Archaeological Investigations at Rainwall's Lane and Post Office Lane, Sutterton, Lincolnshire.

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT RAINWALL'S LANE AND POST OFFICE LANE, SUTTERTON, LINCOLNSHIRE

Work Undertaken For
Savills International Property Consultants

May 1994

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological examination was undertaken on land alongside Post Office Lane and Rainwall's Lane, Sutterton, Lincolnshire, in response to a proposal for development of the two sites. It was anticipated that, by virtue of the proximity of the site of the seventeenth century Sutterton House and several medieval findspots in the vicinity, the area could fall within a zone of medieval and later activity. The development could affect related deposits and, in consequence, fieldwalking and geophysical surveys were carried out. These examinations were supplemented by an evaluation excavation and fifteen trenches were opened to test for the presence and survival of archaeological deposits.

Fieldwalking recovered pottery and other artefacts of medieval and later date. Several localised concentrations of finds were recognised, including a dense cluster of medieval material on the western section of the Post Office Lane site. A large, confined group of post-medieval and later artefacts occurred on the east part of the Post Office Lane area. However, no areas of high artefact density were observed on the Rainwall's Lane site.

Geophysical survey recorded anomalies considered to indicate possible buried archaeological remains across the area. On the area west of Rainwall's Lane, magnetic disturbance was limited. However, on both parts of the Post Office Lane site, major magnetic deviations were registered.

Excavation revealed the locations of probable timber structures and drainage gullies of medieval date in the eastern part of the Post Office Lane site. A further gully and a field dyke, both medieval in date, were identified in the west part of the Post Office Lane. Filling of the field dyke continued into the post-medieval period. Large, post-medieval middens (rubbish heaps) and bonfires were located on the Post Office Lane sites. Additionally, a possible structure was identified. No archaeological deposits were encountered on the land west of Rainwall's Lane.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services were commissioned by Savills International Property Consultants to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to Post Office Lane and Rainwall's Lane, Sutterton, Lincolnshire. This was in respect of planning applications B18/0369/93 and B18/0370/9 submitted for a proposed residential development, and in accordance with a brief set by the Boston District Community Archaeologist. The proximity of the post-medieval Sutterton House, together with sites and finds of the medieval period, suggested that the evaluation area may fall within a zone of medieval and later activity.

2.2 Topography and Geology

Sutterton is located 8km southwest of Boston in the civil parish of Sutterton, Boston Borough, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1). The town is situated 8km from the southwest corner of The Wash, and between the Rivers Welland, which lies to the south, and Witham, to the north.

The investigation areas are located at a height of *c.* 3m OD, half a kilometre northwest of the centre of Sutterton village on the north side of Post Office Lane and to the west of Rainwall's Lane (Fig. 2). Centred on National Grid References TF28153695 and TF28083600

respectively, the two proposed development sites cover a total of approximately one hectare.

Local soils are the Pepperthorpe/Tanvats Association typical alluvial gleys. Usually found near areas settled in the Anglo-Saxon period, these soils probably represent early reclaimed land (Robson 1990, 23; 30). Immediately adjacent to the Post Office Lane site are calcareous alluvial gleys of the Wisbech Association. Both soil types are developed in marine alluvium (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 361). Beneath the marine alluvium is glacial drift that was deposited in a geological basin between the Lincolnshire Wolds and the East Anglian Heights (Harden 1978, 5). These glacial deposits in turn overlie a solid geology of Jurassic clays.

2.3 Archaeological Setting

Rainwall's Lane and Post Office Lane are located in an area of archaeological remains dating mainly from the medieval and post-medieval periods. A desk-top assessment of the archaeological implications of proposed development established that Sutterton House (Fig. 2), a hall built in 1609 and demolished earlier this century (SMR 12510), was located on the eastern part of the Post Office Lane site (Archaeological Project Services 1994a, 1). Large quantities of medieval and later pottery (SMR 12513) have been recovered from the field north of the Sutterton House site and from a location *c.* 350m to the northeast. Cropmarks north of Post Office Lane have been recorded on aerial photographs (SMR 13072). These cropmarks have been tentatively identified with the lost village of Riche, known to have been located in the general area of Wigtoft, Sutterton and Algarkirk.

In the centre of the modern village is the parish church of St. Mary which retains architectural evidence of a Norman origin (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 730).

Evidence of earlier human activity in the vicinity is provided by Romano-British pottery (B18/018) found approximately three-quarters of a kilometre to the southeast of the present investigation site. This apparently limited nature of early exploitation is probably due to masking of the evidence by alluvium, rather than any genuine absence of settlement (Archaeological Project Services 1994a, 1).

3. AIMS

The aims of the investigation were to locate archaeological deposits and determine, if present, their extent, state of preservation, date, type, vulnerability, documentation, quality of setting and amenity value. The purpose of this identification and assessment of deposits was to establish their significance, since this would make it possible to recommend an appropriate treatment that could then be integrated with any proposed development programme.

4. METHODS

4.1 Geophysical Survey

The examination areas were gridded out into a series of contiguous rectangular blocks and surveyed using a fluxgate gradiometer.

Magnetic readings were logged at 0.5m intervals along traverses 1m apart (Geophysical Surveys of Bradford 1994). Processing and printing of the recorded data was carried out on computers (Fig. 3-5).

4.2 Fieldwalking Survey

Each area of examination was gridded out into 10 x 10m blocks and each grid square surveyed by the walk-through method. By this technique, each $10m^2$ block was traversed and finds recovered from the field surface were labelled according to the coordinates of the respective grid square (Figs. 4-12).

4.3 Trial Trenching

Fifteen trenches were opened (Figs. 13 and 14) and selected deposits partially or fully excavated by hand to retrieve artefactual material and to determine their nature. Ten trenches were situated north of Post Office Lane, the remaining five west of Rainwall's Lane. The trenches were thus located to provide sample coverage of the entire development site in order to evaluate the potential survival of archaeological deposits and features across the area. Several trenches were positioned to investigate anomalies registered on the geophysical survey. The other trenches were placed randomly, but evenly distributed across the site, in order to provide a representative view of conditions and deposits across the total area.

Fourteen of the fifteen trenches were opened by machine to the surface of undisturbed layers, then cleaned and excavated by hand. The exception to this was Trench 14, which was dug entirely by hand. A borehole survey to a maximum depth of *c.* 3m below the present ground surface was undertaken in Trench 1. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

5. ANALYSIS

5.1 Geophysical Results

5.1.1 Area A, West Side of Rainwall's Lane

Responses associated with agricultural machinery and garden sheds at the southern edge of the field dominated the results of the survey of this area. A few scattered geophysical anomalies were recorded but it was considered that a modern or natural origin was most probable for these (Fig. 3).

5.1.2 Area B, North Side of Post Office Lane, western part

An electricity pole in the southwest corner and a pipeline in the southeast were responsible for the major areas of magnetic disturbance in this section of the site. Elsewhere, two strong magnetic anomalies, considered to be possibly indicative of kiln-type features, were registered. It was further suggested that the scattering of kiln debris or pottery wasters through the topsoil could explain the high magnetic responses recorded in this area (Fig. 4).

5.1.3 Area C, North Side of Post Office Lane, eastern part

A pipeline on the south side of the survey area was responsible for the strong magnetic distortion recorded in this part of the site. To the north, a prominent magnetic anomaly (Fig. 5) was interpreted as a kiln-type feature or possibly a dump of pottery wasters, though burnt material was also a potential cause of the magnetic disturbance (Geophysical Surveys of Bradford 1994, 1-2).

5.2 Fieldwalking Results

Artefacts recovered from the surface of the fields were examined and differentiated on basis of type and date. Thereafter, the different categories of material were

recorded on plans of the fieldwalking grids for each area. These plans were then used to establish if significant concentrations of finds existed and, if so, where they were located.

5.2.1 Area A, West Side of Rainwall's Lane

Fragments of pottery, clay pipe, ceramic tile and brick, bone, slag and iron objects were recovered from the field surface. A thin scatter of pottery of thirteenth century and later date was the earliest dateable material retrieved (Fig. 6). Pottery of post-medieval date (late seventeenth through to early nineteenth century) was notably more concentrated, without being plentiful (Fig. 7). Ceramic building material in the form of brick, tile and field drain was the most abundant class of artefacts discovered (Fig. 8). No significant concentrations of any of the finds, either by class or date, were identified by the fieldwalking survey.

5.2.2 Area B, North Side of Post Office Lane, western part

Large quantities of varied artefacts were retrieved from the field surface. Medieval material was significantly more abundant than on the Rainwall's Lane part of the site (Area A). A very prominant concentration of artefacts of this date was identified in the south central part of the fieldwalked area (Fig. 9). A second, though much less impressive increase in density was observed towards the western side of the area. In contrast, post-medieval artefacts were generally more scarce and possessed an even distribution across this part of the site (Fig. 10).

Ceramic building material, which included field drain, was fairly evenly distributed across the area with a slight increase in density towards Rainwall's Lane (Fig. 11). Similarly, artefacts of eighteenth century and later date were thinly distributed across the area, with a slight increase in concentration at the western limit near Rainwall's Lane (Fig. 12).

5.2.3 Area C, North Side of Post Office Lane, eastern part

Medieval artefacts were fairly evenly distributed across the area. However, a small but perceptible increase in artefact density was recognisable towards the northeast corner of this section of the site (Fig. 9). This localised concentration was mirrored, though significantly enhanced, by the distribution of post-medieval material (Fig. 10). Brick, tile and field drain also displayed a slight increase in concentration towards this northeast corner of the area (Fig. 11). Material dating after 1700 displayed the most prominent increase in artefact density, once again in the northeast corner of the area (Fig. 12). Amongst the finds recovered during fieldwalking of this area was a decorated bone handle of a knife (Fig. 23).

5.3 Excavation Results

Finds recovered from deposits investigated during the evaluation were examined and a period date assigned where possible. Records of the deposits identified in the evaluation were also examined. Phasing was assigned based on artefact dating and the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them. A stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced and phased. A total of four phases was identified during the evaluation:

Phase 1 Natural deposits
Phase 2 Medieval deposits
Phase 3 Post-medieval deposits
Phase 4 Modern deposits

5.3.1 Phase 1 Natural deposits

Layers of silts (50, 51, 66, 68, 70, 72, 73, 92, 95, 104, 132, 158), clays (159, 160) and clayey silts (3, 4, 5, 6, 130) were encountered in every trench except Trench 7. Considered to be natural deposits of alluvial origin, the surface of these layers sloped naturally from the east, where they were encountered at *c.* 2.75m OD, down to *c.* 2.4m OD at the western limits of the area.

In Area A, beneath the silty subsoil (104) of trench 9, a thin layer of clayey silt (10) was recorded. Located towards the southern end of the trench, this material, which had a maximum thickness of 70mm, wedged out naturally to the north (Fig. 15). Beneath this deposit, and terminating a little further south, was a layer of blue clay (91) up to 80mm thick. Both these layers infilled a slight depression in the underlying layer, a brown clayey silt (7). All these deposits are considered to be alluvial in origin. In particular, the colouration of the blue clay is often characteristic of deposition in standing water.

5.3.2 Phase 2 Medieval deposits

On the north side of Post Office Lane layers of brown clayey silt (42) and clay (17) were encountered. Containing shell, charcoal and pottery, these soils are considered to have been transformed by human intervention. A date in the 13th/14th century for this activity is provided by the pottery.

Dug into layer 42 was a large cut feature (9/41) that had previously been located by the geophysical survey (Fig. 4). A borehole transect established that this feature, interpreted as a ditch, exceeded 2m in depth. Further, the infilling silts had two separate low points, indicating that the channel had been recut at an early stage of its existence (Fig. 16). The seemingly great width of this ditch (over 8m) was due to the trial trench addressing the feature at an oblique angle.

Numerous silt and clay deposits infilled the lower part of this ditch. Black organic clay (142, 146, 148, 154, 157), probably formed by a combination of plant growth and silt deposition in standing water, was the lowest encountered ditch fill. Pottery fragments recovered from this sequence of deposits indicate a 14th/15th century date for this phase of ditch silting.

Towards the south central part of Area B, Trench 4 had been located to investigate part of an apparently rectangular geophysical signal (Fig. 4). Cutting into the natural, a north-south oriented linear feature (94), approximately 0.5m wide and 0.2m deep, was revealed. Interpreted as a gully, this feature was filled with a yellow silt (93). Fourteenth century pottery recovered from the silt provided a date for the filling of the gully.

Cutting the natural deposits in Trench 6 (Area C) were several linear features (Fig. 17). Towards the northern end of the trench was a heavily truncated cut (46) aligned northwest-southeast. Approximately 2.5m to the south was a more substantial feature (49) oriented northeast-southwest. Each cut was filled with greyish brown silty clay (45, 48), from which a sherd of medieval pottery was recovered. Both of these features are believed to be robbed and backfilled foundation trenches.

To the south of these foundation trenches was a series of north-south aligned features (61, 63, 65). Uniformly shallow (*c.* 40mm) and narrow (approximately 0.3m wide), each was over 3.5m long and filled with grey silty clay (60, 62, 64) that

contained a sherd of thirteenth century pottery. The function of these features is unknown.

Cutting the transformed soil (17) in Trench 7 (Area C), were an oval feature (90) *c.* 60mm deep and approximately 0.25m across (Fig. 18) and a 0.10m deep, 80mm wide conical profiled feature (124). Filled with charcoal-flecked clayey silts (89 and 123), these are interpreted as a posthole and a stakehole respectively, both robbed and backfilled.

On the south side of Area C, in Trench 8, was a U-shaped cut feature (12). Both legs of the U, which were 0.8m apart, were *c.* 0.5m wide and orientated north-south (Fig. 19). Interpreted as a gully, the feature deepened to the south where the two legs met. Filling this gully was a charcoal-rich silty clay (11) containing plentiful shells that were particularly concentrated towards the top of the deposit. Medieval pottery was recovered from this layer, suggesting a probable fourteenth century date for the accumulation.

To the east of this gully were two cut features. One (14) was linear, oriented east-west and 2.4m long by 0.7m wide and 0.14m deep. Covering the base and sides of this feature was a layer of silty clay (15), only 30mm thick, above which was an orange clay sand (16). This context group is considered to represent a lined gully, backfilled upon disuse. The second feature (26) was minimally seen but may be the butt end of a north-south linear cut. Of indeterminate function, this cut feature was filled with a sand clay (25) identical in consistency with the material lining the east-west gully.

5.3.3 Phase 3 Post-medieval deposits

Layers of clayey silts (8, 32, 33, 35, 47, 81, 83, 86, 87) continued to accumulate in the medieval ditch (9/41) on the west side of Area B. In addition, layers of ash and charcoal (34, 40, 82) and burnt sandy silt (88) contributed to the sequence of fills. Quantities of seventeenth century pottery, tile, animal bone, oyster and cockle shells were recovered from the succession of deposits.

Trenches 14 and 15 were located near the centre of Area B to investigate a prominent geophysical signal (Fig. 4). Within the trenches a large (over 4m by 2m) and apparently oval cut feature (129) was observed cutting natural (Fig. 20). Filling this quite shallow (*c.* 0.3m deep) feature was a charcoal-rich dark silty clay (67, 69, 71, 128) that contained fragments of part-burned coal. Pottery of sixteenth and seventeenth century date was quite abundant in this deposit. Amongst this material were the upper parts of two jugs, one a product of kilns at Toynton All Saints, the other in Bourne D ware (Fig. 22). A large quantity of whelk shells and a small amount of animal bone, mainly cow, was also recovered. Additionally, several metal artefacts, including a copper alloy buckle of late 14th century type (Read 1988, 71; fig.14), were retrieved.

A similar feature (39), also recorded as an area of high magnetic disturbance, was encountered in Trench 6, Area C. In this instance, the feature was over 7m across but only *c.* 0.25m deep (Fig. 17). Furthermore, only the south side of the feature was cut into the underlying deposits, the infilling layers wedging out to the north on the pre-existing soil horizon (Fig. 21). A sequence of clay silts (38, 75, 76, 77, 78) filled this shallow feature. These deposits contained extensive quantities of animal bone, mostly cow but including sheep and some pig, together with abundant oyster shells. A large collection of pottery, clay pipes, brick, glass and metal was also recovered from

these layers. Most of the artefacts were of sixteenth or seventeenth century date, though there was a significant complement of later pottery. However, it is believed, on structural grounds, that this context group is discretely 16th/17th century in date and that the later artefacts were incorrectly assigned. By virtue of their form and contents, both of these extensive, shallow features (39, 129) are interpreted as middens.

Along the west side of Trench 7 in Area C was one side of a north-south linear feature (96, 97, 98, 99). At least 3m, and possibly as much as 5m long, this feature was observed to a width of 0.4m (Fig. 18). Filled with clay, this is considered as possibly structural in function.

Terminating the northern end of this linear feature was an apparently oval cut (27) *c.* 0.75m across and 0.2m deep. Interpreted as a possible pit, redeposited medieval pottery and animal bone was recovered from the fills of this feature.

A group of three shallow cuts (30, 31, 108), between 0.4m and 1.5m across and varying in depth from 50mm to 0.2m, were recorded in Trench 7. Each of these was filled with ash, charcoal and flecks of burnt clay and the ground surface into which the features had been dug displayed reddening due to heat. In consequence, these features are explained as fire pits.

Similarly, at the eastern end of Trench 8, also in Area C, a sequence of heat-reddened soils and charcoal-rich clays were recorded (Fig. 19). These are also interpreted as the locations of fires.

5.3.4 Phase 4 Modern deposits

Three linear features (106, 134, 136), each between 0.10 and 0.20m wide were recorded in Areas B and C (Figs. 18 and 19). Orientated north-south or northwest-southeast, these are interpreted as land drains. In Trench 6, Area C, a sequence of mixed clayey silt layers (37, 36, 74, 79, 80) was recorded. Although these layers contained quantities of medieval and early post-medieval pottery, modern ceramics were also recovered from the deposits. A large amount (*c.* 1.75kg) of shattered ceramic field drain, possibly signifying the location of another land drain, was retrieved from one layer (37) in the sequence. The group of soils infill a depression where the underlying deposits fall away to the north. As a consequence, they are considered to constitute make-up layers.

Covering the entire investigation area was a dark clayey silt ploughsoil deposit (1) that constituted the present ground surface. Towards the southern end of the Rainwall's Lane site (Area A) a beet crop was growing on this deposit. An unstratified key of probable 14th/15th century date (Ward Perkins 1940) was recovered from Trench 6 in Area C.

6. DISCUSSION

Alluvial silts and clays, which dipped gently from east to west, occurred as natural deposits across the area (phase 1). At the southwest corner of the investigation site, a small depression in the surface of an earlier silt layer was filled by localised clay and silt deposits that perhaps signify a minor alluviation episode. This slight hollow appears to be broadly coincident with, and responsible for, a magnetic anomaly registered by the geophysical survey (Archaeological Project Services 1994b, 4).

Identified by the magnetometery survey, a large ditch (phase 2) located towards the western limit of the Post Office Lane site

probably functioned as a field dyke. The location of this substantial boundary indicates that the land parcelling was slightly different to that seen today.

Situated close to the eastern limit of investigations were several linear slots, two of which were at right angles to each other. These probably define the location of a structure, perhaps a timber building. An adjacent group of north-south aligned slots have an undetermined relationship to the structure. In the same general area of the site, post- and stakeholes may represent fences, though their potential service as structural elements should not be discounted.

In proximity to these structural remains was a U-shaped gully. Filled with mollusc shells and charcoal-rich soil, this is interpreted as a waste drain. A second gully, located someway to the west, is considered to have functioned as a rain or surface water run-off.

Fieldwalking recovered a concentration of medieval pottery from the south central part of Area B. However, the trial trenches did not encounter any clear medieval activity that could be responsible for this dense cluster of finds.

By the post-medieval period (phase 3) the phase 2 field dyke was becoming redundant and was being backfilled with a variety of domestic rubbish.

Previously identified by the geophysical survey, two middens were located by trial trenching north of Post Office Lane. Both rubbish heaps contained profuse amounts of varied occupation debris of 16th/17th century date. Positioned to east and west of the site of Sutterton House, these refuse deposits are almost certainly associated with the early seventeenth century hall. Likely to have been used for incorporating household waste with manure for spreading on the land, these middens are probably partially responsible for the proliferation of artefacts scattered across the field surfaces. recovered by the fieldwalking survey. Several bonfires located in the same area may have been used for incinerating rubbish.

One side of a linear clay band is tentatively interpreted as serving a structural function. The deposit may describe the edge of a floor, though no clearly-defined construction elements confined the layer.

Make-up layers were identified in the area of the most easterly midden. Located where the ground fell away, these deposits represent ground-levelling activities (phase 4). Quantities of modern (post-1700) occupation debris was included in these soils. Such ground making/rubbish dumping was probably responsible for the very high artefact densities recognised by the fieldwalking in this area.

Recent agricultural use of the land was represented by land drains and the ploughsoil, partially covered by a beet crop, that constituted the modern ground surface.

No archaeological remains were identified on the land west of Rainwall's Lane. Although a moderately dense scatter of artefacts was recovered during the fieldwalking of this area, much of the material was post-medieval in date, with a limited medieval complement. No concentrations of finds were recognised and most, if not all, of the occupation debris could have derived from manuring scatter and the ploughing-up of old field drains (Archaeological Project Services 1994b, 4).

7. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

7.1
For assessment of significance the *Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling ancient monuments* has been used (DoE 1990, Annex 4; see Appendix 4).

7.2 Period:
Failed settlements are a characteristic of the medieval period in Britain and often form a feature of the landscape, either as earthworks or as artefact scatters. Small manor houses or halls also characterise the medieval and post-medieval periods throughout Europe.

Pottery scatters on arable land are a common feature of the medieval and post-medieval periods. Such evidence relates to both past and recent agricultural use of the land.

7.3 Rarity:
Remains of deserted medieval settlement, as identified north of Post Office Lane, are not uncommon, though they may possess rare or unusual aspects. Small post-medieval halls often survive as standing structures. Evidence for vacant sites of such establishments is less common, later construction on the same site usually having destroyed or obscured the original remains.

Scatters of medieval and later pottery on field surfaces are extremely common. Such scatters are generally found in areas adjacent to or surrounding settlements of this date.

7.4 Documentation:
Records of archaeological sites and finds made in the Sutterton area are kept in the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record and the relevant parish files of the Boston District Community Archaeologist.

A synthesis of this evidence was produced prior to the commencement of the field surveys.

There are no appropriate historical surveys of the Sutterton area.

7.5 Group value:
Sutterton House, known to have been located in the area but not encountered by the excavations, has been shown to be grouped with features of an apparently agricultural nature (middens, bonfires, land boundaries). Additionally, this hall and farming establishment was superimposed on medieval structural activity, thereby enhancing the group value of the monument.

7.6 Survival/Condition:
Archaeological deposits encountered by the evaluation have been found to be generally well preserved. Some disturbance has been caused by agricultural processes however, and post-medieval activities relating to Sutterton House have affected the quality of the underlying medieval remains.

7.7 Fragility/Vulnerability:
Archaeological deposits identified during the evaluation are extremely vulnerable due to imminent development which will impact the investigation area into natural strata. Continued agricultural usage of the land presents a much reduced though continuing threat of degradation to the archaeological remains.

7.8 Diversity:
Both functional and period diversity are moderate. The evidence recovered suggests that medieval and later occupation are located in the same area north of Post Office Lane. These separate periods of archaeological remains comprise medieval habitation and land boundaries, together with higher status post-medieval

occupation and farming activities.

7.9 Potential:

Potential is high that structural remains relating to Sutterton House, and its associated farming complex, may survive in the area of proposed development. Additionally, medieval remains have been recorded in the area and are likely to be more extensive than presently known; in particular, a dense scatter of medieval artefacts was recovered during fieldwalking, though no features to account for this assemblage was encountered by the excavation.

There is very limited potential that medieval or later activity exists or survives in the Rainwall's Lane section of the investigation area.

Environmental remains may survive by waterlogging in the backfilled field dyke and are known to exist as charred deposits elsewhere on site. Palaeoenvironmental material of geological date may survive within the natural alluvial deposits but was not encountered by the excavations.

8 EFFECTIVENESS OF TECHNIQUES

The methods and strategies employed in the archaeological investigation were, on the whole, effective. Geophysical survey identified both natural and archaeological remains. However, some of the archaeological features generated pronounced anomalies that obscured more subtle magnetic deviations.

Fieldwalking recorded localised concentrations of artefacts that could, in some cases, be related to geophysical anomalies. Subsequent excavation established structural reasons for most of these artefact clusters.

Evaluation excavation determined that archaeological deposits exist on site and was able to define form, function and phasing for many of the features. However, due to limited observation, some of the archaeological remains are of obscure purpose. Further, due to the trenching technique being a small scale sample of the proposed development site, the survival of remains of Sutterton House, known to be located in the area, was not established.

9. CONCLUSIONS

This examination identified the presence of generally well-preserved deposits of medieval and later date on the north side of Post Office Lane, Sutterton. A medieval field dyke was encountered at the western edge of the area and foundations of a possible timber building near the eastern limit. Close by the possible building were post- and stakeholes, perhaps defining further structural activity, and a waste drain. Fieldwalking located a discrete concentration of medieval pottery in the centre of the area, though no source of this material was identified by the excavation.

Subsequently the field dyke fell into disuse and was backfilled. Middens were located in the area of the earlier structures. These features, contemporary, and probably associated with Sutterton House, were responsible from the spread of artefacts across the fields. Bonfires, possibly for the disposal of rubbish, were located in the same area. Later ground-levelling introduced large quantities of occupation debris into the area of one of the middens. This activity generated the high artefact densities observed by the fieldwalking survey.

No evidence for the remains of Sutterton House, built in 1609, was encountered,

though an indeterminate structure was tentatively identified through the location of a clay floor.

No archaeological deposits or remains were identified on the west side of Rainwall's Lane however. Medieval and later material was recovered during the the fieldwalking survey of this area but no localised concentrations of artefacts were recognised. Furthermore, the finds recovered by this technique could all have derived from past scattering of manure and domestic waste on the fields and through ploughing up of old land drains.

Geophysical investigation recorded a number of magnetic anomalies across the area. Trial trenching established that the most prominent of these signals had been caused by archaeological features, including a backfilled field dyke and two middens.

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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11. PERSONNEL

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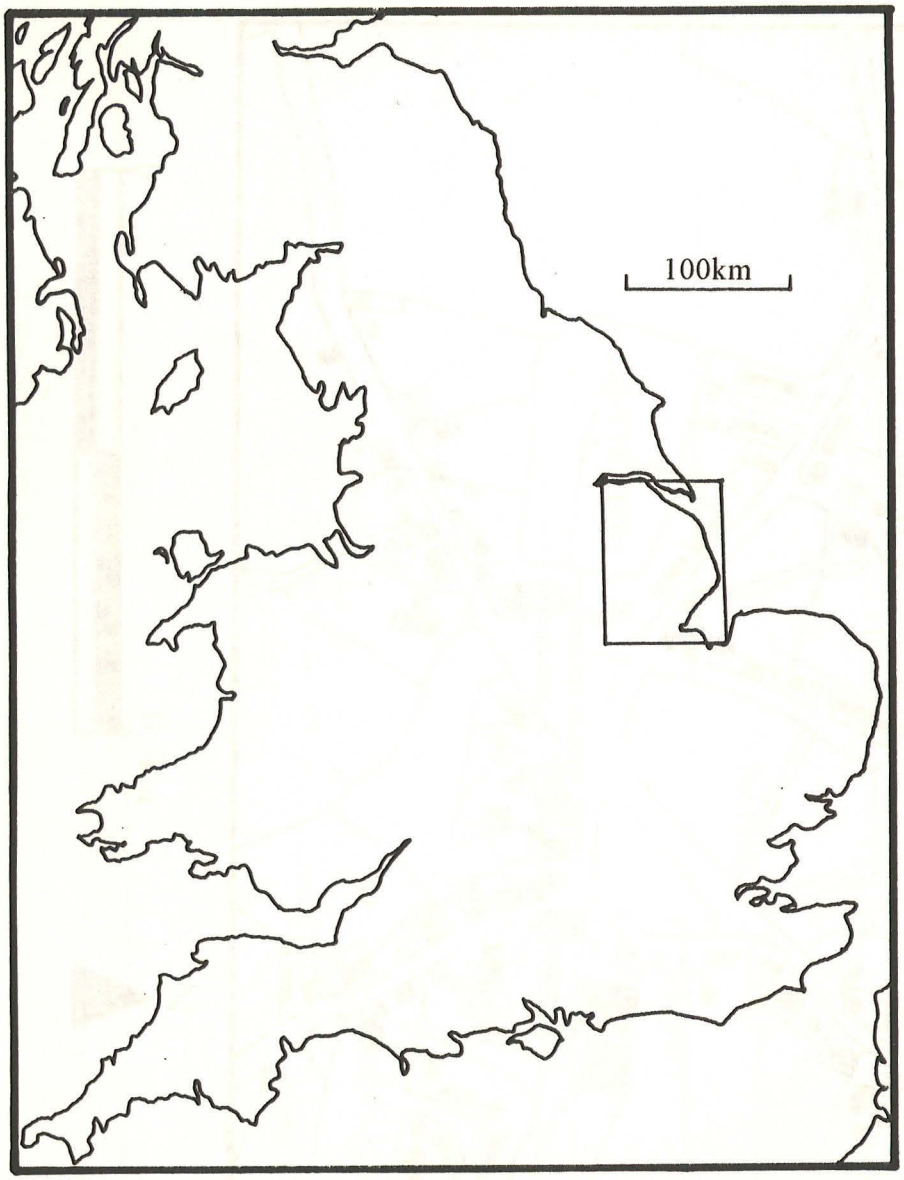
13. ABBREVIATIONS

Numbers prefixed by 'SMR' are the primary reference numbers used by the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record.

Numbers prefixed with 'B' are the reference codes used by the Boston District Community Archaeologist.



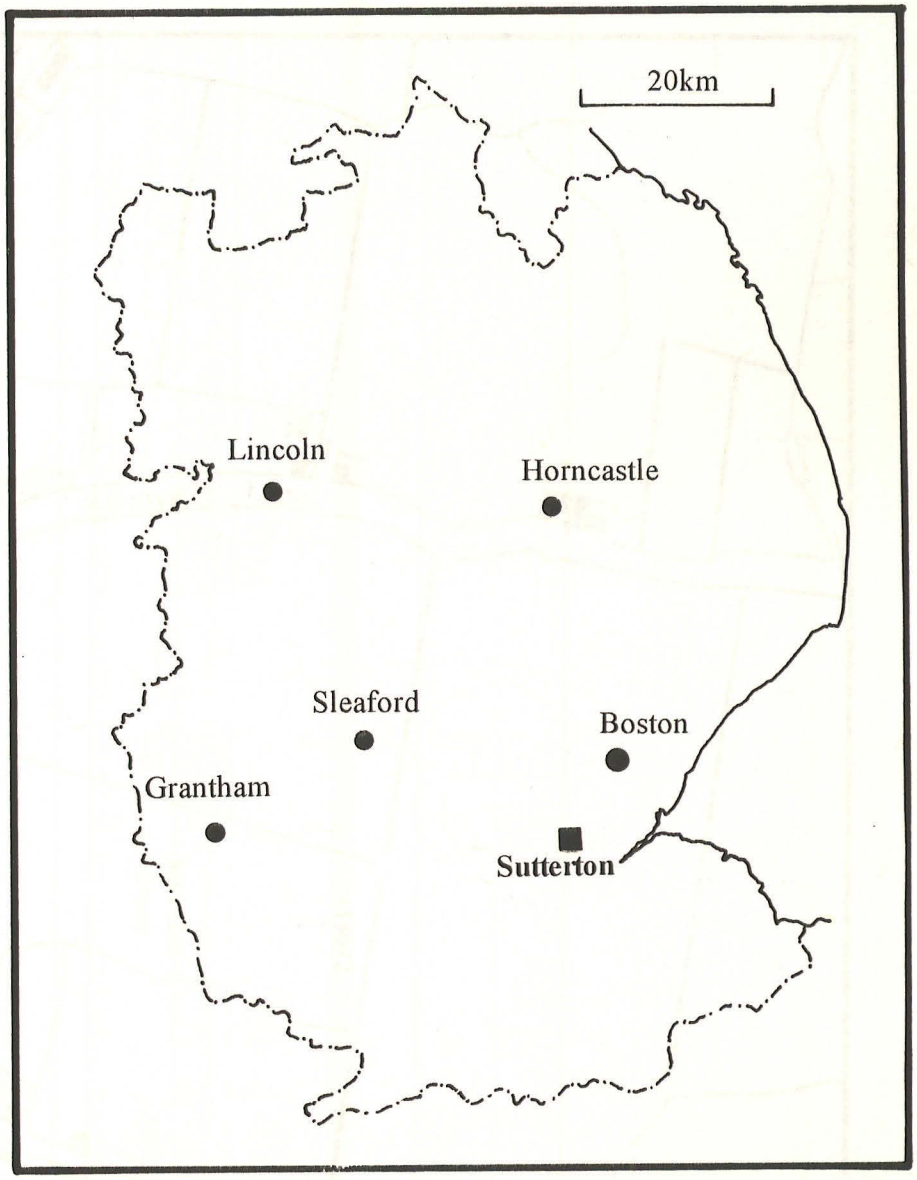
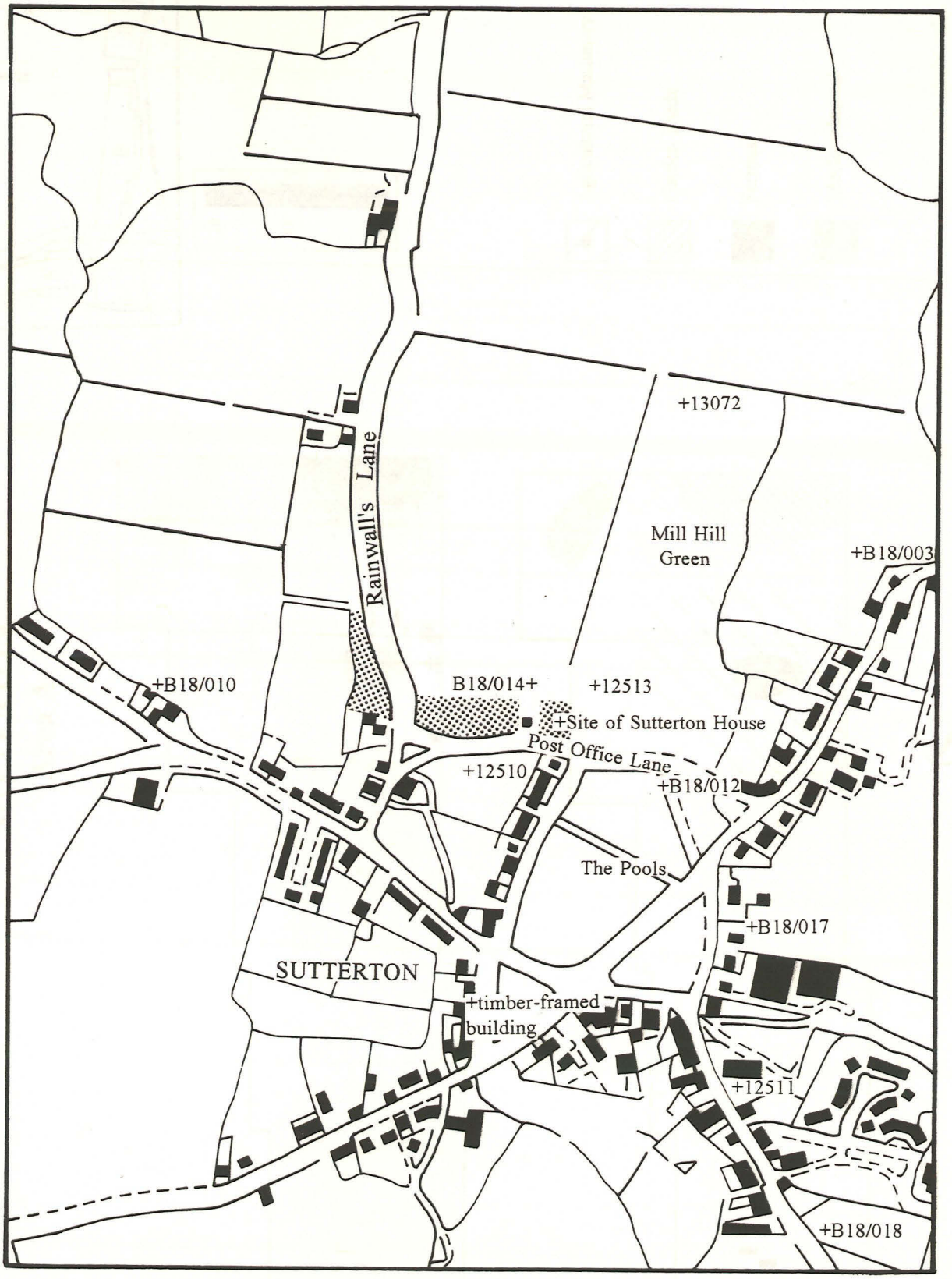


Fig. 1 GENERAL LOCATION PLAN

Fig. 2 SITE LOCATION PLAN



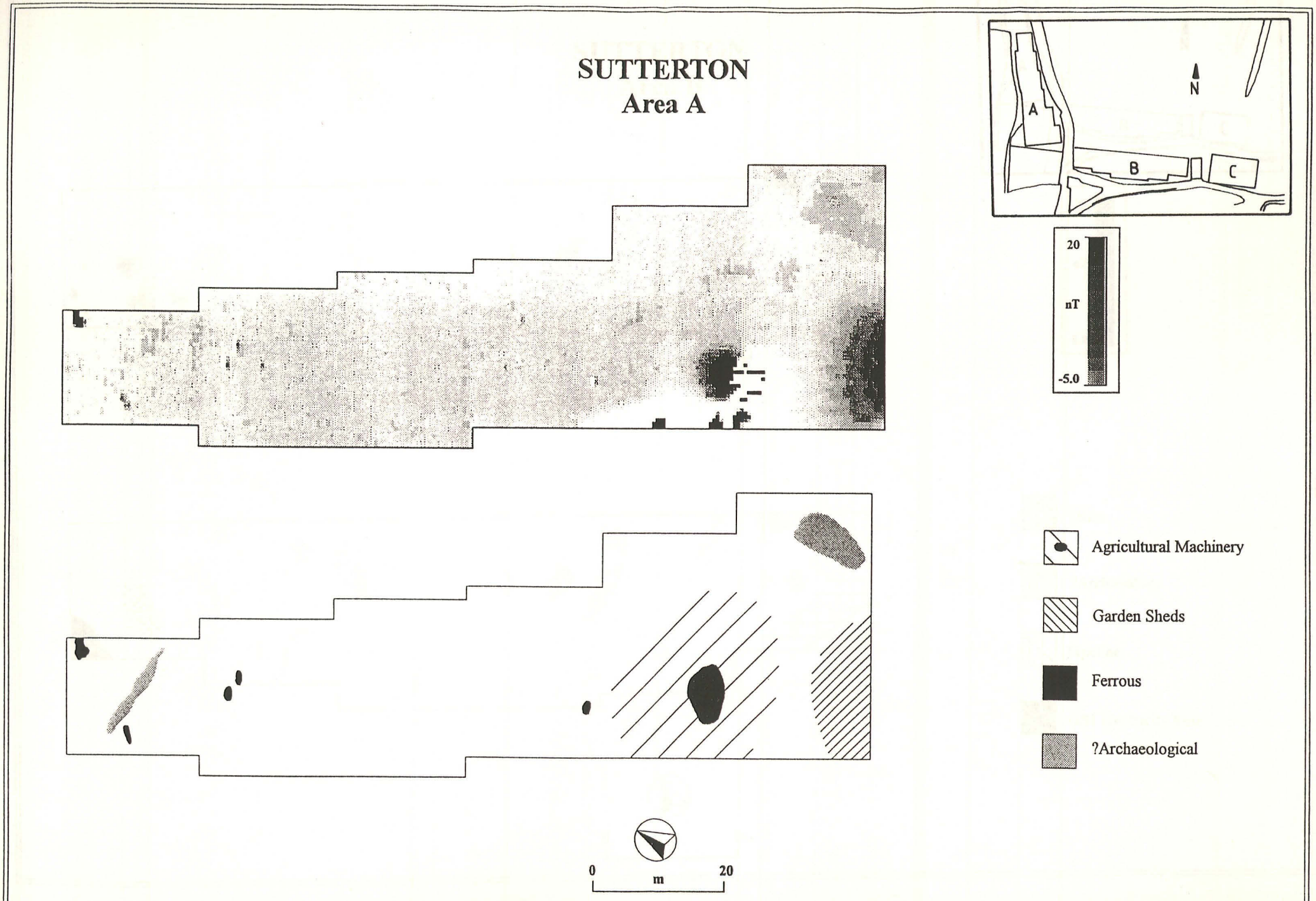
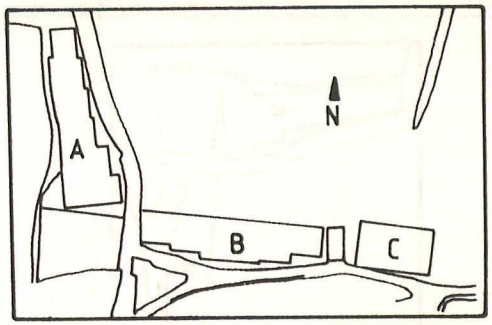
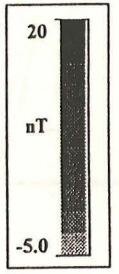
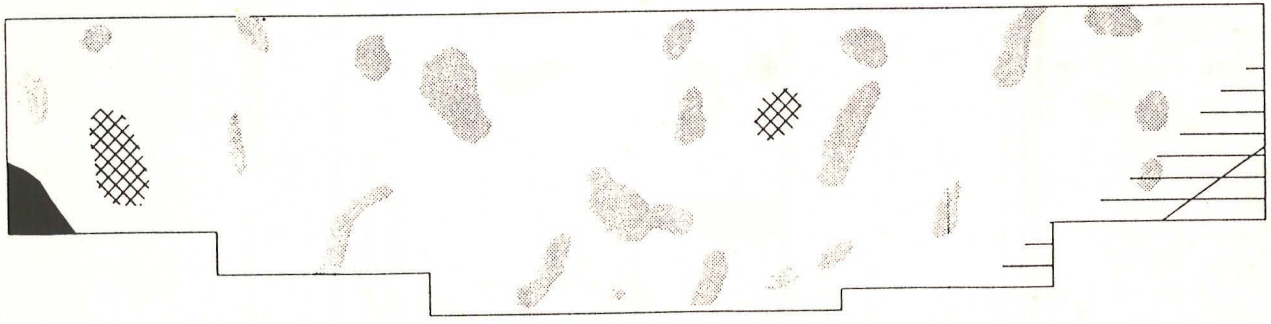


Fig. 3 GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY AREA A, RESULTS AND INTERPRETATION

SUTTERTON
Area B







?Kiln

?Archaeology

Pipeline

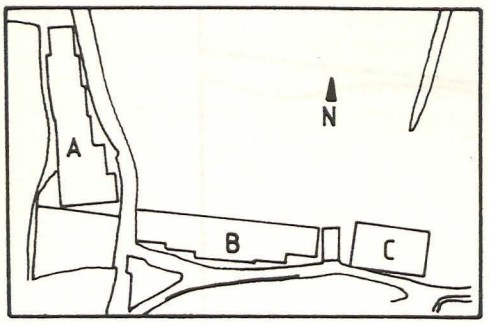
O/H Electricity Pole

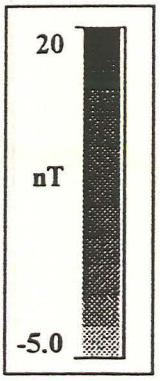
0 m 20

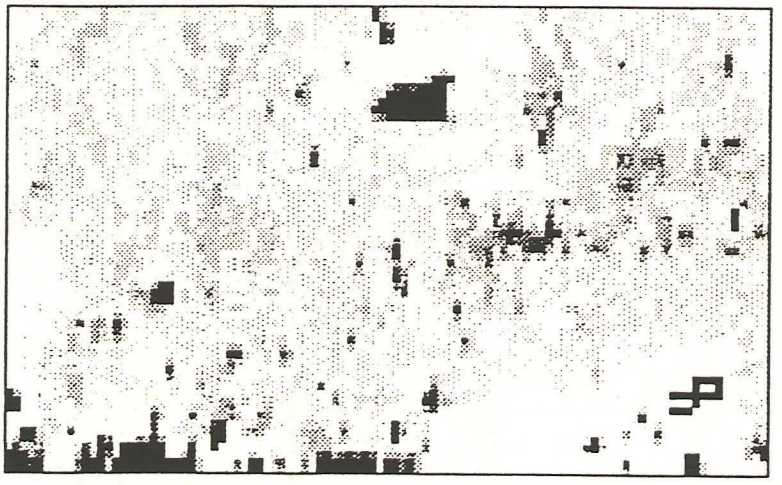
Fig. 4 GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY AREA B, RESULTS AND INTERPRETATION

Fig. 5 GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY AREA C, RESULTS AND INTERPRETATION

SUTTERTON
Area C







?Kiln

?Archaeology

Ferrous

Pipeline

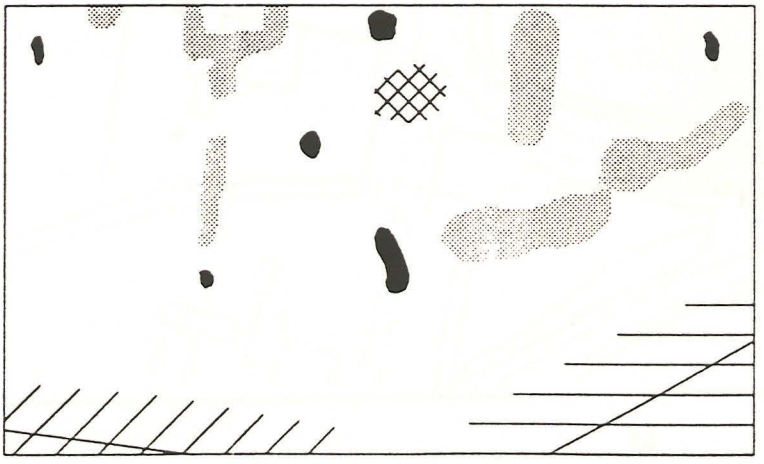


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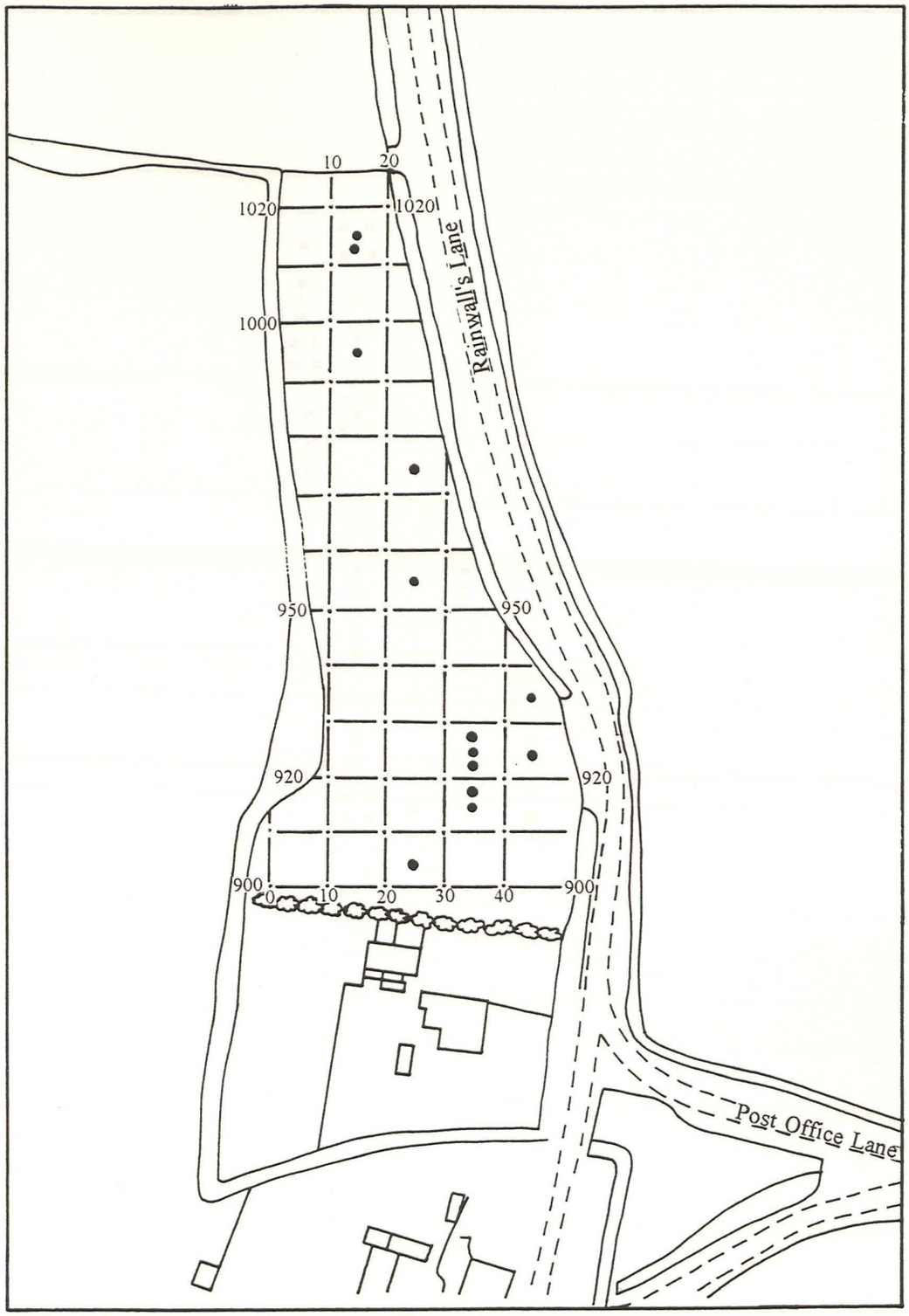
Fig. 6 FIELDWALKING RESULTS, Area A:
DISTRIBUTION OF MEDIEVAL ARTEFACTS

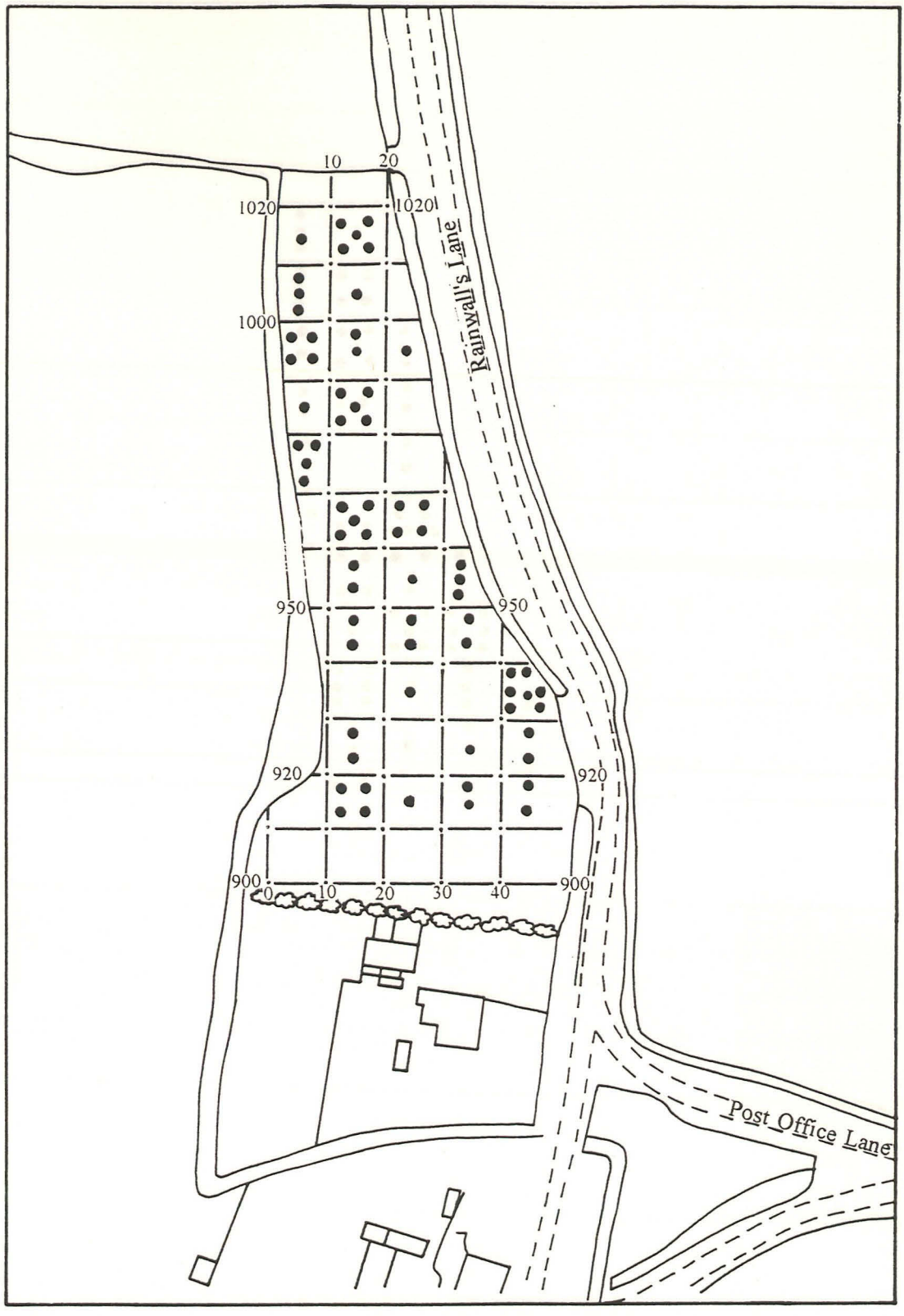


40 FIELDWALKING GRID, EASTINGS

920 FIELDWALKING GRID, NORTHINGS

• RECORDED ARTEFACT

Fig. 7 FIELDWALKING RESULTS, Area A:
DISTRIBUTION OF POST-MEDIEVAL ARTEFACTS



0 100m

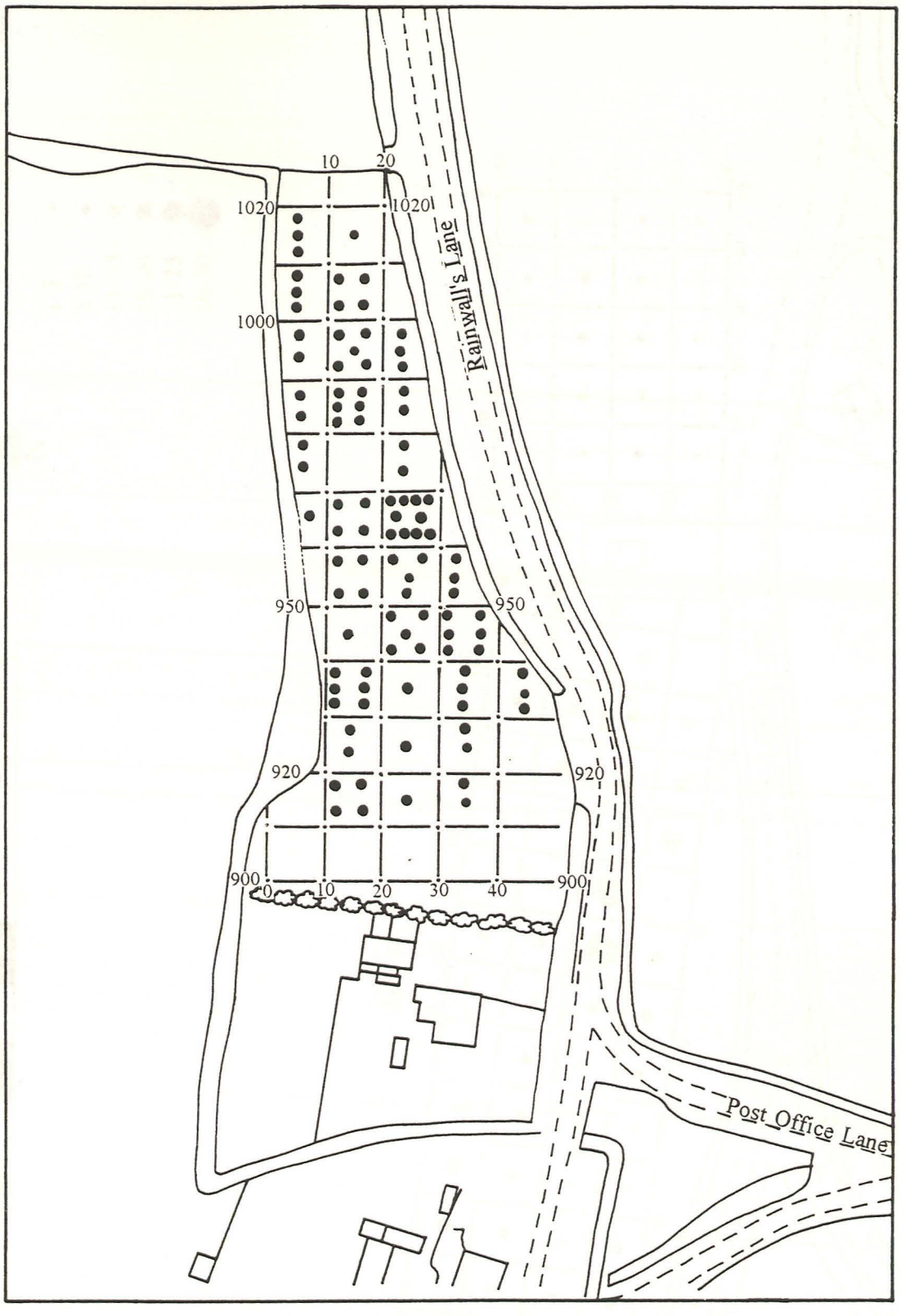
N

40 FIELDWALKING GRID, EASTINGS

920 FIELDWALKING GRID, NORTHINGS

• RECORDED ARTEFACT

Fig. 8 FIELDWALKING RESULTS, Area A:
DISTRIBUTION OF CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL



0 100m

N

40 FIELDWALKING GRID, EASTINGS

920 FIELDWALKING GRID, NORTHINGS

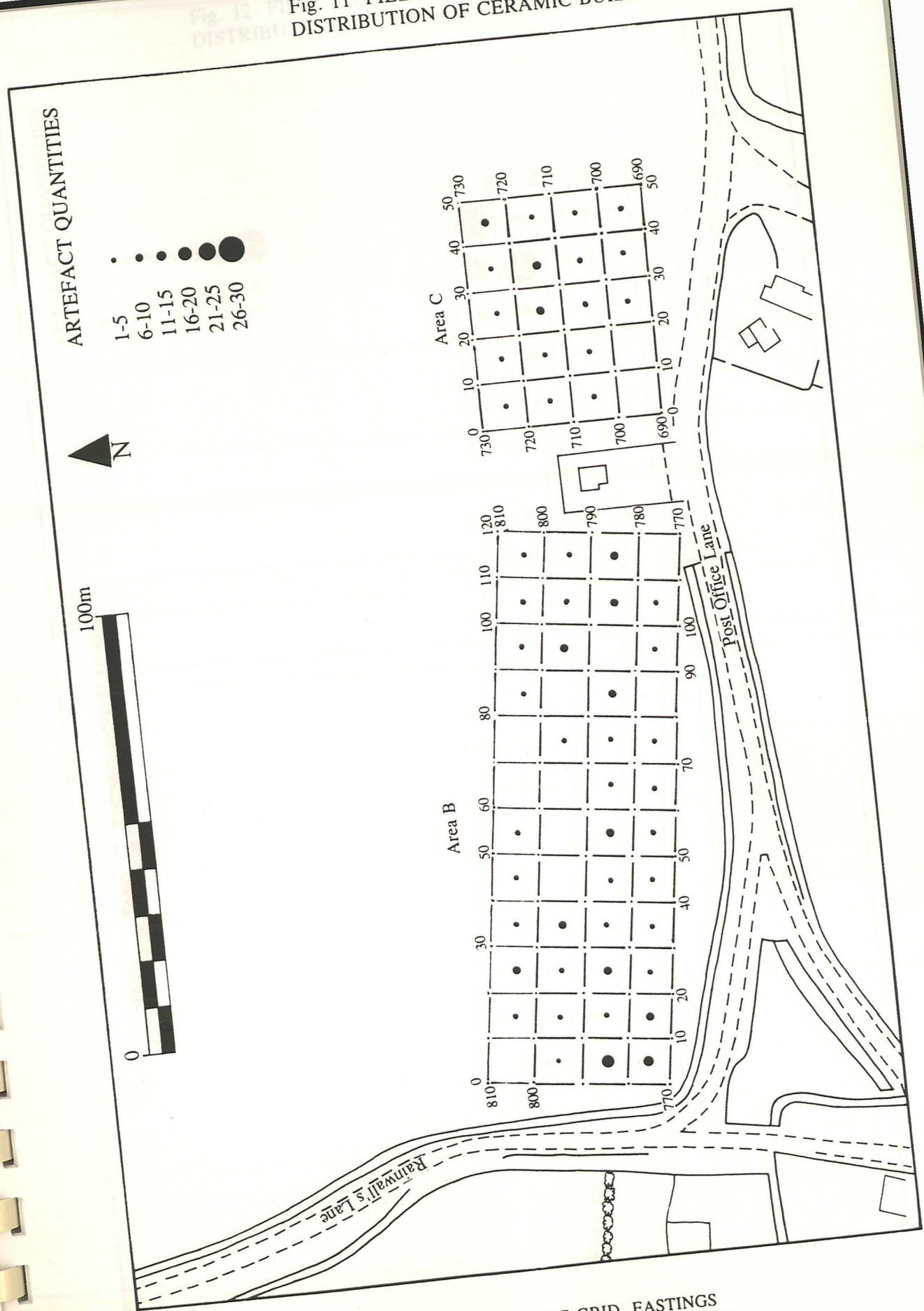
• RECORDED ARTEFACT

Fig. 9 FIELDWALKING RESULTS, Areas B and C: DISTRIBUTION OF MEDIEVAL ARTEFACTS

40 FIELDWALKING GRID, EASTINGS
770 FIELDWALKING GRID, NORTHINGS

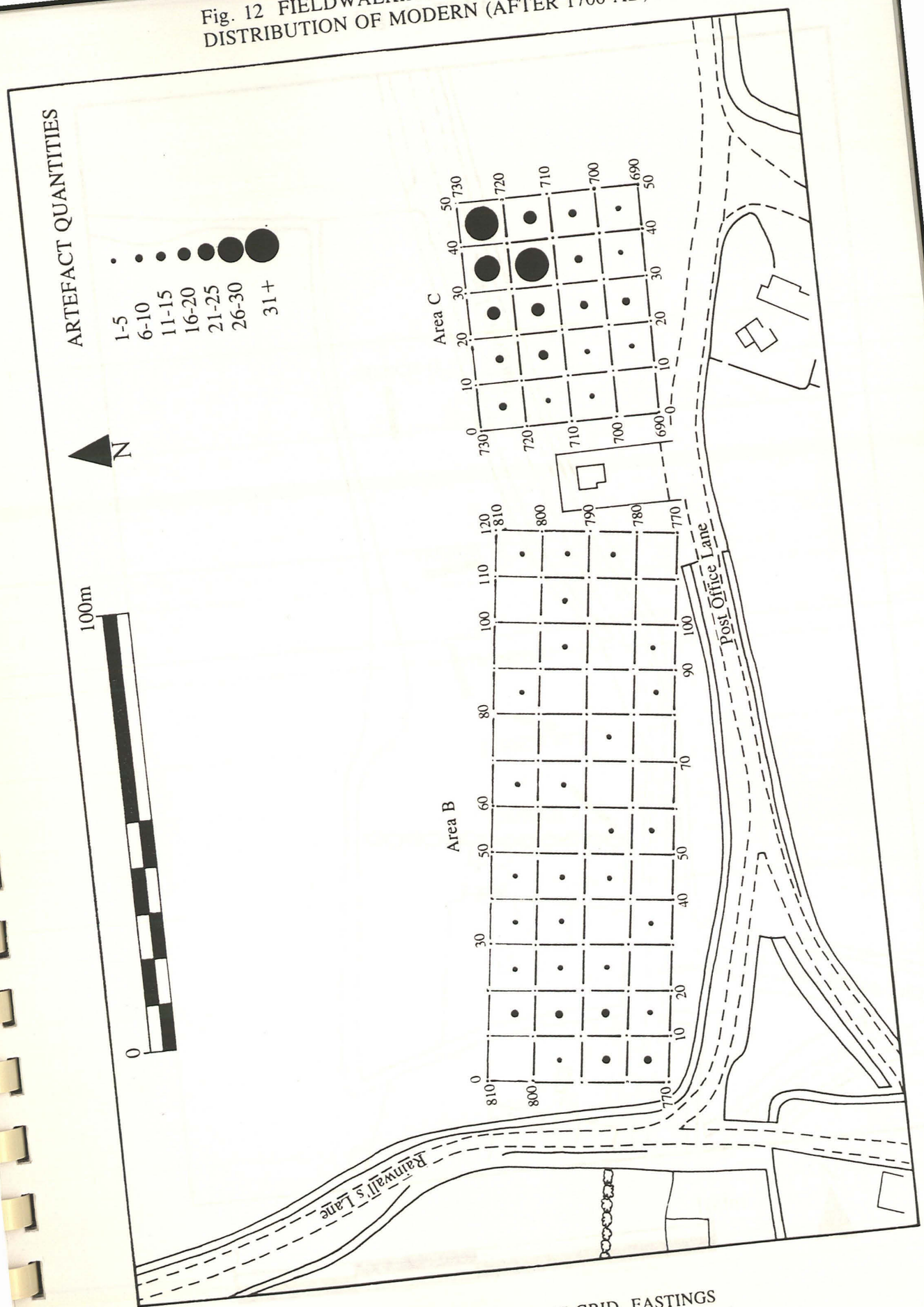
Fig. 10 FIELDWALKING RESULTS, Areas B and C:
DISTRIBUTION OF POST-MEDIEVAL ARTEFACTS

Fig. 11 FIELDWALKING RESULTS, Areas B and C:
DISTRIBUTION OF CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL



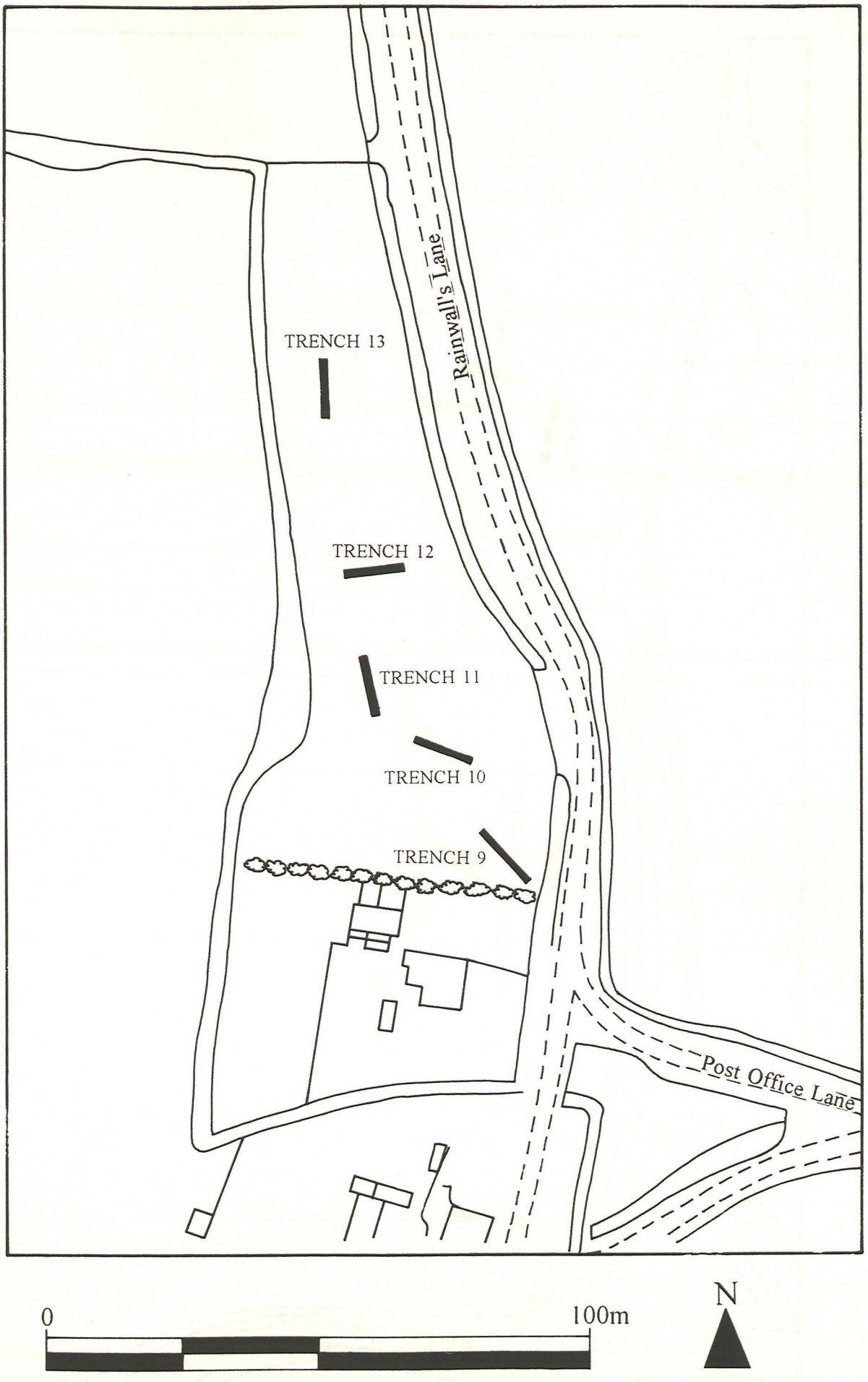
40 FIELDWALKING GRID, EASTINGS
770 FIELDWALKING GRID, NORTHINGS

Fig. 12 FIELDWALKING RESULTS, Areas B and C:
DISTRIBUTION OF MODERN (AFTER 1700 AD) ARTEFACTS



40 FIELDWALKING GRID, EASTINGS
770 FIELDWALKING GRID, NORTHINGS

Fig. 13 TRENCH LOCATION PLAN, Area A



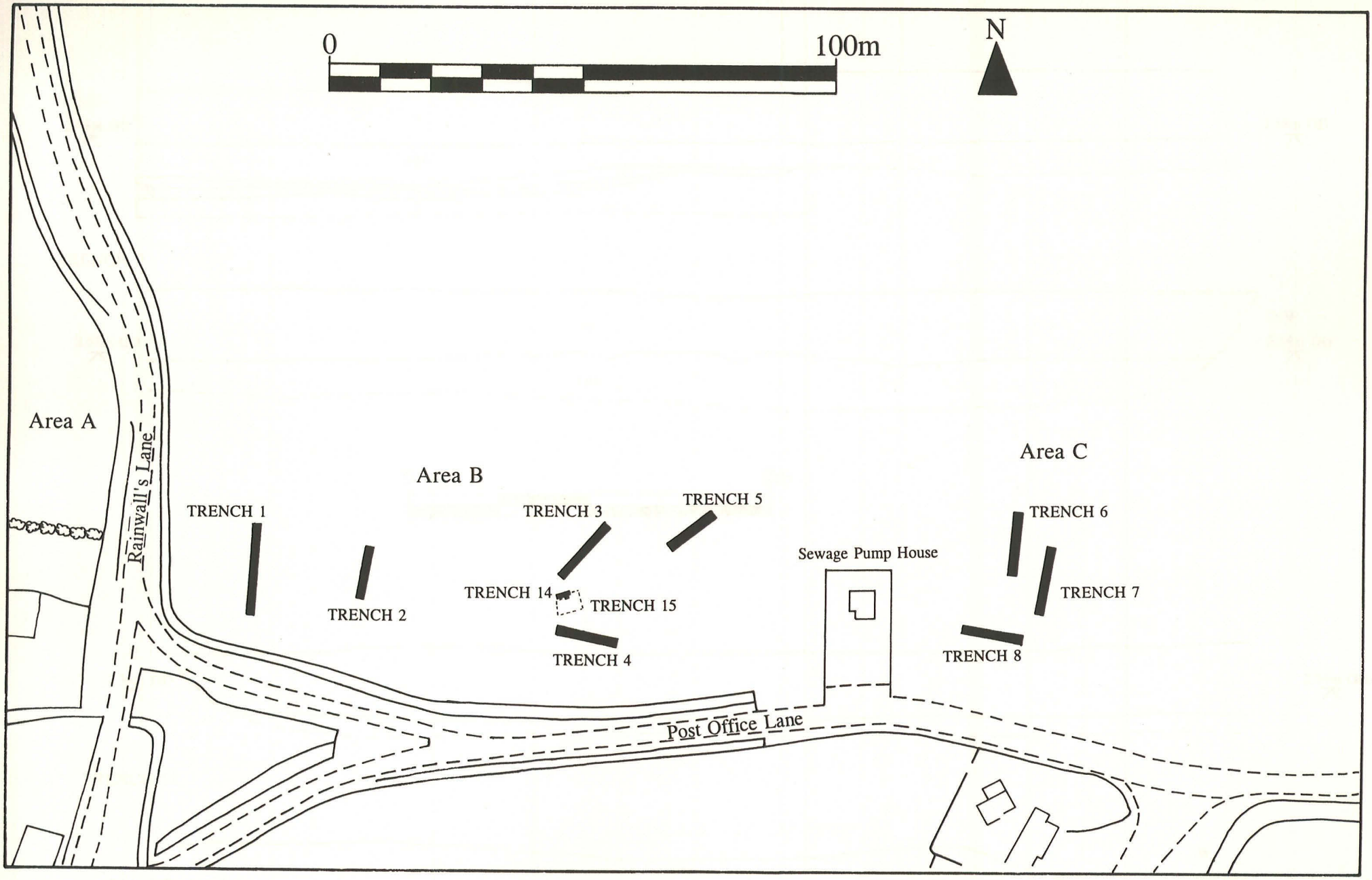


Fig. 14 TRENCH LOCATION PLAN, Areas B and C

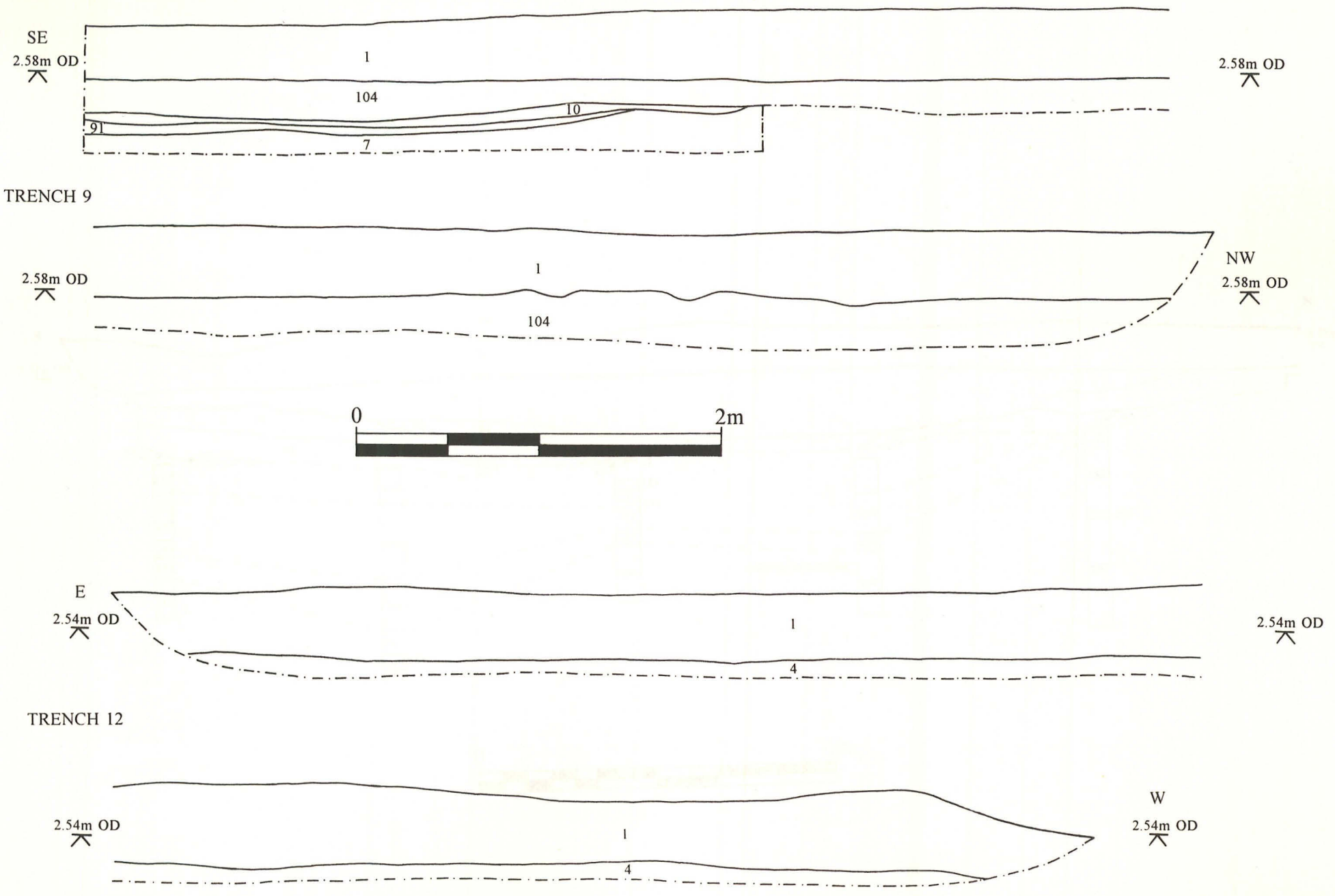


Fig. 15 SECTIONS OF TRENCHES 9 AND 12

Fig. 16 TRENCH 1 SECTION,
SHOWING BOREHOLE TRANSECT

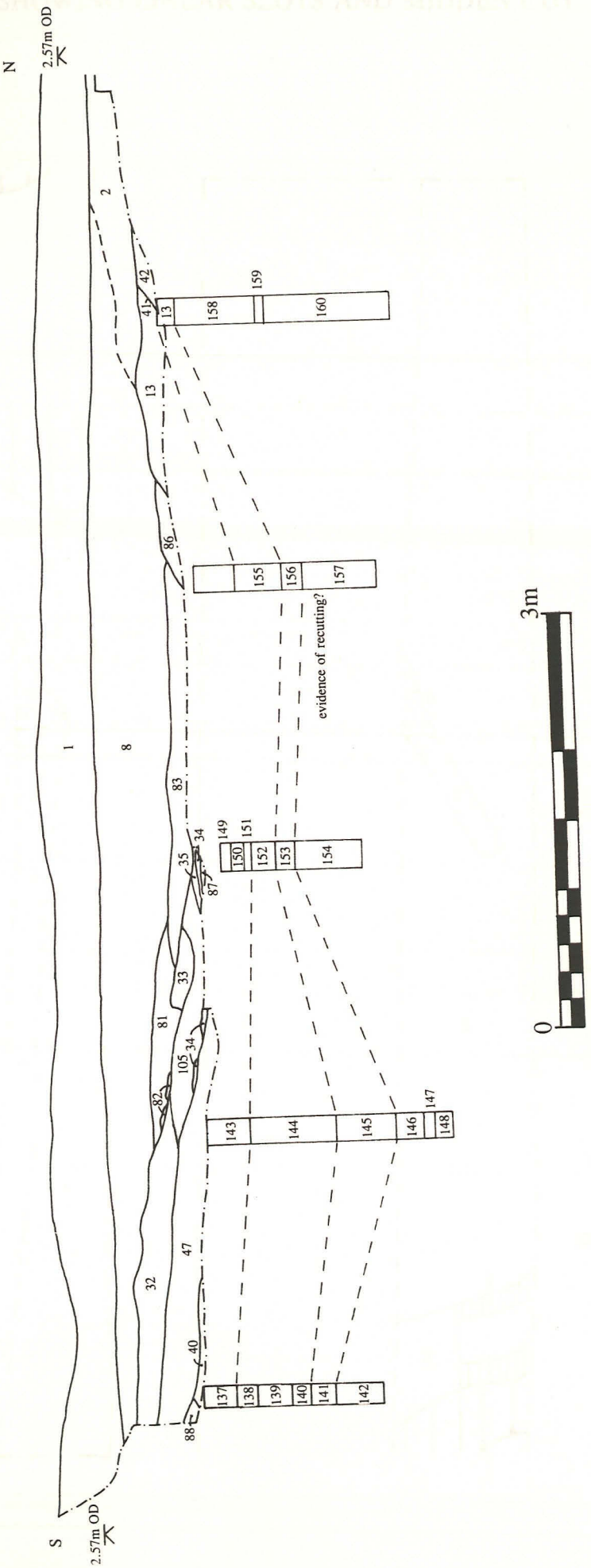
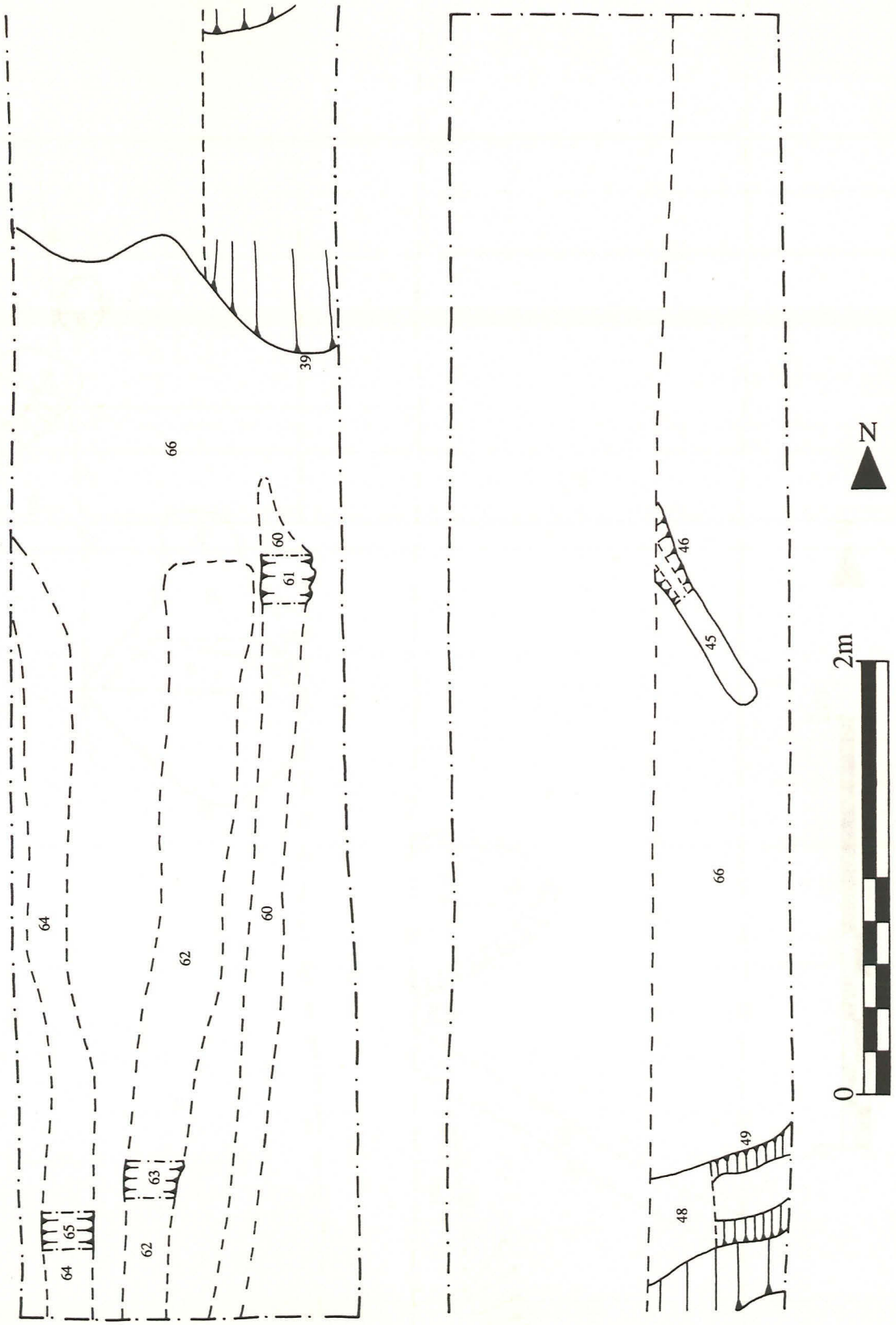


Fig. 17 TRENCH 6 PLAN,
SHOWING LINEAR SLOTS AND MIDDEN CUT



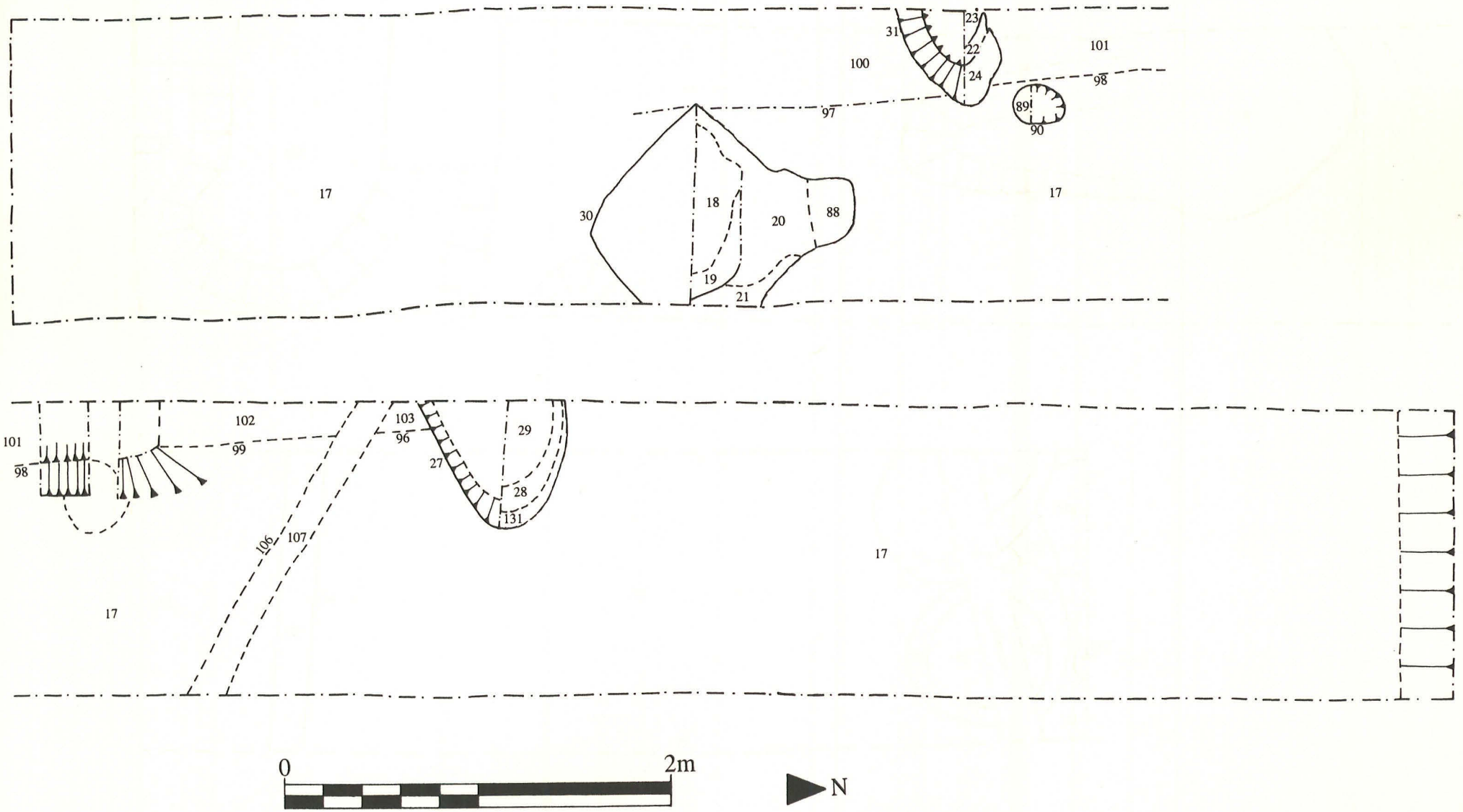


Fig. 18 TRENCH 7 PLAN

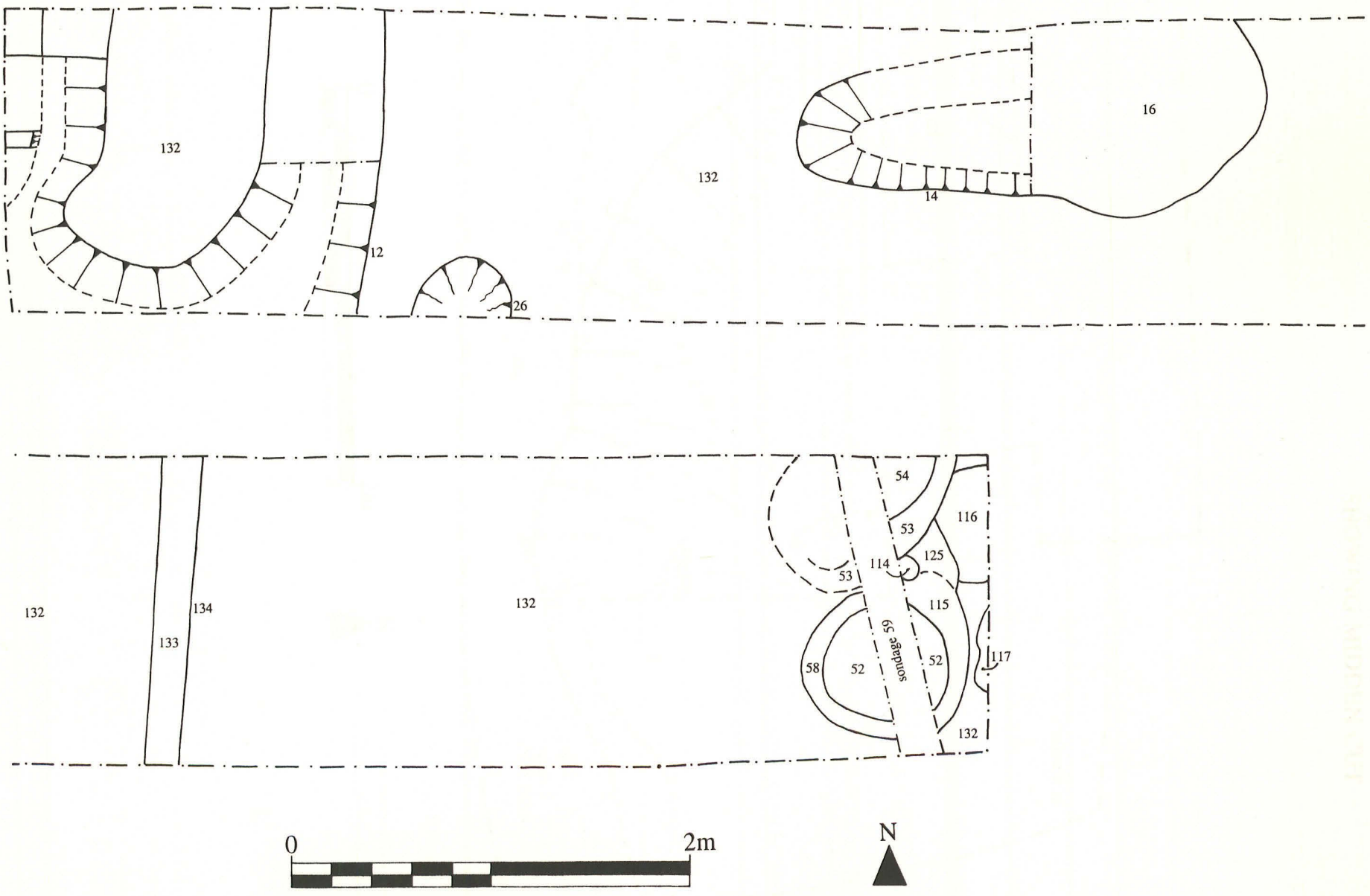


Fig. 19 TRENCH 8 PLAN

Fig. 20 TRENCHES 14 AND 15, SHOWING MIDDEN CUT

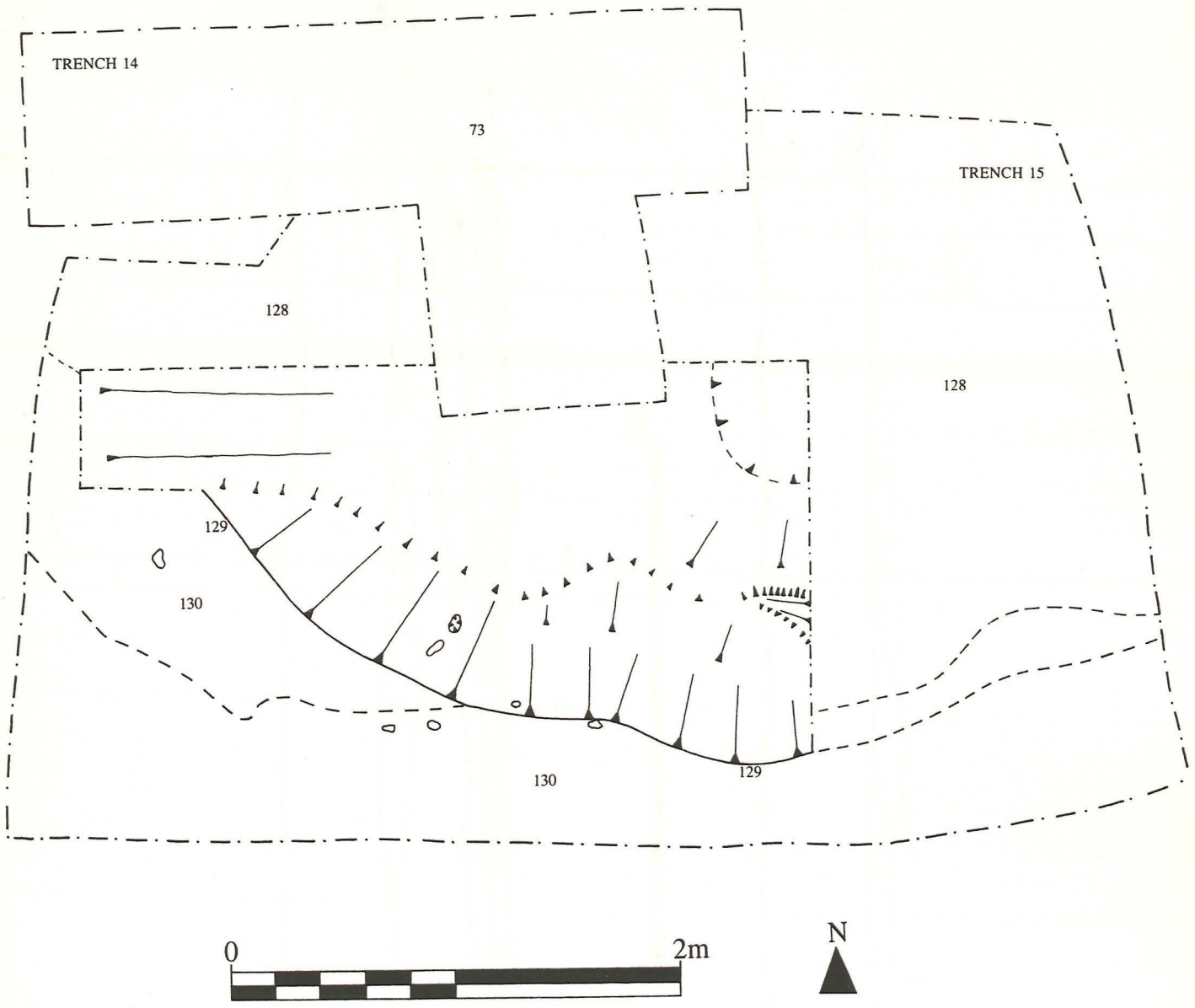
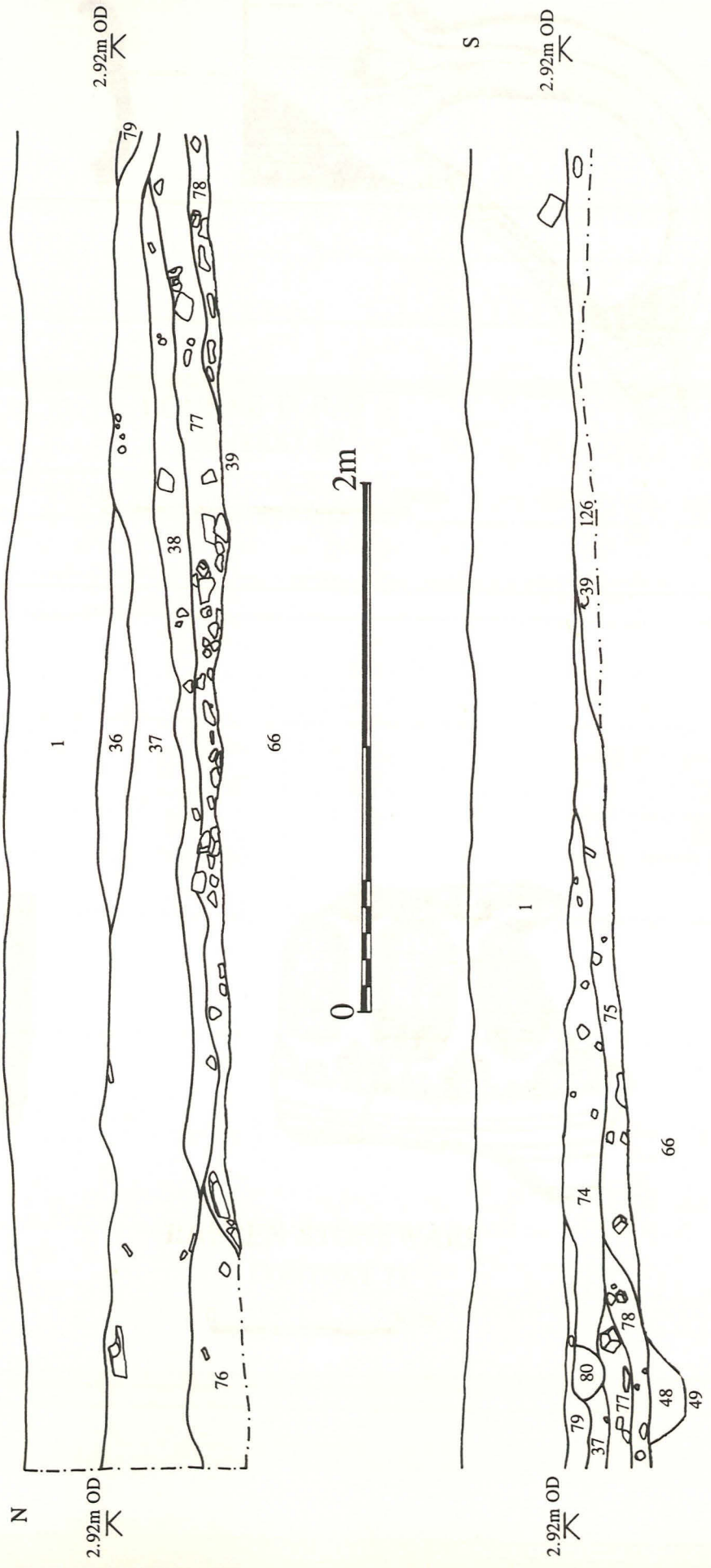
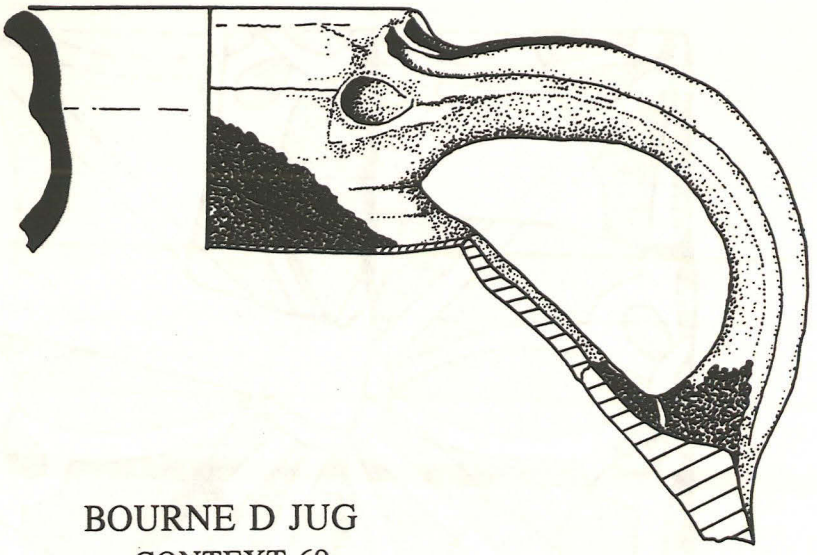


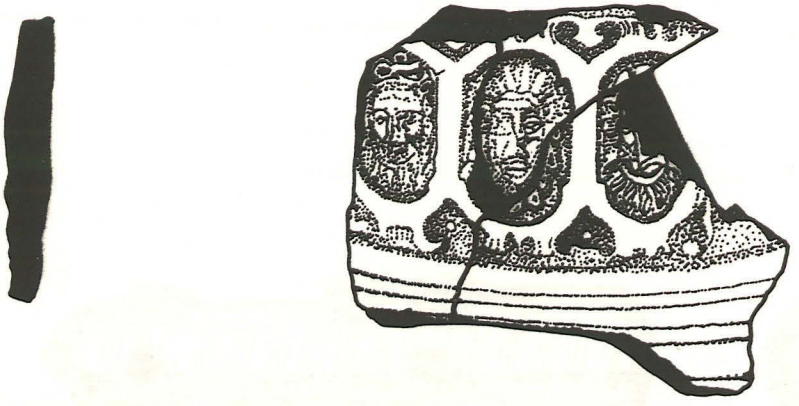
Fig. 21 SECTION OF TRENCH 6,
SHOWING MIDDEN DEPOSITS





BOURNE D JUG
CONTEXT 69

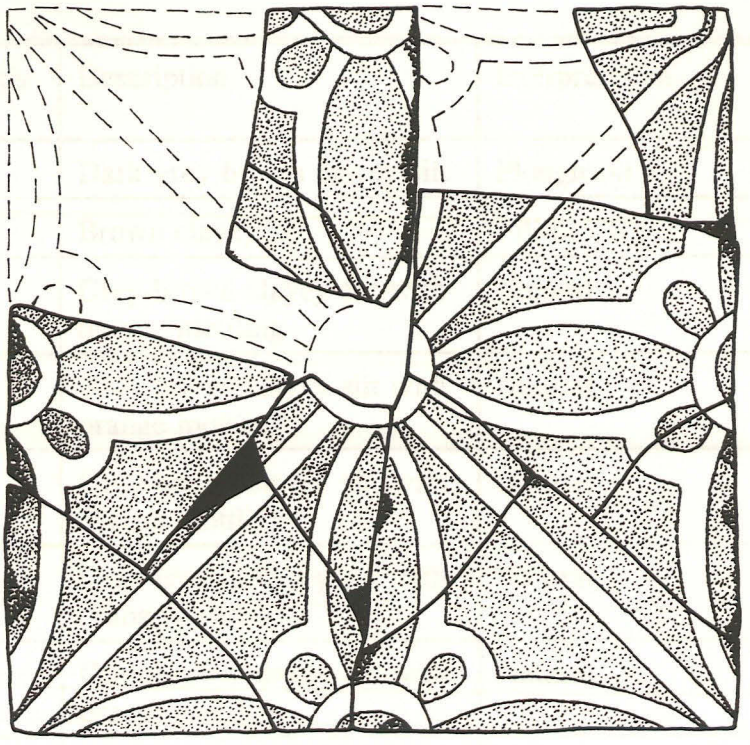
0 10cms



RAEREN STONEWARE
CONTEXT 77

0 3cms

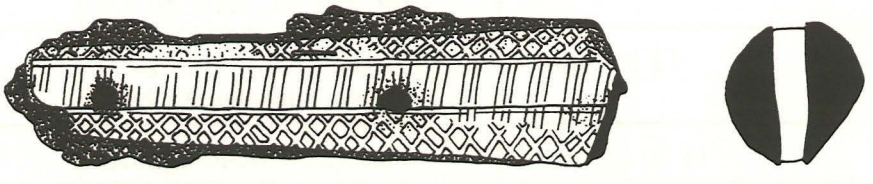
Fig. 23 FINDS - TILE and KNIFE HANDLE



MALLING TILE

CONTEXT 77

0 5cms



DECORATED BONE KNIFE HANDLE

FIELDWALKING GRID SQUARE 40/710

0 2cms

APPENDIX 1

CONTEXT SUMMARY

Context Number	Trench	Description	Interpretation
1	All	Dark grey-brown clayey silt	Ploughsoil
2	1	Brown clayey silt	Fill of 41
3	13	Grey-brown clayey silt with orange mottling	Natural
4	12	Grey-brown clayey silt with orange mottling	Natural
5	11	Grey-brown clayey silt with orange mottling	Natural
6	10	Grey-brown clayey silt with orange mottling	Natural
7	9	Grey-brown clayey silt with orange mottling	Natural
8	1	Grey-brown clayey silt with frequent coal and charcoal fragments	Fill of 41
9	1	Large cut feature, c. 8m wide, over 0.9m deep	Dyke (same as 41)
10	9	Grey-brown clayey silt with orange mottling	Natural
11	8	Black silty clay with abundant charcoal and shells	Fill of 12
12	8	U-shaped shallow cut	Drain
13	1	Brown-grey clayey silt	Fill of 41
14	8	Oval cut, 2.35m long, 0.77m wide, 0.14m deep	Shallow pit?
15	8	Grey silty sandy clay, 30mm thick, length and width as 11	Lining of 11
16	8	Orange-brown clay-sand	Final fill of 11
17	7	Light brown clay	Occupation layer
18	7	Charcoal layer	Fill of 30, burning residues
19	7	Brown clay	Fill of 30

20	7	Charcoal layer	Fill of 30, burning residues
21	7	Brown-red clay	Earliest fill of 30, burnt layer
22	7	Charcoal layer	Fill of 31, burning residues
23	7	Yellow-red clay	Fill of 31, burnt layer
24	7	Brown-red clay	Fill of 31, burnt layer
25	8	Grey silty sandy clay	Fill of 26
26	8	Round (?) cut, 0.55m across, 100mm deep	Cut feature
27	7	Oval cut, 0.76m x 0.7m in area, 0.22m deep	Pit?
28	7	Grey-brown silt, containing pot and bone	Fill of 27
29	7	Red-brown layer	Fill of 27
30	7	Diamond-shaped cut, 1.02m x 1.4m in area, 0.18m deep	Cut feature - fire pit
31	7	Oval cut, 0.4m across, 50mm deep	Cut feature - fire pit
32	1	Grey-brown clayey silt	Fill of 41
33	1	Dark grey clay silt with frequent charcoal flecks	Fill of 41
34	1	Black ash and charcoal	Fill of 41
35	1	Red-brown clay silt	Fill of 41
36	6	Dark brown-grey clay silt with occasional ceramic fragments.	Fill of 39
37	6	Dark grey clay silt with frequent charcoal fragments and occasional clay patches	Fill of 39
38	6	Yellow brown clay silt with occasional charcoal and mortar flecks	Fill of 39
39	6	Cut. 0.54m deep other dimensions unknown	? Refuse pit

40	1	Black, with occasional reddish brown flecks, silty clay	Fill of 9
41	1	Cut, shape in plan unclear, 9.00m wide and 0.80m deep as exposed	Function unclear
42	1	Grey mid brown slightly reddish clay silt with occasional charcoal flecks and cockle shells	subsoil
43		NOT USED	
44		NOT USED	
45	6	Grey brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and brick fragments	Fill of 46
46	6	Linear cut,0.93m long 0.23m wide and 30mm deep as exposed	Foundation trench
47	1	Brown to dark grey clay silt	
48	6	Light green brown clay silt with occasional charcoal and brick flecks	Fill of 49
49	6	Linear cut 0.66 long, 0.32m wide and 0.13m deep as exposed	Foundation trench
50	5	Light brown yellow clay silt	Natural deposit
51	3	Yellow brown clay silt	Subsoil
52	8	Red orange silt sand	Fill of 59
53	8	Dark red brown clay	Fill of 59
54	8	Yellow brown clay	Fill of 59
55	8	Dark brown sandy clay with occasional patches of pink-red	Fill of 59
56	8	Red brown sand clay	Fill of 59
57	8	Yellow brown clay silt	Fill of 59
58	8	Grey brown clay silt	Fill of 59
59	8	Cut, 1.42m long	Sondage

60	6	Grey silt cay with occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of 61
61	6	Cut, linear 4.00m long 0.28m wide and 50mm deep	Function unclear
62	6	Mid grey clay silt with occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of 63
63	6	Cut, linear 4.00m long 0.32m wide and 40mm deep	Function unclear
64	6	Mid grey silt clay with occasional limestone fragments	Fill of 65
65	6	Cut, linear 4.00m long 0.29m wide and 30mm deep	Function unclear
66	6	Reddish yellow clay silt with occasional iron panning	Natural deposit
67	14	Brown clay silt with occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of 129
68	14	Light yellow brown clay silt with very occasional charcoal flecks	Subsoil
69	14	Brown silt with occasional charcoal flecks and shell	Subsoil
70	14	Light brown yellow clay silt	Natural deposit
71	14	Light yellow brown silt with occasional bone fragments and charcoal flecks	Subsoil
72	14	Brown yellow clay silt	Subsoil
73	14	Light yellow brown silt	Subsoil
74	6	Dark grey clay silt with frequent charcoal flecks	Fill of 39
75	6	Green grey clay silt with occasional charcoal and limestone fragments	Fill of 39
76	6	Light brown grey clay silt with moderate charcoal flecks and occasional ceramic fragments	Fill of 39

77	6	Grey clay silt with moderate charcoal flecks and ceramic debris	Fill of 39
78	6	Green grey clay silt with occasional brick and bone fragments	Fill of 39
79	6	Grey brown clay silt with moderate charcoal flecks and occasional mortar flecks	Fill of 39
80	6	Green grey clay silt with occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of 39
81	1	Dark grey -mid brown clay silt with moderate charcoal flecks	Fill of 41/9
82	1	Black ash and charcoal	Fill of 41/9
83	1	Dark grey - mid grey clay silt with moderate charcoal flecks and occasional burnt brick fragments	Fill of 41/9
84	1	Brown with red brown mottle clay silt with occasional charcoal flecks and bone fragments	Fill of 41/9
85	7	Yellow sand	Deposit
86	1	Dark grey clay silt with moderate charcoal flecks	Fill of 41/9
87	1	Deposit below water table therefore not recordable, however broadly similar to 47	Fill of 41/9
88	1	Reddish brown sand silt with occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of 41/9
89	7	Grey -dark brown clay silt with charcoal	Fill of 90
90	7	Cut, oval 60mm deep 0.26m x 0.20m	Post hole
91	9	Light blue with brown mottle silt clay	Natural deposit
92	4	Light brown yellow silt	Subsoil

93	4	Yellow brown silt with occasional clay patches	Fill of 93
94	4	Cut, linear 0.50m wide and 0.20m deep	Gulley
95	2	Light yellow brown silt	Subsoil
96	7	Cut, linear 0.28m long and 0.18m wide	Function unclear
97	7	Cut, linear 1.20m long and 0.50m wide	Function unclear
98	7	Cut, linear 0.30m wide, unexcavated	Function unclear
99	7	Linear cut, Unexcavated	Function unclear
100	7	Reddish brown charcoal	Fill of 97
101	7	Light grey sandy silt, unexcavated	Fill of 98
102	7	Grey brown clay, unexcavated	Fill of 99
103	7	Grey brown clay, unexcavated	Fill of 96
104	9	Brown clay silt	Subsoil
105	1	Brown - dark grey clay silt with occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of 41/9
106	7	Cut, linear unexcavated	Function unclear
107	7	Dark brown silt clay, unexcavated	Fill of 106
108	7	Cut, not fully exposed, as seen 1.50m in diameter and 0.15m deep	Pit
109	8	Yellow brown clay sand with occasional pebbles	Subsoil
110	8	Grey brown with orange brown mottle silt clay with moderate charcoal flecks	Subsoil
111	8	Grey brown silt clay	Subsoil
112	8	Red brown sand silt	Deposit

113	8	Red brown clay silt with charcoal	Burning debris
114	8	Yellow brown clay	Natural deposit
115	8	Red brown clay	Natural deposit
116	8	Purple black clay silt and charcoal	Debris
117	8	Dark brown clay silt	Deposit
118	7	Mottled brown grey clay silt with moderate flecks of burnt clay	Fill of 108
119	7	Black silt with moderate flecks of burnt clay	Natural deposit
120	7	Reddish brown clay silt	Deposit
121	7	Brown grey clay silt occasional flecks of burnt clay	Fill of 108
122	7	Dark brown clay silt	Deposit
123	7	Grey brown clay silt with moderate charcoal flecks	Fill of 124
124	7	Cut, possibly circular 80mm in diameter and 0.10m deep	Stake hole
125	8	Orange red clay	Natural deposit
126	6	Yellow brown silt clay with occasional brick fragments and charcoal flecks	Deposit
127	7	Light brown silt clay	Deposit
128	15	Dark grey brown silty clay with frequent charcoal flecks and fragments of burnt clay	Fill of 129
129	15	Cut, not fully exposed but apparently oval 4.00m long and 2.10m wide	Pit
130	15	Light grey brown silt clay	Subsoil
131		NOT USED	
132		NOT USED	
133		NOT USED	
134	8	Cut, not excavated	? Land drain cut

135	5	Cut, not excavated	? Land drain cut
136	5	Cut, not excavated	? Land drain cut
137	1	Mid brown silt	Fill of 41
138	1	Yellow-brown silt	Fill of 41
139	1	Yellow-brown silt with charcoal flecks	Fill of 41
140	1	Mid brown silt	Fill of 41
141	1	Grey-mid brown silt	Fill of 41
142	1	Black organic clay	Fill of 41
143	1	Mid brown silt	Fill of 41
144	1	Mid brown silty clay	Fill of 41
145	1	Grey clayey silt	Fill of 41
146	1	Black organic clay	Fill of 41
147	1	Grey-brown clay	Fill of 41
148	1	Black organic clay	Fill of 41
149	1	Mixed clays	Fill of 41
150	1	Red-brown sandy clay	Fill of 41
151	1	Grey-brown silty clay	Fill of 41
152	1	Mid brown silty clay	Fill of 41
153	1	Grey silt	Fill of 41
154	1	Black organic clay	Fill of 41
155	1	Mid brown silt	Fill of 41
156	1	Grey silty clay	Fill of 41
157	1	Black organic clay	Fill of 41
158	1	Light brown silt	Natural
159	1	Light grey clay	Natural
160	1	Mid brown clay	Natural
161	1	Light brown silt	Natural

APPENDIX 2

Excavated Pottery
Hilary Healey

As with the ceramic assemblage recovered during the fieldwalking at the Sutterton sites, the pottery excavated from Rainwall's Lane and Post Office Lane presents a wide date range, though there is less material from before *c.* 1300.

A particularly interesting context is 77 (in Trench 6), which contains a concentration of sherds of 17th century date, together with clay pipe fragments and bottle glass of the same period. However, the context also includes 100 sherds of late eighteenth to twentieth century black glazed and Midlands Purple wares, with three sherds of Staffordshire iron glazed and Nottingham stoneware of about the same date range. Additionally, the context contained 37 fragments of undated brick.

Out of the remaining total of 302 sherds, 153 are of local green glazed earthenware. This type of pottery was first made (13th to 16th centuries) at Toynton All Saints (Healey 1968, 31-2) , later (16th to 17th century) at Old Bolinbroke (Healey and Rudkin 1971) and in the 1620s at Boston (White 1976). Other, though not so closely dated, English post-medieval fabrics include Surrey White wares, Staffordshire Slipware, Tin-Glazed Earthenware and Nottingham Stoneware. There are also eleven imported sherds of Low Countries or German origin. Amongst these is an unusual, almost complete tile of manganese speckled tinglaze with simple geometric design (Fig. 23); this is a type formerly known as 'Malling ware', from a site in Kent, but now believed to be from the Low Countries (Hurst *et al.* 1986, 126). More common is Low Countries Red Ware, of which there are 28 sherds, with one sherd of North Holland type slip decoration. The German collection includes coloured and white Westerwald wares and part of a Raeren jug with a relief of applied faces (Fig. 22). A sherd of Westerwald stoneware is decorated with the representation of a lion. Identical motifs have been recorded on chamber-pots found in Norwich (Jennings 1981, 125; Fig. 51, nos. 850, 851).

Context 69 contained the handle and rim of two separate vessels, one a Toynton All Saints jug, the other a Bourne D jug (Fig. 22). This would make the vessels contemporary, that is, Bourne D ware may start in the 15th century, as long suspected, and the Toynton jug is probably of that date rather than the sixteeenth century.

Dating
Despite the 25% modern component, the remaining material forms a fairly homogeneous collection. The Toynton types include no characteristic pre-15th century sherds, and may well be of 16th or 17th century date. Other fabrics, such as the Cistercian type black glazed wares, the Bourne D ware and Low Countries Red Wares are manufactured over a long period which include the seventeenth century. Imports are chiefly of seventeenth century date. The glass wine bottle fragments are of typical seventeenth century form, and the clay pipe bowls are in the date range 1660-1690. Three small sherds are of uncertain date, possibly into the 18th century.

Discussion
Context 77 has a relatively closely dated sevententh century content, despite the contamination by modern black glazed wares and a few other sherds. It might be suggested that the original deposit was

disturbed at a later stage. The presence of imported material could imply a relatively high standard of living (nearby Boston being an entry point for imports, and having a wide range of such exotica itself). It is reasonable to deduce that the group is related to later seventeenth century occupancy of Sutterton House, which possessed a reliable date of 1609 and was a good quality farmhouse of the period.

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APPENDIX 3

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

REPORT ON A VISIT TO EXCAVATION OF EVALUATION TRENCHES AT SUTTERTON, LINCS. (NGR: TF282359) 16/3/94

Dr HELEN C M KEELEY, BSc, DIC, MIBIOL, CBIOL, FRGS, MIPSS

Excavations of trial trenches were carried out by Archaeological Project Services to evaluate the archaeological potential of an area thought to contain medieval and later occupation (based on documentary evidence and field-walking, which produced a heavy scatter of 14-17th century pottery). Geophysical survey had detected a large anomaly which could represent a kiln, but no evidence of this had yet been found at the time of visiting the excavation.

The soils in this area are described by the Soil Survey as Typical Alluvial Gleys of the Tanvats Association and Calcareous Alluvial Gleys of the Agne Association.

A number of the excavated trenches were examined to evaluate the potential of the site to provide environmental evidence:

Trench 14, which had been located to investigate an anomaly detected by the geophysical survey, comprised three main deposits - the plough soil (approximately 50cms deep) overlay a fine sandy silt loam (approximately 20cms deep) containing large black lumps of carbonised material, which was a mixture of charcoal and coal/coke. At the base was a lighter coloured fine sandy clay loam. This trench showed a typical soil profile; it may have been the carbonised remains of fuel which produced the geophysical anomaly.

Trench 1 was also located to investigate an anomaly recorded in the geophysical survey and the revealed feature was thought to be a ditch, possibly a section through an old field dyke. Below the plough soil was a deposit (typical ditch profile) of 'silt' layers of similar texture to that in Trench 14, mixed with large quantities of black carbonised material, pot, animal bone and mollusc shells (cockle and mussel) which were probably dumped in the ditch. This was underlain by lighter coloured material, as in Trench 14, but containing patches of reddish coarse sandy material. The reddish colour was caused by the presence of oxidised iron. It was not clear if these represented natural variation in the subsoil or decomposed brick fragments. The profile showed intence earthworm activity throughout, which could have caused some mixing of the deposits. No waterlogged materials were present but it was recommended that bulk samples should be collected of the 'rubbish' deposits in the ditch and retained for examination if required.

Trench 6 contained occupation debris from Medieval through to recent, including animal bone. Apart from a possible earlier feature of an insubstantial building, some of the features were thought to result from the demolition of cottages about 25 years ago, which activity had generated possible marks of a bulldozer scraper at the base of the ploughsoil and had also affected a shallow depression containing rubbish. The underlying subsoil, which was heavily compacted, had a greenish tinge and appeared to be more gleyed than elsewhere on the site. This was probably the result

of a combination of high phosphate leaching from the overlying rubbish and reducing conditions due to soil compaction, which may have been caused by heavy machinery during the demolition.

Trench 7 showed areas of burning but this did not appear to have been prolonged, as would be expected in an industrial process. They may have resulted from bonfires.

Trench 8 included a thin occupation/rubbish deposit containing charcoal (60%) and shells (40%), as well as Medieval pottery (green glazed ware), which was overlain by silt deposit. The latter may represent an inundation known to have occurred around the 15/16th century, as a result of which the underlying feature appears to have been truncated. It was recommended that a bulk sample of the feature should be collected and that the level of the silt deposit be recorded relative to Ordnance Datum.

General Comments

Although the water table was encountered in Trench 1, no waterlogged deposits were excavated. Some of the occupation deposits were quite rich in charcoal, animal bones and shells. At this evaluation stage, bulk samples should be collected of these deposits (where dating is secure) and retained for examination if further assessment is required. It is also worth recording the levels of 'silt'/inundation layers in relation to Ordnance Datum for possible collation into overall records for the Fens. This information could be enhanced if further excavation is undertaken at the site.

APPENDIX 4

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

156	Context records
11	Photographic records
45	Scale drawings
1	Stratigraphic matrix
9	Boxes of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Sleaford
Lincolnshire
NG34 9RW

City and County Museum, Lincoln Accession Number: 52.94

APPENDIX 5

Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling Ancient Monuments - Extract from *Archaeology and Planning* DoE Planning Policy Guidance note 16, November 1990

The following criteria (which are not in any order of ranking), are used for assessing the national importance of an ancient monument and considering whether scheduling is appropriate. The criteria should not however be regarded as definitive; rather they are indicators which contribute to a wider judgement based on the individual circumstances of a case.

i *Period*: all types of monuments that characterise a category or period should be considered for preservation.

ii *Rarity*: there are some monument categories which in certain periods are so scarce that all surviving examples which retain some archaeological potential should be preserved. In general, however, a selection must be made which portrays the typical and commonplace as well as the rare. This process should take account of all aspects of the distribution of a particular class of monument, both in a national and regional context.

iii *Documentation*: the significance of a monument may be enhanced by the existence of records of previous investigation or, in the case of more recent monuments, by the supporting evidence of contemporary written records.

iv *Group value*: the value of a single monument (such as a field system) may be greatly enhanced by its association with related contemporary monuments (such as a settlement or cemetery) or with monuments of different periods. In some cases, it is preferable to protect the complete group of monuments, including associated and adjacent land, rather than to protect isolated monuments within the group.

v *Survival/Condition*: the survival of a monument's archaeological potential both above and below ground is a particularly important consideration and should be assessed in relation to its present condition and surviving features.

vi *Fragility/Vulnerability*: highly important archaeological evidence from some field monuments can be destroyed by a single ploughing or unsympathetic treatment; vulnerable monuments of this nature would particularly benefit from the statutory protection that scheduling confers. There are also existing standing structures of particular form or complexity whose value can again be severely reduced by neglect or careless treatment and which are similarly well suited by scheduled monument protection, even if these structures are already listed buildings.

vii *Diversity*: some monuments may be selected for scheduling because they possess a combination of high quality features, others because of a single important attribute.

viii *Potential*: on occasion, the nature of the evidence cannot be specified precisely but it may still be possible to document reasons anticipating its existence and importance and so to demonstrate the justification for scheduling. This is usually confined to sites rather than upstanding monuments.