

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING
AND RECORDING:**

LAND ADJACENT TO 417 HIGH STREET, LINCOLN, LN5 8HX

NGR: SK 9724 7013
Planning Authority: City of Lincoln Council
Planning ref.: 2012/0478/F
PCAS Job No.: 972
Site code: LHSM 12
Archive acc. code: 2012.187

Report prepared for

Mr. S. Hanks

on behalf of

Flarevisual Architecture

by

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Pl. 1: Trench 1 (north footings trench).

Pl. 2: Trench 2 (west footings trench).

Pl. 3: General shot of site.

Summary

Archaeological monitoring and recording took place during an extension to 417 High Street, Lincoln, LN5 8NW. The development site is located on the east side of the High Street in the south of Lincoln City. It lies within the City's Newark Road Character Area, but not within any of the City's Conservation Areas, centred on NGR: SK 9724 7013.

The lower High Street follows the route of the 'Fosse Way' a Roman military road [60-90AD], and the site lies within the area of an early cemetery. During the Medieval era there were houses situated along the current line of the High Street, which has remained occupied into the modern era. Part of the site was beneath the embankment of the Lincoln avoiding railway line constructed in 1882. This site is part of the St Botolph character area, and The Lincoln Archaeological Research Assessment (LARA) has classified it as having research potential dating from the Prehistoric period to the Industrial era.

No features of archaeological significance were found during the monitoring, although a small assemblage of finds was retrieved from two contexts, including pottery, tile and bone. The earliest find was a fragment of medieval tile. Other finds were all post medieval in date.



Figure 1: Location plan of the site at scale 1:25,000: the position of the site is shown in red (OS mapping © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. PCAS licence no. 100049278).

1.0 Introduction

Mr S. Hanks, acting on behalf of Flarevisual Architecture, received a conditional Grant of Planning Permission for a single storey extension to 417 High Street, Lincoln, LN5 8NW (City of Lincoln Council Planning Application No.: 2012/0478/F).

Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd., were commissioned to undertake a scheme of Archaeological Monitoring at the site in accordance with advice issued by the CoLC's Heritage Team, following current best practice and appropriate national guidelines.

2.0 Site location and description (figs. 1 & 2)

The development site is located at 417 High Street in the south of Lincoln City, centred on NGR: SK 9724 7013 (Fig. 1). It is bordered to the west by the High Street; to the east by residential properties on Smith Street; to the north by adjacent retail properties; and to the south by Smith Street. The works will extend an existing 19th century two-storey retail property.

3.0 Geology and topography

The BGS shows the solid geology underlying this area as Undifferentiated Scunthorpe Mudstone and Charmouth Mudstone Formations. This is a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 190 to 210 million years ago, during the Jurassic and Triassic Periods in a local environment previously dominated by shallow lime-mud seas (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/>). The superficial (drift) deposits recorded in the area are Quaternary River Terrace Sand and Gravel Deposits.

Topographically the site is on fairly level ground, between the 5m and 10m contours. It is within the St Botolph Character Area, and within designated Conservation Area 5 (Gowt's Bridge). High Street follows the line of the Fosse Way, a Roman military road that formed the main connection between Roman Lincoln and Leicester. The high street is of standard modern construction; tarmacadam surfaces with concrete flag footpaths. (CLC 2009)

4.0 Planning background and heritage designations

On 12-09-2012, a planning application was registered with City of Lincoln Council by Mr S. Hanks, acting on behalf of Flarevisual Architecture, for a '*single storey front extension*' (Planning Application No.: 2012/0478/F).

On 07-11-2012, City of Lincoln Council granted full conditional planning permission for the proposed development. Two archaeological conditions attached to the Grant of Planning Permission stated:

6. No development shall take place within the application area until the applicant has secured the implementation of an appropriate programme of archaeological work in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which has been submitted to and approved by the City of Lincoln Council as Local Planning Authority. The development shall be undertaken only in full accordance with the approved WSI. No variation shall take place without the prior written consent of the Local Planning Authority.

Reason. To ensure the preparation and implementation of an appropriate scheme of archaeological mitigation.

7. The applicant shall notify the Local Planning Authority of the intention to commence all works at least 7 days before commencement. Thereafter, the programme of archaeological work shall be completed in accordance with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), including any necessary fieldwork, post-excavation analysis, report writing and archive deposition, as detailed in the approved scheme. The report shall be prepared and deposited with the City Council's Heritage Team within the LPA and the Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record, within six months of completion of the archaeological works. The archive shall be deposited with The Collection (Lincolnshire Museums) within twelve months of the completion of site works. No variation shall take place without prior written consent of the LPA.

Reason. To ensure satisfactory archaeological investigation and recording.

The Lincoln Townscape Assessment project (2005-2009) characterised the entire City of Lincoln Council authority area, developing and applying a new method for urban characterisation in the process. The site lies within the City's St Botolph Character Area (<http://www.lincoln.gov.uk/>). This character area is dominated by High Street, development is mixed Late Victorian/Edwardian buildings and modern buildings, many of which are converted for retail use. Buildings are generally two or three storeys and front onto the High Street. (<http://www.lincoln.gov.uk/>).

5.0 Archaeological and historical background

- During the prehistoric period the site probably lay within wetlands associated with the River Witham. Sporadic finds of early prehistoric worked flints have been made in Lincoln, with most prehistoric material retrieved from the low-lying land near to the river (Jones et al. 2003).
- During the Roman period, the site lay on the east side of the 'Fosse Way', a Roman Military road that joined with Ermine Street, north of the Newark Road Character Area to provide the main southerly access route into the Roman fort and later Colonia [90-410 BC], (<http://www.lincoln.gov.uk/>).
- It is suspected that there would have been an early Roman fort in this area, LARA Record Number 6.1 (heritageconnectlincoln.com). This area has been associated with an early Roman cemetery. During the later Roman period the area was part of a commercial suburb, with the remains of at least sixteen traders houses nearby (Wragg 1996).
- There is evidence of Late Saxon occupation near this site - several fragments of Saxon pottery were discovered at 5 Dixon Street during a watching brief (Jarvis 2007).
- During the Medieval era the area was reoccupied as the parish of Holy Cross in Wigford. This area was characterised by a huge funnel-shaped market with houses along the east and west sides. The site is in Lower Wigford, south of Great Gowt. Here, residences were more concentrated close to the Gowt. Documentary evidence indicates a tannery nearby in the parish of St Margaret's in Wigford, and it is possible that Lower Wigford was an industrial area. It is perhaps significant that only one 12-13th century high status residences in Wigford was south of the Gowt in the Parish of Holy Cross.

- Nearby Gowt's Bridge was a 20th century replacement of an 1813 bridge. These crossings were spanned by stone bridges as early as 1722. Much rebuilding of the High Street took place in the 18th century, where industry in the area included tanning and milling, although this was generally close to the river (CLC 2012).
- Most of the expansion of housing in this area took place in the second half of the 19th century, including the construction of the building currently standing at 417 High Street, which was a residential property. Many of the High Street properties were converted to retail in the 19th century as a result of industrial growth (CLC 2012).
- The north of the site was bordered by the embankment for the Lincoln avoidance railway, constructed in 1882. The bridge was removed in 1987 and a new residential/retail building was constructed in 1996. Archaeological monitoring of this development recorded undated linear features, possibly extending into the proposed site at 417 High Street (Wragg 1996).

6.0 Aims and methodology

The specific aims of this scheme of archaeological monitoring and recording were:

- To identify and record all archaeological features and artefacts exposed by the development works;
- To determine their form and function;
- To recover stratified dating evidence;
- To establish the sequence of archaeological remains on the site;
- To interpret the archaeological remains in the context of known archaeological remains in the vicinity.

The methodology for the scheme had been fully set out in a WSI that had been approved by CoLC in advance.

7.0 Results (see figs 3 and 4 for trench sections and Appendix 1 for plates)

Excavations at site commenced 15th January 2013. A mini-digger with a small toothless bucket was initially used to excavate foundation trenches for the extension. However, due to the high volume of services present, it was decided that it would be safer to dig by hand. The site itself had been levelled and lowered by 0.3m below existing ground level prior to the archaeologist's arrival.

Whilst being monitored two trenches for the footings were excavated. These were trench 1, which orientated W-E and trench 2, which orientated N-S. Both were 0.7m wide. Trench 1 was 1.2m deep, whilst trench 2 was 0.94m deep.

Trench 1 exposed a stratigraphic sequence as follows (also see **Appendix 2** and **Plate 1**):

(100): Modern concrete apron and orange sand/rubble make-up. 0.25m thick.

(101): A Yorkstone flagstone surface to N of shop. 0.05m thick. Most likely a modern yard surface.

(102): light yellow medium sand; the bedding for (101); 0.08m thick.

(103): Mid grey silty sand with occasional mortar flecks; 0.35m thick. Contained pottery fragments.

(104): Mottled yellowish grey thin sandy layer; possible construction level of building, up to 0.05m thick and same as (204).

(105): Dark grey sandy silt with patches of dark coarse sand containing fragments of tile and animal bone; most likely a buried soil, 0.38m thick. Same as (205)..

(106): Mottled mid orange/brown coarse sand with occasional mortar chunks and pebbles, incorporating fragments of tile and animal bone. Extended below trench depth.. Same as (206).

Trench 2 exposed a stratigraphic sequence as follows (also see **Appendix 2** and **Plate 2**)

(200): same as (100), up to 0.32m thick.

(203): same as (103), up to 0.4m thick.

(204): same as (104), up to 0.05m thick.

(205): same as (105), up to 0.36m thick.

(206): same as (106); only observed at base of trench.

The pottery recovered was all dated between the 16th and 18th century, whilst the tile was late 12th to 15th century. A total of 4 refitted fragments of animal bone were recovered, with chop marks being noted on the large mammal rib recovered from (106); consistent with jointing/disarticulation of the carcass.

The groundworks were completed in one day and no further monitoring was required on site.

8.0 Conclusion

No evidence was recovered to indicate that deposits of significant archaeological potential were impacted by the development groundworks. This does not suggest that no archaeology is present in this area, only that the excavations were not deep enough to penetrate such archaeology (effectively, preserving it *in situ*).

9.0 Effectiveness of methodology

The methodology employed during this project achieved its primary objective, ensuring that the archaeological remains present on the site were not destroyed unrecorded, while causing the minimum of disruption to the construction process.

10.0 Acknowledgements

PCAS Ltd would like to thank Mr. Steve Hanks, on behalf of Flarevisual for this commission.

11.0 Site Archive

The project archive is currently held at the offices of PCAS Ltd. in Saxilby, Lincolnshire while being prepared for deposition, and will be deposited with the Lincoln City and County Museum ('The Collection'), with the exception of the finds, which are to be discarded.

12.0 Bibliography

BGS: British Geological Survey. 1973. *Sheet 114, Lincoln.1:50,000 Provisional Series*. Keyworth, Nottingham.

City of Lincoln Council. January 2009. *Lincoln Townscape Assessment. Newark Road Inherited Character Area Statement*.

City of Lincoln Council. 2012. *Conservation Area 5 Appraisal*.

Jarvis, M., 2007, *5 Dixon Street Lincoln Archaeological Recording*. Mike Jarvis Archaeological Services

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Lincolnshire County Council. June 2012. *Archaeology Handbook. Revised 2012*. LCC.

Wragg, K., 1996 *Land Between 416-417 High Street Lincoln Archaeological Watching Brief CLAU Archaeological report No 259* City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit

Appendix 1 – Colour Plates



Plate 1: Trench 1. Looking NW.

Plate 2: Shot of Trench 2. Looking SW.



Plate 3: General shot of site. Looking SW.

Appendix 2 – Context register

Context No.	Type	Description	Finds/Dating
Trench 1			
100	Layer	Modern concrete apron and orange sand/rubble make-up. 0.25m thick.	None
101	Structure	Yorkstone flagstone surface located to north of shop. Most likely a modern yard surface. 0.05m thick.	None
102	Layer	Light yellow medium sand. Probably the setting for the flagstone surface (101). 0.08m thick.	None
103	Layer	Mid grey silty sand, containing occasional mortar flecks. 0.35m thick.	Pot
104	Layer	Mottled yellowish grey thin sandy layer. Possibly construction level of building. 0.05m thick.	None
105	Layer	Dark grey sandy silt with occasional patches of coarse sand. A buried soil. 0.38m thick.	Tile and animal bone
106	Layer	Mottled mid orange/brown coarse sand with occasional mortar chunks and rounded pebbles. Only revealed in plan, goes beyond trench depth.	Tile and animal bone
Trench 2			
200	Layer	Same as (100). 0.32m thick.	
203	Layer	Same as (103). 0.4m thick.	
204	Layer	Same as (104). 0.03m thick.	
205	Layer	Same as (105). 0.36m thick.	
206	Layer	Same as (106). Only revealed in plan, goes beyond trench depth.	

Land Adjacent to 417 High Street, Lincoln, Lincolnshire (LHSM12)

THE CERAMIC FINDS

Dr Anne Irving

THE POTTERY

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001) and to conform to Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook*. The pottery codenames (Cname) are in accordance with the pottery type series for Lincolnshire, as published in Young *et al.* (2005). A total of two sherds from two vessels, weighing 56 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Table 1. The pottery dates to the post-medieval period

Results

Table 1, Pottery Archive

Cxt	Cname	Full name	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Part	Description	Date
103	BL	Blackware	Jar	1	1	25	BS		16th to 17th
103	LERTH	Late Earthenware	Jar/ bowl	1	1	32	Base	Knife trimmed	16th to 18th

Potential

The sherds are stable and suitable for long-term storage. No further work is required on the assemblage.

THE CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the ACBMG (2001) and to conform to Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook*. A total of three fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 155 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments were counted and weighed within each context. The ceramic building material was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the ceramic building material is included in Table 2.

Results

Table 2, Ceramic Building Material Archive

Cxt	Cname	Fabric	Full name	NoF	W (g)	Description	Date
105	PNR	Shale	Peg, nib or ridge tile	1	35	Flate roofer	Late 12th to 15th
106	PNR	Sand	Peg, nib or ridge tile	1	24	Flat roofer	14th to 15th
106	PNR	Dull oxidised; fe + shale	Peg, nib or ridge tile	1	96	Flat roofer; abraded	Late 12th to 15th

Potential

The fragments are stable and suitable for long-term storage. No further work is required on the assemblage.

SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 3 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 3, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
103	16th to 18th	
105	Late 12th to 15th	Date on a single fragment of CBM
106	14th to 15th	Date on CBM

ABBREVIATIONS

ACBMG	Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group	NoF	Number of Fragments
		NoS	Number of sherds
BS	Body sherd	NoV	Number of vessels
CBM	Ceramic Building Material	TR	Trench
CXT	Context	UHJ	Upper Handle Join
LHJ	Lower Handle Join	W (g)	Weight (grams)

REFERENCES

- ~ 2001, *Draft Minimum Standards for the Recovery, Analysis and Publication of Ceramic Building Material*, third version [internet]. Available from <<http://www.geocities.com/acbmg1/CBMGDE3.htm>>
- ~ 2010, *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* [internet]. Available at <<http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/section.asp?catId=3155>>
- Slowikowski, A. M., Nenck, B., and Pearce, J., 2001, *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2
- Young, J., Vince, A.G. and Nailor, V., 2005, *A Corpus of Saxon and Medieval Pottery from Lincoln* (Oxford)

**Land Adjacent to 417 High Street,
Lincoln (LHSM 12)**
The Animal Bone
By Jennifer Wood

Introduction

A total of 4 (176g) refitted fragments of animal bone were recovered by hand during archaeological works undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Services Ltd at land adjacent to 417 High Street, Lincoln. The remains were recovered from deposits (105) and (106).

Results

The remains were generally of a good overall condition, averaging at grade 2 on the Lyman criteria (1996).

Chop marks were noted on the large mammal rib recovered from (106), the butchery evidence was consistent with jointing/disarticulation of the carcass.

No evidence of pathology, burning or gnawing was noted on the remains.

Table 1, Summary of Identified Bone

Context	Taxon	Element	Side	Number	Weight	Comments
105	Large Mammal Size	Skull- Frontal	B	1	10	Broken into two pieces, probably cattle
106	Large Mammal Size	Rib	L	1	14	Chopped and snapped through the midblade
	Cattle	Skull-frontal	L	1	129	+ horncore
	Cattle	Horncore	R	1	23	Smaller than above

As can be seen, cattle are the most predominant species identified within the assemblage; the remaining assemblage was unidentifiable beyond size category.

The assemblage is too small to provide meaningful information on animal husbandry and utilisation on site, save the presence/use of the animals on site. The observed remains appear to represent fairly typical butchery refuse. Due to the presence of two horncores from two different animals, it is possible that these could represent hornworking waste.

References

Lyman, R L, 1996 *Vertebrate Taphonomy*, Cambridge Manuals in Archaeology, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge

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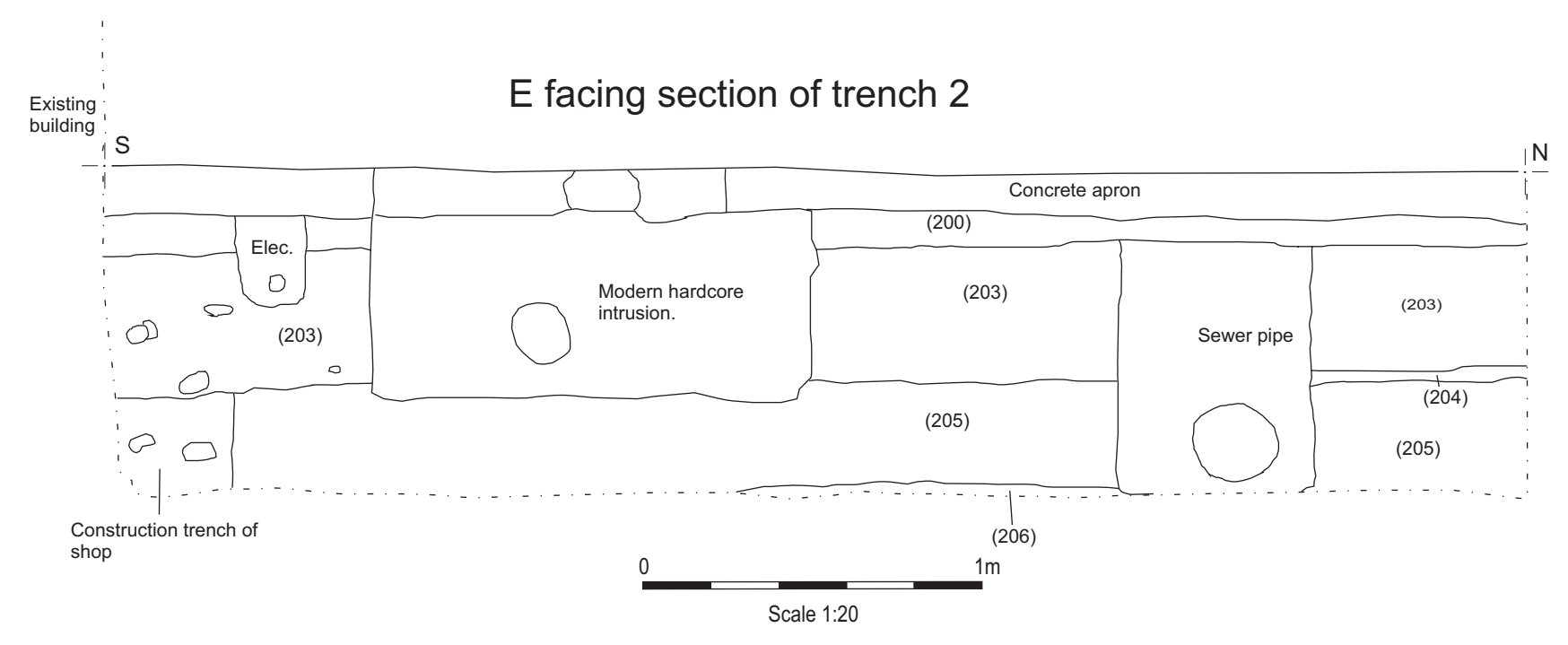
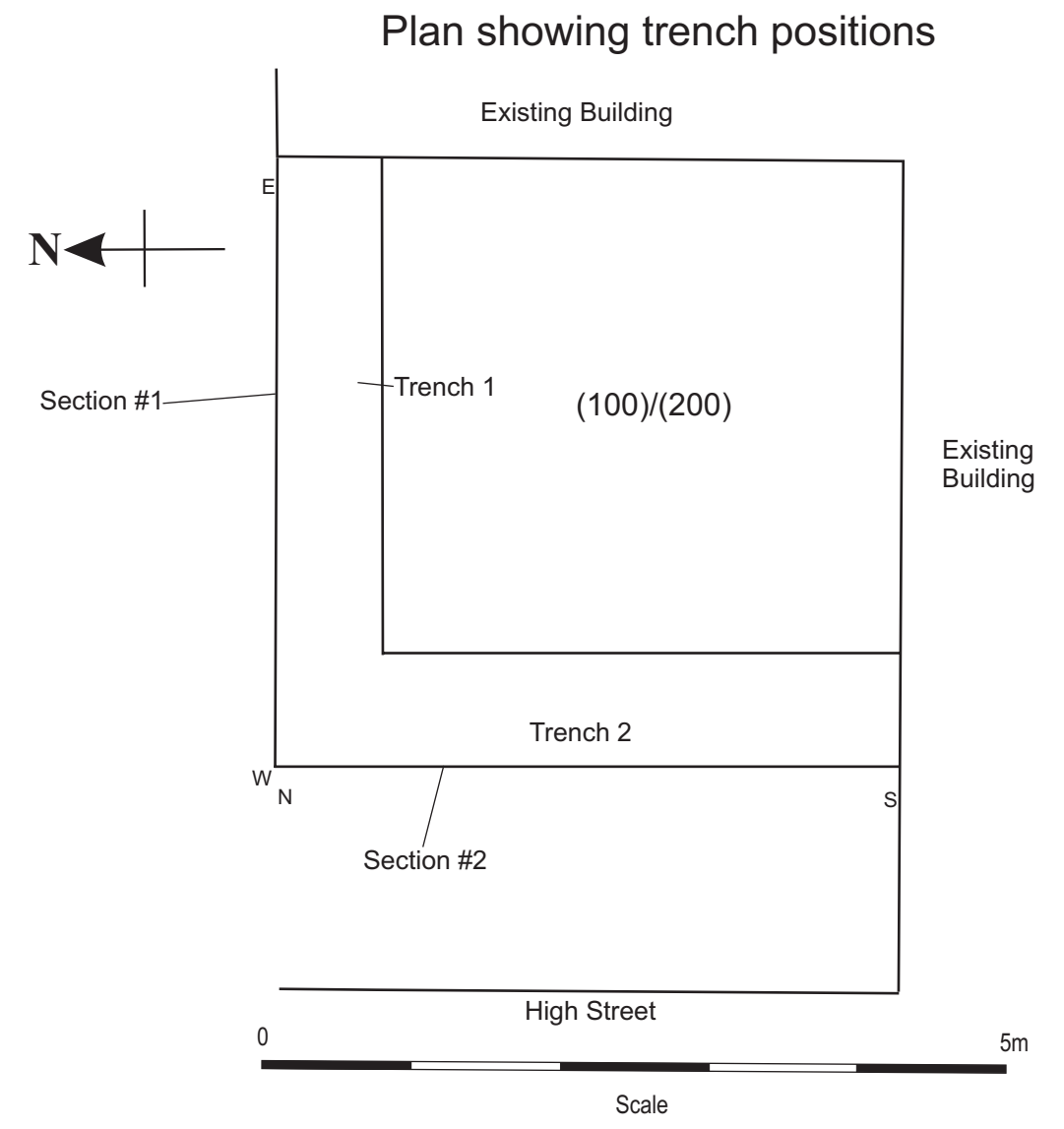
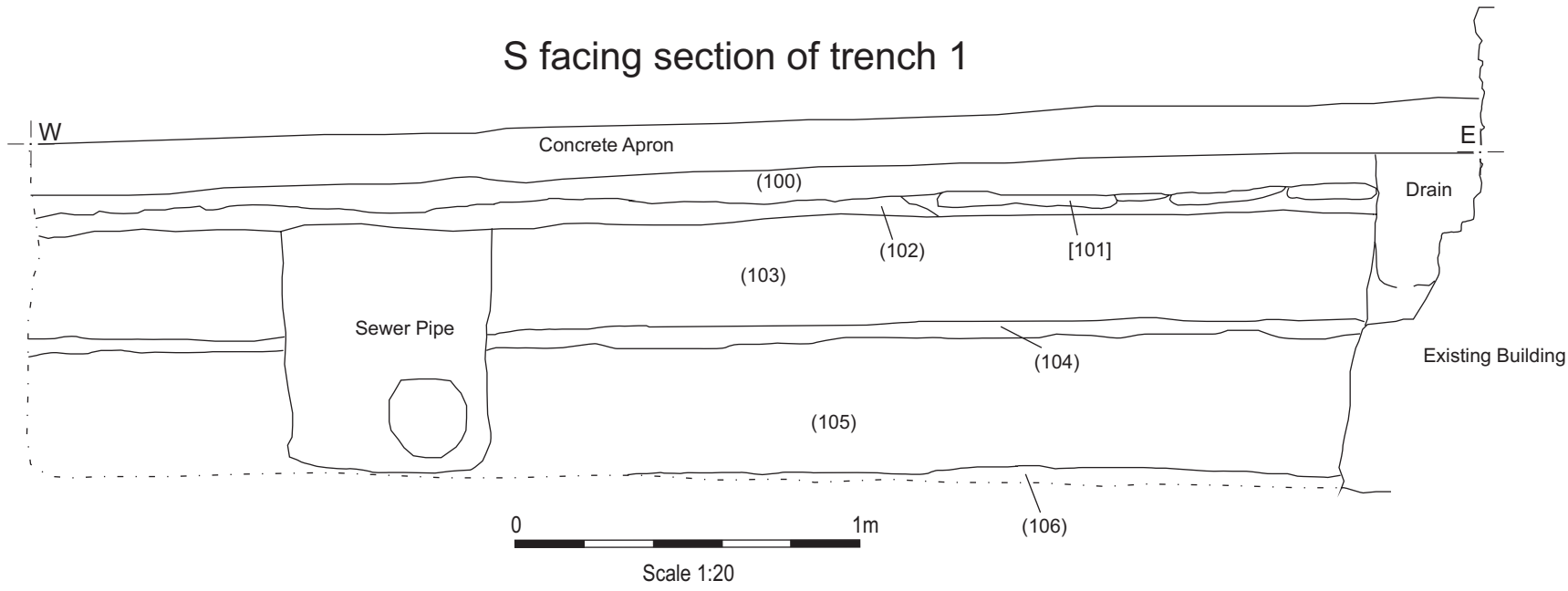


Figure 2, 3 and 4: Plan (1:50) and sections (1:20) of Trench 1 and 2.