



Site Code: LPL06 LCCM Accession No.: 2006.141 Planning Application Nos.: 2005/0770/F & 2005/0771/LBC NGR: SK 98025/71664

A Report to Mr K. McCartney

October 2006

Extension at Pottergate Lodge, Pottergate, Lincoln

By K Wragg

Archaeological Watching Brief



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Archaeological Watching Brief

Contents Page Non-Technical Summary..... 1 2 1.0 Introduction..... 2.0 Planning Background 3 3 **3.0** Archaeological and Historical Background..... 5 4.0 Methodology..... 5 **5.0** Results..... **6.0** Discussion of Results and Conclusions..... 6 7.0 Acknowledgements..... 6 8.0 Selected References 6 **9.0** Summary of Site Details..... 7

Appendices

APPENDIX A	Archive Deposition	8
APPENDIX B	Lincoln UAD Data Summary	9
APPENDIX C	Colour Plates	10
APPENDIX D	Context Listing	12

Page

List of illustrations

Figure 1	Site Location Plan	Scale 1:25000 & 1:500
Figure 2	Plan of Development	Scale 1:50
Figure 3	Plan of Excavated Areas	Scale 1:50
Figure 4	South-west Facing Composite Section 1	Scale 1:20

Extension at Pottergate Lodge, Pottergate, Lincoln

Archaeological Watching Brief

Non-Technical Summary

- Pottergate Lodge is situated close to the centre of Lincoln, lying approximately 700m to the north-east of the main shopping and administrative areas, and c. 250m south-east of the Cathedral. It is bounded to the north and east by Pottergate, and on the remaining sides by existing residential properties. The house itself, together with its boundary wall, railing and gate piers, is a Grade II Listed Building and lies within the City's Conservation Area 1 (Cathedral & City Centre).
- Planning permission and Listed Building Consent were sought for the demolition of an existing outside toilet and porch, and the construction of a replacement single-storey extension forming a 'sun-room' and entrance porch, together with internal and external alterations to a further existing outbuilding.
- The Brief for Archaeological Attendance and Recording issued in response to the application by the City of Lincoln Council Heritage Team illustrated that the site lies within an area of known archaeological importance, with remains dating from the Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods present in the immediate vicinity. In particular, Pottergate Lodge is situated immediately outside the line of the medieval Close Wall, the defensive enclosure of the Close of Lincoln Cathedral. The house itself is thought to date from the late 18th century, and possibly originally housed the gatekeeper for Pottergate.
- In view of this potential, it was recommended that an archaeological watching brief be carried out in conjunction with the groundworks, and the planning consent was conditioned accordingly.
- Lincs Archaeo-tech was approached by the owner/developer, Mr McCartney, on the 15th of June 2006 and subsequently commissioned to carry out the required archaeological services.
- Intermittent site attendance to observe the groundworks was undertaken on the 28th and 29th of June 2006, but in spite of the site's apparent potential, the results of the project ultimately provided no direct evidence for ancient occupation on the site itself, with the majority of deposits and features present apparently of either modern or natural (*i.e.*, geological) origin.
- The only possible exception to this was a remnant of wall revealed towards the west of the site, which may be associated with the original (or, at least, an early) phase of Pottergate Lodge, and might therefore date from the late 18th century. Unfortunately, as excavation in this area was very limited in scope and no dating material was recovered from the feature, this hypothesis remains unproven.
- Notwithstanding this generally negative result, however, the outcome of this project does not undermine the body of existing evidence for preserved archaeological remains in the vicinity. This overwhelmingly suggests that any future developments in the surrounding area have a significant chance of encountering important archaeological remains, and should be monitored accordingly.

Extension at Pottergate Lodge, Pottergate, Lincoln Archaeological Watching Brief

1.0 Introduction

Pottergate Lodge is situated close to the centre of Lincoln, lying approximately 700m to the north-east of the main shopping and administrative areas, and *c*. 250m south-east of the Cathedral. It is bounded to the north and east by Pottergate, and on the remaining sides by existing residential properties. The house itself, together with its boundary wall, railing and gate piers, is a Grade II Listed Building (ref.: Grade II. 1941-1/10/205), and lies within the City's Conservation Area 1 (Cathedral & City Centre) (see Figure 1).

Planning permission and Listed Building Consent were sought for the demolition of an existing outside toilet and porch, and the construction of a replacement single-storey extension forming a 'sun-room' and entrance porch, together with internal and external alterations to a further existing outbuilding (see Figure 2).

The Brief for Archaeological Attendance and Recording issued in response to the application by the City of Lincoln Council Heritage Team illustrated that the site lies within an area of known archaeological importance, with remains dating from the Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods present in the immediate vicinity. In particular, Pottergate Lodge is situated immediately outside the line of the medieval Close Wall, the defensive enclosure of the Close of Lincoln Cathedral. The house itself is thought to date from the late 18th century, and possibly originally housed the gatekeeper for Pottergate.

In view of this potential, it was recommended that an archaeological watching brief be carried out in conjunction with the groundworks, and the planning consent was conditioned accordingly (see 2.0, below).

Lincs Archaeo-tech was approached by the owner/developer, Mr McCartney, on the 15th of June 2006 and subsequently commissioned to carry out the required archaeological services. Intermittent site attendance to observe the groundworks was undertaken on the 28th and 29th of June 2006.

Notes:

1) This document is presented on the understanding that further data pertaining to this site may subsequently emerge, which may affect the conclusions drawn herein. Lincs Archaeo-tech, its employees, and/or principals cannot therefore be held responsible for any loss, delay or damage, material or otherwise, arising from use of any information contained in this report.

2) Lincs Archaeo-tech has adopted, and subscribes to, the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and its Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology.

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2.0 Planning Background

Full planning consent for the scheme was granted by City of Lincoln Council on the 8th of December 2005 (Application No.: 2005/0770/F), with Listed Building Consent subsequently granted on the 1st of June 2006 (Application No.: 2005/0771/LBC).

The Planning Permission included the following condition relating to archaeology:

3. No development groundwork shall commence on site until advance written notice (minimum 14 days) of the date of commencement of works on site and the confirmation of appointment of a competent archaeological body to conduct a 'watching brief' has been given to both the Local Planning Authority and the nominated archaeology body. Provision shall then be made for the nominated archaeology body to carry out an archaeological watching brief during the course of all groundwork associated with the development (including any geotechnical investigation of strata, any site clearance or other enabling work and the excavation of foundation and services trenches). Access shall be afforded at all reasonable times to the nominated archaeological body.

The condition was imposed for the following reason(s):

To ensure that any archaeological remains contained in the site are properly recorded in the Sites and Monuments Record and the Urban Archaeological Database.

3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

The site is situated at a nominal elevation of 47m OD on the upper part of the northern hill slope of the 'Lincoln Gap', a wide river valley breach in the broad north-south Jurassic limestone ridge known as the 'Lincoln Cliff' (Wilson, 1948).

The area at the top of the northern escarpment of the 'Gap' subsequently became the site of a Roman legionary fortress (*Lindum*). This developed over time into a substantial walled enclosure (the 'upper city'), and was also extended southwards towards the River Witham (the 'lower' city), attaining the status of *colonia* (a settlement generally for retired military personnel) in around AD 90. Pottergate Lodge lies approximately 200m to the east of the defensive wall and ditch of the lower Roman city, and remains including stone structures, burials, a 2nd century pottery kiln, and the tombstone of Lucius Sempronius Flavinus, a soldier of the ninth legion (*Legio IX Hispana*) have been found to the north, south and west of the site.

The Lincoln Archaeological Research Assessment (LARA) has identified a number of possible research agendas for the area surrounding the site, including the possibility of secular occupation on the northern hill slope area in the 'Roman Military Era' (AD 60-90), and suburban development (including cemeteries) to the east of the walled city in the 'Roman colonia Era' (AD 90-410) (Heritage Section, 2006).

Following the end of Roman administrative control in Britain in the early 5th century, the city appears to have become virtually abandoned, with little evidence remaining for occupation of the town in this period. To the south-west of the present site, however, the construction of new student accommodation between Cathedral Street and Lindum Road revealed evidence of pottery manufacture during the Anglo-Saxon period (Donel, 1993; Trimble, 1995).

After the Danish Viking take-over of Lindsey in 874, Lincoln became a centre for a Viking army, and subsequently, part of the 'Kingdom of the Five Boroughs' (which comprised Derby, Leicester, Nottingham, Stamford & Lincoln).

Evidence for Scandinavian influence in the area around the site is most readily seen in the street and place names, in particular the term 'gate', which is derived from the Old Norse word *gata*, meaning 'a way, a path, or a road'. The name Pottergate can therefore be translated as 'the road of the potters' (Cameron, 1985 & 1998), and part of a late 10th century pottery kiln revealed in 1997 close to the conjectured southern end of the street at Sessions House was perhaps at least partly responsible for the name.

As for the earlier period, LARA has again identified research agendas for the area which focus on the continuing use of elements of the former Roman city in the 'Early Medieval Era' (AD 410-850), and the development of both the local street network, and stone quarrying in the cliff face to the east of the city during the 'High Medieval Era' (AD 850-1350) (Heritage Section, 2006).

Following the Norman Conquest of 1066, the town continued to grow in both size and importance, with several of its most notable buildings, including the Castle and Cathedral, erected during the 11th and 12th centuries.

In 1285, in response to concerns voiced about the safety of the inhabitants of the cathedral precinct, construction of the Close Wall began. When it was finally completed in 1327, it enclosed the entire Close of Lincoln Cathedral with a 12' (3.6m) high stone wall, and limited access via a number of manned gatehouses, of which Pottergate Arch forms an example.

Pottergate Lodge is thought to date from the late 18th century, and is aligned with the Close Wall and the street of Pottergate rather than the later Lindum Road (constructed in 1786), and is presumed to have housed the gatekeeper to the Pottergate Arch (Heritage Section, 2006).

The research agendas identified by LARA for this more recent period include: the development of housing for the middle and upper classes built c. 1850-1918; and the stone and clay quarries to the east of the city operated during the 'Industrial Era' (1750-1945).

Further records of previous archaeological work, existing monuments, and specific find-spots in the immediate vicinity of the development site are recorded in the Lincoln Urban Archaeological Database (UAD), including the following:

UAD No.: **Description:**

RE171 A group of 18th century pottery, glass & clay pipes unearthed during widening operations on Pottergate to the east of Pottergate arch in 1937 (Site Code: ON110) **RE342** Stonework recovered from 17/18 Lindum Road in 1830, including the tombstone of Lucius Sempronius Flavinus (Site Code: ON263) RE4564 Structural survey of a section of the Close Wall to the south-west of Pottergate Arch undertaken in 1998 (including elevation drawing, photography & analysis of building materials) (Site Code: LCW98; Mouraille & Trimble, 1998) **RE9479** Archaeological watching brief undertaken in 2003 during groundworks for new teaching block at Lincoln Minster School, which revealed extensive quarrying & evidence of Roman pits (Site Code: LUL03; Trimble, 2005) **RE9480** Archaeological evaluation undertaken in 2001 in advance of construction of new teaching block at Lincoln Minster School - revealed quarry pits (Herring, Johnson, & Mortimer, 2002) Close Wall - defensive enclosure of the Close of Lincoln Cathedral - constructed between 1285 & **MON17** 1327, with alterations and repairs from $16^{\text{th}}/17^{\text{th}}$ century to 20^{th} century (Listed Building) Pottergate Arch - single-arched gateway originally part of Close Wall (now separated) - built **MON510** 1330; restored in 1884 & again in late 20th century (Listed Building: Grade I. 1941-1/10/305; Scheduled Ancient Monument: SAM 68 The Pottergate) **MON784** Pottergate (road) - originally established c. AD 950, running north from Clasketgate (on the east side of the present lower part of Lindum Road), then north-east (following the present line of Lindum Road to a point c. 75m northeast of the entrance to Greestone Stairs), and finally, cutting north along the Close wall to Pottergate Arch; now truncated to section between Pottergate Arch and Minster Yard. Superseded by the building of Lindum Road (New Road) in 1785

Pottergate Lodge - built c. 1780 of dressed stone (now with rendered front and brick additions) MON1762

Key to classification prefixes: **RE** - Recognition Event *ON - Observation Note (former City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit classification)* MON - Monument

4.0 Methodology

The Institute of Field Archaeologists' Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief, produced in 1994 (revised 2001), defines an archaeological watching brief as:

A formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for nonarchaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.

Accordingly, this scheme of investigation was designed to:

a) Produce an archive record of any surviving deposits, remains and artefacts exposed by the development groundwork within the constraints of the contractor's working methods, programme, and the particular development design;

b) Produce a project archive for deposition with the appropriate museum (*The Collection*, Lincoln) together with a client report;

c) Provide information for accession to the Lincolnshire County Historic Environment Record/Sites and Monuments Record (HER/SMR), and the Lincoln Urban Archaeological Database (UAD).

To achieve these objectives, an archaeologist from Lincs Archaeo-tech attended site to observe all enabling groundwork (*e.g.*, removal of top-soil or other overburden and/or any general lowering of ground levels), foundation trenching, and excavation for services/drainage as required.

Each discrete archaeological deposit or feature thus revealed was issued with a unique context number (*e.g.*, context [100]), and described in detail on *pro-forma* recording sheets, specifically in terms of its physical appearance, composition, and interrelation with other contexts. Any disturbed artefacts were recovered from site spoil heaps and, where present, from stratified deposits. Photographs were also taken, and plan and/or section drawings produced, as required.

5.0 Results

The majority of the works undertaken on the site involved modifications to existing structures - including the whole or partial demolition of an external WC and a porch, and both internal and external alterations throughout the property (new windows, doors, internal fixtures and fittings, *etc.*) - and were therefore beyond the specified remit of the archaeological watching brief. New excavation on the site was limited to two short sections of trench, the first for the foundations for the new single-storey extension, and the second to allow the diversion of an existing drainage pipe (see Figure 3).

The stratigraphic sequence revealed in these areas was consistent across the site and comprised only four stratified deposits, and three features (see Figures 3 and 4, and *Appendix D*).

The earliest deposit was a layer of moderately compacted, friable, mid-orange/orange-brown sandy, clayey limestone 'brash', [104], which contained no inclusions and was up to 350mm thick to the limit of excavation (L.O.E.). This deposit was present across the site and represents the upper extent of the natural (*i.e.*, geological) strata.

[104] was overlain by [103], a mixed layer of mid orange-brown clayey, sandy soil and limestone pieces, which was up to 400mm thick. This was also present across the site, and was subsequently cut by two features.

The first of these was present towards the eastern end of the development, where [103] was cut by a linear drainage trench, [106]. This comprised a north-south oriented linear cut containing a 150mm (6") diameter clay drainage pipe and a fill of redeposited material, the latter seemingly derived from contexts [102] and [103].

The second feature was situated close to the western boundary of the site, adjacent to the present garage. The trench in this area was relatively shallow (excavated in an unsuccessful attempt to locate an existing drain run), but revealed a small section of a possible NE-SW oriented stone wall, [107], at a depth of c. 250mm below existing yard surface. While this was only partially revealed, at least one course of roughly worked limestone

pieces was identified, with a possible rough face to the west. There was no evidence of mortar bonding, and a single machine-made red brick was incorporated into its fabric at the southern end, but the remnant appeared to share a common alignment with the original western wall of Pottergate Lodge (visible as a distinct 'edge' in the south elevation of the standing building), and therefore possibly represents part of an associated boundary wall or outbuilding (see Figure 3).

Both of these features were overlain by a further mixed dump layer, [102], which comprised a moderate-well compacted, mid (very slightly orange) brown clayey silt with limestone and brick/tile inclusions. Once again, this deposit was present across the site, but was somewhat less substantial than the two preceding deposits with a thickness of only 200mm.

[102], was then itself cut by a modern drainage trench, [105], which was oriented NE-SW, and contained a 225mm (8") diameter clay drainpipe and a 25mm (1") diameter lead water supply pipe. As with the earlier trench, the infill comprised a redeposited mixture of contexts [102] & [103].

Finally, a 150mm thick layer of moderately compacted, mid-dark grey silty soil, limestone pieces/hardcore and loose concrete rubble, [101], was present, forming the remnant of the concrete yard surface and its associated bedding deposit.

A further context, [100], was issued to identify any unstratified finds recovered during the course of the excavation, but in the event no such material was revealed.

6.0 Discussion of Results and Conclusions

As outlined in **4.0**, above, this investigation was designed to secure an archive record of any archaeological material threatened by the development, and in that respect at least may be considered a success.

In spite of the site's apparent potential, however, the results of the project have ultimately provided no direct evidence for ancient occupation on the site itself, with the majority of deposits and features present apparently of either modern or natural (*i.e.*, geological) origin.

The only possible exception to this was the remnant of wall revealed towards the west of the site, which may be associated with the original (or, at least, an early) phase of Pottergate Lodge, and might therefore date from the late 18th century. Unfortunately, as excavation in this area was very limited in scope and no dating material was recovered from the feature, this hypothesis remains unproven.

Notwithstanding this generally negative result, however, the outcome of this project does not undermine the body of existing evidence for preserved archaeological remains in the vicinity. This overwhelmingly suggests that any future developments in the surrounding area have a significant chance of encountering important archaeological remains, and should be monitored accordingly.

7.0 Acknowledgements

Lincs Archaeo-tech would like to thank Mr McCartney for funding this project, and for his support and assistance during the works.

Thanks are also due to: Messrs. M. J. Jones (City Archaeologist) & J. Herridge (Heritage Officer) of the Heritage Team, Directorate of Development and Environmental Services, City of Lincoln Council, City Hall, Beaumont Fee, Lincoln, LN1 1DF; and to Mr S. Davis, and the on-site staff, of S. Davis Builders, Canterbury, Kent, who carried out the groundworks.

8.0 Selected References

Cameron, K, 1985 The Place-Names of Lincolnshire - Part 1: The Place-Names of the County of the City of Lincoln, Vol. LVIII, English Place-Name Society

Cameron, K, 1998 A Dictionary of Lincolnshire Place-names, English Place-Name Society

Donel, L, 1993 North Lincolnshire College (Proposed Student Accommodation), CLAU Archaeological Report 55, City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit, Lincoln

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Herring C, Johnson S, & Mortimer S, 2002 Archaeological Investigations at Lincoln Minster School, JSAC Report **773/03/01**, John Samuels Archaeological Consultants, Normanton-on-Trent

Jones, Michael J, Stocker, D, & Vince, Alan, 2003 *The City by the Pool: Assessing the Archaeology of the City of Lincoln*, Lincoln Archaeological Studies **10**, Oxbow Books, Oxford

Mouraille, R, & Trimble, D, 1998 *Structural Survey of Cathedral Close Wall, Pottergate, Lincoln*, APS Report **44/98**, Archaeological Project Services, Heckington

Trimble, R, 1995 North Lincolnshire College (New Student Accommodation Blocks), CLAU Archaeological Report **145**, City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit, Lincoln

Trimble, R, 2005 Archaeological Watching Brief at Lincoln Minster School (Phase 2 Teaching Block), Upper Lindum Street, Lincoln, APS Report 165/05, Archaeological Project Services, Heckington

Wilson, V, 1948 (reprinted 1974) British Regional Geology: East Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, Natural Environment Research Council: Institute of Geological Sciences, HMSO, London

9.0 Summary of Site Details

Site Code:	LPL06		
Museum Accession Number:	2006.141		
Planning Application No.(s):	2005/0770/F & 2005/0771/LBC		
Supervising Archaeologist:	K. Wragg		
NGR:	SK 98025/71664		
Civil Parish:	Lincoln		
Date of Intervention:	28 th - 29 th June 2006		
Type of Intervention:	Archaeological Watching Brief		
Undertaken for:	Mr K. McCartney, Aveland House, Queen Street, Spilsby, Lincolnshire, PE23 5JE		

Archive Deposition

The archive comprises:

No.	Description
1	Site diary
8	Context records
4	Scale drawings
2 copies	Report (plus digital copy on CD)
1 set	Colour photographic prints & negatives
Various	Miscellaneous supporting documentation

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

Lincs Archaeo-tech, 50 High Street, Martin, Lincolnshire, LN4 3QT

It is intended that transfer to *The Collection* - the Museum of Art and Archaeology in Lincolnshire - Danes Terrace, Lincoln, in accordance with current published requirements, under Museum Accession Number 2006.141, will be undertaken following completion of this project.

Lincoln UAD Data Summary

Report

Author
Title
Date of Issue
Place of Issue
Series Name & Number
Issuer/Publisher
3QT

K. Wragg Extension at Pottergate Lodge, Pottergate, Lincoln October 2006 Martin, Lincolnshire LAT Archaeological Report No.: 23 Lincs Archaeo-tech, 50 High Street, Martin, Lincolnshire, LN4

Data for the Recognition Events Database

Site Name	Extension at Pottergate Lodge, Pottergate, Lincoln
Sitecode	LPL06
Location	Pottergate Lodge, Pottergate, Lincoln, LN2 1PH
Grid Reference - Site (nominal centre)	SK 98025/71664
Type of Archaeological Intervention	Watching brief
Start & End Dates of Intervention	28 th to 29 th June 2006
Reporter	K. Wragg
Organisation	Lincs Archaeo-tech
Location of Archive & Finds (ultimate)	The Collection - The Museum of Art and Archaeology in
	Lincolnshire - Danes Terrace, Lincoln
Museum Accession Number	2006.141

Museum Accession Number

Data for the Monuments Database

Monument Name			
Date	terminus post quem		
	terminus ante quem		
Monument Type			
Grid Reference			
Brief Description			

Post-medieval/Early Modern Wall n/k n/k Boundary Wall SK 98022/71654

Remnant of possible N-S oriented stone wall - one course of roughly worked limestone pieces revealed at L.O.E.; possible rough face to west; no evidence of mortar bonding; one machine-made red brick incorporated into fabric at southern end; only partially revealed - not fully excavated; present at a depth of c. 250mm below existing yard surface (46.94m OD); appears to share a common alignment with the original western wall of Pottergate Lodge (visible in south elevation of building) - possibly represents part of boundary wall or outbuilding

Data for the Deposit Model

SK 98026/71654	MODT	47.41m OD
	EMODT	47.11m OD
	EMODB	46.73m OD
	LLIM	46.73m OD

Colour Plates



Plate 1: General view of Pottergate Lodge (with Pottergate Arch to right) - looking generally north-west



Plate 2: General view of site for new 'sun room', following localised removal of concrete yard surface & partial demolition of existing outside toilet - looking north-west

Colour Plates (continued)



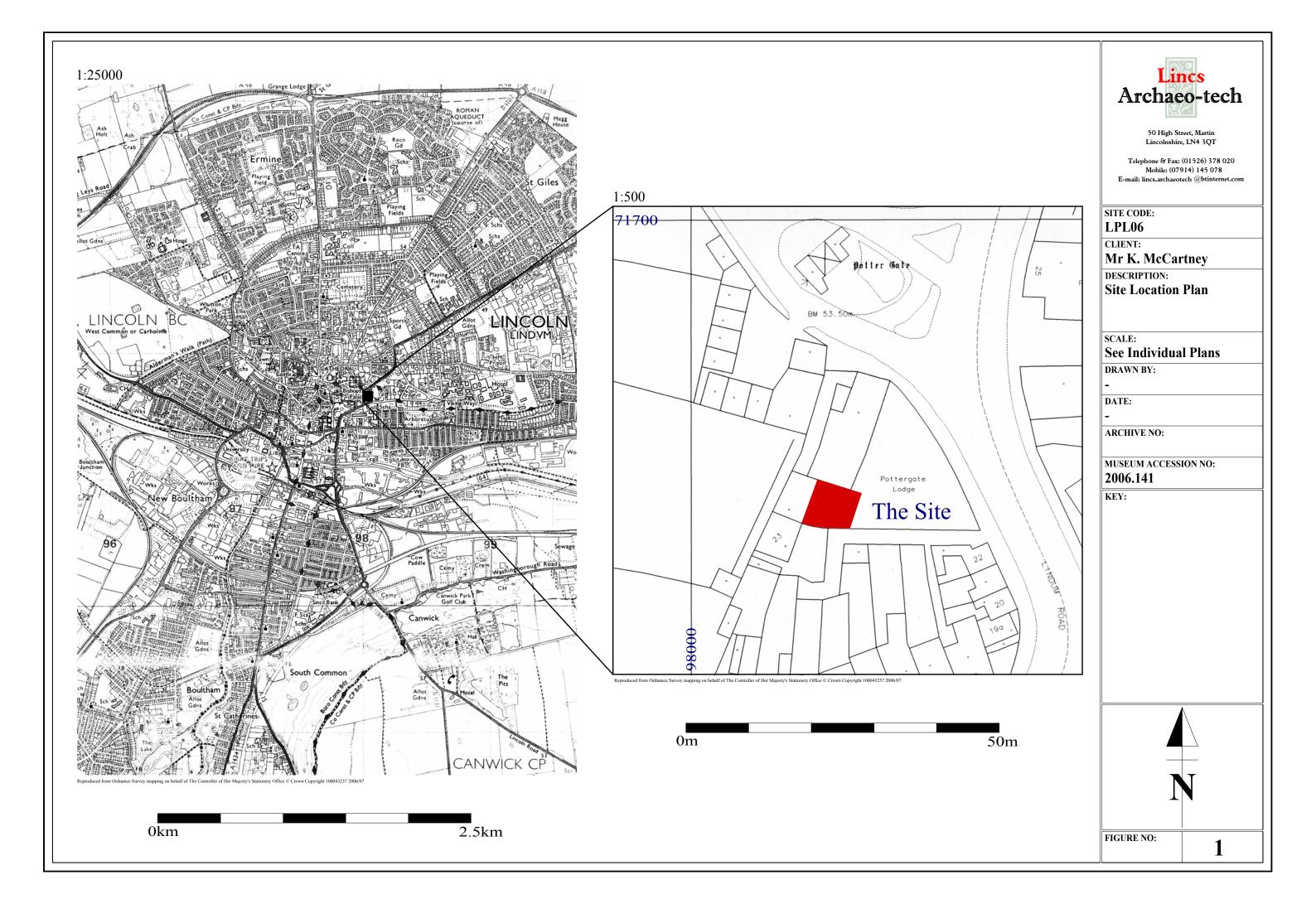
Plate 3: Overall view of possible wall remains, [107] - looking generally north

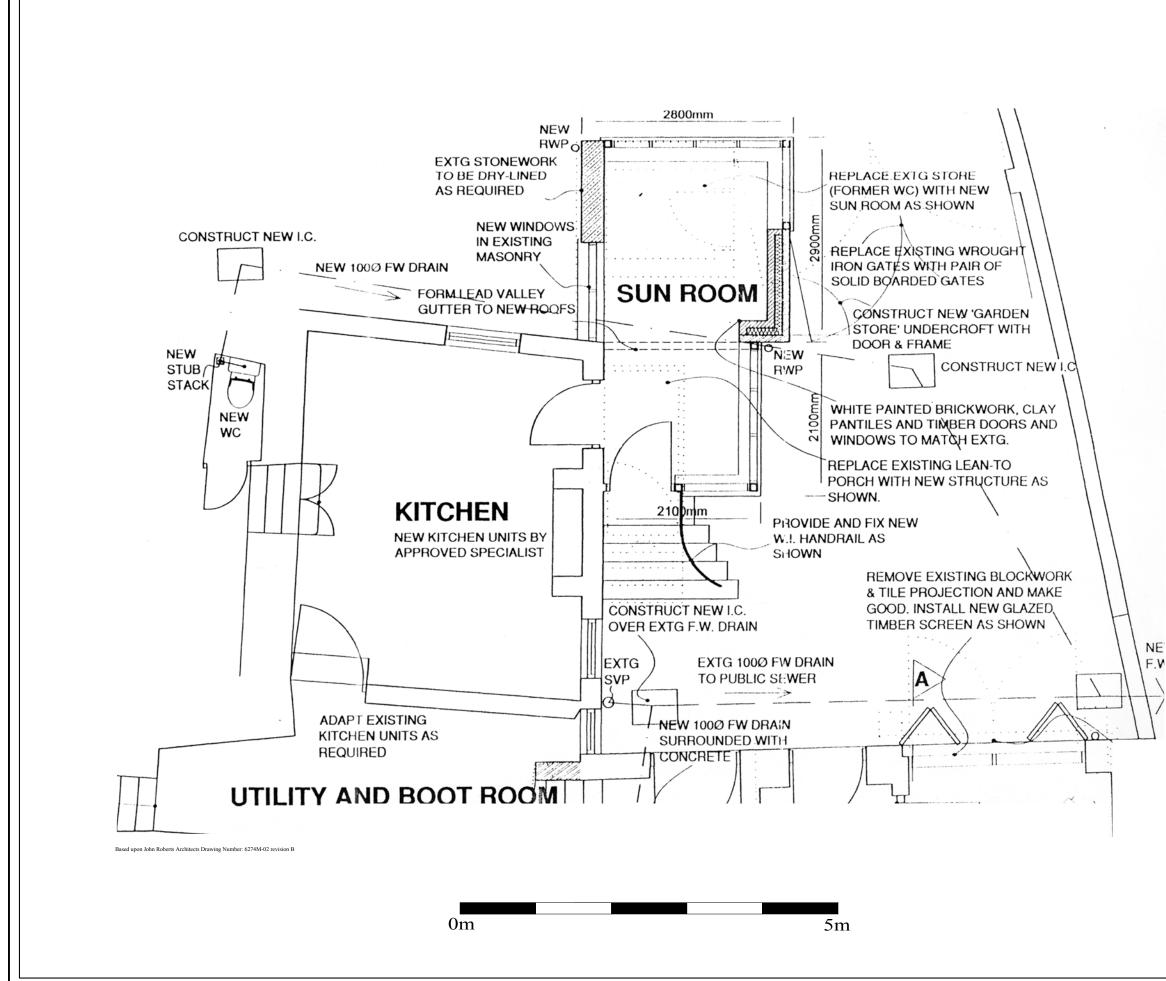


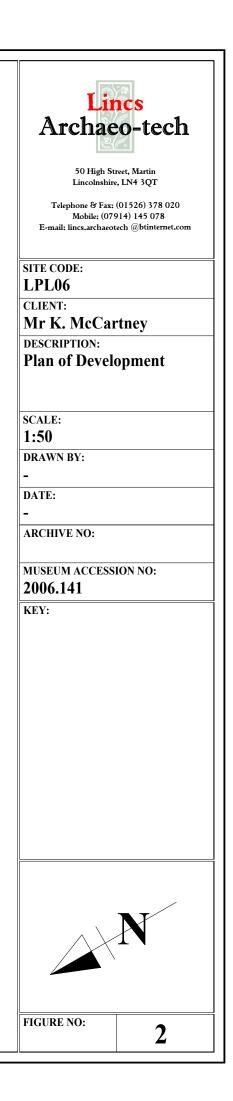
Plate 4: General view of completed foundation trench for new 'sun room' - looking north-west

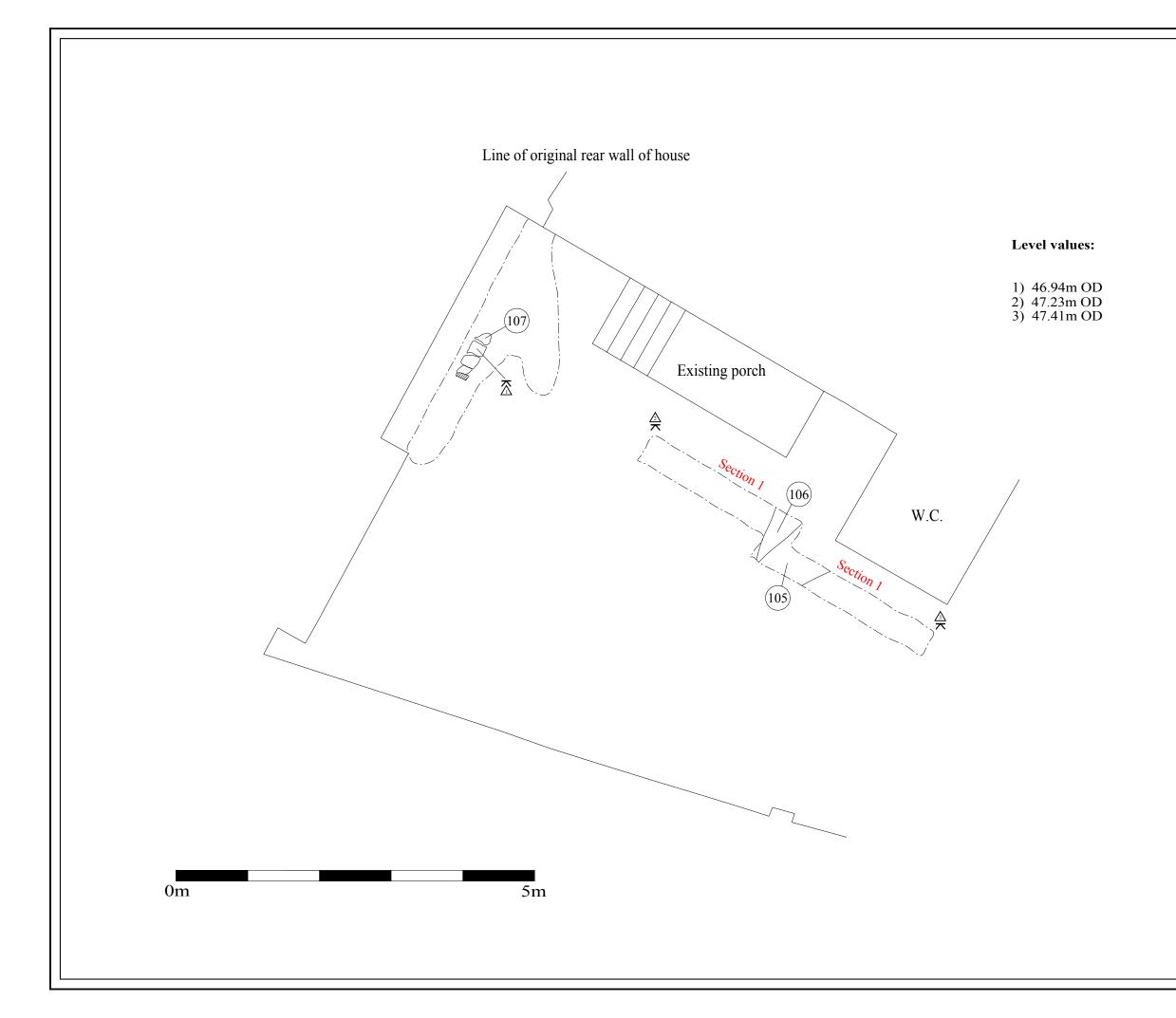
Context Listing

Context No.	Description
[100]	Unstratified finds - general site area
[101]	Remnant of concrete yard surface with associated base deposit - moderately compacted, mid-dark grey silty soil (20%) mixed with frequent small limestone pieces/hardcore & loose concrete rubble (80%); up to 150mm thick
[102]	Mixed dump layer - moderate-well compacted, mid (very slightly orange) brown clayey silt; contains occasional small pieces of limestone & flecks of brick/tile; up to 200mm thick
[103]	Mixed dump layer - moderately compacted, mid orange-brown clayey, sandy soil; contains occasional-moderately frequent small-medium sized limestone pieces; up to 400mm thick
[104]	Natural (<i>i.e.</i> , geological) deposit - moderately compacted, friable, mid-orange/orange- brown sandy, clayey limestone 'brash'; contains no inclusions; 350mm thick to L.O.E.
[105]	Modern service trench - NE-SW oriented linear cut, containing 225mm (8") diameter clay drainpipe & 25mm (1") diameter lead water supply pipe; trench infilled with redeposited mixture of contexts [102] & [103]
[106]	Modern service trench - N-S oriented linear cut, containing 150mm (6") diameter clay drainpipe; trench infilled with redeposited mixture of contexts [102] & [103]
[107]	Remnant of possible N-S oriented stone wall - one course of roughly worked limestone pieces revealed at L.O.E.; possible rough face to west; no evidence of mortar bonding; one machine-made red brick incorporated into fabric at southern end; only partially revealed - not fully excavated; present at a depth of <i>c</i> . 250mm below existing yard surface; appears to share a common alignment with the original western wall of Pottergate Lodge (visible in south elevation of building) - possibly represents part of boundary wall or outbuilding

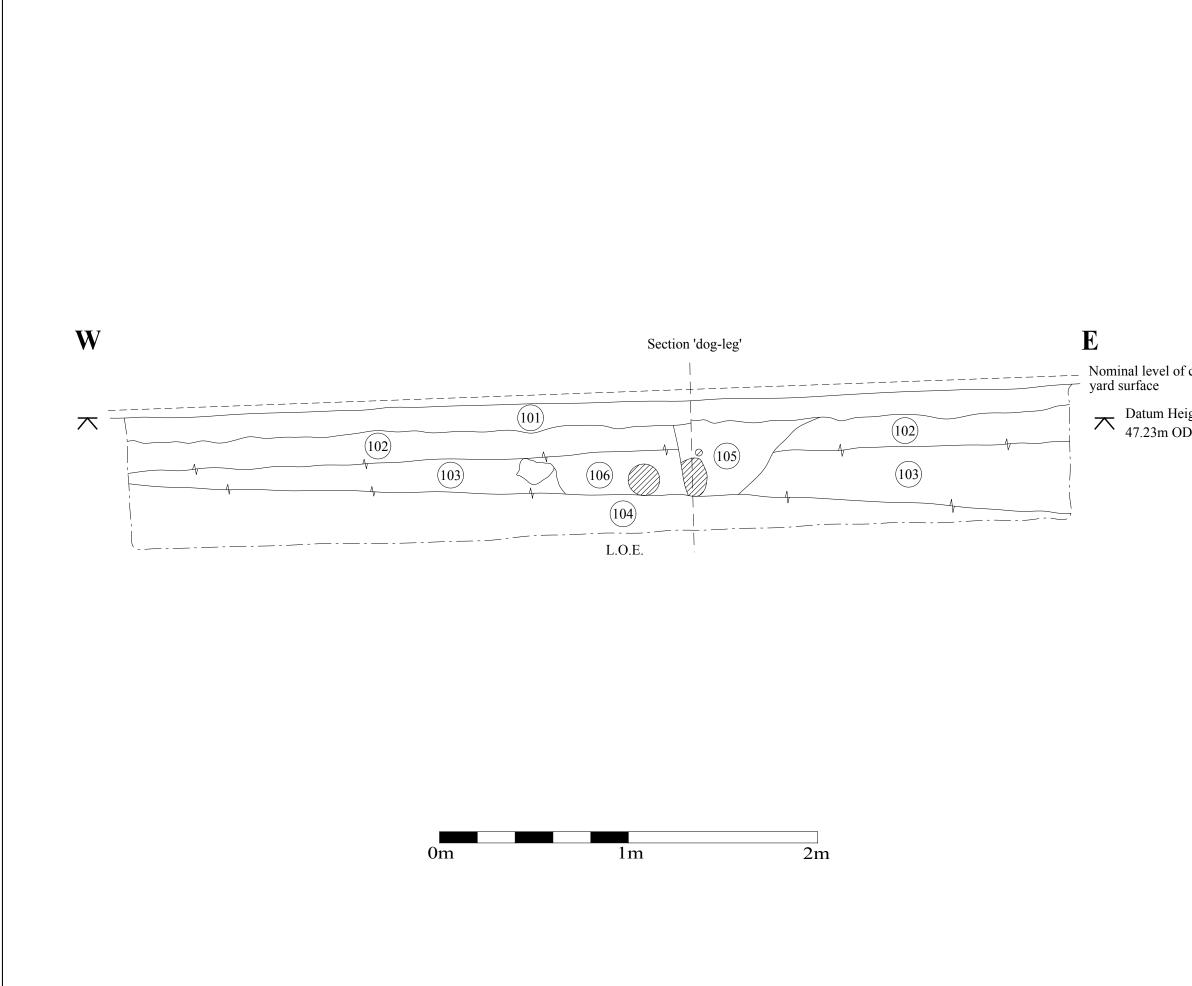








Lincs Archaeo-tech		
	Mobile: (079	e, LN4 3QT (01526) 378 020 914) 145 078 ech @btinternet.com
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FIGURE	NO:	3



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	50 High Stu Lincolnshire	
	Telephone & Fax; Mobile: (079 E-mail: lincs.archaeot	14) 145 078
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		f excavation
		in edge
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