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**Land at Cemetery Rd, Wragby, Lincs
Archaeological Watching Brief**

**NGR: TF1360 7785
Planning Application S/216/02039/06
Site code: WRCR 07
Accession No. 2007.122**

Report

for

LKR Architects LLP

on behalf of

Mr T. Naylor

**LAS Report No. 995
July 2007**

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Conservation
Services

- 7 AUG 2007

Highways & Planning
Directorate

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County Council

07 AUG 2007

Planning &
Conservation

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Land at Cemetery Rd, Wragby, Lincs

Archaeological Watching Brief

Site Code: WRGR 07

LCNCC Accn No.: 2007.122

NGR: TF1360 7785

Planning Application S/216/02039/06

Summary

Excavation for nine residential dwellings and associated access road and services on land at Cemetery Road, Wragby, Lincolnshire did not uncover any archaeological features. A small collection of late post-medieval artefacts was recovered from the topsoil and medieval pottery, Roman tile and prehistoric flint work were recovered from a subsoil layer. It is likely the subsoil layer represents a late medieval or early post-medieval cultivation soil contemporary with the medieval settlement of Wragby.

Introduction

In June 2007 Lindsey Archaeological Services was commissioned by LKR Architects LLP on behalf of Mr T. Naylor to undertake an archaeological watching brief on land at Cemetery Road. The project was conducted in accordance with a specification written by LAS adhering to the general requirements of the Archaeology Section of Lincolnshire County Council as set out in the *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* (August 1998) and the planning conditions set out by East Lindsey District Council.

Site Location and Description

The village of Wragby is situated 16km northeast of Lincoln on the A 153 to Horncastle in the Lincolnshire Clay Vale (Fig. 1). The site is located east of the centre of the modern village south of the Horncastle Road on the east side of Cemetery Road, opposite the junction with The Crescent (Fig. 2, Pl. 1). The rectangular plot is bounded to the west by Cemetery Rd, to the north by the depot and to the south by 'Windy Ridge'. It previously contained a property, 'Willow Lodge'. The ground level was about 25m OD within the north-eastern corner of the site.

Planning Background

Planning permission was granted for residential development comprising 9 dwellings and associated access and services. These works were subject to an archaeological watching brief being carried out during the groundworks phase of development.

Archaeological Background

Wragby was an important settlement at the time of the Domesday Survey in 1086 when it was an administrative centre as well as the location of two estates (manors), lying principally in surrounding villages. The development site lies north of the substantial earthwork remains of a medieval moat, which are almost certainly the remains of the larger manor. The original

(medieval) parish church is also close by. There was the potential for medieval remains being disturbed by the groundworks stage of development. The Roman road from Lincoln to Burgh-le-Marsh is situated c.1km to the north of the village.

Aims and Objectives

The aims of the watching brief were to identify, characterise and record any archaeological remains that were disturbed by the groundwork's phase of the development.

Method

The watching brief was carried out on June 5th and 6th 2007. Excavations for the roadway and associated services had been completed when the site was monitored by LAS. The spoil associated with this work was scanned by the author and no artefactual material was found. All ground works associated with the construction of seven house plots (No. 3-9) were monitored by the author and the archaeological layers were sample excavated and drawn where appropriate (Fig. 3, Pls. 2 and 4). House plots 5-9 consisted of foundation excavation that ranged in depth from 2m-1.5m. House plots 3-4 was to be constructed on a concrete raft and the ground penetration cut into the natural clay at c.0.60m. House plots 1-2 lay within the disturbed footprint of the demolished building where all traces of any topsoil or subsoil had been removed when the original house had been constructed and were excluded from the watching brief.

Location plans were based upon plans supplied by the client and a full photographic record was made of the works on site. Finds which were located in the archaeological layers were identified accordingly and a context numbering system for archaeological remains based on MOLAS and CAS models, developed by LAS over the past 20 years.

Results (Fig. 3, Pl. 3)

The topsoil (001) was dark brown (3/3 10YR) silty sandy moderately loose clay that contained chalk/limestone granular inclusions and varied in depth from 0.18 - 0.20m. A small assemblage of artefacts was recovered that included late post-medieval pottery, clay tobacco pipe fragments and building material. The topsoil lay above a dark yellow (4/4 10YR) silty sandy (slightly sticky) moderately compact clay (002) that contained 2% charcoal flecks. A small collection of medieval pottery sherds along with two fragments of Roman tile and two late Neolithic/Bronze Age flint flakes were recovered from this layer. Dating of these finds could not be specific due to the abraded nature of the artefacts but the subsoil could be date to the mid 16th century. Layers (001) and (002) were heavily disturbed by roots due to the presence of trees that had until recently were situated across the majority of the stripped area. The natural (6/6 10YR) brownish yellow sticky clay (003) was seen within the foundation footprint of the buildings and no archaeological features were evident.

Discussion

The monitored area of building plots 3-9 revealed no archaeological features associated with archaeological background of the village of Wragby. The disturbed topsoil (001) produced typical late 18th -19th century artefacts usually associated domestic occupation in and around the development site. The subsoil layer (002) produced worked flints, Roman pottery and tile and medieval pottery. The abraded nature of these artefacts and the consistency of the soil suggests it may represent a cultivation soil of late medieval/early post-medieval date that contained earlier material suggestive of 'background' or earlier settlement activities in or around the village of Wragby. Although the access road was not archaeologically monitored a thorough search of the dispersed spoil did not reveal any artefacts or soil colour changes suggestive of disturbed features. The area around house plots 1-2 had been heavily disturbed and no archaeology is present in this area.

Conclusion

The recent groundwork on the site did not reveal any archaeological features apart from a probable late medieval /early post-medieval cultivation soil (002) that could be attributed to the medieval village settlement of Wragby. The presence of worked flint may indicate a nearby prehistoric site and the Roman tile may suggest a possible Roman site or re-use of Roman building material during the medieval period. The late 18th – 19th century material recovered from the topsoil (001) will be associated with garden soil from the surrounding settlement.

Acknowledgements

LAS is grateful to LKR Architects LLP on behalf of Mr. T. Naylor for their assistance. The ceramic identification was made by Jane Young and illustrations were prepared by Ruben Catalan Lopez and the report was edited by Naomi Field.

Kevin Trott

July 2007

Contents of the Site Archive

Context sheet: 3

Plans: 1

Sections: 7

Correspondence

Photographs: LAS film nos. 07/64/16 – 28

Finds

APPENDIX 1

Land at Cemetery Road, Wragby, WRCR 07
Context list

Context No	Type	Description	Interpretation
1	Layer	Dark brown silty sand clay, frequent roots and occasional small limestone fragments	Topsoil
2	Layer	Dark yellow brown silt clay, sticky, containing rare flecks of charcoal	Subsoil
3	Layer	Brown yellow clay	Natural

APPENDIX 2

Cemetery Road, Wragby, Lincolnshire WRCR 07

Lithic Materials: Catalogue

Report by Jim Rylatt – June 2007

1.0 Introduction

This report concerns two pieces of worked flint recovered during an archaeological watching brief at Cemetery Road, Wragby. Both pieces have diagnostic traits indicative of late Neolithic to Bronze Age industries.

2.0 Method of study

All of the lithic artefacts have been physically examined in order to create an archive catalogue. The attributes of each piece are noted in order to determine its place in the reduction sequence, describe observable characteristics of the lithic technology utilised and provide an assessment of its functional potential. The catalogue also records the presence of patination, cortex and whether the piece has been burnt. Each piece has been weighed and metrical data is recorded for complete flakes, tools and cores. Selected artefacts have been examined with a x3 hand-lens to determine whether there is any evidence of localised modification that could be indicative of use.

3.0 Catalogue

Type	Dimensions	Description
Flake	60 x 53 x 15mm 42.1g	Large primary hard hammer flake with no clear evidence of previous removals (a natural origin cannot therefore be discounted); utilised a flint pebble one side of which has a thin, rounded & abraded cortex, the second side being a weathered and partially recorticated natural flake surface (thermal or impact fracture); platform probably cortical (recorticated natural fracture - cone of percussion suggests small flake detached from it probably occurred during removal of flake), pronounced bulb & termination tending to hinge or step fracture; some chipping to flake margins, but unpatterned & most likely to be post-depositional damage; greyish-brown semi-translucent flint L.Neo/BA (or natural)
Flake	43x38x18mm 26.1g	Secondary hard hammer flake, with relatively thick cross-section - cortical platform, pronounced bulb and feathered termination; dorsal scars indicate removal of 1 comparable flake from same platform and scars along one lateral edge indicate removal of 2 flakes from a perpendicular platform; tip of distal end removed by two or three small abrupt flakes/spalls – unclear if deliberate retouch or post-depositional damage; greyish-brown semi-translucent flint L.Neo/BA

NB: measurements are only given for complete flakes, tools and pieces - the first figure relates to the maximum length, measured perpendicular to the striking platform; the second to maximum breadth, measured at a right angle to the length; the third to maximum thickness.

4.0 Comments

These two flakes provide an indication of a prehistoric presence on the site. Both pieces have no platform preparation and a hard hammer was utilised for the reduction process. Furthermore, the dorsal scars on the smaller piece indicate that flakes were being produced rather than blades. Taken together these traits are broadly indicative of later Neolithic to Bronze Age lithic technologies. The very small quantity of lithic material recovered during the archaeological intervention suggests that any prehistoric activity was brief and ephemeral.

APPENDIX 3

Pottery Archive for Wragby, Cemetery Road (WRCR07)

Jane Young

context	cname	full name	sub fabric	form type	sherds	vessels	weight	decoration	part	description	date
001	BL	Black-glazed wares		bowl	1	1	10		BS		18th to 19th
001	BL	Black-glazed wares		bowl	1	1	19		rim		18th to 19th
001	BERTH	Brown glazed earthenware		bowl	1	1	10		BS		late 17th to 18th
001	NOTS	Nottingham stoneware		bowl	1	1	6		rim		
001	NOTS	Nottingham stoneware		bowl/jar	1	1	7	machine dec	BS	? ID or Derbs	
001	ENGS	Unspecified English Stoneware		small bottle	1	1	14		BS		
001	TPW	Transfer printed ware		large fluted vessel	1	1	12		BS		
001	BL	Black-glazed wares		large bowl	1	1	147		base		19th to early 20th
002	NOTGR	Reduced Nottingham Green Glazed ware		jug	1	1	9		rim	very abraded:triangular rim	
002	TOYII	Toynton Late Medieval ware		jug	1	1	24		rim	very abraded	
002	TOY	Toynton Medieval Ware		jug	1	1	13		BS	very abraded	
002	TOY	Toynton Medieval Ware + ca		jug	1	1	8		BS	very abraded	
002	BOU	Bourne D ware	smooth	jug/jar	1	1	2		BS	abraded	

context	cname	full name	sub fabric	form type	sherds	vessels	weight	decoration	part	description	date
002	LSW3	14th to 15th century Lincoln Glazed Ware		jug	1	1	54		handle	very abraded;rod handle;cu glaze; ? Lincoln product as quite comm fe & sparse aggregated sst	
002	LSW2/3	13th to 15th century Lincoln Glazed Ware		jug	1	1	9	applied dec	BS	very abraded;cu glaze; ? Lincoln product as quite comm fe & sparse aggregated sst	
002	LMX	Late Medieval Non- local fabrics	R/OX;med sandy;hard	jug	1	1	9		BS	fresh condition;odd TOY/BOU mix;thick reduced glaze;hard- fired;moderate-common very mixed fine-coarse round to subround quartz sparse-moderate ca sparse-moderate fe	
002	MISC	Unidentified types	reduced with oxid surfs;med sandy + shell	jar ?	1	1	8		BS	very abraded;part leached;abundant subround- round fine-med quartz sparse- moderate mixed shell	Roman or mediev
002	MEDX	Non Local Medieval Fabrics	reduced with white margins;med sandy;hard	jug	1	1	4		BS	abraded;looks like a Nottingham/Lincon mix;abundant mixed fine-corse round-subround quartz mod fe;cu glaze	
002	MEDX	Non Local Medieval Fabrics	reduced with thin oxid margins;med sandy;hard	jug	1	1	7		BS	abraded;looks like a Nottingham/Lincon mix;abundant mixed fine-corse round-subround quartz mod fe,reduced glaze	
002	TOY	Toynton Medieval Ware		jug/jar	1	1	12		BS	very abraded;no glaze	
002	MISC	Unidentified types	dark reduced;fine sandy	jug/jar	1	1	6		BS	very abraded;no glaze;looks East Anglian;thin oxid ext surface;common-abundant fine- medium round-subround quartz mod fe	Roman or mediev

context	cname	full name	sub fabric	form type	sherds	vessels	weight	decoration	part	description	date
002	MISC	Unidentified types	dull OX/R/OX;fine sandy;hard	jug/flagon	1	1	22		handle	very abraded;small rod handle;no glazeodd almost inclusionless;very hard fired;some flint some fe	Roman or post-m
002	TOY	Toynton Medieval Ware		small jug	1	1	12		BS	very abraded	
002	TOY	Toynton Medieval Ware + ca		jug	1	1	23		base	very abraded	

APPENDIX 4

Tile Archive for Wragby, Cemetery Road (WRCR07)

Jane Young

context	cname	full name	fabric	sub type	frags	weight	description	date
001	PNR	Peg, nib or ridge tile	reduced sandy		1	103	hard reduced fabric;thin oxid surfaces;moderate fe moderate subround-round quartz;surfaces show mod-comm light shale but not evident in core;bedded on coarse medium & ? Grass/straw;roughly struck upper;not a Lincoln product	13th to 17th
002	RTIL	Roman tile	laminated fabric		1	126	cracked during firing or post breakage burnt;? Ridge or imbrex	Roman
002	TEG	Tegula	Lincoln area fabric ?	thick type 31 flange	1	189	flange;very abraded	Roman

Dating Archive for Wragby, Cemetery Road (WRCR07)

Jane Young

context	date	comments
001	19th to early 20th	
002	mid 15th to mid 16th	medieval material very abraded by plough; early post-med less so & one in fresh condition

APPENDIX 5

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: lindseya1-29461

Project details

Project name Land at Cemetery Rd Wragby Lincs

Short description of the project Monitoring of groundworks for a residential development of 9 houses did not reveal any archaeological features. 2 late Neolithic/BronzeAge flints and 2 pieces of Roman tile were found in the subsoil together with 24 sherds of mainly post-medieval pottery. The subsoil has been interpreted as a former late-medieval/post-medieval ploughsoil.

Project dates Start: 05-06-2007 End: 30-07-2007

Previous/future work No / No

Any associated project reference codes WR07 - Contracting Unit No.

Any associated project reference codes 2007.122 - Museum accession ID

Type of project Recording project

Current Land use Residential 1 - General Residential

Significant Finds LITHICS Late Neolithic

Significant Finds POTTERY Post Medieval

Significant Finds TILE Roman

Investigation type 'Watching Brief'

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Project location

Country England

Site location LINCOLNSHIRE EAST LINDSEY WRAGBY Land at Cemetery Rd, Wragby, Lincs

Study area 2050.00 Square metres

Site coordinates TF 1360 7785 53.2851450437 -0.295782104568 53 17 06 N 000 17 44 W Point

Height OD Min: 24.25m Max: 24.25m

Project creators

Name of Organisation LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Project brief Contractor (design and execute)

originator
 Project design originator Naomi Field
 Project director/manager M. MCDAID
 Project supervisor Kevin Trott
 Type of sponsor/funding body Developer
 Name of sponsor/funding body Mr T Naylor

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient LCNCC
 Physical Archive ID 2007.122
 Physical Contents 'Ceramics','Worked stone/lithics'
 Digital Archive recipient Lindsey Archaeological Services
 Digital Archive ID WRCR 07
 Digital Contents 'Ceramics','Worked stone/lithics'
 Digital Media available 'Database','Images raster / digital photography','Spreadsheets','Text'
 Paper Archive recipient LCNCC
 Paper Archive ID 2007.122
 Paper Contents 'Ceramics','Worked stone/lithics'
 Paper Media available 'Context sheet','Correspondence','Map','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section'

Project bibliography 1

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THE FIGURES

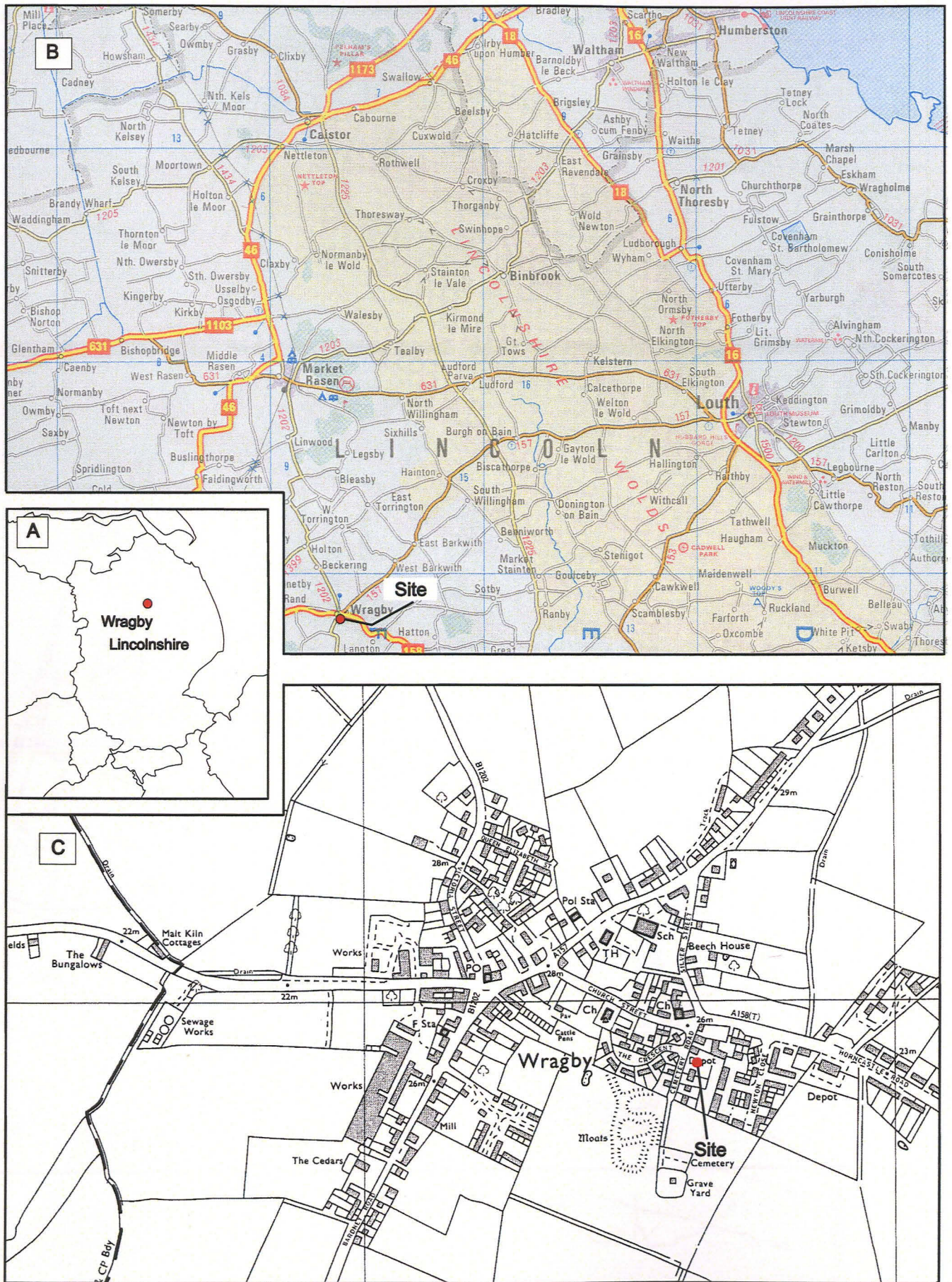


Fig. 1 Location of the site at Wragby (inset C based on the 1979 Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 TF 17 NW. Crown copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence no. AL 10002165).

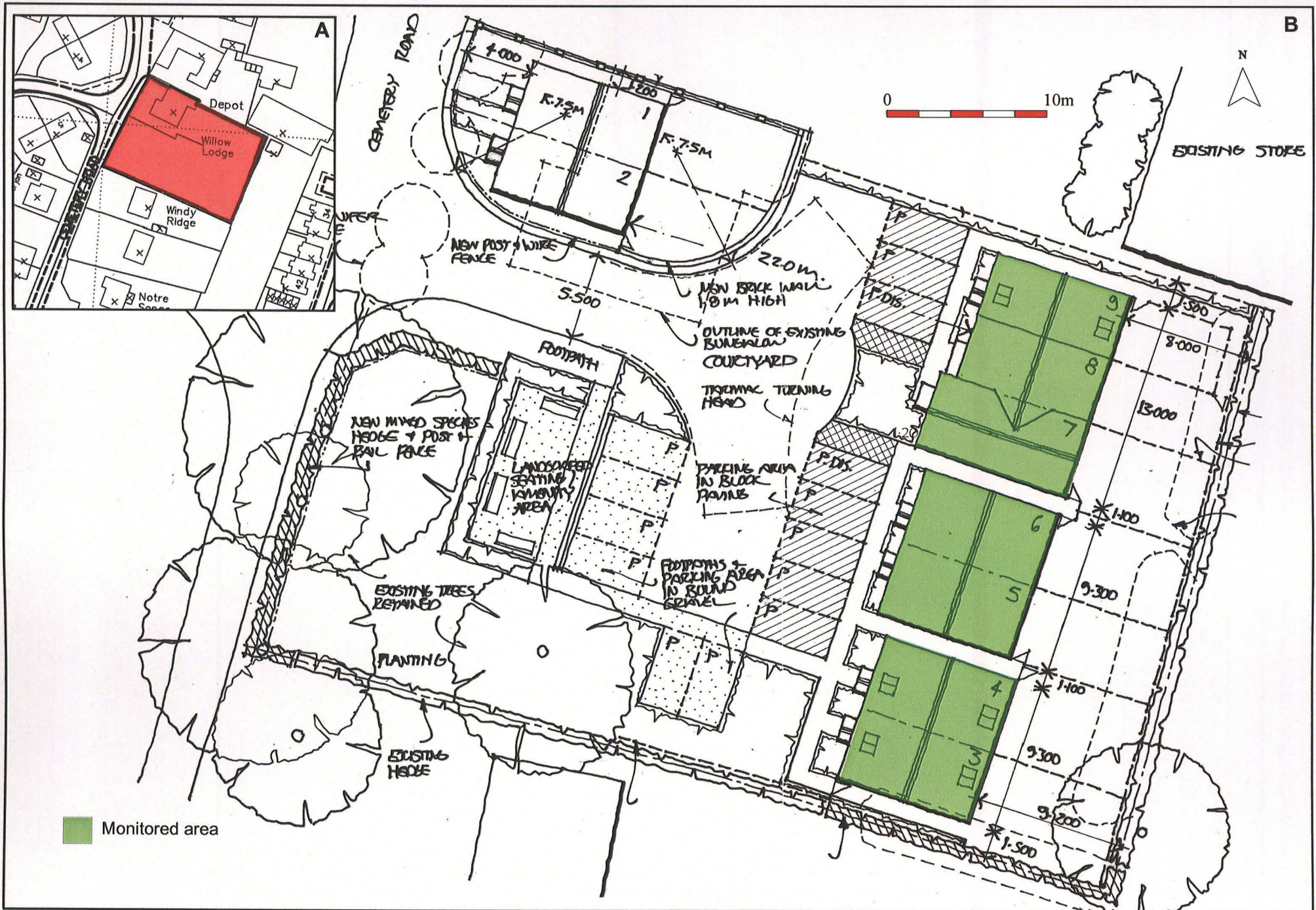


Fig. 2 Location of the monitored areas within the site.

THE PLATES



PI. 1 Location of the site at Cemetery Road, Wragby, looking south-east.



PI. 2 Location of the monitored foundation trenches, looking south-east.



Pl. 3 Typical deposit sequence seen in the foundation trenches, looking east. Scale 1m.



Pl. 4 The foundation trenches after excavation, looking south-east.