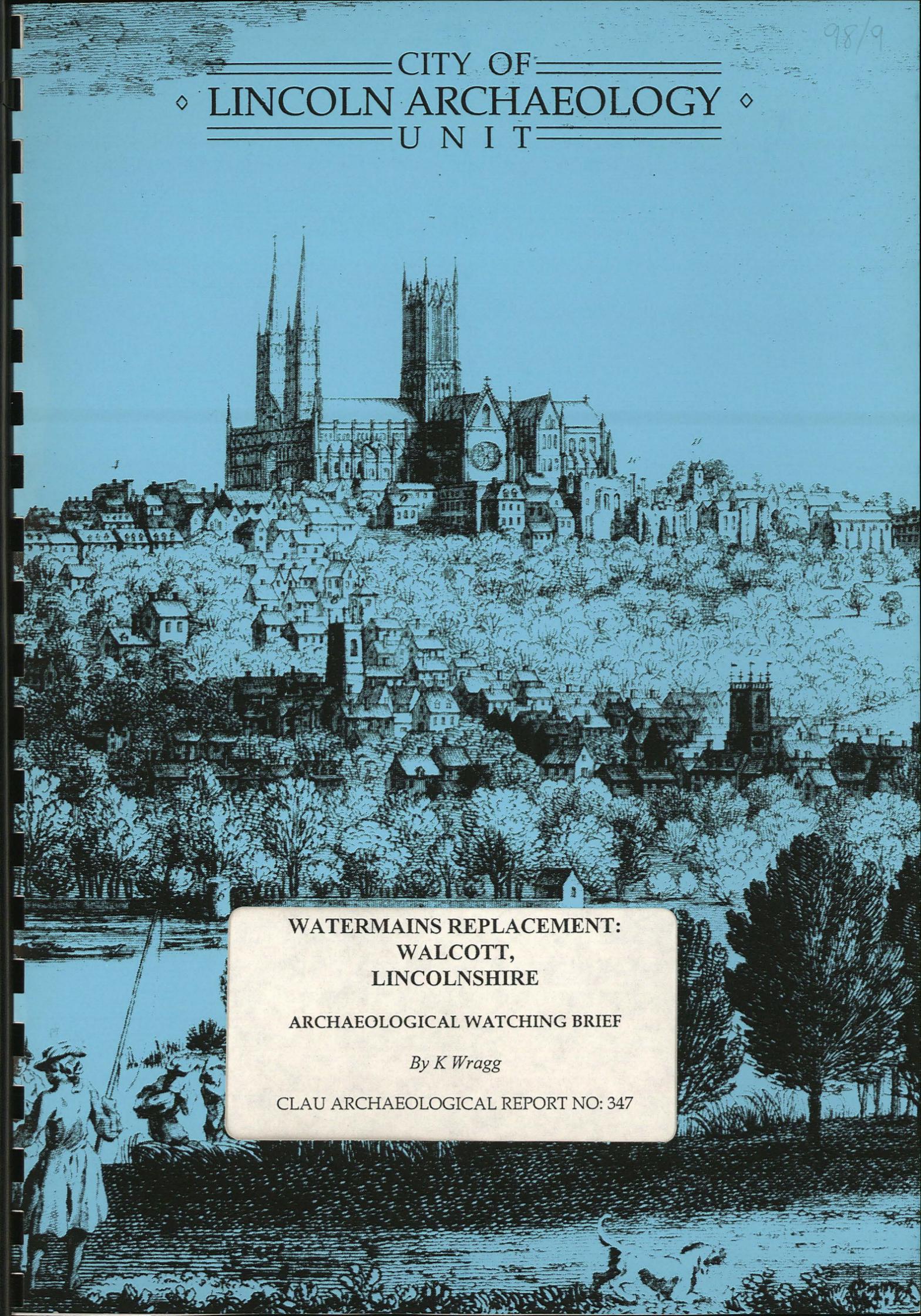


98/9

CITY OF
◇ LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY ◇
UNIT



**WATERMAINS REPLACEMENT:
WALCOTT,
LINCOLNSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

By K Wragg

CLAU ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT NO: 347

WATERMAINS REPLACEMENT: WALCOTT, LINCOLNSHIRE

Archaeological Watching Brief

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WATERMAINS REPLACEMENT: WALCOTT, Lincs.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

On the 24th of December 1997, the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit (C.L.A.U.) was commissioned by Anglian Water Services Limited (A.W.S.L.) to provide a watching brief on a watermains renewal scheme at Walcott, in the Lincolnshire district of North Kesteven.

The area to be monitored extended for approximately 75m along School Lane, to its junction with Butt Lane. New 90mm diameter MDPE watermain was to be installed in this area, by means of an open cut trench. All trenches were to be machine-excavated, with depths expected to be in the order of 1m, and all trenching would be contained in the carriageway of the road.

Advice from the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section had indicated the possible presence of medieval remains in the vicinity of the proposed pipeline, and they had therefore recommended that works in this area should be monitored archaeologically.

In accordance with this recommendation an intermittent watching brief was carried out on the site between the 8th of January and the 31st of March 1998.

In the event however, it was decided at a later stage to change the pipelaying methodology for this section of the project. Instead of the original plan for open-cut trenching along the route, it was decided to install the new pipes using the guided 'moling' technique. As a result, the subsequent probability of discovering substantial archaeological remains became somewhat low.

The only opportunity to observe the buried strata in this area, therefore, was in the small 'insertion' and 'receptor' holes at either end of the pipe run. Each of the two holes measured only 800mm x 600mm, and each was excavated to a depth of c.1m.

Only deposits of either natural/geological origin, or of obviously modern date, were revealed in these two small trenches, with no evidence for archaeological finds or features.

WATERMAINS REPLACEMENT: WALCOTT, Lincs.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1.0 INTRODUCTION

On the 24th of December 1997, the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit (C.L.A.U.) was commissioned by Anglian Water Services Limited (A.W.S.L.) to provide a watching brief on a watermains renewal scheme at Walcott, in the Lincolnshire district of North Kesteven (see Fig.1).

The area to be monitored extended for approximately 75m along School Lane, to its junction with Butt Lane (see Fig.2). New 90mm diameter MDPE watermain was to be installed in this area, by means of an open cut trench. All trenches were to be machine-excavated, with depths expected to be in the order of 1m, and all trenching would be contained in the carriageway of the road.

Advice from the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section had indicated the possible presence of medieval remains in the vicinity of the proposed pipeline (see 2.0, below), and they had therefore recommended that works in this area should be monitored archaeologically.

In accordance with this recommendation an intermittent watching brief was carried out on the site between the 8th of January and the 31st of March 1998.

The information in this document is presented with the proviso that further data may yet emerge. The Unit, its members and employees cannot, therefore, be held responsible for any loss, delay or damage, material or otherwise, arising out of this report. The document has been prepared in accordance with the terms of the Unit's Articles of Association, the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and *The Management of*

Archaeological Projects 2 (English Heritage, 1991).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

In order to determine any potential archaeological implications of this scheme, the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section was consulted by A.W.S.L. in advance of the commencement of the project.

Appraisal of this area against the information held in the county *Sites and Monuments Record* had shown that 'The area around Dene Lane and School Lane is recorded as the site of the medieval chapel of St.Oswald which was in the ownership of Spalding Abbey. It was destroyed in 1790 but no accurate location remains'.

It was therefore recommended 'that a watching brief should be maintained on work along School Lane to its junction with Butt Lane and the existing 90 MDPE. This should enable any remains associated with the chapel which are revealed, to be recorded'.

3.0 RESULTS

It was originally expected that this section of the scheme would be carried using an open-cut machine-excavated trench. However, in order to minimise disturbance to the traffic flow around the nearby school, the plan was later modified to use the guided 'moling' technique.

As a result, the only opportunity to observe the buried strata in this area, was in the small 'insertion' and 'receptor' holes at either end of the pipe run. Each of the two holes measured only 800mm x 600mm, and each was excavated to a depth of c.1m.

Only three different deposits were recorded during the trenchside observations, with the stratigraphic sequence as follows:

The earliest deposit recorded was [402], a moderate-well compacted mid orange sand and gravel. This layer was c.700mm thick to the limit of excavation (L.O.E.), and appeared to

be the prevailing natural (i.e., geological) deposit for this area.

[402] was present throughout both trenches and lay immediately beneath [401], the limestone hardcore bedding, and [400] the tarmac surface of the existing road carriageway.

No evidence for archaeological finds or features was revealed.

4.0 DISCUSSION OF RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

In view of the change in trenching methodology adopted for this project, the subsequent probability of discovering substantial archaeological remains was somewhat low.

This was ultimately borne out by the results, which revealed only deposits of either natural/geological origin, or of obviously modern date.

The negative nature of the results should not, however, be taken to imply that no remains of the medieval chapel survive in the surrounding areas.

5.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit would like to thank the following for their assistance during this project: Anglian Water Services Limited, Networks, Saltersford WTW, Spitalgate level, Saltersford, Lincs., NG31 7UL, for their funding and support during this project; Mr D.Waterfield, (A.W.S.L. Project Engineer); Mr P.Holdich (A.W.S.L. Project Supervisor); and all on-site staff of ALH Co. Total Pipe Technology (main trenching contractors).

6.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section, *Walcott Village, Digby Road Watermain Replacement: SMR Appraisal*, 9th December 1997

7.0 LHA NOTE/ARCHIVE DETAILS

7.1 LHA NOTE DETAILS

CLAU CODE: WAL98

PLANNING APPLICATION NO.: n/a

FIELD OFFICER: K.Wragg

NGR: TF 1300/5650

CIVIL PARISH: Walcott

SMR No.:

DATE OF INTERVENTION: 08/01/98 - 31/03/98

TYPE OF INTERVENTION: Watching Brief

UNDERTAKEN FOR: Anglian Water Services Limited, Networks, Saltersford WTW, Spitalgate level, Saltersford, Lincs., NG31 7UL.

7.2 ARCHIVE DETAILS

PRESENT LOCATION: City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit, Charlotte House, The Lawn, Union Road, Lincoln, LN1 3BL.

FINAL LOCATION: The City and County Museum, Friars Lane, Lincoln.

MUSEUM ACCESSION No.: 6.98

ACCESSION DATE:

APPENDIX A - ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

The archive consists of:

No.	Description
1	Site diary
1	Report
3	Context records
2	Scale drawings
1 set	Photographic records - Colour slides
1	Stratigraphic matrix

The primary archive material, as detailed above, is currently held by :

*The City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit,
Charlotte House,
The Lawn,
Union Road,
Lincoln,
Lincolnshire,
LN1 3BL.*

It is intended that transfer to the City and County Museum, Friars Lane, Lincoln, in accordance with current published requirements, under Museum Accession Number 6.98, will be undertaken following completion of this project.

CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT

SITE CODE: WAL98 PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:

CLIENT: Anglian Water Services Ltd

DESCRIPTION: Site Location Plan

SCALE:

ARCHIVE NO:

DRAWN BY:

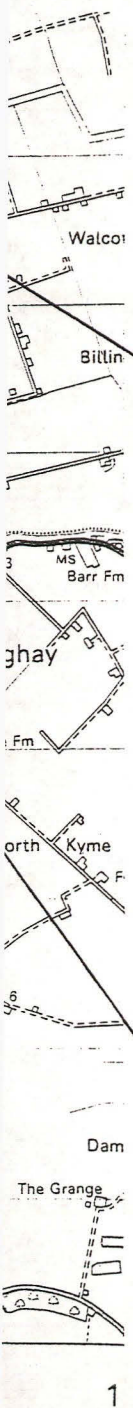
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DATE:

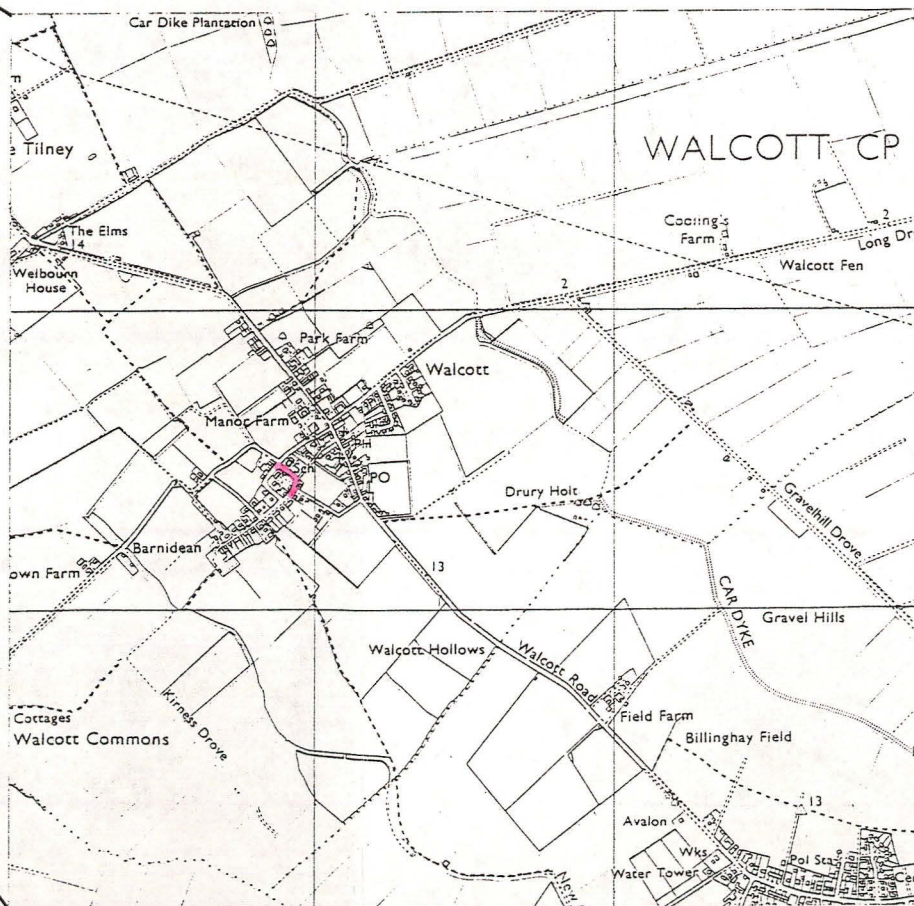
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 6.98

KEY

Location of Site

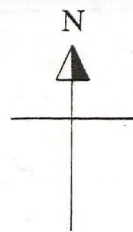


1:25 000



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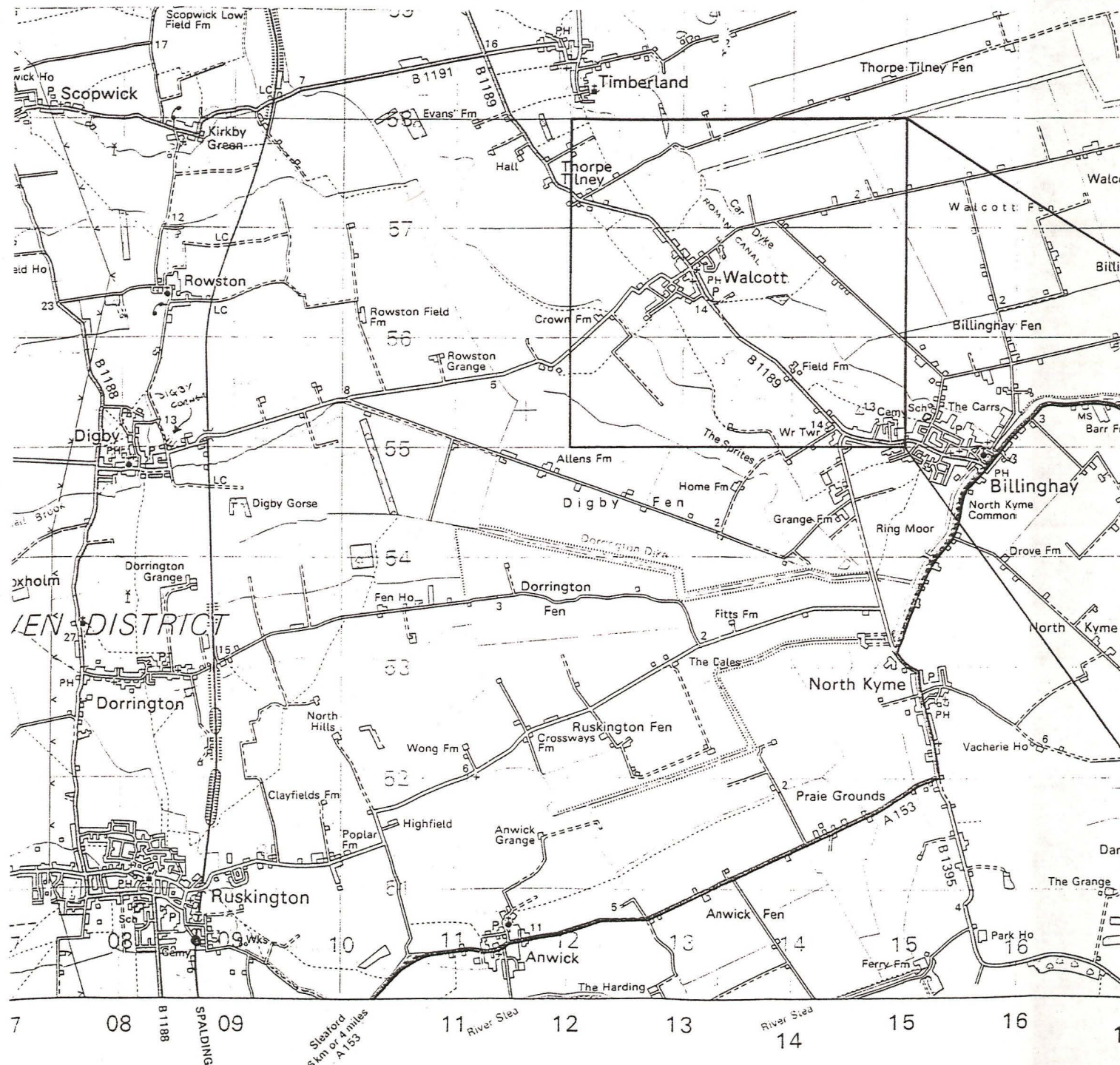
Fig.1



KEY

Location of Site

1:50 000



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CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT

SITE CODE: WAL98 PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:

CLIENT: Anglian Water Services Ltd

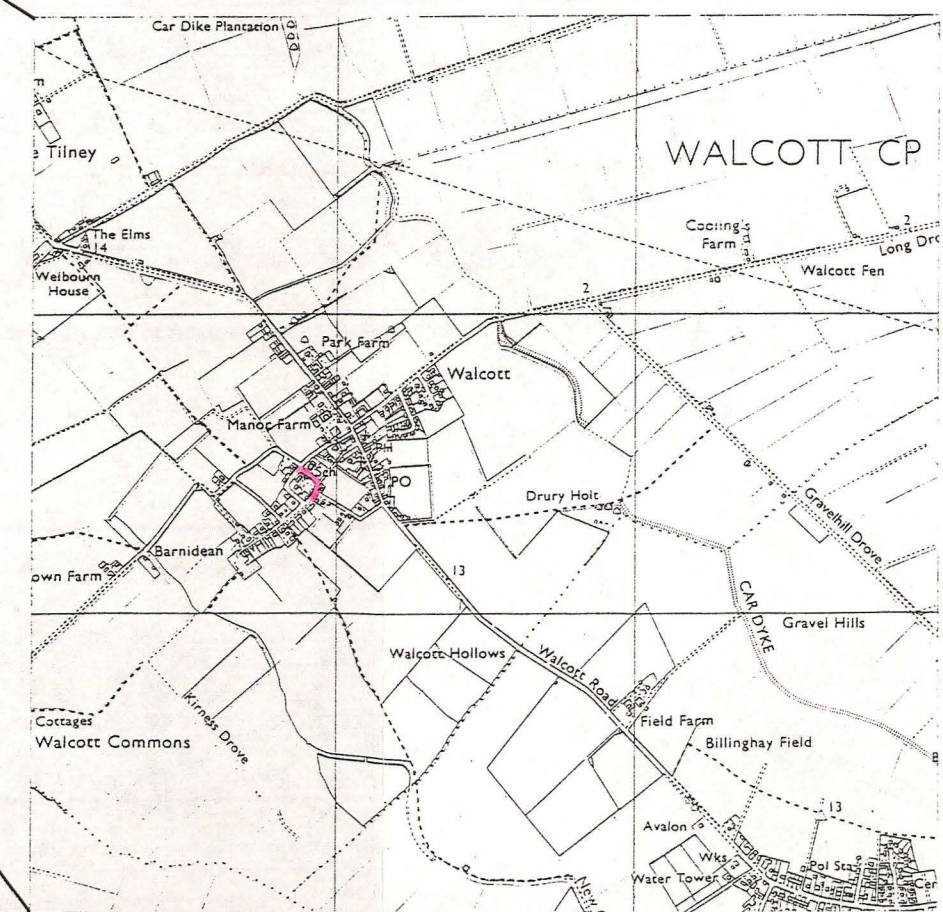
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SCALE: ARCHIVE NO:

DRAWN BY: CHECKED: DATE:

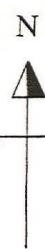
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 6.98

1:25 000



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Fig.1



KEY



Route of Pipeline



Area of Specific Archaeological Interest

CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT

SITE CODE: WAL98 | PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:

CLIENT: Anglian Water Services Ltd

DESCRIPTION: Plan of Pipeline Route

SCALE: 1:1250 | ARCHIVE NO:

DRAWN BY: | CHECKED: | DATE:

MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 6.98

