

98/19.



LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

**Hemingby, St. Margaret's Church
Electricity Cable Trench
Beside the Churchyard Path**

Archaeological Watching Brief

**NGR: TF 2371 7442
Site Code: HSM 98
LCNCC Museum Accn. No. : 155.98**

Report prepared for East Midlands Electricity plc
by James Albone BSc PIFA.

LAS Report No. 314

September 1998

25 WEST PARADE · LINCOLN · LN1 1NW
TELEPHONE 01522 544554 · FACSIMILE 01522 522211 · EMAIL las@lasarchaeology.demon.co.uk

PARTNERS: F.N.FIELD B.A.(Hons), MIFA · M.V.CLARK

Lincolnshire County Council
Archaeology Section

25. SEPT 98

ack 25/09
acceptance 19/10/98

EVENT 413701
SOURCES 418360 418361
40323

Contents

List of Figures and Plates	1
Summary	1
1.0 Introduction	1
2.0 Location and Descriptions	2
3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background	3
4.0 Methodology	3
5.0 The Watching Brief	2
6.0 Discussion	1
7.0 Acknowledgements	2
8.0 References	4
Appendix 1: List of Contexts	

Contents

List of Figures and Plates

Summary	1
1.0 Introduction	1
2.0 Location and Description	2
3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background	3
4.0 Methodology	2
5.0 The Watching Brief	2
6.0 Discussion	3
7.0 Acknowledgements	3
8.0 References	4

Appendix 1: List of Contexts

PL.1	Plan of site showing location of the site (marked by red white circles)
PL.2	General view of the site showing the site (scale divisions 0.1m)
PL.3	Wall foundation 101 showing the site (scale divisions 0.1m, h0.2m)
PL.4	Position of wall foundation 101 showing the site (marked by red white circles)
PL.5	Wall foundation 101 showing the site (scale divisions 0.1m, h0.2m)
PL.6	Worked stone fragment 101 showing the site (scale divisions 0.01m and 0.1m)
PL.7	Worked stone fragment 101 showing the site (scale divisions 0.01m and 0.1m)
PL.8	Worked stone fragment 101 showing the site (scale divisions 0.01m and 0.1m)
PL.9	Worked stone fragment 101 showing the site (scale divisions 0.01m and 0.1m)

Hemingby, St. Margaret's Church
Electricity Cable Trench, the Churchyard Path
Archaeological Watching Brief

Figures

- Fig. 1** Location of Hemingby (inset C based on the Ordnance Survey 1:2,500 map. Crown Copyright, reproduced at reduced scale with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 50424A).
- Fig. 2** Location of Hemingby Church, showing the cable trench. Two labelled parts of the trench are detailed in Fig. 3. (Based on an Ordnance Survey 1:1,000 map. Crown Copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 50424A).
- Fig. 3** Location of archaeological features in the cable trench. A: wall foundation 103; B: wall foundations 105 and 106 (McDaid after Albone).
- Fig. 4** Sections and plans across wall foundations in the cable trench. A: wall foundation 105; B: wall foundation 106 (McDaid after Albone).

Plates

- Pl. 1** St Margaret's Church, Hemingby (looking SW).
- Pl. 2** Removal of turf (looking east).
- Pl. 3** Line of wall foundation **103**, looking east (marked by red/white scales).
- Pl. 4** General view of the trench, looking west (scale divisions 0.1m).
- Pl. 5** Wall foundation **105**, looking NE (scale divisions v0.1m, h0.2m).
- Pl. 6** Position of wall foundation **106**, looking north (marked by red/white scales).
- Pl. 7** Wall foundation **106**, looking west (scale divisions v0.1m, h0.2m).
- Pl. 8** Worked stone fragment from demolition deposit **104**, showing dressed end (scale divisions 0.01m and 0.1m).
- Pl. 9** Worked stone fragment from demolition deposit **104** (scale divisions 0.01m and 0.1m).

Hemingby, St. Margaret's Church

Electricity Cable Trench Beside the Churchyard Path

Archaeological Watching Brief

NGR: TF 2371 7442
Faculty No. 966
Site Code: HSM 98
LCNCC Museum Accn. No. 155.98

Summary

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the laying of an underground electricity cable within the churchyard. Remains of three sandstone walls, possibly parts of an earlier church, were exposed in the cable trench. These were sealed below a demolition deposit which is assumed to be associated with site clearance and the construction of the present church in 1764. The demolition deposit contained bricks of eighteenth century date and a small residual sherd of late medieval pottery. No human skeletal remains were exposed during the excavation of the trench.

1.0 Introduction

Lindsey Archaeological Services (LAS) was commissioned by East Midlands Electricity plc in February 1998 to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the laying of an underground electricity cable within the churchyard of St. Margaret's Church, Hemingby. A watching brief had been requested by the Lincoln Diocesan Advisory Committee and formed a condition of Faculty 966 (dated 2nd February 1998).

Fieldwork took place on 20th July 1998 and was conducted by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) on behalf of LAS.

2.0 Location and Description

Hemingby is located in the East Lindsey district of Lincolnshire 6 km north of Horncastle and 28 km east of Lincoln (Fig. 1). It is situated in the valley of the River Bain on glacial sands, gravels and boulder clay at a height of about 47m. OD. The church of St. Margaret is situated on the western edge of the present village at NGR TF 2371 7442 (Figs. 1 and 2; Pl. 1).

3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

The place-name Hemingby is Old Danish or Old Norse in origin and probably refers to Heming's village or homestead (Ekwall 1989, 233).

The earliest archaeological finds in the parish are prehistoric worked flints, which have been found to the NE of the village. The Roman road from Lincoln to Burgh-le-Marsh crosses the northern part of the parish and a number of Roman sites overlooking the river Bain have been located to its south.

At the time of the Domesday Survey in 1086, land at Hemingby (*Hamingebi*) was divided between Earl Hugh, Ivo Taillebois and Hugh son of Baldric

(Foster and Longley 1924, 76, 84 and 117). Extensive earthworks of crofts and ridge and furrow relating to the medieval village surround the present settlement. The parish was enclosed between 1773 and 1778 (Russell & Russell 1985, 56-58).

No church is mentioned in the Domesday Survey and the earliest references are to clergy at Hemingby in 1281 and 1337. In the early sixteenth century the chancel was described as being in a ruined state. By 1602 this had been rectified but the church was in need of some repairs. The present building of St. Margaret's Church was constructed in 1764 by John Clark and presumably the earlier church was demolished at this time. The eighteenth century church was largely rebuilt by William Scorer in 1895. The north and south walls of the chancel were retained but new windows were added to them and a larger west tower was constructed. During the rebuilding work, two fragments of carved stonework were found beneath the floor and were incorporated into the wall above the east window (Blades & Keighley 1997; Lawrence undated; Pevsner et al 1995, 379-80).

4.0 Methodology

The possibility of encountering archaeological remains or buried human remains during ground disturbance in churchyards is obviously high. The level of recording requested on this occasion was an archaeological watching brief.

Recording was undertaken using standard watching brief record sheets (incorporating physical descriptions, interpretations, and stratigraphic relationships). Features were drawn to scale (1:20) in section, and photographic recording was undertaken (some prints are reproduced in this report). Only a very small quantity of pottery, brick and tile was recovered and this was not submitted to specialists for identification. No human skeletal material was encountered during the watching brief.

5.0 The Watching Brief

The cable trench was located along the north side of the path through the churchyard (Fig. 3; Pl. 2). Following removal of the turf by hand, a 0.45m deep trench was excavated by the contractors, using a mini-digger fitted with a 0.25m wide toothless bucket (Pls. 3 and 4). A small section of trench was excavated by hand on the south side of the path to enable the connection into the church to be made. The cable was moled under the path and also out of the church yard at the west end of the trench.

The remains of three stone walls were exposed during the excavation of the cable trench (Figs. 3 and 4).

Wall **103** was very badly damaged by the mechanical excavator. It consisted of flint rubble and sandstone foundation although a block of dressed sandstone was present in the material removed from the trench. It appeared to be the foundations of a SW to NE aligned wall c.0.4m thick. Due to its poor preservation no section was drawn of this wall.

Wall **105** was aligned west to east and was 0.8m. thick. This wall foundation consisted of blocks of sandstone with some flint (Pl. 5).

Wall **106** was aligned NW to SE and survived to a thickness of 1.4m (Pls. 6 and 7). This wall foundation consisted of large dressed sandstone blocks. The absence of any other structural remains in the trench to the east of this wall may indicate that it was the eastern end wall of a building.

The wall remains were sealed below a layer of silty sand and degraded mortar **104** which extended SW to beyond wall **103**. This layer contained sandstone building rubble, bricks of eighteenth century date and a small sherd of late medieval pottery. It was interpreted as a layer formed by both demolition of existing walls and construction debris from rebuilding the church in 1764.

A piece of sandstone recovered from **104** was dressed and shaped, possibly having been used as a coping stone (Pls. 8 and 9). Mortar was present on its curved surface suggesting that it had been re-used in the walls of an earlier building.

To the SW and NE of the wall foundation the demolition deposit **104** gradually merged into a medium brown silty sand **101** which contained no mortar. This subsoil layer **101** extended to the wall of the present church.

6.0 Discussion

It is impossible to make any estimate of the dimensions or plan of the structure represented by the three short sections of wall which were exposed in the cable trench. As a result of this, it is not possible to confirm that they were part of the earlier church. However, the location and thickness of the walls make it highly likely that this is the case.

The eighteenth century bricks in the deposit which sealed the wall remains would also suggest that the sandstone walls were part of the earlier church, presumably demolished in 1764 at the same time as the construction of the present church. If the walls were part of the earlier church then it seems that it was located further to the west than the present building.

7.0 Acknowledgements

LAS and PCA (Lincoln) are grateful to East Midlands Electricity plc (especially Mr A. Sollini) and their contractors for their co-operation. Further help was provided by Mark Bennet and Sarah Grundy of the Lincolnshire County Council SMR Office, and the Diocesan Advisory Committee secretary.

The report and illustrations were prepared by James Albone (PCA) with additions from Mick McDaid and Geoff Tann. It was collated and produced by Jane Frost.

Lindsey Archaeological Services
22nd September 1998

8.0 References

- Blades, P. & Keighley, A. 1997 *Hemingby, Ancient and Modern*.
- Ekwall, E. 1989 *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place-Names*.
- Foster, C.W. and Longley, T. 1924 *The Lincolnshire Domesday and The Lindsey Survey* Lincoln Record Society 19 (reprinted 1976)
Gainsborough.
- Lawrence, D. (nd) *St. Margaret's Church Hemingby: A Guide for Visitors*.
- Pevsner, N., Harris, J. & Antram, N. 1995 *The Buildings of England: Lincolnshire*.
- Russell, E. & Russell, R.C. 1985 *Old and New Landscapes in the Horncastle Area*.

9.0 Archive Summary

Context Sheets / Books:

HSM98/2/1: 4 Watching Brief Record Sheets

Site Drawings:

HSM98/4/1: 1 sheet of site drawings

Colour Slides / Prints: 1 film of colour prints PCA film no. **HSM 98/7/1-24**

HSM/17/1: Archaeological Watching Brief Report. St. Margaret's Church, Hemingby, Lincolnshire. by James Albone July 1998

HSM98/18/1: 1 Watching Brief General Account Sheet

HSM98/18/2: 1 Proposal Document by Lindsey Archaeological Services

Correspondence

List of Contexts

Context	Description
100	Dark brown silty sand topsoil.
101	Medium brown silty sand subsoil.
102	Natural sand.
103	Flint rubble and sandstone wall foundation.
104	Silty sand with mortar - demolition layer.
105	Sandstone and flint wall.
106	Sandstone wall.

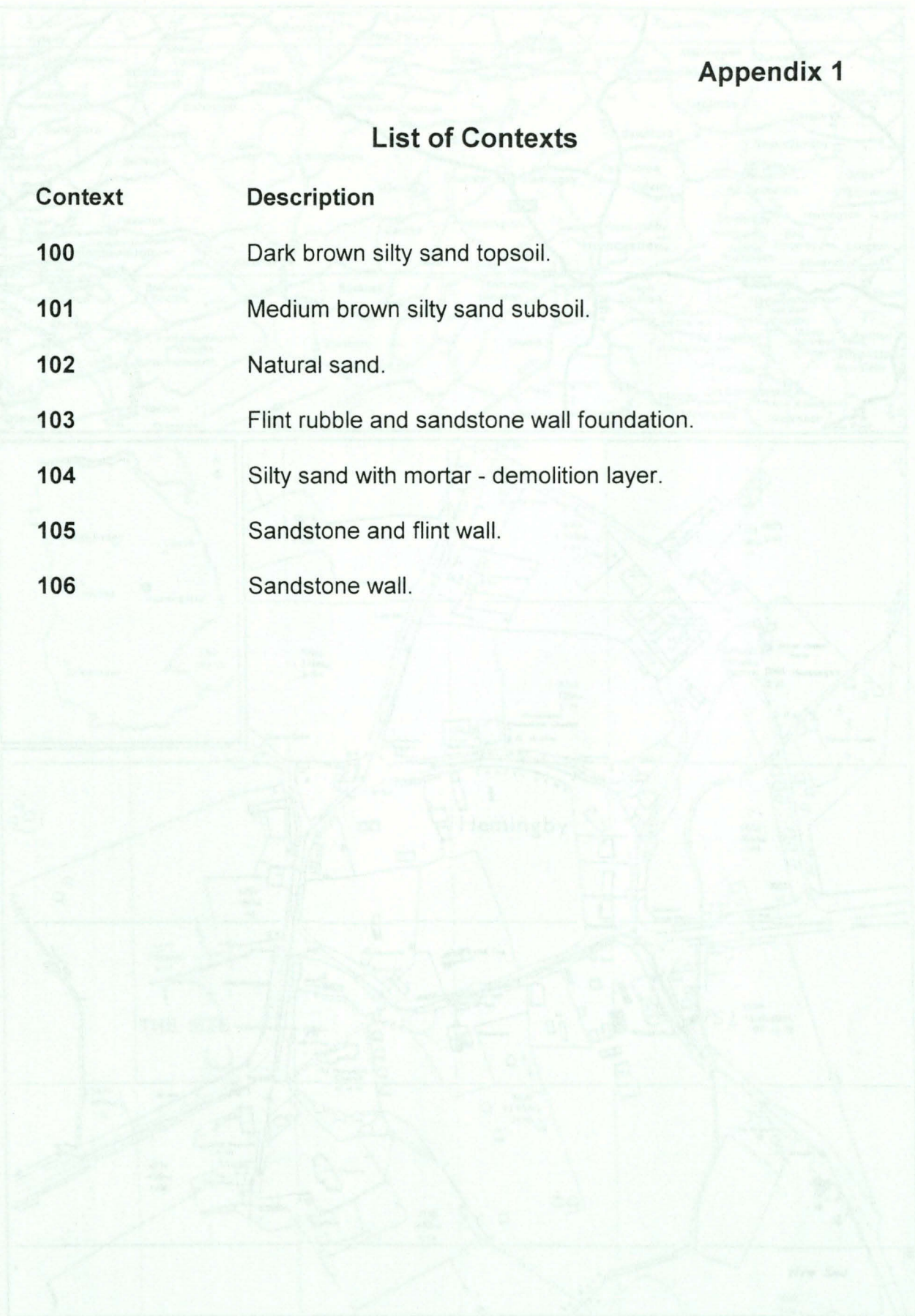


Fig. 1 Location of Hemmingby (inset C based on the Ordnance Survey 1:2,500 map. Crown Copyright, reproduced at reduced scale with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 50424A)

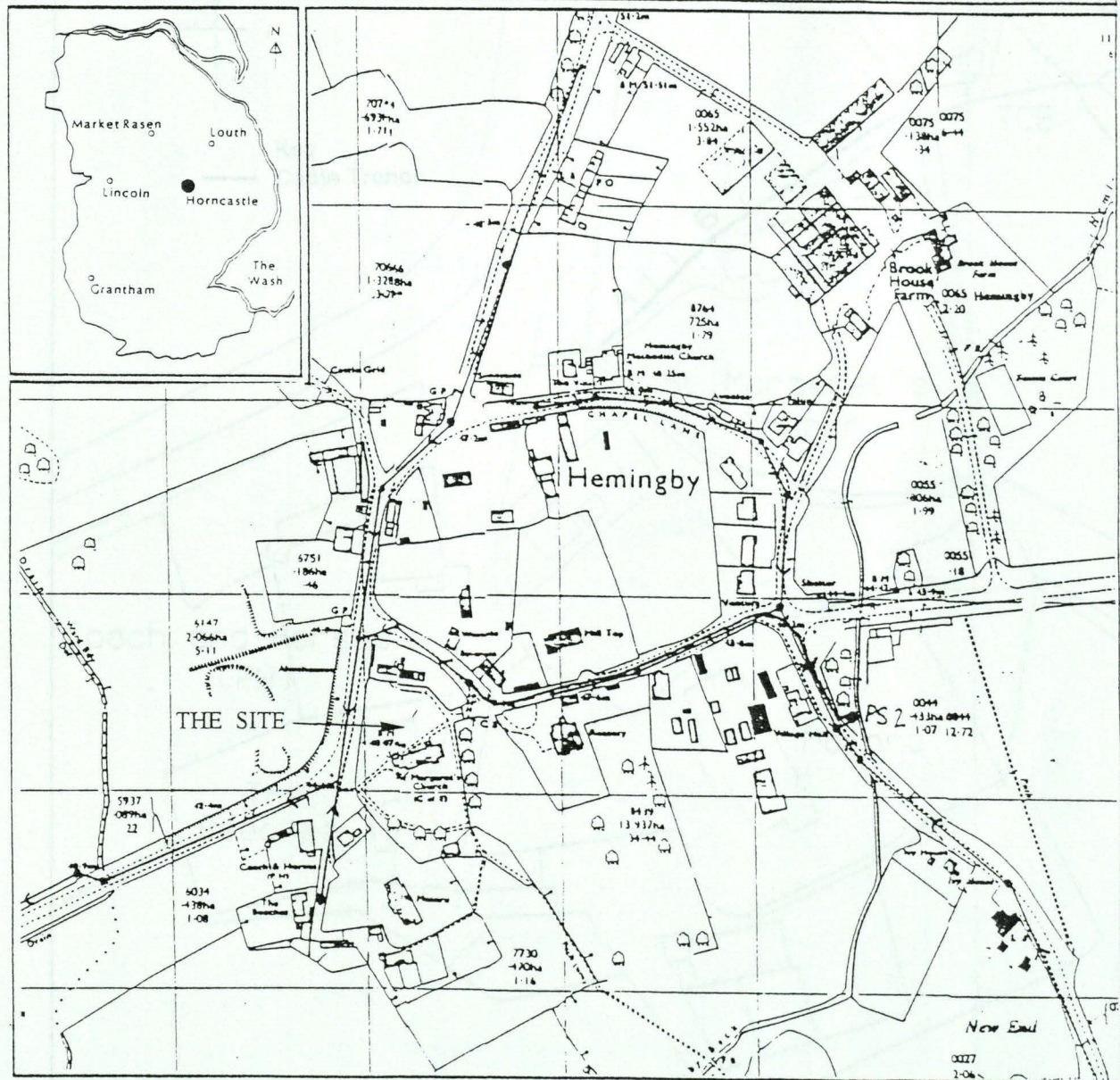
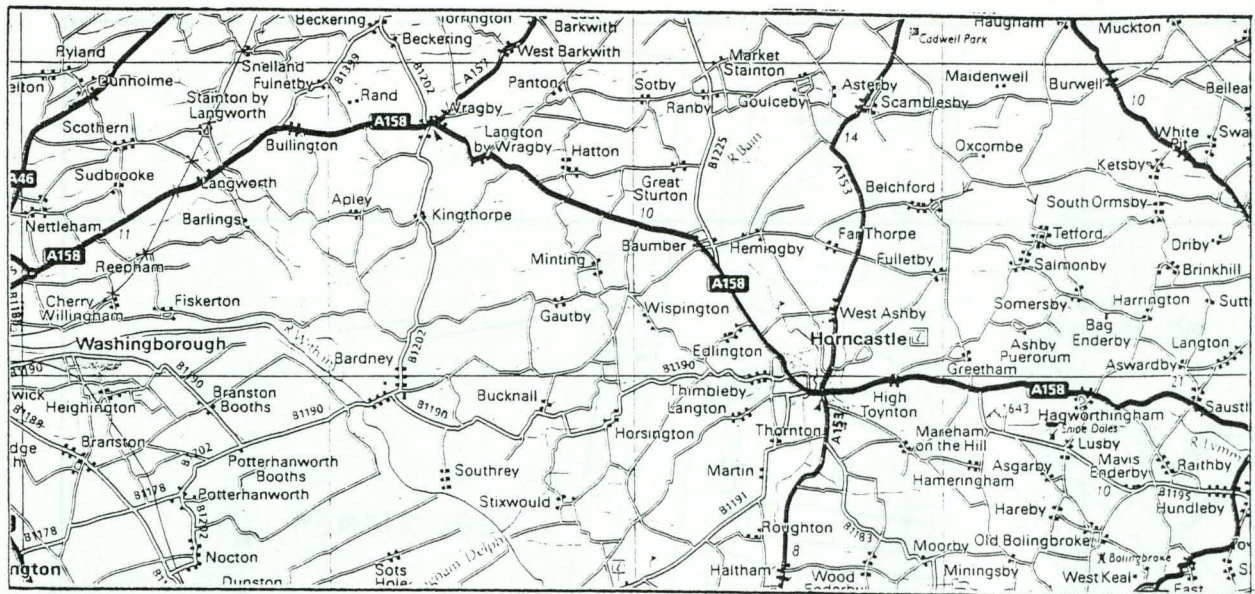


Fig. 1 Location of Hemingby (inset C based on the Ordnance Survey 1:2,500 map. Crown Copyright, reproduced at reduced scale with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 50424A).

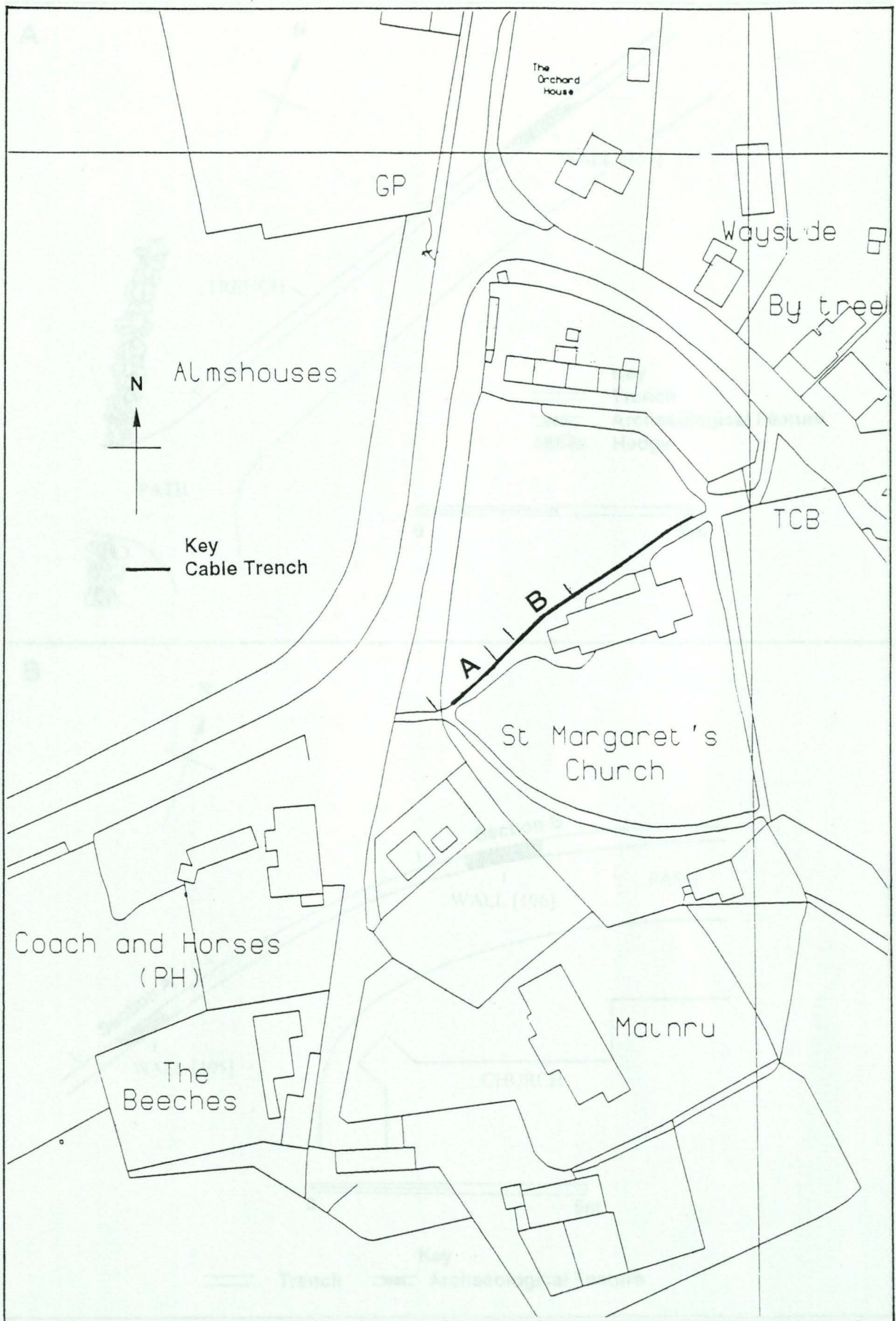


Fig. 3 Location of archaeological features in the cable trench. A: wall

Fig. 2 Location of Hemingby Church, showing the cable trench. Two labelled parts of the trench are detailed in Fig. 3 (based on an OS 1:1,000 map. Crown Copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 50424A).

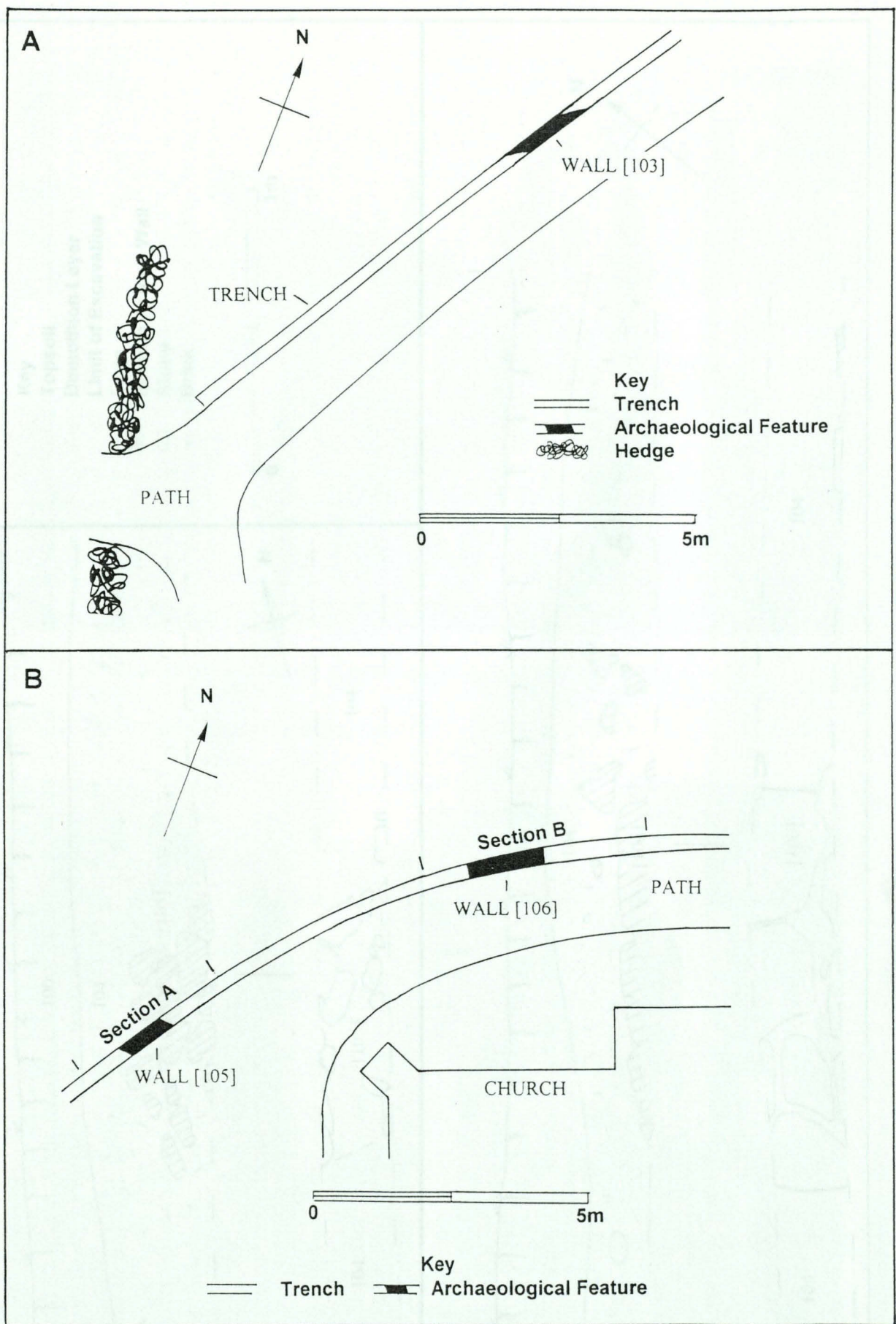


Fig. 3 Location of archaeological features in the cable trench. A: wall foundation 103; B: wall foundations 105 and 106 (McDaid after Albone).

Fig. 4 Sections and plans across wall foundations in the cable trench. A: wall foundation 105; B: wall foundation 106 (McDaid after Albone).

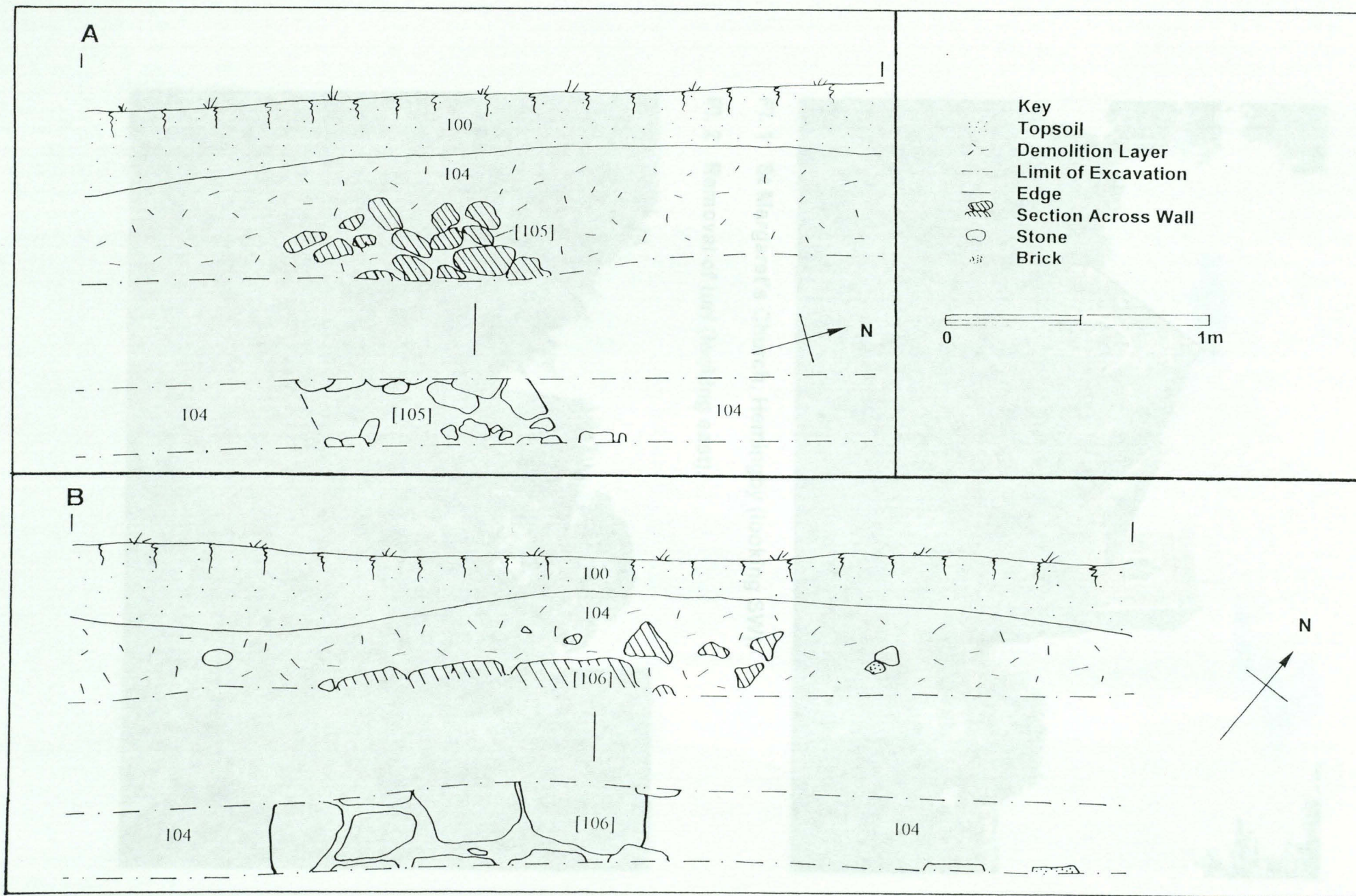


Fig. 4 Sections and plans across wall foundations in the cable trench.
A: wall foundation 105; **B:** wall foundation 106 (McDaid after Albone).



Pl. 1 St Margaret's Church, Hemingby (looking SW).

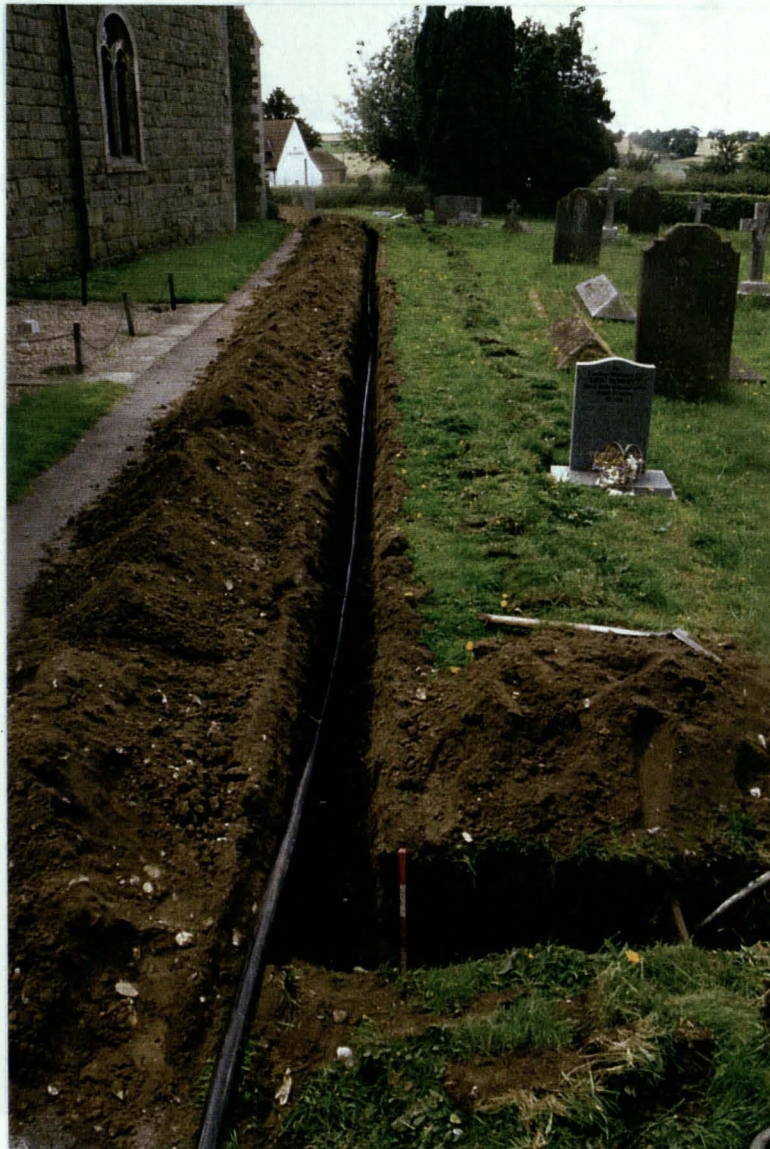
Pl. 2 Removal of turf (looking east).





Pl. 3 Line of wall foundation 103, looking east (marked by red/white scales).

Pl. 4 General view of the trench, looking west (scale divisions 0.1m).





Pl. 5 Wall foundation 105, looking NE (scale divisions v0.1m, h0.2m).

Pl. 6 Position of wall foundation 106, looking north (marked by red/white scales).



Pl. 6 Wall foundation 106, looking north (scale divisions v0.1m, h0.2m).



Pl. 7 Wall foundation 106, looking west (scale divisions v0.1m, h0.2m).

Pl. 8 Worked stone fragment from demolition deposit 104, showing dressed end (scale divisions 0.01m and 0.1m).



Pl. 9 Worked stone fragment from demolition deposit 104 (scale divisions 0.01m and 0.1m).