



LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

**Barrowby Road, Grantham  
New Sewage Pumping Station and Rising Main**

*NGR: SK 9058 3673*

*Site Code: GBRS 00*

*LCNCC Museum Accn No. : 2000.228*

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

CROXLEY  
heritage

**Report for**

**Anglian Water Services Ltd**

**by Geoff Tann and Claire Angus**

**LAS Report No. 547**

**August 2001**

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F.N.FIELD B.A. (Hons), MIFA

Conservation  
Services

05 OCT 2001

Highways & Planning  
Directorate

Event L12575

Source L17170

L1122

Source L17171

Edges furrow

PAN 35447 - MED L182214

35448 - L182295

Antebank scuffs

35449 - L182296

roman  
lettering

## Contents

List of Figures	
List of Plates	
Summary	1
Introduction	1
Site Location and Description	1
Archaeological Background	2
The Watching Brief	2
Conclusion	3
Acknowledgements	4
Air Photograph References	4
Archive Summary	4
Appendix 1: Context Summary	
Appendix 2: Pottery Archive	
Appendix 3: Tile Archive	
The Figures	
The Plates	

## List of Figures and Plates

### The Figures

- Fig. 1** Location of Barrowby Road, Grantham (C based on the 1999 Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 Landranger map, Sheet 130. © Crown Copyright, reproduced with permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 100002165).
- Fig. 2** Route of the monitored pipeline (based on Anglian Water Services Ltd dwg. no. SEW 00568/01. © Crown Copyright, reproduced with permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 100002165).
- Fig. 3** Post-medieval ditches revealed on the pumping station site (McDaid, after Angus; based on a drawing supplied by Anglian Water Services Ltd).
- Fig. 4** The pipeline route, leading from the new pumping station (left). The numbers mark concentrations of pottery sherds collected from the stripped surface. (McDaid, after Tann; based on a drawing supplied by Anglian Water Services Ltd).

### The Plates

- PI. 1** Area topsoil stripped for the new pumping station (looking SE).
- PI. 2** Dark backfill (centre) of post-medieval field boundary ditch crossing the pumping station site (looking north).
- PI. 3** Backfilled field boundary ditch (looking south along the surviving field boundary, towards Barrowby Road).
- PI. 4** Section excavated through the fill of ditch **14**. Scales 0.3m and 1m.
- PI. 5** Line of the pipeline easement, extending SE from the pumping station (left foreground).
- PI. 6** Ground conditions were good for fieldwalking prior to topsoil stripping within the fenced easement (looking SE towards the hedge, with allotment site beyond).
- PI. 7** The stripped easement, with part of the narrow pipe trench excavated (looking NW towards Gonerby Hill Foot).
- PI. 8** Red/brown fill of plough furrow, showing in face of pipe trench.

**Barrowby Road, Grantham**  
**New Sewage Pumping Station and Rising Main**  
**Archaeological Watching Brief**

*NGR: SK 9058 3673*

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**Summary**

*The only archaeological features (other than post-medieval ditches and drains) identified during groundworks for this project were the remains of ridge and furrow. A dense scatter of pottery, mostly ranging in date from the late-twelfth century to the twentieth century, was spread over the hillside. Two abraded sherds, possibly prehistoric and Roman, were also recovered. The pottery appears to mark at least two phases of tipping: one extending through the medieval period (and representing manuring of the arable field), and a later phase while the field was under pasture. Some tipping may have occurred in the twentieth century, but the evidence for this is slight.*

**Introduction**

Lindsey Archaeological Services (LAS) was commissioned by Anglian Water Services Ltd in July 2000 to undertake a watching brief while groundworks were carried out for the construction of a sewage pumping station and rising main at Barrowby Road, Grantham. An archaeological watching brief during groundworks on the site had been requested by the Built Environment (formerly Archaeology) Team of Lincolnshire County Council, in a letter to Anglian Water Services (dated 19th May 1999).

The subject of this watching brief was intended to be the initial stages of the advised scheme, consisting of works within the area of the pumping station site, an access road, a contractors' compound, and a pipeline to Greenhill Road. Further works were expected to be arranged at a later date. In practice, the access road (connecting the pumping station to Barrowby Road via new estate roads) had been installed before monitoring began. During monitoring of the pumping station site, topsoil was stripped to the west and north, but the monitoring archaeologist was informed that these were not part of the scheme.

Two visits were made by C. Angus while the groundworks were carried out at on the pumping station compound, on the 25th and 26th September. Further visits, by G. Tann, were made on 5th and 6th June 2001 during topsoil stripping and trenching for the rising main, and on 18th June to inspect a small trench in the allotments track.

**Site Location and Description**

The site is located north of the A52 Barrowby Road, to the NW of Grantham. The pumping station is sited in a former arable field, beside a recently removed hedge boundary, at about 59.5m OD. The

650m pipeline runs to the SE across farmland, rising to about 62m OD, before joining a rubble track beside allotments. The pipeline continued to Greenhill Road.

### **Archaeological Background**

Sites dating from the prehistoric to the medieval periods have been recorded in the general area around Barrowby Road. NE-SW aligned medieval ridge and furrow cultivation earthworks and other slight anomalies are visible to the SE of the pumping station on an air photograph taken in 1971. North of Poplar Farm, indistinct cropmarks (SMR 30530) may be related to recent osier beds.

### **The Watching Brief**

#### ***Pumping Station***

The topsoil was stripped from an area measuring about 25m x 12m, using a JCB with a toothless bucket (Pl. 1). An area approximately 5m<sup>2</sup> was then excavated to a depth of 8m for a 'wet well'.

The 0.15m - 0.25m thick topsoil **1** was a grey/brown loam. Removal of this revealed a 0.5m - 0.6m thick yellow/brown loam subsoil **12**. Adjacent to the access road associated with the new housing development located to the SW, already installed by Wilson Homes, the ground, which had been recently disturbed for the insertion of pipes, consisted of a mixed deposit of yellow/brown loam and blue/grey clay, **13**. A backfilled field boundary ditch lay within the stripped area (Pls. 2 and 3)

Two parallel, curvilinear ditches (**14** and **16**) were revealed in the area stripped, cut into the subsoil. These were orientated approximately NW-SE, and extended beyond the edge of the stripped area. A 0.5m wide section excavated across ditch **14** revealed an irregular profile, sloping to a depth of 0.25m (Pl. 4). Poor weather and standing water prevented detailed investigation of ditch **16**, but the profile appeared similar to that of **14**. Nineteenth century pottery was recovered from both ditches but was not retained.

#### ***Rising Main 650m Pipeline***

Topsoil was removed from part of a 12m wide and 280m long easement across a cultivated field between the new pumping station and the dense hawthorn hedge alongside the allotments (Pls. 5 and 6). A 0.4m wide and 0.9m deep trench was excavated along the northern edge of the stripped easement (Pl. 7). Beyond this field, the pipe was directionally drilled under the hedge, and moled along the allotment track as far as Barrowby Road.

Archaeological examination of the route began in advance of the topsoil stripping, with a walk-over of the defined easement. Ground conditions were particularly good, with small brassica plants within a well-prepared tilth. The field surface was littered with fragments of pottery, clay tobacco pipe, glass, roof tile, and other debris of late-twelfth to early twentieth century date (Appendix 2). The apparently earlier post-medieval sherds, together with everything medieval or earlier, were collected from the plough soil as **1**.

Topsoil stripping began at the higher ground at the SE end of the easement, and a small additional number of pottery sherds were collected from the topsoil as 1. The topsoil was found to overlie yellow clay at the SE end, but this was interspersed (at intervals of about 5m) with the darker fill of NE-SW aligned plough furrows (Pl. 8). The furrow fills contained medieval, post-medieval and twentieth century material, showing that the undulations resulting from medieval or early post-medieval ploughing had been levelled relatively recently. The positions of these furrows were not planned, but pottery sherds found in their fills were allocated separate context numbers 12- 18, and the approximate position of each pottery-producing furrow was recorded. Amongst the later material, one possible prehistoric sherd (but too abraded for reliable dating) was found on the higher land at the SE side of the field.

Close to the pumping station, an increased frequency of post-medieval stone-filled land drains was seen, draining water from the natural depression higher up the slope, as well as from the surrounding field. The density of pottery sherds was lower in this part of the easement.

The pipe trench revealed the furrows to have their bases about 0.55m below the field surface. No other features could be distinguished and no further finds were seen in the trench face of the excavated spoil.

#### ***The Directionally Drilled Pipeline***

The pipe was moled below the hedge at the SE side of the arable field, and then directionally drilled below the rough metalled track around the perimeter of the Green Hill allotment site. One access pit, measuring 0.7m x 2m x 1.3m deep, was inspected but this showed no sign of archaeological features. Access pits along the remainder of the track, and the Barrowby Road road crossing, were not monitored.

#### **Conclusion**

The groundworks revealed no evidence of prehistoric or Roman archaeological features. Ridge and furrow cultivation is no longer visible on the field surface, but it is recorded on 1970 and 1971 air photographs. The furrows are close together, and may have served to direct surface water down the hill slope. Modern cultivation is on almost the same alignment.

The pottery and other material found in the furrow fills and disturbed within the ploughsoil presumably represents deliberate importation of rubbish from the town or a nearer small community. The range of vessels is unusual for this part of Lincolnshire, much of it probably traded along the Grantham-Nottingham road. The quantity present suggests that it has come from the town, and the broad date indicates that similar importation continued until the early twentieth century. During most, possibly all, of the period of importation, this land may have been pasture, crossed by the undulating ridges and furrows; it is tempting to hazard a guess from the pottery that initial medieval manuring of arable land



was followed by eighteenth century dumping. It is, however, possible that the plough furrows in this field were deliberately levelled by material introduced in bulk from a town site during redevelopment in the twentieth century.

### **Acknowledgements**

LAS is grateful to Anglian Water Services Ltd Services Ltd and their contractors for the co-operation received during this project. Fieldwork for this watching brief was conducted by Claire Angus and the author. The pottery was identified by Jane Young, and illustrations were prepared by Mick McDaid.

Geoff Tann and Claire Angus  
Lindsey Archaeological Services  
28th August 2001

### **Air Photograph References**

NMR SK 8936/1 254-32a, 15.7.1970. NGR: SK 897 362

HSL UK 71 86 Run 91, 1666. 2.6.1971

### **Archive Summary**

Correspondence

Field sketch plans

Field section drawings

Developer's plans

Annotated copies of developer's plans

Archaeological finds: pottery, clay tobacco pipe bowl

Specialist's archive lists and report: pottery and tile

Photographs: colour prints, LAS film nos. 00/78/22-36; 01/44/6-20 including those used in this report

**APPENDIX 1**

## Context Summary, GBRS 00

Context No.	Area	Type	Description	Interpretation	Date
1		Topsoil	grey/brown slightly sandy clayey silt		
2	pipeline easement	Finds ref	15m from hedge		
3	pipeline easement	Finds ref	25m from hedge		
4	pipeline easement	Finds ref	72m from hedge		
5	pipeline easement	Finds ref	105m from hedge		
6	pipeline easement	Finds ref	115m from hedge		
7	pipeline easement	Finds ref	135m from hedge		
8	pipeline easement	Finds ref	240m from hedge		
9	pipeline easement	Finds ref	282m from hedge		
10	pipeline easement	Finds ref	255m from hedge; 10m from pumping station		
11	pipeline easement	Finds ref	260m from hedge		
12	pumping station	Layer	yellow/brown sandy silt	Subsoil	
13	pumping station	Layer	mix of yellow/brown sandy silt and blue/grey silt	Mixed deposit	
14	pumping station	Cut	narrow, shallow ditch/gulley	Ditch	post-medieval
15	pumping station	Fill	dark grey/brown clayey silt	Fill of 14	post-medieval
16	pumping station	Cut	narrow, shallow ditch/gulley	Ditch	post-medieval
17	pumping station	Fill	dark grey/brown clayey silt	Fill of 16	post-medieval
18	pumping station	Feature	root filled linear ditch	field boundary	post-medieval
19	pumping station	Layer	blue/grey clay	Natural	

# Archive Report on the Factory from Barrowby Road Sewage Pumping Station, Gwentham, Lincolnshire (GCR300)

John Young  
Lincoln Archaeological Society

2016/17

Annual report to the Lincolnshire Archaeological Society, 2016/17, reporting on the work done in the field in 2016. The archive consists of the remains of the factory at the site of the pumping station. The site was excavated in 1961 and the remains were recorded and mapped by an archaeological team from the University of Lincoln.

## Contents

The report is divided into three parts: a description of the site, a description of the remains and a list of the finds.

## Overall Chronology

## APPENDIX 2

The site was excavated in 1961 and the remains were recorded and mapped by an archaeological team from the University of Lincoln. The site was excavated in 1961 and the remains were recorded and mapped by an archaeological team from the University of Lincoln.

Table 1: Summary of the site and the date range of the remains. The site was excavated in 1961 and the remains were recorded and mapped by an archaeological team from the University of Lincoln.

Feature	Date Range	Description
1	18th-19th century	Remains of the factory building
2	18th-19th century	Remains of the factory building
3	18th-19th century	Remains of the factory building
4	18th-19th century	Remains of the factory building
5	18th-19th century	Remains of the factory building
6	18th-19th century	Remains of the factory building
7	18th-19th century	Remains of the factory building
8	18th-19th century	Remains of the factory building
9	18th-19th century	Remains of the factory building
10	18th-19th century	Remains of the factory building

Notes: The site was excavated in 1961 and the remains were recorded and mapped by an archaeological team from the University of Lincoln.

# Archive Report on the Pottery from Barrowby Road Sewage Pumping Station, Grantham, Lincolnshire (GBRS00)

Jane Young

Lindsey Archaeological Services

## Introduction

A small group of 52 sherds of post-Roman pottery representing 52 vessels was recovered from the site. The material ranges in date from at least the 13<sup>th</sup> century to the early modern period. The pottery was examined both visually and using a x20 magnification, then recorded on an Access database using locally and nationally agreed codenames.

## Condition

The pottery recovered was in variable condition with most sherds showing a fair degree of abrasion. Generally the medieval material is more heavily abraded than that of the post-medieval period.

## Overall Chronology and Source

A range of 13 different, identifiable pottery ware types were found on the site, the type and general date range for these fabrics are shown in Table 1. A limited range of vessel types was recovered including examples of bowls, jugs, jars, drinking vessels and a bottle.

**Table 1: Pottery codenames and date range with total quantities by sherd and vessel count**

codename	full name	earliest date	latest date	sherds
BERTH	Brown glazed earthenware	1550	1800	3
BL	Black-glazed wares	1550	1750	8
BOU	Bourne D ware	1450	1650	4
BS	Brown stoneware	1680	1850	1
LERTH	Late earthenwares	1750	1900	6
MEDLOC	Medieval local fabrics	1150	1450	5
MEDX	Non Local Medieval Fabrics	1150	1450	3
MISC	Unidentified types	400	1900	8
MP	Midlands Purple ware	1380	1600	7
NOTG	Nottingham glazed ware	1250	1500	4
SLST	South Lincolnshire Shell Tempered ware	1150	1250	1
STCOAR	Staffordshire coarseware	1650	1900	1
TB	Toynton/Bolingbroke wares	1450	1750	1

Almost all of the material recovered dates to between the 13th and 18th centuries (see Tables 1 and 2) with a few modern sherds and eight vessels of intermediate date also occurring.

**Table 2: Sherd and Vessel counts by chronological period**

period	sherds
medieval (12 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> )	13
late medieval to post-medieval (15 <sup>th</sup> to 17 <sup>th</sup> )	8
post-medieval (16 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> )	16
early modern (19 <sup>th</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup> )	7
unknown date	8

### Medieval

Overall, the source of only four of the medieval vessels recovered from the site can be identified; all four are Nottingham products. Five of the other medieval vessels have quartz-tempered fabrics that suggest local production; the other four vessels are regional imports from unidentified production sites.

### Post-medieval to Early Modern

The majority of the sherds recovered from the site date to the post-medieval period, mainly the 18<sup>th</sup> century and these are mainly coarsewares from both local and regional centres.

### **Summary and Recommendations**

This is a small but important assemblage of post-Roman pottery as little medieval ceramic material has been recorded from the Grantham area. Two sherds may be of pre-medieval date, one prehistoric and one Roman, however the sherds are too small and badly abraded for positive identification. The medieval pottery is very diverse for such a small collection including vessels from at least seven different production sites. The poor condition of the material suggests that it has been recovered from land that has been heavily ploughed until recently.

The assemblage should be kept for future study, especially as part of any characterisation of the fabrics for a type series.

# Pottery Archive GBR00

Jane Young

Lindsey Archaeological Services

context	cname	sub fabric	form type	sherds	decoration	part	description	date	condition
01	BERTH		bottle	1		neck	fine fabric	late 17th to 18th	slightly abraded
01	BERTH		large jar/bowl	1		base	? Staffs	late 17th to 18th	slightly abraded
01	BL		bowl?	1		BS	Staffs	late 17th to 18th	slightly abraded
01	BL		closed	1		BS	fine fabric	late 17th to 18th	abraded
01	BL		drink vess	1		BS	vit	mid 17th to 18th	abraded
01	BL		large drink vess/chamber	1		base	vit	mid 17th to 18th	abraded
01	BL		large jar ?	1		base	vit;light firing	mid 17th to 18th	abraded
01	BL		jar ?	1		BS	vit	mid 17th to 18th	abraded
01	BL		massive bowl ?	1		rim		18th to 19th	abraded
01	BOU		jar	1		rim		15th to 16th	abraded
01	BOU		jug/jar	1		base		15th to 17th	abraded
01	BOU		?	1		BS		15th to 17th	abraded
01	BOU		jug	1		handle		15th to 17th	abraded
01	BS		?	1		base	? ID	18th to 19th	abraded
01	LERTH		flowerpots ?	6		various		18th to 20th	slightly abraded
01	MEDLOC	light firing;med sandy;hard	jug	1		BS		13th to 14th	very abraded
01	MEDLOC	light firing;med sandy;hard	jug	1		BS	cu glaze	13th to 14th	very abraded

context	cname	sub fabric	form type	sherds	decoration	part	description	date	condition
01	MEDLOC	OX/R/OX;med sandy	jug	1		BS		13th to 14th	very abraded
01	MEDX	whiteware;fine;hard	jug	1		BS	pale green ext& part int glaze;? ST fabric B	12th to 13th	fresh
01	MISC		jug/flowerpot ?	3		various		med or emod	slightly abraded
01	MISC		jug/flowerpot ?	1		rim		med or emod	slightly abraded
01	MISC	leached quartz & shell	?	1		BS		13th to 15th	very abraded
01	MISC	oxid;fine;med hard	?	1		BS		ROM or med	very abraded
01	MP		jar ?	1		BS		15th to 16th	abraded
01	MP		jar ?	1		BS		16th to 17th	slightly abraded
01	MP		jar ?	1		BS		17th	slightly abraded
01	MP		jar ?	1		BS		16th to 17th	slightly abraded
01	MP		jar ?	1		BS	oxid	15th to 16th	fresh
01	MP		?	1		BS	light orange fabric	15th to 16th	very abraded
01	NOTG	early	jug	1	fe dec	BS		13th	very abraded
01	NOTG	reduced	jug	1		BS		14th	very abraded
01	STCOAR		?	1		BS		18th	abraded
02	MISC	oxid; med sandy + shell	?	1		base		Prehistoric to med	very abraded
02	NOTG	light firing	jug	1		BS		13th	very abraded
03	SLST		bowl	1		rim		late 12th to 14th	very abraded
04	BERTH		jar	1		BS		mid 17th to 18th	abraded
04	MP		large jar	1		base	light firing	16th to 17th	abraded



context	ename	sub fabric	form type	sherds	decoration	part	description	date	condition
05	NOTG	early	jug	1		BS		early to mid 13th	very abraded
05	TB		large vess	1		base ?		15th to 16th	very abraded
06	MISC	OX/R/OX;med sandy + shell;med hard	jar ?	1		rim		ROM to med	very abraded
07	MEDLOC	OX/R;med sandy + fe;hard	jug	1		BS		13th to 14th	very abraded
07	MEDLOC	OX/R;med sandy + fe;hard	large jug	1		base		13th to 14th	very abraded
07	MEDX	light firing;med- coarse sandy;hard	jug	1		BS	NOTG ?	13th to 14th	very abraded
08	BL		large jar	1		BS	vitr fabric	late 17th to 18th	slightly abraded
09	MEDX	whiteware;med- coarse sandy;hard	jug	1		BS	apple glaze	13th to 14th	fresh

# File Archive GNR500

File Name: [Faint text]

[Faint header text]

[Faint header text]

[Faint header text]

## APPENDIX 3

# Tile Archive GBRS00

*Jane Young*

*Lindsey Archaeological Services*

<b>context</b>	<b>cname</b>	<b>full name</b>	<b>frags</b>	<b>description</b>	<b>date</b>	<b>condition</b>
01	PNR	Peg, nib or ridge tile	1		modern	
07	PNR	Peg, nib or ridge tile	1	flat roofer;hard fairly fine	late 12th to 16th	slightly abraded
08	FIRE CLAY	fired clay	1			

## The Figures

Fig. 1 Location of Liberty Road, Section 10 across the road. Ordinate  
Scale 1:25,000. Contour interval 100 ft. (30 m). Surveyed  
and plotted with the assistance of the U.S. Geological Survey, No.

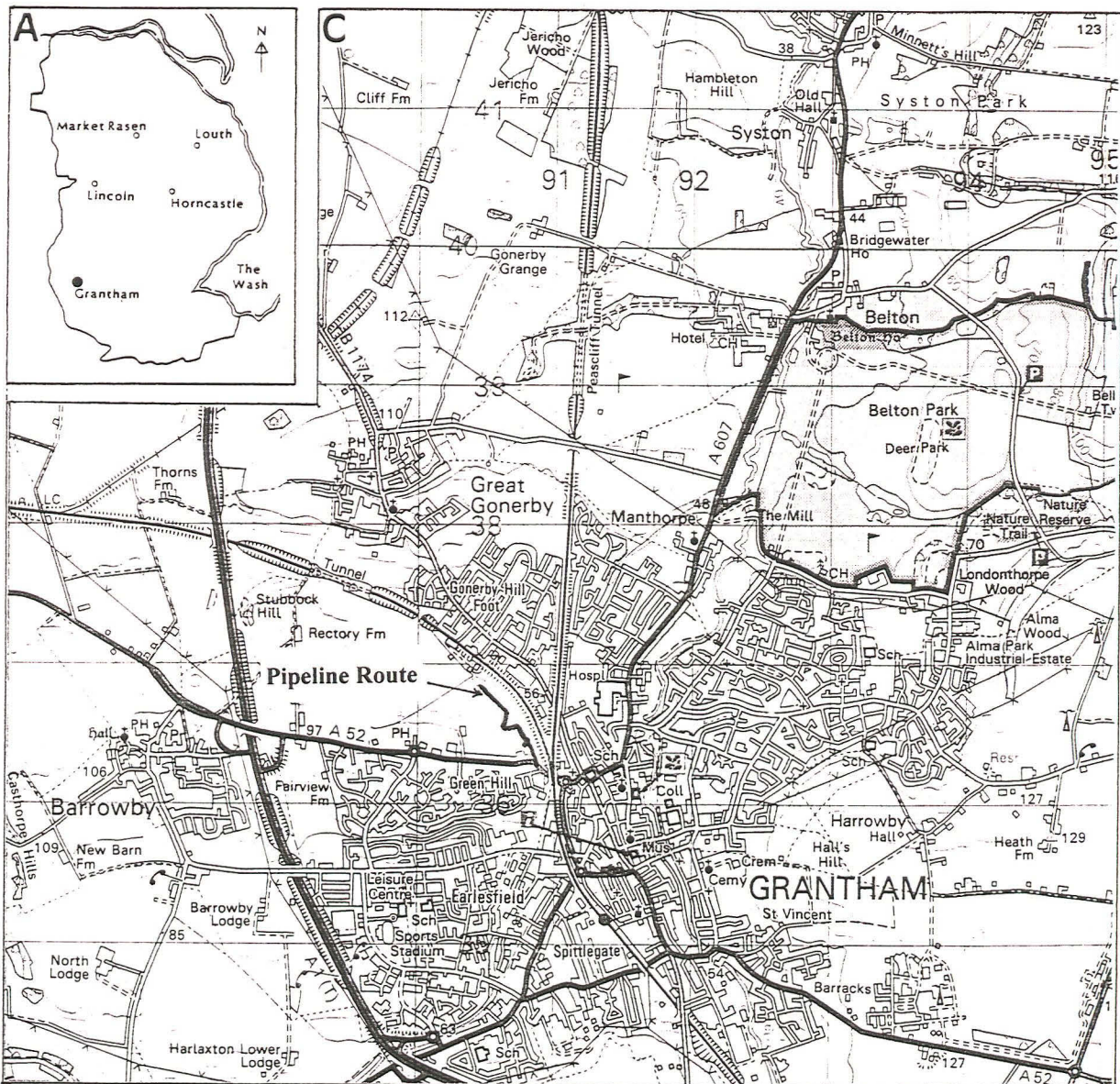
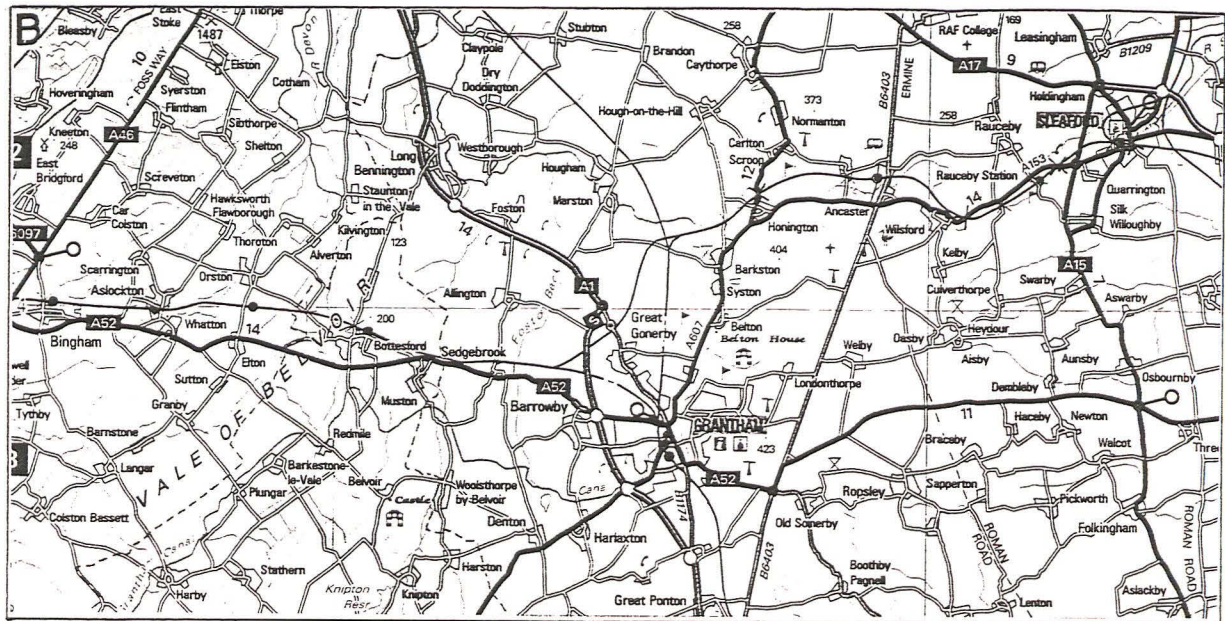


Fig. 1 Location of Barrowby Road, Grantham (C based on the 1999 Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 Landranger map, Sheet 130. © Crown Copyright, reproduced with permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 10002165).



Fig. 2 Route of the monitored pipeline (based on Anglian Water Services Ltd dwg. no. SEW 00568/01. © Crown Copyright, reproduced with permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 10002165).

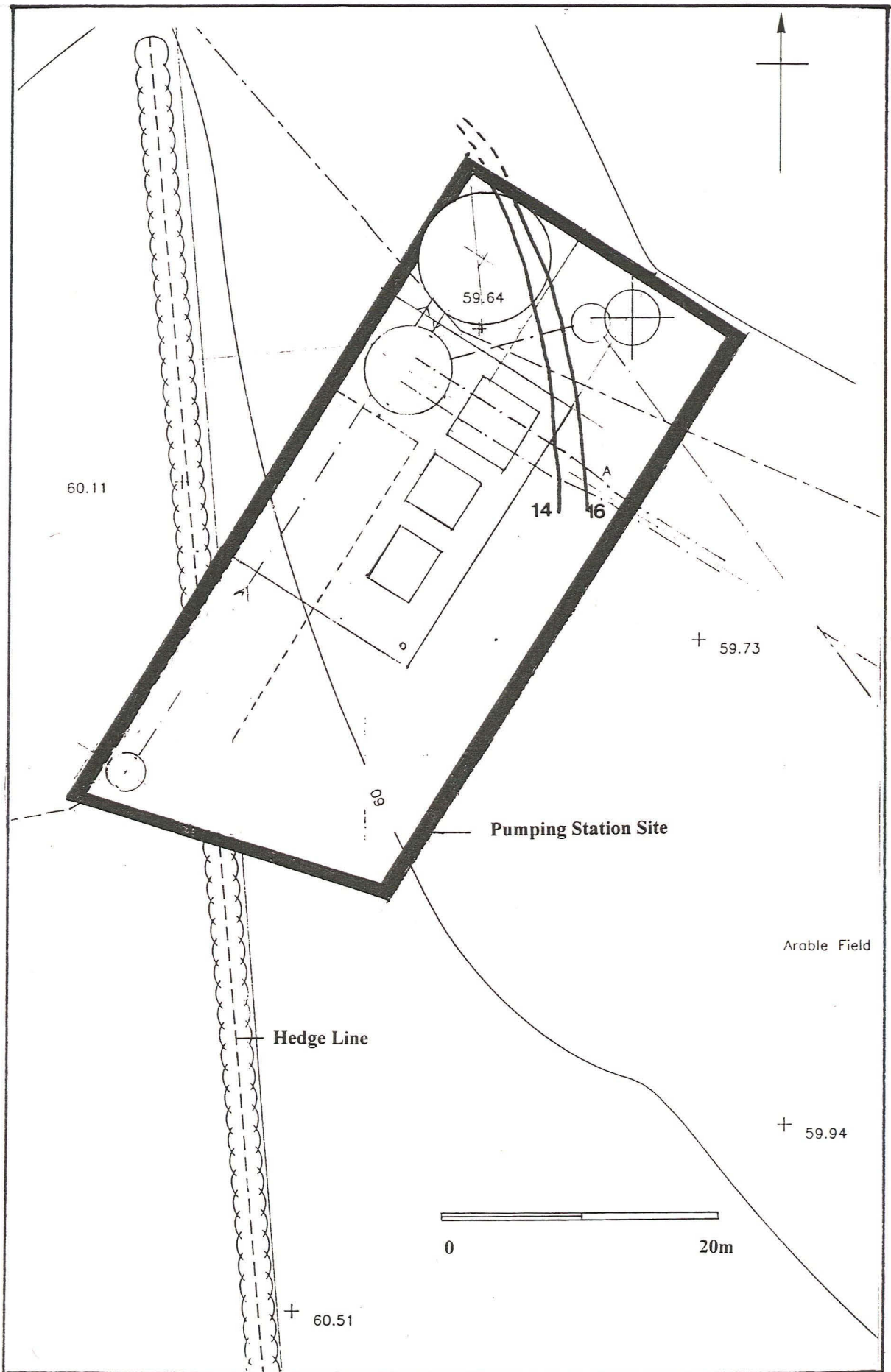
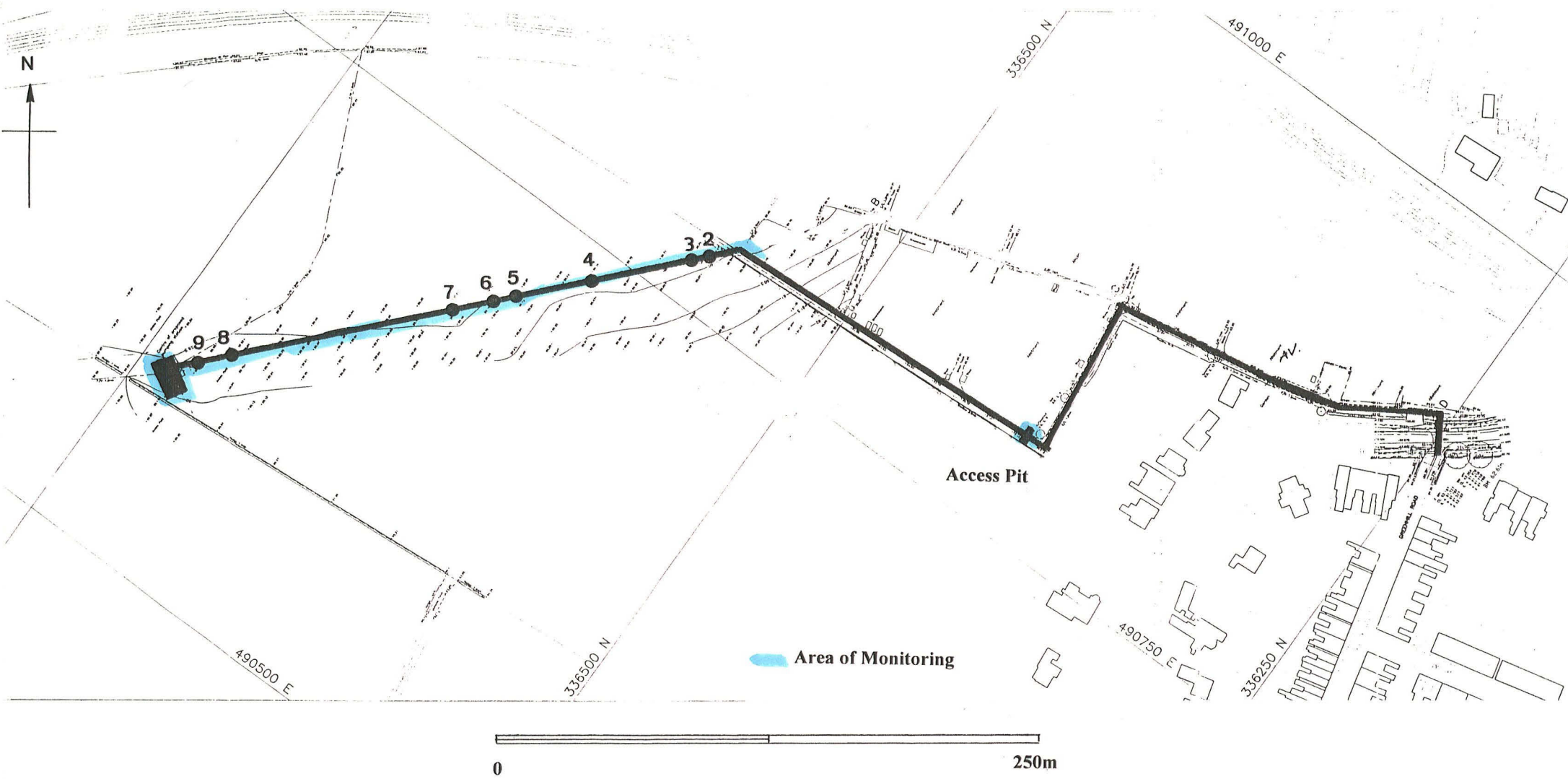


Fig. 3 Post-medieval ditches revealed on the pumping station site (McDaid, after Angus; based on a drawing supplied by Anglian Water Services Ltd).



**Fig. 4** The pipeline route, leading from the new pumping station (left). The numbers mark concentrations of pottery sherds collected from the stripped surface. (McDaid, after Tann; based on a drawing supplied by Anglian Water Services Ltd).



## The Plates



**Pl. 1** Area topsoil stripped for the new pumping station (looking SE).

**Pl. 2** Dark backfill (centre) of post-medieval field boundary ditch crossing the pumping station site (looking north).





Pl. 3 Backfilled field boundary ditch (looking south along the surviving field boundary, towards Barrowby Road).

Pl. 4 Section excavated through the fill of ditch 14. Scales 0.3m and 1m.





**Pl. 5** Line of the pipeline easement, extending SE from the pumping station (left foreground).

**Pl. 6** Ground conditions were good for fieldwalking prior to topsoil stripping within the fenced easement (looking SE towards the hedge, with allotment site beyond).





Pl. 7 The stripped easement, with part of the narrow pipe trench excavated (looking NW towards Gonerby Hill Foot).

Pl. 8 Red/brown fill of plough furrow, showing in face of pipe trench.

