

94/10

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
ON LAND AT
THE DEPOT,
16-18 STATION ROAD,
KIRTON,
LINCOLNSHIRE**

Work Undertaken For
A.M.C. Investments (Lincoln) Ltd

November 1994



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

Event LI2719
Source LI1978
LI1736
Mon LI13589
13589

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2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

The archaeological investigation was undertaken by ARCA in response to the requirements of the Planning Act 1990. The archaeological investigation was carried out in accordance with a licence issued by the County Council. The licence was issued under the provisions of the Planning Act 1990.

2.2 Topography and Land Use

The site is situated on the eastern side of the road and is bounded to the north by the road and to the south by the road. The site is situated on the eastern side of the road and is bounded to the north by the road and to the south by the road.

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1. SUMMARY

An evaluation was undertaken on land at The Depot, 16-18 Station Road, Kirton, Lincolnshire. This was in response to a proposal, by A.M.C. Investments (Lincoln) Ltd to redevelop the site. Several archaeological sites and findspots are located in the vicinity of The Depot. Prehistoric activity in the parish is represented by a find of a polished stone axe and a burial mound. Romano-British settlement has been identified c. 1km northwest of the site.

Remains of medieval date (between 1066 and 1500) area more evident. Kirton, mentioned in the Domesday survey of 1086 AD, was an important medieval town. Just west of the proposed development site is the 12th century parish church. Three large halls or manor houses were all located outside the town. Close to the development site is the early 16th century Old King's Head Inn. Tokens of similar date have been found in the centre of the town.

It was anticipated that, by virtue of these sites and findspots, the area could fall within a zone of medieval settlement. The development could affect related deposits and, in consequence, three trenches were excavated to test for the presence and survival of archaeological remains.

Natural silts were the lowest levels encountered in two of the trenches. Medieval activity, which was only identified on the Station Road frontage, developed on these silts. Dating to the 13th/14th century, this occupation was represented by a group of drainage ditches. Following a phase of natural silting that interrupted use of the site further ditches and pits were dug in the area. Subsequently, the area was cleared and built up with soil. This ground-raising is undated but thought possibly to be Victorian.

Modern deposits on site comprise demolished brick walls which were revealed in the trench located within the Depot building. These walls were developed directly on to the natural silts. In the third trench, on the north side of the development area, modern, disturbed deposits persisted to 1.5m depth. These probably relate to an underground petrol tank known to be located on the site.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services were commissioned by A.M.C. Investments (Lincoln) Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of The Depot, 16-18 Station Road, Kirton, Boston District, Lincolnshire in order to determine the archaeological implications of proposed development at the site, as detailed in planning application B14/0439/94. The archaeological evaluation was carried out in accordance with a brief set by the Community Archaeologist for Boston Borough Council.

2.2 Topography and Geology

Kirton is situated 6km southwest of Boston and approximately 16km north of Spalding, in Boston District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The Depot, 16-18 Station Road is located at a height of c. 4m OD, east of the village centre as defined by the parish church of SS Peter and Paul. Centred on National Grid Reference TF30683854, the proposed development site covers approximately 0.18 hectares (Fig. 2).

Local soils are the Tanvats Association typical alluvial gley soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 319) developed in marine alluvium. Beneath this marine alluvium is glacial

drift that was deposited in a geological basin between the Lincolnshire Wolds and the East Anglian Heights (Harden 1978, 5). These glacial deposits in turn overlie a solid geology of Jurassic clays.

2.3 Archaeological Setting

A neolithic stone axe and a tumulus provide the only evidence for a prehistoric presence in the parish. Similarly, evidence for Roman activity is scarce, but is represented by Romano-British finds from along Willoughton Road *c.* 1km to the northwest. This spread of artefacts may represent the location of a settlement site.

Significantly greater evidence is available for use of the area in the medieval period. Kirton is referred to in the Domesday Book of 1086 AD and was an important medieval town, though it has since declined in favour of Boston. The investigation site lies just east of the 12th century parish church of SS Peter and Paul which dominates the town centre. Located outside of the town were three sizeable houses of medieval date, Bozon Hall, Littlebury Hall and Orme Hall, all now demolished. Medieval and later pottery has been recovered at the northwestern edge of the town.

French and German tokens of 15th and 16th century date have been found in the centre of the town. Close to the proposed development site is the Old King's Head Inn of early 16th century date.

Near the southeast corner of the proposed development site is a building of probable 19th century date. This building is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1905, which also reveals that the western part of the investigation site was then, as at present, open ground (Archaeological Project Services 1994).

3. AIMS

The aims of the evaluation were to locate archaeological deposits and determine, if present, their extent, state of preservation, date, type, vulnerability, documentation, quality of setting and amenity value. The purpose of this identification and assessment of deposits was to establish their significance, in order to facilitate recommendations for an appropriate strategy that could be integrated with any proposed development programme.

4. METHODS

Three trenches were opened (Fig. 3) and selected deposits partially or fully excavated by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. The trenches were located to provide sample coverage of the entire development site in order to evaluate the potential survival of archaeological deposits and features across the area.

All three trenches were opened by machine to the surface of undisturbed archaeological layers, which were then cleaned and excavated by hand. During machine opening of Trench 1, modern, contaminated deposits were encountered (Plate 1). These contaminated materials were present throughout the trench and persisted to at least 1.5m depth. As a result, work on this trench was abandoned.

Recording of deposits encountered during the evaluation was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

5. ANALYSIS

Finds recovered from those deposits excavated were examined and a period date

assigned where possible. Records of the deposits and features recognised during the evaluation were also examined. Phasing was assigned based on artefact dating and the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them. A stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced. Three phases were identified.

- Phase 1 - Natural deposits
- Phase 2 - Medieval deposits
- Phase 3 - Modern deposits

Phase 1 Natural deposits

Natural deposits of grey and light brown silts (21, 68, 71, 72, 87, 88, 92, 93, 94, 99) were revealed at the bases of Trenches 2 (Plate 2) and 3. These deposits, which contained very few inclusions, are considered to be alluvium.

Phase 2 Medieval deposits

Cutting the natural silt in Trench 2 were three linear features forming an F-shape (Fig. 4). This feature consisted of two, parallel north-south aligned cuts (17 and 74) that joined with with an east-west oriented feature (73) to the south. Possessing gently concave profiles, these features are interpreted as ditches. Filling this complex was a grey-brown sandy silt (13, 86). Pottery recovered from this deposit indicates that the feature was filled in the 13th or 14th century.

Sealing these filled ditches (Fig. 5) was a light brown silt (75). Similar deposits (28, 62, 63, 64, 67) were observed above the basal silts in Trench 3. These are all considered to be naturally deposited alluvium.

Cutting into this alluvium in Trench 2 was an apparently rectangular cut feature (69). Filled with charcoal and silt deposits, this is considered to represent a pit (Plate 2).

Pottery of 14th century or later date was recovered from the uppermost fill (18) of this feature (Fig. 4).

Just to the west of this pit, and only seen in section, was a shallow bowl-shaped feature (16). The function of this cut is uncertain, although it may be a gully (Fig. 5).

Also observed in section was a feature (70) that was at least 0.6m wide and 0.15m deep. Filled with brown sandy silts (10, 11, 12), this feature is believed to be a ditch.

Phase 3 Modern deposits

Observed in the base of Trench 2 were two amorphous features (77 and 79). Both were filled with silt that contained charcoal, ash and burnt clay fragments. In consequence, these are interpreted as the bases of pits. Near to these was a subrectangular feature (81) containing two wooden posts and therefore explained as a posthole (Fig. 4).

Sealing the phase 2 possible ditch (70) was a 0.6m thick layer of brown sand silt that contained occasional brick fragments (9). The derivation of this material is uncertain, though it is considered to be a possible dumped layer (Fig. 5).

Cutting into this deposit, was a very large feature (107). Approximately 0.7m deep and at least 7m long, this was filled with brown sandy silt that contained occasional brick fragments. Of uncertain function, this feature is considered, on the basis of size, to be a clearance cut or robber trench, with a backfilling deposit. This feature was responsible for truncating several of the phase 2 features.

Also cutting the possible dumped deposit (9) was an apparently linear cut (8). Truncating this in turn was a further linear feature (6) that contained a gas pipe.

Together, these are both considered to be service trenches, the latter being a replacement of the former.

Sealing these service trenches and the backfilled clearance cut was a layer of dark sandy silt (4) interpreted as a topsoil deposit. This was overlain by a mixed deposit (3) of brick fragments, sand and mortar. This layer is considered to be a demolition spread or possible bedding layer. A tarmac layer covered with gravel provided the present surface of the external part of the proposed development area.

Cutting the natural silts in Trench 3 was a 2m diameter, 1m deep circular feature (35). Filled with mixed dark grey silt that contained pottery of 18th/19th century date, this is interpreted as a pit, though of uncertain function (Fig. 6).

Also cutting into the natural silts in Trench 3 was one rectangular (40) and four oval features (27, 30, 38, 42). Each of these was filled with mixed deposits that contained brick fragments and pieces of mortar. As a result, these are considered to be robbed structural features. Sealing one of these features (38) was a restricted spread of mixed material (36). Containing mortar, coal and brick fragments, this is interpreted as a demolition spread.

Cutting into the top fill of the large circular pit (35) was a flat-based feature (97) containing mortared bricks (96). This is explained as a wall. On the opposite (eastern) side of the trench, though only seen in section, was a brick arch (57) of uncertain function (Plate 3). An upright column of bricks (61), representing a wall, was founded on the southern end of the arch (Fig. 7).

Crossing Trench 3 from east to west were two rows of bricks (31 and 44), each interpreted as walls. At the west end of

wall 44, a further brick alignment (43), also explained as a wall, turned to the north (Fig. 6).

Overlying these various walls was a series of deposits of brown silts that contained pebbles and frequent brick fragments. These layers are considered to represent demolition deposits. Sealing these materials was a 0.2m thick layer of yellow sand (53) that was, in turn, overlain by the concrete surface that provided the floor of the Depot building.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (phase 1) of alluvial silt were encountered in Trenches 2 and 3. Extensive modern (phase 3) disturbance was responsible for these natural deposits not being observed in Trench 3.

Medieval remains (phase 2) were only recognised in Trench 2, alongside the Station Road frontage. The F-shaped ditch arrangement is considered to represent a pattern of drains, the two north-south arms feeding into the east-west length of ditch. It is also possible that these features served as property boundaries during the medieval period. However, the infilling of these ditches would imply that they were neglected, or became redundant, in the 13th or 14th century. This was possibly due to deteriorating environmental conditions, evidence for which is provided by a layer of alluvium that seals the infilled ditches.

Following this alluviation, the area was reclaimed and a pit and two possible gullies or ditches were located in the area previously occupied by the drainage ditches. This may imply that the general function of the area, drainage and disposal, was maintained in spite of the interruption caused by the flooding.

Subsequently, the area near to the street frontage was cleared (phase 3), this activity being responsible for the removal of the upper parts of medieval deposits and all post-medieval remains. Although of unknown date, this clearance process is considered possibly to have occurred in the last two centuries. No reasons are known for the systematic clearance of this part of the site. This clearance was accompanied by ground make-up, with a significant depth of natural subsoil being redeposited in the area.

Medieval occupation remains were absent from Trench 3, the phase 3 activity being developed directly onto natural alluvial deposits. Demolished brick walls may define the location of earlier buildings on site or, perhaps, a prior arrangement of the Depot. Modern activity is represented by service trenches and the present ground surfaces of the carpark and Depot building.

7. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

For assessment of significance the *Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling ancient monuments* has been used (DoE 1990, Annex 4; see appendix 4).

Period:

Drainage and disposal features are typical of the medieval period. However, such remains do not characterise the period, being standard features in many different archaeological eras.

Rarity:

Drainage and disposal features of medieval date, as recorded during this excavation, are not uncommon.

Documentation:

Records of archaeological sites and finds made in the Kirton area are kept in the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments

Record and in the relevant parish file of the Boston District Community Archaeologist. A site-specific summary and synthesis of this material was produced prior to the investigations reported here.

Group value:

Moderately high group value for the medieval remains is supplied by the proximity of other sites, structures and findspots of contemporary date in the vicinity

Survival/Condition:

Deposits of medieval date were encountered, but have been extensively damaged by relatively recent site clearance and other disturbance. There was no evidence for the survival of environmental remains, either by waterlogging or charring.

Fragility/Vulnerability:

Medieval deposits were encountered at about 1m below the present ground surface at the Station Road frontage; elsewhere such deposits appear to have been removed. Should the proposed development impact the area close to the road front then archaeological deposits present in the area are vulnerable to destruction.

Diversity:

Both functional and period diversity were limited. Drainage and disposal activity appears to be the only aspect of medieval occupation encountered on the site. Later remains, if ever present, seem to have been largely removed in the last century or so.

Potential:

Potential is high that further medieval remains, associated with the drainage features already identified, survive close to the Station Road frontage. Limited potential exists for medieval remains surviving away from the road frontage, or for post-medieval deposits remaining

anywhere on site.

7.1 Site Importance

In summary, the criteria for assessment have established that the medieval remains are of local importance. As such, archaeological deposits present on site can be expected to enhance the understanding of the origins and development of Kirton.

8. OPTIONS FOR FURTHER WORK

In consideration of the results of the evaluation, several options for further work suggest themselves as most worthy of attention.

8.1 Rescue Priorities

Deposits of medieval and post-medieval date are either absent or have been removed from the northern and eastern sides of the site. Consequently, there are no remains of these periods in these areas that require preservation by record.

However, medieval deposits were encountered on the southern part of the site. Should this area be subjected to deep or extensive disturbance then efforts should be made to record any archaeological deposits that are liable to destruction.

8.2 Research Priorities

Locally important remains of medieval date occur close to the Station Road frontage. These deposits offer some opportunities for research into the nature of the medieval occupation of Kirton.

Any very deep excavation should have consideration for the survival of prehistoric, Roman and Anglo-Saxon deposits beneath layers of alluvium.

9. EFFECTIVENESS OF TECHNIQUES

The strategy of using trial trenches to locate and evaluate archaeological deposits was, on the whole, effective. Excavation established that medieval remains survived on the Station Road frontage but had been destroyed elsewhere. Moreover, the trial trenches identified the previously unsuspected level of modern disturbance on the site.

10. CONCLUSIONS

This investigation identified deposits of medieval and modern date. Natural alluvial layers occurred on the south and east sides of the site. Their absence from the northern side of the site was caused by modern disturbance, probably resulting from the installation of a subterranean fuel tank.

Medieval occupation deposits, in the form of drainage ditches and pits, were only revealed on the southern side of the site. Flooding, which probably occurred in the 14th century, interrupted this use of the area.

Subsequently, the area near to the street frontage was cleared and raised with imported soil. Brick structures were located on the site later occupied by the Depot, and may have constituted an earlier plan of that building.

11. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to thank A.M.C. Investments (Lincoln) Ltd. who funded the fieldwork and analysis. The work was coordinated by Steve Haynes and this report was edited by Dave Start. Mr Jackson of Boston Borough Council Housing Department kindly

allowed examination of the early Ordnance Survey maps in his charge. Jim Bonnor, the Community Archaeologist for Boston Borough Council permitted examination of the relevant files. Access to the County Sites and Monuments Record was provided by Julia Wise of the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council.

12. PERSONNEL

Project Manager: Steve Haynes
Supervisor: Fiona Walker
Site Assistants: Dave Bower, Aaron Chapman, Nikky Matson
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
Illustration: Denise Buckley, Paul Cope-Faulkner
Post-excavation Analyst: Gary Taylor

13. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Hodge, C A H, Burton, R G O, Corbett, W M, Evans, and Seale, R S, 1984 *Soils and their Use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales 13

14. ABBREVIATIONS

Department of the Environment publications are indicated by the initials 'DoE'.

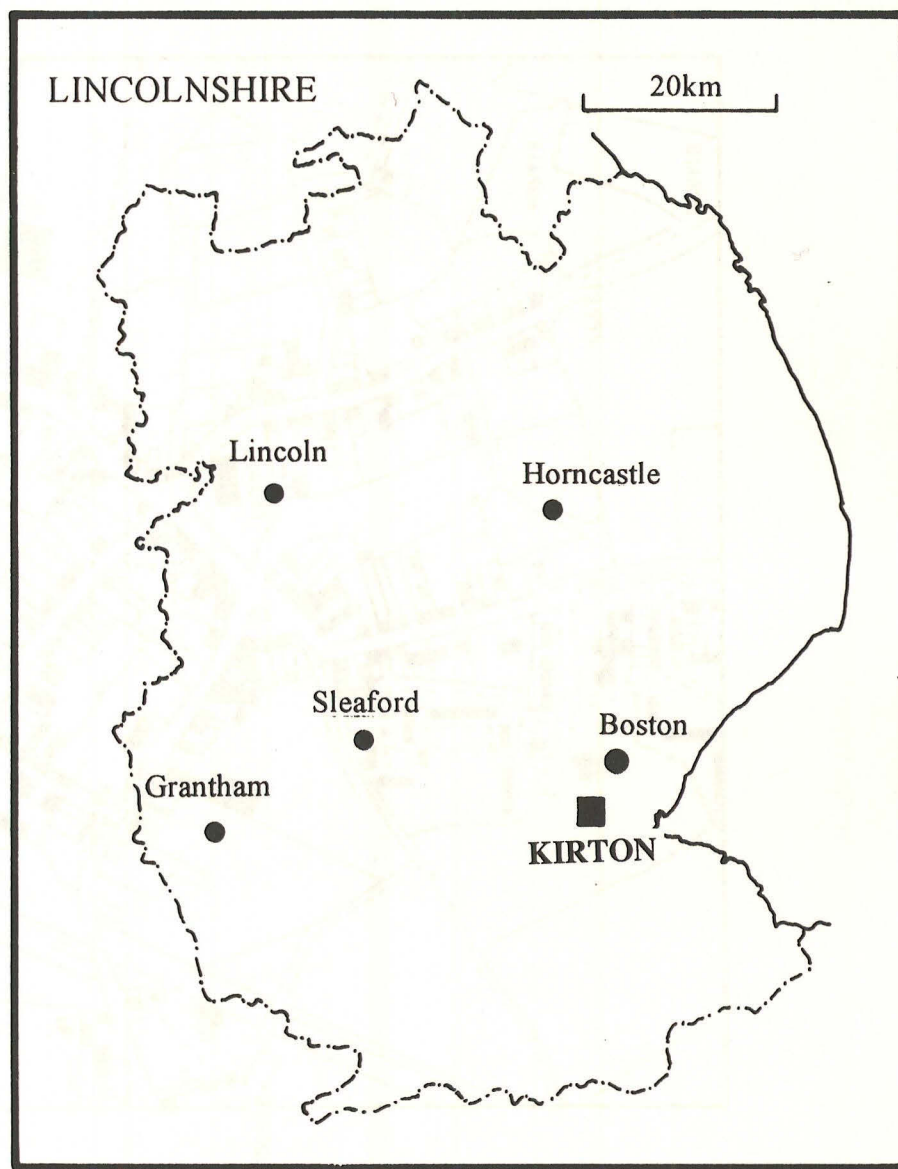
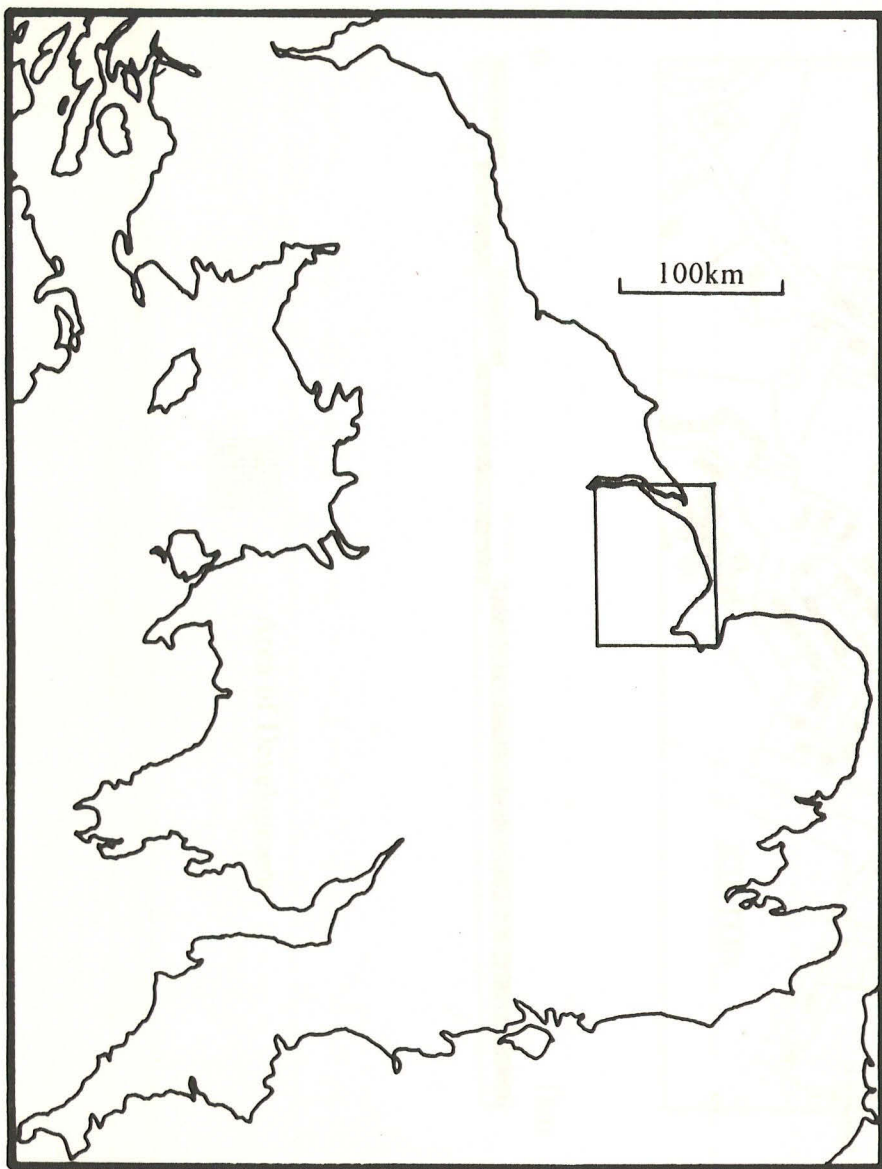
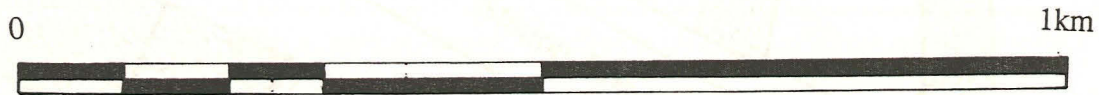


Fig. 1 General Location Plan

Fig. 2 Site Location Plan



Area of Development

Fig. 3 Trench Location Plan

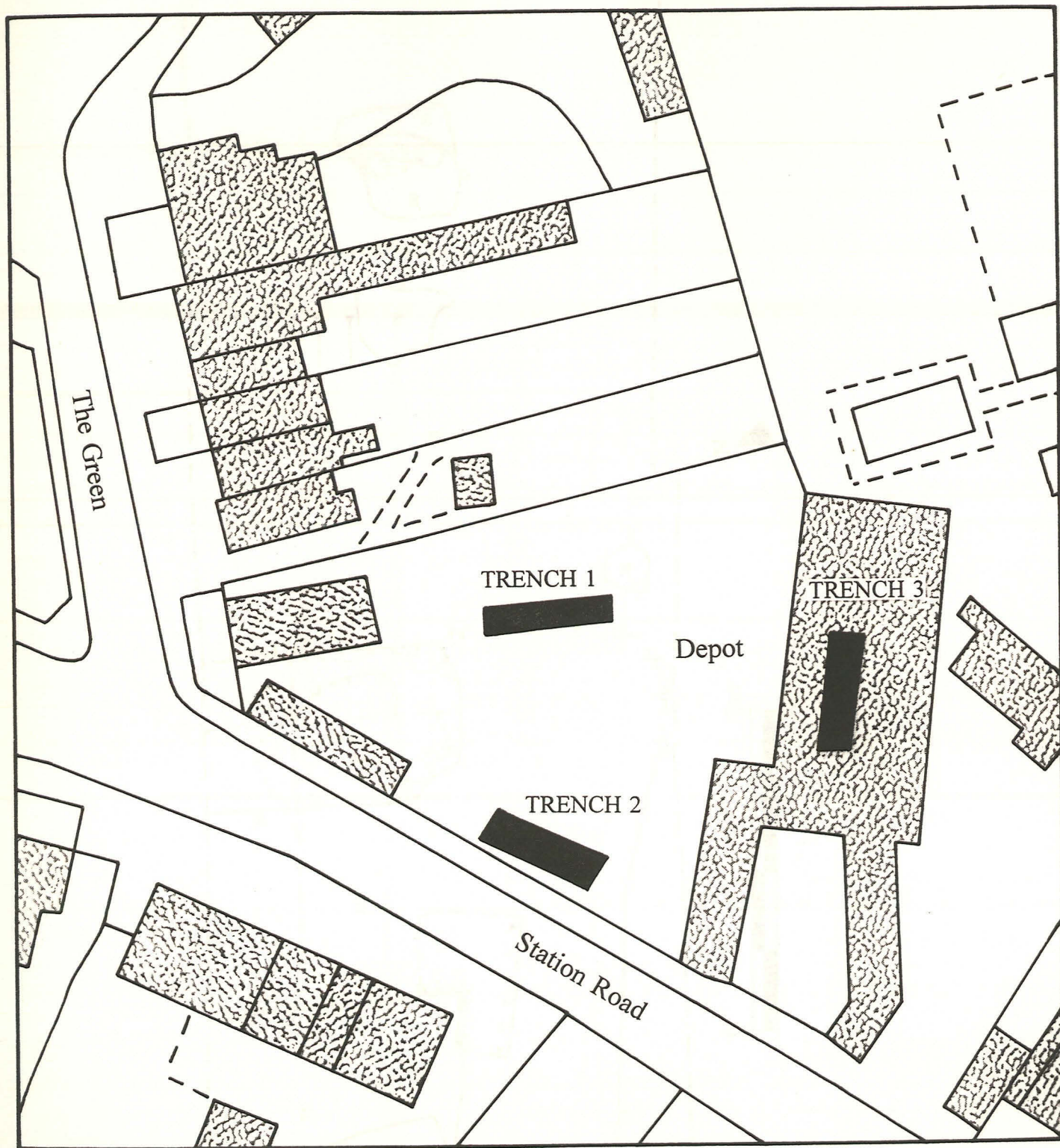


Fig. 5 Sec Fig. 4 Plan of Trench 2

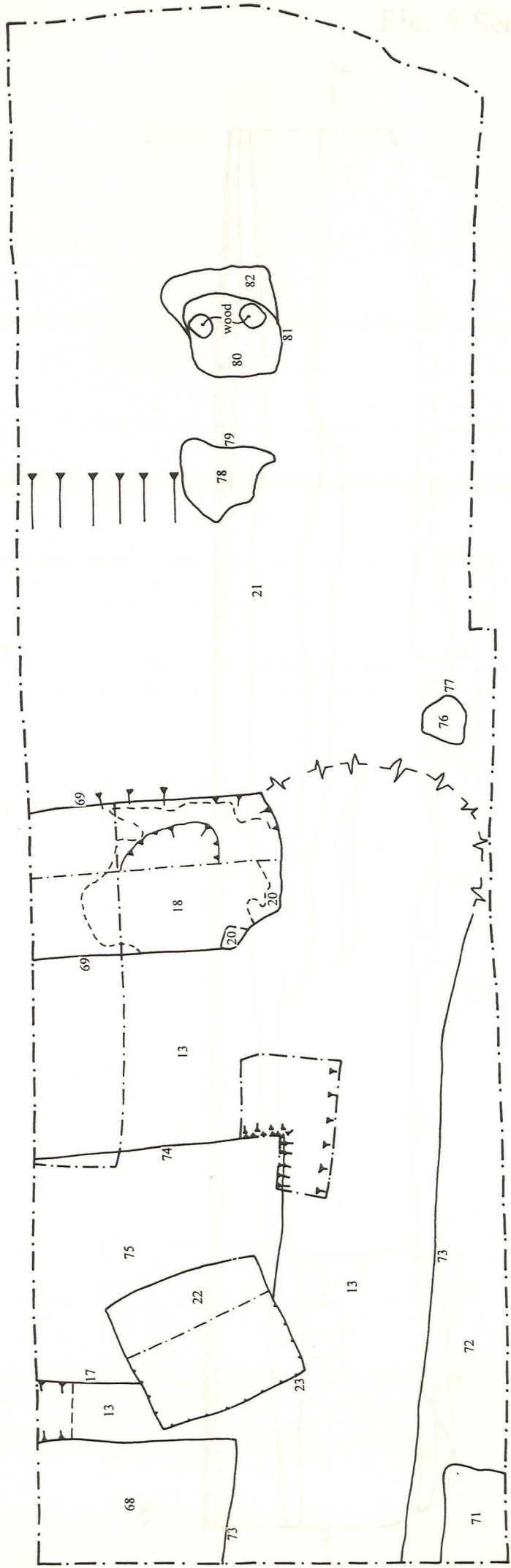
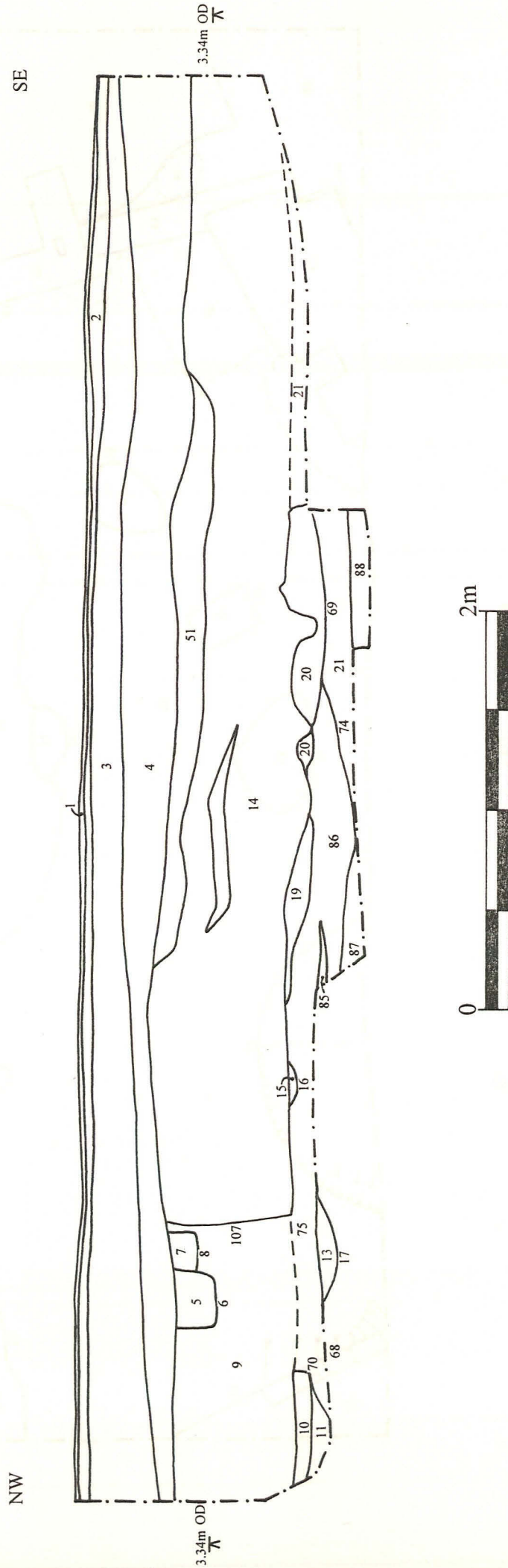


Fig. 5 Section of Trench 2



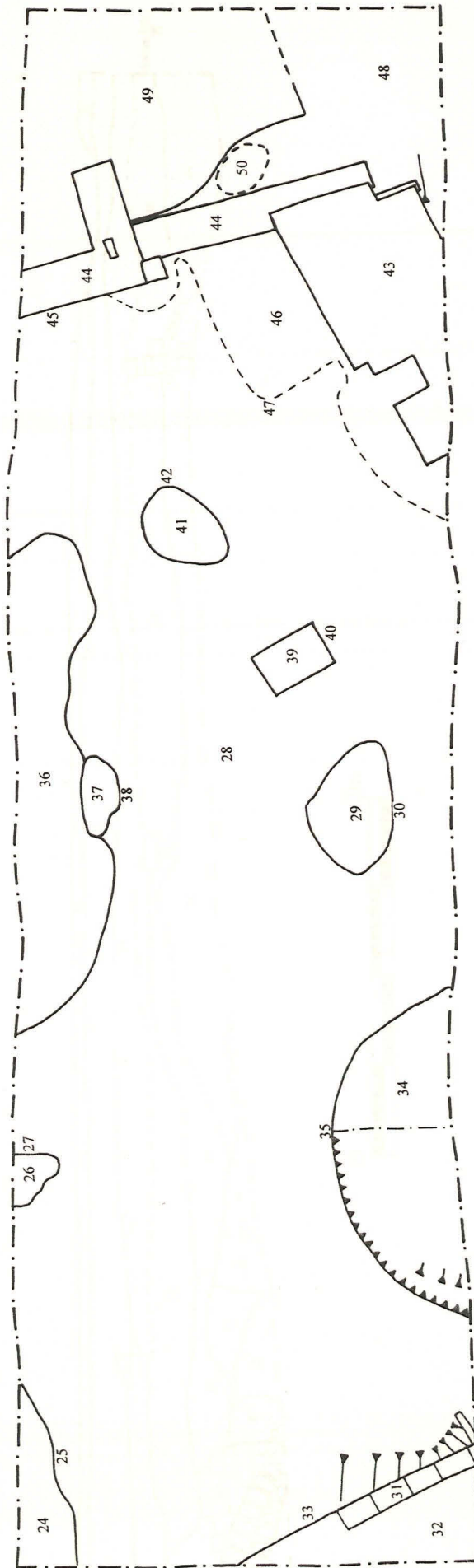


Fig. 7 Section of Trench 3

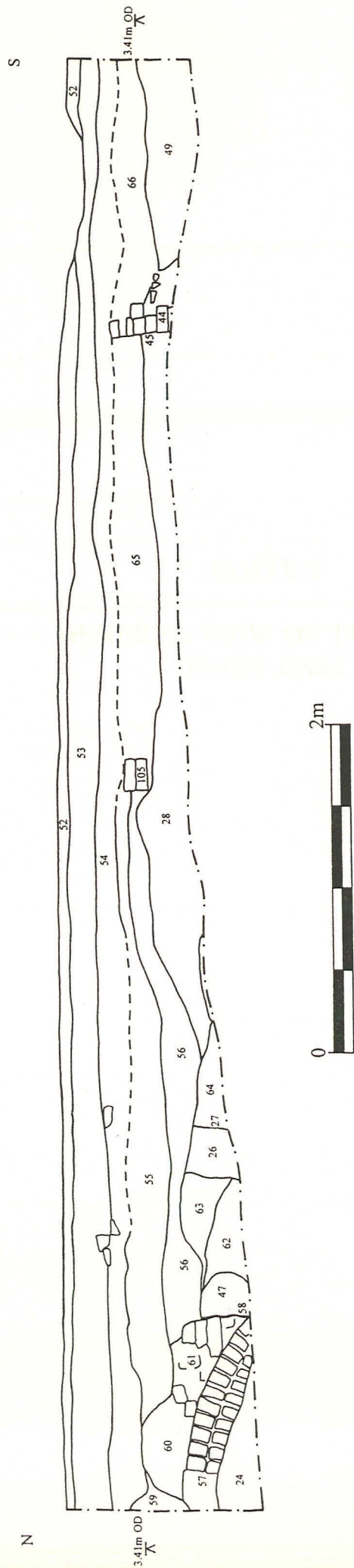


PLATE 1

GENERAL VIEW OF TRENCH 1,
FROM EAST



PLATE 2

GENERAL VIEW OF TRENCH 2,
FROM SOUTHEAST

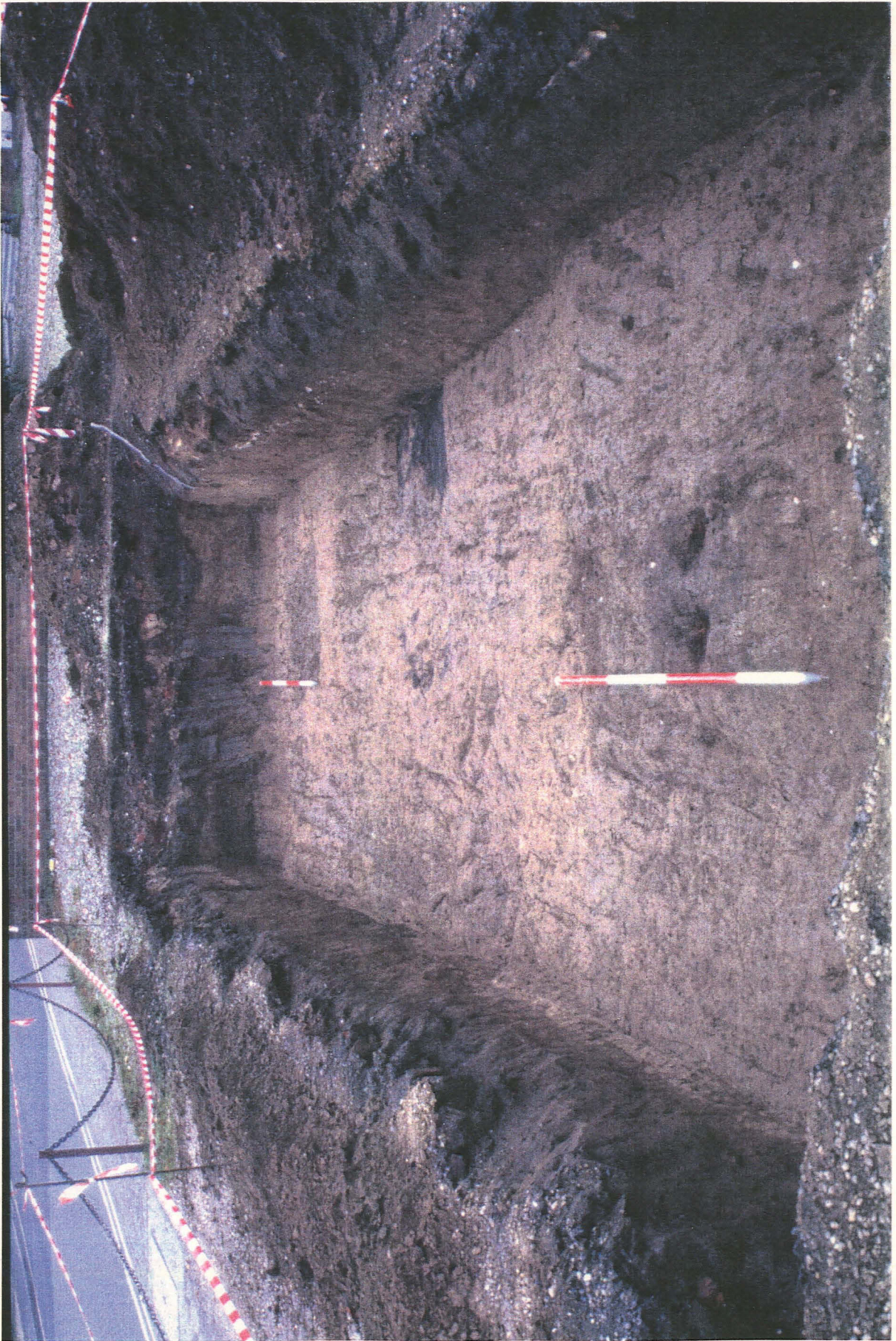
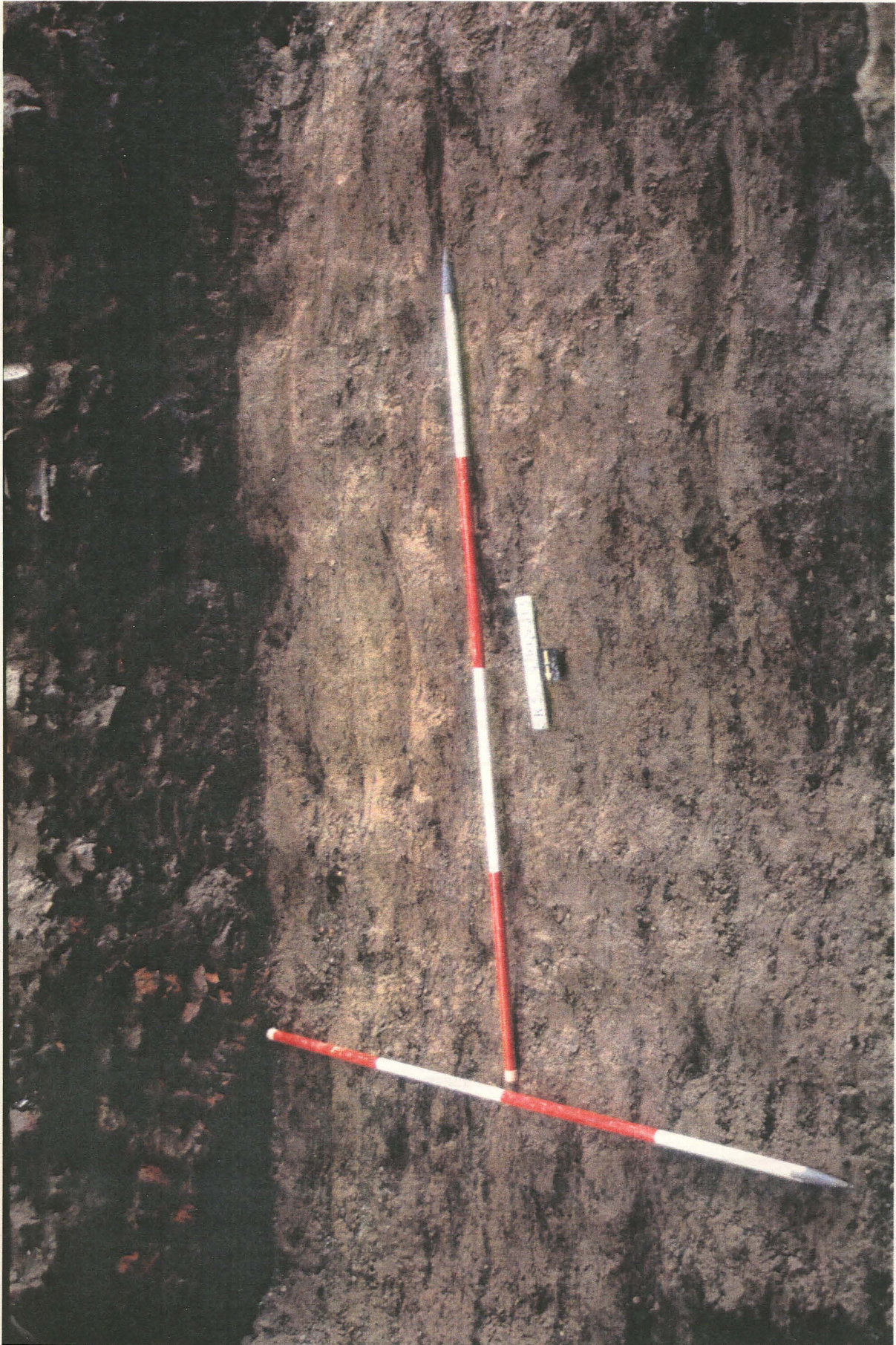




PLATE 3

TRENCH 3,
DETAIL OF EAST SECTION,
SHOWING BRICK ARCH



arch

APPENDIX 1
CONTEXT SUMMARY

Context No.	Trench	Description	Interpretation
1	1, 2	Grey gravel	Carpark surface
2	2	Black tarmac	Bedding for carpark surface
3	2	Mixed bricks, sand and mortar	Demolition layer
4	2	Dark grey-black sandy silt	Old topsoil
5	2	Brown silty sand and lead pipe	Fill of 6
6	2	Linear cut, 0.26m wide, 0.24m deep, oriented E-W	Service trench
7	2	Brown sandy silt with mortar flecks	Fill of 8
8	2	?linear cut, 0.15m wide, 0.20m deep	Robbed service trench?
9	2	Brown-yellow sand silt with occasional brick fragments	?make-up layer
10	2	Brown sandy silt with occasional brick fragments	Upper fill of 70
11	2	Yellow-grey silt sand	Fill of 70
12	2	Brown sandy silt	Fill of 70
13	2	Grey brown sandy silt	Fill of 17, 73, 74
14	2	Brown sandy silt with occasional brick fragments and mortar flecks	Fill of 107
15	2	Brown silt with fawn mottles	Fill of 16
16	2	Cut, 0.22m wide, 40mm deep; only seen in section	Gully or possible posthole
17	2	Linear cut, 1.2m wide, 0.24m deep, oriented N-S	Ditch
18	2	Brown sandy silt with occasional brick fragments and mortar flecks	Fill of 107
19	2	Brown sandy silt with charcoal lenses and stone fragments	Fill of 69
20	2	Black sandy silt with orange red patches; abundant charcoal	Fill of 69
21	2	Brown sandy silt	Natural
22	2	Green brown silt with charcoal, brick and lenses of black silt	Fill of 23
23	2	Square cut, 0.8m deep, 1m wide, vertical sides	Pit (modern)
24	3	Grey silt	Fill of 25

25	3	Cut, 1m x 0.3m	Cut of uncertain function
26	3	Dark grey sandy silt	Fill of 27
27	3	Oval cut, 0.28 m x 0.26m	Posthole
28	3	Yellow-brown silt with clay lumps	Natural
29	3	Grey-brown silt with brick and mortar fragments	Fill of 30
30	3	Oval cut, 0.75m x 0.5m	Possible robbed structural feature
31	3	Single line of mortared bricks	Brick wall
32	3	Grey sandy silt	?Foundation trench backfill
33	3	Linear cut, oriented NE-SW	Foundation trench for wall 31
34	3	Grey silt with mortar and brick fragments	Fill of 35
35	3	Circular cut, 1.85m diameter, 0.7m deep	Pit
36	3	Grey silt with mortar, charcoal and brick fragments	?Demolition spread
37	3	Dark grey silt with brick and mortar fragments	Fill of 38
38	3	Oval cut, c. 0.5m x 0.2m	Possible robbed structural element
39	3	Grey silt with frequent mortar and brick fragments	Fill of 40
40	3	Rectangular cut, 0.4m x 0.35m	Posthole
41	3	Yellow-brown clayey silt with charcoal flecks and brick fragments	Fill of 42
42	3	Oval cut, 0.5m x 0.4m	Posthole
43	3	Mortared bricks, aligned NW-SE	Brick wall
44	3	Mortared bricks, aligned NE-SW	Brick wall
45	3	Linear cut, becoming amorphous (same as 47)	Foundation trench for walls 43 and 44)
46	3	Dark grey silt with frequent brick and mortar fragments	Fill of 45 and 47
47	3	Amorphous cut (same as 45)	Foundation trench for walls 43 and 44)
48	3	Dark grey silty clay	Old topsoil?
49	3	Yellow brown silty clay	?Bedding layer/?surface
50	3	Blue-grey mortar	Dump
51	2	Brown sandy silt with frequent mortar and occasional bricks	Fill of 107
52	3	Light grey concrete	Interior surface of garage

53	3	Yellow sand	Levelling deposit for 52
54	3	Brick fragments with dark brown silt	Make-up layer
55	3	Dark brown sandy silt with abundant brick rubble	Make-up layer
56	3	Brown sandy silt with pebbles	Dump or natural soil formation
57	3	Arch of mortared bricks	Brick arch -sewer?
58	3	One side of vertical cut	Foundation trench for arch 57 and wall 61
59	3	Brown silt	Dumped soil
60	3	Light brown silt with occasional brick fragments	Dump or backfill of arch construction
61	3	Brick with brown silt	Demolished brick wall
62	3	Light brown silt	Natural
63	3	Red-brown silt with frequent iron stone	Natural
64	3	Light brown silt	Natural
65	3	Brown sandy silt with occasional brick and pebbles	Levelling layer
66	3	Brown sandy silt with occasional brick and pebbles	Levelling layer
67	3	Light brown silt	Natural
68	2	Grey-yellow silt	Natural
69	2	Rectangular cut, over 0.9m wide and 0.3m deep	Pit
70	2	?Linear cut, 0.48m wide, oriented N-S	Ditch
71	2	Yellow-grey silt	Natural
72	2	Grey-yellow silt	Natural
73	2	Linear cut, 1.1m wide, oriented E-W	Ditch
74	2	Linear cut, 1.5m wide, 0.22m deep	Ditch
75	2	Mottled yellow, brown and fawn silt	Natural
76	2	Grey-brown clayey silt with occasional charcoal and daub fragments	Fill of 77
77	2	Irregular sub-oval cut, 0.3m x 0.25m	Pit/ posthole
78	2	Red-brown ashy silt with charcoal, shell and brick	Fill of 79
79	2	Amorphous cut, 0.46m x 0.57m	Pit
80	2	Dark brown silt, two wooden posts	Fill of 81, posts and packing
81	2	Subrectangular cut, 0.78m x 0.7m	Posthole

82	2	Dark brown silt	Fill of 81
83	3	Black silt with brick, mortar and coal	Make-up layer
84	3	Dark grey silt clay with fawn mottles	Old topsoil?
85	2	Orange-brown clay with silt	Natural?
86	2	Grey-brown silt	Fill of 74 (same as 13)
87	2	Grey-brown silt	Natural
88	2	Grey-brown silt	Natural
89	2	Grey-brown silt	Fill of 69
90	2	Bricks and mortar with grey silt	Fill of 23
91	2	Dark grey organic silt	Fill of 23
92	2	Orange-brown clayey silt	Natural
93	2	Mottled grey and brown clayey silt	Natural
94	2	Mid-grey clayey silt	Natural
95	3	Dark brown sandy silt with frequent brick fragments	Construction rubble/make-up layer
96	3	Mortared bricks, aligned E-W	Brick wall
97	3	One vertical side of ?linear cut, contains wall 96	Foundation trench
98	3	Black silt with pebble lens	Make-up layer
99	3	Dark grey silt with charcoal lumps	Natural
100	3	Solid mortar	Foundation/flooring
101	3	Black silt with frequent pebbles	Natural soil formation?
102	3	?linear cut, c. 0.35m deep, 0.25m wide, vertical sides	Robber trench
103	3	Brick rubble in dark sandy silt	Fill of 102
104	3	Yellow-brown clay	Primary fill of pit 35
105	3	Bricks, 0.2m wide, seen in section only	Brick wall
106	3	Dark grey silt clay with fawn mottles	Old topsoil
107	2	Near-vertical sided cut, over 6m long, 0.7m deep	Clearance/robber cut

APPENDIX 2

FINDS REPORT HILARY HEALEY

TRENCH 1

unstratified 3 pieces of modern porcelain, 2 other modern sherds, 1 piece of modern stoneware, 1 other piece of stoneware, possibly 17th century in date. 1 black-glazed sherd and 1 Boston kiln type sherd, both 17th century. 1 medieval sherd. 4 claypipe stems, probably 19th century. Fragments of brick and modern drain pipe. 1 glass bottle stopper, 19th/20th century; 1 iron spring, 1 small iron spike, half of an iron horseshoe?

TRENCH 2

unstratified 3 modern sherds, 2 fragments of black-glazed earthenware, 19th century, 1 sherd of 17th century date, 3 medieval pieces

CONTEXT 13 9 sherds of pottery, including Nottingham, Bourne and shelly wares, 13th/14th century

CONTEXT 18 1 sherd of Bourne ware, 14th century; also 1 sherd of unidentified stoneware, possibly 16th century or later. Fragments of handmade brick

CONTEXT 22 2 sherds of 12th/13th century pottery, 1 piece of Boston ware pottery, 17th century. 1 clay pipe, 19th century. Fragments of probable handmade brick. 1 piece of iron slag, 1 piece of sheet copper alloy, 1 copper alloy and lead terminal; 1 small piece of roofing slate

CONTEXT 78 several pieces of plaster with impressions of roof laths

CONTEXT 86 1 sherd of Late Saxon Stamford ware and 1 sherd of Nottingham ware, 14th century

TRENCH 3

CONTEXT 34 1 medieval shelly ware sherd; 3 pieces of brown, black-glazed and cream earthenware, 18th century. 1 clay pipe stem, 18th century. Fragments of handmade brick, some underfired. 2 pieces of glass; 1 iron nail/spike; 1 small piece of burnt limestone; 1 small piece of carved and painted wood

GENERAL COMMENTS

The unstratified material from trench 1 is mixed but has a modern, 20th century, termination date. However, there is also rare medieval and post-medieval pottery from this trench.

Contexts 13 and 86 in trench 2 are both medieval. Medieval pottery was also recovered from the other contexts in this trench but was associated with later material.

Context 34 in trench 3 is probably 18th century but also includes an isolated medieval sherd.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

FAUNAL REMAINS

TRENCH 1

unstratified 19 mixed, butchered cattle and sheep bones

TRENCH 2

unstratified 3 butchered cattle bones, 1 sheep bone
CONTEXT 13 8 unidentified bone fragments, 2 of them burnt, 1 sheep tooth, 2 bird bones, 1 cockle shell, 1 oyster shell
CONTEXT 18 1 cattle tibia, 2 bird bones, 5 unidentifiable bone fragments
CONTEXT 22 2 unidentifiable bone fragments
CONTEXT 86 4 unidentifiable bone fragments, 1 burned, 1 bird femur

TRENCH 3

CONTEXT 34 1 cow phalange, 1 sheep leg bone

Comments

The soils in the Keston area have been mapped as the Keston or Keston (W) (Hodge et al. 1984) which groups the performance in various papers after the 1. Keston (W) and 2. Keston (W) typical alluvial clay with sandstone and limestone. The soils are generally very fine sand and are strongly acidified in the subsoil. The Keston (W) soils generally become sandier with depth. Jones et al. (1984) in Lincolnshire the same soil occurs on land reclaimed before 1800 with. At this site in Keston it appears that it is the subsoil of the more common Keston (W) which is found in the surrounding areas and into which the features have been cut.

Reference

Hodge, C. A. H., Baines, R. G. D., Carter, W. M., Fagan, P. and Seale, R. S., 1984 *Soils and Their Use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales, Bulletin No. 13 (Harpenden, Herts).

APPENDIX 3 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Report on a Visit to Kirton Station Road, Lincs, 20/10/94
Dr Helen C. M. Keeley, BSc, DIC, MIBiol. CBiol, FRGS, MIPSS

A series of trenches were excavated by Archaeological Project Services at this development site in the centre of Kirton. The area currently open has been clear of buildings since the 19th century. Features found in the lowest excavated levels were Medieval in date and Medieval pottery had been found on the site.

1) Trench 2:

At the base of the trench was a stone-free, grey-brown fine loamy sand with many fine distinct rusty mottles, into which the Medieval features were cut. The surface of this layer is at about 3m above sea level. There had been no finds in this deposit, which appeared to be a natural subsoil. The topsoil had been removed at some stage, thereby truncating the features.

2) Deposit 9:

Subsequently, material had been dumped over the site in order to raise the soil level to that of the present surface. This material was a fine loamy sand similar to the underlying subsoil (but unmottled and perhaps slightly more sandy) containing fragments of charcoal and brick. Some layering was visible but the deposit had been heavily reworked by earthworms, which destroys such subtle stratigraphy. This material appeared to be subsoil material brought in from nearby.

3) Trench 3, below Cut 35:

This trench was located inside the adjacent garage. At the base of the trench was a stone-free fine sandy clay loam containing some small charcoal fragments (Context 9). This was overlain by an orange clay from which water was seeping. Context 9 appeared to be the natural subsoil into which the features were cut, the clay being the basal fill of the feature examined. The higher clay content of the subsoil compared to that in the external trench could be the result of natural variation or may have been enhanced by clay washing down from the layer above.

Comments:

The soils of the Kirton area have been mapped as the Rockcliffe Association (Hodge *et al.*, 1984), which occurs on reclaimed stoneless marine alluvium. It contains coarse and fine silty typical alluvial gley soils, Rockcliffe and Tanvats series, and coarse silty gleyic brown alluvial soils, Snargate series. The main soils have a large content of silt or (as here at Kirton) very fine sand and are strongly mottled in the subsoil. Rockcliffe and Snargate soils generally become sandier with depth. According to Hodge *et al.* (1984) in Lincolnshire the association occurs on land reclaimed before 1300 AD. At this site in Kirton it appears that it is the subsoil of the more common Snargate series which is found in the excavation trenches and into which the features have been cut.

Reference

Hodge, C. A. H., Burton, R. G. O., Corbett, W. M., Evans, R. and Seale, R. S., 1984 *Soils and Their Use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales, Bulletin No. 13 (Harpenden, Herts.)

APPENDIX 4

The Archive

The archive consists of:

- 107 . Context records
- 2 . . . Photographic records
- 7 . . . Scale drawings
- 2 . . . Stratigraphic matrices
- 1 . . . Box of finds

All primary records are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Lincolnshire
NG34 9RW

City and County Museum, Lincoln Accession Number: 156.94

A.P.S. project code: KSR94

APPENDIX 5

Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling Ancient Monuments - Extract from *Archaeology and Planning DoE Planning Policy Guidance note 16, November 1990*

The following criteria (which are not in any order of ranking), are used for assessing the national importance of an ancient monument and considering whether scheduling is appropriate. The criteria should not however be regarded as definitive; rather they are indicators which contribute to a wider judgement based on the individual circumstances of a case.

i *Period*: all types of monuments that characterise a category or period should be considered for preservation.

ii *Rarity*: there are some monument categories which in certain periods are so scarce that all surviving examples which retain some archaeological potential should be preserved. In general, however, a selection must be made which portrays the typical and commonplace as well as the rare. This process should take account of all aspects of the distribution of a particular class of monument, both in a national and regional context.

iii *Documentation*: the significance of a monument may be enhanced by the existence of records of previous investigation or, in the case of more recent monuments, by the supporting evidence of contemporary written records.

iv *Group value*: the value of a single monument (such as a field system) may be greatly enhanced by its association with related contemporary monuments (such as a settlement or cemetery) or with monuments of different periods. In some cases, it is preferable to protect the complete group of monuments, including associated and adjacent land, rather than to protect isolated monuments within the group.

v *Survival/Condition*: the survival of a monument's archaeological potential both above and below ground is a particularly important consideration and should be assessed in relation to its present condition and surviving features.

vi *Fragility/Vulnerability*: highly important archaeological evidence from some field monuments can be destroyed by a single ploughing or unsympathetic treatment; vulnerable monuments of this nature would particularly benefit from the statutory protection that scheduling confers. There are also existing standing structures of particular form or complexity whose value can again be severely reduced by neglect or careless treatment and which are similarly well suited by scheduled monument protection, even if these structures are already listed buildings.

vii *Diversity*: some monuments may be selected for scheduling because they possess a combination of high quality features, others because of a single important attribute.

viii *Potential*: on occasion, the nature of the evidence cannot be specified precisely but it may still be possible to document reasons anticipating its existence and importance and so to demonstrate the justification for scheduling. This is usually confined to sites rather than upstanding monuments.