

00/4



LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

**Waddingham, land west of Silver Street**

*NGR: SK 9815 9600*

*Site Code: WSS 99*

*LCNCC Museum Accn. No. 235.99*

*Planning Application: 99/P/0406*

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

heritage

Report prepared for  
Moore Facilities Management

by G. Tann

**LAS Report No. 388**

**March 2000**

ack 16/3/02

14 MAR 00

Lincobshire County Council  
Archaeology Section

50799 - Late Saxon -  
present

54516 - IA/Ro

54517 - Ro

Event LI1199

# Contents

## Lists of Figures and Plates

Summary	1
Introduction	1
Archaeological Background	2
The Watching Brief	2
Conclusion	5
Acknowledgements	6
References	6
Archive Summary	6
Appendix 1: Context Summary	
Appendix 2: Post-Roman Pottery archive list (J. Young and C. Angus)	
Appendix 3: Report on the Roman Pottery (M. Darling)	



## List of Figures and Plates

### Figures

- Fig. 1** Location of Waddingham (C based on the 1953 Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 map sheet SK 99. © Crown Copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 50424A).
- Fig. 2** Location of the monitored development, (based on a 1:1,250 plan supplied by the client. © Crown Copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 50424A).
- Fig. 3** House Plots 1 and 2, showing the positions of archaeological features (McDaid, after Tann).
- Fig. 4** Sections across archaeological features revealed in the house and garage foundation trenches (McDaid, after Tann).
- Fig. 5** Plan and section of the monitored pipe trench (McDaid, after Tann).

### Plates

- Pl. 1** Site of House Plot 1 and its garage, with the centre of the trench lines marked in white. Looking SE towards Silver Street.
- Pl. 2** Eastern side of boundary ditch **13** in House Plot 1 (centre and left), cutting the orange clay and brash layer (to right). Looking south, scale divisions 0.2m).
- Pl. 3** Boundary ditch **13** and the position of the existing boundary. The holly bush may mark the position of a corner between fields or properties. (Looking south).
- Pl. 4** Dark fill of rubbish pit **16** visible contrasting with the yellow brash at the base of the foundation trench, SE corner of the House Plot 1 garage (looking east).
- Pl. 5** Site of House Plot 2 (looking east). The change in alignment of the boundary hedge to the north can be seen; this may be a deflection around quarry pits excavated for limestone brash.
- Pl. 6** The service trench, excavated along the access to Silver Street (looking east to the street).
- Pl. 7** Dark fill of pits in the service trench, with yellow clay and brash at the trench base.

# Waddingham, land west of Silver Street

## Archaeological Watching Brief

NGR: SK 9815 9600

Site Code: WSS 99

LCNCC Museum Accn. No. 235.99

West Lindsey District Council Planning Application: 99/P/0406

### **Summary**

*Ditches and pits of medieval and post-medieval date were revealed during groundworks for bungalows. The features are thought to have been a property boundary ditch and rubbish pits excavated at the edge of the two properties. There were possible signs of limestone quarrying within one property. A residual sherd of Iron Age shell-gritted pottery, and a sherd of a later third century colour-coated beaker from a Nene Valley kiln were found.*

*Rubbish pits were seen between the road frontage and the front of the development, but most of these produced no dating material. The stratigraphically latest pits produced nineteenth century material. There was no evidence for structures on the site.*

### **Introduction**

Lindsey Archaeological Services was commissioned in September 1999 by Moore Facilities Management to conduct an archaeological watching brief during excavation of foundation trenches for two houses and garages, an access road and service trenches, on a building plot to the west of Silver Street, Waddingham (Figs. 1 and 2). The watching brief was required to satisfy a condition of the planning permission granted by West Lindsey District Council. The watching brief was conducted according to the general requirements set out in the *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* (Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section, 1998).

Monitoring was conducted by the author on two consecutive days (September 28-29th 1999) during excavation of the houses and garage. A further visit was made on February 3rd 2000 to monitor excavation of a trench linking the properties to services on Silver Street.

### **Site Location and Description**

The building plot is situated in the western half of Waddingham village on the west side of Silver St. The ground rises from Silver Street towards the west, becoming flatter to the rear of the plot. The existing site access had been cut into the higher ground beside the street.

Before construction began, the site had been cleared of vegetation and topsoil. The soil appeared to have been intensively cultivated as a market garden; land beyond the north of the plot retains fruit trees from a small orchard.



## **Archaeological Background**

The village of Waddingham is mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086 and its origins appear to lie in the Anglo-Saxon period. The village was originally divided between two parishes, and this is reflected in the layout of the village. The new development lies in the former parish of Waddingham St. Peter; St. Peter's Church was demolished after 1687 (copy of Faculty at Lincolnshire Archives).

## **The Watching Brief**

### **Method**

The trenches were excavated with a JCB with 0.65m wide toothed bucket. House Plot 1 was excavated in clear conditions, but the second bungalow was excavated in wet conditions with poor light. A photographic record was not made of the features seen in House Plot 2. Context numbers were assigned by LAS for recording purposes, and these are used on the plan and sections.

### **House Plot 1 (Figs. 2-4)**

This bungalow was positioned to the south of the building plot, close to a former hedgeline which separated this development from existing recently built bungalows (Pl. 1). The southern foundation trench was excavated alongside the hedgeline through 0.5m dark brown topsoil **1** and 0.5m brown subsoil **2**. The topsoil produced seven sherds of pottery (one medieval, the remainder eighteenth or nineteenth century) and a single fragment of clay tobacco pipe stem (Appendix 1). Three other sherds (two late ninth or tenth century, one late seventeenth or eighteenth century) were found in the subsoil layer. The greater depths than usual of these layers close to the southern edge of the plot probably indicates that this trench cut through a former upcast bank on which the hedge had originally grown. It is also possible that a number of shallow pits were present but not recognised. No sign survives of a west-east ditch associated with this field boundary hedge, although vestigial traces of a bank remain. Topsoil depth away from the hedgeline was about 0.15m, covering the 0.15m thick subsoil layer.

A backfilled north-south aligned field boundary ditch **13** was seen in the foundation trenches of this house plot, but it did not appear to equate with any of the ditch features in House Plot 2 (Pl. 2). The ditch was 1.3m wide and 0.5m deep, cut through a layer of orange loam into the limestone brash. It appeared to become shallower to the north, but it was suspected that this was the result of truncation of deposits away from the protection given by the existing hedgeline. A mature holly bush grows on the hedgeline at the point where this ditch meets the edge of the house plot; the tree may have been growing at the corner of fields (Pl. 3). The ditch could therefore be post-medieval or medieval in origin, but probably not earlier.

The only other observation in this house plot was a buried dog, with leather collar. This was probably no earlier than the mid-twentieth century.

### **Garage 1 (Figs. 2-4)**

The rectangular footings for this garage were excavated to the east of the house plot (Pl. 1). The

trenches revealed a complex of intercutting post-medieval and early modern rubbish pits **12** and **16** along the eastern side of the garage (Pl. 4). These were clipped by the foundation trenches, so although the western limits were present, most of the pits lay beyond the new development and their depths and extents could not be established.

#### **House Plot 2** (Figs. 2-4)

This plot, to the north of House Plot 1, was beside an established boundary hedge and adjacent foundation trenches were excavated to a greater depth (Pl. 5). Bedrock was encountered in the NW corner at a depth of 2.1m below ground level. At these depths, access into the 0.65m wide trenches in wet conditions was not practical, and monitoring and recording took place from ground level. It was possible to work in the trenches to the south side of the plot, but concrete was poured into the foundations very shortly after excavation.

Small parts of the trench faces were cleaned and drawn in the available time, but it proved difficult to establish the number of features present and their extents. This difficulty was exacerbated by the nature of the deposits beneath the subsoil: in places a thin band of rock 0.1m - 0.3m thick was found below the subsoil but sealing a layer of soft yellow clay. Where this thin layer was absent, it was unclear whether it had been eroded naturally or had been removed by human action.

A shell-gritted sherd of pottery, identified as probably of mid/late Iron Age date, was found in the topsoil **1** in this house plot (Appendix 2). The subsoil layer in this part of the site was difficult to distinguish from the similar fills of deeper, probably earlier features, and some contamination of collected finds is likely.

#### **Ditch 17**

Ditch **17** was aligned NW-SE across the centre of this house plot but was not seen in House Plot 1; its alignment may have been slightly to the west of that plot. It was not observed in the northern trench of House Plot 1 but here it may have been indistinguishable or disturbed by tree root activity. The ditch was about 0.7m wide and its base was about 0.6m below the ground surface. Its fill **8** was brown loam and contained several bones from a cow jaw. This ditch appears to share the alignment of a former hedge (now removed) to the north of the access, and is also at 90° to the southern property boundary hedge (Fig. 3). It seems probable that Ditch **17** is a traditional plot division that was abandoned when the plot was extended to the west. As its stratigraphic relationship confirms, this ditch is not of great antiquity (it cuts **6** which contained a medieval sherd), and may be of post-medieval date.

#### **Ditch 15**

The alignment of an earlier ditch **15** is not that of **17**, but its close proximity shows that the same land division was intended. This ditch was about 0.9m wide and 0.8m deep, sited slightly further east. Its brown loam fill **6** produced four sherds of pottery (three eighth/ninth century, one medieval) and a small sherd of a late third century Roman Nene Valley colour-coated ware beaker.



Although it certainly extended as far south as House Plot 1, the ditch could not be followed across to the southern boundary in its simple form. It may have merged with ditch **13**, the eastern edge of which is on almost the same alignment. Ditch **15** is at 90° to a projection of the eastern part of the northern property boundary, suggesting that it may have been contemporary with that land division.

#### ***Pits 20, 22 and 23***

Neither of the two ditches were seen in the northern trench of the house plot. That trench was particularly difficult to interpret, as the eastern end consisted of homogeneous dark loam covering a thin band of apparently undisturbed limestone bedrock **26** 0.6m below the surface, with a clay layer **27** beneath it. **27** has been interpreted as of natural formation. Towards the western end, the bedrock layer was absent for at least 3.5m, and the homogeneous loam was slightly deeper, sealing a thin layer of orange loam **35** above the same clay layer **27**. The base of **27** was at slightly over 2m below the ground surface, on another bedrock layer. The most probable explanation for this arrangement is that one pit **23**, or series of pits, has removed deposits in this area to an almost uniform depth, and then have been backfilled with a mixed soil. It was unclear whether a subsoil layer **2** had formed over these pits or whether they had been excavated through it. The purpose of these pits remains uncertain: if they were for limestone quarrying, why was a thin seam exposed but then left? The other materials present are clays with varying densities of brash inclusions, and maybe the pits were quarrying the fine brash.

Evidence for pits extended south to where **20** and **23** had removed ditches **15** and **17**. No signs of such features were visible in either the eastern or western foundation trenches of this house plot, and this suggests that the pits were restricted to the corners of two properties divided by the NW-SE ditch. The presence of the open pits may provide the explanation for the deflection of the northern hedge boundary.

#### ***Post-holes 18 and 19***

The bases of two post-holes **18** and **19** were seen in the trench section at between 0.6m and 0.7m below the ground surface, mostly removed by ditch **17**. Insufficient remained to establish a relationship with ditch **15**. The post-holes were the only ones identified, and may represent an earlier phase of boundary definition.

#### **The Service Trench** (Figs. 2 and 5)

A 0.65m wide trench was excavated by machine between the bungalows and Silver Street. 20m of the trench (close to the bungalows) had been excavated and backfilled without monitoring. The 30m length closest to Silver Street was observed in good lighting conditions, although the ground conditions were not suitable for recording within the trench at the depth reached (Pl. 6).

The trench cut through a 0.2m thick layer of topsoil and various ash and clinker deposits spread to

consolidate the former drive. Beneath this was a 0.2m-0.6m thick layer of dark brown loam **12**, very friable and containing infrequent fragments of early twentieth century china. This layer was thought to be a cultivation layer, mixing the fills of numerous adjacent rubbish pits. It was thinnest at the eastern end of the trench, possibly as a result of truncation on the slope. Beneath this layer was undisturbed natural brash and clay, changing to a layer of limestone bedrock at a depth of 2m.

Two deeper pits had been dug through the brash with clay layer at the western end of the monitored trench, 25m west of Silver Street (Pl. 7). The easternmost had a dark brown clay loam fill with a green tinge, the colour suggesting that cess had been present. The base of the deeper pit was at least 1.5m below the surface.

### **Conclusion**

Waddingham village incorporates the two former parishes of Waddingham St. Mary and Waddingham St. Peter, and despite cartographic indications of two settlements, the origins and development of the village have not been established (Everson, Taylor and Dunn 1991, 13). The importance of this project was in the discovery of Iron Age, Romano-British and ninth/tenth century pottery near the heart of the medieval village. Although the fragments found were small and residual (ie. found in a feature of later date), their presence indicates that contemporary occupation may be present in the close vicinity.

The earliest feature found on this site was ditch **15**, containing thirteenth/fourteenth century and earlier material, which appears to have been aligned onto a property boundary which still survives, apparently aligned on Pinnings Lane and High Street. This allows a tentative date to be placed on similarly aligned boundaries in this part of Waddingham. The boundary line across the site remained in use for some time longer, with a replacement ditch being cut on a slightly different alignment which added to the land area to the east. This second alignment seems to be associated with other surviving land boundaries, representing a second phase of property definition probably aligned on Snitterby Road.

The quarry pits under House Plot 2 are not well dated, but are likely to be post-medieval rather than earlier. They appear to relate to a phase when the NW-SE land boundary had become redundant, and when the ground was a single land unit, as it was until the new house was built. It seems that this unit encroached onto the adjoining land to the north, by enough to realign the northern hedge boundary around the pits. No other adjoining properties exhibit this west-east boundary alignment.

Had there been any structures on this site, they must have been nearer the Silver Street frontage, and (on the evidence of the pipe trench) are probably overlain by existing dwellings. Apart from post-medieval rubbish pits which may well relate to the existing houses, no other features were found in the eastern half of the plot.

The arrangement of existing dwellings in this part of Waddingham is probably very similar to that of the medieval period. This watching brief gave no indication that land between the modern streets had been



developed in the past.

### **Acknowledgements**

LAS is grateful to Joy Moore (Moore Facilities Management) and the team on site for the co-operation received during the project. Help was also received from the Lincolnshire County Council Built Environment Team and Lincolnshire Archives.

Geoff Tann  
Lindsey Archaeological Services  
8th March 2000

### **References**

Everson, P.L., Taylor, C.C. and Dunn, C.J. 1991 *Change and Continuity: Rural Settlement in North-West Lincolnshire*. RCHM(E); London.

### **Archive Summary**

Archaeological finds: pottery

Specialists' archive lists and reports: Roman pottery, Post-Roman pottery

Developer's plans and annotated copies

Field plan and section drawings

Photographs: LAS colour print film nos. 99/138/6-15; 00/20/00-6 (including those used in this report).

Correspondence

# APPENDIX 1

## Context Summary

Context	Context Type	Description	Relationship
1	topsoil	dark brown loam	over 2
2	subsoil	dark brown loam	below 1, ?cut by 20, 23; over all other features
3	fill of pit 12		below 2
4	fill of ditch 13	dark brown loam	below 2
5	fill of pit 14	dark brown loam	below 2
6	fill of ditch 15	dark brown loam	cut by 17
7	fill of pit 16		cut by 12
8	fill of ditch 17	dark brown loam	below 2, cut by 20?
9	fill of post-hole 18	dark brown loam	below 8
10	fill of post-hole 19	dark brown loam	below 8
11	fill of pit 20	dark brown loam	below 1, below 2?, below 8?
12	pit, filled by 3		cuts 7
13	ditch, filled by 4		cuts 29
14	pit, filled by 5		cuts 29
15	ditch, filled by 6		cuts 25
16	pit, filled by 7		cuts 25
17	ditch, filled by 8		cuts 6, 29
18	post-hole, filled by 9		cuts 25
19	post-hole, filled by 10		cuts 25
20	pit, filled by 11		cuts 2?, cuts 8?, cuts 6
21	pit, filled by 22		cuts 25
22	fill of pit 21	dark brown loam	below 2
23	pit, filled by 24	dark brown loam	cuts 2?, cuts 26
24	fill of pit 23	dark brown loam	below 1
25	limestone brash with clay layer	yellow/orange brash and clay	cut by 18, 19, 20, 32; below 29
26	limestone bedrock	cream	below 2, above 35
27	layer, yellow clay loam	yellow/orange clay loam	below 35
28	not used		
29	orange sand	orange sand	cut by 13, 14, 15, 17; over 25
30	pit, filled by 31		cuts 33
31	fill of pit 30	dark brown loam	below 2
32	pit, filled by 33		cuts 25
33	fill of pit 32	dark brown loam	cut by 30
34	not used		
35	layer, yellow clay loam	yellow/orange clay loam	below 26, above 27



## pottery archive wss99

Jane Young and Claire Angus, Lindsey Archaeological Services

context	cname	sub fabric	form type	sherds	vessels	part	description	date
1	BL		?	1	1	BS	glaze ext; spalled int; slipped	18th
1	BL		jar/chamber pot	2	1	BS	glaze int & ext	18th
1	BSTON		?jar	1	1	BS		18/19th
1	LPM		bowl/dish	1	1	BS	glaze int & ext; lustre ware	18/19th
1	LSW2/3		bunghole vessel	2	1	bunghole	ext splashed glaze; worn; small plain bunghole; diam 1.5cm	13/14th
1	R		?	1	1	BS		Roman
2	LKT		jar	1	1	base		L9/10th
2	LSLOC		jar	1	1	BS	worn	L9/10th
2	STSL		press moulded dish	1	1	BS	worn	L17/18th
6	LSW2		jug	1	1	BS	int dep	e13/14th
6	MAX	B	?	3	1	BS		8th/9th
6	R		?	1	1	BS		Roman

**REPORT 58 ON ROMAN POTTERY FROM WEST OF SILVER  
STREET, WADDINGHAM, WSS99**

for LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

by Margaret J. Darling, M.Phil., F.S.A., M.L.F.A.

26 February 2000

Two sherds were submitted for identification and comment:

Context 1

A hand-made body sherd in shell-gritted fabric, dark grey throughout. Such body sherds are almost impossible to date with any certainty, as shell-gritted fabrics occur in Lincolnshire throughout the Iron Age and into the Roman period. The character of the sherd does not indicate that it came from a later Roman dales ware jar (where the body is hand-made) and, on balance, it is likely to be of Iron Age date, probably mid- to late Iron Age, although a possible early Roman date cannot be ruled out.

Context 6

A body sherd in a Nene Valley colour-coated fabric probably from a beaker, although a flask or flagon is also possible. The fabric is light red-brown with a dark grey-brown colour-coat on both surfaces. The nature of the fabric would suggest a later 3rd century date, c AD250 onwards, although an early 4th-century date is just possible.

© M.J. Darling, 2000.



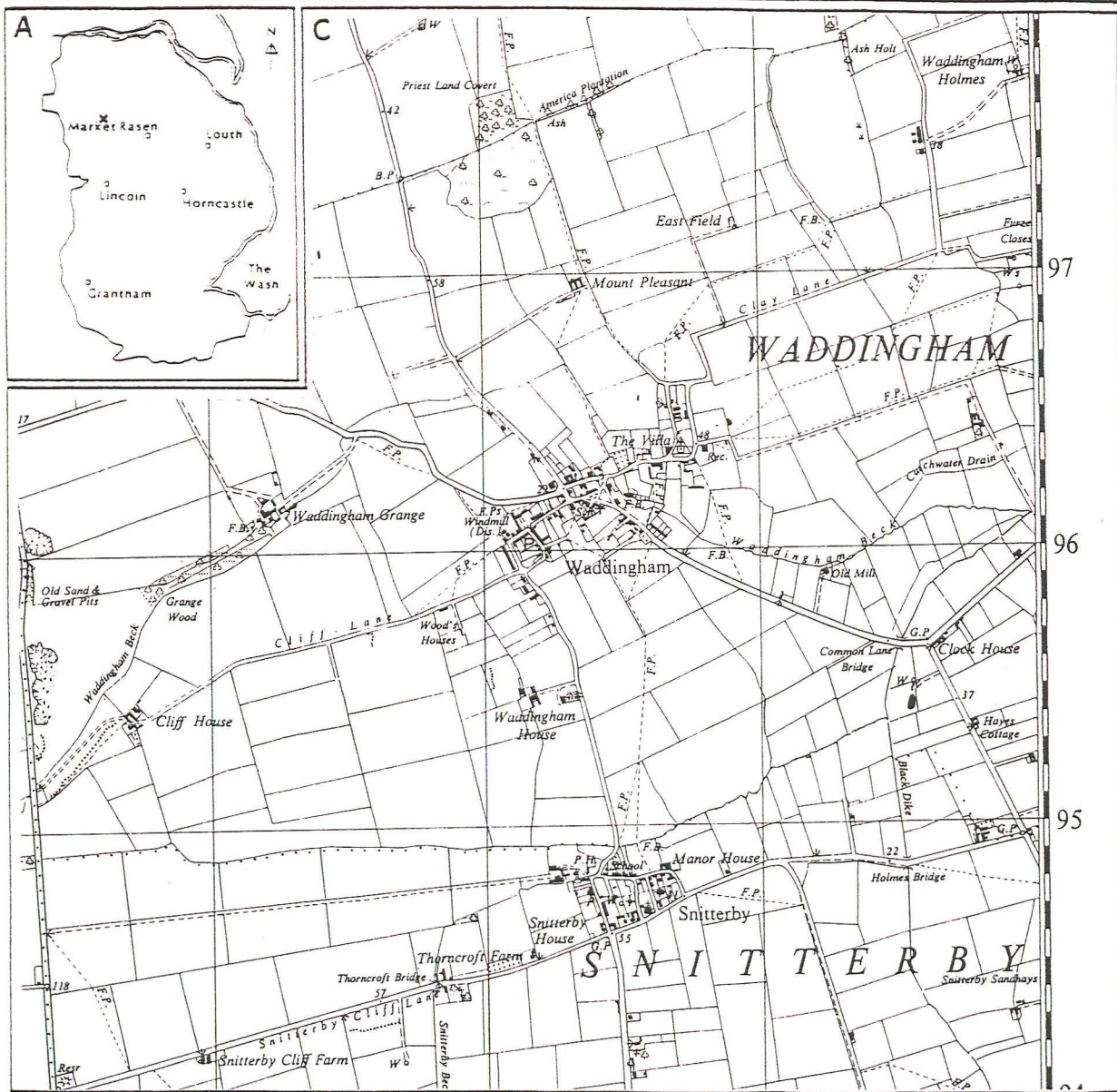
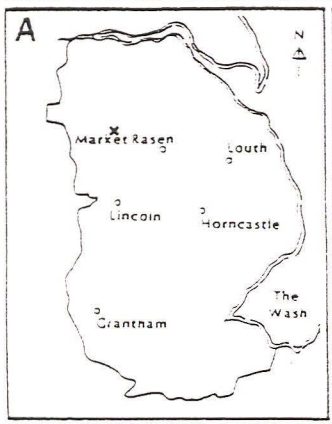
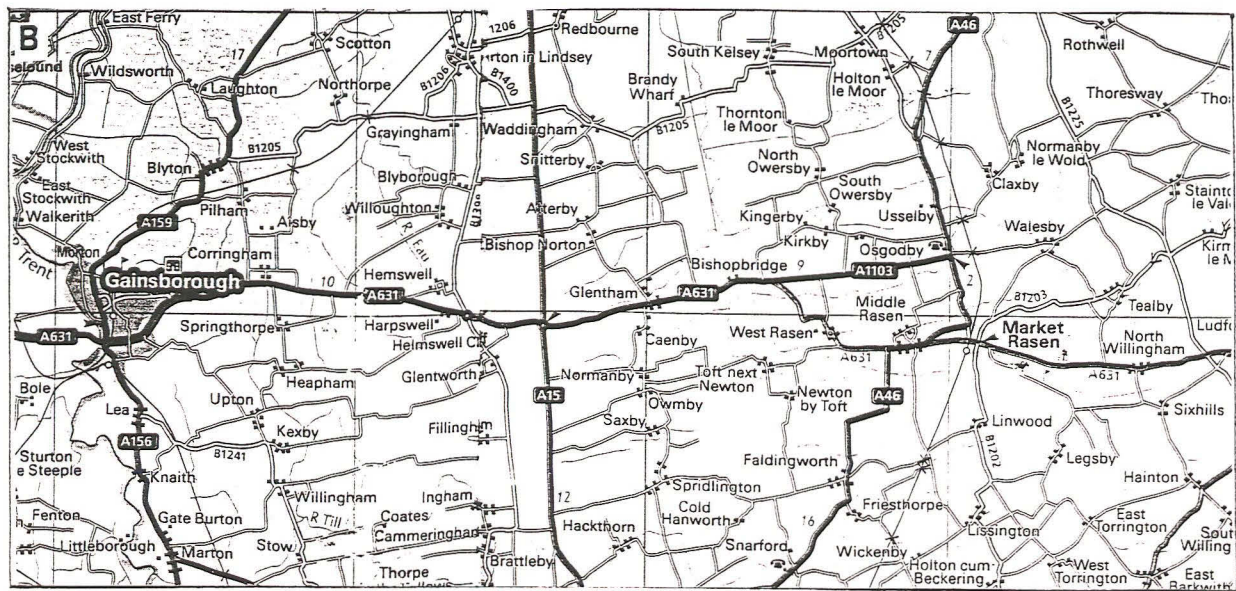


Fig. 1 Location of Waddingham (C based on the 1953 Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 map sheet SK 99. © Crown Copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 50424A).



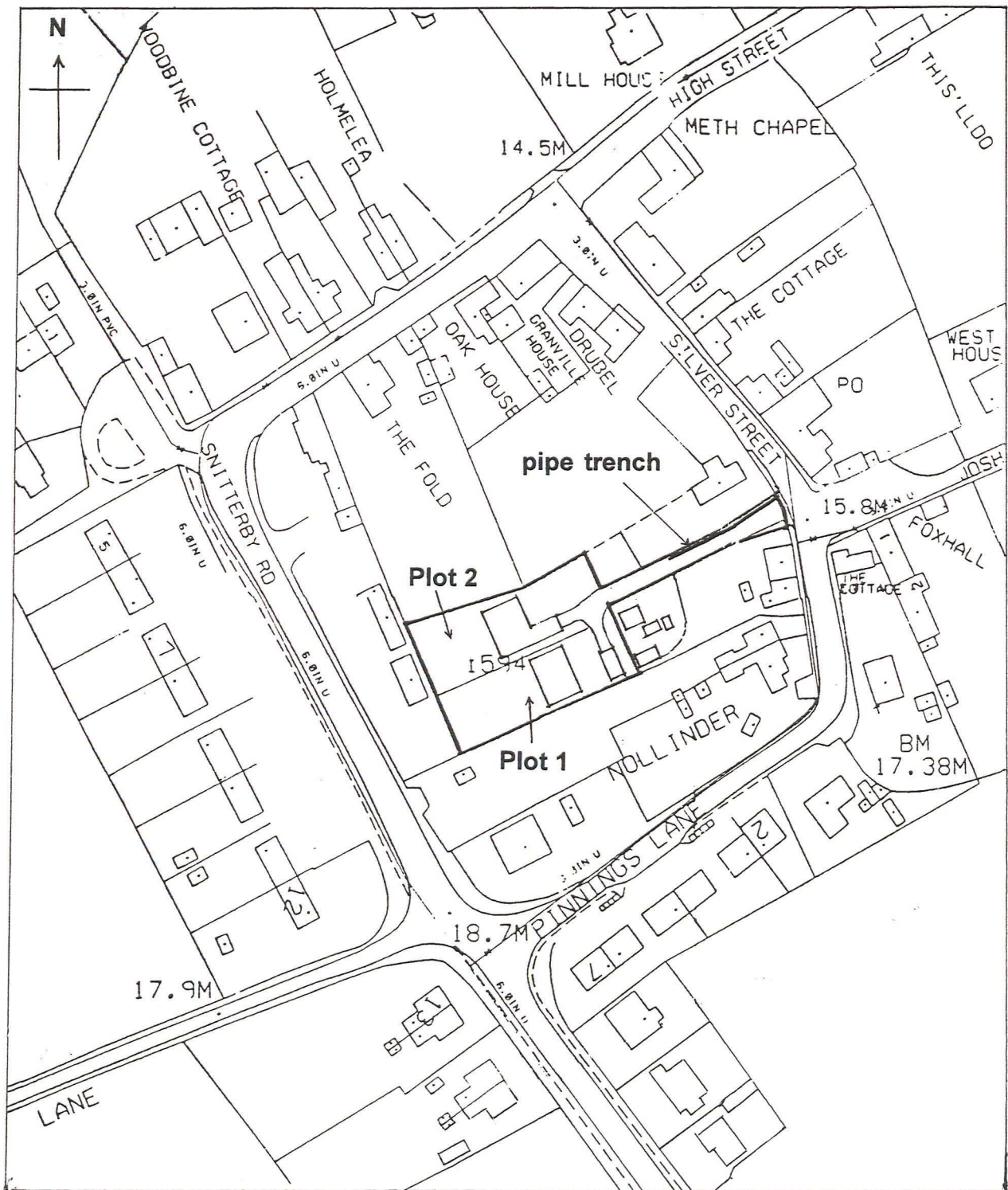


Fig. 2 Location of the monitored development, (based on a 1:1,250 plan supplied by the client. © Crown Copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 50424A).



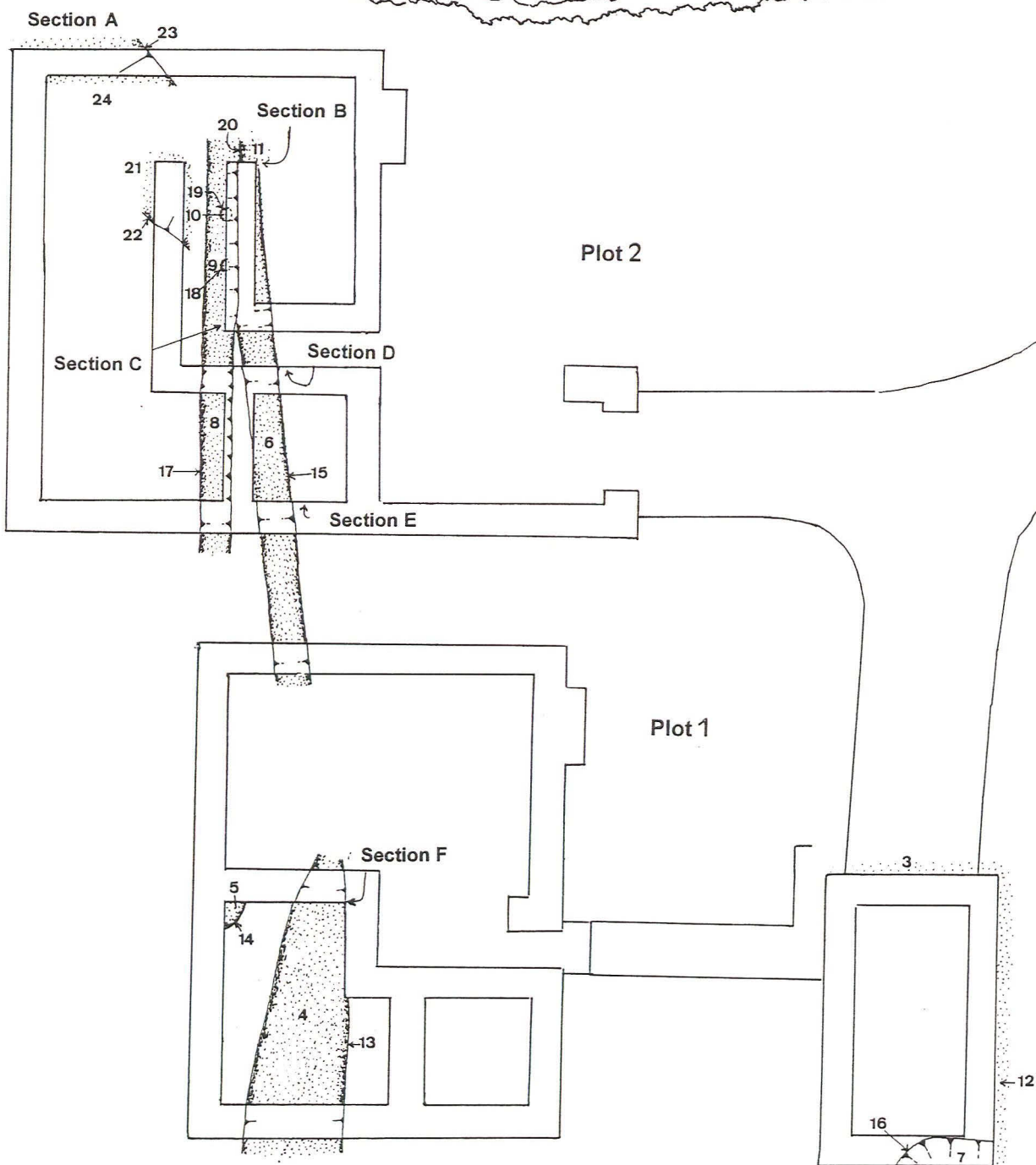


Fig. 3 House Plots 1 and 2, showing the positions of archaeological features (McDaid, after Tann).

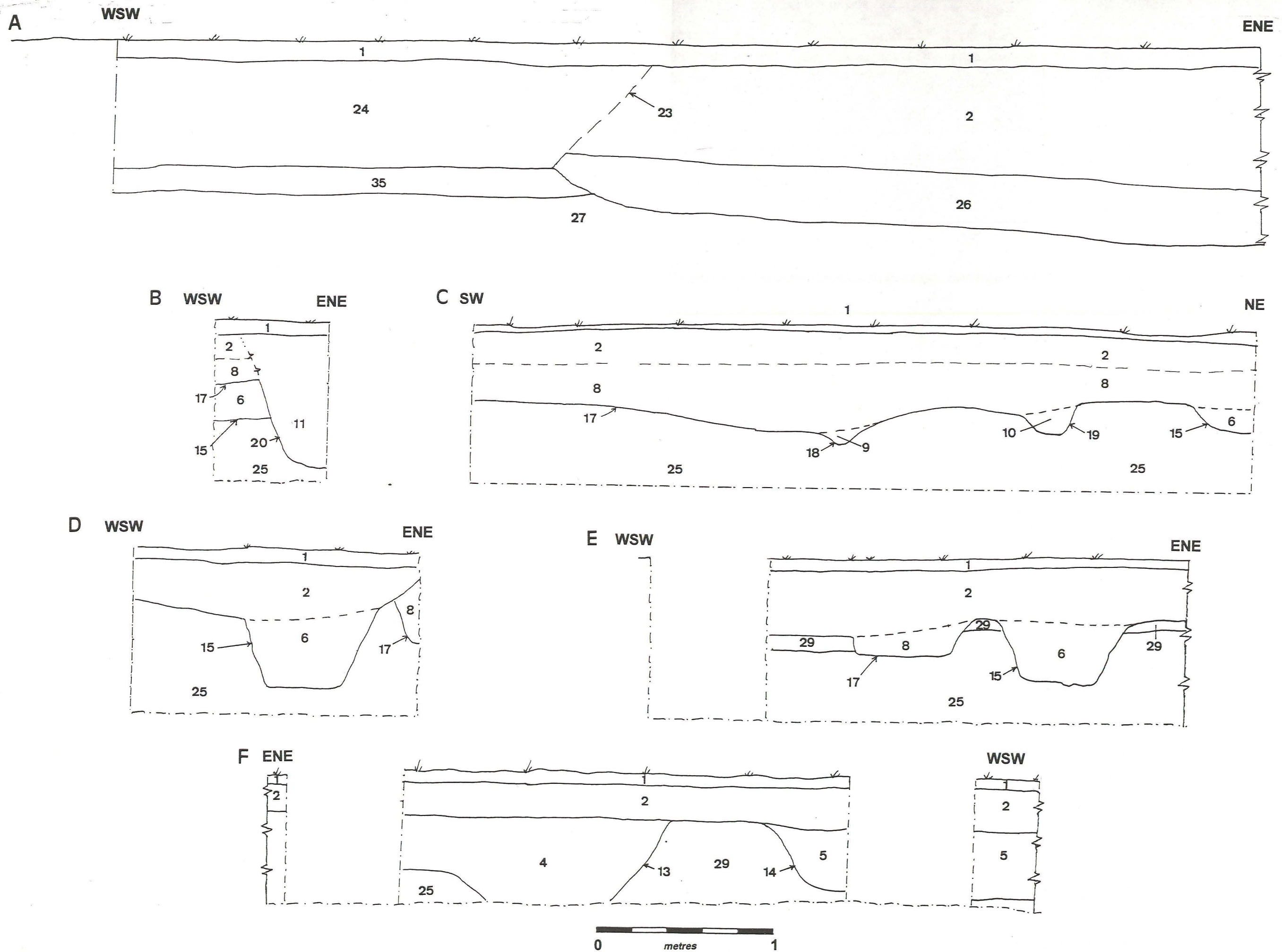


Fig. 4 Sections across archaeological features revealed in the house and garage foundation trenches (McDaid, after Tann).

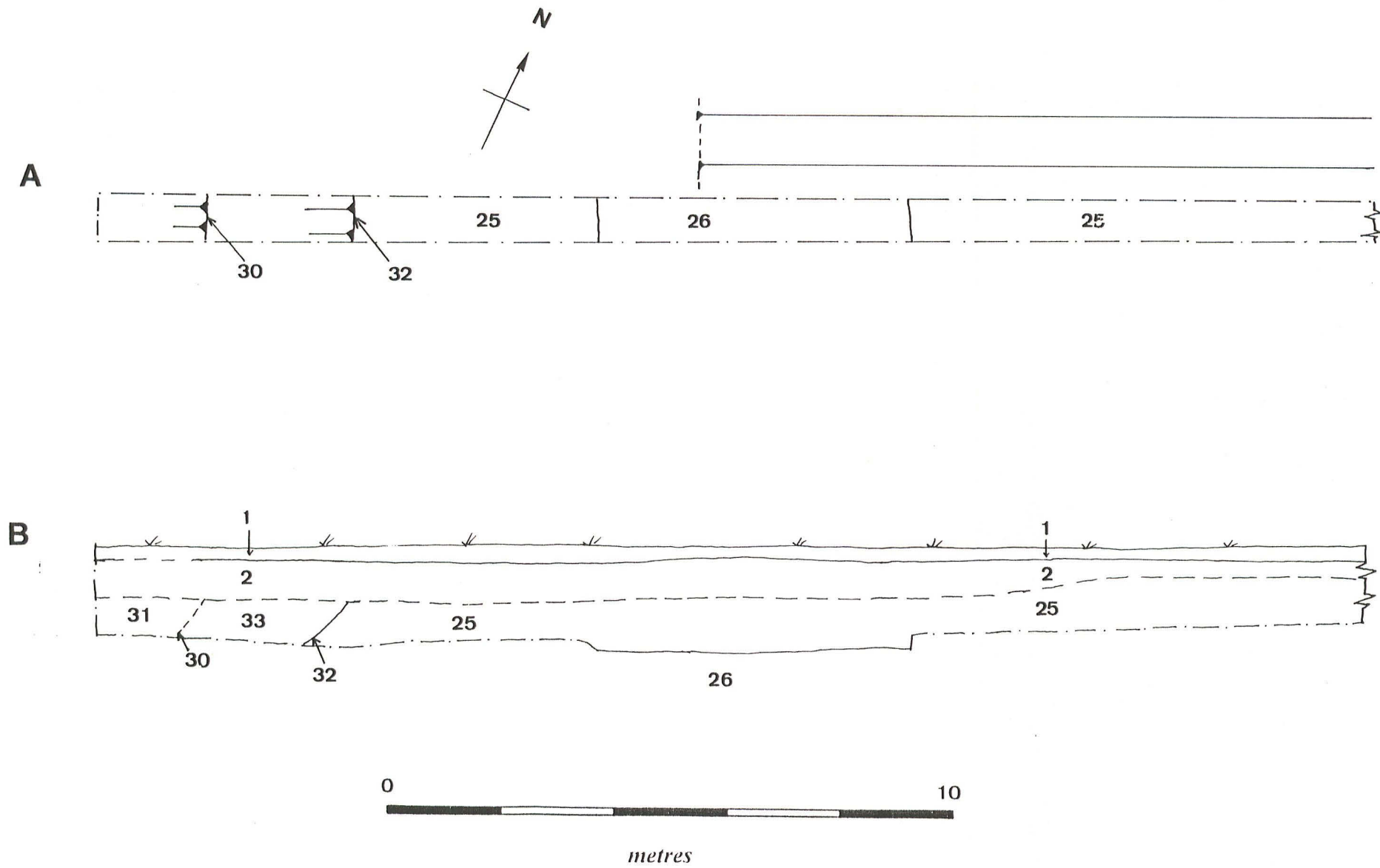


Fig. 5 Plan and section of the monitored pipe trench (McDaid, after Tann).





**Pl. 1** Site of House Plot 1 and its garage, with the centre of the trench lines marked in white. Looking SE towards Silver Street.

**Pl. 2** Eastern side of boundary ditch 13 in House Plot 1 (centre and left), cutting the orange clay and brash layer (to right). Looking south, scale divisions 0.2m).







**PI. 3** Boundary ditch 13 and the position of the existing boundary. The holly bush may mark the position of a corner between fields or properties. (Looking south).

**PI. 4** Dark fill of rubbish pit 16 visible contrasting with the yellow brash at the base of the foundation trench, SE corner of the House Plot 1 garage (looking east).







**Pl. 5** Site of House Plot 2 (looking east). The change in alignment of the boundary hedge to the north can be seen; this may be a deflection around quarry pits excavated for limestone brash.

**Pl. 6** The service trench, excavated along the access to Silver Street (looking east to the street).







**Pl. 7** Dark fill of pits in the service trench, with yellow clay and brash at the trench base.