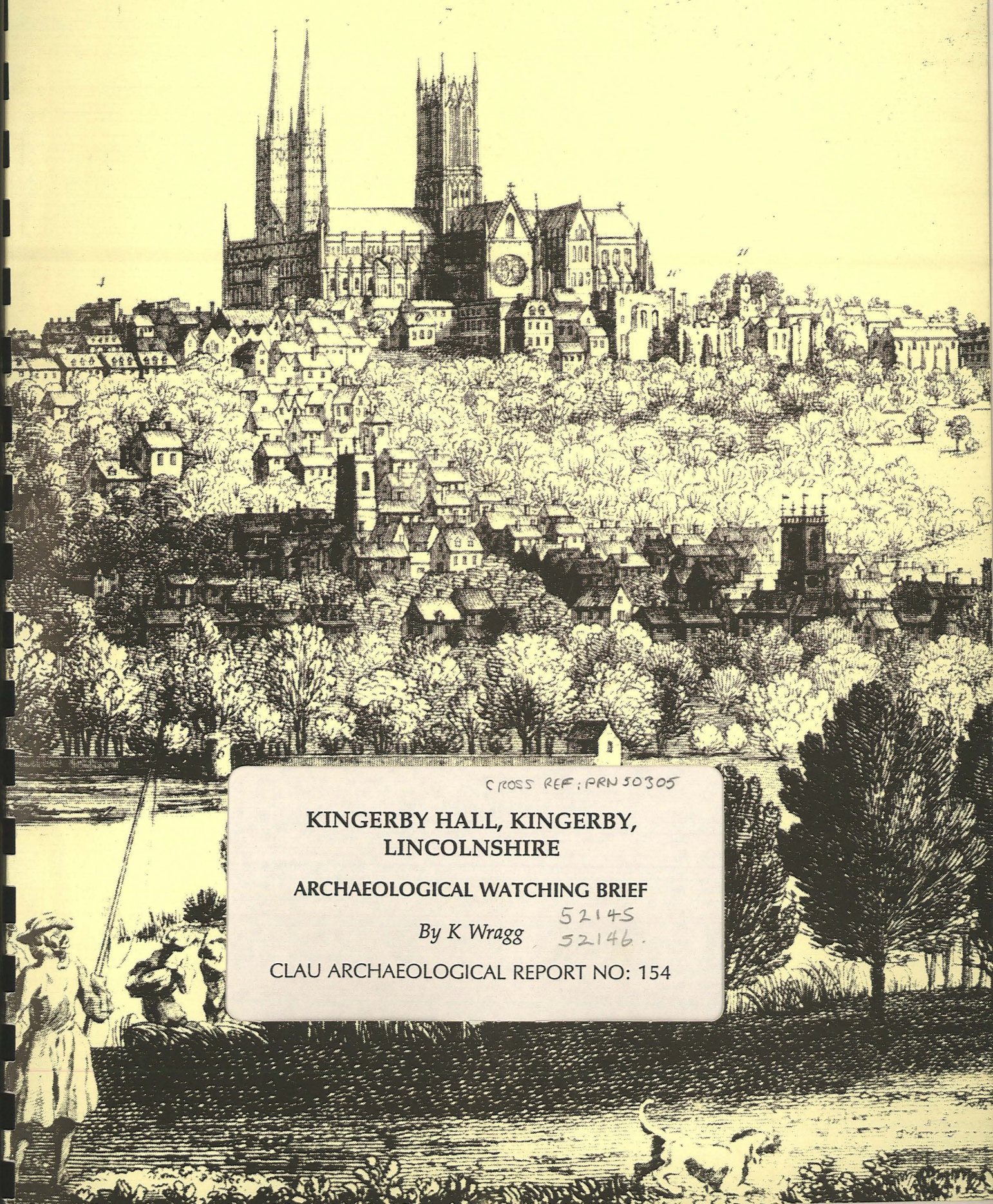


95A

CITY OF
◇ LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY ◇
UNIT



CROSS REF: PRN 50305

**KINGERBY HALL, KINGERBY,
LINCOLNSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

By K Wragg 52145
52146.

CLAU ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT NO: 154

EU 6935

SLI 5169 1546

KINGERBY HALL, KINGERBY, LINCOLNSHIRE

A

Report to

H P & E M Egeskov (Egeskov Farms Ltd)

Kingerby Hall, Kingerby, Lincolnshire

February 1995

Prepared by

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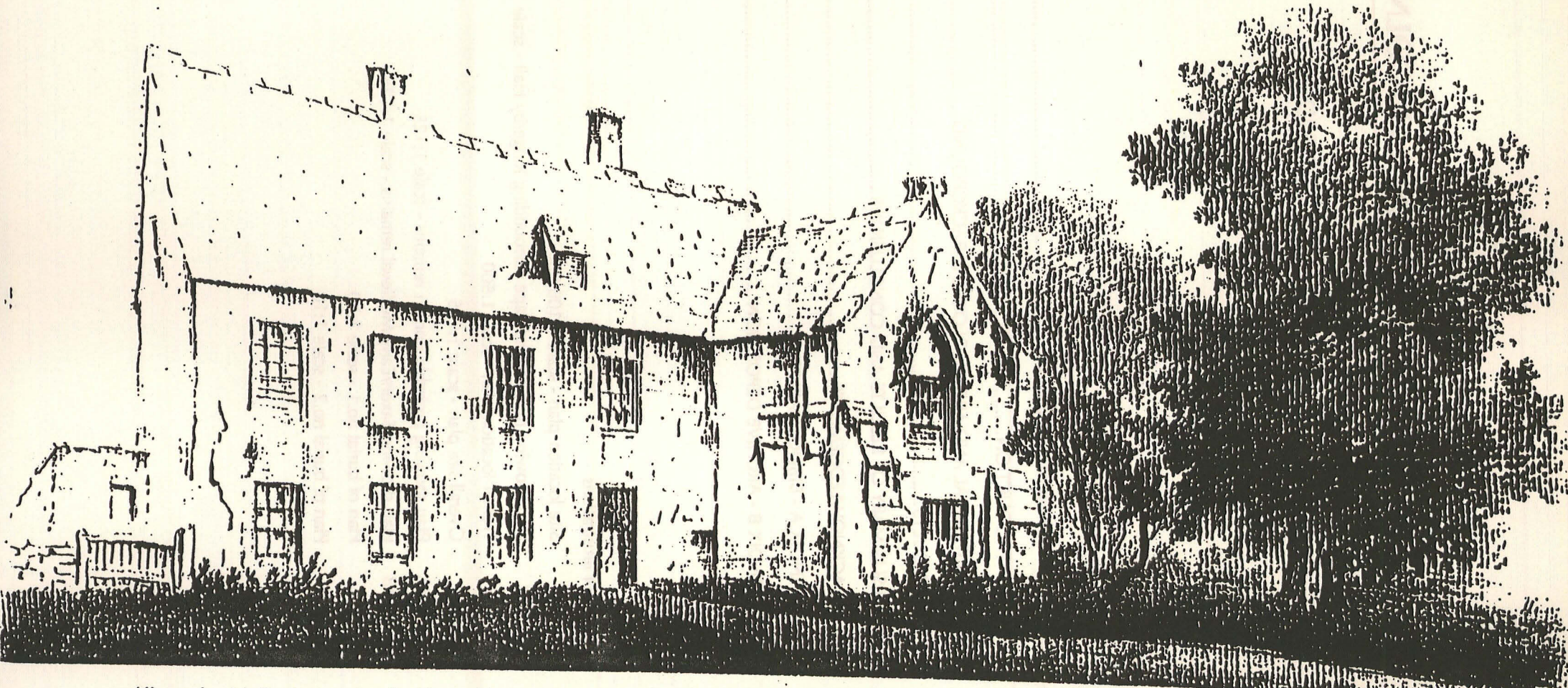
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING

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ARCHIVE



Kingerby Hall, drawn by C. Nattes in 1795. This late medieval and later building stood within the moated site at Kingerby.

KINGERBY HALL, KINGERBY, LINCOLNSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING

Non-Technical Summary

This project was prompted by the discovery of human remains during the course of alterations to an ornamental lake in the grounds of the above property, which lies to the north-west of Market Rasen. Accordingly, at the request of the County Archaeological Officer (Mr S.Catney), the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit was commissioned to record and remove the remains concerned, and following further negotiation with the owners and clients, Mr and Mrs Egeskov, it was agreed that an intensive watching brief should be carried out on all remaining elements of the groundwork programme.

In spite of atrocious weather, including widespread flooding across the site, two burials were ultimately discovered, together with several linear features (possibly ditches), several circular pits and possible postholes, and evidence for a possible hearth. Dumps of animal bone were encountered at various

locations around the excavated area, together with a number of pottery fragments, indicating land-use during both the Roman and the Anglo-Saxon periods.

It is obvious that the area was subject to some form of activity, although definite signs of structures were not revealed. The linear features could however represent field boundaries, or similar enclosures, and the dumps of animal bones, together with the signs of burning, and the human burials would seem to indicate the presence of occupation in close proximity to the investigated areas. The site is potentially very important as it appears to contain evidence for a sequence of development and occupation during the Roman period, together with subsequent activity beginning in the 9th century and continuing through to the present day.

KINGERBY HALL, TF056S 9280
KINGERBY, LINCOLNSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING

1.0 Introduction

Following the chance discovery of human remains at the above location, during groundworks to enlarge an existing ornamental lake, archaeologists from the Lincolnshire County Council's Archaeology Section visited the site to assess the need for an archaeological response.

As a result of this visit it was decided that in addition to the obvious need to record and remove the initial burial, the likelihood of further important archaeological discoveries, including additional human remains, warranted a continued archaeological presence in the form of an intensive watching brief.

The City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit was commissioned by the owners of the property, H.P. & E.M. Egeskov (Egeskov Farms Ltd), upon recommendation by the County Archaeologist Mr S.Catney, to carry out the archaeological recording of the remainder of the groundworks on the site, during September 1993.

In the event, however, owing to severe operational problems on the part of the groundworks contractor, caused by the unseasonably heavy rains and subsequent waterlogging and flooding of the site, the groundworks and watching brief were not eventually completed until May 1994.

The information in this document is presented with the proviso that further data may yet emerge. The Unit, its members and employees cannot, therefore, be held responsible for any loss, delay or damage, material or otherwise, arising out of this report. The document has been prepared in accordance with the terms of the Unit's Articles of Association, the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and The Management of Archaeological Projects 2 (English Heritage, 1991).

2.0 Historical and Archaeological Background

The area surrounding Kingerby Hall contains evidence for human occupation dating from the prehistoric period through to the present day. In the Roman period the site lay between the major Roman road running north from Lincoln (Ermine Street, now the A15), and the Roman settlements at Market Rasen, Caister, and further to the east, Louth. Anglo-Saxon inhumation sites, appearing to date to the 6th or 7th centuries, are also common in the area, with high status burials being found to the west, at Caenby in 1850, and twenty-three burials revealed in 1990, at Walesby (on the Wold edge to the east). Metalwork finds of this period have also been produced through metal detecting in the area of Market Rasen, again suggesting the presence of further inhumation sites.

Kingerby Hall itself lies in the centre of the former village of Kingerby, in the current parish of Osgodby, approximately 4 miles to the north-west of Market Rasen (see figs 1 & 2). The surviving earthworks show that the village had a (extremely) regular layout indicating a planned origin, perhaps by the Amundeville family in the 12th century. However it is possible (especially in view of the Scandinavian origins of the name "Kingerby") that the original village was established at a much earlier date, perhaps during the 9th century. Its abandonment was probably as a result of conversion to pasture in the 17th century.

The present Hall consists of an early 19th century house of typical Georgian aspect (built in 1812, for James Young - Pevsner, N et al, 1989), which stands prominently on an elevated platform, and is enclosed to the north and east by curved water-filled ditches (which date from the medieval period). Evidence also remains of the ditch to the south of the building, but this has been partially infilled and smoothed by landscaping.

The original manor of Kingerby was held in 1086 by the Bishop of Lincoln who remained tenant-in-chief until the late Middle Ages. In the 12th century the family of Amundeville were the tenants, with a substantial residence at Kingerby. Lady Beatrice de Amundeville granted the site of Kingerby church to the Augustinian priory at Elsham before 1166.

In the early 13th century Peter de Amundeville was amongst those who opposed King John and was required to pay a fine to recover his "domus" (home) at Kingerby in 1216. By this time the Manor was also a military stronghold, as indicated by King Henry III's recalling in 1218 that the "castrum" (fort or castle) of Kingerby had been burnt and captured in John's reign but not razed, and then ordering that it was to be completely destroyed forthwith.

In the 13th century the manor was held successively by William and John de Dyve, who were evidently resident, while in the 14th century it was held jointly by the Bussy family and the Disneys, with the latter apparently succeeding the former as resident lords. Their 14th century monument is the church, which originally featured memorial glass in its windows. The Disneys had Kingerby until almost the end of the 16th century, when it was sold to Sir Thomas Pickering, with the manor then passing through various hands until bought in about 1780 by the Young family.

A drawing of Kingerby Hall in 1795 (see frontispiece) shows a late medieval, perhaps 14th or 15th century, two-storey wing at right angles to a postmedieval house which may have incorporated or remodelled a medieval hall range. This was replaced by the present hall and stables in about 1812 (all refs. Everson et al, 1991 unless indicated).

3.0 Results (See Figs. 3-6)

The earliest deposits recorded during this project took the form of two successive layers of natural (i.e. geological) clay [141] & [142], the first a grey-brown colour containing gravel and flint, which was overlain by a mottled orange and grey layer with similar inclusions. These deposits appeared to be present over the whole site and were sealed by a layer of mid-light orange-brown mixed sand and clay [106], containing small pieces of flint and small pieces of mollusc shell. This latter layer appeared to represent the original ground level dating back to at least the Roman period, and was cut by almost all of the features recorded during the groundworks.

The evidence for occupation revealed on the site can be broadly divided into four different periods, as follows:

PERIOD 1 - the earliest known occupation of the site beginning during the Roman period (suggested by the pottery finds to be during the 2nd and 3rd centuries) - See Fig.4A.

The features associated with this Period consisted of six linear cuts [107], [127], [129], [131], [137] and [139] (probably ditches or gullies) together with two burials (see Fig.4A). Burial 1 comprised grave fill [103], skeleton [104] and grave cut [105], while fill [111], skeleton [112] and cut [113] made up Burial 2. Two of the cuts ([129] and [131]) were oriented approximately NE-SW and sealed Burial 2, in the case of [129] actually cutting through and removing the lower leg bones of the body. The relationship between these two cut features is unusual and could indicate the presence of some form of structure, but there is unfortunately no evidence to support this theory.

Of the four remaining cut features, three ([107], [127] and [137]) were oriented approximately N-S, and one ([139]) appeared to lie NW-SE. The latter also appeared to feed into the larger ditch [137].

The two burials encountered during trenching, as mentioned above, were both aligned approximately NW-SE with the heads to the south-east, and notwithstanding the truncation caused by later features (in the case of Burial 2) and the slight damage caused during the initial discovery (both burials were discovered during machine clearance of the area), were in a good state of preservation. The burials were lying supine (i.e. on their backs) in simple earth graves, with no surviving evidence of clothing, shrouds or grave-goods present.

A very similar material was seen to fill all of the features described above, and Roman pottery was also recovered. Analysis of this pottery has indicated a date of probable 2nd to 3rd century for this group of features.

In addition to the features definitely attributable to Period 1 there were several other cut features, including pits and more possible ditches, which did not produce any dating evidence, and therefore cannot be positively allocated to either Period 1 or 2. From the stratigraphic record however it is clear that these features could not belong to Period 3, and therefore for the purpose of this report any undated features or deposits lying beneath the possible ploughsoil [102] (Period 3) are allocated to Period 2.

PERIOD 2 - re-occupation and land-use during the Anglo-Saxon and Early Medieval periods (9th - 11th Centuries A.D. and possibly earlier) - See Fig.4B.

Of the eight features included in Period 2 (see above), three were linear cuts, one was a burnt clay area (forming a possible hearth [115]), and the remaining four were roughly circular cuts (see Fig.4B).

Three of the circular cuts ([123], [125] and [133]) appeared to be natural in origin, probably as a result of animal activity, but pottery dating from the late 9th to early 10th centuries was recovered from the fill of the one remaining circular cut feature [121].

This latter feature lay in very close proximity to the area of burning [115], and could possibly have been associated with some form of occupation in this part of the site, although no definite evidence for this was discovered.

The three linear features ([117], [119] and [135]) were all oriented approximately NW-SE, but unfortunately did not produce any dating evidence.

PERIOD 3 - landscaping and modification of the site in conjunction with the establishment of the planned village of Kingerby (probably beginning in the 12th Century, and possibly involving the re-planning of an original settlement) - See Fig.3.

This Period was represented by two deposits, a layer of mid-light grey sandy, clayey earth forming the remains of a possible ploughsoil [102], and an area of rubbish dumping containing primarily animal bones, [140]. Pottery recovered from both of these contexts indicates a probable date of early 13th to late 15th century.

PERIOD 4 - later Post Medieval and Modern occupation.

The only contexts contained within this Period consisted of a layer of mid-dark grey brown clayey topsoil [101], and the overlying turf layer [100]. A series of roughly square sandstone blocks [114] were recorded in one location directly beneath the turf, sealing the topsoil layer, which was also heavily rutted from machinery operation.

4.0 Summary of Results and Conclusions

From the results detailed above it appears that this site lies at the periphery of a 2nd to 3rd century A.D. Roman settlement, with subsequent re-occupation from the mid-late Anglo-Saxon and early medieval periods, before the site was landscaped and its use changed during the 12th century. The original date of the foundation of the village may be the 9th century, as this was a common period for the concentration of smaller individual holdings into larger settlements (Roberts, 1987), and it is also possible that, given the Scandinavian origins of the name Kingerby, the village could originally have been a Viking settlement.

No evidence for definite structures was obtained, although it should be borne in mind that the percentage of the features investigated was unfortunately very low, with much of the northern part of the site unobserved. The presence of the two burials, however, together with the area of burning, seems to suggest that the site was possibly close to a centre of population. During the Roman period it is likely that the site lay on the edge of either a rural settlement, or part of a villa estate or farmstead,

The remainder of the features would appear to represent field or property boundaries and drainage ditches, with some possibly associated rubbish pits, but unfortunately without further work it is impossible to more fully understand the site.

5.0 Acknowledgements

The City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit would like to thank the following for their assistance during this project: Mr & Mrs H.P. & E.M. Egeskov; Mr G.Roberts (Egeskov Farms manager); and the officers of the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section.

APPENDIX A

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APPENDIX B

Archive Deposition

The archive consists of:

No.	Description
1	Site diary
1	Report
43	Context records
8	Scale drawings
1 set	Photographic records - Colour slides
1 set	Photographic records - B&W Prints
1	Stratigraphic matrix

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

The City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit,
Charlotte House,
The Lawn,
Union Road,
Lincoln,
Lincolnshire,
LN1 3BL.

It is intended that transfer to the City and County Museum, Friars Lane, Lincoln, in accordance with current published requirements, under Museum Accession Number 45.93, will be undertaken within approximately six months of completion of this project.

CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
SITE CODE: KGB93	PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:	
CLIENT: Egeskov Farms Ltd.		
DESCRIPTION: Site Location Plan		
SCALE: 1:100 000	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY:	CHECKED:	DATE: 19/10/94
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 45.93		

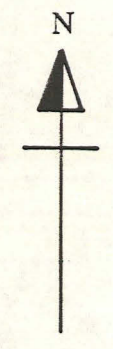
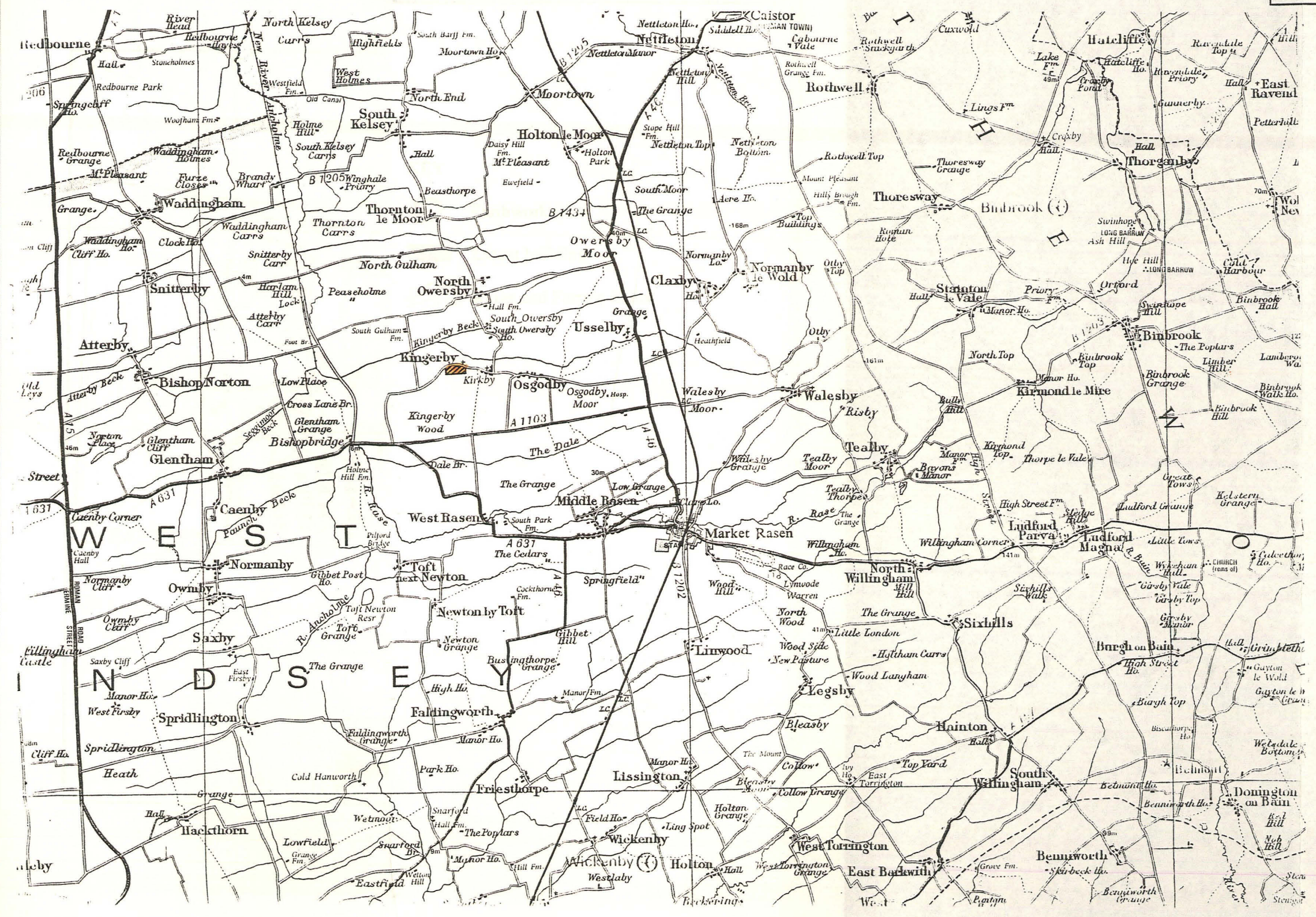


Fig.1

CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
SITE CODE: KGB93	PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:	
CLIENT: Egeskov Farms Ltd.		
DESCRIPTION: Trench location plan		
SCALE: 1:500	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY: KW	CHECKED:	DATE: 19/10/94
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 45.93		

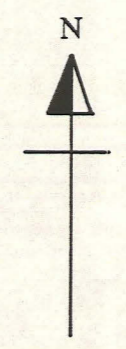
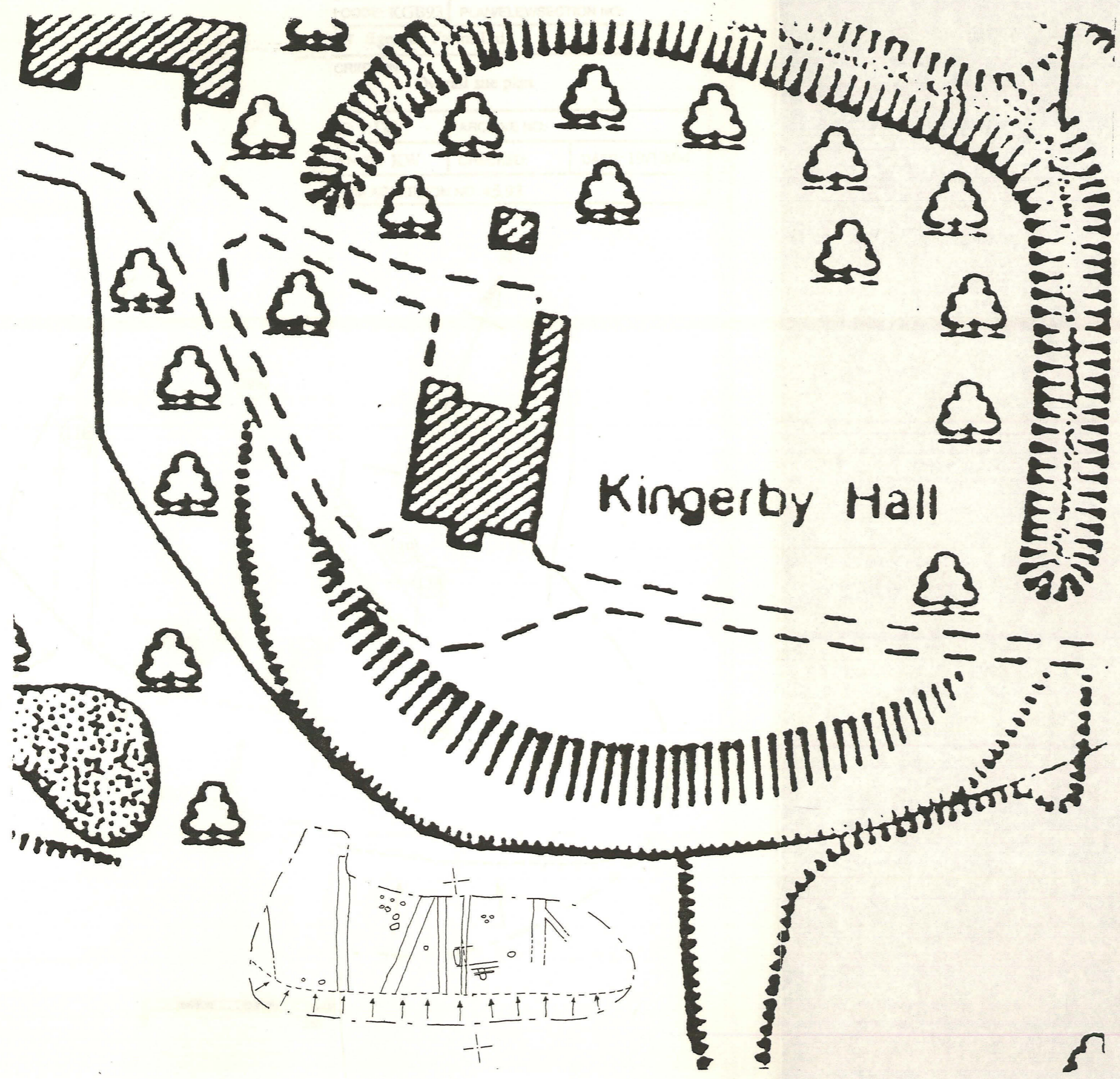


Fig.3

CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
SITE CODE: KGB93	PLANE/LEV/SECTION NO:	
CLIENT: Egeskov Farms Ltd.		
DESCRIPTION: Overall site plan		
SCALE: 1:125	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY: KW	CHECKED:	DATE: 19/10/94
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 45.93		

- KEY**
- ⊕ Site grid co-ordinate
 - - - Limit of excavation
 - ⌒ Edge of cut feature
 - ▨ Grave
 - Burnt area
 - - - Uncertain edge
 - ⊕ Sandstone blocks

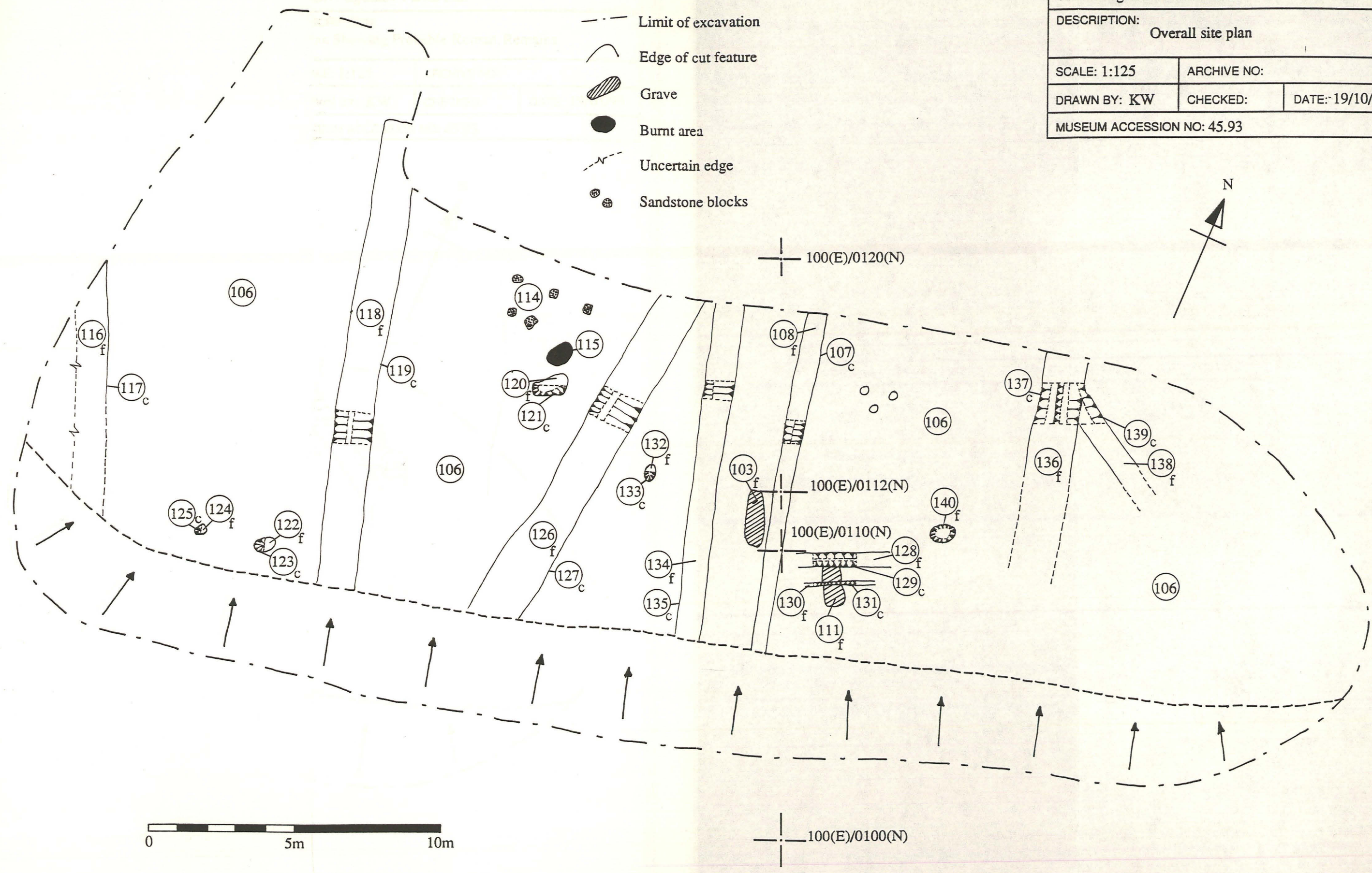


Fig.4

CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT
 SITE CODE: KGB93
 CLIENT: Egeskov Farms Ltd.

- KEY**
- +— Site grid co-ordinate
 - - - Limit of excavation
 - Edge of cut feature
 - ▨ Grave

CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
SITE CODE: KGB93	PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:	
CLIENT: Egeskov Farms Ltd.		
DESCRIPTION: Plan Showing Probable Roman Remains		
SCALE: 1:125	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY: KW	CHECKED:	DATE: 19/01/95
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 45.93		

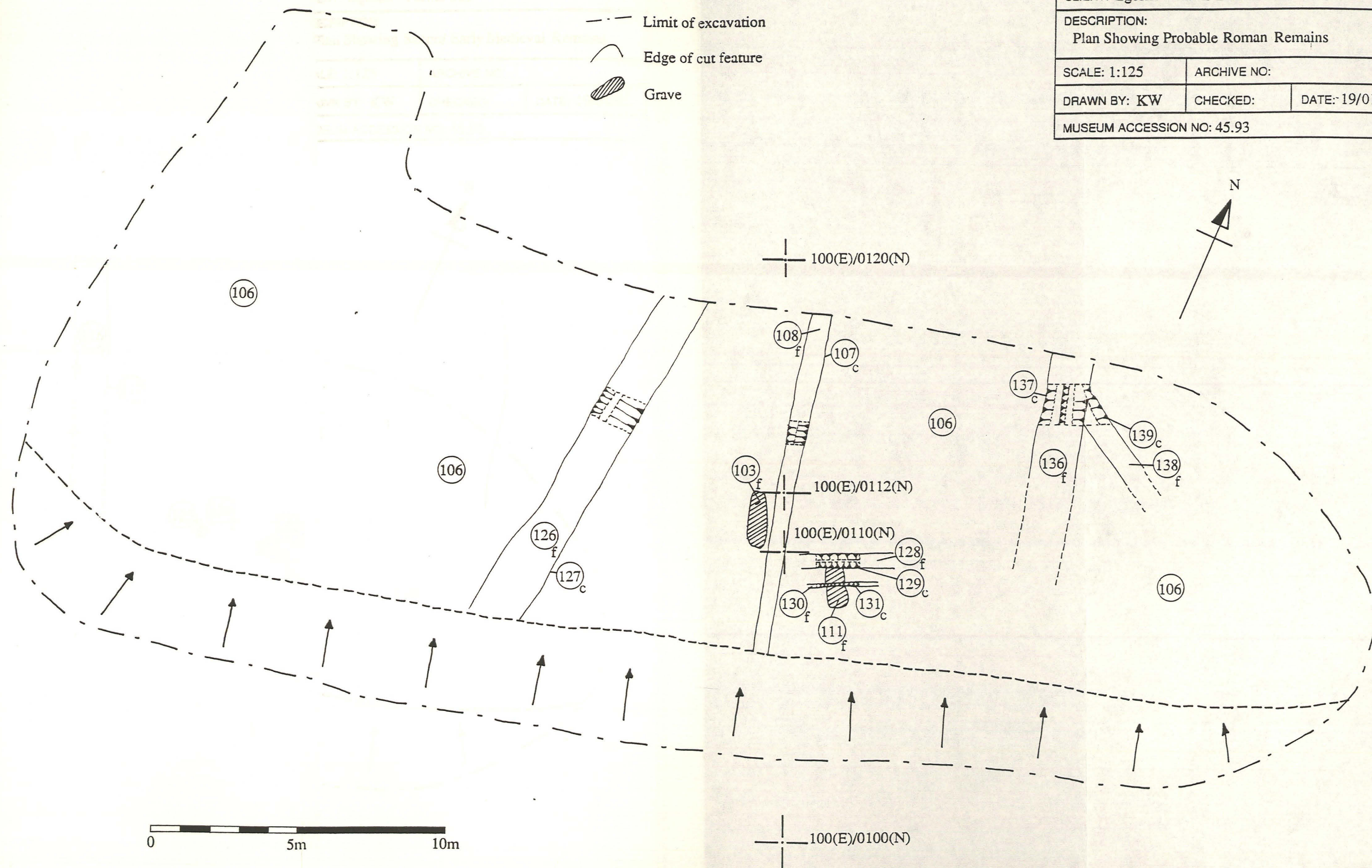


Fig.4A

CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
SITE CODE: KGB93	PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:	
CLIENT: Egeskov Farms Ltd.		
DESCRIPTION: — Plan Showing Saxon/ Early Medieval Remains		
SCALE: 1:125	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY: KW	CHECKED:	DATE: 19/01/95
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 45.93		

- KEY
- + Site grid co-ordinate
 - - - Limit of excavation
 - ⌒ Edge of cut feature
 - ○ Edge of cut feature
 - Burnt area
 - - - Uncertain edge

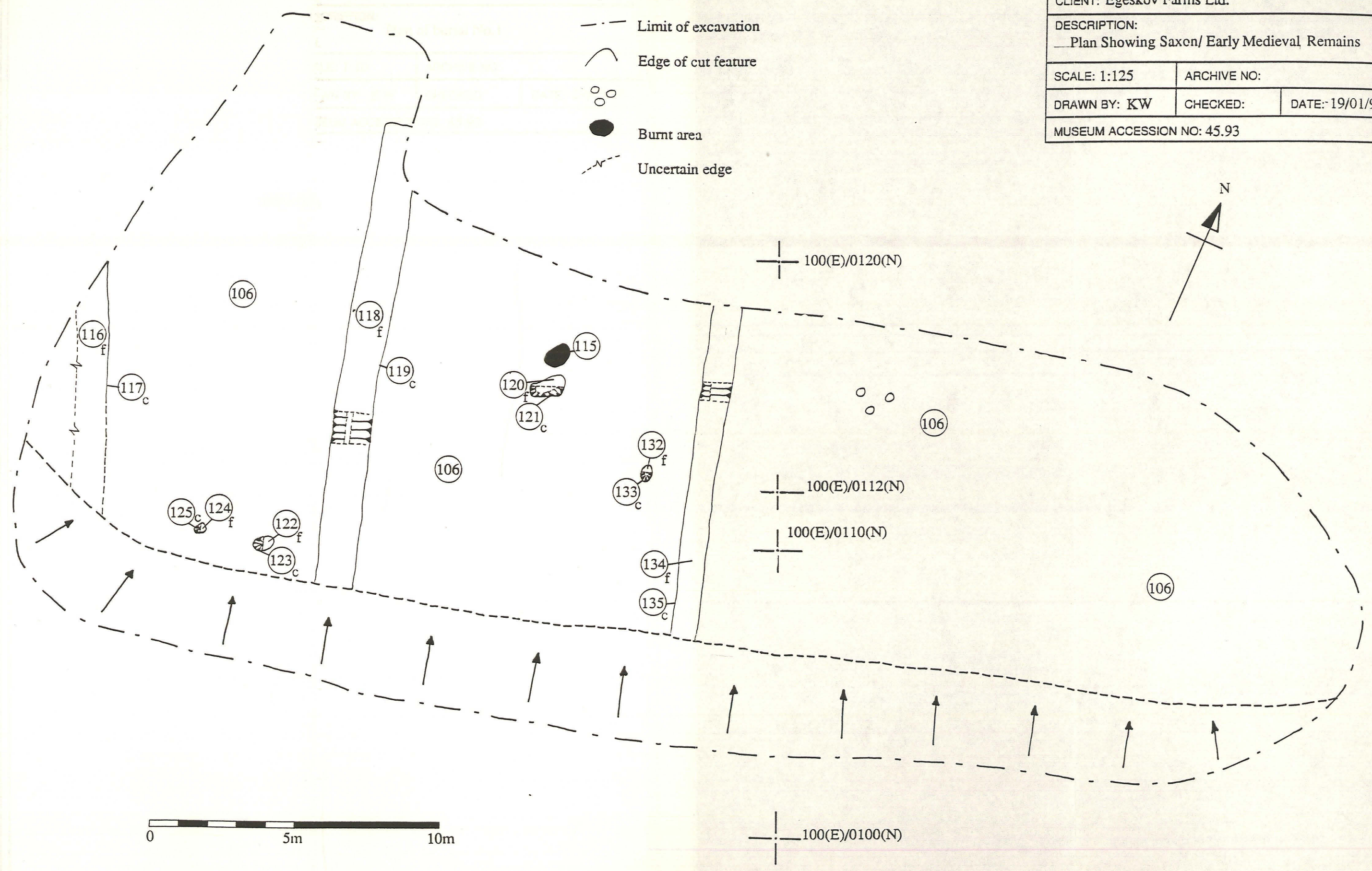


Fig.4B

CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT
Eggeskov Farms Ltd
100(E)/0112(N)

CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
SITE CODE: KGB93	PLANE/ELEV/SECTION NO:	
CLIENT: Eggeskov Farms Ltd.		
DESCRIPTION: Plan of burial No.1		
SCALE: 1:10	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY: KW	CHECKED:	DATE: 29/09/93
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 45.93		



100(E)/0112(N)
+

100(E)/0110(N)
+

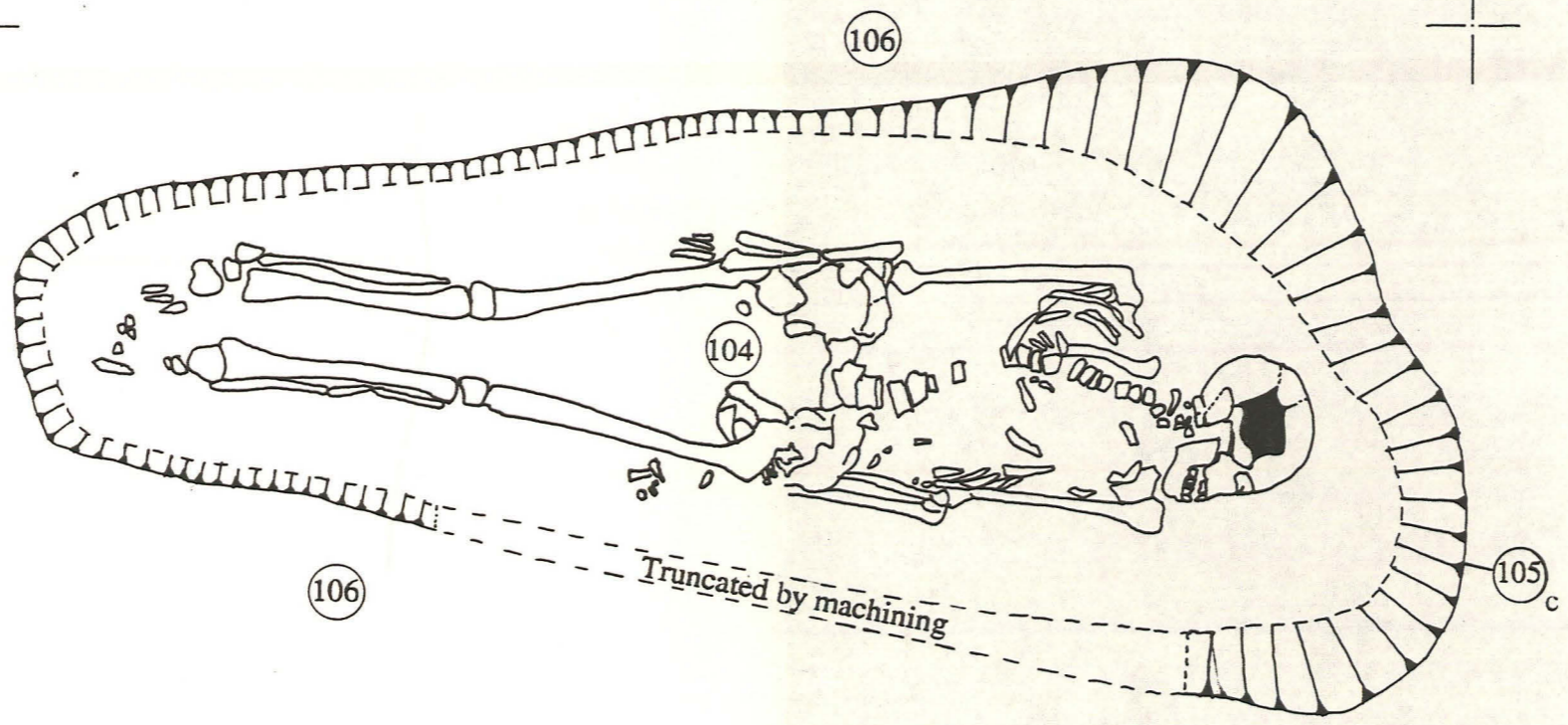


Fig.5

CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT

SITE CODE: KGB93 | PLANE/ELEV/SECTION NO:

CLIENT: Egeskov Farms Ltd.

DESCRIPTION: Plan of burial No.2

SCALE: 1:10 | ARCHIVE NO:

DRAWN BY: KW | CHECKED: | DATE: 08/10/93

MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 45.93

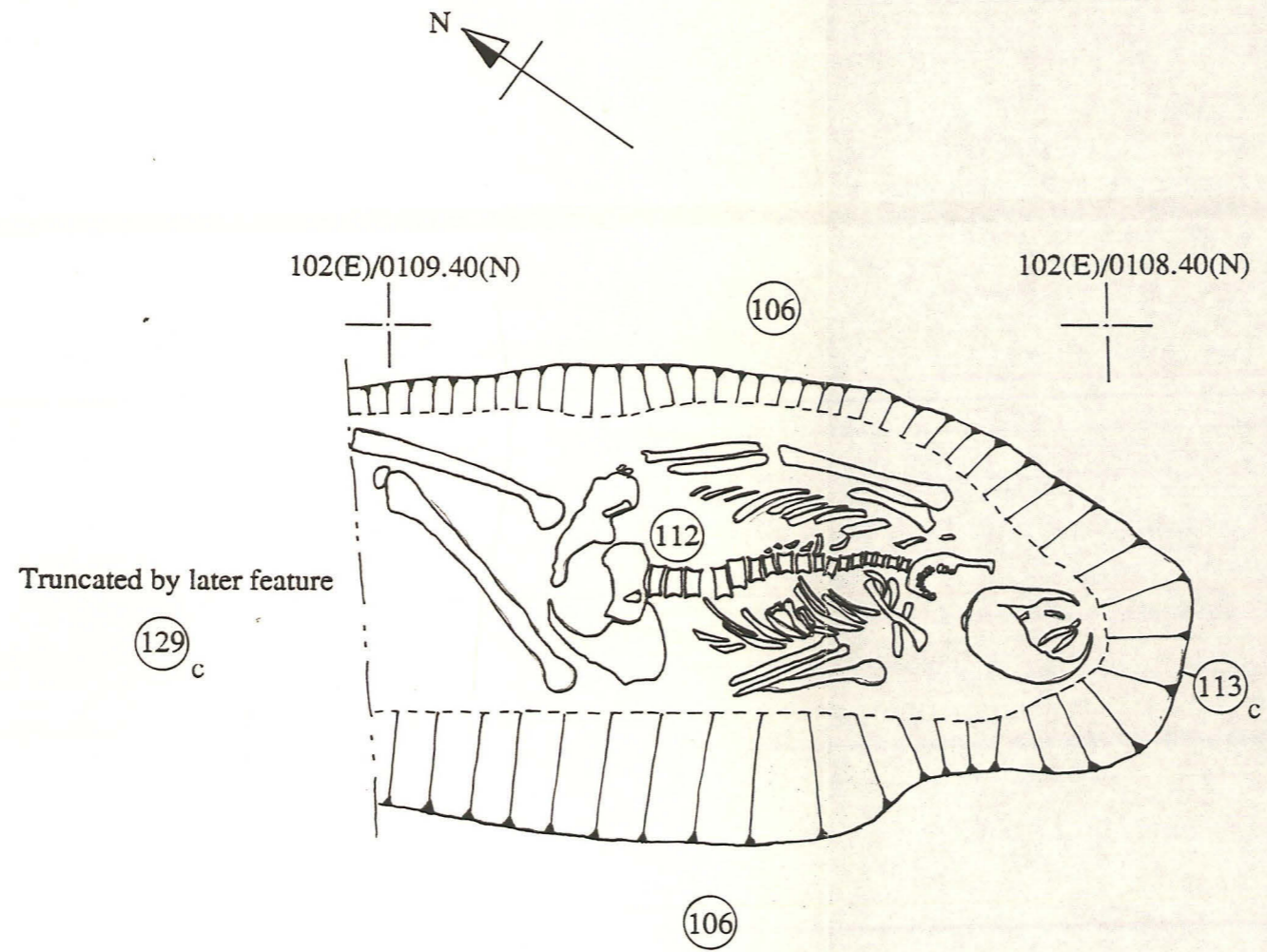


Fig.6