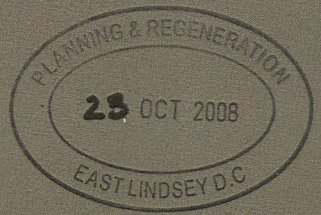


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Land at Millbrook Business Park, Wragby Archaeological Assessment

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ELI 9818

SU 12830

PRN 43901

Quality Control
Lincoln Road,
Wragby
WRLR 07

DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT OF LAND

AT LINCOLN ROAD,

WRAGBY,

LINCOLNSHIRE

(WRLR 07)

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February 2007

National Grid Reference: TF 1274 7782

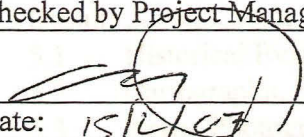
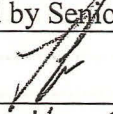


A.P.S. Report No: 12/07

CONTENTS

Quality Control
Lincoln Road,
Wragby
WRLR 07

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1. SUMMARY

A desk-based assessment was undertaken to determine the archaeological implications of proposed industrial development of land at Lincoln Road, Wragby, Lincolnshire.

No prehistoric remains or finds are known from the assessment area and Romano-British (AD 42-410) material is restricted to a single find of pottery and tile within the town. Place-name evidence would suggest that Wragby was founded during the Saxon period (AD 410-1066), perhaps as the main centre of a large estate, although no remains are known of the period.

The proposed development site lies west of the medieval (AD 1066-1540) town which was possibly centred on a manorial complex and the site of a former church which now lies southeast of the town. Ridge and furrow of the medieval field system has been identified from aerial photographs, though much of this is now ploughed away.

During the post-medieval period (AD 1540-1900) the town shifted its focus to the present Market Place. A number of buildings survive from this period, some of which have been accorded listed status.

Cartographic sources indicate the site was generally open ground from at least the 18th century. Later 19th century maps show the proposed development area as parcelled into several smaller fields, some of which have since amalgamated to form larger fields.

The site is currently open rough grassland with access provided by a modern road into the site from the north. Faint linear parchmarks, of former field boundaries, and traces of ridge and furrow are still

evident. The site is suitable for geophysical survey, although fieldwalking is not a viable option.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment

An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment is defined as 'an assessment of the known or potential archaeological resource within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. It consists of a collation of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the likely character, extent, quality, and worth of the known or potential archaeological resource in a local, regional, national, or international context as appropriate' (IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Monk Estates to undertake a desk-based assessment of land at Lincoln Road, Wragby, Lincolnshire. This was in order to determine the archaeological implications of proposed industrial development.

2.3 Site Location

Wragby is located 17km northeast of Lincoln and 15km northwest of Horncastle in the administrative district of East Lindsey, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The centre of the proposed development area lies 700m southwest of the centre of Wragby as defined by the parish church of All Saints at National Grid Reference TF 1274 7782 (Fig. 2). The site lies to the south of Lincoln Road and west of Bardney Road. Comprising some 1.3 hectares, the site lies

at heights of between 26m and 18m OD on land that slopes down to the west towards a valley of a minor watercourse. The assessment area referred to throughout this report encompasses 500m around the proposed development site and is that depicted on Figure 2.

2.4 Soils and Geology

The site lies on soils of the Beccles 1 Association, typically pelo-stagnogley and stagnogley soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 117). These soils are developed on a drift geology of glacial till and glaciofluvial sand and gravel which seal a solid geology of Jurassic Kimmeridge Clay.

3. AIMS

The purpose of the desk-based assessment is to obtain information about the known and potential archaeological resource within the vicinity of the proposed development site. In addition to the above, statutory and advisory heritage constraints were identified.

4. METHODS

The research undertaken in the compilation of this archaeological desk-based assessment involved the examination of all available primary and secondary sources relevant to Wragby and the immediate surrounding area. These sources consisted of:

- Historical documents held in the Lincolnshire Archives Office
- Enclosure, tithe, parish, and other maps and plans, held in the Lincolnshire Archives Office
- Ordnance Survey maps

- Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record
- Parish files held by Heritage Lincolnshire
- Aerial photographs
- Secondary sources, in the form of periodical articles and books, held by the Lincolnshire Archives Office, Lincoln Central Library and Heritage Lincolnshire

This research was supplemented by a walkover survey of the land, undertaken to assess the current ground conditions, land-use patterns, and to ascertain the presence of any surface finds of an archaeological character, and of features that might indicate the presence of archaeological remains.

5. RESULTS

5.1 Historical Evidence

Wragby is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of *c.* 1086. Referred to as *Waragebi*, the name is derived from the Old Norse personal name *Wraggi* and the Old Danish *by* meaning a farmstead (Cameron 1998, 143). The same person presumably gave his name to Wraggoe Wapentake in which Wragby is located (*ibid.*).

Domesday records that the land was held by William de Perci, Erneis de Burun and Waldin the Engineer and contained a church with a priest, a half share of a mill with the site of a mill, 40 acres of meadow and extensive woodland for pannage and underwood along with several acres of waste ground (Foster and Longley 1976). In the subsequent Lindsey Survey of *c.* 1115, the land is recorded as being held by

Geoffrey son of Payne and Robert, bishop of Lincoln (*ibid.*).

The soke of Wragby is indicative of a large Saxon estate of a type that may have royal origins, particularly as the village of Kingthorpe lies within the soke (Sawyer 1998, 114). This in turn may imply that the original church was a possible Minster church (Everson and Stocker 1999, 74).

After 1153, William Trussebut made claim to the de Burun lands and Wragby became part of the Barony of Trusbut. William and his son Robert created several new fees from the soke of Wragby, including the manorialization of the nearby village of Rand for the Burdet family (Roffe 2000: Everson *et al.* 1991, 153).

The principal manor of the de Burun family lay to the northwest of the former church of All Saints where the earthworks of a small castle or defended residence are apparent. Its association with the church, implies it is the de Burun manor and was subsequently held by the de Ros family throughout the medieval period. It would appear to have gone out of residential use by the end of the 15th century (Everson 1981, 19).

A market was granted by Henry III in 1221 to William de Ros to be held in Wragby until the King came of age. This was formalised in 1285 by Robert de Ros (Platts 1985, Appendix 1).

The manor eventually passed to the Dukes of Rutland and then the Duke of Buckingham, the latter obtaining a charter for a fair and market from Charles II (White 1856, 656).

Fields in Wragby were enclosed privately at an unknown date. A reference of 1672 refers to small scale enclosing in the vicinity of the manorial complex (LAO

EM 5/9).

In 1674, the manor was purchased by Sir Edmund Turnor, in whose family it was held at last into the 19th century (White 1856, 656).

The current All Saints church was constructed in 1838 and built to replace the earlier church as it was considered too distant from the town. The chancel of the former church was used as a burial chapel until relatively recently.

5.2 Cartographic Evidence

The proposed development site is located to the west of the centre of Wragby. Appropriate maps of the vicinity were examined.

Dating from 1779, Armstrong's *Map of Lincolnshire* shows the village, though not in a detailed form. Lincoln Road is clear and the proposed development site is located within open ground.

The 1820 Ordnance Survey 2" drawing shows the proposed development area only as open ground with the route of the watercourse of the west boundary also depicted. Buildings are clustered towards the centre of Wragby, around the Market Place.

Bryant's *Map of the County of Lincoln* of 1828 is too small a scale to depict individual fields though does show the proposed development area as largely open ground. The watercourse which forms the western boundary to the site is clear as are buildings alongside the Lincoln Road which are named as malthouses.

Dating to 1848, a map entitled '*Wragby in the County of Lincoln*' used for tithe apportionments does not show the proposed development area (LAO E484).

Fields north of Lincoln Road are depicted and an accompanying schedule names them as Far Kiln Close, Kiln Close and Calves Close.

The 1st edition Ordnance Survey plan of 1891 shows for the first time the proposed development area as enclosed fields (Fig. 3). Isolated trees are depicted across the site suggesting that some land was under pasture at this time. A pond is also shown alongside a field boundary near the centre of the area. The 2nd edition Ordnance Survey Plan of 1906 shows little change having occurred within the proposed development area (Fig. 4). The map used was annotated with field names of which 'Cow Close', adjacent to Lincoln Road, was the only one named within the proposed development area. Current maps indicate small scale developments having occurred within the town, although nothing of a significant size (Fig. 2).

5.3 Aerial Photographic Evidence

Aerial photographic data from the vicinity of the proposed development area has been plotted on Figure 5.

The County Historic Environment Record holds seven photographs of Wragby. The earliest (Code: JZ83) dates from 1952 and is an oblique view from the east, principally of the moated site, and shows surviving ridge and furrow in the north of the proposed development area.

Five photographs of Wragby date from 1955 (Codes: PF1-5). Taken from various points around the town, these show extensive ridge and furrow surviving in the area and evidence for smaller enclosures surrounding the moated manor, perhaps representing the position of former tofts. Ridge and furrow is still evident across the proposed development area which gradually becomes broader to the south. A

pond is shown in the centre of the development area and clearly cuts the ridge and furrow.

A final photograph (Code: AKN127), though undated, is the latest in the series and still shows extensive ridge and furrow across the proposed development area.

The National Monuments Record has plotted cropmarks and earthworks of the vicinity. These show ridge and furrow but not as extensive as that depicted in the above photographs.

The heavy soils of the Beccles 1 Association are generally unsuited for the production of cropmarks, although these soils are frequently used for pasture and earthwork survival is often quite good (Carter 1998, 100).

5.4 Archaeological Data

Records of archaeological sites and finds are held in the Lincolnshire County Heritage Environment Record. Other, secondary sources were also examined. Details of archaeological and historical remains falling within c. 500m of the proposed development site are collated in Table 1 and located on Figure 6.

Prehistoric Archaeology

Prehistoric remains have not, so far, been identified within the assessment area.

Romano-British Archaeology

A worn sherd of Romano-British pottery and a fragment of roof tile were found during a watching brief at 14 The Crescent (Fig. 6, No. 1). The presence of roof tile may indicate a building in the vicinity.

Map Code	HER Ref.	Description	National Grid Reference
1	46667	Roman pottery and tile	TF 1345 7789
2	40345	Medieval church and churchyard, site of	TF 1357 7765
3	43631	Medieval moated manorial complex	TF 1350 7774
4	43901	Medieval ridge and furrow	TF 1279 7797
5	40346	Late medieval silver and gold rings	TF 1350 7780

Table 1: Archaeological sites within the assessment area

Saxon Archaeology

No Saxon sites have been identified from within the assessment area. However, the place-name indicates the settlement was established at least in the Anglo-Scandinavian period (9th-10th centuries) and the Domesday reference confirms the existence of the village in the Late Saxon period.

Medieval Archaeology

The principal area of domestic settlement in Wragby is likely to be focussed on the former church and manorial centre (Fig. 6, Nos. 2 and 3) to the southeast of the current town.

Ridge and furrow of the medieval field system is recorded only at one location, where it was exposed during construction of an access road into the site (Fig. 6, No. 4),

Finds of three rings, two silver and one gold, were made close to the site of the manor (Fig. 6, No. 5).

Post-medieval Archaeology

No post-medieval sites are recorded at the Historic Environment Record as falling within the assessment area.

There are a number of buildings, some of which are listed, within the assessment area that date to the post-medieval period. Listed buildings include Manor Farm

House (18th century), The Manor House (18th century), All Saints Church (1839), The Old Grammar School (18th century), The Turnor Arms Hotel (19th century), the Post Office (1840), Almshouses with pump and wardens house (1840), Wragham House (18th century), a former rectory (18th century) and Beech House (17th century).

Wragby mill, located to the east of the site, was built in 1831 (Dolman 1986, 29), and is also a listed building.

In addition to the buildings, the route of the Lincoln to Louth railway line passes through the assessment area to the east of the town. The line opened in 1874 (Squires 1998, 14) and eventually closed in 1970 with Wragby Station having ceased to operate by 1951.

Modern Archaeology

No modern sites are recorded at the Historic Environment Record within the assessment area.

Previous Archaeological Intervention

A watching brief was undertaken at the site when the access road from Lincoln Road was inserted. This revealed four undated parallel ditches aligned east-west (Jarvis 2000, 3). It is probable that these represent selected survival of the medieval ridge and furrow.

A watching brief undertaken at The Crescent identified undated ditches, gullies and pits which are likely to be associated with the manorial complex to the south (Trimble 2005, 3).

Two watching briefs undertaken within the town failed to find any significant archaeological activity (Albone and Field 2000, 54).

5.5 Walk-over Survey

The site was visited on 13th February 2007 to assess its potential to contain archaeological features and to note any constraints to further work. Results of the walk-over survey have been committed to Figure 7.

Access to the field is via a private road on the northern side of the site from Lincoln Road. Occupying a slight slope down to the northwest, the site was mostly under short grass. Lincoln Road is up to 2m higher than the field surface.

The modern private road that traverses the northern part of the site contains numerous services and is flanked by street lights. Alongside the road, in the centre of the site, is an electricity substation. At the western end of the road is an Anglian Water compound, with sub-surface tanks. In the northeastern part of the site, off the first spur off the road, there is a stoned area, perhaps a former compound.

From near the western terminus of the site road there is a small curvilinear ditch heading west; this may be a fairly recent feature to assist drainage. Located in the lowest parts of the site, this area was damp, with some small patches of standing water. The area north of the ditch is overgrown and contains shrubs, including some recent planting.

On the higher ground toward the southeast and east there are some parch marks in the grass. A couple of these are amorphous and fairly extensive, while another, in the eastern part of the site, describes a faint narrow north-south line. This latter feature could potentially be a buried service.

Not far from the electricity substation is a small circular patch of rough vegetation, slightly raised. This may mark the former location of a tree, or perhaps dumping.

Slight earthworks of ridge and furrow aligned east-west were evident in the eastern part of the site. Very slight indications of an east-west bank were also noted toward the southern part of the site, extending the alignment of an adjacent boundary. There were no obvious earthwork indications of the pond recorded on Ordnance Survey maps.

There was no bare ground as such but mole hills and rabbit scrapes were examined. However, the only artefact noted was a small abraded pottery sherd of probable medieval date. Natural flint was abundant, but no obvious worked pieces were observed.

Much of the site is suitable for geophysical survey. Earthworks exist but are ephemeral and of general agricultural nature and survey would not particularly assist with their interpretation. As pasture, the site is unsuitable for fieldwalking.

6. CONSTRAINTS

6.1 Heritage Constraints

A single Scheduled Ancient Monument, protected by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act of 1979 (HMSO 1979), is located within the assessment area, that of Wragby moated site, including

the site of the former church (County Number 31624; English Heritage 1996). All other archaeological remains within the assessment area are, therefore, protected only through the implementation of PPG16 (DoE 1990).

Significant historic buildings within the assessment area are listed and consequently protected by the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act of 1990. No listed buildings border the site, though several are present within the village.

The site lies to the west of Wragby Conservation area, though does not impinge on its boundaries.

6.2 Other Constraints

No checks were carried out to determine the presence of services (gas, water, electricity, *etc.*) across the site. No overhead services were apparent, though street lighting and indications of numerous buried services were observed in the site road. Electricity and water compounds were located alongside the road and it is possible that other buried services may cross the area.

If further archaeological intervention is required, the excavation of trenches would entail a certain degree of risk which would be enhanced by the use of a mechanical excavator.

7. ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT

The site appears to have been largely open agricultural ground as evidenced by earthworks of ridge and furrow that survived into modern times and later land divisions. This ridge and furrow may have damaged archaeological deposits within the furrows. As such, past impact is

probably minimal.

The development is likely to impact into any underlying geology and, therefore, archaeological deposits are at risk.

There is potential that waterlogged material may survive in good condition, particularly close to the watercourse on the western boundary of the site.

8. OVERVIEW

Ridge and furrow has been identified within the area of proposed development, where it survives in places as low earthworks.

Geophysical survey is a logical next step in evaluating the site for archaeological remains. Earthwork survey could also be undertaken prior to development.

9. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological desk-based assessment of land at Lincoln Road, Wragby, Lincolnshire, was undertaken in order to determine the archaeological implications of the proposed industrial development of the site.

The assessment has identified evidence of Romano-British and later period activity occurring within the assessment area. It is therefore reasonable to suggest that such deposits may also occur within the proposed development area. The site is also recorded as containing ridge and furrow of the medieval field system until this was ploughed out recently.

The site is currently open rough grassland and has an access road provided to the northern part of the site. As such, it is suitable for geophysical survey but not for

fieldwalking.

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to thank Mr A. Goose of Monk Estates who commissioned this work. This work was coordinated by Gary Taylor who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Access to the County Sites and Monuments Record was kindly provided by Mark Bennet and Sarah Grundy of the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council. Thanks are also due to the staff of Lincolnshire Archives Office and Lincoln Central Library. Dave Start permitted examination of the parish files and library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

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12. ABBREVIATIONS

APS	Archaeological Project Services
CLAU	City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit
HER	Historic Environment Record
HMSO	Her Majesty's Stationery Office
IFA	Institute of Field Archaeologists
LAO	Lincolnshire Archives Office
WA	Witham Archaeology

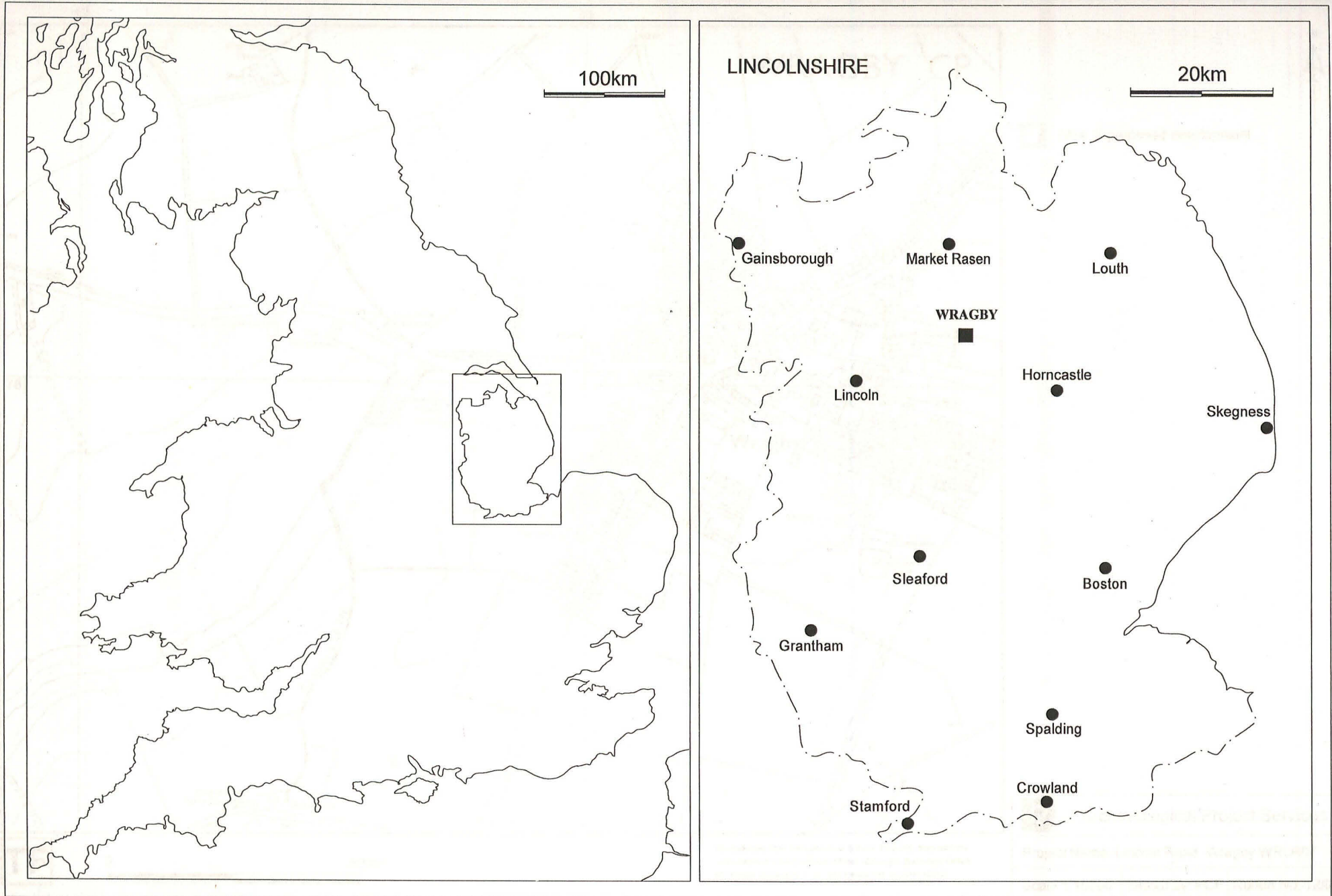
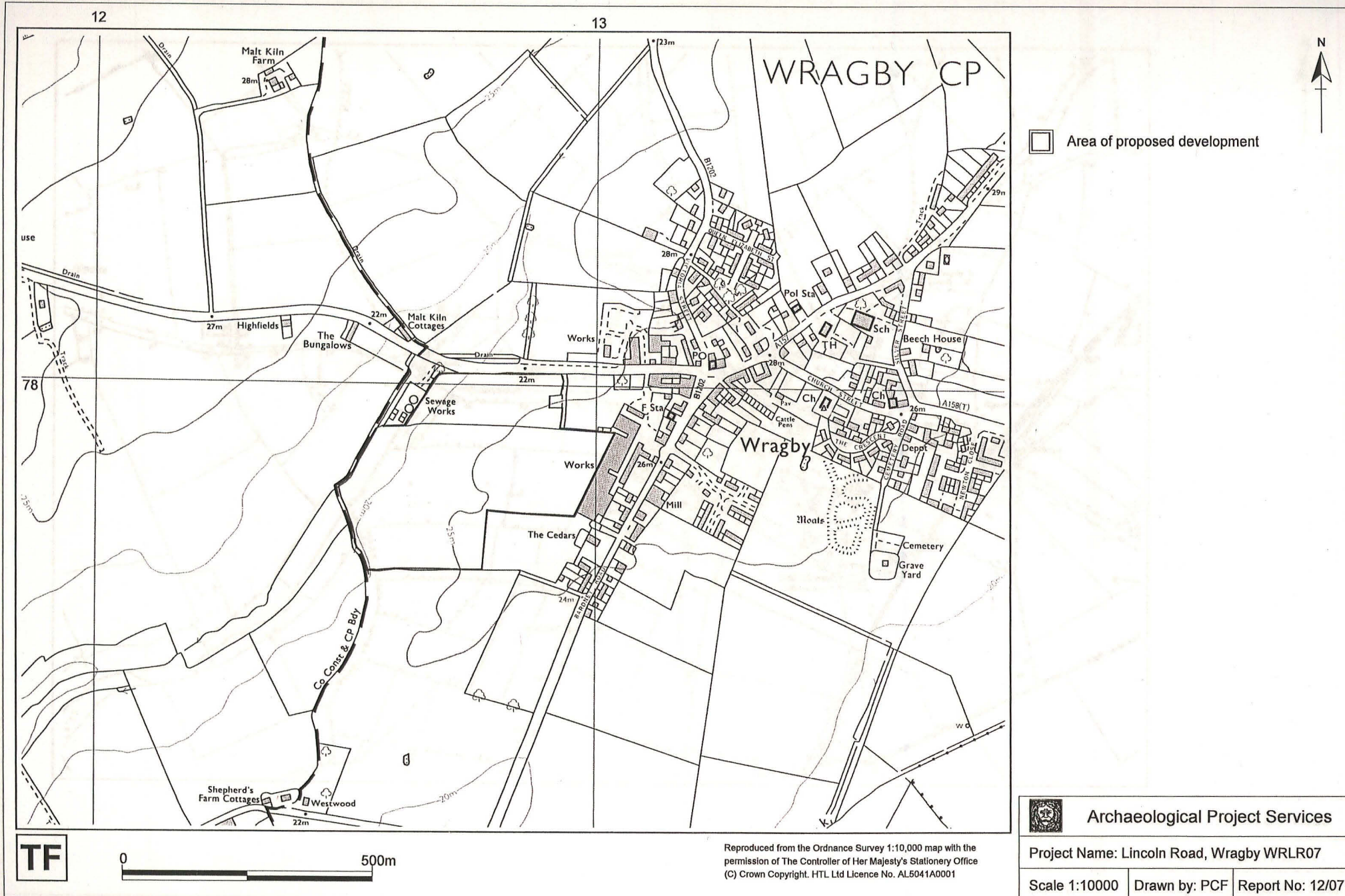


Figure 1 - General location plan



TF

0 500m

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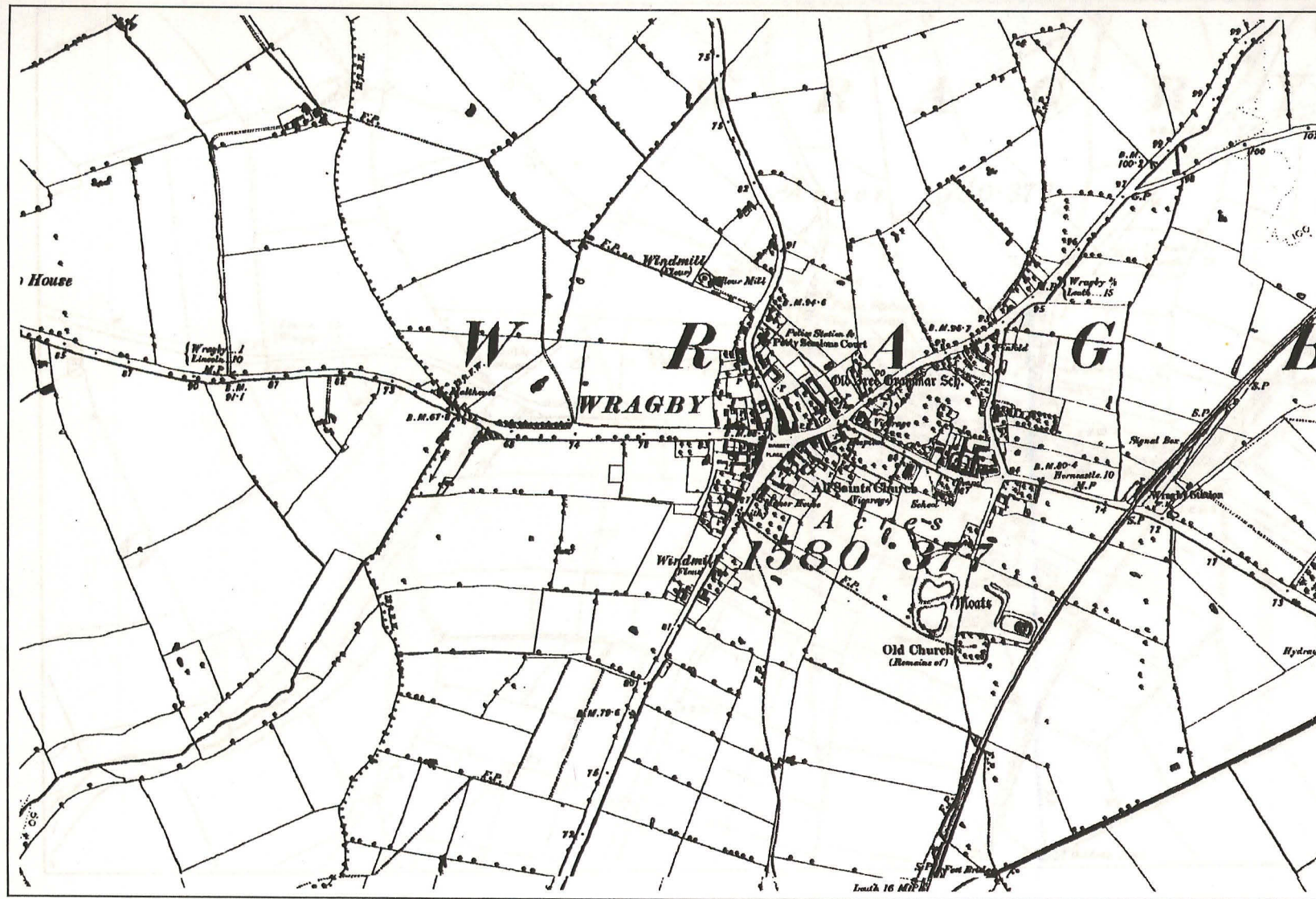


Archaeological Project Services

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Scale 1:10000 Drawn by: PCF Report No: 12/07

Figure 2 - The assessment area showing the site location



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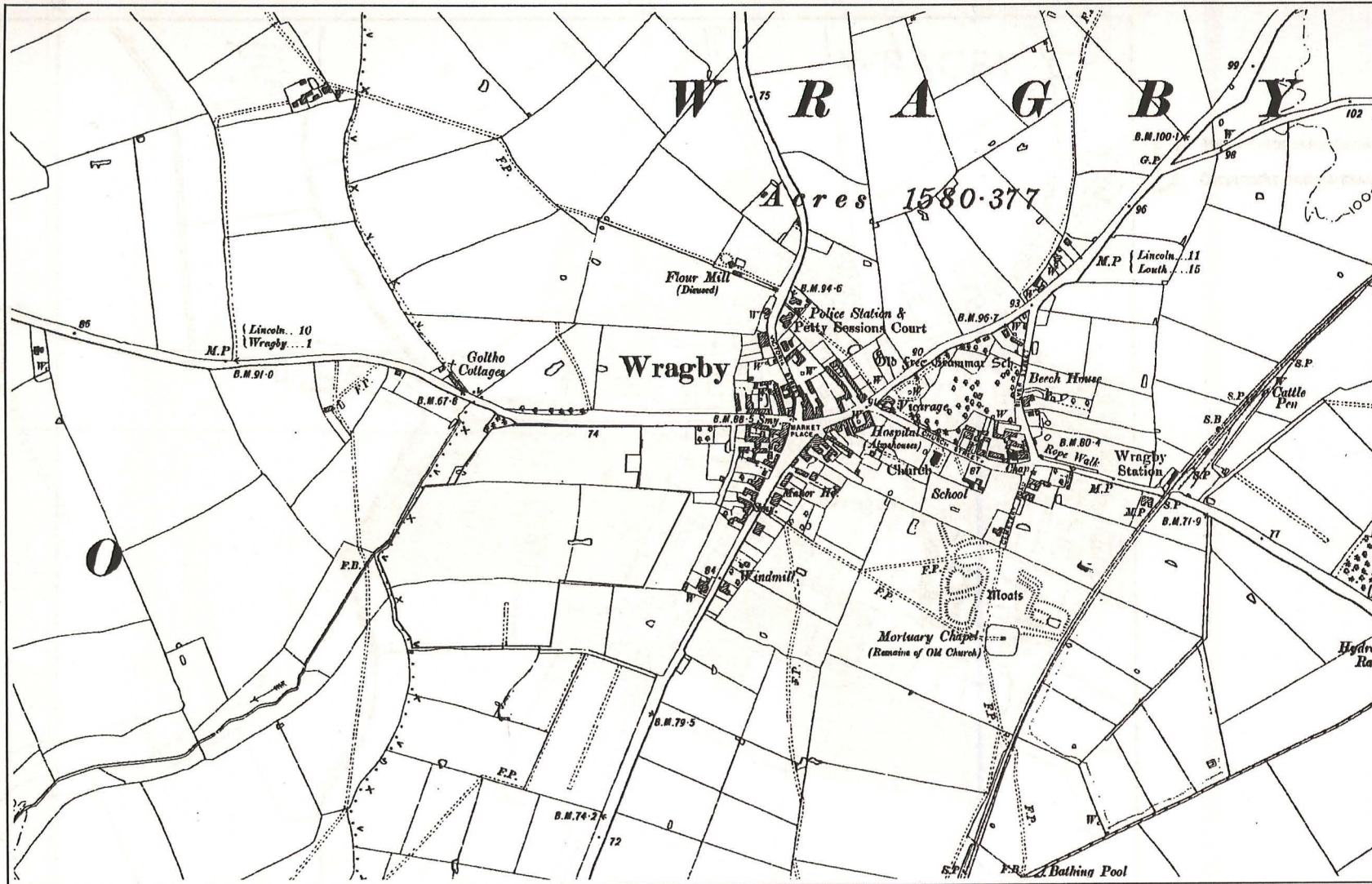
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Drawn by: PCF

Report No: 12/07

Figure 3 - Extract from the 1st edition Ordnance Survey 6" plan, 1891




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Scale n/a	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 12/07

Figure 4 - Extract from the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey 6" plan, 1906

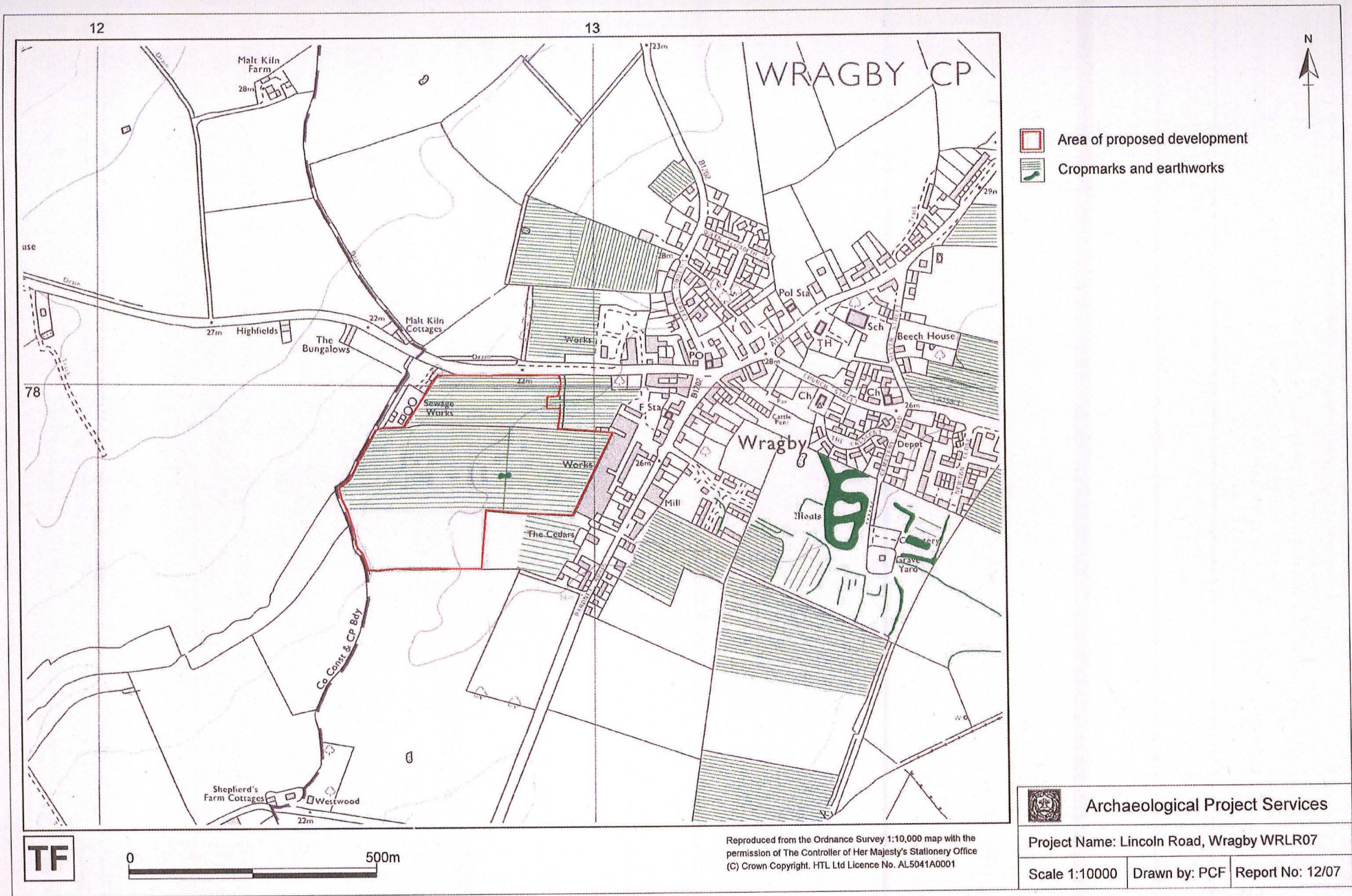


Figure 5 - The assessment area showing cropmarks and earthworks

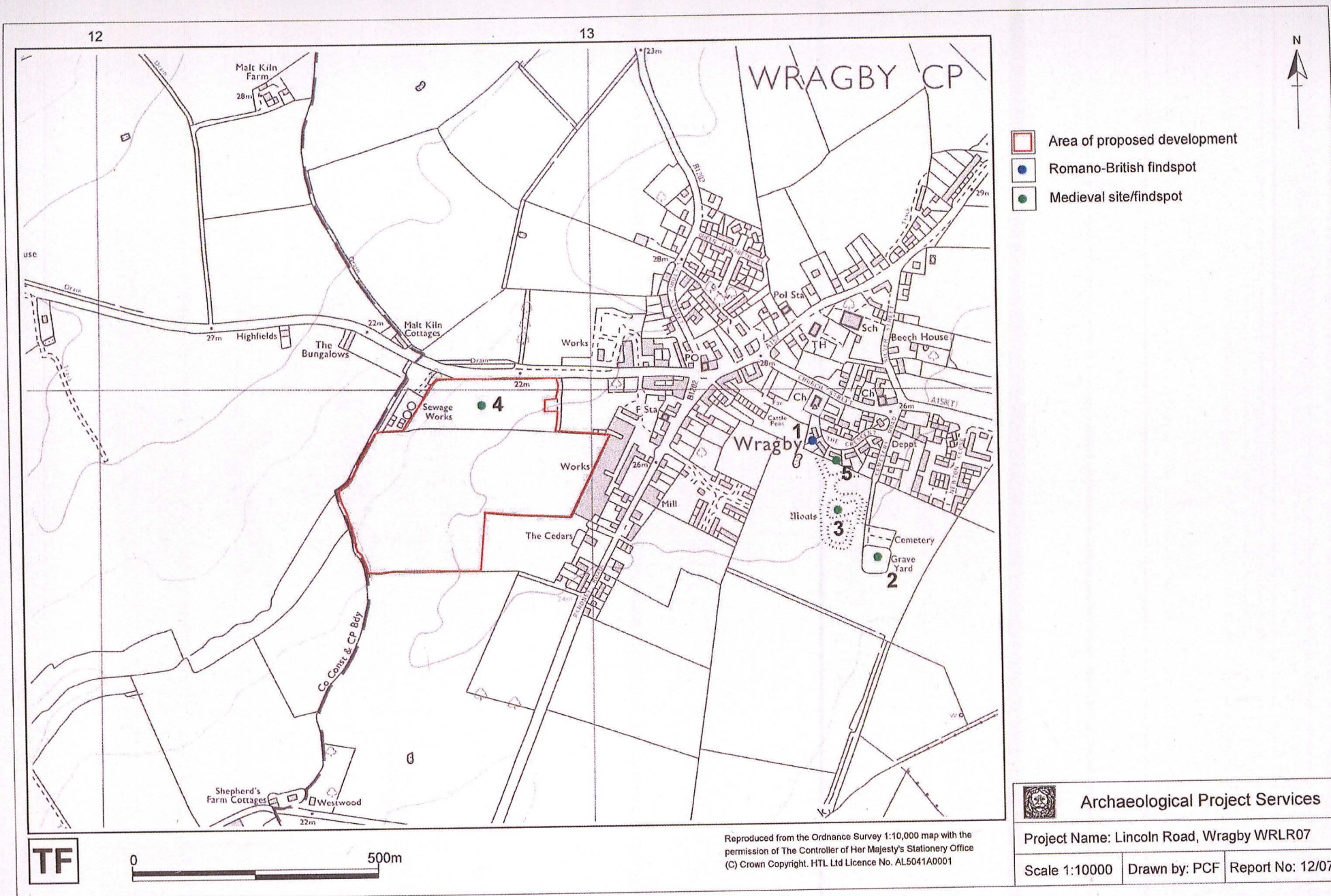
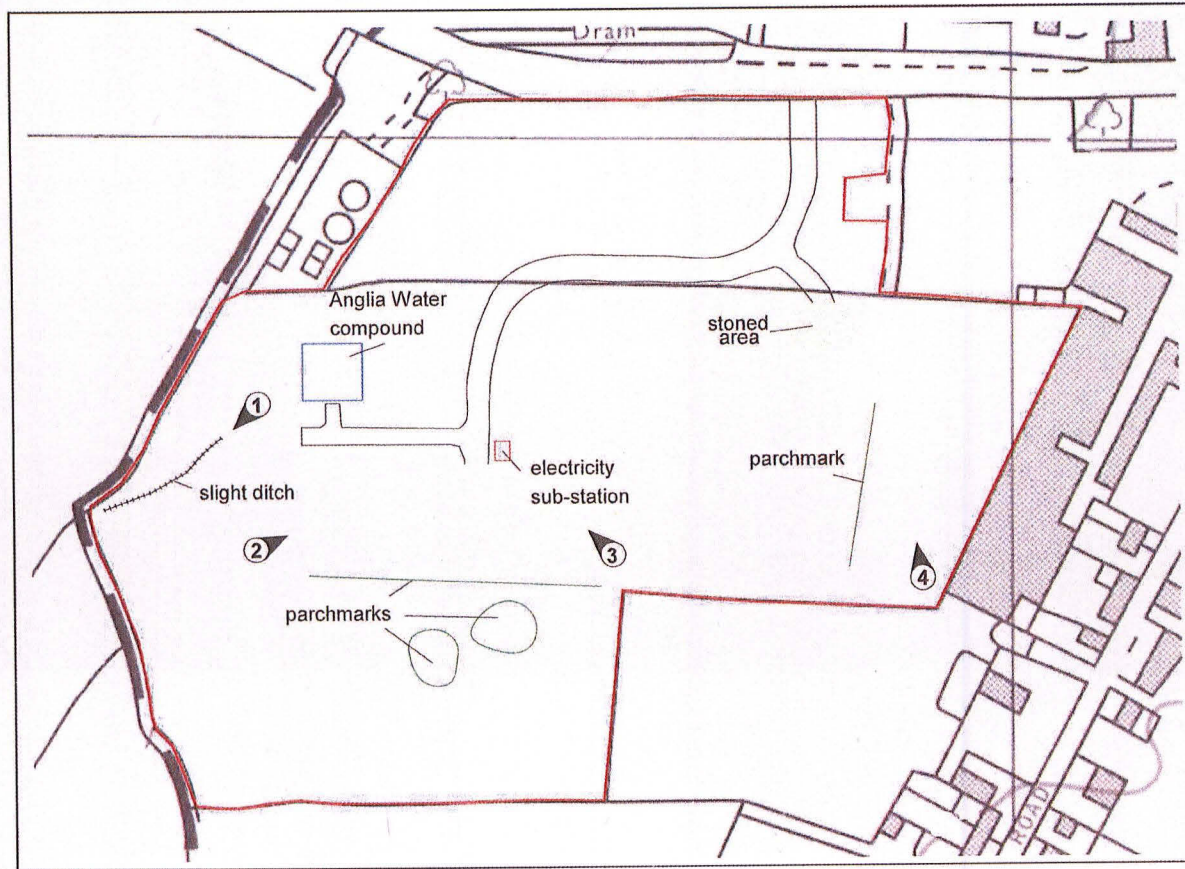


Figure 6 - Archaeological sites within the assessment area



① Camera viewpoint




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Scale 1:4000	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 12/07	

Figure 7 - Results of the walkover survey

Plate 1 - View of the southwest corner of the proposed development area showing the slight ditch



Plate 2 - View looking east across the proposed development area with Wragby Mill in the background



Plate 3 - View looking northwest across the development area showing electricity sub-station and Anglia Water compound





Plate 4 - View looking north across
the development area with Lincoln
Road in the background

Appendix 1

GLOSSARY

Cropmark	A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.
Geophysical Survey	Essentially non-invasive methods of examining below the ground surface by measuring deviations in the physical properties and characteristics of the earth. Techniques include magnetometry and resistivity survey.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Mesolithic	The 'Middle Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 8200-4500 BC.
Pannage	Right given to the owners of pigs to go into a wood and to allow the pigs to eat the acorns or beech mast which <i>fall to the ground</i> .
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 1 st century AD.
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.
Till	A deposit formed after the retreat of a glacier. Also known as Boulder Clay, this material is generally unsorted and can comprise of rock flour to boulders to rocks of quite substantial size.
Toft	Elongated and parallel plots of land containing a dwelling.
Wapentake	An administrative division of a shire in the former Danelaw counties.

Appendix 2

LIST OF SOURCES CONSULTED

Lincolnshire County Heritage Environment Record, parish of Wragby

Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire parish files, parish of Wragby

Lincolnshire Archives: Cartographic Sources, Secondary Sources (Books and Journals)

Plans and Maps for the parish of Wragby, held at the Lincolnshire Archives

Lincoln Central Reference Library

Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire Library

Ordnance Survey Maps 1820, 1891, 1906, 1979

Sources Not Consulted

Cursory examination was made of primary historical documentation held at Lincolnshire Archives—experience has shown that the consultation of primary historical documents is extremely time-consuming, and only fortuitously affords information relevant to archaeological inquiries.