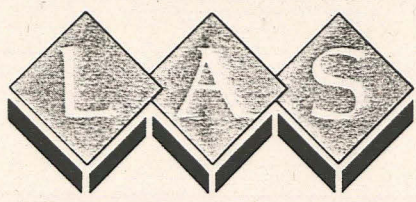


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LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

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Churchview, North Kelsey:

Archaeological Report on the Human Remains

NGR: TA 0438 0159

Site Code: **NKC 95**
LCNCC Museum Accn. No. **99.95**

Report prepared for Ramper Construction Ltd

November 1995

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Human Remains at Churchview, North Kelsey

NGR: TA 0438 0159

Site Code: NKC 95

LCNCC Museum Accn. No. 99.95

Summary

Human remains disturbed during excavation of replacement house foundation trenches were recorded and removed under the terms of a Home Office Licence. Skeletal remains of about 30 individuals of varied ages were present. The burials were in arranged west-east rows, and at least 3 intercutting phases were identified. The site is thought to be part of an extensive burial area probably formerly associated with the parish church, perhaps of late medieval date. The removed bones have been reinterred in South Kelsey churchyard. A robbed west-east mortared stone wall was found to have burials on either side, suggesting that it post-dated the burial ground. Two Anglo-Saxon pottery sherds in the robbing backfill indicate some local habitation, only to be expected in the heart of this village.

Introduction

'Churchview' is the eastern part of a semi-detached brick dwelling located at the junction of Halls Lane and Middle Street, 100m NW of the churchyard of St. Nicholas's Church, North Kelsey (Pls. 1 and 2). The house is of early 19th century date or earlier. An extension constructed on the northern side had been further extended this century to about 5.2m from the original wall (Pl. 3). Subsidence had occurred, creating a serious crack where the first extension had joined the existing building; the property owner submitted an insurance claim and reconstruction of the extensions was arranged.

During the excavation of deeper footings (up to 1.6m deep) for a more substantial foundation, a number of bones were noticed by the contractors in the 0.7m wide western trench. These were dismissed as unimportant until two clearly distinguishable human skulls were disturbed; at this point the police were informed and inspected the site. They informed the Coroner's Officer, and the Lincolnshire County Archaeologist made a site inspection on his behalf on Thursday 6th July 1995. Part of a further human skeleton was identified in the trench and the previous bones were found to be human. Work was then suspended.

The human remains were assessed to be in excess of 100 years old and the Archaeology Section undertook to obtain a Home Office Licence under section 25 of the 1857 Burial Act (no. 22334) to permit their removal. Lindsey Archaeological Services were asked by the Archaeology Section, on behalf of the Contractor (Ramper Construction Ltd), to remove the visible remains and monitor the remaining groundworks in case further human remains were revealed. All affected skeletal remains were to be removed in accordance with the Licence (Appendix 1) and appropriate disposal arrangements were to be made. Removal took place during the period July 10-12th. The unwashed

bones were examined by Mark Bennet (Appendix 3) and arrangements have been made for their reinterment in South Kelsey churchyard in January 1996.

The Fieldwork

The opened trench on the western side was found to have cut across an indeterminate number of west-east aligned graves at varying depths from about 0.4m below the existing ground surface but approximately positioned in rows. The bones which had been disturbed were collected (they represented about 5 individuals, including juveniles) but the removal of further skeletons was delayed until further trenching had taken place at the NW corner and northern wall. Additional burials were identified close to the NW corner, and 3 part skeletons were exposed in the northern face of the end wall trench. Disturbed human bones were identified in the moist stony backfill of a robbed stone wall foundation which lay slightly south of the end extension wall. It is conceivable that the second extension had differentially settled over this backfilled trench and that this had caused the subsidence. Trenching for the eastern wall rapidly located further burials, packed densely into the available space and comprising at least 3 (probably 4) phases of interment.

The new foundation trenches consisted of a western north-south trench, 0.7m wide, a northern west-east aligned trench and an eastern return trench. These linked with the northern wall of Churchview. The western trench was 1.6m deep, cut into sand. At its southern end, the trench abutted the 0.12m wide brick footing for the existing house wall. The eastern trench also abutted the part-width brick footing.

No detailed plans were made of the trench or of the burials, but sketches were drawn at intervals of all exposed remains which appeared to represent a single phase or level of burial. A pro-forma skeleton recording sheet was used to mark identifiable bones visible in each burial; not all bones were marked in this way. A photographic record was made of each burial or group of burials after partial cleaning and before the skeletal remains were lifted. A rapid section drawing was made of the external face of each foundation trench after the affected remains had been removed. Graves visible in these sections were correlated with numbered burial (where possible) as part of the post-excavation process. The drawn section face of the western and northern trenches were photographed with a series of overlapping frames in order to produce an additional record (Pls. 4-7).

All the burials were aligned approximately west-east, with the head to the west. It should be noted that the width of the western and eastern trenches was about 0.7m, which meant that only a part of each burial was exposed or affected by the works. Undisturbed bones from the burials were left in situ in the trench faces; the sections record these visible but unexcavated skeletons. The northern foundation trench coincided with the course of a backfilled wall robber-trench for much of its length, where the only human bones recovered were charnel, redeposited when the wall material was removed (Pl. 6). Further skeletons were found in soil north of the wall line; this implied that the

wall had not been built while this part of the burial ground remained in use (Pl. 7).

A total of at least 30 separate burials were recovered or seen in the three extension trenches. Only those bones affected by the building works were removed and it is certain that burials extend below Churchview, the new extension and all around the extension.

The northern foundation trench coincided with the course of a backfilled wall robber-trench for much of its length, where the only human bones recovered were charnel, redeposited when the wall material was removed (Pl. 6). A further skeleton was found near the eastern end of the trench, north of the wall line; this implied that the wall had not been built while this part of the burial ground remained in use (Pl. 7).

It appeared that the burials represented formal Christian burial over a period of at least 300 years although the nature of the burial ground is unknown. The graves were arranged (so they may have had temporary markers) and included adult males, females and infants. Some signs of common ailments or minor injuries during life have been detected from some of the skeletons (Appendix 3). It is unlikely to have been a monastic site and it certainly was not a short-lived burial plot for plague victims or criminals. Coffin nails were found in one grave and wood fragments survived in another; but no shroud pins or other artefacts were present. Arrangements have been made with the Revd. Cartwright (Rural Dean) for the re-interment of the remains (from 25 graves) within the present churchyard at South Kelsey as the churchyard at North Kelsey is now closed.

Discussion

The date of these burials could not be established from the evidence on site and detailed documentary research lay outside the scope of the commissioned work. Two sherds of Saxon pottery and 1 unglazed medieval sherd were found. Small fragments of fired clay were seen in the grave fills. No glazed medieval pottery or sherds from the early post-medieval period were found. The plot lies 100m from the present churchyard, separated by a sunken road junction (Pls. 2, 8 and 9). If it represents part of a previously much larger burial ground, further human remains could be found during any groundworks in the vicinity.

A rapid investigation of some documentary sources found evidence that human remains have been found outside the present churchyard at North Kelsey for some time. The County Sites and Monuments Record lists inhumation burials at NGR TA 0438 0159 (TA 00SW 'E') with references dating from 1932 to 1963, including a newspaper item in the Sheffield Daily Telegraph of April 28th 1932.

The SMR parish file contains a letter dated April 25th 1932 from a Mr. G. Wolstenholme, newly resident at Churchview. He described his recent skeletal find from a depth of 4 feet (1.22m), and added incidentally that

'bones can be found almost anywhere on either my garden or my neighbours [sic] which adjoins it... at a similar depth'. A local legend was recorded that it was a burial ground after a local battle of the early Britons and Danes.

An undated manuscript of a lecture on the History of North Kelsey, written by the Reverend. T.G. Dixon (Governor of Caistor Grammar School in 1908) mentioned the skeletons 'found behind the shop formerly Stepnall's' (Lincolnshire Archives, Dixon 11/6/8). In 1963 the Ordnance Survey Field Investigator noted that the then owner of the house stated that many more human remains, both adult and child, had been discovered. Broken clay tobacco pipes found apparently in association with the skeletons were thought to explain the burials as late 16th to early 17th century plague victims (SMR parish file).

The present investigations did not find similar evidence despite the number of graves excavated archaeologically. It would seem that the site was part of a long-established organised Christian burial ground with re-use of the space at intervals (assumed to be about 100 years). Burials may range across about 300 years within the small area examined: they do not represent mass interments and are very unlikely to represent burials of outcasts in unconsecrated land. From the minimal material evidence recovered, a late medieval date is suggested.

Acknowledgements

LAS would like to thank John Oughton (Ramper Construction Ltd) and the team on site for their co-operation and care to ensure compliance with the Home Office Licence requirements. The patience of the houseowner, Mrs. Brumby, was also appreciated.

Jane Logan (Secretary, Diocesan Advisory Committee) helped the author to excavate burials under pressure, thus reducing the delay to the building works. Ian George (Assistant County Archaeological Officer) obtained the Home Office Licence and an assessment of the removed skeletal remains was made by Mark Bennet. The pottery was examined by Jane Young (City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit).

Staff at The Lincolnshire Archives Office provided access to documentary records in their collection. Finds processing was by Mick McDaid; the report was collated and produced by Jane Frost.

Geoff Tann
Lindsey Archaeological Services
20th December 1995

Archive Summary

Sketch plans

Section drawings

Skeleton sheets

Archaeological Finds: pottery
fired clay

Specialists' archive lists (as above)

Report on the skeletal remains

Correspondence



Licence Number 22334

File Number BCR/95/5/6/1

LICENCE FOR THE REMOVAL OF HUMAN REMAINS

1. In virtue of the power vested in me by Section 25 of the Burial Act, 1857 (20 & 21 Vic., cap.81), I hereby grant Licence for the removal of the remains of persons unknown from the place in which they are now interred in the place formerly known as Halls Lane, North Kelsey.

2. It is a condition of this Licence that the following precautions shall be observed;

- a) The removal shall be effected with due care and attention to decency;
- b) The ground in which the remains are interred shall be screened from the public gaze while the work of removal is in progress;
- c) The remains, if of sufficient scientific interest shall be examined by a suitably qualified person under the arrangements of Ian George of Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section
- d) The remains shall, if of sufficient scientific interest, be conveyed to a museum for archival storage under the arrangements of the above, or they shall be conveyed to a place where burials may legally take place and there be reinterred.

3. This Licence merely exempts from the penalties which would be incurred if the removal took place without a Licence; it does not in any way alter civil rights. It does not confer the right to bury the remains in any place where such right does not already exist.

4. This Licence expires on the 11 July 1996

Michael Howard

HOME OFFICE
11 July 1995

One of Her Majesty's Principal
Secretaries of State

Appendix 2:

Descriptions of the Archaeological Features

Burial 1

Articulated and disturbed human skeleton (Pl. 10). Only the upper rib cage and upper arms of this skeleton were exposed within the trench. Arms apparently by sides. Grave cut 0.36m wide. Skeleton 0.65m below surface; 2 isolated bones 0.17m higher in east section, Cut by Pit 3, above Burial 2.

Burial 2

Upper rib cage and shoulder blades of disturbed, articulated skeleton (Pl. 11). 0.26m wide. Skeleton 0.65m below surface. Beneath Burial 1, cut by Pit 3 and Wall trench 4.

Pit 3

An irregular sub-circular feature had cut through the earlier Burial 1 and Burial 2. There was no relationship with Wall Trench 4. Two sherds of post-medieval pottery were found in the fill. This feature may have been a large post-hole.

Wall Trench 4

The southern side of a broad west-east aligned feature occupied most of the northern foundation trench and extended either side of the present extension (Pl. 12). A shallow ledge on the side, 0.15m wide, had cut through graves (including Burial 2) and the disturbed charnel was redeposited within its fill. A deeper cut, greater than 0.75m wide, lay beside the ledge. This contained a fill incorporating stone fragments and mortar; 1 sherd of pottery was recovered.

Burial 5

Arms by side; rib cage and upper arms present in trench (Pls. 13 and 14). Beneath Burials 1 and 2; bones 0.76m below modern ground surface; width of skeleton 0.36m north-south. Possibly cut by Pit 3; seals Burial 6.

Burial 6

Skull, left upper arm, both hands (Pls. 14-16). Jaw turned towards south; hands clasped on south side. Grave width 0.5m and at least 0.5m deep; skeleton 1.1m below modern surface. Beneath Burials 1, 2 and 5. Three fragments of fired clay were found in the backfill of this grave.

Burial 7

Grave to south of Burial 6, earlier than Burials 5 and 8 (Pl. 17). Two arm bones in west trench section, others removed by machine. Bones 1.1m below surface; grave cut probably contemporary with Burial 6. Traces of decayed wood at the grave base, thought to indicate a decomposed coffin. Grave width 0.65m. One piece of fired clay was found in the backfill of this grave.

Burial 8

Burial located in western trench, disturbed by contractors before archaeological intervention. Later than Burial 7.

Burial 9

Lower arms, hands, pelvis and upper legs (Pl. 18). Lying on back with hands crossed over groin. Skeleton 0.35m wide and 0.35m below modern surface. Probably cut by foundation trench for *Churchview*.

Burial 10

Base of spine, part of pelvis and both legs (Pl. 18). 0.4m below surface; 0.3m wide.

Test Pit 11

Narrow very recent west-east cut, 0.6m deep (Pl. 18). Fill contained human skull fragments and unrotted grass. Associated with continuing building works.

Burial 12

North of Burial 10; partly removed by Test Pit 11 (Pl. 18). Part of legs, most of left leg.
Skeleton 0.35m below surface, and 0.3m wide.

Burial 13

Midway between Burial 9 and Burial 10, in the centre of the east trench (Pl. 18). Finger bones 0.4m below surface.

Grave 14

Later than Burial 15.

Burial 15

Small bones (?infant) of lower rib cage, lower spine, pelvis and left leg (Pl. 19). Skeleton at slight slant NW-SE. Apparently cut by Burial 14 and Burial 16. Skeleton 0.75m deep.

Burial 16

Lower legs only; upper right leg splayed (Pl. 19). Skeleton 0.7m deep, 0.2m wide. Cut into brown fill of lower grave (Burial 18).

Burial 17

Fragment of human jaw 0.45m north of Burial 16. May be part of burial beyond trench to east.

Burial 18

Lower legs only, beneath Burial 16 (Pl. 20). Skeleton 0.8m deep, cut into yellow clay loam. Burial 0.16m wide.

Burial 19

Hands, upper right arm, lower rib cage and base of spine, no pelvis but part of upper right leg (Pl. 21). Hands together over groin. Skeleton 0.85m below surface, disturbed by the machine.

Burial 20

Jaw, rib cage, lower arms and hands (all fingers disturbed), most of spine, pelvis, part of upper legs (Pl. 22). Probably an adult. Laid on back, hands together over groin. Skeleton 0.8m deep, 0.35m wide. Disturbed femur found by ears.

Grave 21

Empty eastern end of grave, cut by Burial 20 (Pl. 22). Shallow surviving cut (0.06m deep), 0.4m wide, base 0.95m below surface.

Burial 22

Lower rib cage, spine, hands, lower arms, fused pelvis and parts of upper legs. Hands together over groin. Skeleton 0.85m deep, 0.4m wide (1m north of house wall, 1m south of Burial 21 (Pl. 23).

Cut 23

Rounded west end of unknown feature, perhaps a grave, protruding 0.3m into trench (Pl. 23). 0.8m wide; 1.6m north of wall to Churchview. Base of feature 1.2m below surface.

Appendix 3

A Palaeopathological Report
on the Human Remains from
Halls Lane, North Kelsey

by

Mark R Bennet BA(*Hons*) MPhil

SUMMARY

The bones from North Kelsey were not examined in great detail, all bones were identified where possible and obvious incidences of trauma, disease or genetic abnormality were noted. Where possible the bodies or separate bones were aged and sexed. Only the most basic measurements were taken and a stature was calculated using those long bones that survived in good enough condition. The formulae used to determine stature are from D R Brothwell *Digging up Bones*, 3rd edition, Oxford (1981), page 101.

It should be noted that the bones were unwashed and therefore some of the more subtle palaeopathological evidence may have been overlooked.

Including the unstratified bones and all the burials there was a minimum of twenty-eight individuals present. If the trenches are considered as separate discrete contexts then there was a minimum of thirty-four individuals present.

Summary of burials

Burial 1

An adult male aged over forty at death who stood some 180cms (six feet one and a half inches) tall when alive. He suffered from some back pain from damage to the bones in his spine probably caused by a working life of incessant hard manual labour.

Burial 2

An adult, few of whose bones were recovered.

Burial 5

An adult, who stood about 164cms (five feet seven inches) tall when alive.

Burial 6

An adult female aged more than forty-five at death. She probably had a rather sickly childhood and she suffered with bad teeth towards the end of her life, not helped by her poor oral hygiene.

Burial 7

An adult, few of whose bones were recovered.

Burial 8

An adult, few of whose bones were recovered.

Burial 9

An adult male over fifty years old at death, he stood some 176cms (six feet) tall when alive.

Burial 10

An adult male who suffered from osteoarthritis in the right wrist. He stood about 166cms (five feet seven and a half inches) tall when alive.

Burial 11

An adult, few of whose bones were recovered.

Burial 12

An adult, who may well have suffered from osteoarthritis.

Burial 13

An adult, few of whose bones were recovered.

Burial 15

A child aged about four at death.

Burial 16

An adult, few of whose bones were recovered, but stood some 163cms (five feet six and a half inches) tall when alive.

Burial 18

An adult who may well have pulled a calf muscle at sometime during their life. They stood about 165cms (five feet and seven inches) tall when alive.

Burial 19

An adult who was about 174cms (five feet eleven inches) tall when alive.

Burial 20

An adult male aged over forty at death.

Burial 22

An adult female who suffered from osteoarthritis. She had given birth quite possibly on several occasions.

Mark Bennet
18 December 1995

THE BONES FROM NORTH KELSEY

The bones are listed from head to toe within each context.

GENERAL UNSTRATIFIED

All adult unless otherwise stated

Thirteen fragments of skull vault

Two fragments of humerus

A fragment of humerus shaft

Child

The proximal end and shaft of a right ulna

A left fifth metacarpal

A left second metacarpal

A further metacarpal

Nineteen ribs or rib fragments

The right first rib had a healed fracture at the distal end. One further rib had some extensive bone growth at the distal end, perhaps the result of an injury to the costal cartilage.

An atlas vertebra

The body of a cervical vertebra

There was some boney lipping on the vertebral body.

Five thoracic vertebrae

There was much boney lipping on the vertebral bodies and on the facets. Some of the rib facets were worn and deformed through bone growth around the facets. One of the vertebra had extremely pronounced lipping on the inferior facets, with severe eburnation.

One lumbar vertebra

There were some osteophytes on the edge of the vertebral body.

One fragment of a fibula

Three unidentified long bone fragments

Additional finds and bones

Four animal bones

One fragment of clay-pipe stem

One shell fragment

NORTH WALL TRENCH

All adult unless otherwise stated

One rib fragment

One sacrum fragment

Parts of a left pelvis

Female

The left ischium and pubic bone, with some parturition scars.

The proximal end and shaft of a left femur. *Probably female*

A fragment of tibia shaft.

A fibula.

EAST TRENCH

All adult unless otherwise stated

Eleven pieces of skull.

Adult aged over forty

This included part of the left side of the maxilla with the palate. The second and third molars were present and the well worn second molar suggests an age above forty. The first molar had been lost *post mortem*.

A fragment of mandible.

A fragment of right femur shaft.

Right patella.

Right talus.

Right first metatarsal.

One unidentified fragment.

WEST TRENCH

All adult unless otherwise stated

Skull vault, including most of the maxilla

Male aged over forty-five

Occipital, parts of both parietal and both temporal bones.

The left first molar had been worn to the root. There were two abscesses in the maxilla above the labial roots of this first molar, one of them had burst through the inner bone wall into the sinuses.

The right third molar was lost *ante mortem*. The right second premolar had cavities at the mesial and distal neck. There was considerable alveolar resorption of the jaw indicating the presence of gum disease. There was also some labial calculus. The teeth were very worn and the wear would indicate an age at death of greater than forty-five. The skull had predominately male characteristics.

A mandible fragment with the left first molar and canine

The teeth in this jaw were in a very similar condition to those of the maxilla and it is probably from the same individual.

Most of a skull

Young child aged five or six years

The metopic suture was still open; this has usually fused by the eighth year of life. The permanent incisors were visible, unerupted, in the jaw. The deciduous molars were still in the jaw, the first permanent molars were in the jaw but not erupted. From the stage of development of the roots of the first permanent molars, an age at death of about five or six is likely.

Most of a mandible

Juvenile aged between twelve and fifteen

All adult teeth were present save the third molars. There was very little wear and some labial and lingual calculus on the incisors and canines. From the tooth eruption and the very slight wear on the second molar, an age at death of about twelve to fifteen is postulated, most likely at the middle to upper end of this range.

Most of a left temporal bone with the malleus

Probably the same juvenile individual.

Left scapula

Osteophytes on the end of the acromion, there was some bone growth and pitting of the bone.

A left clavicle

The sternal end of a right clavicle

Left humerus

Male

There was osteochondritis dissecans on the head and some bone growth on the attachment for the *subscapularis* muscle, suggesting a soft tissue injury at some time during the individual's life. The maximum length (HuL₁) 327mm. The maximum diameter (HuD₁) 25mm and minimum diameter (HuD₂) 20mm. The diameter of the humerus head at 47mm indicates the individual was male.

Left humerus

Female

The maximum length (HuL₁) 326mm. The maximum diameter (HuD₁) 20mm and minimum diameter (HuD₂) 18mm. The diameter of the humerus head at 39mm indicates the individual was female.

The distal end and most of the shaft of a right humerus

The proximal end and shaft of a right ulna

The proximal end and shaft of a further right ulna

The distal end and shaft of a left ulna

The proximal end and a small part of the shaft of a right radius

The proximal end of an ulna

Child

Seven long bone shaft fragments

These were probably either forearm or fibula fragments.

Nineteen ribs and rib fragments

Three cervical vertebrae

One lower thoracic vertebra

This was probably either an eleventh or a twelfth thoracic. There were large osteophytes on the vertebral body and extensive lipping on the facets particularly the rib facets.

A fragment of an ilium

The proximal end and part of the shaft of a right femur

The proximal end and part of the shaft of a left femur

Right femur shaft

The distal end and part of the shaft of a femur

Child

The proximal end of a tibia

Child

The diaphysis of a left tibia

Child

The diaphysial length of 264mm would suggest a probable age of between eight and ten at death.

The distal end and most of the shaft of a left tibia

Child

Two long bone diaphyses

Child

There were at least two children represented from all the preceding child bones.

A diaphysis of a tibia

Foetal

This very small bone was probably that of a still born or premature baby.

The proximal end and most of the shaft of a left tibia

A first metatarsal

Two further metatarsals

Nine other bone fragments

Additional finds

Three animal bones.

WALL BACK FILL 4

All adult unless otherwise stated

Two pieces of the occipital bone

One small fragment of orbit

Fragment of clavicle

Distal end of right humerus

Distal end of an ulna

Baby

Proximal end of a metacarpal

Thirteen rib fragments

Two vertebrae fragments

Most of a lumbar vertebra

Shaft of femur

Baby

Distal end and shaft of first metatarsal

Fifth metatarsal

Three other metatarsals

Proximal end of a phalange

One fragment which was probably part of the shaft of a fibula or a radius

One unidentified fragment

Additional finds

Two animal bones

PH6

Most of a mandible

Adult aged over forty

Both premolars, canine and second incisor were present on the right side. The sockets were present for the three other incisors, the canine, the two premolars and two molars on the left side, therefore all these teeth were lost *post mortem*. The teeth were very worn with some hypoplastic ridges. The jaw had an overbite, which is normal. From the wear on the teeth it is estimated that the individual was probably aged over forty at death.

Body of a vertebra

One unidentified fragment, maybe animal

Additional finds

Two animal bones

THE BURIALS

BURIAL 1 *Adult male aged over forty*

Most of the left scapula

Approximately half of the right scapula

There were a further seven scapula fragments.

Right clavicle

The distal end and shaft of the right humerus

Left humerus

There was a nodule of bone growth on the humerus head. The diameter of the humerus head 51mm indicates that the individual was male. The maximum length (HuL₁) of 352mm gives a stature in life of 180cms (six feet one and a half inches). The formula used was $2.89(\text{Hum})+78.1$.

A fragment of ulna

Forty-six ribs and rib fragments

Three fragments of manubrium

Sternum

There was some pitting and boney lipping on the clavicular notch of the manubrium and on the costal notches of the sternum. All four sternal segments were fused and there was an ossified xiphoid process, suggesting an age at death of greater than forty.

First lumbar vertebra

Fourth to twelfth thoracic vertebrae

There was extreme lipping and some eburnation on the vertebral facets of the ninth and tenth thoracic and to a lesser degree on the eighth thoracic. There was similar very severe deterioration of the vertebral facets on the fourth, fifth and sixth thoracic, with in addition very bad porosity of the bone of the facets and some bone destruction. There was some slight lipping on the rib facets of most of the thoracic vertebrae. There was fairly extensive bone growth and severe pitting on the vertebral bodies of the first lumbar, the sixth, seventh, eighth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth and to a lesser extent on the ninth thoracic; this is associated with Schmorls nodes on these vertebrae.¹ There were also osteophytes on the rims of the bodies of the ninth and tenth thoracic vertebrae.

Additional bones not from the primary burial

One diaphysis of a metacarpal or a metatarsal

Infant

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BURIAL 2

Adult

Right and left scapula

The glenoid cavity, right, 34mm, this does not give an accurate indication of sex for the individual.

Right and left clavicle

Thirty-five ribs and rib fragments

A fragment of the sternum

The spines and processes of the first to twelfth thoracic vertebrae

The spines and processes of the first and second lumbar vertebrae

There was a very small amount of boney lipping on the facets of the vertebrae.

Additional bones not from the primary burial

Two animal teeth

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BURIAL 5

Adult

Right and left scapula

There was some lipping around the glenoid cavity.

Right and left clavicles

Both had lipping and porosity of the bone at the acromial ends.

Right and left humerus

The diameter of the right humerus head at 43mm does not give an accurate indication of sex. The maximum length (HUL₁) 297mm gives a stature in life of 164cms (five feet seven inches). The formula used was 2.89(Hum)+78.10.

Forty-five ribs and rib fragments

Osteophytes and severe porosity of the bone were visible on some of the facets.

Sternum

All segments were fused.

First to twelfth thoracic vertebrae

The rib facets had for the most part very severe boney lipping, especially right eighth and ninth and left twelfth. The left first had extremely bad porosity of the bone at the rib facet.

First lumbar vertebra

Additional bones not from the primary burial

One animal bone

A scapula fragment

Baby

A pubis

Baby

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Burial 6

Adult female aged more than forty-five

The skull vault with the maxilla and most of the facial bones

The maximum length of the skull, 187mm, the maximum breadth, 139mm. The teeth present were the right first to seventh, and the left first and third to seventh. The left second was lost *ante mortem* and there may possibly have been an abscess beneath this tooth but the eroded bone of the jaw in this area made it difficult to confirm this. The skull exhibited exclusively female characteristics.

The left side of the mandible

The teeth present with this fragment of jaw were the third, fourth, the worn root of the fifth and the seventh. The sixth (first molar) tooth had been lost *ante mortem*.

The teeth were very worn and from the wear on the teeth the individual was probably aged greater than forty-five at death. There was severe alveolar resorption, probably indicating gum disease, and much calculus on the molars. The teeth show evidence of hypoplastic ridging, indicating perhaps a sickly childhood.

Part of the right scapula

Left scapula

There was some boney lipping and bone growth on the acromion where it connected with the clavicle.

Left clavicle

Some boney lipping at the sternal and at the acromial end. There may possibly have been some soft tissue injury that caused this lipping, see the notes on the manubrium. It is possible that the boney lipping of the clavicle may just be a factor of the stresses and strains on the bones and muscles caused by an active working life.

A fragment of the right clavicle

The right first to fifth metacarpals

Six finger phalanges

Eleven rib fragments

Manubrium

The bone appeared foreshortened. The right clavicular notch had boney lipping and extra bone growth at the notch for the first costal cartilage, possibly indicating some damage to this cartilage, or to the first rib, during life which caused some ossification in this area. The left clavicular notch was lengthened and had some boney lipping.

Three thoracic vertebrae

There was slight lipping on the facets and some osteophytosis on the vertebral bodies.

Three fragments of vertebrae

Probably thoracic.

One further vertebral body

Five unidentified bone fragments

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BURIAL 7

Adult

- One rib fragment
- The distal end and most of the shaft of the left fibula

Additional bones not from the primary burial

- Two animal bones

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BURIAL 8

Adult

- Proximal end of the left ulna
- A fragment of the body of a lumbar vertebra
- Three fragments of pelvis
- A fragment of tibia shaft

Additional bones not from the primary burial

- One radius *Infant*
- One ulna *Infant*
- One thoracic vertebra *Infant*
- One rib *Infant*

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BURIAL 9

Adult male aged over fifty years

- The distal end and part of the shaft of the left humerus
- Left radius
 - The tuberosity was worn with some bone growth and boney outgrowths. The maximum length 256mm.
- Right radius
- Right ulna
- Left ulna
 - Maximum length 285mm.
- Left scaphoid
- Right trapezoid
- Left first and second metacarpals
- Right first metacarpal

The proximal end and shaft of the right fourth and fifth metacarpals

Eleven finger phalanges

Twenty-three ribs and rib fragments

The twelfth thoracic vertebra

There was some lipping and porosity of the bone on the rib facets.

The first to the fifth lumbar vertebrae

The fifth lumbar had some osteophytes on the vertebral body.

Sacrum

The sacrum had male characteristics.

The left innominate

Most of the right innominate

The individual was aged over 50 from the state of the pubic symphyses of the pelvis. The pelvis had predominately male characteristics.

Right and left femur

Maximum length (FeL₁) 470mm. Maximum diameter of the head 49mm which indicates the individual was male. The stature of the individual was 176cms (six feet) using the formula $2.32Fem + 65.53$.

Additional bones not from the primary burial

One animal tooth

Two animal bone fragments

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BURIAL 10

Adult male

Right fourth metacarpal

There was boney lipping on the facet for the capitate bone of the hand, the individual suffered from osteoarthritis in the right wrist.

Right femur

Maximum length (FeL₁) 435mm, minimum diameter of shaft 25mm, maximum diameter of shaft 35mm. Maximum diameter of head 46.5mm, this would indicate that the individual was male.

All save for the head of the left femur

Right and left patella

Right and left tibia

Maximum length (TiL₁) 353mm.

Right and left fibula

Maximum length (FiL₁) 349mm. This gives a stature in life of 166cms (five feet seven and a half inches). The formula used was $1.31(Fem + Fib) + 63.05$.

Right talus

Right navicular

Three unidentified bone fragments.

Additional bones not from the primary burial

One animal rib fragment

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BURIAL 11

Adult

Two skull vault fragments

A fragment of mandible

Additional finds

One piece of corroded iron

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BURIAL 12

Adult

The proximal end and part of the shaft of the left radius

The proximal end and part of the shaft of the left ulna

A fragment of thoracic vertebra

The distal ends and shafts of the right and left femur

There was much additional bone growth along the *linea aspera*.

The right patella

There was considerable extra bone growth along the longitudinal *striae* of the dorsal face of the bone at the attachments for the tendon of the *quadriceps femoris* muscle. This would indicate some soft tissue damage during life. The knee may well have been osteoarthritic.

The proximal end and shaft of the left tibia

There was a small boney growth in the intercondyle area which was possibly the result of some ligament damage during life.

Most of one fibula

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BURIAL 13

Adult

A small fragment of skull
Right first metacarpal
Two finger phalanges

Additional bones not from the primary burial

A fragment of animal bone

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BURIAL 15

Child aged about four

Left scapula
Right and left radius
Right and left ulna
Eight rib fragments
Seven vertebrae
The first segment of the sacrum
Right and left ilium
One pubis
One ischium
The diaphyses of the right and left femur with their epiphyses
 Diaphysial length 216mm. The diaphysial length gives an age at death of about four years.
Right and left tibia
Right and left fibula

Additional bones not from the primary burial

One animal bone
One adult toe phalange

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Burial 16

Adult

The distal end and shaft of the right femur
The distal end and shaft of the left femur

Right and left tibia

Maximum length, right, (TiL₁) 336mm. The stature of the individual was 163cms (five feet six and a half inches) using the formula $2.42Tib+81.93$.

Right and left fibula

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FEATURE 17

The bones from this feature were part of a pig's jaw.

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BURIAL 18

Adult

The distal ends and half of the shafts of the right and left femur

Right and left patella

Right and left tibia

Oblique length right (TiL₂) 354mm, maximum length right (TiL₁) 356mm.

Right and left fibula

There was some bone growth at the proximal end of the left fibula where the ligament attaches. This was the result of a soft tissue injury during life, perhaps a pulled muscle. Maximum length right (FiL) 344mm. The stature of the individual when alive was 165cms (five feet and seven inches), the formula used was $2.6Fib+75.5$.

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BURIAL 19

Adult

The distal end and part of the shaft of the right humerus

The proximal end of the left ulna

All save the distal end of the right ulna

Right radius

Maximum length (RaL₁) 250mm. The stature of the individual when alive was 174cms (five feet eleven inches). The formula used was $3.79Rad+79.42$, but this is not as accurate as using leg long bones.

A fragment of forearm long bone

Left hamate

Right capitate
Right trapezoid
Right first to fourth metacarpals
The distal end of a metacarpal
Six finger phalanges
Thirteen ribs and rib fragments
Twelfth thoracic
A thoracic vertebra which may be the ninth
Second to fourth lumbar vertebrae

The fourth had some deterioration of the bone within the superior dorsal arc of the vertebral body. This may be the result of soft tissue damage in the cartilage of the disc or it may be a large Schmorls node or an aggregation of a number of nodes.¹ There was no degeneration of the adjacent lip of the vertebral body nor were there any osteophytes on the rim of the body.

Four fragments of lumbar vertebrae
Three pelvic fragments
Left femur head

Maximum diameter of the head of 43mm, does not provide an accurate estimation of sex.

Four fragments of femur
Left patella
Twenty-one unidentified fragments

Additional bones not from the primary burial

One animal bone

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BURIAL 20

Adult male aged over forty

Left scapula
Several fragments of the right scapula
Left clavicle

There was some lipping on the sternal facet.

A fragment of the right clavicle
The shaft and distal end of the right humerus
The distal end of the left humerus
A fragment of a humerus head
All but the distal end of the right ulna
All but the distal end of the left ulna
Right radius
Left radius
Hamate
Trapesium

Four metacarpals

One phalange

Sixty-seven ribs and rib fragments

Manubrium and the sternum

The four sternal segments were fused and the xiphoid process had ossified, thus suggesting an age at death greater than forty.

All twelve thoracic vertebrae

All five lumbar vertebrae

There was evidence of osteophytes on the bodies of the vertebrae. The lower spine turned slightly to the right, but this would have had only a minimal affect on the individual during life.

Most of the sacrum

Most of the left ilium with parts of the ischium and the pubis

Three large pieces of the right ilium with the ischium and the pubis

There was some evidence of slight osteoarthritis in the acetabulum.

The heads of both the right and left femurs

Eighteen unidentified fragments

Additional bones not from the primary burial

Three animal bones

Additional finds

One shell

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BURIAL 22

Adult female

A fragment of scapula

The distal end and the shaft of the right humerus

The distal end and the shaft of the left humerus

The distal end of the left radius

The left wrist showed much bone growth and porosity, indicating osteoarthritis or possibly a soft tissue injury.

The distal end and the shaft of the right radius

There was a slight deformity and osteophytes at the distal end, probably the result of osteoarthritis.

The proximal end of the right ulna

There was some eburnation and severe osteophytosis with much new bone growth.

Most of the shaft of the left ulna

Seven other arm fragments

Right scaphoid

There was eburnation and severe osteophytosis with much new bone growth.

Report on the Pathology

by Jane Young, City of Lincoln Anatomical Unit

Right hamate

Right capitate

Right lunate

Right first to fifth metacarpals

Five phalanges

Thirty-eight ribs and rib fragments

Parts of six thoracic vertebrae, none with their vertebral body

All these vertebrae had osteophytes on the facets.

Parts of all five lumbar vertebrae, only the fifth had the vertebral body

Sacrum

There were severe osteophytes on the body and the facets of the first sacral segment.

Most of the right and the left innominate

The pelvis had female characteristics and showed severe parturition scarring; the individual had given birth, quite possibly on several occasions.

The proximal ends of the right and left femurs

Right talus

Notes

1. Schmorl's nodes are formed when parts of the *nucleus pulposus* of the vertebral disk herniates into the vertebral body. They are not uncommon and are a minor clinical result of a bone weakness at a time of bone growth. They would normally have no effect on the general health of the individual.

Appendix 4

Report on the Pottery (by Jane Young, City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit)

NKC95 POST-ROMAN POTTERY ARCHIVE

Context	Ware	Sherds	Form	Comments
+	LSLS	1	JAR	BASE
+	LKT	1	-	?ID;SCRAP
3	LPM	1	-	CHINA
3	BERTH	1	-	18TH
4	LFS	1	-	? ID

Note presence of late 9th to early 10th century sherd (LSLS) in +.

Glossary of Fabric Codes

Lsls	Late Saxon Lincoln sandy ware: late 9th - early 10th centuries
Lfs	Lincoln fine-shelled ware: late 10th - early 13th centuries
Lkt	Lincoln Kiln type ware: late 9th - late 10th centuries
Lpm	Early modern: late 18th/20th centuries
Berth	Brown earthenwares: mid 16th/early 19th centuries

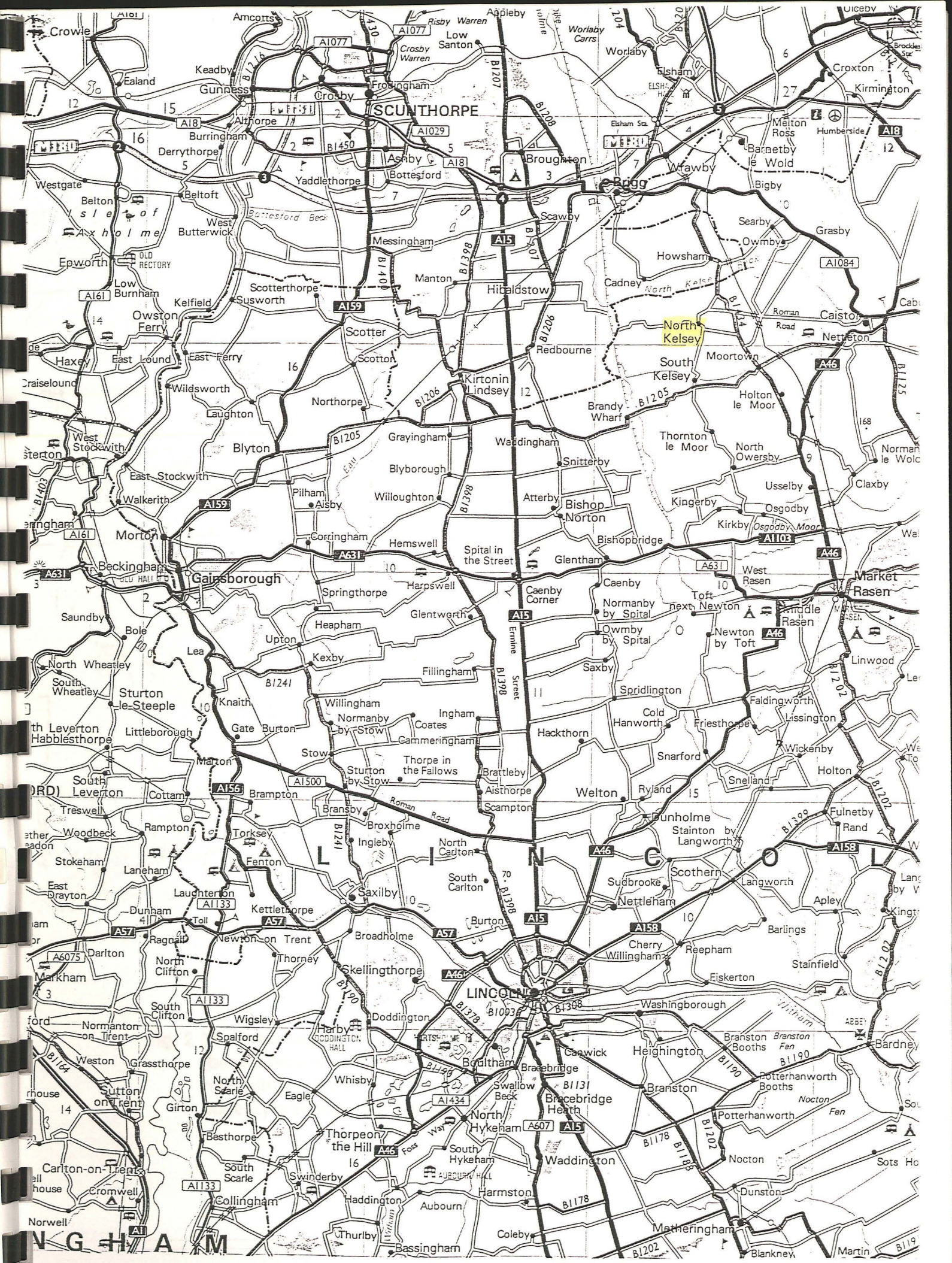


Fig. 1 Location of North Kelsey

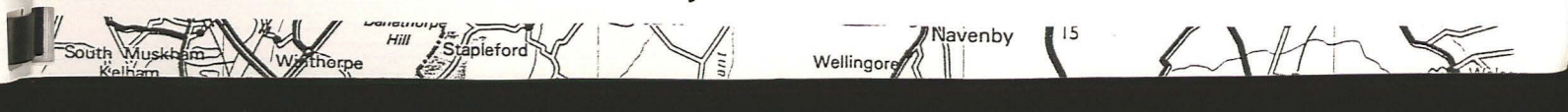




Fig. 2 North Kelsey village, showing the position of Churchview (based on the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 survey; Crown Copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. LAS Licence No. AL 50424A).

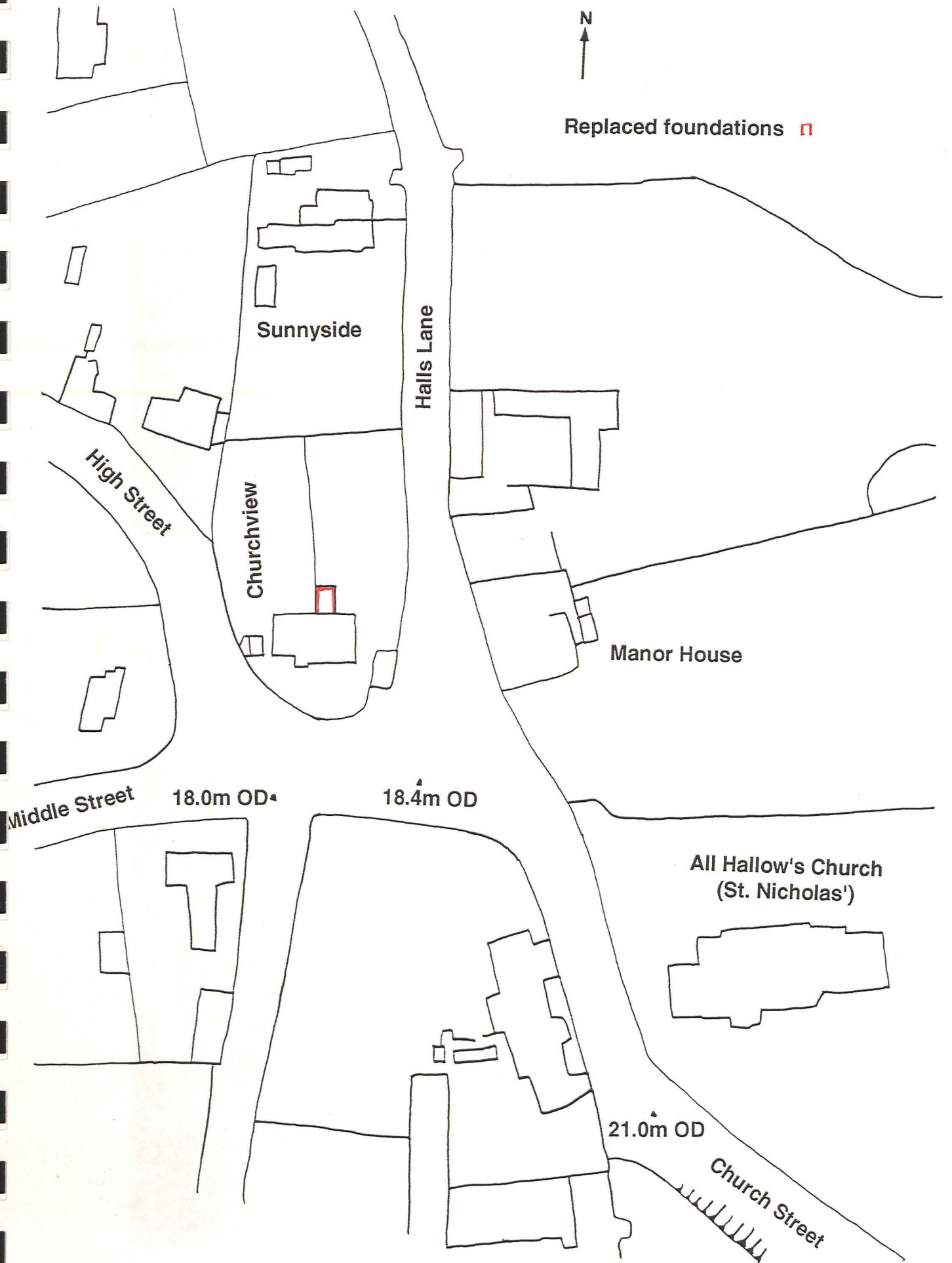


Fig. 3 Churchview, showing the position of the foundation trenches.



Pl. 1 Site of the new foundation trenches at the rear of Churchview (looking SW)

Pl. 2 View NW from beside the present churchyard across the road junction to the front of Churchview (beyond the outbuilding and wooden fence).





PI. 3 Detail of the position of the new trenches, dug to reconstruct the former extensions (looking south)



Pl. 4 Graves cutting sand at the southern end of the west trench
(looking west; scale divisions 0.2m).



Pl. 5 Graves cutting sand at the northern end of the west trench
(looking west; continuation of Pl. 4).



Pl. 6 Graves in the northern trench face, beyond the robbed wall (looking north)



Pl. 7 Graves and skeletal remains in the northern trench face, beyond the robbed wall (looking north; continuation of Pl. 6)



Pl. 8 Tower of St. Nicholas' Church, North Kelsey (looking SE)

Pl. 9 Saxo-Norman decorated stone re-used in the nave south wall of North Kelsey Church (looking north)





Pl. 10 Burial 1, cut by Pit 3. The dark soil fills of earlier graves are visible. (Looking west; scale divisions 0.1m).

Pl. 11 Remains of Burial 2 (Looking south; scale divisions 0.1m).





Pl. 12 Small stones and mortar redeposited within the wall robber trench 4 (below sewer pipe), cut through earlier graves. (Looking west; scale divisions 0.1m).

Pl. 13 Part of Burial 5, cut by Pit 3. (Looking south; scale divisions 0.2m).





Pl. 14 Burial 5 overlying earlier Grave (fill lowered). (Looking south; scale divisions v:0.1m; h:0.2m).

Pl. 15 Skull of Burial 6 close to the NW corner of the new foundation trenches. (Looking south; scale divisions v:0.2m; h:0.1m).





Pl. 16 Surviving depth of Grave 6 (looking south; scale divisions 0.2m).

Pl. 17 Remains of Burial 7 (disturbed before archaeological monitoring).
(Looking west; scale divisions v:0.2m; h:0.1m).





Pl. 18 Remains of Burials 9, 13, 10 and 12 (from far end) with modern test pit 11 cutting Burial 12. (Looking south; scale divisions- surface: 0.2m; trench base: 0.1m).



Pl. 19 Grave 14 (at far end), and remains of Burials 15, 16 and jaw 17. (Looking south; scale divisions- ledge: 0.2m; trench base: 0.1m).



Pl. 20 Burial 18 (looking south; scale divisions: 0.2m and 0.1m).

Pl. 21 Remains of Burial 19 (looking south; scale divisions: 0.1m).





Pl. 22 Burial 20 (Looking west; scale divisions: 0.1m).



Pl. 23 Burial 22, with mottled ?undisturbed sand at trench base.
(Looking south; scale divisions: 0.2m).