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Archaeological Evaluation
at
Baston Hall Farm
by
Heritage Lincolnshire
on behalf of
Swallow Homes Ltd
November and December, 1992

Report Compiled by Michael Jarvis

SUMMARY

Between the 16th November to the 1st December, 1992, Heritage Lincolnshire undertook an archaeological evaluation on behalf of Swallow Homes Ltd, on land in the village of Baston four miles to the south of Bourne, Lincolnshire.

The evaluation was undertaken in two phases:

1. A contour survey was carried out in order to preserve a record of the earthworks present on the site.
2. Ten trial trenches nominally, 30m long and 1.2m wide were excavated. The non-archaeological material was removed by mechanical excavator.

From the results of the evaluation, it can be assumed that the site was occupied from at least the late Saxon/early medieval period. A small quantity of Roman and Iron-Age material was recovered, but was not indicative of settlement deposits.

The contour survey recorded the earthworks on the site but yielded no information to aid their interpretation.

The majority of archaeological features recorded during the evaluation were ditches. It is not known whether they represent parts of enclosure ditches or are associated with the remains of structures without further investigative work being undertaken.

Several angular features, whose functions could not be established during the evaluation, were recorded. Post-holes, some of which may be associated with the angular structures, were also recorded.

Limestone features representing the remains of a dry stone wall or similar structure and a stone lined storage pit of medieval date were recorded.

Heritage Lincolnshire recommend that four (possibly five) areas of the site should be the focus of preservation *in situ*. If this is not viable, a strategy should be designed to preserve the archaeological remains by record.

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1.00 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Between the 16th November and the 1st December, 1992, Heritage Lincolnshire undertook an archaeological evaluation on behalf of Swallow Homes Ltd, on land in the village of Baston four miles to the south of Bourne, Lincolnshire. National Grid Reference TF 114138 (centre). (Figs. 1 and 2).
- 1.2 The site comprised the second phase of an ongoing residential development by Swallow Homes Ltd, the first phase underwent an archaeological investigation by Heritage Lincolnshire in 1991 (BAH91).

2.0 THE SITE

- 2.1 The site covers an area of 2.84 hectares, is currently under grass and not thought to have been ploughed in recent years.
- 2.2 The topography of the site is of undulating earthworks dropping away towards the north from a high point in the south west corner. An area of level, low ground was present in the north and north west corners of the site. Until recently a shallow, east to west aligned, rectangular pond existed at the north end of the site and is now indicated by a rectangular patch of nettles.
- 2.3 Areas to the north, east and west of the site have already undergone development. The area immediately to the south of the site is currently farmed. The ground level of the farmed area is approximately 0.50m lower than the highest point of the site.
- 2.4 A public footpath runs along the eastern boundary of the site. An area in the south west corner of the site is currently used as a paddock for horses and did not undergo evaluation.

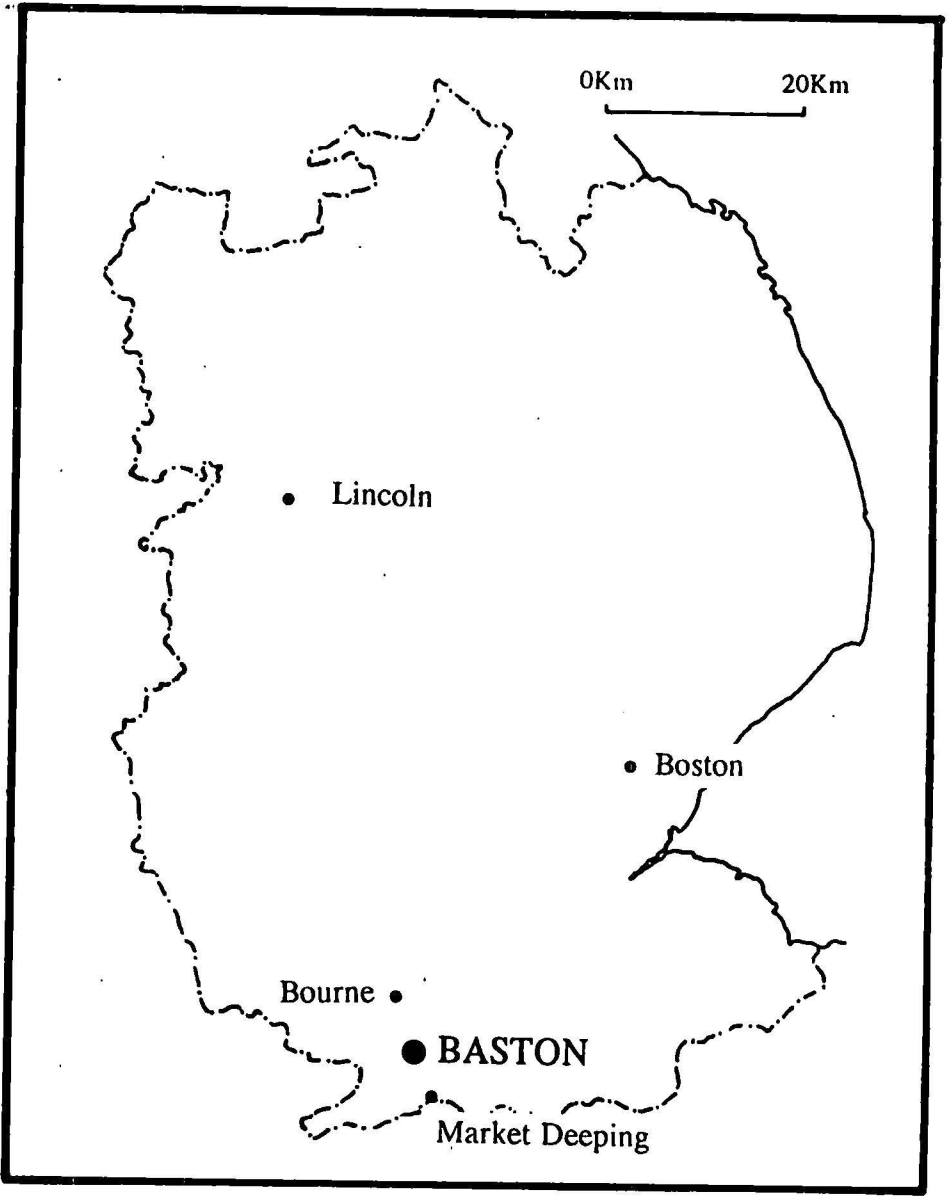
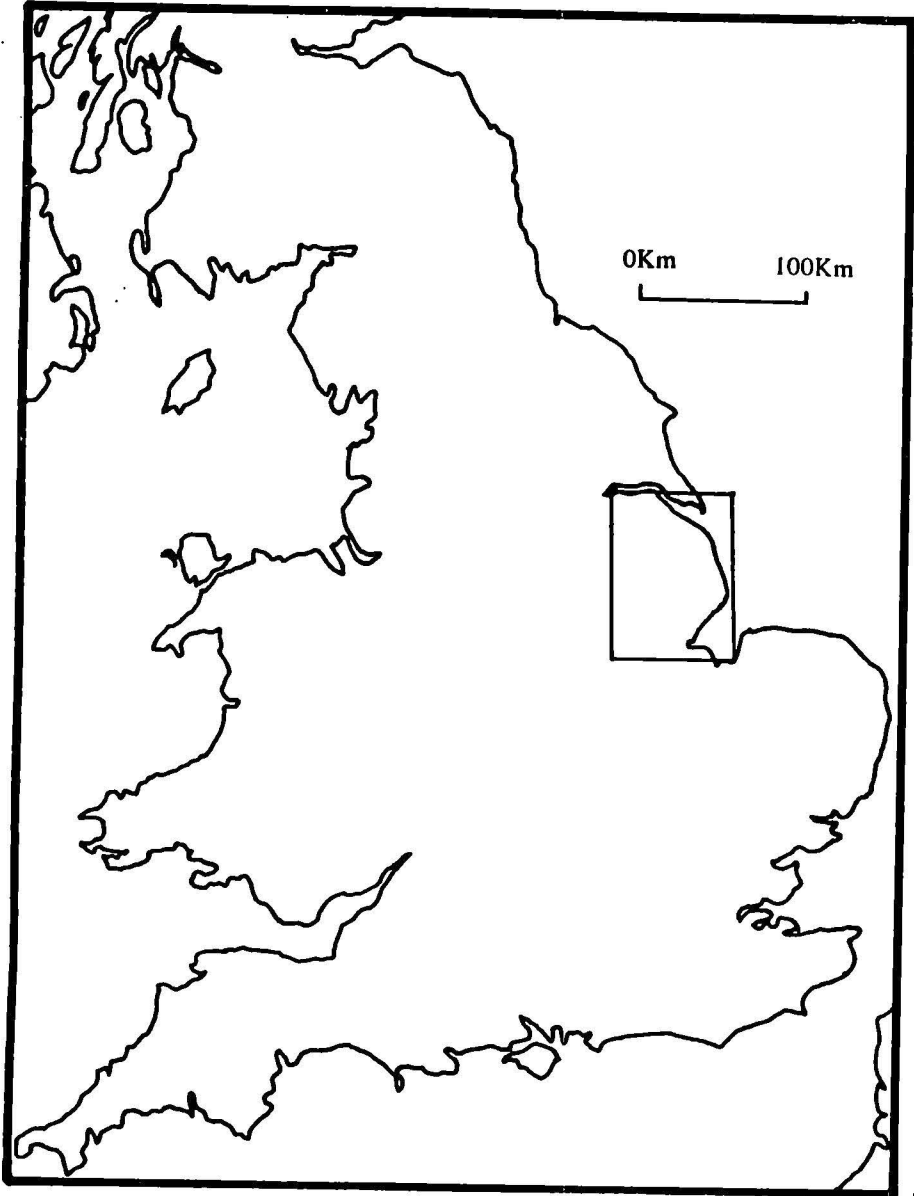
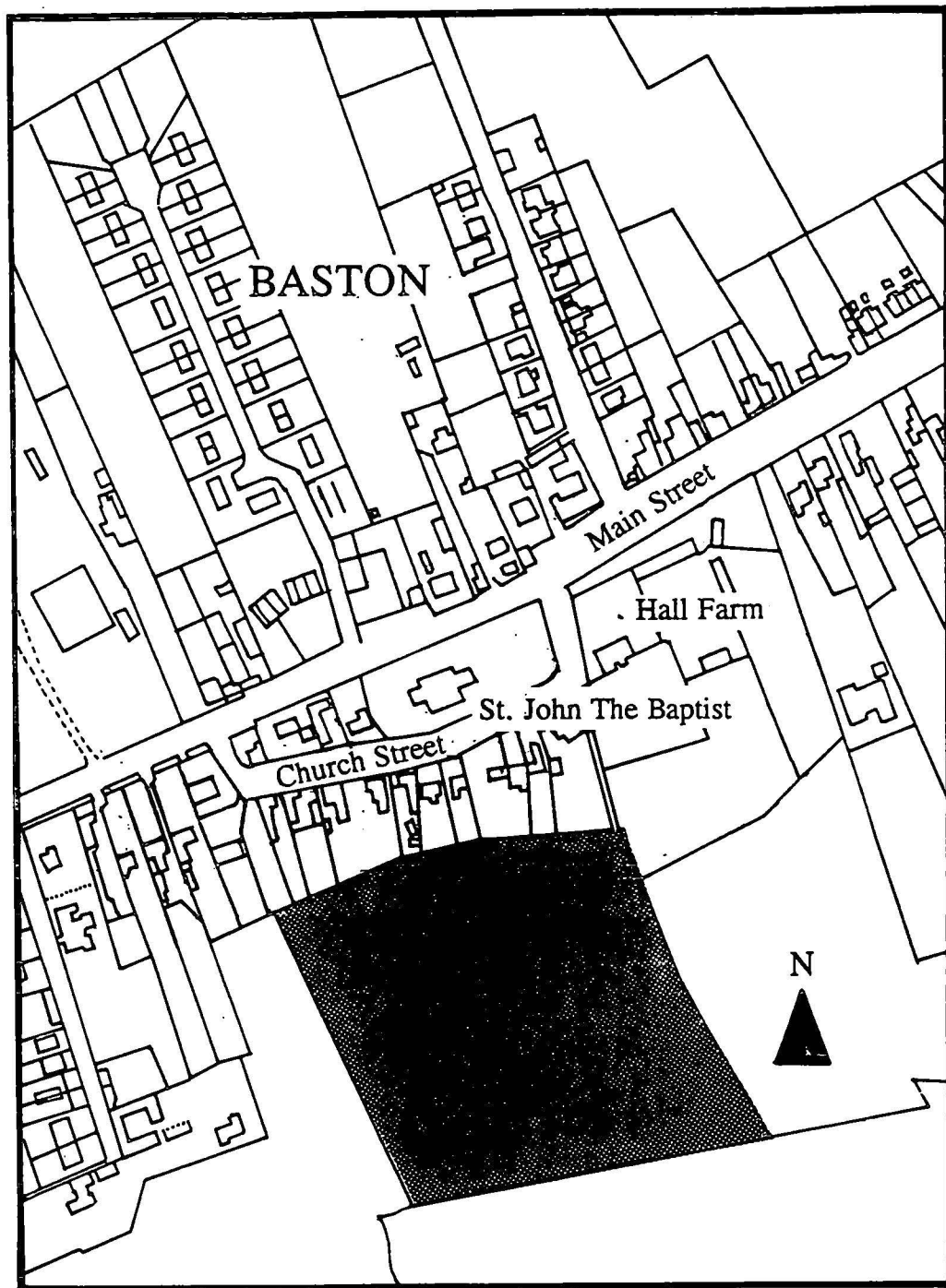


Fig. 1 General Location Plan

Fig. 2 Site Location Plan



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3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SETTING

- 3.1 The site lies in an area of high archaeological activity. A watching brief undertaken by Heritage Lincolnshire in 1991 on land immediately adjacent to the site on its eastern side revealed evidence for medieval ridge and furrow, below which a considerable density of archaeological features, primarily ditches, pits and post-holes, were recorded. Pottery recovered from the features present indicated that the features were primarily of a medieval date, although some Saxon material was recovered.
- 3.2 Baston is mentioned in the Domesday Book (1086) as Bastune and the name is probably Scandinavian in origin, deriving from Bakstun meaning simply the village or homestead of Bak.
- 3.3 An Anglo-Saxon cemetery was investigated to the west of the site at Urns Farm in 1863, 1966 and 1989. The church dedicated to St. John the Baptist, lies c. 50m to the north of the site and was constructed between 1190 to 1250 A.D.. A small quantity of Medieval and Roman pottery is present in the field adjacent to the south of the site.

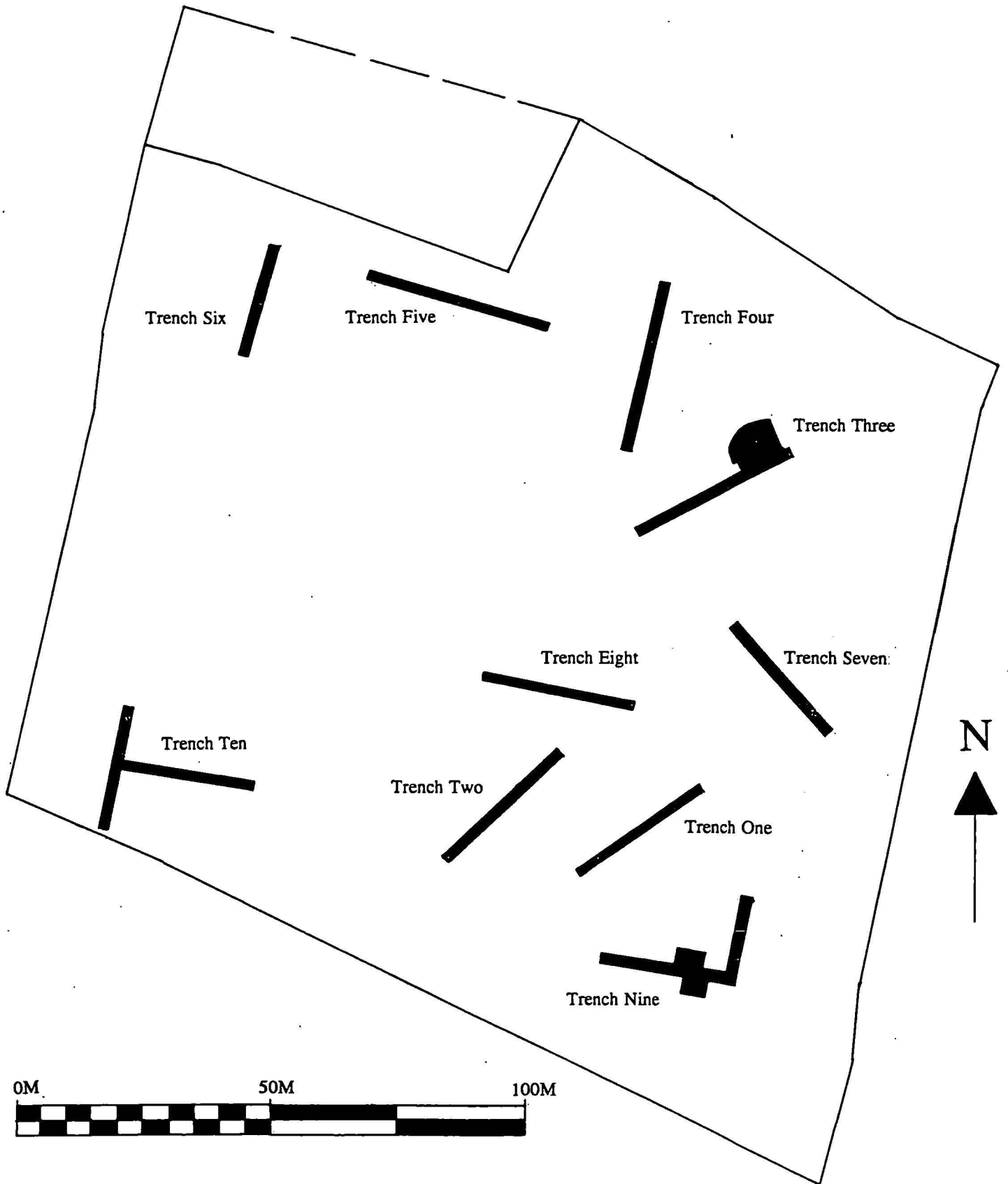
4.0 GEOLOGY

- 4.1 Soils present on the site are Brown earths and calcareous and non-calcareous gleys overlying Pleistocene Fen and Valley Gravels (Geological Survey of Great Britain [England and Wales] Drift Edition, Sheet 12, 1971).

5.0 METHODOLOGY

- 5.1 The evaluation was undertaken in two phases:
1. A contour survey was carried out in order to preserve a record of the earth works present on the site. Contour surveys can also reveal the presence of certain buried archaeological features without disturbing the ground. Readings were taken at 10m intervals on a equilateral triangular grid.

Fig. 3 Trench Location Plan



2. The second phase of the evaluation consisted of the excavation of ten trial trenches nominally, 30m long and 1.2m wide. The non-archaeological material was removed by mechanical excavator. The thickness of the non-archaeological material removed by machine prior to the excavating by hand, of archaeological deposits, varied depending upon the topography of the area. (Fig. 3).

A metal detector was used during Phase 2 to remove metal artifacts from within the spoilheaps and to pinpoint artifacts within archaeological deposits and features, prior to their excavation.

- 5.2 The archaeological recording took the form of the allocation of a unique 'context' number, with associated written description, for each archaeological context. Plans were drawn at 1:20 and sections drawn at 1:10 and 1:20 as appropriate. In addition, a photographic record of the archaeological features was compiled.

6.0 EVALUATION RESULTS

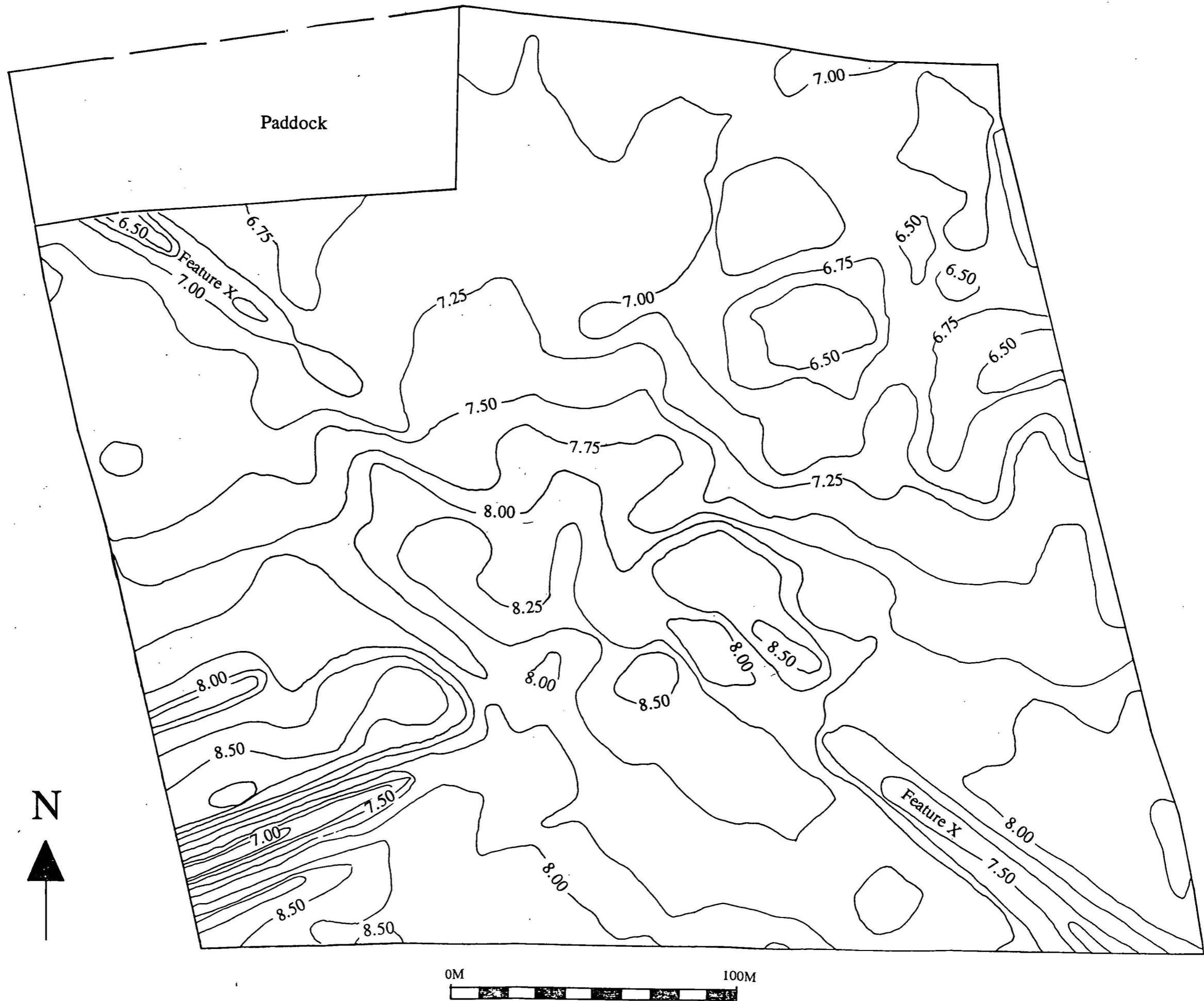
6.1 Phase One - Contour Survey Results

- 6.1.1 Phase One of the evaluation was undertaken primarily as a record of the earthworks present on the site and as a guide to the interpretation of certain below ground features made more visible once the contour survey results had been plotted. (Fig. 4).

- 6.1.2 The survey was conducted using a Pentax EDM Theodolite PX-20D. A grid was set up and readings taken at 10m intervals.

- 6.1.3 Few interpretable features were apparent from the results of the survey. The most obvious feature (x), is shown as a shallow, north west to south east, linear gully, extending across the site from corner to corner. This feature becomes obscured towards the middle of the site, where the ground level drops towards the north east.

Fig. 4 Contour Survey



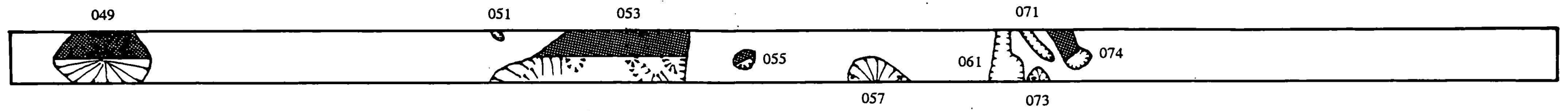
- 6.1.4 Visible on the high ground, on the east side of feature (x) lay a series of linear, undulating features, the most southerly of which is visible as an east to west aligned bank. The bank is visible extending across the whole site, largely as a variation in the colour of the grass. It is thought that this bank represents a boundary delineating the extent of occupation from an unknown period of the sites use.
- 6.1.5 Features thought to represent ponds and/or localised quarrying of sands and gravels are present to the north east of feature (x).
- 6.1.6 A feature resembling a house platform is present in the north east corner of the site, unfortunately this was only recognisable on site and is not visible on the results of the contour survey.
- 6.1.7 Areas in the south and the north east of the site are relatively flat and yield no interpretable information.
- 6.2 **Phase Two - Evaluation Trenches Results**
- 6.2.1 Trench One was located at the south east end of the site, north west of Trench Nine. Aligned north east to south west the trench, extended north east from the crest of an east facing slope. The machine removal of the topsoil revealed a deposit of sandy silt covering the entire area of the trench. No archaeological features were visible in this silt, therefore, five sondages were excavated into the deposit and the sections were recorded.
- 6.2.2 Natural was recorded in all five sondages. depressions resembling parts of cut features were present in the base of the sondages. The deposit filling the suspect features also sealed them and formed one of a series of dump deposits. A small quantity of late Saxon pottery and bone was recovered from within these dumped deposits.
- 6.2.3 Cut into the latest of the deposits sealing the natural and recorded at the eastern end of the trench was [087], a north to south aligned deposit of small, flat, limestone fragments. No definite interpretation as to the function of the stone




deposit could be made, however, [087] may represent the remains of a dry-stone wall. Limestone is not naturally present in the area.

- 6.2.4 Trench Two lay on a north east to south west alignment to the south west of Trench One, on an area of high, level ground. Three features were recorded in Trench Two, cutting into the natural.
- 6.2.5 The north west corner of an angular feature [031], was recorded midway along the eastern side of the Trench Two. Excavation of [031] revealed it to have steep sides. The base of the feature was not recorded and no datable material was recovered from within its fill.
- 6.2.6 The two remaining features, [033] and [035], were thought to be post-holes. Their excavation revealed that they probably represent the remains of animal burrows.
- 6.2.7 Trench Three was sited on a north east to south west alignment, in the north east corner of the site across the northern end of a large depression. The removal of the topsoil revealed seven features cut into the natural. (Fig. 5).
- 6.2.8 After the initial machine excavation of Trench Three the north east end of the trench was opened to discover the extent of a sub-angular feature which had been observed during the stripping of the trench.
- 6.2.9 At the south western end of Trench Three an east to west aligned, 0.60m deep, linear feature [028] was recorded; (three sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered from within its fill. Lying next to the northern edge of [028] was [029], a 0.35m diameter post-hole. It was not possible to ascertain whether [028] and [029] were contemporary.
- 6.2.10 A possible circular feature [027] lay 11.00m to the north east of [028] and [029], against the west section of Trench Three. A similar but shallower and larger feature [025] lay 2.00m to the north east of [027]. No finds were recovered from either feature and their function is unclear.

Fig. 5 Trenches Three and Five Plan

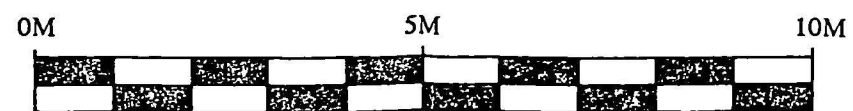
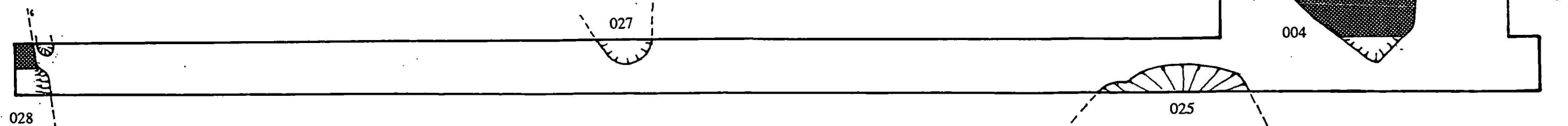
Trench 5



-  Excavated fill of feature
-  Un-excavated fill of feature
-  Conjectured line of feature



Trench 3



- 6.2.11 Five features were recorded at the north east end of Trench Three. The primary feature was [004], a large 6.00m x 4.00m, sub-triangular feature. Excavation of a section through [004] revealed it to be 0.65m deep with steep sides and a flat base. A few bone fragments and the base of a Romano-British pot were recovered from within its fill.
- 6.2.12 Two linear features. [192] and [198], appeared to emanate from [004]. Their fills were very similar to that of [004] and this suggests that they may be contemporary with [004]. Both [192] and [198] were recorded in plan only: Feature [192] was a 1.00m wide, east to west aligned linear feature; [198] was also linear although only 0.20m wide and on a north west to south east alignment.
- 6.2.13 Two amorphous features, [194] and [196], lay slightly to the north of [004] against the north section of the trench. Both were recorded in plan only and no interpretation of their function can be given.
- 6.2.14 Trench Four was sited on a north to south alignment, across a sub-rectangular, east to west patch of nettles to the west of Trench Three. Seven features were recorded in Trench Four, cutting into the natural.
- 6.2.15 At the north end of the trench against its east section, was a small semicircular cut [005]. No finds were recovered from this feature and its form was unclear.
- 6.2.16 Nine metres to the south of [005] and extending across the width of the trench was [006], a shallow (0.30m), 11.00m wide 'pond'. This 'pond' had two distinctly differing fills: The primary fill [015], was a sandy silt containing pottery dating to the 14th century. The secondary fill [016] contained material from the late second half of the twentieth century and is therefore, thought to represent the final in-fill of [006].
- 6.2.17 Two, 0.30m diameter post-holes [007] and [008] were present, cut into the base of the 'pond' [006] and both were approximately 0.50m deep with pointed ends. It was unclear as to what the post-holes represented or from where they originated in the stratigraphic matrix.

- 6.2.18 Two sub-angular features [009] and [011], similar to [004] in Trench Three, were present at the southern end of Trench Four.
- 6.2.19 Feature [009] appeared to form the south western corner of an angular feature which continued under and beyond the east section of the trench. Excavation of a section through [009] revealed it to have steep 0.50m deep sides and a flat base. A quantity of late Saxon pottery was recovered from within its fill.
- 6.2.20 Immediately to the south of [009] lay [010] which, in plan, appeared to represent the west side of a sub-rectangular feature. A 0.60m wide, east to west aligned ditch [011] was recorded running into the west side of [010]. The fill of [011] and the primary fill of [010], a dark brown silt [020], contained moderate amounts of organic material as well as fragments of late Saxon pottery and bone fragments. The secondary fill of [010], a light olive brown sand silt [021], contained no finds.
- 6.2.21 No other features were recorded within Trench Four.
- 6.2.22 Trench Five lay on a flat, low-lying area of the site to the west of Trench Four and was aligned east to west. (Fig. 5).
- 6.2.23 At the west end of the trench a 2.00m diameter, sub-square pit [049] was excavated. Excavation of [049] revealed it to have a shallow 'V' profile. A horses skull lay in the base of the pit, within its primary fill, as well as a moderate amount of late Saxon pottery and fragments of animal bone.
- 6.2.24 Eight metres to the east of [049] was a group features which may be contemporary, [051], [053] and [055].
- 6.2.25 The features [051] and [053] were post-holes which lay either side of [053], a shallow, 4.50m wide, north to south aligned linear feature. No finds were recovered from within the fills of these features and their functions are unclear.
- 6.2.26 A shallow, semi-circular feature [057] lay 2.00m to the east of post-hole [055]. Cut into the base of this feature and thought to be contemporary with it, were

two rectangular stake-holes. No finds were recovered from their fills and their function cannot be determined.

- 6.2.27 To the east of [057] lay features [061], [071], [073] and [074].
- 6.2.28 Feature [061] was a north to south aligned, shallow linear gulley. Immediately to the east of [061] lay feature [071]; this was also linear and butt-ended. Excavation of a section through [071] revealed it to be shallow.
- 6.2.29 To the south of the butt-end of [071] was [073], a small, semi-ovoid feature into the base of which was cut a small stake-hole.
- 6.2.30 A north to south aligned, sub-linear, butt-ended feature [075] lay immediately to the east of [071] and [073]. The fill of [075] appeared to be burnt and is thought to represent a possible hearth deposit.
- 6.2.31 A deposit of sub-soil sealed all of the features recorded within Trench Five.
- 6.2.32 Trench Six was aligned north to south in the western corner of the site on a gentle north sloping area of land.
- 6.2.33 Three east to west aligned linear 'ditch' features, [095], [101] and [103] were present at the north end of Trench Six.
- 6.2.34 A small quantity of bone and a single sherd of late Saxon pottery was recovered from within the fill of [095]. No finds were recovered from within the fills of [101] or [103].
- 6.2.35 Two small, shallow, sub-linear features, [097] and [099], lay between ditches [095] and [101].
- 6.2.36 A 0.40m diameter, circular post-hole was recorded lying 2.00m to the south of feature [103]. To the south of [103], against the west section of the trench was a curving, sub-linear, 5.00m long feature [108]. Excavation of a section through [108] revealed the feature to have concave, 45 degree sides. A small quantity of late Saxon pottery was recovered from within the fills of [108].

- 6.2.37 Two post-holes, the function of which was not evident, lay to the east of [108], against the east section of the trench.
- 6.2.38 Trench Seven lay on a north west to south east alignment to the south of Trench Three. Two features [203] and [205] were recorded cut into the natural; both features are thought to represent ponds. Feature [203] was 11.00m wide, east to west and feature [205], 4.00m wide. Both were machine excavated to a depth of c. 1.00m and no finds were recovered from their fills.
- 6.2.39 Trench Eight lay in the middle of the site between Trenches Two and Four, on a east to west alignment, on the top edge of a north east facing slope.
- 6.2.40 The earliest deposits recorded within Trench Eight lay at its north east end where the trench descended north east into a depression which was also evaluated by Trench Three. Cut into the latest of these dumped deposits and present at the top of the slope, was a rectangular stone lined pit [119]. The lining of this pit, [121], resembled 'Colliy-Weston' roof tiles laid on edge. When the feature was sectioned it was revealed to have 0.56m deep, vertical sides, and sherds of 13th to 14th century Pottery and bone fragments were recovered from its fill. It is thought that [119] represents a lined storage pit. A small quantity of late Saxon pottery was recovered from the deposits which had been cut into by feature [119].
- 6.2.41 Trench Nine was sited in the south eastern corner of the site, was 'L' shaped in plan and lay parallel to the east and south boundaries of the site. An area c. 8.00m square, was excavated, mid-way along the east to west length of Trench Nine, to investigate a sub-rectangular feature in the base of the trench (Fig. 6), which had been located during the stripping of the topsoil.
- 6.2.42 An east to west aligned, 4.00m wide, 1.00m deep ditch [136], was recorded at the southern end of the north to south length of Trench Nine. The pottery recovered from within the two fills of this ditch was of a Late Saxon date.
- 6.2.43 On the same alignment and truncating [136] on its south side was a ditch [184]. This ditch [184] was truncated on its southern side by a third ditch, [182]. No finds were recovered from either ditch.

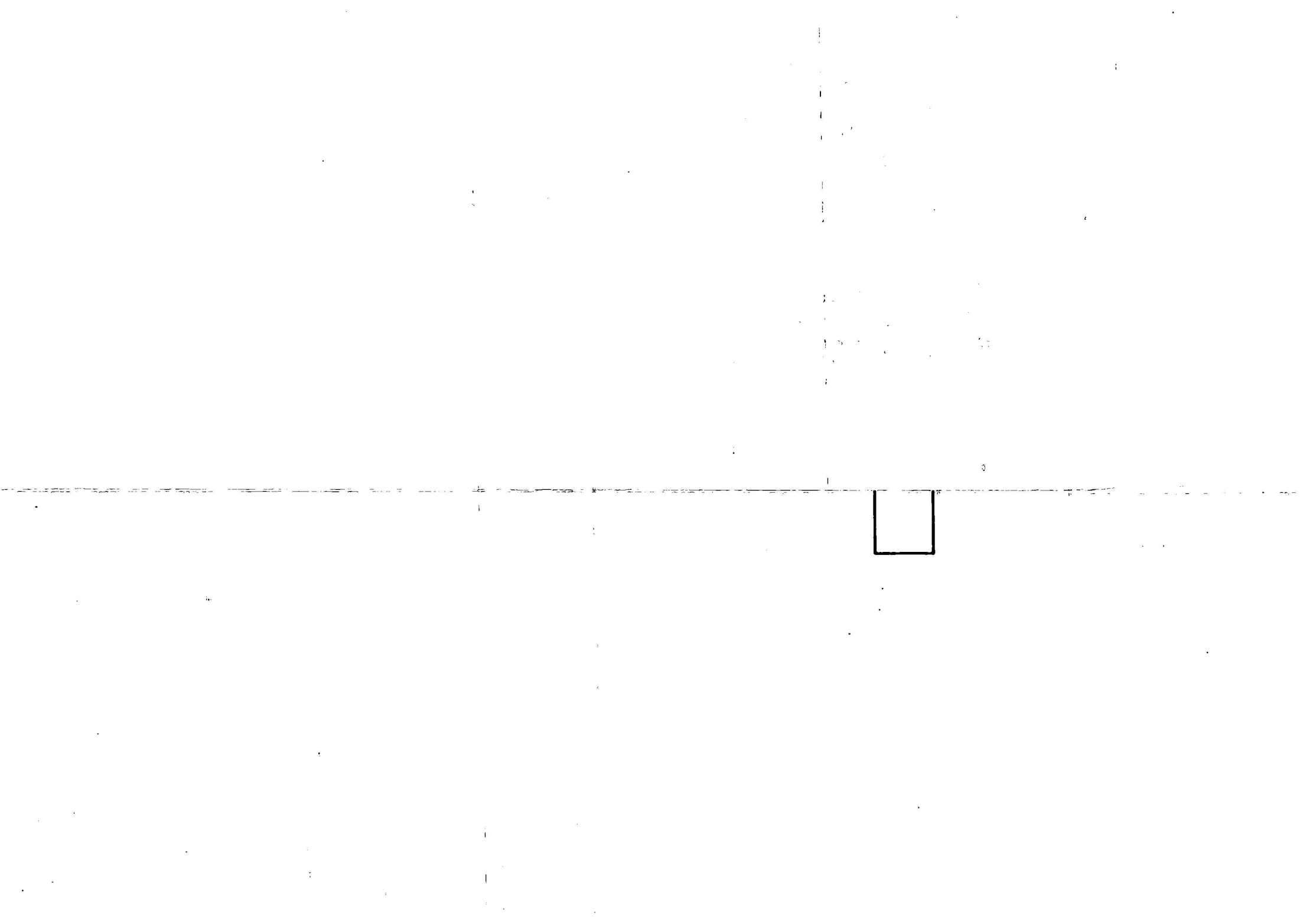
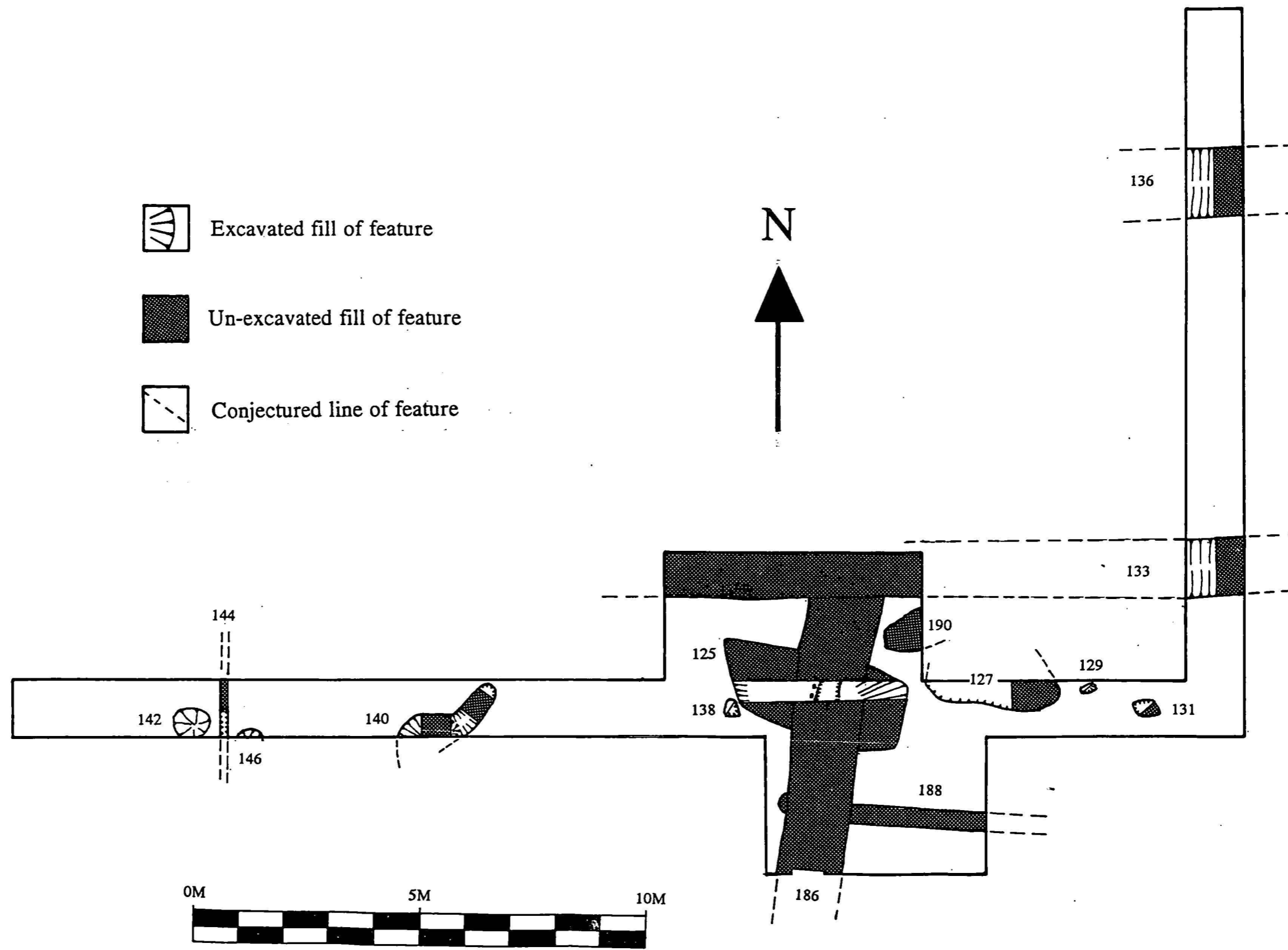


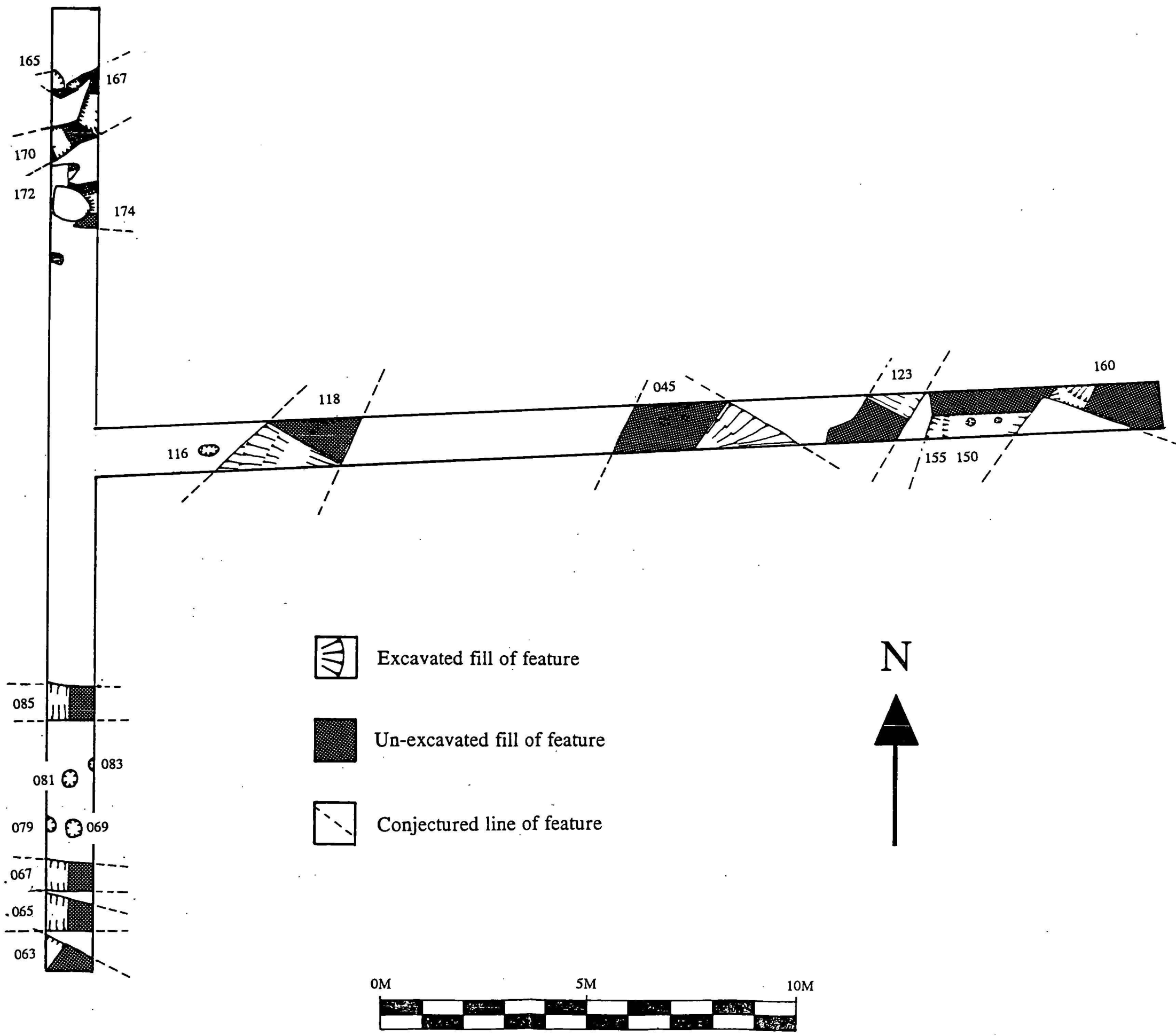
Fig. 6 Trench Nine Plan



- 6.2.44 Five metres to the south of ditch [182] lay a small, east to west aligned linear slot [180], which was recorded in section only. The form and function of [180] is unclear.
- 6.2.45 A 2.00m wide, east to west aligned ditch [133], was located 1.00m to the south of feature [108]. Fragments of clay pipe bowl recovered from its fill indicate that it is post-1700 in date.
- 6.2.46 Two post-holes [129] and [131] were recorded to the south of ditch [133], at the east end of Trench Nine.
- 6.2.47 Part of a 3.00m long, east to west aligned, sub-angular feature [127], lay to the west of post-holes [129] and [131]. A section excavated through [127] revealed it to have steep sides and a flat base. Finds recovered from within its fill were of a late Saxon date. The function of the feature is unclear.
- 6.2.48 To the west of [127] lay a further sub-rectangular feature [125]. Finds recovered from its fill suggests it is also of late Saxon date.
- 6.2.49 To the south of [125] and stratigraphically contemporary with it was [188], a narrow, east to west aligned linear feature. This feature was recorded in plan only and a small quantity of late Saxon pottery was recovered from its fill.
- 6.2.50 Both [125] and [188] were sealed and truncated by [186], a 2.00m wide, north to south aligned ditch. Excavation of a section across [125] and [186], revealed a shallow (0.10m), north to south aligned gully at the base of the section. Two small stake-holes were present cut into the west side of the gully. It is unclear whether the gully was contemporary with [186] or, as is less likely considering its alignment, [125]. The northern end of [186], within the confines of Trench Nine, was sealed by a ditch [133]. Pottery recovered from the fill of [186] was late Saxon in date.
- 6.2.51 To the north of [125] and east of [186], lying against the east section of the trench extension, was feature [190]. Seen in plan only, [190] may represent part of the adjacent feature [127]. Two sherds of late Saxon Pottery were recovered from the fill of feature [190].

- 6.2.52 A post-hole [138] lay at the west end of [125]. It was unclear whether the post-hole was contemporary with feature [125] or ditch [186].
- 6.2.53 Five metres to the west of post-hole [137], against the southern side of Trench Nine, lay a butt-ended feature [140]. No finds were recovered from within its fill and its function is unclear.
- 6.2.54 A group of three, possibly contemporary features, [142], [144] and [146], lay to the west of [140]. Feature [144] was a shallow, narrow, north to south aligned linear 'slot' and features [142] and [146] lay on either side of the 'slot'. Both [142] and [146] were circular in plan and are thought to represent the bases of pits or post-holes. No function for the features was evident and no finds were recovered.
- 6.2.55 No further features or deposits were recorded within Trench Nine.
- 6.2.56 Trench Ten was located in the south west corner of the site at its highest point. In plan, Trench Ten was a 'T' shape with the top of the 'T' aligning parallel to the western boundary of the site. (Fig 7)
- 6.2.57 Twenty three features were recorded in Trench Ten, representing at least three phases of occupation.
- 6.2.58 The north west corner of a large ditch feature (cuts [150] and [160]) was present at the eastern end of Trench Ten. Cutting into the base of [150], and thought to be contemporary with it, were two circular post-holes. The fills of the ditch [149] and [159], contained few datable finds although a single sherd of late Saxon pottery and a small quantity of slag was recovered from within fill [059].
- 6.2.59 A north to south aligned linear ditch [155] truncated ditch [150] on its west side and may indicate the presence of a re-cut to the former. Pottery recovered from within the two fills of the 're-cut' suggest the feature to be 14th century in date.
- 6.2.60 Lying parallel to and slightly to the west of [155], was ditch [123]. Pottery recovered from within its fill [122], was late Saxon.

Fig. 7 Trench Ten Plan



- 6.2.61 A large, angular 'pit' feature [046], possibly representing an area of quarrying, lay to the west of ditch [123]. A small quantity of c. 13th century pottery was recovered from within its fill.
- 6.2.63 A 3.00m wide, north east to south west aligned ditch, [118], lay to the west of [045]. The fill of the ditch contained a sherd of pottery thought to be Iron-Age as well as two sherds of Romano-British pottery.
- 6.2.63 On the west side of ditch [118] a post-hole [116] was recorded. No association existed to suggest post-hole [116] was contemporary with ditch [118].
- 6.2.64 At the southern end of Trench Ten was a linear feature [063]; its fill [062] was very similar to that of ditch [118] and suggests that the two features were contemporary.
- 6.2.65 Immediately to the north of [063], on an east to west alignment, were ditch features [065] and [067]. It is possible that these ditches [065] and [067] represent the ditches [182] and [184] recorded in Trench Nine which are thought to be re-alignments of ditch [136].
- 6.2.66 A series of shallow post-holes, [069], [079], [081] and [083] lay to the north of [067] which are thought to represent the truncated remains of a timber structure possibly associated with ditches [065] and [067].
- 6.2.67 No further archaeological features were recorded within Trench Ten.

7.0 CONCLUSIONS/DISCUSSION

- 7.1 From the results of the evaluation, it can be assumed that the site was occupied from at least the late Saxon/early medieval period. A small quantity of Roman material and a sherd of possible Iron-age Pottery was also recovered.
- 7.2 The contour survey of the site yielded little information to aid the interpretation of the earthworks present on the site. A low, east to west aligned bank, visible at the southern end of the site, is the only interpretable feature on the site and is

thought to represent a boundary marking the extent of medieval occupation on the site, a possible house platform is present in the north east corner of the site. The most likely interpretation for the remaining earthworks is that they were formed by the quarrying of sand and gravel, although the period associated with this quarrying remains unclear.

- 7.3 The majority of the archaeological features recorded during the evaluation of the site were ditches, however, whether these features represent parts of enclosure ditches or the remains of structures will remain unclear without further investigative work.
- 7.4 Several angular features, the functions of which are unclear were recorded during the evaluation. Suggestions as to what they represent include: quarry pits for the localised extraction of sand and gravel; or sunken floored buildings, of a possible Saxon date. Post-holes, some of which may be associated with the angular structures, were also recorded.
- 7.5 Limestone features were recorded within Trenches One and Eight. The alignment of limestone within Trench One is thought to represent the remains of a dry stone wall or similar structure and the rectangular stone lined feature present in Trench Eight is thought to represent a medieval storage pit.
- 7.6 Three areas of the site contained significant archaeological deposits.
- 7.7 The most concentrated area lay in the south west corner of the site where three phases of occupation were identified. Features within this area included a possible prehistoric feature as well as early medieval to late Saxon occupation. The post-holes which were recorded suggest the presence of timber structures, although the form and function of these structures cannot be fully assessed without the area undergoing further investigative work.
- 7.8 Excavation in the north east corner of the site revealed the presence of sub-rectangular features, possibly representing sunken floored buildings typical of the Saxon period. The presence of waterlogged material within one of these features (Trench Four [010]), must be anticipated if further work is undertaken,

and allowance made for analysis of the environmental material for faunal and botanical remains, as well as possible artifact preservation.

- 7.9 Evaluation of the south east corner of the site revealed four phases of occupation which included angular features of a type similar to those recorded in the north east corner of the site.
- 7.10 The remainder of the site also contained archaeological deposits, albeit less concentrated. Many appeared to have been truncated by the localised quarrying of sand and gravel, and the finds recovered from the deposits infilling these 'quarrying' features, suggest a medieval date.
- 7.11 In some areas (particularly on the eastern side of the site) archaeological deposits appeared to have been buried under thick accumulations of material containing late Saxon pottery. It was unclear whether the pottery contained within the accumulative deposits was contemporary with them, or whether it was residual. There was no indication of the nature of the archaeological features present below the dumped deposits.
- 7.12 Excavations at Urns Farm in 1966 and 1989 revealed the presence of sub-rectangular features, similar to those recorded during the Hall Farm evaluation; these features were interpreted as the remains of medieval gravel quarrying. However, the features recorded at Hall Farm were shallower (an average depth of 500mm) and appeared to be contemporary with the remains of post-holes. This may suggest that here, the features have another function: given the location of the Hall Farm site in relation to the present day village centre, one possible interpretation of the features is that they represent sunken floored buildings. If so, the pottery recovered from the features would suggest that they are examples from the late Saxon period.

9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 The Baston Hall Farm evaluation revealed the presence on the site of archaeological remains dating from the late Saxon period. Although evidence relating to this period is not uncommon, the possible presence of examples of

sunken featured buildings should be considered and further work needs be undertaken in order to assess the form and function of these features and their associated deposits.

9.2 Therefore, Heritage Lincolnshire recommend.

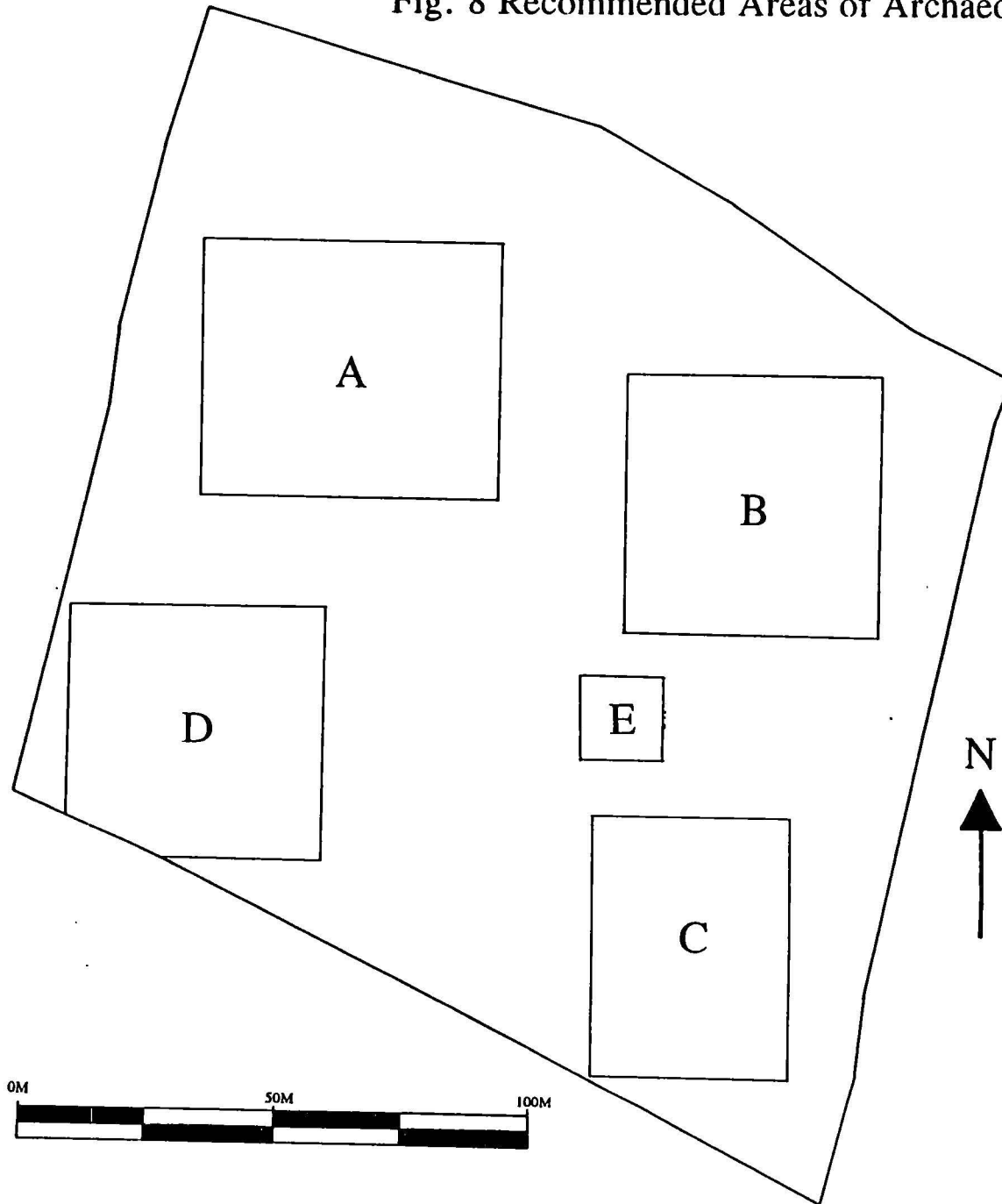
9.2.1 That a strategy be developed for the preservation of four (possibly five) areas (those areas marked A to E on Fig. 8), in order that the archaeological remains within these areas may be preserved. This may be achieved either by preserving the remains *in situ* (i.e. avoiding any disturbance by the proposed development) or, by 'preservation by record', whereby a scheme of archaeological excavation and recording is designed and approved by South Kesteven Planning Department and carried out in advance of the proposed development works.

9.2.2 If the preservation of the archaeological deposits *in situ* is not viable, the following areas should be considered for further excavation. (Fig. 8).

9.2.3 Area A (120m x 100m) would be located in the north west corner of the site and encompass parts of Trenches Five and Six. The siting of Area A would allow for the interpretation of the late Saxon linear features recorded in Trench Six and the interpretation of the possible hearth and associated features recorded in Trench Five.

9.2.4 Area B (100m x 100m) would be located in the north east corner of the site, in the area of Trenches Three and Four. Area B would primarily investigate the angular features recorded within both trenches and would also allow for the investigation of the possible house platform recorded during the contour survey of the site.

Fig. 8 Recommended Areas of Archaeological Interest



- 9.2.5 Area C (100m x 80m) would be located in the south east corner of the site over Trench Nine, and partially over Trench One; this would enable the interpretation of the possible features recorded in the base of the sondages excavated within Trench One. This is important, as the removal of the sealing deposits may reveal the presence of undisturbed archaeological deposits. The excavation of Area C would also record the extent and nature of late Saxon and early medieval occupation to the south of the boundary bank which is visible on the surface of the site.
- 9.2.6 Area D (100m x 100m) would be sited on the high ground in the south west corner of the site, centred on the area evaluated by Trench Ten. The excavation of this area would enable the date and nature of the features identified to be established
- 9.2.7 The excavation of Area E should be considered within the overall strategy. Situated over Trench Eight, Area E need only be 20m x 20m and would allow for the interpretation of the stone lined pit, plus any associated features.
- 9.2.8 It is considered that the archaeological deposits and features on the remainder of the site are less concentrated and only require recording by the implementation of a watching brief during development.

Acknowledgements

Heritage Lincolnshire wish to acknowledge:

Swallow Homes Ltd.; Miss R. H. Healey for undertaking the pottery spot-dating report;
Mr. S. Critchley for undertaking the metal detector survey.

APPENDIX 1

SUMMARY OF CONTEXTS

<u>Context</u>	<u>Trench</u>	<u>Description/Interpretation</u>
004	3	Pit
005	4	Semi-circular Cut
006	4	Shallow Pond
007	4	Post Hole
008	4	Post Hole
009	4	Sub-angular Feature
010	4	Sub-angular Feature
011	4	Ditch
015	4	Primary Pond Fill
016	4	Secondary Pond Fill
020	4	Fill 011,primary fill of 010
021	4	Secondary Fill 010
025	3	Circular Feature
027	3	Circular Feature
028	3	Linear Feature
029	3	Post Hole
031	2	Pit
033	2	Post Hole
035	2	Post Hole/Animal Hole
046	10	Angular Pit
049	5	Pit
051	5	Post Hole
053	5	Post Hole
055	5	Post Hole
057	5	Semi-circular Feature
061	5	Linear Gulley
062	10	Fill of 063
063	10	Linear Feature
065	10	Ditch
067	10	Ditch
069	10	Shallow Post Hole
071	5	Linear Gulley
073	5	Semi-ovoid Feature
074	5	Post Hole
075	5	Sub-linear Feature
079	10	Shallow Post Hole
081	10	Shallow Post Hole
083	10	Shallow Post Hole
087	1	Limestone Feature

Context	Trench	Description
095	6	Linear Ditch
097	6	Sub-linear Feature
099	6	Sub-linear Feature
101	6	Linear Ditch
103	6	Linear Ditch
108	6	Sub-linear Feature
116	10	Post Hole
118	10	Ditch
119	8	Stone Lined Pit
121	8	Pit Lining
122	10	Fill of 123
123	10	Ditch
125	9	Sub-rectangular Feature
127	9	Sub-angular Feature
129	9	Post Hole
131	9	Post Hole
133	9	Ditch
136	9	Deep Ditch
138	9	Post Hole
140	9	Butt-ended Feature
142	9	Pit/Post Hole
144	9	Linear Slot
146	9	Pit/Post Hole
149	10	Ditch Fill
150	10	Ditch Cut
155	10	Linear Ditch
159	10	Ditch Fill
160	10	Ditch Cut
180	9	Linear Slot
182	9	Ditch
184	9	Ditch
186	9	Ditch
188	9	Linear Feature
190	9	Unknown Feature
192	3	Linear Feature
194	3	Unknown Feature
196	3	Unknown Feature
198	3	Linear Feature
203	7	Pond
205	7	Pond

APPENDIX 2

POTTERY SPOT DATING

Key to Abbreviations used:

EM	=	Early Medieval
IA	=	Iron-Age
LS	=	Late Saxon
Med.	=	Medieval
M/LS	=	Middle to Late Saxon
Mod.	=	Modern
PM	=	Post Medieval
RB	=	Romano-British

Context	Description	Date	Latest date
Trench 1			
+	2 Tile	Mod.	
	1 Yellow brick	Mod.	
	1 Midlands Purple	Mod.	
	3 Misc. Stoneware	Mod.	
	2 Bourne D	16th cent.	
	4 Stamford ware	LS	Mod.
041	7 Stamford ware	LS	
	5 Shelly ware	LS	
	1 Unknown	LS	LS
043	7 Stamford ware incl. flanged rim	LS	
	4 Shelly ware LS LS		
113	1 Midlands Purple Mod.		
	6 Bourne D	PM	Mod.
114	5 Stamford ware	LS	LS
Trench 3			
002	1 Unknown Fabric very worn		Prob. RB

<u>Context</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Latest date</u>
023	3 Shelly ware	? RB	Prob. RB
Trench 4			
015	Bourne B Jug base	Med.	c. 14th Cent.
019	12 Stamford ware incl. rouletted and spouted pitcher	LS	LS
020	8 Stamford ware, incl. Glazed and wavy decoration 1 Shelly ware	LS LS	LS
Trench 5			
047	5 shelly ware 1 sandy ware 6 Stamford types	LS LS LS	LS
Trench 6			
094	1 Stamford Glazed	LS	LS
106	1 Stamford glazed 1 Stamford ware	LS LS	LS LS
107	1 Unknown grey/brown	LS	LS
Trench 8			
+	3 ? Stamford ware 2 shelly ware 3 Bourne C type	LS LS Med.	14th Cent.
120	6 Bourne C, some glazed	Med.	13th-14th
158	3 Stamford ware 2 shelly incl. Flat rim	LS ?M/LS	LS
Trench 9			
+	3 Stamford ware 1 Bourne B 1 Potterhanworth shelly	Med. Med.	

<u>Context</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Latest date</u>
	1 Nottingham stoneware	Mod.	
	2 black/brown glazed	Mod.	Mod.
124	3 shelly ware	RB	
	18 Stamford ware incl. Rouletted	LS	LS
126	7 Stamford ware incl. rim	LS	LS
135	1 shelly base ? re-used	RB	
	5 Stamford ? Discoloured	LS	LS
185	2 grey ware	RB	
	7 Stamford ware	LS	LS
187	1 grey ware	LS	LS
189	2 Stamford ware	LS	LS
Trench 10			
045	1 Stamford ware		
	1 thumbled rim	? EM	
	2 Bourne C	Med.	c. 13th cent.
117	1 scratched marked	prob. IA	
	2 shelly ware	? RB	RB
122	4 Stamford ware	LS	
	2 shelly ware	LS	LS
147	2 Med. 1 Bourne B	Med.	14th Cent.
159	1 Stamford ware	LS	LS
164	1 Bourne C	Med.	13/14th cent.
169	1 Bourne C rim	Med.	c.12th cent.
173	1 tiny grey ware	?	Not known

Pottery Spot Date Summary

The material is largely late Saxon, both Stamford and Shelly wares of types dating between the late 10th and the 11th century AD., with a small number of residual Iron-Age, Romano-British and middle Saxon pieces.

APPENDIX 3

GLOSSARY

Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an excavation or evaluation is allocated a unique context number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by square brackets e.g. [001].
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a post-hole, pit, ditch etc. Once the fills of these features are removed during an excavation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded
Dumped deposits	These are deposits, often laid down intentionally, that raise a land surface. They may be the result of casual waste disposal, or may be positive attempts to raise the land surface.
Earthworks	Visible 'Bumps and Hollows' representing the remains of buried archaeological features.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug, it immediately begins to silt-up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Layer	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil which is not contained within a cut.
Natural	Deposit(s) of soil which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
Ridge and Furrow	A common form of medieval arable cultivation (although earlier examples exist e.g. ridge and furrow has been found beneath Hadrian's Wall) which created a series of parallel, inverted 'S' shaped ridges,

separated by furrows. The ridge was formed through the displacement of soil by a mould board on the plough (thus also forming the furrow). Such ridges can be up to 15m. apart and a metre high. Where examples of ridge and furrow survive as earthworks, they can easily be identified because of their 'corduroy' texture.

Sunken Featured Buildings

Often known as grubenhauser, cabanes, sunk(en) huts or pit-huts. The term describes those structures whose floor was at ground level, the sunken area being either a sub-floor space, a store or a cellar. They first appear in the late fourth century, were less common in the middle to late Saxon period and very occasionally occurred in the twelfth to fourteenth century.

LINCOLNSHIRE SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD : REPORT FORM 1

Site name: Baston Hall Farm

Site code: BHF 92

Date of project: November and December, 1992

Organisation: Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire

Evaluation/Watching Brief/Excav:full/Excav:part/Other: Evaluation

Reason for fieldwork: residential development

Do you recommend further work? Yes

If so, why? Late Saxon settlement remains on the site

What? Excavation

Parish: Baston

Grid ref.: TF114138 (centre)
(8 figure centroid)(State Units)

Area of site: 2.84 hectares

Period: Late Saxon

Features/finds: Ditches, pits, postholes and possible sunken featured buildings

Post-ex and publication proposals: deposition in an archive

Report by: Michael D. Jarvis

Date: 22nd January, 1993

Is the above information confidential? Yes

Continue over as necessary