
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT SPRING FARM,
SPRING LANE,
WYMONDHAM,
LEICESTERSHIRE
(WYSL07)**

**Work Undertaken For
Mr Simon Smith**

May 2008

Report Compiled by
Katie Murphy BA (Hons) MA AIFA

APS Report No: 74/08

National Grid Reference: SK 8486 1851
Planning Application No: 06/00933/FUL
Accession No: X.A63.2007
OASIS record: archaeo11-44370

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES**



Quality Control
Spring Farm, Wymondham
Leicestershire
(WYSL07)

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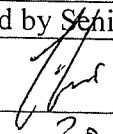
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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during groundworks associated with alterations and extensions to Spring Farm, Wymondham, Leicestershire.

The site lies immediately adjacent to the site of a Romano-British villa, discovered in the 18th century and further investigated in recent years, as well as lying close to the medieval and post-Medieval core of the village of Wymondham.

A number of archaeological remains of probable post-medieval date were uncovered, including a pit, a ditch and the northwest corner of a building.

No remains relating to Romano-British occupation were uncovered.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as “*a formal programme 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 maybe disturbed or destroyed.*” (IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr Simon Smith to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with alteration works and extensions to the existing dwelling at Spring Farm, Spring Lane, Wymondham, Leicestershire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application 06/00933/FUL. The watching

brief was carried out between the 2nd May and 24th September 2007.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Wymondham is situated 10km to the east of Melton Mowbray in the administrative district of Melton Borough, Leicestershire (Fig 1).

Spring Farm is situated on the southern outskirts of the village at the southern end of Spring Lane at National Grid Reference SK8486 1851 (Fig 2). The site is located on a south facing slope of a tributary valley of the River Eye at c.100m OD.

Local soils are of the Wickham 2 Association, typically stagnogley brown alluvial soils on thin loamy drift over Jurassic and Cretaceous clay shales (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 351).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Wymondham is first recorded in the Domesday Survey of c.1086 when it was referred to as ‘*Wimunudesham*’. Interpreted as ‘the *ham* (village, estate, manor, or homestead) of *Wigmund*’, the place-name is of Old English derivation (Ekwall 1974, 541) and suggests an Anglo-Saxon origin for the settlement.

The development site is situated on the south side of the core of the medieval and post-medieval settlement of Wymondham, within an area surrounded by earthworks, believed to be related to former settlement.

Just to the east of the site a mosaic pavement representing a Romano-British villa site has been identified (Liddle 1982, 41). The pavement was first discovered in 1796 at approximately 1.2m beneath the then ground surface during the removal of a farm wall. Unfortunately a narrow cart road cut directly across the mosaic, destroying the central motif (Nichols 1798, 889-890). Less than a century later, the mosaic was revealed again, this time at only 0.30m

beneath the then current land surface. Fragments of painted frescos were also seen at the time (Anon. 1874, 87). In more recent years Roman pottery and tile has been collected from ploughed land at the villa site and investigations have been undertaken by Nottingham University, 50m to the northeast of the farm, revealing foundations of walls of the villa and fragmentary remains of a mosaic floor.

A small excavation undertaken in 2003 in the northeastern corner of the farm identified a 17th century malting oven.

A previous historic building assessment and desk-based study of the development area (Sparham 2004) had been submitted prior to planning consent for the conversion works.

3. AIMS

The aim of the archaeological investigation was to ensure that any archaeological features exposed during the groundworks should be recorded and, if present, to determine their date, function and origin.

4. METHODS

The alteration and extension programme entailed the monitoring of three main areas of excavation (Fig. 3). To the north of the farm, narrow trenches were excavated to house new drainage pipes. This included the excavation of a roughly square area to form a 'soakaway' (Area 1). Structural alterations required the excavation of northern and western foundation footings to create the Sun Room (Area 2) and, to the south of the development, the creation of a swimming pool entailed the excavation of an area 10m long x 5m wide x c. 2m deep (Area 3).

Each deposit uncovered was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A

list of all contexts and their descriptions appears as Appendix 1. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and 1:20. Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

Following excavation finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 2). The records were also checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

5. RESULTS

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

Area 1: Drainage trenches and Soakaway (Figs. 3 & 5, Plates 1, 4 & 7)

The earliest deposit uncovered during the excavation of a drainage channel and soakaway to the north of the development was (7)=(11). This deposit was light yellow/orange brown, silty/sandy clay, over 1m thick, identified as forming part of the natural horizon.

Deposit (6), a soft, dark grey brown sandy clay with occasional pebble and flint inclusions, 0.7m thick, was not dated by artefactual remains, but was amongst the earliest uncovered in this area. This was identified as being a subsoil layer sealing the natural horizon.

Cut through (6) was [5], a sub-rectangular pit with steep, near vertical sides, 2.55m long x 1.1m wide x greater than 1.15m deep (Fig. 5, Section 2). Deposit (4), a moderate-firm light yellow brown sandy clay with occasional pebbles, flints and fragments of CBM, formed the fill of pit [5]. No dateable artefacts were recovered

from this deposit, although the recovered brick fragments indicate a post-medieval date for this feature (Appendix 3).

Sealing deposit (4) was (2), soft dark brown sand, 0.2m thick. This was a subsoil layer overlain by (1), a soft dark brown loam with frequent limestone fragments. This was identified as being the remains of metalling for a post-medieval track through the northern field, still visible through the topsoil. A single sherd of late Iron Age pottery was recovered from (2).

Further to the west (Section 3), undated deposit (10) was uncovered. This was a subsoil layer composed of soft, mid brown clay silt with occasional fragments of charcoal and flecks of mortar, 0.2m thick. Overlying (10) was (9), a moderate-firm mid brown limestone dump with frequent charcoal inclusions, 0.35m thick. No dateable artefacts were recovered from this deposit, which was likely to be a dump of building or demolition material.

Topsoil (3)=(8), a soft, dark brown sandy clay, 0.25m thick, sealed the area.

Area 2: Northern and Western Foundation trenches, Sun Room (Figs. 3, 4 & 5, Plates 2, 5 & 8)

To the south of the drainage excavations, the construction of a Sun Room necessitated the excavation of foundation trenches to form the northern and western walls, abutting the standing walls of existing buildings (Fig. 4).

The earliest deposit uncovered during the course of the alteration and extension works was (17)=(22). This deposit was light yellow/orange brown, silty/sandy clay, over 1m thick, identified as forming the natural horizon.

Above this lay (16)=(21), a soft dark brown clay/silt sand with occasional charcoal flecks and small sub-angular limestone fragments, 0.5m thick. This

formed a subsoil deposit, sealing the natural horizon, from which no dateable artefacts were recovered.

Cut (15)=(19) truncated deposit (16)=(21) and appeared to form the cavity in which walls (13) and (14)=(18) were constructed. Wall (13) was an east-west aligned stone wall, composed of roughly squared, coursed limestone blocks, each roughly 0.4m long x 0.25m wide x 0.15m deep. The exposed dimensions of the wall were 4.7m east-west x 0.66m high. An arched opening was observed halfway down the exposed face of the wall (Fig. 5, Section 4), 0.64m wide x at least 0.3m high, perhaps forming a drain through this wall.

Abutting wall (13) was wall (14)=(18), a north-south aligned feature of the same construction and material, the exposed dimensions of which were 0.75m wide x 0.7m long x 0.8m high. This appeared to form part of the same structure as wall (13), possibly being the corner of a building pre-dating the existing structures located on site.

Within the area enclosed by the above walls was deposit (20), composed of limestone blocks and slabs, varying in size from 0.4m x 0.25m x 0.15m to 0.7m x 0.5m x 0.07m. These blocks and slabs were very roughly squared and laid in roughly coursed layers, 4.7m east-west x 0.7m north-south x up to 0.7m high. This deposit appeared to be structural infill, perhaps to form a surface within the structure formed by the walls. Between the slabs and blocks forming (20) was (23), a soft, dark brown clay/silt sand with occasional charcoal flecks and small fragments of limestone. This formed the soil constituent within (20) and may have formed after the deposition of the limestone, possibly by filtering through from upper deposits. No securely stratified dateable artefacts were recovered from these deposits, although a glass bottleneck possibly derived from deposit (20). This

would indicate a post-Medieval date for the above deposits.

Topsoil deposit (12), a dark brown clay/silt sand with moderate inclusions of small limestone fragments, 0.28m thick, sealed the area.

Area 3: Swimming Pool (Figs. 3 & 5, Plates 3, 6 & 9)

The earliest deposit uncovered during the course of the excavation of the swimming pool was (28), a light orange yellow silty clay, over 1m thick, identified as a natural deposit.

Cut into this deposit was [29], a roughly north-south aligned ditch with concave sides and base, at least 1.2m wide x 0.5m deep x greater than 5m long. This feature, only partially exposed within the excavated area, was filled by (30), a mid-dark blue grey clay silt with frequent large sub-angular stones (sandstone) and pitch/tar material, 0.5m thick (Section 6). No dateable artefacts were recovered from this deposit.

A modern deposit of mid grey gravel, silt, brick and stone demolition rubble, 0.4m thick, sealed the above deposits and formed the surface of the current yard.

6. DISCUSSION

Towards the north of the development (Area 1), a post-medieval track and pit were uncovered. The function of the pit was unclear. No remains relating to a Romano-British villa site were exposed, nor were any artefacts of Roman date recovered. A single residual sherd of possible prehistoric pottery was recovered from a post-medieval deposit. The drainage channels cut through this area were, however, narrow and fairly shallow, resulting in the possibility that the archaeological remains still exist in undisturbed areas of the northern field.

Two limestone walls were uncovered immediately adjacent to extant farm buildings (Area 2). This was probably the northwest corner of a Post-Medieval building, perhaps a barn or farm building, pre-dating the extant structures on site, but sharing the same alignment. These remains were not, however, securely dated and could therefore be the vestiges of an earlier structure.

In the area of the swimming pool (Area 3) natural silty clay was reached at a depth of 0.4m. An undated ditch was uncovered towards the north of this area. This feature appeared to contain a tar or pitch substance which may indicate a post-Medieval origin for the feature. Demolition rubble and remains were visible in this general area relating to the recent structural alterations associated with the development.

7. CONCLUSION

No archaeological remains of Romano-British date were uncovered during the drainage works on the northern field. The limited nature of these works, however, does not preclude the existence of any such remains. There was little evidence for recent disturbance in the northern field, enhancing the possibility of the survival of the archaeological remains of a Romano-British villa in this area.

Works in Areas 2 and 3 showed evidence of structural alterations in the recent past, as well as uncovering the remains of a buried structure towards the centre of the development area. These areas appear to have been extensively remodelled and disturbed in the post-medieval period.

Artefacts recovered comprise post-medieval pottery, brick and glass. A single sherd of probable late prehistoric date was recovered from a post-medieval deposit.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr Simon Smith, who commissioned the fieldwork and this report. Steve Malone co-ordinated the project and, along with Tom Lane, edited this report.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Steve Malone
 Site Supervisors: Chris Moulis and Katie Murphy
 Photographic reproduction: Katie Murphy
 Illustration: Sue Unsworth and Katie Murphy
 Post-excavation analysis: Katie Murphy

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services
 DoE Department of the Environment
 GSGB Geological Survey of Great Britain
 IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

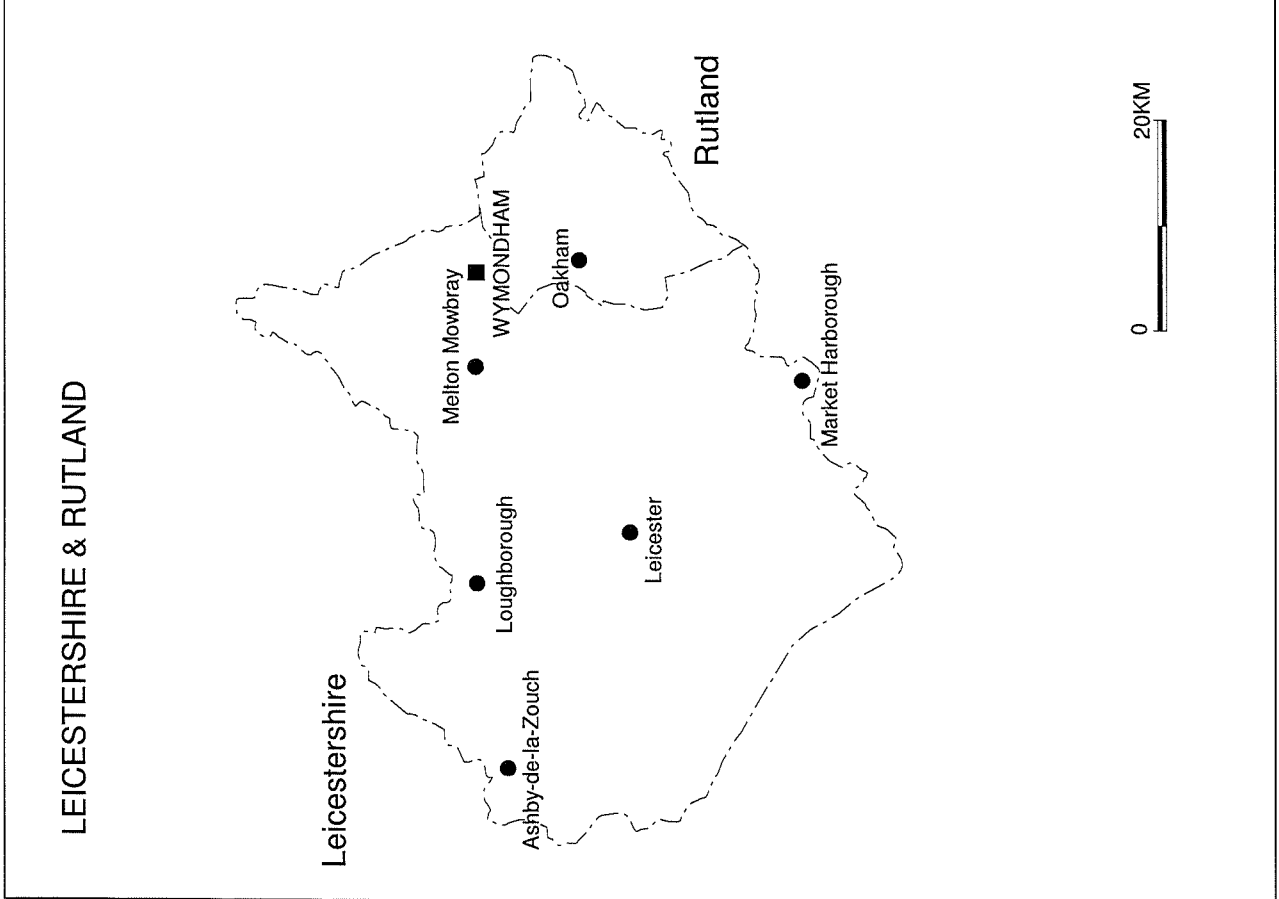
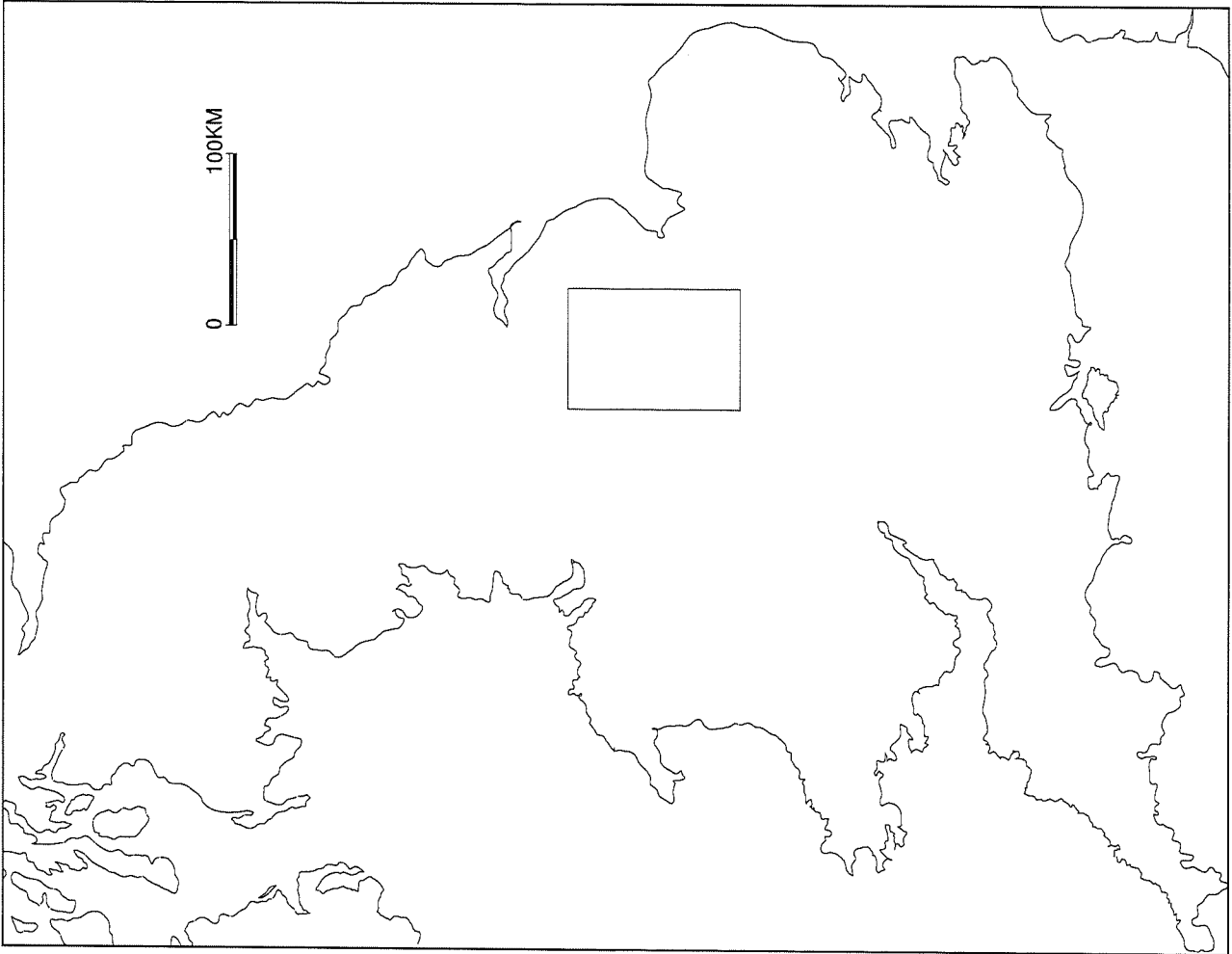
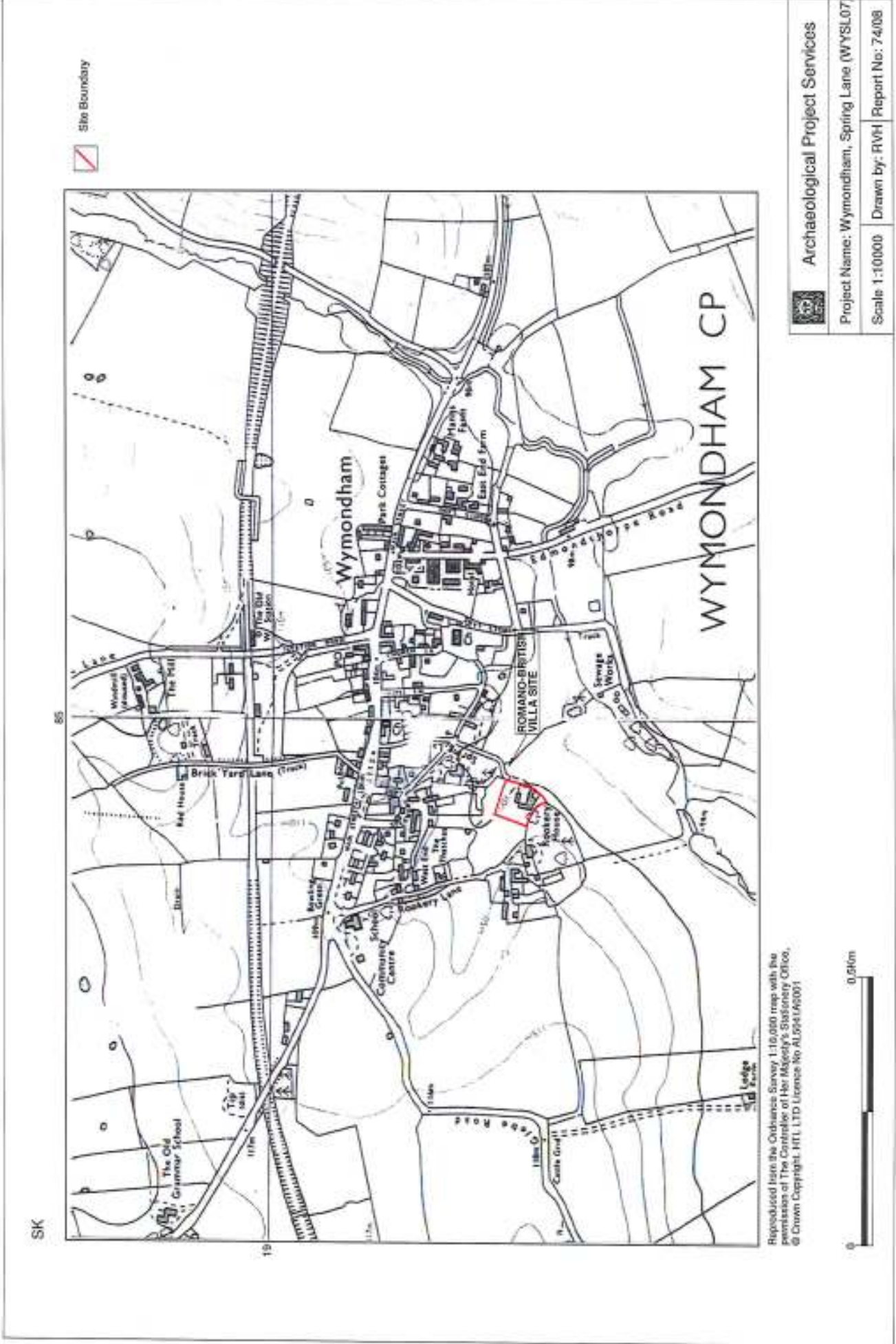


Figure 1: General location map



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	Archaeological Project Services
Project Name: Wymondham, Spring Lane (WYSL07)	
Scale 1:10000	Drawn by: RVH Report No: 74/08

Figure 2 Site location plan

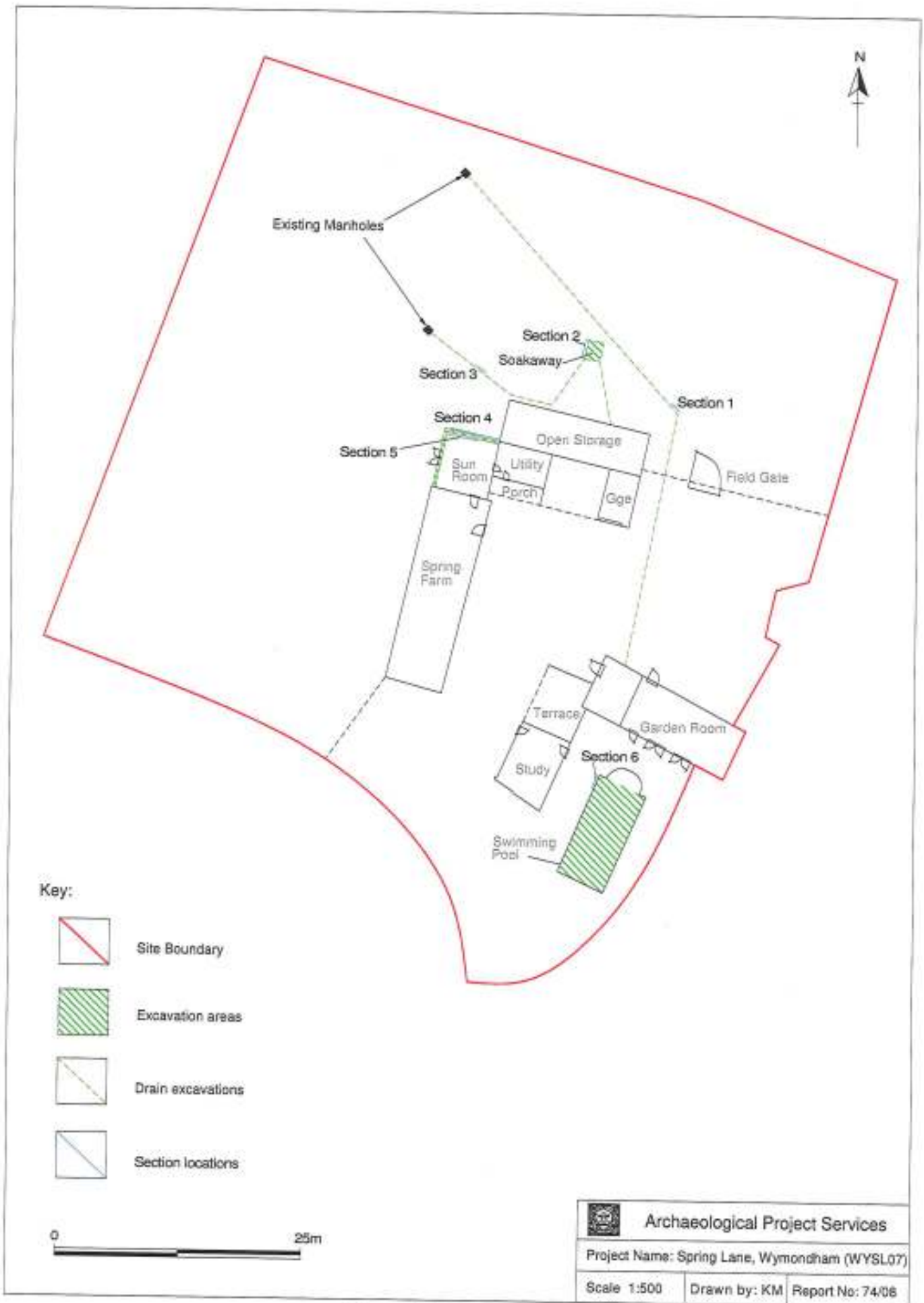


Figure 3 Monitored excavations

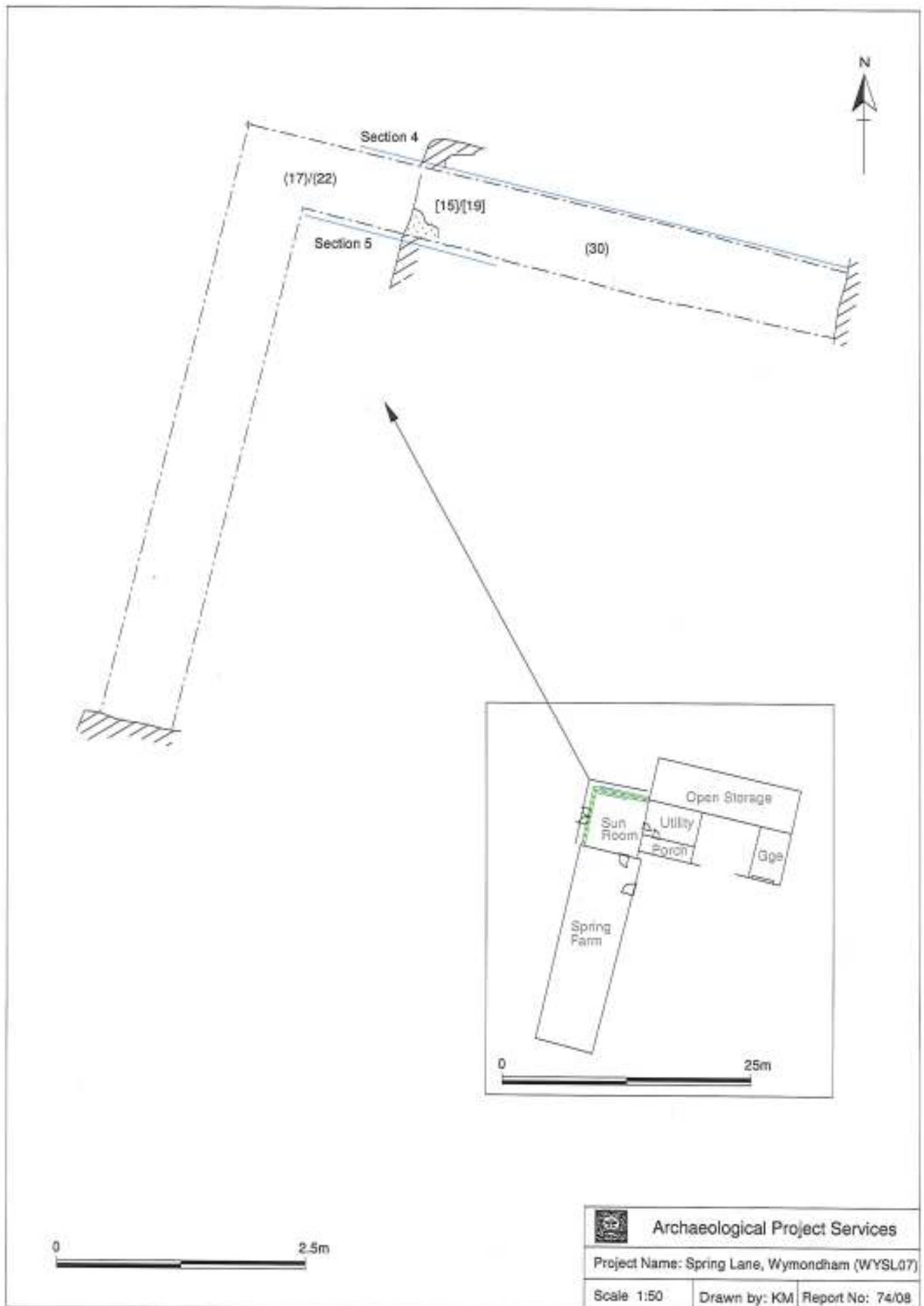
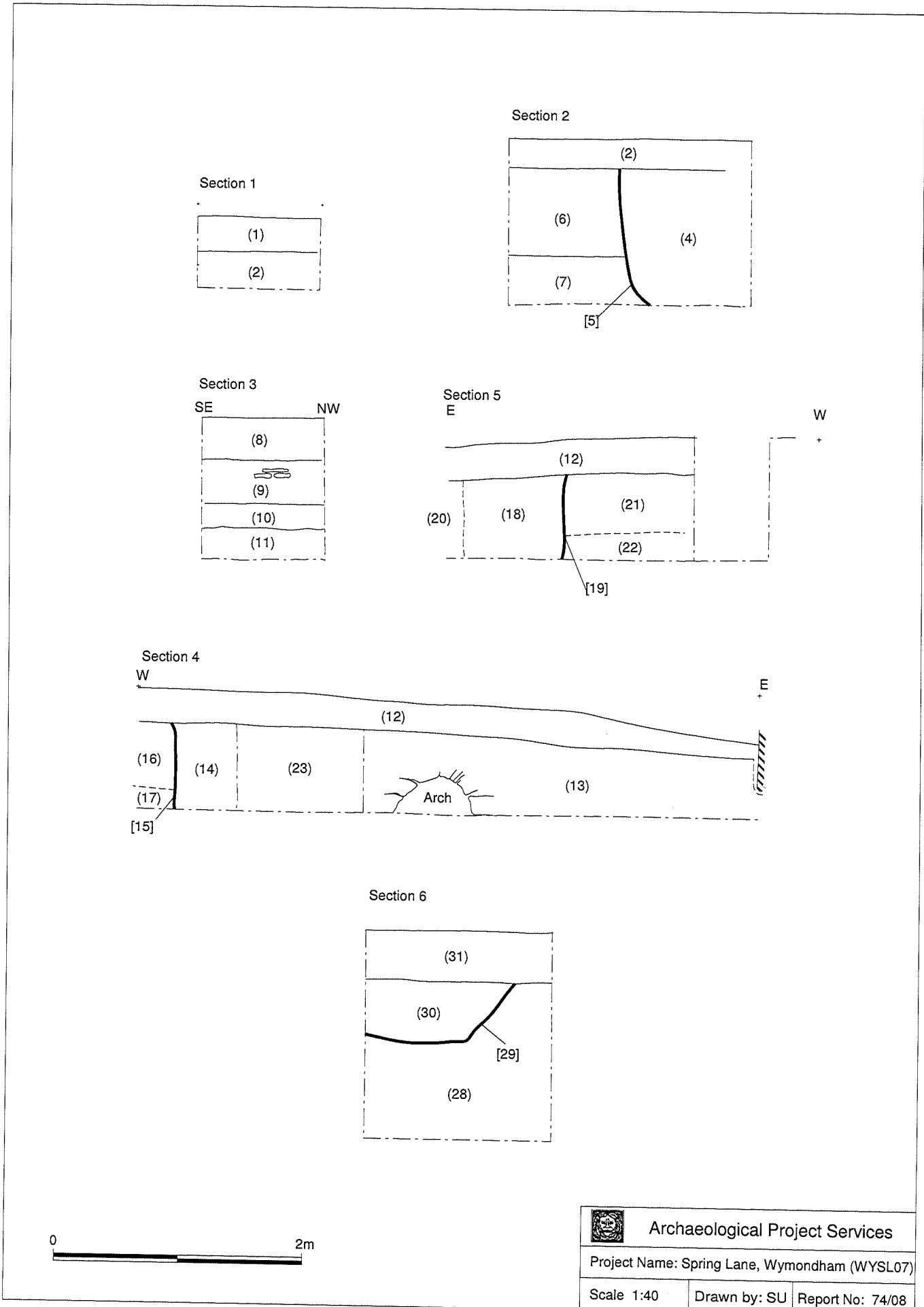


Figure 4 Plan of Northern and Western foundation trenches, Sun Room




 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Spring Lane, Wymondham (WYSL07)		
Scale 1:40	Drawn by: SU	Report No: 74/08

Figure 5 Sections



Plate 1 Area 1, looking South



Plate 2 Area 2, looking South East



Plate 3 Area 3, looking North West



Plate 4 Drainage channel,
looking North West



Plate 5 Section 4, looking
North



Plate 6 Section 6, looking
North West

Appendix 1

Specification for Archaeological Watching Brief

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A programme of archaeological recording is required during alterations and extensions to the existing dwelling at Spring Farm, Spring Lane, Wymondham, Leicestershire.*
- 1.2 *The site is archaeological sensitive lying close to the site of a Roman villa.*
- 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 the alterations, improvement and extension to the existing dwelling at Spring Farm, Spring Lane, Wymondham, Leicestershire.
- 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 The development site is situated at Spring Farm, Spring Lane, Wymondham in the administrative district of Melton Borough, County of Leicestershire at National Grid Reference SK 8486 1851. The village of Wymondham is situated approximately 10km to the east of Melton Mowbray.

4 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 4.1 The development site is situated on the southern outskirts of the village of Wymondham and at the southern end of Spring Lane. The development site is situated on a south facing slope of a valley of a tributary of the River Eye at a height of approximately 100m OD. The local soils at the development site are of the Wickham 2 Association, typically fine loamy over clayey soils and fine silty over clayey soils that overlie glacial drift deposits and Jurassic and Cretaceous clays and mudstones (Hodge *et al*, 1984, 351-2).

5 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 5.1 An application for planning permission for alterations, improvements and extension to the existing dwelling has been submitted to and approved by Melton Borough Council, the local planning authority (Planning ref. 06/00933/FUL). The Planning Archaeologist of the Historic and Natural Environment Team of Leicestershire County Council in their capacity as advisors on archaeological planning matters to the local planning authority have recommended that an archaeological condition should be attached to this consent.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 6.1 The development site is situated within the core of the medieval and post medieval settlement of Wymondham. The site is surrounded by earthworks believed to be related to these settlements. Various Roman remains including a mosaic pavement, suggestive of a high status building have also been found in the immediate vicinity of the development site. Excavations in more recent times have revealing surviving remains of mosaic pavement just to the north of the farm and more extensive, but less well preserved, remains just east of Spring Lane. A small excavation in the north eastern corner of the farm site was also carried out in 2003, which identified a 17th century malting oven.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the watching brief will be to record and interpret any archaeological remains exposed during the excavation of services and foundations.
- 7.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:
- 7.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological remains encountered;
 - 7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological remains encountered;
 - 7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological remains, and
 - 7.2.4 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. A Risk Assessment will be prepared prior to the works.
- 8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists. *Archaeological Project Services* is an IFA Registered Archaeological Organisation (Number 21) managed by a Member (MIFA) of the institute.
- 8.1.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1997, 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 excavation of service trenches and foundations and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement and exposure.
- 8.2.2 Where safe to do so, the trench sections will be cleaned and observed to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings will be recorded at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. 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 will be compiled. This will consist of:

- general views of the site
- the site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology across the area
- groups of features where their relationship is important

8.2.5 Should human remains be located they will be left *in situ* and only removed if absolutely necessary. If removal of human remains proves necessary then this is covered by the Faculty for works and a Home Office licence will not be required. Consideration will be given at all times to ensure that no offence is caused to any interested parties.

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 and labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

9.1.2 All finds recovered during the fieldwork 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:

- A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
- A description of the archaeological setting of the investigation.
- Description of the topography of the site.
- Description of the methodologies used during the investigation.
- A text describing the findings of the investigation, and a consideration of the reliability of the results.
- A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the investigation

findings.

- Plans of the archaeological features exposed, with appropriate scales. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
- Sections/elevations of the archaeological features and the exposed deposits, with appropriate scales.
- Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
- Complete context list.
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10 REPORTING

- 10.1 Details of the project will be entered onto the OASIS online database. Copies of the report will be sent to the client and the Senior Planning Archaeologist of Leicestershire County Council Planning Department. In addition a further two copies will be deposited with the Leicestershire and Rutland Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record, with a third copy being deposited with the National Monuments Record of English Heritage.

11 ARCHIVE

- 11.1 The documentation, finds, photographs and other records and materials generated during the investigation will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to Leicestershire Museums Service. This sorting will be undertaken according to the document titled *The Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Leicestershire Museums, Arts and Records Service* for long term storage and curation.

12 PUBLICATION

- 12.1 A report of the findings of the watching brief and the photographic survey will be submitted to the editors of the *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society Record*. 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 and *Post-medieval Archaeology* and *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group*.

13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- 13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Historic and Natural Environment Team of the Environment and Heritage Services Department of Leicestershire County Council. They will be given written notice of the commencement of the project. .

14 VARIATIONS

- 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/historical
-

importance, or of any changed circumstances, it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to inform the archaeological curator.

- 14.3 Where important archaeological/historical remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation additional resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.

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. An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.

15.2 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 man-day) will require a post-excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half man-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about three-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 Pottery - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust Roman - B Precious, independent specialist Saxon - J Young, independent specialist Medieval and later - P Blinkhorn or A Boyle, APS
Non-pottery Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist or G Taylor, APS
Animal Bones	J Kitch, APS

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**

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

Specification: Version 1 19 April 2007

Appendix 2 Context Summary

Context	Description	Interpretation
1	Soft, dark brown silt/clay sand with frequent limestone fragments, 0.3m thick	Post-Medieval layer
2	Soft, dark brown sand, 0.2m thick	Subsoil
3	Soft, dark brown clay sand with occasional sub-rounded limestone fragments, 0.23m thick	Topsoil in field
4	Moderate-firm light yellow brown clay sand with occasional pebbles and flints, 1.15m thick	Fill of [5], fragments of CBM within matrix
5	Sub-rectangular cut, 2.55m long x 1.1m wide x >1.15m deep	Pit
6	Soft, dark grey brown clay sand with occasional pebbles, 0.7m thick	Subsoil
7	Soft light yellow brown clay sand, >0.4m thick	Natural deposit
8	Soft dark brown clay/silt sand with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded limestone fragments, 0.25m thick	Topsoil
9	Moderate-firm mid brown limestone dump with frequent charcoal, 0.35m thick	Dump of limestone, probably building debris
10	Soft mid-dark brown clay/silt sand with occasional fragments of charcoal and flecks of mortar, 0.2m thick	Subsoil
11	Soft light yellow brown clay sand, >0.25m thick	Natural deposit
12	Dark brown clay/silt sand with moderate inclusions of small limestone fragments, 0.28m thick	Topsoil
13	E-W aligned stone wall composed of roughly squared coursed limestone blocks, 0.4m long x 0.25m wide x 0.15m deep, exposed dimensions of wall 4.7m E-W x 0.66m high, arched opening observed halfway down exposed surface, 0.64m wide x 0.3m high	E-W orientated stone wall – interior? South side infilled with roughly coursed masonry (20), apparently infilling across the arch
14	N-S aligned wall, same fabric and construction as (13), at least 0.5m wide x 0.7m long x 0.8m high	Wall – probably southern return of wall (13), same as (18)
15	Cut for walls (13) and (14), at least 4.7m E-W x 0.7m N-S, surviving to height of 0.7m	Construction cut for walls
16	Soft, dark brown clay/silt sand with occasional charcoal flecks and small sub-angular limestone fragments, 0.5m thick	Subsoil
17	Soft, light orange brown clay sand, >0.2m thick	Natural sand
18	Limestone wall, same material and construction as	Wall of stone structure, probably marks the

Context	Description	Interpretation
	(13), >0.75m wide x >0.7m long	southwards return of wall (13), same as (14)
19	Cut for walls (13) and (14)=(18), vertical sides and flattened base	Construction cut for walls
20	Limestone blocks and slabs, from 0.4m x 0.25m x 0.15m to 0.7m x 0.5m x 0.07m, very roughly squared, laid in roughly coursed layers, appears to be a structural infill, in plan at least 4.7m E-W x 0.7m N-S x up to 0.7m high	Apparently a deliberately laid base of stone within structure formed by walls (13) and (14)=(18)
21	Soft dark brown clay/silt sand with occasional flecks of charcoal and limestone fragments, 0.5m thick	Subsoil
22	Soft, light orange brown clay sand, 0.2m thick	Natural sand
23	Soft dark brown clay/silt sand with occasional charcoal flecks and small fragments of limestone, in plan at least 4.7m E-W x 0.7m N-S x up to 0.7m thick	Soil constituent within (20)
24	Limestone and brick wall	Wall of existing building
25	Cut	Construction cut for existing building
26	Unstratified finds	Unstratified finds
27	Unstratified finds – likely to derive from (20)	Unstratified finds – likely to derive from (20)
28	Mid-light orange yellow silty clay, >1m thick	Natural horizon
29	Roughly N-S aligned cut, concave sides and base, >1.2m wide x 0.5m deep x >5m long	Probable ditch – not fully exposed
30	Mid-dark blue grey clay silt with frequent large sub-angular stones c.0.3m (sandstone) and pitch/tar material, 0.5m thick	Fill of ditch [29]
31	Mid grey gravel, silt and brick and stone rubble, 0.4m thick	Modern rubble deposit forming current surface of yard

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

By Dr. Anne Boyle

INTRODUCTION

Stratified finds were recovered from subsoil (2) (single pot-herd) and pit-fill (4) (brick fragments). A further pot-herd and glass bottle-neck were recovered from unstratified contexts (26), (27).

PREHISTORIC POTTERY

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the P.C.R.G. 1997. The assemblage consisted of one herd from one context.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Herds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This data was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in table 1, which includes the Lincolnshire codenames, the Leicestershire equivalent and, where relevant, a date span.

Condition

The herd is in fairly fresh condition.

Results

Table 1, Prehistoric Pottery Archive

Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Leics Cname	Fabric	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Part	Description	Date
002	IASA	Iron Age Sandy wares	MC	Dark reduced	Jar/ bowl	1	1	7	BS	Combed horizontal lines; handmade but wheel finished; white internal deposit	Late Iron Age?

									including over break	
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Provenance

A single sherd was recovered from subsoil (002).

Range

The fabric of the sherd contains common sub-round to round quartz 0.2 to 0.4mm with occasional larger up to 2mm and sparse dark (igneous?) rock inclusions and sparse flint. The pottery is likely to date to the Late Iron Age.

Potential

The pottery poses no problems for long term storage and should be retained.

Summary

A single Late Iron Age sherd was recovered from subsoil.

POST ROMAN POTTERY

By Dr. Anne Boyle

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* 2001. A single sherd from one vessel, weighing thirty-five grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The chronology and coding system of the Lincoln Ceramic Type Series was used to assess the pottery (Young *et. al* 2005: Appendix 1), which was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This data was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in table 2, which includes the Lincolnshire codenames, the Leicestershire equivalent and, where relevant, a date span.

Condition

The sherd is in fairly fresh condition.

Results

Table 2, Post Roman Pottery Archive

Context	Cname	Full Name	Leics Cname	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Part	Date
026	ENGS	English Stoneware	SW	Bottle	1	1	35	BS	19th
Possibly a German Seltzer bottle, but probably English.									

Summary

A sherd of unstratified stoneware was recovered from the site. The assemblage holds little potential for further work.

CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

By Dr. Anne Boyle

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in the ACBMG guidelines (2001). Two fragments of ceramic building material, weighing one thousand three hundred and eleven grams were recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments were counted and weighed by within each context. This data was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the ceramic building material is included in table 3, which includes the Lincolnshire codenames and, where relevant, a date span.

Results

Table 3, Ceramic Building Material Archive

Context	Cname	Full Name	Fabric	NoF	W (g)	Description	Date
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004	BRK	Brick	Soft oxidised; Medium sandy	1	467	Fabric includes large pebbles, iron and flint; sand bedded; fairly even arrises; strike marks on upper; corner; 64mm depth; slop moulded	16 th to 18 th
004	BRK	Brick	Soft oxidised; Medium sandy	1	844	Fabric includes flint, iron and some pebbles; fairly even arrises; bedded on organics; strike marks; slop moulded; 60mm depth; patchy mortar	16 th to 18 th

Summary

Two large brick fragments were recovered from pit [005]. Both bricks are in a low fired fabric and it is likely they were produced locally.

SPOT DATING

The dating in table 4 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 4, Spot dates

Context	Date	Comments
002	Late Iron Age	Date on single sherd
004	16 th -18 th or later	
026	19 th	Date on a single sherd

ABBREVIATIONS

ACBMG	Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group	NoV	Number of vessels
		O	Oxidised
BS	Body sherd	NRFC	National Roman Fabric Reference Collection
CBM	Ceramic Building Material	PCRG	Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group
LHJ	Lower Handle Join	R	Reduced
NoF	Number of Fragments	UHJ	Upper Handle Join
NoS	Number of sherds	W (g)	Weight (grams)

REFERENCES

- ~ 2001, *Draft Minimum Standards for the Recovery, Analysis and Publication of Ceramic Building Material*, third version [internet]. Available from <<http://www.geocities.com/acbmg1/CBMGDE3.htm>>
- P.C.R.G., 1997, *The study of Later Prehistoric Pottery: General Policies and Guidelines for Analysis and Publication*, Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group Occasional Papers 1 and 2.

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

Young, J., Vince, A.G. and V. Nailor, 2005, *A Corpus of Saxon and Medieval Pottery from Lincoln*, Oxford: Oxbow.

Appendix 4 THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

27	-	Context records
2	-	Day record sheets
14	-	Photographs
1	-	Photographic record sheets
2	-	Drawing record sheets
6	-	Drawing sheets
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:

Leicestershire County Council Heritage Services
Room 500
County Hall
Leicester Road
Glenfield
Leicester
LE3 8TE

Accession Number: X.A63.2007

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: WYSL07

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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