

EL HER

MS/S



LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

**21-25 St Catherines, Lincoln
Archaeological Evaluation**

NGR: SK 98200 71883 SK 97120 69495
Planning Application No. 2004/0434/F

Site Code: LISC 04
LCNCC: 2004-246

**Report
for
Allbrite Homes Ltd**

**By
Naomi Field and Mick McDaid**

LAS Report 813
May - April 2005

25 WEST PARADE · LINCOLN · LN1 1NW
TELEPHONE 01522 544554 · FACSIMILE 01522 522211 · EMAIL las@linarch.co.uk

Lindsey Archaeological Services LLP Registered in England and Wales No. OC304247
Registered address 25 West Parade · Lincoln · LN1 1NW

VAT Registration No. 819 8029 41

EVENTS LI 6180
LI 6183

SOURCE LI 10207
LI 10208

PRN - 70401 Mediewd

Contents

List of Figures and Plates

Summary	1
Introduction	1
Site Description	1
Planning Background	1
Archaeological Background	2
Aims and Objectives	2
Method	3
Results	3
Building Inspection	4
Discussion	5
Conclusion	5
Contents of Site Archive	6
Deposit Model	6

Appendix 1 Context Summary

Appendix 2 The Pottery Archive (J. Young)

Appendix 3 The Tile Archive (J. Young)

Figures

Plates



List of Plates

- Pl. 1 Location of the evaluation trench at 21 – 25 St Catherines, Lincoln.
- Pl. 2 Scoops 103 and 105 cutting into crushed limestone 107 with limestone fragments 108 to left of ranging pole and scoops. Looking north. Scale 2m.
- Pl. 3 Slot through crushed limestone 107 exposing layer 109 beneath. Pit 116 is in the south-east corner of the trench. Looking south-east. Horizontal scale 2m, vertical scale 0.50m.
- Pl. 4 Limestone rubble 110 with pit 115 to the south-west. Looking north-east. Horizontal scale 2m, vertical scale 0.50m.
- Pl. 5 General view of trench. Limestone rubble 110 cut by later features (113, 116, 118 and 120). Looking north-west. Horizontal scale 2m, vertical scale 0.50m.
- Pl. 6 West facing section through central deposits including pit 113 which cuts 110. Horizontal scale 0.50m, vertical scale 0.30m.
- Pl. 7 Interior of 21 St Catherines. Modern 'feature' pillar incorporating a pillar capital possibly of 12th century date. Scale 0.50m.
- Pl. 8 Side view of the conservatory pillar. Scale 0.50m.
- Pl. 9 Detail of pillar 'capital' in conservatory.
- Pl. 10 Modern arch constructed with reused architectural fragments. Scale 0.50m.
- Pl. 11 Pier 1, in front garden of 21 St Catherines incorporating re-used masonry.
- Pl. 12 Detail of pier 1 showing chamfered blocks in south face.
- Pl. 13 Detail of pier 1 showing moulded limestone block close to the top of the column (right hand side).
- Pl. 14 Pier 2 at rear of 21 St Catherines incorporating re-used masonry.
- Pl. 15 Detail of pier 2 showing chamfered corner block on the top of the pier (upside down), looking north west.

List of Figures

Fig.1 Location of 21-25 St Catherines, Lincoln (inset C based on the Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 Landranger map Sheet 121. Crown Copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence no. AL 100002165).

Fig. 2 21 - 15 St Catherines showing the trench location.

Fig. 3 Section and plans of the evaluation trench.

**21-25 St Catherine's, Lincoln
Archaeological Evaluation
NGR: SK 98200 71883
Planning Application No. 2004/0434/F
Conservation Area Consent 2004/0435/CAC
Site Code: LISC 04
LCNCC Accn No.: 2004.246**

Summary

Evaluation trenching at 21-25 St Catherines has established that archaeological deposits were present 0.40m (22.20m OD) below the present ground level. Pits cut into all archaeological horizons and two crushed limestone surfaces were recorded. It was unclear whether they belonged to internal floor or external yard surfaces or, alternatively, they may have been demolition layers.

Medieval masonry has been incorporated into modern features in the conservatory of no 21 St Catherines. Further pieces were found in two modern piers in the driveway to the north of the building. The cellars have removed deposits below the level of the natural soil found in the evaluation trench which indicates that the impact of the development will be limited to the driveway area of the site. Any foundations or service trenches which are deeper than 0.40m below existing ground levels may disturb archaeological horizons.

Introduction

Lindsey Archaeological Services LLP was commissioned by Allbrite Homes Ltd to undertake an evaluation at the above site in accordance with the brief set by Heritage Services Section, Department of Planning, Lincoln City Council dated September 27th 2004 and the general requirements set out in the *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* published by the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council (1998).

Site Description

The site is located on the west side of St Catherines, between nos. 19 and 27 St Catherines. To the west is the garden and house of 1a Colegrave Street, with a part of the site extending through to the pavement and carriageway of the south side of Colegrave Street. The site is currently occupied by 21-25 St Catherines, with a combination of grassed garden and tarmac car parking areas to the rear.

Planning Background

Conservation Area Consent was granted for the demolition of the existing terrace of late Victorian buildings. Planning permission was granted on September 1st 2004 for the construction of a three-storey block of flats for residential use, subject to a number of conditions including a

requirement for archaeological investigation of the site which states:-

No development, geotechnical investigation, site clearance or other enabling work shall take place on the site until details of the measures to be taken to evaluate, preserve and/or record the archaeological content of the site, which shall include a timescale for the investigation, have been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. All archaeological work shall thereafter proceed in accordance with the approved programme.

The site is located within the Conservation Area 4, St Catherines.

Archaeological Background

The site is in the St Catherine's area of Lincoln where the medieval priory and later Elizabethan house were located. The Priory, incorporating St Sepulchre's Hospital, was founded by Bishop Chesney in 1147 and occupied land south of Sincil Dyke to a point beyond the foot of Cross O'Cliff Rd. The precise location and layout of buildings is not known but human burials and building fragments have been recorded.

The Priory lands were granted to the Duke of Suffolk after the Dissolution who sold them to Vincent and Thomas Grantham in 1540. A substantial residence was then established. The artist Buck recorded a sketch of the residence. A 1779 map by Armstrong records the residence as ruins.

A sewage trench dug in 1920 along St Catherine's Road revealed a stone coffin at a depth of about 3-4 ft, which may be connected with the St Katherine's Priory. A watching brief south of the proposed development site, at Strut House, 35 St Catherines in 1993 during groundworks for an extension revealed disturbed human bones.

In 1991 during service trenching along St Catherine's Rd large limestone blocks and fragments were found approximately 0.30m below the road tarmac. It is possible that they were two walls, but no bonding material was visible. Some dressed stone - part of moulding was recovered from the spoil.

At 19 St Catherines next door to the site a foundation trench revealed a crushed limestone surface. Some large dressed stones were uncovered in British Gas service trenches in Colegrave Street, 1991. In the, now removed, bar of the St Catherines Hotel, 21 St Catherines, many stones originally from St Katherine's priory were recorded prior to its demolition in 1991. It was thought that there may be additional fragments present elsewhere in the building.

Aims and Objectives

In general terms the purpose of the evaluation were to

- establish the presence or absence, quality and extent of archaeological remains and their location within the development area
- gather sufficient information to enable an assessment of the potential significance of any archaeological remains to be made and the impact which development will have upon them
- enable an informed decision to be made regarding the future treatment of any archaeological remains and consider any appropriate mitigatory measures either in advance of and/or during development, which may include further excavation
- provide information for accession to the County SMR and the Lincoln UAD

Method

The new building will be constructed mainly within the footprint of the 19th century houses, except at the north end, where it will extend into what is now a driveway. 21 St Catherine's has a basement about 4m square under the front eastern room. There are also cellars beneath nos 23-5. The first stage of archaeological evaluation comprised a trench dug in the driveway north of 21, 5m east-west x 2m north-south, excavated to the top of significant archaeological deposits.

The tarmac was removed using a JCB to the top of the first recognisable archaeological horizon, using a toothless ditching bucket under archaeological supervision. Archaeological recording was carried out by a team of experienced archaeologists. The trench was then hand-cleaned to reveal features in plan.

Carefully selected cross-sections through the features were excavated to enable sufficient information about form, development date and stratigraphic relationships to be recorded without prejudice to more extensive investigations should these prove to be necessary.

A full written (single context) and photographic record was made of the site, to include site plans and section drawings at a scale of 1:20. A full photographic record will be made during the progress of the excavation to cover each feature together with general site shots. LAS operates a standard context recording system, developed by its staff over the past 20 years based on MOLAS and CAS models.

Results (Fig. 3)

The single trench was placed in the driveway north of 21-25 St Catherine's (Pl. 1). Tarmac and rubble hardcore 0.25m deep, **100**, containing medieval tile, sealed a 0.12m dark black brown silt with modern clinker, brick and limestone fragments, **101** (Pl. 2). Beneath was compact brown clay silt **102** which tapered towards the east end of the trench (Pl. 2).

An oval scoop, **103**, 1.04m x 0.70m x 0.07m, located at the western end of the trench, was sealed by **102** (Pl. 2). Filling the scoop was a light brown clay silt, **104**, which contained a fragment of 13th – 16th century tile and a sherd of 13th – 14th century Lincoln ware pottery. To the south-east of **103** was another similarly sized scoop, **105**, also filled with light brown clay silt, **106** (Pl. 2). These scoops cut a layer of cream yellow crushed limestone, **107**, which was up to 0.18m deep at the west end of the site (Pl. 2). Also at the west end of the trench was pale brown clay silt with limestone fragments, **108**, orientated north/south (Pl. 2).

Below **107** and **108** was a 0.20m layer of dark brown silt sand, **109**, containing a sherd of late 9th – mid 11th century pottery, a single sherd of glazed 12th century pottery, a late 13th – mid 14th century Lincoln Glazed ware sherd and a fragment of 13th – 16th century tile (Pls. 3 and 4). Cutting into **109** was a pit over 1.50m long, **116**, filled with a mixture of orange sand and dark brown silt, **117**, and two large limestone fragments close to the pits edge (Pl. 3). A similar piece of limestone was noted in possible posthole **120**, filled with dark brown silt, **121**.

Beneath **109** was a possible oval pit, **115**, 0.88m x 0.86m, unexcavated, filled with, **114**, a possible posthole, **118**, 0.40m in diameter, filled with dark brown sand silt, **119**, and a larger, pit, **113**, over 1.50m long, filled with dark brown sand silt and orange brown sand, **112** (Pl. 5). Sealed by these features was a layer of limestone rubble, **110**. A dark brown sand silt, **118**, appeared to be below **110** in the north-eastern corner of the trench. The earliest archaeological deposit sealed natural orange sand **111** (Pls 5 and 6).

Building Inspection

Section 6.9 of the Brief required that the standing building should be inspected internally before demolition to check for the presence of any reused architectural fragments. These were recorded photographically. Wallpaper and other cladding limited the visibility and the only pieces of reused masonry were seen in the conservatory on the ground floor at the rear of the building.

A single column or pillar had been built against the south wall of the room. It comprised a mixture of limestone rubble and reused architectural fragments. Most were undiagnostic but a large very worn decorated piece may be an arch capital of 12th century date (Pls. 7, 8 and 9).

Built against the south wall of the conservatory was a blind arcade in Saxon style. Again the majority of the stone was undiagnostic and comprised a mixture of rubble and worked stone. The central column of the other arcade possibly had a moulded stone but render/ cement covered too much of the stonework to allow any positive identification (Pl. 10).

The cellars beneath no. 21 were inspected but all the walls were papered and no evidence of old

stonework was visible. This area of the cellar was accessed via steps leading down to a French window approximately 0.85m below street level at the front of the property. At c.21.15m OD, the cellar floor lies below the level at which natural deposits were encountered in the evaluation trench to the north.

Exterior

In the driveway to the north of the building, close to the northern boundary of the site are two piers constructed using architectural fragments and rough pieces of limestone rubble. Pier 1 near the front of the property contains two chamfered blocks of unknown date and a moulded piece of frieze (Pls. 11, 12 and 13). Pier 2, to the rear of the house, contained a chamfered block, possible the top of an pillar (Pls. 14 and 15).

Discussion

The evaluation trench which was positioned in the only part of the site where the footprint of the new building lies outside the existing footprint, has established that modern deposits are present down to a depth of 0.40m (22.20mOD) below the tarmac. This coincides with the level OD on the street to the east, suggesting that ground has been raised, perhaps in the 19th century as part of the landscaping for the existing building. The uppermost archaeological horizon was layer **107** comprising crushed limestone. It was not clear from such a small trench whether this was a floor or yard surface or just a levelling deposit for construction of buildings now removed. Whether it is similar to, or the same as, the crushed limestone surface found at 19 St Catherine's is not known. It sealed a former ground surface, **109**, which had pottery finds of 13th – 16th century date. The associated pottery is of a date contemporary with the priory and the features recorded may be part of the priory complex. However, no walls or firm evidence for any buildings was found.

There are substantial numbers of architectural fragments which have been used both inside the building and out. Unfortunately, few have distinctive decoration which is diagnostic of date or function but there is every likelihood that they originate from the medieval Priory located close to the site. The stones have been bonded in cement-based mortar which is probably harder than the stonework. Dismantling of the material will probably be almost impossible without damage to the stones.

Conclusion

Most of the proposed new development will be constructed on the site of the existing building where cellars have removed any deposits which may have contained archaeological remains. The potential impact will be restricted to the narrow strip north of the present building if excavation is more than 0.40m below the present driveway surface.

Naomi Field and Mick McDaid

May 2005

Lindsey Archaeological
Services

Contents of Site Archive

Context sheets 22

Site drawings and section 2 x A3 sheets

Photographs 30

Deposit Model

MODT Modern ground surface 22.60-22.30m OD

LMEDT Top of late medieval deposits 22.20m

LMEDB bottom of late medieval deposits 21.80m OD (pits below this level)

Top of natural sand 21.80m OD

APPENDIX 1

APPENDIX 2

Pottery Archive 21-25 St. Catherines, Lincoln (LISC04)

Jane Young

context	cname	full name	form type	sherds	vessels	weight	part	description	date
104	LSW2/3	13th to 15th century Lincoln Glazed Ware	jug	1	1	6	BS		13th to 14th
109	TORKT	Torksey-type ware	jar ?	1	1	13	BS	abraded	late 9th to mid 11th
109	LOCC	Sparsely Glazed ware	jug	2	1	8	BS	soot	12th
109	LSW2/3	13th to 15th century Lincoln Glazed Ware	jug	1	1	12	rim	slightly cuffed rim	late 13th to mid 14th

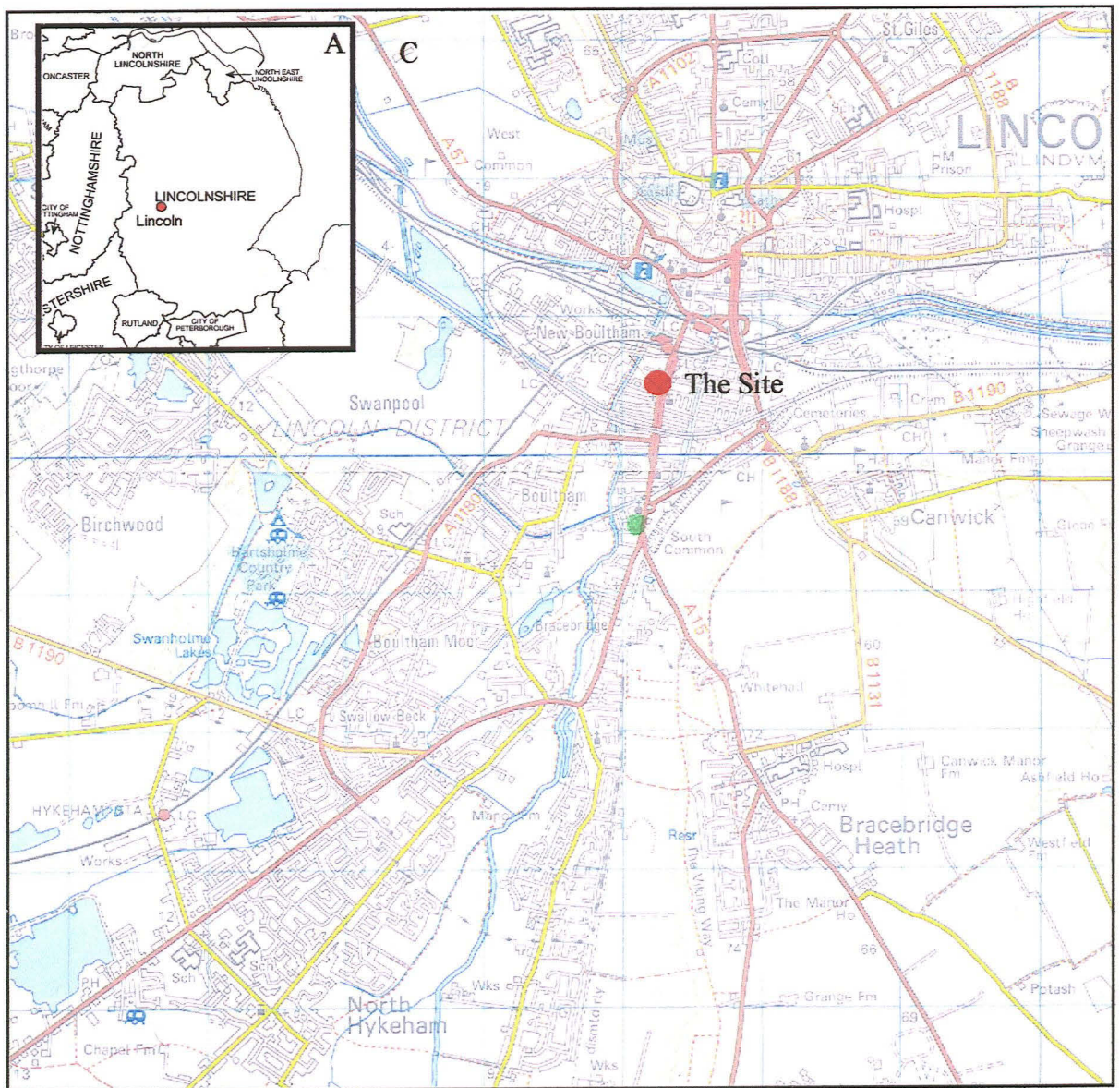
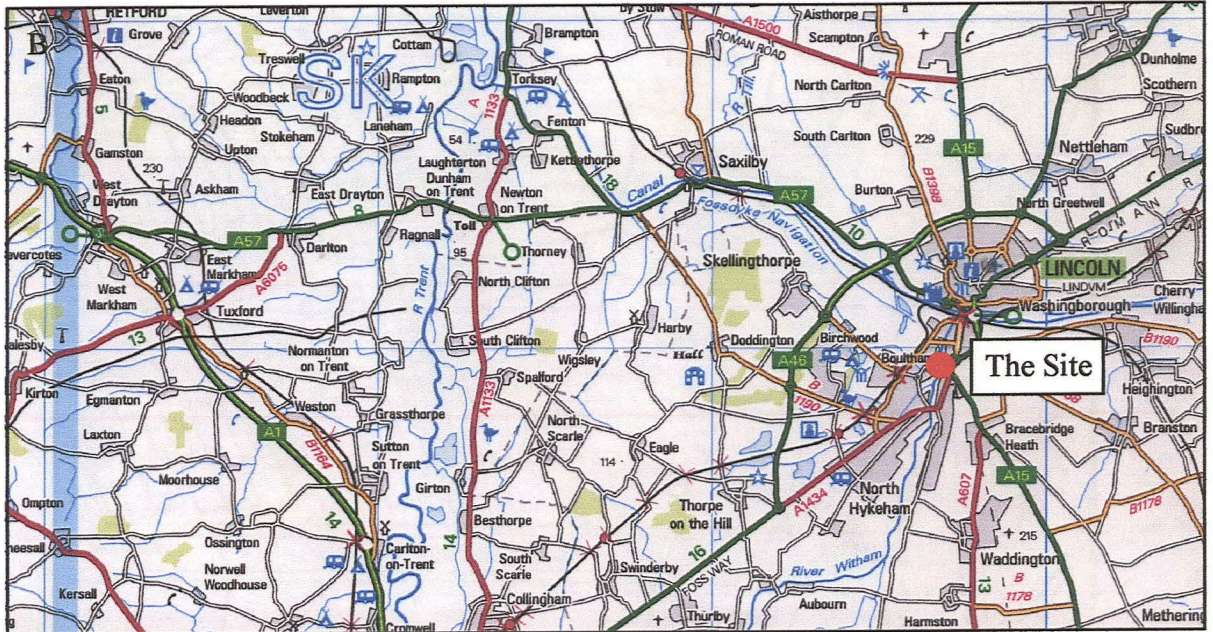
APPENDIX 3

Tile Archive 21-24 St. Catherines, Lincoln (LISC04)

Jane Young

context	cname	full name	fabric	sub type	frags	weight	description	date
100	NIB	nibbed tile	1	SF (moulded)	1	173	type sherd	13th to 14th ?
100	PNR	Peg, nib or ridge tile	1		1	29	flat roofer	13th to 16th
100	PNR	Peg, nib or ridge tile	7		1	75	flat roofer,mortar	mid 12th to early/mid 13th
104	PNR	Peg, nib or ridge tile	1		1	38	flat roofer,corner	13th to 16th
109	PNR	Peg, nib or ridge tile	1		1	25	flat roofer	13th to 16th

THE FIGURES



NB, site located wrongly
 Real location is marked by highlighter pen

Fig.1 Location of 21-25 St Catherine's, Lincoln (inset C based on the Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 Landranger map Sheet 121. Crown Copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence no. AL 10002165).

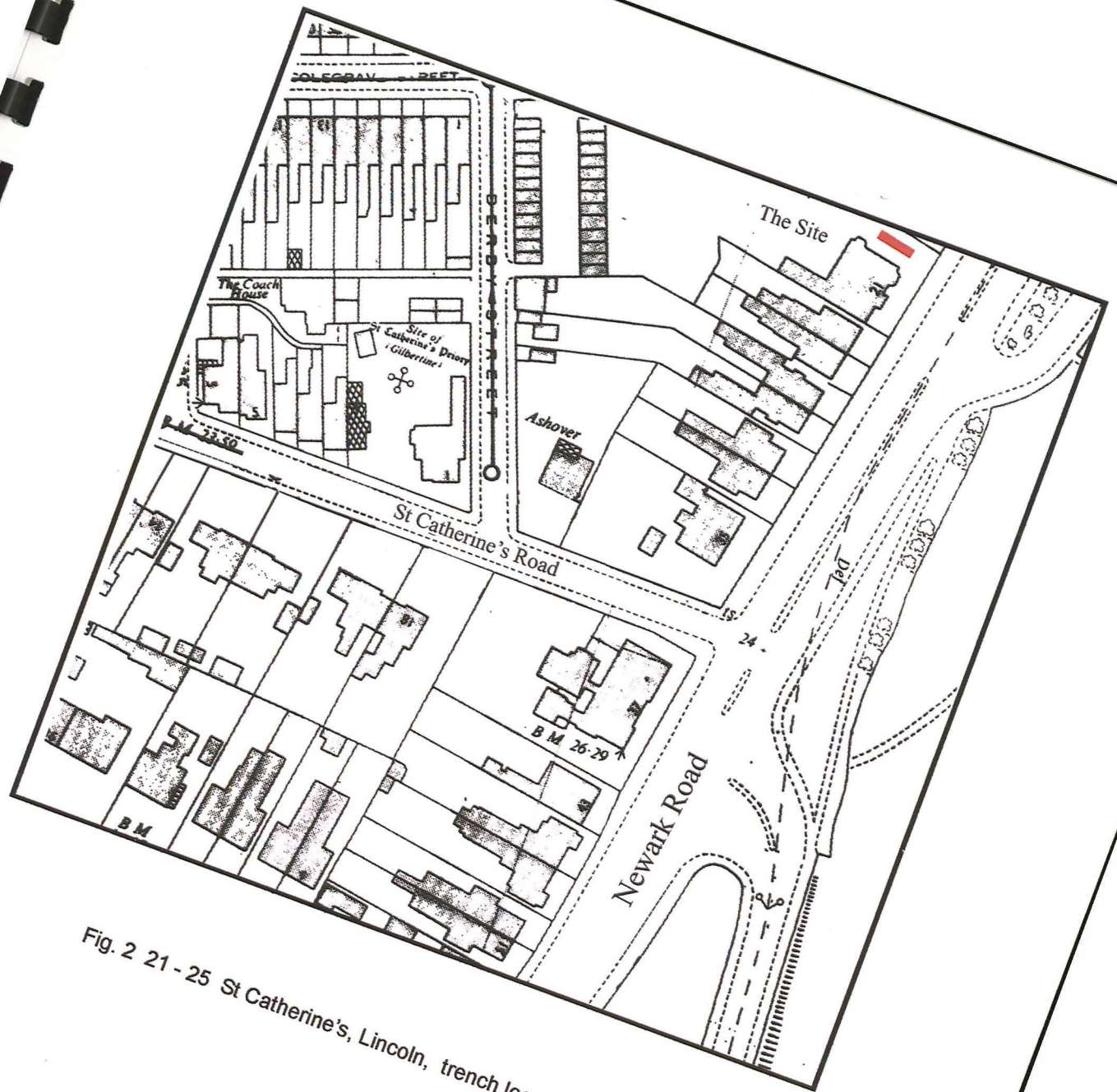


Fig. 2 21 - 25 St Catherine's, Lincoln, trench location.

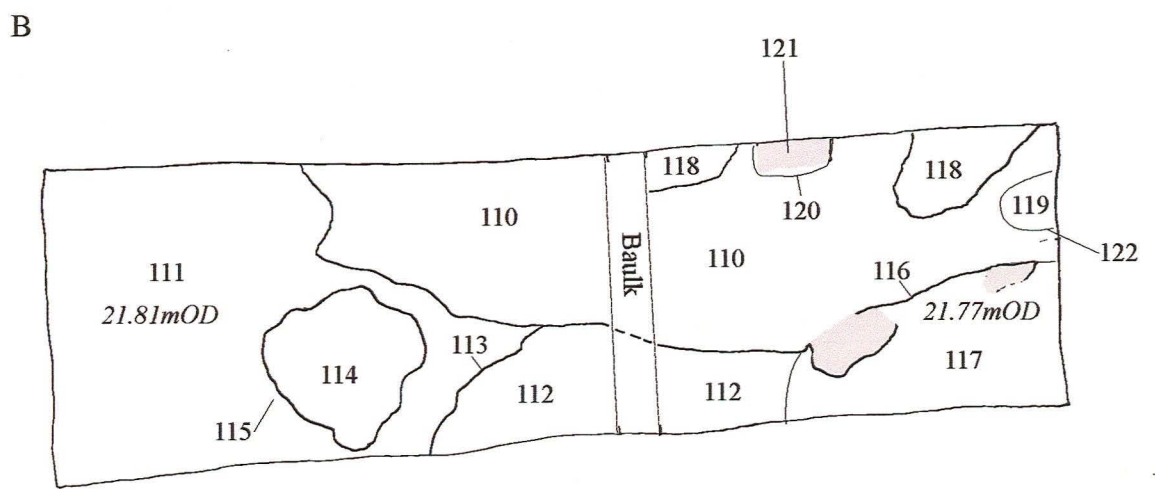
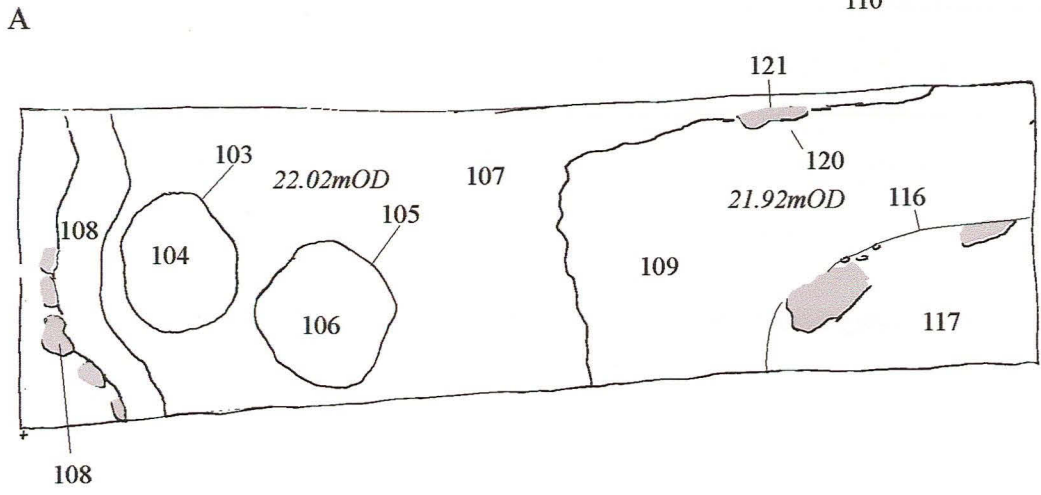
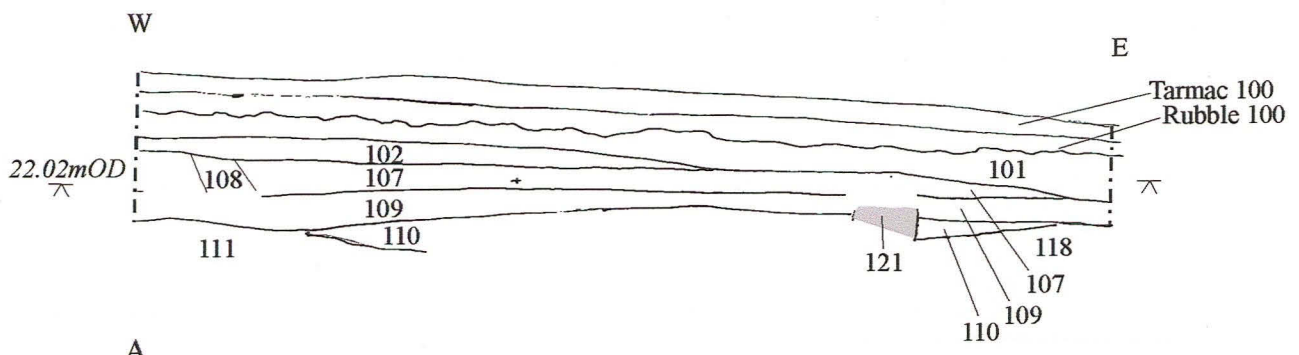


Fig. 3 21-25 St Catherines, Lincoln Evacuation trench. A) Section B) plan of later deposits and C) plan of earlier deposits.

THE PLATES



Pl. 1 21 – 25 St Catherines, Lincoln, trench location view looking east.



Pl. 2 Scoops 103 and 105 cutting into crushed limestone 107, with limestone fragments 108 to left of ranging pole and scoops. Looking north. Scale 2m.



Pl. 3 Slot through crushed limestone 107 exposing layer 109 beneath. Pit 116 is in the south-east corner of the trench. Looking south-east. Horizontal scale 2m, vertical scale 0.50m.



Pl. 4 Limestone rubble 110 with pit 115 to the south-west. Looking north-east. Horizontal scale 2m, vertical scale 0.50m.



Pl. 5 General view of trench. Limestone rubble 110 cut by later features (113, 116, 118 and 120). Looking north-west. Horizontal scale 2m, vertical scale 0.50m.



Pl. 6 West facing section through central deposits, including pit 113 which cuts 110. Horizontal scale 0.50m, vertical scale 0.30m



Pl. 7 25 St Catherines. Modern 'feature' pillar in conservatory incorporating pillar capital of possible 12th century date. Scale 0.50m.



Pl. 8 Side view of the conservatory pillar. Scale 0.50m.



Pl. 9 Detail of pillar capital in conservatory



Pl. 10 Modern 'arch' in conservatory constructed with reused architectural fragments. Scale 0.50m.



Pl. 11 Pier in front garden of 21 St Catherines incorporating re-used masonry.



Pl. 12 Detail of pier showing chamfered blocks on south face.



Pl. 13 Detail of pier 1 showing architectural fragment close to the top of the east face (right hand side).



Pl. 14 Pier 2 at rear of 21 St Catherines incorporating re-used masonry. West face.



Pl. 15 Detail of pier 2 showing possible column capital on top of the pier (upside down).
Looking northwest.