
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT LOCKSMILL
FARM, COWBIT ROAD, SPALDING,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SPCR20)**

**Work Undertaken For
Ashwood Homes**

April 2021

Report produced by
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation comprising four trenches was undertaken on land at Locksmill Farm, Cowbit Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire.

The site is archaeologically sensitive. It lies south of the medieval core of Spalding and is in the vicinity of cropmarks of probable Roman provenance.

The evaluation comprised four trenches, three of which (Trenches 2, 3 and 4) were moved from their original proposed locations due to the presence of dilapidated buildings on site, and very wet ground conditions.

A broad linear boundary ditch was identified in Trenches 2 and 3, cutting the subsoil. Flooding prevented the excavation of this feature, which was likely to be post-medieval or modern in date. No further features were identified in the trenches.

Finds recovered from the site were all from the Trench 4 topsoil and subsoil and included an Early Bronze Age flint scraper, medieval and post-medieval pottery, post-medieval clay pipe, 20th century glass and animal bone.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

The evaluation was undertaken on behalf of Ashwood Homes. It was commissioned in response to a planning application (H16-0082-20) for residential development of the site, comprising 42 dwellings and associated infrastructure. The work was carried out from the 2nd to the 4th of February 2021, in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the planning archaeologist for South Holland.

2.2 Topography and Geology

Spalding is located 23km southeast of Boston in the Lincolnshire district of South Holland (Fig. 1). The site at Locksmill Farm is located to the south of Spalding adjacent to the east bank of the River Welland, at National Grid Reference TF 2445 2142 (Fig. 2). The site lies at a height of approximately 5m AOD with a slight slope towards the south-east.

The solid geology is comprised of Mudstone of the Oxford Clay Formation. This is a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 157 to 166 million years ago in the Jurassic Period and indicates a landscape previously dominated by shallow seas. Overlying this is a superficial deposit comprising clay and silt derived from tidal flat deposits, formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period (BGS 2021).

2.3 Archaeological Setting

A flint tool, possibly dating from the early Neolithic period, was discovered c. 1.13km east of the site (HER 25737). Cropmarks have been recorded c. 1.14km to the east of the site, with pollen samples indicating a potential prehistoric provenance (HER 22341). A late Iron Age settlement and salting site was identified by archaeological evaluation c. 1.2km to the ESE of the site (HER 25736).

A possible Roman settlement, comprising a number of enclosures, has been identified c. 530m to the south of the site, with a prominent enclosure evident c. 400m to the southeast (HER 23605). Further possible Romano-British cropmarks have been identified c. 1.15km to the east of the site (HER 24055).

The site lies c. 1.2km to the SSE of the medieval core of Spalding, as defined by the present day Market Place which was

the site of Spalding Abbey (Cope-Faulkner 2018, 3).

The first edition OS map of 1888 indicates that the site was then occupied by agricultural land, bounded to the northeast by the Great Northern and Great Eastern Joint Railway, and to the west by the river. Locks Mill Farm was situated to the north of the site with further properties 'The Poplars' and 'Bifron's Cottage' to the south. A short distance further south was Locks Mill (OS 1888).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of the evaluation was to gather information to establish the presence or absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological features exposed in the trenches.

The objectives of the evaluation were to:

- Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
- Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
- As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features; and
- Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

4. METHOD

Four trenches (Fig 3) were excavated to the surface of the underlying natural geology using a mechanical excavator with a 1.6m wide toothless ditching bucket. Trench 1 was 34.6m in length and 0.78m in depth, Trench 2 was 35.3m in length and 0.73m in depth, Trench 3 was 28.7m in length and 0.63m in depth, and Trench 4 was 30.1m in length and 0.87m in depth.

The positions of Trenches 2, 3 and 4 were altered from their original proposed positions (APS 2020) due to the presence of dilapidated sheds in the northern part of the site, and standing water in the southeast portion of the site (Plates 1 and 2).

In an attempt to mitigate the problem of flooding across the site, three *sondages* approximately 1.5m deep were excavated by mechanical excavator, one at the northeast limit of Trench 1 and one at either end of Trench 2. However, the *sondages* were insufficient to clear the water and therefore this action was not taken in Trenches 3 and 4.

The removal of topsoil and other overburden was carried out under archaeological supervision. The sections of the trenches were then cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains.

Each deposit exposed during the evaluation was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their interpretations appears as Appendix 1. A photographic record was compiled, and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. Recording was undertaken according to the standard practice set by Archaeological Project Services.

The location of the excavated trenches was plotted with a survey grade differential GPS.

Following excavation, the records were checked, and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

5. RESULTS

The results of the archaeological evaluation are discussed in trench order. Archaeological contexts are described below. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

Trench 1 (Figure 4, Section 1; Plates 3 and 4)

The earliest deposit comprised a mid blueish grey layer of natural alluvial sandy clay (1003) which continued beyond the limit of excavation (LOE). Overlying this was a layer of compact light greyish brown silty clay subsoil (1002), 0.41m thick, which showed traces of reddish yellow mineral flecking and moderate rooting. Sealing the subsoil was a topsoil comprising a 0.34m thick compact dark greyish-brown clayey silt (1001) with frequent rooting.

Trench 2 (Figure 4, Section 2; Figure 6 Section 4; Plates 5, 6 and 7)

A natural alluvial layer (2003) of compact blueish grey sandy clay with moderate rooting was recorded in the base of Trench 2. Overlying this was a 0.36m thick compact dark greyish brown silty clay subsoil (2002) with moderate rooting. Sealing this was a layer of compact yellowish brown silty clay subsoil (2004) 0.08m thick.

Subsoil deposits (2002) and (2004) extended 11.5m from the southeast edge of Trench 2 before being cut by a broad linear field boundary aligned NNE-SSW [2007]. This feature was not excavated due to unsafe conditions but measured 2.93m in width and over 0.68m deep and had shallow sides.

A 0.27m thick alluvial layer of compact mid greyish brown sandy silt (2006) extended across the remainder of the trench, with a further alluvial layer (2005)

of compact mid brownish grey sandy silt with occasional rooting, measuring 0.3m thick, recorded above it. Both (2006) and (2005) were cut by feature [2007].

Ditch [2007] had a slumped fill on its northwestern side consisting of compact dark greyish brown sandy silt (2008), at least 0.24m deep and 0.77m wide. Overlaying this deposit was a secondary fill of loose mid yellowish brown sandy silt (2009) with moderate iron mottling measuring over 0.29m deep and 2.2m wide. A further secondary fill (2010) overlay this, and comprised a compact dark brownish grey sandy silt with moderate rooting at least 0.24m deep and 1.82m wide. Sealing all these deposits was a layer of topsoil comprising compact greyish brown clayey silt (2001) with frequent rooting, measuring 0.24m thick.

Trench 3 (Figure 5, Section 3; Plates 8, 9 and 10)

At the base of Trench 3 a natural layer of compact light blueish grey silty clay (3004) with occasional small to medium sub-angular flint was recorded. This continued beyond the LOE. Overlying this was a 0.14m thick subsoil layer consisting of compact mid yellowish brown sandy clay (3003) with moderate reddish yellow mineral flecking. A 0.25m thick subsoil (3002) of compact light greyish brown sandy silt with occasional reddish yellow mineral flecking was deposited above subsoil (3003).

These deposits extended 18.55m from the southeast end of Trench 3 before being cut by linear [3005]. Feature [3005] was not excavated due to unsafe conditions but measured 2.93m in width, over 0.68m deep, and was identified as a likely continuation of linear [2007].

From linear [3005] to the northwest extent of Trench 3, an alluvial layer of compact mid greyish brown sandy silt (3010),

0.27m thick, was recorded above natural layer (3004). Overlying (3010) was another alluvial deposit comprising a compact mid brownish grey sandy silt with occasional rooting (3009), which was 0.3m thick. Layer (3009) was truncated by linear feature [3005], 5.66m southeast of the northwest limit of Trench 3. It was initially filled by a slumped fill (3006) analogous to deposit (2008) in [2007]; a compact dark greyish brown sandy silt, greater than 0.24m thick. This was overlain by a secondary fill (3007), over 0.29m thick and comprising a loose mid yellowish brown sandy silt with moderate iron mottling. Above (3007) lay a further secondary fill (3008), at least 0.24m thick, of compact dark brownish grey sandy silt with moderate rooting. Overlying this was (3001), a 0.19m thick topsoil of friable mid greyish brown, clayey silt with occasional rooting.

Trench 4 (Figure 5; Section 3; Plates 11 and 12)

A natural alluvial layer (4004) of compact mid greyish brown sandy silt was recorded in the base of Trench 4. This continued beyond the LOE. Overlying this was a 0.29m thick layer of subsoil (4003) comprising a compact mid yellowish brown clayey silt with occasional rooting. A small fragment of animal bone was collected in (4003). Sealing (4003) was a 0.16m thick subsoil layer (4002) of compact mid greyish brown clayey silt with occasional rooting. Overlying this was topsoil (4001) consisting of a friable dark greyish brown sandy silt 0.23m thick with occasional rooting. An Early Bronze Age flint end scraper was recovered from (4001). Its introduction into the topsoil was presumably either after displacement from its original context via, perhaps, agricultural activity, or as a residual piece derived from a casual loss. Other finds from (4001) included: pottery sherds of medieval and post-medieval origin; a post-medieval clay pipe fragment; a post-

medieval stone tile; a fragment of animal bone; and a sherd of 20th century glass.

6. DISCUSSION

Trench 1 in the southern portion of the site, and Trench 4, in the northwest, revealed a sequence of natural overlain by subsoil and topsoil, with no features of archaeological significance.

A broad linear field boundary: [2007] in Trench 2, and [3005] in Trench 3 was identified running SSW to NNE. The alignment, size, profile and similarity of fills in [2007] and [3005] indicate that they were the same feature.

The mechanical excavation of the trenches established that ditch [2007]=[3005] was cut through the subsoil, indicating that it was relatively recent in date, though it was not evident on the available OS mapping (OS 1888; OS 1906; OS 1932; OS 1952). The flooding of these trenches made any hand excavation of this feature impossible. No finds were recovered from either [2007] or [3005].

Aside from one piece of animal bone from subsoil (4003), the finds were recovered from topsoil (4001). This is a very mixed assemblage including an Early Bronze Age scraper, medieval pottery, post-medieval pottery, tile and clay pipe, and 20th century glass. It is likely that these finds have been distributed across the field as a result of ploughing and manuring the fields. Interestingly, no Roman material was included in this assemblage.

7. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Locksmill Farm, Spalding.

The site was considered to be archaeologically sensitive due to its

proximity to a large area of cropmarks of enclosures, likely to represent a Roman settlement. The medieval core of Spalding, centered on the present day Market Place, which was the site of Spalding Abbey, is situated c. 1.2km to the NNW of the site.

The OS map of 1888 shows that by this time the site was in use as agricultural land, likely part of Locks Mill Farm, located to the immediate north.

The trenches revealed a sequence of layers overlying the natural, including multiple subsoils and alluvial layers in the area around Trenches 2, 3 and 4. A ditch cutting into layers of subsoil and alluvial layers in Trench 2 and 3 is likely to be a modern field boundary. No other features were found. A very mixed assemblage of finds from topsoil (4001) ranged from the Early Bronze Age to the 20th century and are likely to have been dispersed across this area through agricultural activity.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge Ashwood Homes for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Paul Cope-Faulkner, who also edited this report along with Kathryn Blythe. Greg Pickup kindly allowed access to the library and parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Paul Cope-Faulkner
 Site Supervisors: Jack Martin-Jones
 Site Assistants: Peter Fitzer, Lucas Emberson, Bethany Crawford, Sasha Godson.
 Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
 Photographic reproduction: Peter Fitzer
 CAD Illustration: Peter Fitzer
 Post-excavation Analysis: Peter Fitzer

Archiving: Denise Buckley

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Ordnance Survey, 1888 *Lincolnshire Sheet CXLII.NW*, 6" to 1 mile map

Ordnance Survey, 1906 *Lincolnshire Sheet CXLII.NW*, 6" to 1 mile map

Ordnance Survey, 1932 *Lincolnshire Sheet CXLII.NW*, 6" to 1 mile map

Ordnance Survey, 1952 *Lincolnshire Sheet CXLII.NW*, 6" to 1 mile map

11. ABBREVIATIONS

AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
BGS	British Geological Survey
CBM	Ceramic Building Material
HER	Historic Environment Record
OS	Ordnance Survey

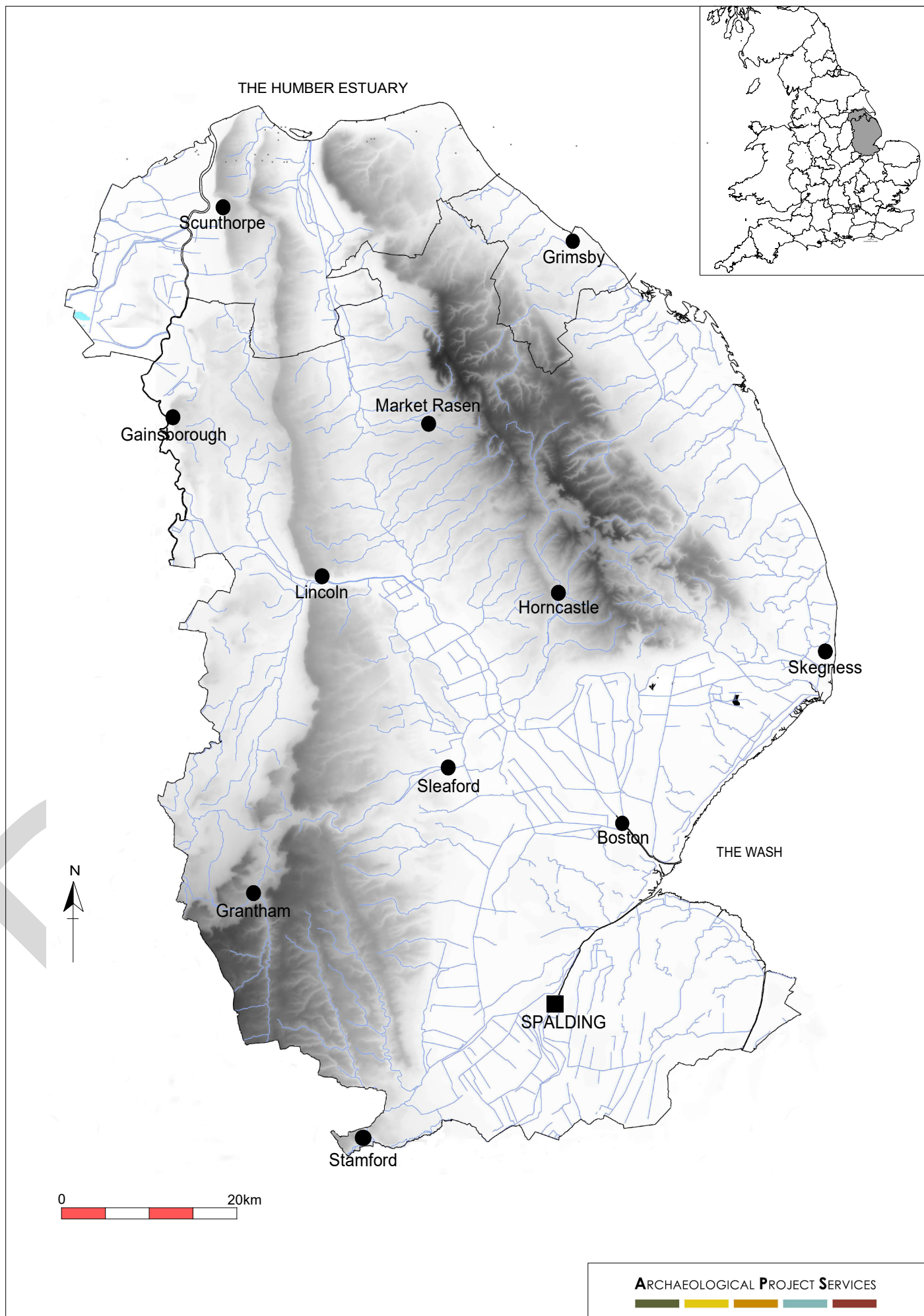


Figure 1 - General location plan

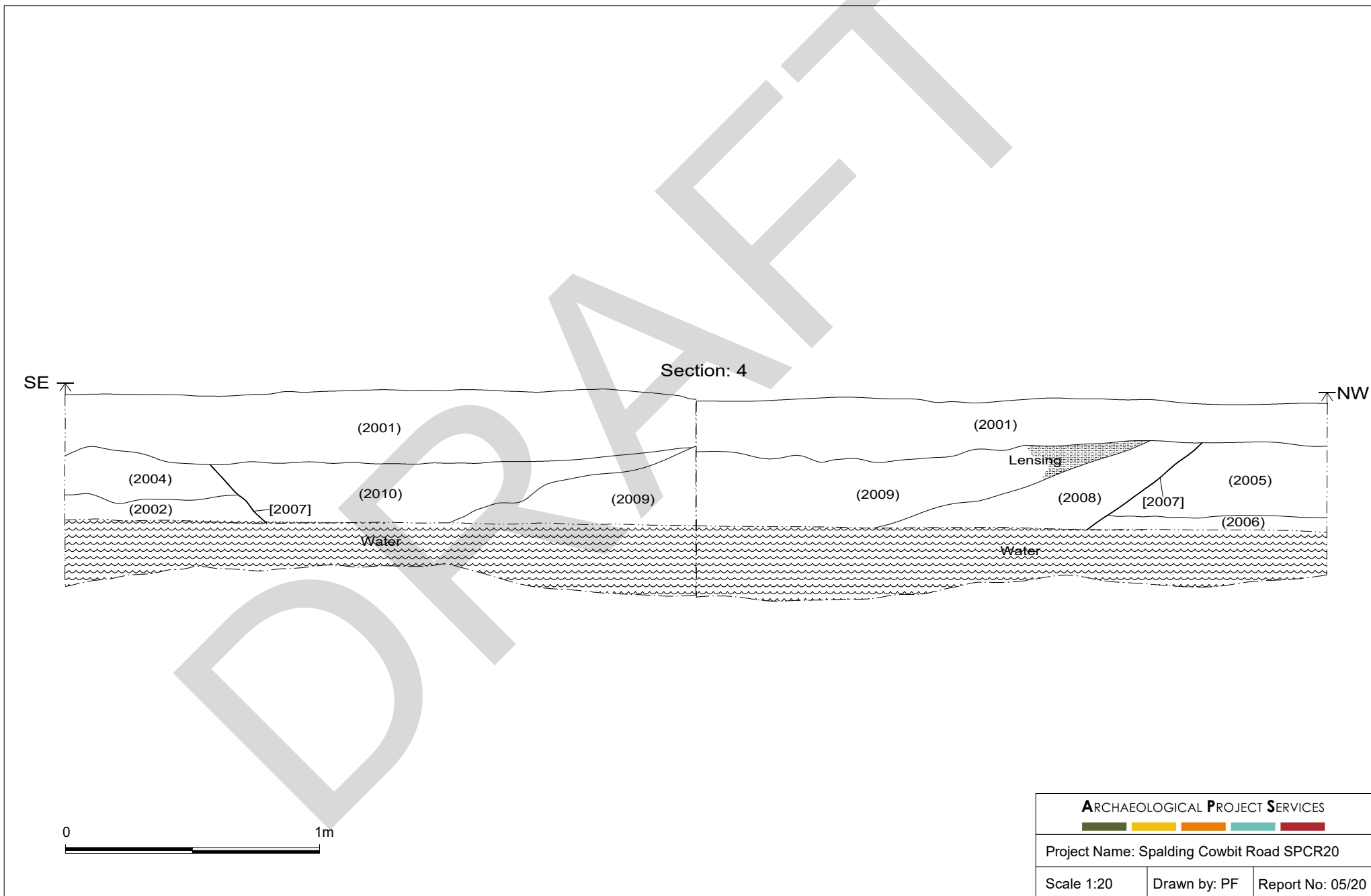


Figure 6: Section 4

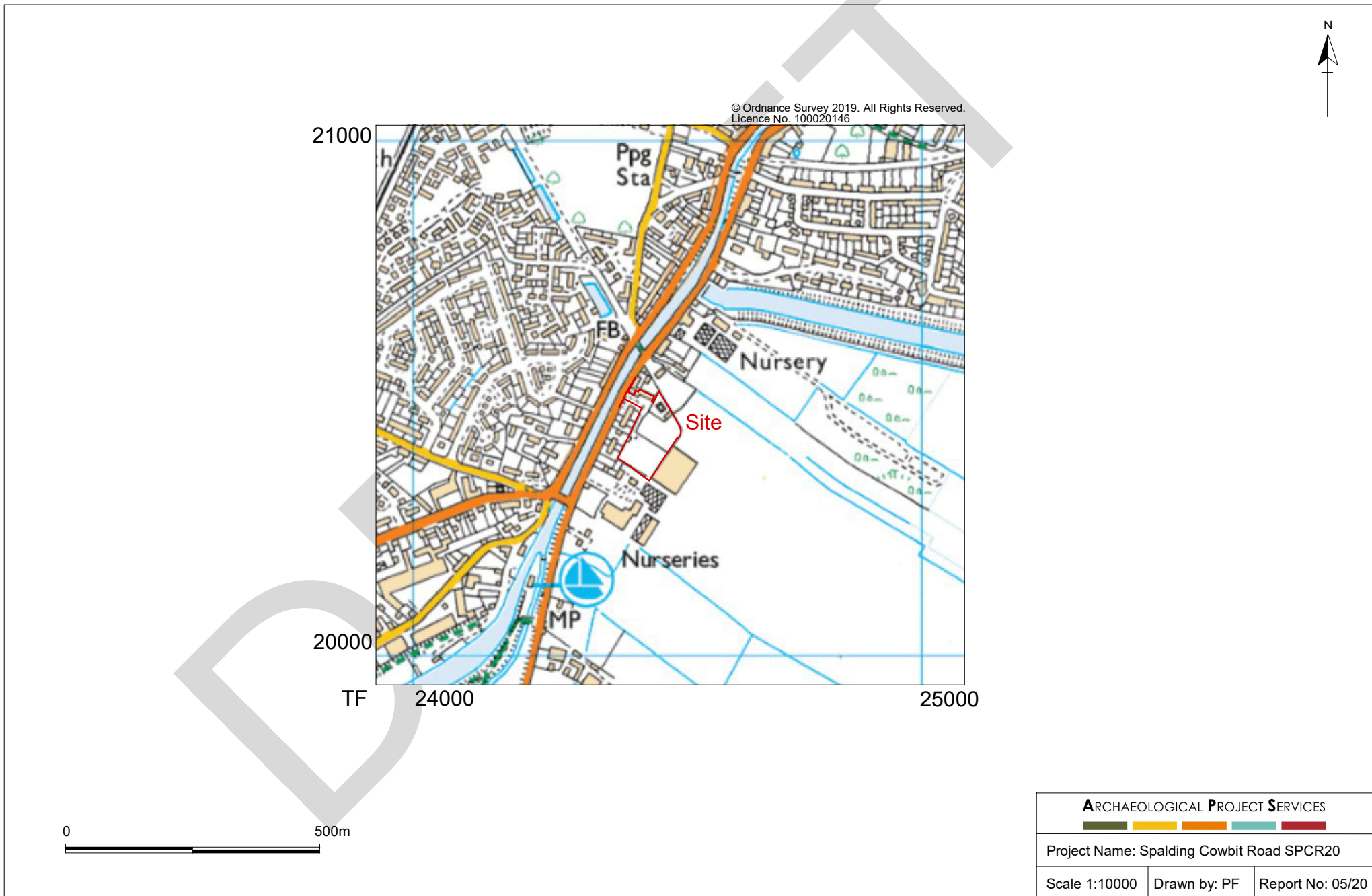


Figure 2: Site Location Plan

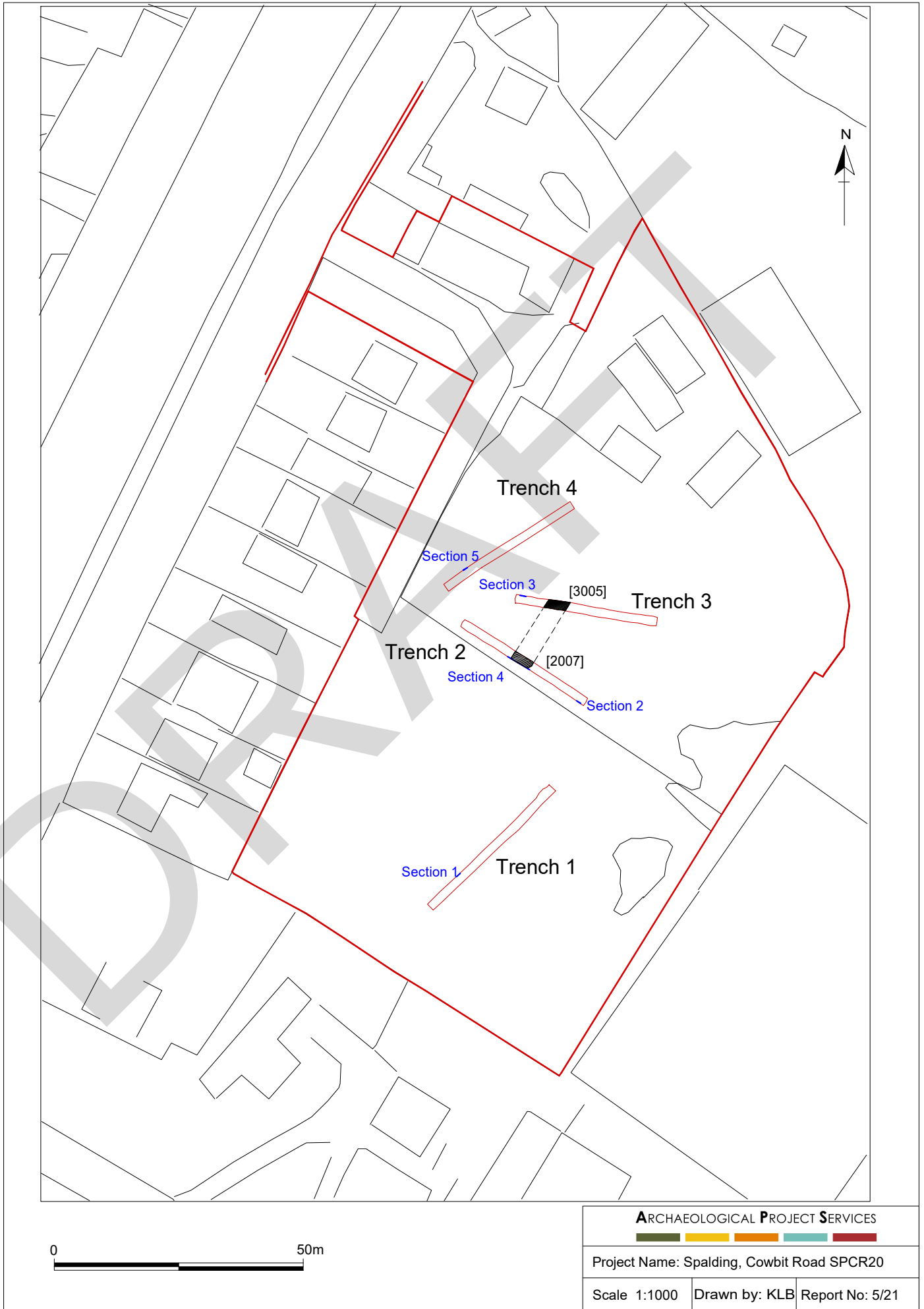
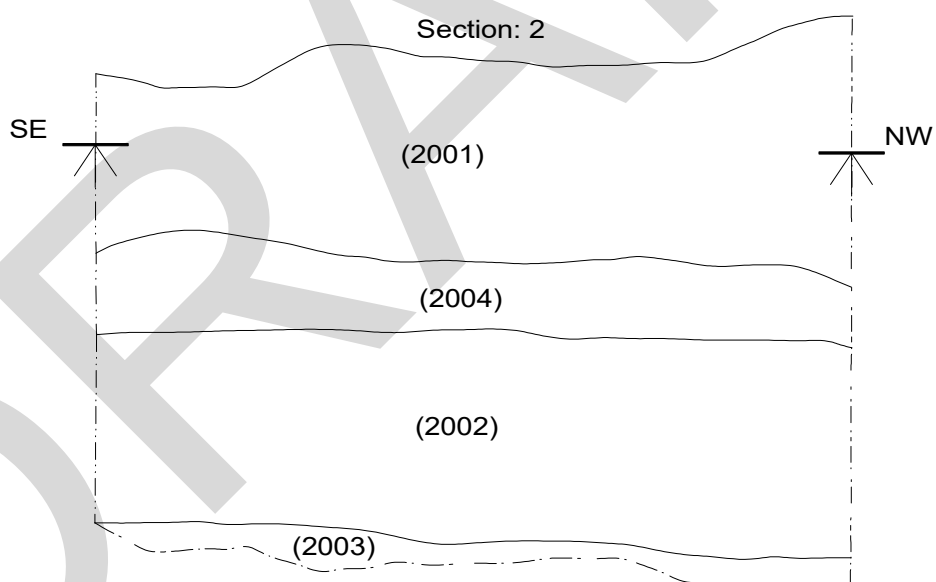
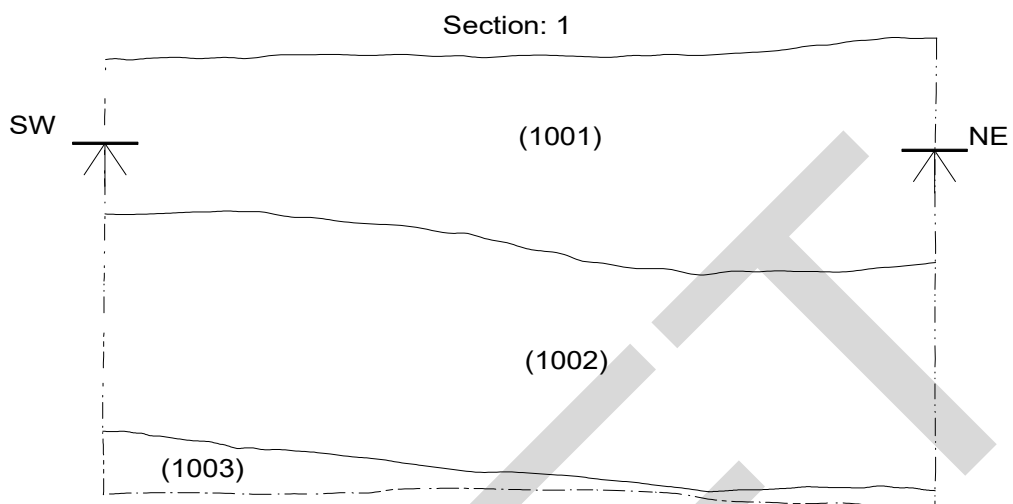


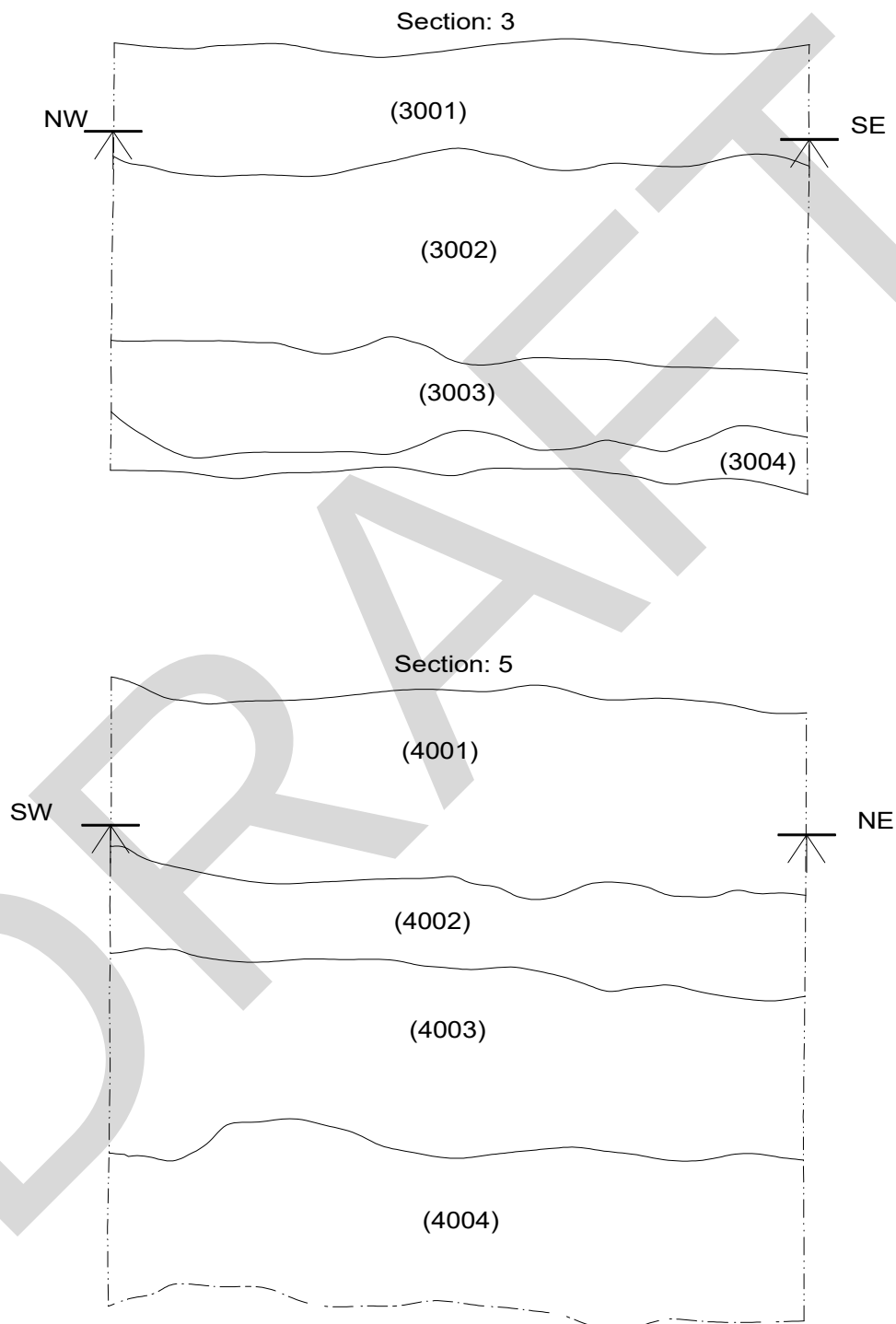
Figure 3 Trench plan showing section locations



0 0.5m

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Figure 4: Sections 1 and 2



0 0.5m

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Figure 5: Sections 3 and 5



Plate 1: View of southeast area of site showing flooding, looking southeast.



Plate 2: View of structure in the northern part of the site (obstructing the proposed location of Trench 4), looking south.



Plate 3: Trench 1, looking northeast.



Plate 4: Sample section of Trench 1, looking west.



Plate 5: Trench 2, looking northwest.

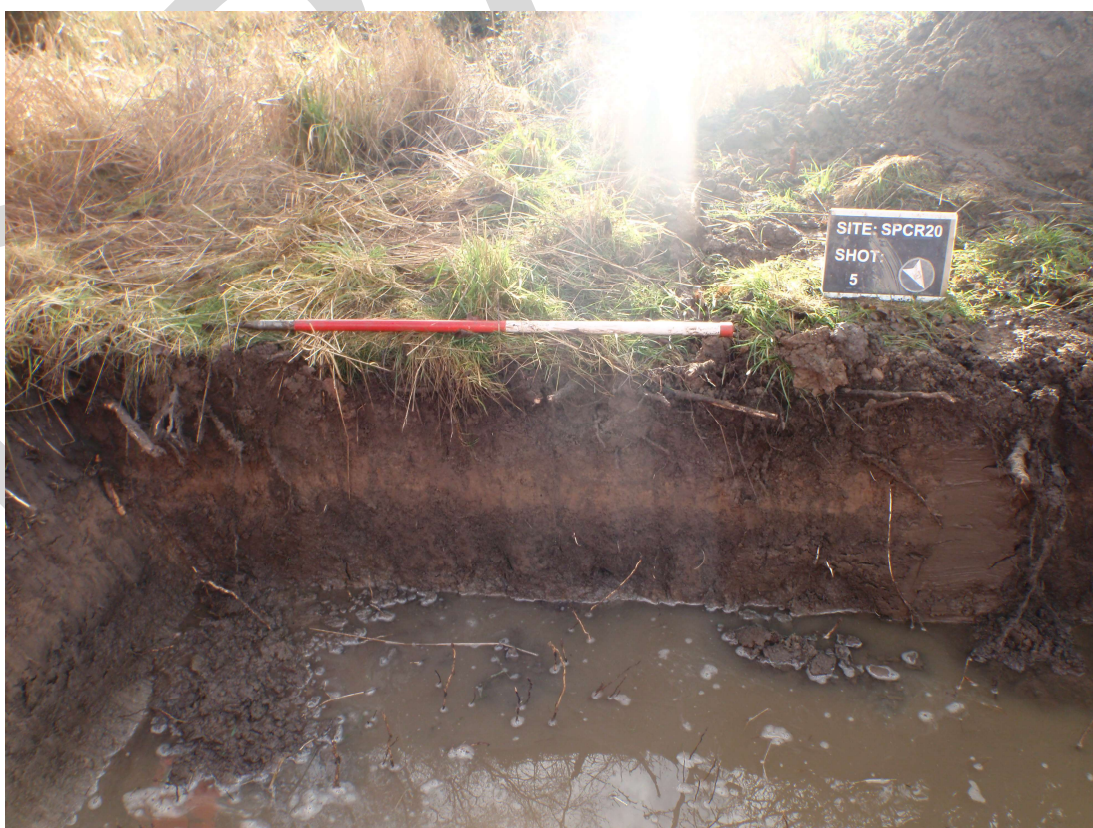


Plate 6: Sample section of Trench 2, looking southwest.



Plate 7: Northwest edge of feature [2007] in Trench 2 (unexcavated), looking southwest.



Plate 8: Trench 3, looking northeast.



Plate 9: Sample section of Trench 3, looking northeast.



Plate 10: Northwest edge of feature [3005] in Trench 3 (unexcavated), looking southeast.



Plate 11: Trench 4, looking northeast.



Plate 12: Sample section of Trench 4, looking northwest.

Appendix 1

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/thickness (m)
(1001)	Topsoil	Compact dark greyish brown clayey silt with frequent rooting.	>1.7m	>34.6m	0.34m
(1002)	Subsoil	Compact light greyish brown silty clay with moderate rooting and reddish yellow mineral flecking.	>1.7m	>34.6m	0.41m
(1003)	Natural	Compact mid blueish grey sandy clay with no inclusions	>1.7m	>34.6m	-
(2001)	Topsoil	Compact greyish brown clayey silt with frequent rooting.	>1.8m	>35.3m	0.27m
(2002)	Subsoil	Compact dark greyish brown silty clay with moderate rooting.	>1.8m	>11.5m	0.36m
(2003)	Natural	Compact blueish grey sandy clay with moderate rooting.	>1.8m	>35.3m	-
(2004)	Subsoil	Compact yellowish brown silty clay with no inclusions.	>1.8m	>11.5m	0.08m
(2005)	Alluvial deposit	Compact mid brownish grey sandy silt with occasional rooting	>1.8m	>22.2m	0.3m
(2006)	Alluvial deposit	Compact mid greyish brown sandy silt with no inclusions	>1.8m	>22.2m	0.27m
[2007]	Field boundary cut	Broad linear with shallow slightly concave sides running NNE-SSW	>1.8m	2.93m	>0.68m
(2008)	Fill of cut [2007]	Compact dark greyish brown sandy silt with no inclusions. Slump fill of NW edge of [2007].	>1.8m	0.77m	>0.24m
(2009)	Fill of cut [2007]	Loose mid yellowish brown sandy silt with moderate iron mottling. Secondary fill of [2007]	>1.8m	2.2m	>0.29m
(2010)	Fill of cut [2007]	Compact dark brownish grey sandy silt with moderate rooting. Secondary fill of [2007]	>1.8m	1.82m	>0.24m
(3001)	Topsoil	Friable mid greyish brown, clayey silt with occasional rooting.	>1.67m	>28.7m	0.19m
(3002)	Subsoil	Compact light greyish brown sandy silt with occasional reddish yellow mineral flecking.	>1.67m	18.55m	0.25m
(3003)	Subsoil	Compact mid yellowish brown sandy clay with moderate reddish yellow mineral flecking.	>1.67m	>18.55m	0.14m
(3004)	Natural	Compact light blueish grey, silty clay with occasional small to medium sub-angular flint.	>1.67m	>28.7m	-
(3005)	Field boundary cut	Broad linear with shallow slightly concave sides running NNE-SSW	>1.67m	2.93m	>0.68m
(3006)	Fill of cut [3005]	Compact dark greyish brown sandy silt with no inclusions. Slumped fill of Northwest edge of [3005].	>1.67m	0.77m	>0.24m
(3007)	Fill of cut [3005]	Loose mid yellowish brown sandy silt with moderate iron mottling. Secondary fill of [3005]	>1.67m	2.2m	>0.29m
(3008)	Fill of cut [3005]	Compact dark brownish grey sandy silt with moderate rooting. Secondary fill of [3005]	>1.67m	1.82m	>0.24m

(3009)	Alluvial deposit	Compact mid brownish grey sandy silt with occasional rooting	>1.67m	>5.66m	0.3m
(3010)	Alluvial deposit	Compact mid greyish brown sandy silt with no inclusions	>1.67m	>5.66m	0.27m
(4001)	Topsoil	Friable dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional rooting.	>1.69m	>30.1m	0.23m
(4002)	Subsoil	Compact mid greyish brown clayey silt with occasional rooting.	>1.69m	>30.1m	0.16m
(4003)	Subsoil	Compact mid yellowish brown clayey silt with occasional rooting.	>1.69m	>30.1m	0.29m
(4004)	Alluvial deposit	Compact mid greyish brown sandy silt with no inclusions	>1.69m	>30.1m	0.19m

Appendix 2

THE FINDS

POST ROMAN POTTERY

By Jane Young and Johanna Gray

Introduction

Seven sherds of post-Roman pottery representing six vessels and weighing 0.47kgs in total were examined for this report. The recovered pottery is of medieval to early modern date. The material was examined visually and at x20 binocular magnification and then recorded using the fabric codenames (CNAME) of the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit (Young et al 2005). The assemblage was quantified by three measures: number of sherds, vessel count and weight with the resulting archive being entered onto an Access database. Recording of the assemblage was in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski, *et al.* (2001) and a Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology (2016) and complies with the Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeological Handbook* (sections 13.4 and 13.5).

Condition

The sherds are in a slightly abraded to abraded condition. Recovered sherd weight is between 0.5 and 17 grams.

Results

Table 1, Post Roman Pottery Archive

Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Fabric	Form	No S	No V	W (g)	Decoration	Part	Comment	Date
4001	BOUA	Bourne-type Fabrics A,B and C	Fabric B	Jar/bowl	1	1	7		Base	thick int reduced glaze;soot on under base	13 th to 14 th
	BOUA	Bourne-type Fabrics A,B and C	Fabric B	Jug	1	1	12	Combed wavy horizontal band set between combed horizontal bands	BS	Thick reduced glaze	13 th to 14 th
	BOU	Borne D ware	Sparse sandy	Large jug/jar	1	1	17		Base	Abraded; re-oxidised over one break at base to wall - ? Firing crack	Mid 15 th to 16 th
	PEARL	Pearlware		Small bowl?	2	1	1	Int & ext blue-grey printed	Rim & BS	Late. Discard.	Early /mid to late 19 th
	STSL	Staffordshire/Bristol slipware	Cream	Small press moulded dish	1	1	2	Brown trailed & feathered on yellow	rim	Pressed rim edge	Late 17 th to 18 th
	STSL	Staffordshire/Bristol slipware	cream	Press moulded dish	1	1	8	Wide yellow stripes trailed on brown	BS	Thick int red slip	Late 17 th to 18 th
Totals					7	6	47				

The Material

Seven sherds of post-Roman pottery from six vessels of medieval to early modern date were recovered from topsoil layer (4001) in Trench 4. Two of the sherds are from a jug and a jar or bowl of 13th or 14th century date in Medieval Bourne ware Fabric B (BOUA). The jug is decorated with a horizontal band of combed wavy lines between two combed straight bands. An abraded basal sherd is from a mid 15th to 16th century large Late Medieval to Post-medieval Bourne ware (BOU) jug or jar. The vessel appears to have cracked during firing around the base to wall angle. Two sherds are from Staffordshire-type Slipware (STSL) press-moulded dishes of late 17th to 18th century date. The dishes are decorated internally with slip-trailed designs of yellow on brown and brown on yellow. The latest sherd to be recovered from a Pearlware (PEARL) jug/jar or bowl with a lower body cordon. The jug is slip-banded in brown with 'cats eye' decoration set between the bands. The vessel is of early to early/mid 19th century date with the decorative design being most common in the 1820s.

Summary and Recommendations

The small group of pottery recovered from the sites includes vessels of medieval (13th to 14th century), early post-medieval (mid 15th to 16th century), post-medieval (late 17th to 18th century) and early modern (early to early/mid 19th century) date. The pre-post-medieval pottery is typical for the Spalding area.

The assemblage has been fully archived for deposition in the Collection and should be retained for possible future study.

FAUNAL REMAINS

By Nathan Sleaford

Introduction

Five fragments of animal bone weighing 155g and a single fragment of marine shell weighing 2g were recovered by hand from two contexts during excavation at Cowbit Road, Spalding.

The assemblage was recorded in Microsoft Excel, with the faunal remains laid out in context order. Identification was undertaken using published catalogues (i.e. Schmid 1972, Cohen and Serjeantson 1996, Hillson 2003), and the author's own reference collection. All the animal remains were counted and weighed, assigned a unique record number, and where possible identified to taxon, element and side. Where present, conjoining fragments were flagged as such and assigned the same record number to help distinguish between raw fragment counts and individual specimens (NISP). Ribs and vertebrae were only recorded to taxa when they were substantially complete and could be accurately identified. Where the taxon could not be determined, fragments were instead recorded as micro (mouse-size), small (rabbit size), medium (sheep size) or large (cattle size). The condition of the bone was also noted with reference to Lyman (1996) and graded from 0-5 accordingly, with grade 0 being the best preserved and grade 5 representing bone that had deteriorated to the point of being unrecognisable.

To assess body part representation and fragmentation, specimens were recorded as whole, proximal or distal elements; depending on how much of a given element was present, specimens were recorded as either less than or greater than 50% 'complete'. Specimens were also recorded as being measureable or non-measurable (after von den Driesch 1976) to assess their potential for biometrical analysis and give a further indication of fragmentation. Fusion data, butchery marks, gnawing, burning and pathological changes were also recorded. Tooth wear and eruption could not be recorded due to the lack of suitable specimens.

The assemblage was assessed in March 2021.

Results

Table 2, Fragments Identified to Taxa

CTX	TAXA	ELEMENT	REGION	COMPLETE	SIDE	WGT (g)	NO.	AGE	MEASURE	CONDITION	TAPHONOMY /PATHOLOGY	CONJOIN?	OTHER
4001	Medium Mammal	UNID	UNID	UNID	UNID	15	2	n/a	NM	3	n/a	n/a	n/a
4001	Indet	UNID	UNID	UNID	UNID	0	1	n/a	NM	2	n/a	n/a	n/a
4001	Bos	Maxillary Tooth	M1/2	>	L	14	1	n/a	NM	1	n/a	n/a	n/a
4001	Flat Oyster (<i>O. edulis</i>)	Shell	n/a	<	UNID	2	1	n/a	NM	2	n/a	n/a	n/a
4003	Sus	Humerus	Shaft	>	L	126	1	n/a	NM	2	n/a	n/a	n/a
Totals						157	6						

Summary

From the animal bone assemblage, two identifiable specimens were recorded: the shaft of a left pig humerus, recovered from subsoil layer (4003), and a maxillary cattle molar from topsoil (4001). No evidence of butchery, or pathological or taphonomic alterations, were noted on the remains, and no indications of age was present. Three more fragments of indeterminate bone were recovered from (4001).

A single fragment of shell from European Flat Oyster (*O. edulis*) was recovered from (4001).

Overall, the bone and shell assemblage from Cowbit Road is of limited significance and presents little potential for further study. There is therefore no need to retain the material and it may be safely discarded or incorporated into teaching or reference material as appropriate.

GLASS

By Denise Buckley

Introduction

One fragment of glass, weighing 9g, was recovered during archaeological works at Spalding Cowbit Road. The material was recorded in March 2021.

Condition

Although both outer surfaces are abraded, making for a slightly opaque appearance, the glass is in stable condition.

Results

Table 3, Glass Archive

Cxt	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
4001	Fragment of thick (7.5mm) colourless sheet glass. Outer surfaces abraded.	1	9	20 th
Totals		1	9	

Summary and Recommendations

A single fragment of colourless sheet glass dating to the 20th century was recovered from (4001), the topsoil in Trench 4. As a single fragment of modern date from the topsoil, it is of no further potential and has been discarded.

CLAY PIPE

By Denise Buckley

Introduction

One clay pipe stem, weighing 5g, was recovered during archaeological works at Spalding Cowbit Road.

Analysis of the clay pipe followed the guidance published by Davey (1981) and the material is detailed in the accompanying table. It was recorded in March 2021.

Condition

Although broken, the clay pipe is in stable condition.

Results

Table 4, Clay Pipes

Context no.	Bore diameter /64"					NoF	W(g)	Comments	Date
	8	7	6	5	4				
4001		1				1	5	Plain stem.	1650-1680
Totals		1				1	5		

Summary and Recommendations

A single plain stem dating to the mid to late 17th century was retrieved from (4001), the topsoil in Trench 4. Dating was taken from the bore size using the Harrington scale. As a single stem fragment with no markings, and coming from the topsoil, apart from dating evidence, it is of no further potential and has been discarded.

WORKED FLINT

By Jack Martin-Jones

Introduction

One worked lithic from Locksmill Farm, Cowbit Road, Spalding was submitted for assessment. This was analysed and is discussed below. It was recorded in April 2021.

Condition

The one lithic recovered was mildly to moderately abraded, suggestive of damage from either ploughing, earth movement or water damage. No conservation work is required ahead of deposition in a museum.

Results

Table 5, Worked Flint Archive

Cxt	Description	No	W (g)	Date
4001	End scraper. Some damage across its edges and dorsal surface. A small amount of patination present. Very distinct bulb. Abrupt retouch at distal end and both lateral edges. No evidence of separation of retouch from its distal end and lateral edges, suggesting this to not be a side-and-end scraper. 58mm x 43mm x 15mm.	1	38	Early Bronze Age
Totals		1	38	

Range

Only one piece of worked flint was recovered, which was an early Bronze Age end scraper, found in the topsoil of Trench 4.

Potential

The presence of this end scraper is a rarity in the Spalding area, as archaeological layers dating to the Bronze Age are several meters lower than most excavation depths undertaken for building works. Instances of worked flint have been found previously, the oldest being a microlith found in the subsoil at The Church of St Mary and Nicholas to the north of the site (Rayner 1998).

It is likely that this worked flint had been dredged up from the nearby River Welland. An alternative theory is that it had been disturbed during the construction of the (now defunct) Great Northern railway line to the north of the site. Therefore, there is a low potential of worked flint within the area,

OTHER FINDS

By Denise Buckley

Introduction

Two items, together weighing 106g, were recovered during archaeological works at Spalding Cowbit Road. The material was recorded in March 2021.

Condition

Although fragments, both items are in stable condition.

Results

Table 6, Other Materials

Cxt	Material	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
4001	Coal	Discard.	1	6	Post -
	Stone	Collyweston stone roof tile. Sooted on one side.	1	100	medieval
Total			2	106	

Summary and Recommendations

A piece of coal and a fragment of Collyweston stone roofing tile, most likely dating to the post medieval period, were recovered from (4001), the topsoil in Trench 4. The tile is sooted on one side, suggesting proximity to a fire or burning at some point. Collyweston “slate” is a Jurassic limestone which splits naturally along its bedding plane to form slate-like shapes, ideal for roofing (*Collyweston Stone Slaters Trust*).

As items of relatively modern date from the topsoil, they are of no further potential and have been discarded.

SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 7 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 7, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
4001	Post-medieval	A very mixed assemblage ranging from an Early Bronze Age scraper to medieval pottery to post-medieval clay pipe to 20 th century glass.

ABBREVIATIONS

ACBMG	Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group
BS	Body sherd
CBM	Ceramic Building Material
CXT	Context
LHJ	Lower Handle Join

NoF	Number of Fragments
NoS	Number of sherds
NoV	Number of vessels
PCRG	Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group
TR	Trench
UHJ	Upper Handle Join
W (g)	Weight (grams)

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Appendix 3

GLOSSARY

Alluvium	Deposits laid down by water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea, and fresh water alluvium is laid down by rivers and in lakes.
Bronze Age	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
Context	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, <i>e.g.</i> [004].
Cropmark	A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological or geological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Fill	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).
Iron Age	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, and subsequent home production, between 800 BC and AD 50.
Layer	A layer is an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut
Manuring Scatter	A distribution of artefacts, usually pottery, created by the spreading of manure and domestic refuse from settlements onto arable fields. Such scatters can provide an indication of the extent and period of arable agriculture in the landscape.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity
Neolithic	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500 - 2250 BC.
Prehistoric	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.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany, Denmark and adjacent areas.
Sondage	Small investigative excavation, from French meaning 'sounding'.
Unstratified	Not related to definable layers (strata).

Appendix 4

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

4	Trench record sheets
5	Context record sheets
1	Section record sheet
3	Daily record sheets
1	Photographic record sheet
3	Sheets of scale drawings

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:

The Collection
Art and Archaeology in Lincolnshire
Danes Terrace
Lincoln
LN2 1LP

Accession Number:

LCNCC:2020.185

Archaeological Project Services Site Code:

SPCR20

OASIS record number

archaeol1-420288

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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OASIS ID: archaeol1-420288

Project details

Project name	Archaeological Evaluation at Locksmill Farm, Cowbit Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation comprising four trenches was undertaken on land at Locksmill Farm, Cowbit Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire. The site is archaeologically sensitive. It lies south of the medieval core of Spalding and is in the vicinity of cropmarks of probable Roman provenance. The evaluation comprised four trenches, three of which (Trenches 2, 3 and 4) were moved from their original proposed locations due to the presence of dilapidated buildings on site, and very wet ground conditions. A broad linear boundary ditch was identified in Trenches 2 and 3, cutting the subsoil. Flooding prevented the excavation of this feature, which was likely to be post-medieval or modern in date. No further features were identified in the trenches. Finds recovered from the site were all from the Trench 4 topsoil and subsoil and included an Early Bronze Age flint scraper, medieval and post-medieval pottery, post-medieval clay pipe, 20th century glass and animal bone.
Project dates	Start: 02-02-2021 End: 04-02-2021
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	SPCR20 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country	England
Site location	LINCOLNSHIRE SOUTH HOLLAND SPALDING Locksmill Farm, Cowbit Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire
Study area	0.5 Hectares
Site coordinates	TF 2445 2142 52.775655906312 -0.154876625663 52 46 32 N 000 09 17 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 5m Max: 5m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Project Services
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Archaeological Project Services
Project director/manager	Paul Cope-Faulkner
Project supervisor	Jack Martin-Jones
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	The Collection
Physical Archive ID	LCNCC:2020.185
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	The Collection
Digital Archive ID	LCNCC:2020.185
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	The Collection
Paper Archive ID	LCNCC:2020.185
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Report","Section","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Evaluation at Locksmill Farm, Cowbit Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire
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Other bibliographic details	APS Report no. 05/21
Date	2021
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Place of issue or publication	Heckington
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Entered on	26 April 2021