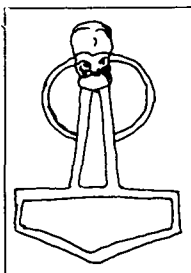


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***JERVAULX ABBEY CAR PARK:***

***PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT***

***ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF***

**ALISON CLARKE**

**JUNE 1993**

**ON**

## JERVAULX ABBEY CAR PARK CONSERVATORY WATCHING BRIEF

### INTRODUCTION

In the course of improvements to the facilities offered at Jervaulx Abbey, planning permission was sought to build a conservatory onto the side of existing outbuildings near the abbey, for use as a restaurant. Permission was granted subject to an archaeological watching brief on ground disturbance work for the conservatory. This was carried out on Friday 21st May 1993.

The existing buildings, themselves not more than 40 years old, lie to the west of the abbey, at the western edge of the abbey carpark which fronts onto the A6108, at NGR SE 1682 8570 (see plan 1). They are at present unused, and consist of single storey stone buildings in an L-shape (see plan 2). The proposed extension consists of a south facing conservatory style building in the corner of the L shape.

### THE WATCHING BRIEF

A small machine was used to excavate foundation trenches approximately 50 cm wide and up to 75 cm in depth (see plan 2).

Foundation trench A (see plan 2), running north-south, contained large stones, fairly tightly packed but not coursed, next to the existing wall to the north, at a depth of c 50 cm. The rest of the trench was composed of dark soil containing many flower pot fragments overlying pale orange clay. The dark soil with flower pot fragments continued into Foundation trench B, running east-west.

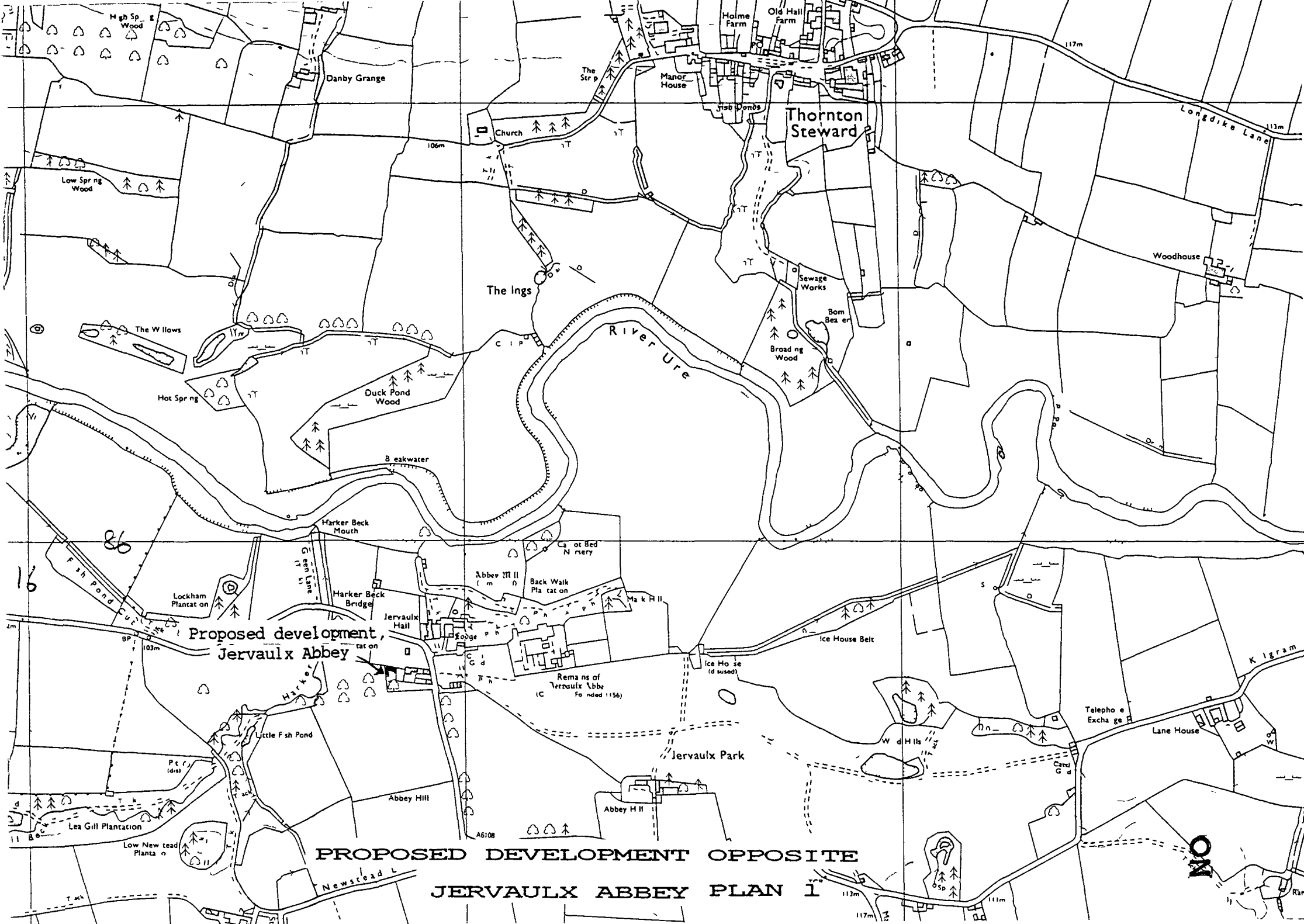
At both ends of Foundation trench C (see plan 2) were concentrations of stones and mortar with some brick fragments. Land drains also crossed C in several places. The underlying clay here was a pale yellow brown.

Foundation trench D ran along the line of a former stone wall, the foundation stones of which were removed by the machine. The stones were large dressed stone lying from c 20 cm below the surface, which ran right up to and abutted the existing wall to the north. Approximately 3.5 m from the existing wall, a stone lined culvert carrying a stream ran east-west across Foundation trench D at a depth of c 75 cm. This ran below the foundations of the former wall, apparently from west to east. It was previously unknown and did not connect in to any of the known water supplies in the vicinity.

## CONCLUSIONS

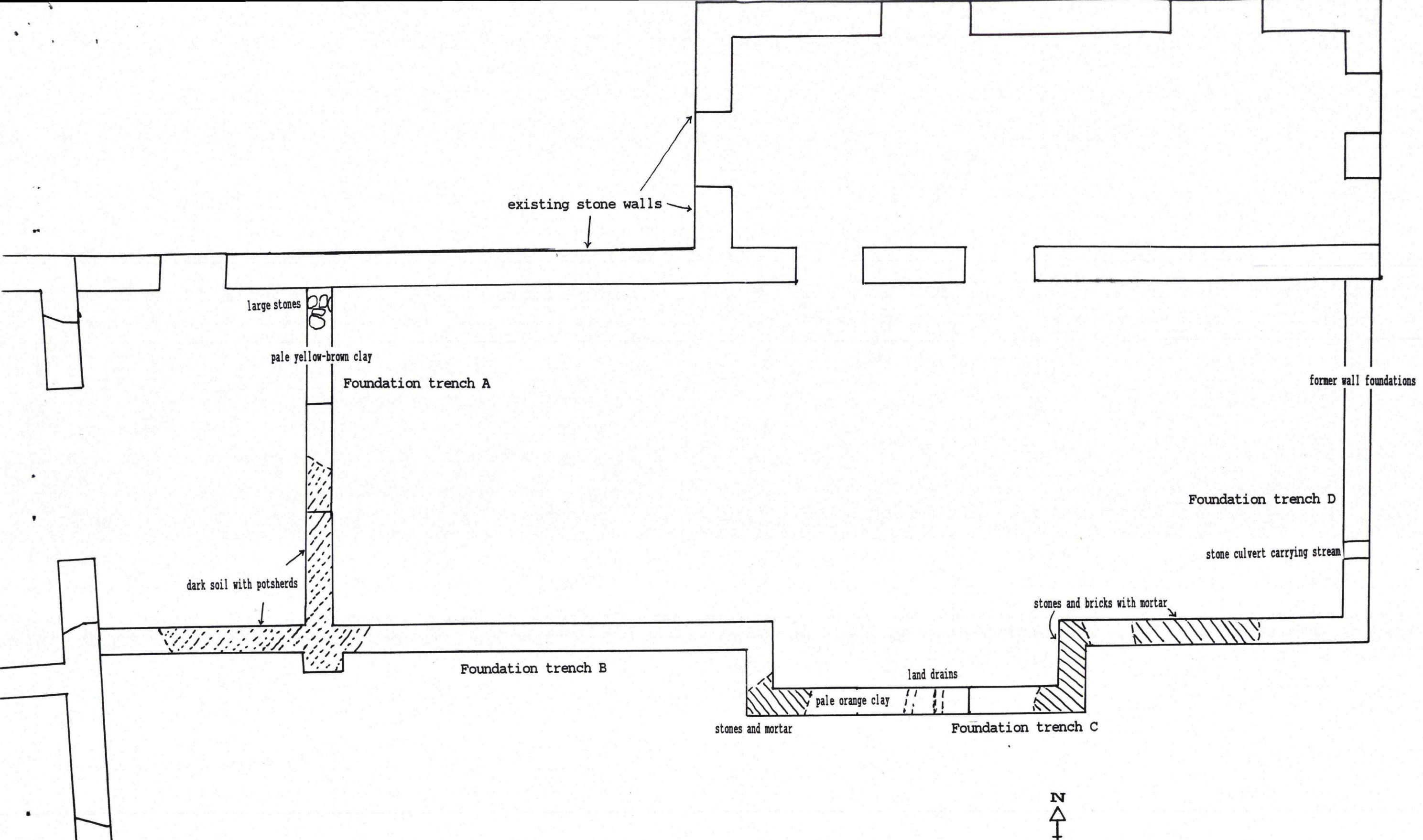
No pottery other than modern plant pots was recovered, and the whole area seems to have been thoroughly disturbed in modern times. Part of it was certainly in use as a garden area. The pre-existing wall at Foundation trench D was undated, but was similar in style to the walls of the existing buildings to the north. It was probably contemporary or later. The area of the development was part of a small garth prior to the existence of the car park, and was probably part of the kitchen garden area associated with Jervaulx Hall which still survives in an overgrown state to the north of the existing buildings.

The shallowness of the excavations may mean that there are archaeological deposits as yet undisturbed, but the uncertain drainage of the area, with ground water and streams close to the surface, make this more unlikely.



**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OPPOSITE  
JERVAULX ABBEY PLAN I**

**NO**



existing stone walls

large stones

pale yellow-brown clay

Foundation trench A

dark soil with potsherds

Foundation trench B

stones and mortar

pale orange clay

land drains

Foundation trench C

stones and bricks with mortar

Foundation trench D

stone culvert carrying stream

former wall foundations

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OPPOSITE  
JERVAULX ABBEY PLAN 2

SCALE 1:50

