RPS Planning, Transport and Environment

INDEX DATA	RPS INFORMATION
Scheme Title Land adjacent to Smithy Field, Women's Heath.	Details Archaeological Evaluation.
Road Number	Date April 2000.
Contractor UoM.	
County Cheshire.	
OS Reference SJ 54.	
Single sided L Double sided	
A3 O Colour O	

Land adjacent to Smithy Field, No Man's Heath, Cheshire

An Archaeological Evaluation

University of Manchester Archaeological Unit
University of Manchester
Oxford Road
Manchester
M13 9PL

Tel 0161 275 2314
Fax 0161 275 2315

April 2000 (25)

THE UNIVERSITY of MANCHESTER

Contents

1. Summary

An archaeological evaluation was conducted by the University of Manchester Archaeological Unit at land adjacent to Smithy Field at No Man's Heath, Cheshire (SJ 5215 4670)(**Fig 1; See Appendix 1**). Evidence recorded from the excavation of six trial trenches, indicated that archaeological remains survive in the study zone and that these are remnants of a house and smithy that are recorded on a Tithe Map of 1838 (Fig 3). Material located within this complex, including four large worked sandstone blocks and a single sherd of pottery suggests that the site may have had origins earlier than that indicated in the cartography. Trenching suggested that the extent of the archaeological material covered a 25m x 20m area in the south of the study zone.

2. Introduction

2.1 The University of Manchester Archaeological Unit were commissioned by Mouchel Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation a No Man's Heath, Malpas, Cheshire (SJ 5215 4670)(Fig 2). The site is known to have housed a smithy recorded on the Tithe Map of Tushingham and Grindley (1838) and is thought to originate in the mid 18th century. Photographic evidence demonstrates this complex included a two bay half-timbered house attached to an elongated half-timbered workshop. Work was conducted between 3/4/00 and 7/4/00 prior to the development of the Macefen By-Pass on the A41.

3. *Historical and Archaeological Background*

3.1 No prehistoric archaeology has been detected in the study area, though a flint flake was discovered during a road-widening scheme on the A41 close to Tushingham School (**Cox 1992, 1; See Appendix 2**). Roman finds have however been more widespread in close to the study area, including pottery sherds and, perhaps more importantly, a Roman military diploma dating to the 2nd century (ibid, 1). The diploma was discovered at Bickley in 1812. Fabricated in bronze, it outlined the discharge of one *Reburrus* from the Roman army following a service of 25 years; it is now housed in the British Museum (Dutton 13, 1984).

3.2 Evidence for Saxon occupation in the immediate vicinity is restricted to records in the Domesday Book. This attests that Robert Fitz Hugh, lord of Malpas owned Tushingham in the late 11th century, the manor in which the study area was situated (Ormerod 1882, 654). The Domesday Book also mentions that one *Humfridus* was the manorial lord at Tushingham; it is suggested that it remained in his family until the 13th century where after if passed to the Balls and the Stocktons (ibid, 654). Following the marriage of Isabella Stockton during the reign of Edward III the manor fell under the control of the de Eatons and there after to the Grosvenors in 16th century. In 1636, Richard Grosvenor sold the manor to Thomas Nevett of London, who in turn sold a portion of it to Edward Hausley in 1715. By the 19th century Danial Vaudry held Tushigton (ibid, 654).

3.3 Possible Medieval archaeology relating to the study area includes a deserted village at Wyvercot, recorded in 1170 and 1300(Cox 1992, 2). Other Medieval material includes the site of a mill at Macefen, recorded in 1487, and St Chad's Chapel. Though this latter structure was rebuilt in 1689, a deed dating to 1349 referring to a Chapel Field and a Chapel Meadow suggests earlier origins for this church (ibid 2).

3.4 Post-medieval activity close to the study zone is mainly demonstrated by the construction of 17th and 18th century cottages and farmhouses, including Bickley Hall Farm. The archaeological potential of the study area however is underscored by the discovery of a 'House, Smiths shop and garden' in it on the Tushingham cum Grindley Tithe Map (1838)(ibid, 2) and the OS 1st Edition 1878 (Fig 3). Whether this building complex has earlier origins is uncertain; it is known to have been demolished as late as 1962. A photograph associated with the sale of the 'smithy' depicts these structures as a two bay half-timbered dwelling attached to an elongated half-timbered 'workshop' (Fig 4).

3.5 It is uncertain who the smithy might have served, however it is possible that it was linked with Barhill Farm located some 500m to the east of the site. William Hughes who acquired it in 1796 first worked Barhill Farm. Inventories dating to 1799 indicate that a blacksmith, namely John Anson, was contracted by the farm for one year and that he was paid £8 – 8s – 0d (together with farm produce) for his labours (Hughes 1884). If Barhill Farm was using the smithy located in the study area, then it hints at its potential origins in the late 18th century or earlier.

4. Aims

4.1 The aims of the archaeological evaluation at Smithy Field were to;

1) Determine the extent of any remains found in Smithy Field

2) Determine the nature of any remains found in Smithy Field

3) Determine age of any remains found in Smithy Field

5. Methodology

5.1 Six trenches were opened over the study area, each measuring c 5m x 1.5m. One of these (Trench 1) was orientated in a north-south direction, whereas the remaining five (Trenches 2 – 6) were positioned on an east-west axis (Fig 2). All six trenches were staggered across the study area and configured to maximise the chance of encountering archaeological deposits. Each trench was mechanically excavated until archaeological material or natural sub soils were encountered, where after hand excavation was maintained. All deposits were recorded on measured plan and section drawings at a scale of 1:20. A photographic record was also made on colour reversal media. The site archive is deposited with UMAU at the University of Manchester.

6. Trench Descriptions

Trench 1

6.1 The removal of the topsoil (101) from Trench 1 revealed a series of structural features located beneath it including a 5m long wall (102) and mainly orientated a north-south direction. The wall (102) was constructed from hand-made bricks each measuring c 0.22m x 0.10m x 0.05m. A bonding agent of white lime mortar was observed covering a majority of the bricks on the northern part of the brick wall (102), though this was absent at its southern end where the bricks had been laid as a course of headers. At the extreme southern end of the trench, the brick wall (102) returned in westerly direction for 1m, running to the western section of the trench. Again deposits of white lime mortar were evident on these (Fig 5).

6.2 A roughly 0.5m x 0.5m brick 'pad' (103) was discovered abutting the westerly return of the brick wall (102). This was constructed from eleven hand-made bricks, six of which surrounded a central core comprising the remaining five. The topsoil in the trenches' east facing section (101) covered the most westerly of the core bricks. A third brick feature (104) was located some 0.30m to the north of the brick pad (103) and abutting the brick wall (102). This comprised a series of nine hand-made bricks forming a small 0.55m x 0.45m sub-rectangular 'recess'. The excavation of the topsoil (101) deposited in this feature revealed its contents as a layer of charcoal and cinder (105). A 1m x 0.80m spread of crushed brick rubble and sand (106) was found stratified beneath the topsoil (101) and located to the north of the brick recess and cinders (104, 105) and to the west of the brick wall (101). This deposit was also observed abutting a series of seventeen terracotta tiles (107), each measuring 0.20m x 0.20m x 0.05m. These ran beneath the trenches' east facing section (Fig 5).

6.3 The removal of the crushed brick and sand (106) demonstrated that this ran beneath the tiles (107) and above a 1m x 0.80m x 0.10m horizon of coarse dark brown loam (108) containing inclusions of hand-made brick and a single sherd of pottery. The loam (108) was discovered stratified above a natural horizon of red/brown sandy clay (109) and within the cut [110] for the wall (102)(Fig 8). The cut [110] truncated the sandy clay (109) and extended some 0.15m from the west facing section of the wall (101), which was recorded as three courses of stretcher bond built over one course of header bond. A further brick wall (111) was located on the eastern side of wall (102). This was orientated in an east-west direction and abutted wall (102) some 1.4m from the southern end of the trench. Again this was constructed from hand-made brick and bonded with white lime mortar; its dimensions were 0.60m x 0.30m (Fig 5).

6.4 At the northern end of the trench the archaeology was dominated by a surface constructed from grey machine-made bricks (112) each measuring 0.22m x 0.10m x 0.08m. Positioned within these, at its southernmost point was a small U-shaped drainage channel (113) constructed from the same fabric. The drainage channel (113) was orientated in an east-west direction and measured 0.80m x 0.20m; it abutted a circular drain (114) housed in a 0.40m x 0.40m concrete collar. Four large sandstone blocks (115) were positioned to the east of the drain and the brick surface (112). The sandstone blocks were contained within a matrix of broken concrete pieces and dark brown loam (116) measuring 1.8m x 0.80m. The removal of the concrete and loam (116) demonstrated that sandstone blocks (115) had been placed over the brick surface (112); a fragment of modern glazed floor tile was located securely beneath the largest and most northerly of the sandstone blocks (115) (Fig 5).

6.5 The excavation of the concrete fragments and loam (116) and the sandstone blocks (115) indicated that they rested against a brick wall (117) that transacted the trench in an east-west direction. Positioned adjacent and to the north of the wall (117) was a second deposit of terracotta tiles (118). Four of these were observed (118) two of which were broken; those in tact measured 0.20m x 0.20m (Fig 5). A 4.2m x 0.80m slot excavated over the wall (117) demonstrated that it had been constructed on two tiers of brick footings (119); these cascaded in both a northerly and southerly direction. The stratigraphic profile evident in the excavated section to the north of the brick wall (117) indicated that this structure occupied a steep sided cut [120] measuring 0.40m x 0.30m on its northerly side and 0.20m x 0.10m on its southerly side(Figs 6 and 7).

6.6 Two other cuts were discernable in this section, one of which was distinctly V-shaped (121) measuring 0.50m x 0.30m. The second cut feature (122) was evident in the extreme north-east corner of the trench and measured 0.40m x 0.35m; its morphology suggested that it was also V-shaped, though it was partially obscured by the trench's south-facing section. The series of cut features truncated natural deposits of coarse red and yellow sand (109) and were filled by the deposit of topsoil (101). A wooden post (123) was discovered in the area the south of the four large sandstone blocks (115). In plan, this measured some 0.20m x 0.10m and occupied a cut (124) with a diameter of 0.30m. The topsoil (101) filled cut [124] (Figs 5 and 7).

6.7 The section to the south of the brick wall (117) demonstrated that the tiles (118) covered the zone between the brick walls (117) and (111), and that these were bedded on a deposit of crushed brick and sand (126), similar to that found beneath the tiles on the western side of the trench (107). The removal of the brick and sand (126), demonstrated that it was stratified over a thin 0.70m x 0.07m layer of dark brown loam (125). This deposit filled the cut [120] for the wall (117) and its brick footings (119) on its southern side. Further excavation demonstrated that the cut [120] truncated natural deposits of red and yellow sandstone (109) (Fig 7).

Trench 2

6.8 The removal of the topsoil (201) revealed a brick 'structure' (202) at the eastern end of Trench 2. This measured 2.8m x 0.50m and comprised four courses of hand-made brick. The bricks had been placed on their sides and set into 3.2m x 1.5m matrix of dark brown loam (203) covering the eastern half of the trench. Closer examination of the bricks revealed that they were loosely S-shaped in plan assuming a skewed or buckled appearance. A deposit of burnt material and iron slag (204) measuring 0.60m x 0.60m was located in the extreme south-eastern corner of the trench abutting the brick structure (203) (Fig 9).

6.9 The western side of trench 2 was dominated by a brick wall (205), which extended from the east facing section of the trench for 2.7m in a westerly direction, where after it returned at 90° to the south for some 1.2m. Like the walls in Trench 1, this structure (205) was also made from hand-made brick coursed in header bond at the western end of the trench and also on the southern return; the remaining part of the wall (205) was coursed in stretchers. The excavation of a c 0.30m deep slot placed next to the stretchers indicated that the wall was three courses deep and bedded over natural deposits of red and yellow sand (206)(Plate 6). A further series of bricks (207) were located between the wall (205) and the south facing section of the trench. Again, these were hand-made and laid as a course of headers. Two small areas of brick were observed clearly rising from the main body of this material (208 and 209) and appeared to run in a northerly direction beneath the south-facing section of the trench.

Burnt material (210) was located between the two raised areas of brick (208 and 209)(Fig 9).

Trench 3

6.10 The excavation of Trench 3 yielded two deposits, a 5m x 0.30m layer of loose dark brown loam topsoil (301), overlying a basal deposit of compact red and yellow sand (302)(Fig 2).

Trench 4

6.11 The archaeology in Trench 5 comprised a single ceramic land-drain (503). This crossed the trench diagonally from the east-facing section to the north-facing section. It was set in a 6m x 0.30m deposit of medium compact dark brown silty loam (502) that was sealed by an upper 6m x 0.30m horizon of loose dark brown loam (Fig 2).

Trench 5

6.12 The excavation of Trench 4 yielded two deposits, a 5m x 0.30m layer of loose dark brown loam topsoil (401), overlying a basal deposit of compact red and yellow sand (402)(Fig 2).

Trench 6

6.13 The upper deposit in Trench 6 was a 5m x 0.30m layer of loose dark brown loam (601). This was stratified over a 6m x 1.3m layer of soft dark brown silty loam (602). Random sherds of late 19th/early 20th century pottery were discovered in the lower horizon (602)(Fig 2).

7. Results

7.1 Whilst Trenches 3 – 6 yielded very little or no archaeology, their excavation was important in that they determined the potential limits of the site. Indeed, this was assessed as covering a potential 25m x 20m area located between Trenches 2 and 4. Indeed, the excavation of Trenches 1 a d 2 centred between Trenches 2 and 4 revealed a broad range of structural material associated with the house a d smithy indicated on the Tithe Map of 1838, and the photograph associated with the sale of this property. The most concentrated archaeology was discovered in Trench 1 and could be broadly divided into to an internal domestic area in the southern part of the trench and a external yard in the northern part of the trench.

7.2 The internal archaeology in Trench 1 was mainly inferred by the discovery of the two tiled areas (107 and 118) positioned to the south of and abutting the east-west orientated brick wall (117) a d the small brick hearth (104) with its contents of ash and cinder (105). Indeed, the excavation of the slot next to the north-south orientated wall (102) also suggested that it was an internal structure as its footings were not as substantial as those discovered beneath wall (117) and not designed with any great load-bearing capacity. This was further substantiated by the very shallow nature of the foundation cut [110] in which the wall was constructed. The function of the brick pad (103) located to the south of the hearth (105) remains hard to ascertain. The likelihood that this (103), the hearth (105) and the western return of wall (102) formed part of a range however cannot be discounted. The final feature thought to be an internal structure was the brick wall (111) that abutted wall (102).

7.3 Features indicating that the archaeology to the north of the trench comprised external features were initially ascertained by the discovery of the drain a d concrete surround (114) a d the surface of grey bricks (112) into which a small drainage channel (113) had been built. This suggestion was augmented by the discovery of the substantial footings located beneath brick wall (117). These strongly hinted that they had been designed to withstand a great load and are thus inferred as an exterior wall, possibly carrying a roof. The function of the four large tooled sandstone blocks was difficult to ascertain, though they might merely have been deposited to provide a border demarking the surface of grey bricks (112). Similarly it is hard to ascribe a function to the two cut features (121 and 122) evident in the trench's west facing section, though they might be inferred as drainage features or evidence of ploughing.

7.4 Chronological indicators found in Trench 1 include the use of hand-made brick and crushed white lime mortar, both of which have been used for construction purposes in Cheshire since the 16th century (Nevell 1999, 21). Indeed early activity associated with the site is also hinted at by the discovery of a single body sherd of possible late medieval/earl post-medieval pottery from the fill of the wall cut [110]. The four worked sandstone blocks (115) might additionally suggest an early link with the site, though their stratigraphic position over the grey brick surface (112) and a piece of glazed ceramic tile suggests a recent deposition in this part of the trench. The remaining archaeology in Trench 1 is thought to derive from the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

7.5 The archaeology in Trench 2 is strongly suspected to relate to the smithy. This is inferred due to the location of the iron slag (204) found at the eastern end of the trench and the burnt material covering the two raised areas (208 and 209) on the brick structure (207). The excavation of the area adjacent to the brick wall (205) indicated that this had been constructed on a footing comprising a single course of bricks. Again this suggested its status as an interior wall not constructed to accommodate the weight of a roof. The S-shaped deposit of brick situated at the eastern end of Trench 2 (202) might be interpreted as a floor surface in the smithy complex, with demolition processes contributing to its buckled appearance.

8. Conclusions

8.1 The evaluation at No Man's Heath confirmed that archaeological material exists on land adjacent to Smithy Field, and that it is highly likely that they are the remains of the smithy and house documented on the Tithe map of 1838. Furthermore, structural remains recovered in Trench 1 strongly hint that these formed part of the domestic quarters at the smithy complex. Both the deposits of tiles, the hearth-like features and walls lacking substantial foundations underpin this idea; that these represent a kitchen area in the two bay house might be tentatively suggested. Further material in Trench 1 indicated that a yard existed next to the house. Four large worked sandstone blocks found in this area hint that building material of some antiquity was used in its construction, and that early structures existed on or close by the site. Other material alluding to a possible early date for the smithy complex included a single sherd of pottery possibly dating to the late Medieval of early Post Medieval periods. Burnt deposits and iron slag found in Trench 2 suggest that the brick walls discovered were part the workshop; that they were located to the north of the domestic area, as recorded on the photograph, underscores this suggestion.

9. Sources

Bibliography

Moor Dutton F, 1984. *The Story of Maesfen Hall.* Malpas History. Unpublished Local History Guide

Hughes R, 1984 *Farming At Barhill 1798-1837.* Unpublished Local History Guide

Nevell M, 1999. *The Warburton Archaeological Survey and the Vernacular Buildings of a North West Township.* Archaeology North West. The Bulletin of CBA North West Vol 4, Issue 14.

Ormerod G, 1882. History of Chester Vol II 2nd Ed. London.

Cartography

OS Pathfinder Series 807, 1:25 000
OS 1st Ed 6' to 1mile, Cheshire Sheet Number LX

Appendix 1: Illustrations

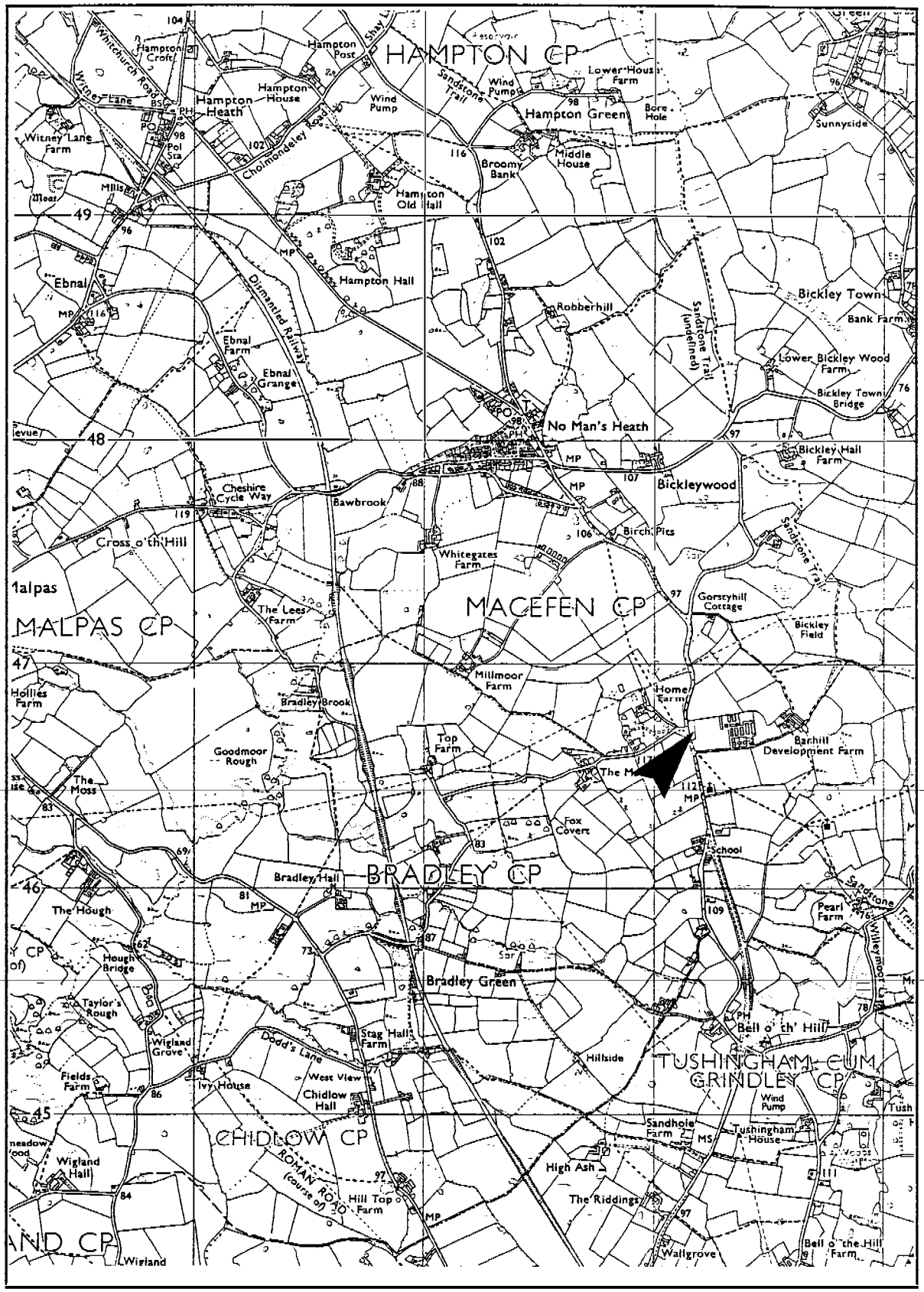


Fig 1: Site Location (arrowed) Based on OS Pathfinder Series 807, 1:25 000. Crown Copyright reserved.

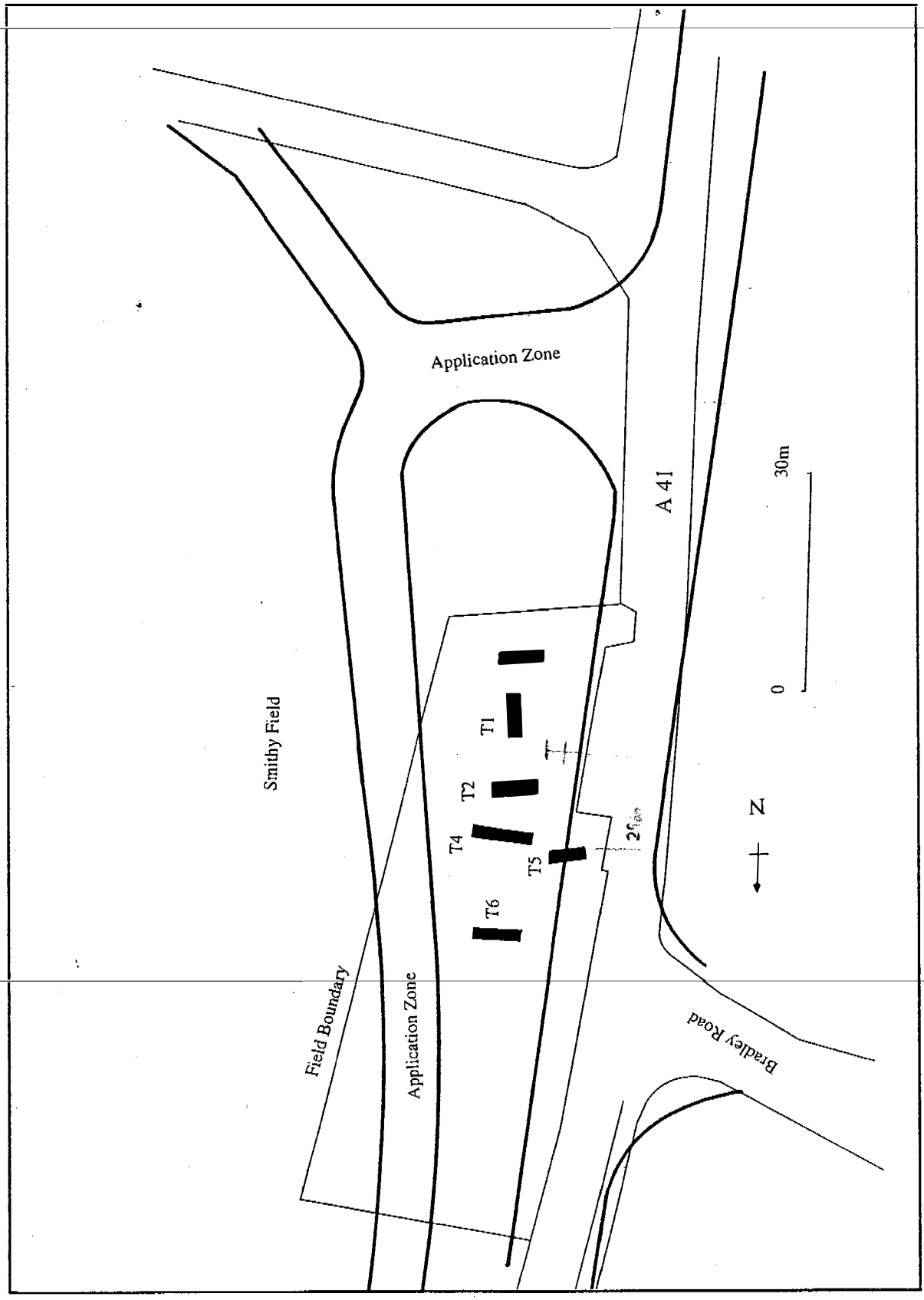


Fig 2: Trench Location Plan.

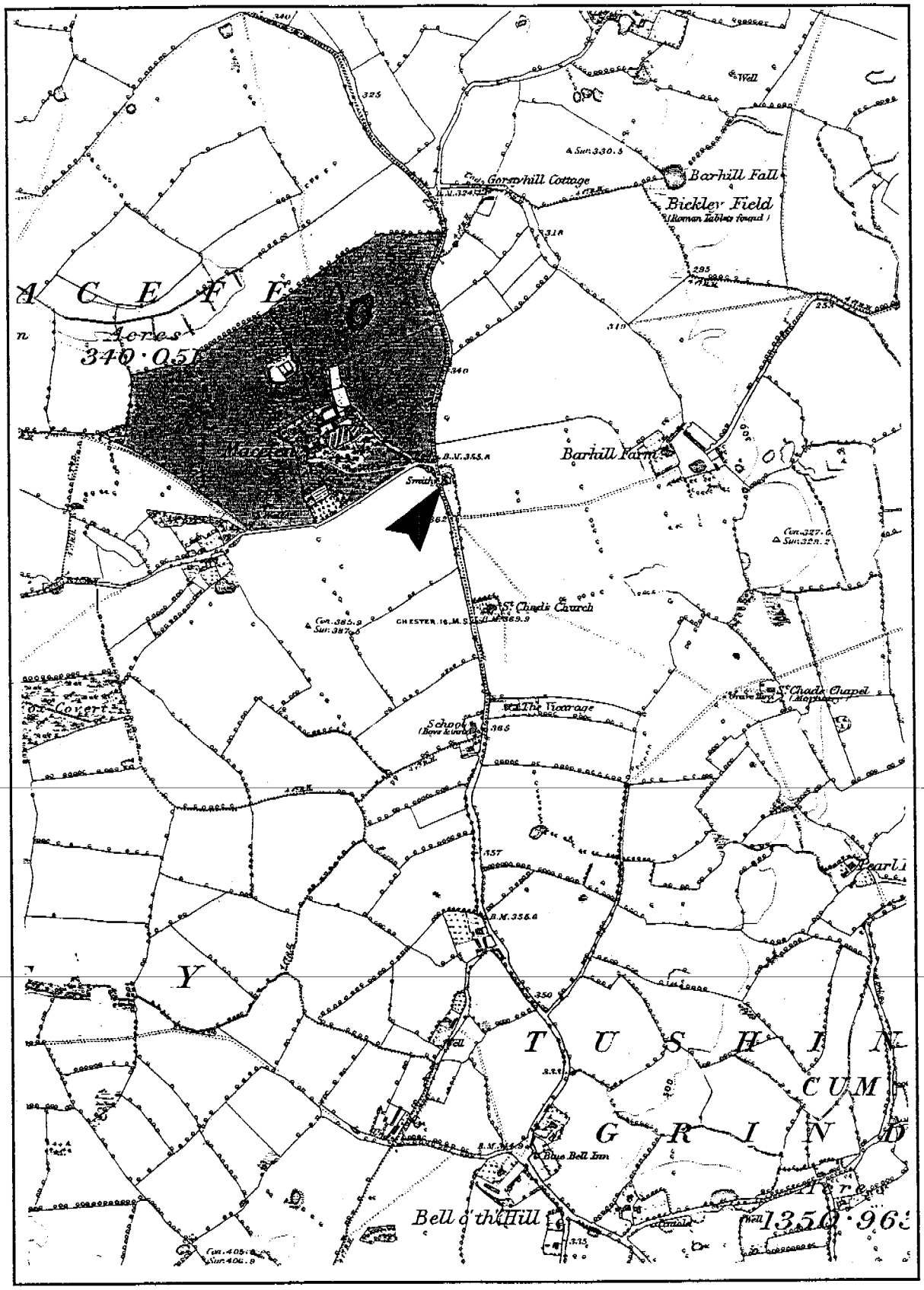


Fig 3: OS 1st Ed Cheshire Sheet LX showing smithy complex.

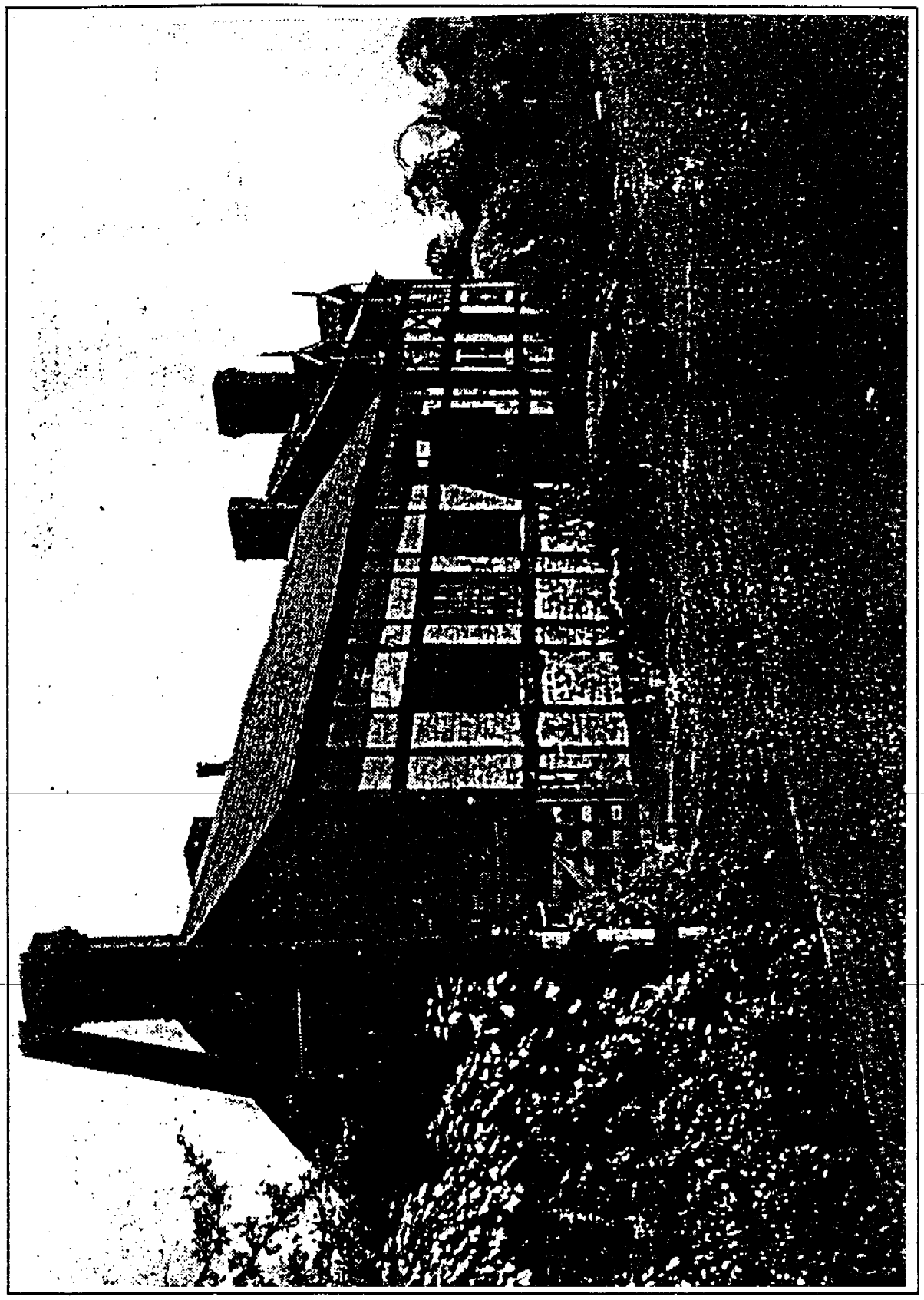


Fig 4: Illustration of House and Smithy.

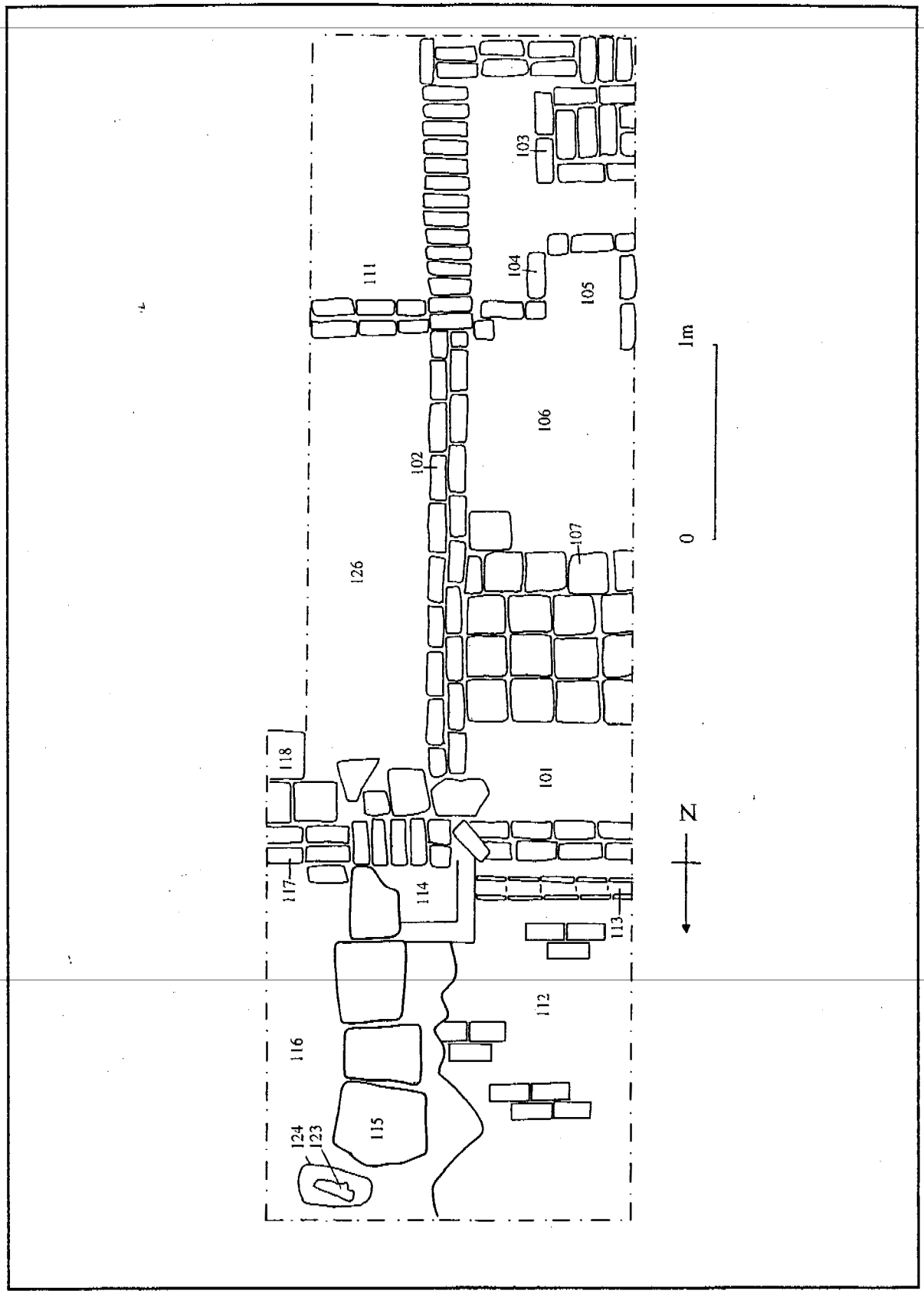


Fig 5: Trench 1 Plan.

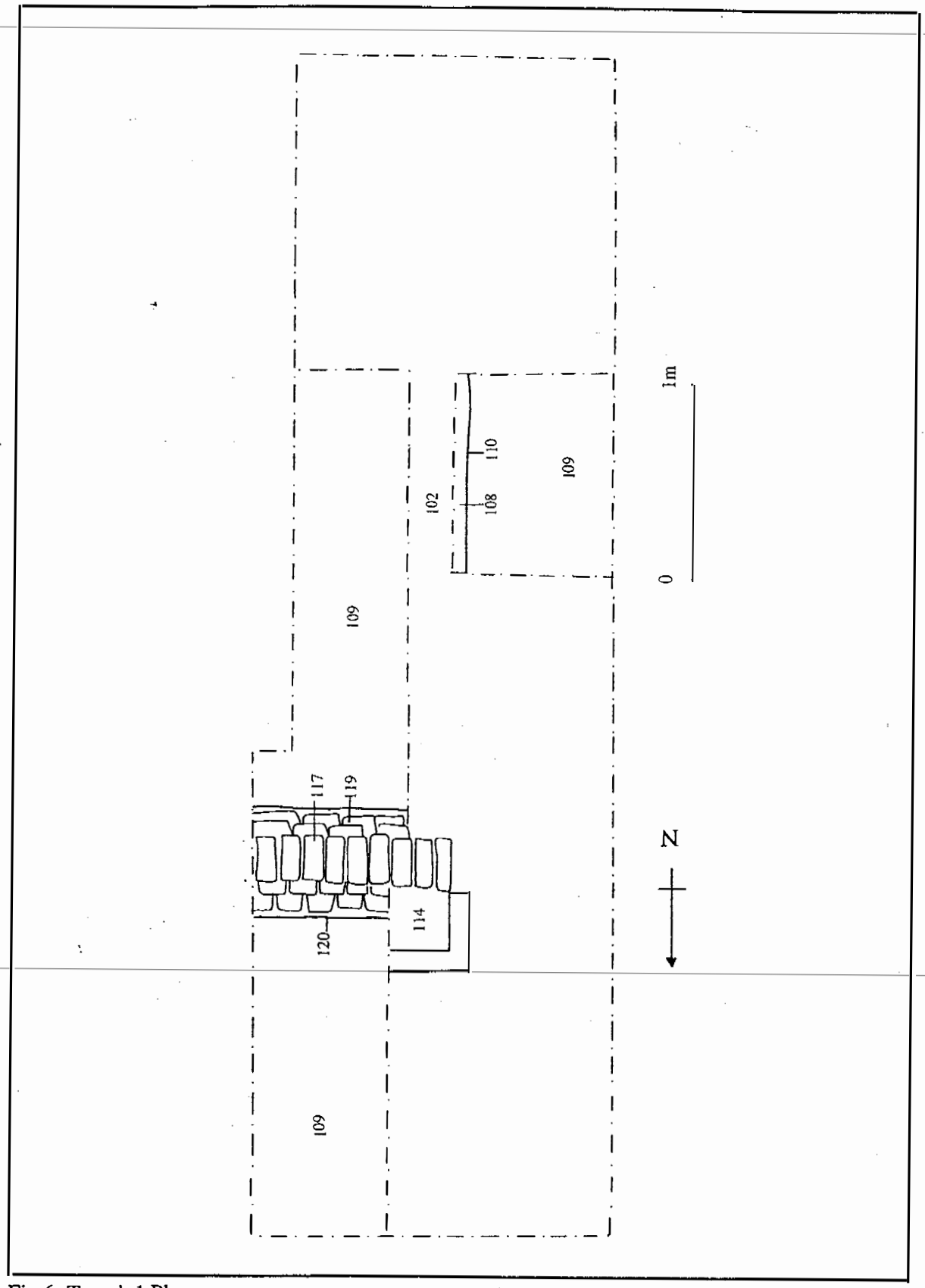


Fig 6: Trench 1 Plan.

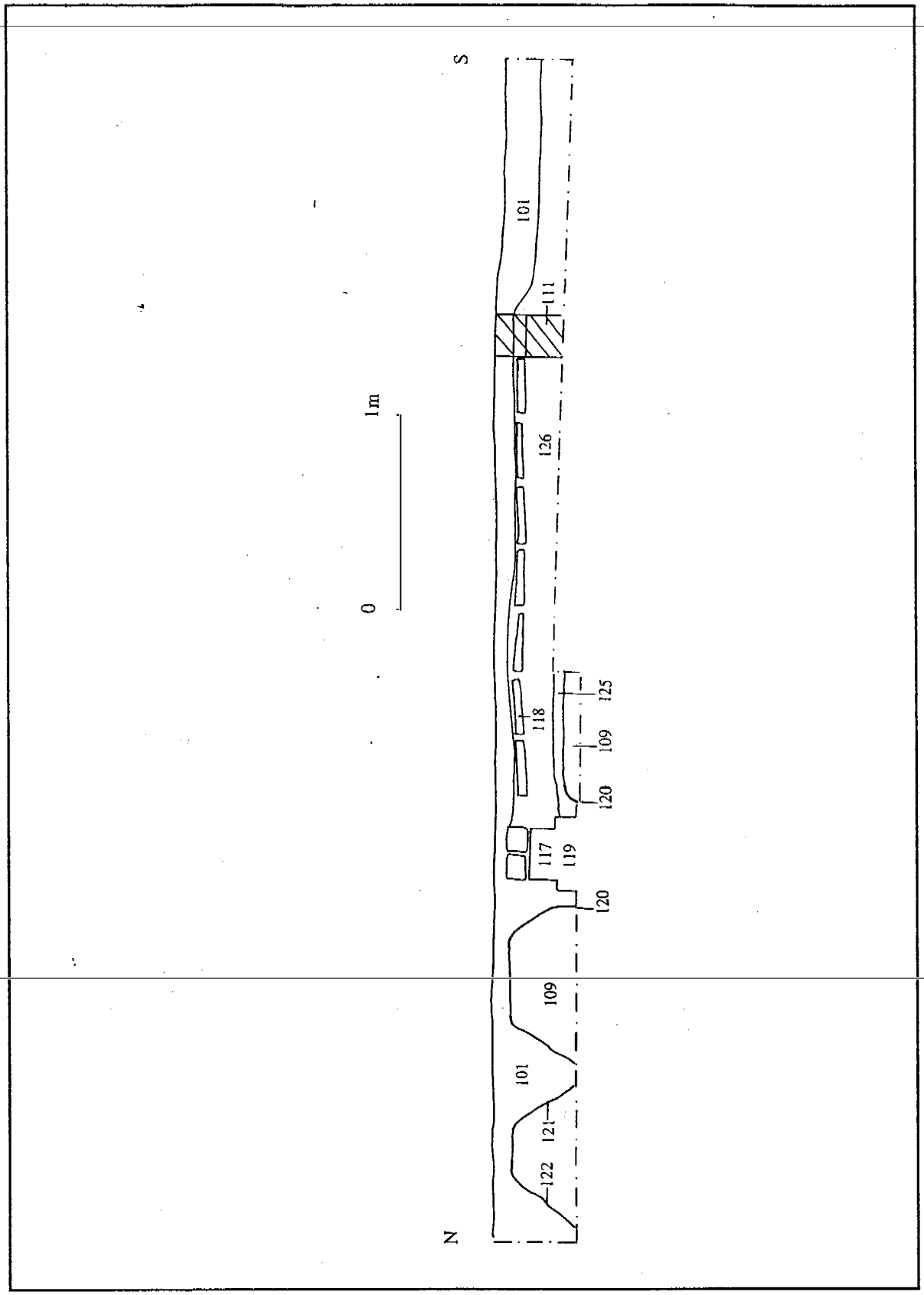


Fig 7: Trench 1; West facing section

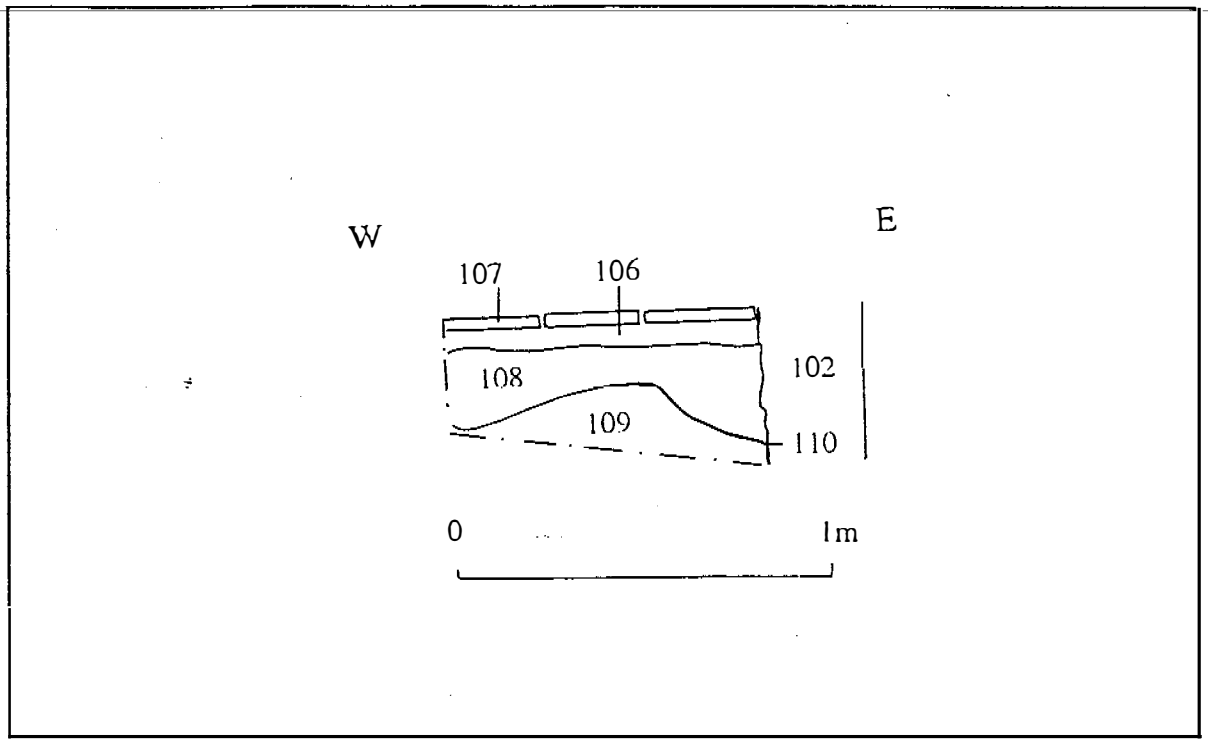


Fig 8: Trench 1; South facing section showing tiles 107 and wall cut 110.

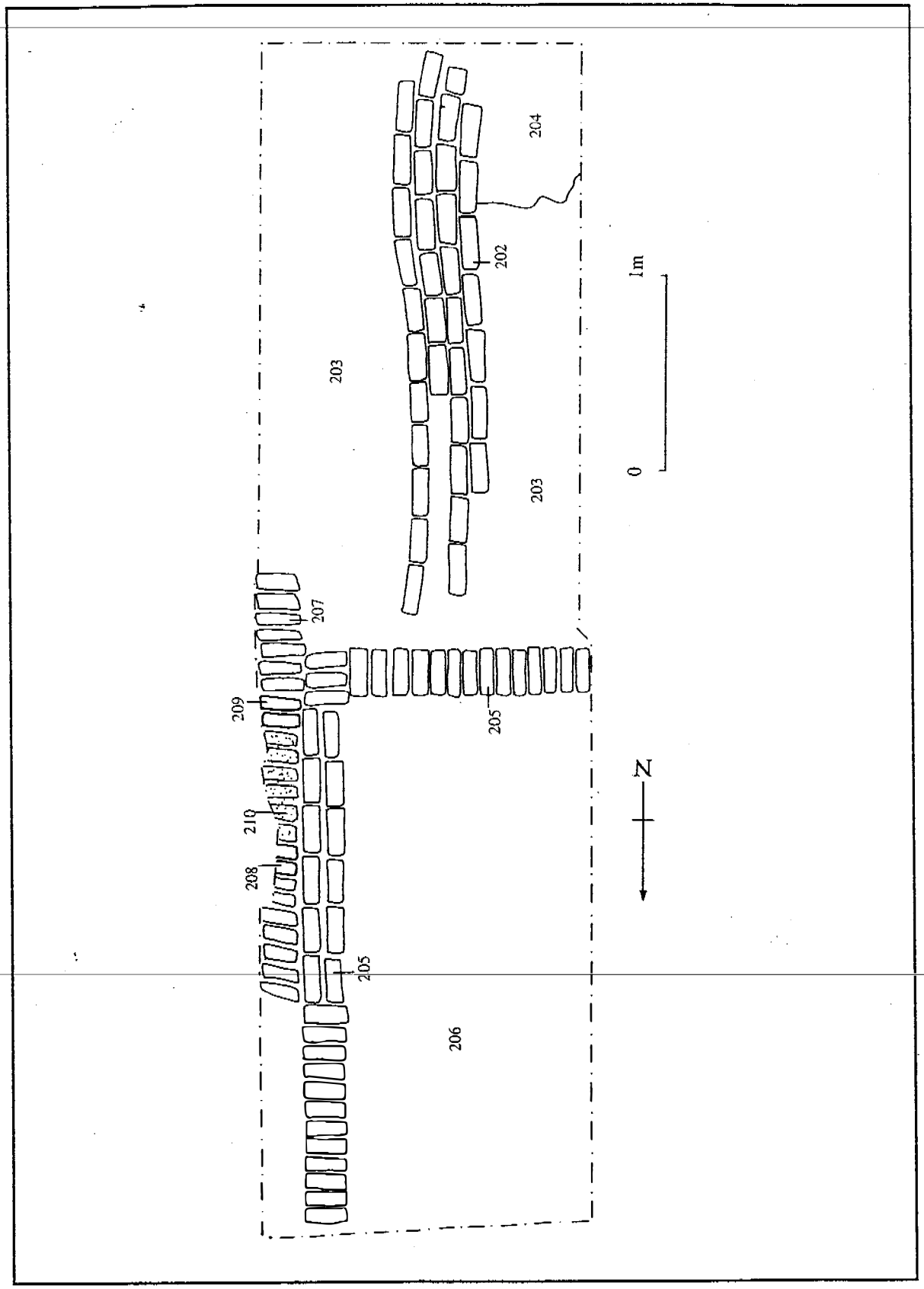


Fig 9: Trench 2; Plan.

Appendix 2: Desk-Based Study

REPORT NO. R2131
SITE NO. 50110
BRIEF NO. ——

A41 NO MAN'S HEATH AND MACEFEN BYPASS :

ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

PETER W. COX MIFA

AC *ARCHAEOLOGY*
MANOR FARM STABLES
CHICKLADE
HINDON
Nr SALISBURY
WILTS SP3 5SU

A41 NO MAN'S HEATH AND MACEFEN BYPASS : ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

1. EXISTING ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

Within the study area defined on Fig. 00 there are 19 locations where there is evidence for the existence, or possible existence of sites of archaeological interest.

1.1 PREHISTORIC & ROMAN

Site 1. Findspot of sherds of Roman pottery and prehistoric flint flake from A41 road widening adajcent to Tushingham School.

Site 2. Findspot of Roman military bronze 'diploma', dating to the second century AD.

1.2 MEDIEVAL

Site 3. A documentary reference (dated 1473) indicates the presence of a Medieval village, since deserted, at Tushingham Cum Grindley. The site is thought to lie near St Chad's Church.

Site 4. The Domesday Book (1086) refers to a Medieval village, since deserted, at Bickley. The site is thought to lie within the Km square SJ 5247.

Site 5. A documentary reference (dated 1300) indicates the presence of a Medieval village, since deserted, at Wyvercot. The place name is now lost, but the site is thought to lie within the Km square SJ 5147.

Site 6. A documentary reference (dated 1170) indicates the presence of a Medieval village at Wyvercot. The place name is now lost, but the site may lie within the Km square SJ 5147.

Site 7. Site of the Medieval mill at Macefen, first mentioned as '*le myll mor*' in 1487.

Site 8. The isolated building of St. Chad's chapel, commonly known as 'Old Chad', was rebuilt in 1689-91. A deed of 1349 refers to Chapel field and Chapel meadow, indicating that a Medieval chapel formerly stood on this spot.

1.3 POST-MEDIEVAL

Site 9. An iron milepost, dated 1898 is located opposite St. Chad's church on the verge of the present A41.

Site 10. Bickley Hall Farmhouse, originally built in the seventeenth century still retains early elements, but altered in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Listed Building.

Site 11. Eighteenth century farmhouse. Listed Building.

Site 12. Seventeenth century cottage. Listed Building.

Site 13. Seventeenth century cottage. Listed Building.

Site 14. Seventeenth century cottage. Listed Building.

Site 15. The site of a small plot, containing a building is shown on the 1838 Tushingham cum Grindley Tithe Map. The Tithe Apportionment describes this as "House, Smiths shop and garden". The field to the east is recorded as Smithy Field.

1.4 UNDATED - AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

Site 16. An extensive zone of cropmarks has been recorded to the north of Home Farm, towards Millmoor Farm. This includes linear, possible field, boundaries and a series of large pits. Field names recorded for this area in the 1837 Macefen Tithe Apportionment include Little Brine Pit Field, Big Brine Pit Field and Marl Field.

Site 17. A single linear cropmark is probably a former Medieval or Post-Medieval field boundary. This is not shown on the 1842 Bickley Tithe (skeleton outline only) map.

Site 18. A group of earthworks including linear banks and possible small platforms / enclosures is recorded north of No Man's Heath.

Site 19. Several linear cropmarks probably represent former Medieval or Post-Medieval field boundaries, some of which are shown on the 1838 Hampton Tithe map.

2. IMPACTS OF CONSTRUCTION

The following statements of potential impacts relate to the defined construction road corridor. Ancilliary areas which may have effects on archaeological deposits, such as contractors' compounds, off-site drainage works, and agricultural accommodation works etc have not been defined and therefore are not considered at this stage.

2.1 IDENTIFIED SITES

Five of the sites identified in the study area fall within the proposed construction corridor; sites 9, 15, 16, 17, 19.

Site 9. The location of the milepost appears to fall within the southern limit of the corridor and may be disturbed by construction vehicle movements, earthmoving and verge landscaping.

Site 15. Surviving deposits associated with the post-Medieval structures recorded at this point are likely to be removed by earthmoving operations, or disturbed by compaction caused by the movement of construction vehicles associated with the new Barhill Farm access.

Site 16. It is uncertain as to whether surviving deposits associated with the cropmarks extend into the construction corridor. Earthmoving to create a cutting on

the south side of the valley and compaction by vehicles following topsoil stripping for the embankment on the north side may disturb or remove any potential deposits.

Site 17. The construction of a cutting to the north of Bickley Lane will remove the probable former field boundary during earthmoving.

Site 19. The construction of a cutting to the north of No Man's Heath will remove the probable former field boundaries during earthmoving.

2.2 FURTHER POTENTIAL

The nature of land-use in the area and the lack of previous systematic archaeological survey is likely to indicate that the presently identified sites understate the archaeological potential of the area. Further sites may lie within the construction corridor, but cannot currently be defined.

3. IMPACTS OF OPERATION

There are no identifiable impacts of operation on the archaeological resource of the area.

4. SECONDARY IMPACTS

Subject to the mitigation measures proposed in Section 5, there are several identifiable secondary impacts of the road construction;

4.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INFORMATION GAIN

Further site investigations in advance of construction will enable consideration of the option to preserve deposits in situ. This will lead to an enhancement of the archaeological database by minimally invasive survey and, thereby, allow positive management policies for this scheme and any future planning-controlled developments in the area.

The systematic recovery and analysis of archaeological data from sites on which there is a direct impact during the construction phase of the road scheme can allow an important gain of information by preservation by record.

All archaeological data recovered and analysed from the scheme will allow a positive education gain, at local community and county level, through a better understanding of the historic landscape of the area, and possibly by the addition of finds to local or county museum collections.

5. MITIGATION MEASURES

5.1 GENERAL

In response to the known and potential archaeological interests along the route two stages of mitigation measures should be adopted. Both stages are in general accordance with prevailing archaeological policies;

5.1.1 General policy and advice for best practice in the management of archaeological remains under development plan and control systems has been set out in the Department of the Environment Planning Policy Guidance 16 (PPG 16 November 1990), relevant extracts of which follow;

> A6. *Archaeological remains should be seen as a finite, and non-renewable resource, in many cases highly fragile and vulnerable to damage and destruction. Appropriate management is therefore essential to ensure that they survive in good condition. In particular, care must be taken to ensure that archaeological remains are not needlessly or thoughtlessly destroyed. They can contain irreplaceable information about our past and the potential for an increase in future knowledge. They are part of our sense of national identity and valuable both for their own sake and for their role in education, leisure and tourism.*
>
> A13. *If physical preservation in situ is not feasible, an archaeological excavation for the purposes of 'preservation by record', may be an acceptable alternative. From the archaeological point of view this should be regarded as a second best option. ...*

5.1.2 Chester Rural Area Local Plan, Written Statement 1985 (as adopted)

A3 *Where a site of archaeological interest is believed to exist the Council at their discretion will require the developer to allow an archaeological excavation or other agreed examination of the site before development begins.*

5.2 STAGE 2 PRE-CONSTRUCTION PRELIMINARY SITE INVESTIGATIONS

Prior to the commencement of construction a strategy should be devised for the further investigation of known archaeological sites and areas of further potential. The overall aim of this work should be to establish, as far as possible and with the least destructive means, the nature, date, extent and state of preservation of all deposits likely to be affected within the road corridor and ancilliary work areas.

The techniques used to carry out this investigation will vary according to the land use, soils and geological conditions, but should include geophysical survey (including magnetic susceptibility analysis), fieldwalking to collect displaced surface artefacts, and the excavation of manually- and mechanically-excavated trial pits and trenches.

The assessment of the results of these investigations should form the basis of Stage 3 responses.

5.3 STAGE 3 CONSTRUCTION PHASE RESPONSES

5.3.1 Preservation in situ

Where deposits revealed during the Phase 2 investigations are deemed to be of high (County or National) importance, methods for the preservation should be reviewed in the context of the construction proposals, other environmental considerations, engineering constraints and the construction programme. Local re-routeing of the road may not be possible or desirable. Preservation by burying under earth embankments may generally be seen as an acceptable form of preservation except where topsoil stripping and subsoil disturbance are necessary preparatory works.

5.3.2 Preservation by record

All sites defined by the Stage 2 investigations which cannot be preserved in situ should be excavated and recorded in advance of construction by professionally qualified approved archaeological contractors. All other sites so defined which are of local importance should be excavated in advance where possible, or immediately following topsoil removal during construction. All other areas where topsoil or subsoil disturbance will occur should be monitored to record localised deposits which have not beeen located during Stage 2.

Any programme of archaeological work must include the production of a permanent and durable archive of results, a subsequent assessment of the field data, and a publication of a detailed summary report(s) in an appropriate archaeological journal.

6. REFERENCES

Bickley Tithe Map and Apportionment, 1842

Cheshire County Council Sites And Monuments Record, July 1992

Cheshire County Council aerial photographs;

HSL/UK/73 65, 17/05/73
2785, 30/05/85

Cheshire County Council, 1985, *Chester Rural Area Local Plan, Written Statement*, (as adopted 1985)

Dodgson, J. Mc N., *The Place-Names of Cheshire*, Engllish Place-Names Society, Vol XLVII, Part 4.

Hampton Tithe Map and Apportionment, 1838

Macefen Tithe Map and Apportionment, 1837

National Archaeological Record, (RCHME), July 1992

National Library of Aerial Photographs, (RCHME);

106G/UK/1454, 02/05/46
106G/UK/1459, 02/05/46
CPE/UK/1935, 17/01/47
CPE/UK/2499, 12/03/48
540/992, 20/01/53
540/1122 02/05/53
58/1301, 03/11/53
MAL/75034 20/05/75

Tushingham Cum Grindley Tithe Map and Apportionment, 1838

Appendix 3: Curator's Brief

A41 NO MAN'S HEATH AND MACEFEN BYPASS, MALPAS, CHESHIRE
(SJ 515 479 c)

Brief for an archaeological evaluation

1. Summary

1.1 Mouchel Consulting Ltd are acting as environmental consultants on behalf of the Highways Agency, on a scheme to divert of the A41 at No Man's Heath and Macefen, east of Malpas, Cheshire.

1.2 Tenders are invited from suitably-qualified archaeological organisations to carry out an evaluation of part of the route, in order to assess the archaeological implications, if any, of the development proceeding.

2. Background

2.1 An archaeological assessment of the proposed route was carried out in 1992 by AC Archaeology as part of an Environmental Assessment. This identified four areas of potential archaeological importance which lay under the proposed route of the bypass.

2.2 In view of the potential archaeological sensitivity of the proposed route and in line with *PPG 16 Archaeology and Planning*, the Principal Conservation Officer (Archaeology), Cheshire County Council has advised that the applicant commission an archaeological evaluation of one of the areas of archaeological potential identified by AC Archaeology in order to establish the nature, depth and survival of any archaeological deposits.

2.3 The Tushingham cum Grindley Tithe Map of 1838 shows a small plot (at *c.*SJ 5215 4670 and lying immediately east of the present A41) containing a building, which is described as "House, Smiths shop and garden". The field to the east is recorded as Smithy Field.

2.4 The other areas of archaeological potential identified by AC Archaeology will be the subject of an archaeological watching brief which will be carried out along the route of the bypass in order to record any features or finds revealed during groundworks. A separate brief will be prepared for this work, and the present brief is only concerned with archaeological evaluation of the smithy plot.

3. Brief

3.1 The brief is to carry out an archaeological evaluation of the smithy plot at *c.* SJ 5215 4670 in order to determine the nature of any surviving archaeological deposits relating to the buildings recorded on the Tithe Map and to prepare a report assessing the archaeological implications, if

any, of the proposed road route.

3.2 The preferred option is the preservation *in situ*, wherever possible, of significant archaeological features and deposits, whether through design modification or other mitigation measures. Only where preservation *in situ* proves impracticable should the reserve option of excavation be considered.

4. Tenders and project design

4.1 Tenders must be received by the time and date specified in the covering letter.

4.2 They must be accompanied by a written project design detailing the following:

.1 the names of the project director, supervisors, specialists and any sub-contractors to be employed on the project.

.2 the proposed timetable.

.3 the location and extent of proposed excavation areas.

.4 the proposed methodology, including the excavation method, recording system and sampling strategy to be employed.

.5 an itemised estimate of costs under the following headings:

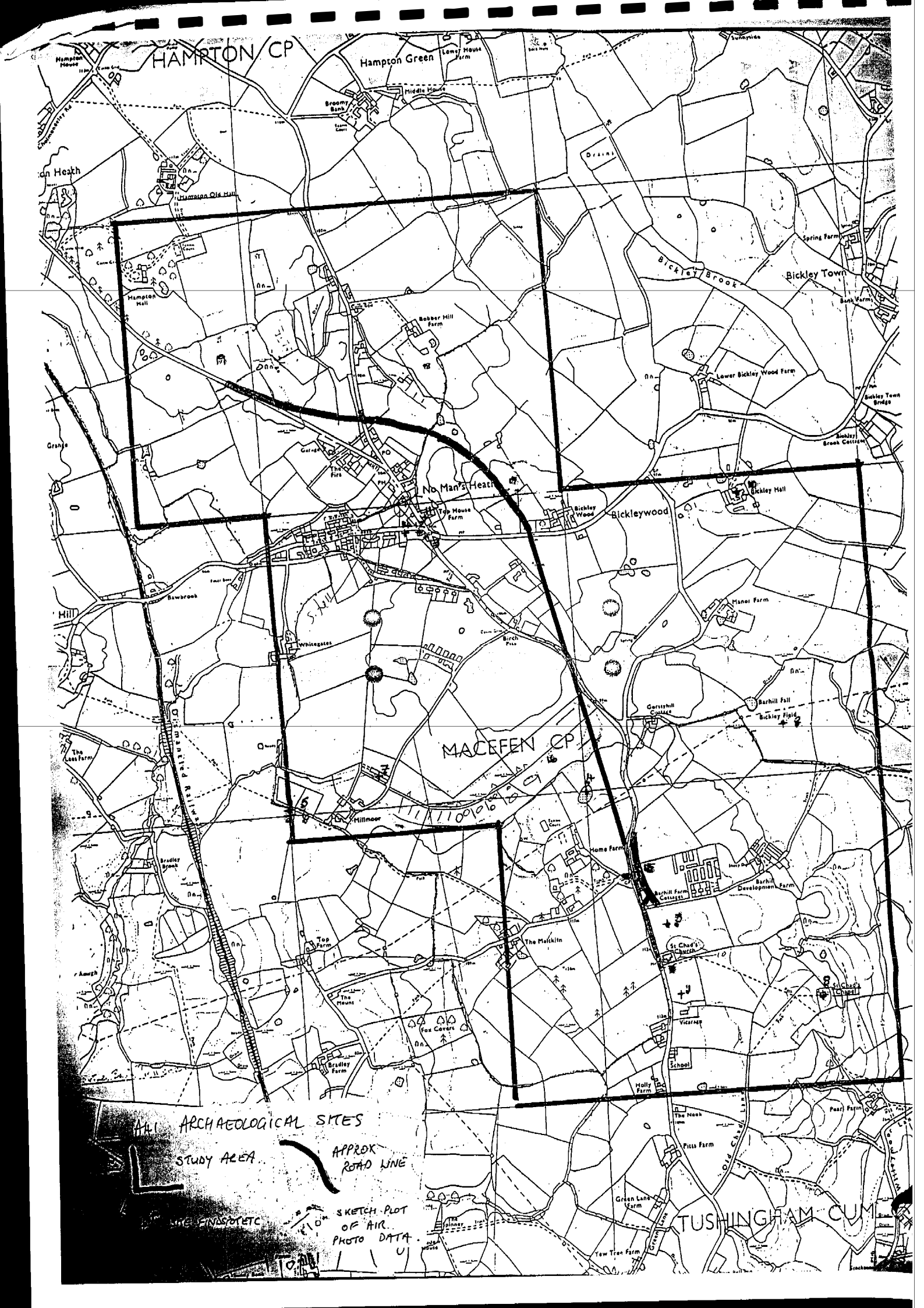
- .1 management/project staff
- .2 specialist fees
- .3 travel/subsistence
- .4 site works
- .5 equipment/materials
- .6 archive preparation and copying
- .7 report preparation
- .8 finds storage fees
- .9 overheads
- .10 contingency
- .11 specified other costs

4.3 Contractors, sub-contractors and specialists are expected to conform to the requirements set out in Cheshire County Council's *General Conditions for Selected Archaeological Contractors*.

4.4 It is the contractor's responsibility to ensure that all third party costs, such as specialist, SMR, archive and storage fees, are included in the tender.

4.5 Contractors may wish to discuss their draft project design with the Planning Archaeologist before formal submission.

5. Specification


HAMPTON CP
Hampton Green
Lower House Farm
Middle House
Broomy Bank
Hampton House
Hampton Hall
Hampton Mill
Bobber Hill Farm
Bickley Brook
Bickley Town
Spring Farm
Bank Farm
Lower Bickley Wood Farm
Bickley Town Bridge
Bickley Brook Cottages
Grange
The Firs
No Man's Heath
Top House Farm
Bickley Wood
Bickleywood
Bickley Hall
Manor Farm
Bawbrook
Whitegates
Birch Pits
Barhill Fall
Bickley Field
Gorsty Hill Cottages
MACEFEN CP
The Lees Farm
Millmoor
Home Farm
Barhill Farm Cottages
Barhill Development Farm
Bradley Brook
Top Farm
The Malkin
St Chad's Church
St Chad's Chapel
Vicarage
The Mount
Fox Covers
Bradley Farm
School
Holly Farm
The Nook
Pearl Farm
Pitts Farm
Old Chapel Lane
Green Lane Farm
Yew Tree Farm
TUSHINGHAM CUM
All ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES
STUDY AREA
APPROX ROAD LINE
SKETCH PLOT OF AIR PHOTO DATA

5.1 The evaluation should consist of trial trenching of the area occupied by the Smithy buildings as shown on the Tithe Map. The precise location of the trenches is to be agreed in consultation with the Planning Archaeologist.

5.2 The total excavated area should not exceed c.40 sq m and should be kept to the absolute minimum necessary to determine the nature, depth, state of preservation and extent of any archaeological deposits identified.

5.3 Machine trenching may be used for the excavation of topsoil and demonstrably disturbed or recent deposits. All other excavation should be carried out stratigraphically and by hand.

5.4 All deposits must be fully recorded on appropriate context sheets, photographs, scale plans and sections.

5.5 All artifacts or ecofacts must be retained for summary analysis and subsequent deposition or disposal.

5.6 The project archive should be completed and deposited with an appropriate registered museum.

6. Access

6.1 Access to the site should be arranged through the Client. Access routes must be maintained at all times.

6.2 All trenches must be fenced and shored to meet current Health and Safety requirements. It is the contractor's responsibility to ensure that any services remain undisturbed and that Health and Safety requirements are fulfilled.

7. Report

7.1 Two copies of the report must be submitted to the client and one copy to the Planning Archaeologist within six weeks of the commencement of the contract.

7.2 The report should consist of the following:

.1 a summary of the results.
.2 a copy of the brief and agreed project design, and an indication of any variation on the agreed project design.
.3 a location plan at an appropriate scale.
.4 excavation plan(s) and section(s) at an appropriate scale.
.5 monochrome or colour photographs where appropriate.
.6 a summary description of archaeological features or deposits identified.
.7 a summary report of artefacts or ecofacts recovered.
.8 an interpretation of the results and of their potential archaeological significance.
.9 an index to the project archive.

7.3 The report should be confined to a factual account of the features of archaeological significance

8. Project Monitoring

8.1 The project will be monitored by the Planning Archaeologist, to whom not less than seven days' written notice must be given of the commencement of work.

8.2 It is the contractor's responsibility to ensure that monitoring takes place by arranging monitoring meetings as follows:

.1 a preliminary meeting at the commencement of the contract.
.2 a progress meeting during fieldwork, the timing to be agreed with the Planning Archaeologist.
.3 a meeting to discuss the draft report and archive before completion.

8.3 It is the contractor's responsibility to ensure that any significant results are brought to the attention of the Planning Archaeologist as soon as is practically possible.

9. Further Information

9.1 Further information or clarification of any aspects of this brief may be obtained from:

Archaeological Officer (Development Control)
Cheshire County Council
Environmental Planning
Commerce House
Hunter Street
CHESTER CH1 2QP

Tel Chester (01244) 603289
Fax Chester (01244) 603110

9.2 References

AC Archaeology 1992 A41 No Man's Heath and Macefen Bypass: Archaeological Impact Assessment (unpublished report for Bullen Consultants)