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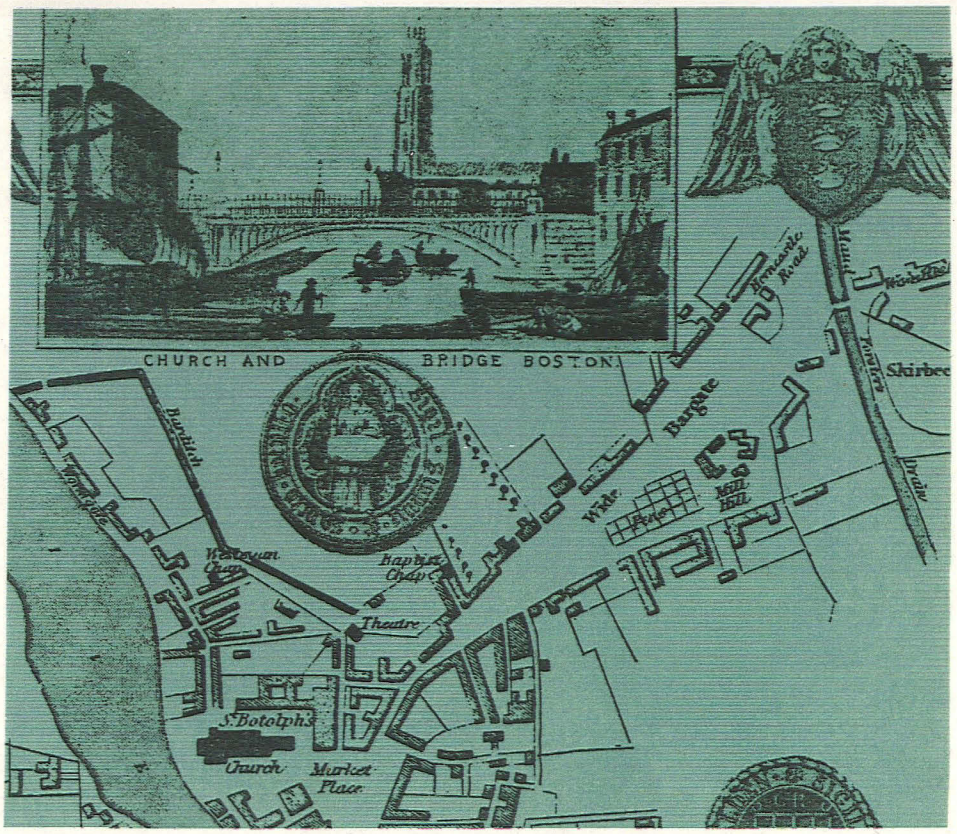
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION REPORT

WIDE BARGATE
BOSTON

LINCOLNSHIRE



PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

WIDE BARGATE
BOSTON

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION REPORT

FOR

ASDA STORES LTD

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1.0 Non-Technical Summary

HLM Architects, on behalf of their Clients, ASDA Stores, have submitted a planning application to develop 69 Wide Bargate, Boston (Figs. 1&2). An archaeological consideration has been attached to the application, requiring the production of a detailed Desk-Top Assessment and Field Evaluation Report. The initial Assessment was completed in December 1993 (Brown, 1993) and this report follows a one week Evaluation to assess impacts likely to be caused by the proposed scheme.

Two trenches were sited within and outside of existing buildings and a disused garage inspection pit was partially dismantled to provide additional information. In two of the areas only post-medieval intrusive features of relatively low archaeological value were encountered though, in the third trench, a significant density of inter-cutting medieval pits and ditches were excavated, suggesting the close presence of structural remains, perhaps nearer to the street frontage.

The results of the archaeological Evaluation suggest that there will be impacts on buried resources during construction of the proposed petrol filling station, particularly where two kiosks may be sited, close to the street frontages.

2.0 Introduction

An Archaeological Field Evaluation took place between Sunday, January 16th and Friday, January 21st on the site of a proposed petrol filling station (Fig. 3). The works were part of a requirement issued by the Community Archaeologist for Boston and were a follow-up investigation to a detailed Desk-Top Study.

The latter report concluded that, based on existing data, archaeological potential was moderately low, particularly with reference to deposits pre-dating the medieval period. It was anticipated that, should medieval deposits be present on the site, they would most likely be associated with dumping and land reclamation rather than domestic or industrial permanent settlement. Archaeo-environmental potential, on the other hand, was considered to be moderately high.

The Evaluation at the Wide Bargate site has demonstrated that there are significant occupation features on areas within the proposal zone dating to within the 14th/15th centuries AD and that some deposits may be disturbed by the development in its present form .

The site national grid reference is TF 3308 4463.

3.0 Planning background

HLM Architects have applied for planning permission to redevelop 69 Wide Bargate, Boston , an area of land approximately 0.2ha in area, bounded by Horncastle Road/Wide Bargate on the east side, the rear of properties fronting Hartley Street on the north side, car parking lots of the ASDA Foodstore on the west side and an access road to the ASDA Foodstore to the south. The site is currently occupied by a disused garage and workshops.

The proposed scheme is a new petrol filling station with associated kiosks, air and water services and subterranean petroleum storage tanks. Pre-Construct Archaeology has not received specific construction details but plans forwarded by HLM Architects (Drawing A93/0591/01-03) were considered adequate at Desk-Top stage as a means of assessing principal impact areas (the reader is referred to page 17 of the latter document which highlights these areas and to Fig. 3 of this report).

4.0 Archaeological and historical background

It seems likely that, as a town and port, Boston emerged during the early 11th century, greatly encouraged, no doubt, by the geographical and topographic advantages offered by the chosen location (Owen, 1984). This early settlement may have developed largely by chance, encouraged perhaps by the numerous small creeks around the Wash which afforded access to major settlements such as Lincoln via the River Witham. Such access will no doubt have proved attractive to foreign traders eager to seek-out new markets and resources. Unfortunately, the nature of pre-Conquest settlement at Boston is not well documented, archaeologically or historically.

Following the Norman Conquest of 1066, Boston began to expand. Much of this development was associated with the establishment of organised trade fairs, a theme more common in contemporary France and one applied in Boston under the careful management of Alan Rufus, the Earl of Richmond.

The centre of the fair founded by Rufus was on the east side of the River Witham in Richmond Fee, close to St Botolphs church, though it also extended to the west bank (the fair of Holland was sited in the Fee of Creoun, opposite the church).

During the 12th century, a 'defensive' ditch, the Barditch, was dug on the east side of the Witham to connect Depol with Skirbeck, both of which encompassed natural defences of their own. The exact date of this ambitious work is not documented, the earliest historical reference being 1160. One assumes the ditch to have 'contained' the bulk of the town on the east side of the Witham at about this time though there are records which demonstrate the presence of properties in close proximity to the earthwork and, by the early 13th century, a number of properties lay beyond it.

The 13th century was something of a 'golden age' for Boston. It is not surprising, therefore, when we learn that, at this time, its population had exceeded the scope of a 'defensive' circuit which may have been built less than a century earlier.

The extent to which the medieval settlement at Boston expanded east of the Barditch has not been demonstrated, historically or archaeologically. It is in this context, therefore, that we should view the archaeological potential of the Wide Bargate site.

There has been some evaluation work on land north-east of the Barditch and excavation results were discussed in a preceding Desk-Top Assessment (Brown, 1993). At the Corporation Yard/Old Poultry Market site and, further west, on Strait Bargate, excavations exposed a series of 'dumped' layers, thought to be associated with ground-raising and land reclamation. At Strait Bargate, structural remains were present but it was not possible to directly associate these with large quantities of domestic finds dating to within the 14th century or to a later phase altogether (Haynes, 1992). The presence of significant quantities of later medieval domestic and other debris would imply that there probably were domestic and other structures on the Strait Bargate frontage at this time. The extent of development east of the Barditch has yet to be determined however.

With this background in mind, the archaeological potential of the present site was considered to be limited; that, should deposits be present this far east of the 'defensive' circuit, their examination may not add significant new data. Based on the existing state of knowledge, it was proposed that structural and occupation features, should they be present, would most likely be confined to within the later post-medieval and modern periods.

By contrast, the archaeo-environmental potential of the site was considered to be moderately high at Desk-Top stage. Previous excavations have demonstrated the existence of widespread peat and silt deposits (borehole samples from three locations on the site itself have clarified the presence of silt and alluvia but no peat was noted in any of the 8.0m deep columns). As noted in the preceding Desk Top Assessment, an examination of these deposits could usefully add new information leading towards a more satisfactory understanding of the history of The Wash during post-glacial periods. At the present time, a somewhat sketchy overview prevails which is unlikely to improve in the absence of further field data.

5.0 Aims

In the light of the previous section, the principal aims of the Field Evaluation at the Wide Bargate site are largely self-explanatory. Namely:

to see, against the odds, whether or not structural/domestic settlement evidence existed/survived on the site which pre-date the post-medieval periods;

to clarify the presence/absence of deposits associated with later medieval land reclamation;

to assess the environmental potential of the site;

to assess previous and future impacts which have damaged or may threaten buried archaeological resources.

A project Specification, based around each these objectives, was jointly agreed between Pre-Construct Archaeology, the Community Archaeologist for Boston and the Client.

6.0 Methodology

A Project Brief, issued by the Community Archaeologist for Boston, stated that one trench, measuring 10m x 1.5m, should be excavated outside of existing buildings approximately 30m west of the Wide Bargate/Horncastle Road frontage. Further intrusive work would centre on exposing sections hidden behind two existing inspection pits within the disused workshop area. It was agreed that, should sufficient information be revealed by this method, there would be no requirement to excavate further trenches. On the other hand, should the sectional evidence prove inadequate, a second excavation trench, orientated north-south, would be sited within the workshop area to the east of the inspection pits.

A trench measuring under 9m in length and 1.5m in width (Trench 1) was excavated in the open area, this being the maximum length possible without disturbing live sewage and drainage pipes (Fig. 3). Here (and in other areas) a JCB fitted with a pneumatic chisel was used to break through modern concrete and tarmac. Using a wide, toothless, ditching bucket, the machine stripped all modern overburden and undifferentiated soil to a point where medieval pottery, animal bones and other waste were noted in the trench bottom (only the fills of very late features were clearly visible and it was assumed that the machine had truncated a substantial horizon of dumped soil). All further excavation in Trench 1 was by hand.

Using the pneumatic chisel, the machine dismantled the north face of the northernmost inspection pit within the garage workshop (Trench 3), exposing a section approximately 8m in length. An attempt was also made to expose the eastern face but this end of the pit was merely a blocking to a feature of unknown length.

No attempt was made to examine the more southerly of the two pits as c.30mm of standing water precluded use of the chisel. Instead, a north-south trench measuring 10m x 1.6m was sited approximately 10m further east (Trench 2). Here again, the concrete floor was broken up before spits were removed using the ditching bucket. Most of the soil in this area was removed mechanically as it comprised either late post-medieval/modern features or natural silts and alluvia which could be better understood in section. On the north side of the trench, very little material was removed beneath the contemporary ground surface as an 18th or 19th century well was exposed which was recorded but not excavated.

The excavation team comprised one site director assisted by three experienced field archaeologists.

All layers, walls or features were recorded on standard 'context' record sheets and at least one section was drawn in each of the three cuttings. Significant contexts were also photographed and general photographs were taken, where necessary, as a supplement to other records. Datable and other finds from individual contexts were retrieved and an assessment of some of this material has been completed (below, section 7.3, Appendix 10.3).

An environmental specialist was consulted who assessed the potential of natural alluvial and silt deposits for furthering our understanding of the site and post-glacial sediment history (below, section 7.2).

7.0 Results

7.1 Archaeological features

In view of the evidence recorded on previous excavations on the Northeast side of the Barditch (the exception being Strait Bargate which lies much closer to the earthwork), it was both interesting and surprising when medieval deposits were exposed which were not a straightforward reflection of dumping and land reclamation (a common theme recorded elsewhere). In Trench 1, most of the natural flood silts, common to all three areas, had been almost completely obliterated on the east side by at least four successive phases of pits and ditches (Figs. 4&5, Photos. 1&2). Each of these features contained soils which were remarkably similar (a combination of natural silts and clays, dirtied with cultural waste), making division in plan difficult during excavation.

The earliest earth-dug feature was a very regular and square-sectioned pit, [118], which had been severely truncated by a later feature to within 40cm of its base (Figs. 4&5, Photo. 3). Its north side was not examined in the present excavation but its east, west and south sides were vertical, except in isolated areas where minimal slumpage had occurred. Given that, within a one week excavation, sections dug through most deposits were prone to slumpage, it was concluded that the pit was timber-lined in its original form, though a functional interpretation has not been forthcoming (on the east and west sides of the pit, traces of horizontal linear discoloration were interpreted as the faint remains of a timber/wicker lining).

There was some evidence that the square-sectioned pit was once a larger feature whose internal capacity had been deliberately reduced: its east side was divided from an earlier edge by a bank of clean redeposited natural silt, the interface between the two being an irregular, near-vertical, line of dirtier material. This earlier edge, [134], was less steep than its successor, though the difference in profile may have been caused by post-depositional slumpage.

A large, irregular, pit-like feature, [116], had destroyed much of the above. Its eastern edge broadly respected the corresponding edge of the earlier pit, though it too was reduced when a north-south ditch and later features were excavated through much of its fill (below). It contained concentrations of clean, redeposited, silt and clay amidst a more common dirty silty soil mixed with domestic pottery sherds, brick fragments, animal bones and other waste. For the most part, the pit appears to have been backfilled deliberately, probably fairly quickly.

The upper eastern edge of the above pit had been removed by a substantial ditch [114], orientated approximately north-south. The top of its cut, which had been reduced by later activity, measured at least 2.0m in width and its surviving depth measured 1.3m (features appear smaller in the illustrated plan, Fig 5, as their upper fills were machine-excavated). Most of the ditch appears to have silted and filled under natural conditions of erosion, though the upper c.75cm may have been deliberately deposited following functional demise.

There was some evidence of a precursor to the above: the east edge of the ditch cut through all but the base of an earlier ditch or gully, [132]; either a terminal or a deep spot within a ditch which had avoided total removal when the later feature was excavated or recut.

One further feature, a small bowl-shaped pit, [110], was thought also to date to within the later medieval period, though it was recorded only in the north section (Fig. 4) and the evidence rests on one or two pottery sherds, which were also observed in section and may have been residual.

Almost all of the features examined, which constitute this group, contained sherds of domestic pottery, animal bones (often with butchery cuts), brick fragments and other waste: the features and their contents bear all the usual hallmarks associated with domestic settlement.

No other features were securely dated to within the medieval period in any of the three areas examined. Foundation courses of well-preserved brick buildings, witnessed in all areas, were thought, on stratigraphic and other grounds, to be no later than the 18th or 19th centuries. The deep walls examined in Trench 3 were clearly associated with an earlier phase of garage inspection pits (Fig. 7): indeed, one contained the grille of a MK. I Ford Cortina (Photo. 7, left hand side).

In Trench 2, a post-medieval brick-lined well dominated the north end of the area. Its truncated well-head measured no more than 60cm in diameter though this led into a corbelled chamber approximately 1.6m in diameter which had been filled to the base of the corbelling. Associated with the well was a massive, and possibly deep, construction trench, [214], (Fig. 6). The upper trench was backfilled with dark humic soil though, below this, were redeposited natural layers, including large quantities of clean yellow sand (implying deep intrusion as natural sands were not exposed elsewhere during excavation.

At least five other intrusive features were examined in sections within the same trench (Fig. 6), though, in every case, there was no reason to suppose that any were earlier than the 18th or 19th centuries (usually, their very dark soil fills contained modern-looking brick and tile fragments and late post-medieval pottery).

In Trench 3, a similar pattern was observed. Aside from an earlier phase of garage inspection pits (whose walls have penetrated more than 1.5m deeper than the modern ground surface), a series of late post-medieval and modern occupation surfaces were examined within the north-west side of the exposed section (Fig. 7). Some of these layers were construction and occupation surfaces associated with a brick wall foundation fragment, [320]. Other layers related to the earlier garage inspection pits and are of limited archaeological value.

Still within Trench 3, south-east of the earlier inspection pit, [313], natural soil horizons were less truncated, though there was no indication of any features of archaeological value.

7.2 Environmental potential/assessment

All natural stratification was examined in detail and an assessment made of its potential for future analysis. A common sequence was recorded in each of the three trenches though, for ease of purpose, Trench 1 will be cited as the principal bench mark and is descriptively summarised as follows (presented in stratigraphic sequence):-

[121]: mid-brown silt with occasional pebble/grit inclusion. Level, uniform layer; wavy interface above and below. Conceptually the same as underlying layer but stained as a result of leaching/staining from overlying topsoil;

[124]: light brown silt

[125]: yellowish-orange silt

[126]: pale, mottled silt

[127]: thin black 'staining' horizon

[128]: clean grey/blue (reduced) clay-silt (very small particles)

[129]: soft yellow/orange slightly sandy silt. Very thick but laminations detectable within.

The above sequence was observed (with minor variations) in each of the three trenches:-

T1	T2	T3
	[202]	[319] topsoil
[121] silt discoloured by leached topsoil		
[124] as above		[307]
[125] seasonal wash/silt		[308]
[126] oxidised + reduced grey/brown clay		
[127] Fe pan/manganese horizon		[309]
[128] blue (reduced) clay	[208]	[310]
	[226] blue clay ?in channel	[311]
[129] yellow/orange sandy silt (thick)	[209] [210]	[312]

The site was visited by an environmental specialist, D.J. Rackham who examined and commented on the sedimentary sequence examined at Wide Bargate. A summary of his notes are presented thus:-

The lower silt ([129], [209]/[210], [312]) was deposited during moderately high-energy water flow and probably developed as a consequence of seasonal flooding; it is in fact a composite layer, the end product of successive periods of seasonal flooding where the time-lapse between each episode was not sufficient to allow the development of humic soil horizons.

The distinctive blue clay horizon, [128] etc. is more indicative of an 'event' such as severe flooding. Particle sizes within the layer suggest that it was deposited in a low-energy environment (the settling-out of flood water). Its colour is a reflection of a lack of oxygen present at the time of deposition (see photos. 1&7).

Overlying (or penetrating slightly) the clay was a distinctive, very dark, band of iron panning/manganese, [127] etc. This probably is reflection of post-depositional leaching within overlying strata: such leaching would not continue through an impervious clay horizon, thus explaining the development.

Natural sediments above this are conceptually the same as [129] etc., the lowest stratum in the sequence. They would each appear to be the result of seasonal depositions caused by flooding in a moderately high-energy environment. Colour variation could, again, reflect post-depositional modification; the leaching of impurities from an overlying topsoil.

There would appear no reason, superficially, to believe that any of the above deposits are necessarily early in date. The earliest archaeological features on the site do not appear to pre-date the 14th century and it is likely that accumulations deposited as a result of seasonal flooding continued to develop until the establishment of efficient drainage systems. It is in this context, perhaps, that one should view the substantial ditch examined in Trench 1, for example.

It was suggested that a programme of micromorphological sampling and analysis might greatly enhance our understanding of the sediment sequence examined on the site and further a more general understanding of post-glacial sediment history.

It should be noted that some soil contamination has occurred on the site: on the south side of Trench 2, oil was noted, filtering through the sections (Photo. 6). This was brought to the direct attention of the ASDA Store Manager and was traced to a leaking waste oil storage tank, sited a short distance south-east of the Trench. Archaeo-environmental sampling in this area is not recommended.

7.3 Pottery/dating evidence

Pottery found during excavation (largely in Trench 1) was examined by H. Healey.

Most of the sherds within the sample were of one particular classification and were produced in kilns sited at Toynton All Saints near Spilsby. A long tradition of manufacture is associated with these kilns, spanning broadly between the 13th and 16th centuries. The latest sherds of this type examined at the Wide Bargate site would appear to be 15th century.

Other diagnostic sherds appear to have been imported from Bourne (15th/16th century) and from further afield at Potterhanworth near Lincoln (mid/late 13th century - 15th century).

Generally, there is no reason to believe that any of the pottery is earlier than the 14th century and the period of medieval occupation on the site seems to centre around the 14th/15th centuries

8.0 Conclusions

The Evaluation at the Wide Bargate site has demonstrated the existence of a well-preserved and significant density of later medieval settlement features dating to within the 14th and 15th centuries AD. Set against the results of previous excavations in the vicinity of the site, these findings are extremely interesting and raise important questions regarding efforts made by the late medieval population in overcoming the problems posed by seasonal flooding and the extent to which the settlement developed east of the Barditch.

The analysis of natural strata through which medieval occupation features were dug suggests that, without adequate drainage systems, domestic/commercial settlement would have been difficult in the face of intermittent flooding. Today, the problem is overcome with the aid of substantial artificial drainage systems such as the Maud Foster Ditch, an ambitious drain flanked by Horncastle Road close to the site. This ditch was constructed in 1568 (Wheeler 1896) and will, no doubt, have reduced the threats posed by seasonal water table fluctuations.

Before the construction of works such as the Maud Foster Ditch, one assumes there to have existed less substantial, perhaps more frequent, ditches and drainage dykes which allowed settlement of the area in preceding centuries. As stated earlier in the text, it is in this context that the large ditch examined in Trench 1 is of particular interest: one assumes it to have functioned close to or within an area of commercial/domestic settlement, its functional role being the maintenance of a dry or semi-dry environment suitable for human occupation. Unfortunately, the large ditch examined in the present excavation was stratigraphically later than most of the other medieval features, though it is clear that it was a recutting of (or a successor to) an earlier feature.

The medieval pits and ditches examined in Trench 1 appeared to cluster on the eastern side of the area, implying that most of the settlement was concentrated close to the frontage (a situation supported by the lack of significant archaeological deposits in Trenches 2 and 3, further to the north and west).

It is suggested that further archaeologically sensitive deposits may be anticipated in the zone between Trench 1 and the Wide Bargate/Horncastle Road junction. This may have significant implications with regard to the proposed redevelopment.

The extent to which archaeological deposits remain intact close to the Wide Bargate/Horncastle Road frontage has not been determined, though significant impacts will have occurred during the construction of the existing garage and its associated petroleum storage tanks (Brown, 1993).

The present excavations, within the existing workshop space, have shown that 20th century impacts may be greater than is superficially apparent. Disregarding, for the moment, impacts caused by deep garage inspection pits and other such intrusions, however, it is suggested that, over most of the site, topsoil, post-medieval and modern deposits are restricted to the upper 50 or so cm of 'made-up' ground.

In its present form, the proposed redevelopment is unlikely to affect archaeological deposits within the two chosen sites of the new petroleum storage tanks and the petrol filling station. However, it is likely that some impact will be made on archaeological resources during construction of the two proposed kiosks, less than 5m east of Trench 1 (Fig. 3). Although detailed building specifications were not available for incorporation in the Desk Top Study, it is noted in the latter (p. 16) that recommendations have been made that at least 1.0m of existing material be removed as a prerequisite to construction of the kiosks. At this depth, there is a good possibility that significant archaeological deposits will be affected.

Although areas to the north and west of Trench 1 were, for the most part, archaeologically sterile, the archaeo-environmental potential of natural silts and alluvia within these trenches and the proposed redevelopment area has already been discussed. For the purpose of this Evaluation, the study of these deposits has gone little further than assessment of potential. However, it may useful to consider the employment of further specialist services as a means of clarifying the status of natural strata during future resource management strategies: soil micromorphology, macro/microfossil analysis, for example, might usefully expand on superficial assessment and shed further light on climatic conditions during deposition/formation of natural features pre-dating late medieval settlement.

9.0 Acknowledgements

On behalf of Pre-Construct Archaeology, sincere thanks are expressed to Mr A. Clifton of HLM Architects and to their Client, ASDA Stores Ltd. for commissioning this Evaluation. Thanks go also to Mr Jim Bonnor, the Community Archaeologist for Boston for providing much valuable advice during the fieldwork. Most of the fieldwork was undertaken by Wayne Livesey, Malcolm Otter and Rob Schofield and sincere thanks are expressed also to them and to Philippa Brown for processing the finds. Finally, thanks go to Hilary Healey for her assessment of the pottery and to James Rackham for examining the sedimentary sequence exposed on the site and for commenting on its potential for further study.

10.0 Appendices

10.1 Figures

10.2 Colour photographs

10.3 Summary of pottery analysis

10.4 List of contexts

10.5 References

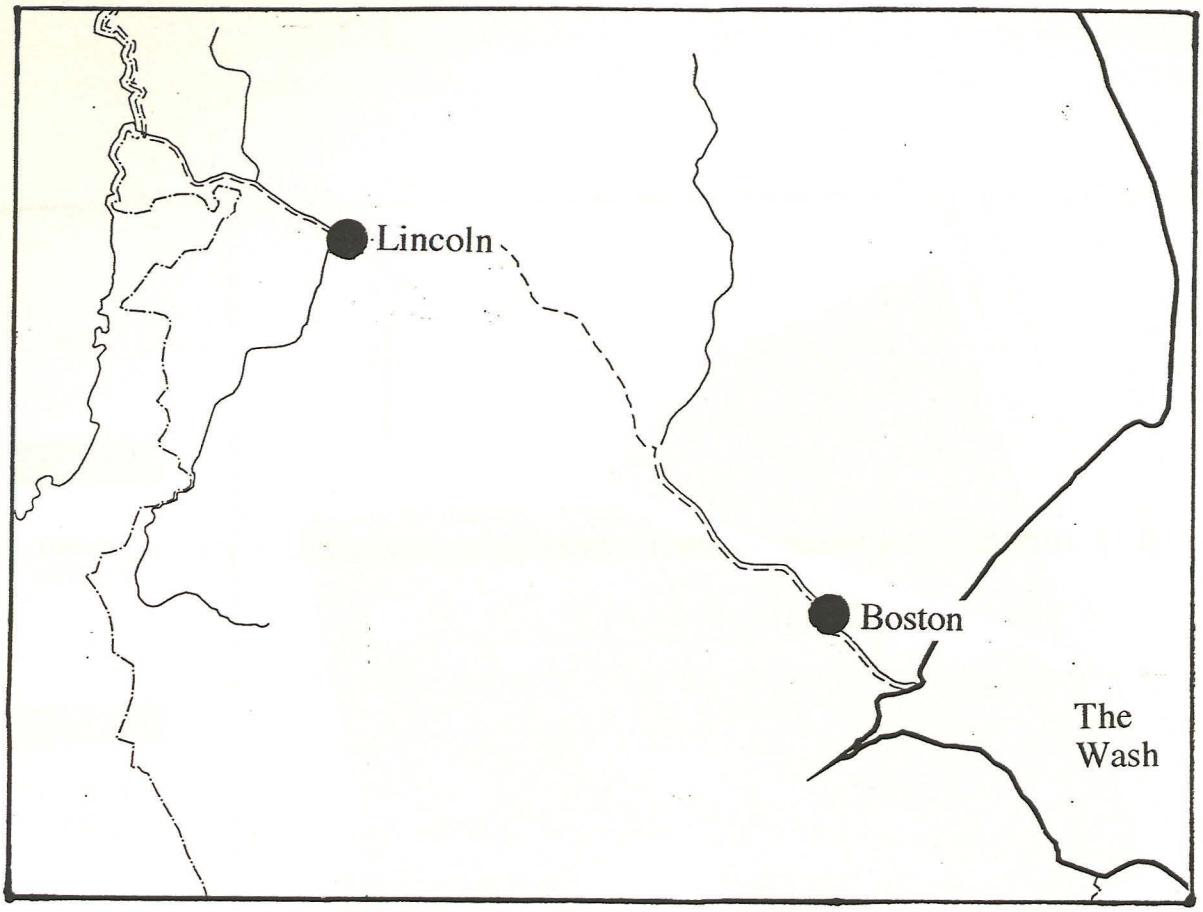


Fig 1. Lincolnshire/Boston

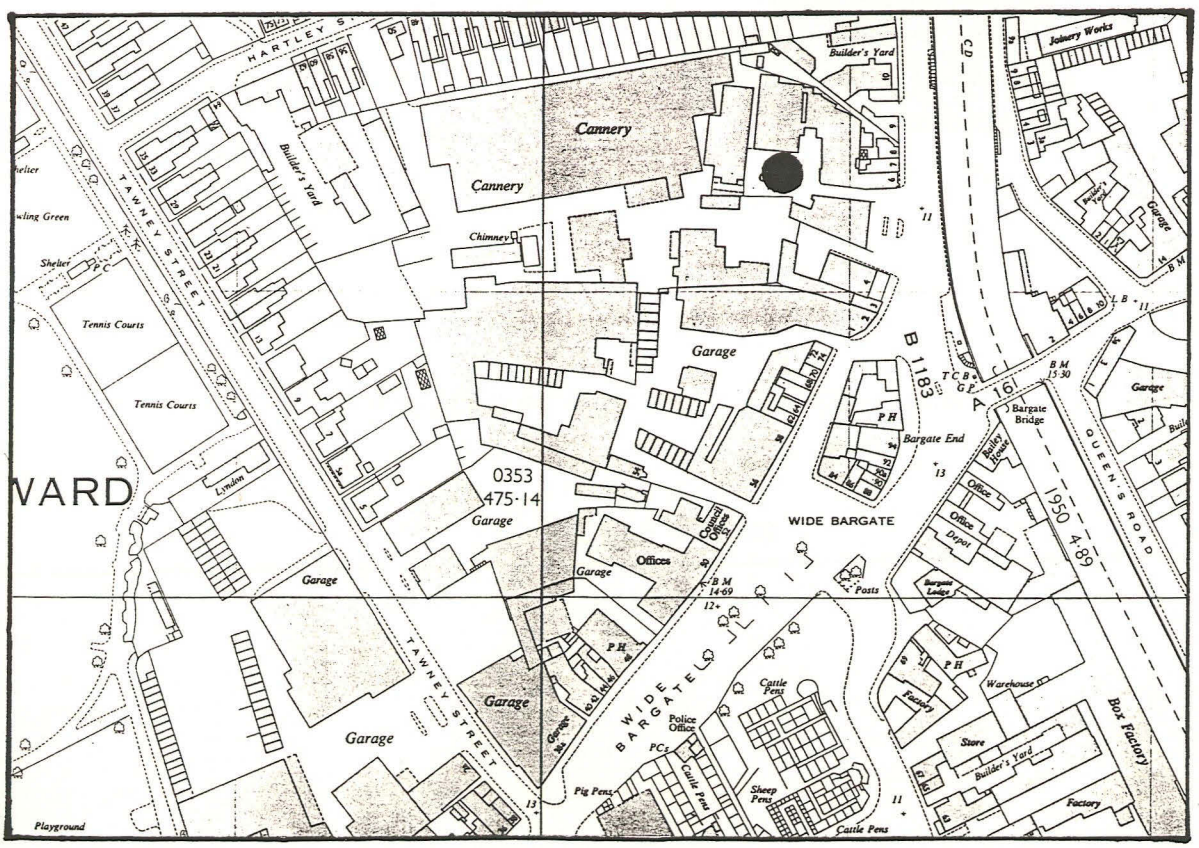


Fig 2. Site Location

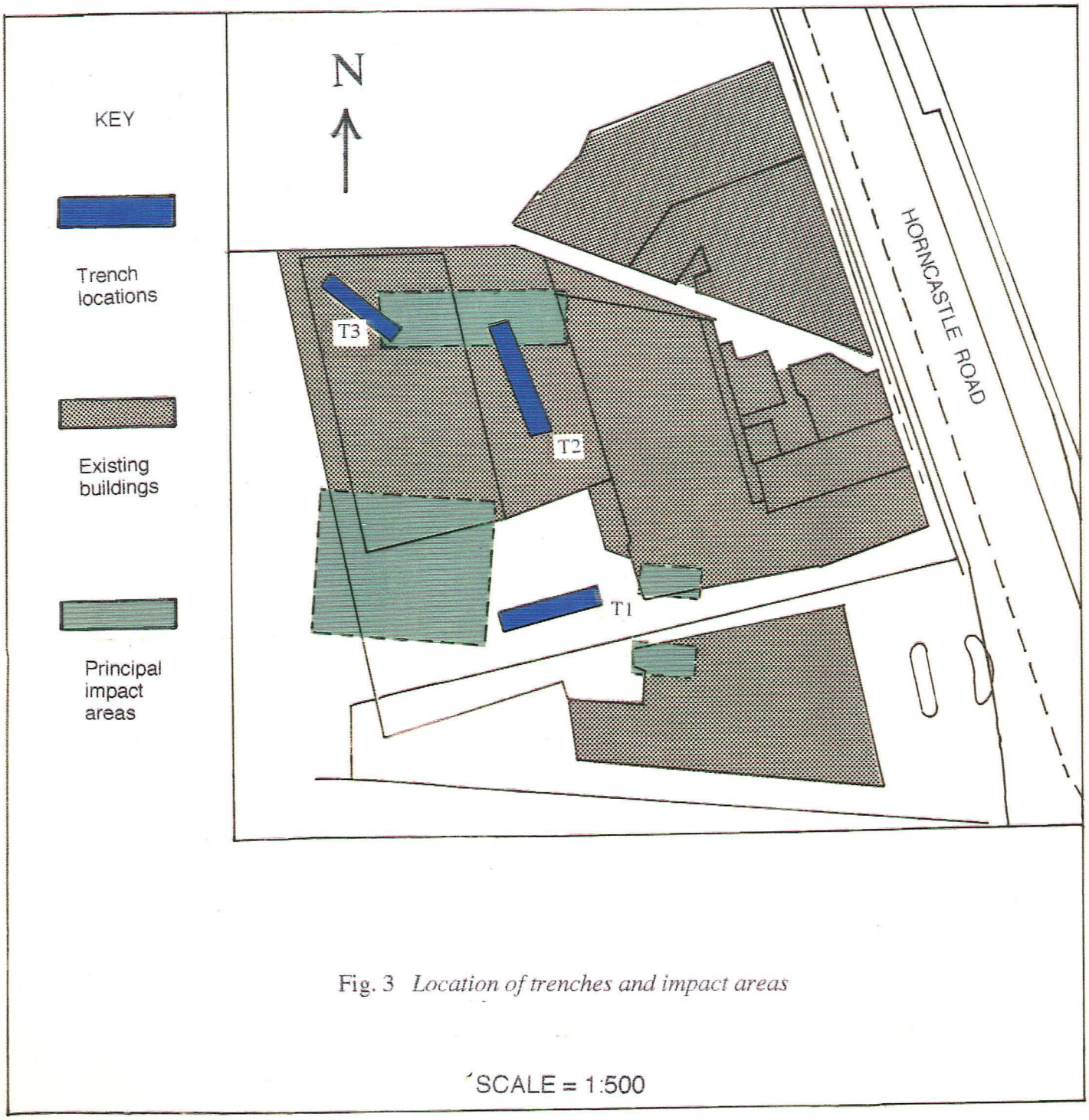


Fig. 3 *Location of trenches and impact areas*

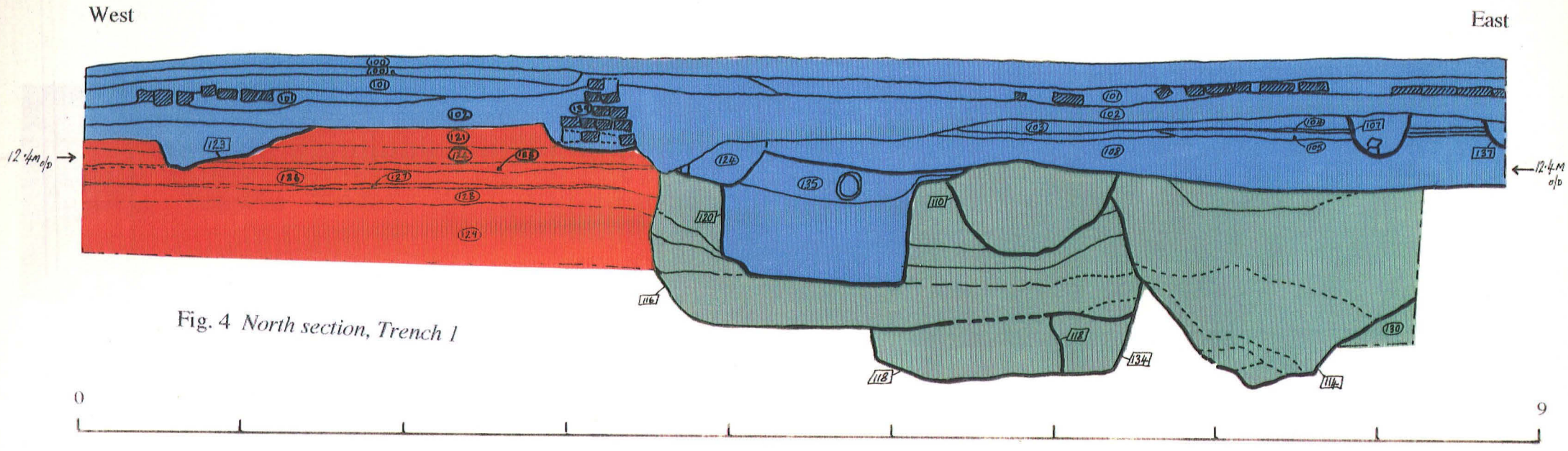


Fig. 4 *North section, Trench 1*

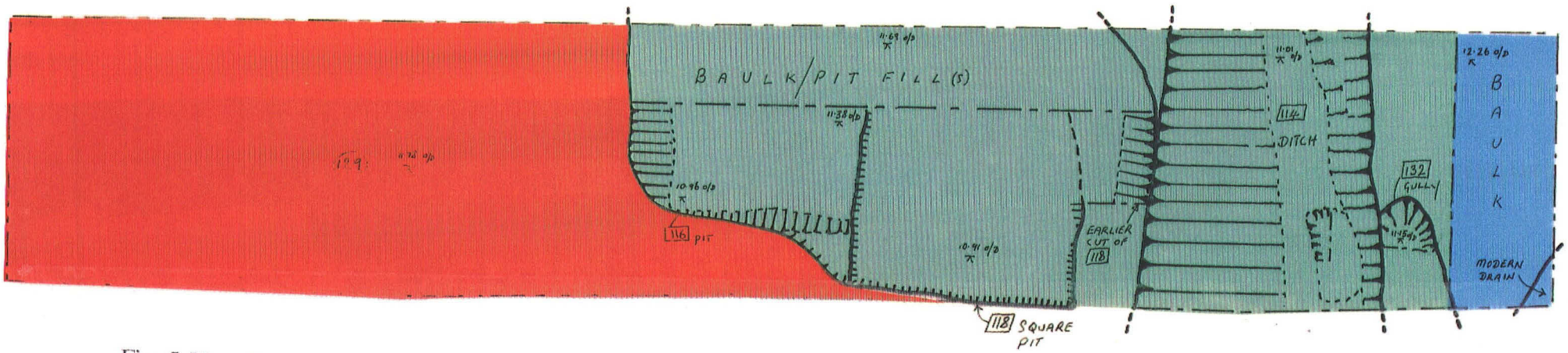


Fig. 5 *Plan, Trench 1*

KEY

Modern/post-medieval deposits

Medieval deposits

Natural silts and alluvia

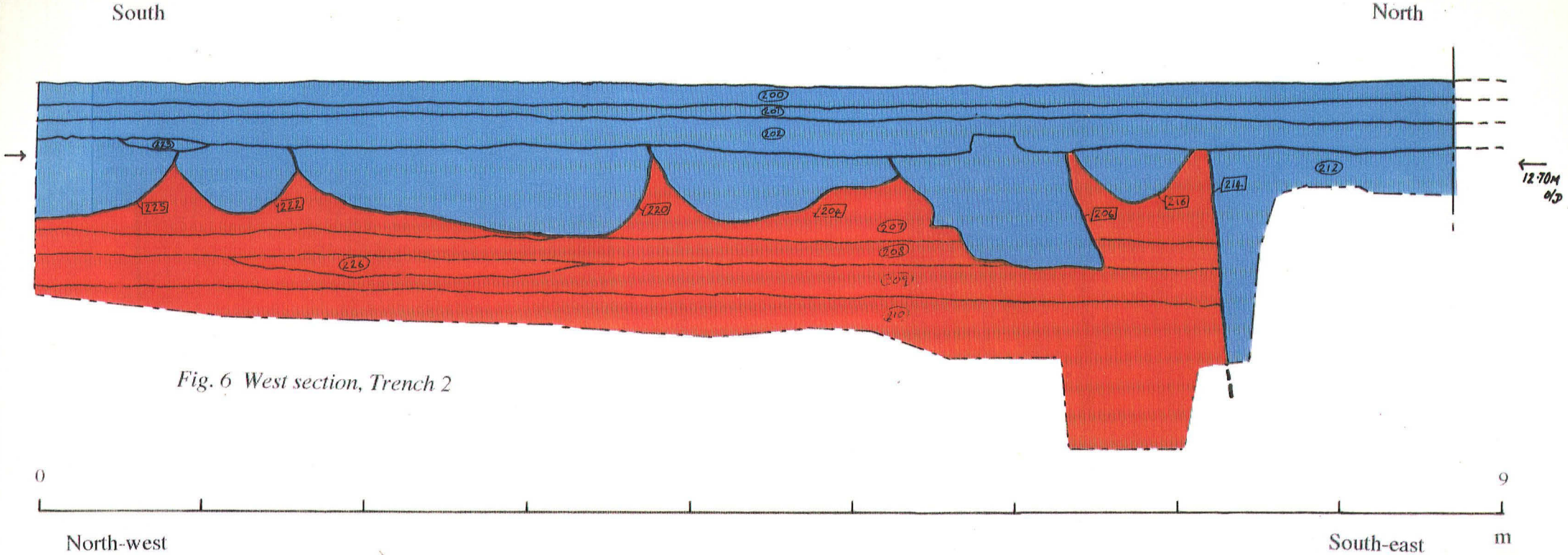


Fig. 6 West section, Trench 2

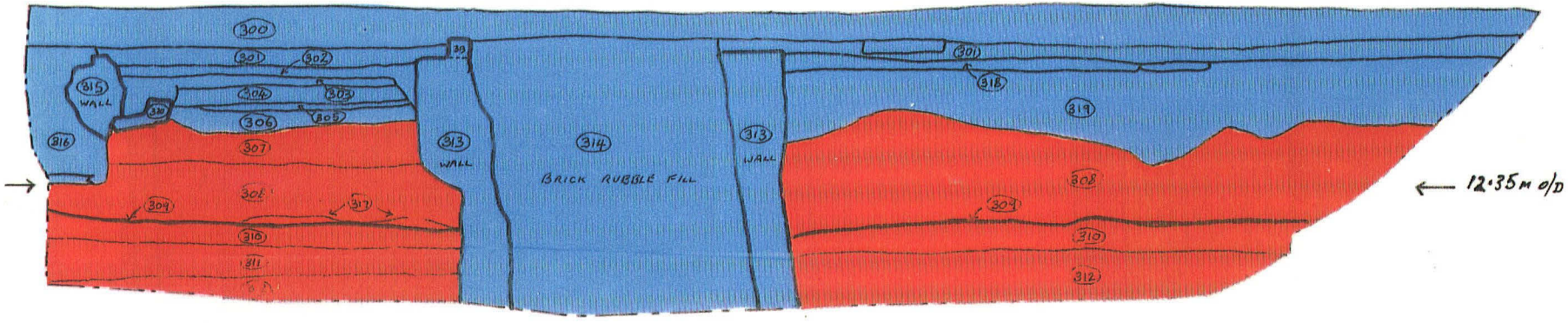
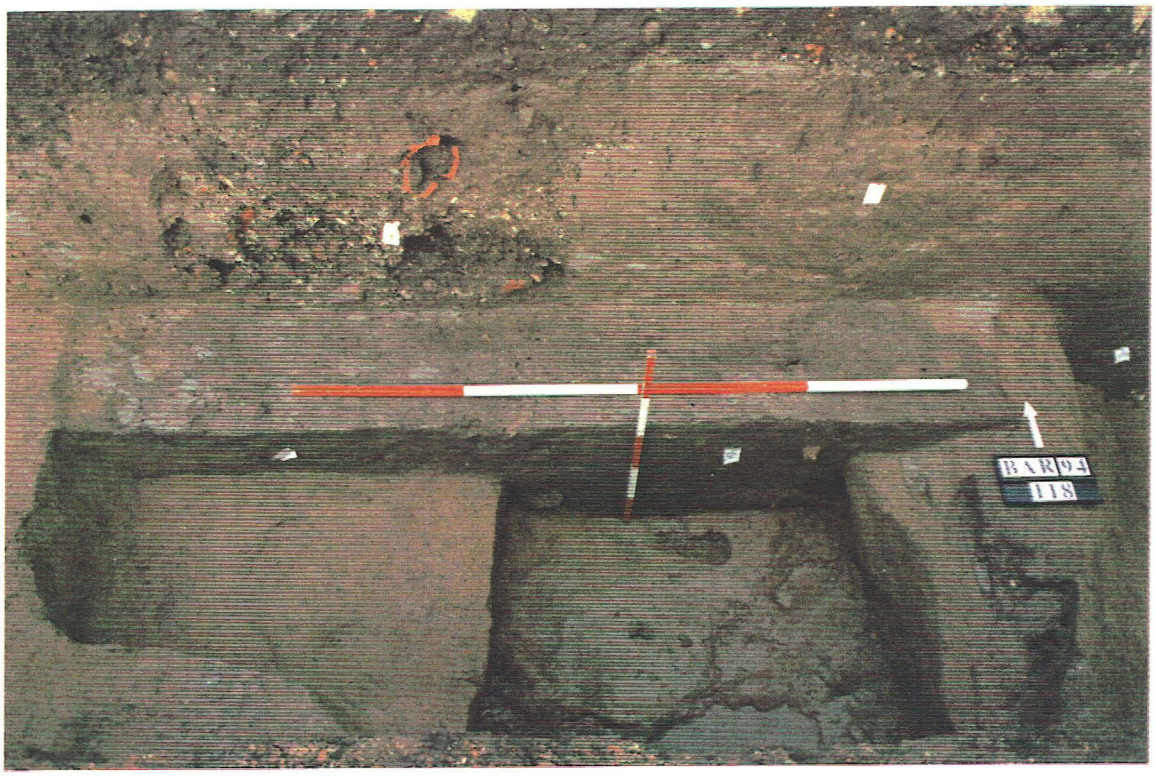


Fig. 7 North-east section, Trench 3

KEY = Same as for Figs. 4&5

P1. Trench 1 showing natural alluvial deposits in background with medieval features (dark areas) in foreground.

P2. Same view following excavation of earth-cut pits and ditches. Both views looking west.

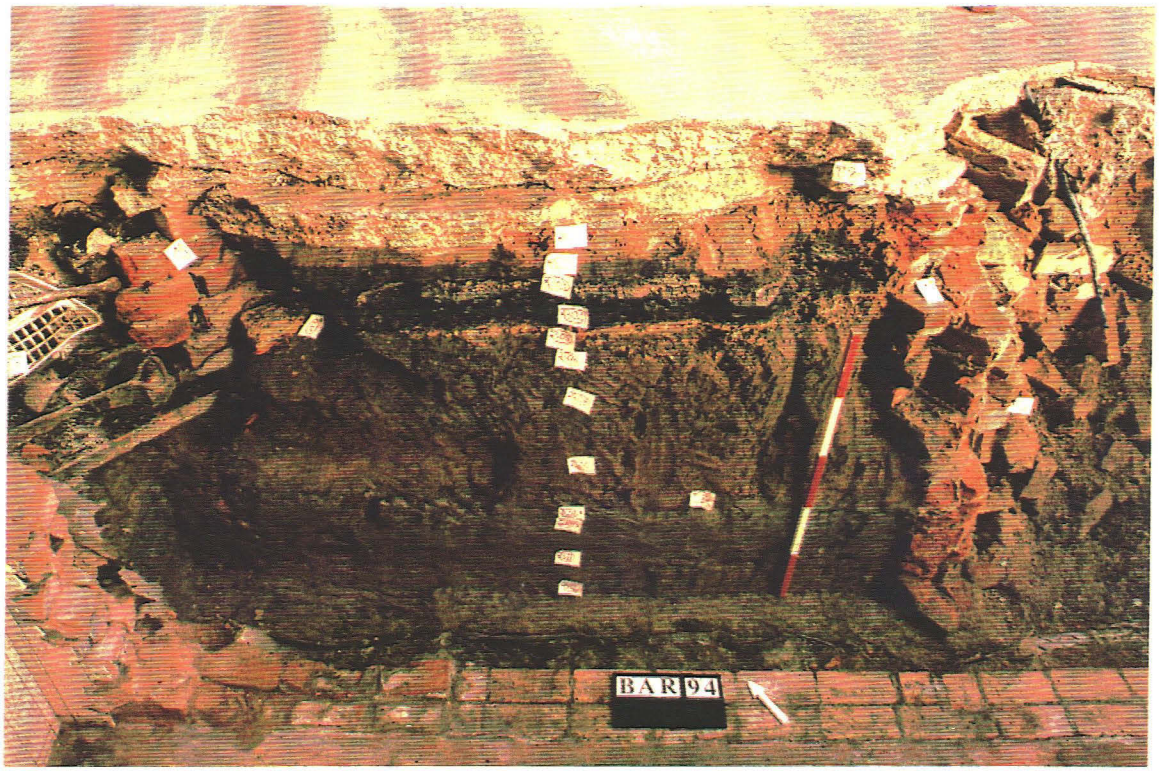


P3. Trench 1 showing square-cut pit [118] and adjacent pit [116]; sectioned, looking north.

P4. Trench 1 showing north-south ditch [114]; looking south.

P5. Trench 2 showing alluvial deposits in west section, truncated by post-medieval and modern intrusions. The stepped area in the background lies within the construction trench fill of a brick-lined well, the head of which can also be seen.

P6. Trench 2, south-east corner, showing contamination from leaking waste oil storage tank.



P7. Trench 3; close-up of alluvial sequence with overlying buried topsoil and modern construction features. Looking north-east.

P8. General view of sequence exposed in trench 3. The brick-lined intrusive feature is an earlier garage inspection pit. Looking north.

10.3 Summary of pottery analysis (by context)

A quick assessment of pottery from medieval features excavated in Trench 1 was undertaken by H. Healey at the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire on January 25th, 1994. The results of that assessment are as follows:-

Context	Details
[111]	Most sherds = Toynton All Saints type (13th-16th centuries). Later rather than earlier. Latest sherds probably 15th century.
[112]	1 sherd Toynton; 1 sherd exotic (not diagnosed)
[113]	Mostly Toynton type
[115]	Nothing diagnostic
[117]	Much Toynton-type pottery. 2 sherds of shelly = Potterhanworth (M/L 13th - 15th century). Group = 14th/15th century. Some sherds = Bourne type (15th/16th century)
[130]	Most sherds = Toynton/Lincoln wares
Unstratified	Some sherds as late as 17th century but most = Toynton-type. One frag. of med. glazed tile worthy of further examination.

General comment.

Very little material earlier than 14th century. As a whole, group centres around 14th/15th centuries

10.4 List of contexts (classification only)

10.4.1 Trench 1

Context	Classification
[100]	Modern concrete yard surface.
[101]	Precursor to [100], ?old brick yard surface. ?20th century.
[102]	Topsoil. Possibly redeposited/used as levelling for [101].
[103]	?Old yard surface (crushed brick). 19th century or later.
[104]	Uncertain. Possibly a rough temporary surface. Late 19th/20th century.
[105]	Uncertain. Very localised crushed mortar/silt layer. Seen only in section. Modern.
[106]	?Post-hole or pit. Brick fragments possibly packing.
[107]	Modern feature seen only in N. section.
[108]	?Levelling material. Rests over truncated horizon which has removed upper fill of medieval features.
[109]	Pit fill examined only in N. section. Machine-excavated.
[110]	Cut for the above.
[111]	Bulk fill of ditch [114]
[112]	Primary fill of ditch [114]. Medieval.
[113]	Lowest primary fill of ditch [114].
[114]	Medieval drainage ditch cut.
[115]	Fill of medieval pit, [116].
[116]	Medieval pit.
[117]	Fill of square-sectioned pit, [118].
[118]	Cut, square-sectioned pit.
[119]	Lower fill of modern pipe trench.
[120]	Cut for modern land drain.
[121]	?Natural flood horizon.
[122]	?Post-medieval pit fill.

[123] Cut for small pit. Probably post-medieval.

[124] ?Natural flood horizon.

[125] ?Natural flood horizon.

[126] ?Natural flood horizon.

[127] Post-depositional leached horizon on top of clay layer [128].

[128] Flood deposit. Probably the settlement material from a major flood in which water stood/settled.

[129] Natural flood horizon(s).

[130] Lower fill of truncated feature. Status not determined.

[131] Lower fill of ditch/gully truncated by large ditch [114].

[132] Cut for the above.

[133] Fill of void between pit [118] and earlier pit [134].

[134] ?Original east side of pit [118].

[135] Upper fill of feature [120]

[136] Fill of small modern feature, S/E corner of trench..

[137] Small cut of the above.

[138] Upper fill of ditch [114].

[139] Modern brick wall foundation.

10.4.2 Trench 2

Context	**Classification**
[200]	Modern concrete floor of garage building.
[201]	Brick yard-type floor pre-dating concrete floor.
[202]	Garden soil/cultivation horizon
[203]	Pit fill, very similar to [202].
[204]	Cut for the above.
[205]	Trench fill associated with drain leading to post-medieval well
[206]	Cut for the above.
[207]	?Natural seasonal flood horizon.
[208]	Low energy standing water deposit (fine blue clay).

[209] ?Natural seasonal flood horizon.

[210] Same as [129] in Trench 1

[211] Brick lining of post-medieval well.

[212] Upper construction fill associated with well

[213] Construction trench fill associated with well (below [212])

[214] Cut associated with well construction

[215] Fill of small modern pit seen in west section

[216] Cut for the above

[217] Cancelled context

[218] Cancelled context

[219] Fill of large feature examined (longitudinally) in west section. Post-medieval/modern

[220] Cut for the above

[221] Fill of small post-medieval/modern pit seen in west section, south side

[222] Cut for the above

[223] Thin lens of sandy material examined only in west section, south side

[224] Fill of pit-like feature examined only in west section, south side

[225] Cut for the above

[226] Natural clay filling shallow channel below [208]. Possibly the same as [311] in Trench 3

10.4.3 Trench 3

Context	**Classification**
[300]	Modern concrete floor
[301]	Earlier concrete floor; modern
[302]	Bedding layer for [301]
[303]	Black silt wash/yard accumulation/occupation
[304]	Modern tarmac surface
[305]	?Levelling for [304]

[306] ?Remnants of truncated cultivation layer [post-med/modern]

[307] Natural flood horizon(s), stained via leaching from topsoil

[308] Natural flood horizon(s)

[309] Same layer as [127] in Trench 1

[310] Same layer as [128] in Trench 1

[311] ?Same as [226] in Trench 2

[312] Same layer(s) as [129] in Trench 1

[313] Walls associated with earlier modern garage inspection pits

[314] Brick rubble filling the above

[315] Brick wall associated with earlier garage inspection pit

[316] Fill of the above

[317] Localised silt/flood horizon

[318] Levelling for [301] floor

[319] Buried topsoil/cultivation layer below garage floor(s)

[320] Post-medieval brick wall fragment

10.5 References

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