



LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

FRANCIS HOUSE SILVER BIRCH PARK GREAT NORTHERN TERRACE LINCOLN LN5 8LG

Horncastle, Pentecostal Church Archaeological Watching Brief

LINCOLNSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL
- 8 JUN 1994
CITY AND COUNTY
MUSEUM

NEGATIVE

Horncastle Pentecostal Church

Lindsey Archaeological Services was commissioned by Michael Kingsley RIBA on behalf of the Horncastle Pentecostal Church to undertake a Watching Brief during the excavation of foundations for an extension to an existing building. This was carried out in accordance with the requirements of the County Archaeological Officer.

Site Location

The Assembly of God, 7 Church Lane, lies opposite the parish church and the churchyard (Pls. 1 and 2). The site is situated inside the area of the Roman defences and when the churchyard wall was replaced in 1985 disturbed remains of an internal rampart were recorded (Fig. 1). It was anticipated that further evidence of the rampart might be found during construction of the extension to the Pentecostal church.

Scope of Works

The new work on the site comprised the demolition of a lean-to extension (a former 'scullery' at the south end of the church building), to make way for a new extension for toilet and kitchen facilities. The lean-to had measured 1.3m along the street frontage and extended the full width of the building (3.75m). The new extension is to measure 2.4m along the street frontage and the full width of the building.

The Watching Brief

Demolition of the lean-to and removal of its concrete floor took place prior to the site visit. Preparation of the site comprised clearance of the ground to a depth of 0.2 m below present ground surface before digging out foundation trenches 0.6 metres wide by 0.6 metres deep. Inside the former lean-to the top 0.2m comprised a loose brick rubble base for the concrete floor. In the 1 metre wide strip beyond the limit of the lean-to the ground surface comprised tarmac with cinder make-up beneath. Clearance of this material revealed the brick footings of a former chimney stack butting the south gable wall of the standing building. Within this area which measured 1.37m deep and 2m wide, was a black sooty fill, containing clay pipe stems, animal bones and Victorian bottle glass and pottery (Fig. 2, Pl. 3).

The west foundation trench, fronting the pavement, was dug to the base of the gable wall (a depth of 0.6 metres below the modern pavement). Undisturbed deposits were not reached. Pottery from the bottom of the trench included two pieces of a Staffordshire slipware dish and 5 pieces of a large pancheon, all of 17th century date. It was crossed by a modern waterpipe trench. Brick rubble was found along the whole of this trench, which may have belonged to a construction pre-dating the out-shut.

The south foundation trench was found to run along the line of a modern, ceramic pipe, drain. An electric cable was found running parallel to the pipe so all ground was previously disturbed (Pl. 4).

The east foundation trench was also disturbed at the north end by the brick foundations of the outshut. A former gas pipe crossed the south-east corner of the trench (Pl. 5).

Conclusion

Groundworks connected with the new extension have not penetrated undisturbed deposits. Inspection of the O.S. 1:500 map of 1888 shows that the row of houses along the east side Church Lane did not continue beyond no. 7. A wall which is shown may account for the brick rubble encountered in the west foundation trench (Fig. 3). The absence of any building to the south of no. 7 has meant that service trenches of every kind have been brought off Church Lane at the earliest opportunity to the back of the properties, cutting right through the area of the new extension. It is unlikely that any undisturbed archaeological deposits survive within this small site.

Acknowledgements

Thanks go to Reg Loseley of Somerset Construction and his men on site, Alan and Sean, for their assistance.

Naomi Field
Lindsey Archaeological Services
May 24th 1994

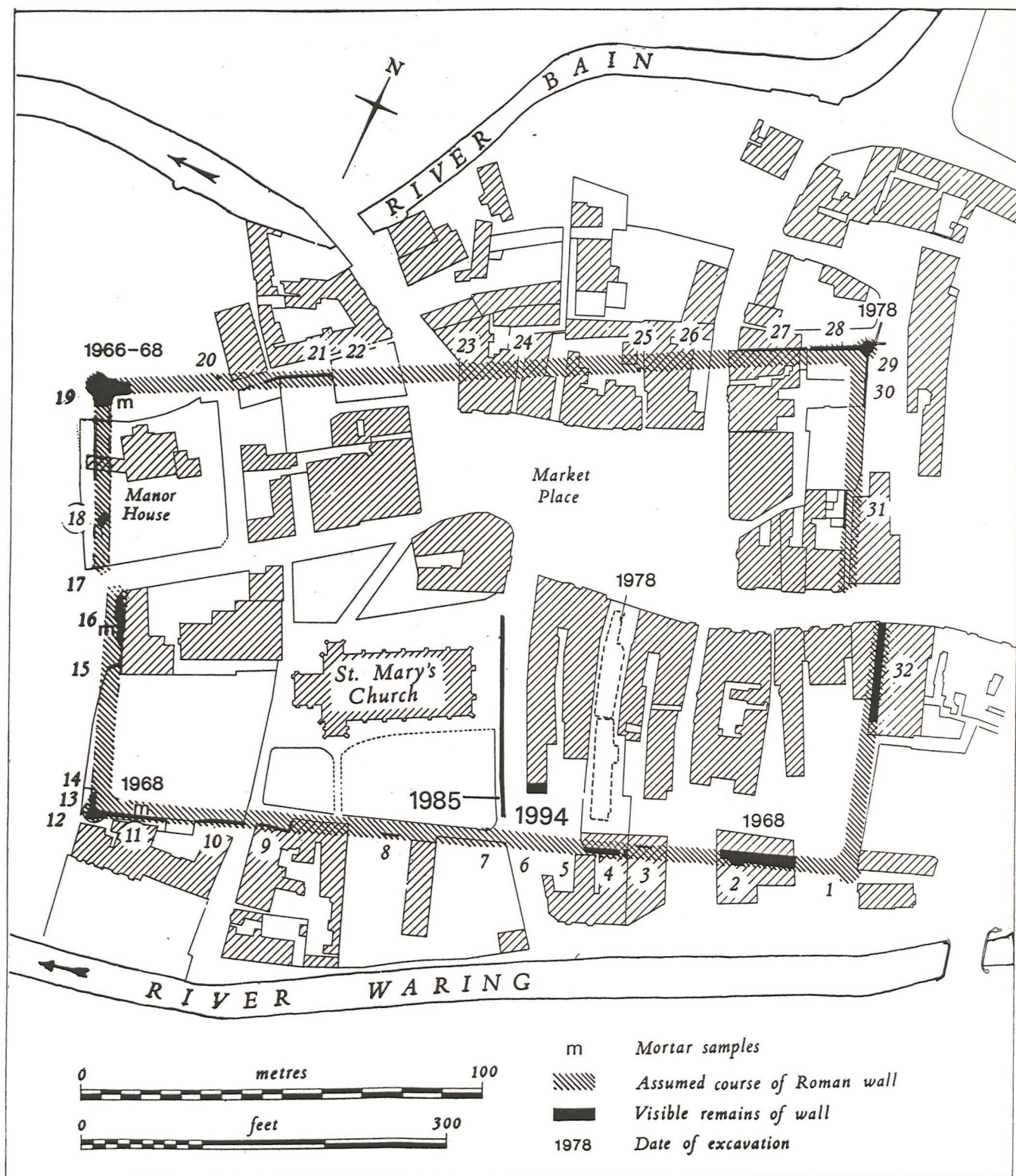


Fig. 1 Horncastle Pentecostal Church, 7 Church Lane. Site location

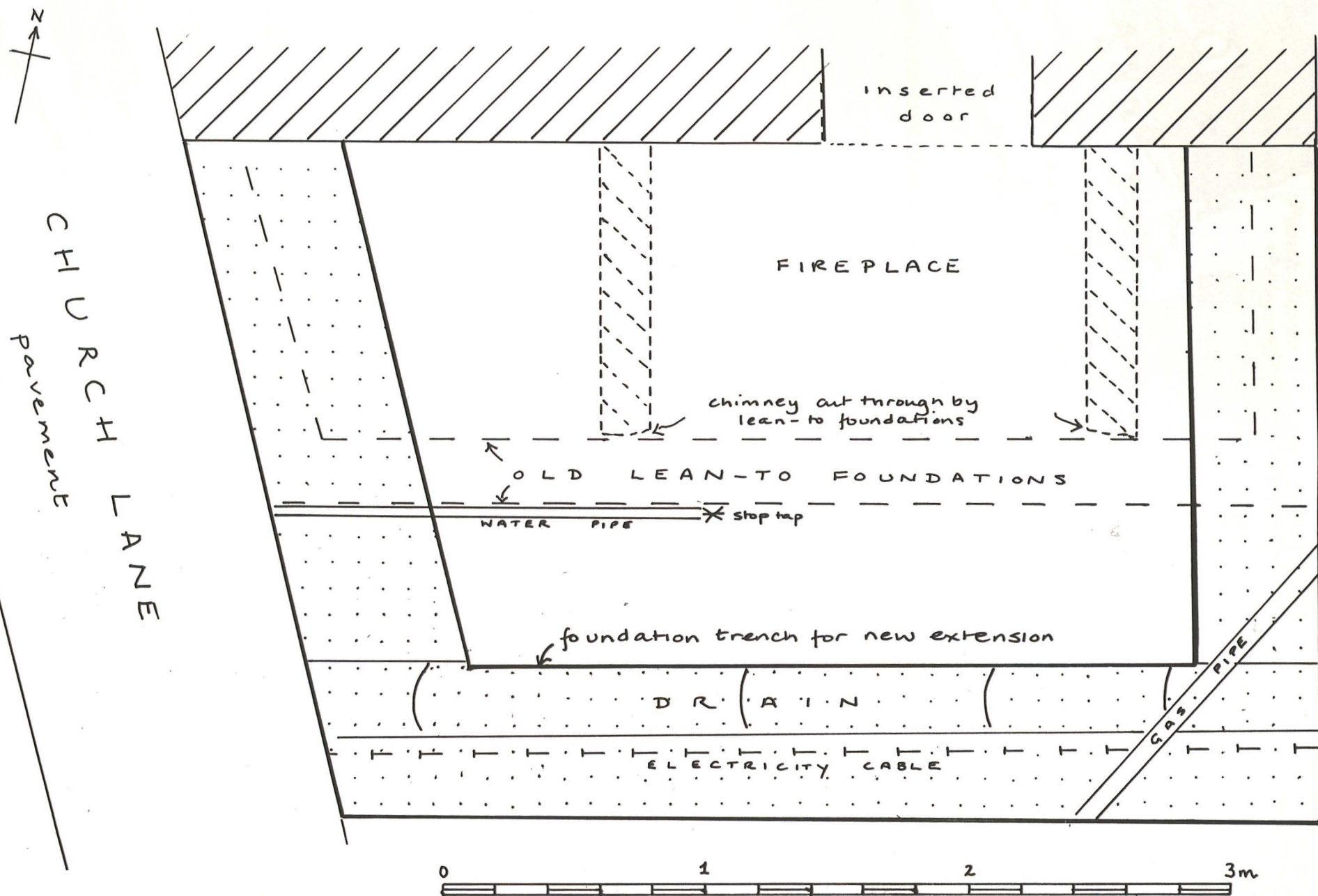


Fig. 2 7, Church Lane. Sketch plan showing outline of extension and position of former chimney footings.

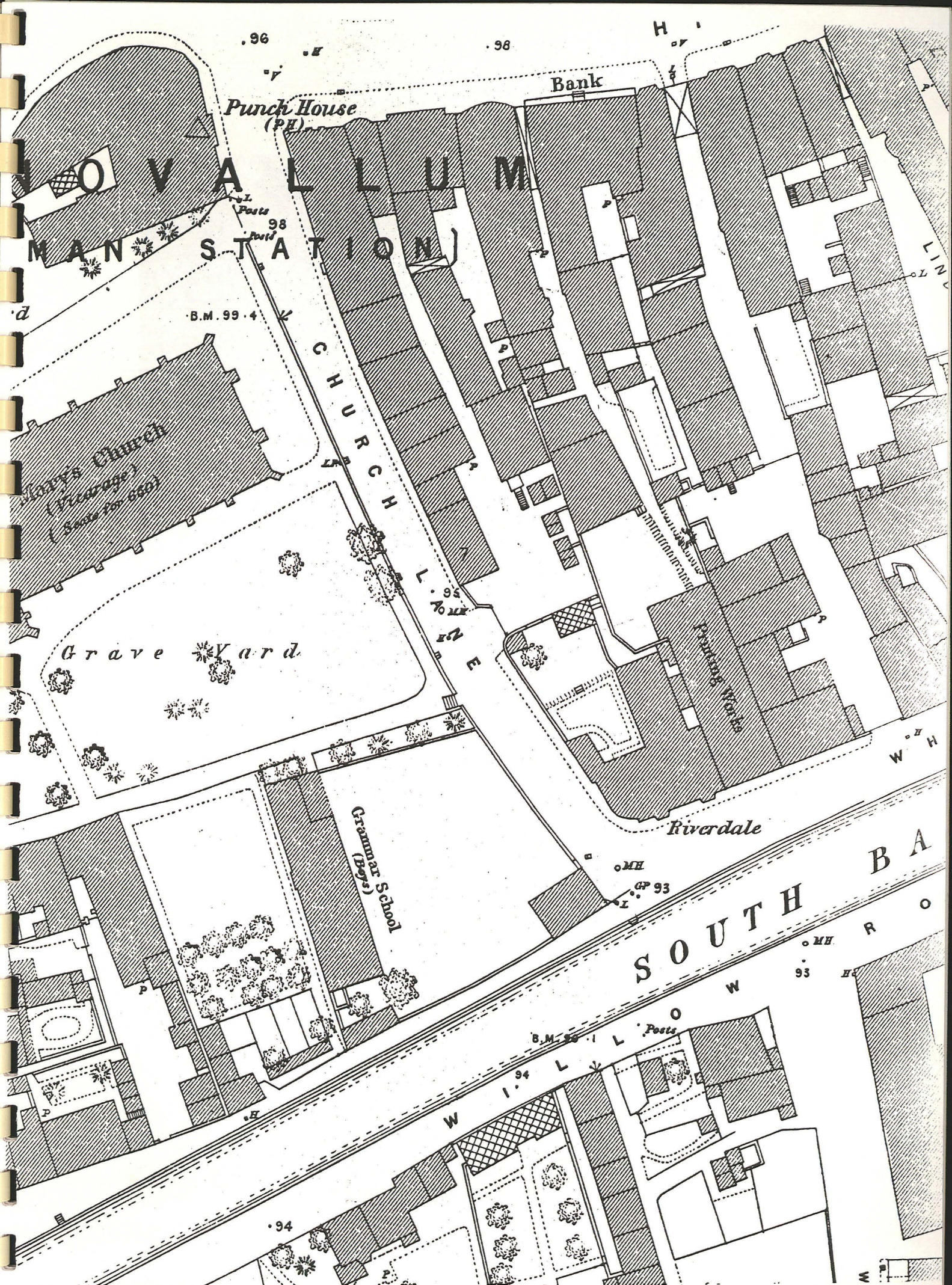


Fig. 3 Church Lane showing buildings present in 1888.
Reproduced from the 1888 Ordnance Survey 50" map.



Pl. 1 7 Church Lane, Horncastle. Looking north-west showing parish church and churchyard in background

Pl. 2 7 Church Lane, Horncastle. View east





Pl. 3 Clearance of the area to a depth of 0.20m, showing chimney footings.

Pl. 4 South foundation, looking east showing drainpipe in foreground which connects to the manhole cover behind the bucket at top of the photo.





Pl. 5 East foundation, looking north, showing gas pipe crossing the trench.