

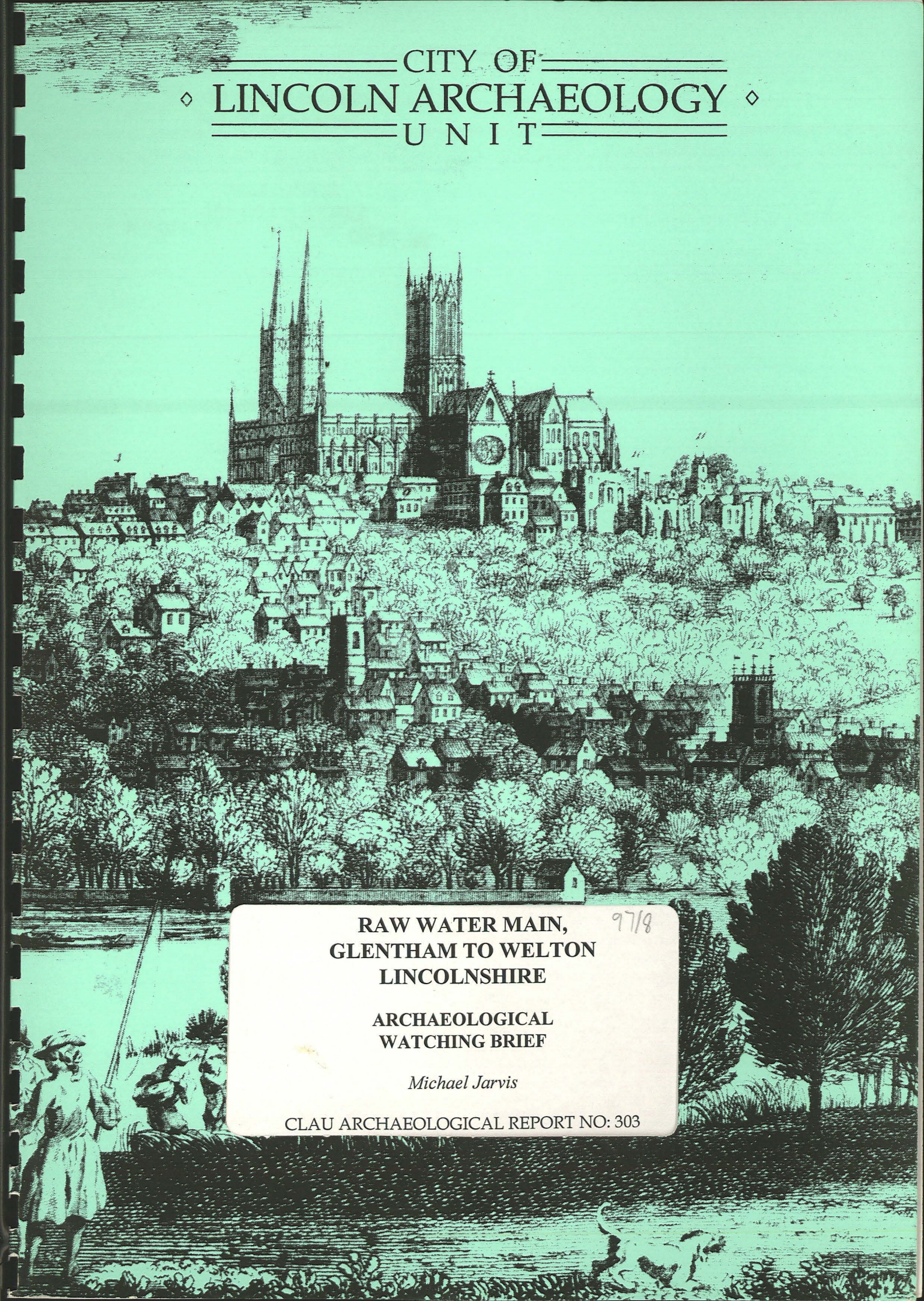
CITY OF  
◇ LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY ◇  
UNIT

97/8  
RAW WATER MAIN,  
GLENTHAM TO WELTON  
LINCOLNSHIRE

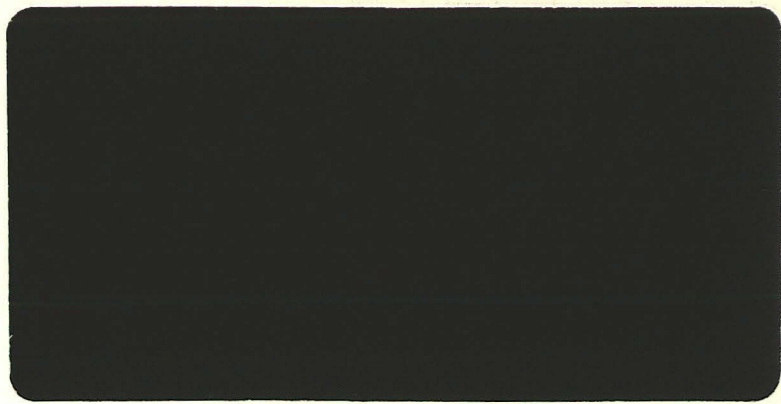
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
WATCHING BRIEF

*Michael Jarvis*

CLAU ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT NO: 303







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**Report to**  
***Anglian Water***

July 1997

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97/8

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## ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

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# RAW WATER MAIN, GLENTHAM TO WELTON LINCOLNSHIRE

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

### **SUMMARY**

*During May 1997, the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit undertook an archaeological watching brief on behalf of Anglian Water, during the installation of a Raw Water Main, extending from Glentham to Welton, Lincolnshire. The watching brief was limited to the northern 1.1Km of the pipeline route.*

*Several prehistoric finds have been made close to this part of the pipeline route. The route also lies approximately 2.7Km to the east of Roman Ermine Street (the A15), and c. 2.7Km to the north-east of the extensive Iron Age and Roman settlement at Owmbly. The most notable Roman find in close proximity to the pipeline route was discovered to the north-east of Mill House in 1986, when a metal detectorist uncovered a large hoard of Roman coins. Mill House, at the southern end of the route, was the site of a post-medieval windmill demolished in 1965.*

*Prior to the excavation of the pipeline trench the stripped easement was walked to establish whether archaeological features were visible and to recover finds from the easement surface and spoilheaps. This allowed the targeting of specific areas of the pipeline route during the excavation of the pipeline trench.*

*The results from the watching brief were largely negative. Those features that were recorded were generally shallow and, whilst visible in plan, did not generally reveal themselves in the sections of the pipe trench. Soil marks thought to represent ridge and furrow were recorded slightly to the north of Mill House, and may well be medieval or post-medieval in date. The area between Paunch Beck to Normanby Cliff Road revealed a metalled trackway and an enclosure of probable 17<sup>th</sup> century date. These features form part of a much larger complex of features, visible on both sides of the pipeline easement. Two east-west gullies, of possible natural origin, were recorded close to the northern end of the pipeline route.*

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# RAW WATER MAIN, GLENTHAM TO WELTON LINCOLNSHIRE

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

During May 1997, the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit (CLAU) undertook an archaeological watching brief on behalf of Anglian Water, during the installation of a Raw Water Main, extending from Glentham to Welton, Lincolnshire. Although totalling some 5Km in length, the watching brief was limited to the northern 1.1Km of the proposed pipeline route, owing to the fact that the southern part of the pipeline lay immediately adjacent to the route of an existing pipeline. This pipeline route had been subject to a desk top assessment and an archaeological watching brief (see Fig. 2).

### 2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The section of the pipeline under investigation lay near to Mill House at Normanby-by-Spital, where the new pipeline split from the route of the existing line (see Figs. 1 & 2). The new stretch headed northwards across Normanby Cliff Road for approximately 1.1Km, to the site of an existing borehole compound.



Plate 1: The trenching machine working south along the pipeline easement (Area 3). On a good day this machine could excavate a trench 2m deep, 500mm wide and 1000m in length.

Several prehistoric finds have been made close to this part of the pipeline route. Aerial photography in the area has revealed a linear prehistoric boundary to the north-west of the northern part of the route in the parish of Caenby (SK 99358981, SMR Ref. No. 53960). A bronze leaf-shaped knife or razor of



Bronze Age date was found to the east of Danby's Farm, also in the parish of Caenby, to the west of the pipeline (SK 98889200, SMR Ref. No.51055). A further Bronze Age find, this time a fragment of a dirk (dagger), was found in the parish of Normanby-by-Spital, to the north of the Paunch Beck, west of the pipeline route. Fields to the north-west of the northern end of the pipeline (Caenby parish) have revealed, through aerial photography, a number of cropmarks thought to represent a prehistoric settlement (SK 99188958, SMR Ref. No.50334).

The route of the pipeline lies approximately 2.7Km to the east of Roman Ermine Street (the A15), and c. 2.7Km to the north-east of the Iron Age and Roman settlement of Owmbly. The most notable Roman find in proximity to the pipeline route was discovered to the north-east of Mill House in 1986, when a metal detectorist uncovered a large hoard of Roman coins. A total of 47,772 coins were recovered from within a large greyware pot and dated to the 3<sup>rd</sup> century (SK 99548788, SMR Ref. No.51075).

In 1850, the then rector of Hackthorn, excavated a large Anglo-Saxon burial mound in the parish of Caenby, to the west of the pipeline route (NGR SK 97038896). From the evidence recovered during its excavation, archaeologists have concluded that the interred burial was probably that of an important Saxon individual of high, but as yet, unknown status. Recent aerial photographic evidence also suggests that this barrow may form part of a group of barrows which lie in the vicinity of the south-east angle of the crossroads at Caenby corner (Everson 1993, p94).

Mill House, in the parish of Normanby-by-Spital, at the southern end of the monitored route was, as its name implies, the site of a post-medieval windmill which was demolished in 1965 (SK 99418772, SMR Ref. No.53967).

### **3.0 AIMS & METHODOLOGY**

The aims of the watching brief were:

- A. to produce an archive record of deposits and remains generally within the constraints of the groundwork contractors' working methods and programme as related to the project design, with due regard to current Health and Safety legislation.
- B. to produce a report on the archaeological importance of the discoveries.
- C. to produce a project archive from which the potential for further study and academic research could be assessed.
- D. to provide information for accession to the County Sites and Monuments Record.

The archaeological record was secured by means of trench side notes. Scale drawings of archaeological features were made and a full photographic record compiled. All artefacts and other materials recovered and retained from the investigations were packed and stored in the appropriate materials and conditions to ensure that minimum deterioration took place and that their associated records were complete.

Prior to the excavation of the pipeline trench the stripped easement was walked to establish whether archaeological features were visible and to recover finds from the easement surface and spoilheaps. Concentrations of finds were plotted allowing the targeting of specific areas of the pipeline route during the excavation of the pipeline trench.

### **4.0 ANALYSIS**

For the purpose of this report the results from the watching brief are presented from south to north, namely from Mill House northwards to the borehole compound.



**Area 1 (Mill House to crossing of Paunch Beck - length c.350m)**

This section of the pipeline revealed few archaeological features. Approximately 130m to the north of where the monitored section of the pipeline commenced, immediately to the north of an extinct field boundary (the field boundary is shown on Construction Issue Drawing No. 9W/44021/001), lay a series of east-west soil marks, [007], tentatively interpreted as ridge and furrow. Although barely distinguishable, nine were identified (see Fig. 3). These marks consisted of a mid-light brown clay/silt soil with occasional angular limestone fragments and were approximately 2m wide with 4m intervals between them. Interpretation suggests that they probably represent the infilled remains of furrows, the ridges having been eroded through later ploughing. The furrows could be seen up to the point where the easement started to descend down the valley side towards Paunch Beck. Visual scanning of the field on both sides of the easement (currently under wheat) failed to reveal further evidence for this agricultural activity, which is likely to date to the middle ages.

Finds recovered from the stripped easement and spoilheaps in Area 1 (contexts [005], [006] & [008]) spanned the mid 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century. The majority of these came from context [005], which lay close to the private access road to Mill House.

**Area 2 (Paunch Beck to Normanby Cliff Road - length c. 130m)**

Area 2 revealed several archaeological features (Fig. 4). Crossing the line of the easement, approximately 35m to the north of Paunch Beck, lay [009], an east-west alignment of small pebbles and limestones forming a trackway or similar feature. Although partially masked by silt deposit [008], this track was seen to be c. 2.5m wide and 150mm thick. No evidence was present to suggest resurfacing/repair to the track and no dateable material was recovered from its fabric. Due to the shallow nature of this feature and the pipe-laying methodology employed by the main contractor, it was not visible in the trench section.



Plate 2: View looking east long trackway [009] (scales are 1m). Note the damage caused by construction traffic obscuring archaeological features present on the easement.

Approximately 25m to the north of the suspected trackway lay a rectangular ditched enclosure or similar feature, [001]. It measured c. 23m north-south by 7m east-west. Sections excavated across the



ditch showed it to be very shallow (max. 100mm deep). Its full extent was not established as its northern end was not visible, having probably been removed during the initial stripping off of the easement. A narrow entrance to the enclosure may have been present on its eastern side, as delineated by the presence of two terminal ends to the visible enclosure ditch, close to its south-east corner. Finds recovered from within the enclosure, context [002], suggest a date between the late 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.



Plate 3: Enclosure [001] looking north-west (the enclosure is shown in this photograph as a rectangular formation of dark soil contrasting against the generally lighter coloured natural deposits. Also see Fig. 4).

This area of the pipeline lies in a field currently under grass. Visual scanning of the field on both sides of the easement, during the initial inspection of the site, revealed a series of undulations on its surface. Although the undulations appeared to represent ridge and furrow, this interpretation was made on the basis of only a cursory inspection of the surrounding area.

#### **Area 3 (Normanby Cliff Road to Borehole Compound - length c. 600m)**

This final stretch of the pipeline revealed few archaeological features, with the movement of construction traffic having obscured much of the easement prior to its archaeological examination. Monitoring the machine excavation of the pipe trench revealed, at approximately 160m and 175m south from the north end of the pipeline, two east-west ditch-like cuts in the pipe trench section, [018] and [020] (see Fig. 5). The larger, northerly, of the two features [018], contained two fills [016] and [017]. The primary fill [017] was a compact, dark brown clay: the secondary fill [016], was similarly a compact clay, although light yellow/brown in colour and containing frequent small limestones. [016] also appeared laminated, suggesting that it had been deposited slowly over extended period of time and may therefore represent a naturally occurring infill. The second ditch, [020], lay some 5m further south than [018]. It was similar in profile to [018] and its fill, [019], was very similar to laminated fill [016], suggesting that this ditch also infilled naturally.

Finds recovered from the stripped easement and spoilheaps in Area 3 (contexts [011] - [015]) covered the mid-late 12<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. No finds concentrations were found, but a larger proportion was recovered from close to Normanby Cliff Road (context [015]).



## 5.0 CONCLUSIONS

The results from the watching brief were largely negative. Those features that were recorded were generally shallow and whilst visible in plan, did not generally reveal themselves in the sections of the pipe trench.

The suspected ridge and furrow present in Area 1 was un-dated but is likely to be medieval or early post-medieval in date.

Area 2 revealed most in the way of archaeological deposits and features. Interpretation of these features was, however, difficult given the fact that they survived to such shallow depths. The un-dated metallated trackway recorded at the southern end of Area 2 appears to have been associated with the earthworks present in the field. The fact that it was not visible in the pipe trench section suggests that it was not a substantial feature. The enclosure feature to the north of the track lay at right angles to it and appears likely to be contemporary. Its function was not clear from the evidence recovered. However, it may represent a small stock enclosure or possibly delineate the position of a small free-standing structure.

The two east-west ditches recorded in Area 3 were only visible in the pipe trench section and may represent extinct field boundaries or naturally occurring features. Without further 'on site' investigation, no interpretation can be made.

In conclusion, the deposits and features recorded during the archaeological programme of investigation offer little to further our understanding of the nature of occupation along the route of the pipeline. Examination of aerial photographic records may further substantiate the presence and interpretation of the ridge and furrow in Area 1 as well as the location of the features in Area 2.

## 6.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit would like to thank Anglian Water for funding the watching brief and post-fieldwork analysis. Thanks are also extended to the site contractor, Clarks Construction Ltd, for their full co-operation throughout the duration of the archaeological programme of investigation. Examination of information held in the relevant SMR was permitted by Mark Bennet, Sites and Monuments Records Officer, Lincolnshire.

## 7.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Everson, P L 1994 Pre-Viking Settlement in Lindsey in Vince, Alan (ed) 1993 *Pre-Viking Lindsey*, p91 Lincoln Archaeol Stud 1, City Lincoln Archaeol Unit, Lincoln.

## NOTE

The information in this document is presented with the proviso that further data may yet emerge. The Unit, its members and employees cannot, therefore, be held responsible for any loss, delay or damage, material or otherwise, arising out of this report. The document has been prepared in accordance with the terms of the Unit's Articles of Association, the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.



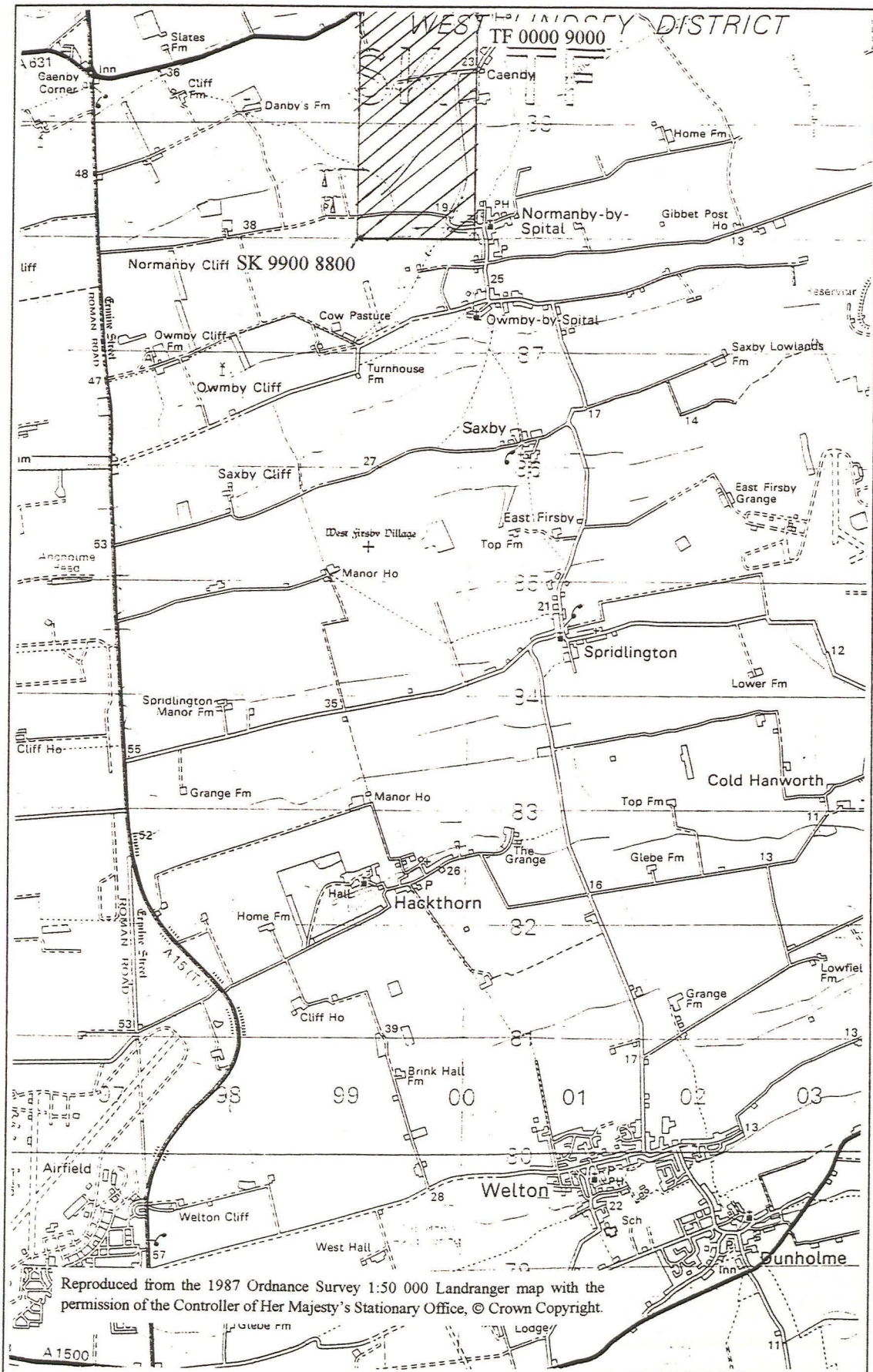


Fig. 1: General location plan.



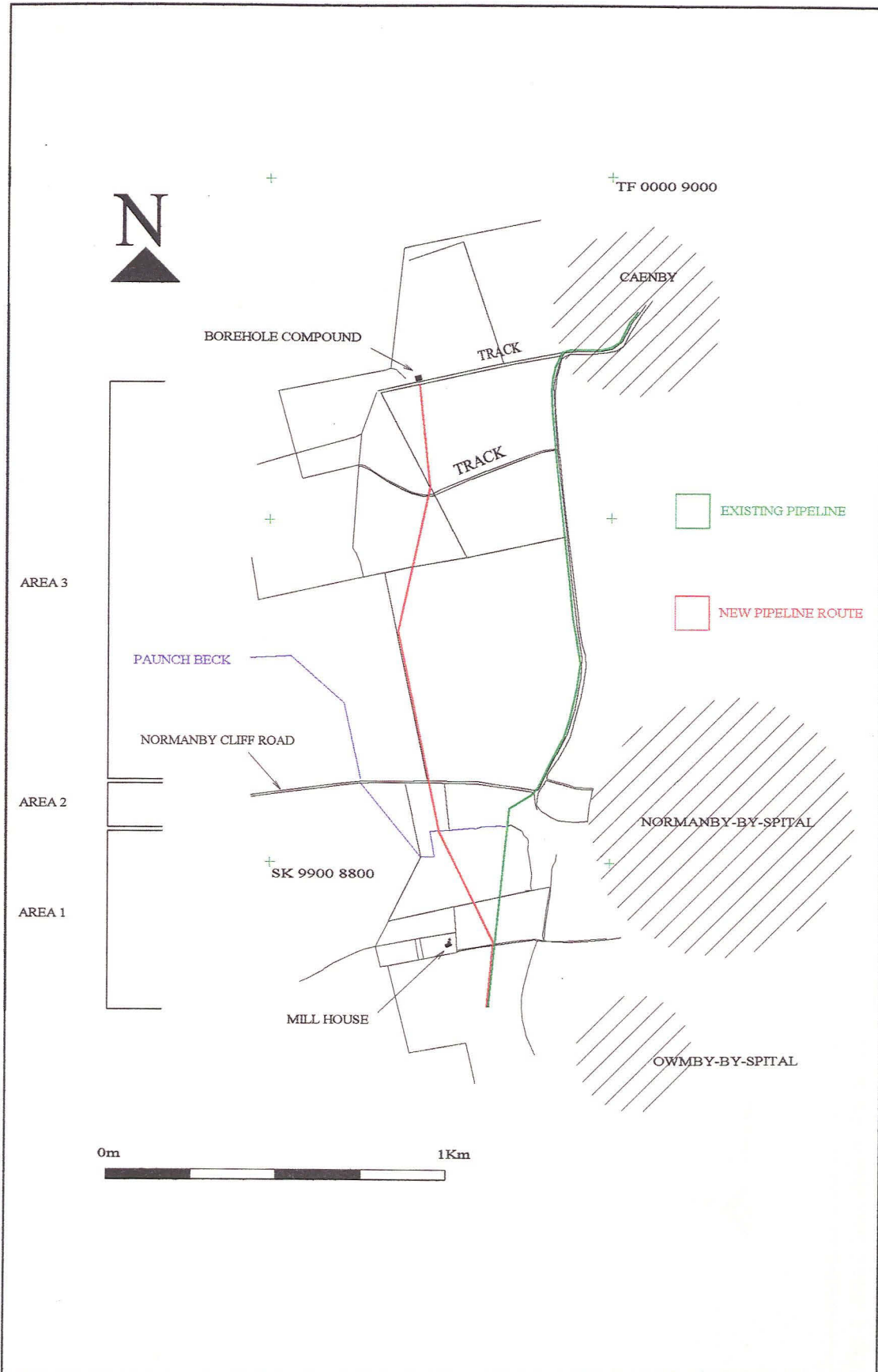


Fig. 2: Pipeline and Area location plan.



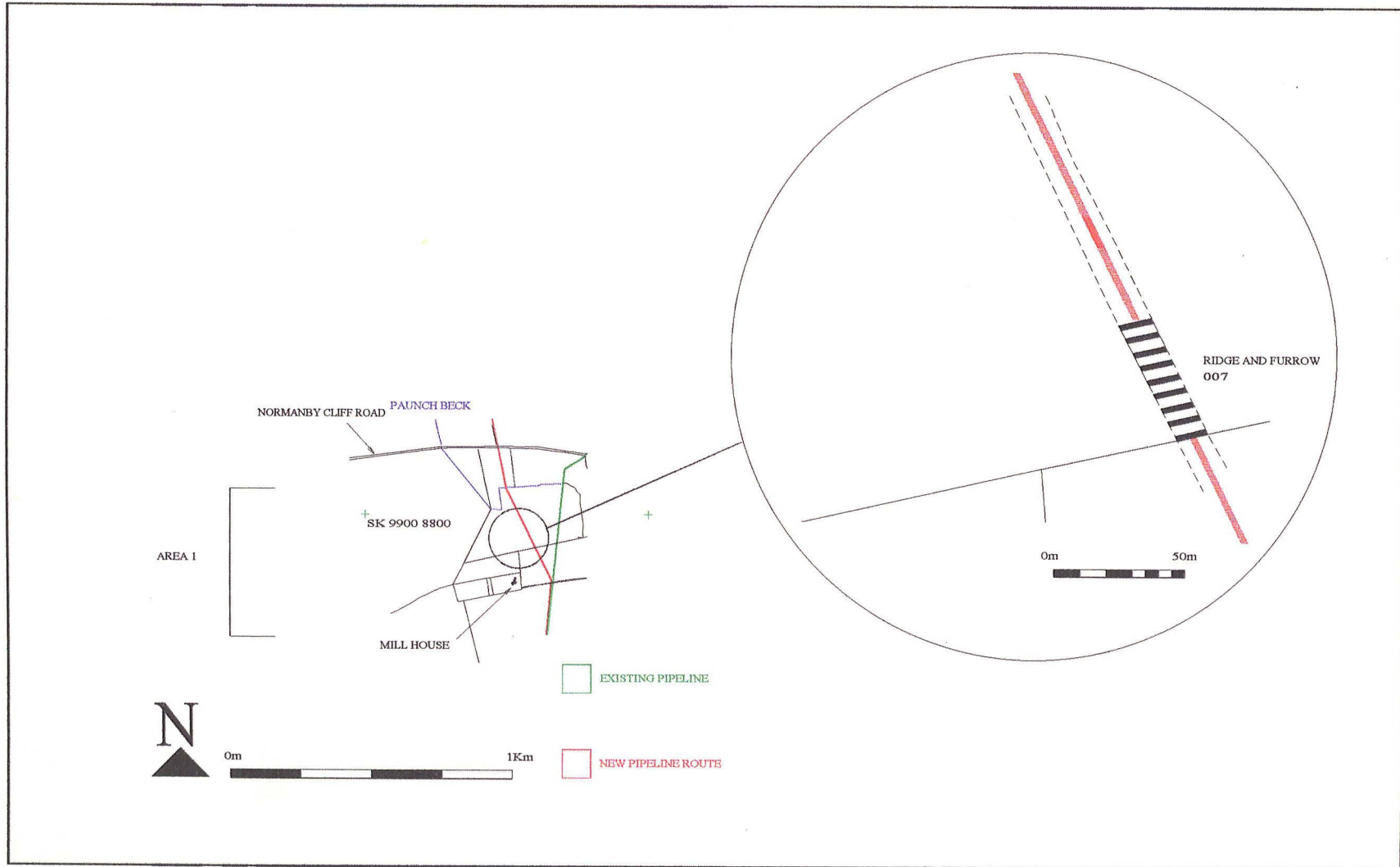


Fig. 3: Area 1 - Mill House - Paunch Beck.



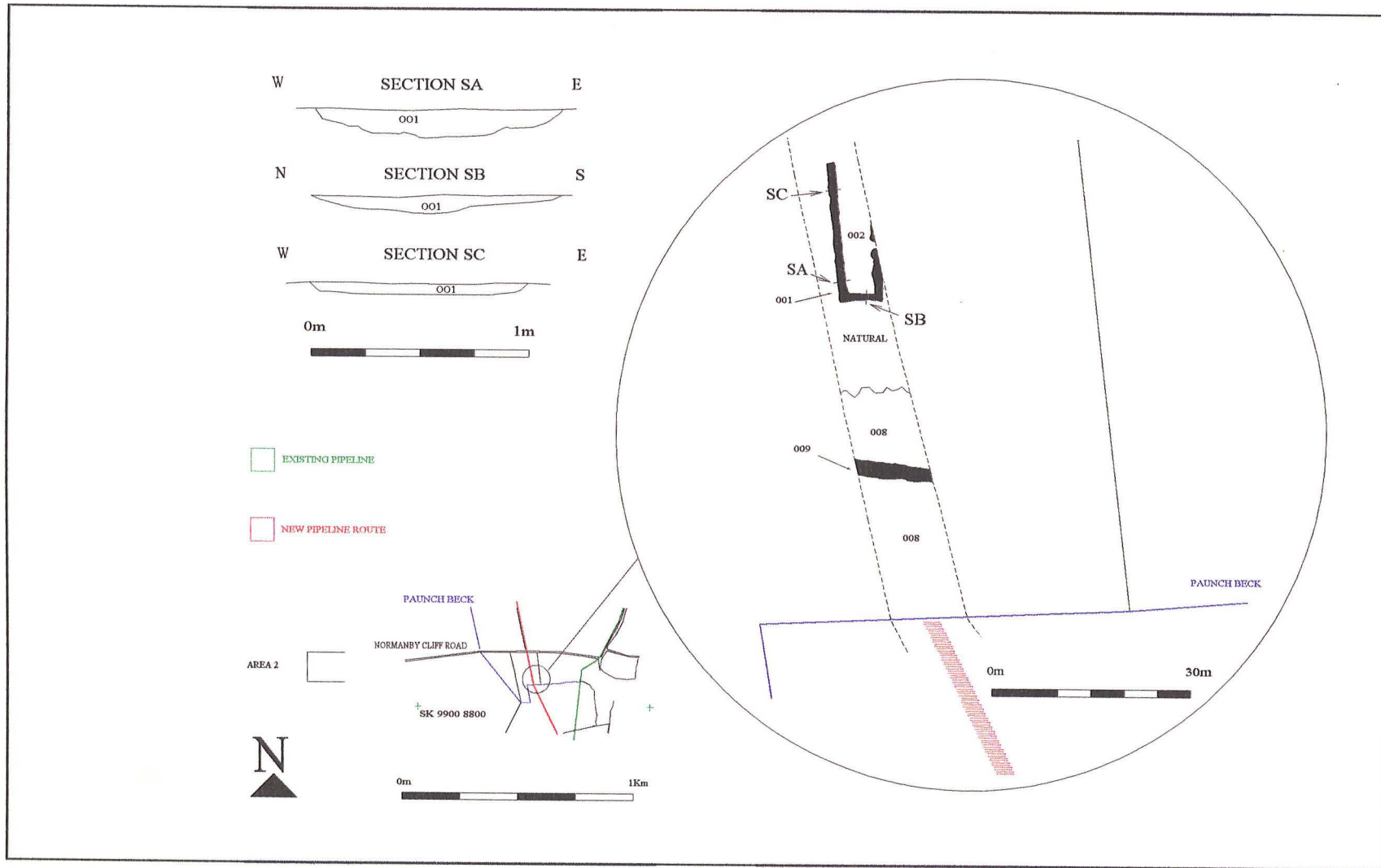


Fig. 4: Area 2 - Paunch Beck - Normanby Cliff Road.



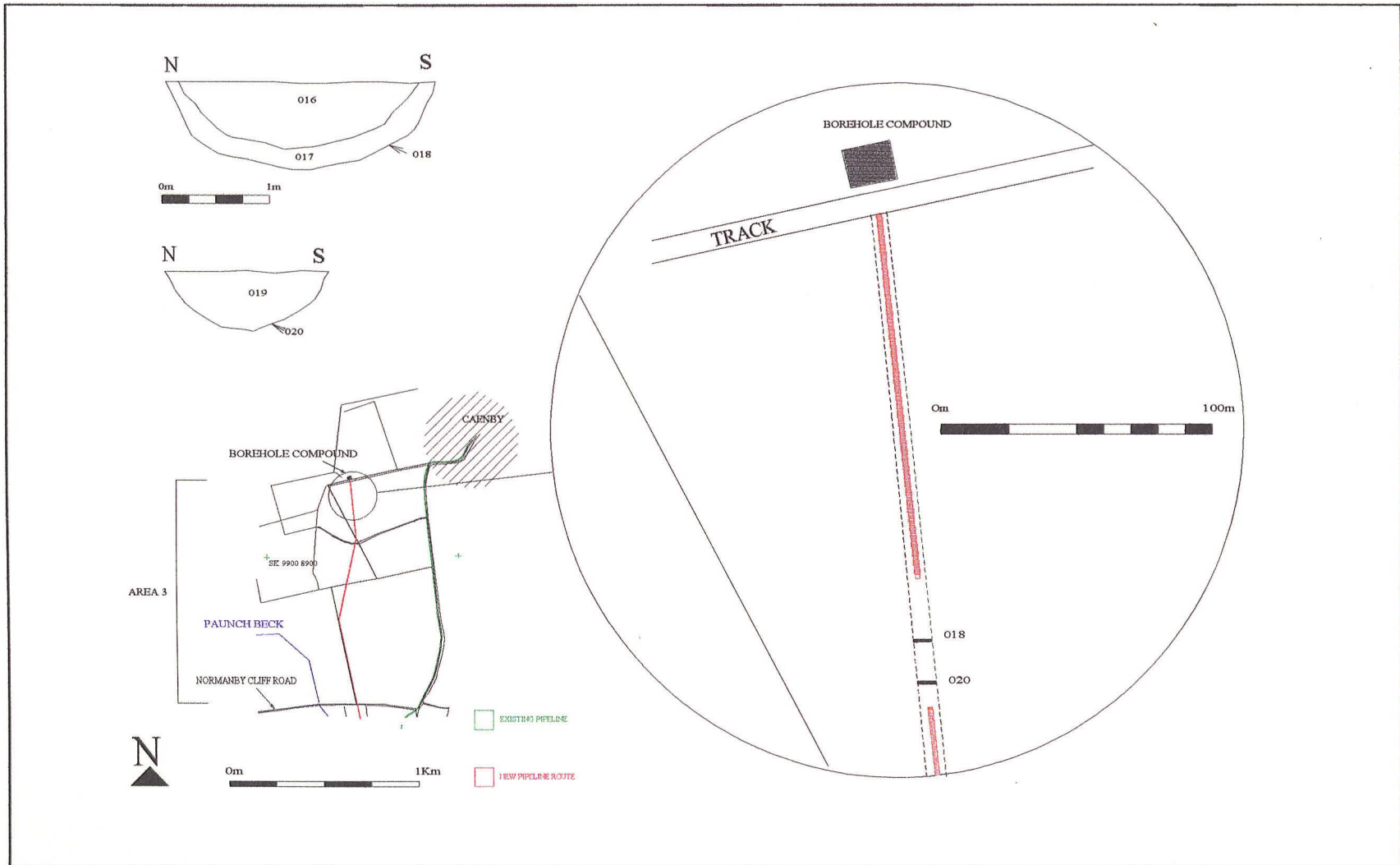


Fig. 5: Area 3 - Normanby Cliff Road - Borehole Compound.



**RAW WATER MAIN,  
GLENTHAM TO WELTON,  
LINCOLNSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
WATCHING BRIEF**

***APPENDIX 1***

***LHA NOTE & ARCHIVE DETAILS***

***LHA NOTE DETAILS***

CLAU CODE: GLW97

CLAU REPORT No.: 303

PLANNING APPLICATION NO.: N/A

FIELD OFFICER: Michael Jarvis

NGR: SK 99508940 - 99418772

CIVIL PARISH: Caenby & Normanby-by-Spital.

SMR No.: -

DATE OF INTERVENTION: May 1997

TYPE OF INTERVENTION: Watching Brief

UNDERTAKEN FOR: Anglian Water

***ARCHIVE DETAILS***

PRESENT LOCATION: City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit, Charlotte House, The Lawn, Union Road, Lincoln, LN1 3BL.

FINAL LOCATION: The City and County Museum, Friars Lane, Lincoln.

MUSEUM ACCESSION No.: 119.97

ACCESSION DATE: -