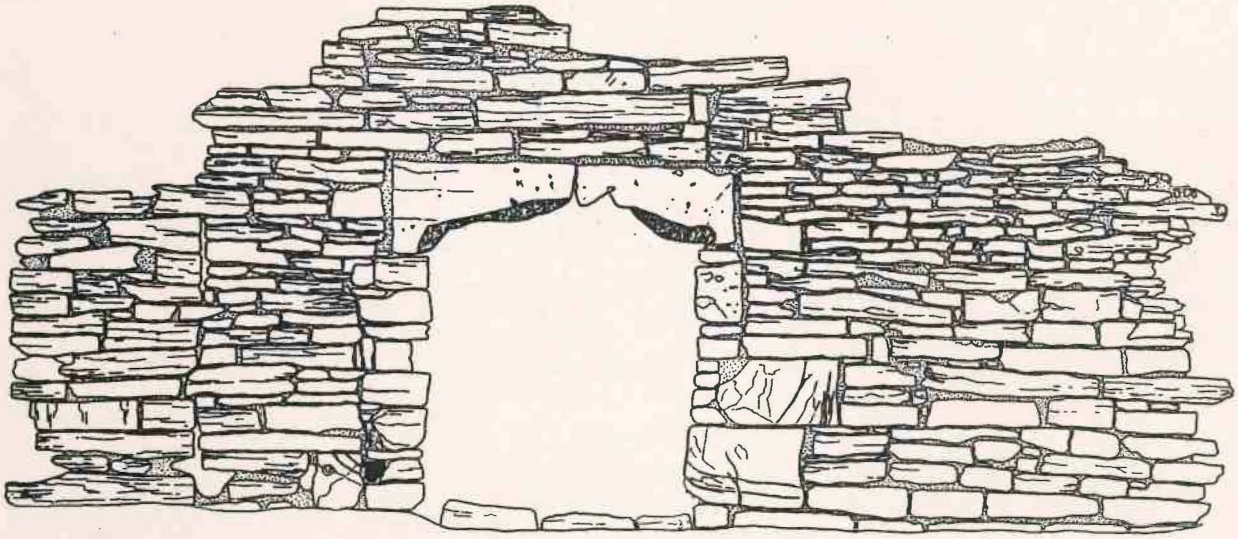
# ARCHAEOLOGY IN SOUTH YORKSHIRE

# 1990 - 1991



Elevation of south wall of cruck building, Sheffield Manor

A REVIEW OF THE WORK OF THE SOUTH YORKSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT

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# 1990 - 1991

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ISBN 0-86321-152-6

Paper supplied and printed by Paperback north on recycled paper

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## Foreword

Following the success of the South Yorkshire Archaeology Unit's 1st Annual Review 1989-90, it is a pleasure to introduce the 1990-91 publication. The Unit has clearly built on the successes of the previous years work which reflects the growing interest in, and the importance of archaeology both within South Yorkshire and at a national level.

Through this increased awareness the recognition given to the consideration of sites and monuments within the planning system has been realised resulting in full integration with the development control process of the four Metropolitan Borough Planning Authorities. With the appointment of the Sites and Monuments Record Assistant both English Heritage as a major grant provider and the four district authorities have recognised the importance of this work.

A recent visit by myself to the Unit's offices at Ellin Street enabled me to appreciate the variety of tasks and responsibilities undertaken by the Unit. This extends from the initial comments on planning applications to the specialist analyses of medieval pottery recovered during excavations prior to the development of sites.

At this stage in the financial year, it is pertinent to note that there has been a continuous programme of excavations and surveys resulting from the monitoring of planning applications.

The value of the Unit's work in helping to protect the historic and prehistoric landscapes of South Yorkshire has never been greater as modern development increases its pressure on this valuable resource.

COUNCILLOR ROBIN NORBURY (Barnsley MBC)
Chairman. South Yorkshire Joint Archaeology Committee
October 1991

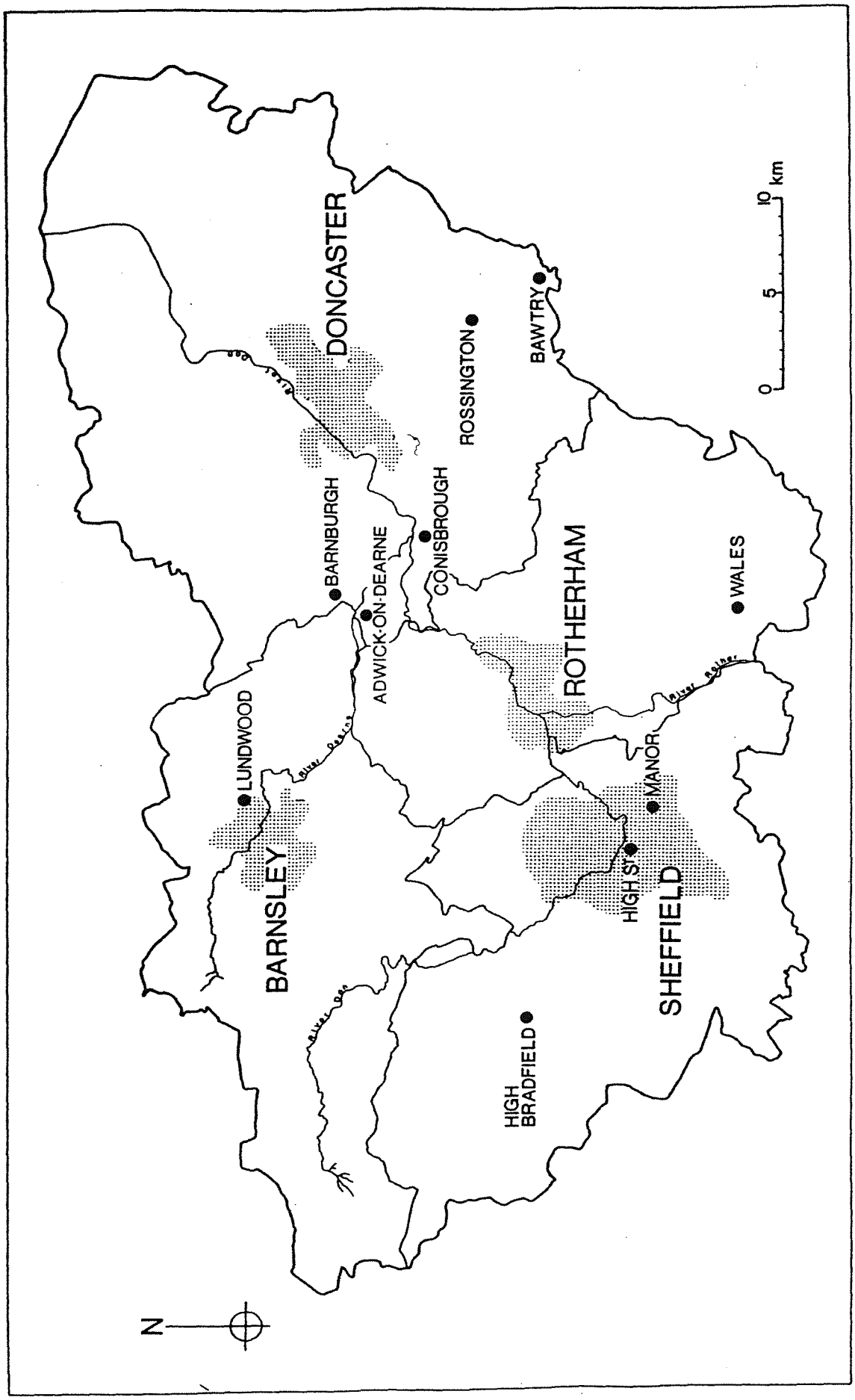


*Fig 1. Location map of sites mentioned in the text*

## Introduction

Our forecast, in the first Annual Review, that this year would be an interesting and productive one in the archaeology of South Yorkshire has been fully realised. There have been a number of important excavation and field projects plus developments in the Sites and Monuments Record and the Unit's involvement in the planning process.

One of the most important and long-awaited documents relating to archaeology and the protection and recording of its remains was released in November 1990. This was the Department of the Environment's Planning and Policy Guidance 16 on **Archaeology and Planning**. This document has at last provided a clearer brief to developers, consultants and others involved with archaeological remains on the nature of archaeology and how it fits into the planning development control process. Recognition of the importance of this aspect of our work in seeking to protect and record archaeological remains has resulted in the increase of staff with the appointment of a Sites and Monuments Record Assistant, grant aided by English Heritage over 3 years with further funding from the four metropolitan borough authorities.

The other side of the Unit's operations is of a contractual nature, involving the commissioning by developers of archaeological fieldwork and excavations. Virtually all the projects described in this review have resulted from the intended development of a given site or through planning applications for development where the archaeological work has been undertaken either prior to a planning committee decision or following a condition being put on a grant of planning permission. The scale and nature of these projects can be seen in the review.

The work described in this report which covers the financial year 1990-1991, has been undertaken by staff employed by the South Yorkshire Archaeology Unit, but we also include an item by our Sites and Monuments Record volunteer, Tom Umpleby and a piece by Derrick Riley on his aerial photographic work in South Yorkshire in 1990.

The authors of this review, and the staff of the Unit would like to thank all those who have shown an interest in, and supported the work of the Unit over the last year. We would particularly like to thank R Holbrey, D Latham and C J N Merrony for doing the illustrations, and C Cumberpatch for assisting with the editing.

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10/10/91            VIEW 03527 01          (c) Cygnet Software    9.0     14:48

    : KEY INFORMATION :
PIN       [03527]              Component  [01]        Site/Artefact [S]
Name      [MASBOROUGH GLASSHOUSE                                    ]
    : LOCATIONAL INFORMATION :
Parish          [ROTHERHAM CENTRAL          ]        District [ROTH]
Grid Ref. 1     [SK427 933 ]  Grid Sq. 1 [SK4192]    Map No 1 [SK49SW]
Grid Ref. 2     [          ]  Grid Sq. 2 [      ]    Map No 2 [       ]
    : DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION :
Type General    [INDUSTRIAL MANUFACTURING                   ]      NAR  [00000]
Type Specific   [GLASSHOUSE                                 ]      MPP  [N]
Period      [IND/MOD                ]    Period Spec    [1751-                ]
Material    [                       ]    Form [BUILDING COMPLEX               ]
    : STATUS/GEOLOGY/CONDITION :
Site Stat. [                        ]    Area Stat.  [          ]
Land Class [                        ]    Geology     [COAL      ]
Height above Sea Level     [   35]       Soils       [  ]    Excavated ?   [N]
Survival Conditions        [  ]          Compiler    [TU        ]

    . NOTES :
0  [1751 GLASSHOUSE BUILT BY JOHN WRIGHT AND 3 FRIENDS ON LAND (BESIDE      ]
1  [CANAL) OWNED BY EARL OF EFFINGHAM.                                       ]
2  [1769 ADVERTISEMENT FOR PARTNER FOR 'A GLASSHOUSE ...CONTIGUOUS TO        ]
3  [RIVER DON AND WELL SUPPLIED WITH COAL'.                                  ]
4  [1783 2 GLASSHOUSES (1 CROWN AND 1 BOTTLE AND FLINT) SOLD TO JOHN         ]
5  [BEATSON                                                                  ]
6  [1828 MARRIAGE INTO FAMILY OF HENRY CLOSE (GLASSHOUSE-ROTHWELL HAIGH)     ]
7  [AND BY MARRIAGE BECAME BEATSON CLARK.                                    ]
8  [1920 1 OF CONE FURNACES STILLIN PRODUCTION                               ]
9  [1945 LAST CONE DEMOLISHED. (1)                                           ]
    : SITE VISITS :
1  [                                                                         ]
2  [                                                                         ]
3  [                                                                         ]
4  [                                                                         ]
5  [                                                                         ]

          INPUT DATE [15/02/91]          LAST AMEND DATE [17/07/91]
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*Fig 2. SMR Computer Screen Record*

## The South Yorkshire Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) 1990-1991

The South Yorkshire Sites and Monuments Record has existed since the mid 1970s and now has records of c.4500 archaeological sites, finds and historic buildings.Although paper records remain an essential part of the record, including the OS 1:10 000 map sheets, detailed plans and photographs, the computerised index is the main database and increasing use is made of this by developers, consultants and researchers.

In the period under discussion 163 previously unrecorded (in the SMR) sites and finds were added to the Sites and Monuments Record. A further 134 records were amended. The amendments were either as a result of having more detailed information on a site, or through dividing a complex site into more clearly defined components. These amendments particularly affected the water powered sites in Sheffield (see below).

Many of the new additions to the SMR were a result of our becoming aware of these sites through the submission of planning applications affecting them eg Aldham Mill, Wombwell and Thryft House, Sheffield. Many post-medieval sites have been added by Tom Umpleby (see p 5 ), and Sarah Whiteley has found information on many others in her work on the Monuments Protection Programme (see p 4). There remains a considerable back-log of off-prints, bibliographical references and other sources awaiting input into the SMR. Commitments in the planning process have allowed little time for this work, and with our present resources the full enhancement of the record will not be achieved.

A limited amount of work was spent on the revision of Gunthwaite and Ingbirchworth parish, Barnsley MBC with some information for this being supplied by the Sheffield Trades Historical Society. This group has kindly agreed to provide us with relevant information in our enhancement programme, and are a constant source of advice on post-medieval and industrial sites which were previously only given scant attention in our record. The importance of such groups who in the past 'watched over' and recorded the less 'fashionable' monuments is only now being fully appreciated.

The Sites and Monuments Record is obviously not only for internal use, but is also used for educational purposes by teachers and researchers, consultants and developers. In the last year we had 60 external enquiries. This does not include the constant provision of information on archaeological sites to Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield planning departments through our comments on planning applications.

As we have a large area to cover we are always pleased to have information from individuals and groups who have undertaken archaeological and historic research within the county. This can then be incorporated into the SMR. It is only with a detailed and up-to-date record that we can aim to protect or at least record the archaeological and historic landscape of South Yorkshire.

The Sites and Monuments Record can be consulted either by post or by a telephone booking. If you wish to make an enquiry please get in contact with Melanie Francis or Sarah Whiteley on Sheffield 734230 South Yorkshire Archaeology Unit, Libraries and Museums Building, Ellin Street, Sheffield S1 4PL.

M J Francis

## Monuments Protection Programme

Last year we reported on the work we have been doing on this English Heritage initiated programme for increasing the number of Scheduled Ancient Monuments. Sarah Whiteley began to evaluate further monument types eg dovecotes, monastic granges, standing crosses in the early part of 1990. By the end of March 44 classes of monument had been evaluated which involved 360 archaeological sites recorded in the South Yorkshire Sites and Monuments Record.

Once these rapid desk based evaluations are completed, they are sent to English Heritage and comparison is made with all those of the same monument class from the other English counties. The scores reached by the individual sites decide which shall be visited. This is done by the English Heritage fieldworker (Angela Shackleton-Hill, for South Yorkshire) who collects more detailed information from the SMR before undertaking this. Recommendations are then made as to which sites and monuments should be scheduled.

In time the South Yorkshire Sites and Monuments Record is informed of any new schedulings or revisions. To date there have been 10 new schedulings and 19 revisions or confirmations of scheduling. This now brings the number of sites in South Yorkshire protected under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 to nearly 100 and clearly shows the nationally important archaeological remains that exist within the boroughs of Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield City.

M J Francis

## Post-Medieval Archaeology in the Sites and Monuments Record

Over the last year and a half Tom Umpleby has been spending a day a week volunteering on the Sites and Monuments Record. An interest in archaeology with an understanding of industrial processes, plus the urgent need for the development of the SMR in its post-medieval coverage established the priorities for this work.

The first group of sites that were looked at were the Sheffield water-powered sites because although there were records for many of these in the Sites and Monuments Record, the information was either slight or of doubtful authenticity. The publication **Water Power on the Sheffield Rivers** (Crossley D W ed. 1989) was a valuable source of additional and authenticated information - including dates and details of construction, extension and change of use, together with descriptions of current condition.

Over 130 site records were enhanced and some additional ones were created. Many SMR records now have been sub-divided into several components, eg the Town Corn Mill which dates from the 12th century, became a grinding wheel in 1750, in 1825 a rolling mill and in 1877 part of a brewery.

Glassworks were the next category of site looked at because there were records of only 3 in the SMR, apart from the Roman glass furnace at Templeborough. The main sources were The **History of South Yorkshire Glass** (Ashurst D 1990 unpub MA thesis, University of Sheffield) and **Post-medieval Archaeology in Britain** (Crossley D W 1990). These provided a fascinating insight into the introduction of glassmaking into Britain, and how it reached and developed in South Yorkshire (particularly the English glass cone). The number of recorded sites now exceeds 20, and there are potentially others for which locations need to be identified.

Potteries have also played an important role in the post-medieval history of South Yorkshire. This group of sites needed attention because there were only 8 recorded in the SMR. A number of sources were drawn upon, the most useful being **Yorkshire Pots and Potteries** (Lawrence H 1974). The number of pottery site records has been trebled.

Other post-medieval site records have been created or enhanced. One example of the outcome was 7 additional records of mines and other old works in Ringinglow, Sheffield (some of this information supplied by the Sheffield Trades Historical Society). Current work is on lead smelting sites, and next to be tackled are the iron and steel-making sites.

T Umpleby

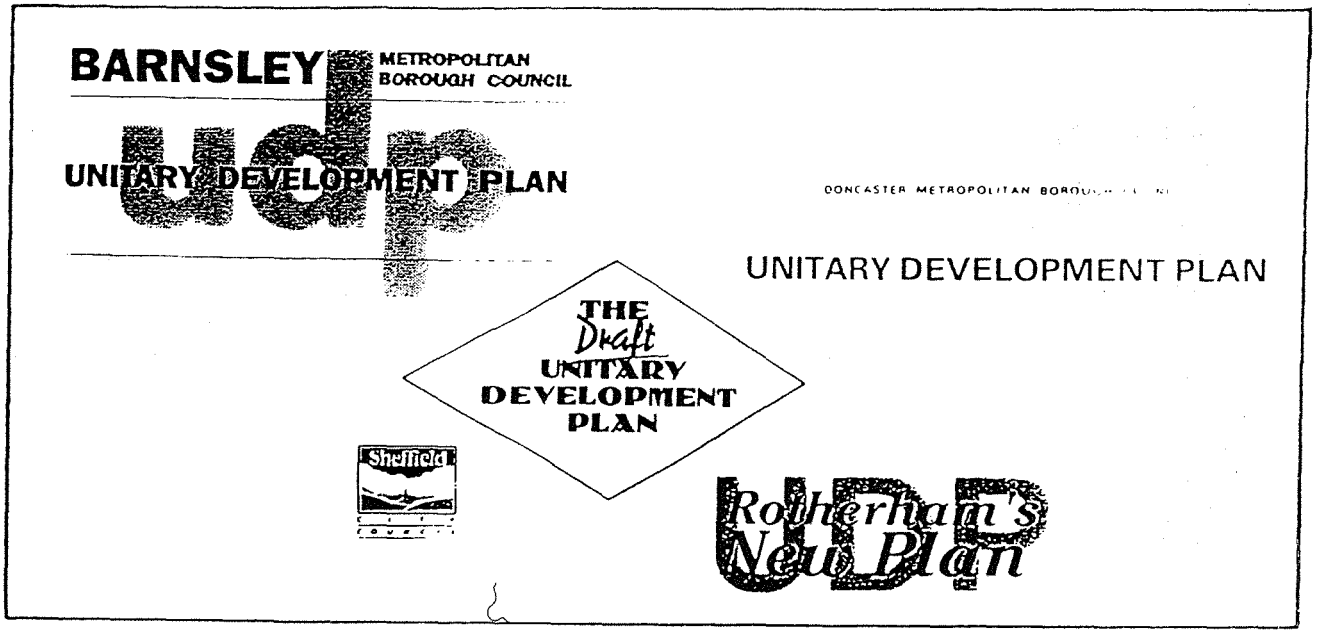


*Fig 3.*

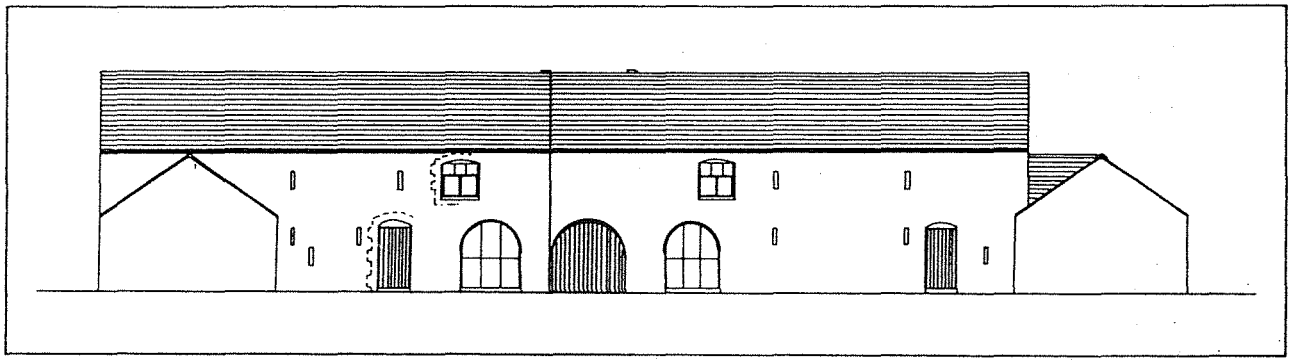

*Fig 4. An example of a barn conversion plan*

**Archaeology and Planning in South Yorkshire**

1990-1991 has been yet another busy year with planning related work. This included involvement with the Unitary Development Plans, and dealing with large numbers of planning applications, of which those relating to barn conversions and golf courses were particularly noticeable.

As has already been mentioned in this review, in November 1990 the Planning and Policy Guidance 16 on **Archaeology and Planning** was released. This has greatly helped us in our work, in that now developers expect that archaeology may well be a consideration that has to be taken into account in their planning proposal. It has also, as one had expected, greatly increased our workload at a pre-planning application stage. In the past the South Yorkshire Sites and Monuments Record used to have few enquiries from developers prior to their submission of a planning application, despite our encouragement of this practice. This meant that we often only became involved in a development once the design and time-scale for the project had largely been set. Since the release of the PPG, it is noticeable how the number of enquiries from developers and consultants has increased.

With the publication of the PPG we now have government guidelines which greatly support the practices we have been trying to encourage in South Yorkshire. Under our guidance as the archaeological advisers to Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield, the onus is now on the developer to ensure that the necessary archaeological works are undertaken.

It is obviously difficult to provide any exact figure on the number of planning applications we monitor, over the last year. Many of these applications are discounted immediately, but for others which appear to have archaeological implications, the detailed consultations are checked, and comments made accordingly. In the period under discussion comments were made on 125 planning applications with suggested recommendations.

Standard archaeological conditions that can be attached to grants of planning permission have now been agreed with Doncaster and Barnsley planning departments. Five conditions have been established and appear to be covering most normal circumstances, and provide the planning officers with a clearer brief of what is required.

Over the last year a system has evolved whereby we now receive notifications on planning committee decisions. This ensures that we have adequate notice of any proposed developments, allows us to monitor the effectiveness of our recommendations, and in cases where contact has not previously been made, enables us to contact developers and owners to discuss the archaeological implications of their developments.

As well as monitoring planning applications, we also receive consultations from various national and regional bodies. Within the period this has included 14 from Yorkshire Water involving new tenancies or land being sold off. We also receive details of the programme for river improvements and other works for the National Rivers Authority, Severn-Trent region. This enables us to monitor and prevent archaeologically damaging operations.

We have had only one formal consultation with Yorkshire Electricity regarding works adjacent to Bailey Hill motte and bailey, a Scheduled Ancient Monument, for which Scheduled Monument Consent was required.

We have also received details of 35 Forestry Commission Woodland Grant Schemes. Most of these have not affected archaeological sites. In many cases there has been no relevant information in the Sites and Monuments Record, but if time has allowed the opportunity has been taken to contact the owner and visit the relevant woodland (if existing) to see if there are any surviving earthworks within it.

M J Francis

## Sites and Monuments Record Assistant Post

One of the major achievements of the last year has been in the establishment of a full-time SMR Assistant post. This has been possible through a grant over 3 years from English Heritage and funding from the four constituent authorities. Hopefully this post will continue beyond its 3 year funding period, and become part of the permanent staff compliment.

The need for this post was realised through the increase in our responsibilities for the provision of information from the Sites and Monuments Record and the volume of work resulting from our involvement and commitment to the planning process.

In December 1990 Sarah Whiteley was appointed as Sites and Monuments Record Assistant. The main duties are to deal with day to day planning related work sifting through the numerous planning applications in Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield and assisting with the comments required on those developments which affect archaeological sites and historic buildings. There has been greater liaison with the planning authorities through this work. Assisting with the enhancement of the Sites and Monuments Record and at present evaluating sites for the Monuments Protection Programme are also involved in the post.

M J Francis

## Unitary Development Plans

We reported on our involvement in the writing of archaeological policies for these strategic development plans in our review last year. In 1990-1991 we have continued our discussions with the relevant planning officers in the constituent authorities.

In February 1991 the Draft Unitary Development Plan for Sheffield was released. Policy BE17 covers archaeological sites and monuments - **The City Council will encourage the preservation of Scheduled Ancient Monuments and other sites of archaeological interest.**

**There will normally be a presumption against development proposals which would damage or destroy archaeological sites and their settings.**

The reasons for the policy and how it will be put into practice are covered by the plan. Hopefully in our review next year we will be able to discuss archaeological policies in the UDPs for all the metropolitan districts that we cover.

M J Francis

## The Conversion of old Farm Buildings in South Yorkshire

In recent years we have become increasingly concerned over the number of agricultural buildings which are being converted to dwellings. During the financial year 1990-91 approximately 100 agricultural buildings in South Yorkshire were converted for residential purposes. This mainly involved barns, however stables and even pigsties were also developed.

In the past, the conversion of farm buildings for residential purposes has been considered to be an acceptable way of preserving them from decay. With the farming industry in recession the idea of turning an obsolete, sometimes dangerous building to financial use is attractive. Many buildings however, have had their rural character and historical integrity destroyed through unsympathetic conversion. Often these structures are not listed and therefore rarely receive the attention they deserve particularly as little if anything is known about the buildings. The Unit will comment on such sites if they are of sufficient historical interest and are within the remit of the Sites and Monuments Record. The minimum

recommendation that we make is that a photographic survey is conducted before the building is altered in any way.

Why should we be worried by the increasing popularity in converting old agricultural buildings? Firstly, old farm buildings make a considerable contribution to the character of the British countryside which, potentially, could be irrevocably changed by wholesale conversion. Furthermore, although it is accepted that it would be unrealistic to prevent this type of development completely, unless attention is paid to this growing trend soon, only isolated examples of agricultural buildings may remain unchanged. Such a situation would reflect a very distorted image of the past functioning of agricultural production.

Finally, old farm buildings have been described as 'structural documents' containing fossilised information regarding historical agricultural practices. Once they are developed or demolished this information is lost forever. A sympathetic conversion will conserve, as far as is possible, all the original structural characteristics of the building: from its fabric, to features such as cart entrances and dovecotes. Roofs should remain unbroken by chimneys and dormer windows, whilst internally, partitioning should be kept to a minimum to maintain the sense of space and height which characterise so many farm buildings.

A poor conversion will impose the design of a conventional house on to the building. Porches may be added, and window openings may be created where they never existed before. Through this process it is not impossible to disguise or destroy any trace of a building's former purpose.

Local planning authorities have recently begun to address this problem. In Sheffield district's draft Unitary Development Plan the policy relating to the conversion of buildings of architectural and historic interest states that 'the proposed conversion will retain the special architectural or historic features of the building, will not harm its character and will not detract from the amenity of the area.' Doncaster MBC has produced guidance notes on conversions and alterations to listed farm buildings. The fact that conversion to industrial or leisure use is often less damaging to the buildings original design is also recognised. Use of farm buildings for manufacturing industry, or simply as camping barns (as occurs in the Peak District), is often more appropriate if internal structure and features are to remain largely unchanged.

In South Yorkshire the trend for the development of farm buildings is showing no sign of abating. Since this is the case it is vital that sound policies relating to this matter are formulated to prevent further insensitive conversions. At some stage soon it will be necessary to review the county's stock of redundant farm buildings so that each case may be considered in the light of its affect on the conservation of South Yorkshire's rural heritage.

S P Whiteley

## Golf Courses and Their Implications for Archaeology

Of the many planning applications we monitor in South Yorkshire, the number that have been submitted in the last year or so for the construction of golf courses is particularly noticeable. This is obviously not a trend only affecting South Yorkshire, but is part of a nationwide situation with the need for agricultural diversification, and a supposed demand for the provision of more and more golf courses.

This development has been regarded with some concern by a number of organisations involved in environmental and conservation matters. In fact it has resulted in English Heritage producing a statement on **Golf Course Proposals in Historic Landscapes**. This is designed to guide local authorities on how to assess the impact of a golf course on a historic landscape and the safeguards that are required if planning permission is to be granted.

Many of the planning applications for golf courses in England are within historic parkland. Of the 9 recently submitted applications in South Yorkshire, only c.1/4 were in such a landscape, although others affect what was originally parkland but whose features have long since disappeared. By and large in South Yorkshire golf courses are an alternative use for agricultural land. Generally we have been dealing with courses proposed in vast acres of ploughed land, with no existing earthwork features. For many we have evidence of 'cropmark' sites in the Sites and Monuments Record, while others may have no known archaeological features within them.

The change from an agricultural regime to a golf course involves considerable changes to the landscape. Golf courses cover vast areas of land with the possibility of major ground disturbance to buried archaeological features resulting from the construction of bunkers and other facilities.

In South Yorkshire where there are known or suspected archaeological remains an evaluation has been recommended. The size of courses can obviously make this logistically difficult, but without the availability of this information, it is impossible to be aware of the impact it will have,

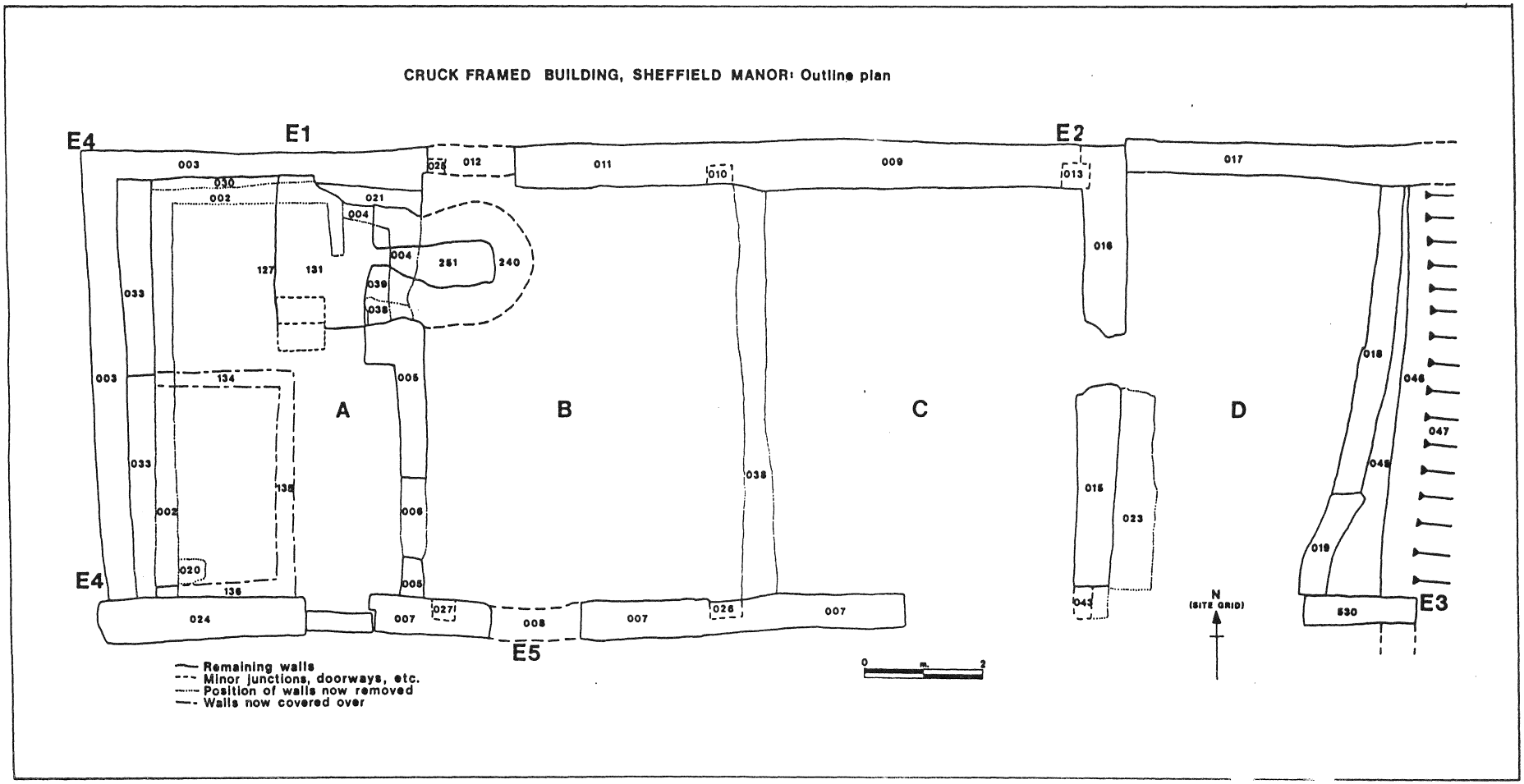


*Fig 5. Outline plan of Cruck-Building*

and whether it is in fact an acceptable proposal.

The experience in South Yorkshire has shown that in terms of the preservation of an archaeological site per se, golf courses and archaeology may be able to co-exist. Once the evaluation through a geophysical survey and/or trial trenching has taken place and we are fully aware of the position of the archaeological remains, the design of the course may be altered to preserve them. The gradual desiccation of sites by constant ploughing can now be halted, and these areas grassed over for greens etc, consequently preserving the archaeological remains. In addition the position of bunkers and tree belts may be moved to minimise their impact on the archaeological deposits. All this is dependent on early discussions with the developer, before any amendments to their plans becomes too expensive or difficult to achieve. There will of course be other occasions where this compromise is not as easily reached, and where the importance of the archaeological remains far outweighs any other considerations.

M J Francis

## The excavation of the cruck-framed building adjacent to Sheffield Manor Lodge.

During July and August 1990 an excavation of the cruck framed building adjacent to Sheffield Manor was undertaken by the South Yorkshire Archaeology Unit on behalf of Sheffield City Museums. The excavation was funded by Sheffield City Museums and English Heritage. The building in question at SK 3763 8652 stands immediately to the east of the main complex of buildings and the excavation was carried out in advance of consolidation work.

Sheffield Manor Lodge began its existence as a hunting lodge and there is documentary evidence relating to repairs being carried out on the 'lodge in the park' in 1479 - 80. It seems that the main phase of building on the site took place between 1510 and 1529 and was the responsibility of the Talbot family (the Earls of Shrewsbury) who held the manor from 1406 until 1616. The major enlargement of the lodge was undertaken by the fourth Earl and this involved the construction of a substantial summer residence. It was during this period that the layout of the complex was completed, based upon a double courtyard with a smaller service courtyard to the east (Beswick 1980).

The Manor Lodge itself ceased to be a dwelling in 1706 and underwent a rapid initial decline. The site was not abandoned however and activity continued until the present century. This included the construction of a terrace of brick cottages against the long gallery wall and a number of other dwellings and buildings (amongst them a public house) adjacent to Manor Lane. In addition to these a colliery pithead, with associated offices and housing, stood on the now largely open space immediately to the east of the Manor Lodge complex, around the Manor Castle public house. These buildings stood on and around the presumed area of the Manor Lodge's service court.

The only building surviving to any height in this area today is the so-called Cruck-framed building (fig 5). This appears to be the same as a building noted on the Fairbank survey of 1781. It has been assumed that this stone building, with cruck framing supporting the roof, is contemporary with the main Manor Lodge complex; that is one, or part of one, of the buildings which originally stood around the service court. In the Sheffield area cruck-framing is found principally along the eastern fringes of the Pennines (Ryder 1982). In this case the surviving cruck blade, combined with the 16th and 17th century stonework in the walls, has been the primary evidence used to ascribe a medieval date to the building. The aim of the 1990 excavations was to establish the date of the original construction and the sequence of subsequent alterations. In addition information was sought regarding the function of the building and the activities carried out in the service court during the medieval and later periods.

The walls of the building remain standing to a maximum height of 1.5m and although these are by no means continuous they clearly show that the building consisted of four rooms. The walls are mainly of stone, but include a number of sections built of brick. The excavation commenced with the clearance of modern dumped material down to the floor surfaces (fig 6). In all the internal areas of the building (apart from area C and the southwestern quadrant of area B) these floors consisted of substantial stone flags, setts and cobbles or of brick. The bricks were of two types, older worn handmade bricks and more recent machine made types, many of the latter bearing the name 'Robertson'. The first impression was that these were stone floors which had been repaired with bricks, but later investigation showed that this was not the case.

It was apparent that area D, the most easterly room, was a later addition to the main part of the building. The walls were of much poorer quality and a doorway had been inserted into the former eastern wall of the building, allowing access from area C to D. The floor of area D was of a similar type to those in other parts of the building.

The external wall of area A (excluding the southern wall) was lined on the inside with a modern brick wall, with a concrete post base in the south-west corner and a concrete lining on the upper part of the

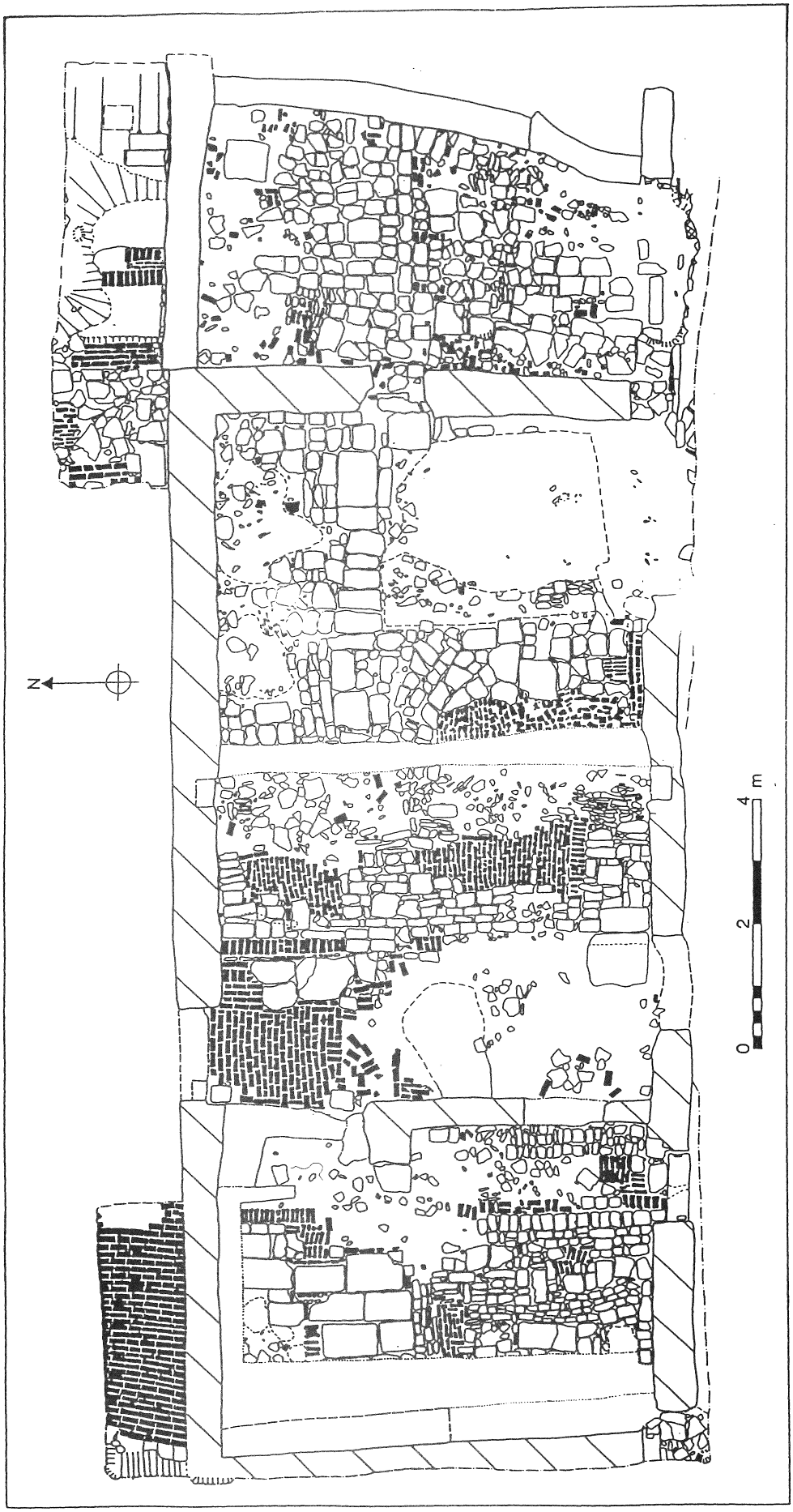


*Fig 6. Detail of brick and stone floors*

west wall. This wall sat directly on the earlier floor surface and supported the corrugated iron roof visible in the old photographs of the site. This wall was removed to reveal more of the earlier wall behind it and the floor surface beneath it.

In the south-east quadrant of area C the main stone and brick floor was overlain by a thin, hard, compact, shale rich layer. This had apparently been laid down during the final phase of the use of the area to produce a level surface. Elsewhere the stone and brick floors had remained in use until the abandonment of the building.

In the final phases of its life the building appears to have been used as a garage for the parking and maintenance of vehicles (including, latterly, motor vehicles). In areas A, C and D the south wall had been removed to ground level and area A roofed with corrugated iron. Areas C and D may also have been roofed although the surviving evidence was inconclusive. These changes to the building seem to have been made in the 20th century, and certainly do not predate the latter part of the 19th century. It appears that area B had already fallen into disuse by this time as all the doorways had been blocked.

Immediately prior to its conversion the building had consisted of four rooms each with doorways facing south. There may have been access between areas A and B, and the southern access to area B may already have been blocked at this time.

The clearance of the floor surfaces revealed a number of features related to the structure of the building prior to its conversion to a garage. The gently sloping floors included shallow drainage channels running north-south and exiting through the doorways in the southern wall.The cruck framing consisted of two bays and three pairs of cruck blades. One blade survives, up to about two-thirds of its original height in the north-west corner of area C and standing on a substantial stylobate. The position of its counterpart is clearly visible in the construction of the wall in the south-east corner of area C. This wall appears to have been built between the pair of cruck-blades, infilling the space between them.

The positions of the other four cruck-blades were clearly visible after the removal of the modern material. One pair stood on the eastern edge of area B and the other pair on the western edge. All of these were seated on stylobates, far less substantial than that of the surviving blade. Masonry walls had been built around the blades, leaving distinct slots which clearly defined their positions. The slot in the southern wall is a vertical channel, which suggests either that vertical wall posts had existed behind the cruck-blade or that these were not cruck blades as such, but rather vertical posts. There is however no indication of such timber framing in areas A or D. Each bay defined by the cruck-blade slots was 5.5m in length.A number of pieces of evidence suggest that the building was used as a stable or cowshed. Firstly there were a number of small holes and slots cut into the wall which seem to have been intended to hold timbers. Secondly the wall between areas B and C had been inserted into the space. It has a simple butt joint at the southern end and is only partially keyed in at the northern end. This keying is into a section of the wall rebuilt at about the same time. Thirdly two troughs survive, set into the inner part of the western wall of area A. The position of these suggests that they were intended for the feeding or watering of horses or cows. A stone and brick floor with drainage channels would be appropriate for such a building.

The excavation of sections of the floor demonstrated that it had been constructed with some care, and that the stone and brick components were contemporary. The surface was laid on a foundation of 20cm of cinders and ash which in turn had been set on a layer of rubble/soil hardcore. Beneath these was the subsoil. Both layers contained significant amounts of post-medieval (c. 19th century) pottery, mainly tablewares. This sequence, down to the subsoil, was the same over most of areas B and C (excluding the northwestern part of area B). In area D the floor was similarly constructed except that it was underlain by two stone lined drainage channels running south-west to north-east. These were apparently contemporary with the construction of this extension to the building as one ran through a deliberate hole in the footings of the north wall. A number of faint features were visible, cut into the subsoil but these had been truncated by the construction of the floors and contained no datable material.

Removal of the 19th century flooring in area A and in the northwestern corner of area B revealed a situation completely different to that seen elsewhere. Under the northeastern part of area A and the northwestern corner of area B lay the foundations of an oven or kiln. In area A, a stone flagged floor, approximately 2m square, was set 0.5m below the level of the 19th century floor. This sunken floor (of which the sides were lined with stone flags) was reached by stone steps on the southern side and appears to have been constructed to give access to a flue which led to the subcircular fire chamber standing in the north-west corner of area B. The flue was lined with thin slabs of Bakestone Moor stone set edge on. It was filled with an ashy deposit containing little artifactual material other than the skeleton of a large bird (probably a duck or small goose).

Above and to either side of the flue were two large

upright stones with narrow chamfers on the front internal corners, terminating some twenty centimetres above the base. It has been suggested that these are 17th century in date. The shape of the oven was delineated by a single surviving course of stones, the higher courses having been removed when the floors were laid in the 19th century. The walls of the oven were bonded with a white, lime mortar similar to that used in the adjacent walls of the building, suggesting that the walls were standing when the oven was constructed.

The stone flagged access area was filled with large blocks of building material which included a column base similar to examples surviving inside the main courtyard of the Manor Lodge complex.

Immediately to the north of this oven or kiln, in the northern wall of area B, was a doorway which had been converted into a window. The precise sequence is unclear, due to later (19th and 20th century) alterations, but the door may have been in use at the same time as the oven/kiln. The same later activity has confused many of the issues surrounding the date and function of the oven/kiln.

At the other end of the north-south wall separating areas A and B stands a doorway flanked by two substantial door jambs with wide 16th century style chamfering. At first sight this door appears to be quite early and to face into area B. Against this the lack of any substantial threshold suggests that the jambs were reused from an earlier building. A similar explanation may apply to the chamfered stones which flanked the oven as these were not set upon the substantial foundations that might have been expected.

The third piece of datable masonry was the lintel above the southern door of area B, stylistically 16th century and unusually thin. It was cracked down the middle and badly weathered on the north side (the presumed inside face). and might originally have been a fireplace lintel from another building. The weakening of the stone through heating and cooling would cause it to weather more rapidly. A second, and most likely explanation, is that the lintel had stood with the back exposed to the weather for some time before its incorporation in the doorway, and when this took place the more weathered side was set so as to be invisible.

The other substantial structure beneath the 19th century floors in area A was a stone lined cellar which occupied the south-west part of the area. It was not possible to excavate this feature fully in the time available, but it had clearly been backfilled with stone rubble during the laying of the stone floors. The original access was not found and may have lain either in the southwest corner which was not excavated or have been via a trapdoor in a wooden floor. It is highly probable that the cellar was contemporary with the oven/kiln.

A number of areas were excavated outside the building, notably to the east and north. All the material recovered from these trenches was of 19th or 20th century date and related primarily to the colliery workings.

The structural and artifactual evidence recovered from the excavation of this building suggests that it was constructed in the late 18th century, and was at least partially built of material taken from the Manor Lodge. The laying of new floors in the 19th century removed any earlier material and has left us only the oven/kiln and cellar below ground and the above ground evidence. The latter can be summarised under four main headings

a) The cruck framing (the surviving blade and the positions of the other five).
b) The main encasing wall around areas A,B,and C.
c) The dividing wall between areas A and B and the oven/kiln structure.
d) The later additions (the walls lining area A, the dividing wall between areas B and C and the addition of area D.

The lack of datable material from pre-floor deposits is probably the result of soil removal and general levelling processes of the later floors. Considerable damage to the oven/kiln and cellar had certainly occurred.

The combination of building material found in the dividing wall between area A and B suggests that this part of the building was constructed after the 17th century using material removed from the Lodge. There is little to suggest that the main encasing wall was constructed before the 18th century and a date after 1706, employing reused building material, is the most likely. The same may be true of the timber framing, however, the possibility that the stone building was an enlargement of an earlier two-bay timber structure cannot be discounted. Although no evidence for this had been found, the stone encasing wall would have removed all traces of earlier features.

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C J N Merrony

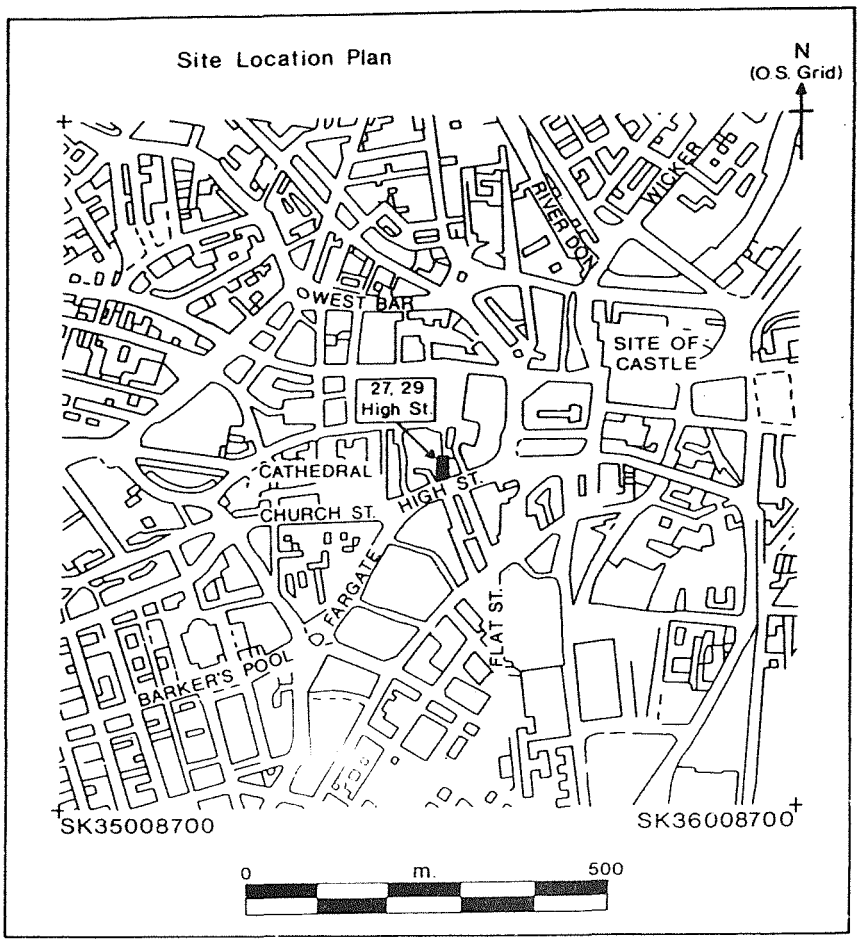


*Fig 7. Location of the High Street site*

**Evaluation of 27/29 High Street, Sheffield**

**Introduction**

In May 1990 in response to the proposed redevelopment of the Manfield's shoeshop site, at 27/29 High Street (fig 7) (SK 3552 8750) the South Yorkshire Archaeology Unit was commissioned by Sears Property Developments Ltd to carry out an archaeological evaluation. Five areas were excavated in the cellars underlying the shop; three trenches being in the floors of the cellars and two wall sections were removed at the rear (fig 8).

High Street is clearly identifiable from early descriptions of the town as the street running from the market place to the parish church (now the cathedral) whose origins are in the 12th century. Until the mid 18th century the street was known as Prior Gate (see Gosling's map of 1736), but is High Street by the time of the Fairbank map of 1771.

There is very little known about the tenements fronting on to Prior Gate before the end of the 17th century, although there is some evidence to suggest that workshops existed along Priorgate early in that century. The area of 27/29 High Street first appears in the records in a deed of 1675 relating to a tenement to its east (Sheffield Archives MD1045). At that time the plot contained a house belonging to James Goodie, although no other information is provided.

By 1681 the property had become an inn, initially known as Pegg's Inn, but by the 1790's was known as the Rose and Crown. In 1807 the property was taken over by Thomas Watson who in 1812 decided to convert the premises to shops. Manfield's have occupied this site since at least 1901.

Behind the buildings on the High Street frontage large gardens stretched as far as Hartshead until the middle of the 18th century when a few of the leaseholders began to sell off parts of their properties.

There is no precise information regarding 27/29 High Street, but as late as the end of the 18th century

the rear of the adjacent property (to the east) contained malthouses, bakehouses, stables and swine hulks. This also seems likely with 27/29.

The cellars beneath the shop extend back from the street frontage to approximately only the front half of the modern building. Behind the present shop is an open area currently used for car parking and deliveries. This extends north to Hartshead and corresponds with the rear of the medieval holding. This is the most undeveloped part of the site.

**Results**

Trench A - an area approximately 1.50 x 1.40 metres was excavated by hand near the northern wall of the west cellar. It had a stone flagged floor on a dark sandy clay loam with a brick-lined drain sitting within a clearly defined cut. The drain was partially filled and included post-medieval pottery and tile. The drain appears to have been constructed in the 19th century with the soil around it acting as a bed for the flagstone floor which further acted as a capping for the drain.

Removal of the dark soil underlying the stone flags of the floor revealed a hard rubble/mortar layer, which contained occasional sherds of post-medieval pottery and was cut by the brick-lined drain. It seems probable that this rubble layer was the earthen cellar floor that was cut when the brick-lined drain was constructed prior to the laying of the flagstone floor. The drain cut into the earthen floor right down to bedrock.

Trench B - an area 1.10 x 1.35 metres was excavated c. the centre of the available cellar area. This also had a stone flagged floor overlying a thin reddish-black soil containing some fragments of brick, coal, mortar, stone and post-medieval pottery. Underlying this was dumped material of stone and brick rubble providing a level for the flags. This sat directly on top of the natural shale bedrock.

Trench C - an area 1.20 x 2.00 metres close to the street frontage was excavated. This similarly had a stone flagged floor overlying a dark greyish sandy loam containing stone and brick rubble.

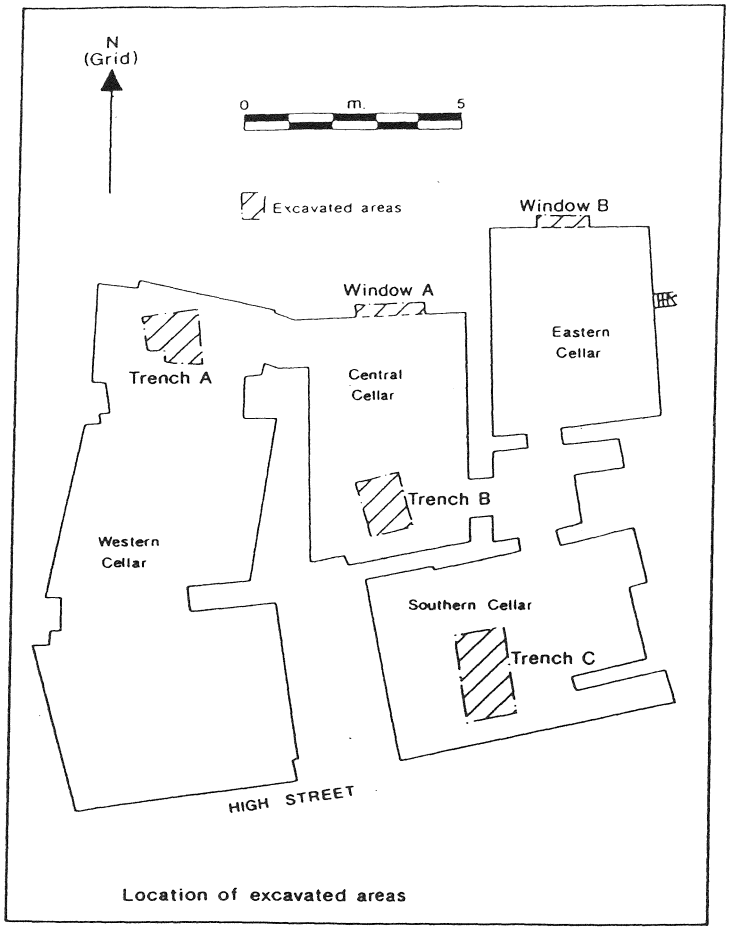


*Fig 8. Detail of trench positions in cellars*

Cut by this layer was a hard layer with a sandy loam texture containing animal bone, glass and sherds of post-medieval pottery probably representing the remains of an earlier cellar floor. This lay directly onto the bedrock.

Window A - a 1.60 metre section of the northern brick wall of the central cellar was taken down on the eastern side. It revealed stone blocking and on the west rubble infill. Behind the rubble infill the natural bedrock was visible which shows that the cellar had cut through any destroyed any archaeological deposits.

The stone blocking in the eastern portion of Window A was filling a cut. It appears that this was the service trench for the laying of a drain and was filled with the stone blocking before the construction of the building above.

Window B - a 1.15 metre section of the northern wall of the east cellar was removed in order to compare the deposits here with those revealed in this area is the furthest from the street frontage that was investigated.

The deposits in this excavation were certainly comparable to those from window A. Stone and brick mortared construction tied to the wall by courses of headers was revealed and must have been constructed at the same time as the wall. Behind the lower part of this was the natural bedrock while the upper part of the stone and brick construction was a fill of rubble, stone and soil similar in character to that found in window A.

**Discussion**

These excavations have shown that the construction of cellars underneath 27/29 High Street have destroyed any medieval or earlier archaeological deposits. However, less than half the area of the proposed development has cellars.

The investigations have revealed that there is potentially over a metre of archaeological deposits to be found on this site. It is probable that in the uncellared parts archaeological deposits will survive but it is not possible to investigate these while the building remains in use. The primary area for investigations is to the rear of the current building where the service ramp/delivery area is and which is presently covered by a concrete capping.

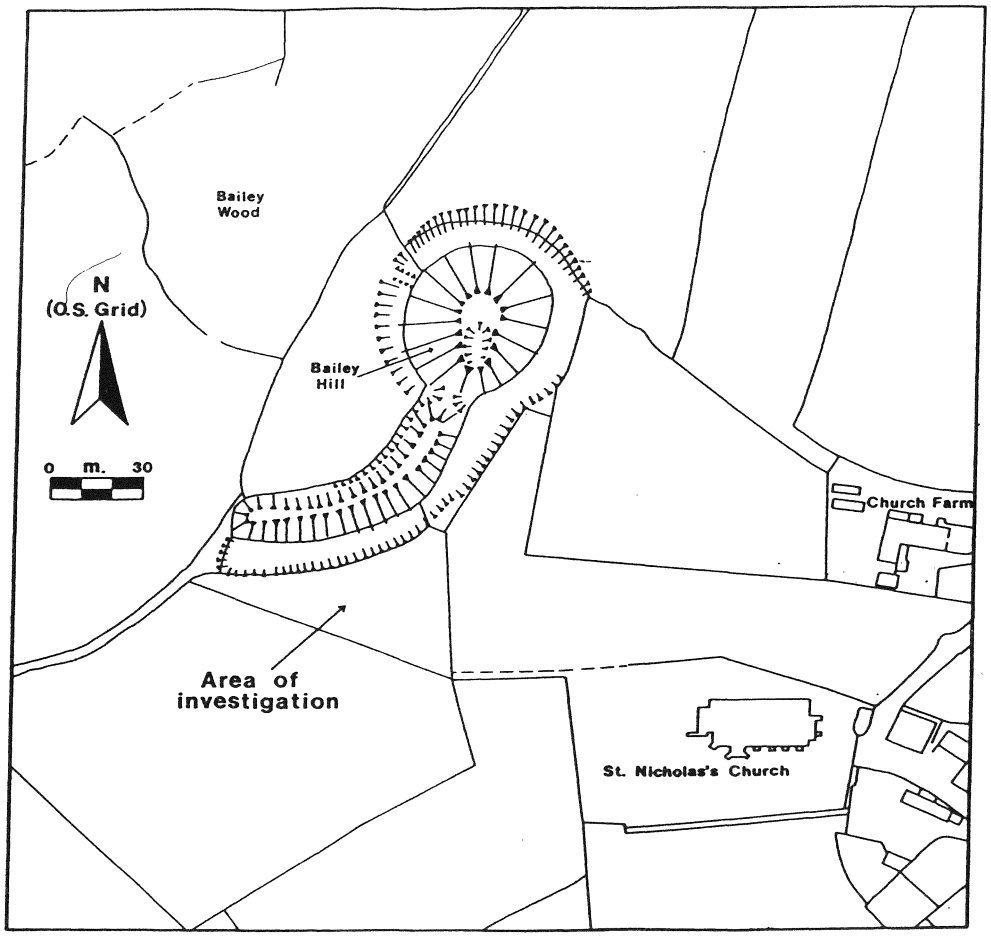


*Fig 9. Location of Bradfield motte and bailey*

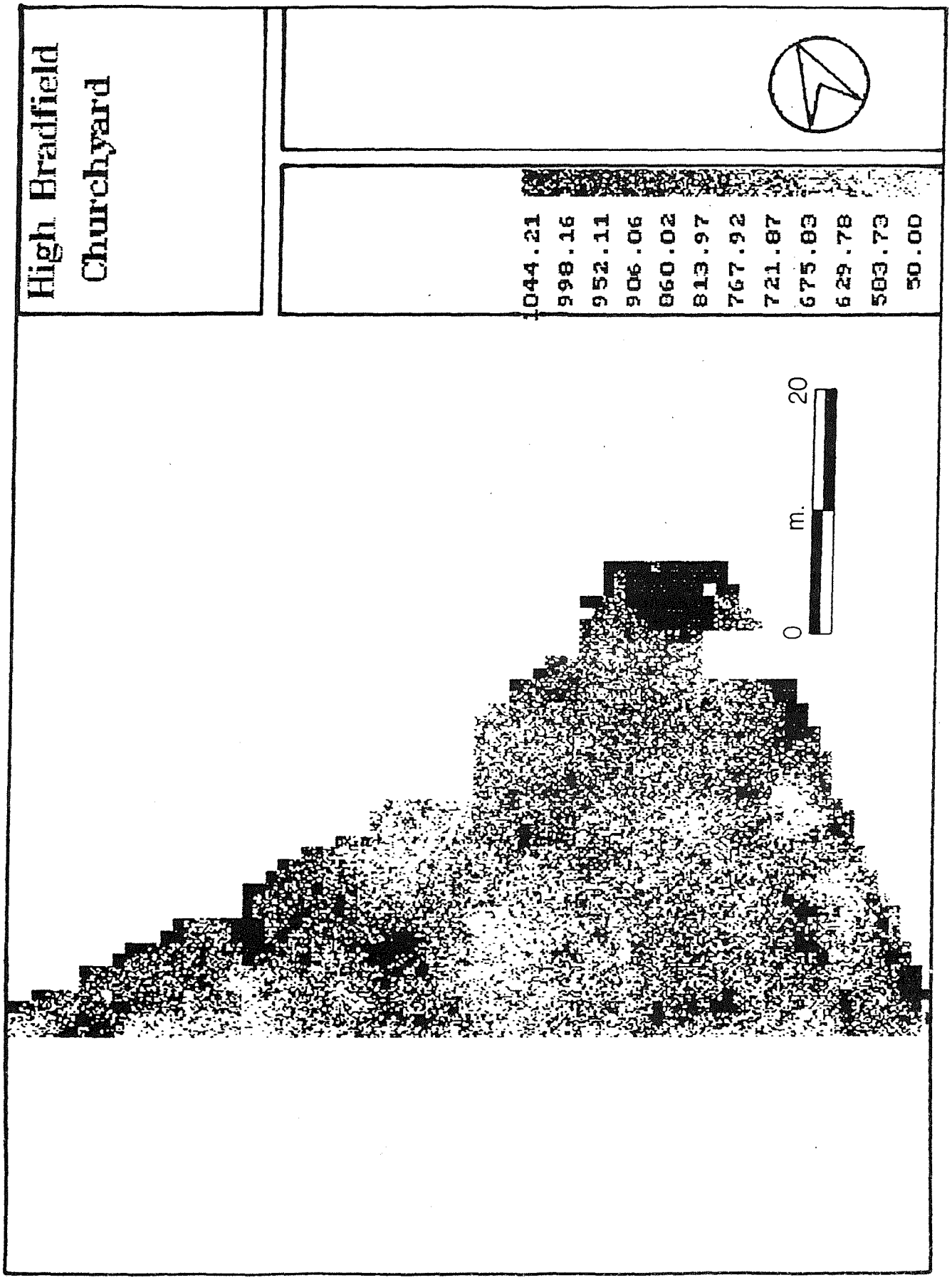


*Fig 10. Resistivity results showing darker anomalies*

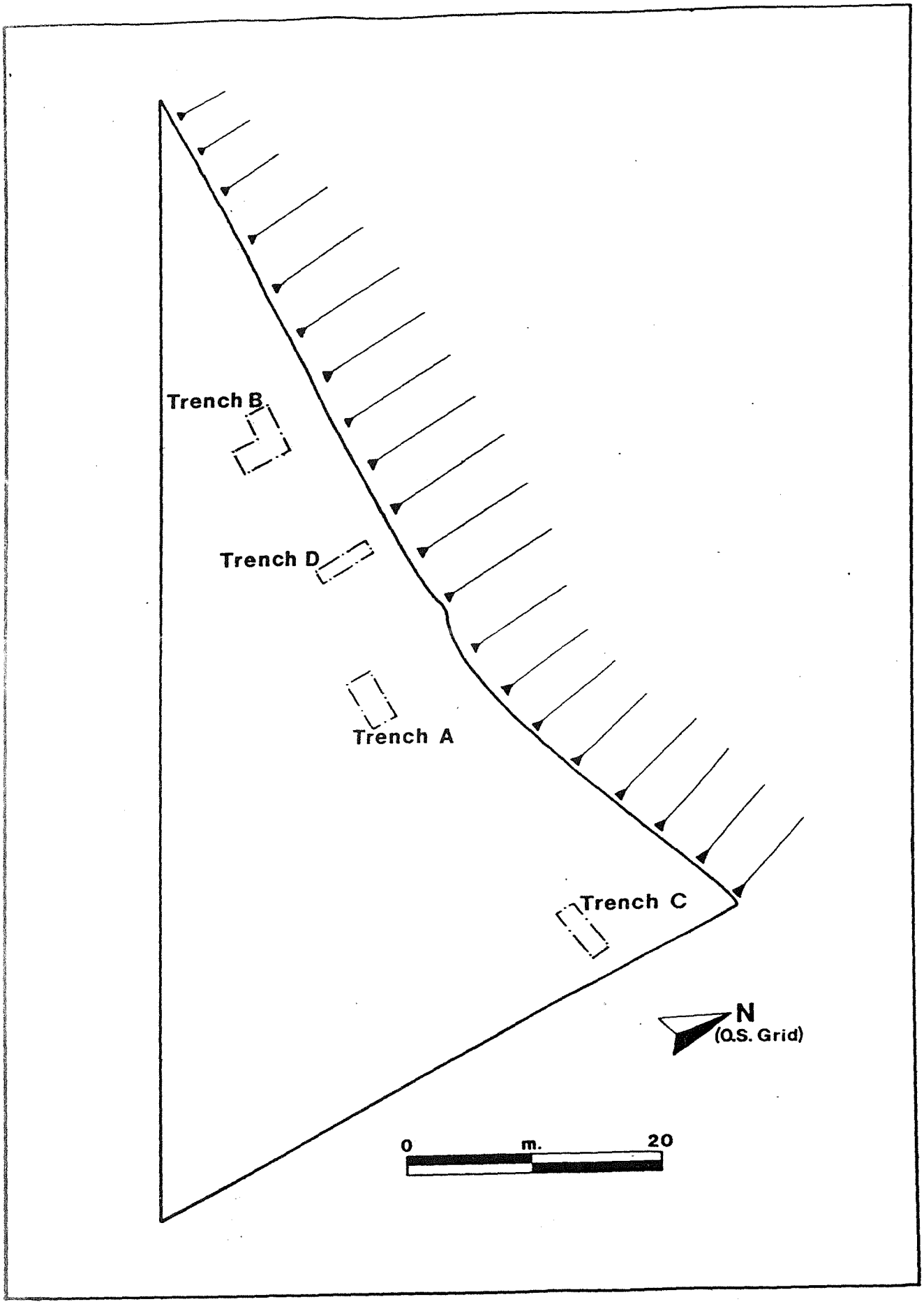


*Fig 11. Location of the Bradfield trenches*

Following the conclusion of these investigations redevelopment of the site was not undertaken.

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**Bradfield Churchyard Extension**

This spectacular motte and Bailey earthwork Fig 9), a Scheduled Ancient Monument, lies on the edge of a rocky precipice to the North-west of High Bradfield churchyard giving extensive views across the Loxley Valley. Unusually, there is no visible earthwork on the west side of the Bailey, the precipice presumably seen as sufficient defence by the original builders.

The steep sided motte, although damaged, remains to a height of 18.5m. The rampart on the east side of the Bailey rises 8.00m above the ditch and 4.00m above the ground inside the Bailey. The short north side of the bailey is formed by the remnant of a once much larger bank linking the motte ditch and cliff top.

The date for the construction of this motte and bailey has been the subject of much debate, but is generally recognised as of early Norman type.

The triangular piece of pasture to the south of the bailey ditch became the subject of a planning application for use as a burial ground extension to

Bradfield churchyard, received by the Peak Park Joint Planning Board in 1989. In view of the site's proximity to the Scheduled site, an archaeological evaluation was proposed as a condition to the granting of planning consent. A combination of geophysical survey and trial trenching was proposed.

The South Yorkshire Archaeology Unit was commissioned by the rector of Bradfield Church to undertake this work which was carried out during September and October 1990.

**Results**

The area was gridded out and surveyed using a twin-probe resistivity meter and the results obtained were processed and analysed by computer. Several high resistance anomalies were identified, especially to the west of the field (fig 10).

Four trenches, A,B,C and D, varying in size from 2.00m x 5.00m to 1.00m x 5.00m were hand dug to investigate these anomalies (fig 11). In all cases apart from Trench D, the anomalies seemed to relate to pockets of heavily disturbed bedrock of natural rather than human origin. Above this, the turf overlay a clear undisturbed sequence of humic soil above clean subsoil. The exception, Trench D contained rubble within a soil matrix of probable human origin close to the lip of the bailey ditch. It is possible that this rubble may indicate the presence of a counterscarp bank to the earthwork although interpretation as an isolated spread of spoil from the ditch excavation would also be possible.

No datable artifacts apart from a few clay pipe stems and early modern period pottery sherds were recovered.

**Conclusions**

The evaluation had revealed that the area of pasture did not contain any archaeologically significant deposits apart from the rubble spread in Trench D and that the proposed use of the site as a burial ground could proceed without further archaeological work being required.

The possibility of a counterscarp bank having once existed is of interest with regard to future interpretation of the monument and some future investigation of the area immediately adjacent to the bailey ditch may be of interest.

**Wales Grange Farm, Wales**

In advance of proposed development the South Yorkshire Archaeology Unit was commissioned by Lewis Wadsworth to carry out an archaeological evaluation on a vacant area of land lying between Wales Grange Farm and Grange Cottage on the western side of Church Street, Wales (SK 4773 8275) The evaluation consisted of an initial geophysical survey, followed by excavation. The geophysical survey revealed a number of linear high resistance anomalies which suggested the presence of buried features, perhaps walls of brick or stone. In themselves the results were not definite enough to allow firm conclusions to be drawn and a programme of trenching was initiated to obtain further information (fig 12).

Trench A

The first geophysical anomaly to be investigated was visible on the ground as a low bank. A trench measuring 5m by 1m was excavated at right angles to the feature. The bulk of the deposits in this trench had been disturbed by modern activity. The high resistance anomaly appears to have been the result of the existence of the low bank, combined with a lens of cinders which ran across the trench which may have been the remains of a cinder surfaced path. At the eastern end of the trench there was a flat bottomed cut containing a number of large

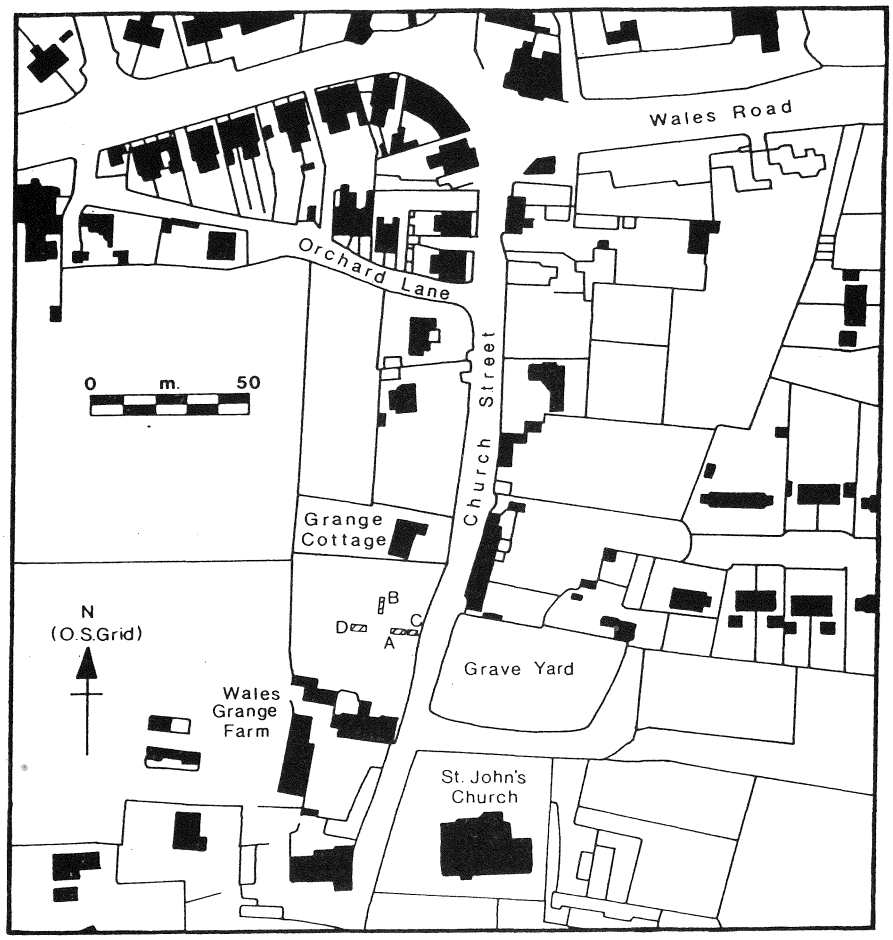



*Fig 12. Location of the Wales Grange Farm trenches*

subangular blocks of limestone in its upper levels. At first sight it appeared that this cut and the stones which it contained were the remains of a rear wall of a building fronting onto the street. Further excavation proved that the fill of the cut was a continuation of the topsoil, and the excavation of Trench C further confirmed that this was not the wall of a building.

Below the topsoil was a deposit which appeared to be very similar to the subsoil which underlay the trench. The deposit appeared to consist of subsoil disturbed by more recent activity, resulting in it containing a greater percentage of organic material and a number of artifacts derived from other deposits.

Cutting into the subsoil and running north-south across Trench A was a ditch which contained a large amount of ironworking debris, (slag and coal) and some potsherds (including one rim and two base sherds). Preliminary analysis of the slag has shown that there are at least three different types present. One is clearly the result of smithing activities, but the remaining two (including one particularly dense form) appear to have been the result of smelting processes, probably carried out in a bloomery furnace. The pottery, Coal Measures Ware, is of a type that is common in South and West Yorkshire and was produced throughout the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. It was largely superseded by other types during the sixteenth century, but did continue in use on a reduced scale.

The scale of the trenches make it difficult to draw firm conclusions regarding the function of this feature. It is not even possible to determine whether the slag was placed in the ditch to aid in drainage, or whether it was simply dumped. It is unlikely however that it had been transported far from its place of origin, and it seems likely that a forge or small iron foundry was located close by.

Trench B

A second trench was opened to the northwest of the first, and this too measured 5m by 1m and was orientated at right angles to an area of high

resistance. In this case the geophysical anomaly was parallel to, but did not correspond exactly with, a low bank, running instead along its northern flank. Once again the upper levels had been disturbed by modern activity. The turf layer and underlying topsoil contained a number of artifacts apparently originating from the flanks of the bank. To the north of the bank were a number of randomly arranged stones, and it seems clear that it was these which were responsible for the geophysical anomaly. The bank, the stones and some chicken wire were probably connected with a hedge which ran along the line of the bank. Such an accumulation is typically the result of the removal of stones from a garden or field. As the soil is not naturally stony it suggests that these particular stones came from the clearance of a stone structure which lay to the north of the bank and the hedge.

Beneath the topsoil was a deposit which appeared at first to be the subsoil, but the presence of building stone (sandstone), slag and pieces of coal suggested otherwise. The removal of this layer revealed a well constructed stone lined drain in which two small sherds of post-medieval pottery were found within the fill although these may have entered it sometime after its construction. The date of the drain cannot be firmly established, but it seems most likely to be a post-medieval feature. It is interesting to note that this substantial feature, which lay at a depth of 0.5m, was not detected by the geophysical survey.

Trench C

A trench measuring 3m by 1m was excavated 0.5m east of trench A. This trench was designed to yield more information on the feature at the eastern end of trench A (which subsequently proved to be recent in date) and to examine an area closer to the street frontage (Church Street).

Once again the upper layers consisted of modern cultivated topsoil containing a variety of post-medieval artifacts. Underlying this topsoil were various dumped deposits sloping from west to east, towards the street. The modern surface of Church Street lies over a metre below the surface of the evaluation area. A stone retaining wall currently revets the soil, but in the past the change in level was probably achieved by a simple slope, with an abrupt change in level only where buildings stood on the street frontage. It seems that the deposits in trench C represent such a slope, with the topsoil resulting from the infilling of the slope after the construction of the retaining wall.

Although a much wider stretch of the street frontage needs to be investigated before the details of this zone can be fully described, it is clear that undisturbed late medieval deposits do survive close to the street frontage. It is not impossible that buildings may survive within this area which would be of great interest in understanding the development of Wales.

Trench D

A fourth trench was excavated due west of trench A. Once again this trench was orientated east-west and cut a high resistance anomaly at right angles. The topsoil, although consisting of similar soil to that in the other trenches, produced fewer finds than in other trenches and in particular did not contain any slag.

A stone lined drain was cut into the subsoil, but had been constructed in a very different way to that found in trench B. In this case a wide ditch had been excavated and the sides of the drain constructed by laying large blocks of stone in a double row about 0.22m apart. The stones were much more irregular than those used for the drain in trench B and were far less well laid. One of the blocks had fallen into the channel, almost blocking it, and it seems likely that this had occurred during, or soon after, construction. On either side of the stone slabs were patches of mortar or plaster, badly rotted but forming a seal.

The contents of the drain suggest that it was constructed in the 18th or 19th century, and it is possible that it was associated with the well which stands at the rear of Grange Cottage (and is reputed to have been the well for Wales Grange Farm).

This date is supported by the evidence of the layer which was cut by the drain. This has produced some coal and ironworking slag together with some sherds of pottery, apparently of 17th or 18th century date. The fact that the drain appears on the geophysical plot while that in trench B did not is probably a result of it lying at a depth of only 0.24m. below ground level.

Conclusion

Despite the small size of the areas excavated, the evaluation has answered a number of questions about the site, and has revealed some features of considerable interest. A large number of the deposits on the site are post-medieval in date or have been disturbed by more recent activity. It is clear however that certain late medieval features do exist, and that these contain the remains of ironworking.

The distribution of the slag in trenches A and C suggests that ironworking was taking place on, or close to, the street frontage. The presence of such large quantities of slag, together with pottery dating to the 14th - 16th centuries is of particular interest as iron working sites of this date are rare in Britain.

The period is a significant one in that it was at this time that the blast furnace was first introduced into Britain and the industry underwent a number of technical changes. The extent to which technological and social changes are interdependent is one which unfortunately cannot be discussed in the present context.

It appears that this site may offer a rare opportunity to look at a late medieval forge in a village setting. It is to be hoped that, should the street frontage ever be redeveloped, adequate opportunity will be available for an archaeological examination of this interesting site.

C J N Merrony

### Cropmarks at Rossington

An application for planning consent for sand and gravel extraction of a small area opposite Hunster Grange Farm near New Rossington, was submitted to Doncaster Planning Department by ARC Northern Ltd. This was received by the South Yorkshire Archaeology Unit in February 1991 and an archaeological evaluation was recommended on the basis of information held by the Sites and Monuments record.

Aerial photographs taken in 1976 by Derrick Riley revealed several parallel ditched field boundaries and a double ditched "trackway" running across the area effected by the proposed quarry. These buried features formed part of an extensive arrangement of field systems and associated enclosures which occur predominately in the Bunter sandstone areas of North Nottinghamshire and South Yorkshire.

The origins of these field systems are unknown although investigations of a number of sites in the region attest to their use in the Romano-British period (fig 13).

On the basis of this information it was felt that some investigation of these ditches was appropriate in order to ascertain their state of preservation and whether there were other archaeological features connected to those which had not shown up on the Aerial photographs.

ARC Northern Ltd subsequently commissioned the Unit to undertake the evaluation which was carried out in October and November 1990.

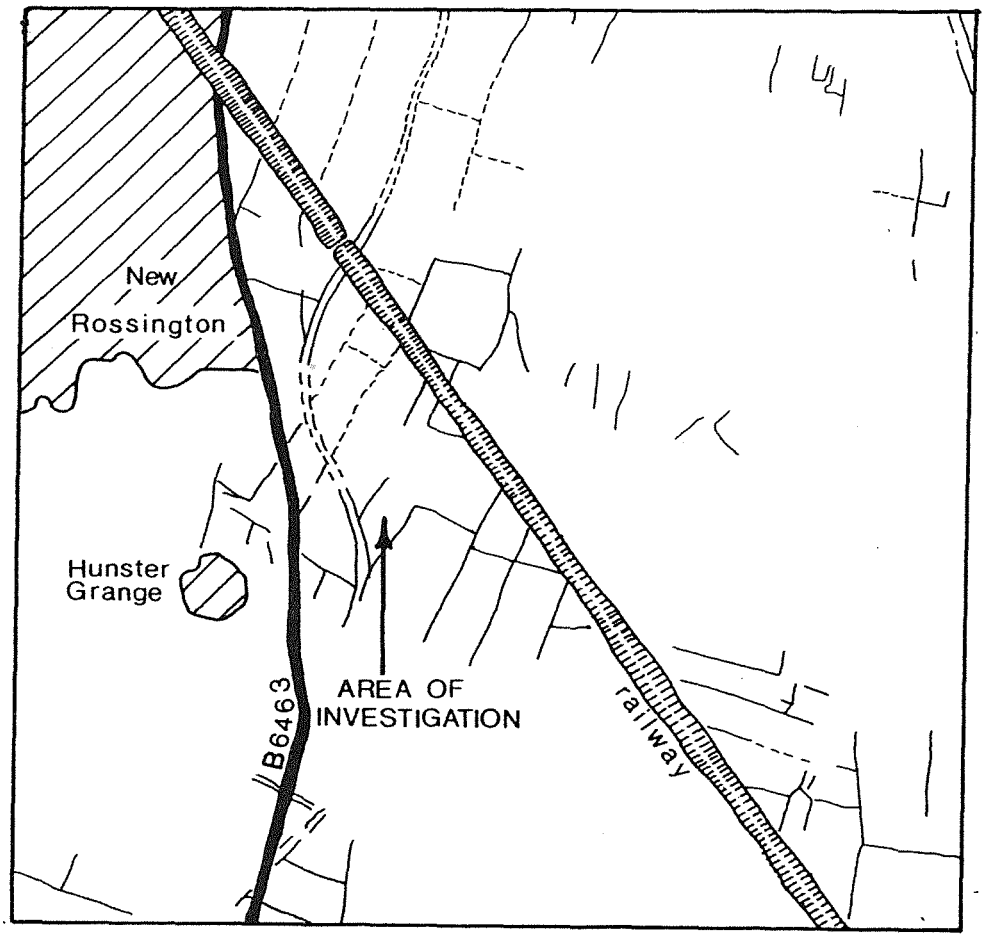



*Fig 13. Cropmarks near New Rossington*

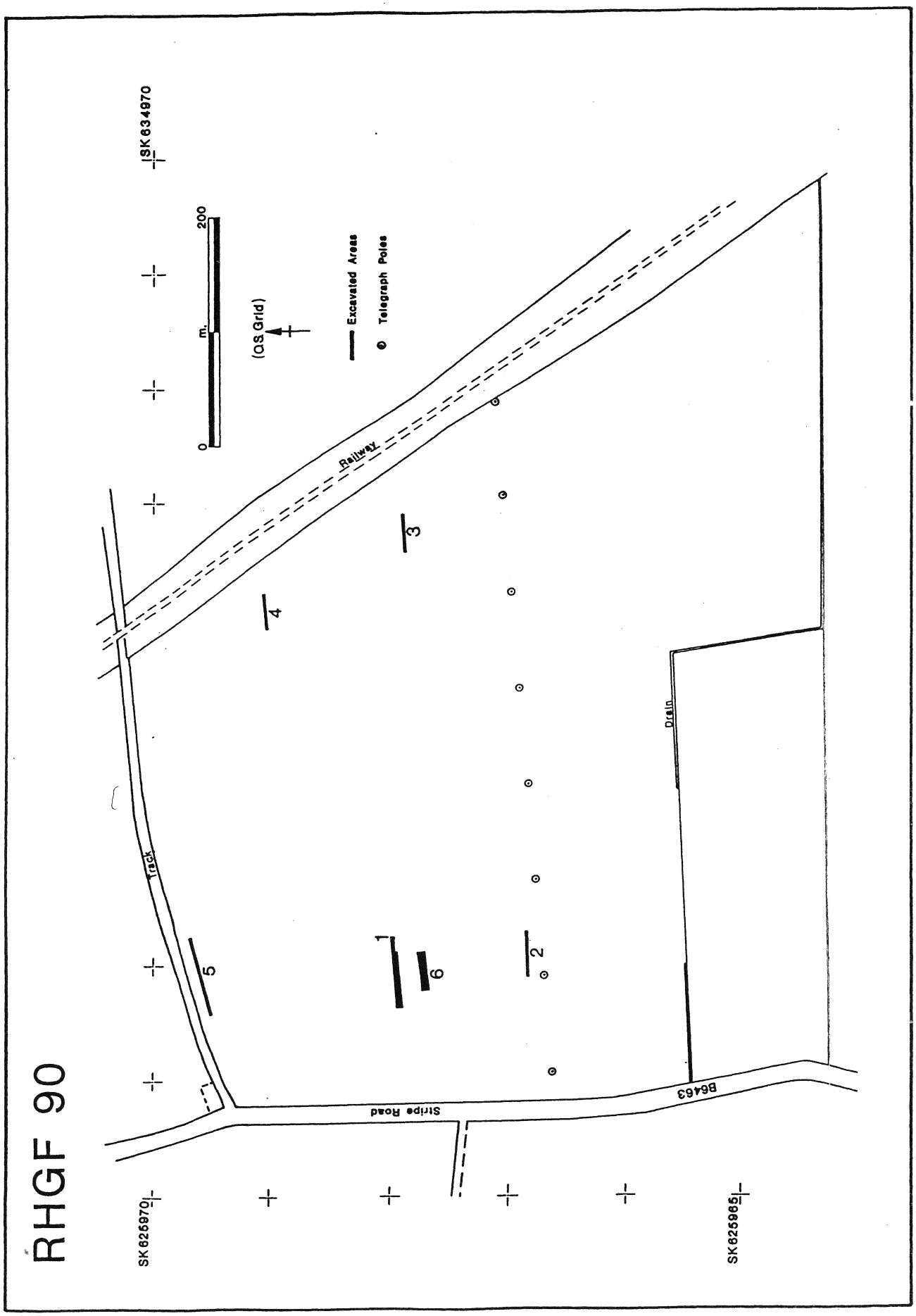



*Fig 14. Positions of trenches at Hunster Grange Farm.*

### Evaluation Methods

A total of six machine cut trenches were used to investigate the area, four of which investigated the double ditched feature running north across the field and two investigated field boundaries running southwest to northeast (fig 14).

Trench 1, 2.00m wide and 60.00m long was positioned across the double ditched feature and included part of a field boundary to the west. This was subsequently widened by 2.00m over a 50.00m length.

Trench 2, 2.00m wide, 40.00m long attempted to investigate an area of poor cropmark definition but where the double ditched feature could be located.

Trench 3 and 4, both 2.00m wide, 35.00m long investigated two of the field boundaries.

Trench 5, 2.00m wide, 70.00m long cut across the double ditched feature at the northern part of the site.

Trench 6, 5.00m wide, 35.00m long was positioned to compliment Trench 1.

### Results.

The location and excavation of the ditches proved extremely difficult except one location, Trench 2 where a field ditch running northeast was clearly defined by a line of dark grey sandy silt contrasting with the pale yellows of the natural sand.
All the possible ditch positions in the other trenches were "box sectioned" in an attempt to separate the natural sands and gravels from ditch fills. Trenches 1 and 6 revealed complex ditch profiles on either the north facing or south facing trench sections only. In only one case was there evidence for a ditch that clearly continued across the trench (fig 15).

Whilst there were initial doubts about the positioning of Trench 1 and 6 and concern that the main double ditches had been missed, subsequent surveying indicated this not to be the case. In two locations within the trenches there appeared to be a butt-end to the ditches, and Trench 5, despite intensive examination revealed no archaeological features other than a possible shallow gully on the same alignment as the double ditched feature.

No ditches were located in Trenches 3 and 4.

### Conclusions

There were clearly major discrepancies between the excavation results and the aerial photographs taken in 1976 which needed some explanation. The cropmarks revealed in 1976 were on the whole very clear and strong indicative of well defined archaeological features, which despite the variable nature of the natural sand and gravel should have been very visible during excavation. However, even in those cases where the position of a ditch was certain it was either very shallow or discontinuous.

The only possible explanation was that erosion through ploughing and weathering of the ridge had removed much of the archaeological deposits. This was eventually confirmed by the farmer who had noticed the increasing visibility of his house over the ridge from a neighbouring hill over the past ten years. ARC themselves had been surprised by the absence of a weathering cone above the commercially viable sand and gravel deposits.

The apparent discontinuity of the recognisable ditches found during the evaluation is best explained as a result of the varying original depths of the ditches. Only the very deepest parts of these ditches appeared to be surviving.

If the results of this evaluation are correct then the implications for the survival of buried landscapes within these areas are considerable. Most of the aerial photographs held by the South Yorkshire Sites and Monuments Record date to the mid-1970,s and intensive agricultural activity since then may have resulted in the truncation of or the disappearance of, large elements of the buried landscape.

It is hoped that in the near future the Unit will undertake research on other elements of these field systems in similar topographical situations in order to investigate this problem. The Unit will also seek to update its aerial survey coverage of the area to provide further information.

## Investigations at Barnburgh

### Introduction

The archaeological evaluation of Barnburgh hall site and grounds became necessary as a result of a proposal to develop the site for housing by British Coal, the site owners.

The presence within the area of development of a Scheduled Ancient Monument, a circa 15th century dovecote (County Monument Number 1231), and the demolished hall site of unknown antiquity caused some concern to English Heritage and the South Yorkshire Archaeology Unit particularly as the site had been highlighted in "The Doncaster District, An Archaeological Survey" as requiring some excavation work in advance of any proposed

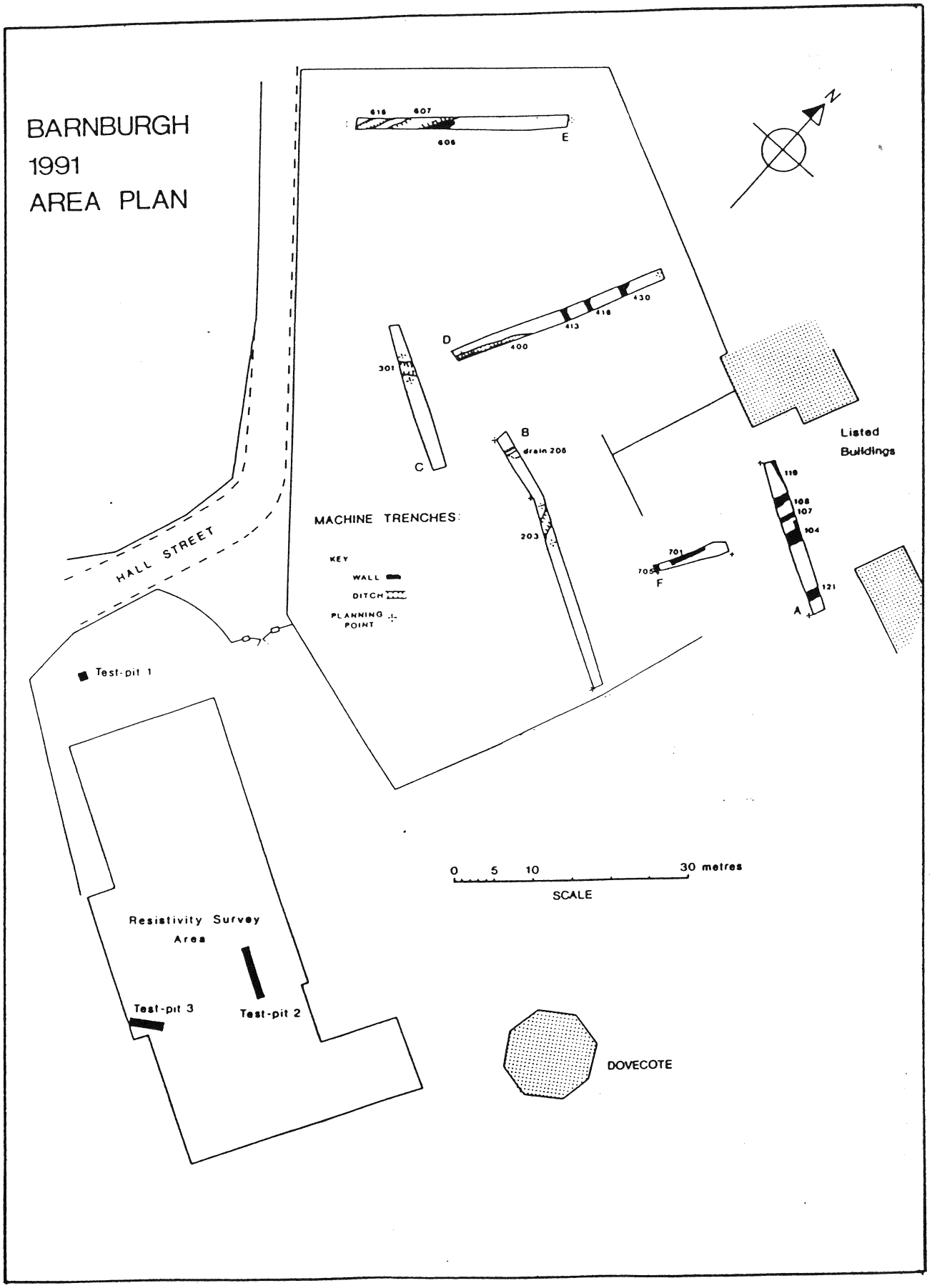
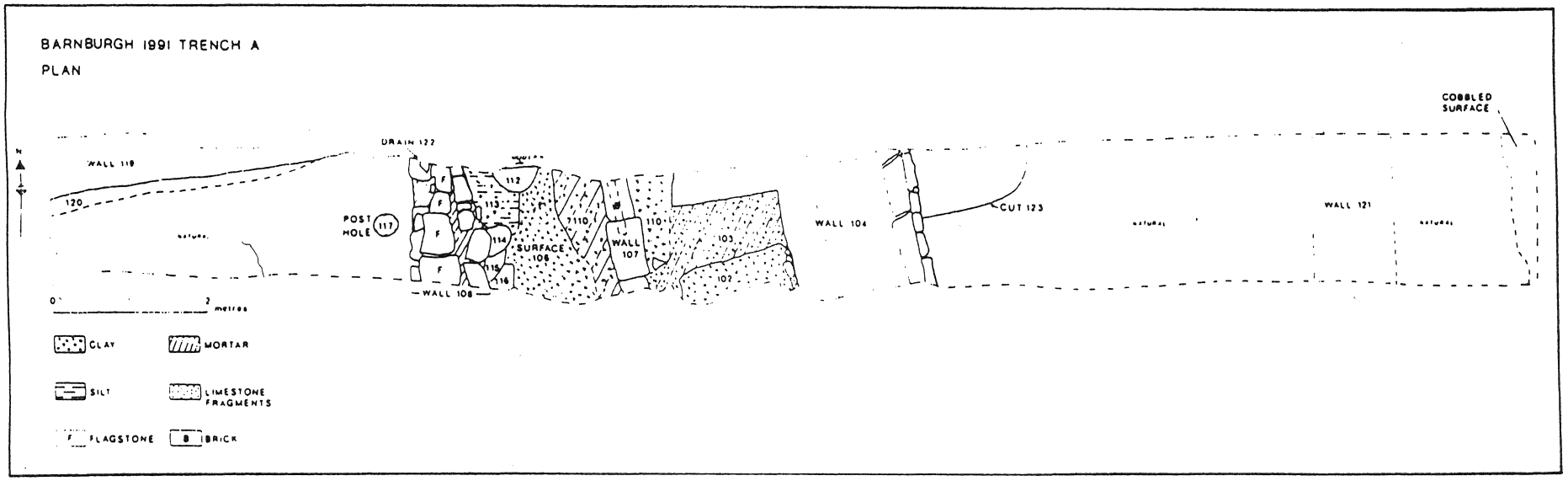



*Fig 15. Location of Barnburgh Hall trenches*



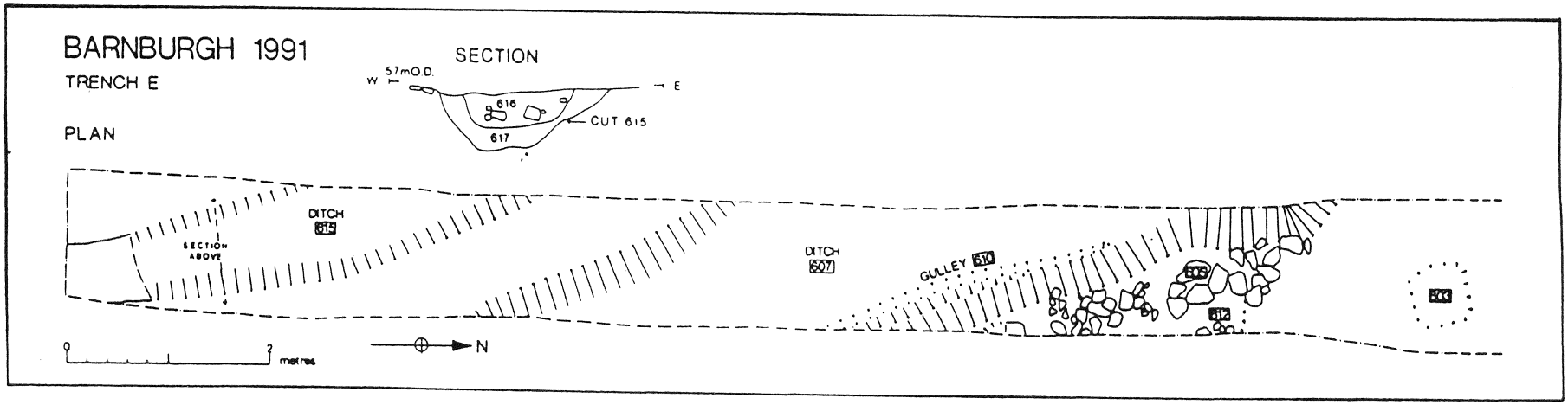




*Fig 16. Plans of Trenches A and E*

development (published 1977 by Doncaster museum)

Consequently, both English Heritage and the South Yorkshire Archaeology Unit recommended to Doncaster Planning Department and British Coal that the site needed an archaeological evaluation to determine the nature and extent of any surviving deposits associated with the hall, the dovecote and any earlier occupation of the site.

As a result, British Coal agreed to undertake such works as were necessary and commissioned the South Yorkshire Archaeology Unit to proceed with the evaluation. The works commenced on the 11th of March 1991 and terminated on the 5th of April 1991.

**Evaluation Proposals**

The evaluation comprised of two techniques, machine trenching and geophysical survey using the resistivity method.

The site of the latest hall was to be investigated for information about survival and date of archaeological deposits with excavations in the orchard area determining the presence or absence of other archaeological deposits, in particular the potential remains of earlier buildings.

The resistivity survey was to attempt to locate buried archaeological features in an area of open grassland to the south of the site with the minimum of below ground disturbance, although some hand dug trenches were envisaged. The proximity of the dovecote was of interest to this aspect of the works.

**Site Location and description**

The village of Barnburgh (Grid ref. SE485032) lies between the 50m and 60m contours overlooking the alluvial floodplain of the river Dearne to the South situated on middle coal measures sandstones below the Upper magnesian limestone plateau which outcrops on Barnburgh cliff.

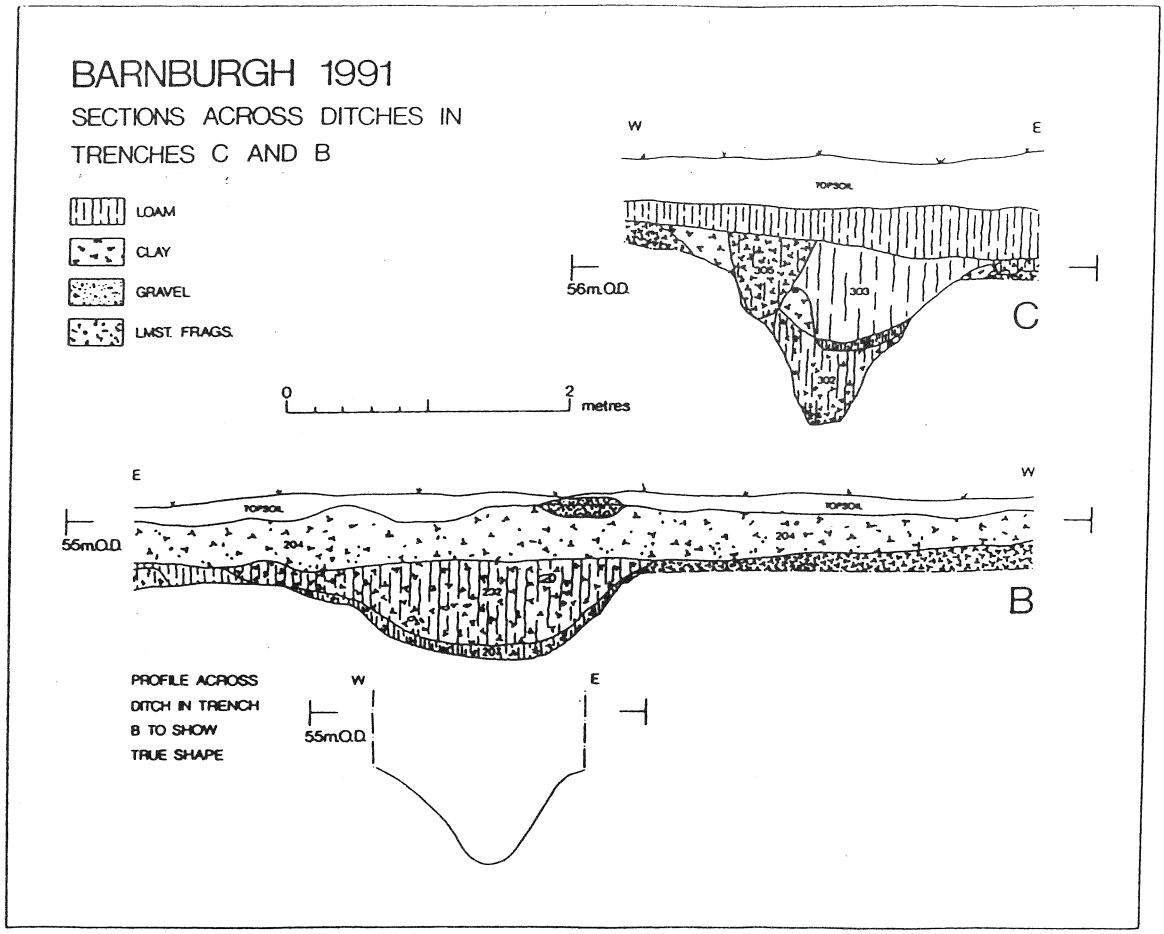



*Fig 17. Sections of Romano-British ditches*

The site commands extensive views to the south, west and east.

The hall site and grounds (Grid ref. SE48690340) lies at the north east side of the village off Hall Street with the Parish Church placed on the south side. The grounds of the hall are presently defined by a substantial perimeter wall containing an area of recently overgrown gardens and tennis courts to the east, a large garden to the west, an open area of grassland to the south (used for chickens) and a stable block to the north. The only other substantial structure is the 15th/16th century dovecote adjacent to the open grassland.

## Historical background

The Area around Barnburgh is rich in Prehistoric and Romano-British remains, in particular on the limestone plateau to the north. The top of Barnburgh Cliff contains the remains of several Romano-British farm enclosures within a complex field system incorporating other enclosures and stretching north along the whole plateau. One such enclosure has also been located below the Cliff to the north of the hall site.

Prehistoric use of the landscape is indicated by many concentrations of flint tools and the debris from their manufacture which have been found in the area. This, and the air photographic evidence indicates an intense use of the landscape from C.5,000 years ago to the 3rd or 4th centuries AD.

The village of Barnburgh itself is a medieval settlement with presumed Saxon origins. The discovery of a Saxon cross shaft in the churchyard implies an early foundation for the church which today contains constructional details of a 12th century date.

The large open space by the church makes the Barnburgh village plan almost unique in the region and may be of some significance in relation to its early medieval origins.

The latest hall on the site, sadly demolished by the NCB in the early 1970's appears to have been predominantly 18th/19th century in date although observers of the building including Pevsner, described it as a much altered Elizabethan building. A photographic survey conducted by the Royal Commission of Historical Monuments in 1979 suggests that much did indeed remain of the original 16th or 17th century hall encased in later additions.

The antiquity of the site is indicated by documentary sources with the earliest known family in residence being the Cressacres in the 13th century, and probably earlier. The Cressacre line ceased in the 15th century through the marriage of Anne Cressacre to Sir Thomas Moore's son. Anne Cressacre brought a substantial fortune into the Moore family and it is likely that a new hall at Barnburgh was constructed around this time. The archaeological evidence detailed below would seem to support this as does the suggested 15th century date for the dovecote.

## Results

A JCB with ditching bucket was used to excavate all 6 trenches (A-F) which were subsequently cleaned and further excavated (where necessary) by hand. The depth of overburden removed by machine varied from little more than 20cm to more than 1m in places (fig 16).

### Trench A

A 21m long, 2.00m wide east-west aligned trench was laid out across the front wall of the hall in order to investigate the nature of archaeological deposits and their survival rate (fig 17).

The demolition debris comprising of loose brick and stone rubble, and the most recent concrete flooring was removed by machine to expose several sections of wall footings and occupation deposits. Excavation of these features continued by hand.

Three major structural wall foundations and two slighter internal walls were recorded. Wall 121, 0.80m wide formed the front wall of the most recent hall and was constructed of large limestone blocks bonded with a firm pink mortar. Wall 119, of unknown dimensions was located in the north west corner of the trench presumably forming the north wall of the hall. This wall consisted of small to large limestone blocks bonded with a firm white lime mortar. Interpretation of the third major structural element, wall 104, 1.60m wide and bonded with firm white lime mortar was problematic but appears to represent an earlier face to the hall. The outer, eastern face of this wall was bonded with pink mortar. The two walls 108, 0.60m wide and wall 107, 0.40m wide presumably formed internal dividing walls. Both were bonded with white lime mortar.

Various horizontal deposits between 108 and 107 and 107 and 104 are interpreted as foundations for floors. Interpretation of the drain, 122 requires more extensive excavation. The relationship between the

cobbled surface found at the eastern end of the trench and the two eastern walls is unknown.

Trench B

This 2.0m wide 36.0m long trench laid on an east-west axis kinked slightly 10.0m from the west to allow access for the mechanical excavator. The trench was machined to a depth of 0.50m to the east and 1.1m to the west. Archaeological deposits were removed in this manner to allow quick access to a section through them. The section revealed several large pits cut into subsurface deposits and the underlying natural at the western part of the trench. A high level of activity is reflected by these features.

Two features survived as cuts into the natural at the east end of the trench and were subsequently excavated by hand. The first, a ditch 203, 1.5m wide and 0.60m deep runs north south oblique to the trench edges and contained over 100 sherds of Romano-British pottery. The second feature was a stone lined drain running southwest to northeast at the west end of the trench. This drain, almost certainly medieval, falls off to the south implying a connection with buildings to the north, presumably those found in Trench D (fig 18).

Trench C

This 2.00m wide, 20m long trench was machined down to natural ground and located a ditch 301 (fig 5 & 7), 1.5m wide and 1.4m deep at the west end and contained 6 sherds of Romano-British pottery and several fire cracked pebbles. The direction of this ditch suggests a connection with 203 and may be part of the same feature.

Two postholes were also visible cut into the upper ditch fill in both sections, one of which contained medieval pottery. These posts most probably formed part of a linear boundary connected with medieval occupation, rather than structural posts associated with buildings.

Trench D

The positioning of this 2.00m wide, 28m long trench (fig 8) was designed to investigate the area immediately to the west of the known hall site, complemented by Trench E.

Three lines of wall footings were uncovered aligned at right angles to the trench edge; wall 413, 416 and 431. Sealing these was a layer of rubble presumed to be remnant demolition material. Hand excavation was undertaken in this area to determine the nature of the archaeological deposits.

Horizontal deposits, 420 and 418 formed flooring material between walls 413 and 416 and a large pit to the north of 434 appeared to be associated with demolition. These walls clearly form part of a substantial medieval structure on a northwest/southeast alignment.

The southern end of the trench revealed a linear trench containing a series of deeper "pits" at regular intervals in association with 17th/18th century pottery. This feature may well be a bedding trench connected with the gardens of that period (fig 19).

Trench E

This trench, 2.00m wide and 26.00m long was machined down 1.00m in the northern half and showed little but a thin spread of limestone rubble. To the south the depth of overburden fell to approximately 0.40m. The fall in the natural ground to the north suggests that the greater depth in this part of the site was due to deliberate landscaping.

The southern half of the trench revealed traces of loose wall footings 605 in association with 12th/13th

century pottery sherds. These footings can be interpreted as possible foundations for a timber framed building rather than part of a substantial stone construction.

Immediately to the south of 605 a ditch 607, and gully 610, appear contemporary with the structure. Ditch 615, further south, contained no datable artifacts though the well consolidated fill was similar to the fills of the Romano-British ditches in Trenches B and C.

Trench F

This trench, 2.00m/3.00m wide, and 10.00m long trench was positioned at right angles to Trench A and was designed to compliment the results of the first trench.

After machining off a thick layer of concrete and rubble the vaulted remains of the hall cellar were located. The presence of white lime mortar throughout indicates that these cellars are integral to the 15th/16th century structure represented by wall 104 in Trench A. No further work was undertaken in this trench.

**Resistivity Survey**

An area of 1300 square metres to the south and west of the dovecote was surveyed using the twin-probe resistivity method

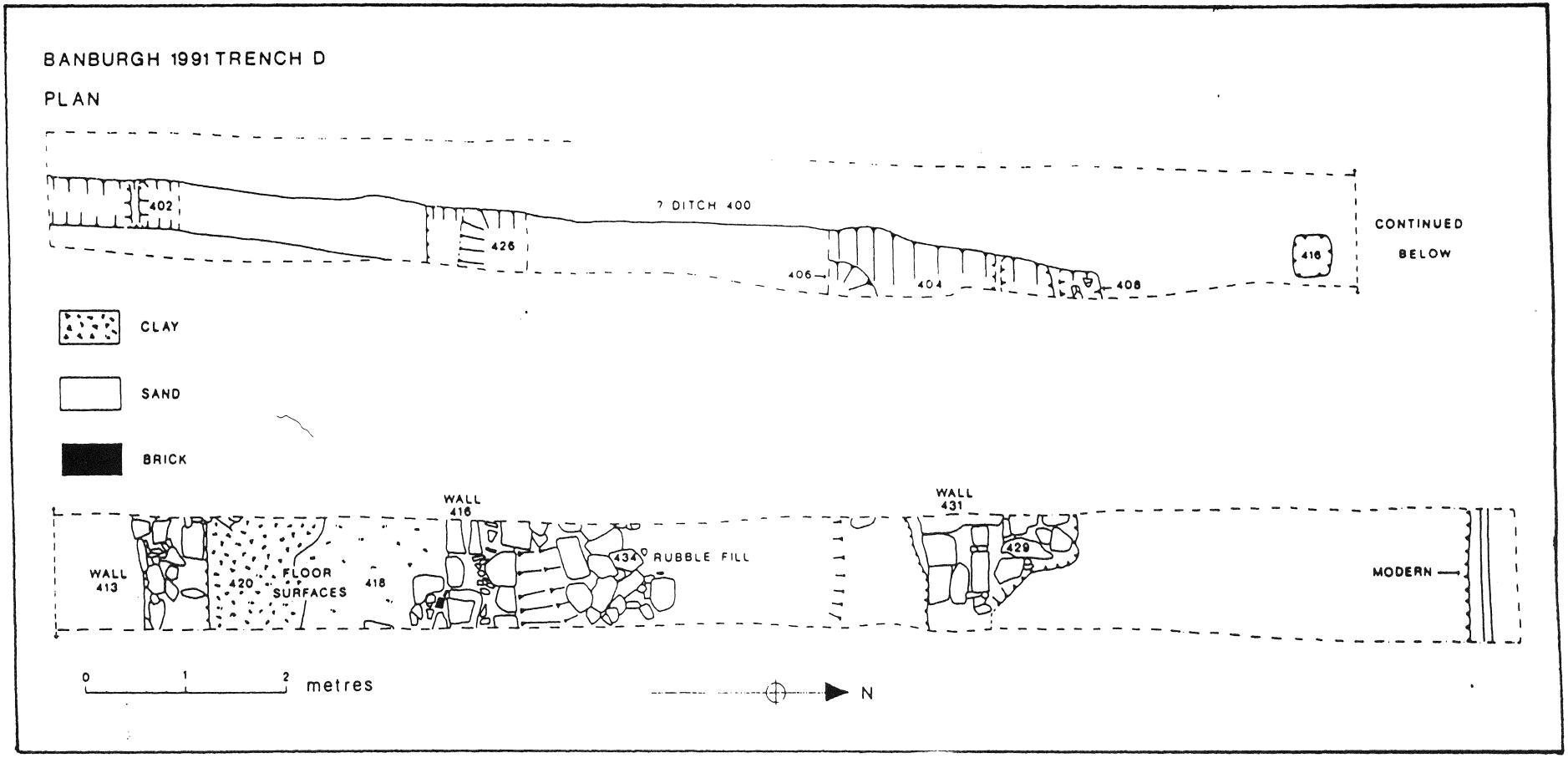



*Fig 18. Plan of Trench D*

The most notable anomalies detected were a "high" resistance linear feature running east-west through the survey area, a large "high" resistance area to the west, an area of "low" resistance to the east and a vaguely curvilinear "low" resistance feature to the south.

Test-pit 3, (4.00m by 1.00m), investigated the curvilinear feature and revealed a small modern land drain running east-west and 0.60m of clay subsoil. Test-pit 2, (7.00m by 1.00m), investigated the linear feature running east-west and revealed a scatter of cobbles below topsoil and 1.00m of clay subsoil. No further investigations were made.

Test-pit 1, (1.00m by 1.00m), investigated a considerable mound to the west of the survey area fronting onto Hall street and revealed that the mound contained a significant quantity of post-medieval and Victorian artifacts, many of which were complete bottles, within a 1.00m thick black humic deposit.

Discussion

The hall site investigated in Trenches A and F has produced structural and artifactual evidence indicating an essentially late medieval origin in the 15th and 16th centuries. As suggested by several investigators of the hall in the 1950,s and 1960,s the building was much altered in the 18th and 19th centuries in particular with the addition of a gabled front indicated by wall 121 in Trench A and shown on contemporary photographs. The structural evidence located during the evaluation implies that significant remains of the original hall had been preserved despite these later alterations. The cellars located in Trench F are particularly revealing in this respect.

The suggested date of the dovecote within the 15th century is consistent with this interpretation and an initial inspection of roof timbers within the surviving stable block suggests that they too may be earlier than thought at present. A 16th or 17th century date might be appropriately ascribed to these buildings after further careful examination.

The substantial wall footings located in Trench D relate to a building on an apparent northwest/southeast alignment. The associated pottery of 13th/14th century date and structural evidence certainly implies a building of that date, probably demolished immediately prior to the construction of the later hall.

Trench E contains part of a probable timber building in association with 12th/13th century pottery and may represent a timber precursor to the stone building in Trench D.

A full interpretation of the available evidence relating to the medieval use of the site is obviously constrained by the size of the trenches although it would appear probable that the site has seen successive manorial halls constructed since the 12th century.

Earlier activity on the site relates to the Romano-British ditches found in Trenches B, C and probably E. The large quantity of cultural material found in ditch 301 implies the presence of contemporary settlement in the immediate vicinity. The southern part of the walled garden would appear the probable location of this settlement, perhaps continuing beneath the modern road.

The resistivity results have proved inconclusive although further trenching to the west might prove more informative in view of the proximity of the Romano-British settlement site.

Conclusion

The archaeological evidence indicates the presence of substantial remains of successive medieval buildings on the site together with significant discoveries of the Romano-British period.

The obvious continuity of occupation on the site and the lack of archaeological investigations of rural settlement of this nature in the region make this a site of extreme importance in both a regional and national research framework.

The location of proposed housing within the walled garden area and known hall site will lead to the inevitable destruction of much of the archaeological record. In view of this, two main recommendations were made to British Coal, That the whole site be completely preserved or fully excavated prior to development.

Physical preservation of the archaeological remains within the walled garden area would involve limiting any ground disturbances to the top 10-20cm in the areas of trenches A,B,C,D and F, and between 20cm and 1.00m in Trench E.

At the time of writing the site owners, British Coal are considering all the available options.

Conisbrough Castle Watching Brief

As part of a scheme to provide floodlighting to Conisbrough Castle, the Yorkshire Electricity Board, sponsors of the facility needed to route a

cable across an area of the castle between the Barbican gate and the south-east corner of the keep.

Scheduled Monument Consent for this work was dependent on an archaeological presence being maintained during the excavation of the cable trench. A geophysical survey was also to be undertaken to the south east of the keep where concrete plinths for floodlights were to be installed.

The trench was excavated by hand in a careful and methodical manner by YEB employees under the supervision of South Yorkshire Archaeology Unit Staff.

Surprisingly perhaps, this 0.50m wide trench produced a large quantity of animal bone and pottery in the top 30-50cm, ranging in date from the late medieval to the early modern period.

The pottery clearly indicated a disturbed context within the castle and may be residual dumping from early excavations within the castle, details of which were unavailable to the Unit at the time.

The observation of small disturbances of this nature to archaeological deposits, whilst not adding greatly to our knowledge of medieval archaeology, is a very valuable part of archaeological deposit mapping.

## Excavations at 16-20 Church Street, Bawtry

### Introduction

The work undertaken by the South Yorkshire Archaeology Unit in Bawtry between October 1990 and March 1991 represented a significant departure from the relatively small scale excavations and surveys undertaken hitherto. This was the first time the Unit had been involved in significant urban medieval deposits and the first time that Bawtry itself had been investigated archaeologically.

Bawtry, now a small market town on the Great North Road between Doncaster and Retford, was known to have been a thriving inland port and planned town in the 13th an 14th centuries, and in the 14th century was second only to Doncaster in economic importance. The earliest mention of Bawtry comes from a charter of 1199 and whilst the exact date for the foundation of the planned town remains obscure it is thought to have occurred sometime in the late 12th or early 13th centuries. A charter for a fair was granted in 1213-14 and a market was in existence in 1247. The town developed alongside the Great North Road and the River Idle which was navigable to this point.

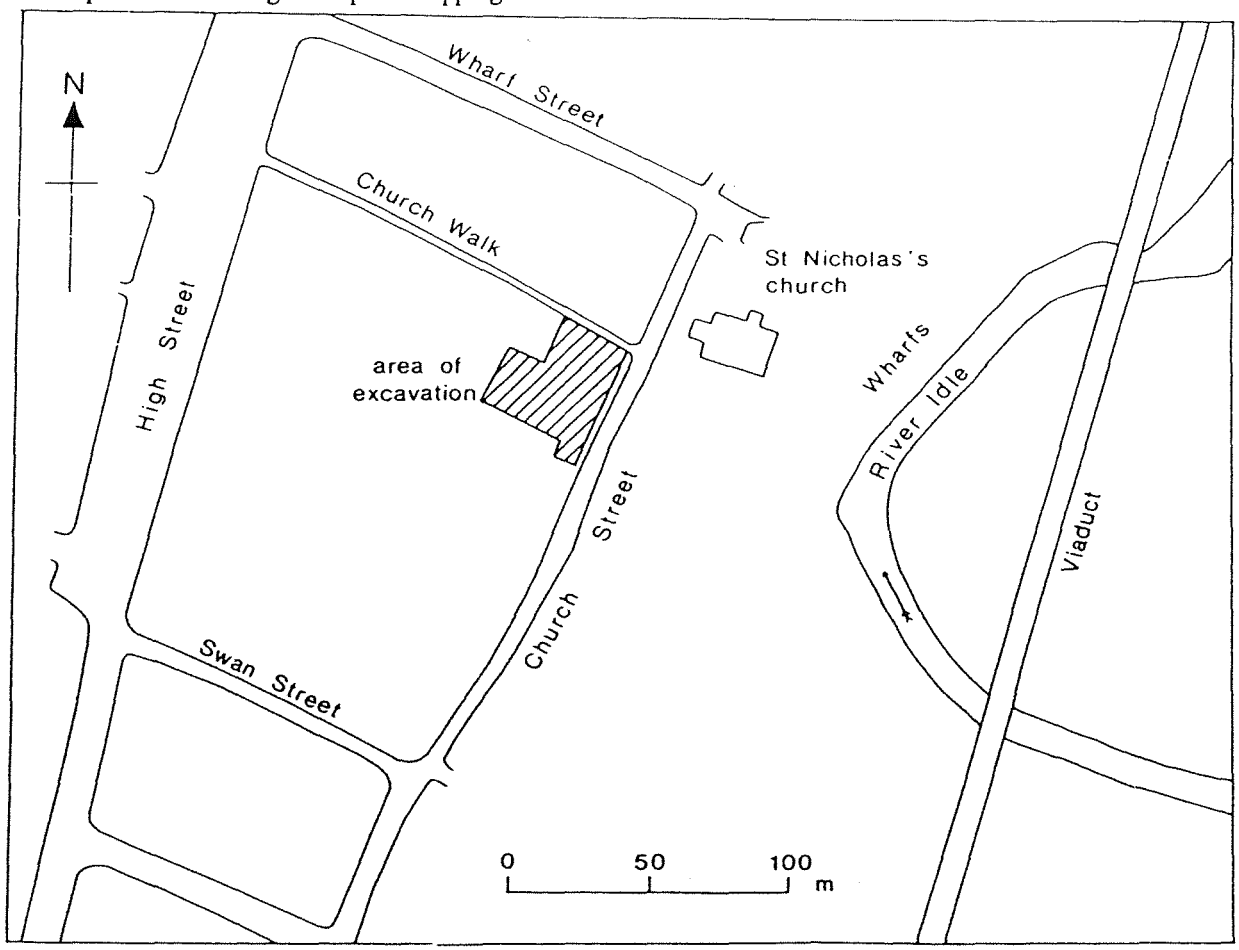



*Fig 19. Location of Bawtry excavations*

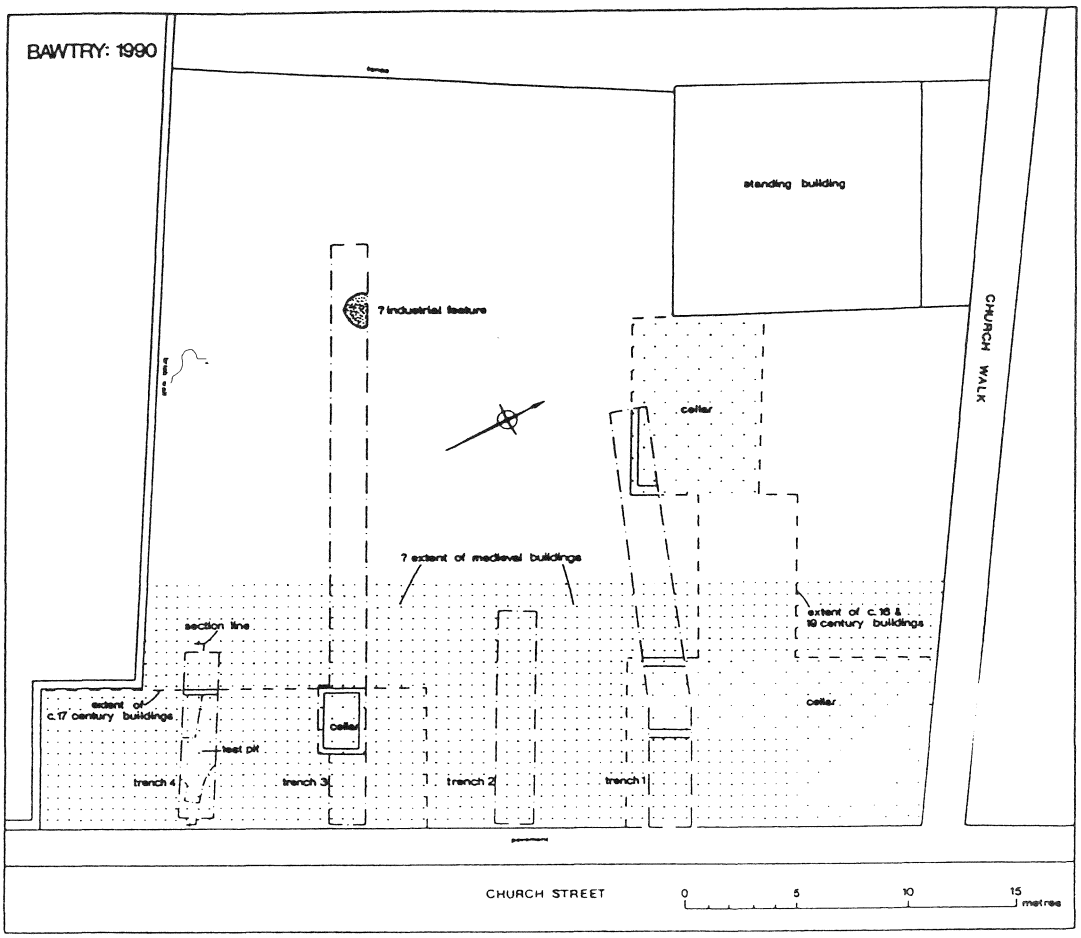



*Fig 20. Location of the evaluation trenches*

The surviving pattern of streets including Scot Lane, Swan Street and Church Street, reflect the planned grid of this medieval town. Wharf Street, at right angles to Church Street survives as a testament to Bawtry's origins as an inland port. The wharves can still be seen running parallel to, and between the railway and the rear of Church Street (fig 19).

Following a decline in fortune in the 15th and 16th centuries which prompted John Leland to describe Bawtry as "very bare and poore, a poore market town", Bawtry once again became a major export centre in the 17th and 18th centuries. This revival in fortunes was partly the result of improved navigation along the River Idle (a result of Cornelius Vermuyden's largely successful drainage scheme of the low lying region between Doncaster and the River Trent).

In the earlier period exports included lead and wool and by the late 16th century Bawtry was exporting minerals and manufactured goods from north Derbyshire and South West Yorkshire. Imports of Spanish steel and iron are also known from this period. Trade increased throughout the 17th and 18th centuries, to be eventually curtailed with the coming of the railways.

## Background to the Excavations

The site, located at the corner of Church Street and Church Walk consisted of approximately half an acre of cleared ground with a redundant 19th century chapel occupying the north west corner. Piles of demolition rubble occupied part of the area between this building and Church Walk. The underlying geology of sand and gravel forms the river terrace of the Idle.

Previous buildings on the site included a row of brick cottages which in the 1970's were thought to encase timber framing. These cottages lay along the street frontage to the south of the site and were demolished in the late 1970's due to their dangerous condition. Other buildings, part of which extended west to the surviving structure, occupied the site at the corner of Church Street and Church Walk. Ordnance Survey maps indicated that a large area

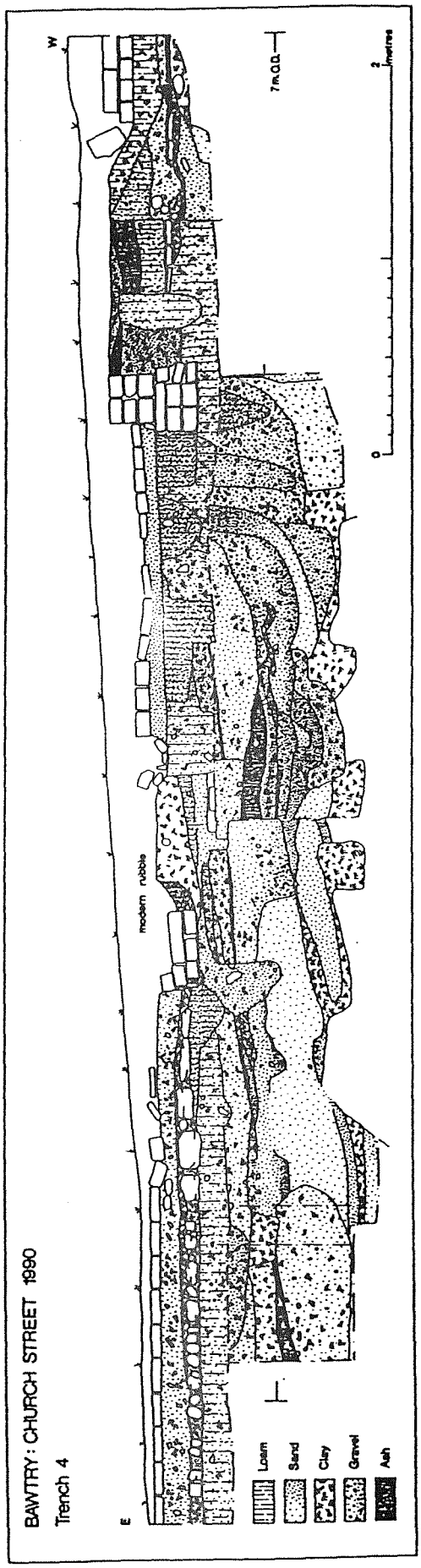



*Fig 21. Section showing the depth of stratigraphy.*

west of the cottages was clear of buildings, as was a smaller area in the north west corner.

The position of the site almost opposite the church added significantly to its importance for an understanding of Bawtry's origins. Whilst it was known that Bawtry was a late 12th or early 13th century planned town, it was not clear whether this had been laid out on "virgin" ground or whether it had been attached to an already flourishing riverside settlement. The position of the church at one corner of the town, where such features were normally placed centrally around the market area, might suggest the latter was more likely.

An application to construct housing on the site was received by Doncaster Planning Department and commented on by the South Yorkshire Archaeology Unit early in 1990. It was recommended that an evaluation be carried out to assess the archaeological potential of the site in advance of any development which would lead to removal of the archaeology.

The applicant, Sanctuary Housing Association agreed to such works and the Unit was commissioned to carry out the evaluation which was undertaken over three weeks in October 1990.

The objectives were to investigate the nature and depth of any surviving archaeological deposits both on the street frontages and in the rear yard area. The extent of later disturbances were also to be investigated. Excavation of archaeological deposits was to be avoided if possible, in order to minimise the destructive impact on these levels. Excavation was to be limited to later disturbances such as cellars and pipe trenches to enable sections through earlier deposits to be examined. It was hoped that the broad dating of these deposits could be achieved through stratigraphic relationships and the recovery of residual cultural material such as pottery.

Three trenches, to the north, south and centre of the site were originally proposed; running back from Church Street. A fourth was added after consultations with the Site Supervisor, to allow for a fuller appreciation of the archaeology (fig 20).

The evaluation demonstrated that well preserved medieval deposits exist both on the street frontage and in the back yards to a maximum observed depth of 1.00m (fig 21). The discovery of early medieval pottery suggested that structures relating to the pre-planned town of the 13th century may well exist on the site. Analysis of the exposed sections suggests that the surviving deposits were quite complex and represented an important body of archaeological information relating to the origins and development of Bawtry. Although later disturbances have occurred, their effect on the archaeology had been slight.

The evaluation report recommended that a full excavation would be necessary if the site was to be developed as the surviving archaeological deposits were immediately below the present ground surface. Sympathetic foundation design to minimise disturbance was, in this case, inappropriate.

As the development was to go ahead, full excavation of the site became necessary. A generous grant of £20,000 was made available by English Heritage and the shortfall of £10,000 was provided by Doncaster Planning Department, Doncaster Museum and the site developer, Sanctuary Housing Association.

These excavations started on the 26th November 1990 and drew to a successful conclusion on March 7th 1991, (following a one week extension necessitated by the heavy snow and freezing conditions encountered during January and February).

The aim of the full excavation, that the archaeology be preserved by record through excavation, was achieved with the production of approximately 2,000 context sheets, 200 plans and sections and over 700 photographs. A study of this material, together with the specialist environmental and analytical reports of the finds, is being undertaken with a view to establishing a permanent archive at Doncaster Museum and the publication of a monograph by April 1992.

**Interim Excavation Results**

The excavation fell into three main periods, the latest of which, Phase Three (weeks 2-4) dealt with investigations of the 17th-18th century cottages fronting onto Church Street after an initial few days spent removing the modern overburden and general site cleaning (week 1). Phase Two (weeks 5-13) covered the main period, from the establishment of the planned town in the late 12th or early 13th centuries, to the 17th century. Phase One (weeks 14-15) consisted of analysing the evidence for primary occupation on the site clearly underlying the burgage plots of the planned town.

Phase One

The square or rectangular structure (fig 22) survived as a lip of wattle and daub, founded on irregular sized water worn stones, and was terraced into the eastern edge of the site, mainly underlying Church Street. To the north and south there were pairs of padstones forming an aisle to each side. A small offshot room 3.5m x 2.1m., of similar construction, extended to the west which

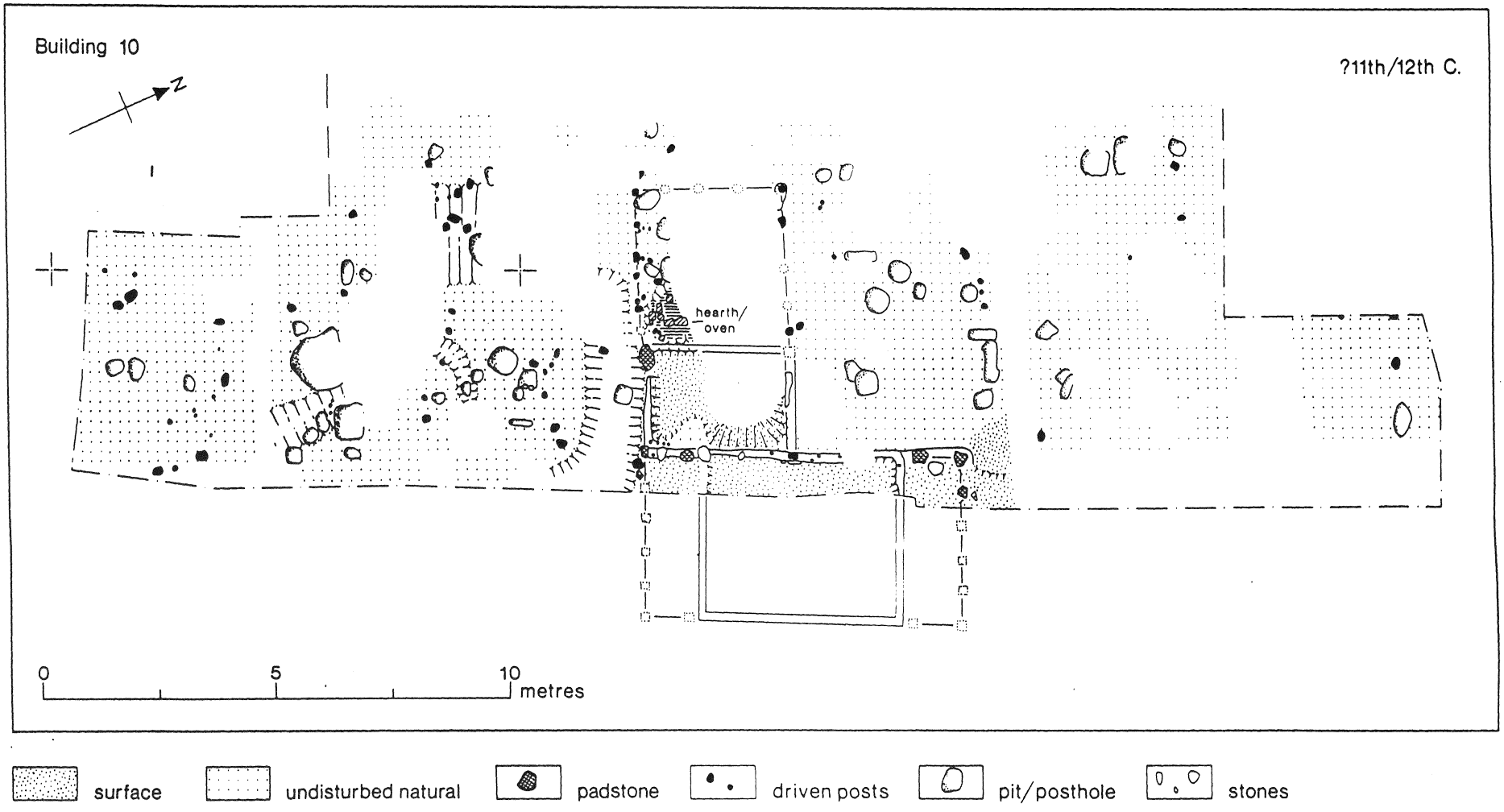



*Fig 22. Plan of Building 10*

subsequently supported the addition of a light-weight driven post structure 3.5m x 3.6m again to the west, enclosing a hearth or oven.

The lightness of these structures indicates the building was of a single story. The main body appears to have had gabled ends to the east and west, the ridge being supported by a centrally placed vertical post set onto a magnesium limestone pad, within the western wall. Further evidence of this arrangement was shown by an eavesdrip gully, running from west to east, along the southern edge of the building, taking the run-off from the roof. Its terminus to the west indicated the position of a doorway within the rear extension, which provided access between the internal oven and an ashpit, discovered to the south of the building.

Three floor levels were excavated within the building. The latest was covered with a thick layer of ash which underlay the remains of the collapsed daub walls. This suggested destruction by fire prior to the establishment of the planned town, whose divisions these levels clearly underlie.

Although no datable artifacts were recovered from within the building, it is likely that it may be associated with several pits or postholes found in close proximity to it. These produced local shell tempered wares and some early imported pottery of the 11th /12th centuries. There was little other recognisable activity of this period within the area examined suggesting that the structure stood in isolation.

Phase two

During the formation of the planned town, the area was divided into burgage plots (A-F Fig 23) each approximately 6.5m - 7.0m. wide. Six of these were within the area of excavation. Each supported an individual building (3-8) approximately 6.5m - 7.0m x 5.5m - 6.0m., fronting onto Church Street and being separated by a drain. None of the structures, remains of five of which survived, produced evidence of domestic occupation in their primary form, suggesting commercial or industrial usage.

The laying of a drain between each building renders the construction sequence difficult to interpret. Although simultaneous construction would have been possible, it is more likely each building was constructed independently over a period of time. This can be demonstrated in part by the discontinuity of line along the street frontage, but principally by the differing methods of construction. Buildings 4 and 6 appear to have been timber framed, founded on magnesium limestone footings, with vertical posts supported on large padstones secured by the surrounding masonry.

In contrast, the magnesian limestone and brick footings of building 5 clearly supported a sill beam into which vertical posts would have been tenoned and pegged. All the foundations of this period were clay bonded. The first noted use of mortar was in the construction of the fireplace in building 6, (see below).

Each building revealed a different individual history. Building 4 remained in the same basic form showing only the replacement of floors, the renewal or replacement of the street frontage and finally demolition by the late ?15th century. In comparison, building 5 underwent several significant changes through time. Excavation of this building revealed a series of floor levels and several internal subdivisions, each of which substantially changed its layout. A fireplace was inserted in the south west corner by the ?late 15th century and finally, in the early 16th century after the demolition of building 4, the building was extended to the south encroaching into plot B. The building was finally demolished during the 17th century.

Building 6, evolved from a similar rectangular structure in the 13th century with the addition of a back-block (9) in the late 14th / early 15th century. The base of an industrial furnace and a spread of iron trimmings and iron oxide staining across the floor levels indicated a commercial function.

The land divisions of the 13th century were also reflected in the yards or gardens to the rear of the properties. Each plot incorporated its own well and associated ovens. No physical boundaries were recognisable but their lines were respected by a light weight structure (11) to the rear of plot B, its underlying ?malting oven, and the distribution of rubbish or storage pits. In the late 15th or early 16th century when plots B and C were amalgamated, a number of pits clearly crossed the boundary lines and no longer respected them.

These long narrow plots are still visible among the present day property divisions along Church Street and Swan Street. Many still reflect the 6.5m width of those discovered during the excavation. There is however a noticeable difference among the more prosperous buildings situated along High Street, where the shop frontages tend to be divided into 10m units. This pattern is also shown on early Ordnance Survey maps. Further study of these, and other early maps, should enable a detailed reconstruction of the original burgages within the central core of the town, and its relationship with the remainder of the planned town, the Church and Port.

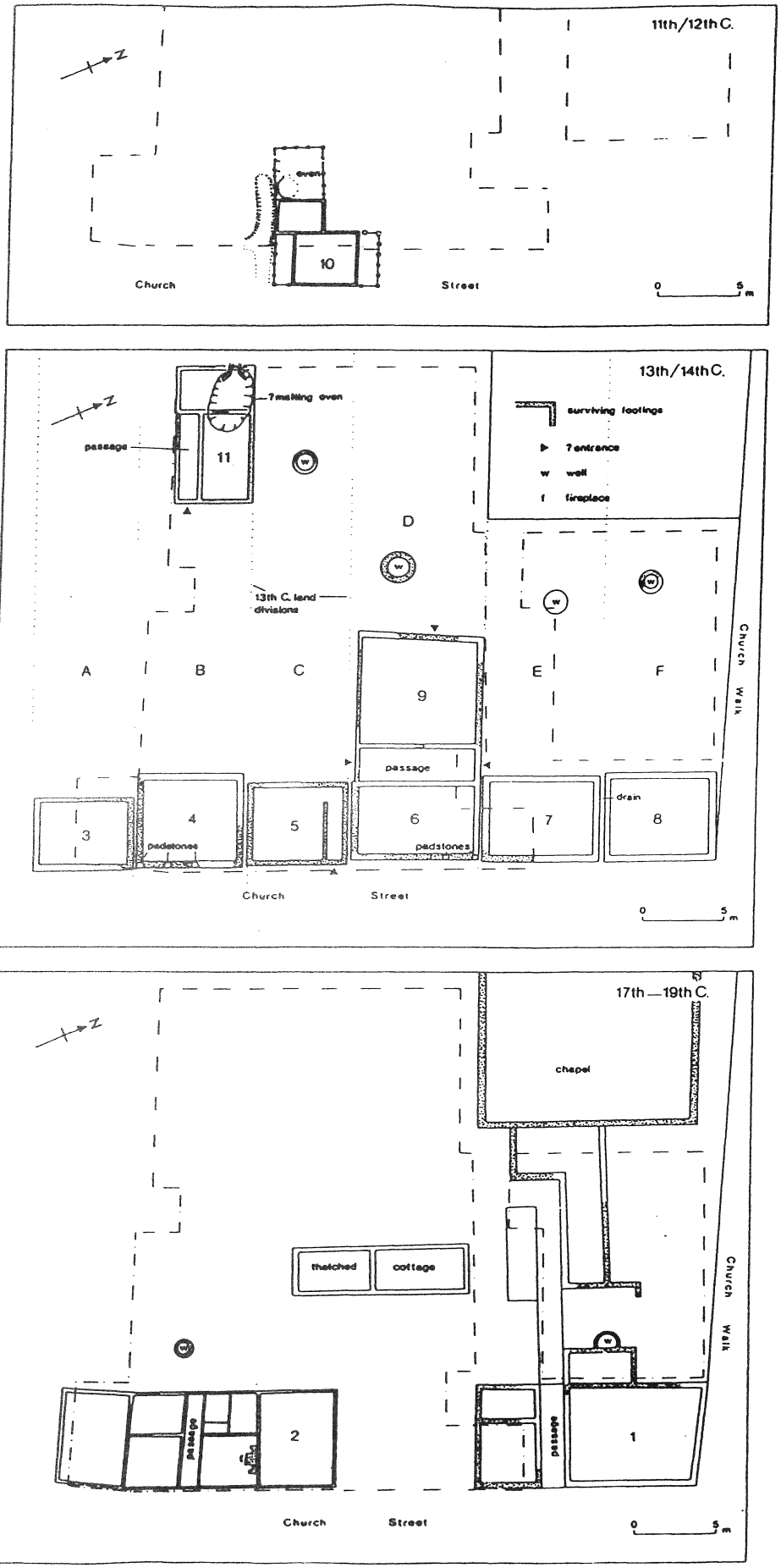



*Fig 23. Plan of main building phases*

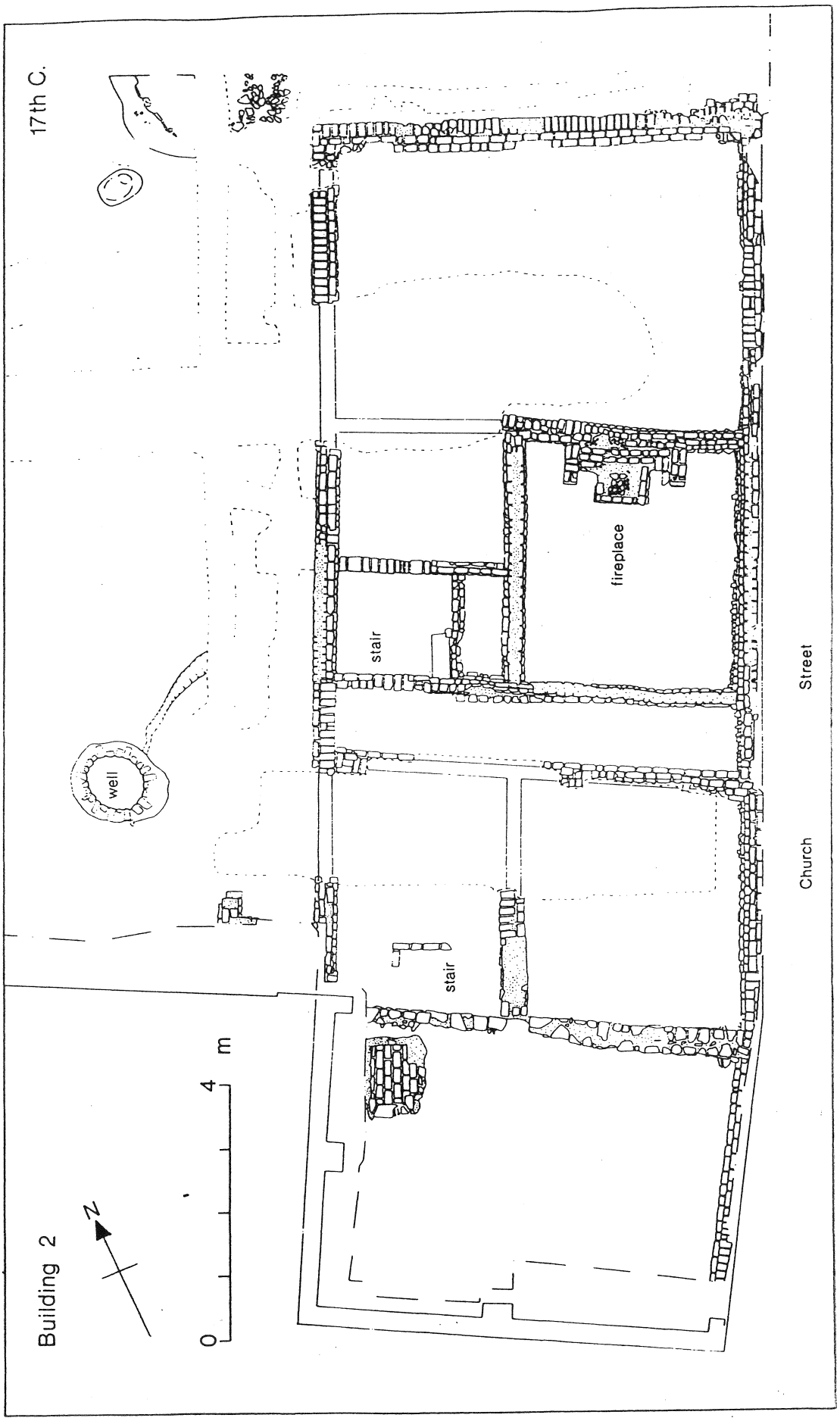



*Fig 24. Plan of Building 2*

Pottery recovered from this period, (see below) includes many local and regional types together with several imported wares. In addition to providing the general dating of features, some of the ceramics may indicate the existence of a kiln or group of kilns in the immediate vicinity. a small number of sherds show attached remains of neighbouring vessels from the firing. Some are badly distorted, and the fractured edges of some are covered with glaze. A date for these kilns of the 13th to 14th century is suggested by the recovery of some of this material associated with Saintonge Green Glaze, from the backfill of the well in plot C.

Phase Three

The late 17th early 18th centuries saw the further amalgamation of the Burgage plots A - C with the construction of a pair of three roomed, timber framed buildings (2, Fig 24). These were separated by a central passage, and founded on shallow brick footings, respected only the southern boundary of plot D.

In the 18th / 19th centuries, Plots E and F similarly merge with the building of a substantial three story cellared house fronting Church Street and a chapel to the rear, the latter extant although derelict. Both buildings respected the northern boundary of plot D, which provided access to the yard or garden area for building 2 and contained a pair of small thatched cottages set back from Church Street. No archaeological evidence for these buildings was discovered, although they appear on a c.1920's air photograph of Bawtry, and on early Ordnance Survey maps.

The presence of pottery from Northern Europe, including Rhenish and Frechen Stoneware, Westerwald and early 17th century Dutch Delft show a significant increase in international trade throughout this period.

## Conclusion

From this initial evaluation of the excavation material, evidence is beginning to emerge showing the development of the site from the 11th or 12th century with its rudimentary structure, through the formation of the Planned Town around the prosperous inland port of the 13th and 14th centuries, to its decline by the 16th century, and its subsequent revival in the 17th and 18th centuries.

## Preliminary Notes on the Pottery from Excavations at 16-20 Church Street, Bawtry

The excavations at Bawtry, described in detail above, provided an excellent opportunity to examine part of a medieval town which combined the functions of a market place and an inland port. The latter role gave the town an importance beyond that of other market towns in the area and suggests that it played an important role in the economy of a large part of the area now occupied by South Yorkshire, North Nottinghamshire and the eastern fringes of the Pennines. We know from the documentary evidence that a wide variety of goods were exported to other ports on the east coast of England and to Europe through Bawtry, and one aim of our study of the pottery has been to assess the extent of these contacts and to amplify the rather sparse information given in these records.

The earliest record which we have of a settlement at Bawtry is dated 1199 and our second priority has been to try to trace the origins of the settlement and to establish the period of its foundation, and, if possible, the nature of this early settlement. A third theme has been the changes which occurred in the town over the centuries, in relation to those occuring in the local area and on a national scale.

The pottery assemblage from the excavations is the largest single group of artifacts, and also the one most likely to provide us with information which can be interpreted to give answers to the questions posed above. At the time of writing a basic catalogue of the pottery has been produced and on the basis of this some preliminary suggestions can be made about the site, and, equally as important, a number of further questions can be asked which must be considered in the planning of further work in Bawtry specifically, and South Yorkshire generally.

The foreign contacts maintained by the merchants who used the port are indicated by the finds of European pottery. This includes fine green glazed vessels (known as Saintonge ware) from Burgundy in southwest France, cooking pots from the Low Countries and stoneware vessels from the Rhineland. The Saintonge ware is the earliest of these imports, dating from a period between the mid 13th century and the later 14th century. The vessels from the Low Countries are typical of those produced between about 1350 and 1550, while the stoneware spans the period from the later 15th to the 17th centuries.

These types of pottery have only been found in small numbers, and it is unlikely that they were the objects of trade. Rather they seem to have been vessels used by the crews of the ships and were probably passed to the inhabitants of the town as part of small scale, informal transactions. This explanation is perhaps particularly appropriate in the

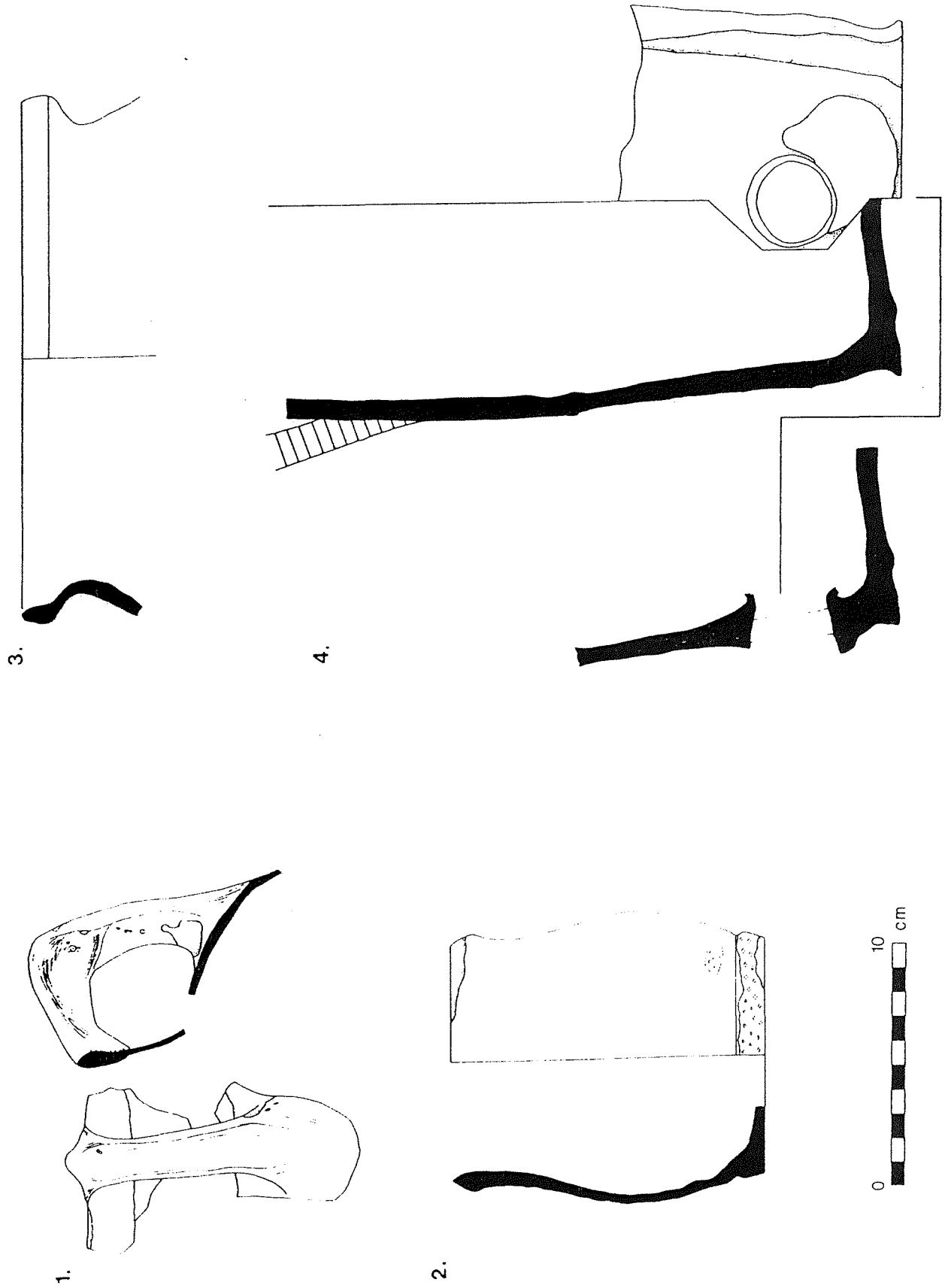



*Fig 25. Pottery from Bawtry*

case of the Saintonge vessels and the Rhenish stonewares which were both associated with the drinking of wine.

The bulk of the pottery is of local origin. The earliest building on the site (Building 10) is associated with a number of sherds of pottery characterised by the quantities of crushed shell added as temper. As yet no exact parallels for these sherds have been found and their precise date remains in doubt. On other sites such pottery has been recovered from contexts dating to between the 11th and 15th centuries.

Far greater quantities of pottery have been found which can be dated to the 13th - 15th centuries. This includes a great deal of material familiar from other excavations in the area, and most importantly, from excavations and field walking on the sites of kilns. This pottery can be divided into two broad groups. The first is that known as Humberware which was made at a number of potteries in the area including Cowick and Holme-on-Spalding Moor in Humberside. The majority of vessels appear to be jugs and pitchers, made of fine clay, fired to obtain a red colour and decorated with yellow/green glaze. A number of vessels of similar quality originated in Beverly near Hull and from Doncaster.

A second group of vessels, more robust and practical than the Humberware types (and perhaps somewhat later) are those made in potteries in the Lower Don valley, and which are particularly associated with sites at Firsby and Rawmarsh. These vessels, which include jugs, pitchers and cisterns (normally associated with an increase in the consumption of beer), are characterised by their durability, a property of their hard gritty fabric which was fired to temperatures in excess of 1000 degrees centigrade.

The English pottery industry underwent a number of changes during the first half of the 15th century which resulted in changes in the appearance of the pottery. These changes are reflected at Bawtry in the presence of finer table wares (Cistercian ware) and different kinds of utilitarian wares. The new types of pottery are much harder to link to specific potteries, or even to specific regions, but the assemblage from Bawtry is typical of that of a site in the north Midlands, with good examples of Midlands Purple and Midlands Yellow wares. Two examples of the former are illustrated on page 41. Pottery of the later 17th and 18th centuries, including slipwares and tin glazed wares, is rarer and is much more fragmented, which may suggest some change in the use of the buildings and of the yards.

The excavations at Bawtry have not only raised questions about the relationship of the site to the rest of the town and to the port, but also about the date of the local pottery industries, particularly those in the lower Don Valley. Only further fieldwork will resolve these questions.

C Cumberpatch

**Air Photography in South Yorkshire 1990**

The dry summer weather favoured the development of crop marks, a good number of which were recorded. The following flights were made :
22 June 2.1 hours
18 July 3.4 hours
20 July 3.0 hours
although both the flights on 18 and 20 July involved some time in North Nottinghamshire as well as South Yorkshire.

Because of problems at Sheffield Aero Club I had to fly from Sherburn, a more distant airfield, which involved more time going to and returning from the areas to be examined, but I was lucky to be flown by A. Crawshaw, a competent pilot who is very interested in archaeological flying - a tremendous help. The 8 1/2 hours flying only allowed enough time to make a rapid search of parts of the area, and perhaps three or four times as much would have been needed to do the job thoroughly. However, my familiarity with the ground enabled me to make the best of the opportunities.

80 crop mark sites were photographed, of which 34 were new, a surprisingly high proportion, 6 of these new marks were very faint, and a few were not well defined, but they have been included. The remainder were quite distinct, though a week earlier they might have been showing better. Most were enclosures. 25 of the new sites were on the limestone or coal measures of South Yorkshire.

Two of the new sites on the coal measures are important in the local context:

SE 383 072 Barnsley - rectilinear enclosure and complex of lanes and field boundaries.
SE 461 014 Adwick-on-Dearne - complex of rectilinear enclosures

In addition to previously unrecorded sites, there were some which added details to known sites. One of importance was at SE 519 120 at Burghwallis where ditches of a third fort show on the Roman fort site at which cropmarks of two superimposed forts have been seen in previous years (on limestone).

1990 provided some very satisfactory results, which shows that in good conditions a surprising amount of data can be recorded in a few flights if one goes

to the right area. It was noticeable that new cropmarks were much more frequent on the South Yorkshire limestone and coal measures than on the Nottinghamshire sandstone. I have noticed for some years that South Yorkshire was lagging behind West Yorkshire in the discovery of crop marks on the limestone and coal measures, and the 1990 results do something to redress the balance. I suspect that I have not been giving a sufficient share of my flying time to this area in recent years.

D N Riley

**South Yorkshire Archaeology Unit Advisory and Liaison Group**

This group consisting of professionals working within archaeology and associated fields within the metropolitan boroughs of Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield City and the University of Sheffield has now been established for over 2 1/2 years.

Its role of supporting and discussing issues affecting the Unit and archaeology within South Yorkshire has proved to be an important one, and the dissemination of information between the relevant bodies has greatly increased.

Issues discussed over the last year include the progress of our work in the development control planning process, the introduction of PPG 16 Archaeology and Planning, recent national issues such as whether there should be a charging policy for information in the SMR, the future staffing and budgetary requirements of the Unit, the current state of the Monuments Protection Programme in South Yorkshire, and of course the current and ongoing field programme.

This group continues to advise the South Yorkshire Joint Archaeology Committee.

Thanks must be extended to its 1st chairman Derrick Riley, and the secretary since its establishment, Tony O'Connor of Doncaster Museum.

M J Francis

**South Yorkshire Archaeology Day 1990**

The second South Yorkshire Archaeology Day was held in October 1990 at the University of Sheffield, jointly organised by the South Yorkshire Archaeology Unit and the Division of Continuing Education.

Nearly one hundred people attended the day school in 1990 more than doubling the figures of the previous year. The day began with the Annual General Meeting of the South Yorkshire Archaeology Unit Advisory and Liaison Group. This is the opportunity for all local historical and archaeological societies and individual researchers to contribute and voice their opinions on the work of the Unit and other archaeological matters within South Yorkshire. This meeting over with, we quickly moved on to the interesting talks of the day.

Pauline Beswick began the proceedings with an update on the work she had done at Sheffield Manor over the last 20 years. This was followed by Denis Ashurst showing us slides of some of the interesting buildings he has been studying in the Worsbrough area. The last talk before lunch was by Peter Ryder, formerly an employee of the Archaeology Unit, on the recent survey work he did on the Old School, Royston. The afternoon session began with a summary by Colin Merrony on the work of the Unit over the last twelve months. This included the evaluations that took place at Wales, the recent excavations that had been held at the cruck building adjacent to Sheffield Manor, work at Bradfield and Conisbrough Castles and the initial findings from the evaluations at Bawtry (all these are reported in this review).

Dr Margaret Nieke from English Heritage then gave a talk on The Monuments Protection Programme and how it affected the archaeological sites in South Yorkshire, and Clive Hart rounded up this session with the recent fieldwork he had undertaken in woodlands, particularly Ecclesall Woods.

After a break for tea, Trevor Lodge of the Sheffield Trades Historical Society showed some fascinating slides of the mining remains on the Tinsley airport site. Michael Eaton of the Department of the Environment then followed with a sample of some of the buildings he had been looking at in Sheffield for the recent listing revision, and the day ended with a reminder by Charles Hippisley-Cox of some of the fine churches that exist in South Yorkshire.

We would like to thank all the speakers for contributing to this highly successful day, and the University of Sheffield, particularly David Crossley for helping to organise it and providing the venue for this event.

At the moment we are busily preparing for South Yorkshire Archaeology Day 1991, which looks to being an equally interesting day school.

M J Francis

FINANCE

Core funding from Barnsley MBC, Doncaster MBC, Rotherham MBC, Sheffield CC - £75,000

Grants

English Heritage Bawtry - £20, 000
English Heritage Sheffield Manor - £7,500
English Heritage Sites and Monuments Record Assistant - £2,700
English Heritage Scholes Coppice - £700

Grants received from constituent local authorities (over and above core funding)
Doncaster MBC Directorate of Planning -£5,000
Doncaster MBC Doncaster Museum and Art Gallery - £1,000
Rotherham MBC - £700
Sheffield City Museums Sheffield Manor - £4,500

£23,967 was received from the following organisations for commissioning the South Yorkshire Archaeology Unit to undertake archaeological field projects -
ARC, British Coal, Church of England, Lewis Wadsworth, Sanctuary Housing Association, Sears Property Developments, Yorkshire Electricity Board

Elected Members on South Yorkshire Joint Archaeology Committee 1990-91

P Horton (Sheffield CC)
R J Hughes (Rotherham MBC)
E Jones (Doncaster MBC)
Mrs D M Layton JP (Doncaster MBC)
D J Marsden (Rotherham MBC)
R Norbury (Barnsley MBC)
M Pye (Sheffield CC)
J D Wake (Barnsley MBC)

Officers on South Yorkshire Joint Archaeology Committee

P Broomhead (Sheffield CC)
P Beswick (Sheffield CC)
J Little (SYAU)
J Hislop (Barnsley MBC)
A O'Connor (Doncaster MBC)
C Williams (Rotherham MBC)

Members of South Yorkshire Archaeology Unit Advisory and Liaison Group

P Beswick (Sheffield CC), J Collis (University of Sheffield), A O'Connor (Doncaster MBC (Secretary), D Crossley (University of Sheffield), J Ely (Rotherham MBC), M Francis (SYAU), C Hart (Sheffield CC), J Hislop (Barnsley MBC), J Little (SYAU), D Riley (Chairman), R Sydes (SYAU), S Whiteley (SYAU from /12/90)

## STAFFING

Staff structure 1990-91

J H LITTLE
(County Archaeologist)

M J FRANCIS
(Sites and Monuments Record Officer)

R E SYDES
(Excavation and Survey Officer)

S P WHITELEY (Sites and Monuments Record Assistant)
(from Dec 1990)

(Temporary field staff)
(see below)

The following staff have been employed by the Unit during 1990-1991

J Baldwin, W Barkle, S Blau, C Brown, A Chadwick, A Dickens, J Dunkley, R Early, J Gosling, K Harvey, R Holbrey, D Latham, C Merrony, K Miller, E Moth, M Richardson, C Watson, S Webster, L Williams, A Woolf

Volunteers
R Thorpe, G Robbins, T Umpleby