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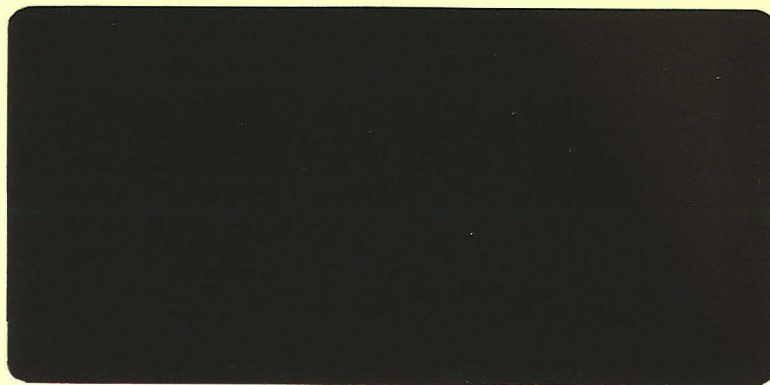
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON  
LAND AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,  
COVENHAM ST. MARY,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(CSM96)**



**A P S**  
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON  
LAND AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,  
COVENHAM ST. MARY,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(CSM96)**

Work Undertaken For  
Mack and Brown on behalf of  
Covenham St. Mary  
Parochial Church Council

March 1997

TF 339 7 9432

Report Compiled by  
Neil Herbert

A.P.S. Report N° 52/96

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## 1. SUMMARY

*An enhanced archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the construction of an entrance porch to the church of St. Mary, Covenham St. Mary, Lincolnshire. The watching brief examined the foundation trenches following their excavation and recorded elements of the church wall prior to construction.*

*Investigation of the site revealed a complicated sequence of human burial and construction activity, cut into the natural boulder clay. A sequence of pits, possibly related to later phases of building work, was also recovered. The remains of an earlier porch floor and the foundations of the south wall of the nave were also recorded. An elevation of the southern entrance to the church has revealed at least three phases of construction. Spoil from the excavation of the trenches was sieved and fragments of slag, flint and pottery dating to the 13th-14th and 16th-17th centuries were retrieved.*

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Background

Between the 10th and 15th October 1996, an archaeological watching brief with some salvage excavation and building recording was undertaken prior to the construction of a porch adjoining the church of St. Mary at Covenham St. Mary, near Louth, Lincolnshire (National Grid Reference TF 3397 9432). Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application N/038/2207/91. Permission was granted subject to a standard condition for archaeological recording. To carry out the work a faculty was required under the Care of Churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure 1991. The archaeological work was commissioned by Mack and Brown on behalf of Covenham

St. Mary Parochial Church Council. The work was carried out by Archaeological Project Services in accordance with a brief set by the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council (Appendix 1) and the detailed requirements of East Lindsey District Council (Appendix 2).

### 2.2 Topography, Geology & Soils

Covenham St. Mary is located approximately 7km north of Louth in the administrative district of East Lindsey, Lincolnshire (Fig.1). The church of St. Mary lies in the village centre.

Covenham St. Mary is a marshland village and lies at approximately 6m OD at the foot of a north facing slope which constitutes the south bank of a small stream valley. Soils at the site are Holderness Association, typical stagnogleys developed on chalky till and glacio-fluvial drift (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 214). Underlying these deposits is a solid geology of Upper Cretaceous chalks.

Locally, soils were predominantly sandy silts overlying a stratigraphy of silty clays containing occasional fragments of weathered chalks and flints. A firm, mid-brown clay with moderate fragments of chalk formed the earliest natural deposit encountered during the investigation.

### 2.3 Archaeological Setting

The development site lies in the churchyard of, and against the parish church of Covenham St. Mary (Fig.3). Covenham is first referred to in a Yorkshire charter of 855, and derives its name from the Old English 'ham' and 'cofa', meaning a settlement in a recess of a hill or valley (Ekwall 1974, 126). It is again mentioned in the Domesday survey of 1086. Here it is recorded as belonging to two manors, those of the Bishop of Durham and of William de Perci (Foster and Longley 1976, 32, 103).



At this time there was already a church and seven salt-pans in the parish. It is also recorded that the Bishop of Durham had given land to St. Carilef, of Le Mans in France, to build a priory. There was no indication of where or how large the priory was, but six of St. Carilef's men were working in Skidbrook.

In the later Lindsey Survey, dated to between 1115 and 1118, note is made of the monks of Covenham, here mentioned as *Coevham*, holding three carucates of land (approximately 360 acres) whilst Alan de Perci held only two (Foster and Longley 1976, 249, 258).

The priory of Covenham was eventually sold to the Benedictine monks of Kirkstead Abbey in 1303 (Owen 1971, 54). No remains of this priory have so far been found. Kirkstead held the land until the Dissolution at which time it held one-quarter Knight's Fee and the churches of Covenham, presumably St. Mary's and St. Bartholomew's (Page 1988, 137).

In 1359, Bishop Gynwell issued a temporary license for a new chancel at Covenham St. Mary's (Owen 1971, 27). The fabric of the present church dates to the 15th century although there are some 14th century elements incorporated into the building (DoE 1986, 4). Whether these derive from an earlier church remains uncertain.

## 2.4 Covenham St. Mary Church

The church of St. Mary lies central to the present-day village. It is surrounded by a small churchyard and is made chiefly from blocks of chalk, limestone and ironstone; the typical building material of the area.

The chancel of the church was licensed by c. 1359 and contains alterations and repairs dating to the 15th, late 18th and 19th centuries. Materials used in the construction

of the church include: squared chalk blocks, ironstone and limestone rubble, red brick, slate and pantiles (DoE 1986, 4).

A window in the eastern wall is of 14th century date and a blocked doorway of 15th century date is contained within the wall of the north nave. A stone in the eastern reveal bears a scratch dial. Prior to the work at the southern entrance to the church, there stood a late 18th century brick porch with raised coped gables and kneelers with a pantile roof. This had a round arched outer opening with keyblock, containing a wooden Gothick railed gate (*ibid*).

Demolition of this porch revealed the inner doorway, dated to the 14th century (Plate 1 and Fig.8). Features displayed by the doorway include continuous sunk wave moulding and a moulded hood. The nave roof is a 19th century timber barrel vault, but is supported on massive 15th century braced ties with blank shields towards the end of the braces, resting on 15th century corbels, probably repositioned; some of which are decorated with grotesque figures (*ibid*).

## 3. AIMS

According to the definition by the Institute of Field Archaeologists 'an archaeological watching brief will record the archaeological resource during development within a specified area'. To be carried out during groundworks, the aims of the watching brief should be to ensure that any archaeological features exposed by the groundworks are recorded and interpreted. Specific requirements for the work are listed at Appendix 1, paragraphs 6.1-6.2.

Additional requirements, specified by East Lindsey District Council in discussion with Lincolnshire County Council and the Archaeological Advisor to the Diocesan



Advisory Committee, and are listed at Appendix 2. The agreed programme of archaeological works was:

- i The removal of the foundation that had already been built and the re-cutting of the trenches.
- ii Excavation of the junction of the now demolished porch with the nave wall (on the east side of the porch foundations).
- iii Sieving of material already removed to retrieve all possible human remains.

#### 4. METHODS

Three trenches, forming the west, south and east foundations for the new south porch, were opened by machine in the absence of any archaeologists. Each trench measured approximately 4m x 0.8m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.2m below ground surface. Concrete footings had been laid in the trenches. These were removed upon instruction of ELDC, but without archaeological supervision.

The trench sections and base were cleaned and examined by hand. Subsequently, these trenches were archaeologically recorded using the system designed by the Museum of London Archaeological Service. Each archaeological deposit or feature revealed within the trench was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. Thereafter, to assist analysis, a stratigraphic matrix was created and phased. Additionally, the natural geology was recorded.

Spoil that had been removed from the trenches was sieved in order that any artifacts could be recovered. Human skeletal remains were separated for re-burial. A small excavation at the junction of the porch and nave wall was completed and an

elevation of the southern entrance was produced. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and plans at a scale of 1:20.

Due to the machine excavation of the trenches in the absence of any archaeologists much of the information that was expected to be retrieved had been removed. This action mitigated against any detailed excavation of archaeological deposits, as most of the stratigraphic sequence had been destroyed.

#### 5. DESCRIPTION OF THE EXCAVATION

Records of the deposits and features identified during the watching brief were examined. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them. A total of four phases were identified:

- Phase 1: Natural deposits
- Phase 2: Burial deposits
- Phase 3: Construction deposits
- Phase 4: Modern deposits

Archaeological contexts are listed below and described (Appendix 3). The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

##### Phase 1: Natural Deposits

The earliest deposits encountered during the examination of the trenches consisted of a mid-brown clay containing moderate small (20mm) fragments of chalk (004). Although heavily truncated by the actions of later burials, (004) occurs at a depth of *c.* 40cm below the present ground surface (Fig.5).

Due to the homogeneous nature of the natural geology it was possible to define the deposit as a single context (004), observed



throughout all of the trenches (Fig.4).

## Phase 2: Burial Deposits

Observed in section and plan was a sequence of human burials that formed the majority of the deposits encountered during the watching brief (Figs.4-7). Unfortunately, the unsupervised machining of the trenches had resulted in the removal of a significant proportion of the human skeletal remains. This mitigated against any detailed interpretation of burial practice that one would expect to retrieve from such a site. The archaeologists present on the site were able only to extract relevant surviving stratigraphic information from the sides and bases of the excavated trenches.

A total of 17 possible grave cuts were identified during the watching brief (006, 008 (Plate 3), 011, 013, 016, 020, 026, 031, 047, 052, 054, 074, 077, 088, 101, 102 and 104), though only eight of these contained identifiable human remains. Human burials were exposed to a depth of 1.2m below the present ground surface.

The posture of all of the skeletons identified was consistently supine and orientated west-east (009, 014, 017, 018, 021, 025, 045, 055). Several other remains, such as (080) (Fig.6), were too badly truncated to suggest a specific style of mortuary behaviour.

Although the eight skeletons exposed were not excavated it was possible to examine seven of them *in situ* and tentatively suggest the ages at death of the individuals. Three skeletons were believed to be those of adults (009, 018 and 045), two were described as adolescents (014 and 017) and two as juveniles (021 and 025).

Continued use of the graveyard over a long period of time was evident in a number of places where later graves had been dug into the same location as earlier burials, *eg* (052)

and (054) (Fig.7). This is also evident in plan, *eg* (023) and (026) (Fig.4) and has resulted in the development of a complex stratigraphic sequence.

The fills of the graves chiefly consist of mid-brown clays, silty clays and sandy clays. Exceptions include (038), consisting of a dark grey-brown clayey silt containing frequent chalk flecks and occasional fragments of coal (Fig.5). Context (044), consisting of soft, white chalk, may reflect a more deliberate act as it appears to form a lining at the base of a possible grave (Fig.6).

## Phase 3: Construction Deposits

A series of pits and structural remains were recovered during the archaeological investigations to the south of the porch. These features and deposits generally occurred later than the burials, and are discussed as a single phase. The term 'construction' incorporates any activity that is believed to relate to any development, or alteration to structures within the vicinity of the churchyard.

At the junction of Trench 3 with the south wall of the nave (Figs.4 and 7) an earlier buttress and the foundation for the south wall of the nave, was recorded (Plate 4). Cut (003, 028) was partially exposed, and extends east-west before turning sharply to run north-south, prior to turning west into Section 5 (Fig.4). It contained the remains of chalk and sandstone fragments that formed the foundations for the south wall of the nave and an earlier buttress (002, 027) (Plate 2). The most southerly length of this feature contains (029) which has been interpreted as a backfill deposit (Fig.7), probably dumped after some of the foundations had been robbed (see Appendix 5). A sequence of brick (106) foundations overlain by a substantial footing of limestone ashlar blocks (107) had replaced the earlier



structure of (002) and forms the present buttress against the southern wall of the nave (Figs.3, 7 and Plate 1).

Deposits relating to the construction of the 18th century porch and earlier floors were also identified during the archaeological work. Cut (078) and deposit (042) have been interpreted as the possible remains of a burial vault, though it is equally likely that they may have formed the surface of an earlier porch floor (Fig.6). Deposit (042) consisted of greyish-white sandstone with crushed building materials and chalk fragments, typical of a construction deposit in composition and form (it has been laid or dumped to produce a level surface) and so may be reasonably assumed as constituting some kind of surface.

Various pits were recorded in section within the area of investigation. Although it was not possible to ascribe a specific function to each feature, the nature of the deposits contained within are likely to relate to activity associated with construction. Cut (037) has truncated a number of features, including grave (008), and contains a primary fill of pale yellow mortar (039) (Fig.5). It is possible that this feature may have functioned as a pit for mixing mortar. A similar feature located at section 1 (Fig.4) contained soft, yellow mortar (070) which has been interpreted as a dumped deposit. Adjacent to this is a feature of similar dimensions (069), containing a fill that has frequent mortar inclusions (068), within section 1 (Fig.4). These pits occur at a similar position in the stratigraphic sequence, and, although it is not possible to assign an absolute date, it is reasonable to state that these were dug relatively late in the sequence and have not been affected by any subsequent burials.

#### **Phase 4: Modern Deposits**

This phase comprises all the deposits that

are conclusively later than the 18th century, consisting mainly of pathways and service or drainage pipes that were constructed following the cessation of burial within the area of investigation.

Activity within the location of the three trenches (Fig.4) has been minimal during the period following the 18th century. Small plastic and ceramic drainage or other service pipes *eg* (109) (Plate 2) have been inserted into the fabric of the present church. Cut (111) and deposits (110) and (112) formed a drainage channel running along the south wall of the nave (Fig.7). A concrete path (040) that leads up to the southern entrance of the church is contained by cut (117) (Fig.6). Other cuts and deposits were only partially exposed (061, 062, 063, 064 and 065) and no interpretation could be made.

## **6. DISCUSSION**

Investigations at the church of St. Mary, Covenham St. Mary, have revealed a sequence of natural, possible medieval, post-medieval and modern deposits. It must be stressed that the investigations were severely hampered by the removal of deposits by machine without archaeological supervision.

Natural geological deposits, consisting of a mid-brown clay containing chalk flecks (004), are probably a result of the deposition of glacio-fluvial drift, overlying a sequence of Upper Cretaceous chinks. The natural clays have been heavily disturbed and truncated by the construction of the church and the ancient excavation of such an intensive sequence of burials.

The first recognised human activity on the site was the construction of a substantial chalk and ironstone church, (a more comprehensive description of this is available at section 2.4) closely associated with the development of the surrounding



land as a graveyard. No graves were recognised as having been disturbed by the construction of the church and it is therefore difficult to assign a stratigraphic relationship between the church and the graveyard. However, it is likely that they were established at the same time, and that the church stood on land that had not previously been used for burial. It must be noted that this conclusion is drawn from what is only a very small percentage of the available archaeology on the site. Later activity, and pressure on the use of space, resulted in the relationship between the church and graveyard being compromised; grave cut (031) clearly cuts into the foundations of the original buttress (003, 028) (Fig.4).

Due to the intensive use of the area of investigation for human burial, it was often difficult to define the specific locations of all of the burials. The physical activity of digging a grave that is to be backfilled by the same material within a relatively short space of time results in a soil that appears relatively unaltered. Burial activity is therefore often difficult to define. Context (043) provides an example of how continuous burial within such a small area can result in a homogeneous deposit, effectively concealing stratigraphic relationships (Fig.6). Although no artifacts were retrieved from any of the graves to confirm a date of interment, a medieval date is most likely. This is due to close proximity of the graves to the church of St. Mary, a building that existed from at least as early as the late 14th century. The practice of unaccompanied burial, aligned west-east, is typical of the style associated with Christian religious belief during the medieval and later periods (Fig.4). One grave exhibited unusual characteristics in that it appeared to be lined with chalk.

Detailed inspection of the skeletal remains was not intended as part of the investigation and it is therefore impossible to provide

anything more than a brief summary of the nature of the remains encountered. Such a small sample (7 recognisable individuals) cannot be statistically significant for the area of the churchyard, and it should be sufficient to state that the presence of juveniles, adolescents and adults is not unusual. However, the action of the machine in excavating the trench had significantly reduced the potential for identification and analysis of skeletal material, much of which had been severely damaged or removed from its original context.

It is evident from the stratigraphy encountered that there was significant pressure on the space within the churchyard for burial. Many of the graves had been damaged or truncated by the action of later grave digging within the area of investigation. This evidence has implications for the marking of graves, and also for the amount of reverence which the deceased were to be accorded. Unfortunately, as it was not possible to date any of the burials, one cannot envisage the time-scale over which such disturbance was taking place *ie* were the burials disturbed within 10 or 100 years ?

Later in the stratigraphic sequence several pits were cut into these burials. Some of the pits have been associated with unidentified, or badly disturbed, human burials as several were found to contain fragments of human bone. Most, though, are likely to have been cut during construction, or repair, to the structure of the church; with the human bone redeposited from disturbed graves.

Foundations for an earlier buttress, contemporary with the south wall of the nave, were revealed in plan and section (Figs.4 and 7). The initial foundations of the buttress, adjacent to the southern wall of the nave, was replaced at a later date by the introduction of brick and mortar footings, overlain by a significant ashlar buttress that



presently stands on the site (Plate 1). Deposits of mortar and building materials within adjacent features are likely to represent similar construction activities, though the machine excavation of the trenches has resulted in the comprehensive destruction of much of this complex sequence.

Remains of two phases of porch floor construction were revealed (Fig.5). The earliest flooring was sealed, but the later floor was identified as a layer of ceramic tiles which belonged to the 18th century south porch (081).

Many of the earlier deposits, incorporating human burials and construction layers, were then truncated by a series of more recent features. Most of the features were identified as drainage channels, or land drains, that had been cut into the surface of the graveyard. A concrete path had been constructed to lead up to the south porch of the church during this phase.

Part of a service pipe, running along the base of the south wall of the nave, effectively destroyed the relationship between the south wall and the remains of any porch flooring. This modern service trench negated the effectiveness of the small excavation, specified in the brief (Appendix 2, ii).

Due to the unsupervised machine excavation of the trenches it was not possible to retrieve any stratified artifacts. However, sieving of the spoil from the excavations recovered pottery fragments that date to the 13th-14th and 16th-17th centuries (Appendix 4). These artifacts seem to confirm that the burial and construction activities identified on the site were largely of medieval and post-medieval date.

Recording of the elevation around the southern door of the nave identified at least

three phases of construction or repair (Fig.8). The earliest work consists of chalk blocks (Phase 1), that has been succeeded at a later date by ironstone and chalk repairs (Phase 2). Recent restoration of the existing wall of the south nave has then resulted in the replacement of some original stonework (Phase 3). These recent repairs are evident as machine-cut chalk blocks that lack the weathering of the earlier chalk walling. A mark above the 14th century doorway indicates the position of the recently demolished late 18th century porch roof (Plate 1).

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations at St. Mary's church, Covenham St. Mary's, have revealed the remains of earlier structural material in close association with a significant number of human burials. These deposits are locally significant.

Investigation of the area immediately south of the southern porch established the presence of a complex sequence of burials, evidence for the construction of the nave, an associated buttress and a later porch. All the human skeletal material recovered was in a well-preserved state.

The absence of archaeological monitoring during the excavation of the trenches has resulted in a loss of much of the stratigraphic information. Such action emphasises the importance of sound co-operation throughout all stages of the construction process.

Because of the unsupervised removal of archaeological data, it has been impossible to fulfil the criteria of the watching brief as stated at Appendix 1 (paragraphs 5 and 6) and Appendix 2 (paragraph i).

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to thank Mr D.R. Brown of Mack and Brown Chartered Architects for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis on behalf of Covenham St. Mary's Parish Council. Thanks also to the Reverend Mike Burson-Thomas and Church Wardens Mr S. Siddons and Beryl Motley for making the church facilities available during the work. Gary Taylor co-ordinated the work and Tom Lane edited this report.

## 9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor  
Site Supervisors: Mark Dymond and Rene Mouraille  
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley  
Research: Paul Cope-Faulkner  
Illustrations: Dave Hopkins  
Post-excavation Analyst: Neil Herbert

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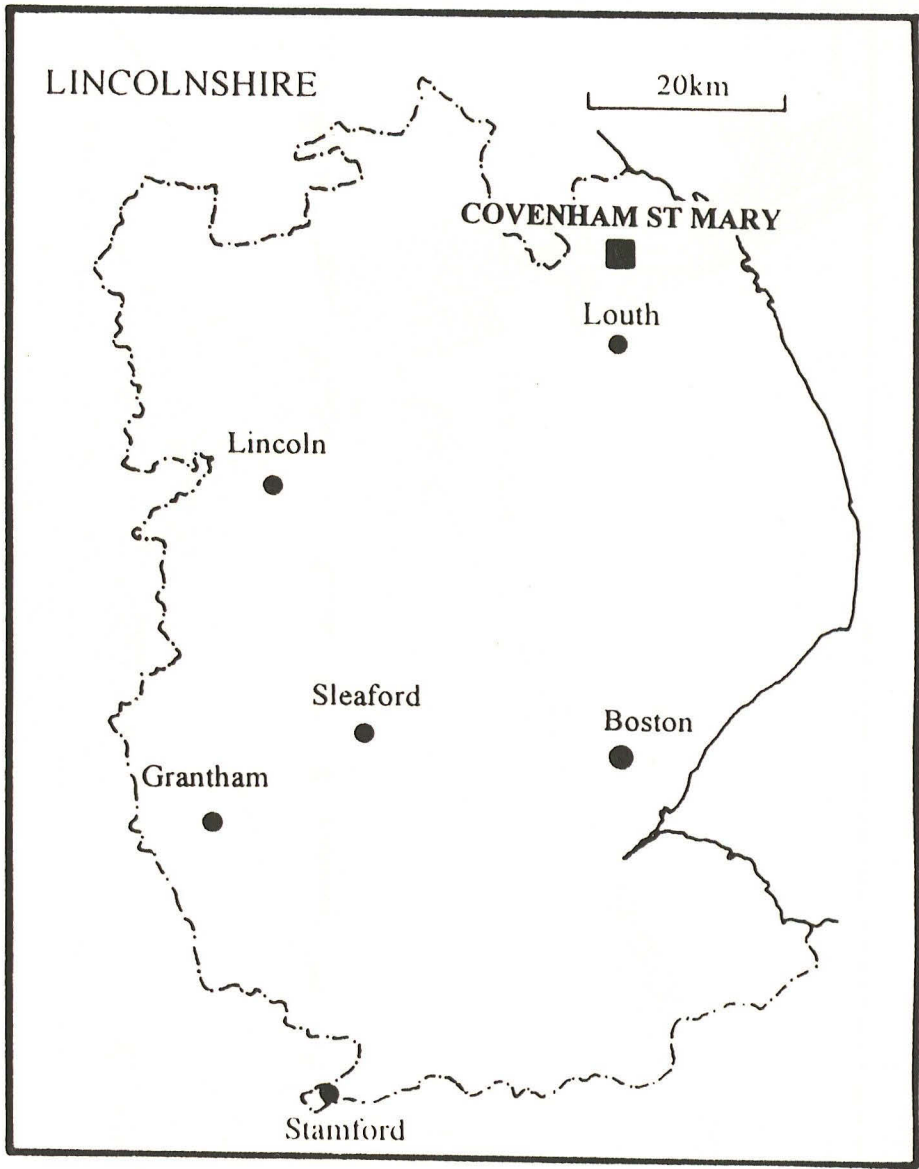
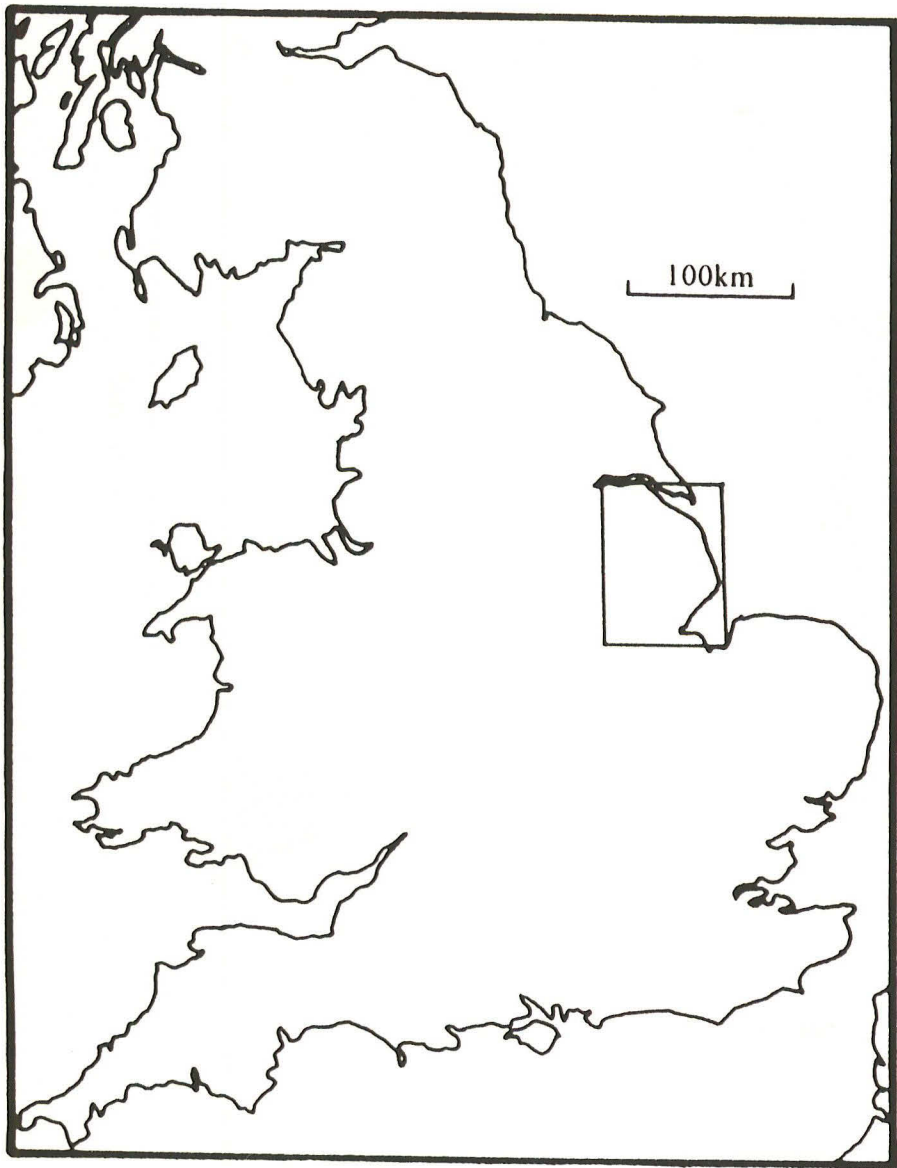
## 11. ABBREVIATIONS

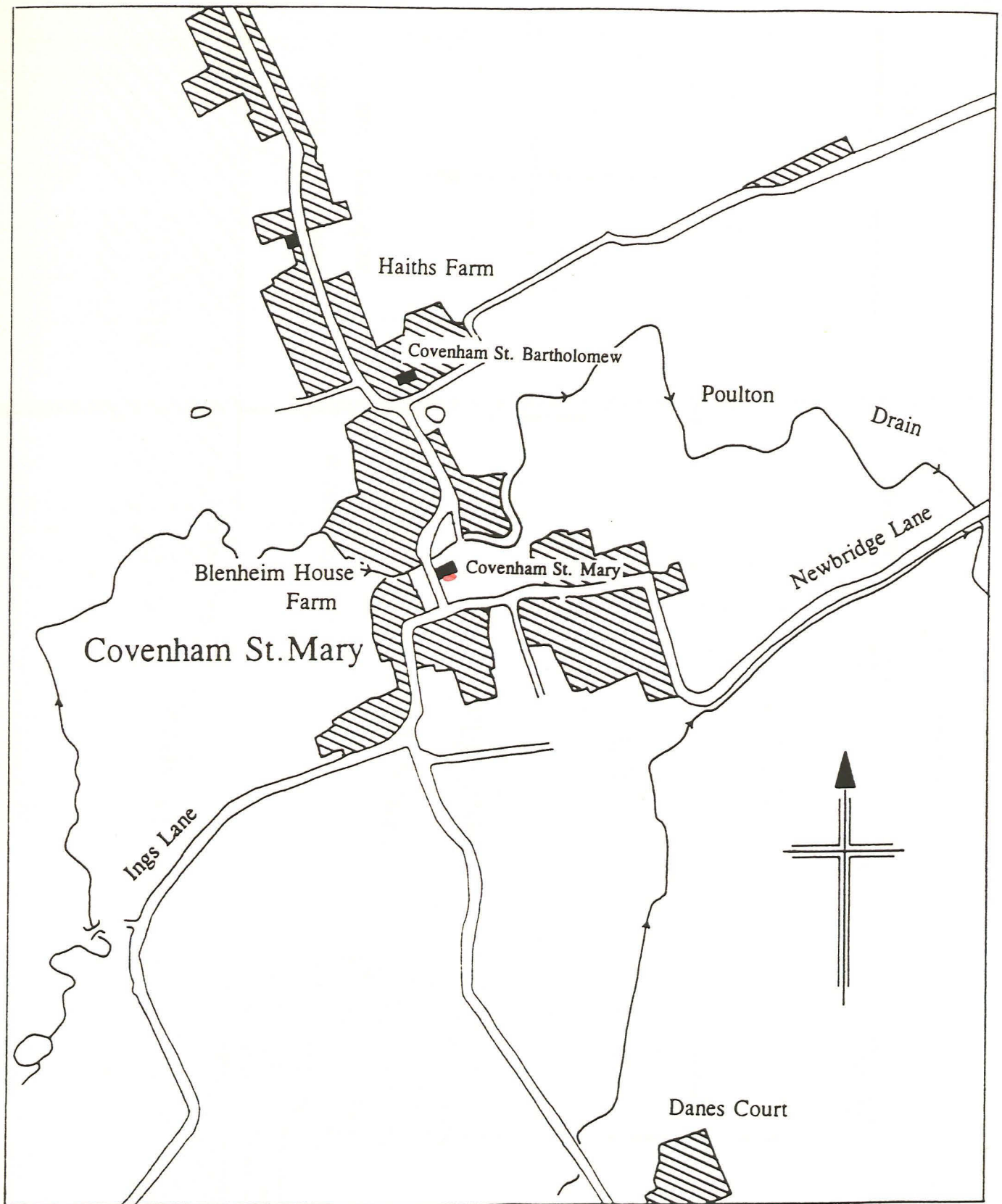
DoE This refers to publications by the Department of the Environment.

ELDC East Lindsey District Council



Figure 1: General Location Plan





500 m



Area of Development

Figure 2: Site Location Plan

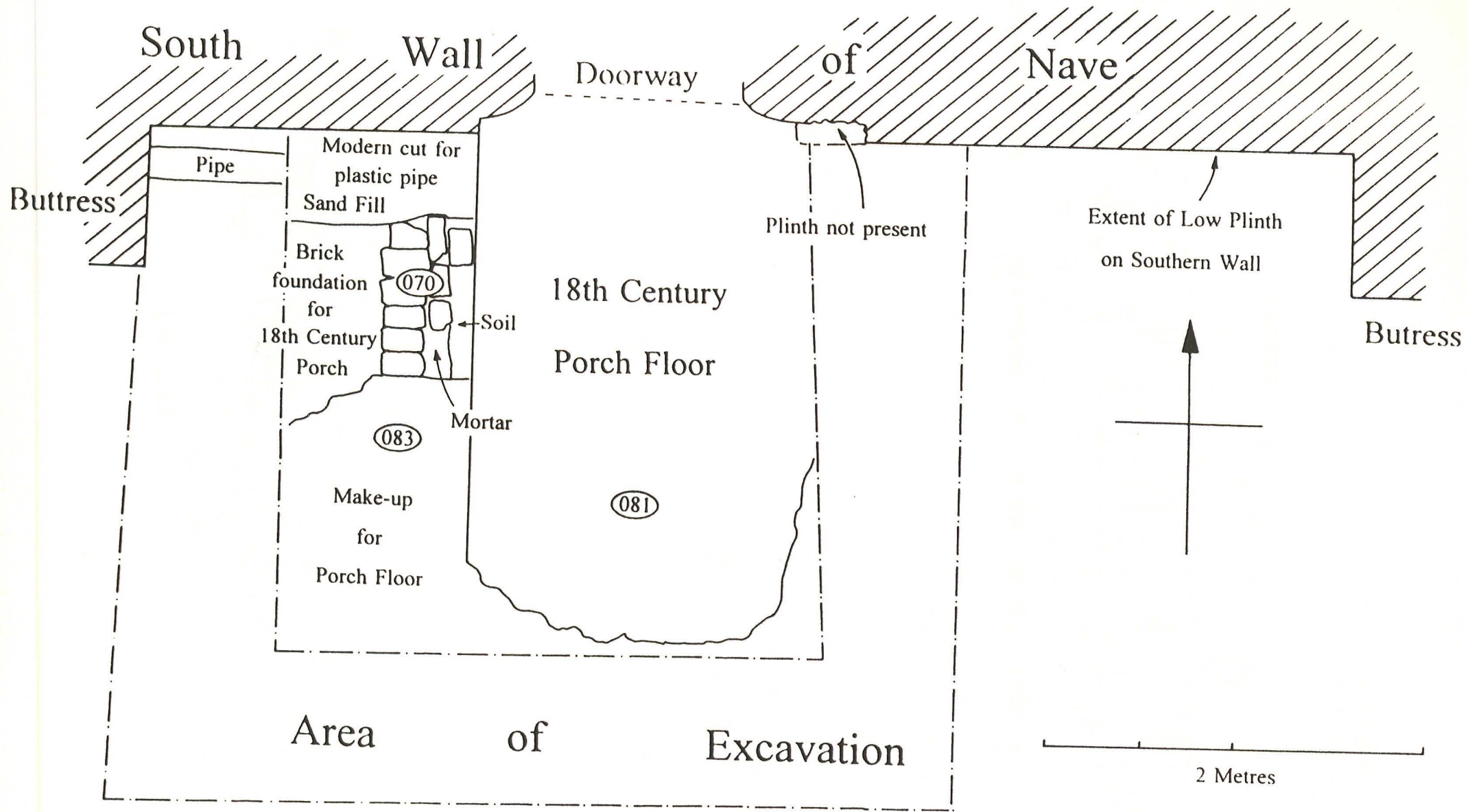


Figure 3: Development Location Plan



# PLAN 1

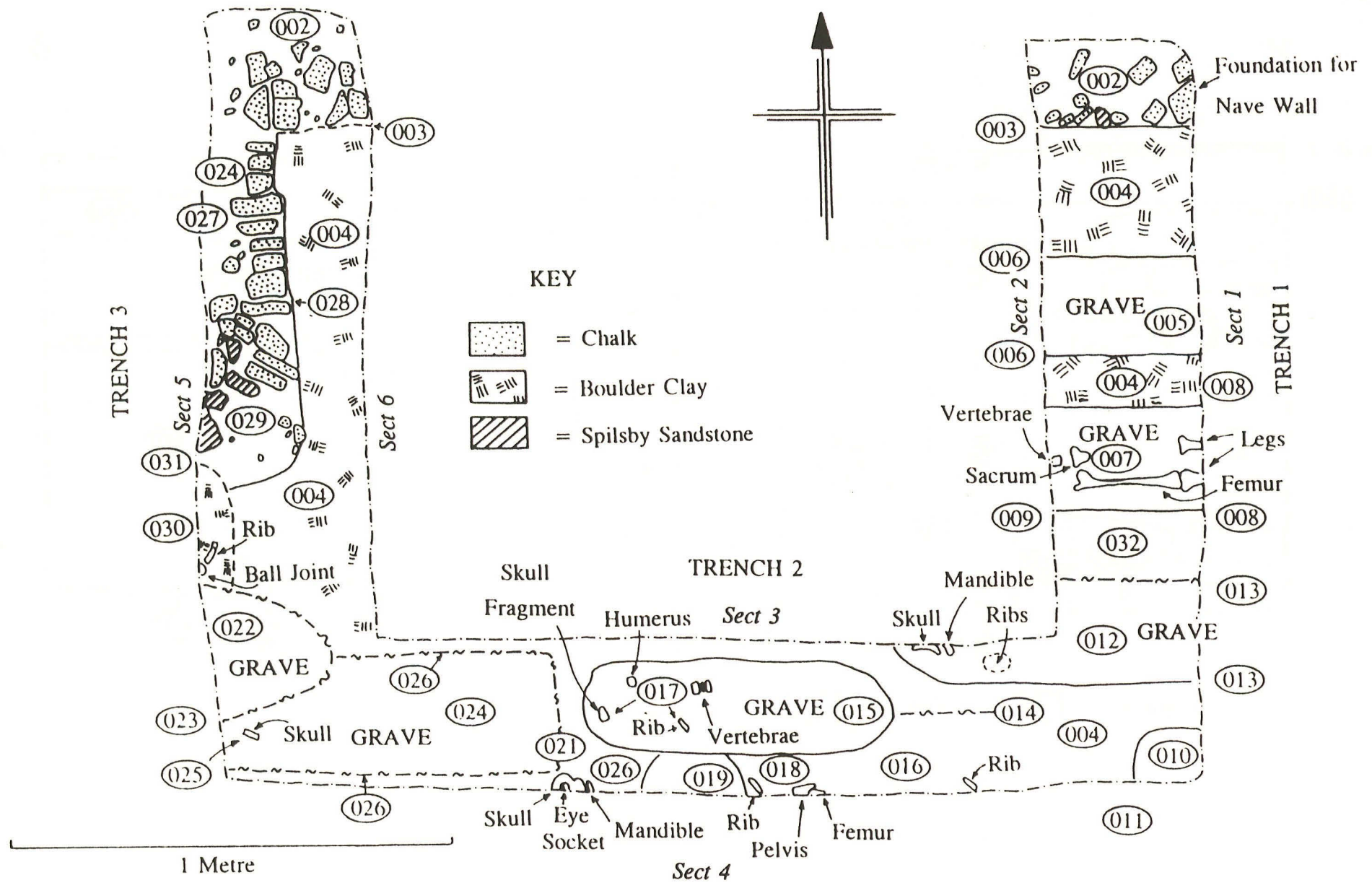


Figure 4: Plan showing trenches and locations of sections

# SECTION 2

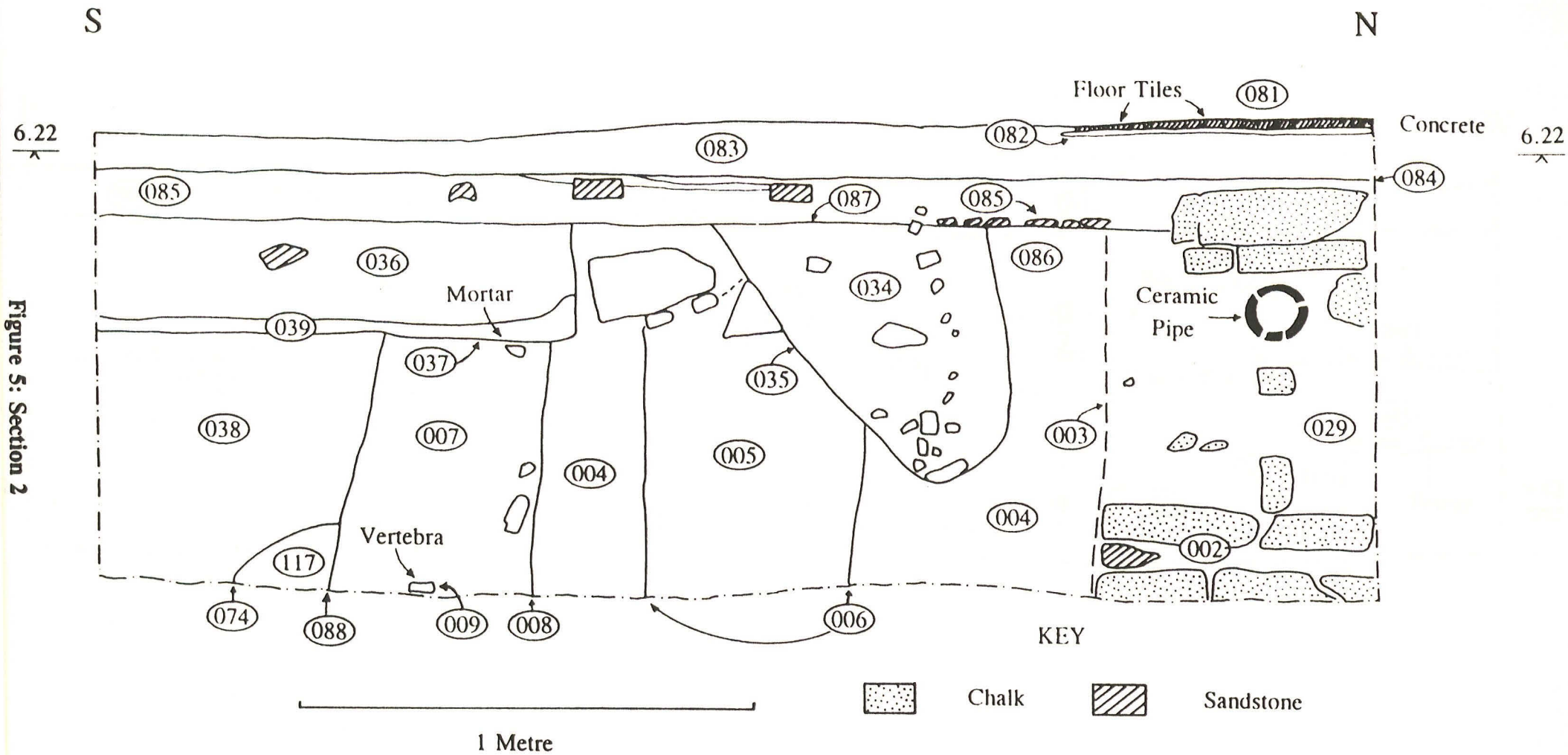


Figure 5: Section 2



# SECTION 4

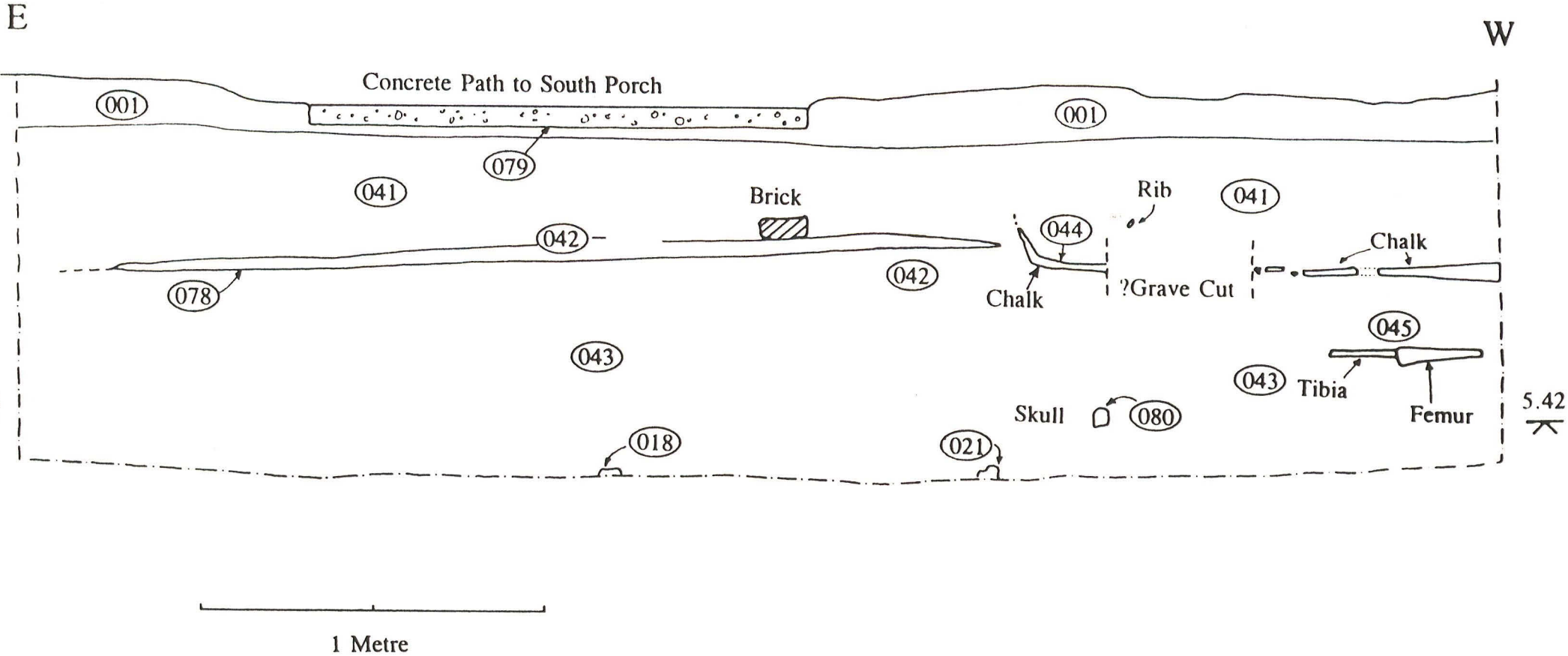


Figure 6: Section 4

# SECTION 5

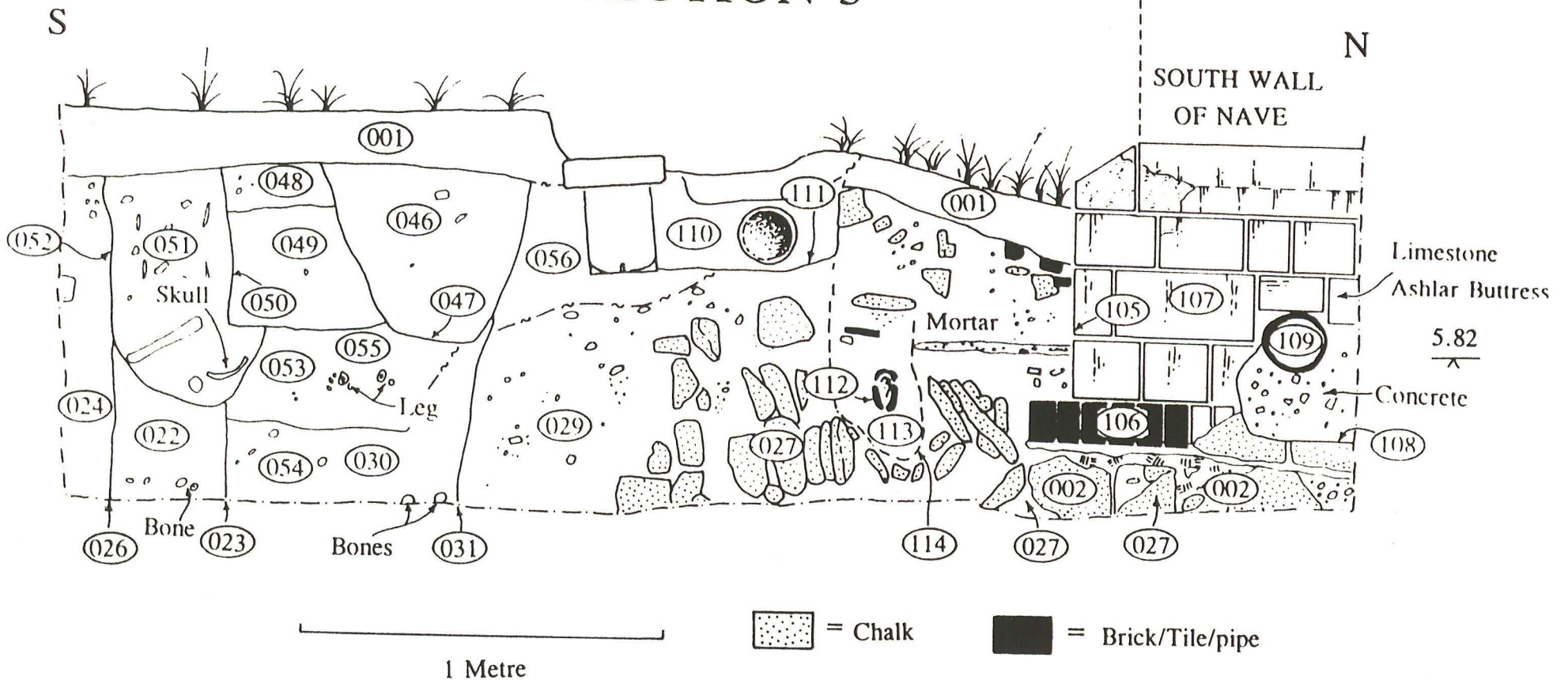
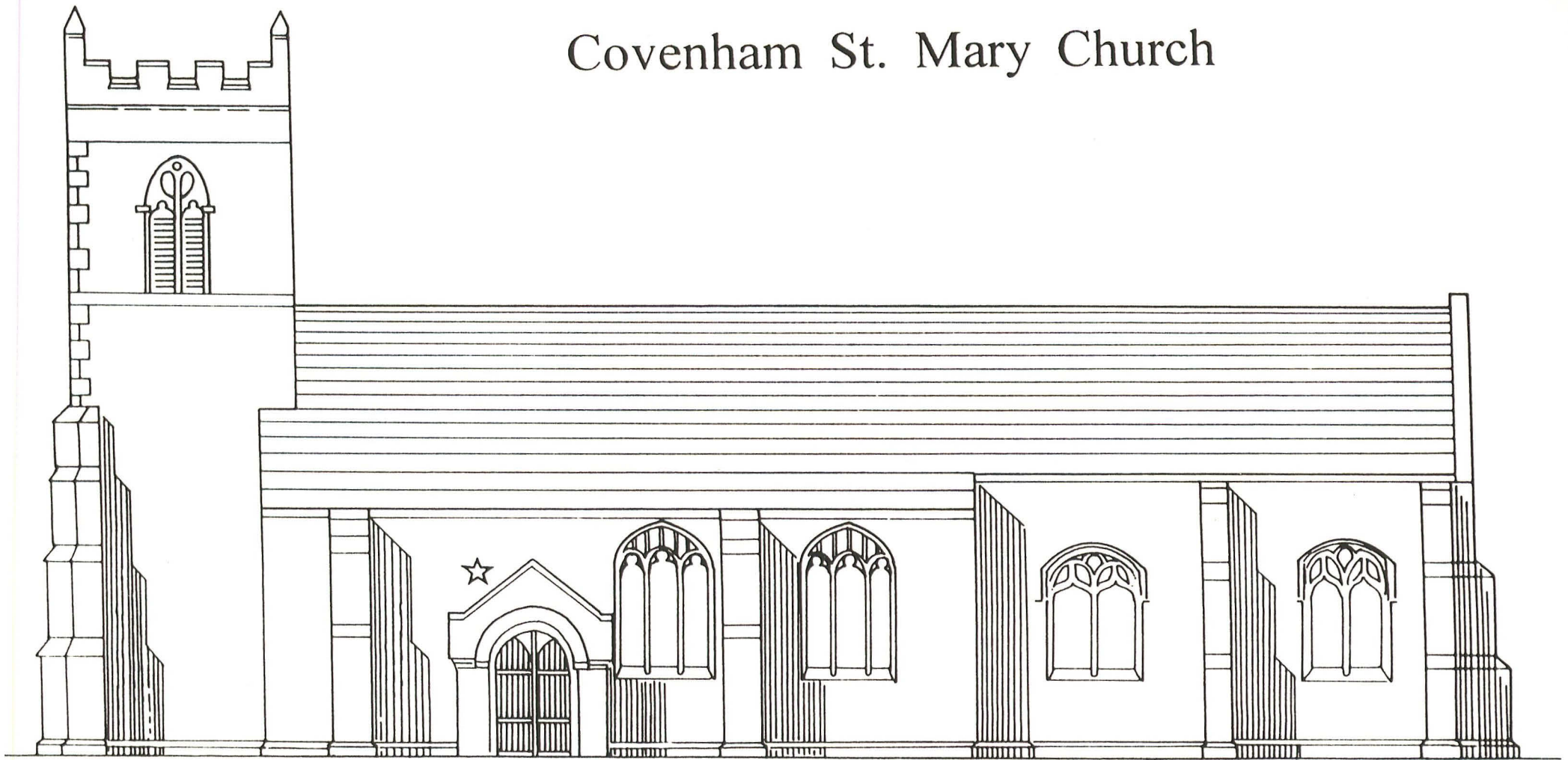


Figure 7: Section 5



# Covenham St. Mary Church

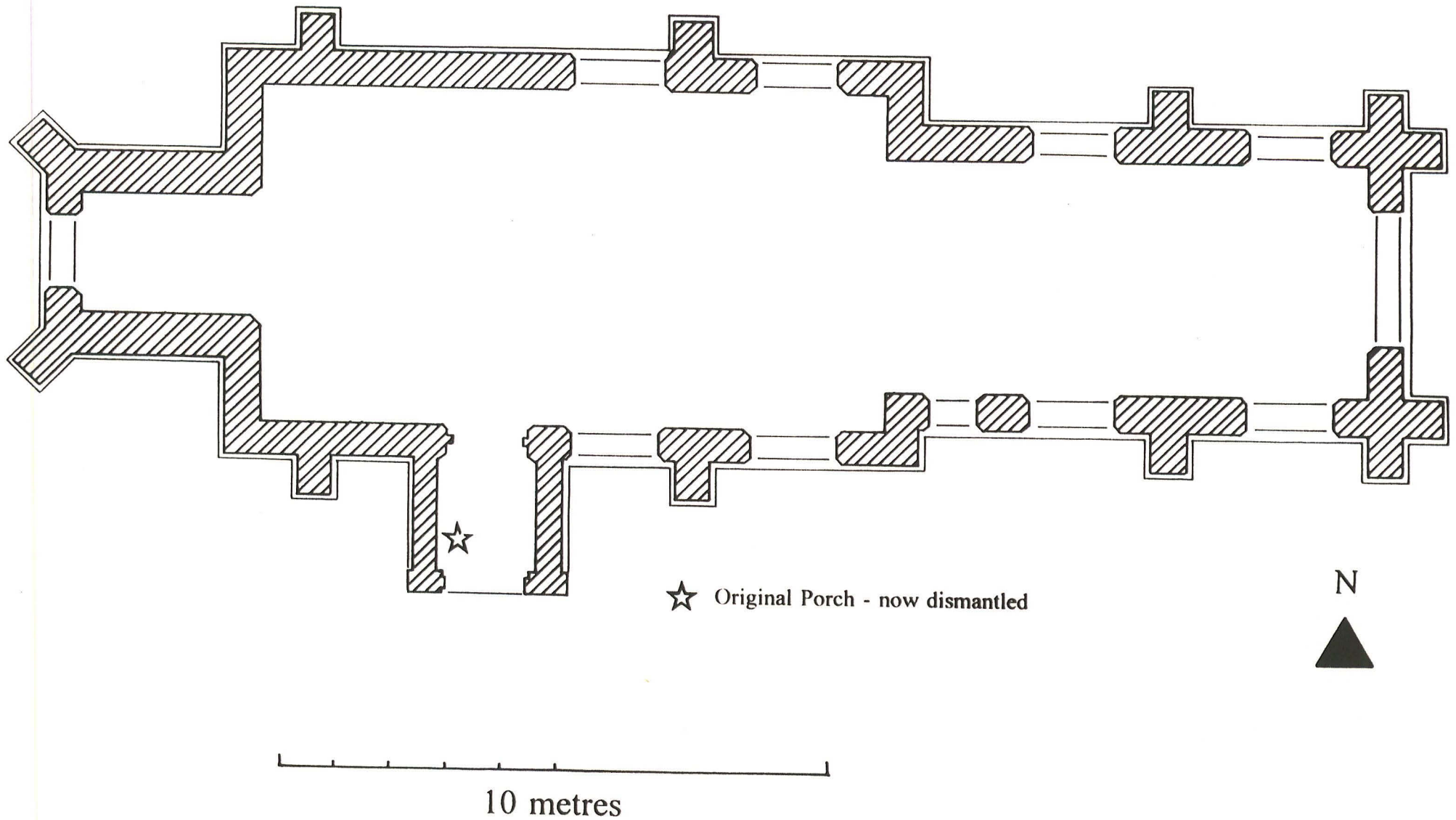


10 metres

★ Original Porch - now dismantled

Figure 8: Covenham St. Mary Church: southern elevation

# Covenham St. Mary Church



☆ Original Porch - now dismantled

N

10 metres

Figure 9: Covenham St. Mary church: South porch now demolished



Figure 10: Covenham St. Mary Church: Elevation of the southern entrance

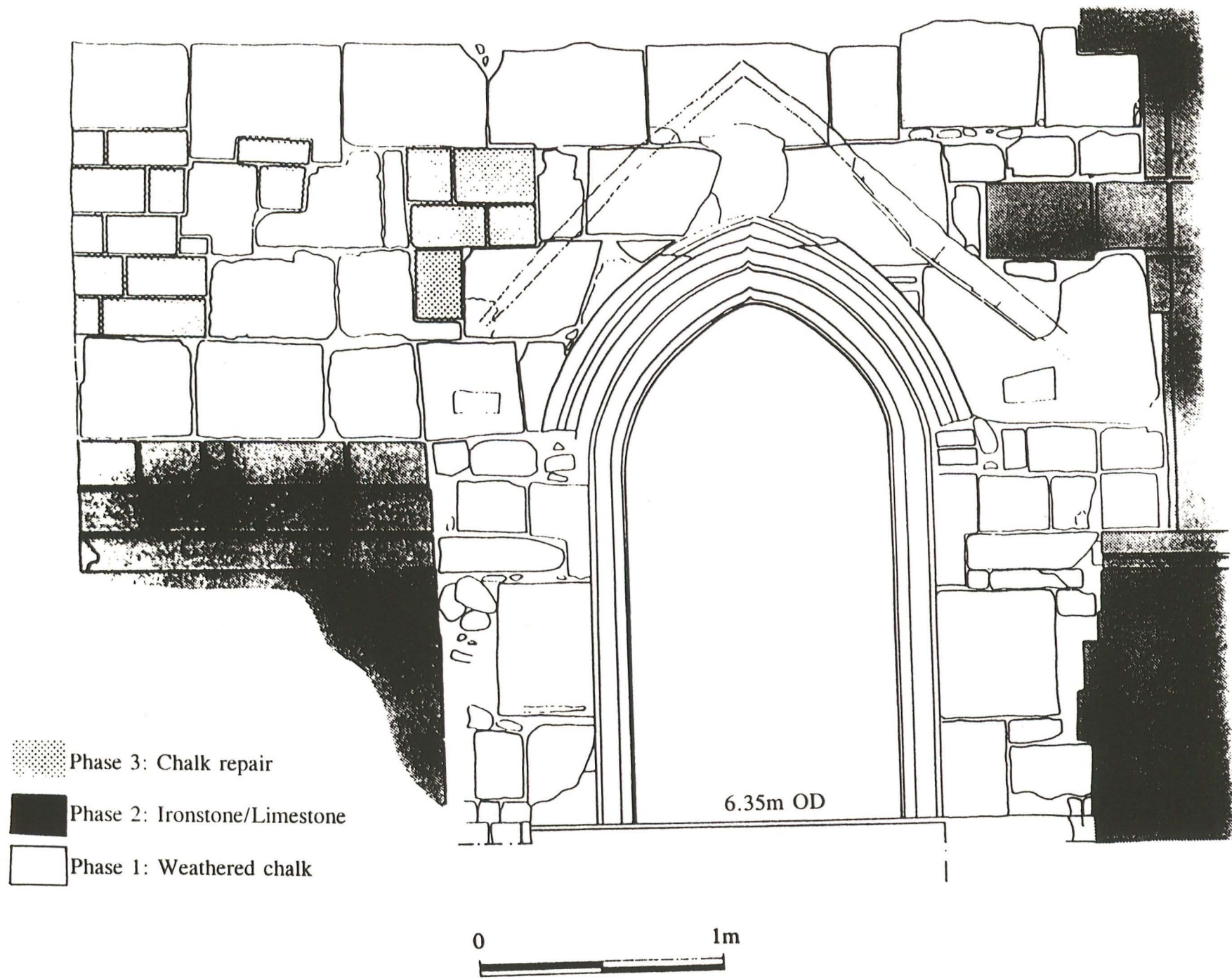






Plate 1: Area of Development. Showing entrance in medieval south nave wall and 'ghost' of 18th century porch



Plate 2: Trench 3, showing medieval foundations of buttress and nave (to rear)





Plate 3: Section 1 (note burial in trench base)



Plate 4: Section 2 (note nave wall foundation bottom right)



## Appendix 1

### BRIEF FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

**SITE:** St Mary's Church, Covenham St Mary  
**COMPANY:** The PCC of St Mary's Church  
**LOCATION:** St Mary's Church, Covenham St Mary  
**PLANNING APP. NO.:** N/038/2207/91

#### 1. Summary

- 1.1 This document is the brief for archaeological work to be undertaken on a scheme of building extension at St Mary's church by the PCC of St Mary's Church, Covenham St Mary. It sets out the requirements for a watching brief to be carried out on all groundworks. Such a scheme should facilitate the preservation by record of any archaeological deposits.
- 1.2 This brief should be used by archaeological contractors as the basis for the preparation of a detailed archaeological project design. In response to this brief contractors will be expected to provide details of the proposed scheme of work, to include the anticipated working methods, timescales and staffing levels.
- 1.3 The detailed specification will be submitted to the company above subject to approval of the Archaeological Officer of Lincolnshire County Council. If more than one, the client will be free to choose between those specifications which are considered to adequately satisfy this brief.

#### 2. Site location and description

- 2.1 Covenham St Mary is a marshland village located in north-east Lincolnshire. It is situated approximately 7km north of Louth. The church is central to the village and is centred upon national grid reference TF 3397 9432 and is approximately 6m above sea level.
- 2.2 The site consists of a functioning churchyard.

#### 3. Planning background

- 3.1 Planning permission was granted by East Lindsey District Council on 4th March 1993 for an 'extension to the existing church, which is a listed building, to provide entrance porch'. This was subject to a number of conditions one of which required the undertaking of an archaeological watching brief during development according to an approved written scheme of investigation.
- 3.2 To carry out work within a churchyard will also require a faculty under the Faculty Jurisdiction Measure 1964. This is summarised in PPG15 section 8 and archaeological recording is particularly mentioned in paragraph 8.5.

#### 4. Archaeological background

- 4.1 The church of St Mary at Covenham is essentially a fifteenth century church. There are few other reports of archaeologically significant material having been found throughout the parish. However, recent interpretation of aerial photographs has shown some of the extent of the medieval village and its open field system.



## 5. Objectives of an archaeological watching brief

- 5.1 According to the definition by the Institute of Field Archaeologists 'an archaeological watching brief will record the archaeological resource during development within a specified area'. To be carried out during fieldworks, the objective of the watching brief should be to ensure that any archaeological features exposed by the groundworks are recorded and interpreted.

## 6. Requirements for work

- 6.1 On the development outlined in 3.1 it is required that a watching brief be undertaken, to include:
- 6.1.1 archaeological supervision of topsoil stripping;
  - 6.1.2 inspection of subsoil for archaeological features;
  - 6.1.3 recording of archaeological features in plan;
  - 6.1.4 limited excavations of features where appropriate;
  - 6.1.5 archaeological supervision of subsoil stripping;
  - 6.1.6 inspection of natural deposits for archaeological features and their recording if extant.
- 6.2 Some building work has already taken place on site. It is suggested that trenches that already have been excavated for the foundations of the new porch are re-cut and investigated for archaeological features. The junction of the existing porch to the church must be investigated. The expectation of human burials is high and must be borne in mind.

## 7. Post-fieldwork programme

- 7.1 After completion of the fieldwork phase of the project the following procedures should be undertaken:
- 7.1.1 that, after agreement with the landowner, arrangements are made for long term storage of all artefacts in City and County Museum, Lincoln;
  - 7.1.2 that a site archive is produced and should be deposited with the artefacts as detailed in 7.1.1;
  - 7.1.3 a full report is produced and deposited with the appropriate bodies within two months.

## 8. Reporting requirements

- 8.1 A report of the fieldwork should be produced and supplied to the client and the planning authority. A further copy must be deposited with the county Sites and Monuments Record within two months of completion of fieldwork. The report should contain:
- 8.1.1 plans of the trench layout;
  - 8.1.2 section and plan drawings, with ground level, Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scales as appropriate;
  - 8.1.3 specialist descriptions of artefacts and/or ecofacts;
  - 8.1.4 any indication of potential archaeological deposits not disturbed by the present development;
  - 8.1.5 a summary of the archaeology discovered and a consideration of its local, regional and national significance
- 8.2 A short note should be prepared for publication in the Archaeological Notes of the county journal Lincolnshire History and Archaeology. A cost allowance must be made for this.

## 9. Monitoring arrangements

- 9.1 Curatorial responsibility for this project lies with the Archaeological Officer of Lincolnshire County Council. He should be given at least seven days notice, in writing, of the proposed date of commencement of site work and may exercise his prerogative of monitoring fieldwork.

## 10. Additional information

- 10.1 This document attempts to define the best practice expected of an archaeological evaluation but cannot fully anticipate the conditions that will be encountered as work progresses. If requirements of the brief cannot be met they should only be excluded after attainment of the written approval of the Archaeological Officer of Lincolnshire County Council.

Brief prepared by Ian George, Assistant Archaeological Officer, Lincolnshire County Council, November 1995



## Appendix 2

### Requirements Specified by East Lindsey District Council in discussion with Lincolnshire County Council and N. Field

With regard to the specification already agreed with Mr Paul Barker, conservation officer for the East Lindsey District Council, it has been decided that the following should be included in the programme of archaeological works:-

- i. that the removal of the foundation already built should be carried out by archaeologists and the trench re-cut, thereby allowing any features to be exposed.
- ii. that there be an excavation of the junction of the now demolished porch with the nave wall (on the east side of the porch foundations)
- iii. that the material that had already been removed should be sieved to retrieve all possible human remains for re-burial

### Appendix 3

#### Context Summary.

Context Number	Description	Interpretation
001	Soft, dark-grey sandy silt with frequent chalk and tile fragments	Topsoil
002	Roughly hewn chalk and sandstone blocks	Foundation course, fill of (003)
003	Linear cut with vertical sides, 0.4m wide x 0.7m deep x 4.0m long	Foundation cut
004	Firm, mid-brown clay with moderate chalk fragments (20mm)	Natural glacial deposit
005	Firm, mid-brown clay with frequent flint and chalk fragments (20mm)	Fill of grave (006)
006	Linear cut with vertical sides, 0.4m wide x 0.85m deep x 0.75m long	Grave cut
007	Firm, mid-brown silty clay with moderate mortar, occasional CBM and frequent chalk fragments (20mm)	Fill of grave (008)
008	Linear cut with vertical sides, 0.6m wide x 0.85m deep x 0.7m long	Grave cut
009	Right femur, sacrum, lower vertebrae and tops of tibia exposed	Adult human skeleton (supine), fill of (008)
010	Firm, dark-brown silty clay containing moderate chalk fragments (20mm)	Fill of ?grave (011)
011	Sub-rectangular cut with vertical sides, 0.4m wide x 0.8m deep x 0.3m long	Possible grave cut
012	Firm, mid-brown silty clay with frequent chalk fragments (20mm) and occasional flint fragments (10mm)	Fill of grave (013)
013	Rectangular shaped cut with vertical sides, 0.5m wide x 1.0m deep x 1.0m long	Grave cut



Context Number	Description	Interpretation
014	Cranium and ribs	Adolescent human skeleton (supine), fill of (013)
015	Firm, mid-brown sandy clay	Fill of grave (016)
016	Linear cut, 0.45m wide x u\k depth x 1.4m long	Grave cut
017	Cranium, ball joint of humerus, cranium, rib and vertebrae	?Adolescent human skeleton (supine), fill of (016)
018	Pelvis and femur	?Adult human skeleton (supine)
019	Firm, mid-brown clayey silt with occasional chalk and coal fragments (10mm)	Fill of ?grave (020)
020	Cut, 0.2m wide x u\k depth x 0.46m long	Possible grave cut
021	Cranium and mandible	Juvenile human skeleton (supine)
022	Soft, light to mid-brown sandy silt with frequent flint fragments (40mm), occasional chalk flecks and human skeletal remains	Fill of ?grave (023)
023	Triangular shaped cut with vertical sides, 0.6m wide x 0.44m deep x 0.47m long	Indeterminate cut, possible grave
024	Firm, mid-brown sandy clayey silt with frequent chalk flecks, occasional flint fragments (20mm), moderate mortar patches and human skeletal remains	Fill of ?grave (026)
025	Cranium	Juvenile\Adult human skeleton (supine), fill of (026)
026	Linear cut, 0.5m wide x 0.91m deep x 1.4m long	Grave cut
027	Roughly hewn chalk and sandstone blocks	Foundation course for original buttress
028	Rectangular cut with vertical sides, 0.44m wide x 0.87m deep x 1.64m long	Foundation trench for (027)
029	Firm, mid-brown sandy silt with moderate chalk fragments (40mm)	Possible backfill deposit, fill of (028)

Context Number	Description	Interpretation
030	Firm, dark-brown sandy silt with moderate chalk fragments (30mm) and human skeletal remains	Fill of grave (031)
031	Linear cut, 0.6m wide x 0.5m deep x 0.74m length	Grave cut
032	Firm, mid-brown clayey silt with frequent chalk flecks	Possible grave fill
033	Firm, light to mid-brown silty clay with occasional shell fragments, moderate chalk flecks and occasional flint	Fill of (077)
034	Firm, dark-brown clayey silt with frequent chalk fragments (10mm) and occasional flint and human bone	Fill of (035)
035	Truncated cut, 0.56m wide x 0.58m deep x u\k length	Pit cut
036	Firm, mid-brown clayey silt with frequent mortar flecks and occasional sandstone fragments	Tertiary fill of (037)
037	Truncated cut, 0.75m wide x 0.3m deep x u\k length	Possible construction cut
038	Firm, dark grey-brown clayey silt with frequent chalk flecks and occasional coal and human skeletal remains	Fill of grave (088)
039	Firm, pale yellow mortar, flints and chalk	Primary fill of (037)
040	Indurated grey concrete	Path
041	Firm, light grey-brown silt with moderate chalk, flint, CBM, human bone and occasional coal and mortar	Dumped deposit
042	Loose, greyish-white sandstone, CBM and chalk fragments	Fill of (078)
043	Firm, mid-brown silty clay with frequent chalk, moderate flint, occasional sandstone fragments and human skeletal remains	Disturbed grave fills
044	Soft white chalk	Decayed grave lining



Context Number	Description	Interpretation
045	Left femur and tibia	Adult human skeleton (supine), in (043)
046	Firm, light-brown silt with occasional flint fragments (10mm) and moderate chalk fragments (20mm)	Fill of ?grave (047)
047	Linear cut with steep sides, 0.6m wide x 0.5m deep x 0.8m long	Possible grave cut
048	Firm, light-brown silt with occasional flint fragments (10mm) and moderate weathered chalk fragments (20mm)	Fill of (050)
049	Firm, light-brown silt with occasional flint fragments (10mm) and moderate chalk fragments (20mm)	Fill of (050)
050	Indeterminate cut with a vertical side, 0.4m wide x 0.5m deep x u/k length	Pit cut
051	Firm, light greyish-brown clayey silt	Fill of grave (052)
052	Indeterminate cut with a vertical side, 0.5m wide x 0.6m deep x u/k length	Grave cut
053	Firm, light-brown silty clay with moderate chalk fragments (10mm)	Fill of grave (054)
054	Indeterminate cut with steep sides and a flat base, 0.5m wide x 0.3m deep x u/k length	Grave cut
055	Tibia and fibula (left and right leg)	Human skeleton (supine), in grave (054)
056	Firm, mid-brown sandy silt with occasional chalk fragments (20mm)	Possible dumped deposit
057	Firm, light greyish-brown silt with frequent chalk fragments (20mm)	Fill of (103)
058	Firm, dark brown clayey silt and human skeletal remains	Fill of grave (102)

Context Number	Description	Interpretation
059	Firm, mid to dark brown silty clay with frequent chalk flecks and fragments and human bone	Mixed grave fills
060	Firm, dark brown silt with moderate chalk fragments (20mm)	Backfill deposit in (097)
061	Indurated grey concrete	Drainage gutter, fill of (063)
062	Indurated grey concrete	Make-up deposit for (061), fill of (063)
063	Linear cut with vertical side, 0.15m wide x 100mm deep x u\k length	Construction cut
064	Firm, light-brown silt	Natural accumulation or backfill in (065)
065	Linear cut, 0.15m wide x 0.3m deep x u\k length	Construction cut
066	Firm, mid-brown sandy silt	Fill of (067)
067	Cut with steep sides, 100mm wide x 0.42m deep x u\k length	Construction cut
068	Firm, light-brown sandy silt with frequent mortar, moderate chalk fragments and occasional flint fragments (10mm)	Fill of (069)
069	Linear cut, 0.5m wide x 0.38m deep x u\k length	Pit cut
070	Soft yellow mortar	Dumped deposit, fill of (072)
071	Firm, dark greyish-brown clayey silt with moderate flint fragments (10mm) and occasional chalk flecks	Dumped deposit, fill of (072)
072	Indeterminate cut with vertical sides, 0.48m wide x 0.3m deep x u\k length	Pit cut
073	Firm, mid-brown clayey silt with occasional mortar, CBM and moderate chalk fragments (20mm)	Fill of (074)
074	Linear cut with vertical sides, 0.3m wide x 0.51m deep x u\k length	Possible grave cut



Context Number	Description	Interpretation
075	Indeterminate cut with a flat and level base, 0.25m wide x u\k depth x u\k length	Possible construction cut
076	Loose, greyish-white chalk, CBM and sandstone	Hardstanding, fill of (075)
077	Indeterminate cut with a concave base, 0.3m wide x 0.7m deep x u\k length	Grave cut
078	Indeterminate cut with a flat and level base, u\k width x 0.31m deep x 4.5m long	Construction cut for possible burial vault
079	Linear cut with vertical sides and a flat base, 1.44m wide x 60mm deep x u\k length	Cut for concrete path
080	Cranium	Human skull, within (043)
081	Ceramic floor tiles each 107mm x 107mm x 20mm thick	Floor surface of porch
082	Indurated grey concrete	Make-up for (081)
083	Soft, mid-brown silt and shelly mortar	Make-up for (082)
084	Rectangular shaped cut with a flat and level base, 1.8m wide x 0.12m deep x 2.9m long	Construction cut
085	Soft, greyish-brown sandy silt with occasional brick fragments (60-100mm)	Possible dumped deposit, fill of (087)
086	Indurated reddish-brown brick	Floor surface, overlying (087)
087	Indeterminate cut with flat and level base, 2.8m wide x 100mm deep x u\k length	Construction cut
088	Indeterminate cut with vertical sides, 0.45m wide x 0.55m deep x u\k length	Possible grave cut
089	Loose, light greyish-yellow mortar	Foundation course, overlying (002)

Context Number	Description	Interpretation
090	Indeterminate cut with steep sides, 0.7m wide x 0.41m deep x u\k length	Possible construction cut
091	Firm, mid-brown silt with frequent decayed limestone fragments (5-30mm)	Hardstanding surface, fill of (092)
092	Indeterminate cut with a flat and level base, 1.7m wide x 100mm deep x u\k length	Possible construction cut
093	Soft, dark reddish-brown clay	Layer
094	Firm, brown clayey silt with moderate (50-100mm) brick fragments	Possible dumped deposit, fill of (092)
095	Loose, yellow sand with occasional bricks	Backfill deposit, fill of (096)
096	Linear cut with a shallow concave base, 0.25m wide x 0.55m deep x u\k length	Pipeline cut
097	Indeterminate cut with vertical sides, 0.65m wide x 0.7m deep x u\k length	Pipeline cut
098	Firm, light greyish-brown silt	Land drain and backfill, fill of (099)
099	Indeterminate cut with steep sides and a narrow concave base, 0.8m wide x 0.5m deep x u\k length	Land drain cut
100	Firm, mid-brown sandy silt with frequent chalk flecks and human bone	Fill of (101)
101	Indeterminate cut with shallow sides and a broad base, 0.4m wide x 0.2m deep	Grave cut
102	Indeterminate cut with shallow sides and a flat base, 0.4m wide x 0.2m deep x u\k length	Grave cut
103	Indeterminate cut with a flat base, 1.3m wide	Possible pit cut



Context Number	Description	Interpretation
104	Indeterminate cut with vertical sides and a narrow, flat base, 0.5m wide x 0.6m deep x u\k length	Grave cut
105	Irregular cut with and irregular base, 0.9m wide x 100mm deep x u\k length	Foundation cut
106	Indurated reddish-brown bricks	Foundation layer, fill of (105)
107	Indurated limestone and ashlar blocks	Buttress, fill of (105)
108	Cut with concave sides and a flat base, 0.35m wide x 0.35m deep	Drainage pipe cut
109	0.18m diameter drain	Drainage pipe, fill of (108)
110	Loose, yellow sand	Backfill deposit, fill of (111)
111	Indeterminate cut with vertical sides and a flat wide base, 0.7m wide x 0.28m deep	Cut for drainage pipe
112	100mm diameter indurated ceramic pipe	Drainage pipe, fill of (114)
113	Firm, brown silty clay	Fill of (114)
114	Linear cut with vertical sides and a narrow concave base, 0.2m wide x 0.7m deep	Drainage pipe cut
115	Firm, dark-brown silty clay	Possible backfill deposit, fill of (090)
116	Firm, brown silty clay with human skeletal remains	Fill of grave (104)
117	Firm, mid-brown clayey silt	Possible fill of grave (088)

## Appendix 4

### The Finds

by Hilary Healey, Jane Cowgill and Tom Lane

Context	Description	Date
+	2 pieces Potterhanworth-type pottery,	13th-14th century
+	1 piece of Bolingbroke-type pottery	16th-17th century
+	4 fragments of brick/tile	
+	4 iron nails	
+	1 piece of cinder	
+	1 piece of mortar	
+	1 piece of slag	
+	3 fragments of flint, natural	

A small amount of ironwork, four nails, were recovered. In view of the context of the discovery, they are probably coffin nails. The single piece of slag is glassy, vesicular and contains charcoal. The charcoal was probably the fuel used in the high-temperature process that generated the slag. While the nature of the slag indicates that it was produced by higher temperatures than would occur in a normal domestic situation, the actual production process is not known - the material is not diagnostically smelting or smithing waste.

Two of the the three fragments of flint were patinated on the outer surface and on some of the fracture faces. However, other breaks were fresh and unpatinated. All three pieces are probably natural, unworked fragments of flint.



## Appendix 5

### Glossary

<b>Brace</b>	Subsidiary timber set diagonally to strengthen a timber frame. It can be curved or straight.
<b>Context</b>	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
<b>Coping</b>	Protective capping course of masonry or brickwork on top of a wall.
<b>Cut</b>	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
<b>Dumped deposits</b>	These are deposits, often laid down intentionally, that raise a land surface. They may be the result of casual waste disposal or may be deliberate attempts to raise the ground surface.
<b>Fill</b>	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
<b>Gable</b>	Area of wall, often triangular, at the end of a double-pitch roof.
<b>Iron Age</b>	Part of the prehistoric era characterised by the introduction and use of iron for tools and weapons. In Britain this period dates from approximately 700 BC - AD 50.
<b>Kneeler</b>	Horizontal projecting stone at the base of each side of a gable on which the inclined coping stones rest.
<b>Layer</b>	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
<b>Medieval</b>	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
<b>Moulding</b>	Ornament of continuous section
<b>Natural</b>	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
<b>Post-medieval</b>	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.

## Appendix 6

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

117	Context records
9	Scale drawings
123	Photographic records
1	Stratigraphic matrix
1	Bag of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

Archaeological Project Services project code:	CSM 96
City and County Museum, Lincoln Accession Number:	134.96