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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT PLOTS 2, 5 & 7, GLEBE COURT,
VICARAGE LANE,
SCOPWICK,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SVL 02)**

NKD



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

EVENT
LI 5990

INTERVENTION: LI 10076

EXCAVATION: LI 10077

PRN 63573 Roman
63574 Undated
63575 Post-medieval
63378 medieval

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AT PLOTS 2, 5 & 7, GLEBE COURT,
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SCOPWICK,
LINCOLNSHIRE (SVL 02)**

NKD

**Work Undertaken For
Mr J.E. Foreman**

November 2004

Report Compiled by
Victoria Mellor BSc (Hons)

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APS Report No. 128/02

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



Quality Control

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON PLOTS 2, 5 & 7, GLEBE COURT, VICARAGE LANE,
SCOPWICK,
LINCOLNSHIRE

Project Coordinator	Denise Drury & Gary Taylor
Supervisors	Mike Bamforth, Rachael Hall & Tom Bradley-Lovekin
Illustration	Mike Bamforth, Paul Cope-Faulkner & Victoria Mellor
Photographic Reproduction	Sue Unsworth
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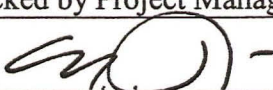
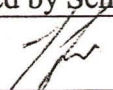
Checked by Project Manager	Approved by Senior Archaeologist
 - Gary Taylor	 Tom Lane
Date: 29/11/04	Date: 29-11-04

Table of 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	5
7.	CONCLUSION	7
8.	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	7
9.	PERSONNEL	7
10.	BIBLIOGRAPHY	7
11.	ABBREVIATIONS.....	8

Appendices

1. Specification for Archaeological Watching Brief
2. Context Descriptions
3. The Finds *by Hilary Healey and Gary Taylor*
4. Glossary
5. The Archive

List of Figures

- Figure 1 General location plan
- Figure 2 Site location plan
- Figure 3 Plan of the development
- Figure 4 Plot 2, plan showing features and section locations
- Figure 5 Plot 5, plan showing features and section locations
- Figure 6 Plot 7, plan showing features and section locations
- Figure 7 Plot 2 Sections 2-4
- Figure 8 Plot 5 Sections 8-11
- Figure 9 Plot 7 Sections 5-7

List of Plates

- Plate 1 General view of the development area
- Plate 2 View of Plot 5 during excavation
- Plate 3 Section 8, undated ditch [118] in Plot 5, looking northwest
- Plate 4 Section 7, undated ditch [114] in Plot 7, looking south
- Plate 5 Section 6, Romano-British (?) ditch [107] in Plot 7, looking east
- Plate 6 View of undated ditches [144] and [140] in Plot 7, looking northeast
- Plate 7 View of undated ditches [146] and [148] in Plot 7, looking northwest

1. SUMMARY

A watching brief was undertaken during construction of three new dwellings at Glebe Court, Vicarage Lane, Scopwick, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of the foundation trenches.

The site lies in the core of the medieval (AD 1066-1500) village close to the 13th century Church of the Holy Cross. Additionally, prehistoric and Romano-British (AD50-410) remains are known in the vicinity. An earlier watching brief on Plot 3 revealed an undated boundary ditch and pond, whilst a pit and two boundary ditches were identified in Plot 1.

In this investigation, a probable Roman boundary ditch was encountered along with several undated ditches and pits, as well as pits and deposits of 19th century and later dates. The alignment of the probable Roman ditch may indicate a significant change in the layout of boundaries in the area between the Roman and modern periods.

A sherd of Roman greyware, a sherd of amphora and a fragment of what may be Roman painted plaster may indicate the presence of a building of moderately high status, although no structural remains were encountered. Artefacts of 13th to 14th century date were retrieved from the site in addition to 19th century and later artefacts.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as “a formal program of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed.” (IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services (APS) was commissioned by Mr J.E. Foreman to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with residential development at Glebe Court, Vicarage Lane, Scopwick, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning applications N/53/0080/01 (Plot 2), N/53/0116/02 (Plot 5) and N/53/0702 (Plot 7). The watching brief was carried out on the 25th June and 28th August 2002, and the 10th June 2003, in accordance with a specification for Plot 2 designed by APS (Appendix 1). This specification, and its extension to include Plots 5 & 7, was approved by the North Kesteven Heritage Officer.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Scopwick is situated approximately 12km north of Sleaford and 17km southeast of Lincoln in the North Kesteven District of Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site is located 100m northwest of the village centre as defined by Holy Cross parish church, and on the south side of Vicarage Lane (Fig. 2). The site is centred on National Grid Reference TF 068 581 at a height of c. 15m OD. The village sits within a slight east-west aligned valley set on the easterly dip slope of the Lincoln Edge, overlooking the Witham valley.

Local soils at the site are of the Aswarby Association, typically loamy gleyic brown calcareous earths. Topsoils are typically of sandy clay loam, with subsoils of yellowish brown clay loam overlying yellow shelly limestone (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 99). These soils are developed upon a solid geology of Jurassic Upper Lincolnshire Limestone and Upper Estuarine Beds (BGS 1973).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Scopwick is located in an area of known

archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric period onwards.

Prehistoric remains are recorded in and around Scopwick, and include a mound located to the west of the development area, which was thought to be a prehistoric burial mound containing cremations when it was destroyed in the early 19th century (Oliver 1838, 6). Iron Age pottery has been discovered on Main Street in Scopwick.

In addition to Romano-British field systems around the village, Romano-British pottery and coins are known from the immediate vicinity of the site, along with a 4th century burial.

Scopwick is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as *Scapewic* the name is derived from the Old English *scēp* and *wīc*, meaning sheep farm (Cameron 1998, 107). At the time of the Domesday Survey the land, along with Kirby Green, was held by Walter de Aincurt, Norman de Arci and Heppo the Arblaster and contained a church with a priest, 6 mills and 78 acres of meadow (Foster and Longley 1976).

Medieval ridge and furrow is recorded to the east of the site, centred at National Grid Reference TF 074 584, and also to the south of the site, centred at National Grid Reference TF 069 577. The Church of the Holy Cross dates from the 12th century with additional work of the 13th and 14th centuries (DoE 1987, 24). Medieval pottery has been retrieved from the cellar of the present vicarage. An earlier vicarage is recorded in the village and although its location is unknown this may be in the vicinity of the development area.

The development site lies within the core of the medieval village, located between the two main streets and close to the 13th century church. The block of land was subject to enclosure earlier than the rest of the village and may indicate the likelihood of its use for settlement rather than for

open fields or common.

Investigations in Scopwick have identified hedgerows, located to the west and east of the village, which mark boundaries pre-dating the 1799 enclosure award for Scopwick (Cope-Faulkner 1997, 2002).

A watching brief undertaken to the east of the site revealed an undated limestone wall, which may be medieval in origin (Rayner 1999, 1). Previous investigations at the site have identified a pit and two boundary ditches in Plot 1. In Plot 3 investigations revealed a boundary ditch, and in Plot 4 garage was a pond, which were both undated. However, these were both sealed by subsoil and so were possibly of some antiquity (Cope-Faulkner 2001, 1).

3. AIMS

The requirements of the watching brief, as detailed in the specification (Appendix 1), were to locate and record archaeological features, if present, and to determine their form, date, nature and function.

4. METHODS

Foundation trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator to depths as required by the development. Exposed portions of the trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were partially excavated to determine their nature. The depth and thickness of each deposit was measured from the present ground surface. Each archaeological deposit or feature revealed within the trench 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 scales of 1:10 and 1:20, with their locations plotted on 1:50 scale plans.

Recording of the deposits encountered

during the watching brief was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

Finds recovered from the deposits identified in the watching brief were examined and a date was assigned where possible (Appendix 3). Records of the deposits and features recognised during the investigation were also examined. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them, supplemented by artefact dating where relevant. A stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced.

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

5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis five phases were identified:

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Undated deposits
Phase 3	Roman deposits
Phase 4	19 th Century deposits
Phase 5	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

The earliest deposit encountered in Plot 2 was a whitish-grey fragmented limestone layer (005) and a whitish-yellow oolitic limestone deposit was seen in Plot 7 (103). In Plot 5, a mid reddish-yellow deposit of coarse sand and limestone gravel (125) was recorded. All of these deposits were over 0.30m thick, and reflect the underlying geology.

Phase 2 Undated deposits

Three undated features were identified in Plot 2 (Fig. 4), each cut into the natural limestone. A pit with steep sides and flattish base was recorded [009], which contained a single fill (008) of mid reddish brown silt with limestone fragments (Fig. 7, Section 2).

A ditch [011] was located *c.* 4m south of this feature, and was aligned east-west. At 1.22m wide, 0.36m deep and over 6m long, this ditch had a single fill (010) of firm dark reddish-brown silt.

A possible ditch was seen in the northwest corner of the plot (Fig. 4), with the same alignment as ditch [111]. This ditch [007] was over 0.90m long, 0.94m wide and 0.33m deep although the precise form of this feature was unclear.

Each of these features and their fills were sealed by a mid brown silty sand subsoil, up to 0.25m thick (002).

Seven undated features were cut into the natural geology in Plot 5. Located close to the centre of Plot 5 was a feature [130] 0.70m wide and over 0.80m long (Fig. 5). Although this feature was only seen in plan, and was not seen to continue into other areas of the footings, it was interpreted as a probable northeast-southwest aligned ditch and contained a light grey silty moderate to coarse sand (131).

At the northwestern side of Plot 5 was a second ditch [132], over 3.80m long by up to 1m wide, and aligned east-west. This feature was filled by a brownish-grey moderate to coarse sand (133).

Feature [128] was located on the eastern side of the plot, and measured over 0.80m by over 0.90m, with a depth of more than 0.20m. A fill of light brown silty moderate to coarse sand (129) was recorded at the limit of excavation. This feature may have

been a ditch terminus or pit.

A ditch terminus [134] was located towards the southwest edge of the plot, aligned northnorthwest-southsoutheast, and terminating at the southern end (Fig. 5). This feature was over 3.10m long by 0.50m wide and contained a mid brown slightly silty coarse sand (135).

A large pit [136] was revealed towards the south of the plot, measuring over 2.20m by over 0.60m. This feature, at over 0.28m deep, contained a dark brown clayey sandy silt (137). Occasional fragments of ceramic building material were recorded within this deposit but were not retrieved.

Possible pit [138] was over 0.95m wide and over 1.10m long. A mid brown coarse sandy silt (139) was recorded within this feature, which was only visible in plan.

At the northern edge of the plot a further pit was identified [126], with an extent of 2.70m by over 0.65m. The only exposed fill of this feature comprised a light grey silty clayey sand (127) within which occasional fragments of ceramic building material were recorded but were not retained.

A northwest-southeast aligned ditch [118] cut into this possible pit on its eastern side. This ditch was over 8m long, 1.40m wide and over 0.35m deep (Plate 3, Fig. 8, Section 8). The earliest fill visible within this feature was a mid reddish-brown sandy clayey silt (123), which was overlain by an additional deposit (122) of light grey sandy silt. A fragment of painted wall plaster was retrieved from deposit (122), which could be Romano-British, but could equally be much later, of 19th to early 20th century date.

In Plot 7, several ditches were recorded (Fig. 6) cutting into the natural geology (103). Ditch terminus [111] was aligned northeast-southwest, terminating at the northeast, and contained a yellowish

brown clayey sand (112).

A second, similar, terminus was located adjacent to the end of [111]. This feature [109] was only visible for around 0.30m of its total length, and was 0.30m deep. A single fill of greyish brown clayey sand was recorded (010) (Fig. 9, Section 6).

Another northeast-southwest aligned ditch [104] was located close to the northeast corner of the plot. Two deposits were contained within this ditch, the primary fill (106) being a greyish-brown sandy silty clay around 0.20m thick, which was overlain by a 0.36m thick yellowish-brown sandy clay (105).

Fills (112) and (105) were the only deposits to be sealed by a layer of dark reddish- yellowish-brown silty sand subsoil (102), around 0.47m thick, which was absent in other areas of the plot.

A second subsoil deposit was noted in this plot, lying directly over natural geology (103). This dark brown sandy clay subsoil (117) was 0.28m thick. The relationship between subsoils (117) and (102) could not be established, although it is possible that these represent a single deposit.

Overlying deposit (117) in this plot was a 0.15m thick layer of mixed sandstone fragments, loam and gravel (116), likely to be a dumped layer.

Cutting into this dumped layer was a steep-sided north-south aligned ditch [114]. This ditch measured 0.70m wide, over 0.48m deep and was over 0.40m long. A deposit of dark brown sandy clay (115) filled this feature (Fig. 9, Section 7, Plate 4).

A further six features were noted in the western half Plot 7, but the depth of trenches in this area (1.50m and 1.60m at the southwest corners) precluded detailed recording of these. The relationships between these features and other deposits

could not be established, and only fills visible at the limit of excavation were noted. Five ditches were seen in this area (Fig. 6, Plates 6 & 7), all of which were aligned northeast-southwest [140], [142], [144], [146] and [148]).

At the southern corner of Plot 7 a feature [150], measuring over 6.50m by over 1.50m was noted (Fig. 6). Although no dating evidence was retrieved from this feature it appeared to be modern and may reflect the edge of overburden stripping for the laying of the Glebe Court road (Fig. 3).

Phase 3 Roman deposits

A ditch [107], found to be cutting into the natural geology (125) in Plot 7, was aligned northeast-southwest, over 2.50m long and 1m wide (Fig. 6, Fig. 9 Section 6, Plate 5). The primary fill of this ditch, of a 60mm thick light brownish-grey sandy silty clay (113), was overlain by a 0.60m thick yellowish-brown sandy clay (108). A single sherd of pottery dating to the 1st to 3rd centuries A.D., was retrieved from this deposit (108). This ditch is possibly a continuation of undated ditch [104], these features being on the same alignment (Fig. 6), and containing very similar fills. Undated linears [109], [111], [140], [142], [144], [146] and [148] all also shared the same northeast-southwest alignment as ditches [107] and [104], and these may be a single ditch, the various elements perhaps reflecting recutting.

Phase 4 19th Century deposits

A layer of subsoil (121), up to 0.65m thick, and composed of mid brown sandy silt sealed all undated deposits in Plot 5. A fragment of pottery was recovered from this deposit, dating from the early 19th century, along with a fragment of amphora, dating to the Roman period (1st to 4th centuries A.D.). A pit or ditch [119] was cut into subsoil (121) at the northeast corner of the plot (Fig. 5).

Phase 5 Recent deposits

Recent deposits in Plot 2 comprised two disturbed layers of topsoil. The earliest of these (001) was a mid brown to grey silty sand with limestone fragments, up to 2.20m thick. This was overlain in parts of the plot by a 0.62m thick layer of mid brown sandy silt (013). Each of these deposits is likely to have been formed during the current development.

In Plot 5 recent deposits were confined to a 0.50m thick dark brown clayey sandy silt topsoil (120), whilst in Plot 7 topsoil (101) comprised a 0.15m thick layer of dark brown sandy silt.

A number of unstratified finds (012) were retrieved from the site including pottery, glass and drainpipe, all of 20th century date. Further unstratified material (100) is of greater interest, comprising a sherd of a Lincolnware jug and a sherd of what is possibly Potterhanworth ware, both of which date from the 13th to 14th centuries.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Phase 1) of fragmented limestone and sand represent the weathered upper surface of the underlying Lincolnshire Limestone.

In Plot 2, undated deposits (Phase 2) comprised a pit [009], a ditch [011] and a possible ditch [007]. The ditches identified in Plot 2 shared the same alignment as the present course of Vicarage Lane. All of these deposits were sealed by an undated layer of subsoil (002).

In Plot 5 several undated pits and ditches were cut into the natural geology. A further undated ditch [118] was cut into (127), the fill of pit [126]. A fragment of plaster with a coating of red paint was recovered from deposit (122), the fill of undated ditch [118]. Whilst this artefact

may be of Roman date, it could equally be of much later, 19th to early 20th century, date. If Roman, the plaster would signify the location of a building of moderately high status, and could indicate early dating for both ditch [118] and pit [126]. The ditches identified in Plot 5 do not appear to be similarly aligned to either the modern boundaries of the site or the ditches identified in Plot 7, perhaps indicating a range of dates for the ditches identified on the site.

A layer of subsoil (102) did not extend across Plot 7 and a further layer of subsoil (117) in this plot may be the same deposit although no direct relationship between these deposits can be established. Deposit (116) overlay subsoil (117) and may represent an episode of dumping.

Undated ditch [114] was cut into this dumped deposit, and aligned north-south, a different alignment to all other linear features within this plot. This may indicate a different phase of activity than that represented by the other undated linears. This north-south alignment is similar to the modern boundaries of the site and this may indicate that this feature is of a more recent date than the other ditches in this plot. However, these ditches remain largely undated.

A fragment of Roman pottery was the only find retrieved from the fill of ditch [107] in Plot 7. The presence of this greyware sherd in (108), the upper fill of [107] indicates backfilling no earlier than the 1st to 3rd centuries A.D. (Phase 3). Undated ditches [104], [111], [140], [142], [144], [146] and [148] may be continuations of [107], or may reflect the repeated re-cutting of a boundary ditch. The sherd of Roman pottery within ditch [107] may indicate a Roman date for this feature, although this sherd may have been redeposited. However, the northeast-southwest alignment of this and other ditches in this plot suggests that these features may pre-date the present

boundaries of the site, supporting the Roman dating. A northeast-southwest aligned ditch identified during the watching brief on Plot 3 may also be a continuation of this feature (Fig. 3).

A layer of subsoil (121) sealed all undated deposits in Plot 5. Two fragments of pottery were recovered from this subsoil and a fragment of creamware indicates a date for the formation of this deposit no earlier than the early 19th century (Phase 4). A second sherd recovered from this deposit was part of a large globular amphora, of Roman date. This amphora was produced in Spain, would have held olive oil, and on Romano-British sites is considered to be an indicator of moderately high status. Whilst it is possible that the amphora was imported at a much later date as a souvenir, the presence of the sherd of greyware and the potentially Roman painted plaster from other deposits on the site indicates Romano-British occupation in the vicinity, possibly of moderately high status.

Cut into subsoil (121) in Plot 5 was a pit [119], although the function of this is unknown. The fill of this pit, along with all other deposits in this plot, was sealed by topsoil (120).

In Plot 2, two topsoil layers were recorded which represented disturbance and movement of topsoil during recent building works.

Unstratified finds comprised 20th century material, and two fragments of 13th to 14th century pottery. It is possible that the medieval sherds could have entered the area through manuring and the abrasion of the Potterhanworth sherd may support this. However, the position of the site only 100m from the 12th century Church of the Holy Cross may suggest more intensive medieval activity at the site.

The block of land on which the site lies was subject to enclosure earlier than the

rest of the village which could indicate its use for settlement rather than for open fields or common, although the findings of the current investigation did not include any evidence to confirm this.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Vicarage Lane, Scopwick because the site lay in the core of the medieval village, and prehistoric and Romano-British remains are known in the vicinity.

A probable Roman ditch along with several undated linear features and pits were encountered, in addition to pits of 19th century and later dates. The ditches identified on the site are on a variety of alignments, and it is possible that the northeast-southwest alignment of the Roman ditch reflects a significant change in the layout of boundaries in the area over time. In Plot 5 a number of undated linears were identified which do not closely correspond with either the present orientation of boundaries on the site or the possible Roman alignments, possibly indicating an additional phase of use of the site. However, as most of the features identified on the site are undated, little can be usefully said about any changes in the layout of the area over time, or the nature of activities at the site.

A sherd of greyware and a sherd of amphora indicate activity at the site in the Roman period and amphorae are generally considered to be an indicator of moderately high status. In addition, a fragment of painted plaster was retrieved which may be of either Roman or 19th-20th century date. If Roman, this could indicate the location of a building of moderately high status.

A subsoil in Plot 5 was dated to the 19th century or later, although other subsoils identified on the site were undated.

Finds from the site comprised Romano-British and 13th to 14th century material, in addition to 19th and 20th century and undated artefacts.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr J.E. Foreman who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Denise Drury and Gary Taylor, and Gary Taylor jointly edited this report with Tom Lane. Jo Hambly, the North Kesteven Planning Archaeologist, kindly permitted examination of the relevant parish archaeological files.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinators: Denise Drury & Gary Taylor

Site Supervisors: Mike Bamforth, Tom Bradley-Lovekin & Rachael Hall

Illustration: Mike Bamforth, Paul Cope-Faulkner & Victoria Mellor

Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth

Post-excavation analysis: Victoria Mellor

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

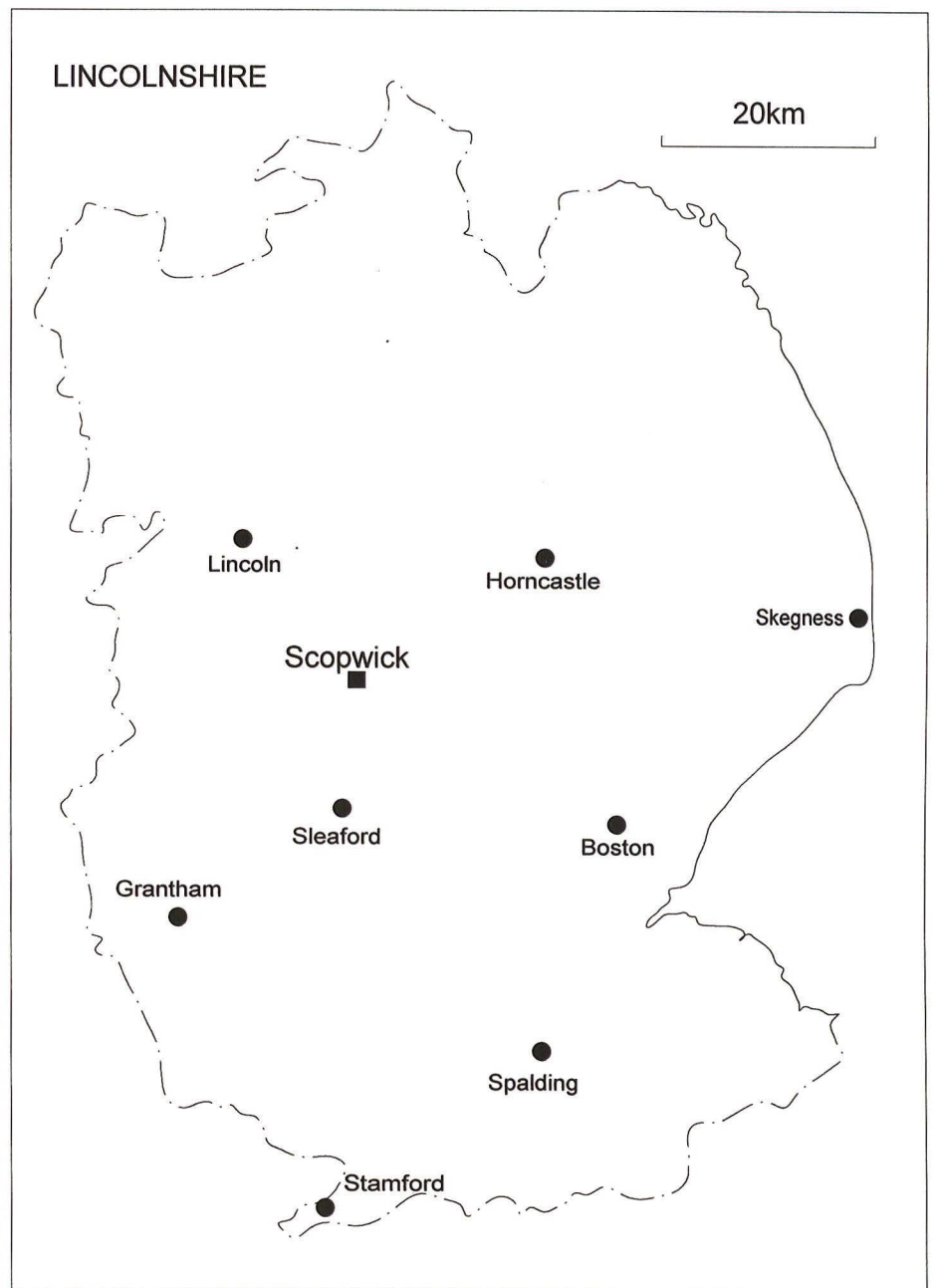


Figure 1 - General Location Plan

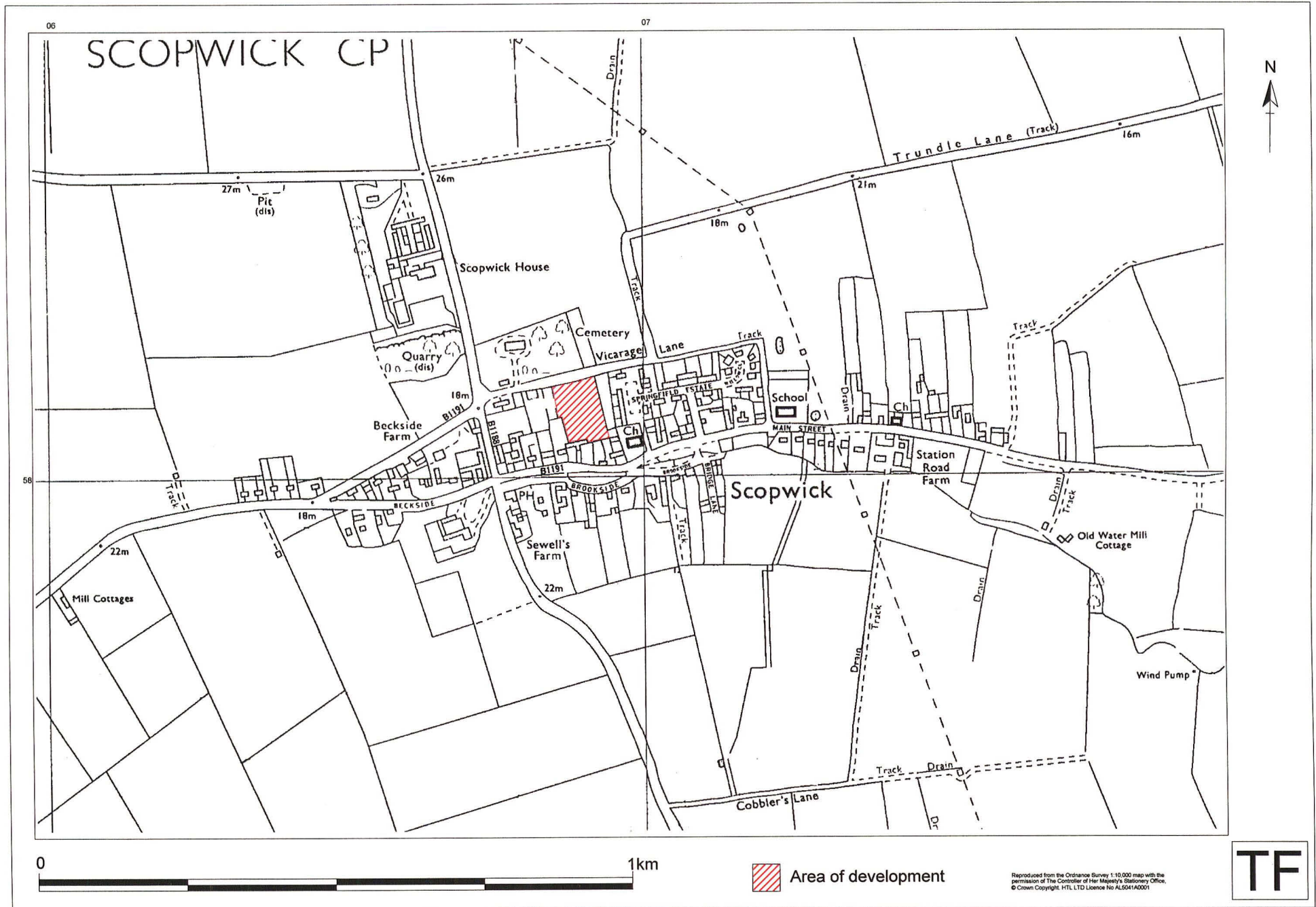


Figure 2 - Site location plan

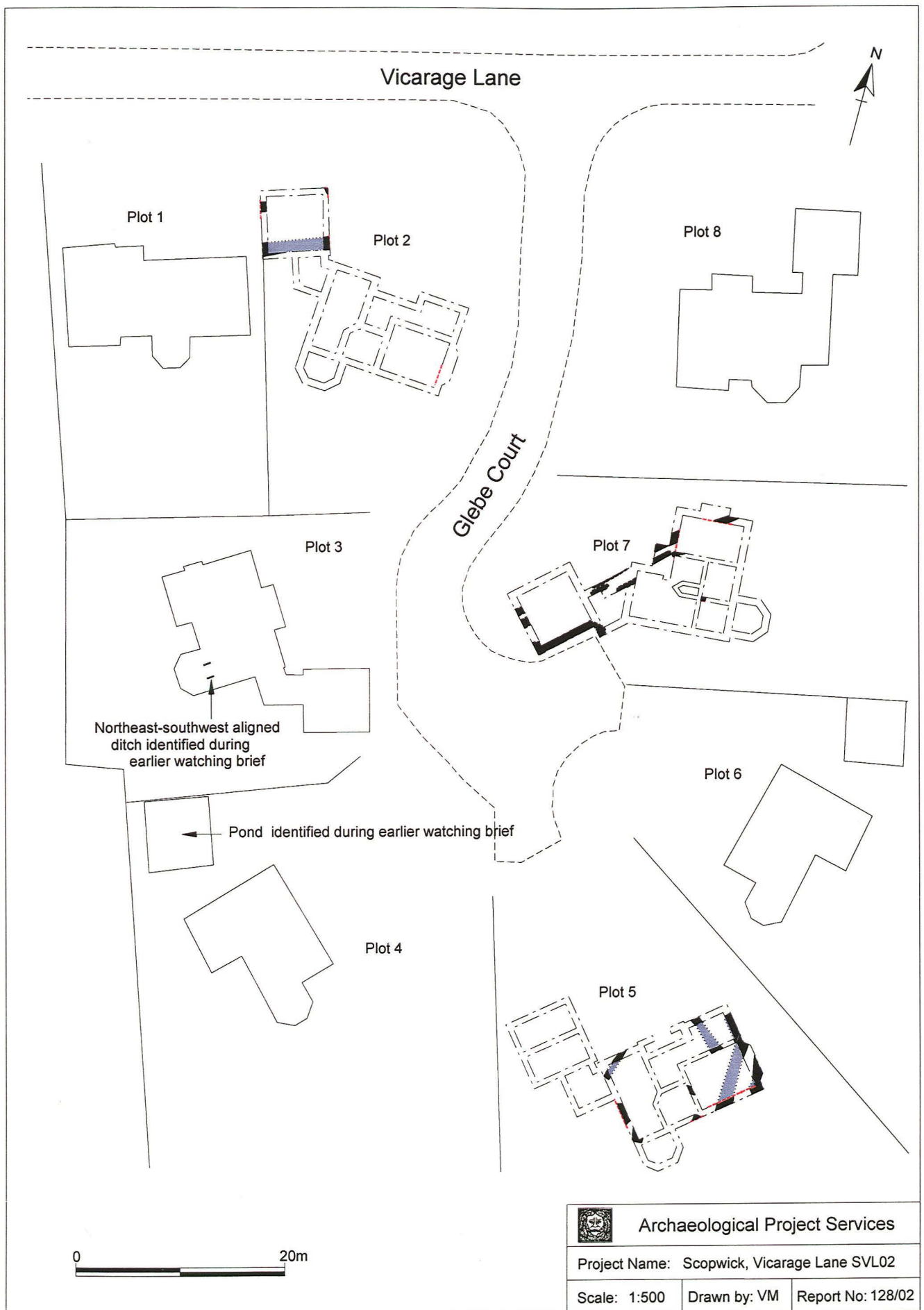
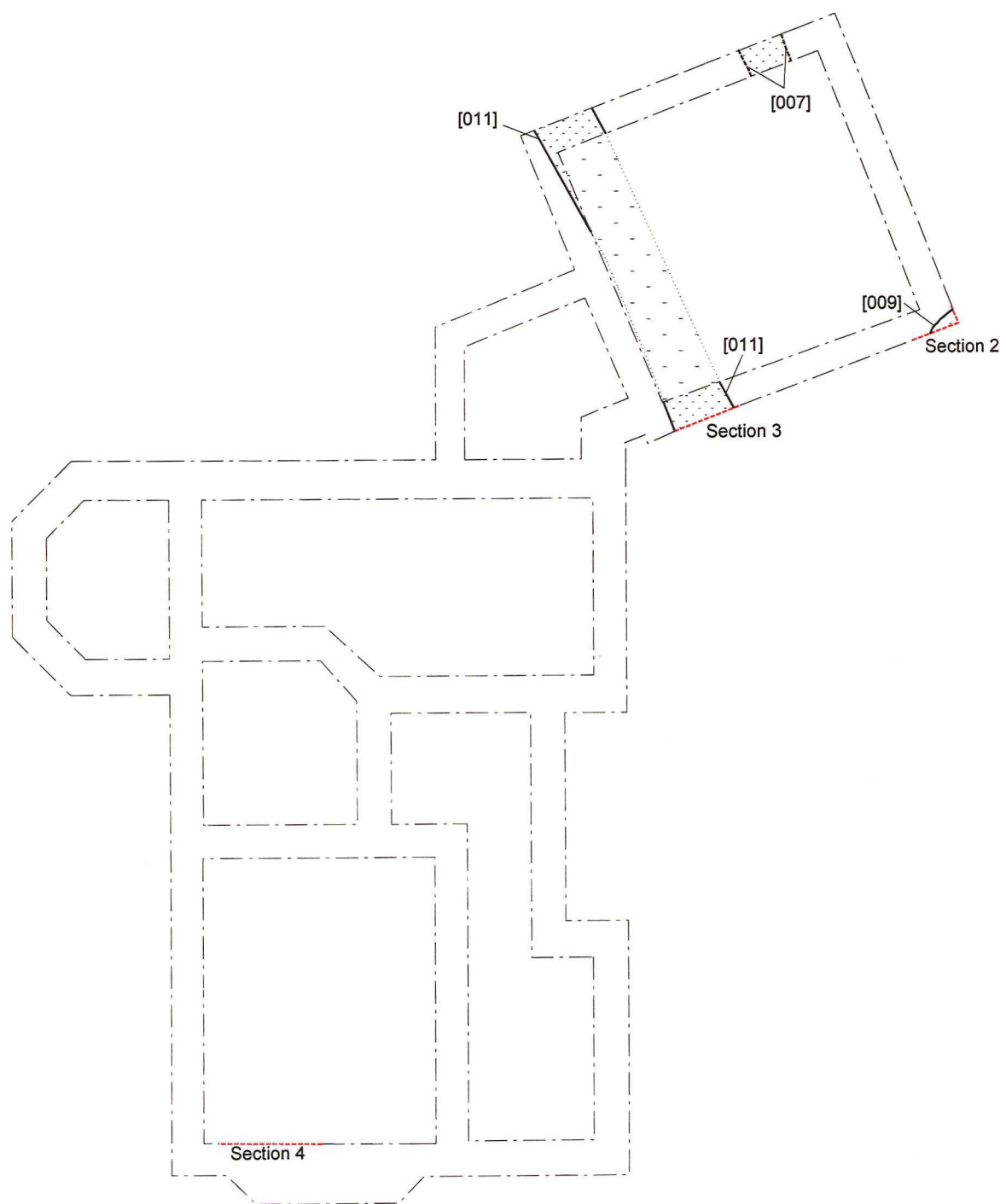


Figure 3 - Plan of the development




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Figure 4 - Plot 2 plan showing features and section locations

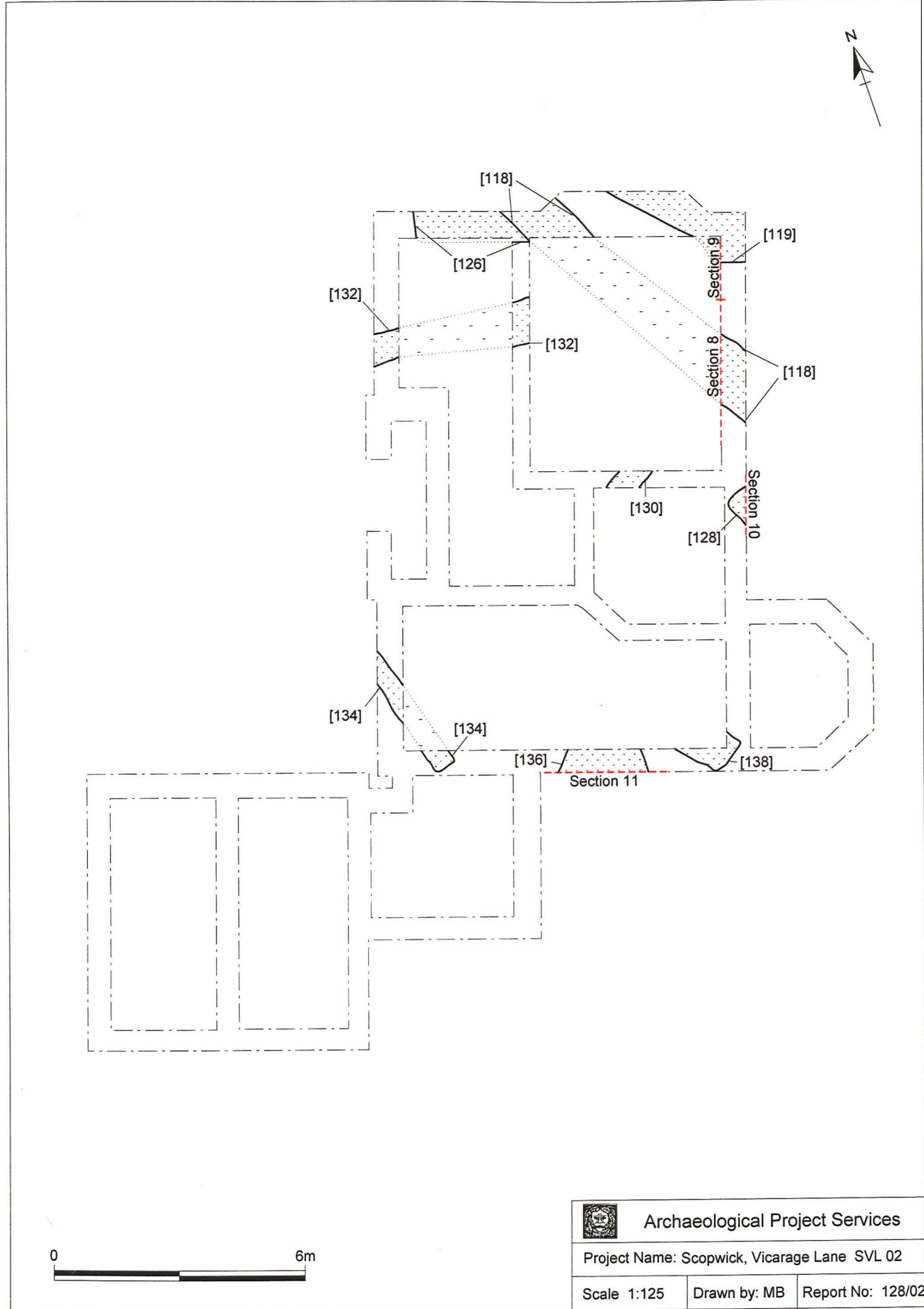



Figure 5 - Plot 5 plan showing features and section locations

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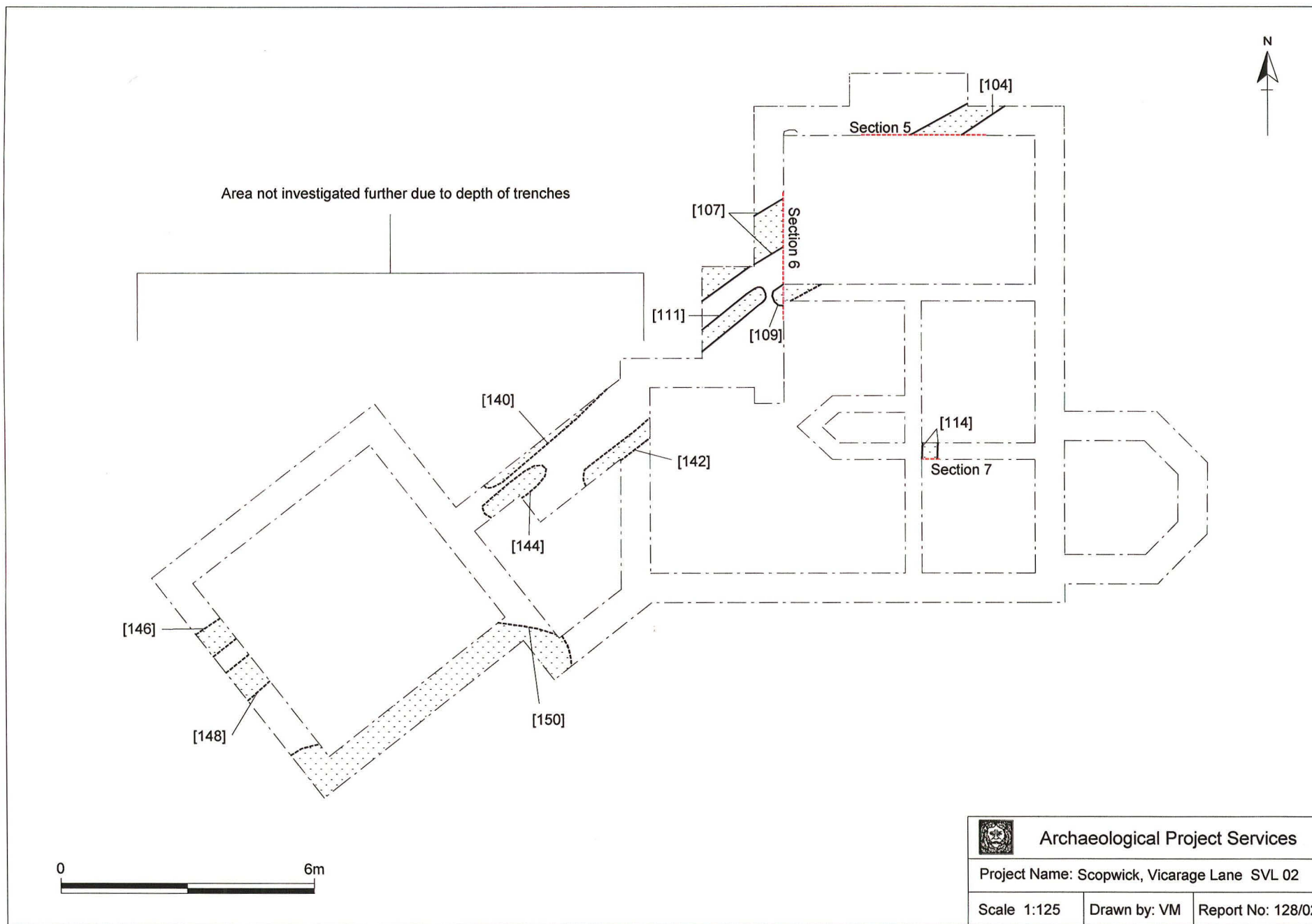
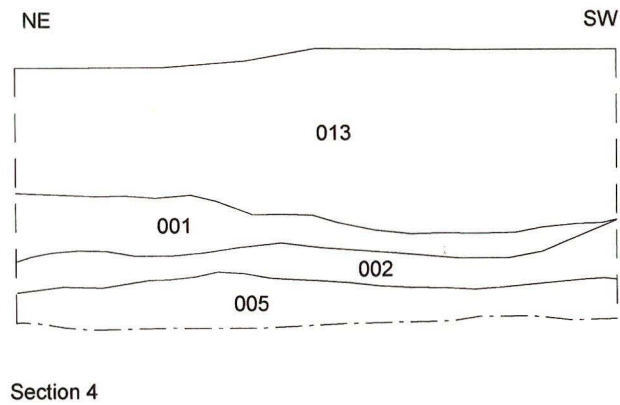
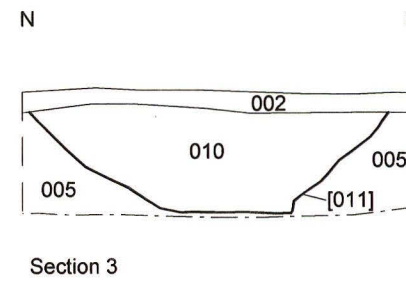
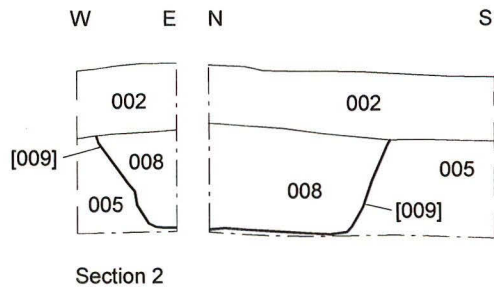


Figure 6 - Plot 7 plan showing features and section locations




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Figure 7 - Plot 2 Sections 2-4

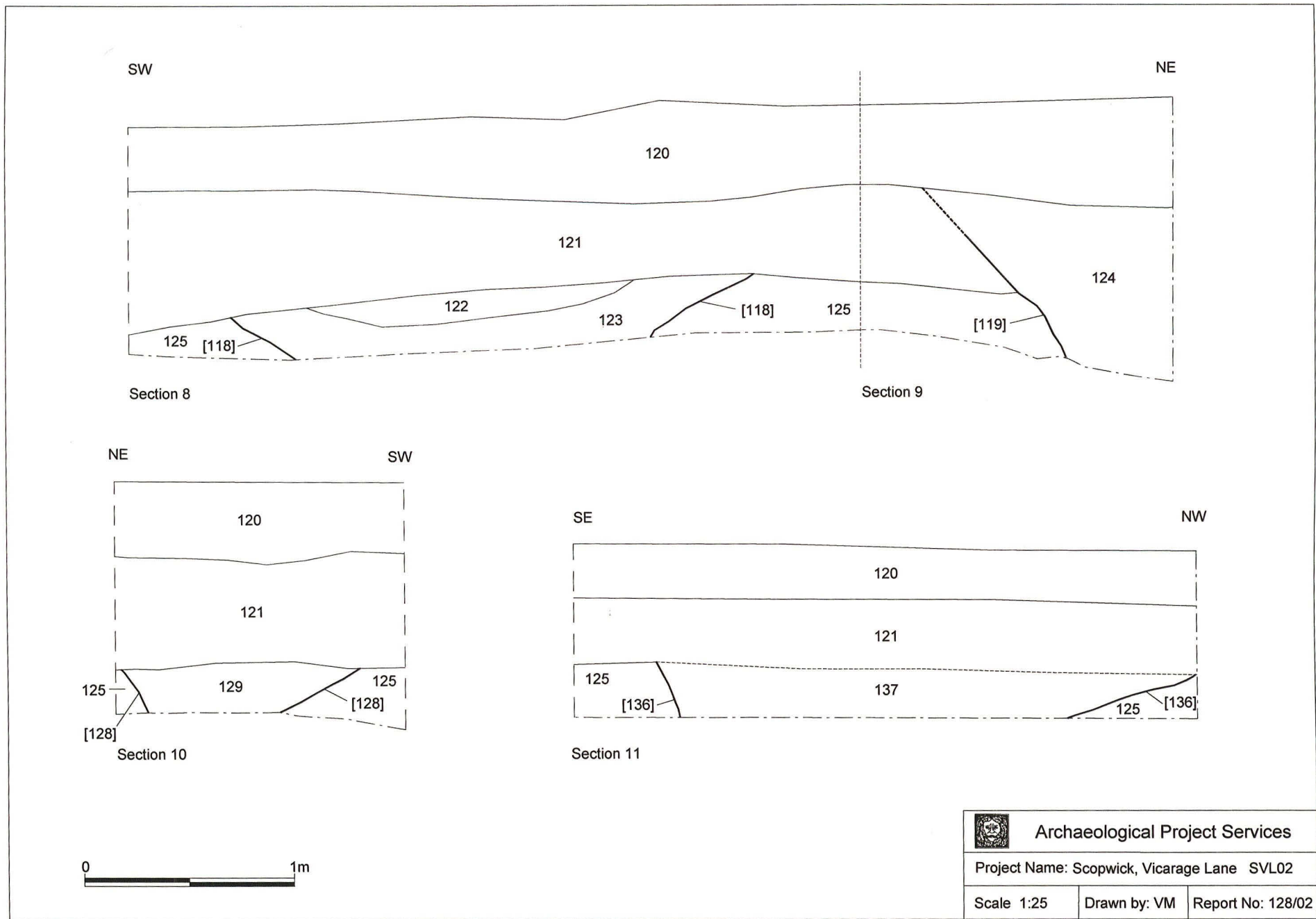
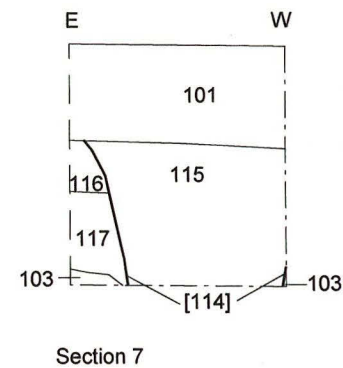
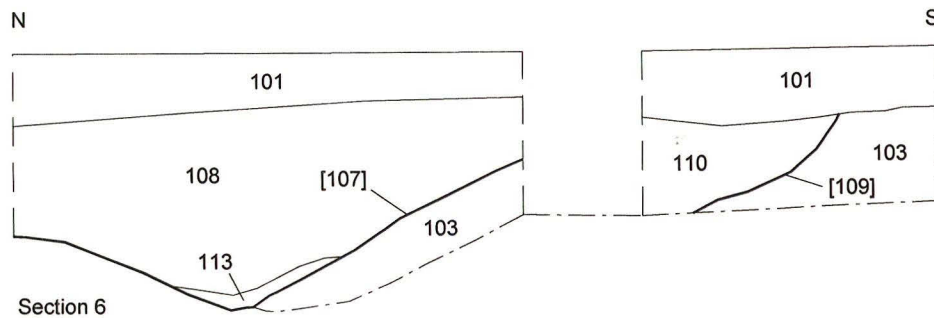
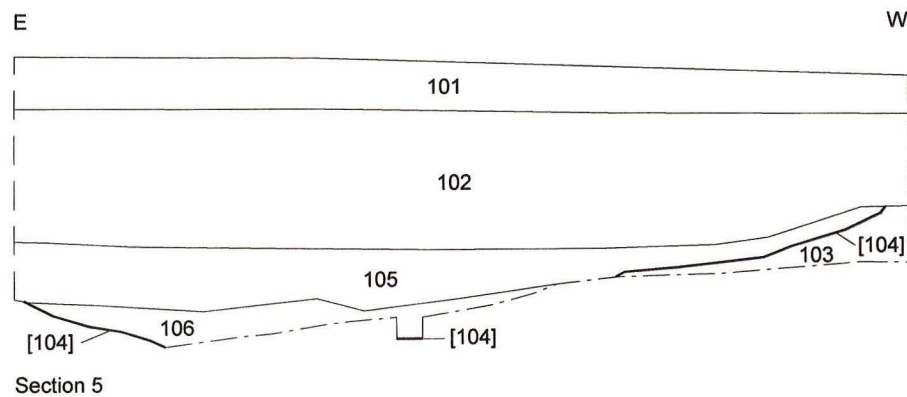


Figure 8 - Plot 5 Sections 8-11




 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Scopwick, Vicarage Lane SVL02		
Scale 1:25	Drawn by: VM	Report No: 128/02

Figure 9 - Plot 7 Sections 5-7



Plate 1 General view of the development area



Plate 2 View of Plot 5 during excavation



Plate 3 Section 8, undated ditch [118] in Plot 5, looking northwest

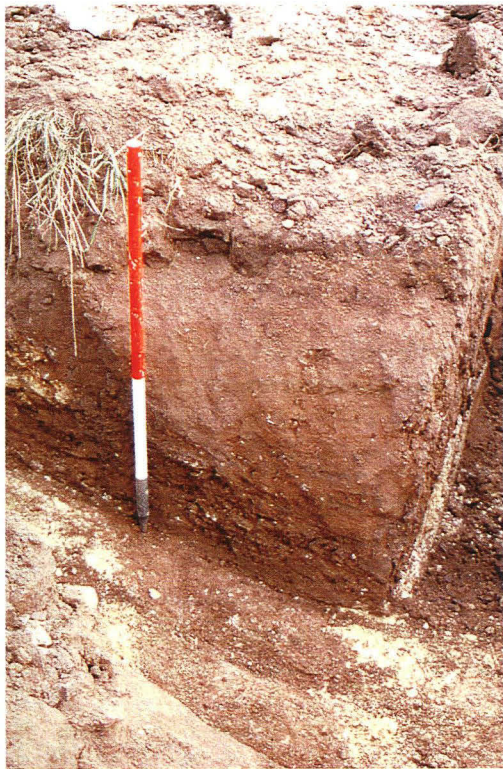


Plate 4 Section 7, undated ditch [114] in Plot 7, looking south



Plate 5 Section 6, Romano-British (?) ditch [107] in Plot 7, looking east



Plate 6 View of undated ditches [144] and [140] in Plot 7, looking northeast



Plate 7 View of undated ditches [146] and [148] in Plot 7, looking northwest

Appendix 1

LAND AT VICARAGE LANE, SCOPWICK, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during residential development at Vicarage Lane, Scopwick.*
- 1.2 *The site lies within the medieval core of the village and close to the medieval church. Previous investigations just to the east revealed an undated but possibly medieval stone wall, while immediately to the south a ditch and possible pond, both undated but beneath the subsoil and therefore possibly ancient, were revealed.*
- 1.3 *The watching brief will be undertaken during groundworks associated with the development. The archaeological features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the findings of the work. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for an archaeological watching brief during residential development at Vicarage Lane, Scopwick.
- 2.2 This document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview.
 - 2.2.2 Stages of work and methodologies.
 - 2.2.3 List of specialists.
 - 2.2.4 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project.

3 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 Scopwick is located approximately 13km southeast of Lincoln and 8km west of Timberland in the district of North Kesteven. The site is in the village centre, on the south side of Vicarage Lane, immediately northwest of the church at national grid reference TF 068 581.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Full planning permission (application number N/53/0080/01) for the construction of a house and garage has been granted by North Kesteven District Council, subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 Scopwick is situated on the easterly dip slope of the Lincoln Edge, overlooking the Witham Valley. The site and surrounding area is set within a dry valley aligned to the east, and lies at approximately 15m OD. Soils at the site are Aswarby Association typical loamy gleyic brown calcareous earths (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 99).

6 THE ARCHAEOLOGY

- 6.1 The proposed development site lies within the core of the medieval village, located between the two main streets and close to the 13th century church. The block of land was subject to enclosure earlier than the rest of the village and may indicate the likelihood of its use for settlement rather

than for open fields or common.

- 6.2 There used to be an earlier Vicarage in the village though its location is unknown but perhaps in the vicinity of the application area. Previous investigations immediately to the east revealed an undated but possibly medieval stone wall (Archaeological Project Services 1999). Another investigation immediately to the south revealed a ditch and a possible pond. These were undated but lay beneath a subsoil and are probably ancient (Archaeological Project Services 2001).

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the watching brief will be to record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during ground disturbance.
- 7.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:
- 7.2.4 Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
 - 7.2.5 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
 - 7.2.6 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features;
 - 7.2.7 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

8 SITE OPERATIONS

8.1 General considerations

- 8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the watching brief.
- 8.1.2 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.
- 8.1.3 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.

8.2 Methodology

- 8.2.1 The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.
- 8.2.2 The sections of the trenches will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The plans of the trench and features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Section drawings of the trenches and features will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.
- 8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 8.2.4 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record consisting of colour prints will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
- 8.2.4.1 The site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
 - 8.2.4.2 groups of features where their relationship is important
- 8.2.5 Should human remains be located they will be left *in situ* and only excavated if

absolutely necessary. Should removal be required the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before the exhumation of the remains. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department, coroner and the police will be informed, where appropriate.

9 **POST-EXCAVATION**

9.1 Stage 1

9.1.1 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.

9.1.2 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.

9.2 Stage 2

9.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.

9.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

9.3 Stage 3

9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.

9.3.2 This will consist of:

9.3.2.1 A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.

9.3.2.2 Description of the topography of the site.

9.3.2.3 Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.

9.3.2.4 A text describing the findings of the watching brief.

9.3.2.5 A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.

9.3.2.6 Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.

9.3.2.7 Sections of the archaeological features.

9.3.2.8 Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.

9.3.2.9 Specialist reports on the finds from the site.

9.3.2.10 Appropriate photographs of specific archaeological features.

10 **REPORT DEPOSITION**

- 10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the client; the County Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record; North Kesteven District Council Planning Department and the North Kesteven Heritage Officer.

11 **ARCHIVE**

- 11.1 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**

- 12.1 A report of the investigation results will be 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**

- 13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Heritage Officer for North Kesteven District Council. They will be given written notice of the commencement of the project.

14 **VARIATIONS AND CONTINGENCIES**

- 14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 14.2 In the event of the discovery of any unexpected remains of archaeological importance, or of any changed circumstances, it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to inform the archaeological curator (*Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* 1998, Sections 5.7 and 18).
- 14.3 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation additional resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.
- 14.4 Any contingency requirement for additional fieldwork or post-excavation analysis outside the scope of the proposed scheme of works will only be activated following full consultation with the archaeological curator and the client.

15 **PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS**

- 15.1 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.
- 15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- 15.3 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**

16.1 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 Saxon - J Young, independent specialist Medieval and later - H Healey, independent archaeologist
Non-pottery Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist
Animal Bones	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, independent specialist

17 **INSURANCES**

17.1 Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains Employers Liability Insurance of £10,000,000, together with Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied on request.

18 **COPYRIGHT**

18.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

18.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.

18.3 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 and may result in legal action.

18.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

19 **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Archaeological Project Services, 1999 *Archaeological Watching Brief of Development on land at Vicarage Lane, Scopwick, Lincolnshire (SVL99)*

Archaeological Project Services, 2001 *Archaeological Watching Brief of Development at Plot 3, Glebe Court Vicarage Lane, Scopwick, Lincolnshire (SVL01)*

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

Plot 2

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Soft mid brown to grey silty sand with limestone fragments, up to 0.22m thick	Disturbed topsoil
002	Soft mid brown silty sand, up to 0.25m thick	Subsoil
003	Firm mid brown to dark grey silty clay, 50mm thick	Fill of (007)
004	Soft mid brown to light grey sandy silt, up to 0.3m thick	Fill of (007)
005	Indurated near white and light grey limestone	Natural geology
006	Mid brown silt, 0.14m thick	Fill of (007)
007	Linear feature, aligned east-west, >0.9m long by 0.94m wide by 0.33m deep, steep sides, not fully excavated	Possible ditch
008	Firm mid reddish brown silt with limestone fragments, up to 0.32m thick	Fill of (009)
009	Feature, >0.6m long by >0.28m wide by 0.32m deep, steep sides and flattish base	Possible pit
010	Firm dark reddish brown silt, 0.36m thick	Fill of (011)
011	Linear feature, aligned east-west, >6m long by 1.22m wide by 0.36m deep, steep sides and flattish base	Ditch
012	Unstratified finds recovery	
013	Soft mid brown sandy silt, 0.62m thick	Redeposited topsoil

Plot 5

No.	Description	Interpretation
118	Linear feature, aligned northwest-southeast, >8m long, 1.4m wide and >0.35m deep	Ditch
119	Feature >3.5m by >1.2m and >0.8m deep	Pit or ditch
120	Firm dark brown clayey sandy silt, up to 0.5m thick	Topsoil
121	Soft to firm mid brown sandy silt, up to 0.65m thick	Subsoil
122	Soft, light grey sandy silt, 0.2m thick	Fill of (118)
123	Soft mid reddish brown sandy clayey silt, >0.35m thick	Fill of (118)
124	Soft mid brown sandy silt, >0.8m thick	Fill of (119)
125	Firm to friable mid yellow limestone gravel and mid reddish yellow coarse sand, >0.3m thick	Natural deposit
126	Feature, 2.7m by >0.65m	Pit

127	Soft, light grey silty clayey sand	Fill of (126)
128	Feature, >0.8m by > 0.9m and >0.2m depth	Possible ditch terminus or pit
129	Soft light brown and light grey mottled silty moderate to coarse sand, >0.2m thick	Fill of (128)
130	Feature, aligned northeast-southwest, >0.8m long by 0.7m wide	Probable ditch
131	Soft light grey and whitish mottles silty moderate to coarse sand,	Fill of (130)
132	Linear feature, aligned east-west, >3.8m long by 0.7-1m wide	Ditch
133	Friable light brownish grey moderate and coarse sand	Fill of (132)
134	Linear feature, aligned northnorthwest-southsoutheast, >3.1m long by 0.5m wide	Ditch terminus
135	Soft mid brown slightly silty coarse sand	Fill of (134)
136	Feature, >2.2m by >0.6m and >0.28m deep	Pit or ditch
137	Soft dark brown clayey sandy silt, >0.28m thick	Fill of (136)
138	Feature >1.1m by > 0.95m	Possible pit
139	Soft mid brown coarse sandy silt	Fill of (138)

Plot 7

No.	Description	Interpretation
100	Unstratified finds recovery	
101	Soft to friable dark brown sandy silt, 0.15m thick	Topsoil
102	Friable dark yellowish reddish brown silty sand, 0.47m thick	Subsoil
103	Indurated whitish-yellow oolitic limestone	Natural geology
104	Linear feature, aligned southeast-northwest, >1.5m long, 0.5m wide and >0.46m deep	Ditch
105	Friable yellowish brown sandy clay, c.0.36m thick	Fill of (104)
106	Friable greyish brown sandy silty clay, c.0.2m thick	Fill of (104)
107	Linear feature, aligned southwest-northeast, >1m wide by >2.5m long	Ditch
108	Friable yellowish brown sandy clay, up to 0.6m thick	Fill of (107)
109	Linear feature, aligned southwest-northeast, 0.3m deep by >0.3m long	Possible ditch terminus
110	Friable greyish brown clayey sand, 0.3m thick	Fill of (109)

111	Linear feature, aligned southwest-northeast, 0.5m wide, >1.8m long and > 0.12m deep	Ditch terminus
112	Friable yellowish brown clayey sand, 0.12m thick	Fill of (111)
113	Friable light brown and grey sandy silty clay, 0.06m thick	Fill of (107)
114	Linear feature, aligned north-south, 0.7m wide, >0.48m deep and >0.4m long	Possible ditch
115	Friable dark brown sandy clay, >0.45m thick	Fill of (014)
116	Mixed deposit of sandstone fragments, loam and gravel, 0.15m thick	Dumped deposit
117	Friable dark brown sandy clay, 0.28m thick	Subsoil
140	Linear feature, aligned northeast-southwest, >4m long, >0.15m wide	Ditch
141	Friable dark brown clayey sand	Fill of (140)
142	Linear feature, aligned northeast-southwest, >2m long, >0.4m wide	Ditch
143	Friable dark brown clayey sand	Fill of (142)
144	Linear feature, aligned northeast-southwest, 2m long, 0.5m wide	Ditch
145	Friable dark brown clayey sand	Fill of (144)
146	Linear feature, aligned northeast-southwest, >0.7m long, 0.7m wide	Ditch
147	Friable mid brown sandy silt	Fill of (146)
148	Linear feature, aligned northeast-southwest, >0.7m long, 0.8m wide	Ditch
149	Friable dark greyish brown clayey sand	Fill of (148)
150	Irregular feature >6.5m by > 1.5m	Modern pit

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

by Hilary Healey and Gary Taylor

Recording of the pottery was undertaken with reference to guidelines prepared by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (Slowikowski *et al.* 2001) and the pottery was quantified using the chronology and coding system of the Lincolnshire ceramic type series. Six pieces of pottery weighing 567g were recovered from four separate contexts. In addition to the pottery, a small quantity of other artefacts, glass, drainpipe and plaster, comprising 3 items weighing a total of 318g, was retrieved. No faunal remains were recovered.

Provenance

The material was recovered from (108) fill of ditch [107], Plot 5 subsoil (121), (122) fill of ditch [118] and unstratified finds (012) & (100).

The pottery was probably made at various locations, including Nottingham, 50km to the west of Scopwick, Staffordshire and in Spain.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the table.

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
012	NOTS	Nottingham salt-glazed stoneware, 19 th -early 20 th century	1	5g	20 th century
	CBM	Salt-glazed stoneware drainpipe, 19 th -20 th century	1	213g	
	GLASS	Brown, rectangular glass bottle with screw top and embossed legend 'ANADIN', 20 th century	1	71g	
100	LSW1/2	Lincoln ware jug, 13 th -14 th century	1	17g	13 th -14 th century
	POTT?	Potterhanworth ware? very abraded, 13 th -14 th century	1	5g	
108	GREY	Greyware, collared jar with cordon	1	37g	1 st -3 rd century
121	CRMWARE	Late creamware, early 19 th century	1	8g	Early 19 th century
	DR20	Dressel 20 amphora, Roman	1	495g	
122	PLASTER	Painted plaster, red paint	1	34g	

Most of the small assemblage is of 19th-20th century date. However, there are two artefacts, including the largest recovered item, of Roman date (1st-4th century AD). The largest piece is part of a large globular amphora, known as Dressel 20 in the typology of amphorae. A Spanish product, this would have held olive oil and on Romano-British sites is usually considered an indicator of moderately high status. There is also the cordoned neck of a collared jar in Roman greyware. The painted wall plaster could also be Roman but could equally be much later, of 19th-early 20th century date. If Roman, the plaster would signify the location of a building of moderate high status.

Condition

All the material is in good condition and presents no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the collection is by material class.

Documentation

There have been previous archaeological investigations at Scopwick, including on adjacent parts of the same

development area. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the North Kesteven Planning Archaeologist and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

The small component of recent material is of limited local potential and significance. The medieval sherds are of slightly higher local potential but could have entered the area in manuring scatter.

However, the Roman pottery, and perhaps the painted plaster, are of higher potential and indicate Romano-British occupation in the proximity. The dearth of material of the intervening periods, that is Anglo-Saxon and later medieval to post-medieval, is informative and suggests that archaeological deposits dating from these times are absent from the area, or were not disturbed by the development, or were of a nature that did not involve artefact deposition.

References

Slowikowski, A., Nenk, B. and Pearce, J., 2001 *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2

Appendix 4

GLOSSARY

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 interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, e.g. [004].
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, etc. Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Domesday Survey	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
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) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Iron Age	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
Layer	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Manuring Scatter	A distribution of artefacts, usually pottery, created by the spreading of manure and domestic refuse from settlements onto arable fields. Such scatters can provide an indication of the extent and period of arable agriculture in the landscape.
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.
Ridge and Furrow	The remains of arable cultivation consisting of raised rounded strips separated by furrows. It is characteristic of open field agriculture.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany

Appendix 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

63	Context records
12	Drawing sheets
3	Daily record sheets
2	Photographic record sheets
1	Plan register
1	Section register
1	Stratigraphic matrix
1	Bag of finds

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: 2002.314

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: SVL02

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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