

A watching brief during the construction of a silt pondat Stanwick, Northants

by Dennis Jackson

Construction work prior to opening a new gravel quarry at Stanwick, Northants, included building a large pond, or lagoon, for silt water. At this time (late 1984) archaeological trial excavations were being carried out on the site of a Roman villa some  $\frac{1}{4}$ m to the north and there were plans for a major archaeological project in the Stanwick-Raunds area.

The site for the silt pond came within the project area, and a watching brief, plus limited excavations, were carried out as work progressed. The objectives were to study the soils and the effect of alluviation, as well as to record any archaeological features that may be revealed. As the work was part of a larger project its value was seen on a regional rather than a site basis.

The archaeological work on the site was carried out on behalf of the Central Excavation Unit and the Northamptonshire County Council Archaeology Unit, with funding by English Heritage. Thanks are due to the gravel company, ARC Limited, for their co-operation and in particular the Manager, Mr M Binder, for his help. Mr P Inchley gave valuable assistance on the site from time to time.

The site (Fig. 1)

The new silt pond is situated adjacent to the River Nene, at 36m OD, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile west of the village of Stanwick (NGR. SP 968713). Part of the site had a cover of alluvial clay, but in recent times it had all been under arable cultivation. No crop marks had been recorded in the area, although archaeological features were noted on the south-east side when a pipeline trench was cut in 1964.

### Circumstances

The contractors carrying out the work were working within a time limit, and the small area involved was swamped with heavy plant. As a result archaeological recording was extremely difficult and in areas became impossible to achieve. The removal of top soil did not immediately reveal archaeological features, and these only became apparent in the subsoil or gravel at a greater depth. Over most of the site the subsoil was removed with a bulldozer or dragline crane.

### Alluviation, soils, and the old river course (Fig. 2)

The pond itself was cut out of a bedrock of gravel and sand as well as the underlying lias clay.

It became apparent during the work that the east bank of the river had moved west since earlier times, and that at one period in time it was up to 40m east of its present position. The western edge of the earlier river channel, or watercourse, was not exposed but the river was probably wider and shallower than it is today. Where recorded the old watercourse was at least 50m wide, and up to 1.5m deep below the contemporary land surface. Some of the silt layers in the watercourse contained pieces of stake and other preserved wood and radiocarbon dating should determine the date of these layers.

A more recent accumulation of alluvium overlay the earlier watercourse and extended for approximately 70m east of the present river channel. Much of this lay in broad channels running roughly parallel with the river, and if not the result of man's activity could be the result of scouring by flood water.

In recent times the whole of the site was liable to flood, but only part was covered with alluvial clay. The subsoil away from the clay covered area averaged 30cm

in depth and overlay gravel or sand containing a lot of silt. The character of the subsoil appears to have been changed by a fluctuating water table, and this made the detection of archaeological features difficult above the bedrock. In places a buried surface could be defined below the alluvial clay but features could not be recognised at this level.

### The Iron Age settlement (Fig. 2)

#### Ditches

A complex of Iron Age enclosure, or drainage ditches, were exposed as the subsoil was removed. Planning all the ditches was difficult under the circumstances, but as many as possible were recorded so an assessment could be made of the nature and duration of the settlement.

Ditches B and L formed a line that ran right across the site from north to south. They were roughly parallel with the river and approximately defined the extent of the alluvial clay. The ditches formed part of a complex that included at least five small enclosures, although they were clearly not all contemporary.

Although little excavation was possible it was clear that many of the ditches had been re-cut on a number of occasions, and they were probably designed for drainage as well as demarcation. The ditches were up to 1.4m deep, below the modern surface, with phases of Ditches B and L the deepest recorded on the site. They appeared to contain little occupation debris and had mainly silted up with gravelly silt or loam.

#### Huts

The subsoil over part of the site was removed with a box scraper and this enabled one, and possibly two, hut circles to be recorded. Hut 1 was defined by a gully enclosing an area 11m in diameter, and had an entrance to the east. The other possible hut site, Hut 2, was sited 5m south of Hut 1 but no details could be obtained.

The "trackway" (Ditches N and M) Two parallel ditches were recorded just west of Ditches B and L, and between this line and the river. The ditches were some 9m apart and could have flanked a trackway. No dating evidence was recovered from the ditches.

#### Pits and postholes

No postholes survived the use of heavy machinery and only four pits were located. Pits are often absent on low lying Iron Age sites, where the water table is high, but they could have been positioned on higher ground nearby.

#### Features of uncertain date

##### The "platform" near the river (F20, Fig. 2 and 3)

A platform of limestone and gravel was revealed near to the old watercourse, and sited some 18m from the edge of the present river channel. The limestone, gravel and silt were filling a number of shallow pits or hollows, dug into the natural gravel, and the whole extended over an area some 10m long and 3m wide. The average thickness of the material filling the hollows averaged 30cm but was up to 60cm in places.

A squared post was found in situ at the south-east corner and a large stake also survived on the north side. It is clear that the latter had supported wattlework or withies and it is perhaps surprising that more upright stakes did not survive. The pieces of brushwood or withies associated with the platform often lay in pairs and this perhaps suggests they were ties and not part of a wattlework lining. Nothing was found to confirm the presence of a permanent wattle-lined structure, and the stakes and withies may have supported, or held, something movable or less permanent.

The feature was situated near the old watercourse and may have been associated with water transport or some other river related activity, such as fishing. It is presumed the platform was built to create a small dry island in an otherwise marshy area. Parallel ditches suggest there could have been a trackway just to the east and a river crossing near this point is a possibility.

A single sherd of pottery from the base of the feature is not diagnostic (Fig. 4, No.5). It may date to the late Iron Age-early Roman period, but a later date is possible. A radiocarbon determination should resolve this question.

#### F.15 and other organic remains (Fig. 2)

Other waterlogged wood and limestone was revealed on the edge of the old watercourse, to the west of the Iron Age settlement, (F 15), and a layer containing wood and other organic remains extended across the old riverbed. A radiocarbon determination should determine if the wood in the watercourse is broadly contemporary with features F.15 and F.20.

#### Channels filled with alluvial clay (Fig. 2)

Broad channels, which had silted up with alluvial clay, were identified near the old watercourse. Where recorded, they cut into the natural gravel and were from 2.5 to 4m wide at the base. If they are the result of man's activities they may be associated with medieval water meadows, although they could be of any date from the Iron Age period onwards.

#### Medieval hearth (not on plan)

A medieval hearth, several postholes, and a scatter of limestone were revealed near the old A605, at the south-east corner of the site. Associated pottery dates to around the 12th century. (Pottery examined by T Pearson).

### The pottery (Fig. 4)

A total of 140 sherds, weighing 2585 grammes, was recovered from the site.

#### Fabrics

All the pottery from Stanwick contained calcareous shell or grit, and there was little visible evidence of other inclusions to the clay. Although the assemblage is 100% shelly, it has nevertheless been arbitrarily divided into the following three sub-types, according to the size or density of the inclusions.

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Fabric 1A | Shell varying in size and randomly distributed. |
| Fabric 1B | Shell fine and varying from sparse to dense.    |
| Fabric 1C | Shell dense and probably pounded.               |

Fabrics 1A and 1B occur on local Iron Age sites throughout the period, with the former found more often in the larger or coarser vessels, and the latter occurring in the finer wares. Approximately 80% of the assemblage at Stanwick occurred in Fabrics 1A or 1B and as at Weekley, Northants there were roughly the same number of sherds in each group (Jackson and Dix forthcoming). Sherds including dense pounded shell occurred at the end of the Iron Age period at both Wootton Hill Farm, Northampton (Jackson forthcoming), and Weekley, and it is possible the sherds in Fabric C at Stanwick date to a late phase of activity.

#### Forms

Few forms can be reconstructed from the assemblage, but they do suggest activity on the site over a lengthy period of time. Vessels similar to No. 1 occur at Gretton, Northants, in an assemblage dating to the early-middle Iron Age (Jackson and Knight 1985), whilst No. 2 is a type of necked "bowl" which at Dragonby, Lincs, dates to

the 1st century B.C. (Cunliffe 1978 A23.2). The rim sherd from the platform by the river (F.20) has an unusual profile, but when both its fabric and form are considered it seems most likely to date to the later Iron Age period (1st century A.D. ?: cf Thompson 1981).

#### Decoration and scoring

One sherd was decorated with finger tipping on the shoulder, and nine (6.4%) had scoring on their external surfaces.

#### Catalogue of the illustrated pottery

1. Ext: light brown with black areas; int: brown; section: dark grey. Fabric 1A.  
Ditch E.
2. Ext, int, and section : brown with darker patches. Fabric 1A. Ditch K.
3. Ext, and section : dark grey-black; int : brown/dark brown. Fabric 1B.  
Ditch C (top).
4. Ext, and int : grey-brown; section : dark grey. Fabric 1A. Ditch H.
5. Ext: sooted dark brown: int : brown, sooted inside of rim;  
section: dark grey. Fabric 1C. F.20.

#### Discussion

There was little opportunity for controlled excavation in the silt pond area and to draw firm conclusions from limited evidence may be misleading. Since the work was carried out extensive excavations, to the east of the Roman villa, have revealed

Iron Age activity extending over a large area, and features recorded on the silt pond could therefore form part of a settlement, or settlement drift, extending along the river valley.

The plan and numerous re-cut ditches, as well as the pottery, suggest that Iron Age activity in the silt pond area was not short lived, but the paucity of occupational debris may imply that only a small group of inhabitants (perhaps a single family unit) lived on the site, or it was intermittantly used.

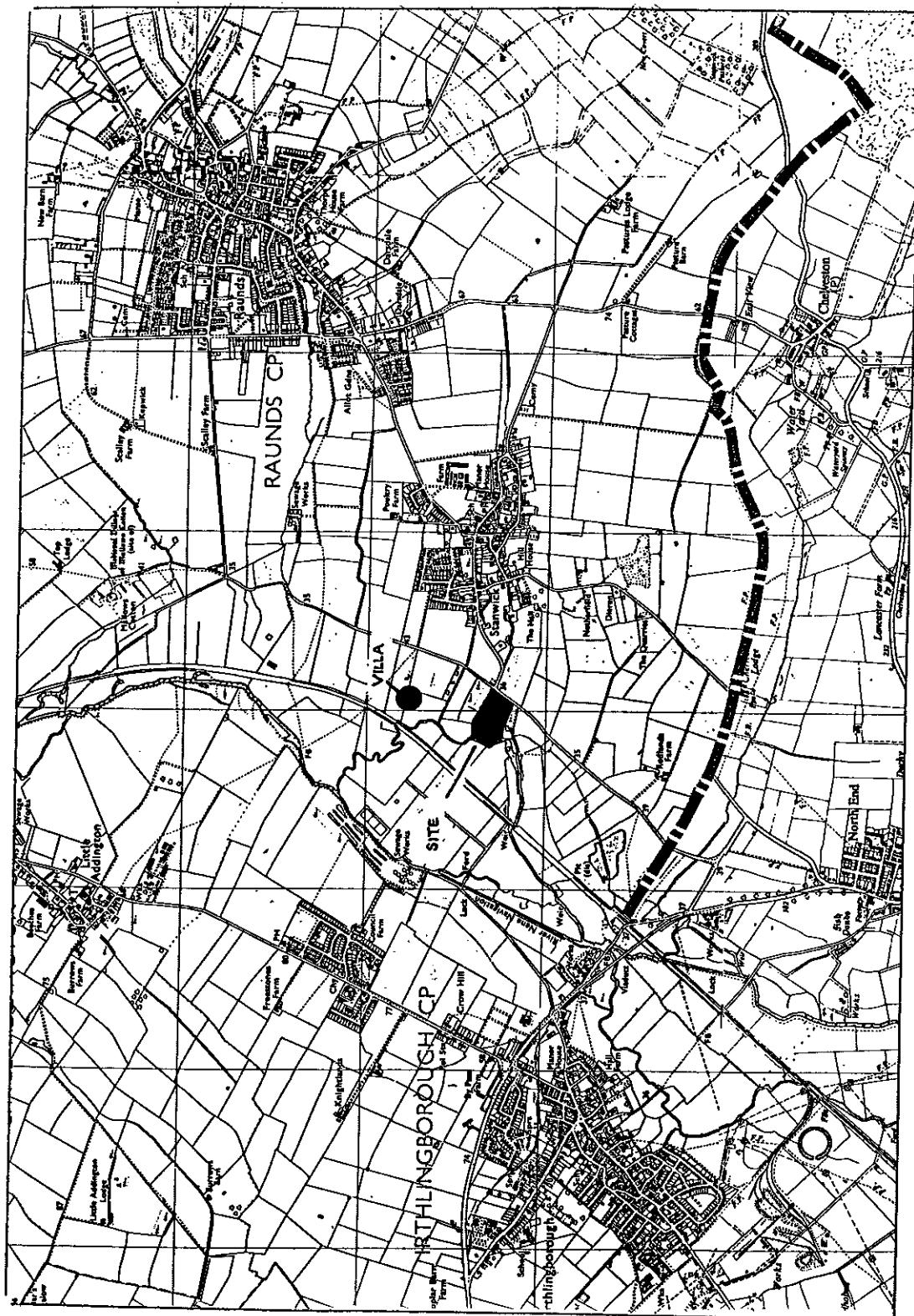
The ditched enclosures in use at the settlement were small and it could be the economy was, at least, partly dependant upon the river. The date of the platform of stone and gravel could not be firmly established, but it is likely to have been situated in a marshy area, and probably formed a dry island for an activity associated with the river.

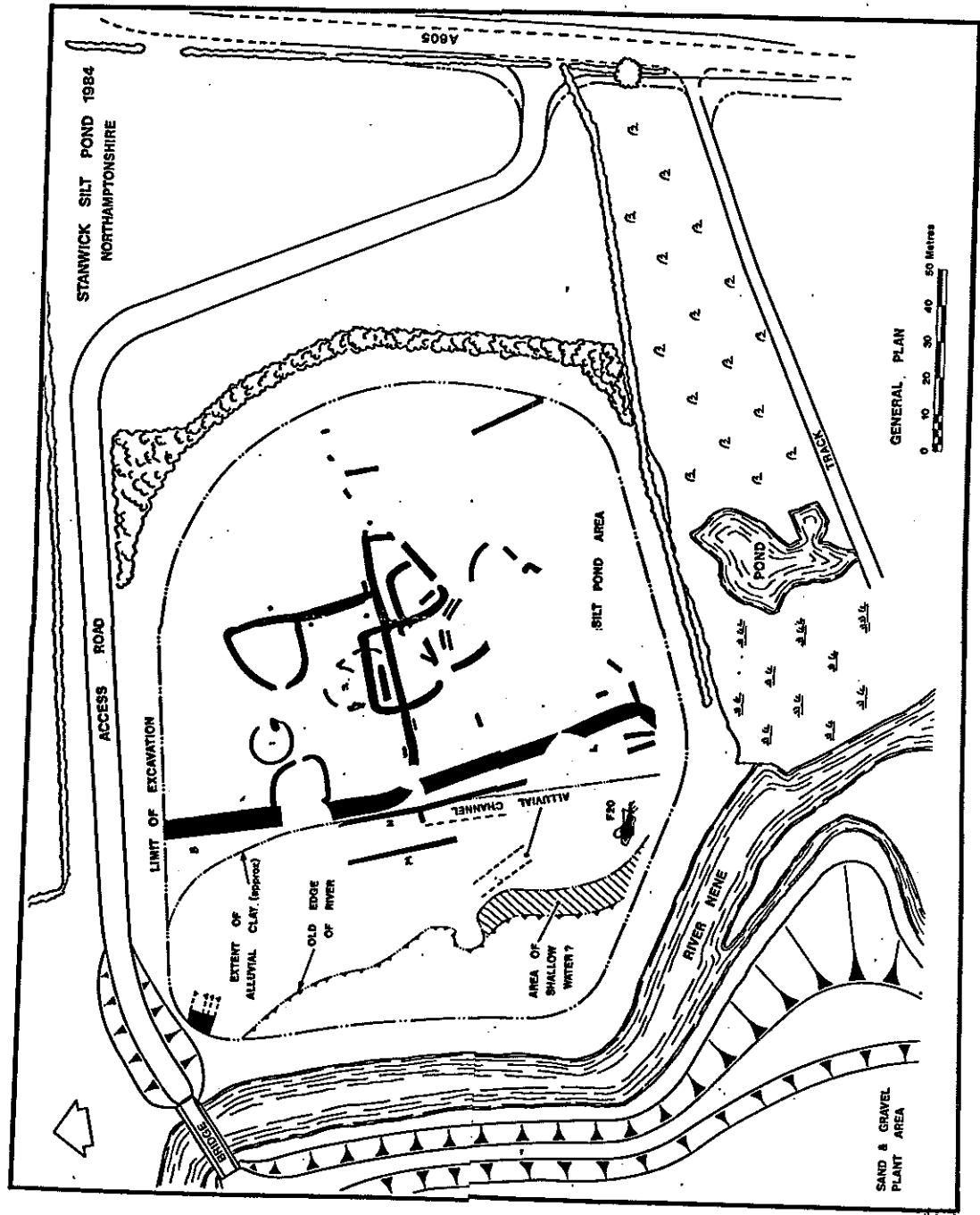
## Stanwick Silt Pond : List of figures (Provisional)

Fig. 1	Location Map	
Fig. 2	Stanwick silt pond; general plan.	
Fig. 3	Plan and sections of platform F.20.	
Fig. 4	Iron Age pottery	
Fig. 5	Stanwick silt pond : site plan	Level III
Fig. 6	Ditch Sections	"
Fig. 7	Ditch sections and alluvial channels	"
Fig. 8	Plan and section of F.15 (River section 6)	"
Fig. 9	Medieval hearth and post holes	"
Fig. 10	Conjectural section across old watercourse based on samples and observation. (Also sample sections)	"

## List of contents (text)

- (a) Level IV report.
- (b) Detailed description of the features (Level III)
- (c) The soils.
  - 1. Detailed description of the soils, silts, and clays occurring on the site.
  - 2. List of soil samples including organic remains.
  - 3. Description of layers in the illustrated sections.
- (d) Level II.
  - Context sheets.
  - Pottery quantification.
  - Site notebook.





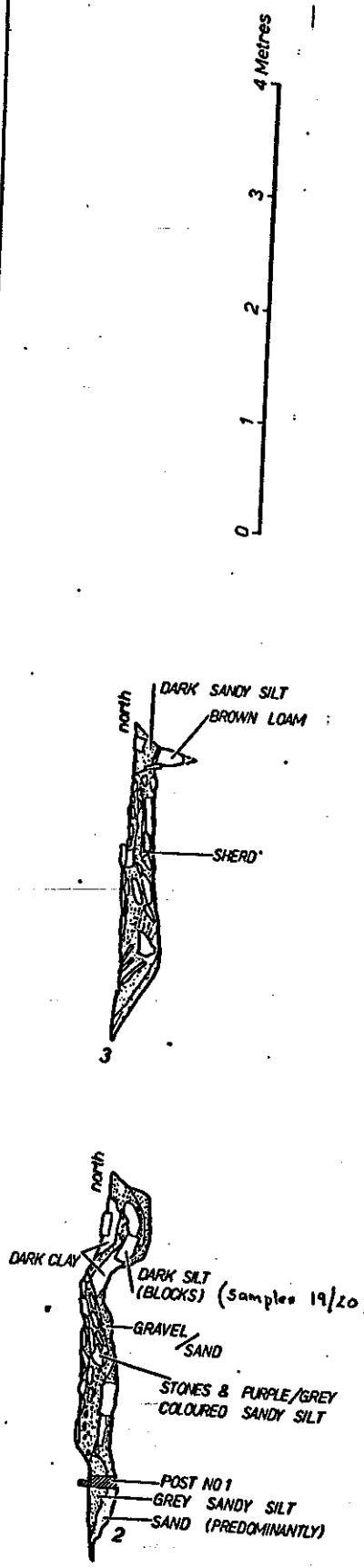
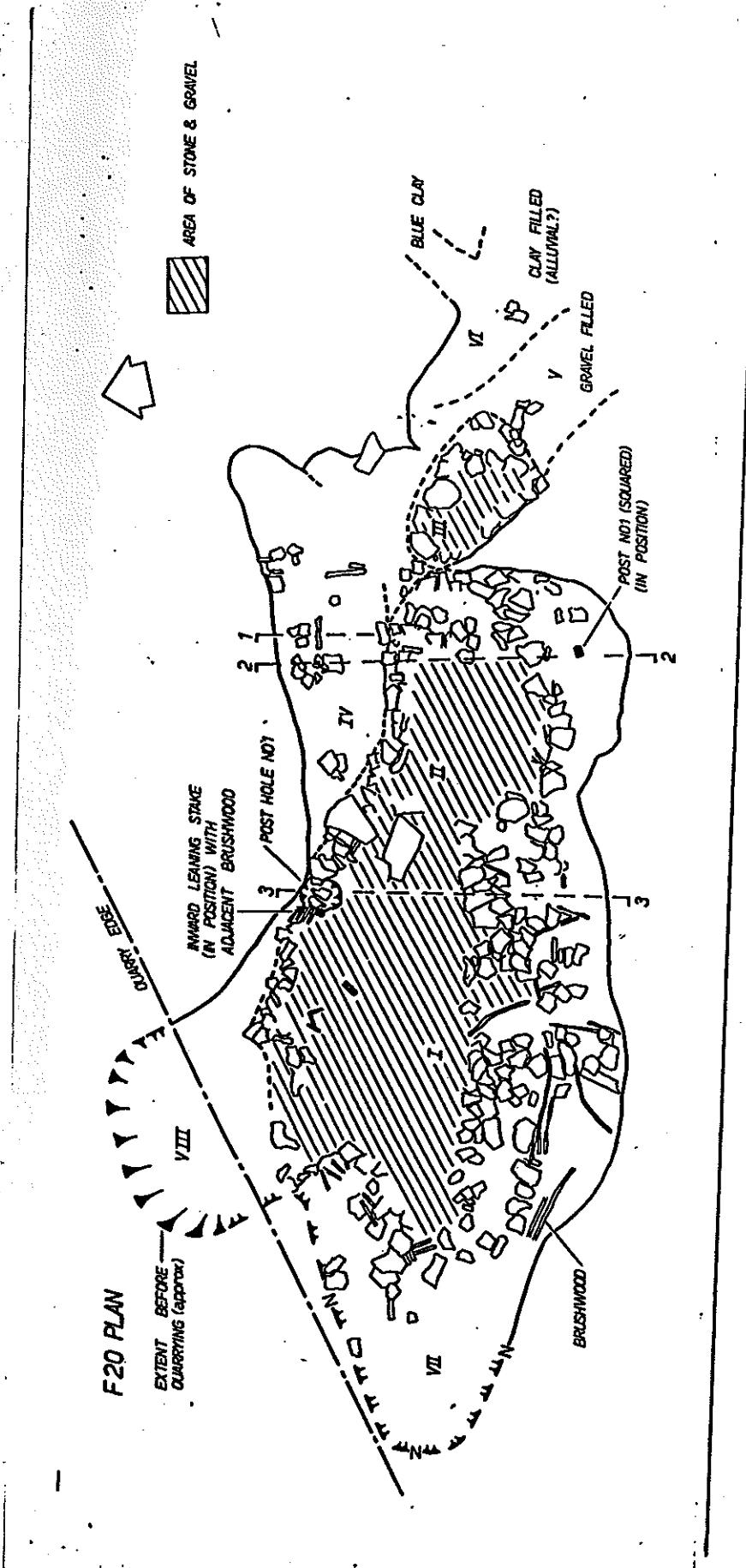


FIG. 3.

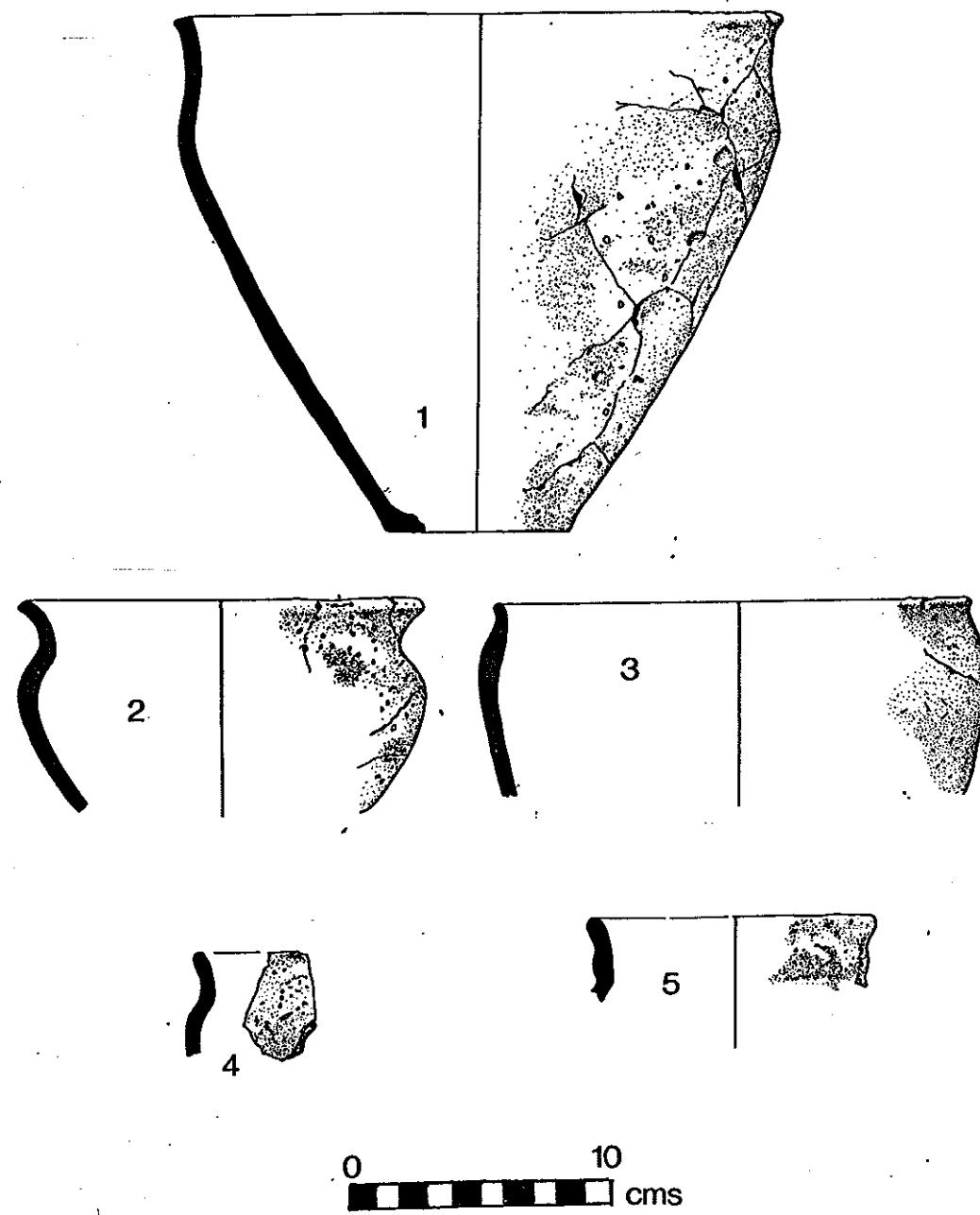


FIG. 4.

4.

## Level III

### Detailed description of the features

#### The Iron Age settlement (Fig. 5)

##### Enclosures and ditches

###### Ditch A

A series of ditches, or re-cuts, was seen to run south-east from the north-west corner of the silt pond, but quarrying methods prevented any planning. Any ditches at this point would have been very close to the modern course of the river.

The ditches were up to 1.65m deep, below the modern surface, but only 95cm deep below the overlying alluvial clay (Fig. 6). They were filled mainly with dark loamy silt or clay, but despite their proximity to the river there was no obvious water-logged material. No dating evidence was obtained, but a sample of dark silts was kept from the bottom of the deepest ditch (Sample 13).

###### Ditches B and L

These two ditches could only be planned in limited areas but they appear to form a continuous boundary running across the site from north to south. The southern end of Ditch B turned to the east to form an enclosure with Ditches K and C and the south end of Ditch L swung west towards the river. No diagnostic dating evidence was recovered from either ditch.

Where recorded in section both ditches had been re-cut or cleaned out many times (Fig. 6). Ditch B was up to 1.3m deep and Ditch L up to 1.65m deep (below the modern surface).

**Ditch C**

This ditch links a small D-shaped enclosure (Enclosure D)

with Ditch K to the south, and may itself form one side of an enclosure bordered by Ditches B and K to the west and south. The ditch was not seen in section but two phases were apparent in plan. A quantity of Iron Age pottery was recovered from the upper layers.

**Enclosures D and E** were two small D-shaped enclosures, with opposing entrances.

They may both have been contemporary with a phase of ditches B, C and K, and together would have formed an unusual and distinctive type of enclosures, perhaps designed for a specific purpose. (It is possible for instance that the smaller enclosures were sheep pens). The relationship of the enclosures to Hut 1 is uncertain.

**Enclosure D** had a maximum internal diameter of 17.5m and an entrance centrally positioned on the curved side to the west. The ditch was not excavated and no diagnostic pottery was recovered.

**Enclosure E** had an east facing entrance, and with a maximum internal diameter of 14m. It was slightly smaller than Enclosure D. Ditch E was not sectioned but the complete profile of a pot dating to the early-middle Iron Age was found in its filling during mechanical clearing (Fig. 4:1).

**Ditch H**

This ditch appears to form another small enclosure,

although there were a number of other ditches in the same area which could not be plotted. The enclosure seems to have been some 21m x 16m in diameter internally, and appears to have had an entrance near the south-west corner.

Where sectioned in Trench 1 the ditch was some 1.15m deep and was of two phases (Fig. 6). The small amount of pottery recovered from its filling was mixed, but suggests the enclosure may date to the later Iron Age period. The relationship between Ditches H and K was not established.

Ditch J

This ditch may be a phase of Ditch K. Where sectioned

it was 1.3m deep (Fig. 7). No dating evidence was recovered.

Ditch K

Ditch K may form an enclosure with Ditches B and C, but it continued beyond Ditch C to the east, and may here be part of another small enclosure (Enclosure G). Where sectioned Ditch K was 1.25m deep and had been cut with a steeply sided channel at its base (Fig. 6). As with Ditch K the pottery was mixed and suggests the ditch system may have continued in use into the later Iron Age period.

Enclosure G and Ga

Possibly two small enclosures with Enclosure Ga replacing

Enclosure G. Not sectioned and no dating evidence.

Ditches N and M

Two roughly parallel ditches, some 9.5m apart, which could have flanked a track or driveway. Both ditches were around 1m deep (below the modern surface) and the former was overlain by one of the alluvium filled channels (Fig. 7). No dating evidence was obtained.

Ditch F.8

Vestiges only. No details.

Ditch F.10

This ditch was of two phases and had been cut 40m deep into the gravel (Fig. 7). Iron Age pottery.

Ditch F.12

This ditch was not dated, but if Iron Age, it suggests activity continued to the east at this time. Ditch 1m deep in face of silt pond (Fig. 7).

The Huts (Fig. 5)

Clearance of a limited area with a box scraper enabled two possible hut sites to be identified.

The circular gully defining Hut 1 enclosed an area some 11m in diameter, with an east facing entrance. The other possible hut site (Hut 2) was sited some 5m south-west of Hut 2, but only vestiges of the gully survived. A small amount of Iron Age pottery was recovered from the area of the huts.

Pits Only four possible pits were observed on the site. The base of the circular pit (F.9) was 1m in diameter, but only just survived in the gravel, and another probable pit, sited nearby (F.11) was only exposed in section. Two other possible pits, situated to the west of Ditch C, were not cleaned and planned (Fig. 5).

Post holes No post holes were observed, but unless they were deep or otherwise obvious, they may not have survived the use of heavy machinery.

#### The platform near the river (F.20, Fig. 3)

A platform of limestone, gravel and brushwood was exposed near the edge of the old watercourse, and some 18m north of the modern river channel. The feature was first exposed when a dragline crane exposed waterlogged wood and stones, and subsequently a considerable amount of time was spent cleaning and recording the feature. Little help was available, however, and there was only sufficient time to clean and sample excavate the feature before it had to be quarried away.

The feature was sealed by layer 2, the more recent alluvium, and layer 2a, a purplish sticky clay at the base of this layer. It was also overlain in places by layer 3a, a grey sandy silt or mud, and seems likely to have been contemporary with layers 3 and 4 in the old watercourse (Appendix and Fig. 3).

The limestone, gravel and brushwood, was found to be filling pits or depressions dug into the natural gravel, and extending over an area some 10m long and 3m wide.

The average thickness of the material filling the hollows was 30cms, but was up to 60cm in a ditch-like depression along the north side. The filling appeared to be filling a number of different hollows but there was no evidence that this represents different periods of activity. The feature is divided into areas on the plan (Fig. 3, Areas I-VIII) and each area is described separately below.

- (i) The hollow to the west of Section 3 was filled with a mixture of limestone, gravel, twig or brushwood, and grey sandy silt. It was also overlain by a layer of sandy silt.
- (ii) To the east of Section 3 there was very little brushwood and the hollow was largely filled with limestone and clean gravel.
- (iii) A separate hollow to the east of Area II was also filled with limestone and gravel.
- (iv) A separate hollow at the north-east corner had a ditch-like profile, and contained a lot of silt and organic mud or peat as well as limestone. Some of the mud or peat was in the form of blocks, and was not therefore the result of natural silting.
- (v and This area could not be investigated because of the conditions. There may
- (vi) have been a shallow ditch of two phases running south-east, with one phase of ditch (v) gravel filled, and the other (vi) filled with alluvial clay. A ridge separated Area iv from v and vi.
- (vii) Silt filled, containing some wood, but few stones. Original extent to west uncertain.
- (viii) Filling similar to vii. Appears to end where indicated on the plan but this is not certain.

### Stakes and brushwood

A squared post was found in situ at the south-east corner (No.1) and a large stake also survived on the north side. It is clear that the latter supported brushwood or wattlework, and it is perhaps surprising that other stakes or posts had not survived. The pieces of brushwood or withies, which survived in the main at the east end, often lay in pairs, and this suggests they may have been ties rather than interlaced wattlework.

The only post hole located was adjacent to the stake on the north side, but with total excavation other post or stake holes may have been found.

A small piece of board with wooden pegs inserted into it was amongst the pieces of waterlogged wood sent to the laboratory for analysis and dating.

### Limestone

The amount of limestone used for the feature was considerable. Most of the pieces were unweathered slabs that may have been brought to the site from a local source, but a few pieces were burnt or showed other evidence of re-use.

### Date

A single sherd of pottery, found stratified in the feature, probably dates to the late Iron Age or early Roman period (Fig. 4, No. 5). The form is unusual and difficult to parallel, but the dense shelly fabric is common in this period.

### Discussion and comment

There was no evidence to suggest the limestone was used for structural purposes. It is assumed that the shallow pits were dug down into the natural gravel to provide a solid base, and the limestone and gravel was then utilised to build up a platform, or dry island, in an otherwise marshy area.

The platform could have been associated with fishing, boat building, or some other activity related to the adjacent river.

Nothing was found to suggest the presence of a permanent or substantial wattlelined structure associated with the platform, and it could be the waterlogged stakes and withies supported something of less permanent nature in use on the platform.

#### Other waterlogged wood (F.15) (Fig. 8)

Other waterlogged wood and limestone was disturbed by machine work, adjacent to the old watercourse, and to the west of the Iron Age settlement. A small area was cleaned and planned, but much appeared to have already been lost and there was not the time to carry out further work.

Two large logs or posts as well as a stake found in situ, were kept for further analysis.

#### The relationship between F.20, F.15 and the old watercourse

During quarrying for the silt pond a layer containing waterlogged wood and occasional pieces of limestone was revealed, extending across the old watercourse (Layer 4). Sample sections drawn at the time suggest that this layer could be contemporary with F.20 and F.15 and could itself yield information about the settlement and the river in the Iron Age period.

Wood from layer 4 and soil samples from all the layers in the watercourse have been kept for further analysis.

### **Features filled with dark silt**

**F.6 and F.7 (Fig. 5)** A number of shallow pits cutting into the gravel contained purplish-black silt. Two of these, F.6 and F.7 were partially excavated and although containing charcoal in their filling, were considered to be of natural origin by their irregular profile. Samples of the filling were kept for further analysis at the request of the environmentalist.

Similar features found on a gravel quarry at Aldwincle pre-dated a Neolithic ring ditch. (Jackson 1976).

### **Broad channels filled with alluvial clay**

Some of the alluvial clay, near to the old watercourse, lay in broad channels scoured down to the natural gravel or below. Two such channels recorded in Trenches III and IV (Fig. 5) were approximately 1m deep and from 2.5m to 4m wide at their base.

One of the channels overlay Ditch N (Fig. 7) and, if man made, they could date to any subsequent period in time. One possibility is that they are associated with water meadows of medieval date.

### **The medieval hearth (Fig. 9)**

A medieval hearth, as well as several post holes and a quantity of limestone rubble, was revealed near the south-west corner of the site and some 21m from the edge of the A605 road (1984). A small amount of pottery dating to a period around the 12th century was recovered. (Pottery kindly examined by T Pearson).

## The soils

### The natural layers on the east side (away from the old watercourse)

- (1) Top soil. Average depth 20cm.
- (2) Light brown clayey loam. Probably the result of medieval agriculture, but no ridge and furrow surviving. Thickness 5-25cm.
- (3) Natural subsoil. Where not affected by flood water this was brown and sandy, but over much of the site percolating water had deposited silt, and the colour changed to greenish-brown. Average overall thickness of layers (2) and (3) 50 cms.
- (4) Black or purplish silt This occurs mainly in shallow pits or depressions in the natural gravel, but is found re-deposited in archaeological features, and may originally have been more widespread. The features appear to be of natural origin, but two pits on the east side (F.6 and F.7) were partially excavated and samples kept.
- (5) Natural gravel and sand This contained a lot of silt away from the river.

### Natural clays and silts in and over the old watercourse (Fig. 10)

- (R.1) Top soil
- (R.2) Alluvial clay. Greenish-brown in colour and up to 1m in thickness. Not of even depth, however, but tended to occur in broad channels over parts of the site. Close to the modern course of the river the clay contained brown loam near the top; probably the result of fairly recent erosion.?

Towards the base of the layer the colour of the clay changed to blue-grey at depth.

(R.2a) Mottled clay. Over the old watercourse the clay was mottled brown. This is presumably the result of rotting vegetation.

(R.2b) Purplish sticky clay. This occurred in places at the base of layer 2.

(R.3) Grey clay, or silt. Often sticky. Possibly the same material as layer 2, with the blue-grey colour the result of permanent waterlogging.

(R.3a) Dark silt. This occurs mainly at the base of deeper disturbances near the old watercourse (i.e. Ditch A and the alluvial channels). The texture suggests it may be eroded top soil.

(R.4) Very dark silt (black) and organic remains. This layer occurred in most of the drawn sections. The dark silt contained waterlogged wood as well as the occasional slab of limestone.

(R.5) All layers below R.4. Layers of silt, gravel and sand occurred below layer R.4 in the old watercourse. Their overall thickness varied from 5 cm in Section 4 to 25cm in Section 5.

#### The filling in the Iron Age ditches

The Iron Age ditches were generally filled with a grey-brown clayey loam or silt, containing varying amounts of gravel, and there was little variation. Some of the loamy filling was darker, but there were none of the "black" layers that sometimes occur where there is intense occupation nearby. The fills were a combination of the soil and gravel through which the ditches had been cut, but tended to be greyer in colour, and generally wetter, than the surviving subsoil.

## LIST OF SAMPLES

### The old watercourse or river bed (Fig. 10)

Section 1	6 samples	1/1 to 1/6 (No's 1-5 and 11).
Section 2	6 samples	2/1 to 2/6 (No's 6-10. 2 samples from No. 7)
Section 3	2 samples	3/1 and 3/2.
Section 4	4 samples	4/1 to 4/4.
Section 5	5 samples	5/1 to 5/5.
Total	<u>samples</u>	

### Other soil samples

- Sample 13 Dark silt from bottom of Ditch A (Fig. 6)
- Sample 14 Clayey silt from bottom of Ditch M (Fig. 7)
- Sample 15 Dark silt from bottom of alluvial channel (Fig. 7)
- Sample 16 Bottom silts of Ditch H (Fig. 6)
- Sample 17 Bottom silts of Ditch J (Fig. 7)
- Sample 18 Middle Filling of Ditch J (Fig. 6)
- Sample 19 Black "mud" from F.20 (Fig. 3)
- Sample 20 Mud/silt from F.20 (Fig. 3)

### Organic remains

- F.15 (Fig.8) Wooden stake (found in situ) 2 planks or posts from adjacent area.
- F.20 (Fig.3) Wooden stake (found in situ) 2 bags of wattle or brushwood.

Other samples taken away by Nick Balam include a post, a stake, and a piece of board with pegs ?

Unstratified wood from the river silts

Other wood in with soil samples from river bed i.e. 1/6 and 2/3

Soil or charcoal/wood from ? pre Iron Age features 4 bags from F.6 1 bag from F.7.

Animal bones

Unstratified from river silts (animal and human ?)

Ditches H and K

List of layers in the illustrated sections

- (1) Top soil
- (2) Alluvial clay
- (2a) Alluvial clay light green in colour
- (2b) Alluvial clay greenish-brown in colour
- (2c) Alluvial clay lightbrown in colour
- (3) Loam impregnated with alluvial clay
- (3a,b,c) Colours as with layer 2.
- (4) Sandy loam
- (4a,b,c) Colours as with layer 2
- (5) Sandy loam impregnated with alluvial silts
- (5a,b,c) Colours as with layer 2
- (6) Dark silt
- (7) Gravelly loam
- (7a) Abundant gravel
- (8) Sand
- (9) Orange-brown silt

**Section 6 (F.15)**

- (1) Disturbed
- (2) Alluvial clay
- (3) Clayey loam or clay
- (4) Blue-grey silt and limestone
- (4a) As 4 but darker
- (5) Silts
- (6) Gravel and silts
- (7) Orange-brown silt or silty loam
- (8) Dark silt or silty loam.

**F.20 Section 1**

No's 1-4 indicate blocks of ?organic mud.

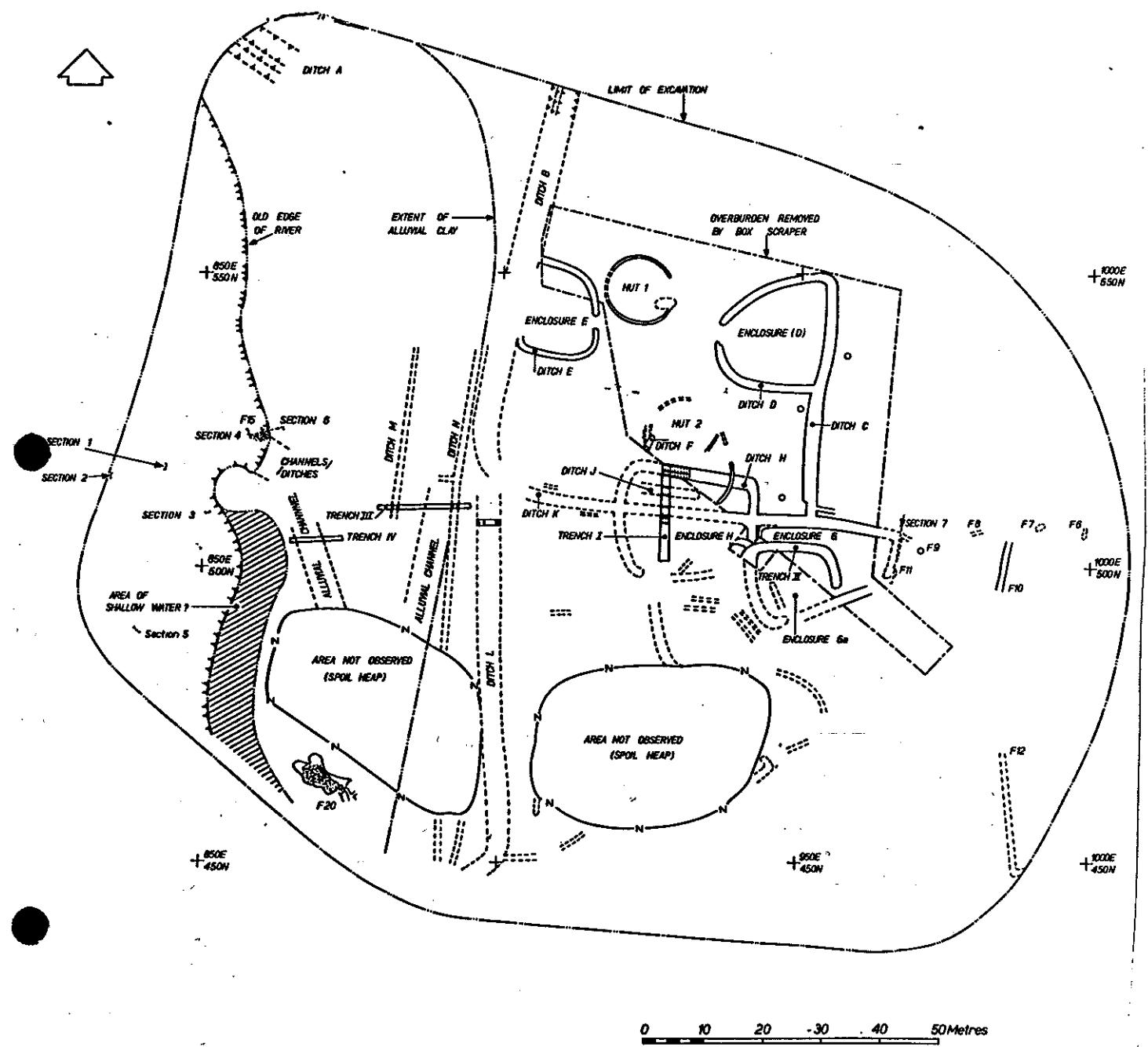
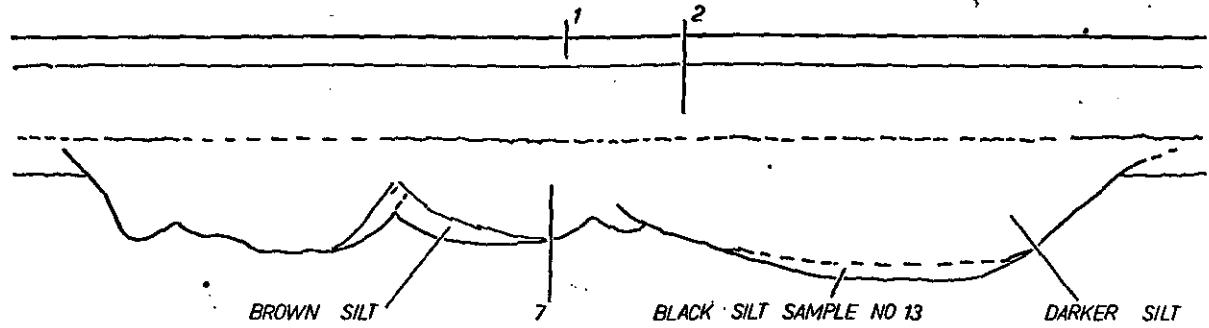
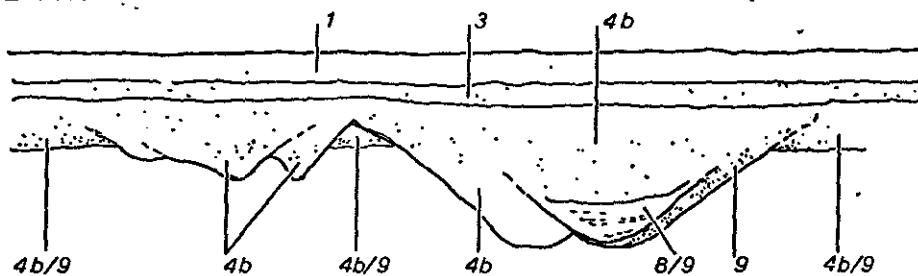


Fig. 5.

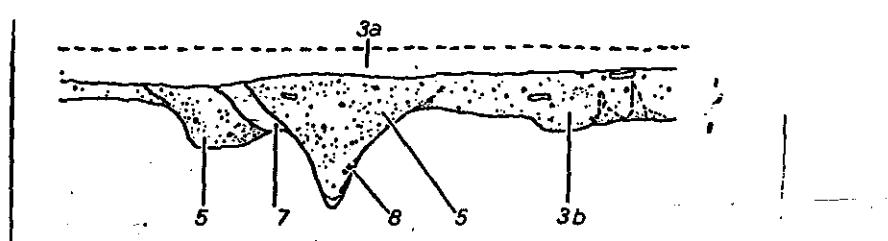
DITCH A (SKETCH SECTION)



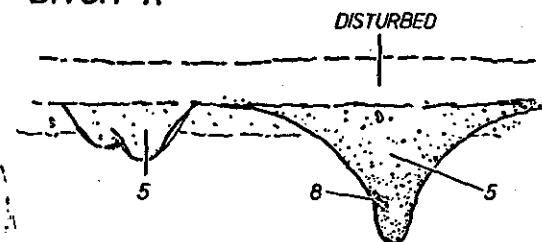
DITCH B



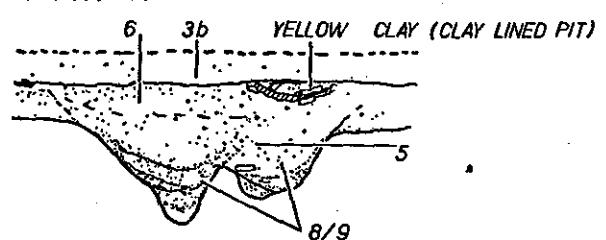
DITCH F



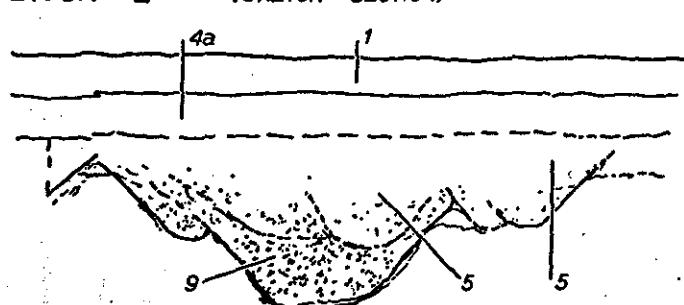
DITCH K



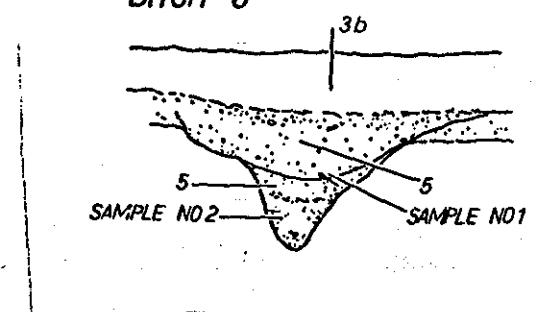
DITCH H



DITCH L (SKETCH SECTION)



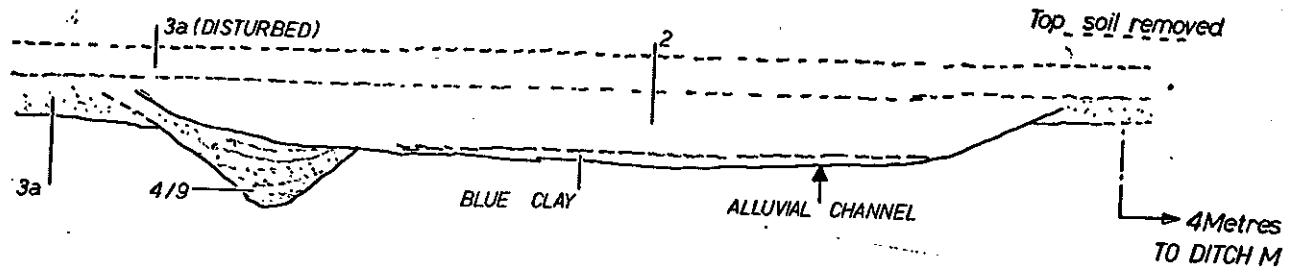
DITCH J



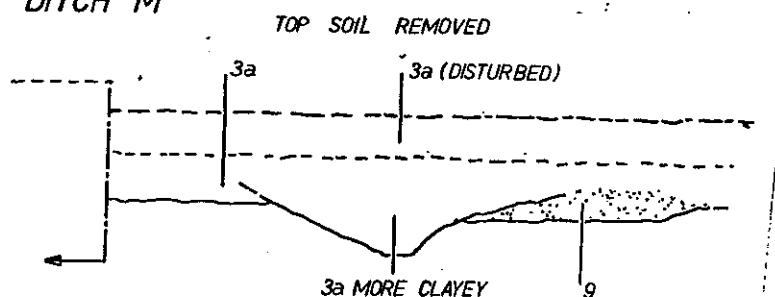
0 1 2 3 4 Metres

Fig 6.

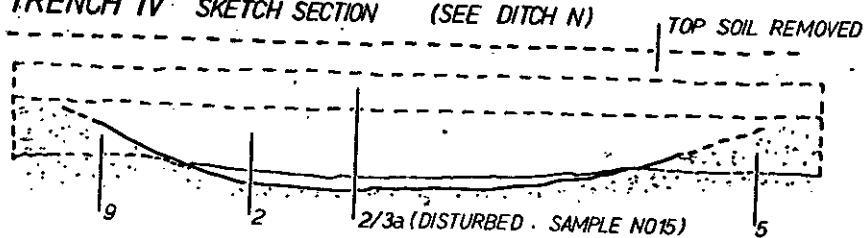
DITCH N



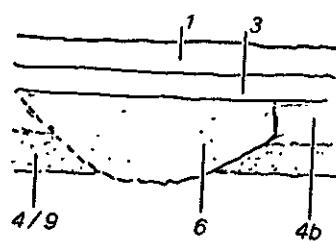
DITCH M



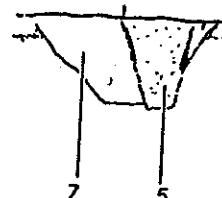
TRENCH IV SKETCH SECTION (SEE DITCH N)



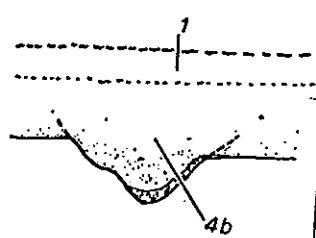
F5



F10



F12



0 1 2 3 4 Metres

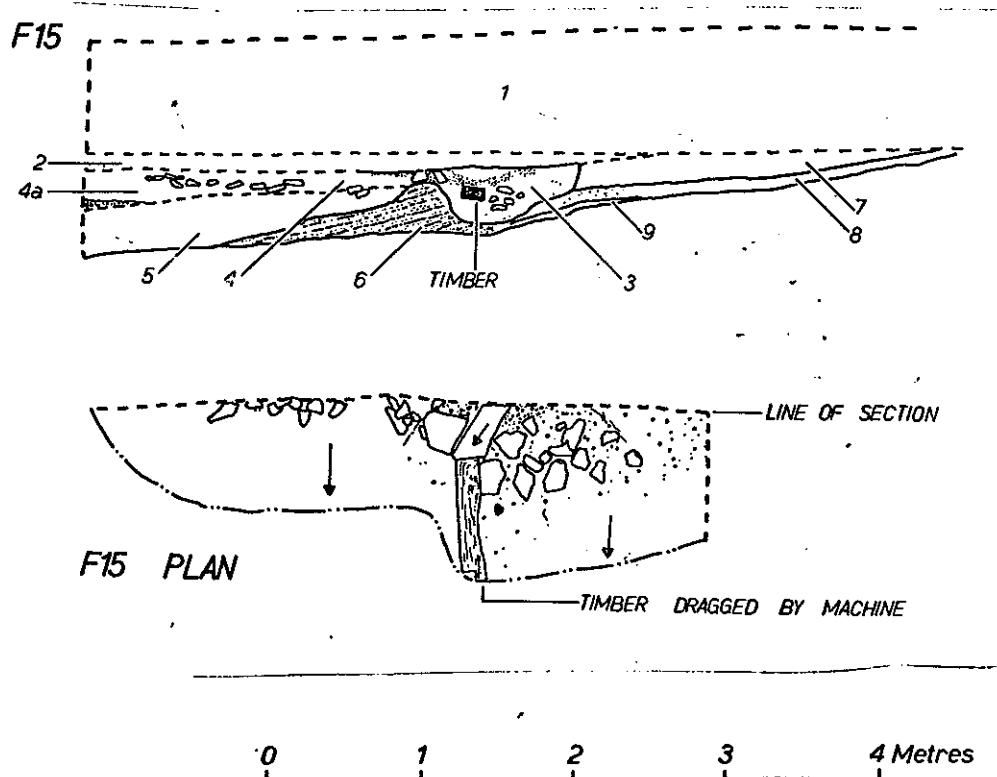


Fig 8.

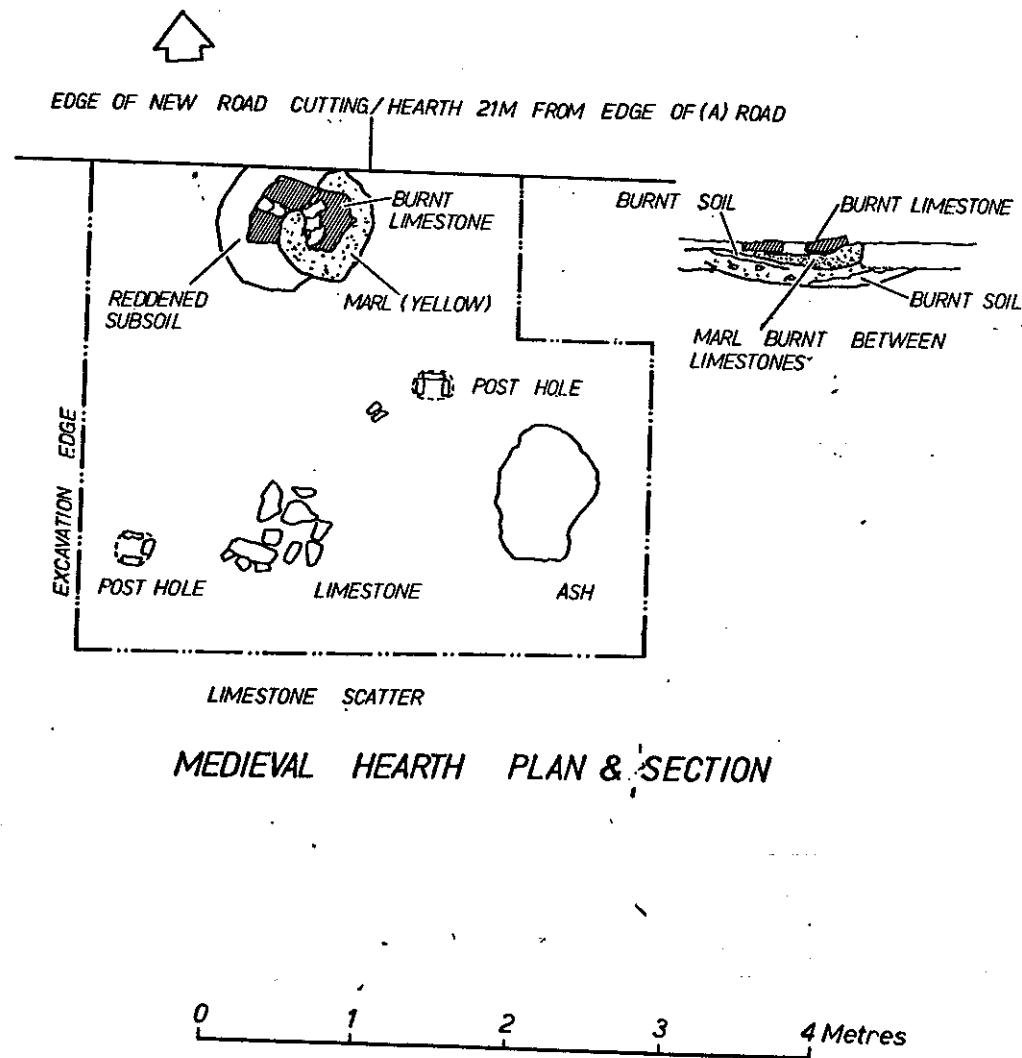


Fig 9

Conjectural section across old watercourse, based on sections 1, 2, 4 & 6

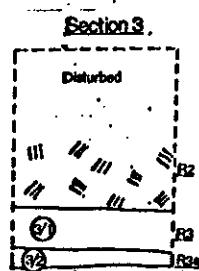
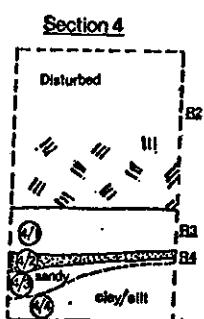
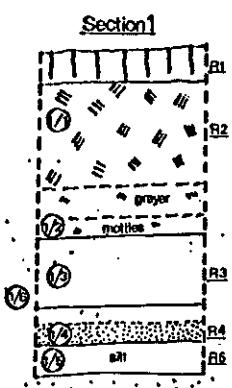
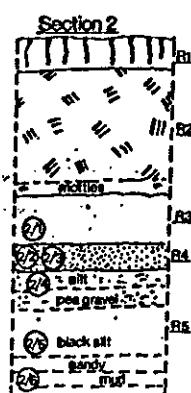
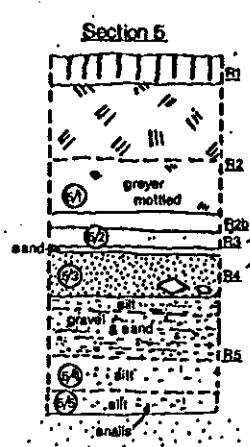


FIG. 10.