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ENY	1000,999,998
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Northern Archaeological Associates

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
OF A ROMANO-BRITISH FARMSTEAD SITE
AT BAYRAM HILL, NORTH YORKSHIRE
FOR
ALFRED M^cALPINE/AMEC**

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF A ROMANO-BRITISH FARMSTEAD SITE AT BAYRAM HILL, NORTH YORKSHIRE

Following the identification of a possible rectilinear settlement and associated field system from oblique aerial photographs, geophysical survey and trial excavation were undertaken to map and evaluate the site. The main enclosure was found to measure approximately 0.6 ha in size, with an entrance on the eastern side and a trackway leading to the south-east. Associated ditches extended away from the main enclosure over an area of approximately 2 ha. Internally, evidence was found for a sub-enclosure in the northern half of the main enclosure, and of occupation in the form of pits, post-holes and a probable stone-lined well, although no house positions were definitely identified. The site produced a small but significantly well preserved animal bone assemblage and a pottery assemblage which suggested that occupation commenced in the later Iron Age and may have continued into the 4th century AD.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report contains the results of an archaeological evaluation at Bayram Hill, near Knaresborough, North Yorkshire (SE 408565). The work was carried out by Northern Archaeological Associates on behalf of Alfred McAlpine/AMEC. The site lay within the area of a proposed 'borrow pit' at Bayram Hill, which was connected with the improvement of an adjacent section of the A1 between Walshford and Dishforth.

An initial desk top study of the area of the proposed 'borrow pit' undertaken in July 1993 (Report NAA 93/9) revealed three potential archaeological sites within the area recorded on the North Yorkshire Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). SMR 6230 was an enigmatic circular feature, identified from vertical aerial photographs, which might have been geological or anthropogenic in origin. SMR 6231 comprised a number of features, again identified from vertical aerial photographs, which appeared to be related to field drainage. SMR 6232 (fig. 1) was recorded as a supposed "Celtic" farm identified on an oblique aerial photograph which was not held in the SMR. Subsequent examination of the photograph, taken in 1979, revealed a cropmark of a rectangular enclosure, aligned approximately north-south, and measuring approximately 100m by 60m. An inner enclosure was visible at its northern end and other dark lines and patches possibly indicated occupation within and around the enclosure.

Following the positive identification of the site from the aerial photograph a geophysical survey was commissioned and carried out during the week commencing the 23rd August 1993. On the basis of the results of the geophysical survey, further evaluation, comprising the excavation of five trial trenches, was undertaken between 9th and 17th September.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 Topography and geology

The site lies to the west of the A1, approximately 600m SSW of the junction between the A1 and the A59. The northern part of the field is flat, sloping gently away to the south and the

ground cover at the time of the evaluation was rough pasture. The enclosure is not positioned entirely on the top of the hill (c. 35m AOD) and the southern and eastern sides run slightly down hill.

The area lies on the western margins of the Bunter Sandstones, to the west of which lies the Magnesian Limestone. The drift geology is a combination of till and glacio-fluvial drift derived from the Pennine glaciation in the late Pleistocene. This directly underlies the soils of the area which belong to the Dunkeswick association (711p). These are typically fine loamy soils.

2.2 Archaeological and historical background

By the late Iron Age the lowland area of Yorkshire between the Pennines to the west, the Hambleton Hills and the Wolds to the east is thought to have had a relatively dense distribution of settlement although little is known of its pattern (Haselgrove 1984). Evidence from the few excavated sites and from pollen diagrams suggests that within this area mixed farming predominated. Throughout this lowland area, and especially on the Magnesian Limestone, aerial photography has revealed extensive evidence of later Iron Age and Roman native settlement. The precise date of the cropmark sites is uncertain but they would seem to conform to later prehistoric and Roman types in that they comprise sub-rectangular or D-shaped enclosures, trackways and field systems (WYAS 1981). Excavation has taken place at three sites to the south of Wetherby; at Ledston, Dalton Parlours and Wattle Syke. The enclosures, round houses and storage pits found at all these sites are thought to have been components of extensive agrarian settlements with related field systems. To the north, excavation has taken place at a farmstead site at Thorpe Thewles in Cleveland (Heslop 1983). This produced evidence of a large bank-and-ditched enclosure containing a central round house and nine other small buildings which may have belonged to a period when the site had developed from a enclosed farmstead into an open nucleated settlement.

3.0 THE GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

Following the identification of the farmstead at Bayram Hill from aerial photographs, a gradiometer survey was carried out by Geophysical Surveys of Bradford (GSB 93/97). Its aim was to confirm the location of the cropmark and to identify other features which may not have been visible as cropmarks. An area of approximately 2ha. was surveyed, centred on the enclosure. The results clearly identified the main enclosure and showed a break in its eastern side (fig. 2). Two parallel linear anomalies ran in an easterly direction, and possibly indicated a trackway. A smaller inner enclosure was also picked up in the northern half of the main enclosure. A number of linear features surrounded the enclosure and one, aligned north to south, bi-sected the western side. These linear anomalies were presumed to be either trackways or field boundaries. There were, in addition, a number of pit-type anomalies within the main enclosure.

4.0 THE EXCAVATION TRENCHES

The evaluation took the form of five trial trenches designed a) to test the degree of survival of features visible on aerial photographs and subsequently recorded by the geophysical survey and b) to record the quantity of other features revealed by excavation alone (fig. 2). Dating

evidence in the form of pottery and other finds was also sought from the evaluation. A 360° tracked-excavator with a flat bladed ditching bucket was used to remove the topsoil and most of the 'B' horizon thus exposing the subsoil. This was cleaned using both hoes and trowels to reveal the archaeological features. Total excavation of all the features revealed was not within the remit of the evaluation and was not therefore undertaken.

All the features were sealed by a 'B' horizon ranging from a mid orange-brown sandy loam to a loose orange sand with pea grit. This varied in thickness from 0.4m on the top of the hill in trench A, to 0.14m down the slope in trench E, to 20mm on the edge of the hill top in trenches C and D. The 'B' horizon was overlain by a fairly uniform topsoil of dark brown fine sandy loam between 0.2 and 0.3m in thickness. At the south end of trench E, at the base of the hill slope, a colluvial deposit gradually increased in thickness.

4.1 Trench A

This trench was positioned to test the density of features outside the main enclosure. Part of a linear feature (051) identified by the geophysical survey was revealed in the western edge of the trench (fig. 3), but was not excavated. It was therefore not possible to confirm whether this was a ditch or a surface. The only other feature of definite archaeological interest was a circular clay-lined feature (18). This measured 0.94m in diameter but only survived to a depth of 0.07m. Several stones in the fill (016) showed evidence of burning and it is possible that the feature was the remains of a clay-lined hearth. The shallowness of the feature suggested a great degree of truncation on this part of the site and smaller features like post holes were unlikely to survive in this area. The natural subsoil in this trench was very variable and in order to ensure that there were no other features, one area of subsoil change was tested (024). This was proved to be natural in origin.

4.2 Trench B

This trench revealed part of the southern boundary ditch (049) of the inner enclosure (fig. 4). The ditch was planned and was left unexcavated here as it was sectioned in trench C. It was cut by an oval-shaped pit (045), which measured 1.4 by 2.4m, and was filled with a very dark brown clay silt (013). The pit was half-sectioned and an environmental sample was taken of the fill. Sherds of Roman pottery dating to no later than the 2nd century were recovered from the fill.

Running north-south across the trench was a very stony deposit (028), 2.8m wide. This had been identified by the geophysical survey as a linear feature running across the field. Three distinct linear concentrations of stones, aligned north to south, occurred in the deposit. These probably represent the centre line and edges of a trackway, the less stony areas in between having been worn away by cart wheels. The putative trackway was cut on the south side by a later ditch (048) whose full extent could not be determined as it extended beyond the trench. It was filled with a black/brown clay silt with small pebbles (047). A small post hole (055) cut this deposit. Its alignment was continued to the east by a line of larger stones with a concentrated stony area to the south.

4.3 Trench C

This trench was positioned near to the centre of the main enclosure and the southern ditch (039) of the inner enclosure was revealed within it (fig. 4). The ditch was half-sectioned within the trench and measured 2.2m wide and 0.7m deep. Inside the inner enclosure (to the north of the ditch) a concentration of post holes (026) and some more dispersed features including a pit were identified. The pit (040) measured 1.38m in diameter and 0.4m deep. It had been partly filled with a compacted sand when a post hole (043) was cut through it. Several post holes were also identified to the south of ditch 039, of which two (032 and 034) were excavated. No discrete building pattern could, however, be determined. Near to the south end of this trench was a linear concentration of cobbles running east-west (031) and measuring 2.2m in width. This feature was not identified on the geophysical survey and represented either the fill of a ditch or surface. It was cut by a stone-lined feature (020), which measured approximately 2.5m in diameter. The stone lining began 0.3m below the top of the feature and was bonded with a stiff grey clay which extended to the lip of the cut. The stones were cobbles averaging 0.2m long and nearly all had flattish sides. The feature was part sectioned although the base was not reached. Pieces of late Roman pottery recovered from the fill suggested that the infilling of the feature dated to around the middle of the 4th century. The stone and clay lining suggested that the feature was probably a well rather than a rubbish or storage pit.

4.4 Trench D

This trench was positioned across the gap in the eastern side of the main enclosure in what is assumed to have been an entrance. The terminal of the ditch at the southern side of the entrance (010) was revealed by excavation (fig. 5). Measuring 3m wide at the top and 1.2m deep, this section was much deeper than the other excavated ditch sections. The terminals of ditches are often deeper because they define an entranceway, but in this instance its topographical location off the top of the hill may also have prevented truncation by ploughing. The lower fills of this ditch terminal (037, 036) contained 1st or 2nd century Roman pottery.

Just inside the enclosure, near to the entrance, was a compacted spread of cream coloured mortar-like material. Whilst this material could have been deliberately laid as a surface to the trackway leading away from the enclosure, it may have been simply a natural calcareous concretion.

4.5 Trench E

This trench revealed the southern boundary ditch (030) of the main enclosure (fig. 5). It measured 3.5m in width and 0.86m deep and the fill (029) contained a piece of worked antler. The only other feature which was recorded in this trench was a large post hole (022) which lay 3.5m to the north of the ditch.

5.0 DISCUSSION

The geophysical survey and trial excavation confirmed the existence of a rectilinear settlement and associated features within the south-east corner of the 'borrow pit' area. The main enclosure was aligned roughly north-south and measured approximately 100m by 60m. In the north-east corner was an inner enclosure measuring approximately 50m by 50m, and to the

south of this an entrance approximately 6m wide in the eastern side. The ditch of the main enclosure, where excavated, produced pottery of 1st and 2nd century date in the lower fills. The ditch of the inner enclosure produced only animal bone and could not be accurately phase or dated. It may be either contemporary or later than the main enclosure and could indicate an area with a different function or later shrinkage of the settlement.

Of the features sampled within the main enclosure, one pit in trench B produced 1st and 2nd century finds which may phase it to the initial phase of occupation. The stone lined well (19) contained pottery dating to the mid fourth century, suggesting that occupation on the site stretched across at least three centuries even if not continuously occupied. Unfortunately, none of the excavated post holes produced any dating evidence nor could they be grouped to form structures.

The linear feature running north-south across the western side of the enclosure was identified in trench B. The relationship of the trackway to the main enclosure could not be determined at this point, but it is likely to post-date it.

Outside the enclosure the geophysical survey defined linear anomalies which stopped close to or at the main enclosure ditches; indeed one ran directly from the south-west corner. Considering this relationship, it is likely that these are boundaries of a field system associated with one or more phases of occupation in the enclosure. Only one such feature was identified, during excavation of trench A, and the presence of a hearth there suggests that occupation activity may extend beyond the main enclosure at some point.

Some deductions may be made about the site from the pottery, although these must be tentative given the size of the assemblage. There is evidence of occupation on the site in the 2nd century AD and in the 4th century (see appendix I), although the absence of evidence for 3rd century occupation in a collection of this size is not necessarily meaningful. The site may originate in the later Iron Age, but it is possible that it does not commence before the later 1st century AD. Certainly, Iron Age style material continues to provide the bulk of East Yorkshire rural assemblages into the second century AD. The presence of an amphora sherd in such a small assemblage is of note, as these vessels are usually quite scarce on low status rural sites. Similarly it is of interest that tile is being used on the site and the possible box flue tile may suggest a Roman influence on buildings.

The palaeobotanical samples (see appendix II) contained moderate amounts of well preserved carbonised plant remains. Context 013, the earlier pit, was dominated by wheat and, from metrical and chaff data, there is a mixture of spelt and bread wheat. Hulled barley and rye were also grown and are probably of local origin, given the chaff remains from them. The weeds indicate cultivation of heavy clay soils rather than light acidic soils. Some of the weeds represented are more common in the Medieval period than the Romano-British otherwise the grain assemblage is not atypical for Roman times.

The evaluation produced a small but significant animal bone assemblage (see appendix III). Although generally poorly preserved, the fact that any animal bone was recovered from the site at all makes it unusual. Evidence was found for the presence of cattle, sheep/goat, pig, rodent, horse, red deer, dog, cat, rat and frog/toad. Some of the bone had been gnawed by dogs and a few exhibited signs of butchery marks. The material from the stone-lined pit/well was in a slightly better than average condition and included most of the micro-faunal remains.

6.0 CONCLUSION

The evaluation has established that the remains of a probable Romano-British rectilinear settlement survives on Bayram Hill. The site appears to have been reasonably long lived and is unusual in the quality of its associated pottery assemblage and in the preservation of both animal bone and significant amounts of carbonised cereal. It is therefore judged to be of major regional importance and should, if possible, be preserved in situ. If it is necessary to extract from the area of the site then it should be fully recorded in advance through an intensive open area excavation.

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APPENDIX I

The Pottery

by **Jeremy Evans**

Trench B

003 Topsoil (1 sherd)

A BB1 flange rim bowl with acute burnish lattice on exterior. Hadrianic-Antonine.

013 Fill of pit (4 sherds)

A large tile fragment.

A small oxidised fragment, possibly tile or large jar.

A small closed form body sherd, interior grey, exterior oxidised, fine sand tempered, probably a flagon body sherd.

A handmade, reduced ware body sherd, abundant sub-rounded quartz temper, Iron Age or early Roman.

The context is clearly Roman and is probably not be later than the 2nd century.

Trench C

006 'B' horizon (3 sherds)

Three fragments from a low fired reduced ware handmade sherd with (?)vegetable tempering voids. Probably Iron Age.

019 Fill of stone lined pit (8 sherds)

A jar base sherd, probably Crambeck greyware, also a jar wall sherd, sooted, in Crambeck greyware. 4th century.

Two greyware jar wall sherds, not closely datable.

A sooted Dales ware jar rim sherd, 3rd-mid 4th century.

A Nene Valley brown colour-coated beaker base sherd.

An East Yorkshire calcite gritted ware jar rim sherd, hooked, with a broad ?lid-seating. Mid-late 4th century.

A central Gaulish Curle 11 flange fragment, c. AD 120-150.

The context might perhaps date around the middle of the 4th century.

Trench D

009 Top fill of ditch terminal (5 sherds)

A Central Gaulish base body sherd, probably from a Dr33 but it could be from an 18/31/31 type, either date to c. AD 120-200

A Dressel 20 white slipped amphora body sherd, 1st-3rd century.

An oxidised ?daub/tile fragment.

A jar shoulder sherd, probably in sandy greyware, but surfaces burnt orange.

The context may date to the second century date although the evidence is limited.

036 Fill of ditch terminal (1 sherd)

A (?)jar base sherd in a (?)handmade reduced fabric with abundant sub-rounded white quartz temper.

Not closely datable, perhaps earlier Roman rather than Iron Age.

037 Fill of ditch terminal (12 sherds)

Three joining rim sherds, three wall sherds and a simple base sherd, in a reduced hand made fabric with abundant sub-rounded white quartz temper. The vessel is a dish with a slightly beaded rim. The vessel form and reasonably well-fired fabric may well suggest an early Roman as much as an Iron Age date.

Five handmade jar body sherds and a simple jar base sherd in the same fabric as above.

This material could be later Iron Age or 1st to 2nd century AD, the latter is slightly more likely.

Trench E

015 'B' horizon (1 sherd)

An oxidised sandy (?)tile fragment.

029 Fill of south ditch of main enclosure (4 sherds)

An oxidised closed form body sherd with common very fine sand temper.

An abraded oxidised (?)jar body sherd.

An oxidised (?)base sherd from a closed form with a handle scar near the base and some coarse sand temper. This sherd is problematic, but it is possibly Roman.

A tile fragment, exterior sooted, interior surface completely sooted. It would appear to be from a box flue tile or a half box flue tile, but if so it is not of a regular kind (cf Broddribb 1987, fig 33) since there seems to have been a vent in the broader side.

References

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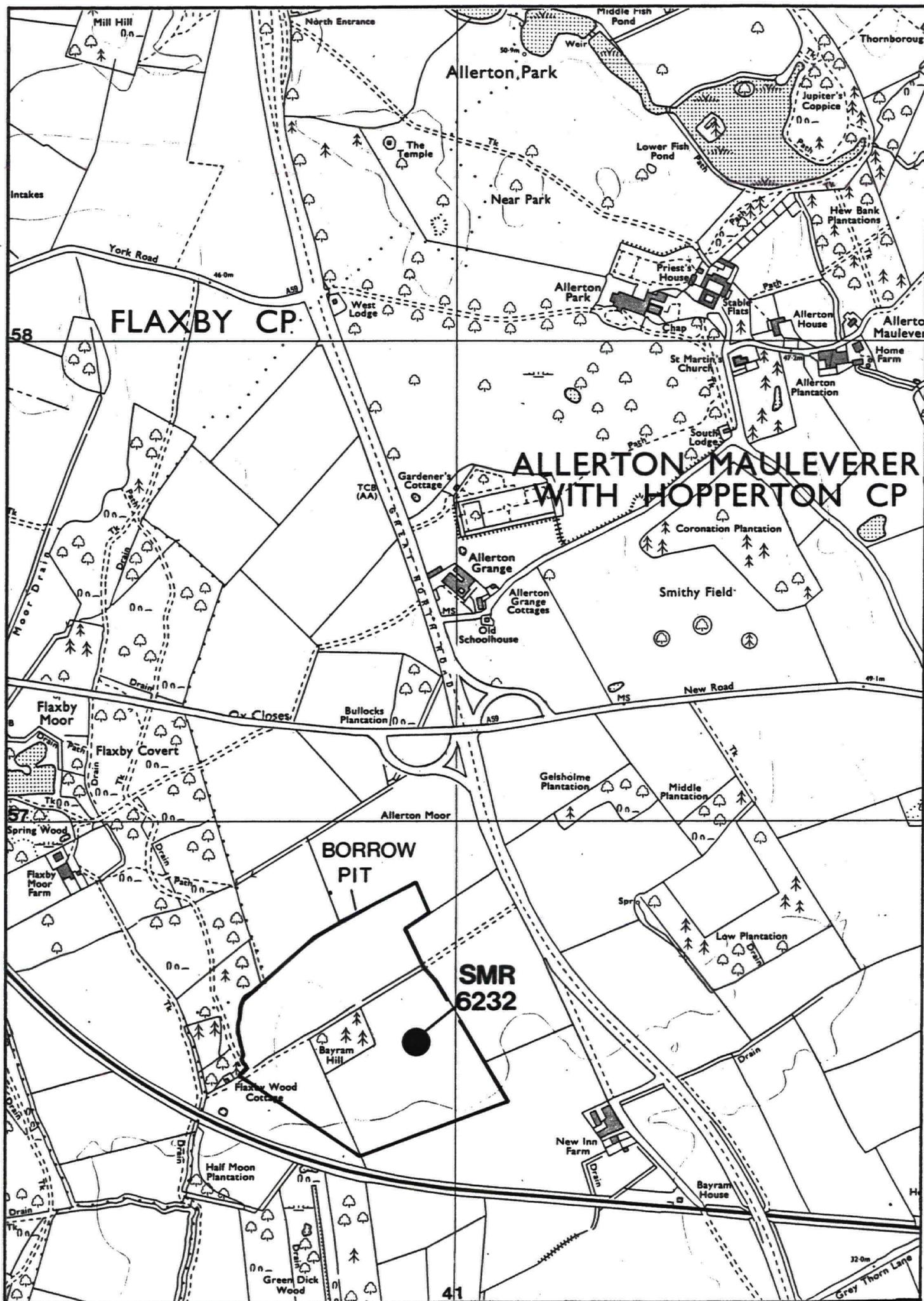


Fig. 1

Site location

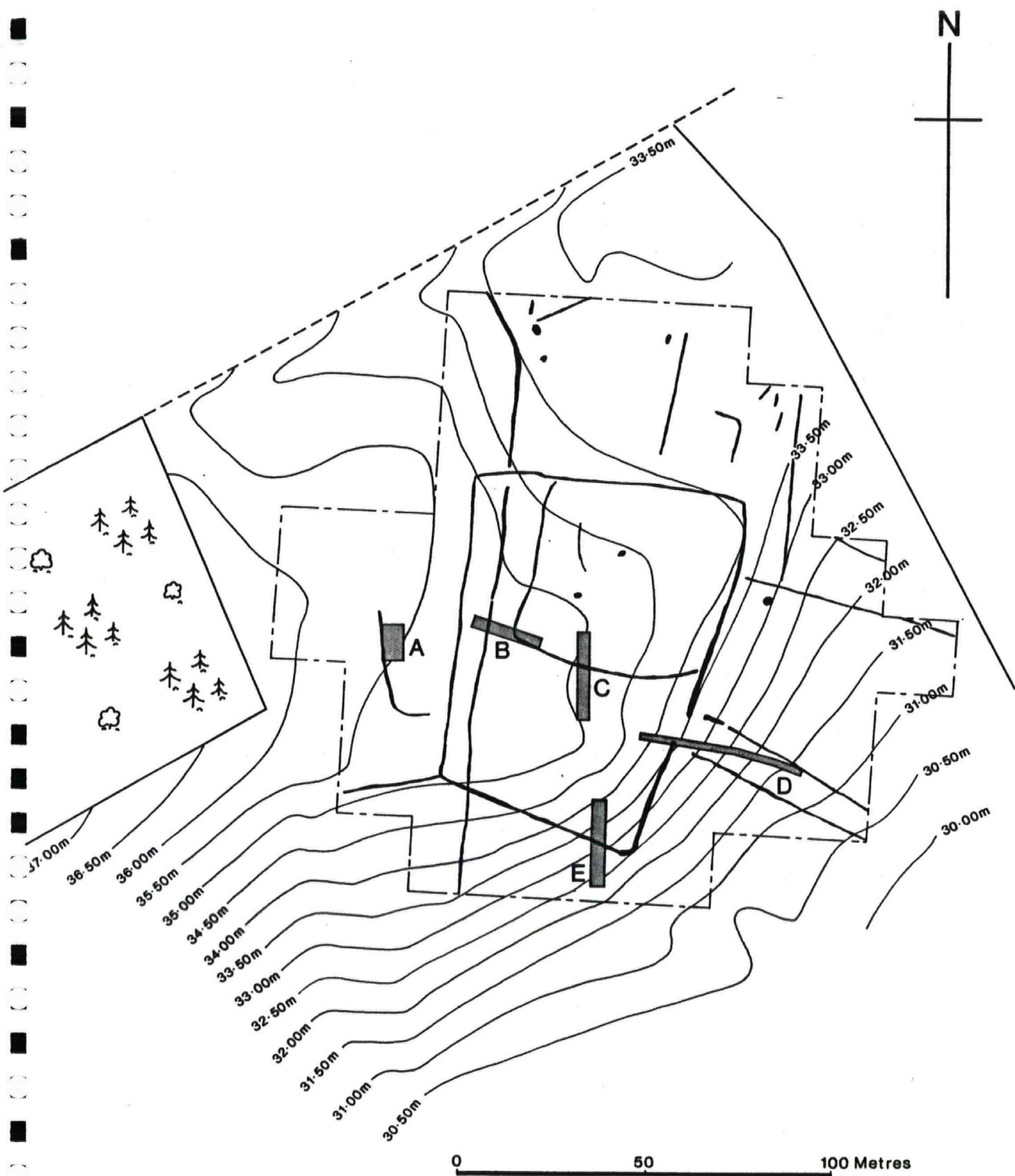


Fig. 2 Location plan of Trenches A - E, Overlying geophysical survey interpretation.

Trial Trench A

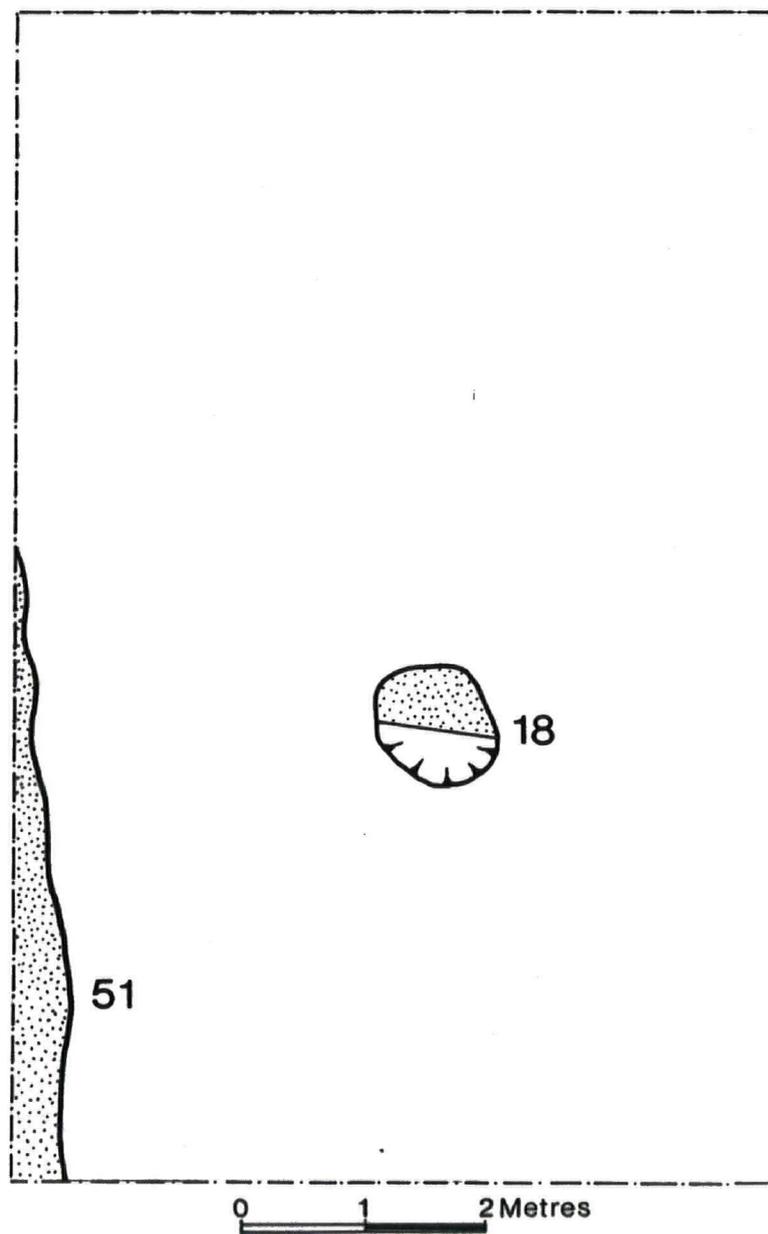
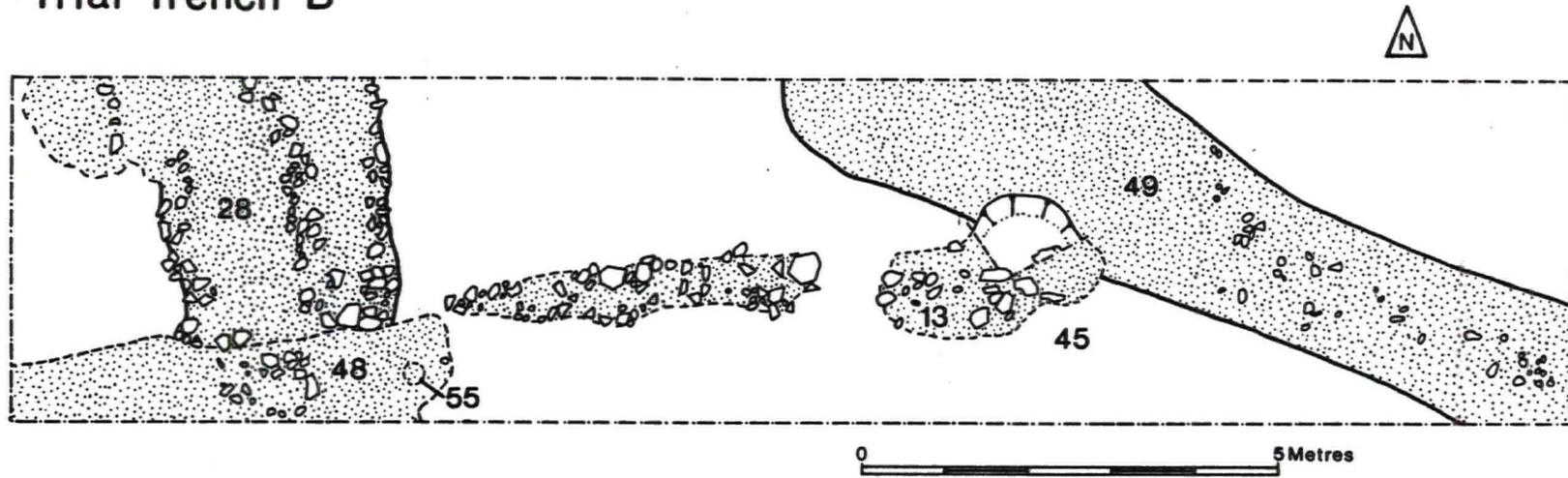


Fig. 3 Detail plan of Trench A, Bayram Hill.

Trial Trench B



Trial Trench C

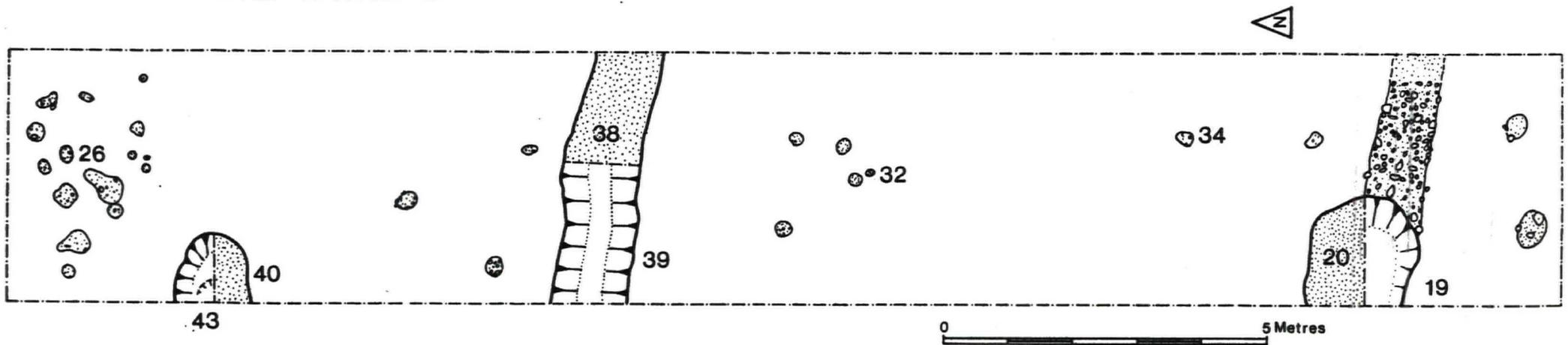
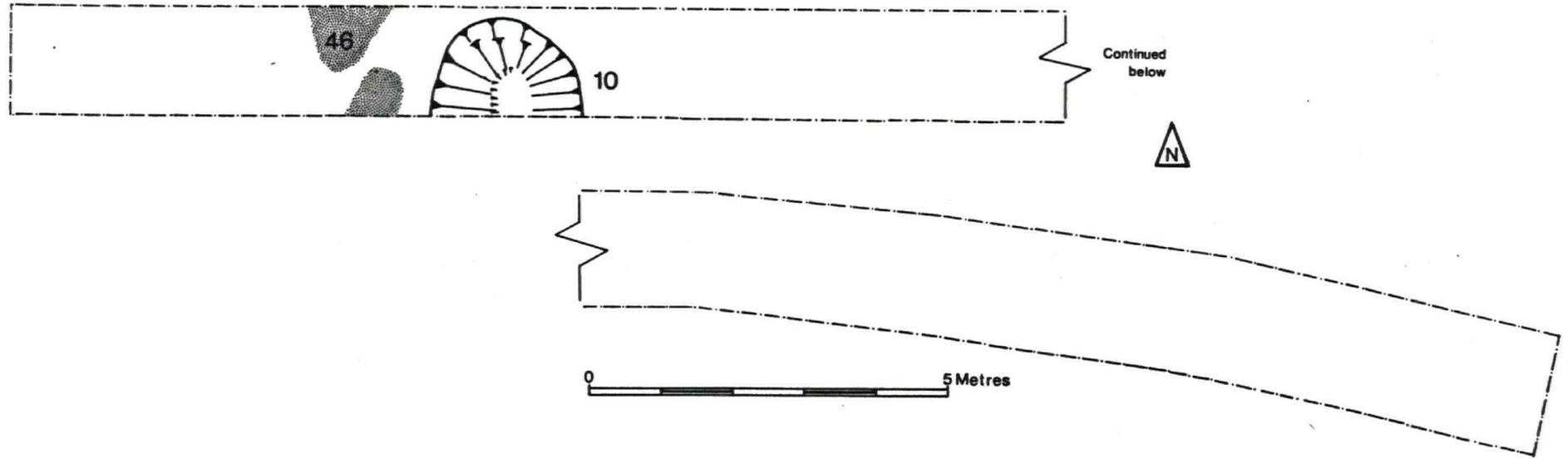


Fig. 4 Detailed plans of Trenches B + C, Bayram Hill.

Trial Trench D



Trial Trench E

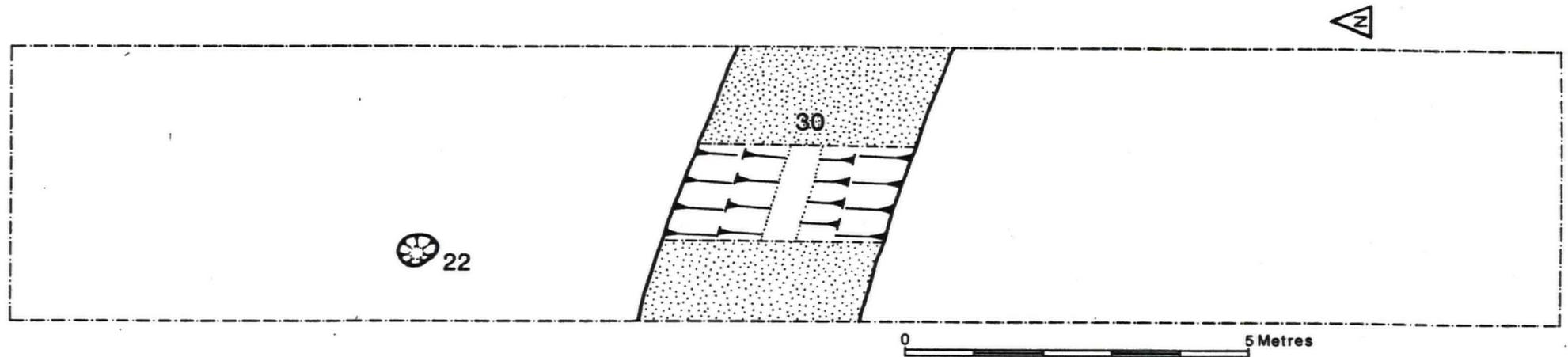


Fig. 5 Detailed plans of Trenches D + E, Bayram Hill.

Appendix II

Environmental sample assessment

by Jaqui Huntley

Introduction

The two bulk samples of c. 8 litres were dried and floated in the Laboratory with both flots and residue retained upon 500µm mesh. Biological material was sorted from flots and residues using magnifications of up to x50 as appropriate. Identifications were made using comparative, modern, reference material held in the Biological Laboratory, Department of Archaeology, University of Durham.

Results

Context 0013 AA (?Romano-British)

The original sample consisted of a grey-brown silty soil which produced a moderate-sized flots of more or less pure grain. The grain was dominated by hexaploid wheat but a few grains of hulled barley, rye and possibly cultivated oats were also recovered. Wheat and rye chaff/straw fragments were present and probably indicate that at least some of the grain was locally grown. A moderate weed assemblage was present but all represent taxa of heavier and nutrient enriched soils - none are from the suite of classical arable weeds. There was no evidence for other crop plants.

Context 0019 AA (middle 4th century)

The original sample was also a grey-brown sandy silt but produced a flots of silty charcoal and grain. The residue contained a few fragments of highly comminuted animal bone and one piece of ?baked clay. Fragments of flint and chalk were recovered. Hexaploid wheat was again the dominant cereal and barley and rye were both present. A number of indeterminable grains were present and the overall preservation was less good than context 0013. More wheat chaff than grain was recovered from this context and the weeds were less varied. Few were representative of cultivation, ruderals were more common - these are plants of waste and longer-term fallow ground. Plants of acidic and wet ground were present in this context.

Discussion

The abundance of spelt wheat but with bread wheat and some rye is in accordance with a Roman date for the north. The relatively low numbers of barley grains are, however, unusual. Most sites in the north are dominated by barley except where clear granary storage is present. Such sites are, however, almost always adjacent/related to Roman military sites, not true here.

The presence of moderate numbers of *Anthemis cotula* achenes is interesting given the Roman dates from the pottery. This is a plant of heavy clay soils and, elsewhere in the north, only appears in Medieval samples - although it may be present during Saxon times for which there are more or less no data available.

General conclusions

The samples both contain moderate amounts of well preserved carbonised plant remains. Context 0013, the earlier pit, is dominated by wheat and, from metrical and chaff data, there is a mixture of predominantly spelt but about 30% bread wheat. Hulled barley and rye were also grown and are probably of local origin given the chaff remains from them too. The weeds indicate cultivation of heavy clay soils rather than light acidic soils. Some of the weeds represented are more common in the Medieval period than the Romano-British otherwise the grain assemblage is not atypical for Roman times. A radiocarbon date from this material would be of benefit to palaeobotanists. Although grain is the most abundant material in this pit it is not considered to have been a storage pit.

Table 1: the botanical data

Taxon	English name	0013	0019
Triticum (hexaploid)	wheat	238	17
hulled Hordeum	barley	17	4
Secale cereale	rye	6	
cf. Avena	?oats	4	
Cerealia indet.	indet. cereal grain		12
Triticum glumes	wheat chaff	35	56
Triticum chaff	wheat fragments	51	
Triticum aestivum floret base	bread wheat chaff	9	
Secale rachis internode	rye chaff	7	1
Hordeum rachis fragment	barley chaff	1	1
Avena awn	oat chaff		1
>4mm Gramineae	large grasses	6	
Bromus sp.	brome grass	12	9
<2mm Gramineae	small grasses	8	
2-4mm legume	vetch	2	
<2mm legume	small vetch/tare	12	
Chenopodiaceae undiff	fat hen/oraches	4	
Anthemis cotula	stinking mayweed	16	
Polygonum aviculare	knotweed	1	1
Polygonum persicaria	redshank	18	1
Galium aparine	cleavers	2	
Potentilla sp.	?tormentil	2	
Rumex obtusifolius-type	docken	5	13
Conium maculatum	hemlock	2	
Plantago lanceolata	ribwort plantain	1	
Raphanus pod frag.	radish pod	1	
Juncus sp.	rush	8	
Eleocharis palustris	spikerush		1
Sieglingia decumbens	heath grass		1
Carex (trigonous)	sedge		1
Eriophorum vaginatum	cotton grass		1

Appendix III

Animal bone assessment

Adrienne Powell

This is a very small assemblage - 379 fragments of which only 77 were identifiable. Most of the bone is from the usual domestic animals, with a small wild component. The species present are, in descending order of importance, cattle, sheep/goat, pig, an unidentified mouse-sized rodent, horse, red deer, dog, cat, rat (unidentified species) and frog/toad (unidentified species).

Some bones have been gnawed by dogs, a few also have butchery marks. There is also evidence for bone-working on-site: the beam of a shed red deer antler which has had a section cut out.

There is little which can be said about an assemblage of this size. The bone is in general poorly preserved, often highly eroded, and fragmentary. The material from context 0019 (stone-lined pit/well) was in a condition slightly better than average and included most of the micro-faunal remains. It is possible that the bulk sample from this context might produce more when processed.

Key: Large mammal = horse/cow/red deer
 L = left
 R = right
 F = epiphysis fused
 UF = unfused
 I = fusion indeterminate

0002 5 fragments: 2 identified
Cattle: 1 distal humerus (2 fragments), F, R,
 gnawed

0003 52 fragments: 8 identified
Horse: 1 distal metatarsal, F
Large mammal: 2 vertebrae (3 fragments)
Cattle: 1 maxillary tooth
 1 calcaneum, I, R
 1 1st phalange
Sheep/goat: 1 M1/M2 fragment

0006 1 fragment
Rat: 1 femur, I, L
(species unidentified)

0009 78 fragments: 12 identified
Horse: 1 M3
Large mammal: 1 vertebral spine
Cattle: 1 mandible, L
 4 M1/M2
 1 M3 fragment
 1 proximal metacarpal, R, gnawed
Pig: 1 distal humerus, L, I

Evaluation of a Romano-British Farmstead at Bayram Hill

Dog:	1 tibia, L, I 1 mandible, L
0011	74 fragments: 16 identified
Cattle:	3 maxillary teeth 1 mandible (3 fragments), R 1 distal metacarpal (2 fragments), F 2 1st phalanges 2 2nd phalanges
Sheep/goat:	2 M1/M2 1 distal tibia, I 1 metatarsal, I 1 metatarsal
0012	2 fragments, unidentifiable
0013	10 fragments: 1 identified
Cattle:	1 proximal metatarsal, L, gnawed
0019	77 fragments: 18 identified
Large mammal:	1 vertebral spine with cutmarks
Cattle:	2 maxillary teeth 1 mandible (2 fragments), L
Sheep/goat:	2 maxillary teeth 1 M1/M2 1 distal humerus, L, I
Pig:	1 upper canine, male 1 lower incisor
Cat:	1 lower canine
Small rodent:	1 femur, L, UF 1 proximal femur, L, F 1 tibia, R, F 1 distal tibia, L, F 1 distal tibia, R, F
Frog/toad:	1 tibia-fibula, I
0029	46 fragments: 7 identified
Horse	1 proximal radius, R, F
Cattle	1 maxillary tooth 1 proximal metacarpal
Red deer:	1 antler, shed, worked
Sheep/goat:	1 tibia, R, I 1 distal tibia, L, I
Pig	1 distal humerus, R, I
0036	5 fragments: 2 identified
Cattle:	1 proximal tibia, L, I 1 distal tibia, L, F
0037	3 fragments: 3 identified
Cattle:	1 M3 1 proximal metacarpal, L, gnawed
Pig:	1 upper canine, male, burnt

0038 8 fragments: 5 identified
Cattle: 1 mandible, R
 1 astragalus, L, chopped, gnawed
 1 1st phalange
Red deer: 2 maxillary teeth

0047 18 fragments: 2 identified
Cattle: 1 mandible, R, cut
 1M3

APPENDIX IV
Context list

Trench A

Cut 024

A circular feature measuring 1.82m diameter with sides angled at 50 degrees. The feature was filled by deposit 023 and was considered to be natural during its excavation.

Deposit 023

A moderately loose orange-brown sandy clay with common sub-rounded and angular stones measuring between 0.10m - 0.30m. The deposit measured 1.82m diameter and the thickness was unknown as it was not fully excavated.

Cut 051

A linear feature measuring 0.55m wide and 4.6m long, running in a north to south direction and filled with deposit 050. The feature was recorded but not excavated.

Deposit 050

A dark brown sandy loam with frequent rounded cobbles with an average size of 0.12m. The deposit within the site measured 0.55m wide and 4.6m long but extended beyond the edges of the trench. It was the surface fill of feature 051. The deposit was recorded but not excavated.

Cut 018

A circular feature measuring 0.94m in diameter and 0.07m deep. The sides were angled at 60 degrees to a flat bottom. The feature was filled by deposits 016 and 017.

Deposit 017

A compact blue-grey clay with a thickness of 0.04m and lining the side of hearth or pit 018. There was no evidence of burning on the deposit.

Deposit 016

A friable mid brown sandy loam with many sub-rounded and angular stones measuring between 0.15 - 0.30 m in diameter. Several stones showed evidence of burning but no evidence of charcoal was visible in the fill. The thickness of the deposit was 0.07m. The deposit was the fill of a hearth or pit 018.

Deposit 002

A 'B' horizon deposit of soft, mid orange-brown fine sandy loam with many gravel inclusions. The thickness of the deposit was 0.40m.

Deposit 001

A topsoil deposit of soft, dark brown fine sandy loam with many gravel inclusions. The full thickness of the deposit was 0.25m.

TRENCH B

Cut 049

A ditch which formed the southern boundary of the internal enclosure. The ditch was recorded but not excavated and was thought to be the same as ditch 039 in trench C. Filled by deposit 025.

Deposit 025

A soft mid orange-brown surface fill of ditch 049. The ditch remained unexcavated and any further information relating to this deposit could not be ascertained. Possibly the same as deposit 011.

Cut 045

An oval pit measuring 1.40m north to south, 2.40m east to west and 0.47m deep. The sides were steeply sloping but levelled off to a flat base. The pit was filled with deposit 013 and cut ditch fill 025.

Deposit 013

A friable very dark brown clay silt with many large rounded stones and few flecks of charcoal and small angular stones. The deposit was 1.40m wide and 2.40m long with a thickness of 0.47m. The deposit was the fill of pit 045. This pit fill contained sherds of ?Romano-British pottery.

Deposit 028

A firm dark grey-brown clay sand with very many sub-rounded stones with an average size of 0.15m. It measured 2.80m wide in an east to west direction and 3.20m, within the width of the trench, in a north to south direction. A greater concentration of stones occurred in three lines running north to south across the deposit. It was not excavated so the depth was not ascertained. It is likely to be the surface of a routeway or the fill of a ditch.

Cut 048

A rectilinear feature which extended beyond the trench boundary. The excavated section measured 1.16m wide and 0.30m deep. The feature was filled by 047.

Deposit 047

A firm black/brown clay silt with very many small pebbles and 'pea grit' sized gravel. Moderate quantities of charcoal flecks and large cobbles also present. The deposit was the fill of cut 048 and was not completely excavated.

Cut 055

A small circular feature 0.12m in diameter. Filled with 054. Unexcavated.

Deposit 054

Orange brown sandy silt fill of 055. Unexcavated.

Deposit 056

Line of larger stones forming an edge on its north with a concentrated spread of smaller stones to its south. 74.4m long and 70.7m wide. Unexcavated.

Deposit 004

A 'B' horizon of loose, mid orange-brown medium sand with gravel inclusions. The thickness of the deposit was 0.25m.

Deposit 003

A topsoil deposit of soft, dark brown fine loamy sand with few gravel inclusions. The thickness of the deposit was 0.2m.

TRENCH C

Deposit 039

A linear ditch measuring 2.20m wide and 0.70m deep running in an east to west direction and also found in trench B (see 049) The sides of the ditch were angled at 30 degrees running to a dished base. The ditch was filled by deposits 038 and 011.

Deposit 038

A friable mid-brown silty clay with frequent inclusions of sub-rounded and angular stones measuring up to 0.35m. The deposit was the primary fill of ditch 039 and contained fragments of ?horse bone. The deposit was sealed by 011.

Deposit 011

A friable dark brown sandy silty clay with very many sub-rounded and angular stones with a maximum size of 0.70m. Many burnt stones were present and also fragments of ?horse bone. The extent of the deposit was 1.75m wide and its thickness was 0.20m. The deposit was the secondary fill of ditch 039 and sealed 038. It was probably the same as deposit 025.

Cut 052

A linear feature measuring 1.25m wide, running in an east to west direction and filled by 031. The deposit was recorded but not excavated.

Deposit 031

A deposit of large rounded cobbles measuring approximately 0.20m in a sandy loam matrix with inclusions of smaller gravel. The deposit measured 1.25m wide and was 3m long within the trench and was the surface fill of ditch 052. The deposit was recorded but not excavated.

Cut 020

A circular pit measuring 2.25m in diameter and 0.77m deep. The sides were angled at 45 degrees with a step to a vertical slope to a fairly flat base. The pit was filled by deposits 019 and 53 and was possibly not fully excavated to its true bottom.

Deposit 053

Stone lining to pit 020 which appears to be bonded with a stiff grey clay. This deposit was not removed.

Deposit 019

A firm dark grey-brown clayey silt with few charcoal flecks and abundance of large stones measuring between 0.08 - 0.20m. The thickness of the deposit was 0.77m and it was situated within cut 020. This fill contained a few sherds of Roman pottery.

Cut 040

A circular pit measuring 1.38m diameter and 0.40m deep with sides angled at 60 degrees running to a rounded base. The pit was filled by three deposits; 012, 041 and primary fill 042.

Deposit 042

A very compacted/cemented light brown sand with few sub-rounded stone inclusions measuring 0.05 - 0.10m. The deposit was the fill of pit 040 and it was cut by posthole 043.

Cut 043

A circular posthole measuring 0.26m diameter and 0.27m deep. The sides were angled at 60 degrees and bottomed on to a rounded base. The posthole was filled by 044. The posthole was first observed cutting through deposit 042 in pit 040. It was sealed by a 'pea grit' deposit 041.

Deposit 044

A friable dark brown sandy silt with occasional sub-rounded stones measuring not greater than 0.10m. The deposit was 0.26m diameter and 0.27m thick. The deposit filled posthole 043.

Deposit 041

A very loose deposit of 'pea grit' sized gravel within pit 040, sealed by deposit 012 and sealing deposit 042. The thickness of the deposit was 0.02m.

Deposit 012

A friable dark brown sandy silt with few sub-rounded stones measuring between 0.05 - 0.70m. The thickness of the deposit was 0.42m and it was the surface fill of pit 041.

Cut 026

A circular posthole measuring 0.40m diameter and 0.20m deep. The sides were near vertical and slightly concave, bottoming on a rounded base. The feature was filled by deposit 027.

Deposit 027

A loose dark brown sandy loam with gravel inclusions. The thickness of the deposit was 0.20m and it was the fill of cut 026.

Cut 032

A posthole measuring 0.33m diameter and 0.11m deep with a rounded and flat base. The posthole was filled by deposit 033 and could be a part of a structure within the main enclosure.

Deposit 033

A friable medium brown coarse sand and gravel with inclusions of small rounded 'pea grit' measuring up to 0.5m diameter at the bottom of the deposit. The deposit measured 0.33m deep and was the fill of posthole 032.

Cut 034

A possible square posthole with rounded corners measuring 0.25m wide and 0.08m deep. The sides were steeply angled, bottoming on a flat base. The posthole was filled by deposit 035.

Deposit 035

A friable light brown coarse sand and gravel with inclusions of sub-angular stones measuring 0.05m in diameter. The deposit was 0.08m deep and filled posthole 034.

Cut 058

Group of features at west end of trench C. None excavated. Most are circular or sub-circular and some may not be features.

Deposit 057

Fills of a group of features 058. Mostly a brown or reddish brown silty loam. None excavated.

Deposit 006

A 'B' horizon deposit consisting of a very thin horizon situated between topsoil 005 and subsoil and composed of mixed material. The deposit was between 0.01 - 0.02m thick.

Deposit 005

A topsoil deposit of soft, dark brown sandy loam with few gravel inclusions. The thickness of the deposit was 0.30m.

TRENCH D

Cut 010

A semi-circular ditch terminal measuring 3.0m wide at the top and narrowing to 0.6m at the base. The depth of the ditch was 1.2m. The sides sharply dipped at an angle of 45 degrees to a flat base. The ditch was orientated north to south and the section exposed in the trench represented the southern terminal of an entrance gap. The ditch was filled with deposit 009, 036 and 037.

Deposit 037

A sticky black silt with frequent rounded stones measuring between 0.15 - 0.30m. The thickness of the deposit was 0.40m and it was the primary fill of ditch 010 and contained many sherds of Romano-British pottery. The deposit was sealed by 036.

Deposit 036

A firm mid-grey silty sand with very many inclusions of 'pea grit' sized and sub-angular gravel. Occasional charcoal flecks were also present. The deposit was 0.30m deep and was the middle fill of ditch 010 and contained a sherd of Romano-British pottery. The deposit was sealed by 009 and sealed 037.

Deposit 009

A moderately loose dark grey sandy silt with many inclusions of pea grit sized gravel. The thickness of the deposit was 0.40m. The deposit was the final fill of ditch 010 and contained sherds of Roman pottery.

Deposit 046

Areas of ?mortar and hard concretions inside the entrance gap of ditch 010. The deposit is mainly restricted to two discrete irregular areas measuring 0.75m across immediately to the west of ditch 010 in trench D.

Deposit 008

A 'B' horizon deposit of loose orange sand with many 'pea grit' sized gravel inclusions. The deposit was situated between topsoil 007 and the subsoil and its thickness was between 0.01 - 0.02m. Its surface had been scored with plough furrows (059).

Cut 059

Plough furrows running in two directions at right angles to each other (E-W and N-S). Unexcavated.

Deposit 060

Mid brown soil filling plough furrows 059. Unexcavated.

Deposit 007

A topsoil deposit of soft dark brown sandy loam with few gravel inclusions. The thickness of the deposit was 0.26m.

TRENCH E

Cut 030

A linear enclosure ditch running across the width of the trench in a southeast to northwest direction and measuring 3.50m wide north to south and 0.86m deep. The northeast side was angled at 60 degrees changing to 30 degrees and the southwest side was angled at 30 degrees changing to 60 degrees. The base was slightly concave and the feature had possibly been truncated from the upper level. The ditch was filled by deposit 029.

Deposit 029

A friable mid grey brown silty sand with many sub-rounded and angular stones measuring between 0.10 - 0.20m. The thickness of the deposit was 0.86m and it was the fill of enclosure ditch 030.

Cut 022

A circular pit measuring 0.42m diameter and 0.26m deep with sides angled at 45 degrees to a dished/concave base. The pit was filled by deposit 021.

Deposit 021

A friable dark brown sandy silty clay with few sub-rounded and angular stones measuring between 0.07m - 0.09m. The dimensions of the deposit measured 0.42m in diameter with a thickness of 0.26m. The deposit was the fill of pit/posthole 022.

Deposit 015

A 'B' horizon of soft orange brown silty sand with many inclusions of gravel. The thickness of the deposit was 0.14m.

Deposit 014

A topsoil deposit of soft dark brown sandy loam with few gravel inclusions. The thickness of the deposit was 0.30m.