1. INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of archaeological recording and excavation undertaken by Exeter Archaeology (EA) on land adjacent to Bray Valley Quarries, near the village of Charles (Fig. 1; centred on SS 6874 3324). The work was commissioned by Hanson Aggregates Ltd (formerly ARC Ltd) prior to the extension of quarrying activity at Gards Pit, and was undertaken in accordance with a method statement prepared by EA dated June 2004.

1.1 **The site** (Fig. 2)

The site is located 300m to the north of Charles, within an area of pasture on the western side of the Bray Valley, at a height of 236.50m AOD. The site slopes down to the east, becoming much steeper towards the west edge of Gards Pit quarry. The River Bray is located at the base of the valley, to the east of Gards Pit, at a height of 140m AOD. The underlying geology of the site forms part of the Pilton Beds of slates, limestones and sandstones.[1]

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The archaeological and historical background of the site was included in a wider assessment to determine the archaeological implications of proposed extensions to existing quarrying activity along the west side of the upper Bray Valley (Gent 1998).

2.1 **Archaeological Background**

There have been several recent archaeological investigations within a 500m radius of Charles, which have uncovered the remains of prehistoric activity.[2] To the east of Charlestown Barton geophysical survey and excavation located the remains of two pits that contained fragments of late Neolithic pottery, dating from the late 3rd millennium BC. These were the first vessels of their type to be found in the area and were thought to have been deposited by members of a nearby late Neolithic community, whose settlement site has yet to be discovered. [3] A sandstone macehead of probable Neolithic manufacture has also been found in the village of Charles.[4]

The presence of prehistoric communities is more visibly demonstrated by the density of Bronze Age burial mounds on areas of surrounding high ground, particularly on Exmoor.[5] More than 370 barrows have been recorded on Exmoor, with large concentrations present on the three main ridges that extend across the moor. The barrows often occur in close proximity to other monuments such as stone settings, and also settlements and field-systems.[6]

Geophysical survey and excavations to the north of Charlestown Barton located the remains of a Late Iron Age and Roman settlement.[7] The earliest evidence of occupation was a large ditched enclosure, which had been infilled between 20-230 AD. During the latter half of the 3rd-century AD a second enclosure was constructed on the site. Other archaeological features included pits, ditches and an iron-smelting site, which dated from the late 2nd- to early 4th-

[1] Edmonds, McKeown & Williams 1969, 27.
[2] Reed 1999, Manning 2000, Johnson 1999 etc.
[3] Manning 2000.
[4] DCC SMR SS63SE/7; SS688329.
[5] Gent 1998, 3.
[6] Riley & Wilson-North 2001, 32.
[7] Reed 1999.

century AD. The survival of pre-Saxon settlement remains at Charles increases the potential significance of the village and its environs.[8]

2.2 **Historical Background**

The site lies within the former ecclesiastical parish of Charles, which is now part of the civil parish of Brayford. The pattern of settlement in the parish was historically one of scattered farms and hamlets. The village of Charles comprises a small settlement focused around the church, the rectory and Charlestown Barton. The name Charles is probably derived from the Cornish *carn* or 'rock' and *lis* or *lies* meaning 'court, palace', and is indicative of a probable pre-Saxon community.[9] The settlements of Welcombe (or Wilcombe) and Shutscombe, located less than 1km to the north of the site, are also of probable medieval origin.

There has been limited modern development in or around Charles, apart from areas of recent quarrying. The field boundaries have remained largely unchanged since the production of the Tithe Map in 1842, when the site was owned by George Mogerage and called *Lower New Park.* [10] Mogridge's Quarry, which lies in the southern area of the site, was first illustrated on the 1891 OS map.[11]

3. GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

A geophysical survey of the site was undertaken in 2002, over an area 170m by 100m, between the hedge bank at the west edge of the site, and the steeply sloping ground to the east.[12] The survey identified a penannular ditch in the south-west corner of the main field, which appeared to be quite regular in shape, with a break in the ditch on the north-east side. Part of a second possible ring-ditch was recorded c. 30m to the north, at the south-west edge of the survey area. This feature was much more diffuse and irregular, and measured roughly half the size of the penannular ditch. Superimposed over these features and the rest of the site were agricultural striations orientated north-east to south-west. These striations were caused by ploughing and had been previously observed during survey of the site to the east of Charles in 1999.[13]

4. METHOD

A continuous watching brief was carried out during topsoil stripping in the north half of the site, covering an area *c*.0.91ha. The topsoil was removed by a 360° tracked excavator using a 1.60m wide toothless bucket, and the spoil taken off site by dumper trucks. The topsoil was fully removed to expose the weathered sandstone bedrock. This area included the location of the second possible ring-ditch, but no archaeological features were observed.

Two trenches were then excavated across penannular ditch 518 to the west of Mogridge's Quarry, in order to evaluate the archaeological potential of the feature. The trenches were positioned in a cruciform pattern (north to south and east to west) and the topsoil removed down onto the surface of the sandstone bedrock. Where archaeological deposits were encountered, excavation continued by hand. Four 0.90m-wide segments were excavated within the trenches (Fig. 3: 507, 508, 519 & 520).

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[8] Gent 1998,5.
[9] Hoskins 1992, 326.
[10] DRO Charles Tithe Map & Apportionment, 1842.
[11] OS 1st ed. 6" 14NE, 1891.
[12] Johnson 2002.
[13] Reed 1999,2.

Following the initial evaluation of 518, the topsoil was stripped over an area *c*. 22m x 22m, to expose its full extent. Eight 2m-long segments were then hand-excavated through the ditch (530, 536, 541, 547, 553, 558, 566 and 567). In total, fifty percent of the ditch fills were excavated by hand, and samples for possible radiocarbon dating and palaeoenvironmental analysis taken where deemed appropriate.

Once archaeological excavation and recording of 518 had been completed, a watching brief was maintained during the removal of the remaining topsoil over the southern and eastern parts of the site. Additional archaeological features were observed in the southeast part of the site, at SY6883 3328 (Fig. 2: Roman features).

5. RESULTS

Full descriptions of all contexts are listed in Appendix 1.

5.1 **Ring-ditch 518** (Figs 3 & 4)

The maximum depth of topsoil removed was 0.40m. Two distinctive types of geology were exposed beneath ring-ditch 518: that beneath the southern half comprised bedded sandstone and shale, which formed the dominant geological formation across the site, whilst the northern half had been excavated through a natural deposit of large, randomly pitched fragments of sandstone in a silty matrix. This was the only area of large sandstone fragments observed on the site, which had also been exploited by Mogridge's Quarry less than 10m to the east.

The results of the geophysical survey suggested that 518 was penannular, but excavation revealed a continuous rock-cut ditch, *c*. 16m in diameter. In plan, 518 was regular with minor deviations along its southern arc. The width of the ditch varied between 2.40m and 3m, and the depth between 0.75m and 1.15m. These variations did not correspond with differences in natural geology. However, segments excavated into bedded sandstone were often more regular than those cut into the silty natural, due to the presence of large and randomly pitched fragments of sandstone. The general profile of the ditch was a wide U-shape, with moderately sloping sides and a slightly rounded base.

The ditch did not appear to have been heavily truncated, although the ground level within 518 was slightly higher than that surrounding the ditch, which may indicate the former presence of a mound within 518, which has subsequently been removed by repeated ploughing.

Overlying the natural ground within most of the ditch segments were thin layers of primary fill, formed by the initial erosion of the sides of the ditch. No dating evidence was found within the primary fills.

The majority of deposits recorded were secondary fills, largely derived from natural weathering of material in the centre of 518 (Fig. 4). The overall pattern was one of gradual deposition resulting in a fairly uniform sequence of deposits built up over time. There were no deliberate dumps or large collapses of material, or periods of stabilisation within the ditch. The only dating evidence recovered from these deposits were 5 sherds of prehistoric pottery (?Neolithic/? Bronze Age) from 559.

The upper fills were consistent throughout 518 and averaged 0.50m thick. Most of these deposits contained large fragments of sandstone, which were derived from the erosion and repeated ploughing of a central mound. The deposits contained very little charcoal, and three sherds of prehistoric pottery (509, 546 and 562).

5.2 **Late Iron Age and Roman features** (Figs 5, 6 & 7)
Linear feature 584 was 10.20m long by 2.60m wide, and aligned north to south. It survived as a terrace cut into the hillside, where the ground began to slope more steeply down towards Gards Pit. The west edge of 584 was curvilinear and had been excavated into the slope to a maximum depth of 0.60m. The north end of 584 was rounded and faded out towards the east. The south end of 584 was very shallow and largely defined by pit 580. The base of the terrace was level and quite even.

Post-holes 585 and 587 truncated the base of 584, and were less than 0.20m apart, suggesting that one of these features was dug as a replacement for the other. No dating evidence was found within 585 or 587. Overlying the natural along the east edge of 584 were several large, horizontal slabs of sandstone that may have also been used as part of a structure, possibly as post-pads.

The basal fill within 584 was a thin layer of redeposited natural silt, 579. Above this was 578, which contained patches of charcoal, 30 fragments of burnt bone, fragments of copper alloy and iron, and 91 sherds of Roman pottery. Two inverted quern stones were also located within the north area of 578.

Overlying the central part of 578 was 577, which covered an area c.3m north to south and 2.70m east to west, and contained a high percentage of burnt sandstone and shale. 577 also contained sparse patches of charcoal, 49 fragments of burnt bone and 133 sherds of Roman pottery. There was no evidence for in situ burning within 584.

Adjacent to the south-west edge of 584 was spread 589, which extended 3m east to west and 4m north to south, before it was truncated by a modern haul road for the quarry. 589 was similar to 577 and contained sherds of Iron Age and Roman pottery. 589 overlay several large slabs of sandstone and shale that appeared to have been used to infill a shallow depression in the natural.

To the north-west of 584 was a small group of features cut into the natural ground (Fig. 6). Pits 592 and 596 had been heavily truncated by ploughing, but still contained a high proportion of charcoal and sherds of Late Iron Age pottery. Fill 597 also contained 14 fragments of iron-working slag. Pottery spread 590 comprised 51 sherds of Late Iron Age pottery, which may have formerly lain within a severely truncated feature.

The querns
The stone appears to be derived from a Lower Devonian sandstone source known as "Hangman Grit", which outcrops along the north Devon coast, extending across Exmoor (pers comm. R. Taylor, Exeter Museums). Hangman Point is located immediately east of Combe Martin Bay (SS585 483) about 16km due north-west of Brayford. The querns themselves are relatively rare finds in Devon, being of a later Iron Age style, which could have persisted in use in this area into the Romano-British period.

6. CONCLUSION

6.1 ***Ring-ditch 518***

518 almost certainly represents the remains of a ditch that previously encircled a prehistoric burial mound. Such ditches were dug to provide material for the construction of the mound and/or as an integral part of the monument, and similar examples can be seen throughout Exmoor. There are 370 known burial mounds on Exmoor, which range in diameter from 2m to 35m.[14] However, many of the ditches around extant burial mounds have now silted up and it is difficult to correlate the internal dimensions of 518 with other known examples in the area.

Burial mounds that were made of earth and stone are traditionally called barrows, whereas cairns were constructed primarily of stone. It seems likely that the mound within 518 was made of earth and stone derived from the excavation of the ditch and could be classed as a barrow. The ditch fills contained a number of large stone fragments, apparently derived from erosion of the central mound. At least twenty-one of the barrows and cairns on Exmoor have visible kerbs, (defined as a wall of upright stone slabs or a ring of laid stones) so it is possible that this barrow was similarly furnished. [15]

The barrows on Exmoor often contain a primary burial beneath the fabric of the mound. No burials or cut features were found within 518, or in the immediate vicinity. This may be as a result of previous ploughing on the site.

The elevated location of 518 corresponds with that of many of the barrows in the area, which often dominate the skyline. Five Barrows (SS 730 369) and Setta Barrow (SS 725 381) are among those clearly visible on the horizon. Many of these monuments, including Five Barrows, were sited on false crests and were to be viewed from particular directions. 518 was constructed below the summit of the ridge, which directed the focus of attention eastwards towards Exmoor.

The barrows on Exmoor occur in isolation, as linear groups, clusters and in association with other types of monument. 518 appears to be a solitary example, as no other contemporary monuments were found within the boundaries of the site. However, the presence of late Neolithic deposits of ritual significance to the south of the site increases the significance of the area and the likelihood of finding further remains. Additional barrows may be present on the summit of the hill to the west, or further along the edge of the valley to the north. Further geophysical investigation would be needed to clarify this.

Dating of barrows on Exmoor is poor, mainly due to the lack of modern archaeological investigation. Most of the barrows and associated monuments in the South-West are thought to date from the early Bronze Age (c.2000-1500BC), although recent work on Dartmoor has suggested that some originated during the Neolithic (c. 4000-2000BC).[16] The nearest dated barrow to the site is that at Bratton Down (SS 6608 3789), constructed in the latter half of the 2nd millennium BC (Middle Bronze Age).[17] A ring-cairn to the south-east of Five Barrows

[14] Riley & Wilson-North 2001, 37.
[15] Riley & Wilson-North 2001, 35.
[16] Quinnell 1984a, 52 & Todd 1987, 140.
[17] Quinnell 1987, 34.

(SS 7410 3608) also dates from this period.[18] The lifespan of individual monuments remains unknown.

6.2 ***Late Iron Age and Roman features***

Pit 596 and pottery spread 590 provided limited evidence for Late Iron Age activity on the site, which was broadly contemporary with Enclosure A to the south (infilled between 20-230AD).[19]

Terrace 584 represents the remains of an ephemeral structure, used during the 2nd-century AD, for domestic purposes or as a small working area. The quantity of burnt stone found within the terrace and 589 suggests the presence of a hearth nearby. The occurrence of two quern stones suggests the existence of a larger settlement in the vicinity, which may have been Enclosure A to the south.[20] The features predate the second Roman enclosure and iron-working site to the south (Enclosure B dates to latter half of 3rd-century AD; iron smelting site dates to late 2nd- to early 4th-century AD), and demonstrate continuity of activity in this area from the late Iron Age through to the 4th-century AD.

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APPENDIX 1: SEGMENTS EXCAVATED THROUGH RING-DITCH 518

Segment Number:	507	**Dimensions** (width x depth):	2.80m x 0.94m
Context Number	**Thickness**	**Description**	**Interpretation**
517	0.52m	Mixed deposit of dark yellowish brown silt with frequent fragments of sandstone <0.20m. Rare charcoal flecks.	Upper fill: final infilling of ditch. Material derived from ploughing of barrow and surrounding ground (colluvium).
516	0.20m	Mixed deposit of dark yellowish brown clayey silt with frequent sandstone <0.10m and rare sandstone >0.10m. Rare charcoal flecks.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow and sides of 507.
515	0.06m	Brown silt with frequent sandstone <0.03m and common sandstone <0.05m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow.
514	0.22m	Dark yellowish brown clayey silt with frequent sandstone <0.05m and sparse sandstone <0.20m. Rare charcoal flecks.	Secondary fill containing large stone fragments derived from barrow.
507		Wide and open ditch profile, with concave base and sides. Southern edge exploited bedding plane of sandstone natural. Ditch was not heavily truncated.	Segment excavated through eastern part of ring-ditch 518.

Segment Number:	508	**Dimensions** (width x depth):	2.80m x 1.15m
Context Number	**Thickness**	**Description**	**Interpretation**
509	0.25m	Strong brown silt with occasional sandstone <0.10m and rare sandstone <0.15m.	Upper fill of ditch.
510	0.34m	Dark yellowish brown silt with occasional sandstone <0.30m and rare shale >0.25m.	Secondary fill containing large stone fragments derived from barrow.
511	0.30m	Dark yellowish brown clayey silt with common sandstone <0.20m and rare shale <0.25m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow.
512	0.24m	Strong brown clayey silt, with sparse sandstone <0.15m and rare shale <0.01m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow.
508		Wide and open ditch profile,	Segment excavated

		with concave sides and uneven base. Horizontal bands of natural sandstone and silt visible in sides of 508. Ditch was not heavily truncated.	through northern part of ring-ditch 518.

Segment Number	519	**Dimensions** (width x depth):	2.65m x 0.80m
Context Number	**Thickness**	**Description**	**Interpretation**
525	0.34m	Dark yellowish brown silt with sparse sandstone <0.10m. Rare charcoal.	Upper fill.
524	0.32m	Dark yellowish brown clayey silt with frequent sandstone <0.25m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow.
523	0.08m	Dark yellowish brown, mixed deposit of clayey silt with occasional sandstone <0.15m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow.
522	0.08m	Brown silt with occasional sandstone <0.15m.Rare charcoal flecks. Mixed deposit.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow.
521	0.22m	Yellowish brown silt with frequent sandstone and shale <0.02m. Occasional sandstone <0.20m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow and sides of 519.
519		Wide and open ditch profile, with moderately sloping sides and flat base. The edges of 519 are quite regular, as the ditch has been dug into bedded sandstone natural.	Segment excavated through western part of ring-ditch 518.

Segment Number	520	**Dimensions** (width x depth):	2.90m x 1.05m
Context Number	**Thickness**	**Description**	**Interpretation**
526	0.38m	Dark yellowish brown silt with frequent sandstone <0.05m and common sandstone <0.70m.	Upper fill containing large stone fragments derived from barrow.
527	0.30m	Strong brown clayey silt with common sandstone <0.20m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow and sides of 520.
528	0.30m	Strong brown clayey silt with common sandstone <0.20m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow.
529	0.20m	Light brown clayey silt with	Primary fill derived

		common sandstone <0.08m and rare shale <0.10m.	from initial weathering of ditch sides.
520		'U' shaped profile with moderate-steeply sloping sides and concave base. 520 had regular edges as it had been dug through bedded sandstone natural.	Segment excavated through southern part of ring-ditch 518.

Segment Number	530	**Dimensions** (width x depth):	2.70m x 0.80m
Context Number	**Thickness**	**Description**	**Interpretation**
531	0.50m	Light yellowish brown silt with frequent sandstone <0.20m.	Upper fill containing large stone fragments derived from barrow.
532	0.40m	Very pale brown clayey silt with frequent sandstone <0.05m and occasional sandstone <0.10m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow.
533	0.34m	Very pale brown clayey silt with common sandstone <0.25m.	Secondary fill containing large stone fragments derived from barrow.
534	0.05m	Light grey clayey silt with rare sandstone <0.05m.	Primary fill derived from initial weathering of ditch sides.
535	0.15m	Light grey clayey silt with rare sandstone <0.05m.	Primary fill derived from initial weathering of ditch sides.
530		Wide and open profile with moderately sloping sides and flat base. 530 had regular edges as it had been dug through bedded sandstone natural.	Segment excavated through southeast part of ring-ditch 518.

Segment Number	536	**Dimensions** (width x depth):	3m x 0.90m
Context Number	**Thickness**	**Description**	**Interpretation**
537	0.50m	Strong brown silt with common sandstone <0.05m and rare sandstone <0.50m.	Upper fill containing large stone fragments derived from barrow.
538	0.30m	Brown clayey silt with common sandstone <0.05m and sparse sandstone <0.10m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow and sides of 536.
539	0.08m	Dark yellowish brown clayey silt with common sandstone <0.05m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow

			and sides of 536.
540	0.10m	Yellowish brown clayey silt with sparse sandstone <0.03m.	Primary fill derived from initial weathering of ditch sides.
536		Wide and open profile with moderately sloping sides and concave base. Sides and base of 536 were uneven due to large sandstone fragments within the natural ground.	Segment excavated through north-western part of ring-ditch 518.

Segment Number	541	**Dimensions** (width x depth):	2.88m x 1.08m
Context Number	**Thickness**	**Description**	**Interpretation**
546	0.45m	Dark yellowish brown silt with common sandstone <0.06m and sparse sandstone <0.20m. Rare charcoal flecks.	Upper fill containing large stone fragments derived from barrow.
545	0.25m	Dark yellowish brown silt with frequent sandstone <0.05m and common sandstone <0.15m. Rare charcoal flecks.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow and sides of 541.
544	0.16m	Dark yellowish brown silt with common sandstone <0.20m and rare charcoal flecks. Occasional pieces of slate <0.20m.	Secondary fill containing large stone fragments derived from barrow.
543	0.06m	Dark yellowish brown clayey silt with frequent sandstone <0.05m and common sandstone <0.25m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow.
542	0.20m	Dark yellowish brown clayey silt with common sandstone <0.01m and occasional sandstone <0.20m.	Secondary fill containing large stone fragments derived from barrow, fallen up against outer edge of 541.
541		'U' shaped profile with moderate-steep sides and uneven base. Edges of 541 were irregular due to banding within natural: large fragments of sandstone within natural silt and loose sandstone on north side.	Segment excavated through north-eastern part of ring-ditch 518.

Segment Number	547	**Dimensions** (width x depth):	2.86m x 0.86m
Context Number	**Thickness**	**Description**	**Interpretation**

548	0.60m	Strong brown clayey silt with frequent sandstone and shale <0.20m, rare sandstone <0.35m and rare quartz <0.04m.	Upper fill derived from ploughing of barrow.
549	0.15m	Strong brown silt with sparse sandstone <0.25m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow and sides of 547. Sparse stone fragments from barrow.
550	0.05m	Dark yellowish brown silt with rare sandstone <0.01m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow.
551	0.12m	Dark yellowish brown silt with rare sandstone <0.02m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow.
552	0.15m	Dark yellowish brown silt with sparse sandstone <0.15m.	Primary fill derived from initial weathering of ditch sides.
547		Wide and open profile with moderately sloping sides and concave base. 547 had even sides as it had been dug through bedded sandstone natural.	Segment excavated through north-western part of ring-ditch 518.

Segment Number	553	**Dimensions** (width x depth):	2.65m x 0.75m
Context Number	**Thickness**	**Description**	**Interpretation**
554	0.48m	Reddish yellow clayey silt with common sandstone <0.20m. Rare charcoal.	Tertiary fill containing rare amount of large mound fragments.
555	0.32m	Reddish brown clayey silt with common sandstone <0.12m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow.
556	0.10m	Pale yellow clayey silt with frequent sandstone <0.10m.	Primary fill derived from initial weathering of ditch sides.
557	0.15m	Light yellowish brown clayey silt with frequent sandstone <0.10m.	Primary fill derived from initial weathering of ditch sides. Very similar to 556.
553		Wide and open profile with	Segment excavated

		moderately sloping sides and concave base. Sides of 553 were quite regular as cut into bedded sandstone natural.	through south-western part of ring-ditch 518.

Segment Number	558	**Dimensions** (width x depth):	2.70m x 1m
Context Number	**Thickness**	**Description**	**Interpretation**
562	0.52m	Strong brown silt with common sandstone <0.20m.	Upper fill with rare large stone fragments derived from barrow.
561	0.30m	Dark reddish brown silt with rare sandstone <0.05m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow and sides of 558.
559	0.10m	Brown silt with rare sandstone <0.10m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow.
560	0.12m	Strong brown silt with sparse sandstone <0.15m.	Primary fill derived from initial weathering of ditch sides.
558		Wide and open cut with irregular edges due to large fragments of sandstone within natural. Sides were moderate-steeply sloping and the base was uneven.	Segment excavated through north-eastern part of ring-ditch 518.

Segment Number	566	**Dimensions** (width x depth):	2.40m x 0.75m
Context Number	**Thickness**	**Description**	**Interpretation**
573	0.65m	Light yellowish brown clayey silt with frequent sandstone <0.20m. Sparse sandstone <0.60m, up against south edge of 566.	Upper fill containing large stone fragments derived from barrow.
574	0.18m	Brown clayey silt with common sandstone <0.05m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow.
575	0.20m	Very pale brown clayey silt with occasional sandstone <0.12m.	Primary fill derived from initial weathering of north side of 566.
576	0.15m	Very pale brown clayey silt with occasional sandstone <0.10m.	Primary fill derived from initial weathering of south side of 566.
566		Wide and open profile with	Segment excavated

		irregular sides and concave base. 566 was cut into bedded sandstone natural.	through north-western part of ring-ditch 518.

Segment Number	567	**Dimensions** (width x depth):	3m x 0.90m
Context Number	**Thickness**	**Description**	**Interpretation**
568	0.44m	Strong brown clayey silt with frequent sandstone <0.15m and rare sandstone >0.50m. Rare slate <0.02m.	Upper fill containing large stone fragments derived from barrow.
569	0.30m	Strong brown clayey silt with sparse sandstone <0.06m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow.
570	0.20m	Brown silt with sparse sandstone <0.20m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow and sides of 567.
571	0.08m	Dark yellowish brown silt with common sandstone <0.04m.	Secondary fill derived from natural weathering of barrow.
572	0.16m	Dark yellowish brown silt with frequent sandstone <0.10m.	Primary fill derived from initial weathering of sides of 567.
567		Wide and open profile with concave base and moderately sloping sides. The edges of 567 were quite regular as the ditch was cut into bedded sandstone natural.	Segment excavated through south-western part of ring-ditch 518.

APPENDIX 2: TERRACE 584 AND ASSOCIATED FEATURES & CONTEXTS
(N.B. figures in **Bold** text indicate cut numbers)

Context Number	**Fill of/ Filled with**	**Thickness /depth**	**Description**	**Interpretation**
577	584	0.22m	Dark brown clayey-silt with common burnt sandstone and shale <0.10m. Sparse patches of charcoal.	Dump or spread of material containing burnt stone, charcoal and domestic debris.
578	584	0.24m	Brown clayey-silt with occasional sandstone and shale <0.15m.	Deposit derived from natural weathering of surrounding material.
579	584	0.10m	Strong brown clayey-silt with rare sandstone <0.10m.	Primary fill derived from initial weathering of sides of 584.
580	581, 582, 583	0.30m	Sub-rectangular feature with steep sides and flat base.	Post-hole or small pit at south end of terrace 584.
581	580	0.10m	Dark greyish brown sandy clay with common shale, occasional burnt shale and frequent charcoal.	Upper fill of 580.
582	580	0.01m	Thin lens of charcoal within 580.	Layer of charcoal dumped into 580.
583	580	0.20m	Very dark greyish brown sandy clay with common shale <0.10m.	Basal fill of 580 probably derived from natural weathering of surrounding material.
584	577, 578, 579	0.60m	Terrace cut into east facing slope.	Small shelter/working area cut into hillside. Ephemeral structure, possibly temporary or seasonal camp.
585	586	0.30m	Sub-circular feature with irregular profile, steep sides and flat base.	Post-hole within terrace 584.
586	585	0.20m	Dark yellowish brown silty clay with frequent shale <0.01m and rare charcoal.	Fill of 585, derived from weathering of surrounding material.
587	588	0.15m	Sub-circular feature with irregular profile, steep sides and concave base.	Small post-hole within terrace 584.
588	587	0.15m	Dark yellowish brown silty clay with frequent shale <0.01m and common charcoal.	Fill of 587, derived from weathering of surrounding material.
589	-	0.25m	Dark brown clayey silt with rare sandstone and shale	Spread of material similar to 577:

			<0.60m and rare charcoal.	occupation debris. Large stones placed within slight hollow.
590	-	<0.10m	Spread of pottery sherds.	Crushed vessel?
591	-	0.04m	Dark brown clayey silt with rare sandstone <0.08m and charcoal.	Basal fill of severely truncated feature or spread of material.
592	593, 594, 595	0.22m	Sub-circular feature with shallow sides and uneven base.	Truncated pit.
593	592	0.14m	Dark greyish brown clayey silt with common sandstone <0.10m	Secondary fill of 592, derived from natural weathering of surrounding material.
594	592	0.05m	Black layer of charcoal.	Dump of charcoal in 592.
595	592	0.12m	Dark brown clayey silt with sparse sandstone <0.05m.	Secondary fill of 592, derived from natural weathering of surrounding material.
596	597	0.16m	Ovoid pit with moderate sloping sides and flat base.	Truncated pit.
597	596		Dark greyish brown clayey silt with common sandstone <0.10m (c. 30% burnt).	Secondary fill of 596, derived from natural weathering of surrounding material.

APPENDIX 3: FINDS CATALOGUE

What follows is an alphabetical finds listing for the watching brief at Bray Valley Quarry (phase V), Devon 2004. All weights given are in grams (to the nearest 2 grams). SF denotes small finds number and qty denotes quantity. The following site code was used to mark artefacts & ecofacts: BQV 04

Context Dating

context	*date/period*
500	?prehistoric
509	prehistoric (?neolithic)
546	prehistoric (?bronze age)
559	prehistoric (?neolithic)
560	prehistoric (?neolithic)
562	prehistoric (?bronze age)
577	roman (2nd century)
578	roman (2nd century)
581	?iron age/roman
583	roman (?2nd century)
589	roman
590	late iron age (?1st century AD)
597	late iron age (?1st century AD)

Bone-faunal

context	*qty*	*comments*
577	1	tooth fragment
577	49	burnt
578	30	burnt

Copper Alloy

context	*SF*	*qty*	*comments*
578	403	1	object fragment
578	406	2	fragments

Ironwork

context	*SF*	*qty*	*comments*
578	404	2	object fragments
578	405	2	object fragments
583	-	1	fragment

Lithics

context	*qty*	*comments*
500	1	flint: exhausted core

Miscellaneous

context	*qty*	*comments*
560	2	clay fragments ?daub

Pottery & Dating Evidence

Abbreviations Listing

BB1	black-burnished ware category 1
bd	body
bs	base
bwl	bowl
C	century
con	context
cp	cooking pot
cw	coarseware

dec	decorated
Dr	Dragendorff
ext	external
fb	fabric
gy	grey
int	internal
jr	jar
pln	plain
ox	oxidised
Pre	prehistoric
qtz	quartz
R	residual
rdc	reduced
Rom	roman
sh	sherd
tmp	tempered
unc	unclassified
ves	vessel
w	ware

Prehistoric

context	*contents/dating evidence*	*sherds*	*vessels*
500	?Pre lithic: ?Pre		
509	Pre (?neolithic) total sherds: 1 total vessels: 1 Pre pot (?neolithic, qtz vein tmp, rdc fb, pln bd sh)	1	1
546	Pre (?bronze age) total sherds: 1 total vessels: 1 Pre pot (?bronze age, small ox scrap, bd sh)	1	1
559	Pre (?neolithic) total sherds: 3 total vessels: 1 Pre pot (?neolithic, ?dec thick bd sh, qtz tmp, ext ox surface, rdc int surface)	3	1
560	Pre (?neolithic) total sherds: 2 total vessels: 1 Pre pot (?neolithic, bd sh, qtz tmp, ext ox surface, rdc int surface, small scraps)	2	1
562	Pre (?bronze age) total sherds: 1 total sherds: 1 Pre pot (?bronze age, small ox scrap with rdc surface, bd sh)	1	1

590	late iron age (?1C AD) total sherds: 51 total vessels: 3		
	Pre pot (late iron age, 5 jr rim)	51	3
597	late iron age (?1C AD) total sherds: total vessels:		
	Pre pot (late iron age, 4 jr rim)	43	4
unstrat ring ditch	total sherds: 1		
	total vessels: 1		
	unc cw (?Pre, small ox scrap with qtz grits)	1	1

Roman *context*	*contents/dating evidence*	*sherds*	*vessels*
577	Rom (2C) total sherds: 133 total vessels: 26		
	samian dec (Dr 37 bwl, L1C/2C)	3	1
	samian pln (bwl rim)	1	1
	mortaria (Rom, ox fb)	1	1
	unc ox w (Rom, ?amphora)	7	1
	unc ox w (Rom, ?samian)	4	1
	BB1 (Rom, 1 cp 2C, 1 rim, 1 bd sh with lattice)	10	5
	unc cw (Rom, wheel thrown)	2	1
	unc cw (?Rom ?gy w)	18	2
	unc cw (?Rom/iron age, 1 cp dec, 1 cp, 1 dec ?jr, 1 ?jr rim)	87	13
578	Rom (2C) total sherds: 91 total vessels: 15		
	samian dec (2C)	3	1
	unc ox w (Rom, ?amphora, ?same ves as con 577)	1	1
	BB1 (Rom, 1 bd sh with lattice)	5	2
	unc cw (?Rom/iron age, 1 cp rim)	20	7
	unc cw (?Rom/iron age, 1 cp rim, dec bd sh)	21	1
	unc cw (?Rom/iron age, bs/bd sh)	5	1
	unc cw (?Rom/iron age)	2	1
	Pre pot (iron age, 1 rim, pln burnished bd sh)	34	1
581	?iron age/Rom total sherds: 2 total vessels: 1		

	unc cw (?Rom/iron age, bd sh)	2	1
583	Rom (?2C) total vessels: 24 total sherds: 6		
	BB1 (Rom, 1 ves with lattice, ?2C)	17	3
	unc cw (?Rom/iron age, 1 cp rim)	2	1
	unc cw (?Rom/iron age, 1 rim)	3	1
	Pre pot (iron age R, bd sh)	2	1
589	Rom total sherds: 11 total vessels: 4		
	?BB1 (Rom, cp, 1 rim 1 bd sh with lattice)	2	1
	unc cw (?Rom/iron age, bd sh)	1	1
	unc cw (?Rom/iron age, 1 cp rim)	2	1
	Pre pot (iron age R, bd/bs sh)	6	1
unstrat	?Rom total sherds: 10 total vessels: 2		
	unc cw (?Rom/iron age, 1 rim, 1 bd sh with lattice)	9	1
	Pre pot (iron age, bd sh)	1	1

Statistics
total number of sherds:
minimum number of vessels:

Slag

context	*qty*	*weight*	*comments*
597	1	14	iron working slag fragment

Small Finds

SF	*context*	*qty*	*material*	*comments*
401	578	1	stone	flattened domed quern
402	578	1	stone	domed quern
403	578	1	Cu alloy	object fragment
404	578	2	Fe	object fragments
405	578	2	Fe	object fragments
406	578	2	Cu alloy	fragments

Stone

context	*qty*	*weight*	*comments*

578	1		flattened domed quern (SF 401) with central hole underneath . Granitic quartzite, approx size: 320mm diameter x 155mm height, hole 30mm diameter x 45mm deep
578	1		domed quern (SF 402) with central hole underneath. Granitic quartzite, approx size: 360mm diameter x 140mm height, hole 35mm diameter x 59mm deep
578	1	-	?utilised pebble

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING AND EXCAVATION AT BRAY VALLEY QUARRIES, BRAYFORD, DEVON

by

J.E.Best

Exeter Archaeology

March 2005

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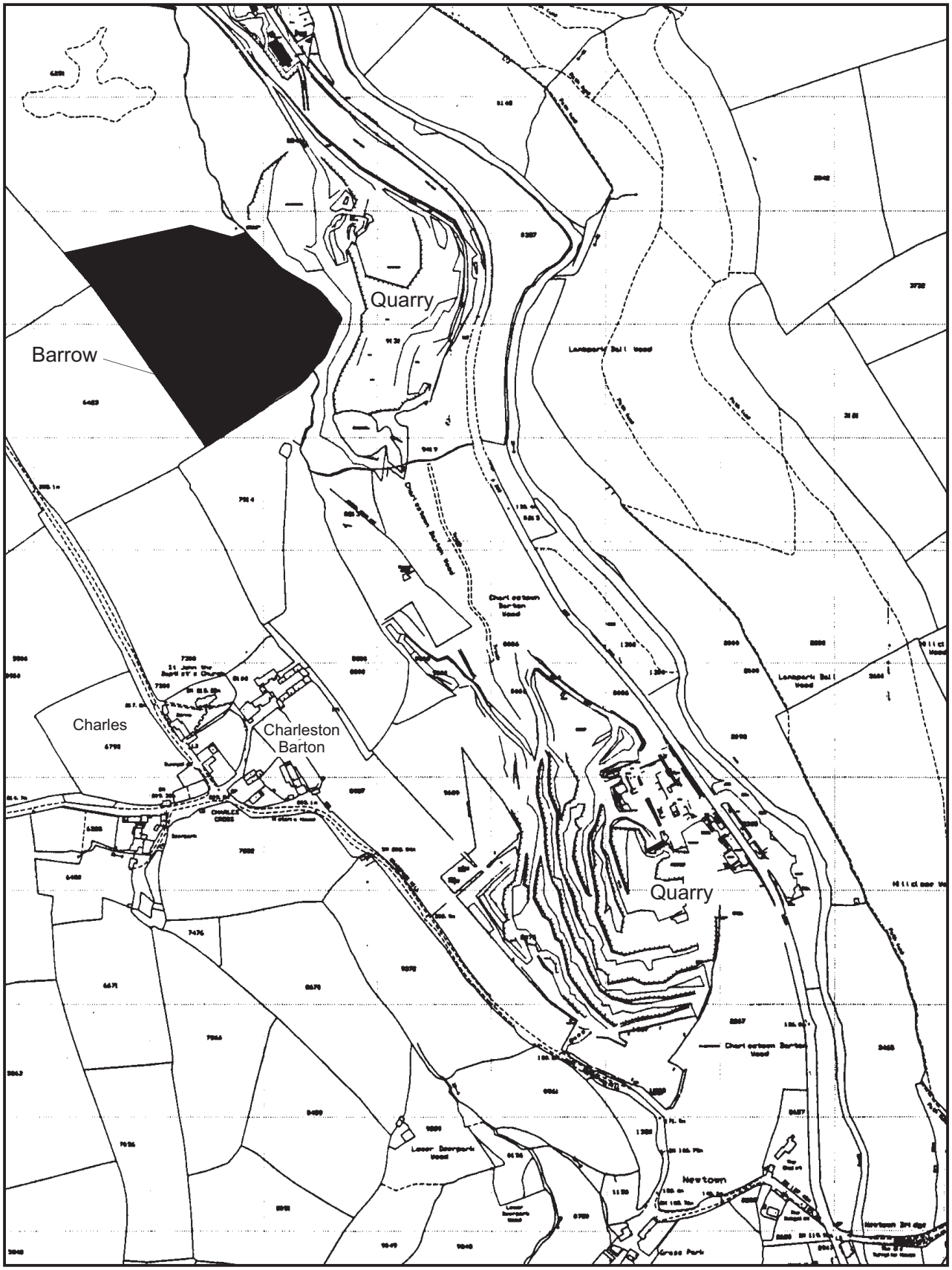

Fig. 2 Location of proposed extension to Gards Pit Quarry. Based on map supplied by Hanson Aggregates. Scale 1:5000.

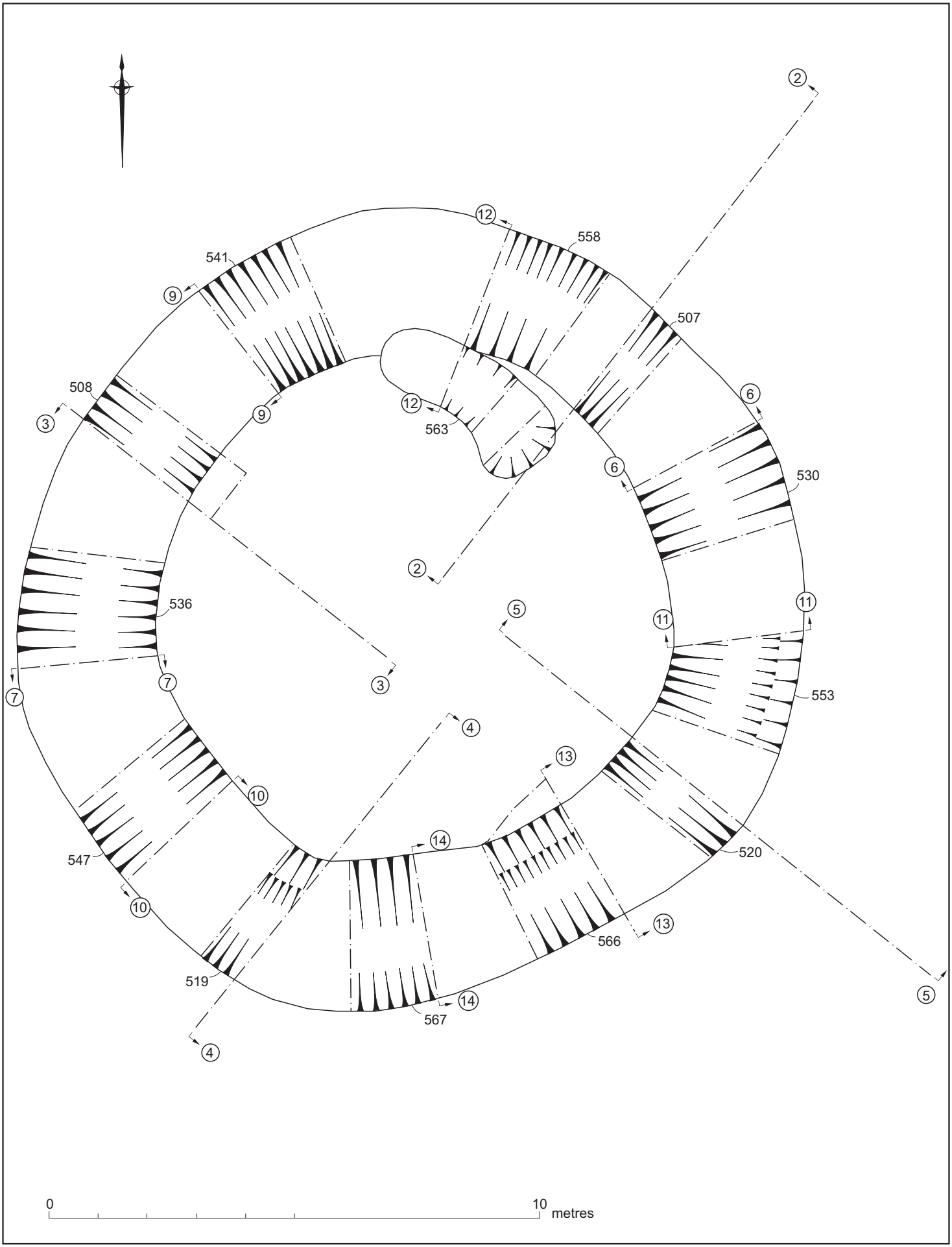

Fig. 3 Plan of ring-ditch 518.

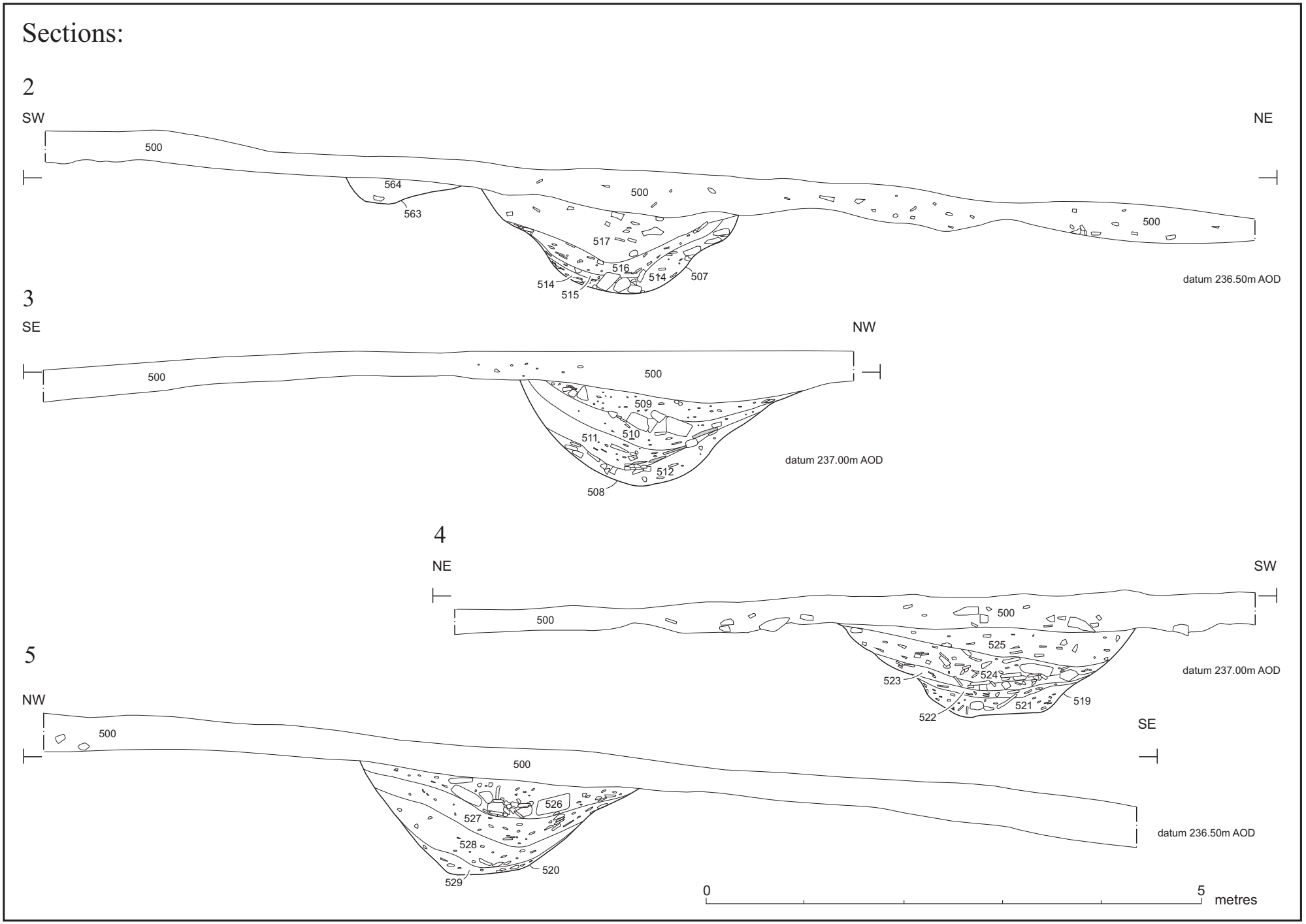

Fig. 4 Sections through ring-ditch 518.

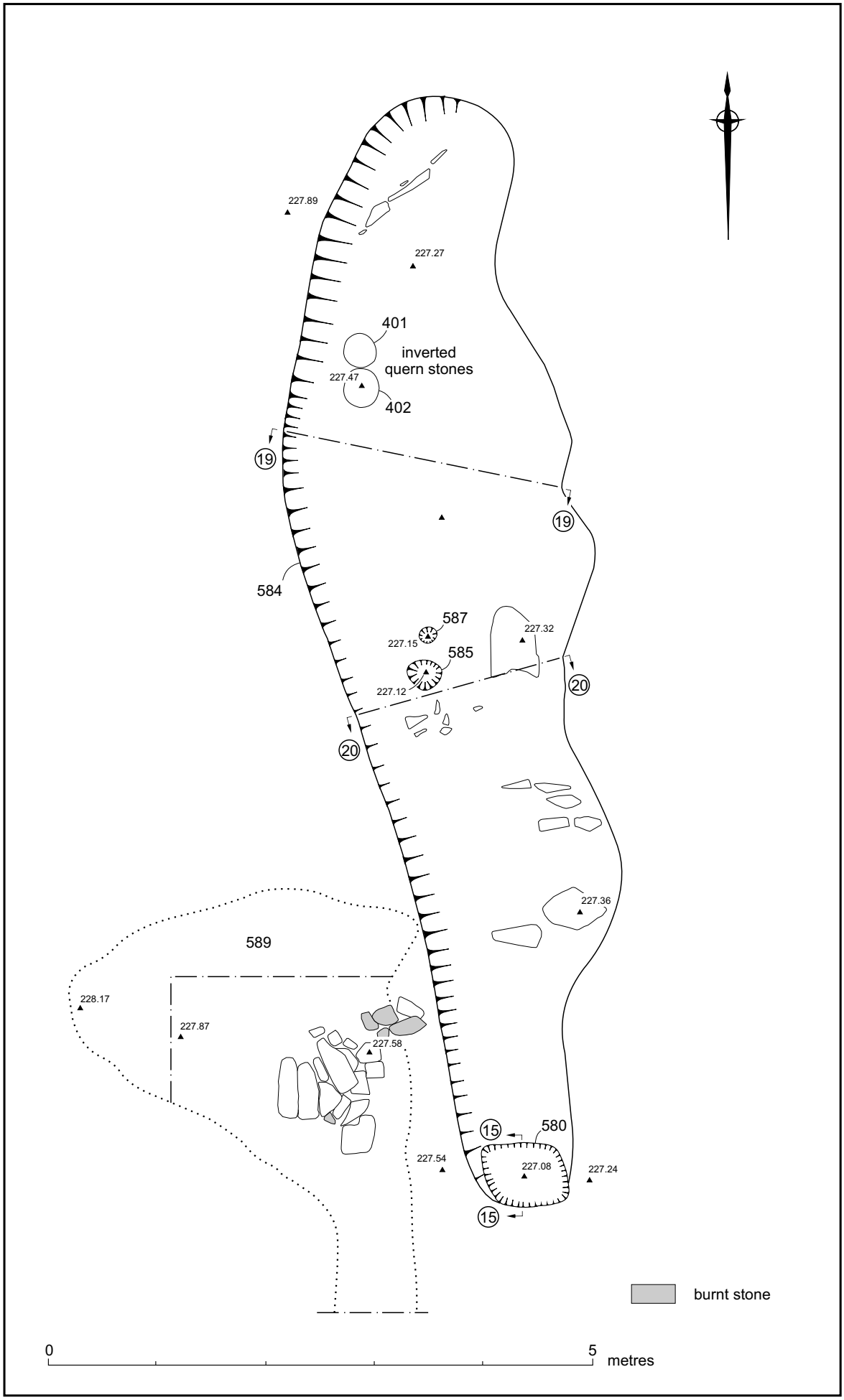

Fig. 5 Plan of terrace 584.

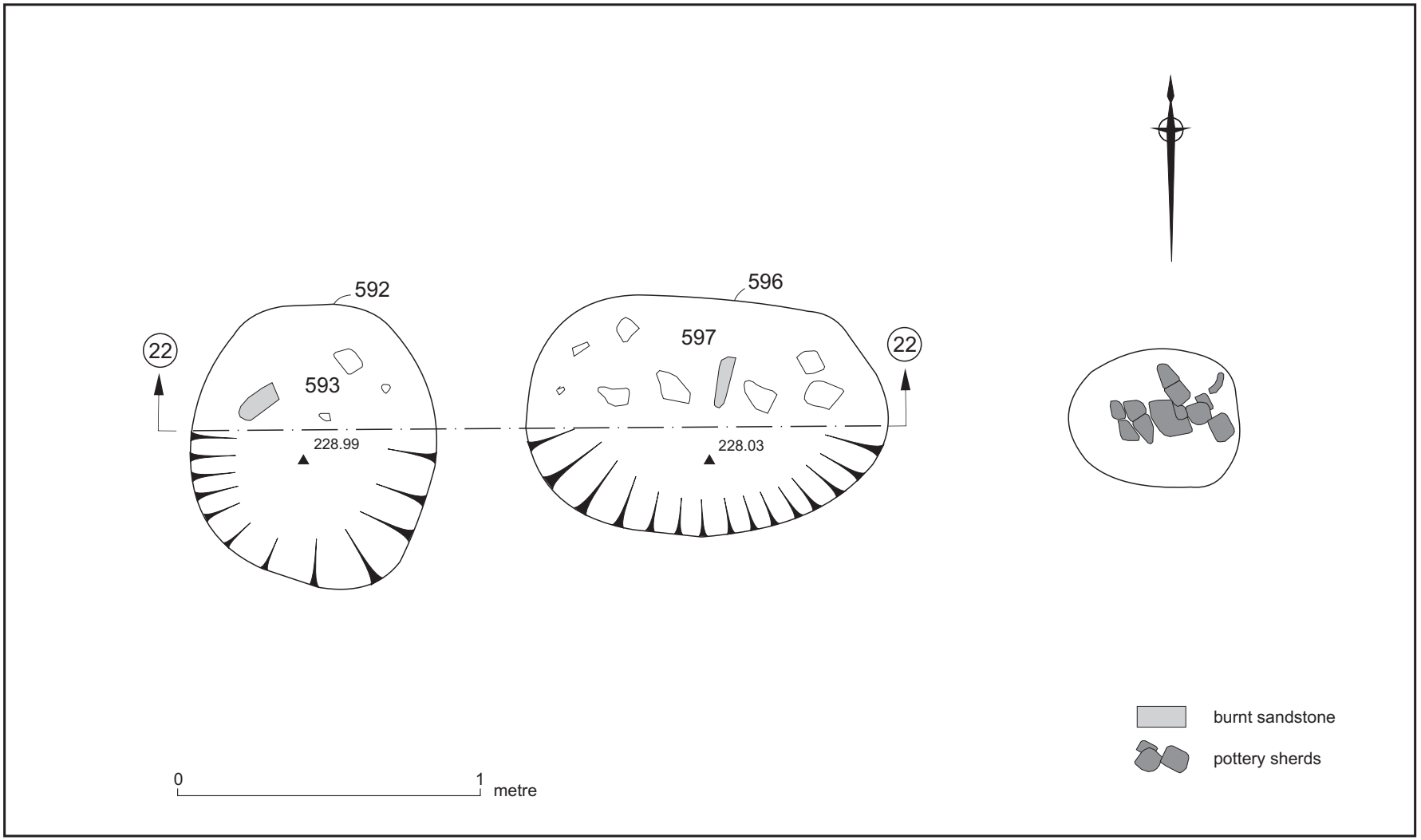

Fig. 6 Plan of pits 592, 596 and pottery spread 590.

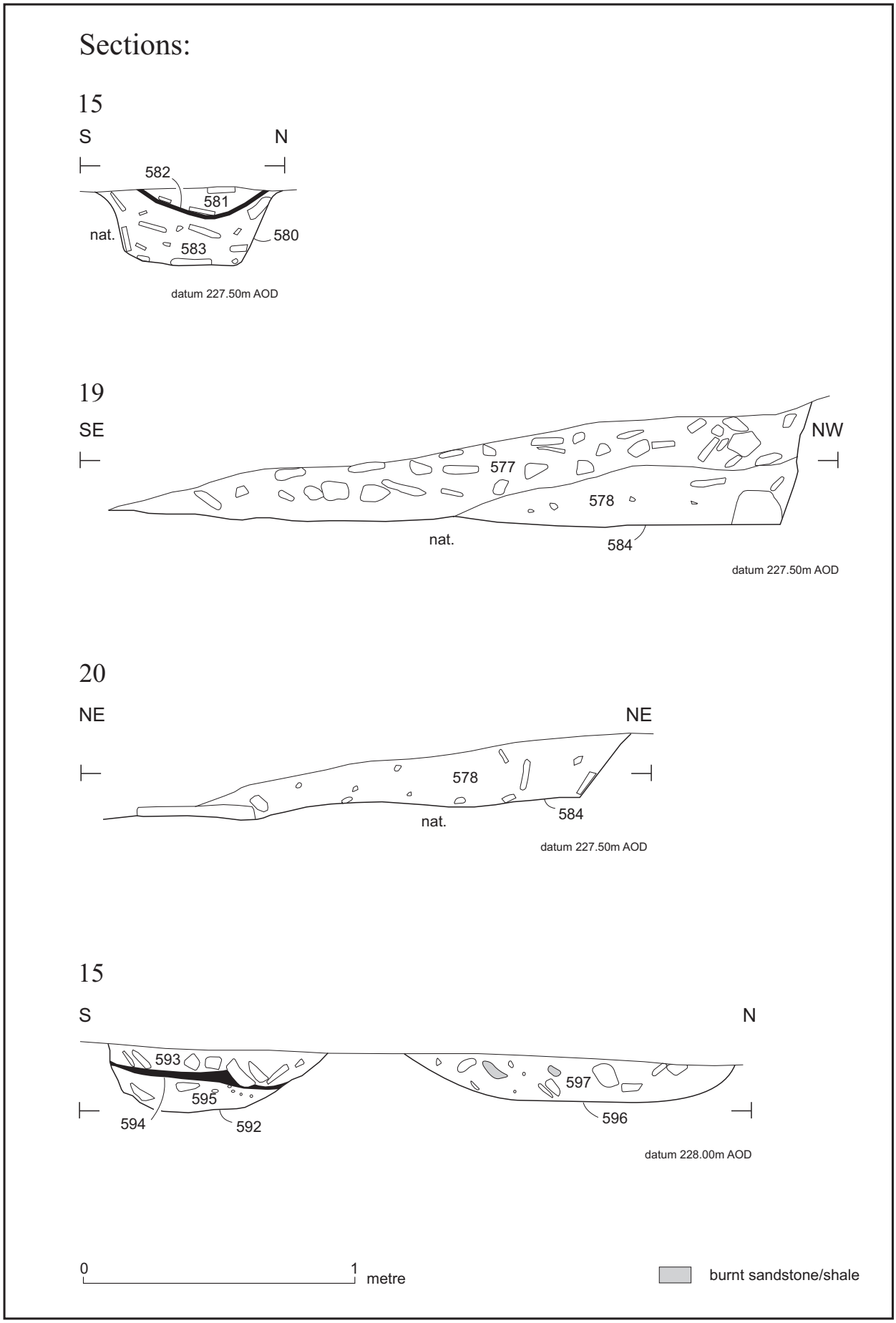

Fig. 7 Sections of pits 508, 592, 596 and terrace 584.