

**LAND ADJACENT TO 6 SUDBROOKE ROAD,
SCOTHERN, LINCS**

Scheme of Archaeological Works

Planning Permission Application Number: 126157

Museum Project Code: SCSR 11

Network Project Code: SSR 16

Museum Accession Number: LCNCC: 2011.97

NGR: 503457, 377357

Prepared by

NETWORK ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

For

ID Architecture

On behalf of

Richard Chapman

Report Number: 580

July 2011

DOCUMENT CONTROL SHEET

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Figure 1: General location of site

Figure 2: Location of proposed building and representative sections

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

A scheme of archaeological recording and monitoring was undertaken by Network Archaeology Limited as part of a planning application submission for a residential development on land adjacent to 6 Sudbrooke Road, Scothern, Lincolnshire.

Excavation of foundation trenches during the development impacted to 1.1m below the ground surface. Observation of the vertical stratigraphy revealed in the sides of the footings revealed a sequence of modern topsoil, two intercutting pit-like features, and natural subsoil. The pits are believed to be relatively recent in date, and may represent previous construction work on the plot, including tree removal. In lieu of any other remains, it may be assumed that the land has been occupied by a garden for much of its more recent history. No archaeological remains capable of furthering any current research agenda were revealed. A single artefact was collected: a slate pencil found within the topsoil.

Due to the absence of any significant visible archaeological remains, the level of direct impact from the monitored development on the known archaeological resource is presumed to have been negligible.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of the report

This report presents the results of a scheme of archaeological monitoring and recording conducted within a development area located on land adjacent to 6 Sudbrooke Road, Scothern, Lincolnshire (Figure 1). This report indicates the level of impact on archaeological remains recorded during groundworks and the successful mitigation strategy adopted.

1.2 Commissioning bodies

This report was commissioned by ID Architecture on behalf of Mr. Richard Chapman. The archaeological contractor was Network Archaeology Ltd.

1.3 Development area

1.3.1 Location and description of the proposed development area

The development area lies next to No.6 Sudbrooke Road, near the southern margin of the village of Scothern and adjacent to Sudbrooke Road. Scothern itself lies approximately 10km north-east of Lincoln in the administrative district of West Lindsey. The site is a large garden associated with No.6 Sudbrooke Road and lies on roughly level ground adjacent to Sudbrooke Road at approximately 18m above Ordnance Datum (Fig. 1). The development site occupies approximately 0.015ha. Local soils are unrecorded for this area, but are known to lie over Kellaway association sand silt and mudstone, with isolated pockets of cornbrash also known within the vicinity.

1.3.2 Development proposal

The proposed work will involve groundworks associated with constructing one new residential property, a detached garage, and associated hard and soft landscaping.

1.4 Legislation, regulations and guidance

The document ‘Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment’ (PPS5) sets out the Government’s national planning policies relating to the conservation of the historic environment. It is accompanied by a best practice guide (English Heritage 2010).

PPS 5 states:

“Local planning authorities should require an applicant to provide a description of the significance of the heritage assets affected [by a proposed development] and the contribution of their setting to that significance... As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets themselves should have been assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary given the application’s impact.”... “where an application includes, or has the potential to include, heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to undertake a field evaluation where desk-based research is insufficient to properly assess the interest” (HE6.1).

It is further noted in PPS5 that:

“Where the loss of the whole or a material part of a heritage asset’s significance is justified, local planning authorities should require the developer to record and advance understanding of the significance of the heritage asset before it is lost...” (HE 12.3).

It was confirmed by Alexandra Thornton, Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Section that a scheme of archaeological works involving monitoring and, as necessary, recording should be carried out on groundworks associated with the development.

1.5 Archaeological background

Finds from the vicinity of the village indicate that it lies within a zone of some archaeological potential. The earliest finds from the area are likely to pre-date the foundation of the village. Prehistoric artefacts have been recovered from the immediate area, including a Neolithic stone axe found north of the village in 1980, a Bronze Age socketed axe dredged from the Barlings Eau watercourse in 1947, and a Bronze Age gouge collected in the early 20th century (the exact location of the findspot of the latter artefact is unknown).

A Romano-British quern stone has also been found north of the village and a Roman coin was found in the garden of 11 Elmdene in the 1960s.

The development area lies in the centre of a long-established village: Scothern is named as *Scotorne* in the Domesday survey of 1086, when the village consisted of five holdings and a church. The name *Scotorne* may translate from the Old English as ‘thorn-bush of the *Scotts*’ (Ekwall 1960, 408). In Old English, the term *Scotts* was used to describe people from what is present-day Scotland, the border region or Ireland. The place-name evidence may indicate that the village began as a camp fortified using thorn barriers, perhaps set-up by settlers from the north of Britain or Ireland.

Evidence for the medieval settlement of Scothern can be seen in a 13th-century house floor excavated towards the east of the High Street. One of Scothern’s manors was granted to Barlings Abbey in the early 13th century by Robert Bardolf and was held until the Dissolution when much of the monastic land held in Lincolnshire was taken by the Crown. This manor may have lain near the present Manor House located on the High Street, where an adjacent field (Hall Close) contains undated and slight earthworks. The church of St Germain was founded in the 13th century and has been altered over the centuries, with the tower added in the 16th century and heavily renovated in the late 19th and early 20th century. Other earthworks in the area include possible enclosures recorded in the field to the west of the Manor House and fragments of ridge and furrow surrounding the village to the north, west and south. A windmill mound has also been recorded just south of the village. A brewery was present in the village in the 1880s, when the population stood at 400-500.

1.6 Aims

The aims and objectives of the archaeological work, as set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation, were to:

- establish the presence or absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains;

- locate, recover, identify, and conserve where appropriate any archaeological artefacts;
- locate, sample, interpret and record archaeological deposits;
- determine the palaeo-environmental and palaeo-economic potential of any archaeological remains;
- assess the overall archaeological significance of any archaeological remains;
- produce a report that addresses the above;
- produce and submit a suitable archive to Lincolnshire Museum;
- provide information for accession to the County Historic Environment Record (HER);
- publish significant results in an appropriate journal, if appropriate.

1.6.1 Archaeological resourcing

The monitoring and recording was carried out between 1st and 2nd June 2011 by Aaron Chapman, an experienced archaeologist from Network Archaeology Limited.

Use was made of MapInfo GIS and AutoCAD to manage and present the graphical data. The single artefact recovered has been assessed by the Network Archaeology Finds Manager and the consequent report has been included as an appendix to this document.

1.7 Circulation of this report

This report will be circulated to the following recipients:

- West Lindsey District Council
- ID Architecture
- Mr. Richard Chapman
- Alexandra Thornton, Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Section
- Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record

2 FIELDWORK PROCEDURES

2.1 Quality standards

All archaeological work was undertaken in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists' standard and guidance documents (*IfA* 2008a, 2008b, 2009, 2010).

The standards represented by the Registered Organisation (RO) scheme operated by the *IfA* were adhered to throughout. Network Archaeology Limited is a Registered Organisation (RO) with the *IfA*. Key project staff are members of the *IfA* at appropriate levels.

2.2 Fieldwork

The excavation of foundation trenches, and other groundworks associated with the landscaping of the development area, formed the focus of the scheme of archaeological work (Figure 2).

2.2.1 Survey

The foundation trenches were located to reference points on static features visible on Ordnance Survey maps, and a height above Ordnance Datum (AOD) was established using levels supplied by the contractor. Subsequent levels taken at the site were calculated against this temporary benchmark.

2.2.2 Mechanical-excavation under archaeological control

Turf was removed from the development area and any large vegetation cut down and stumps removed. Foundation trenches were then excavated down to between 0.9m and 1.1m below current ground surface by a JCB fitted with a 1.2m wide, toothless ditching bucket.

2.2.3 Hand-excavation, recording and sampling

The base of each foundation trench and all trench sides were regularly inspected. Representative sections were produced to record the stratigraphic sequence. A full written, drawn and photographic record was made of the site, including standardised context descriptions on *pro forma* record sheets. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:20, and a 1:100 plan was produced of the building footings in order to locate the representative sections. Photographs were also taken in colour transparency, monochrome and digital formats.

2.3 Project codes and number allocations

The scheme of works has been given the internal Network Archaeology project code SSR 16. In addition, a Lincolnshire museum project code (SCSR 11) and a museum accession number (LCNCC: 2011.97) have been issued by *The Collection*, Lincoln, the proposed body for the deposition of the site archive for this project. All documents relating to the site archive have been referenced, where appropriate, with these two museum codes.

Each context was allocated a unique number, starting from 100.

2.4 Assessment of archive and finds

Following completion of the fieldwork, the artefacts and stratigraphic information were assessed as to their potential and significance for further analysis.

The finds were quantified and sent to appropriate specialists for assessment; these specialists are listed in the table below.

Table 2.1 Material types and specialists

Material type	Assessment by
Slate pencil	Mike Wood Finds Manager

2.5 Data management and presentation

2.5.1 Context summary table

Summary context data, giving a full description and brief interpretation of each context, is presented in Appendix A, with a matrix displayed in Appendix B.

2.5.2 Figures

This report contains two figures. Figure 1 is an overall location plan, showing the proposed development area in its geographical context. Figure 2 shows the footing trenches and foundation columns in relation to the current landscape, and also contains detailed sections showing the stratigraphic sequence within the footings.

2.5.3 Accuracy of displayed data

Data was captured from two sources, a 1:50 base plan provided by the client, and permatrace drawings at 1:20 and 1:100 scale.

3 RESULTS

The foundation trenches contained a sequence of two layers (topsoil and natural sandy clay) separated by a pair of intercutting pit-like features. These are described below.

The earliest deposit exposed during groundworks was a light yellowish brown sandy clay containing patches of silt, *101*. This is assumed to be a natural deposit, and was present throughout the development area wherever excavation proceeded to a depth sufficient to encounter it (generally 0.3m below the current ground surface). This material was at least 0.6m thick; its base was not revealed (plates 1 and 2).

In one part of the development area, close to its centre, a pit was recorded cut into *101* (plate 3). This feature, **105**, had a diameter of 1.48m, a depth of 0.54m, and had a stepped profile with an irregular base. It was filled with firm grey silty sand, *106*, containing moderate amounts of limestone fragments. Pit **105** had been cut in turn by a second, shallower pit located just to the east: pit **102**. This measured at least 0.89m wide but just 0.24m deep and contained two distinct fills. The lower deposit, *103*, comprised firm yellowish grey silty sand containing numerous fragments of angular limestone. This material was sealed by fill *104*, an orange-brown silty sand. This was overlain by the dark greyish brown sandy loam topsoil, *100*, which was present throughout the development area.

Neither pit was fully visible within the exposed section, as both continued beyond its limits, hampering the interpretation of these features. Modern artefacts, including tin cans and plastic bottles, were present in the lower fill of pit **102**, but not retained on account of their recent date.

3.1 Effectiveness of the methodology

The methodology employed to monitor the development area was effective in as much as it established the depth of the topsoil, and presence and nature of the natural substrate. In addition, two intercutting features were also recorded. No further remains were exposed within groundworks and the sole artefact recovered was unstratified.

In general, confidence in the findings presented here is very high. Layers were clearly defined and stratigraphic relationships were clearly visible. The presence of modern finds assists in the dating of their parent features.

4 INTERPRETATION

The artefacts present in pit **102** indicate that the feature is of no great antiquity; furthermore it may be assumed that pit **105** is similarly recent in date. The pits may represent disturbance of the ground in relatively modern times; these features may have been caused by landscaping associated with building work, although pit **105** may be the remains of a tree throw, on account of its irregular shape. Interpretation of the processes responsible for the creation and backfilling of these features is hampered by the fact that they were not fully visible within the available excavation area.

The absence of any further archaeological features from the development area probably indicates low-impact land use for the majority of its history. The presence of a long-established garden area within static property boundaries would account for the recorded remains.

A single artefact was collected during the course of the scheme of works: a slate pencil recovered from the topsoil. Slate pencils were common writing tools before the widespread availability of graphite pencils and ink pens, and were widely used in schools up until the early 20th century. This example seems heavily used: it is only 49mm in length and has been worn at both ends. It was possibly discarded after it became too short to easily use. A village school was built in Scothern in the 1830s; it was located just to the north of the development area and this artefact may have originated there.

5 ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT

5.1 Importance

The area around Scothern is known to contain remains of both prehistoric and Romano-British activity. The mention of the village in the Domesday Book indicates its antiquity, and medieval manorial remains have been excavated in the village. Any remains present in the development area may have the capacity to contribute to an appreciation and sense of local heritage, and may, if of sufficient date and quality, be able to further current research aims (Knight, Vyner and Allan 2010).

5.2 Impact

The development had the potential to have an adverse and direct impact upon any archaeological remains present on the site and lying at a depth where they would be encountered during groundworks. In addition, indirect impacts on any archaeological deposits below levels reached during groundworks may theoretically have occurred. Indirect impact can include: crushing and breaking of artefacts by the pressure and weight of any machinery present on the site; alteration in the natural water levels by installing new drainage systems and additional pressure applied to any below ground remains by the weight of new buildings being spread across the footings.

5.3 Significance of impact

Due to the absence of any significant visible archaeological remains, the level of direct impact from the monitored development has been negligible. However, further unmonitored works, such as excavation of service trenches, may affect any hitherto undetected remains on the site. In addition, there is an unknown level of indirect impact arising from any pressure or compaction caused by any machine movement on parts of the site beyond the footing trenches, as well as the subsequent weight dispersal of the completed build over any buried remains. There is also a minor risk of moisture loss within the area as a result of the installation of a new drainage regime.

6 CONCLUSIONS

The scheme of archaeological monitoring and recording undertaken on groundworks associated with the construction of a new residential property on land adjacent to 6 Sudbrooke Road in Scothern, Lincolnshire revealed very little of archaeological importance. The recorded sequence indicates that the land has been occupied by a garden for much of its more recent history. On the basis of what was recorded during the work described above, it appears that this plot of land is not likely to contain any remains capable of furthering any current research agenda.

7 ARCHIVE

The documentary archive comprises:

- A copy of this report
- Relevant and non-confidential documents and correspondence relating to the site held by Network Archaeology
- Finds catalogues and reports
- Site records, as detailed in the table below:

Table 7.1 Quantification of the site archive

Item	Count
Context registers	1
Context sheets	6
Drawing registers	1
Drawing sheets	1
Photographic registers	2
Black and white photographs	10
Colour slide photographs	9

On completion of the reporting stages of the project, the archive will be prepared for long-term storage in a format agreed in advance with the relevant local depository. This will be in accordance with guidelines prepared by the UK Institute of Conservation (Walker 1990), the Museums & Galleries Commission (MGC 1992) and the IfA (2008b and 2009b). The project archive will be managed in accordance with current guidelines (Brown 2007).

The recipient museum is The Collection, Danes Terrace, Lincoln, LN2 1LP, Telephone: 01522 550961, who have assigned this project the accession code LCNCC: 2011.97.

The recipient museum will receive the document archive, and with the permission of the landowners, the slate stylus collected during the archaeological works.

Prior to the deposition of the archive, the necessary arrangements will be made with the site owners regarding the transfer of ownership of any archaeological finds to the recipient museums. In the event that deposition of the archive cannot be concluded, Network Archaeology will store the archive to a suitable standard until deposition can be arranged. In this event, Network Archaeology will retain ownership of the document archive until the document archive and its ownership is passed to the recipient museums.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Network Archaeology Ltd would like to thank the following for their contribution to the project:

Name	Position	Organisation
Richard Chapman	Landowner and developer	n/a
Andy Inch	Architect	ID Architecture Ltd
Ned Dolan	Site Manager	A & A Services (Groundworkers)
Alexandra Thornton	Historic Environment Officer	Lincolnshire County Council
Chris Taylor	Director	Network Archaeology Limited
Mike Wood	Project Manager	Network Archaeology Limited
Patrick Daniel	Project Officer	Network Archaeology Limited
Aaron Chapman	Project Supervisor	Network Archaeology Limited
Jacqueline Harding	Illustrations Manager	Network Archaeology Limited

9 REFERENCES & BIBLIOGRAPHY

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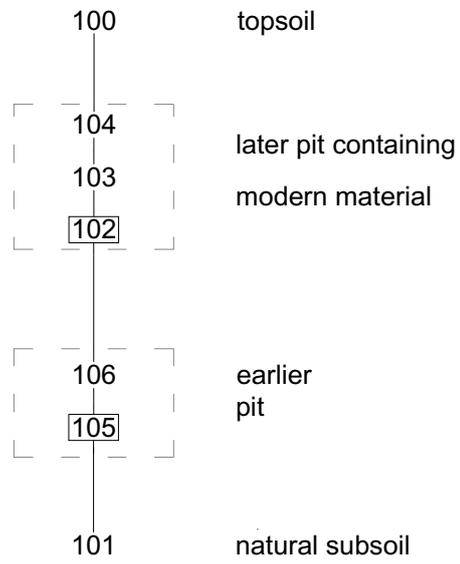
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Knight, D, Vyner, B, and Allan, C, 2010, *Updated Research Agenda for the East Midlands*. <http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/tpa/research/project3/index.htm>. Accessed 16th June 2011

APPENDIX A: CONTEXT SUMMARY

Context	Type	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Dims (m) (Dia. x D.)	Interpretation	Finds	Provisional date
100	Layer	Dark grey brown slightly loamy sandy silt	-	-	0.22m thick	Current topsoil	Slate pencil; occasional post medieval brick & tile (not kept)	Modern
101	Layer	Light yellow brown to light yellow sandy clay with patches of silt	-	-	At least 0.7m thick	Natural subsoil	N/A	N/A
102	Cut	Shallow concave feature	-	103, 104	1.72+ x 0.24	Shallow pit-like feature	Modern artefacts (not retained)	Modern
103	Fill	Firm mid-yellow grey silty sand	102	-	0.89 x 0.1	Primary fill	Modern artefacts (not retained)	Modern
104	Fill	Firm mid-orangey brown silty sand	102	-	1.72+ x 0.16	Secondary fill	-	Modern
105	Cut	Irregular concave feature	-	106	1.48+ x 0.54	Pit or tree throw	-	Modern
106	Fill	Firm mid-grey silty sand	105	-	1.48+ x 0.54	Fill	-	Modern

APPENDIX B: HARRIS MATRIX



APPENDIX C: FINDS ASSESSMENT

Mike Wood BA (hons) MLitt MIfA

Introduction

A slate pencil was recovered during the archaeological monitoring of building work carried out on land at No.6 Sudbrooke Road, Scothern, Lincolnshire. The pencil weighed 3 grams and was retrieved from topsoil.

Methodology

The material was counted and weighed in grams, then examined visually to identify any diagnostic pieces and the overall condition of the assemblage. A summary of the material is recorded in Table 1.

Assemblage

Table C1 Stone

Context	Deposit	Date	Count	Measures (mm)	Weight (g)	Comments
106	Topsoil	19 th -mid 20 th C	1	49 x 4 x 4.5	3	Well worn (at both ends) soft stone pencil

Discussion

The pencil is likely made of either soft slate or soapstone and would have been in used in conjunction with a writing slate. Although writing slates were in use from the 18th century, slates and pencils were increasingly common in the Victorian period. Slates were more popular than paper in 19th and early 20th century schools for economic reasons, as slates could be wiped clean and were extremely durable. Slates and pencils were also utilised in the work place where thin slate sheets were sometimes bound into slate books typically of 2 or 3 leaves (National Slate Museum website, <http://www.museumwales.ac.uk> accessed June 2011).

This pencil has been worn down at either end suggesting it may have been discarded after prolonged use or had diminished to the point where accidental loss was increasingly likely.

Recommendations for further work

The artefact is in a stable condition and requires no further conservation. As an unstratified find of probable Victorian date, this artefact is of no more than local significance as part of Scothern's social history.

APPENDIX D: OASIS SUMMARY

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#)
| [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

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OASIS ID: networka2-103403

Project details

Project name	6 Sudbrooke Road, Scothern, Lincolnshire
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Network Archaeology Limited as part of a planning application submission for a residential development on land adjacent to 6 Scothern Road, Scothern, Lincolnshire. Excavation of foundation trenches during the development impacted to 1.1m below the ground surface. Observation of the vertical stratigraphy revealed in the sides of the footings revealed a sequence of modern topsoil, two intercutting pit-like features, and natural subsoil. The pits are believed to be relatively recent in date, and may represent previous construction work on the plot, including tree removal. In lieu of any other remains, it may be assumed that the plot has been occupied by a garden for much of its history. No archaeological remains capable of furthering any current research agenda were revealed. A single artefact was collected: a slate stylus found within the topsoil.
Project dates	Start: 01-06-2011 End: 02-06-2011
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	SCSR 11 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	126157 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	PIT Modern
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Significant Finds	SLATE PENCIL Modern
Methods & techniques	'Visual Inspection'
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country England
 Site location LINCOLNSHIRE WEST LINDSEY SCOTHERN Land adjacent to 6 Sudbrooke Road, Scothern
 Postcode LN2 2UY
 Study area 0.02 Hectares
 Site coordinates TF 503457 377357 52.9156245129 0.236291010851 52 54 56 N 000 14 10 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation Network Archaeology Ltd
 Project brief originator Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
 Project design originator Network Archaeology Ltd
 Project director/manager Chris Taylor
 Project supervisor Network Archaeology Ltd
 Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient The Collection Lincoln
 Physical Archive ID SCSR 11
 Physical Contents 'Worked stone/lithics'
 Digital Archive recipient The Collection Lincoln
 Digital Archive ID SCSR 11
 Digital Contents 'none'
 Digital Media available 'Text'
 Paper Archive recipient The Collection Lincoln
 Paper Archive ID SCSR 11
 Paper Contents 'other'
 Paper Media available 'Context sheet', 'Drawing', 'Miscellaneous Material', 'Photograph', 'Plan', 'Report', 'Section'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title	6 SADBROOKE ROAD,SCOTHERN, LINGS: Archaeological Watching Brief
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Daniel, P
Date	2011
Issuer or publisher	Unpublished
Place of issue or publication	Unpublished
Description	A4 bound paper copy of watching brief report
Entered by	Patrick Daniel (patrickd@netarch.co.uk)
Entered on	17 June 2011

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Cite only: /dl/export/home/web/oasis/form/print.cfm for this page

PLATES



Plate 1: General view of western half of site (camera facing NW)

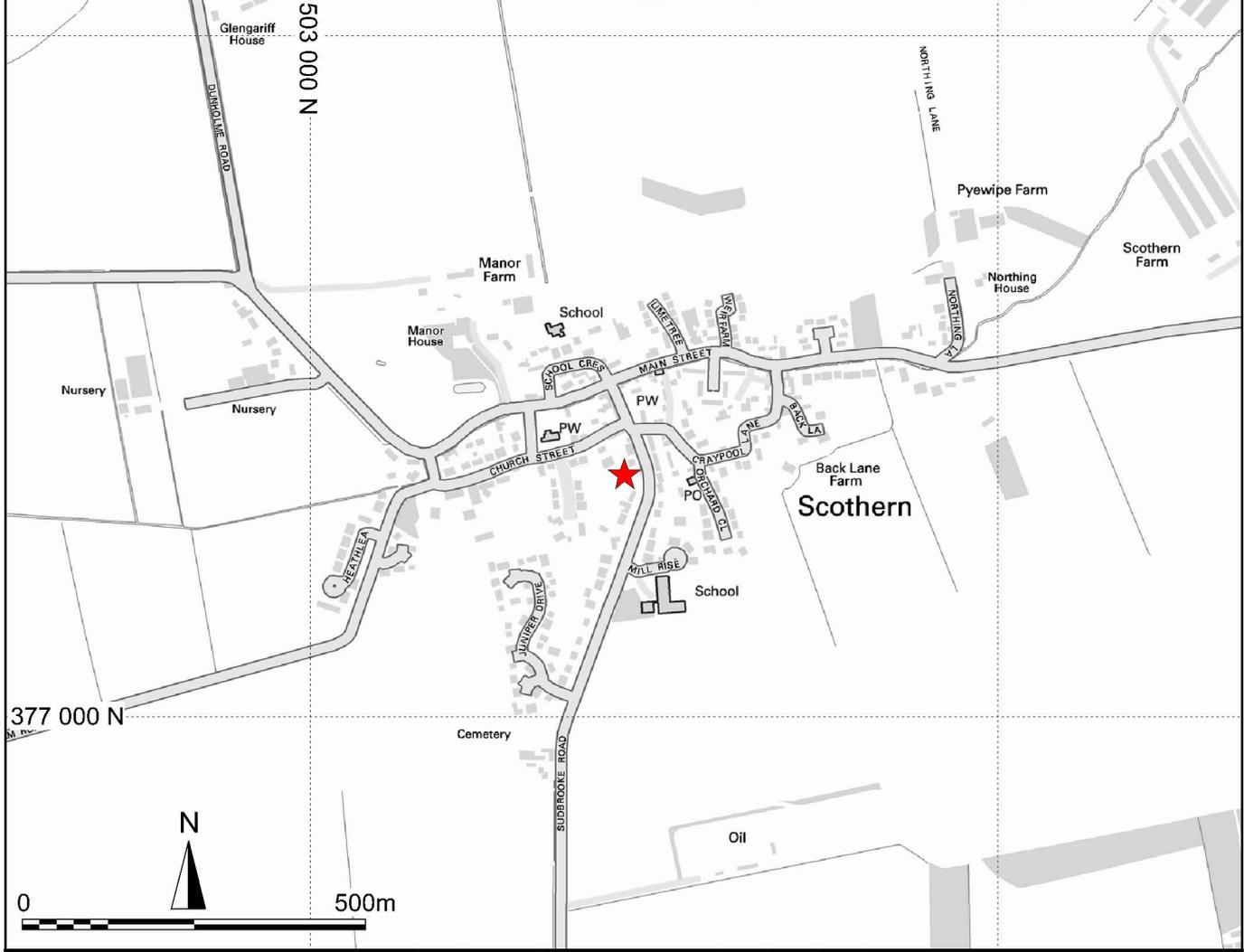
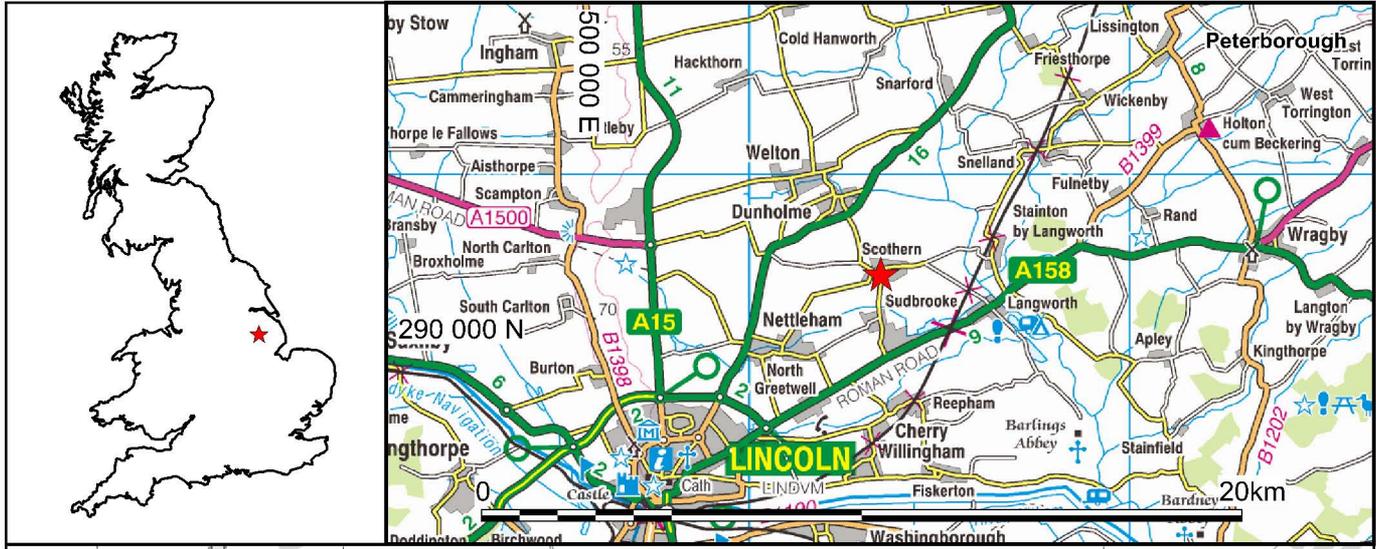


Plate 2: General view of eastern half of site (camera facing N)

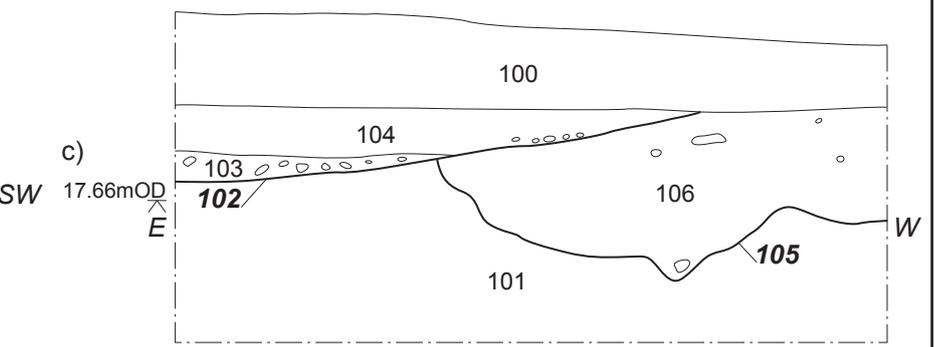
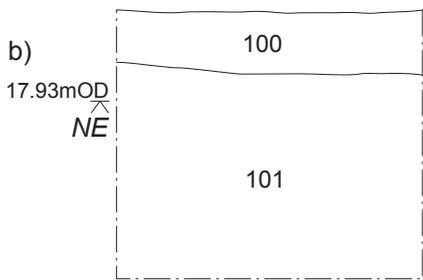


Plate 3: Representative section showing pits **102** and **105** (camera facing S)

FIGURES



★ Site location							 Sudbrooke Road, Sothorn
	0.01	25/5/11	First issue	JLC	MW	CT	
	Ver	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App	Figure 1 General location of site Scale: 1:20,000 and 1:1000
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- Development area
- Proposed building
- Foundation column

0.01	9/6/11	Plan & sections	JLC	MW	CT
Ver	Date	Description	DM	Chk	App

Sudbrooke Road, Scothern

Figure 2: Location of proposed building and representative sections

Scale 1:200

