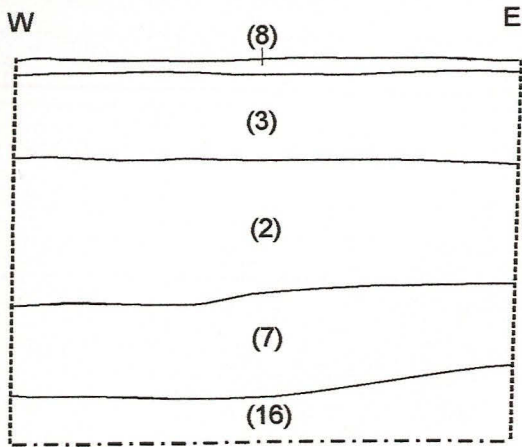
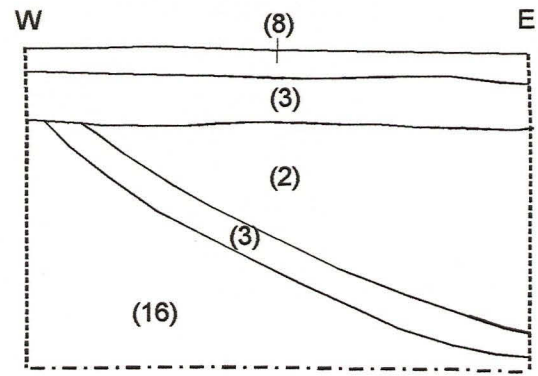


Fig 3 Location of section drawings in development area 1 to north of B1190

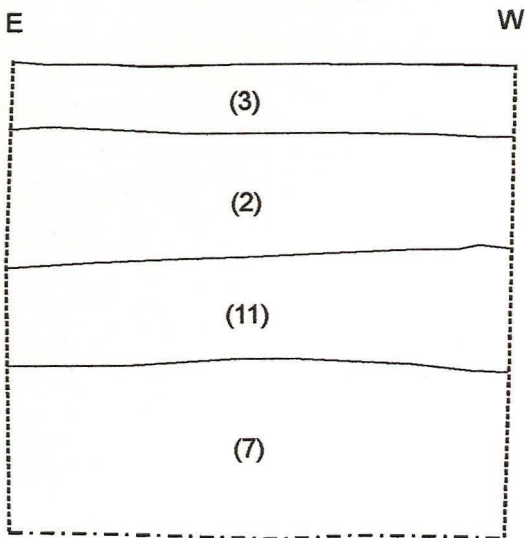
Section drawing 1



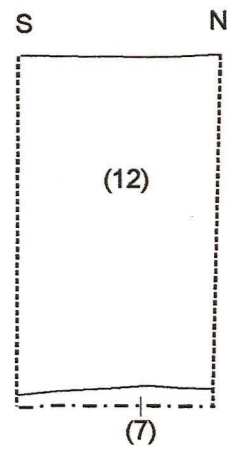
Section drawing 2



Section drawing 3



Section drawing 4



Section drawing 5

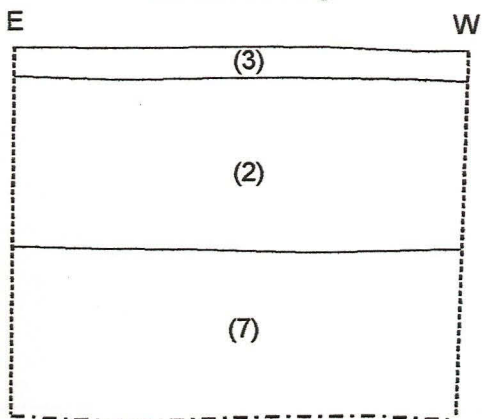


Fig 4. Section drawings from area 1, north of B1190

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PI 1. View of development area to north of B1190, looking south-west



PI. 2 Section drawing 5, looking south



Pl 3. Section drawing 6, looking north



Pl. 4 Section drawing 7, looking south.



Pl. 5 Section drawing 8, looking west



Pl. 6 Section drawing 9, looking south.



Pl. 7 Shot of area of development area to south of B119, looking east



Pl. 8 Shot of area of development area to south of B119, looking east