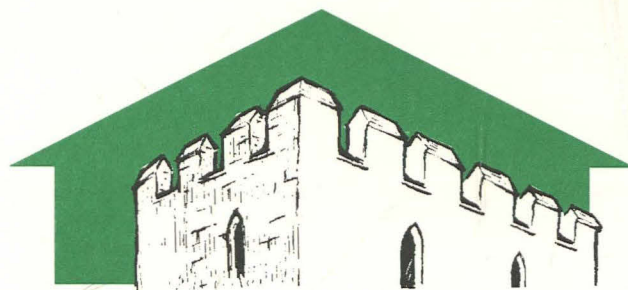
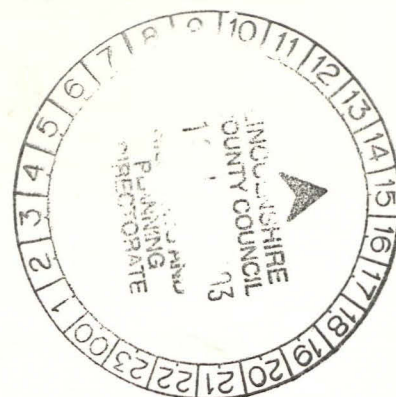


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PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY LINCOLN

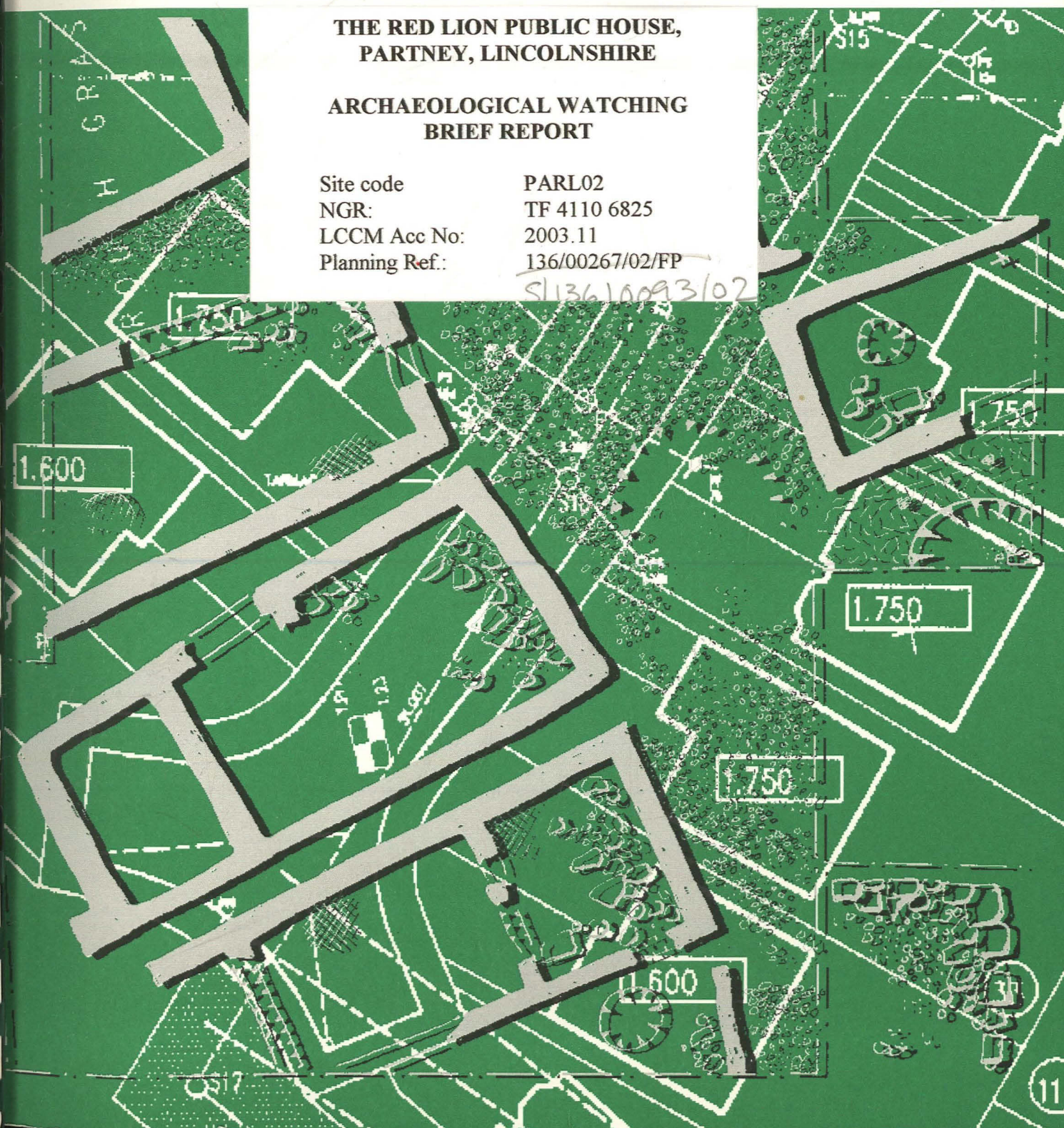


**THE RED LION PUBLIC HOUSE,
PARTNEY, LINCOLNSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

Site code	PARL02
NGR:	TF 4110 6825
LCCM Acc No:	2003.11
Planning Ref.:	136/00267/02/FP

513610093/02



QANT 43869
SOURCES 48525
48526

L17567

44538 483932 MED/PMED



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PARTNEY, LINCOLNSHIRE**

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NGR:	TF 4110 6825
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Report prepared for Mr. Chipperfield
by S.Bray

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Summary

- *An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the groundworks for two holiday units at the Red Lion Public House, Partney, Lincolnshire.*
- *These works were required as a condition of planning, as the site is located close to the historic core of Partney.*
- *Prior to development, a brick stable block had occupied the site, and these remains were identified during the work. In addition, a late -medieval pit, and a post-medieval pit were recorded.*



Figure 1: General site location (scale 1:50,000)
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1.0 Introduction

Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) was commissioned by Mr. Chipperfield to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks for two holiday units at the Red Lion Public House, Partney (figure 1, plate 1).

These works were undertaken to fulfil the objectives of a formal project brief issued by the Assistant Built Environmental Officer, and a project specification prepared by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln). This approach is consistent with the recommendations of *Archaeology & Planning: Planning Policy Guidance Note 16* (Department of the Environment, 1990); *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 1991), *Standards and guidance for archaeological watching briefs* (IFA, 1994), and the Lincolnshire County Council document, *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook: a manual of archaeological practice* (LCC, 1998).

Copies of this report have been deposited with the commissioning body and the County Sites and Monuments Record for Lincolnshire. Reports will also be deposited at the City and County Museum, Lincoln, along with an ordered project archive for long-term storage and curation.

2.0 Site location and description

Partney is in the administrative district of East Lindsey, approximately 3.5km north-east of Spilsby and c. 11.5km south-east of Alford, towards the south-east edge of the Lincolnshire Wolds. The site of development is located towards the core of this small settlement on an elevation of approximately 22m OD.

The site lies to the rear of the Red Lion Public House (figure 2), which is situated to the south of the A158 Skegness Road. The site is bordered to the north by a field, and to the west and east by houses.

3.0 Planning Background

Full planning permission was granted to construct two holiday units (planning ref. 136/00267/02/FP). The permission was granted subject to the undertaking of an archaeological watching brief on all associated groundworks.

4.0 Archaeological and historical background

Partney is set within an archaeologically rich landscape, where place name evidence suggests origins in the 11th century: Partney is derived from Old English elements, meaning 'Pearta's island of land' (Cameron, 1998). The settlement is first mentioned by the venerable Bede in c. 731 AD when he records two 7th century abbots, Deda and Aldwine. By the time of the Domesday Survey of 1086, Gilbert of Ghent was the principal landowner, with Robert the Bursar also holding land at Partney (Morgan & Thorn, 1986).

In 1950 a barrow burial was excavated to the east of the village. It comprised at least four Saxon burials, with two cruciform brooches, three annular brooches, spearheads and a shield boss.

The location of the monastic site at Partney remains unclear, although it may be on the site of the parish church of St. Nicholas. It has been suggested, like Bardney Abbey, that the monastic precinct may have comprised the whole 'island' of Partney. This 'island' lies in the flat bottomed valley of the River Lymn.

5.0 Methodology

Initial groundworks were carried out using a JCB wheeled excavator, fitted with a 1.6m wide toothless ditching blade. This was used to strip the footprint of the development and foundation trenches were subsequently excavated using a 0.6m wide toothed bucket (figure 2).

All plan and section surfaces were examined and intermittently cleaned to examine the stratigraphy. Where necessary, limited excavation by hand was carried out to establish the character, morphology and date of exposed archaeological features. These features were accurately plotted on a site plan and section drawings were made at a scale of 1:20. Context information was recorded on *Pro forma* watching brief record sheets. Sections through archaeological features were recorded at 1:20. Profiles of the trench edge were drawn at 1:20 to detail the stratigraphy of the trench (figures 3 & 4; Plates 2 & 3).

A photographic record was maintained in colour slide and black and white print film, selected prints from which have been reproduced in this report.

The fieldwork was carried out on the 6th September 2002 by Simon Bray.

6.0 Results

Prior to construction, the site had been occupied by a brick built stable, which was demolished as part of the development. The foundations (009) of this structure were recorded running down the centre of the trench on a north/south alignment (figure 2; plate 2). A layer of gravel (008), 0.3m in depth was recorded along edges of the trench, representing the carpark of the Public House (figure 4; plate 2).

Sealed by the stable was a thick make up layer (001) which was 0.8m in depth, comprising a mid to dark olive grey firm sandy silt with moderate small angular stones and flecks of charcoal (figure 4). Material recovered this layer suggest a post-medieval date.

A single pit [004] was sealed beneath layer (001) (figures 2 & 3, plate 3). A second larger pit, [007], truncated this layer (figure 2).

Pit [004] was at the southern end of the development area and appeared to be sub-rectangular in plan; 1.1m in width, over 0.5m in length and 0.6m deep, with very steep sides and a flat base. The feature contained an homogenous fill (003) which was a mid to dark olive grey firm sandy silt with a few flecks of charcoal, occasional small angular stones, and a few fine roots. Two fragments of late medieval/early post-medieval pottery were recovered.

Pit [007] was in the centre of the development area (figure 2) and was 2.3m in width and over 0.6m in length. The feature was cut through the general make-up layer (001). Only the upper fill (006) was recorded, which was a light-mid olive/grey loose sandy silt with moderate small angular stones and moderate flecks of charcoal. Material recovered from this included a ceramic inkwell, and a fish paste jar, suggesting a post-medieval date.

The natural geology (002) was light-mid orange/brown firm slightly silty sand with occasional small angular stones and a few fine roots.

7.0 Discussion of results

Whilst the watching brief revealed no significant archaeological features, it did provide some limited information charting the chronological sequence of the site's immediate history.

The earliest feature was pit [004], located close to the Red Lion Public House. Material recovered from this feature suggests that it functioned as a rubbish pit.

A subsequent phase appears to have been represented by a thick make up / levelling layer, (001), containing china fragments, brick rubble and glass. This deposit was truncated by a large late post-medieval pit, [007]. The stable block was then constructed over this feature.

The latest archaeological phase was represented by the gravel car park for the Public House.

8.0 Effectiveness of methodology

The watching brief methodology was appropriate to this development. It allowed a rapid assessment of the archaeological potential of the site (minimal), without significantly affecting the development programme.

9.0 Acknowledgements

Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) would like to thank Mr. Chipperfield for commissioning the work and for providing some very welcome cups of tea throughout the day.

10.0 References

- Cameron K., 1998, *A dictionary of Lincolnshire place-names*, English Place-Name Society, University of Nottingham, Nottingham
- Morgan P. & Thorn C. (eds.) 1986, *Domesday Book: 31 Lincolnshire*, Chichester, Phillimore

11.0 Site archive

The documentary archive for the site is currently in the possession of Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln). The paper archive will be deposited at Lincoln City and County Museum within six months. Access to the archive may be gained by quoting the global accession number . The bulk finds have been retained by Mr. Chipperfield.

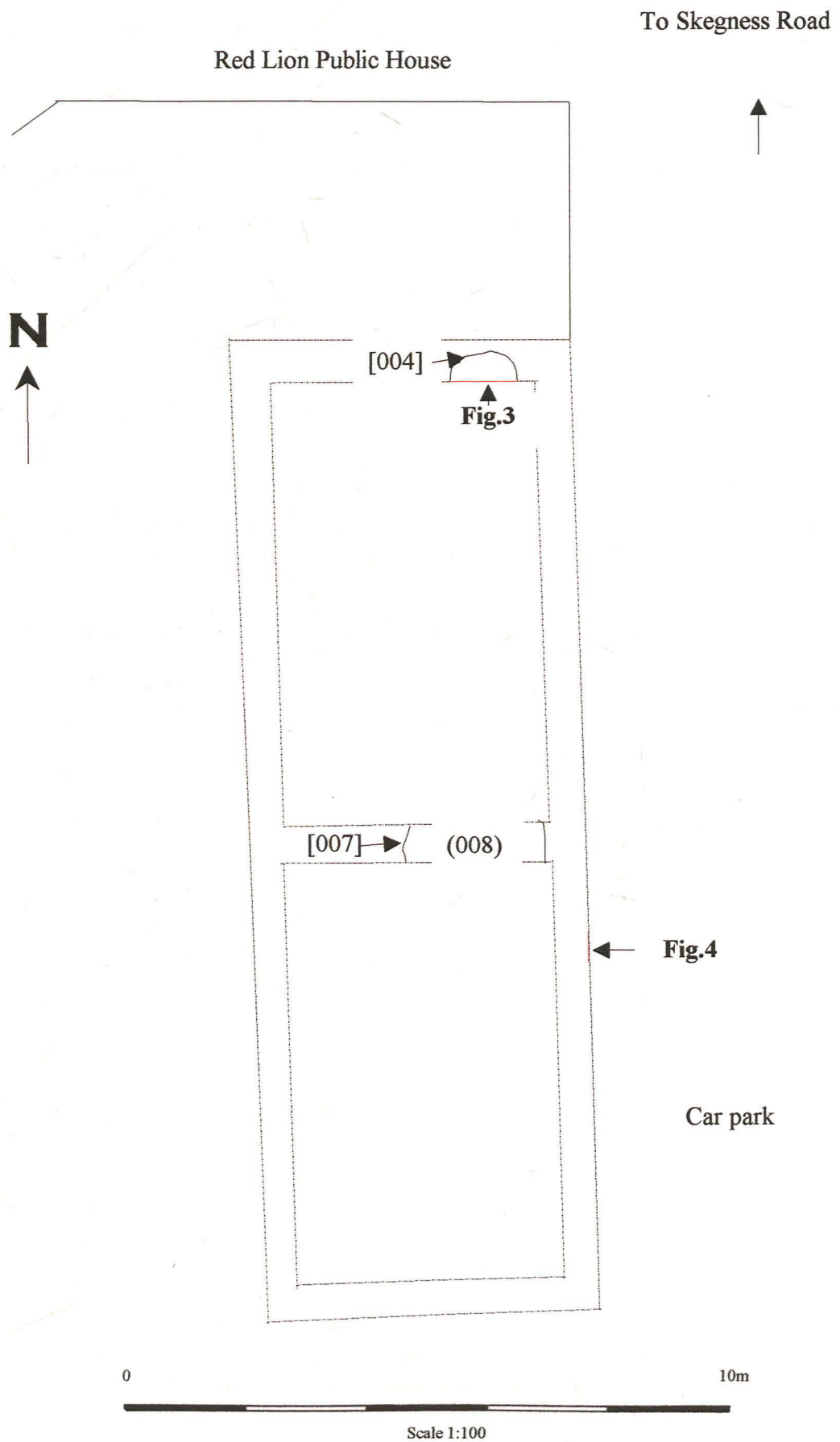


Figure 2: Plan showing features exposed in foundation trenches

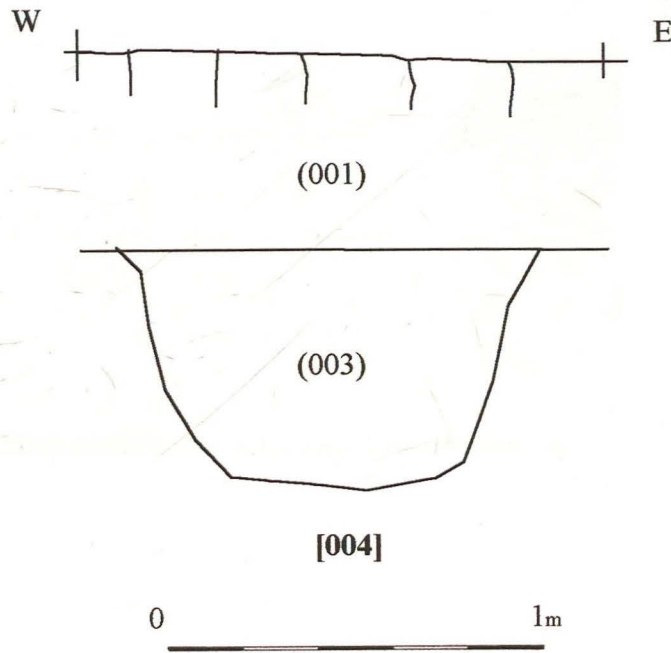


Figure 3: South facing section through pit [004]

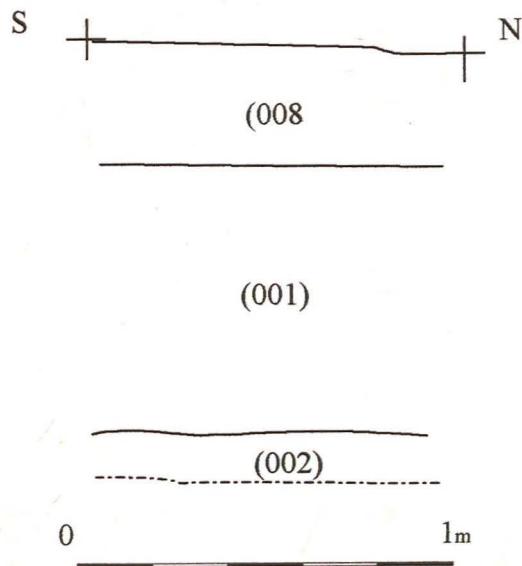


Figure 4: East facing section of edge of trench showing gravel layer (008), makeup layer (001), and natural (002)

Appendix 1: Colour Plates



Plate 1: View of development area showing foundations of stable block. Looking South.

Plate 2: West facing section showing the stratigraphic sequence. Looking East.



Plate 3: North facing section pit [004].