



LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

**Haverholme Priory, Ewerby and Evedon
Archaeological Evaluation**

NKeat

NGR: TF 109 494

Scheduled Ancient Monument No.: Lincs. 178

LCNCC Accn No.: 2000.142

Site Code: HPE 00

Report for

The Haverholme Farm Partnership

**LAS Report No. 430
July 2000**

Lincolnshire County Council
Archaeology Section
02 AUG 00
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Linn County Council
Agriculture Section
02 AUG 00

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Summary

In June 2000, LAS was commissioned to excavate two 2m x 1m test pits along the proposed route of a new main drain in the vicinity of the Haverholme Priory site, a Scheduled Ancient Monument. No archaeological features or deposits were identified within these test pits.

Introduction

Two test pits were excavated (Pl. 1) on behalf of The Haverholme Farm Partnership in accordance with the general requirements of the Archaeology Section of Lincolnshire County Council as set out in the *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* (1998), the requirements of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, as described in their letter JBC/ML/T114; HSD 9/2/3956 Pt 1 (dated 14th July 1998), and the letter from the Inspector of Ancient Monuments (East Midlands), dated 11th May 2000.

The Site

The proposed development site was within the area of Haverholme Priory, a scheduled ancient monument. The Priory is situated 0.9km SW of Anwick, and 6km NE of Sleaford, Lincs. The site lies between the River Sleas and its former course (Fig. 1).

Planning Background

An application for Scheduled Monument Consent was submitted in January 1998 by D.B. Lawrence and Associates, on behalf of The Thornhill Settlement. The application related to drainage works and restoration of the original north drive; the works were needed in connection with conversion of the stable block (which is not scheduled) into dwellings.

A response from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, in July 1998, stated that English Heritage had advised that an archaeological evaluation should be undertaken, under Class 7 of the Ancient Monuments (Class Consents) Order 1994. The evaluation allowed for an assessment of the potential impact upon the scheduled area of the insertion of the drains.

Revised drainage plans (dwg. no. T114/22A) were produced in April 2000, and submitted to English Heritage in May 2000 by the Haverholme Farm Partnership. Agreement was reached with the English Heritage Inspector of Ancient Monuments (East Midlands) that the evaluation would comprise two small trenches dug along the line of the proposed new drains.

Archaeological Background

The place-name Haverholme, first recorded in the twelfth century, derives from Old Norse elements denoting "the island of land where oats grow" (Cameron 1998, 61). The river valley site of Haverholme Priory was originally given by the Bishop of Lincoln in 1137 to the Cistercian order of Fountains Abbey. Its precise location remains unknown. The Cistercians left the site shortly afterwards, and a Gilbertine house was established there in 1139. Limited excavations on the Gilbertine site were undertaken in 1961 by Margaret and Tom Jones in an area to the south of the stable block currently under restoration. Medieval pottery is still to be seen on the ground surface in this area. In the 1780s a house was built north-west of the Gilbertine site in Gothic style, and rebuilt in 1835 (Pevsner and Harris 1964, 438); part of that building remains (Pl. 2). The brick stable block is a later part of this complex.

Aims and Objectives

In general terms the purpose of the evaluation was to

- establish the presence or absence, quality and extent of archaeological remains in the two specified locations
- gather sufficient information to enable an assessment of the potential and significance of any archaeological remains to be made and the impact which the proposed drainage works will have upon them
- enable an informed decision to be made regarding the future treatment of any archaeological remains and consider any appropriate mitigatory measures either in advance of and/or during installation of the new drains, if approved

Method

Two trenches, located along the line of the proposed new drains (Fig. 2) each 2m x 1m, were hand cleaned by archaeologists after removal of the topsoil by a tracked mini digger using a toothless bucket. Disturbance was limited to the area likely to be disturbed by the proposed drains. All archaeological works were carried out by a team of two experienced archaeologists, including a Site Director.

Topsoil was removed, to the top of the first recognisable archaeological horizon. The trenches were hand-cleaned to reveal potential features in plan. Selected stratigraphic sections were excavated, to illustrate topsoil depth and the nature of the underlying layers.

A full written (single context) and photographic record was made of the site, along with a plan of each trench and section drawings of one side. All recorded deposits were assigned context numbers by LAS who operate a standard context recording system, developed by its staff over the past 20 years, based on MOLAS and CAS formats.

Results

Trench 1 (Fig. 3, Pls. 3 & 4)

Pottery of 18th –20th century date was recovered from **100**, a 0.25m deep dark grey brown clay silt topsoil containing frequent flint and chalk fragments. Beneath **100**, was **101**, a 0.30m thick yellow brown silty clay subsoil with frequent rounded chalk and sub angular flint inclusions. This deposit was above **102**, a 0.14m deep mid yellow grey silty clay with occasional chalk and flint gravels which lay directly above, **103**, the natural clay layer. All the above deposits were heavily disturbed by root action.

Trench 2 (Fig. 4, Pls. 5 & 6)

The upper layer of this trench, **200**, was a 0.22m deep demolition layer containing orange brown gravel-rich sand with frequent sub-angular stones and modern brick, tile, glass and slate. Beneath **200**, was **201**, a 0.10m thick dark grey silty sand with moderate sub-angular stones, modern brick, glass and slate. Below this deposit was, **202**, a natural mid blue grey clay layer which lightened with depth due to the effects of oxidization.

Table 1 Context Summary

Context No.	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Finds
100	Layer	Topsoil	0.25	Pottery
101	Layer	Silty clay subsoil	0.30	None
102	Layer	Yellow grey silty clay	0.14	None
103	Layer	Natural clay	N/A	None
200	Layer	Orange brown sand and gravel	0.22	None
201	Layer	Dark grey silty sand	0.10	None
202	Layer	Natural clay	N/A	None

Discussion and Conclusion

Despite the trenches being located within the presumed former boundaries of the Gilbertine Priory, no archaeological remains were present. Disturbance from the 18th century onwards was evident in the upper layers of both trenches; the area surrounding Trench 1 having only recently been reseeded (Pl. 7) and still displaying the wheel ruts and other undulations associated with this activity.

Mature trees, in close proximity to the area of the proposed drain, had disturbed all deposits down to, and including, the natural clays (their roots were still visible within Trench 1).

The brick-rich deposits found in Trench 2 are most likely associated with the fairly recent demolition of farm outbuildings, or alternatively the material may have been imported for consolidation purposes in what was at the time of excavation a relatively wet area. Within the vicinity of this trench ruts and undulations were again visible on the surface; the results of activities prior to the conversion of the stable blocks into dwellings (Pl. 8).

Acknowledgements

All fieldwork was carried out by the author, assisted by Wendy Booth. This report was edited by Naomi Field and produced and collated by Jane Frost.

Sue Farr
July 19th 2000

References

Cameron, K. 1998 *Lincolnshire Place-Names*

Pevsner, N. and Harris J. 1964 *The Buildings of England: Lincolnshire*

APPENDIX 1

The Pottery and Tile Archive

by

Jane Young

pottery archive HPE00

context	cname	full name	form type	sherds	vessels	weight	part	description	date
100	LPMDISC	Early modern (discarded)	flowerpot	1	1	3	rim		19 to 20th
100	LPMDISC	Early modern (discarded)		1	1	8	BS	late earthenware	18 to 19th
100	BERTH	Brown glazed earthenware	jar?	1	1	0	BS		18th

tile archive HPE00

context	cname	full name	frags	weight	description	date
100	PNRDISC	Discarded peg, nib or ridge	1	7	undiagnostic	med to modern
100	PNR	Peg, nib or ridge tile	1	40	light firing;? Specific to Haverholme	med to post med

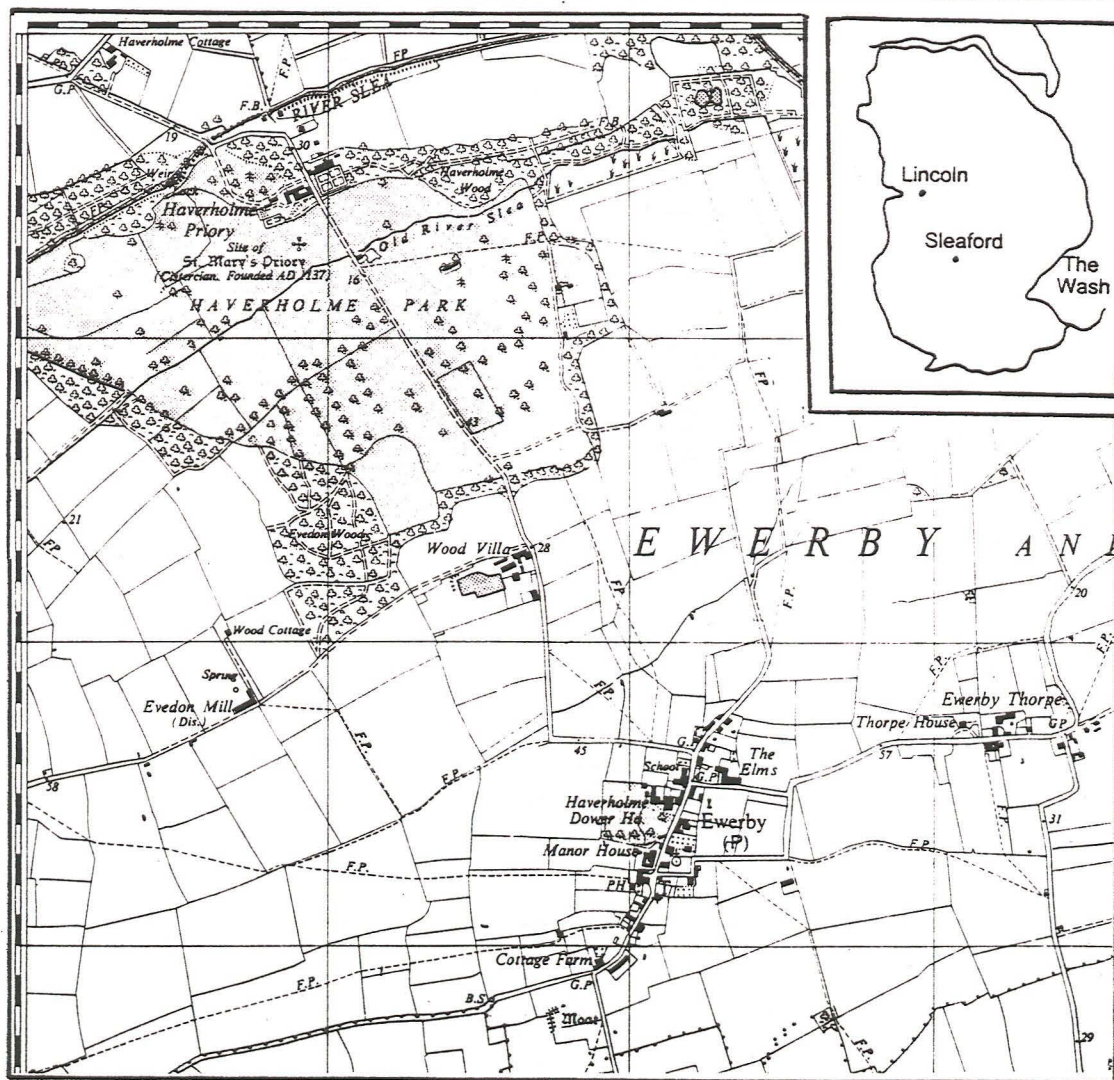
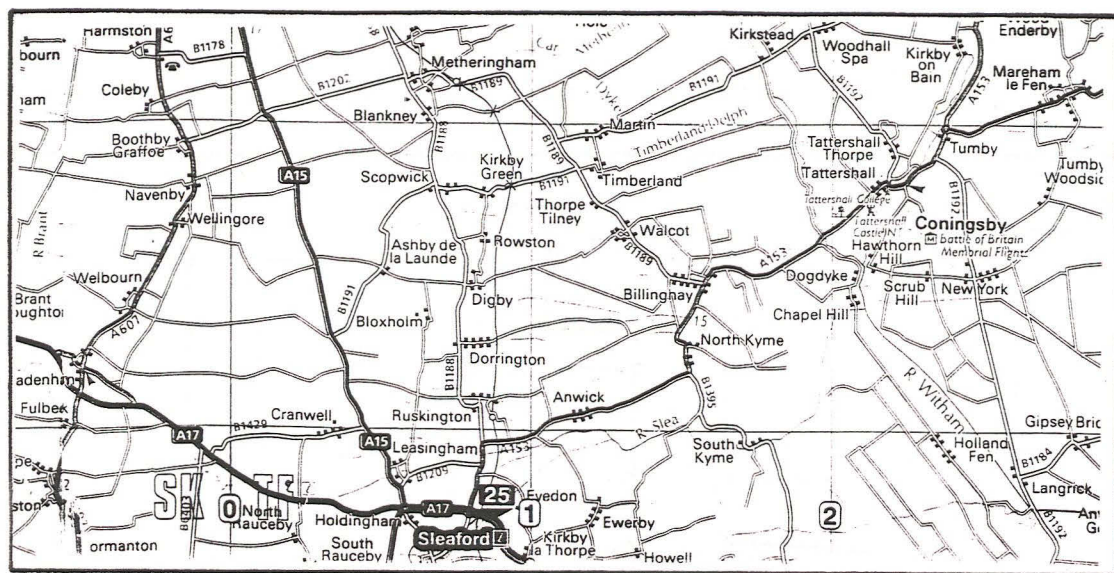


Fig. 1 Location of site. (Reproduced from the 1:25 000 OS map with the permission of the Controller of HMSO, © Crown Copyright. LAS licence number AL 50424A).

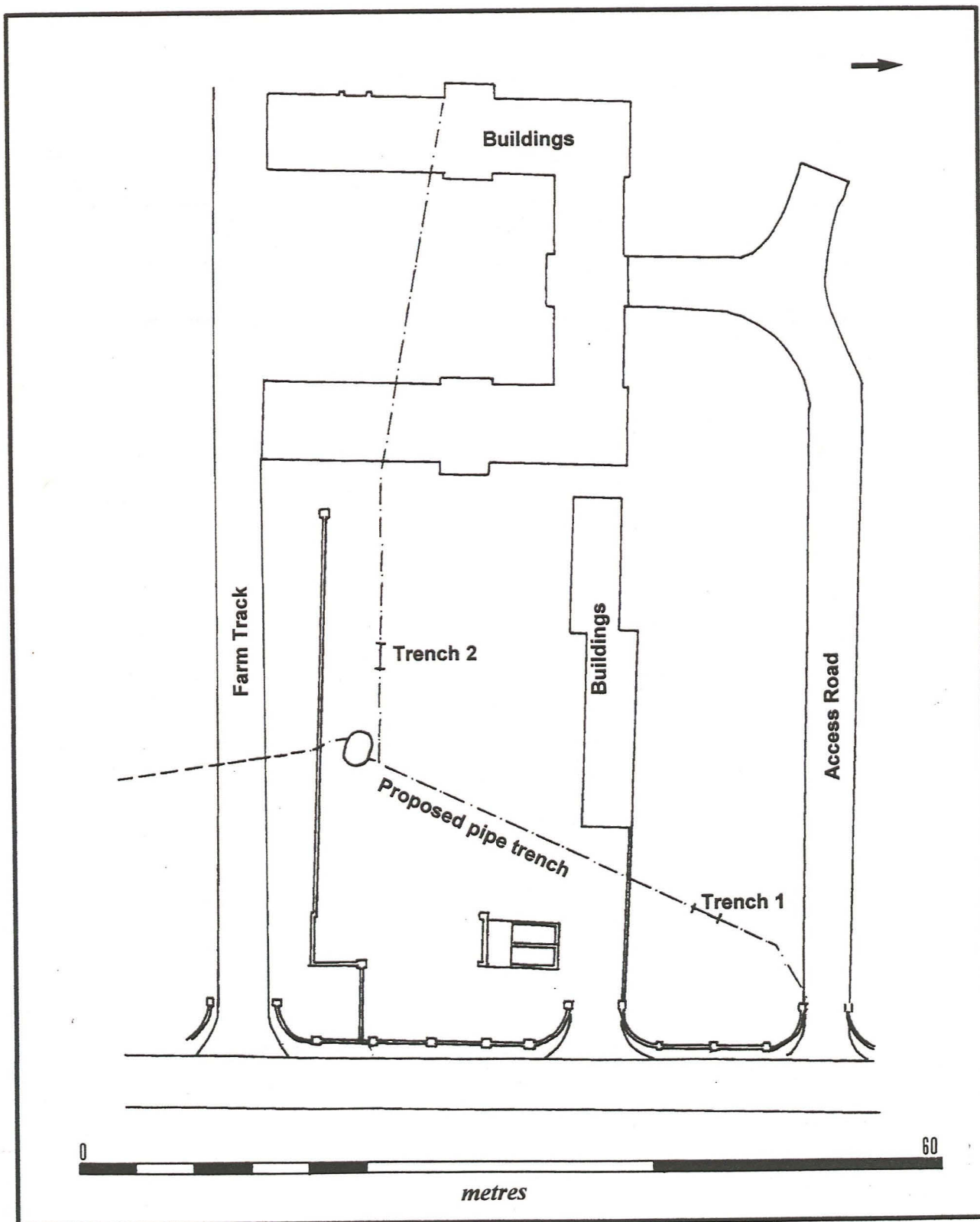


Fig. 2 Location of Trenches

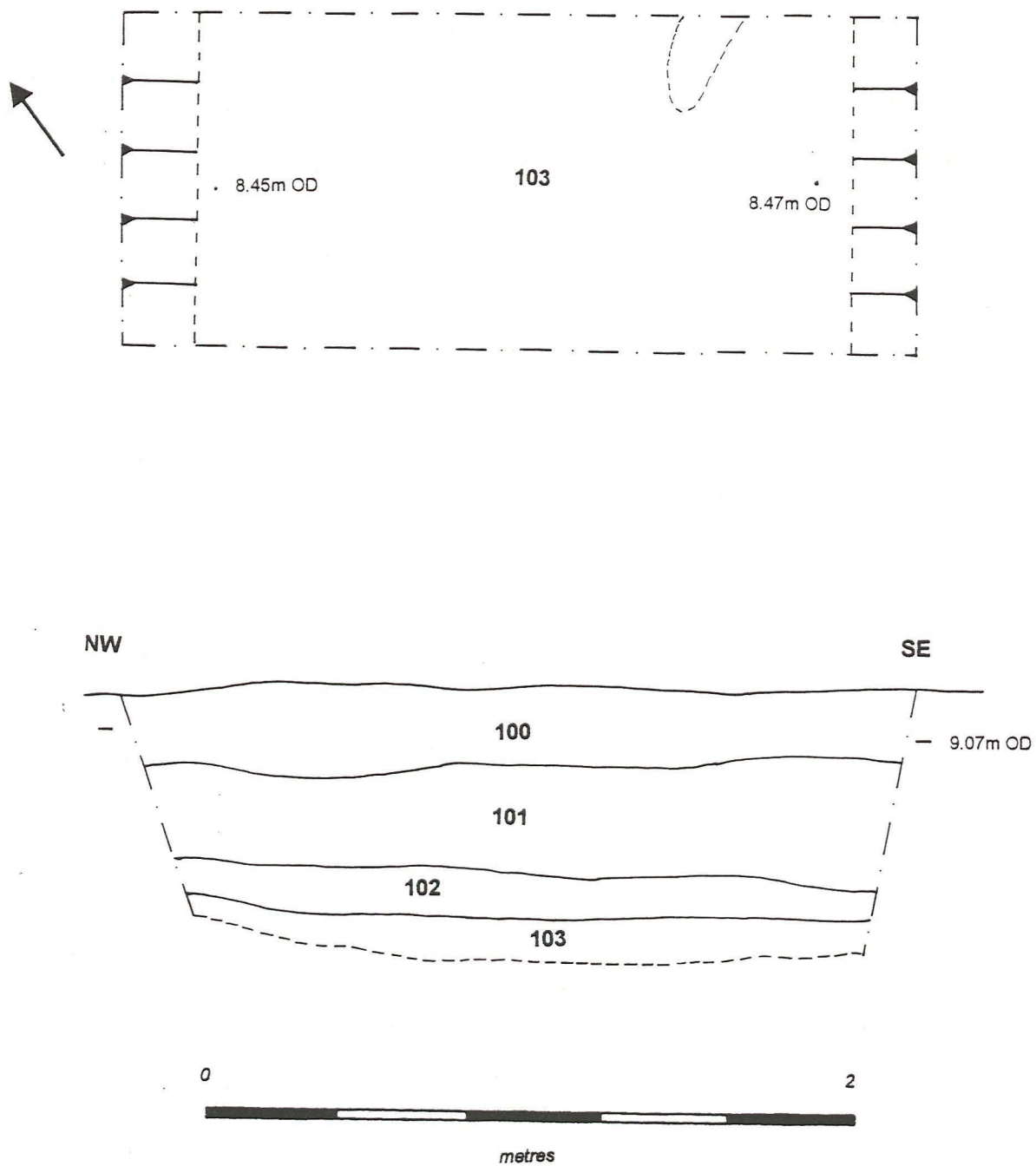


Fig. 3 Plan and section of Trench 1.

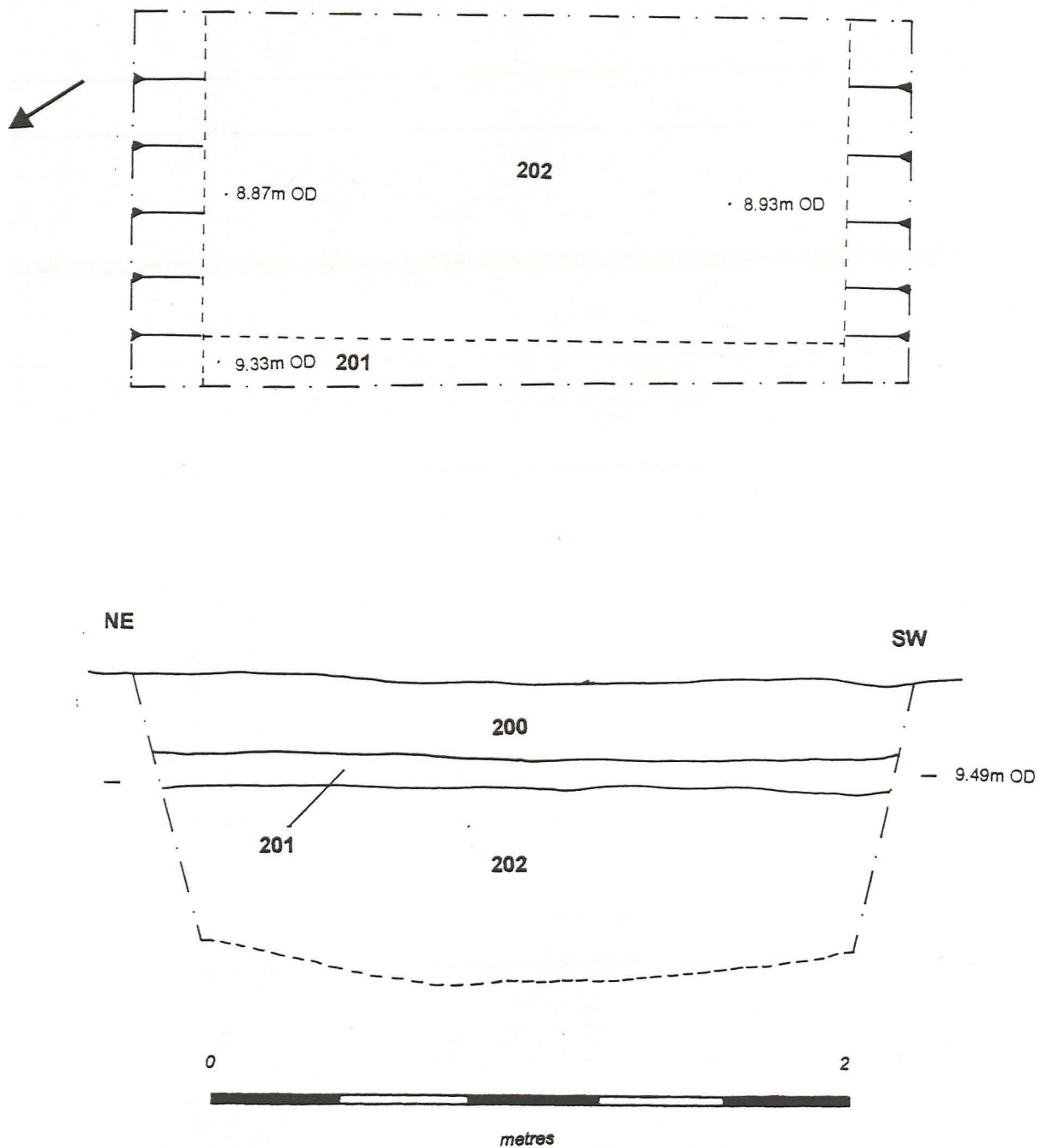


Fig. 4 Plan and section of Trench 2.



Pl. 1 Machine excavation of trenches under archaeological supervision.

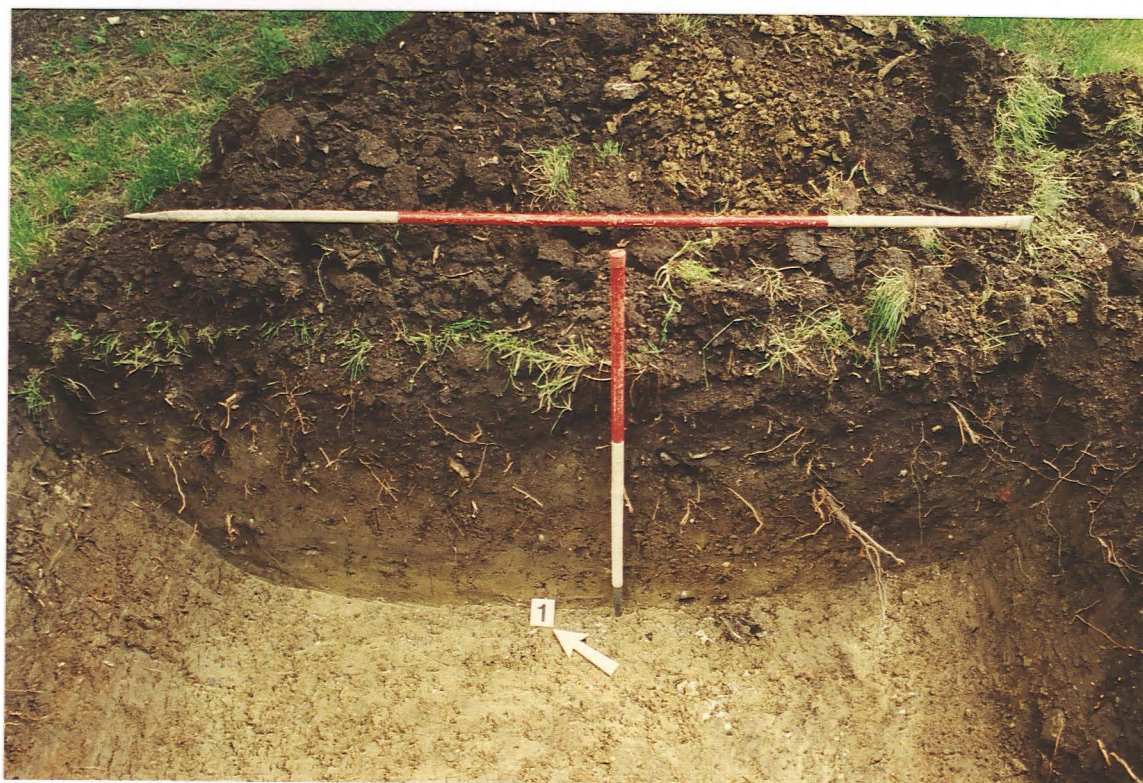
Pl. 2 The late eighteenth century Gothic house to the west of the site.





Pl. 3 Trench 1, looking north. Scales 2m & 1m.

Pl. 4 Trench 1 section, looking north-east. Scales 2m & 1m.





Pl. 5 Trench 2, looking south-west. Scales 2m & 1m.

Pl. 6 Trench 2, section, looking south-east. Scales 2m & 1m.





Pl. 7 General view looking east towards Trench 1, note the recently reseeded grass.

Pl. 8 General view of Trench 2, note the heavily disturbed area in the foreground.

