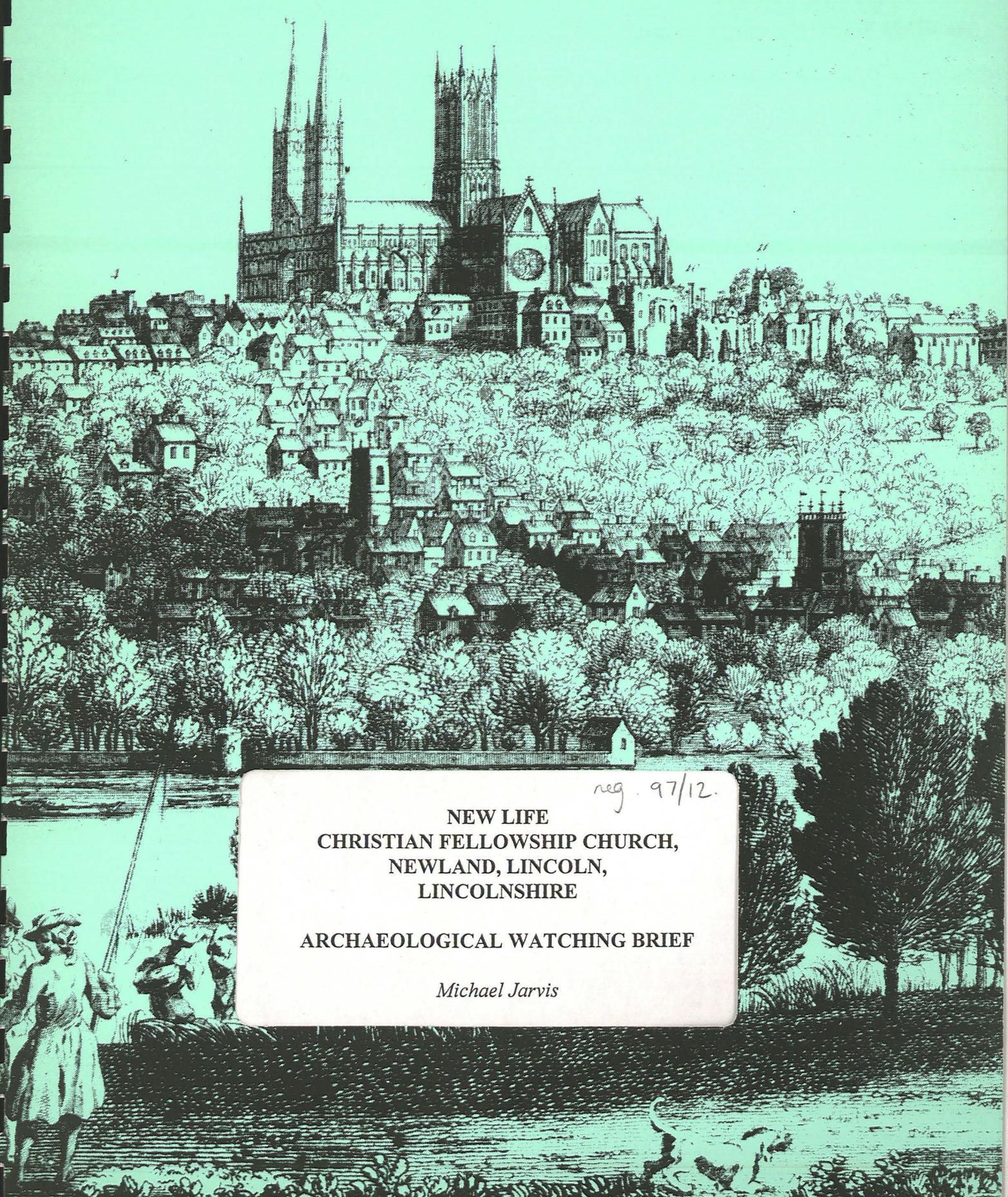


CITY OF
◇ LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY ◇
UNIT



reg. 97/12.

NEW LIFE
CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH,
NEWLAND, LINCOLN,
LINCOLNSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Michael Jarvis

**Lincolnshire County Council
Archaeology Section**

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A
Report to
The New Life Christian Fellowship Church

July 1997

Prepared by

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NEW LIFE
CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH,
NEWLAND, LINCOLN,
LINCOLNSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Michael Jarvis

CLAU ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT NO: 309

Lincolnshire County Council
Archaeology Section



CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT
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With Compliments

4 August 1997

New Life Christian Fellowship
Newland
Lincoln
LN1 1XG

For the attention of Mr Roger Keel

**Lincolnshire County Council
Archaeology Section**

19 AUG 97

12 Friars Lane
LINCOLN LN2 5AJ

Tel: 01522 575292 Fax: 01522 575293

Dear Sir

**New Life Christian Fellowship
Archaeological Watching Brief
CLAU Project: NEWA97 Museum Acc. No. 128.97**

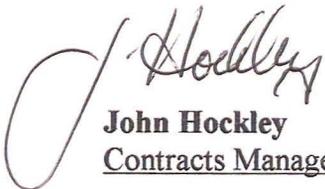
Please find enclosed two copies of our Archaeological Report No. 309 describing the results of the watching brief carried out in conjunction with construction groundwork at the above site.

Copies are also being deposited with the local planning authority and the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record Office. A further copy will be lodged with the City and County Museum as part of the project archive in due course.

We enclose herewith our invoice for your prompt approval and payment.

We would take this opportunity to thank all parties concerned for their interest and co-operation.

Yours faithfully,
for and on behalf of the
City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit



John Hockley
Contracts Manager

cc Mr I K George, Archaeological Officer, Lincoln City Council. P A. No. LA13/0597/96
County Sites & Monuments Record Office, Lincoln

**NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH,
NEWLAND, LINCOLN,
LINCOLNSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

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**NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN
FELLOWSHIP CHURCH,
NEWLAND, LINCOLN,
LINCOLNSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
WATCHING BRIEF**

NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Between June and July 1997 a representative from the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit undertook a watching brief during the excavation on the site of a trench for an internal lift. The church and hall are Grade II listed buildings and therefore require written consent from the local planning authority prior to any new construction or alteration to the existing building.

Although achieving a considerable depth, the lift pit trench revealed relatively little in the way of archaeological deposits. This was due to the internal floor level of the room housing the liftshaft being approximately 800mm above the level of the existing (external) ground surface.

Interpretation of those deposits found, suggests that they form levelling deposits associated with the reclamation, in the middle ages and later, of the land to the south of the Roman defences. Remaining deposits were more recent in date and offer little in the way of archaeological and historical value.

NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH, NEWLAND, LINCOLN, LINCOLNSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Between June and July 1997 a representative from the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit (CLAU) undertook a watching brief during the reduction of ground level within the above named Church's hall, prior to the construction on the site of an internal lift.

The church and hall lay within the Cathedral and City Conservation Area (No. 1) and are Grade II listed buildings, requiring written consent from the local planning authority prior to any new construction or alteration. Listed Buildings Consent was granted on the 28th November, 1996. One of the conditions attached to the consent was "*To ensure that the archaeological remains which are likely to be present on the site are taken fully into account prior to the development process and to ensure their proper recording in the Sites and Monuments Record and the Urban Archaeological Database.*" (Application No. LA13/0597/96).

2.0 SITE LOCATION & BACKGROUND

The New Christian Fellowship Church hall lies on the west corner of the angle of Newland Road and Beaumont Fee (National Grid Reference SK 9735 7127 - Fig. 1). The lift shaft lies in a room at the south-west corner of the building, previously occupied by an internal staircase.

The area presently occupied by the above named church hall had, prior to its construction in 1840, been the location of remains dating back to the Roman occupation of Lincoln.

The site lies in an area of known archaeological importance, towards the south-west corner of the lower Roman city, and to

the west of the medieval town wall (which extended as far as the north bank of the Brayford Pool). The area is believed likely to contain evidence of Roman, and later, medieval suburban occupation and land-use. The conjectured line of the Roman city wall place it to the south of the location of the proposed liftshaft.

(a) Fortifications

During excavations at The Park (at the Lincoln City Council offices, to the north-west of the site), on the line of the lower city wall, several periods of buildings were found, sealed by the earliest rampart, which was built at the end of the 2nd or early in the 3rd century. Later, during the 4th century, a gateway was inserted through the defences, its frontal projections incorporating many large reused blocks. These included some decorated and moulded fragments from a temple or funerary monument. At approximately the same time, the wall and rampart were strengthened.

While little or no evidence was found for activity during the majority of the Saxon period, re-occupation of the area within the walls seems to have begun in the 11th century.

The Roman fortifications are thought to have survived into the medieval period; the date at which the gate went out of use is uncertain although it was certainly blocked by the 13th century. There was some evidence of occupation and structures throughout the medieval period.

(b) Waterfront development

To the south-west of the site, prior to the construction of a multi-storey car-park at the southern end of Lucy Tower Street, excavations were undertaken to investigate the origin of this part of town and the extended town wall and tower.

During this excavation the earliest feature recorded was a possible Late Saxon jetty cut into the underlying peat layers.

Overlying the possible Saxon feature, a sloping foreshore of sand and peat was revealed. This was itself cut by a mid to late 12th century north-south channel, running into the Brayford, together with several posts, dating to the mid 13th century.

This area seems to have been periodically flooded by the Brayford during the early to mid 14th century.

Rubble dumps provided consolidation for the construction of the extended city wall and the "Lucy" Tower in the 14th century. An east-west wall ran along the edge of the Brayford, to the east of the Tower, probably protecting the land behind from flooding. This wall was replaced whenever the level of the land rose through dumping.

In the mid 16th century the Lucy Tower was re-faced in brick, and the east-west walls continued to be replaced.

By the mid 18th century the tower was again re-faced, while to the west it was butted by an east-west brick wall which acted as a flood barrier to the west of the tower. The city wall was thoroughly robbed in the 18th or 19th century and the Lucy Tower was finally demolished in the mid 19th century.

(c) Post medieval occupation of the site

Information regarding the nature of occupation on the site prior to the construction of the church is limited. Marrat's 1817 Map of Lincoln shows structures present in this area of Newland, however, the nature of these structures cannot be determined.

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.

4.0 ANALYSIS & CONCLUSIONS

Post-excavation analysis of the resulting site archive has identified three chronological phases of occupation present on the site (Fig. 2).

Phase 1

The earliest deposit encountered during the watching brief was [008], a firm, silty clay soil containing frequent small-medium sized limestone fragments (c. 200mm x 100mm x 100mm). This deposit was present in the south-east corner of the lift pit and was seen to be c.500mm thick in places. A further firm layer of silty clay earth, [007], overlay [008]. Deposit [007] also contained small limestone fragments as well as some charcoal and oyster shell and was up to 700mm thick. Fragments of Roof tile recovered from deposit [007] suggests a late medieval or post medieval date.

Phase 2

Deposits and features associated with Phase 2 occupation within the trench were, in the main, associated with the church hall prior to some alteration of the buildings facade. Excavation of the lift pit by the main contractor revealed a series of brick walls with limestone foundations, extending south and east from the brick wall of the church hall, which formed the northern edge to the lift pit (contexts [013], [014] and [015] - also see Fig. 2).

A north-south brick drain/gully, [006], was present in the south section of the lift pit. To the east of the drain lay [009], a 200mm thick deposit of sandy mortar (this deposit was also present in the east section of the trench where it was noted to abut wall [013]). A surface of cement/concrete, [010], overlay drain [006] and deposit [009]. Surface [010] was noted to equate approximately to the height of ground level present outside of the church hall.

Phase 3

Phase 3 deposits and features were associated with the construction of the church hall's later facade. A firm, light brown sandy soil containing frequent brick and tile fragments, overlay surface [010]. Cutting in to this layer was wall [012], the primary north-south wall of the new church hall facade. A further levelling deposit, [002], containing very frequent building rubble, sealed the construction cut to wall [012]. This levelling material was in turn sealed by flag-stone floor [001], which constituted the internal ground floor to the room containing the stairwell.

No further features and deposits were recorded in the lift pit trench.

In conclusion, although achieving a considerable depth, the trench for the lift has uncovered relatively little in the way of early archaeological deposits. This was due to the internal floor level of the room housing the liftshaft being approximately 800mm above the existing (external) ground surface.

Interpretation of those deposits which constitute Phase 1 activity, suggests that they form levelling deposits associated with the reclamation, in the middle ages and later, of the land to the south of the Roman defences. Phase 2 & 3 are more recent in date (1840 onwards) and offer little in the way of archaeological and historical value,

5.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit would like to thank the New Life Christian Fellowship for funding the fieldwork and post-fieldwork analysis. Thanks are also extended to Mr. R. Keel, Finance Officer for the New Life Christian Fellowship, and the site contractor, Mr. Paul Quincy, for their co-operation and assistance throughout the duration of the archaeological programme of investigation.

6.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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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.

**NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH,
NEWLAND, LINCOLN,
LINCOLNSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

APPENDIX 1

LHA NOTE & ARCHIVE DETAILS

LHA NOTE DETAILS

CLAU CODE: NEWA97

CLAU REPORT No.: 309

PLANNING APPLICATION NO.: LA13/0597/96

FIELD OFFICER: Michael Jarvis

NGR: SK 9735 7127

CIVIL PARISH: Newland

SMR No.: -

DATE OF INTERVENTION: June-July, 1997

TYPE OF INTERVENTION: Watching Brief

UNDERTAKEN FOR: The New Life Christian Fellowship Church, Newland, Lincoln, Lincs.

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.: 128.97

ACCESSION DATE:

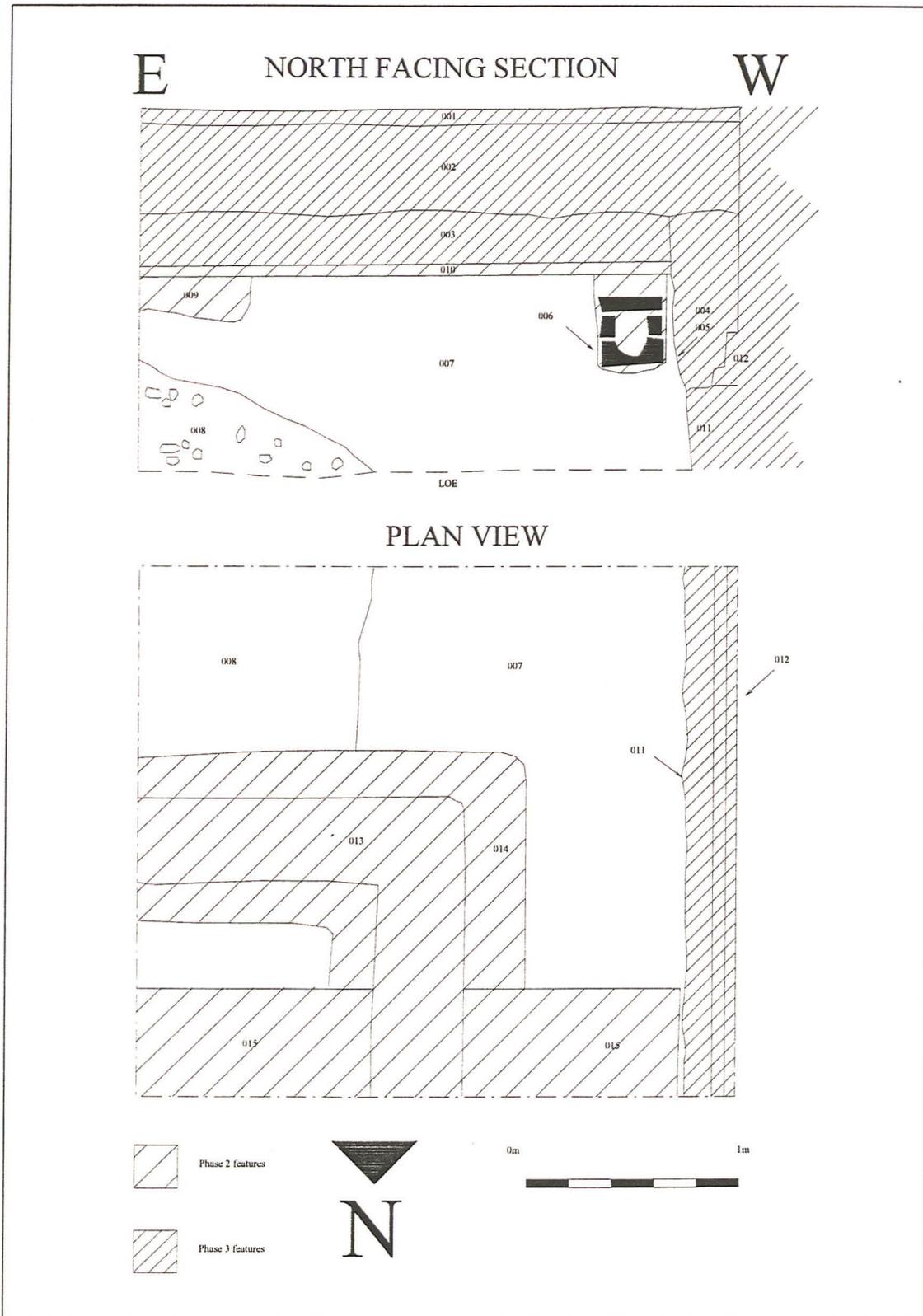


Fig. 2: Trench plan and section.