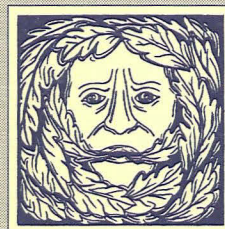


**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF LAND ADJACENT TO SANDYGATE LANE,
HORBLING,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(HSL97)**

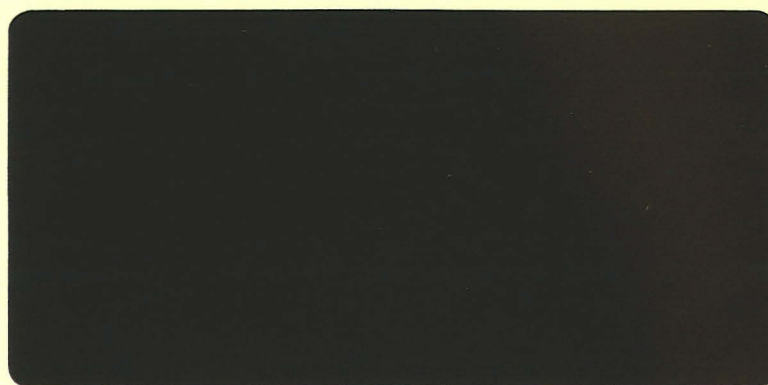


A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

**Lincolnshire County Council
Archaeology Section**

1 2. SEPT 77

12 Friars Lane
LINCOLN LN2 5AL
Tel: 01522 575292 Fax: 01522 530724



ELI 6912

SLI 5788 1572

32843 med.

35042 - update

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
OF LAND ADJACENT TO SANDYGATE LANE,
HORBLING,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(HSL97)**

Work Undertaken For
Mr A P Denison

Report compiled by
Paul Cope-Faulkner

September 1997

A.P.S. Report No: 40/97

CONTENTS

List of Figures

List of Plates

1.	Summary	1
2.	Introduction	1
2.1	Background	1
2.2	Topography and Geology	1
2.3	Archaeological Setting	1
3.	Aims	2
4.	Methods	2
5.	Results	2
6.	Discussion	3
7.	Conclusions	3
8.	Acknowledgements	4
9.	Personnel	4
10.	Bibliography	4
11.	Abbreviations	4

Appendices

1	Brief for an Archaeological observation and recording
2	Context Summary
3	Pottery and other ceramic material <i>Hilary Healey</i>
4	The Animal Bone <i>Paul Cope-Faulkner</i>
5	The Archive
6	Glossary

List of Figures

Figure 1 . . . General Location Plan

Figure 2 . . . Site Location Plan

Figure 3 . . . Foundation Plan, showing Section locations

Figure 4 . . . Sections 1

Figure 5 . . . Section 2

Figure 6 . . . Section 3

List of Plates

Plate 1 General view along the southernmost foundation trench

Plate 2 Partial view of Section 3, showing the undated ditch (010)

1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the construction of a dwelling on land adjacent to Sandygate Lane, Horbling, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of the foundation trenches.

The watching brief identified the termination of a medieval, possibly 12th century, ditch that may have once formed the northern limit of the churchyard. An undated ditch and a square pit were also uncovered.

Finds retrieved from this investigation included pottery dating from the medieval period through to the 19th and 20th centuries as well as a clay pipe and three animal bones, one of which showed evidence for butchery.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr A P Denison to undertake an archaeological watching brief during development at land adjacent to Sandygate Lane, Horbling, South Kesteven District, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application SK97/0046/44/03. Permission was granted subject to a standard condition for archaeological recording. The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a brief set by the Community Archaeologist for South Kesteven District Council (Appendix 1).

An archaeological watching brief is 'defined as a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted

during any operation carried out for non-archaeological purposes within a specified area, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed.' (IFA 1994, 1).

2.2 Topography and Geology

Horbling is situated 11km southeast of Sleaford and 22km southwest of Boston, in South Kesteven District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The development site is located at a height of c. 7m OD, and lies 50m northeast of the parish church of St Andrew. Centred on National Grid Reference TF 1190 3522 (Fig. 2).

Local soils are the Badsey 2 Association typical fine loamy soils over calcareous gravels (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 101). developed in marine alluvium. Beneath this is a solid geology of Oxford Clay (B.G.S. 1995).

2.3 Archaeological Setting

Horbling is situated in an area of known archaeological activity dating from the prehistoric periods. To the south of the village are two round barrows of the early Bronze Age (2250-1850 BC), both scheduled monuments (SMR32844 and SMR32845).

Romano-British activity has not been identified in close proximity to the proposed development site. However, Sandygate Lane is thought to have its origins as a Roman Road connecting Donnington to Horbling and beyond to the Roman settlement at Sapperton (Simmons 1975, 75). Roman pottery has been recovered 700m southwest of the church and may mark the position of a settlement (SMR32840).

Horbling is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086. Referred to as *Horbelinge* and *Orbelinge*, the name is derived from the Old English and means the 'Billings on muddy land' (Ekwall 1974, 249). The Billings, or Bilmigas, were a Saxon tribe living along the Fen edge and are preserved in the place-names of Billingborough and Billingham. The Domesday Survey records that Horbling was owned by the Archbishop of York, Count Alan, Colsuain and Waldin the Breton and contained a church and over 50 acres of meadow (Foster and Longley 1976).

Evidence for medieval (AD 1066-1500) activity is highlighted by the parish church of St. Andrew. This church dates to the 11th century with later additions in the 13th and 14th century (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 392). A possible moated site is located 500m northeast of the development area (SMR33289) and may indicate the position of a former manor. However, this area is referred to as 'Trickfans' on the enclosure award which may be a corruption of brick pits or similar (Hilary Healey *pers. comm.*). Located 150m northwest is the site of a spring associated with cisterns which may be medieval in date (SMR32842).

3. AIMS

The requirements of the watching brief, as set by the brief (Appendix 1), were to locate and record archaeological deposits, if present, and to determine their date, function and origin.

4. METHODS

The proposed development required the excavation of foundation trenches for new walls to a depth of c. 1.1m. Following

excavation by mechanical excavator, the sides of all trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were partially or fully excavated by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. The depth and thickness of each deposit was measured from the ground surface. Each archaeological deposit or feature revealed within the trench was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20. Recording of deposits encountered during the watching brief was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

5. RESULTS

Finds recovered from those deposits excavated were examined and a period date assigned where possible. Records of the deposits and features recognised during the watching brief were also examined. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. Phasing was assigned based on artefact dating and the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them. Four phases were identified:

- Phase 1 - Natural deposits
- Phase 2 - Medieval deposits
- Phase 3 - Undated deposits
- Phase 4 - Recent deposits

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

Phase 1 Natural deposits

Deposits of dark yellow clayey silt (009 and 006) were encountered at the base of all trenches examined. These were overlain by a subsoil of mid greyish brown clayey

sand (004) that was 0.4m thick.

Phase 2 Medieval deposits

Located in the southwest corner of the foundation trenches was an east-west aligned feature (005) terminating within the development. Visible for a length of 4m and a width of 3.5m, this ditch was 1.2m deep. Two fills were recorded, the first a yellowish red silty clay (003) and the second, a mid greenish brown clayey silt (002) that contained 12th century pottery, including a rim sherd of Stamford ware. Although interpreted as a ditch, the possibility that this is a large pit cannot be excluded.

Phase 3 Undated deposits

Located at the northwest corner of the development was a possible square or rectangular feature (008). Estimated at c. 2m square the depth was recorded at 1.2m and contained a single fill of greenish brown clayey sand (007).

Situated towards the southeast corner of the trench was a further ditch (011) aligned north to south. This ditch was filled with light greenish brown clayey silt (013). A possible re-cut of this ditch was evidenced by (010) which was 1.8m wide by 1.2m deep and also contained a light greenish brown clayey silt (012).

Phase 4 Recent deposits

Located along the southern edge of the boundary (Fig. 3) was a sub-rectangular cut (015), c. 7m long by c. 4m wide and c. 2m deep filled with brick and other demolition debris (014).

All features were sealed by a blackish brown clayey sand topsoil (001) that was 0.25m thick.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Phase 1) of alluvial or glacial clayey silts were encountered in the base of all trenches. Above these a subsoil represents early natural soil formation.

Phase 2 deposits (medieval) comprise a large east to west ditch of probable 12th century date. Post-dating the origins of the nearby church, this ditch may represent an early boundary of the churchyard.

Undated features (Phase 3) comprise a square or rectangular pit, possibly utilised for storage as no waste material was retrieved from its fill and a north-south ditch that had been recut once. This ditch possibly marked a land boundary for properties fronting Sandygate Lane, although no structural evidence was forthcoming during the investigation.

Finds recovered include pottery dating from the medieval period to the present century. The shelly ware sherds associated with the medieval ditch are tentatively dated as contemporary with the Stamford ware, although similar pottery is also known from Saxon contexts. Other finds include bone, brick, clay pipes and fragments of glassware.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations on land adjacent to Sandygate Lane, Horbling were undertaken because the site fell within an area of known archaeological activity, notably the 11th century church of St Andrew. Churches are often the focus of small settlements and the possibility existed of early medieval remains being disturbed by the development.

The earliest dated feature is a moderately large boundary ditch possibly defining the

northern limit of the churchyard. A square pit and a north south ditch represent undated features, therefore function and importance of these features is impossible to ascertain. However, as one of the first archaeological interventions in the village this investigation can provide useful data regarding survivability and depths of archaeological deposits.

Several sherds of pottery were recovered, mostly from the topsoil. No unusual pottery was recorded and the collection is typical of this part of Lincolnshire. Animal bone was also retrieved during the investigation, although in such small numbers to prevent comment upon animal husbandry or economic value. The nature of the local site conditions would suggest that few environmental indicators would survive, other than through charring.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr A P Denison who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor and this report was edited by Tom Lane. Jenny Stevens, the Community Archaeologist for South Kesteven District Council, permitted examination of the relevant files maintained by the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire. Hilary Healey examined the pottery and other finds.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
Supervisor: Neil Herbert
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
Post-excavation Analyst: Paul Cope-Faulkner

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

BGS., 1995, *Boston, Solid and Drift* edition Sheet 128

Ekwall, E., 1974, *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place-Names* (4th edition)

Foster, C.W. and Longley, T. (Eds), 1976, *The Lincolnshire Domesday and the Lindsey Survey*, The Lincoln Record Society 19

Hodge, C.A.H., Burton, R.G.O., Corbett, W.M., Evans, and Seale, R.S., 1984, *Soils and their Use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales 13

IFA, 1994, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*

Pevsner, N. and Harris, J., 1989, *Lincolnshire*, The Buildings of England (2nd ed, revised Antram, N.)

Simmons, B.B., 1975, *The Lincolnshire Fens and Fen edge North of Bourne*, Unpublished MA dissertation, University of Leicester

11. ABBREVIATIONS

BGS. British Geological Survey

DoE Department of the Environment

SMR Sites and Monuments Record

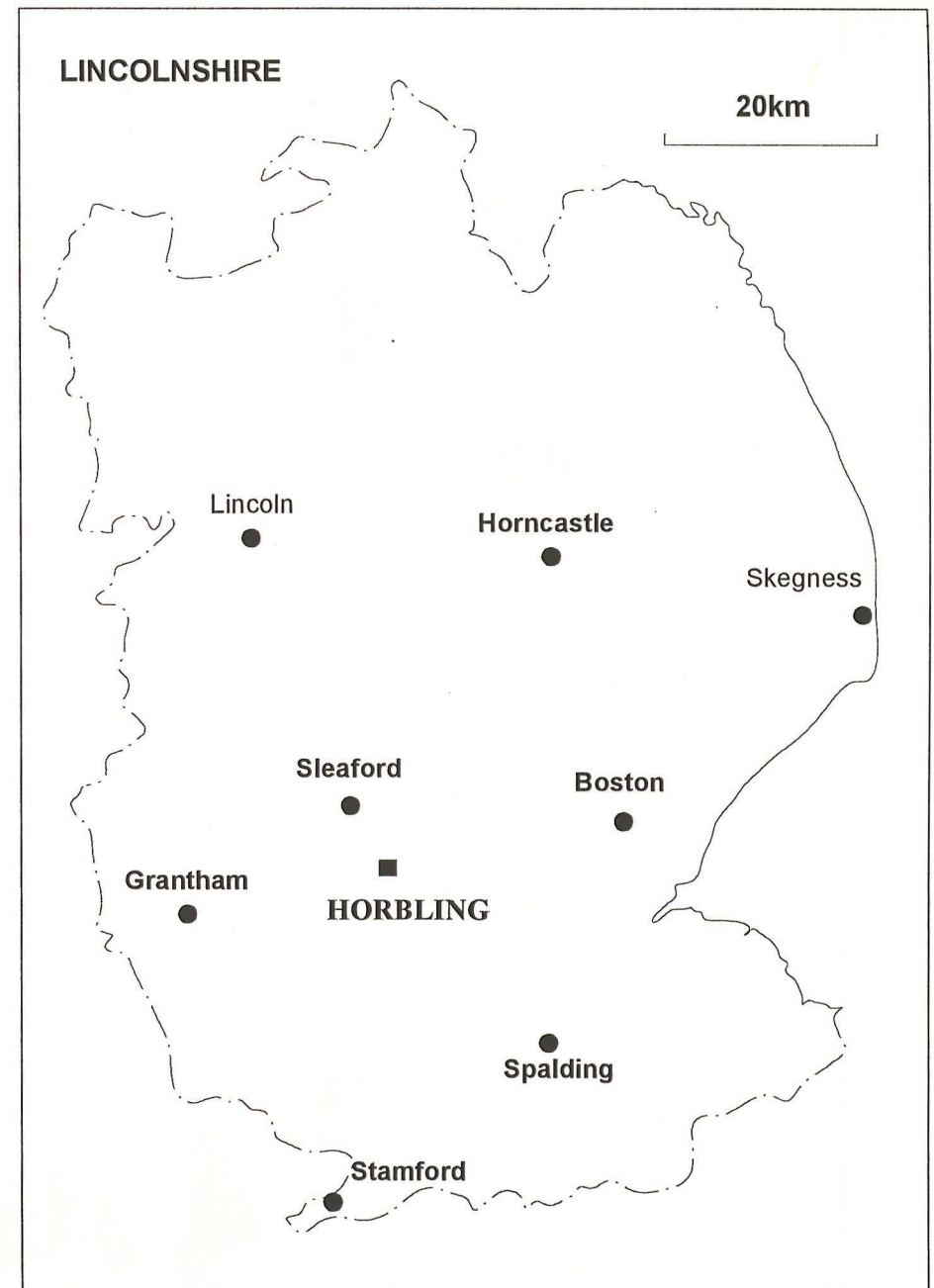
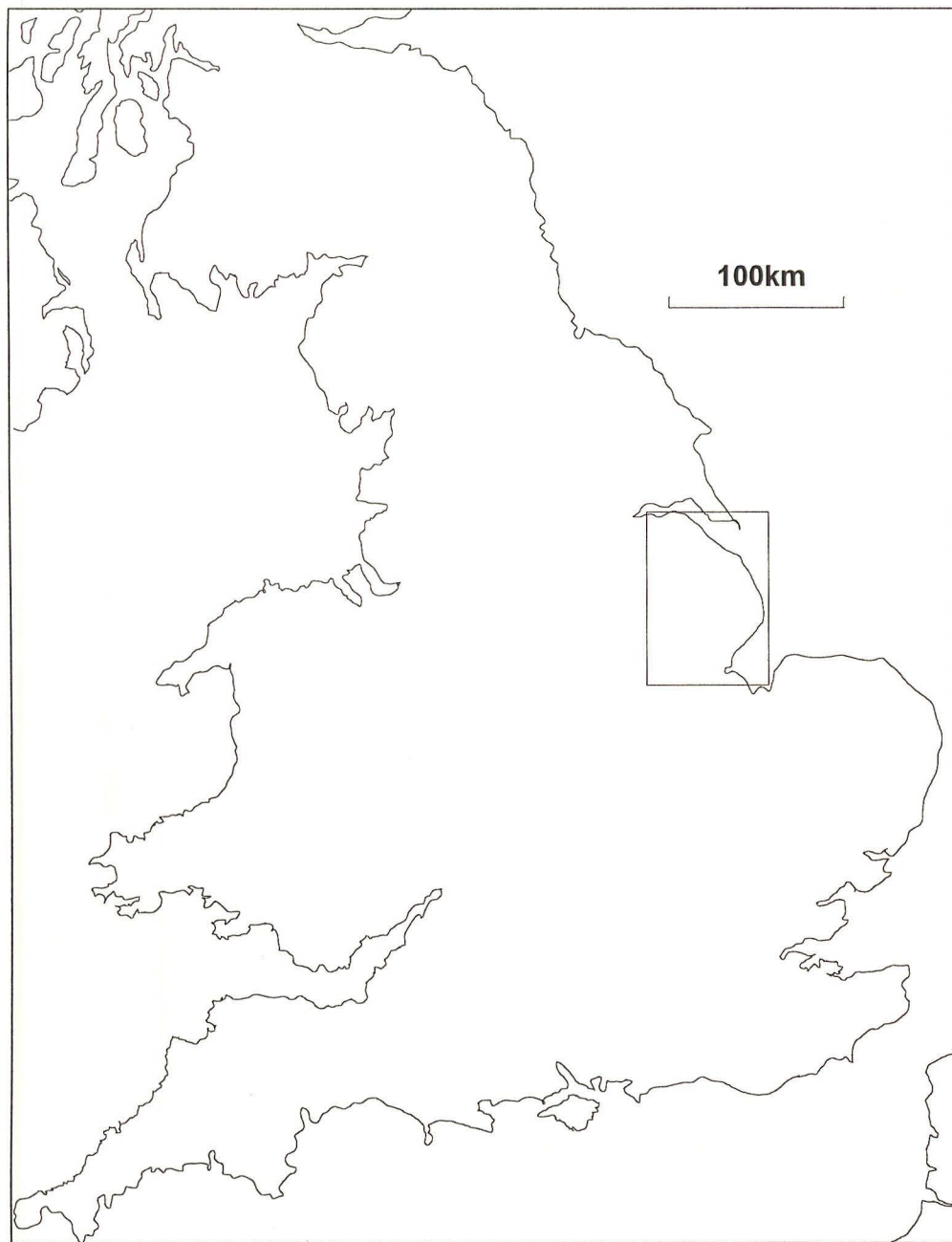


Figure 1 - General Location Plan

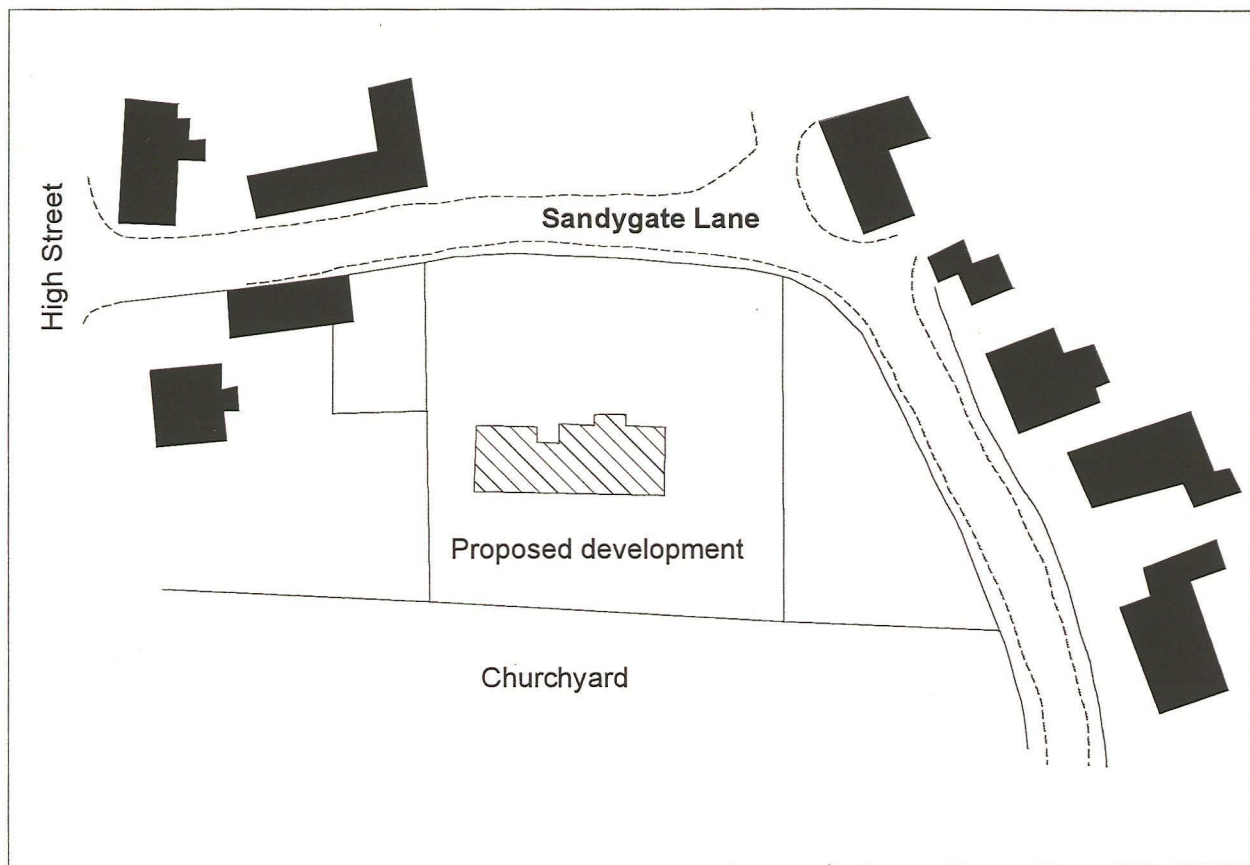


Figure 2 - Site Location Plan

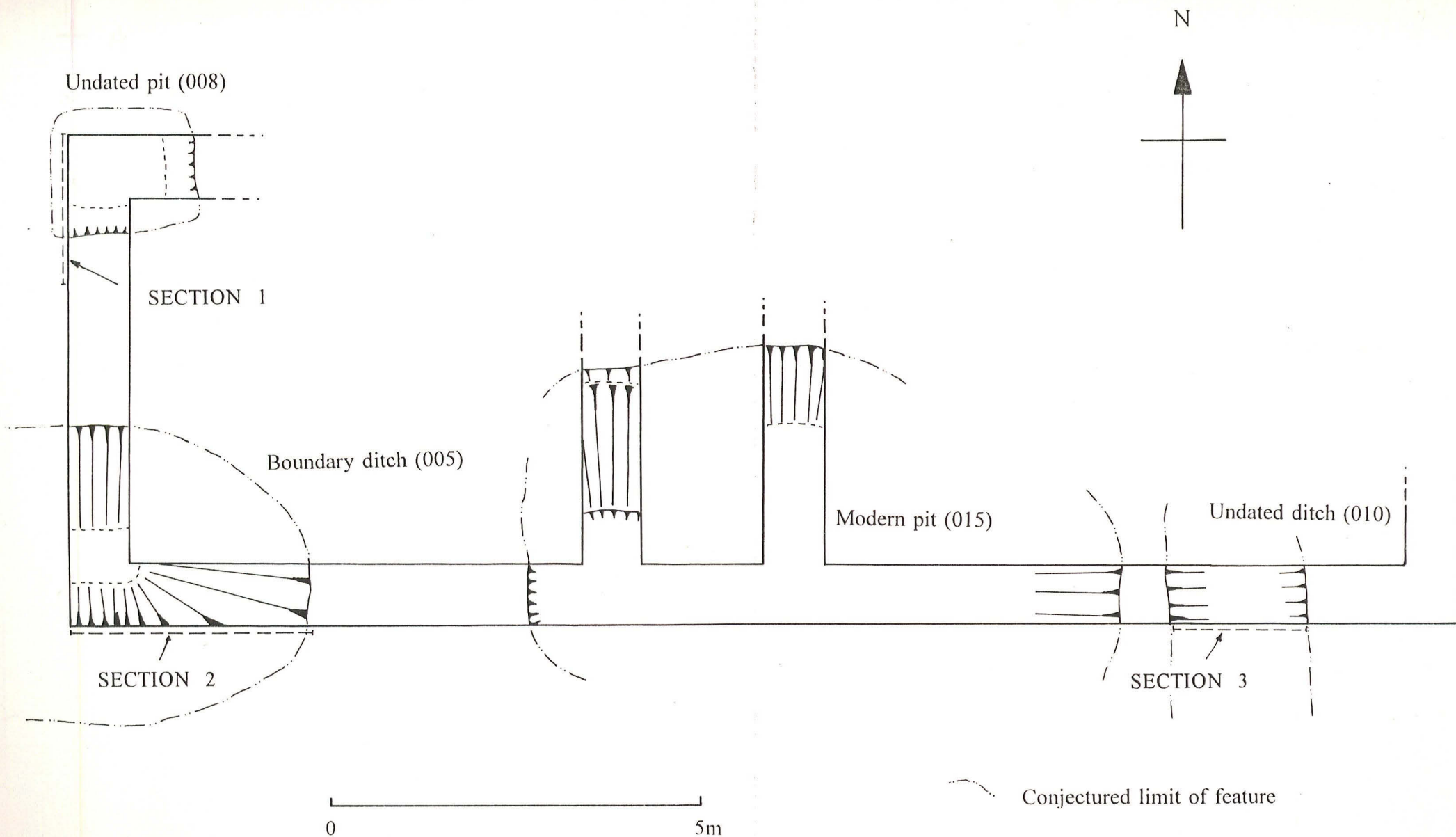


Figure 3 - Plan showing location of features and Sections

SECTION 1

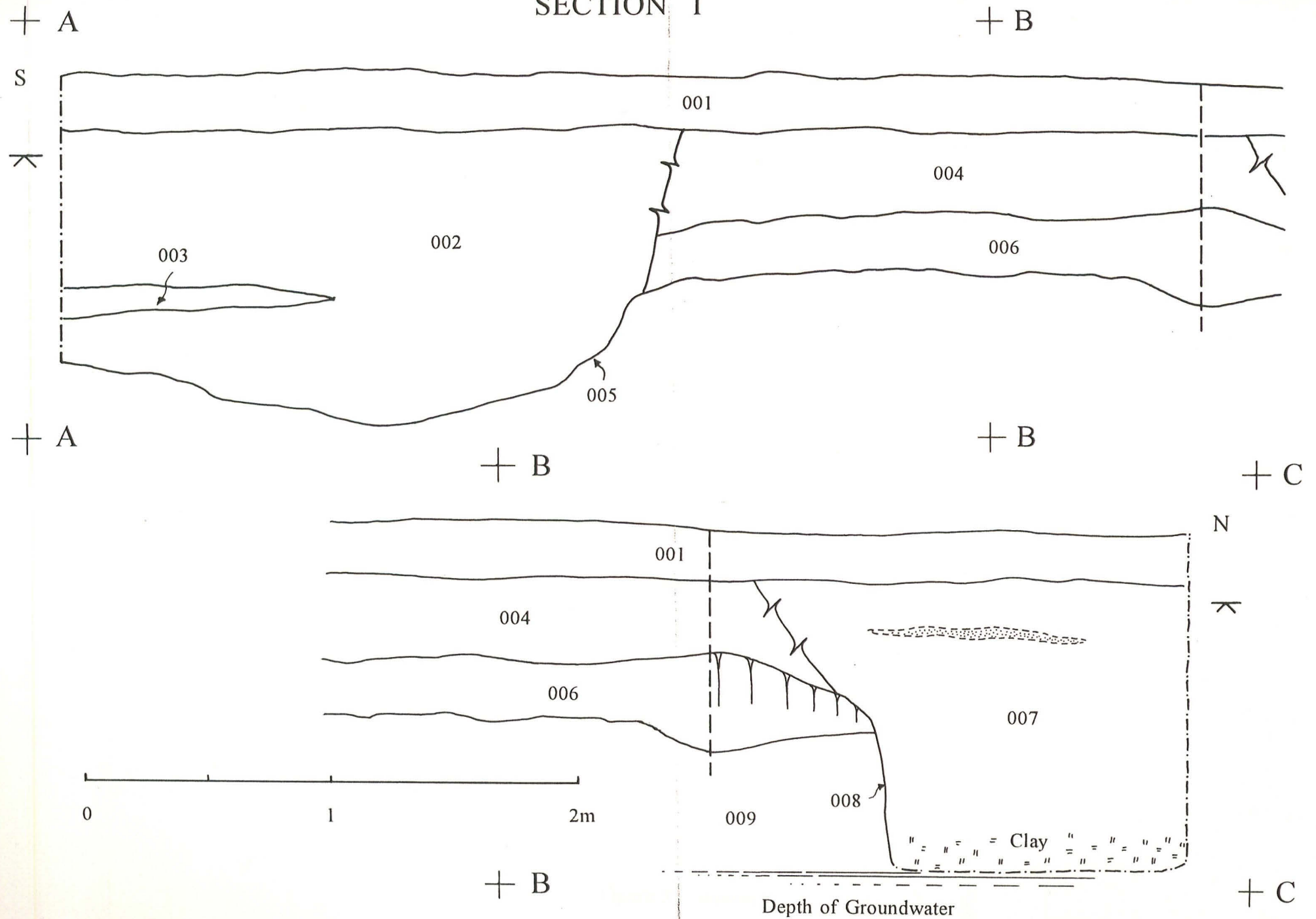


Figure 4 - Section 1

SECTION 2

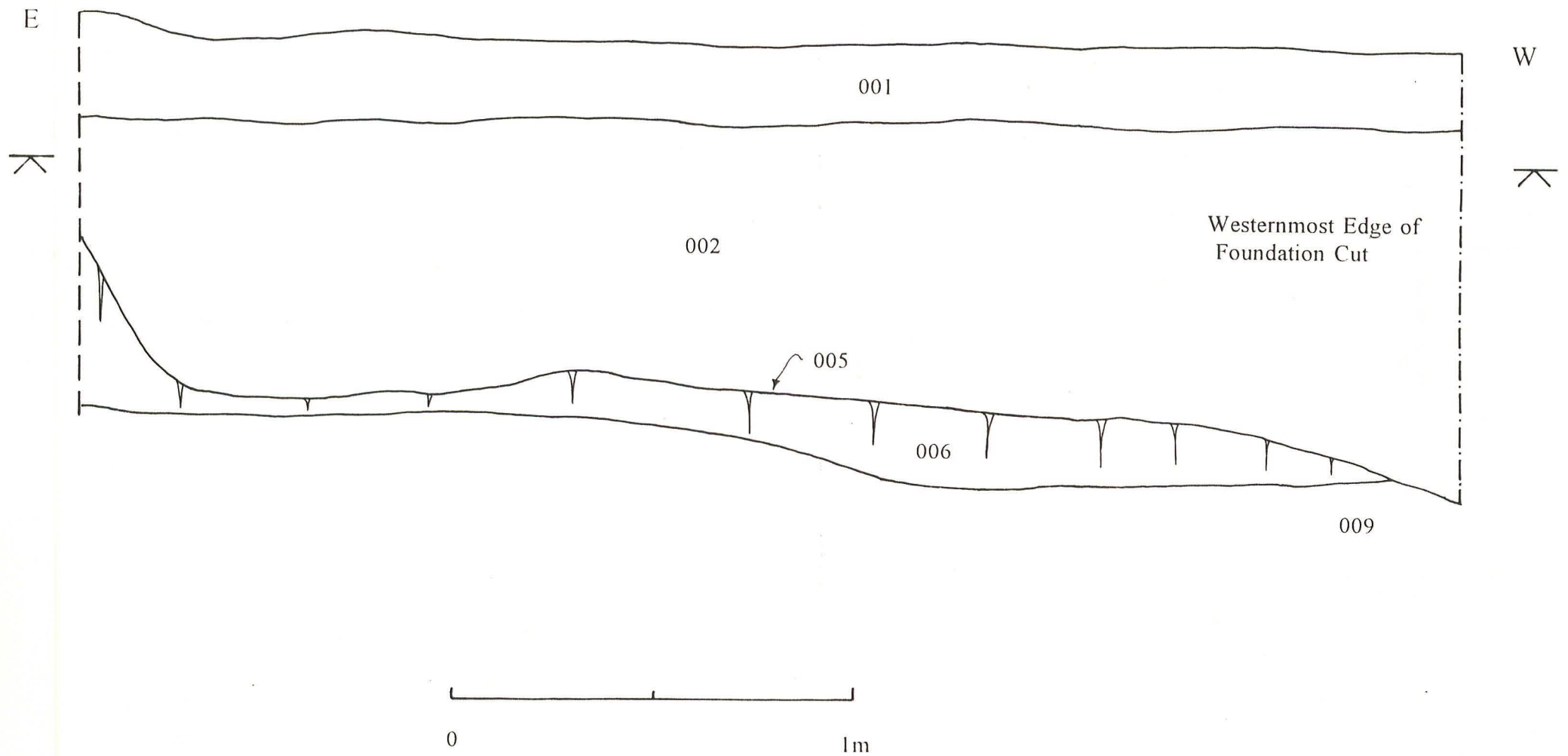


Figure 5 - Section 2

SECTION 3

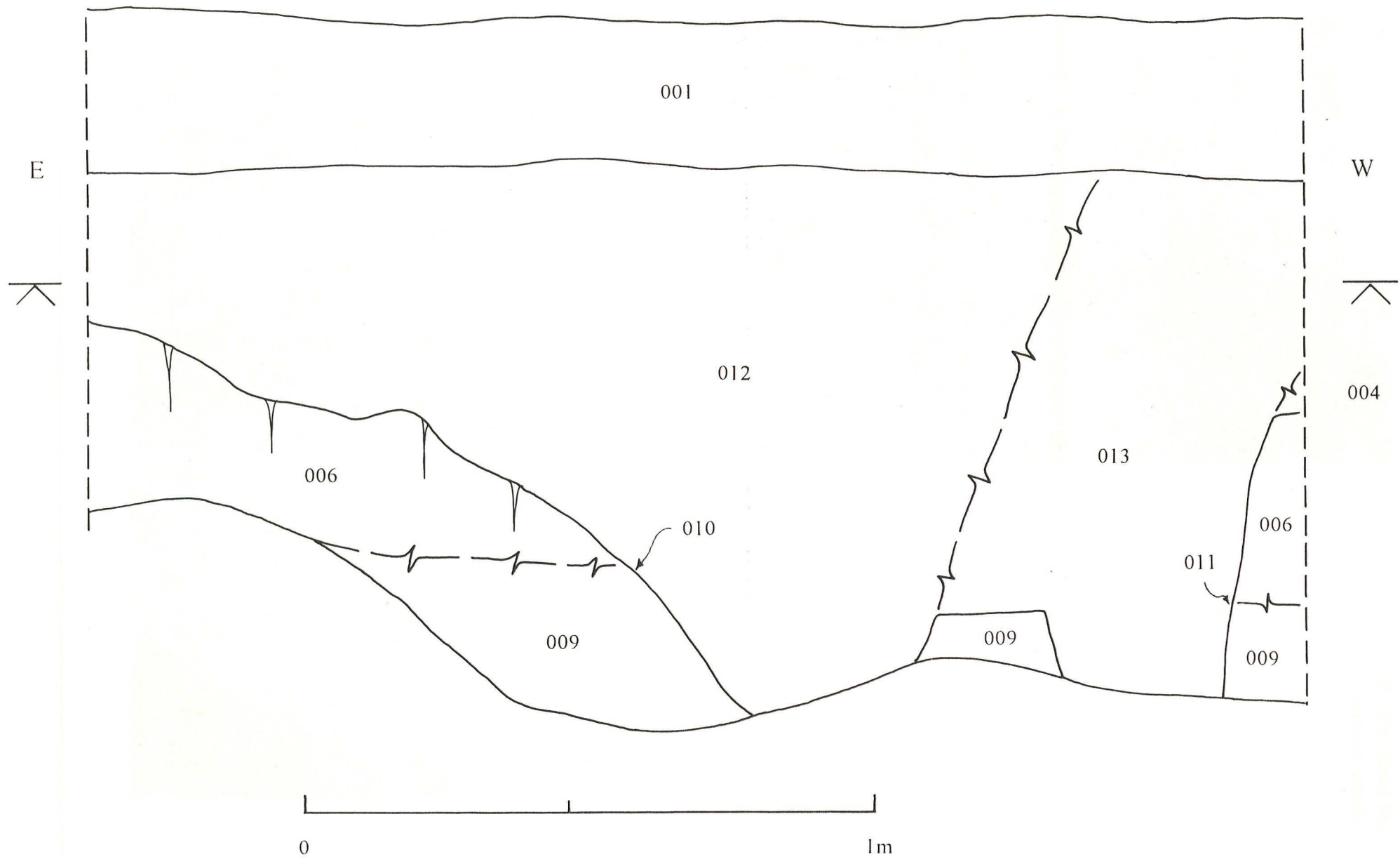


Figure 6 - Section 3



Plate 1 - General view along the southernmost foundation trench.

Plate 2 - Partial view of Section 3, showing the undated ditch (010)



Appendix 1

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT BRIEF. WATCHING BRIEF AT R/O 2 HIGH STREET, SANDYGATE LANE, HORBLING.

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This document is the brief for an archaeological watching brief to be carried out during the development of land at the rear of 2 High Street, Sandygate Lane, Horbling.
- 1.2 This brief should be used by archaeological contractors as the basis for the preparation of a detailed archaeological project specification. 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 All of the detailed specifications will be submitted for approval to the Community Archaeologist of South Kesteven District Council. 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 The village of Horbling lies in the north-eastern section of the district of South Kesteven, Lincolnshire approximately 15km north of the town of Bourne. The application site lies in the middle of the village on a piece of land directly adjacent to the village church at NGR: TF1190 3522. The site is currently overgrown but may have been used as garden at some time in the past.

3. PLANNING BACKGROUND.

- 3.1 The proposed development is for the erection of a dwelling and outline planning permission is sought from South Kesteven District Planning department, application number. SK97/0046/44/03.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.

- 4.1 The site of the proposed development lies directly adjacent to Horbling village church, St. Andrew's. Although there has been restoration over the years the basic church is actually Norman in date with 13th and 14th century additions. Horbling was noted in the Domesday book and a small Gilbertine Priory (probably an appendage to Sempringham) was situated at Bridgend which lies to the north-east of the village out further into the fens, so we know there was settlement in the area in medieval times. It is very typical for villages to have grown up around the church and it is possible that this was the centre of Horbling in Medieval times. Across the road to the northwest of the site are the remains of a probable medieval cistern, which took advantage of a natural Spring to draw water. The layout of the application site also indicate that there may be archaeological remains buried here. The ground level is significantly higher than that occupied by houses on the north and east sides of Sandygate Lane and the way Sandygate lane curves around the church may indicate that the application site was once within the boundary of the churchyard. If this is the case it is possible that there may be buried human remains on the site as well as occupation evidence.
- 4.2 Due to the possibility that remains relating to the medieval period (and possibly other periods as well) may be situated on the application site, it is recommended that an archaeological contractor carry out a watching brief during the groundworks stages of the development, in order to record or retrieve any remains which are disturbed.

5. REQUIREMENT FOR WORK.

- 5.1 The objective of the watching brief should be to ensure that any archaeological features exposed by the groundworks are recorded and interpreted and that any remains disturbed are recovered.
- 5.2 Any adjustments to the brief for the Watching Brief project should only be made after discussion with the Community Archaeologist of South Kesteven District Council.
- 5.3 The following details should be given in the contractor's specification:
 - 5.3.1 A projected timetable must be agreed for the various stages of work.
 - 5.3.2 The staff structure and numbers must be detailed. **This should include lists of specialists and their role in the project.**
 - 5.3.3 It is expected that all on-site work will be carried out in a way that complies with the relevant Health and Safety Legislation and that due consideration will be given to site security.
 - 5.3.4 The recovery and recording strategies to be used must be described in full.
 - 5.3.5 An estimate of time and resources allocated for post excavation work and report production.

6. METHODS

- 6.1 The investigation should be carried out by a recognised archaeological body in accordance with the code of conduct of The Institute of Field Archaeologists.
- 6.2 The watching brief should involve:
 - 6.2.1 archaeological supervision of soil stripping;
 - 6.2.2 inspection of subsoil for archaeological features;
 - 6.2.3 recording of archaeological features in plan;
 - 6.2.4 rapid excavation of features if necessary;
 - 6.2.5 archaeological supervision of subsoil stripping;
 - 6.2.6 inspection of natural for archaeological features and recording of them;
 - 6.2.7 any human remains encountered must be left in situ and only removed if absolutely necessary. The contractor must comply with all statutory consents and licences under the Disused Burial Grounds (Amendment) Act, 1981 or other Burial Acts regarding the exhumation and interment of human remains. It will also be necessary to comply with all reasonable requests of interested parties as to the method of removal, reinterment or disposal of the remains or associated items. Attempt must be made at all times not to cause offence to any interested parties;

7. MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

- 7.1 The Community Archaeologist of South Kesteven District Council will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project and will require at least seven days notice prior to the commencement of the work.

8. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- 8.1 A full report should be produced and deposited with the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist, South Kesteven District Council Planning Department, the Developer and the County Sites and Monuments Record. The report should include:
 - 8.1.1 location plan of the trenches;
 - 8.1.2 section and plan drawing, with ground level, Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scales as appropriate;
 - 8.1.3 specialist descriptions of artefacts and ecofacts;
 - 8.1.4 an indication of potential archaeological deposits not disturbed by the present development;
- 8.2 After agreement with the landowner, arrangements should be made for long term storage of all artefacts in the City and County Museum, Lincoln, as outlined in that Museum's document 'Conditions for the acceptance of Project Archives'. The City and County Museum should be contacted at the earliest possible opportunity so that the full cost implications of the archive deposition can be taken into account.
- 8.3 A site archive should be produced and deposited with the artefacts as detailed in 8.2.

9. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

- 9.1 This document attempts to define the best practice expected of an archaeological watching brief but cannot fully anticipate the conditions that will be encountered as work progresses. However, changes to the approved programme of excavation are only to be made with the prior written approval of the Community Archaeologist.

Brief set by Community Archaeologist, South Kesteven District Council. January 1997.

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTION

Context	Section	Description	Interpretation
001	1, 2, 3	Blackish brown clayey sand, 0.25m thick	Topsoil
002	1, 2	Mid greenish brown clayey silt	Fill of 005
003	1, 2	Yellowish red silty clay	Fill of 005
004	1, 2, 3	Mid greyish brown clayey sand, 0.4m thick	Subsoil
005	1, 2	Linear cut, 1.2m deep, >4m long by >3.5m wide, aligned west-east	Boundary ditch
006	1, 2, 3	Dark yellow clayey silt	Natural deposit
007	1	Mid greenish brown clayey sand	Fill of 008
008	1	Square? cut, 1.2m deep by c. 2m square	Probable pit
009	1, 2, 3	Dark yellow clayey silt	Natural deposit
010	3	Linear cut, 1.8m wide by 1.2m deep, >0.8m long, aligned north-south	Ditch
011	3	Linear cut, 1m deep, >0.5m wide by >0.8m long, aligned north-south	Boundary ditch
012	3	Light greenish brown clayey silt	Fill of 010
013	3	Light greenish brown clayey silt	Fill of 011
014		Mixed debris	Fill of 015
015		Sub rectangular cut, c.7m long by c. 4m wide by c. 2m deep	Refuse pit

Appendix 3

POTTERY AND OTHER CERAMIC MATERIAL

Hilary Healey

Context	Description	Latest date
001	1 Clay pipe stem c. 18th century	19th-20th century
	1 shelly sherd (probably medieval)	
	1 brick fragment	
	5 modern stonewares	
	1 Nottingham stoneware	
	3 black glazed wares	
	8 white earthenware 'pearl wares'	
	2 green transfer printed earthenwares	
	7 blue transfer printed earthenwares (including Willow pattern)	
	1 painted blue	
	1 blue edged plate c. 1800	
	2 porcelain, white	
	2 porcelain (teacups) with different printed floral designs	
	1 opaque white glass moulded vessel with enamel colouring	
002	1 Stamford ware jar (Form 4) glazed externally with a few tiny specks of copper,	12th century
	2 shelly wares	

Appendix 4

THE ANIMAL BONE Paul Cope-Faulkner

Context	Description
002	Horse, Radius and Ulna fused
	1 Cattle sized rib
	1 Cattle sized bone, unidentifiable
012	1 Cattle sized bone, unidentifiable, possible butchery marks

The four bones retrieved from archaeological investigations at Sandygate Lane, Horbling were in generally good condition. Slight marks, possibly indicating butchery were present on the single bone from (012). The assemblage is too small to comment further.

Appendix 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

15	Context records
1	Photographic record sheet
6	Scale drawings
1	Bags of finds
1	Stratigraphic matrix

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Lincolnshire City and County Museum
12 Friars Lane
Lincoln
LN2 1HQ

The archive will be deposited in accordance with the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives*, produced by the Lincolnshire City and County Museum.

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number:	163.97
Archaeological Project Services Site Code:	HSL97

Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

Appendix 6

GLOSSARY

Anglo-Saxon	Pertaining to the early part of the Saxon period and dating from approximately AD 450-650.
Context	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> (4).
Cut	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.
Fill	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).
Layer	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.