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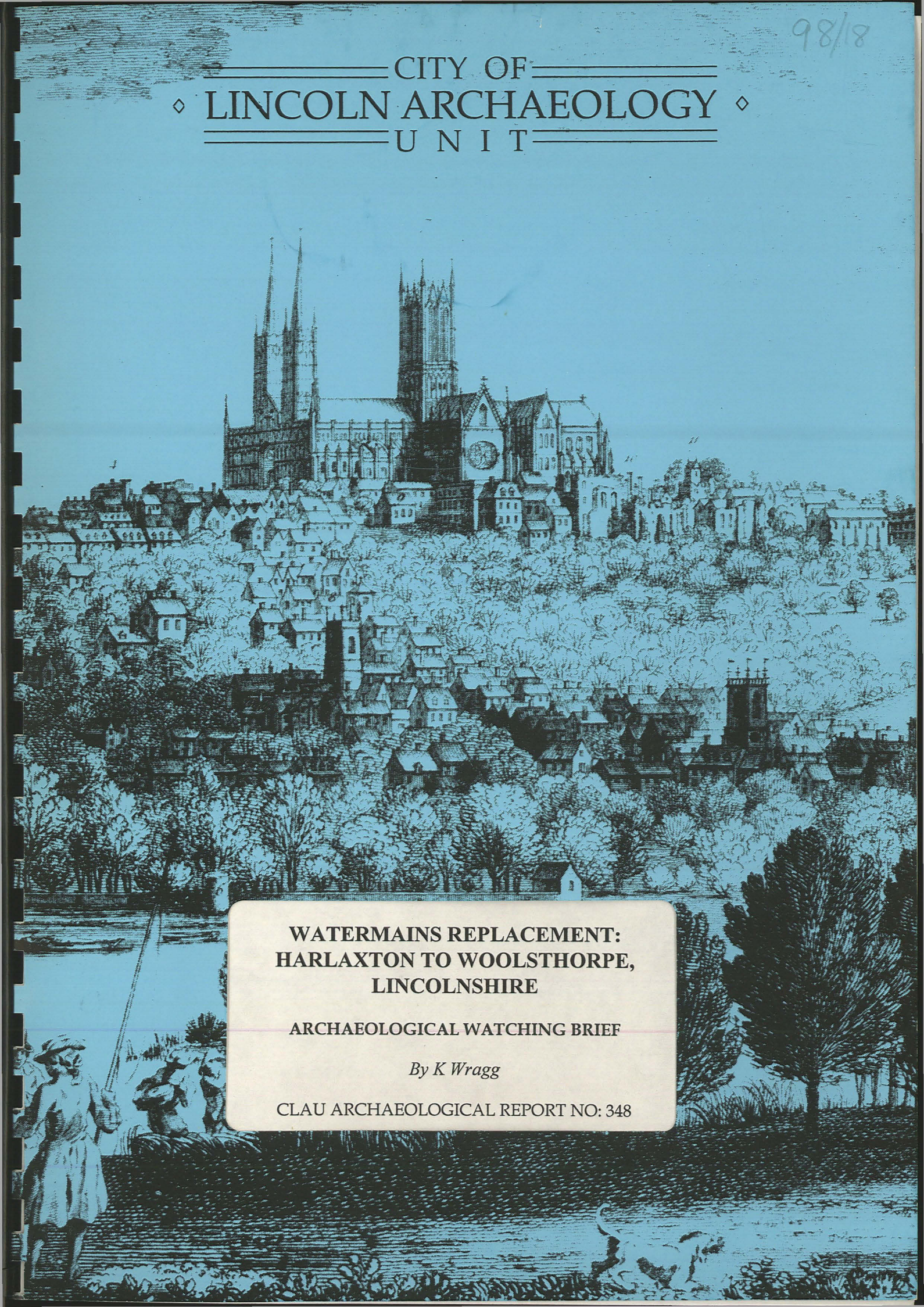
CITY OF
◇ LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY ◇
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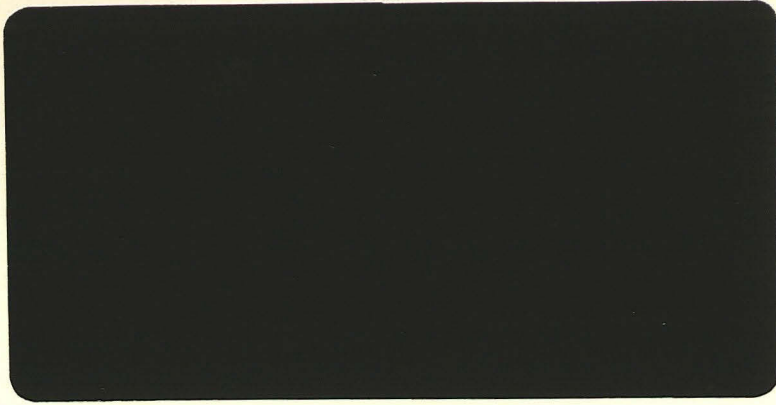
**WATERMANS REPLACEMENT:
HARLAXTON TO WOOLSTHORPE,
LINCOLNSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

By K Wragg

CLAU ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT NO: 348





Lincolnshire County Council
Archaeology Section
29. OCT 98
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accepted 7/11/98

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WATERMAINS REPLACEMENT
HARLAXTON TO WOOLSTHORPE

Report to
Anglian Water Services Limited

Archaeological Watching Brief

October 1998



Prepared by

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*Site Code: HAW98
LCCM Accession No.: 4.98
NGR: SK 8550/3330*

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WATERMAINS REPLACEMENT: HARLAXTON TO WOOLSTHORPE, LINCOLNSHIRE.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

During December 1997, the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit (C.L.A.U.) was approached by Anglian Water Services Limited (A.W.S.L.), to carry out an archaeological watching brief to the west of the village of Denton, Lincolnshire.

The project at Denton was part of a wider-ranging watermains replacement scheme between the villages of Harlaxton and Woolsthorpe to the south of Grantham. According to usual practice, the archaeological implications of this whole scheme had been evaluated (by A.W.S.L.) as part of their *Environmental Assessment Programme of Capital Developments*. This assessment highlighted several areas of potential interest, although in all but one case the possible archaeological sites would not be directly effected by the proposed pipelaying.

The single exception to this lay to the west of the village of Denton, where a raised mound, thought to be a possible Neolithic long barrow, lay in close proximity to the pipeline route along the Denton-Woolsthorpe road (see Figs.1 & 2).

It was proposed to machine-excavate the trench for the new 180mm diameter MDPE watermain in the grass verge to the north of the carriageway of the existing road. In view of the possibility (albeit remote) of disturbance to the mound, a watching brief was therefore considered justified.

As a result, the C.L.A.U. was commissioned to carry out an intermittent watching brief on the

pipelaying works, with observation carried out between 8th January and 30th April 1998.

In the event, however, the possible Neolithic long barrow which formed the main justification for this watching brief lay several metres to the north of the pipeline route, and was therefore not directly impacted by the trenching. Although it was possible that features on the periphery of the presumed barrow might be revealed during the trenching, the probability of discovering substantial archaeological remains during this project was thought to be somewhat low.

This was ultimately borne out by the results, which revealed only deposits of either natural/geological origin, or of obviously modern date.

WATERMAINS REPLACEMENT: HARLAXTON TO WOOLSTHORPE, LINCOLNSHIRE.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1.0 INTRODUCTION

During December 1997, the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit (C.L.A.U.) was approached by Anglian Water Services Limited (A.W.S.L.), to carry out an archaeological watching brief to the west of the village of Denton, Lincolnshire.

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pipelaying works, with observation carried out between 8th January and 30th April 1998.

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, and *The Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (English Heritage, 1991).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

In order to determine any potential archaeological implications of this scheme, both the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section and English Heritage were consulted by the Conservation Department of A.W.S.L. in advance of the commencement of the project.

The Archaeology Section highlighted a total of four areas of archaeological interest along the route. These included two medieval village crosses (in the villages of Denton & Harlaxton respectively), a possible Neolithic long barrow to the west of Denton (at SK 8631/3300), and a series of undated pit alignments/crop marks north of Harlaxton (adjacent to the A1 trunk road at SK 8935/3400).

The village crosses are both Scheduled Ancient Monuments, and as such are protected by law. However, as A.W.S.L. did not propose to excavate in close proximity to the monuments, archaeological intervention was not considered necessary for these areas.

In contrast, the areas of trenching in the vicinity of the possible long barrow and the crop marks, were recognised by A.W.S.L. to warrant archaeological involvement, and a watching brief was recommended.

In the event, however, the section of the scheme north of Harlaxton was cancelled, and therefore only the section west of Denton required archaeological monitoring.

3.0 RESULTS

Observations were carried out at various locations along the 400m of trench highlighted as an area of archaeological interest. Particular attention was paid to the trenching immediately adjacent to the possible long barrow.

The trench itself measured c.400mm wide x c.1.2m deep, and was located in the grass verge along the northern/north-eastern side of the existing road (see Fig.2).

A total of only six different deposits was recorded during the trenchside observations. The stratigraphic sequence was as follows (see also Fig.3):

The earliest deposit recorded was [105], a moderately compacted, friable, mid-light brown/off-white very sandy clay. This layer was c.500mm thick to the limit of excavation (L.O.E.), and appeared to be the prevailing natural (i.e., geological) deposit for this area.

[105] was present throughout the trench, and was sealed by [104], a 500mm thick moderately compacted, friable, mid orange-brown sand, containing no obvious inclusions.

At several locations along the trench, dumps of orange-brown sand and limestone were present, sealing [104]. These deposits, [103], were unbonded and unfortunately did not produce any dating evidence. It is possible that these concentrations could either be of natural origin or perhaps indicative of levelling/consolidation along the side of the road.

A layer of moderate-loose compaction mid-light grey-brown sandy silt containing ash/clinker, limestone and pebble inclusions, was then present. This topsoil/subsoil layer, [101], was present throughout the trench and was c.150mm thick.

[101] was then overlain by intermittent dumps of ash/clinker (again possibly used to consolidate the grass verge) [102], which lay immediately beneath the coarse turf surface, [100].

4.0 DISCUSSION OF RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

The possible Neolithic long barrow which formed the main justification for this watching brief lay several metres to the north of the pipeline route, was therefore not directly impacted by the trenching. Although it was possible that features on the periphery of the presumed barrow might be revealed during the trenching, the probability of discovering substantial archaeological remains during this project was thought to be somewhat low.

This was ultimately borne out by the results, which revealed only deposits of either natural/geological origin, or of obviously modern date.

5.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit would like to thank the following for their assistance during this project: Anglian Water Services Limited, Networks, Saltersford WTW, Spitalgate level, Saltersford, Lincs., NG31 7UL, for their funding and support during this project; Mr D.Waterfield, (A.W.S.L. Project Engineer); Mr G.Love (A.W.S.L. Project Supervisor); Messrs K.Grey & S.Houghton, and all on-site staff of ALH Co. Total Pipe Technology (main trenching contractors).

6.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Anglian Water Services Ltd., *Environmental Assessment Summary: Harlaxton to Woolsthorpe*, 10th November 1997

7.0 LHA NOTE/ARCHIVE DETAILS

7.1 LHA NOTE DETAILS

CLAU CODE: HAW98

PLANNING APPLICATION NO.: n/a

FIELD OFFICER: K.Wragg

NGR: SK 8550/3330

CIVIL PARISH: Denton

SMR No.:

DATE OF INTERVENTION: 08/01/98 -
30/04/98

TYPE OF INTERVENTION: Watching Brief

UNDERTAKEN FOR: Anglian Water
Services Limited, Networks, Saltersford
WTW, Spitalgate level, Saltersford, Lincs.,
NG31 7UL.

7.2 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.: 4.98

ACCESSION DATE:

APPENDIX A - ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

The archive consists of:

No.	Description
1	Site diary
1	Report
6	Context records
3	Scale drawings
1 set	Photographic records - Colour slides
1	Stratigraphic matrix

The primary archive material, as detailed above, is currently held by :

*The City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit,
Charlotte House,
The Lawn,
Union Road,
Lincoln,
Lincolnshire,
LN1 3BL.*

It is intended that transfer to the City and County Museum, Friars Lane, Lincoln, in accordance with current published requirements, under Museum Accession Number 4.98, will be undertaken following completion of this project.

APPENDIX B - COLOUR PLATE



Plate 1: General view of trench - looking north-west



1:50 000



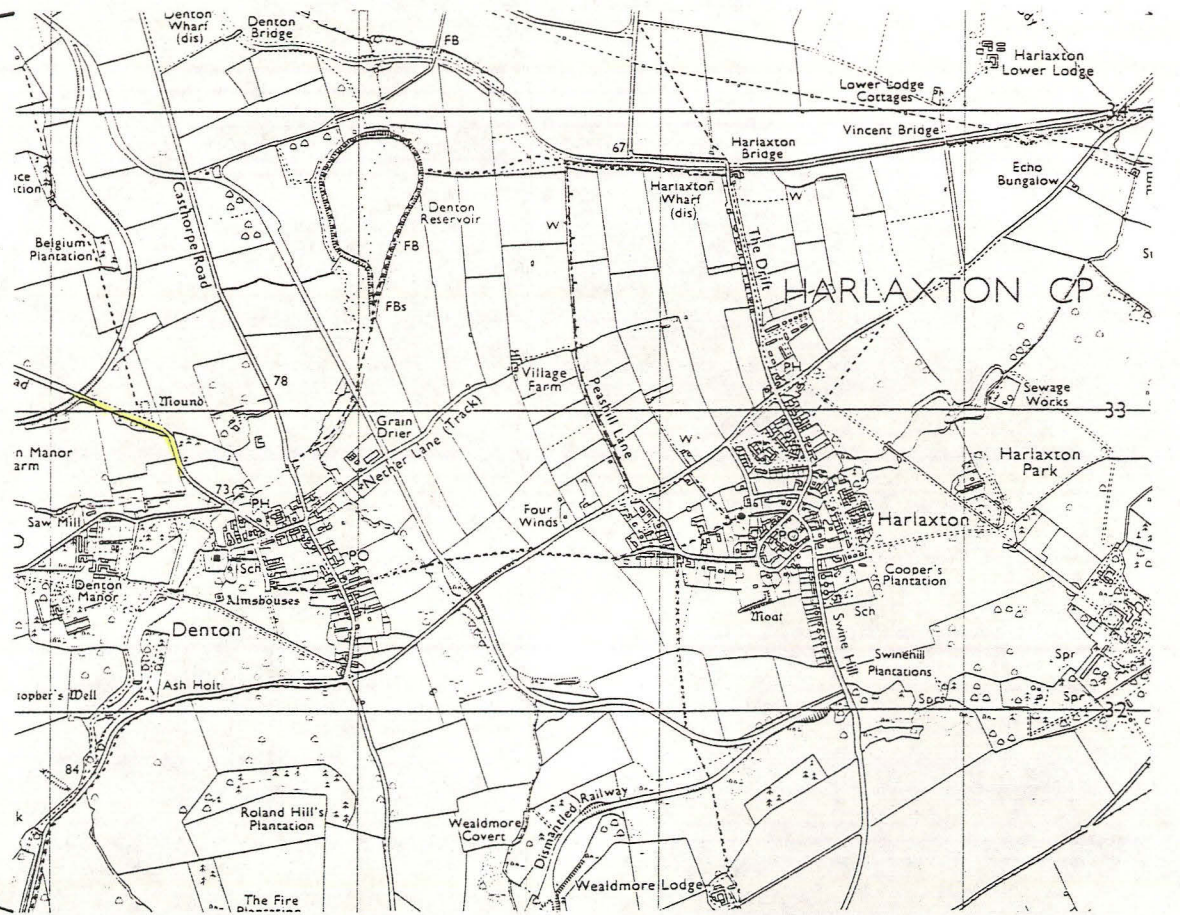
Reproduced from the 1994 Ordnance Survey 1:50 000 Landranger 130 map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown copyright.

KEY

Location of Site

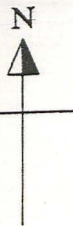
CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
SITE CODE: HAW98	PLAN/ELEV/SECTION NO:	
CLIENT: Anglian Water Services Ltd		
DESCRIPTION: Site Location Plan		
SCALE:	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY:	CHECKED:	DATE:
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO: 4.98		

1:25 000

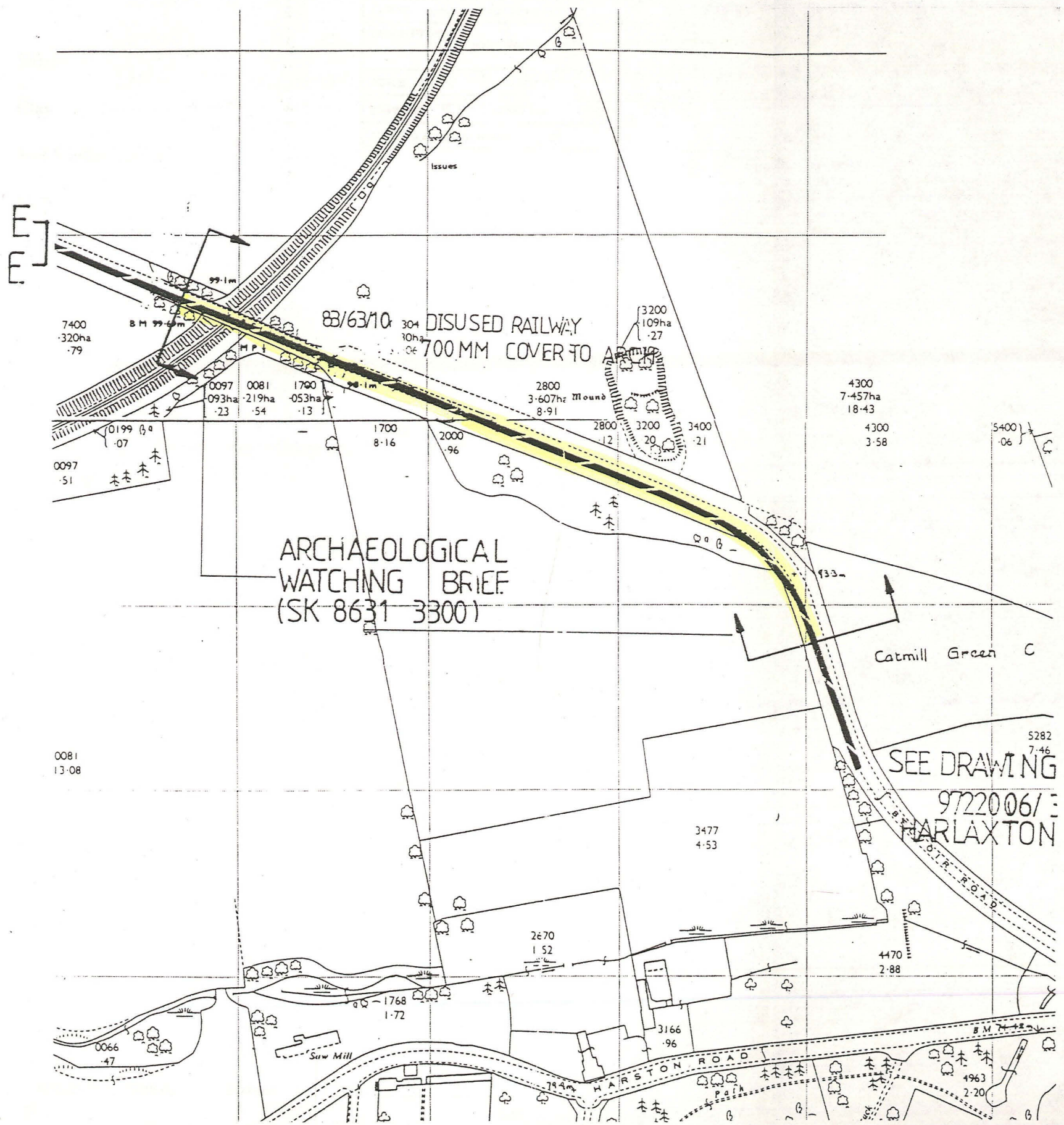


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Fig.1



CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
SITE CODE: HAW98	PLANE/LEV/SECTION NO:	
CLIENT:	Anglian Water Services Ltd	
DESCRIPTION:	Trench Location Plan	
SCALE: 1:2500	ARCHIVE NO:	
DRAWN BY:	CHECKED:	DATE:
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO:	4.98	



KEY





- Route of Pipeline
- Area of Specific Archaeological Interest

Based upon Anglian Water Services Ltd drawing No. 9722006/4 Rev.A

Fig.2

CITY OF LINCOLN ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT		
SITE CODE	HA W98	PLANE/LEV/SECTION NO:
CLIENT: Anglian Water Services Ltd		
DESCRIPTION: SW-Facing Section		
SCALE:	1:10	ARCHIVE NO:
DRAWN BY:	K.W.	CHECKED:
		DATE: 27/04/98
MUSEUM ACCESSION NO:		4.98

KEY

-  Sand
-  Clay
-  Ash/Cinder/Clinker
-  Limestone

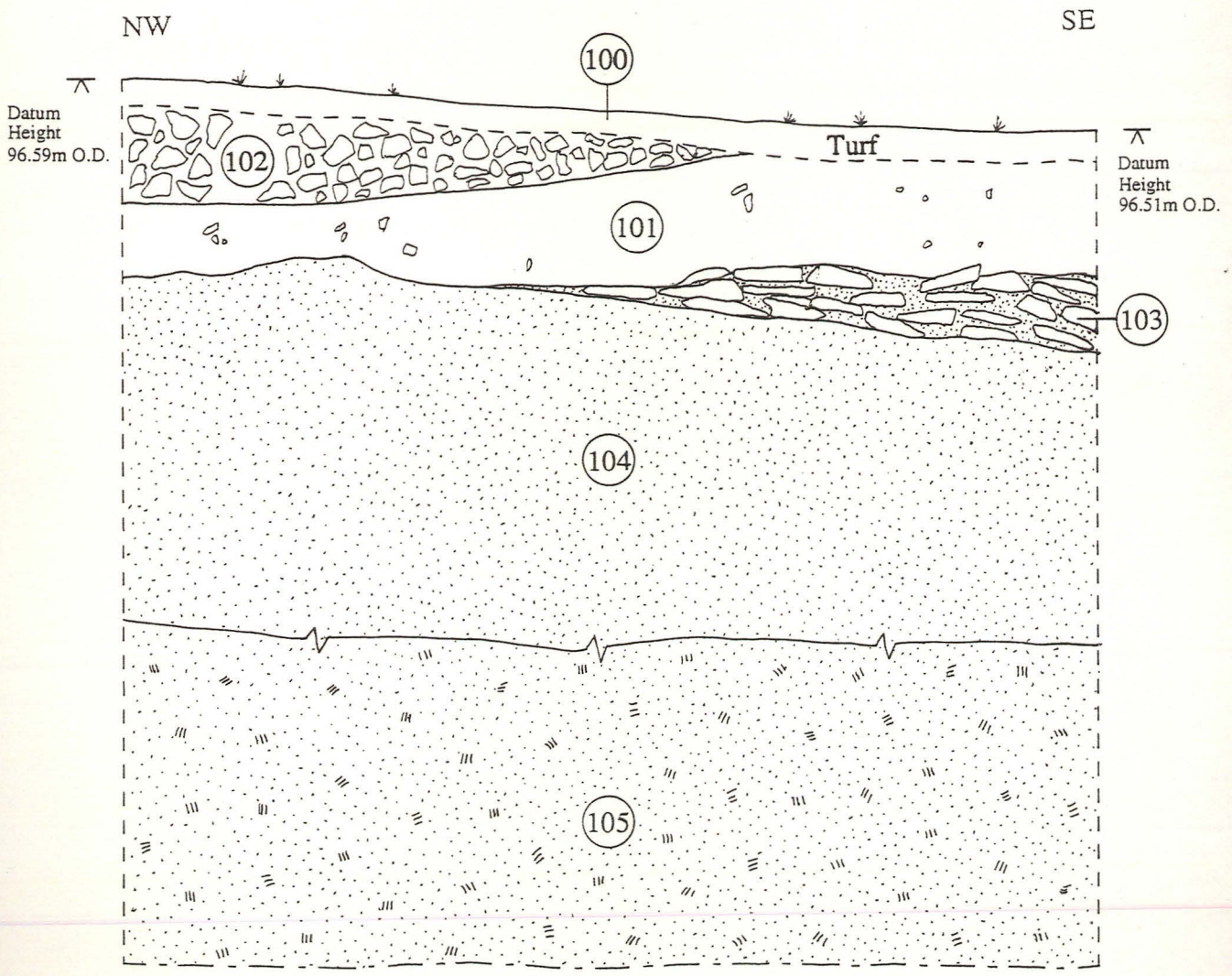


Fig.3