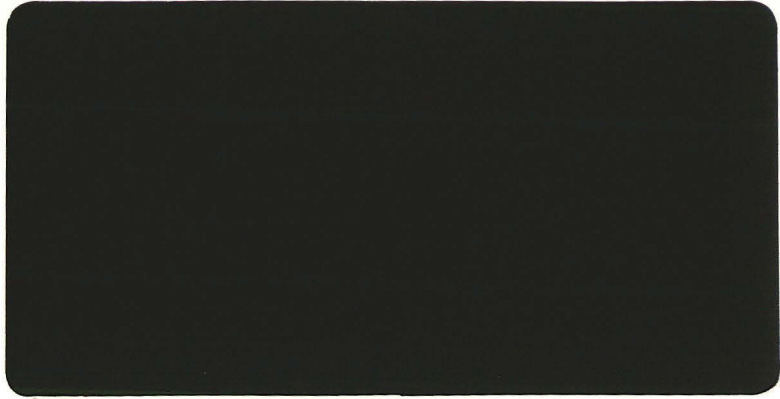


CITY OF
◇ LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY ◇
UNIT

99/8
**PROPOSED
STUDENT ACCOMODATION,
CARHOLME ROAD,
LINCOLN**
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

CLAU ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT NO: 387



Lancashire County Council
Archaeology Section
15 JUL 99
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EVENT L13421
SOURCES L18132 L18133
70283 L183275 Roman
70284 L183276 EMed
70285 L183277 Med

A
Report to
GELDER CONSTRUCTION Ltd

July, 1999

Prepared by

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**PROPOSED STUDENT ACCOMMODATION,
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LINCOLN**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Between 26th December 1998 and 15th January 1999, a representative from the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit undertook a watching brief for Gelder Construction Ltd, during groundworks associated with the construction of a new student accommodation block at the western end of the street of Newland, at its junction with Carholme Road and The Avenue.

The watching brief revealed no direct evidence for Roman occupation of the site, although a large sherd of Roman pot was recovered from the underlying natural sand. Several pits dated to the medieval period were also recorded. A lack of domestic refuse material within the pits may indicate that they had an (unspecified) industrial association. Evidence for extensive land reclamation during the post medieval period was revealed. The more recent archaeology of the site was generally associated with the row of terraced dwellings present here until their recent demolition.

PROPOSED STUDENT ACCOMMODATION, CARHOLME ROAD, LINCOLN

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Between 26th December 1998 and 15th January 1999, a representative from the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit (CLAU) undertook a watching on behalf of Gelder Construction Ltd, during groundworks associated with the construction of a student accommodation block (see Fig. 1). The watching brief was carried out in order to fulfil a condition for the granting of planning permission. Planning Application No. LA17/0549/97

The site is located in the former "Newland" medieval suburb of Lincoln and lies immediately to the west of the junction between Newland, Carholme Road and The Avenue. National Grid Reference SK 9707 7144 (see Fig. 1).



Plate 1: General view looking north-east across the site during the excavation of the foundation trenches. Although extensive, the foundation trenches were thought to have disturbed no important archaeological remains.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Lincoln is situated at the point where the Jurassic limestone ridge known as the Lincoln Edge is cut by a glacial gap, through which the River Witham now flows. At its junction with the River Till, canalised as the Fossdyke, flowing from the west, is a presumed natural lake, the Brayford Pool. Its extent was much greater in antiquity than at present, and it is known to have existed at the time of the Roman Conquest. The first syllable of the colloquial Roman name for the City of Lincoln, *Lindum*, was derived from the Celtic word for "lake", "pool" or "marshy/water place" (Rivet & Smith, 1979).

Archaeological investigation in the area of the site has been relatively limited, although excavations have been undertaken on Brayford Wharf North and around West Parade/Orchard Street (both areas to the east of the current project).

An archaeological watching brief carried out during a scheme of sewer replacement, during 1997, in the area of Newland Street West, immediately to the west of the site, revealed evidence for a 1st-3rd century Roman cemetery and a later medieval road thought to represent a main artery of the medieval suburb of Newland (Wragg, 1998).

In the Brayford North Wharf area, to the south-east of the site, excavations were carried out during the early 1970's prior to the construction of a multi-storey car-park at the southern end of Lucy Tower Street. During this excavation the earliest feature recorded was a possible Late Saxon jetty cut into the underlying peat layers, which was overlain by a sloping foreshore of sand and peat. This was itself cut by a mid to late 12th century north-south channel, running into the Brayford, together with several posts, dating to the mid 13th century. This area seems to have been periodically flooded by the Brayford during the early to mid 14th century, and the channel appears to have become blocked by silt, requiring re-cutting, on at least one occasion. Rubble dumps provided consolidation for the construction of the extended city wall and the "Lucy" Tower in the 14th century, and both the Tower and internal construction surfaces were well preserved. An east-west wall ran along the edge of the Brayford, to the east of the Tower, probably protecting the land behind from flooding. This wall was replaced whenever the level of the land rose through dumping. The city wall was thoroughly robbed in the 18th or 19th century and the Lucy Tower was finally demolished in the mid 19th century (Colyer, 1975; Vince & Jones, (eds) 1990).

Further archaeological investigation was undertaken in 1989, on the proposed site of a new "Holiday Inn" (subsequently to become the "Courtyard by Marriott" Hotel), on a site fronting Brayford Wharf North. During this project, undated river deposits were revealed, together with a possible revetment. A large rectangular kiln constructed of limestone blocks and flat roof-tiles, some of which dated to the 14th to 16th century, was also revealed, and a small 14th to 15th century structure may have lain to the north. There were also a number of flat limestone slabs, possibly post-pads, aligned north-south between the postulated structure and the kiln. Numerous isolated refuse pits, mostly of late medieval date were found throughout the site (Chitwood, 1990; Vince & Jones, (eds) 1990).

During excavations at The Park (at the Lincoln City Council offices, to the east of the site), on the line of the lower city wall, two or three periods of building were found, sealed by the earliest rampart, which was built at the end of the 2nd or early in the 3rd century. Later, during the 4th century, a gateway was inserted through the defences, incorporating many large reused limestone blocks. These included some decorated and moulded fragments from a temple or funerary monument. While little or no evidence was found for activity during the majority of the Saxon period, re-occupation of the area within the walls seems to have begun in the 11th century. The Roman fortifications are thought to have survived into the medieval period; the date at which the gate went out of use is uncertain although it was certainly blocked by the 13th century. There was some evidence of occupation and structures throughout the medieval period. A postern gate running obliquely through the Roman fortifications was discovered during excavations on the site of the police station on West Parade, and was probably of medieval date suggesting the continued use of the wall (Jones (ed), 1999).

3.0 AIMS & METHODOLOGY

The aims of the watching brief were:

A. to produce an archive record of deposits and remains generally within the constraints of the groundwork contractors' working methods and programme as related to the project design, with due regard to current Health and Safety legislation.

B. to produce a report on the archaeological importance of the discoveries.

C. to produce a project archive from which the potential for further study and academic research could be assessed.

D. to provide information for accession to the County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and the Lincoln Urban Archaeological Database (UAD).

Due to the depth of the foundation trench, access was not possible therefore the archaeological record was secured by means of trench side notes and scaled drawings. A full photographic record of the groundworks was also compiled.

4.0 ANALYSIS/CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Analysis (Figs. 2-4)

Prior to the excavation of the new building's foundations, the site ground level was reduced by up to 1m to approximately 7.50m OD. The excavation of the foundation trenches for the new building was carried out by mechanical excavator. Trench depth was nominally 2.00-2.50m deep. Terrace sands ([013]) were encountered approximately 1.00m below existing ground level, rising to within 200mm of ground level towards the northern end of the site (6.30m OD - 8.00m OD). A large fragment of Roman Samian pottery (base sherd (stamped) - see appendix 4) was recovered from the natural sand.

The excavation of the foundation trench revealed four pit features cutting in to the underlying natural sand. Pit [020] lay in the south-east corner of the site and was revealed to be over 2.5m wide and 2m deep with a 'U' profile (base of pit - c. 5.00m OD). The fill of the pit, [008], a loosely compacted, mid-dark brown sandy soil, contained only occasional small limestone chippings. A second, smaller pit, [019] lay 2m to the north of [020]. Its fill [009] was very similar to [008] and contained a small assemblage of L12th-M13th century pot and some animal bone. The third pit, [021], lay in the approximate centre of the new building plot and was revealed to be circular in plan and 1.5m wide with a gently curving 'U' profile. The fill of the pit, [012], consisted of laminated bands of a very loosely compact, mottled yellow/brown cassy sandy soil, containing a few medieval pot sherds (13th century) and some animal bone. A large pit ([018] - 5m in diameter and 1.5m deep) was found to lie in the north-east corner of the site. Its fill, [010], was very similar to the fill of pits [019] and [020].

Overlying the aforementioned activity was extensive (up to 1m thick) dump deposit [002], a clean, loose compaction, mid-dark brown sandy soil with a few limestone inclusions (7.30m - 7.50m OD). Two small pit features, [006] and [007], filled with recent (19th/20th century) demolition material, were recorded cutting into [002] mid-way along the eastern boundary to the site. Brick features were revealed towards the northern end of the site. Here, two brick wells were recorded, [023] and [024]. Both were revealed to be c.1m in diameter. Their depth was not established as they were infilled with demolition debris (not removed). An infilled cellar, [003], associated with the terrace buildings that once stood on the site, lay centrally on the site. Several pipe trenches were also recorded crossing the site during the excavation of the sewer connection made in Newland Street West.

No further features and/or deposits were recorded during the watching brief.

4.2 Conclusions

The watching brief revealed no direct evidence for the Roman occupation of the site, although a large sherd of Roman pottery was found lying within the underlying natural sand. As with the two sherds of 10th century pottery, this discovery may not indicate contemporary activity *in situ*. Medieval occupation, of late 12th - 13th century date, revealed as pits recorded during the works, appear unlikely to have a domestic association (domestic refuse pits would generally contain moderate quantities of animal bone and pottery) and may therefore have an (unspecified) industrial association. They may have lain to the rear of buildings fronting on to Newland Street West to the north.

Overlying the medieval layers was an extensive make-up deposit, presumably of post-medieval date and indicating a period of major land reclamation. More recent occupation of the site was associated with the terraced dwellings that were present on the site up until recently.

5.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit would like to thank Gelder Construction Ltd, for funding the fieldwork and post-fieldwork analysis and for the co-operation of the site contractor throughout the duration of the archaeological scheme of investigation.

Project Team

Michael Jarvis	Project Officer (Field/Post-excavation)
John Hockley	Projects Manager
Mick Jones	Editor
Jenny Mann	Registered Finds/Ceramic Building Materials
Jane Young	Post-Roman and later pottery (Freelance)
Barbara Precious	Roman Pottery (Freelance)

6.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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NOTE

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 and the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

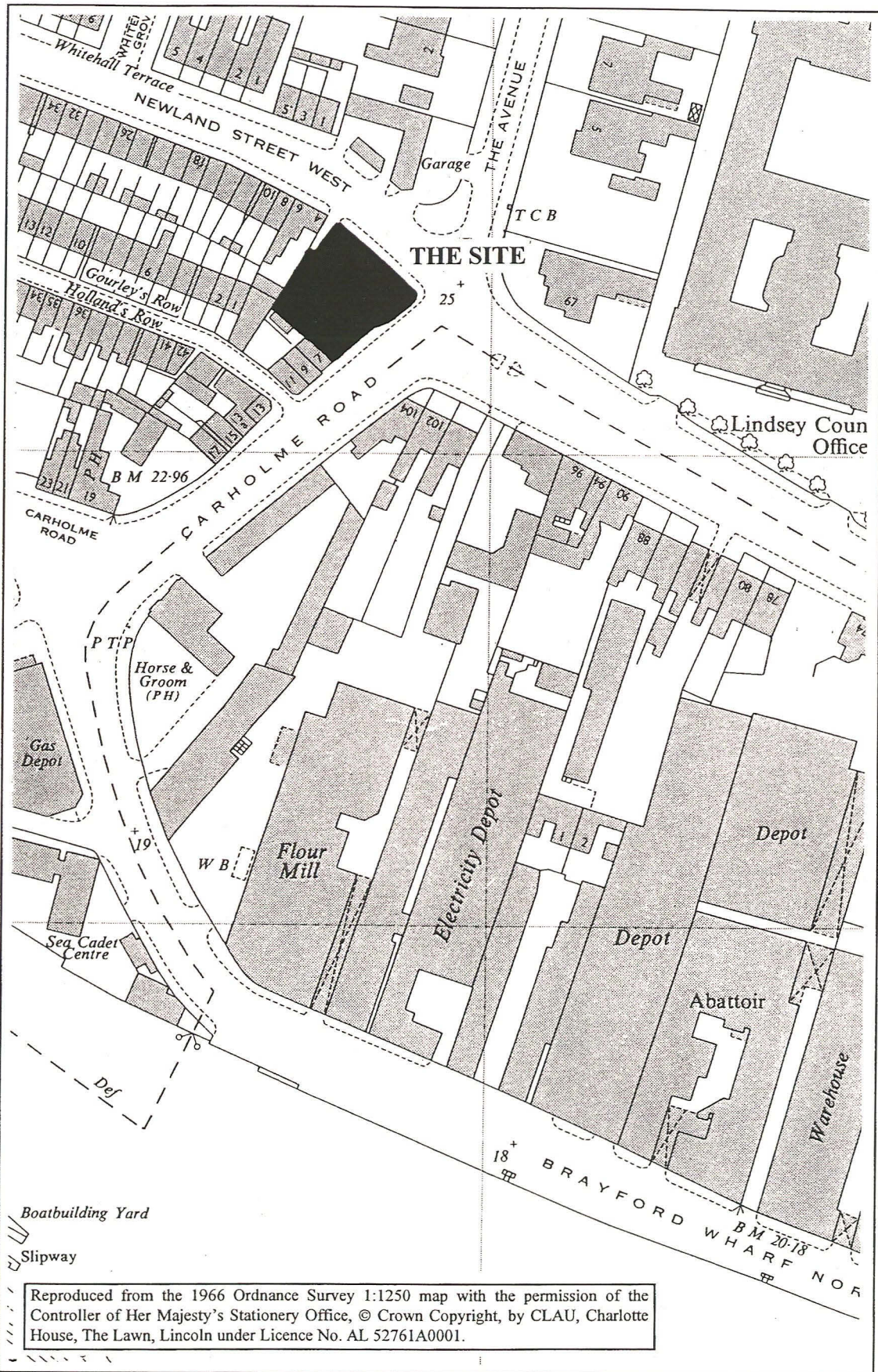


Fig. 1: Site location plan.

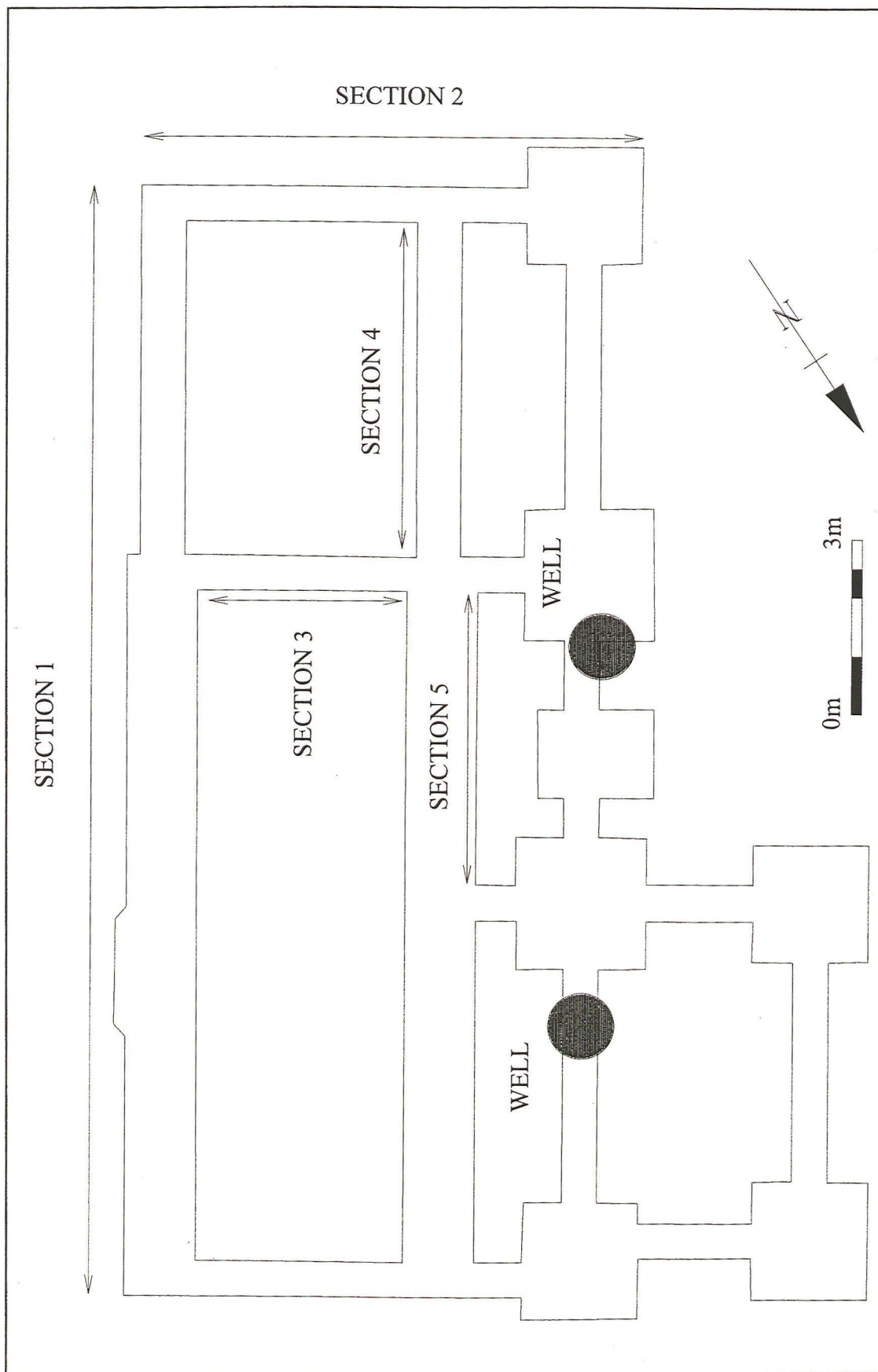


Fig. 2: Section location plan.

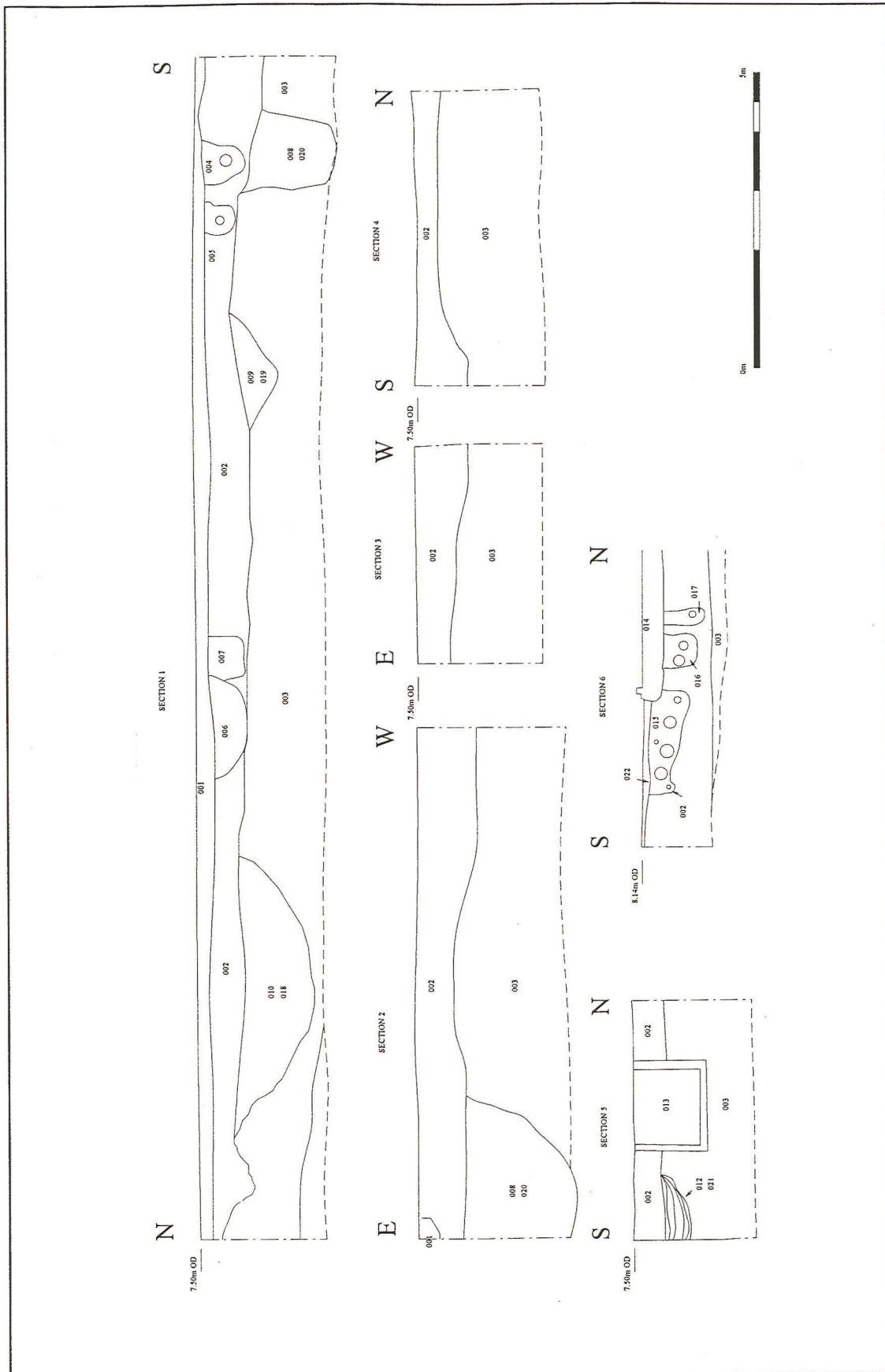


Fig. 3: Sections 1-6 (Scale 1:100).

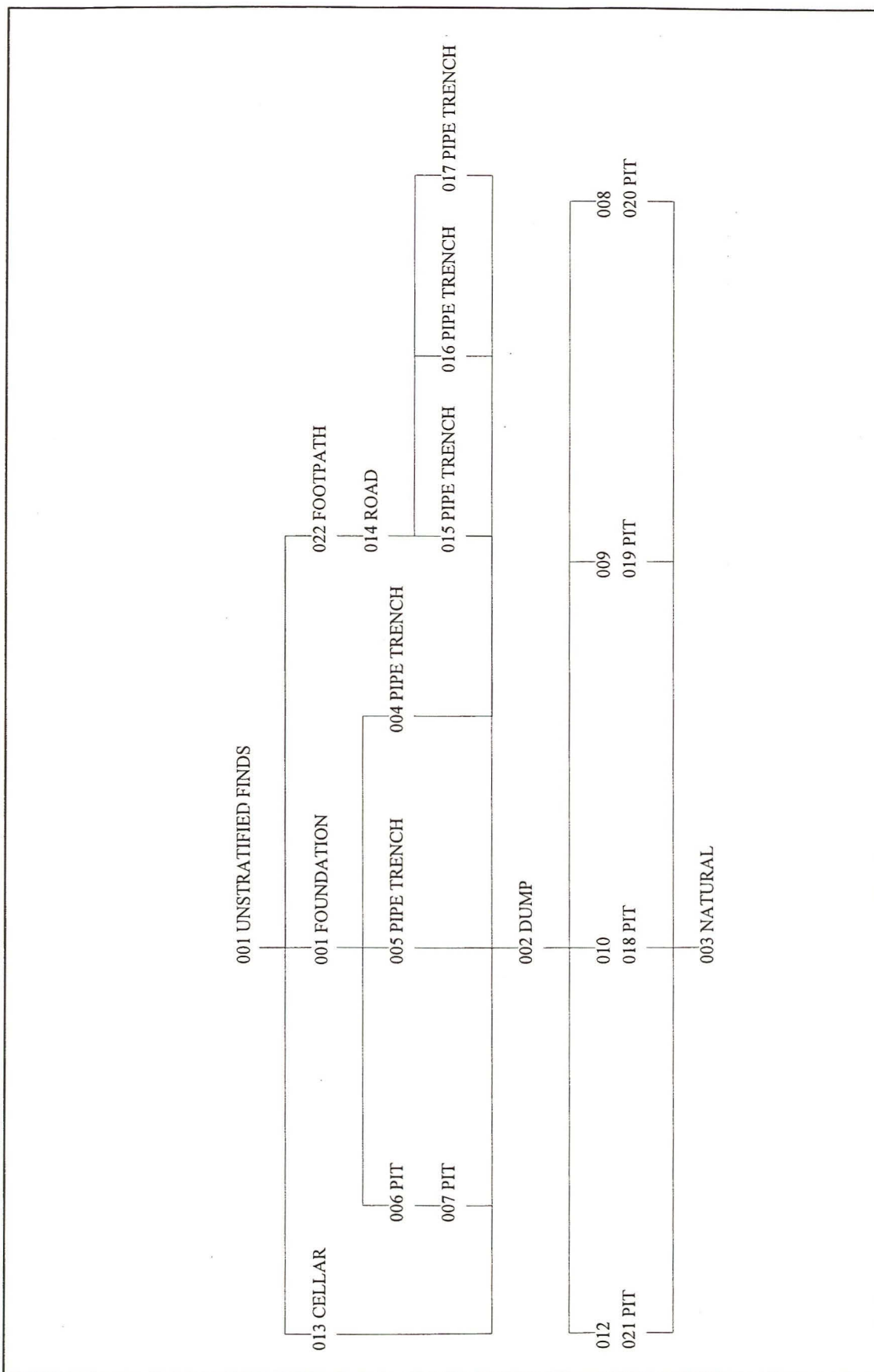


Fig. 4: Stratigraphic matrix.

**PROPOSED STUDENT ACCOMMODATION,
CARHOLME ROAD,
LINCOLN**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

APPENDIX 1 - LHA NOTE & ARCHIVE DETAILS

LHA NOTE DETAILS

CLAU CODE: CRS98

CLAU REPORT No.: 387

PLANNING APPLICATION NO.: LA17/0549/97

FIELD OFFICER: Michael Jarvis

NGR: ~~SK 9758 7068~~ SK9705 7144

CIVIL PARISH: Lincoln

SMR No.: -

DATE OF INTERVENTION: 26th December 1998 to 15th January 1999

TYPE OF INTERVENTION: Watching Brief

UNDERTAKEN FOR: Gelder Construction Ltd

ARCHIVE DETAILS

PRESENT LOCATION: City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit, Charlotte House, The Lawn, Union Road, Lincoln, LN1 3BL

FINAL LOCATION: The City and County Museum, Friars Lane, Lincoln

MUSEUM ACCESSION No.: 263.98

ACCESSION DATE: -

**PROPOSED STUDENT ACCOMMODATION,
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 LINCOLN**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

APPENDIX 2 - CONTEXT SUMMARY

<i>Context</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Description</i>
1	1,6	Concrete foundation to site's eastern boundary wall
2	1-6	loose compaction, mid-dark brown very sandy soil - contains few inclusions (small limestone chippings and small tile fragments)
3	5	cellar - brick lined and filled with recent demolition material
4	1	pipe trench (recent - associated with demolished buildings)
5	1	pipe trench (recent - associated with demolished buildings)
6	1	loose compaction, mid-dark brown very sandy soil - contains small limestone chippings, small tile fragments and many animal bones
7	1	concentration of much broken brick (frogged)
8	1,2	loose compaction, mid-dark brown very sandy soil - contains few inclusions apart from small limestone chippings and small fragments of tile
9	1	loose compaction, mid-dark brown very sandy soil - contains few inclusions apart from small limestone chippings and small fragments of tile
10	1	loose compaction, mid-dark brown very sandy soil - contains few inclusions apart from small limestone chippings and small fragments of tile
11	N/A	unstratified finds from the site
12	5	very loose compaction, mottled sandy soil (very light yellow cess material) contains occasional small angular limestone fragments, pot sherds and animal bone
13	1-6	Natural terrace sands
14	6	tarmac - road surface
15	6	extensive cut containing six service pipes
16	6	cut containing two service pipes
17	6	cut containing one pipe
18	1	cut - sharp break of slope top. concave 45° sides, gently rounded base
19	1	cut - sharp break of slope top. slightly concave 45° sides and pointed base
20	1,2	cut - sharp break of slope top, near vertical sides, gradually moving to 45° the further west pit extends. rounded base
21	5	cut - 'U' shaped 50° concave sides running imperceptibly into a rounded base
22	6	footpath make-up deposit

**PROPOSED STUDENT ACCOMMODATION,
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APPENDIX 3 - FINDS ASSESSMENT

ASSESSMENT REPORT ON THE POTTERY

Jane Young

Introduction

An assemblage of 23 post-Roman sherds ranging in date from the late Saxon to the high medieval period was recovered from the site. The pottery was examined and recorded at basic archive level (ware type by sherd count with note of diagnostic vessel form and date) using locally recognised codenames.

Condition

The pottery recovered was not particularly worn and consisted of medium to fairly large sized sherds. No vessel was represented by more than one sherd. One vessel has an internal white deposit and external sooting indicating use for boiling a liquid.

Overall Chronology and Source

The range of wares present on the site is with the exception of two vessels, entirely of Lincoln or local manufacture. The two none local sherds both come from Lincolnshire sources, Toynton All Saints and Stamford.

Two sherds date to the 10th century and this is the first time pottery of this date has been noted in this part of the city.

A small number of sherds (8) date to the early medieval period, probably between the last quarter of the 12th century and the first quarter of the 13th century. Eight sherds, mainly of Lincoln and local production, date to the 13th century, only one sherd has to date to the second half of the century.

The range of vessel types includes jugs, jars, cooking vessels and a single bowl.

Further work

1) No further work on the pottery is needed.

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APPENDIX 4 - THE FINDS ARCHIVE

BONE

<i>Context</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Comments</i>
006	7	ANBN	1XBURNT
009	2	ANBN	-
010	4	ANBN	-
011	1	ANBN	TOOTH
012	5	ANBN	1XBURNT

BULK FINDS

<i>Context</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Comments</i>
011	CTPB	1	MOD;M19;1830-1850;DEC
012	NAIL	1	-

Key to Name Codes

CTPB CLAY TOBACCO PIPE BOWL

REGISTERED FINDS

<i>Context</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Comments</i>
012	1	IRON	NAIL?
012	2	IRON	-

POST-ROMAN POTTERY

<i>Context</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Sherds</i>	<i>Form</i>	<i>Comments</i>
006	LSW1	1	JUG	? ID;ODD
009	LSW1/2	1	JUG	-
009	LEMS	1	-	HEAVY SOOT;INT DEP;BASE
011	R	1	-	-
011	DST	1	JUG;FOOT ED	APP STRIPS
011	LSWA	1	JUG	EARLY SPLASHED
011	LSW1	1	JUG	-
011	LSW2	1	JUG	-
011	TOY	1	JUG	-
011	LSW2/3	1	BOWL;SM ALL	BASE;? INC DEC
011	LSH	1	JAR	SOOT
011	LSH	1	JAR	? SOOT
012	R	1	-	-
012	POTT	1	COOKPOT	-

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012	LFS	1	-	-
012	LSW2	1	JUG	APP STRPS RED CLAY
012	LSWA	1	JUG	SPL GLZE
012	LSWA	1	JUG	SPL GLZE
012	LSW2	1	JUG	-
012	LSW2	1	JUG	-
012	LSWA	1	JUG;JAR	BASE
013	R	3	-	-

Key to Ware Codes

DST	DEVELOPED STAMFORD WARE
LEMS	LOCAL EARLY MEDIEVAL SHELLY WARE
LFS	LINCOLN FINE-SHELLED WARE
LSH	LINCOLN SHELLY WARE
LSW1	GLAZED LINCOLN WARE
LSW1/2	LSW1 OR LSW2
LSW2	GLAZED LINCOLN WARE
LSW2/3	LSW2 OR LSW3
POTT	POTTERHANWORTH WARE
R	ROMAN
TOY	TOYNTON WARE; KILN 1 6W(ROSES)

POST-ROMAN POTTERY ARCHIVE: HORIZON DATING

Context	Earliest horizon	Latest horizon	Probable range	Date
006	MH1	MH4	-	12th to early/mid 13th
009	MH3	MH5	-	late 12th to mid 13th
0011	MH5	MH6	-	mid to late 13th
0012	MH4	MH6	-	13th
0013	R	R	-	Roman

ROMAN POTTERY - THE SITE ARCHIVE

Context	Fabric	Form	Comments	Sherds
011	GREY	CLSD	BASE STRING 50% SPOOLISH	1
012	GREY	-	BS ABR	1
013	SMALL	18/31	FRT. STAMPED JMOXIVS.F	3

Key to Fabric Codes

GREY	Reduced - Miscellaneous Grey Wares
SAMLM	Samian - Les Martres de Veyre

ROMAN POTTERY - DATES

Context	Date
011	L3-4
012	3+
013	HANT