

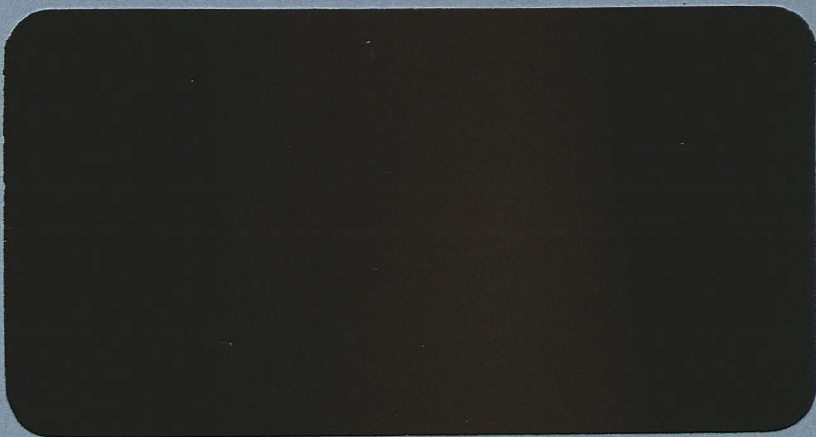
SMR copy

96/12

**BOSTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT**

LCCM Accession No.: 102.96

86596



Lincolnshire County Council
Arch
13
LINCOLN LINE
TEL. 0522 575202 FAX: 0522 575204

ELI 6846

SLI 1810 1477

13452 - Med

13453 - Ro

12650 - Med Friary

**BOSTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT**

LCCM Accession No.: 102.96

B6596

Report prepared by Colin Palmer-Brown of Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) for
Meldrum Lee & Gillatt on behalf of Boston Grammar School

September 1996

CONTENTS

Summary	1
1.0 Introduction	2
2.0 Location and description	2
3.0 Archaeological background	3
4.0 Objectives of archaeological trenching	3
5.0 Methodology	4
6.0 Results	4
6.1 Trench 1	4
6.2 Trench 2	10
7.0 Archaeo-environmental potential	13
8.0 Summary and conclusions	13
9.0 Mitigations	14
10.0 Acknowledgements	15
11.0 Appendices	16
11.1 Post-Roman pottery archive by J Young	
11.2 Environmental archaeology assessment report by DJ Rackham	
11.3 Small finds descriptions by JM Cowgill	
11.4 Romano-British pottery archive by M Darling	
11.5 List of contexts	
11.6 Site archive	
11.7 References cited in main text	

Summary

- * *An intrusive archaeological field evaluation took place on the east side of Boston Grammar School in advance of classroom construction: the work was preceded by a detailed desk top assessment*

- * *A range of archaeological deposits were sampled, including human remains associated with the Franciscan friary, a deep waterlogged pit, and a Romano-British ?industrial horizon*

- * *It is concluded that a standard development (using strip footings) would impact on important archaeological deposits, though the impact on sensitive remains may be substantially lessened if a sympathetic foundation design is adopted.*

1.0 Introduction

A six-day programme of archaeological trial excavation was carried out on a rectangular unit of land on the east side of Boston Grammar School, Boston, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Meldrum Lee and Gillatt (Architects), who act as agents for the school. The commission was requested to fulfil a planning requirement issued by Boston Borough Council.

The results of this report will assist the local planning authority to assess the archaeological significance of the site, the potential impacts which may be imposed by development and the requirement/non-requirement for further archaeological investigation in advance of or during development, assuming that planning permission will now be granted.

2.0 Location and description

Boston town lies approximately 45km south-east of Lincoln in the fens of south Lincolnshire. Boston Grammar School is on the south-east side of the settlement and lies between the River Witham and the Maud Foster Drain on land approximately 4.2m OD.

The proposed development site, a rectangular unit of approximately 410sq. m, is situated on the east side of the main building complex (Fig. 2). Much of the central area was, until recently, occupied by two rectangular classroom blocks of temporary construction. The rest of the site is characterised by grass vegetation. The land is level though, approximately 20m east of Trench 2, is a sharp fall-off in topography of between 0.5 and 0.75m, leading to an extensive level playing field.

In this part of the fens, glacial drift underlies marine alluvial clays. These deposits are common to the fen basin and have accumulated sporadically since the retreat of the last ice sheets, approximately 10,000 years ago (Lane 1993). There have been successive phases of marine transgression and regression following an initial rise in sea level after the last glacial period, but the timing of events and the extent to which these events occurred is a matter of some debate.

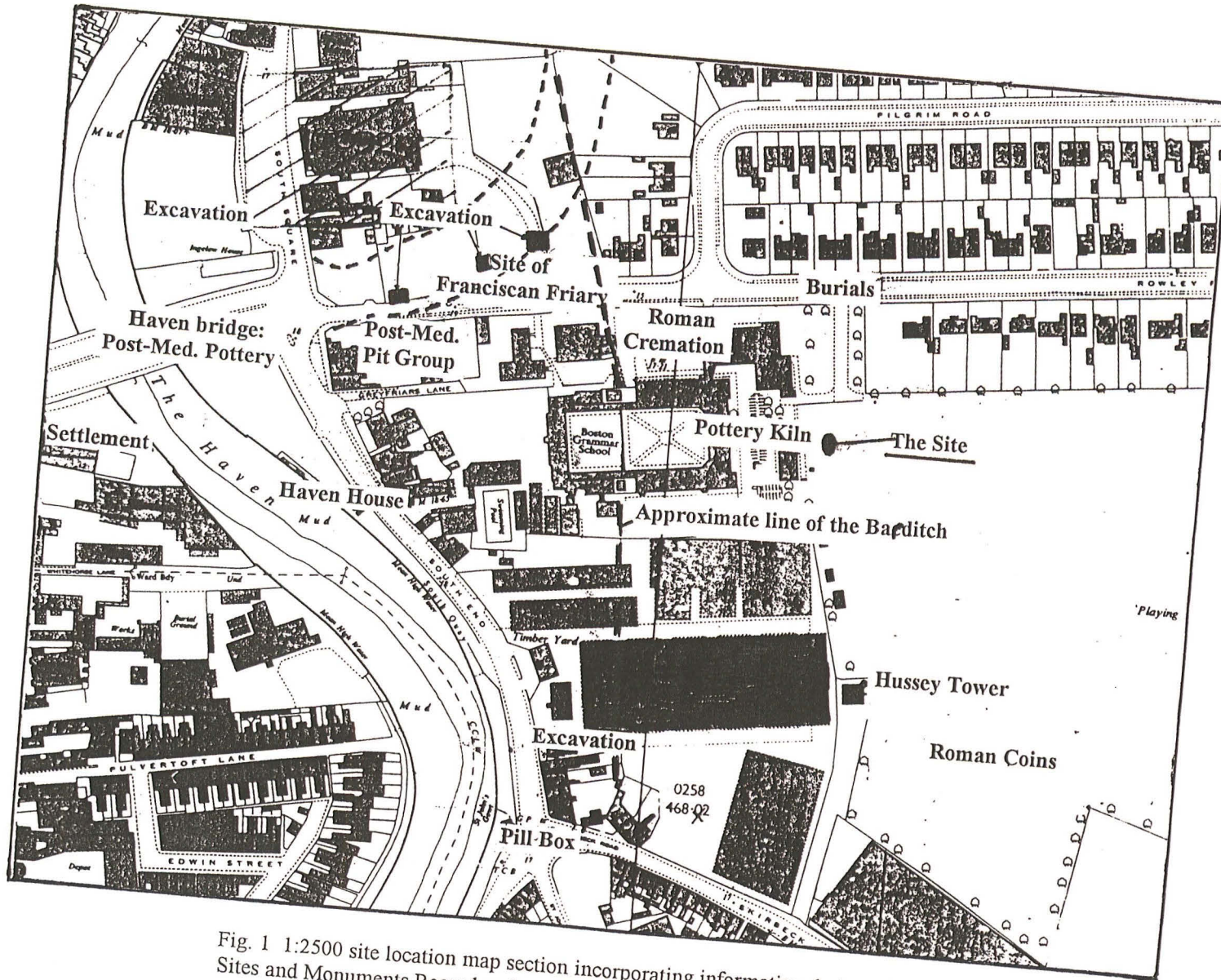


Fig. 1 1:2500 site location map section incorporating information derived from the County Sites and Monuments Record and records held at Heritage Lincolnshire

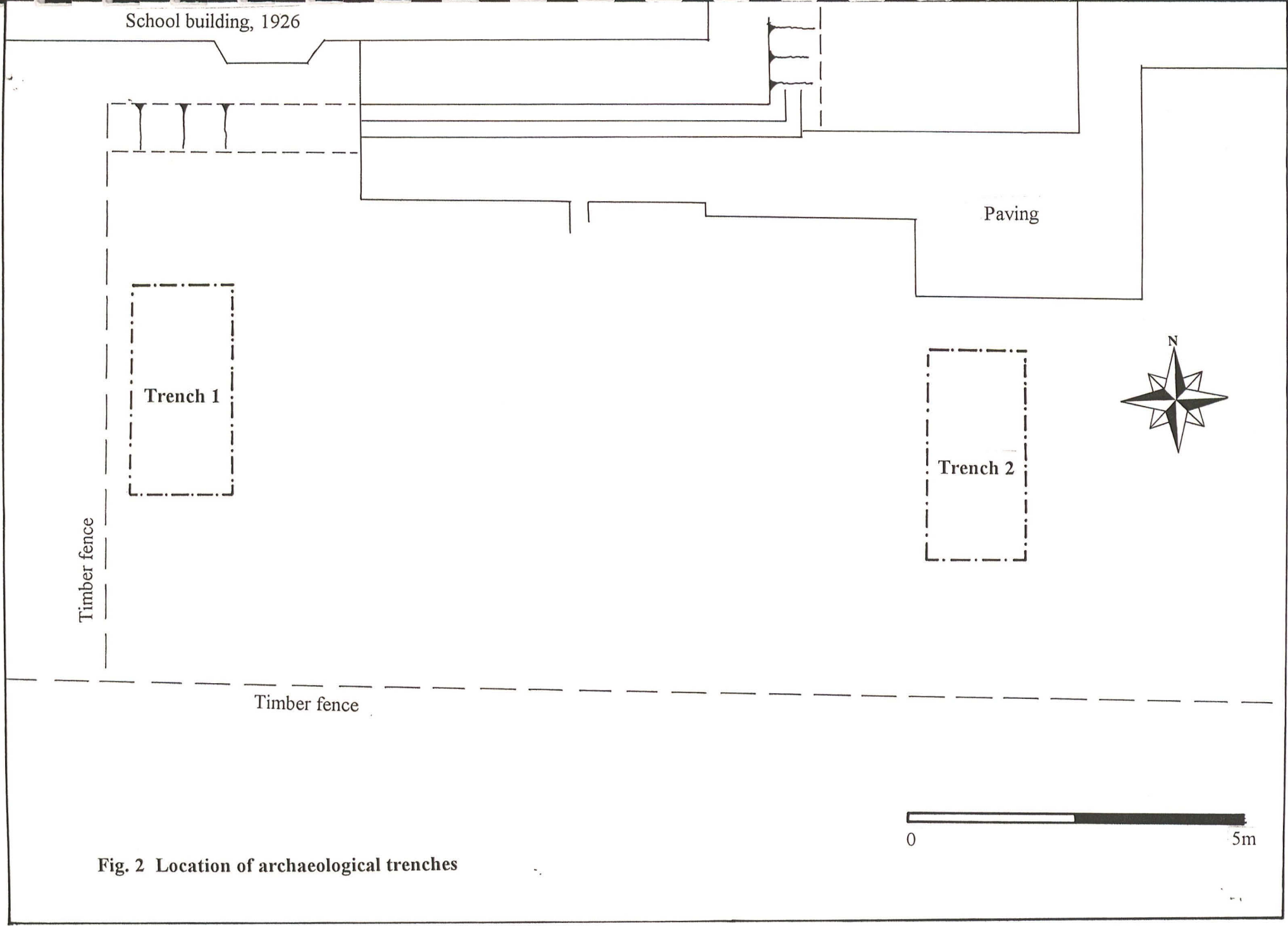


Fig. 2 Location of archaeological trenches

0 5m

3.0 Archaeological background

A detailed archaeological assessment has already been prepared in the form of a desk top study (Palmer-Brown, 1996) and will not therefore be repeated in detail. However, the main points of consideration are as follows:

The site is located within land formerly owned by the Franciscan friary or Greyfriars. The proximity of the friary, which was in the custody of the monastery at York, is indicated by Greyfriars Lane, which provides access to the grammar school from South End. The earliest historical reference to the monument occurs in 1268 when Luke de Batenturt complained that wine and other goods which he had deposited in the church had been stolen (Victoria County History 2, 215). Following the dissolution of the monasteries under Henry VIII, the friary site was purchased by the town in 1545 subject to the keeping in repair of 40ft of sea dyke and 20ft on 'le frontage'. (*ibid*). Little more than one hundred years later, the house was demolished in 1652 (Boston Corporation Records).

Archaeological recording of the monument, and its extensive cemetery, has been piecemeal and on occasions opportunist and/or inadequate. In the early 1970's, an archaeological evaluation to determine the impact of the inner relief road (John Adams Way) exposed north-south and east-west stone walls (Musty 1972). These finds suggest that most of the friary building remains may be sought to the north of Greyfriars Lane, between South End and the Barditch (part of which underlies the present grammar school).

It is known that the friary possessed an extensive inhumation cemetery: human burials have been haphazardly exposed during trenching on Rowley Road and during the construction of some school buildings. Hitherto, none of these burials has been exposed under controlled conditions.

Earlier remains have been recorded close to the site: in 1936, Roman coins were found near to Hussey Tower (the remains of a 15th century dwelling approximately 100m south of the development site) and excavations by D Meeds close to the tower recovered sherds of greyware (utilitarian) pottery. No context for this material has been previously defined (below).

In 1975, a 17th century pottery kiln was excavated by A White (White 1976). The structure was exposed during construction trenching during an easterly extension to the grammar school. This, quite spectacular, feature incorporated large quantities of reused limestone; thought to have been derived from the friary.

4.0 The objectives of archaeological trenching

The Community Archaeologist for Boston issued a brief requiring that two archaeological trenches should be excavated to determine the nature of the archaeology (its character, date, depth, state of preservation, extent and significance). Only by sampling a percentage of the site was it possible to evaluate the archaeological

potential and the impact posed by development.. The overall objective of this phase of work, therefore, was to present the District Planning Authority with a set of data from which reasoned decisions may be taken regarding future management of the archaeological resource.

5.0 Methodology

Each of the trenches measured approximately 6m x 3m: they were sited on the east and west sides of the site.

A JCB, fitted with a smooth ditching blade, was used to remove all topsoil and overburden: to the top of the first significant natural or cultural horizon. The desired depths were achieved by removing graded spits under strict archaeological supervision. All further excavation was by hand, although the machine was used to excavate two deep sump holes in each area for drainage purposes and, in Trench 2, a narrow channel was excavated against the east section face to direct waters towards the sump at the north end of the trench (seeping water was continually pumped from each trench using electric devices).

During controlled excavation, archaeological contexts (eg layers, feature fills, pits, ditches) were described using standard context record sheets. All features were drawn in plan and in section at scale 1:20 and, when fully or partially excavated, were photographed in colour. Artefacts (pottery, animal bone and individual finds) were coded according to their stratigraphic contexts and were subsequently removed from the site for processing and specialist assessment reports, as were soil samples.

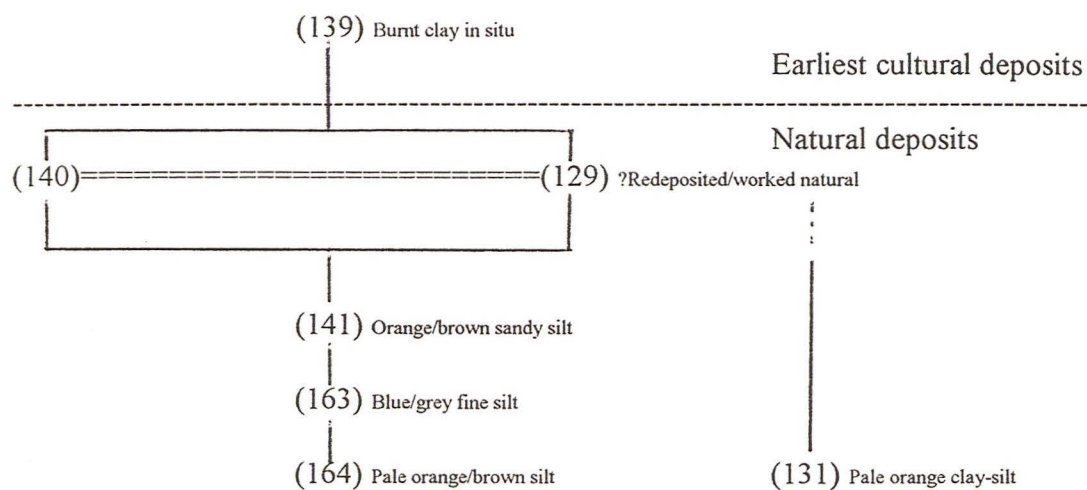
Excavation was carried out under the direction of the writer, assisted by three experienced field archaeologists, Wayne Livesey, Miles Ridsdale and Robert Schofield.

6.0 Results

6.1 Trench 1 (Fig. 3)

6.1.1 Natural deposits

The lowest point of excavation occurred in the base of a large regular pit, [148]. At 1.88m OD, firm clean orange silt was exposed, (164). This was overlain by a similarly stale horizon of blue/grey silty clay, (163), which measured c. 10cm in thickness and may have accumulated as a result of flooding. It lay beneath c. 30cm of orange/brown sandy silt, which itself was beneath a further 6 - 8cm of clean silt-based deposits, (140)/(129). Each of these deposits was considered to be of natural origin: the highest spot was at approximately 3.0m OD.



Stratigraphic matrix, natural deposits

6.1.2 Earliest layers and Pit [148]

In the central part of the trench, natural deposits were overlain by a thin localised area of hard-fired burnt clay, (139): whilst no superstructural evidence survived, it was clear the burning defined the site of a fire or hearth, from which no dating evidence was recovered.

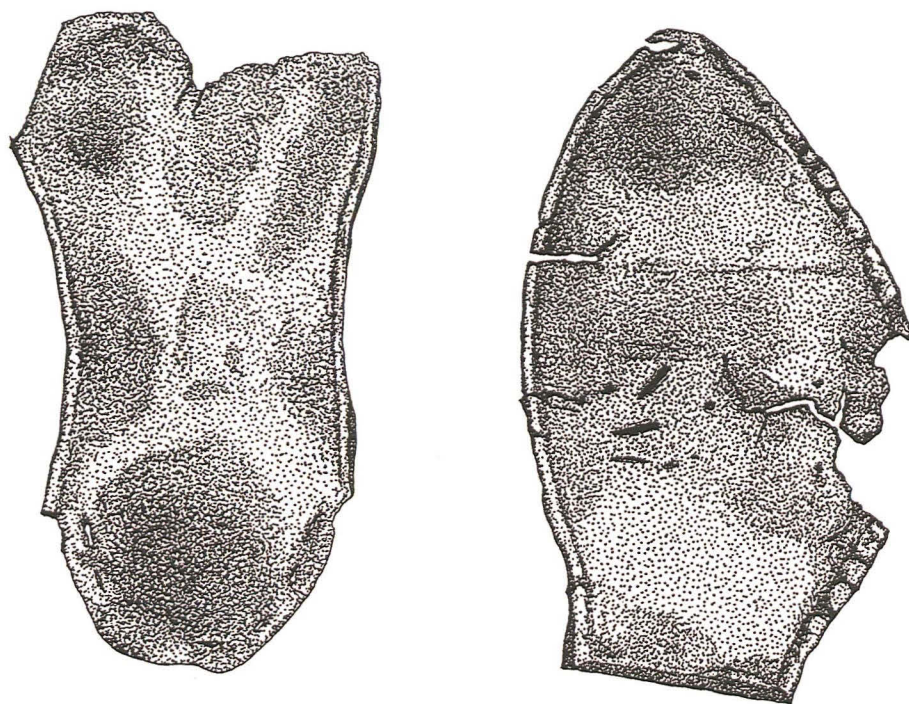
A thin layer of redeposited silt separated the above from a deposit of crushed mortar and tile, (138). Although interpretable as an in-situ destruction horizon (associated with a medieval building), too little of this material was exposed within the area investigated (most of it had been truncated by a later feature, [148]).

Pit [148] occupied almost the entire north half of the trench. It measured 1.22m in depth and its south and north sides, some 2.6m apart, were almost vertical. These met a flat base. The cumulative fills within the pit (originally interpreted as a ditch orientated east-west) suggested that, when open, it had contained standing water: the steepness of its sides suggested that it was originally supported (?timber revetment), though no direct evidence of purposeful retention was identified.

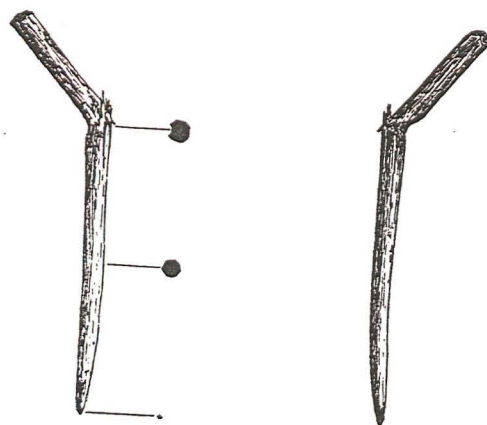
Lining the base of the pit was 15cm of fine primary silt, (156); above which was up to 50cm of dark grey, organic, silty clay, (147). Sealing this deposit were further waterlogged layers which contained wood, other plant remains and leather, (149), (154), (152), (146) and (145). In two deposits, (154) and (147), the soles of leather shoes were recovered, and in (147) a wooden ?hair pin was recovered (Appendix 11.3).

Waterlogged organic deposits were present to c. 2.88m OD: the upper pit void was filled with a series of thin silt-based deposits incorporating pottery sherds, animal bones, shell, charcoal fragments and other debris. Pottery recovered from several contexts within the pit date it between the early 13th century and the mid-fourteenth century.

Environmental samples were recovered from contexts (146), (147) and (149); these were submitted for specialist assessment (Appendix 11.2). In all three contexts, preservation was exceptional and a range of ecofactual data was recovered: seeds, moss, chaff, beetles, mites, fly puparia, fish bones, marine shell, bird egg shell etc. The presence of water flea would appear to confirm that standing water was present at some time when the pit was open. The presence of straw and also dung beetle remains suggests that stable sweepings were deposited in the feature, as well as normal domestic waste.

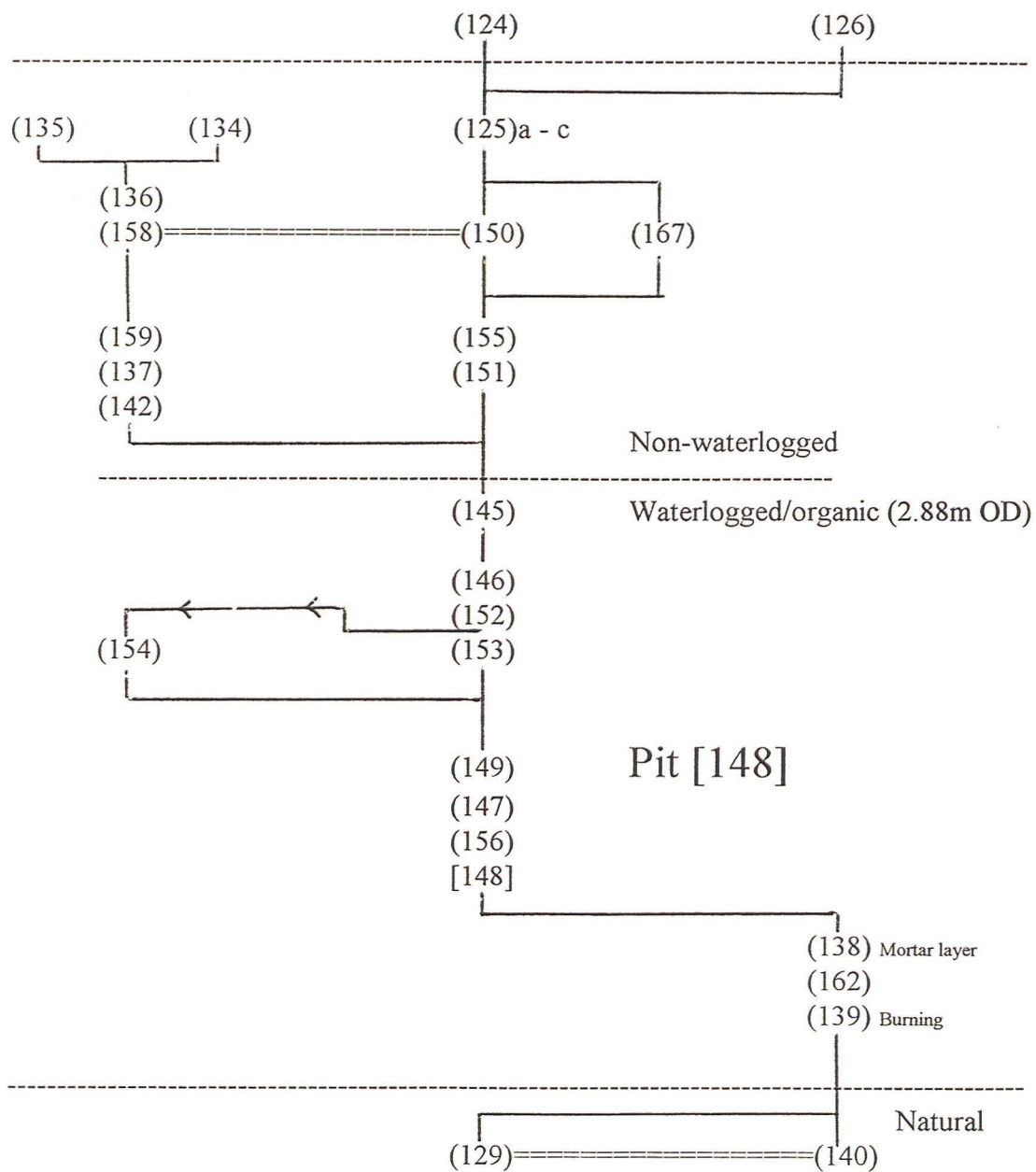


Medieval shoe soles recovered from contexts (147) and (154) respectively



Scale = 1:2

Wooden ?hair pin recovered from context (147)



Stratigraphic matrix; Pit [148]

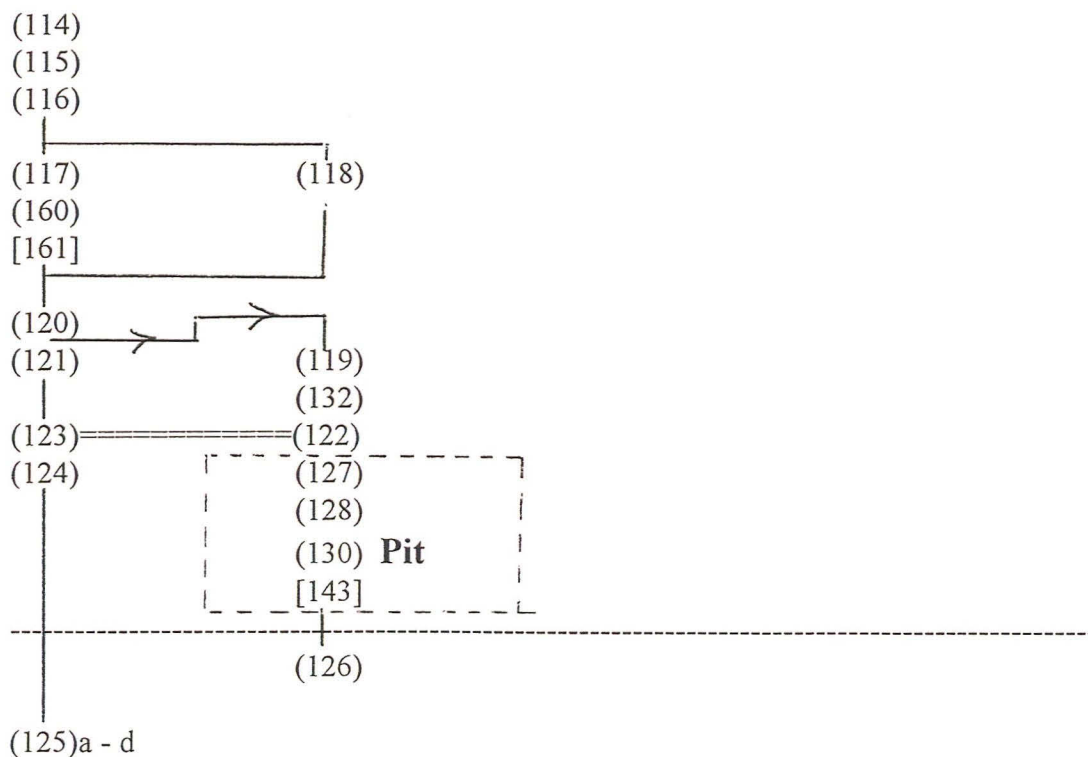
6.1.3 Medieval deposits post-dating Pit [148]

A pit-like feature of uncertain form and dimensions, [143], was exposed on the south side of the west-facing upper section (Fig. 3). It was cut through a deposit which sealed the backfilled pit described above, though pottery recovered from one of its fills, (128), suggests a contemporary date of between the early 13th and the early/middle 14th centuries.

Sealing the above and the earlier stratigraphy was a series of silt-based soil horizons: deposits which may have been associated with purposeful ground-raising on a wider scale. These deposits accounted for an approximate depth of 65cm and were defined as a series of broad and narrow layers ((124), (123), (121), (121), (120), (132), (119)). They lay beneath further widespread soil dumps, though separating the two groups were deposits indicative possibly of a different form of occupation (below). Stratified pottery was not recovered from any context.

On the north side of the trench was a dense scatter of crushed brick, tile and other fired clay fragments, (118). This material could also have been associated with purposeful ground-raising, though its stratigraphic position suggested contemporaneity with a small pit or post hole, [161] which was identified in the east section face (Fig. 3). Pottery from the brick/tile layer, again, suggests a date of deposition between the early 13th and the early/middle 14th century.

A further set of dumped soil horizons sealed the above: (117), (116), (115), (114). These deposits were excavated by machine and were examined in section therefore.



Stratigraphic matrix; upper medieval

6.1.4 Post-medieval/modern deposits

On the extreme south side of Trench 1 were the truncated remains of a small rectangular brick structure (possibly a cellar), (109). It was bonded with firm lime mortar and was exposed to six courses (part of its internal fill was excavated to c. 1.0m and was utilised as a sump for dewatering purposes). No direct dating evidence

was recovered from the structure, though it was certainly backfilled in the modern era - during sump excavation, two bricks were dredged which bore the stamp of the London Brick Company.

Further post-medieval structural features were exposed on the south side of the east section face, 30cm east of (109) - the butt-end of a wall which appeared to be orientated east-west, (113). Irregular courses of brickwork and a single foundation course were exposed, surviving to a depth of 65cm.

All archaeological deposits were sealed beneath approximately 20cm of humic topsoil.



P1

Colour photographs, Trench 1

P1 Working view, looking south-east

P2 Section through pit [148], looking south-east
(note shoe sole in section)

P3 General view of Trench 2 following excavation of pit [148]

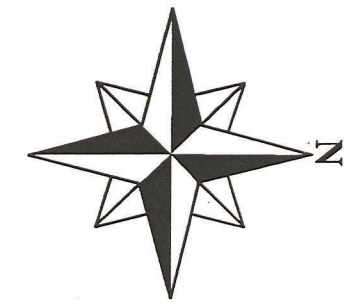
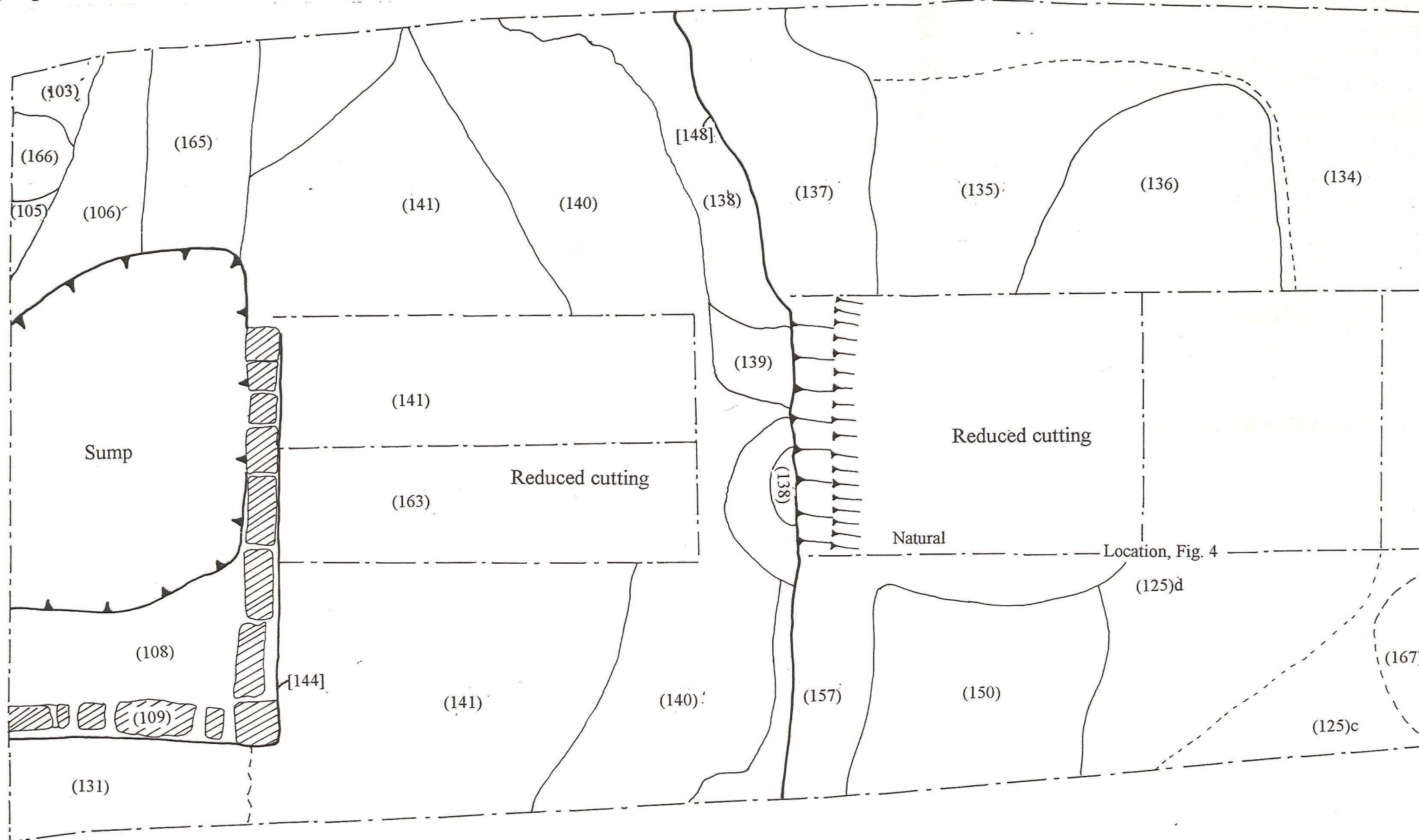







P2

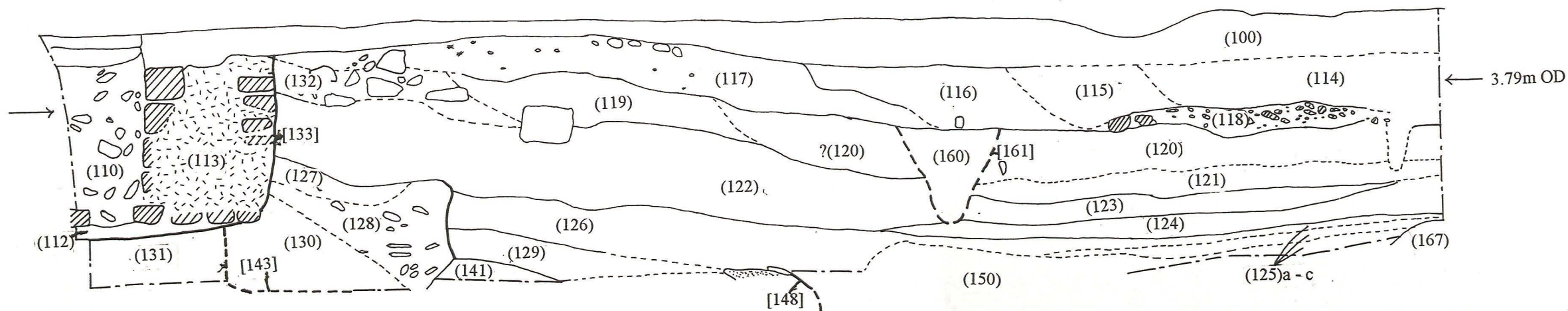


P3

Fig. 3 Plan and upper east section face, Trench 1

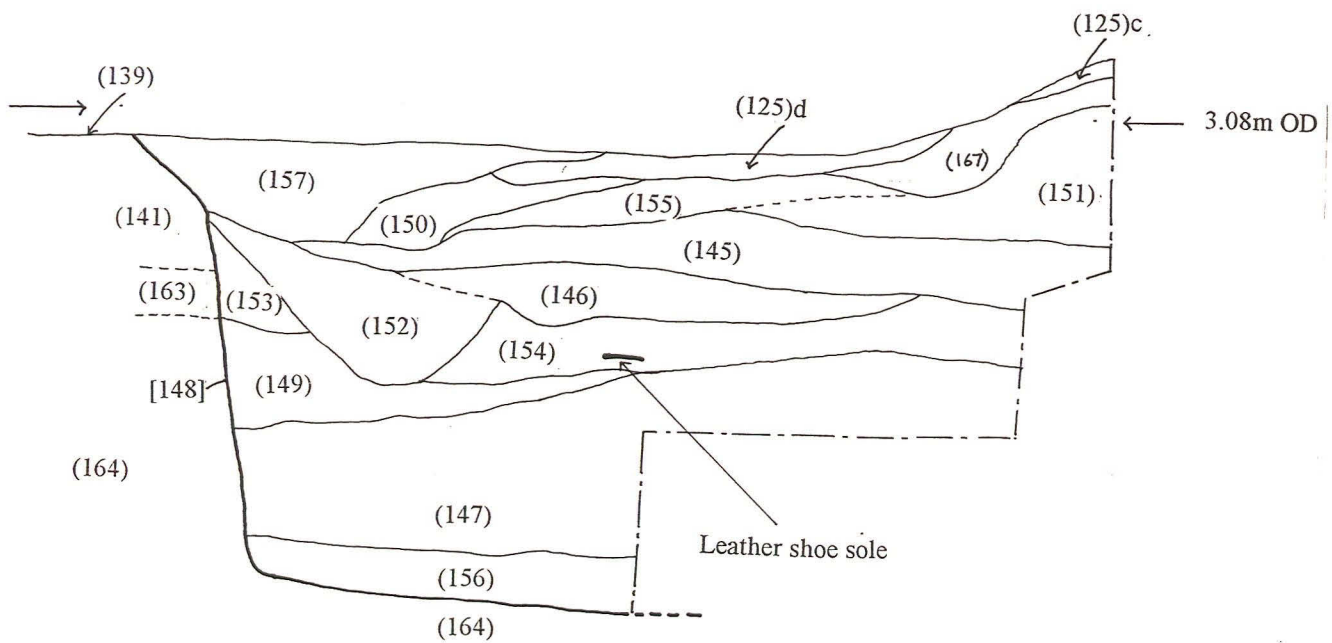


-  = Brick/tile
-  = Limestone
-  = Mortar
-  = Charcoal
-  = spot height OD



Scale = 1:20

Fig. 4 Lower east section, Trench 1 (Feature [148])



Scale = 1:20

6.2 Trench 2 (Fig. 4)

6.2.1 Romano-British deposit (224)

A rare, but frustrating, glimpse into the nature of Romano-British settlement in this part of the silt fens was afforded after dewatering trenches cut through a deposit containing, exclusively, Romano-British pottery and other remains (residual pottery sherds were also recovered from some grave fills where the graves had cut through the earlier deposit).

The top of deposit (224) was approximately 2.85m OD. It was exposed only in the east and north section faces, where deep excavation was required for dewatering purposes (Fig. 5). It consisted of dark grey/black silty material which contained red flecks. These flecks (and some larger chunks) were fragments of fired silt/clay. Several sherds of Romano-British greyware and Nene Valley ware were recovered in situ and, as noted, further residual sherds were recovered from later contexts.

The deposit (presumed to have been extensive) was exposed to a depth of c. 40cm during excavation. However, following project completion, the company York Sills Ltd., acting on behalf of Meldrum Lee and Gillatt, conducted an auger survey and recorded a depth of 55cm, where it rested on a horizon of soft brown silt/clayey silt (M Sills, pers. comm.). The latter, presumed to have been a Romano-British ground surface, lay at an altitude approximately 0.4m OD.

An inspection of the fired clay fragments recovered from (224) suggested, superficially, that they were pieces of briquetage; a French term loosely applied to fired clay objects associated with salt processing (eg pedestals, evaporation trays, bridges, clips). There is no doubt that salt procurement and processing was of major economic importance in the Roman period, as indeed it had been in the preceding Iron Age.

Some of the fired clay fragments were examined by J Cowgill (Appendix 11.3) and a bulk sample of the deposit was processed by J Rackham (Appendix 11.2). Neither of these specialists has been able to provide a detailed interpretation of the remains, though the absence of recognisable briquetage forms and the occurrence of typically 'domestic' residues within charred deposits of industrial proportions renders any interpretation difficult and dependant on a more ambitious programme of sampling.

6.2.2. The medieval Christian cemetery

It became apparent during the mechanical excavation of Trench 2 that the stratigraphy in this area was markedly different to that exposed in Trench 1: the upper layers in the latter comprised multiple light-coloured ground-raising deposits, whereas in the former, dark, very churned but homogenous, soils were encountered to depths up to 1.3m. An explanation of this variability came when the JCB blade struck the skull of a human skeleton in the south-west corner of the trench: which was located in the heart of a medieval cemetery.

Five skeletons were exposed in the central and southern part of the excavation: on the east side, a large backfilled pit, [226], may have removed further human remains. All of the bodies were orientated east-west with the head facing west. Due to the churned nature of the soil (an inevitability in graveyards), stratigraphic clarity was not always possible, though all of the graves had cut through a horizon of light brown sandy silt, (222), the top of which was approximately 3.15m OD. This deposit, which had a merging interface with soils beneath, was tenuously interpreted as a post-Roman cultivation horizon.

The five human inhumation burials, which were left *in situ*, are described below. The descriptions work from north to south (ie in conjunction with Fig. 5):-

Grave [203]

Well-defined cut; length = 1.6m +, width = 0.7m

Skeleton in extended position, arms at side (feet truncated by drainage trench); bones in good state of preservation; no brow ridges on skull, ??female

Coffin: traces of wood around periphery of skeleton

Grave [207]

Well-defined cut; length = 1.7m +, width = 0.5m + (truncated on south side by later grave [211])

Skeleton twisted position, on back, arms by side; head pointing down towards south but movement possibly post-mortem; left femur broken (probably in antiquity as femur-hip/femur tibia/fibula articulations still intact); some disturbance caused by mechanical excavator

Coffin: patchy and fragile timber remains around periphery of skeleton

Grave [211]

Poorly-defined grave cut, east (ie feet) side cut through by drainage trench; cuts through grave [207]

Skeleton on back in extended position; arms resting close to sides; break between neck and thoracic vertebrae suggesting broken neck; skull damaged by machine

Coffin: decayed timber present about periphery and base of grave; well-preserved on upper north face where coffin remains studded with multiple small bronze pins (probably to secure coffin lining)

Grave [215]

Poorly-defined grave cut

Lower portion (lower humerus downwards) of large skeleton in extended position; on back with arms to side; left foot removed by grave [211].

Coffin: only slight traces of timber around periphery of skeleton

Grave [216]

Exposed during initial excavation but not intensively investigated due to drainage problems: ? adult in extended position; coffin preservation good - large section of bottom face still intact.

Medieval pottery was recovered from the fills of some graves. The sherds date broadly between the early 13th and the mid-14th centuries, and there would seem little doubt therefore that the burials were within the former cemetery of the Franciscan Friary.

6.2.3. Post-cemetery deposits

The highest point from which the graves could have been cut was c. 60cm beneath the modern ground surface: at which point there was a change from mixed, typical graveyard, soils, (227), to a well-defined upper stratigraphy, (219). Above this was a layer of mottled silty sand mixed with tile fragments and small stones, (218); a modern levelling deposit, possibly. It was sealed directly beneath the topsoil, (217), which was approximately 25cm in thickness.

Colour photographs, Trench 2



P1 View of east section face, looking south-east
(note dark 'industrial-type' deposit in lower section face)



P2 General view of cemetery, looking north-west

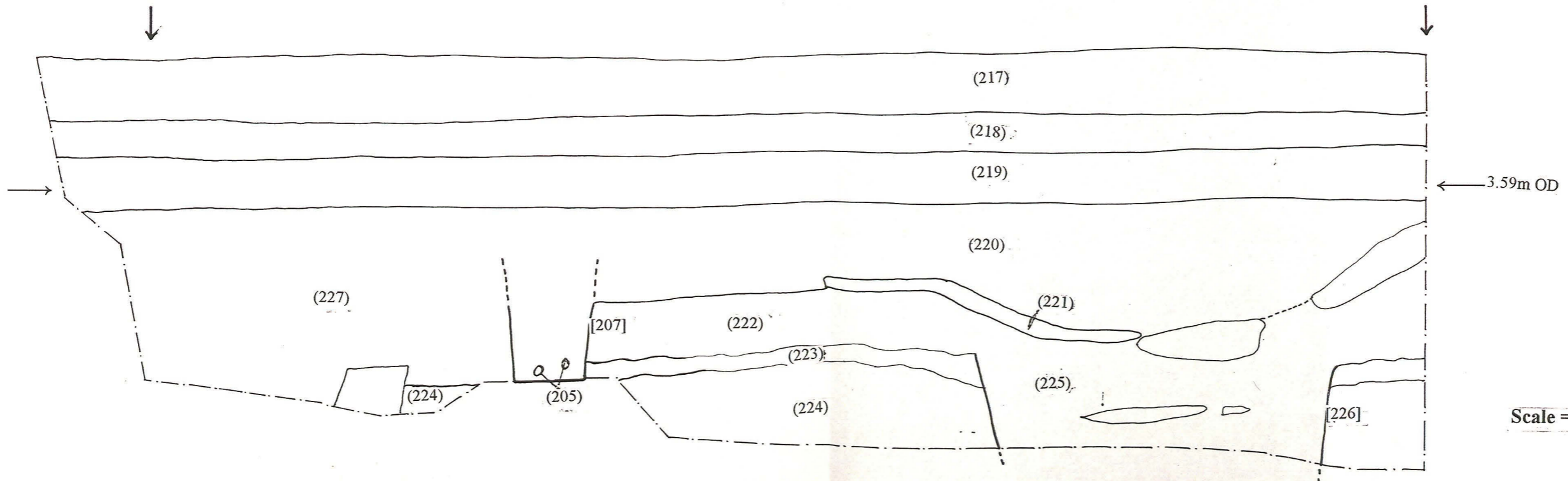
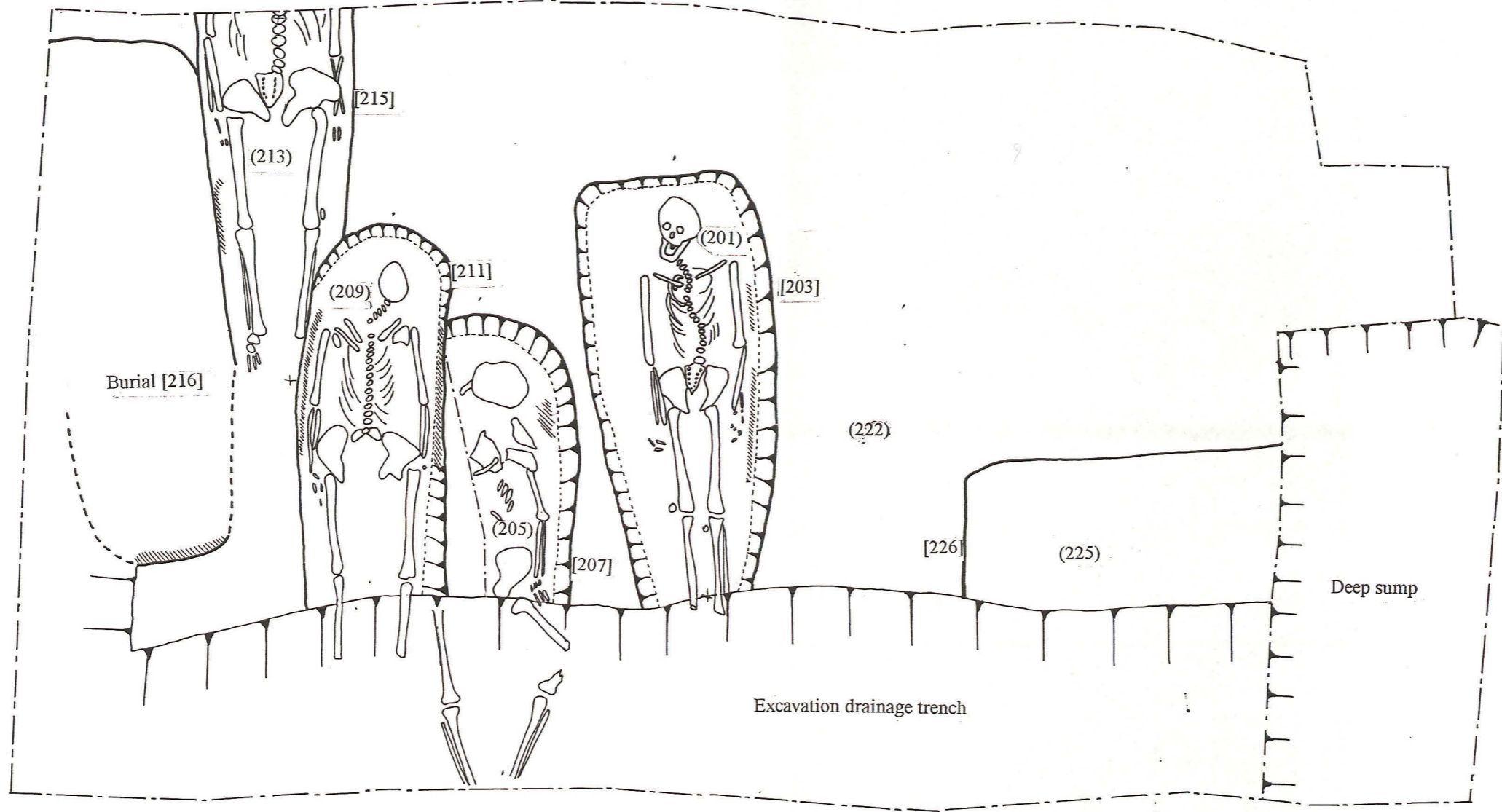
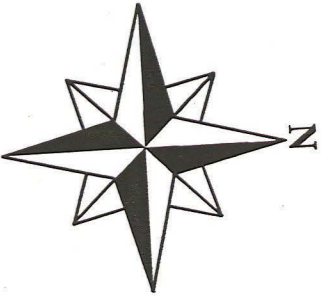


P3 Burial [201], looking west



P4 Burials [205], [209] and [213], looking west

Fig. 5 Plan and east section, Trench 2



Scale = 1:20

7.0 Archaeo-environmental potential

Both animal and human bone survives well: animal bone was present in most archaeological contexts and an archive of remains can be found in Appendix 11.2. The potential for the recovery of wet/organic remains is clearly very high: from pit [148], leather shoe soles were recovered, as was wood, including a possible hair pit. Macro and micro-fossils were present in abundance though, for the purpose of this evaluation report, detailed quantitative and qualitative analyses were not carried out.

There may be other deeply-excavated features on or near to the site of proposed development which will be equally capable of preserving such remains.

8.0 Summary and conclusions

It is clear from the descriptive account above that the archaeological potential of the site is high, and that a suitable mitigation scheme must be devised which will work to the satisfaction and needs of the school and the archaeology (below).

The identification of *in situ* deposits of Romano-British date is extremely significant, with the find from Boston Grammar School constituting the first body of such evidence to have been gathered from within the heart of the (later) medieval town. Indeed, the present findings provide a vague context for the coins which were found close to Hussey Tower in 1936 and the greyware pottery sherds recovered by D Meeds during his excavations, which were also close to the tower.

In the Roman period, the fenland water table appears to have been lower than it was during preceding and succeeding periods and, for the first time, there was much settlement on the Holocene marine silts of the central fenland (Hall and Coles 1994). Although largely unexplored by excavation, many of the fenland rural sites are well-preserved as a result of post-Roman drowning (only during the 17th century and later did many of these sites re-emerge following widespread drainage and land reclamation).

Formal land management and drainage occurred on a wide scale in the Roman fenland: the best-known major engineering work is the Car Dyke which linked the Nene with the Witham at Lincoln. Writing in the 18th century, William Stukeley suggested the work was a canal, designed to transport grain to the Roman Army in the north. However, a more recent assessment by Simmons (Simmons 1979) suggests that the Car Dyke, which is discontinuous, was a catchwater, designed to prevent flooding from higher ground to the west.

As in the preceding Iron Age, salt production was a major economic activity in the Roman fenland. In the Iron Age, sites were located, for the most part, on the fen margins. In the Roman period, salt workings appear in the heart of the silt fenlands (ie in areas which, previously, were too wet). At the site now occupied by Boston Grammar School, it is possible that salt was being processed, though this has not been proved.

The present site lies within grounds formerly belonging to the Franciscan friary. This, we know from historical sources, was in the custody of the monastery at York and was in existence prior to 1268. As a physical entity, it survived the dissolution of the monasteries under Henry VIII and was purchased from the Crown in 1545, subject to conditions. However, the house was finally demolished in 1652 (Boston Corporation Records) and is not depicted, therefore, on Robert Hall's map of 1741.

Archaeological trial trenching by A Musty in advance of the construction of the John Adams Way located stone footings; suggesting that the principal architectural components lay north of Greyfriars Lane (Musty 1972).

The cemetery associated with the friary was extensive: uncontrolled excavations on Rowley Road, and casual observations within the present school complex have demonstrated this point, which is backed-up by the five inhumation burials exposed in Trench 2 during the present investigation.

Significantly, no burials were exposed in Trench 1, suggesting that, somewhere between the two excavations, is a boundary to the cemetery. Pottery recovered from the fills of the large pit exposed in Trench 1 suggests contemporaneity between the pit and the functional life of the cemetery and, furthermore, the ceramic assemblage recovered from the pit itself constitutes a 'typical' friary assemblage (J Young, pers. comm.). It would seem unlikely, therefore, that the excavation of the pit involved the removal of earlier burials, and it is suggested that Trench 2 was positioned very close to the south-west corner of the Greyfriars cemetery - an evaluation of land almost immediately south of the present investigation (former timber yard) exposed no evidence of the cemetery (Davies and Symonds 1988), and it is even possible that the east-west fence line which lies approximately 3.7m south of Trench 2 is on the site of the former south boundary to the friary cemetery.

9.0 Mitigations

Based on the observations and records made during the present investigation, it is suggested that the most sensitive archaeological deposits occur at depths approximately 0.9m beneath the modern ground surface. This does not suggest that deposits above this level are of no significance; only that, within the areas sampled, the removal of 0.9m of stratigraphy would not have altered significantly the results and conclusions reached/obtained in this report.

The current national approach towards archaeology, within the parameters of development control (set-out in Planning Policy Guidance: Archaeology and Planning (PPG 16), 1990), is that, where possible, **important archaeological deposits should be preserved *in situ***. Where preservation *in situ* is not possible, the planning authority can consider granting planning permission subject to further excavation and/or archaeological recording during development (a watching brief).

Clearly, it would be to the benefit of all parties if the archaeology can remain largely unaffected by development. As such, it is hoped that a sympathetic foundation design will be adopted. It is understood that the following options are under detailed consideration:-

- a) strip footings (considered inappropriate due to ground variability and proximity of archaeological deposits)
- b) raft foundation: may cause some disturbance of 'made ground': 50mm differential and 25mm average settlement envisaged
- c) as above, incorporating a raised ground level to match floor level of main building (400 - 500mm higher than normal ground level)
- d) an entirely suspended construction; to impose no load to archaeological deposits, but disturbance anticipated from the use of piles (anticipated depths of 8.0m, 150mm diameter piles at 2.0m centres.

Information kindly supplied by M Sills of York Sills Ltd.

A decision of acceptance relating to the type of foundation design adopted must rest with the District Planning Authority: the willingness of the clients to consider all possible options is encouraging and, clearly, the curatorial archaeologist will wish to consider the least-destructive methodology (which may possibly be more expensive from an engineering perspective, but will inevitably save on further archaeological costs).

From the information supplied at the time of writing, the use of a raft foundation built over a raised ground level would appear to be the least-destructive proposal of those listed.

10.0 Acknowledgements

Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) would like to express their sincere thanks to the commissioning clients, Meldrum Lee and Gillatt (contact: Mr GT Lee) and to their clients, Boston Grammar School (contact: Mr R Rich). Thanks are also expressed to members of the site team (W Livesey, M Ridsdale and R Schofield) and to specialists who have contributed to this report: J Cowgill, M Darling, DJ Rackham, D Matthews and J Young. Thanks also to Mr M Sills of York Sills Ltd. for providing details on proposed foundation designs and information on soils (beneath those exposed during archaeological evaluation).

The interest and encouragement expressed by members of the Grammar School staff was gratefully received, as was the general willingness to inform the local press on this important archaeological find.

11.0 Appendices

11.1 Post-Roman pottery archive by J Young

11.2 Environmental archaeology assessment report by DJ Rackham

11.3 Small finds descriptions by JM Cowgill

11.4 Romano-British pottery archive by M Darling

11.5 List of contexts

11.6 Site archive

11.7 References cited in main text

POST-ROMAN POTTERY ARCHIVE: BGS96 WARE TYPES BY CONTEXT

Context	Ware	Sherds	Form	Comments
TR1+	DUTR	1	FIRECOVER?	SIDE PRESSED HANDLE
TR1+	MEDLOC	1	COOKPOT	FABRIC A
TR1+	SIEG	1	JUG	RIM & HANDLE;NICE
TR1+	TOY	1	JUG	?ID;ROD HANDLE
TR1+	TOY	1	JUG	HANDLE
118	SAIM	1	SMALL VESS	-
118	TOY	1	JUG	-
128	BOUA	2	JAR	SV;INT GLZE
128	MEDLOC	1	?	FABRIC INCLUDES QUARTZ -- SHELL;??SLST
128	SLST	1	COOKPOT	-
137	LSW2	1	JUG;SMALL	-
137	LSWA	1	JUG	SPL GLZE
137	MEDLOC	1	JUG	GLZE
137	MEDLOC	1	JUG	RIM & UHJ;ROD HANDLE;?? TOY
137	MEDX	1	JUG	GLZE;THU BASE
137	POTT	1	COOKPOT	RIM;HEAVILY SOOTED INT;POSSIBLY PERFORATED
142	MEDX	1	?	FABRIC INCLUDES ROUNDED CHALK + OCC GREENSAND
142	POTT	1	COOKPOT	-
142	POTT	1	COOKPOT	-
142	R	1	-	-
142	SCAR	1	JUG	? ID
142	SLST	1	COOKPOT	-
145	MEDLOC	1	JUG	COULD BE LSW2
145	SLST	1	COOKPOT	-
145	SLST	1	COOKPOT	RIM
145	SLST	1	COOKPOT	RIM
146	MEDLOC	1	JUG	BASE;SPL GLZE;VERY DISTINCTIVE;RECORD DRAW
146	MEDLOC	1	PIPKIN	HANDLE;SPL GLZE
146	SLST	1	COOKPOT	BS
147	MEDLOC	1	JUG	GLZE
147	MEDLOC	1	JUG	GLZE
147	SCAR	1	JUG	GROOVED ROD HANDLE
147	SLST	1	COOKPOT	-
147	SLST	2	BOWL	FLANGED RIM
200	LSW2/3	1	JUG	APPLIED SPOT DECORATION
200	MEDLOC	1	JUG	-
200	MEDLOC	1	JUG	GLZE
200	MEDX	1	JUG	FABRIC INCLUDES ABUNDANT MUSCOVITE
200	TOY	1	JUG	-
204	MEDLOC	1	JUG	?? TOY
204	MEDLOC	1	JUG	?? TOY
208	MEDX	1	JUG	COULD BE SCAR
212	MEDLOC	1	?	GLZE
222	LSW2	2	JUG	SV
222	LSW2/3	1	JUG/AQUAMANILE	MAN'S HEAD WITH ? CROWN;? ID

POST-ROMAN POTTERY ARCHIVE: BGS96 HORIZON DATING

Context	Earliest horizon	Latest horizon	Probable horizon	Date range
118	MH5	MH6	-	mid 13th to early 14th
128	MH4	MH6	-	early 13th to mid 14th
137	MH4	MH5	-	early to late 13th
142	MH4	MH7	-	early 13th to mid 14th
145	MH4	MH6	-	early 13th to early/mid 14th
146	MH4	MH6	-	early 13th to early/mid 14th
147	MH4	MH7	-	early 13th to mid 14th
200	MH5	MH7	MH6	late 13th to early/mid 14th
204	MH5	MH7	-	mid 13th to mid 14th
208	MH4	MH9	-	early 13th to 15th
212	MH6	MH9	-	late 13th to 15th
222	MH4	MH6	-	early 13th to early/mid 14th

	TR1+	118	128	137	142	145	146	147	200	204	208	212	222	Total
R	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
SLST	.	.	1	.	1	3	1	3	.	.	.	.	.	9
BOUA	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
LSW2	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	3
LSWA	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
MEDLOC	1	.	1	2	.	1	2	2	2	2	.	1	.	14
MEDX	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	4
POTT	.	.	.	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3
SCAR	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	2
SAIM	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
TOY	2	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	4
LSW2/3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	2
SIEG	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
DUTR	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
Total	5	2	4	6	6	4	3	6	5	2	1	1	3	48

Boston Grammar School, Boston, Lincs BGS96**Environmental Archaeology Assessment**

Four soil samples were collected from deposits exposed during an evaluation at Boston Grammar School. In addition a small collection of animal bone was collected by hand during the work. The site included Roman and medieval deposits.

The samples

The following samples were taken.

Trench no.	Context no.	Sample vol. processed in l.	context type
1	146	1.0	fill of possible pit 148
1	147	1.0	fill of possible pit 148
1	149	1.0	fill of possible pit 148
2	224	12.5	deposit of charcoal and frequent lumps fired clay

The samples were processed in the following manner.

The three samples from Trench 1 were subsampled and because they contained quantities of visible organic material were treated differently from the sample from 224 in trench 2. Samples from contexts [146], [147] and [149] in Trench 1 were sub-sampled and a 1 litre (approx. 1 kg) sample removed from each. These sub-samples were soaked in hot water and then washed and floated onto a 250 micron mesh sieve. All the organic material was swilled over onto the sieve while the heavier material was retained in the bowl. This was subsequently rinsed and dried. The organic fraction was stored wet and a proportion of the flot was studied under the microscope and assessed for the quantity and diversity of identifiable biological remains.

For context [224] volume was measured prior to processing. The sample was washed in a 'Siraf' tank using a flotation sieve with a 0.5mm mesh and an internal wet-sieve of 1mm mesh for the residue. Both residue and float were dried, the dry volume of the flot was measured, and the weight of the residue recorded. The float of this sample was studied under a low power binocular microscope. The presence of environmental finds (ie snails, charcoal, carbonised seeds, bones etc) was noted and their abundance and species diversity recorded on the assessment sheet. The float was then bagged.

The residues of each sample were sorted by eye, and environmental and archaeological finds picked out, noted on the assessment sheet and bagged independently. The residue was then bagged. The sorted residue, flot, organic material and finds constitute the material archive of the samples.

The excavated animal bone was catalogued to archive level (see attached archive) but is not discussed further.

The assessment sheets are attached and the results summarised below.

*Results***Context 146**

The preservation of plant and animal material in this context was extremely good. Identifiable seed, moss, cereal chaff, beetles, mites, fly puparia and other invertebrates have survived along with small fragments of fish bone, marine shell and bird eggshell. The identifiable organic material occurs in some quantity and a

considerable number of species would be identified if the material was studied further. A single very small sherd of pottery was recovered from the sample.

Preliminary identification of some of the material gives some indication of the nature of the deposit. Occasional *Daphnia* sp. ehippia (water fleas) suggest that the pit may have contained water at some period. The presence of large quantities of what is possibly straw, with some preserved chaff fragments, dung beetle elytra and numbers of fly puparia may indicate that stable refuse or animal stall bedding was discarded into the pit. A few *Juncus* sp seeds (rush) may also indicate hay or bedding material. Moss, mites and other identifiable remains were present.

The occurrence of bird eggshell, fish bone, including one possible herring vertebra and a few bones of cattle and sheep which were recovered during excavation indicates that domestic food waste was probably also discarded into the feature.

Context 147

The preservation of plant and animal material was equally good in this layer although there was significantly less organic material by volume. There appears to be less 'straw' and plant stem material, and the vegetated plant remains are more broken up. Seeds are common with a few rush seeds, *Chenopodium* sp. and a variety of other species and also moss. Mites, beetle fragments and fly puparia are present but less frequently than in 146.

The finds in the residue included one very small sherd of shell tempered pottery, shell fragments of cockle, mussel and oyster, bones of small ungulate, chicken and fish (probably herring), bird eggshell, a hazelnut fragment, one or two carbonised grains and charcoal fragments, and a few small wood shavings and pieces of bark. The bone collected during excavation included cattle, sheep, chicken and two large fish vertebrae.

This assemblage is very similar to that in 146 and indicates the continued deposition of domestic waste with some indication of woodworking. There is no evidence to suggest that this layer may include stable sweepings or dung but without the specific identification of the plant and insect remains this cannot be established with any certainty.

Context 149

The preservation of organic remains was also exceptional in this layer. The composition was very similar to layer 147 with 'straw' fragments abundant, and seeds and moss common. Fly puparia are very common and beetle fragments abundant.

The residue includes small wood shavings, twigs, fragments of bark off roundwood, mussel and cockle shell fragments and very small fragments of pottery, although no fish or mammal bone fragments were recovered in the 1 litre sub-sample. Nearly 40% of this sample was composed of organic material.

Context 224

This possible Roman industrial layer in Trench 2 yielded little material but with great diversity. Only small quantities of charcoal were present, and some of this small twigs, most of the 'black' in the layer washed through the 0.5mm mesh indicating that it was either small wood and plant charcoal or very crushed and comminuted timber charcoal. Small fragments of vitrified material of the sort associated with domestic fires was common, one or two flakes of hammerstone were present, and two small pieces of pottery. The residue was composed largely of partially or completely fired earth lumps, although none were large.

The environmental finds included fragments of cockle and mussel, bones of pig, vole and fish, tiny fragments of eggshell, terrestrial molluscs, a few beetle fragments, charred cereals and other seeds and a few waterlogged plant remains. In addition two fragments of cattle bone were recovered during excavation. The presence of fish, marine shell, cattle bones and carbonised cereals suggests that irrespective of any possible industrial function domestic waste was also included in the deposits. The low proportion of any substantial wood charcoal in the layer may run contrary to an industrial interpretation.

Conclusions and recommendations

The survival and preservation of material in the three medieval samples was exceptional. The bulk of the material in 146 and 149 is organic plant material. It is possible that dung or stable sweepings composed part of

the deposits in these, but if a reliable interpretation of the character and origin of the material in these layers is to be made then the plant and insect remains would need to be identified to species. General domestic food waste is suggested by the presence of edible marine mollusc shells, fish bones and fragments of domestic animal bone and bird (probably chicken) eggshell and some evidence of other activities, such as wood working is indicated by a few shavings in contexts 147 and 149.

The Roman context, 224, apart from the high content of fired earth, gives little other indication of an industrial origin. There are one or two flakes of hammerstone but this hardly indicates an industrial level of activity and the identifiable environmental material is typical of a domestic assemblage.

If a clearer picture of what these features were or any possible function is to be obtained then the finds from the samples would need to be identified to species level and reported by the relevant specialists in the study of plant and insect remains.

The organic remains within these deposits at this site would be subject to serious drying out and destruction within a relatively small timescale if the building works at the site involve the cutting of foundation or service trenches through them. This would lead to drainage, and loss of the water which is currently responsible for the survival of the remains and the introduction of oxygen thereby permitting the introduction of bacterial and fungal decay processes. Mitigation strategies for the building works should therefore ensure that these works do not intrude to a depth likely to cut, disturb or significantly compress the organic sediments. Although there is some organic material in the Roman deposits this horizon is less likely to suffer significant loss of information through drying out or compression but cuts to this depth in this area may cause movement of water from and subsequent drying out of the levels containing the organic remains in the area of Trench 1.

The preservation of the human skeletons left *in situ* at the site was exceptional and some deterioration is inevitable as a result of exposure. These remains would need to be treated with similar care and loss of water and introduction of oxygen minimised. It may be appropriate to establish Home Office advice on the leaving of burials within the footprint of a new building.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY CONSULTANCY

Key to codes used in the cataloguing of animal bones

SPECIES		BONE		SIDE	FUSION
BOS	cattle	SKL	skull	W - whole	Records the fused/unfused condition of the epiphyses
CSZ	cattle size	TEMP	temporal	L - left side	P - proximal; D - distal; E - acetabulum;
SUS	pig	FRNT	frontal	R - right side	N - unfused; F - fused; A - anterior; C - caudal
OVCA	sheep or goat	PET	petrous	F - fragment	
OVI	sheep	PAR	parietal	TOOTH WEAR - Codes are those used in Grant, A. 1982 The use of tooth wear as a guide to the age of domestic animals, in B.Wilson, C.Grigson and S.Payne (eds) <i>Ageing and sexing animal bones from Archaeological sites, 91-108.</i>	
SSZ	sheep size	OCIP	occipital	Teeth are labelled as follows in the tooth wear column:	
EQU	horse	ZYG	zygomatic	h ldpm4/dupm4	f ldpm2/dupm2
CER	red deer	MAND	mandible	H lpm4/upm4	g ldpm3/dupm3
CAN	dog	MAX	maxilla	I lm1/uml	
MAN	human	ATL	atlas	J lm2/um2	
UNI	unknown	AXI	axis	K lm3/um3	
CHIK	chicken	CEV	cervical vertebra		
GOOS	goose, dom	TRV	thoracic vertebra		
LEP	hare	LMV	lumbar vertebra		
UNB	indet bird	SAC	sacrum		
MALL	duck, dom.	CDV	caudal vertebra	ZONES - zones record the part of the bone present.	
GULL	gull sp.	SCP	scapula	The key to each zone on each bone is on page 2	
FISH	fish	HUM	humerus		
UNIB	bird indet	RAD	radius		
UNIF	fish indet	MTC	metacarpus	MEASUREMENTS - Any measurements are those listed in A.Von den Driesch (1976) <i>A Guide to the Measurement of Animal Bones from Archaeological Sites, Peabody Museum Bulletin 1, Peabody Museum, Harvard, USA</i>	
GSZE	goose size	MCL1-4	metacarpus 1-4		
		INN	innominate		
		ILM	ilium		
		PUB	pubis		
		ISH	ischium		
		FEM	femur		
		TIB	tibia		
		AST	astragalus		
		CAL	calcaneum		
		MTT	metatarsus		
		MT1-4	metatarsus 1-4		
		PH1	1st phalanx		
		PH2	2nd phalanx		
		PH3	3rd phalanx		
		LM1-LM3	Lower molar 1 - molar 3		
		UM1-UM3	upper molar 1 - molar 3		
		LPM1-LPM4	lower premolar 1-4		
		UPM1-UPM4	upper premolar 1-4		
		DLPM1-4	deciduous lower premolar 1-4		
		DUPM1-4	deciduous upper premolar 1-4		
		MNT	mandibular tooth		
		MXT	maxillary tooth		
		LBF	long bone		
		UNI	unidentified		
		STN	sternum		
		INC	incisor		
		TTH	indet. tooth		
		CMP	carpo-metacarpus		

ZONES - codes used to define zones on each bone

SKULL - 1. paraoccipital process	METACARPUS -	1. medial facet of proximal articulation, MC3
2. occipal condyle		2. lateral facet of proximal articulation, MC4
3. intercornual protuberance		3. medial distal condyle, MC3
4. external acoustic meatus		4. lateral distal condyle, MC4
5. frontal sinus		5. anterior distal groove and foramen
6. ectorbitale		6. medial or lateral distal condyle
7. entorbitale		
8. temporal articular facet	FIRST PHALANX	1. proximal epiphysis
9. facial tuber		2. distal articular facet
0. infraorbital foramen		
MANDIBLE	INNOMINATE	1. tuber coxae
1. Symphyseal surface		2. tuber sacrale + scar
2. diastema		3. body of illium with dorso-medial foramen
3. lateral diastemal foramen		4. iliopubic eminence
4. coronoid process		5. acetabular fossa
5. condylar process		6. symphyseal branch of pubis
6. angle		7. body of ischium
7. anterior dorsal ascending ramus posterior M3		8. ischial tuberosity
8. mandibular foramen		9. depression for medial tendon of rectus femoris
VERTEBRA	FEMUR	1. head
1. spine		2. trochanter major
2. anterior epiphysis		3. trochanter minor
3. posterior epiphysis		4. supracondyloid fossa
4. centrum		5. distal medial condyle
5. neural arch		6. lateral distal condyle
SCAPULA		7. distal trochlea
1. supraglenoid tubercle		8. trochanter tertius
2. glenoid cavity		
3. origin of the distal spine	TIBIA	1. proximal medial condyle
4. tuber of spine		2. proximal lateral condyle
5. posterior of neck with foramen		3. intercondylar eminence
6. cranial angle of blade		4. proximal posterior nutrient foramen
7. caudal angle of blade		5. medial malleolus
HUMERUS		6. lateral aspect of distal articulation
1. head		7. distal pre-epiphyseal portion of the diaphysis
2. greater tubercle		
3. lesser tubercle	CALCANEUM	1. calcaneal tuber
4. intertuberal groove		2. sustentaculum tali
5. deltoid tuberosity		3. processus anterior
6. dorsal angle of olecranon fossa		
7. capitulum		
8. trochlea	METATARSUS	1. medial facet of proximal articulation, MT3.
RADIUS		2. lateral facet of proximal articulation, MT4
1. medial half of proximal epiphysis		3. medial distal condyle, MT3
2. lateral half of proximal epiphysis		4. lateral distal condyle, MT4
3. posterior proximal ulna scar and foramen		5. anterior distal groove and foramen
4. medial half of distal epiphysis		6. medial or lateral distal condyle
5. lateral half of distal epiphysis		
6. distal shaft immediately above distal epiphysis		
ULNA		
1. olecranon tuberosity		
2. trochlear notch- semilunaris		
3. lateral coronoid process		
4. distal epiphysis		

ARCHIVE CATALOGUE OF ANIMAL BONES FOR BGS96

SITE	CON.	SPEC.	BONE	NO	SIDE	FUS	ZONES	TOOTH WEAR	COMMENTS
BGS96	142	BOS	INN	1	R	EF	459		ACETABULUM-FEMALE-DISTAL ISH AND PUBIS CHOPPED
BGS96	142	BOS	CEV	1	F	CFAF	234		LEFT SIDE-CHOPPED AXIALLY
BGS96	142	BOS	AXI	1	F	AN	1245		DAMAGED-WITH KNIFE CUTS-JUVENILE
BGS96	145	EQU	HUM	1	R	PF	123450		PROXIMAL HALF
BGS96	145	CSZ	RIB	1	R				PROX SHAFT FRAGMENT-PROX CHOPPED
BGS96	145	BOS	CAL	1	L	PN	23		PROX EPI LOST
BGS96	145	OVCA	INN	1	R	EF	234579		PROX ILIUM CHOPPED-DIST ISH CHEWED-MALE?
BGS96	145	CHIK	MTT	1	L				COMPLETE- GL-88.3- MALE
BGS96	145	GOOS	ULN	1	R				PROX 2/3 SHAFT
BGS96	145	BOS	HC	1	R				BASAL HALF-3 PIECES-BASE CHOPPED-CORE SAWN IN RING
BGS96	145	BOS	HC	1	R				COMPLETE-LARGE-MALE? MABD-101 MINBD-67.8-BASE CHOPPED
BGS96	146	CSZ	RIB	1	R				SHAFT FRAG-PROX AND DISTAL CHOPPED
BGS96	146	BOS	SCP	1	L				FRAG DISTAL GLENOID-SPLIT ?CHOPPED
BGS96	146	OVI	ATL	1	F	EF			WINGS DAMAGED- LEFT SIDE CHOPPED AXIALLY
BGS96	146	OVCA	RAD	1	L	DF	456		DISTAL HALF
BGS96	147	CSZ	RIB	1	F				SHAFT FRAGMENT-PROX AND DISTAL CHOPPED
BGS96	147	CSZ	RIB	1	F				SHAFT FRAGMENT- CUT
BGS96	147	CSZ	RIB	1	F				SHAFT FRAG- PROX AND DISTAL CHOPPED
BGS96	147	BOS	MTT	1	F				POST DISTAL SHAFT-SPLIT LONGITUDINALLY
BGS96	147	BOS	TIB	1	L	DN	7		FRAG DISTAL SHAFT
BGS96	147	BOS	RAD	1	L	DN	6		VERY SMALL-CALF-DISTAL HALF SHAFT
BGS96	147	BOS	HUM	1	R	DF	78		DISTAL CONDYLE ONLY-CHOPPED OFF SHAFT
BGS96	147	OVCA	INN	1	L	EF	7		ISCHIAL SHAFT-SMALL-POST SLIGHTLY CHEWED
BGS96	147	OVCA	MTT	1	L		12		PROXIMAL HALF
BGS96	147	BOS	FEM	1	L				POST DIST SHAFT-VERY POROUS-SMALL-CALF-SHAFT CUT
BGS96	147	CHIK	ULN	1	R				COMPLETE GL-63.8
BGS96	147	FISH	VER	1	W				SPECIES NOT IDENTIFIED-LARGISH FISH
BGS96	147	FISH	VER	1	W				POSSIBLE SALMONID-LARGISH FISH
BGS96	200	OVCA	CAL	1	L	PF	12		PROXIMAL HALF
BGS96	200	CHIK	TIB	1	L				DISTAL HALF-DISTAL ARTIC CUT
BGS96	224	BOS	TIB	1	R				PROX SHAFT FRAGMENT
BGS96	224	BOS	PH2	1	L	PF	12		COMPLETE-SMALL

11.3 Small finds descriptions by JM Cowgill

BGS 96 FINDS REPORT AND CATALOGUE LCCM 102.96

Jane Cowgill
September 1996

Context 142 <1> BONE BODKIN

Highly polished but little obvious wear in the perforation. These objects are commonly from Early medieval contexts but are also found throughout the medieval period and also in Roman deposits. The use of them is uncertain and it is thought (from the variations in the location of the polish) that they may have more than one use; repairing fishing nets is often cited.

Context 224 <2> CLAY LUMPS

4 lumps of natural clay (520g) that has not been fired but could be lightly baked. It is poorly or unevenly wedged. Most of the pieces have a smooth tooled surface, one has a right angle. These probably represent the remains of an ?internal structural feature.

Context 147 <3> WOOD PIN

A typical simple complete medieval pin which would have been used as a hair pin or for any other 'useful' purpose. They are often made from box wood although the nature of this wood is not known.

This object should be conserved to allow for it to be stored dry.

11. 4 Archive of Romano-British pottery (MJ Darling)

BOSTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL (BGS96)

- (200) x1 RB grey body sherd
- (204) x1 RB grey body sherd
- (208) x1 RB grey body sherd (burnished)
- (222) x1 rim; simple jar; C2nd or later
- (224) x2 NVCC; C3rd or later
x1 string-marked base; C3rd/4th

Comment: assemblage not earlier than early C3rd; broadly C3rd/C4th

11.5 BOSTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL (BGS96): CONTEXTS

Trench 1

Context	Classification
[100]	Mid grey/brown sandy silt with occasional sub-rounded pebbles and small tile fragments. Depth 0.2 m.
[101]	Upper Fill of feature [109]. Deposit of mid brown silt with a lens of small tile and brick fragments with occasional limestone fragments. Patches of yellow mortar and charcoal flecks. Depth 0.26 m. Contained by [109].
[102]	Essentially same as [101]; differentiated by tile & brick lens; depth 0.4 m. Contained by [109].
[103]	Fill: yellow/brown sandy silt with occasional red flecks and yellow mortar. Occasional shell inclusions. Deposit tips down steeply, and thickens, to the west. Depth 0.2-0.3 m. Contained by [109].
[104]	Fill: mid grey gritty silt with small tile inclusions. Moderate charcoal and yellow mortar flecking. Tips steeply to the west. Depth 0.18 m. Contained by [109].
[105]	Fill: light yellow/brown fine sandy silt with occasional small fragments of red tile. Tipping steeply and thickening westwards. Depth 0.1-0.3 m. Contained by [109].
[106]	Fill: light grey/brown-mid grey slightly gritty silt with mortar and charcoal flecks. Tile inclusions and occasional limestones. Tips steeply westwards. Depth 0.5 m. Contained by [109].
[107]	Fill: light greyish brown gritty silt. Charcoal and mortar flecks and occasional tile fragments. Tips steeply towards the west. Depth 0.28 m. Contained by [109].
[108]	Primary (recorded) Fill: light grey gritty silt with frequent oyster and mussel shell inclusions. Frequent tile and brick; charcoal, and mortar flecks. Depth > 0.4 m. Contained by [109].
[109]	Structure: Comprised of a single width coursed brick wall. Bricks 270x130x6 mm. Bonded by off white/pale yellow mortar. Western extent appeared open. Contained by [144].
[110]	Fill: mid brown gritty silt with frequent brick and tile fragments. Frequent pockets of mortar. Fills void between structures [113] & [109]. Depth 0.65 m. ? Contained by [111].

- [111] ? Cut: visible only in East Section. Steep sided on west side, if this is a cut (rather than a tip line) it truncates structure [109].
- [112] Deposit. Greyish light brown soft fine sandy silt. Occasional charcoal flecks and shell fragments. Relationships to [144] & [133] not clear. Depth 0.22 m.
- [113] Structure: Surviving to 8 courses, this wall was comprised of a twin faced bricks with an off-white/pale yellow mortar core and bonding. Showed in East Section only. Contained by [133].
- [114] Deposit: mid grey-brown gritty silt with shell inclusions and moderate charcoal flecking. Occasional fired clay/silt fragments. Indistinct interface with [115]. Depth 0.18-0.22 m.
- [115] Deposit: mid orange-brown gritty silt with charcoal flecking. Occasional fired clay/silt and tile fragments. Depth 0.2-0.26 m. *May* not be a true deposit, may be interface between [114] & [116].
- [116] Deposit: mid orange-brown gritty silt with charcoal flecking. Occasional fired clay/silt and tile fragments with patches of mortar. Occasional sub-rounded pebbles Depth 0.26 m. Possible ground build-up dump.
- [117] Deposit: light orange brown sandy silt with charcoal flecking. Sub-rounded pebbles, brick and tile inclusions. Deposit tips gradually northwards. Depth 0.16-0.22 m. Ground raising dump.
- [118] Deposit: lens of tile and brick fragments within a crushed fragment/fired clay matrix. Depth 0.1 m. width 1.2 m.
- [119] Deposit: Light brown clayey fine silt with mortar and red flecking. Occasional shell inclusions. Deposit tips northwards. Depth 0.12-0.2 m.
- [120] Deposit: firm light yellow-brown silty clay with charcoal flecking. Occasional shell inclusions. Depth 0.14-0.2 m. Possibly re-deposited natural.
- [121] Deposit: light grey-brown clayey silt with charcoal and red flecking (?fired clay) Depth 0.1 m.
- [122] Deposit: same as [123] Depth 0.3 m.
- [123] Soft yellow-brown fine sandy silt. Depth 0.08-0.2 m.
- [124] Deposit consisting of a light grey-brown slightly clayey silt with occasional small shell inclusions and charcoal flecking. Average depth 0.08 m. thickening northwards.

- [125]a-d Deposit consisting of three distinct bands of pale orange silts. Slumps into [148]. Overall depth c.0.2 m.
- [126] Deposit: mixed pale orange clay and light grey sandy silt with occasional pockets of green-grey clay. Occasional charcoal flecks and one tile fragment. Depth 0.2 m.
- [127] Fill: upper fill comprising of a clean light greyish brown fine silty sand. Depth 0.08 m. Contained by [43]
- [128] Fill: light grey-brown clayey silt with frequent patches of off-white/pale yellow mortar. Frequent tile fragments and occasional charcoal flecks. Depth 0.44 m. Contained by [143].
- [129] and Deposit: Light grey mottled sandy silt with moderate shell inclusions occasional lumps of mortar. Deposit tips northwards. Depth 0.15 m. Possibly same as [140].
- [130] Fill: Light orange brown fine sandy silt with pockets of yellow/orange clay and containing charcoal and tile. Contained by [143], depth 0.36 m.
- [131] Natural yellow silt.
- [132] Deposit of limestone rubble within a grey-brown silt matrix. Depth 0.2 m.
- [133] Construction cut for structure [113]
- [134] Deposit: light orange brown fine silt. Depth 0.18 m.
- [135] Deposit: firm pale orange silty clay. Depth 0.08 m. slumps into [148]
- [136] Deposit of red fired clay with frequent charcoal flecking. Depth 0.1 m.
- [137] Fill: light grey-brown fine sandy silt with shell and charcoal inclusions. Depth 0.18 m. contained by [148]
- [138] Deposit comprised of a single band of mortar. Depth 0.18 m. and cut by [148]; sealed by [126].
- [139] Feature: possible hearth comprised of *in situ* burnt clay/silt. Truncated on north side by [148]. Depth 0.005 m.
- [140] Deposit consisting of orange-grey fine sandy silt with frequent iron panning. Depth 0.06-0.08 m.

- [141] Deposit: light orange brown fine sandy silt with iron panning. Depth 0.3 m. Truncated by [148]
- [142] Fill of [148]: Light orange brown fine sandy silt with charcoal flecks. Depth 0.12 m.
- [143] Cut: Recorded only in section as removed by JCB. Vertical sided with a flat base. Depth 0.5 m. Contains [127], [128] & [130].
- [144] Construction trench for structure [109].
- [145] Fill of [148]. Mid grey fine clayey silt with charcoal, shell, and mortar inclusions. Depth 0.18 m.
- [146] Fill of [148]. Mid grey/brown silt matrix with organic material. Depth 0.12-0.14 m.
- [147] Fill of [148]. Very dark grey clayey silt. Depth 0.3-0.5 m.
- [148] Feature: Cut and fill series of possible pit in southern part of trench. Depth of feature 1.22 m.
- [149] Fill of [148]. Mid grey-brown silt with organic content. Depth 0.25 m.
- [150] Deposit/Fill: whitish brown fine sandy silt. Depth 0.06-0.15 m.
- [151] Fill of [148]. Light orange/brown fine silt. Possibly same as [155]. Depth 0.12 m.
- [152] Fill of [148]. Light to mid grey gritty silt. Black flecks and shell inclusions. Depth 0.3 m.
- [153] Deposit: slump of natural light grey silt on south edge of [148]. Depth 0.26 m.
- [154] Fill of [148]. mid grey fine clayey silt. Depth 0.1-0.18 m.
- [155] Fill of [148]. Light orange-brown sandy/gritty silt with occasional shell and charcoal. Depth 0.12 m.
- [156] Primary fill of [148]. Light orange/grey fine silt. Depth 0.15 m.
- [157] Deposit/Fill: Light grey-brown fine sandy silt with shell and charcoal inclusions. Not determined whether this was a fill or deposit slumping into [148]. Depth c. 0.3 m.
- [158] Deposit consisting of whitish brown fine sandy silt. ?same as [150]. Depth 0.04-0.06 m.

- [159] Deposit: red fired clay within a mid brown sandy silt. Depth 0.05 m.
- [160] Fill of [161]. Light orange brown friable silt with occasional charcoal flecks and limestones. Depth 0.38 m.
- [161] Cut: possibly a post hole; recorded only in section. Steep sided with a concave base. Depth 0.38 m.
- [162] Deposit: light brown fine sandy silt lens. Depth 0.01 m.
- [163] Layer. Mid blue-grey fine silt layer truncated by [148]. Depth 0.1-0.11 m. ?natural.
- [164] Layer. Natural deposit of pale orange silt. Depth >0.7 m.
- [165] Deposit comprised of light brown gritty silt matrix with off white mortar. Frequent charcoal flecks and fragments of tile. Depth 0.2 m (max.)
- [166] Fill of [166]. Mid-dark grey gritty silt with tile and charcoal. Depth not determined.
- [167] Deposit: greenish light brown fine sand with iron panning. Depth variable 0.05-0.16 m.

Trench 2

Context

Classification

- [200] Grave Fill: Grey-brown silty sand with occasional pottery, stone and tile inclusions. Depth 0.2 m.
- [201] Articulated skeleton of (?) Female in a good state of preservation. Aligned east-west with arms extended along body in supine position. Feet truncated by machine. Length 1.51 m. width 0.43 m.
- [202] Coffin: intermittent traces of wood around periphery of skeleton [201].
- [203] Grave Cut: East-west aligned sub-rectangular cut with steep sides and flat base. Depth 0.2 m.
- [204] Grave Fill: mixed grey/brown silty sand with medieval pottery inclusions. Depth 0.21 m.
- [205] Articulated skeleton aligned east-west in supine position with arms extended along side of body. Skull disturbed and left femur broken

possibly in antiquity as articulated at hip and knee. Length 1.6 m. width 0.4 m.

- [206] Coffin: intermittent traces of decayed wood around periphery of skeleton [205].
- [207] Grave Cut: East-west aligned sub-rectangular cut with steep sides; depth 0.21 m. not fully excavated.
- [208] Grave Fill: comprised of a mottled dark grey/brown sandy silt with occasional inclusions of pottery and tile. Depth 0.2 m.
- [209] Articulated skeleton: supine position with arms along sides and aligned east-west. Break between cervical and thoracic vertebrae with a gap of 7.0 cm. Skull damaged by machine. Length 1.4 m. width 0.5 m.
- [210] Coffin: intermittent traces of wooden coffin with copper alloy studs suggesting coffin lining. Studs 12 mm. (head diameter) x 16 mm. (length).
- [211] Grave Cut: poorly defined (?) sub-rectangular cut aligned east-west; east side truncated by drainage trench. Depth 0.2 m.
- [212] Grave Fill: light grey/brown sandy silt with occasional pottery inclusions.
- [213] Lower half of articulated skeleton (upper half below west section) Cut by grave [211] resulting in loss of left foot. Length > 1.4 m. width 0.5 m.
- [214] Coffin: slight traces of timber coffin around periphery of skeleton [213]
- [215] Grave Cut: not detected in plan.
- [216] Grave Fill: mid grey/brown sandy silt. Not fully excavated.
- [217] Layer comprised of an homogenous mid grey/brown silty sand with occasional inclusions of small stones, pebbles and tile. Modern topsoil horizon. Depth 0.25 m.
- [218] Compact layer of brown silty sand with red and white mottling. Inclusions of small stones and frequent tile fragments. Sealed by [217] this horizon appears to be a relatively recent levelling horizon. Depth 0.16 m.
- [219] Layer: extensive dark brown soft sandy silt with very few inclusions (little stone with occasional tile fragments). Depth 0.2 m.

- [220] Layer sealed by [219] and comprised off a clean mid brown sandy silt with moderate inclusions of small stones and tile. Depth 0.38 m.
- [221] Layer/Fill: layer of charcoal seen in north side of East Section dipping into upper void of feature [226].
- [222] Extensive layer of clean light brown sandy silt below [220]/[221]. Indistinct interface with underlying deposit [223]. Depth 0.22 m.
- [223] Deposit of clean yellow/orange silt between [222] and [224]. Indistinct interface with [222] but sharp with [224]. Possible flood/wash horizon over Romano-British phase. Depth 0.1 m.
- [224] Extensive deposit of charcoal mixed with frequent lumps of fired silt/clay (? briquetage). Seen in North & East Sections and drainage trench close to the north side of the West Section. Substantial deposit, depth > 0.4 m. Possibly an industrial deposit associated with Romano-British salt making.
- [225] Fill of a large feature seen in East Section and identified in plan from layer [222]. Fill comprises of lenses of brown soil and stones. Depth > 0.4 m. Contained by [226]
- [226] Steep sided pit seen on north side of East Section. Contained [225]. Depth > 0.4 m. Diameter 1.5 m.
- [227] Generic context of deposit(s) above [224] in cemetery area: indistinct, mixed brown sandy silt with yellow mottling; depth 0.75 m. Sealed by [219].

11.6 Site archive

A detailed site archive consisting of the paper and physical element is currently being prepared. This will be deposited at the City and County Museum, Lincoln within six months following project completion. A summary of material contained in the archive is presented thus:-

x 1 A4 file containing context record sheets, drawing record sheet, small finds record sheet

x6 1:20 site drawings

x3 colour print films

x1 post-Roman pottery assessment archive

x1 Roman pottery assessment archive

x1 animal bone and environmental assessment and archive

x2 boxes of artefacts

x1 interim/developers report

miscellaneous notes and correspondence.

Following submission, the site archived may be accessed at Lincoln City and County Museum by quoting the global accession number (102.96).

11.7 References cited in main text

Davies, G and Symonds, J, 1988 *South End, Boston: An Archaeological Assessment - December 1988* (unpublished)

Hall, D and Coles, J, 1994 *Fenland Survey: An Essay in Landscape and Persistence* (English Heritage)

Lane, TW, 1993 *East Anglian Archaeology* No. 66

Musty, AES, 1972 *Excavations at Boston Lincolnshire in 1972* (unpublished)

Palmer-Brown, CPH, 1996: *Archaeological Desk Top Study: Boston Grammar School, Boston* (unpublished)

Simmons, BB, 1979 The Lincolnshire Car Dyke: navigation or drainage? *Britannia*, 10, 183 - 96

White, AJ, 1976 'Boston', *LHA* 11, 57