



LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Land off Snitterby Road, Waddingham, Lincs.

NGR: SK ~~9826 9589~~ 9825 39592

Site Code: WSR02

LCNCC Museum Accn Code: 2002.394

WLDC Planning Application No.: M02/P/0023

Archaeological Watching Brief

Report prepared for Moore Facilities Management

by G. Tann

LAS Report No. 743

October 2004

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Conservation
Services

08 OCT 2004

Highways & Planning
Directorate

EVENT: L1 5575

CON L17538

INTERVENTION: L19731

* MID-LATE SAXON.

EXCAVATION : L19732

* POST-MED.

* UNDATED.

PRN. 55074, 55075, 55076, 55077, 55078

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Development off Snitterby Road, Waddingham, Lincs. Archaeological Watching Brief

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Summary

An archaeological watching brief during groundworks for a housing development retrieved 28 sherds of Middle Saxon pottery and nine abraded sherds of late Saxon pottery, indicating an occupation site in the close vicinity. Ground conditions were too poor for insubstantial archaeological features to be recognised, and previous topsoil stripping and earlier ploughing may have removed all trace of any on the site before the first monitoring visit. Ditches and pits were recorded, but these were either undated or represent precursors of the post-medieval field layout.

Introduction

Lindsey Archaeological Services (LAS) was commissioned in August 2002 by Moore Facilities Management to conduct an archaeological watching brief during groundworks for a housing development off Snitterby Road, Waddingham, Lincs. (Figs. 1 and 2). The watching brief was required by the local planning authority to fulfil a condition on the planning permission.

Groundworks were monitored by Dave Marshall (23/8/02 Plot 1 and stripped area of development), Geoff Tann 22/1/03 (Plot 9 and drain trench) and Doug Young (27/1/03, Plot 11 and drain trench).

The Development Site

Waddingham village is 25km north of Lincoln, and 10km south of Brigg, 2km east of the A15, Ermine Street. The site lies on the southern edge of the settlement, to the east of Snitterby Road. The site had previously been farmland.

Archaeological Background

The village of Waddingham is mentioned in the *Domesday Survey* of 1086 and its origins lie in the Anglo-Saxon period. The village was originally two adjoining settlements, Waddingham St Peter, and Stainton by Waddingham; it is believed that the main settlement lay in the eastern part of the present parish, with Stainton to the west. After the Norman conquest, land in Waddingham was held by the king, by the Bishop of Bayeux, and four other landholders; there was a similar distribution in Stainton, but with one fewer named landholder. A mill is mentioned in a Waddingham entry. This arrangement with multiple landholders helps to explain the sprawling nature of the modern village, with several focii. Each settlement had a parish and a church; Stainton's was dedicated to St Mary, but shared the churchyard with Waddingham. In 1603-4 both churches were standing, each in need of limited repairs. Only the Stainton church remains, now dedicated to St Mary and St Peter (Foster and Longley 1924, lxvi).

During a previous watching brief by LAS on land beside Silver Street, a residual sherd of Iron Age shell-gritted pottery, and a sherd of a later third century colour-coated beaker from a Nene Valley kiln were found (Tann 2000). No Saxon remains were identified, although two phases of land boundaries were recorded.

The northern end of Snitterby Road is on a slightly irregular alignment (which follows the natural slope) until it reaches Waddingham House. To the south, the road is straighter, suggesting a post-medieval, Enclosure Award, origin. Until that period, this road may have extended south only as far as a farmstead behind the site of Waddingham House (OS 1956). The mid-twentieth century footpath layout, one field east of the development site, may mark the position of the earlier lane to Snitterby.

The Watching Brief (Fig. 3)

Excavation was by JCB with a 0.6m wide, toothed bucket. Context numbers were assigned by LAS for recording purposes, and these are used, in bold, in the text (Appendix 1). When the site was first visited, it was observed that topsoil and some subsoil had been stripped from most of the development site, including the access road (Pls. 1 and 2). The surface was inspected for features and artefacts; finds from across the site which appeared to be derived from topsoil were assigned the context number **500**. Where it remained, the topsoil **500** was a brown loam, up to 0.3m thick, containing fragments of pottery, glass, bone and metal. The field was seen to have been under-drained on an approximately 4m grid pattern, using horseshoe shaped clay land drains 0.4m long and 0.1m high, stamped with 'DRAIN' on the top surface.

A lighter coloured subsoil **501**, about 0.15m thick, and containing charcoal flecks and occasional burnt clay fragments was also recorded, and finds thought to be from the remains of that extensive layer were collected. The retrieved finds assemblage contains a high proportion of post-medieval finds, suggesting that considerable contamination had occurred. Beneath the subsoil was the naturally occurring yellow/orange clay loam **502** with limestone fragments, limestone gravel concentrations and sandy flint gravel areas.

On the first watching brief visit, a group of mid-Saxon pottery sherds was seen in the NW corner of the development site, in association with some animal rib bones. These sherds had clearly been recently redeposited, but their source was not found. After being seen informally by the pottery specialist, this group of sherds was processed together with other unstratified finds from the topsoil **500**, and can no longer be identified.

House Plot 1

Trenches were excavated through the remains of the topsoil and subsoil, into the sandy clay. No archaeological features were seen.

House Plot 4

This area had been cleared of topsoil before the first monitoring visit, but the surface was examined on that occasion. A truncated shallow pit **504** had been cut into the subsoil layer **501** (Pl. 3). Only the lower 0.1m of the pit survived, with a diameter of 0.4m. Its fill **503** was an orange brown loam, containing large pottery sherds from a single vessel (Appendix 2). Some small animal bones were retrieved from near this feature.

Foundation trenches on this plot were not monitored.

House Plots 7 and 8

This area had been cleared of topsoil before the first monitoring visit. On that occasion, an inspection of the surface produced a copper alloy garter hook, of post-medieval date, in the vicinity of Plots 7 and 8 (Pl. 4).

House Plot 9

Trenches for the house foundations were excavated with a JCB with 0.6m wide, toothed bucket. Topsoil **500** had been stripped from across most of the plot. Where it survived at the eastern side of the plot, it was 0.25m thick. It covered a 0.25m thick layer of brown clay loam subsoil **501** across the house plot. No clear distinction was visible between this material and a brown fill **514** of a broad ditch-like feature **515** crossing the eastern side of the plot (Pl. 5). Ditch **515** was probably 0.7m deep and over 4m wide, but much of the underlying 'natural' was mixed sand or clay, and a deeper feature is possible. Although no recuts were visible in the trench section, it is likely that the ditch width represents a series of cleaning episodes. The present adjacent land boundary is a bank, which interrupts the natural slope. The bank lies slightly east of what appears to be a corner of boundaries to the north, and this supports the interpretation that a boundary has gradually moved eastward (Pl. 6). Fill **514** contained one sherd of ninth-eleventh century pottery.

House Plot 10

During stripping of topsoil **500** across this plot, a sherd of Saxon pottery was recovered. No features were seen on the surface.

House Plot 11

The only remaining topsoil **500** on this plot was alongside the hedgeline (to the south). The sequence of topsoil over subsoil **501**, overlying sandy clay (and running sand in places) was as seen on other parts of the development site. No archaeological features were identified.

House Plot 13

The house foundation trench closest to the hedge was excavated to a depth of 1.5m. All the others were 1m deep. Across the plot, the soil sequence was as seen elsewhere, with 0.15m of topsoil **500** (where it had not been stripped) sealing the subsoil **501**. Below the subsoil was 0.45m of orange

sandy silt **502**, covering a pale yellow/grey clay **507** which rapidly oxidised to orange; it contained occasional large pieces of limestone.

Three features were seen in the trenches for this plot. A possible hearth **508** was represented by a 0.15m thick layer of red/orange burnt soil and clay, overlying a spread of black silt **510**. These layers were between the subsoil **501** and the natural **502/507**.

A much larger west-east aligned feature **511**, was a 0.95m deep depression at least 2m wide and over 6m long. Its fill **512** was equated on site with the subsoil **501**, and any finds have become mixed with those from that layer since collection. A fill layer of dark silt **513** was at the base of this depression.

In the NE corner of the plot, the darker material was recorded as dipping to below the trench base. This observation was interpreted later as a pit or ditch **516**, with fill **517**. There was no indication that it either crossed the plot or was connected with depression **511**.

Discussion

The condition of the site when first visited had been disturbed by topsoil stripping and vehicle movements. Wet weather caused a further deterioration, which prevented the secure identification of layers and features. Below the topsoil was a layer of very pale silty clay **501**, which appeared to cover almost all the identified features. One possibility is that a leaching of nutrients has occurred from the zone below the topsoil, regardless of whether it was a subsoil or fills of features. The finds assemblages collected for the layers of topsoil **500** and subsoil **501** are very similar (with bottle glass and post-medieval pottery) and this reflects the difficulties in distinguishing between the deposits when the finds were collected.

Conclusion

The watching brief found evidence of Middle Saxon and late Saxon pottery, probably indicative of a seventh-ninth century occupation site. The site produced numerous sherds of Saxon pottery, but most were unstratified or poorly provenanced. The sherds from **503** represent a sizeable part of a single vessel, which may have been discarded or buried intact. There was no evidence of human burials or cremations, and the pottery probably derives from an occupation site within or immediately adjacent to the monitored development site. Any Late Saxon remains may have been removed by ploughing before the subsoil layer **501** formed. Unfortunately, there is no secure dating for the subsoil layer. Features seen in the stripped surface and in house foundation trenches contained Saxon finds, but were mostly thought to be of more recent date.

This site has demonstrated that the early settlement of Waddingham was probably even more extensive than the 1840 Tithe Map recorded. The area of the site, to the western side of the parish, may have formed part of the absorbed settlement of Stainton, but it lies considerably outside the village core.

Acknowledgements

LAS is grateful for the co-operation received from the contractors. The pottery was identified by Jane Young, and the garter hook was identified by Kevin Leahy (North Lincolnshire Museum). Illustrations were prepared by Mick McDaid and D. Young, and the report was collated and produced by Naomi Field.

Geoff Tann
Lindsey Archaeological Services
1st October 2004

References

- Angus, C.D. 2000 *Land off The Green, Waddingham, Lincs.: Archaeological Watching Brief*. LAS Report No. 452, July 2000.
- Cameron, K. 1998 *A Dictionary of Lincolnshire Place-Names*.
- Everson, P., Taylor, C.C., and Dunn, C.J. 1991 *Change and Continuity: Rural Settlement in North-West Lincolnshire*.
- Foster, C.W. and Longley, T. 1924 *The Lincolnshire Domesday and the Lindsey Survey*. Lincoln Record Society 19.
- Tann, G. 2000 *Waddingham, land west of Silver Street: Archaeological Watching Brief*. LAS Report No. 388, March 2000.

Archive Summary

Archaeological finds

Specialist's archive list

Correspondence

Developer's plans and annotated copies

Field notes and sketch sections

Field plans and section drawings

Photographs: LAS colour print film nos. 02/93/29-31; 02/94/10a-35; 03/05/33a-36; 03/07/24a-34a; 03/19/00-6.

APPENDIX 1

APPENDIX 1

Context Summary (WSR 02)

Context No.	Type	Relationships	Description	Finds
500	layer	above all	dark brown silt loam topsoil	Mid Saxon pottery
501	layer	below 500, above 514	light brown silty clay subsoil, with charcoal flecks and fired clay fragments	Early modern pottery
502	natural	over 507	orange silty clay	
503	fill	fill of 504, ?below 501	orange brown loam	Mid Saxon pottery
504	cut	filled by 503, cuts 502		
505	not used			
506	not used			
507	natural	below 502	yellow/grey clay	
508	layer	?below 501, above 502	thin layer of red/orange burnt soil; ?hearth	
509	not used			
510	layer	below 508	black silt	
511	ditch or depression	filled by 512 and 513, cuts 502		
512	fill	fill of 511, above 513	light brown silty clay	
513	fill	fill of 511, below 512	dark brown silty clay	
514	fill	fill of 515, below 501	dark brown silty clay	one sherd 9th-11thC pottery
515	ditch	filled by 514, cuts 502	broad ditch, precursor of field boundary	
516	pit or ditch	filled by 517, cuts 502		
517	fill	fill of 516	dark brown clay loam	

APPENDIX 2

Pottery Archive Development Off Snitterby Road, Waddingham (WSR02)

Jane Young

Included amongst the material recovered from this site is a small but important group of Middle Saxon pottery with fifteen vessels being represented by twenty-eight sherds. This Middle Saxon pottery comprises vessels in five different Maxey-type ware fabrics. Most of the fabrics found are confined to North Lincolnshire whilst Fabric B has a more widespread distribution in the county. These Middle Saxon sherds are fairly fresh in condition and suggest that undisturbed features of late 7th to mid 9th century lay on the site. The smaller number of late Saxon vessels (nine single sherd vessels) found on the site are mostly abraded and indicate that any features of this date had been disturbed by plough action.

context	cname	sub fabric	form type	sherds	vessels	weight	decoration	part	description	date
500	ENGS		?	1	1	2		BS		19th to 20th
500	ENGS		jar	1	1	14		base		19th to 20th
500	NOTS		jar ?	1	1	12		BS		late 17th to 19th
500	NOTS		jar ?	1	1	7		rim		late 17th to 19th
500	NOTS		hollow	1	1	2		BS		late 17th to 19th
500	NOTS		bowl	1	1	18		rim		late 17th to 19th
500	NOTS		colander ?	1	1	3		BS	perforated	late 17th to 19th
500	SLIP		bowl ?	1	1	3		rim		18th
500	BL		large bowl	1	1	69		rim		late 17th to 19th
500	GRE		bowl ?	1	1	6		BS		17th to 18th
500	CREA		dish	1	1	5		BS		late 18th to 19th

context	cname	sub fabric	form type	sherds	vessels	weight	decoration	part	description	date
500	LSWA		bowl/jar	1	1	5		BS	int glaze	14th to 15th
500	SLIP		large bowl	1	1	24		BS		18th to 19th
500	TORK		jar	1	1	21		BS	? ID;oxid ext surf	11th
500	BL		hollow	1	1	7		BS		late 17th to 18th
500	MAX	E	jar/bowl	1	1	61		BS	soot ext & part int	late 7th to mid 9th
500	MAX	E	jar/bowl	2	1	39		base		late 7th to mid 9th
500	MAX	B	?	1	1	5		BS		late 7th to mid 9th
500	BERTH		bowl ?	1	1	7		BS		17th to 18th
500	WHITE		plate	2	2	3		rim		19th to 20th
500	BL		large bowl	1	1	114		rim		18th to 19th
500	BL		hollow	1	1	4		BS		late 17th to 18th
500	TPW		dish	1	1	27		BS		19th to 20th
500	TPW		plate	4	1	6		rim		19th to 20th
500	TPW		plate	1	1	2		rim		19th to 20th
500	TPW		flat	1	1	5		BS		19th to 20th
500	WHITE		?	2	2	4	sponged	BS		19th
500	CREA		?	1	1	6		base		late 18th to 19th
500	TPW		cup ?	1	1	1		BS		19th to 20th
500	CREA		dish	1	1	2		rim		late 18th to 19th
500	WHITE		plate	1	1	9		base		19th to 20th
500	WHITE		?	3	3	18		base		19th to 20th

context	cname	sub fabric	form type	sherds	vessels	weight	decoration	part	description	date
500	WHITE		hollow	1	1	11		BS		19th to 20th
500	WHITE		cup ?	1	1	4		rim		19th to 20th
500	WHITE		mug ?	1	1	8		rim		19th to 20th
500	WHITE		?	1	1	12		handle		19th to 20th
500	LKT		bowl	1	1	11		rim	inturned rim	early/mid to late 10th
500	MAX	B	?	1	1	4		base		late 7th to mid 9th
500	TPW		bowl	1	1	5		rim		19th to 20th
500	MAX	E	?	1	1	4		BS	soot	late 7th to mid 9th
500	MAX	U.3	?	1	1	6		base		late 7th to mid 9th
500	MAX	E	lugged vessel	1	1	16		lug	rounded lug	late 7th to mid 9th
500	MAX	B	lugged vessel	1	1	8		lug		late 7th to mid 9th
500	MAX	B/E	small lugged vessel	1	1	5		rim	flat topped rim	late 7th to early 9th
500	NLFMS		jug	1	1	5		BS	reduced glaze; very abraded	13th to 14th
500	MAX	B	?	1	1	7		base	soot	late 7th to mid 9th
501	TOY		jug/jar	1	1	12		BS	abraded	late 13th to 15th
501	BL		cup	1	1	7		BS	Staffs	late 17th to 18th
501	WHITE		hollow	1	1	7		base		19th to 20th
501	WHITE		plate	1	1	3		BS	flake	19th to 20th
501	SLIP		dish	1	1	14		BS	red body white slip	late 18th to 19th
501	BL		?	1	1	6		BS		late 17th to 18th

context	cname	sub fabric	form type	sherds	vessels	weight	decoration	part	description	date
501	ST	G	jar/pitcher	1	1	3		BS	glaze	11th
501	BL		cup ?	1	1	2		BS		late 17th to 18th
501	NOTS		hollow	1	1	15	beaded	BS	grey int	19th
501	LSW2		small jug	1	1	7		BS	abraded;cu glaze;cuff rim	13th
501	TORK		jar	1	1	11		BS	abraded;soot	late 9th to mid/late 11th
501	NLFMS		jug/jar	2	1	17		BS	very abraded;? ID	13th to 14th
501	SLIP		?	1	1	4		BS	very abraded;? ID	18th
501	LSW2		jug/jar	1	1	3		BS	abraded	13th
501	MISC	light firing	?	1	1	7		BS	very abraded;no remaining surfaces	-
501	MEDLO	Mareham ?	jug	1	1	13		rim	abraded;cuff rim	13th
501	LKT		jar ?	1	1	4		BS	abraded	late 9th to late 10th
501	MAX	E	?	4	1	31		BS	thick int carbonised deposit	late 7th to mid 9th
501	MAX	U.4	?	1	1	7		BS	soot	late 7th to mid 9th
501	LKT		jar	1	1	42		base	abraded;soot from c10mm above basal angle	late 9th to late 10th
501	LKT		small jar	1	1	5		rim	abraded;EVERA3 rim	late 9th to late 10th
501	ENGS		jam/lard jar	1	1	10		BS		late 19th to mid 20th
501	POTT		jar	1	1	6		BS	soot	13th to 15th
501	NOTS		hollow	2	1	52	beaded	BS		18th to 19th
501	MAX	E	jar	1	1	11		BS	soot	late 7th to mid 9th
501	LSLOC	D	jar	1	1	5		BS	? ID;soot int & ext	late 9th to mid 10th
501	MAX	E	jar ?	1	1	1		BS	? ID;soot int & ext	late 7th to mid 9th

context	cname	sub fabric	form type	sherds	vessels	weight	decoration	part	description	date
501	LS/SNLS		jar	1	1	7		BS	abraded;soot	late 9th to early 10th or late 10th to mid/late 11
501	LERTH		plant pot	1	1	7		rim		late 18th to 20th
501	WHITE		bowl	1	1	8	sponged	rim		19th
501	LSH	E	?	1	1	7		BS	abraded	late 9th to late 10th
503	MAX	G	large vessel	10	1	436		base & BS	ext soot with strong demarkation line c15mm up from basal angle	late 7th to mid 9th
514	LFS/ELF		?	1	1	3		base	abraded;leached surfaces	9th to 11th

Ceramic Glossary

cname	full name	earliest date	latest date
BERTH	Brown glazed earthenware	1550	1800
BL	Black-glazed wares	1550	1750
CREA	Creamware	1770	1830
ENGS	Unspecified English Stoneware	1750	1900
GRE	Glazed Red Earthenware	1500	1650
LERTH	Late earthenwares	1750	1900
LFS/ELFS	Lincolnshire Fine-shelled or Early Fine-shelled	780	1200
LKT	Lincoln kiln-type shelly ware	850	1000
LS/SNLS	Late Saxon/Saxo-Norman Lincoln Sandy ware	850	1050
LSH	Lincoln shelly ware	850	1000
LSLOC	Late Saxon Local Fabrics	850	1050
LSW2	13th to 14th century Lincoln Glazed Ware	1200	1320
LSWA	Lincoln Glazed ware Fabric A	1100	1500
MAX	Northern Maxey-type ware	680	870
MEDLOC	Medieval local fabrics	1150	1450
MISC	Unidentified types	400	1900
NLFMSW	North Lincolnshire Fine to Medium Sandy ware	1150	1450
NOTS	Nottingham stoneware	1690	1900
POTT	Potterhanworth-type Ware	1250	1500
SLIP	Unidentified slipware	1650	1750
ST	Stamford Ware	970	1200
TORK	Torksey ware	850	1100
TOY	Toynton Medieval Ware	1250	1450
TPW	Transfer printed ware	1770	1900
WHITE	Modern whiteware	1850	1900

THE FIGURES

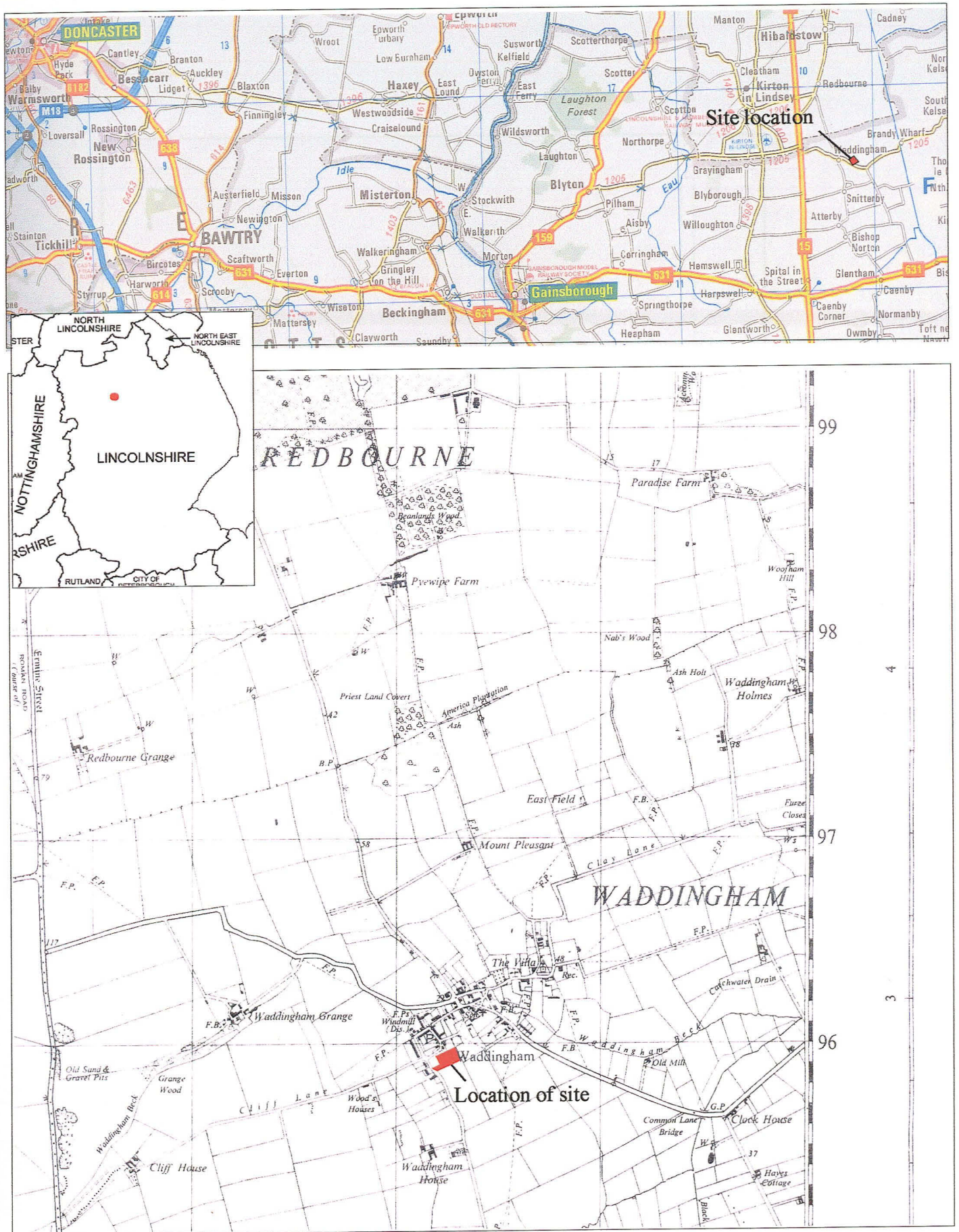


Fig. 1 Location of Waddingham (c based on the 1953 1:25,000 Ordnance Survey map, Sheet SK 99).

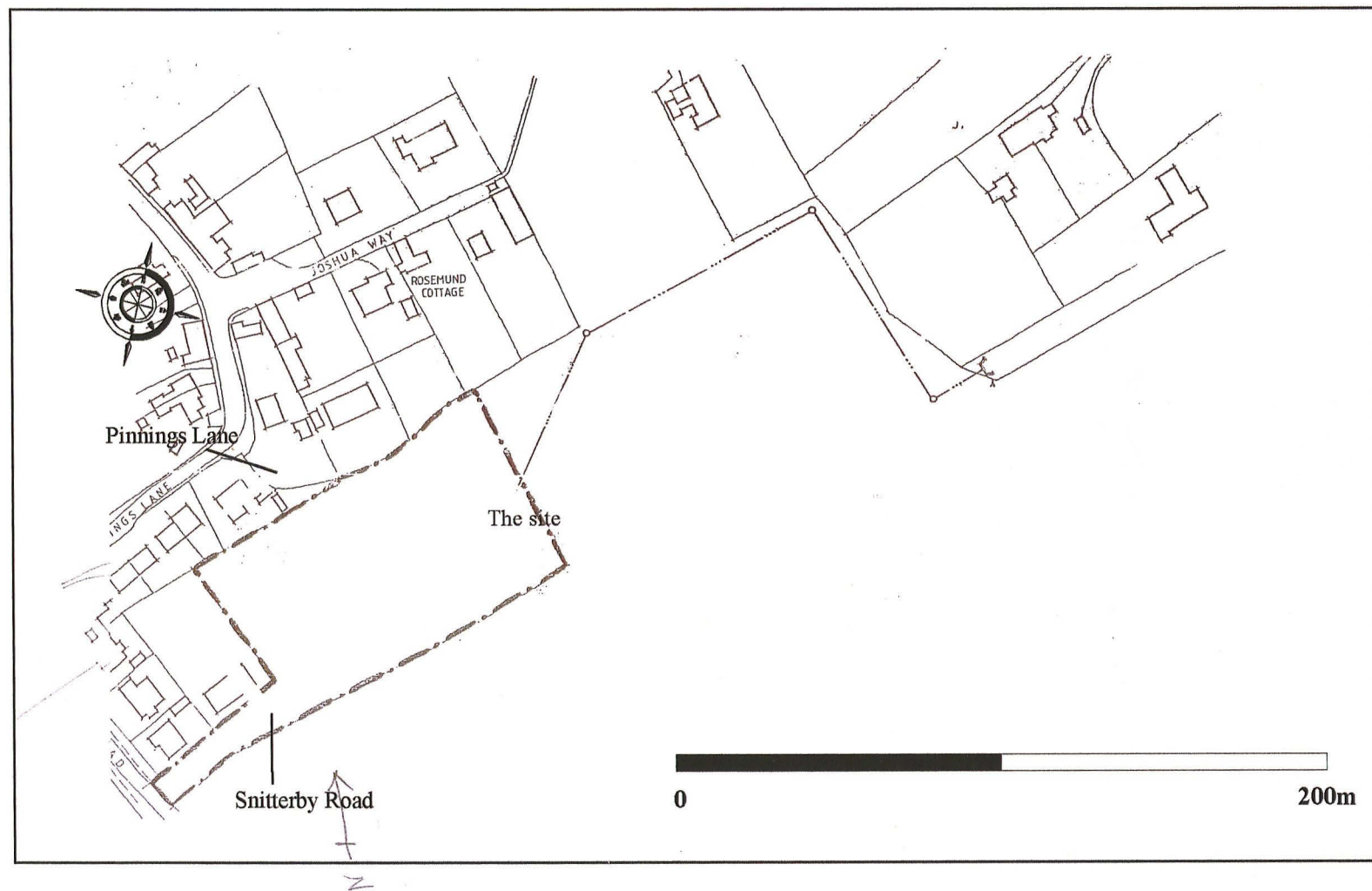


Fig. 2 Location of the monitored development (based on a plan supplied by the client).

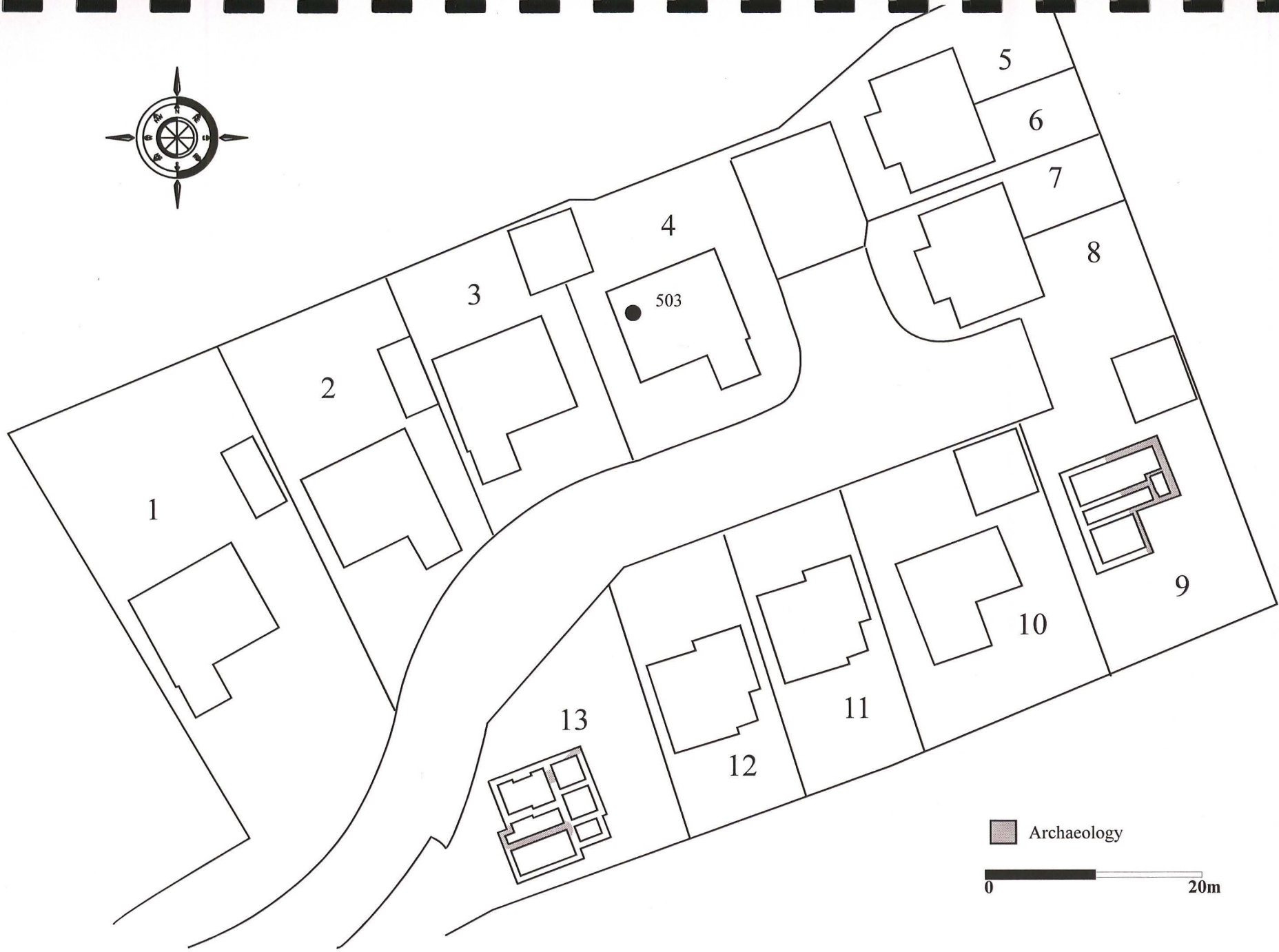


Fig. 3 Layout of the new house plots, showing the positions of some archaeological features (McDaid, after Marshall, Tann and Young; based on a plan supplied by the client).

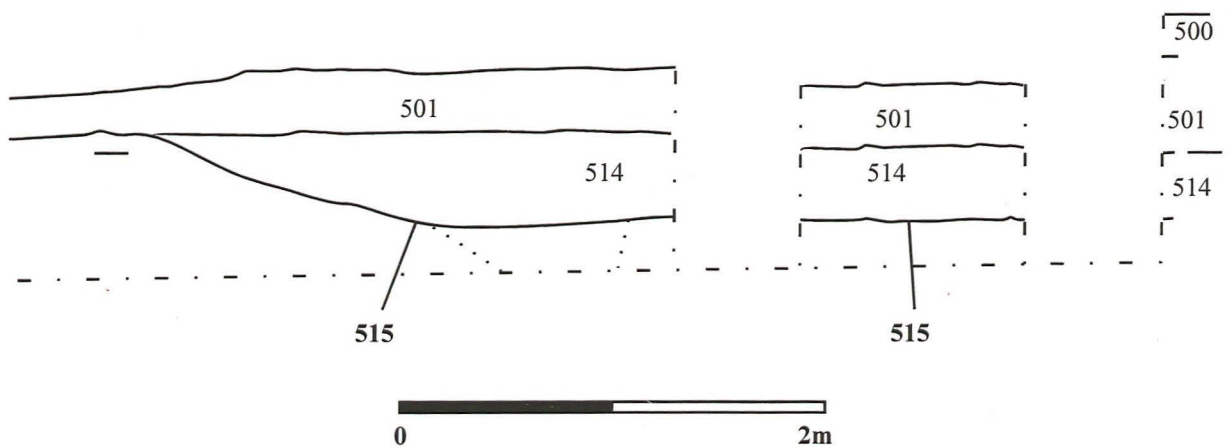
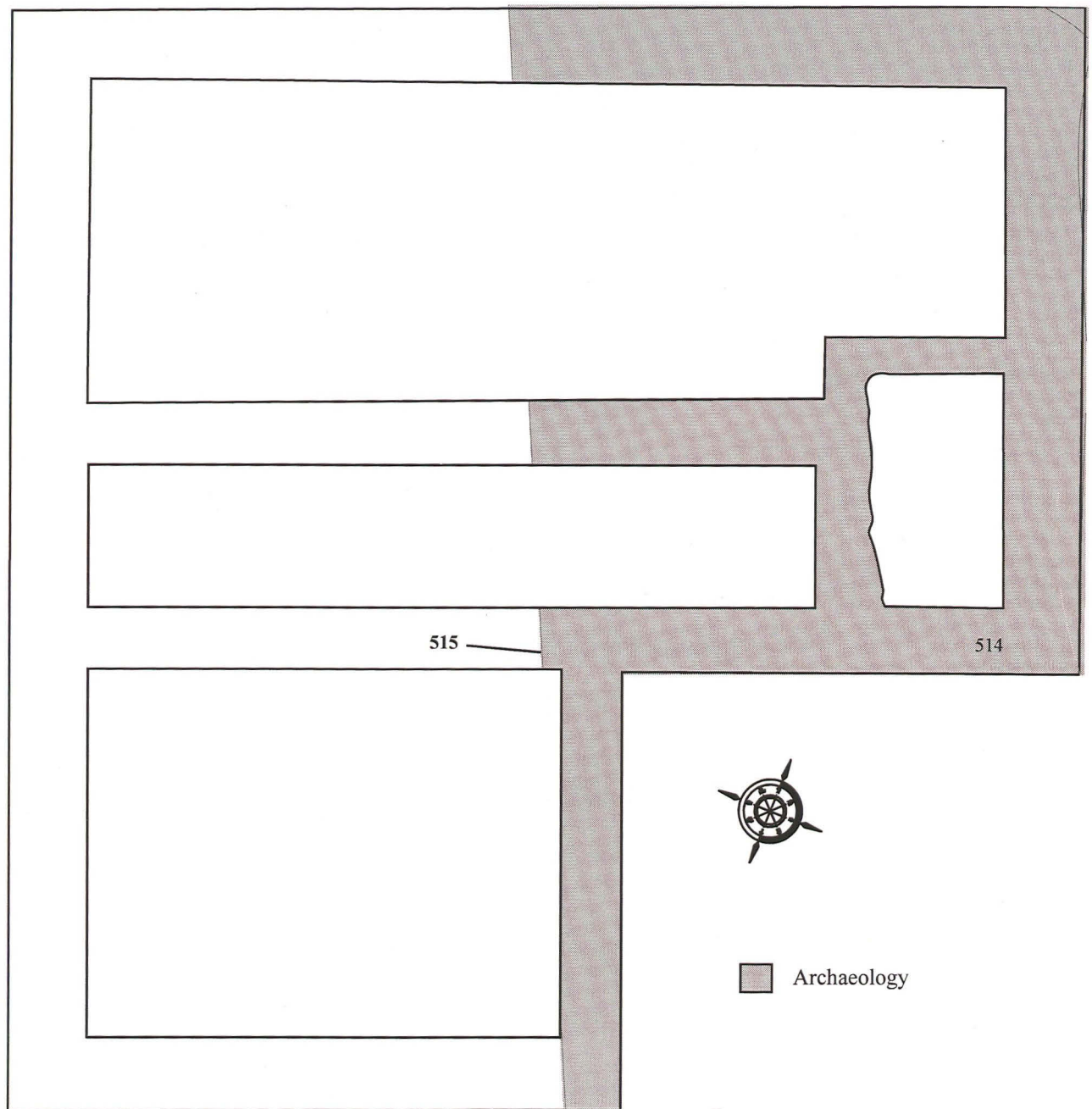


Fig. 4a Plan of the foundation trenches, Plot 9, showing the position of ditch 515.

4b Section across deposits filling ditch 515. (McDaid, after Tann).

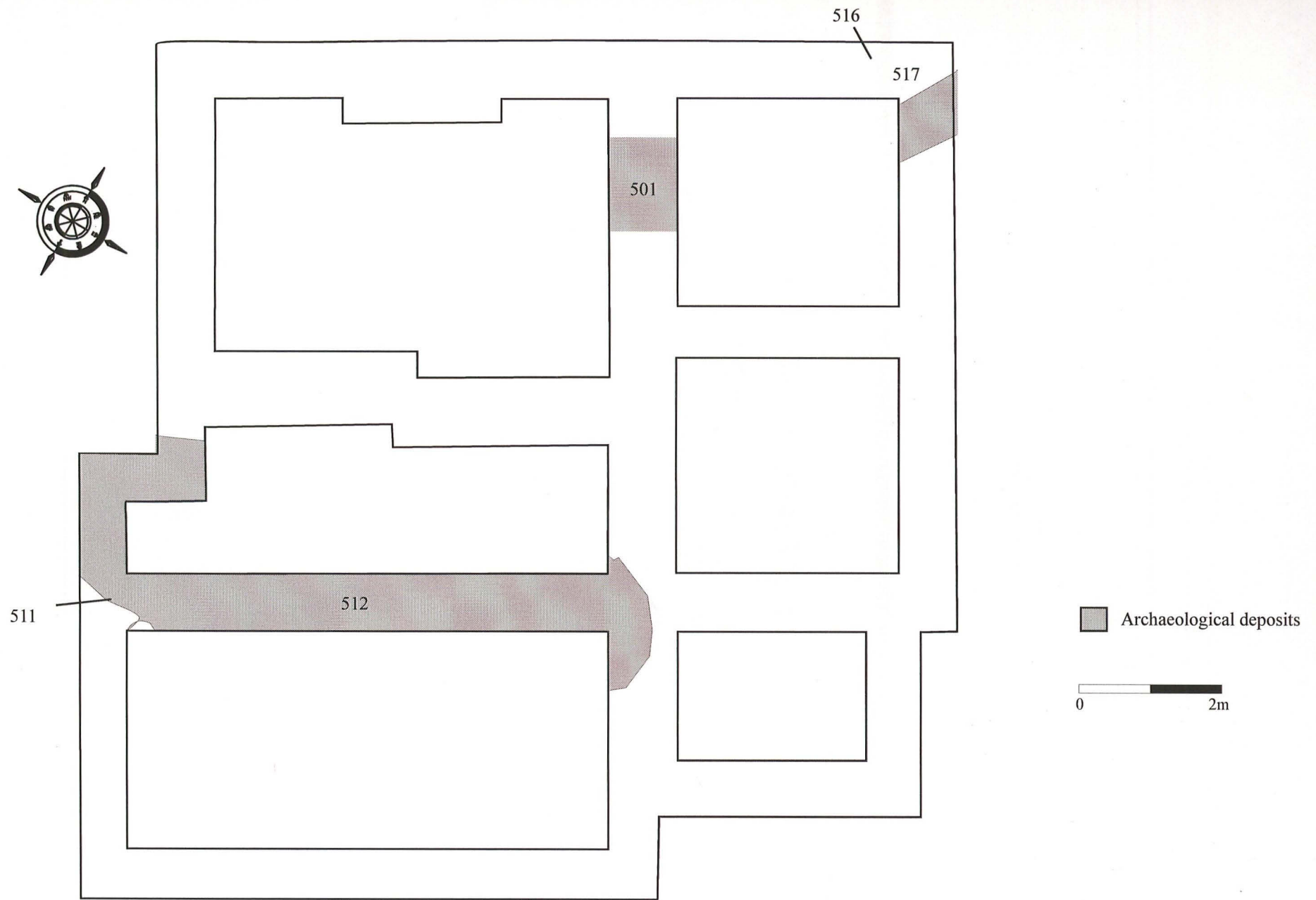


Fig. 5 Plan of the foundation trenches, Plot 13, showing the position of identified features.
(McDaid, after Young).

THE PLATES



PI. 1 Plot 1, prior to excavation of the foundation trenches. The plot had been raised with redeposited material and the development site had been stripped of topsoil (looking north to Pinnings Lane).



PI. 2 Ground conditions across the eastern side of the development site when the watching



PI. 3 Pottery sherds *in situ* on the stripped ground surface at 503 (Plot 4) (scales 0.2m and 0.5m).



PI. 4 Copper alloy *, as found on the stripped surface, Plots 7-8.



PI. 5 Western edge of ditch 515 (Plot 9), looking east.



PI. 6 Plot 9, showing the eastern field boundary (centre right) and the offset junction of fields (top right). Looking north past Plots 7-8.