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NEWPORT ARCH AND BASTION RECORDING OF REMAINS PRIOR TO CONSERVATION

By L Donel

CLAU ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT NO: 222

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Report to

Lincoln City Council

December 1995

Prepared by

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MONUMENT SURVEY

Methodology Statement

Prior to works programme

♦ 1.0 Archival research

- a) County list of Scheduled Monuments/English Heritage list
- b) City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit archives
- c) Sites and Monument Record
- d) Local Authority
- e) County Archives
- f) Local Collection County Library
- g) Royal Commission on Historical Monuments(England)
- h) National Monuments Record
- 1.1 Any or all might be consulted in order to provide information on:
 - a) Previous work on the monument
 - i) Archaeological
 - ii) Conservation
 - iii) Historical research
 - b) The original use of the monument
 - c) The current use of the monument

♦ 2.0 Preliminary viewing of monument

- 2.1 Assess the current condition of the monument
- 2.2 Assess the accessibility for recording
- 2.3 Identify its situation and general surroundings
- ♦ 3.0 Discussion and review of any previous work which might be used for the current project
- ♦ 4.0 Decide on strategy for recording in the field
 - 4.1 Early consultation with English Heritage

♦ 5.0 Recording of monument

- a) After discussion with English Heritage and other specialist consultants who may be involved in the project, it may be necessary to produce a drawn survey of the monument or part thereof. This may be carried out solely by hand or by photographically assisted means.
- 5.1 Survey/drawn record
 - a) In order to provide the detail needed for a submission for Scheduled Monument Consent a scale of 1:20 or 1:10 for elevations/sections is suggested. A 1:20 scale for plans has been found to be a useful size for drawings although a larger scale may be more efficient for a more general plan.
- 5.2 Photographic record of monument
 - a) There are three main procedures that may be used, either singly or in combination with another:

- i) Full or partial photogrammetric survey this will probably require some hand annotation
- ii) Rectified photography this will also probably require some hand annotation
- iii) Hand drawings assisted by photography

♦ 6.0 Assessment of condition of monument

- 6.1 incorporate information from 1.0 and 3.0.
- 6.2 identify and assess any prior conservation
- 6.3 provision for sampling of mortar and assessment of same
- ♦ 7.0 Production of final survey drawings and photographs
- ♦ 8.0 Production of survey drawings and photographs for annotation
- ♦ 9.0 Production of report
 - 9.1 Inclusion of information from 1.0-8.0 above as well as recommendations and conclusions on the stated conservation proposals for monument.
 - SMC APPLICATION Production of specification and schedule of works by others

During and post works programme

- ♦ 10.0 Conservation programme
- ♦ 11.0 Recording of works programme during project (possible archaeological input)
 - a) Possible annotation of drawings and new photographic record.
- ♦ 12.0 Recording of monument after completion of project (possible archaeological input)
 - a) Possible annotation or production of final drawings and photographic record.
- ♦ 13.0 Final report to:
 - 13.1 Incorporate all work listed above with an assessment of the project's achievement.
 - 13.2 Make recommendations for future management/maintenance of the monument based on 13.1 above.
- ♦ 14.0 Final archive
 - 14.1 Copies of the archive to be housed with:
 - a) Director of Planning, Lincoln City Council
 - b) City and County Museum/County Archives
- ♦ 14.2 Copies of the report(s) to be housed with:
 - a) Director of Planning, Lincoln City Council
 - b) Sites and Monuments Record
 - c) English Heritage
 - d) City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit

NEWPORT ARCH AND BASTION

ASSESSMENT OF THE MONUMENT PRIOR TO CONSERVATION WORKS

- 1. INTRODUCTION
- 2. SCOPE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL RESEARCH
- 3. DESCRIPTION OF MONUMENT
- 4. PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION OF THE MONUMENT
- 5. PREVIOUS STRUCTURAL/CONSERVATION WORK ON THE MONUMENT
- 6. 1995 SURVEY
- 7. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
- 8. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- I Extracts from Lincolnshire Library, Local Collections
- II Extracts from Lincolnshire Archives
- **III Sites and Monuments Record**
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- VI Photographs of Bastion

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- Fig.01 Site plan showing location of elevations
- Fig.02 Ground plan of bastion
- Fig.03 Profiles of bastion
- Fig.04 East-West elevation of Roman and Medieval remains
- Fig.05 North-South elevation of Roman and Medieval remains

- Fig.06 North-South and East-West elevations of Medieval remains
- Fig.07 North-South and West-East profiles of Medieval remains
- Fig.08 East-West elevation of blocked entrance
- Fig.09 Elevation 1 Newport Arch Archway (S face)
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- Fig.11 Newport Arch S facing arches unfolded
- Fig.12 Newport Arch N-S vault unfolded
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- Fig.14 Elevation 6 Newport Arch External Wall (W facing)
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- Fig.17 Elevation 9 Newport Arch S facing small arch (Postern gate)
- Fig.18 Elevation 10 Newport Arch Pathway (E facing)
- Fig.19 Elevation 11 Newport Arch Pathway (W facing)
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- Fig.21 Elevation 13 Newport Arch W facing wall (Mrs. Downes' Cottage)

NEWPORT ARCH AND BASTION

ASSESSMENT OF THE MONUMENT PRIOR TO CONSERVATION WORKS

1. INTRODUCTION

This document has been prepared by the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit for Lincoln City Council. The Unit was commissioned to gather and assess all available information of archaeological and historical significance on and in proximity to the area of Newport Arch, Lincoln (SK976/721) prior to application for Scheduled Monuments Consent for conservation works.

The study document provides a synthesis of current archaeological and historical knowledge of the area concerned. The assessment is designed to aid subsequent field investigation and identify any research priorities which might be addressed by this project. It will also provide guidance in assessing the possible archaeological implications of specific conservation proposals.

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 Unit's Article of Association, the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists and The Management of Archaeology Projects (English Heritage, 1991)

2. SCOPE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL RESEARCH

The evidence contained in this study is derived from the information produced from archaeological investigation, historical records and other documentary sources.

In compiling this study the following principal sources have been consulted:

- Sites and Monument Records (SMRs)- The Lincolnshire SMR was searched for records of Newport Arch and Bastion. Details of entries are described in the text and listed in Appendix 1.
- Archive and other Documentary Sources- Reference has also been made to cartographic and other material held in the Lincolnshire County Archives, Central Library, Lincoln, The Usher Gallery, Lincoln and the archives and library held by the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit. Details of entries are described in the text and in the appendices.
- 3 Land Use Survey- The Site was visually examined to record current use and any extant features of antiquity as well as to produce measured drawings of the main upstanding features. The findings are described within the text.

3. DESCRIPTION OF MONUMENT

Newport Arch (Roman North Gate)

The arch spans the line of Ermine St., the principal Roman road from London to York, providing access to the north from the walled town. The remains include the main inner arch, the eastern arch which is currently used for pedestrain access and part of the springer of the western arch. The current ground level at the central and western arches is approximately 2m above that of the late Roman ground level. The present ground level to the east is lower.

Newport Bastion

The bastion, the semicircular front of the west gatetower, lies to the northwest of the arch. The remains consist of a semicircular stone structure which was later incorporated into a rectangular medieval gate structure. During archaeological investigations in the 1950's, the medieval structure was partially removed to reveal the Roman bastion below. This has left a "T" shaped structure of primarily core material, at the east of the monument which has the misleading appearance of a buttress.

4. PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION OF THE MONUMENT

In 1953 two cottages were demolished to the north of what was then the Co-op building (built c.1937) which lay directly to the west of Newport Arch. Archaeological excavation was carried out in 1954 under the direction of F.H. Thompson.

There was some difficulty in tracing the line of the Roman remains as it was discovered early on in the excavation that considerable remains of the Medieval gate were still in situ. These remains consisted of an irregular platform of limestone into which had been incorporated, as core, the remains of the Roman bastion, the curved front of which, was visible in the north face of the platform and extended beyond the line of the west face.

The distinct contrast in quality between the Roman and later masonry indicated that the later structure was foundation work only, which had been carried down to the Roman footings. An irregular ledge at the northwest corner indicated the original medieval footings. A well preserved internal face to the north and west is also still visible.

1993 Survey

The monument was recorded both by graphic and photographic means. As there were no sections/elevations available from the 1954 excavation records, a new set of elevations was surveyed and drawn for the purposes of annotation as to the present condition of the standing structure. The 1954 plan and profiles were upgraded to reflect the current situation.

All elevations were cross referenced with the photographs.

5. PREVIOUS STRUCTURAL/CONSERVATION WORK ON NEWPORT ARCH AND BASTION

Newport Arch

The arch survives despite a number of attempts to destroy it both intentionally and unintentionally. The

antiquarian William Stukeley records the arch in 1724 as "the noblest remnant of this sort in Brittan that I know." (Stukeley 1724). However, his appreciation of the monument was not universally shared and in 1774 Sir Cecil Wray proposed using it for road mending. Fortunately, this view did not prevail and the arch was preserved.

However some time after this, possibly c 1790, the outer gate was pulled down by Dr. R. Petrie. At the same time he destroyed part of the wall on the E side of the gate (Abell p48 Willson Coll. SA Vol6 p23). This may be the reason for the large amount of rubble represented in drawings prior to 1825. In 1825 a subscription was raised for the preservation of the arch and the creation of a footpath through the eastern postern gate which had been blocked prior to this. This work appears to have been completed by 1831 when a picture is commissioned to show the final work. It is possible that the stones of the main arch were rebuilt at a very low level. However, the writer has been unable to find any verification at this time.

There is no further recorded work on the monument until the 1930's when the stones from part of the tunnel on the east collapsed and needed to be repaired and at the same time the road was paved with iron plates (Echo/Chronicle 1933 - see Appendix 1). The roadway had a concrete foundation and the plates were laid in hot bitumen which was also poured into the joints to grout them.

In 1936 it was discovered that some of the stonework on the east portion of the abutments had perished and that refacing would be necessary. The work was held up on account of the weather and the difficulty in obtaining suitable stone weathered to harmonise with the existing stonework. (Echo 27/03/36 p85 - see Appendix1)

In 1937 the western side of the arch was revealed and examined by archaeologists prior to the building of the Co-op. There was some damage to the western wall which was subsequently rebuilt (see Appendix 1).

The last major recorded work to have been carried out on the arch followed the severe damage to the main arch by a lorry in 1964. This necessitated the dismantling and rebuilding of most of the main arch.

Newport Bastion

There is no early mention of the bastion in any of the archive material viewed. It is probable that it was covered over very early on after the medieval period. Following the excavation in 1954 a concrete capping was applied to the top of the bastion. However, it did not cover the whole of the monument thus allowing water to drop directly on to the outer edges of the structure.

6. 1995 SURVEY

Current condition of monument

The structures were assessed as to their general appearance and condition. Notes were made of any areas of damaged stone and/or mortar and this information was added to the base drawings.

Newport Arch

There are some areas at the top of the Arch which show evidence of loose stone. There is also some degradation of the monument generally. However, this appears to be concentrated more on the areas of modern repair of the monument than the earlier phases. It is difficult to tell what may still be considered original and what may be a rebuild. Analysis of the mortar might give a better indication.

The inside of the eastern walkway and tunnel show serious evidence of decay with considerable loss of mortar and degradation of stone. There is also some evidence of earlier repair which is also now showing

signs of decay.

Newport Bastion

There are three elements which need to be considered:

- 1.The Roman bastion
- 2. The medieval foundations
- 3. The arbitrary cut into the medieval foundation material in 1954

1.The Roman bastion

This part of the monument shows less damage from either natural or human agencies, than the rest of the structure. The facing stones, although showing some weather cracking, are generally in a good if not secure state. There has been some vandalism which appears to have consisted of people kicking the stones. Stone damage appears to be concentrated on the north eastern part of the monument. There does not appear to have been any subsequent conservation work carried out to this part of the monument following its uncovering in 1954. This, however, is not the case with the medieval elements of the monument.

The medieval foundations

There are no facing stones remaining on the main part of the medieval material, i.e., that associated directly with the Roman bastion, except for a few still retained on the north face near the north-west corner of the monument (Fig.4). The rough stone construction of the core has been open to the elements since first revealed during the excavation in 1954 and has suffered serious weathering as well as some vandalism. Although a concrete cap was placed over the monument and there was an attempt to concrete some of the core material, it has not proved to be a successful method of protection. The presence of a creeper over much of the western and central area also has aided the erosion process. Another problem is drainage. There has been an amount of standing water which has not drained quickly from the area and may also be acting as an erosion factor.

The arbitray cut through the monument

During the 1954 excavation, part of the medieval material was removed in order to reveal the Roman remains beneath. This has allowed core material to be left open in a corridor at the south-eastern end of the site. The fragment of wall has eroded leaving a considerable amount of stone and mortar debris at the base of the monument.

The Drawn Record

Fourteen elevations were to be recorded by means of photographic assisted drawing and measured drawing. These areas were (Fig.1):

- 01. Elevation 1 Archway (S face)
- 02. Elevation 2 Archway (N face)
- 03. Elevation 3 Buttress (E facing)
- 04. Elevation 4 Buttress (W facing)
- 05. Elevation 5 Internal archway

- 06. Elevation 6 External Wall (W facing)
- 07. Elevation 7 Internal Wall (E facing)
- 08. Elevation 8 Internal Wall (W facing)
- 09. Elevation 9 S facing small arch (Postern gate)
- 10. Elevation 10 Pathway (E facing)
- 11. Elevation 11 Pathway (W facing)
- 12. Elevation 12 N facing small arch
- 13. Elevation 13 W facing wall Mrs. Downes' cottage

However, at the time of writing this report the fourteenth area, Mrs Downes' garden, has not been accessible for recording due to the large amount of vegetation covering the walls.

7. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Newport Arch

The monument requires a certain amount of conservation work, primarily centred around repointing and replacing of loose stonework. We would suggest that this work should have an archaeological record made of the repair work. The record would take the form of annotation of the existing drawings and a comprehensive photographic record of the monument. The information gained could then be used as a basis for any further conservation work on the monument.

Newport bastion

Without some type of stabilisation work, the monument will continue to erode, inevitably becoming a possible danger to the public as well as diminishing its value as a public amenity.

There are various options which might be considered:

- 1.Conservation of all the monument monument left open
- 2. Conservation of part of the monument monument partially backfilled
- 3.Backfilling of whole monument.

We consider that the present condition of the monument does not really require the serious consideration of either options 2 or 3. In order to maximise the educational and tourism potential of the wall, while considering the need for better preservation, it probably would be best if option 1 could be implemented. This would allow for the localised conservation of the monument so that it might be kept on view to the public. Well preserved and well presented monuments form one of the best tools that can be used to explain and display the standing evidence of the development of the city for community, educational and touristic purposes. The priority, however, remains long - term preservation.

We would recommend that, as with the arch, an archaeological record be made in conjunction with the conservation works to the bastion and to the adjacent area of landscaping.

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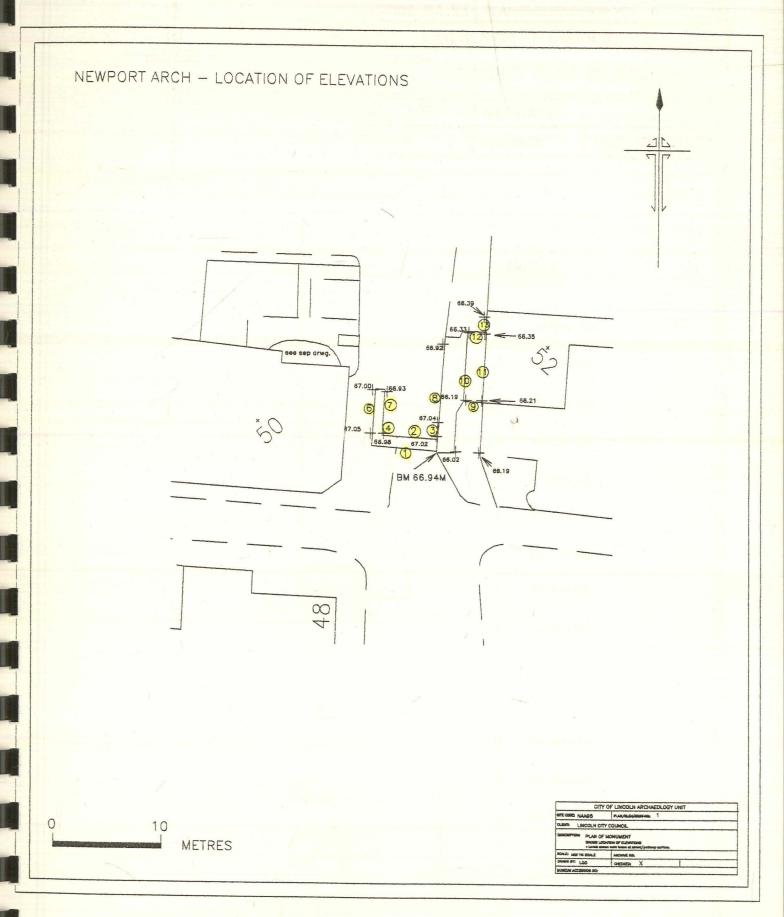
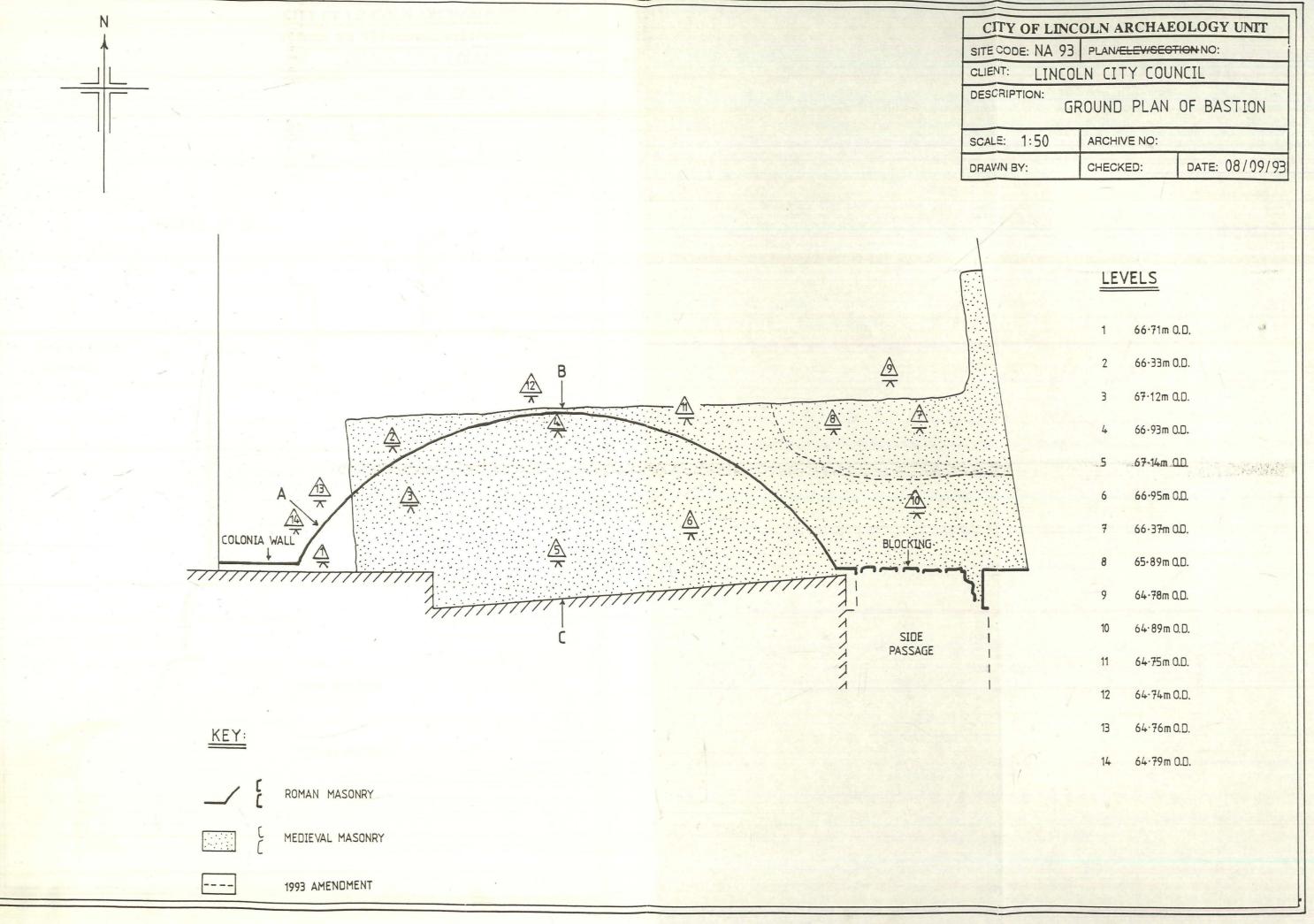
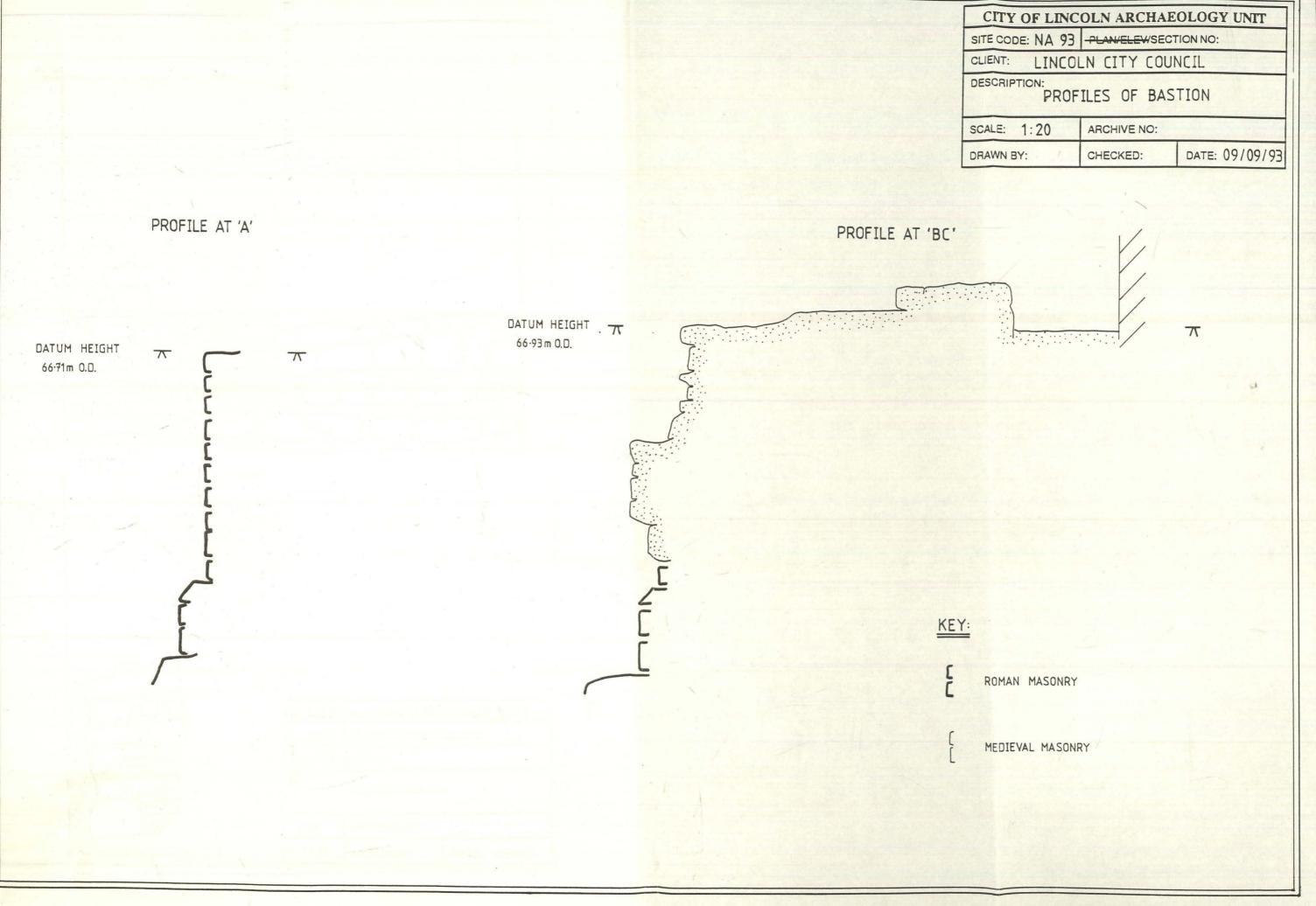
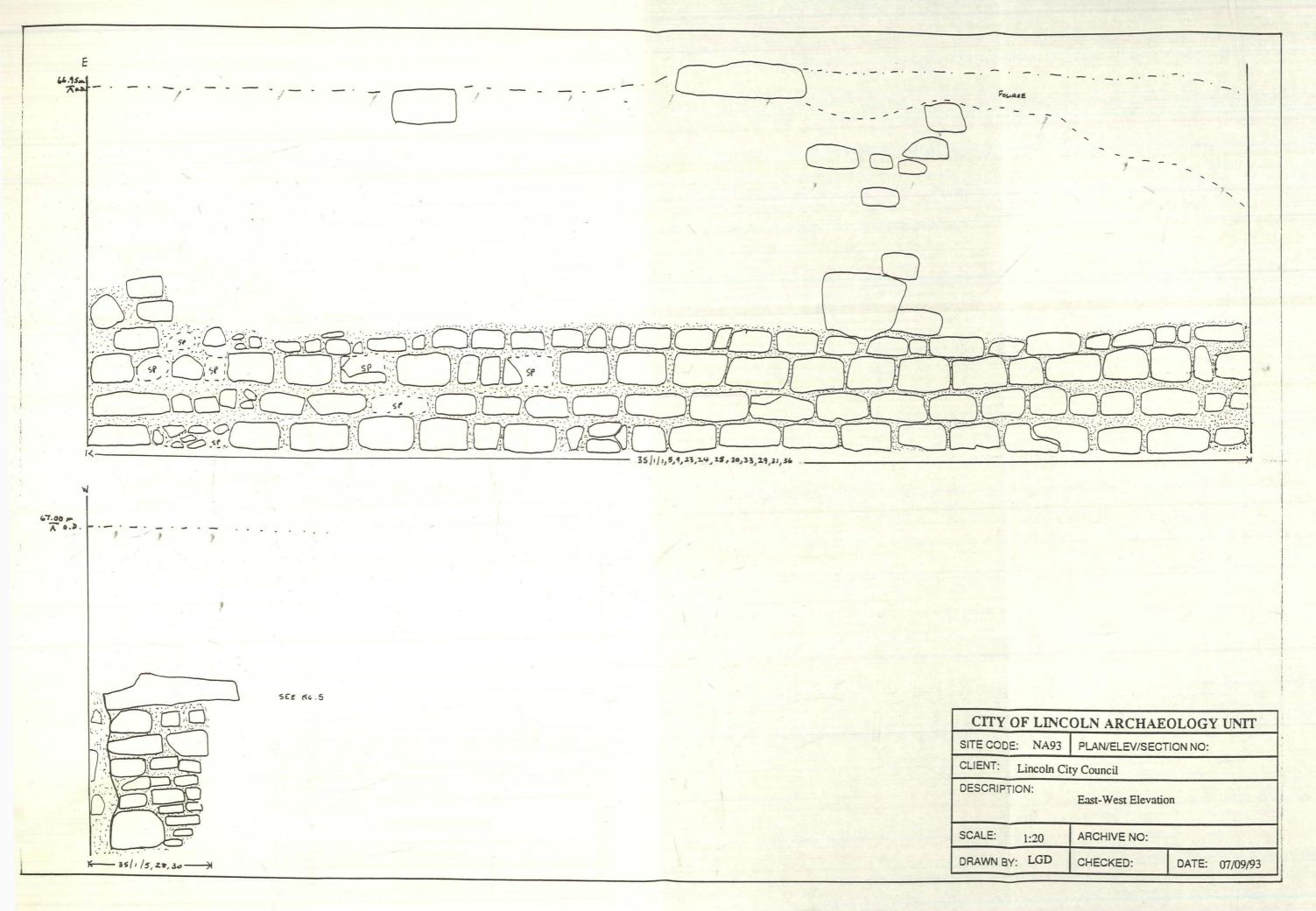


Fig.1



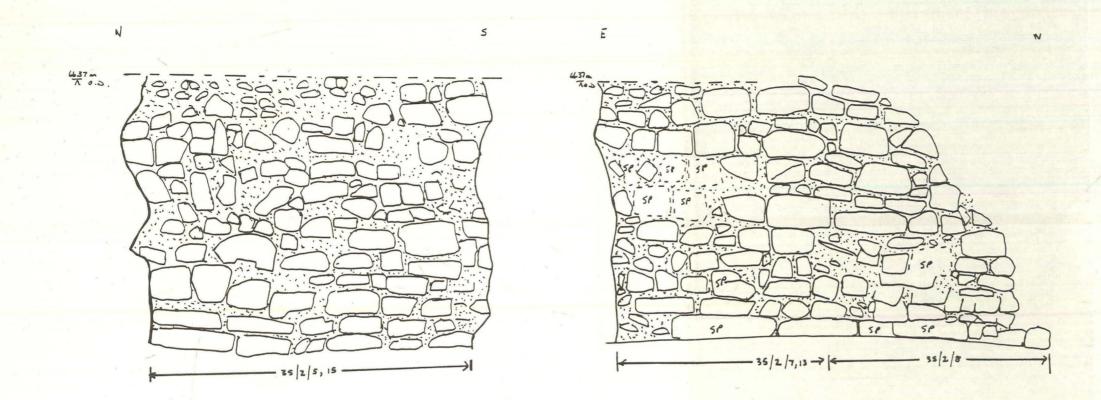




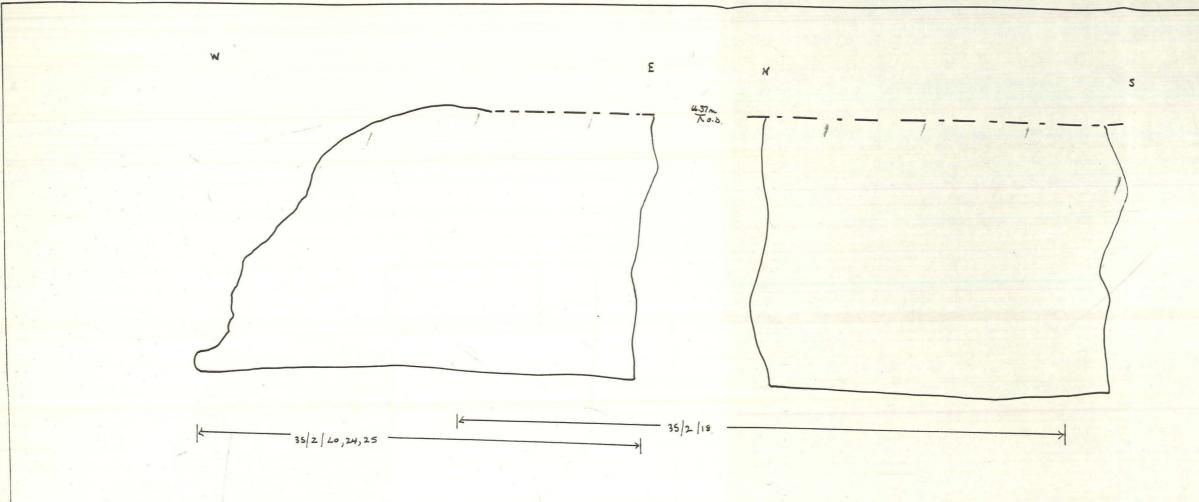
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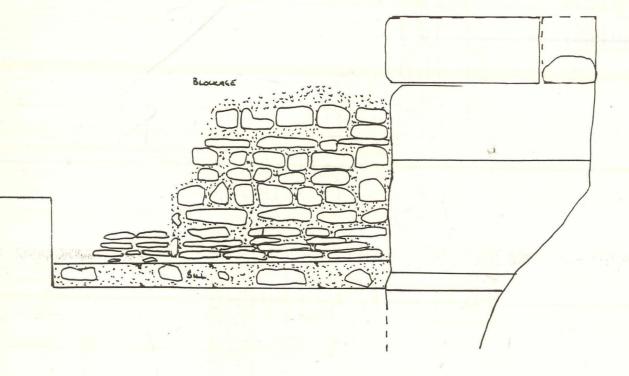


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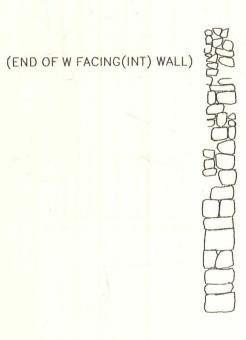
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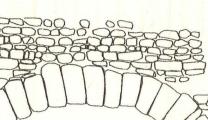
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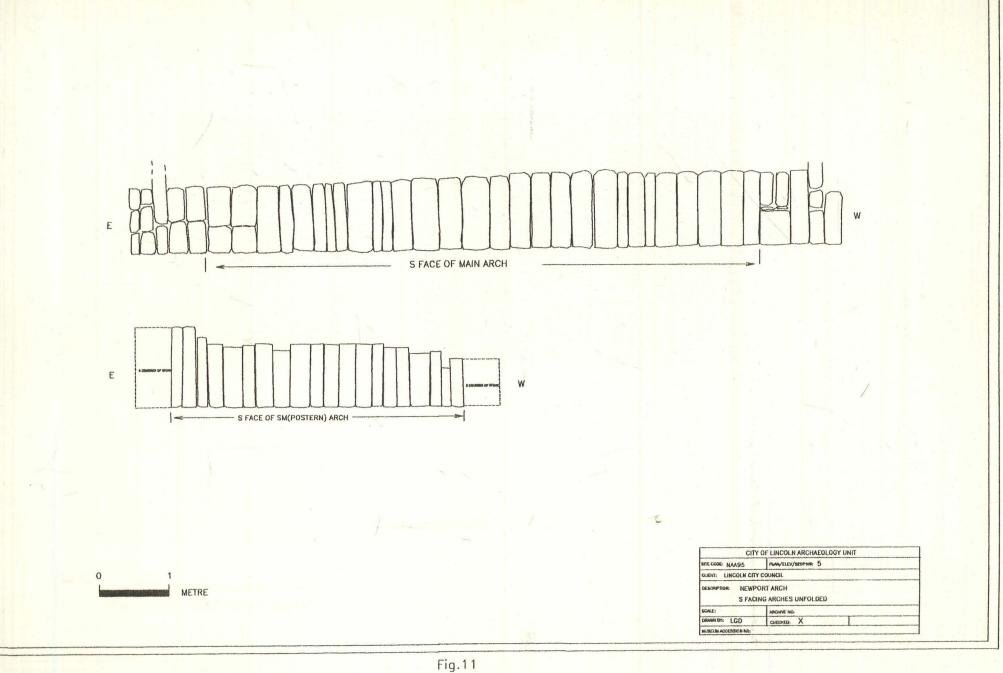
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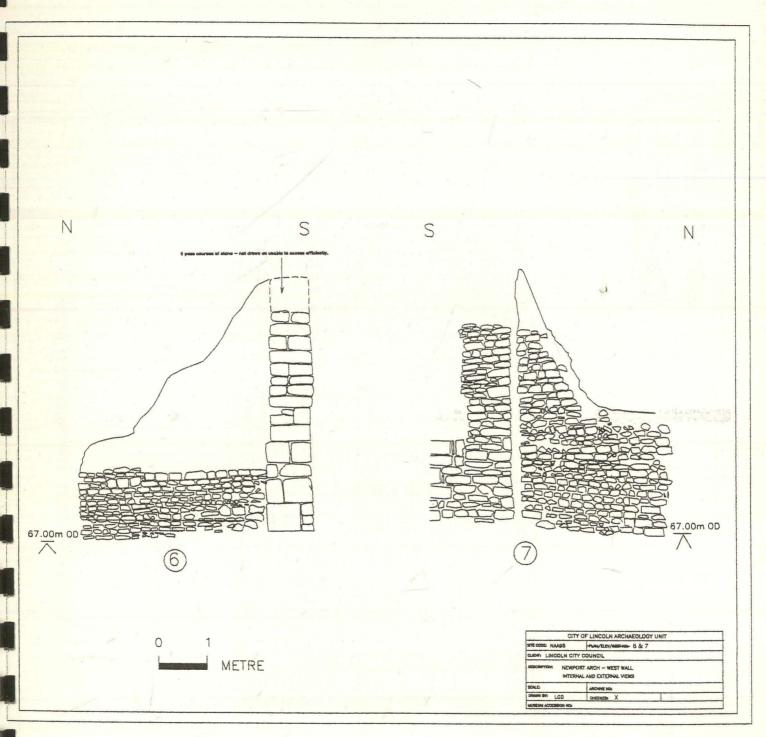
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Fig. 13



Figs.14 & 15

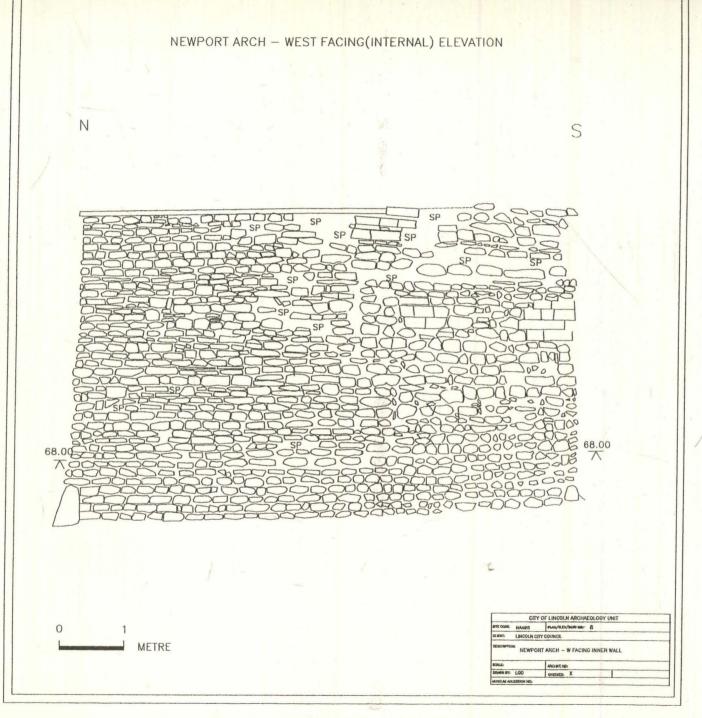


Fig. 16

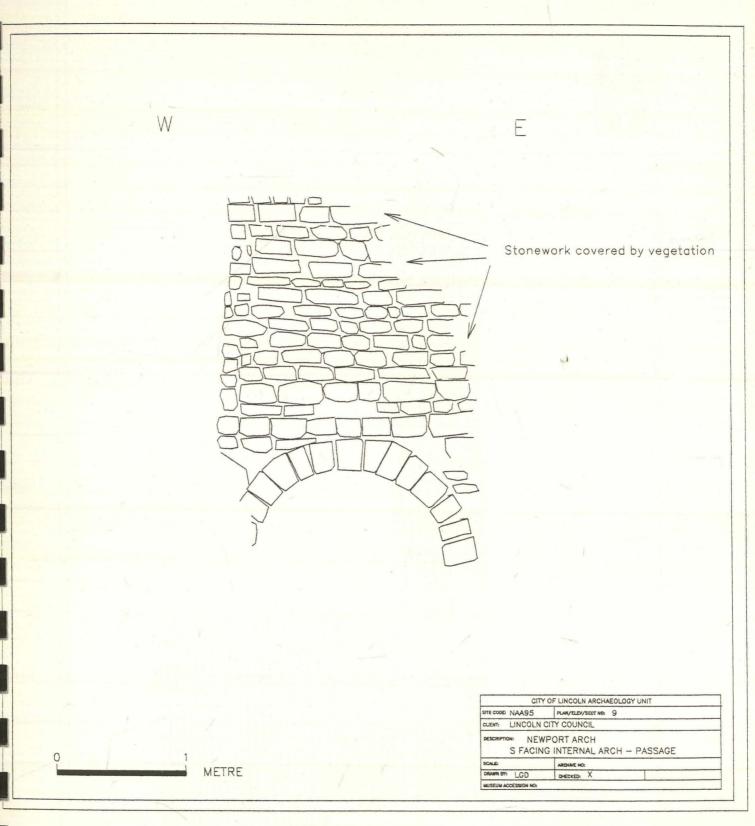


Fig.17

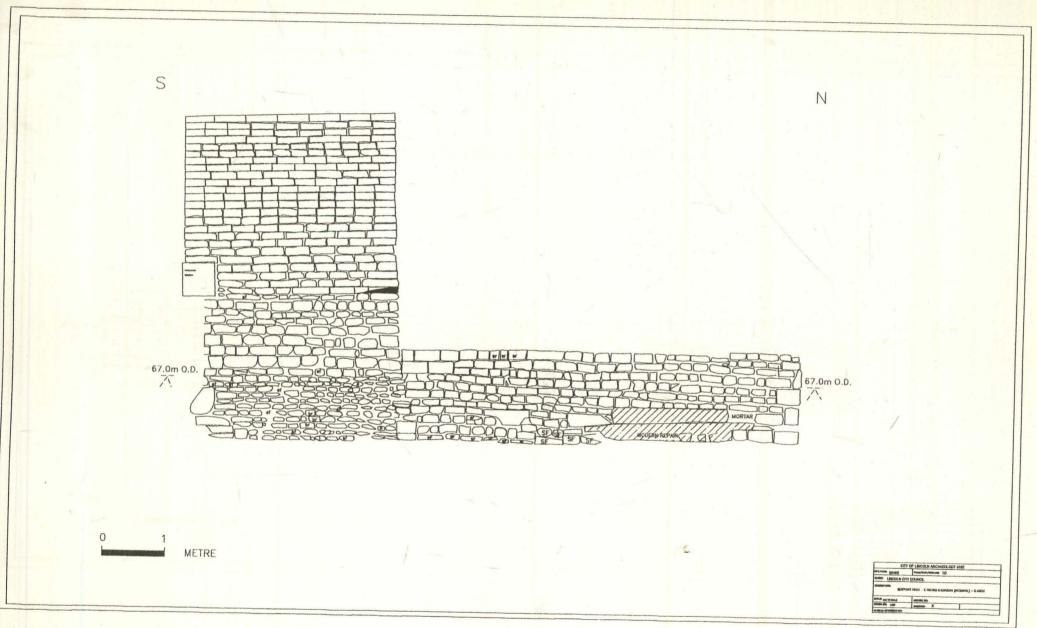


Fig.18

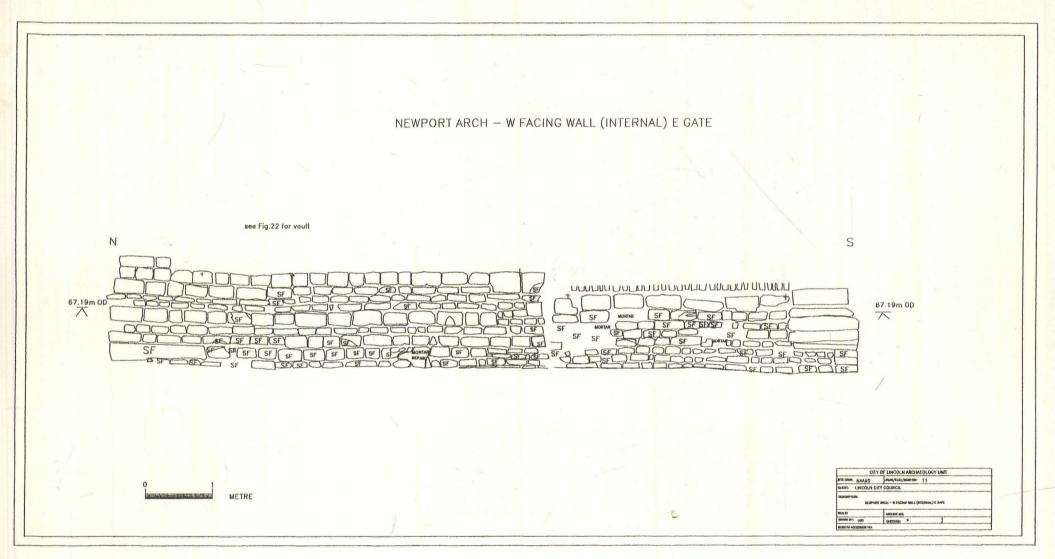
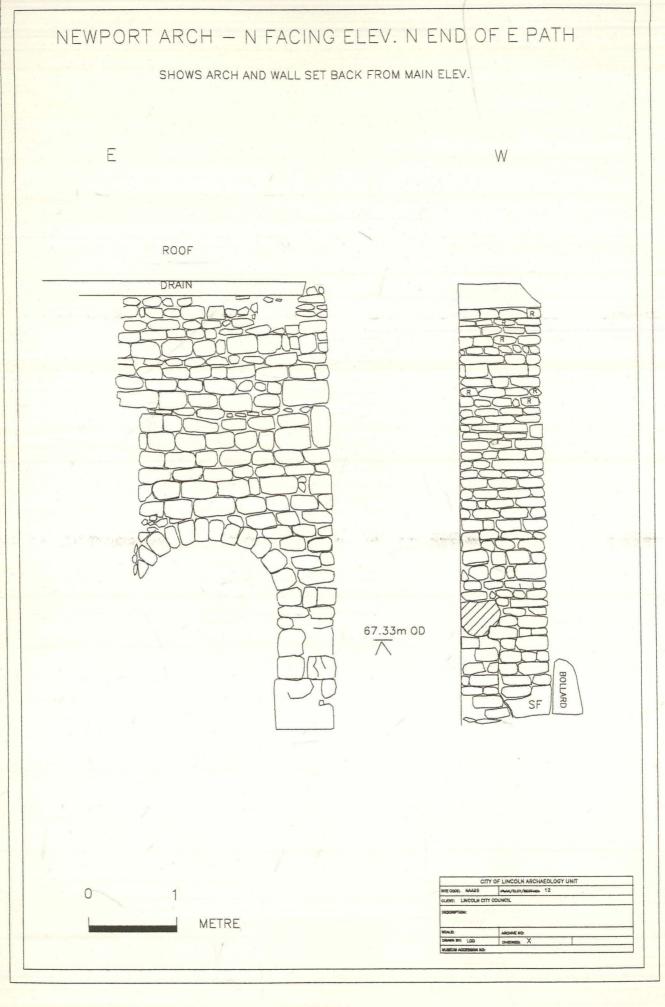
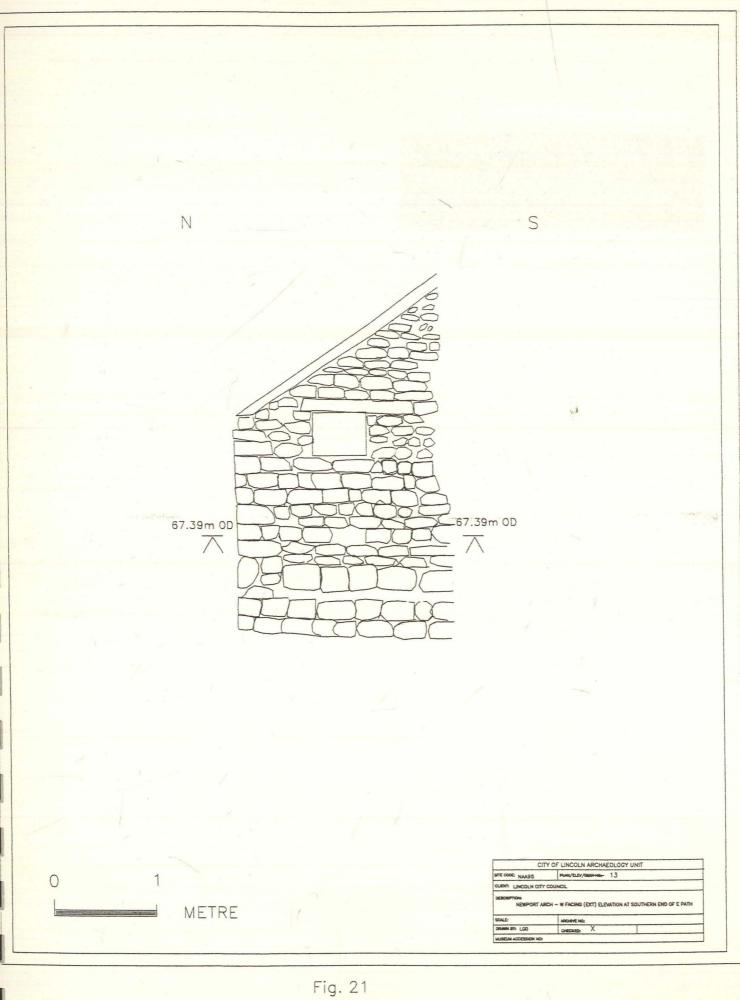


Fig. 19





APPENDIX I

APPENDIX 1

NEWPORT ARCH Abell Collection "Roman Lincoln" Vol1

Abell p48 Willson Coll. SA Vol6 p23

The outer gate was pulled down by Dr Petrie who pulled down also a great deal of the Roman wall on the East side of this gate, leaving only a small fragment, and would have destroyed the arch if he could have been permitted. This outer gate had not an arch but a huge beam of oak over the gateway with a wall above, and beams from the inner to the outer gate. The hooks for the door to hang on remained in the jambs of the outer gate.

p49 Vol6 p22

Old house adjoining to the west side of Newport gate rebuilt 1824 by Mr John Harmston. The date of 1717 remained on the former building and the stone was set up again on the west end of the new house. Isaac and John Hallam the 2 murders hanged and gibbeted in 1732 were said to have been brought up on the premises. It was formally a public house. Moulding of the impost of the great arch chopped off by the owner of this house about 1835. Second paper same page The western postern arch was found in a ruined state when the present house built in front of it was erected. It appeared to have been stripped down to the naked arch as the opposite one had been and the wedge like stones had dropped down and laid in a heap. Some of them were cut up to make steps for the new house. I have one remaining entire....The stones had been lifted by the insertion of a Lewis as the mortices testify and some iron cramps had been used fastened with lead of which one was given to me.

p52 Notes and Queries, Lincolnshire Arch described in 1737 by Thomas Sympson The opposite Northern gate is called Newport gate, and is perhaps the noblest remnant of the sort in Britain. The arch, which is 15 (really 16) feet in diameter, is composed of 26 large stones of a coarse grit, laid seemingly without any mortar. There is no keystone, but a joint in the crown, the number of stones on each side of it from the spring of the arch being equal, that is 13 on a side; on both sides of the arch are laid 7 courses of large horizontal stones, called 9I think) in terms of masonary, springers, some of them 6 or 7 feet long. The intent of these was to take off the side pressure from the arch. There has been a postern or Foot passage on either side of the great gate through that on the east side is the only one now visible, an house being built against the other.

p63 Rev Binnall's Cuttings 334 V

c.1828 Roman gate at lincoln- some time back we advertised the commencement of a subscription for the partial restoration and opening of the eastern postern of the Roman gate at Lincoln, called newport, we have the pleasure of aquainting the well-wishers and subscribers to the undertaking, that the plan will immediately be carried into effect. The estimate is about 1102, and the subscription amounts to £103: after deducting small expenses incurred in advertising, printing and c., an available sum of £100 will be left. Upon this the committee are determined the work shall proceed forthwith, not doubting the remainder of the money will be subscribed before its completion; at all events, sooner than so admirable and unique a piece of antiquity shall be lost, the committee will advance amongst themselves whatever sum may be deficient: this further call upon their purses, however, we hope, for the credit of the county and city, will not be necessary.

p85 Echo 27/03/36

Newport Arch.Recently it was found that some of the stonework on the east portion of the abutments had perished and that refacing would be necessary. The work has been held up on account of the weather and the difficulty in obtaining suitable stone weathered to harmonise with the existing stonework. The stone has now been obtained and work will begin early next month. The arch is scheduled as an ancient monument.

p86 Letter to newspaper by J H

Johnson concerned about weather damaging newly exposed west side of arch.

p87 Echo 27/09/37 Demolition of property ajoining Newport arch, linc., on the west has revealed traces of a postern gate similar to the one still

remaining on the east side.

p88 Echo 24/09/37 Demolition of the 18th c. building adjoining Newport arch on the west side has revealed conclusive evidence that the original Roman structure included a postern gate on that side of the arch similar to the one still in existence on the east side.... Gough, in his 1806 edition of Camden's Britannia, apparently thought that a postern gate had existed on the west side....Mr F T Baker, curator of the City and County Museum, Linc., expressed to the Echo the hope that it would be possible, if necessary, to modify the improvement scheme in order to provide for the restoration of this newly-discovered gateway. The portion of the gateway discovered he said, corresponded, as far as he could ascertain at the present, with the gateway on the east side, supporting the theory that the original north gatway to the roman city was symmetrical. Actually what has been discovered at present is the commencement of the spring of the postern. In some of the ealier sketches of Newport arch Garrison rooms above the archway are shown. When Newport arch was scheduled as an ancient monument in 1924, it was feared by many people, particularly the late Dean fry, that heavy buses clattering through it would do it serious damage. Since then buses have been converted from solid to pneumatic tyres and the danger to the arch has bee lessened by the provision of a special iron road surface beneath it. That there is still a certain amount of vibration has been proved during demolition, for the passage of a heavy vehicle through the arch has caused the masonary of the retaining wall to crumble. At the time of the scheduling, it was advocated that in order to preserve the arch the roadway should be diverted to the west.... Lincoln Cooperative Society informed the Echo to-day that the deeds of the old building dated back to 1723....

p101
22/02/36 A portion of the "tunnel" roof on the east side of the arch fell
this week. It was found to have been loosened by the rain and frost. Workmen
were summoned immediately, and erected props to prevent more of the tunnel
falling onto the footpath. Most of the arch side has now been removed, and
the side is to be repaired so as to make it quite safe....Apart from Balkeral
at Colchester, it is said to be the only Roman gate that exists.

p103 Echo Oct 1933 Road under arch paved with iron blocks

p104 Chronicle 14/10/33
Details about paving the road with iron.... the roadway has a concrete foundation and the plates are laid in hot bitumen which was also poured into the joints to grout them.

p106 Echo 05/10/60 The arch.... took its annual "bath" today....Pulling out weeds and weather proofing to keep out wet and frost are all part of the task. It will also have a complete washing from top to bottom with ordinary water.

p108 The western postern has been destroyed, and the one to the east was for many years completely closed and almost buried. Stukeley says in 1724Below on both sides was apostern, or foot passage....but against that on the left side is a house built, and when I went down into the cellar, I found a Chimney set before it.

p109 1825 move to restore gateway. Bill preserved in public Library. Newport Gate Lincoln At a meeting of the committee, holden on Friday, Dec. 2nd 1825 Sir Edward Ffrenh Bromhead, Bart., in the chair Resolved: That it is most desirable to open and preserve the eastern postern of the ancient Roman Arch at Newport Gate. That the sum of £88,14s already subscribed is inadequate That a circular be sent to the principal gentry of the City and county, who have not already subscribed, requesting their support. That the work be commenced as soon as the weather will permit, under the direction of Mr Padley. George Moore Esq. at the Lincoln bank, and Mr Dury Bookseller, and c., at the Post Office have under taken to recieve subscriptions. Lincoln 2nd Dec. 1825 Edward F. Bromhead Chairman George Gordon George Moore Henry Hulton John Fardell James B Cuttill Lincoln Date Book shows postern open 1826

Missing wall above eastern postern completely restored p111 Extract from ST. Paul-in-the-Bail E R Milton p33. This monument stands in the parish of St. Pauls which, at that time (1826) was responsible for its upkeep. Hence in 1822 the Church warden's accounts contain the item, Feb. 24, Paid Coulson for repairing Newport gates recommended to be repaired by the Magistrates. 0,2,0. Now the parish was required to lower the level of the ground on the south side of the arch in preparation for the improvement. The Vestry accepted the tender of £5,18s,0d from E Jenkins and Antony Thompson who undertook "to lower the west end of the Tom-a-pit lane" which was the local appellation for East Bight. the work was "To begin at the end of Mrs. Townrow's flags and to go with a gradual descent to the east postern and then to go with a regular ascent the length of 50 yards up the lane where it comes to nothing. The breadth at the top 4 yards, the breadth at the bottom 3 yards, and the depth 1 yard in the deepest part, and to carry away the rubbish to the rails running along the castle dykings".

p113 Echo 16/07/54

Work now going on at Newport arch under the supervision of Lincoln Archaeological Research committee. "The excavation is being done on the open space left by the demolition of 2 cottages, and as the site will be used as a building plot again"....time is limited Found the Roman wall and Bastion and the Medieval tower.

p123 As above....see J.R.S. Vol28 p182 and an article by F T Baker in "Discovery" Feb. 1938. Meant that the new shop wall was set back and allowed a new path by Newport arch to west.

p124 Echo 10/05/38

Wall abutting west end of Newport Arch starts to be demolished. Public are told it is not part of original Roman structure and that the original parts of the arch will not be touched.

p126 Chronicle 25/06/38 Knocking down of above wall halted as result of strong protest from "distinguished Lincolnshire archaeologist" "The wall isto be rebuilt to a height of about seven feet, and then continued upwards in the form of a ramp to lend support to the Arch....It was originally intended to demolish the whole of this wall to allow a better access to the newly-erected Co-op store. Owing to the fact that the arch has probably been considerably weakened, the rubble and part of the stonework have been removed from the top and a filling of concrete has been inserted" "The exterior of the arch is also recieving special treatment".... repairing of stones and weeding

NEWPORT ARCH PHOTOGRAPHS AND DRAWINGS Abell Collection "Roman Lincoln" Vol1

- p44 Drawing, of arch on road leading to Rome. Illustrated as comparison for Newport Arch, from "Old England" by Charles Knight Vol1, p40
- p50 Drawing of Arch looking north, postern gate blocked, houses abut arch on both sides, wall above arch shown standing to height as roofs. Titled "Newport gate at Lincoln, Sept 1722. The Arch of Roman work" Shows man on a horse and beneath him "Stukeley delin and Amicissimo Conterranoe Mauritio Johnson Av, Intemoris Templi JC offert"
- p54 View looking south shows cottages abutting arch both sides. Two arches inner and outer gate? 3 people stood by it, can't see postern gate.
- p55 View looking north from an engraving of a drawing by Mr Buck from "Gough's Camden" 1806 Plate7 fig14.Postern gate is blocked, drainpipe visible?
- p56 View looking north, inner and outer gates standing, houses abut arch each side, postern gate blocked. Shows man in three cornered hat.
- p57 View looking north, inner and outer gates standing, same cottage on right as previously but house on left now has pub sign. Shows carriage going beneath arch. Drawn and engraved by B Howlett.

p58 View looking north, same house and pub visible but can see more to right of gateway, a house with a windmill pub sign. shows 2 people and dog.Reprint from plate dated 2nd Nov 1773, only the figures have been altered. This plate was published Oct 1784 by S Hooper. Postern gate blocked by heap of mud/dung

p59 As above but the earlier plate, 1773. Shows 2 men/soldiers.

p60 View looking north, postern gate blocked by stone. Note outer gateway gone. Same houses on each side of arch but pub sign gone. Ox cart going through arch, On right artist draws man, woman and dog. Postcard from oil painting by Nathaniel drake/dance 1734-1811. Dated c.1780, painting presented to Usher Art Gallery by Mrs. W S Richardson.

p61 View looking north, everything looking more tumbled down. Shows ox cart going through arch, woman doorway left, 2 men to right. Titled "A perspective view of an Antique Roman gate in the City of Lincoln" from "Gent's Mag" 1771.

p62 Colour of Nathaniel Dance/Drake oil painting.

p63

Black and white of above.

p64 Willson Collection Society of Antiquarians, fig from Vol 6 pp20-1 North elevation of arch showing postern gate on right open. Above top of main arch wall stands only 6 courses high.

p65

Willson Collection Society of Antiquarians Vol 6 p21 Newport gate Lincoln 1828, Longitudinal section, shows wall/side of cottage when looking east. 35ft 6" long, stands 18ft high at north end, at south (archway) end stands 21ft 2" high.

p66 Peter de Wint painting looking NE, from Usher Gallery.

p67 View looking north, new (Georgian style?) house on left, still abuts arch. Alterations to cottage on right, postern gate blocked by stone. Man, woman and donkey in foreground. Print dedicated to those who subscribed towards the repairs to arch in 1826.

p69 View looking north. From "Old England" by Charles Knight Vol1 p40. Arch in 1702.

p70 View looking north, postern gate open ,couple shown walking through it.Fall of brick work from wall above postern gate. Published by C Akrill lincoln. Engraving by Rogers.

p71 View looking north. Alot of fall from wall above postern gate. Postern appears to lead into garden of the cottage on the right. Ground level of path under postern is lower than road throught the arch. House on left abuts arch and can see other houses on left hand side of road through the arch for first time.

p72 View looking north, 1880, from Ward's Historical Guide to Lincoln

p74 Undated photograph. House abuts wall on left, rebuilding of wall above postern gate.

p75 As above by Walke, Norman Place Studios.

p77 c.1945 arch on longer abuts house on left.

n78

Painting by A G Wisesterd, produced as a postcard. View looking north, house abuts arch on right.

p79 Photograph of above view.

pp80-5 As above

p86 Uncovering west side of arch, photograph accompanies letter to editor of newspaper.

p87 Echo 27/09/37 Photo and caption, demolition of property adjoining newport Arch, Lincoln, on the west has revealed traces of a postern gate similar to the one still remaining on the east side.

p90 Weekly

Telegraph April 1938 Photo showing the demolition continuing.

p93-4 View

looking south,1794, clearly abuts house, can't see postern gate.

p95 View as above, from "Views of Lincoln" Vol3 by C Nathes for Sir J Banks in City Library, 1789.

p96 View of arch looking south. Postern gate is incorporated into house on left. Main arch abuts house on right. Can see women and the grave yard on the left.

p97 View looking south, c.1945, Arch detached from building on right.

p100 View looking south, Arch abuts house on right and house on left incorporates postern gate.

p102 27/08/38

newspaper cutting showing arch being repointed.

p103 Echo oct 1933 View looking north, shows road under arch being paved with iron blocks.

p104 Chronicle 14/10/33 As above.

p105 View looking north, 1960.

p107 Echo 07/10/60 News cutting of workmen cleaning arch using water and scrubbing brushes, also weeding and weather proofing.

p119 Uncovering of west end of arch, when the co-op was being built.(2 photos)

p120 Echo 10/09/37 News cutting of discovery of roman wall during excavation.

p121-2 More photos of above.

p125 Echo 12/05/38 News cutting of workmen demolishing wall abutting west end of arch.

p126 Chronicle 25/06/38 News cutting about halting of above demolition.

pp130-1 News cutting about the demolition of cottages in Newport situated through arch and on left when looking north.

p132 Photographs of Newport arch excavation 1954, shows uncovering of Roman bastion and Medieval tower.

p133 Chronicle 26/11/54 Echo 27/09/55 News cuttings about above excavations.

pp134-5 28/09/56 Photos of excavation being made ready for visitors, laying paths, steps, concrete capping on to bastion.

p136 Echo 17/04/61 News cutting about bus hitting arch.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF EAST BIGHT p139-40 May 1952.

OTHER REF TO NEWPORT ARCH IN THE LOCAL STUDIES LIBRARY.

EXCAVATION Jul-Aug 1937 in Lincolnshire Magazine Vol3 p255. in Lincolnshire register Vol3 pp255-61 Stanwell and Baker.

EXCAVATION 1954 in Civic Trust Annual Report 1954 p12

SCHEDULED 1924 in Lincolnshire Chronicle Almanack 1925 Lin 05 p46.

KNOCKED DOWN BY LORRY June 1964 in Fireside Magazine in Lincoln Civic Trust Annual Report 1964 Lin 05 pp10-11 in Forget me not News March 1971

NEWPORT LAST CENTURY 1840 in Lincolnshire Press Cuttings Vol9 A 09 p71

ERECTED IN 45 in Magpie Annual 1932 A 05 p54

PICTURES OF ARCH in Ross Annals 1 pp30-1, drawings

in Norton lines. Almanack 1904 p76, view looking north 1904.

in Lincolnshire Museum information sheet, arch. Series 4 1978 D/F MUS

in Miss Epton's Scrapbook LIN 09, engraving by Newman and Co. pub. by Akrill.

in Andrew's Bygone Lincs. Vol 1 p79-80, drawing as arch appeared in 1782.

in Norton's Lines. Royal Show 1907 p73, photo showing co-op abutting arch.

in Advertisement Extracts LIN 09 p8, Dimensions.

in Baker scrapbook of Old Lincoln LINC 909, 3 photos of arch in 1964, 1920 post card and 1916 photo.

in Lincs. Chronicle Nov 19 1981 p18 photo of arch with shop attached, 1910-20.

in The Official Guide of the Linc. Inc. Chapter of Commerce LINC 9 p37, photo.

in Lincoln Tracts and Misc. pp49-50. See also illustrations collection.

APPENDIX II

APPENDIX 2

NEWPORT ARCH

TB BOX 14 BUNDLE D House in the Bail(not certain if all relate to Newport

1-2 Lease and release 24 and 25 Feb 1705/06 William Burnett jun. of the Close, Lincoln gent to Robt. Dixon of Owneby dk. ref to last will of Henry Wanless, lease holder 10 April 1704. All that new erected building cont. 2 stables with chambers over sit. in the Bail built upon ground where the Crown Inn formally stood, with the app. (could be inn depicted on left in views of arch, looking n., from local studies library)

- 3-4 Assignment 6 and 7 Nov 1707 Robert Dixon to Francis Cartwright of the bail, widow. As above is the occ of Elizabeth Wanless, widow.
- 5-6 Assignment 1 and 2 Feb 1713/14 Charles Caldecott of Fulnetby, par. Rand, grandson and heir at law to Francis Cartwright, wid. (decd.) to John Newell of Lincoln, Whitesmith prop. as above, in same occupation.
- 7-8 Assignment 25 and 26 Mar 1716 Caldecott and Newell to John Morley of Scotton D.D. prop as above.
- 9-10 Assignment 13 and 14 oct 1736 Morleys execs. to Lewis Dymohe(?) esq. of Scrivelsby prop as above. (John Wanless still has interest)
- 11 Assignment 22 and 23 june 1737 Dymohe and Wanless to Selina Welby. as above. Selina Welby and Mr Wanless to Hon.M.D. Dymohe 2 Jan 1740/1 mess. or ten. with a stable and brewhouse adjacent cont. 1/2 acre and an orchard 1 acre; and a close of pasture cont. 6 acres adjacent to the orchard, all of which are in the Bail and in the tenure of James Naylor at rent of ú16 p.a.; also another mess. or tent. in Bail in tenure of (?) Stevens @ 33 10s p.a.
- (Lease out) release 3 and 4 Jan 1744/5 Rev. Thos. Wells of Wittyham dk. and Elizabeth his wife, dan. and heir of Robt. Dymohe of Graby, eld. son of Abigail D and dec. aunt of Hon. Jane D to Edward Southwell of Wisbech. as above and F.C.
- 25 Aug 1752 Benjamin Wanless and mother to Jane Southwell. Release of equity of redemption and of her dower. Now in occ of Richard Salman, Wm. Moyne and Wm. Leary.
- 29 and 30 Sept 1752 Edward Southwell to M Jane S release of his right.

14 Jan 1760 re marr. Southwell/Trafford

L and R 9 and 10 Jan 1765 Sir Clement Trafford to Sir Cecil Wray. mess/ten in Bail with stable, brewhouse etc and orchard (1 acre) adj. and close of pasture (6 acres) in occ. of John Bellamy. mess/ten adj. to first in occ. Wm. crosley. mess/ten adj. to second in occ. Widow Leary.

L and R 9 and 10 Jan 1765 (from Trafford) Sir cecil Wray Bt. tux(?) to Christopher Nevile Esq. ift(?) and Sam Lyon Newly erected capital messuage or Mansion House with stables, erections and buildings, sit in Bail, together with the orchard or ground being freehold. adj. and bel. thereto. close of pasture lying north of the premises cont. 6 acres. mess/ten adj. to Newport Gates upon the West, now in the several tenures of William Pope and William Eyles. * close of pasture adj, abutting a highway called Beat Lane or Tomabeck Lane on the south, now in the Tenure of Sir Cecil Wray. (m/t and close nr. N.A.....of heirs of Frances Francis and others)

Lease and release 16 and 17 Sept 1767 Sir Cecil Wray to Dr. Robert Petrie of the Bail. newly erected messuage late a tenure of Wray. close of pasture north of the same cont 6 acres. mess/ten adj. Newport Gates as before Pope and Eyles.

Mortgage 14 June 1774 Dr. Petrie to Coningsby Sibthorpe. orchard now converted to a garden. Pope and Eyles now widow Cooling-hall. recites lease from D and C to Robt. Petrie 22 Mar. 1774= mess with stable etc.at (w) Bight End in par. st. Margaret with little garden or close adj.

Conveyance 18 Oct 1775 Dr. Petrie to George Robinson of Fisherton Esq. The provement to garden etc. pleasure ground with abaendry(?) with shrubberies and 2 summer houses.

Black and White postcards: ref.MISC DEP 323/2-3

East Bight: with surrounding houses Titled "Old Roman Wall Lincoln" Picture in very good condition.

Newport Arch: viewed from south, can see co-op abutting wall on left and cottage on right. Shows people walking and cycling through archway. Ground level of postern gate lower than road running through arch. Picture in very good condition.

WILLSON COLLECTION (Society of Antiquarians) MICROFILM ref MF2/124/3 786/6 City of Lincoln (Roman, Medieval, Modern)

p7 Memoranda about Roman Walls and dicovery of a coin at Newport Gate 1825 "....of....A.D. 1825 silver coin of Severus found near Newport Gate" (very difficult to read)

pp20-1 Plans and elevations of Newport Gate (3 items) (good condition..copies in Local studies Lib. Abell collection)

pp22-3 Notes about Newport Gate and sketch of arch viewed from north. (mostly the same as "Notes and Queries" see Local Studies Library File) "Thechapel near this house erected by a Baptist Minister in 1826 but sold afterwards to the Wesleyan Methodists(?)" * "The arch of the little postern was.....to have fallen when it was laid open by the pulling down of this house, and the blocks were.. (ends) p23 shows view looking south "Masonary very rough, broken and full of holes. stones small"

pp24-5 Measured ground plan of Newport gate and adjoining cottage and measured sketch of some of its features. 1828 (2 items) (faint but very detailed, shows end of eastern postern gate used as a garage)

Drawings of Various Antiquities MICROFILM MF2/124/(?) 786/D

fol 24 South view of Newport Arch, linc, showing the Burton Hunt n.d. watercolour. (very good condition, shows east postern gate with only the stones of the arch left)

Various Maps and Plans MICROFILM MF2/124/(?) 786/K

fol 2 plan of the city of Lincoln prepared from Stukeley's survey of Lindum Colonia 1722 and copied for the purpose of the 1848 meeting of the Archaeological Institute.

fol4v-5 outline tracing of a plan of the upper city, showing Roman defenses (clearly shows blocked postern gate)

Lincoln Cathedral Library MICROFILM MF2/124/12 Vol B/14

p11 Newport Arch lithoprint, view from north, from engraving by F.J Jobson (small but in good condition. Clearly shows east end of arch abutting cottage wall)

p12 Lithoprint from an engraving by T.Lodge (Gentlemans Magazine, May 1771) shows south front of arch with postern gate blocked. Drawing showing south front of arch and adjacent cottage, 1828.

*p13 South front of arch from a sketch by Pugin.(shows postern gate blocked but with windows) Lithoprint of the south face of the arch, from sketch by Stukeley,1722.

p14 drawing showing south face of arch, from sketch by Jobson 1828 (shows path under postern gate lowered and the postern gate in use) Drawing showing north face of arch, 1828, shows arch abutting cottage wall. (both pictures are in good condition)

p15 Drawing showing north face of arch viewed from NE, 1828.(can see cottage and half blocked postern gate. Picture in good condition)

p16 Lithoprint of arch showing north face (repeat of p11)

APPENDIX III

APPENDIX 3

Two cardboard files were investigated. They comprised:

11.2

- Copy of T. Ambrose publication
 Misc. correspondence
 Report and Photographs of 1954 excavation
 Misc. photographs

APPENDIX IV

APPENDIX 4

na93
5,1,-,Site location plan,-,-,-,-,Room 48
21,1,-,1 sheet of plans sections and profiles from 1954
excavation,-,-,-,-,Room 32
30,1,-,Client's copy of Recording of remains of Roman wall prior to
conservation report. L Donel,-,-,-,CLAU Arch report No. 69,Room 32
5,2,-,Ground plan of bastion,-,-,-,-,Room 48
8,1,-,Profiles of bastion,-,-,-,-,Room 48
8,2,-,N-S & W-E profiles,-,-,-,-,Room 48
8,3,-,N-S & E-W elevations,-,-,-,Room 48
8,4,-,N-S elevation,-,-,-,-,Room 48

8,4,-,N-S elevation,-,-,-,Room 48 8,5,-,E-W elevation,-,-,-,Room 48 12,1,-,11 Archive.11 Lecture,-,-,-,Room 32

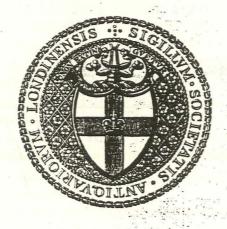
11,1,-,26 prints on annotated cards plus negatives,-,-,-,Room 32

APPENDIX V

The Gates of Roman Lincoln

By F. H. Thompson, Esq., M.C., M.A., and J. B. Whitwell, Esq., M.A.

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II. THE NORTH GATE

PREVIOUS RECORDS AND INTERPRETATION

The Newport Arch at Lincoln, the rear arch of the Roman north gate, is one of the best-known Roman structures in Britain, a distinction which it owes to its continuous use for traffic, hazardous though this may be in modern conditions (see below, p. 193). It was examined and recorded by Stukeley in 1722 at a time when considerably more of the superstructure survived than exists today. The massive masonry which rises to the height of the intrados changes at that point to small blockwork; in Stukeley's drawing (pl. xxv a) the latter is shown as seventeen courses high with two rows of regularly spaced putlog holes, whereas today no more than six heavily weathered courses remain (pl. XXVII). There is little doubt that the small blockwork is Roman rather than medieval, although it must have undergone a certain amount of patching; the regular putlog holes and the similarity to the masonry of the west gate (p. 197 and pl. XXXVII) would confirm the Roman date. A drawing made by Buck in 1725 (pl. XXV b)² and reproduced in Gough's editions of Camden's Britannia³ shows virtually the same elevation. Fifty years later, the upper courses were beginning to decay (pl. XXVI a),+ and by 1784 Grimm found it reduced to virtually its present height (pl. XXVI b).5

The other notable point about the last drawing is that it shows a window inserted into the stone blocking of the side-arch to the west, presumably when the vaulted passage was adapted to form a cellar to the adjoining cottage. The presence of a window implies that the blocking was not particularly thick and its appearance in all the eighteenth-century drawings mentioned above, coupled with the evidence from the 1954 excavation for similar blocking at the north end of the western side-passage, suggests that it was an original, though late, Roman feature.

The springing of the arch at the south end of the western side-passage is now clear, at least on the east (pl. XXVII). However, it was not exposed until 1937 when the house which obscured it, on the corner of Chapel Lane, was demolished to make way for the present Co-operative Society shop.6 This house was apparently built in 1824 to replace the building shown in the eighteenth-century drawings and two contemporary notes in the Willson collection, are worthy of quotation, since the collapsed arch was

apparently found during the work:

(i) The western postern arch was found in a ruined state when the present house built in front of it was erected. It appeared to have been stripped down to the naked arch, as the opposite one has been, and the wedge-like stones had dropped down and laid in a heap. Some of them were cut up to make steps for the new house. I have one remaining entire. These stones are from the Lincoln quarries, of the brown coarse beds at the bottom of the rocks. They had been lifted by the insertion of a Lewis, as the mortices testify, and some iron cramps had been used, fastened with lead, of which one was given to me.

¹ Itinerarium Curiosum (2nd edn., 1776), p. 89 and pl. 54. ² The original is in the Ashmolean Museum.

³ 1st edn. (1789), ii, pl. 111, fig. 14; 2nd edn. (1806), ii,

⁴ Cf. the engraving by John Lodge in Gents. Mag. 1771, opp. p. 200. The original drawing was probably the inspiration (rather than vice-versa) for at least two paintings which, apart from minor additions of figures, are virtually the same; one, by Sir Nathaniel Dance, is in the Usher Art Gallery, Lincoln, and the other passed through the London sale-rooms in 1937 (cf. Illustrated London News, 20th February 1937, p. 318, fig. 1).

The drawing is in the British Museum.

6 J.R.S. xxviii (1938), 182 and pl. xx1.

7 Soc. Antiq. MS. 786, vol. 6, f. 22 (for the Willson collection, see p. 194, n. 4).

(ii) Old House adjoining to the west side of Newport Gate rebuilt 1824, by Mr. John Harmston. The date of 1717 remained on the former building, and the stone was set up again on the west end of the new house.

Isaac and Tom Hallam, the two murderers, hanged and gibbeted in 1732 were said to have

been born on these premises. It was formerly a public house.

Moulding of the impost of the great arch chopped off by the owner of this house about 1835. The dissenting chapel near this house erected by a Baptist minister in 1826 but sold afterwards to

the Weslevan Methodists.

The arch of the postern was found to have fallen when it was laid open by the pulling down of this house and the blocks were laid on the ground. It had been concealed by the building of a chimney, and the formation of a cellar. The blocks were of a reddish brown sort of stone from the Lincoln quarries, which is the best for enduring weather of any bed found in the rocks at Lincoln.

The 1937 rebuilding confirmed these earlier records by tracing the line of the west wall of the western side-passage, and showed conclusively that the rear face of the gate was a symmetrical composition, consisting of a large central arch for a 16-ft. carriage way, separated from flanking footways, 7 ft. wide, by 6-ft. piers (fig. 22). The voussoirs of the main arch form a ring 2 ft. 3 in. high, from extrados to intrados, and 3 ft. 9 in. thick, while in the arch of the east side-passage these dimensions are 2 ft. and

3 ft. respectively.

Richmond, in his earlier study of the gate before the 1954 excavation, made the acute observation that differential weathering on the inner (north) faces of the voussoirs of the central and east arches indicated the original presence of barrel vaulting butting against these stones. In fact, it could be concluded that the Roman north gate was a vaulted structure carrying an upper storey and not a courtyard gate. He went on to suggest that the gate projected externally beyond the town wall and that the re-entrant angles thus formed were filled by masonry quadrants. But this was an argument based on analogy and can now be seen to have been mistaken, in the light of excavation in 1954.

THE 1954 EXCAVATION (figs. 1, 21-3 and pls. XXVIII-XXXIII)

The opportunity for further investigation of the north gate came towards the end of 1953 when two cottages of late eighteenth- or early nineteenth-century date, lying north of the present Co-operative Society building (fig. 21), were demolished. The intention was to replace these with new buildings and since the site, measuring approximately 40 ft. from east to west and 16 ft. from north to south, offered the possibility of locating the outer (north) face of the gate and any flanking features to the west, the then Ministry of Works made a grant to allow an emergency excavation to be carried out.³ This began in late June 1954, with the employment of six paid workmen, and was completed in November of that year; the protracted excavation was due not only to the depth of the structures but also to the need to cut through massive

² Ibid. 34 and fig. 6. ³ Mr. J. G. Hurst, F.S.A., of the Ministry was most helpful in making the necessary arrangements, while Mr.

¹ Arch. J. ciii (1946), 32 and pl. VIa.

F. T. Baker, F.S.A., Secretary of the Lincoln Archaeological Research Committee, made the necessary contacts and enlisted local support with his characteristic skill and energy.

medieval foundations in order to trace the Roman masonry which they concealed. A small nucleus of workmen was retained throughout but members of the Lincoln Archaeological Research Committee gave willingly of their spare time at evenings and week-ends. The results of the excavation were such that the Lincoln City Council, as owners of the site, decided against redevelopment and instead left the excavation open; and in collaboration with the Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments of the Ministry of Works, the masonry was consolidated and the site laid out so that it can now be inspected in its correct visual relationship to the Newport Arch.

I. The medieval gate

A somewhat unexpected result of the excavation was the discovery, in the early stages, of considerable remains of the medieval north gate; it was these which, as already mentioned, caused some difficulty in tracing the plan of the Roman gate. The removal of the cottage floors and wall foundations showed that these rested, in the southern half of the site, on an irregular platform of limestone masonry (pl. XXVIII a). In plan (fig. 21) the western edge of the platform began about 7 ft. from the western limit of the site and projected about 7 ft. north from the modern building line to the south. It then returned eastwards for 30 ft. (pl. XXVIII b) before turning north again; it ran in this direction for a further 6 ft. and again turned to the east for a further foot before disappearing beneath the eastern limit of the site.

The core of this solid mass of masonry was in fact provided by the Roman tower discussed below, the curved front of which showed in the north face and continued beyond the line of the west face (pl. XXIX a). The distinct contrast in quality between the Roman and later masonry made it apparent that much of the latter was foundation work only, although carried down to the level of the Roman footings. At approximately 5 ft. above this footing level an irregular ledge indicated the original position of the medieval footings, of which a single massive slab remained at the north-west corner, still carrying the 'ghost' of the original building line. Corresponding to this was a well-preserved internal face to the north and west, giving an over-all thickness on the north side of $6\frac{1}{2}$ ft. (fig. 21 and pl. XXVIII a).

Little was found in the way of datable material to give precision to the presumed medieval date of this masonry platform. The undifferentiated black soil against the face produced few finds: the most notable was a complete Saxo-Norman cooking pot in shelly ware, found at a low level, while in the higher levels some sherds of thirteenth-century glazed pottery were noted. Some possible indication of date will emerge in the discussion of the conjectural plan of the medieval structure as a whole.

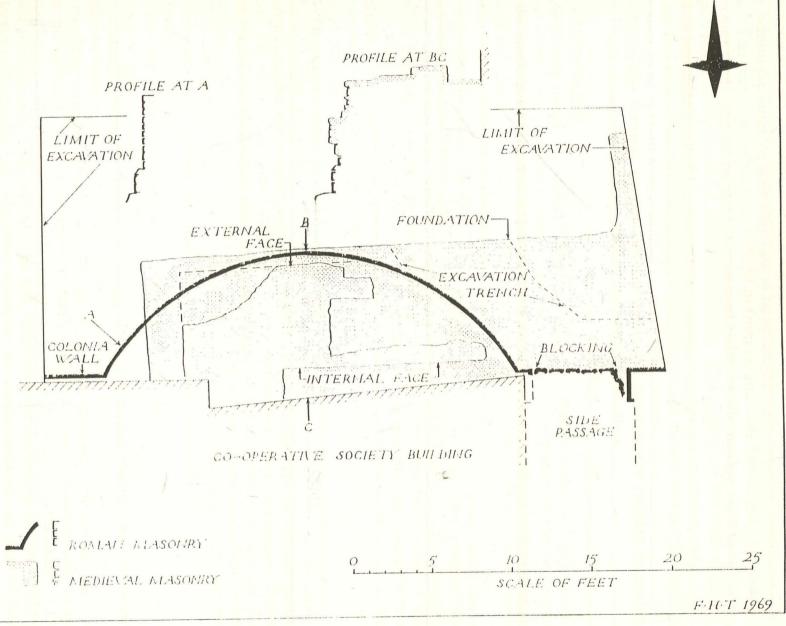
Only one tolerably clear impression of the medieval north gate seems to have survived, a print by B. Howlett of a drawing by R. D. Poilicy.² This is a view of Newport Arch from the north (pl. xxx a), but with the emphasis on two medieval arch-rings,

Thanks are due to the Corporation both for permitting the original excavation and for their subsequent sympathetic attitude towards preservation; Mr. A. Adlington, the City Engineer and Surveyor, was particularly helpful in arranging for the supply of men and equipment, and for allowing the excavation to encroach on the footpath

to the east of the site.

² Published by E. Mansel Sympson in *Lincs. Notes* and *Queries*, x (1909), pl. opp. 129; its significance as a medieval structure was noted by Richmond in *Arch. Journ.* ciii (1946), 32 n.

NEWPORT ARCH LINCOLN 1954



one behind the other; in style they look to be of late eleventh- or early twelfth-century date. The rearmost arch stands slightly in front of and rises higher than the Roman Newport Arch, and its position is indicated today by the shallow buttresses immediately north of the latter (pl. xxx b and fig. 22). The position of the front medieval arch is less certain but if the foundations exposed in 1954 are plotted symmetrically to east and west of the medieval passage walls (fig. 22), the effect is to suggest a narrow entrance up to 34 ft. in length flanked by rectangular towers, beyond which projected a barbican-like feature. In that case, the front arch shown in the Howlett engraving could have occupied a position close to the Roman front arch.

2. The Roman gate

As already noted, the medieval structure enclosed a Roman tower and their structural relationship posed an excavation problem. The first exposure of the tower was in the north face of the medieval work (pl. XXIX b), where two courses beneath a plain chamfered plinth were visible, evidently built on a gentle curve. With the clearance of the west face of the medieval structure it became clear that this cut through the Roman face which here survived to a total height of 6 ft., with ten courses rising above the plinth level (pl. XXIX a). Just within the limits of the site there also appeared the face of the colonia wall, which virtually coincided with the line of the Co-operative Society building above; it stood six courses (3 ft.) high. The chamfered plinth of the tower was not continued on the wall face, and there was a straight joint where the two features met; however, the upper courses of the tower appeared to continue inside the projected vertical line of the wall face, as if the two might have been bonded higher up (pl. XXXI a).

The presence of the medieval foundations across the front of the west side-passages of the Roman gate effectively prevented an immediate examination of the latter. It was clear that the simplest approach would be to cut through the medieval masonry along the curve of the tower and arrive at its junction with the side-passage. It was recognized that this would mean some mutilation of the medieval structure and the decision to proceed was only taken after considerable thought and discussion; it was influenced by two main factors, the likely gain in knowledge from exposing the Roman masonry, and the fact that the medieval work was itself foundations, never intended to be seen.

The results more than justified the decision and the effort involved. The chamfered plinth of the tower was found in situ, although the courses above had been removed (pl. XXXI b). The medieval masonry rested on a bed of reused Roman slabs, evidently from the demolished gate since one of them contained a lewis-hole and another carried a moulding suggesting that it was an impost slab (pl. XXXII a). The trench was continued eastwards in order to expose as much of the gate front as possible, and, by encroaching on the present footpath, it proved possible to uncover both jambs of the west side-passage. This proved to be 6 ft. wide, with the interesting feature of a later blocking (pl. XXXIII a, b). The latter rested on the original stone sill and was still $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft.

It may be noted that the west gate of the Norman castle (pl. XXXVI b) has a front arch flanked by projecting walls to north and south—conceivably a later addition?

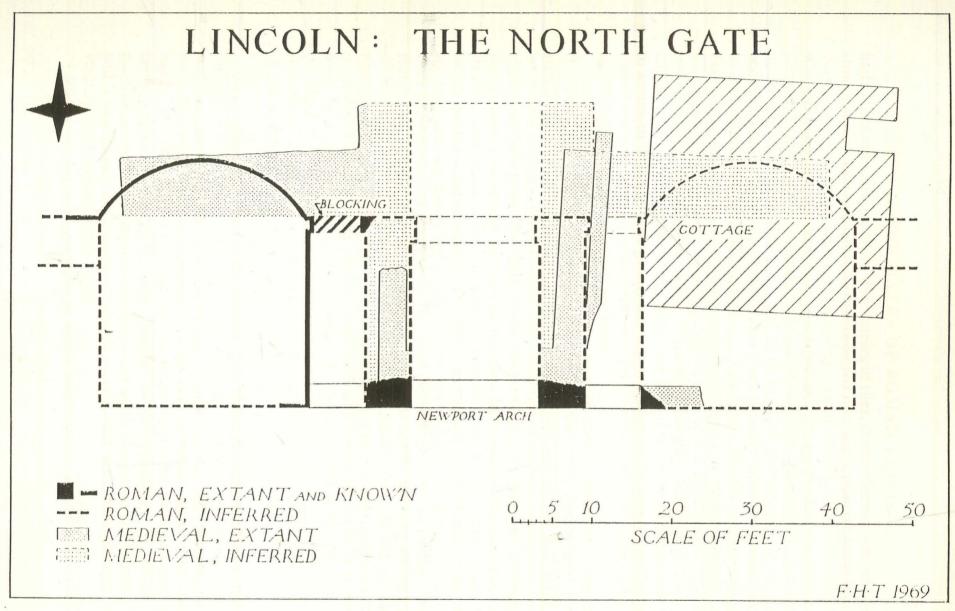


FIG. 22.

high, composed alternately of five courses of tiles, three of stone, two of tile, and a final stone course. The east jamb was represented by a single massive stone block, 2 ft. 3 in. deep, resting on a foundation slab running beneath the sill. The north face of the block was finished with diagonal tooling, surrounded by a 4-in. drafted margin. The west jamb was better preserved and stood to a total height of almost 5 ft., composed of three massive blocks, measuring 1, $1\frac{1}{2}$, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in depth respectively (from the top downwards). The bottom 9 in. of the lowest block actually formed a plinth, corresponding to the chamfered plinth on the bastion. This block, like the corresponding one in the east jamb, carried diagonal tooling surrounded by a 4-in. drafted margin (pl. XXXII b). The block above showed an interesting feature which apparently continued, though less clearly, on the topmost block. This was a roughly tooled projection, 14 in. wide and 21 in. from the corner of the jamb; the face of the block to either side was dressed to a smooth surface. The plinth and lower courses of the tower meet the jamb to the east of the feature and it is clear that the feature would have been concealed behind the

upper courses of the curved tower front.

One might almost speculate that it hints at an earlier treatment of the gate in which there were no towers with curved fronts; and one could conceivably argue that the straight joint between the lower courses of the tower and colonia, wall to the west might be further evidence for this view. But there are substantial arguments against it: the chamfered plinth matches that on the towers of the east gate; the diagonal tooling on the massive blocks also appears at the east gate; and at the east gate an apparent straight joint between the gate jamb and the blockwork of the semicircular tower front, which has led some observers to suggest two periods, is explicable as the need to build the load-bearing jambs before the towers were added, i.e. this is a structural rather than a chronological sequence. The final point might help to explain the projecting feature on the west joint of the side-passage of the north gate as an attempt at some sort of bonding with the curved tower front. The straight joint at the junction between tower and colonia wall to the west, at least in the lower courses, suggests that the wall, in existence for a century already, may have only been cut into in its upper courses in order to accommodate the new tower. And as a general point there is no evidence (as Mr. J. S. Wacher has pointed out to the writer) for the addition of curved fronts to rectangular gate-towers in Roman Britain, on the analogy of the building of bastions in the fourth century along existing town walls. Nevertheless, there can be no final certainty until the question is resolved by further excavation.

It is possible to arrive at the general plan of the Roman north gate in its final form by combining the results of the 1954 excavation with the evidence provided by the surviving structural remains and earlier records (fig. 22). The same sources have also been used for a tentative impression of the front elevation, once again from the skilful pen of Mr. David Neal (fig. 23). As noted above (p. 186), the basic plan is of a single central carriage-way, 16 ft. wide, flanked by side-passages, 7 ft. wide, with 6-foot piers between. The length of the gate from north to south is now known to be 24 ft., and it has already been argued (above, p. 186) that the three passages were barrel-

vaulted, implying an upper storey.

A similar treatment can be observed on the massive blocks forming the north jamb of the east gate (pl. XIX b).

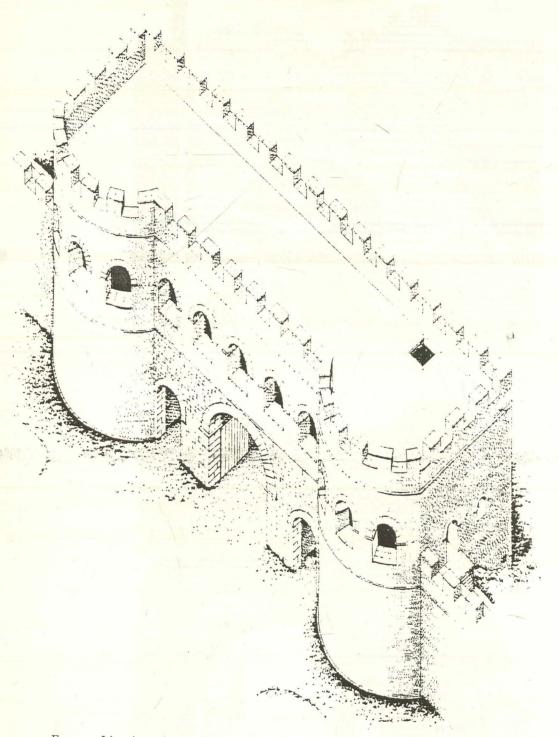
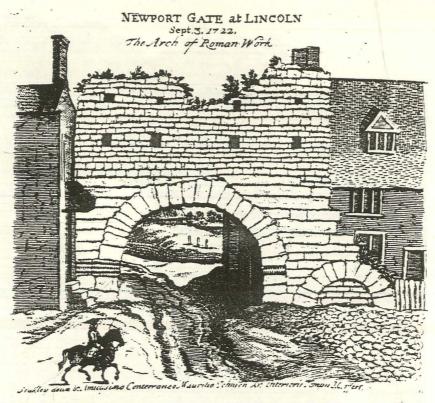


Fig. 23. Lincoln: suggested appearance of north gate of colonia in its final form.

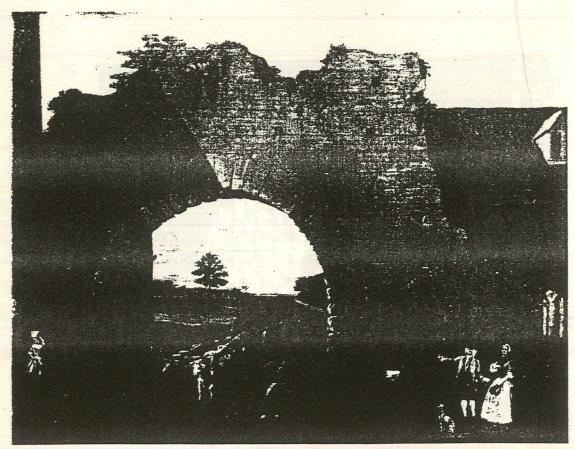
Drawn by David Neal.



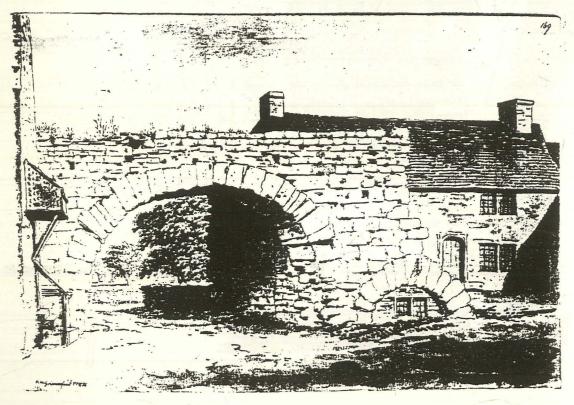
a. Stukeley's drawing of Newport Arch, 1722



b. Buck's drawing of Newport Arch, 1725/ Lincoln: north gate

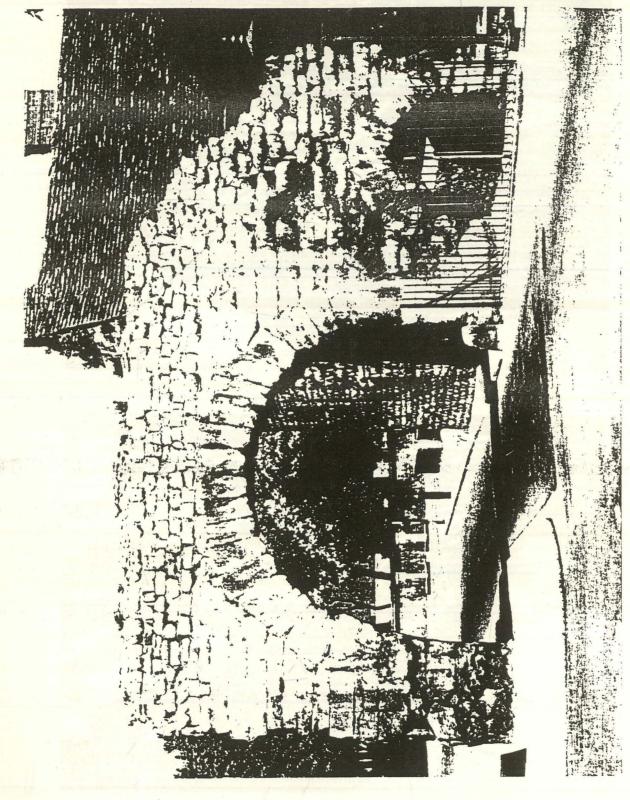


a. Newport Arch, by Sir Nathaniel Dance, c. 1780 (Usher Art Gallery, Lincoln)



b. Grimm's drawing of Newport Arch, 1784 (British Museum)

Lincoln: north gare



Newport Arch, Lincoln: view from south of the rear arch of the Roman north gate

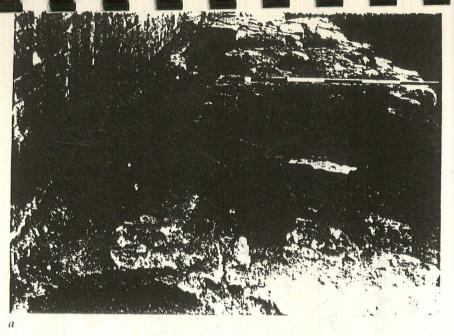


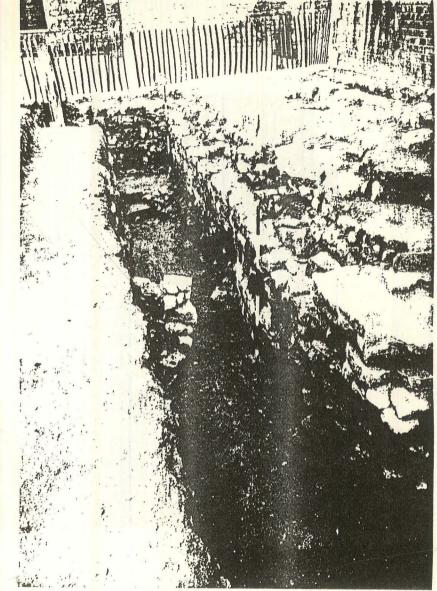
a. North-west angle of medieval foundation with Roman west tower behind



b. Curved front of Roman west tower beneath medieval face (looking west)

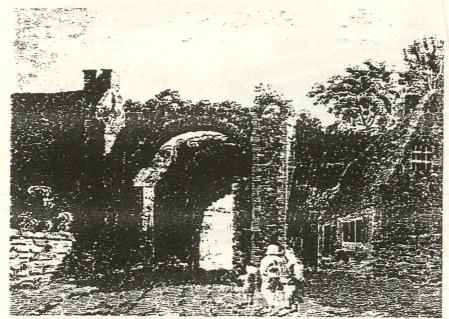
Lincoln: north gate excavation, 1954





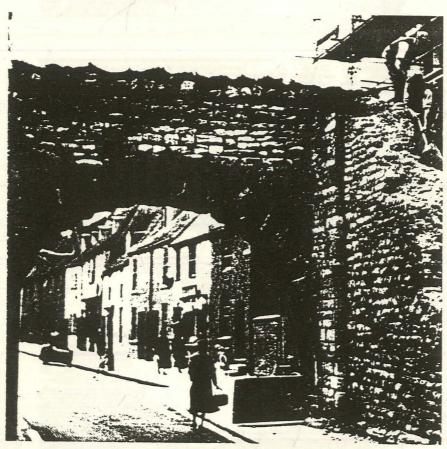
- a. Masonry of medieval tower, showing inner face to left (looking west)
- b. Outer face of medieval foundation (looking cast)

Lincoln: north gate excavation, 1954



(Print from drawing by R. D. Poilicy)

a. View from north of medieval gate

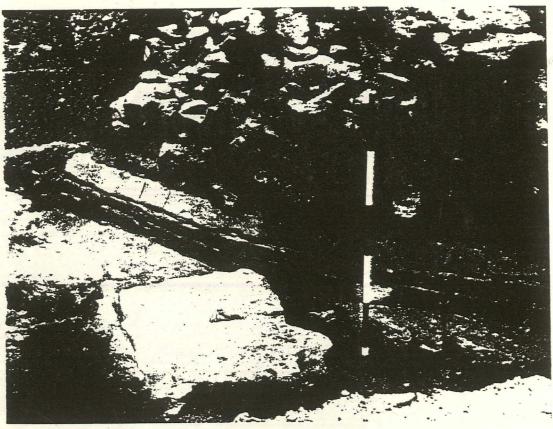


b. Medieval arch buttress (right) against north face of Roman Newport Arch

Lincoln: north gate

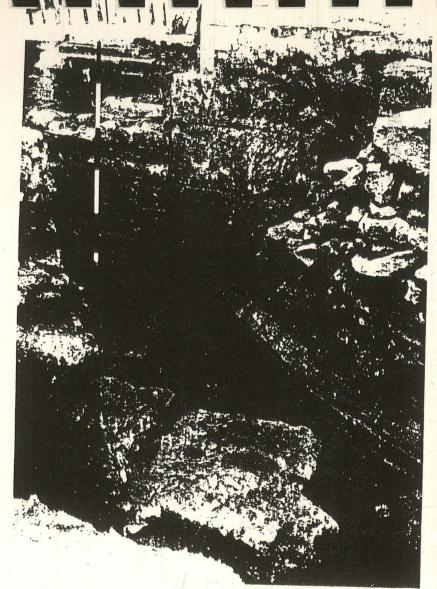


a. Junction of west tower and colonia wall (from north-west)

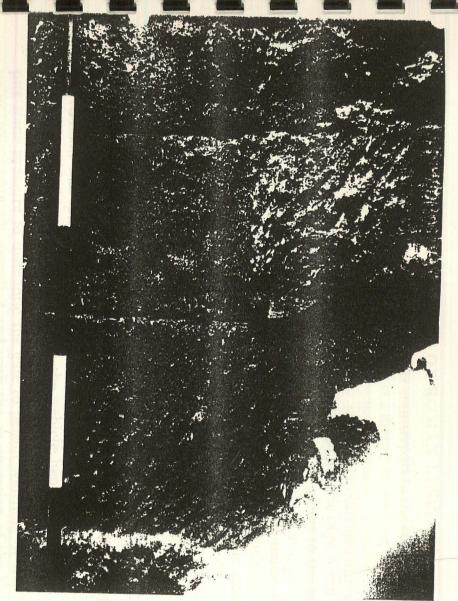


b. Roman west tower exposed beneath medieval foundation to east

Lincoln: north gate excavation, 1954



a. Junction of west tower with west jamb of side-passage (from north)



b. Detail of masonry of west jamb of side-passage

Lincoln; north gate excavation, 1954

The western tower (and presumably its counterpart to the east) is 26 ft. wide and its front is segmental in plan; the projection is a mere 7 ft. and the rear face of the gate is tangential to the circle of which the front forms a segment. There is little doubt that in their complete state both towers would have been structurally less impressive than their east-gate counterparts, projecting boldly in a full semicircle (figs. 8 and 9). The reason for the difference is almost certainly that the ditch lay closer to the wall at the north than at the east gate, but it could also be argued that the north gate was inferior in status, since otherwise an attempt would no doubt have been made, by filling in the inner edge of the ditch, to obtain a greater projection. Nevertheless, in its final state the north gate occupied a frontage of 96 ft., almost precisely the same as the southeast and north-west gates at Verulamium.¹

POSTSCRIPT2

Newport Arch

On 15th May 1964 disaster overtook the Newport Arch. At 11.30 p.m. a heavy vehicle carrying metal refrigerators packed with frozen food attempted to pass through the arch from the north and struck one of the voussoirs to the east of the arch-ring; the voussoir was split, so letting down the crown of the arch and the stonework of the upper part of the gate and trapping the vehicle beneath the arch. The accident occurred at the Whitsuntide weekend and great crowds assembled at the gate. Despite some pressure to dismantle the gate to permit widening of the roadway at this point, wiser counsels prevailed and with the co-operation of the City Council, the City Engineer (Mr. W. Struthers), and the Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments Works Superintendent (Mr. David Black), it was decided carefully to number and remove the stones necessary to release the vehicle and then to proceed with a reconstruction of the gate. On Whit Monday (18th May) dismantling was undertaken with the help of a tower crane and the van was freed at 6.30 p.m. A study was then made of the total damage to the gate and plans were prepared for the work of reconstruction. Detailed drawings were made from enlarged photographs and every stone in the south face of the gate was numbered. On examination the impact was found to be so severe that the whole arch-ring had been moved and it was necessary to take it down to the bottom two courses on the west side and on the east side to a point within 3 ft. of the roadway. The lower stones on the west side were in poor condition and were replaced by selected stones from a similar horizon of the Lincolnshire Limestone located in a local quarry. The detailed drawings made it possible to construct a timber 'former' around which the arch ring could be reconstructed. This timber support was delivered to the site on the 11th July and the work of rebuilding commenced. A tower crane was used and the frame was finally withdrawn on 25th July. The work was completed and the gate open to traffic on August Bank Holiday, 3rd August 1964 (the operation is illustrated in pls. XXXIV—XXXVI a).

On the suggestion of the Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments, red warning lights

R. E. M. and T. V. Wheeler, Verulamium, a Belgic 2 Kindly contributed by Mr. F. T. Baker. and Two Roman Cities (1936), pls. XXII and XXIII.

were built into the arch ring on the south and the gateway was floodlit from the north. Despite these precautions there was another serious impact involving a similar vehicle on 20th January 1965—the damage was mainly to the vehicle! It was then decided to construct a traffic island to the north of the gate and a modification of the approach road was undertaken by the City Council. The result of this work has been entirely satisfactory and no further damage has occurred. The work of reconstruction was undertaken by the City Engineer's Department and the cost was borne by the insurers of the vehicle. Tribute must be paid to the careful work of the stonemasons headed by Mr. W. Parker who was brought from retirement to supervise the work and thanks are due for professional advice and help from the technical staff of the Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments.

APPENDIX VI



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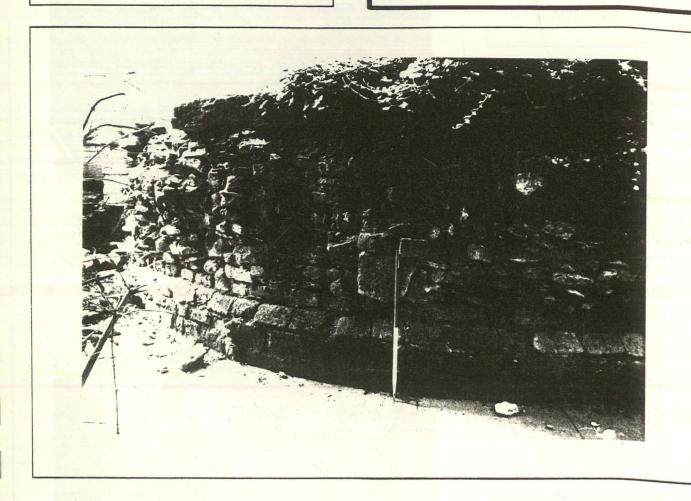
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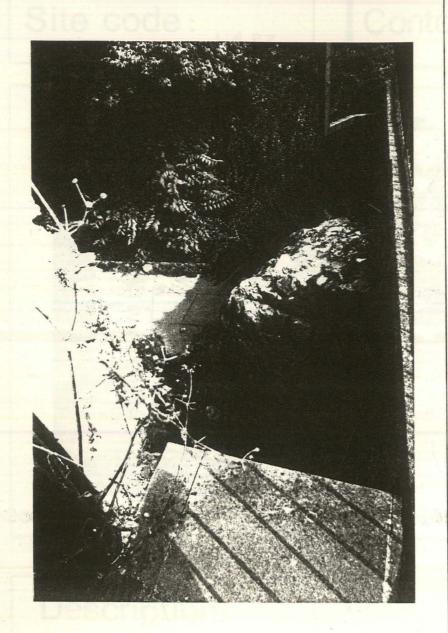
Context No:



Description:

Direction: LOOKING SOUTH

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Site code:

NA 93

Context No:

Direction:

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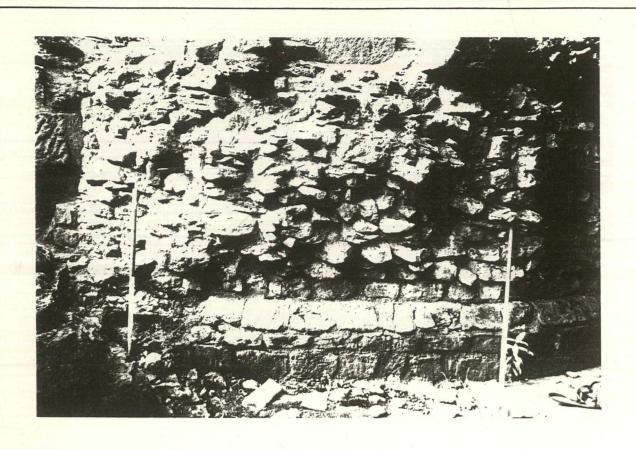
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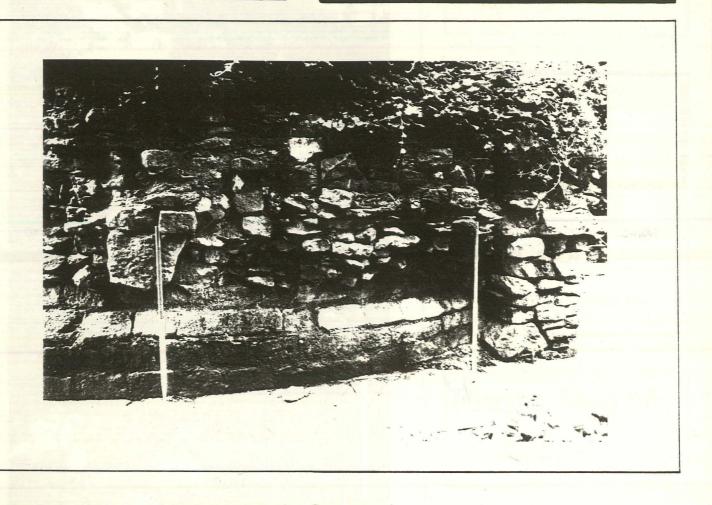
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Direction: LOOKING SW

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Site code: NA 93

Context No:



Description:

Direction: LOOKING SOUTH

Photo Neg No:35/1/9



Site code:

NA 93

Context No:

Direction:

LOOKING SOUTH

Photo Neg No:

35/2/7

Description:

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• MEWPORT, BASTION

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Date Photograph Taken: 7.1.96





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CLAU REPORT

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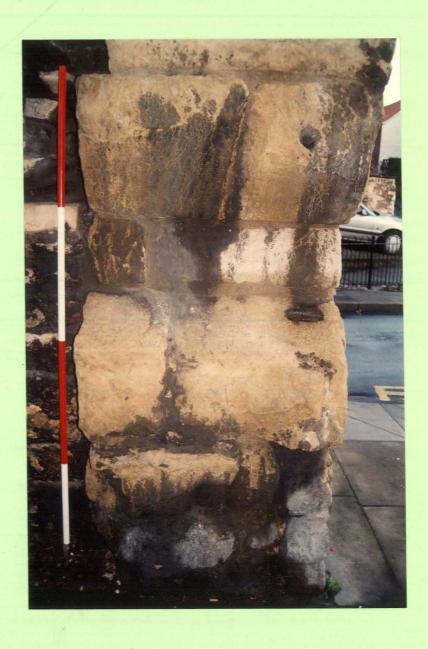
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222

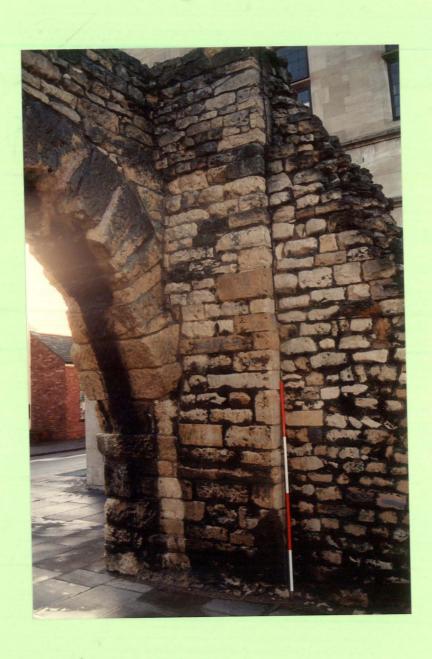
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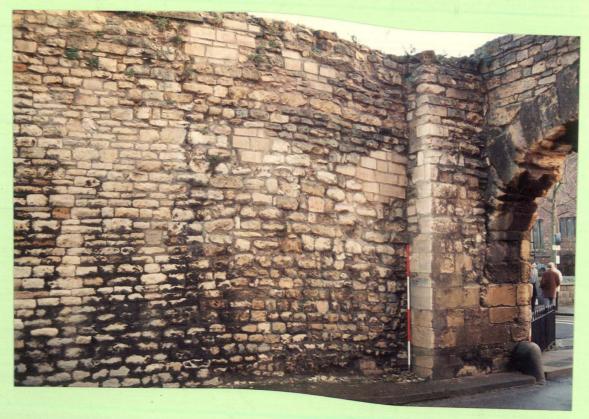
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CLAU REPORT

222





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E. FACING ELEV.

• MA PATH - AREA BETWEEN

S. FACING ARCH & TUNNEL

File Reference: CLAUREFORT 222

ate Photograph Taken: 9.1.96





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FACING ELEVS.

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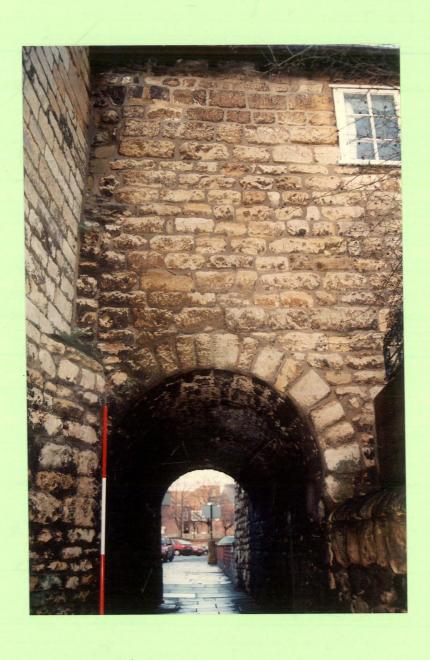


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AT TUNNEL

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CLAUREPORT
222

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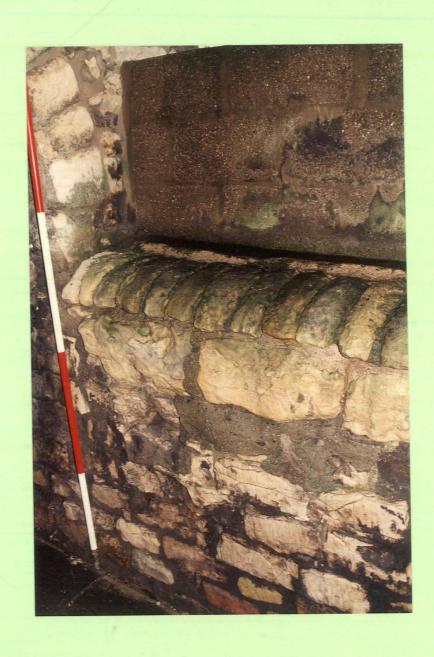


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Subject: NA PATH - DETAIL OF
W. FACING INTERNAL
WALL

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W. FACING INTERNAL
CLAU REPORT
222



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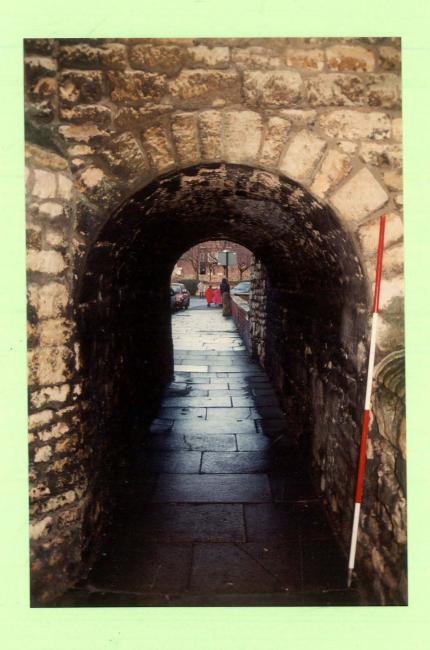


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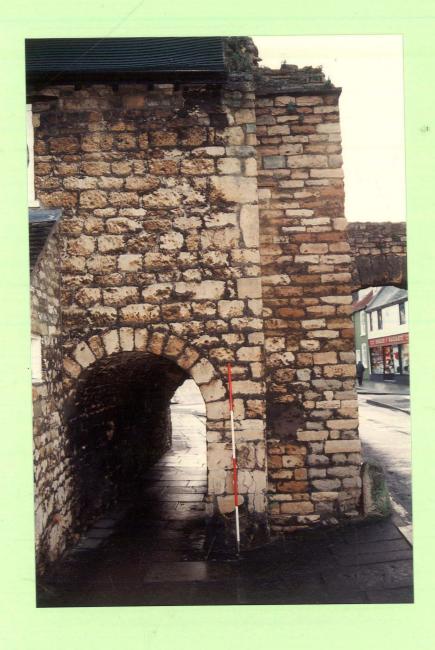


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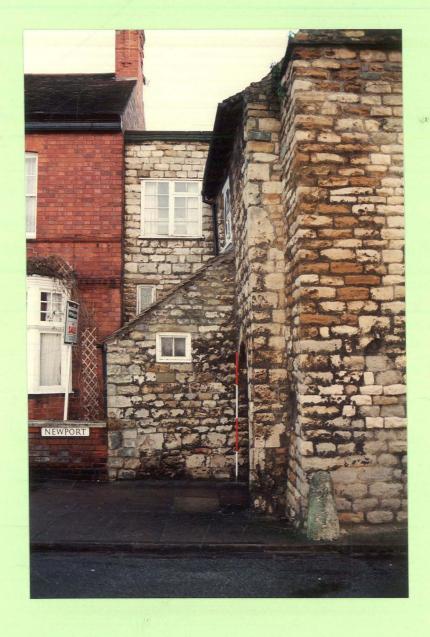
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File Reference:

222

ate Photograph Taken: 9.1.96



Address:

Subject: • NA - DETAIL OF S.
FACING ELEV. IT FROM
OF MRS D'S

ate Photograph Taken: 9.1.96

Time Photograph Taken: PM

Time Photograph Taken: PM



