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**M1 Widening Junctions 10-15
Archaeological Impact Assessment
Stage 4 Evaluation Results**

June 1995

Report 95/22

**Bedfordshire County Archaeology Service
(Contracts & Consultancy)**

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Preface

This report has been prepared by Bedfordshire County Council Archaeology Service (Contracts and Consultancy), (Michael Dawson (Senior Archaeological Field Officer), Jackie Crick, Dawn Enright, Ron Humphries, Ed McSloy & Chris Moore (Supervisors). The finds were examined by Jackie Wells (Finds Supervisor), Anna Slowikowski (Ceramics Manager) and Holly Duncan (Non Ceramic Artefacts Manager). Eden Hutchins prepared the Environmental report. Illustrations were prepared by Darren Hall and Cecily Marshall. Fieldwork was undertaken by Cath Cavanagh, Ruarigh Dale, Darren Hall, Annette Hancocks, Neil Perkin, Howell Roberts, Aleck Russell, Tony Walsh and Twigs Way (Archaeological Technicians).

Every effort has been taken in the preparation and submission of this report within the terms of the brief and all statements and opinions are offered in good faith. The County Council Planning Department's Archaeology Service (Contracts and Consultancy) cannot accept responsibility for errors of fact or opinion resulting from the data supplied by any third party, or any loss or other consequences arising from the decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in this report and in any supplementary papers howsoever facts and opinions may have been derived, or as a result of unknown or undiscovered sites or artefacts.

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1. BACKGROUND TO THE PROJECT

This report has been commissioned by Acer Consultants on behalf of the Department of Transport (Highways Agency).

It presents the results of Stage Four (formerly Stage 3c) of a seven stage model for archaeological evaluation of land affected by the M1 Widening: Junctions 10-15.

The details of this model are described in *M1 Widening: Junctions 10-15 Archaeological Impact Assessment Preliminary Survey Results Bedfordshire* (Dec. 1992).

The Stage Four Archaeological Field Evaluation has been undertaken on the basis of the results from Stages 1 to 3b, which comprised essentially non-intrusive methods; desk top survey, a topographical survey, fieldwalking and geophysical survey. The results of previous stages were the subject of a detailed series of reports, *M1 Widening: Junctions 10-15 Archaeological Impact Assessment Preliminary Survey Results Parts IV*.

Stage Four seeks to characterise the extent, nature, date, integrity and state of preservation of the archaeological sites, features and deposits at the locations identified through Stages 1 to 3.

2. METHOD STATEMENT

The requirements and strategies for this stage of the archaeological assessment are set out in *Specification for Stage Four of the Archaeological Field Evaluation of the Bedfordshire Section of the M1 (Junctions 10-15) Widening Scheme*.

Each site is identified according to the field number series established in the M1 report series Part I. Those areas investigated are shown on *Figs 1 & 2*.

The three investigative methods thought appropriate for this work were:

Intensive Fieldwalking
Test Pitting
Trial Trenching

2.1 Intensive Fieldwalking

Intensive Fieldwalking is thought suitable for those areas where archaeological artefacts are likely only to remain in the plough soil.

The Stage 3a Fieldwalking survey identified eleven fields with archaeological potential where further work was necessary. These were Fields 61, 62, 64, 69, 93, 100, 101, 106, 131, 133, & 134.

Fieldwalking is best undertaken during September or October, after ploughing. The visibility of archaeological material on the ground can be seriously affected by a number of factors. Fields that have been weathered and are walked in conditions of even light, offer better visibility. Diverse topography can result in artefacts being washed downwards. Cultivation practices such as ploughing can result in artefacts being dispersed over a greater area. Therefore the general location of material, and as a result the pinpointing of significant concentrations, can be adversely affected (Clark & Schofield, 1991).

Intensive fieldwalking strategy is based on a line walking system with the lines spaced at 5m intervals and finds bagged at 5m intervals. Ground conditions at the time of the survey were noted. Artefacts of all types and periods are collected in the field and retained. All finds are catalogued and processed and for analysis, according to the BCAS procedures' manual.

Significant distributions of finds can be most easily highlighted once individual plots have been produced for different finds categories, such as pottery or flint artefacts. All finds retrieved were plotted to indicate distribution patterns.

2.2 Test Pitting

Test pits are thought appropriate in those areas where the archaeological remains are likely only to survive in the ploughsoil, and where the integrity of the remains is likely to be compromised by trial trenching.

2.3 Trial Trenching

A total of 32 trenches were excavated by a JCB 3CX with a toothless ditching bucket, (under archaeological supervision). Topsoil and modern fill were removed down to the natural subsoil or archaeological deposits, depending on which was encountered first. Topsoil was scanned for any artefacts.

Trenches were cleaned by hand and planned at a scale of 1:20. The deposits revealed were then sampled by excavation to provide the required information. All excavated features and deposits were recorded according to the standards set out in the BCAS procedures manual.

Sampling was undertaken to retrieve environmental existence where appropriate. All finds were retained and removed for post excavation analysis.

Throughout the project the standards set out in Bedfordshire County Council's *Procedures Manual for Archaeological Fieldwork and the Analysis of Fieldwork Records*, the Institute of Field Archaeologist's *Code of Conduct* and English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects* (1991) have been adhered to.

3. RESULTS OF FIELDWALKING

3.1

SITE 18

Fig 3

Field 61

Field 61 lies NE of Ridgemont, north of the motorway. The field is characterised by a steep slope to the south and it is likely colluvial material is present downslope across the survey area.

The Stage 3a Fieldwalking assessment identified a concentration of worked flint dating to the Mesolithic, late Neolithic and Bronze Age periods. This assemblage was of particular interest due to the presence of Mesolithic artefacts, which included a number of soft hammer struck waste flakes of good quality flint, along with three cores (including one disc core). The Mesolithic assemblage was enhanced by a general background noise of waste flakes and tool types from the late Neolithic to Bronze Age.

Although the nature of the Mesolithic site was ephemeral, the presence of a concentration required further examination. This would address the possibility that hunting groups were regularly returning to a particular spot or place, either as a temporary camp or a preferred meeting place.

A more intensive regime of fieldwalking was thought appropriate to pinpoint more clearly the nature and range of flint in any concentration. This would be undertaken in more controlled circumstances on a grid less than 10m, as such sites often occupy areas of less than 3-5m across.

Field 61 was the only ploughed field not flooded at the time of survey. However, the conditions encountered were extremely poor. Although the field had been ploughed and weathered, a considerable amount of stubble was still visible which obscured ground visibility. Heavy rain had resulted in a smearing of the silty soil and tractor ruts covered much of the ground, within the survey area. Large amounts of brick rubble had been thrown onto the field, or brought up by the plough in heavy, wet soil conditions.

The Results

Ceramics

Two ceramic artefacts (13.2g) were recovered from the fieldwalking survey. One sherd of medieval pottery dating to the 13th-14th centuries and one roof tile fragment, possibly medieval in date. Both artefacts were located adjacent to the motorway. As no other ceramic material was located, it is suggested that these are the result of manuring practices.

Flint

A total of 24 pieces (264.4g), of worked flint were recovered from Field 61. The flint assemblage comprised a small number of identifiable and therefore datable tool types. The majority is debitage (or waste material) which is not in itself diagnostic and is therefore more difficult to date. However, rough dates can be proposed based on the quality of the flint and the general production methods used, such as hard hammer flaking.

The assemblage included one possible Mesolithic or Early Neolithic waste flake. The remainder comprised three cores, one scraper, two probable tools and 15 waste flakes datable to the Neolithic/Early Bronze Age.

Conclusions

The plotting of the material showed no significant distributions or concentrations. It appears that the assemblage represents use of the landscape but not settlement. However the conditions under which the field was walked makes interpretation difficult, as it was wholly unsuitable for the retrieval of Mesolithic artefacts. Consequently the nature of the site remains unclear.

4. RESULTS OF TRIAL TRENCHING

4.1

SITE 3

Figs 4, 5 & 6

Field 128: Trenches 4, 5 & 6

The field was under crop at the time of survey.

Field 128 is located north of Luton near Chalton Cross Farm and is bordered by the M1 to the west and the railway line to the east. The topography here is characterised by a fairly steep slope down to the SW. This field was initially thought interesting due to its proximity to a Roman well found during the construction of the railway in the 19th Century.

The fieldwalking survey recovered pottery dating from the Iron Age and Romano-British periods and the possible presence of a site was confirmed by geophysical evidence which recorded a number of linear ditches, some possibly part of enclosures.

Trench 4

Trench 4 lay furthest east from the motorway. Oriented roughly NW - SE, it was sited to test two of the ditch like anomalies detected by the geophysical survey.

It was excavated to a length of 50m. A depth of 300mm of dark brown clayey silt topsoil (001), with fragments of 2nd century Roman pottery, was removed to reveal subsoil (002), comprising a light brown silt/clay with frequent chalk fragments which appears colluvial in origin. This covered the entire length of the trench to a maximum thickness of 250mm and sealed nine apparent archaeological deposits.

Three ditches running N - S were identified at the north end of the trench. One of the earliest of these was ditch [004], which had been heavily truncated by later features. This was excavated to a depth of 950mm and its profile was characterised by regular curving sides. This ditch contained two fills. The lower comprised a light white/brown silty clay with large chalk fragments (006). This was suggestive of slippage of the exposed ditch sides soon after construction of the ditch. The upper fill (005) comprised a mid red/brown silty clay with occasional chalk and flint fragments, and charcoal flecks. This was an homogenous deposit probably representing a silting up of the ditch during disuse. No finds were retrieved to date the disuse of the ditch.

Slightly west of ditch [004] was a second ditch, [041]. This was excavated in two sections, [034] and [025], which revealed gently sloping sides and a concave base. The southern section [034] presented a fuller profile. Here the maximum depth below the colluvium was 1.5m, and the ditch contained four fills. The basal fill (038)/(029) comprised a white/grey clay with a high percentage of chalk fragments which probably formed as a result of initial silting and collapse from the exposed chalk edges. This fill contained early Iron Age finds and residual Bronze Age flint.

This was overlain by a mid orange/brown silty clay (037), with occasional chalk lumps and charcoal flecks which was sealed by a light brown silty clay (036). Both deposits resulted from the gradual silting up of the ditch. The relationship between ditches [004] and [041] is unclear but their similar alignments may indicate one is a recut of the other.

Both ditches [041] and [004] were cut by ditch [039]. This was excavated in two sections [007] and [026].

Section [007] to the north of [026] gave the clearest profile which was characterised by gradually sloping sides and a concave base, 900mm deep. This cut contained a sequence of four fills, the basal fill of which (033)/(009) comprised an 80mm thickness of mid grey silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks. This lower fill contained finds of early to mid Iron Age pottery and charred wood remains, small fragments of animal bone and snail shell were retrieved from soil samples of this deposit. Fill (033) appears to be the result of rapid initial silting of the ditch or a deliberate backfill. The secondary fill comprised a light grey/brown silty clay (032)/(008), 300mm thick. It contained early -mid Iron Age pottery and fragments of animal bone and represents a gradual silting of the ditch. Sealing (032) was a light brown/grey silty clay (031) with chalk and occasional charcoal flecks, 350mm thick. This fill contained pottery dating to the early to mid Iron Age and a significant amount of animal bone indicating the use of the ditch at this time as rubbish depository. Remains of horse and cow have been identified, with a number of the cow bones showing evidence of having been gnawed. The uppermost fill comprised a soft mid red/brown silty clay (030) which contained finds of early to mid Iron Age pottery and a residual worked flint possibly early Bronze Age origin.

A fourth ditch [010] lay toward the middle of the trench. Running E - W, it was 2.10m wide and 850mm deep. Excavation revealed regular sloping sides with a slightly rounded base. This contained two fills. The basal fill comprised a chalk deposit (012), with light yellow/brown silty clay mixing and contained finds of pottery dating to the early to mid Iron Age along and fragments of animal bone. This fill represents slippage from the exposed chalk edges and some deliberate backfilling. A light yellow/brown clayey silt (011) with chalk and sandstone fragments overlay the lower fill. This upper deposit contained large pottery fragments dating to the early to mid Iron Age and fragments of animal bone. This suggests deliberate backfilling of the ditch with domestic refuse from a nearby settlement.

About 6m to the south of [010], on a parallel alignment was a broad V-shape profile ditch [013]. This measured 2m wide x 800mm deep and contained a sequence of five fills. The lower three fills comprised yellow/brown silty clay with chalk fragments. The primary fill (018) contained a large concentration of Roman pottery with some residual Iron Age sherds and animal bone, identified as pig, cow and sheep/goat. A number of the bones showed evidence of gnawing and knife marks indicative of dismembering were identified on the cow bones. Soil sampling recovered evidence of charred wood, animal bone snail and shell. This was overlain by (017) and although it contained no finds, as with fill (016) above, there is a possibility of some contamination with (018). A fourth fill (015) comprised

grey/brown silty clay and contained finds of mid to late Roman pottery and animal bone fragments. Soil sampling from this material also retrieved charred seeds or chaff, snail shell and animal bone. This appears to be the deliberate backfilling of domestic refuse. The upper fill (014) was a light yellow/brown silty clay which probably represents final silting of the ditch. It contained finds of Roman pottery with some residual Iron Age sherds, and fragments of sheep/goat bone.

Towards the southern end of the trench and partly obscured by the eastern bank was the straight western edge of a pit [022]. Excavation revealed a cut 2.5m wide x 200mm deep. Its profile was characterised by sharp sides with a level but uneven base. The single fill within this comprised a mid yellow/brown clayey silt (020) with Iron Age pottery and fragments of animal bone.

Fill (020) was cut by two post-holes [019] and [024]. Post hole [019] was subcircular in plan and measured 700mm x 600mm x 100mm. It contained a single fill of dark grey/brown clayey silt which contained 2nd to 4th century Roman pottery, daub and fragments of animal bone. Post-hole [024] was circular in plan and measured 600mm in diameter with concave sides sloping to a concave base. This was 300mm deep and contained a single fill of light grey/brown silty clay (021), with charcoal flecks. A large sandstone block 200mm wide found in the fill may have been used as packing material around a post. Finds of late Roman pottery, fragments of animal bone and fragments of slag were also retrieved from the fill. The pottery dating evidence suggests these post holes were constructed after the pit had gone out of use. The post-holes are not similar in profile, depth or matrix which implies they are not contemporary.

An irregular sub-circular cut [027] characterised by irregular sides and an uneven base was located in the south of the trench. This measured 900mm wide x 100mm deep and contained a single fill of mid red/brown clay silt and no finds. This has been interpreted as a tree-throw hole.

Trench 5

Trench 5 was located south of Trench 4. It was positioned to test two anomalies recorded by the geophysical survey, one linear and the other of uncertain character, but probably archaeological in origin.

Oriented roughly NW - SE, trench 5 was excavated to a length of 50m. A maximum depth of 300mm of dark brown clay silt topsoil (001) was machined to reveal a light yellow/brown silty clay layer (002) up to 200mm thick. This lower layer occurred predominantly downslope where it sealed six archaeological deposits and is probably colluvial in origin.

An irregular cut [014] at the southern end of the trench proved to have irregular undercutting sides and is interpreted as a tree-throw hole.

About 10m NW of [014], the first archaeological deposits were encountered. Post-hole [009] was sub circular in plan and measured 600mm in diameter x 650mm deep. This had a steep sided profile and a concave base and contained two fills. The basal fill comprised a grey/brown silty clay (008), with chalk fragments and

occasional pottery fragments dating to the Roman period. Soil sampling also retrieved snail shell from this fill. The pottery and chalk may represent some form of post packing for a post. The upper fill was a mid yellow/brown silty clay (007), which contained Roman pottery and fragments of animal bone. This deposit possibly represents a gradual silting of the post-hole after the removal of the post.

Post hole [009] was truncated by an irregular shape cut [006], 2.05m wide x 300mm in deep. Excavation of [006] revealed irregular sides sloping to a sub rounded base and a vague NW-SE orientation. The basal fill of this cut comprised a grey/brown silty clay (022) with frequent chalk fragments. It contained no finds and probably represents a natural silting and some edge collapse. A brown/yellow silty clay with chalk fragments (005) sealed the primary fill and although some contamination may have occurred with the upper fill (007) of post-hole [009], Roman pottery, tile brick and animal bone fragments were retrieved from and the presence of daub noted in this fill. Whether this represents a deliberate backfill or is the result of natural silting is unclear. The function of this feature remains uncertain.

Adjacent to [006] and roughly oval in plan was [017]. This measured 220mm x 110mm x 160mm. The sides of this cut were vertical and sloped to an uneven base. It contained a single fill (016) of light brown/yellow silty clay with chalk fragments that produced no finds. This may have been a post hole or root disturbance.

At the NW end of the trench the excavation of an E - W ditch identified two phases of construction. The earliest form of the ditch comprised a heavily truncated, 380mm deep cut [012] containing a light brown coarse grained sediment of clay and chalk fill (013). The large percentage of chalk inclusions suggests deliberate backfilling.

Ditch [010] was recut into a steep sided feature with a flat base [012]. It measured 650mm wide x 530mm deep. It contained a single fill of dark brown clay with chalk fragments (011). This contained finds of early/mid Iron Age pottery, daub fragments and animal bone, including one burnt fragment. This probably represents a deliberate backfill once the ditch had gone out of use.

A third ditch [004] lay at the NW end of the trench, oriented roughly NE - SW. This cut was 3m wide with straight sloping sides and was not fully excavated due to Health and Safety requirements. It contained three fills, the lower of which comprised a yellow/brown silty clay (018) with finds of early to mid Iron Age pottery, slag and cattle bone. Soil sampling also retrieved snail shell from this deposit. This probably represents a gradual accumulation of material within an open ditch. This was overlain by a second silted fill of light yellow/brown silty clay with chalk flecks (019). It contained finds of early to mid Iron Age pottery and Registered Find 1, an undatable copper alloy ring. Animal bone retrieved from this fill included cow and sheep/goat, some of which showed evidence of burning. The upper fill (020), comprised a grey/brown silty clay with occasional chalk fragments. A charcoal concentration toward the base of the fill contained 2nd to 4th century Roman pottery and fragments of animal bone. This represents a deliberate backfilling of the partially silted and disused ditch.

Trench 6

Trench 6 lay close to the motorway and was positioned to test two ditch like anomalies identified by the geophysical survey. Oriented roughly NW - SE, it was excavated to a length of 40m. Topsoil (003), 300mm deep, was removed to reveal the natural chalk subsoil. No subsoil was found in this trench due to its location on higher ground and extensive ploughing.

Only one of the ditch like anomalies noted by the geophysical survey was identified during the excavation. This was an E - W ditch [001] which had a V-shape profile, 1.05m wide x 250mm deep. It contained a single fill (002), of mid yellow/brown clayey silt with a high percentage of chalk fragments. This produced no finds and appears to represent a natural silting up of the ditch prior to the cutting of [006].

Once silted-up it was recut with concave sides that rounded to a concave base, 550mm wide x 100mm deep. Its single fill (005) comprised a dark grey/brown silty clay with chalk and charcoal flecks from which 2nd to 4th century Roman pottery was collected.

No other deposits of archaeological origin were noted in the trench, although a number of tree-throw holes were recorded. The lack of remaining archaeological material appears to be the result of extensive truncation by ploughing. The colluvial build-up downslope to the NW has preserved the archaeology in that area.

Finds Report

Ceramics

Excavation in trenches 4, 5, and 6 produced the most varied and prolific range of ceramics, dating from the early Iron Age to the late Roman period.

Iron Age

Ditch fills (029), (030) and (031), trench 4, produced four undiagnostic vessels of early Iron Age flint tempered pottery (types F01A and F01B). The dating for this type comes from flint gritted pottery found at Ivinghoe Beacon, about 600BC (Dyer 1976, 8).

The early-mid Iron Age is predominantly represented by fine and coarse sandy vessels (types F28 and F29), which were recovered from fills (012), (011), (018), and (015) of ditch [013] and fills (030) and (033) of ditch [026], trench 4. They have been dated to this period by comparison of fabric and form with ceramics from the settlements of Salford and Stagsden (BCAS in prep). Forms present are standard upright rimmed, rounded vessels (*ibid* fig 24, 1), decorated with intermittent vertical scoring.

Other contemporary fabrics were identified as containing predominantly grog, shell, sand and organic temper (fabrics F17, F27, F03 and F22 respectively). These are likely to be of local origin and manufacture, and again are closely paralleled by wares of an early-mid Iron Age date recovered from Salford and Stagsden.

Fill (018) of boundary ditch [004], trench 5, produced a vessel in a previously unknown sand tempered, micaceous fabric (type F31), in the recognised form of an upright rimmed jar (*ibid* fig 24, 4), which dates this to the early-mid Iron Age.

All the Iron Age vessels are hand-made. They are generally abraded, although this is a characteristic shared by most of the ceramics from the site, and is likely to be the result of their deposition in unfavourable soil conditions. Decoration is common and consists of vertical intermittent scoring on the body. Fingering on the rims of vessels, noted at Salford and Stagsden, does not occur.

The character of the Iron Age pottery indicates a domestic assemblage, comprising mainly unsooted vessels, probably used for storage or food consumption. Although no cooking vessels could be positively identified, in that none of the vessels were sooted externally, it is possible that some of these may have been used for boiling water by the use of stones heated in a fire.

There is a single example of a vessel with internal sooting and a clean exterior, from fill (012) of ditch [010], trench 4, where the contents may have been burnt inside the vessel.

Roman

The Roman ceramics from site 3 are also suggestive of a domestic assemblage. Sherds are generally large, with vessels that consisted of a number of sherds, indicating primary deposition.

The pottery is mainly coarseware, consisting of shell tempered wares (type R13) and sandy greywares (type R06), both of which are likely to be of local origin. Shell tempered wares consisted mainly of undiagnostic body sherds, although sherds of a lid-seated jar datable to the second century were recovered from fills (005) and (007) of two separate features within trench 5, indicating that both were infilled at the same time. This fabric type is probably derived from kilns at Harrold, Beds, where a major shelly ware industry flourished throughout the Roman period, exporting its products beyond the locality (Brown 1994). Pottery in this tradition is prolific and is well attested from sites of varying status such as the 'small town' at Sandy (BCAS in prep) and Bletsoe Roman villa (Słowikowski 1994).

Locally manufactured greywares and sand tempered wares (*ibid* fig 24, 2 & 3), constitute the bulk of the Roman ceramics from this site. Their forms represent basic utilitarian types, possibly kitchen wares, and range from necked jars to flanged and straight-sided bowls. Decoration is common and includes external burnishing, and burnished or stabbed lattice patterns. All exteriors are clean and unsooted, indicating their use for storage, rather than cooking. Greywares were common throughout the Roman period, produced in standardised forms. Dating of undiagnostic sherds can, therefore, be problematic.

Sherds from an undiagnostic greyware vessel were recovered from fills (014) and (015) of ditch [013], trench 4. This cross-context attests the rapid infilling of ditch [013] as it passed out of use, as opposed to the gradual silting up of the feature through time.

A single fine greyware sherd of a second-century poppy-head beaker with barbotine decoration was recovered from the upper fill (020) of boundary ditch [004], trench 5.

Second-century whitewares (six vessels), of fine, smooth and gritty type (R03A, C, and B respectively), were recovered from the fills of features [013], [024], [019], trench 4 and [004], trench 5. Such whitewares were numerous in the early Roman period, and appear to have functioned mainly as tablewares. Although there were no diagnostic vessels from site 5, whiteware forms are known to include ring-necked flagons, reed-rimmed bowls, beakers and narrow-necked jars (Marney 1989, 113). These types are well attested from Sandy and the 'villa' site at Kempston (BCAS in prep).

Imported wares were restricted to an undiagnostic colour coat vessel from the Nene Valley (type R12B), found in fill (021) of post hole [024], trench 4, and four Samian vessels (type R01) from fills (018), (014), trench 4 and (020), trench 5 of boundary ditches [013] and [004] respectively.

Registered Finds

The secondary fill (019) of boundary ditch [004], trench 5, produced an incomplete cast copper alloy ring (Registered Find 1), which has been tentatively identified as a harness fitting. The object has a thickness of 2mm and an internal diameter of 18.6mm. It is of roughly oval section, with a slightly bevelled internal edge. Such an object may have served a variety of purposes, among them a harness ring, and in consequence, is not closely datable.

The ring appears to be intrusive within fill (019) where it was found with a single sherd of early Iron Age pottery, having probably derived from the overlying fill (020), where association with second century ceramics may date the object to the Roman period.

Flint

Trench 4, context (029): one burnt waste flake, with later frost pitting. Two undiagnostic waste flakes, one of poor quality brown flint, the other of grey/white flint. The latter is hard hammer struck and has sustained damage.

Trench 4, context (030): one waste flake of poor quality flint. Blue patination forming and 40% thin abraded cortex remaining. Hard hammer struck.

Conclusions

The four worked flints predate the activity of Phase 1 and attest the presence of earlier prehistoric activity in this area. These were residual pieces in later contexts and no contemporary activity was noted during the excavation.

Three phases of activity could be identified from Site 3:

Phase 1	Early Iron Age
Phase 2	Early to mid Iron Age
Phase 3	Roman

Phase 1 Evidence for this phase comprises a wide, N - S, U-shape boundary ditch [004]/[041] in trench 4. The paucity of domestic refuse in the ditch fills and a lack of contemporary features in the trenches to the south suggests the focus of the early Iron Age settlement lies to the NW of the field.

Phase 2 The earlier boundary ditch continued in use into Phase 2 when it was recut along its established line. The construction of a second, similar sized ditch [010] at a right angle to it created an enclosure, the SE corner of which is visible in trench 4. This appears to be the enclosure identified by the geophysical survey which shows the N- S ditch continuing as far as trench 6.

A third ditch [010] and [012] to the south in trench 5, has a contrasting profile of steep sides and flat base. This runs slightly oblique to the axis of the enclosure discussed above perhaps suggesting they are of different phases. It either terminates or turns before trench 4 where no evidence was found for it. An increased amount of domestic refuse was disposed of in the ditches during this period which indicates the focus of early-mid Iron Age settlement had shifted closer to the survey area and that the boundaries were gradually going out of use. A large pit dug at the SE end of the trench 4 is also attributable to this phase. The pottery assemblage for Phase 2 comprised basic utilitarian wares which, coupled with the faunal evidence for the presence of domesticated animals, suggests a small, rural settlement, supported by an agricultural economy based partly, at least, on animal husbandry.

Phase 3 There is no evidence for late Iron Age/early Roman settlement on this site although sporadic episodes of settlement on rural sites of this date are not uncommon. The third phase of activity dates to the mid-late Roman period. The major N - S field boundary was retained with the addition of an apparent E - W driveway in the south of the site. The driveway was demarked by two parallel ditches, identified by the geophysical survey and the northernmost of these was excavated in trench 6. This comprised an initial V-shape profile [001], recut with a concave base and sides [006].

Structural evidence in the form of several post holes, containing fragments of daub, in the SE ends of trenches 4 and 5 suggest the focus of settlement lies to the SE. These are concentrated in an area to the east of a wider V-shape ditch in trench 4, [013]. This runs E - W perpendicular to the major boundary ditch and may form an enclosure ditch for the settlement core.

Environmental evidence from the ditch fills showed that horse, cow, pig and sheep/goat were present on the site, some of which showed evidence of gnawing and knife marks. Snail assemblages indicate that initially this area comprised a wet, mixed vegetation habitat, which later became better drained dry grassland. Cereal cultivation is apparent in the presence of grains of domesticated wheat found in environmental samples from this site.

In summary, Site 3 appears to have had a substantial occupation over a prolonged period of time, with a possible slight shift in the settlement downslope to the south taking advantage of the drier climate and lighter rendzina soils to the south. Comparisons for this type of site may be found in the results of excavations at Salford and Stagesden Bypass (BCAS in prep). This site was previously unknown.

4.2

SITE 5

Figs 7 & 8

Field 121: Trenches 7 & 8

The field was under stubble at the time of survey.

Field 121 is located north of Luton, close to the village of Chalton. It lies adjacent to a natural spring which has been diverted into a land drainage system. The topographic survey of this field noted fairly substantial earthworks, with a platform in the centre of the field and two or more ridges tapering out towards the north.

The fieldwalking survey recovered very little material, however, a number of unusual soil variations were noted and thought interesting. The geophysical survey showed a range of anomalous readings in the northern half of the field. This area was targeted for a magnetometry survey and the outline of a 40m square enclosure was recorded. A subsequent resistance survey was then carried out which emphasised the presence of a possible building platform within the enclosure.

Although no documentary evidence exists, locals in the area refer to the field as the Osier Bed field. Osier beds are common in wet marshy areas and the location of Field 121 would be ideal. However, they are not normally associated with earthworks, although some form of water-retaining system may be appropriate to cater for exceptionally dry spells. Prior to trenching the nature, origin and dating of the earthworks remained unclear.

Trench 7

Trench 7 was located slightly to the south of the apparent enclosure revealed by the geophysical survey. It was 60m long and aligned N - S. The removal of a 350mm depth of topsoil revealed chalk head natural (032) sloping down to the north. Mixed yellow/brown clayey silt horizons (002) and (029) were visible at the foot of the slope and continued to the northern limits of the trench. These deposits contained snail shell and were consistent with formation under standing water conditions.

A box section through (029), 2m north of the chalk head natural (032), revealed further underlying natural deposits, the upper of which comprised a light brown/yellow clay (030). Beneath this lay a light brown/grey clay (031). Both (030) and (029) contained clay pipe and brick fragments indicative of fairly recent deposition. Seven archaeological features were investigated in this trench.

Three intercutting ditches were excavated at the south end of the trench. These shared a common E - W alignment and cut into the natural. Ditches [006] and [008] were the earlier of these cuts and had been succeeded by a third ditch [010].

Ditch [006] was excavated to a depth 400mm and had regular concave sides. It contained one fill of light brown/grey clayey silt (007), which probably represents a gradual silting of the ditch. This material produced finds of animal bone, possibly sheep or goat, with evidence of gnawing.

Ditch [008] was 650mm deep and characterised by fairly steep and regular sides sloping to a round base. It contained a single fill of light grey/brown sandy silt (009), which contained no finds and is the result of silting.

Ditch [010] truncated ditch [006] to the north and ditch [008] to the south and could be a recut of either feature. Ditch [010] was 700mm wide x 400mm deep and characterised by regular concave sides and a rounded base. It contained two fills, the primary of which [012] comprised a backfilled deposit of dark grey/brown clayey silt, with a lens of chalk head natural. The upper fill [011] comprised a mid brown/grey clayey silt, which probably represents a gradual silting of the drainage ditch.

Two intercutting gullies running E - W were visible 400mm to the south of ditch [010]. The earliest of these was [013]. It was fully excavated to a depth of 300mm and characterised by concave sides sloping to a rounded base. It contained a single fill [014], a mid brown/grey clayey silt indicative of a gradual accumulation of material within an open cut.

This gully was recut along its original course with steeper sides and a rounded base [017]. It again filled with a brown/grey clayey silt (018) with orange mottling.

To the south and partly truncated by gully [017] was a shallow, 250mm deep, cut. This reflected the general E - W orientation of most features in this trench and had a vertical sided profile with a flat base. It contained a single, whitish clay fill (020) similar to the chalky natural (032), indicative of rapid backfilling. The function of this feature is unclear.

Cut [028] was northernmost of the features in the trench. The full dimensions were unclear, but it appeared to be linear, running E - W and at least 4m wide. Although not fully excavated, it was cleared to a depth of 800mm. The north side was characterised by a shallow sloping edge with a deeper, vertical-sided central slot and a concave base. A land drain obscured the southern edge. This cut contained four fills and a wooden structure. The lower fill comprised a dark grey silty clay (026), with a high percentage of snail shells and seems to be the result of an initial

rapid silting. This was overlain by a light grey clay (025), derived from the natural, formed as the result of slippage from the northern edge.

A poorly preserved wooden structure [021] overlay (025). Consisting of two horizontal timbers, each 80mm - 100mm in diameter and separated by wickerwork, the structure had partially collapsed toward the centre of [028] and no upright timbers were encountered. This structure probably represents a partially *in situ* revetment. This was overlain by a dark grey/brown silty clay (024), which represents a silting up of the feature. The upper fill comprised a mid brown/grey silty clay (023), that represents a gradual silting process. Neither fill produced finds to date this structure. The presence of the natural spring nearby suggests that when open, [028] would have filled with water. This coupled with the presence of the revetment suggests a possible use as a water channel or tank for the Osier beds.

These deposits were sealed by an orange/brown sandy silt layer (005) and a box section was cut through this deposit showed this layer to be 250mm thick. Post medieval pot and brick were retrieved from this layer which may have served to level out this field prior to arable cultivation.

Trench 8

This trench was located to test the presence of the enclosure and building platform, and to identify a number of weaker anomalies of uncertain origin. The trench was oriented roughly N - S, and 60m in length. Removal of a 400mm-500mm thickness of grey/brown clay silt topsoil (001) revealed a mixed brown/yellow clay deposit (057) in the north of the trench which extended south for 25m. This soil may have been imported to level the field for cultivation. The presence of archaeological deposits beneath this layer is uncertain.

The natural geological deposits comprised a chalk head deposit, although the presence of the clay dumps made the distinction between these and the natural difficult to determine. In places the chalk head was overlain by an Osier deposit of brown/yellow clayey silt with a high snail shell component in the matrix.

The earliest form of activity comprised a series of 22 possible stakeholes in several parallel lines. They varied from circular to oval in plan with sharp sides and concave bases. All had similar fills comprising a mid grey/brown silty clay. They appeared to cluster within and around a shallow pit [005] and are on the same alignment as later drainage channels near by, suggesting a contemporary association.

Pit [005] was oval-shape in plan and measured 2.5m x 800mm x 200mm. It was characterised by irregular sides sloping to an uneven base and contained two fills. The basal fill (008) comprised a dark brown/black clayey silt with a high organic content. Environmental evidence suggests that this is modern in character, and implies deposition soon after the cutting of the pit. This was overlain by a dark brown clay silt (010), derived from topsoil.

Pit [005] was cut by a series of interconnecting drainage channels lying perpendicular to one another. These were between 300-350mm deep and perhaps served as part of the water-control system for the Osier beds.

Finds Report

Excavation of trench 7 produced only two vessels. A single abraded sherd of second-fourth-century sandy orange slipped ware (type R05) was recovered from layer (029), while layer (005) produced an abraded sherd of an unrecognisable glazed sandy vessel. The association of layer (005) with partially silted post-Roman channel/pond [028] suggests that the sherd may be of post-medieval date, although this remains uncertain.

Such limited evidence reveals little activity within the immediate area. The single Roman sherd, having been moved from elsewhere in the locality through processes of manuring or ploughing, may be evidence of Roman agricultural activity.

Conclusions

It was possible to characterise Site 5 as Osier beds, probably dating to the post-medieval period. In addition two sherds of pottery were identified, a Roman orange slipped ware from one of the natural layers and a glazed sandy ware of possible post medieval date. The presence of these may be attributed to Roman and post-medieval manuring practices.

Environmental evidence indicated the presence of sheep or goat on the site, with a number of the bones showing evidence of gnawing and knife marks indicating filleting. The snail assemblage indicated a changing habitat from a mixed shade light scrubland with variable drainage to thinner vegetation and poor drainage indicating a more recent wet meadow habitat, corresponding with the use of Field 121 as an Osier bed site.

4.3

SITE 6

Figs 9, 10 & 11

Field 117: Trenches 9, 10 & 11

The field was ploughed at the time of the survey.

Field 117 is located south of Toddington Service Station on the west side of the motorway. The topographical survey noted the possible remnants of a ridge and furrow system and evidence of previous boundaries.

The fieldwalking survey located a concentration of Romano-British pottery in the northern corner of the field, which was thought to indicate the location of the edge of a rural farmstead settlement. The geophysical survey confirmed the presence of the site but did not identify any specific features. All three trenches were located at the northern end of the field.

Trench 9

Aligned NE - SW this trench was 10m in length. A maximum depth of 400mm of topsoil (001), containing Roman pottery, was machined away to reveal a light grey brown subsoil (002) approximately 200mm thick. The subsoil is possibly the remains of an old ploughed out headland of medieval date. Once removed this revealed a buried soil horizon (012), which was present at varying depths in trench 9, to a maximum depth of 200mm. The buried soil horizon, a compact dark brown/black gritty clay, sealed six archaeological deposits and probably represents an abandonment layer.

Three intercutting ditches running NW - SE were excavated towards the centre of the trench. The earliest of these was [004]. This was 450mm deep and truncated on its east edge by ditch [016]. Ditch [004] was characterised by uneven concave side tapering towards the base and contained two fills. The basal fill comprised a dark brown/orange clay (005), from which early to mid Iron Age pottery and animal bone fragments were recovered. Soil sampling identified further remains of charred wood and shell. A brown/black clay (008) with small flint pebbles comprised the upper fill. Inclusions of charred wood, small animal bone fragments, charred seeds and shell were in addition retrieved from samples of this fill. Both fills represent a gradual silting of the ditch.

The profile of the second ditch [016] was characterised by slightly concave sides sloping to a flat base, at least 250mm deep. It contained a single silted fill of dark orange brown silty clay (017). Similarities in the orientation of [004] and [016] suggest a common function as a boundary ditch.

Ditch [016] was recut as a 400mm deep U-shape cut [009] which, unlike its predecessors, terminated within the trench. This recut was characterised by near vertical sides and measured 500mm wide. The single fill of [009] comprised dark black clay fill (010) with inclusions of charred wood and seed remains, animal bone fragments, marine shell and snail shell.

To the east of the three intercutting ditches lay a fourth ditch [006], running NW - SE. This had a wide U-shaped profile measuring 500mm wide x 300mm deep. This cut contained a pale grey silty clay fill (007), which represents gradual silting of the ditch. This feature was recut as a narrower channel [013], 300mm wide x 200mm deep with a bowl shaped profile. This was filled with a mid grey clay (014) with grit and stone inclusions.

The upper part of fill (014) was cut by a sub-circular pit [011]. This had concave sides and a concave base and contained a single fill of mid grey clay which suggested a rapid infilling of the pit. Finds of early to mid Iron Age pottery and fragments of animal bone within this fill suggest it was used as a rubbish pit.

Trench 10

This trench lay to the north of trench 9. It was oriented NE - SW and 10m in length. A maximum depth of 450mm of topsoil (001) was excavated to reveal a light grey brown subsoil (002) up to 200mm thick, as seen in the previous trench. This was machined off to reveal a buried soil horizon of dark brown/black clay (003) which matched (012) in trench 9. This was present at varying depths over the entire length of trench to a maximum depth of 200mm and contained 2nd-4th century Roman pottery and bone. Soil sampling recovered further evidence of charred wood and seeds, snail shell and fragments of animal bone. Three archaeological deposits were sealed beneath this layer.

At the east end of the trench an 800mm wide ditch [006] aligned NW - SE was excavated. This had irregular sides sloping to a concave base, 280mm deep. A single deposit of brown/grey gravelly silt (005) comprised the fill and is indicative of a gradual silting up of the ditch. Early Roman pottery and fragments of animal bone, along with an Iron object of unknown date and function were found in this fill.

The truncated remains of a post hole [011] were identified in the west of the trench. It was roughly 150mm in diameter with steep straight sides and a concave base. Its single fill comprised a brown/black silty clay (012), with inclusions of small fragments of red sandstone. This material seems to have accumulated after the removal of the post and the stone may be remnants of packing material for a post.

A 1.25m wide ditch [008] truncated post hole [011]. A high water table during the evaluation meant only partial excavation was possible. This revealed the upper edges of regular, fairly steep sides and two fills. The lower of these comprised a dark brown/black clay silt (009), containing human skeletal material and fragments of animal bone. It is probable that a grave cut was missed in the poor excavation conditions and that the inhumation had been interred in the lower fill of the ditch. The upper fill comprised a light yellow brown clayey silt (007), with frequent small pebbles, approximately 250mm in depth. This represents a deliberate filling of the ditch. The position of the ditch suggests it may be a continuation of ditch [016] seen in trench 9 to the south.

Trench 11

Trench 11 was 10m in length and lay north of and parallel to trench 10. Removal of a 450mm depth of topsoil (001) revealed a light grey/brown subsoil (002), up to 200mm in thick. Beneath this lay a buried soil horizon (004) of brown/black silty clay, present at varying depths over the length of the trench to a maximum depth of 200mm. This corresponds to layers (012) in trench 9, and (003) in trench 10. It contained a significant quantity of Roman pottery, with roof tile and iron nails along with a double spiked loop dated to the Roman period. Fragments of animal were also recovered and soil sampling retrieved charred wood, seed remains and snail shell. This soil horizon sealed three archaeological deposits.

A natural silted up undulation was recorded as cut [007] This feature was linear, oriented N - S and measured 800mm wide x 55mm deep.

At the east end of the trench was an oval-shaped post hole [009]. This measured 500mm x 400mm x 160mm and was characterised by steep sides sloping to a rounded base. It contained a single fill of mid brown/grey sandy silt (010), with occasional charcoal flecks. A deposit of stone which appeared to be in a linear NW-SE alignment overlay fill (010). This comprised clunch, sandstone and flint nodules and has been interpreted as foundations for a wall.

Finds Report

Ceramics

Trenches 9, 10 and 11 produced a similar range of pottery, both in date and form, to site 3. The majority of the pottery was recovered from two unassociated layers of a buried soil horizon (003), trench 10 and (004), trench 11. Sherds from within these layers are generally large, with vessels consisting of a number of sherds, indicating rapid deposition soon after they passed out of use. Ceramics from site 6 constituted 27% of the total assemblage for all the sites surveyed during this stage of the evaluation.

Iron Age

Buried ploughsoil (003), trench 10, produced a single, undiagnostic, abraded sherd of coarse flint tempered pottery (type F01A). As with site 3, locally manufactured fine and coarse sandy vessels (types F28 and F29) are predominant, although there were no distinguishable forms and the sherds were largely undecorated.

Undiagnostic vessels, decorated with intermittent scoring (fig 24, 5), in grog and organic tempered fabrics (types F17 and F03) were recovered from all trenches.

Roman

The Roman ceramics are almost entirely coarsewares, (70 % of total from site 6), in the form of both shell tempered wares and sandy greywares. Shell tempered wares consisted mainly of undiagnostic body sherds; a lid-seated jar, recovered from layer (004), trench 11, and an everted rimmed jar from (003), trench 10, were the only recognisable forms. The latter bore sooting around the rim, indicating use as a cooking pot.

Locally manufactured greywares (of coarse, fine, calcareous and micaceous varieties) and sand tempered wares constitute the bulk of the Roman ceramics. Their forms represent basic utilitarian types and range from flanged and straight-sided bowls, to everted rimmed jars. As with the greywares from site 3, all exteriors are unsooted, indicating their use for storage, rather than cooking.

Second-century whitewares are represented by a single jar in gritty fabric which was recovered from layer (004), trench 11. This layer also produced an undiagnostic vessel and a large storage jar in soft pink grogged fabric (type R09A), datable to the second century. Vessels of this type are known to have been locally manufactured in Buckinghamshire and are well attested from sites such as Caldecotte (Marney 1979, 174). They appear to have been widely traded during the second and third centuries, as examples have been found as far afield as

Gloucester and Chester, although to date, there is only a limited amount of this type excavated from sites in Bedfordshire.

A tiny, abraded sherd of Samian was recovered from layer (004), trench 11. Contexts (003), trench 10, and (004) and (005), trench 11 produced examples of Oxfordshire mortaria in white and red fabrics (types R11E & F respectively), which can be broadly dated from the second to late third centuries.

Late Roman imported types include Oxfordshire redwares (type R11), one sherd of which was recovered from (004), trench 11, and Nene Valley Colour Coat wares, one sherd of which was found in (003), trench 10. These may be regarded as intrusive as the majority of the ceramics from these layers date from the second century.

Registered Finds

An incomplete double spiked iron loop (Registered Find 2) was recovered from buried soil layer (004), trench 11, in association with ceramics of second to third century date. It takes the form of an intact looped head (total length 63mm, diameter 42.9mm), with incomplete straight sided blades. Objects of this kind are extremely common in the Roman period, being well attested from sites such as Colchester (Crummy 1983, 119-120), and are known to have had a multiplicity of applications. A ring or handle would have been passed through the loop and the blades subsequently set in the body of, for example furniture or masonry. Copper alloy examples were used for handles of drawers and boxes, while more sturdy iron loops are likely to have been set into a wall or for more heavy duty purposes.

A layer of buried ploughsoil (003), trench 10, produced a fragmentary iron plate/strip (Registered Find 4), of uncertain date and function. Roughly square in shape, the artefact, which retains one original edge, measures 50.5 x 44.5 x 7mm and is centrally perforated by a circular hole (diameter 5mm). Corrosion products appear to mask a second parallel nail hole, with part of a nail or rivet in situ, although X-ray would be required to positively identify this. It can be tentatively suggested that the object may be part of a strap hinge, although it is too fragmentary to be certain.

Flint

Trench 11, context (005): two large burnt pieces, total weight 122g, neither of which are worked.

Conclusions

This site comprises a series of recut boundaries datable to the mid Iron Age and Roman periods with a small amount of associated structural evidence.

The earliest phase of occupation is evidenced by several NW - SE field boundaries. These comprise several sub-phases of construction and the majority of excavated ditches date from the mid Iron Age. The geophysical survey identified a greater density of features in the north of the field suggesting the focus of settlement lay at

that end of the field. The disposal of domestic refuse in several of the excavated ditches confirms this.

Evidence for occupation during the Roman period relies heavily on the presence of early and late Roman pottery in the buried soil horizon encountered in all three trenches. The snail assemblage from this soil is indicative of a wet grassland habitat and a probable shaded environment. The presence of animal bone and a high percentage of charcoal suggest clearance of a wooded area, perhaps to allow for settlement expansion. Pottery sherds from this soil are large, suggesting rapid deposition and substantiate the presence of a settlement nearby.

The digging of an early Roman boundary ditch in trench 10 on a corresponding axis to that of the Iron Age ditches shows a degree of continuity in land divisions, although ceramic evidence suggests that occupation was sporadic.

The structural evidence in trench 11 in the NW corner of the field infers a focus of settlement in that direction. The grave found in ditch [008] is likely to be that of a local inhabitant of the Roman settlement.

Comparisons may be drawn between this site and Site 3 to the SE which has a similar period of occupation. Contemporary settlements in the locality would benefit from intra-site comparisons to identify their relative socio-economic relationships.

4.4

SITE 11

Figs 12 & 13

Field 100: Trenches 16, 17 & 18

Field 100 was set aside at the time of the evaluation.

Field 100 is located on the east side of the motorway north of Junction 12. It is characterised by a steep downward slope to the SW.

This field was originally identified through the Stage 3a fieldwalking survey. The fieldwalking survey recovered a flint assemblage comprising a variety of artefacts; such as blades, scrapers cores and waste flakes dating from the Neolithic to the Bronze Age. A subsequent geophysical survey identified an area of weak anomalies, thought to be the possible remnants of prehistoric features.

Three trial trenches were designated for the area, each 15m in length. They were extended to 60m in length prior to excavation due to fenceline changes.

Trench 16

Trench 16 was the northern most of the trenches. Oriented ENE - WSW, it was positioned to test three of the weak geophysical anomalies. A maximum depth of 300mm of topsoil (001) was machined off over the length of the trench revealing a patchy layer of subsoil (007) beneath which archaeological deposits were visible against the natural glacial deposits.

These glacial deposits comprised predominantly small, coarse flint and quartzite gravel in a mid orange/brown silty sand matrix. Elsewhere in the trench the natural deposits comprised a mix of clays, sands, flint and chalk. At the extreme eastern end of the trench, an area of mixed clay and sand deposits 12m in extent was encountered; a box section showed the material to consist of a series of dumps. It is likely that the material was redeposited.

Toward the western end of the trench, a sub-circular pit [006] cut into the gravels and was partly obscured by the trench edge. Its visible extent measured 650mm (N - S) x 600mm (E - W). This pit was filled by a loose, light grey/brown silty sand (003) containing some 30-40% gravel and occasional flint nodules up to 100mm across.

The eastern edge of pit [006] was truncated by an oval-shape pit [004]. Again partly obscured by the edge of the trench, the visible extent of this feature was 1.2m x 600mm x 300mm. Excavation revealed an irregular edge with uneven sides sloping with no clear break to an uneven base. It contained a single fill of a loose, mid grey/brown silty sand (005), containing 60% small stones, together with occasional flint nodules and flecks of charcoal. Finds from this fill included cattle bones. The function of these pits is unclear.

Trench 17

Trench 17 was located to test one of the weak anomalies south of trench 16 and oriented roughly ENE - WSW. A maximum depth of 300mm of topsoil (001) was machined off together with a patchy layer of subsoil (036) some 100mm thick, to reveal features cut into the natural glacial deposits (002).

This subsoil consisted predominantly of sand and gravel, varying considerably in colour, containing bands of clay and clean sand. About 12m from the eastern end of the trench, a linear feature [003] running NW - SE across the trench was excavated. This measured 2.5m wide x 1.05m deep, with steep concave sides. Excavation revealed a sequence of steep rounded 'cuts' containing very clean, sterile sandy fills, apparently undercutting each other. This has been interpreted as the result of ice-wedges or other periglacial activity.

Seven metres east of the periglacial feature was the southern terminus of a gully [014]. This ran N - S and cut into the natural. Excavation revealed a profile comprising concave sides and a rounded base, 390mm wide x 70mm deep. It contained a single, silted fill of mid orange/brown sandy clay (015), from which Iron Age pottery was recovered.

This gully was truncated to the south by a sub circular post-hole [009], 500mm in diameter. This post-hole had near vertical sides and a concave rounded base, 280mm deep. An orange/brown sandy clay (013) containing occasional flint fragments comprised the fill. The stone inclusions may have been packing material for a post which remained as a dark post pipe [024]. This was circular in plan with a rounded concave profile, 350mm in diameter x 130mm deep. The fill of the post-pipe comprised a mid grey/brown sandy silt (010), containing occasional stones and charcoal fragments, resulting from the infilling of the void after the removal of a post. Pottery from (010) assigns an early/mid Iron Age date for this activity.

A sub-circular pit [016] lay to the east of [009]. This had been cut into the gravels (002) and was partly obscured by the southern edge of the trench. Its visible dimensions were 960mm (N - S) x 500mm (E - W). Excavation revealed a profile of steep, concave sides and an irregular base 250mm deep. Two deposits comprised the fills of this pit. The primary fill comprised a mid orange/brown clayey sand (039), 170mm thick, with occasional stone inclusions. It is possible that this represents an earlier feature truncated by the digging of pit [016]. It has marked similarities to the fills of various post holes described below. The upper fill comprised an orange/brown sandy clay (017), 130mm thick, with an increased amount of stone inclusions. These deposits suggest an initial period of silting up of the cut followed by levelling of the feature by deliberate backfilling.

A sub-circular post-hole [022] cut into the upper part of fill (017). This feature continued beneath the southern side of the trench and its visible extent was 320mm wide x 140mm deep. The sides and base were concave. The fill comprised a dark orange/brown sandy clay (023) containing occasional stones. This suggests a silting up of the post-hole following removal of the post.

A third circular post-hole [018], 200mm in diameter x 130mm deep lay to the immediate to the east of pit [016]. This had steep concave sides and a rounded base. It contained a single fill of yellow/brown silty clay (019), containing occasional stones and early Iron Age pottery. As with [022] it appears the post was removed prior to the deliberate infilling of the post-hole.

A fourth post-hole [020] was excavated approximately and 1.6m NE of [018]. Again circular in plan and approximately 240mm in diameter, it had concave sides breaking gradually to a slightly pointed base 100mm deep. It was filled by (021), a backfilled deposit of mid orange/brown silty sand containing occasional stones and charcoal flecks. Similarities between the profiles and fills of the four post holes suggests a contemporary function for them although it was not possible to define a structure within the limited extent of the trench. A fifth post-hole of similar proportions may have existed in the base of pit [016] as previously discussed.

Visible against the north side of the trench, ten metres from the west end were two sub-circular, intercutting pits. The earliest of these, [041], had a visible extent of 1.1m wide x 400mm deep. Its profile comprised concave sides and a rounded base. This pit contained a single silted fill (042), of dark yellow/brown silty sand containing occasional small stones and charcoal flecks.

The second pit [037] was 900mm wide x 420mm deep and had a concave profile similar to pit [041]. This was filled by a dark yellow brown silty sand (038), containing occasional stones, charcoal flecks and yellow sand mottles. This may represent a rapid backfilling of the pit.

Trench 18

Trench 18 was located to the south of the anomalies identified by the geophysical survey. It was positioned to test an apparent blank area to the south of trench 17 and oriented ENE - WSW. A maximum depth of 300mm of topsoil (001) was machined off over the length of the trench, together with patchy subsoil (002) approximately 100mm thick. This sealed six archaeological deposits towards the centre of the trench.

In the east of the trench was a sub-circular post-hole [006]. This measured 290mm x 260mm x 150mm and had a vertical sided profile with a slightly pointed base. Its single fill (007) comprised a mid orange/brown sandy silt with occasional small stones.

Post-hole [008] was located 400mm west of [006]. This had a less regular shape and measured 640mm x 400mm x 150mm. It had an asymmetrical profile and an uneven base. Its fill (009) was very similar to that of post hole [006] although (009) contained fragments of animal bone.

Post-hole [010] was located 200mm NE of [008]. It was sub-circular in plan and measured 400mm x 250mm x 230mm. This was filled by (016), a dark yellow brown sandy silt containing a moderate quantity of fine gravel and occasional charcoal flecks.

Post-hole [004] was sub-circular in plan and measured 470mm x 410mm x 300mm. Its profile comprised near vertical sides breaking sharply to a flat base. This truncated post hole [010] and may have served as its replacement. It was filled by (005), a dark orange brown sandy silt containing occasional small stones and charcoal flecks, from which early Iron Age pottery was recovered.

Two metres west of [004] and partly obscured by the north side of the trench was a fifth post-hole [011]. This had near vertical and partially undercut sides, with a sharp break to a flat base. This cut measured 290mm wide x 260mm deep and was filled by (012), a mid yellow/brown sandy silt containing occasional small stones. Pottery dating to the Early Iron Age and animal bone fragments were recovered from the fill.

Fill (012) was cut by [014], a post-hole of irregular shape in plan, 300mm wide. Excavated to a depth of 200mm, this cut was characterised by steep sides and a pointed base. It contained a single fill (015), of dark grey/brown sandy silt containing occasional small stones and early Iron Age pottery with fragments of horse or cow bones.

Fill (015) was sealed by layer (013), visible in the northern side of the trench. This layer comprised a dark grey/brown sandy silt containing occasional small stones and early Iron Age pottery. It may represent the accumulation of material in a hollow associated with the structure to which the post-holes belong; or it may be the fill of a wide, shallow, open cut which was allowed to silt up.

Finds Report

Trenches 17 and 18 produced ceramic evidence of exclusively early Iron Age date. Pottery consisted of eleven vessels of locally manufactured grog, flint and sand tempered wares (types F17, F01A/F01B and F28/F29 respectively), which are closely paralleled by prehistoric fabrics recovered from sites 3 and 6.

Although abraded, the vessels survived in a reasonably good condition. The only recognisable forms were upright rimmed jars in sandy and flint tempered fabrics, from fill (019) of post hole [018], trench 17, and from layer (013), trench 18 (fig 24, 6). None of the vessels were externally sooted, although black residue/sooting on the interior of a coarse flint vessel (type F01A) from context (015), trench 17, and a fine sandy jar (type F28) from trench 18 suggests burning of the contents inside them.

The vessels from this site are closely paralleled in form and fabric by pottery from Salford and Stagsden, and are indicative of limited prehistoric activity within this area.

Conclusions

The flints recovered during the fieldwalking survey of this site appear to be residual finds within the ploughsoil since no contemporary features were found during the excavation. The geophysical survey identified a number of anomalies which proved to be geological in origin.

Excavation however has identified the core of an early Iron Age settlement. The evidence comprises two concentrations of post holes and one associated gully, to the east in trench 17 and to the west in trench 18. These suggest the presence of timber built structures, with evidence for repairs or replacement structures. Five sub-circular pits in trenches 16 and 17, containing charcoal and animal bone, are likely to be associated with these structures.

The pottery from this site is similar to contemporary assemblages from sites 3 and 6 although the occupation of site 11 is of a more limited nature. The absence of residual finds would provide clearer evidence for social and economic continuity in this region and benefit from comparison with sites 3 and 6, discussed above.

Field 95: Trenches 21, 22 & 23

The topography of the south end of the field was characterised by a rise, the crest of which occupied the southern boundary of the field. Geophysical survey identified no distinct anomalies although a large amorphous feature was targeted for trenching. The trenches to the south relied on concentrations of pottery recovered during fieldwalking for their disposition.

Trench 21

Trench 21 was located at the head of the slope at the southern end of the field and was targeted on a large anomaly detected by the geophysical survey at the east end of the trench. Oriented ENE - WSW, it was excavated to a length of approximately 50m in two sections, in order to preserve agricultural tramlines at the request of the landowner. The western section was 6.90m in length, and the eastern section 28m long, separated by a baulk 6.60m wide.

A depth of 250mm of modern ploughsoil (001) was machined off the trench. In the western section a yellowish grey clay natural was encountered immediately beneath the topsoil; whilst in the east removal of a dark orange brown silty sand subsoil (002), 350mm deep, revealed archaeological deposits. These were visible against the natural mid yellowish brown sand deposits (003).

Excavation of the westernmost of these deposits identified an irregular shaped pit [004], measuring 2.60m x 1.10m x 400mm, with its longest axis oriented E - W. The profile of this cut was characterised by steep, stepped sides to the N, E, and S with a shallow slope to the west and a flat base. This pit contained two fills (005) and (006). The primary fill (005) comprised a mid orange brown sand 200mm thick. This appears to have been derived from the natural sand as a result of slumping during usage of the feature. Finds recovered from this context include a near-complete Roman pot and other Roman pottery of 4th Century date, and animal bone some of which appeared to be burnt. A secondary fill of dark greyish brown silty sand (006), 300mm thick contained a finds assemblage similar to that of the underlying fill but with inclusions of fragments of slag and charcoal. This mix of silted material and domestic refuse suggests this was a rubbish pit.

Approximately 2m east of [004], a poorly defined feature [007] was excavated. This was an irregular shape in plan and partly obscured by the southern edge of the trench. It measured 2m (E - W) and 1.5m (N - S) x 300mm deep. Its profile was characterised by uneven and variable edges and an uneven base, suggesting a natural origin. It contained a single fill (008) of light greyish brown sand from which a single flint waste flake and a sherd of 2nd to 4th century Roman pottery were recovered. The feature is probably a tree-throw hole with residual finds.

Trench 22

Trench 22 was located on a moderate slope at the southern end of the field, close to the hillcrest. It was oriented ENE - WSW and positioned over a short linear anomaly highlighted by the geophysical survey. To preserve tramlines the trench

was machined in three sections, to a total length of 37m. The central section was separated by baulks of 6.5m and 7m from the west and east sections.

A depth of 200-250mm of topsoil (001) was machined off along the trench and was seen to seal a dark reddish brown sandy clay subsoil (002) 250mm thick, not encountered in the trenches downslope. The removal of this layer revealed archaeological features cut into a natural geological deposit of predominantly yellowish grey clay (003), with occasional patches of orange sand.

In the central section of the trench and partly obscured by the southern baulk was an irregularly-shaped pit [005]. Excavation revealed a vertical sided profile with an asymmetrical base, 2m x 600mm x 380mm in size, with an E - W orientation. This cut had filled with a dark brownish grey sandy silt (004) containing red-brown mottles, and frequent small stones. Finds from this material included 2nd/3rd century Roman pottery and a fragment of vessel glass (RF 3). The nature of the fill suggests this was used as a rubbish pit although this was not necessarily its original function.

The west edge of pit [005] was truncated by a NW-SE gully [006]. This had concave sides and a rounded base, 400mm wide x 100mm deep. This may have been a drainage gully and had silted-up with a single dark grey sandy silt (007) with orange mottles and occasional stones. Roman pottery dating to the 2nd century was found in this deposit. In plan, the gully appeared slightly disjointed, and may possibly have been dug as two sections on the same alignment, although this may be attributable to machine truncation or damage.

Immediately to the west of [006] lay a second ditch [008]. This extended N- S across the trench, cutting into the natural. This ditch had a stepped profile with a deep central slot. Fully excavated this measured 1.25m wide x 450mm deep and may have functioned as drainage ditch. A soft dark grey sandy silt (009) with reddish brown flecks and occasional stones filled the cut. This material appears to be the result of a gradual silting up of the cut and contained late Roman pottery.

Trench 23

Trench 23 was situated south of and parallel to trenches 21 and 22 and was excavated in three sections to preserve the land owner's tramlines. The combined length of the divided trench was 40m, with baulks of 5m and 6m dividing the middle section from the west and east. The trench was positioned to test the anomalies picked up by the geophysical survey in an area that had also produced concentrations of 1st - 2nd century Romano-British pottery during an earlier fieldwalking stage.

A maximum depth of 300mm of topsoil (001) sealed a natural geological deposit of light yellowish grey clay (002) and no archaeology deposits were encountered in either the western or middle trench sections. Three intercutting archaeological features were excavated in the east of the trench.

One of the earliest of these features was a pit [016] visible at the east end of the central section. This was partly obscured by the east end of the trench and had a visible width of 1.5m wide (E - W). A single mid reddish brown deposit (015) comprised the fill of [016].

To the west of [016] was a 2m wide ditch [008]. This ran NE - SW and was 1.3m deep. The west side of this was excavated and revealed a steep side with a shallow initial slope and a concave base. It contained a total of eight fills. The basal deposit (013) comprised a mid greenish brown silty clay. This contained small quantities of animal bone, daub and 2nd-4th century Roman pottery and was probably formed as a result of the gradual silting-up of the ditch. This was overlain by fill (012), a mid brown silty clay which yielded finds of animal bone and a residual sherd of early-mid Iron Age pottery. It seems that this deposit was likewise formed by a silting process, the Iron Age pottery being residual. Above fill (012) was a dark brownish red clayey silt deposit (009) which contained sherds of 2nd-4th century Roman pottery. This was a charcoal rich deposit and may have derived from a hearth, suggesting the ditch no longer fulfilled its original function. This could represent the temporary use of the ditch as a rubbish depository. Overlying this was deposit (014), a light bluish grey clay, clearly derived from the natural. It contained no finds and was either the result of deliberate, rapid backfilling or slumping from a bank constructed on the edge of the ditch. Layer (014) was seen in section to extend beyond the NW limits of ditch [008] and is possibly the remnants of an eroded clay bank. Two layers had subsequently accumulated behind this material. These comprised a light yellowish brown silty clay (006) and above this a mid grey brown silty clay (007). The latter contained small quantities of 4th century Roman pottery and animal bone.

Fills (015) and (011) above continued the sequence of fills within the ditch and comprised a mid reddish brown clay interpreted as either backfill or slumped bank material. Sealing (011) was a silted mid yellowish brown silty clay (020). The upper fill (019) comprised a mid greyish brown silty clay also indicative of silting up of the cut.

In summary ditch [008] probably functioned as a boundary ditch, with an accompanying bank which eroded into the ditch. The finds in the primary fill of pottery, bone and especially daub suggest close proximity to a settlement site.

The most recent of the excavated features was the sub-circular pit [003]. This truncated ditch [008] and pit [016] to the east and west. Excavation of [003] identified steep southern and western edges sloping to a concave base. This pit measured 2.7m (E - W) x 900mm deep and contained four fills. The primary deposit (018) comprised a mid greyish brown silty clay containing a single sherd of 2nd-4th century pottery and probably represents a gradual silting-up of the ditch. This was overlain by a dark reddish brown clayey silt (005) with a high charcoal content and reddish hue suggestive of contact with extreme heat. The presence of vitrified clay and iron slag from this deposit indicates small-scale processing, possibly iron smelting. However finds of animal bone and pottery, dating to 2nd-3rd centuries, burnt and unburnt, indicate some mixing with domestic refuse. Concentrated in the northern part of the cut and above (005) was a dumped

deposit of light yellowish brown silty clay (010). This was overlain by the uppermost fill (004) which comprised a dumped deposit of mid reddish brown, silty clay. Cut [003] is likely to have been a pit for the extraction of clay for pottery production, ultimately used for the disposal of industrial waste.

Finds Report

Ceramics from trenches 21, 22 and 23 constituted 19% of the total excavated assemblage for all the M1 Widening evaluation sites, Junctions 10 - 15. Although abraded, the pottery survived generally in a good condition, with large sherds, indicating little secondary deposition.

Two residual early Iron Age vessels of abraded grog tempered fabrics (types F03 and F17), were recovered from fills (012) and (013) of ditch [008], trench 23. They may suggest sporadic activity within this area from an early date.

Mid-late Roman shell tempered and locally manufactured sand tempered coarsewares predominated, together constituting 60% of the vessels from this site. The forms of the greywares and shelly wares are basic utilitarian types; the exteriors of the latter show a tendency to be sooted, while the former are clean, and often burnished, indicating the use of shelly pottery for cooking and greyware vessels for storage.

Sherds of a shelly jar (fig 24, 8), were recovered from fills (005) and (006) of ditch [004], trench 21, and provided the only cross-context from this site. This is significant, as it indicates the rapid infilling of ditch [004] as it passed out of use, rather than the gradual silting up of the feature.

The ceramic assemblage from site 14 contained a higher proportion (24% of the total) of continental and regional imported wares than sites 3 and 6. Pit fills (005), trench 21, and (004), trench 22, produced undiagnostic body sherds from two Samian vessels. Context (004), trench 22 also produced two sherds of a globular type Dressel 20 Amphora (fabric R19A). These vessels were imported from the Guadalquivir region of Spain, where they were used principally for the transportation of olive oil. This type of amphora has a wide date range from the pre-Roman period to the third and fourth centuries, although the peak of Dressel 20 importation in Britain was reached during the second century (Marney 1989, 168).

Regional trading of pottery is indicated by the presence of an almost complete third-fourth century, upright, colour-coated bowl with slightly rounded sides, (fig 24, 9) from the Nene Valley. This was recovered from pit fill (005), trench 21, and effectively dates the infilling of the feature to that period.

Undiagnostic fourth century pottery from Oxfordshire kilns was present in small quantities, (context (005), trench 21 and context (007), trench 23), as were vessels from kilns at Hadham, Herts (type R22A). Two recognisable forms included a flanged bowl (fig 24, 7) from pit fill (006), trench 21, and an everted rimmed jar from gully fill (009), trench 22.

The presence of such imported wares, coupled with the recovery of good quality vessel glass (RF 3), trench 22, may indicate a site of high status.

Conclusions

Trial trenching identified settlement activity dating to the 2nd-4th centuries AD. This comprised several ditches and pits. A large U-shape ditch [008], bounded by a bank on its NW side, formed a major NE - SW boundary in the NW of the site. This may have served to separate the main settlement area from the fields. Pottery from here ranged in date from the 2nd-3rd centuries AD. Gully [006] to the SE lies at right angles to ditch [008], suggesting a contemporary function as a drainage gully. A second ditch [008] in trench 22 has a contrasting N - S alignment and stepped profile. This contained an assemblage of late Roman pottery and represents a slight shift in boundary alignments.

Four pits ranging in date from the early - late Roman periods are spread across the site. All contain domestic refuse and the fill of pit [003], in the NW of trench 23, has inclusions of iron smelting waste.

The pottery assemblage indicates a high status settlement with the potential for integration in local and regional trading patterns. The archaeology of Site 14 indicates a rural settlement supported by agriculture. Environmental evidence although sparse identified the presence of cattle, horse and sheep/goat.

4.6

SITE 15

Fig 16

Fields 93 & 95

The initial fieldwalking survey recovered a flint assemblage of Neolithic to Bronze Age flint in these fields. The assemblage was characterised by moderate to poor quality flint which had been hard hammer struck. The artefact types included scrapers, blades and cores, along with a proportion of waste flakes. The evaluation required that the character of the flint concentrations be investigated where trial trenches would destroy the integrity of the flint assemblages.

The trial trenches were sited away from the flint concentrations and therefore no further fieldwalking or test pitting was undertaken in these fields.

Field 158: Trenches 30 & 31

The field was ploughed at the time of the Stage Four evaluation.

Field 158 is located SE of Junction 13. It is bordered to the north by the A421 and to the west by the M1. This is a gently undulating field with evidence of two or more old field boundaries that have been grubbed out to create one large field.

The 1970 OS map shows the presence of a post-medieval barn in this field, probably originating during the post medieval period. This structure has since been demolished. The location of the barn is unusual in that it is not associated with any farm buildings. This could suggest the presence of an earlier barn on the site associated with earlier buildings no longer extant. The field walking evidence confirmed the presence of the barn demolition.

Trench 30

Trench 30 was located across the barn site and the spread of demolition debris. Oriented roughly NE - SW, it was excavated to a length of 50m. A depth 200mm of mid grey/brown silty clay topsoil (001), was excavated to reveal a light yellow/brown silty clay subsoil (002). This was machined to a maximum depth of 200mm.

A range of demolition debris and dumps of redeposited clay lay beneath the subsoil. The earliest archaeological activity appears to be the construction of a V-shape gully [026]. Aligned E - W, this was linear in plan and measured 200mm wide x 220mm deep. It contained a single dark orange/brown homogenous clay silt fill (027) which appears to represent gradual silting up of the gully. The lack of mortar and brick in the fill and its stratigraphic position beneath a series of redeposited natural clay dumps, suggests evidence for an earlier occupation layer.

The clay dumps, (029) (028) and (018), varied from blue grey to yellow/orange brown clay silts and were apparent over the entire length of the trench. They appear to be part of a levelling process, prior to the construction of the barn.

Overlying a number of these dumps was a trackway displaying successive repairs (014), (013) and (015). This appears to have been constructed at the time of the building of the motorway and runs parallel to the M1.

A number of demolition deposits associated with the barn were recorded. These included wall foundations, [019] and [008], and drainage gullies, [010] and [004] all of a modern date.

Trench 31

Trench 31 was located across the demolition debris, slightly south of Trench 30. Oriented NE - SW, it was excavated to a length of 50m. Between 200mm-500mm of silty clay topsoil and rubble (003), was removed to reveal a light grey/brown silty clay subsoil (004), on average 200mm thick. Four archaeological deposits were visible against the subsoil.

At the southern end of the trench two gullies were excavated. Gully [001] ran E - W, measuring 800mm wide x 100mm deep. Its profile was characterised by gently sloping sides and a rounded base. It contained a single fill (002), of brown/grey clay silt, formed as a result of the gradual silting-up of the gully. Fragments of clay pipe were found in this deposit.

The second gully [006] lay 2m north of and parallel to gully [001]. This measured 450mm wide x 150mm deep and had regular, gently sloping sides and a rounded base. It contained a single fill (007) of orange brown clay which had gradually silted into the cut. Finds of modern roof tile and nails were retrieved from this material.

An irregular pit [014] lay 2m north of [006]. Its dimensions were 2.7m x 1.96m x 920mm, with a vertical sides sloping to an uneven base. This contained four fills, the lower of which comprised a yellow/brown clayey silt (015) with lenses of grey black organic material and fragments of building material. This appears to represent a deliberate backfilling of the pit. A secondary fill (016) of dark orange brown loam with brick and mortar fragments is again suggestive of deliberate backfilling. This was overlain by a third dumped deposit of dark grey brown loam with brick fragments (018). The upper fill (017) comprised a grey/brown clay with occasional small brick fragments, indicative of a gradual silting up of the upper part of the pit. The pit appears modern in date, and would seem to be associated with the destruction of the barn.

An E - W, linear cut [008] was excavated at the north end of the trench. This measured 800mm wide x 420mm deep and comprised vertical sides and an uneven base, into which a contrasting alignment of grooves had been cut. These grooves contained a light yellow brown loam (009) and demolition debris. This was overlain by a dark yellow brown sandy clay (010) with fragments of brick tile and mortar which suggests a rapid backfilling of the cut. The upper fill (011) comprised a dump of grey/black silty clay with brick and tile fragments. This feature appears to be associated with the destruction of the barn, although its function remains unclear.

A box section was cut through a series of clay dumps at the northern end of the trench. These appear to correspond with the clay dumps located in trench 30, and are thought to represent a process of levelling for the construction of the barn.

Finds Report

Fill (005) of drain [004], trench 30, produced a single sherd of a seventeenth-eighteenth century glazed earthenware bowl (type P01). Likely to be of local manufacture, this common type is well attested from excavations in Bedford (Baker and Hassall 1979, 220).

Conclusions

The remains of the barn and its successive rebuilds were identified. Beneath the array of debris material, wall foundations and clay dumps, an earlier phase of activity in the form of a V-shape gully, was noted. A lack of dating evidence and associated features makes interpretation difficult.

The apparently isolated position of the barn and the presence of a medieval pot and tile scatter (HER 14824), on the opposite side of the motorway suggests the presence of associated buildings no longer extant, but this still remains to be confirmed.

5 FIELDS EVALUATED BUT WHICH PRODUCED NO ARCHAEOLOGY

5.1 Field 57: Trench 29

Fig 19

The land was set aside during the Stage Four evaluation.

Field 57 is located on the SW corner of Junction 13, bordered by the motorway to the north and east, the railway to the south and a drainage ditch to the west. It is a flat field with no visible signs of archaeology. Although the land was set aside during the Stages 1 to 3 surveys, a previous fieldwalking survey had identified a scatter of medieval pot and tile (HER 14824). The location of the scatter would not however be affected by the widening.

In the area to be affected by the widening, the geophysical survey identified a zone of major soil disturbance and iron contamination, with several small pit like anomalies.

Trench 29

Trench 29 was positioned to examine an extensive anomaly found by the geophysical survey in the north and eastern portion of Field 57. Oriented roughly E - W, it was excavated to a length of 100m. A dark grey/brown silty clay topsoil (001), 400mm thick was machined away to reveal a mid yellow/brown silty clay (010) 150mm thick. Beneath the subsoil at the west end of the trench a 40m stretch of concrete and rubble, intermixed with topsoil was removed. This material is probably the anomaly registered by the geophysical survey.

Deposits of dark brown/grey clayey silt (003) and apparently redeposited natural gravels (012) extended across the west half of the trench beneath the subsoil. Excavation identified these as fills within a large cut feature [014]. This pit was 600mm deep with an irregular base and had been cut into a natural mid yellow brown clay (008) and natural gravel (005). This appears to be a site of small-scale gravel extraction. Post-medieval tile and a coin of Edward VII, dated 1907 were found within the quarry fill (003).

Conclusions

Trenching revealed evidence for small scale quarrying for gravel. This corresponds with an area of major soil disturbance and iron contamination identified by the geophysical survey. No evidence for archaeological deposits was noted.

5.2 Field 58: Trenches 28 & 36

The field was set aside at the time of the Stage Four evaluation.

Field 58 is located SW of Junction 13, adjacent to Field 57. A drainage ditch separates the two fields. The land here is flat with no visible signs of archaeology.

As the land was set aside during the Stages 1-3 of the evaluation, no fieldwalking could be undertaken. The disposition of the trenches was based on the results of the geophysical survey which identified a series of anomalies in the northern half of the field. These were interpreted as an array of pits and ditches, one of which includes a right angle bend.

Trench 28

Trench 28 was located in the NW corner of Field 58. It was located to examine the continuance of a number of anomalies identified by the geophysical survey. Aligned roughly E - W, it was excavated to a length of 70m. A depth of 400mm of dark grey/brown clayey silt topsoil (001) sealed a grey/yellow sandy clay subsoil (002). The trench was cleaned by hand at this level, but no features were observed.

Box sections were employed to examine the nature and depth of the subsoil and these showed the sandy clay horizon was up to 350mm thick and sealed natural geological deposits of sand (003) and gravel (004). A single sherd of early Iron Age pottery was recovered from (003).

Trench 36

Trench 36, was 80m long and located in an area of irregular anomalies identified by the geophysical survey in the north of Field 58. It was aligned NW - SE, close to the small stream that bounded this side of the field. An average of 400mm of dark brown clayey silt topsoil (001) and light grey silty clay subsoil (002), was machined away to reveal natural deposits of red/brown sandy gravel.

Two contrasting deposits were identified at this level. The first of these, a grey clay band (009), ran roughly N - S at the SE end of the trench and contained an unusually clean and compacted clay fill. This appeared naturally formed and is interpreted as an old watercourse.

The second deposit at the east end of the trench proved to be an infilled ditch/furrow [006] running E - W. This was 200mm deep and contained two fills. The primary fill comprised a light grey/brown clayey sand (008) and the upper fill a light grey/brown sandy clay (007). Both deposits are indicative of a gradual silting-up of the ditch/furrow, with some slippage from the sandy edges. A small number of bone fragments were found in the upper fill.

Finds Report

Ceramic evidence from this site was limited to a single abraded sherd of a fine sandy vessel (type F28) of early Iron Age date, which was recovered from natural sand deposit (003), trench 28.

Trench 28, context (008) produced one hard hammer struck waste flake of brown flint, with blue patination and hinge fracture.

Conclusions

Trenching in Field 58 revealed little evidence of archaeological deposits beyond the presence of a furrow. The single abraded sherd of pottery suggests the presence of an early Iron Age site nearby.

5.3 Field 73: Trenches 2 & 3

Fig 20

Field 73 was under cultivation at the time of the evaluation.

Field 73 is located to the east of the village of Steppingley. It lies adjacent to the parish boundary, north of the parkscape created in the 19th Century by the Duke of Bedford.

The field is characterised by a fairly steep downward slope to the SE. The fieldwalking survey produced no evidence of past human activity. The geophysical survey recovered evidence of strong linear, intersecting anomalies which were interpreted as a small (18m long) building or series of rectangular enclosures, with possible associated narrow silted ditches.

Trench 2

Trench 2 was located at the north end of the field. It was located to examine the possible building and a sub circular anomaly identified by the geophysical survey. Oriented roughly N - S it was excavated to a length of 25m. A maximum depth of 350mm of dark grey/brown clayey silt topsoil (001) was machined away to reveal a dark yellow/brown silty clay subsoil (002), 300mm thick. This in turn overlay a natural deposit blue/brown clay.

Two contrasting deposits visible against the natural clay were investigated. The first of these [004] lay at the west end of the trench and appeared curvilinear in plan. Excavation revealed a profile of irregular sides and an uneven base, 1.3m x 650mm x 200mm in size. A single deposit of light red/brown silty clay (005) with occasional charcoal flecks comprised the fill. This feature has been interpreted as an infilled tree-throw hole.

Cut [006] lay towards the centre of the trench. It was also irregular in profile and measured 1.6m x 900mm x 300mm. This contained two fills, a mottled yellow to grey silty clay (008), overlain by a yellow/brown silty clay (007). This feature is also interpreted as a tree-throw hole.

A number of land drains were also identified. They crossed the trench obliquely and are possibly the linear anomalies picked up by the geophysical survey. No other archaeological deposits were encountered.

Trench 3

Trench 3 was located to the south of trench 2 and was positioned to test three anomalies, two pit-like and one linear. Oriented NW - SE, it was excavated to a length of 30m. An average depth of 350mm of dark grey/brown clayey silt topsoil (001) was excavated to reveal a yellow/brown silty clay subsoil (002).

At the north end of the trench a sub-circular pit cut into (002). This measured 750mm x 630mm x 45mm and contained a fill of dark grey/brown silty clay, which comprised 35% charcoal and wood, with flecks of burnt clay and slag fragments. Its position immediately beneath the topsoil and the oily odour it exuded suggests a modern date.

The removal of the subsoil revealed a natural deposit of blue/grey clay with pockets of sand. Towards the north end of the trench an irregular-shaped feature had been cut into the clay, the profile of which comprised irregular sloping sides and an uneven, concave base. This feature measured 1.13m x 540mm x 170mm and contained two fills, the lower of which comprised an orange/brown clay (007). This was overlain by a dark red/brown clay (008). The irregular nature of this feature was reminiscent of the tree throw holes in trench 2.

A series of land drains ran NE - SW across the trench. These again are likely to be the linear anomaly interpreted by the geophysical as a ditch. No other archaeological deposits were encountered.

Conclusions

Trenching revealed no evidence of past human activity. Those areas identified by the geophysical survey as ditches and a possible building, appear to be modern land drains.

5.4 Field 84: Trenches 26 & 27

Fig 21

Field 84 is located north of the village of Tingrith. It borders the Flitwick plantation, adjacent to the parish boundary. Although under pasture, this field is surrounded by extensive woodland. This is largely the result of the creation of a Victorian parkscape in 1812 by the Duke of Bedford who thought the sandy soils too poor for cultivation.

The field is characterised by a fairly steep downward slope to the NW. This slope is likely to have resulted in a build-up of colluvium at its base, possibly masking archaeological deposits. The geophysical survey recovered evidence of a series of curving and sub circular anomalies which were thought consistent with sets of ring ditches and enclosures of prehistoric date.

Trench 26

Trench 26 was located at the northern end of the field and was situated to examine three of the geophysical anomalies. Oriented roughly E - W, it was excavated to a length of 40m. Removal of the topsoil, up to 300mm in depth, revealed a dark orange/brown silty sand subsoil (002). This appears to be a colluvial deposit, up to 400mm thick and was machined away to reveal the sand and gravel natural.

No archaeological deposits were noted. It is thought that the geophysical evidence had in fact registered differences between the gravel and sand natural.

Trench 27

Trench 27 was located 30m to the south of Trench 26 and was positioned to examine a linear anomaly identified by the geophysical survey. This trench lay parallel to trench 26 and was excavated to a length of 40m. A maximum depth of 300mm of dark brown silty sand topsoil (001), was excavated to reveal a dark orange/brown silty sand subsoil (002). This again appeared colluvial in origin and contained no finds. This colluvium was 400mm-500mm thick and overlay natural geological deposits of sand and gravel.

Conclusions

Trenching revealed no evidence for archaeological activity. It is thought that the ring ditches and enclosures interpreted by the geophysical survey, were in fact differences in the natural geology.

5.5

Site 13

Field 95: Trenches 24 & 25

The field was under crop at the time of the survey.

Field 95 is located near the village of Tingrith, to the east of the motorway. This field is characterised by a steep downwards slope to the NW. Much ground disturbance is evident due to the sinking of two gas pipelines in the field.

Fieldwalking identified a dense concentration of medieval pottery in the north of the field. This suggested the presence of a 12th/13th century domestic settlement. It was associated with a trackway with possible medieval origins noted by the geophysical survey and several pit-like anomalies.

Trench 24

Trench 24 was located on gently sloping ground towards the northern end of the field. This trench was 45m long and machined in three sections to preserve tramlines. The central section was 9m in length and separated from the west and east sections by baulks 5.5m and 6m long. It was oriented ENE - WSW.

Between 250mm-300mm of topsoil (001) was machined off over the length of the trench, together with approximately 200mm of overburden (002), to reveal a light reddish brown sand natural (003). Slight variations in the colour of the natural were noted. No archaeology was found in Trench 24.

Trench 25

Trench 25 lay north of trench 24, at the base of the slope; it was targeted to examine an area in which no geophysical anomalies had been detected. This trench was machined in two sections running NE - SW western section was 18m long and the eastern section 13m long, separated by a baulk of 5m, giving an overall length of 36m.

Between 250-300mm of topsoil (001) was machined off over the length of the trench, together with 200mm of overburden (002) to reveal a natural clay subsoil (003). This was mostly a brownish yellow colour with some variations. A series of parallel bands of orange sands, approximately 200mm wide and oriented roughly E-W were seen; these were probably land drains. Further land drains were also noted. No archaeology was found in trench 25.

Finds Report

Registered Finds

A fragment of vessel glass (Registered Find 3) measuring 32 x 22 x 0.8mm was found in fill (004) of pit [005], trench 22. The fragment is clear with a light green tinge, is of high quality and survives in good condition. Although essentially undiagnostic, the curve of the vessel suggests it may derive from the shoulder region of either a jar or flagon.

Flint

Trench 21, context (005): three undiagnostic waste flakes, one with later frost shattering. Hard hammer struck and of exceptionally poor quality brown-grey flint.

Conclusions

The trench pattern for site 13 was determined on the geophysical evidence. Therefore the trenches were placed to the south of the main concentration of fieldwalking evidence, which had originally pinpointed a medieval site. The trenching pattern revealed the geophysical anomalies to be variations in the natural geological deposits. No archaeological deposits were identified and the finds were residual in the ploughsoil. The extent of the medieval site is limited to the north of the field but the nature and survival of the remains is unclear.

Field 124: Trenches 37 & 38

The land was under rough pasture at the time of the survey.

This field is situated to the south of Chalton and slopes quite steeply to the south where the source of the river Flit is located. The underlying geology is clay. The trenches were positioned to test the presence of an anomalous area identified by the magnetic susceptibility survey.

Trench 37

This trench was oriented E - W and 50m in length. A maximum depth of 100mm of topsoil (001) was machined off along the trench along with 200mm-250mm thickness of silty clay colluvial subsoil (002). This latter layer produced finds of pottery and animal bone.

A number of irregular depressions filled with subsoil were investigated and found to be natural undulations in the underlying clay.

No archaeology was found in this trench.

Trench 38

This trench was oriented N - S and 40m in length. The sequence of topsoil and subsoil was as in Trench 37. A number of irregular features were excavated and found to be naturally derived depressions in the underlying clay.

No archaeology was found in this trench.

Finds Report

Pockets of colluvial subsoil within trenches 37 and 38 produced a small assemblage (13 sherds) dating to the Roman and medieval periods. Roman types represented are shell-tempered and sand-tempered coarsewares (fabrics R13, and R06/R07B respectively).

The range of medieval fabrics is characterised by the presence of local 'sandy' wares, among which there were no diagnostic forms. The types recovered (fabrics C59A, C59B and C53) are attested from excavations in Bedford, where a range of utilitarian vessels are recognised (Baker and Hassall 1979, 178). From their general distribution they are assumed to have been locally manufactured, although no production sites are yet known.

A single sherd of late medieval fabric C71 was also recovered. This type was first recorded during the excavation of the deserted medieval village at Stratton, Biggleswade (BCAS in prep).

Medieval shelly (type B07) was represented by two vessels. This distinctive shell-tempered ware is thought to have derived from production sites at Olney (Bucks)

and Harrold (Beds), which produced a range of domestic vessels throughout the twelfth and thirteenth centuries (Hall 1971 and Mynard 1984).

Registered Finds

Two irregularly shaped fragments of lava quern (Registered Find 5, weight 37g, maximum thickness 20mm) were recovered from colluvial subsoil within trench 37. Manufactured from imported material, likely to be of Rhenish origin, the fragments have uneven surfaces and show traces of wear.

Continental production centres have a long history spanning over a thousand years; consequently finds of this sort cannot be dated with any certainty. No lava querns in Britain have been dated earlier than AD 50 and although two distinct date ranges, based on form, have been recognised (King 1986, 95), it has been impossible, due to the fragmentary nature of the examples, to determine whether the pieces fall into an early (Roman) or late (medieval) group.

Similarly, it cannot be determined whether the pieces derive from upper or lower stones of rotary querns, or from the later pot querns, which date from the thirteenth century and may have continued in use until the seventeenth century (King 1986, 95).

Conclusion

Whilst no archaeology was found in the trenches the presence of medieval finds in association with colluvium suggests the presence of a site upslope. The comparative pottery assemblages from Sites 3 and 5 may be explained by the close proximity of Field 124 to these sites and associated manuring practices which spread domestic waste on nearby fields.

5.7 Field 144: Trench 1

Fig 22

The field was stubble at the time of trenching.

Field 144 is located south of Luton, close to the parish boundary. It is characterised by an undulating topography, typical of the chalk downs and slopes to the east.

A geophysical survey of this field identified one linear and three amorphous anomalies of possible archaeological origin. Previous fieldwalking surveys undertaken by a local amateur group, the Manshead Society, identified the presence of Roman pottery in the field.

Trench 1

This trench was situated in an area recorded as blank by the geophysical survey, adjacent to the possible archaeology to test the extent of any remains. The trench was 25m in length and oriented E - W. An average depth of 270mm of mid grey/brown topsoil (001), was removed to reveal a mid orange/brown clay silt subsoil (002). This subsoil was a maximum of 90mm thick and overlay the natural

clayey chalk (003). Two contrasting deposits were investigated at the west end of the trench.

Cut [004] was linear in plan, running roughly N - S. It measured 1.4m wide x 350mm deep and had steep irregular sloping sides and an uneven base. This feature contained a single fill of mid orange brown chalky clay with occasional flint fragments and patches of redeposited or upcast gravel.

Cut [006] was sub-oval in plan and measured 650mm wide x 550mm deep. Its profile was characterised by near vertical irregular sides and an uneven base. It contained a single fill of mid brown silty clay (007), with occasional chalk fragments.

Both cuts have been interpreted as tree hollows; possibly representing a previous hedgeline or boundary that had been subsequently removed.

Conclusions

Trenching in Field 144 identified a number of tree hollows. No archaeological deposits were detected and the nature of the linear anomaly identified by the geophysical survey remains unclear.

6. SITES REQUIRING FURTHER EVALUATION.

Those areas where it was impossible to gain access for trenching or fieldwalking represent a gap not only in the environmental impact assessment, but also in the overall interpretation of the archaeological landscape.

It is relevant here to state briefly those areas where work has not been carried out, the reasons for requiring an assessment in the area, and what is required to bring these areas in line with the Stage Four assessment.

6.1 FIELDWALKING

A number of fields were identified where intensive fieldwalking was the most appropriate method of further assessment. Work could not be undertaken in these areas for a number of reasons; some land had been given over to set aside, while the remainder had extensive crop growth. The following areas still require evaluation through intensive fieldwalking.

6.1.1

Site 18

Fields 61, 62 & 64

Initial fieldwalking here recovered Mesolithic to Bronze Age material. The assemblage was of particular interest due to the presence of the Mesolithic artefacts which included a number of waste flakes and three cores. Further examination is required to address the possibility that hunting groups were regularly returning to a particular spot or place either as a temporary camp or a preferred meeting place. Such activity is only visible today through the remains of discarded or broken flint tools within the plough zone, or concentrations of waste flakes from tool manufacture.

Although Field 61 was intensively walked, the ground conditions at the time were unsuitable and the results adversely affected. Fields 62 and 64 had extensive ground coverage and high crop growth and so were not suitable to be walked, they will still require further evaluation.

6.1.2

Site 17

Field 69

Field 69 was of particular interest following the recovery of a Mesolithic handaxe, of museum quality, along with a number of Mesolithic waste flakes. The presence of such a rare find as the axe highlights the importance of this area, and subsequently the need for further field work. Although the axe need be no more than a chance loss, it could indicate clearance activity or more specialised woodland exploitation, although some suggestion of ritual or exchange use has been postulated.

Field 69 could not be walked as the field was flooded at the time of the Stage 4 evaluation. Field 69 will still require evaluation by means of intensive fieldwalking.

6.1.3

Site 10

Fields 100, 101 & 106

The flint assemblage recovered during the fieldwalking dated from the Neolithic to the Bronze Age. It included a variety of artefacts such as blades, scrapers, cores and waste flakes. In Field 100, the geophysical survey located an area of weak anomalies which it was thought may be the remnants of prehistoric features.

No fieldwalking was possible in this area as all three fields were set aside at the time of the evaluation. However, it was possible to trench in Field 100. Fields 101 and 106 will however still require evaluation through intensive fieldwalking.

6.1.4 Fields 131, 133 & 134

Fieldwalking recovered an extensive range of artefacts in these fields dating from the Neolithic to the Bronze Age. The geophysical survey also identified a number of weak anomalies in Field 133. However information from the land owner indicated that imported topsoil had been placed on the field rendering the fieldwalking and geophysical incorrect.

6.2 TRIAL TRENCHING

A number of areas were identified where trenching was considered the most appropriate method for further assessment. Work could not be undertaken in these areas as access could not be agreed with the landowners. The following areas still require evaluation work through trial trenching.

6.2.1

Site 1

Field 149

Field 149 comprises an area of mixed response to the geophysical survey, and clarification of the site type and status was thought appropriate. Fieldwalking by local societies showed that Neolithic flint had been recovered from this field. An early prehistoric site may be present, but the land owner has refused access.

6.2.2

Site 2

Field 148

Fieldwalking by a local society recovered flint material dating to the Neolithic and Bronze Age as well as pottery from the Roman period. Geophysical revealed several interesting features; a narrow arc shaped feature was the strongest anomaly. It was approximately 60m in length with a circular feature at its apex. The linear arc is possibly a ditch, whilst the circular features may be associated pits. The land owner has refused access for most stages of the project.

6.2.3

Site 8

Field 113

Geophysical survey indicated an area of anomalous readings thought to be agricultural in origin. Evaluation was required to examine the nature of the deposits. The landowner refused permission because the ground was too wet.

6.2.4

Site 9

Field 110

This field produced a considerable array of geophysical data, most of which appears to indicate the presence of works associated with the original construction of the M1. However, a single anomalous area remains which requires investigation. The activity associated with the construction of the M1 may also have masked archaeological deposits. The farmer refused access.

6.2.5

Site 12

Field 98

The magnetic susceptibility survey revealed an area with a marked contrast of levels which was targeted for a magnetometer survey. The results of this survey suggests past industrial activity in this field. Permission for entry was refused.

6.2.6

Site 16

Field 75

Geophysical survey identified what appears to be three single or multiple ring ditch structures, and a diffuse curving anomaly which may define an associated major ditch. Permission for the work was refused, as the farm is to be bought by the Department of Transport and the land owner felt that it would be more appropriate to undertake the work after the compulsory purchase had been completed.

7. Summary Tables of Sites and Evaluated Fields

Table 7.1 Sites Evaluated By Trial Trenching

SITE	FIELD	DESCRIPTION
3	128	Iron Age/Romano-British settlement in Chalton, near Cross Farm
5	121	Medieval Osier beds, Chalton
6	117	Romano-British settlement, north of Toddington Services
11	100	Mid Iron Age settlement, north of Junction 12
14	95	Roman settlement, west of Moors Plantation
15	93 & 95	Neolithic flint assemblage in topsoil, south of Priestley Plantation
19	158	Medieval farm, south east of Junction 13

Table 7.2 Sites Represented by Artefact Scatters

SITE	FIELD	DESCRIPTION
10	100,101,106	Neolithic flint assemblage, east of Harlington around Long lane
17	69	Mesolithic flint assemblage, east of Ridgemont
18	61	Mesolithic flint assemblage, north of Ridgemont

Table 7.3 Sites Requiring Further Evaluation

SITE	FIELD	DESCRIPTION
1	149	Neolithic flint assemblage, Innion's farm, Caddington
2	148	Neolithic flint assemblage, north of Innion's Farm, Caddington
7	190	Medieval pottery scatter, south of Harlington Wood End
8	113	Geophysical anomaly, south of Mill Farm, Toddington
9	110	Geophysical anomaly, north of Mill Farm, Toddington
12	98	Geophysical anomaly, south west of Harlington Wood End
16	75	Geophysical anomaly, west of Warren Farm, Steppingley

APPENDIX A POTTERY ANALYSIS

A total of 296 vessels, represented by 475 sherds weighing 5503 g was recovered during trial trenching. Of the vessels identified 288 were hand collected during the Stage 4 excavations, the remainder were sieved from soil samples. The pottery was examined by context and sorted into 40 fabrics, according to the Bedfordshire type series.

Sherds from the same vessel within a single context were brought together as were sherds from separate contexts belonging to the same vessel. Quantification was carried out using minimum vessel and sherd count, estimated vessel equivalent (EVE) and weight. Examination of attributes, including extent of abrasion, presence of residues, sooting or wear marks was undertaken to provide an indication of the function of the pottery.

The proportion and types of fabrics recovered from each site have been tabulated in seriation diagrams. These form part of the general site archive.

Standard drawing conventions have been used, with vessels shown at one quarter size, external view on the right and a section and internal view on the left. Wheel-thrown vessels are shown with solid sections, and hand-made vessels with hatched sections. The pie diagram at the base of each illustration indicates the proportion of the vessel recovered.

Type Series

Fabrics are arranged chronologically, using common names and type codes in accordance with the Bedfordshire Pottery Type Series, which is held by BCAS. Of the 40 fabrics, all but one (type F31) are previously recognised and fully described elsewhere. Miscellaneous, undiagnostic sherds each have their own description in the quantification records and are not described in the type series.

Early-mid Iron Age

Type F01A Coarse Flint

Coarse, hard-fired fairly harsh fabric, reduced to dark grey/black throughout. Contains frequent, ill-sorted flint, sparse iron ore and angular quartz.

Forms: Hand-made, undiagnostic body sherds.

Parallel and full fabric description: Salford (BCAS in prep).

Type F01B Fine Flint

Hard fired, fairly harsh fabric with mid grey cores and red-brown surfaces. Contains ill-sorted fine white flint and sub-rounded clear quartz.

Forms: Hand-made upright rimmed jar and undiagnostic body sherds.

Parallel and full fabric description: Salford.

Type F27 Shell and grog

Fairly soft, smooth, soapy grey fabric with variable orange-buff-brown patchy surfaces. Contains abundant shell and sparse grog.

Forms: Hand-made undiagnostic body sherds.

Parallel and full fabric description: Salford.

Type F28 Fine sandy

Hard fired, harsh fabric with reddish brown surfaces and grey core. Contains abundant quartz.

Forms: Hand-made upright rimmed, rounded jars, some with cordons. Decorated with intermittent vertical scoring on the body.

Parallel and full fabric description: Salford.

Type F29 Coarse sandy

Harsh fabric with reddish brown surfaces and core. Contains abundant ill-sorted quartz and frequent black iron ore.

Forms: Hand-made, as type F28.

Parallel and full fabric description: Salford.

Type F30 Sand and Calc

As fine sandy, but with frequent calcareous inclusions.

Forms: Hand-made undiagnostic body sherds, decorated with vertical scoring/combing.

Parallel and full fabric description: Salford.

Type F03 Grog and sand

Fairly hard, smooth, oxidised fabric ranging from brick-red to brown-grey in colour. Fine quartz and grog inclusions.

Forms: Hand-made, upright rimmed jars, some with external burnishing. Decorated with vertical combing and random scoring.

Parallel and full fabric description: Ursula Taylor Lower School, Clapham (Dawson et al 1988, 11).

Type F17 Grog

Fairly smooth, soft fabric with buff-light brown-orange surfaces and mid grey core. Contains large, but sparse buff-brown grog particles and sparse black iron ore.

Forms: Hand-made undiagnostic body sherds decorated with vertical combing.

Parallel and full fabric description: Salford.

Type F31 Sand and Mica

Fine, fairly soft, dark grey-black fabric throughout. Contains sparse sub-angular/sub-rounded quartz, mainly translucent or white, 0.1-0.4mm, occasionally ranging to 1.0mm. Characterised by abundant fine white mica visible on surfaces, but not in breaks.

Forms: Hand-made upright rimmed jar.

This is a fabric new to the Bedfordshire type series.

Type F22 Grog and organic

Soft, soapy, mid-grey to buff-orange fabric, containing sparse grog and with voids where organic matter has burnt out.

Forms: Hand-made, undiagnostic body sherds decorated with vertical combing.

Parallel and full fabric description: Salford.

Late Iron Age

Type F06C Coarse grog tempered

Orange-brown fabric with a grey core. Frequent brown-black grog inclusions, partially pitted surfaces where grog particles have fallen out.

Forms: Hand-made ?storage jar.

Parallel and full fabric description: Ursula Taylor Lower School, Clapham (Dawson et al 1988, 11).

Early-mid Roman

Type R01 Samian

Fine, hard-fired orange-red slipped fabric with no visible inclusions.

Forms: Wheel-thrown bowls and undiagnostic body sherds.

Type R07B Sandy blackware

Harsh fabric with black surfaces and a variable red-brown-grey core. Contains abundant, well-sorted quartz and rare red and black iron ore.

Forms: Wheel-thrown plain rimmed jar and undiagnostic body sherd.

Parallel and full fabric description: Kempston (BCAS in prep).

Type R03 Fine whiteware

Dense, hard, fairly smooth fabric with buff-white surfaces and core. Contains frequent, well-sorted quartz.

Forms: Wheel-thrown, undiagnostic body sherds.

Parallel and full fabric description: Kempston.

Type R03B Gritty whiteware

Fairly harsh, hard-fired fabric with cream-buff surfaces and variable pale orange-buff-brown core. Contains abundant, well-sorted quartz and sparse red and black iron ore.

Forms: Wheel-thrown jar and undiagnostic body sherds.

Parallel and full fabric description: Kempston.

Type R03C Smooth whiteware

Smooth, hard-fired fabric with buff-cream-white surfaces and core. Contains abundant, well-sorted white quartz and occasional red iron ore.

Forms: Wheel-thrown, undiagnostic body sherds.

Parallel and full fabric description: Kempston.

Type R18 Pink gritty

Hard-fired gritty fabric with pale-mid pink surfaces and core. Contains frequent, well-sorted quartz and predominantly red iron ore.

Forms: Wheel-thrown, single undiagnostic body sherd.

Parallel and full fabric description: Kempston.

Mid-late Roman

Type R07C Gritty blackware

Dense, hard-fired fabric with dark brown-black surfaces, often hurnished, and a black core. Contains abundant, well-sorted quartz and occasional white ?calcareous inclusions.

Forms: Wheel-thrown flanged bowl and undiagnostic body sherds.

Parallel and full fabric description: Kempston.

Type R13 Shelly

Variable buff-orange-brown fabric with blue-grey-black core. Contains abundant, evenly distributed shell and rare sub-rounded quartz.

Forms: Wheel-thrown lid-seated and wide-mouthed jars and undiagnostic body sherds.

Decorated with horizontal rilling.

Parallel: Kempston; fully classified and discussed by Brown (1994).

Type R06B Coarse greyware

Variable, harsh, hard fabric ranging from light -mid-dark grey throughout. Contains frequent, well-sorted quartz and occasional black iron ore.

Forms: Wheel-thrown necked jars with everted rims and straight sided bowls.

Parallel and full fabric description: Kempston.

Type R06C Fine greyware

Hard-fired fabric, light-mid grey throughout, with a sandy, gritty feel where not burnished. Contains abundant, well-sorted, fine quartz.

Forms: Wheel-thrown necked jars, straight sided bowls and a poppyhead beaker with barbotine decoration. Variable decoration, including external burnishing, burnished and stabbed lattice pattern.

Parallel and full fabric description: Kempston.

Type R06D Micaceous greyware

As coarse greyware, but characterised by abundant fine white mica visible both on surfaces and in breaks.

Forms: Wheel-thrown undiagnostic body sherds.

Parallel and full fabric description: Kempston.

Type R06E Calcareous greyware

As coarse greyware, but characterised by frequent calcareous inclusions.

Forms: Wheel-thrown jar with cordon decoration.

Parallel and full fabric description: Kempston.

Type R06F Greyware grog and sand

Dense, hard-fired fabric, slightly soapy to the touch, with variable mid-dark grey/buff-brown surfaces and a mid-grey core. Contains frequent quartz and buff grog particles.

Forms: Wheel-thrown undiagnostic body sherd.

Parallel and full fabric description: Kempston.

Type R14 Red-brown harsh

Harsh, sandy fabric with grey-brown exterior surfaces, orange-brown interior surfaces and a variable dark orange-brown core. Contains frequent, well-sorted quartz and occasional red and black iron ore.

Forms: Wheel-thrown undiagnostic body sherds.

Parallel and full fabric description: Kempston.

Type R05 Orange sandy

Hard-fired, harsh fabric with light-dark orange surfaces and variable orange-grey core. Exterior surfaces sometimes covered with a cream-buff-white slip.

Contains frequent quartz and occasional red iron ore.

Forms: Wheel-thrown bowl and undiagnostic body sherds.

Parallel and full fabric description: Kempston.

Type R09A Pink grogged

Soft, powdery and slightly 'lumpy' fabric with pink, pink-buff/orange-buff surfaces and a pale grey core. Contains abundant grog and quartz, with sparse black and red iron ore.

Forms: Wheel-thrown storage jar and undiagnostic body sherds.

Parallel and full fabric description: Caldecotte, Milton Keynes (Marney 1989, 174).

Type R19A Dressel 20 Amphora

Coarse, sandy, orange-buff-brown fabric with abundant quartz visible on the surfaces. Contains ill-sorted quartz and frequent red and black iron ore.

Forms: Globular amphora.

Parallel and full fabric description: Kempston and Caldecotte (Marney 1989, 182).

Late Roman

Type R12B Nene Valley Colour Coat

Distinctive, hard-fired white or orange fabric with variable orange-red-brown colour coat.

Contains abundant minute quartz grains and sparse red and black iron ore.

Forms: Wheel-thrown bowl with slightly rounded sides, and undiagnostic body sherds.

Parallel and full fabric description: Kempston.

Type R11 Oxford oxidised wares

Hard, sandy micaceous fabric with buff-orange/red-brown surfaces and core.

Forms: Wheel-thrown undiagnostic body sherds.

Parallel: Kempston; fully classified by Young (1977).

Type R11E Oxford mortaria (white)

Fine textured, sandy, off-white fabric, usually with an off-white core, although this is occasionally pink. Contains sparse fine quartz. Distinctive trituration consists of mixed pink, brownish and transparent quartz.

Parallel: Kempston.

Type R11F Oxford mortaria (red)

Fine textured, slightly micaceous red-brown fabric containing sparse fine quartz. Trituration as Oxford white mortaria.

Parallel: Kempston; types R11E and R11F are similar to fabrics 4A and 4BA from Milton Keynes (Marney 1989, 132).

Type R22A Hadham oxidised

Fairly hard deep orange/dark red fabric, occasionally with a grey core. Contains abundant quartz, black and red iron ore and rare soft white non-calcareous inclusions.

Forms: Flanged bowl and undiagnostic slipped body sherds.

Parallel: Kempston and Sandy (BCAS in prep).

Medieval

Type C59A Early medieval hand-made

Hard, sandy fabric with grey-brown surfaces and a grey core. Contains frequent, well sorted quartz, sparse red iron ore and occasional mica.

Forms: Undiagnostic body sherds.

Parallel and full fabric description: Stratton Village, Biggleswade (BCAS in prep).

Type C59B Sandy harsh

Rough, sandy fabric with a grey core and patchy orange-grey surfaces. Characterised by an abundance of rounded quartz inclusions which give the fabric a harsh texture. Also contains sparse, coarse, blackened organic voids and occasional grog.

Forms: Undiagnostic body sherds.

Parallel and full fabric description: Chalgrave (Brine 1988, 43).

Type B07 Medieval shelly

A developed form of St Neots type ware: hard, fairly smooth fabric with orange surfaces and distinctive blue-grey core. Predominantly shell-tempered, with sparse quartz and iron ore.

Forms: Undiagnostic body sherds.

Parallel: Kilns at Harrold (Beds) and Olney (Bucks) producing this type have been discussed by Hall (1972) and Mynard (1984).

Type C53 Medieval sandy

Variable smooth to fairly rough fabric with mid-dark grey surfaces, light grey margins and mid-grey core. Characterised by the pimply appearance of its surfaces, due to inclusions of abundant sub-rounded quartz.

Forms: Undiagnostic body sherds.

Parallel and full fabric description: Bedford (Baker and Hassall 1979, 177).

Type C71 Buff-grey cored

Distinctive, rough fabric with buff-orange surfaces and a characteristic buff-grey core. Contains frequent, well-sorted quartz and rare red inclusions (?iron ore).

Forms: Undiagnostic body sherd.

Parallel and full fabric description: Stratton Village.

Post-Medieval

Type P01 Glazed earthenware

Hard, orange-red fabric with no obvious inclusions. Vessels have a clear glaze which ranges in colour from yellow to orange-brown to olive green.

Forms: Wheel-thrown bowl with a mid-brown internal glaze.

Parallel and full fabric description: Bedford (Baker and Hassall 1979, 220).

Modern

Represented by a single sherd of nineteenth century pearlware (fabric type P43).

APPENDIX B

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES

INTRODUCTION

A total of 27 environmental samples were taken during the Stage 4 evaluation. A diverse range of remains were present in these samples, the implications of which are discussed below.

A very large amount of molluscs were collected during trial trenching; the soils were highly calcareous and damp providing ideal conditions for preserving fossil mollusc remains. The samples were processed using standard techniques, although the emphasis during sorting and extraction was put on retrieving molluscan remains, due to the obvious richness of the species diversity. Much greater analysis of the molluscan remains than has been attempted here is possible, and would provide many useful palaeoclimatic and palaeoecological indicators.

Charcoal fragments of *Triticum* sp. and *Chenopodium* sp. were retrieved from several of the sites sampled. The specific amounts are tabulated below according to site, together with the presence of faunal remains. A greater amount of animal bones were collected by hand and recorded in Table 7, (using Halsteads' Diagnostic Zone Coding system, 1993).

PROCESSING METHOD

All samples floated by hand in Laboratory conditions, using H₂O, for disaggregation. Flots collected in 500µm mesh sieve, residue washed through a 1.00mm sieve. All samples sorted using directed argon lighting and a hand lens.

RESULTS

Molluscs:

Terrestrial Snails

For a species list, Table 4. A '+' represents the presence of that species in the sample. A '1' represents a single individual, or broken fragments

Other Shells

Oyster fragments were found in samples 23 and 15. A tiny baby oyster (?) was found in sample 5. Unidentified freshwater snails were found in samples 4 and 15. Several whole oysters were collected by hand in Trench 4, Context (018).

Table 4 Molluscs (Terrestrial/Freshwater), by taxonomic order

Species	Sample No.												Habitat
	1	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
POMATHIDAE													
<i>Pomathia elegans</i> (Müller)	+			+									Catholic
ELLOBIIDAE													
<i>Carychium tridentatum</i> (Risso)				+	+						+		Catholic
COCHLICOPIDAE													
<i>Cochlicopa lubrica</i> (Müller)	+	+	+	+				+		+		+	Damp, Catholic
PUPILLIDAE													
<i>Pupilla muscorum</i> (Linné)	+	+			+	+	+	+				+	Dry grass land
VALLONIDAE													
<i>Vallonia pulchella</i> (Müller)	+	+	+		+	+	+	+			+	+	Grass land
ENDODONTIDAE													
<i>Discus rotundatus</i> (Müller)				+						+			Moist shade
ZONITIDAE													
<i>Aegopinella</i> sp.				+									
<i>Aegopinella nitidula</i> (Draparnaud)	+												Damp places
<i>Oxychilus</i> sp.					+					+	+		
<i>Oxychilus alliarus</i> (Miller)	+	+	+										Catholic
FERUSSACIIDAE													
<i>Ceciloides acicola</i> (Müller)	+	+	+	+		+	+	+					Catholic
CLAUSILIIDAE													
<i>Balea perversa</i> (Linné)				+									Dry, exposed places
HELICIDAE													
<i>Trichia</i> sp.				+									
<i>Trichia hispida</i> (Linné)	+	+	+		+	+	+						Catholic
<i>Arianta arbustorum</i> (Linné)													Damp places
<i>Cepaea hortensis</i> (Müller)										+			Open ground
FRESHWATER MOLLUSCS													
<i>Valvata piscinalis</i>	+			+									Fresh water
<i>Bithynia</i> sp.											+	+	

Table 4 contd.

Species	Sample No.									Habitat
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	21	24	
POMATIIDAE										
<i>Pomatias elegans</i> (Müller)				+						Catholic
ELLOBIIDAE										
<i>Carychium tridentatum</i> (Risso)					+	+		+		Catholic
SUCCINEIDAE										
<i>Oxyloma sp.</i> (Rossmäslser)				+	+					
COCHLICOPIDAE										
<i>Cochlicopa lubrica</i> (Müller)		+				+		+		Damp, Catholic
PUPILLIDAE										
<i>Pupilla muscorum</i> (Linné)				+	+	+		+		Dry grass land
VALLONIDAE										
<i>Vallonia pulchella</i> (Müller)	+	+							+	Grass land
ENDODONTIDAE										
<i>Discus rotundatus</i> (Müller)								+		Moist shade
ZONITIDAE										
<i>Aegopinella sp.</i>						+				
<i>Aegopinella nitidula</i> (Draparnaud)										Damp places
<i>Oxychilus sp.</i>	+	+				+		+		
<i>Oxychilus alliarus</i> (Müller)				+						Catholic
FERUSSACIIDAE										
<i>Ceciloides acicola</i> (Müller)										Catholic
CLAUSILIDAE										
<i>Balea perversa</i> (Linné)										Dry, exposed places
HELICIDAE										
<i>Trichia sp.</i>								+		
<i>Trichia hispida</i> (Linné)				+	+	+				Catholic
<i>Arianta arbustorum</i> (Linné)				+		+				Damp places
<i>Cepaea hortensis</i> (Müller)			+							Open ground
FRESHWATER MOLLUSCS										
<i>Valvata piscinalis</i>										Fresh water
<i>Bithynia sp.</i>				+				+		

Table 5 Molluscan Habitats, by site

Sample No.	Site	Context	Field	Habitat
1	Site 3	Tr 4, 018	128	wet grassland
2		Tr 4, 015	128	grassland
4		Tr 4, 033,	128	wet grassland
5		Tr 5, 021	128	very wet, mixed
6		Tr 5, 018	128	dry grassland
7		Tr 5, 008	128	dry grassland
8		Tr 5, 015	128	grassland
9		Tr 6 Nat. Feat.	128	dry grassland
10	Site 6	Tr 11, 004	117	wet, shaded
11		Tr 10, 003	117	wet grassland
12		Tr 10, 005	117	wet grassland
13		Tr 9, 008	117	grassland
14		Tr 9, 005	117	wet grassland
15		Tr 9, 010	117	wet grassland
16	Site 5	Tr 7, 030	121	wet grassland
17		Tr 7, 001	121	dry grassland
18		Tr 7, 029	121	wet grassland
19		Tr 8, 010	121	dry grassland
20		Tr 8, 008	121	
21		Tr 7, 026	121	wet, mixed
22		Tr7, 021	121	
23	Field 73	Tr 2, 008	73	1 oyster
24		Tr 3, 005	73	grassland
25	Site 11	Tr 17, 010	95	
26	Site 14	Tr 23, 005	95	
27		Tr 21, 006	95	

CHARCOAL

Seeds present:

Plant

Triticum sp.

Habitat

Domesticated wheat. *T. aestivum* is a post-Iron Age introduction, although some mutant varieties occurred in the wild.

Chenopodium sp.

The goosefoot family of plants, common weeds on calcareous soils.

Table 6 Charcoal, Seeds and Bones retrieved, by sample number.

Sample	Site	Context	Charcoal	Seeds	Bones
1	Site 3	Tr 4, 018	+		Small mammals, frogs
2		Tr 4, 015		<i>Triticum</i> sp., <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	
3		Tr 4	+		
4		Tr 4, 033	+		Small mammal
5		Tr 5, 021		1 <i>Triticum</i> sp.	
6		Tr 5, 018	+		
8		Tr 5, 015	+		
9		Tr 6, Nat. Feat	+		
10	Site 6	Tr 11, 004	+++		Indet. frags.
11		Tr 10, 003	+	1 <i>Triticum</i> sp.	Indet frags.
12		Tr 10, 005	+	1 <i>Triticum</i> sp. glume	Small mammal & frog
13		Tr 9, 008	+		Indet. frags.
15		Tr 9, 010	+	<i>Triticum</i> sp.	Sheep astragalus & frags.
17	Site 5	Tr. 7, 001		<i>Triticum</i> sp. <i>Triticum aestivum</i> grp. <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	
18		Tr 7, 029	+	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	
19		Tr 8, 010	+		
20		Tr 8, 008	++		Small mammal & tooth
24	Field 73	Tr 3, 005	+++		
25	Site 11	Tr 17, 010	++		
26	Site 14	Tr 23, 005		several <i>Triticum</i> sp.	
27		Tr 21, 006	++	<i>Triticum</i> sp.	

Key:

- + indicates less than 10 small fragments
- ++ indicates 10-30 small frags, or fewer large frags.
- +++ indicates over 30 small frags, or over 10 large frags.

DISCUSSION

Site 3 Field 128

This site comprises a small rural settlement, with sporadic episodes of activity dating from the early Iron Age to the mid-late Roman period. The local calcareous soils favoured the preservation of snail assemblages and enabled the identification of a change from a very wet, mixed vegetation habitat, to a better drained, more open habitat. This change is best represented by samples taken from two fills within ditch [013], a large v-shape boundary in trench 4. Sample 1 was taken from (018), the primary fill of the ditch and contained a snail fauna of both shade and sun loving species, with a preference for very wet soil. A number of small mammal and amphibian bones were also present. Sample 2 was taken from (018), the fourth in a series of five fills in ditch [013]. It was dominated by sunlight loving animals, and a mixture of wet and dry soil preferences. Finds from fill (018) indicate this change in habitat occurred prior to the mid-late Roman period, enabling a shift in settlement downslope onto the lighter rendzina soils to the south. Small mammal bones (probably rodent or shrew), several grains of *Triticum* sp. and some *Chenopodium* sp. seeds were also present in several samples from this field, representative of local agrarian activity.

Site 5 Field 121

This site has been interpreted as Osier Beds dating to the post-medieval period. A well-stratified series of samples were taken from which contained a diverse range of snail faunas.

The earliest sampled deposit was a layer of naturally-derived brown/yellow clay, (030) (sample 16), in trench 7. This produced examples of fauna with mixed shade and moisture preferences; indicative of an environment comprising light scrubland and herbage with variable drainage. A mixed deposit of clayey silt (029) overlying layer (030) was also sampled. This, sample 18, contained a mainly moisture and sun-loving fauna; suggestive of a transition towards a thinner vegetation and poorer drainage. A third sample was taken from the primary fill, (026) of the possible water tank found in trench 7. Stratigraphically later than Sample 18, fill (026) was dominated by more moisture loving and woodland species. A piece of coppiced wood (probably hazel/birch/alder grp.) was taken from the hurdle overlying (026) in Trench 7. Evidence for the more recent wet meadow habitat came from topsoil (001), sample 17. This contained a fauna favouring wet soil and no shade. A number of seeds were observed including *Triticum* sp., *Chenopodium* sp. and a possible grain of *Triticum aestivum* grp.

Some small mammal bones, and one large mammal incisor were present in sample 20, taken from the basal, charcoal-rich fill of pit [005], trench 8.

Site 6 Field 117

Excavation at this site uncovered the remains of Iron Age and Roman settlement, similar to that seen at Site 3, comprising several phases of boundary ditches and some structural evidence. The snail fauna from this site generally indicate a wet grassland habitat. Sample 10, layer (004), indicated a wet, shaded environment. This sample was taken in a darker, more organic context, beneath several more minerogenic deposits; it is possible that this represents a buried forest soil (probably the B Horizon). Animal bones were present as well, as were a lot of charcoal fragments, indicating possible use or clearance of the woodland. Several of the sampled contexts contained *Triticum* sp. indicating contemporary agricultural activity. Dating evidence suggests this environment continued from the early Iron Age through to the Roman period.

Site 14 Field 95

Settlement activity dating from the 2nd - 4th centuries AD and comprising several pits and ditches was located on the upper part of a slope in field 95. No snails were recovered from this site, but a large amount of charcoal and several *Triticum* sp. grains indicate human disturbance.

Field 73

The snail fauna was limited to one species (*Vallonia pulchella*) from sample 24. This animal lives in wet grassland and meadows. One large oyster was present in sample 23.

FAUNAL REMAINS

Bone Recording Codes (after Halstead, 1993)

Element	01=scapula 02=humerus 03=radius 04=metacarpal 05=pelvis 06=femur 07=tibia 08=metatarsal 09=ulna 10=metapodial (indet)	11=calcaneum 12=astragalus 13=phalanx 1 14=phalanx 2 15=phalanx 3 16=mandible 17=vertebra 18=tooth
Taxon	01=horse 02=cow 03=pig 04=sheep/goat	05= 06= 07=deer 08=dog
Proximal Distal	0=absent 1=fused 2=fusing 3=unfused shaft	4=new-born shaft 5=unfused epiphysis 6=new-born epiphysis 7=present, fusion indet.
Side	0=indeterminate 1=left	2=right
Modification	0=unaltered 1=gnawed	2=burnt 3=gnawed and burnt
Butchery	0=no traces 1=chopped 2=knife-mark (dismembering)	3=knife-mark (filleting) 4=knife-mark (other)

Note

Distal always '0' for scapula, ulna, pelvis, calcaneum, astragalus, phalanx 1 - 3.

Proximal/Distal always '0' or '7' (ie no fusion information) for astragalus, phalanx 3, proximal metacarpal, proximal metatarsal.

Side always '0' for phalanx 1 - 3.

Gnawing/Butchery after L.Binford (1981) Bones.

Table 7 Faunal Remains, by site

Site	Context	Element	Taxon	Proximal	Distal	Side	Mods	Butchery	Notes
Site 3	Tr 4, 008	Frag							
	Tr 4, 011	12	02	7	7	2	1	0	
	Tr 4, 011	04	02	1	0	2	1	0	
	Tr 4, 011	02	02	0	1	1	1	2	
	Tr 4, 011	Frag							
	Tr 4, 012	Frag							
	Tr 4, 014	18	04						x 3
	Tr 4, 014	Frag							
	Tr 4, 015	Frag							
	Tr 4, 018	12	02	7	7	2	1	2	
	Tr 4, 018	17						2	
	Tr 4, 018	18	04						x 14
	Tr 4, 018	16	03	7	7	2	0	0	
	Tr 4, 018	18							Tusk
	Tr 4, 018	Horn Frag							
	Tr 4, 018	Frag							
	Tr 4, 020	Frag							
	Tr 4, 021	Frag							
	Tr 4, 023	Frag							
	Tr 4, 031	04	02	1	0	2	1	0	
	Tr 4, 031	05	01	7	0	-	0	0	
	Tr 4, 031	17				0	0	0	
	Tr 4, 031	16	00			2	0	0	
Tr 4, 031	08?	02?	1	0	2	1	0		
Tr 4, 031	Frag								
Tr 5, 005	Frag								
Tr 5, 007	Frag								
Tr 5, 011	Frag								
Tr 5, 018	02	00	Frag						
Tr 5, 019	08	02	7	1	2	2?	4		
Tr 5, 019	07	02	0	1	1	0	4		
Tr 5, 019	03	02	1	0	2	0	2	}Prob. sam	
Tr 5, 019	03	02	0	1	2	0	0	}bone.	
Tr 5, 019	18	02							
Tr 5, 019	16	04							
Tr 5, 019	Frag								
Tr 5, 020	Frag								
Site 5	Tr 7, 004	02	00?	3	3	0	0	0	
	Tr 7, 007	07	04?	0	1	2	1	3	
Site 6	Tr 9, 005	Frag							
	Tr 9, 015	Frag							
Tr 10, 003	Frag								
Tr 10, 005	Frag								
Tr 10, 009	Skull	Human							
Tr 10, 009	Frag								
Tr 11, 004	18	08?							
Site 11	Tr 16, 005	17	02?	7	7	-	0	0	
	Tr 16, 005	Frag							
	Tr 18, 009	Frag							
	Tr 18, 012	Frag							
Tr 18, 015	18	01/02?						x 2	

Table 7 Contd.

Site	Context	Element	Taxon	Proximal	Distal	Side	Mods	Butchery	Notes
Site 14	Tr 21, 005	Frag							
	Tr 21, 005	18	02						
	Tr 21, 006	Frag							
	Tr 22, 004	18	?						
	Tr 22, 009	Frag					2		
	Tr 23, 005	18	04/02						
	Tr 23, 005	Frag							
	Tr 23, 005	Indet							x2
	Tr 23, 007	Frag							
	Tr 23, 009	Frag							
	Tr 23, 012	18	02						x3
	Tr 23, 012	Frag/16	02						
	Tr 23, 012	Frag							
	Tr 23, 012	04	01	7	0	1	0	0	
Site 19	Tr 30, 013	Frag							
Field 58	Tr 36, 008	Frag							

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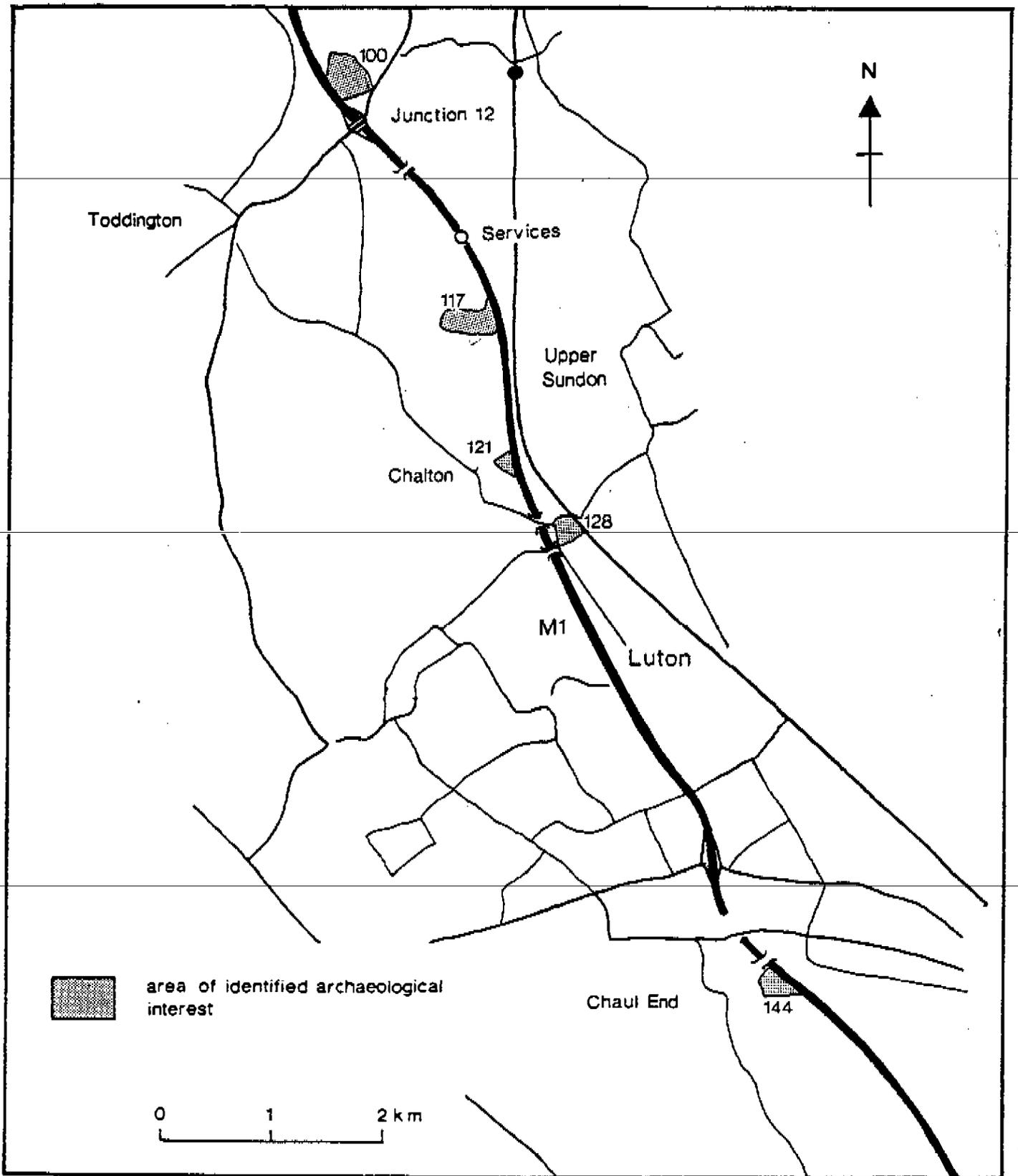


Figure 1: Location of archaeological sites- Chaul End to Toddington.

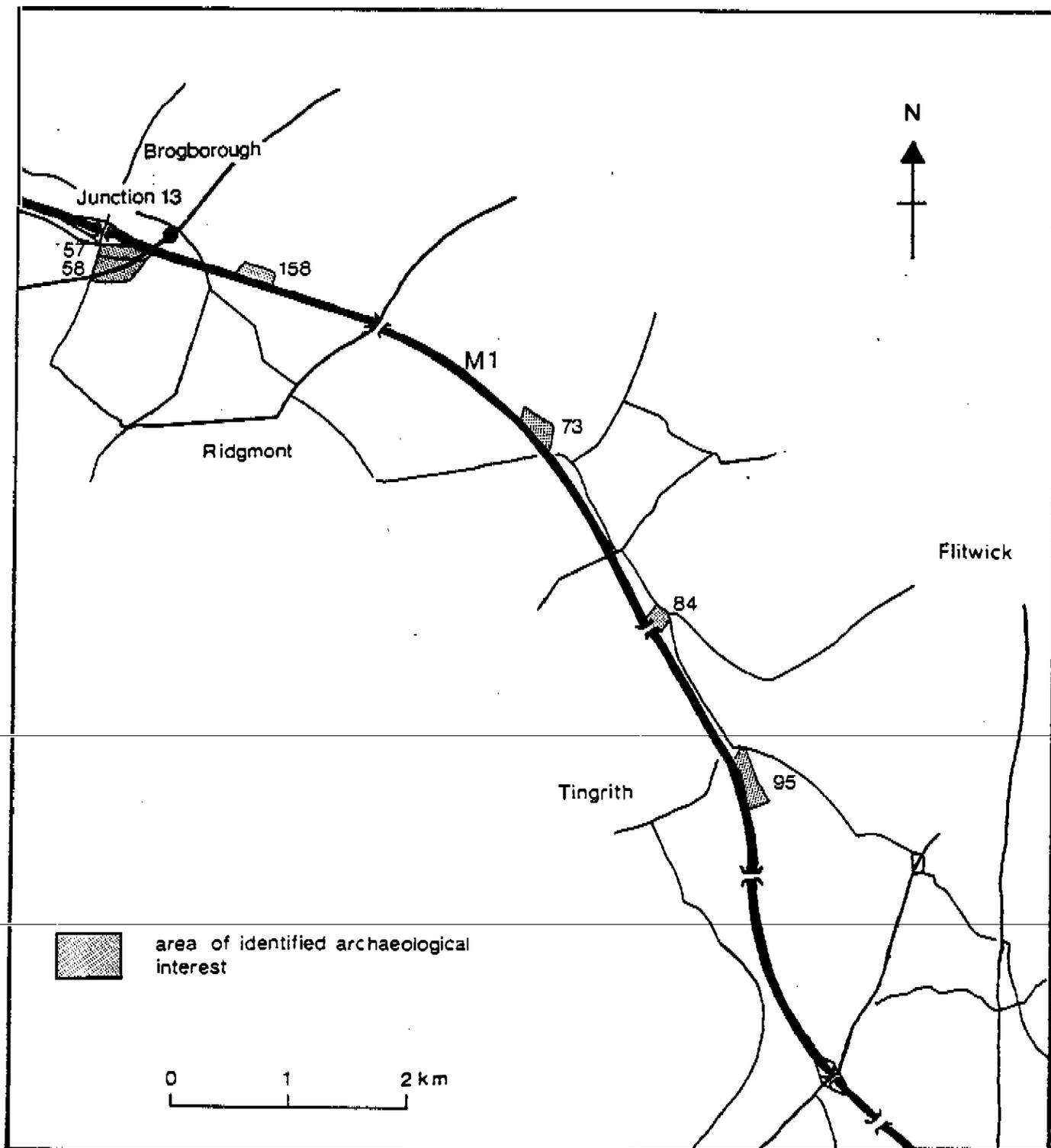


Figure 2: Location of archaeological sites- Toddington to Brogborough.

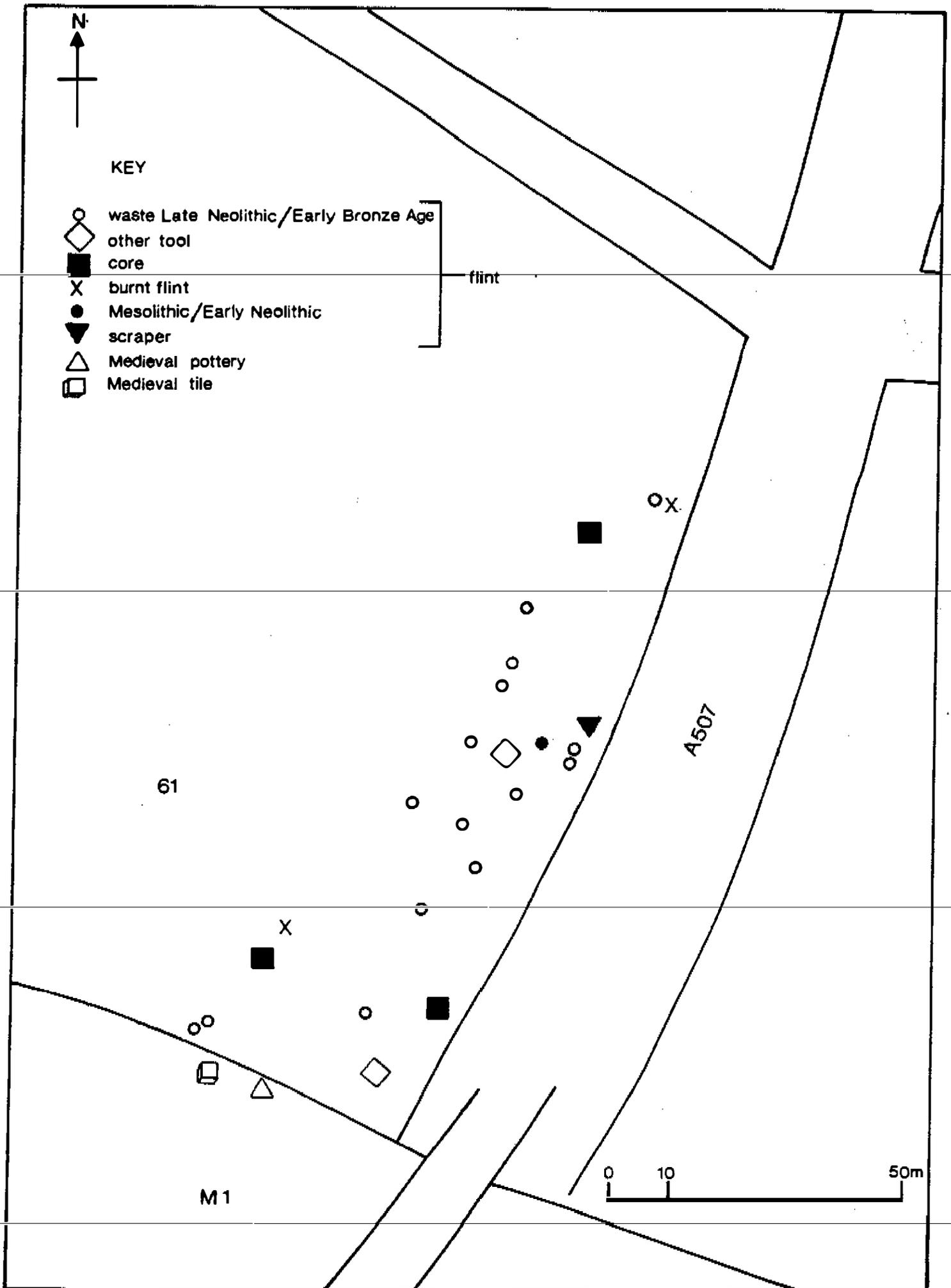


Figure 3: Site 18, fields 61, 62, 64, area of intensive fieldwalking survey.

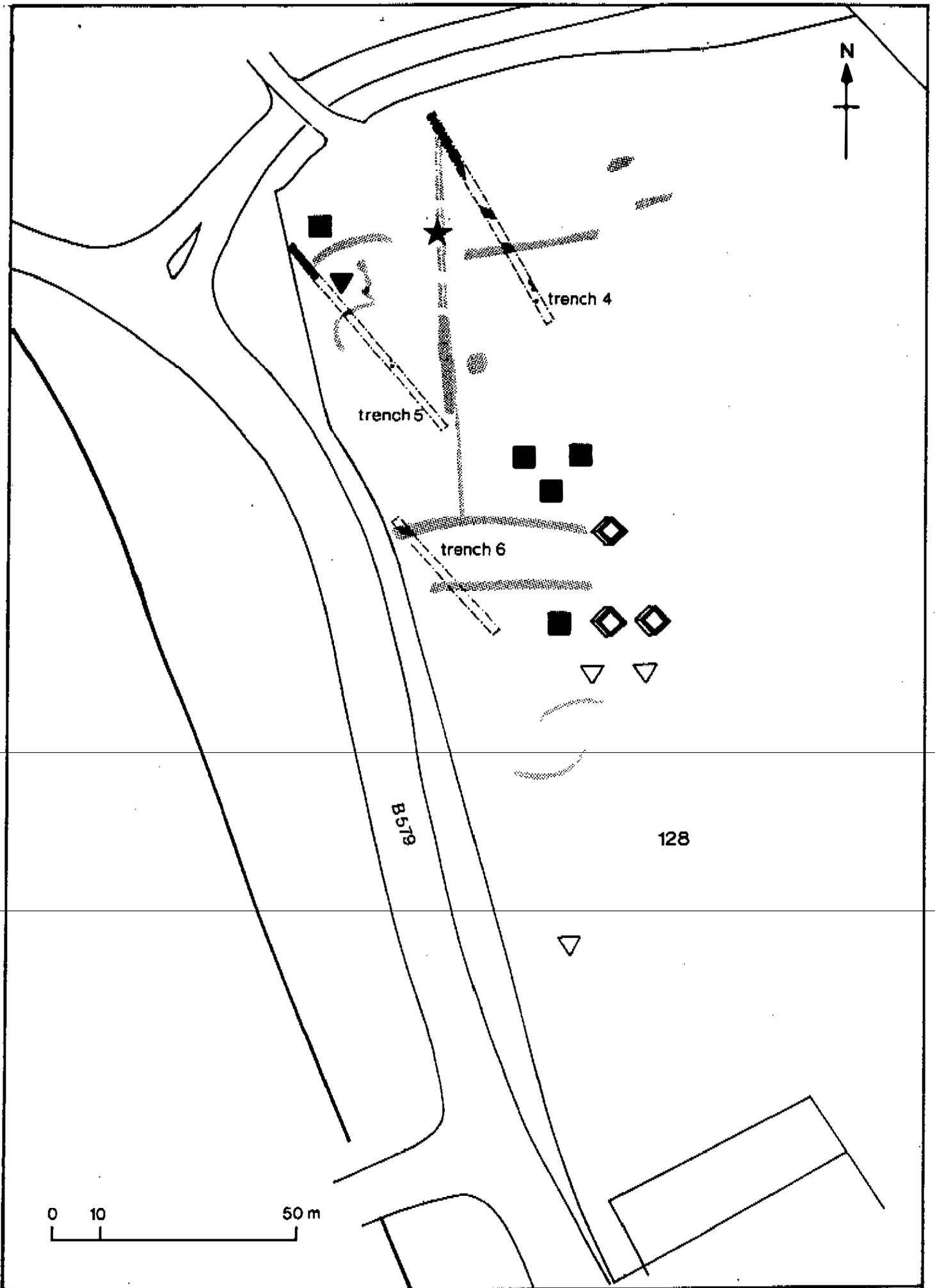


Figure 4: Site 3, field 128, fieldwalking data and trench locations

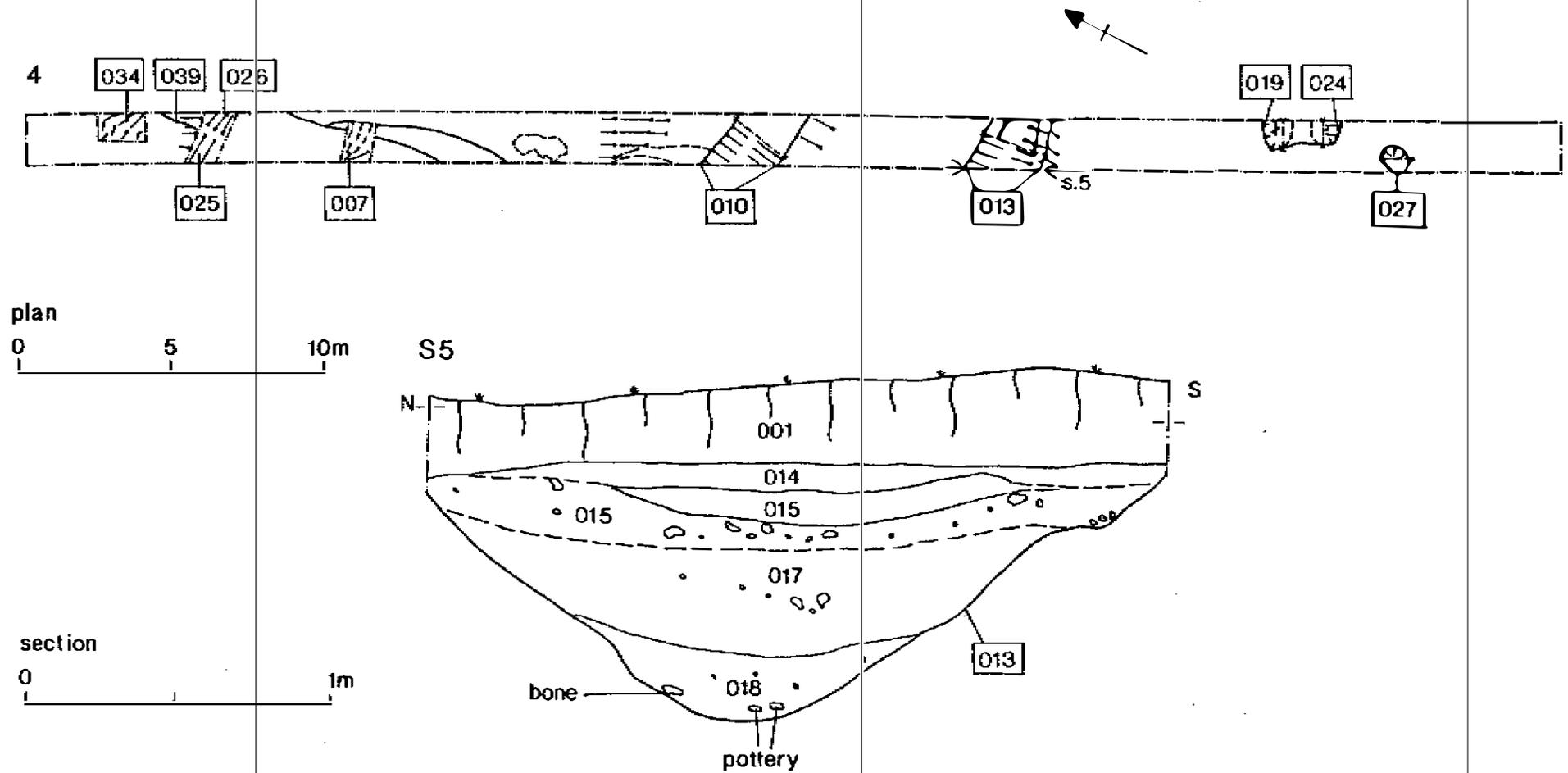


Figure 5: Site 3 ,field 128, all features plan of trench 4 and relevant section.

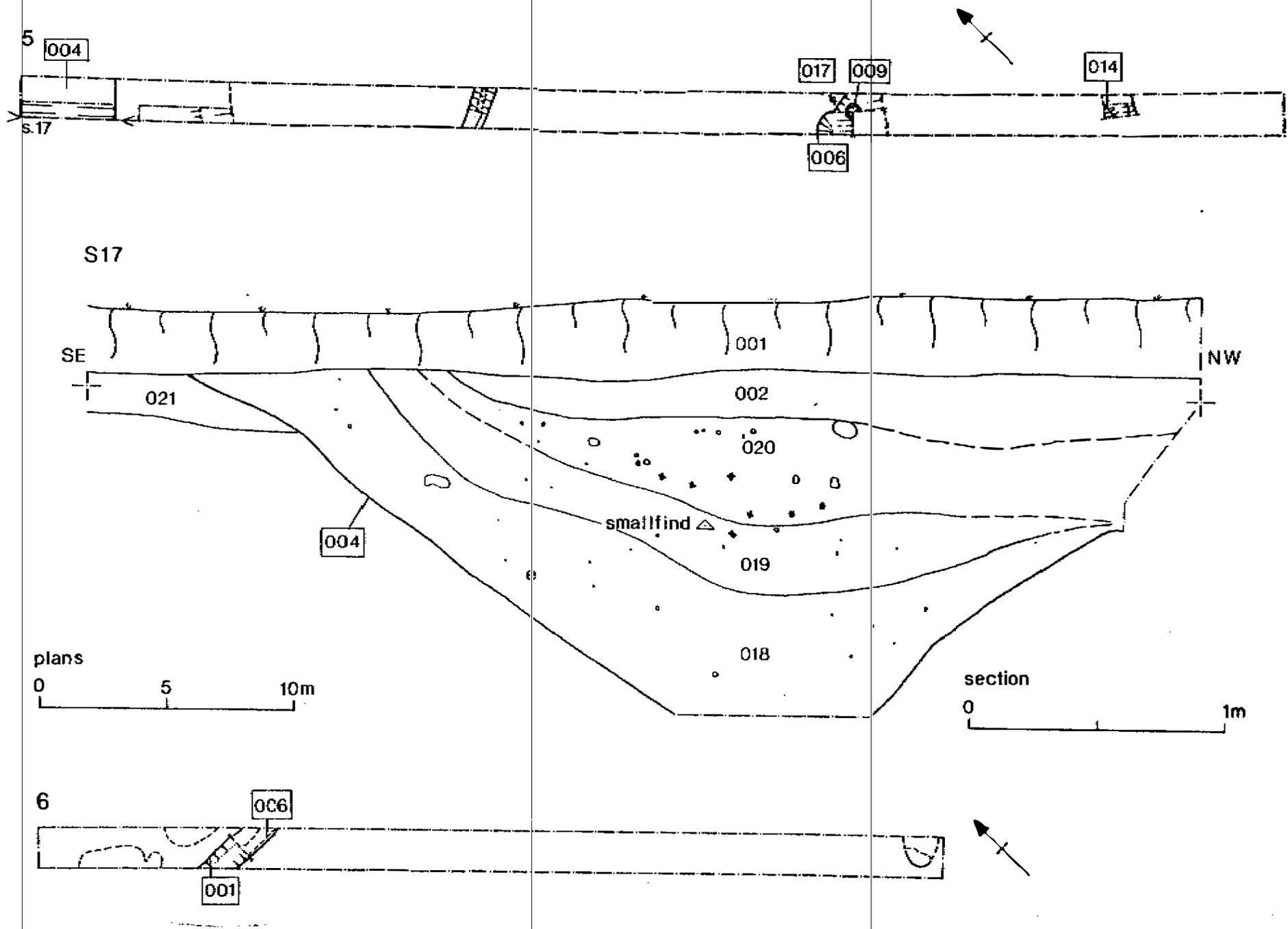


Figure 6: Site 3, field 128, all features plan of trenches 5 & 6 and relevant section.

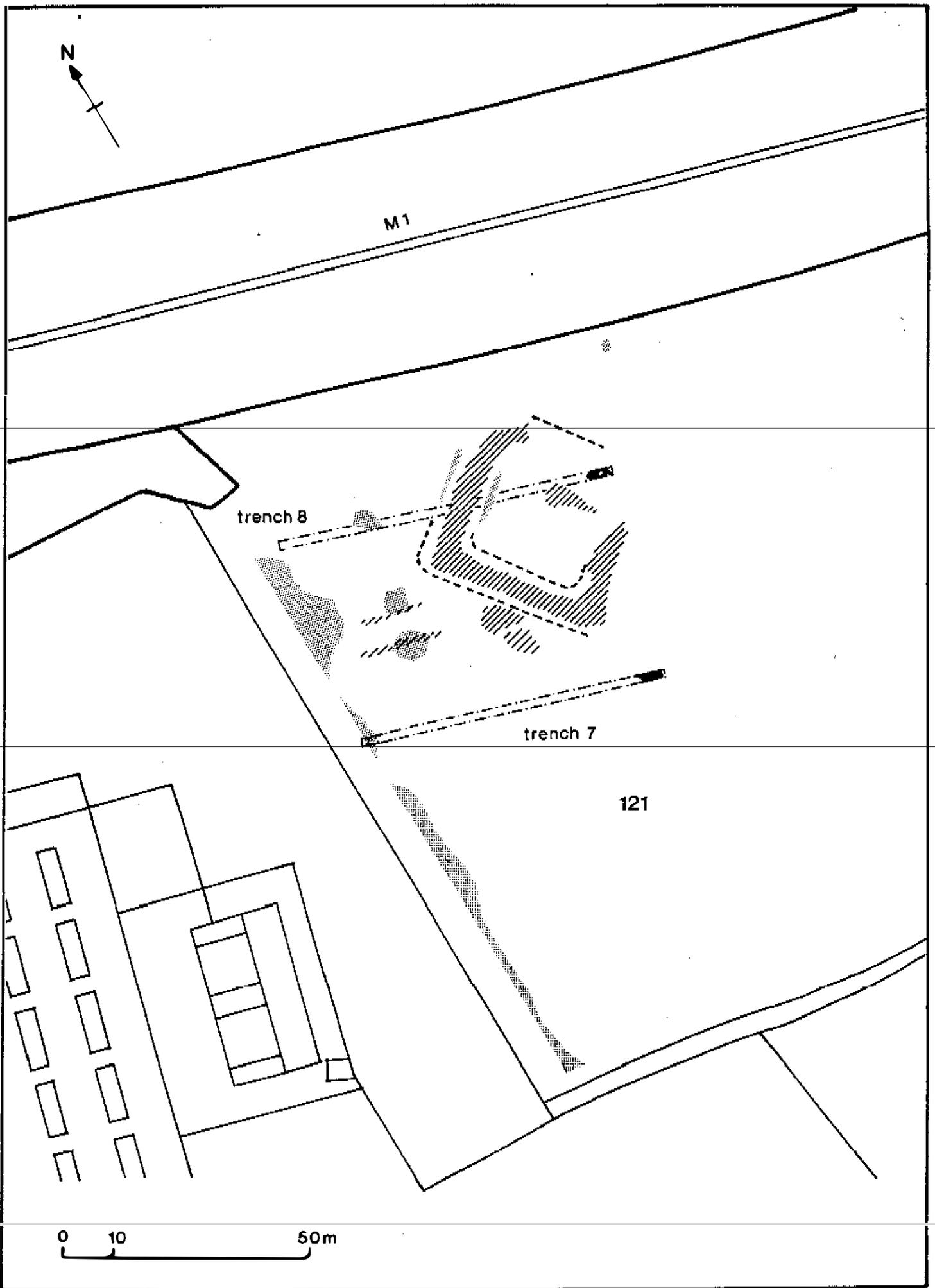


Figure 7: Site 5, field 121, geophysical survey and trench location.

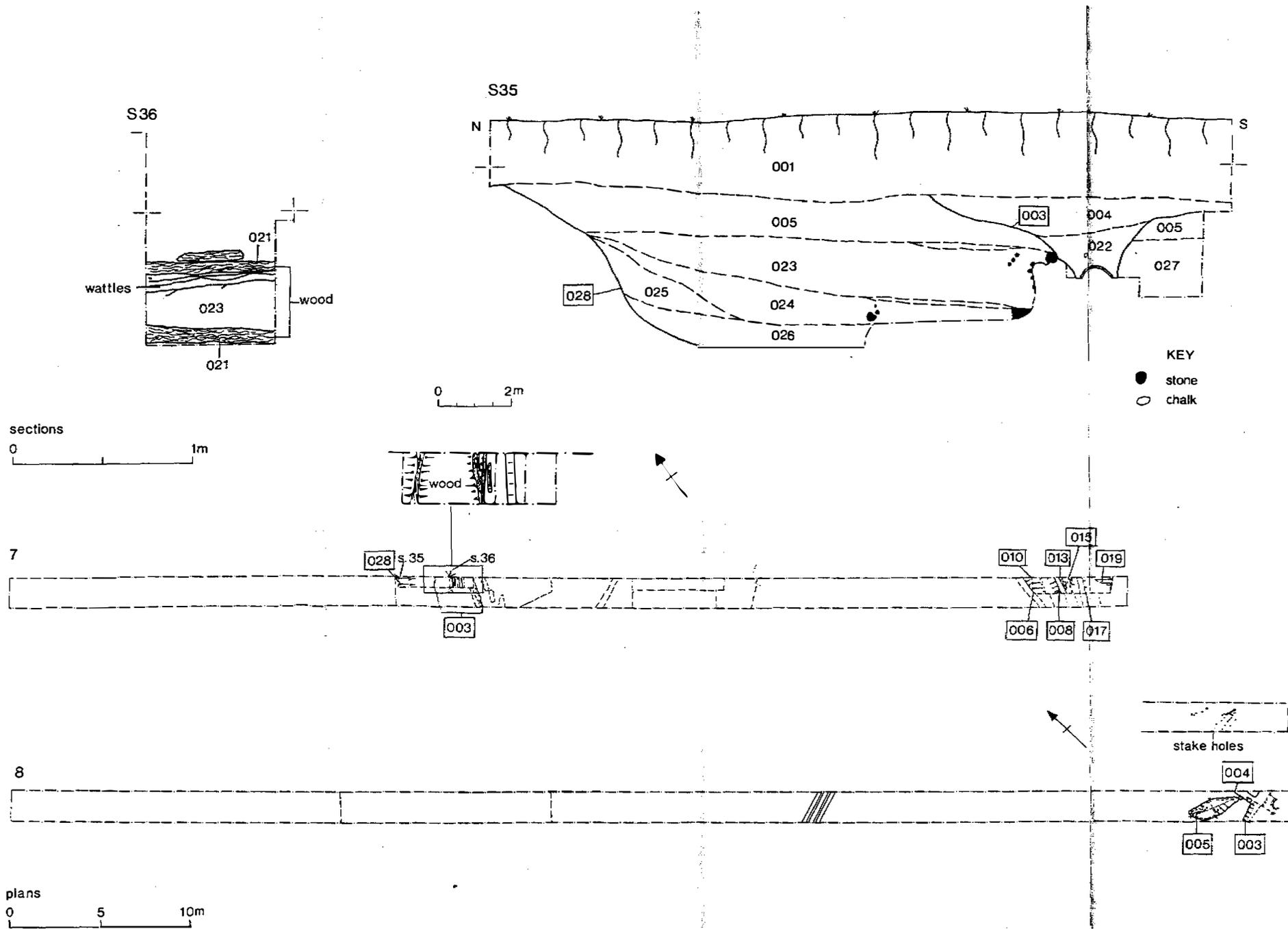


Figure 8: Site 5, field 121, all features plans of trenches 7 & 8 and relevant sections.

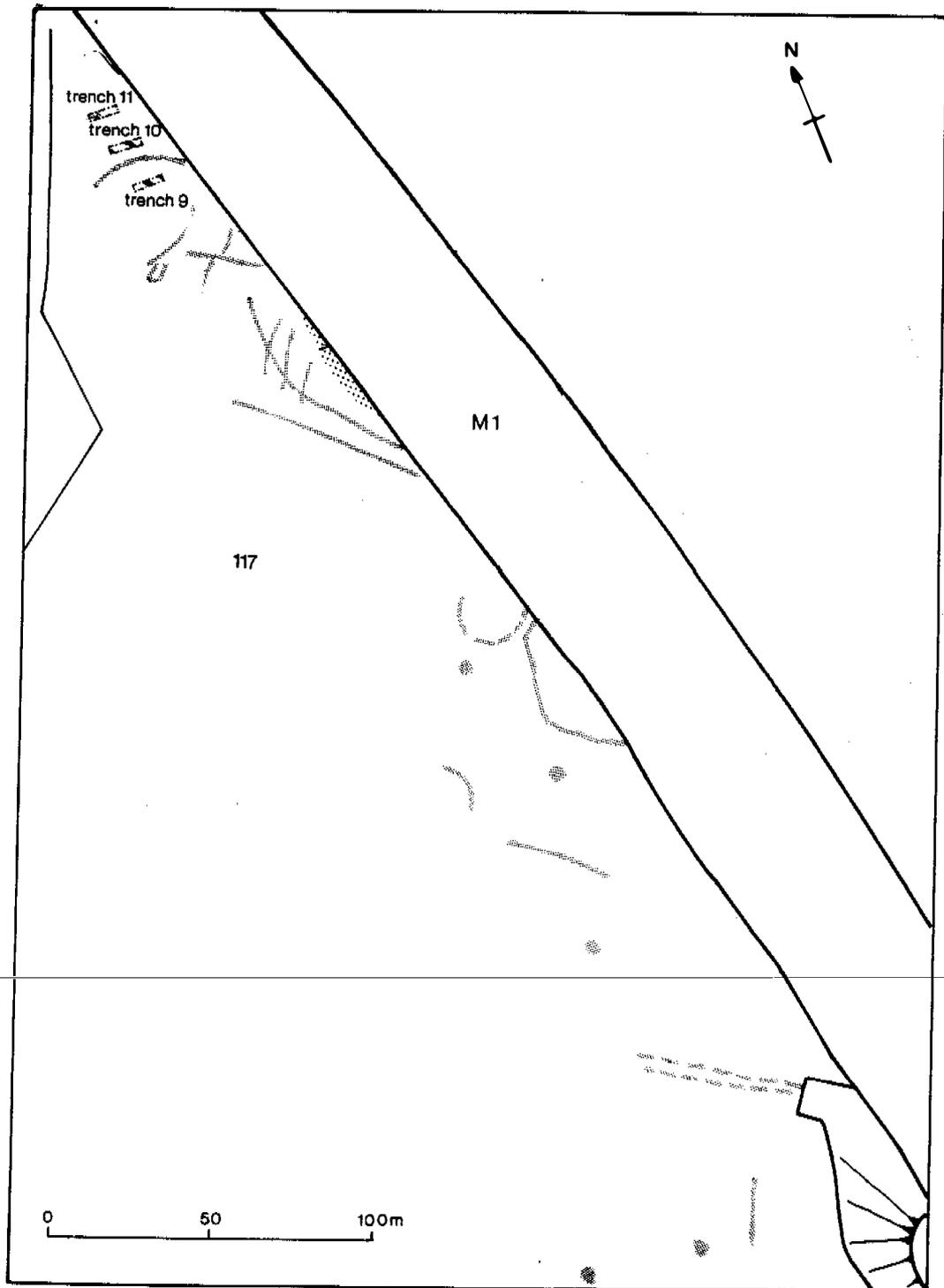


Figure 9. Site 6, field 117, geophysical surveys and trench locations.

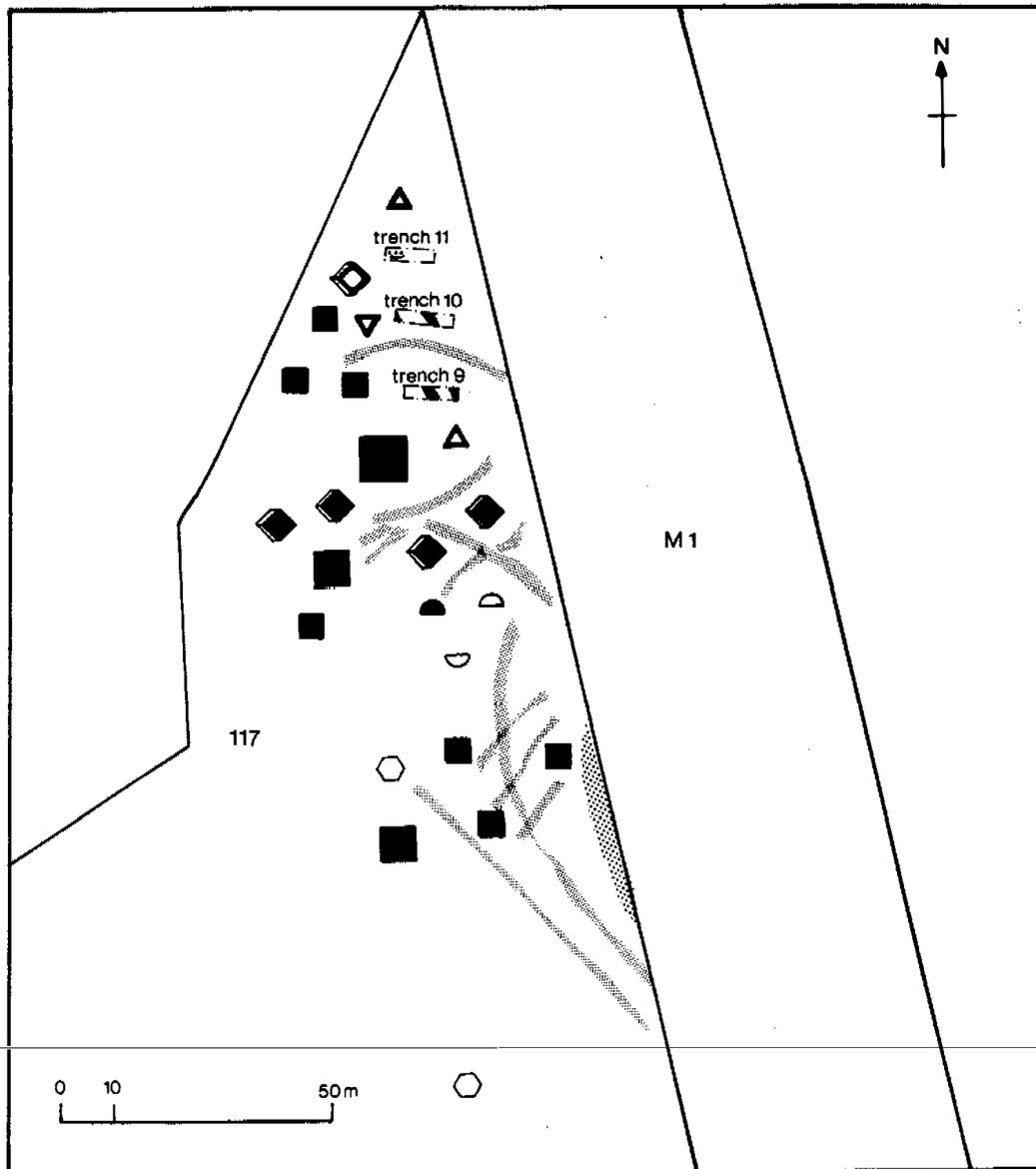


Figure 10: Site 6, field 117 (northern part in detail), fieldwalking data, geophysical survey and trench locations.

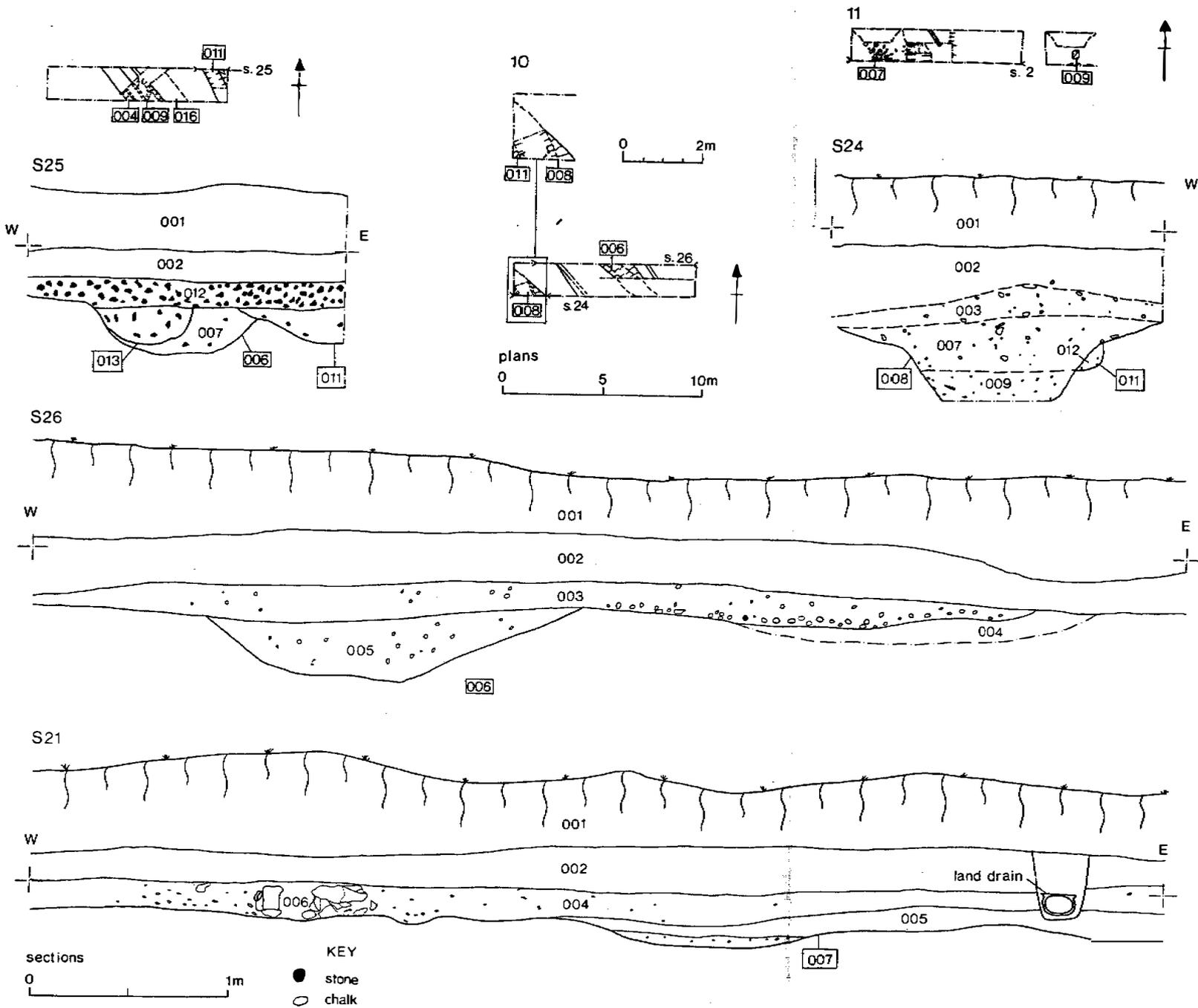


Figure 11: Site 6, Field 117, all features plans of trenches 9, 10 & 11 and relevant sections.

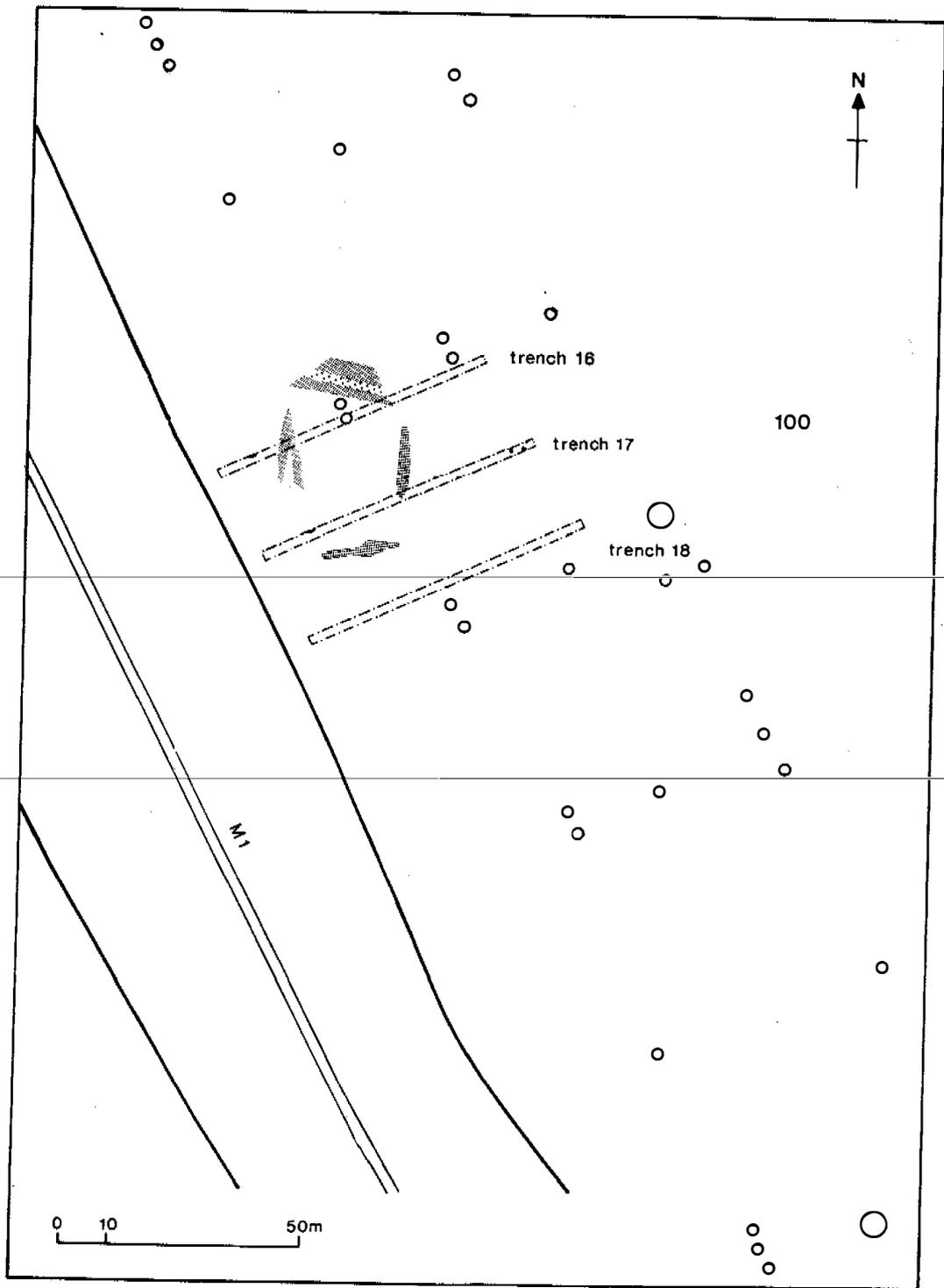


Figure 12: Site 11, field 100, fieldwalking data, geophysical survey and trench locations.

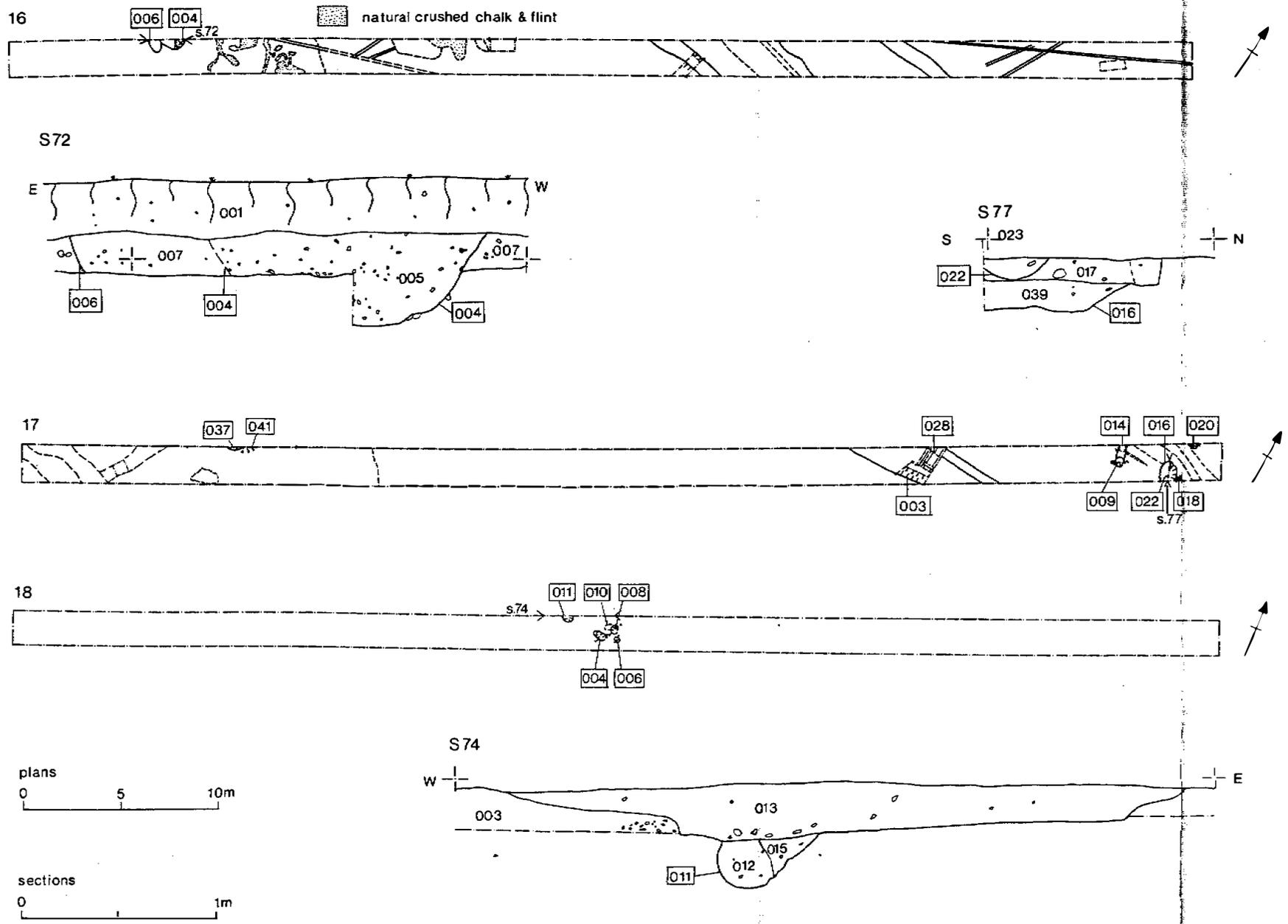


Figure 13: Site 11, Field 100, all features plans of trenches 16, 17 & 18 and relevant sections.

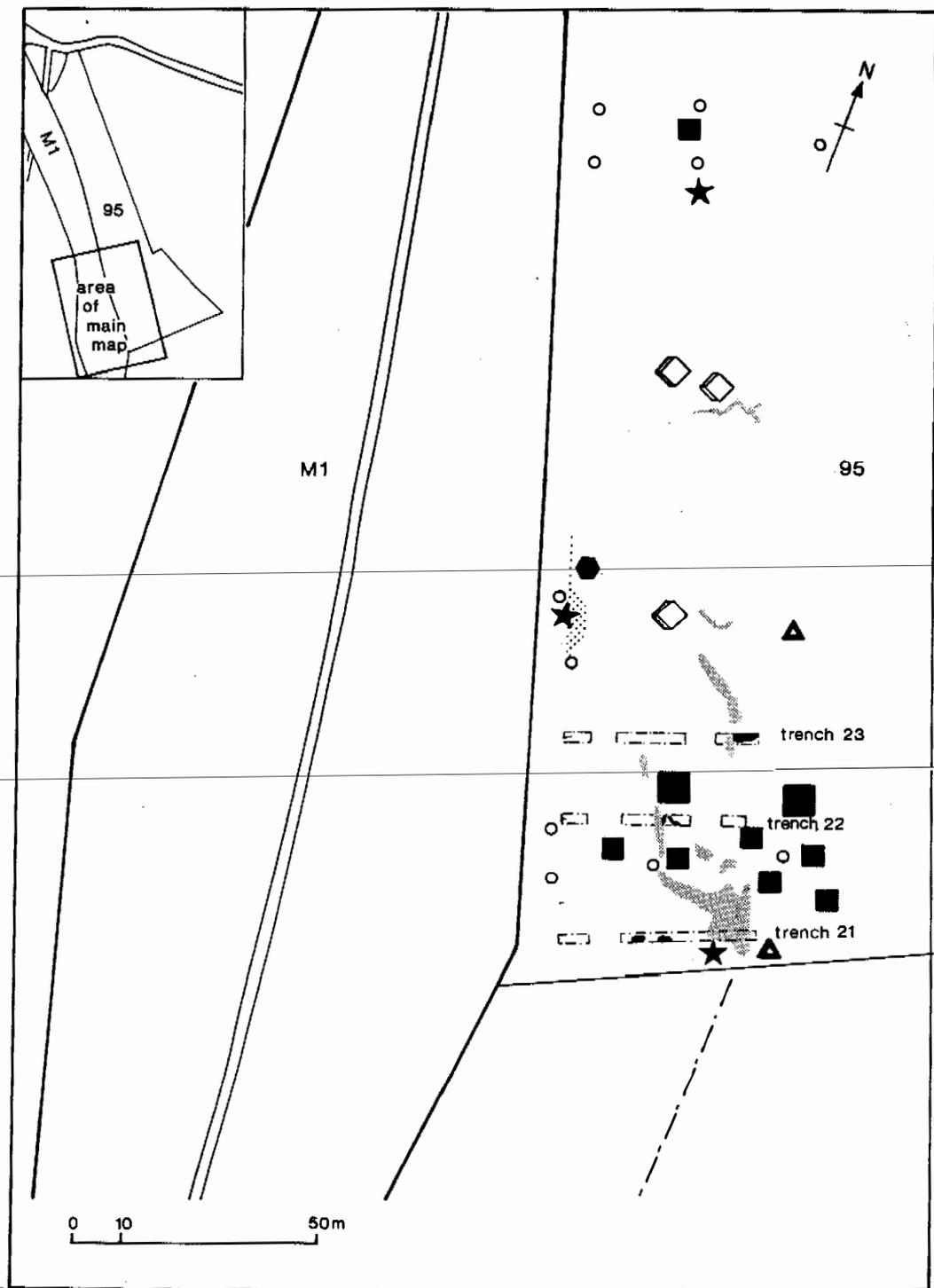


Figure 14: Site 14, field 95 (south) field walking data, geophysical survey and trench locations.

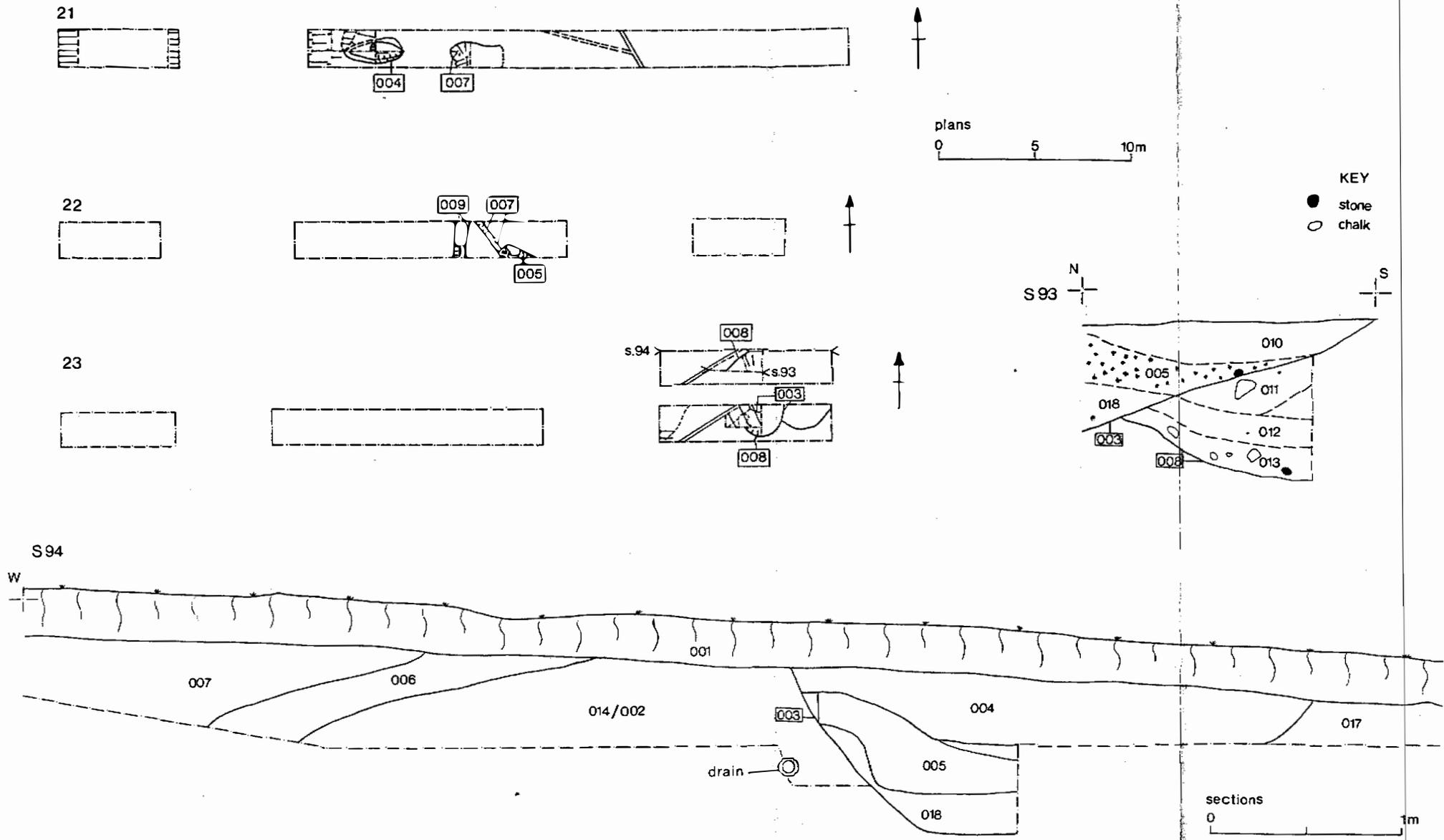


Figure 15: Site 14: Field 95, all features plans of trenches 21, 22 & 23 and relevant sections.

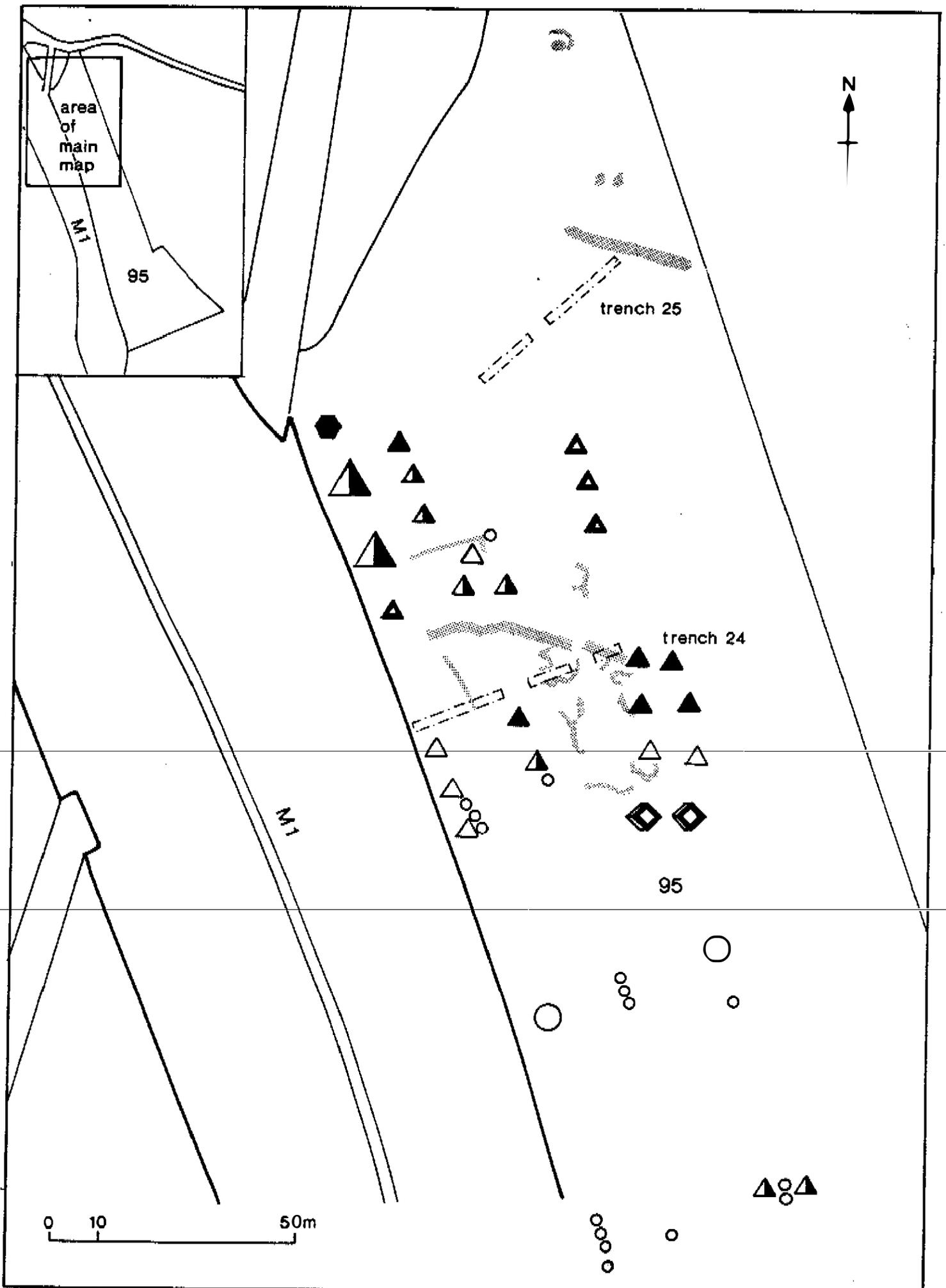


Figure 16: Site 15: field 95 (north) fieldwalking data, geophysical survey and trench locations.

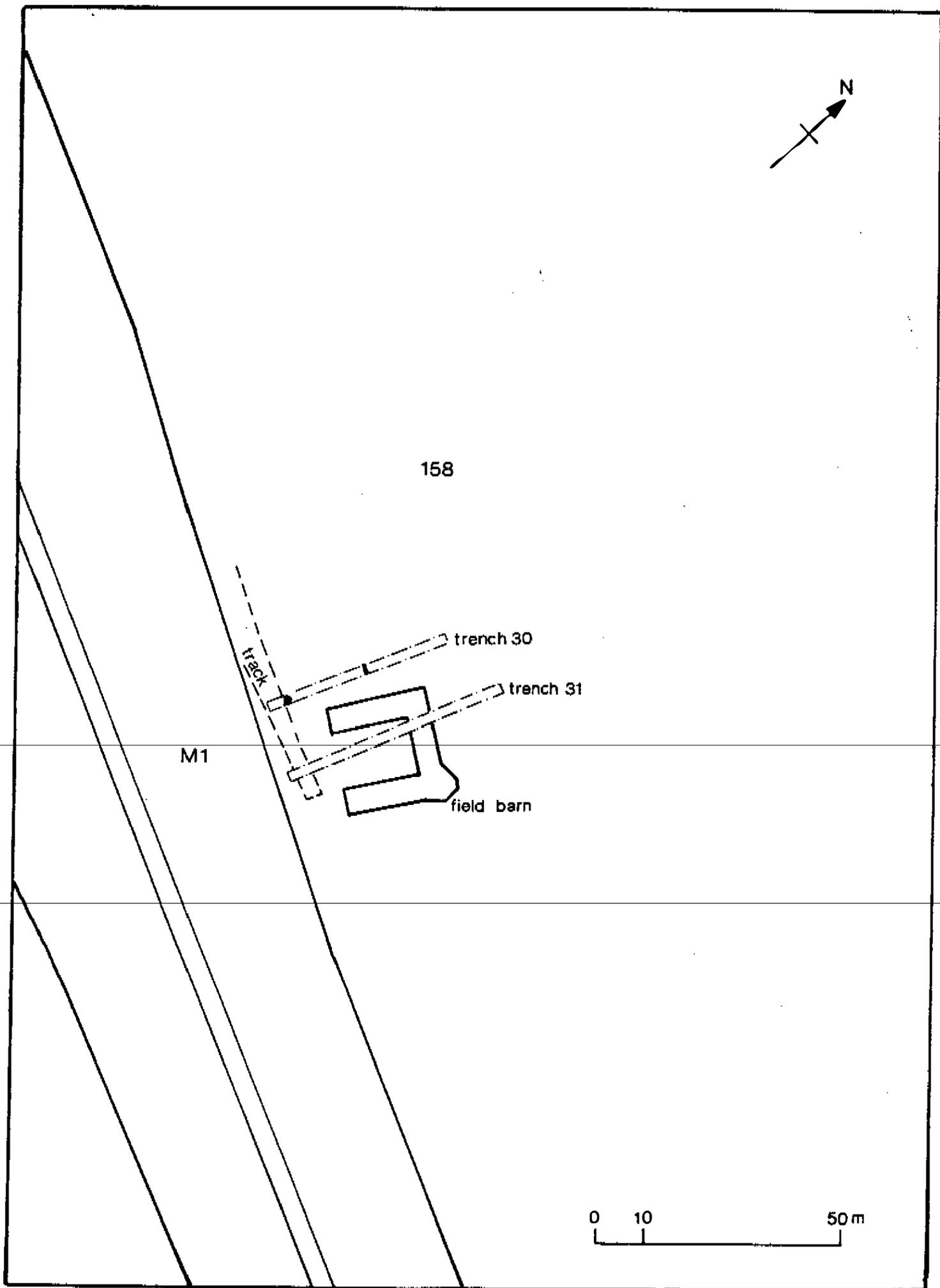


Figure 17: Site 19, field 158, trench locations in relation to field barn.

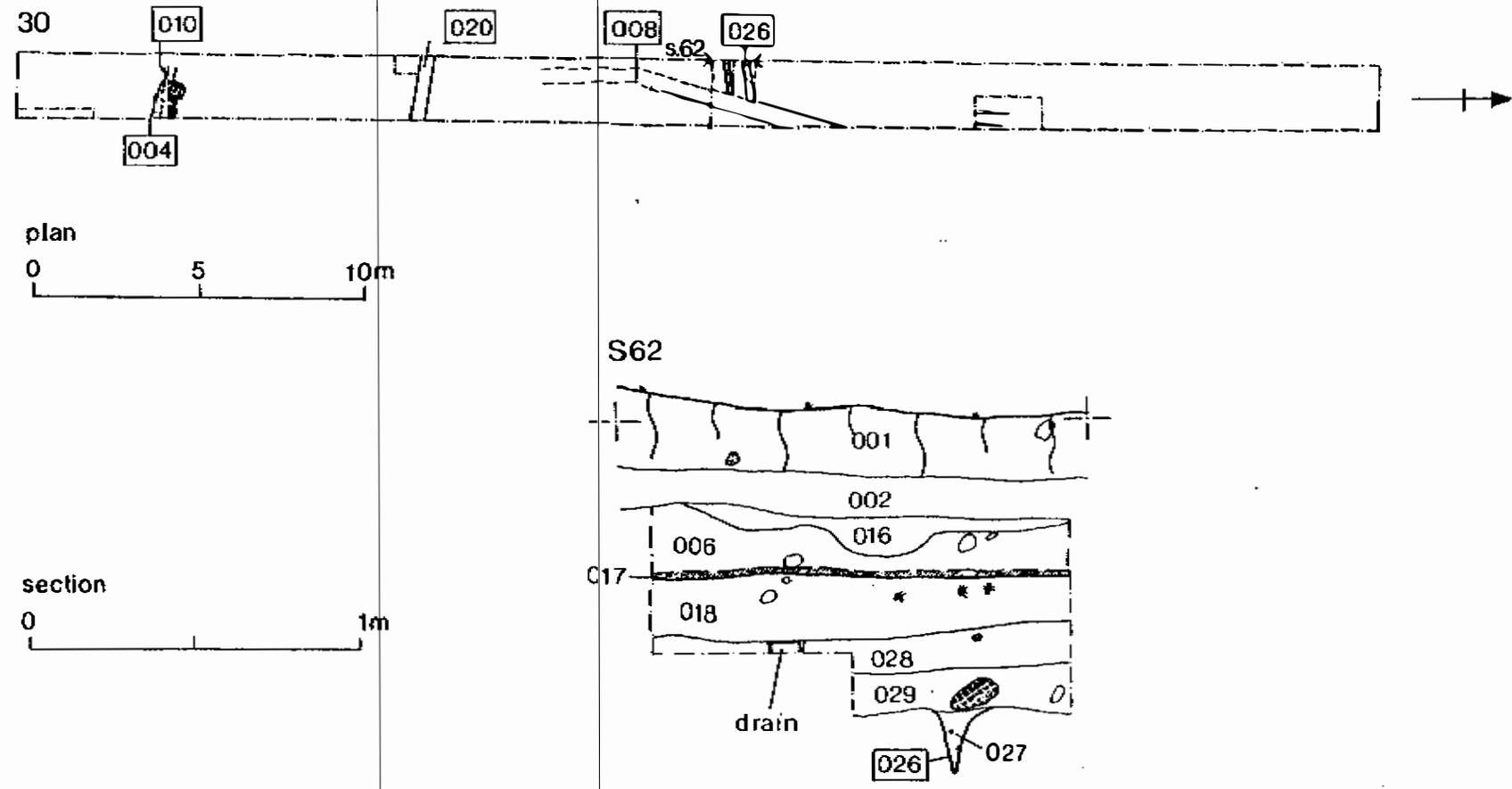


Figure 18: Site 19, Field 158, all features plan of trench 30 and relevant section.

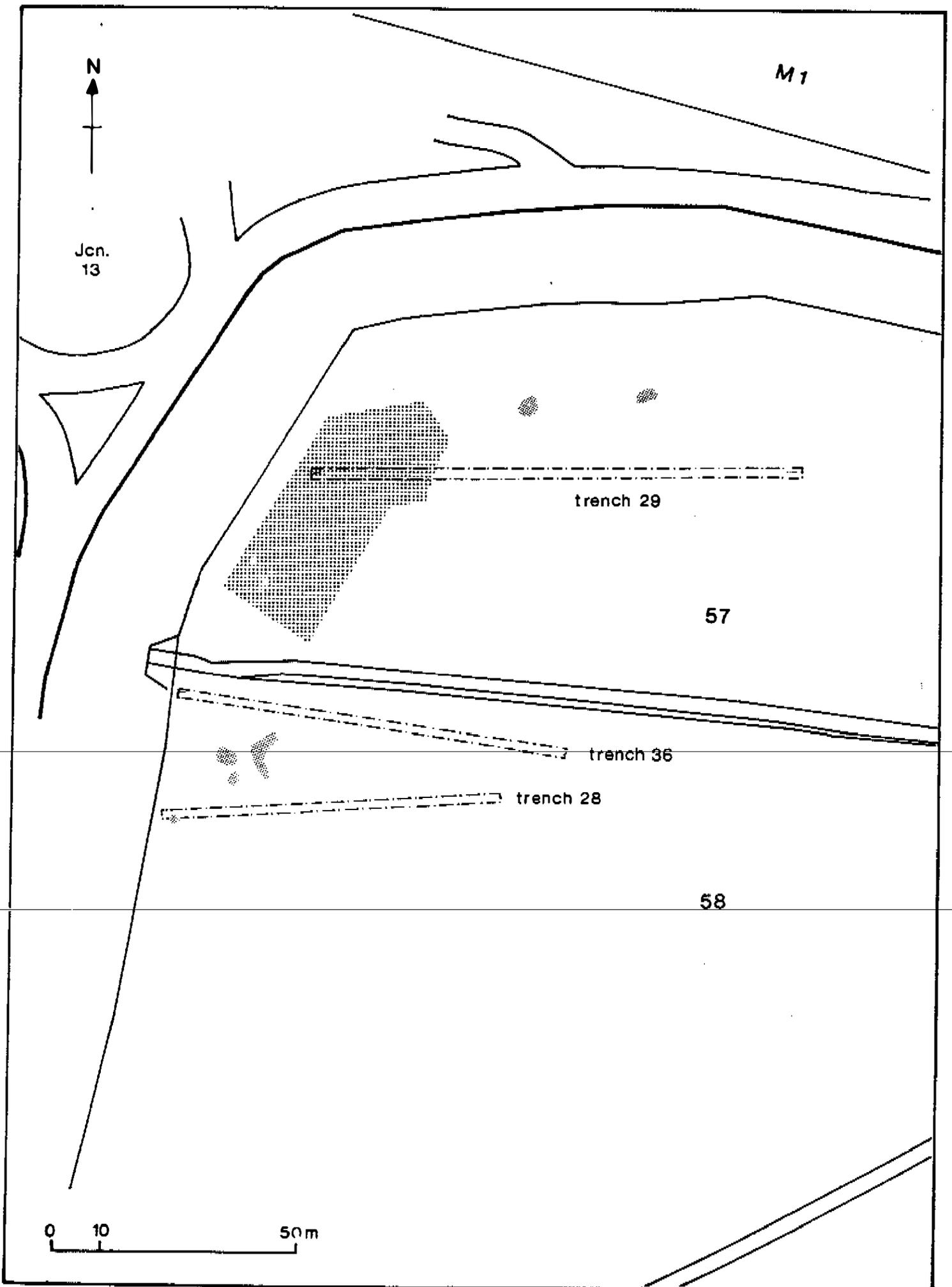


Figure 19: Fields 57 and 58, geophysical survey and trench locations.

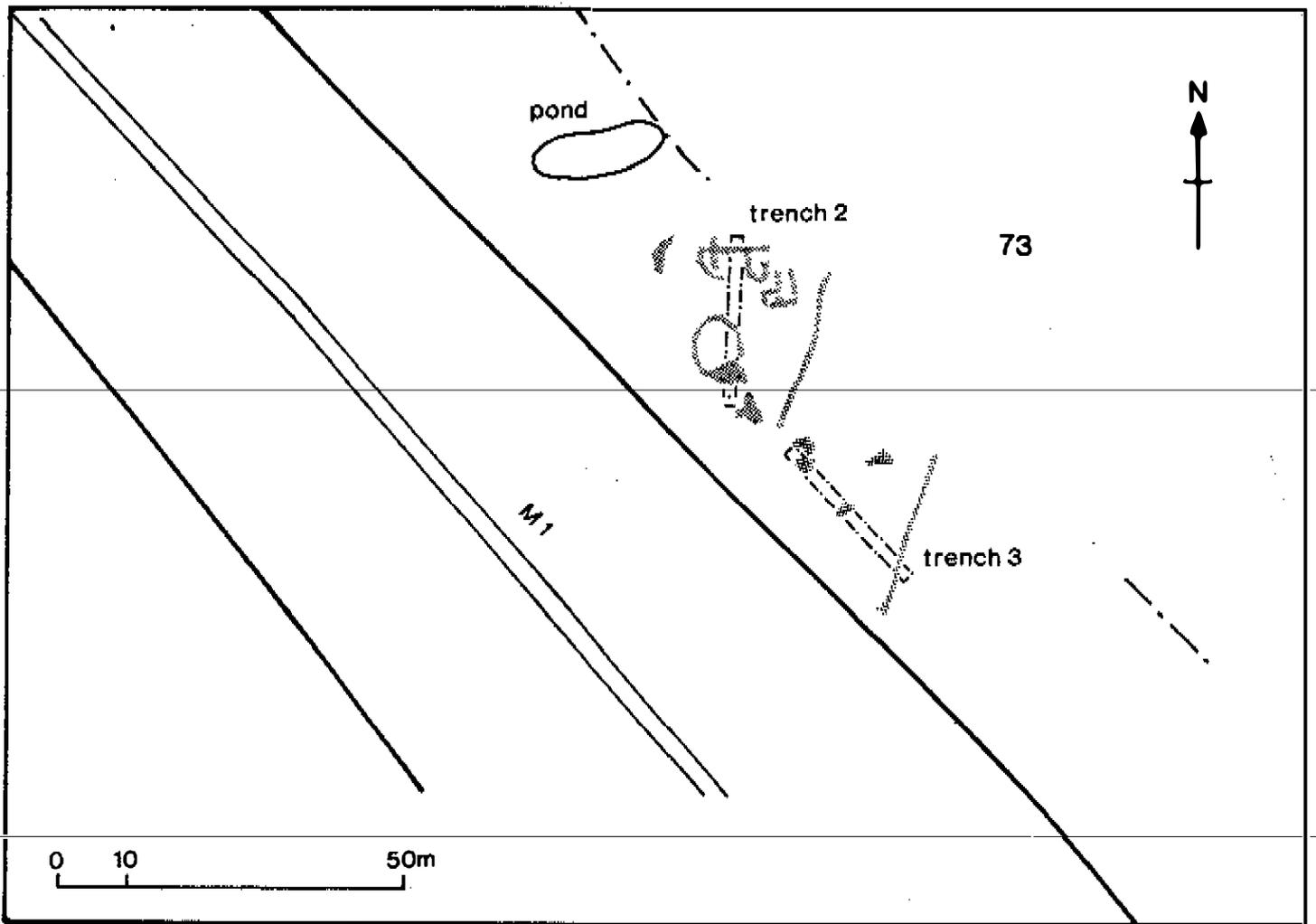


Figure 20: Field 73, geophysical survey and trench locations.

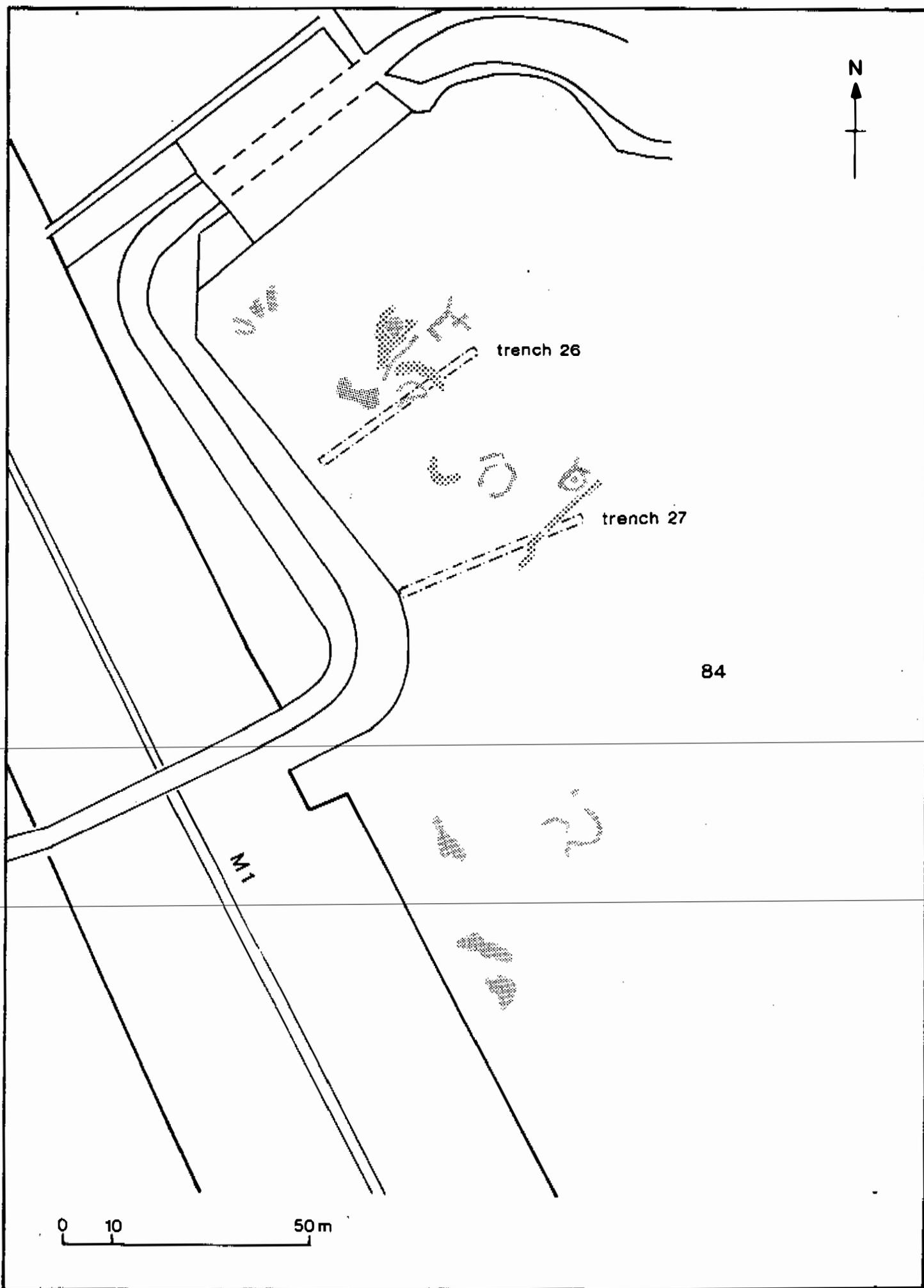


Figure 21: Field 84, geophysical survey and trench locations.

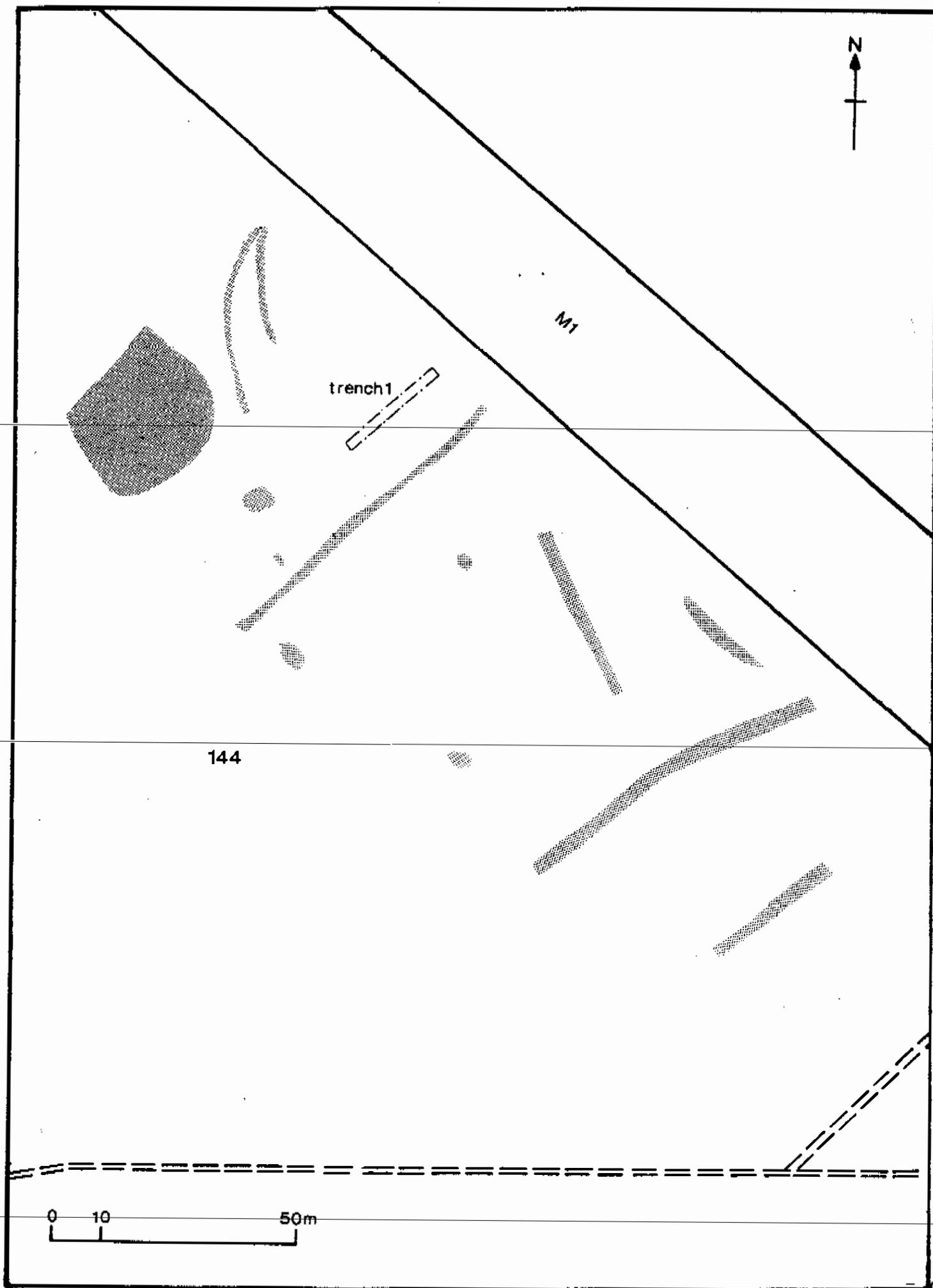


Figure 22: Field 144, fieldwalking data, geophysical survey and trench locations

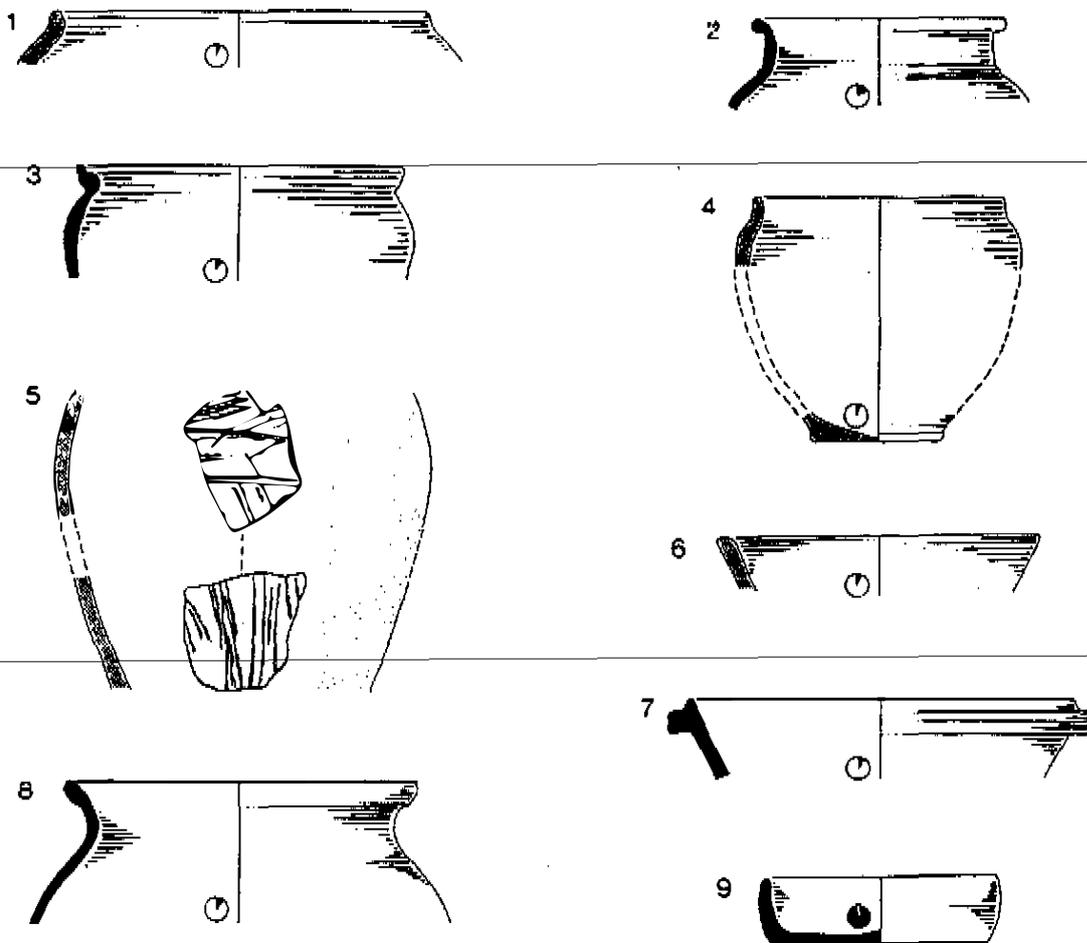


Figure 23 Illustrated Pottery (scale 1:4)

Illust No.	Type	Common name	Form	Trench	Context
1	F28	Fine sandy	Upright rim jar	4	012
2	R	Roman sandy	Jar with cordon	4	018
3	R	Roman sandy	Lid-seated jar	4	018
4	F31	Sand and mica	Upright rim jar	5	018
5	F03	Grog and sand	Vessel	9	015
6	F28	Fine sandy	Upright rim jar	18	013
7	R22A	Hadham	Flanged bowl	21	006
8	R13	Roman Shelly	Jar	21	005
9	R12B	NV Colour Coat	Upright rim bowl	21	005