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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
EVALUATION ON LAND AT  
GRANTHAM ROAD  
BOTTESFORD  
LEICESTERSHIRE  
(BFGR08)**

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Work Undertaken For  
Wynbrook Homes Ltd

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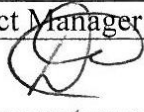
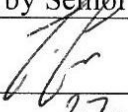
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
SERVICES**



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## 1. SUMMARY

*Archaeological evaluation was undertaken as part of the programme of archaeological works required by conditional planning consent for residential development on land at Grantham Road, Bottesford, Leicestershire.*

*The site lies on the eastern edge of the historic core of the village, but only some 200m south of the parish church of St. Mary. Some 300m to the southeast lies the site of Easthorpe Manor, a Scheduled Monument (17043), with moat and shrunken medieval village earthworks.*

*Six trenches were excavated revealing features of medieval and early post-medieval date together with a small amount of residual Roman pottery. Medieval pottery of 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century date was present but the small amount recovered suggests only a low level of activity. The greatest density of features was seen towards the front of the plot including ditches, gullies, pits and post-holes indicating occupation of this area in the 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> century with some continued usage into the 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century.*

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

*An archaeological evaluation is defined as, "a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If such archaeological remains are present Field Evaluation defines their character and extent, quality and preservation, and it enables an assessment of their worth in a*

*local, regional, national or international context as appropriate" (IFA 1997).*

### 2.2 Background

Planning permission (06/00311/OUT and 08/00330/REM) for residential development has been granted by Melton District Council subject to a condition requiring the implementation of a programme of archaeological works. In the first instance this was to comprise a programme of trial trenching.

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Wynbrook Homes Ltd to undertake the archaeological evaluation of the site. The work was undertaken between 17<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> November 2008.

### 2.3 Topography and Geology

Bottesford lies approximately 40km northeast of Leicester, and 24km east of Nottingham in Melton Borough, Leicestershire (Figure 1). The development site is located in the east of the modern town on the south side of Grantham Road, comprising an area of c. 1ha, centred on National Grid reference SK 8079 3891 (Figure 2).

The site lies at c. 30m OD, on the south side of the River Devon. Local soils are calcareous clayey soils of the Evesham 2 Association developed on Jurassic clay (Hodge et al. 1984, 188).

### 2.4 Archaeological Setting

Occasional chance finds testify to human occupation in the vicinity from the Bronze Age onwards with Iron Age and Roman sites known northwest of the village. However, little such early material has been found within the village.

The earliest reference to the place name of Bottesford dates from the Domesday Survey of 1086, indicating an origin for the settlement in at least the late Saxon period. The place name is recorded as *Botesford*, or *Budlesforde* and derives from the Old English *botl* and *ford* denoting “the ford at the dwelling” or “the ford of the dwelling” (Ekwall, 1989; Cox 2002). The village stands on the River Devon, a ford over which presumably gave rise to the name.

The parish of Bottesford was located within the Wapentake of Framland. The Domesday Book refers to Bottesford as being included within the land holdings of Robert of Tosny.

The parish church of St Mary provided a focus for the medieval settlement of Bottesford. The chancel dates to the 13th century with 15th century alterations. The north transept, south aisle and south porch are all of 14th century origin. The west tower and spire were originally of 15th century construction but were completely rebuilt in 1876. Since the late 19th century there has been much restoration work. A small Sanctus bell was recovered from under the foundations of the tower during restoration works in c.1872.

The site lies on the eastern edge of the historic core of the village, but only some 200m south of the parish church of St. Mary which lies on the north side of the River Devon. Some 300m to the southeast lies the site of Easthorpe Manor, a Scheduled Monument (17043), with moat and shrunken medieval village earthworks.

### 3. AIMS

The aim of the evaluation was to gather information to establish the presence or absence, extent, condition, character,

quality and date of any archaeological deposits in order to establish whether any such remains were likely to be disturbed during development work on the site.

## 4. METHODS

### 4.1 Trial Trenching

Six trenches, four measuring 20m x 1.6m, one measuring 15m x 1.6m (split either side of a hedgeline) and one measuring 12m x 1.6m (shortened from 20m in order not to block access) were excavated within the proposed residential development site (Figure 3). Trenches were targeted on areas of likely greatest impact from the development.

Removal of topsoil and other overburden was undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. The exposed surfaces of the trenches were then cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains. Where present, features were excavated by hand in order to retrieve dateable artefacts and other remains.

Each deposit exposed during the evaluation was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A photographic record was compiled. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and plans at a scale of 1:20. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

The location of the excavated trenches was surveyed with an EDM in relation to fixed points on boundaries and on existing buildings.

## 4.2 Post-excavation

Following excavation, all records were checked and ordered to ensure that they constituted a complete Level II archive and a stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced. Artefacts recovered from excavated deposits were examined and a period date assigned where possible. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. Context numbers are identified in the text by brackets. An equals sign between context numbers indicates that the contexts once formed a single layer or feature. Phasing was based on artefact dating and the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

## 5. RESULTS

### 5.1 Description of the results

Archaeological contexts are described below by Trench. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field. Full details of all deposits and cuts are given in Appendix 2.

#### 5.2 Trench 1

The natural subsoil (1001), mid yellow clayey sand with frequent small pebbles, was cut by a number of narrow, shallow linear features.

[1006], [1008], [1010], [1012] and [1014], roughly parallel and aligned WNW-ESE, were between 0.6m and 1.2m in width and between 0.05m and 0.2m in depth (Figure 4; Plate 2). The fills (1007, 1009, 1011, 1013, 1015) were very similar, mid grey clayey sandy silt, with occasional small pebbles.

[1004], similar in scale at 0.36m wide and only 0.18m deep, ran on a more NW-SE

alignment, but was filled with a very similar mid grey sandy clay (1005).

All of the features were sealed by 0.50m-thick, soft, mid grey clayey sandy silt subsoil (1002) below 0.2m of loose, dark greyish brown sandy topsoil (1003).

None of the features in Trench 1 yielded any dating evidence, however horse and medium mammal bone were recovered from (1011) (Appendix 3).

#### 5.3 Trench 2

A sequence of natural deposits was recorded in the side of an excavated ditch section (Figure 6, Section 10) ranging from stiff, blue grey clay (2042) at c. 1.25m below the current ground surface, through 0.14m-thick layer of firm, reddish sand (2041), to 0.45m-thick, firm, mid to light orange, clayey sand (2040) visible over most of the trench surface.

This deposit was cut by a number of linear features, pits and post-holes. At the southern end of the trench a series of possible inter-cut features [2036], [2043], [2038] was recorded (Figure 5; Figure 6, Section 13). These were generally pit-like, but could not be distinguished in plan and context divisions within were ill-defined. No anthropogenic material was recovered from the fills and these have been interpreted as potentially natural.

These were sealed by 0.1m-thick, firm, light brown, sandy clay (2007=2008) visible over the southernmost 5m of the trench surface (and seen in section as (2034) further north) and possibly representing a buried soil. Four sherds of pottery of 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> century date were recovered from this deposit (Appendix 3).

(2007=2008=2034) was cut by gully [2030], at the south end of the trench, pit

[2004], post-hole [2006] and by a series of ditches at its northern edge (Figure 5; Figure 6, Sections 11-13). [2030] was oriented E-W, 0.60m wide and 0.14m deep, with sloping sides and a rounded base. It was filled with firm, dark greyish brown sandy clay (2029). Pit [2004] was sub-circular, 0.82m wide and 0.46m deep, with steep sides and a flat base and filled by firm, grey-brown clayey sand (2003). Post-hole [2006] was sub-oval, 0.19m long by 0.12m wide and 0.04m deep with a fill of firm, mid to dark grey clayey sand (2005).

Ditch [2010] was oriented NW-SE, 1.50m wide and 0.68m deep, with sloping sides and a flat base with single fill (2009) of firm, mid brown sandy clay (Figure 5; Figure 6, Sections 8-9; Plate 3). A sherd of residual 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century Roman pottery was recovered from (2009).

A short way to the north, and on the same alignment, was a series of intercut ditches [2016], [2014] and [2012] (Figure 5; Figure 6, Sections 7-8; Plate 4). Ditch [2016] was 1.06m wide and 0.70m deep, with sloping sides and a rounded base with a basal fill, 0.42m thick, of firm, mottled mid to dark greyish brown, sandy clay (2015) and an upper fill (2033) of firm, mid to dark grey-brown sandy clay. Fragments of large mammal bone were recovered from (2015).

Ditch [2016] was cut by [2014], at least 0.9m wide and 0.32m deep, with sloping sides and a stepped V-shape base filled by firm, mid to dark greyish brown sandy clay (2013). This was in turn cut by [2012], 0.96m wide and 0.40m deep, with sloping sides and a rounded base filled with firm, dark brownish grey sandy clay (2011). Both fills contained animal bone, including cattle, sheep/goat, horse and bird (possibly chicken or goose), but none of these

features yielded any direct dating evidence.

North of [2012] a single post-hole [2028] was recorded (Figure 5; Figure 6, Section 6). This was sub-rectangular, 0.56m long by 0.30m wide and 0.32m deep, with steep sides and a stepped base, its fill was firm, mid grey-brown sandy clay (2027). No evidence of date was recovered.

At the northern end of the trench was a further set of closely spaced linear features (Figure 5; Figure 6, Section 4). Ditches [2018] and [2020] were intercut, but their fills (2017) and (2019) were indistinguishable dark greyish brown sandy clays, so no relationship could be determined. Both were oriented E-W. [2018] was 0.85m wide and 0.13m deep, with sloping sides and a flat base; [2020] was 0.40m wide and 0.26m deep, with sloping sides and a flat base. A single sherd of pottery of 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> date was recovered from (2017) along with a residual sherd of 2<sup>nd</sup>-century or later Roman date.

To the north lay NW-SE oriented gully [2024], 0.12m wide and 0.06m in depth, with sloping sides and flat base. Its fill (2023), firm, dark brownish grey sandy clay, yielded a single sherd of pottery of 12<sup>th</sup> to mid 13<sup>th</sup> date (Appendix 3). This was cut by E-W oriented ditch [2022], 0.50m wide and 0.09m deep, with sloping sides and a flat base. [2022] was filled by dark greyish brown sandy clay (2021).

At the northern limit of the trench a further ditch [2026] was partly exposed. This was at least 1.0m wide and 0.40m deep, with sloping sides and a flattish stepped base. Its fill, firm, dark brownish grey sandy clay (2025) yielded five sherds of pottery of 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> century date along with a small assemblage of large and small animal bone (including cattle) (Appendix 3).



All of the features were sealed by up to 0.37m of subsoil (2002) and 0.3m of topsoil (2001).

#### 5.4 Trench 3

In the western half of the trench, natural deposits comprised mid yellow clayey sand, with frequent small pebbles (3001). In the eastern half, a firm, light brown clay (3036) and mid yellow sand with frequent pebbles (3033) were recorded.

These were cut by a series of small pits or postholes. [3016] and [3028] were similar in scale at c. 0.3m diameter and 0.1m depth (Figure 7, Sections 16, 20). Their fills (3017) and (3029) were firm, mid greyish brown silty clays. Post-hole [3030] was slightly larger, 0.4m in diameter and 0.25m in depth with a clear post-pipe (3032) of slightly darker brown within the light brown silty clay fill (3031) (Figure 7, Section 21; Plate 6).

Feature [3010] was difficult to interpret as it lay on the northern edge of the trench and was cut by [3012] and [3014]. It was 0.78m wide and 0.16m deep with vertical sides and a rounded base, and may represent a truncated ditch oriented NE-SW. It was filled with firm, mid greyish brown sandy clay (3011). [3012] was oval in plan, 0.60m long by 0.30m wide and 0.32m deep, with steep sides and a rounded base (Figure 7, Section 15). It was filled by (3013), firm, dark brownish grey, clayey sandy silt from which three sherds of early 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century pottery were recovered.

Cutting [3012] was possible pit or ditch terminus [3014], 4.5m across and 0.38m deep with steep sides and a rounded base. Its single fill (3015), friable, dark grey sandy silt, with moderate large stones, yielded two sherds of 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> century

pottery and a small amount of animal bone (Appendix 3). Abutting the northern edge of this feature was [3004], an irregular linear, oriented NW-SE, 2.20m wide and 0.10m deep, with sloping sides and a flat base. Its fill, soft, dark greyish brown clayey sandy silt (3005) also contained a small amount of animal bone.

Cutting [3014] at its western edge was gulley [3018], oriented NW-SE, 0.18m wide and 0.09m deep, with steep sides and a rounded base and filled by friable, dark grey sandy silt (319) (Figure 7, Section 16).

Cutting both [3004] and [3014] in the centre of the trench was pit [3006], 1.25m long by 0.80m wide and 0.40m deep, with concave sloping sides and a rounded base. This was filled with firm, mid greyish brown sandy clay (3007) (Figure 7, Section 17).

On the northern edge of the eastern half of the trench an E-W linear feature [3026] was noted, 1.30m wide and 0.59m deep, with sloping sides and a flat base (Figure 7, Section 19). This was filled by firm, mid brown clay, with occasional pebbles (3027) from which a sherd of early to mid 13<sup>th</sup> century pottery was recovered.

At the eastern end of the western half of the trench an infilled ditch [3020] associated with the extant field boundary was encountered. This was at least 2.40m wide and greater than 0.75m deep, with sloping sides and filled with clayey and sandy silts (3021), (3022), (3023), (3024) and (3025) (Figure 7, Section 18).

All of the features were sealed by 0.3m depth of subsoil, (3002) in the western half and (3034) in the eastern half, and 0.3m of topsoil, (3002) and (3035) respectively.

## 5.5 Trench 4

The earliest deposit encountered in the trench was mottled pale to mid orange-brown silty sand, with frequent gravel, becoming more clayey to the west (4020).

At the western end of the trench the natural was cut by a complex series of gullies, pits and post-holes (Plate 8). Earliest in the sequence was ditch [4041], oriented NW-SE, 0.37m wide and 0.19m deep, with sloping sides and a flattish base, filled by pale grey-brown sandy silty clay (4040) (Figure 8; Figure 9, Sections 23, 24, 27).

Two N-S oriented gullies cut this. [4043] was 0.60m wide and 0.16m deep, with sloping sides and flat base and filled by mid grey-brown silty clayey sand (4042). [4054] was 0.54m wide and 0.10m deep, with sloping sides and a rounded base. Its fill, mid grey-brown silty clayey sand (4053) yielded pottery of late 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> century date (Appendix 3) (Figure 8; Figure 9, Section 22). [4043] also cut through post-hole [4052], sub-rectangular, at least 0.40m wide and 0.11m deep, with sloping sides and a rounded base and filled with mid grey-brown silty clayey sand (4051) (Figure 9, Section 25).

Further sub-rectangular post-holes [4056] and [4050] were cut into (4040). [4056] was 0.47m wide at the top with a narrower 0.40m deep vertical-sided post cut on its western edge. Pottery of late 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> century date was recovered from the dark grey-brown, sandy clayey silt fill (4055). [4050] was 0.30m wide and 0.19m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base and filled with firm, dark grey-brown sandy clayey silt (4049) (Figure 8; Figure 9, Section 22, 23).

A possible post-hole [4045] was also seen cut into the top of gully-fill (4042). This was sub-rectangular, 0.35m wide and

0.12m deep, with vertical sides and an irregular base. Its fill (4044) was a firm, dark grey-brown sandy clayey silt (Figure 9, Section 26).

A further post-hole [4037] was recorded in the vicinity but had no stratigraphic relationship with other features or other evidence of date. This was sub-rectangular, 0.47m wide and 0.27m deep, with near vertical sides and a flat base. It was filled with firm, dark grey-brown sandy clayey silt (4036) (Figure 8; Figure 9, Section 22).

The southeastern end of [4041] was truncated by large pit [4028] sub-oval, in plan, 1.96m wide and at least 0.83m deep, with near vertical sides. The pit was filled with stiff, blue-grey silty clay, with rare small stones (4027). This was then re-cut as a vertical-sided, sub-oval pit, 1.02m wide and at least 0.67m deep. This was filled with firm, dark grey sandy silt (4029). A possible post-pipe was observed within this fill distinguished as 0.28m wide and 0.30m deep friable, very dark grey silty sand (4031) (Figure 8; Figure 9, Section 27, 28). A fragment of 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century brick was retrieved from (4029) (Appendix 3).

Just east of [4028] was a further sub-rectangular post-hole [4026], 0.14m wide and 0.08m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base with a fill of firm, mid grey-brown clayey silty sand (4025) (Figure 9, Section 29).

Towards the centre of the trench was large pit or ditch [4017], 5.2m wide and 0.76m deep, with shallow, sloping, stepped sides and a flattish base (Figure 8; Figure 9, Section 30; Plate 9). The deeper central part was filled with friable, dark grey-brown sandy silt (4059) from which a sherd of 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> century pottery was recovered. The shallower stepped edges

were filled by similar dark grey-brown sandy silts (4018) (4058). The latter deposit contained pottery of 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> century date and sheep/goat bone. All of these deposits were sealed by upper fill (4019), firm, mid grey-brown sandy clayey silt, from which pottery of 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> century date and sheep/goat, dog, horse and other large mammal bone was recovered (Appendix 3).

Cutting the western edge of [4017] was pit [4022], 1.20m wide and 0.62m deep, with almost vertical sides and a flat base (Figure 8; Figure 9, Section 30, 31). The fill (4021), firm, dark grey-brown clayey silt, yielded pottery of mid 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century date, a 17<sup>th</sup> century clay pipe stem and a small quantity of large mammal bone (Appendix 3).

At the eastern end of the trench was a further group of features. Pit [4012] was at least 0.70m long and 0.86m wide; [4014] was at least 0.48m long by 0.60m wide. Both were 0.30m deep, with steep, near vertical sides and flattish base and filled with similar dark grey-brown clayey sandy silt (4011), (4013) (Figure 8; Figure 9, Sections 32, 33, 35, 36). Pottery of 16<sup>th</sup> to mid 17<sup>th</sup> century date and a copper-alloy strap end of 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> century date was recovered from (4011) (Appendix 3). Between them lay sub-rectangular post-hole [4010], 0.68m by 0.38m and 0.10m deep with vertical sides and an undulating base (Figure 9, Section 34). This was filled with firm, dark grey-brown clayey silty sand (4009). Immediately east was E-W oriented gully [4006], at least 0.40m long by 0.20m wide and 0.06m deep, with sloping sides and a rounded base and filled by dark grey-brown sandy clayey silt (4005) (Figure 9, Section 32).

These features, and large pit [4017] were sealed by a dumped deposit, up to 0.33m thick, of firm, dark grey-brown sandy silt,

with frequent large stones (4060), (4061) covering the eastern 9m of the trench.

All of the deposits and features in the trench were sealed by dark grey-brown sandy clayey silt subsoil (4002), up to 0.30m thick, and dark grey-brown sandy silt topsoil (4001), 0.2m in thickness.

## 5.6 Trench 5

Natural deposits within Trench 5 comprised firm, mid orange-brown clayey silty sand, with occasional small flints (5005).

Cut into this at the northern end of the trench was a single large, E-W oriented ditch [5004], 2.08m wide and 0.86m deep, with steep sloping sides and a flat base. The ditch was filled by (5003), firm, mid grey-brown sandy clayey silt, with occasional small stones (Figure 10). No artefacts were recovered from the ditch fill which was sealed by 0.4m of subsoil (5002) and 0.3m of topsoil (5001) (Figure 10).

## 5.7 Trench 6

Natural deposits within the trench comprised firm, orange to light brownish yellow clayey sand, with frequent gravel (6014).

In the centre of the trench was ditch [6018], oriented N-S, at least 0.84m wide and 0.34m deep, with gently sloping sides and a rounded base. This had a basal fill (6019) of friable, light grey clayey silt, up to 0.11m thick, below firm, mid brown clay (6020) (Figure 11, Section 40; Plate 10).

A large N-S oriented ditch feature [6010] was partly exposed in the western end of the trench. This was at least 1.60m wide and 0.63m deep, with steep sides and a

concave base. Its fills, (6009), (6008), (6012), (6011), variably greyish brown, light greyish brown or mid-brown sandy clay with merging contest divisions (Figure 11, Section 41).

No dating evidence was recovered from either of these features but both were cut by [6025], an E-W oriented linear feature at least 0.60m wide and 0.45m deep, with sloping sides and a flat base (Figure 11, Section 39). This was filled by mid brown, mid grey and dark grey sandy silts (6026), (6027) (6028). Pottery of 16<sup>th</sup> to early 17<sup>th</sup> century date was recovered from (6027) which also yielded pig, sheep/goat and cattle bone (Appendix 3).

Just to the east of this lay shallow N-S oriented linear [6017], at least 0.80m wide and 0.13m deep, with sloping sides and a flattish base. Single fill (6003) was a dark greyish brown clayey sand, with frequent limestone fragments. A sherd of 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> century pottery was recovered from this deposit (Appendix 3).

Cutting across [6025] was a series of narrow, N-S oriented linear features (Figure 11, Section 38, 40). [6007] was 0.55m wide and 0.20m deep, with sloping sides and a rounded base and filled with soft, dark brownish grey clayey sand (6006) from which pottery of 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> century date was recovered. [6005] was 0.60m wide and 0.45m deep, with steep sides and a rounded base with a fill of soft, dark grey, clayey sand, mottled brownish grey and mid orange, (6004). Ditch [6021] was more substantial, 0.98m wide and 0.29m deep, with stepped sloping sides and a flat base. Basal fill, mid brown clay (6022), was overlain by mid grey and dark grey sandy silt (6023) and (6024). Pottery of 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> century date was recovered from (6023) along with pig, sheep/goat and cattle bone (Appendix 3).

At the eastern end of the trench a pit [6016] was partly visible. At least 1.10m wide and 0.33m deep, with steep sides and a flattish base, its fill (6015) was firm, mid olive-greyish brown sandy clay (Figure 11, Section 41). No dating evidence was recovered.

## 6. DISCUSSION

Two residual fragments of Roman pottery were recovered, suggesting some earlier activity in the vicinity, but none of the identified features can be assigned to this period. Archaeological features and deposits can be broken down into just three main phases (Figure 12):

- Phase 1: Medieval deposits C11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>
- Phase 2: Early post-medieval C15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>
- Phase 3: Post-medieval C17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>

There is some indication of a distinction between earlier and later medieval deposits in Phase 1.

### Phase 1: Medieval deposits

Medieval deposits were concentrated in Trenches 2 and 3. Pottery of 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> century date was recovered from a buried soil at the southern end of Trench 2 and from ditch [2018]. However, this amounted to no more than three sherds all told, which might easily be residual in later deposits.

Gulley [2004] yielded pottery of 13<sup>th</sup> to mid 14<sup>th</sup> century date. Ditch [3026] in Trench 3 contained pottery of mid 13<sup>th</sup> century date and further early 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century pottery was recovered from pit [312]. A further truncated ditch [310] within this trench was stratigraphically earlier than [312].

Only pit [312] contained more than a single sherd, and that only three. None of

the features containing early pottery yielded any animal bone or other indication of occupation, and it is difficult to suggest anything other than low-level, perhaps agricultural, activity on the margins of settlement in this period.

The site lies towards the road frontage of two long narrow fields. Earthwork ridge and furrow survives in the southern part of the fields and the shape of the fields suggests enclosed furlongs. Largely agricultural use seems probable throughout most of the medieval period.

A number of undated features are stratigraphically earlier than Phase 2. Ditches [4041], [6010] and [6018] might belong to Phase 1, or even earlier, but the evidence for activity in these periods is slight and they may as easily belong to Phase 2.

### **Phase 2: Early post-medieval**

The dense and complex sequence of remains encountered in Trenches 3, 4 and 6 indicates occupation of the front of these plots in the 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. It is also notable that the ridge and furrow is no longer evident in these areas.

Gullies, ditches, pits and post-holes relating to a series of boundaries and possible structures yielded pottery ranging from 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> century to 16<sup>th</sup> or early 17<sup>th</sup> century in date. Domestic waste in the form of animal bone was also prevalent. Cattle and sheep/goat dominate this assemblage with horse, pig, dog and birds represented by chicken and goose.

Dateable structural remains are limited to a single post-hole at the western end of Trench 4. It seems probable that other undated post-holes closely adjacent belong also to this phase, indicating some timber structure in this part of the site. Post-holes at the western end of the trench and in

Trench 3 may indicate further structures here.

Gulley [4043], running parallel to dated feature [4054] is also presumed to belong to this phase. A similar arrangement of parallel shallow gullies is seen belonging to this phase in Trench 6, but neither the profiles nor the spacing are consistent enough to suggest that the arrangement is deliberate.

Although the pottery and animal bone would be indicative of occupation, neither is present in large quantity. The total pottery assemblage for this phase amounts to some 30 sherds, the largest assemblage from a single feature being five. The bone likewise represents only a moderate assemblage of domestic refuse, 46 pieces from eight dated features, with half of that coming from just two (although a further 19 came from undated ditches [2012] and [2014]).

### **Phase 3: Post-medieval**

A small number of features can be dated to the 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century. These are concentrated in Trench 4 and appear to represent a slightly later phase of use of the site, after the close of the period of the more extensive 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> century occupation.

Pit [4022] yielded pottery and a clay-pipe stem of 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century date. The adjacent, larger pit [4028] is dated only by a piece of post-medieval brick but probably also post-dates the Phase 2 occupation.

The very small amount of late-dated material suggests only transient activity in this period. In more recent times the fields have been utilised as pasture, with a pond, now infilled, shown on OS mapping from the 19<sup>th</sup> century onwards (see Figure 3).

## Unphased

Some features remain undated either through artefactual or stratigraphic evidence. None of the features within Trench 1 can be clearly assigned to the above phases. They were very slight and might have an agricultural origin, although they are aligned at right angles to the ridge and furrow at the rear of these land parcels.

Ditch [4041] is stratigraphically earlier than dated 15-16<sup>th</sup> century features and is aligned obliquely to the road frontage and the presumed medieval field boundaries. However, similarly aligned ditches in Trench 2, [2010], [2012], [2014] cut through the medieval or later buried soil, so that no strong argument can be made for a pre-medieval date.

The large ditch in Trench 5 likewise remains undated. It aligns with medieval ditch [2018] within Trench 2. Although very different in scale as surviving, this could be due to truncation – the eastern field is markedly higher than the western and despite its greater depth, the base of [5004] is in fact higher than that of [2018].

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological evaluation of land at Grantham Road, Bottesford has revealed evidence for medieval agricultural use and early post-medieval occupation of the site.

Medieval activity is minor with only very small quantities of pottery recovered and probably representing only agricultural use of the land. Evidence for early post-medieval occupation on the street frontage survived in the form of a dense sequence of remains dating to the late 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> century. At least one post-built structure belonging to this phases can be suggested in the western part of the frontage,

although other less clearly dated structures may be represented by further post-holes to the east. Despite the apparent density and complexity of the remains, the quantities of pottery and domestic waste recovered were not large and it may be that these remains represent only sporadic occupation through the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. A small amount of later material indicates some transient 17<sup>th</sup> or early 18<sup>th</sup> century use of the site.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Steve Day of Wynbrook Homes who commissioned the work. The project was coordinated by Steve Malone; the report was edited by Tom Lane.

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## **10. ABBREVIATIONS**

APS Archaeological Project Services

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

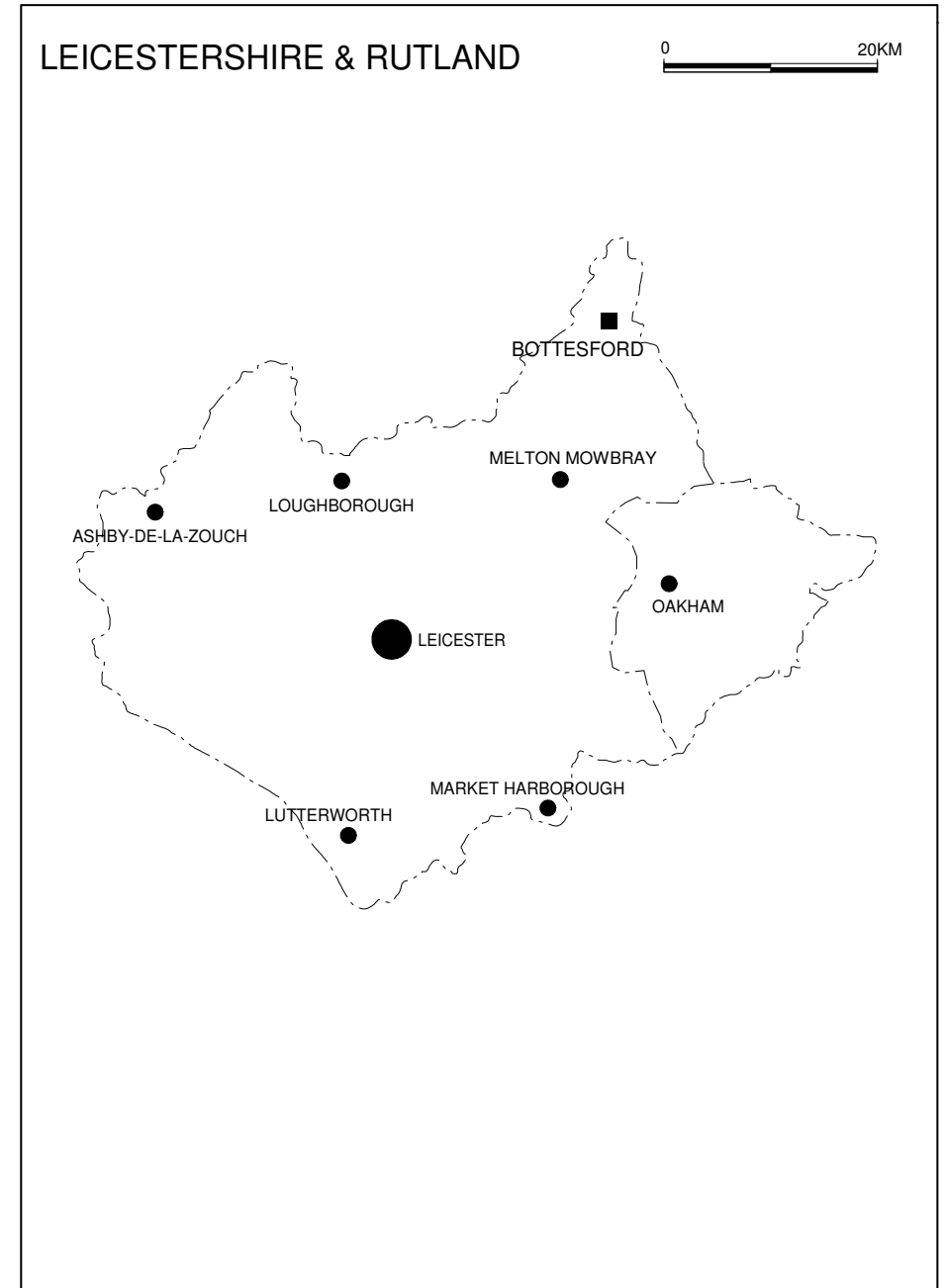
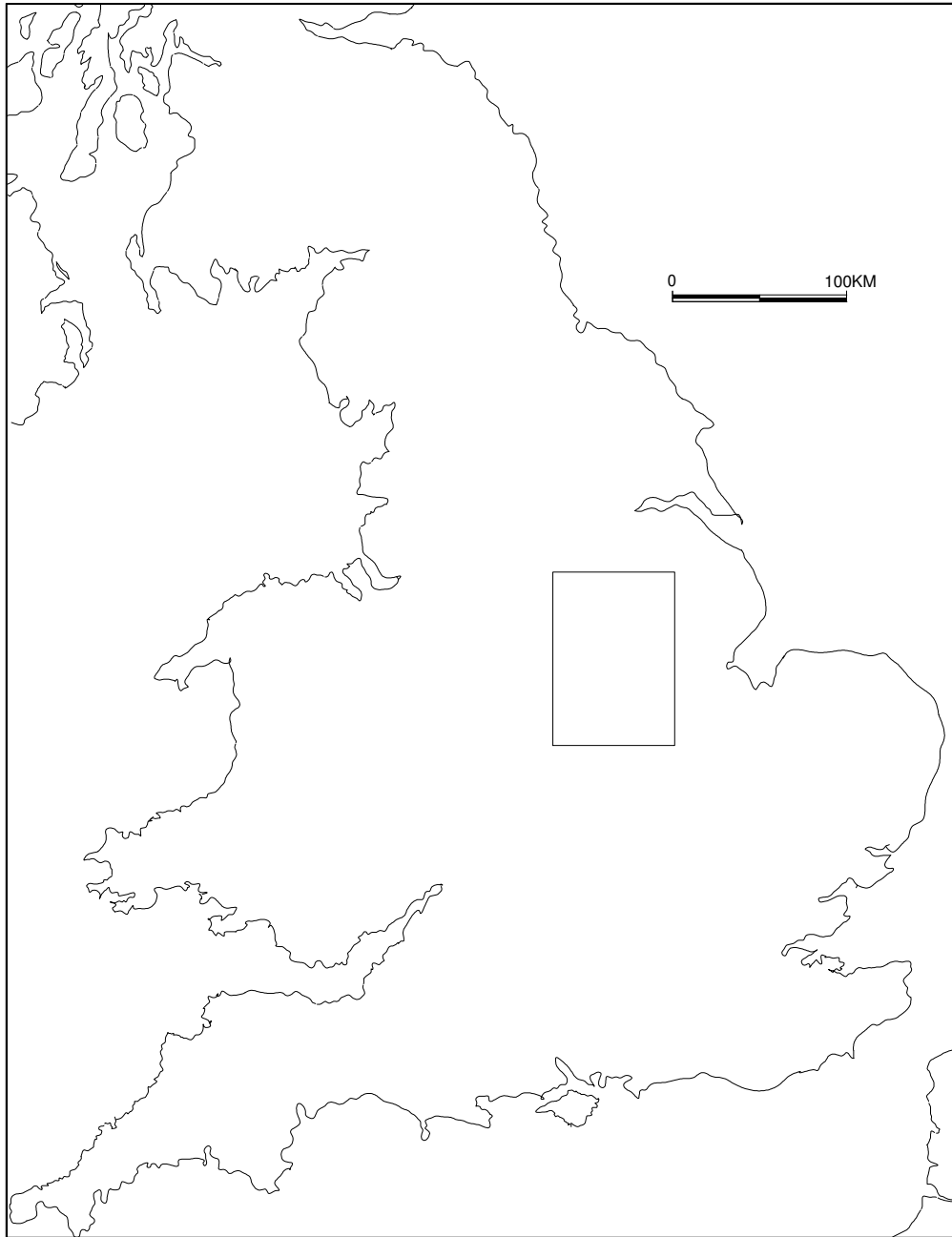
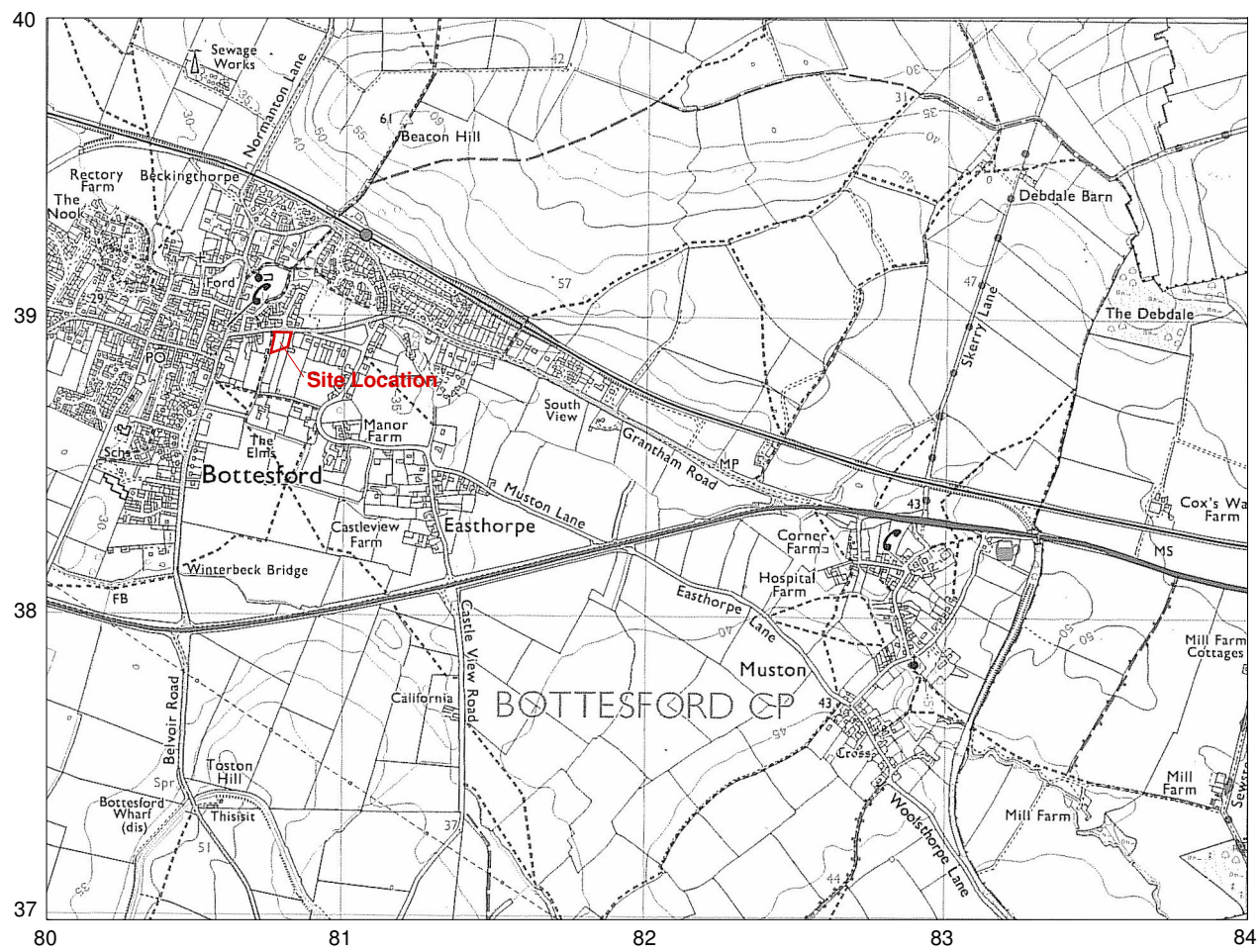


Figure 1: General location plan



0 1000m

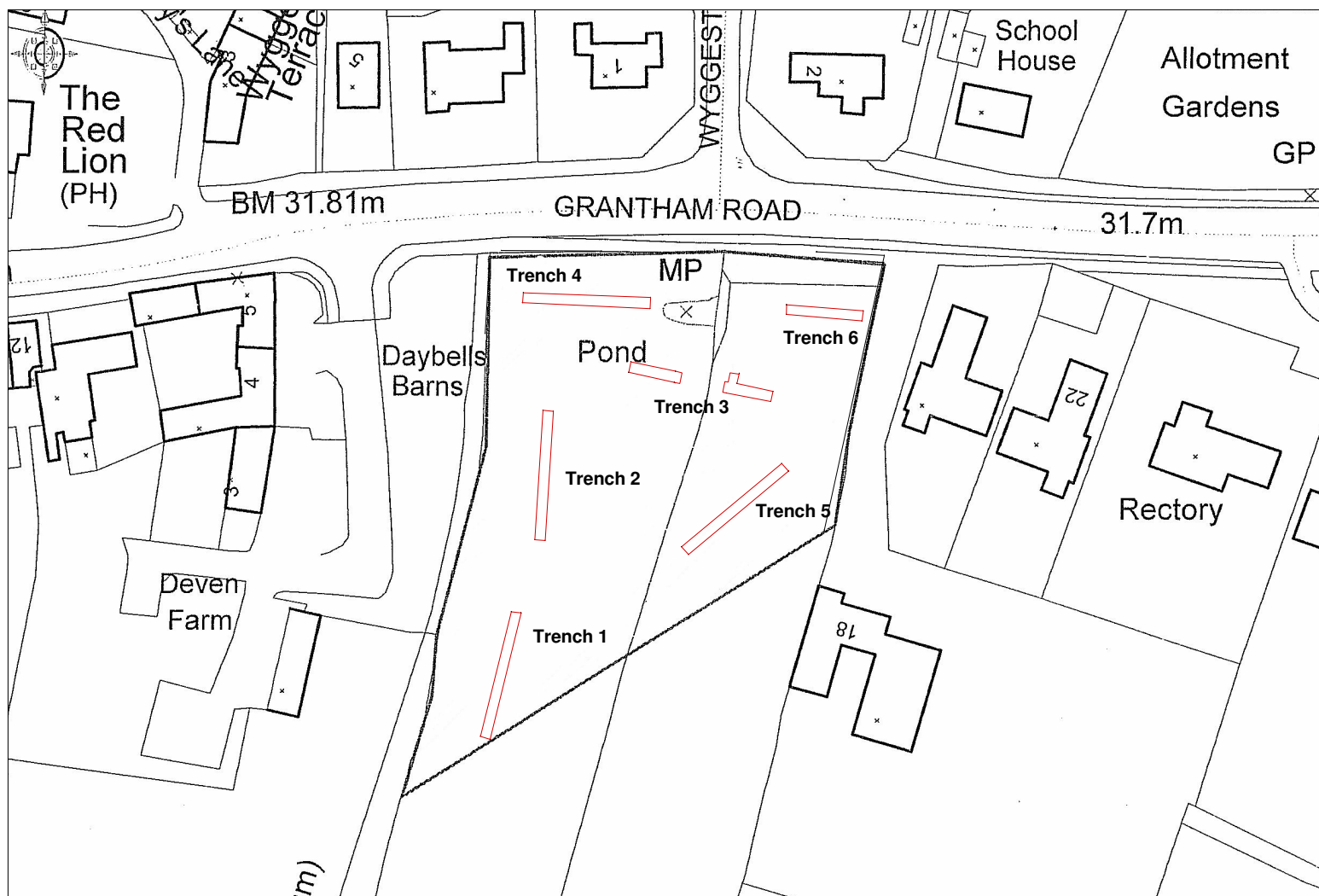


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Scale 1:20000 Drawn by: SJM Report No:144/08

Figure 2 Site location




	Archaeological Project Services		
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Scale 1:1000	Drawn by: SJM	Report No:144/08	

Figure 3 Proposed development site showing locations of evaluation trenches

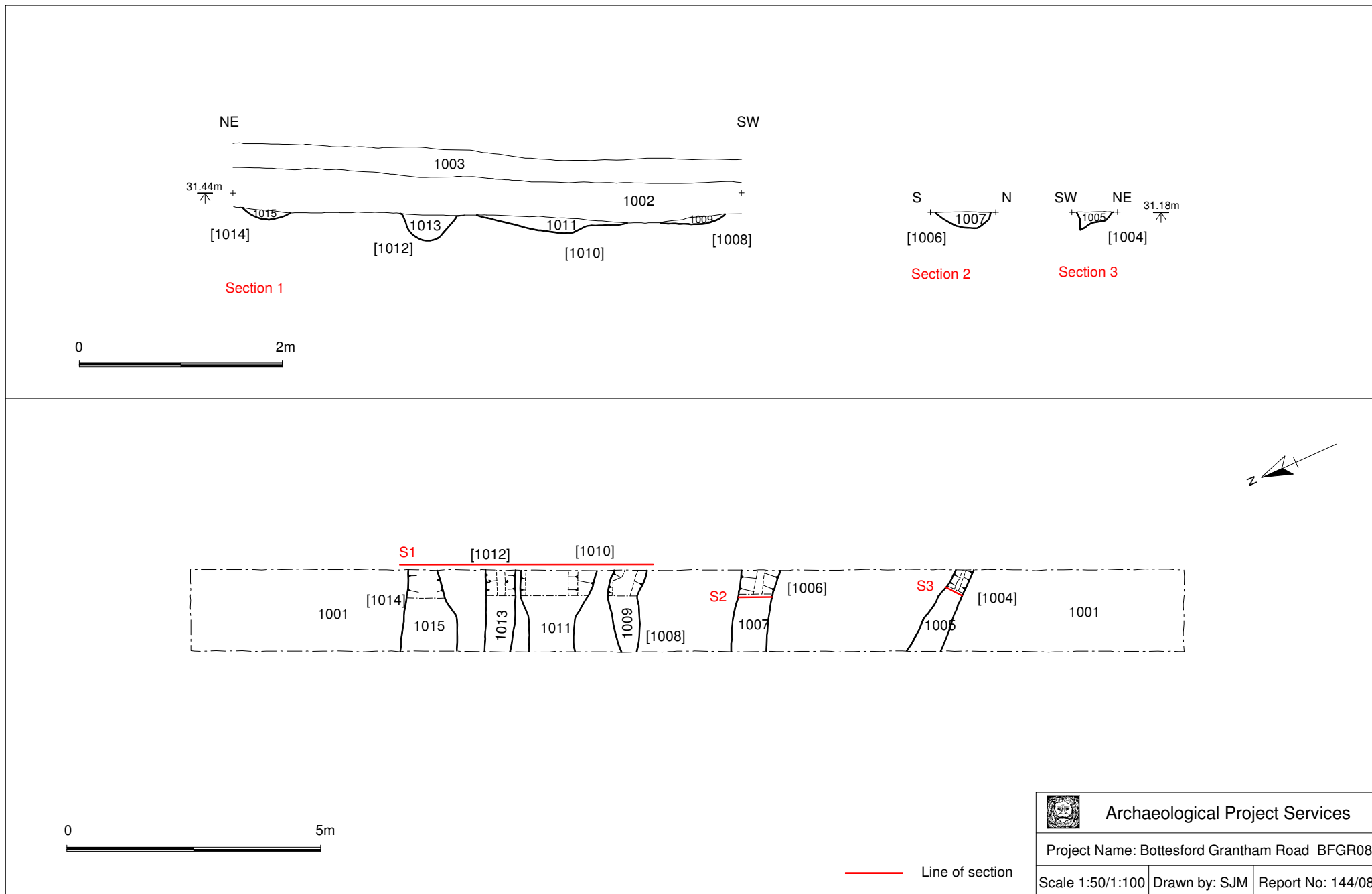
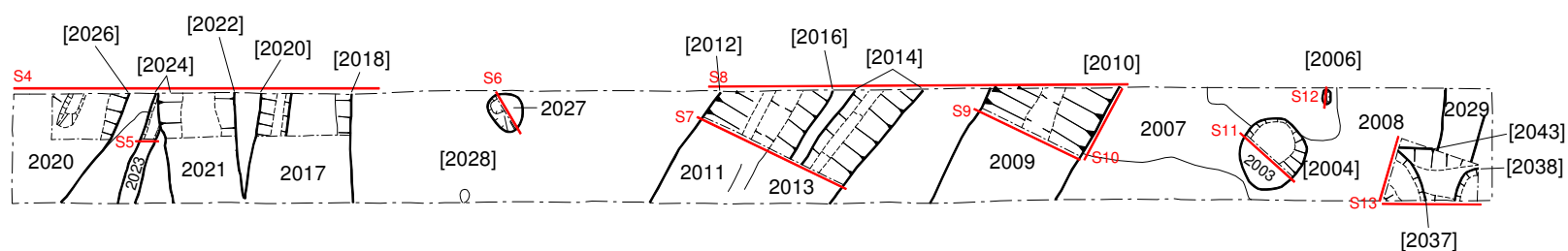


Figure 4 Trench 1 Plan and Sections



0 5m

— Line of section



Archaeological Project Services

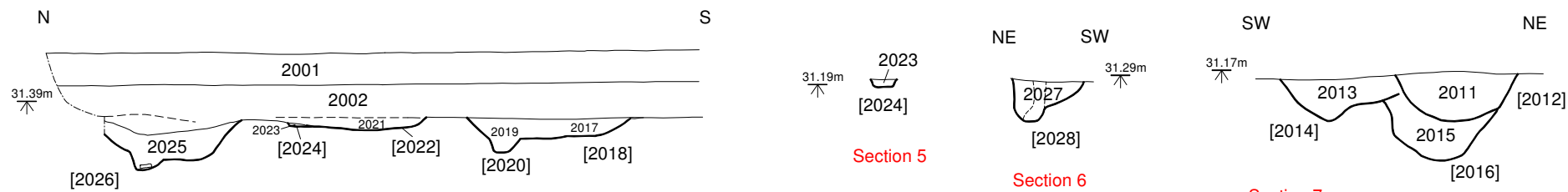
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Figure 5 Trench 2 Plan

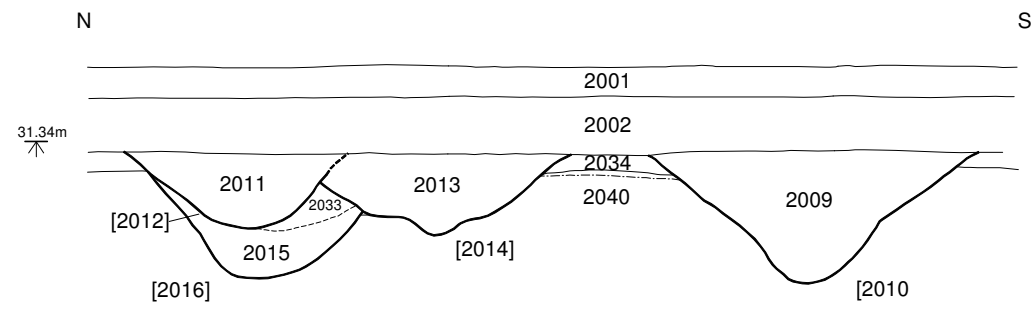


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Section 5

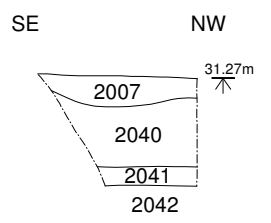
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Section 7

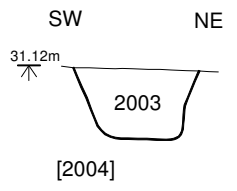


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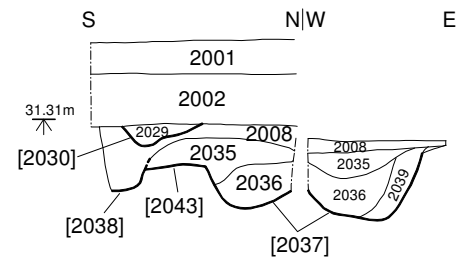
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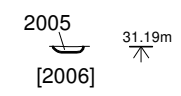
Section 10



Section 11



Section 13



Section 12




 <b>Archaeological Project Services</b>		
Project Name: Bottesford Grantham Road BFGR08		
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Figure 6 Trench 2 Sections

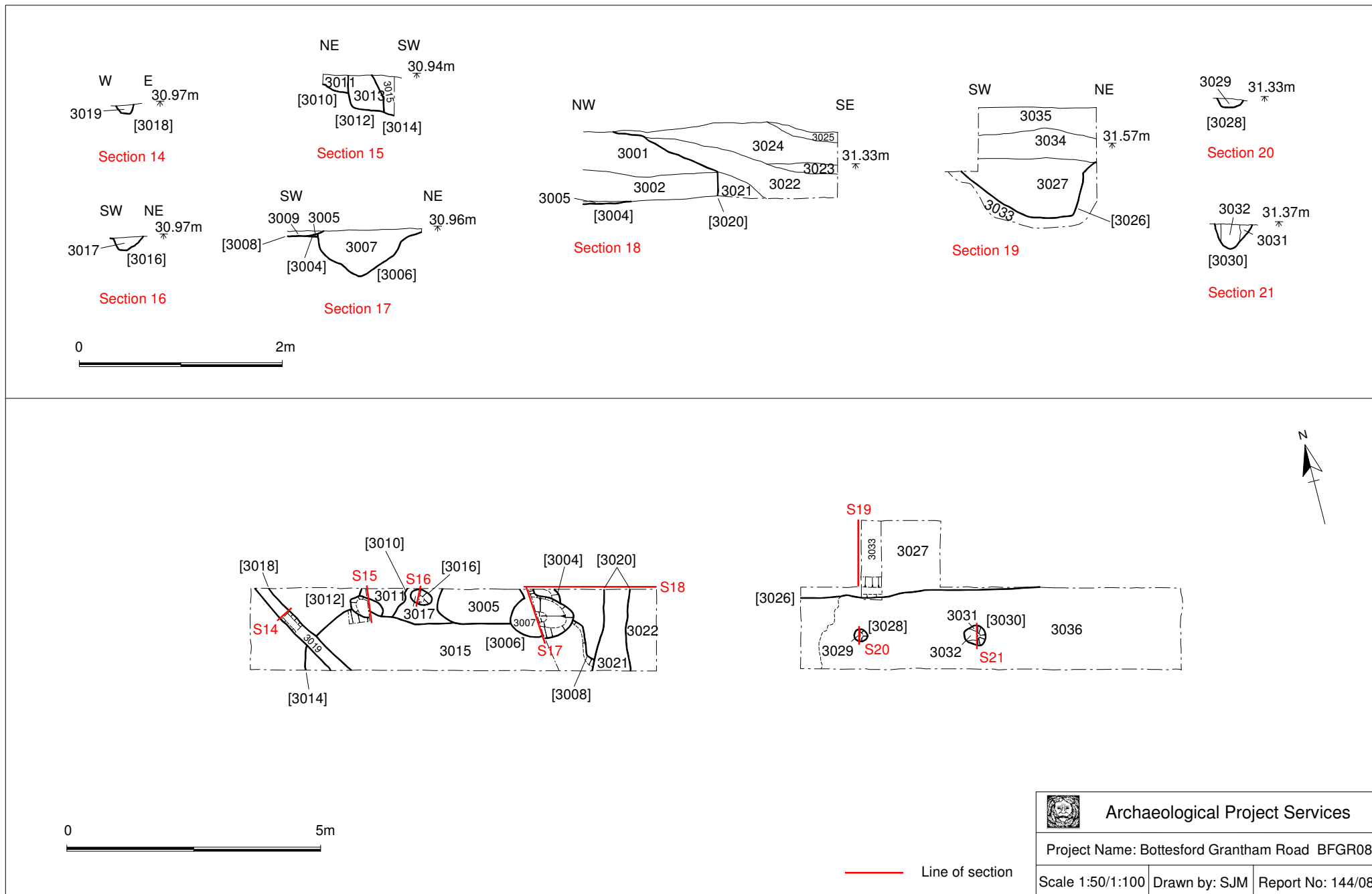


Figure 7 Trench 3 Plan and Sections

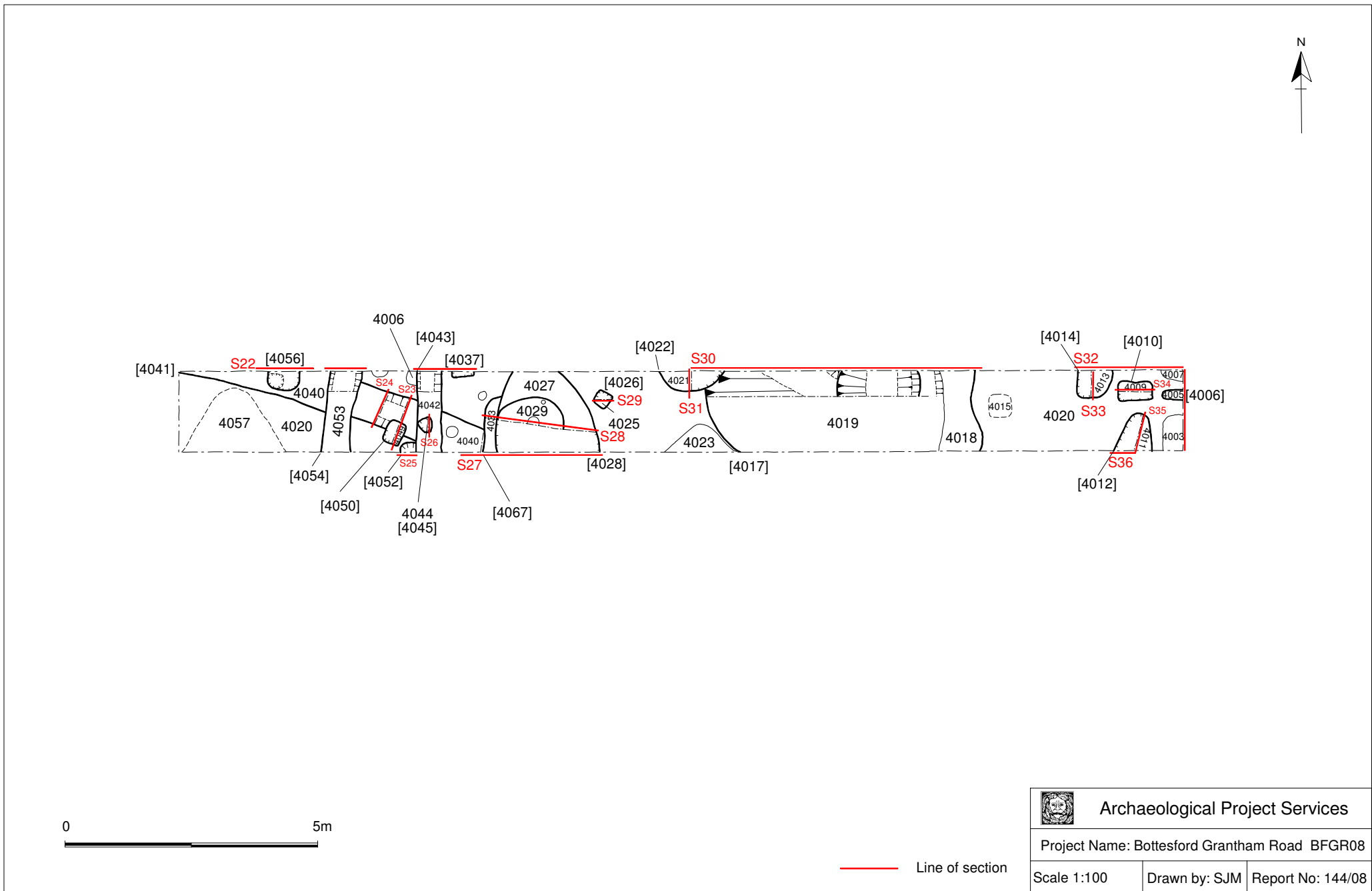


Figure 8 Trench 4 Plan

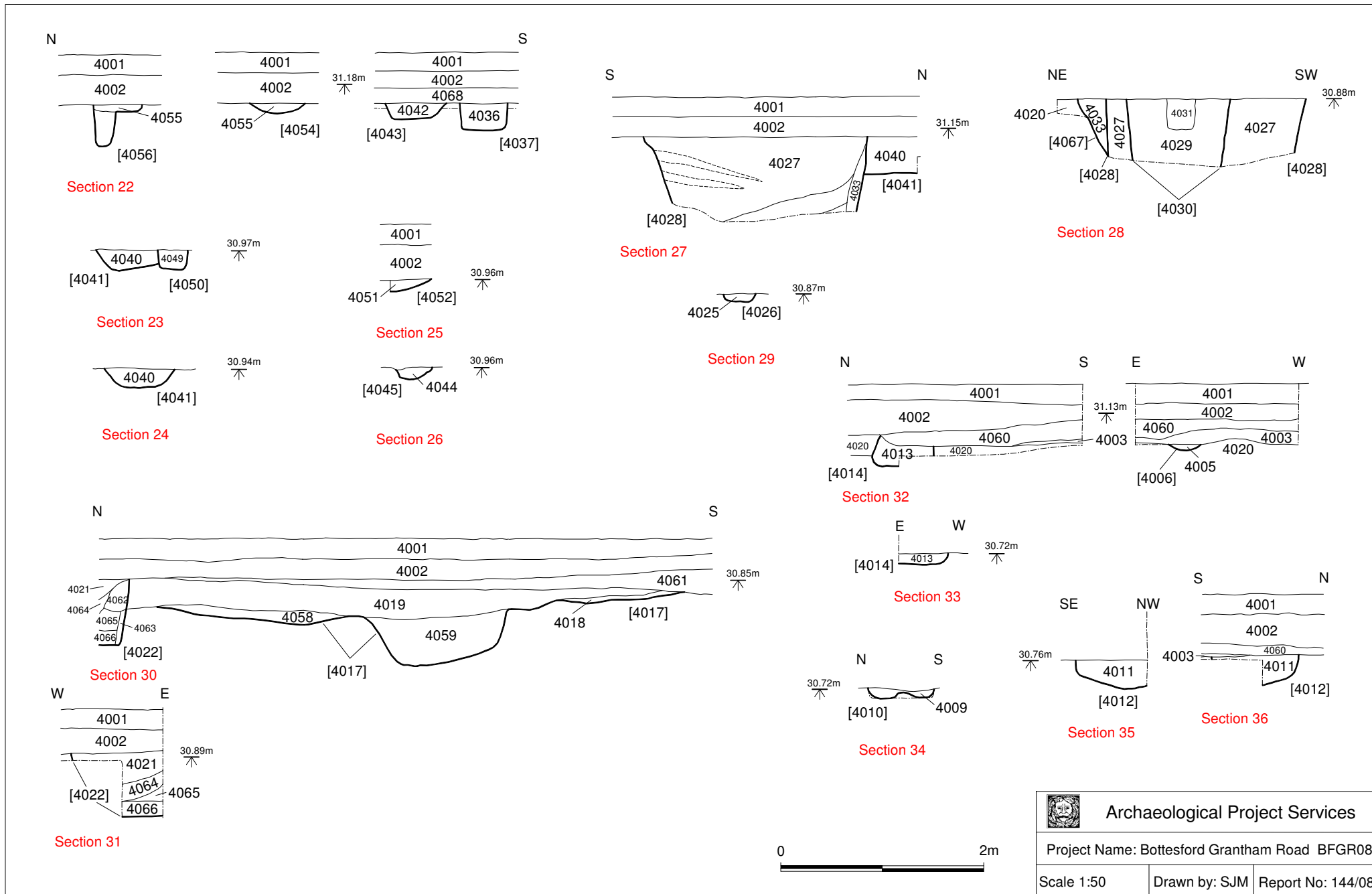


Figure 9 Trench 4 Sections



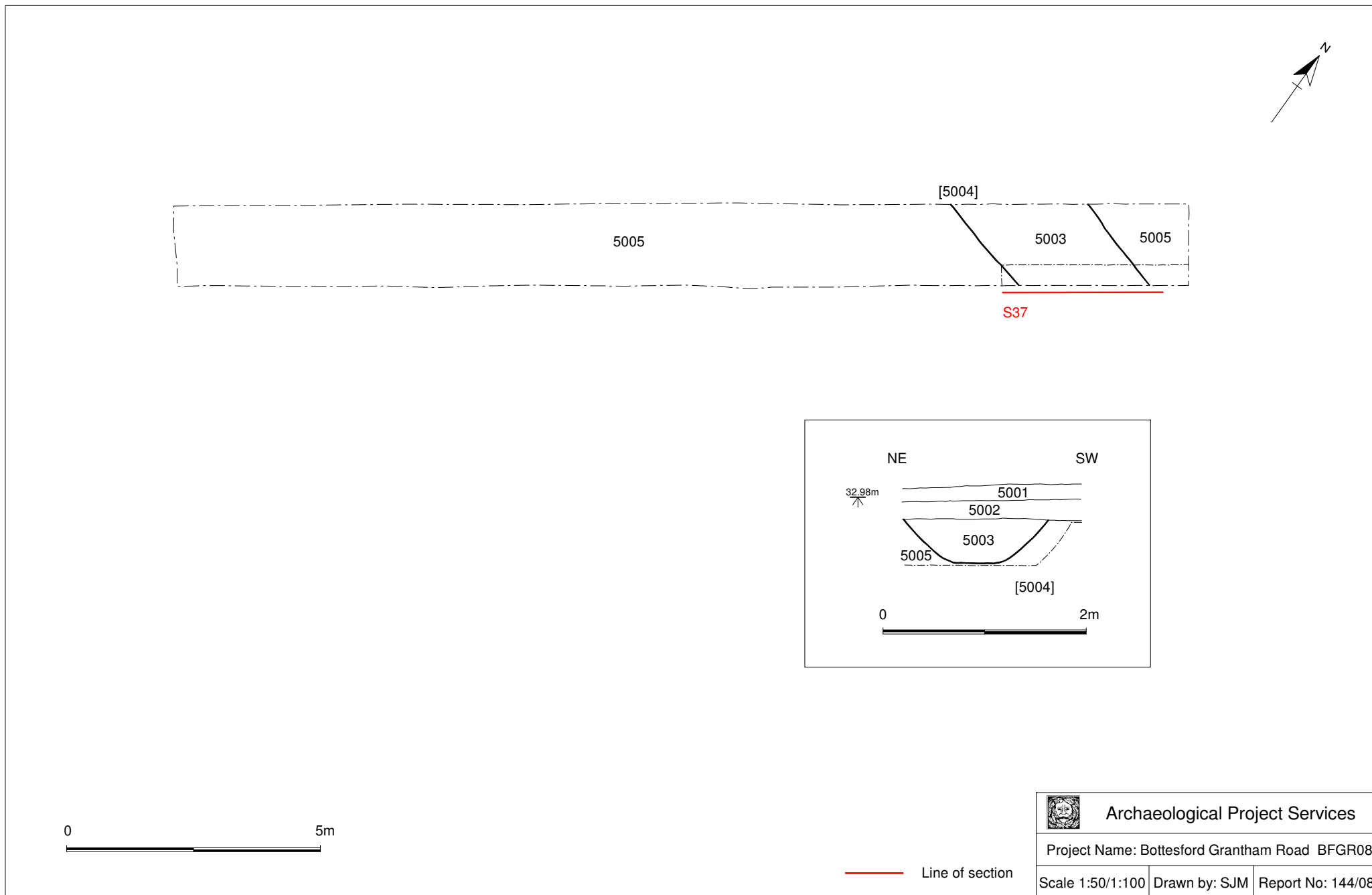
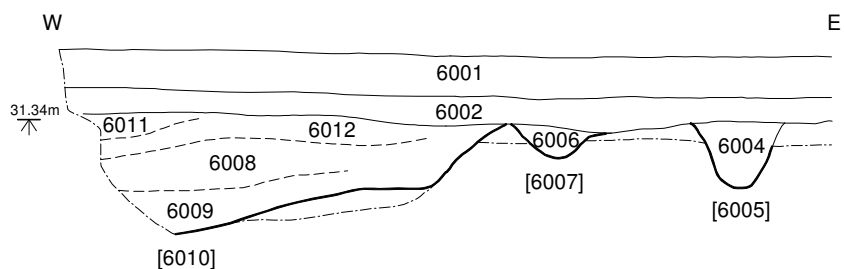
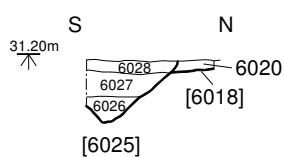


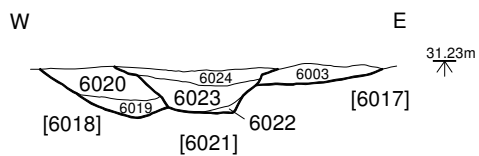
Figure 10 Trench 5 Plan and Section



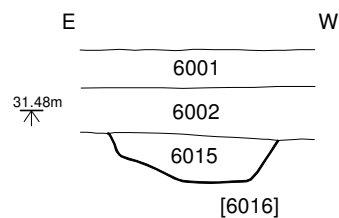
Section 38



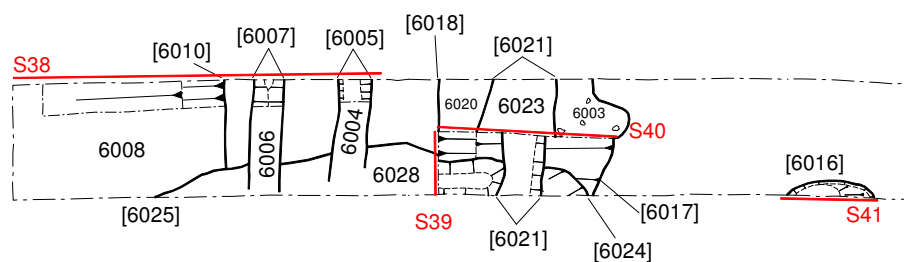
Section 39



Section 40



Section 41



— Line of section



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Bottesford Grantham Road BFGR08

Scale 1:50/1:100 Drawn by: SJM Report No: 144/08

Figure 11 Trench 6 Plan and Sections

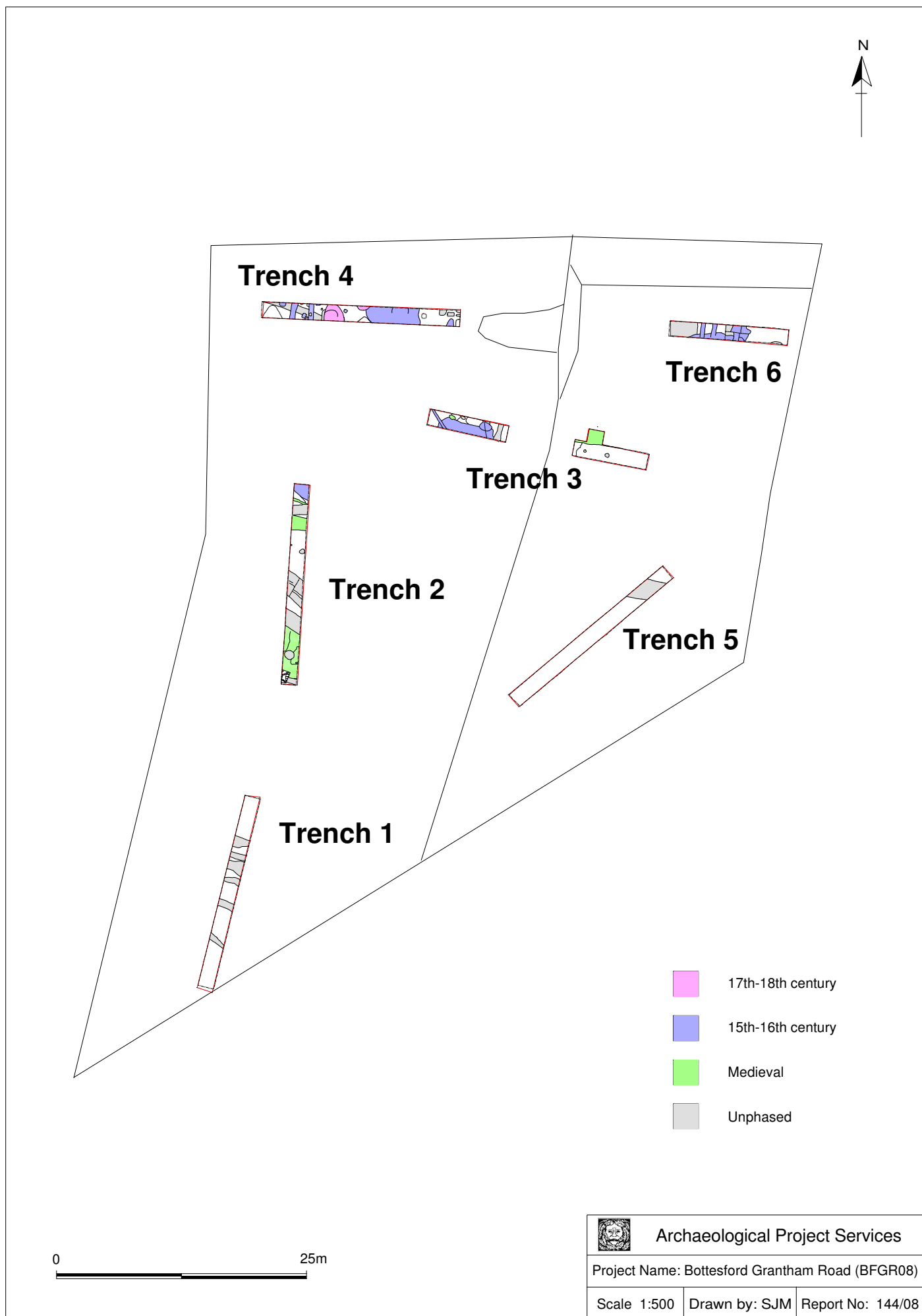


Figure 12 Phase plan of archaeological features



Plate 1 General view of site looking north towards church.



Plate 2 Gulleys [1008], [1010], [1012] looking east



Plate 3 Ditch [2010] looking east





Plate 4 Ditches [2012], [2014], [2016] looking east



Plate 5 Trench 2 post-excavation, looking North





Plate 6 Post-holes [3028], [3030] looking west



Plate 7 Trench 4 pre-excavation, looking west





Plate 8 Features at west end of Trench 4 post-excavation



Plate 9 Ditch [4017] post-excavation, looking east



Plate 10 Ditches [6017], [6018], [6021] post-excavation, looking north



## **Appendix 1**

### **Specification for Archaeological Evaluation**

#### **1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 *This document comprises a specification for archaeological evaluation of land at Grantham Road, Bottesford, Leicestershire to be undertaken in support of a planning application for residential development at the site.*
- 1.2 *The application area lies close to the historic core of Bottesford south of the parish church of St. Mary.*
- 1.3 *The Leicestershire County Council Assistant Planning Archaeologist has advised that an archaeological field evaluation of the site is undertaken to provide adequate information so that a reasoned decision can be made in order to mitigate the impact of the development on any buried remains.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a programme of post excavation analyses and reporting will be undertaken and a report produced describing the results of the evaluation.*

#### **2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for a programme of archaeological work at Grantham Road, Bottesford, Leicestershire.
- 2.2 The document contains the following parts:
  - 2.2.1 Overview
  - 2.2.2 The archaeological and natural setting
  - 2.2.3 Stages of work and methodologies to be used
  - 2.2.4 List of specialists
  - 2.2.5 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

#### **3 SITE LOCATION**

- 3.1 Bottesford lies approximately 40km northeast of Leicester, and 24km east of Nottingham in Melton Borough, Leicestershire. The proposed development is located in the east of the modern town on the south side of Grantham Road, comprising an area of c. 1ha, centred on National Grid reference SK 8079 3891.

#### **4 PLANNING BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 Planning permission (06/00311/OUT and 08/00330/REM) for residential development has been granted by Melton District Council subject to a condition requiring the implementation of a programme of archaeological works. In the first instance this will comprise a programme of trial trenching as detailed in this document.

#### **5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY**

- 5.1 The proposed development lies at c. 30m OD, on the south side of the River Devon. Local soils are calcareous clayey soils of the Evesham 2 Association developed on Jurassic clay (Hodge et al. 1984, 188).

## **6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

- 6.1 The site lies on the eastern edge of the historic core of the village, but only some 200m south of the parish church of St. Mary which lies on the north side of the River Devon. Some 300m to the southeast lies the site of Easthorpe Manor with moat and shrunken medieval village earthworks, a Scheduled Monument (17043).

## **7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 7.1 The aim of the work will be to gather sufficient information for the archaeological curator to be able to formulate a policy for the management of the archaeological resources present on the site.
- 7.2 The objectives of the work will be to:
- 7.2.1 Establish the type of archaeological activity that may be present within the site.
  - 7.2.2 Determine the likely extent of archaeological activity present within the site.
  - 7.2.3 Determine the date and function of the archaeological features present on the site.
  - 7.2.4 Determine the state of preservation of the archaeological features present on the site.
  - 7.2.5 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features present within the site.
  - 7.2.6 Determine the extent to which the surrounding archaeological features extend into the application area.
  - 7.2.7 Establish the way in which the archaeological features identified fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

## **8 TRIAL TRENCHING**

### **8.1 Reasoning for this technique**

- 8.1.1 Trial trenching enables the *in situ* determination of the sequence, date, nature, depth, environmental potential and density of archaeological features present on the site. Trenching of up to a 5% sample of the development site area is proposed.

### **8.2 General Considerations**

- 8.2.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the investigation.
- 8.2.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practice issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA). *Archaeological Project Services* is an IFA Registered Archaeological Organisation (No. 21).
- 8.2.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.
- 8.2.4 Excavation of the archaeological features exposed will only be undertaken as far as is required to determine their date, sequence, density and nature. All archaeological features exposed will be excavated and recorded unless otherwise agreed with the

Assistant Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council. The investigation will, as far as is reasonably practicable, determine the level of the natural deposits to ensure that the depth of the archaeological sequence present on the site is established.

- 8.2.5 Open trenches will be marked by hazard tape attached to road irons or similar poles. Subject to the consent of the archaeological curator, and following the appropriate recording, the trenches, particularly those of excessive depth, will be backfilled as soon as possible to minimise any health and safety risks.

### 8.3 Methodology

- 8.3.1 Removal of the topsoil and any other overburden will be undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. To ensure that the correct amount of material is removed and that no archaeological deposits are damaged, this work will be supervised by Archaeological Project Services. On completion of the removal of the overburden, the nature of the underlying deposits will be assessed by hand excavation before any further mechanical excavation that may be required. Thereafter, the trenches will be cleaned by hand to enable the identification and analysis of the archaeological features exposed.
- 8.3.2 Investigation of the features will be undertaken only as far as required to determine their date, form and function. The work will consist of half- or quarter-sectioning of features as required and, where appropriate, the removal of layers. Should features be located which may be worthy of preservation *in situ*, excavation will be limited to the absolute minimum, (*ie* the minimum disturbance) necessary to interpret the form, function and date of the features.
- 8.3.3 The archaeological features encountered will be recorded on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma context record sheets. The system used is the single context method by which individual archaeological units of stratigraphy are assigned a unique record number and are individually described and drawn.
- 8.3.4 Plans of features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. Should individual features merit it, they will be drawn at a larger scale.
- 8.3.5 Throughout the duration of the trial trenching a photographic record consisting of black and white prints (reproduced as contact sheets) and colour slides will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
- the site before the commencement of field operations.
  - the site during work to show specific stages of work, and the layout of the archaeology within individual trenches.
  - individual features and, where appropriate, their sections.
  - groups of features where their relationship is important.
  - the site on completion of field work
- 8.4 Should human remains be encountered, they will be left *in situ* with excavation being limited to the identification and recording of such remains. If removal of the remains is necessary the appropriate Home Office licences will be obtained and the local environmental health department informed. If relevant, the coroner and the police will be notified.
- 8.5 Finds collected during the fieldwork will be bagged and labelled according to the individual

deposit from which they were recovered ready for later washing and analysis.

- 8.6 The spoil generated during the investigation will be mounded along the edges of the trial trenches with the top soil being kept separate from the other material excavated for subsequent backfilling.
- 8.7 The precise location of the trenches within the site and the location of site recording grid will be established by an EDM survey.

## **9 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

- 9.1 If necessary specialist advice will be obtained from an environmental archaeologist. If necessary the specialist will visit the site and will prepare a report detailing the nature of the environmental material present on the site and its potential for additional analysis should further stages of archaeological work be required.
- 9.2 Environmental samples will be taken from primary and secondary fills of dated features, likely to comprise ditches and pits, the level of sampling being appropriate to the content of the individual feature and potential for the retrieval of environmental remains.

## **10 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT**

### **10.1 Stage 1**

10.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the trial trenching will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence constituting a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued: the colour slides will be labelled and mounted on appropriate hangers and the black and white contact prints will be labelled, in both cases the labelling will refer to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

10.1.2 All finds recovered during the trial trenching will be washed, marked, bagged and labelled according to the individual 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.

### **10.2 Stage 2**

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

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

### **10.3 Stage 3**

10.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the investigation will be prepared. This will consist of:

- A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
- A description of the archaeological setting of the site.
- Description of the topography and geology of the investigation area.
- Description of the methodologies used during the investigation and

discussion of their effectiveness in the light of the results

- A text describing the findings of the investigation.
- Plans of the trenches showing the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
- Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.
- Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape.
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features or groups of features.
- A consideration of the significance of the remains found, in local, regional, national and international terms, using recognised evaluation criteria.

## **7 ARCHIVE**

- 7.1 The documentation and records generated during the watching brief will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the 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.
- 7.2 If required, microfilming of the archive will be carried out, with the silver master transferred to the RCHME and a diazo copy deposited with the archive.
- 7.3 The landowner has agreed in principle to legal transfer of title of the archaeological objects retained during the investigation from themselves to the receiving museum. The transfer of title will be effected by a standard letter supplied to the landowner for signature.

## **8 REPORT DEPOSITION**

- 8.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the Client; the Senior Planning Archaeologist, Leicestershire County Council; Melton District Council Planning Department; and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

## **9 PUBLICATION**

- 9.1 Details of the project will be entered into the OASIS database. A report of the findings of the evaluation will be submitted to the editor of the *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society*. If appropriate notes or articles describing the results of the investigation will also be submitted for publication in the appropriate national journals: *Medieval Archaeology* and *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for medieval and later remains, and *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date.

## **10 CURATORIAL MONITORING**

- 10.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Leicestershire County Council Assistant Planning Archaeologist. They will be given seven days notice in writing before the commencement of the project.

- 10.2 It is envisaged that there will be a site meeting with the curator immediately upon completion of the stripping/cleaning to discuss the extent of investigation by archaeological excavation required.

## **11 VARIATIONS TO THE PROPOSED SCHEME OF WORKS**

- 11.1 Variations to the scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptability from the archaeological curator.
- 11.2 Should the archaeological curator require any additional investigation beyond the scope of the brief for works, or this specification, then the cost and duration of those supplementary examinations will be negotiated between the client and the contractor.

## **12 STAFF TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT**

- 12.1 The work will be directed by Tom Lane MIFA, Senior Archaeologist, Archaeological Project Services. The on-site works will be supervised by an Archaeological Supervisor with knowledge of archaeological investigations of this type. Archaeological excavation will be carried out by Archaeological Technicians, experienced in projects of this type.
- 12.2 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: Dr C Allen, independent specialist; or Dr D Knight, Trent and Peak Archaeology  Roman: Dr A Boyle, APS with M Darling, independent specialist  Anglo-Saxon and later: Dr A Boyle, APS with J Young, independent specialist
Other Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist/G Taylor, APS
Human Remains Analysis	J Wood, independent specialist
Animal Remains Analysis	J Wood, independent specialist
Environmental Analysis	V Fryer, independent specialist

## **13 PROGRAMME OF WORKS**

- 13.1 The duration for the excavated is estimated at 5-6 days using a team of 2 site assistants and one project officer. Post-excavation work is estimated at 10-12 days dependent on the quantity and complexity of archaeological remains encountered, and the involvement of specialist analysts.



## **14 INSURANCES**

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

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## **16 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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Specification: Version 1, 6 November 2008

## Appendix 2

### Context summary

Context No.	Trench No.	Section No.	Description.	Interpretation.
1001	1	-	Loose, mid yellow clayey sand, with frequent small pebbles.	Natural.
1002	1	3	Soft, mid grey clayey sandy silt with moderate small pebbles, 0.50m thick.	Subsoil.
1003	1	3	Loose, dark greyish brown sandy silt, with occasional small stones, 0.20m thick.	Topsoil.
1004	1	1	Linear cut, 0.36m wide and 0.18m deep, with irregular sides and base, orientated SE-NW.	Gully.
1005	1	1	Firm, mid grey sandy clay, with moderate small pebbles.	Fill of [1004]
1006	1	2	Linear cut, 0.60m wide and 0.20m deep, with concave sides and rounded base, oriented SE-NW.	Ditch.
1007	1	2	Soft, mid grey clayey sand, with moderate stones.	Fill of [1006].
1008	1	3	Linear cut, 0.60m wide and 0.05m deep, with concave sides and a flat base, oriented SE-NW.	Possible truncated ditch.
1009	1	3	Soft, mid grey clayey sandy silt, with frequent small pebbles.	Fill of [1008]
1010	1	3	Linear cut, 1.40m wide and 0.10m deep, with irregular sides and a flat base, oriented E-W.	Possible truncated ditch.
1011	1	3	Soft, mid grey clayey sandy silt, with occasional small pebbles.	Fill of [1011].
1012	1	3	Linear cut, 0.55m wide and 0.20m deep, with steep sides and a rounded base, oriented E-W.	Ditch.
1013	1	3	Soft, mid grey clayey sandy silt, with moderate small pebbles.	Fill of [1012]
1014	1	3	Linear cut, 0.70m wide and 0.07m deep, with sloping sides and a rounded base, oriented E-W	Possible truncated ditch.
1015	1	3	Soft, mid grey clayey sandy silt, with frequent small pebbles.	Fill of [1014]
2001	2	12, 18 & 21	Soft, dark greyish brown humic clayey sand, with occasional	Topsoil.

			CBM, pebbles and shale fragments.	
2002	2	12, 18 & 21	Firm, grey-brown sandy clayey silt, with occasional small stones, up to 0.37m thick.	Subsoil.
2003	2	14	Firm, grey-brown clayey sand, with occasional small stones.	Fill of [200].
2004	2	14	Sub-circular cut, 0.82m wide and 0.46m deep, with steep sides and a flat base.	Pit.
2005	2	-	Firm, mid to dark grey clayey sand.	Fill of [2006].
2006	2	-	Sub-oval cut, 0.19m long by 0.12m wide and 0.04m deep, with concave sides and a flat base.	Posthole.
2007	2	15 & 18	Firm, light brown sandy clay.	Possible buried soil.
2008	2	12 & 13	Firm, light brown sandy clay.	Possible buried soil.
2009	2	18 & 19	Firm, mid brown sandy clay, with occasional small pebbles.	Fill of [2010].
2010	2	18 & 19	Linear cut, 1.50m wide and 0.68m deep, with sloping sides and a flat base, oriented NW-SE.	Ditch.
2011	2	18 & 20	Firm, dark brownish grey sandy clay, with moderate stones.	Fill of [2012].
2012	2	18 & 20	Linear cut, 0.96m wide and 0.40m deep, with sloping sides and a rounded base, oriented NW-SE.	Ditch.
2013	2	18 & 20	Firm, mid to dark greyish brown sandy clay, with moderate stones.	Fill of [2014].
2014	2	18 & 20	Linear cut, > 0.9m wide and 0.32m deep, with sloping sides and a stepped V-shape base, oriented NW- SE.	Ditch.
2015	2	18 & 20	Firm, mid to dark greyish brown sandy clay (mottled light yellowish brown).	Fill of [2016].
2016	2	18 & 20	Linear cut, 1.06m wide and 0.70m deep, with sloping sides and a rounded base, oriented NW-SE.	Ditch.
2017	2	21	Firm, dark greyish brown sandy clay, with moderate stones.	Fill of (2017).
2018	2	21	Linear cut, 0.85m wide and 0.13m deep, with sloping sides and a flat base, oriented E-W.	Ditch.

2019	2	21	Firm, dark greyish brown sandy clay, with moderate stones.	Fill of [2020].
2020	2	21	Linear cut, 0.40m wide and 0.26m deep, with sloping sides and a flat base, orientated E-W.	Ditch.
2021	2	21	Firm, dark greyish brown sandy clay.	Fill of [2022].
2022	2	21	Linear cut, 0.50m wide and 0.09m deep, with sloping and a flat base, oriented E-W.	Possible truncated ditch.
2023	2	21	Firm, dark brownish grey sandy clay.	Fill of [2024].
2024	2	21	Linear cut, 0.12m wide and > 0.03m deep, with sloping sides and flat base, oriented NW-SE.	Gully.
2025	2	21	Firm, dark brownish grey sandy clay, with moderate stones.	Fill of [2026].
2026	2	21	Linear cut, > 1.0m wide and 0.40m deep, with sloping sides and a flattish stepped base.	Ditch.
2027	2	16	Firm, mid grey-brown sandy clay.	Fill of [2028].
2028	2	16	Sub-rectangular cut, 0.56m long by 0.30m wide and 0.32m deep, with steep sides and a stepped base, oriented SW-NE.	Posthole.
2029	2	12	Firm, dark greyish brown sandy clay.	Fill of [2030].
2030	2	12	Possibly linear cut, 0.60m wide and 0.14m deep, with sloping sides and a rounded base, oriented E-W.	Possible gully.
2031	2	-	VOID	
2032	2	-	VOID	
2033	2	18	Firm, mid to dark grey-brown sandy clay, 0.28m thick.	Fill of [2016].
2034	2	18	Firm, light yellowish brown sandy clay, 0.10m thick.	Possible buried soil layer.
2035	2	12 & 13	Firm, mid orangey / yellowish brown clayey sand, with frequent stones, up to 0.30m thick.	Possible buried or natural soil layer.
2036	2	12 & 13	Firm, mid to light grey sandy clay, 0.30m thick.	Natural.
2037	2	12 & 13	Undefined cut.	Possible natural feature.
2038	2	12 & 13	Undefined cut.	Possible natural feature.

2039	2	12 & 13	Firm, light brown and mid grey sandy clay.	Possible fill of [2037].
2040	2	15	Firm, mid to light orange clayey sand, with moderate pebbles, 0.45m thick.	Natural.
2041	2	15	Firm, reddish sand, 0.14m thick.	Natural.
2042	2	15	Stiff, blue grey clay, > 0.02m thick.	Natural.
2043	2	12	Undefined cut.	Possible natural feature.
3001	3	8	Loose, mid yellow clayey sand, with frequent small pebbles.	Natural.
3002	3	8	Firm, mid grey clay sandy silt, moderate small pebbles, 0.30m thick.	Subsoil.
3003	3	4	Firm, dark grey clayey silt, with occasional small pebbles, 0.30m thick.	Topsoil.
3004	3	4	Irregular linear cut, 2.20m wide and 0.10m deep, with sloping sides and a flat base, oriented NW-SE.	Ditch or linear pit.
3005	3	4	Soft, dark greyish brown clayey sandy silt, with occasional small pebbles.	Fill of [3004].
3006	3	4	Oval cut, 1.25m long by 0.80m wide and 0.40m thick with concave sloping sides and a rounded base, oriented E-W.	Pit.
3007	3	4	Firm, mid greyish brown sandy clay, with occasional small pebbles.	Fill of [3006].
3008	3	4	Linear cut, 1.00m wide and 0.06m deep, with sloping sides and flat base, oriented E-W.	Possible truncated ditch.
3009	3	4	Soft, dark grey silty clay with frequent charcoal lumps.	Fill of [3009].
3010	3	5	Linear cut, 0.78m wide and 0.16m deep with vertical sides and a rounded base, oriented NE-SW.	Truncated ditch.
3011	3	5	Firm, mid greyish brown sandy clay, with occasional small pebbles.	Fill of [3010]
3012	3	5	Oval cut, 0.60m long by 0.30m and 0.32m deep, with steep sides and a rounded base, oriented E-W.	Pit or posthole.

3013	3	5	Firm, dark brownish grey clayey sandy silt, with occasional small pebbles.	Fill of [3012].
3014	3	5	Cut, 0.38m deep, with steep sides and a rounded base.	Possible pit or terminus.
3015	3	5	Friable, dark grey sandy silt, with moderate large stones.	Fill of [3014].
3016	3	6	Oval cut, 0.40m long by 0.30m wide and 0.11m deep, with concave sides and a rounded base, oriented E-W.	Posthole.
3017	3	6	Firm, mid greyish brown silty clay, with occasional small pebbles.	Fill of [3016].
3018	3	7	Linear cut, 0.18m wide and 0.09m deep, with steep sides and a rounded base, oriented NW-SE.	Gulley.
3019	3	7	Friable, dark grey sandy silt, with occasional pebbles.	Fill of [3018].
3020	3	8	Linear cut, 2.40m wide and > 0.75m deep, with sloping sides.	Modern boundary ditch.
3021	3	8	Firm, mid brown clayey sandy silt, > 0.24m thick.	Fill of [3020].
3022	3	8	Loose, dark grey sandy silt, > 0.30m thick.	Fill of [3020].
3023	3	25	Firm, mid yellowish brown clay, 0.10m thick.	Fill of [3020].
3024	3	25	Loose, mid brownish red clayey sandy silt, up to 0.40m thick.	Fill of [3020].
3025	3	25	Soft, dark brown clayey silt, 0.11m thick.	Fill of [3020].
3026	3	35	Linear cut, 1.30m wide and 0.59m deep, with sloping sides and a flat base, oriented E-W.	Ditch.
3027	3	35	Firm, mid brown clay, with occasional pebbles.	Fill of [3026].
3028	3	36	Sub-circular cut, 0.26m wide and 0.09m deep, with steep sides and a flat base.	Posthole.
3029	3	36	Firm, dark grey silty clay.	Fill of [3029].
3030	3	37	Sub-oval cut, 0.42m long by 0.36m wide and 0.25m deep, with sloping sides and a rounded base.	Posthole.
3031	3	37	Soft, light brown silty clay.	Fill of [3030].
3032	3	37	Soft, dark brown silty clay.	Post pipe within [3030].



3033	3	35	Loose, mid yellow sand, with frequent pebbles, > 0.65m thick.	Natural.
3034	3	35	Soft, mid grey clayey sandy silt, with occasional pebbles, 0.30m thick.	Subsoil.
3035	3	35	Loose, dark grey sandy silt, up to 0.30m thick.	Topsoil.
3036	3	-	Firm, light brown clay.	Natural.
4001	4	27, 28, 29, 33 & 34	Firm, dark grey-brown sandy silt, with occasional small stones, c. 0.20m thick.	Topsoil.
4002	4	27, 28, 29, 33 & 34	Firm, dark grey-brown sandy clayey silt, up to 0.30m thick, with occasional small stones.	Subsoil.
4003	4	28 & 29	Firm, dark grey-brown sandy clayey silt, with occasional small pebbles, up to 0.26m thick.	Buried soil layer.
4004	4	-	VOID	
4005	4	28	Firm, dark grey-brown sandy clayey silt.	Fill of [4006].
4006	4	28	Linear cut, > 0.40m long, 0.20m wide and 0.06m deep, with sloping sides and a rounded base, oriented E-W.	Gully.
4007	4	-	VOID	
4008	4	-	VOID	
4009	4	31	Firm, dark grey-brown clayey silty sand.	Fill of [4010].
4010	4	31	Sub-rectangular cut, 0.68m long by 0.38m and 0.10m with vertical sides and an undulating base.	Probable posthole.
4011	4	32 & 33	Firm, dark grey-brown clayey sandy silt, with occasional small stones and frequent medium to large stones.	Fill of [4012].
4012	4	32 & 33	Irregular sub-rectangular cut, > 0.70m long, 0.86m wide and 0.30m deep, with vertical sides and flattish base, oriented N-S.	Pit.
4013	4	29 & 30	Firm, dark grey-brown clayey silty sand, with occasional small stones.	Fill of [4014].
4014	4	29 & 30	Sub-rectangular cut, > 0.48m long by 0.60m wide and 0.30m deep, with steep sides and a flat base.	Pit.
4015	4	-	Stiff, blue-grey silty clay, with	Redeposited clay.

			occasional small stones, 0.40m wide and 0.10m thick.	
4016	4	-	VOID	
4017	4	34	Linear or sub-rectangular cut, 5.2m wide and 0.76m deep, with sloping stepped sides and a flattish base.	Pit or ditch.
4018	4	34	Friable, dark grey-brown sandy silt, with occasional pebbles, 0.06m thick.	Lower fill of [4017].
4019	4	34	Firm, mid grey-brown sandy clayey silt, with occasional pebbles and large stones, up to 0.35m thick.	Upper fill of [4017].
4020	4	-	Friable, mottled pale to mid orange-brown silty sand, with frequent gravel, becoming more clayey to the west.	Natural.
4021	4	34, 35 & 36	Firm, dark grey-brown clayey silt, with occasional small stones, up to 0.30m thick.	Upper fill f [4022].
4022	4	34, 35 & 36	Circular cut, 1.20m wide and 0.62m deep, with almost vertical sides and a flat base.	Pit.
4023	4	-	VOID	
4024	4	-	VOID	
4025	4	37	Firm, mid grey-brown clayey silty sand, with occasional small stones.	Fill of [4026].
4026	4	37	Sub-rectangular cut, 0.14m wide and 0.08m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base, oriented NW-SE.	Posthole.
4027	4	38 & 39	Stiff, blue-grey silty clay, with rare small stones.	Fill of [4027].
4028	4	38 & 39	Sub-oval cut, 1.96m wide and > 0.83m deep, with vertical sides.	Pit.
4029	4	38 & 39	Firm, dark grey sandy silt, with occasional small stones.	Fill of [4030].
4030	4	38 & 39	Sub-oval cut, 1.02m wide and > 0.67m deep, with vertical sides.	Pit.
4031	4	38 & 39	Friable very dark grey silty sand, 0.28m wide and 0.30m thick.	Possible post pipe.
4032	4	-	VOID	
4033	4	38 & 39	Friable, mid brown clayey silty sand, with occasional small	Fill of [4067].

			stones.	
4034	4	-	VOID	
4035	4	-	VOID	
4036	4	40	Firm, dark grey-brown sandy clayey silt, with occasional small stones.	Fill of [4037].
4037	4	40	Sub-rectangular cut, 0.47m wide and 0.27m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base.	Posthole.
4038	4	-	VOID	
4039	4	-	VOID	
4040	4	39, 43 & 44	Firm, pale grey-brown sandy silty clay, with occasional small pebbles.	Fill of [4041].
4041	4	39, 43 & 44	Linear cut, 0.37m wide and 0.19m deep, with sloping sides and a flattish base, oriented NW-SE.	Ditch.
4042	4	40	Friable, mid grey-brown silty clayey sand, with occasional small stones.	Fill of [4043].
4043	4	40	Linear cut, 0.60m wide and 0.16m deep, with sloping sides and flat base, oriented N-S.	Ditch.
4044	4	41	Firm, dark grey-brown sandy clayey silt, with occasional small pebbles.	Fill of [4045].
4045	4	41	Sub-rectangular cut, 0.35m wide and 0.12m deep, with vertical sides and an irregular base.	Possible posthole.
4046	4	-	VOID	
4047	4	-	VOID	
4048	4	-	VOID	
4049	4	43	Firm, dark grey-brown sandy clayey silt, with occasional small pebbles.	Fill of [4050].
4050	4	43	Sub-rectangular cut, 0.30m wide and 0.19m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base.	Posthole.
4051	4	42	Firm, mid grey-brown silty clayey sand, with occasional small stones.	Fill of [4052].
4052	4	42	Sub-rectangular cut, > 0.40m wide and 0.11m deep, with sloping sides and a rounded base.	Possible posthole.
4053	4	45	Firm, mid grey-brown silty clayey sand, with occasional small	Fill of [4054].

			stones.	
4054	4	45	Linear cut, 0.54m wide and 0.10m deep, with sloping sides and a rounded base, oriented N-S.	Ditch.
4055	4	46	Firm, dark grey-brown sandy clayey silt, with occasional small pebbles.	Fill of [4054].
4056	4	46	Sub-rectangular cut, 0.47m wide and 0.40m deep, with vertical sides and a stepped base.	Posthole.
4057	4	-	Firm, pale grey-brown sandy silt clay, with frequent gravel, c.2.0m wide and up to 0.10m thick.	Modified soil layer.
4058	4	34	Friable, dark grey-brown sandy silt, with occasional pebbles, 0.15m thick.	Fill of [4017].
4059	4	34	Friable, dark grey-brown sandy silt, with occasional pebbles, 0.45m thick.	Fill of [4017].
4060	4	28, 29 & 33	Firm, dark grey-brown sandy clayey silt, with frequent large stones, up to 0.33m thick.	Dumped deposit.
4061	4	34	Firm, dark grey-brown sandy silt, with frequent stone and rubble fragments, up to 0.25m thick.	Dumped deposit.
4062	4	34, 35 & 36	Stiff, mixed orange-brown and blue-grey silty clay, with occasional small stones, 0.32m thick.	Fill of [4022].
4063	4	34, 35 & 36	Firm, dark grey-brown silty clay.	Fill of [4022].
4064	4	34, 35 & 36	Firm, very dark grey-brown clayey silt, with occasional small stones, up to 0.26m thick.	Fill of [4022].
4065	4	34, 35 & 36	Firm, grey-brown sandy clayey silt, with occasional small stones, up to 0.30m thick.	Fill of [4022].
4066	4	34, 35 & 36	Friable, pale yellow-brown lime, 0.15m thick.	Fill of [4022].
5001	5	27	Firm, dark grey-brown sandy silt, with occasional small stones, up to 0.30m thick.	Topsoil.
5002	5	27	Firm, dark grey-brown sandy clayey silt, with occasional small stones and lime flecks, up to 0.40m thick.	Subsoil.

5003	5	27	Firm, mid grey-brown sandy clayey silt, with occasional small stones.	Fill of [5004].
5004	5	27	Linear cut, 2.08m wide and 0.86m deep, with steep sloping sides and a flat base, oriented E-W.	Ditch.
5005	5	27	Firm, mid orange-brown clayey silty sand, with occasional small flints.	Natural.
6001	6	22	Soft, dark greyish brown, humic clayey sand, with moderate pebbles and limestone fragments, c. 0.25m thick.	Topsoil.
6002	6	22	Soft, dark greyish brown clayey sand, with occasional stones and limestone fragments, up to 0.25m thick.	Subsoil.
6003	6		Firm, dark greyish brown clayey sand, with frequent limestone fragments.	Fill of [6017].
6004	6	22	Soft, Dark grey mottled with brownish grey and mid orange clayey sand, with moderate charcoal fragments.	Fill of [6005].
6005	6	22	Linear cut, 0.60m wide and 0.45m deep, with steep sides and a rounded base, oriented N-S.	Ditch.
6006	6	22	Soft, dark brownish grey clayey sand, with moderate charcoal fragments.	Fill of [6007].
6007	6	22	Linear, 0.55m wide and 0.20m deep, with sloping sides and a rounded base, oriented N-S.	Ditch.
6008	6	22	Firm, mid greyish brown sandy clay, with occasional charcoal flecks.	Fill of [6010].
6009	6	22	Firm, light greyish brown (mottled orange-brown) sandy clay, with occasional charcoal flecks, moderate pebbles and stones.	Fill of [6010].
6010	6	22	Linear cut, > 1.60m wide and 0.63m deep, with steep sides and a concave base, oriented N-S.	Ditch.
6011	6	22	Firm, mid brown (mottled light orange) sandy clay, with moderate small stones, c. 0.18m thick.	Fill of [6010].

6012	6	22	Firm, mid olive-greyish brown sandy clay, with occasional charcoal flecks, c. 0.17m thick.	Fill of [6010]
6013	6	22	Soft, mid olive-greyish brown clayey sand, with occasional stones and charcoal fragments.	Soil layer.
6014	6	22	Firm, orange to light brownish yellow clayey sand, with frequent gravel.	Natural.
6015	6	23	Firm, mid olive-greyish brown sandy clay, with occasional stones and charcoal, 0.33m thick.	Fill of [6016].
6016	6	23	Sub-circular cut, 1.10m wide and 0.33m deep, with steep sides and a flattish base.	Pit.
6017	6	24	Linear cut, > 0.80m wide and 0.13m deep, with sloping sides and a flattish base, oriented N-S.	Base of truncated ditch.
6018	6	24	Linear cut, > 0.84m wide and 0.34m deep, with gently sloping sides and a rounded base, oriented N-S.	Ditch.
6019	6	24	Friable, light grey clayey silt, up to 0.11m thick.	Fill of [6018].
6020	6	24	Firm, mid brown clay, 0.22m thick.	Fill of [6018].
6021	6	24	Linear cut, 0.98m wide and 0.29m deep, with stepped sloping sides and a flat base, oriented N-S.	Ditch.
6022	6	24	Firm, mid brown clay, up to 0.10m thick.	Fill of [2021].
6023	6	24	Soft, mid grey silt, up to 0.20m thick.	Fill of [6021].
6024	6	24	Soft, dark grey sandy silt, up to 0.10m thick.	Fill of [6021].
6025	6	25	Linear cut, > 0.60m wide and 0.45m deep, with sloping sides and a flat base, oriented E-W.	Ditch.
6026	6	25	Friable, mid brown sandy silt, up to 0.17m thick.	Fill of [6025].
6027	6	25	Friable, mid grey sandy silt, up to 0.16m thick.	Fill of [6025]
6028	6	25	Soft, dark grey sandy silt, up to 0.08m thick.	Fill of [6025].



## Appendix 3

**THE FINDS****INTRODUCTION**

A moderately large, mixed, assemblage of artefacts, comprising 59 items weighing a total of 3974g, was recovered. Pottery was the most common artefact type, providing almost 80% by count of the assemblage, and includes pieces dating between the Roman period and the 18<sup>th</sup> century. There is spatial distinction in the artefact assemblage: Roman artefacts were only recovered from Trench 2, which also yielded much of the medieval material, whereas Trench 4 yielded the majority of the early post-medieval objects. Eighty six fragments of animal bone were also retrieved from the investigation.

**ROMAN POTTERY**

*By Anne Boyle and Ian Rowlandson*

**Introduction**

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by Darling (2004). A total of two sherds from two vessels, weighing 68 grams were 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 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.

**Condition**

Both sherds are in fresh condition.

**Results**

*Table 1, Roman Pottery Archive*

Cxt	Cname	Full name	Leics cname	Form	Comments	NoS	NoV	W (g)
2009	GREY	Grey ware	GW5	BWM2/3	Rim; mid/late 3rd to 4th	1	1	62
2017	GREY	Grey ware	GW	J?	Flat top rim; small form; 2nd+?	1	1	6

**Provenance**

Single sherds came from ditches [2010] and [2018].

**Range**

Late Roman wide mouth bowls (BWM2/3) of this type are common in Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire, although are less easy to parallel in assemblages from Leicestershire. An unusual flat topped jar or bottle rim appears to be handmade and wheel finished. Again, this is not a common form and it is tentatively identified as a Roman vessel.

**Potential**

None of the pottery poses any problems for long term storage and should be retained. No further work is required on the assemblage.

## Summary

A small amount of Roman pottery is present in the assemblage, suggesting activity of this date occurring on or close to the site during this period.

## POST ROMAN POTTERY

*By Anne Boyle and Jane Young*

### Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001). The pottery codenames (Cname) are in accordance with the Post Roman pottery type series for Lincolnshire, as published in Young *et al.* (2005). Equivalent codenames for Leicestershire are included in Table 2 (Sawday 2008). A total of 44 sherds from 40 vessels weighing 1736 grams were 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 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 Archive Catalogue 1, with a summary in Table 2. The pottery ranges in date from the medieval to the post medieval period.

### Condition

Most of the sherds show expected levels of abrasion and comprise large fragments, as indicated by the average sherd weight of 39 grams. Twelve vessels have soot and carbonised deposits adhering to them indicating their use over a hearth or fire, and two have internal deposits which may be uric acid or kettle fur.

### Results

*Table 2, Post Roman Pottery Archive*

Cname	Full name	Leics cname	Earliest date	Latest date	NoS	NoV	W (g)
BERTH	Brown glazed earthenware		1550	1800	1	1	21
BL	Black-glazed wares	EA6	1550	1750	3	2	50
BLG	Black ware 'Grantham-type'	EA6	1550	1750	2	2	58
BOU	Bourne D ware	BO1	1350	1650	4	4	147
CIST	Cistercian-type ware	CW	1480	1650	1	1	3
CISTG	Cistercian ware 'Grantham-type'	CW	1480	1650	2	2	22
LMX	Late Medieval Non-local fabrics	-	1350	1550	1	1	138
LSW2	13th to 14th century Lincoln Glazed Ware	L17	1200	1320	1	1	1
LSW3	14th to 15th century Lincoln Glazed Ware	L17	1280	1450	1	1	100
MEDLOC	Medieval local fabrics	-	1150	1450	1	1	22
MISC	Unidentified types	-	-	-	4	2	5
MP	Midlands Purple ware	MP	1380	1600	2	2	116
MPG	Midlands Purple Grantham type	MP	1380	1600	6	5	791
MY	Midlands Yellow ware	MY	1550	1650	1	1	41
NOTGE	Early Nottingham Glazed ware	NO2	1200	1230	1	1	40
NOTGL	Nottingham Light Bodied Glazed ware	NO3	1220	1320	1	1	1
NOTGR	Nottingham Reduced Glazed ware	-	1280	1420	1	1	39
NOTLGW	Late Nottingham Glazed ware	-	1350	1450	3	3	76
NSP	Nottingham Splashed ware	SP1	1100	1250	1	1	2
PSHW	Peterborough Shelly Ware	-	1175	1400	1	1	7

SNEOT	St Neots-type ware	SN	870	1200	1	1	7
ST	Stamford Ware	ST	970	1200	2	2	3
STANLY	Stanion/Lyveden ware	LY3/4	1150	1250	2	2	17
TGW	Tin-glazed ware	DE3	1400	1800	1	1	29
<b>TOTAL:</b>					<b>44</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>1736</b>

### Provenance

Most of the vessels are associated with pits and ditches (Tables 3 and 4). Post medieval material appears in nearly all the features, although small concentrations of medieval pottery occur in [2026], [3012] and [4017]. However, the majority of medieval vessels are represented by single sherds and are of mixed date: it seems likely these represent gradual accumulation of redeposited material in these features, rather than deliberate episodes of domestic rubbish dumping. Vessels dating to the post medieval period comprise large fresh fragments, although again many of these are single sherds. Therefore, it appears that the later pottery also does not represent primary deposition, although areas of rubbish dumping may be located nearby.

*Table 3, Total number of vessels from linear features*

Cname	Gully	Ditches								Pits/Ditches		
	[2024]	[2026]	[3026]	[4054]		[6017]	[6007]	[6021]	[6025]	[4017]		
	(2023)	(2025)	(3027)	(4053)	(4055)	(6003)	(6006)	(6023)	(6027)	(4019)	(4058)	(4059)
BERTH									1			
BL								1				
BLG					1		1					
BOU								1	1	2		
CIST				1								
CISTG				1					1			
LMX											1	
LSW2		1										
LSW3										1		
MP						1						
MPG		1							2			1
NOTGE			1									
NOTGR											1	
NOTLGW		1									1	
SNEOT		1										
ST		1										
STANLY	1										1	
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>

*Table 4, Total number of vessels from other features*

Cname	Deposits			Gully	Pit/ post hole	Pits		
	[2024]	[3012]	[3014]	[4012]	[4022]			
	(2007)	(2008)	(2017)	(2023)	(3013)	(3015)	(4011)	(4021)
BL							1	
LMX								
MEDLOC							1	
MISC	1	1						
MP						1		
MPG						1		
MY							1	
NOTGL					1			
NOTGR								
NOTLGW							1	
NSP					1			
PSHW					1			

ST			1					
STANLY				1				
TGW								1
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>

### Range

Overall, the pottery suggests close links with Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire, rather than production centres within Leicestershire. Medieval wares from Nottingham, Lincoln, and Peterborough/Rockingham Forest area are often found in association with one another. This assemblage is typical of others in this area in that Nottingham products dominate. This tends to be the case despite the proximity of other urban centres with their own industries (e.g. Lincoln).

Medieval and post medieval pottery production has long been suspected in Grantham, and "Grantham type" wares have distinct red fabrics. Several of the vessels present in this group appear to be Grantham-type Midlands Purple (MPG), Black (BLG) and Cistercian (CISTG) wares, although kiln sites and waster dumps are yet to be identified in the town or its environs. Of interest are three apparently misfired vessels, two of which are the Midlands Purple Grantham type (6027 & 4059), the other being a Brown Glazed Earthenware (BERTH). Given that Bottesford lies just 5 kilometres west of Grantham, these misfired vessels offer further evidence that a production site is located somewhere in this area.

### Potential

None of the pottery poses any problems for long term storage and should be retained. The assemblage may require reassessment in light of further excavation at the site.

### Summary

A small group of medieval and post medieval pottery was recovered, suggesting domestic activity occurring on or close to the site during these periods.

## CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

*By Anne Boyle*

### Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the ACBMG (2001). A single fragment of ceramic building material, weighing 537 grams was recovered from the site.

### Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments were counted and weighed within each context. The ceramic building material was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This data was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the ceramic building material is included in Table 3.

### Condition

The fragment is in fairly fresh condition.

## Results

*Table 5, Ceramic Building Material Archive*

Cxt	Cname	Full name	Fabric	Subform	NoF	W (g)	Description	Date
4029	BRK	Brick	Marbled; calc	55 x 110+ mm	1	537	End; salt surfaces; leached	Post medieval?

## Provenance

A single post medieval brick fragment came from the fill of pit [4030].

## Potential

The brick poses no problems for long term storage and should be retained. No further work is required on the assemblage.

## Summary

A single post medieval brick was recovered from the site.

## FAUNAL REMAINS

*By Paul Cope-Faulkner*

## Introduction

A total of 86 (2437g) fragments of animal bone were recovered from stratified contexts.

## Provenance

The bones derived from the fill of a gully (1011), ditch fills (2011, 2013, 2015, 2025, 3005, 3009, 3015, 4053, 5003, 6004, 6009, 6023 and 6027) and from the fills of pits (4011, 4019, 4021 and 4058).

## Condition

The overall condition of the remains was good to moderate, though a few were in a poor state of preservation.

## Results

*Table 6, Fragments Identified to Taxa*

Cxt	Taxon	Element	Number	W (g)	Comments
1011	horse	humerus	2	174	
	medium mammal	femur	2	8	
2011	large mammal	ulna	1	16	
	large mammal	rib	1	20	
	large mammal	unidentified	2	26	
	small mammal	unidentified	1	1	
	bird	unidentified	4	1	
2013	horse	scapula	2	94	2 chicken; 1 goose?
	cattle	mandible	1	98	
	sheep/goat	mandible	2	10	
	sheep/goat	radius	1	16	
	medium mammal	unidentified	1	1	
	bird	limb	3	7	
2015	large mammal	?scapula	1	33	
	large mammal	ribs	3	59	

Cxt	Taxon	Element	Number	W (g)	Comments
2025	large mammal	ulna	1	14	chalky
	large mammal	?radius	1	33	
	cattle	molar	1	8	
	small mammal	metacarpel	1	4	
3005	large mammal	rib	2	10	rodent gnawing
	large mammal	unidentified	1	1	rodent gnawing
3009	cattle	scapula	1	22	
3015	sheep/goat	mandible	1	25	poor
	medium mammal	?ulna	1	3	
4011	cattle	ulna	1	53	rodent gnawing
	large mammal	unidentified	1	6	
	sheep/goat	mandible	1	8	
4019	horse	radius	1	320	
	horse	scapula	1	56	
	large mammal	ulna	1	15	
	large mammal	rib	2	13	
	large mammal	unidentified	2	10	
	sheep/goat	humerus	1	30	
	sheep/goat	scapula	1	7	
	dog	mandible	1	8	
4021	large mammal	humerus	1	32	
	large mammal	rib	1	2	
	large mammal	?ulna	1	8	
4053	cattle	molar	1	63	
4058	sheep/goat	mandible	1	41	
	sheep/goat	tibia	1	42	
	medium mammal	rib	1	3	
5003	large mammal	pelvis	2	68	
6004	small mammal	rib	1	2	
6009	medium mammal	unidentified	1	3	
6023	cattle	femur	1	328	incl maxilla  1 juvenile
	cattle	skull	4	150	
	cattle	mandible	3	124	
	large mammal	pelvis	1	80	
	sheep/goat	humerus	2	57	
	sheep/goat	mandible	1	43	
	sheep/goat	horn core	1	4	
	pig	calcaneus	1	14	
6027	cattle	phalange	1	16	juvenile
	cattle	mandible	1	20	
	large mammal	mandible	1	11	
	sheep/goat	scapula	1	13	
	sheep/goat	molar	1	4	
	sheep/goat	humerus	2	23	
	sheep/goat	metatarsus	1	8	
	pig	pelvis	1	59	
	medium mammal	?femur	1	9	

## Summary

A moderate assemblage of domestic animals is represented in the collection. Cattle and sheep/goat dominate the assemblage with horse, pig, dog and birds represented by chicken and goose. The cattle and sheep/goat are largely adult animals, though a few sheep humerus suggest some animals were killed young for their meat.

Half of the contexts from which the bone derived are undated. The others have been dated to between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries and show the site to have utilised a range of animals.

Though small, the assemblage should be retained for future statistical analysis particularly if further excavation or investigation occurs at Bottesford.

## CLAY PIPE

*By Gary Taylor*

### Introduction

Analysis of the clay pipes followed the guidance published by Davey (1981) and the material is detailed in the accompanying table.

### Condition

The clay pipe is in good condition.

### Results

*Table 7, Clay Pipe*

Context no.	Bore diameter /64"					NoF	W(g)	Comments	Date
	8	7	6	5	4				
4021			1			1	1	stem	17 <sup>th</sup> century

### Provenance

The clay pipe was found in a pit fill and is probably a fairly local product of the east Leicestershire area.

### Range

A single pipe stem was recovered.

### Potential

As an isolated find the clay pipe is of very limited potential, other than providing dating evidence.

## OTHER FINDS

*By Gary Taylor*

### Introduction

Eleven mixed items, stone, metal, mortar and possible slag, together weighing 1632g were recovered.

### Condition

All of the items are in good condition.

### Results

*Table 8, Other Materials*

Cxt	Material	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
2015	Slag?	Indeterminate iron slag?	1	666	
4011	stone	Burnt stone	2	284	16 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> century
	Copper alloy	Strap end, 16 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> century	1	3	
4019	stone	Burnt stone, worn on 1 side	1	553	
	stone	Stone disk, roughly oval, trimmed as possible stopper/cover?	1	109	
	mortar	Off-white mortar	3	9	



4055	iron	Nail, square-section	1	6	
6027	iron	Nail, L-shaped head	1	2	

### Provenance

The other finds were recovered from a ditch fills (2015, 4055, 6027) and pit fills (4011, 4019). Most of the finds were retrieved from Trench 4.

### Range

The other artefacts were mostly of stone or metal.

### Potential

Other than providing some functional evidence the other artefacts have low potential.

### SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 9 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

*Table 9, Spot dates*

Cxt	Date	Comment
2007	11th to 12th?	Date on a single sherd
2008	11th to 12th?	Date on a single sherd
2009	3rd to 4th	Date on a single sherd
2017	2nd+	Date on a single sherd
2017	11th to 12th	Date on a single sherd
2023	12th to mid 13th	Date on a single sherd
2025	15th to 16th	
3013	Early 13th to 14th	
3015	15th to 16th	
3027	Early to Mid 13th	
4011	16th to mid 17th	
4019	15th to 16th	
4021	Mid 17th to 18th	Date on a single sherd
4029	16th to 18th	Date on single fragment of CBM
4053	Late 15th to 16th	
4055	Late 15th to 16th	
4058	14th to 15th	
4059	15th to 16th	Date on a single sherd
6003	15th to 16th	Date on a single sherd
6006	15th to 16th	Date on a single sherd
6023	16th?	
6027	16th to early 17th	

### ABBREVIATIONS

ACBMG	Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group	NoF	Number of Fragments
BS	Body sherd	NoS	Number of sherds
CBM	Ceramic Building Material	NoV	Number of vessels
CXT	Context	TR	Trench
LHJ	Lower Handle Join	UHJ	Upper Handle Join
		W (g)	Weight (grams)

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## ARCHIVE CATALOGUES

### Archive catalogue 1, Post Roman Pottery

Cxt	Cname	Fabric	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Part	Description	Date
2007	MISC	Shell and quartz	?	1	1	1	Base	Soot; leached	
2008	MISC	Shell and fe	?	3	1	4	Base	Soot; leached	
2017	ST	B/G	Jar/ pitcher	1	1	1	BS	Glaze	
2023	STANLY	A	?	1	1	1	BS	Abraded; soot	
2025	LSW2		Jug	1	1	1	BS	?ID	
2025	MPG		Jar	1	1	436	Base	Cracked during firing	
2025	NOTGLW		Jar?	1	1	11	BS		
2025	SNEOT		Jar/ bowl	1	1	7	Base	Abraded; ?ID; soot	
2025	ST	A/B	Jar/ pitcher	1	1	2	BS	Glaze	
3013	NOTGL		Jug	1	1	1	BS	Neck cordon	
3013	NSP		Jug	1	1	2	BS		
3013	PSHW		Jar	1	1	7	BS	Soot	
3015	MP		Jug	1	1	65	BS		
3015	MPG		Jug/ jar	1	1	40	BS	Internal white deposit	
3027	NOTGE		Jug	1	1	40	Handle	Splashed glaze; pressed handle	Early to mid 13th
4011	BL	MP type	Jar/ bowl	1	1	10	BS	Internal glaze; Staffordshire?	
4011	MEDLOC	OX/R; medium sandy	Jug	1	1	22	BS with LHJ	Soot; abraded; reduced glaze; ?Nottingham area product; fabric has fine silty background with abundant fine quartz up to 0.1mm + occasional larger up to 0.3mm + common grains fe up to 0.3mm with occasional larger + sparse clay pellets/shale + carb veg	
4011	MY	MP type	Jar	1	1	41	Rim	Internal glaze	Early 16th to mid 17th
4011	NOTLW		Jug/ jar	1	1	35	Base	?ID; soot; internal white deposit	
4019	BOU	Slightly sandy	Jug	1	1	4	BS	?ID or Glapthorn	15th to 16th
4019	BOU	Sandy	Jug	1	1	7	BS		15th to 16th
4019	LSW3		Large baluster jug	1	1	100	BS	Spalled; soot; ?ID	
4021	TGW		Chamber	1	1	29	Rim		Mid 17th to 18th
4053	CIST	Vitrified	Drinking vessel	1	1	3	BS		
4053	CISTG		Drinking	1	1	7	BS		

			vessel						
4055	BLG		Cistern	1	1	43	Rim with cut out	MP form	
4058	LMX	OX/R; light firing; medium sandy	Jug	1	1	138	Base	Abraded; soot; reduced suspension glaze; fabric contains abundant sub round to round quartz 0.3 to 0.5mm mainly cloudy + common fe up to 5mm + sparse quartz pebbles	
4058	NOTGR		Jug	1	1	39	Base	Stacking scar	
4058	NOTLGW		Jug/ jar	1	1	30	Base		
4058	STANLY	A	Jar?	1	1	16	BS	Soot; ?ID or PSHW; accidental incised line?; leached	
4059	MPG		Jar	2	1	32	Base + BS	Burnt; includes flake	
6003	MP		Jar/ cistern	1	1	51	Rim	Everted rim; applied pressed horizontal strip	
6006	BLG		Jar	1	1	15	BS		
6023	BL	MP type	Jar	2	1	40	BS		
6023	BOU	Slightly bumpy	Jar	1	1	68	BS	Internal glaze; cu specks; knife trimmed	15th to 16th
6027	BERTH	MP type; light firing	Jar/ bowl	1	1	21	Base	Internal glaze; under fired; soot/ carbonised deposit	16th to early 17th
6027	BOU	Vitrified	Jar/ cistern	1	1	68	BS with handle	Hollow strap handle	16th+
6027	CISTG		Drinking vessel	1	1	15	Base		
6027	MPG		Jar	1	1	198	Base	Soot/ carbonised deposit including over break	
6027	MPG		Cistern	1	1	85	Rim with cut out	Over fired	

## Appendix 4

### GLOSSARY

<b>Anglo-Saxon</b>	Pertaining to the period when Britain was occupied by peoples from northern Germany, Denmark and adjacent areas. The period dates from approximately AD 450-1066.
<b>Bronze Age</b>	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
<b>Context</b>	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, e.g. [004].
<b>Cut</b>	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, etc. Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
<b>Fill</b>	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
<b>Iron Age</b>	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
<b>Layer</b>	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
<b>Medieval</b>	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
<b>Mesolithic</b>	The 'Middle Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 11000 - 4500 BC.
<b>Natural</b>	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity
<b>Neolithic</b>	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500 - 2250 BC.
<b>Post hole</b>	The hole cut to take a timber post, usually in an upright position. The hole may have been dug larger than the post and contain soil or stones to support the post. Alternatively, the posthole may have been formed through the process of driving the post into the ground.
<b>Post-medieval</b>	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
<b>Prehistoric</b>	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.
<b>Romano-British</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

## Appendix 5

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

177	Context records
12	Context register sheets
3	Daily registers
3	Photographic record sheets
3	Level sheets
1	Plan record sheet
1	Section record sheet
39	Sheets of scale drawings
1	Box 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.A153.2008

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: BFGR08

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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